

# MIDDLE TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT 2011 ANNUAL REPORT



**Christopher M. Leusner**  
**Chief of Police**



Prepared by:  
Chief C. Leusner  
Captain J. Edwards  
Lt. C. Murphy  
Lt. W. Adams

Released: February 21, 2012

# MIDDLE TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In 2011, Middle Township continued its transition from the restructuring of 2010. Some of the highlights in 2011 included replacing retiring officers for the first time since February of 2008 and a new Special Class II Police Officer Program that proved to be a huge success. These Class II officers were utilized in a limited role of only handling 3<sup>rd</sup> degree crimes and below, but their contribution was nevertheless critical. Other highlights include another 10% reduction in overtime for a savings of \$20,000. This is a total decrease in overtime expenses of \$70,000 from 2009 levels. Our False Alarm Reduction Program has been successful in reducing the number of False Alarms in 2011 by approximately 27% from 2009. The reduction in False Alarm calls has resulted in officers having more time to respond to priority calls, and spend their time more efficiently.

Our number#1 goal in 2011 was to increase the Quality of Life in Rio Grande. We conducted 10 plain clothes details that resulted in a total of 55 arrests. In addition, the Special Services Unit in conjunction with the Cape May County Prosecutors Office conducted, "Operation Clean Sweep" which resulted in the execution of 4 Search Warrants simultaneously at 4 different rooms of the Off-Shore Motel. We view the continued attention and enforcement in Rio Grande as our number #1 priority again in 2012. The overall Township preliminary criminal activity statistics in 2011 had mixed results. We saw a reduction in overall violent crime by 3%. Homicide, Rape, and Arson were down and Aggravated Assaults increased by 3. The non violent crime activity is up by approximately 16%, which is driven by a 20% increase in Thefts reported in 2011. The total number of thefts in 2011 was 593, an increase from 473 in 2010. We attribute the increase to thefts related to scrap metal during daytime hours. The total dollar amount reported stolen to the New Jersey State Police through the Uniform Crime Report in 2011 was \$817,121 an increase by \$30,465. Domestic Violence cases decreased by approximately 24% to 221 and total arrest increased by 24% to 1421.

The traffic activity data in 2011 showed some encouraging signs. Motor Vehicle Accidents saw a decrease of 10% to 896 and injuries a 3% decline to 285. Fatalities were flat with 2 in 2010 and 2011. Motor Vehicle Summonses issued increased by approximately 3% to 4291. Driving While Intoxicated arrests also increased to 105 an increase by 7%. The Department has been aggressive in training officers and obtaining grant money related to Drug Recognition Experts. Middle Township joined with Atlantic County to be reimbursed through the National Traffic Institute of Highway Safety for activities related to this type of enforcement. We view the accident data as an encouraging sign, especially with last year's numbers climbing over 1000 accidents for the first time in our Township's history.

Our initiative to improve community relations continued to make strides in 2011. The Chief of Police attended 8 different community organization meetings to discuss issues and concerns. The Department also restarted its Neighborhood Watch Program and assisted four different Neighborhood Watch Groups in forming in 2011. A new program, "Cops and Coffee" was launched in 2011 with Cpl. Devico holding 7 successful events.

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We partnered for a second year in a row with the Kiwanis Club of Cape May Court House to hold our 2<sup>nd</sup> Child Safety Seminar and we also staffed Informational Booths at the Concerned Citizens of Whitesboro Reunion, Harvest Festival, and the 4-H fair. Our Facebook page continues to grow and increases our interaction with citizens. The addition of a You Tube channel has been a huge success and resulted in increased participation by the public in providing tips on criminal investigations.

Finally, in August the Township Of Middle was confronted with Hurricane Irene that included a mandatory evacuation. An Emergency Operations Center was established on the second floor of the Police Department that was staffed 24 hours a day for 4 days straight. The center included numerous telephones, laptops, and acted as the central clearinghouse of information for all first responders in Middle Township and the public. All officers were placed on stand-by Saturday night and were stationed at various Firehouses within the 72 square miles of Middle Township, so that when the storm passed we could quickly and safely penetrate all areas of the Township. We were spared significant damage by Irene, but we are very proud of the long hours and work done by the officers of Middle Township during this event.

# MIDDLE TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT

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## ORGANIZATION & PERSONNEL

### Personnel

#### Retirements

Captain Paul Fritsch and Ptl. Robert McHale retired December 1, 2011.

#### Current Sworn Employees

The list below reflects the Department sworn personnel as of January 1, 2012.

#### Chief of Police

Christopher Leusner

#### Captain

John Edwards

#### Lieutenant

Christopher Murphy

William Adams

#### Detectives

D/Sgt Don Nelson

Allan McClure

Clint Stocker

Ken Martin

Mark Higginbottom

#### Special Services Unit

Sgt. D. Osmundsen

Cpl. J. DeVico

Officer Sharon Price

Patrolman Marcus Phillips

Patrolman Jason Sweitzer

Special Police Officer II Brian Murphy

Special Police Officer II Mary Champion

Special Police Officer II Scott Frazer

Special Police Officer II Phillip Rossi

#### Patrol Sergeants

Pat Conte

James Dougherty

James Loftus

Robert Shepherd

#### Corporals

Mike Elias

Jennifer DeLanzo

Fred Crawley

Fran Fiore

#### Senior Patrol Officers

Richard Sittineri

#### Patrolman

Julio Ruiz

Steven Novsak

Michelle Brown

Joshua Bryan

Ron Miller

Tracey Super

Dan Martin

Matthew Martino

Leonard Larkin

Giacomo Trombetta

Kurt Saettler

Armondo Jones

Martin Lindholm

Dan Geiger

Leon Linthicum

Jennifer Delanzo

Gino Castellano

Jason Sill

Phillip Johnson

James D'Alonzo

David Hagan

John Norton

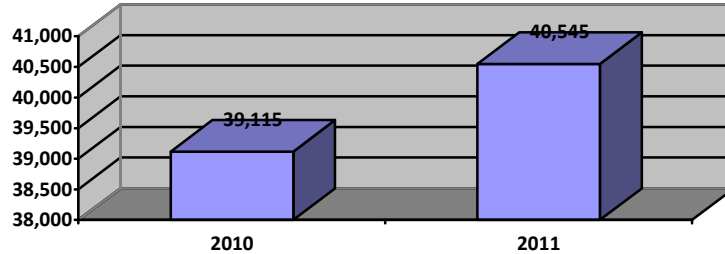
Alison Akke

Jeffrey Salveson

## MIDDLE TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT

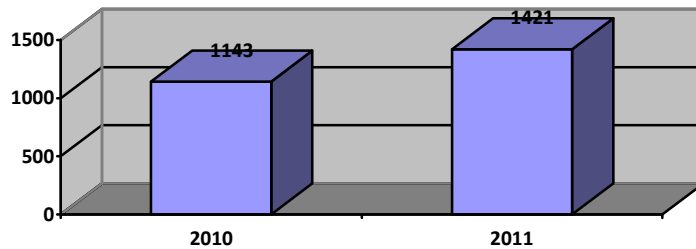
### CALLS FOR SERVICE & CRIMINAL ACTIVITY

	<u>2010</u>	<u>2011</u>	<u>Change</u>
<b>Calls for Service:</b>	39,115	40,545	+1430



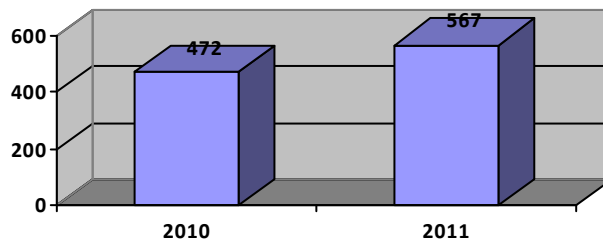
Note: Increase in calls for service can be attributed to an increase in property checks in 2011 which are up 1,671 from 2010.

	<u>2010</u>	<u>2011</u>	<u>Change</u>
<b>Arrests:</b>	1143	1421	+278



Note: Increase in arrests can be attributed to Quality of Life details which targeted Warrant arrests (up 114 in 2011 from 2010) and Open Alcohol in Public arrests (up 36 in 2011 from 2010).

