



2007 Annual Report



Colonie Police Department

Like recent years, 2007 proved to be a very productive year for the Colonie Police Department. A number of remaining department goals that were first established in 2006 were implemented during the year.

Updating technology and equipment remained a priority as we look at our Communications Division which serves as the axis for nearly 100,000 fire, police and ems related calls per year. In an attempt to keep up with the ever changing technology that exists in the field of law enforcement, the Colonie Police Department began the process of upgrading the digital radio system in 2005 with a goal of completion in 2008. I am happy to say that the switch over to the new system was completed in the first quarter of 2008 with just minor adjustments and infrastructure contract requirements to be completed during the year. Additionally, in an effort to ensure the safety of our officers, the department began a year to year purchase program for the replacement of weapons and body armor. Due to limited shelf life, bullet proof vests were upgraded during 2007 and steps were taken to implement a total changeover of the 45-caliber weapon to a new and safer model during 2008.

An expansion of our technology came in the form of video taping equipment. Once again with the assistance of Town government, the department is now able to video tape confessions of suspects as well as provide video surveillance throughout the building. Not only does this technology ensure that our operations are safe and accountable, but it also assures that the Colonie Police Department remains a lead agency in law enforcement technology in Albany County. In the beginning of 2008, the initiative for workplace security expanded making it a priority to include other Town buildings. Areas that have been addressed include single point public entry systems and the utilization of new security positions that will help direct people throughout Town buildings.

2007 proved to be a balancing year for the department as it is the first time in nearly seven years that I can say we are at full staffing. This achievement has helped tremendously in the carrying out of community based initiatives such as bicycle patrols, atv patrols and the placement of officers in areas of high call frequency. The results have been extraordinary with a nearly 19% decline in the most violent part one crimes for the year.

Traffic continues to grow and our Uniformed Patrol and Traffic Divisions are continually dealing with complaint areas throughout the Town to ensure smooth and safe passage of motor vehicles and the safety of all those who utilize our highways.

Another goal for the year 2008 will be the completion of the rewriting of the department's Police Officer's Manual. Headed by Deputy Chief Richard Villa, this year-long arduous process that began in the beginning of 2007 will bring all department rules and regulations up to date with the addition of new regulations based on the ever-changing role and functions of law enforcement. This manual rewrite will prepare us for our third round of reaccreditation that will begin later in the year.

Once again I can proudly say that the Colonie Police Department was selected as one of the top ten safest communities in the United States for the year 2006. As our statistics will show, our 2007 uniform crime report part one offenses are down 19% and our part two offenses are down 8%. These numbers are a credit to not only our hard working men and women of the Colonie Police Department, sworn and unsworn, but also our Town government and its support and the entire community for its role in crime prevention.

A crisis that faces all police departments is the ever increasing cost of providing high quality police services to our community. We look forward to working with Supervisor Paula Mahan and her new administration on balancing the budgetary challenges with our unified desire to present the best service to the Town of Colonie.



Executive Summary

- Chief Steven H. Heider

Deputy Chiefs of Police



Deputy Chief Richard A. Villa
Field Services Division



Deputy Chief Joseph Fitzsimmons
Administrative Services Division

Contact The Department

Unit / division commanders and their contact information:

FIELD SERVICES DIVISION

Deputy Chief Richard A. Villa
villar@colonie.org
783-2800

A-Line Shift Internal Affairs

Lieutenant Robert H. Winn
winnr@colonie.org
783-2744

B-Line Shift Special Services Team

Lieutenant Paul D. Brannigan
branniganp@colonie.org
783-2744

C-Line Shift

K-9 Unit
ATV Unit
Bicycle Unit
Court
Police Explorers
Colonie Youth Court

Lieutenant Alexander M. Rinaldi
rinaldia@colonie.org
783-2744

Investigations Unit
Juvenile Unit
Victim Services Specialist
Forensics Unit
Computer Crime Lab
Public Information Officer
Lieutenant John M. Van Alstyne
vanalstynej@colonie.org
783-2754

Traffic Safety Unit
Court
Supplemental Police Services
Lieutenant Kenneth M. Pero
perok@colonie.org
783-2744

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES DIVISION

Deputy Chief Joseph P. Fitzsimmons
fitzsimmonsj@colonie.org
783-2800

Lieutenant Jonathan M. Teale
tealej@colonie.org
782-2619

Sergeant Michael D. Woods
woodsm@colonie.org
782-2619

Training
Community Services Unit
D.A.R.E.
School Resource Officer
Communications
Accreditation
Fiscal Management
Statistical Analysis
Fleet Management
Grants Management
Candidate Processing
Animal Control

Web Site

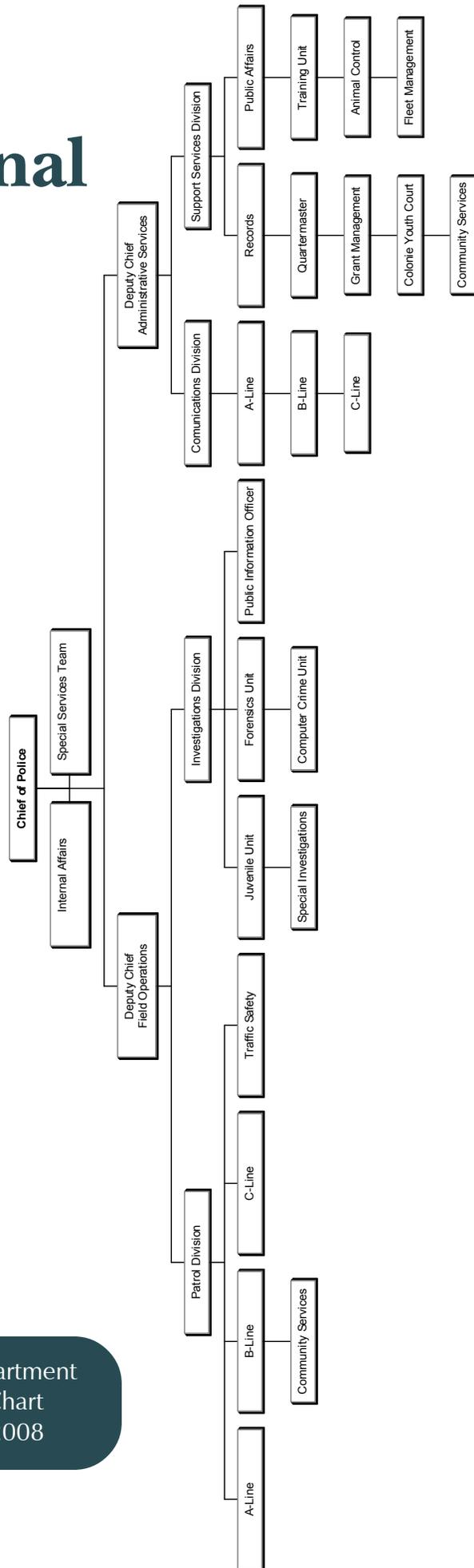
Sergeant Stephen M. MacLasco
maclascos@colonie.org
783-2744

Public Affairs

Melissa L. Shaw
shawm@colonie.org
782-2662

Department Organizational Chart

Colonie Police Department
Organizational Chart
as of January 1, 2008



2007 Department Personnel

Chief of Police

Steven H. Heider

Deputy Chiefs of Police:

Joseph P. Fitzsimmons
Richard A. Villa

Lieutenants:

Paul L. Brannigan
Kenneth M. Pero
Alexander M. Rinaldi
Jonathan M. Teale
John M. Van Alstyne
Robert H. Winn

Administrative Services Sergeant:

Michael D. Woods

Detective Sergeants:

John F. Archambault
Kenneth M. Fuchs
Mark L. Girard

Traffic Safety Sergeant:

Robert S. Donnelly

Patrol Sergeants:

Robert W. Barrett
Michael D. Franze
Jeffrey A. Hellkamp
David L. Leonardo
Stephen M. MacLasco
John E. O'Donnell
Christopher P. Ruff
George Thomaidis
John S. Vitale

SIU Investigators:

James D. Gerace

Juvenile Investigators:

Robert J. Cazasta
Stephen N. Donovan
Steven M. Leonardo
Henry J. Rosenzweig
Allan C. Secor

Forensics Investigators:

Robert A. Camilli
Richard L. DiGiulio

Investigators:

Christopher J. Carey
Michael S. Cerone
Michelle Crowley
Francis M. Forenzo
James J. Gerace
Gregory Heider
Kevin P. Terry
Todd H. Weiss

Traffic Investigators:

Jeffrey M. Guzy
Neil T. Leach
Paul B. Musser

Patrol Officers:

Jason A. Bach
Daniel J. Belles
Derek M. Breslin
Thomas P. Breslin
Joseph M. Brunetto
Henry J. Bryk
Nicholas M. Burns
John Bushey, Jr.
Rebecca A. Cason
Jeffrey M. Clark
Samuel F. Criscione
Edward P. Cronin
Brian C. Curran
Jason M. DePaulo
Louis N. DiNuzzo
Tracy L. Dwyer
Patrick J. Fennelly
Stephen E. Frank
Daniel K. Franklin
Eric L. Gansle
Daniel P. Grebert
Peter J. Gullinese
Thomas D. Haacke
James V. Herbst, Jr.
Douglas C. Hoeffner
David Hornberger
Gregory L. Jensen
Edward O. Johnson, Jr.
Guy C. Jubert, Jr.
Dennis M. Keane
Jeffrey T. Lockart
Aaron J. Malinoski
David M. Marra
Todd P. Martinovich
Raymond Milham, Jr.
Dennis C. Mink
Jason R. Orkwis
Joseph P. Parker
Israel Roman
John G. Santorio
Michael P. Sbardella
Chris A. Smith
Christopher R. Smith
James M. Splonskowski
Michael J. Tarbay
Felice J. Trifaro
Paul R. Van Alstyne, Jr.
Richard A. Villa
Edward Weber
Shelly L. Whitelaw
Phillip J. Winglosky

Community Services Officers:

Richard M. Barber
Patrick Germaine
Sean M. McGee

K-9 Officers:

Mark P. Mauro and K9 Patriot
Gerald R. Shaw and K9 Beny

Training Officers:

Katy J. Herrington
Joseph A. Valiquette, Jr.

Warrant Officer:

David J. Messmer

Motor Officers:

Robert J. Laliberte, Jr.
Thomas McLaughlin
Michael J. Torrey

Assistant Communications Supervisors:

Thomas R. Bortle
Michael G. Haller

Senior Dispatchers:

Robert H. Dunn
Lori A. Kunker
John J. Miller
David M. Ray
Roy D. Stiles

Dispatchers:

Neil C. Blanchard
David P. Danish
Robert Davis
Robert J. Elsner
Derek J. Ewing
Glenn V. Falzo
David R. Haller
Pieri Hayes
Michael Hennessey Jr.
Keith R. Herrington
Barbara L. Laney
Frank A. Lawyer
Robert Luke
Michael Mason
Thomas J. Neil
Patrick F. O'Connor
Diane L. Velardi
Stephen D. Waite
James Warren
Kristopher Winne

Victim Services Specialist:

Patrice S. Lockart

Evidence Technician:

Elise Fronk

Youth Court Director:

Violet Colydas

Assistant Youth Court Director:

Stephanie A. Kiernan

Principal Account Clerk:

Deborah C. Graulty

Administrative Aide:

Mary Ellen Laurin

Information Support Clerk:

Melissa L. Shaw

Personnel Clerk:

Diana L. Blake

Principal Records Clerk:

Kathleen J. Nash

Typists:

Kathleen D. Bianca
Beverly Buff
Margaret T. Cramer
Maura K. Pilla
Dorothy C. Schultz

Clerical Aide:

Christopher Clemente
Daniel J. Rourk

Animal Ctrl. Officers Level II:

Jacob J. Oreshan, Jr.

Animal Control Officers:

James Ainscoe, III
Mary O. Garwood
David Miller
Ronald Notar

Matrons:

Michelle Dix
Lisa Mauro
Cathy McLaughlin
Penny A. Oreshan
Kiki A. Perkins
Luane D. Quinn
Therese Roberts

Crossing Guards:

Michelle L. Cleveland
Lillian Connor
Ronnie-Anne DeLap
Diana LaQue
Margie Mallory
Susan Yelle

* Department Roster as of March 1, 2008.

* All officers are listed alphabetically by unit.

Overview and History of the Department

The Colonie Police Department is a New York State accredited, full-service police agency serving the Town of Colonie, New York.

The Colonie Police Department was formed by a Town Board resolution on January 2, 1934. This resolution authorized the Police Department to hire a Chief and two Patrolmen – total budget \$2,500.00.

In 2007, the budget was approximately \$11 million. There were 109 sworn officers, 60 civilian support personnel and over 60 vehicles in the police fleet. Starting Officer's salary has risen from \$400.00 to approximately \$40,000.00. Although the population and related growth of the Town and the Police Department have both grown substantially, the Police Department maintains contact with citizens by promoting a Community Policing policy throughout the agency.

The Police Department is structured into two main divisions. The Field Operations Division includes Patrol, Investigations and Traffic Safety. The Administrative Services Division provides support functions such as Communications, Records, Training, Personnel and Community Services. Administrative Services is also responsible for Fiscal Management, Grant Management, Statistical Analysis, Accreditation, Emergency Management and Animal Control.



Colonie Police Department
Public Safety Center
312 Wolf Road
Latham, New York 12110

(518) 783-2744
Fax (518) 786-7326
www.colonie.org/police

Colonie Police Department Mission Statement:

The mission of the Colonie Police Department is to interact with all citizens with dignity, honor and respect; to preserve life; to protect and maintain human and constitutional rights; to protect property; and to promote individual responsibility and community commitment to high quality standards of living.

The Colonie Police Department will perform this mission in partnership with the community it serves. The police department will foster and promote mutual education, respect, and problem solving with the community. All members of the police department have been empowered to be an agent for this partnership and the positive interaction it will bring.

Patrol Division

The Colonie Police Patrol Division consists of three lieutenants, nine sergeants and 63 patrol officers. Part of the Patrol Division is the Traffic Safety Unit which consists of one Lieutenant, one Sergeant and three Traffic Investigators. These officers are deployed throughout eight patrol zones, 24 hours per day. Officers assigned to the Patrol Division work one of three shifts:

- A-Line - 11:00 p.m. – 7:00 a.m.
- B-Line - 7:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
- C-Line - 3:00 p.m. – 11:00 p.m.

Thirty marked and unmarked vehicles are assigned for use by the Patrol Division. Members of the Patrol Division duties include, but are not limited to:

- Proactive police patrol and crime prevention
- Enforcement of appropriate Federal, State and Local laws
- Crash investigation

- Reporting and preliminary investigation of criminal complaints
- Response to non-criminal complaints
- Response to calls for service

Additionally, members of the Patrol Division are at the forefront of the community policing initiative. Patrol officers are assigned to the same patrol areas on a daily basis to become familiar with the individuals and businesses they serve.

Patrol officers participate in special enforcement programs such as "Operation Mainstreet," where officers are deployed in plainclothes and unmarked cars to take a proactive approach against drugs and criminal activity on Colonie's streets. These officers also actively participate in many highway safety programs including Buckle Up New York and Stop DWI. Both programs focus on reducing injuries and eliminating fatalities on our roadways through aggressive enforcement activities.



