

CITY OF LAMBERTVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

ANNUAL REPORT

2016

**Bruce M. Cocuzza
Police Director**



LAMBERTVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

349 North Main Street
Lambertville, New Jersey 08530

Bruce M. Cocuzza
Police Director

Tel: (609) 397-3132

Fax: (609) 397-9305

May 18, 2017

Mayor DelVecchio and City Council Members:

The City of Lambertville Police Department is a progressive, pro-active, community oriented law enforcement agency. We are a full-service department staffed by nine police officers and one special officer that is operational around-the-clock, seven days a week. Primarily a uniformed patrol based operation we also provide a criminal investigative function through the assignment of a detective (when feasible) and conduct periodic specialized patrol in the form of a Bicycle Patrol Unit. Our police officers receive continuous, up-dated in-service training relating to both existing and new policies, procedures, firearms proficiency, and other areas relevant to the law enforcement function. Most of our officers have attended advanced classes, covering many diverse topics that include traffic accident and criminal investigations, Interview and Interrogation, terrorism, Internal Affairs, narcotics enforcement, methods of instruction, Handling the Emotionally Disturbed, Evidence Management, Autism Awareness and computer crime/identity theft. I am proud to say that the caliber of our officers and civilian staff is second to none.

It is the philosophy of this department to perform our duties consistent with modern, community policing practices. We routinely solicit citizen input in addressing crime and quality-of-life issues and always strive to identify and solve problems by maintaining open lines of communication with the community. As public servants we can and should do no less.

I respectfully submit for your review the 2016 Annual Report for the City of Lambertville Police Department. This report details operational statistics, administrative activities and functions and a general assessment of department productivity in a variety of areas.

2016 continued to be another challenging year for the department, as we continued to operate with a reduction in force of one police officer (10% of department) that took effect in 2011. This staff reduction resulted in the elimination of a dedicated investigator position. This slot had been crucial with respect to our ability to conduct timely and efficient initial and follow-up investigation of reported crimes, and all other type of investigations such as background checks, domestic violence case follow-up, ABC, firearms, taxicab, and vending machine licensing. These responsibilities are presently

assigned to Police Officer Vincent Albani who was recently designated as the department's detective-investigator. However, he remains assigned to the regular duty chart and is still required to perform regular patrol duties and respond to calls for service. Detective Albani also serves as the department's Evidence/Property Officer.

In 2016, the department handled 11,046 calls for service, about a 15% increase over the previous year. This significant increase in call volume is on top of a 17% increase the previous year. Clearly, the demand for police service is on the rise. In addition, extended absences (8 months and 2 months) of two officers due to illness added to the challenge of providing police coverage on a 24/7 basis. We did however manage to somewhat mitigate staffing shortages with the hiring on one full-time special police officer, Jeff Jones, in December. Notwithstanding these difficulties, we still managed to achieve a 15% reduction in paid overtime, a testament to the dedication and perseverance of our members.

The department also managed to achieve an 84% increase in narcotics arrests, a 39% increase in disorderly person arrests and a 28% increase in warrant arrests. Unfortunately, we saw productivity declines in both moving (-7%) and parking (-20%) violations. The drop in parking tickets is attributed to two factors- implementation of the ParkMobile pay-by-phone application which has made it much easier for motorists to avoid meter violations and the continued difficulty involved with finding and retaining qualified people to perform parking enforcement on weekends and weeknights.

In 2016 the department again secured grant funding (\$5,000.00) from the state to participate in a "Click-It-Or-Ticket" seat belt enforcement campaigns. The campaign resulted in the issuance of 63 seat belt and 226 other moving violations.

Parking meter revenue declined by 4.2% for the year. The city implemented a pay by cell phone app, ParkMobile, on April 21 and the usage is gradually becoming more widespread throughout the CBD. At the present time we are averaging about 300 transactions per week and revenue from the program is increasing as well.

