

NORTH PLAINFIELD POLICE DEPARTMENT  
2017 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: February 8, 2018

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*Protecting with Pride... Serving with Honor*  
[www.northplainfield.org/nppd](http://www.northplainfield.org/nppd)

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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 below its authorized strength of 48 sworn Officers, and 6 fulltime civilian personnel. Staffing and deficiencies:

1. 3 police officers
2. 1 Lieutenant's position
3. 1 administrative assistant (Records), has been reduced to a 29 hour part-time position.
4. The Chief's administrative assistant position was restored to full time status in July.

B. Injured Officers:

1. Officer Garafalo was placed on light duty December 3, 2016 due to an on duty injury. He returned to full duty on February 4, 2017. In total he was on light duty for 31 days.
2. Officer Brid continued to work on light duty since March 27, due to surgery he had on November 3, 2016; a result of an on duty accident he had on

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December 9, 2014. As of December 31, he was out of work for 74 days and on light duty for 177 days.

3. Sergeant McKay suffered serious injuries when he was involved in an off duty motor vehicle accident on February 3. As of June 2, he was out of work 81 days. He started back to work on light duty on June 5. He was released back to full duty on October 24; as of that date he had been on light duty for 101 days.
4. Officer Jean-Baptiste was placed on administrative leave March 6, due to a complaint requiring an investigation. As of December 31, he was out of work for 150 days.
5. Officer Mazza, while off duty, suffered an injury on June 4. The injury required surgery; he returned to full duty on September 20. In total he was out of work for 52 days.
6. Officer DeJesus suffered a finger injury when pursuing an arrestee that attempted to flee from Police headquarters on June 16. He required surgery and was out of work for 33 days. He returned to full duty on August 19.

**C. Promotions, New Hires and Retirements:**

1. Effective July 10, Dispatcher Straile tendered her resignation.
2. On August 25, Jennifer Celis started as a Dispatcher with the Department.
3. On September 22, Katrina Guevara started as a part time Parking Enforcement Officer.
4. On October 21, Valerio Zuena started as a probationary Patrol Officer.

### III. CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION DIVISION:

**A. CASE LOG REPORT:**

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

	2015	2016	2017
Investigated	902	646	1,047
Active	11	104	107
Suspended	204	158	306
Unfounded	0	0	0
Closed	687	381	634
Forwarded to SCPO	94	51	76

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

	2015	2016	2017
Investigated	195	221	203
Active	0	14	0
Suspended	9	9	9

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Unfounded	0	0	0
Closed	186	198	194
Forwarded: other agencies	139	91	134

#### IV. COMMUNITY OUTREACH:

- A. During 2017 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 5<sup>th</sup> grade students in the borough and GREAT training is provided to all 4<sup>th</sup> grade students. Additional supplemental GREAT training is provided to all 7<sup>th</sup> grade students. 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.
- B. 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.
- C. On June of 2017 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. In July the Community Policing Unit with assistance from multiple other members of our department and outside agencies put together a Youth Police Academy, for the third year in a row, 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 Recreation Department and it ended with a year-end picnic for all attendees.
- D. 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.
- E. Detective Segeda assisted in training all members of the department in Tourniquet use and applications as a lifesaving tool for members of the department and people we come in contact with.

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## V. SOMERSET COUNTY GUNS AND GANG TASK FORCE:

- A. In 2017, a different member of the department, Officer Dow, was assigned officer from our agency with the Countywide Strike Force. The Strike Force is made up of sworn police officers from around the County and the Somerset County Prosecutors Office who investigates and initiate narcotic and vice investigations throughout the county. The goal is to take illegal drugs and guns off the streets throughout the county. An investigation may begin with an arrest in another town but the investigation may lead throughout the county or the state. During 2017 members of this Strike Force spent a total of approximately 306 man-hours trying to develop information on activity in the Borough and following up on complaints made by citizens of the Borough. The following is a partial list of the investigations that Officer Dow and the Strike Force participated in that either took place in the Borough or was in some way connected to a complaint or investigation from the Borough;
- B. Joint investigation with Union County with a search and arrest warrant being executed in the Borough with various drugs seized.
- C. Search warrant with a kilo of cocaine and 13 bricks of heroin seized.
- D. 3 grams of cocaine, ten pounds of marijuana, molly pills, eight pounds of hash pills, and synthetic marijuana seized.
- E. Two pounds of marijuana, 30 bricks of heroin, one handgun, 200 Xanax pills, 200 ecstasy pills, \$75,000.00 in U.S. Currency seized.
- F. Three pounds of marijuana, 4 grams of cocaine, \$8,600.00 in U.S. Currency and one handgun seized.
- G. Six bricks of heroin and two pounds of marijuana seized.

