
T POLICE DEPARTMENT OWN OF BERLIN



ANNUAL - 2012 - REPORT

240 Kensington Road, Berlin CT
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 Paul Eshoo, Vice Chairman Robert Peters, Chairman Joe Annunziata, Ryan Zelek and Brad Parsons





BERLIN POLICE DEPARTMENT 2012 ANNUAL REPORT



I am proud to present the 2012 Annual Report for the Berlin Police Department.

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

This year, we were reminded how dangerous the job of a Police Officer is. Three officers were fired upon during an incident in March of 2012. The officers were able to return fire and wound the assailant. Fortunately, our officers did not receive any physical injuries.

The Town of Newtown is in our thoughts and prayers. Their tragedy requires us to be more vigilant. The police Department is working closely with our public and private schools to enhance school safety.

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.

Chief Paul Fitzgerald

Our Cover



2012 brought three new vehicles to the Berlin Police Department. Due to Ford's discontinuation of the Crown Victoria, two Ford Taurus Interceptors and one Ford Extended Cab F150 pickup were added to the fleet. With quick acceleration, all wheel drive and better handling on the road, these new vehicles will be an asset to the Town.

For the exterior of the cruiser, the Police Department has continued with a traditional look of the black and white police cruisers.



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 led 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 2012-2013 budget was \$6,775,173 - 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 utilizing new technologies, moving into a newer and larger facility and by maintaining and efficiently utilizing staff and resources.



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. (CALEA) since March 1996. It is one of only 17 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.

A team of assessors from the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc. (CALEA) visited Police Headquarters December 1st – 4th, 2012 to examine all aspects of the Berlin Police Department's policies, procedures, management, operations and support services. The Berlin Police Department had to comply with 311 of the applicable mandatory standards and at least 80% of the non-mandatory standards in order to gain accredited status. The department was found to be in compliance with all 311 mandatory standards and 76 of the 86 non-mandatory standards or 88%. The Berlin Police Department has been an internationally accredited agency since 1996 and received its sixth re-accreditation award in March of 2013.

A 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 agency in Connecticut to be so recognized. The department has since been re-accredited in 2013.

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.

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 7, 2012. 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. The Berlin Police Department continues to work closely with school staff on emergency preparedness drills. We have officers in the elementary schools who teach DARE and a School Resource Officer is stationed at the high school.

Citizens' Police Academy

Last year the Berlin Police Department hosted a Citizen's Police Academy for High School aged students. The Academy was another opportunity for the department to positively interact with members of the community. The goal of the Academy was to enhance our relationship with students interested in the profession through education. Students also had the opportunity to interact with the men and women of the department who are entrusted in securing their safety and protecting property. The Academy ran from October 1st through November 19th and ten students graduated the program.

The Health and Safety PSA Video

In 2011, a Health and Safety PSA video was made featuring the Special Needs Registry, Key Keeper and AARP File of Life programs. In 2012 this PSA video won an award at the CASC (CT Association of Senior Center Personnel) Annual Conference and Awards. The award won was the Outreach and Support Award.

