



## 2021 *Annual Report*

# East Hartford Police Department

Chief of Police,  
*Scott M. Sansom*

***Our mission is to safeguard life and property, preserve peace, enforce laws, prevent and detect crime, provide a safe community, enhance the quality of life and to protect the rights of citizens.***

On behalf of all the members of the East Hartford Police Department, I am honored to present our 2021 annual report. The information detailed in these pages reflects a summary of our activities and accomplishments in 2021 as well as new events we will be involved with in the coming year.

The last two years were challenging for the Department due to the global pandemic and the current climate, but East Hartford Police personnel continue to work through these challenges collaboratively with our community. We are grateful for the community support as we work to solve problems and improve the quality of life in East Hartford.

The Department has undertaken numerous projects to enhance our service to the community in the past year. We have created a new rank of Assistant Chief, combined divisions and supervision, promoted new supervisors and hired many new officers. In-car cameras will be installed soon and will complement our body worn camera program, officers will soon be equipped with life-saving Narcan, and Community Outreach endeavors will return and grow as the pandemic allows.

I want to thank all the members of the department, civilian and sworn, for doing an outstanding job in 2021, and a special thank you to the East Hartford community for allowing us to serve.

# Department Structure

The East Hartford Police Department was restructured in 2021 into three distinct bureaus, combining Field Operations and Criminal Investigations into one.

- *Operations Bureau*
- *Professional Standards Bureau*
- *Support Services Bureau*

## Table of Organization

Chief of Police	1
Assistant Chief	1
Deputy Chief	3
Lieutenant	11
Sergeant	16
Detective	8
Investigator	7
Officer	79

# Recruitment and Hiring

Over the course of the year EHPD accepted applications for both entry-level and certified police officer positions. A total of twenty-one entry-level and certified officers were hired to fill vacant positions.



Above, new officers were sworn in; outside in front of the Public Safety Complex. The ceremonies were held according to the COVID-19 protocols in place at the time, inside or outdoors, while maintaining social distancing.



# Retirements

Congratulations and best wishes to our 2021 retirees, we are grateful for their service to the Town of East Hartford.

(not shown:)

Officer Mark Estes, 30 years

Officer Mark Allen, 26 years

Officer Jeff Otis, 22.5 years

Officer Chris Mefferd, 5.5 years

Detective Gary Goivin



Sergeant Tim Irwin



Officer Robert Rohner



Officer Ken Sullivan

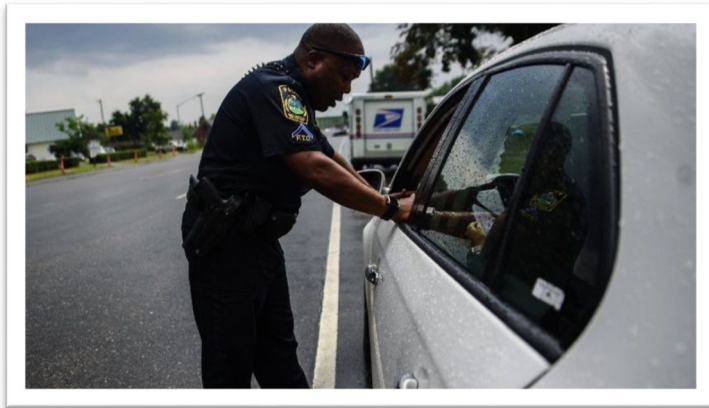


Officer Larry Hendrickson



*Happy Retirement!*

# Operations Bureau



## PATROL DIVISION STATISTICS

CALLS FOR SERVICE **28,166**

TRAFFIC STOPS **5,088**

INFRACTIONS/MISDEMEANORS **3,990**

## DIVISIONS WITHIN OPERATIONS:

The Operations Bureau is the largest bureau within the police department and consists of Criminal Investigations and the Patrol Division, supplemented by:

- Traffic Unit
- Motorcycle Unit
- Animal Control Unit
  - K-9 Unit
- TRT SWAT Team
- TRT Crisis Negotiating Team
  - Marine Patrol
  - Dive Team
  - Bomb Squad
  - Honor Guard
  - Bicycle Unit

*Operations Bureau: As part of our 2021 restructuring, the Field Operations bureau and Criminal Investigations bureau were combined to create the Operations Bureau. This is the largest bureau within the Police Department. The Operations Bureau includes not only criminal investigators, but also the patrol division supplemented by the Traffic Unit, Motorcycle Unit, Animal Control, K-9 unit, TRT SWAT, Dive Team, Honor Guard and Community Outreach.*

*Patrol Division: The patrol division is the backbone of the East Hartford Police Department and is committed to providing safety, service and building relationships throughout East Hartford.*

## Criminal Investigations

*The Criminal Investigations Bureau (CIB) assists patrol officers with the investigation of cases that require specialized training or an extended period of time to complete. The C.I.B. also initiates investigations that fall outside the normal complaint procedure, such as compliance with Sex Offender registration laws, firearms violations, and Vice and Narcotics investigations.*

*The CIB is grouped into Divisions enabling each unit to receive advanced training in their specialty and to partner with similar units in the region to address recurring crime patterns of a like nature. All members of the CIB are prepared to quickly shift between divisions depending on patterns of crime and major crime events. Some of our divisions include: General Investigations, School Resource Officers, Court Officer, Evidentiary Services Unit, Crash Investigations Unit, and partnering with the Greater Hartford Regional Auto Theft Task Force.*

