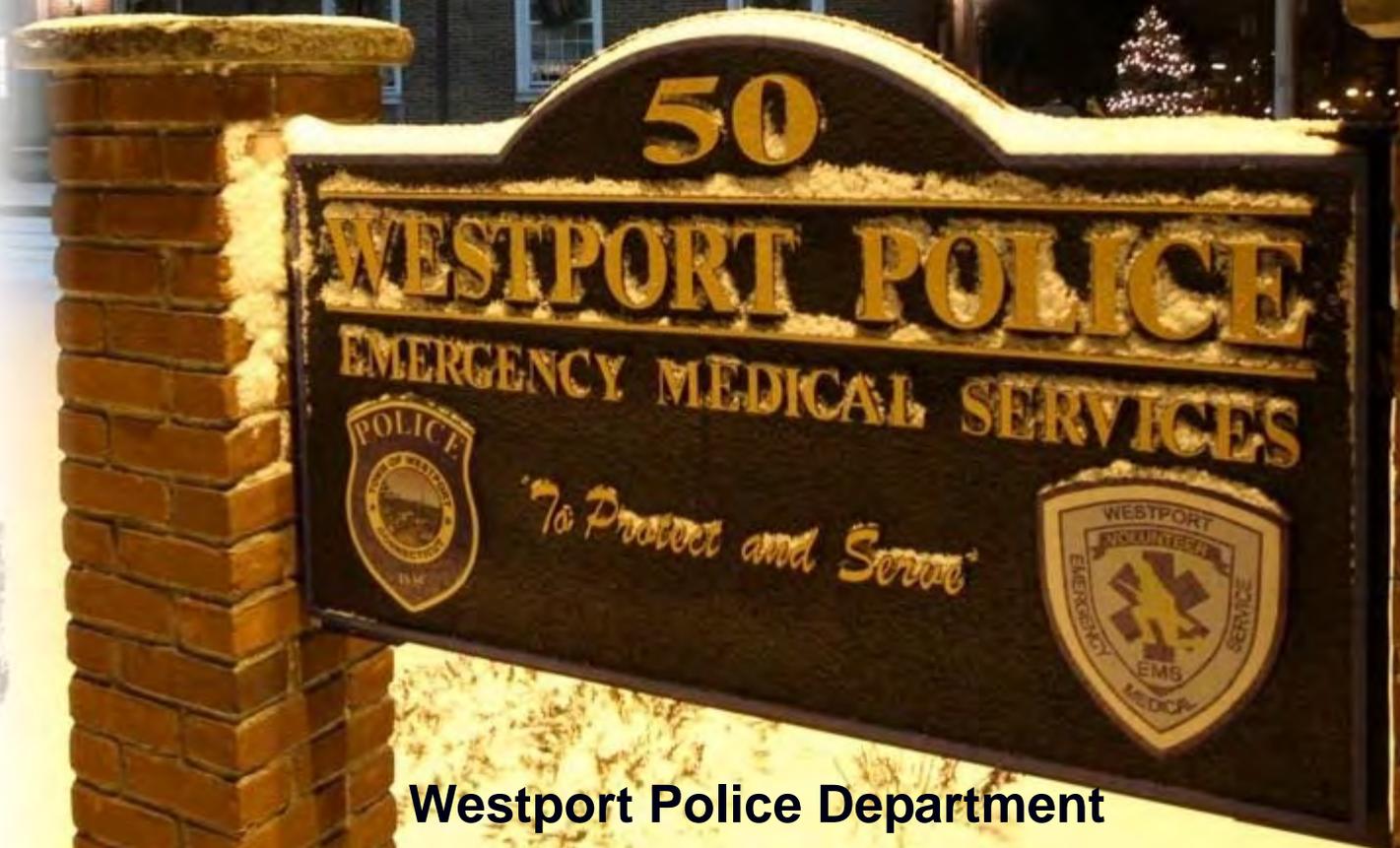


2012 Annual Report



Westport Police Department

50 Jesup Road

Westport, CT 06880

www.westportctpd.org

2012 Annual Report

Message from Chief of Police Dale E. Call



Foti Koskinas
Deputy Chief of



Samuel Arciola
Captain - Patrol



John Calka
Captain - Staff



Vincent Penna
*Captain -
Professional
Standards*



The year 2012 began with the arrest (and subsequent suicide) in Barcelona, Spain of Andrew Levine, the suspect in the murder of long-time Westport resident and business owner Yuketiel Zeevi and the wounding of a business associate and it ended with an unspeakable tragedy in Newtown. In both instances members of the Westport Police Department were affected both professionally and personally – many officers were customers of YZ Jewelry and many officers live in and adjacent to Newtown.

Both cases illustrated the dedication that Westport police officers have towards their community as well as to their brother and sister officers. Many, many hours of investigative work was put into the Zeevi case throughout the holiday season and beyond. Hundreds of hours of service were freely given to the Newtown Police Department and the citizens of Newtown in response to the Sandy Hook Elementary School shooting.

Officers avoided the media spotlight in Newtown but I would be remiss in not commenting on what they did – as well as what hundreds of police officers from around the state did – for their neighbors in Newtown. Our motor officers performed escort duty for funerals across the county. Officer Craig Kupson was injured in an accident escorting the funeral procession of one child and tried unsuccessfully to get medical clearance to continue to ride for the remainder of the funerals. Officer Ned Batlin drove one youngster, a huge fan of DARE programs and our DARE vehicle in particular, to the wake of his younger sister. Officer Chris Proudfoot, performing security at a Newtown elementary school, handled a threat to the school almost single-handed until additional officers could arrive. And not least of which, throughout the days following the tragedy, Westport officers along with the fellow officers from around the region volunteered their time to help patrol, do traffic, answer phones and anything that they were asked to do to help take some of the burden off the shoulders of the Town of Newtown.

