

*Norwich Police
Annual Report*



for the year

2007

March 18, 2008

Hon. Mayor Joseph P. Maiurano;
Members of the Common Council;

Submitted for your review is the annual report of the Norwich Police Department for the year 2007.

In the pages that follow is the activity of the Norwich Police Department presented in chart form. Be reminded that each of the numbers shown actually represents a *person* who, in one way or another, had contact with a City of Norwich Police Officer. In most cases, these contacts are a stressful time to at least one of the parties involved. With that being said, it's very important to note that my office has received very little negative feedback about the professionalism of our officers. On the contrary, I am complimented almost daily about the level of service our citizens receive.

Overall the numbers in this report remain about the same as past years or indicate slightly lowers numbers. I don't believe this is a community wide trend. I do feel activity of the Police Officers in 2007 was decreased by having, at times, up to four (4) police officers missing from duty. The reasons for these absences include; two officers at recruit school for six months, a retirement in August and also extended illness.

For the first time in a decade the City was shocked in late March of 2007 by a murder in the City. An arrest was made within days of this crime. At the time of this report the person responsible has been found guilty and sent to prison. Less than a week later the community was stunned once again with a juvenile charged with attempting to murder his mother.

The year 2007 was challenging for all police force personnel, not only high profile crimes, but also the strain of working with a shortage of officers and long hours of overtime, often times working alone. I am proud of these officers and honored to be in a position of responsibility with them.

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph Angelino

Mission Statement

“The mission of the Norwich Police Department is the prevention of crime and the enforcement of City, State and Federal Laws and Ordinances.

To take appropriate action on complaints from the public regarding all matters which fall within the province of the Police Department, and to refer all others to the proper agencies for handling.

To cooperate with all City, State, County and Federal Agencies in the interests of public safety.”

The Members of the Norwich Police Force as of December 31, 2007

<u>Name</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>Date of Rank</u>	<u>Date of Hire</u>
Angelino, J	Chief of Police	9/26/1996	05/15/1981
Smith, D	A/Chief of Police	3/01/2006	03/17/1991
Marsh, R	A/Chief of Police	07/22/2007	08/01/1993
Burlison, S	Sergeant of Police	03/01/2006	10/27/1996
Meade, S	Sergeant of Police	05/17/2006	04/28/1997
Turner, G	Sergeant of Police	07/22/2007	10/28/1996
Blenis, P	Sergeant of Police	12/31/2007	05/15/1994
Berry, C	Police Officer		03/17/1991
Zieno, S	Police Officer		05/22/1994
Tumminia, R	Police Officer		06/19/1994
Purdy, M	Police Officer		03/29/1998
Burdick, J	Police Officer		09/10/2000
Roach, R	Police Officer		09/28/2005
Rotundo, C	Police Officer		03/01/2006
Annesi, T	Police Officer		03/02/2006
Samuelson, J	Police Officer		05/17/2006
Carpenter, J	Police Officer		07/19/2006
Clarke, B	Police Officer		04/09/2007

Dog Control / Parking Enforcement

The Dog Control Officer and Parking Attendant for the City of Norwich is Special Officer Jeremy B. Stopford. This is a post he has held since June 20, 1983. This makes Officer Stopford the senior most officer of the Norwich Police Force. Additionally, he has the most specialized function in that his duties are focused on dog control and parking enforcement.

Additionally Officer Stopford assists at motor vehicle accidents, controlling traffic so police officers can conduct their investigations safely and quickly. Officer Stopford is the first officer used to fill in for absent school crossing guards. Because of his flexibility, Officer Stopford's duty hours vary from day to day.

Officer Stopford's primary responsibility is the maintenance of approximately 800 dogs that are licensed, or should be licensed in the city. His knowledge of Agriculture and Markets law make him the subject matter expert at the police station.

Dog complaints handled in 2007	– 341
Dog bite complaints investigated	– 17
Unlicensed Dog tickets issued	– 6
Lease law tickets issued	– 2
Public Health violations	– 2

A new twist to 'dogs at large' complaints has become a trend. The Dog Control Officer investigated several complaints from citizens reporting a stray dog, or otherwise dog at large and unlicensed. Through investigation many of these were found to be dogs actually owned by the caller who could no longer care for the animal or keep the dog in new housing. The reason most often cited for these false reports was financial hardship of feeding and caring for a sick dog. This causes undue charges against the city for the keeping and care of stray dogs. Most of these cases ended with an arrest for Falsely Reporting an Incident.

