Town of DeWitt Police Department

Annual Report

2021

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The Town of DeWitt, New York
Government Leadership



Supervisor Edward Michalenko

Town Board Members:

Joseph Chiarenza
Karen Doctor
Jack Dooling
Kerry Mannion
Kerin Rigney
Sam Young

Town of DeWitt, New York
Government Leadership Continued

The Police Commission is comprised of a board of Police Commissioners who are appointed by the Town Board in accordance with Article 10, Section 150 of Town Law. The Commission has the authority to exercise all the powers relative to police matters conferred upon the Town Board pursuant to Article 10 of Town Law.

The Commission has three members who are elected officials to the Town Board, one serving as the Chairperson. The remaining Commissioners hold the status of non-voting and are members of the DeWitt community. A meeting is held each month in which the Chief of Police reports to the Commission on all matters pertaining to the management and operation of the Department.

2021 Police Commission

Karen Docter/Board member
Kerin Rigney/Chair & Board member
Sam Young/Board member
John Duncan
Robert Tackman
Paul Gottfried
Armond Scipione
David Newman
Shawn Carter
Bernard Alex
Rohin Mehta
Lora Fiorenza
Ernestine Cooper
Rabbi Daniel Fellman
Sarah Klee Hood
Raul Huerta

Chief's Message:

On behalf of the members of the Town of DeWitt Police Department, I am pleased to present you with our annual report. We are a New York State and CALEA (Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies) Accredited Agency, continually striving to meet professionally recognized criteria for excellence in management and service delivery.

The members of DeWitt Police Department take great pride in providing you, our residents, with the highest level of police services possible. We are dedicated to making your community a safe place to live, work, and visit!

Chase L. Bilodeau

Chief of Police



Mission Statement

OUR MISSION

To effectively respond to the safety needs of citizens, always seeking the best resolutions to the situations we encounter, whether big or small and to actively seek out ways to fight crime, while holding ourselves to the highest ethical standards and finding ways to positively reach the members of our community.

OUR VISION

To strive to be viewed by the citizens we serve as the most professional police organization, continuously improving in order to meet the ever changing public safety needs and expectations of society.

OUR VALUES

We, the members of the DeWitt Police Department, are committed to providing quality service to the community of DeWitt. We believe that each one of us makes the difference between a good organization and an excellent one. These are our organizational values.

- *Integrity* - Quality of being honest and having strong moral principles. Always attempting to make the right decisions, admitting and learning from our mistakes, not attempting to hide or downplay them.
- *Accountability* - Being accountable at both the individual and organizational levels, holding ourselves responsible along with those around us. The key to growth is being honest with ourselves identifying weakness and mistakes in order to strengthen and correct them.
- *Determination* - Not giving up when faced with adversity or difficult challenges, doing what it takes and making personal sacrifices to get the job done.
- *Dedication* - Giving constant and consistent effort, a commitment to police work, those we serve and the greater good of society, above ourselves.
- *Teamwork* - Working together to be more effective and efficient to better serve the community and to ease the burden of any one member, bearing equal weight to those working alongside us.

Overview and History of the Department

The DeWitt Police Department is a CALEA and New York State accredited, full-service police agency serving the Town of DeWitt, New York.



The Town of DeWitt is located in Central New York, in eastern Onondaga County, bordering the city of Syracuse. The Town consists of approximately 37 square miles of land and .05 square miles of water. DeWitt has a population of 28,000 permanent residents and a transient population of over 100,000. The community has over 30 hotels, 3 major highways, 11 schools, 1 college, major retail districts, industries, and a wide range of residential areas spread throughout the Town.

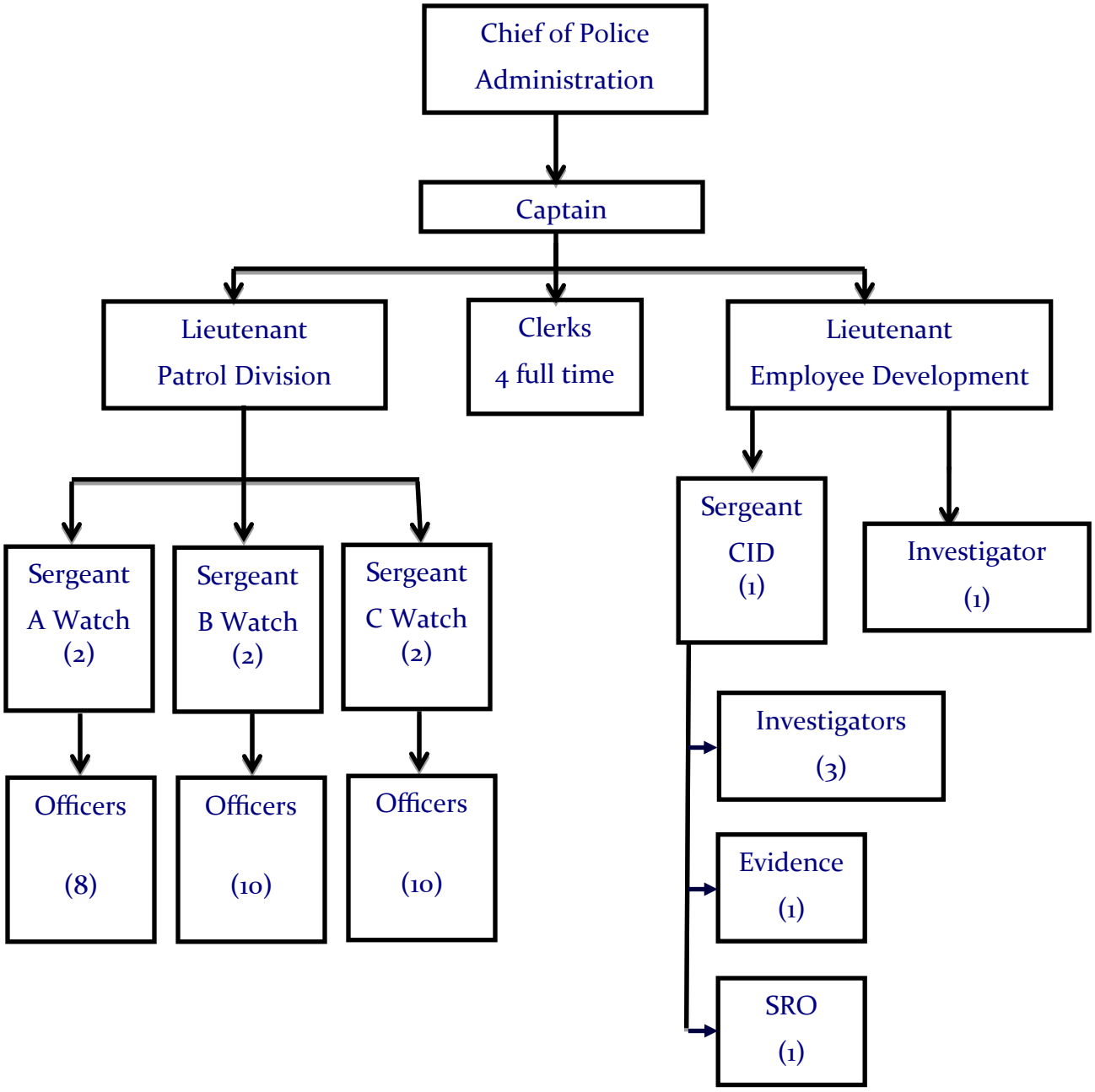
The DeWitt Police Department was founded in April of 1959 as the Volunteer DeWitt Police Unit which consisted of four, all volunteer special police officers. It wasn't until 1963 that the first full time paid employee was hired and the name was changed to the Town of DeWitt Police Department.