	<u>2010</u>	<u>2011</u>	<u>Change</u>
<b>Indictable Complaints</b>	479	567	+88



Note: The automated system used by the Prosecutors Office was not available. The above number was provided through a manual count done at the Prosecutors Office. Other municipality's numbers were not available.

# MIDDLE TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT

## Uniform Crime Reports (UCR)

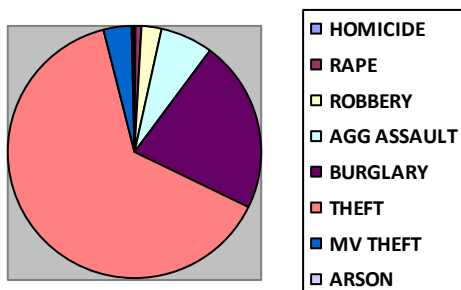
The Uniform Crime Reporting is a nationwide, cooperative statistical effort of more than 17,000 city, county and state law enforcement agencies reporting data on crimes brought to their attention. It was established in 1930 to gauge the state of crime in the nation. There are main offense classifications known as Part I Crimes, used as part of the Uniform Crime Reporting Program.

Below is a list highlighting the crime classifications and the respective number of offenses for Middle Township for the past two 2 years.

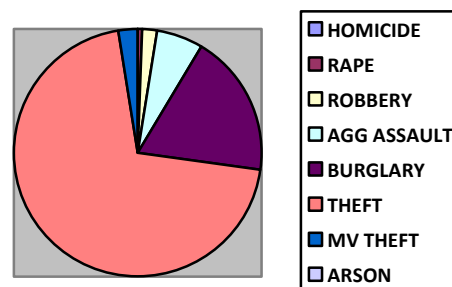
Offense: 2010		Offense: 2011		<u>Change</u>
Homicide	2	Homicide	0	-2
Rape	7	Rape	5	-2
Robbery	18	Robbery	15	-3
Aggravated Assault	49	Aggravated Assault	52	+3
Burglary	163	Burglary	159	-3
Theft	473	Theft	593	+120
Motor Vehicle Theft	26	Motor Vehicle Theft	21	-5
Arson	3	Arson	0	-3
Total UCR:	741		845	+104
Violent Crime:	76		72	-4
Non Violent Crime:	665		773	+108

Note: This is an estimate based on our monthly reports; the official report is released by the New Jersey State Police later in the year.

UCR 2010



UCR 2011



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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 in 2011.

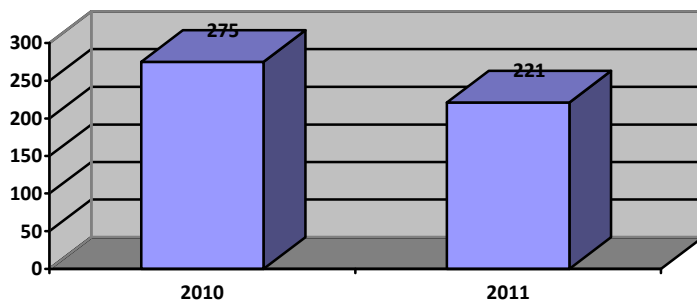
	<u>2010</u>	<u>2011</u>	<u>Change</u>
Sex Offenses, other than Rape	28	20	-8
Simple Assaults	129	112	+17
Medical Calls	3344	3253	-91
Fire Calls	841	707	-134
Death Investigations	24	28	+4
Disorderly Conduct incidents	1,530	1,655	+125
Fraud, Forgery, Bad Checks	148	131	-17
Malicious Damage incidents	220	178	-42
Missing Persons and Runaways	134	123	-11
Assisting other agency incidents	511	440	-71
Property and Building Checks	12,434	14,105	+1671
Bias Incidents Investigated	3	2	-1
	<u>2010</u>	<u>2011</u>	<u>Change</u>
Investigation Reports generated:	1,565	1,487	-78
Supplemental Investigations generated:	1,598	1,246	-352

### Domestic Violence:

Domestic Violence is a serious crime against society and both law enforcement and the courts must aggressively address it. New Jersey has strong laws and protective measures for victims of Domestic Violence.

Middle Township is not immune from the problems and concerns of Domestic Violence. During the year of 2011, Middle Township Police responded to 221 Domestic Violence incidents. In 2010 Middle Township police responded to 275 Domestic Violence incidents.

	<u>2010</u>	<u>2011</u>	<u>Change</u>
Domestic Violence:	275	221	-54





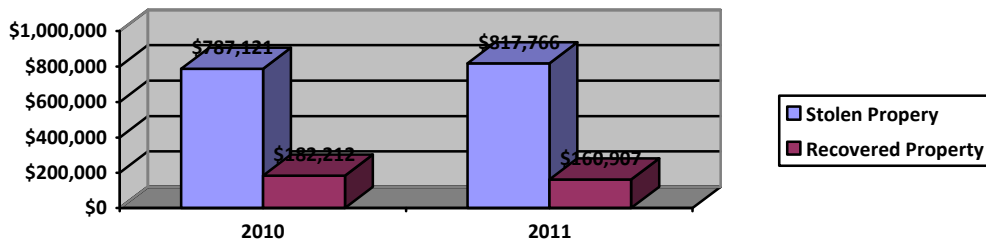
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### Property Stolen and Recovered:

Property offenses include Burglary, Theft, Criminal Mischief, and Shoplifting. The exact amount of value in the theft related offenses are 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 year of 2010.

	<u>2010</u>	<u>2011</u>	<u>Change</u>
Stolen:	\$787,121.00	\$817,121.00	+\$30,645
Recovered:	\$182,212.00	\$160,907.00	-\$21,305



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### Officer Line of Duty Injuries and or crashes

During 2011, Personnel Officer Kalish reports 8 work related injuries. There was only one officer whom suffered an injury, while in the performance of his duty, which caused 12 missed days at work. All other injuries had no time loss from work.

<u>Officer</u>	<u>Days missed</u>	<u>Reason</u>
Corporal Mike Elias	12	Slip on ice

Officers were involved in 6 motor vehicle crashes while on duty in 2011.

<u>Officer</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Synopsis</u>
Sgt. Adams	5-28-11	parking lot/ backing
Ptl. McCullen	6-24-11	Rear ended another vehicle
Ptl. Norton	8-9-11	Rear ended another vehicle
Capt. Fritsch	11-11-11	parking lot/ backing
Ptl Geiger	11-30-11	Ran off road
Ptl. Champion	12-23-11	backing

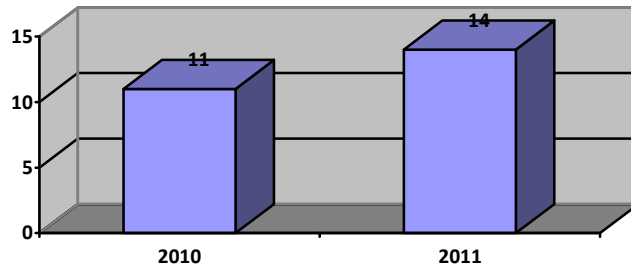
### Use of Force Incidents and Reporting

As required by law each officer who must use force, above the normal, 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 Prosecutors Office.

## MIDDLE TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT

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	<u>2010</u>	<u>2011</u>	<u>Change</u>
Use of Force Incidents	11	14	+3



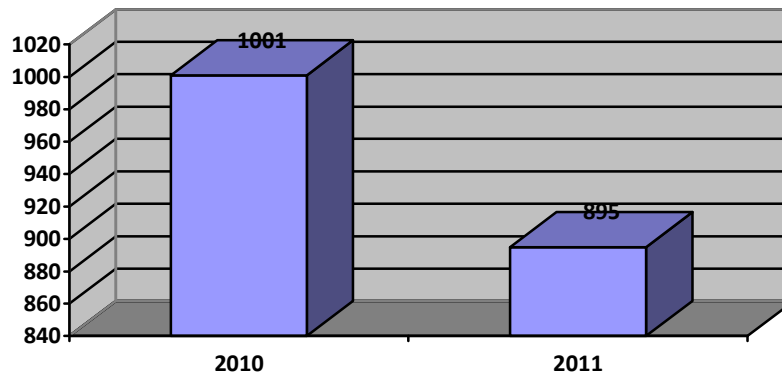
Of those 14 use of force incidents, 15 subjects were arrested, 4 subjects were injured.