Usually one only hears negative things about police officers – and about the good that they do...every day. Police officers tend to shy away from publicity, and rightfully so. We do what we do because we choose to do it – not for the spotlight but for the betterment of our community. Throughout 2012 I was reminded more than once that we do that very well. They don't hear thank you often enough - so from me, thanks to each one of you.

Mission Statement

To serve the public in a professional manner.

We take on the responsibility of making our community safe for all those that live, work, or pass through here.

We strive to make our roads safe for motorists and pedestrians alike.

It is our responsibility to work with other agencies and with the public we serve and treat everyone with respect and dignity.

Budget Summary

The police department operated at a sworn strength of 64 officers for the first time in more than 2 decades as we tried to adjust our staffing to match budget restrictions. Due to unfilled vacancies and at least two long-term line of duty injuries, the drain on our overtime was more substantial than in prior years. Nevertheless, we were able to hire back one part-time, certified officer to fulltime status with another expected in early 2013. This saves nearly a year in training time and consequently should save significantly on overtime replacement costs.

6 new vehicles were purchased in 2012 - these being the newly designed Ford Police Interceptor. All-wheel drive and powered by a 6-cylinder engine for the first time in the department's history, these appear to be the patrol car of the future.

The continued outsourcing of the department's parking ticket software and billing has maintained a collection rate of both of nearly 96%. The contract was renegotiated in 2012 to lower the percentage paid to the vendor, increasing revenue.

The largest impact on the police budget are personnel costs. FY 12/13 is the last year of the civilian employee's contract. Local 2080, representing the sworn officers, negotiated a new contract that is before the membership for ratification.



Police work can't be accomplished with technology alone - it is personnel intensive.

Over 90% of the police budget is personnel based.



For 2013, the department has requested an increase of one officer for an authorized strength of 65 officers, still down from 72 in 2004.

Personnel

TYPE	AUTHORIZED	ACTUAL	TURNOVERS	TURNOVER
Sworn	64	62	3	-4.7%
Civilian	8	8	0	0
Total	72	70	3	-4.2%

TOWN	Population	Daytime Change	# police officers	# Household	Officers/ household	officers/ 1000 eve	Officers/ 1000 day
Westport	26,420	3837	64	9,596	0.0068	2.46	2.19
Darien	20,938	92	51	6,779	0.0075	2.44	2.5
Fairfield	59,625	-465	111	20,556	0.0055	1.86	1.89
Wilton	18,191	1092	44	6,224	0.0071	2.42	2.33
Greenwich	61,983	2457	160	23,382	0.0068	2.58	2.64



During the week more people come into Westport to work than leave for other places, one of the few towns in Fairfield County that this occurs

2012 Annual Report

Crime Statistics

The FBI Uniform Crime Report collects data on seven serious crimes that are investigated by local police departments (these are known as Part 1 crimes). All other crime is called either Part 2 crime or traffic-related and is not reported to the FBI.

Crimes against persons are crimes that are physical, violent, and are often high profile in nature. Murder (which includes negligent homicide and manslaughter), rape, robbery and aggravated assault are contained in this category.

Crimes against property are crimes that include intruding, taking, or destroying another persons property. These crimes do not involve force or threats toward the owner. Burglary, theft, and motor vehicle theft are contained in this category.



Although Westport is a safe community in which to live and work, it is not immune to crime

Continuing an unfortunate trend, 2/3 of all home burglaries in Westport are committed in homes with unlocked doors and/or windows. The single most effective step to prevent a burglary? Lock your house when leaving!



The Westport Police Department Detective Bureau on location at a bank robbery

Reporting Period	Population	Violent Crime	Murder/ Non-negigent Manslaughter	Forcible Rape	Robbery	Aggravated Assault	Property Crime	Burglary	Larceny-Theft	Motor Vehicle Theft
CY 2010	26,799	15	0	2	7	7	414	86	312	16
	Rate/100,000	56.0	0.0	7.5	26.1	26.1	1545	320.9	1164	59.7
CY 2011	25,602	21	1	5	5	10	415	74	328	13
	Rate/100,000	56	3.9	19.5	19.5	39.1	1,621	289	1,281	51
CY 2012	26,391	7	0	2	3	2	337	42	286	9
	Rate/100,000	26.5	0	7.6	11.4	26.1	1,277	141.8	1,187	34
3 Yr Average	29,597	14.3	0.33	3	5	6.3	388.6	67.3	308.6	12.6
	Rate/100,000	48.3	1.1	10.1	16.9	21.3	1313	227.4	1043	42.6

Clearance Rates - CY 2011

Crime	WPD	County	State
Murder	100%	56.3%	61.2%
Rape	100%	52.4%	42.9%
Armed Robbery	60%	22.9%	30.5%
Aggravated Assault	73%	55.5%	65.6%
Burglary	18.9%	9.9%	14.6%
Larceny	15.8%	19.5%	22.1%
Motor Vehicle Theft	28.6%	6%	9.3%

Officer activity by the numbers

Westport police officers work across 5 shifts with staffing based on historical levels of calls for service. During a normal shift, an officer will answer calls for service from citizens, conduct traffic enforcement, issue citations and summonses, write reports, investigate crimes and other complaints, interact with the community in many ways, investigate traffic accidents and many other activities typical of a suburban police department.

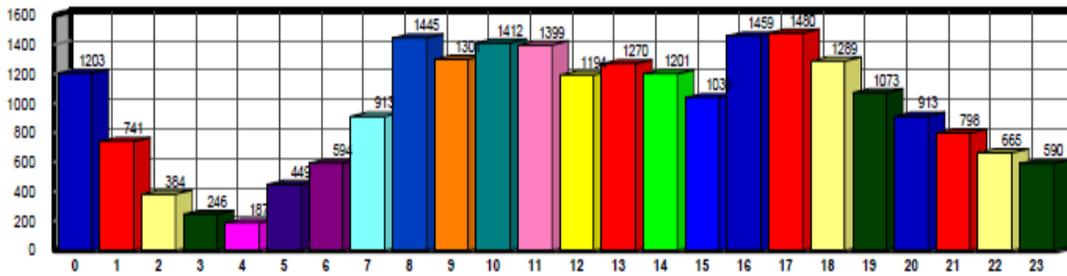
Detectives conduct follow-up investigations or reported crimes and members of the Public Safety Office work with other town agencies on a variety of other issues.

