

To: Brattleboro Selectboard
Via: Peter Elwell, Town Manager
From: Michael Fitzgerald, Chief of Police
Date: 03 May 2017

SUBJ: APRIL 2017 MONTHLY REPORT

Summary of Major Activities /Work Projects:

Officers responded to 983 calls for service/incidents along with making 53 arrests resulting in 70 criminal charges. 112 motor vehicle citations were issued along with 467 verbal warnings. Officers also spent approximately 216 hours on walking patrols in the downtown district and other areas of the Town.

Cases of Interest:

The Brattleboro Police Department responded to a residence on Central St. to investigate a report of a trespassing complaint. Subsequent investigation revealed that Brandon Porter, 26 year old male of Brattleboro, entered a residence in which he is currently trespassed. While in the residence he caused damage to a door. Porter was later located and cited for Unlawful Mischief and Unlawful Trespass. Porter was released from the scene and will appear in Windham County Superior Court at a later date.

Officers were dispatched to a residence on South Main Street for a reported dispute. Officers were then informed that a male (later identified as Jonathan Holway) had left the residence and had broken a window with a cinder block. While responding, an Officer located Holway walking on South Main Street. Holway advanced towards the officer while brandishing a sword. Holway did not initially comply with commands to drop the sword, however did eventually relinquish the weapon. Holway then actively resisted efforts to take him into custody, and spit bodily fluids at officers. Once he was placed in custody, he kicked a window and door causing damage to a police vehicle. As a result of the incident, Holway was charged with the following offenses:

Aggravated Assault on an Officer
Disorderly Conduct
Resisting Arrest
Unlawful Mischief
Interference with Access to Emergency Services
Assault on a Police Officer with Bodily Fluids

Holway was lodged at Southern State Correctional Facility in lieu of \$2500.00 bail related to the above offenses. He was issued a citation, ordering him to appear in Windham County Superior Court at a later date.

Brattleboro Police responded to the parking lot of a Hotel on Putney road in Brattleboro for a report of two females fighting. Investigations lead to the arrest of King for Simple Assault and Disorderly Conduct, and the arrest of Hawthorne for Disorderly Conduct. King was transported to the Brattleboro Police Department where she was processed, and Hawthorne was cited on scene. Neither party required medical assistance. Both individuals will appear at Windham County Superior Court at a later date to answer the charges.

Brattleboro Police responded to Elliot St. for a report of an intoxicated female in the road. Upon investigation it was determined that Sarah Wright had smashed a window on a local residence. Wright was arrested and issued a citation for Unlawful Mischief. Wright was ordered to appear at Windham County Court at a later date.

Brattleboro police received a 911 call related to an armed subject who had locked himself in a residence at 152 Maple Street. The caller reported that during a conversation with her, the subject had retrieved a handgun from a vehicle, entered his residence, and locked himself inside. The caller reported that the subject made comments that indicated to her that he was going to commit suicide. Brattleboro police responded. Initially they were unable to make contact and a perimeter was established. Additional officers arrived on scene and eventually 11 BPD officers were involved. The Brattleboro Fire Department and Rescue Inc. responded and assisted with traffic control and command post management. Police established contact with the subject with the assistance of a family member. The subject eventually agreed to come out of the residence and was taken into protective custody by the police. He was transported to Brattleboro Memorial Hospital by ambulance for evaluation. BPD seized a semi-automatic handgun. The subject is a 27 year old man. The subject was not arrested.

Officers of the Brattleboro Police Department began an investigation into a man harassing clerks at a local gas station. Subsequent investigation led to the arrest of Wallace Bly (35 of Guilford). Bly was released on court ordered conditions and issued a citation to appear at court at a later date and time to answer to the charge of Lewd and Lascivious Conduct.

Brattleboro Police were on patrol of Putney road and witnessed a suspicious person at the front door of a local business. Upon investigation it was determined that the person was Jonathan Gray and he had Conditions of Release to reside in Dover. Gray was issued a Citation to appear in court at a later date.

