



## ANNUAL REPORT

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# 2020

### EAST HAVEN POLICE DEPARTMENT

471 North High Street, East Haven, Connecticut  
[www.easthavenpolice.com](http://www.easthavenpolice.com)



“ “ Today, in 2020, making a difference and having an impact on the community involves more aspects than [imaginable]. Today, the demand on officers is far greater than it ever has been in the past. As officers, we are expected to be legal experts, school counselors, therapists, provide parental advice – regardless of if we have our own children or not, be accident investigation experts, domestic violence experts, forensic scientists. The list goes on and on.

When expected to be an expert on the law, we have to make split-second decisions which will have immediate and lifelong implications on an individual's Constitutional rights.

When acting as a therapist, we can be faced with an armed subject looking to harm themselves or others, and we must immediately tap into our training to deescalate the situation for a quick and peaceful resolution.

I did leave out one profession and that's being an actor. For eight hours a day, any interaction that we have with the public is captured on video by a body camera. In fact, in 2019, this Department had over 456,000 minutes of video from calls for service. But unlike an actor, when we go on a call for service, there is no script to follow, there are no second takes. There is no editing later. Yet, we are expected to get it right the first time, every time. And, for all those dangerous situations like a bank robbery or a foot pursuit, hopping over fences while chasing an armed subject, there is no stunt double – there is no subbing out. This is the reality of what we are faced with on a daily basis.

However, the men and women of this Department continue to rise to these challenges every single day.

Our success is based on the positive relationships we have with the community – we will continue to grow our existing partnerships and keep strengthening them over time.

There will certainly be plenty of mistakes along the way, there is no doubt. However, these are part of life's lessons and they only remain mistakes if [we] choose not to learn from them.

In order to be successful, we must work as a team. We all took the same oath, we all wear the same patch, we all have the same mission, and we all protect the same community. [We] must not lose sight of this during rough times. For persevering through the tough times together, as one, is what makes us stronger. ” ”

-Deputy Chief Patrick Tracy

excerpts from Oath of Office Promotional Ceremony  
February 2020



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## TOWN OVERVIEW

The Town of East Haven is a shoreline community located in New Haven County on the east side of the New Haven Harbor – Long Island Sound bordering New Haven, North Haven, North Branford and Branford.

Adopted in 1969, the Town of East Haven has a Mayor-Council form of municipal government in which the Mayor of East Haven is elected by its voters every two (2) years. Under the present form of government, the Mayor is the chief executive officer of the Town of East Haven. In addition to the Mayor, there are also fifteen (15) council members who are elected at-large every two (2) years.



The Town of East Haven has an active Police Department and a Fire Department that are available to members of the community 24-hours a day. The Town of East Haven also has several schools throughout its districts that serve Kindergarten through 12<sup>th</sup> Grade. The schools include Deer Run School, the East Haven Academy, Ferrara School, Momauguin School, Tuttle School, Joseph Melillo Middle School, and the East Haven High School.



According to the Connecticut Economic Resource Center Town Profile of 2019, the Town of East Haven's land area consists of 12 square miles with a population size of 29,332 (in 2020); the population per square mile is 2,358. The population consists of the following race/ethnic elements (2013-2017): White/Caucasian (77% of the population), Hispanic/Latino (14.6% of the population), Asian (4.4% of the population), Black/African American (2.3% of the population), Other/Multi-Race (1.5% of the population), and Native American (0.2% of the population).

In further accordance with the Connecticut Economic Resource Center Town Profile of 2019 (<https://s3-us-west-2.amazonaws.com/cerc-pdfs/2019/east-haven-2019.pdf>) the median age (2013-2017) of the residents of the Town of East Haven is 43 years old and the median household income is \$63,051.00. In addition, the Town's major employers are Home Depot, Town Fair Tire, Stop & Shop, ShopRite, and the Town of East Haven.

## HISTORY OF THE EAST HAVEN POLICE DEPARTMENT

The East Haven Police Department (EHPD) was established in 1925 during the tenure of First Selectman Robert H. Gerrish, and the first Chief of Police was Hugh Farrell. The Police Department was originally located at East Haven Town Hall but was later moved to its current location at 471 North High Street when the new building was completed in 1974.