Calls for service include those that come from citizens as well as self-initiated activity by officers.

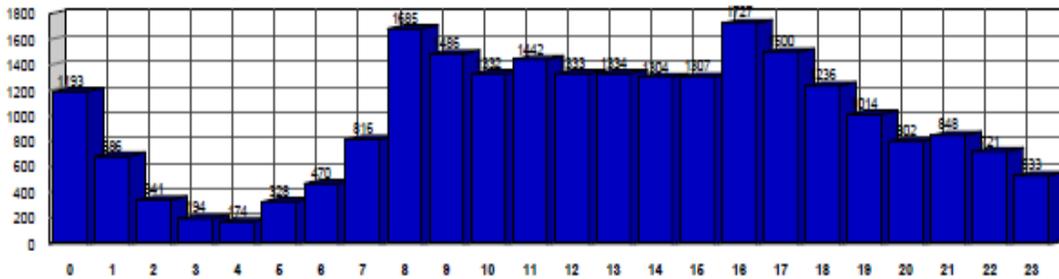


The Police Department is the primary 911 answering point for the town. All emergency calls are answered here first.

Calls for service by hour for 2011

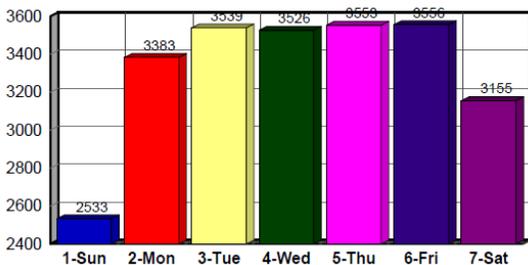


Calls for service by hour for 2012

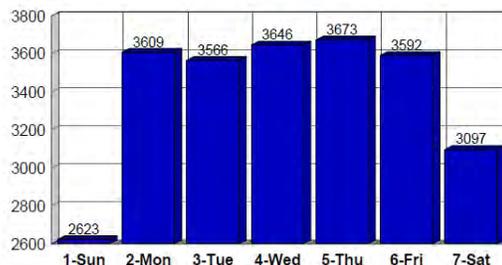


Calls for service by hour

2011



2012



Doing more with less is the new normal - but the reality is doing the best job possible with what the tools that are available. Call volumes rise annually but staffing does not.



When not answering calls, officers are encouraged to spend some time with the community they serve. Here, Officer Bergamo shows his police motor to a group of children.

2012 Annual Report

Officer Activity by the numbers

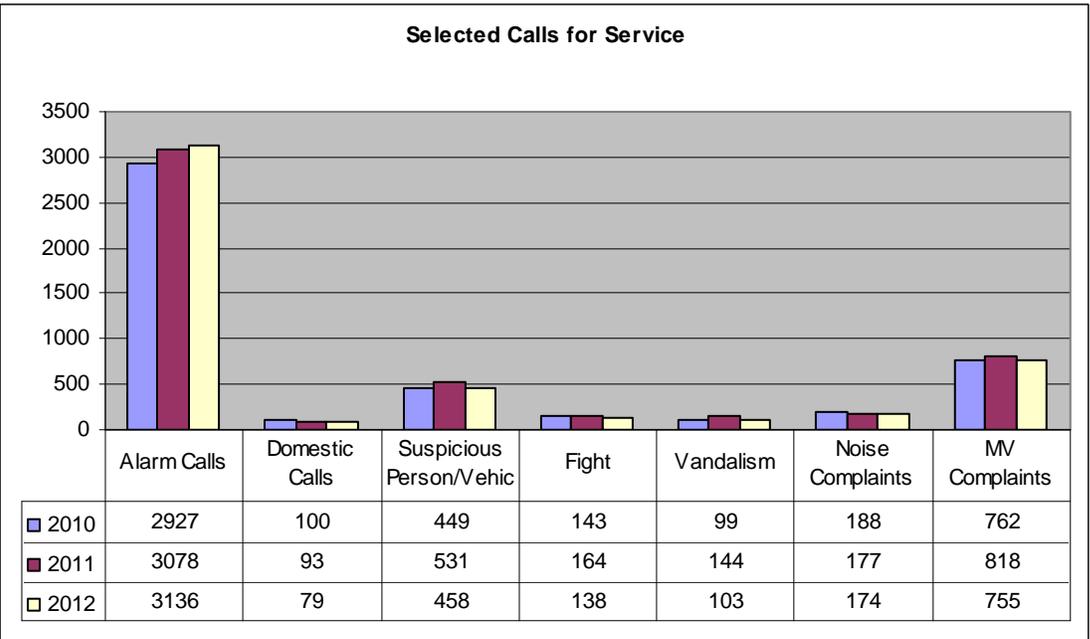


Westport police officers work with out-of-state utility crews in the Aftermath of Sandy

