

PALMYRA POLICE DEPARTMENT 2015 ANNUAL REPORT



PREPARED BY
SCOTT PEARLMAN
CHIEF OF POLICE

PALMYRA POLICE DEPARTMENT MISSION STATEMENT

The Palmyra Police Department's mission is to provide professional and ethical public safety services in partnership with citizens to identify, prevent and solve the problems of crime, fear of crime, social disorder and neighborhood decay, thereby improving the quality of life in our community.

CORE VALUES

Ethical Behavior

We maintain the trust of the community through honesty, compassion and fairness.

We adhere to the highest standards of personal and professional conduct.

We respect the rights of all citizens and employees.

Protecting the Community

We recognize our primary responsibility is the protection of life and property.

We are responsive to the behavior and conditions that lead to crime and the fear of crime.

We understand that training and technology are critical elements of effective crime prevention strategies.

Diversity

We appreciate our differences and recognize that unique skills, knowledge and backgrounds bring strength to the community.

We aspire to create a police department that reflects our community.

We embrace and include our community by seeking their input and responding to their concerns.

Problem Solving

We work in partnership with the community to identify and resolve problems.

We encourage innovation, creativity and positive thinking.

We are open, receptive and willing to adapt to our dynamic community.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Looking back on 2015, our department unfortunately worked at a deficit of officers due to work and non-work related illnesses. Although this would appear to be a common theme over the last two years we see the light at the end of the tunnel with the appointment of two new officers in July of 2015. Through these shortages our officers worked to provide the highest quality of service to our residents and worked to provide as safe of a town as possible.

Throughout 2015 our officers remained proactive and as the year ended we continued to maintain a reduction in burglaries from 2011, 2012 and 2013. Continuing our efforts from last year we saw our number of burglaries continue to stay below thirty (30); something that had not happened in the eight years preceding 2014. Unfortunately we investigated seven (7) robberies during 2015. Of those seven (7) robberies four (4) have been cleared by arrests and our detectives are working to close the three (3) remaining robberies.

The department continued our efforts to provide information to the public through the use of department's Facebook page. The page was developed by Det. Shawn Benedict and launched to the public in July of 2012. At the end of 2014 a decision was made to adjust the page so that the page was comment free. This change was made in an effort to provide information to the public and maintain a page that was friendly to all that visit it. The Palmyra Police Department Facebook page can be found on the web at <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Palmyra-Police-Department-NJ/2955239603884007>.

The department also maintains the NIXLE Notification System. We encourage all of our residents to visit the Police Department's Section of the Borough Website, sign up for NIXLE, and like our Facebook page.

In 2013 the department also started the distribution of Accident Reports through Carfax. All of the department's accident reports are placed on CrashDocs.Org. This allows those involved in an accident to receive a copy of the report without coming into the police station. Reports may be retrieved from anywhere that someone has computer access. In 2015 we continued to see a significant drop in requests from the public for accident reports thanks to our partnership with Carfax. It is important to note that reports retrieved through the Carfax system are free to those involved in a collision.

For a third year the department worked with the Becker Family of Bucks County Pennsylvania in taking Palmyra youth to a Phillies game. In 2013 Ricky Becker and his parents approached the department seeking help for Ricky; who was completing a community project. Ricky, a major Phillies fan, was looking to take twenty-five under privileged children and a parent to a Phillies game. In 2015 Police Department worked with Mayor and Borough Council and the Palmyra Board of Education to bring this trip together for a third year. On May 13, 2015, two (2) Palmyra School Buses left the Palmyra Community Center for Citizens Bank Park. It was an excellent night by all who attended. The Beckers will be working with us to plan 2016's trip.

In 2014 we held our first Junior Police Academy. First Sgt. Osinski along with the assistance of Ptlm. Snow and Ptlm. Jankowski ran a mini police academy for Palmyra students in the 7th or 8th grade. Youth recruits attended training in police, fire and emergency medical operations. They were treated to a trip to Burlington County Central Communications and Philadelphia Police Department's SWAT training center. In 2015 we held our second Junior Police Academy which was even more successful than 2014 with double the junior recruits participating in the Academy.

In 2015 First Sgt. Osinski put together the department's first Senior Police Academy. The Police Department worked with the Palmyra Seniors Program and one (1) day a week over six (6) weeks a group of local seniors were introduced to different areas of public safety. During this time they also made a trip to Burlington County Central Communications.

During 2015 the department attempted to increase our community policing efforts. Officers participated in a Pizza with the Police at Manny's Pizza and held a Coffee with a Cop at Wawa. As in the past we participated in Palmyra Day with displays of police equipment and juvenile fingerprinting. We also worked with the Boroughs Public Events Committee and held our first annual National Night Out. The public were treated to displays by the Palmyra Police and Fire Departments, Palmyra, Riverton, Cinnaminson EMS and New Jersey Transit Police. Those that attended were treated to musical entertainment by the local band Friends and Beep Beep the clown for the kids with food provided by Simonetti's Pizza and Smokin' J's BBQ. It was a great success.

In October, the Police Department worked with the Southern Burlington County NAACP to hold our first Town Hall meeting. For two (2) hours SBC NAACP President Crystal Charley presided over an informal forum allowing our residents to ask questions and voice concerns or problems. It was a chance for the department to increase our contact with our residents and help us to provide the best service possible. After the meeting the department provided food for those that attended and we had an additional hour for our residents to be able to speak with our officers in a relaxed setting. We thank the NAACP for their assistance and for those residents that attended.

On October 30th I had the honor of attending the Southern Burlington County NAACP Freedom Fund Gala. Attendees were given the pleasure of hearing Keynote Speaker the Honorable William H. "Billy" Murphy, Jr. During the awards portion I was honored to be one of their awardees and presented with their Professional Achievement Award.

In November the department received notification of the passing of one of our longtime residents. The resident appreciative of the service of the officers of the Palmyra Police Department bequest \$20,000.00 to our department, we are hoping to use this loving gift in the best way possible to give back to the community.

We look forward to serving the community and providing services with the highest level of integrity. Should you have questions or need to inform us of a problem or issue feel free to e-mail us at police@boroughofpalmyra.com. The police department administration can be reached Monday through Friday from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm at 856-829-0198.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Scott Pearlman', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Scott Pearlman
Chief of Police

PERSONNEL

The department started 2015 with sixteen (16) fulltime sworn officers and no Class II Special Officers. As 2014 came to an end it was determined by the department command staff and the Borough's Public Safety Committee to end the use of Special Officers; officers used part-time. To better service the community it was agreed to convert the two (2) Special Officer positions to one (1) full time patrolman. In reviewing training requirements and the overall time constraints on Special Officers it was determined that a seventeenth (17) officer would better serve the community.

