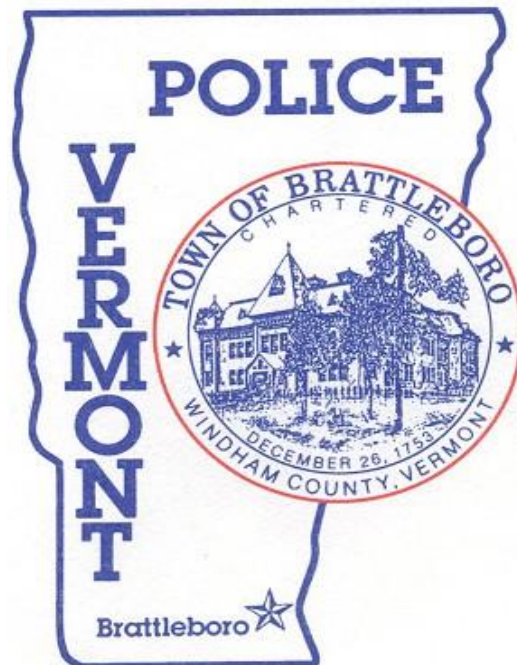


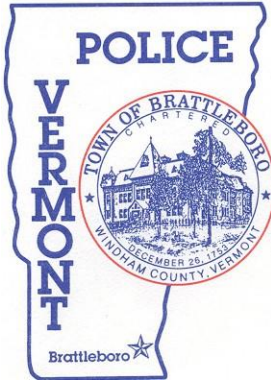
Brattleboro Police Department



2017 Annual Report

Table of Contents

Mission Statement	3
Chief's Message	4
Organizational Chart and Retirements / Promotions / New Hires	5
Community Policing	6
Grants	7
CID (Criminal Investigative Division)	7
Special Investigations	8
Motor Vehicle Data (Accidents / Stops / Tickets).....	10
Crime Analysis	14
Citizen Police Communication Committee (CPCC)	18
Central Dispatch	19

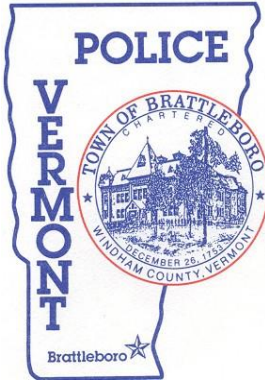


MISSION STATEMENT

The Brattleboro Police Department is committed to providing a safe, peaceful, and prosperous environment for our community by policing in a manner worthy of respect. While serving the community, we recognize the differences in the conduct of people who need our help, those who make poor decisions, and those who choose to victimize others.

CORE VALUES

- *Always hold yourself and others accountable*
- *Always treat others the way you want to be treated*
- *Always do the right thing*
- *Always remember why*



Chief's Message

I am pleased to present the Brattleboro Police Department's Annual report for 2017. The purpose of this report is to provide an overview of the department as it relates to our mission and goals. I am proud of the many accomplishments we have achieved and especially proud of the strides the men and women of the department have made in their professional development.

We are continuing from the previous years to focus on and strengthen our "culture" at the police department to reflect what the department believes in as an organization. These beliefs are reflected in the department's policies and procedures, training, and ultimately, in the actions of our officers in the performance of their duties. This culture has been carefully developed, not simply allowed to develop without thought or guidance.

As you will see in this report, the Brattleboro Police Department had a busy 2017. Officers responded to over 11,000 calls for service and the officers continued to deliver high quality, professional police services.

For many years, the BPD conducted police operations from a subpar facility. In 2017 this changed, when police operations moved from the Municipal Center to Black Mountain Road. The Police Department's new facility provides our officers and staff a workplace that improves work efficiency which in turn increases the time an officer spends out in the community. It also provides our citizens a facility in which their needs can be addressed with dignity in a safe and private setting. We would like to thank the community for their support of a project of this magnitude. It was a significant undertaking which required a great deal of commitment and sacrifice by many. We are grateful to everyone who worked so hard to make our new facility a reality. The final product is an investment for our future and one that we all are very proud of.

The Police Department deeply appreciates the community trust and support that we enjoy and the strong cooperative partnerships that have been developed with the various community groups, organizations, and businesses over the years. We would also like to thank the Brattleboro residents who are engaged in maintaining the quality of life for all and we look forward to strengthening our relationship by working together to keep our town a safe place to live, work and raise our children. We are committed to maintaining and further enhancing these community relationships to proactively address the needs of our community. On behalf of the Brattleboro Police Department, thank you for your support.

I am proud to lead the men and women who make this department extraordinary. I want to thank them for their tireless efforts as well as their unwavering commitment to protect and serve the citizens of Brattleboro. As police chief, it's my goal for everyone in the community to not only be safe, but to feel safe.

I would like to especially thank Captain Mark Carignan, Office Manager Ginny Yager, Chief Dispatcher Wayne Stires, Detective Lieutenant Jeremy Evans, Sergeant Adam Petlock and Detective Erik Johnson for their long hours and hard work in contributing material for this report.

On behalf of the men and women of the department, we look forward to continuing our service to the Brattleboro community.

Michael R. Fitzgerald, Chief
Brattleboro Police Department

Organizational Chart

Chief Michael R. Fitzgerald

Captain Mark Carignan

Dispatch	CID	1st Shift	2nd Shift	3rd Shift	Admin / Support
Chief Dispatcher Stires	Lt. Evans	Lt Warner	Lt. Perkins	Sgt Petlock	Office Manager Yager
Dispatcher Lashway	Det. Johnson	Sgt Witherbee	Sgt. Emery	Sgt. Stanley	Clerk LeClair
Dispatcher Marrero	Det. Whiteman	Ofc. Lynde	Ofc. Washburn	Ofc. Cable	Clerk Clark
Dispatcher Spinner	Det. Eaton	Ofc. Hamilton	Ofc. Fletcher	Ofc. Penniman	ACO Barrows
Dispatcher Leclair		Ofc. Kerylow	Ofc. Vinton	OPEN	PSW Neuf
Dispatcher Cooke		Ofc. MacDonald	Ofc. Wilson	OPEN	
Dispatcher Andrews		OPEN	OPEN	OPEN	
Dispatcher Scott					
P/T Dispatcher Valiante					

Our authorized staffing level is 27 officers. We currently have five vacancies. The Vermont Police Academy holds two sessions per year, February and August. The time from the initial hiring through training to being assigned as a member of a shift is approximately ten months. We have three candidates who have been selected to attend the February 2018 academy and we are working on the background investigations of five prospective candidates to be considered to attend the August 2018 academy.