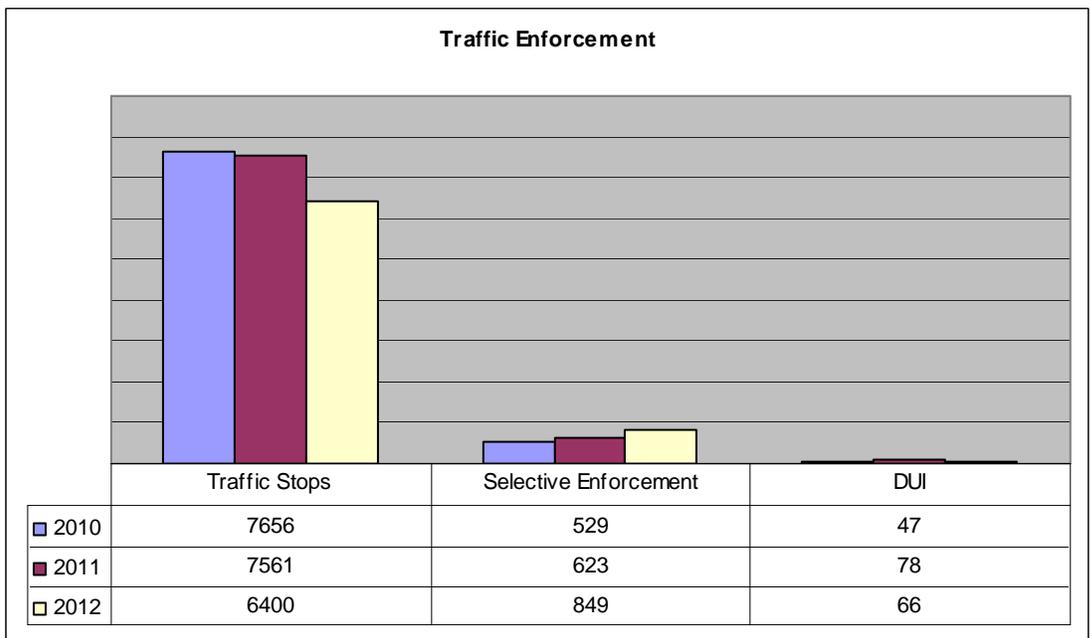
False alarms still account for nearly 13% of the calls officers respond to. Two cars are sent to all alarms - over 3000 man hours are expended on these calls each year!



Motorcycles play an integral part in traffic enforcement, especially for hard-to-spot violations like cell phones

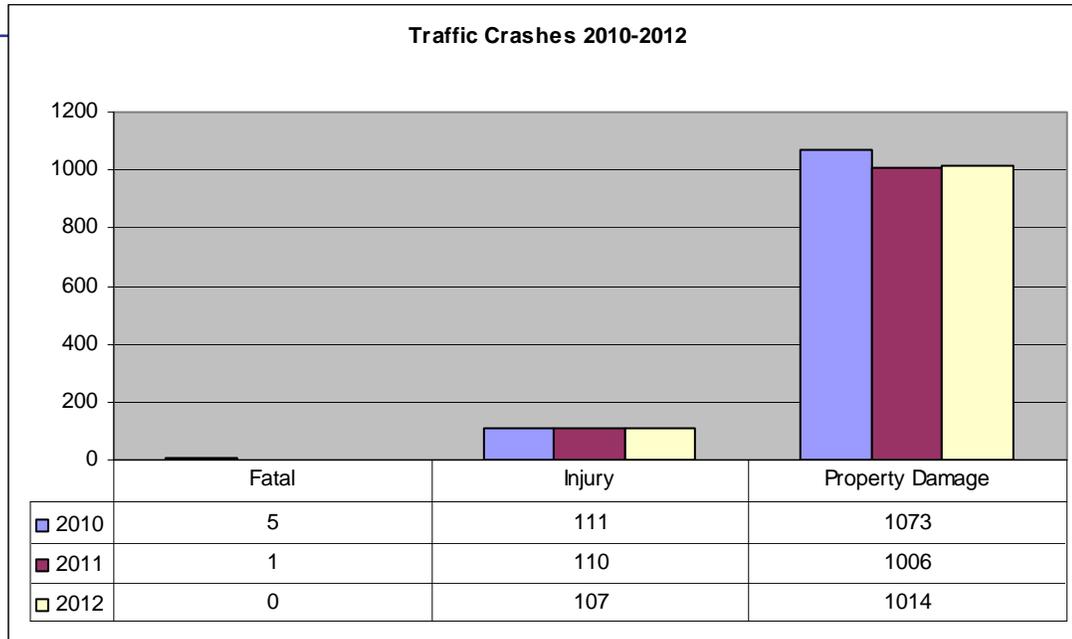
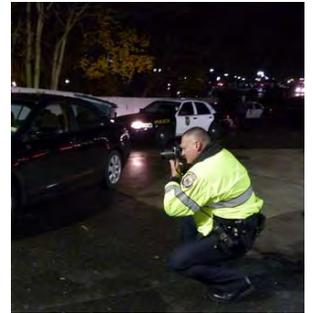


Most of this activity is performed by the members of the Patrol Division, which consists of approximately 37 patrol officers, 5 sergeants and 4 lieutenants. These officers patrol 365 days a year, 24 hours a day. Shifts are staffed according to the volume of activity - more officers are assigned at times of peak activity and fewer when call volume is lower. In 2012 additional emphasis was placed on selective enforcement in trouble spots, with a higher number of Selective Enforcement details (each with several car stops) versus individual car stops recorded.



Traffic Crashes

A major goal for the Westport Police Department is to reduce the number of crashes on Westport roads. Over the years traffic volume has increased significantly along with what seems to be a growing disregard of traffic laws and lack of courtesy. Nevertheless, there has been a steady drop in the number of traffic crashes over the last 10 years.

