Lower Township Police
2016 Annual Report

Over 50 years of service to our community.
The Lower Township Police Department would like to express its sincere gratitude towards the citizens and business owners for their continued outreach and support. We as an agency know and understand the importance of keeping the lines of communication open and we appreciate the insurmountable amount of information our community provides to us to help do our jobs more effectively and efficiently.

We are very fortunate to live in a community where we work together with our citizens to address community issues, as well as crime. Over the last year, the Lower Township Police department has received letters, cards and phone calls expressing the community’s gratitude toward our officers. This show of appreciation is a testament to the thoughtfulness of our citizens in our community.

The Lower Township Police Department’s goal is to provide the best possible police service, with the help from our community partners. With all sincerity, these acts of appreciation have made a difference in the overall morale of the officers and the staff of our agency. We just want to thank everyone for their overwhelming support over the last year and we look forward to working with all of our community to continue to make this agency the very best in the coming years.

Signature Board from NNO 2016, where our citizen’s offered support and gratitude
Report Prepared by

Chief William Mastriana

Captain Martin Biersbach

Lt. Patrick Greene                      Lt. William Priole

March 9, 2017
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LOWER TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT
MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Lower Township Police Department is to enhance the quality of life in the Township of Lower by working cooperatively with the public and within the framework of the Constitution. Our officers will work to enforce the laws, preserve the peace, reduce fear and provide for a safe environment. We will provide service with understanding, response with compassion, performance with integrity and law enforcement with vision.

ORGANIZATION & PERSONNEL

New Hires
Patrolman Kenneth Walker
Patrolman James Mathis
Patrolman William Kocis

Retirements
Patrolman Brian Donahue, Corporal David Fisher

NEW OFFICERS
Current Sworn Employees

The following list reflects the Department Personnel as of December 31, 2016.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chief of Police</th>
<th>Patrol Sergeants</th>
<th>Patrolmen</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>William Mastriana</td>
<td>John Chew</td>
<td>Kevin Lewis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Donald Vanaman</td>
<td>Matthew Gamble</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Ryan Hansberry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Eric Coombs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Michael Nuscis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Edward Edwards</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Jennifer Anzelone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Captain</td>
<td></td>
<td>Robert Smith</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Martin Biersbach</td>
<td></td>
<td>Robert Fessler</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Michael Szemcsak</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Charles Ryan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Kevin Boyle Jr.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Anthony Greto</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lieutenants</td>
<td>Corporals</td>
<td>James P. McNulty</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Patrick Greene</td>
<td>David Fisher</td>
<td>Jordan Saini</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>William Priole</td>
<td>T. Shaun Whittington</td>
<td>Stephen E. Flitcroft</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Robert Hartman</td>
<td>John T. Armbruster</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Douglas Whitten</td>
<td>Kaitlin Black</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Detectives</td>
<td></td>
<td>Louis Bartleson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DFC. Michael Majane</td>
<td></td>
<td>Anthony Micciche</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dallas Bohn</td>
<td></td>
<td>Corey Scheid</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joseph Boyle</td>
<td></td>
<td>Jonathan Scheck</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brian McEwing</td>
<td></td>
<td>Eric Danze</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michael Perry</td>
<td></td>
<td>Jason Felsing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michael James</td>
<td></td>
<td>Adam Hegarty</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Liaison Officer</td>
<td></td>
<td>Kyle Boyle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>William Barcas</td>
<td></td>
<td>Recruit Kenneth Walker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Recruit James Mathis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Recruit William Kocis</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
CALLS FOR SERVICE & CRIMINAL ACTIVITY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2016</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Calls for Service</td>
<td>57,492</td>
<td>53,689</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Arrests
The figures listed below reflect the number of “individuals” arrested for the follow two years. It should be noted that most times, multiple charges are filed against a single “individual.” The arrests figures listed below reflect the number of persons (Adults / Juveniles) physically arrested by Lower Township Police Officers. The numbers below do not reflect a tabulation of multiple charges filed against an individual.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2016</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Arrests</td>
<td>740</td>
<td>661</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Indictable Complaints sent by the Lower Township Police Department to the Cape May County Prosecutor’s Office for the year of 2016 - (317).
Uniform Crime Reports (UCR)

The Uniform Crime Reporting is a nationwide, cooperative statistical effort of more than 18,000 cities, college/university, county, tribal, state and federal law enforcement agencies reporting data on crimes brought to their attention. It was established in 1930 to gauge the state of crime in the nation. There are 8 main offense classifications known as Part I Crimes, used as part of the Uniform Crime Reporting Program.

Below is a list highlighting the 8 identified crime classifications and the respective number of offenses for Lower Township for the past 3 years.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Offense</th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2016</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Homicide</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rape</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robbery</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aggravated Assault</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burglary</td>
<td>115</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Theft</td>
<td>339</td>
<td>317</td>
<td>313</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Motor Vehicle Theft</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arson</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL UCR</strong></td>
<td>506</td>
<td>463</td>
<td>435</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Violent Crime</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non Violent Crime</td>
<td>467</td>
<td>428</td>
<td>415</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Comparing 2016 to the previous year, finds the overall reportable crime is consistent with previous year’s number. *Note: This is an estimate based on our monthly reports; the official report is released by the New Jersey State Police.*

UCR Crime Breakdown for 2015

UCR Crime Breakdown for 2016
The following list shows the classification of the other type of calls for service both criminal and non-criminal in nature handled by the members of the Police Department for the past 3 years.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2016</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sex Offenses, other than rape</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Simple Assaults</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>130</td>
<td>124</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medical Calls</td>
<td>2190</td>
<td>2496</td>
<td>2531</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fire Calls</td>
<td>511</td>
<td>392</td>
<td>413</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Animal Complaints</td>
<td>967</td>
<td>255</td>
<td>254</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burglar, Fire or Medical Alarms</td>
<td>695</td>
<td>746</td>
<td>724</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Death Investigations</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disorderly Conduct Incidents</td>
<td>746</td>
<td>667</td>
<td>655</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fraud, Forgery, Bad Checks</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>83</td>
<td>85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Missing Persons and Runaways</td>
<td>182</td>
<td>212</td>
<td>195</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All Other Public Assistance Calls</td>
<td>19,912</td>
<td>19,709</td>
<td>18,198</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assisting Other Agency Incidents</td>
<td>600</td>
<td>722</td>
<td>886</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bias Incidents Investigated</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Criminal Mischief Complaints</td>
<td>331</td>
<td>238</td>
<td>292</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Residential and Commercial Property Checks</td>
<td>14,091</td>
<td>26,096</td>
<td>25,429</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Policing (*new statistic starting in 2015)</td>
<td>5674</td>
<td>3858</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Investigation Reports generated by officers totaled: 1,125

Supplemental Investigations or follow up reports generated: 457
Domestic Violence:

Domestic violence in New Jersey is viewed as a serious crime and carries with it penalties such as fines and prison time. Victims have the right to file restraining orders, both temporary and final, against the accused. Police officers must follow guidelines under the NJ Protection of Domestic Violence Act when arresting suspected abusers. Neglecting the elderly or handicapped can be considered domestic violence in New Jersey.

The Prevention of Domestic Violence Act, passed in New Jersey in 1991, states that domestic violence was a "serious crime against society." The Act provided two forms of relief in the event of domestic violence. The first was civil relief, which allowed victims of domestic violence to obtain a restraining order against their assaulter. The second was criminal relief, which allowed the victim to file criminal charges against their assailant.

