

Police Department

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF POLICE

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 2015, the Stoneham Police Department was comprised of 34 full-time police officers. The civilian administrative staff for the department consisted of office manager Mary Zatta and part-time office assistants Patricia Quinn and Raymie Parker.

The following is a listing of the Department's police officers as of December 31, 2015: Chief James McIntyre; Lieutenants Richard McCarthy, David Stefanelli; Sergeants Robert Swasey, Tony Kranefuss, Steven Nims, Robert Kennedy, David Thistle, Kenneth Wilkins, Thomas Heller; Officers Sheryl Rotondi, Stephen Carroll, Joseph Ponzo, Paul Norton, Thomas Day, Christopher Copan, Edward Fucarile, Christopher Apalak, William Reinold, Christopher Dalis, David Ryan, Patrick Carroll, Kenneth Bowdidge, Laura Engel, Luc Bourgeois, David Szydowski, Jonathan Mahoney, Derek McShane, Stephen Aprile, Michael DeCroteau, John Curtis, Brendan Carr, Michael Colotti, and Brian Raffaello.

On September 9, John Burton and Arthur Yeomelakis were appointed as Student Police Officers and began the Reading Police Academy with a graduation date of February 11, 2016.

The police department had several notable cases in 2015. In January, officers responded to the attempted robbery of a gas station by a masked suspect armed with a knife. During the attempted robbery, the clerk was able to pull away the mask from the suspect, who then fled the gas station. An officer responding to the call made note of a vehicle driving from the area and this observation was key to solving this crime. Detectives were able to identify a suspect, who was subsequently arrested and received a two year jail sentence for the crime.

In March, two gas stations were robbed days apart by the same individual. Using video from the gas stations and information provided by witnesses, a suspect was arrested and the cases are in court.

In May, officers responded to a bank robbery. Working in conjunction with the FBI Bank Robbery Task Force, it was determined that the suspect was responsible for four additional bank robberies in the area. Using the local media, photos of the suspect were shown on television and the police department received information identifying the suspect. After an investigation, the male suspect was located and arrested.

In June, officers responded to the robbery of a jewelry store. A male suspect entered the store, armed with a knife. The clerk ran from the store and contacted police. The suspect fled the scene and was located a short distance from the store and arrested.

Also in June, officers responded to a home invasion where three masked males, one armed with a handgun, entered a home and duct-taped two residents. One resident was assaulted during the incident where money and drugs were taken. This was not a random act and the incident is still under investigation.

In October, officers responded to a business for a panic alarm activation. Upon arrival, officers learned that a robbery had taken place, with the employees assaulted by a stun gun type weapon and had their hands/legs bound. Over \$100,000 in merchandise was taken during the robbery. This was not a random act and the incident is still under investigation.

Also in October, Officer Sheryl Rotondi responded to a report of a male who had collapsed in the basement of the Congregational Church, across the street from the police station. Upon arriving at the church, Officer Rotondi found a male who was unresponsive and she began CPR. The male was transported to the hospital and emergency room personnel credited Officer Rotondi with saving the male's life. Four days later, Officer Rotondi assisted in the birth of a child on Montvale Avenue.

In November, officers responded to a bank robbery. Working in conjunction with other agencies, it was determined that the suspect was responsible for an additional bank robbery. After a one month investigation, the suspect was located and taken into custody and is awaiting trial.

Also in November, officers testified in Woburn Superior Court in the trial of Eugene Tate, who was arrested for the July 3, 2013 murder of Stoneham resident Joseph Puopolo and the shooting of another male. A jury convicted Tate of first degree murder.

In closing, I would like to thank the officers and civilian staff of the Stoneham Police Department for all their hard work over the past year.

Respectfully submitted by Chief James McIntyre

Stoneham Auxiliary Police Department

The Stoneham Auxiliary Police Department is a volunteer organization designed to augment the Stoneham Police Department. Some of the responsibilities of the Auxiliary Police are to provide additional patrols of Town owned property, assist with traffic at community events such as Town Day, and the Holiday tree lighting on the common. They will also offer assistance during a Town emergency. When working Auxiliary Police Officers possess the same police powers as a 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. In addition to this basic training all Auxiliary Officers are required to re-certify annually in first aid/CRP as well as firearms qualification sponsored by the Stoneham Police Department.