The current patch worn by EHPD officers has a depiction of the Old Stone Church, of which according to published records was completed in 1774.

Originally, the EHPD officer's patch had a State emblem with the municipality's name. At some point during Chief Pascarella's tenure (1965-1993), the patch was changed from a standard State patch to a drawing of the Old Stone Church. The Old Stone Church is one of the most recognized landmarks in the Town of East Haven.



In 1993, the newly appointed Chief of Police James Criscuolo requested that a new patch be designed in the style similar to that of the New York City Police Department (NYPD). The patch changed shape and a new depiction of the Old Stone Church was penned by Sergeant Ed Peterson (Retired), completing the redesign.

Currently, there are sixty-two (62) sworn personnel and five (5) civilian staff that comprise the Police Department.

# CHIEF'S ADDRESS



*Chief Edward R. Lennon, Jr.*

To say that 2020 was a year like no other is an understatement. As we present our 2020 Annual Report, the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic had a dramatic effect on our community and our country. Although, it significantly changed the way society operates and how we as a police department conduct business, the East Haven Police Department (EHPD) remained steadfast at providing the best public safety services we can offer. I am honored and proud to serve the Town of East Haven with the many sworn and civilian members of the EHPD. Our dedicated, committed, and professional employees have

worked tirelessly over the last year to provide the best policing services to the East Haven community and visitors to the Town of East Haven while enduring this global pandemic and the other issues that our society faced in 2020.

Although activity, especially in the spring, was altered due to COVID-19, we remained extremely active responding to 27,444 calls for service in 2020. This was a decrease (-2.82%) in calls for service from the previous year, however, I would consider this number as a one-year statistical outlier due to mandatory government shutdowns as part of the mitigation strategies used to reduce the spread of COVID-19. Also due to social distancing protocols, we were unable to continue our comprehensive community engagement strategy as we have in previous years in order to do our part in helping to reduce the spread of COVID-19.

We are hopeful that we will be able to begin to once again participate in our School Liaison Program, High School Cadet Program, College Internship Program, Cooperative Agreement with the HOPE Domestic Violence Family Justice Center, the East Haven Police Athletic League (EHPAL), Coffee with a Cop, and countless other spontaneous outreach events while officers are on patrol. As noted in our 2019 Annual Report, the Department had originally planned to hold its 3<sup>rd</sup> Citizens Police Academy in the Fall of 2020. Unfortunately, we were forced to delay that and will try to hold it in the Fall of 2021 instead. Provided it is safe to do so, we also intend to participate in the “National Night Out” events in 2021 to further engage with the community. The Department will also continue to maintain a presence by utilizing our two community substations located at the Town Beach and in the lobby of the East Farm Village apartment complex on Messina Drive.

Beginning in 2018 until present, the EHPD has been working collaboratively with the East Haven Fire Department (EHFD) and the East Haven Board of Education (EHBOE) to improve the safety of our schools. The original target goal was to have an updated safety plan with all EHBOE employees and teachers; and most importantly, have students educated and trained before the beginning of the 2020-2021 school year. Unfortunately, it has been delayed due to COVID-19. The new goal is to complete this endeavor by the beginning of the 2021-2022 school year as the pandemic allows. The project includes implementing the ALICE™ (Alert Lockdown Inform Counter Evacuate) approach to school safety preparedness. In 2019, key instructors and trainers from the EHPD, EHFD, and EHBOE attended ALICE™ train-the-trainer classes in order to prepare to redeliver the program to all police personnel, fire personnel, teachers, students, and other EHBOE employees. The Department is steadfast in ensuring we have all options available to offer the best level of preparation and protection for our community's most precious assets – our children. Furthermore, the EHPD will also provide guidance to any business, organization, or house of worship that wants to learn the ALICE™ approach to preparedness.