Part I UCR crimes in 2016 totaled 67, a 34% increase over 2015. This increase is attributed to a rash of thefts (17) from parked/unlocked vehicles that occurred over a two month (August-September) period. Despite extra patrols and surveillance operations no arrests were made relating to these crimes, which, without the benefit of eyewitnesses or catching a suspect in the act, are extremely difficult to solve. Over the years, the police department has repeatedly put out warnings to residents advising them to lock parked vehicles and not leave any property on seats or in plain sight. Unfortunately, people continue to do just that and these crimes of opportunity continue to occur. It's worth noting that none of these thefts involved forced entry.

A total of four violent crimes, one robbery and three sexual assaults were reported in 2016. Two of the three sexual assaults reportedly occurred several years in the past and

the suspects' whereabouts could not be ascertained, although an arrest warrant was placed on one suspect. The single reported robbery occurred during a domestic violence incident and the perpetrator was arrested. The number of simple assaults went up by two, from 14 in 2015 to 16 in 2016. On a positive note, we did see a decline in burglaries, from 8 in 2015 to 5 in 2016, and there were no aggravated assaults reported during the year.

There were 162 motor vehicle accidents in 2016, compared with 164 accidents reported in 2015. No fatalities resulted from these accidents. Two accidents involved pedestrians and two involved bicyclists. None of those incidents resulted in life threatening injuries. A total of two reported accidents involved a drunk driver. The top two accident locations were once again at the intersections of Routes 165/ 518 (16) and Route 165/179 (5).

In September, the department acquired body worn cameras and associated equipment to outfit all sworn, uniformed police officers. The cameras were partially funded (\$4500.00) through the NJ State Body Worn Camera Assistance Program utilizing state forfeiture funds and enable officers to record virtually all interactions between officers and the public. The cameras must be activated on all motor vehicle stops, arrests, accidents, routine service calls and criminal investigations. Use of the cameras is strictly governed by New Jersey State Attorney General and Lambertville Police Department guidelines, policies and procedures. All officers have been trained and equipped with the cameras which have already proven to be a valuable asset.

Although the responsibilities and challenges to police departments are increasingly demanding, all of our members remain steadfastly committed to providing first-class police service and a safe, secure environment for all Lambertville residents and visitors.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Bruce M. Cocuzza', with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Bruce M. Cocuzza
Police Director



MISSION STATEMENT

“The City of Lambertville Police Department’s primary mission is to protect lives and property and provide the highest quality police service to all persons; professionally, impartially and within the framework of community policing ideals. We are committed to achieving this mission by adhering to the highest ethical standards and developing a well trained and disciplined workforce.”

LAMBERTVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

PERSONNEL ROSTER

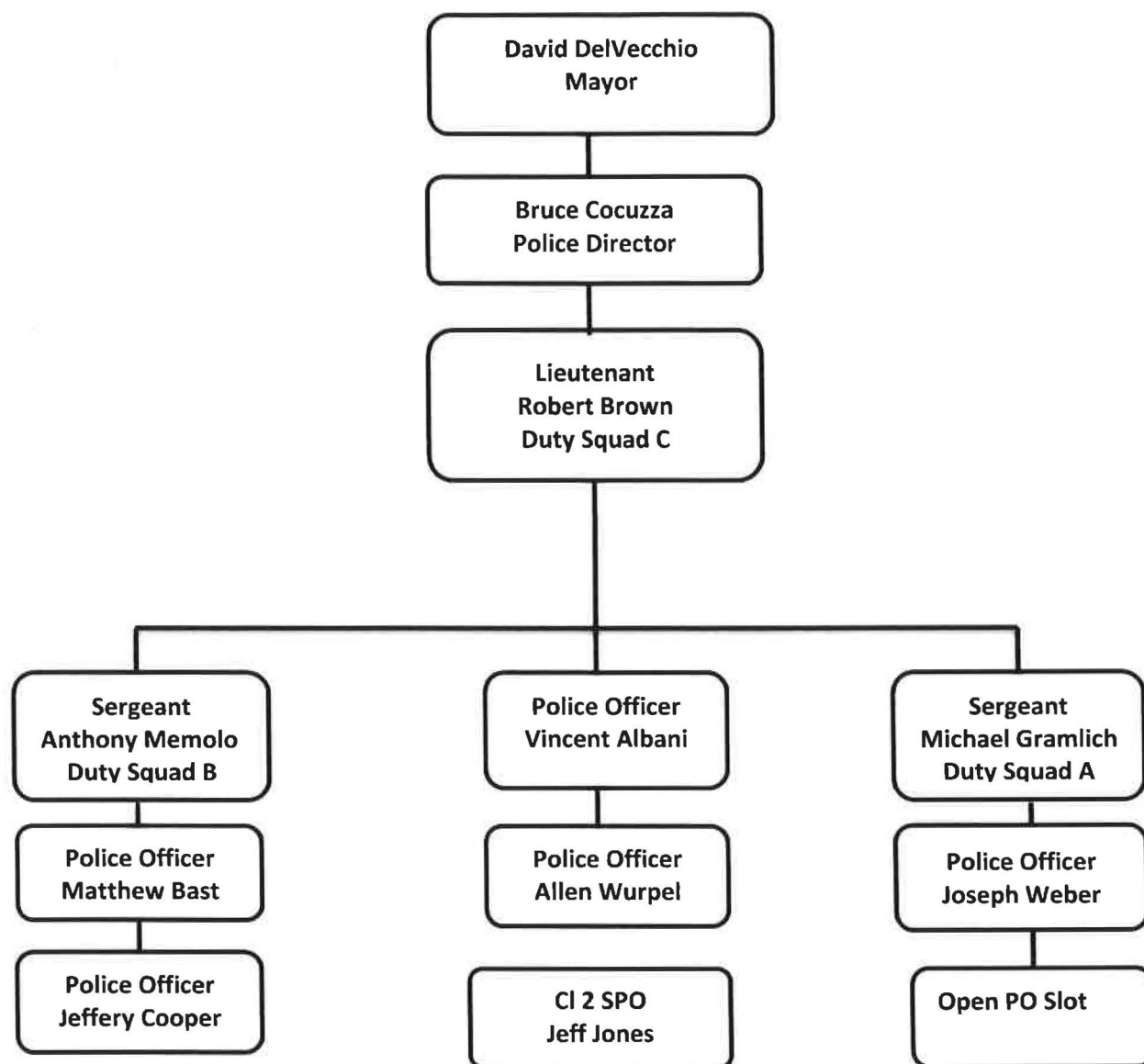
May 10, 2017

<u>RANK/TITLE</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>OPER. #</u>	<u>DATE APPOINT.</u>
Police Director	Bruce Cocuzza	Op # 1	April 5, 1999
Lieutenant	Robert Brown	Op # 2	July 15, 1996
Sergeant	Anthony Memolo	Op # 3	February 6, 2003
Sergeant	Michael Gramlich	Op # 4	February 1, 2004
Police Officer	Joseph Weber Jr.	Op # 10	March 18, 2002
Police Officer	Vincent Albani	Op # 12	May 20, 2005
Police Officer	Matthew Bast	Op # 13	May 1, 2014
Police Officer	Allen Wurlpel	Op # 14	December 29, 2014
Police Officer	Jeffery Cooper	Op # 16	November 25, 2015
Class 2 SPO	Jeffrey Jones	Op # 17	September 20, 2016

SUPPORT STAFF

<u>TITLE</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>SCHEDULE</u>	<u>DATE APPT</u>
Admin Asst.	Sally Lelie	Mon-Fri (0900 X 1630)	June 22, 1992
P/T Secy.	Tara Barlow	Mon-Fri (1330 X 1630)	Aug 18, 2014
Parking Enforcement Officer (F/T)	Michael Vecchio	Mon-Fri (various)	Mar 18, 2015
Parking Enforcement Officer (P/T)	Thomas Vanglahn	Wed-Sun (various)	Nov 17, 2016
School Crossing Guard	Vernon Barlow	Mon-Fri (various)	Dec 18, 2014

LAMBERTVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT ORGANIZATION CHART 2017



Administrative/Support Staff

Sally Lelie-Administrative Assistant

Tara Barlow-P/T Secretary

Michael Vecchio-Parking Enforcement Officer

Thomas VanGlahn-P/T Parking Enforcement Officer

Vernon Barlow-School Crossing Guard

TABLE #1: LCPD ANNUAL DEPARTMENTAL STATISTICS 2016

CATEGORY	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC	TOTAL
Total Calls	826	860	949	927	1053	865	878	915	1091	999	825	858	11046
Criminal Investigations	8	7	6	6	14	21	10	16	27	19	10	15	159
Non-Criminal Investigations	71	61	71	63	63	77	81	103	75	98	59	57	879
Service Calls	40	20	26	46	26	25	36	42	21	20	25	19	346
Administrative Assignments	8	11	13	6	24	18	21	12	6	5	6	13	143
Fire Calls	9	6	5	4	6	7	6	6	3	8	6	13	79
EMS Squad Calls	41	42	33	47	42	48	40	38	41	35	30	26	463
M.V. Accidents	21	8	12	17	14	9	7	14	13	21	14	12	162
Parking Summonses	185	172	303	273	290	367	254	303	283	369	259	166	3224
Moving Violations	168	232	258	243	287	260	222	218	142	147	124	134	2435
Indictables	1	2	1	0	2	1	2	1	0	0	0	5	15
Disorderly Persons Arrests	4	5	0	1	1	5	3	1	2	0	0	3	25
DUI Arrests	3	2	5	7	4	0	3	1	4	1	0	4	34
CDS Arrests	1	2	1	2	5	2	6	1	0	0	0	4	24
Warrant Arrests	3	7	10	3	5	9	8	5	4	7	3	1	65
Domestic Incidents	1	6	3	2	6	5	4	2	5	3	2	2	41
Juvenile Incidents	1	0	0	4	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	1	9
Alarms	23	15	21	16	20	7	11	18	8	15	7	12	173
Assist Other Agencies	10	9	10	13	7	9	9	11	9	11	8	4	110
Overtime (Hours)	103.5	71	59.5	84.5	169	58.5	12	58.5	111.5	156.5	151	83	1118.5
Sick Days	4	2	1	8	21	20	10	0	0	7.5	27	5	105.5

TABLE #2: LCPD ANNUAL POLICE OFFICER ACTIVITY 2016

OFFICER	M.V.	PARK	IND	DP	DUI	SICK	VAC	OT HRS	TRN HRS	CDS	ORD VIOL	WARR	JUV
LT. BROWN	527	46	3	6	15	0	11	280.5	57	12	9	5	1
SGT. MEMOLO	140	14	0	11	2	34.5	10	152.5	46	2	7	13	0
SGT. GRAMLICH	256	18	3	0	4	0	12	84.5	66	1	5	10	0
PO WEBER	31	1	0	0	0	60	5	4	20	0	0	0	0
PO ALBANI	129	8	1	0	2	1	13	133.5	41	0	1	2	0
PO BAST	322	54	3	1	5	0	6	157.5	146	3	5	6	0
PO WURPEL	255	8	1	1	3	2	1	110.5	70	1	3	2	0
PO PASCOE	381	17	2	3	1	1	5	126	82	4	2	19	1
PO COOPER	365	19	2	3	2	6	2	69.5	174	1	0	7	0
SPO JONES	29	21	0	0	0	1	1	0	12	0	0	1	0
PEO VECCHIO	N/A	2355	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
PEO VANGLAHN	N/A	663	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	N/A		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
TOTAL	2435	3224	15	25	34	105.5	66	1118.5	714	24	32	65	2