The Brattleboro Police Department responded to a report of a family dispute at a residence on Elliot Street. Subsequent investigation led to the arrest of Robert Crochetiere (61 of Brattleboro) for domestic assault. Crochetiere was held until sober, and later released on court ordered conditions. Crochetiere was issued a citation to appear at court at a later date and time to answer to the charge of Domestic Assault.

Brattleboro Police were dispatched to a residence in the Mountain Home Trailer Park in Brattleboro for an open 911 line. Upon arrival, investigations lead to the arrest of Perdue for three counts of Domestic Assault and Impeding access to Emergency Services. Perdue was transported to the Brattleboro Police Department where he was fingerprinted, photographed, and lodged. While lodged at the Brattleboro Police Department, Perdue violated his conditions of release by contacting an individual that he was ordered not to. Neither party required medical attention. Perdue will appear at Windham County Superior Court at a later date to answer the charges.

Brattleboro Police responded to a business on Putney Road for a report of a female subject of interest in a theft case. Upon arrival, Brattleboro Police met with Cheryl A. Rogers who was found to be in possession of Heroin. Rogers was issued a citation to appear in court at a later date.

A man called the Brattleboro Police department to report that a woman who has court ordered conditions not to contact him was parked near his residence. The residence is on High Street in Brattleboro, VT. An officer responded to the scene to investigate. When they arrived at the scene, the officer attempted to contact the suspect, who was sitting in a car. The suspect immediately fled the scene in her vehicle, striking the officer. The officer was able to radio for assistance. Additional officers responded as well as Rescue, Inc. and the Brattleboro Fire Department. The injured was transported to Brattleboro Memorial Hospital where they were treated. The Brattleboro Police requested that Vermont State Police - Westminster investigate this incident. VSP arrested Liliana Hoyer later that evening and charged her with gross negligent operation and aggravated assault on a police officer. The officer was out on medical leave for several days.

Brattleboro Officers responded to a burglary alarm at a business on Main St. Officers discovered a smashed door and items stolen. After viewing security video, officers arrested Leonard J. Viola, 50, of Brattleboro, for Burglary and Unlawful Mischief. Viola will appear in court at a later date to face the charge.

Brattleboro police officers were conducting a foot patrol on Flat Street when they encountered two subjects standing in an alley on private property. Investigation revealed that the subjects, identified as Phyllis Parent and George Gravatt had been previously trespassed from the property. Both subjects were issued criminal citations for the offense of Unlawful Trespass, and ordered to appear in Windham County Superior Court at a later date.

Brattleboro police officers were conducting foot patrols in the downtown area. During this time, an officer witnessed a hand-to-hand drug transaction. The subject was detained by police and later arrested for possession of heroin. BPD conducts foot patrols on a regular basis in the downtown area. Part of this effort is to reduce the open air heroin sales that occur there.

Brattleboro Police were responding to a residence on Western Ave on a report of a Domestic Dispute. A vehicle leaving the scene was stopped on Western Ave. Subsequent investigation led to the arrest of Paul Symanski for DUI.

A Brattleboro police officer attempted to conduct a motor vehicle stop on Canal St. and the male operator, identified as Max Peyton, took off at a high rate of speed onto I91 north. The officer lost sight of the vehicle and continued north. The officer came upon the vehicle that had crashed at the Exit 2 off ramp. Three occupants were outside of the vehicle at this time. Rescue Inc. and Brattleboro Fire responded to the scene. The operator, Max Peyton (age 25 of Brattleboro) and a passenger, a 28 year old female from Brattleboro, were transported to Brattleboro Memorial Hospital for minor injuries. Another passenger, a 29 year old male from Brattleboro was treated on scene and released. I91 Exit 2 northbound was closed temporarily while emergency workers tended to the occupants. Peyton was charged with Violation of Conditions of Release, Attempting to Elude Police and Negligent Operation. Peyton will appear in Windham County Superior Court at a later date.

