



# NEPTUNE TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT

## *ANNUAL REPORT: 2021*

**CHIEF OF POLICE**  
JAMES M. HUNT, JR.

**DEPUTY CHIEF**  
LARRY B. FISHER

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# A MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF



Throughout the past year, the Neptune Township Police Department has continued to face new challenges related to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. The pandemic continues to strain our resources, place our first responders in harm's way and at times cause significant staffing issues related to officer illness and quarantine periods. Throughout this ordeal, I believe that the men and women of this department have continued to provide the same professional service that our community has come to expect from the NTPD.

Despite these challenges, the Neptune Township Police Department has continued to prioritize our mission of crime reduction and maintaining the stringent qualifications required by an Accredited Agency. We have continued to update our policies and procedures, including our Use of Force and Internal Affairs policies, to ensure they are in line with the best practices required of a professional law enforcement agency. We are proud to say that our Patrol Officers, Street Crimes Unit, and Detective Bureau have remained highly active throughout the year, answering calls for service, conducting investigations, and making proactive policing a priority to keep our community safe.

Regretfully, this will be my last "Message from the Chief" as this summer I will be retiring after 33 years of service to the community of Neptune Township. It has been an honor to serve this community and I am confident that my work over the last three decades has played a significant role in the advancement of our Police Department. I would like to personally thank my Command Staff, both current and former, as well as all of the officers, civilian staff members, Township employees, volunteers, and all those in the public safety community who I have worked with throughout my tenure for their service and dedication. In closing, I would like to recognize each and every Neptune Township Police Officer and thank them for exemplifying our core values: Noble, Trustworthy, Professional, Diverse.

*-Chief of Police James M. Hunt, Jr.*



## MISSION STATEMENT AND CORE VALUES

The mission of the Neptune Township Police Department is to consistently work to improve the quality of life for all citizens of and visitors to our community. To promote the effective partnerships and encourage community involvement to address crime, the fear of crime and other community concerns.

**N**oble **T**rustworthy **P**rofessional **D**iverse

# VISION STATEMENT

The vision of the Neptune Township Police Department is to be regarded by our community and our profession as a professional, proactive, and premier law enforcement agency in Monmouth County, and the State of New Jersey. Furthermore, we strive to be an asset to other law enforcement agencies by providing assistance and support as needed in a respectful and helpful manner. The Neptune Township Police Department is also dedicated to offering its employees a safe and healthy working environment and we strive to be the ideal employer for law enforcement personnel in Monmouth County. The Neptune Township Police Department's vision is the driving force behind our success and it gives the Department a clear direction and path to follow.

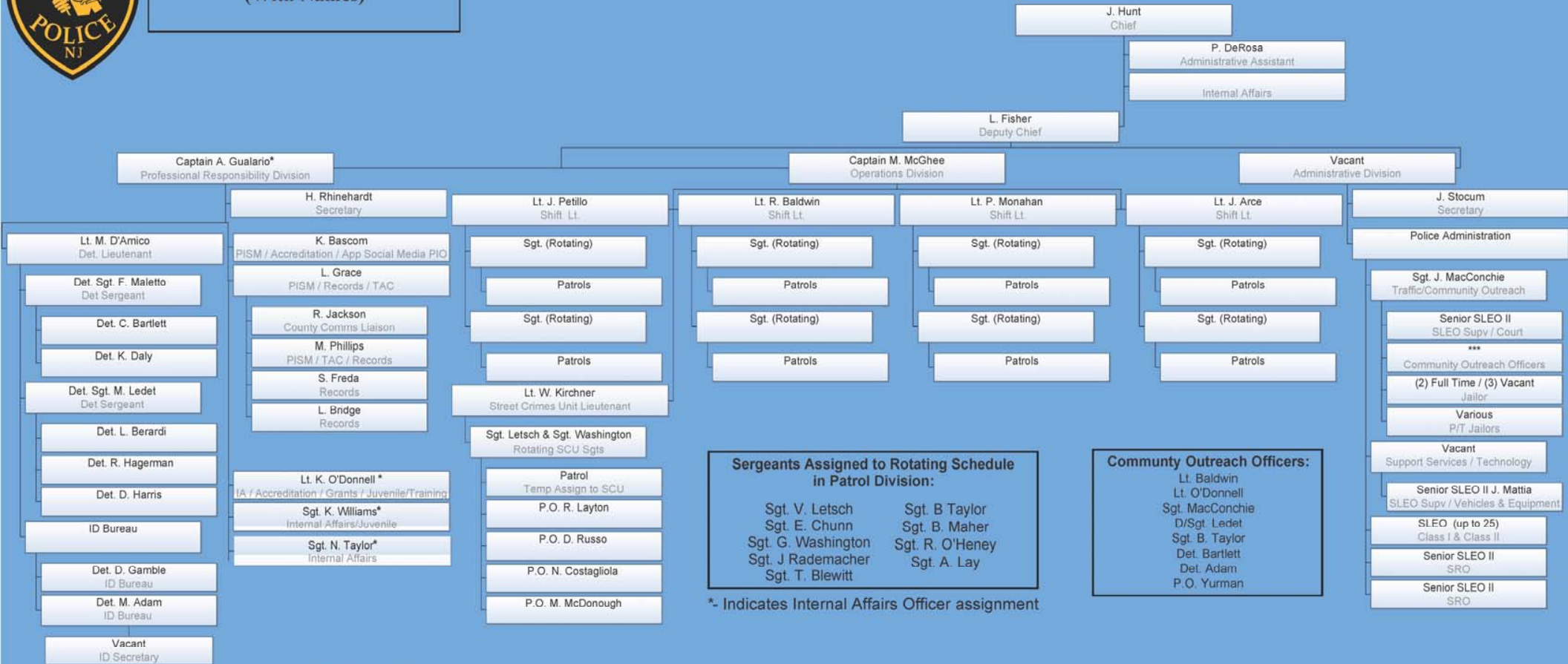
# NEW AND REVISED POLICIES

- Drug Testing
- Command Notifications
- Arrest and Transportation
- Mobile Video Recording System
- Search Procedures
- Special Law Enforcement Officers
- Promotion
- Early Intervention System
- Prisoner Holding Procedures
- Traffic Enforcement and Control
- Field Reporting System
- Juvenile Operations
- Selection
- Domestic Violence Investigations
- Internal Affairs
- Written Directive System
- Interview, Interrogation, and Access to Counsel
- Performance Evaluation
- Criminal Case Management
- Training
- Uniforms and Personal Equipment, Appearance, Tattoos
- Weapons and Ammunition
- Use of Force
- Pursuit and Forcible Stopping