PO PASCOE RESIGNED 03/03/17, SPO JONES APPOINTED 09/20/16

Police Department Accomplishments 2016

- 15% reduction in paid overtime.
- 84% increase in narcotics arrests.
- 39% increase in disorderly person arrests.
- 28% increase in warrant arrests.
- The department applied for and was awarded one overtime reimbursement grant (\$5000) from the NJ Division of Highway Traffic Safety to participate in the Memorial Day "Click-It-Or-Ticket" statewide seat-belt enforcement initiative. The campaigns resulted in 63 seat-belt and 226 other moving violations as well as one arrest for DUI.
- In September, the department acquired body worn cameras and associated equipment to outfit all sworn, uniformed police officers. The cameras were partially funded (\$4500.00) through the NJ State Body Worn Camera Assistance Program utilizing state forfeiture funds and enable officers to record virtually all interactions between officers and the public. The cameras must be activated on all motor vehicle stops, arrests, accidents, routine service calls and criminal investigations.
- Lieutenant Robert Brown was again recognized by MADD at their Summer Law Enforcement Recognition event for outstanding DUI enforcement in 2015.
- In April, the ParkMobile pay by cell phone application became operational and is currently averaging about 300 transactions per week and usage continues to increase. The service has been extremely well received by residents, business owners and visitors.

- In January, Lieutenant Robert Brown, Police Officer Allen Wurpel and Parking Enforcement Officer Michael Vecchio were awarded departmental recognition (Life Saving Award) for their actions on November 5, 2015, in which they resuscitated (CPR) an unresponsive cardiac arrest victim and stabilized him until the arrival of EMT personnel. The officers quick and effective actions were instrumental in saving the life of an individual who may have very well expired had they not rendered their assistance.

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ANNUAL TRAINING

All police officers received mandatory in-service, semi-annual training (28-hours) in the following areas: Firearms Proficiency, Use of Force, Vehicle Pursuits, Domestic Violence, Pepper Spray-ASP Baton Use and Tactics, Right to Know, Bloodborne Pathogens, Chemical Safety and Hazardous Materials Awareness, AED Certification and Sexual Harassment in the Workplace. Members also attended advanced training at certified academies and training facilities throughout the state in: Criminal Investigation, Basic Crash Investigation Course, Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) training relating to handling emotionally disturbed individuals, Autism and Law Enforcement: Recognition, Response and Risk Management, Active Shooter Drills, Penn State High Impact Supervision Course, NJSP CJIS TAC Officer Update, Uniformed Crime Reporting Update, Evidence Management, and Internal Affairs Investigations.

POLICIES, PROCEDURES, OTHER DIRECTIVES

The Department continued to review existing policies and procedures and updated or promulgated directives as necessary. Policies and procedures were revised and/or promulgated in the following areas: Internal Affairs, Pursuit Procedures/Roadblocks, Criminal Complaints/ECDR Policy, Use of Force, Fatal Accidents/Serious Crash Investigation and Body Worn Camera Policy. Additionally, various Prosecutors' Office directives and Attorney General Directives and/or guidelines were received and disseminated as appropriate.

The Police Director issued three post conditions and eleven personnel orders in 2016. These directives covered areas that include community policing and enforcement activities, directed patrols, post assignments, personnel appointments, special event coverage and other operational and/or administrative subjects.

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INTERNAL AFFAIRS SUMMARY

In 2016 the department investigated two (2) citizen complaints and two (2) departmental complaints. One complaint involved employee demeanor and three alleged that officers committed procedural violations. All four complaints were at least partially substantiated and appropriate disciplinary action was taken.

In 2016, an additional three disciplinary actions were taken apart from the aforementioned internal affairs cases to address procedural violations observed by supervisory officers. All resulted in appropriate disciplinary action.

