

# Neptune Township Police Department

2023 ANNUAL REPORT



# A MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF

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It is my honor to present the Annual Report for the Neptune Township Police Department for 2023. As your Chief of Police, I hope that this report serves as a testament to the dedication, commitment and hard work of our exemplary officers and staff who work to serve this community. The priority of the Neptune Township Police Department is to protect our community, prevent crime and reduce the fear of crime. In order to achieve this goal, this department and its leadership remain focused on:

**Community Policing & Engagement:** The NTPD is an agency that recognizes the importance of civic engagement, and works hard to follow our core values of being Noble, Trustworthy, Professional and Diverse. Our supervisors and officers have worked diligently to strengthen relationships with residents, local businesses and community organizations. Our officers have been actively engaged in crime prevention initiatives, community outreach programs and educational campaigns. We believe that fostering a sense of unity and shared responsibility is integral to maintaining a safe and vibrant community.

**Training & Education:** The Neptune Township Police Department is committed to ensuring our officers are equipped with the latest training and resources to handle the diverse challenges that we may face. This year, we implemented dozens of new training programs including those focused on Mental Health, Community Engagement, and the Supervision, Leadership, and Mentoring the next generation of officers.

**Advanced Technology & Equipment:** Innovative technology that enhances our capabilities are embraced by the NTPD, and continue to be implemented to prevent crime and improve our investigative process. This coming year, we are planning to implement several new programs that will increase our community engagement and interaction, supported by state of the art equipment and technology.

To the residents of Neptune Township, I am proud to lead this agency and continue to prioritize positive change, forward thinking, being open minded, accountability, transparency, professionalism and leading by example. I assure you I will rise to the challenge in continuing to build off Neptune Township Police Department's strong history of community outreach and establishing new partnerships with community organizations to facilitate open and positive dialogue.

To the Police Officers and staff of the NTPD, I am extremely proud and thankful for everything you do. You have made our community a better place to live and raise a family. Your sacrifices in keeping our community safe does not go unnoticed. I am proud to lead this department and all of the hard-working men and women who proudly provide public safety services and work to enhance the quality of life to all of our residents and visitors. It is truly an honor to be your Chief.



*Chief of Police Anthony Gualario*

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# DEPARTMENT GOALS

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## OUR MISSION

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.

## OUR VISION

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.

## OUR CORE VALUES

**N**oble

**T**rustworthy

**P**rofessional

**D**iverse

# COMMAND STAFF

## Anthony Gualario Chief of Police



Chief Gualario is a proud native of Neptune Township and graduated from Neptune High School in 1990. Upon his graduation, he chose to serve our nation with the United States Army. During his service, he was stationed at Fort Drum, New York, assigned to the 10th Mountain Division. While serving, he was deployed to Southern Florida following the devastating Hurricane Andrew in 1992 as part of "Joint Task Force Andrew", the largest relief operation in United States history. He was then deployed as part of "Operation Restore Hope" to Somalia as the country located in the Horn of Africa experienced a massive humanitarian disaster and complete breakdown of civil order. His commendable military service during these challenging deployments earned him accolades such as the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, Joint Meritorious Unit Emblem, Humanitarian Service Medal, Army Service Ribbon, National Defense Ribbon, and New Jersey's highest military distinction, the Distinguished Service Medal, for his valorous actions in a combat theater. He remains involved with the armed forces and serves as a life member and Junior Vice Commander of the Veteran's of Foreign Wars Post #1333 in Neptune Township.

Upon his return to the United States and honorable discharge from military service, Chief Gualario began serving his local community by attending the Monmouth County Police Academy, first graduating as a Special Law Enforcement Officer II with the 21st Class and then as a Police Officer as part of the 52nd Class. During his time in the academy, Chief Gualario was given the "Merit Award" from his peers for likelihood of future advancement and success in his career.

During his 27-year career with the NTPD, Chief Gualario served in a number of supervisory positions. In 2008 he was promoted to Sergeant in charge of Traffic Safety. In 2012 he was promoted to Lieutenant in patrols as a Shift Commander. In 2013 he was reassigned as an Administrative Lieutenant in charge of Internal Affairs, administered grants, accreditation manager and other administrative duties. In 2016 he was promoted to Captain as the Division Commander of the Professional Responsibility Division overseeing Internal Affairs, Detective Bureau, Traffic Bureau, Identification Bureau, Accreditation, Training, Grants, Forfeiture, Special Law Enforcement Officers, Budgeting, Administration and many other duties. In May of 2023 he was sworn in as Deputy Chief of Police overseeing the day-to-day operations.

Chief Gualario has continued his pursuit of professional excellence outside of the workplace as he attended the prestigious Federal Bureau of Investigation National Academy in Quantico, Virginia graduating the 274th Session and the New Jersey State Association of Chiefs of Police Command and Leadership (West Point) Academy. Chief Gualario holds a Master's Degree in Administrative Science and a Bachelor of Arts Degree from Farleigh Dickinson University, as well as a Postgraduate Certificate in Law and Public Safety Administration and an Undergraduate Certificate in Criminal Justice Education from the University of Virginia.

# COMMAND STAFF

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## Michael McGhee Deputy Chief of Police

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Michael McGhee began his law enforcement career in the Neptune Township Police Department in 1999 after graduating the New Jersey State Police Basic Course for Police Officers 201st municipal academy in January of 2000. D/C McGhee has held various roles during his tenure beginning in the patrol division and later transitioned into roles such as a member of the Quality of Life/Street Crimes Unit, School Resource Officer, GREAT instructor and as a Juvenile Detective. In 2011 he was promoted to Patrol Sergeant. Shortly after, in November 2012, he was promoted to the position of Detective Lieutenant, overseeing the day-to-day operations of the Detective Bureau. Two years later he would be reassigned as an Administrative Lieutenant in Internal Affairs, while also being the Grants Officer, Training Officer and handling the responsibilities as the department's Public Information Officer.

In August 2016, he was promoted to the rank of Captain assigned to lead the Operations Division, overseeing patrols and Street Crimes Unit. In early 2022 he was reassigned as the Administrative Captain, overseeing the Detective Bureau, Records Bureau, Traffic Bureau, the Special Law Enforcement Officers, recruitment and other administrative duties. In September 2023, he was sworn in as Deputy Chief of Police.

D/C McGhee was born, raised and still resides in Neptune Township. He attended Neptune Public Schools graduating from Neptune High School in 1995. As a decorated high school student-athlete, D/C McGhee attended The College of New Jersey, where he continued his academic and soccer career, before transitioning to play college football for three years. Obtaining a degree in Criminal Justice, D/C McGhee was hired by the Neptune Township Police Department soon after graduating. D/C McGhee had the privilege of coaching boys' basketball at Neptune High School, coaching recreation soccer and Little League and currently as a coach in the Neptune Travel Soccer program where he also serves as a member of the board. D/C McGhee is a Monmouth County 200 Club Commendation Award recipient and has attended high level training including the NJ State Association of Chiefs of Police West Point Command & Leadership Academy, New Police Chiefs Orientation School, Police Executive Institute, the FBI-LEEDA Executive Leadership Institute, Penn State High Impact Supervision and both the New Jersey State Police and NYPD Homicide Investigators Course. D/C McGhee also holds a Masters Degree in Police Graduate Studies from Seton Hall University.

# COMMAND STAFF

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## **Michael D'Amico** **Captain, Operations Division**

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Captain D'Amico attended Neptune High School and graduated in 1988. He enlisted in the United States Marine Corps and attending basic training in Paris Island, S.C. He served at various duty stations during his time in the Marine Corps; attending infantry training at Camp Lejeune, N.C., Marine Corps Security Forces School in Virginia Beach, Virginia and was assigned to Naval Weapons Station Keflavik, Iceland. He finished his military service at Headquarters Marine Corps in Washington D.C.