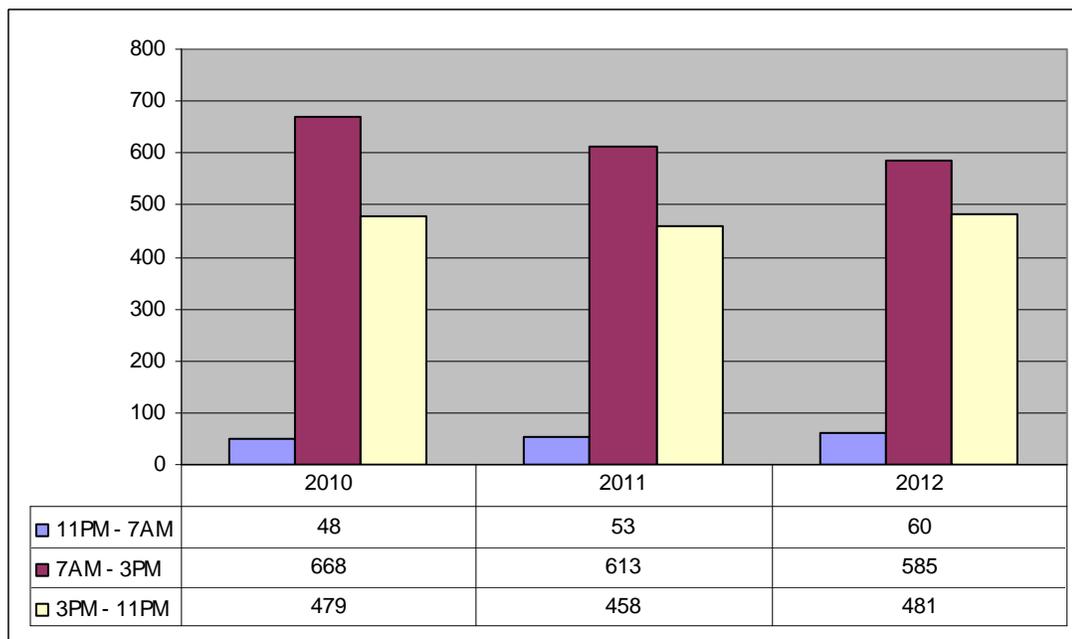


Each year about 25% of the crashes in town occur in private parking lots.

Nearly 25% of all crashes occurred by cars following too close.

The highest number of traffic crashes occur during the daytime hours. Westport is one of the few Fairfield County communities that sees a significant rise in daytime population - which coincides with the times of heaviest road usage - with a higher number of crashes.

Another 25% are caused by unsafe backing, making restricted turns or leaving the travel lane.



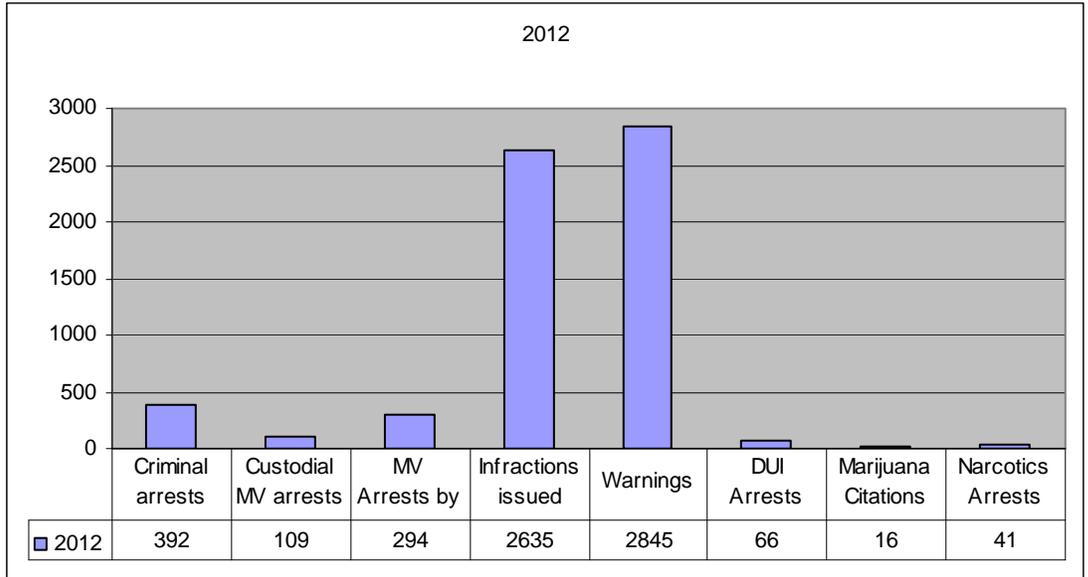
In 2012, drunk driving was the primary factor in a crash. Cell phones? Unless witnessed, no one admits to it!

2012 Annual Report

Arrest Statistics



The majority of the arrests made by the Westport Police Department result from car stops, with most (but not all) made for minor traffic violations. Oftentimes, these minor violations lead to much more serious criminal charges.



In 2012 approximately 20 referrals of minors were made to the Juvenile Court. The Westport Police Department Youth Division is able to handle the vast majority of juvenile complaints without a referral being necessary - working in conjunction with parents, school officials, and social services whenever possible to divert young people from the juvenile justice system whenever possible. By state law, youth up to the age of 18 are now considered juveniles now, as opposed to a few years ago when it was 16.

The Westport Police Department continues to look to expand it's online presence

WPD online

In 2012 the Police Department continued to expand it's online presence. The department site has a new look to distinguish it from the rest of the Town site, making it easier for visitors to know where they are and where they are going. New sections continue to get added, including a new citizen survey, a customer feedback form, and an online request for traffic enforcement. General crime prevention pages cover everything from burglary prevention to domestic violence help.

In 2013 we plan on becoming active on Facebook and even Twitter as we keep pace with a community that is tech-savvy. Look us over at www.westportctpd.org.

MyPD smartphone app

We've got an app for that!

In July 2012 the Westport Police Department became the 3rd CT agency to sign on with MyPD. This app, which can be installed on both iPhone and Android-based phones, allows subscribers to contact the Police Department via an easy to use interface with questions, comments, crime tips, traffic complaints and more. In addition, users are automatically able to access severe weather information, most wanted information and more. The app is free and available to download from the Police Department web site.



