

PALMYRA POLICE DEPARTMENT 2014 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 2014, our department unfortunately worked at a deficit of officers due to work and non-work related illnesses. Our officers, however, strived to provide the highest quality of service to our residents and worked to provide as safe of a town as possible.

Throughout 2014 our officers remained as proactive as possible and as the year ended we saw a significant drop in our burglaries and robberies. For the first time in eight (8) years we had less than thirty (30) burglaries. Also for the first time in many years we reported no robberies. We hope to remain proactive and visible throughout 2015 in an effort to keep these numbers down this year.

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. Towards 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 people involved in an accident to receive a copy of the report without coming into the department. Reports may be retrieved from anywhere that someone has computer access. Throughout 2014 we saw 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 second 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. The Police Department worked with Mayor and Borough Council and the Palmyra Board of Education to bring this trip together for a second year. On April 16, 2014, two (2) Palmyra School Buses left the Palmyra Community Center for Citizens Bank Park. It was an extremely cold night but it was an excellent night by all who attended. The Becker's have already begun to work with us to plan 2015'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. We have begun to plan 2015's academy.

We look forward to serving the community and providing services with 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.

Scott Pearlman
Chief of Police

PERSONNEL

The department started 2014 year with sixteen (16) fulltime sworn officers and two (2) Class II Special Officers. Unfortunately this was short lived, with work and non-work related medical issues leaving us shorthanded through most of the year. A bigger blow was felt in April 2014 with PtIm. Dominic Fabrizio leaving the department to join the Galloway Twp. Police Department. Having grown up in Galloway Twp., Dominic had a strong desire to become a part of their department. A loss for Palmyra and we wish Dominic nothing but success in his career.

To fill the position vacated by PtIm. Fabrizio the department reviewed our two (2) Special Officers and in June of 2014 appointed Special Officer Tyler Main to Patrolman. Tyler's appointment brought our strength back to sixteen (16) officers. This appointment helped as we remained shorthanded through the end of the year due to medical issues.

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. We are hoping to have this position filled sometime in the beginning of 2015.

CURRENT DEPARTMENT PERSONNEL

Chief Scott Pearlman
Lieutenant Meghan Campbell

First Sergeant Joseph Osinski
Sergeant Josiah Murphy
Sergeant Timothy Leusner

Detective Shawn Benedict
Detective Brian Johnson

Secretary Gerry Bright

Patrolman Michael Ludlow
Patrolman Robert Brown
Patrolman Omar Kendall
Patrolman Alex Alven
Patrolman Stephen Coveleski
Patrolman Scott Snow
Patrolman Arek Arargil
Patrolman Jeremy Jankowski
Patrolman Tyler Main

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 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	Howard Dreby
Sara Ercolono	Joseph Dulisse
Michele Gentile	William Johnson
Michael Gilbert	Maricka MacMurray
Anne Golden	Cindy Palmer
Winifred Koch	
Richard Mood	
Jennifer O’Connell	
Barbara Zeyher	

CROSSING GUARD RETIREMENTS

Elsie Hoffman 2014

INJURIES AND ACCIDENTS

In 2014 the police department maintained an excellent record for work related injuries with only one (1) work related injury. 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. Unfortunately this one injury resulted in 64 days of work either missed or on light duty.

In 2014 the department logged 88,318.96 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. In 2014 officers were involved in nine (9) motor vehicle crashes. Of these crashes there were no injuries reported to our officers or any other drivers. Two (2) of the crashes are attributed to weather and two (2) were related to other vehicles striking our patrol cars. One accident involved an animal running in front of our patrol vehicle leaving the officer no options and three (3) crashes were minor in nature but were the fault of our officers. All crashes involving our officers are investigated by the department's Internal Affairs Unit and in three (3) of the crashes the officers were disciplined in accordance with department Rules and Regulations.

CRIMINAL ACTIVITY

CRIMINAL CASES ASSIGNED

The figures below represent the number of criminal cases completed through the year. Criminal cases for 2014 were only slightly lower from the previous year. During 2014 we saw a large decrease in burglaries and robberies. This decrease is the lowest numbers in these two (2) areas in over eight (8) years.

	2011	2012	2013	2014
TOTAL CRIMINAL CASES	1063	891	1165	1150

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.

	2011	2012	2013	2014
ADULT ARRESTS	597	420	618	725

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.