Patrol Specialty Units - *Bicycles and All Terrain Vehicles*

In 2005, the Colonie Police Department debuted a Bicycle Patrol as well as an All Terrain Vehicle (ATV) Patrol with the intention of giving the police department more latitude in patrolling the various parts of the Town and to provide more options in keeping with our Community Policing Initiatives.

The all terrain vehicles are suited for patrolling the many Town parks, bike paths and Town owned properties as well as crowded events, wooded or congested areas, utility and railroad right-of-ways and community services events. The police department initiated this program to address a rising number of calls for service within the parks, all terrain vehicles operating in violation of the local law and to fill a recognized lack of resources for certain off-road incidents.

Throughout the late spring, summer and early fall, the bicycles were deployed to everyday patrol, directed patrol activity and to many community services events. The bicycles were a common sight at Town and Village sponsored events at The Crossings Park, Cook Park and the Pruyn House.

K-9 Unit

The Colonie Police Department has two Patrol K-9 teams, consisting of a dog and its handler. The canine is assigned to a specific officer, and the animal goes home with the officer/ handler, and becomes an integral part of the officer's family. These teams are a normal patrol unit and respond to routine calls for service as well as perform their specialized duties as a K-9 team. When not working, these teams are on call for immediate response. Both teams are trained in the following areas: tracking, building search, evidence recovery, handler protection, criminal apprehension, and advanced narcotics detection (which include, marijuana, methamphetamine, cocaine, heroin, ecstasy, and hashish). The teams are certified by The New York State Department of Criminal Justice Services.

Working the streets today are K-9 Beny and K-9 Patriot. Beny is a six year old German Shepherd who has been working as a police K-9 since 2003. Beny and his partner, Officer Jerry Shaw, currently work the midnight shift.

Patriot is a five year old German Shepherd and is the first female canine to work for the Colonie Police Department. She is the partner of Officer Mark Mauro. Patriot and Officer Mauro currently work the afternoon shift.



Officer Jerry Shaw with his K-9 partner, Beny.

Both teams participate in at least 24 hours of specialized K-9 training a month to meet the New York State requirement for certification. These teams also take part in local, state and national level training seminars to sharpen their skills. Also as part of their duties, these teams participate in numerous public and private demonstrations to show why and how the canine is deployed.

In 2007, the K-9 Unit was deployed 48 times for tracking, 31 times for building / area searches and was utilized 66 times for narcotic detection.



Officer Mark Mauro with his K-9 partner, Patriot.

In 2007, members of the Patrol Division issued 11,844 tickets, a 5% increase from 2006.

Motorcycle Unit

The Motorcycle Unit consists of five officers and their Harley Davidson motorcycles. Officers assigned to the Motorcycle Unit handle all patrol functions as well as special events such as parades, escorts and funeral details. They offer the additional benefit of being able to patrol the Town bike path and other locations traditional patrol vehicles cannot access. One of the Department's Motor Officers, Sergeant John Archambault, is also nationally certified as a police motorcycle operator instructor.

In 2007, the Traffic Safety Unit investigated four fatal crashes and handled 323 case files (a 13% decrease from 2006).

Traffic Safety Unit

The Traffic Safety Unit, as a component of the Patrol Division, is comprised of three uniformed investigators, one sergeant and one lieutenant who are specially trained in several areas of traffic services including, but not limited to enforcement, crash investigation and reconstruction, motor carrier safety regulations and hazardous materials incident management. This unit has the responsibility of investigating all collisions involving a fatality, life threatening physical injury or crashes involving Town owned vehicles. In addition, they collect and analyze crash and enforcement data, then develop and implement countermeasure programs that address identified highway safety problems. These investigators respond to the community's concerns involving traffic issues that include complaints of traffic volume, signage and vehicle traffic violations. This unit supports and assists the efforts of the Town of Colonie's Highway Safety Committee.

Members of this unit are also responsible for maintenance and calibration of all of the department's speed measuring devices and breath testing instruments. The Traffic Safety Unit also utilizes the Electronic Total Work Station. This computerized mapping instrument is an invaluable tool in precisely documenting a crime or crash scene. In 2007, the entire unit was trained in the use of this equipment.

Special Services Team

The Colonie Police Department has a team of eighteen highly trained police officers known as the Special Services Team (S.S.T.). In addition to the training provided to all officers in the department, these officers receive specialized training in many areas including high risk traffic stops, barricaded subjects, hostage situations, vehicle assaults and the execution of high risk search warrants. The team members train a minimum of twice monthly in order to maintain the high level of proficiency that is expected of them. Each member of the team has a specified role within the Police Department's day to day operations. When needed, the team can be quickly assembled and mobilized for a high risk assignment.



Colonie SST was deployed several times in 2007. In February an estranged husband held his wife against her will overnight in her home. The next morning she managed to escape and summon help. It was discovered that the suspect used a knife to threaten his wife during the incident so the SST was summoned to the scene. The suspect refused repeated attempts to communicate with him. Eventually chemical agents were introduced and the SST entered with gas masks. The suspect was found hiding between a bed cushion and bed frame and was arrested without injury.

In March, Troy P.D. asked for assistance to respond to what they originally believed was a shooting inside a lab building on the R.P.I. Campus. A male victim was found in a stairwell with what appeared to be a gunshot wound to his head. Fearing that a gunman was still on campus the campus was locked down and the lab building, a nine story structure, was methodically searched by several SWAT units. SST assisted numerous students and professors in an evacuation to a secured area. The building was successfully secured and through investigation it was determined the deceased subject has committed suicide.

In April, Cohoes responded to a double shooting just outside the Colonie border. The female victims ex-husband had broken into her home and shot her and seriously wounded her new boyfriend. Cohoes determined that the gun wielding suspect was registered at a Colonie hotel. Colonie SST conducted a surveillance of the suspects room for several hours in the event of his return. Cohoes secured a warrant for the room and SST stood by while they continued their investigation. The suspect was eventually apprehended.

In July, SST responded to an address on Gadsen Ct. for a suicidal subject call. The victim had contacted his estranged wife and alerted her as to his intention of committing suicide. When patrols arrived they tried to contact the victim to no avail. During their investigation it was determined the subject had apparently barricaded his residence. SST responded and repeated attempts to contact the victim were unsuccessful. Forced entry was eventually made and the victim was found deceased in an upstairs bedroom. It was determined later that the message left with the estranged wife was hours old and the deceased had been dead for hours before police arrival.

Investigations Division

The Investigations Division is responsible for investigating crimes committed within the Town of Colonie. To meet the needs and demands of investigating various crime types, the Colonie Police Department Investigations Division has several units and sub-specialties.

Investigations Unit

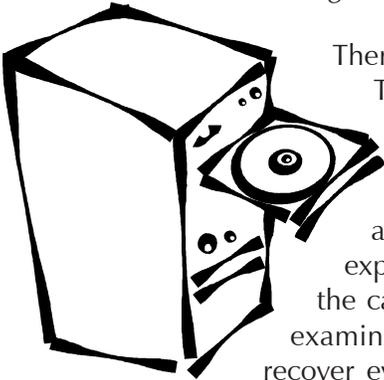
The Investigations Unit is responsible for cases involving crimes against persons and property. This includes but is not limited to, assault, robbery, burglary, and other penal law statutes.

Lieutenant John M. Van Alstyne



Computer Crime Unit

The Computer Crime Unit continues to adhere to its mandate to investigate online criminal activity, conduct undercover online investigations and provide forensic analysis of digital materials. The unit's role of proactively working in an undercover capacity has expanded with member affiliation in the FBI Innocent Image Program. This Innocent Image Task Force consists of six officers from capital district police agencies in partnership with members of the FBI Cyber Crime Unit to conduct undercover online investigations. Membership in this program has fostered investigations and networking information on a national level.



There continues to be an increase in the need for forensic analysis of computer materials.