The Town of DeWitt Police Department provides full-time, professional law enforcement services to its residents and visitors. From a staffing of 4 volunteers in 1959, to an authorized staffing of 51 employees today to include 44 sworn, 4 civilian staff, and 2 consultants. The Department is comprised of a Chief of Police, 1 Captain, 2 Lieutenants, 7 Sergeants, 4 Investigators, 1 School Resource Officer, 1 Evidence Officer, and 29 Patrol Officers on three shifts.



In 2021, The Town of DeWitt Police Department responded to **28,907** calls for service.

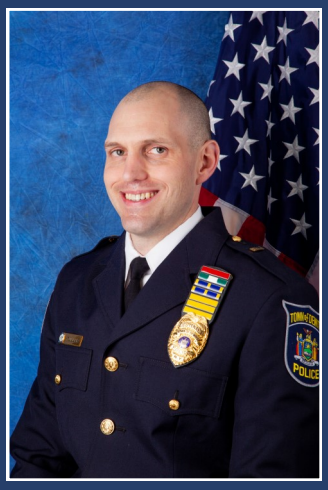
DeWitt Police Department Organizational Chart



Police Command Staff



Captain
Brenton White
Police Operations



Lieutenant
Christopher Fuller
Employee Development



Lieutenant
Jerry Pace
Patrol Commander

2021 Department Personnel

Chief of Police:
Chase Bilodeau

Captain:
Brenton White

Lieutenants:
Christopher Fuller
Jerry Pace

Sergeants:
Michael Kurgan
Andrew Fusco
Jarod Petrie
Zachary Morgan
Shane Spencer
Paul Pelton
Lucas Byron

Investigators:
Chad Frederick
Matthew Menard
Loriann Maerz
Justin Baum

School Resource Officer:
Michael Norton

Evidence Officer:
Jeffrey Conrad

Clerical Staff:
Laura Pulaski
Alyssa Armstrong
James Emm
Michel Wittwer

Patrol Officers:
Edward Mason
Donald Baumann
Jeffrey MacDonald
Denis Mower
Michael Ellis
Stacey Wickes
Brittany Mangano
Mark Stanard
Ludmilla Ammann
Kevin Skibinski
Shawn Chapa
James Dean
Corey Buyck
Alexander Fratini
James Toomey
Anthony Grizanti
Jonathan Christian
Rebecca Bishop
Katherine Davies
Rory Spain
Katrina Kilmer
Tyler Smith
Susan Schoff
Damian Parker
Enes Hujdur
Andrew Miller
Joseph Dillabough
Jace Janczewski

Patrol Division

The DeWitt Police Patrol Division consists of one lieutenant, six sergeants and 28 patrol officers. These officers are deployed throughout four patrol zones (north, central, south, and Village of East Syracuse), 24 hours per day.

Officers assigned to the Patrol Division work one of three shifts:

- A Watch 11:00 pm—7:00 am
- B Watch 7:00 am—3:00 pm
- C Watch 3:00 pm— 11:00 pm

Nineteen marked vehicles are assigned for use by the Patrol Division. Members of the Patrol Division duties include, but are not limited to:

- Response to calls for service
- Proactive police patrol & crime prevention
- Enforcement of appropriate Federal, State, and local laws
- Crash investigation
- Reporting and preliminary investigation of criminal complaints
- Response to non-criminal complaints



Additionally, members of the Patrol Division are at the forefront of the community policing initiative. Patrol officers are familiar with the individuals and businesses they serve.

The concept of Community Oriented Policing is at the core of DeWitt Police Department's mission. Our officers provide a wide range of services: Community Patrol Program, Crime Alert Program, Neighborhood Watch, community presentations, foot patrol, and bicycle patrol.

These officers actively participate in many highway safety programs including Buckle Up New York and Stop DWI. Both programs focus on reducing injuries and eliminating fatalities on our roadways through aggressive enforcement activities.

In 2021, members of the Patrol Division stopped 2036 vehicles, and issued 1,104 tickets.

In 2021 Town of DeWitt police officers secured 21 firearms; 9 handguns and 12 long guns, related to criminal cases and safe-keeping purposes.

A few notable incidents:

- On April 23, 2021 officers assigned to the department's "A Watch" patrol responded to a complaint of domestic violence. While on scene officers utilized their communication and investigative skills to subtly learn from the victim the offender had hidden a handgun in the bathroom. Officers discreetly searched the bathroom of the residence and located an illegal 9mm non-serialized "ghost gun" hidden in the tank of the toilet.

- On June 4, 2021 officers assigned to the department's "C Watch" patrol responded to an ongoing dispute/suicidal person incident. Officers were able to connect a series of separate incidents together using their investigative and observational skills. This investigation resulted in the seizure of an illegal 9mm handgun, hidden inside of a vehicle.

- On September 7, 2021 officers assigned to the department's "B Watch" patrol and Criminal Investigation Division responded to a complaint of a robbery. Officers conducted a thorough and detailed investigation which resulted in a robbery arrest and recovery of a .177 caliber air pellet handgun used to commit the robbery.

- On October 4, 2021 officers assigned to the department's "A Watch" patrol responded to a report of shots fired inside of a hotel. Officers responded to the hotel and the room the shots possibly originated from. Officers conducted a cursory search of the room to check the health and safety of any occupants. The room was found to be unoccupied, but a 9mm shell casing was located on the floor. Officers secured a search warrant for the room and completed an investigation that resulted in the recovery of an illegal 9mm handgun. Upon further investigation a second illegal handgun was recovered in the neighboring woods.

- On November 1, 2021 officers assigned to the department's "A Watch" Patrol observed a vehicle operating on town roadways in violation of the NYS Vehicle and Traffic Law. An officer initiated a traffic stop of the vehicle and conducted a thorough and detailed investigation. This investigation resulted in the seizure of an illegally possessed, loaded semi-automatic rifle and illegal narcotics.





Bicycle Patrol

The Bicycle Patrol Unit gives the Police Department more latitude in patrolling the various parts of the Town and to provide more options in keeping with our Community Policing initiatives.

