

To: Brattleboro Selectboard
Via: Peter Elwell, Town Manager
From: Michael Fitzgerald, Chief of Police
Date: 15 August 2017

SUBJ: JULY 2017 MONTHLY REPORT

Summary of Major Activities /Work Projects:

Officers responded to 1080 calls for service/incidents along with making 70 arrests resulting in 103 criminal charges. Included in the calls for service were 35 Overdoses with 3 resulting in fatalities. 37 motor vehicle citations were issued along with 308 verbal warnings. Officers also spent approximately 206 hours on walking patrols in the downtown district and other areas of the Town.

Cases of Interest:

Brattleboro Police responded to a residence on Chapin Street for a domestic disturbance. Officers met with a 35 year old female who stated she had an argument with Chapman Y. Smith but he had left the residence. It was discovered that the female had a Final Relief from Abuse Order against Smith and he was not allowed within 300 feet of the female's residence. Smith was located and was placed under arrest for the violation. Smith was issued Conditions of Release and ordered to appear in court.

The Brattleboro Police Department responded to a business on Main St. for a threatening complaint. Subsequent investigation revealed that Gary Palmer had come to the business intoxicated, pushed, yelled obscenities at and threatened employees. Palmer was issued a citation for Disorderly Conduct, and will appear in Windham County Superior Court: Criminal Division to face the charge.

Officers of the Brattleboro Police Department observed a male subject walking down the middle of Canal Street, disrupting the flow of traffic. The male was identified as Dylan Williams. An officer warned Williams multiple times to leave the roadway before having to remove him. Williams was issued a citation to appear in court to answer to the charge of Disorderly Conduct.

Brattleboro Officers were contacted by the U.S. Marshals about a Fugitive from Justice located at a motel on Putney Road. Brattleboro Officers responded to the motel on Putney Road and took Tyson R. Cohron into custody. Tyson R. Cohron will appear in court to answer for the charges.

Police responded to a motor vehicle crash on Green St. at the intersection of School St. Green St. The area was closed to traffic for approximately 50 minutes while police investigated the crash. Joseph Quinn attempted a left hand turn off of School St. when his vehicle was struck by a Pontiac Vibe, driven by Nikketa Connor. Several witnesses on the scene told police that Connor was traveling at a speed greater than 55 mph. Rescue Inc. transported Quinn to Brattleboro Memorial Hospital for minor injuries. During the investigation police learned that Connor did not have the owner's permission to operate the vehicle she was operating. Connor was charged with Negligent Operation, Aggravated Operation without Owners Consent. Connor was issued tickets for Operating with a Suspended License.

The Brattleboro Police Department responded to a motor vehicle versus pedestrian motor vehicle accident on Western Ave. Subsequent investigation revealed that the operator of the motor vehicle, Joan Marshall, struck a woman walking in a crosswalk. The woman who was struck was transported to Brattleboro Memorial Hospital with minor injuries. Marshall was issued a citation for Negligent Operation, and will appear in Windham County Superior Court: Criminal Division to face the charge.

The Brattleboro Police Department was on patrol on Canal St. when they observed a fight taking place between Noah Gillard and Jahquani Daley. Gillard and Daley were separated and arrested for Disorderly Conduct. Subsequent investigation revealed that the fight began because Daley assaulted a woman Daley was romantically involved with, who was related to Gillard. Daley was also charged with Domestic Assault, and had an outstanding warrant. Injuries from the fight were minor, and no one was transported to the hospital. Both Gillard and Daley were released with conditions, and will appear in Windham County Superior Court: Criminal Division to face the charges.

Police responded to the top level of the Brattleboro Transportation Center for a report of two subjects sleeping in the vestibule. Upon arrival police made contact with James Neveu. Neveu had previously been issued a Trespass Notice for the transportation center. Neveu was issued a citation for Unlawful Trespass and ordered to leave the property.

Brattleboro Police were called to a local business for a report of two individuals who were sleeping on the property. Upon arrival the two individuals were identified as William Roy and Samantha Soskin. Both had previously been issued No Trespass Warnings previously for the business. Roy had been trespassed for the suspicion of stealing from customers at the establishment, while Soskin was trespassed for suspicion of drug abuse in the establishment. Both Roy and Soskin were cited for Unlawful Trespass, and will appear at Windham County Superior Court: Criminal Division to face the charges.

Officers of the Brattleboro Police Department responded to a threatening complaint at a residence on Organ Street. Officers learned that Erik French had assaulted a family member. The family member was later treated for non-life threatening injuries resulting from the assault. French was arrested and held until deemed sober. French was issued a citation to appear in court to answer the charge of domestic assault.

