

# **T** Police Department **TOWN OF BERLIN**



## **Berlin Police Department's Community Relations Team**

# **2021 Annual Report**

240 Kensington Road, Berlin CT  
[www.berlinpd.org](http://www.berlinpd.org)

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# BERLIN POLICE DEPARTMENT MISSION STATEMENT



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

To accomplish the mission, 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 Vice Chairman Steve Wilson, Chairman Paul Eshoo, Commissioner Melissa Urrunaga, Commissioner Ryan Zelek and Commissioner Dave Rogan.







## BERLIN POLICE DEPARTMENT 2021 ANNUAL REPORT

The 2021 Annual Report introduces Officers Casey Skinner and Michael Patterson to the Town of Berlin. We also welcomed Dispatcher Jordan Temple and our new Chief, Matthew McNally IV. We had two Sergeants and the Chief of Police retire.

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”*.



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.

Officers of the Berlin Police Department are committed to making Berlin a safe community.

Chief Matthew J. McNally IV

# Our Cover



## **Lt. Shawn Solek, Patrol Division Commander**

“Developing close personal relationships with community members and effectively sharing information has long been a challenge for Law Enforcement. In this digital age, we have had to find new ways to connect and share information in real time with the community that we are tasked with protecting. Since the formation of our Community Relations Team I have seen great success that has been made by our designated officers to cultivate closer relationships with many of the citizens that live in and work in the very neighborhoods that they patrol on a daily basis. These connections have been made both in person and through the use of various social media platforms. For the first time, these officers established official Facebook pages which they have used to communicate with Neighborhood Watch Groups and to share information, sometimes instantaneously as crimes happen. We have also expanded our use of the Department’s Facebook and Instagram pages which are managed by Ofc. Cathy Griffin and Ofc. Aimee Krzykowski, they have increased our public reach and made great progress to better communicate with the community.”



## **Ofc. Krzykowski District 2**

“As a proud member of the Community Relations Team, I enjoy working closely with our residents to better address their concerns, neighborhood specific needs and to build positive relationships with each and every citizen of Berlin.”

# Our Cover



## **Ofc. Brandon Lagueux Coordinator/ District 2**

“Following the creation of the Community Relations Team, we have been busy establishing Neighborhood Watches and assisting with various community events such as Stuff a Cruiser, Trunk or Treat, and Open Houses. We have recently established an Emergency Services Club at Berlin High School where we get to introduce all aspects of state and local emergency services to interested high school students.”



## **Ofc. Kevin Chaffee District 3**

“Since the establishment of the Community Relations Team, there has been a stronger connection developing between BPD and the overall community. There have been many instances where residents have assisted the police with investigation by providing witness accounts or security video from their neighborhoods. The relationships that I have developed with many residents has made it much easier to communicate and share important information. The community has responded favorably to our Community Relations Team and residents appear eager to assist the BPD in any way they can to keep our community safe.”

# Our Cover



## **Ofc. Cathy Griffin**

“As a lifelong Berlin resident, being a part of the Community Relations Team feels as comfortable as visiting friends. From visiting schools to establishing Coffee With a Cop and managing the department social media pages, we are always looking for new ways to connect with residents of all ages. We aim to expose the human side of the badge and bridge the gap that sometimes separates police from the public.”



## **Ofc. Dylan Breen District 1**

“I feel my efforts as a Community Relations Officer, and all of our efforts as both a team and a department overall, have been integral in demonstrating our commitment to our communities and the Town of Berlin as a whole. I know that Officers Krzykowski, Lagueux, Chaffee and I have been able to show that although the Town of Berlin has changed a lot over the years, that we as a department will always be there for our community and that we remain worthy of the title of “Berlin’s Finest”. I take great pride in being out in our community and showing the people of Berlin that we care as a department and that we’re not just here to enforce the law, but that we are a resource which is always available to anyone in need.”





## **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-two (42) full time officers, nine (9) civilian dispatchers, one (1) administrative assistant to the Chief, two (2) records clerks, one (1) technical support administrator and three (3) crossing guards.

The Police Department has been led by eight (8) Police Chiefs; Theodore Strand (1956-1971), Robert Skinner (1971-1978), Phillip Buchanan (1978-1980), William Scalise (1980-1988), Gerald Charamut (1988-2003), Paul Fitzgerald (2003 – 2017), John Klett (2017 – 2021) and Matthew J. McNally who was appointed in 2021.