**VI. INTERNAL AFFAIRS:** During 2017, the police department logged 21 Internal Affairs complaints. Lt. Flynn investigated 14 and Lt. Ciempola investigated 7.

Investigation #	Classification	Disposition	Corrective Action
17-01	Rules Violation	Sustained	Sanction (R&R)
17-02	Demeanor	Administratively Closed	N/A
17-03	Criminal Act	Pending	Pending
17-04	Demeanor	Unfounded	N/A
17-05	Rules Violation	Sustained	Sanction (R&R)
17-06	Rules Violation	Administratively	N/A

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		Closed	
17-07	Rules Violation	Sustained	Sanction (R&R)
17-08	Rules Violation	Unfounded	N/A
17-09	Rules Violation	Exonerated	N/A
17-10	Rules Violation	Not Sustained	N/A
17-11	Demeanor	Exonerated	N/A
17-12	Demeanor	Exonerated	N/A
17-13	Rules Violation	Not Sustained	N/A
17-14	Rules Violation	Sustained	Sanction (R&R)
17-15	Rules Violation	Sustained	Sanction (R&R)
17-16	Improper Entry	Exonerated	N/A
17-17	Excessive Force	Not Sustained	N/A
17-18	Demeanor	Not Sustained	N/A
17-19	Demeanor	Not Sustained	N/A
17-20	Differential Treatment	Exonerated	N/A
17-21	Rules Violation	Pending	N/A

## 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.

	2015	2016	2017
Patrol Miles	163,309	157,902	167,833

The number of miles driven has risen 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.

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

Type of summonses	2015	2016	2017
Driving While Intoxicated (DWI)	55	30	39
Moving Hazardous Violation	1,209	1,114	889
Moving Non-Hazardous Violation	1,767	1,842	1,504
Borough Ordinance Violation	167	116	84
Parking Violation	3,062	2,570	1,902
Radar	355	292	226
Written Warnings	2,667	3,571	3,949
Totals	9,292	9,544	8,615
Refusal Breath Test Included in (DWI above)	8	9	17
Summons included in above totals	6,625	5,973	4,666

C. Radar: officers spent 2,120 Hours on those posts

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Arnold Ave.	Parkview Ave (east of Clinton).
Ayres Ave.	Prospect Place.
Brook Ave.	Regent St.
Clinton Ave.	Ridge Ave.
Coddington Ave.	Rock Ave.
Crosson Ave.	Rockview Ave (between Harrington and Clinton).
Craig Place.	Rockview Ave (between W-end and Rockview Terr).
Delacey Ave.	Prospect Place.
Duer St.	Regent St.
Farragut Road.	Ridge Ave.
Geraud Ave.	Rock Ave.
Greenbrook Road.	Prospect Place.
Grove Street.	Rockview Ave (between Harrington and Clinton).
Harrison Ave.	Rockview Ave (between W-end and Rockview Terr).
Harrington Ave.	Route 22 both east and west.
Interhaven Ave.	Somerset St (South of 22).
Leland Ave.	Somerset St. (North of 22).
Malcolm Ave.	Summit Ave.
Mali Drive.	Sycamore Ave.
Manning Ave.	Taft Ave.
Mountain Ave.	Warfield Road.
Mountainview Dr.	Washington Ave
Myrtle Ave.	Watchung Ave. (North of 22)
Netherwood Ave.	Watchung Ave. (South of 22)
Norwood Ave.	West End Ave
Oakridge Ave.	Westervelt Ave.
Oneida Ave.	Willow Ave.
Parkview (West of Clinton).	Wilson Ave.