# Neptune Township Police Department Table of Organization (With Names)



Updated as of :  
January 1st, 2022

See Special Memorandum JMH-22-1 for personnel assignments

# PERSONNEL ROSTER (CURRENT AS OF 12/31/2021)

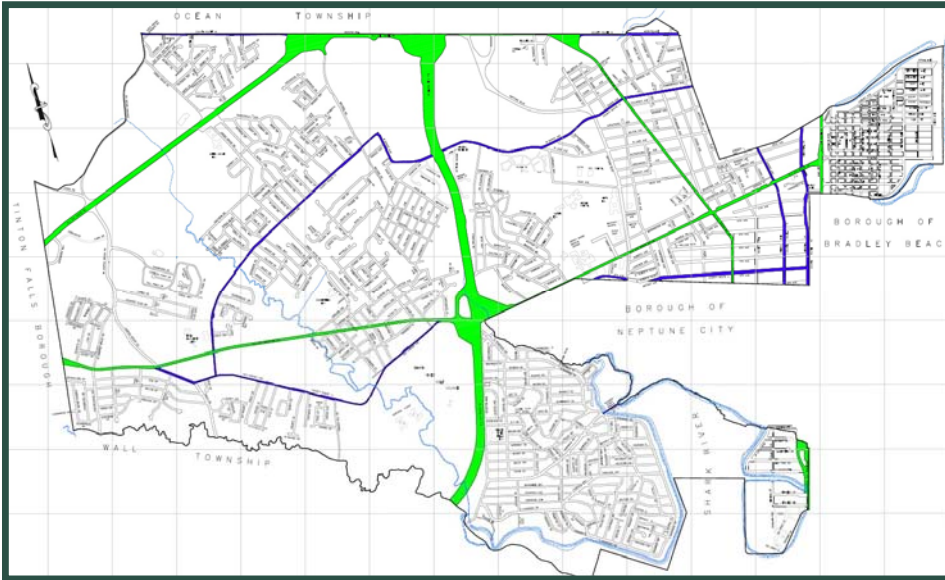
<b>Chief</b>	James M. Hunt, Jr	<b>PO</b>	Christopher Niskoch	<b>PO</b>	Ryan Chippendale	<b>PO</b>	Matthew Simpson	<b>SII</b>	Steven Kontogiannis
<b>DC</b>	Larry B. Fisher	<b>PO</b>	Marques Alston	<b>PO</b>	Robert Hagerman	<b>PO</b>	Richard Cuttrell	<b>SI/J</b>	Jacob Hartranft
<b>Capt.</b>	Anthony Gualario	<b>Sgt.</b>	James MacConchie	<b>PO</b>	Darell Harris	<b>PO</b>	Brad Dougherty	<b>SI</b>	Ryan Gallagher
<b>Lt.</b>	William R. Kirchner	<b>PO</b>	Kevin Schuster	<b>Sgt.</b>	Aaron Lay	<b>PO</b>	Morgan Holland	<b>SI</b>	Conor McGhee
<b>D/Lt</b>	Michael D'Amico	<b>Sgt.</b>	Kaan Williams	<b>PO</b>	Christopher Monahan	<b>PO</b>	Noah DeFazio	<b>SI/J</b>	Kristen Narciso
<b>Det.</b>	Erick A. Amadruto	<b>Sgt.</b>	Thomas Blewitt	<b>PO</b>	Dominique Russo	<b>PO</b>	Bryan Jones	<b>SI</b>	Sheena Benites
<b>Sgt.</b>	Jason B. Petillo	<b>Sgt.</b>	Frank Maletto	<b>PO</b>	Danielle DePalma	<b>PO</b>	Cadell Kennedy	<b>SI</b>	Mi'Jaut Berry
<b>Capt.</b>	Michael J. McGhee	<b>PO</b>	Douglas Mattia	<b>PO</b>	Aaron Haskins	<b>PO</b>	Brooke Tartis	<b>SI</b>	Bryan Bolch
<b>Lt.</b>	Kevin M. O'Donnell	<b>Sgt.</b>	Robert O'Heney	<b>PO</b>	Matthew McDonough	<b>PO</b>	Kylee Jazikoff	<b>SI</b>	Malik Jenkins
<b>Sgt.</b>	Vincent D. Letsch	<b>Det.</b>	Carrie Bartlett	<b>PO</b>	Owen Rosenthal	<b>PO</b>	Marcus Neal		Alicia Reiter
<b>Sgt.</b>	Eric P. Chunn	<b>PO</b>	Brian Bucossi	<b>PO</b>	Robert Vetrano	<b>PO</b>	Vincent Zenna		Jessica Stocum
<b>PO</b>	Matthew I. Kocen	<b>PO</b>	Kristopher Daly	<b>PO</b>	Casey Crawford	<b>PO</b>	Seunwoo Kim		Patricia DeRosa
<b>D/Lt.</b>	Paul T. Monahan	<b>Sgt.</b>	Jason Rademacher	<b>PO</b>	Shane Leaming	<b>PO</b>	Krista Panariello		Holly Rhinehardt
<b>Det.</b>	Michael Adam	<b>PO</b>	Christopher Sibole	<b>PO</b>	Evan Pollara	<b>PO</b>	Ryan Santos		Lisa Grace
<b>Det.</b>	David T. Gamble	<b>Sgt.</b>	Bryan Taylor	<b>PO</b>	Richard Brogley	<b>PO</b>	Jaheem Woods		Maura Phillips
<b>Lt.</b>	Jose L. Arce	<b>Sgt.</b>	Mysonn Ledet	<b>PO</b>	Nicola Costagliola	<b>SII</b>	John Mattia		Kyle Bascom
<b>Lt.</b>	Robert L. Baldwin, Jr.	<b>Sgt.</b>	Bryan Maher	<b>PO</b>	Joshua Jenkins	<b>SII</b>	Charles Theodora		Regina Jackson
<b>PO</b>	Javaughn Rogers	<b>PO</b>	Jesse Dallago	<b>PO</b>	Ryan Calabro	<b>SII</b>	Mike Bonanno		Lisa Bridge
<b>Sgt.</b>	Nicholas Taylor	<b>PO</b>	Robert Layton	<b>PO</b>	Tressa Huizenga	<b>SII</b>	Vincent Galdieri		Suzanne Freda
<b>Sgt.</b>	Gregory Washington	<b>PO</b>	Erik Gullestad	<b>PO</b>	Malcolm Jenkins	<b>SII</b>	Anthony Firreno		



# PERSONNEL CHANGES

- Kevin O'Donnell: Promoted January 1<sup>st</sup>, Lieutenant
- Jose Arce: Promoted January 1<sup>st</sup>, Lieutenant
- Robert Baldwin, Jr.: Promoted January 1<sup>st</sup>, Lieutenant
- Frank Maletto: Promoted January 1<sup>st</sup>, Sergeant
- Jason Rademacher: Promoted January 1<sup>st</sup>, Sergeant
- Mysonn Ledet: Promoted January 1<sup>st</sup>, Sergeant
- Noah DeFazio: Hired January 1<sup>st</sup>, Police Officer
- Bryan Jones: Hired January 1<sup>st</sup>, Police Officer
- Cadell Kennedy: Hired January 1<sup>st</sup>, Police Officer
- Brooke Tartis: Hired January 1<sup>st</sup>, Police Officer
- Thomas Claffey: Retired February 1<sup>st</sup>, Police Officer
- Kyheem Davis: Retired February 1<sup>st</sup>, Police Officer
- Bryce Byham: Retired March 1<sup>st</sup>, Sergeant
- Christopher Schembri: Retired June 1<sup>st</sup>, Lieutenant
- Christine Savage: Retired June 1<sup>st</sup>, Sergeant
- Christopher McKinley: Retired June 1<sup>st</sup>, Police Officer
- J. Hunter Ellison: Retired July 1<sup>st</sup>, Detective Sergeant
- Scott Cox: Retired December 1<sup>st</sup>, Lieutenant
- Jason Petillo: Promoted December 7<sup>th</sup>, Lieutenant
- Thomas Blewitt: Promoted December 7<sup>th</sup>, Sergeant
- Bryan Taylor: Promoted December 7<sup>th</sup>, Sergeant
- Bryan Maher: Promoted December 7<sup>th</sup>, Sergeant
- Robert O'Heney: Promoted December 7<sup>th</sup>, Sergeant
- Aaron Lay: Promoted December 7<sup>th</sup>, Sergeant

# DEMOGRAPHICS



- Neptune Township, Monmouth County, New Jersey
- Zip Code: 07753
- 28,061 Residents (2020)
- 8.67 Square Miles
- 260 Miles of Roadway