In 2017 BPD hired Officer Duncan MacDonald. Officer MacDonald completed the rigorous nineteen week Vermont Police Academy and successfully completed three months of additional in-house training at BPD. This is a twelve-week program in which recent graduates from the Vermont Police Academy are partnered with specially trained officers that mentor, train and evaluate the trainee on the day to day activities of being a law enforcement officer. More importantly, the trainee is taught the mission, core values and philosophy of the department and how those elements are woven into their daily interactions with the citizens. He was released for solo-officer patrol in September. Officer MacDonald is from Hartford VT and is already contributing greatly to our mission and goals.

Officer Sean Wilson and Officer Bradley Penniman have successfully completed their 1st year of probation and have become valuable members of our team.

In 2017 three experienced officers left the department. Lieutenant Michael Carrier, Sergeant Adam Belville, and Officer David Cerreto all resigned. All three left to take policing jobs at other agencies. Brattleboro benefitted greatly from their years of service and they will be missed.

Two additional people were selected to be hired as well, having successfully passed written exams, medical exams, polygraph examinations, and a background investigation. Unfortunately, both applicants did not successfully pass the physical fitness standards required of our officers. Refusing to lower our standards of employment, BPD chose to release them from consideration.

Captain Mark Carignan was selected to attend the FBI National Academy, a world-renowned management training held in Quantico, VA. In September Captain Carignan graduated the ten-week course with other police commanders from forty-eight states and twenty-two countries. Less than 1% of 1% of eligible police executives are interviewed and selected to attend this prestigious training.

In police work, there is no substitute for experience. Officers learn from their supervisors how to handle the myriad of calls for service on a daily basis. The Brattleboro Police Department is fortunate to have a tradition of high standards for our officers and with the promotions of Carl Warner to Lieutenant and Adam Petlock and Chase Stanley to Sergeant, that tradition will continue.

Community Policing

The Brattleboro Police Department's strategy is to police in a proactive, preventive and community-oriented style with the understanding that there will be incidents where we will need to be reactive. To minimize those instances, during the officer's monthly evaluations we emphasize the importance of interpersonal skills, emphasize our mission statement and core values, and promote the understanding of community oriented efforts along with traditional law enforcement activity.

Community policing remains one of the top priorities for the police department. New to the Department in 2017 is the "Bigs and Blue" program. "Bigs and Blue" is a collaborative venture between BPD and Big Brothers Big Sisters. Officers volunteer to be paired with a "little" and go to the elementary schools several times a week to play at recess and eat lunch. Five officers currently participate in the program, which has met with rave reviews from students, teachers, counselors, and officers.

The department continues to host quarterly Coffee-with-a-Cop events. These popular events are organized by Officer Adam Petlock and Officer Ryan Washburn and are hosted by local merchants. These events bring out citizens who want to sit with officers over a cup of coffee and discuss the events of the day. Questions, answers, and friendly debates are common during these casual gatherings. This year we were honored to have been hosted by The Restless Rooster, The Brattleboro Food Co-Op, The Works and McDonald's. We look forward to continuing this very popular program.

We are currently building on our successes and addressing our deficiencies by reviewing the recommendations from the report of "The President's Task Force on 21st Century Policing."

Opiates continue to be the most visible challenge we face. It not only claims victims directly through addiction and overdose, but drives many of our property crimes such as larceny and burglary. Overdose calls for BPD increased by 32% over 2016. BPD detectives investigated 38 deaths this year, a 46% increase over 2016. Sadly, fatal overdoses contributed to some of this increase.

Increasingly in 2017 opiate addiction contributed to violent crime as well. In January two men committed a home invasion where they stabbed a woman and stole heroin. Both men were arrested and are serving prison sentences. A burglary was committed by a man struggling with addiction that resulted in a citizen shooting at the suspect. The suspect in that case was arrested. Late in the year a dispute over hundreds of bags of heroin turned violent and a man was brutally stabbed in the face, suffering a deep and large wound. That suspect was arrested as well.

In the late summer of 2017, The Brattleboro Police Department partnered with several organizations within the community to form an outreach team and better respond to the Opioid epidemic facing our community. This included HCRS, Turning Point Recovery Center, and the Brattleboro Memorial Hospital Community Health Team amongst others. The group recognized that the BPD would continue in our enforcement efforts, and hold those accountable who choose to victimize others with the sale of dangerous drugs. However; as emphasized in our mission statement, we recognize that there are people who are struggling with substance abuse and need our help.

In November of 2017, The Brattleboro Police Department formed a partnership with P.A.A.R.I. (Police Assisted Addiction and Recovery Initiative). This national program aims to remove the many barriers for entry into treatment and recovery programs, while reducing the stigma and shame associated with addiction. Through this initiative, members of the Brattleboro Police Department will seek to reduce the impact of opiate abuse on our community and encourage those who suffer from addiction to seek help without the fear of arrest, incarceration, or prosecution.

The BPD model is still in its early stages, however once operational will include a multi- faceted approach to include preventative education in the schools and targeted outreach within the high-risk community. The team will perform follow up visits with victims of non- fatal overdoses. Additionally, members of the community will be able to request assistance without fear of prosecution. They will be connected with various available resources in order to determine the appropriate course of treatment.

P.A.A.R.I. police departments share a common mission: encourage opioid drug users to seek recovery, help distribute lifesaving opioid blocking drugs to prevent and treat overdoses, connect those struggling with the disease of addiction with treatment programs and facilities and provide resources to other police departments and communities that want to do more to fight the opioid epidemic.