The Colonie Police Department is the only capital district municipal police agency to provide forensic analysis of computer medium. Providing these services to agencies throughout the capital district, the unit has investigated cases ranging from simple harassment to forgery, embezzlement, identity theft, missing persons, child abuse and

exploitation. In each case, the capabilities of the unit to examine computer media and recover evidence have proven extremely valuable to both investigators and prosecutors.

Members of the Computer Crime Unit continue to conduct community programs for parents, teachers and students on internet safety. The unit also provides training on computer investigations to recruits at the regional Police Academy.

Special Investigations Unit

The Special Investigations Unit (SIU) investigates all illegal drug and vice-related crimes in the Town. They also assist and support the Investigation Unit in investigating crimes against persons and property. The Special Investigation continues to work closely with local, state and federal agencies as well as local task forces.

Public Information Officer

Throughout the year, the department issues scores of press releases that not only announce the commission of crimes or the arrest of offenders but also for the purpose of disseminating vital information to the public. In addition to the Chief's Office, responsibility for this falls to the Investigations Commander as well as to the appropriate division heads as necessitated.

2007 Figures

Seizure of Assets and/or Property - \$10,081*
A decrease of 16%

* More seizures pending in federal and state courts.

Forensic Unit:

The Forensic Unit receives and processes evidence gathered by officers of this department during the course of an investigation. Investigators examine physical evidence including fingerprints which may be submitted to New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services, New York State Police or Federal Bureau of Investigations laboratories for analysis and possible identification. The Colonie Police Forensic Unit was one of the first specialty forensic units in the Capital District. The science of crime scene processing and evidence recovery plays a crucial role in the prosecution of criminal cases. Investigators in this unit receive detailed and ongoing training in the latest forensic trends.

Fingerprint Submissions By Crime:

Burglary <i>An decrease of 89%</i>	37	Criminal Possession of Stolen Property <i>A increase of 38%</i>	11
Robbery <i>An increase of 14%</i>	8	Drug Investigation <i>An increase of 50%</i>	6
Grand Larceny <i>An decrease of 13%</i>	14	Aggravated Harrassment <i>An decrease of 30%</i>	7
Forgery <i>An increase of 19%</i>	38	Assault <i>An increase of 40%</i>	7
Larceny <i>An decrease of 14%</i>	12	Criminal Possession of a Weapon <i>An decrease of 40%</i>	3
Criminal Mischief <i>No change</i>	8	Counterfeit Money <i>No change</i>	13
Issuing A Bad Check <i>An increase of 16%</i>	22		
Petit Larceny <i>An increase of 40%</i>	7		

2007 Figures:

Items of Evidence Received

3,235

A decrease of 35%

Total # of Items Processed

469

No change

Total # of Fingerprint Cases Submitted to DCJS

193

An increase of 5%

Total # of Fingerprint Cases Identified

32

A increase of 68%

**In 2007,
Ms. Lockart
worked on 131
referrals, of which
83 were for
children under the
age of 16 and the
remaining
involved the adult
population.**

Juvenile Unit

The Juvenile (JV) Unit investigates incidents involving crimes committed by or against youths (under 16 years of age). Incidents may range from minor offenses to all other crime classifications.

A valuable support member included in the Investigation Division Juvenile Unit is a non-sworn member, Victim Services Specialist Patrice Lockart. Ms. Lockart assists investigators in cases involving victims of crimes and works with vulnerable populations including youth, elderly, mentally ill persons, victims of sexual assault and domestic violence as well as their families. Referrals to Ms. Lockart are initiated by police, families, victims and community members. Assessments and referrals to appropriate community support agencies are made from this office.



Administrative Services Division

The Administrative Services Division is comprised of both sworn and civilian personnel. Personnel assigned to this division are responsible for all department support services including:

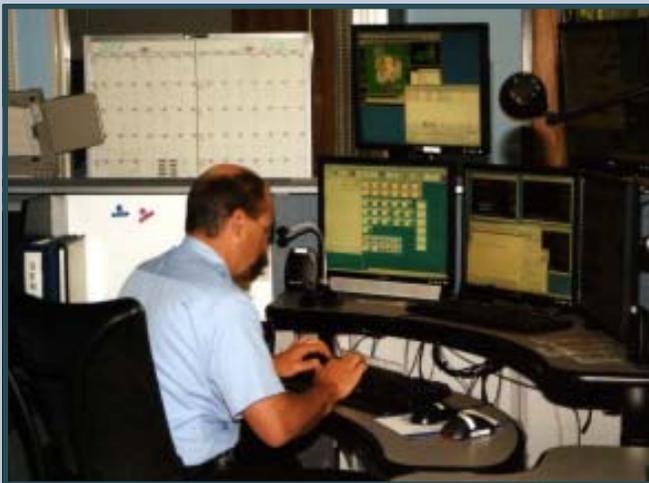
- Communications
- Community Services
- D.A.R.E.
- Records
- Fiscal Management
- Statistical Analysis
- Training
- Fleet Management
- Grant Management
- Accreditation
- Emergency Management
- Animal Control
- Colonie Youth Court
- Web Site

Communications:

Communications is responsible for all public safety communications in the Town of Colonie. It is a 24 hour operation and is one of six E-911 answering centers in Albany County. It is staffed by a civilian Supervisor, two Assistant Supervisors, five Senior Dispatchers, and 22 full-time Public Safety Dispatchers.

Communications receives requests and information that must be processed and prioritized, then dispatch Police, Fire and Emergency Medical units via a computer aided dispatch system.

In 2008, the radio system in communications will be updated to a Motorola Astro 25 Digital Radio System replacing the current analog system, which has been in place for more than 15 years. When the upgrade is complete, the Town of Colonie will have one of the most advanced two-way public safety and public service radio systems in the area. The change will improve radio communications throughout the Town as well as have software that will allow for future expansion.



This division also maintains and operates a mobile Field Operations van that provides communication functions in a command post setting. This vehicle is also utilized for backup dispatching services in the event of technical or mechanical failures in the 911 center.

The Communications Center also serves as the Regional Emergency Medical Alert Center (REMAC). This service allows emergency medical personnel throughout the capital district to have direct contact with medical physicians.

2007 Figures

Police Calls

74,162

An increase of 1%

Fire / EMS Calls

12,241

An increase of 5%

REMAC

30,847

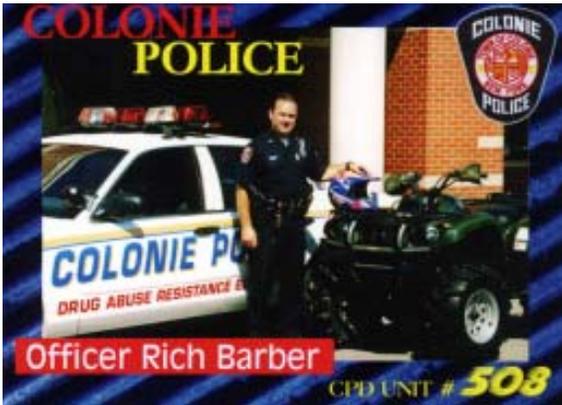
A decrease of 4%

Community Services Unit:

The Colonie Police Department Community Services Unit is comprised of four patrol officers. These officers work closely with citizens and businesses of the Town providing information about personal safety, security of property and methods to reduce criminal activities. In addition, one of our officers is a New York State Certified Crime Prevention Specialist.

Members of this unit assist neighborhood groups by facilitating neighborhood watch programs, conducting crime prevention security surveys, attending neighborhood gatherings or meetings and addressing any specific neighborhood crime prevention needs.