Throughout the late spring, summer and early fall, the bicycles were deployed to everyday patrol, directed patrol activity and to many community services events.


Sgt. A. Fusco


Ofc. C. Buyck


Ofc. A. Fratini


Ofc. J. Toomey


Ofc. R. Spain

Evidence/Property Unit



The Evidence Officer is responsible for many tasks such as crime scene processing, lab work, and property/evidence management. This officer is one of 15 certified Evidence Technicians and has advanced training in the fields of forensics and crime scene analysis. The Evidence/Property Unit is also responsible for long term and short term storage of evidence.



Ofc. J. Conrad
Evidence and Property Officer
V/E. Syracuse: Dec. 2007 - May 2011
T/DeWitt: May 2011 - Present

Assigned in Nov. 2016 to the Evidence and Property Officer position.

Property and Evidence Room Manager

2021 items of evidence received:
1,669



Traffic Unit

The Town of DeWitt Police Traffic Unit consists of officers that are dedicated and passionate about enforcing traffic laws to ensure the safety of motorists on the road, with the intent of preventing motor vehicle collisions from occurring.

In 2021, the Town of DeWitt Police Department's Traffic Unit conducted multiple speed enforcement details, stemming from the complaints of various community members regarding speeding vehicles.

The Town of DeWitt Police Traffic Unit also deployed numerous directed details to combat the nuisance racing cars on Erie Boulevard, Thompson Rd., Route 298 and other areas throughout the town.

Additionally, the Town of DeWitt Police Traffic Unit conducted various traffic surveys regarding areas of concern raised by community members and deployed visible "Your Speed is..." signs throughout the town.

Drug Recognition Expert (DRE)



Ofc. K. Skibinski

Ofc. Skibinski is the Town of DeWitt Police Department's only Drug Recognition Expert at this time.

Ofc. Skibinksi is an integral part to our Traffic Unit, and due to his DRE certification, is used to assist other agencies throughout the county.

In 2022 it is our goal to increase the number of Officers with this certification

Sergeant Petrie and Ofc. Janczewski have completed the Advanced Roadside Impaired Driving Enforcement Training (ARIDE), which is a pre-requisite to obtaining the Drug Recognition Expert Certificate.

These additional members will make it so the Town of DeWitt Police Department can better serve not only our community, but neighboring communities as well.

Accident Investigation Technician (AIT)

The AIT Unit provides the Department with specially trained individuals who can thoroughly document and investigate fatal and serious physical injury accidents within the Town of DeWitt. The officers assigned to this unit must complete four (4) weeks of training which consists of the basic, intermediate, advanced and technician levels. In addition to this, the unit members can receive additional training to become a reconstructionist and various alternative areas related to motor vehicle accidents.

The officers assigned to this unit also assist the Manlius Police Department when requested.

The AIT Unit members also receive specialized training on the FARO Scanner, which is an instrument that accurately scans accident scenes. The FARO scanner was purchased with the assistance of STOP DWI money.



Sgt. P. Pelton



Ofc. K. Skibinski

Reconstructionist



Inv. L. Maerz

Police Athletic League

In 2021, the DeWitt Police Department partnered with the Syracuse Police Department, as well as the Onondaga County Sheriff's Office, New York State Police, Onondaga County District Attorney's Office and numerous Community Partners in the creation of the Syracuse Chapter of the Police Athletic League (PAL).

The Syracuse PAL is a youth development program that brings youth and police officers together in a casual setting, providing youth support and skill building through mentoring and engaging activities.

In 2021, DeWitt Police Department members volunteered during various clinics to include Baseball, Soccer & Golf.

Additionally, the DeWitt Police Department volunteered to be the coaching staff for a 3rd & 4th grade boys Police Athletic League Basketball Team from November 2021 through February of 2022.





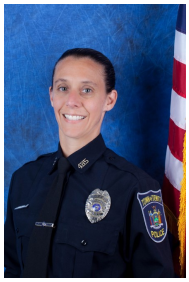
Honor Guard


Sgt. M. Kurgan


Sgt. A. Fusco


Sgt. J. Petrie


Ofc. E. Mason

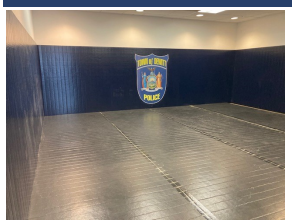

Ofc. L. Pienkowski


Ofc. B. Mangano


Inv. M. Menard

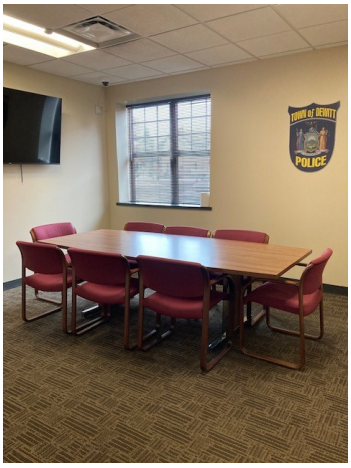
The DeWitt Police Department Honor Guard is a trained unit that professionally represents the Department at official functions such as funerals, parades and other special events. The DeWitt Police Honor Guard is comprised of seven (7) department members led by Sgt. Kurgan.

Employee Development and Training Unit



In 2021 the Town of DeWitt Police Department recognized the importance of frequent and realistic training, and the continuous development of its employees. With the recent purchase and implementation of our Body Worn Cameras (BWC) we realized that we could significantly benefit from the recordings, and the training points that can be gleaned from it.

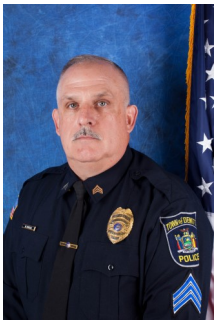
Due to this, the Town of DeWitt Police Department created, and staffed a new Employee Development/ Training Division dedicated to the review and analyzing of BWC and training. In addition to our regularly scheduled in-service trainings, which consist of Legal Updates, EVOC, Firearms, Role Based Training/Scenarios, Defensive Tactics, First Aide, Biased Based Police, etc., members are brought in to review every use of force that they are involved in, critical incident, or complaint for training purposes. This provides the officers with significantly more training, continual improvement and significantly more repetitions in order to strengthen their foundation.



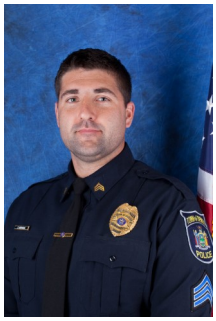
The Town of DeWitt Police Department is committed to providing our officers with the best, most up to date training possible so that the officers are better equipped to serve our community.

The formation and implementation of the Employee Development & Training Division has caught interest of other Law Enforcement entities, and the DeWitt Police Department has been asked to present their model for other agencies to mirror.

