

PALMYRA POLICE DEPARTMENT

2017 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

As 2017 comes to an end and I look back on the state of our department it's hard not to look back to 2012. When 2011 ended I decided that the department's annual report needed to represent not only the actions of our officers but to provide a deeper look of the department to our residents. I hope that information in this report does just that, however should you have more questions please email us, call us or maybe participate in the citizen's police academy.

2017 proved to be a challenging year, again we saw the retirement of two (2) officers and the loss of two (2) officers to other departments. With this, we welcomed four (4) new officers at different times throughout the year. All four (4) officers have made it through our department's field training program and are patrolling the streets of Palmyra. Although we were short-handed through most of the year our officers were extremely productive as they worked to keep town as safe as possible.

The department continued our efforts to provide information to the public through the use of the 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>. Don't forget to like us on Facebook when visiting the page.

The department also maintains the NIXLE and Swift 911 Notification Systems. We encourage all of our residents to visit the Borough Website, sign up for NIXLE and Swift 911 Notification Systems.

Four years ago, the department started to allow for 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 2017 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.

Our community outreach continued in 2017. For the fifth 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 2017 the Police Department again worked with Mayor and Borough Council, the Palmyra Board of Education and new benefactor, F.C. Kerbecks to bring this trip together. As we put together the trip we were at loss for transportation. A quick call to Frank Kerbeck and Kerbeck Cadillac stepped up and provided the funding for a tour bus to take everyone to the game. On May 22, 2017 a luxury tour bus left the Palmyra Community Center for Citizens Bank Park. It was an excellent night by all who attended. We also need to thank the Palmyra Seniors Program who volunteered to help prepare the hot dogs for the game.

In 2014 First Sgt. Joseph Osinski started our first Junior Police Academy. With Sgt. Osinski's retirement the baton was handed off to Sgt. Jeremy Jankowski. Sgt. Jankowski was assisted by SRO Ptlm. Omar Kendall and one of our newer officers, Ptlm. Michele Markey. Youth recruits attended training in police, fire and emergency medical operations. In 2017, they were also treated to a trip to Burlington County Central Communications and Philadelphia Police Department's SWAT training center. Once again our Junior Police Academy was one of our most successful programs.

Just like our Junior Youth Academy, in 2015, First Sgt. Osinski put together the department's first Senior Police Academy. This too was turned over to Sgt. Jankowski. The Police Department worked with the Palmyra Seniors Program and one (1) day a week over six (6) weeks groups of local seniors were introduced to different areas of public safety. During this time, they also made a trip to Burlington County Central Communications. This program continues and is a favorite among the Palmyra Seniors Program.

In 2017, we held our second Citizens Police Academy that was open to adult residents of Palmyra. Attendees met at police Hq's one night a week for nine (9) weeks. During this time, they were instructed in police operations, criminal investigations and court procedure. They took a field trip to the County Public Safety Center for a tour of Central Communications and indoor firing range. The highlight of their experience was the availability for two (2) ride a-longs with our officers on patrol. The academy was well received by those who attended and will be continued in 2018. If you are interested in what we do and want an up close look, this class is for you.

As in the past, we participated in Palmyra Day with displays of police equipment and juvenile fingerprinting. We also worked with the Borough Council in an attempt to hold our second annual National Night Out. Unfortunately, all of the activities we planned were washed away by a severe thunderstorm, which froze over the Borough for 90 minutes. The only benefit was that all of our officers that were scheduled to work National Night Out were on the street assisting our duty shift with the heavy call volume we received as the storm pummeled our town.

Our officers held additional Coffee with A Cop events at Wawa, were present at the Borough's Farm Market and the Palmyra Improvement Association's Trunk or Treat and Winter Market. Providing informal settings for residents to speak and interact with our officers.

The close of 2017 brought the end of Ptlm. Kendall's first year in the schools as our School Resource Officer and the start of year two. During this time Ptlm. Kendall has become an important part of our schools. He has been bringing a closer bond between the department and students with his open door policy and programs he has put together. With funding from the Board of Education he was able to bring a driving simulator to the school prior to prom and an internet safety program to the high school.