Grants

BPD continues to take advantage of grant opportunities to provide services to Brattleboro at reduced or no cost. Sergeant Adam Petlock manages the Governor's Highway Safety Program and brings tens of thousands of dollars of highway safety money to Town each year. The Governor's Highway Safety Program awarded us a \$4,000 equipment grant, \$19,000 to fund overtime traffic details focused on occupant protection/seat belt use and driving under the influence of drugs or alcohol along with \$1,200 to fund the DRE program. Total amount from this program was \$24,200.

An Edward J. Byne Justice Assistance Grant was also obtained to purchase external ballistic vest carriers for officers. This measure will shift the weight of equipment from the hips and lower back to the shoulders thereby increasing comfort and decreasing chronic use injuries. It is an effort championed by our officers for years and one we were happy to finally be able to provide at no cost to local taxpayers.

The Windham County Safe Place Child Advocacy Center awarded us \$60,000 to fund a Brattleboro Police Department investigator who works on child exploitation and child sexual assault cases.

Criminal Investigation Division (CID)

Criminal Investigation Division – 2017

Mission

The mission of the Criminal Investigation Division (CID) is to assist and support the accomplishment of the overall mission of the Brattleboro Police Department through the application of specialized investigative skills and organizational structure to identify offenders and prepare cases for successful prosecution.

Staffing

During the majority of 2017, The CID was staffed by Detectives Erik Johnson, Gregory Eaton, and Ryan Washburn, and was supervised by Detective Lieutenant Jeremy Evans. At the end of the year, Detective Jon Whiteman returned to the department after a 3-year assignment with the Vermont Drug Task Force and Detective Washburn transferred into the Patrol Division.

Investigatory Capabilities

Reallocating resources to most efficiently investigate and clear open cases along with identifying and minimizing operational inefficiencies were major areas of progress in 2016. This process continued and expanded through 2017, with the intent to expand our proactive investigatory abilities in relation to street crimes and drug investigations.

CID conducted approximately 300 investigations in 2017. This included 104 burglaries, 76 sex crimes, and 43 deaths. The average investigatory time needed to clear or suspend these cases was 50 days. The clearance rate of crimes investigated by CID for 2017 was 78%. This number decreased slightly from 2016 due to the larger caseload being carried by CID detectives this year, and was further influenced by the significantly higher number of burglary investigations.

Major Cases

CID generally only investigates felonious crimes (other than death investigations which may or may not be criminal in nature). Of those, there were several higher profile investigations conducted. These included the following notable incidents:

- The kidnapping of a 14-year-old girl. She was located and safely returned to her family after an intensive, week-long investigation. The suspect was charged with several felonies, to include kidnapping and sexual assault.
- A commercial burglary involving an aggravated assault on an employee. This case is still open awaiting DNA analysis.
- A commercial burglary where the suspects were shot at. One suspect was charged with burglary and the investigation is still active.
- Unidentified dead body discovered in the Whetstone. Due to many factors, this was initially considered a suspicious death. After an intensive week-long investigation, the decedent was identified and the death was discovered to be accidental in nature.

Death Investigations

A primary responsibility of the CID is the investigation of deaths that occur in the Town of Brattleboro. Proper death investigations require extensive training and coordination with multiple agencies to include the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner, Health Care and Rehabilitative Services, various medical facilities inside and outside of Vermont, and the State's Attorney's Office. The BPD investigated 43 deaths in 2017, none of which were determined to be homicides. This was a 26% rise in death investigations over 2016. Of those deaths, 20 were determined to be of natural causes, 7 determined to be suicides, and 15 were accidental in nature. 16 of those deaths were determined to be drug overdoses. One death is still being investigated and a final determination has not been made on manner or cause.

Burglaries

CID investigated 104 burglaries in 2017. In all, 29 different suspects were arrested in connection with 41 of these burglaries. 22 of these burglaries are still being actively investigated.

Commercial Robberies

This year the BPD responded to two commercial robberies, which is a significant drop in this category. One of these was cleared with an arrest of the suspect. The other is still being actively investigated.

Southern Unit for Special Investigations/Child Advocacy Center

As in years past, the BPD continues to partner with the Southern Unit for Special Investigations/Windham County Safe Place/Child Advocacy Center to better serve juvenile victims of sexual crimes. Detective Erik Johnson is assigned to work at the CAC office for 32 hours a week, where he not only investigates Brattleboro cases of sexual assault but also assists other area police agencies with their own investigations. This level of coordination is extremely important as there are often several agencies involved in the investigatory and prosecutorial stages of these crimes.

Sexual Crimes Case Review

With the importance being placed on the quality of sexual assault investigations around the country, the BPD, in partnership with the Windham County State's Attorney's Office and the Southern Unit for Special Investigations/Child Advocacy Center, began a qualitative review of closed sexual assault cases in 2016. This was done to assess the quality of the investigations being completed by the BPD and to identify any areas needing improvement. By the end of 2016, each of the 79 sexual assault cases investigated by BPD during 2014 and 2015 had been reviewed by this working group, with 3 being reopened for further investigatory work. This process was completed in 2017.

Computer Forensics

The CID has two detectives who are trained to execute forensic evaluations of smart phones and computers. This type of training is becoming more and more important as the amount of technology involved in criminal activity continues to rise at an astonishing pace. In 2017, detectives completed forensic evaluations on 57 electronic devices. Some of the crimes these devices were tied to included disorderly conduct (threatening), assaults, death investigations, kidnapping, restraining order violations, drug sales, and child pornography.

Prescription Drug Drop Box

The Brattleboro Police Department has partnered with The National Association of Drug Diversion Investigators to help reduce the amount of prescription drugs in Brattleboro area homes that are either no longer needed or outdated. America's 12 to 17 year olds have made prescription drugs the number one substance of abuse for their age group, and much of that supply is unwittingly coming from the medicine cabinets of their family and friends. The BPD has a secure drop box at the police station where residents can drop off these expired or no longer needed prescription medications so that they do not fall into the wrong hands. In 2017 the BPD destroyed over 509 pounds of medications through this program. This is up approximately 170 pounds over 2016.