Although we started 2015 with sixteen (16) officers, two (2) were out of work due to non-work related conditions. As we progressed through 2015 Patrolman Robert Brown retired having served the Borough as Fire Marshall and a police officer. In July of 2015 we appointed Patrolman Alex Hubel and Destinee Quintero bringing our staff to seventeen (17) sworn officers.

Patrolman Hubel started as a Class II Officer with our department going to the Gloucester County Special Officers Academy in 2013-2014. Patrolman Hubel worked for the Palmyra Police Department from his graduation in May of 2014 thru November of 2014 when he took a fulltime position with the Burlington County Sheriff's Department.

Patrolman Quintero started her career with the Seaside Park Police Department where she worked as a Class I and Class II Special Officer. As a Seaside Park Special Officer she worked through the winter and assisted with programs in their elementary school.

On August 17, 2015 Ptlm. Stephen Coveleski was promoted to the rank of Sergeant filling a supervisory position in our Patrol Division.

On a sad note in April of 2015 we saw the passing of First Sergeant Rudolph Lockley. Rudy or Bubby as he was known by retired in 1996 after 27 years of service to the residents of Palmyra. Rudy will always be remembered by those who worked with him and the residents he touched during his career.

CURRENT DEPARTMENT PERSONNEL

Chief Scott Pearlman
Lieutenant Meghan Campbell

First Sergeant Joseph Osinski
Sergeant Josiah Murphy
Sergeant Timothy Leusner
Sergeant Stephen Coveleski

Detective Shawn Benedict
Detective Brian Johnson

Secretary Gerry Bright

Patrolman Michael Ludlow
Patrolman Omar Kendall
Patrolman Alex Alven
Patrolman Scott Snow
Patrolman Arek Arargil
Patrolman Jeremy Jankowski
Patrolman Tyler Main
Patrolman Alexander Hubel
Patrolman Destinee Quintero

SLEOII John Quigg Jr (Court Security)

Records Clerk Renay Montgomery

CROSSING GUARDS

Every school day, twelve (12) crossing guards man traffic posts throughout the Borough to provide for the safe crossing of our students. The guards are at work during some of the harshest weather conditions and deal with the worst of drivers as they perform their assigned tasks. The guards come under the direct supervision and authority of the police department. As such the department provides each guard with yearly training and maintains their equipment. In 2015, as an added safety measure we installed flashing red lights on all of our guards' stop signs. We also distributed to all crossing guards Yaktrax shoe cleats for use during snow and ice conditions.

In 2011 the police department did an evaluation of the corners maintained by our crossing guards. This evaluation led to the disbandment of two (2) intersections covered by crossing guards.

CURRENT CROSSING GUARD POSTS

Cinnaminson Ave and Temple Boulevard
Cinnaminson Ave and Broad Street
Cinnaminson Ave and Charles Street
Broad Street and Weart Boulevard / Chestnut Street
Broad Street and Park Ave
Market Street and West Fifth Street
Park Ave and Spring Garden Street
Charles Street and Walnut Street
900 Block Walnut Street at Charles Street School
Charles Street and Filbert Street

CURRENT GUARDS

Geraldine Bright – Guard Captain	Substitute Guards
Clarence Belton	Joseph Dulisse
Sara Ercolono	William Johnson
Michele Gentile	Cindy Palmer
Michael Gilbert	
Anne Golden	
Winifred Koch	
Maricka MacMurray	
Richard Mood	
Jennifer O'Connell	
Barbara Zeyher	

CROSSING GUARD RETIREMENTS

Elsie Hoffman 2014

INJURIES AND ACCIDENTS

In 2015 the police department reported five (5) work place injuries. Of these reported injuries four (4) involved police officers and one (1) involved a crossing guard. The department makes every effort to provide for a safe work environment, however most injuries to police officers are the result of struggles with combative arrestees. In 2015 injury to a police officer resulted in 40 days of work either missed or on light duty.

In 2015 the department logged 79,330 miles of patrol. This number shows the large amount of time our officers spend in their patrol cars. With this amount of time, mileage and the need for emergency responses, the percentage of officer involved motor vehicle crashes are high. However, in 2015 our officers were involved in no motor vehicle crashes maintaining an excellent driving record for the year.

CRIMINAL ACTIVITY

CRIMINAL CASES ASSIGNED

The figures below represent the number of criminal cases completed through the year. Criminal cases for 2015 were only slightly lower from the previous year. Criminal cases are investigative reports initiated by our officers which range from criminal mischief, assault and burglary to sexual assaults.

	2012	2012	2014	2015
TOTAL CRIMINAL CASES	891	1165	1150	1029

ADULT ARRESTS

The figures below represent the total number of adults arrested by the police department in the last four (4) years. These numbers reflect the number of adults placed under arrest by Palmyra Police Officers and processed at our headquarters.

	2012	2013	2014	2015
ADULT ARRESTS	420	618	725	584

JUVENILE ARRESTS

The figures below represent the total number of juveniles arrested by the police department in the last four (4) years. These numbers reflect the number of juveniles taken into custody by Palmyra Police Officers and processed at our headquarters.

	2012	2013	2014	2015
JUVENILE ARRESTS	13	37	35	33

CRIMINAL FILINGS

When the police department makes an arrest criminal complaints are completed and filed with the court. These charges are known as Disorderly Persons offenses and Indictable offenses. The New Jersey code refers to violations of law in terms of "crime" or "offense". Whenever the code uses the term offense, it is referring to a disorderly person or petty disorderly person charge. By contrast, a crime is an offense that is customarily defined as a felony in other states and involves exposure to six (6) months or more in possible incarceration in jail. An individual is entitled to have allegations of a crime presented to a grand jury, hence NJ's reference to these offenses as Indictable. An individual arrested for a Disorderly Persons offense has no right to a grand jury as these are non-indictable charges punishable by a maximum period of imprisonment of six (6) months.

In 2015 our department saw a slight decrease in the amount of criminal complaints completed. Along with this decrease was a decrease in the number of Indictable Offenses forwarded to the Prosecutor's Office for prosecution.