By the establishment of a cooperative effort between the Lower Township Police Department, Coalition Against Rape and Abuse (CARA) and community volunteers, a domestic violence victim response team has been developed. This team has been formed to provide the domestic violence victim with the opportunity to be provided with information and services, which exist to help them through the experience of being a domestic violence victim.

Lower Township, like our neighboring jurisdictions, is not immune to the problems and concerns of domestic violence. Listed below are Lower Township’s statistics related to domestic violence.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2016</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total # of Domestic Violence Incidents</td>
<td>415</td>
<td>378</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># of Domestic Violence Incidents Involving Assaults</td>
<td>83</td>
<td>79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Temporary Restraining Orders Granted</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Temporary Restraining Orders Violated</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Criminal Complaints</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>101</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Domestic Violence Trends

![](chart.png)

- # of Domestic Violence Incidents Involving Assaults
- Total # of Domestic Violence Incidents
Property Stolen and Recovered:

Property offenses include burglary, theft, criminal mischief and shoplifting. The exact amount of value in theft-related offenses is hard to determine, as officers and victims usually estimate the value of property stolen and recovered. Below reflects the estimated value of property stolen and recovered for the years 2014 through 2016.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2016</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Stolen</td>
<td>$506,986</td>
<td>$703,003</td>
<td>$299,679</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recovered</td>
<td>$169,279</td>
<td>$84,393</td>
<td>$48,337</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Stolen & Recovered Property Trends

![Bar chart showing trends in stolen and recovered property from 2015 to 2016.](chart.png)
Use of Force Incidents and Reporting

As required by law, each officer who must use force above the norm in arresting or handling an individual must complete a state “Use of Force” reporting form. This report is supplied each year to the Cape May County Prosecutor’s Office.

In 2016, Lower Township Police reported a total of 9 Use of Force incidents. Of those incidents, 8 subjects were arrested, 3 subjects received injuries during the use of force, and 2 Lower Township Police Officers were injured during the arrests.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2016</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Use of Force Incidents</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># Subjects Arrested</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># Subjects Injured</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># Officers Injured</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Use of Force Summary
Injuries and Accidents

The Lower Township Police Department is insured under the Atlantic County Joint Insurance Fund for workers compensation claims. In order to ensure the proper level of police services for the citizens of Lower Township, there has been a concerted effort by all police officers to reduce incidents of work place injury. Unfortunately, due to the inherently dangerous nature of the law enforcement profession, it often exposes police officers to hazardous situations that are beyond their control, therefore making the potential for injury extremely high. In 2016 there were 6 cases of work related injuries. There were 2 work days missed due to these injuries. Throughout 2016, our Police Officers were assaulted on 4 separate occasions. These assaults on law enforcement officers occurred while police were investigating the following incidents: domestic disturbances, other disturbances, traffic stops and suspicious persons.

The Lower Township Police Department logged many miles driven in department vehicles in 2016; resulting in 5 traffic accidents involving department vehicles. Our police officers are recognized for demonstrating exceptional care, caution and most of all, sound judgment.

Township Local Ordinances

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Local Ordinances Complaints Issued</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2016</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>18</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
TRAFFIC RELATED INCIDENTS

The Lower Township Police Department investigated 498 motor vehicle accidents and conducted 3,855 motor vehicle stops during the year of 2016. See the table below for a breakdown of the totals for 2015 and 2016.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Traffic Summary</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2016</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Motor Vehicle Accidents – Total</td>
<td>459</td>
<td>498</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Motor Vehicle Accidents – Number of Injuries</td>
<td>125</td>
<td>152</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Motor Vehicle Accidents - Resulting in Fatalities</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Motor Vehicle Stops – Total</td>
<td>5666</td>
<td>3855</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Motor Vehicle Stops – Vehicle Summonses Issued</td>
<td>1768</td>
<td>1376</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Motor Vehicle Stops - Written Warnings Issued</td>
<td>178</td>
<td>132</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Motor Vehicle Accidents**

![Bar chart showing motor vehicle accidents for 2015 and 2016](chart.png)
Driving While Intoxicated by Alcohol or Drugs (DWI):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2016</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DWI Arrests</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Police Pursuits:

Lower Township Police Officers were involved in 2 pursuits during 2016.
ADMINISTRATION

The Lower Township Police Administration consists of four Administrators: Chief William Mastriana, Captain Martin Biersbach, Lieutenant Patrick Greene and Lieutenant William Priole.

Chief William Mastriana is responsible for the following:

- The efficiency of the day to day operations of the Police Department
- Administer and enforce rules and regulations and special emergency directives for the disposition and discipline of the force of the force and its officers and personnel
- Have, exercise and discharge the functions, powers and duties of the force personnel
- Prescribe duties and assignments of all subordinates and other personnel
- Delegate such of his authority as he may deem necessary for the efficient operation of the force to be exercised under his direction and supervision
- Report at least monthly, to the appropriate authority, in such form as shall be prescribed, on the operation of the force during the preceding month, and make such other reports as may be requested
- Issue policies/directives
- Meet with community, civic and religious groups
- Prepare and manage the Police Department’s budget
- SOPs/Rules & Regulations (manage/update)
- Oversee Detective Bureau
- Oversee Hiring Process
Captain Martin Biersbach serves as the Executive Officer and is responsible for overseeing the following functions:

- Internal Affairs
- CI / Confidential Files
- Manage the Agencies Early Warning System
- SOPs/Rules & Regulations
- Department Emergency Management Officer
- Accreditation
- Staff Inspections of overall operations
- On-Call Administrator
- OPRA Requests
- Review all Employee Evaluations (Annually)
- Oversee Patrol and Administrative Commanders
- Power DMS Paperless System
- NJ Learn Administrator
- Traffic/DWI Grants
- Nixle 360 Administrator
- Mobile Data Terminals Administrator
- Enforsys Coordinator
- Revcord Audio Recorder Management
- Manage ALPR Training and Coordinator
- Public Information Officer
- Manage Network and Computers at Headquarters

Lieutenant William Priole, Administrative Support Services, is responsible for overseeing the following functions:

- Supervisor of Dispatch – Communications Center (until 10/31/2016)
- Live Scan Fingerprint System
- Emergency Generator
- JIFF Coordinator
- Manage Accident/Injury Reports (Workers Comp)
- Extra Duty Contracts
- Fleet Manager
- In Car/Camera Administrator
- Veteran Affairs
- Oversee Records Division
- State Mandated Jail Cell Inspections
- Domestic Violence Response Team Liaison
- Commercial Vehicle License Inspection
- Alcotest Machine
- Manage and Inspection of Tow Trucks and Logs
- Manage Interns Work Assignments
- Volunteer Workers/Coach Applications
- Approval of Permits
- Building Maintenance
- Project Life Saver
- Court Liaison Officer
- County Court Liaison
- Court Discovery Information and Requests
- Radio System Administrator
- Fire Department Liaison
- On Call Administrator
- Performance Evaluations
- Assistant Public Information Officer
- Uniforms and Equipment