GENERAL STATEMENT OF DUTIES

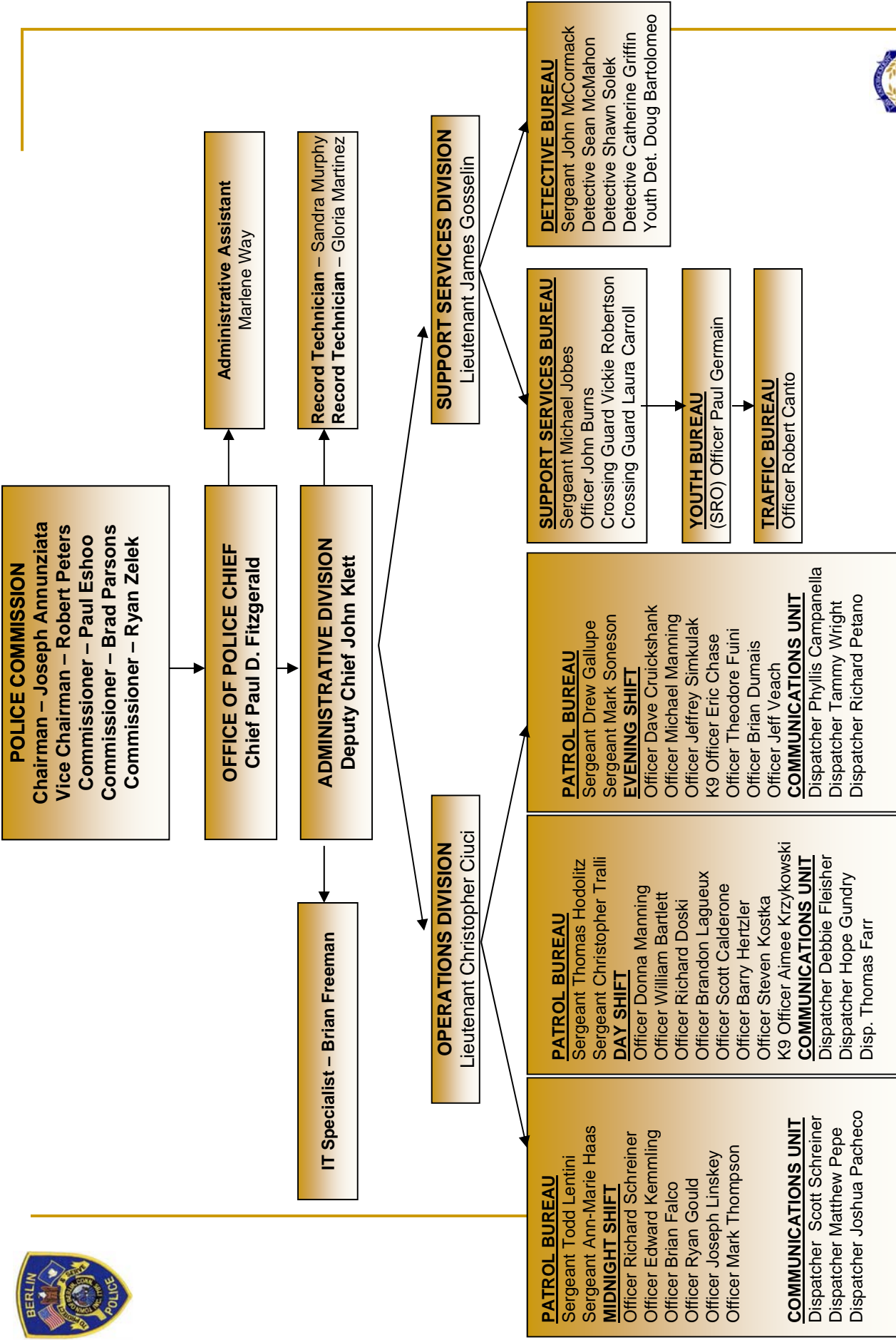


The present day duties of a Berlin Police Officer are varied and complex. The Officer's main function is the preservation of public peace, protection of life and property, prevention of crime, and proper enforcement of local and state laws and ordinances. The Officer must effectively investigate motor 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. There were 1,086 medical emergency calls in 2012.



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

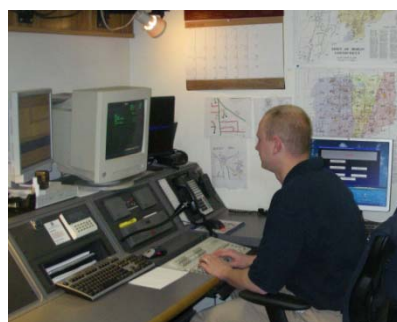
The **Operations Division** consists of the patrol and communications units and other special units as determined necessary by the Chief of Police.

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 investigation 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. 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. Dispatch also monitors and dispatches alarms for police, fire, 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. The School Resource Officer (SRO), is assigned to work directly in the high school working directly with teachers and students.



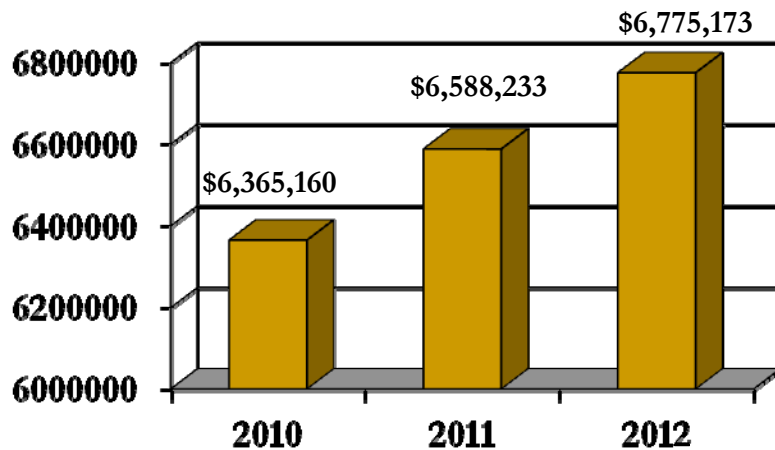
DIVISIONS WITHIN THE POLICE DEPARTMENT

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.