# UCR STATISTICS

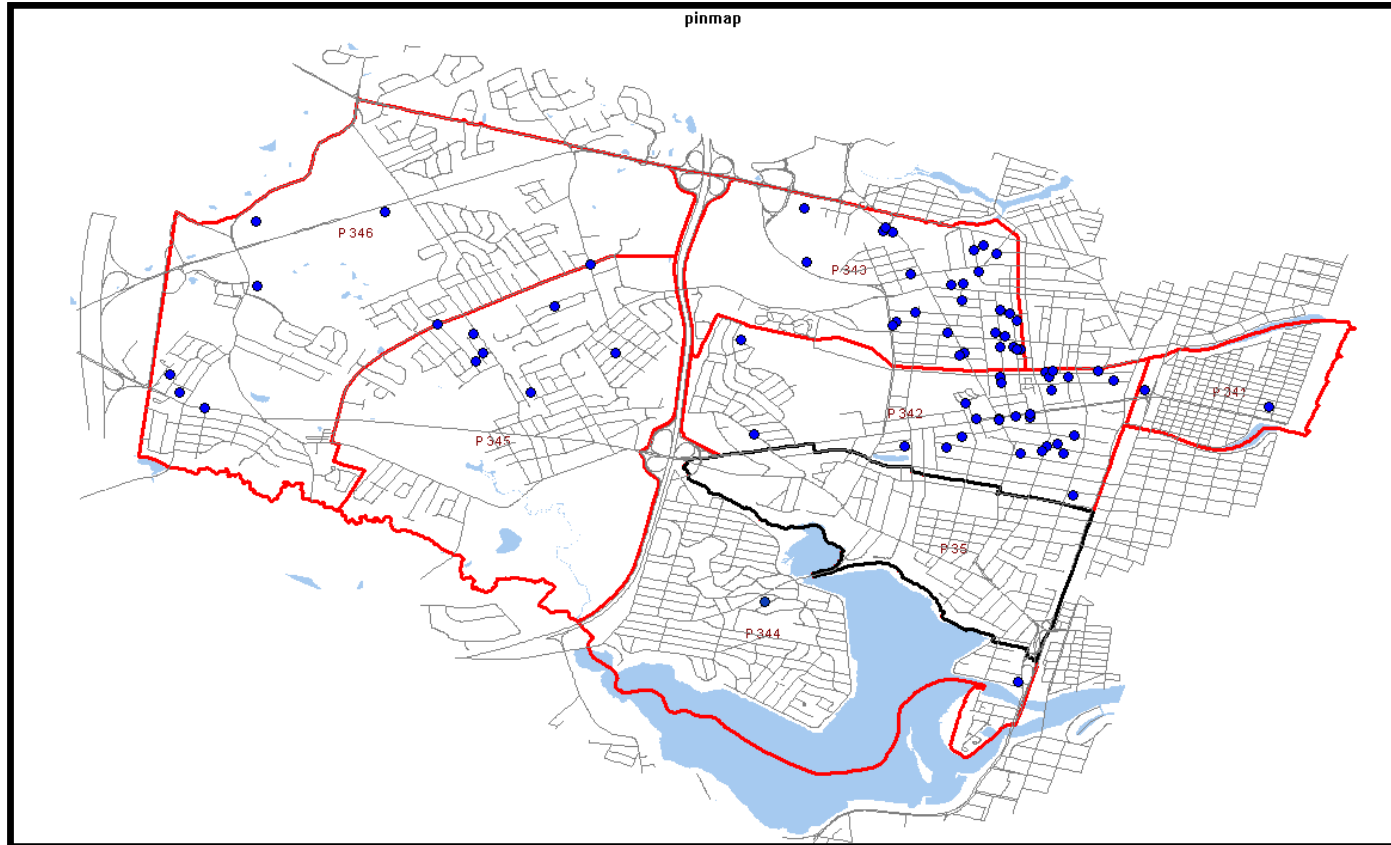
The Uniform Crime Report (UCR) is official data on crime in the United States, published annually by the FBI. The UCR separates crimes into two categories; violent crimes and property crimes.

- Aggravated Assault, Forcible Rape, Murder and Robbery are classified as **Violent Crimes**.
- Burglary, Larceny/Theft and Motor Vehicle Theft are classified as **Non-Violent/Property Crimes**.

Crime	2018	2019	2020	2021
Agg. Assault	76	74	78	98
Burglary	92	72	90	67
MV Theft	10	13	11	18
Murder	2	2	0	0
Rape	4	2	3	10
Robbery	24	18	26	15
Theft	748	786	808	591
Total	959	967	1,016	799

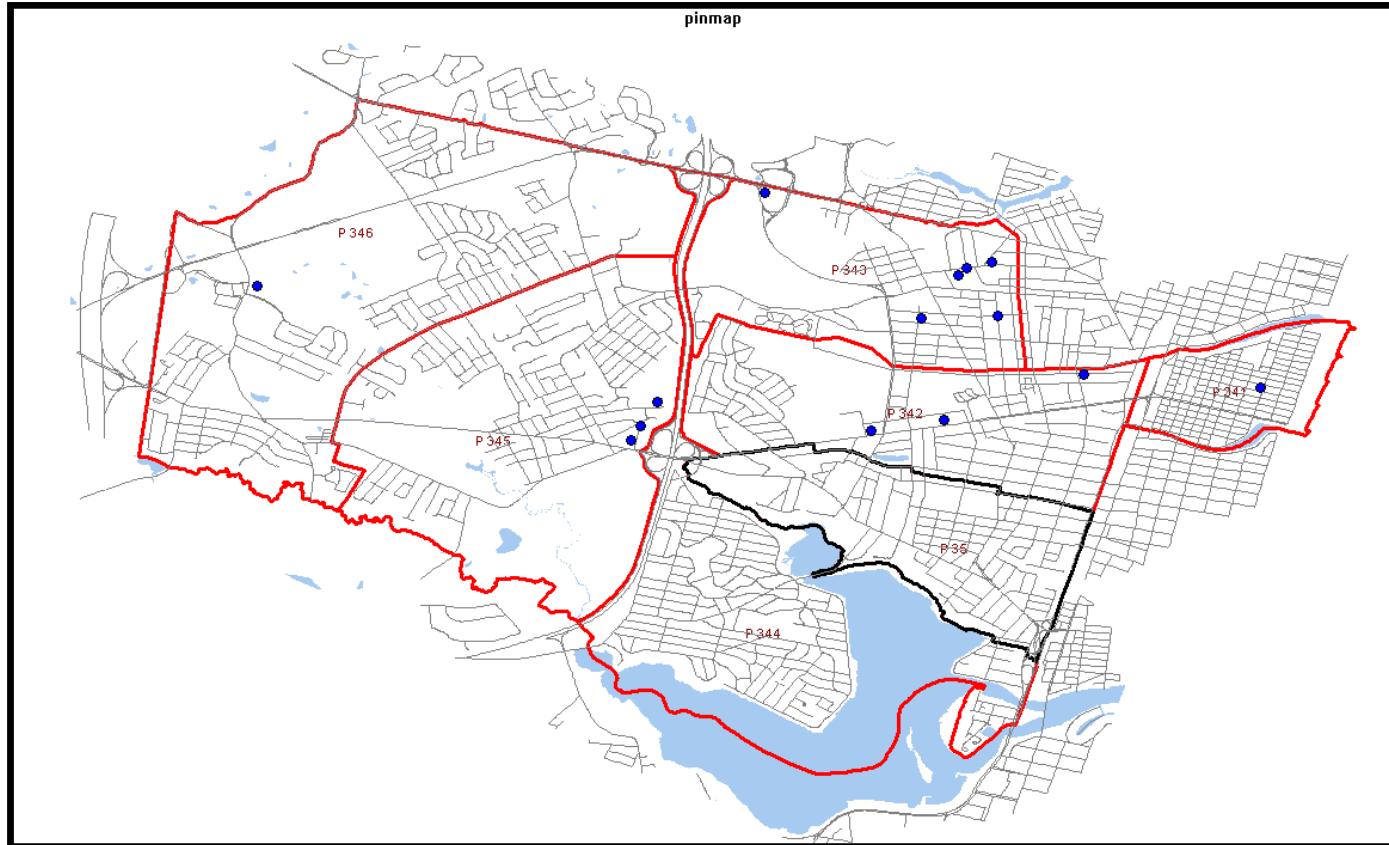
# AGGRAVATED ASSAULT

(2020 UCR REPORTABLE INCIDENTS)