Firearms Trainers/Unit



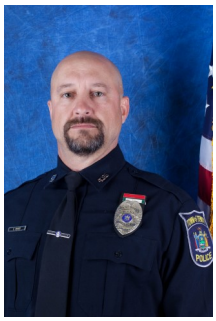
Sgt. M. Kurgan



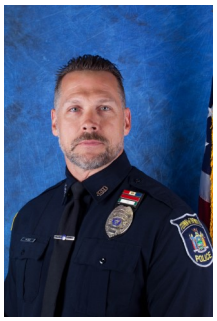
Sgt. Z. Morgan



Sgt. L. Byron



Ofc. D. Mower

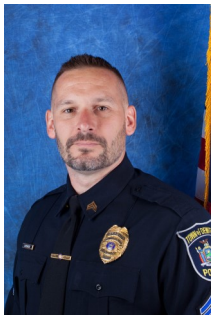


Ofc. M. Ellis

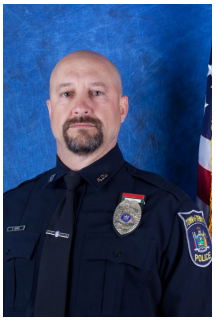


Ofc. J. Conrad

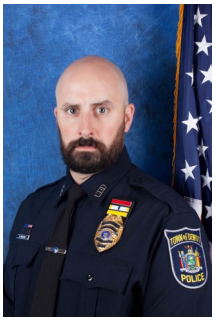
Defensive Tactics / Reality Based Trainers



Sgt. S. Spencer
DT / RBT



Ofc. D. Mower
RBT



Inv. Menard
RBT

EVOC Trainers



Sgt. A. Fusco



Ofc. J. Conrad

2021 Town of DeWitt Trainings

Every Member of the Town of DeWitt Police Department completed the following training throughout the year 2021

Implicit Bias Training

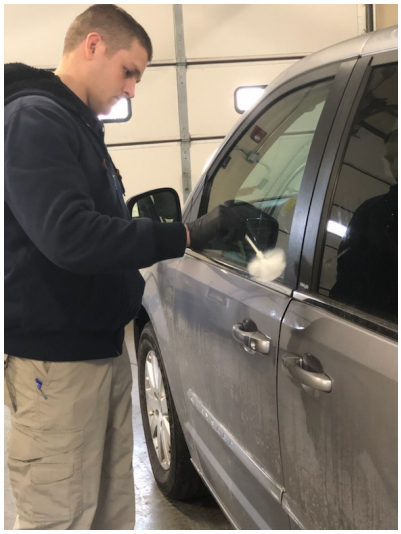
Manual Order Updates

In-service Training which consisted of the following

- Defensive Tactics
- Trauma Care
- Active Shooter Scenario at Shoppingtown Mall
- EVOC
- Firearms (Handgun) - Daylight
- Reality Based Training
- Box Drills
- AED/CPR
- Mental Health/Crisis Communication
- SFST Refresher
- Legal Updates
- Firearms (Handgun, Rifle, Less Lethal Shotgun) - Night

In addition to the above listed in-house training, members of the Town of DeWitt Police Department completed the following training in 2021.

Police Supervision (Requirement for newly promoted Sergeants)
Sergeant Training
FBI LEEDA Supervisor Leadership Institute Training (all Sergeants)
Assisting Individuals in Crisis (EAP)
Group Crisis Intervention Training
Breath Tech Operator Course
Advanced Roadside Impaired Driving Enforcement Training (ARIDE)
Winning Interdiction: Conducting Complete Traffic Stops
Defensive Tactics Instructor Course
Gracie Survival Tactics Level 1 Instructor Course
Reality Based Training Instructor Course
Taser Instructor Course
Tactical Handgun Training Course
Tactical Patrol Rifle Training Course
Weapon Retention Training Course
Patrol Less Lethal Impact Munitions Instructor Course
Plain Clothes Handgun Training Course
Law Enforcement Bicycle Patrol Course
REID Interview Course
Crypto Currency Seminar
Basic School Resource Officer Course
GML 207 and Labor Law Updates
Field Training



Employee Assistance Program (EAP)

An Employee Assistance Program (EAP) is a voluntary, work-based program that offers free and confidential assessments, short-term counseling, referrals, and follow-up services to employees who have personal and/or work-related problems. EAPs address a broad and complex body of issues affecting mental and emotional well-being, such as alcohol and other substance abuse, stress, grief, family problems, and psychological disorders. EAP counselors also work in a consultative role with managers and supervisors to address employee and organizational challenges and needs. Many EAPs are active in helping organizations prevent and cope with workplace violence, trauma and other emergency response situations.

In 2020, the DeWitt Police Department elected six department members to serve as Peer Support Leaders in conjunction with the Employee Assistance Program. These Peer Support Leaders are dedicated, compassionate and formally trained in providing support to co-workers who may be in crisis or in need of assistance. In 2020, the elected Peer Support Leaders attended the "Assisting Individuals in Crisis" Certification Training, in Amherst, NY, provided by the Western New York Law Enforcement Helpline. In 2021 we expanded and grew this program by adding 2 additional officers, and providing the members advanced training.

In May of 2021, the six original Peer Support Leaders continued their training and attended the "Group Crisis Intervention Training" in Amherst, NY. This training certified the six original Peer Support Leaders as a Critical Incident Stress Management Team (CISM).

In the fall of 2021, Officer Mower & Officer Wickes were added as Peer Support Leaders. In September of 2021, Officer Mower & Officer Wickes attended the "Assisting Individuals in Crisis Training" in Cheektowaga, NY. In October of 2021, Officer Wickes attended the "Group Crisis Intervention Training" in Cheektowaga, NY, certifying her as a member of the department's CISM team. In March of 2022, Officer Mower will be attending the "Group Crisis Intervention Training" in Cheektowaga, NY, certifying him as a member of the department's CISM team at that time.

Since the inception of the department's Peer Support Team, numerous Officers have been provided assistance and resources, by Peer Support Leaders, to handle various challenges that they have experienced both personally and professionally. Additionally, the Peer Support Leaders have conducted Group Debriefs following Critical Incidents that department members have been involved in.