1 Middle Township Police Officer was injured during an arrest.

Officers injured using force:	<u>2010</u>	<u>2011</u>	<u>Change</u>
	2	1	-1

## TRAFFIC

	<u>2010</u>	<u>2011</u>	<u>Change</u>
Motor Vehicle Crashes	1001	895	-106



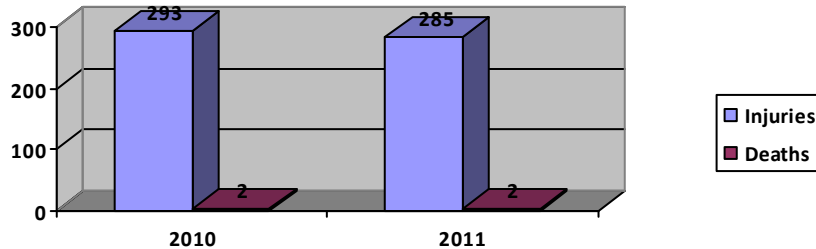
Note: Due to a new computer system, the number of 2010 motor vehicle crashes was adjusted to 1001 from 1055. The old system was found to have multiple NJTR-1 forms (accident reports) for motor vehicle crashes involving more than 3 vehicles.

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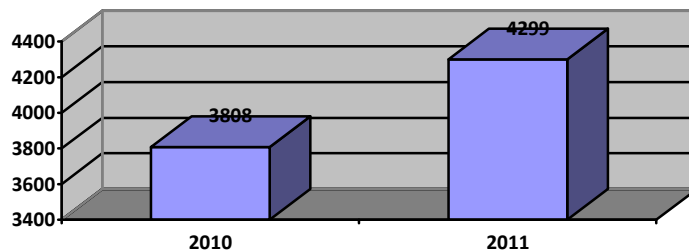
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### Motor Vehicle Accident Injuries/Deaths:

	<u>2010</u>	<u>2011</u>	<u>Change</u>
Injuries:	293	285	-8
Deaths:	2	2	0

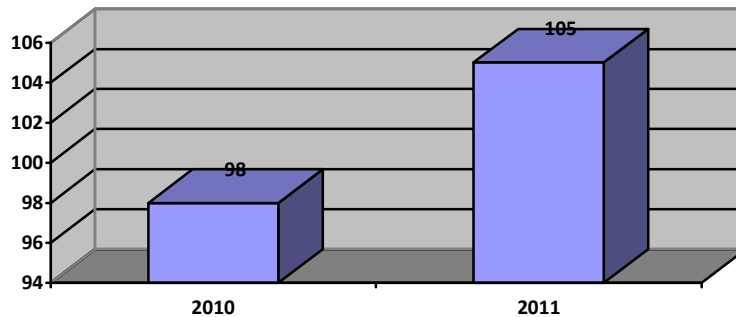


	<u>2010</u>	<u>2011</u>	<u>Change</u>
Motor Vehicle Summonses issued:	3808	4299	+491



### Driving While Intoxicated by Alcohol or Drugs (DWI):

	<u>2010</u>	<u>2011</u>	<u>Change</u>
DWI Arrests	98	105	+7



The Middle Township Police Department received a \$4000.00 grant in August 2011, and \$1000.00 in December 2011 from the New Jersey Division of Highway Traffic Safety.

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The campaign was called “Over the Limit, Under Arrest”. One hundred percent of the grant was spent on roving patrols.

In addition, the Middle Township Police received \$26,709.00 from the Drunk Driving Enforcement Fund in 2011. In 2011 a total of \$5,661.00 from the DDEF fund was expended on drunken driving enforcement patrols, and \$5,500.00 was spent on radar equipment.

	<u>2010</u>	<u>2011</u>
<b>Police Pursuits:</b>	4	4

Middle Township Police Officers were involved in 4 incidents involving motor vehicle pursuits. As a result there were no crashes, and four people were arrested.

## ADMINISTRATION

The Police Administration is one of the smallest in the county and is only four officers, including the Chief. The officers are Chief Christopher Leusner, Captain John Edwards, and Lieutenants Christopher Murphy and William Adams. The Chief of Police is responsible for the day to day operations of the Department, administer and enforce rules and regulations and special emergency directives, discipline of the force and it's personnel, prescribe duties and assignments, delegate authority for efficient operation of the force, issue policies/directives, meet with community, civic and religious groups, prepare grants, prepare and manage the Police Department's Budget and report at least monthly to Township Committee.



The Captain serves as the Executive Officer and is responsible for the following areas: Internal Affairs (Review/Recommend), MCU Administrator, SOPs/Rules & Regulations (manage/update), JIFF coordinator, Safety officer, Infectious control officer, Manage Alcotest units, , Manage Radar units/tuning forks, L.E.T.N. coordinator, Emergency Management officer, Crash Team Commander, Traffic/DWI grants, Traffic committee, Fleet manager, Honor Guard liaison, Radio system administrator, Building/cell inspections, Global Connect Administrator, Training administrator, On-call administrator, Employee evaluations, Fire Department Liaison, Maintain Battery Back-up, and the Special Events Committee.

The Patrol Commander is responsible for the following areas: Vehicle maintenance, School Liaison Officers, Schedule training, Public Information officer, Prepare Grants, POSS Administrator (schedule/time off/OT, etc..), Patrol equipment (purchase, maintain,

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issue), Review all DWIs and accident reports, Order/Replace Uniforms, On-call administrator, Manage Off-duty details, Municipal court liaison, Manage Towing Ordinance, Manage Statistics, Manage Municipal Court warrants, Manage DWI DVDs, Manage Class II Program, Maintain Mobile Data Terminals, FTO Coordinator, and the Domestic Violence coordinator.

The Administrative Lieutenant is responsible for the following areas: Dispatch Administrator, Records Administrator, Review all Investigation and Supplement Reports, Dive Team (people/training/equipment), Internal Affairs Investigator, Megan's Law liaison, Bias crime officer, Oversee evidence unit, DYFS liaison, Coordinate 4-H Fair, Harvest Festival & National Night Out, Coordinate JV programs (DARE/Explorers, etc.), ACS/ATS Coordinator, CJIS TAC/Coordinator, county court liaison, Magloclen liaison, Prosecutor's Office liaison, False Alarm Program Administrator, Maintain Voice Recorder, Animal Control, Maintain Facebook page, Hotel/Motel Association Liaison, Internship Coordinator, MVS 2000 reports, Maintain Generator, Prepare Grants, and On-call administrator.

## PATROL DIVISION

Patrol is the largest Division of the Police Department. Its primary responsibility is responding to calls for service from the community. These can range from neighborhood disputes, domestic violence incidents and traffic accidents, to burglaries in progress and death investigations.



As the First Responder to criminal complaints, patrol officers are responsible for seeing to the medical needs of anyone involved, interviewing witnesses, recognizing and preserving evidence, determining whether, in fact, a crime has been committed, and identifying and ultimately arresting those responsible.

Officers of the Patrol Division 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 to further the department's commitment to Community and Problem Oriented Policing.

Officers assigned to the Patrol Division are divided into five squads. Four patrol squads are responsible for 24-hour street coverage, seven days a week. Each squad is supervised by a Sergeant and has seven patrol officers. The fifth squad, the Special Service Unit works 5 days a week. The squad is utilized to fill special needs of the department. Such as Training function, School Resource Officer, Court Security, Firearms investigations, and assist the patrol division during peak times.

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## Field Training Officers: (FTO's)

All police officers hired by the Middle 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, all officers return to the department and are required to successfully complete a Field Training Program. The FTO program is an additional 3 months of intensive training and evaluation where the probationary officer is paired up with an experienced officer. The 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.