In 2019, the EHPD, EHFD, and East Haven Public Safety Communications Center (EHPSCC) began a two-phase \$1.6 million dollar upgrade to the Town's overall emergency radio system. The project was broken up into two equal phases of \$800,000 each. The upgrade, once completed, will ensure that the Town's overall emergency communications are capable of handling major incidents and crises. The upgrade project included updating our old analog system to a P25 digital simulcast system that significantly improves operability and communications in known radio dead spots, greatly improving officer and firefighter safety. In late December 2019, most of the Phase I upgrade was completed. It was originally anticipated that Phase II would be completed by the summer of 2020. Due to delays in the supply chain regarding certain parts required for Phase II, the new anticipated completion is the spring of 2021.

The Department continues to meet and exceed the minimum requirements set forth by the CT Police Officer Standards and Training Council (CT POSTC) requirements. Like many agencies that had to balance annual training requirements against workforce safety in the midst of COVID-19, we had to adjust and found creative ways to conduct mandatory trainings throughout 2020. For curriculums that allowed for remote learning, we began using online training systems. For firearms qualifications, we reduced the size of the training groups. Unfortunately, doing so, increased our overtime expenses to comply with our annual requirements. Also, in 2020, the CT General Assembly passed the "Police Accountability Act," which made significant changes, or created new statutes, regarding policing in the State of Connecticut. Fortunately, due to our progressive training program and our previous experience with a court-mandated settlement agreement, our ability to comply with the new requirements of the

law is much easier than other agencies. Although we do face some challenges in completing some of the training within the provided time frames, we believe we will be able to comply. The full breakdown of training is outlined beginning on page 16.

In 2019, the Department achieved Commission on Accreditation of Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA™) accreditation for the first time in the Department's history. This was a tremendous feat for the entire Department. It demonstrates that since 2012, with the commitment of the men and women of the Department, we were able to rebuild – going from an agency in major distress to a Department that is progressive and much sought out as a model for reform. Approximately 5% of agencies in the United States and 20% of agencies in Connecticut are accredited. We joined our neighboring communities of North Haven, Guilford, and Madison who were already accredited. By attaining CALEA™ accreditation, the Department and Town are able to attest to the community that we meet or exceed national standards for progressive constitutional policing practices. This also provides a blueprint for the Department to establish policies and protocols that help to increase community advocacy, the ability to provide objective evidence for other government agencies, stronger defense against civil lawsuits, reduced risk and liability exposure, and greater accountability within our agency. Lastly, by obtaining CALEA™ accreditation, the EHPD is exempt from compliance with the audit requirements of CT Public Act 18-161 and CT POST General Notice 18-05. By 2025, as required by the “Police Accountability Act,” all CT law enforcement agencies must be accredited. Having already completed this requirement makes it easier for the Department to continue to be on the forefront of progressive policing and will not face an immediate short term financial burden to complete it in the timeframes established by the legislature.

One of the most significant developments for the Department in many years was an increase in our personnel. This was requested in fiscal year 2019-2020 and was endorsed with the full support of both the Mayor and the Legislative Town Council in the fiscal year 2020-2021 budget. Records dating back more than thirty-five (35+) years showed no staffing or personnel increases until the 2020 budget was approved, increasing the authorized operating strength of the Department to sixty-two (62) sworn personnel in 2020. This increase gives the EHPD the ability to more adequately respond to all our calls for service while also providing other social and community services. Some of these enhanced services include more involvement in the schools, directed traffic enforcement, beach/parking issues, and other quality of life issues. In addition, the increase of personnel helps address a significant deficiency of the Department in that we finally have the proper amount of command staff and supervisors for an agency of our size that handles the number and the types of calls for service we encounter. In December of 2020, the Board of Police Commissioners were able to promote and hire all vacant positions. We anticipate that there will be additional promotions and hiring of officers due to retirements in 2021.

It is anticipated that with the increase in personnel, the Department will be able to further expand on addressing quality of life issues throughout the community. Some of these issues we have prioritized include traffic violations and enforcement, parking issues in the beach area, and addressing the serious opioid epidemic.