It needs to be noted that cooperation between the Norwich police Dog Control Officer and the Chenango County SPCA is at an all time high and we look forward to continuing this spirit of cooperation in the best interests of both parties and the city's dog population.

Officer Stopford's secondary responsibility is enforcement of city ordinances relative to parking of vehicles. Not only does he enforce the time limit parking in the business district, but he also enforces parking rules throughout the city. The total parking tickets issued in 2007 was 522. With the exception of 2AM-6AM tickets, Officer Stopford writes the majority of parking tickets.

Deputy Chief Retires

Deputy Chief Van Miles retired in August of 2007 after more than 20 years of service. Van Miles began his career as a Patrolman in August of 1987, was promoted to Sergeant in 1996 and to Deputy Chief of Police in April of 2006. He took with him irreplaceable knowledge and experience.



Deputy Chief Van Miles

Promotions

The following officers were promoted to the below indicated rank in the 2007. Officers received their promotions in City Council Chambers with their friends and family present.

Deputy Chief Rodney Marsh
Sergeant Gard Turner
Sergeant Patrick Blenis

New Hire

Police Officer Brandon Clarke

City Court Fines Levied

Persons summoned to court that are subsequently convicted of an offense many times are required to pay a fine to satisfy the court. Fines are collected by the City Court Clerk and allocated as required by law. Only a portion of monies collected are forwarded to the City of Norwich. These monies should not be considered revenue, but a deterrent to future breaches of the law.

2007 Fines Collected by the City Court Clerk:

Criminal Arrests: \$17355.00

Traffic Offenses: \$ 12030.00

Parking Tickets: \$1420.00

* Parking ticket monies are collected at City Hall unless the ticket is past due or is challenged in city court, in which case the monies are collected by the Court Clerk.

A special note about Fire Police

Although the Fire Police Squad is not a part of the Norwich Police Force, the Fire Police from the Norwich Fire Department, augmented by fire police from other departments in Chenango County provide a great deal of service to the Norwich police.

Without the dedicated volunteers of the fire police, the Norwich police would *not* be able to effectively conduct the special events, parades, road races and other activities that have become a regular occurrence in Norwich.

Fire police also provide a significant amount of support directing traffic at the numerous traffic accidents that take place in the city. Fire police respond to personal injury accidents and serious property damage accidents to assist with traffic control, allowing police officers to thoroughly investigate with reduced fear of being struck by a motorist.

School Crossing Guards

Some of the most dedicated employees any employer could ever ask for are the school crossing guards of the Norwich Police Force. Many people are under the mistaken impression that school-crossing guards are school district employees. These individuals are “Special Officers” of the Norwich police and as such have authority to stop and direct traffic. Their most important duty is that of safely crossing children at busy intersections along NYS Route 12 corridor. They are on duty twice daily; 7:15am-8:15am and again at 2:15pm-3:15pm. In all types of weather, these crossing guards are on their posts.

Crossing Guards

James Dundon – South Broad St at Hale St

Nancy Aubrey – South Broad St at Beebe Ave

Sal Mirabito - North Broad St at Rexford St

Jessica Richardson – Alternate Guard

Fees Collected for Service

We do occasionally go beyond our mission and scope of law enforcement duties by performing other tasks. For some of these tasks a fee is charged and the proceeds are sent directly to the General Fund, separate from any fine money collected by City Court. Also, we sometimes generate revenue in the course of our duties.

Please be reminded the Police Department is not a revenue-generating agency of the City of Norwich.

Division of Parole office rental	1200
Norwich Housing - Background & Fingerprinting clients	2422
Fingerprinting – general public	828
Drug Seizures (cash)	7479.86
TOTAL	\$11929.86

School Patrols

With the cooperation of School Officials, Norwich Police Officers are once again patrolling the hallways of the Norwich High School. On a near daily basis, Norwich Police Officers enter the school and walk the halls. We are supported by school administration and hope our presence may deter potential disturbances and allow students to concentrate on their education.



