

JAMESTOWN POLICE DEPARTMENT



Annual Report

2019

Chief Edward A. Mello

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 to:

- 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

The Department is currently authorized as follows: Sworn Officers: 14 FTE; Civilian Dispatchers: 4.5 FTE; Harbor and Police Clerk: 1 FTE; Parking Monitor: 1 FTE (seasonal); Harbormasters: 1.5 FTE (seasonal).

The Department assumes the full-time responsibility of dispatching for the Jamestown Fire Department. All Department members have been trained to meet the dispatching and reporting requirements of the fire department. This included enhancements to software and records management to allow for a streamlined reporting process to the Rhode Island Fire Marshal's Office.

STAFF MEMBERS (as of December 31, 2019)

<u>Position</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Years of Service</u>
Chief of Police	Edward Mello	8
Lieutenant	Angela Deneault	25
Sergeant	Joel Pinocci	21
Sergeant	Karen Catlow	17
Sergeant	Jason Hopkins	15
Sergeant	Mark Esposito	15
Detective	Derek Carlino	16
Officer	Theodore Hebert	12
Officer	Ronald Jacobson	10
Officer	James Chaves	7
Officer	Jeffrey Petrarca	4
Officer	Nathaniel Schaffer	2
Officer	Chad Specht	2
Officer	Zach Hubbard	
Officer (per diem)	Phillip Williams	1
Dispatcher	Robert Rexter	27
Dispatcher	Keith Ford	12

Dispatcher	David Bento	6
Dispatcher	David Carrillo	4
Dispatcher (per diem)	Mary McDonald	
Harbormaster	Mark Campbell	3
Clerk	Kim Devlin	11

COMMUNITY POLICING

The Department continues in strengthening the community policing culture amongst all members.



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 but not limited to: Drivers' Education, Recreation Center Events, Prevention Coalition, Jamestown Chamber of Commerce, Senior Center and the Shores Association. Officers have also independently developed relationships with seniors in the community through various groups our as individuals. Department members participated in the National "Coffee with a Cop" day hosted by East Ferry Deli.

The Department has been very involved in the planning of nearly a dozen large-scale community events. These events include: Rotary Bike Race, Save-the-Bay Swim, Jamestown Half Marathon, 4th of July Fireworks and the New Years' Plunge. The Department continues to maintain its mutual-aid agreement with the Town of North Kingstown, allowing us the option to request assistance from their police department for these major events.

The Department has organized and managed a Halloween "block party" in cooperation with the Jamestown Fire Department. This event has now evolved to a partnership, which includes the Jamestown Women's Club. Collectively we organize and sponsor a children's Halloween parade through the center of Town.

Department members continue to engage with school staff by actively participating in school events, emergency planning and security drills.

Department members organized and managed the several bike-to-school days and bike rodeos along with school department staff. During the holiday season, officers continue to promote "Cram-the Cruiser" in which they receive donations for the local food pantry. Several Department members worked with public works and recreation staff members in the construction of the playground.

Officers collaborated with the Jamestown Recreation Department and organized a Dodge Ball tournament in which the police officers competed against numerous other community teams. This resulted in \$800 being donated to the Teen Center.

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.

CRIMES BY YEAR

CATEGORY	2018	2019	% CHANGE
PART A TOTALS	86	36	-59%
PART B CRIMES	215	187	-14%
OVERALL TOTAL	301	223	-26%

* Based on Jan 1-Dec 31

ARREST STATISTICS

The Department tracks juvenile and adult arrests separately. The arrest rate increased by 31% in 2019.

ARRESTS BY YEAR

	2018	2019	CHANGE %
ADULTS	138	125	
JUVENILES	17	0	
TOTAL	155	125	-20%

* Based on Jan 1-Dec 31

TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT

The Department continues a very active role in addressing traffic concerns and complaints. The policy regarding traffic includes a three-pronged approach, which includes a review of engineering, education and enforcement.

Members of the Department serve as direct staff support to the local traffic committee. This committee, comprised of two council members and five members of the public, serves as an advisory committee to the Town Council in which they develop solutions to traffic and parking concerns brought forth by residents.

Officers consider a number of factors when determining whether to issue a traffic citation, including but not limit to: previous driving history, road conditions and the location of the violation. In 2016, Northeastern University, the Rhode Island Department of Transportation and the Rhode Island Police Chiefs' Association released a study of traffic stops in Rhode Island. Noteworthy within the report is that statewide by average, officers issue citations in 45% of all traffic stops. Jamestown Police officers issue citations in approximately 22% of traffic stops. Jamestown remains fourth highest in the reported number of traffic stops based on population yet sixth highest in the reported number of warnings issued by officers.

The possession of less than one ounce of marijuana is classified as a civil offense and as such is reflected as a motor vehicle citation. There were 17 marijuana citations issued during 2019.