	2011	2012	2013	2014
JUVENILE ARRESTS	27	13	37	35

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 2014 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; however, we continued to see an increase in the number of Disorderly Persons Offenses filed in Municipal Court.

	2011	2012	2013	2014
Criminal Complaints Filed	285	214	352	326
Disorderly Persons Offense	233	174	284	311
Indictable Offenses	158	111	182	136

MOTOR VEHICLE AND BOROUGH ORDINANCE VIOLATIONS

In addition to criminal filings officers are consistently enforcing motor vehicle laws and local Borough ordinances. In addition to the department's increase in criminal filings this year also showed an increase in the number of motor vehicle summonses issued.

	2011	2012	2013	2014
Motor Vehicle Summonses	2078	2453	2715	2862
Borough Ordinances	206	151	174	108

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.



DWI AND TRAFFIC ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION

Enforcement of State and Local traffic laws along with the investigation of motor vehicle collisions are the direct responsibility of the department's patrol division. When officers are not tied up with criminal investigations, they are required to perform radar and problem specific details. Among these details is the proactive patrol for intoxicated drivers.

Patrol officers are also responsible for the investigation of all motor vehicle accidents within the Borough.

	2011	2012	2013	2014
DWI Arrest	35	39	19	27
Motor Vehicle Accidents	184	196	191	155

PATROL DIVISION

The Patrol Division is the largest unit with the Police Department and provides for the core function of the Police Department. The primary function of officers assigned to the patrol division is to respond to calls for service from borough residents. These calls range from neighbor disputes, domestic violence incidents and burglaries in progress to motor vehicle accidents and medical assistance calls.

As the first officers arrive at calls they are responsible to provide medical attention, protect and recover evidence, interview witnesses and ascertain if criminal activity has occurred. If a crime has occurred they are tasked with identifying those involved and ultimately arresting those responsible. These calls can require a large amount of time allocated to report writing and case preparation.

When patrol officers are not handling calls for service they are tasked with multiple responsibilities. Officers are required to provide proactive patrol so as to suppress crime, enforce traffic laws, conduct residential and commercial property checks and interact with borough residents.

The appropriate strength of the patrol division is twelve (12) officers. Due to recent retirements we remained shorthanded with ten (10) officers assigned to patrol until April with the addition of an officer. An additional position was backfilled in November bringing the patrol division back to twelve (12) officers. These officers work twelve hour shifts, rotating from day work to night work. Current staffing allows for an officer to work a mid day power shift to help supplement patrols. Unfortunately this officer is frequently moved to cover shift shortages for training, vacations and illnesses.

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 for the bike unit and with the assistance of the Mount Holly Police Department, four of our newest officers have been trained as bike officers. Patrolman Stephen Coveleski, 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. By the end of 2014 our officers had to administer Narcan four (4) times, saving the lives of four (4) 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.

	2011	2012	2013	2014
Calls for service	12,107	15,703	20,318	19,365

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			
	2011	2012	2013	2014
911 Misdial	168	125	107	73
Alarm – Burglary/Holdup/Fire	364	385	416	366
Emergency Medical Assist	545	644	682	663
Fire Company Assist	143	129	153	132
Domestic Disputes	126	117	197	118
Robbery	10	5	12	0
Burglary	36	44	47	26
Property Checks	1628	3201	4676	3610
Suspicious Person/Vehicle	305	388	468	338
Motor Vehicle Stops		2674	3293	3458

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. Detectives also investigate all applications for the transfer of all Alcohol Beverage Control permits issued within 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 seventeen (17) 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 forty one (141) cases were assigned to the detective bureau in 2014.

	2011	2012	2013	2014
Cases Assigned	86	100	154	141
Submissions to County Forensics Sciences Lab	49	28	61	87

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 sixteen (16) individuals residing in Palmyra who are required to register under Megan's Law.

Seven (7) registrants are tier I

Nine (9) registrants are tier II

Six (6) individuals are required to register every ninety (90) days and fourteen (14) 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 2014 the detective bureau processed forty-five (45) firearms applications, issued forty-three (43) permits to purchase handguns and issued eighteen (18) firearms identification cards. This is significantly lower than the last two (2) years.

