

Police Department

The Stoneham Police Department is committed to providing the highest level of professional police services while respecting the constitutional rights of every person living in or visiting the Town of Stoneham. We achieve this mission by working in partnership with the community and by practicing all facets of Community Oriented Policing. Serving with compassion and respect to all members of the public, we remain committed to providing these services with professionalism and integrity.

The Office of the Chief manages the overall operation of the Stoneham Police Department and plans for the future in close collaboration with the Town Administrator.

In the past year, a major accomplishment for the police department involved improving our response to domestic violence and related crimes. In 2011, the Town of Stoneham was awarded a \$176,735 grant from the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Violence Against Women. This grant funding allowed the Stoneham Police Department the ability to have a part-time domestic violence advocate at the police station conducting follow-up with victims and serving as a resource to the community. The Stoneham Police Department also partnered with the Middlesex District Attorney's Office and RESPOND, Inc., to create a high risk assessment team designed to identify cases of domestic violence with a potential for lethality. Each Stoneham police officer received specialized training in how to identify these serious cases of domestic violence. The training officers received, coupled with the work of the high risk assessment team has resulted in enhanced safety to victims and offender arrest and confinement.

In May 2012, Chief Richard Bongiorno retired after serving over a combined 30 years in law enforcement with the Somerville, Cambridge and Stoneham Police Departments. Over the past five years, Chief Bongiorno worked hard to increase the professionalism of the department. We wish Chief Bongiorno good health in his retirement.

With the retirement of Chief Bongiorno came changes to the command staff of the department. In June, I was appointed to Chief of Police. I would like to thank Town Administrator David Ragucci and the Board of Selectmen for allowing me the opportunity to lead the Stoneham Police Department. I am grateful to all the members of the police department, both civilian and sworn, for their continued support during my transition into the corner office. I would especially like to recognize Lieutenant Richard McCarthy for his encouragement and guidance.

Upon my appointment to chief, Sergeant David Stefanelli was promoted to the rank of lieutenant. Lieutenant Stefanelli assumed the responsibilities of patrol operations commander and grant administrator. Lieutenant Stefanelli was responsible for management of the U.S Department of Justice grant, \$63,873 in grant funding from the State 9-1-1 Department, and \$6,600 in traffic safety grants from the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security.

In April, Officer John Curtis graduated from the Plymouth Police Academy. After a three month department training program, Officer Curtis was assigned to night patrol operations.

In June, Officer Steven Launie began a one-year overseas deployment to Qatar with the Massachusetts National Guard. This is Officer Launie's third military deployment since joining the police department in 2007.

As noted in last years Annual Report, voters at Town Meeting approved the funding for an upgrade of the radio communications equipment for the fire, DPW, and police departments. In June, the installation of the new radio infrastructure and dispatch equipment was completed. This new equipment allows all the town's public safety departments the ability to serve our residents better by having a dependable communications system. On behalf of the members of the Stoneham Police Department, thank you for funding this important equipment.

Lastly, I would like to recognize Head Dispatcher David Luciano upon his retirement from the United States Air Force Reserve. In July 2012, Dispatcher Luciano retired as a Technical Sergeant after providing 25 years of service to our country.

Respectfully submitted by Chief James McIntyre

Detective Bureau

The Detective Bureau is responsible for all adult and juvenile criminal investigations, narcotic investigations, computer crime investigations and all subsequent prosecutions. The Detective Bureau is responsible for the processing of all gun permits and the local dissemination of all Sex Offender information. The Bureau also assists residents that require their fingerprints recorded for job applications and adoption purposes.

In 2012, the Bureau included Inspector Christopher Dalis (Juvenile Officer), Inspector Renee Lehmann (Computer Specialist), Inspector Robert McKinnon (Senior Detective), Inspector Paul Norton (Narcotics) and Inspector Christopher Copan (Prosecutor).

In 2012 detectives attended fifteen (15) training seminars that covered a multitude of investigative disciplines.