At the end of 2016, our department took advantage of an Attorney General grant of \$8,500.00 for the implementation of Body Worn Cameras. With these funds along with capital funding from the borough we purchased body worn cameras for all of our officers, in-house server and back-end library software. We have implemented a policy in line with the Attorney General's Directive and all of our officers are wearing body worn cameras. These cameras have become an integral part of our officer's daily contacts with citizens. The cameras have aided in our review of internal complaints, internal review of employee conduct and prosecuting of cases in court.

2017 was also our first full year of our Police Chaplains Program. We started with three chaplains at the end of 2016 and are proud to announce that a fourth was added during 2017. The chaplains have been instrumental with aid in dealing with families in stressful situations and time of need. We look forward to continued success in 2018.

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.

Scott Pearlman
Scott Pearlman
Chief of Police

COMMUNITY SUPPORT



Over the past couple of years, law enforcement throughout the country has come under fire for numerous situations that have occurred. We have done our best to help improve our interactions with our residents and those we serve. Attempting to provide the highest level of service with honor and integrity.

Over the past year numerous residents have come to the police department to personally thank us. We would like to take this time to thank those that have dropped off goodies of all types to our officers. The additional cookies, cakes, hoagies, candy and ice cream was very much appreciated and enjoyed by all of the members of the department.

PERSONNEL

We started 2017 no different as previous years, short-handed. During 2017, we dealt with replacing two (2) officers who had retired and two (2) officers who left our department to rejoin the departments they had started as Special Officers. This brought four (4) new officers to our department, Ptlm. Daniel Hubel came to our department from the Mount Holly Police Department where he had served as a Class II Special Officer, Ptlm. Michele Markey who left the Camden County Police Department and Ptlm. Hynes and Ptlm. Julia. Ptlm. Hynes had been a Class II Officer in Avalon and Ptlm. Julia was a Class II Officer with the Winslow Twp. Police Department. These hires brought us to eighteen (18) officers, our full complement of officers. Although our officers worked short-handed throughout 2017 they were proactive working to provide for a safe environment

Throughout 2017 Ptlm. Kendall worked in his new assignment as our School Resource Officer. Ptlm. Kendall did an excellent job in bringing new programs to our schools as he worked to build a trusting rapport with the students and staff.

CURRENT DEPARTMENT PERSONNEL

Chief Scott Pearlman
Lieutenant Meghan Campbell

First Sergeant Josiah Murphy
Sergeant Timothy Leusner
Sergeant Stephen Coveleski
Sergeant Jeremy Jankowski

Detective Shawn Benedict
Detective Arek Arargil

Patrolman Omar Kendall – School Resource Officer

Secretary Gerry Bright

Patrolman Alex Alven
Patrolman Brian Johnson
Patrolman Tyler Main
Patrolman Alexander Hubel
Patrolman Destinee Quintero
Patrolman Daniel Hubel
Patrolman Michele Markey
Patrolman Michael Hynes
Patrolman Michael Julia Jr.

SLEOII John Quigg Jr (Court Security)
Records Clerk Renay Montgomery

DEPARTMENT AWARDS PROGRAM

The Palmyra Police Department as a part of our Policy and Procedures Manual maintains an awards recognition program. This policy establishes the criteria for the awarding of official commendations to deserving officers and/or civilians in recognition of the appreciation for outstanding acts of public service. We recognize these outstanding acts from the previous year at the May Borough Council Meeting. This is done to correspond with National Police Week. Listed below are the awards presented for 2016 at the May 15, 2017 Borough Council Meeting.

Service Awards:

First Sgt. Joseph Osinski	Honorable Discharge – retirement pending 5/31/2017
Sgt. Josiah Murphy	15 year service commendation
Sgt. Timothy Leusner	15 year service commendation
Ptln. Alexander Hubel	1 year good conduct

Citizen Awards

Lee Park	Assistance in the apprehension of a residential burglary suspect
Sarah Valentine	Assistance in the apprehension of a residential burglary suspect Incident #2016-2690 & 2094