	2012	2013	2014	2015
Criminal Complaints Filed	214	352	326	301
Disorderly Persons Offense	174	284	311	271
Indictable Offenses	111	182	136	113

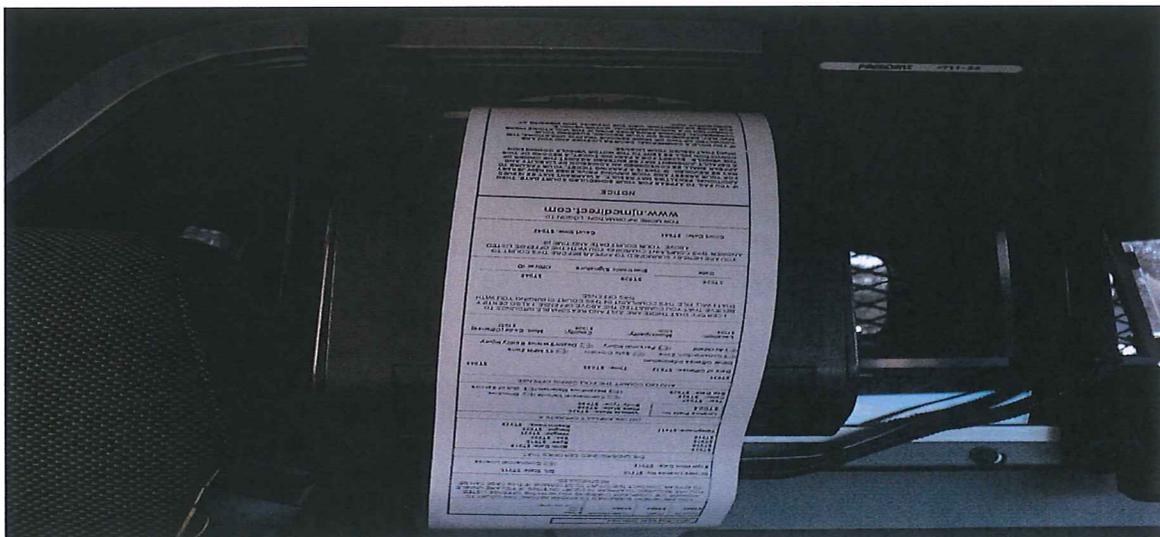
MOTOR VEHICLE AND BOROUGH ORDINANCE VIOLATIONS

In addition to criminal filings officers are consistently enforcing motor vehicle laws and local Borough ordinances. Shown below are the last four (4) years totals of motor vehicle summonses our officers issued, the borough ordinance violations issued and the number of car stops conducted by our officers.

	2012	2013	2014	2015
Motor Vehicle Summonses	2453	2715	2630	2412
Borough Ordinances	151	174	108	101
Motor Vehicle Stops	2674	3293	3458	2814

Electronic Ticketing

In June of 2012 the Borough entered into a five (5) year contract with GTBM of East Rutherford to provide E-Ticketing for the police department. In moving to E-Ticketing, Palmyra joined a number of other Burlington County Departments which have signed agreements with GTBM. The move to E-Ticketing allows for officers to prepare tickets with fewer errors, but helps to reduce the time it takes an officer to complete a motor vehicle summons. The system also automatically docketes the summons with the court, cutting down on court personnel man hours for entering every summons issued in the Administration of Courts computer system. Printers are mounted in all of our patrol cars.



An addition to the Patrol Division was the reappearance of bike patrol. After a four (4) to Five (5) year break due to staffing levels we have once again begun patrolling the streets on bikes. The unit works on a part-time basis when our staffing allows. Ptlm. Alex Alven has been assigned as the supervisor and is overseen by Sgt. Stephen Coveleski. The officers for the bike unit were trained with the assistance of the Mount Holly Police Department. Officers assigned to bike patrol are Sergeant Stephen Coveleski, Patrolman Scott Snow, Arek Arargil and Jeremy Jankowski will spend part of their patrol time riding bikes. The bikes will help officers to see things they may not have seen from their cars and also bring them closer to our residents.



NARCAN DEPLOYED BY OUR PATROL DIVISION

In early 2014 Burlington County joined Ocean County in training patrol officers in the deployment of Narcan (Naloxone Hydrochloride). Our patrol officers were trained in the administering of the drug which is given to a victim of an opiate overdose nasally. During 2015 our officers had administered Narcan four (4) times, saving the lives of three (3) people. Our patrol officers carry Narcan along with another one of our life saving tools, our Automated External Defibrillator (AED).



CALLS FOR SERVICE

Over the last four to five years the department has seen an increase in our calls for service and self-generated work. Through 2014 although this number dropped, it was not a significant drop over the course of the year with the number of calls for service and self-generated work close to 2013. In 2015 our calls for service and self-generated work were consistent with that of 2013 and 2014.

	2012	2013	2014	2015
Calls for service	15,703	20,318	19,365	19,777

MOST FREQUENT CALLS FOR POLICE SERVICE

There are numerous calls for police service that are time consuming, of these calls are domestic dispute incidents. Domestic Violence calls consist of numerous crimes committed by family members, subjects in dating relationships and two (2) subjects that currently or previously resided together. Domestic Violence calls have led to the death or serious injury to numerous officers across the country. For this reason Domestic Violence calls require the response of two (2) officers.

TYPE OF CALL	NUMBER OF CALLS			
	2012	2013	2014	2015
911 Misdial	125	107	73	84
Alarm – Burglary/Holdup/Fire	385	416	366	368
Emergency Medical Assist	644	682	663	670
Fire Company Assist	129	153	132	154
Domestic Disputes	117	197	118	123
Robbery	5	12	0	7
Burglary	44	47	26	26
Property Checks	3201	4676	3610	4373
Suspicious Person/Vehicle	388	468	338	423
Motor Vehicle Stops	2674	3293	3458	2814

DETECTIVE BUREAU

The Palmyra Police Department is responsible for the continued investigation of numerous crimes which are reported within the borough. These crimes range from residential and commercial burglaries, robberies, unattended deaths, sexual assaults and the sale and distribution of controlled dangerous substances. Detectives complete all crime scene processing and maintain the department's evidence inventory. Detectives are also required to maintain contact with county, state and federal agencies to keep criminal intelligence current.

