

BERLIN POLICE DEPARTMENT



ANNUAL

2009

REPORT

240 Kensington Road, Berlin CT 06037
www.berlinpd.org

BERLIN POLICE DEPARTMENT MISSION STATEMENT



***“ENFORCE THE LAW AND SERVE THE PUBLIC IN A FAIR
AND JUST MANNER.”***

To achieve this goal, we will work with others to provide a safe and orderly environment for our community. We will strive to instill public confidence by maintaining a high degree of professionalism, dedication, and expertise in the delivery of law enforcement services. The integrity of, and respect for, the Berlin Police Department is enhanced by our contribution to the welfare of the citizens and our standards of excellence.

Berlin Police Commissioners



Pictured from left to right are Joseph Annunziata (Vice Chairman), Paul Eshoo, Richard Rampone, Anthony Letizio and Chairman Robert Peters.





BERLIN POLICE DEPARTMENT 2009 ANNUAL REPORT



I am proud to present the 2009 Annual Report for the Berlin Police Department.

This report reflects the efforts of personnel and programs within the police department. Each and every individual plays a role and contributes to our mission of service and protection to the community.

Two new officers were hired to maintain our staffing levels. New to the rank of Patrol Officer are Barry Hertzler and William Bartlett.



The Berlin Police Department is committed to working together with the Board of Education, our four Fire Departments, Hunters Ambulance Service and all other town departments in order to provide the best service possible to the community.



HISTORY OF THE BERLIN POLICE DEPARTMENT



On September 10, 1937, the Town of Berlin formed a Police Bureau which was supervised by four elected Constables. The Police Bureau was the town's only form of police protection until April 13, 1955.

In 1955, a formal police department was formed. Since that time, the Berlin Police Department has grown from three (3) constables to forty-one (41) full time officers, nine (9) civilian dispatchers, one (1) administrative assistant to the Chief, two (2) records clerks, and one (1) technical support administrator.

The Police Department has been lead by six (6) Police Chiefs; Theodore Strand (1956-1971), Robert Skinner (1971-1978), Phillip Buchanan (1978-1980), William Scalise (1980-1988), Gerald Charamut (1988-2003), and Paul Fitzgerald, who was appointed in 2003.

On February 2, 1985, the Berlin Police Department was shaken by the death of Officer Jeffery Casner, who was struck by a drunk driver while directing traffic at an automobile accident.

In November of 1988, the department was once again shocked by the sudden death of Chief William B. Scalise, who succumbed while clearing land for a new VFW Post.

The Berlin Police Department's 2009-20010 budget was \$6,167,053 — a far cry from the \$8,386 that had been allocated for police protection in 1954.

The Berlin Police Department is looking to the future to better serve the Berlin community by increasing manpower and moving into a newer and larger facility.



ACCREDITATION



The Berlin Police Department is a state and internationally accredited law enforcement agency. The agency has been accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc. since March 1996. It is one of only 14 agencies in the state to be so recognized. The Police Officer Standards and Training Council (P.O.S.T.) also awarded State Accreditation to the Berlin Police Department in November of 2004.

The Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc. (CALEA) administers the international accreditation program. The accreditation program requires agencies to comply with state-of-the-art standards in four basic areas: policy and procedures, administration, operations and support services.

The Berlin Police Department underwent its **fourth** re-accreditation on-site inspection December **05-08, 2009**. **In order to receive accreditation, the Berlin Police Department has to comply with 309 of the applicable mandatory standards and at least 80% of the non-mandatory standards in order to gain accredited status. The department is currently in compliance with all 309 mandatory standards and 74 of the 82 non-mandatory standards or 90%. The department is anticipating its reaccreditation award in Dallas, Texas on March 27, 2010.**

The separate and distinct Connecticut State Accreditation Program was taken over by the Police Officer Standards and Training Council in 2004. This program can stand alone for agencies that are not CALEA accredited or in conjunction with CALEA accreditation. CALEA accredited agencies are required to show proof of compliance with eight additional standards that are unique to the State of Connecticut as well as the results of their last CALEA on-site inspection. In November 2004, the department submitted these standards and was approved for State Accreditation. State Accreditation was officially awarded in January 2005 with the department being the second state agency to be so recognized.

COMMUNITY RELATIONS REVIEW

Neighborhood Watch

The town of Berlin has two active neighborhood watch organizations working at this time. Officer John Burns is the department contact person and attends the meetings. The group consists of residents of the Fairview Drive area and Sun Meadow Drive. Fairview Drive had one (1) meeting and Sun Meadow had one (1) meeting in the 2008/2009 fiscal year. Two new neighborhood watches being organized are Worthington Ridge and Stockings Brook Road areas.