	2011	2012	2013	2014
Firearms Applications	32	55	65	45
Permits to Purchase	45	84	74	43
Identification Cards	20	38	38	18

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 2014 there were a total of nineteen (19) Internal Affairs Investigations. The investigations were related to complaints of policy violations, differential treatment, demeanor and motor vehicle accidents. Seven (7) complaints were sustained, seven (7) were exonerated, two (2) were unfounded and two (2) were not sustained. One (1) investigation has been carried into 2014. Of those complaints that were sustained penalties ranged from written reprimands to the loss of time.

Three (3) investigations were carried over from 2013. Two (2) of those complaints were sustained and one (1) exonerated. One of these complaints resulted in major discipline with the loss of time and grade. The other complaint resulted in a written reprimand.

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 28th thru August 1st 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 April 16th with the help of the Becker Family of Bucks County, PA and the Palmyra Board of Education, Palmyra Police Officers escorted twenty-one (21) 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 Becker's enjoyed the trip so much that they asked that the trip continues into future years. In 2014 the Becker's supplied the tickets for the game, the Palmyra Board of Education provided two (2) buses for transportation and the Police Department supplied food and escorts. The Becker Family along with Chief Scott Pearlman, Sgt. Tim Leusner, Ptlm. Stephen Coveleski, Scott Snow, Arek Arargil and Special Officer Ryan Carr accompanied everyone to Citizens Bank Park. It was an extremely cold night, but fun was had by all.



2014 TORCH RUN

For the second 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 May 30th Sergeants Tim Leusner and Josiah Murphy, Patrolman Alex Alven, Scott Snow, Arek Arargil, Jerme Jankowski, SLEO II Ryan Carr, Tyler Main, Jeffrey Parente, Alex Hubel and Brian Rust along with Ptlm. Snow's dog, Rue, and officers from surrounding towns participated in the Run.

The annual event is run by members of the law enforcement community in support of Special Olympics. For the last two (2) years Palmyra Officers have worked to support the run. This year they donated over \$2000.00 from donations from local supporters. One of 2014's largest local contributing donator was F.C. Kerbecks along with those that supported the dunk tank on Palmyra Day.



TORCH RUN FINAL LEG

On Thursday, June 12th the Borough of Palmyra had the honor of hosting a stop for the Final Leg of the Special Olympics Law Enforcement Torch Run. The Final Leg is made up of Law Enforcement Officers from throughout the Country and Special Olympic Athletes as they carry the Olympic Torch to the US Games. In 2014 the US Games were held in New Jersey.

As a stop on the Final Leg, a brief ceremony was held at the Palmyra Band Shell. The ceremony included opening remarks by Palmyra Police Chief Scott Pearlman and Mayor Karen Scheffler. Steve Nagrelli of the New York State Police, a participant in the Torch Run, explained what the Final Leg was and who the runners were that were participating in the Final Leg.

Palmyra residents were further touched by the words spoken by Special Olympics Athlete Antonio Bowe of Delaware and Commander Dave Shipley of the Adams County Colorado Sheriff's Department. The run also included Special Olympics Athlete Lewis Rancher of Wyoming and Law Enforcement Officers from across the Country.



2014 NOTEABLE CASES

On February 24, 2014 at 3:07pm a Palmyra police officer stopped two subjects that were walking in the middle of a roadway. The pair had also been seen on the grass area near the railroad tracks, which is considered private property with New Jersey Transit. One of the males had an outstanding criminal warrant from Camden City Municipal court in the amount of \$250.00 full. Once in custody on the warrant, the male was found to be in possession of fifteen (15) wax folds of heroin.

James Deatore, 33 years old from Beverly, NJ, was arrested and charged with possession of a controlled dangerous substance (heroin). Bail was set at \$2,500 full, which Deatore was unable to post. He was lodged in Burlington County Jail, pending court.

On February 26, 2014 a Palmyra Police officer conducted a motor vehicle stop for speeding on Route 73 near Souder Street. The driver's credentials were checked and the officer learned that the female driver was a fugitive from justice out of Pennsylvania for receiving stolen property. She also had four outstanding warrants out of Mt. Laurel court which totaled \$3,289 full. Sherrelle Alston, 42 years old from Philadelphia, PA, was arrested and charged with being a fugitive from justice. Bail was set by a superior court judge in the amount of \$5,000 full. Alston was unable to post the bail and was lodged in Burlington County Jail, pending court.