Westport's "MyPD" app available for download now!

Notable Incidents from 2012

2012 offered some respite from the high-profile events the previous year. Nevertheless, we saw our share of out-of-the ordinary incidents:

- **Presidential visit**

In August 2012 President Obama visited Westport and Stamford on a fundraising trip. This was the first such visit in over a decade. Since Sherwood Island State Park was the designated landing zone, there was a significant impact on the Town. The department provided security and traffic assistance throughout the visit, working closely with the U.S. Secret Service and other agencies. Despite road closures and restricted areas throughout the Greens Farms area, disruptions to residents was kept to a minimum.



Marine One lands at Sherwood Island State Park while below, his motorcade travels Westport roads

- **“Superstorm” Sandy**

For the second October in a row, weather played havoc with Westport. While not affected nearly as badly as other states or communities in Connecticut, Sandy was a major storm with a significant impact on the Town. Lessons learned in 2011 from Tropical Storm Irene had a positive impact on our response to Sandy.



The Police Department was able to provide normal law enforcement services throughout the storm with the exception of a 2-hour window when the winds made it unsafe to patrol. No personnel were injured and the department suffered no serious equipment damage resulting from the storm.



- **Sandy Hook Elementary School shooting**

The Westport Police Department did not respond to Newtown on the day of the shooting as there was already a significant response from neighboring towns, state and federal agencies. In the days that followed, however, over 30 Westport officers (nearly 1/2 of the department) volunteered on their days off to assist the Newtown Police Department in a myriad of ways. This included covering road patrols, security details, providing administrative assistance, and providing motorcycle escorts for far too many funerals.

Westport officers worked hundred of hours assisting Newtown police in December 2012

Following the holiday break, Westport officers assisted the Monroe Police Department provide security to the Chalk Hill School area in that town as well after Sandy Hook students were relocated there.



2012 Annual Report

Motorcycle patrols



Westport Police motor officers undergo a rigorous 3-week course given by the CT State Police Motorcycle Unit

While marked police vehicles provide a highly visible deterrent for some motorists, specialized vehicles provide a more effective means of enforcing other traffic laws. The department uses both unmarked police cars as well as motorcycles for this purpose. Motor officers also perform other functions - for instance, our motor officers volunteered to escort all of the local funerals for victims of the Sandy Hook shootings.

Although the Westport police boats are not staffed during the cold weather months, Westport boats are routinely called out to perform rescues and searches off the Westport coast all year long.

Marine Division



The department's Marine Division is staffed with 3 officers throughout the late spring and summer. The department's large boat, Marine I, was removed from service in 2012 due to serious mechanical issues, and a replacement is being sought for 2013. Over 1/3 of the department's officers are qualified to work on the police boat.

After more than 14 years of service, Marine I, the only all-season boat in the department, was retired due to safety and mechanical issues.

In addition, the Police Department, along with the Fire Department, operate a combined Dive-Rescue Team capable of diving in all conditions, whether it be in local ponds or in Long Island Sound. The Marine Division supports that operation as well.

Funding is being sought for a replacement in 2013.



Westport Police bike officers ride BMW police bikes donated by New Country Toyota

Bike Patrol



The Westport Police Department has several officers certified by the International Police Mountain Bike Association. The department assigns police bikes to special events such as the annual fireworks, Slice of Saugatuck, and parades due to their ability to get through crowds easier than motorized patrols and faster than officers on foot.

In addition, certified officers are encouraged to use police bikes when assigned to certain patrols that they would be effective in - such as beach patrol, center patrol and patrolling the Town's train stations.

All officers work their specialized duties as part of their normal work day, unless assigned to the Marine Division during the spring and summer

New Police Dog Enters Service



Westport PD was sad to bid farewell to PSD Lola, who died in 2012 after a short illness. Lola was a valued member of the department and will be missed by all.



In 2012 the Westport Police Department welcomed it's newest member of the K9 Unit. Police Dog Koda, who is handled by Officer James Loomer, is a Belgian Malinois. This the first of the breed used by the department. Koda was purchased with funds donated by a

local resident.

After several weeks of intensive training culminating in their certification as a team, Koda and Officer Loomer began patrol duties. They do so in a 2013 Ford Interceptor SUV that was purchased with funds donated by local businesses and residents which is specially outfitted for the purpose, replacing an old Crown Victoria with high mileage.

On a sad note, retired PSD Lola died at home in 2012 shortly after her retirement following a short illness.

2012 Annual Report

Emergency Medical Services



The Westport Emergency Medical Service is comprised of 6 full-time paid staff, 5 of whom are paramedics. The paid staff is complimented by members of the Westport Volunteer Emergency Medical Services (WVEMS).

The combination of paid and volunteer staff is fairly unique but it has worked well for the Town for over 30 years. The volunteers of WVEMS staff the ambulances as crew members and crew chiefs, raise money for major equipment purchases (such as ambulances) which saves the Westport taxpayers hundreds of thousands of dollars annually, and provide emergency medical training to the community.

Westport Emergency Medical Service Explorer Post 601 continues to offer area youth the opportunity to be part of the EMS team while in high school. Many of the Explorer's continue to be part of the EMS community after they graduate from high school and college.

During 2012, 97 volunteers worked on the ambulance. Some volunteered more than 1,600 hours. Combined, volunteers worked approximately 20,008 hours on duty shifts, an average of just over 206 hours per volunteer. WVEMS members contributed the equivalent of more than a quarter million dollars of work serving the Town of Westport in 2012.