Torch Run

Once a year members of the Berlin Police Department are active in the Special Olympics Torch Run and the fund raising that goes on during the year. The Torch Run was held on June 5, 2009. Sgt. John McCormack gathers the local group of runners and they in turn raise money to be donated to Special Olympics. Lt. James Gosselin works as a leg coordinator between seven towns on the Torch Run day. Eight participating police departments run from Newington to New Haven for the opening Special Olympic ceremonies.

Citizen Input

The Berlin Police Department gives the citizens of Berlin a place to let us know how they feel and to share any concerns they may have. You can access our Online Reporting by going to our website at www.berlinpd.org. Click on the Contact Us section then the Online Reporting.

School Safety

Officers from the Berlin Police Department randomly visit all the schools in town. These visits establish familiarity with the staff and layout of the school. The visits also provide an omnipresent sense of security.

GENERAL STATEMENT OF DUTIES

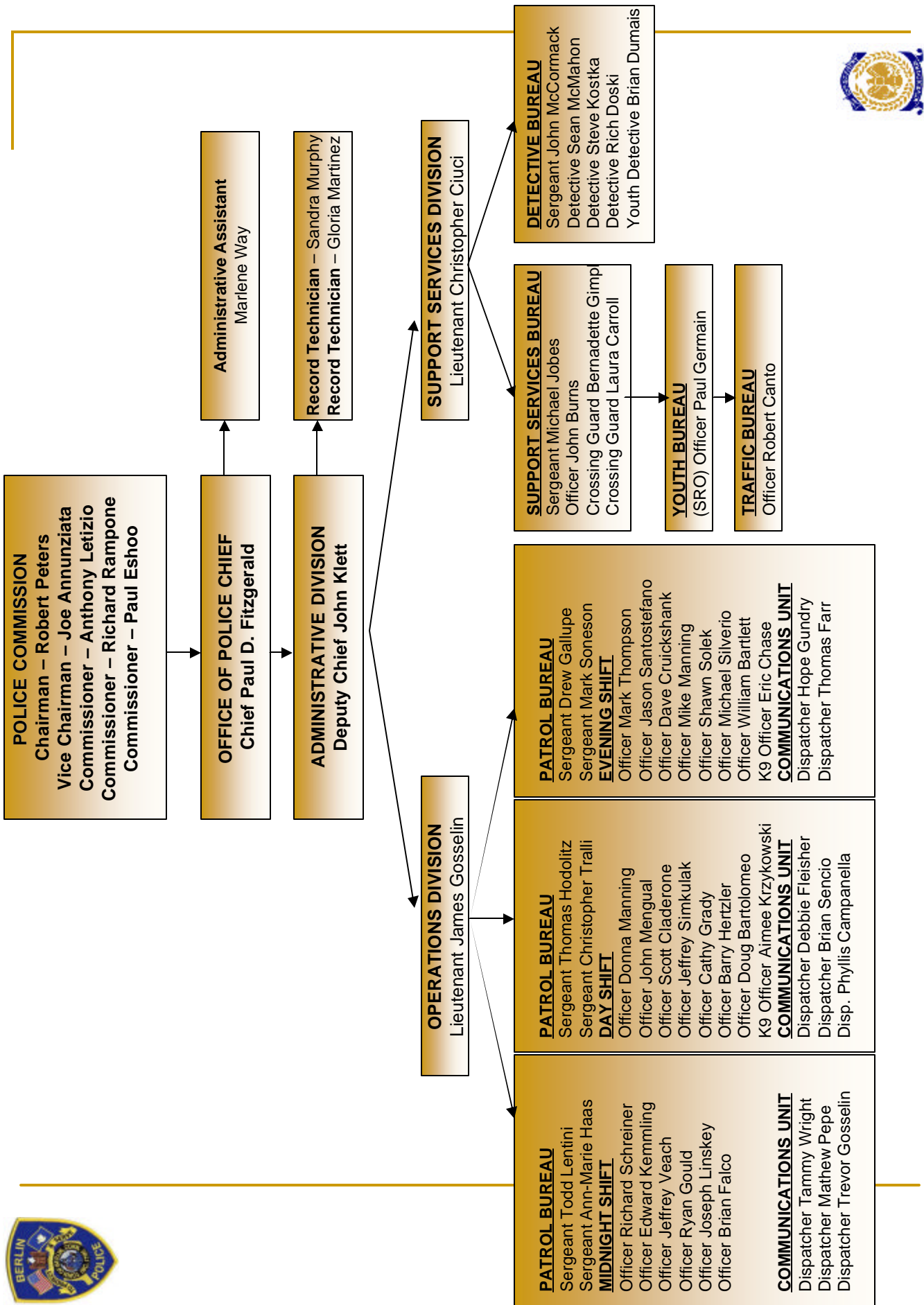


The present day duties of a Berlin Police Officer are varied and complex. The Officer's main function is the preservation of public peace, protection of life and property, prevention of crime, and proper enforcement of local and state laws and ordinances. The Officer must effectively investigate motor vehicle accidents while rendering first aid to injured parties. Motor vehicle safety is a high priority and motor vehicle laws are enforced through the use of laser and radar units.

