

READING POLICE DEPARTMENT

Mission and Value Statement

The Reading Police Department is committed to providing the highest level of public safety and service to the citizens and business people within the community. The members of the Department are empowered to enforce the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and the By-laws of the Town of Reading to ensure that the peace and tranquility of our neighborhoods are maintained and that crime and the fear of crime are reduced. We emphasize and value integrity, honesty, impartiality and professionalism from our members in order to create an environment that values differences and fosters fairness and flexibility in our mission. We encourage citizen input and interaction that will assist us in developing sound partnerships between the community and police. Working together we can protect our future and enhance the quality of life for everyone within the town.

The Reading Police Department, and the community as a whole, experienced growth, change and transformation in calendar year 2010. More personnel changes occurred within the Police Department including one new Command Staff promotion and one new police officer was hired to fill an existing opening. This report summarizes the participation, activities, sponsorships, enhancements, accomplishments, and other notable events of the Reading Police Department in Calendar year 2010.

Personnel Changes

The following personnel changes and adjustments were experienced by the Police Department in calendar year 2010.

February 2010

- Sgt. Richard Abate was promoted to Sergeant, assigned to the Night Patrol Division.

March 2010

- Officer Corey Santasky was assigned as the School Resource Officer.
- Officer Justin Martel was assigned as Acting Safety Officer.

April 2010

- Officers Michael Lee and Christine Amendola deployed with their Army National Guard Military Police Unit to Afghanistan.
- Recruit Officer Mark Mullen was hired and began training at the MBTA Police Academy in Quincy, MA.

October 2010

- Officer Mark Mullen graduated from the MBTA Police Academy.

Awards and recognitions

March 2010

- The following police officers and dispatcher were honored as the Reading Police Departments "2009 Officer of the Year" at the Reading/North Reading Chamber of Commerce Dinner; Officers Matthew Edson, David Savio, Sean Wilson, Ian Nelson, Corey Santasky, Robert MacHugh and Dispatcher Debra Haynes. This group award was

presented for the life saving actions taken when they manually lifted a car off its owner after it fell off car jacks while he worked under it.

May 2010

- The Board of Selectmen recognized National Police Memorial Week.

Community Policing

The Reading Police Department continues to work closely with the community and other Town Departments, as well as State and Federal Agencies. The Police Department strongly promotes the philosophy of "working with the community". The Department sponsors or participates in a number of community events and/or programs, the following are a number of those.

- The Police Department continues to be an active member of the Reading Coalition Against Substance Abuse (RCASA). Chief James Cormier and School Resource Office Corey Santasky are active members of the RCASA.
- The Police Department was able to collaborate with the RCASA to be awarded grant funding that enables the Department to conduct alcohol compliance checks. The Detective Division has worked closely with the RCASA to be trained and implement alcohol compliance checks throughout the community. The Police Department, working with RCASA, is able to boast 100% compliance in our checks.
- The Police Department is represented on the Human Relations Advisory Committee. (HRAC) Chief Cormier.
- The Rape Aggression Defense (RAD) program which is a self defense course designed specifically for women, has been and continues to be one of the Reading Police Department's most successful programs. Two Basic Adult RAD classes were held, graduating 52 women. The Police Department in partnership with The Reading Public Schools expanded the RAD program by offering RadKIDS. This course is designed specifically for boys and girls in the 5 to 11 year range. Both programs cover a multitude of topics including stranger danger, internet safety, good touch and bad touch, bullying, gun safety, and anti abduction techniques. Two radKIDS classes were offered, graduating 27 boys and girls between the ages of 5 and 11 years of age. Sgt. Clark, Sgt. Abate, Detective Iapicca, Detective Halloran, Officer Lavita, Officer Nelson, Officer Amendola and Officer Stasiak are the dedicated instructors
- In June, police officers & their families participated in the Challenger Softball game, where they are afforded an opportunity to interact with children with special needs in a relaxed and fun atmosphere.
- Also in June, the Department participated in Friends and Family Day held at Birch Meadow. Officer Collins.
- The Department participates annually in the Library's Vehicle Day in August, where children of all ages get to enjoy the Town vehicles of the community. Officers Collins, Picco.
- Throughout the year, the Department participated in the Governors' Highway Safety Bureau's "Click-it or Ticket" program. This program is an intensified traffic enforcement effort subsidized by a grant that targets specific traffic issues, such as seat belt use, or impaired operation. Lt. Stamatis, Sgt McKenna.
- In October, the Department, in conjunction with its labor unions, organized its annual Senior Ham and Bean Supper at the Senior Center. Officer Collins.