Capt. D'Amico was hired as a Patrol Officer in 1996 and is a 28 year veteran of the Neptune Township Police Department. Capt. D'Amico began in the Patrol Division and transitioned to the Quality of Life/Street Crimes Unit and the Detective Bureau. He was promoted to Sergeant and reassigned to the Patrol Division and was promoted to Lieutenant in 2014 where he was assigned to the Detective Bureau. He was promoted to Captain in 2022 and is currently in charge of the Operations Division overseeing the Patrol Division and the Street Crimes/Quality of Life Unit.

Capt. D'Amico holds a Masters Degree in Administrative Science and a Bachelor of Arts Degree from Fairleigh Dickinson University.



## **Kevin O'Donnell** **Captain, Professional Responsibility Division**

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Captain O'Donnell attended Neptune High School where he was a standout athlete who graduated in 1994. He attended William Paterson University and graduated with a Bachelor's Degree in Sociology, and played basketball all four years. Recently, he earned a Master's Degree in Human Resources and Training Development from Seton Hall University.

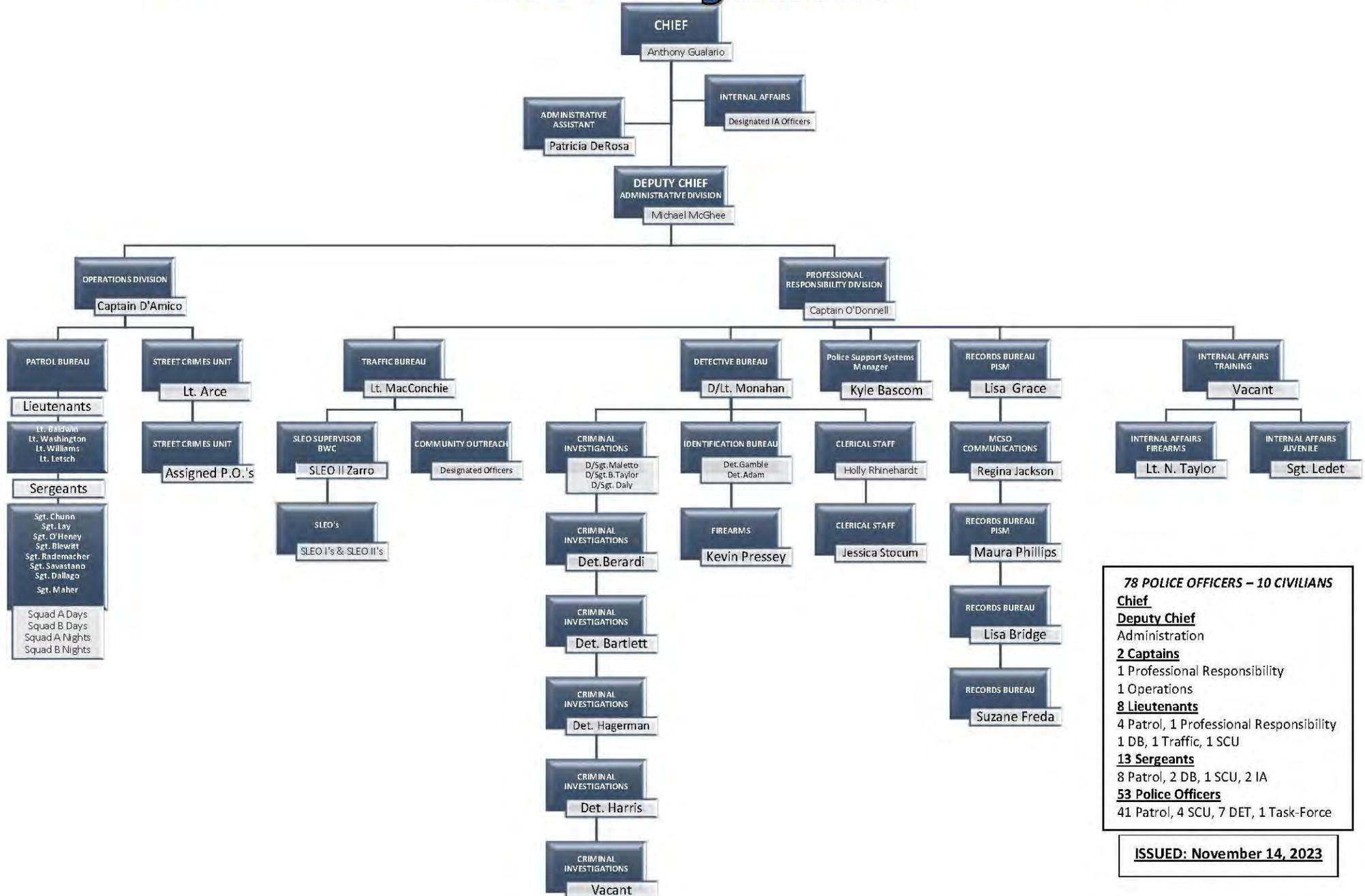
Capt. O'Donnell began his law enforcement career as a Dispatcher and SLEO II with the Avon Police Department before being hired by the Neptune Township Police Department as a Police Officer in 2000. He was assigned to Neptune High School as a School Resource Officer and in 2014, was promoted to Sergeant assigned to the Detective Bureau and later, the Professional Responsibility Division. In 2021, he was promoted to Lieutenant and in 2023, he was promoted to Captain. As Captain of the Professional Responsibility Division, he is responsible for supervising the Internal Affairs Unit, the Detective Bureau, the Records Bureau, maintaining Accreditation, obtaining Grants, administering Training, and other duties.



# Neptune Township Police Department



## Table of Organization



**78 POLICE OFFICERS – 10 CIVILIANS**  
**Chief**  
**Deputy Chief**  
 Administration  
**2 Captains**  
 1 Professional Responsibility  
 1 Operations  
**8 Lieutenants**  
 4 Patrol, 1 Professional Responsibility  
 1 DB, 1 Traffic, 1 SCU  
**13 Sergeants**  
 8 Patrol, 2 DB, 1 SCU, 2 IA  
**53 Police Officers**  
 41 Patrol, 4 SCU, 7 DET, 1 Task-Force