Brattleboro Police were responding to a residence on Upper Dummerston Ave on a report of a Citizen Dispute. Subsequent investigation led to the arrest of Aileen Monahan for DUI.

Brattleboro Police charged Max A. Peyton with Unlawful Trespass and Disorderly Conduct. Peyton was upon property he had previously been trespassed from and acting Disorderly. Peyton was cited to appear in the Windham County Superior Court, Criminal Division at a later date to answer to these charges.

The Brattleboro Police Department was dispatched to School Street for a report of Domestic Disturbance. Subsequent investigation led to Damien Dukette being arrested for Domestic Assault, Disorderly Conduct and Criminal Contempt of his court ordered conditions. Dukette will appear in Windham County Superior Court: Criminal Division at a later date to face the charge.

Brattleboro Police responded to a local business on Canal St., for a male that was acting disorderly. Upon investigation it was determined that Justin Clouart had a stolen handgun in his possession. Clouart was issued a citation for Persons Prohibited from Possessing Firearms. Clouart will appear in court at a later date to face the charge.

Officers of the Brattleboro Police Department responded to a business on Canal St. for a reported family fight. Subsequent investigation revealed that Kimberly Goddard was in possession of cocaine. The cocaine was seized, and Goddard was charged with Possession of a controlled substance. Goddard will appear in Windham County Superior Court: Criminal Division at a later date to face the charge.

Officers of the Brattleboro Police Department were on patrol on Clark St. when they received a report of a fight taking place at a residence on Lawrence St. Officers responded to the residence, where subsequent investigation led to the arrest of Phyllis Parent for Domestic Assault. All injuries from this incident were minor and no one was transported to the hospital. Parent will appear in Windham County Superior Court: Criminal Division at a later date to face the charge.

The Brattleboro Police Department received a call for a report of a female subject engaged in possible drug activity in the basement of a residence on Grove Street. Subsequent investigation led to the arrest of Lisa Akey (33 of Bennington). Akey was later released on court ordered conditions and issued a citation to appear at court at a later date and time to answer to the charge of Unlawful Trespass.

Special Meetings/Communications/Events:

Community Equity Collaborative: Their vision is that the greater Brattleboro area is recognized as an open and welcoming epicenter celebrating diversity free of prejudice and discrimination of all kinds. Their mission is to sustain existing and support new initiatives, activities and programs that unify and galvanize our community to achieve our vision. During the quarterly meetings we discuss the impact of current events between law enforcement and their communities, current BPD recruitment and hiring strategy and the celebration of Diversity.

Brattleboro Area Prevention Coalition: Monthly meeting consists of developing strategies in helping others to make smart choices in life. Attendees include representatives from BAPC, BPD, Vermont Department of Health, WCSD, Youth Services, and various mental health agencies.

District Leadership Team holds monthly meetings which are represented by a large audience made up from but not limited to; VT Dept. of Health, Law Enforcement, DOC, HCRS, BACP, Groundworks, Brattleboro Retreat, DCF and various rehabilitation agencies. The goals of the committee are many. To reduce addiction and the destruction it causes to the lives of the citizens in Windham County and help to connect those in need to the proper services.

Officer's and staff also made numerous appearances to meet and discuss the concerns of the citizens at the senior center, elementary schools and community centers. The topics included personal safety, crime trends, homelessness and internet safety. The Brattleboro Police Department continues to make great strides in educating and informing the citizens of our activity and to solicit their feedback on how we can improve our services.

Budget Concerns/Impacts:

Continue to monitor the FY 2017 budget.

Staffing:

The Department is currently down four positions.

We have one cadet that is currently attending the Vermont Police Academy. Graduation from basic training is in May followed by a three week post basic course held at the Vermont Police Academy.

We are currently conducting background checks on several applicants for the three vacant positions.