

## ***POLICE DEPARTMENT***

### ***VISION/MISSION STATEMENT***



The Jamestown Police Department is committed to providing the most professional police services; where the citizens we serve are treated with respect and dignity; where all employees have an opportunity to contribute, learn, receive recognition for accomplishments and be involved in their own personal and professional development; where we constantly evaluate and improve our efforts to enhance public safety while actively engaging the community.

It is the mission of the Jamestown Police Department:

- Protect and provide for the safety of the general public
- Enforce the laws of the State of Rhode Island and the Ordinances of the Town of Jamestown
- Create a proactive partnership with the residents of the Town of Jamestown that best serves the needs of the community
- Attain a high quality of life for all

### ***PERSONNEL/STAFFING***

The Department has seen change over the past twelve months, most significantly in the area of personnel changes and challenges. The most notable was the retirement of Chief Tighe, who served for nearly two decades as the Department's chief of police. The Department saw the resignation of three additional officers; Scott Sullivan, Tiffany Kopacz and Stephen Head.

The Department is currently authorized and staffed as follows: Sworn Officers: 14 FTE; Civilian Dispatchers: 4.5 FTE; Administrative Assistant: .75 FTE; Parking Monitor: 1 FTE (seasonal); Harbor Masters: 1.5 FTE (seasonal).

Two recruitment processes for probationary police officers were conducted at various times during the year. The most recent process resulted in the highest number of applicants in recent memory at approximately 100. This was the result of a tremendous recruitment effort and a change in the methods of advertising. The end result of both processes resulted in the

Department hiring three officers, all currently at various stages of training, including one in the basic recruit academy. Upon completion, this officer will bring the number of sworn officers to a total of fourteen (14).

**DEPARTMENT IN GENERAL**

The Department continues its community outreach program by a number of methods. First and foremost is instilling a Department wide philosophy of community policing. In an effort to be more accessible and transparent to the community, we have redeveloped and launched a new website. The Department has developed a community liaison program in which specific officers are assigned to groups to serve as their direct liaison to assist with problem solving. In addition, we have continued our efforts in assigning officers to walking beats and bike patrol in the Village area. Officers have assisted at or attended a number of community events and meetings including: Drivers’ Education, Jamestown Day, Lions Club, Rotary Club, Prevention Coalition, Jamestown Chamber of Commerce, Jamestown Humane Society and the Taxpayers Association. Officers have also participated in community events such as the Special Olympics Torch run and the NK5K road race. Officers have organized an educational forum for students and parents entitled “Countdown 2 Drive.”

Undoubtedly you are aware of recent negative publicity related to traffic enforcement which deserves of comment at this time. First, you should be aware that this began at a time when there was State-wide effort to begin enforcing the newly enacted primary seat belt law. All law enforcement faced criticism when they began enforcement. This was the result of some public opinion which was not in favor of the new law combined with a lack of public education efforts by the State.

However, based upon the local perception, we studied our traffic enforcement efforts and provided a detailed report to the Council at the time. Included is a more recent abbreviated study which includes a three month (June-July-August) comparison of the most recent five years. The study indicates the number of traffic stops and the number of citations issued. The average issuance rate for the same three-months for the five year period is 21.8%. The issuance rate for June, July and August, 2012 is 21%.

**TRAFFIC STOP / TRAFFIC CITATION ANALYSIS  
THREE MONTH COMPARISON BY YEAR JUNE – JULY – AUGUST**

	<b>TRAFFIC STOPS</b>	<b>CITATIONS ISSUED</b>	<b>% ISSUED</b>
<b>2012</b>	665	142	21%
<b>2011</b>	706	69	9%
<b>2010</b>	626	130	21%
<b>2009</b>	485	136	28%
<b>2008</b>	555	169	30%
<b>Average:</b>			21.8%

A second analysis of each year based upon the fiscal period over five years indicates an average issuance rate of 23.6%. The period ending June 30, 2012 indicates an issuance rate of 21%. By all accounts the Department remains consistent in its traffic enforcement practices.

**TRAFFIC STOP / TRAFFIC CITATION ANALYSIS  
FIVE YEAR COMPARISON**

<b>YEAR</b>	<b>TRAFFIC STOPS</b>	<b>CITATIONS ISSUED</b>	<b>% ISSUED</b>
<b>2012</b>	2789	612	21%
<b>2011</b>	2918	436	15%
<b>2010</b>	2380	539	22%
<b>2009</b>	2275	644	28%
<b>2008</b>	2495	819	32%
<b>Average:</b>			23.6%

\* Based on fiscal period July 1 – June 30

The Department also adopted a standard policy for our response to traffic complaints in the community. The policy now requires that when a speeding complaint is received on a specific street, we deploy a speed monitoring device which allows us to determine if the complaint is actual or perceived. We then evaluate the specific area to ensure that proper signage and appropriate speed limit signs are in place. This is combined with an education period in which we deploy one of our digital speed trailers as a warning to motorists. This is followed by an enforcement period in which officers can be deployed at specific times as determined by the speed study.