The following Officers are designated as FTO:

Patrolman John Norton

Patrolman Dave Hagan

Patrolman Steven Novsak

Patrolman First Class Eugene Castellano

Patrolman Tracey Super

## DETECTIVE DIVISION

The Detective Division, otherwise known as the Major Crime Unit (MCU), is charged with the responsibility of reviewing all incident reports and activities in order to prioritize and investigate criminal activity. Detectives work cases that are either assigned to them or come to them while on duty or on-call. They also initiate case investigations.



The Detective Division generated the following:

	<u>2010</u>	<u>2011</u>	<u>Change</u>
Initial Investigation Reports:	92	44	-48
Supplemental Investigations	1234	1049	-185
Arrests	81	83	+2

***Note: During 2011 the MCU ran with one less detective than the year 2010. Detectives Doug Osmundsen and Robert Shepherd were moved back into the Patrol Division during late 2010 and were promoted to Patrol Sergeants in early 2011. Ptl. Mark Higginbottom was assigned to the Detective Unit as a replacement in late 2010.***

The Detective Division also conducts any and all police recruit, police employee employment background investigations. The Division also assists the Middle Township Business Administrator and his staff in conducting any and all needed internal Township wide investigations.

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During the month of June the Major Crimes Unit began utilizing a Case Management System. This system is designed to track all cases assigned to the Major Crimes Unit. It allows the Detective Sergeant to monitor the unit's overall caseload as well the caseload of each individual detective. This system also allows the Detective Sergeant to better assign new cases based on the caseload of the particular Detective. Case activity can now be tracked so as to ensure that no case is inadvertently forgotten. The Detective Sergeant also now meets monthly with each Detective to discuss their active cases and strategies. The following is a breakdown of cases as of December 31, 2011.

**Cases assigned during 2011: 241**

**Cases closed during 2011: 157**

**Current number of active cases as of December 31, 2011: 84**

Some notable cases handled by the Major Crimes Unit in 2011 include:

- Missing male since Jan. 2011 (25 year old Samuel Schmucker), investigation is on-going, case #2011-00663
- Pharmacy robbed at knifepoint, drugs taken, fifty seven year old male arrested, case #2011-09968
- Seventeen year old female drowning victim at campground pool, investigation revealed death was accidental, case #2011-18930
- Attempted murder at motel, twenty six year old male victim, fifty one year old male arrested, case #2011-30008
- Sexual assault of 29 year old female at cemetery, investigation is ongoing, case #2011-29233
- Arrested two males in Cape May Court House wanted by New Hampshire authorities for bank robbery in their state, case #2011-28818
- Aggravated assault with knife, 23 year old male victim, arrested 25 year old male accused, case #2011-07416
- Lewdness within county library, arrested a 20 year old male who was exposing himself to 74 year old female, case #2011-18593
- Arrested 35 year old male loss prevention officer for sexual assault and impersonating a police officer, several female victims, case #2011-36183 & others

The unit handled numerous Aggravated Assaults, Sexual Offenses and Missing Person cases. It also conducted all background checks for those seeking Firearm ID cards and/or handgun permits. *(Note: In late 2011 this function was moved to the Special Services Unit)*



The division works on a number of open cases, such as the Mark Himebaugh, Craig White and Samuel Schmucker investigations, with various agencies including the FBI, New Jersey State Police and Cape May County Prosecutors Office. Anyone with information on the above cases is asked to contact the Major Crimes Unit at 609-465-8704.



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Members of the unit during 2011 included:

Detective Sergeant Donald Nelson  
Detective First Class Allan McClure  
Detective Clint Stocker  
Detective Kenneth Martin  
Detective Mark Higginbottom  
Part Time Evidence Clerk Bob Bongiovanni

## MEGAN'S LAW UNIT

Megan's  
Law

Although not “officially” a unit, the task of handling Megan’s Law registrants within the township rests with the Major Crimes Unit. Detective Clint Stocker 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 Middle Township from another area as well as notify our agency when they are moving to another jurisdiction.

	<u>2010</u>	<u>2011</u>	<u>Change</u>
New registrants and/or moves:	40	46	+6
Average monthly registrant count:	61	64	+3
Low count	55	58	+3
High count	66	67	+1

## SPECIAL SERVICES UNIT

The Special Services Unit is led by Sgt. Doug Osmundsen, and is under the command of the Patrol Lieutenant William Adams. The Unit is charged with a number of responsibilities including but not limited to: Narcotics Enforcement, supplement Patrol as needed, Training, Community Relations, and Court

Security. During the past year, the Middle Township Police Department’s Special Services Unit, has conducted a total of ten (10) Quality of Life details in the Rio Grande section of the township resulting in fifty-five (55) arrests. The details entailed plain clothed operations doing “Cops in Shops” and also street crimes operations targeting





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open air drug transactions and arresting persons with active outstanding warrants. The “Cops in Shops” detail is a statewide initiative where the department received funding through grant money for the purpose of placing plain-clothed officers in retail liquor establishments to enforce laws involving the purchase of alcohol by individuals under the legal age.

During the street crimes operations, members of the patrol division would work plain clothed details walking and riding bicycles in the area of Rio Grande to investigate open air drug distributions reported along State Highway 47 and Route 9, specifically in the business and motel district. Working the plain clothed details allowed officers to approach individuals engaged in suspicious activities without alerting them of the police presence. This allowed the unit to corroborate information received from concerned citizens and confidential informants in regards to illegal activity and also allowed the officers to witness criminal activity first hand and make arrests.

The SSU also authored and executed four (4) search warrants resulting in the arrests of seven individuals for distribution of narcotics in the Rio Grande and Green Creek sections of Middle Township. Furthermore, one search warrant resulted in the seizure of a .25 caliber handgun, which was in the waistband of the defendant at the time of execution. Another search warrant resulted in the seizure of over ninety (90) individual bags of heroin.

The SSU participated in several joint operations with the Cape May County Prosecutor’s Office Gangs, Guns and Narcotics Task Force. Of these operations, five (5) resulted in undercover purchases of CDS within Middle Township and seven (7) search warrant executions within Middle Township resulting in the arrests of nine (9) individuals.

The Special Services Unit leads many of the community relations initiatives such as our Neighborhood Watch Program, Informational Booths at Community Events, and the “Cops and Coffee Program”. Sgt. D. Osmundsen also oversees our Social Networking sites such as Facebook, Twitter, and You Tube. The Police Department’s two School Resource officers are under the supervision of the Special Services unit, as well as the Training Officer.

### FORFEITURE

<b><u>Forfeiture Fund:</u></b>	<b><u>2010</u></b>	<b><u>2011</u></b>	<b><u>Change</u></b>
Began year balance:	\$4,619.77	\$2,175.96	-\$2,443.81
Forfeited monies received:	\$3,563.50	\$1,000.00	-\$2,563.50
Forfeited monies expended:	\$6,030.00	\$ NONE	-\$6,030.00
Balance transferred over:	\$2,175.96	\$3,180.64	+\$1004.68

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Note: Any minor discrepancies can be attributed to interest gained on the account.

**Equipment purchased with the use of Forfeited Funds in 2011:** N/A

## SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS

The School Resource Officer (SRO) Program is a collaborative effort with both the Middle Township School District and with the Cape May County Technical High School. Presently two officers are assigned as School Resource Officers. Corporal Jeff Devico is primarily assigned to the Middle Township High School. Officer Sharon Price is assigned to the Cape May County Technical High School. (*Note:*

*Middle Township has an inter-local agreement with the Technical High School for the services of the School Resource Officer*) Both officers report to the Sergeant of the Special Services Unit.



The School Resource Officer Program has two main components. The first is designed to enhance the relationship between the school district, its students, teachers/administrators and the police department. The daily communication between police and school officials prevents many problems and mitigates existing problems for both the school and the police. The second component is to provide a law enforcement presence in all district schools. This is accomplished through the use of patrol officers who, as part of their duties, conduct walk through visits to the facilities. The second component is to provide training and informal counseling to students, staff and parents.

School security/action plans have been completed for all schools in Middle Township, including the Cape Christian Academy and the State Department of Human Services School. All plans are reviewed annually and updated if necessary by the School Resource Officers.