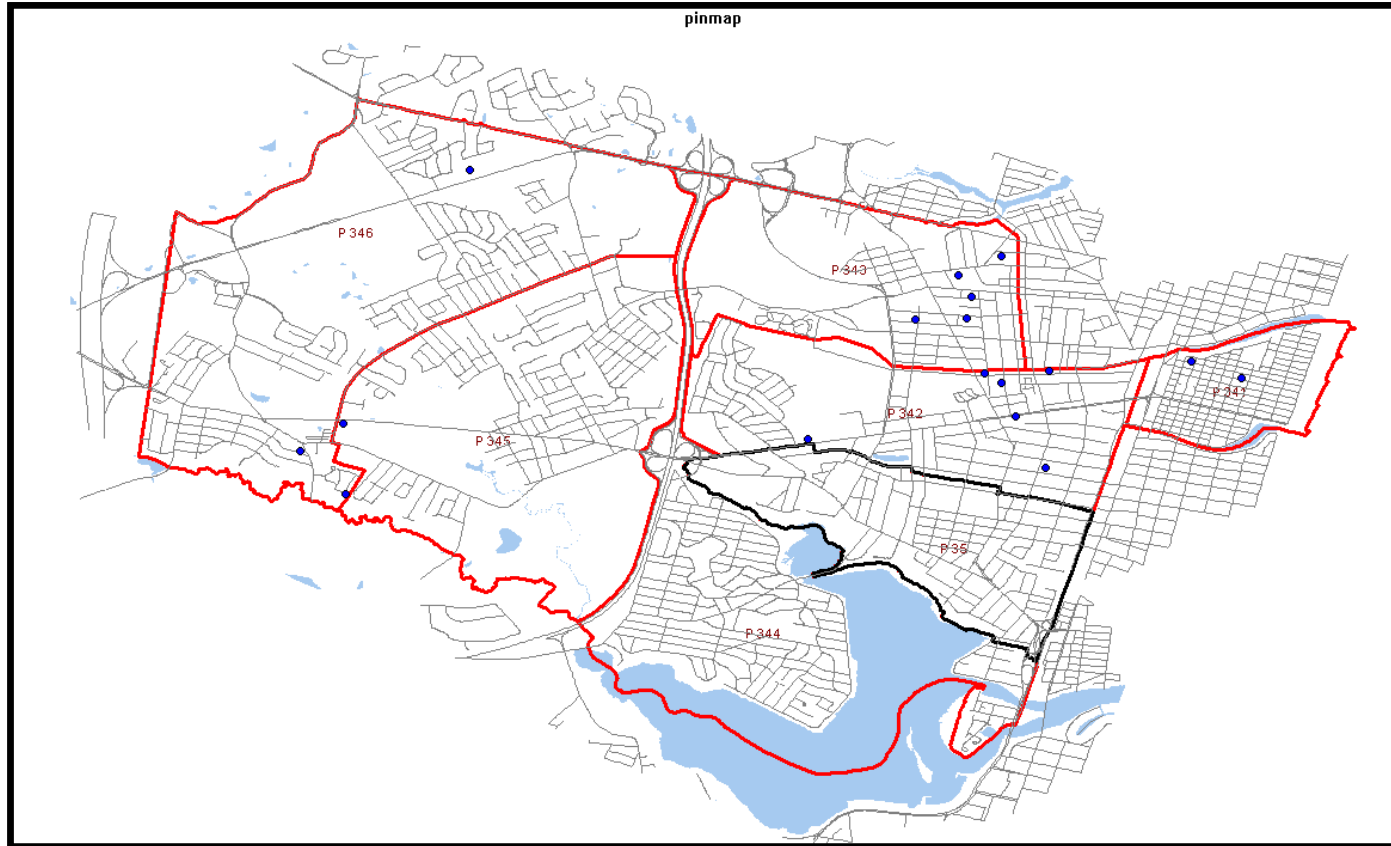
# BURGLARY

(2020 UCR REPORTABLE INCIDENTS)



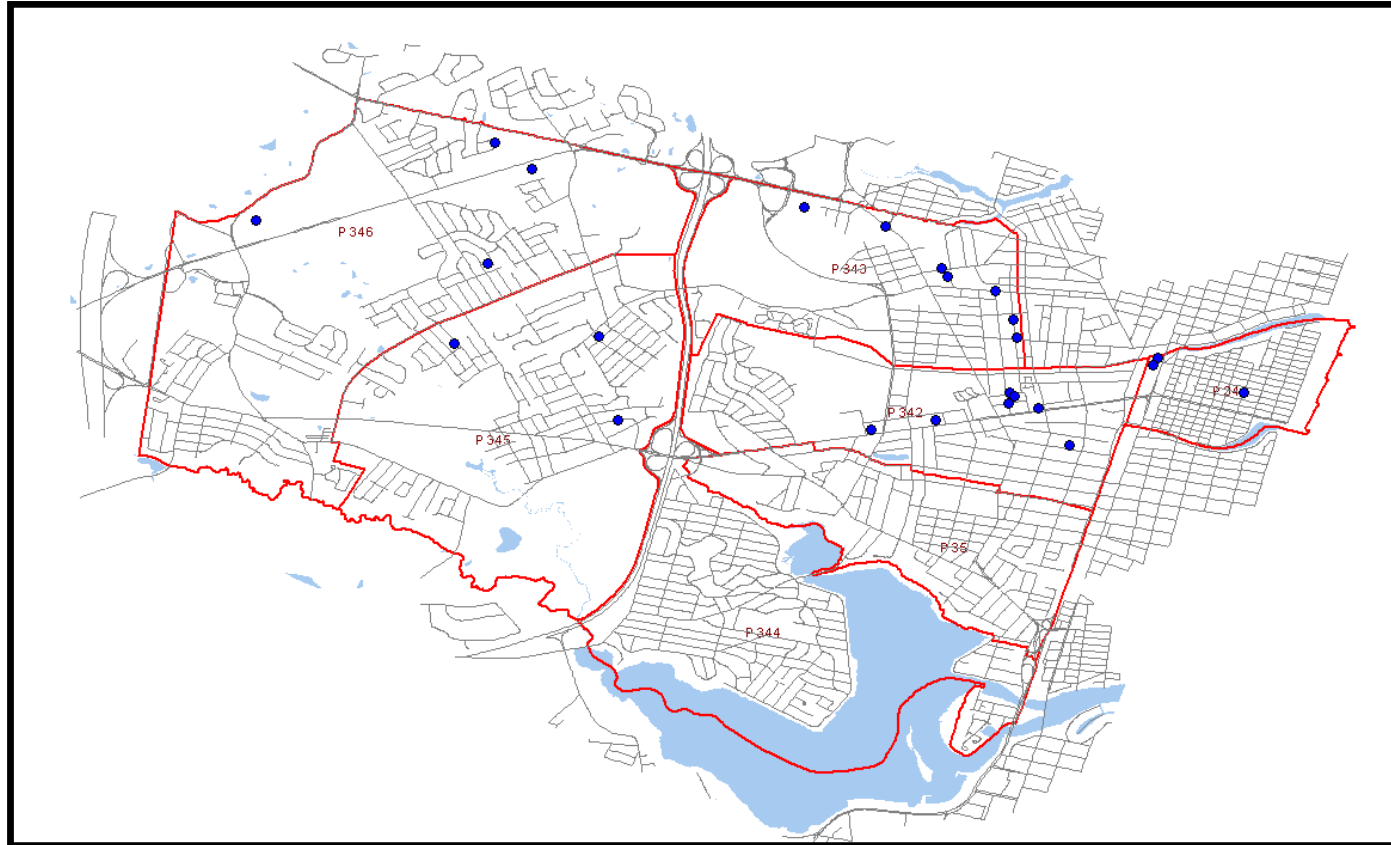
# MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT

(2020 UCR REPORTABLE INCIDENTS)



# ROBBERY

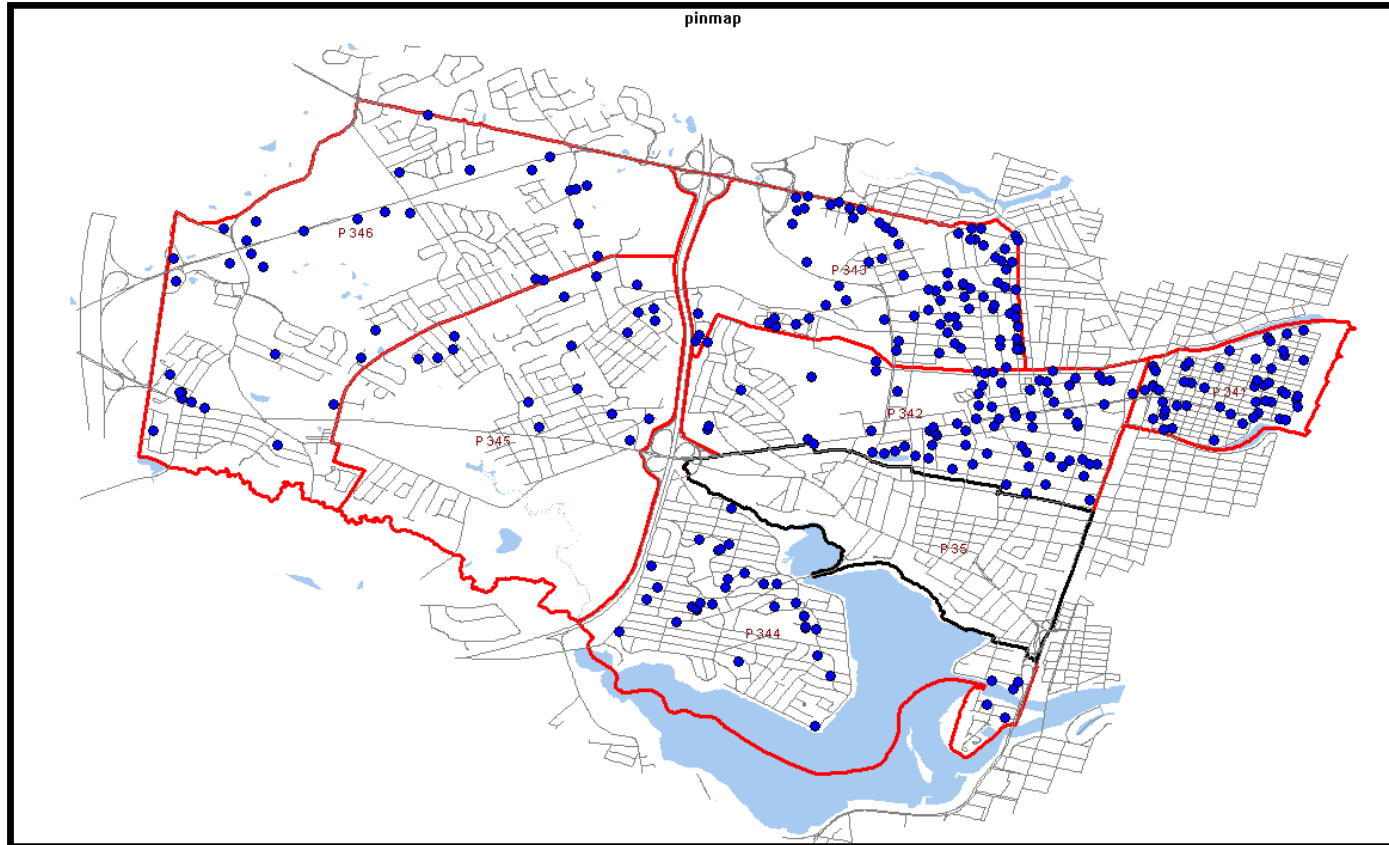
(2020 UCR REPORTABLE INCIDENTS)