**ISSUED: November 14, 2023**

# PERSONNEL ROSTER

<b>Chief</b>	Anthony Gualario	<b>PO</b>	Matthew McDonough
<b>Capt.</b>	Michael D'Amico	<b>Det.</b>	Owen Rosenthal
<b>DC</b>	Michael J. McGhee	<b>PO</b>	Robert Vetrano
<b>Capt.</b>	Kevin M. O'Donnell	<b>PO</b>	Ryan Calabro
<b>Lt.</b>	Vincent D. Letsch	<b>PO</b>	Tressa Yurman
<b>Det/Lt.</b>	Paul T. Monahan	<b>PO</b>	Malcolm Jenkins
<b>Det.</b>	Michael Adam	<b>PO</b>	Milton Roman
<b>Det.</b>	David T. Gamble	<b>PO</b>	Matthew Simpson
<b>Lt.</b>	Jose L. Arce	<b>PO</b>	Richard Cuttrell
<b>Lt.</b>	Robert L. Baldwin, Jr.	<b>PO</b>	Morgan Holland
<b>Sgt.</b>	Eric P. Chunn	<b>PO</b>	Noah DeFazio
<b>PO</b>	Matthew I. Kocen	<b>PO</b>	Bryan Jones
<b>PO</b>	Javaughn Rogers	<b>PO</b>	Cadell Kennedy
<b>Lt.</b>	Nicholas Taylor	<b>PO</b>	Kylee Jazikoff
<b>Lt.</b>	Gregory Washington	<b>PO</b>	Vincent Zenna
<b>Det.</b>	Louis Berardi	<b>PO</b>	Krista Panariello
<b>PO</b>	Christopher Niskoch	<b>PO</b>	Ryan Santos
<b>PO</b>	Marques Alston	<b>PO</b>	Jaheem Woods
<b>Lt.</b>	James MacConchie	<b>PO</b>	Sheena Benites
<b>PO</b>	Kevin Schuster	<b>PO</b>	Mi'Jaut Berry
<b>Lt.</b>	Kaan Williams	<b>PO</b>	Joshua James
<b>Sgt.</b>	Thomas Blewitt	<b>PO</b>	Steven Kontogiannis
<b>Det/Sgt.</b>	Frank Maletto	<b>PO</b>	Nicholas Krimin
<b>Sgt.</b>	Kristopher Daly	<b>PO</b>	James Weinberg
<b>Sgt.</b>	Jason Rademacher	<b>PO</b>	Bryan Bolch
<b>PO</b>	Christopher Sibole	<b>PO</b>	Briant Nixon
<b>Det/Sgt.</b>	Bryan Taylor	<b>PO</b>	Dylan Tortorelli
<b>Sgt.</b>	Mysonn Ledet	<b>SLEO II</b>	
<b>Sgt.</b>	Bryan Maher	Charles Theodora	
<b>PO</b>	Douglas Mattia	Michael Zarro	
<b>Sgt.</b>	Robert O'Heney	Robert Newman	
<b>Det.</b>	Carrie Bartlett	Tristan Waldron	
<b>PO</b>	Brian Bucossi	Malik Jenkins	
<b>Sgt.</b>	Jesse Dallago	Yasmeen Jones-Muhammad	
<b>PO</b>	Robert Layton	Aaron Robertson	
<b>PO</b>	Erik Gullestad	<b>SLEO I</b>	
<b>Sgt.</b>	Joseph Savastano	Scott Gomes	
<b>PO</b>	Ryan Chippendale	<b>Civilian Staff</b>	
<b>Det</b>	Robert Hagerman	Jessica Stocum	
<b>Det</b>	Darell Harris	Patricia DeRosa	
<b>Sgt</b>	Aaron Lay	Holly Rhinehardt	
<b>PO</b>	Casey Crawford	Lisa Grace	
<b>PO</b>	Shane Leaming	Maura Phillips	
<b>PO</b>	Evan Pollara	Kyle Bascom	
<b>PO</b>	Richard Brogley	Regina Jackson	
<b>PO</b>	Nicola Costagliola	Lisa Bridge	
<b>PO</b>	Danielle DePalma	Suzanne Freda	
<b>PO</b>	Aaron Haskins	Kevin Pressey	

# PERSONNEL UPDATES

## PROMOTIONS

Chief of Police Anthony Gualario  
Deputy Chief of Police Michael McGhee  
Captain Kevin O'Donnell  
Lieutenant Vincent Letsch  
Lieutenant Nicholas Taylor  
Lieutenant James MacConchie  
Lieutenant Kaan Williams  
Sergeant Kristopher Daly  
Sergeant Jesse Dallago



## NEW HIRES

Police Officers Bryan Bolch, Briant Nixon, & Dylan Tortorelli



## RETIREMENT

Chief of Police Larry B. Fisher

## RESIGNATIONS

Police Officer Brooke Tartis  
Police Officer Seunwoo Kim

# TRAINING & EDUCATION

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**Officers, SLEO's and Civilian Staff earned a combined 3,237 credit hours of training in 2023 (2022: 3,025), including:**

Active Shooter	Mental Health First Aid
Weapons and Devices	Detecting Misleading Behaviors
Vehicular Pursuit	Cellebrite Physical Analyst
Basic Crash Investigator	Field Training Officer
Methods of Instruction	Advanced Impaired Driving Enforcement
Special Victims Investigation	Alcoholic Beverage Control
Emergency Vehicle Operations Instructor	Computer Crimes Investigations
DWI Field Sobriety Testing	Investigating Police Misconduct
Homicide Investigators	Financial Crimes Investigation
Supervision, Leadership and Mentoring	Laws of Arrest, Search and Seizure
Front Line Supervision	Gang Awareness and Identification
Crisis Intervention	Policing of Teens
Investigative Interviewing	Drug Impaired Driving
Alcotest Operator	Identifying Fraudulent Documents
	Incident Command System

## POLICY UPDATES

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**All of the below Standard Operating Procedures were updated in 2023:**

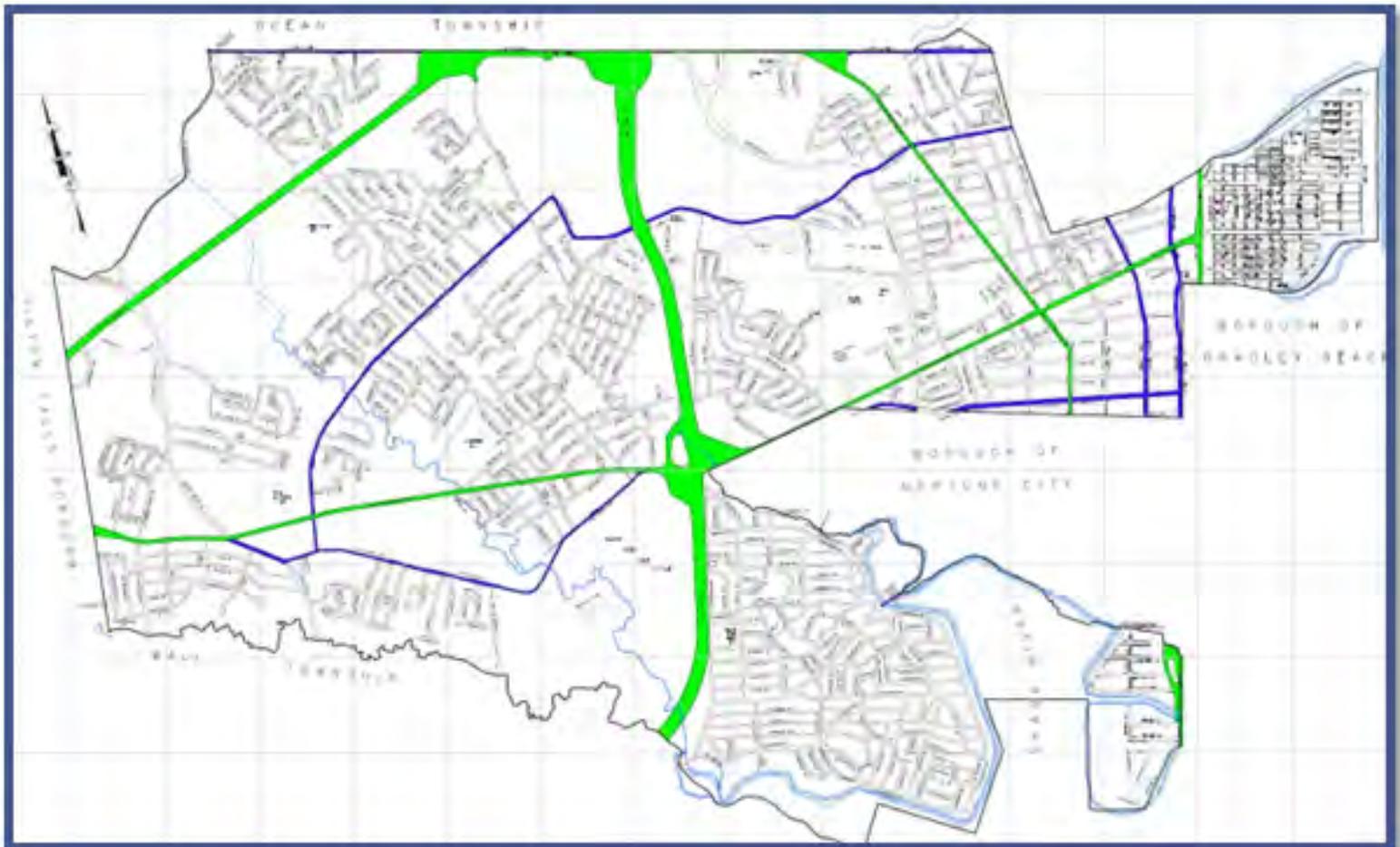
- Drug Testing
- Air Cushion Operations
- Evidence and Property Control
- Uniforms, Equipment and Personal Appearance
- Automated License Plate Readers
- Body Worn Cameras and Mobile Video Recorders
- Strip and Body Cavity Searches
- Body Armor