Officer Awards

Ptln. Jeremy Jankowski	Top Gun Award – Range Qualifications Award
Det. Arek Arargil	Life Saving Award – Det Arargil responded to an adult male choking. The subject had become unresponsive and stopped breathing. Det. Arargil was able to clear the airway and resuscitate the subject. 02/17/2016 / 2016-0824
Ptln. Jeremy Jankowski	Honorable Service
Ptln. Tyler Main	Honorable Service
Ptln. Brian Johnson	Honorable Service – Ptln Jankowski conducted a MVS and was assisted by Ptln. Main and Johnson. During the stop probable cause was developed and vehicle was searched. Officers recovered a large amount of cash, drug paraphernalia and crystal meth with a street value of \$2500.00. 04/21/2017 / 2016-2049

PtIm. Jankowski

Honorable Service – PtIm. Jankowski was on patrol in the area of the Flea Market when he believed he heard a gunshot. As he checked the area he found a car pulled to the side of the road. The driver advised PtIm. Jankowski that he had discharged an imitation handgun. In checking the car Officer Jankowski located an imitation gun that was painted to look authentic. The gun was loaded with blanks. The subject was wanted on an out of state violation of probation warrant and was also in possession of two small rubber balloons filled with K2 Bath Salts.
10/02/2016 / 2016-5341

Sgt. Stephen Coveleski
PtIm. Alex Hubel

Honorable Service
Honorable Service - Sgt. Coveleski and PtIm Alex Hubel were advised by citizens of a disorderly subject near Manny's Pizza. The officers were advised that the subject was possibly armed with a handgun. Both officers found the subject at the WaWa, the subject was found to be intoxicated and attempting to conceal an item in his waistband. Officers removed a large knife from the subject's waistband. The subject was found to be a convicted felon and subject not to be in possession of weapons.

PtIm. Jeremy Jankowski

Officer of the Year for 2016 – PtIm Jankowski has worked on the Junior Police Academy since its inception and now oversees all of our outreach academies. He is a department firearms instructor, conductive energy instructor, physical training instructor and field-training officer. PtIm. Jankowski is extremely productive and leads the department in drug arrests with over 40 in 2016.

Honoring 1st Sgt. Joseph Osinski for his 27 years with the department.

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.

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 Kindergarten Door
Charles Street and Filbert Street

CURRENT GUARDS

Geraldine Bright – Guard Captain	Substitute Guards
Amy Austin	Ellen Adams
Clarence Belton	Howard Dreby
Donna Duaine-Ward	
Sara Ercolono	
Michele Gentile	
Anne Golden	
Jennifer O'Connell	
Cindy Palmer	
Kathleen Petite	
Barbara Zeyher	

INJURIES AND ACCIDENTS

In 2017, the police department reported six (6) work place injuries. Of those reported injuries all involved police officers, however all but one (1) were reported for informational purposes only and resulted in no time away from work and medical treatment. Unfortunately, the one (1) reported injury that did require medical treatment and time away from work was the result of an officer who was bitten multiple times by a dog. This resulted in the officer being out of work for 16 work days and on restricted duty for an additional 9 days.

In 2017, the department logged 80,312.6 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 2017, we reported four (4) motor vehicle crashes involving our officers. All crashes involving our officers require a review by the Department's Internal Affairs Unit. Through this process two (2) of our officers were found to be not at fault and two (2) officers were found to be at fault. These officers were dealt with in accordance with the department's policies and procedures for discipline.

CRIMINAL ACTIVITY

CRIMINAL CASES ASSIGNED

The figures below represent the number of criminal cases completed through the year. Criminal cases for 2017 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.

	2014	2015	2016	2017
TOTAL CRIMINAL CASES	1150	1029	1071	1056

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.

	2014	2015	2016	2017
ADULT ARRESTS	725	584	627	603

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.

	2014	2015	2016	2017
JUVENILE ARRESTS	35	33	24	25

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 2016 our department saw a substantial increase in the amount of criminal complaints completed. Along with this increase was an increase in the number of Indictable Offenses forwarded to the Prosecutor’s Office for prosecution. As 2017 ended we saw a slight decrease in the amount of criminal complaints filed, however this decrease was ever so slight.

	2014	2015	2016	2017
Criminal Complaints Filed	325	301	388	308
Disorderly Persons Offense	311	271	364	326
Indictable Offenses	136	113	210	206

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.