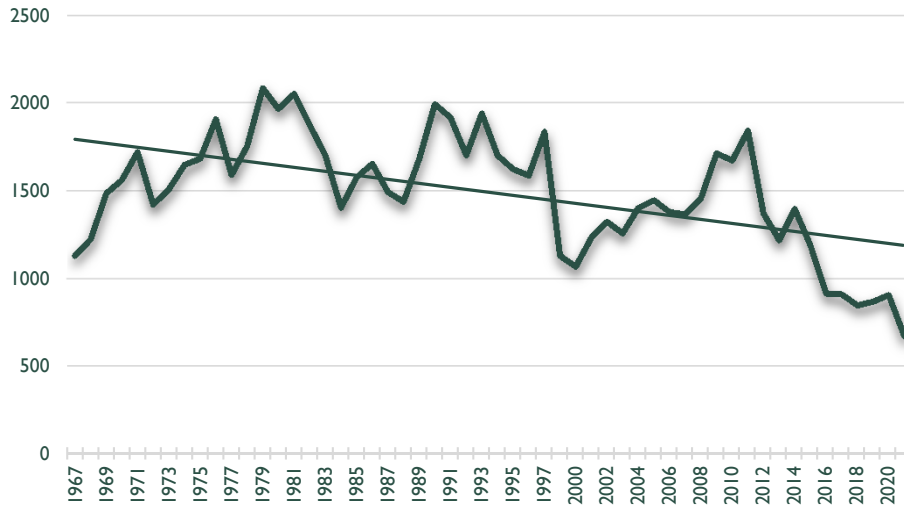
# THEFT

(2020 UCR REPORTABLE INCIDENTS)

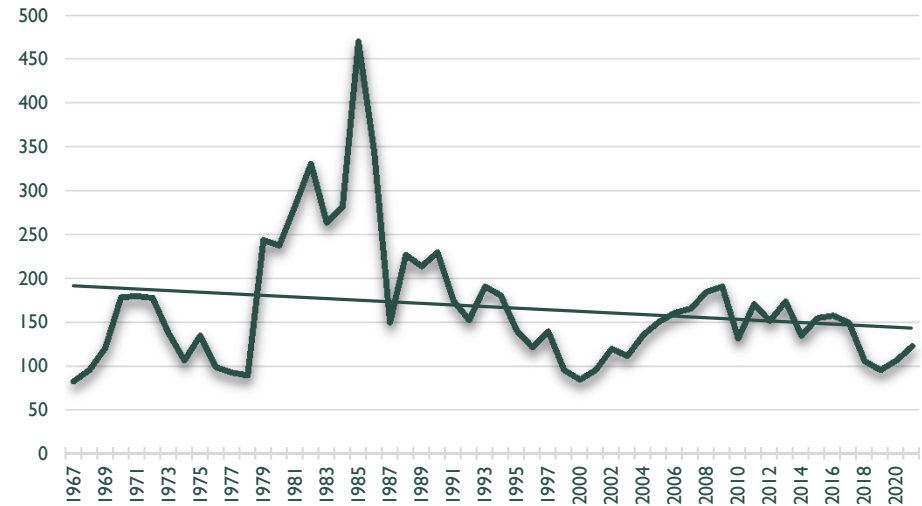


# NEPTUNE TOWNSHIP CRIME HISTORY

**Neptune Township Non-Violent Crime Rate  
(UCR 1967-2021)**



**Neptune Township Violent Crime Rate  
(UCR 1967-2021)**



# ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISION

## DEPUTY CHIEF LARRY B. FISHER



- Community Outreach
- Traffic Bureau
- Special Law Enforcement Officers
- School Resource Officers
- Recruitment

# COMMUNITY OUTREACH LIAISON OFFICERS



Lt. Kevin O'Donnell



Lt. Robert Baldwin



Sgt. Mysonn Ledet



Sgt. James MacConchie



Sgt. Bryan Taylor



Det. Michael Adam



Det. Carrie Bartlett



P.O. Tressa Yurman

- **Central Jersey Club of the Nat. Assoc. of Negro Business and Professional Women's Club:** Sgt. Bryan Taylor
- **Gables Residents Association:** Sgt. Mysonn Ledet
- **Midtown Urban Renaissance Committee:** Lt. Robert Baldwin
- **Ocean Grove Homeowners Association:** P.O. Tressa Yurman
- **Silver Vistas Residents Association:** Lt. Kevin O'Donnell
- **Seaview Island Residents Association:** Det. Carrie Bartlett
- **Shark River Hills Property Owners Association:** Sgt. James MacConchie
- **Winding Ridge Tenants Association:** Det. Michael Adam
- **The Villas at Jumping Brook Homeowners Association:** Det. Michael Adam

# COMMUNITY OUTREACH EVENTS

- Our Community Outreach Officers work with a multitude of agencies and businesses to coordinate special events and ensure a safe environment for all. This Department recognizes the importance and community value of these events, as well as our responsibility to facilitate and ensure the safety for all participants. Given the challenges posed during the past year, many of our typical events that would have taken place were cancelled or modified to accommodate public health concerns. A few of the events we were able to participate in safely, or participated in prior to pandemic restrictions include:
  - **Hooked on Fishing, Not on Drugs**
  - **JumpStart Academy at Neptune High School**
  - **Torch Run for Special Olympics NJ**
  - **Toys for Tots & Holiday Senior Food Deliveries**
  - **“Love Rises” Community Unity Rally**
  - **Trunk or Treat**
  - **Touch a Truck**





# TRAFFIC BUREAU



- The Traffic Bureau is staffed by a Traffic Sergeant and supported by designated Police Officers and Special Law Enforcement Officers. The bureau remains highly responsive to the needs of the community, and encourages two-way communication between the police department and the citizens with traffic related concerns.
- Residents are always encouraged to reach out to the Traffic Bureau with any parking concerns, traffic issues, or community outreach questions. Contact information can be found on the final page of the report.



