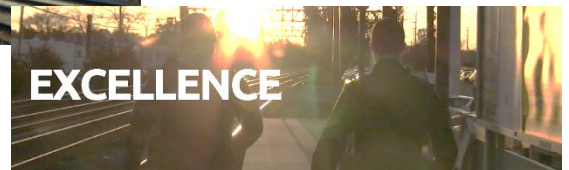
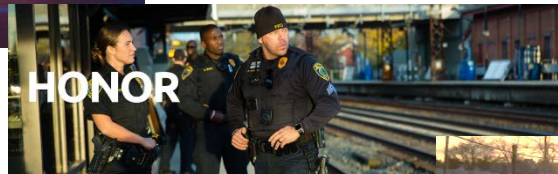


# FAIRFIELD POLICE DEPARTMENT

## Monthly Report – September 2020



Chief Christopher Lyddy

Fairfield Police Department

[www.fpdct.com](http://www.fpdct.com)

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## Section 1: Bureau / Division Reports

### Noteworthy Police Work

Lieutenant Weihe recognized Officer Kevin Wells for his proactive work in locating a missing, endangered elderly female.

Lieutenant Weihe recognized multiple officers and telecommunicators for the following incident:

On the evening of 8/28/20, we received a call that Larry Dunn, brother of Deputy Fire Chief Kyran Dunn, had been missing for seven hours and has Alzheimer's.

Upon receiving the call, Sgt. Wiltsie took command and coordinated a response that demonstrated an in depth knowledge of resources and inter-agency cooperation, including the Fire Department, Eagle 2, CSP K-9, and Officer DeAngelis as a drone pilot.

Officer Wells was the lead investigator, disseminated important timely information, and coordinated with the bloodhound from CSP Litchfield for the K-9 track in multiple locations. Officer DeAngelis came in from off duty to pilot his drone to assist with the search. Officers Gonzalez, Bok, Procaccini, and Gorton also assisted with searching the Lake Mohegan Trails and neighborhood streets. Officer Koukoulas filtered through all of the calls to the front desk reporting possible sightings.

Special Services Sgt. Paris and Officer Letsch immediately offered their assistance with the search, and Sgt. Paris also coordinated with resources from Fairfield and Bridgeport to obtain possible surveillance footage (Fusion Center and Sacred Heart University Public Safety).

Detective Sgt. Vanderheyden responded to the Trumbull Mall with Detectives Nadeau and Buckmir, and were able to obtain surveillance footage establishing that this was Dunn's last known location, as well as his direction of travel from there. Detective Lt. Riendeau, with Detectives Vaspasiano and Fucci performed a neighborhood canvas in search of possible sightings or "RING" footage.

LT. Granata and Sgt. Stahl, while off duty, posted pictures and information over social media and coordinated with News 12.

Dispatchers Maria Lobo, Mary Silva, Kyle Champney, and Jennifer DiJoseph all played an important supporting role in gathering and communicating information to and from the public and assisting agencies. Dispatcher Lynn Erazmus also assisted with the foot search while off-duty.

After approximately 9 hours missing, Dunn was found by a friend in Bridgeport in good health other than some mild dehydration, and was transported by AMR for medical attention.

Special thanks to the assisting agencies: Fairfield Fire Department, CT State Police Litchfield, and Eagle 2.

Sgt. James Wiltsie  
Officer Kevin Wells  
Officer Franck DeAngelis  
Officer Felix Gonzalez  
Officer Matthew Bok  
Officer Virgil Procaccini  
Officer Thomas Gorton  
Officer William Koukoulas  
Sgt. Michael Paris

Officer Mark Letsch  
Detective Lt. Matthew  
Riendeau  
Detective Sgt. Daniel  
Vanderheyden  
Detective Jordan Nadeau  
Detective George Buckmir  
Detective Anthony  
Vaspasiano

Detective Alex Fucci  
PIO Lt. Antonio Granata  
Sgt. Stahl  
  
Telecommunicators:  
Maria Lobo  
Kyle Champney  
Mary Silva  
Jennifer DiJoseph  
Lynn Erazmus

## Awards

The following officers were issued awards in September:

### Distinguished Service Medal

Captain Bucherati  
Detective Buckmir  
Detective Clark  
Detective Colwell  
Detective Fucci  
Officer Letsch  
Officer Medveggy  
Detective McKeon  
Detective Nadeau  
Sergeant Paris  
Officer Procaccini  
Lieutenant Riendeau  
Detective Takacs  
Sergeant Vanderheyden  
Officer Wells  
Officer Zerella  
Telecommunicator Erazmus