- In December, the Department, in conjunction with its labor unions, organized the 30th annual Children's Holiday Party at Austin Preparatory School. Again collaborating with the Free Masons (Reading Lodge) to offer the Child Identification Program (CHIP) providing over 80 identification kits. Officer Collins.
- The Department's Web Site http://www.ci.reading.ma.us/Pages/ReadingMA_Police/index is very successful and offers a variety of information for the public. Lt. Stamatis.
- Safety Officer Martel gave safety talks to the following schools and groups:
 - Joshua Eaton School; Topic-Safety Day.
 - Barrows School; Topic-Summer Camp Safety Day for children with autism.
 - Birch Meadow School; Topic-Safety Talk.
 - Coolidge Middle School; Topic-Career Day, Summer Camp Safety, Summer Camp Bullying.
 - Little Treasure's School; Topic-Safety Talk on Notifying People Where You Are Going, Halloween Safety and book reading with the children.
 - Elderberry Lane complex; Topic-Senior Safety and Telephone Scams
- In response to the community's ongoing concerns with traffic enforcement, the Police Department utilized grant funding to augment specific traffic enforcement efforts throughout the year.
- The Police Department was actively involved in the planning and successful implementation of the second annual Fall Street Faire in September. The downtown was cordoned off to provide a street festival in the square and down Haven St. The event was declared a huge success and is expected to be repeated going forward.

Patrol Division

The Reading Police Patrol Division is the core of policing services in the Town of Reading. The Patrol Division falls under the command of Lieutenant David Stamatis during daytime operations and Lieutenant Peter Garchinsky on nights. The Patrol Division is comprised of 2 Sergeants and 10 Patrol Officers during the day; and 4 Sergeants and 12 Patrol Officers on nights.

The Patrol Division is the most visible section of the police department, providing around the clock service to the citizens and visitors to Reading. They are the uniformed Officers who provide the first line of defense for the public's safety. Each law enforcement patrol officer works to protect life and property, uphold the civil rights of individuals, preserve public peace, provide citizen assistance, enforce criminal and motor vehicle laws, and respond to emergency situations. These are dedicated and committed professionals who place their lives and well being in jeopardy for the citizens of Reading on a daily basis.

The Patrol Division currently consists of 8 supervisors and 22 sworn officers. It currently operates a fleet of 5 Ford Crown Victoria's as well as a Ford Explorer and Expedition. In addition to standard patrol the Reading Police Department's Patrol Division also employs a motorcycle and 7 pedal bikes.

The men and women of the Patrol Division are responsible for enforcing state and municipal laws and regulations designed to protect life and property; maintain order in an assigned district or beat; patrol the community to preserve the peace and to prevent crime; take criminal reports

and interview witnesses and suspects; apprehend fugitives and criminals; collect evidence and give testimony in court; conduct investigations for all misdemeanor and many felony cases; direct traffic, issue traffic tickets, investigate accidents, and make arrests; participate in crime prevention, public information, and safety programs. Patrol officers maintain closer contact with the public than any other section of the police department.

Most likely, the first person you will see when you are in need of the police will be the patrol officer. The men and women of the Reading Police Department's Patrol Division take great pride in serving the citizens of Reading. It is important to realize that in a split second, the most inconsequential and routine activity can develop into a potentially hazardous situation. Without question, the Patrol Division is the backbone of the police department. In 2010, the Patrol Division issued 4,496 moving violations, made 213 arrests and answered 12,576 calls for service throughout the Reading Community.

Detective Division

The Detective Division is the liaison of the Police Department with the Reading Public Schools as well as the Northeast Regional Vocational School in Wakefield. School Resource Officer Corey Santasky was the Division's primary liaison in 2010. SRO Santasky was selected as SRO in March of 2010, to replace Richard Abate who was promoted to the rank of Sergeant.

