

2015 ANNUAL REPORT

It is truly an honor and privilege to serve as Chief of Police for North Plainfield. Our Borough is unique with its diverse population and the police department comprises of some of the finest people in law enforcement. My goals and objectives are quite simple; I want to make North Plainfield the safest place to live, work, play and visit. We will engage the community as full partners to accomplish this task. Thank you Mayor Michael Giordano, Jr. for having the confidence and trust in me to do this job and I pledge to do my best in serving the residents of North Plainfield, its government, and the police department.

Prepared For:

Mayor Michael Giordano, Jr.

Date: March 10, 2015

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I. MISSION STATEMENT:

My top priority is to provide equal opportunity policing for everyone that lives, works or passes through North Plainfield. By this I mean Law Enforcement Services will be fair, honest, and without bias. With the help of government and the members of the Police Department, I hope to build a mutual respect with all of our residents and business people. Former New York Mayor Rudy Giuliani once said, "A town in which an increasing number of people respect and are willing to accommodate the rights of others is a community that is moving in a progressive direction." My goal is to move the Police Department in a progressive direction.

The North Plainfield Police are trying to instill our belief in community policing and establish a confidence that "we as police officers, care more about your well-being than your immigration status, ethnicity, or sexual orientation." In many communities across New Jersey, the relationship between members of the community and law enforcement is strained. Our mission as police officers is to prevent and solve crimes. That goal would be virtually impossible to do effectively if witnesses or victims had some reluctance to come forward. We have no concern about a person's immigration status and we do not ask that question of a victim or witness. It is imperative that law enforcement maintain the trust and support of the people they serve.

A high priority is placed on initial screening and training of our employees. A continuing in-service training program is designed to keep us current with modern law enforcement practices. We aim to combine high personal ethics, quality training, and perseverance to provide the best possible service to the people of North Plainfield.

II. ADMINISTRATION:

- A. Staffing: The Police Department is operating 3 officers below its authorized strength of 48 sworn officers.
- B. Two Police Officers were injured while performing their duties.
- C. Promotions, new personnel and retirements
 - 1. January 31, Captain Brian Tufaro retired from the Police Department retired after 31 years of service.
 - 2. February 12, Lieutenant Gerard Clyne was promoted to Captain and Lt. Russell Flynn was re-assigned from the Patrol Division Commander to the Criminal Investigation Commander.
 - 3. February 23, the following promotions took place. Sergeant Ciempola was promoted to Lieutenant and assigned as the Patrol Division Commander. Detective McKay was promoted to Sergeant and

designated Detective Sergeant in the Criminal Investigation Division.

Detective Perrone was promoted to Sergeant and assigned to the Patrol Division as a Patrol Sergeant. Patrol Officer vonSpreckelsen was promoted to Detective and designated a Juvenile Detective

- 4. February 23, Mark Constantino was hired as a probationary Patrolman.
- 5. July 15, Parking Enforcement Officer Laura Dinardo-Smith resigned from her position as a Parking Enforcement Officer.
- 6. August 27, Dispatcher Bonilla was terminated from service with the Department.
- 7. September 8, Daniel Smith was hired as a Parking Enforcement Officer.
- 8. September 28, Parking Enforcement Officer Nickolas Levendusky was promoted to Dispatcher.
- 9. September 30, Ashley Straile was hired as a Parking Enforcement Officer.

III. CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION DIVISION:

A. CASE LOG REPORT:

1. A comparison of general adult investigations for the past three years is:

	2013	2014	2015
Investigated	876	745	902
Active	52	53	11
Suspended	163	139	204
Unfounded	2	3	0
Closed	659	550	687
Forwarded to SCPO	73	74	94

2. A comparison of juvenile investigations for the past three years is:

	2013	2014	2015
Investigated	207	226	195
Active	5	8	0
Suspended	37	5	9
Unfounded	2	2	0
Closed	163	211	186
Forwarded: other agencies	126	136	139

IV. COMMUNITY OUTREACH:

A. During 2015 the Community Policing Unit advanced the departments community outreach mission through a variety of means and venues including participation with various other organizations in fairs, public forums and special presentations. Maybe

most importantly the unit maintained a steady presence in the borough's schools through DARE and GREAT curriculums being taught to all students in the district. DARE training is provided to all 5th grade students in the borough and GREAT training is provided to all 4th grade students. Additional supplemental GREAT training is provided to all 7th grade students.