### Medal of Exceptional Service

Sergeant Irizarry  
Officer Bennett  
Officer Beattie  
Officer Jenkins  
Officer Rubis  
Officer Leetch  
Officer Mazzochi

### Life-Saving Award

Officer Rubis

## Promotions

**Sergeant Edward Nook** was promoted to lieutenant. He has been assigned as a shift commander in the Patrol Division.

**Officer James Wiltsie** was promoted to sergeant. He was assigned as a shift supervisor in the Patrol Division.



Chief Lyddy, First Selectwoman Kupchick, Sgt. Wiltsie, Lt. Nook, DC Smith, Capt. Kalamaras, Capt. Bucherati

## Field Services Bureau

### **20-31353, 20-28867, 20-8698**

Detectives took into custody a subject with an active Warrant out of Monroe for Larceny 3<sup>rd</sup>. He is responsible for 5 garage and shed burglaries in Fairfield. Ongoing investigation with arrest and search warrants pending.

### **20-32311 –**

Officer Letsch recognized Officer Racz for her work during an untimely death investigation:

*“On Thursday 09/24/20 at 1414 hours, I responded to assist Officer McPadden as he had just called in that he was with a vehicle on Unquowa Road and the operator was deceased. Officer Jenna Racz and I arrived together and I began to speak with a coworker of the deceased as Officer Racz began to capture digital photos of the interior of the vehicle, if by chance the victim had to be moved. I then approached Officer Racz and told her we have to ID the deceased. Without hesitation, Officer Racz jumped in the pickup truck and searched for a wallet, having to exit the truck and enter the passenger to get a better grasp of the deceased wallet. I wanted you to know that during this stressful call, Officer Racz was awesome and her swift actions should be recognized. “*

### **20-31685**

The following letter was received:

Dear Chief:

I wanted to take the opportunity to recognize the efforts of two of your offices this past weekend. My signature line will tell you what I do for a living, and I make that point only to provide context for the extremely professional AND compassionate manner in which they managed the situation. I have had the opportunity to be involved in many interactions with patients who found themselves in the same condition as my daughter and I can say that they handled the situation as well as any of the trained behavioral health professional and emergency department professionals with whom I work and in fact better than some.

My daughter suffers from bipolar disorder and as you may know, mood disorders are often accompanied by substance use disorder. She had been dealing with some personal issues and had not been managing her medications and began drinking. My wife and I were concerned for her safety at this point and so Saturday I contacted 911 and relayed my concerns and what I was hoping to achieve (involuntary hold and admission). **Officers Beattie and Krushinski** arrived shortly as promised and I briefed them outside. We then entered her apartment

where Officer Beattie led the efforts to get her safely to care. Here is where I really want to compliment both of the officers. The entire time both officers remained completely calm and projected both in what they were saying and their body language, that they were in no rush and that they were truly concerned with her well-being. Office Beattie did a spectacular job of using all of the right behaviors and verbal de-escalation attempts during the entire conversation with her. The end result is that she quietly consented to going to the hospital. The officers called an ambulance and the entire event remained uneventful as she voluntarily walked to the ambulance and they took her to the hospital. This is in stark contrast to the last time this happened and I transported her to the hospital, and for that I am especially thankful.

In these times of so much polarity and dissension around law enforcement, I wanted to recognize these officers for their efforts and provide you with something that you can share with others as a morale booster. I am grateful for the job you and your team do and especially grateful that they do it with such compassion.

Best regards,

Mark



## Special Services Bureau

<i>Traffic Safety Unit</i>	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
<i>Traffic Stops</i>	492	292	99	0	167	113	326	694	361			
<i>Infractions Issued</i>	188	95	20	0	0	1	36	305	92			
<i>Misdemeanor Summons</i>	10	6	5	0	1	1	6	16	3			
<i>Accidents Investigated</i>	16	30	15	0	13	28	25	25	28			
<i>Child Seat Installations</i>	14	34	15	0	0	2	5	0	15			
<i>DUI Arrests</i>	0	2	1	0	0	0	1	2	1			