# DEMOGRAPHICS

## NEPTUNE TOWNSHIP, NEW JERSEY

- Zip Code: 07753
- 28,061 Residents (2020)
  - 8.67 Square Miles
  - 260 Miles of Roadway

Neptune Township Census Estimates (2020)		Neptune Township Police Officer Demographics	
White	48%	White	72%
Black	31%	Black	23%
Hispanic	16%	Hispanic	4%
Asian	2%	Asian	1%
Other	3%	Other	0%



# RECORDS BUREAU & STATISTICS

## Records Bureau

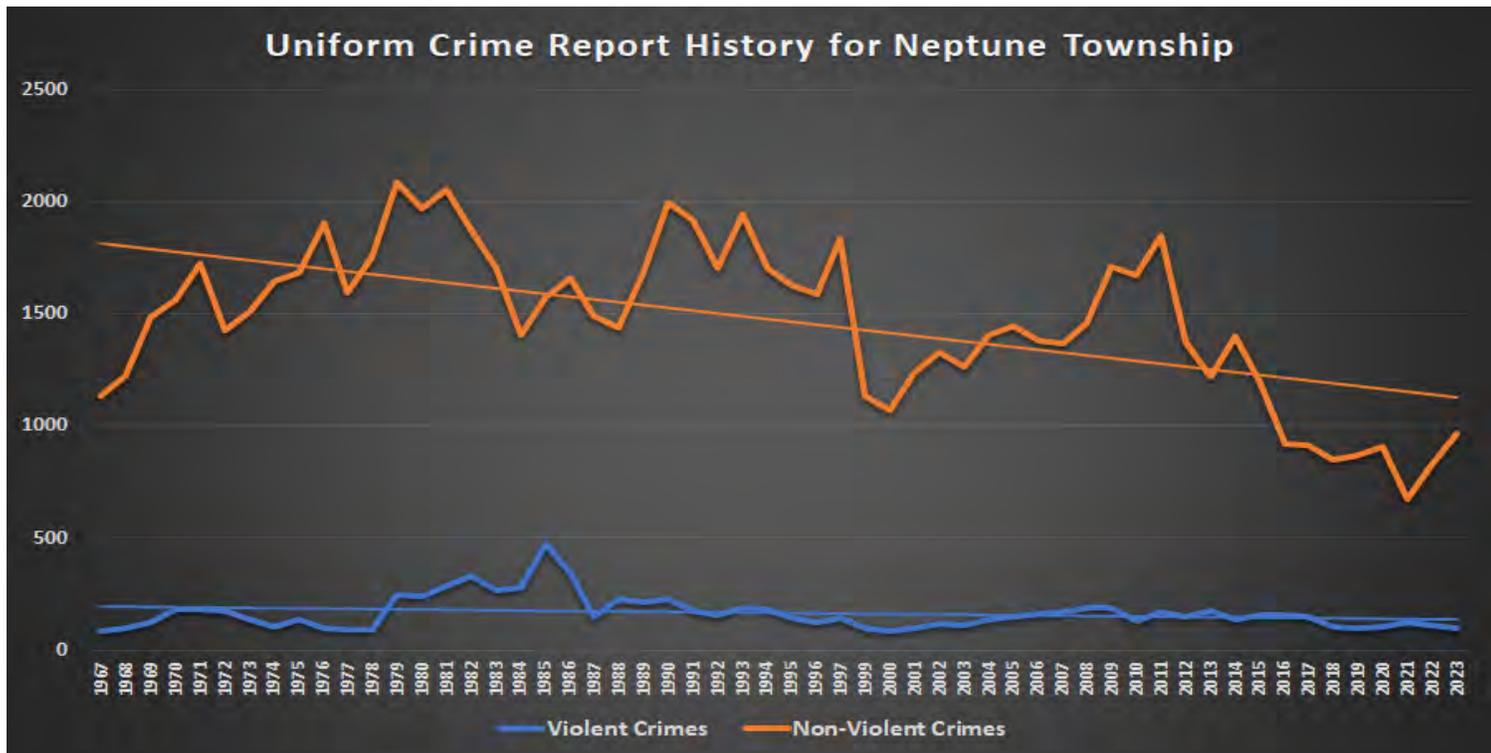
The Neptune Township Police Department Records Bureau plays a crucial role in the area of law enforcement. Prompt and accurate processing and dissemination of the police reports and associated paperwork is an integral part of the judicial process. The Records Bureau is staffed by two Records Clerks and two Terminal Agency Coordinators who report to a Captain. In 2023, the Neptune Township Police Department received 29,092 calls for service, most requiring a police report. In 2023, the Records Bureau processed 3,374 Report (OPRA) Requests, and provided discovery on 187 cases.

## Uniform Crime Report

The Uniform Crime Report (UCR) is official data on crime in the United States, published annually by the FBI. The UCR separates crimes into in 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	2020	2021	2022	2023	% Change
Aggravated Assault	78	98	84	72	-14.3
Burglary	90	67	117	87	-25.6
Motor Vehicle Theft	11	18	34	41	+20.6
Murder	0	0	6	1	-83.3
Rape	3	10	6	9	+50.0
Robbery	26	15	15	13	-13.3
Theft	808	591	678	840	+23.9



# CRIME MAPS

## Burglary (2023 UCR Reportable Incidents)



## Aggravated Assault (2023 UCR Reportable Incidents)



# CRIME MAPS

## Murder (2023 UCR Reportable Incidents)



## Motor Vehicle Theft (2023 UCR Reportable Incidents)



# CRIME MAPS

## Robbery (2023 UCR Reportable Incidents)



## Theft (2023 UCR Reportable Incidents)



# COMMUNITY OUTREACH

The Neptune Township Police Department's Community Liaison Officer Program assigns various officers to active community and homeowners groups to act as a point of contact for general, non-emergent concerns. The program is designed to deepen engagement and provide meaningful interaction between our residents and officers.