Lt. J. Pace



Sgt. Z. Morgan



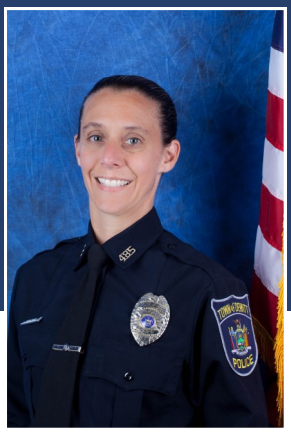
Ofc. E. Mason



Ofc. D. Baumann



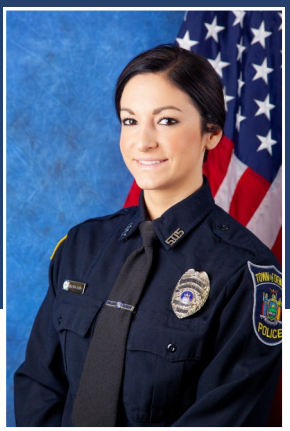
Ofc. D. Mower



Ofc. L. Pienkowski



Ofc. S. Wickes



Ofc. B. Mangano

Criminal Investigative Division



The Criminal Investigations Division is responsible for investigating felony crimes committed within the Town of DeWitt. To meet the needs and demands of investigating various crime types, the Town of DeWitt Police Department Investigators have many areas of specialties that they focus on.

In 2021, the Criminal Investigation Division received 276 cases and made 40 arrests.

The Investigations Division is responsible for cases involving crimes against persons and property. This unit includes but is not limited to assault, robbery, burglary, homicide and other penal law statutes. The CID Unit is a specially trained group of individuals who conduct investigations into complex incidents. These cases usually require in-depth examinations in order to find motive and cause that will lead to an arrest.



Inv. Chad Frederick

DeWitt:
Jan. 2009 - April 2012

Watertown PD
April 2012 - March 2014

DeWitt:
March 2014 - Present

Assigned to CID in 2018



Inv. Matthew Menard

Military:
1999—2008

DeWitt:
Sept. 2015 - Present

Assigned to CID in 2019



Inv. Loriann Maerz

Cooperstown PD:
2006 - 2008

Norwich PD:
2008 - 2016
Promoted to Sgt: 2014

DeWitt:
Nov. 2015 - Present

Assigned to CID in 2019



Inv. Justin Baum

Military
2009 - 2013

Cornell PD:
2013 - 2018
Assigned to CID: 2014
Promoted to Sgt: 2016

DeWitt:
Jan. 2018 - Present

Assigned to CID in 2021

2021 Town of DeWitt Notable CID Cases

Homicide

While on patrol during midnight hours in late November, Dewitt Police Sergeant Byron observed a motor vehicle collision on West Manlius Street in the Village of East Syracuse. As Sergeant Byron approached the scene, the driver exited the vehicle and ran to Sergeant Byron's patrol car, stating he had been stabbed at the Byrne Dairy adjacent to where the collision occurred. Sergeant Byron and other Dewitt Police members attempted life saving measures along with EMS, but the male later died from his injuries. Dewitt investigators responded and conducted interviews with persons on scene and developed the identity of a suspect and the vehicle the suspect left the scene in.

A short time later, investigators located the suspect vehicle at an address on Grant Blvd in the City of Syracuse. Due to the suspect having an extensive criminal history; including prior murder and firearm possession charges, Dewitt Police requested the assistance of the Syracuse Police SWAT team. During the search warrant execution the suspect was taken into custody without incident and multiple evidentiary items were recovered linking the suspect to the homicide. The suspect was charged with Manslaughter 1st and Criminal Possession of a weapon 3rd.

Arson

In early November the Dewitt Police Department and other neighboring agencies responded to 620 West Manlius Street in the Village of East Syracuse for a residential fire. Prior to the call, a male tenant of the building that caught fire had been involved in a domestic incident and was sought for questioning. It was reported he had threatened to burn down another building related to a domestic incident with his girlfriend.

This suspect was known to Dewitt police and had three outstanding arrest warrants from unrelated incidents. Dewitt Police investigators responded and through collaboration with Fire Investigators, determined the cause of the fire to be arson. Efforts to locate the male were made throughout the night by various means. It was learned the male had been sending suicidal messages and messages showing himself armed with a weapon.

The following day, investigators were able to locate the suspect on the South side of Syracuse and attempted to take him into custody, leading to a foot chase. A perimeter and search was conducted along with multiple other agencies, but it was determined the suspect had evaded the area. Due to the fact that the male had last been seen on foot, investigators continued to comb the general area and ended up locating the male at the intersection of North Geddes and West Genesee Street and after a brief struggle took him into custody. The subject was subsequently charged with arson and lodged in the justice center.

Converter thefts

Over the course of the year, the Town of Dewitt saw a high level of catalytic converter thefts from vehicles. This is consistent with trends we have seen both locally and nationally; and has become common due to metals inside the converters having a high scrap metal value. The average cost of a replacement converter to a victim can range from $2,000 - $4,000.

In response to these incidents, Dewitt Police Investigator Frederick requested the majority of these cases and regularly monitored scrap metal business records, conducted interviews and located security video. On five occasions, Investigator Fredericks efforts led to the identification of groups of individuals responsible for multiple converter thefts, sometimes as many as 15 at a time. Investigator Frederick obtained full confessions in the majority of his cases and allowed several other agencies to close related cases out with arrests as well. In one instance, Investigator Frederick was able to document the total theft committed by one individual in the amount of + $50,000, leading to a Grand Jury Felony indictment of Grand Larceny 3rd, a class C Felony. It is without a doubt that Investigator Frederick prevented numerous related thefts and directly reduced crimes rates in the Town of Dewitt and Onondaga County as a whole.

Community Policing

School Resource Officer

The SRO's law enforcement function is a part of relationship-building with the student body and community and fosters educational programs and activities that increase the student knowledge of and respect for the law and the function of law enforcement agencies. The SRO works cooperatively with teachers to assist in developing specialty programs specific to areas of study including court procedures, citizenship and forensic science. The SRO conducts criminal investigations with the goals of promoting safety for the school community and establishing a deterrent to delinquent student behavior and promoting and ensuring the safety of the students, faculty and administration of the school district. The SRO also teaches classes that promote both student wellness and safety as well as healthy relationships between the students and police.

Officer Norton retired from the Sheriff's Department in January 2021 after serving for 30 years. Ofc Norton started his career with OCSO in 1990 working as a Road Patrol Deputy on the afternoon shift. This was followed by Detective assignments in the Abused Persons, Major Crimes, and Warrants Investigations Units of the Criminal Investigations Division (CID). Ofc Norton was then promoted and served as the supervisor to the Computer Crimes and Jail Intelligence Units, followed by the Abused Persons Unit and the Warrants Investigations Unit. Over his career Ofc Norton served as a Field Training Officer, Field Training Sergeant, and Academy Instructor, as well as a member of the agency's Selection and Hiring Boards. Ofc Norton holds certifications in Accident Investigation, Forensic Interviewing, Arson Investigation, and Crisis Negotiations. Ofc Norton was a prior member of the Ordinance Disposal Team (Bomb Squad), a Federal Task Force Officer, Supervisor of the County Fire Investigations Unit for 10 years, and Commander of the Crisis Negotiations Team for 15 years. Ofc Norton previously served on the Vera House Board of Directors for 6 years and has provided professional development to numerous high schools and colleges over the years.