Outlined are a number of the Detective Division's activities for 2010

- Actively participated in the Criminal Based Justice System; this system brings together the Reading Police Department, Reading Public Schools, Austin Preparatory High School, The Middlesex County District Attorneys Office and the Probation Department to share information.
- Member of the Middlesex Partnership for Youth-Project Alliance. This is a program sponsored by the Middlesex County District Attorney's office that provides educational opportunities for law enforcement, schools and other professionals in the areas relative to school and juvenile issues.
- Member of the Woburn Court Substance Abuse Initiative, linking the seven communities that fall under the jurisdiction of Woburn District Court to combat the substance abuse issue in the area. Through this initiative, the Heroin Education Awareness Task Force (H.E.A.T.) was developed.
- Member of the NEMLEC Detective Group, a regional detective group incorporating over 40 cities and towns in the region, that freely exchanges information of interest.
- Participating member of the Domestic Abuse Roundtable; a meeting of the Middlesex District Attorney's office and the seven Woburn District Court police agencies to exchange and update information regarding domestic violence.
- Participating member of the Juvenile Fire Setters, educational information regarding juvenile fire setters.
- Worked in conjunction with the Reading Coalition Against Substance Abuse to conduct many alcohol compliance checks of all pouring establishments and liquor stores in Town.
- Members of the Detective Division attended many training programs in the areas of alcohol compliance enforcement, search warrant preparation, domestic violence, criminal, drug and narcotics investigatory techniques and prosecution.

- Detectives worked in conjunction with Reading Coalition Against Substance Abuse Director Erica McNamara to develop and maintain the "RX Round-up" prescription collection program.
- Sgt. Detective Segalla and SRO Santasky attended a weeklong "CADCA" (Community Anti-Drug Collations of America) conference on Drug Free Communities in Phoenix, Arizona.
- The Detective Division is exploring many options in utilizing social media to distribute information to the public.

Public Safety Dispatch

The Reading Public Safety Dispatchers provide, through communications, a lifeline for the community, Police Officers and Firefighters. Eight full time dispatchers and one per diem dispatcher are under the direct supervision of the Head Dispatcher and under the command of the Day Shift Patrol Division Commander Lt. David Stamatis. Dispatchers receive requests for information and services, then triage those request based on available resources, and disseminate those request to the emergency personnel in the field. Dispatchers greet the public entering the police station and provide a valuable service to our community.

Each year, Dispatchers attend various training seminars to expand their knowledge and provide a higher level of service. Dispatchers recorded 32,703 calls for service in 2010 and issued 3713 Community Access Stickers. The Dispatch Corps are the face of Reading Public Safety. In most cases they are the first interaction the public has with a Public Safety agency. Over the past year, there have been no changes in the staffing level of the Communications Center which builds on the stability of the division.

Crossing Guards

The school crossing guards are part-time civilian personnel. Currently there are twenty, permanently assigned crossing guards and eight spares that fill in when a regular crossing guard is unable to cover their post. They are under the direct supervision, coordination and control of Acting Safety Officer Justin Martel while Officer Michael Lee is deployed in Afghanistan. Each crossing guard plays an essential role in ensuring the safe commute of children to and from school. They also serve as an extra set of eyes and ears for the police department and the community as well. These crossing guards have proven to be devoted to their duties and are a great asset to the Town of Reading.

Animal Control

The Animal Control Officer is Ronald Burns. He works 13 hours per week and is on call for emergency situations. There were more than 350 calls for service received by the Animal Control Officer. There were 9 dog bites over the year resulting in injuries to humans. There were 5 dog to dog bites resulting in veterinary care. There were 6 bites over the year resulting from animal of unknown ownership (5 dogs and 1 cat). There were 7 cat bites to humans reported. Those that tested negative for rabies were quarantined for 10 days. There were over 30 coyote sightings and missing cat calls reported. Over 271 fines and citations were issued to residents for failure to keep their dog on a leash, failure to license their dog, and for biting. The majority of the calls were received for neighbors complaining about other dogs.

The Animal Control Officer is authorized to isolate and confine domestic animals suspected of being exposed to rabies. Acting according to state regulations and guidelines, Animal Control Officers must:

- Investigate reports of domestic animals exposed to rabies.
- Determine if the domestic animal has or may have been exposed to a rabid animal, and if the domestic animal has been properly vaccinated.
- Make an evaluation of the exposure of the vaccinated animal and prescribe the appropriate action according to state regulations.
- Obtain permission to euthanize exposed, unvaccinated animals from their owners or from the Massachusetts Department of Food and Agriculture (MDFA).
- Carry out euthanasia permitted by the animal owner or MDFA.
- Collect the head of the euthanized animal and deliver or send it to MDPH State Laboratory Institute if the animal has bitten or otherwise exposed a human or domestic animal.
- Inspect residential kennels that house 4 or more dogs.
- Ensure that vaccinate domestic animals receive a booster vaccination if needed, and that the animal remains under appropriate strict confinement or isolation.
- Contact local officials when exposed domestic animals have exposed humans.

Although the Animal control Officer is not responsible for handling wildlife calls, he evaluates such calls and assists where possible. He provides contact numbers for the appropriate State or private agency to handle wildlife issues beyond the Town's control.