## D. Parking Enforcement Report

Yearend totals:

	2015	2016	2017
Total Summons Issued	5,724	5,640	5,640

Revenue:	2015	2016	2017
Meters	110,329.85	105,182.54	113,675.28
Permits	3,175.00	6,187.00	8,995.00
Total	113,454.85	111,369.54	122,670.28

The meters were bagged from 12/13/17-1/3/18 for the holiday season (only Title 39 was enforced during this period).

## VIII. RECORDS DIVISION:



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

	2015	2016	2017
Fees Collected	5,371.40	5,674.61	4,858.71
Calls for Service/Responses	34,385	31,995	27,783
Discovery Requests	244	232	254
Report Requests	6,555	6,103	3,869
Pieces of Evidence	231	249	384

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

	2015		2016		2017	
	Adult	/ Juvenile	Adult	/ Juvenile	Adult	/ Juvenile
Murder	0	0	0	0	0	0
Manslaughter	0	0	0	0	0	0
Rape	1	0	3	0	0	0
Robbery	4	5	4	3	6	0
Aggravated Assault	20	0	8	0	9	0
Burglary	2	1	4	1	6	0
Larceny/Theft	25	14	35	3	34	4
Motor Vehicle Theft	0	0	0	0	1	0
Simple Assault	55	0	1	57	35	3
Arson	1	0	0	0	0	0
Forgery	1	0	1	0	1	0
Fraud	24	0	5	0	4	0
Embezzlement	5	0	1	0	0	0
Stolen Property	2	0	3	1	6	1
Criminal Mischief	9	1	8	5	8	3
Weapons	0	1	2	18	3	2
Prostitution	0	1	1	0	0	0
Sex Offenses	1	0	2	0	1	0
Violation of Drug Laws	46	3	58	10	83	9
Gambling	0	0	0	0	0	0
Offenses Against Family & Children	3	0	0	0	0	0
Driving Under the Influence	49	0	29	0	26	0
Liquor Law Violations	2	0	2	0	1	1
Disorderly Conduct	15	1	20	5	8	0
Vagrancy	0	0	0	0	0	0
Curfew and Loitering Violations	---	3	0	0	0	1
All Other Offenses	255	5	172	3	136	6
<b>Total UCR Arrests</b>	<b>520</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>361</b>	<b>106</b>	<b>368</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>COC other Arrests</b>	<b>298</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>404</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>372</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Total Arrests</b>	<b>818</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>765</b>	<b>106</b>	<b>740</b>	<b>37</b>

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## IX. UNIFORM CRIME REPORT

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

Year	Uniform Crime Reporting										Uniform Crime Reporting					
	Crime Index Total	Violent Crime	Non Violent Crime	Crime Rate Per 1,000	VIOLENT CRIME					NONVIOLENT CRIME						
					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
2015	367	41	326	16.7	1.9	14.9	0	4	24	13	83	226	17	1	194	0
2016	440	55	385	20.1	2.6	17.6	0	6	29	20	90	272	23	0	166	0
2017	571	63	508	26.0	3.0	23.2	0	6	41	16	77	404	27	3	175	0
<b>Up/Dn</b>	<b>131</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>123</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>-4</b>	<b>-13</b>	<b>132</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>0</b>
%	29.8	14.5	31.9	29.8	14.5	31.9	0.0	0.0	41.4	-20.0	-14.4	48.5	17.4	300	5.4	0.0

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. We had a large increase of property crimes. We have taken steps and changed patrol strategies to combat this trend. The 2017 Bail Reform is a major reason for the increase. When a person is arrested for this type of crime they are usually released on a complaint summons instead of our old system of a complaint warrant with a condition of monetary bail.