Lieutenant Patrick Greene/Patrol Commander is responsible for overseeing the following functions:
- Code Enforcement
- Traffic and Statistical data
- Special Events
- Agency Training Coordinator
- Scheduling
- Monitor Traffic Grants
- School Liaison Officers Schedule
- Oversee Class II Officer Program
- Weekly Vehicle Inventory Packet
- DWI’s, Accident Reports and Calls for Service
- Coordinate JV programs (LEAD/Explorers, etc.) *(Officers Hickok and Barcas)*
- Assistant Public Information Officer
- Honor Guard Liaison *(Officers Hansberry and Barcas)*
- On-call Administrator
- Obtain and Review all use of force, vehicle pursuits and bias incident reports prior to final approval by Chief of Police
- Traffic Coordinator *(Corporal Fisher)*
- Infectious Control Officer *(Sgt. Chew)*
- Employee Evaluations
- Manage Neighborhood Watch Programs *(Corporal Whitten and Detective Perry)*
Detective First Class Michael Majane is responsible for overseeing the following functions:

- Create and Monitor schedule for Detectives
- Ensure adequate coverage for on-duty and on-call periods
- Monitor Detective’s caseload and assign cases
- Review written reports and operational actions
- Bias Crime Officer
- Megan’s Law
- Oversee Evidence Unit
- Manage, Oversee and Train on the use of The Beast System (*DFC Majane/Det. McEwing*)
- Crime Analysis Officer
- Cape May County Child Protective Services liaison
- Magloclen Liaison (Middle Atlantic-Great Lakes Organized Crime Law Enforcement Network)
- Prosecutor’s Office Liaison
- Coordinate Narcotic Operations
- Background Investigation of New Employees (Sworn and Non-Sworn)
- Manage Firearms Background Investigations
- Maintain Gang File
- VICAP Liaison
- Manage Firearms Training and Records
- Manage and Prepare Forfeiture Funds Reports
- Manage Stationhouse Adjustments
- Maintain necessary Operational Supplies for Detectives
- Conduct Annual Evaluations
- Prepare Annual Report of Unit Statistics
- Manage, Approve, and Audit Use of CI/Buy Funds
- Manage DWI/DVD Videos and Record for Evidence
- SRO Reports
The Patrol Division of the Lower Township Police Department is the largest of all the divisions within the agency. The Patrol Division is responsible for responding to all calls for service within the community.

The Patrol Division is responsible for responding to all 911 calls, motor vehicle crashes, first aid calls, man-made and natural disasters, fires, reports of crimes and disorderly person’s offenses. They are also expected to provide proactive services such as traffic enforcement, crime detection and suppression, conducting business and property checks, and initiating contacts with community members so as to incorporate a spirit of cooperation with both the business community and citizens alike. Within the last three years, officers have also received training on Narcan (naloxone) deployment for drug overdoses and in 2016 officers deployed Narcan 26 times, saving many lives.

Officers are bi-annually trained in the use of firearms, pursuit driving and use of force.

Patrol Officers are responsible for initial investigation of all crimes that occur within the Township. Investigations that are intensive or complex are turned over to the Detective Division for further follow up.

The Patrol Division utilizes black and white units as their primary vehicle on a daily basis. Also utilized are bicycles and plain clothes patrols to complete specific initiatives or to address specific concerns of the community.

Officers assigned to the Patrol Division are divided into 4 squads. These squads are responsible for 24-hour street coverage, seven days a week. Each squad is supervised by a Sergeant and has 6 patrol officers.

Lieutenant Patrick Greene is the Patrol Bureau Commander and may be reached at 609-886-1619, extension 114.
**Class II Special Law Enforcement Officer**

Currently the Lower Township Police Department has 6 Special Law Enforcement Class II Officers. Upon graduating, officers receive full New Jersey Police Training Commission Certification as Class II Special Law Enforcement Officers and have the same enforcement powers as full time officers while they work.

The program they attend consists of approximately 451 hours of training. The program includes courses in professionalism, ethics, history of law enforcement, the criminal justice system, New Jersey criminal and motor vehicle laws, laws of arrest, search and seizure, use of force, interviews, confessions and Miranda, laws of evidence, criminal investigation, narcotics, juvenile law, domestic violence, traffic enforcement, vehicle operations, stress management, first aid, community relations, physical fitness, defensive tactics, police baton, firearms and chemical agents. Additionally, officers are trained in practical exercises, training using marking firearm cartridges (real life decision making under live fire) and American Red Cross Community Water Certification. They additionally receive CPR certification through the American Red Cross.

Many officers use this program as a stepping stone to full time police employment. Officers can apply for sixteen college credits through Cape Atlantic Community College. You may contact the Lower Township Police Department (609) 886-2711 for information about applying as a Special Law Enforcement Officer, Class II.

**Special Law Enforcement Officers (Class II Officers)**

- Michael Harkin
- Michael Hesson
- Timothy Urquhart
- Eric Campbell
- Zachery DeSimone
- Austin Parker

*The officers below have moved on in advancing their Law Enforcement career*

- James Collins
- Kenneth Walker
Field Training Officers (FTO):

All Police Officers hired by the Lower Township Police Department must attend and successfully complete a New Jersey State Certified Police Academy. This department predominantly uses the Cape May County Police Academy. Upon graduation from the academy, all officers return to the department and are required to successfully complete a Field Training Program. This FTO program is an additional 4 months of intensive training and evaluation in which the probationary officer is paired up with an experienced officer. This FTO officer has been carefully selected and trained as a Field Training Officer. It is the goal of the FTO program to prepare and develop probationary officers to act efficiently, effectively and safely in a solo patrol capacity.

Field Training Officers
Sergeant Douglas Whitten
Corporal Ryan Hansberry
Patrolman William Barcas
Patrolman Robert Fessler
Patrolman Eric Coombs
Officer Jennifer Anzelone
Patrolman Michael Szemcsak
Sergeant Kevin Lewis
Patrolman Charles Ryan
Detective Brain McEwing
Patrolman Matthew Gamble
Patrolman Anthony Greto
Patrolman Stephen Flitcroft
Patrolman John Armbruster
Patrolman James McNulty
Officer Kaitlin Black
Detective Michael Iames
Patrolman Corey Scheid
The Lower Township Detective Division is comprised of highly trained and motivated officers who are schooled and instructed in various techniques of criminal investigations.

The primary function of the Detective Division is to review and conduct follow-up investigations on most reported crimes within the Township. Detective Division Officers are available 24 hours-a-day for serious crimes including, but not limited to, aggravated assault, robbery, arson, fraud, child endangerment, narcotics offences and sex related crimes. Also, specific detectives within the division specialize in narcotics investigations, special victim crime (juvenile, domestic violence crimes, and crimes against seniors), firearm applications, liquor sales licensing, precious metals licensing and internal affairs.

During 2016, the Detective Division was assigned to 253 investigations and conducted an additional 255 follow up investigations. They also responded to 12 death investigations. The Detective Division conducted 96 Megan’s law investigations. They assisted the Patrol Division in 28 missing person cases, where all parties were located safely.
The Detective Division conducted all firearms background investigations:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2016</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Number of Applicants/Investigations</td>
<td>198</td>
<td>444</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Firearms ID Cards Only Issued</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Firearms ID Card &amp; Permits Issued</td>
<td>83</td>
<td>237</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Permits Only Issued</td>
<td>79</td>
<td>147</td>
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<tr>
<td>Permit to Carry (Renewal) Issued</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Application Denials</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Applications Withdrawn/Not Completed</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total # of Permits Issued</td>
<td>301</td>
<td>673</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Detective Division also conducts any and all police recruit, police employment background investigations. The Division also assists the Lower Township Manager and his staff in conducting any and all needed internal township wide investigations.