SPECIAL EVENTS/DETAILS

- Lambertville-New Hope Winter Festival and Parade
- Annual Shad Festival
- Annual Stoneking Shad Run
- Annual Memorial Day Parade
- River to Sea Benefit Run
- Major Taylor Cycling Club of NJ Annual Bicycle Ride
- Enhanced December Holiday Patrol Coverage
- Hops to Hops Bicycle Benefit Tour
- Tour de Pink Bicycle Ride
- First Presbyterian Church 911 Memorial Service
- Annual AIDS WALK
- LPS Walking School Bus program
- Annual Pet Masquerade
- Annual Historical House Tour
- "Mischievous Night" and Halloween Deployments
- Annual Halloween Parade (LPS)

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- Annual Holiday Tree & Menorah Lighting
- "Click It Or Ticket" seat belt enforcement campaign
- LPS Back to School/End of School Picnics
- Zombie Crawl
- Thanksgiving Day Turkey Trot
- Various Block Parties
- Various road repair/construction projects throughout city requiring contractual traffic control details
- New Hope Celebration Parade
- Friday Night Fireworks
- Chamber of Commerce Holiday Fun Run

ONGOING PROGRAMS

- Child Safety Seat Installation Program
- Bicycle Registration Program
- Bicycle Patrol Unit
- Project Child Safe Gun Lock Program

PERSONNEL

Appointments: Class II Special Police Officer Jeff Jones (09/30/16)
P/T Parking Officer Thomas Vanglahn (11/17/16)

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- Lieutenant Robert Brown- Training Officer, IT-TAC Officer, Terrorism Task Force Representative, Domestic Violence Liaison Officer, Special Event coordinator. Led Department in total Moving

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- Violations (527), DUI (15) and CDS (12) Arrests, Ordinance Violations (9). Perfect attendance 16th consecutive year. MADD 2016 DWI Enforcement Recognition.
- Sergeant Anthony Memolo- Firearms Training/ Department Armorer. Evidence/Property Supervisor, Internal Affairs Officer. Led department in Disorderly Person Arrests (11) and second in Warrant Arrests (13) and Ordinance Violations (7).
- Sergeant Michael Gramlich- Radar Instructor, AlcoTest and PBT coordinator, Alternate TAC Officer, School Security Coordinator, Tied 1st Indictable Arrests (3). Perfect attendance (no sick calls) for year.
- Officer Joe Weber- Primary UCR Reporting Officer, Accident Report analysis and processing.
- Officer Vincent Albani- Criminal, background and other investigations, Gang Officer, Juvenile Officer, ABC Licensing Inspections, Vending Machine Inspections, Primary Evidence/Property Officer, MAGLOCLIN Representative, Project Medicine Drop Coordinator.
- Officer Matthew Bast- Firearms Application Investigations and Processing, Backup UCR Officer, 2nd in DUI Arrests (5), led in parking tickets issued by police officers (54). Perfect attendance (no sick calls) for 2nd consecutive year.
- Officer Allen Wurpel- Child Car Seat Inspection/Installations, Motor Vehicle Accident Analysis and Reporting.
- Officer Brian Pascoe (resigned) - Press Releases, 2nd highest Moving Violations (381) and led department in Warrant Arrests (19).
- Officer Jeffery Cooper- Press Releases, 3rd in Moving Violations (365).

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- Administrative Assistant Sally Lelie- Office Manager, Customer Service, Records Maintenance/Processing and Good Will Ambassador.
- Part-time Police Secretary Tara Barlow-Reports, Customer Service, continued to fill candy jars and feed cops on holidays.
- Parking Enforcement Officer Michael Vecchio- parking enforcement, meter revenue processing, meter maintenance, mail runs, motor pool coordinator. Monitors social websites and reports to Police Director regarding any issues impacting city. Worked all special details for department during year.
- School Crossing Guard Vernon Barlow- Dependably protecting LPS students throughout the year and working special details for P.D.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Bruce Cocuzza', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Bruce Cocuzza
Police Director