In 2020, we were able to address various traffic issues through both education and enforcement. Although currently the Department does not have a dedicated officer or group of officers that specifically focus on traffic offenses, our patrol officers have been committed to tackling these issues as part of their routine patrol efforts. In 2021, we intend to assign officers to conduct just traffic enforcement. We have also been able to conduct electronic speed surveys of specific areas through the use of speed sign technology, which works by informing traveling motorists of their speed by displaying it on a screen while also helping the Department conduct in-depth traffic flow studies which allows us to better deploy our resources to address community traffic issues. An overview of our traffic enforcement efforts begins on page 10.

An additional benefit of increasing manpower will be that for the 2021-2022 school year, the Department will be able to staff a School Resource Officer (SRO) in both the high school and middle school. Having an SRO in both locations will help to increase school safety, improve police community relations, and help bridge the gap between police and youth. Lastly, the Department received a \$125,000 US Department of Justice grant - which must be split over three (3) years - to offset some of the funding for the SROs.

The Department continues to address parking issues throughout Town, and specifically, the area adjacent to and surrounding the Town beach from Memorial Day to Labor Day. With the restrictions on the use of the beach due to COVID-19, the Town did not face the significant parking issues that we have faced in previous years surrounding the beach. With the addition of the new positions in 2021, the SRO's will be redeployed during the summer months so the Department can staff the Town Beach police substation to better address any issues, including parking violations, that may arise with the increased influx of visitors to the Town's beach vicinity.

Further, the Department continues to address drug and narcotics issues, specifically opioids. As part of an officer's regular patrol activities, they are able to combat street level users and dealers of drugs. We are also able to conduct large scale investigations with the assistance of partner agencies. Currently, the Department partners with and has personnel assigned to the Federal Bureau of Investigation's (FBI) Safe Streets/Violent Crimes Task Force and the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) Task Force. Both task forces provide high level investigative assistance to the Department regarding large cases involving drugs, guns, and violent crimes. However, this does not completely

allow the Department to address the low-level quality of life issues to the standard we would like for the community. In the future, as noted with the traffic issues, we will be assigning staff to specifically address these ongoing issues.

Besides enforcement, the Department works with prevention and public health organizations such as the East Shore District Health Department (ESDHD), the Connecticut State Department of Public Health (DPH) and the Connecticut State Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS). We believe that partnerships with these organizations may aid us in proactively dealing with addiction and other serious threats to public health before they become more serious epidemics.

I hope you find this annual report informative and enlightening. I encourage you to visit our website at [www.easthavenpolice.com](http://www.easthavenpolice.com) and our social media pages on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram for further details about the Department, our long-term plans and events, and to see the diligent work the men and women of the EHPD do daily.

“*The mission of the East Haven Police Department is to enforce the law and protect life and property by establishing proactive problem-solving partnerships with our citizens.*”

## PATROL DIVISION

The EHPD Patrol Division, commanded by a captain, is considered the backbone of the Department. In most cases, patrol officers are the ones who interact with the community in the initial stages of their need for law enforcement. This gives our officers the opportunity to demonstrate their knowledge, professionalism and compassion which hopefully gives community members a feeling of trust and willingness to have a working relationship with the Department as a whole.



The Patrol Division is responsible for patrolling within the boundaries of the Town of East Haven and protecting the Town's citizens, businesses and visitors.

The Patrol Division is divided into three (3) separate patrol shifts. At the close of 2020, combined, the shifts consist of two (2) lieutenants, five (5) sergeants and thirty-three (33) patrol officers (these numbers will increase for 2021-2022). The Patrol Division members also have specialized skills or assignments to include school liaison officers and bicycle officers, as well as a Canine Unit with three (3) K-9 Teams consisting of one officer with their canine partner.

The Department has implemented the School Liaison Officer Program which consists of officers that are currently assigned to the day shift (0800-1600 hours). These officers are each assigned a school within the community to promote a strong relationship between the schools, the neighborhoods and the police. While assigned to the schools, officers become familiar with the students, administrators, faculty, and staff. The program increases officers' presence at schools, promoting open communication about issues of mutual concern or interest. Officers are required to make periodic appearances at the

schools during their normal course of patrol and be responsible for incidents which occur at their assigned school.