CRIME STATISTICS

Arrests	101		
Criminal Summonses (felonies)	139	Restraining & Harassment orders	115
Court hearings (misdemeanors)	226	Firearm calls	10
Court trials	100	Summonses served	179
Homicide	0	Animal calls	125
Sex crimes	11	Disturbance calls	596
Assaults	74	Road hazard	99
Robberies	10	Building/person checks	2041
Missing persons	23	Medical aid	1582
Vandalism	149	Motor vehicles – stolen	12
Larceny including shoplifting	203	Motor vehicles – recovered	12
Threats/harassment	112	Motor vehicle accidents	560
Breaking and Entering (including attempts)	94	Motor vehicle (all other calls)	822
Breaking and Entering (motor vehicles only)	77	Alarms (including fire alarms)	880
Domestic Violence/Restraining Order violations	146	Directed Patrols	200
Service & att service			

SEXUAL OFFENDERS living/working in Stoneham as of December 31, 2012:
(Sex Offender info available on line at ww.mass.gov/sorb)

- 0 Level Three offender: risk of recidivism is high and offender information actively disseminated to public.
- 15 Level Two offenders: risk of recidivism is moderate and offender information available upon request.
- 10 Level One offenders: risk of recidivism is low and no offender information available.

DEATHS: - All sudden deaths were reported to the Medical Examiner. All determined noncriminal at this time.

Investigation of narcotic incidents continues to be an ongoing priority. Joint effort and assistance came from surrounding communities within the Southern Middlesex Regional Drug Task Force, the Middlesex District Attorneys State Police Task Force, the Attorney Generals State Police Task Force, The United States Drug Enforcement Agency and the Internal Revenue Service

In 2012, the departments Computer Specialist helped to install, network, and manage all computer systems, phones, and printers in through out the month long Dispatch renovation project. Additional projects included the migration of the department off of 2 old servers and onto 1 virtual server running Windows Server Enterprise 2008 in order to stabilize the department's records management system (QED); installation of 7 virtual desktops at workstations throughout the station to facilitate network management, as well as decrease electricity costs to the Town; researched "JivaSoft" OnDuty scheduling software to transition the police department to a Windows based system for scheduling personnel, and managing time off records with implementation of the software in 2013; installed 4G modems in cruiser laptops; and submitted quarterly NIBRS to the State as required.

The members of the Detective Bureau continue to participate in the monthly Northeast Middlesex Law Enforcement Council Detective meetings. These meetings act as a forum for the exchange of information between as many as seventy agencies. These agencies include not only local, state and federal law enforcement agencies, but private security agencies as well.

The Detective Bureau works in conjunction with Uniform Operations in conducting follow up investigations and surveillance for both ongoing criminal activity and persons wanted on outstanding arrest warrants.

Respectfully submitted by Lieutenant Detective Richard McCarthy

Patrol Operations

The Patrol Operations Section of the Stoneham Police Department consists of 27 uniformed officers who respond to calls for service and patrol the community.

Officers Christopher Copan and Christopher Apalakis both received a Letter of Commendation from Chief McIntyre for their exemplary actions in June in evacuating residents from a potential explosion. Officer Copan was then confronted by the suspect and was instrumental in arresting the individual at gunpoint.

Officer Michael DeCroteau received a Letter of Commendation from Chief McIntyre for his exemplary actions in July when he determined that an individual was not breathing as a result of choking, performed abdominal thrusts and dislodged the obstruction.

The Stoneham Police Department continues its membership in the North Eastern Massachusetts Law Enforcement Council (NEMLEC), which is a consortium of 52 law enforcement agencies within Middlesex and Essex Counties. As a member of NEMLEC, our department is able to call upon the resources of the organization for support and assistance when a need arises. These resources include a SWAT team, a Regional Response Team (RRT) to assist in maintaining public order during a demonstration or disaster, a Motorcycle Unit to assist with traffic control, a School Threat Assessment and Response System (STARS) which assists during a school related emergency, as well as other specialized investigative tools and personnel. Sergeant Thomas Heller and Officer Steven Carroll are assigned to NEMLEC's SWAT and RRT units. Sergeant Robert Kennedy is assigned to the STARS team. During the past year, these officers provided assistance to other police department on 28 occasions for incidents ranging from maintaining order at large scale public events, labor disputes, missing person searches, school related safety events, to executing search and arrest warrants. NEMLEC assisted this department with a K-9 search of the Stoneham Middle School in November and a search of the Stoneham High School in December coordinated by Sergeant Kennedy.