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 is looking to the future to better serve the Berlin community by utilizing new technologies, 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 was initially accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc. (CALEA) in March 1996. We are one of 25 Connecticut Law Enforcement Agencies to be awarded. The Police Officer Standards and Training Council (P.O.S.T.) first 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 October 21-24, 2019 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 391 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 100% of all 328 mandatory standards and 79 of the 87 non-mandatory standards or 91%. The Berlin Police Department has been an internationally accredited agency since 1996 and received its seventh re-accreditation award in March of 2020.

A separate and distinct Connecticut State Accreditation Program is administered by the Police Officer Standards and Training Council. 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 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 recognized. The department was re-accredited in May of 2020.

# **COMMUNITY RELATIONS REVIEW**

## **Neighborhood Watch**

The Town of Berlin has sixteen (16) neighborhood watch programs. The Berlin Police is currently publicizing our neighborhood watch program and created a community relations team to help assist citizens in starting and maintaining a neighborhood watch which is being coordinated by Officer Brandon Lagueux.

## **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. Officer Mark DePinto gathers the local group of runners and they in turn raise money to be donated to Special Olympics. Officer Mark DePinto also works as the 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](http://www.berlinpd.org). Look for the “In this Department” Section and click on complaints or customer survey on the website.

## **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 stationed at the high school.

## **Safe Kids Wear Lids**

In an ongoing effort to promote bicycle safety amongst the youth of Berlin, members of the Berlin Police Department participated in the 2021 “Safe Kids-Wear Lids” campaign. The program is designed to reward youths observed riding their bicycles while wearing helmets with a coupon good for a free ice cream redeemable at Pralines Ice Cream on Farmington Avenue. At the end of the season, one winner is picked to win a prize.

# 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 EMR (Emergency Medical Responder) 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 2,082 medical emergency calls in 2021.



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.





**POLICE COMMISSION**  
Chairman – Paul Eshoo  
Vice Chairman – Steve Wilson  
Commissioner – Melissa Urrunaga  
Commissioner – Dave Rogan  
Commissioner – Ryan Zelek

**OFFICE OF POLICE CHIEF**  
Chief Matthew J. McNally IV

**ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISION**  
Deputy Chief Chris Ciuci

**OPERATIONS DIVISION**  
Lieutenant Shawn Solek

**SUPPORT SERVICES DIVISION**  
Lieutenant Drew Gallupe

**INVESTIGATIONS DIVISION**  
Lieutenant Mike Jobes

**PATROL BUREAU**  
Sergeant Achilles Rethis  
Sergeant Scott Schreiner

**MIDNIGHT SHIFT**  
Officer Maegan Musanti  
Officer Chris Lajole  
Officer Dylan Breen  
Officer Jeffrey Veach  
Officer Marco Correa  
Officer Drew O'Leary

**COMMUNICATIONS UNIT**  
Dispatcher Matthew Pepe  
Dispatcher Joshua Pacheco  
Dispatcher Jordan Temple

**PATROL BUREAU**  
Sergeant Ryan Gould  
Sergeant Tyler Cyr

**DAY SHIFT**  
Officer Sean O'Connor  
Officer Peggy Kennedy  
Officer Dan Ithier  
Officer Dave Rohon  
Officer Mark Fowler  
K9 Officer Aimee Krzykowski  
Officer Kevin Chaffee

**COMMUNICATIONS UNIT**  
Dispatcher Debbie Fleisher  
Dispatcher Hope Gundry  
Disp. Thomas Farr

**PATROL BUREAU**  
Sergeant John Flynn  
Sergeant Robert Martin

**EVENING SHIFT**  
Officer Michael Manning  
Officer Brendan Clark  
Officer Jeffrey Dubuc  
K9 Officer Bandon Lagueux  
Officer Wade Griffith  
Officer Isabella Delgado  
Officer Rich Doski

**COMMUNICATIONS UNIT**  
Dispatcher Phyllis Campanella  
Dispatcher Brett Chockey  
Dispatcher Richard Petano

**SUPPORT SERVICES BUREAU**  
Sergeant Ann-Marie Haas  
Officer Cathy Griffin  
Recruit Joseph Chatlas  
FTO Casey Skinner  
FTO Michael Patterson  
Crossing Guard Sally Huggins  
Crossing Guard Laura Karoll  
Crossing Guard Danielle Corsetti

**YOUTH BUREAU**  
(SRO) Officer Mark DePinto

**TRAFFIC BUREAU**  
Officer Tom Bobok

**DETECTIVE BUREAU**  
Detective Sean McMahon  
Detective Colin Gaffey  
Detective Brett Kelly  
Youth Det. Ted Fuini



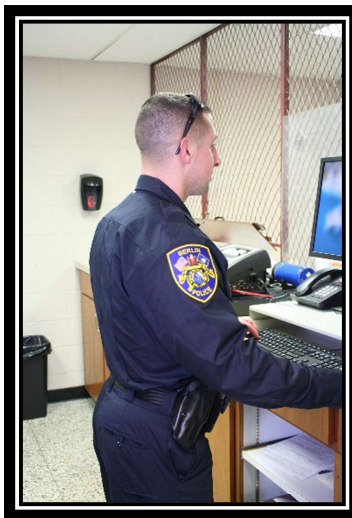
# DIVISIONS WITHIN THE POLICE DEPARTMENT

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 bureau and other special units as determined necessary by the Chief of Police.

