

Report of the Hampton Police Department

Mission

It is the mission of the Hampton Police Department to enhance the quality of life for all persons who live, work, and visit our community by:

- Fostering partnerships within our community to promote safe secure neighborhoods,
- Maintaining order and peace, while affording dignity and respect to every person,
- Safeguarding individual rights, and
- Preventing crime while aggressively working to solve those crimes which occur.

We strive to accomplish this mission through the delivery of quality police services, and the pursuit of excellence and dedication in the performance of those services.

Department Values

All employees of the Hampton Police Department will be guided by the following shared values:

A. HUMAN LIFE

We value human life and dignity above all else.

Therefore:

We give priority to any situation, which threatens life. We utilize the proper levels of force and only when necessary. We treat all persons in a dignified and courteous manner, and exhibit understanding of ethnic and cultural diversity, both in our professional and personal endeavors. We will remain constantly aware of the need for compassion, caring, and common sense in dealing with people.

B. INTEGRITY

We believe integrity is the basis for public trust.

Therefore:

We are committed to the highest performance standards, ethical conduct, and truthfulness in all relationships. We hold ourselves accountable for our actions and take pride in a professional level of service to all.

C. EXCELLENCE

We strive for personal and professional excellence.

Therefore:

We strive to do our best in all situations and to provide quality service in a courteous, efficient, and accessible manner. We vigorously enforce local, state and federal laws; and, are committed to the defense of the Constitutions of the United States and the State of New Hampshire. We promote community and employee interaction through problem solving partnerships. We empower our employees at all levels to engage in problem identification and problem-solving activities. We will strive for professional performance through continual training, education, and commitment to our duties. We will not tolerate misconduct by an employee and we will treat our fellow employees and our work environment with dignity and respect.

Vision Statement

We are determined to be recognized as a professional and effective organization that is respected by the community we serve and guided by the principals of law. We strive to work with our stakeholders to improve our community.

Sworn Personnel

We experienced several personnel transitions within the Department over the year. On January 14th Chief Richard Sawyer retired after 25 years of service to the Town of Hampton. Chief Sawyer began his career with Hampton PD in 1996 and he worked his way through the ranks as a Sergeant, Lieutenant, Captain, and Deputy Chief prior to being selected as the 24th Chief of Police for the Town of Hampton in 2014. We are extremely grateful for his service and leadership he has provided to this department and we wish him all the best.

On January 15th I was sworn in as the 25th Chief of Police for the Town of Hampton. I have served as a member of this Department since 1999 and consider myself extremely fortunate to work in and live in such a great community. I am grateful for the many relationships and partnerships that exist in this community and look forward to the continued success of this Agency.

On January 22nd Alex Reno was sworn in as the Deputy Chief. Deputy Chief Reno has served with the Department since 2002. He has held numerous positions within the agency to include; SRO, Detective, Sergeant, and Lieutenant. His experiences throughout his career have and will serve him well as he runs the Operations of the agency. He also serves as a Chief Master Sergeant in the United States Air Force Reserves and is currently pursuing his Masters in Organizational Leadership from Southern New Hampshire University.

On February 10th, 2021 Brock Crowley was sworn in as a Full-Time Police Officer. Ofc. Crowley has served with the Department since 2019 initially as a Part-Time Dispatcher and in 2020 as a Part-Time Police Officer. He recently graduated from Nichols College with a degree in Business

Administration. Officer Crowley resigned from his full-time position in September however he remains with us as a part-time Officer.

On March 31st Lt. Tom Gudaitis retired from Hampton PD after 31 years of service. Lt. Gudaitis can best be described as a true professional. He served as member of the Command Staff for 9 years and has been instrumental in the development of our training program, recruitment and hiring program, building operations, and our succession planning processes. We thank him for his dedication and years of service to the Department and Community and we wish him all the best.

On April 1st 2021 Anthony Azarian was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant. Lt. Azarian is currently serving as our Support Lieutenant and oversees our Criminal Investigation Division, Prosecution Division, Department Training, and he is responsible for Recruitment and Hiring to name a few of his responsibilities.