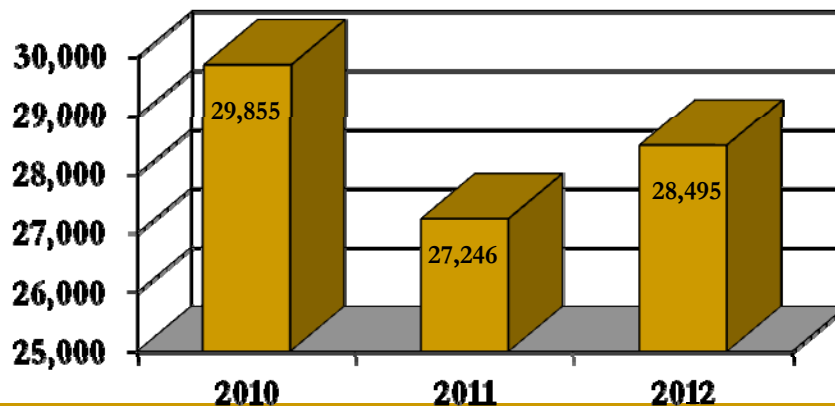
The **Youth Bureau** is responsible for the overall coordination of the department's efforts regarding children and youth, including delinquency, family with services needs, abuse, neglect, and missing persons. The Youth Officer screens all reports dealing with police contact with children, makes/reviews 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.

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.

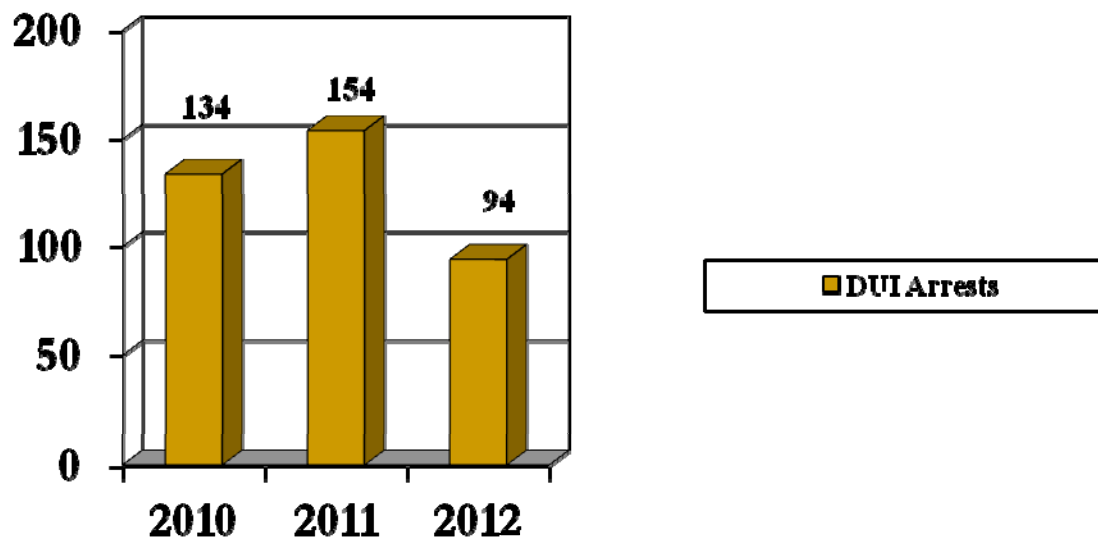
POLICE CALLS FOR SERVICE



2012 POLICE DEPARTMENT GRANTS

<u>Grant Name/Type</u>	<u>Total Amount</u>	<u>Amount Reimbursed</u>
2012 “Click it or Ticket” May WAVE (100%)	\$3,670.12	\$3,670.12
2012 “Click it or Ticket” Dec. WAVE (100%) _	\$2,752.94	\$2,752.94
<hr/>		
Comprehensive DUI 1/01/12 — 5/31/12 75% Federal Funds	\$22,964.09	\$17,223.06
Comprehensive DUI 5/31/12 – 7/29/12 75% Federal Funds	\$8,963.48	\$6,722.61
Comprehensive DUI 8/02/12 – 09/12/12 75% Federal Funds	\$18,930.00	\$14,197.50
Comprehensive DUI 11/18/11—1/01/13 75% Federal Funds	\$9,200.00	\$6,900.13
Totals	\$60,057.57	\$45,043.50
Total cost to Town after reimbursement:		\$15,014.27

DUI ENFORCEMENT



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

Over a three year period between January 1, 2010 through December 31, 2012, there have been an average of seventeen (17) alcohol related crashes per year within the Town of Berlin. Berlin Officers have made three hundred and eighty-two (382) arrests for operating under the influence since January of 2010, and have averaged approximately one hundred and twenty-seven (127) arrests per year. During this same period there have been two (2) alcohol related fatalities.