- B. In December, Detective Domizi graduated from the DARE Instructor class at Ocean County Police Academy. Being fluent in Spanish he will assist with the DARE training going forward. Both Detective Fowler and Detective Domizi are members of the Municipal Alliance. Detective Domizi is also the department liaison for the Resource Center of Somerset County which provides assistance to victims of domestic violence.
- C. The Community Policing Unit oversees the departments Good Morning Program for senior citizens. Every morning a member of the department calls all senior citizens registered with the program to see if they are alright and holds a brief conversation with the person. They also oversee the residential and business false alarm program and follows up with summonses and warnings to people in violation of the borough's false alarm activation ordinance.
- D. On June 11, 2015, 255 students from Somerset School graduated from the DARE program. Detective Fowler was the master of ceremonies for the event which was a well-attended event.
- E. In July the Community Policing Unit with assistance from multiple other members of our department and outside agencies put together a Youth Police Academy which was held at the West End School. Parents of those involved and those involved all felt it was a great success. Funding has been cut back to the STEP program but it still went on as planned during the summer with the help of the Community Policing Unit and the Board of Education and it ended with a year-end picnic for all attendees.
- F. National Night Out was also continued and overseen by the Community Policing Unit. Multiple police units and fire apparatus were on display. As usual it was a well-attended event that seems to get bigger and bigger every year.

V. SOMERSET COUNTY GUNS AND GANG TASK FORCE:

Officer Kropewnicki is still the assigned officer from our agency with the Countywide Strike Force. Several large investigations were worked on countywide and numerous smaller ones here in North Plainfield. Officer Kropewnicki took it upon himself to do a presentation at the Howard Johnson hotel to show staff things to look for to assist the police with narcotics and illegal activities around the hotel. The graph below is a countywide stat sheet for the year for the Strike Force. All drugs are measured in grams.

JANUARY	16	2.5	0	183.2	700	12.5	0	0	0	4	16	20	2975	2	0	0	1
FEBRUARY	20	0	0	54	31	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	6000	0	56	0	1
MARCH	6	36.7	0	43	422	0	0	0	0	2	7	0	22593	0	376	0	1
APRIL	15	22.02	0	10	12	83.6	0	0	0	0	0	0	160395	1	0	1	2
MAY	11	28.3	0	90	10036	0	0	0	10882	0	0	0	17902.84	0	35	0	C
JUNE	10	9.5	16	77.6	1591	0	0	1	0	2	0	5	0	0	0	0	2
JULY	16	279	0	294	325	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	55851	0	46.5	0	0
AUGUST	8	1	0	608	388	25	0	0	0	0	0	0	15267	2	6	0	2
SEPTEMBE	18	1086	0	37	266	0	0	0	0	1	10	0	3993	4	99	0	2
OCTOBER	24	5011.43	0	101.5	3245	2	0	0	0	2	234	0	4683.27	1	49	0	2
NOVEMBE	5	713.9	0	0	2349	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	32191	1	4	0	1
DECEMBE	1	16	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	C

VI. **INTERNAL AFFAIRS:**

During 2015 the police department logged 26 Internal Affairs complaints. Lt. Flynn investigated 14. Lt. Ciempola investigated 10, Sgt Speck investigated one and Sgt. Sinker investigated one.

Investigation #	Classification	Disposition	Corrective Action
15-01	Differential Treatment	Exonerated	N/A
15-02	Demeanor	Administratively	N/A
		Closed	
15-03	Differential Treatment	Administratively	N/A
		Closed	
15-04	Excessive Force	Exonerated	N/A
15-05	Differential Treatment	Administratively	N/A
		Closed	
15-06	Demeanor	Exonerated	N/A
15-07	Rules Violation	Sustained	Sanction (R&R)
15-08	Rules Violation	Sustained	Sanction (R&R)
15-09	Differential Treatment	Exonerated	N/A
15-10	Rules Violation	Sustained	Sanction (R&R)
15-11	Rules Violation	Sustained	Sanction (R&R)
15-12	Harassment	Exonerated	N/A
15-13	Unlawful Arrest	Not Sustained	N/A
15-14	Differential Treatment	Unfounded	N/A
15-15	Excessive Force	Exonerated	N/A
15-16	Rules Violation	Sustained	Sanction (R&R)
15-17	Rules Violation	Exonerated	N/A
15-18	Theft	Exonerated	N/A
15-19	Rules Violation	Sustained	Sanction (R&R)
15-20	Illegal Search	Exonerated	N/A
15-21	Harassment	Exonerated	N/A
15-22	Demeanor	Exonerated	N/A
15-23	Rules Violation	Sustained	Sanction (R&R)
15-24	Harassment	Unfounded	N/A
15-25	Assault	Unfounded	N/A