**Silver Vistas Residents Association & Neptune Township Lion's Club:** Capt. Kevin O'Donnell

**Midtown Urban Renaissance Corporation:** Lt. Robert Baldwin

**Shark River Hills Property Owners Association Inc.:** Lt. James MacConchie

**Gables Residents Association:** Sgt. Mysonn Ledet

**The Central Jersey Club of the Nation Association of Negro Business and Professional**

**Women's Clubs:** D/Sgt. Bryan Taylor

**The Villas at Jumping Brook Homeowners Association:** Det. Michael Adam

**Winding Ridge Tenants Association:** Det. Michael Adam

**Seaview Island Residents Association:** Det. Carrie Bartlett

**Ocean Grove Homeowners Association:** P.O. Tressa Yurman



Capt. Kevin O'Donnell



Lt. Robert Baldwin



Lt. James MacConchie



Sgt. Mysonn Ledet



D/Sgt. Bryan Taylor



Det. Michael Adam



Det. Carrie Bartlett



P.O. Tressa Yurman

# COMMUNITY OUTREACH

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. Some of the events coordinated by the Neptune Township Police Department in the past year include:

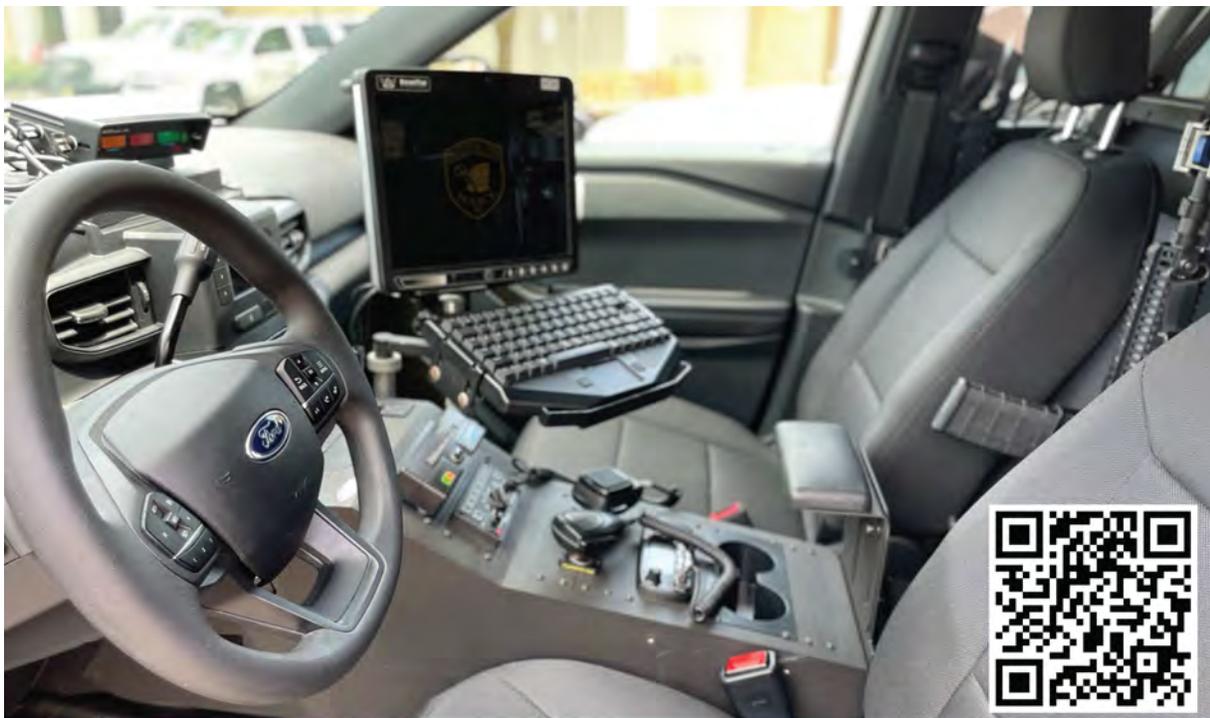
- Public Safety Kids Camp
- Faith and Blue Weekend
- Hooked on Fishing, Not on Drugs
- Community Clean-Up
- JumpStart Academy at Neptune High School
- Torch Run for Special Olympics NJ
- Toys for Tots & Holiday Senior Food Deliveries
- Trunk or Treat
- Touch a Truck
- Coffee with a Cop
- School District Sporting & Academic Events
- Cops vs Kids Kickball
- Shop with a Cop
- & Many More!



# COMMUNITY OUTREACH



# RECRUITMENT



 **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

The Neptune Township Police Department Recruitment Unit attends community events and job fairs in Neptune Township throughout Monmouth County as a part of our commitment to attracting qualified and diverse candidates to join the NTPD. The Neptune Township Police Department is an equal opportunity employer in all facets of the hiring process.



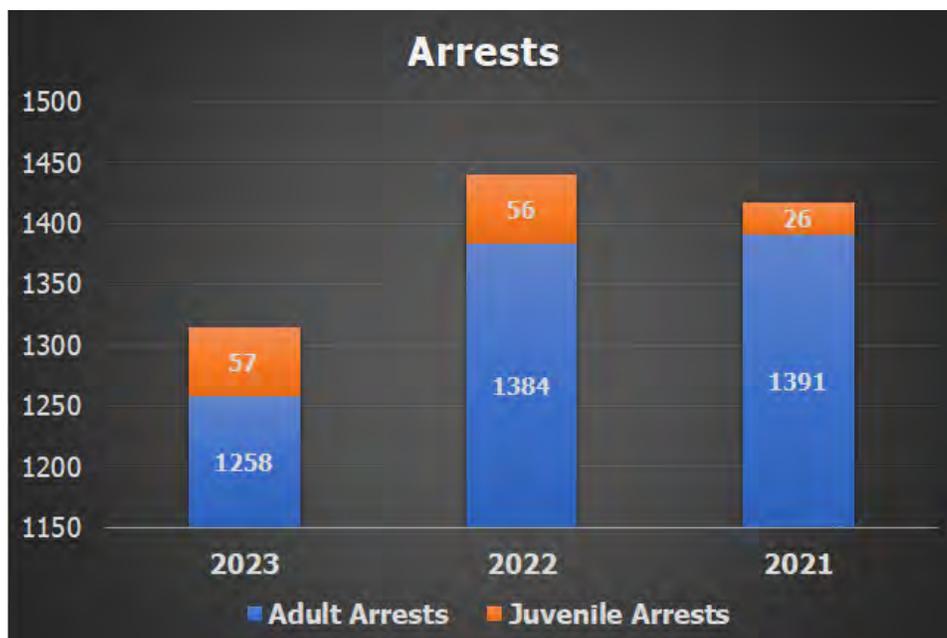
**For questions regarding recruitment, visit [NeptunePolice.org/careers](http://NeptunePolice.org/careers) and send any questions to [Recruitment@neptunepolice.org](mailto:Recruitment@neptunepolice.org).**

# PATROL BUREAU

The Neptune Township Patrol Bureau is the largest and 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 2023, the Patrol Bureau was staffed by four Patrol Lieutenants, eight Patrol Sergeants and thirty-eight Police Officers. Three Police Officers were hired in 2023 and completed our rigorous Field Training program.



# PATROL NOTABLE INCIDENTS

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January 10th - PO Crawford and PO Calabro for investigating a burglary, locating and arresting the subject shortly after. The subject admitted his involvement and was charged with the incident.

January 18th – PO Simpson and PO Roman who observed potential narcotic activity between a driver and a subject on a bicycle and conducted a proactive narcotic interdiction stop. During the investigation, the driver was arrested for a warrant and a subsequent search of the vehicle led to the seizure of a handgun and narcotics. The subject on the bicycle was also arrested and found to be in possession of narcotics, burglary tools, and was riding a bicycle reported as stolen.

January 20th – PO's Brogley, Simpson, Jenkins, Woods, Calabro, Crawford and Santos who identified a suspicious vehicle while responding to a burglary in progress which was determined to have been involved in several pursuits with NTPD and other agencies. The officers formulated and successfully executed a plan to safely stop and arrest the operator, who was subsequently charged.

February 12th – PO Pollara for a proactive stop for a subject with an active warrant which led to the recovery of stolen property, and further charges. The stolen items were able to be returned to the victim.