The School Resource Officers conducted the following:

<b><u>Middle Township</u></b>	<b><u>2010</u></b>	<b><u>2011</u></b>	<b><u>Change</u></b>
Investigations:	23	27	+4
Supplement Investigations:	7	7	-
Arrests:	17	27	+10
 <b><u>Cape May County Technical High School</u></b>	 <b><u>2010</u></b>	 <b><u>2011</u></b>	 <b><u>Change</u></b>
Investigations:	34	15	-11
Supplement Investigations:	7	3	-4
Arrests:	10	10	-

# MIDDLE TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT

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**Note:** Both officers are reassigned to the Special Services Unit during the summer months. The above numbers are for calls for service from Middle Township High School and Cape May County Vo-Tech.

## DARE PROGRAM

The Middle Township Police Department has conducted the DARE (Drug Abuse Resistance and Education) Program in the Middle Township Schools since 1990. To date over 4,600 Middle Township students have gone through the DARE Program which is now taught at Elementary #2's fifth (5<sup>th</sup>) grade as well as at the Cape Christian Academy. This program is 14 weeks long and trained officers visit their assigned class once a week and teach a prescribed curriculum.



In 2011 approximately **215** students were taught through the DARE Program.

Officers who teach the DARE Program include:

Detective Mark Higginbottom  
Corporal Jeffrey Devico  
Corporal Jennifer Delanzo  
Patrolman Joshua Bryan

## RECORDS DIVISION

The Records division of the Police Department supports the operational efforts of the Patrol and Investigative functions as well as performing a variety of other services, including but not limited to:

- Data entry
- Report maintenance/  
Filing/Retrieval/OPRA requests
- Issuing Licenses
- Copy reports for Civilians /  
Attorneys / Law Enforcement  
Agencies / Insurance Companies
- Expungement Orders
- Issue Handicap Placards
- Division of Youth and Family  
Backgrounds
- Process Firearms Applications
- Process Fingerprint Cards
- Process Juvenile Complaints
- Conduct monthly statistics
- Handle petty cash
- Conduct Uniform Crime Reports



During 2011 the Records Section staff consisted of the following employees:

Deborah Becker  
Muriel Anderson

Barbara Montgomery  
Virginia Sweitzer

# MIDDLE TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT

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Kendra Karstens

The work they do is invaluable, and they are a great asset to this department.

## COMMUNICATIONS

The Middle 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 to the community and their dedication and importance should not be overlooked. 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:



- 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 department's computer system as well as various systems databases such as the National Crime Information Center (NCIC) and the State Crime Information Center (SCIC).

The Middle Township Police Department employs nine full time Telecommunication Operators, two assigned to each of the four patrol squads. The 9<sup>th</sup> operator is a "floater" who is used to cover vacations, training, illness, etc... (keeping overtime to a minimum). The department employs an additional three (03) part time communications operators. It is mandatory that at all times there are two (02) operators present in the dispatch center.

Senior Communications Operator Diane Shinn retired on September 01, 2011 after 25 years of service. She returned as a part-time operator on October 1<sup>st</sup>. With Shinn's retirement, part-time operator Jacob Loefflad was made full time (effective September 01, 2011). On December 19, 2011 Paul Fritsch Jr. was hired as a Part Time Communications Operator. Training will begin during January 2012.

## MIDDLE TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT

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The following qualified and dedicated employees fill this highly important and stressful position as of 12/31/11:

Senior Operator Madonna Sill  
Senior Operator Keith Woodrow  
Operator Dustin Gaskill  
Operator Ted Farina  
Operator Jacob Loefflad  
P/T Operator Lauren Anzelone

Senior Operator Jennifer Graham  
Senior Operator Robert Eagan  
Operator William Mulligan  
Operator Lauren Long  
P/T Operator Diane Shinn  
P/T Operator Paul Fritsch Jr.

Middle Township Police Department Telecommunications Operators handled the following:

	<u>2010</u>	<u>2011</u>	<u>Change</u>
Calls for service:	39,027	40,546	+1,519
9-1-1 Calls:	12,370	14,350	+2,020
Average 911 calls per day:	33.9	39.3	+5.4

Senior Operator Jennifer Graham is a certified 911 Instructor.

Operator Bill Mulligan is a Certified EMD – Emergency Medical Dispatch Instructor as well as a 911 Instructor.

## INTERNAL AFFAIRS

The Middle Township Police Department is committed to providing law enforcement services that are fair, effective, and impartially applied. Toward that end, officers are held to the highest standards of official conduct and are expected to respect the rights of all citizens. Officer 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 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 and improves the relationship between police and the citizens they serve by facilitating cooperation vital to the department's ability to achieve its goals. An effective disciplinary framework also



## MIDDLE TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT

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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, direction or policy changes. Finally, the Internal Affairs Policy ensures fairness and due process protection to citizens and officers alike.

In 2011 there were a total of **27** Internal Affairs Investigations conducted. There were **26** cases that reached a conclusion. One case involved an officer that suspended without pay pending the outcome of a criminal investigation. See the below chart for the disposition types. One case is pending and will be carried forward to 2012.

### **2011 Disposition**

Excessive Force:	(2) Exonerated (1) Unfounded.
Improper Search	(1) Exonerated
Differential Treatment	(1) unfounded
Demeanor:	(3) Sustained - Internal Discipline (2) Exonerated (2) Unfounded
Other Rule Violation:	(10) Sustained - Internal Discipline (3) Exonerated, (1) Unfounded
Other Criminal Violation:	(1) pending disposition

Major Discipline Disclosure: One officer was suspended without pay in September pending an outcome of a criminal indictment by the Attorney General's Office.

The Middle 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 John Edwards and Lieutenant Christopher Murphy.

## **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,



## MIDDLE TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT

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including recruit training, in service training, roll call training and specialized training.

Late in 2008, Ptl Marcus Phillips was reassigned and a training unit was formed. There was a need to make a training officer and assign him outside regular patrol duties. Ptl Phillips keeps track of all the mandatory training records. In addition, he recognizes problems/trends and then formulates strategies for training to deal with the issue. Along with his training duties he is the Court Security Officer, and a member of the Special Services Unit where he contributes to achieving their mission when not handling training responsibilities.

The men and women of the Middle Township Police Department attended a wide variety of in service training courses throughout 2011 including but not limited to:

- Blood borne Pathogens
- Property and Evidence
- Firearms Qualifications
- SWAT Training
- Hostage Negotiation Training
- Dive Team Training
- ATV Operation Training
- Assault Rifle Qualifications
- Active Shooter Response
- Report Writing
- CPR recertification
- Use of Force
- Domestic Violence
- Vehicle Pursuit
- Interview and Interrogation
- Incident Command
- Hazmat
- Radar Instructor and Operator
- High Risk Motor Vehicle Stops
- Accident Investigations I and II
- Alcotest Operator Training
- Cell Block Management
- Arrest Search and Seizure retraining
- HGN-DWI refresher
- Infant Car Seat Training
- Weapons Armor School
- DRE – Drug Recognition Expert School
- Fraudulent Document School
- Police Supervision School

### **Police Department members who hold the rank of Instructor:**

In addition to their normal work duties several Middle Township Police Officers have attained the position of being an instructor in a specific field or multiple fields. These officers conduct intradepartmental 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:

Sergeant Jim Dougherty	ATV/Firearms/ Defensive Driving/Radar PD-Academy
Sergeant Pat Conte	Radar Departmental
Sergeant Doug Osmundsen	Firearms Instruction Departmental/ Narcotics instructor
Corporal Fred Crawley	Physical Training Instructor Police Academy
Patrolman Jason Sweitzer	Physical Training Instructor Police Academy

## MIDDLE TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT

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Patrolman Marcus Phillips	Firearms Instruction Departmental and Police Academy/ Boxing instructor/ Sim Survival instructor
Patrolman Josh Bryan	Physical Training Instructor Police Academy
Patrolman James D'Alonzo	Firearms instructor
Patrolman Phil Johnson	Firearms instructor
Patrolman Kurt Saettler	Criminal law instructor
Patrolman G. Trombetta	Physical Training instructor

### SPECIAL UNITS

#### SWAT Team (Special Weapons and Tactics)

The Middle Township Police maintained and operated its own SWAT Team for approximately 20 years. In 2007 the Cape May County Prosecutors Office with the cooperation of the Cape May County Chiefs of Police Association formed a Regional Countywide SWAT Team. In 2008 Wildwood Police Department came on board. 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, but 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 members must train at least twelve 12 hours per month and training sessions are held two times per month.