The Patrol Bureau 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 Bureau 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. The Patrol Bureau is 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

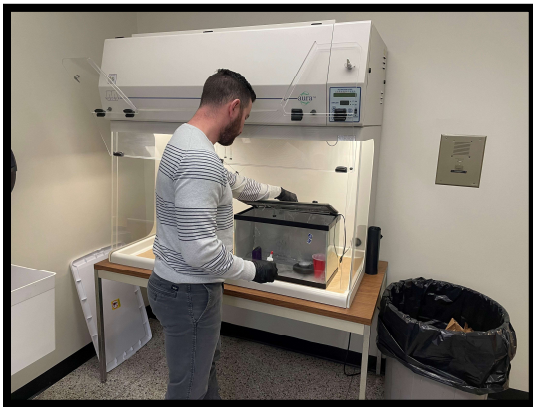
The Communications Unit is staffed by Civilian Dispatchers. Overall supervision is exercised by the Operations Division Commander. Patrol Unit Supervisors directly supervise the Communications Unit. The Communications Unit's responsibilities include; the reception, analysis, and dispatching of calls 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, SROs, 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, training, 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 in the high school directly with teachers and students.

# DIVISIONS WITHIN THE POLICE DEPARTMENT

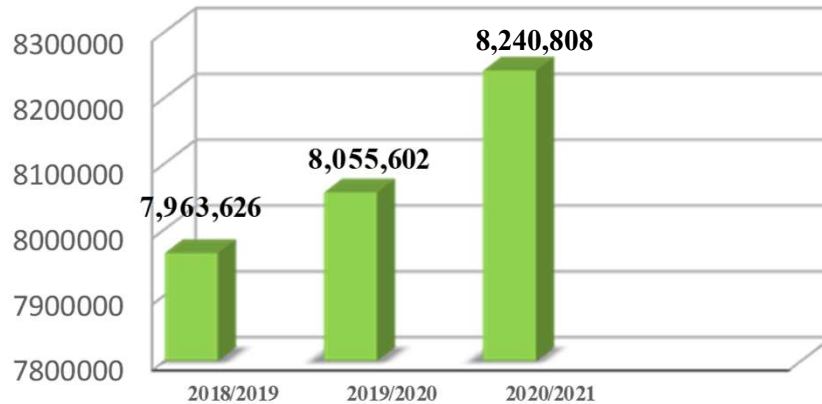
The Investigations Division operates and maintains the evidence lab. It also maintains all department photographs and the departments' fingerprint file. The Investigations Division investigates and assists other areas of the department in their investigations of felonies and all crimes involving narcotics,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



The Youth Detective 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 eighteen years of age), and makes/reviews decisions to divert juveniles from the juvenile justice system.

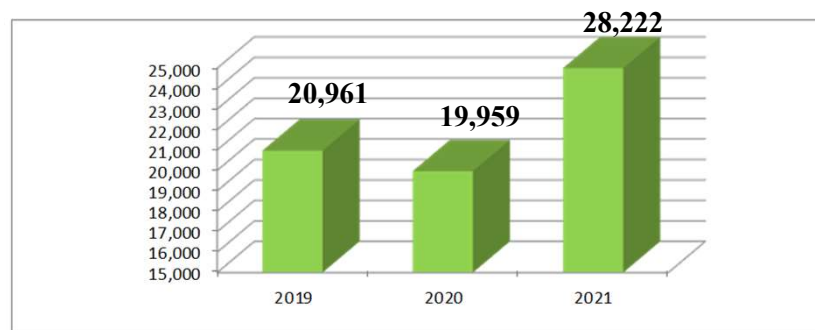


## POLICE BUDGET



The Town of Berlin is in the geographical center of the State of Connecticut. The town is surrounded by seven other cities. The Berlin Police Department has a jurisdiction area of 26.5 miles. The population of Berlin is estimated to be 20,499 people. Berlin has 2,781 children attending public schools. Berlin has one high school, one middle school and three elementary schools. There is one private school in town. There are 12 churches and one mosque within town limits. There are 400 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. 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.