	2014	2015	2016	2017
Motor Vehicle Summonses	2630	2412	2600	2439
Borough Ordinances	108	101	45	45
Motor Vehicle Stops	3458	2814	3094	2763

Electronic Ticketing

In June of 2017 the Borough renewed our contract with GTBM of East Rutherford to provide E-Ticketing for the police department. When we moved to E-Ticketing, our department joined a number of other Burlington County Departments that had already signed agreements with GTBM. The move to E-Ticketing allows for officers to prepare tickets with fewer errors, and 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 enforcement 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.

	2014	2015	2016	2017
DWI Arrest	27	37	26	26
Motor Vehicle Accidents	155	189	181	161

PATROL DIVISION

The Patrol Division is the largest unit within 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.

In 2015 the appropriate strength of the patrol division returned to thirteen (13) officers. Patrol 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.

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 2017 our officers had administered Narcan twenty-two (22) times, saving the lives of twenty (20) people. This is a significant increase over previous years and shows the growth of the opioid crisis. Our patrol officers carry Narcan along with another one of our life saving tools, our Automated External Defibrillator (AED).

	2014	2015	2016	2017
Narcan Deployments	4	4	10	22
Narcan Saves	4	3	10	20



MEDICATION DISPOSAL

In 2011, our department recognized that everyday prescriptions used by our residents were being improperly disposed of. After researching the problem our department purchased a medications drop box from MedReturn. The box was purchased with drug forfeiture funds and placed in the lobby of police hq's. We are proud of the fact that our medications drop box was the first in Burlington County. Since 2011, our box collects an average of 300 lbs of medication a year. The medications collected are turned over to the DEA for safe destruction during their operation drug take back days.



BODY WORN CAMERAS

In October of 2016 the Palmyra Police Department, with the financial assistance of an \$8500.00 grant from the NJ Office of the Attorney General, purchased body worn cameras. The department entered into an agreement with Digital Alley of Lenexa, Kansas and purchased body worn cameras and back-end library management software. The police department has been utilizing in-car video since the mid-1990's and currently uses the Panasonic Arbitrator HD system in all of our patrol cars. The use of different manufacturers for in-car video and body worn cameras provides our officers with some redundancy should one system fail to capture an event. Currently our officers are activating their body worn cameras and in-car video systems on most citizen contacts and calls for service.



CALLS FOR SERVICE

Over the last four (4) years the department has seen a consistent number in our calls for service and self-generated work. Our calls for service and self-generated work averages 19,756 for the four-year period.

	2014	2015	2016	2017
Calls for service	19,365	19,777	20,297	19,584

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			
	2014	2015	2016	2017
911 Misdial	73	84	93	78
Alarm – Burglary/Holdup/Fire	366	368	364	371
Emergency Medical Assist	663	670	661	693
Fire Company Assist	132	154	160	120
Domestic Disputes	132	123	167	186
Robbery	0	7	2	5
Burglary	26	26	22	28
Property Checks	3610	4373	5320	4972
Suspicious Person/Vehicle	338	423	367	368
Motor Vehicle Stops	3458	2814	3094	2763

SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER

After years of discussion in the spring of 2016 the Palmyra Board of Education and the Mayor and Council agreed on and signed a Shared Service Agreement for a School Resource Officer. The three (3) year agreement provides for the Palmyra Police Department to provide an officer to the school district full time from September through June. The officer is responsible for providing school security, security recommendations, providing educational classes to students and work on building an improved connection with our youth.

Ptln. Omar Kendall a seventeen (17) year veteran of our department, Palmyra High School graduate and member of the PHS Sports Hall of Fame, was chosen as the School Resource Officer. Ptln. Kendall has been working diligently with the principals and counselors to add to the schools educational process. Some of these programs and lessons involved stranger danger, social media use and a parent's program with Drug Free NJ on alcohol and drug use by teens.

During the 2017 Prom Season Ptln. Kendall was instrumental in bringing an impaired driving similar to the High School. This program was funded by the school district and placed students in a driving simulator that would mimic the effects of texting while driving and impaired driving. Ptln. Kendall has also started his own Facebook page to help him stay in touch with parents and students.

*****Please disregard the Steelers screen saver on his computer.***



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 Arek Arargil has been a police officer since 2011 and with the Palmyra Police Department since 2013. Detective Arargil was assigned to the detective bureau in January 2016.