68% of the alcohol related crashes that occurred in 2010/2011/2012, happened between the core hours of 1900-0400. Twenty-three percent (23%) of the alcohol related crashes occurred on Saturday or Sunday, and fifteen percent (15%) occurred between Friday and Saturday. We focus our DUI enforcement efforts during these periods for that reason.

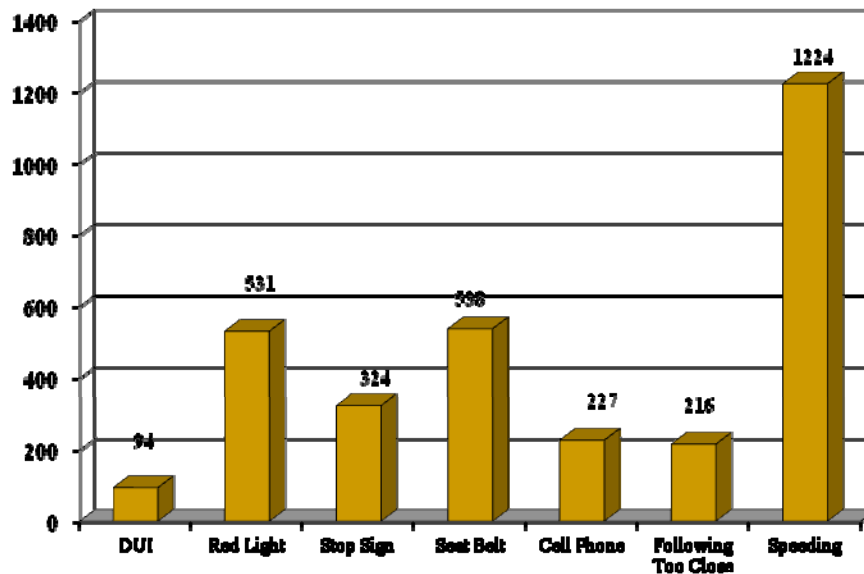
The department places great importance on DUI detection and apprehension. The department participates in all DOT highway safety grant initiatives that provide funding for DUI enforcement.

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. 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 earned the 2012 Jeffery G. Casner award. Officer Cruickshank effected 21 DUI arrests. This represents 22% of the DUI arrests for the Berlin Police Department in 2012.