SPO. Michael Norton

School Resource Officer

Onondaga County Sheriff's Department

Oct 1990 - Jan. 2021

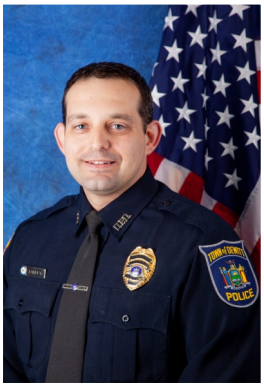
Promoted to Sergeant in August 1991

Assigned to the SRO position on Sept. 2021

RED RAMS



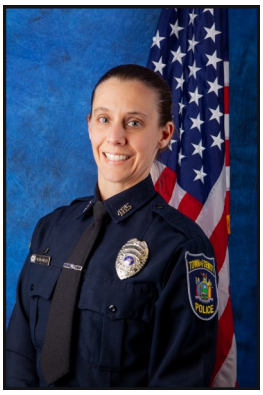
Retirements



Ofc. T. Farley



Ofc. J. Law



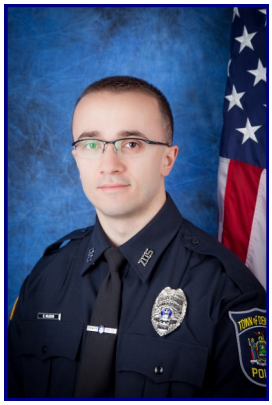
Ofc. L. Pienkowski

Promotions



Sgt. L. Byron

New Officers



Ofc. E. Hujdur



Ofc. A. Miller



Ofc. J. Dillabough



Ofc. J. Janczewski

Those Who Served In The Military



Ofc. E. Mason
Army Reserve/Army National Guard
1992—2003
Sergeant
Op Noble Eagle



Ofc. J. MacDonald
US Army
1983 - 2003
1st Sergeant
Op Desert Shield
Op Desert Storm



Ofc. D. Mower
USMC
1991 - 2000
1st Sergeant
Op Restore Hope
Op Provide Comfort

Army National Guard
1st Sergeant
WTC Search and Rescue Op
Op Noble Eagle
Op Enduring Freedom



Ofc. M. Ellis
US Army/Army National Guard
1993 - 2019
1st Sergeant
Op Enduring Freedom
Guantanamo Bay



Ofc. M. Stanard
Army Reserve/US Army
2001 - 2009
Captain
Op Enduring Freedom



Inv. M. Menard
USMC
1999 - 2008
Op. Iraqi Freedom
4 Deployments



Ofc. J. Baum
US Army
2009 - 2013
Captain
Op Enduring Freedom



Ofc. D. Parker
Army National Guard
Specialist
2018 - Present



Ofc. A. Miller
US Army
Army National Guard
2007 - Present
Major
Op Enduring Freedom
Op Inherent Resolve



Ofc. J. Dillabough
Air National Guard
2017 - Present
Staff Sergeant
Op Raven Dew
Op Deep Freeze

Clerical Staff



Administrative Clerk
L. Pulaski
20 years of service
2002—Present



Clerk A. Armstrong
6 years of service
2015—Present



Clerk J. McNeil
Retired DeWitt Officer
3 years of service
2018—2021



Clerk J. Emm
5 years of service
2016—Present



Michel Wittwer
2021—Present



Clerk N. Zesky
Retired Manlius Officer
5 years of service
2016—2021

Accreditation

New York State Accreditation

The Administration of the Police Department is responsible for ensuring that all department policies and procedures are in compliance with the standards set by New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services. The accreditation program has long been recognized as a means of maintaining the highest standards of training and professionalism. The Town of DeWitt Police Department was originally accredited by New York State in 1998 and reaccredited in 2003, 2008, 2013 and 2018.

CALEA Accreditation

The purpose of CALEA's Accreditation Program is to improve the delivery of public safety services, primarily by: maintaining a body of standards, developed by public safety practitioners, covering a wide range of up-to-date public safety initiatives; establishing and administering an accreditation process; and recognizing professional excellence.

CALEA's goals are:

1. Strengthen crime prevention and control capabilities
2. Formalize essential management procedures
3. Establish fair and nondiscriminatory personnel practices
4. Improve service delivery
5. Solidify interagency cooperation and coordination
6. Increase community and staff confidence in the agency

On April 2, 2016 DeWitt Police Department was awarded the highest level of law enforcement accreditation, both nationally and internationally, through the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA). We are among only twelve (1) law enforcement agencies out of 514 in New York State to achieve this status of excellence. Since achieving accreditation in 2016, the DeWitt Police have participated in remote assessments yearly and an on-site assessment in November of 2019. Each of these assessments have found the agency in compliance with all standards and the department anticipates being re-accredited at the annual CALEA conference in Orlando, Florida in March of 2020.

2021 Calls For Service as reported by the 911 Center

Ambulance Calls—707	Juvenile Problem—57
Burglary Alarms—774	Larceny—816
Other Alarms—37	Lewdness—9
Animal Complaint—229	Lock Out—70
Assault—29	Noise Complaint—188
Motor Vehicle Collision Injury—173	Person in Crisis—257
Motor Vehicle Collision Damage—1014	Missing Person—55
Motor Vehicle Collision Fatal—0	Murder—1
Bomb Threat—2	Open Door—33
Burglary—103	Overdose—62
Call for Police—457	Property Check—11435
Child Abuse—72	Rape—2
Criminal Mischief—138	Sex Offense—7
Controlled Substance—49	Robbery—19
Dispute—829	Shots Fired—27
Disturbance—138	Stabbing—7
Death—36	Suicide—117
Domestic Disturbance—737	Citizen Status Check—327
Driving While Intoxicated—6	Suspicious Person with a Weapon—40
Fight in Progress—132	Suspicious Person—477
Fire—170	Suspicious Vehicle—83
Forgery / Identity Theft—160	Traffic Problem—239
Fireworks—45	Trespassing—70
Harassment— 362	Vehicle Parking Violation—248
Police Information—219	Stolen Vehicle—83
Intoxicated Person—80	Vehicle & Traffic Stops—2038
Disabled Vehicle—502	Wires Down—54