These officers serve on many committees and boards of local civic and school programs such as:



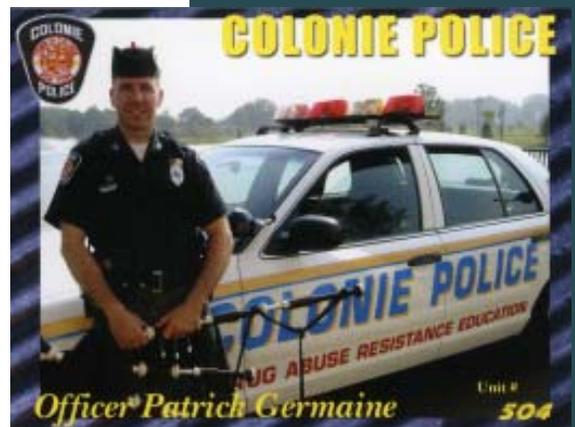
- School Crisis Intervention Teams
- Town of Colonie Kidsfest
- Senior Citizen Committees
- Safe Schools Committees
- NYS Special Olympics
- Special Education Committees
- New York State Safe Kids

One officer is assigned to work closely with the Town of Colonie Senior Resources Department and the growing senior citizen population.

The four Community Services Officers offer the citizens, schools, colleges, civic organizations and businesses of the Town of Colonie approximately sixty different programs and services.

In a proactive approach to the growing threat of violence in the schools, the Community Services Unit continued its program in 2007 working with the local schools by assessing their security needs. In addition, Officer Rich Barber serves as the School Resource Officer at Colonie Central High School providing a consistent police presence within the facility.

As part of the department's **SAFE Schools Initiative** members of the Community Services Unit provide "tabletop" training for school Crisis Response Team members. This training involves the use of scenarios in which school personnel are placed under stressful conditions in an attempt to deal with a mock crisis. Members of the police department, Emergency Medical Services and fire services are also present during this training and work with the school personnel while attempting to deal with the problem. Once again, officials from all the schools of both public school districts went through this training during the 2007 calendar year. In addition to the tabletop training, members of the Community Services Unit also provide classroom instruction on School Violence / Crisis Response to teachers.



Child Car Safety Seat Inspections

Three certified Colonie Police Officers provide the service of checking child car safety seats to ensure that their installations are safe and proper.



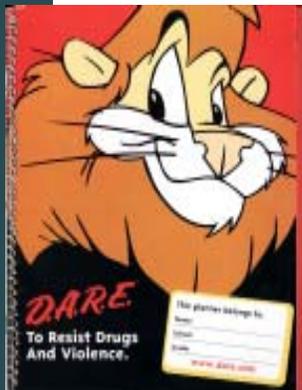
Officer Pat Germaine

In 2007, 239 safety seats were examined (A decrease of 26% from 2006) .

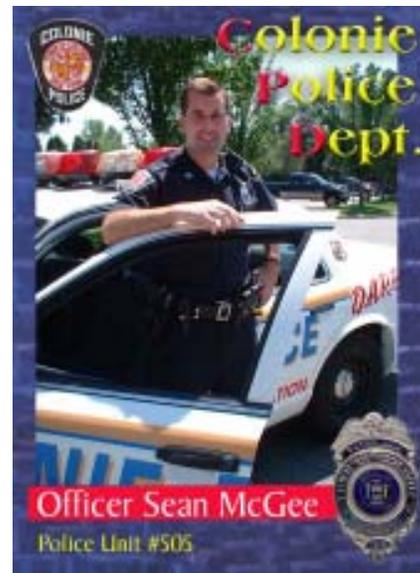
For more details on the Safety Seat Program, contact the Community Services Unit at 782-2662 and follow the instructions in the recorded message or visit www.colonie.org/police.

Project **D.A.R.E.**

In September of 1992 the Colonie Police Department in cooperation with the Town's two school districts and representatives of various private and parochial schools inaugurated the D.A.R.E. (Drug Abuse Resistance Education) Program. D.A.R.E. provides the children of our community with the skills needed to deal with the dangers of drug abuse, alcohol abuse and violence. It also provides them with the guidance they need to make the right decisions for their health and future. D.A.R.E. is targeted for school children in the fifth and sixth grades.



This unit, now in its fifteenth full year of operation has grown to include three fully trained D.A.R.E. officers. Additionally, one D.A.R.E. officer has been trained in the D.A.R.E. parent component program.



In 2007, these officers presented D.A.R.E. programs to approximately 2,500 students in the fifth, sixth and eighth grades in 18 schools and in 82 individual classrooms. Presentations and visitations to the kindergarten through fourth grade classrooms in 11 schools continue, which enable the D.A.R.E. officers to interact with an additional 4,500 children. This interaction provides students with safety skills for use at both home and school.



A high school program for the ninth through twelfth grades was developed to reduce the use and abuse of alcohol and drugs among our community's high school students. Students discuss the risks and consequences of underage drinking, experience hands-on demonstrations using fatal vision goggles and the risks and consequences of drinking, driving and riding with intoxicated drivers. In 2007, this program was presented to approximately 1,500 high school students in 55 classrooms.

In addition to the K-12 buildings, our officers also visit with many of our pre-kindergarten child care centers throughout the Town of Colonie talking with them about safety and letting them know that officers are their friends.

To help further our anti-drug programs our police department has instituted the "TARGET" Program (Teenage Alcohol Related Gathering Enforcement Team). This program is designed to reduce the use of alcohol among our community's youth.

D.A.R.E. Golf Tournament May 14, 2007

The Annual D.A.R.E. Golf Tournament not only provides an enjoyable day of friendship but also serves as a great fund raiser for the DARE Program as businesses in the community assume the role as sponsors.

In 2007, the event was held at the Schuyler Meadows Club where 140 golfers competed.

Training Unit:

The Training Unit staff includes one police officer and one sergeant on a full-time basis. This unit develops, implements and evaluates mandated in-service training as well as providing selective topical training. This unit conducted over 30 hours of practical exercise and classroom instruction that all of our officers attended. Officers also attend numerous local training sessions held throughout the region on various topics.

Training this year included instruction on the use of force, legal updates, EMS protocol and a full day of defensive tactics training. Additional in-service training consisted of two days of firearms training.

The department also continued its "Roll Call Training" in which officers receive ten minute training sessions during their daily briefing. In addition to their traditional instructional roles, these officers also have responsibilities in the following areas:

- Field Training Officer Program
- Police Officer Candidate Processing
- Internship Educational Program
- Pistol Permit Processing
- Department Armorer
- Quartermaster Duties
- Public Safety Dispatcher Candidate Processing

The unit is also responsible for the acquisition, deployment and maintenance of the department fleet and associated equipment. In 2007, over one million miles were driven on department vehicles. When no longer usable for police service, department vehicles are transferred to other Town agencies or sold at auction.



Statistical Analysis

Monthly, quarterly and yearly reports compiling various statistics and data charts are produced for use by Field and Administrative personnel. Mandated Federal and New York State reports, including Uniform Crime Reports are produced by this office.

Web Page

The Department's webmaster is responsible for the development and maintenance of our web site which offers information on department services such as child safety seat inspections and the Civilian Police Academy as well as updates on department activities and promotions. Online forms are also available and include a House / Property Check Form that notifies the department when you will be on vacation and your house will be vacant, an Alarm / Emergency contact card that informs the department who to contact in the event of an alarm drop or emergency at your home, a Home Security Survey and a Contract For Teen Drivers. Please visit us at www.colonie.org/police.



Grant Management

Grant Management, requires the preparing, budgeting, accounting and fiscal reporting related to grant awards. These awards are received from Local, State and Federal sources. Programs funded by grant monies include Stop DWI, Target, Campaign Safe and Sober and Buckle Up New York. Grant managers are also responsible for acquiring new technology for use by all department members. In 2007, the Colonie Police Department was awarded approximately \$190,000 in grants.





Colonie Youth Court Celebrates 1,000th Case In 2007:

In summer 2007, Colonie Youth Court celebrated its 1000th case heard since January 1995. The program held a Membership Appreciation Day event on June 5th to commemorate this special occasion. The picnic held at The Crossings was well

attended by current and former youth court members in appreciation of their hard work and dedication to improving the lives of young people.