The Detective Division is also task with handling Megan’s Law registrants within the township. Detective Joseph Boyle primarily oversees the registrants with the assistance of other detectives. Registrants are required to re-register anytime they move to a new address within the township, even as minimal as a change to a different apartment or motel room. Registrant’s must also register upon moving into Lower Township from another area as well as notify our agency when they are moving to another jurisdiction.

DFC Michael Majane is the Detective Bureau Commander and is responsible for the supervision of personnel assigned to the bureau. He can be reached at 609-886-1619, extension 117.

Members of the Detective Division include:
Detective First Class, Michael Majane
Detective Dallas Bohn
Detective Joseph Boyle
Detective Brian McEwing
Detective Michael Perry
Detective Michael Iames

The Detective Division oversees and maintains all evidence within the police department. Presently, 2880 items are logged into the evidence system.

Primary Evidence Custodian       DFC Michael Majane
Secondary Evidence Custodian     Detective Brian McEwing
DETECTIVE BUREAU NOTABLE CASES

During the month of February, Detectives along with Middle Township Street Crimes Unit, investigated a suspected counterfeit money operation where the suspect was passing and selling counterfeit monies throughout Lower and Middle Township. A court-issued search warrant was executed in Middle Township and the suspect was arrested in Lower Township. During the arrest, the suspect had in her possession equipment which was used to make the counterfeit money, as well as assorted counterfeit money. She was also charged with possession of drug paraphernalia.

In December, the Detectives received information of another counterfeit money making operation within the Township. It was discovered that the subjects were scrubbing US currency and then using the blanks to copy larger bills onto the blanks. A court-issued search warrant was executed and two individuals were arrested. Seized from the property was a printer, which was used to copy the bills, copies of fraudulent bills and a chemical workshop, used to scrub the real currency.

During the month of March, the Lower Township Detectives received a report of a bank robbery at the Crest Saving Bank, where the suspect displayed a firearm and demanded money from the teller. After receiving an assorted amount of US currency, he fled the bank during which time he ran in front of a marked Lower Township Police vehicle. A several-month long investigation proceeded to include the Cape May County Prosecutors Office and FBI. During this investigation, three court-issued search warrants were executed and the suspect was arrested. Additional evidence, which was used in the robbery, was also recovered.

Detectives also investigated a reported home invasion where three subjects forced their way into the victim’s home and assaulted him. During the assault, several items were stolen, including the victim’s motor vehicle, which was used as a getaway car. After extensive interviews and reviewing video surveillance, three individuals were arrested for the incident. The victim’s property was also recovered.

During the month of August, Detectives were conducting surveillance on a suspected narcotics dealer. Upon attempting to conduct a motor vehicle stop, the suspect fled on his motorcycle which initiated a pursuit. During the pursuit, the suspect discarded a package from the motorcycle. After a short pursuit, the suspect stopped and was arrested without incident. Detectives were able to retrieve the discarded package, which contained 317 bags of Heroin. Also seized from the defendant was $1,215.00 in US currency and a 1987 motorcycle.

In November, Detectives responded to a reported home invasion in which four subjects forced their way into a residence in the Villas section of the Township. During this time, the two home owners were assaulted and their property was stolen from inside the residence. One of the victims was holding her two month old child at the time of the assault. The four defendants were quickly identified and after several weeks, all four defendants were arrested without incident.

Also during the month of November, the Detective Division arrested four individuals for 50 motor vehicle burglaries and 11 residential burglaries. These crimes were committed over several months, where the defendants would damage glass doors or windows and once inside, remove items from the vehicle or home. Over the time of the investigation, fingerprint evidence
led to their arrests, as well as additional follow-up interviews from witnesses. Two of these defendants were also arrested for a motor vehicle theft, which was stolen during the time of their burglary spree.

**DNA/Fingerprint cases:**

In January, Detectives received two separate DNA hits for two unsolved sexual assault cases. After further investigation of the matches, which were received from the New Jersey State Police Forensic Unit, two juveniles were arrested for an unsolved sex assault that took place in 2015. Additionally, one of those juveniles was also charged with an additional sexual assault that took place in 2016.

In June, Detectives received two AFIS hits for 3 burglaries within the Township. The first two burglaries were from 2014, where a seasonal residence was entered. Detectives removed a large amount of evidence and two latent prints were located and sent away for examination. These prints also lead to a burglary that took place in 2016. The suspect was a juvenile, who was charged with an additional 14 burglaries in 2016.
The School Resource Officer (SRO) Program has been in place for the past 23 years and continues today as a collaborative effort with the Lower Cape May Regional School District. Patrolman William Barcas is assigned to the Lower Cape May Regional School District and reports to Detective Mike Majane, Detective Bureau Commander.

The Goals and Duties of the School Resource Officer:

1. Provide law enforcement and police services to the school, school grounds and areas adjacent to the school. Investigate allegations of criminal incidents per police department policies and procedures. Enforce state and local laws and ordinances. Make appropriate referrals to juvenile authorities or other governmental agencies.

2. Work to prevent juvenile delinquency through close contact and positive relationships with students. In addition the SRO shall develop crime prevention programs and conduct security inspections to deter criminal or delinquent activities. The SRO should monitor crime statistics and work with local patrol officers and students together to design crime prevention strategies.

3. Establish and maintain a close partnership with school administrators in order to provide for a safe school environment. Assist school officials with their efforts to enforce Board Of Education policies and procedures. Ensure school administrator safety by being present during school searches, which may involve weapons, controlled dangerous substances or in such cases that, the student’s emotional state may present a risk to the administrator. Assist school administrators in emergency crisis planning and building security matters. Provide a course of training for school personnel in handling crisis situations, which may arise at the school.

4. Be visible within the school community. Attend and participate in school functions. Build working relationships with the school’s staff as well as with student and parent groups.

5. Develop and implement classes in law related education to support the educational efforts of the faculty. Work closely with teachers in designing and presenting law-related topics and the role of police in our society.
6. Work with guidance counselors and other student support staff to assist students and to provide services to students involved in situations where referrals to service agencies are necessary. Assist in conflict resolution efforts.

7. Initiate interaction with students in the classroom and general areas of the school building. Promote the profession of police officer and be a positive role model. Increase the visibility and accessibility of police to the school community.

Qualifications:
- Full-Time Lower Township Police Officer
- Completed Basic SRO Training
- Certified L.E.A.D. Instructor (Law Enforcement Against Drugs)
- Strong interpersonal and communication skills
- Exemplary role models

Reports To:
- Superintendent of School District
- Lower Township Chief of Police or designee when assigned to the Police Department

The L.E.A.D. Program follows and teaches the Too Good for Drugs curriculum and provides substance abuse awareness sessions for all sixth grade students.

The Too Good for Drugs program is a school-based drug prevention program designed to reduce students' intention to use alcohol, tobacco, and illegal drugs, while promoting pro-social attitudes, skills, and behaviors. The program seeks to build the self-confidence of students so they are better able to make healthy choices and achieve success. Although there are different objectives across grade levels, promoting positive, pro-social attitudes and fostering healthy relationships is a running theme throughout the program’s curriculum. Overall, TGFD seeks to develop positive peer norms; appropriate attitudes toward alcohol, tobacco, and illegal drug use; personal and interpersonal skills relating to alcohol, tobacco, and illegal drug use; knowledge of the negative consequences of alcohol, tobacco, and illegal drug use; and finally the knowledge of the benefits of living a drug-free lifestyle.