Brattleboro Police received a call from an individual who came upon a motor vehicle crash on West River Road near the I91 over pass. Upon arrival police made contact with the operator of the crashed vehicle, Bethany Bernatsky. After routine questioning and investigation, Bernatsky was placed under arrest for DUI. She was transported to the Brattleboro Police Department, where she was cited for Driving Under the Influence. West River Road was temporarily shut down to 1 way alternating traffic.

The Brattleboro Police Department responded to Pleasant Valley Rd. for a single car accident. A passerby, who helped pull the car back onto the road, was concerned that the driver was intoxicated. Officers located Jonathan McAuliffe and one other person in the area, and investigation showed that McAuliffe had been the operator. McAuliffe was given field sobriety tests but was not intoxicated. McAuliffe's privilege to operate a motor vehicle was criminally suspended, and he was issued a citation for Criminal DLS, and will appear in Windham County Superior Court: Criminal Division to face the charge.

Officers of the Brattleboro Police Department responded to a business on Main St. for a reported theft. Subsequent investigation revealed that Holly Rhodes had broken into a display case and stole approximately \$160 worth of merchandise from the business. Rhodes was issued a citation for Retail Theft, and will appear in Windham County Superior Court: Criminal Division to face the charge.

Brattleboro Police responded to a residence on South Main Street for a report of an intoxicated male refusing to leave the residence. Officers met with Jonathan P. McAuliffe and the residents on South Main Street. The residents stated McAuliffe smashed a wine bottle on South Main Street and was acting hostile and aggressive. McAuliffe was placed under arrest for Disorderly Conduct and was transported to the Brattleboro Police Department. McAuliffe was issued Conditions of Release and a citation to appear in court. Further investigation discovered that McAuliffe was on Parole and was taken into custody by Brattleboro Probation and Parole.

Officers conducted a motor vehicle stop on the vehicle and made contact with the operator Delmas Ortiz. A records check revealed Ortiz to be Criminally Suspended. Officers conducted a search of the vehicle which yielded a significant amount of Crack Cocaine and illegal fireworks. Ortiz was arrested and transported to the Brattleboro Police Station where he was fingerprinted, photographed and ordered held on \$15,000 bail.

Officers of the Brattleboro Police Department responded to a report of a male subject causing a disturbance at a local business on Main Street. Responding officers learned that the male subject had loudly berated a female employee, using obscene language. Officers identified the male as Walter Swift and issued him a citation to appear in court to answer to the charge of Disorderly Conduct.

The Brattleboro Police Department responded to a residence on Wantastiquet Dr for a report of a male in their house. After speaking with the residents, it was determined that Jonathan (Gray) Darling had entered the residence uninvited and later threatened one of the residents with a weapon. No one was injured in the incident. Darling was located a short distance from this residence and arrested. He was ordered held in lieu of \$2,500.00 bail.

An Officer of the Brattleboro Police Department observed a vehicle traveling at a high rate of speed on Canal Street. The operator, upon seeing the officer attempting to make a U-Turn to follow it, accelerated and proceed down Lexington Ave at a high rate of speed. The vehicle stopped at the end of Lexington Ave due to the fact that this street is a dead end street. A motor vehicle stop was conducted and the operator was identified as Omi Perez, a 33 year old male from New York. Subsequent investigation determined that Perez's Driver's License was Criminally Suspended out of New York. Perez was issued a ticket for operating a motor vehicle without a license and a Criminal Citation for the offense of Negligent Operation.

Brattleboro Police were called to a business on Putney Road for a report of a male trespassing on the property. Upon arrival Jonathan Darling was located in the business. Darling had been trespassed from the business within the last two days by Brattleboro Police for causing disturbances and making patrons feel uneasy. Darling was placed under arrest, and processed at the Brattleboro Police Station. He was released on conditions.

While conducting a foot patrol on Flat St, Brattleboro Police observed Corey Whidden and knew he had a Court Ordered 24 hour curfew. Whidden was placed under arrest for violating his curfew and transported to the Brattleboro Police Department for processing. Whidden was released on a citation to appear in court at a later date.

Brattleboro Officers received a report of 3 subjects shooting heroin in an alley next to a business on Flat St. Upon arrival, Officers contacted Cynthia R. Radcliffe, 33, and discovered she had heroin in her possession. Radcliffe was placed under arrest for Possession of Heroin and later released with a citation to appear in court.

