

Report of the Randolph Police Department

This year was a good one in the history of the Randolph Police Department. For the first time, this department was certified by the Massachusetts Police Accreditation Commission. The police department has done a complete review of its policies and procedures and its operation and its facilities. This was the culmination of a four year project which began in late 2010. Certification is the first and most difficult step in the accreditation process. The department had to meet 257 mandatory standards and 125 optional standards. These standards are based on the most current law and the best practices in the field of policing. I can assure the community that at the end of this process, we became a better police department. Certification provides for transparency and accountability in the operation and an increased standard of service expected by the community. I am proud of this achievement not only for the police department but for the community we serve as well. The police department will achieve full accreditation status in 2015. Once achieved, accreditation will be for a three year period and the work of accreditation never ceases as the department must maintain standards and constantly review its policies and procedures. Though daily police work can be demanding and management review sometimes gets put on hold, the accreditation program assures that the department is constantly striving to be better, a promise I made in 2010 when I took command as your police chief. My sincere thanks to Lieutenant George McNeil and Lieutenant Melissa McCormick on this accomplishment as their tireless efforts were instrumental in achieving certification.

This year Lieutenant George McNeil left the department after 28 years of service. Lieutenant McNeil was hired as police chief in the Town of Somerset. The Randolph Police Department wishes now Chief McNeil much success in his new role serving at the Somerset Police Department.

The department with the assistance of the Norfolk County District Attorney's Office began carrying NARCAN in all police cruisers. The police department has saved two lives since the inception of the program in 2014. The epidemic of opioid abuse which is sadly taking the lives of our young people all across the Commonwealth is an issue that threatens a whole generation. The police will not solve this problem alone, it will take education and treatment and enhanced funding by state and federal leaders to accomplish this task. The level of opioid abuse in Randolph is less than some of our neighboring communities; however, we remain vigilant in the apprehension of those who would sell these evil drugs to our residents. The question is not if opioids will kill a person, the only question is when.

This year Randolph was recognized as one of the twenty communities in the Commonwealth with the most improved crime rate. While we are proud of these statistics, it does not change the department focus or mission. Crime is something that a department constantly fights in partnership with the community. We have a lot to be proud of here in Randolph, but we must

not become complacent, it is all of us working together that have improved the lives and living conditions of those who live and work here. I must take this opportunity to thank the men and women with whom I serve on a daily basis. The dedication to duty and quality of service exhibited by the officers on patrol and in investigatory roles I would match against any other police department in the area. Randolph is well served by these people and their pride and commitment show every day.

Congratulations to three sergeants who were promoted to the rank of lieutenant this year and a patrol officer promoted to sergeant. The officers were sworn in at a packed Town Council meeting in September. Promoted to lieutenant were David Avery, Anthony Marag and Melissa McCormick. Michael O'Neill was sworn in as sergeant. The town will be well served by these promotions. I have witnessed many swearing in ceremonies in my tenure and I am always touched by how humbled those are that take the oath of public service and the pride exhibited by their families and friends when they are recognized for their achievements. These promotions were no exception.

The department remains focused in the area of youth violence. The partnerships that we have made with other police departments, probation and parole, the Boston Regional Intelligence Center and the District Attorney pay off on a daily basis. This is working despite a spike in youth violence over the summer. The department responded with enhanced patrol and investigatory support. As a result the department remains focused on these issues and we feel we have made significant progress. Behind the scenes meetings with parents and community members have been successful and our community outreach remains a priority.

For the first time in some years, the department ran a citizens police academy that graduated in December of 2014. The program which was run by Sergeant Richard Hughes was well attended and well-reviewed by our residents as they got a better understanding of the role of police in the community. The importance of positive police community relations is of extreme importance as the events of the past year have proven. The department will remain committed to its community policing programs and explore every opportunity to better open the dialogue with the community. One area of success has been social media where the department can engage residents with department news, traffic advisories and our first ever "tweet-along" where followers got a firsthand account of a day in the life of a Randolph Police officer.

Five new police officers were appointed this year. The new officers are attending the Boston Police Academy for their graduation in May of 2015. The new officers are Kevin Gilbert, Gregory Nelson, Herbert Nash, Trevor Clark and Duong Tran. All of these officers are Randolph residents and we look forward to their oath of office ceremony in 2015.

I would like to thank the command and supervisory staff for their hard work, wise counsel and cooperation in the past year. Your commitment to your profession and the people of the Town of Randolph is appreciated and respected by me.

I also would like to thank Fire Chief Richard Donovan and the Randolph Fire Department for the excellent working relationship our departments share. I thank our Town Manager David Murphy, the Town Council and all other department heads, departments and committees for its assistance to the Randolph Police Department in the past year.

I would like to thank our police chaplain Leland Clarke for the support of our officers and his kindness shown to them and to the victims of crime.

Respectfully submitted;

William F. Pace
Chief of Police