The Mainland division was called out on 20 assignments in 2011. The total callout for the County Team was 46, some of which involved multiple targets. The Mainland division also responded to some of these callouts as well.

Middle Township Police Officers assigned to the Regional Swat Team include:

Lt. William Adams (Team Leader)  
Patrolman Phil Johnson  
Sergeant Pat Conte

Patrolman James D'Alonzo  
Patrolman Joshua Bryan



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## MIDDLE TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT

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### DIVE TEAM

The Middle Township Police Department maintains a fully operational and Certified Marine Search and Recovery Dive Team. The department maintains 2 vessels, one being a Carolina Skiff, outboard, center console boat, and the other being an aluminum johnboat vessel, also with an outboard motor.



The department has seven (7) certified divers with a full compliment of dive equipment. The team had thirteen (13) training sessions in 2011. Training takes place in local gravel pits, lakes, and in the Delaware Bay and Atlantic Ocean. The team also attended/assisted with the Wildwood Polar Plunge, National Night Out, the county 4-H Fair as well as Lower and Middle Township DARE days. The team has been utilized many times to assist the US Coast Guard and other agencies in rescue and recovery operations.

Members of the Dive Team are:

Detective Clint Stocker (Team Leader)  
Corporal Jeff Devico  
Patrolman John Norton  
Sergeant James Loftus

Detective First Class Allan McClure  
Patrolman Steven Novsak  
Sergeant Robert Shepherd

### HOSTAGE NEGOTIATIONS TEAM

The Middle Township Police Department employs officers that are certified and highly trained in Police Hostage Negotiations. A county regional team formed in 2009 with Middle Township's existing team acting as a foundation for the North end of the county. The team is made up of four (4) officers who are available to respond to any incident within Middle Township or anywhere within the county to assist in negotiations. The team trains on a regular basis and is often called out in conjunction with the SWAT team.



The Hostage Negotiations team is made up of the following officers:

Corporal Fran Fiore  
Corporal Jennifer DeLanzo  
Sergeant James Loftus  
Patrolman Julio Ruiz

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# MIDDLE TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT

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## HONOR GUARD

The Middle Township Police Department maintains a formal Police Honor Guard. The purpose of the Honor Guard is to formally represent the Middle Township Police Department at various official functions and community events. The Honor Guard members wear a formal uniform blouse and utilize ceremonial rifles and flags. The Honor Guard presents the colors at events such as Police Academy graduations, DARE Graduations, Township Parades, and fallen officer funerals. The Honor Guard has presented the colors at a Philadelphia Phillies home game for the past five 5 years. The Honor Guard has also had the privilege of presenting the colors at the New Jersey Special Olympics opening ceremonies in Trenton for almost two decades.



Members of the Honor Guard include:

Sergeant James Loftus (Unit Leader)

Patrolman John Norton

Patrolman Marcus Phillips

Patrolman Gino Castellano

Patrolman Jason Sweitzer

Patrolman David Hagan

Patrolman Joshua Bryan

Patrolman Ron Miller

Patrolman Dan Martin

Patrolman Len Larkin

Patrolman Jack Trombetta

## CRASH TEAM

Members of the Middle Township Crash Investigation Team have specialized training to investigate serious motor vehicle crashes. Their training is through North Western 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 to complete the following at a crash scene:

- Scaled computer diagramming
- Mathematical analysis
- Damage evaluations
- Seatbelt, headlamp and tire examination
- Scene measurements

## MIDDLE TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT

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- Documentation of road type and tire friction
- High and low speed collision
- Motorcycle collisions
- Bicycle collisions
- semi truck/commercial vehicle accidents

The Middle Township Crash Team uses the following equipment 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 Middle Township Police Crash Team members respond with the Cape May County Fatal Unit to assist with other serious crashes throughout the county. The Crash Team is commanded by Captain John Edwards.

Members include:

Sgt. James Dougherty (Unit leader)

Sgt. Pat Conte

Sgt. James Loftus

Cpl. Jeff DeVico

Ptln. Gino Castellano

Ptln. James D'Alonzo

### BIKE UNIT

The Middle Township Police Department launched a new part-time bicycle unit. The members assigned to the unit will still be assigned to regular patrol cars and patrol units, but will be equipped with racks that will hold the bicycle. When manpower conditions permit the officers will conduct bicycle patrols in business districts of the Township, some residential areas, and the Township Bike Path. In addition, these officers will be used for various township special events throughout the year. Also, if we experience issues such as burglaries or criminal mischief problems in certain areas of the Township, these officers could be assigned to these areas to address the issue. All of the equipment for the unit was purchased using grant monies through the federal government JAG program.



Members:

Cpl. Jeff Devico

Pfc. Marcus Phillips

Ptl. Dave Hagan

Ptl. Jason Sweitzer

Ptl. Armondo Jones

Ptl. Len Larkin

Ptl. Ron Miller

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## MIDDLE TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT

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### DRUG RECOGNITION EXPERTS



The Drug Evaluation and Classification (DEC) Program is a national effort to deter impaired driving by increasing the likelihood that people who drive under the influence of drugs will be detected, caught, convicted and punished. The DEC Program is sponsored by the U.S. Department of Transportation's National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) and is administered and coordinated by the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP). The DEC Program focuses on a 12 step examination which makes up the DRE drug influence examination. The training consists of three phases: a two day Pre-School, a seven day DRE School and Certification Training which consists of 6 field evaluations and witnessing 6 other field evaluations. Upon completion of all three phases certification is achieved.

An evaluation consists of 12 steps. The initial is the breath test completed by the arresting officer. If the Blood Alcohol Concentration reading is less than 0.08% and the officer believes the subject appears more impaired than what the reading suggests a DRE is requested. The responding DRE performs more in depth testing of the subject to determine if the subject is under the influence of one or more of seven drug categories.

The Department currently has 3 Drug Recognition Experts, Sgt. William Adams, Patrolman David Hagan and Patrolman Leonard Larkin. During 2011 these officers performed the following number of evaluations:

Adams: 3	(All for this Department)
Hagan: 4	(2 for this Department, 2 for other jurisdictions)
Larkin: 14	(9 for this Department, 5 for other jurisdictions)

In May 2011, the Department joined a grant with Atlantic County. The grant reimburses the Department \$220.00 each time a DRE is called in to complete an Evaluation when the officer is off duty. The grant will also reimburse the Department an additional \$220.00 when an officer has to appear in court for up to 2 court dates. During 2011, \$1,100 was reimbursed back to the Department through this grant.

### ACCREDITATION PROGRAM



The Middle Township Police Department 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 professional standards designed specifically for New



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## MIDDLE TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT

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Jersey law enforcement agencies. The program promotes the best practices in law enforcement. The Department was initially accredited in 2006.

On August 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>, 2010, a team of assessors from the New Jersey Law Enforcement Accreditation Commission (NJLEAC) came to this Department to evaluate the Department's policies and procedures, management, operations and support services. The Department had to comply with 112 standards in order to be reaccredited. The assessment team was composed of law enforcement practitioners from other agencies in the state. The assessors reviewed written materials, interviewed individuals, and visited offices and other areas where compliance can be witnessed. After a review of the Department, reaccreditation was granted. Accreditation status is for 3 years, during which the department must submit annual reports attesting to continued compliance with those standards under which it received accreditation.

Lieutenant William Adams is the Accreditation Manager.