A total of one hundred and ten (110) cases were assigned to the detective bureau in 2017.

	2014	2015	2016	2017
Cases Assigned	141	128	105	110
Submissions to County Forensics Sciences Lab	87	72	86	93

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.

Eleven (11) registrants are tier I

Nine (9) registrants are tier II

One registrant was charged and arrested for failing to register.

FIREARMS PERMITS

Detective Arargil is responsible for the investigation and issuance of all applications from residents to purchase a handgun or for a firearms identification card. In 2017 the detective bureau processed fifty-three (53) firearms applications, issued eighty-one (81) permits to purchase handguns and issued thirty-three (33) firearms identification cards.

	2014	2015	2016	2017
Firearms Applications	45	53	61	53
Permits to Purchase	43	82	94	81
Identification Cards	18	30	42	33

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

BIAS AWARENESS TRAINING

In order to increase officer awareness of bias and better serve those that reside and visit the towns that we serve on a daily basis, the Medford, Lumberton and Palmyra Police Departments joined with the Anti-Defamation League to provide Anti-Bias Training to all of our officers.

The unique role of police officers in any community makes cross-cultural understanding imperative. In an effort to better communicate with all segments of our population and help the members of our communities feel that their concerns are understood we have reached out to the Anti-Defamation League. The Anti-Defamation League has created a specialized anti-bias training program. These training workshops have been presented to the FBI, the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, the NY State Police and many other local law enforcement agencies.

Training workshops for all three (3) departments was conducted over a two (2) day period in January of 2017 so that every officer was able to attend the training.



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. They are expected to observe the rights of all citizens; and 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 2017, there were a total of Thirteen (13) Internal Affairs Investigations. The investigations were related to complaints of policy violations, differential treatment, and demeanor and damaged property. Five (5) complaints were sustained, one (1) was exonerated, two (2) were unfounded, and three (3) were administratively closed. Two investigations were carried into 2018. Of those complaints that were, sustained penalties ranged from written reprimands to the loss of time.

**BURLINGTON COUNTY PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE
PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS SUMMARY REPORT FORM**

Agency: Palmyra Police Department

Reporting Period: 2017

Type of Complaint	Cases Pending From Prior Years	Cases Received This Year	Total Cases	Number of Dispositions					Administratively Closed	Cases Pending End of Year
				Sustained		Exonerate	Not Sustained	Unfounded		
				Criminal Charge	Internal Disciplinary Action					
Excessive Force										
Improper Arrest										
Improper Entry										
Improper Search										
Differential Treatment		2	2						1	1
Demeanor										
Domestic Violence										
Other Rule Violation		11	11		4	1		1	2	3
Other Criminal Violation										
Total	0	13	13	0	4	1	0	1	3	4

POLICE CHAPLAINS PROGRAM

The Palmyra Police Department recognizes the influence and impact that faith based leaders have in people's lives within the community. The Police Chaplain Program is designed to create a partnership with the various faith-based leaders of the community to respond and assist with providing an overall better quality of service to the citizens of the Borough of Palmyra. The Chaplain program is to provide support for Police Officers and civilians who are stressed in either a social or an emotional way. Our Chaplains are there to provide appropriate assistance, advice, comfort, counsel, and referrals to those in need who request such support.

The Palmyra Police Department pledges to work together in a partnership with qualified religious leaders, regardless of denomination, who are available to respond during a crisis or time of need in providing a more personalized quality of service to the community. The goal is for a more comprehensive response for those in need by having the police and clergy work together during certain crisis or incidents. The religious leader will perform tasks of a more emotional or social nature while the officer handles those tasks that are of a law enforcement nature.

Police Chaplains are an Annual Mayor's Appointment at the recommendation of the Police Department.

Our current Police Chaplains are:

Chaplain Charles Soper
Chaplain Wes Allen
Chaplain Tristan Shin
Chaplain Ella Graham



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 put together the lesson plan and start for this first youth academy class. In the spring of 2017 Sgt. Osinski retired with 27 years of service and the youth academy was turned over to Sgt. Jeremy Jankowski. Sgt. Jankowski was assisted by Ptlm. Kendall and Ptlm. Markey with our 2017 Academy Class. The main goal of the academy is to familiarize youth with the role of a police officer by:

1. Providing hands-on experience of a wide variety of law enforcement functions as well as the various types of emergency services and required training.
2. 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, Riverside Police K9 Unit, Palmyra / Riverton / Cinnaminson EMS, Virtua Paramedics, and Palmyra Fire Department. Recruits also participated in daily physical fitness training.