Among the accomplishments for WEMS/WVEMS in 2012:

- Purchase of a \$190,000 2012 PL Custom Body ambulance and donation to the Town
- Hurricane Sandy response: 8 volunteers spent 36+ hours straight at HQ; 3 ambulances staffed, strategic placement throughout town
- Provided coverage at 33 Special Events, plus PAL and Staples Varsity Football games
- Instituted new on-line Continuing Medical Education program
- 188 CPR classes; 1,747 people trained



Westport EMS and Westport Volunteer EMS are an important part of the Town's emergency services, providing high-quality pre-hospital care for more than 30 years



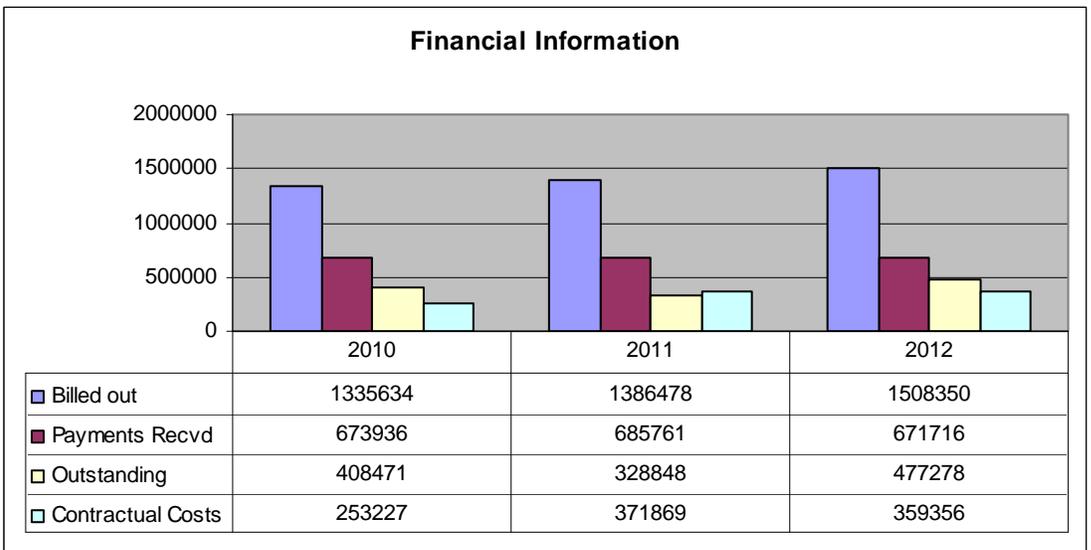
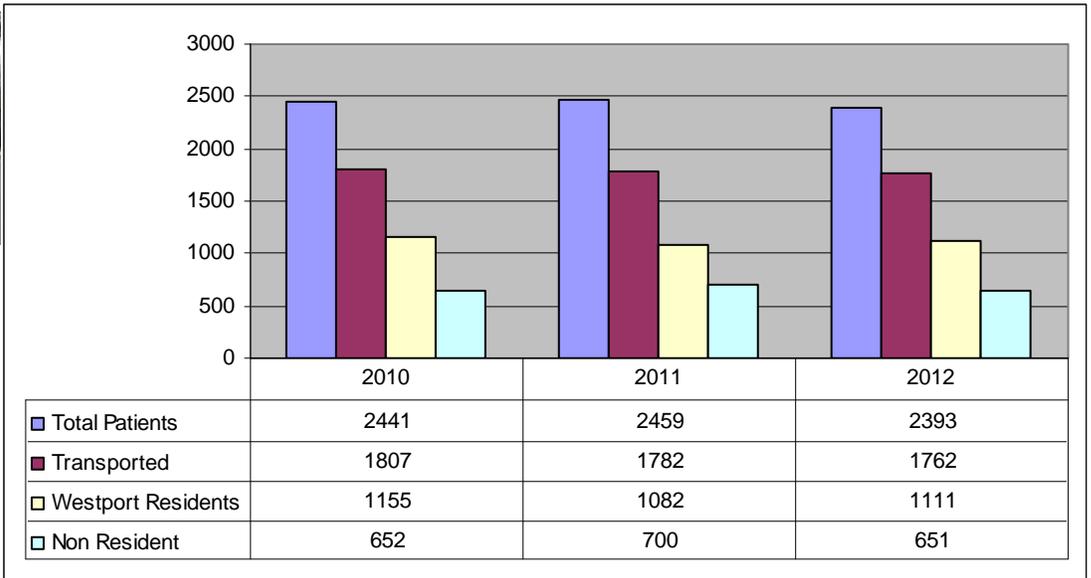
WVEMS CPR instructor Jay Paretzky instructing CPR. Westport VEMS is a leader in training thousands of area residents in this life-saving skill.

Emergency Medical Services, by the numbers



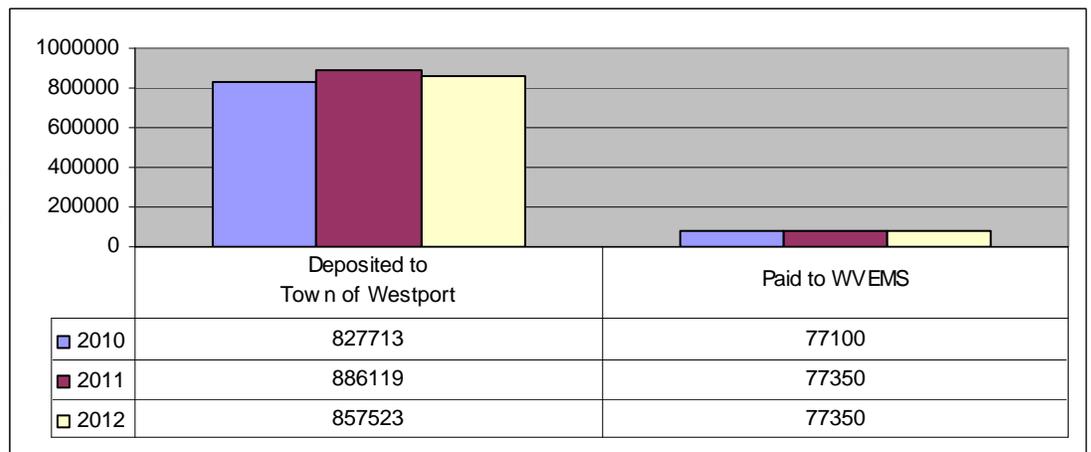
WVEMS President Martin Iselin and WEMS Coordinator turn over the keys to a new 2012 ambulance to First Selectman Joseloff

WVEMS members volunteered more than 20,000 hours to the Town of Westport in 2012, providing additional quality pre-hospital care at a savings of over \$250,000.