### **FALSE ALARM REDUCTION PROGRAM**

On May 3, 2010 the Township Committee of Middle Township, repealed their prior false alarm ordinance and approved an new alarm ordinance to encourage alarm users to properly use and maintain the operational effectiveness of alarm systems in order to improve the reliability of alarm systems and reduce or eliminate false alarms. Middle Township has always had an ordinance dealing with False Alarms, but with a decrease in manpower both sworn and civilian personnel, it is very time consuming to manage. A decision was made to privatize this function and Middle Township, on behalf of the Middle Township Police Department, entered into a contract with ATB Services to administer its Alarm Ordinance.



Middle Township has well over 1000 false alarms a year that could be easily prevented. Each alarm in Middle Township must be registered so we can reach people in the event of emergencies. Unfortunately, approximately only 400 alarms were registered in Middle Township out of approximately 1000 in operation. Many times officers and dispatchers would be wasting valuable time trying to locate an emergency contact from an unregistered alarm or failure to update their contact sheet on file. This ordinance will result in a decrease of false alarms, quicker response from emergency contacts, and a more efficient use of one of the most expensive costs we have; the time of a sworn law enforcement officer.

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The alarm program has yielded positive results which can be seen by the false alarm data below. Shown is a comparison of the years 2009, 2010 and 2011. Numbers are the amount of false alarms for each month.

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
2009	117	81	103	101	82	99	122	139	132	96	97	107
2010	92	150	135	117	116	118	142	99	77	78	78	106
2011	95	79	65	76	70	77	78	99	69	78	75	71

2009 total was: 1,276

2010 total was: 1,216

2011 total was: 932

Comparing 2009 to 2011, alarms are down by 344 which is 26.9%.

Comparing 2010 to 2011, alarms are down by 284 which is 23.4%.

As indicated above, prior to the implementation of this program there were about 400 registered alarms within the township. As of this report date there are 918 registered which is more than double the initial number. It should be noted that on several occasions the officer is “cancelled” prior to arrival, when the alarm owner/company determines police are not needed. This aspect of the program allows police to remain free to respond to other valid calls. This program has also resulted in better contact information being provided for police.

## MIDDLE TOWNSHIP AWARDS COMMITTEE

The Middle Township Awards Committee was reinstituted in 2010. The Awards Committee consists of Lt. Christopher Murphy, Detective Clint Stocker, Ptl. Jason Sweitzer, Detective First Class Allan McClure and Sgt. James Loftus. The committee reviews submissions for awards and has the sole authority in making the final determination. In February, the very first awards dinner was held at the Middle Township Senior Center and was well attended. The following officers were presented awards by the Chief of Police and Mayor:



- |                        |                                      |
|------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| • Chief Chris Leusner  | Chief's Achievement & F.B.I. Academy |
| • Capt. Paul Fritsch   | 25 Years of Service                  |
| • Lt. Chris Murphy     | Honorable Service                    |
| • Ptl. Steve Novsak    | Meritorious Service                  |
| • Ptl. Matthew Martino | Meritorious Service                  |

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## MIDDLE TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT

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• Ptl. Rich Sittineri	Meritorious Service
• Sgt. Rich McHale	Exceptional Duty
• Cpl. Fran Fiore	Community Service
• Ptl. Jason Sill	Honorable Service
• Ptl. Jack Trombetta	Honorable Service & Honor Guard
• Ptl. Dan Martin	Honor Guard
• Ptl. Geno Castellano	Life Saving
• Ptl. Len Larkin	Life Saving & Honor Guard
• Ptl. John Norton	Good Conduct
• Ptl. Michelle Greenwaldt	Good Conduct
• Ptl. Josh Bryan	Good Conduct
• Ptl. Tracy Super	Good Conduct
• Dispatcher Diane Shinn	20 Year Pin
• Dispatcher Madonna Sill	15 Year Pin
• Dispatcher Jennifer Graham	15 Year Pin
• Dispatcher Keith Woodrow	10 Year Pin
• Records-Muriel Anderson	20 Year Pin
• Records-Debbie Dunbracco	10 Year Pin

The Awards Dinner is held every two years and the next scheduled ceremony will be February of 2012. Award information from that ceremony will be in the 2012 annual report.

## MIDDLE TOWNSHIP POLICE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION

Middle Township Police Officers have come together and formed the Middle Township Police Officers Association. Each sworn officer contributes money to fund the association. The purpose of the association is to support a morale and welfare account.

Over the past year the association has supported numerous community events. The MTPOA sponsored a Little League team and continued to support our Annual Christmas Toy Drive, which is spearheaded by Cpl Fran Fiore. The highlight of 2011 was the Thanksgiving turkey giveaway. Officers, non-sworn employees of the police department, and Acme of Cape May Court House came together and gave away 45 meals to members of the community who were in need.

In the future the MTPOA intends to give away scholarships. The scholarships would be for children of our Officers. We also intend to offer a general scholarship to students who have need and have demonstrated leadership skills in the community.



## MIDDLE TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT

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### COMMUNITY OUTREACH

- The Chief of Police attended the following community/civic group's meetings/events in 2011: Concerned Citizens of Whitesboro, Wyndemere Homeowners Association, Centennial Village Homeowners Association, and Cape May Court House AARP, and the Rotary Club of Cape May Court House.
- Officers maintained an informational show booth at the annual 4H Fair, the Harvest Festival, ACCC Community Day, Home Depot Safety Day, K-Mart safety day, and the Concerned Citizens of Whitesboro Reunion Weekend.
- Coordinated the annual and very successful America's Night Out Against Crime Event in August. Retired Patrolman Butch Hammer volunteers his time to coordinate this event.
- The Middle Township Police Department supports the Special Olympics by supplying an Honor Guard at the opening ceremonies of the New Jersey State Special Olympics and supplying the Dive Team and boat for the Polar Plunge in Wildwood.
- In 2010, the Middle Township Police Department partnered with the Kiwanis club of Cape May Court House to offer its second safety event for parents. PBA Local 59 union members volunteered their time for this event.
- "Put the Brakes on Fatalities Day" The Middle Township Police Department again partnered with Caryn Rixey and other parents that have lost children in motor vehicle accidents in an effort to raise awareness of safe driving with the goal of having no fatalities for one day in the United States.
- The Middle Township Major Crimes Unit presented a Theft Prevention Seminar to residents of the Loyalton in Cape May Court House.





# MIDDLE TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT

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## **2011 Goals/Results**

### **Patrol Division**

In 2011 the Patrol Division had set three Goals. We were successful on all three goals. The first goal was to increase the Quality of Life issues along the Route 47 corridor in Rio Grande. We were to accomplish this by conducting a minimum of six plain clothes details, increasing marked and unmarked patrols, and identifying homeless people in the area. The Special Services Unit headed up the effort, and in conjunction with the patrol division was able to conduct 10 plain clothes details, which resulted in 55 arrests.

The second goal was to increase traffic safety and enforcement along the following County roads: Shunpike Road, Bayshore Road, Hand Avenue, Dias Creek Road, Dennisville Road, and Indian Trail Road. Total summons issued increased 25%, which includes an increase of radar tickets of 22%.

The third goal was to increase enforcement and awareness of distracted driving. There were 137 summons issued, which is a 37% increase over 2010. Literature on texting and driving was distributed at the annual 4-H Fair, National Night Out, and throughout the Cape May County Vo-Tech and Middle Township High School.

### **Special Service Unit**

The Special Services Unit had set two goals for 2011. The first goal was to implement a crime analysis system within a year. A vendor was selected in the summer of 2011 and the system will be operational in the first half of 2012. This goal is a holdover into this year, due to IT implementation issues with our record management system.

The second goal was to improve pedestrian safety around the shopping centers by issuing 15 parking summonses a month. This was to be accomplished mainly through the use of Class II officer. This goal was missed; there was an average of 2 summonses a month issued. This can be attributed to the Class II officers being absorbed into the patrol squads and assisting in handling their calls for service.

### **Major Crimes Unit**

For 2011 the Major Crimes Unit set two goals:

The first goal was to increase efficiency and to prioritize caseloads within the Major Crimes Unit. This goal was met as during 2011 a Caseload Management System was implemented allowing the Detective Sergeant, as well as the Detectives, to view their “open” active cases. This system also allows the Detective Sergeant to better assign new cases based on the caseload of the particular Detective. Case activity can now be tracked

## MIDDLE TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT

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to ensure that no case is inadvertently forgotten. The Detective Sergeant also now meets monthly with each Detective to discuss their active cases.