A Berlin Police Officer is a first responder to all medical emergency calls. The Officer must be qualified as an MRT (Medical Response Technician) to render quick and effective first aid. All police vehicles are equipped with first aid and oxygen units. Officers are certified in CPR (Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation) and the use of state-of-the-art AED (Automated External Defibrillator) units. Medical emergency calls decreased from 1,448 in 2008 to 1,409 in 2009.



Other important duties include initial investigations of reported crimes and incidents. Officers must be able to provide crisis and conflict intervention, along with problem solving techniques, to serve and assist the community.



DIVISIONS WITHIN THE POLICE DEPARTMENT

The **Administration Division** has the responsibility of the following areas:

1. Personnel
2. Public Relations
3. Training
4. Planning and Research
5. Budgeting
6. Purchasing
7. Records Bureau

The **Operations Division** consists of the patrol and communications units and other special units as determined necessary by the Chief of Police.

The **Patrol Unit** covers a wide range of traditional police services which may be generally defined as the patrolling of streets for the purpose of preventing crime, protecting life and property, assisting the public in any way possible, inspections of commercial establishments, vacant homes etc., and the investigations of suspicious persons and vehicles. The Patrol Unit investigates crime, completes necessary crime and incident reports, protects crime scenes, investigates motor vehicle crashes and educates the public in rules and laws of the Town and State. Patrol Units are also responsible for traffic control, selective enforcement of motor vehicle laws, investigation of suspicious motor vehicles and such other functions that the Chief of Police may determine as necessary.



DIVISIONS WITHIN THE POLICE DEPARTMENT

The **Communications Unit** is staffed by Civilian Dispatchers who are employed by the Town of Berlin. Overall supervision is exercised by the Operations Division Commander. Patrol Unit Supervisors directly supervise the Communications Unit. The Communications Unit's responsibilities include; the reception, analysis and dispatching of calls for service, the receiving of calls on the Town's Emergency 911 system and dispatching police, fire, medical and municipal services as needed. It also monitors and dispatches for alarms for police, fire and municipal services and all non-emergency calls for service.



The **Support Services Division** consists of the Support Services Bureau, Detective Bureau, Youth Bureau, SRO, and the Traffic Bureau. The Court Liaison Officer assists with arrest reports, prisoner transportation, arrest warrants and search warrant preparation. The Support Services Bureau is responsible for grants, computers, communications, accreditation, permits, alarm registrations, court liaison, scheduling personnel for private duty and overtime assignments, and any other function deemed necessary by the Chief of Police.



DIVISIONS WITHIN THE POLICE DEPARTMENT

The **Detective Bureau** operates and maintains the evidence lab. It also maintains all department photographs and the departments' fingerprint file. The Detective Bureau investigates and assists other areas of the department in their investigations of felonies and all crimes involving fraud, theft and violence. The Detective Bureau performs other related functions the Chief of Police determines necessary.



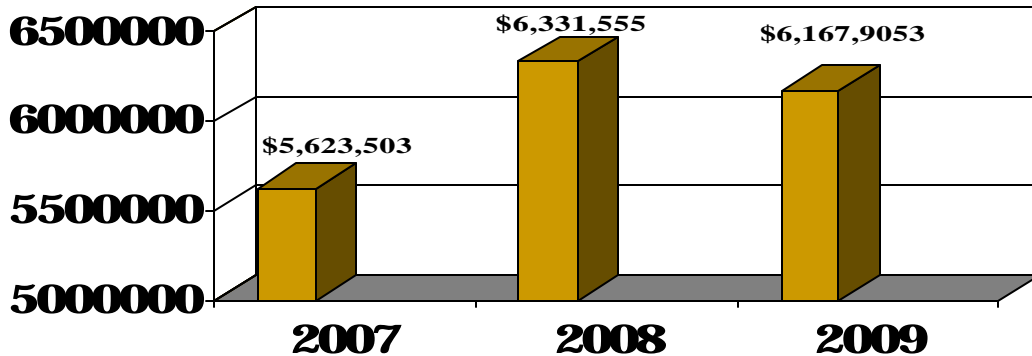
The **Youth Bureau** is responsible for the overall coordination of the department's efforts regarding children and youth, including delinquency, family with services needs, abuse, neglect and missing persons. The Youth Officer screens all reports dealing with police contact with children, makes/reviews all departmental court referrals of juveniles (persons less than sixteen years of age), and makes/reviews decisions to divert juveniles from the juvenile justice system. The School Resource Officer (SRO), is assigned to work directly in the high school working directly with teachers and students.

