Farmington Police Department

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2014 was a challenging year for the department. The department saw the retirement of Chief Kevin Willey after over 20 years with the Town. Jo-Anne Drapeau retired after over 28 years as Executive Secretary. I was given the opportunity to run the agency as Interim Chief of Police on April 26th and then permanently on September 8th 2014. I will continue to implement the programs of Coffee with a Cop, Community Forums and some new projects. This includes the Town Hall meetings to discuss addiction problems in the Community and the State. The officers will be even more visible attempting to extend our patrolling, bike, and foot beats. The radar trailer was out and about gathering statistics, traffic counts, and reminding people of their speeds.

This year saw the resolution to many cases including the homicide we had in 2012. This resulted in the convictions of the defendants and accolades for the department in how this case was handled. The department continues to work hard to solve crime, and the concerns of the community. Sometimes this is easy with quick results, and satisfied customers. Other times this process is long and drawn out. We strive to take any case as far as we can, and as if a member of our family were the victim.

As 2014 progressed Sgt. Orlando was promoted to Lieutenant, and Officer Tilley was promoted to Sergeant. Officer Doty joined the agency in August, and Officer Leach also returned to the department. ACO Bryant Tremblay joined as the Animal Control Officer. Gail Pare was hired as a part time secretary in December. In December we became fully staffed and look forward to a very proactive 2015. We look forward to having an officer continue to work with the regional drug task force team. This will help combat the heroin problem and return us to being proactive in many other areas.

Statistically this year: Offenses were down about 5.6% from 2013. Overall reported "Crimes Against Persons" were up 6%. While "Crimes Against Property" were down 24%. This included a 43% drop in burglaries. While we lock our homes up, we still forget to lock our vehicles, which saw a 14% increase. Motor Vehicle stops increased by 20%. Arrests dropped by 22% while accidents were up 12%.

The new Dodge Charger Cruisers are working out well. The 6 cylinders are more fuel efficient, and just as peppy as the old 8 cylinder Crown Victorias. We look forward to a new SUV this year, at no cost to the taxpayer, to replace our old 2007 Ford Explorer. It will most likely be turned into an ACO vehicle.

We continue to work with the Board of Selectmen, Fire Department, and the community to build a new Public Safety Complex at an affordable price. This building must fit our needs well into the future.

I also realize that someone will be able to use our old facility. (Recreation Department or perhaps a Senior Center?) I have kept this building maintained, as we are proud of what you have entrusted us in. This year we fixed all the cracks in the walls, replaced air conditioner units, serviced the heating units, added signage, and gave the interior a "make over" by adding fresh coats of paint. Most of this was done by the officers, their families, and our friends, volunteering their time and resources. We still remain cramped for space, now over 25 years in a building that was to be a temporary fix.

Please remember you are our eyes and ears. Report anything you feel is unusual or suspicious. We would rather respond to ten false alarms, than not respond to the one that was real. You may just save someone some heartache, solve a crime, or even save a life...

Sincerely Submitted,

John (Jay) P. Drury
Chief of Police