Southern Unit for Special Investigations/Child Advocacy Center

The Brattleboro Police Department in conjunction with the VT Internet Crimes Against Children's Task Force (ICAC) and the Windham County Safe Place Child Advocacy Center & Southeastern Unit for Special Investigations (CAC) accomplishments:

Brattleboro Police representative, Detective Erik Johnson, assisted in the development of an "E-Rep Board," AKA: Electronic reparative board, with the Community Justice Center, youth specialists, victim advocates, and the Windham County State's Attorney's Office (WCSA). The goal of these organizations is to come together to design a restorative process specifically for youth and young adults who have caused harm or been harmed via electronic means. This program can be used for cases as a diversion from court to deal with harm in a restorative way. This program can also be used for cyber-bullying cases when issues of electronics can be dealt with within the school. If law enforcement in Windham County receives a juvenile case the law enforcement officer can refer their case to the E-Rep board after having it reviewed by the WCSA's Office and the CAC. The panel of individuals who sit on the E-Rep board is comprised of civilians who work with youth on a regular basis.

Types of cases:

- Offense involving teenagers or young adults aged between 13 and 21.
- There is a power differential (relative ages or position e.g. tutor/student.)
- Sexting.
- Coercion.
- Dissemination of images.
- Derogatory, racist, or harmful words or phrases.
- Cyberbullying.

Sex Offender registry sweeps. The Brattleboro Police Department has been conducting quarterly sweeps of registered sex offenders in Brattleboro. Each registered sex offender has a specific folder with intel/photos/probation conditions (if any), and a quarterly sex offender compliance check sheet that is filled out by a law enforcement officer upon contact with the sex offender. The completion of these packets has given law enforcement better intelligence, information, and accountability on sex offenders who live within our community. We have also collaborated with the Vermont Sex Offender Registry to keep them informed of any changes. This past summer the Brattleboro Police Department and the CAC held a successful county wide sweep with multiple Vermont Law Enforcement agencies as well as the US Marshals.

BPD still maintains a strong relationship with the Vermont Internet Crimes Against Children's Task Force. They continue to provide a great deal of funding for forensic software that our agency utilizes on a regular basis for a variety of criminal investigation not just child exploitation cases. We have provided forensic assistance to Federal, State, and Local law enforcement agencies. We have also provided internet safety presentations for grammar schools, middle schools, high schools, and non-profits throughout Windham County. Detective Johnson attended a national ICAC conference in Atlanta, GA in June of 2017. Expenses were paid by VTICAC. VTICAC requested investigation into four VTICAC child exploitation cases this year.

Statistical data on child exploitation cases and forensics:

Investigations (Prosecution both on State/Federal level):

- Enticement cases 1
- Possession of Child Pornography 4
- Child victims identified 1

Forensic exams:

- Computers 15
- Smart phones 33

Presentations - 6

Through the CAC the BPD investigated the following sexual assault/child exploitation cases:

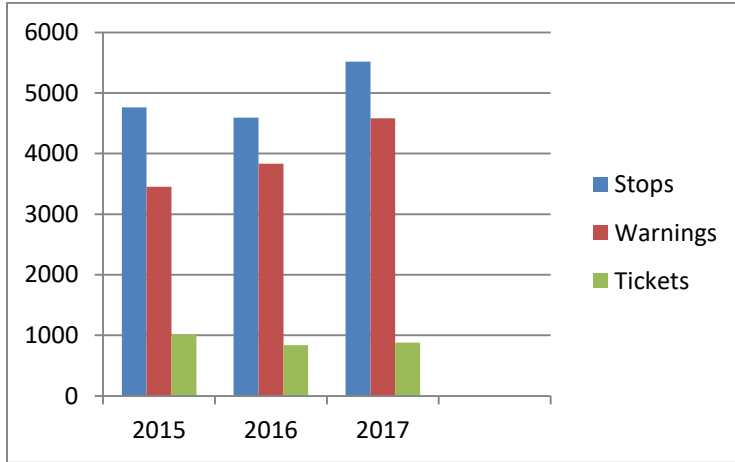
Brattleboro investigations: 64
Bellows Falls investigations: 7
Windham County Sheriff's Department investigations: 2
Vermont State Police investigations: 1
Curtesy interviews: 5

The CAC purchased approximately \$5,500 in forensic equipment (hardware) that is currently being housed at the Brattleboro Police Department along with contributing approximately \$60,000 towards BPD staff salary for investigations.

Motor Vehicle Data 2017

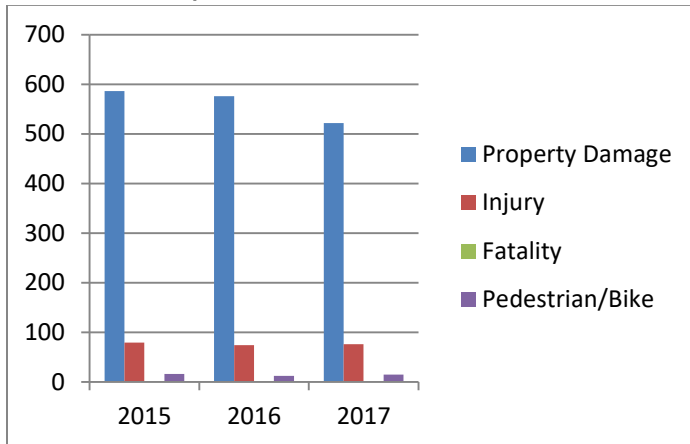
Total Motor Vehicle Stops	5516
Tickets given	881
Warnings given	5197

3-year Motor Vehicle Action Comparison



Total Motor Vehicle Accidents	599
Property Damage Only	522
Accident with Injury	76
Fatality	1