It uses the social influence model and the cognitive–behavioral model as its framework for the prevention program. In developing the program, the Mendez Foundation sought to develop the skills of students so that they are better able to resist peer pressure and make responsible, healthy decisions. TGFD uses a developmentally appropriate curriculum that specifically concentrates on five social and emotional learning skills that have been shown to promote healthy development and academic success:

1. Goal setting
2. Decision making
3. Bonding with pro-social others
4. Identifying and managing emotions
5. Communicating effectively with others.

As a long-term prevention program, the TGFD curriculum builds on the curriculum in the previous grade level, requiring students to develop skills and use these skills year after year. At each grade level the TGFD program consists of:

1. 10 core curriculum lessons, including an interactive workbook delivered by trained teachers/TGFD instructors
2. A “Looking for More” component at the end of each lesson that includes suggestions for additional readings, videotapes, and activities to further reinforce the skills learned during the lesson
3. Parental involvement, including newsletters and homework assignments for families
4. Community inclusion
5. A Staff Development Curriculum that is provided to educators

As part of the elementary school curriculum, the program introduces and fosters social and emotional skills to assist students in making healthy choices, developing positive friendships, communicating effectively, and resisting peer pressure. These lessons seek to teach the fundamental elements of a healthy lifestyle that can be further developed during adolescence.

**L.E.A.D. DAYS**
The Lower Township Police Department has conducted this type of program in the Lower Township Schools since 1993. To date, over 5730 Lower Township students have gone through the program which is now taught at the Sandman Consolidated School sixth grade. This program is 8 to 10 weeks long and trained officers visit their assigned class once a week and teach a prescribed curriculum.

In 2016, approximately 250 students were taught the L.E.A.D. Program.
RECORDS DIVISION

The Records Section of the Police Department supports the operational efforts of the Patrol and Investigative functions as well as performing a variety of other services, areas of support include the following and is not limited to:

- Records/Reports – Type UIR, Supplemental, Sudden Death, Special Reports, etc.
- Firearms – FAID, Permit to Purchase, Permits to Carry & Voluntary Registrations
- Open Public Records Act Requests
- Processing of Fingerprints (Criminal & Non-Criminal Prints)
- FBI/SBI File Index
- Motor Vehicle Accident Reports & Violations (Tickets)
- Burglar Alarm, Property Check & Business Registries
- Correspondence Liaison
- Departmental Purchasing
- Payroll Preparation & Processing
- Human Resources
- Budget Planning and Preparation
- Grant Management
- Collect and Prepare Data for Command Approval
- Process Mail and Delivery
- Staff the Customer Window & Records Telephone/Email Inquires
- Receives, logs & deposits monies from applications & other processing requests.
- Issuing Licenses for Coin Drop, Dumpsters, Moving Modulars, etc.
- Copy reports for Civilians, Attorneys, Law Enforcement Agencies & Insurance Cos.
- Process Expungement Orders
- Prepare Monthly Statistics
- Prepare Uniform Crime Reports
- Records Retention/Destruction for all Sections of PD within DARM guidelines
- Sending/Posting of Press Releases
- Nixle 360 Administration
- Assist with Social Media & Website Mgmt.
- Process MVR (mobile video recorder) requests
- TAC Officer Tasks & Responsibilities

The Records Division staff consists of the following employees:

Susan Wilson    Deborah VanMourik
Karen Wolf      Jania Bailey
Joanne Budd     Suzanne Scheid
The Lower Township Police Department transitioned to Cape May County Dispatch, effective November 1, 2017. We would like to thank all of our LTPD Dispatchers for their years of dedicated service. The information below is for January 1 – October 31, 2016.

The Lower Township Police Department Communications Center is staffed 24 hours a day, seven days a week, by full-time Public Safety Telecommunication Operators. They are the initial point of contact for a majority of the public requiring police services. They are an extremely vital component in delivering effective police services and they are often times they are required to maintain a reassuring and calming demeanor in the face of extraordinary circumstances in order to assist the caller and the police officer responding to an emergency. All of the Public Safety Telecommunication Operators are required to receive and maintain certification by the Office of Emergency Telecommunications Services in the Department of Law and Public Safety. Some of the examples of work performed include:

- Emergency 911 System
- Radio/Telephone Communications for Police, Fire, Rescue, Emergency Management, Animal Control
- CJIS
- NCIC/SCIC Look Up
- ATS/ACS System
- CAD Entries
- Log Maintenance
- Training
- Receive and respond to telephone requests for emergency services
- In response to medical emergencies, provide first aid or CPR instructions to stabilize the medical condition of persons until the arrival of medical assistance
- Relay all vital information to responding police officers
- Utilize radio, telephone, or other electronic equipment to dispatch specific law enforcement, fire department or medical units to the scene of an emergency
- Refer non-emergency situations to the appropriate public or private agencies
- Make data entries into the Police Departments computer system as well as various systems databases such as the National Crime Information Center (NCIC) and the State Crime Information Center (SCIC), stolen vehicle file and missing persons file

The Lower Township Police Department employs 8 full time Telecommunication Operators and several additional part time relief communications operators. Current qualified operators are:

**Senior/TAC Communications Operators:**
- Jennifer Saunders
- Suzanne Scheid

**Communications Operators:**
- Paul Hildreth
- Jennifer Saunders
- Tiffany Labar
- Kristi White
- John Piggott
- Suzanne Scheid
- Lauren DiDonato
NIXLE 360°

Lower Township has partnered with Nixle to implement its Community Notification System to alert residents in real-time for localized emergency situations and relevant community advisories from the Township.

Through Nixle, the township will be able to provide residents with the latest alerts, advisories and community notifications that our previous emergency alert service provided. Nixle 360° is designed to consolidate several notification systems into one easy to use platform. This new service will streamline the public notification process by providing information to the community by text message, email, voice calls and social media. Nixle also includes a component for citizens to report anonymous tips.

All Alerts will be targeted geographically, allowing residents to receive localized, relevant alerts from Lower Township. Nixle Alerts can be received via Text, Email, Voice, Web, Social Media and the Nixle Mobile App in an instant. Nixle is partnered with NLETS for superior data security, as well as the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, the National Blue Alert Network and Google for unmatched reach and two-way information exchange. For law enforcement, Nixle enables community-policing outreach in new ways. Building a communications structure can help solve crimes, build safer communities and promote a positive dialogue and partnership between residents and law enforcement.

Citizens are encouraged to register for emergency notifications by texting LTPD to 888777 or visit www.nixle.com to register and see all of the notification options.
CITIZEN COMPLAINTS
INTERNAL AFFAIRS

The Lower Township Police Department is committed to providing law enforcement services that are fair, effective and impartially applied. Officers are held to the highest standards of official conduct and are expected to respect the rights of all citizens. Officer’s adherence to these standards, motivated by a moral and professional obligation to perform their job to the best of their ability, is the ultimate objective of this agency.

The effectiveness of a law enforcement agency is dependent upon approval and acceptance of police authority. The department must be responsive to the community by providing formal procedures for the processing of complaints from the public regarding individual officer performance.

The purpose of the department’s Internal Affairs Policy is to improve the quality of law enforcement services. Citizen confidence in the integrity of the police department increases through the establishment of meaningful and effective complaint procedures. The confidence engenders community support for the police department. Improving the relationship between police and the citizens they serve facilitates cooperation vital to the department’s ability to achieve its goals. An effective disciplinary framework also permits police officials to monitor officer’s compliance with department policies and procedures. Adherence to established policies and procedures assist officers in meeting department objectives while a monitoring system permits managers to identify problem areas requiring increased training or direction. Finally, the Internal Affairs Policy ensures fairness and due process protection to citizens and officers alike.