Parking Enforcement Officer

The Parking Enforcement Officer is Ronald Burns. He works 18 hours per week. The major responsibilities of the Parking Enforcement Officer are:

- Identify and cite motorists who violate Readings parking regulations and reduce opportunities for violations to be committed through preventive patrols of all parking areas.
- Tally and inventory tickets daily.
- Identify parking problem areas within the town and forward this information to the Safety Officer.
- Perform related duties as required.
- Total citations issued by the Parking Enforcement Officer in 2010 are 1,582.
- Total income from parking citations is \$43,540.
- 84% of the citations were paid.
- 11% of the citations were marked for non-payment.

The following is the Department Roster, a statistical analysis of our enforcement efforts and a record of revenues generated by our department for calendar year 2010.

READING POLICE DEPARTMENT - 2010 ROSTER

Chief

James W. Cormier

Lieutenants

Executive Officer Lt. Richard W. Robbins

Lt. David M. Stamatis

Lt. Peter C. Garchinsky

Sergeants

Bruce F. Russell

Mark J. O'Brien

Francis G. Duclos

John T. McKenna

David J. Clark

Richard P. Abate

Detective Division

Sgt. Detective Mark Segalla

Detectives: Michael D. Saunders, Derek Holmes, Pasquale Iapicca, Michelle Halloran

School Resource Officer

Corey P. Santasky

Support Services

Community Service Officer	Safety Officer	Armorer
James P. Collins	Justin Martel (Acting) Michael R. Lee (Military Leave)	Christopher Picco

Patrol Officers

Christine Amendola (Military Leave)	Joseph Belmonte	Michael C. Bouvier	Kevin M. Brown Jr.
Anthony F. Caturello	Erik Drauschke	John C. Edson	Matthew C. Edson
Michael P. Fitzgerald	Keith D. Hurley	Christopher E. Jones	Salvi Lavita
Robert MacHugh Jr	Justin P. Martel	Mark Mullen	Ian A. Nelson
Corey Santasky	David Savio	Patrick Silva	Kristen Stasiak
Christopher Voegelin	Sean M. Wilson		

READING POLICE DEPARTMENT 2010 ANCILLARY PERSONNEL

Business Administrator

Andrew Scribner-MacLean

Clerks

Administrative Assistant Victoria Cummings

Principal Clerk Joanne Power

Dispatchers

Head Dispatcher Victoria Avery

Dispatchers

Christopher Finnegan	Debra Haynes	Ryan Mahoney	Joseph Pagnotta
John Rawcliffe	Regina Saunders	Susan Tapley	Matthew Vatcher

School Crossing Guards

Cindy Ascii	Dick Baker	Mildred Barton	Cheryl Buckman	Doug Cowell
Bob DeWolfe	Art Dickensen	Peg Faulkner	Gerry Intonti	Lucy Intonti
Tina Lantz	Leon Leighton	Marsha Leighton	Joe Lopiccolo	Louann MacKinnon
Kris McNeil	Don Pierce	Dick Prudente	Patricia Tilton	Rosemary Violante

Spare School Crossing Guards:

Bob Bent	Maryann LaFleur	Allan Sletterink	George Snow	Richard Stoez
Lynne Upton	Joe Veno			

Animal Control Officer / Parking Enforcement Officer

Ronald Burns

Service Statistics calendar year 2010:

- Arrests 213
- Protective Custody 32
- Motor Vehicle Citations 4496
- Parking Violations 1582
- Detective Criminal Investigations 162
- Automobile Crashes Investigated 446

Fees Collected calendar year 2010:

- License to Carry Permits \$ 1,687.50
- Firearm Identification Cards \$ 337.50
- Police Reports Copied \$ 1,942.50
- Parking Fines \$43,540.00
- Administrative Fees for details \$31,914.86
- Community Access Stickers \$79,680.00
- Parking Space Rentals \$36,950.00
- Civil Motor Vehicle Infractions \$50,449.20
- Community Room Rental fee \$ 190.00
- Motor Vehicle Lease Surcharge \$ 2,178.00

Conclusion:

To summarize our Mission Statement, we are empowered to enforce the laws of our land, but in order to do this appropriately and adequately we have to work with the community. Providing the community with the highest level of police service is a goal that will require dedication, hard work and a strong commitment to and from our community.

I want to thank the citizens of our community for their support and cooperation. Working with the community, your police department will accomplish its mission.

Respectfully submitted,

James W. Cormier

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Chief of Police