STOUGHTON POLICE & FIRE COMMISSION

January 2021 Police Department Report

Last quarter highlights:

The department received its Certification of Polices from the WI Law Enforcement Accreditation Group (WILEAG) regarding our Use of Force Policies. Last year under Presidential Executive Order, agencies must be in policy compliance with the Order to be eligible for any future Federal Grants. Our policies needed to contain restriction on Choke Holds, Use of Excessive Force, Duty to Intervene, and other areas. In Wisconsin, this certification is completed through WILEAG. We are happy to report that our policies are in compliance and we have been certified compliant. This will allow us authorization to apply for future Federal Grants.

February was a very quiet month for the department. Criminal arrests were down and municipal arrests were down. Officers were busy on our Hwy 51 Corridor Traffic Enforcement initiative. The program is designed to reduce incidents of speeding and traffic violation with the goal of reducing traffic crashes. The program will run for the next couple of month and will coincide with our DOT Grant programs that run through September.

Our department, along with the rest of the City, suffered greatly during the recent Hacking of our IT system. Our department is very tech heavy so loosing functionality was extremely challenging. Because we had to take the entire network down, we were forced to send our dispatchers to the Dane County 911 Center to conduct operations. Not having data available to officers also created some huge safety issues that we had to overcome.

The department has received some bad news regarding our Speed-board Trailer. The twenty-year-old trailer has stopped functioning and is no longer serviceable because of its age. We had attempted to write a grant for a new trailer but we were unsuccessful. A new trailer will cost between $30-35,000.00 depending on features. The Speed-board trailer is regularly used during the summer month to help slow traffic.

Personnel Updates

The department also has hired Judy Wallander as a Part-time Dispatcher. Judy has experience from both Rock County 911 and Fitchburg PD.

The department continues to work on hiring dispatchers. Two of our conditional offers of employment did not pass Background investigations. Senior Dispatcher Barbie Natvig-Gowan retired on March 1st after over 30 years with the City. We wish Barbie the best of luck in her retirement.

The department has hired Erin Gust as a fulltime dispatcher. Erin previously worked as a Jail Deputy for Sauk County Sheriff's Department. We welcome her aboard. We did

have another fulltime applicant that has withdrawn from our process citing commute times as an issue. Our recruitment continues.

Part-time Patrol Officer Tom Nelson has retired from his part-time position with the department. Tom had been with the department fulltime for over 20 years and a part-time for the last 4 years. Besides patrol, Tom had served as a Firearms Instructor, Armorer, and Forward Observer (police sniper). We wish Tom an enjoyable retirement.

Significant Incidents

1-14-21, Officers arrested a 36-year-old male for Resisting/Obstructing an Officer and Disorderly Conduct following a domestic disturbance. The suspect attacked the officer as soon as he arrived and needed to be Tased during the incident. Suspect received minor injuries and was transported to a mental health facility prior to jail. None of the officers were injured.

1-14-21, Officers arrested an 18-year-old male for Impede Breathing (Strangulation), Battery, and Disorderly Conduct following a domestic disturbance.

1-19-21, Officers are investigating an incident of Road Rage where the suspect brandished a handgun toward the victim in a business parking lot. The suspect had also committed a Hit & Run to a parked vehicle during the incident. Officers are looking for a gray or light colored 2003 Kia Rio with dark aftermarket hubcaps.

1-27-21, Officers arrested a 48-year-old male for Resisting/Obstructing an Officer and Disorderly Conduct after a brief standoff with officers following a domestic disturbance. Officers blocked off a portion of the roadway during the incident due to a report of a possible weapon involved. The subject was transported to the detoxification unit prior to going to jail. Officers were assisted by Dane County Sheriff Deputies.

2-01-21, Officers are investigating the theft of several building Air Conditioner Units valued at almost $30,000.00. The units were cut and removed from the building.

2-10-21, Officers arrested a 32-year-old male for Child Neglect and a Probation Hold following an investigation into an EMS call of an ill child. The investigation determined that the child had illegal substances in its system that contributed to the emergency medical call.
2-17-21, Officers arrested a 23-year-old female for Possession of THC over 200 grams following a traffic stop were the officer smelled marijuana coming from the vehicle. The driver, a 23-year-old male was also cited for traffic violations.