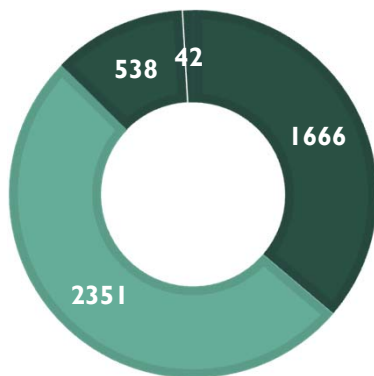
# TRAFFIC BUREAU RESPONSIBILITIES

- Traffic Enforcement
- Serious/Fatal Crash Investigations
- Overseeing all Crash and DWI Reports
- Site Plan Review and Inspection
- Grant Supported Traffic Programs
- Taxi and Tow Truck Inspection
- Analyzation of Speed Sign Data
- Supervision of Crossing Guards
- Installation and Inspection of Child Car Seats
- Maintenance and Training of E-Ticket, Automatic License Plate Readers, Speed Radars and Alcotest Instruments
- Maintenance and Placement of Speed Radar
- Signs and Speed Humps
- Traffic Control at all Township Events
- Issuing of Temporary Handicap Permits
- Engineering Safer and More Efficient Roads

# TRAFFIC BUREAU STATISTICS 2021

**SUMMONSES**  
**TOTAL: 4,525**  
(2020: 4,317)

- Moving Violations
- Non-Moving Violations
- Parking Tickets
- Speeding



## Miscellaneous Statistics

- DWI Arrests
  - 48 (2020: 61)
- Motor Vehicle Crash Reports
  - 1,636 (2020: 1,512)
- Crashes Involving Struck Pedestrians or Bicyclists
  - 43 (2020: 34)
- Number of Pursuits Initiated
  - 7 (2020: 10)

# SPECIAL LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS

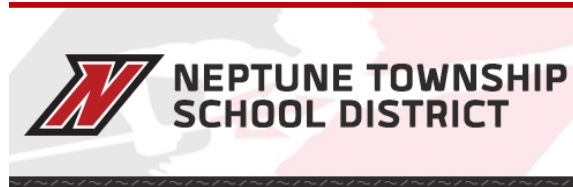
- Over the past year, our Special Law Enforcement Officer program operated with six SLEO II Officers and eight SLEO I officers.
- SLEO II Officers have the same arresting power as a full-time officer except that it is limited to while they are on-duty. They are utilized for speed enforcement, court security, jail operations and walking patrols.
- SLEO I Officers are utilized for parking enforcement, traffic details, and jail operations as well as special events.
- The SLEO program serves as a way for the command staff to evaluate potential candidates for full-time positions. Many of our current full-time officers began their career with the NTPD as a SLEO.

# JAIL OPERATIONS



- Neptune Township operates and staffs an 18 cell jail, which provides service to Neptune Township as well as Avon-by-the-Sea, the Monmouth County Sheriffs Office and other agencies as necessary.
- SLEO I and II Officers hired as jailors are tasked with jail operations, prisoner searches, property inventories and other duties.
- During the year 2021, Neptune's jail housed 1,223 total prisoners.

# SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS



- During a typical year, Neptune High School and Neptune Middle School are staffed by either full-time School Resource Officers or Patrol Officers assigned to the locations each day. Due to the extended closure of our schools during the pandemic, our School Resource Officers have been assigned to provide security at various schools participating in the meal program, which provides meals for Neptune's children that would normally be getting daily lunches.
- Our School Resource Officers are retired law enforcement professionals and/or full-time Police Officers who provide an armed police presence at the schools and are tasked with handling calls for service within the schools. They also work to foster positive contact between the students, the police department, and the faculty.
- The School Resource Officers maintain direct radio contact between the schools and the police department to ensure any urgent situations are dealt with in a timely manner. They also receive countless hours of training in Active Shooter situations, help to address security concerns and potential threats, and monitor drills to ensure students, faculty, and staff are well-prepared for any danger.

# RECRUITMENT

- The Neptune Township Police Department is an equal opportunity employer in all facets of the hiring process.
- Our Recruitment Unit attends community events and job fairs in Neptune Township and Monmouth County as a part of our commitment to attracting qualified and diverse candidates to join the Neptune Township Police Department.
- **For questions regarding recruitment,** we encourage applicants to first visit the Careers pages on **[www.NeptunePolice.org](http://www.NeptunePolice.org)** and send any follow up questions to **[Recruitment@neptunepolice.org](mailto:Recruitment@neptunepolice.org)**.



**Take a seat in your new office, we're hiring!**  
**Apply now at [www.neptunepolice.org/careers](http://www.neptunepolice.org/careers)**

The Neptune Township Police Department is an Equal Opportunity Employer

# OPERATIONS DIVISION

## CAPTAIN MICHAEL J. MCGHEE



- Patrol Bureau
- Street Crimes Unit
- Alcoholic Beverage Control
- Public Information



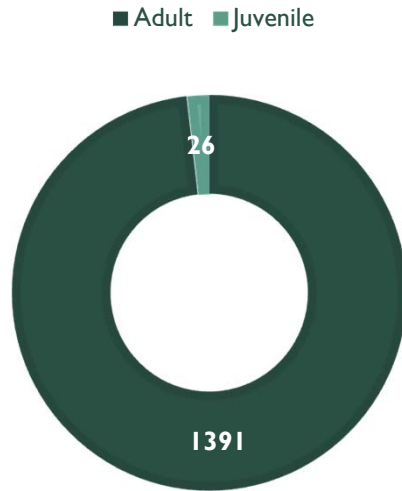
# PATROL BUREAU



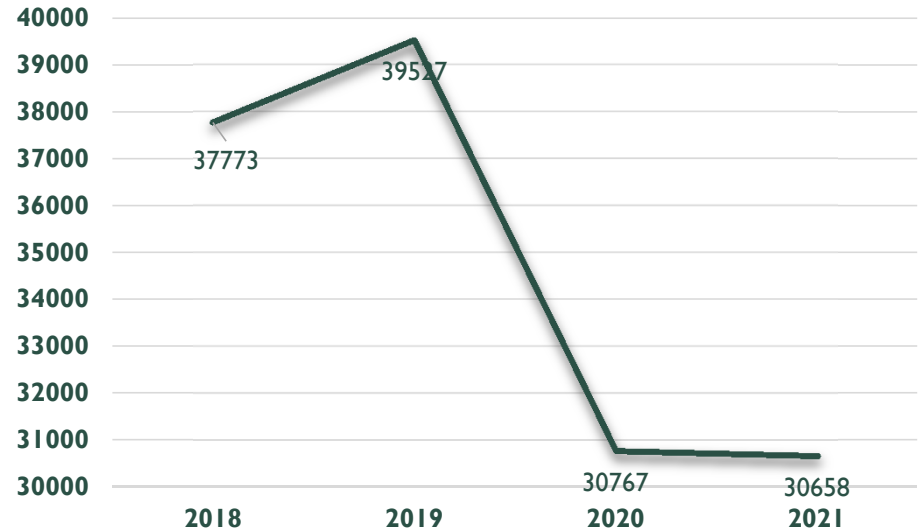
- The Neptune Township Patrol Bureau is the most visible part of the department, committed to improving public safety and quality of life for the residents in our community.
- The Patrol Bureau is on patrol in our community 24/7/365 and answers all calls for service, conducts investigations, and provides traffic and township ordinance enforcement.
- At the end of 2021, the Patrol Bureau was staffed by four Patrol Lieutenants, eight Patrol Sergeants and forty-six Police Officers. Four Police Officers were hired in 2021 and completed our rigorous Field Training program.

# PATROL BUREAU STATISTICS

## TOTAL AGENCY ARRESTS



## Calls for Service



# STREET CRIMES UNIT

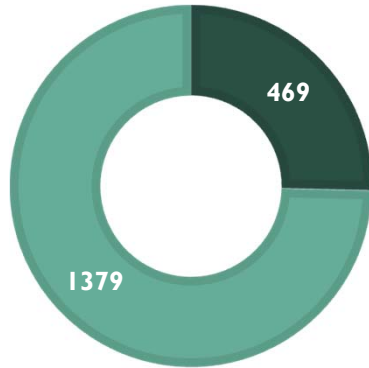
- The Street Crimes Unit is staffed by a Lieutenant, a Sergeant and supported by designated Police Officers. The primary function is to investigate drug crimes and quality of life issues within the Township, including but not limited to: use and sale of narcotics, public alcohol consumption, prostitution, liquor laws, and township ordinances.
- The SCU works with County, State, and Federal agencies to identify and arrest individuals who are involved in the manufacturing, sale and use of illicit narcotics as well as targeting gangs and violent criminals.
- During 2021, the Street Crimes Unit assisted the Monmouth County Prosecutor's Office Narcotic Strike Force and Major Crimes, and the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration HIDTA Task Force.