The internal affairs process is also used to identify and correct unclear or inappropriate agency procedures. In addition, it will highlight organizational conditions that may contribute to any misconduct, such as poor recruitment and selection procedures or inadequate training and supervision of officers.

In 2016, the Lower Township Police Department investigated a total of 20 complaints regarding on and off duty actions and/or conduct of Lower Township Police Officers and Dispatch as compared with 22 in 2015. Of the 20 investigations handled in 2016, 10 resulted in disciplinary action taken against 12 officers or employees.

Below is a list of the type of cases and their dispositions received in 2016:

**2016 Dispositions-**

*Excessive Force (1) Not Sustained*

*Improper Arrest (0)*

*Improper Entry (0)*

*Improper Search (0)*
Other Criminal Violation (0)

Differential Treatment (1) Not Sustained

Demeanor Complaint (0)

Domestic Violence (1) Exonerated

Other Rule Infractions (17) Complaints
11 – Sustained (3 pending hearing), 2 – exonerated, 2 – unfounded, 2-not sustained

Serious Rule Violation (1). (3 officers)
Pending

Of the 20 in 2016, 1 remained pending in 2017.

In 2016, no Police Officers were suspended for more than 10 days.

The Lower Township Police Department works closely with the Cape May County Prosecutors Office and many of the internal affairs investigations are worked jointly between both departments. This is to ensure that the highest quality of investigation is conducted.

The Internal Affairs Division is commanded by Captain Martin Biersbach.
LAW ENFORCEMENT GRANTS

The Lower Township Police Department relies on grant funding to help off-set and supplement patrol operations. The following is a partial list of grants applied for, and received by the Lower Township Police Department during the year of 2016:

The Lower Township Police Department received a grant in the amount of $5000 from the New Jersey Division of Highway Traffic Safety, to pay for overtime patrols to enforce the usage of seat belts by all operators and passengers of motor vehicles. *(Click It or Ticket)*

The Lower Township Police Department received several grants in the amount of $17,714.01 from the NJ Division of Highway Traffic Safety to pay for overtime patrols to enforce and combat DWI offenses. *(Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over and DDEF Drunk Driving Enforcement Fund)*

The Lower Township Police Department received two separate Body Armor Grants in 2016 one from the Division of Criminal Justice in the amount of $4,189.14 and the other from U.S. Department of Justice Bulletproof Vest Partnership $7,248.50.
TRAINING AND EDUCATION

One of the most important responsibilities of a law enforcement agency is the training and education of all its personnel. The Police Department has in place a comprehensive policy that addresses the organization and administration of the entire training process, including recruit training, in service training, roll call training and specialized training.

Lieutenant Patrick Greene is the Department Training Coordinator. Duties are to keep track of all the department training, mandatory as well as any additional in-service training officers receive, and to maintain all training records for each officer in the agency. Lieutenant Patrick Greene assists with training and education as well.

The men and women of the Lower Township Police Department attended a wide variety of in service training courses throughout 2016 including but not limited to:

- Verbal Judo
- Cape May County In-Service Training
- DWI Detection and SFST
- JIF Managerial & Supervisor Training
- Pre-Employment Background Investigations
- Cape May County Dispatcher In-Service Training
- Combating Targeted Violence
- Threat Assessment and Prevention
- Scene Management for Supervisors
- Basic Crash Investigation I
- NJTR-1 Crash Form Refresher
- Handling the Mentally and Emotionally Ill
- FTO Training
- School Security Assessment Training
- ASP Instructor Certification
- Methods of Instruction
- Firearms Instructor
- CARFAX Training and Seminar
- Active Shooter Procedures and Training
- Conducted Energy Device Training
- LEAD Training Conference
- Street Survival Seminar
- 2016 Fall Range
- 2016 Spring Firearms Qualifications
- Emergency Medical Dispatchers training
- Command and Leadership Program
- Active Shooter Response
- Arrest Search and Seizure Updates
- Emergency Planning Training
- Work Zone Safety Awareness for Patrol Officers
- Orientation to Broadband Technology
• Caliber Press Female Enforcers
• Police Work Zone Safety Training
• Document Fraud for Law Enforcement
• 2016 Front Line Supervision Program
• Crisis Communication and Media Relations
• Advanced LE Military Sniper
• Mandatory Operator Training on CED Policy Changes
• TAC Seminar
• ECDR Enhancements
• Crisis Negotiations Training
• 11th Annual Crime Victims Conference
• Behavioral Assessment and Response to Active Shooter incidents
• Basic Marksmanship
• We Check for 21
• 2016 Special Officer Patrol Practices
• Normandy D-Day Leadership Experience
• 10th Annual School Safety & Security Conference
• New Jersey State Assoc. of Chiefs of Police 104th Annual Training Conference
• NJCOP 104th Annual Training Conference
• Dispatch CPR Recert
• Internal Affairs Investigations Training
• Bullying and Domestic Violence Training
• CJIS NCIC Operator Training
• Crisis Negotiation Seminar
• Physical Fitness Instructor Course
• DWI Detection and SFST
• Understanding and Planning for School Bomb Incidents
• CED Instructor Training
• CED Recertification
• Nixle Public Safety Seminar
• Criminal Justice Information Systems
• Alcotest Recertification
• Field Force Operations Training
• Advanced Bike Patrol Instructor
• Defensive Tactics Instructor
• Sheepdog Seminar
• Valor Essential Training
• Outlaw Motorcycle Gang Conference
• Active Shooter Response
• Arrest Search and Seizure Training
• Active Shooter Workshop
• De-confliction Training
• SWAT Basic Training
• DRE Recertification
• Narcan Now What
• NJDOC Inspection Training
Police Department members who hold the rank of Instructor:

In addition to their normal work duties, several Lower Township Police Officers have attained the position of being an instructor in a specific field or multiple fields. These officers conduct interdepartmental in-service training to department members. Many of them are also instructors at the Cape May County Police Academy. Officers who are instructors are as follows:

Chief William Mastriana  Boxing Instructor, Physical Training Instructor and Defensive Tactics Instructor
Sergeant John Chew  Firearms Instruction and Defensive Tactics Instructor
Corporal Dave Fisher  Defensive Driving/Radar Instructor Departmental
Corporal T. Shaun Whittington  Physical Training Instructor, Firearms Instructor, Defensive Tactics Instructor, Chemical/Less Lethal Munitions Instructor, Conducted Energy Device Instructor
Corporal Douglas Whitten  Defensive Tactics Instructor
Corporal David Fisher  Departmental Radar Instructor
Detective Michael James  Departmental Radar Instructor
DFC Michael Majane  Physical Training Instructor
Firearms Instructor and Defensive Tactics Instructor
Patrolman Michael Szemcsak  Physical Training Instructor
Patrolman John Armbruster  Physical Training Instructor
Patrolman Ryan Hansberry  Firearms Instructor
COMMUNITY ORIENTED PROJECTS AND PROGRAMS CONDUCTED IN 2016

- Officers maintained an informational booth at the annual Whale of a Day Festival in July.
- Fourth of July Fireworks
- Coordinated the successful Annual National Night out against Crime event in August.
- Cop Stop Program held at local businesses to facilitate police/citizen interaction. There were 4 Cop Stops in 2016.
- 40th Annual Lower Township Kids Christmas
- Police Unity Tour
- “Put the Brakes on Fatalities Day”
- Annual Torch Run for Special Olympics
- Lower Township Christmas Parade
- Escape the Cape Triathlon
- Lower Township Community Health Fair
- Chaplains Luncheon
- Police Appreciation Breakfast – Uncle Bill’s
- Coombs Douglass Memorial Run
- “Trunk or Treat” Halloween Celebration?
- Law Enforcement United?
- Senior Safety Seminar at Lower Cape Center

ESCAPE THE CAPE TRIATHALON – 2016
TORCH RUN 2016

POLICE APPRECIATION BREAKFAST
TRUNK OR TREAT – 2016

LOWERTOWNSHIP KID’S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM – 2016

43
PROJECT MEDICINE DROP

Project Medicine Drop is an initiative involving the installation of "prescription drug drop boxes" at participating New Jersey police departments.