ATV UNIT

In August 2009 the Berlin Police Department's ATV Unit was created with the purchase of two Suzuki King Quads and the necessary ancillary equipment to support law enforcement operations on Town of Berlin open space lands. The establishment of the unit was attained with the cooperation of the various Town of Berlin Boards and Commissions that have responsibility for these open spaces, parks etc. The ATV unit is made up of four specially trained officers including Sergeant Tralli, Detective Doski, Officer Simkulak and Officer Solek. The ATV Unit's primary function is to provide police services to areas of the Town of Berlin not easily accessible by more traditional patrol vehicles and not practical to access by foot travel. A consistent identifiable police presence in these areas will instill confidence in law abiding citizens using these parks and put pressure on would be violators to comply with all applicable laws and ordinances. In September of 2009 we began enforcement patrols with our primary focus on the Meriden GasTurbine Property, Sierra Ranch, Bicentennial Park and Pistol Creek. Once the team was acclimated to these properties we made 26 infraction arrests and 3 misdemeanor arrests in five separate operations. We are identifying illegal usage patterns in an effort to more effectively utilize our resources and manpower. As part of our mission in 2010 we will assist in locating and removing abandoned and stripped vehicles from these open spaces. We will also focus on illegal overnight activities in the spring and summer of 2010. We work cooperatively with the Boards and Commissions that oversee these lands and keep them apprised of our operations. The ATV Unit will also participate in operations with other jurisdictions including Meriden P.D. and the Connecticut D.E.P. to combine resources and work toward long term resolutions in our areas where jurisdictions and missions overlap.

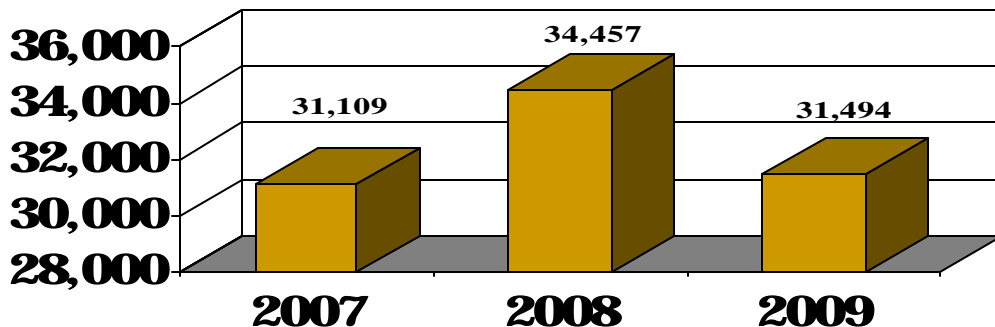


POLICE BUDGET



The Town of Berlin is in the geographical center of the State of Connecticut. The town is surrounded by seven other cities with a combined population of 240,000 people. The Berlin Police Department has a jurisdiction area of 26.5 miles. The population of Berlin is estimated to be 19,750 people. Berlin has 3,300 children attending public schools. Berlin has one high school, one middle school and three elementary schools. There are two private schools in town. Berlin has 12 churches and one mosque within town limits. There are five companies and 125 small to medium sized businesses in town. The Berlin Police Department patrols 112 miles of roads. There are 369 streets. There are eight state maintained roads in town and the Berlin Police Department has full responsibility for six of these roads and highways, including the heavily traveled Berlin Turnpike (Route 5 & 15) for a distance of 5.4 miles. Within the town boundaries are six reservoirs belonging to surrounding municipalities. Berlin has three United States Post Offices and four separate fire departments. There is one public golf course and one private golf course. The Berlin Fair Grounds are located in the eastern section of town and once a year the Berlin Lions Club holds the Berlin Fair where the Berlin Police department provides security and traffic assistance for the large crowds that attend. The grounds are also utilized for several other events during the year.