# STREET CRIMES UNIT STATISTICS

## SCU ARRESTS & CRIMINAL CHARGES

■ Arrests ■ Criminal Charges



- Residential Search Warrants: 15
- Vehicle Search Warrants: 11
- Handguns Seized: 6
- Assault Rifles/Weapons Seized: 3
- Vehicles Seized: 4
- Currency Seized: \$65,937.00
- Warrant Arrests: 133
- Municipal Ordinance Violations: 39

# ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL

- The Identification Bureau and Street Crimes Unit are tasked with registration and maintenance of the Alcoholic Beverage Control licensing program.
- The purpose of this program is to assure businesses are in compliance with NJ Division of Alcoholic Beverage Control regulations, to ensure public safety and to prevent the sale of alcoholic beverages to minors.
- All employees involved in the sale or preparation of alcoholic beverages are required to register and submit to a criminal history check each year.
- **Total Licensed Establishments: 26 (2020: 26)**
  - **Club Licenses (Private/Social Clubs): 4 (2020: 4)**
  - **Distribution Licenses (Liquor Stores): 5 (2020: 5)**
  - **Consumption Licenses (Bars/Restaurants): 17 (2020: 17)**
- **Total Applicants: 141 (2020: 163)**
- **Total Permits Issued: 141 (2020: 163)**

# PUBLIC INFORMATION BUREAU



- The Neptune Township Police Department maintains working relationships with all local and many regional and national news outlets to distribute press releases, emergency information and public service announcements.
- Our Public Information Officers are on-call to assist the media, coordinate news conferences, and work with local agencies to ensure a unified and consistent release of information.
- By maintaining strong relationships with the media, we can ensure a timely release of information to our residents and surrounding communities in the event a critical message must be dispersed.

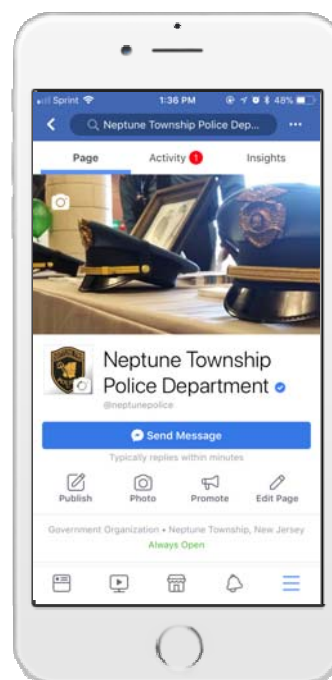




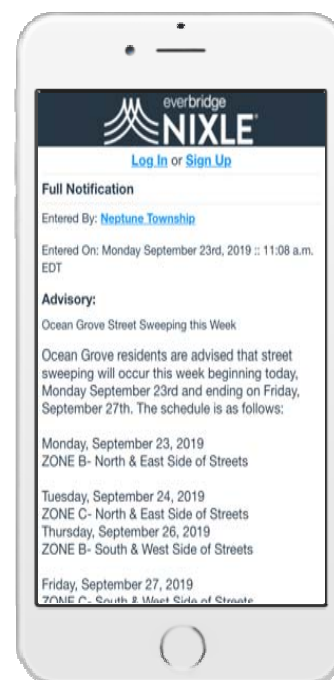
Over **290,000 impressions** on 128 Tweets and **over 3,200 followers**. This is a primary source of information distribution to local and national media.



This year, our **free** mobile application received yet another significant overhaul, merging with the NTOEM app to provide a single information source for Neptune residents.



About **450,000 impressions** and over **7,500 followers**. This is a primary source of information distribution to our local community.



**Nixle by Everbridge** continues to serve as our critical alert system, which can send calls, texts, and emails to all residents instantly.



# PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY DIVISION

## CAPTAIN ANTHONY GUALARIO



- Accreditation
- Detective Bureau
- Internal Affairs
- Grant Supported Programs
- Records Bureau
- Training

# ACCREDITATION

- The Neptune Township Police Department was awarded initial accreditation by the New Jersey State Association of Chiefs of Police in 2016 and, in 2021, underwent the NJSACOP's rigorous re-accreditation program that agencies must endure in order to maintain their accredited status.
- Accreditation is valid for a three-year term, at which time the agency must be reaccredited by the New Jersey State Association of Chiefs of Police. The policies and procedures involved with the Accreditation process are being continually updated to ensure the department is always in compliance with nationally recognized best practice standards in each of the five functions: Administrative, Operations, Investigative, Arrestee/Detainee, and Personnel.
- The Neptune Township Police Department has continued to ensure compliance with each of the 105 required best practice standards, and the Professional Responsibility Division remains confident that this agency will continue to retain Accredited Status.



# DETECTIVE BUREAU

- The Detective Bureau is primarily tasked with conducting follow-up investigations of reported crimes such as homicide, robbery, burglary, fraud and theft, amongst others. As part of the investigation, detectives will interview suspects, victims and witnesses, as well as compile cases for prosecution.
- The Detective Bureau also distributes information to surrounding agencies, conducts background checks on police applicants, and maintains a high level of training necessary to handle a variety of cases.
- In 2021, the investigative division of the Detective Bureau was staffed by one Detective Lieutenant, one Detective Sergeant, four Detectives, and was supported by Police Officers on temporary assignment.



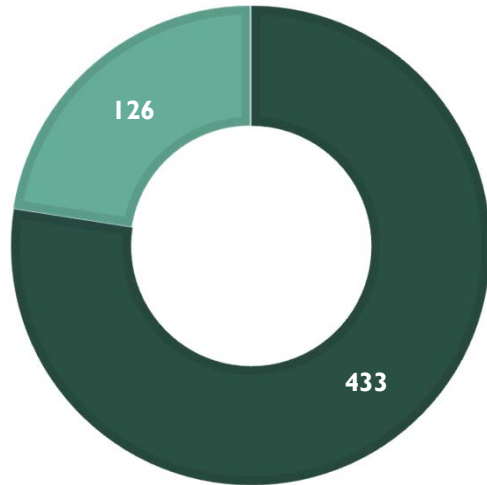
# IDENTIFICATION BUREAU

- The Identification Bureau is a division of the Detective Bureau that is primarily responsible for crime scene forensics, evidence collection and retention.
- The Identification Detectives also handle all Megan's Law registrants in the Township of Neptune, which includes monitoring, registration and conducting unannounced visits to their residences.
- Firearms applications, weapons purchase permits, registration for Alcoholic Beverage Control Liquor Licensee employees and taxi services are also handled by the Identification Bureau.



# DETECTIVE BUREAU STATISTICS 2021

■ Investigations (2020: 291)   ■ Arrests (2020: 81)



- Pieces of Evidence Processed:
  - 4,577 items from 1,893 cases (2020: 4,302 items, 1,694 cases)
- Firearms Identification Cards & Handgun Purchase Permits Issued:
  - 432 Issued (2020: 683)

## NEW TECHNOLOGY AND UPGRADES

- This year, with the assistance of state grant funding, the NTPD purchased a brand new Panasonic Body Worn Camera and Mobile Video Recording system for every officer, SLEO II, and patrol vehicle in the department. This state-of-the-art camera system provides increased safety and transparency for the public and our officers. While the NTPD has maintained different vehicle mounted camera systems for several decades already, the body worn cameras are new to the department.
- With the assistance of grant funding, the process of upgrading our headquarters camera system is underway including significant improvements to our 18-cell jail facility to increase safety for both our officers and those in our custody. These upgrades are scheduled to be completed in early 2022.
- During the ongoing pandemic, the NTPD has continued to work closely with Neptune Township and the Office of Emergency Management to keep our first responders and community safe. The NTPD uses an advanced disinfection system (purchased with grant funding in 2020) which will allow us to perform routine deep-cleans of our facility and vehicles to help prevent the spread of COVID.

# INTERNAL AFFAIRS EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- The Neptune Township Police Department Internal Affairs Unit accepts, reviews, and responds to all complaints against police officers received from the public or from superior officers within the organization. Citizen complaints may be made in person, by telephone, fax, internet, or through the mail. These include anonymous complaints, complaints from third party witnesses, juveniles and complaints from parties not directly involved in the incident from which an allegation arises. All allegations are carried to their logical conclusion by experienced and trained investigators.
- In any given year officers of the Neptune Township Police Department are involved in tens of thousands of citizen contacts. Many are routine and many involve critical situations. The Internal Affairs Unit is tasked with handling complaints from the public regarding officer conduct, as well as rare allegations of criminal conduct by department members.
- The investigative process assesses the propriety of all on or off duty conduct during the incident in which the alleged misconduct occurred. If during the course of an investigation there is an indication that misconduct occurred other than that alleged, the investigator examines the additional potential misconduct to its logical conclusion.
- The following penalties may be assessed against any member or employee of the Neptune Township Police Department as a result of disciplinary action:
  - Oral Reprimand
  - Written Reprimand
  - Suspension
  - Demotion
  - Dismissal



# INTERNAL AFFAIRS STATISTICS

- All complaints are categorized based on the alleged offense. Upon the completion of the investigation, the investigator will reach a conclusion based upon the facts developed in their investigation which will fall into one of the following five dispositions:
  - **Exonerated:** A preponderance of the evidence shows the alleged conduct did occur, but did not violate any law; regulation; directive, guideline, policy, or procedure issued by the Attorney General or County Prosecutor; agency protocol; standard operating procedure; rule; or training.
  - **Sustained:** A preponderance of the evidence shows an officer violated any law; regulation; directive, guideline, policy, or procedure issued by the Attorney General or County Prosecutor; agency protocol; standard operating procedure; rule; or training.
  - **Not Sustained:** The investigation failed to disclose sufficient evidence to clearly prove or disprove the allegation.
  - **Unfounded:** A preponderance of the evidence shows that the alleged conduct did not occur.
  - **Administratively Closed:** This disposition is used for extraordinary circumstances that isn't defined by any of the other four dispositions. (e.g., employee passes away.)

