



BETHLEHEM TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT
MONTHLY REPORT
Chief Gregory J. Gottschall
April 2022

MANPOWER REPORT:

- Corporal Rob Stametz took early retirement after 18 years of dedicated service serving the citizens and community.
- Investigator Tony Stevens took early retirement after 20 years of dedicated service serving the citizens and community.
- New police hires Jacob Farrell and Thomas Kohler are reported to be doing well with their police academy training. Kohler and Farrell will graduate from the police academy June 10, 2022.
- New police hire Ryan Bevan, who was a police officer in Dover, Delaware for the past two years, started with the department on April 4. Bevan is currently studying to take a state assessment exam scheduled for May 19. Passing the state assessment testing will allow him to receive credit for his Delaware State Police Academy training and ultimately receive his Pennsylvania police certification.
- New police hire Amanda Stonehouse, originally from the township, is wrapping up her job and affairs in Florida. She will meet with me on Monday May 16 to complete her new employee hiring packet. She is scheduled to take her medical exam on Tuesday May 17 & her psych evaluation on May 18, both conditional requirements need to finalize her appointment. Amanda will attend the next police academy session which starts July 5th.
- New Officer Jonas Xiong did very well during his field training and he was released to active patrol duties.
- I appointed Officer Gretchen Kraemer to the position of Investigator within the Criminal Investigation Unit. The retirement of Investigator Tony Stevens created an opening in the unit. Investigator Kraemer will primarily handle investigations involving crimes against children, the elderly and sex crimes. Investigator Kraemer has also agreed to organize this year's National Night Out event which is scheduled for Tuesday, August 02.

TRAINING:

- All Officers completed annual Tactical Shooting training at the Palmer Township Police outdoor shooting range. This annual training incorporates both duty handgun and patrol rifle training drills. Officer shoot several courses of live fire drills involving shooting from cover & concealment, awkward shooting positions, shooting & moving drills, shooting from a police vehicle, etc.
- All officers completed annual Defensive Control Tactics training and state required Mandatory In-Service Training (MIST). MIST is required to maintain state law enforcement certification. This year's mandatory in-service training included Use of Force, Understanding Bias, and Legal Updates (updates to PA Vehicle Code laws, PA Crimes Code laws, Rules of Criminal Procedure and new applicable State and Federal Case law.
- Cpl. Jeremy Anderson and Police Clerk Jennifer Schwartz attended a week-long CODY Connect training conference in Hershey, PA. CODY is the computer software records management system (RMS) that we use for all our police report writing, arrests & criminal complaints and evidence and property management. CODY RMS is used by many law enforcement agencies throughout the Commonwealth and is one of only a few RMS vendors approved by the Pennsylvania State Police, FBI and Department of Justice for management & security of criminal justice information.

MAJOR ARRESTS & INVESTIGATIONS:

- Two residential burglaries are being investigated. One occurred at a residence under construction and involved the theft of contractor tools; the other burglary involved the theft of firearms.
- A felony arrest of a UPS employee was made after he stole ten cell phones valued at \$12,000.00 from the UPS shipping facility on Highland Avenue.
- A felony arrest was made of a Star Auto Mall customer who defrauded the business with false financial documents to purchase and take false ownership of a \$20,000.00 automobile from the business.
- A felony arrest was made of a drug dealer at a local hotel who was selling fentanyl pills disguised to look like Xanax pills.

OFFICER AND DEPARTMENT RECOGNITION:

- **Police Department Accreditation** - Monday, April 25, 2022, three assessors from the Pennsylvania Law Enforcement Accreditation Commission (PLEAC) were at our police headquarters for on-site review and re-assessment of our agency and our policies and practices. Every three years our agency must go through the accreditation reassessment process to maintain our accredited status. We received our original accredited status in 2013 and we were reaccredited in 2016 and 2019.

I am pleased to advise that the assessors informed us that they were pleased with their review and they are going to recommend that our agency receive re-accreditation. Formal reaccreditation will occur when the PLEAC meets for its annual meeting in July 2022.

I want to thank all the officers of our department...everyone one of them contributes to our agency being recognized as a professional law enforcement agency. I especially want to thank Accreditation Manager Corporal Kirk Harryn for his hard work. It was Kirk's first go as Accreditation Manager. There is a lot of work involved and there was a steep learning curve serving as a first-time manager. Thank you to our clerk Jenn Schwartz and all the officers who assisted Kirk down the home stretch to get the job done. I appreciate everyone's hard work.

There are approximately 1100 law enforcement agencies in the Commonwealth. Only 142 agencies maintain the high professional standards required to receive accredited status...Bethlehem Township Police Department is one of those agencies. That is something I think we can all take pride in.

SEPTEMBER STATISTICS:

Traffic Accidents:	59	Traffic Citations:	122
Reportable:	8	Written Warnings:	221
Nonreportable:	51	Parking Tickets:	70
DUI Accidents:	0		
Deaths:	0		
Misdemeanor/ Felony Arrests:	12		
Summary Arrests:	3		
DUI Arrests:	0		

Submitted by:
Chief Gregory J. Gottschall