On March 2, 2014 Officers from the Palmyra Police Department along with a representative from the Recording Industry Association of America conducted an investigation into a vendor at the Palmyra Flea Market that was reportedly selling counterfeit CD's. Upon completion of the investigation, it was determined that the CD's on sale by the vendor were in fact counterfeit. Police seized over 2,500 CD's and a little over \$100 in cash for evidence.

Abdrahmane Sy, 51 years old from Philadelphia, PA, was arrested and charged with Uttering Writing Known to be Forged, Counterfeiting, and for violating the New Jersey Anti-Piracy Act. All three indictable offenses were placed on a warrant and bail was set at \$15,000 full. Sy was also found to be a Fugitive from Justice out of Virginia for a Counterfeiting offense. A separate warrant was completed for this offense and bail was set at \$25,000 full by a Superior Court Judge. Sy was unable to post the required bail and was lodged in Burlington County Jail, pending court.

On April 2, 2014 Palmyra Officers were dispatched to a residence on West Sixth Street for a weapons call. The female victims on location had advised police that they had been hanging out with friends and had gotten into a verbal argument with a male that was on location. During the argument, the male had pulled out a handgun and pointed it at the two females in a threatening manner. He then pointed the gun at a vehicle parked out front of the residence and threatened to shoot at it. Inside of the vehicle was one of the victim's juvenile son. With the help of the victims and investigation by police, they were able to identify the male.

James Hinson, 37 years old from Camden, was charged with two counts of aggravated assault by way of pointing a firearm at the two females and two counts of terroristic threats. Bail was set at \$90,000 full on 4/3/2014 but Hinson's whereabouts were unknown at the time of issuance. Hinson was ultimately arrested by Cherry Hill Police Department and turned over to Palmyra Police Department for processing on 4/11/2014. Hinson was unable to post the required bail needed and was lodged in Burlington County Jail, pending court.

On April 30, 2014 A Palmyra Officer stopped a subject for improperly crossing of Broad Street. The subject Eric M. Sloane, 27 years old from Cinnaminson was found to have three (3) outstanding warrants, one (1) warrant from Beverly City and two (2) warrants from Burlington Twp. Mr. Sloane was taken into custody on the warrants and transported to Palmyra Police Hq's. While being processed Mr. Sloane was found to have in his possession a baggie containing thirty (30) smaller packets of a white substance believed to be cocaine. Mr. Sloane was charged with Possession of CDS, Possession of CDS with the intent to Distribute and Possession of CDS within a School Zone. Unable to post the required bail Mr. Sloane was lodged in Burlington County Jail.

On May 25, 2014 Palmyra Police Officers, who were working a security detail at the Palmyra Flea Market, observed a vendor on location selling counterfeit Nike sneakers. The officers had previous knowledge of this same vendor selling counterfeit items in the past. They began to investigate the matter further, since the flea market has a strict policy that the vendors are not to sell counterfeit items. The vendor in question had in his possession 274 pairs of counterfeit Nike sneakers, which were seized for evidence. Also seized were 21 vendor permits and the van used to transport the items to the flea market.

Sami Alaoule, 57 years old and Fadi Alaouie, 30 years old, both of Brooklyn, NY were arrested and charged with counterfeiting more than 100 items, forgery and criminal simulation. All charges were placed on summonses and both males were released from custody after processing, pending court.

On May 28, 2014 Palmyra Police responded to the light rail platform for suspicious persons call. They were advised that a black male was on the platform soliciting people for money. When officers arrived, they observed only one male on the platform and he fit the description given by the caller. While officers were investigating the matter further, they were advised that the male had two outstanding warrants for his arrest which totaled \$8,100.04, full (Glassboro and Camden courts). The male was taken into custody for the outstanding warrants. Once searched, the male was found to be in possession of 18 counterfeit twenty dollar bills and 23 small baggies of suspected heroin.

Eric R. West, 43 years old from Palmyra, NJ, was charged with possession of heroin and possession with intent to distribute heroin. Bail was set at \$10,000 full on the two charges. The Secret Service was contacted with regards to the counterfeit money. West was unable to post the required bail needed for release and he was ultimately lodged in Burlington County Jail, pending court.