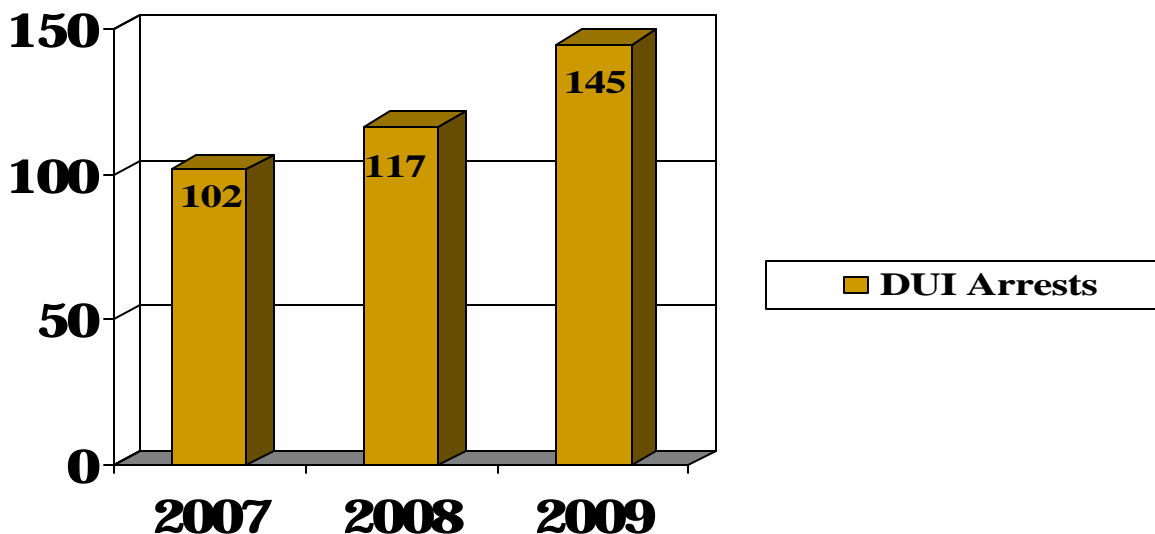
POLICE CALLS FOR SERVICE



2009 POLICE DEPARTMENT GRANTS

Grant Name/Type	Total Amount	Amount Reimbursed
2009 "Click it or Ticket" May WAVE (100%)	\$3,156.40	\$3,156.40
2008 "Click it or Ticket" Nov. WAVE (100%) _	\$3,453.27	\$3,453.27
Comprehensive DUI 1/01/09 — 6/30/09 75% Federal Funds	\$22,979.77	\$17,234.00
Comprehensive DUI 7/01/09 — 9/07/09 75% Federal Funds	\$16,282.00	\$12,211.00
Comprehensive DUI 11/20/09—12/31/09 75% Federal Funds	\$ 7,161.18	\$5,370.00
Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Formula Program	\$18,147.00	\$18,470.00
Recovery Act CT Justice Assistance Local Pass	\$30,000.00	\$30,000.00
Totals	\$101,179.62	\$89,894.67
Total cost to Town after reimbursement:		\$11,284.95

DUI ENFORCEMENT



Driving Under the Influence, (DUI) enforcement, is an extremely important component of the Berlin Police Department's overall traffic safety program.

In the United States during 2001, 17,380 or 41% of all traffic fatalities were alcohol related. This compares with 49.2% in 1989, 50.2% in 1988 and 57.2% in 1982. This downward trend is the result of a number of factors; legislation, public information and education, selective law enforcement, etc. National statistics also reveal consistent day-of-the-week and time-of-day occurrence trends. Almost 60% of all such crashes occurred from 6:00 p.m. on Friday to 6:00 a.m. on Monday. An average of one alcohol related fatality occurs every 30 minutes.

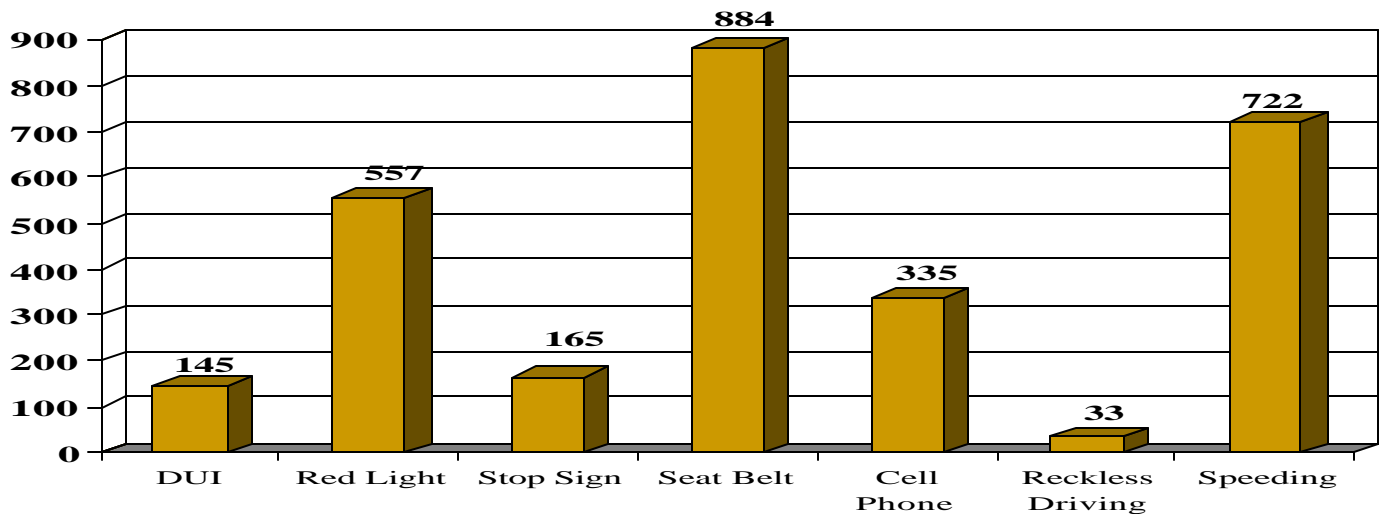
The department places great importance on DUI detection and apprehension. The department participates in all DOT highway safety grant initiatives that provide funding for DUI enforcement.