In 2009, in a need to better track cases assigned to the detectives, a central log was created. This log denotes the assigned case, when supplemental reports are completed and the case status. In addition to criminal investigations members of the detective bureau are responsible for the investigation and paperwork for firearms applications and permits and all applications for the transfer of all Alcohol Beverage Control permits issued within the borough. One detective is also responsible for the registration and investigation of Megan's Law registrants residing in the borough.

The detective bureau is staffed by two (2) detectives and supervised by the Lieutenant of Police.

Detective Shawn Benedict has been a police officer for eighteen (18) years and with the Palmyra Police Department since 2000. Detective Benedict has been assigned to the detective bureau since 2001.

Detective Brian Johnson has been a police officer since 2006 and with the Palmyra Police Department since 2008. Detective Johnson was assigned to the detective bureau in May 2012 due to the promotion of Detective Murphy to the rank of Sergeant and his move back to the Patrol Division.

A total of one hundred twenty-eight (128) cases were assigned to the detective bureau in 2015.

	2012	2013	2014	2015
Cases Assigned	100	154	141	128
Submissions to County Forensics Sciences Lab	28	61	87	72

MEGAN'S LAW

The detective bureau also maintains the local Megan's Law Registration. Detective Benedict is responsible for maintaining an up to date registration on every person living within the borough who is classified by the state as an offender and required to register.

Once an offender is classified they are placed in one of the three (3) tiers.

Tier 1 offenders are those offenders, who once classified, are considered to be at low risk for re-offending.

Tier II offenders are considered to be at a moderate risk for re-offending.

Tier III offenders are those offenders considered to be at a high risk of re-offending

Currently there are twenty (20) individuals residing in Palmyra who are required to register under Megan's Law.

Twelve (12) registrants are tier I
Eight (8) registrants are tier II

Eight (8) individuals are required to register every ninety (90) days and twelve (12) must register annually.

FIREARMS PERMITS

Detective Johnson is responsible for the investigation and issuance of all applications from residents to purchase a handgun or for a firearms identification card. In 2015 the detective bureau processed fifty-three (53) firearms applications, issued eighty-two (82) permits to purchase handguns and issued thirty (30) firearms identification cards. This is an increase over last year, inline with our four year average.

	2012	2013	2014	2015
Firearms Applications	55	65	45	53
Permits to Purchase	84	74	43	82
Identification Cards	38	38	18	30

RECORDS DIVISION

In 2012 the department was able to re-establish the position of records clerk with the appointment of a part-time records clerk. This had been a full time position until fiscal issues in 2011 required the position be eliminated. This cut the staffing in half and left one secretary to perform the clerical work of the entire department. Renay Montgomery, a Palmyra resident, was appointed in 2012 as the department's part-time records clerk. The records division is staffed by Secretary Gerry Bright and Records Clerk Renay Montgomery. The following is a brief list of responsibilities that are completed by the department's records division.

- ❖ Report maintenance / New World Systems
- ❖ Case preparation for the County Prosecutor's Office
- ❖ Data entry and filing
- ❖ Copies of reports for private citizens
- ❖ Completion of discovery request for Attorneys
- ❖ Isolate reports/cases approved for expungement
- ❖ Issuance of handicap placards
- ❖ Process juvenile complaints
- ❖ Assist in compiling monthly statistics
- ❖ Prepare monthly Uniform Crime Report

INTERNAL AFFAIRS

The Palmyra Police Department is committed to providing ethical police services with the highest degree of integrity. Our officers are held to the highest of standards in the performance of their duties as police officers and in their personal lives; expected to observe the rights of all citizens. It is the ultimate responsibility of the Palmyra Police Department that our officers adhere to these standards.

The purpose of the Internal Affairs Policy governing the Palmyra Police Department is to improve the quality of police services. Citizen confidence in the integrity of the police department increases through the establishment of meaningful and effective complaint procedures. This confidence builds community support for the police department. Improving the relationship between the police and the citizens they serve facilitates cooperation vital to the department's ability to achieve its goals. An effective disciplinary framework also permits police officials to monitor compliance with department policy and procedures. Adherence to established policies and procedures assist officers in meeting department objectives while a monitoring system permits supervisors to identify problem areas requiring increased training or direction. Finally, the Internal Affairs Policy ensures fairness and due process protection to citizens and officers alike.

The internal affairs process is also used to identify and correct unclear or inappropriate agency procedures. In addition it will highlight organizational conditions that may contribute to any misconduct, such as poor recruitment and selection procedures or inadequate training and supervision of police officers.

In 2015 there were a total of ten (10) Internal Affairs Investigations. The investigations were related to complaints of policy violations, differential treatment, demeanor and damaged property. Six (6) complaints were sustained, three (3) were exonerated, and one (1) was administratively closed. No investigations were carried into 2016. Of those complaints that were sustained penalties ranged from written reprimands to the loss of time.

JUNIOR POLICE ACADEMY

In March of 2014 our department worked with the Riverton Police Department and the Burlington County Sheriff's Department on presenting a Youth Police Academy. The Academy was open to children ages 7 to 12 years old. Classes were held on three (3) consecutive Saturdays at the Palmyra Community Center. Academy participants received classes on gun safety, cultural diversity, Police Canine (K9) and safety with strangers to name a few of the lessons taught.

This academy led to our department conducting a five (5) day Junior Police Academy for students entering the 7th and 8th grades. First Sgt. Joseph Osinski prepared the lesson plan for the week and worked with Ptlm. Scott Snow and Jeremy Jankowski to run the program. The program ran from July 27th thru July 31st to meet the following goals:

1. To familiarize youth with the role of a police officer.
2. Provide hands-on experience of a wide variety of law enforcement functions as well as the various types of emergency services and required training.
3. The opportunity to gain a deeper respect for our laws. Hopefully experiencing positive interactions with different facets of our justice system.

Academy recruits received instruction from members of the Palmyra Police Department, the Burlington County Prosecutor's Office Crime Scene Unit, Burlington County Bridge Commission Police K9 Unit, NJ Transit Police K9 Unit, Palmyra / Riverton / Cinnaminson EMS, Virtua Paramedics, and NJSP South Star Aviation Flight Crew. Recruits participated in daily physical fitness training.

Academy recruits also went on two (2) field trips. Recruits were taken to Burlington County Central Communications where they toured the County 911 Center and the County's in-door gun range. The second trip was to the Philadelphia Police Academy SWAT Training Center.