On June 7, 2014 while working a security detail at the Tacony Palmyra Flea Market, officers responded to the parking lot for a minor motor vehicle accident. While gathering all the information needed to take the report, officers were advised by central dispatch that one of the drivers involved in the crash was a wanted fugitive from justice out of Georgia for identity fraud and theft by deception. The male also had four outstanding warrants for his arrest in New Jersey from Mt. Laurel, West Deptford (x2) and Gloucester Township courts. Total bail for all outstanding warrants was \$31,800, full.

Ronald Golden, 38 years old from Philadelphia, PA, was arrested and charged with being a fugitive from justice. Bail was set by a superior court judge at \$7,500 full. Golden was unable to post the required bail needed for release and was ultimately lodged in Burlington County Jail, pending extradition to Georgia.

On June 27, 2014 a Palmyra Police Officer stopped a male subject on a bicycle for an equipment violation. As officers were speaking with the male, he began to blade his body in an aggressive manner towards police. He had also been holding his hand over his left pocket as if to conceal something. For officer safety purposes, the male was asked to pull both of his pants pockets inside out. The male eventually complied and pulled out a full box of cigarettes. When asked if there was anything else in his pocket, the male advised police that he had a second box of cigarettes. Once he pulled it out of his pocket, he advised police that it contained drugs and handed it over to the officers. the box contained 22 wax folds of suspected heroin. Once under arrest, officers also found 3 small cylinder containers of suspected marijuana in the pocket of the male.

Nicholas Cecala, 20 years old from Pennsauken, NJ, was arrested and charged with possession of heroin, possession with intent to distribute heroin, possession of more than 1/2 ounce and less than 5 ounces of heroin, and possession of marijuana under 50 grams. Bail was set at \$50,000/10%, but Cecala was unable to post the \$5,000 needed for release and he was lodged in Burlington County Jail, pending court.

On July 22, 2014 Palmyra Police were dispatched to a residence on Van Sant Drive for a possible burglary call. Officers quickly responded and got out with a Hispanic juvenile that was riding his bike in circles in the middle of the street. The juvenile was not being completely forthcoming with officers about why he was in the area and where he lived. As officers were dealing with the one juvenile they spotted another subject jump the fence of a neighboring yard and take off towards Temple Boulevard. A Palmyra Officer started to chase the subject advising him numerous times to stop. A perimeter was set up in the area by responding officers in order to assist in locating the subject that ran.

With the assistance of the K9 from the Burlington County Bridge Police, he was located a short time later hiding in a rear yard on Veterans Drive.

Both male juveniles, 15 years of age, were taken into custody and transported back to the station for processing. After a more thorough investigation, one juvenile was charged with criminal attempt burglary, conspiracy to commit burglary, three counts of resisting arrest and defiant trespass. The second juvenile was charged with conspiracy to commit burglary and criminal attempt burglary. Both juveniles are Pennsylvania residents and were released to a parent/guardian, pending juvenile court.

On August 15, 2014 Palmyra Police Officers responded to the area of East Fourth Street and Elm Avenue for a construction worker that had just been struck by a vehicle and was lying in the roadway. Upon arrival officers learned that a black Mercedes Benz had tried to drive on Elm Avenue as a construction crew was laying fresh asphalt. A worker on location stopped the driver of the Mercedes and attempted to tell him that he could not drive on the freshly paved roadway. The driver of the Mercedes completely disregarded the construction worker and forcibly accelerated his vehicle, striking the worker and causing him to roll up onto the hood of the Mercedes and land on the extremely hot asphalt. The driver then sped off onto Elm Avenue and parked in a driveway about a block away.

Some officers were dealing with the injured construction worker as other officers were attempting to speak with the male that had been driving the striking vehicle. The driver was completely uncooperative with police using profanities and would not give officers any information with regards to the investigation. They attempted to place the male under arrest but he began to resist officers by pulling away, swinging his arms, and spilling hot coffee onto one of the officers. He was quickly taken into custody by officers on scene. The construction worker was transported to a nearby hospital for treatment of the injuries sustained during this incident.

Dean Giannini, 57 years old from Riverton, NJ, was charged with aggravated assault with an automobile, knowingly leaving the scene of an accident where injury occurred, aggravated assault on police, obstruction of justice, and resisting arrest. Bail was set at \$10,000 full, which Giannini was unable to post at the time of arrest and he was lodged in Burlington County Jail, pending court.