On April 13th Christopher Keyser was promoted to Sergeant. Sgt. Keyser has been with the Department since 2014. He serves as a member of our Training Unit as well as a member of the Seacoast Emergency Response Team. Sgt. Keyser is currently assigned as the Shift Supervisor on the midnight shift and will be transitioning to the Sergeant of the Criminal Investigation Division.

Detective Clay DeMarco was selected to serve as a Tactical Operator on the Seacoast Emergency Response Team on April 19th. This followed a competitive selection process against several other candidates.

Detective DeMarco and Detective Feeley were selected as Summer Corporals for the Summer of 2021. They both served commendably in what is arguably one of the most challenging positions within the Department overseeing the summer operations for the Department. They experienced significant staffing shortages as well as provided supervision for officers from other communities that assisted us this summer.

In May of 2021 a selection process was conducted for 2 School Resource Officer positions to replace both Detective DeMarco and Detective Feeley who had served in the Hampton Schools for the past 3 years. Officer Terenzoni was selected to serve as the SRO at Hampton Academy and Officer Felch was selected to serve at the Centre School. They were assigned to the schools at the end of the school year to work on this transition and they attended the SRO school at New Hampshire Police Standards and Training. We would like to thank both Detective DeMarco and Detective Feeley for their commitment to the Hampton Schools during their time as SRO's.

In May we assigned one of our Detectives to the Rockingham County Drug Task Force. This is a part time assignment so he is still able to work his case load and assist with Drug Investigations as available. This Task Force serves as an additional resource for the Agency in targeting the drug problems we face in Hampton and throughout Rockingham County.

On July 15th Officer Natalie Noble resigned from her position as a full-time Officer. Ofc. Noble had served with the Department since 2020. We wish her the best of luck in her future career path.

On July 15th we hired Officer Samuel Forcino as a full-time officer. Officer Forcino graduated from the part time Academy in May of this year and recently graduated from the full time Academy on December 17th.

On August 10th we hired Officer Samantha Savini as a full-time officer. Officer Savini graduated from the part time Academy in May of this year and she is scheduled to attend the full time Academy in January.

On October 27th we hired Officer Alex Poplieski as a full-time officer. Officer Poplieski also completed the part time academy in May of this year and is scheduled to attend the full time Police Academy in January.

In September of this year Officer Brandon Whitehead was selected as our K9 Officer. He continues to work on the implementation of this program through training, policy development, and coordinating resources for the program with support from the community.

In October of this year Officer Anthony Shriber resigned from his position as a full-time Officer. Officer Shriber had worked as a full-time officer for 2 years. We are thankful for his service to our community and wish him well.

We offer our appreciation and support to Officer Zigler and Officer Delotto who have both been on deployment with the Armed Forces at one time or another in 2021. We thank them for their service to the community and to our country.

The following part-time Officers have left their positions with the Hampton Police Department in 2021;

John Tuttle	Jamie Costa
Adam Ivancic	Samuel Forcino*
Samantha Savini*	Michael Richardson
Robert Sparkes	Franklin Knowles
Jarrod MacDonald	Andrew Marsden
Alex Poplieski*	

(* Resigned to accept full time position with HPD)

We wish them all the best and thank them for their service to our community. A special thank you to Officer Knowles who served 45 years and Officer Sparkes who served 41 years commendably. Both Officers have been a great representation of this agency and we are truly grateful.

In November we had four candidates complete the part-time Officer Academy. These Officers are;

Patrick Vetter	Jacob Watkins
Brady McMillion	Donald Bolduc

These officers still need to complete the additional 150+ hours of training at the Department prior to starting their patrol duties. Jacob Watkins has since resigned for another agency, and we wish him well.

On October 1st Sgt. Andrew Jowett and Officer Justin Leduc were recognized for their life saving efforts from February 4th involving a female in distress along Route 101. These officers were awarded New Hampshire Congressional Awards for their actions. Sgt. Jowett received the "Above and Beyond the Call of Duty" award and Ofc. Leduc received the "Officer Richard W. Bateman Dedication and Professionalism Award".

On November 17th Officer Mathew Robinson was recognized by the Office of NH Highway Safety for his outstanding efforts in enforcing highway safety initiatives with his aggressive enforcement of DWI laws. Officer Robinson was recognized for making a 44 DWI arrests as well as conducted 473 traffic stops and issued 292 traffic citations.