<i>Traffic Crash Unit</i>	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
<i>Accidents Investigated</i>	73	51	40	20	20	43	53	70	81			
<i>Accidents with Injuries</i>	4	6	5	0	1	6	6	6	7			
<i>Search Warrants</i>	3	0	4	4	5	2	6	4	1			
<i>Arrest Warrants</i>	1	1	0	0	3	1	4	3	1			
<i>Misdemeanor Summons</i>	3	2	6	0	3	8	5	4	2			
<i>Infractions Issued</i>	17	8	18	11	7	15	11	113	27			
<i>Fatalities</i>	0	0	1	0	1*	0	2	0	0			

The crash reconstruction team assisted the principal at Fairfield Ludlow Middle School with the redesign of their entry and entry / exit pattern now allowing vehicles to enter via Mill Plain Rd and exit via Unquowa Rd. This new design will hopefully prevent any crashes and allow a safer drop off / pickup pattern for the parents.

<i>Animal Control</i>	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
<i>Complaints</i>	65	70	68	66	92	127	121	118	132			
<i>Wildlife Complaints</i>	23	30	34	32	39	78	64	62	69			
<i>Animals Tested for Rabies</i>	0	1	5	0	1	3	0	6	2			
<i>Animals Positive / Rabies</i>	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0			
<i>Animal Bites</i>	2	1	2	1	2	1	6	2	3			
<i>Written Warnings</i>	4	4	2	4	8	5	6	4	9			
<i>Infractions</i>	1	1	0	2	0	1	1	1	0			
<i>Misdemeanors</i>	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0			

- Lake Mohegan Enforcement: Periodic patrols conducted.
- Period patrols of beaches.

### Other Activities

- Message Boards were strategically placed around town displaying COVID precautions
- National Child Passenger Safety Month was this month - Officer Jenkins and Officer MacNamara were certified as Child Passenger Safety Technicians joining the rest of the team
- Fairfield Officers conducted a child seat clinic in Westport in conjunction with Yale New Haven Hospital and Westport Police
- Funeral Escort provided for retired Fairfield Firefighter
- Duck Farm Rd was temporarily posted with electronic message boards due to an increase in stop sign/speeding violations - Stop sign size was increased and delineators put in place
- New e-ticket printers were obtained via State of CT Grant

**Traffic Enforcement Targeted Areas**

Longview Ave	Pequot Ave
Duck Farm Rd @ Alma Dr	Redding Rd
S. Benson Rd	Hulls Farm Rd
Burr St	Fairfield Woods Rd
Hillside Rd	Melville Ave
Old Post Rd	Unquowa Rd
Hulls Hwy	N Benson Rd
Mill Plain Rd	Stratfield Rd
Park Ave	Pansy Rd
Post Rd @ River St	Harvester Rd @ Putting Green Rd
Black Rock TnPk @ Baros St	

<i>Marine Unit</i>	April	May	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEPT	OCT
<i>Complaints</i>	5	12	19	34	28	19	
<i>Boats Towed</i>	0	1	2	2	1	0	
<i>Written Warnings</i>	0	0	0	0	0	0	
<i>Arrests</i>	0	0	0	0	0	0	
<i>Safety Inspections</i>	0	1	4	0	0	0	
<i>Total Calls For Service</i>	6	13	23	34	28	19	
<i>Hours Underway</i>	2	10	75	165	145	110	
<i>Community Events</i>	0	0	1	0	0	2	
<i>Location Checks</i>	1	12	3	11	12	6	
<i>Fatalities</i>	0	0	0	0	0	0	

## Administrative Services Bureau

### Training

- Marine SCUBA Training
- Basic SRO Training
- Child Passenger Safety Seat Technician
- Legal Update
- Internal Affairs Investigations
- Basic Police Firearms Instructor
- Firearms Annual Training

## Emergency Communications Center

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Total Incoming Calls	7,117	6,746	6,586	6,010	7,053	8,098	6,172	10,154	7,791			
Total 911 Calls	1,566	1,622	1,353	1,724	1,430	1,771	1,846	2,702	1,714			
Total Outgoing Calls	1,825	1,796	1,729	1,157	1,970	2,160	2,132	2,460	2,071			
Total CSFs Processed	3,816	3,419	3,237	4,079	3,678	3,125	3501	4,479	3,661			
% 911 Calls Under 10 Sec	95.95	95.31	96.33	97.23	96.43	96.32	96.48	78.65%	95.16%			

*Note: The decrease in 911 call answer percentage in August was due to the extreme call volume during Tropical Storm Isaias.*