3-Year Crash Comparison



2017 Traffic Reports

Stops made 5516
Tickets written 881*
Warnings given 5197

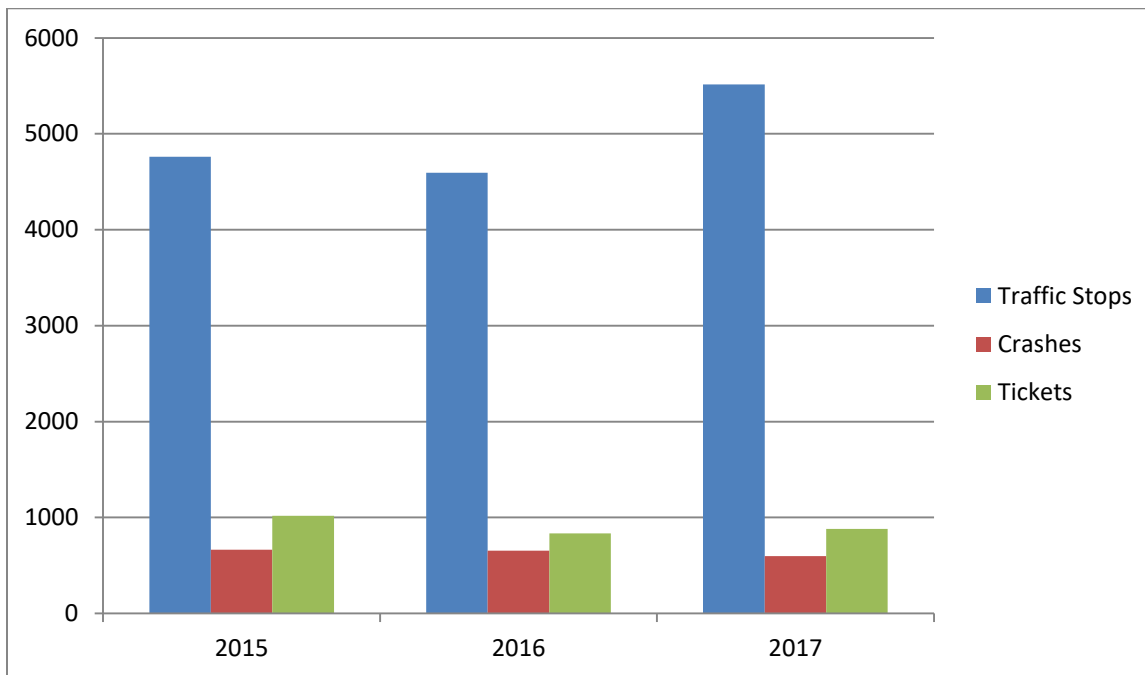
547 Males were ticketed, or 62% of total. 482 white, 45 black
324 Females were ticketed or 36% of total. 305 white, 14 black

*881 includes 12 non-motor vehicle offense tickets and 6 written to corporations.

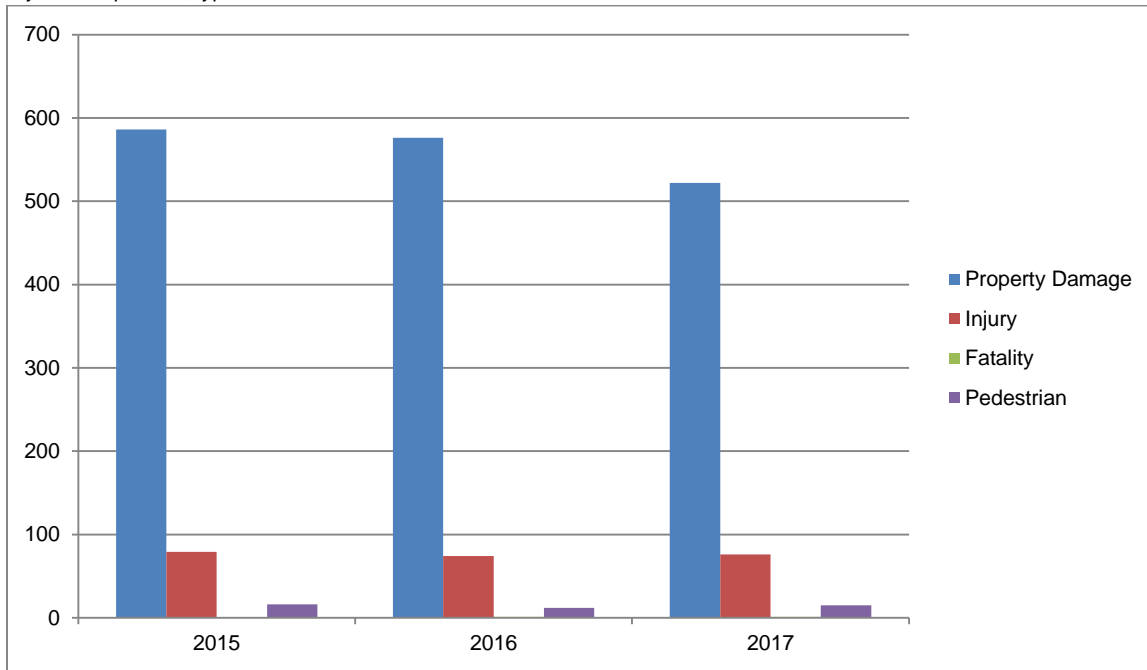
Highest numbers of tickets
Driving License Suspended: 183
Operating w/out Proof of Insurance/Financial Responsibility: 93
Regulations in Municipalities: 92
Inspection of Registered Vehicle: 80
Local Speed Town Highway: 71

Traffic Safety Committee Data

3-year comparison, Stops, Crashes and Tickets written



3-year comparison, types of crashes



2015-2017 Pedestrian/Bike Crashes

Crash Date	Crash Time	Crash Type	Incident Number	Street Address
01/16/2015	4:05 PM	Injury	15BB00422	Flat St
01/28/2015	5:57 PM	Injury	15BB00717	Putney Rd
02/04/2015	6:30 PM	Property Damage Only	15BB00919	Main St
05/10/2015	2:44 PM	Injury	15BB03623	Putney Rd
05/17/2015	12:20 PM	Injury	15BB03851	Marlboro Ave
07/14/2015	4:19 PM	Injury	15BB05753	6 Flat St
07/16/2015	10:11 PM	Injury	15BB05835	Canal St
07/17/2015	1:16 PM	Injury	15BB05849	230 Elliot St
08/04/2015	4:14 PM	Injury	15BB06452	Putney Rd
08/14/2015	6:34 PM	Injury	15BB06794	Flat St
08/30/2015	12:48 PM	Injury	15BB07295	Canal St
09/18/2015	1:58 PM	Injury	15BB07925	17 Belmont Ave
11/05/2015	2:58 PM	Injury	15BB09264	121 Canal St
11/11/2015	8:13 PM	Injury	15BB09410	Main St
12/11/2015	5:21 PM	Injury	15BB10105	South Main St
12/15/2015	10:15 AM	Injury	15BB10179	Marlboro Rd