Recruits were kept busy throughout the week learning many facets of police work. From how car stops are conducted to how to recover finger prints from a crime scene. Although they appeared to enjoy everything involved in the training the highlight may have been the landing of the NJSP helicopter at Charles Street School. The week of training ended with a graduation held in the Council Chambers.



BECKER FAMILY PHILLIES TRIP

On Wednesday May 13th with the help of the Becker Family of Bucks County, PA and the Palmyra Board of Education, Palmyra Police Officers escorted Charles Street School Students and a parent to Citizens Bank Park to watch the Phillies play the Braves. In 2013 Ricky Becker worked with our department to put together the trip as part of a community project. The Beckers enjoyed the trip so much that they asked that the trip continues into future years. In 2015 the Beckers supplied the tickets for the game, the Palmyra Mayor and Council provided two (2) buses for transportation and the Police Department supplied food and escorts. The Becker Family along with Chief Scott Pearlman, Lt. Campbell, Sgt. Stephen Coveleski, Patrolman Omar Kendall, Scott Snow, Arek Arargil and Tyler Main accompanied everyone to Citizens Bank Park.

2015 TORCH RUN

For the third year Palmyra Officers have participated in the NJ Torch Run for Special Olympics. Sgt. Tim Leusner has spear headed our department's efforts in working to put the event together. On Friday June 12th Patrolman Alex Alven, Arek Arargil, Tyler Main and Brian Johnson along with officers from surrounding towns participated in the Run. Ptlm. Arargil ran for 14 miles and Ptlm. Alven ran the Burlington County Torch into the Special Olympics opening Ceremonies at the College of New Jersey.

The annual event is run by members of the law enforcement community in support of Special Olympics. For the last three (3) years Palmyra Officers have worked to support the run. This year they donated over \$2500.00 from donations from local supporters. One of 2015's largest local contributing donator was F.C. Kerbecks along with those that supported the dunk tank, t-shirt sales and raffle on Palmyra Day.



PALMYRA DAY

The Police Department worked with the Borough Public Events Committee for Palmyra Day. Over the years the department has worked with the different organizations that have taken on the task of putting together Palmyra Day. The Police Department put on our first Public Safety Day in 1996 under the direction of Chief Robert Fow. In 1998 the event was combined with Palmyra Day in cooperation of the Palmyra Business Alliance.

Palmyra Day has become a festival event with demonstrations by all of our local emergency services partners, numerous food and craft vendors, a children's play area and this year an enlarged car show. During the last two years Chief Pearlman along with other town officials and teachers have spent time in the dunk tank with the proceeds going to the Special Olympics Torch Run.



COFFEE WITH A COP / PIZZA WITH THE POLICE

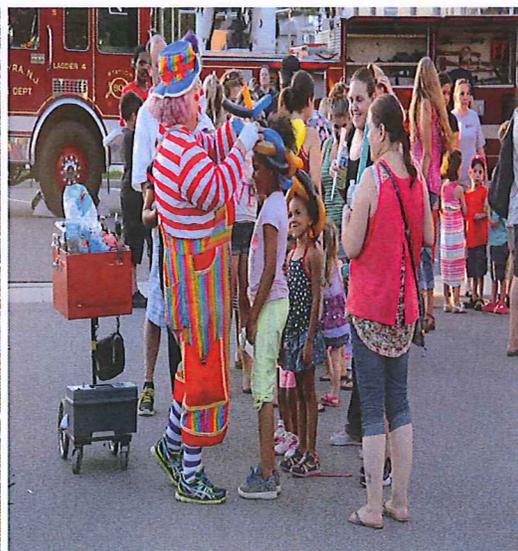
Each year we work to increase our community policing efforts. This year we added Coffee with a Cop and Pizza with the Police. At both events our officers were assisted by local businesses that helped us by opening their doors to the public and allowed the officers the opportunity to meet residents to just say hello and field questions from those that came to meet us. We will be continuing with our efforts to meet the public in 2016.



NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

Our first National Night Out was a huge success!! We want to thank everyone that helped to make it a great night! The turnout far exceeded what our expectations were and we couldn't be happier! Sgt. Leusner and Lt. Campbell worked with the Borough's Public Events Committee to help us with our first Annual National Night Out. Those that attended were able to meet and greet members of the Police and Fire Departments, Palmyra EMS and NJ Transit Police Officers.

Officers provided tours of Police Headquarters and numerous pieces of equipment were on display. Music was provided by local band Friends, food was provided by Simonetti's Pizza and Smokin' J's BBQ, Beep Beep the Clown and a moon bounce were on hand for the younger people. It was a great night and we are already planning for 2016.



2015 NOTEABLE CASES

On 1/28/2015 at approximately 3:52pm, a lone subject entered the Santander Bank located at 23 E. Broad Street in Palmyra and handed the teller a note demanding money. There were no weapons displayed or any words spoken by the suspect. The teller gave the male a handful of money and the suspect left the bank without further incident. The male appears to be a light skinned black or Hispanic male and he was wearing a black knit hat with a small brim, black coat, blue jeans, and white sneakers. If anyone has any information that might assist with this investigation, please contact Palmyra Police Department at 856-829-0191 or 856-829-0198. This case still is an active investigation.

On 2/01/2015 at approximately 0306 am, a Palmyra Police Officer conducted a motor vehicle stop on a green Honda Accord for an equipment violation while traveling on route 73 north. As the officer was speaking to the driver about her broken tail light, he could smell an odor of alcoholic beverage coming from the interior of the vehicle. The driver was asked to perform a series of field sobriety tests, which she ultimately could not complete successfully. After being placed into custody, officers found her to be in possession of four glass vials of suspected cocaine and four wax folds of suspected heroin, along with a hypodermic syringe.

Kelly Kassa, 21 years old from Delanco, was charged with driving under the influence, possession of heroin, possession of cocaine, and possession of a hypodermic needle. Two of the charges were placed on a warrant with bail set at \$2,500 allowing for a release on her own recognizance. The third criminal charge was placed on a complaint summons and Kassa was also issued several motor vehicle summonses. She was later released to a third party, pending court.

