

Farmington Police Department

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2016 saw a lot of activity and several new faces. We welcomed Officer Judy Lam and Officer Jason Ruggiero who graduated the Police Academy in April. Officer Evan Carey a certified officer, Officer Travis Guilbault, and Officer James Keefe who both graduated the Police Academy in August to the force. All are working and enjoying their new careers serving the Town of Farmington. A contract has been negotiated with the Police Union that I hope will assist us in keeping good officers.

We have continued to promote many forums on recovery. Education of families and assisting people that are suffering from drug addiction continue to be paramount. I sat on the NARCAN Commission by recommendation of the New Hampshire Chiefs of Police Association and the State Senate President appointment. It is important to keep NARCAN available to those that need it. Giving a person a second chance at life, and a family the awareness that help is out there is critical.

This year we worked with local businesses to promote community policing Subway, Farmington Responds, HOPE, and Crowley's Variety and Grill to name only a few. Fundraising with Honey Dew Donuts we raised over \$1,700.00 for needy families at the Holidays for clothing and toys this year and Coffee with a Cop. As the Picture shows Santa's Blue Light Special is still a great time for the children.

At the end of the 2016 year, Detective Embrey was promoted to Sergeant, School Resource Officer Langley became the Detective and Officer Doty became the School Resource Officer.

Last year the Town received a 2016 AWD Ford Interceptor that is working out very well at no cost to the taxpayers. We will be looking for two cruisers this year to replace two older cars. These cruisers should be AWD Ford Interceptor SUVs for better traction in the winter. These cars perform very well and are 6 cylinders engines for better gas mileage. Our older cars in the fleet are a 2007 Ford Explorer, a 2007 Dodge Charger, a 2008 Ford Crown Victoria, and a 2012 Dodge Charger. These two replacement cars will continue to be at no cost to the taxpayers. We will continue to look for grants to offset costs and will apply for a School Resource Officer grant this year.

The agency has worked very diligently with the Board of Selectmen, Fire Department, and our Townspeople to develop a very realistic Public Safety Building that will fit our needs well into the future at an affordable cost to the taxpayers. The large meeting room (EOC) can accommodate other uses as well as hosting regional training saving/making the Town money. When you read this we should be in our new home with a Grand Opening in April.

As I write this we can't help, but smile and express our gratitude to the people of the Town of Farmington for their trust in us and this new project. This building has been a lot of hard work and an honor to participate in. I hope it will serve the Town of Farmington for many, many decades to come.

Statistically this year: Total reported offenses were down nearly 4% from 2015. Subcategories: Crimes against persons were down 10%. Crimes against property were up 24%. Within this statistic burglaries were up 33% and motor vehicle larceny was up 69%. (Unfortunately many were open or unlocked homes and vehicle doors) Crimes against society were down as a whole 60%. Motor Vehicle Stops were up nearly 15%. Arrests were down 12% from 2015 with 448. Traffic Accidents were up about 25% with the month of December being bad for driving. Driving under the influence was up this year by 52% with 32 arrests. The officers had a very busy year with 12,703 calls for service compared to 12,374 in 2015, but were still able to accomplish many goals, such as increasing traffic enforcement and community policing all while being shorthanded for much of the year.

It is a privilege for us to serve the citizens of the Town of Farmington, but please remember you are our eyes and ears. Report anything you feel is unusual or suspicious to the agency (603)-755-2231 or in an emergency dial 911.

Sincerely, John (Jay) P. Drury Chief of Police Farmington New Hampshire