Total for 2015 = 16

01/21/2016	3:16 PM	Injury	16BB00478	Canal St
01/25/2016	9:29 AM	Injury	16BB00553	Main St
03/30/2016	8:14 PM	Injury	16BB02390	Lawrence St
04/13/2016	3:37 PM	Property Damage Only	16BB02769	Maple St`
07/04/2016	12:24 PM	Injury	16BB05351	1154 Putney Rd
07/23/2016	11:45 PM	Injury	16BB06016	Elliot St
07/30/2016	11:34 AM	Injury	16BB06196	Western Ave
09/19/2016	7:04 AM	Injury	16BB07868	16 Town Crier Drive
09/23/2016	11:39 PM	Injury	16BB08021	Canal St
11/14/2016	2:19 PM	Injury	16BB09655	437 Vernon St
11/16/2016	5:21 PM	Injury	16BB09723	Linden St
12/16/2016	9:20 AM	Injury	16BB10560	132 Fairview St

Total for 2016 = 12

01/19/2017	4:36 AM	Injury	17BB00511	659 Putney Rd
04/05/2017	5:35 PM	Injury	17BB02752	499 Canal St
04/10/2017	10:00 AM	Injury	17BB02872	Canal St
04/18/2017	7:00 AM	Injury	17BB03161	54 S Main St
04/27/2017	10:19 AM	Property Damage Only	17BB03426	Elliot St
05/07/2017	9:43 PM	Injury	17BB03810	Canal St
07/05/2017	3:51 PM	Injury	17BB05798	1156 Western Ave
07/21/2017	2:04 P	Fatal	17BB06368	Western Ave
09/17/2017	6:56 PM	Injury	17BB08247	278 Western Ave
10/04/2017	5:58 AM	Injury	17BB08756	889 Putney Rd
10/06/2017	6:00 PM	Injury	17BB08830	30 Fairground Rd
11/02/2017	1:56 PM	Injury	17BB09646	Canal St
11/06/2017	7:59 PM	Injury	17BB09788	Western Ave
11/20/2017	8:23 AM	Injury	17BB10159	Birge St
12/01/2017	5:36 PM	Injury	17BB10446	Elliot St

Total for 2017 = 15

Crime Analysis

In 2017 Brattleboro continued the trend of increasing demands on its police department by growing the number of calls for service. Call volume surpassed 11,000 for the first time. This represents a 2.6% increase from last year, which itself followed 3.5% and 6.6% increases on prior years. As in previous years, this growth continued despite a static population and represents the growing social needs of our community.

Despite the above call volume increases, BPD officers continued their dedication to getting out of their cars and walking through the downtown areas and neighborhoods. The hours spent walking increased a small amount over 2016. Officers also showed their dedication to keeping motorists, bicyclists, and pedestrians safe by making over 5500 car stops, a 20% increase over 2016.

The bravery of BPD officers is demonstrated every day. One particularly noteworthy incident involved an officer being attacked by a man wielding a sword. In another case an officer responding to a stabbing was confronted by a man holding a handgun and challenging officers. In both cases officers defused the situations with no shots fired and minimal injury.

Brattleboro police took advantage of several training opportunities this year. In March, our use-of-force instructors designed a training system to reduce the need to use physical force. The training stressed slowing down stressful incidents and using space and obstacles to create time. This time is then used to allow suspects an opportunity to vent their frustrations, calm down, and react to officer instructions. The training culminated in participation in real-world scenario based training for all sworn officers.

This report shows what was called in by the public. This may or may not have been what the call involved, but it's the public's request for response.

TOTAL INCIDENTS: 11,181

Total Arrests: 768

2017 Law Total Incident Report, Top Ten by Nature of Incident

- #1 Suspicious Person/Circumstance = 1257
- #2 Animal Problem = 825
- #3 Agency Assistance = 687
- #4 Traffic Accident w/Damage = 595
- #5 Theft = 569
- #6 Welfare/Suicide Check = 483
- #7 Citizen Dispute = 468
- #8 Trespass = 457
- #9 Burglary Alarm = 441
- #10 Unlock = 427

2017 Law Incident Total Report, Top Ten by Offense OBSERVED

This report shows what the officer found at the incident. There can be multiple offense codes per incident, and not all offense codes result in arrest.

- #1 Suspicious Person/Circumstance = 1829
- #2 Animal Problem = 794
- #3 Agency Assist = 778
- #4 Accident Report-Damage = 539

- #5 Trespassing Violation = 488
- #6 Welfare Check = 479
- #7 Citizen Dispute = 469
- #8 Lockout = 422
- #9 Citizen Assist = 390
- #10 False Alarm = 330

Law Incident Comparison of 2016 to 2017

From 2016 numbers:

In general, crimes of violence decreased.
 Aggravated Assault was up from 18 to 21
 Simple Assault dropped to 89 from 116.
 Disorderly Conduct dropped from 142 to 135
 Family Disturbance dropped from 134 to 96.
 Sex Crimes decreased from 22 to 8
 Lewd Behavior increased from 19 to 58
 Stalking increased from 4 to 10
 Robberies decreased from 19 to 10
 Burglaries increased from 65 to 106
 Larcenies decreased from 370 to 331,
 Larceny from a motor vehicle decreased from 151 to 68.
 Fraud more than doubled, from 43 to 90.
 Vandalism decreased from 157 to 110
 Drug violations increased from 66 to 72
 DUI increased from 34 to 38
 Civil Drug violations decreased from 15 to 11
 Violations of Conditions of Release increased from 207 to 244
 Arrests on Warrant increased from 135 to 190
 Trespassing Violations increased from 416 to 549
 Criminal DLS (Driving after license suspension) increased from 41 to 69

Law Incident Comparison of 2016 to 2017, by All Offense Codes. This summary is of non-criminal incidents only

Accidents with Injury stayed about the same, down 4 from 2016
 Accidents with Damage stayed about the same, down 21 from 2016
 Animal Problems increased from 832 to 923, an 11% increase
 Citizen Disputes decreased from 662 to 529, a 20% decrease.
 Citizen Assists decreased from 424 to 398, a 6% decrease
 Burglar Alarms increased 76%, from 118 to 208
 Loitering increased 37%, from 70 to 96
 Juvenile Problems decreased from 226 to 180