The Jeffery G. Casner Award is given annually to those officers who are at the forefront of the department in effecting “Driving Under the Influence” arrests, in addition to providing the highest level of patrol services in their assigned districts through out the Town. This award is presented every year on February 2nd, which is the anniversary date that Officer Jeffery G. Casner made the ultimate sacrifice for the Town of Berlin.



Officer David Cruickshank received the 2009 Jeffery G. Casner award from Deputy Chief John Klett. Officer Cruickshank effected 31 DUI arrests. This represents 21% of the DUI arrests for the Berlin Police Department in 2009.

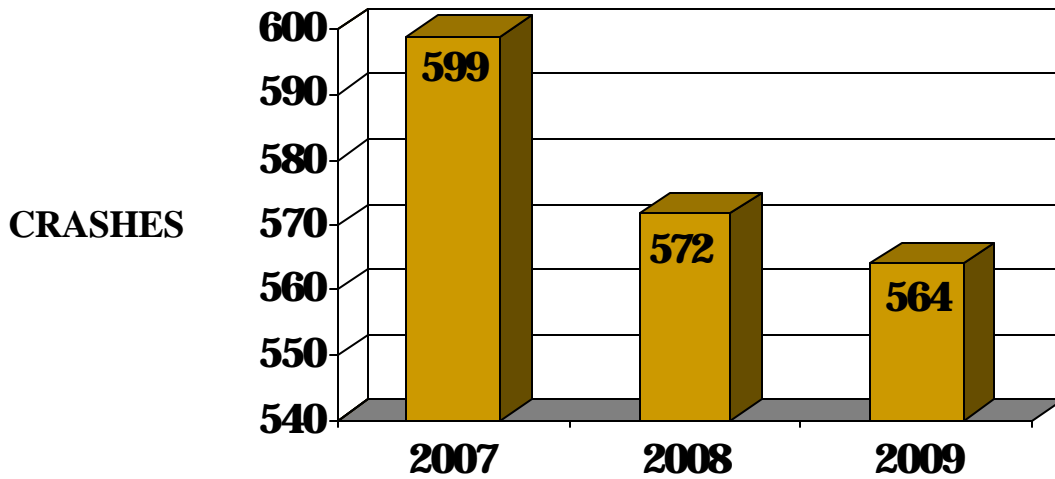
2009 MOTOR VEHICLE ENFORCEMENT



The department regularly participates in the Department of Transportation, Division of Highway Safety's seatbelt "WAVE" program. This is an enforcement program specifically targeting seatbelt law compliance. The department uses seatbelt compliance checkpoints to enforce the mandatory seatbelt use statute. Seatbelt use has been shown to reduce the severity of injuries suffered in motor vehicle crashes. Enforcement of this statute is an important part of the department's traffic safety program.

In 2009, Berlin Officers issued 5,786 motor vehicle misdemeanors, infraction citations and written warnings. Some of the major violations included; 145 DUI arrests. One hundred, twenty-two (122) arrests were a result of self-initiated DUI patrol, 24 arrests resulted from motor vehicle accident investigations, 557 red light violations, 165 stop sign violations, 884 seatbelt violations, 335 cell phone violations, 33 reckless driving and 722 speeding citations were also issued.