The Department has been very involved in the planning of a number of large scale community events. These events include: Rotary Bike Race, America’s Cup Races and the Tall Ships. We have assisted with the planning and relocation of two long-standing events to East Ferry; Fireworks and the Plunge. The Department has re-developed its mutual-aid agreement with the Town of North Kingstown. This has allowed for us the option to request assistance from their police department to assist with these major events.

**UNIFORM CRIME REPORT STATISTICS**

The Department, as do all law enforcement agencies tracks crimes in two parts. Part A crimes are those against persons, property crimes or crimes against society. Part B crimes are those which include such crimes as disorderly conduct, driving while intoxicated and trespassing. In comparing the fiscal year ending 2011 to the year ending 2012, both categories saw a decline in crime. Overall, reported crime is down by 13%.

**CRIMES BY YEAR**

<b>CATEGORY</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>% CHANGE</b>
<b>CRIMES AGAINST PERSONS</b>	31	13	-58%
<b>CRIMES AGAINST PROPERTY</b>	285	257	-10%
<b>CRIMES AGAINST SOCIETY</b>	316	270	-14%
<b>PART A TOTALS</b>	632	540	-15%
<b>PART B CRIMES</b>	127	122	-4%
<b>OVERALL TOTAL</b>	759	662	-13%

\* Based on fiscal period July 1 – June 30

The Department tracks juvenile and adult arrests separately. One will note that overall arrest totals increased by 5 or 2.6% which is fairly insignificant. It should be noted that juvenile arrests increased by 87%. The majority of juvenile cases are referred to the Jamestown Juvenile Hearing Board.

**ARRESTS BY YEAR**

	<b>2011</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>CHANGE %</b>
<b>ADULTS</b>	171	162	-5%
<b>JUVENILES</b>	16	30	+87%
<b>TOTAL</b>	187	192	+2.6%

\* Based on fiscal period July 1 – June 30

**TRAINING/EDUCATION**

The Department continues to focus on training efforts. In the past year officers in total have received 385 hours of in-service and specialized training in a variety of topics ranging from active shooter, first-aid, CPR, breathalyzer to firearms. We continue with the philosophy of professional development. Three officers are currently pursuing advance degrees including the Lieutenant who is pursuing her master's degree. Currently one officer is enrolled in the Rhode Island BCI course located at the University of Rhode Island.

## ***ANIMAL CONTROL***

Nearly two-years ago, the Department eliminated the animal control officer position. Recently the Department has developed a standardized policy for all police officers to follow when addressing animal related complaints. This has created a more uniform approach to impoundment and enforcement of animal violations. The officers are responsible for the investigation of animal-related complaints and enforcing violations. The new policy allows for the Department to be assisted by a volunteer animal liaison who has frequently assisted with meeting the needs of the community. The Department has received more than 1500 animal related calls since January 1, 2012. Two vicious dog hearings have been ordered.

The Department has received approval from RIDEM to temporarily kennel animals at the police station for no more than 24 hours. In addition, the Department has entered into a memorandum of agreement with the Town of North Kingstown to provide longer term kennel services.

## ***EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT***

The Department continues to be a large partner in the area of Emergency Management for the community. The Department now has the ability to notify residents in the event of an emergency by using a reverse calling system (Everbridge). In recent months, the Department has completed a number of initiatives related to Medical Points of Distribution (MPOD). These include the re-writing of the Town's response plan and establishing the distribution of the Pertussis (whooping cough) vaccination. The Department has modified its Town-wide Emergency Operations Plan and it has received approval from the Rhode Island Emergency Management Agency.

## ***FACILITY/EQUIPMENT***



The Police Station underwent a renovation and addition project in 2008. In the past year, the lobby and dispatch area have been upgraded to improve officer/dispatcher safety as well as public access.

Improvements to the HVAC system are underway by the public works department.

The Department's fleet includes a total of ten (10) vehicles: five (5) marked units, three (3) unmarked units and two (2) former patrol cars which are assigned to traffic details. The current capital budget allows for the replacement of two (2) vehicles.

Current technology projects include replacement of the Department main server, replacement of four (4) mobile data terminals and replacement of two (2) in-car video systems. Plans are underway to incorporate the dispatcher's ability to monitor cameras from the Town system, RIDOT and RIBTA.

### **GOALS**

The Department will focus its effort on providing professional police services to the community. This will include a complete review of all policies, rules and regulations. This will be part of a larger initiative to seek accreditation from the Rhode Island Police Accreditation Commission.