15-26	Rules Violation	Sustained	Sanction (R&R)

VII. PATROL DIVISION:

A. The Patrol Division had 10 marked patrol cars in service and logged the following miles of patrol for the last three years.

	2013	2014	2015
Patrol Miles	190,701	177,437	163,309

The number of miles driven has dropped slightly. I firmly believe a conspicuous Patrol operation communicates a sense of protection to our citizens, and acts as a deterrent to criminal or mischievous activity. We have had several officers out on extended injuries. Our goal is to bring the proactive patrol miles back to the normal range.

B. Traffic summonses issued: A comparison of the last three years:

Type of summonses	2013	2014	2015
Driving While Intoxicated (DWI)	33	64	55
Moving Hazardous Violation	1,389	1,388	1,209
Moving Non-Hazardous Violation	1,793	1,843	1,767
Borough Ordinance Violation	329	269	167
Parking Violation	1,453	2,037	3,062
Radar	387	232	355
Written Warnings	3,810	4,367	2,667
Pedestrian Safety	-	0	0
Totals	9,202	10,222	9,292
Refusal Breath Test Included in (DWI above)	8	13	8
Summons included in above totals	5,392	5,855	6,625

Note: Summons were up and the number of written warning declined for 2015

C. Radar: officers spent 2368 Hours on those posts

1.	Arnold Ave.	11.	Geraud Ave.
2.	Ayres Ave.	12.	Greenbrook Road.
3.	Brook Ave.	13.	Grove Street.
4.	Clinton Ave.	14.	Harrison Ave.
5.	Coddington Ave.	15.	Harringtron Ave.
6.	Crosson Ave.	16.	Interhaven Ave.
7.	Craig Place.	17.	Leland Ave.
8.	Delacey Ave.	18.	Malcolm Ave.
9.	Duer St.	19.	Mali Drive.
10.	Farragut Road.	20.	Manning Ave.

- 21. Mountain Ave.
- 22. Mountainview Dr.
- 23. Myrtle Ave.
- 24. Netherwood Ave.
- 25. Norwood Ave.
- 26. Oakridge Ave.
- 27. Oneida Ave.
- 28. Parkview (West of Clinton).
- 29. Parkview Ave (east of Clinton).
- 30. Prospect Place.
- 31. Regent St.
- 32. Ridge Ave.
- 33. Rock Ave.
- 34. Rockview Ave (between Harrington and Clinton).
- 35. Rockview Ave (between W-endand Rockview Terr).
- 36. Route 22 both east and west.
- 37. Somerset St (South of 22).
- 38. Somerset St. (North of 22).
- 39. Summit Ave.
- 40. Sycamore Ave.
- 41. Taft Ave.
- 42. Warfield Road.
- 43. Washington Ave
- 44. Watchung Ave. (North of 22)
- 45. Watchung Ave. (South of 22)
- 46. West End Ave
- 47. Westervelt Ave.
- 48. Willow Ave.
- 49. Wilson Ave.

D. Parking Enforcement Report

Yearend totals:

	2013	2014	2015
Total Summons Issued	3,940	3,986	5,724
Revenue:	2013	2014	2015
Meters	103,877.44	100,499.04	110,329.85
Permits	1,579.00	2,265.00	3,175.00
Total	105,456.44	102,764.04	113,454.85

Parking enforcement summons and revenue were both up. All meters were bagged from

12/13/15-1/4/16 for the holiday season (only Title 39 was enforced during this period).