Academy recruits also went on two (2) field trips. Recruits were taken to the Burlington County Public Safety Building where they toured the County 911 Center and the County's in-door gun range. The second trip was to the Philadelphia Police Department's 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 two (2) field trips. The week of training ended with a graduation held in the Council Chambers.



SENIOR POLICE ACADEMY

In 2015 the Police Department started our first Senior Police Academy. Members of the department worked with the Palmyra Seniors Program in effort to provide public safety based education to our seniors. Those attending the program met one day a week for approximately ten (10) weeks for two (2) hours. Seniors were provided information on police operations, medical and fire services along with home safety provided by the Burlington County Sheriff's Department. They also took a field trip to Burlington County Central Communications for a tour of the county communications center and police indoor firing range.



CITIZENS POLICE ACADEMY

In 2017, the department offered our second Citizens Police Academy open to adults of Palmyra. This program also focused on education into law enforcement services. Classes included police operations, investigative services, and municipal court operations. Members of Citizen Police Academy Class #2 also made a field trip to the county communications center, police firing range and were able to use the county's use of force simulator. However, the highlight of the academy were the ride a-longs with Palmyra Police Officers on patrol. Each attendee was given the opportunity to partake in two (2) ride a-longs with officers. Academy recruits told us that the academy class was awesome and extremely informative. We urge any resident that is interested in getting to know our officers better and learn about police operations to attend our 2018 class that will be held in the fall.

BECKER FAMILY PHILLIES TRIP

On Monday May 22nd 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 Rockies. 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 2017 the Becker's supplied the tickets for the game, the Police Department supplied food and escorts. When our transportation fell apart Frank Kerbeck and Kerbeck Cadillac became our savior. Kerbecks was gracious to fund a luxury coach to make our trip. The Becker Family along with Chief Scott Pearlman, Lt. Meghan Campbell, Sgt. Joe Murphy, Sgt. Steve Coveleski, Sgt. Jankowski, Patrolmen Omar Kendall, Brian Johnson, Destinee Quintero, Daniel Hubel and Aaron Martinez accompanied everyone to Citizens Bank Park.

A special thanks to the Palmyra Seniors for preparing our hot dogs.



2017 TORCH RUN

For the fifth 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 9th Sgt. Murphy, Sgt. Jankowski, Ptlm. Alven and Ptlm. Markey along with 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 five (5) years Palmyra Officers have worked to support the run. This year they donated over \$1500.00 from donations from local supporters.

PALMYRA DAY

The Police Department worked with Mayor, Council, and the Independence Fire Company for Palmyra Day 2017. 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, numerous food and craft vendors, a children's play area and this year an enlarged car show.



NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

Our third National Night Out was a huge washout and we mean washout. As we were preparing for National Night Out, a severe thunderstorm, that was not forecasted, decided to stall directly over top of Palmyra for more than 90 minutes. This torrential storm caused great flooding issues and multiple calls for service. Luckily, we had officers scheduled for National Night Out and they were immediately put on the street to assist our duty shift. We apologize, but unfortunately have no control of the weather. We were unable to reschedule but will be holding National Night Out in 2018.



TRUNK OR TREAT

The newly formed Palmyra Improvement Association held their first annual Trunk or Treat and we were glad to help them and participate. Sgt. Coveleski, aka Captain America and Ptlm. Hubel did their best to decorate one of our cars for the event. They were able to meet everyone, pass out candy and Palmyra Police giveaways. We will most certainly be there in 2018.



2017 NOTEABLE CASES

In November of 2016, our detectives opened an investigation into the possible sale of homemade food items that were being made with marijuana and or marijuana oils or wax by a flea market vendor. On January 21, 2017 after a two (2) month investigation detectives stopped and arrested Craig and Adam Cannavin of Manchester New Jersey on numerous charges related to the sale and possession of controlled dangerous substances.