On October 5, 2014 Palmyra Police Department responded to a residence on Maple Avenue for a burglary in progress. Responding units were able to quickly apprehend two subjects that were attempting to flee the residence. It was reported that a third subject was still inside the home and was possibly armed with a handgun. A perimeter was put into place with the assistance of outside agencies. A tactical entry unit from the New Jersey State Police was called in to assist with locating the third subject that was possibly inside the residence. They were able to safely secure the location and did not locate a third person.

The two subjects that were taken into custody are being charged accordingly. This matter is still under investigation at this time. Police canvased the area after this incident to assure neighboring residents that the area was safe and to see if there were any witnesses to the burglary.

2014 GRANTS AWARDED

In 2014 the Palmyra Police Department received the following grants:

Distracted Driver	\$ 5000.00
Click It or Ticket	\$ 4000.00
Drive Sober Get Pulled Over – End of Year DWI Grant	\$ 4400.00
Federal Vest Replacement Fund	\$ 1128.68
NJ State Vest Replacement Fund	\$ 1849.62
Drunk Driving Enforcement Fund	\$ 4885.51
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Total Grant Money Provided in 2014	\$21263.81

2014 CAPITAL EQUIPMENT IMPROVEMENTS

Capital improvements funded in 2014 were the addition of a 2014 Chevrolet Tahoe 4X4 to our fleet. This vehicle replaced a Ford Crown Victoria with over 100,000 miles and had served our department well.

Also replaced was the department's MPH Speed Sign which had been purchased in 2000. It provided years of good service to the borough which had taken a toll on it and was not operational when it was taken out of service. In the fourteen (14) years since our speed sign was placed in service technology has grown by leaps and bounds and our replacement is a Ver-Mac Variable Message Sign (VMS). Our sign can be used as a speed sign displaying the speed of approaching cars similar to our old sign but can also be used to display multiple messages. The VMS is preloaded with messages from Ver-Mac but can also be programmed with any customizable messages we may need.



2014 YEARLY ACTIVITY REPORT

MILES OF PATROL	88,318.96
CALLS FOR POLICE SERVICE	19,365
CRIMINAL CASES ASSIGNED	1150
CRIMINAL COMPLAINTS ISSUED	326
DISORDERLY PERSON OFFENSES	311
INDICTABLE OFFENSES	136
ADULT ARRESTS	725
JUVENILE ARRESTS	35
DRUNK DRIVING ARRESTS	27
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE CASES	132
WARRANT SERVICES	885
MOTOR VEHICLE STOPS	3458
TRAFFIC SUMMONSES	2862
TRAFFIC WARNINGS	1789
BOROUGH ORDINANCES	109
BURGLARIES	26
ROBBERIES	0
THEFTS	134
MOTOR VEHICLE THEFTS	10
CRIMINAL MISCHIEF REPORTS	98
TOTAL VALUE STOLEN PROPERTY	\$231,924.00
TOTAL VAULE RECOVERED PROPERTY	\$79,302.00

2015 INITIATIVES

As the department moves into 2015 a decision was made to eliminate the department's two (2) SLEO II Officers (part-time officers) and replace these two (2) positions with a full time officer. This decision was made based on the extended time it takes to train a new officer and the short retention of part-time officers. This new position will bring our staffing level to seventeen full-time officers; a level we have not seen since 2006. We are hoping to have this position filled by April of 2015.

Over the last two (2) years a goal of the department was the forming of a Citizens Police Academy. Unfortunately the lack of man power through both of these years and the increase in activity we were involved in made this not possible.

With our personnel moving in the right direction we are looking to offer more programs to bring us closer to the public. One of these programs is the formation of a Citizens Police Academy. The Academy will allow residents to see how the police department, law enforcement and the court system operate. It is our goal to help build on our already strong bond with the community we serve. We will be holding our first Senior Police Academy in January thru February of 2015.

We will also hold our second 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 with hope of expanding into a Police Explorers Post.

Members of the department will be working to have an open house of police headquarters and resident meet and greets at local businesses. These will allow the community to become more familiar with our officers and police operations. We are also looking to have our first National Night Out Program along with resident meet and greets at local businesses.

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. The tickets have been purchased, the buses will be scheduled and our officers are looking forward to spending time with our local students at Citizens Bank Park.

Last but not least we will be starting our "Drive Slowly We ❤️ Our Children" Campaign. The Police Department will be offering yard signs to residents at a nominal fee. We are hoping to increase driver awareness and have signs placed throughout the town.

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