For safety reasons, the Project Medicine Drop boxes can only accept solid medications such as pills, patches, inhalers, and similar objects. The boxes cannot accept liquids, medical waste, or syringes. Consumers wishing to dispose of these objects should speak with their doctors or pharmacists to find the safest and best ways to dispose of them. It should also be noted that consumers may only dispose of legal prescription or over-the-counter medications.

During 2016, the Lower Township Police Department collected and disposed of 600 pounds of unwanted prescription and over-the-counter medications through Project Medicine Drop. This is a 18.3% increase from 2015.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th># of Pounds of Disposed Medication</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2016</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>507</td>
<td>600</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

![Graph showing the increase in pounds of disposed medication from 2015 to 2016]
SPECIAL UNITS

SWAT Team (Special Weapons and Tactics)

The Lower Township Police maintained and operated its own SWAT Team for approximately 25 years. In 2006, the Cape May County Prosecutor’s Office, with the cooperation of the Cape May County Chiefs of Police Association, formed a Regional Countywide SWAT Team. The County Team is now divided into two geographical regions; Mainland and Island Divisions. Every police department in the county has representation on the team.

Team members undergo a very rigorous training schedule, tactically, mentally and physically. These members work with their respective agencies as officers doing normal duties, and when necessary are called upon to conduct SWAT operations. They are on call 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

The position of a SWAT member is voluntary. Selection to become a member of the team is very competitive. Their own department must select officers. These officers are selected based upon their past performance and attitude. Then they must attend a rigorous two-week SWAT course.

Team operators are required to train at least twelve 12 hours per month, for a total of 144 hours a year. Training sessions are held two times per month, with an additional 6 hours training per month, for the sniper element.

The Cape May County Regional SWAT Team was activated 67 times in 2016. The Mainland Division was called out on 45 of those assignments, 28 being strictly Mainland Division Operations. The SWAT Team was also used for mutual aid for out of county assistance on 8 separate occasions. These call outs involved assisting the FBI, the DEA, the Cumberland County Prosecutor’s Office and the Atlantic City Police Department.
Along with the SWAT callouts, the SWAT Team provided security for the Sea Isle City Polar Bear Plunge, the USCG Family Festival, the Wildwood Roar to the Shore Motorcycle Event and the City of Wildwood Beach Concerts.

Lower Township Police Officers assigned to the Regional Swat Team include:
Corporal T. Shaun Whittington
Patrolman Kevin Lewis
Patrolman Charles Ryan

DFC Michael Majane
Patrolman Michael Perry
Patrolman Jordan Saini

HONOR GUARD

The Lower Township Police Department maintains a formal Police Honor Guard. The purpose of the Honor Guard is to formally represent the Lower Township Police Department at official functions. The Honor Guard performs its task with a military regime; the members wear a formal uniform blouse.

Members of the Honor Guard include:

Patrolman Ryan Hansberry
Detective Brian McEwing
Patrolman Charles Ryan
Patrolman James McNulty
Patrolman Kevin Lewis
Patrolman Corey Scheid

Patrolman William Barcas
Patrolman Michael Perry
Detective Michael James
Patrolman Louis Bartleson
Officer Kaitlin Black
Patrolman Michael Nuscis
CRASH TEAM

Members of the Lower Township Crash Investigation Team have specialized training to investigate serious motor vehicle crashes. Their training is through Northwestern University and Institute of Police Technology and Management. The courses are: Crash I, Crash II, Pedestrian Crash, Motorcycle Crash, Heavy Vehicle Crash, Vehicle Dynamics and Traffic Crash Reconstruction.

These training courses allow the unit complete, if necessary the following at a crash scene:

- Scaled computer diagramming
- Mathematical analysis
- Damage evaluations
- Seatbelt, headlamp and tire examination
- Scene measurements
- Documentation of road type and tire friction
- High and low speed collision
- Bicycle collisions
- Motorcycle collisions
- Semi truck/commercial vehicle accidents

The Lower Township Crash Team uses the following equipment, if necessary, to assist with crash investigations: Laser Impulse, Recon Data Recorder, Map Star System Angle Encoder, Prism and Pole, Drag Boot, Power and Lighting Equipment, Laptop with Crash Zone, Measuring Tapes, Marking Paint, Chalk, and other miscellaneous equipment.

The Crash Team meets periodically during the year for training updates and familiarization with the equipment. Some Lower Township Police Crash Team members respond with the Cape May County Fatal Unit to assists with other serious crashes throughout the county. The Crash Team is led by Corporal David Fisher.

Members include:

Lieutenant Patrick Greene
Corporal David Fisher
Patrolman Eric Coombs
Detective Brian McEwing
Patrolman Stephen Flitcroft
Officer Kaitlin Black
The Chaplain Program began as an innovative approach to meeting several needs in our community. Chaplains of all faiths work with law enforcement personnel on a professional level by making themselves immediately available as trained and caring professionals who can assist in times of loss, confusion, depression, or grief to people in crisis situations. The Chaplains provide this service not only to the community, but also to all department employees and their families as well.

The Chaplain Program is administered by The Chief of Police and coordinated by Reverend Andrew Ervin. The Chaplain must be ordained or commissioned.

There are ten (10) volunteer Chaplains who participate in the program. They are provided with necessary training and resources in return for hundreds of hours of volunteer service.

The duties of the Police Chaplain may include, but are not limited to:

- Riding along with officers on routine patrol on various shifts
- Accompanying a police officer to assist with notification of any suicide, death or serious injury
• Working with police officers to assist in any kind of crisis situation where the presence of a trained chaplain might help
• Counseling Department members in response to stress or family crisis problems. Any such assistance will be privileged and confidential between the officer and chaplain involved
• Visiting with sick or injured members of the Department at their home or in the hospital.
• Offering prayers at special occasions such as recruit graduations, award ceremonies and dedications of buildings, etc.
• Serving on review boards and/or other committees
• Advising the Chief of Police in all matters of a religious nature involving the Police Department and performance of law enforcement duties in the community
• Chaplains shall act as liaison with local ministerial associations and on matters pertaining to the moral, spiritual, and religious welfare of police personnel
• Assisting the Police Department in the performance of appropriate ceremonial functions.
• Providing practical assistance to victims
• Assisting at suicide incidents
• Chaplains Christmas Luncheon
The Lower Township Police Department is an accredited agency that participates in the New Jersey Law Enforcement Accreditation Program. This is a voluntary state program developed by the New Jersey State Association of Chiefs of Police and is modeled after the CALEA national program. The accreditation program requires compliance with a series of 105 professional standards designed specifically for New Jersey law enforcement agencies. The program promotes the best practices in law enforcement. The Department was initially accredited in 2009 and reaccredited in 2013.