On 7/13/17 at 1052 PM Officers of the Brattleboro Police Department responded to South Main St for a report of a dispute in the street. Upon arrival to the area Jonathan Holway, 23 of Brattleboro, was found to be intoxicated and yelling profanities. After the initial investigation it was found that Holway had been in contact with a female with whom he has conditions issued by the court to not have contact with. Holway was later released on citation to appear at the Windham Superior Court,

An officer of the Brattleboro Police Department observed a vehicle strike a curb on Putney Rd. in the area of Park Place and proceed down Putney Rd. against a designated one way roadway. A motor vehicle stop was conducted at the Windham County Superior Court house and the operator was identified as Joshuah Bryan, a 20 year old male from North Carolina. Subsequent investigation determined that Bryan was under the influence of alcohol while operating the motor vehicle. Bryan was placed under arrest and transported to the Brattleboro Police Department. Bryan was issued civil suspension paperwork and a criminal citation to appear in Windham County Superior Court for the offense of Driving Under the Influence.

Officers of the Brattleboro Police Department were on patrol on Canal St. when they noticed Corey Whidden walking in the area. Whidden has a 24 hour curfew in his residence, ordered via conditions of release. Whidden was also intoxicated, in violation of his conditions of release. Whidden was issued a citation for Violation of Conditions and will appear in Windham County Superior Court: Criminal Division.

Officers of the Brattleboro Police Department were on patrol on Elliot St. when they noticed a Alexander Freeman giving himself an injection in his vehicle. Subsequent investigation revealed that Freeman was injecting heroin. Freeman was arrested and charged with Possession of Heroin, and will appear in Windham County Superior Court: Criminal Division to face the charge.

Brattleboro Police observed George Gravatt on private property on Flat St. Gravatt had been trespassed from the property in February 2017. Gravatt was arrested and processed at the Brattleboro Police Department and released with a citation to appear in court. The next day police witnessed Gravatt on the same Flat St property where Gravatt had previously been trespassed. Gravatt was arrested and transported to the Brattleboro Police Department for processing.

An officer with the Brattleboro Police Department was conducting a foot patrol in the downtown area when George Gravatt was seen with a female whom he has conditions of release not to have contact with. Contact was made with Gravatt at which time it was also learned that he was in violation of an active no trespass warning for the Brattleboro Transportation Center. Gravatt was placed under arrest and transported to the Brattleboro Police Department where he was processed and lodged. Gravatt was later released with a citation to appear in Windham County Superior Court.

While conducting a foot patrol in the downtown area a Brattleboro Police Officer encountered Phyllis Parent, 28 year old female of Brattleboro who was actively in contact with a male she has been court ordered not to be in contact with. This court order was issued related to an arrest for domestic assault. Parent was subsequently issued a no trespass order for the Brattleboro Transportation Center, cited and released for Criminal Contempt and will appear in Windham County Superior Court.

A subject came to the Brattleboro Police Department to report an assault. The male stated that in the area of Spring St. and Elliot St. he was punched by Arthur Givens causing him pain to the ear. Givens was later located and interviewed regarding the incident. Givens was subsequently cited and released for the offense of Simple Assault and will appear in Windham County Superior Court to answer to the offense.

Officers of the Brattleboro Police Department responded to the Brattleboro Transportation Center for a loitering complaint. Upon arrival the officers met with Phyllis Parent and George Gravatt, who were asleep on the wheelchair ramp. Parent and Gravatt had active conditions of release not to contact one another, and had been issued No Trespass Warnings for the Transportation Center. Gravatt and Parent were arrested and charged with Contempt of Court and Unlawful Trespass, and will appear in Windham County Superior Court: Criminal Division to face the charge.

The Brattleboro Police Department was given a report about a man blocking traffic on South Main St., and screaming at and threatening motorists. The man was later identified as Quadir Murray. Murray was located and issued a citation for Disorderly Conduct, and will appear in Windham County Superior Court: Criminal Division to face the charge.

While conducting a patrol in the Canal Street area, a Brattleboro Police Officer encountered Delmas Ortiz who was on a court ordered 24 hour curfew. This court order was issued related to an arrest for cocaine possession and sales. Ortiz was subsequently arrested and transported to the Brattleboro Police Department. He was later released and cited for Criminal Contempt and will appear in Windham County Superior Court.

Brattleboro Police were dispatched to a parking lot on Flat Street for a report of a disturbance. Upon investigation, Officers located Daniel Rehm whom was involved in the incident. Investigation revealed that Rehm was the subject of an arrest warrant issued by the Windham County Superior Court. It was also determined that he had violated his court ordered conditions of release by having consumed alcohol. Rehm was arrested, and lodged at the Brattleboro Police Department in lieu of bail related to the arrest warrant.