2010 Census Population	DEMOGRAPHIC DATA			POLICE EMPLOYEE DATA			
	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
<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>		<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
0.0	0.0	0.0		0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

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## X. TRAFFIC SAFETY:

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

	2015	2016	2017
Total	944	924	899
Summons Issued for crash	402	499	359
Driving While Intoxicated	27	14	22
Hazardous	280	372	233
Non Hazardous	92	110	95
Alcohol Related	3	0	4

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

	2015	2016	2017
Rt 22-Reportable	371	328	300
Rt 22 Non-Reportable	22	27	25
Boro Streets- Reportable	395	373	398
Boro St Non-Reportable	25	30	34
Private Property-Reportable	113	130	115
Private Prop Non-Reportable	18	36	27
Total Reportable	879	831	813
Total Non-Reportable	65	93	86

C. Crash Injury Report for the last three years:

	2015	2016	2017
Reports W/Injuries	145	119	143
Persons Injured	187	159	167
Fatal	1	0	0

**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.

In 2017, the members of the Department were instructed in 34 police related topics, which are divided into the following categories by the NJ Attorney General's Office:

A. 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.

B. Mandatory In-Service Training Due to a Particular Assignment- Blood borne Pathogens (On Line Training), Right to Know, HAZMAT Awareness (On Line

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Training) CJIS, IT Password Audit, Opiate Antidote Training, Developmental Disabilities (On Line Training), Mental Health De-Escalation Training, Patrol Response to Active Shooter, CODIS, RADAR, OC Spray, Fit Test and PPE training, ODARA.

- C. Voluntary In-Service Training- CPR/AED/First Aid ( Department Re-Fresher) Personal Protective Equipment, Ambushes, Tourniquet Application, Responding to Gas Emergencies, PSE&G, Police and Fire Joint Drill, Standard Response Protocol, Fire Scene Response(Presented by insurance company) START, NPPD Fire Scene Response, Death Notifications, Accreditation, Narcan Re-fresher.

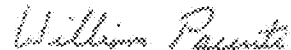
Department Off-Site Continuing Education Courses. Members of the Department, to enhance personal development and professionalism, were instructed in 48 of the following police related topics, these classes consisted of the following:

1. Share the Keys Facilitator (2 members)
2. Mid State Registrars Conference (1 member)
3. Impaired Driving Summit (1 member)
4. Field Intelligence Officer (1 member)
5. FBI Interview and Interrogation (1 member)
6. Pro- Active Criminal Enforcement (1 member)
7. Annual CODIS Conference (1 member)
8. Essentials of Effective Supervision (1 member)
9. Alcotest Re-cert (28 members)
10. ODARA for Liaison Officers (1 member)
11. Registrar's Conference (1 member)
12. UCR Training Seminar (3 members)
13. Forensic Photography Theory and Practice (1 member)
14. L.E. Response De-escalation Techniques/Mental Illness (2 members)
15. Identification and Technology Symposium (2 members)
16. Bulletproof Mind (1 member)
17. Pedestrian/Bicyclist Crash Investigation (1 member)
18. L.E. Response De-escalation Techniques/Mental Illness Trainer the Trainer (1 member)
19. Not Even Once, Train the Trainer (1 member)
20. Cyber Summit (4 members)
21. Vital Statistics (1 member)
22. Field Force Operations (4 members)
23. Social Networking (1 member)
24. Firearms Laws and Application Training (2 members)
25. DWI Detection and SFST (1 member)
26. Cell Phone Technology (1 members)
27. Crisis Negotiation Seminar (1 member)
28. OPRA Records Management (1 member)
29. Case Law Search and Seizure (1 member)

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30. ICS 300 (2 members)
31. Human Factors in Traffic Crash Reconstruction (1 member)
32. CEU (1 member)
33. Crossing Guard Train the Trainer (1 member)
34. Stress Management Techniques in L.E. (2 members)
35. Best Practices Managing Traumatic Events (2 members)
36. ICS 400 (1 member)
37. Document Fraud for the L.E.O. (1 member)
38. NJ Gang Awareness and Identification (7 members)
39. Intro to Open Source Fundamentals (1 member)
40. Basic Crash (2 members)
41. Off Duty Handgun Tactics (1 member)
42. Commercial Vehicle Enforcement (2 members)
43. NJRA Spring Conference (1 member)
44. Missing Children: Dynamics and Response (3 members)
45. Social Networking (1 member)
46. Courtroom Success (1 member)
47. Gracie Survival Tactics (2 members)
48. Prescription Drug Investigations (2 members)

Respectfully submitted,



William G. Parenti  
Chief of Police