In September 2007, Director Violet Colydas and youth court member, Kaizad Irani, filmed a show for the Town's Channel 17 on the youth court program with Honorable Peter Crummey titled Benchmark.

Violet also serves as one of 22 national Board of Trustees to the newly incorporated National Association of Youth Courts, Inc. The association held its first ever National Youth Court Conference in December in New Orleans, Louisiana.

In 2007, the program received 70 referrals from the Police Department, Justice Department, and the Albany County Probation Department. Of those, 67 youth were eligible for the program. Once again we achieved a high successful completion rate this year, with only 4 unsuccessful youth who did not complete sanctions imposed upon them. The gender, race, crime committed and community service hours performed is as follows: 61% males and 39% females, 76%-Caucasians, 16%-African Americans, and 8%-Other. The cases were composed of 42% of theft related crimes, 15% multiple offenses, 13% marijuana related, 3% assaults, and the remaining 28% were composed of mischief, trespass, burglar's tools, theft of services, false impersonation, alcohol, fireworks, and traffic related offenses. The total number of community service hours performed in 2007 was 2,141 hours in the Town of Colonie.



The criteria to refer a young person to youth court includes: the offender shall be under age 18, committed a misdemeanor or violation, admission of guilt, and a first time offender. In youth court, a youth must explain their actions to a jury of his/her peers, and accept a sentence of community service hours deemed appropriate by a young jury. Our jury pool of 300 young people are town residents in grades 7-12 who wish to volunteer their time to listen to an actual case and decide on an appropriate sentence. Our 125 youth court volunteer members are high school students in grades 9-12 who had to undergo an extensive 8 week law related course of instruction. Youth court member roles include: Judge,

Prosecutor,
Defender,
Jury Foreperson,
Clerk and our newer role, Victim Advocate.



Fiscal Management:

The Fiscal Management office has the responsibility of preparing, managing and administering the annual Town Board approved line-item budget. The 2005 Police Department budget was \$11,096,368 of which approximately 88% was appropriated for personnel costs, including salaries and benefits. The remaining 12% accounted for the day to day operating budget. Fiscal Management personnel act as the liaison with the Town Comptrollers office and the Office of General Services.

Functions of this office include:

- Procurement of merchandise and services
- Billing and accounting
- Payroll preparation
- Personnel schedules



Animal Control:

Colonie's Animal Control officers focus on the enforcement of state and local laws in relation to dogs and other animals. The intention is to promote health, safety, and general welfare of the people of the Town of Colonie. Specifically, Animal Control enforces provisions of the New York State Agriculture and Markets Law and Town local laws.

The philosophy of the unit is to remove animals in a safe and humane manner. They interact with the public by providing information on local and state laws before actual enforcement becomes necessary.

Duties of Colonie Animal Control Officers include: the seizure of lost dogs, impoundment, investigations of barking dog complaints, removing sick or injured animals, investigation of animal bites, removing deceased dogs and cats from highways, occasional trapping of wildlife found in homes, transporting possible rabid animals for testing, and investigating cruelty complaints.

Responsibilities consist of the service of legal processes related to criminal or civil proceedings including: appearance tickets, impounding dogs found at large, transporting dogs to the Mohawk and Hudson River Humane Society, notifying the owner of its whereabouts and transporting stray dogs and cats to veterinarians for immediate medical treatment if necessary.

2007 Figures

Animal Control Complaints

2,712

An decrease of 19%



Records

The Records Division is responsible for data entry, as well as the processing and maintaining of information pertaining to official reports and arrest records. All Freedom of Information Law (FOIL) requests are received and processed by Records personnel. This unit reviews all Police Officer documented reports for content, clarity and completeness.

2007 Figures

Cases Processed

13,745

A decrease of 11%

Accident Investigations

4,403

An increase of 7%

Investigations Cases

4,260

An increase of 25%

Citations

11,844

An increase of 5%

Field Interviews

3,608

A decrease of 15%

Accreditation:

Administrative Services is responsible for ensuring that all department policies and procedures are in compliance with the standards set by New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services.

The accreditation program has long been recognized as a means of maintaining the highest standards of professionalism. The Colonie Police Department was originally accredited in 1994 and once again in 1999.

In 2004, our agency went through a re-accreditation program. The process involved a critique and review by outside independent assessors of all department policies and procedures. The department successfully met or exceeded the criteria required for re-accreditation through October, 2009.



Explorer Post 185

Colonie Police Explorer Post 185 is a chartered organization of the Boy Scouts of America and is sponsored by the Colonie Police Department. It is comprised of young men and women who would like to learn more about a career in Law Enforcement. The Post membership includes their own command structure with ranks of Corporal, Sergeant, Lieutenant and Captain and all fall under the Police Department supervision of Lt. Alex Rinaldi, Sergeant Steve MacLasco, Investigators Al Secor and Jason DePaulo. The Post meets twice each month on the 2nd and 4th Thursday. At these meetings, after regular business is discussed, training sessions are held, often by the same instructors used to teach law enforcement officers at the Police Academy. Topics such as Forensics, Arson Investigation, Computer Crime and Juvenile Law are common, as well as how to handle Domestic calls, High Risk Traffic Stops and DWI checks.



For our building search training, members of our own New York Air National Guard pitched in to help. It was held at their facility at the Albany International Airport and a tour was included.

The Post also performs community service on a regular basis, last year totaling more than 1500 hours at events such as the annual Kids Fest, Family Fun Day, concerts at the Pruyn House, the CP Telethon, Special Olympics and many more...

..but it's not all work. The Post competes against other Police Posts at regular events called Stations Days, and also travels to Connecticut annually for a week long Explorer Academy.

To be a member, you must be 14 years old, have completed the 8th grade, maintain an 80 average in school and be in good standing in your community.

For more information, you may call Investigator Jason DePaulo at 783-2744, ext. 1204.

Explorer Post 185 Advisors:
Officer Brian Curran and Traffic
Investigator Jason DePaulo.



2007 Awards Ceremony

On the evening of May 31, 2007, the Colonie Police Department hosted our Annual Awards Ceremony where department members joined with officers' families and friends at the Town of Colonie Public Safety Center in this recognition event.

Distinguished Service Award

The Distinguished Service Award is given to a member of the department who in the course of their duties and while interacting with their peers, supervisors and the public, displays exceptional dedication to their profession and to the department. This award is given to the explorer, communicator and police officer of the year.



Officer of the Year
Officer
Paul R. Van Alstyne

Dispatcher of the Year
Senior Dispatcher
Thomas M. Vogel



Explorer of the Year
Sergeant Joseph Sholtes

Esposito/Russo Memorial Award

The Esposito/Russo Memorial Award is given to the officer for aggressive anti-DWI efforts throughout the year. The 2007 award recipient was Officer Edward O. Johnson for his outstanding efforts in the field of impaired driving enforcement. He is shown with Chief Heider and Anna Russo, whose daughter and nephew were killed by a drunk driver in 1989.



Life Saving Award

The Life Saving Award is presented to a member, who in the performance of their duty, renders medical first aid of a distinguished or unusually creditable nature to a person whose life is in immediate jeopardy, and does so in a manner that most certainly sustains the person and enables such person to be delivered alive to a medical facility.

2007 Life Saving Award Recipients

Officer Nicholas M. Burns
Officer Joseph A. Valiquette
Officer Todd P. Martinovich

Awards Ceremony *Continued*

Command Recognition Award

The Command Recognition Award may be awarded to a member, who in the line of police duty performs a task in an exemplary manner thereby displaying alertness, efficiency and dedication to duty.