Westport EMS hosted an EMS Bike School in April 2012.

Members of the WEMS Squad are pictured above.



2012 Annual Report

Railroad Parking Division

The Westport Police Department is responsible for the operation and maintenance the Westport (Saugatuck) and Greens Farms train stations and the surrounding parking lots.

In 2012 the Police Department renegotiated the service agreement with Complus resulting in more revenue coming back to the Railroad Parking Division. In addition, permit renewal and list management was moved over to Complus. Approval and issuance is still done by the Railroad Parking Division. Permit renewal is now able to be completed online. Collection rates remain at 95-96% range with the majority of payments being made online.

In 2012 the division undertook many deferred maintenance issues at both Saugatuck and Greens Farms train stations. The renovation of the eastbound station, long an eyesore, was completed. The station interior was returned to its early 20th century appearance and RFP's were issued for new tenants at both Saugatuck and Greens Farms. A solar energy project was completed at the eastbound station and 4 charging stations added for electric vehicles.

The westbound station and Greens Farms station were repainted. Repair work was done on all platform rails –which had not been done in years by CT DOT or the railroad and had become a safety issue. New signage was installed in all parking lots that is easier to read and understand, and the flexible daily parking rules were continued to maximize use of empty spaces while new permits were issued.

A police substation was opened in the westbound station in 2012, which has served to increase police presence in the train station area by giving officers somewhere other than police headquarters to complete reports.

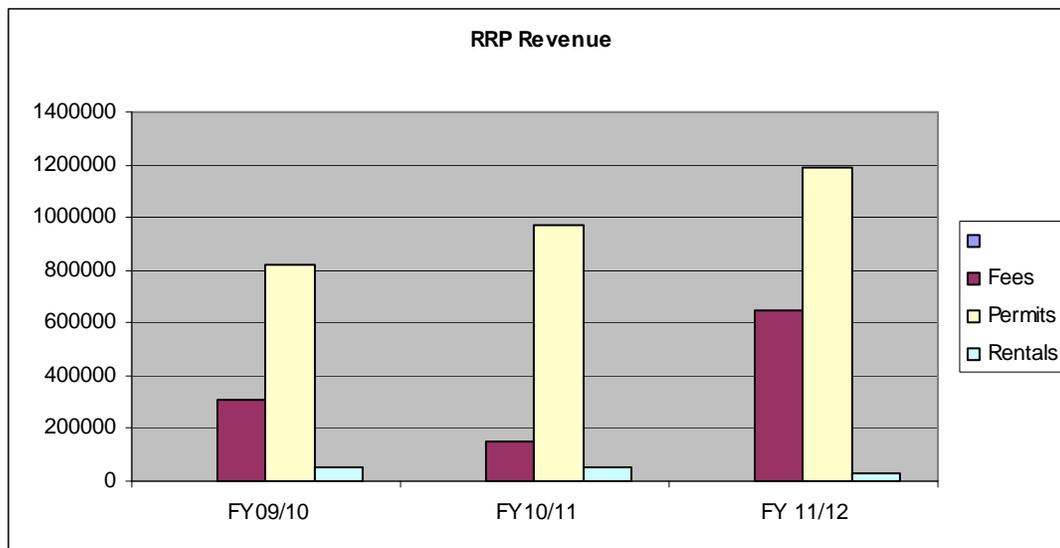
In the coming year, the interior of Greens Farms will be renovated, allowing the vendor space to be secured which, in turn, will allow for the waiting room to remain open longer during the day. The permit waiting list will continue to be culled for inactive names. While this probably will not decrease permit wait times by much, it will create a more accurate list and wait estimate period.



Extensive renovations on the eastbound train station were completed in 2012. New tenants will be in place in early 2013 for a better commuter experience overall.



There are nearly 4,000 permit holders but only 1,400 permit spaces at both stations. This occurs because many permit holders do not park regularly, allowing more permits to be issued





Westport police officers and Staples High School students joined together for another “Dodge-a-Cop” dodgeball tournament fundraiser, building on last year’s successful event



Westport police officers have participated in the Connecticut Special Olympics Torch Run and other fundraisers for more than 25 years



Officer Craig Bergamo participates in a charity “push-up” contest to benefit the “Hole in the Wall Gang” camp

New Employees

In October Officer Sam Sabin rejoined the Westport Police Department on a full-time basis. Officer Sabin was originally hired in 2001 before leaving for the private sector. He stayed on the job in a part-time capacity until this year.

Retirements

- In February, Police Service Dog Lola retired after 10 years of service
 - In May Desk Officer David Baxter retired after more than 32 years of service.
 - In December Lieutenant John Pitoniak retired after more than 32 years of service. Lt. Pitoniak plans on remaining with the department part-time as a Special Police Officer.
-

Resignations

- In April Officer Paul Wargo resigned to take a position with the Norwalk Police Department. Officer Wargo was hired in February 2010.
-

Promotions

- In April Sergeant David Farrell was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant.
 - Also in April, Officer Ryan Paulsson was promoted to the rank of Sergeant.
-

Awards

Chief’s Commendation - Officer Samuel Sabin

Meritorious Police Service - Officer James Loomer

Life Saving Award - Officer Anthony Prezioso



Protecting and serving our town since 1924