On 2/01/2017 at approximately 8:55pm, an officer on patrol in the area of Route 73 and Spring Garden Street stopped a white Chrysler 300 sedan for having an expired registration. While speaking to the driver, the officer could detect the strong odor of raw marijuana. After a search of the vehicle officers recovered three medium size containers containing a green leafy vegetation believed to be marijuana, a digital scale and packaging materials used to package CDS for sale. The driver, Nicholas Mannino of Winslow, NJ was charged with multiple charges related to the possession and sale of controlled dangerous substances. Based on bail reform, Mr. Mannino was released on a summons pending court.

On 2/07/2017, officers were dispatched to the Rt. 73 Auto Mall for a subject with a handgun. En-route to the call Central Communications advised that the caller stated that subject had entered a blue van and was possibly leaving the area. Arriving officers found the van and its driver in the lot of a neighboring gas station; the driver was detained while they spoke with the caller. The caller, an employee of the Auto Mall, informed officers that the subject Selami Cakir of Philadelphia was upset about the condition of the car he had purchased. The caller stated the Cakir pulled the handgun and threatened him.

Selami Cakir denied having a weapon but stated he had a Pennsylvania concealed permit to carry a handgun. Officers search of Cakir's vehicle found a loaded Beretta 9mm handgun. Cakir was charged with terroristic threats and weapons offenses. He was lodged in Burlington County Jail pending a detention hearing.

On 2/19/2017 Palmyra Police and Fire Departments were dispatched to a residence on the 300 block of Veterans Drive for a loud buzzing noise coming from the residence. Responding officers and fire officials found no one at the residence and a noise possibly coming from attic fan. In checking the residence, it appeared that water and electrical had been altered, the house was also extremely warm. The property owner, Douglas Taylor of Mount Laurel arrived at the house and refused to allow officers to search the inside of the house. Palmyra detectives responded and a search warrant was applied for and granted. Inside the house officers found a large indoor marijuana grow facility and seized approximately 150 plants, lights and large commercial air scrubbers. Donald Taylor was charged with multiple charges related to the production, distribution and possession of controlled dangerous substances. Donald Taylor was lodged in Burlington County Jail pending a detention hearing.

On 4/14/2017 Palmyra detectives served a search warrant on a residence on the 100 block of Arch Street. This was the culmination of 3-month investigation into the sale of controlled dangerous substances. Officers serving the search warrant arrested Robert Jones and Rahshan Hunt, both of Palmyra. Officers recovered crack cocaine, marijuana and packaging supplies for the sale and distribution of controlled dangerous substances. Both Jones and Hunt were charged on warrants and transported to Burlington County Jail pending a detention hearing.

On 5/17/2017 at approximately 7:25 pm Palmyra officers were dispatched to Palmyra Liquors for subject being disorderly, possibly shoplifting, he was also opening and drinking beers in the store. As officers arrived the subject, Jashor McMillian, was leaving the store and officers attempted to stop him. Mr. McMillian walked away from officers and was almost struck by a car on Broad Street. Officers were able to stop Mr. McMillian a block away at the Palmyra Pharmacy, however he again ran from officers. Officers were able to catch up with Mr. McMillan who resisted and fought with officers. During the struggle an assisting officer from Riverton fractured his wrist. Mr. McMillan was charged with terroristic threats, obstruction of justice, resisting arrest, aggravated assault on police and disorderly conduct. Mr. McMillan was charged on a warrant and lodged in Burlington Jail pending a detention hearing. It should be noted that Mr. McMillan was arrested for DWI by our department approximately 4 weeks prior to this incident.

On 7/15/2017 at approximately 8:40 pm Sgt. Josiah Murphy was on patrol in the area of Wallace and Morgan Ave when he saw a fire in the kitchen of a first floor apartment at 800 Morgan Ave. Sgt. Murphy made contact with a resident who was on the back porch and unaware of the fire. Sgt. Murphy requested the fire department and was quickly assisted by Ptlm. Johnson and officers from Cinnaminson and Riverton Police Departments. Sgt. Murphy was able to evacuate the residents from the five apartments which most certainly saved a life.