March 26th – Sgt. B. Taylor, Sgt. Lay, PO's Dallago, Alston, Zenna, DePalma, Pollara, Mattia and Niskoch for their compassion and teamwork as they dealt with a suicidal subject attempting to jump from an overpass onto RT 18. The roads were quickly shut down and bystanders cleared while Sgt. Taylor engaged with the subject and successfully convinced him to climb down from the overpass. The subject was quickly and safely transported to the hospital for mental health treatment.

April 5th – PO Brogley and PO Sibole who conducted a motor vehicle stop and seized a stolen golf cart. Their investigation led to the identification and arrest of several other subjects involved in the theft from a local golf course.

June 27th – PO Woods who observed a motor vehicle crash with subjects fleeing the area on foot and was able to chase the subjects while coordinating with other responding officers, leading to the arrest of both subjects shortly after.

June 27th – PO Mattia who conducted a proactive motor vehicle stop on a swerving vehicle and quickly identified the subject to be driving under the influence. During testing, the subject suffered an apparent overdose and PO Mattia quickly performed first aid, leading to the subject being transported to the hospital and later being charged with DWI.

July 2nd – PO Santos for conducting an investigation following a report of subjects in a hospital potentially armed with handguns. He was able to identify the vehicles both subjects used to flee the area, and during the investigation developed a suspect with prior weapons charges and known gang affiliations.

# PATROL NOTABLE INCIDENTS

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August 11th – Sgt. Rademacher who, while off-duty and in a different town, identified a person of interest in a series of shoplifting incidents in Neptune Township. The subject was observed to be in the process of shoplifting in the same manner as was reported in Neptune, leading Sgt. Rademacher to contact the local PD who responded and arrested the subject, who was charged with multiple shoplifting incidents.

September 21st – PO Sibole and PO Nixon who observed a subject who was wanted for several armed robberies in Newark, and was known to carry a handgun. The officers formulated a plan and conducted a high risk stop of the individual, who was subsequently arrested and turned over to Newark PD.

September 16th – POs Gullestad, Kennedy, Jazikoff and Kontogiannis who responded to a bank robbery and immediately located the accused subject in the area of the bank. He was arrested and a weapon recovered. October 9th – PO Bolch who observed two subjects matching the description of suspects in a burglary that had just been reported. The subjects were identified as being involved with the burglary and later admitted their involvement, leading to charges for the incident.

October 17th – PO Zenna for spotting a subject on the ground while patrolling and finding them to be unresponsive and not breathing. He identified them as suffering from an overdose and administered first aid which led to the recovery of the subject and transport to the hospital for treatment.

October 17th – Sgt. Chunn, Sgt. Lay, PO's Brogley, Bucossi, Calabro, James, Simpson and Zenna for responding to a subject having a mental health crisis and holding a knife to their neck. Officers cleared the area while PO Bucossi engaged with the subject in a calm and compassionate manner for nearly an hour. He was able to convince the subject to drop the knife and surrender, and subsequently be transported to the hospital for mental health treatment.

October 20th – PO Calabro and PO Brogley who responded to a local businesses and located a subject armed with a knife experiencing a mental health crisis. Finding the subject unable to respond to directions, the officers safely restrained the subject without injury and removed several weapons from his person. He was transported to the hospital for mental health treatment.

December 10th – PO's Cuttrell, Haskins, Jazikoff, Panariello and Yurman who responded to a motor vehicle burglary and quickly identified a subject, who began to flee the area while dropping proceeds from the burglary. The subject was chased and safely arrested nearby shortly after, leading to charges for the burglary and chase.

December 31st – Sgt. Lay, PO Brogley and PO Weinberg who received a citizen complaint of a subject trying to burglarize vehicles and quickly located the subject nearby. The subject was identified by the witness and subsequently admitted his involvement in several motor vehicle burglaries.

# 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.

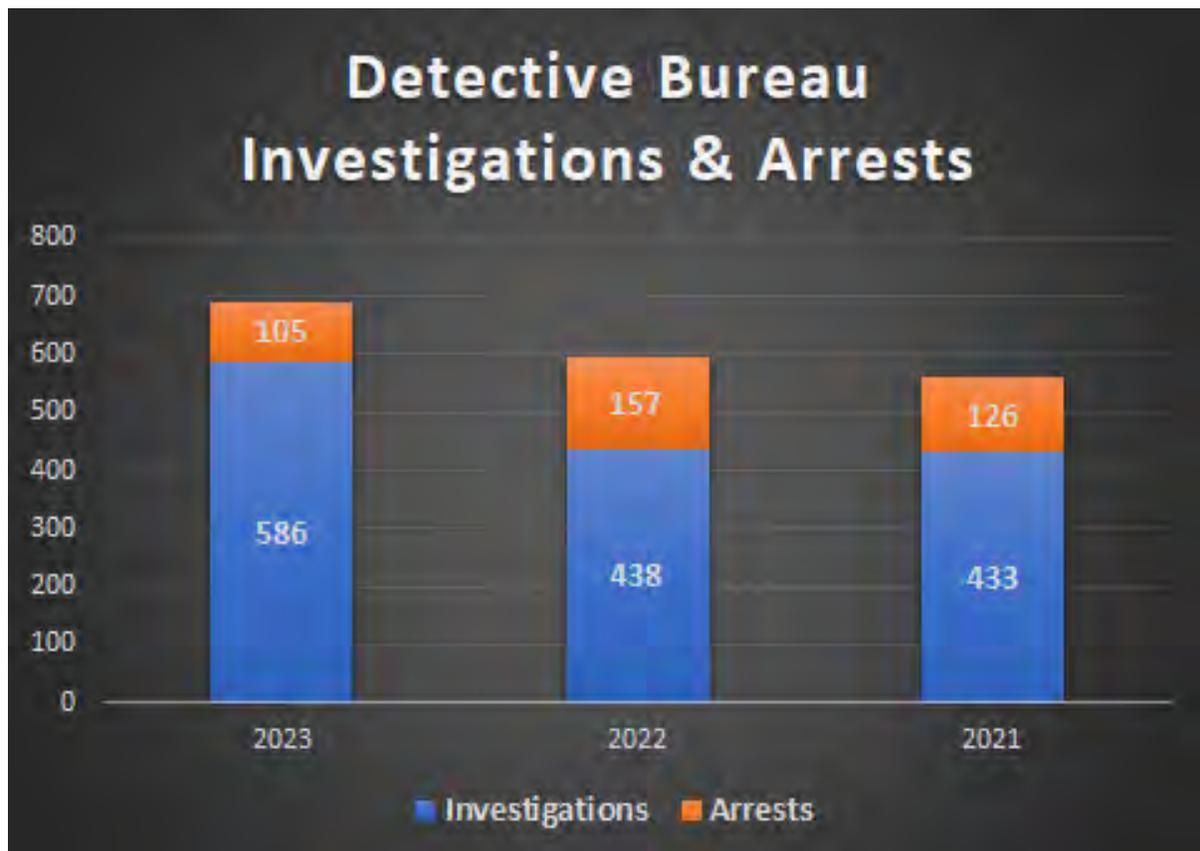
The Detective Bureau also distributes information to surrounding agencies, conducts background checks on police applicants, and maintains a high level of training necessary to handle a variety of cases.

In 2023, the investigative division of the Detective Bureau was staffed by one Detective Lieutenant, two Detective Sergeants, and five Detectives as well as a Civilian employee.

## Notable Incidents

May 4th – Det. Daly who conducted an investigation into the sexual assault of a juvenile. He conducted a thorough investigation including interviews with the victim and witnesses which led to the identification of a suspect, a family member’s boyfriend. Charges were issued and the suspect was later arrested during a motor vehicle stop. Det. Daly obtained warrants to search the home, car and cell phone of the suspect leading to the discovery of many evidence items and subsequent charges for sexual assault.