Each member of the police department is required to receive 32 hours of annual in-service training sponsored by the Municipal Police Training Committee. This training is designed to keep officers current with changes in laws, first aid, and pertinent law enforcement topics. In addition to the in-service training, starting this year, the State 911 Department has required each officer to attend 16 hours of training. Officers have gone to various trainings including active shooter training, missing and exploited children and other topics. The police department certified two more officers as rifle operators and sponsored its annual firearms qualification as well as an annual rifle qualification for qualified rifle officers. The department also hosted a high risk domestic violence response seminar that all officers attended. Three more officers became certified bike officers. Department personnel also attended numerous training seminars some of which included: terrorism awareness, suicide prevention, officer-involved shootings, breathalyzer operation, homeland defense, emotional survival and legal updates. Sgt. Heller attended a 50 hour master patrol rifle instructor course. Sgt. Thistle and our domestic violence liaison attended a domestic violence symposium in Seattle Washington for three days in September. The costs associated with this training were paid by the departments domestic violence grant.

The Community Policing Unit (CPU) headed by Sgt. Nims was successful with many events this year. In the Spring, CPU officers participated in the Senior Promenade, the all night graduation, the Memorial Day Parade, Stoneham Family Day and Touch-A-Truck. Detective Paul Norton and other CPU officers had the annual fishing derby with great success. It was touted as the biggest turnout since its inception 12 years ago. In the fall, Halloween safety talks were given at various schools along with a visit from McGruff the crime dog. CPU officers assisted with Stoneham Town Day and the Stoneham Road Race and we sponsored an auto etching program with the assistance of the Executive Office of Public Safety. In the winter, we had our annual CPU Christmas

Party for local children. A special thanks to retired Chief Herb Moore and retired Detective Tom Marshall for raising money and coordinating this event.

During the past year, personnel issued 1177 parking tickets and 768 motor vehicle citations. The goal of the department is to provide for public safety through the enforcement of motor vehicle laws.

Lastly, Stephen Aprile was chosen by his peers as “Officer of the Year”

Respectfully submitted by Lieutenant David J. Stefanelli

Auxiliary Police Department

The Stoneham Auxiliary Police Department is volunteer organization designed to augment the Stoneham Police Department. Some of the primary responsibilities of the Auxiliary Police are to provide additional patrols of Town owned property, assist with traffic at community events, such as Town Day, road races, as well as offer assistance during a Town emergency. When working, Auxiliary Police Officers possess the same police powers as full time police officer. Prior to working as an Auxiliary Officer, the candidate is required to attend the Basic Reserve Police Officer Academy sponsored by the Municipal Police Training Committee, as well as annual first aid/CRP and firearms qualification sponsored by the Stoneham Police Department.

Currently, there are sixteen active members on the Auxiliary Police. The following is a list of the active members:

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| August Niewenhous – Chief | Michael Eastman- Patrolman |
| David Luciano – Lieutenant | Eugenio Ianniciello - Patrolman |
| George Lessard – Sergeant | John Lazzaro - Patrolman |
| Daniel Marsden – Sergeant | John Maguire - Patrolman |
| Geoffrey Buchanan – Patrolman | Stephen McNaught - Patrolman |
| Brendan Carr – Patrolman | Christopher Ponzio - Patrolman |
| David Delling – Patrolman | Juan Yepez – Patrolman |
| Maurice DiCicco – Patrolman | |
| Douglas Eames – Patrolman | |

In the year 2012, these individuals donated approximately 250 hours to the Town of Stoneham.

Respectfully submitted by Sergeant Thomas Heller

Safety Officer

The Safety Officer’s office supervises 16 full time traffic directors, 5 part time traffic directors and 6 part time parking enforcement officers. The parking enforcement officers have written numerous tickets for parking violations and have enforced the parking placard program currently in place. I have been in touch with Larry Brophy at the DPW and he has replaced and installed several new parking signs to eliminate any confusion which has helped eliminate some parking ticket appeals.