Brattleboro Police were called to a fight in progress at a local business on Canal Street. The fight dissipated before units arrived. Brattleboro Police located a male matching the description of one of the involved parties. The male was identified as Elio Lopez. Based on witness statements, Lopez and another male exchanged words inside a business. The male left, and Lopez followed him and attacked him. Lopez will appear at the Windham County Court to answer to the of simple assault.

The Brattleboro Police Department encountered James Neveu on property which he is currently trespassed from. Neveu was initially trespassed for drinking alcohol in public at that location. Neveu was issued a citation to appear in Windham County Superior Court.

Officers of the Brattleboro Police Department responded to a business on Canal St. for a suspicious complaint. While on scene a red Subaru fled from the officers. The operator, Corey Betit, was later located at another business on Putney Rd. Betit attempted to hide from officers and repeatedly lied about his identity when he was discovered. Once Betit was identified it was discovered that he had an active warrant, and was in contact with a woman that he had court-ordered conditions of release not to contact. Betit was arrested, and charged with Violation of Conditions, Violation of Abuse Prevention Order, False Reports to Law Enforcement Authorities, Attempting to Elude, and Grossly Negligent Operation. Betit will appear in Windham County Superior Court: Criminal Division to face the charge.

The Brattleboro Police responded to a business on Canal St for a report of an intoxicated male subject. Store employees reported Kevin Cameron had become belligerent after he had been refused his purchase of beer. Cameron was later located and issued a trespass for the business and a citation to appear at the Windham Superior Court to answer to the charge of Disorderly conduct.

Brattleboro Police took reports of multiple burglaries of commercial businesses on Putney Road. Investigators from Brattleboro Police and the Vermont State Police coordinated an investigation that led to the identification of Benjamin Lyons (40) of Trescott Township, ME, as the suspected burglar. Lyons was located in Newfane, and after a brief foot pursuit he was taken into custody. Lyons was later ordered held in the Brattleboro lockup on \$20,000 bail in relation to the burglaries and an extraditable warrant from the State of Maine for Trafficking.

Brattleboro Police responded to a report of a male possible being stabbed on Canal St. The stabbing was unfounded. Upon investigation, it was determined that Gary Ewens committed the offense of Domestic Assault. Ewens was treated on scene by Rescue. The victim also showed signs of strangulation. Ewens was arrested for Domestic Assault and transported to The Brattleboro Police Station. Ewens was issued conditions of release and a citation to appear at Windham Superior Court to face the charges.

Brattleboro Police responded to a business on Putney Road for a theft complaint. Brattleboro Police met with employees of the business and Linda L. Wainwright. Wainwright had removed merchandise from the shelves and left the store without paying for them. It was also discovered that Wainwright had been previously issued a no trespass for the business. Wainwright was issued a citation to appear in court to answer the charges.

The Brattleboro Police Department attempted to stop a vehicle for a motor vehicle infraction. The operator of the vehicle, Jericks Hoose, refused to stop. Hoose accelerated at a high rate of speed and crashed his vehicle into a tree on Estey Street. Brattleboro Fire and Rescue Inc. arrived on scene and attended to Hoose and his 2 passengers. All three were transported to Brattleboro Memorial Hospital for treatment of non-life threatening injuries. Estey Street was closed for approximately 30 minutes due to emergency vehicles and the removal of the vehicle. Hoose was issued a citation for Gross Negligent Operation, Negligent Operation and Attempting to Elude a Police Officer. He will answer to these charges at the Windham County Superior Court, Criminal Division.

Brattleboro Police were called to a residence on Canal Street for a family fight. Upon arrival, Mark Caslin told Police to arrest him. Caslin was then detained during investigation. Investigation determined that Caslin placed a family member in a choke hold, and struck him multiple times. Caslin had been previously trespassed from the residence for refusing to leave. Caslin was charged with unlawful trespass. Caslin also had court ordered conditions of release. He violated two of the conditions by being charged with a crime, and by having contact with a female he was ordered not to. Caslin was placed under arrest and transported to the Brattleboro Police Department. While in custody and knowing that he was being videotaped, Caslin exposed his genitals and masturbated. Caslin was subsequently charged with Lewd and Lascivious Conduct. Caslin was cited and will appear at Windham County Superior Court to answer his charges.

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 and finalize the FY 2017 budget.

Staffing:

The Department is currently down five positions.

We have one officer that is currently attending the 12 week FTO training at the Brattleboro Police Department.

The 2 candidates that were enrolled to attend the 16 week basic course at the Vermont Police Academy in August failed their Physical Fitness Test and subsequently were dropped from the program by the Vermont Criminal Justice Training Council.

Interviews for the remaining opening positions are ongoing.