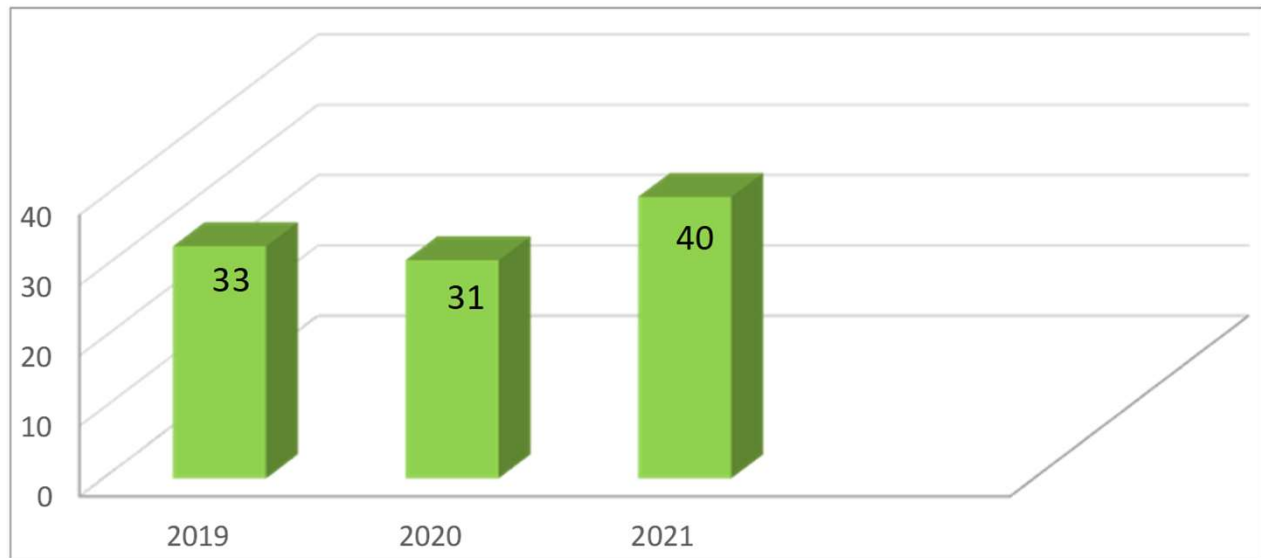
## POLICE CALLS FOR SERVICE



## 2021 POLICE DEPARTMENT GRANTS

<u>Grant Name/Type</u>	<u>Total Amount</u>	<u>Amount Reimbursed</u>
<b>2021 “Click it or Ticket”</b>		
May - November 100% Federal Funds	\$3,113.86	\$3,113.86
<b>Comprehensive DUI</b>		
July - September 100% Federal Funds	\$3,823.23	\$3,823.23
<b>Distracted Driving High Visibility Enforcement Grant</b>		
04/01/21 – 04/30/21 100% Federal Funds	\$5,965.28	\$5,965.28
<b>Distracted Driving High Visibility Enforcement Grant</b>		
10/05/21 – 10/31/21 100% Federal Funds	\$2,145.48	\$2,145.48
<b>Total Reimbursement</b>		<b>\$15,047.85</b>

# 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 from January 1, 2019 through December 31, 2021 there has been a total of 104 DUI arrests. In this three-year period, there was an average of thirty-five (35) DUI arrests per year. Out of the 104 DUI arrests, forty-one (41) arrests stemmed from an accident investigation. The remaining sixty-three (63) arrests were a result of citizen complaints or self-initiated motor vehicle stops.

A majority of the alcohol related crashes that occurred in 2019/2020/2021 were between the hours of 6PM to 10PM. The overwhelming majority of the alcohol related crashes (26%) occurred on Sunday, followed by Tuesday with (19%) and Saturday and Wednesday each with (14%). During the same period, there was one alcohol related crash and two (2) alcohol related fatalities.

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.