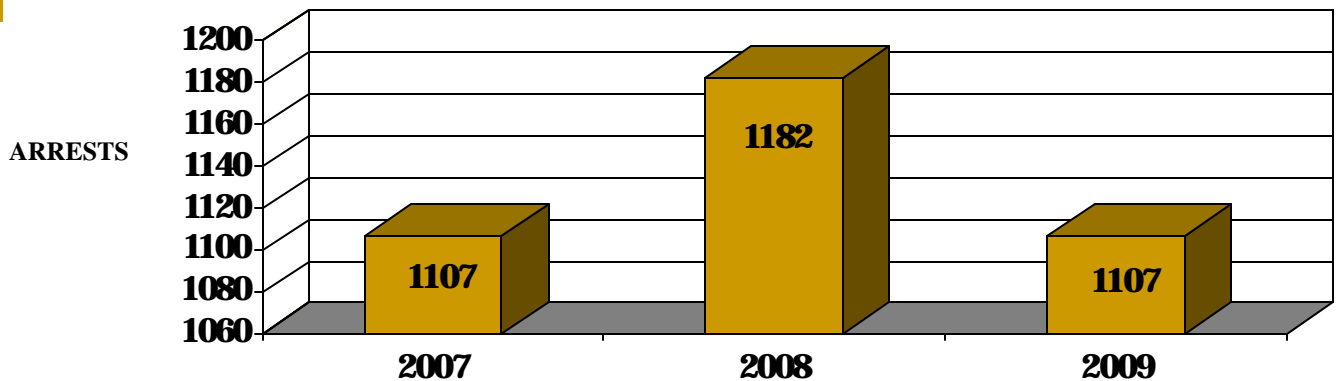
MOTOR VEHICLE CRASHES



Motor vehicle crashes are an unfortunate fact of life on our nation's highways. Most, if not all, of these crashes are the result of inattentiveness and/or failure to obey motor vehicle laws. The purpose of motor vehicle laws and regulations is to make the highways safe for all. The purpose of motor vehicle enforcement is to ensure compliance with these laws and hence make the highways safer for all who travel them.

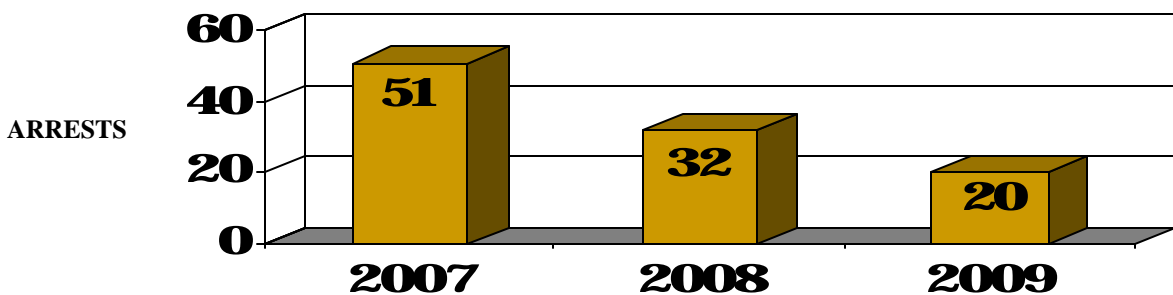


ADULT CRIMINAL ARRESTS (2007 – 2009)



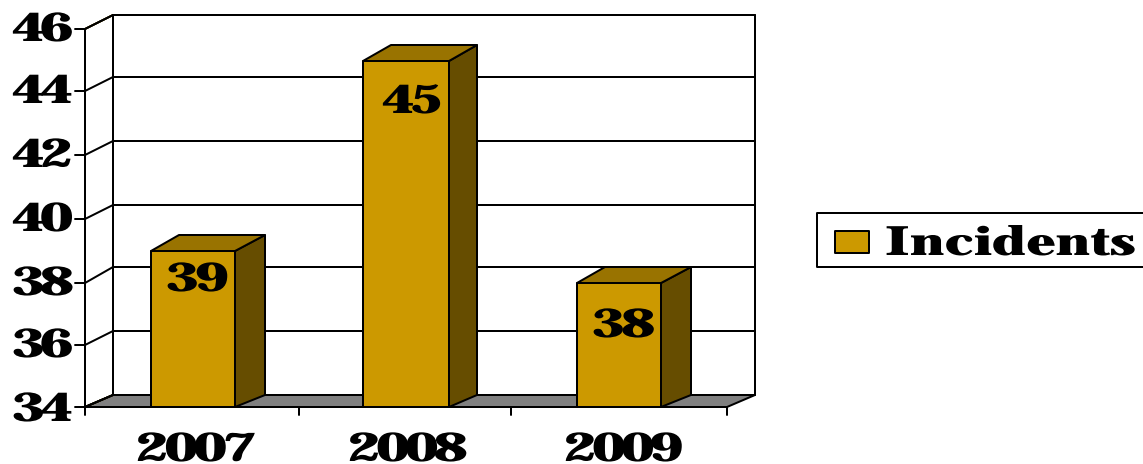
Criminal arrests are those arrests made for criminal violations of Connecticut General Statutes. These Statutes include Title 53 (Crimes), Title 53a (Penal Code), Title 54 (Criminal Procedure), Title 30 (Liquor Control), and Title 21a (Dependency-Producing Drugs). In Connecticut, adult arrests are those made of people 16 years of age or older.