Police Officer Ross Tumminia at Norwich High School

Homicide on Henry St

On Tuesday March 20, 2007 at about 2:20PM the family of Tammy Periard came to the Norwich Police Station to report they had not seen Tammy in two days. Immediately, the gravity of this report was recognized. Ms. Periard was a well-known member of the community and this absence was certainly out of character. Members of the Norwich Police Force investigated throughout the day. Later that day officers located Ms. Periard's car parked behind the Bullthistle Railroad Museum on Rexford St. With no logical explanation why her car would be there we realized this case was taking a ominous turn. A call was made to the Chenango County Sheriff and the Greene Police Department requesting assistance with the search using their canine units. These searches did not turn up anything of value. Simultaneously with the ground search, other Norwich officers were conducting interviews in attempts to retrace Ms. Periard's activity of the previous day. Early in the morning of Wednesday March 21st, Chief Angelino had conversations with the family members. They were told if Tammy's whereabouts was not known in the coming hours, that all possible assistance would be summoned to assist the Norwich police. A few hours after that conversation a request was made to the New York State Police, Chenango County Sheriff, NYS Forest Rangers, Environmental Conservation Police, for them to come to the Norwich Police Station for a briefing on this

case. Within a matter of hours no fewer than 60 police officers from various agencies were in Norwich investigating and or searching for Ms. Periard on land, water and in the air. Because of the intensity of this investigation and the amount of people interviewed a suspect developed. We believe the constant pressure of the investigation, and most likely feelings of guilt lead this suspect to call the police station from a payphone to ‘offer assistance’. Ultimately Daniel L. Brown Sr., age 45, was arrested for the murder of Tammy L. Periard. Through investigation it was learned that Ms. Periard was a building manager of the apartment house at 56 Henry St in which Brown was a tenant. During her normal course of business she was at Brown’s residence for rent collection. It was determined that Brown was under the influence of non-prescribed drugs. During this interaction Brown became upset and a physical altercation turned into a homicide. Brown ultimately pleaded guilty to Murder 2nd Degree and other felonies and was sentenced to prison.



Tammy L. Periard
June 16, 1961 – March 26, 2007



Daniel Leon Brown Sr.

Sentenced to 20 years to life
Received at Elmira Correctional Facility December 26, 2007
First eligible for parole on March 23, 2027

Overtime use

The 2007 Police Department budget included \$79,000.00 for police overtime. This amount was exceeded. Because this is an unusual occurrence, I feel this deserves comment and explanation. Below is a chart showing where overtime hours/dollars were used by general category. Major contributing factors in this overrun were; 1. A Homicide investigation and other serious crimes investigations; 2. Two officers being at the police academy for nearly 7 months at the same time and; 3. Two officers being out on extended sick leave. Even with the many hours of overtime there were several shifts during the year that were covered with only two officers. Additionally, in attempts to reduce costs and increase officer safety, Deputy Chiefs Smith and Marsh were required to supplement shifts.

<u>Category</u>	<u>Hours</u>	<u>OT @ \$34.00*</u>
Computer Maintenance	3	102.00
Funerals	4	136.00
Weather/Flooding/etc	20	680.00
Prisoner Transports	30.5	1037.00
Mental Patients	41.75	1419.50
Arrests	46.25	1572.50
Gus Macker	88	2992.00
Personal Leave S/C	119.75	4071.50
Military Leave S/C	121	4114.00
Court	123.5	4199.00
Parades/Events	173	5882.00
Periard Homicide	214	7276.00
Investigations	226.25	7692.50
Training	233.5	7939.00
DWI Patrols **	299.5	10183.00
Sick S/C	306.5	10421.00
Training S/C	323.75	11007.50
Short Shifts S/C	381.75	12979.50
Vacation S/C	<u>658</u>	<u>22372.00</u>
TOTALS	3407 hrs	\$116,076.00

* 2007 Overtime average was \$34.00 per hour

** Reimbursed by Chenango County STOP DWI program

Training

The Norwich Police Department takes a great deal of pride in their reputation as a modern, professional police agency. To maintain our professionalism our officers are continually attending classes. Training enhances the officer's confidence and ability while reducing the risk of liability to the city.

<u>Topic</u>	<u>Hours</u>
Active Shooter	16
Clandestine Drug Labs	4
Department In-Service	
E-Justice	
Penal Law	
Use of Force	
Chemical Spray	
DNA Collection	
City Codes	
Municipality Software	
Hospital Security	
	171
Fire Arms/Marksmanship	45
Fire Arms Instructor	160
Evidence Technician	80
Interview/Interrogation	32
Handgun Armorer	16
Legal Topics	32
Police Academy (2 recruits)	1760
Police Sergeant	120
Search Warrants	48
Tazer Instructor	<u>16</u>
TOTAL HRS	2500