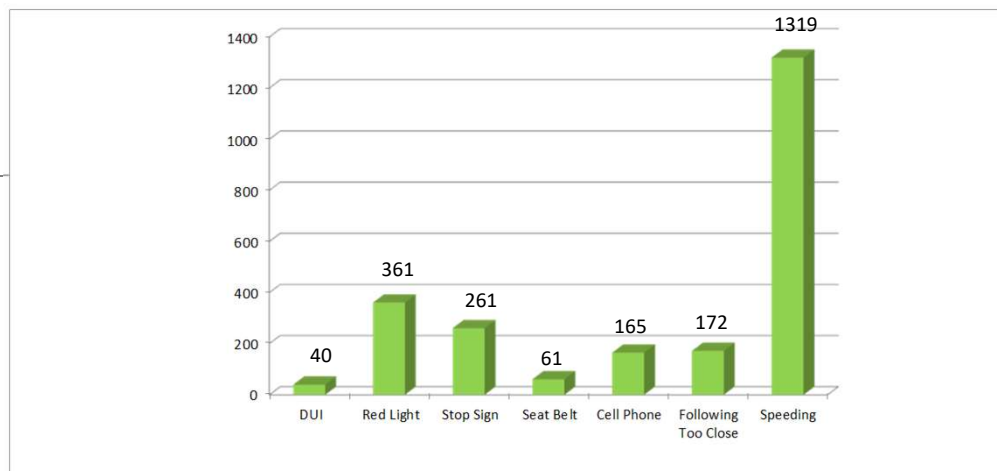
The **Jeffery G. Casner Award** is given annually during Law Enforcement Week in May, to those officers who are at the forefront of the department in effecting “Driving Under the Influence” arrests. Previously, this award was presented every year on February 2nd, which is the anniversary date that Officer Jeffery G. Casner made the ultimate sacrifice for the Town of Berlin. The award is now given in May per the request of the family.



Officer Maegan Musanti has earned the 2021 Jeffery G. Casner Award. Officer Musanti executed 5 DUI arrests, two of which were self initiated. This is the first year that Officer Musanti has received the Casner Award.



## 2021 MOTOR VEHICLE ENFORCEMENT



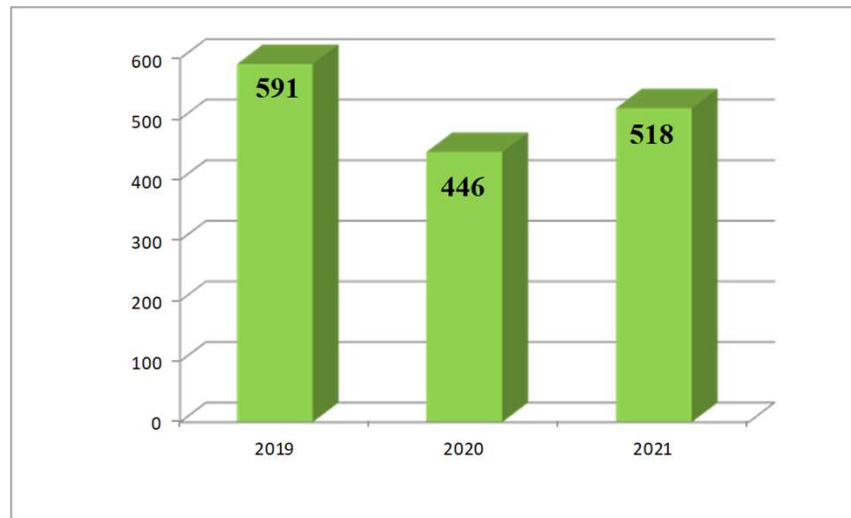
The department regularly participates in the Department of Transportation, Division of Highway Safety's seatbelt "WAVE" program. This is an enforcement program specifically targeting seatbelt law compliance. The department uses seatbelt compliance checkpoints to enforce the mandatory seatbelt use statute. 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 2021, Berlin Officers issued 3,483 citations (summonses, Infractions, & Written Warnings) to motorists. Some of the major violations included 40 DUI arrests, 361 Red Light violations, 261 Stop Sign violations, 61 Seat Belt violations, 165 Cell Phone violations, 172 Following too Close, and 1,319 Speed/Traveling too Fast offenses.

The DUI arrests were the result of self-initiated DUI Patrols, spot checks, and as a result of motor vehicle crash investigations.

# MOTOR VEHICLE CRASHES

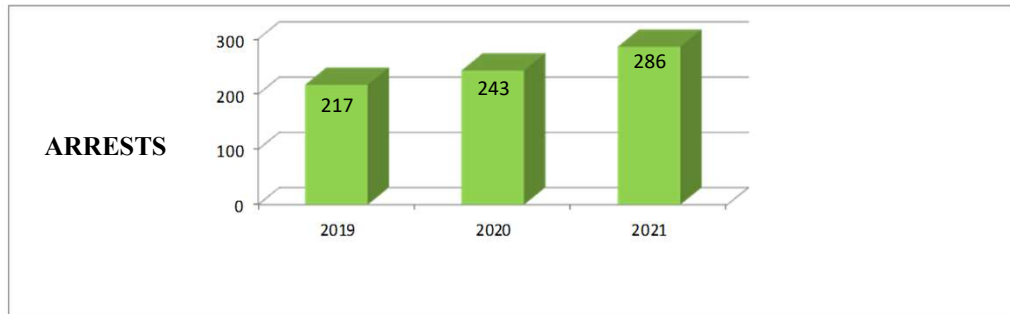
## CRASHES



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.