# INTERNAL AFFAIRS STATISTICS

Type of Complaint	Source of Complaint: <i>Civilian</i>	Source of Complaint: <i>Agency</i>	Exonerated	Not Sustained	Sustained	Administratively Closed	Unfounded	Pending
Excessive Force	6	0	2	1	0	0	1	4
Improper Arrest	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Improper Entry	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	0
Improper Search	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Criminal Violation	3	1	0	0	0	0	1	3
Differential Treatment	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Demeanor	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Domestic Violence	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Rule Violation	3	12	2	0	10	0	1	2

# GRANT ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

- **BJA Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program (JAG)**
  - Named in honor of fallen NYPD Officer Edward Byrne, this grant program is a leading source of federal funding to state and local police departments. The program grants funding to agencies to support a broad range of crime prevention and control activities.
  - In 2021, the Neptune Township Police Department **received \$12,053 from this grant**, which was subsequently used to support upgrades to the Police Department video surveillance system.
- **Body Armor Replacement Grants**
  - This year, the Neptune Township Police Department purchased 30 new vests at zero cost to the Township, made possible by \$31,878 in grant funding. 50% of the funding came from the Federal Bulletproof Vest Partnership and 50% came from the State Body Armor Replacement Fund.

## RECORDS BUREAU

- In 2021, the Neptune Township Police Department received **30,658 calls for service**. Most of these calls require the completion of a police report and, in 2021, the Records Bureau processed 2,679 Report (OPRA) Requests, and provided discovery on 206 cases.
- The Neptune Township Police Department Records Bureau plays a very important role in the area of law enforcement. Prompt and accurate processing and dissemination of the police reports and associated paperwork is an integral part of the judicial process. The Records Bureau is staffed by two Records Clerks and two Terminal Agency Coordinators who report to a Captain.

# COMMENDATIONS

- **The Street Crimes Unit including Lt. William Kirchner, Lt. Jason Petillo, P.O. Robert Hagerman, P.O. Morgan Holland, P.O. Dominique Russo, P.O. Nicola Costagliola, and SLEO Sheena Benites** were commended by Chief Hunt in December following an investigation and motor vehicle stop leading to the recovery of an assault rifle, large capacity magazine, and narcotics. The officers responded to a residence following neighbor complaints of possible narcotics sales from the home and subsequently conducted a motor vehicle stop with a vehicle seen departing the residence with a large rifle case. The occupant was removed and gave permission to search the vehicle, at which time officers located the assault rifle, magazine, and narcotics.
- **P.O. Morgan Holland** was commended in January for his actions when a vehicle he was attempting to stop fled, leading to a foot pursuit during which the suspect dropped a loaded 9mm handgun. P.O. Holland attempted to stop a vehicle after observing numerous motor vehicle violations at which time the vehicle disregarded the stop and fled the scene. P.O. Holland followed the vehicle until it parked, at which time the operator began to flee on foot while holding an object in his waistband. During the foot chase, the suspect dropped a loaded handgun and stopped to pick it up, at which time P.O. Holland was able to place him under arrest. The suspect and vehicle were eventually searched, leading to the recovery of the narcotics in addition to the 9mm handgun.
- **SLEO II Vincent Zenna** was commended in January for his proactive police work in regards to a suspicious vehicle which led to two arrests and the recovery of a loaded, defaced handgun, high capacity magazine and narcotics. SLEO Zenna observed a vehicle parked in the lot of a business away from the entrance with two occupants who appeared to be drinking alcoholic beverages. He approached to speak with the occupants and later searched the vehicle, recovering a loaded 9mm Ruger handgun with a defaced serial number, a high capacity magazine, narcotics and additional paraphernalia.
- **Lt. William Kirchner, Lt. Jason Petillo, Sgt. Aaron Lay, Sgt. Gregory Washington, P.O. Robert Hagerman and P.O. Malcom Jenkins** were commended in December for their sharp observation and interception of a group of people loitering in a high crime area, leading to the subsequent recovery of a handgun following a brief struggle. Utilizing Township surveillance cameras located in high crime areas, Sgt. Lay and Sgt. Washington observed a group of males loitering in a known drug distribution location and noticed what appeared to be a handgun in the waistband of one of the males. Lt. William Kirchner, Lt. Jason Petillo, P.O. Robert Hagerman and P.O. Malcom Jenkins responded to the area to speak with the group and the male suspect attempted to avoid contact and depart from the area. Following a brief struggle, a handgun was recovered and the male was arrested. Also arrested was another male from the group who interfered with the arrest.

# COMMENDATIONS

- **Lt. William Kirchner** and **P.O. Matthew McDonough** were commended in November for their actions at the scene of an Armed Barricaded Subject which led to the safe surrender of an suicidal male. Officers responded to an apartment after a male called 911 reporting subjects were attempting to harm him, and that he was in possession of numerous weapons and would not leave the residence. Upon arrival, officers made contact with the subject through the front door and engaged in conversation with the subject. The subject relayed that he would harm anyone who attempted to open the door, and said he was wearing an armored vest and holding a sword and ax, and requested that the officers shoot him through the door. Lt. Kirchner spoke with the subject for through the door, learning that he was a veteran of the U.S. Armed Forces. Eventually, the subject opened the door voluntarily and officers observed that he was indeed armed with numerous weapons and wearing a tactical armored vest. After an hour of dialoguing with the subject, Lt. Kirchner convinced the subject to drop the weapons and vest and that he would be taken to the hospital to obtain mental health treatment. Officers entered the apartment and removed the subject without injury and transported him to JSUMC for treatment.
- **Sgt. Vincent Letsch, Det. Bryan Taylor, P.O. Matthew Simpson, P.O. Aaron Haskins, P.O. Shane Leaming, and P.O. Morgan Holland** were commended in September following a call for a suspicious vehicle which led to the recovery of two handguns and narcotics. Officers were dispatched to the parking lot of a business for a vehicle with two occupants who appeared to be passed out inside. As the officers arrived, a handgun was observed in plain view inside the vehicle, which was in the middle of the parking lot with the transmission still in drive while both occupants were asleep. As backup officers arrived, the subjects woke up and were immediately removed from the vehicle to avoid them being able to access the firearm. A loaded Glock handgun and high-capacity magazine was removed from the vehicle, both occupants were arrested and the vehicle was towed to NTPD headquarters. During an interview with one of the occupants, he voluntarily indicated that an additional handgun was located in the vehicle and gave permission to search. During the search, an additional handgun was located along with numerous narcotics and paraphernalia.

# GOALS AND STRATEGIES FOR 2021

- Work to re-establish connections with homeowners and service groups, faith-based and non-profit organizations within our local community that have suspended meetings and contact due to public health concerns over the past year.
- To reduce crime and the fear of crime through innovative patrol techniques, specialized units, advanced technology, information sharing, public information and targeted investigations.
- To continue providing the professional, skilled service our community has come to expect by ensuring officers receive the most up-to-date training and educational opportunities.
- Continue to provide a thorough and transparent Internal Affairs process through advanced training for investigators and by maintaining the high standards required by our law enforcement accreditation.
- Revisit and revise policies and procedures in accordance with accreditation standards and best practices of the modern law enforcement community.
- Continue to prioritize the health and safety of our employees and the community members we come into contact with on a daily basis through enhanced sanitization efforts, advanced training, and necessary personal protective equipment.



# CONTACT INFORMATION

Emergency	9-1-1
Non-Emergency	(732) 988-8000
Office of the Chief	(732) 988-8000 ext. 402
Detective Bureau	(732) 988-8000 ext. 420
Identification Bureau	(732) 988-8000 ext. 427
Traffic Bureau/Community Outreach	(732) 988-8000 ext. 433
Records Bureau	(732) 988-8000 ext. 457
Street Crimes Unit	(732) 988-8000 ext. 416