2-24-21, Officers are investigating an Armed Robbery that occurred at the Associated Bank. A lone subject entered the bank and displayed a weapon. The investigation identified the perpetrator, who was also involved in a Bank Robbery in Madison. The subject fled the state and tried a third robbery in Tennessee. The subject was apprehended after a brief police pursuit in Tennessee. The case remains under investigation and charges are pending.

3-07-21, Officers cited a 25-year-old female and a 31-year-old female for Disorderly Conduct following an altercation disturbance in front of Shakers Saloon.

3-07-21, Officers arrested an 18-year-old male for 2nd Degree Sexual Assault of an Unconscious Person following an incident at a residence.

3-30-21, Officers arrested a 29-year-old female for Aggravated Battery to a Health Care Worker following an incident where the intoxicated subject first kicked the officer several times and then struck a nurse at the Detoxification Center. Initially the subject was discovered unconscious on a sidewalk in a residential neighborhood.

4-8-21, Officers responded to a shots fired call at 8:48 am near the Sane Hill Elementary School on the city's north side. According to reports, three shots were fired at a vehicle following what was reported to be a Road Rage incident that started at the School. No one was injured in the incident but several of the rounds struck nearby houses. The perpetrator has been identified and has reportedly fled the area. Warrants are being issued for the subject.

January Statistics

The Stoughton Police Department logged 2,202 incidents for January. Cases of interest for the month were: three OWIs, one stolen vehicle, two burglaries, two drug incidents, eleven thefts, seven domestic disturbances, four threats, twenty-four disturbances, twenty-four disorderly conducts, twenty-one traffic crashes, forty-two EMS assists, twenty-three alarms, three juvenile incidents, fifty-three 911 calls, five animal complaints, twenty traffic complaints, and officers responded to forty suspicious activity calls. Officers also logged 42 check persons, 57 check properties, 69 assist cases, 20 criminal charges, 5 ordinance violations, and 35 traffic arrests from 88 traffic stops. The department also issued 241 parking citations, the majority of those for Snow Emergency & Street Storage.

February Statistics

The Stoughton Police Department logged 1,884 incidents for February. Cases of interest for the month were: two OWIs, one stolen vehicle, one burglary, one drug incident, five thefts, eight frauds, four domestic disturbances, four threats, twenty disturbances, eight disorderly conducts, twenty-six traffic crashes, fifty-eight EMS assists, fifteen alarms, two juvenile incidents, forty-five 911 calls, sixteen animal complaints, twenty-eight traffic complaints, and officers responded to twenty-six suspicious activity calls. Officers also logged 42 check persons, 74 check properties, 81 assist cases, 51 parking complaints, 7 criminal charges, 3 ordinance violations, and 47 traffic arrests from 106 traffic stops.

March Statistics

The Stoughton Police Department logged 1,660 incidents for March. Cases of interest for the month were: one OWI, three sexual assaults, one stolen vehicle, one drug incident, nine thefts, seven frauds, six domestic disturbances, seven threats, seventeen disturbances, thirteen disorderly conducts, eighteen traffic crashes, forty-seven EMS assists, seven alarms, five juvenile incidents, fifty-eight 911 calls, nineteen animal complaints, thirty-seven traffic complaints, and officers responded to thirty-eight suspicious activity calls. Officers also logged 40 check persons, 77 check properties, 64 assist cases, 15 parking complaints, 7 criminal charges, 5 ordinance violations, and 64 traffic arrests from 64 traffic stops.

Training Highlights

January

Officers completed In-service training at the Madison Police Department Training facility. Topics were firearms qualifications, Defensive & Arrest Tactics, Taser Recertification, and De-escalation Training Scenarios.

February

Sergeants Johnson, Miller, O'Neil, Lt. Conlin, and I attended the WI Police Leadership Foundations Mid-Winter Training conference in WI Dells.

Sgt. Miller, Officers Olson & Knoeck attended 8 hours of Tactical Response Unit Training, in-house.

March

All officers attended Consortium In-Service Training at the Madison PD training facility. Topics included, firearms, de-escalation scenarios, Defensive Tactics, Taser recertification.

Sgt. O'Neil and Ole attended 8 hours of K-9 training.

Report respectively submitted,
Chief Greg Leck