On 2/18/2015 at approximately 3pm Palmyra Police Officers conducted a pedestrian stop on a white male that had been yelling on his cell phone while waiting out in front of the police station. The male was attempting to scam a family friend into giving him money to satisfy fictitious debts that he owed. The family friend had come in to the station to look into the matter which is when the male became agitated. Officers learned that the male had an outstanding traffic warrant out of Moorestown Court in the amount of \$250 full. Once in police custody, the male was found to be in possession of drug paraphernalia and a hypodermic needle. He also had in his possession a false court document that he admittedly signed as if he were a court administrator of Palmyra Court.

Matthew Bitzer, 25 years old from Delran, was charged with possession of drug paraphernalia, possession of a hypodermic syringe and forgery. The two drug charges were placed on a summons and the forgery charge was placed on a warrant with a \$2,500 bail with the condition to release Bitzer on his own recognizance, pending court. Moorestown Court also released Bitzer on his own recognizance with regards to their warrant.

On 2/19/2015 at approximately 8:30 pm, a Palmyra Police Officer received an alert from the Automated License Plate Reader in his patrol car that he had just passed a stolen motor vehicle that was parked in the driveway of a residence on Delaware Avenue. As the officer was pulling around to check on the 2000 Volkswagen Passat and verify its status, a male had been seen coming out of the residence where the vehicle was parked. The male observed the officers and quickly began walking away from the area. The male was stopped and found to have an outstanding warrant for his arrest. He was taken into custody by police on location. Other officers who were still investigating the stolen vehicle were able to speak with the victim and learn that there was a suspect name of David Bellamy associated with the theft. Further investigation confirmed that the male that was taken into custody on the warrant was in deed the same male that had stolen the Volkswagen.

David Bellamy, 52 years old from Palmyra, was charged with receiving stolen property. Bail was set at \$2,500 full, which Bellamy was unable to post so he was lodged in Burlington County Jail, pending court.

On 3/01/2015 at approximately 9:55am, a Palmyra Police Officer received a hit notification on his Automated License Plate Reader (ALPR) indicating that the registered owner of a vehicle had a suspended driver's license. The officer could not see whether the driver of the vehicle was male or female due to the person wearing a hooded sweatshirt pulled up over their head. The officer conducted a motor vehicle stop in order to investigate whether or not the registered owner was in fact driving the vehicle. As the officer was speaking with the driver and passenger he learned that the driver was not the registered owner, however, there was a very strong odor of marijuana coming from the inside of the vehicle. When asked about the odor, the female handed over a plastic shopping bag which contained suspected marijuana. The female was taken into custody and transported to the station. The officer was able to weigh the large amount of marijuana and found that it was over 50 grams.

Asia Miranda, 41 yrs. old from Pennsylvania, was charged with possession of marijuana over 50 grams. The charge was placed on a summons and Miranda was released from custody after processing and pending court.

On 3/23/2015 at approximately 6:50 pm, a Palmyra Police Officer was patrolling the area of West 6th Street and Race Street when he as approached by a 16 year old male bleeding from the mouth. The officer inquired as to what had happened to the juvenile and learned that he had been struck in the face two times by a white male that was seen running down 6th Street towards Vine Street. The suspect had also demanded that the juvenile empty his pockets, which he had refused to do. The male suspect was identified by police while on location. The autistic juvenile victim responded to the police station with a parent in order to sign complaints against the suspect. The juvenile sustained a cut lip from the assault and refused further medical treatment at the time of the incident.

Brandon Hughes, 19 years old from Palmyra was arrested and charged with criminal attempt robbery and simple assault. Bail was set at \$22,500 full, which Hughes was unable to post. After processing, Hughes was transported and lodged in Burlington County Jail, pending a court appearance.

On 3/31/2015 at approximately 11:02pm, while Palmyra Officers were looking for the source of a noise complaint in the area of West Sixth and Arch Street, they observed a large group in the area of West Sixth and Race Street that had formed. The group was yelling at a black male subject and advised police upon their arrival that the male had just robbed their friend that lived in the area. Police were able to speak with the victim, who advised that he had been walking home from a friend's house at approximately 10:00 pm when he was approached by two black males in the area of West Sixth Street and Arch Street. The victim advised that the males had asked if he wanted to buy marijuana from them and when the victim denied their request, they grabbed a hold of him and went through his pockets. The suspects were able to get a small amount of cash that he had on him and then they took off running from the area. Through a thorough investigation by police two suspects were identified and charged accordingly. The victim was not hurt as a result of the incident.

Lloyd Howard, 43 years old from Palmyra, and Kenneth Deshields, 30 years old from Oaklyn, were both charged with robbery by force and theft. Bail was set at \$12,500 full for both subjects. Howard had already been arrested on the night of 3/31/2015 for unlawful possession of a weapon and certain persons not to have weapons for an incident which occurred just prior to police investigating the robbery. Howard remains in Burlington County Jail, pending court. Deshields was arrested on 4/6/2015 at approximately 8:00pm by New Jersey Transit Police. Deshields was turned over to Palmyra Police Department, where he was then transported to Burlington County Jail, in lieu of posting the required bail needed for release.

On 4/3/2015 at approximately 11:56pm, Palmyra Police were dispatched to the area of Vine Street for the report of gun shots being fired. Upon arrival officers learned that a black male had gotten into a verbal argument with a female that had been on location. The male, who had been angry with the female, pointed a firearm at the female and then left the area in a black Ford Taurus. The vehicle then returned to the area of Vine Street a few moments later and fired two shots onto Vine Street from West Fifth Street and in the direction of a crowd of individuals. No one was injured during the incident because the suspect had used blank rounds of ammunition. The suspect then fled the area in his vehicle. Through a thorough investigation and interviews of the female victim and witnesses, police learned the identity of the suspect and charged him accordingly.

Sylvester L. Davis, 20 years old from Edgewater Park, NJ, was charged with aggravated assault with a weapon, possession of a weapon for unlawful purpose and unlawful possession of a weapon. Bail was set at \$10,000 full. Davis was arrested on 4/5/2015 at approximately 8:00pm with the assistance of Edgewater Park Police. Davis' vehicle was impounded and Palmyra Police were able to secure for a search warrant for his vehicle and residence. Davis was able to bond out of police custody and was released after processing.

On 5/8/2015 at approximately 10:27am, a Palmyra Police Officer conducted a pedestrian stop of a white female that had failed to use the designated cross walk while crossing Broad Street. The female provided the officer with proper identification. She was then checked for outstanding warrants and found to have one outstanding warrant out of Burlington Township court in the amount of \$164.00 full. After being taken into custody on the outstanding warrant, the female was found to be in possession of eleven (11) wax folds of suspected heroin.