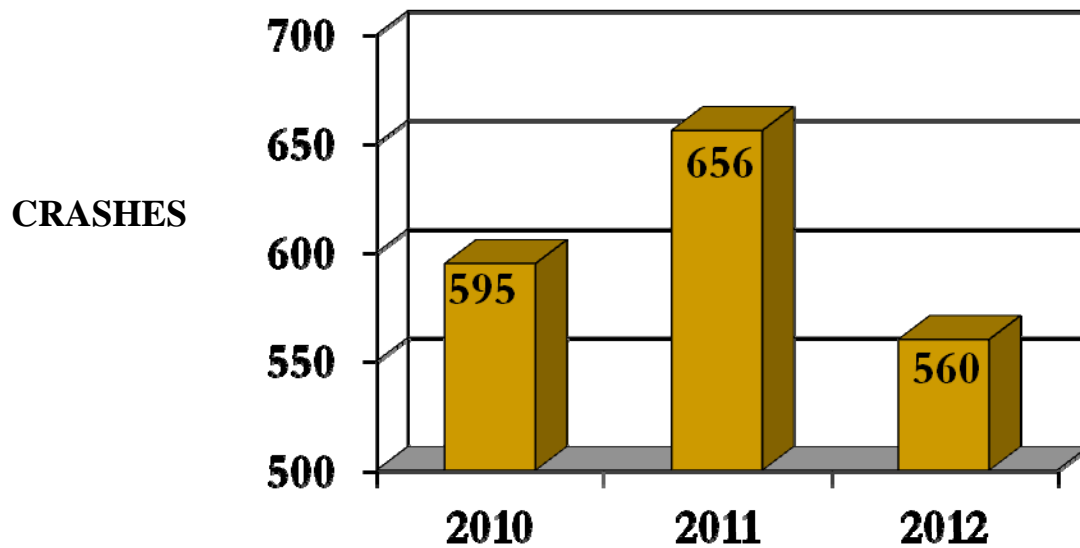
2012 MOTOR VEHICLE ENFORCEMENT



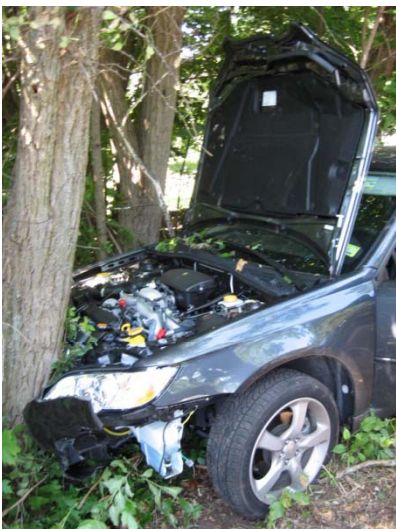
The department regularly participates in the Department of Transportation, Division of Highway Safety's seatbelt "WAVE" program. This is an enforcement program specifically targeting seatbelt law compliance. The department uses seatbelt compliance checkpoints to enforce the mandatory seatbelt use statute. 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 2012, Berlin Officers issued 5,685 citations (summons, infractions, written warnings) to motorists. Some of the major violations included; Ninety-four (94) DUI arrests. Eighty-one (81) arrests were a result of self-initiated DUI patrol, thirteen (13) arrests resulted from motor vehicle accident investigations, 531 red light violations, 324 stop sign violations, 538 seatbelt violations, 227 cell phone violations, 216 Following Too Closely and 1,224 speeding citations were also issued.

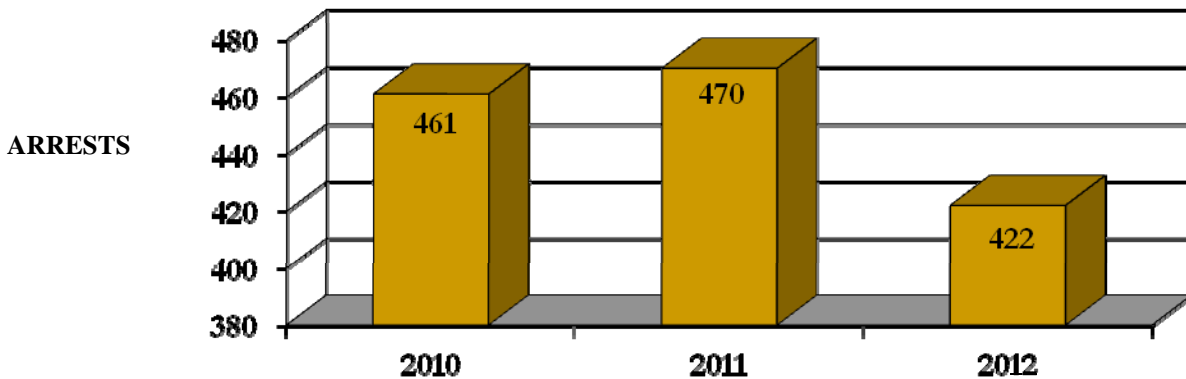
MOTOR VEHICLE CRASHES



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.

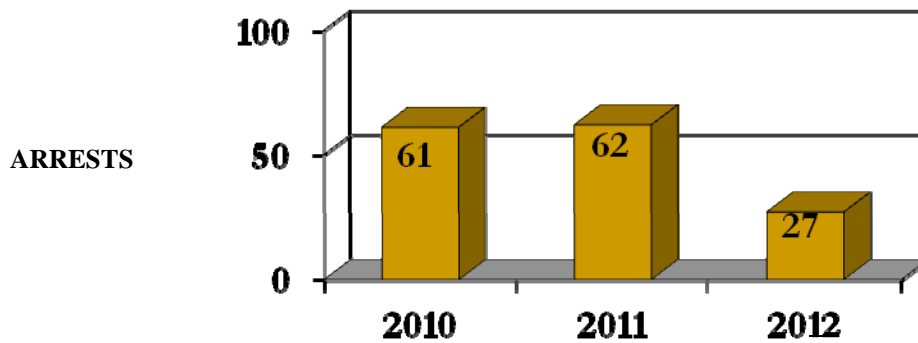


ADULT CRIMINAL ARRESTS (2010 – 2012)