I have reviewed and approved approximately 20 site plan hearings submitted to me from the Stoneham Building Department and have had countless meetings with the Stoneham Fire Department, D.P.W., Stoneham Senior Center and Stoneham School Department regarding an array of safety issues.

Prior to the start of school in September 2012, the police department began working with the school department, DPW, Town Administrator, and Board of Selectmen in developing a traffic mitigation plan for the construction of the new Middle School. After several planning sessions, options for the pick-up/drop-off of students from the Middle and Central Schools, as well as parking for faculty and staff, were developed. Several options for the traffic mitigation plan were presented at a public hearing that allowed residents the opportunity to choose the plan that balanced the safety needs of the students while minimizing the traffic impact on the neighborhood. As a result of the plan what was developed and the public education campaign in the local newspapers, the traffic congestion associated with the first day of school was minimized.

I have continued with the annual Christmas gift deliveries to approximately 60 less fortunate kids in the Middle School which is run by the principal and the Middle School P.T.O. I have heard several complaints and compliments from the citizens of Stoneham regarding traffic and parking enforcement. The speed monitor is placed at various locations depending on the area of these complaints, and I have ordered the construction of dozens of new “no parking” signs throughout the town.

I have worked with several of the schools including the Purpose School and the Stoneham Boys and Girls Club teaching programs such as “Stranger Danger,” Halloween Safety” and “Bicycle Safety”.

I continue to attend the monthly Massachusetts Safety Officer’s League meetings held at the beginning of each month to keep important contacts in agencies such as the Alcohol and Beverage Consumption (ABCC) and the Registry of Motor Vehicles. These contacts help me with running programs such as school bus (7D) enforcement throughout town.

I continue to receive both positive and negative input regarding the safety of all residents and find ways to use this advice to improve the quality of life for each and every person living and traveling through the Town of Stoneham.

Respectfully Submitted,

Officer Joseph Ponzio

Public Safety Dispatch

The Public Safety Dispatch Department provides 24-hour civilian dispatching for the Police Department, Fire Department and contract ambulance. The department is comprised of six full-time dispatchers and three part-time dispatchers that operate from the Police Station.

During the course of 2012 over 13,200 calls for service that required emergency personnel from the Police Department, Fire Department or ambulance to respond were processed through the dispatch center. The center received over 6,300 calls via the 9-1-1 system. These calls for service do not include the numerous business or public information calls that come into the center or walk in reports to the Police Station that must also be processed by the dispatch staff.

Of the calls for service: 11,213 involved the Police Department, 2,163 involved the Fire Department and 2,344 involved an ambulance. Added together, these numbers total over 15,700 incidents, since many calls for service involve a multi-discipline response.

The day shift dispatched 5,063 calls for service, the evening shift dispatched 4,993 calls for service and the overnight shift dispatched 3,224 calls for service.

During the year dispatch personnel attended training classes on topics, including: Missing and Exploited Children Chief Executive Officer Seminar National Center for Missing & Exploited Children, CJIS Message Switch and CJIS user interfaces and 911 Call-Taker Legal Issues.

In the spring work commenced on the planned upgrade to the radio systems for the Department of Public Works (DPW), Fire Department and Police Department. The project included the following: a complete renovation of the central dispatch center, installation of a new dispatch console and electronics, replacement the remote receivers for the fire and police departments as well as adding receivers for all three departments to correct dead spots in coverage. Unreliable phone data lines linking the remote sites were replaced with microwave links. A tower was erected at the police station to house microwave dishes and antennas for backup transmitters which the departments did not have. In the Police Department, all officers were issued new portable radios and two-third of the mobile radios were replaced. At the DPW, two-third of their mobile radios were replaced. As a cost saving measure, several of the police department’s existing portable radios were able to reallocated to the DPW. During the year all of the mobile radios for the Fire Department were replaced using a federal grant which was obtained by the Fire Chief. If this grant was not available, the Town would have had to purchase these radios. This project was necessary due to Federal Communications Commission mandates and the age of the existing equipment, some over twenty years, which has failed and no longer able to be repaired.

Respectfully submitted by David Luciano, Head Dispatcher