Jackelyn Gallelli, 31 years old from Camden, NJ, was charged with possession of a controlled dangerous substance (Heroin). The charge was placed on a warrant and bail

was set at \$2,500 full. Gallelli was unable to post the necessary bail needed for release and she was ultimately lodged in Burlington County Jail, Minimum Security, pending court.

On 5/8/2015 at approximately 7:11pm, Palmyra Police were dispatched to the area of Legion Field for a theft complaint. Upon arrival, units were advised by an 8 year old victim, that she had been forcefully pushed off of her scooter. The suspect then taunted her with it before leaving the area on the scooter. The juvenile victim was not injured during the altercation. Upon further investigation by police, they learned the identity of the 19 year old suspect. They also learned that another male juvenile, who had been with the suspect, was seen riding around on the scooter which he knew had been stolen from the young girl. Police were able to locate the suspect and charged him accordingly. The scooter was also located and returned to the young girl.

Markguese Johnson, 19 years old from Palmyra, was arrested and charged with robbery and theft. The charges were placed on a warrant and bail was set at \$5,000/ROR. Johnson was later released after processing, pending court. The other juvenile suspect who had been riding around on the victim's scooter was also charged with receiving stolen property. The charge was placed on a juvenile complaint and forwarded to Burlington County Juvenile Court. The juvenile suspect was released to the custody of his parent, pending court.

Palmyra Police that were working a security detail at the Palmyra Flea Market were advised that a female had been observed passing counterfeit money to several different vendors on 5/24/2015 at about 9:35am. A short time after the officers were advised of the illegal activity, the female was located at a vendors table. Officers pulled the female aside and began a conversation with her about the counterfeit money. She willingly handed over her wallet which contained one \$100 and two \$10 counterfeit bills. The female was taken into custody and transported to the station for processing.

Elijah Smith, 22 years old from Philadelphia, PA, was charged with forgery and criminal simulation. Both indictable charges were placed on a summons. After processing, Smith was released from custody, pending court.

On 7/14/2015 at 8:44pm, Palmyra Police got out with a male subject that was smoking a cigar on the Palmyra Light Rail Platform, an area that is clearly posted as a no smoking zone. Officers were advised by the male of his date of birth and that his name was Kenny Smith. Central dispatch was unable to locate anyone by the name and date of birth that was given. The male admitted to police that he had given a false name because he thought he had warrants for his arrest. The male eventually advised police that his real name was Keary Jones and gave his correct date of birth. Jones was placed under arrest for giving false information to police and for smoking in a prohibited area. Jones also had a backpack with him when he was arrested. Once back at the station, the items within the backpack were inventoried as part of the arrest. Inside the backpack, officers located a loaded black Hi-Point 9MM handgun.

Keary T. Jones, 22 years old from Camden, NJ, was charged with unlawful possession of a handgun, possession of a handgun for an unlawful purpose, certain persons not to possess weapons, hindering apprehension, and smoking in public. Bail was set at \$32,500 full by the Palmyra Municipal Court Judge. Jones was unable to post the required bail needed for release and he was lodged in Burlington County Jail, pending court.

The Palmyra Police Department investigated a burglary that occurred on 10/27/2015 at a residence on West Broad Street. Evidence obtained at the scene of the crime assisted detectives with the investigation and with determining who the primary suspect was in this incident. A warrant was generated for the suspect charging him with burglary and theft and bail was set at \$5,000. On 11/09/2015 at approximately 10:27 pm, Kenneth L. Deshields, 31 years old of Palmyra, was arrested for the burglary and theft. He was taken into custody and processed on the complaint. He was later released pending an upcoming court appearance.

On 11/01/2015 at approximately 12:23am, a Palmyra Police Officer was conducting a business check of the Wawa Convenience store located at 600 Cinnaminson Avenue in Palmyra, when he observed a male sitting in a vehicle who appeared to be smoking marijuana. The officer approached the vehicle and observed there to be two males inside of the vehicle, one adult driver and a juvenile passenger. When asked if they had been smoking marijuana, the driver of the vehicle advised that he had been. He then handed over the small marijuana cigar shaped object. The driver then advised the officer that he also had more marijuana under the drivers seat of the vehicle. The officer retrieved twenty seven (27) baggies of suspected marijuana from under the seat. Also located within the vehicle was a marijuana grinder and smoking pipe.

Javon Marson-Francis, 22 years old from Pennsauken, NJ, was arrested and charged with possession with intent to distribute marijuana, possession of marijuana, and possession of drug paraphernalia. All charges were placed on a summons and Marson-Francis was released from custody after processing. The juvenile was turned over to a relative without being charged.

On 11/23/2015 at approximately 1:30 pm, Palmyra Police was dispatched to the Wawa at 600 Cinnaminson Avenue, for a shoplifting call. A description of the suspect was given by dispatch as arriving officers began searching the area for the male who had fled on foot towards Leconey Avenue. One officer went in to the Wawa to check their surveillance footage when he learned that the suspect had actually assaulted the Wawa employee while fleeing from the store with approximately 16 Red Bull beverages. The suspect had committed a robbery by the use of physical force while committing the shoplifting. The suspect was quickly located in the alley way behind Manny's Pizza on West Broad Street. His identification was confirmed by police and the suspect was arrested. The stolen items were returned to Wawa.

Brian Ulrich, 38 years old from Cape May Court House, NJ, was charged with robbery, shoplifting, and assault. Bail was set at \$30,000 full, which Ulrich was unable to post. He was transported to Burlington County Jail, pending court.

On 11/28/2015 at approximately 10:09am, a Palmyra Police Officer that was working a side detail at the Palmyra Flea Market was approached by an employee of the flea market and advised that two males had just attempted to pass a counterfeit twenty dollar bill as payment to a vendor. Detailed descriptions were given of the two males and officers on scene were able to locate the two suspects relatively quick. The suspects willingly pulled out their cash to show officers. One subject was found to be in possession of more counterfeit twenty dollar bills, which he was attempting to put back into his pocket before officers noticed, but he did not succeed. One male was also seen wearing a large folding knife on his belt and stated that he used the knife for protection. The two males were checked for outstanding warrants, one male had three outstanding warrants and was taken into custody. The other male was also arrested due to being in

possession of the counterfeit money. Once under arrest, that same male was found to be in possession of an additional sixteen counterfeit twenty dollar bills. Through further investigation by officers, a search of the suspects van was conducted and revealed a small plastic bag of suspected marijuana.