September 16th – Det. Daly for his investigation following a bank robbery which led to the accused subject admitting his involvement, and subsequent charges being issued for the robbery.



# 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, and handgun carry permits are also handled by the Identification Bureau.

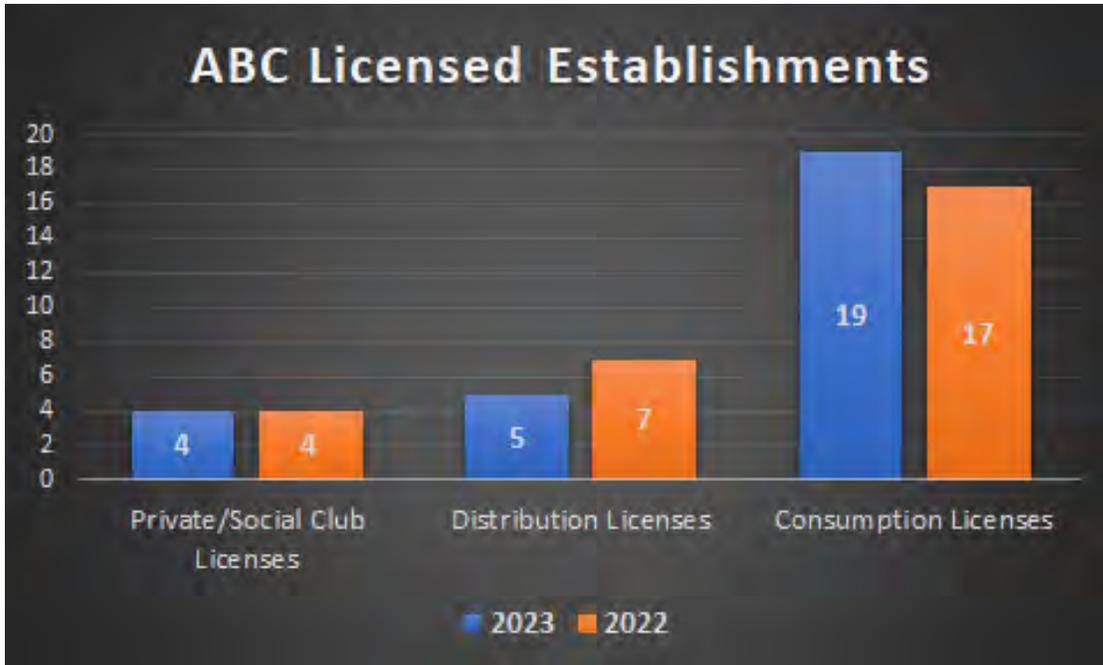
The Identification Bureau is staffed by two Detectives, a civilian staff member and assigned patrol officers as needed.



# ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL

The Identification Bureau and Detective Bureau 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.



# TRAFFIC BUREAU

The Traffic Bureau is staffed by a Lieutenant and supported by designated Sergeants as well as 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 include:

- *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*
- *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*



<b>Traffic Bureau Statistics</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
Moving Violations	1368	1579
Non-Moving Violations	1784	2320
Parking Tickets	405	834
Speeding Tickets	16	41
DWI Arrests	63	80
Motor Vehicle Crash Reports	1797	1706
Crashes Inv. Struck Pedestrian/Bicyclist	53	43
Pursuits Initiated	8	7
Vehicles Impounded	696	777

# 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.

The Street Crimes Unit also serves as the School Safety Unit, providing an armed police presence to schools throughout Neptune Township. The School Safety Unit participated in various drills, exercises, completed calls for service and acted as liaisons to schools throughout Neptune Township.



<b>Street Crimes Unit Statistics</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
Arrests	177	321
Criminal Charges	231	747
Search Warrants	4	15
Currency Seized	\$27,217	\$5,907
Warrant Arrests	164	193
Ordinance Violations	62	90

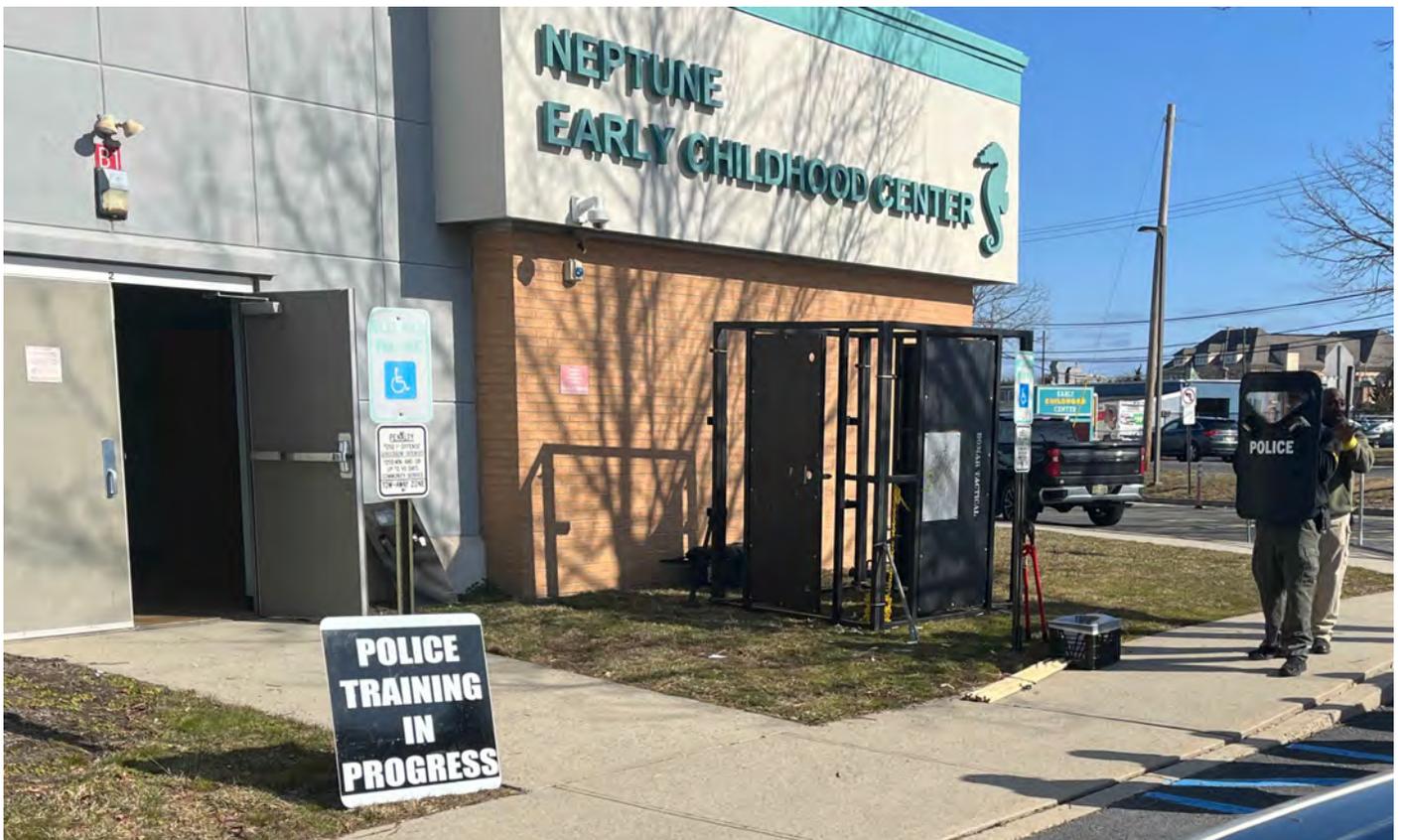
## Notable Occurances for 2023

February 2nd – Sgt. B. Taylor, Sgt. Letsch, PO Costagliola, PO McDonough, PO Tartis, and PO Holland for their investigation following a homicide in Asbury Park. The officers provided invaluable information immediately following the reported homicide which led to the identification of the suspects in the incident. One suspect in the homicide was observed and officers conducted a motor vehicle stop leading to his arrest for active warrants and possession of narcotics. Officers conducted surveillance on the other suspects, who were later observed, a motor vehicle stop conducted and arrested. All of the suspects were arrested by NTPD officers in the same day the homicide was reported, and charged with murder by the Monmouth County Prosecutor’s Office and Asbury Park PD.

