

**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:**

On 06/21/2017 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 at a later date and was placed under arrest for the violation. Smith was issued Conditions of Release and ordered to appear in court on 06/12/2017.

On June 30 2017 officers of 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, had pushed, yelled obscenities at and threatened employees. Palmer was later located and issued a citation for Disorderly Conduct, and will appear in Windham County Superior Court: Criminal Division on September 12 to face the charge.

On 7/3/2017 at approximately 11:33 PM 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 (29 of Brattleboro). An officer warned Williams multiple times to leave the roadway before having to remove him. Williams was issued a citation to appear in court on 8/8/2017 to answer to the charge of Disorderly Conduct.

On 7/5/2017 at approximately 0800 hours 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 on 7/6/2017 to answer for the charges.

On July 5th, 2017, at approximately 10:30 a.m., Police responded to a motor vehicle crash on Green St. at the intersection of School St. Green St., in the area of Whipple and Bullock St., was closed for approximately 50 minutes while police investigated the crash. Joseph Quinn, age 77, of Guilford, was operating a Toyota 4 Runner and attempted a left hand turn off of School St. when his vehicle was struck by a Pontiac Vibe, driven by Nikketa Connor, age 28, of Brattleboro. 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.

On July 5 2017 officers of 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 on August 15 to face the charge.

On July 5 2017 officers of the Brattleboro Police Department were 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 on August 15 and July 6, respectively, 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. Neveu was cited into court on 08/15/17.

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On 7/8/17 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

On 7/9/2017 at 11:06 PM officers of the Brattleboro Police Department responded to a threatening complaint at a residence on Organ Street. Officers learned that Erik French (36 of Brattleboro) 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 on 7/10/2017 at answer to the charge of domestic assault.

On 7/9/17 at approximately 1150 hours 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 7/25/17. EMS was called to evaluate Bernatsky for possible injuries, and she was cleared. West River Road was temporarily shut down to 1 way alternating traffic.

On July 10 2017 officers of 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 on August 15 to face the charge.

On July 10 2017 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 on August 22 to face the charge.

On 07/10/2017 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 on 08/15/2017. It was 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 24, of Brattleboro. A records check revealed Ortiz to be Criminally Suspended. A search of the vehicle 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 released on conditions. He was issued a Citation and ordered held on \$15,000 bail. He is scheduled to appear in Windham county Superior court on 7/11/2017, to answer to the charge.

On 7/11/2017 at 10:29 AM 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 (56 of Brattleboro) and issued him a citation to appear in court on 8/22/2017 to answer to the charge of Disorderly Conduct.

On 07/11/17, 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. He was lodged at the Brattleboro Police Department and will appear in Windham County Superior Court, Criminal Division on 07/12/17.

On 7/11/17 at approximately 1900 hours 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, took off 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. 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 to appear in Windham County Superior Court on 8/22/17 for the offense of Negligent Operation.

On 7/13/17 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, and cited for 8/22/17 to answer his charge.

On July 13, 2017 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 on July 18, 2017.

Brattleboro Police observed Colleen Bagley at the Brattleboro Transportation Center around 11:15 a.m. on 07/13/17. Bagley had been trespassed from the parking garage in February 2016. Bagley was arrested and processed at the Brattleboro Police Department and released with a citation to appear in court on 08/22/17.

On 7/13/17 at approximately 12:20pm, 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 8/22/17 to face the charge.

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, Criminal Division on 8/22/17 at 0800 hours to answer to the charges of Disorderly Conduct and Criminal Contempt.

On 7/14/17 at approximately 230am 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 Joshua 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 on 8/1/17 for the offense of Driving Under the Influence.

On July 14 2017 officers of the Brattleboro Police Department were on patrol on Canal St. when they noticed Corey Whidden walking in the area. Whidden had 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 on July 18 to face the charge.

On July 14 2017 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 on August 8 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 Flat St property where Gravatt had previously been Trespassed. Gravatt was arrested and transported to the Brattleboro Police Department for processing. Gravatt was released on a Citation to appear in court on 8/22/2017.

On 7/14/17 an officer with the Brattleboro Police Department was conducting a foot patrol in the downtown area when George Gravatt, 29 years old of Brattleboro 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 on 7/25/17.

On 7/14/17 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 on 8/22/17.

On 7/15/17 a subject came to the Brattleboro Police Department to report an assault. Male stated that in the area of Spring St. and Elliot St. he was punched by Arthur Givens, 56 years old of Brattleboro, 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 on 8/22/17 to answer to the offense. No parties involved received medical treatment for injuries related to this incident.

On July 18 2017 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 on August 29 to face the charge.

On July 18 2017 officers of the Brattleboro Police Department were 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 on September 12 to face the charge.

On 7/19/17, while conducting a patrol in the Canal Street area, a Brattleboro Police Officer encountered Delmas Ortiz, a 24 year old male of New Hampshire 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 on 8/29/17.

On 07/18/17 at approximately 10:07pm, 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. He was scheduled to appear in Windham Superior Court on 07/19/17.

On 7/20/17 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 on 8/29/17 at 0800 to answer his charge. No parties involved required medical attention.

On 7/20/17 the Brattleboro Police Department encountered James Neveu, 61 year old male of Brattleboro on Flat St. in Brattleboro. Neveu was located 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 on 8/29/17 and released from the scene.

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On 7/22/17 while on patrol Brattleboro Police observed a vehicle execute a wide turn, veering out of their designated lane for travel. Brattleboro Police conducted a motor vehicle stop on the vehicle in a neighboring parking lot. Upon further investigation, it was determined that the operator, Britney Hescok, was operating the vehicle while under the influence of alcohol. Hescok was transported to the Brattleboro Police Department, where she was cited to appear on 8/8/17 at the Windham County Superior Court to answer her charge.

On July 22 2017 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 on August 1 to face the charge.

On 7/22/17 at approximately 1800 hours the Brattleboro Police responded to a business on Canal St for a report of an intoxicated male subject. Store employees reported Kevin Cameron, 52 of Brattleboro 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 on 8/29/17 at 0800 hours to answer to the charge of Disorderly conduct.

### **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. Lt Michael Carrier retired after 19 years of service in the Brattleboro Police Department.

We have one officer that is currently attending the post basic course Vermont Police Academy. Upon completion of the post basic course they will report for the 12 week FTO training at the Brattleboro Police Department.

We have 2 candidates enrolled to attend the 16 week basic course at the Vermont Police Academy in August.

Interviews for the remaining opening positions will be held in June.