2015

VIII. RECORDS DIVISION:

A. Fees collected: A comparison of the last three years

	2013	2014	2015
Fees Collected	4,383.65	4,931.46	5,371.40
Calls for Service/Responses	29,736	34,706	34,385
Discovery Requests	283	311	244
Report Requests	7,164	4,652	6,555
Pieces of Evidence	314	363	231

B. Yearly Arrest Analysis, a comparison of the last three years:

	20	13	20)14	20	15
	Adult	/ Juvenile	Adult	/ Juvenile	Adult	/ Juvenile
Murder	0	0	0	0	0	0
Manslaughter	0	0	0	0	0	0
Rape	4	0	0	0	1	0
Robbery	0	0	4	2	4	5
Aggravated Assault	10	0	15	0	20	0
Burglary	8	0	5	1	2	1
Larceny/Theft	13	9	28	6	25	14
Motor Vehicle Theft	1	0	1	0	0	0
Simple Assault	49	3	54	1	55	0
Arson	0	0	1	0	1	0
Forgery		0	2	0	1	0
	0					
Fraud	3	1	11	1	24	0
Embezzlement	1	0	1	0	5	0
Stolen Property		4	2	0	2	0
	3					
Criminal Mischief	10	4	9	4	9	1
Weapons	2	0	3	1	0	1
Prostitution	0	0	0	0	0	1
Sex Offenses	3	0	1	0	1	0
Violation of Drug Laws	36	5	76	7	46	3
Gambling	0	0	0	0	0	0
Offenses Against Family &	0	0	0	0	3	0
Children						
Driving Under the Influence	33	0	71	0	49	0
Liquor Law Violations	2	1	2	4	2	0
Disorderly Conduct	13	8	22	1	15	1
Vagrancy	0	0	0	0	0	0

Curfew and Loitering Violations		11	0	15		3
All Other Offenses	244	7	296	3	255	5
Total UCR Arrests	436	47	587	46	520	35
COC other Arrests	256	0	378	0	298	0
Total Arrests	692	61	965	46	818	35

IX. UNIFORM CRIME REPORT

A. The following is a comparison of the Uniform Crime Offenses, Part I, for the past three years:

						Uniform Crime Reporting					Unifor	m Crim	e Repoi	ting		
								VIOLE	ENT CF	RIME	N	ONVIC	LENT	CRIME		i
Year	Crime Index Total	Violent Crime	Non Violent Crime	Crime Rate Per 1,000	Violent Crime Per 1,000	Non violent Crime Rate Per 1,000	Murder	Rape	Robbery	Aggravated Assault	Burglary	Larceny	Motor Vehicle Theft	Arson	Domestic Violence	Bias Incidents
2013	461	53	408	21.0	2.5	18.6	0	5	20	28	121	262	25	1	236	0
2014	370	38	332	16.9	1.8	15.1	0	2	20	16	78	236	18	4	199	0
2015	367	41	326	16.7	1.9	14.9	0	4	24	13	83	226	17	1	194	0
Up/Dn	-3	3	-6	0	0	0	0	2	4	-3	5	-10	-1	-3	-5	0
%	-0.7	5.7	-1.5	-0.7	5.7	-1.5	0.0	40.0	20.0	-10.7	4.1	-3.8	-4.0	-300.0	-2.1	0.0

The total crime index fell again very slightly, Violent crime rose and nonviolent crime decreased slightly. Small changes from year to year do not necessarily represent a trend. For example, if the murder rose by one and would indicate a 100 percent increase on its face value. This year they changed the definition of rape. The new definition includes same sex and penetration with an object and the new reporting requirements is the reason for the slight increase in violent crime.

	DEMC	GRAPHIC	DATA	POLICE EMPLOYEE DATA				
2010 Census Population	Area in Square Miles	Density Per Square Mile	Character	Male Officers	Female Officers	Civilian	Total Police Employees	
21,936	2.8	7,834.29	Urban/Sub	44	1	5	50	
21,936	2.8	7,834.29	Urban/Sub	44	1	5	50	
21,936	2.8	7,834.29	Urban/Sub	44	1	5	50	
0	0	0		0	0	0	0	
0.0	0.0	0.0		0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	

X. TRAFFIC SAFETY:

A. A comparison of vehicle crash information for the last three years:

	2013	2014	2015
Total	823	806	944
Summons Issued for crash	475	467	402
Driving While Intoxicated	13	24	27
Hazardous	336	331	280
Non Hazardous	121	107	92
Alcohol Related	17	3	3

B. Breakdown of Reportable and Non-Reportable Crashes for the last three years:

	2013	2014	2015
Rt 22-Reportable	295	291	371
Rt 22 Non-Reportable	53	25	22
Boro Streets- Reportable	329	307	395
Boro St Non-Reportable	40	39	25
Private Property-Reportable	86	119	113
Private Prop Non-Reportable	20	25	18
Total Reportable	710	717	879
Total Non-Reportable	113	89	65

C. Crash Injury Report for the last three years:

	2013	2014	2015
Reports W/Injuries	127	118	145
Persons Injured	176	180	187
Fatal	2	1	1

Reportable vehicle crash reports were up 162 or 22% in 2015.