December 31st – PO Holland and PO Simpson who observed a subject known to be involved in narcotics distribution and conducted a proactive motor vehicle stop. During their investigation, the subjects in the vehicle were arrested for active warrants and during a search of their person, a handgun and large amounts of cash were discovered in possession of the passenger.

# SCHOOL SAFETY

Schools throughout the Neptune Township School District are staffed by assigned Patrol Officers and SLEO II's. Officers 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.



Assigned 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. The NTPD always encourages residents to contact us with any concerns regarding school safety. If you see something, say something!

# SLEO & JAIL OPERATIONS

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Over the past year, our Special Law Enforcement Officer (SLEO) program operated with seven SLEO II Officers and two 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.**

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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 2023, Neptune's jail held 958 total prisoners.  
(2022: 1,105)**

# PUBLIC INFORMATION

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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.

# PUBLIC INFORMATION



## Facebook

**330,000  
impressions  
10,200 followers**

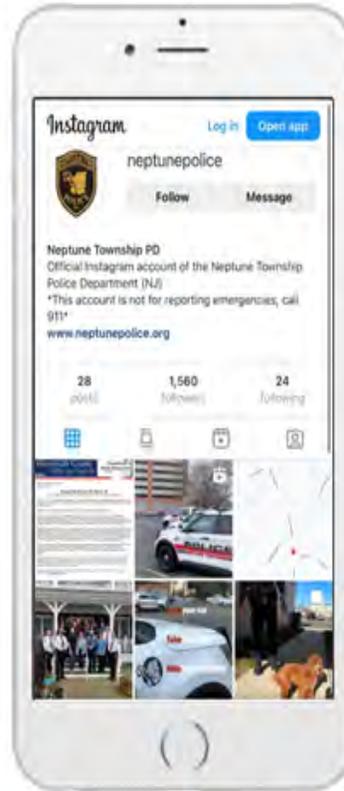
**This is a primary  
source of  
information  
distribution to our  
local community.**



## Twitter/X

**40,000  
impressions  
3,400 followers**

**This is a source of  
information  
distribution to  
local and national  
media.**



## Instagram

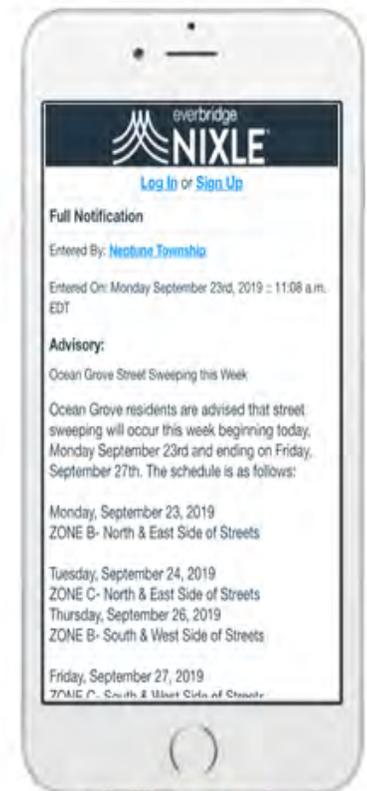
**30,000  
impressions  
2,000 followers**

**Our newest  
network,  
Instagram has  
served as yet  
another way of  
reaching out to  
our community.**



## Mobile App

**Our free mobile  
app, a partnership  
with Neptune  
OEM, continues to  
serve as a crucial  
source of  
emergency info  
for residents and  
visitors.**



## Nixle

**26,000  
registered contacts**

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

# ACCREDITATION

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The Neptune Township Police Department was awarded initial accreditation by the New Jersey State Association of Chiefs of Police in 2016 and was re-accredited in 2019 and again in 2022. NJSACOP's rigorous Accreditation program requires agencies to endure re-accreditation every three years in order to maintain their accredited status. Less than 12% of agencies that received initial accreditation have been re-accredited, and the NTPD is currently working towards it's third re-accreditation. 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.

Accreditation is a coveted award that symbolizes professionalism, excellence, and competence. It is a challenging process, which includes writing and rewriting new policies, adopting nationally recognized best practices, and an in-person inspection conducted by representatives from the NJSACOP. Agencies that are accredited and their communities enjoy financial benefits including fewer liability claims and reduced costs of insurance, providing tax reductions for residents.

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.

# INTERNAL AFFAIRS

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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

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: 2023 Annual Summary

Type of Complaint	Not Sustained		Admin. Closed		Change from 2022	
	Sustained	Exonerated	Sustained	Unfounded	Pending	
Excessive Force	0	0	0	5	5	-5
Improper Arrest	0	5	0	0	5	+10
Improper Entry	0	0	0	0	0	0
Improper Search	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Criminal Violation	0	0	0	1	1	-4
Differential Treatment	0	0	0	0	0	0
Demeanor	0	0	0	0	0	-9
Domestic Violence	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Rule Violation	9	0	0	1	10	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>-8</b>

# GRANT PROGRAMS

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## **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 2023, the Neptune Township Police Department received \$13,845.00 from this grant, which was subsequently used to purchase a Speed Sign/Message Trailer to be utilized for traffic enforcement and public information.



## **Body Armor Replacement Grant**

This year, the Neptune Township Police Department received a total of \$18,077.39 in funding for the replacement of officer's Body Armor, with \$12,650.30 coming from federal funding and \$5,427.09 coming from state funding.

## **Drunk Driving Enforcement Fund**

This year, the Neptune Township Police Department received \$20,819.74 from the Drunk Driving Enforcement Fund. \$9,269.10 of this funding was used to purchase high-visibility vests to protect officers from motorists while working on the side of the road and \$11,550.64 was used for conducting proactive DWI enforcement.

# GOALS FOR 2024

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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.

Prioritize maintaining and developing new connections with homeowners and service groups, faith-based and non-profit organizations within our local community to foster trust and transparency while hearing concerns directly from residents which can assist with crime prevention.

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.

Implement crime-preventing and solving technology including installations of new cameras at critical intersections and license plate readers on patrol vehicles.

## **To achieve these goals, we are implementing several new programs in 2024 including:**

- Increasing community engagement and interaction through the creation of a Bicycle Unit, Utility Terrain Vehicle Unit, and Foot Patrol in our Business Districts.
- Instituting the Police Chaplain Program to create and foster partnerships with community leaders and enhance public relations.
- Expansion of crime preventing and solving technology including the replacement of all Patrol Vehicle computers and installation of new Automatic License Plate Readers to enhance response capabilities.

# CONTACT US

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[www.neptunepolice.org](http://www.neptunepolice.org)



[facebook.com/neptunepolice](https://facebook.com/neptunepolice)



[twitter.com/neptunepolice](https://twitter.com/neptunepolice)



[instagram.com/neptunepolice](https://instagram.com/neptunepolice)

<b>Emergency</b>	<b>9-1-1</b>
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