2007 Command Recognition Award Recipients

Lieutenant Robert H. Winn	Officer Dennis M. Keane
Investigator Jeffrey M. Guzy	Officer Gregory L. Jensen
Officer Nicholas M. Burns	Senior Public Safety Dispatcher
Officer Patrick J. Fennelly	Thomas M. Vogel
Officer Michael P. Sbardella	Dispatcher Frank A. Lawyer

Civilian Award

A Certificate of Community Service may be awarded to a civilian who has rendered assistance to the Police Department in an emergency, or who by action or deed, has contributed to a better police-community relationship.

2007 Civilian Award Recipients

Cotton Hill Studios
Daniel Ritz
Dave Moak
Nicholas Anthony
Frank Tuttle
Christopher Geary

Albany County Traffic Safety Awareness Committee Honors Colonie Officers

Albany County Traffic Safety Awareness Committee honored Colonie Police Department Community Services Officers Sean McGee and Patrick Germaine in a December ceremony. They were recognized for their time and devotion to protection of the children of Albany County through their work including child safety seat inspections and bicycle rodeos which teach children bicycle safety.

Civilian Police Academy

Civilian Police Academy (CPA) students are exposed to all areas of police operations from administration, patrol, investigation, traffic, forensics, the court system and more. The classes are held in three hour sessions for nine weeks. Class sessions are taught by carefully selected officers who specialize in the topic being covered. Students are also given the opportunity to attend optional sessions including a ride-along. A graduation ceremony is held at the completion of the program.

The ultimate goal of a CPA is to reduce crime through a strong bond between the citizens and their police department. This is in keeping with the philosophy of community policing.

Objectives of the Academy:

- Foster cooperation between police and CPA students.
- Showcase the education, capabilities, and talents of the members of the Colonie Police Department.
- Dispel misconceptions of how the police department operates by explaining why police act as they do.
- Create "neighborhood ambassadors" who will take information from the CPA and spread positive information to their neighbors.

For more information on the Civilian Police Academy visit www.colonie.org/police or call 782-2662.

Promotions, Reassignments, Appointments & Retirements

Promotions:

Jason DePaulo
Patrol Officer to Traffic Safety Investigator

Jeffrey Lockart
Patrol Officer to Traffic Safety Investigator

Joseph Brunetto
Patrol Officer to Investigator

Guy C. Jubert, Jr.
Patrol Officer to Investigator

Reassignments:

Jeffrey Guzy
Traffic Safety Investigator to Investigator

Appointments:

Patrol Officer Nicholas Layne
Patrol Officer David Mink
Patrol Officer Jacques Tremblay



2007 Gun and Badge Night:

Deputy Chief Joseph Fitzsimmons, Officers Nicholas Layne, David Mink, Jacques Tremblay and Deputy Chief Richard Villa
November 29, 2007

Law Enforcement Torch Run June, 2007

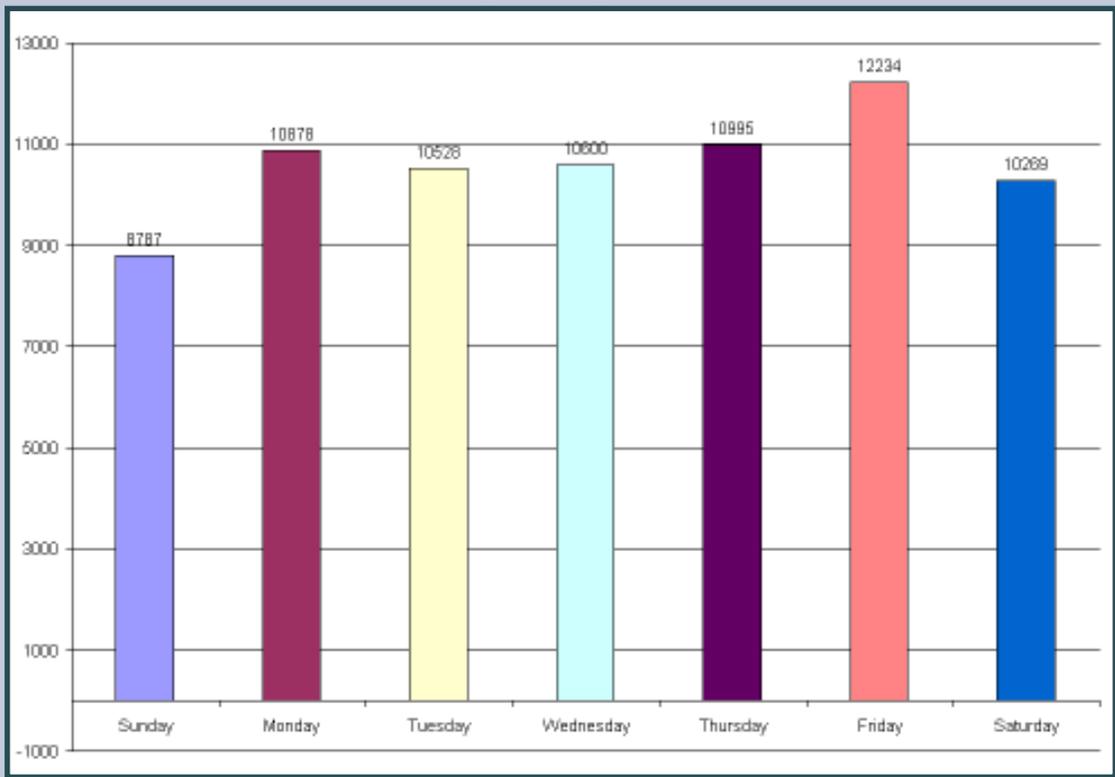
The mission of the Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics is to raise funds and awareness of the Special Olympics movement worldwide. Law enforcement officers from every state and over 30 countries carry the Flame of Hope in honor of the Special Olympics athletes in their area and around the world. 2007 was the 26th year for the Torch Run.