In 2016 & 2017, we will participate in our second reaccreditation since initially being accredited in 2009. The Lower Township Police Department will undergo another thorough evaluation through the New Jersey State Association of Chiefs of Police to ensure that we are meeting the current best practices according to the commission’s standards. Accreditation results in greater accountability within the agency, reduced risk and liability exposure, stronger defense against civil lawsuits, increased community advocacy and more confidence in the agency’s ability to operate efficiently and respond to community needs. If approved, accreditation is valid for three years, during which time the agency must comply with the standards and reporting requirements.
NEW CAPITAL PURCHASES IN 2016

- 46 Body Worn Cameras (BWC)
- 2 Vehicle Outfitting Truck Vault Security Boxes
- 2 Digital Cameras with Cases
- 30 Handguns
- Long Guns and Cases for Patrol Operations
- Hand Held Radar Unit
- 7 AEDs (Automated External Defibrillator)
- 4 O₂ Tanks for Patrol Vehicles
- 3 Mobile Radios
- Replacement Police Computers/Tablets
- 2 – 2016 Fully Outfitted Ford Expedition Vehicles
- 1 All Terrain Utility Vehicle
- 2 Portable Star Witness Interview Systems
2016 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- **Purchasing, Testing and Preparation for the Implementation of Watch Guard Body Worn Cameras (BWC)**
  With the assistance of the Attorney General’s Body Worn Camera Assistance Program, Lower Township Police was awarded $23,000 to purchase Body Worn Cameras. These funds, along with capital funds, were used to purchase 46 Watch Guard VISTA Wi-Fi body-worn cameras, which will be deployed sometime early 2017.

- **Created New Position in Records Department**
  With the County Dispatch Consolidation in November 2016, several responsibilities and duties will remain with our agency. For example, the maintenance of our NCIC records and files, which we are required to maintain by the state and federal regulations. Additionally, the processing of the videos from the in-car and upcoming body worn cameras, (BWC), are going to require the need for additional assistance in the Records Division, to handle the ever increasing demands in our agency.

- **Transitioned from a Local Municipal Center to a Regional Public Safety Emergency Telecommunication Center**
  Effective November 1, 2016, our agency switched to a Regional Public Safety Emergency Telecommunication Center. This transition required a tremendous amount of planning and preparation to ensure all of our prior responsibilities were covered either by the County or by our Agency. Additionally, it required new policies and procedures for our agency, to ensure a smooth transition.

- **Implemented a New Digital Phone System with IP Office Software**
  The new phone system provides increased clarity and functionality, as well as reduced monthly costs. Additionally, a new recording system was implemented that is capable of recording the Primary Rate Interface lines required for the new digital system with PowerPlay software, allowing for speedy access to recorded phone calls.

- **Replacement of Department Issued Firearms**
  We completed a 2-year replacement program and the agency has transitioned to a newer Glock, Model 21, a 45-caliber handgun, for all sworn personnel.

- **Purchase of All Terrain Utility Vehicle**
  To be used for special events and off road situations were a patrol vehicle could not go, such as wooded and beachfront areas.

- **Began Renovation of Current Public Safety Building**
  In September of 2016, the county began its renovations to the current public safety building. Although we are not responsible for the actual renovation, this renovation has required extensive planning, preparation and implementation of temporary measures/logistics to keep our agency up and running efficiently, as we move through the different phases. The renovation is expected to be completed in 2017.
GOALS FOR 2017

Administrative Division Goal

- Complete the final renovations and requirements for the New Public Safety Building. Once the renovation to the public safety building is complete, all personnel, furniture, equipment and files will be moved to their final location. We need to ensure that the new building meets all the expected requirements and that all the necessary equipment and new building features are up and ready to go, to ensure a smooth transition. In addition, County Dispatch, (which temporarily moved to County facilities in February 2017), will be returning to the building and we will assist, as before, in helping to ensure an efficient relocation back to the new building.

- Redistribute responsibilities with the expansion of the Lower Township Police Department’s Administrative staff. Ensure the Administrative Sergeant is adequately trained, during the busy summer months, in the areas of responsibility that will be delegated to that position. The goal of the redistribution of responsibilities is to provide the opportunity for the administration to proactively develop and oversee community initiatives.

Patrol Division Goals

- The Lower Township Police Department will combine the Fatal Accident Investigation Team’s training regime with the Middle Township Police Department’s Fatal Accident Investigation Team to improve the knowledge and efficiency of both teams. We will have monthly training exercises with both teams training together. The Fatal Accident Investigation Team is a necessary element of the Patrol Division. They are utilized to conduct in-depth investigations of motor vehicle accidents, not being investigated by the Cape May County Prosecutors Office, which result in life threatening injury or loss of life. We will also be recruiting and training additional officers to become investigators, as the opportunities present themselves.

- Establish a committee to create an Employee Recognition Program. Understanding the importance of employees and their value to our agency, we want to create a positive program of recognition for outstanding duty performance. Employees who display action and performance above that which is normally expected of an employee in the routine performance of his/her duties, are to be commended for their accomplishments. This committee will be comprised of members of our agency, who will recommend and review performance worthy commendations to be recognized based upon the employee’s actions and performances.
Detective Division Goals

• **Continue to increase the number of Narcotics Investigations**
  With the statewide epidemic of heroin use and the emergence of methamphetamine, the renewed goal of the detective division is to continue to increase the number of narcotics investigations. By working with the Cape May County Prosecutor’s Office Gangs, Guns and Narcotics Task Force and other jurisdictions, we hope to continue the fluid information sharing that makes these types of investigations productive. Additionally, by analyzing intelligence and increased surveillance activity, plus the further development of confidential informants, we expect an increase in narcotics arrests and seizure of contraband and property related to narcotics trafficking. We have increased the Detective Division by one, giving us 7 full-time detectives, which will benefit us in this endeavor.

• **Utilization of Crime Trend Analysis computer program**
  The introduction of INFOSHARE software to our department in 2017 will include a Crime Trend Analysis computer program option. This option will allow us to track and respond to criminal activity in a more proficient manner. For example, we can track burglary locations with the program to show any tendency, patterns or cluster of activity. We will also use it to assist in our narcotics investigations, where we can track heroin overdose locations. We will also apply the information received from the community and fellow police officers. Once information is vetted and determined to be intelligence, we will add it to the program and this will allow us to focus our investigations on the particular areas, persons and vehicles alleged to be involved in criminal narcotics activity.

Technology and Communications Goals

• **The primary goal for this year is to maintain service uptime as much as possible during the construction phases of the Public Safety Building.** Multiple power shutdowns, approximately 6, of the entire building are planned. Procedures must be followed to safely and correctly shutdown all of the servers and associated hardware and then properly repower them all in the correct manner, after the temporary power outages. These procedures are crucial to the maintaining of the systems. Additionally, interface with the various vendors we utilize to ensure proper functioning of their equipment/software throughout this renovation process.

• **Interact with Cape May County to maintain proper levels of technical support for Dispatch and LTPD**, both while dispatch is located at the County, and then when it moves back to Public Safety building into the new dispatch center.

• **Email will be moved in-house this year**, since the Barracuda Email Filter has been purchased. It was postponed from last year, due to not having this proper protection from viral and malicious emails, for the server and users.