Civilian Personnel

In July of this year Patrick Vetter resigned from his full-time position as a Communications Specialist in order to pursue his goal as a part-time Officer with the Department. Additionally, Cathy Lisi resigned from her position as a Communication Specialist to pursue other avenues. We are grateful for their service to our community and wish them all the best.

On February 1st we hired Nick Thamsen as a full-time Communications Specialist. Mr. Thamsen comes to us from New York with prior experience in the first responder field.

On August 30th we hired Noah Graham as a full-time Communications Specialist. He had served with the Department as a part-time Communications Specialist prior to being hired full-time. Additionally, we hired Elliot Reynolds on September 29th. Mr. Reynolds comes to us with prior experience as a Communication Specialist with another local agency.

In September of this year Communications Specialist Rhonda Stevens resigned from her position after 23+ years of service to the Town of Hampton. Mrs. Stevens had worked as a supervisor for several years as well as a Tactical Dispatcher for the Seacoast Emergency Response Team. She has also served as our primary trainer in Communications for years. We are grateful for her service to the community and wish her well in her future endeavors.

Department Operations

Despite our continued staffing issues, the Hampton Police Department's activity levels increased from previous years in several areas. The Department responded to 21,514 calls for service. We conducted 4,750 motor vehicle stops and responded to 409 motor vehicle accidents. The agency made 1,146 arrests to include 309 arrests for DWI which represents a 53% increase in DWI arrests from 2020 and 42% increase from 2019. This drastic increase in DWI arrests is due to a Department wide effort of aggressively looking for and identifying impaired drivers. These increased efforts have undoubtedly made our community a safer place.

During our summer season we experienced an increase in visitors due to the relaxed Covid-19 restrictions. As the warm weather came upon us we dealt with a number of social media driven "events" at the beach. Officers responded quickly to these events and with a large police presence we were able to aggressively enforce the laws of the State of New Hampshire and avoid any property damage or personal injuries. We would like to thank the agencies that assisted us with these events as well as through the summer season;

New Hampshire State Police, Rockingham County Sheriff's Department, Seabrook Police Department, Epping Police Department, Portsmouth Police Department, UNH Police Department, Exeter Police Department, Hampton Fire/Rescue, Hampton Public Works, Seacoast Fire Chiefs, New Hampshire State Parks, the Seacoast Emergency Response Team, and New Hampshire Fish and Game

At the end of August, the Department pursued funding for the implementation of a K9 program through the Stanton Foundation. The Department was approved by the Board of Directors from the Stanton Foundation and we are currently preparing for the implementation of the program in 2022. Officer Whitehead will be attending the K9 Academy of Boston in March of 2022. We are looking forward to this resource being immediately available to help prevent crime and help keep our community safe.

The Department was notified in October of being the recipient of ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) funding through the NH DOJ. This funding will help to offset costs associated with bringing in officers from other communities to assist us with our summer operations as well as provide funding to add an additional Sergeant's position to increase the level of supervision on the street. We also received additional funding through the CESF (Coronavirus Emergency Supplementing Funding) grant to offset personnel costs associated with dealing with the increased crowds we were experiencing in the pre-season.

Authorized Department Personnel

Full-time Law Enforcement Officers - 36

(anticipating one additional position from grant funding)

Part-time Law Enforcement Officers - 70 (currently 19 positions filled)

Civilian Personnel - 10

On behalf of the employees of the Hampton Police Department I would like to thank the members of our community for their partnership in ensuring the Town of Hampton remains a great place to live, work, and visit. I would also like to thank the members of the Department and their families for their continued efforts and sacrifices they all make in support of our Mission.

Respectfully Submitted on behalf of the Hampton Police Department,

David K. Hobbs Jr.

Chief of Police

Police Activity: 2020 compared to 2021

CATEGORY	% CHANGE	2020	2021
Calls for Service	-1%	21754	21514
Motor Vehicle Stops	62%	2932	4750
Arrests	4%	1102	1146
DWI	53%	202	309
Drug Offenses	-15%	80	68
Incidents Reported	-5%	1095	1039
Offences	4%	2478	2588
Felonies	18%	149	176
Parking Tickets	-44%	3723	2099
Accidents	22%	336	409
Overdoses (Total)	-17%	30	25
Fatal Overdoses	0%	6	6