Vehicle & Traffic Tickets

2021

1,104

Custodial Arrests

Adults/Juveniles

2021

795/8

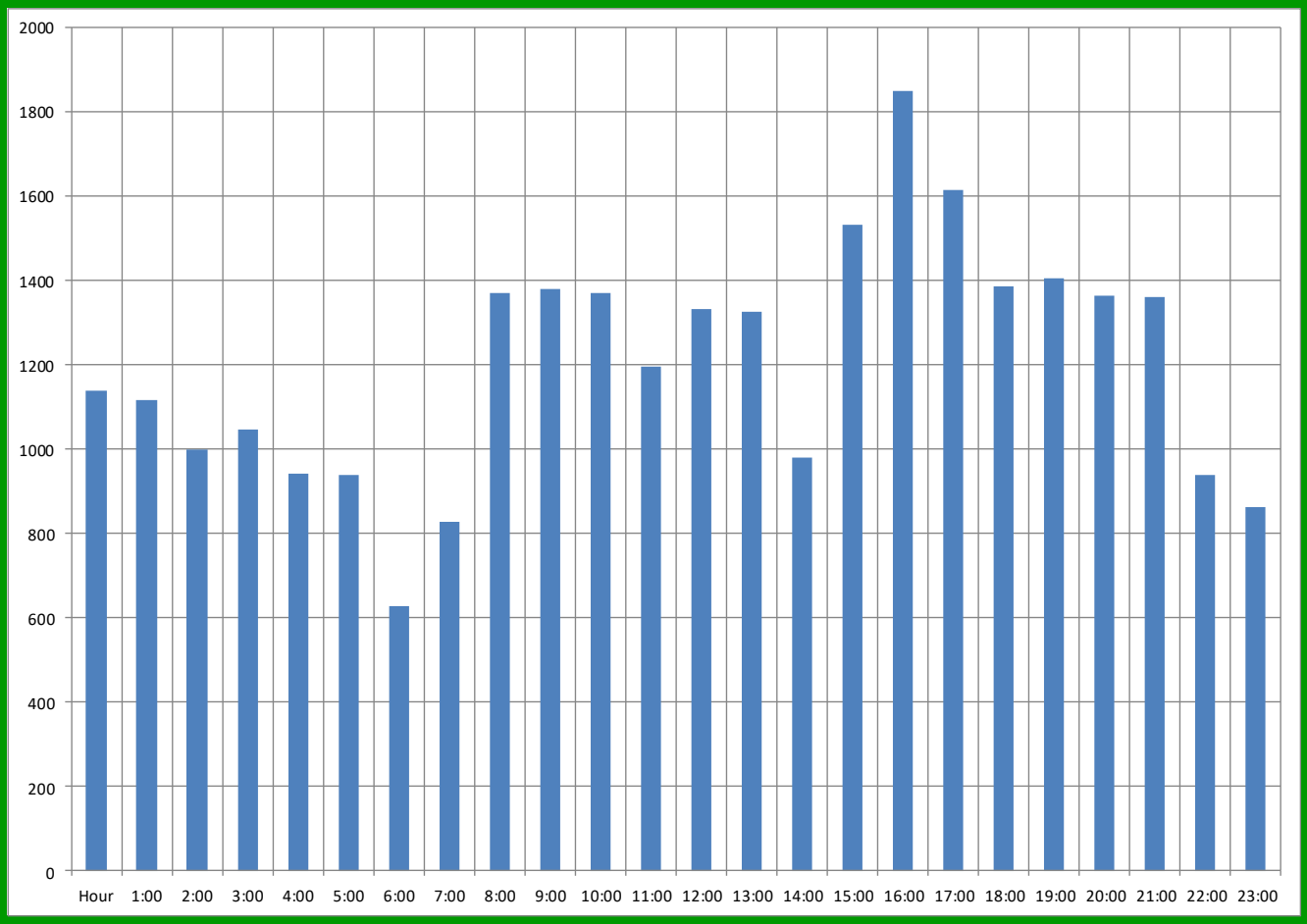
Uniform Crime Report (UCR) Part 1 Offenses

Year	2021
Murder	1
Rape	4
Robbery	23
Assault	40
Burglary	67
Larceny	591
Vehicle Thefts	60
Totals	**785**

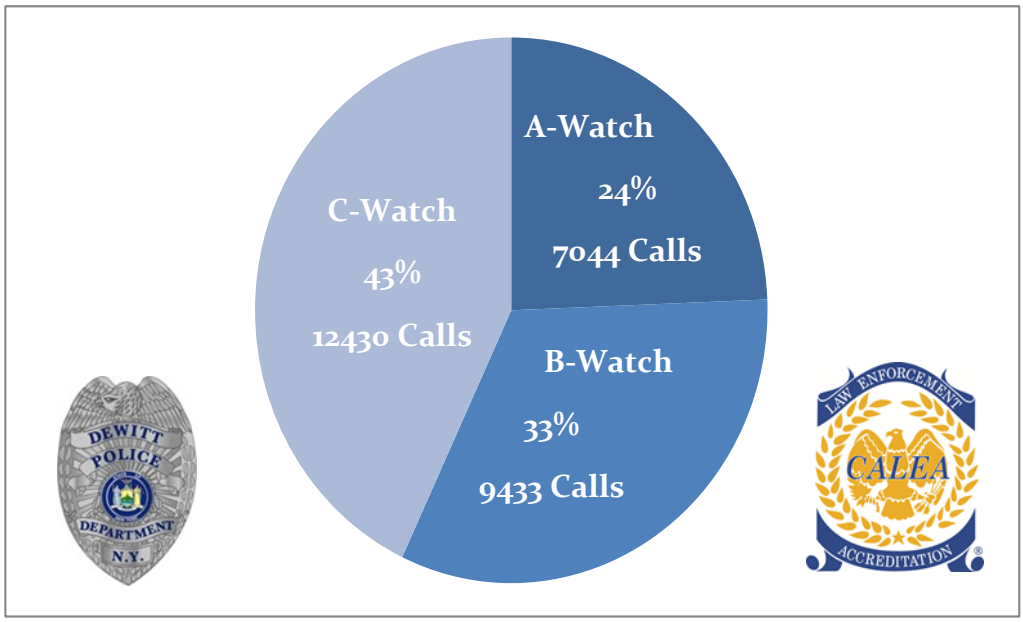
Uniform Crime Report (UCR) Part 2 Offenses

Year	2021
Arson	0
Kidnapping	2
Controlled Substances	9
Dangerous Weapons	9
Sex Offenses	4
Extortion	0
Forgery/Counterfeiting	31
Stolen Property	6
Prostitution & Vice	0
Coercion	0
Criminal Mischief	132
Fraud	88
Gambling	0
Offenses against Public Order	0
Embezzlement	0
Simple Assault	160
Offenses Against Family	0
Driving Under Influence	33
Unauthorized Use of Vehicle	0
Possession of Burglar Tools	0
Liquor Law Violations	0
Disorderly Conduct	1
Loitering	0
All Other Offenses	85
Totals	**560**

Number of Calls By Hour of the Day



Percentage of Calls By Shift



Use of Force Review

The objective of this review was to examine our use of force for the year 2021 to identify patterns relating to:

- Date and time of incidents
- Types of encounters resulting in use of force
- Race, age and gender of subjects force was used on
- Injury to subjects or officers
- Needs for policy updates, equipment and training

Date and Time of Incident

In total, the Town of DeWitt Police Department had 51 separate cases with a total of 52 subjects where force was utilized on, with a total of 90 uses of force reports completed.