On 07/31/2017 at approximately 10:05 pm Palmyra officers were dispatched to the area of West Sixth Street and Vine Street for a shooting. Responding officers found two victims that had been assaulted and shots were fired at them. After lengthy investigation Palmyra detectives charged Reginald Johnson and Darrell Hinson in connection with this incident.

2017 GRANTS AWARDED

In 2017 the Palmyra Police Department received the following grants:

Click It or Ticket	\$ 5,500.00
Distracted Driver	\$ 5,500.00
Federal Vest Replacement Fund	\$ 1,413.59
NJ State Vest Replacement Fund	\$ 1,946.21
Drunk Driving Enforcement Fund	\$ 3,177.69
Safe and Secure Grant *includes money received for previous year	\$78,970.00
<hr/>	
Total Grant Money Provided in 2017	\$69,507.49

2017 CAPITAL EQUIPMENT IMPROVEMENTS

Capital improvement funded in 2017 was the addition of a 2017 Chevrolet Tahoe to our fleet. This vehicle replaced a 2003 Expedition with over 100,000 miles that had served our department well. This replacement was part of our ongoing up keep of the vehicle fleet.

Replacement of our officer's personal lockers. Our officers had been using lockers that were never meant to hold uniforms or duty bags. The officers now have lockers that will hold numerous uniforms, coats, duty bags and equipment.

Also funded was courtroom security equipment. This purchase is still being worked on and should be in place sometime early 2018.

2017 YEARLY ACTIVITY REPORT

MILES OF PATROL	80,312.9
CALLS FOR POLICE SERVICE	19,584
CRIMINAL CASES ASSIGNED	1056
CRIMINAL COMPLAINTS ISSUED	308
DISORDERLY PERSON OFFENSES	326
INDICTABLE OFFENSES	206
ADULT ARRESTS	555
JUVENILE ARRESTS	28
DRUNK DRIVING ARRESTS	22
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE CASES	186
WARRANT SERVICES	656
MOTOR VEHICLE STOPS	2763
TRAFFIC SUMMONSES	2439
TRAFFIC WARNINGS	1384
BOROUGH ORDINANCES	45
BURGLARIES	28
ROBBERIES	8
THEFTS	107
MOTOR VEHICLE THEFTS	9
CRIMINAL MISCHIEF REPORTS	87
TOTAL VALUE STOLEN PROPERTY	\$213,386.00
TOTAL VALUE RECOVERED PROPERTY	\$100,302.00

2018 INITIATIVES

With the start of 2018 and completing our 2017 Annual Report, I find myself starting almost verbatim. That is we are in the hiring process to bring us to our authorized strength of eighteen (18) officers. As 2018 started, we were sad to lose Ptlm. Tyler Main who left our department for a position with the Moorestown Twp. Police Department. This is a great loss for us; and a huge gain for Moorestown. We wish Tyler much success and good luck in his new position. We will do our best to hire the right person to replace Tyler.

As we continue to build on our community outreach, we continue to approach our position within the community as guardians more than appearing to be warriors. We are here to work with our community members wherever possible and continue to maintain an open door policy to all of our community members.

Ptlm. Kendall has worked tirelessly as our School Resource Officer bringing great new programs to our school district and working to create a closer bond with our school age residents.

Although our National Night Out 2017 was drenched out by a typhoon, we will be back this year. Hoping to provide a great night for our residents to meet our officers, enjoy food from local vendors and some excellent entertainment. National Night Out 2018 is scheduled for Tuesday August 7th. Mark your calendar.

Of course we will be out in force for Palmyra Day. The long time running event that was our big entry into community policing always gives us the opportunity to meet people and answer questions. It also gives the public a chance to see some of our equipment, past and present. Palmyra Day is scheduled for May 5th this year.

As in the past years we will be working with the Becker Family of Philadelphia on a trip for Palmyra students to attend a Phillies Game. This has turned into a great annual event enjoyed by both students and their parents that attend.

We still offer our “Drive Slowly We ❤️ Our Children” Campaign. Signs are available at Police Headquarters to all residents at a nominal fee. We are hoping to increase driver awareness and have signs placed throughout the town.

As always, we continue to 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 men and women 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 our community.

Scott Pearlman

Scott Pearlman
Chief of Police