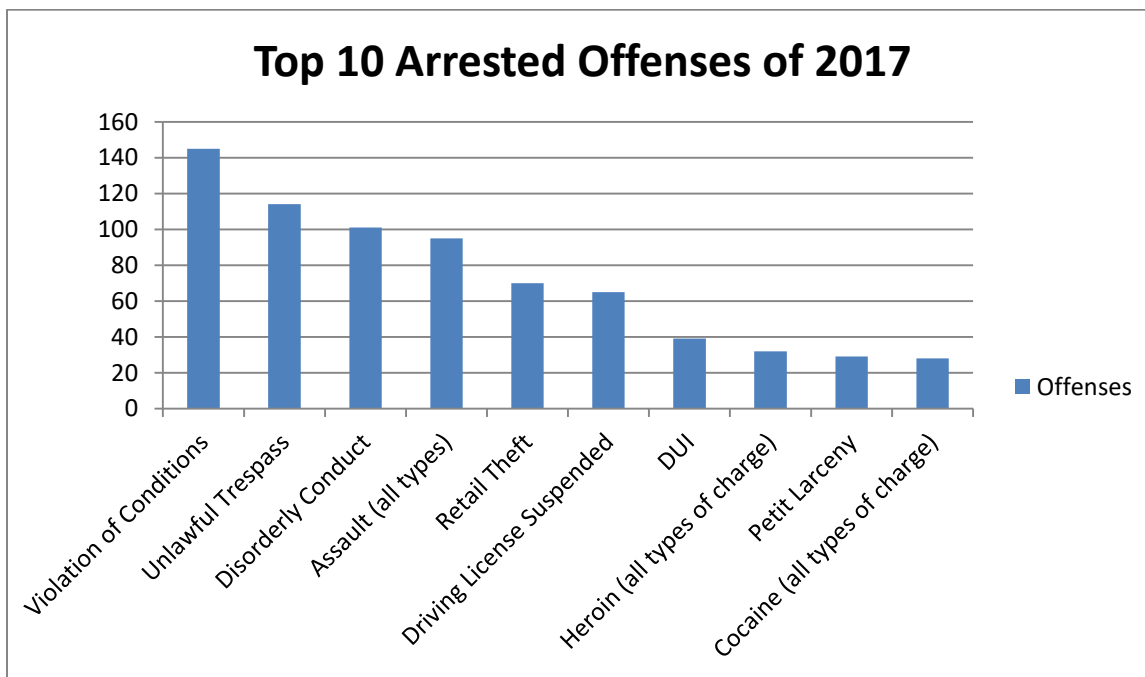
3-year Incident Comparison, by Criminal Offense Code*

(There can be more than 1 offense code per incident. These are total times each code was used)

Offense	2015	2016	2017
Consent Search	27	34	13
Suicide	2	5	3
Accidental Death	3	6	2
Natural Death	5	16	2
Sex Offense-Forcible Rape	2	8	2
Sex Offense-Attempted Forcible Rape	0	0	0
Sex Offense-Forcible Fondling	7	4	1
Sex Offense, Statutory Rape	1	0	0

Sex Offense, Child Molestation	1	8	0
Attempted Sex Offense	0	0	0
Sex Offense, Forcible, Other	1	2	0
Robbery	13	20	7
Aggravated Assault	26	18	13
Assault, Simple, Not Aggravated	144	112	60
Assault, Intimidation	9	7	5
Stalking	6	3	4
Burglary/B&E—Force	36	38	59
Burglary/B&E—No Force	30	27	35
Larceny—Pocket Picking	2	5	2
Larceny—Purse Snatching	2	4	10
Larceny—Shoplifting	114	106	83
Larceny—From Motor Vehicle	58	151	64
Larceny—Auto Parts/Accessories	1	4	2
Larceny—Bicycles	17	13	9
Larceny—From Building	78	69	62
Larceny—From Coin-Op Machine	0	1	0
Larceny—All Other	88	70	81
Larceny—Skis/Ski Equipment	0	1	0
Theft of Motor Vehicle	11	16	10
Arson	5	2	0
Forgery/Counterfeit	4	0	3
Fraud, Bad Checks	7	0	3
Fraud	53	31	70
Fraud-Impersonation	1	0	0
Fraud—Wire	1	2	3
Embezzlement	4	3	1
Stolen Property	9	6	6
Vandalism	139	157	93
Weapon Law Violation	2	6	2
Prostitution	0	1	0
Lewd-Adultery	13	18	31
Obscene Literature-Sale/Possess	0	3	0
Peeping Tom	0	0	0
Pornography/Obscene Material	2	6	0
Sex Offender-Failure to Register	8	5	2
Regulated Drugs—Sale of	0	2	3
Regulated Drugs—Possession of	26	41	34
Regulated Drugs—Cultivation of	1	2	0
Prescription Fraud	1	0	1
Controlled Substance/Drug Equipment	4	18	0
Drugs—Civil	13	15	11
Child Offense	19	9	2
Mistreatment of Elderly	1	0	0
Contributing to Delinquency of Minors	1	0	0
Runaway Juvenile	3	8	1
Domestic Abuse Order Violation	16	15	7
Driving under the Influence	49	34	31
Liquor Violation	11	11	5
Disturbing the Peace	7	9	3
Quarrels	3	0	1
Family Disturbance	165	135	78
Disorderly Conduct—Other	142	141	86
Blackmail	1	1	0
Conditions of Release Violation	193	207	207
Impeding Police Officer	25	31	3
Discharging Firearms	0	2	1
Phone Offenses	3	0	2
False Information to Police	11	12	8
Kidnapping	6	4	1
Escaping from Custody	0	0	0
Perjury	1	0	0