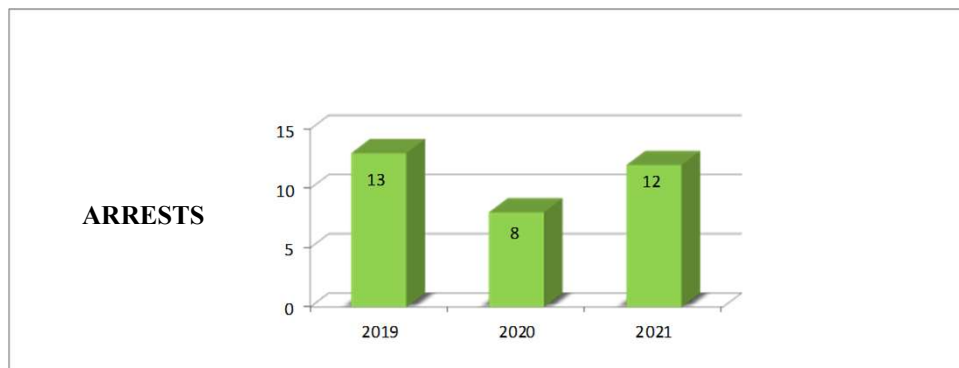


## ADULT CRIMINAL ARRESTS (2019 – 2021)



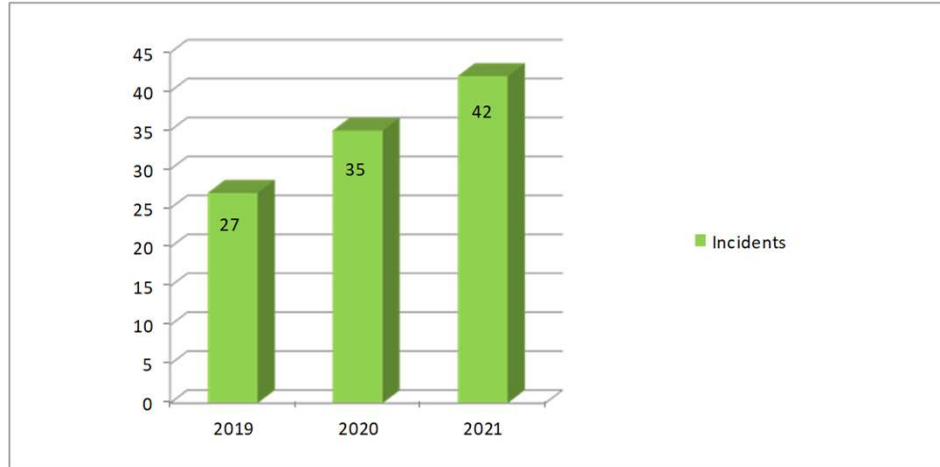
Criminal arrests are those arrests made for criminal violations of Connecticut General Statutes. These Statutes include Title 53 (Crimes), Title 53a (Penal Code), Title 54 (Criminal Procedure), Title 30 (Liquor Control), and Title 21a (Dependency-Producing Drugs). In Connecticut, adult arrests are those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

## JUVENILE CRIMINAL ARRESTS (2019 – 2021)



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 2021 was \$0



Narcotics investigations often result from information provided by the community. Complex investigations are conducted with the assistance of the Statewide Narcotics Task Force.



## 2021 – In The News



# BEST PROGRAM

## EMPLOYEE OF THE QUARTER

In 2021 the BEST Program was developed. The BEST program began in January of 2021. It is an employee recognition program principally based on a peer submission process. This new program was designed to increase the amount of recognition our employees receive for outstanding work and performance, to reward employees who demonstrate leadership, and to highlight the “BEST” our department has to offer. The first four officers to receive “Employee of the Quarter” were Officer Rohon, Detective McMahon, A/Detective Kelly and Dispatcher Farr.

The Berlin Police Department looks forward to another year of recognizing the accomplishments of everyone in the department and to highlight the “BEST” each quarter.



### BEST PROGRAM NEW FOR 2021

In 2016 KRC Research conducted an online survey of 1000 adults (18 or older) and found that 70% of people wished they received more recognition.

In the same survey 83% said they could do more to recognize others.