- IV. TRAINING DIVISION: The Department Training Sergeant is responsible to provide all State mandated training for the department. Additional duties include, vehicle maintenance, securing, maintaining and copying the in car video recordings, updating the files needed to maintain our coveted Accreditation.
 - A. The members of the Department were instructed in 14 police related topics which are divided into the following categories by the NJ Attorney General's Office:
 - 1. Mandatory Training- Firearms (General Order Review and Qualifications), Use of Force, Pursuit Driving, Domestic Violence and Eradicating Racial Profiling. All of these except Eradicating Racial Profiling were two times during the training year.
 - 2. Mandatory In-Service Training Due to a Particular Assignment- Blood borne Pathogens (On Line Training), Right to Know, HAZMAT Awareness (On Line Training) CJIS, IT Password Audit, Workplace Harassment. Opiate Antidote Training
 - 3. Voluntary In-Service Training- CPR/AED/First Aid (Full Department Re-Certification) Personal Protective Equipment, Victim/Witness Advocacy and Domestic Violence effects on children, RADAR recertification, Active Shooter (Policy Review classroom only) Ethics, Sexual Assault Response Training ASP Baton Refresher, Unarmed Defense Tactics, Special Needs School Response
 - B. The members of the Department, to enhance personal development and professionalism, were instructed in 36 police related topics, these classes consisted of the following:
 - 1. Advanced Criminal Investigations.
 - 2. Alcotest 7110 Recertification (30 Members).
 - 3. Arrest, Search and Seizure update. (2 members).
 - 4. Child Abduction and Missing Persons.
 - 5. Crash Zone Crash Scene Diagrams and Animation Class.
 - 6. Criminal Law and Miranda Update.(4 members).
 - 7. DARE Officer Training.
 - 8. Drug Informants.
 - 9. Drug Recognition Class (4 members).
 - 10. Drug and Toxicology Symposium.
 - 11. Dusting and Lifting (3 members).
 - 12. Engaging Communities Empowering Victims.
 - 13. eTRO and DVCR Training (6 members).
 - 14. Firearms Instructor Course (3 members).
 - 15. First Responder Re-cert.

- 16. Firearms Law and Application (2 members).
- 17. Gang Awareness and Identification.
- 18. Handcuffing and Search Techniques.
- 19. Inter Personal Communication.
- 20. Intro to Gang Investigations.(2 members).
- 21. Local Agency Security Officer Seminar. (2 members).
- 22. MATS Training.
- 23. Title 39 MV Law Update.
- 24. NJAAR Traffic Seminar. (2 members).
- 25. Prescription Drug Crimes Training. (4 members).
- 26. Somerset County Dive Team.
- 27. Talk, Arrest, Control, Transport. (3 members).
- 28. The Search Warrant. (2 members).
- 29. UCR Web Based Crime Reporting.
- 30. UCR Training. (2 members).
- C. Members of this department also Instructed at various police academies in the state.

 There were 9 Classes instructed by different instructors. These classes were:
 - 1. Law Enforcement Encounters with the Hispanic Community (Fall and Spring)
 - 2. Welcome to America for Community Policing Officers (Fall and Spring)
 - 3. Police Youth Week at Somerset County Police Academy (2 Members)
 - 4. Police Recruit Firearms Training
 - 5. Active Shooter Instructor Course (2 Members)
 - 6. Police Recruit Fire Training
 - 7. Police Recruit PT Testing
 - 8. Corrections Recruit Fire Training
 - 9. Spanish for Dispatchers (Fall and Spring)
 - 10. Assist with Police Recruit Practical's (Fall and Spring)

Respectfully submitted,

William Pausti William G. Parenti

Chief of Police