JUVENILE CRIMINAL ARRESTS (2007 – 2009)



In Connecticut, juveniles are those persons who have not reached their 16th birthday. In juvenile cases, arrests are generally made through referral to the Superior Court for Juvenile Matters. In serious cases, arrests can be made by warrant. Criminal arrests are those arrests made for criminal violations of Connecticut General Statutes. These Statutes include Title 53 (Crimes), Title 53a (Penal Code), Title 54 (Criminal Procedure), Title 30 (Liquor Control), and Title 21a (Dependency-Producing Drugs).

NARCOTICS INCIDENTS



* Asset forfeiture acquired in 2009 was \$1,508.00



A chemical vile used to test for drugs



One (1) ounce of marijuana confiscated during a Criminal Arrest.

DARE OFFICERS



The Berlin Police Department is very active in the community. Six educated, highly trained and motivated police officers, who have undergone a grueling 80 hour training course to learn how to teach our children the skills they need to stay drug and alcohol free. The D.A.R.E. Officers teach more than 800 students in grades 5 and 7 yearly. The curriculum which is taught in 11 classes (one class a week for eleven weeks), emphasizes a no-use message which is life based and focuses on peer pressure resistance training, self-concept improvement, and personal safety decision making skills. A wide range of teaching techniques, including interactive peer leadership and cooperative learning groups are used to encourage student participation and response. The Berlin D.A.R.E. program is evaluated yearly by teachers, administrators, parents and the students themselves and has been approved overwhelmingly.

The Berlin Police Department is also active in the community by being an active member in the Berlin UPBEAT program. This Berlin High School based intervention and prevention program has more than 300 members and is the largest high school club. Berlin UPBEAT also encompasses the middle and elementary levels with students and teachers as members. The Berlin Police Department is part of the high school Police team which includes 16 student members. The Officers and students work together to solve community problems. The Officers and students hold regular meetings, attend off site camping weekends that include team building and life skills training. The Officers donate hundreds of hours to the UPBEAT program yearly.

BERLIN OFFICERS WEAR MANY HATS



BICYCLE PATROL

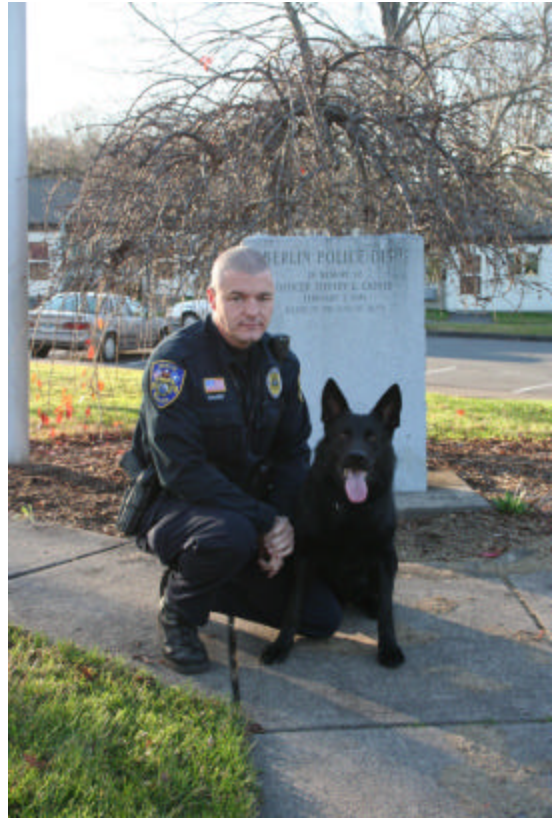


**UNDERWATER
RESPONSE TEAM**



BERLIN POLICE HONOR GUARD

BERLIN OFFICERS WEAR MANY HATS



K-9 OFFICERS



MRT, AED INSTRUCTORS

BERLIN OFFICERS WEAR MANY HATS



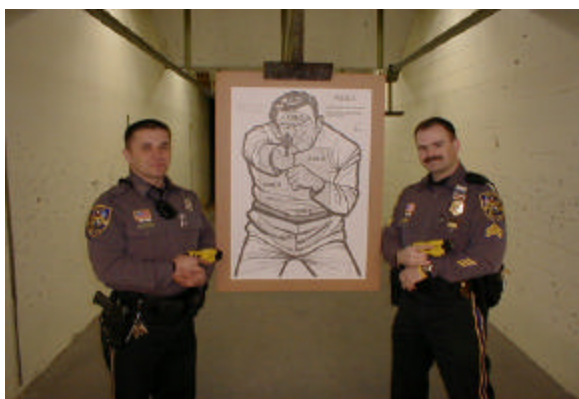
INTOXILIZER INSTRUCTOR



FIREARMS INSTRUCTORS



SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER



TASER INSTRUCTORS



**FIELD TRAINING
OFFICERS**