The second goal was to create more efficient handling of the evidence/property function. This goal has been met although a full audit/purge of the evidence room did not occur in 2011. This was due to the large quantity of audio statements (tapes, CD-Rs, etc..) which need to be individually evaluated and the unit's heavy workload during the year. It should be noted that the vast majority of evidence/property has been logged into the Beast system, and many items have been purged. All items of evidence from the Public Works garage have been moved into the new Evidence Cage located within the old firehouse. All officers have been trained on using the Beast system, and officers are given periodic reports to show what property they have in the system. They must respond to this report indicating whether their items need to be held, or can be returned or discarded. This system has made the handling of evidence much more efficient, unlike in the past where evidence was logged in a paper logbook and often never addressed again.

## Appendix A: 2012 Proposals

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### **Major Crimes Unit Restructuring**

The number of cases requiring a criminal follow-up investigation has been growing and the complexity of cases has been increasing. The current staffing levels of the Unit have resulted in Detectives using a triage mentality in dealing with cases. Generally accepted workload analysis recommends 1 Detective for every 80 to 120 Part I offenses reported in the Uniform Crime Report. Utilizing the higher end of the scale of 120, the Major Crimes Unit should have 7 Detectives based on 2011 numbers. The Unit currently has 4. The long term plan is to increase the number of full time officers and assign more officers to the Major Crimes Unit.

In the short term, both School Resource Officers are retiring in 2012. Their replacements will be reassigned to the Major Crimes Unit. They will be fully trained as Detectives and their responsibilities will continue at their respective schools. In addition they will be assigned criminal follow-up cases involving Juveniles and will be fully assigned to the Major Crimes Unit in the summer months. Also, Ptl. J. Sweitzer of the Special Services Unit was temporarily assigned to the Major Crimes Unit at the end of 2011. His cross training now allows us to utilize him based on need throughout the year. Finally, all Firearm Background Investigations have been permanently reassigned to the Special Services Unit, in 2011 there were 168.

### **Community Service Program**

In 2012 the Middle Township Police Department will be utilizing Community Service workers through the Cape May County Probation Department. This program was researched and proposed by Ptl. J. D'Alonzo in 2011. All required policies and insurance issues have been resolved and it will be operational in 2012. These workers may be utilized for a number of details including but not limited to cleaning Patrol Cars, conducting litter patrol within the Township, or Graffiti clean-up. If the Chief of Police determines a detail has an overall Quality of Life and Public Safety benefit, the Police Department will supervise the detail. The program is currently under consideration by other departments in the Township.

### **Chaplin Program**

The Middle Township Police Department will implement a Chaplaincy Program in 2012. The purpose of the program will be to provide a trusted individual in whom all Middle Township Police Department personnel, active and retired, and their families may confide when seeking guidance and to minister to such needs of all employees, as well as to citizens of our community. The program will use members of area clergy on a voluntary basis to provide ministry, guidance, counseling, comfort and help. The Chaplain will be considered a part of the Middle Township Police Department and will be shown the courtesy and respect due the position. The Chaplain will be made welcome at Middle Township Police Department stations and functions. The Chaplain will be authorized to talk with personnel, have access to Patrol facilities, and other phases of the

## Appendix A: 2012 Proposals

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Department. The Chaplain is also to be kept informed of what is going on within our jurisdictions with regard to programs of the Middle Township Police Department.

### **Intersection Safety Camera Program**

Our application is still active and has been under review since early 2011.

### **Equipment:**

- Upgrade our Communications System, specifically add transmit sites.
- Phase II of IV of replacing MDT's in patrol vehicles.(end of useful life)
- Purchase Tasers for officers to have as less lethal option for use of force.

## Appendix B: 2012 Goals

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### **Patrol Division**

#### **Goal#1**

Improve the quality of life along SH#47 in Rio Grande, specifically from the area of Payless Shoes north to Railroad Avenue, as well as in the shopping areas.

#### **Objective:**

Conduct patrols and arrests for “quality of life” issues such as: open alcohol, public drunkenness, harassment, sleeping on benches and disorderly conduct in the targeted area. Increase communication with the State Parole Office in Vineland and Social Services in Rio Grande.

#### **Strategies:**

1. Spot check bus waiting areas for above behaviors.
2. Identify names of homeless people living in the area for intelligence purposes.
3. Increase unmarked and marked patrol throughout shopping areas.
4. Conduct a minimum of 10 plain clothes operations on foot in the targeted area.
5. Refer and meet periodically with Code Enforcement and Fire Prevention Officials on potential violations.

#### **Goal#2**

Increase the level of safety for motorists and pedestrians on the roadways of Middle Township.

#### **Objective:**

Preserve 2011 levels of enforcement for Distracted Driver violations and radar enforcement on Shunpike Road, Bayshore Road, Hand Ave, Dias Creek Road, Dennisville Road and Indian Trail Road. In addition, conduct at least three pedestrian details in 2012 including warnings/violations for Jaywalking.

#### **Strategies:**

1. Promote a public campaign to increase awareness of the law and hazards of distracted driving and pedestrian safety.
2. Increase patrol visibility at the cross-walks along the Middle Township Bike Path.
3. Conduct enforcement details with the working patrol squad and the Special Services Unit.
4. Distribute safety pamphlets on the dangers of driving while distracted at the 4-H Fair, National Night Out, and the Harvest Festival.

## Appendix B: 2012 Goals

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5. Use social media to raise traffic safety awareness and alert the public to our enforcement efforts.

### **Major Crimes Unit**

#### **Goal#1**

Improve the Units ability to efficiently and effectively handle an increasing case load.

#### **Objective:**

Execute a restructuring of the Unit through successful implementation and training of Juvenile Detectives reassigned to the Unit from the Special Services Unit by September 1. In addition, leverage technology to increase efficiency and actively manage and coordinate the case load levels.

#### **Strategies:**

1. Train all new Juvenile Detectives before Labor Day.
2. Permanently assign Firearms Background Investigations to the Special Services Unit.
3. Detective Sergeant will assign cases involving juveniles to the new Juvenile Detectives.
4. Coordinate and manage caseloads weekly utilizing the Case Management module in Enforsys.
5. Provide Detectives training and the option to utilize Dragonspeak Voice Dictation software to increase efficiency.
6. Complete evidence audit as outlined in 2011 Goals and Objectives.

#### **Goal#2**

Reaffirm activities related to address verification of Megan's law offenders living within Middle Township.

#### **Objective:**

Conduct at least four random spot checks of Level II and Level III offenders registered within Middle Township.

#### **Strategies:**

1. Search the Countywide Information sharing network, CAPESIS, for contacts with registered Middle Township sex offenders.

## Appendix B: 2012 Goals

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2. Communicate quarterly with the Vineland Office of State Parole Sex Offender Unit.
3. Randomly verify information provided by the registrants through New Jersey DMV and database Accurint.
4. Conduct spot checks of registrants that any Detective has reason to believe may not be living at the address provided.

### **Special Services Unit**

#### **Goal#1**

Increase Narcotics Enforcement within Middle Township.

#### **Objective**

Prepare and execute at least 6 Narcotics Search Warrants that result in Drug Distribution charges within the next twelve months.

#### **Strategies**

1. Increase the number of confidential informants.
2. Partner with the Cape May County Prosecutor's Guns Gangs and Narcotics Task Force to conduct a minimum of two joint undercover operations.
3. Conduct roll call training for the patrol division on the County intelligence system.

#### **Goal#2** (Note: This goal is a holdover from 2011 because of IT implementation issues.)

Improve evaluation and assessment of criminal activity and traffic accident data.

#### **Objective:**

Develop and utilize a crime analysis system within the next twelve months.

#### **Strategies:**

1. Review and update, if necessary, data entry procedures to ensure accuracy.
2. Manage the implementation of Bair software application.
3. Determine baselines of criminal activity for each of the four patrol zones.
4. Prepare monthly analysis reports.