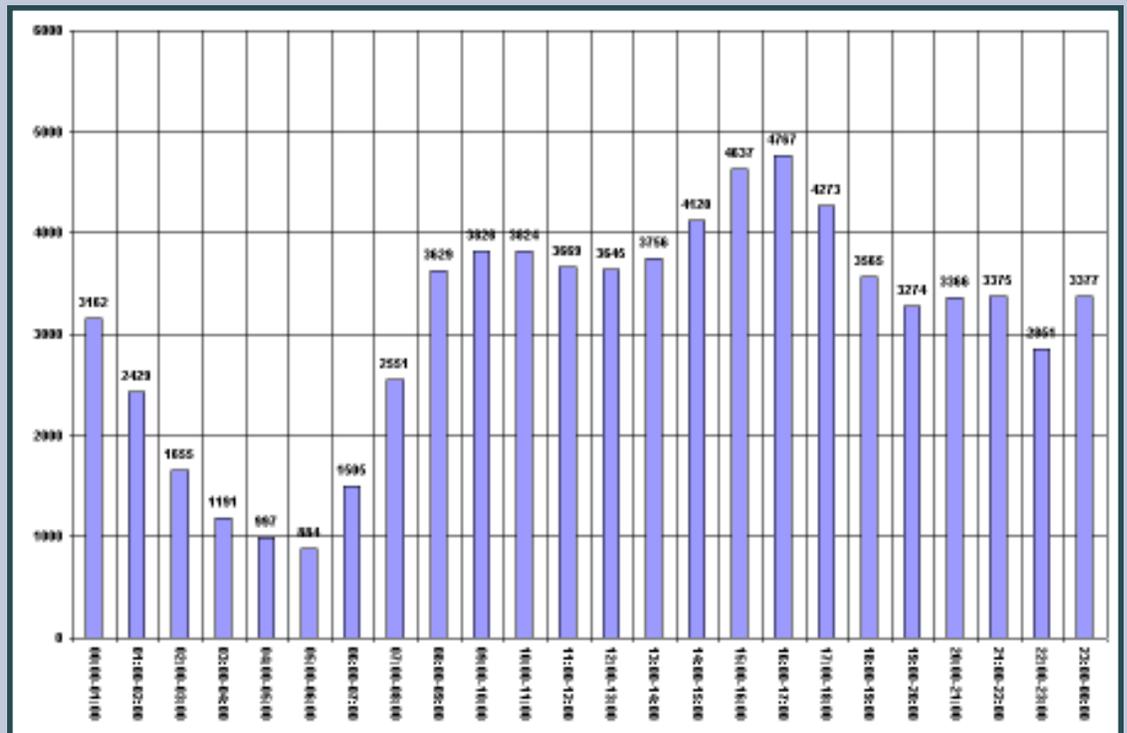
2007 Calls For Service

	2006	2007	Change		2006	2007	Change		2006	2007	Change
911 Accidental Call	2,591	2,406	-7%	Fire Call	400	391	-2%	Person With A Weapon	50	37	-26%
911 Hang-Up Call	1,075	667	-38%	Fireworks	192	257	+34%	Police Wanted Unkown	61	52	-15%
911 Non-Emergency/ Nuisance	491	440	-10%	Found Property	402	347	-14%	Property Check	1,295	2,016	+56%
Abandoned Vehicle	384	340	-11%	Get A Complaint	1,065	1,035	-3%	Prowler	70	73	+4%
Alarm Drop	891	877	-2%	Get A Report	6,787	5,730	-16%	Road Hazard	523	630	+20%
Animal Control Complaint	3,638	2,712	-25%	Group Annoying	680	658	-3%	Robbery	23	19	-17%
Assault	133	92	-31%	Hazardous Material Call	7	6	-14%	School Crossing	15	55	+267%
Assist A Person	761	849	+12%	Hold-Up Alarm	259	293	+13%	Selling Drugs	8	11	+38%
Auto Accident Property Damage	3,856	4,246	+10%	Jail Run	106	92	-13%	Shooting	1	4	+300
Auto Accident Personal Injury	615	663	+8%	Juvenile Incident	158	134	-15%	Shoplifter	340	451	+33%
Auto Accident Unknown	123	92	-25%	Landlord/Tenant Trouble	99	73	-26%	Shots Fired	61	59	-3%
Bomb Threat	2	4	+100%	Larceny Just Occurred	171	213	+25%	Someone In Building	10	23	+130
Boy/ Girlfriend Trouble	50	71	+42%	Lock Out	384	410	+7%	Traffic Enforcement Details	267	292	-89%
Burglar Alarm	5,485	5,609	+2%	Loud Music	257	251	-2%	Traffic Stop	16,622	18,915	+14%
Burglary In Progress	74	40	-46%	Loud Party	146	155	+6%	Tree Down	60	95	+58%
Car Blocking	157	224	+43%	Malfunctioning Traffic Light	399	450	+13%	Trouble With A Customer	346	351	+1%
Check A Subject	3,209	3,568	+11%	Neighbor Trouble	341	316	-7%	Vehicle Annoying	1,957	1,775	-9%
Community Services Event	677	519	-23%	Notification	790	749	-5%	Vehicle In Violation	644	479	-26%
Custodial Interference	119	90	-24%	Officer Needs Assistance	146	185	+27%	Warrant	937	908	-3%
Disabled Motor Vehicle	1,607	1,987	+24%	Open Window/ Door	207	181	-13%	Water Break	87	103	+18%
Domestic Call	1,717	1,790	+5%	POP (Police Oriented Policing)	817	788	-4%	Wires Down / Arching	185	172	-7%
Drunk Annoying	96	84	-13%	Person Acting Suspicious	717	645	-10%	All Other Call Types	4,882	4,327	-11%
Emotionally Disturbed Person	295	320	+8%	Person Annoying	683	637	-7%	Totals:	73,280	74,162	+1%
EMS Call	1,178	1,225	+4%	Person Attempting Suicide	57	53	-7%				
Executing A Warrant	54	38	-30%	Person Down	18	16	-11%				
Fight	254	208	-18%	Person Exposing Self	16	19	+19%				

Number of Calls By Day of Week



Number of Calls By Hour of The Day



Custodial Arrests In 2007

Total For Adults: 3,213
An Increase of 12%

Total For Juveniles: 144
An increase of 7%

The Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program was conceived to meet a need for reliable, uniform crime statistics for the nation. The FBI collects, publishes and archives these statistics from nearly 17,000 law enforcement agencies across the United States.

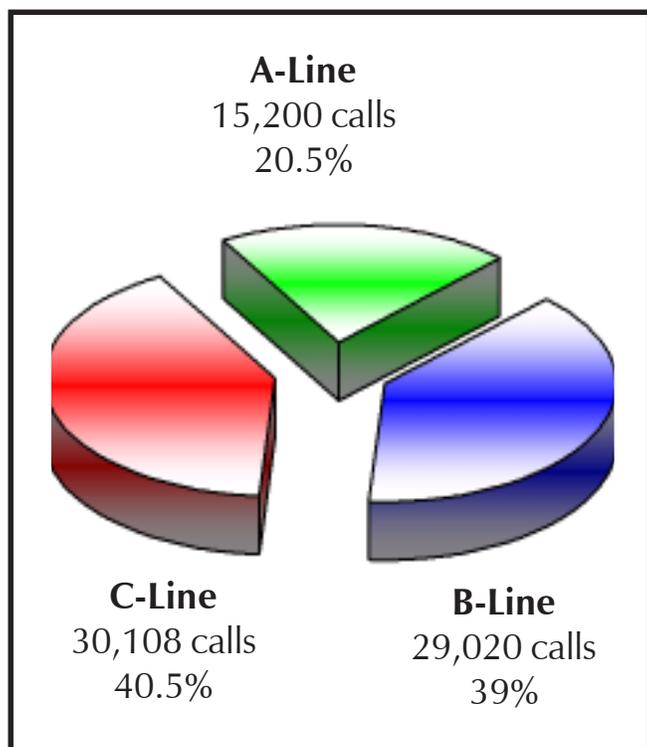
Uniform Crime Report (UCR) Part 1 Offenses

	2006	2007	Change
Murder	1	1	-
Rape	3	5	+67%
Robbery	31	21	-32%
Assault	61	57	-9%
Burglary	310	269	-13%
Larceny	2,472	2007	-18%
Vehicle Theft	106	53	-50%
Totals:	2,984	2413	-19%

Uniform Crime Report (UCR) Part 2 Offenses

	2006	2007	Change
Arson	8	5	+13%
Kidnapping	2	0	-300%
Controlled Substances	234	239	-2%
Dangerous Weapons	25	14	-60%
Bribery	0	0	-
Sex Offenses	78	15	-23%
Extortion	0	0	-100%
Forgery / Counterfeiting	105	103	+23%
Stolen Property	55	60	+31%
Prostitution & Vice	7	0	+71%
Coercion	0	0	-100%
Criminal Mischief	964	858	+16%
Fraud	218	335	-59%
Gambling	0	0	-
Offenses Against Public Order	0	5	-
Embezzlement	0	0	-
Simple Assault	134	110	-19%
Offenses Against Family	234	154	-33%
Driving Under Influence	268	275	-11%
Unauthorized Use of Vehicle	37	5	-43%
Possession of Burglar Tools	1	1	+100%
Liquor Law Violations	18	0	-11%
Disorderly Conduct	455	533	+12%
Public Drug Intoxication	0	0	-
Loitering	0	0	-100%
All Other Offenses	776	609	+1%
Totals:	3,619	3321	-8%

Percentage of Calls By Shift





The Town of Colonie, New York
Governmental Leadership



Supervisor Paula A. Mahan

and

Town Board Members:

Nancy Hernandez
Robert Becker
William Carl

Brian Hogan
Nicole Criscione-Szesnat
Thomas With