TRAFFIC STOPS BY YEAR

	2017	2018	2019
CITATIONS	252	393	573
NOTICE/DEMAND	85	4	2
WARNINGS	1041	1232	1135
ARREST	20	46	63
ARREST PASSENGER	0	1	3
NO ACTION	42	37	20
TOTALS TRAFFIC STOPS	1440	1713	1796

* Based on Jan 1-Dec 31

TRAINING/EDUCATION

The Department continues to focus on training efforts. The Department records training in three categories: In-service training, roll-call training and specialized training. During the year, each officer received approximately 28 hours of in-service training and an additional eleven hours of roll-call training. All officers were trained and are equipped with Naloxone in the effort to be better prepared to respond to drug overdoses. The Department continues to offer take home drug test kits and drug drop box. Both are free and anonymous.

Various officers in the Department collectively received approximately 440 hours of specialized training in a variety of topics ranging from active shooter, first aid, CPR, breathalyzer and firearms. We continue with the philosophy of professional development.

ANIMAL CONTROL

The Department operates under a standardized policy for all police officers to follow when addressing animal related complaints. The officers are responsible for the investigation of animal-related complaints and enforcing violations. The policy allows the Department to be assisted by a volunteer animal liaison who often assists with meeting the needs of the community. The Department has responded to approximately 390 animal related complaints during the year.

The Department continues with its' agreement with the Town of North Kingstown to provide long-term kennel services and more complex animal control issues.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

The Police Department continues to be a large partner in the area of Emergency Management for the community. The Department has the ability to notify residents in the event of an emergency by using a reverse calling system (Code Red). The change in this service provider was the result of the Rhode Island Emergency Management Agency developing a statewide notification system with Code Red. This collaboration will allow the development of a larger calling database as well as variety of redundancy options.

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 a variety of vaccinations. The Department has modified its Town-wide Emergency Operations Plan and it has received approval from the Rhode Island Emergency Management Agency.

Rhode Island Emergency Management and the National Weather Service have recognized the Town of Jamestown as being "Storm Ready". This designation indicates that the department actively monitors official weather reports and warnings, has the ability to immediately notify the residents of threatening weather, and collaborates with community groups in the area of dangerous lightning detection.

FACILITY/EQUIPMENT



The Department's fleet includes a total of nine (9) vehicles: five (5) marked units, three (3) unmarked units and one (1) repurposed patrol cars that are assigned to traffic details.

The Department continued to maintain the station building with general upkeep measures such as painting, flooring repair/replacement and converting all lighting to LED fixtures.

PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS

The Chief of Police is responsible for the direction to investigate all complaints and allegations made against sworn and civilian members of the Department. A thorough investigation ensures that the integrity of the Department remains intact. Each investigation is conducted objectively, thoroughly, and without bias. At the conclusion of all investigations, the findings are assigned to one of the following categories:

- **Sustained:** Evidence sufficient to prove allegations.
- **Not Sustained:** Insufficient evidence to either prove or disprove allegations.
- **Exonerated:** Incident occurred but was lawful or proper.
- **Unfounded:** Allegation is false or not factual.
- **Policy failure:** Flaw in policy caused incident.

There are two types of complaints that may be filed; external and internal complaints. External complaints are filed by persons not employed by the police department. Internal complaints are those that are filed by members of the department.

External complaints are generally received in three fashions. The first is an informal verbal complaint directed to a commanding officer of the Department. These matters are evaluated by that commanding officer and he or she determines whether or not the complaint requires further investigation or action by the Lieutenant and/or Chief of Police.

The second type of external complaint is a written informal complaint. This type of complaint is generally received through three avenues. The first would be a direct email to the Lieutenant and/or Chief of Police. The second is received through the general feedback function built within the Town's website. These "feedbacks" are grouped with all Town feedback and then disseminated to the appropriate department head for action. The Department created a feedback form, which is specific to complimenting or complaining about a member of the Police Department. This function is located on the Police Department's homepage on the town website. These forms, when submitted, are received directly by the Lieutenant and Chief of Police.

The third method of external complaint is a formal written complaint against a member of the Department. The complaint forms as well as directions to complete them are available on the Department's website, at the police station, or at the Town Clerk's Office. These complaints are sent directly to the Chief of Police for assignment of investigation.

Internal complaints such as employee against employee or policy violations are reviewed by the Lieutenant and Chief of Police in order to determine appropriate action.

In 2019, the members of the Department had 16,373 documented contacts with members of the public through investigation, arrests, traffic collision investigations and traffic stops. During the calendar year, the Department received three complaints from citizens. The Department also makes every effort to document and recognize positive comments from the citizens that are received in writing. The Department received eight (8) written compliments from the public during the same time period.

Summary of Professional Standards Complaints 2019

Type of Complaint	Number	Sustained	Not Sustained	Exonerated	Unfounded	Policy Flaw	Pending
External							
Racial Profiling	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Unprofessional Behavior	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Job Performance	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Miscellaneous	0	0	0	0	0		0
TOTAL	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Internal							
Attendance/Absenteeism	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Attitude and Conduct	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Informational Counseling	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Insubordination	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Job Skill Level	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Policy Violation	2	2	0	0	0	0	0
Radio Procedure	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Tardiness	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Work Performance	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	2	2	0	0	0	0	0

GOALS

During 2019, the Department has continued to review and revise all policies and all rules and regulations. We have developed more than 20 accountability systems in which we will better track responsibilities by members. The Rhode Island Police Accreditation Commission conducted a full assessment of the Department and the required accreditation standards. In the spring of 2019, the Department was awarded its full accreditation.