# Support Services Bureau



## COMMUNICATIONS STATISTICS

CALLS FOR POLICE SERVICE **28,166**

CALLS FOR FIRE & E.M.D. **7,961**

CALLS FOR MEDICAL SERVICE **2,142**

## SUPPORT SERVICES DIVISIONS:

The Support Services Bureau is comprised of several divisions, including:

- Public Safety Communications
- Fleet Services
- Property/Evidence Unit
- Administrative Services
- Budget Preparation
- Payroll
- Permits Processing
- Private Duty Billing
- Accounts Payable/Grants
- Work Related Injury & Human Resources

## PUBLIC SAFETY COMMUNICATIONS

The Public Safety Communications Center is the main answering point for all Police, Fire and Emergency Medical calls for service within the Town of East Hartford. The Center is staffed 24 hours a day, 365 days a year by state certified telecommunicators.

### Staffing

1 Sworn Police Supervisor & 4 Dispatch Supervisors

19 Telecommunicators certified by the Division of Statewide Emergency Telecommunications (DSET)

## Fleet Services



### Patrol Vehicle Platform highlights:

- 2022 Ford Police Interceptor
- Totally outfitted with equipment: \$52,000
- All-wheel Drive
- V-6 engines for fuel efficiency
- Push bumpers to assist disabled motor vehicles
- In-car computers to write reports, query databases

# Professional Standards Bureau

## GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The goal of the Professional Standards Bureau (PSB) is to ensure the department is highly trained, accredited, ethical and adheres to the established Code of Conduct. This bureau safeguards the integrity of the department.

## DIVISIONS WITHIN THE PSB

- **Internal Affairs**
- **Training**
- **Firearms**
- **Accreditation**
- **Freedom of Information Requests/  
Civil Liability**
- **Hiring & Background Investigations**
- **Research & Planning**

## INTERNAL AFFAIRS REVIEWS

Internal Affairs Investigations

Use of K-9 deployments

Vehicular Pursuits

Use of Force Cases

Employee Grievances

*Note that review of cases does not indicate a complaint or violation of policy occurred, but is done as a means of quality assurance to ensure personnel adherence to applicable policies and procedures.*

In November 2019, EHPD received initial accreditation by the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA), the premier credentialing association for public safety agencies. In 2021, we successfully completed our second annual compliance review.

Accreditation is an ongoing process that requires the EHPD to continually evaluate and track performance. The department will submit itself to an annual remote review of its policies and procedures. An onsite assessment by CALEA compliance managers occurs every four years and is overseen by P.S.B. supervisors.

## CALEA Reassessment

Focal points of each reaccreditation cycle involve periodic reports, analyses, reviews, and other activities mandated through CALEA standards. To ensure continued compliance during each reaccreditation cycle, CALEA mandates agencies undergo a compliance review to demonstrate compliance with a set of 180 "best practice" standards.

## Highlights

- Expansion of the body worn camera program for sworn personnel.
- Twenty-one new EHPD officers hired.
- Training conducted with adherence to COVID-19 protocols, both in-person and through online courses.



# New Initiatives

During 2021, the EHPD took steps to purchase and equip officers with Narcan, an opioid antagonist. Also commonly known Naloxone, the medicine reverses the effect of opioid overdose.

The East Hartford Fire Department is the primary medical responder in town and does carry Narcan, but there are times officers are on-scene first. Our officers will soon also be able to administer this lifesaving medicine in the field.



*Above: A pole mounted camera gives police staff video of real-time traffic conditions.*

### **Traffic camera locations include:**

- Burnside Avenue at School Street
- School Street at Park Avenue
- Main Street at Burnside Avenue
- Main Street at Connecticut Blvd.
- Governor Street at Prospect Street
- 1692 Main Street at EH Firehouse #2
- Main Street at Prospect Street
- Burnside Avenue at Walnut Street

*Right: The Intelligence Center at EHPD Headquarters maintains the Street Security Camera system.*

Naloxone is a medicine that rapidly reverses an opioid overdose



# New Intelligence Center

In 2021 the town began to install 12 security cameras throughout town to monitor traffic, weather conditions and to help investigate criminal activity. Locations for the cameras were selected utilizing data from service-call hot zone maps.

Additionally, a blue strobe light will be mounted near each camera; it will flash to indicate when a parking ban is in effect.





## Community Events

During 2021, the EHPD adapted our participation in events to ways that would allow for social distancing and safety precautions to be taken, while still helping the community. Above, EHPD hosted a “mobile National Night Out”, traveling to Gorman Park, Hockanum Park, Martin Park, and Labor Field to meet citizen and share food, games and music.



EHPD Officers participated in the 2021 Turkey Distribution at East Hartford High School



Above, EHPD Officers and store staff from Dunkin Donuts greet citizens on National Coffee with a Cop Day



## EHPD Command Staff



*2021 Command Staff:*

*(From left) Deputy Chief Donald Olson, Deputy Chief Robert Davis, Chief of Police Scott Sansom, Assistant Chief Mack Hawkins and Deputy Chief Joshua Litwin*

==== **P.R.I.D.E.** ====

Professionalism

Respect

Integrity

Diversity

Excellence

*Serving Our Community with Pride and Integrity*