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

August Niewenhous – Chief Eugenio Ianniciello - Patrolman
David Luciano – Lieutenant John Lazzaro - Patrolman
George Lessard – Sergeant Christopher Ponzio - Patrolman

Daniel Marsden – Sergeant Juan Yepez - Patrolman
 Geoffrey Buchanan – Patrolman Michael Juliano - Patrolman
 David Delling – Patrolman Eric Buckley - Patrolman
 Maurice DiCicco – Patrolman

In the year 2015, these individuals donated approximately 250 hours to the Town of Stoneham.
 Respectfully submitted by Sergeant Thomas Heller

Detective Bureau

The Detective Bureau is responsible for all adult and juvenile criminal investigations, narcotic investigations, computer crime investigations and subsequent prosecutions. Additionally, the Detective Bureau is responsible for the security of all evidence, the processing of 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 2015, the Detective Bureau included Inspector Christopher Dalis (Detective/Juvenile Officer), Inspector David Ryan (Computer Specialist), Inspector Paul Norton (Narcotics), Inspector Christopher Copan (Prosecutor) and Inspector Stephen Carroll (Night Detective). Inspector Stephen Aprile was assigned to the detective bureau on a temporary basis to assist with investigations after the retirement of Inspector Robert McKinnon.

In the past year, the Bureau processed 70 new Licenses to Carry Firearms and renewed 43 Licenses to Carry Firearms.

CRIME STATISTICS

Arrests	137
Criminal/Civil summonses	174
Court Hearings	77
Court Trials	91
Scheduled Arraignments	262
Homicides	0
Sex Crimes	11
Assaults	101
Robberies	12
Missing Persons	37
Vandalism	71
Larceny	163
Threats/Harassment	126
Breaking and Entering (including attempts)	90
Breaking and Entering (motor vehicles only)	58
Domestic Disturbances	143
Restraining Order & Harassment Order Violations	48
Service/Attempted Service of Restraining/Harassment Orders	165
Firearm Calls	4
Summonses Served	207
Animal Calls	130
Disturbance Calls	574
Road Hazards	151
Building/Area/Person Checks	2,448
Medical Aid Calls	2,186
Motor Vehicle Stops	2,049
Motor Vehicles – Stolen	8
Motor Vehicles – Recovered	7
Motor Vehicle Crashes	622
OUI - Liquor	18
OUI - Drugs	6
Protective Custody	25
Alarms (including fire alarms)	697

Hypodermic Needles Recovered	35
Drug Calls (other than criminal investigations)	16
Mutual Aid/NEMLEC Callouts	42
Directed Patrols	1,437

SEXUAL OFFENDERS living/working in Stoneham as of December 31, 2015:
(Sex Offender info available on line at www.mass.gov/sorb)

0 - Level Three Offender: risk of recidivism is high and offender information actively disseminated to public.

5 - Level Two Offenders: risk of recidivism is moderate and offender information available upon request.

7 - Level One Offenders: risk of recidivism is low and no offender information available.

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

Forty four (44) drug overdoses were reported in 2015, therefore the investigation of narcotic incidents continues to be an ongoing priority. Joint effort and assistance comes from surrounding communities within the Southern Middlesex Regional Drug Task Force, the Middlesex District Attorney's State Police Task Force, the Attorney General's State Police Task Force, the United States Drug Enforcement Agency and the Internal Revenue Service.

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 agencies as well.

Detective Ryan completed his second full year as the Department's Computer Specialist in April of 2015. Detective Ryan continued to work on a number of projects to keep the Stoneham Police Department up to date with current technology.

Detective Ryan completed a grant application allowing the police department to receive \$25,000 for upgrading the computer systems in our police cruisers. This grant award allowed for the purchase of new tablets and mounting systems for six of our cruisers. These new tablets allow the officers to run queries on license plates and licenses, to write crash and incident reports and see other department's reports.

Detective Ryan completed the set up and training of the False Alarm Billing system for our records personnel. The False Alarm Billing system tracks false alarms by residents and businesses, creates and prints invoices for the false alarms and tracks the payments of fines. The implementation of Jivasoft XtraDuty, which is a new software system used to streamline the issuing, invoicing and collection of payments for the police departments 'details' into one system was finalized in 2015.