Recognition is the process of giving appreciation. It's fair to say that we all appreciate the exceptional work performed by our co-workers. If we do not communicate our appreciation through our words or actions we are failing to recognize their important contributions. This is where we probably fall short and this is what this program will attempt to address.

### **PROGRAM GOALS**



To increase the recognition our employees receive for their outstanding work and accomplishments.



To reward employees who demonstrate leadership.



To highlight the “BEST” our department has to offer.

## 2021 – In The News



In 2021 Eagle Scout, John Newman installed a 220 sq. ft. of cobblestone pavers in the grassy area abutting the parking lot behind the police station. He then had a maple tree planted to provide shade.

John worked closely with Officer Krzykowski to come up with the plans and the department is very happy with the results. Thank you for a job well done!



## 2021 – In The News



In 2021, The Berlin Police Department participated in the annual Special Olympics Torch Run. This is an annual event that we look forward to every year. Officer Mark DePinto has taken the lead to organize this event and continues to make it a success for our department and most of all Special Olympics.

# BEST Program – Employee of the Year



## BEST PROGRAM

### EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR 2021

#### DETECTIVE BRETT KELLY

We are proud to announce the selection of Detective Brett Kelly as our "Employee of the Year," for 2021. Detective Kelly has been with the Berlin Police Department for five years and was assigned to the Investigations Division in May of 2020. He is a member of our peer support team, a DARE instructor, field training officer (FTO), and actively participates with our ATV Squad and the Mid State Accident Reconstruction Squad (MSARS). Last year Detective Kelly was recognized for his involvement in a number of cases, many outlined below:



Detective Kelly investigated a fugitive from justice case that originated from the State of Pennsylvania. After a lengthy investigation, Ernest Cohens, age 53, of 3413 Waterpark Drive, Sacramento, CA was arrested Wednesday July 7th on the strength of an extraditable warrant out of Pennsylvania. Cohens was on probation in Pennsylvania following convictions for homicide by vehicle and display of obscene/sexual materials.


Detective Kelly was assigned a stolen vehicle investigation and separate larceny at a business that appeared to be related. Through interviews, DNA evidence, and video surveillance, Detective Kelly was able to connect both crimes and secure warrants for two individuals for violation of Connecticut General Statute § 53a-124 Larceny 3rd Degree and §53a-109 Criminal Trespass. The suspects in both cases were arrested.

Detective Kelly was selected to attend a weeklong Leadership Academy sponsored by the Capitol Region Chiefs of Police Association. The course was primarily attended by executive & command level personnel, but was open to all ranks. Detective Kelly was a deserving participant because leadership is not limited to specific ranks or a position. Detective Kelly has demonstrated leadership characteristics important to our mission including dedication, compassion, professionalism, sound judgement and decision making, and engaging in positive interactions with crime victims & members of our community.

1 of 2



# BEST Program – Employee of the Year



## BEST PROGRAM

### EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR 2021

#### DETECTIVE BRETT KELLY

In November 2021 Detective Kelly was instrumental in planning and participating in the Berlin Police Association's flag football game that was comprised of BPD employees and family members. His coordination of this event was an example of the family atmosphere that is fostered and enjoyed by all of our employees. Brett's efforts created lasting memories for our staff and a bunch of sore bodies.

As an on-call investigator Detective Kelly routinely responded on short notice to after-hour calls for service related to criminal investigations, fatal crash investigations, and patrol shortages. Brett is extremely dependable and worked many covert surveillance details in 2021.

Detective Kelly has taken on more responsibility with the Mid State Accident Reconstruction Squad (MSARS). Due to staffing shortages on the squad, Brett was assigned the primary investigator for a fatal motor vehicle crash. The squad supervisors and team members were appreciative of his dedication and assistance.

Detective Kelly has continued to hone his investigative skills with evidence collection at crime scenes. Two cases of significance stand out to support this. While processing a recovered stolen motor vehicle, Detective Kelly seized tape that had been added to the exterior. The tape was fumed and a fingerprint was located and received a CODIS match linked to a possible suspect. In a separate case Detective Kelly was called out after hours for an unlawful discharge of firearm in a residential neighborhood. Shell casings seized at the scene and sent to the state laboratory for testing were entered into the National Integrated Ballistic Information Network (NIBIN). That submission was linked to another unlawful discharge incident in a neighboring city.

Throughout the year Detective Kelly's distinguished service has reflected positively on the entire Berlin Police Department. We are appreciative of the dedication, professionalism, and tenacity that Brett displayed and we are honored to choose him as our BEST program's first employee of the year!