David Linen Jr., 28 years old from Newark, Delaware, was arrested and charged with unlawful possession of a weapon and certain persons not to possession a weapon. Bail was set at \$5,000 full for these charges. He also had the three outstanding warrants for his arrest- two from Willingboro court and the third from Bedminster court, totaling \$2,079 full.

Anshawn Griffin, 22 years old from Newark, Delaware, was charged with forgery, criminal simulation, possession of marijuana under 50 grams. Bail was set at \$10,000 full for the charges.

Neither male could post the required amount of bail needed for release. They were both transported and committed to Burlington County Jail in lieu of bail, pending court.

Palmyra Police Department responded to the Fresh Farm Market at approximately 6:40 am on this date, December 9, 2015 for a report that the clerk was just robbed. The suspect was wearing all black colored clothing. The suspect was also wearing a hood and face mask which covered their identity. The suspect left the area on foot. We are asking for the public's assistance in identifying the suspect. If anyone has any information pertaining to this case, please call Palmyra Police Department at 856-829-0191. This case still is an active investigation.

2015 GRANTS AWARDED

In 2015 the Palmyra Police Department received the following grants:

Click It or Ticket	\$ 4000.00
Drive Sober Get Pulled Over – End of Year DWI Grant	\$ 5000.00
Federal Vest Replacement Fund	\$ 1151.13
NJ State Vest Replacement Fund	\$ 1931.30
Drunk Driving Enforcement Fund	\$ 1826.07
Attorney General Taser Assistance	\$ 7525.67
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Total Grant Money Provided in 2014	\$21,433.00

2015 CAPITAL EQUIPMENT IMPROVEMENTS

Capital improvement funded in 2015 was the addition of a 2016 Ford Police Interceptor All Wheel Drive to our fleet. This vehicle replaced a 2003 Expedition with over 100,000 miles which had served our department well.

Also funded was a weapons changeover which allowed us to trade in our older Smith Wesson M&P handguns for new versions of the same weapon. Funded and approved but not yet purchased are computer server upgrades and body worn cameras for each of our officers. As of the preparation of this report the department was testing body worn cameras from numerous manufacturers so that we make the best purchase possible. We also received an \$8500.00 assistance grant to offset the purchase of our body worn cameras.

Last the department was provided capital funds to replace our current scheduling system with web base system. This system will help us to better handle scheduling of officers not only for their daily assignments but the large amount of required training.

2015 YEARLY ACTIVITY REPORT

MILES OF PATROL	79,330
CALLS FOR POLICE SERVICE	19,777
CRIMINAL CASES ASSIGNED	1029
CRIMINAL COMPLAINTS ISSUED	301
DISORDERLY PERSON OFFENSES	271
INDICTABLE OFFENSES	113
ADULT ARRESTS	584
JUVENILE ARRESTS	33
DRUNK DRIVING ARRESTS	37
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE CASES	123
WARRANT SERVICES	690
MOTOR VEHICLE STOPS	2814
TRAFFIC SUMMONSES	2412
TRAFFIC WARNINGS	1583
BOROUGH ORDINANCES	101
BURGLARIES	26
ROBBERIES	7
THEFTS	128
MOTOR VEHICLE THEFTS	2
CRIMINAL MISCHIEF REPORTS	72
TOTAL VALUE STOLEN PROPERTY	\$81,239.00
TOTAL VAULE RECOVERED PROPERTY	\$17,841.00

2016 INITIATIVES

Entering 2016 the department is currently staffed at seventeen fulltime sworn officers, this is a number we have not seen since early 2006. Working with a full staff we are hoping to move forward with initiatives that we have talked about, but have not been able to get started due to manpower issues.

Over the last three (3) years a goal of the department was the forming of a Citizens Police Academy. Unfortunately the lack of man power shortages during these years and the increase in activity we were involved in made this not possible. This year we are moving forward full steam with this project. Dates are set for our Citizen Police Academy which will be held on Tuesday Nights tentatively from 7pm to 10pm, starting on September 20th and graduating on November 8th.

Last year we successfully completed our first Seniors Police Academy with the assistance of the Palmyra Seniors Program. Our 2nd Seniors Police Academy will be held on Thursdays from 10am to noon starting on March 10th. The Seniors Academy is open to all members of the Palmyra Seniors Program and seniors from the Palmyra, Cinnaminson, and Riverton area.

We will also hold our third Junior Police Academy which was offered to students in the 7th and 8th grades. Our hope is to expand the Academy to students in older grades and will be hopefully starting the Palmyra Police Explorers Post. Patrolman Scott Snow has been working to put the program together and members of the department have volunteered to help run the program. We will be looking for Explorer Scouts in the spring.

In 2015 we participated in National Night Out and this was a huge success. This night provided our residents with a venue to meet officers and tour police hq's. We are hoping to repeat the success with our second National Night Out to be held on Tuesday August 2nd.

As stated in the opening we will again be working with the Becker Family of Philadelphia on a trip for under privileged children to attend a Phillies Game. This has turned into a great night enjoyed by all that attend.

We will also continue our "Drive Slowly We ❤️ Our Children" Campaign. The Police Department is still offering yard signs to residents at a nominal fee. We are hoping to increase driver awareness and have signs placed throughout the town.

Last year we held our first town hall meeting in which we learned a lot of information from the residents that attended to help us work towards providing the best customer service possible. We are hoping to put together a Citizens Advisory Panel of approximately 10 to 12 residents to discuss policing within the Borough of Palmyra.

Our goal is to continue to increase our interactions with residents. We are hoping to continue to hold informal meetings such as coffee with a cop and pizza with police. We will be continuing our foot patrols in the different neighborhoods of town and in the business district. New this year we are hoping to have a cook out with the cops at Ethel B. Hardy Park. We are planning this event for spring or early summer.

As always we will strive to work with our neighboring police departments and other police departments throughout the county to help keep Palmyra as safe as possible.

On behalf of the Palmyra Police Department I would like to thank Mayor and Council along with the residents of Palmyra for their continued support. It is impossible for the department to function as well as we do without the help of everyone in the community.



Scott Pearlman
Chief of Police