A Watch	B Watch	C Watch	CID	Total
18	25	20	0	63

Types of Encounters

The only type of encounter that appeared to have a number significant enough to categorize as a trend or pattern was domestic incidents which represented 22 of the incidents.

Race, Age and Gender

White	Black	Hispanic	Males	Females
33	28	1	36	15

Teens	20's	30's	40's	50's
8	14	21	12	7

Injury to Subjects and/or Officers

Only twelve (12) subjects listed injuries resulting from the use of force, of these most were complaints of pain or minor cuts/abrasions. Ten (10) officers listed receiving injuries, all for minor abrasions or complaints of pain .

Needs for Policy Updates, Equipment, or Training

Since September of this past year we have begun a use of force review process where a Lieutenant and an Investigator thoroughly breakdown the body camera video of each use of force as well as review the call notes and officer reports. From this we search to identify items that would have helped the officers on the incident for future calls, we then review the video with the officers and give hands on training regarding any of the items we found. This comprehensive review has also helped to identify training needs of the department.

Vehicle Pursuit Review

In 2021, the Town of DeWitt Police Department engaged in five (5) vehicle pursuits which consisted of the following:

1. **Jan 11th** - A suspected drunk driver on a motorcycle. The suspect stopped twice prior to the pursuit being terminated by the Officer.
2. **March 25th** - A dispute suspect who was allegedly drunk. The suspect vehicle's license plate was obtained, and the pursuit was terminated by the Officer. Suspect arrested at a later date.
3. **April 17th** - A Sergeant attempted a vehicle stop of a motorcycle. When the motorcycle refused to stop, the Sergeant terminated the pursuit.
4. **July 18th** - A suspect involved in a shooting, and alleged abduction. The suspect was subsequently arrested, after stop sticks were deployed by OCSO.
5. **Oct. 22nd** - A suspect involved in an armed robbery. The pursuit was terminated due to high rates of speed and reckless driving. Suspect was arrested at a later time.

Town of DeWitt Police Benevolent Association

History

The DeWitt PBA was formed in 1967 as a result of DeWitt Police Officers being paid a salary as low as $5,200.00 a year and working in a dangerously understaffed department. At that time it was reported that a skilled worker was earning a salary ranging from $11,000.00 to $12,000.00 and a college educated individual was earning a salary of as much as $20,000.00 a year. The first contract was signed with the Town of DeWitt and the DeWitt PBA in 1969.

About

Throughout the years the DeWitt PBA has changed and conformed to meet the needs of its members, but the overall mission has remained the same: ***To promote the welfare of its members by fostering and encouraging it through fraternal cooperation and fellowship. To act as a charitable organization for the good and welfare of the community in which its members serve.*** Today, the DeWitt PBA is comprised of active uniformed members of the DeWitt Police Department from the rank of Police Officer through the rank of Sergeant.

The DeWitt PBA is a strong organization that relies heavily on the support of its members and is as active now as in the past as it is the primary bargaining unit of its officers and sergeants involving terms and conditions of employment.

The DeWitt PBA is affiliated with the New York State Union of Police Associations, Inc. (NYSUPA). NYSUPA is a not-for-profit organization that fights for the rights and welfare of public safety officers and they provide the DeWitt PBA with expertise in negotiating collective bargaining agreements, enforcing employee contractual rights, defending their members in disciplinary proceedings, and litigating terms and conditions of employment during interest arbitration proceedings before the Public Employment Relations Board. NYSUPA, Inc. advises the DeWitt PBA Executive Board and membership on how to best protect employee rights and improve the lives of the DeWitt PBA membership.

The DeWitt PBA is a very active within the community and maintains a deep involvement with various stakeholders and charitable groups.

The following are just a few of the programs that the DeWitt PBA volunteers with or has recently donated to:

Toy Express
Shop with a Cop
Make-A-Wish of CNY
Special Olympics
Police Officer Thomas M. Lindsey Foundation
Police Officer Kevin "BING" Crossley Foundation
Joseph's Experience, Inc.
Police Unity Tour, Chapter 37 NY
DeWitt Rotary Club
Vietnam Veterans Association of CNY
Vera House (Shelter and support for victims of domestic violence)
Emma's Hope (Helps parents of children diagnosed with life-threatening illnesses)
Cystic Fibrosis Foundation "Extreme Hike"
Stephen Siller Tunnel to Towers Foundation
Jowonio School
Detective William "Bomber" Lashomb Fund
American Legion

Community Based Objectives:

To support activities which serve to enhance the quality of life of the citizens of the Town of DeWitt, and to support other institutions and organizations with similar goals.

To promote a high degree of professionalism and pride within the membership and the department, and promote and enhance the relationships between the membership and the citizens of the Town of DeWitt.

The DeWitt PBA Executive Board along with all of the members would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to all who have and continue to support our organization!

Recruitment

Police Officer Benefits Package

All Town of DeWitt Police Department positions are civil service positions and are subject to the rules and regulations established through the New York State Civil Service Department and the Onondaga County Department of Personnel. The Town of DeWitt Police Department is an equal opportunity employer.

Employment may be pursued by the following methods

1. Civil Service Test:
   Onondaga County Dept of Personnel
   421 Montgomery St. 13th Floor
   Syracuse, NY 13214
2. Lateral Transfers; Resume may be forwarded to:
   Captain Brenton White
   Town of DeWitt Police Department
   5400 Butternut Drive
   East Syracuse, NY 13057
   bwhite@townofdewitt.com

The Town of DeWitt Police Department is currently seeking lateral transfers for the position of Police Officer. Candidates must have a New York State Police Officer's certification issued by D.C.J.S. Increased pay and benefits are commensurate with training and experience. Please forward resumes to Captain Brenton White at bwhite@townofdewitt.com

Police Officers employed within the State of New York or Onondaga County must be certified and must be employed (full time status) as a police officer and have passed a civil service exam to be considered for a transfer. Onondaga County will not allow direct transfers from out of state police agencies.

** Certified Police Officers from other agencies interested in employment with DeWitt Police Department will be considered for increased starting salary and vacation benefits depending on experience.

Department Photos











Department Photos









2021 Points of Contact

CHIEF OF POLICE

Department Head, Research & Planning, Budget, Risk Management
Chief Chase Bilodeau
cbilodeau@townofdewitt.com
(315) 449-3640 ext. 203

CAPTAIN

Police Operations, Human Resources, Accreditation, IT Administrator
Captain Brenton White
bwhite@townofdewitt.com
(315) 449-3640 ext. 107

LIEUTENANT

CID Commander, Employee Development
Lieutenant Christopher Fuller
cfuller@townofdewitt.com
(315) 449-3640 ext. 108

LIEUTENANT

Patrol Commander, Community Policing
Lieutenant Jerry Pace
jpace@townofdewitt.com
(315) 449-3640 ext. 219