2 of 2



## BEST Program – Rookie of the Year



# BEST PROGRAM

## ROOKIE OF THE YEAR 2021

### OFFICER MAEGAN MUSANTI

We are proud to announce that Officer Maegan Musanti has been selected as our “Rookie of the Year,” for 2021. Officer Musanti has been with the police department since June of 2021. She graduated from the Police academy in December of 2020 with a final grade of 92.85, which was 12/41 in her class. Officer Musanti is a member of our ATV unit and was recognized by her peers for the hard work she displayed throughout 2021. Some notable highlights are described below:



Immediately upon completing her field training Officer Musanti seamlessly integrated with her shift and excelled in her duties as a patrol officer. She takes pride in her job and is always looking for ways to improve and expand her role within the department. Officer Musanti does a great job building rapport with citizens, engaging the community, and fostering positive relationships with the public and coworkers alike. Officer Musanti is consistently recognized by her peers and supervisors for her thoroughness, attention to detail, and willingness to go the extra mile. In 2021 Officer Musanti was one of the most productive officers in the Patrol Division. Officer Musanti had the most self-initiated DUI arrests, was the 3rd highest among patrol officers for # of arrests, # of total cases investigated, total self-initiated activity, and total # of motor vehicle stops.

In March Officer Musanti noticed a man who was sleeping /unconscious at the wheel of his vehicle after she finished her shift and was driving home. She contacted HQ and as a result of her call, evening shift officers were able to investigate and ultimately arrest the operator for DUI and interfering with police. Maegan's awareness resulted in the removal of an impaired driver off of our streets and prevented potential harm to themselves or others. It was a great example of being vigilant both on and off-duty.

In July Officer Musanti was dispatched to a domestic assault at a motel on the Berlin turnpike. During the investigation the suspect attempted to flee out of a rear window. Officer Musanti ran to the rear of the building and was able to apprehend him. During the struggle Officer Musanti maintained control until additional officers arrived to assist. The offender was subsequently charged violation of a protective order, unlawful restraint, and assault on a public safety officer. Maegan's actions during this case provided the victim with relief from the abuse, safety, and protection.

# DARE OFFICERS



The Berlin Police Department is very active in the community. Six educated, highly trained and motivated police officers 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 "Heroes House" 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**

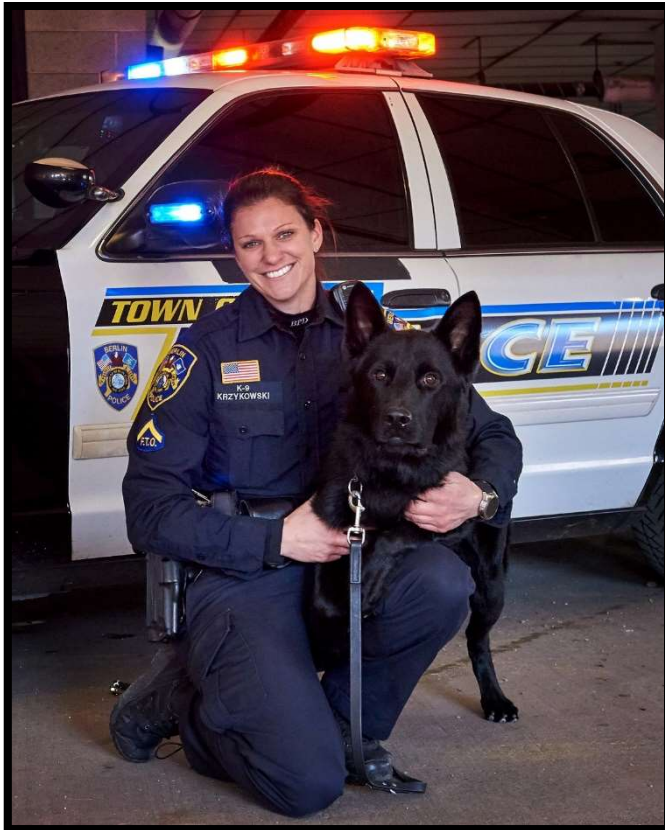


**UNDERWATER  
RESPONSE TEAM**



**BERLIN POLICE HONOR GUARD**

# BERLIN OFFICERS WEAR MANY HATS



## K-9 OFFICERS



# **BERLIN OFFICERS WEAR MANY HATS**



**INTOXILIZER INSTRUCTOR**



**FIREARMS INSTRUCTORS**



**ATV UNIT**



# BERLIN OFFICERS WEAR MANY HATS



**TASER INSTRUCTORS**



**FIELD TRAINING  
OFFICERS**

FTO Officers O'Connor, Fuini,  
Chaffee and Breen



SRO Mark DePinto

**SCHOOL RESOURCE  
OFFICER  
Berlin High School**