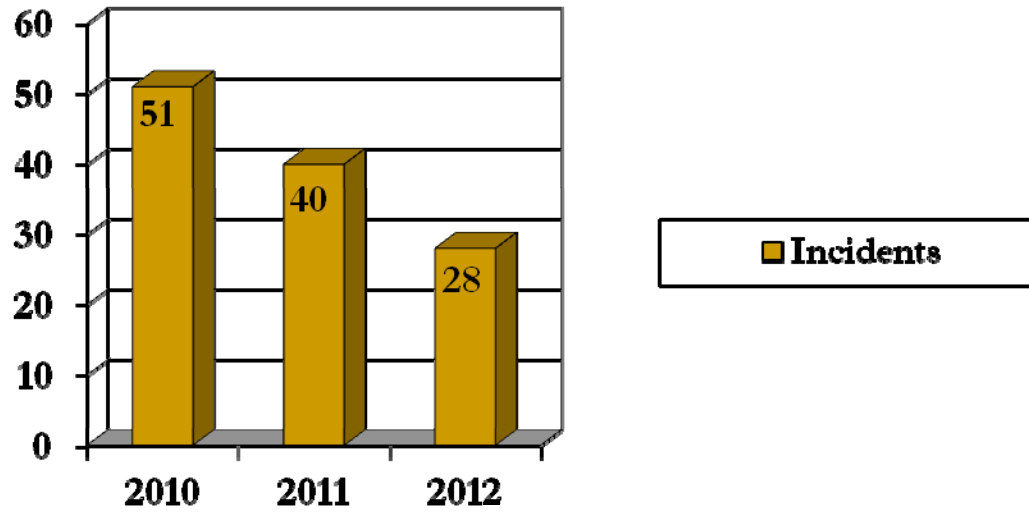
Criminal arrests are those arrests made for criminal violations of Connecticut General Statutes. These Statutes include Title 53 (Crimes), Title 53a (Penal Code), Title 54 (Criminal Procedure), Title 30 (Liquor Control), and Title 21a (Dependency-Producing Drugs). In Connecticut, adult arrests are those made of people 18 years of age or older.

JUVENILE CRIMINAL ARRESTS (2010 – 2012)



In Connecticut, juveniles are those persons who have not reached their 18th 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 2012 was \$6,264.00



Marijuana and cash seized by Berlin Police Dept.



Marijuana plants seized by Berlin Police Dept.

2012 – IN THE NEWS

Berlin Police Return Fire



On Thursday, March 8th, the Berlin Police Department responded to a domestic violence call. Sergeant Mark Soneson, Officer Scott Calderone and Officer Michael Silverio responded to the disturbance and met the caller outside the house. They were informed of the domestic dispute and that one party was still inside the house. Shortly after entering the house, the suspect shot at the officers. Sgt. Soneson returned fire and shot the suspect four times. The subject survived and was later arrested for three counts criminal attempt to commit murder.

Berlin Police Recognize Their Own



The Berlin Police Department held its first annual department awards ceremony on Wednesday May 16, 2012.

The ceremony was conducted to recognize officers from the Berlin Police Department who have gone above and beyond the normal call of duty over the past year.

Chief's Challenge



The annual “Law Enforcement Summit” of the Connecticut Department of Transportation’s Highway Safety Division was held at Central Connecticut State University (“CCSU”) on Thursday, October 25, 2011. At this summit, the Highway Safety Division announces the winners of the 2011 “Chief’s Challenge”. The participants in this challenge are evaluated on their traffic safety programs by a panel of national judges convened under the International Chief’s of Police Association. The Berlin Police Department received two awards.

- Second place for best overall Traffic Enforcement Program in Municipal Category Three
- Best overall Speed Enforcement Program in the State.

This is the fourth time that the Berlin Police Department has won for best overall speed enforcement; the others were in 200, 2007 and 2010.

For winning the speed enforcement award, the department won a Laser Technology Inc. “True Speed S” hand held laser speed measuring device worth approximately \$1,295.00.

Traffic Officer Robert Canto is responsible for overseeing traffic safety programs and for submitting the application package to DOT for review.

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 a partner 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 each year.

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



ATV UNIT

BERLIN OFFICERS WEAR MANY HATS



TASER INSTRUCTORS



**FIELD TRAINING
OFFICERS**



**SCHOOL RESOURCE
OFFICER**