Detective Ryan also assisted the Town's Chief Technology Officer in upgrading the cameras and camera recording system throughout the station, therefore making the monitoring of prisoners in custody at the station more streamlined and automatic, helping to reduce liability to the Town.

In addition to all of these improvements, Detective Ryan also continued with the daily management of all network computers/servers, cruiser tablets, software systems, phones and printers throughout the department. He submitted monthly NIBRS reports to the State, as required. The data included in these NIBRS reports is used to establish national crime statistics, which assists law enforcement agencies in obtaining both physical and financial resources. Detective Ryan continued to submit Stoneham's daily incident reports to the Statewide Information Sharing System (SWISS) so that other departments around the state can view our incident data which assists in the ongoing investigations of other municipalities. Detective Ryan also continued to grow our Twitter followers to over 2700 followers.

The Detective Bureau continues to work in conjunction with Patrol 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

Safety Officer

The Safety Officer's office supervises 16 full-time traffic directors, 4 part-time traffic directors and 5 part-time parking enforcement officers. The parking enforcement officers work a combined 20 hours per week issuing parking violations for illegally parked motor vehicles as well as enforcing the town's parking placard program. With the help of the school department and the Department of Public Works, several motor vehicle enforcement signs have been placed throughout the town and the schools to help facilitate the safe passage of all motor vehicles.

I continue to work with the Planning Board and the Building Department in reviewing site plans and often meet with the heads of town departments to coordinate their needs from the police department.

This year with the new fifth grade added to the new Central Middle School, this office handed out a record 80 Christmas gifts to the students of the Middle School. This program is currently in its thirteenth year and with the help of the Central Middle School P.T.O, it once again was a huge success.

I continue to educate the children of the elementary schools in programs such as Stranger Danger and Halloween Safety, assisted by McGruff "The Crime Dog". These programs have been received by students and staff with open arms.

By attending monthly Massachusetts Safety Officer's League meetings, I continue to gain contacts from several different police departments and agencies such as the Registry of Motor Vehicles and AAA. Information received at these meetings help provide me with the information used in my safety articles what appear in our weekly newspapers.

With the help of the Chiefs of Police Association and the Jimmy Fund, I was able to raise approximately \$450.00 with the Jimmy Fund can program.

With the town's "See Click Fix" app, I investigate a gamut of complaints and suggestions regarding safety in order to help improve the quality of life for the students and residents of the Town of Stoneham.

Respectfully submitted by Officer Joseph Ponzo

Patrol Operations

The Stoneham Police Department Patrol Operations Section currently consists of 27 uniformed officers; 1 Lieutenant, 7 Sergeants and 19 Officers. There are currently two student officers representing Stoneham in the Municipal Police Academy in Reading and scheduled to graduate in February of 2016.

The men and women of the patrol operations section perform the most visible and recognized function within the Stoneham Police Department. They are the ones in uniform and in marked cruisers who are the first to respond to calls. In 2015, there were 14,481 incidents logged which is a more than 10% increase from last year. There were 137 arrests and 25 people placed into protective custody. When officers are not on calls, they patrol the streets promoting public safety through visibility and the education and enforcement of motor vehicle laws. Officers made over 2000 motor vehicle stops and issued 999 citations. Over 1600 parking tickets were issued throughout the year.

Each member of the police department is required to receive a minimum of 40 hours of annual in-service training required by the Municipal Police Training Committee (MPTC) as well as 16 hours of 9-1-1 In-Service Training. Officers have gone to various In-Service and 911 trainings including CPR, First Responder, Legal Update, Missing Person, Critical Incident and Active Shooter to name a few.

Lt. Stefanelli was nominated to represent the Town of Stoneham at the FBI National Academy in Quantico, Virginia from April thru June and received 400 hours of academic & physical training and received both the 'Yellow Brick' and 'Blue Brick' award distinctions. Sgt. Kranefuss was promoted to Acting Lieutenant in charge of patrol operations while Lt. Stefanelli was attending this ten week training program. Officer Apalakakis was promoted to Acting Sergeant in November and attended several supervisor training classes and completed ICS-300. Sgt. Heller, Officer Patrick Carroll and Officer Szydowski received certification as Field Training Officers. Sergeants Kennedy and Heller were certified as Taser instructors. The police department also sponsored its annual firearms and rifle qualifications. Overall, uniformed officers attended more than 2500 hours of training, certainly the most in my tenure and very likely the most in the history of the police department.