Probation/Parole Violation	3	0	1
Public Nuisance/Pranks	0	2	1
Subversive Activities	1	0	0
Trespassing Violation	413	414	488
Bomb Threat	1	0	0
Fireworks	20	24	22
Obstructing Justice	2	0	1
Cruelty to Animals	1	0	0
Vagrancy	6	1	12
Fugitive	13	9	10
Arrest on Warrant-Federal Check	3	2	0
Arrest on Warrant-Police Check	125	135	112
Accident-Fatal	0	1	1
Accident-Injury	69	78	63
Accident-Damage	583	576	539
Motor Vehicle Disturbance	198	159	148
Careless/Negligent Operation	11	17	6
Attempting to Allude Police	1	2	1
Driving License Suspended-Criminal	49	41	51
Leaving Scene of MV Accident	28	15	5
Littering	35	34	26
Fire Investigation	3	3	2
Fire Alarms	5	5	0
Assist Fire Investigation	0	0	1
Bomb Squad Team Response	1	0	0
Public Outreach Programs	0	0	2



CPCC (Citizen Police Communication Committee)

The 5-member committee's charge was amended by the Select board on October 21, 2014 as follows,

"The mission of the Citizen Police Communications Committee (CPCC) is to facilitate mutually respectful communication between citizens and the Brattleboro Police Department regarding complaints, compliments or information concerning police procedures."

Currently serving are Ken McCaffery, Darah Kehnemuyi, Ben Coplan, Elissa Pine, and Liliana Vandertuin.

We had a total of 12 complaints in 2017 that required the command staff to conduct an investigation. This represents a reduction from the 20 received in 2016. Nine of those complaints were generated externally and three were internally generated. A majority of the complaints were for rudeness/unprofessional behavior or procedural issues. There were no complaints of excessive force.

Five of the complaints were sustained and either disciplinary action or retraining of the officer occurred. The remaining complaints were either not sustained or the officer was exonerated.

I am particularly proud of the work of our supervisors. 25% of the complaints concerning the department came from within. The leadership demonstrated by the supervisors through their direct involvement in the day to day activities of their officer's and holding them accountable is commendable. Every officer is expected to adhere to our mission statement and set of core values, the supervisors ensure that is happening whether a complaint is filed or not from our citizens.

To find out more about CPCC, you can contact the Town Manager's office at 251-8151 or townmanager@brattleboro.org.

In closing;

The Brattleboro Police Department is committed to establishing a partnership with all members of our community, to pro-actively solve problems and reduce crime. Our primary mission is crime prevention and the protection of life and property. The basis of all police action is the law; however, we are measured by our contribution to the welfare of our citizens, our concern for professionalism and the leadership we provide in guiding our officers to obtain the highest level of ethical practice. We are committed to responding to the needs of the community with respect, fairness, compassion, and integrity.

Respectfully,

Michael R. Fitzgerald, Chief

Brattleboro Police Department

Central Dispatch

2017 was an eventful year for Brattleboro Central Dispatch. We answered approximately 130,000 phone calls this past year. Of those phone calls 11,207 were calls for service for the Brattleboro Police Department, 2,447 were calls for service for the Brattleboro Fire Department and 5,383 were calls for service for Rescue Inc. The Communications Center is covered by 2 dispatchers 24 hours a day 7 days a week

Brattleboro Police; 11,207
Brattleboro Fire; 2,447
Rescue Inc.; 5,383

The Brattleboro Communications Center experienced some drastic and minor changes in 2017. The dispatch schedule went from an 8hr, 7-week rotation of working 6 days a week. To a 12hr rotating 2-week schedule that gives every dispatcher a weekend off every 2 weeks. This small change has improved morale and it has allowed for some flexibility in scheduling the part-time dispatchers.

We hired 2 additional PT dispatchers, Cailey White and Hannah Sanborn. Unfortunately, neither of them successfully completed the rigorous training process. Both applicants left to seek employment elsewhere.

Our biggest change was moving from the Municipal Center, where Dispatch has spent the past 20 years, and moving to 62 Black Mountain Road. With the move came a much-needed upgrade to the Communications Dispatch Center both in space and equipment. The space is larger and accommodates our needs to deliver professional services to the first responders in the field and gives us the ability to add additional dispatchers in times of major incidents. We also upgraded our radio console, radios, antennas and a new tower that can meet the needs for modern technology. This allows for better coverage to all agencies dispatched through the center. We can staff 3 full positions if necessary with an up to date IP based console. It is easier to upgrade and make changes to, which can occur in-house and not from an outside source saving the taxpayers an expense of contracting an outside source for upgrades. This was a needed upgrade as we had been working with technology that was outdated, very costly to repair.

Dispatch participated in a full exercise with other agencies to test the Brattleboro School Crisis plan. This exercise was in April of 2017 and was held at the Oak Grove School. Not only was dispatch involved, but multiple other agencies, to include, but not limited to the following: Brattleboro Police, Vermont State Police, Windham County Sheriff, Hinsdale NH Police, Chesterfield NH Police, Keene NH Police, Greenfield Ma Police, Brattleboro Fire Department, Rescue Inc, staff from Oak Grove School, WSESU, Vt Emergency Management. This was a great success and tested our procedures well. We improved on the plan by identifying our deficiencies and made the changes

In closing, I must give a shout out to those specific agencies and staff that went above and beyond to assist us in making this new space a reality. First, to Police Chief Michael Fitzgerald, we thank you for your tireless work and vision to help us move into the 21st century. To TM Peter Elwell, without your determination and foresight this project would never have gotten off the ground. To the Brattleboro Fire Department, Rescue Inc. and the Department of Public Works. Your patience and guidance was not only needed but much appreciated. To Fire Alarm Supt Joe Newton, your support and encouragement during the upgrade was more than I could have asked for. Supt Newton also played an intricate part in switching from the old center to the new one. Supt Newton along with Dispatcher Belinda Lashway went above and beyond what was expected to make the transition a smooth one. In addition to these folks was our phone representative, Marty Grimes from Southern VT Telephone. Mr. Grimes was a great help in making the transition to the new center as smoothly as possible. I also have nothing but good things to say about DEW Construction Co. and our foreman Jim Maloney. They were a pleasure to deal with and very helpful during the entire process. Also to Steve Horton the project Manager, a pleasure to work with and did a great job making sure dispatch had everything we needed.

Respectfully Submitted,

Wayne R Stires
Chief Dispatcher