

2011 Amherst Police Report

Department Roster

Chief Peter A. Lyon

Lieutenant Mark O. Reams

Lieutenant James R. Brace

Sergeant Anthony E. Ciampoli

Sergeant P. Derek Mahoney

Officer Ralph J. Marschhausen

Officer Matthew R. Saunders

Officer Michael J. Knox

Officer Patrick A. Webster

Officer Chad E. Blake

Officer John H. Smith

Officer James B. Crocker

Officer Nathan T. Berry

Officer Sarah D. Arnold

Officer Nicholas A. Skiba

Officer David P. Audet

Officer Justin J. Gerome

Sharon Higley – Executive Assistant

Officer Lance T. Hult – Part-time

Officer Ethan Lewis – Part-time

Sally Long – Crossing Guard

Carolyn Karnis – Crossing Guard

The Amherst Police Department remains committed to providing high quality community policing services to the town of Amherst. These services, which extend from the traditional law enforcement functions to those services designed to enhance the quality of life in our town, have provided well for the town. Our mission statement declares our goal to enrich the quality of life in Amherst by working in partnership with the citizens of Amherst. We work every day to be a part of the community, understanding what the community needs while the citizenry learn how we operate.

The department has worked hard over the last year to address the rising rates of crime and requests for service but with only

mixed results. While some crimes such as criminal mischief and criminal threatening have shown recent decreases, other areas such as assaults, burglaries, criminal trespass, disorderly conduct, drug violations, thefts, and motor vehicle complaints have increased over the last two years. While some of these numbers fluctuate from year to year, it is the general trend of increases which is noteworthy.

We would also like to remind everyone of the increasing numbers of computer and internet based crimes occurring here and across the country. Often times, instances of theft, identify theft, fraud, scams, bullying, and crimes against children, which have been occurring long before the computer age, are now being perpetrated with the use of computers, the internet, and data phones. The prevention of these crimes requires everyone to be aware of the likelihood of being a target of one of these criminal endeavors, to discuss the dangers with your children and to make a call to the police department anytime you have a suspicion of criminal behavior.

As always, we remind everyone of the importance in reporting all unusual or suspicious activity that you may observe. A well timed telephone call from an observant resident can be the needed information to stop or solve a crime and can save hours of police work. The department has seen several cases in this past year which exemplify the value of an involved community. Additionally, we encourage everyone to take advantage of the services we provide, such as vacant house checks, the Good Morning Amherst senior citizen call-in program, home security evaluations, and help from the school resource officers with questions related to your child and the internet, to name just a few.

The department appreciates the support of the Town's people and the opportunity to work closely with the citizens to maintain the quality of life unique to Amherst. In our quest to improve the level of service provided, we always invite comments and suggestions as to how we may better serve our community. We would like to thank our residents, business people, community leaders, other town employees and department heads, for your continued help and support over the year.

Lastly, we want to encourage everyone to sign up for the CodeRED notification program used by the town's emergency services. CodeRED is used for situations such as weather related emergencies, missing children, evacuation notices, and major roadway issues, to name just a few. An electronic link for CodeRED is available via the police department web page, at www.amherstpolice.com

Respectfully submitted,

Peter A. Lyon

Chief of Police