Sergeant David Thistle is the Departments Domestic Violence Officer and sits on the board for both the Middlesex District Attorney's Office Domestic Violence Unit (MDAO-DVU) and Stoneham Alliance Against Violence (SAAV). He attended a training titled 'Investigating Strangulation' as well as many other trainings and conferences on domestic violence. Several years ago the department was awarded a grant by the Department of Justice and Sgt. Thistle collaborated with many agencies and created the Southern Middlesex Area Response Team (SMART) of which Sgt. Thistle remains an integral part. He also continues to work closely with Respond, Inc., a Somerville based domestic violence non-profit (the first in New England and the second in the nation) which provides training, education, safety planning, support and emergency shelters for people impacted by domestic violence. Sgt. Thistle is also the Fire Investigator for the police department. He attended a Department of Homeland Security (DHS) sponsored five day training on Prevention and Response to Suicide Bombing Investigations at New Mexico Tech in Socorro, NM and became certified as an instructor. He also completed Advanced Fire Investigation class held at the Massachusetts Firefighter Academy in Stow. There were three investigations conducted to determine the origin and cause of fires that occurred in Stoneham.

The Stoneham Police Department continues its membership in the North Eastern Massachusetts Law Enforcement Council (NEMLEC), which is a consortium of 61 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 Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) team to assist in high-risk operations, 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) to assist during a school related emergency, as well as other specialized units, investigative tools and personnel. Sgt. Kennedy is assigned to the STARS team and is the Assistant Commander. Sgt. Heller is assigned to the SWAT team. Sgt. Kennedy coordinated K-9 searches with NEMLEC at the Stoneham High School and an evacuation drill at the Stoneham Central Middle School and responded to 4 STARS calls in other NEMLEC jurisdictions. Sgt. Heller responded to 14 SWAT calls in other NEMLEC jurisdictions.

The Stoneham Police Department is a community oriented department and we participate in many events throughout the year. In the spring, officers participated in the Senior Promenade, the Stoneham High All Night Grad Party, the Memorial Day Parade, Health & Wellness Expo, Touch-A-Truck and the Bruins Alumni Game for the Boys & Girls Club. Detective Norton and Officer Bowdidge coordinated the 16th annual fishing derby along with other officers with great success. In the fall, officers assisted with Halloween safety talks, Stoneham Town Day and the Stoneham Road Race as well as the Trick or Treat Stroll. In the winter, we assisted in the Stoneham Common Tree Lighting as well as Whip Hill's Holiday event and Detective David Ryan headed our annual CPU Christmas Party for local children along with the help of many officers including retired Detective Thomas Marshall.

Lt. Stefanelli is the grant writer for the Stoneham Police Department. We were the recipient of over \$100,000.00 in state grant funds for 911 support and training, targeted traffic enforcement and an equipment grant from the Department of Justice in which Det. Ryan was instrumental in assisting with the writing of the grant and the implementation of the equipment awarded.

Respectfully submitted by Lieutenant David J. Stefanelli

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 one part-time dispatcher that operate from a combined communications center located in the police station.

During the course of 2015 over 14,400 calls for service were processed through the dispatch center. The center received over 5,800 of these requests for service via the 9-1-1 telephone system. Residents are highly encouraged to use 9-1-1 to report police, fire and medical emergencies. These 9-1-1 calls for service do not include the numerous business or public information calls that are received by the center or walk-in reports to the Police Station that must also be processed by the dispatch staff.

Of the calls for service: 11,541 involved the Police Department, 3,068 involved the Fire Department and 2,744 involved an ambulance. Added together, these numbers total 17,353 incidents as many calls for service involve a multi agency response.

The day shift dispatched 6,109 calls for service, the evening shift dispatched 5,122 calls for service and the overnight shift dispatched 3,219 calls for service.

During the year, dispatch personnel attended training classes covering topics such as: Dispatch Legal Issues, 9-1-1 liability, active shooter situations, "You Just Never Know", Public Safety Telecommunicator 1, Missing Persons and Domestic Violence Intervention.

In August, Dispatcher Justin Lindahl was appointed to replace Dispatcher Stephen Duke, who retired after many years of dedicated service to the Town. Dispatcher Lindahl came to us with a background in campus security and law enforcement.

Respectfully submitted by David Luciano, Head Dispatcher