Bicycle officers are assigned primarily for special events such as the Town’s annual Fireworks, Fall Festival and Road Race. However, during the summer months (late May to early September) officers are assigned to the beach area of Town. The bike officer is used to patrol the beach, splash pad area, Town parking area and surrounding streets. The amount of people visiting the beach tends to cause parking issues on several of the side streets in the area. The bike officer is also responsible for keeping these issues to a minimum and taking enforcement action when necessary.

Traffic Enforcement remains an important function of patrol to help make traveling within our jurisdiction as safe as possible. To assist with traffic enforcement, the Department uses hand held laser units to conduct speed enforcement and two (2) License Plate Readers mounted to patrol vehicles which assist in identifying vehicles that are unregistered, uninsured, stolen, used in crimes and possibly contain wanted or missing persons. A speed trailer is also used by the Department to remind operators of their speed and is capable of collecting data to determine best times and locations officers should conduct enforcement. The following types of data are collected by the speed trailer:

- Number of days of data
- Speed limit
- Average speed
- 50<sup>th</sup> percentile speed
- 85<sup>th</sup> percentile speed
- Pace speed
- Minimum speed
- Maximum speed
- Average volume of vehicles per day
- Total volume of vehicles

The gathering of this data assists the Department in assessing complaints of speeding in particular areas of concern and also helps us provide accurate quantifiable information when answering speeding complaints. A second speed trailer was purchased in 2020.

The Patrol Division made a total of 1,098 motor vehicles stops for the year 2020; compared to 1,674 in 2019 and 1,818 in 2018. During this same year, there were a total of 638 (including private property) which was an increase from 445 accidents in 2019 and 449 in 2018. Officers made a total of 55 DUI arrests in 2020; compared to 56 in 2019 and 47 in 2018.

With the passage of a new budget in early 2020, eight (8) additional positions were created in the Department – the first expansion of the Department in nearly forty years. Included in the newly created positions, the Town Council approved funding for two (2) School Resource Officers (SROs) and just prior to the start of the 2020-2021 academic year, the Town was awarded grant money to supplement funding for SROs. A selection process of interested officers will take place sometime in 2021. However, as a result of the ever-changing state of COVID-19, it is unknown if the training classes required to be a certified SRO will take place as many training classes have been cancelled due to the pandemic.



Further, due to drastic changes in school schedules because of the COVID-19 pandemic, we were not been able to place SROs in the schools during 2020. Once full in-person school resumes, there will be one (1) SRO at East Haven High School and one (1) at Joseph Melillo Middle School. These SROs will be a consistent presence and facilitate building stronger trusting relationships between the students, faculty and the EHPD throughout the academic year.

Patrol has also seen a slight decrease in the amount of domestic violence calls with a total of 392 calls for service for the year 2020; compared to 397 in 2019 and 410 in 2018. Patrol will continue to provide safety plans, assist in connecting victims with Domestic Violence Advocates and other resources such as the Connecticut Coalition Against Domestic Violence (CCADV), the HOPE Family Justice Center of Greater New Haven and The Umbrella Center for Domestic Violence Services, both of which are subsidized through BHcare (our local mental health agency) with whom we have a longstanding partnership. Routine follow ups with victims will ensure their safety and help reduce reoccurrences.

## DEPARTMENT FLEET VEHICLES

The EHPD fleet vehicles are assigned to the Patrol Division, Detective Division and Administrative Staff, and are outfitted appropriately for their designated usage.

Department personnel inspect departmental vehicles prior to use on a daily basis, and the Fleet Coordinator is notified of noticeable issues.

Service to the fleet vehicles is provided by the Town of East Haven's Public Works Department. Services include oil change, brake inspection and replacement, tire inspection and replacement, lube, and various other mechanical maintenances and repairs to ensure safe operation.



The front-line vehicles, which are used by the Patrol Division on a 24-hour basis, are comprised of Dodge Chargers, Chevrolet Tahoes, and Ford Explorers (K-9 units). The average miles per month per front-line vehicle for 2020 was approximately 2,500 miles (approximately 25,000 - 30,000 miles per front-line vehicle annually).



## DETECTIVE DIVISION

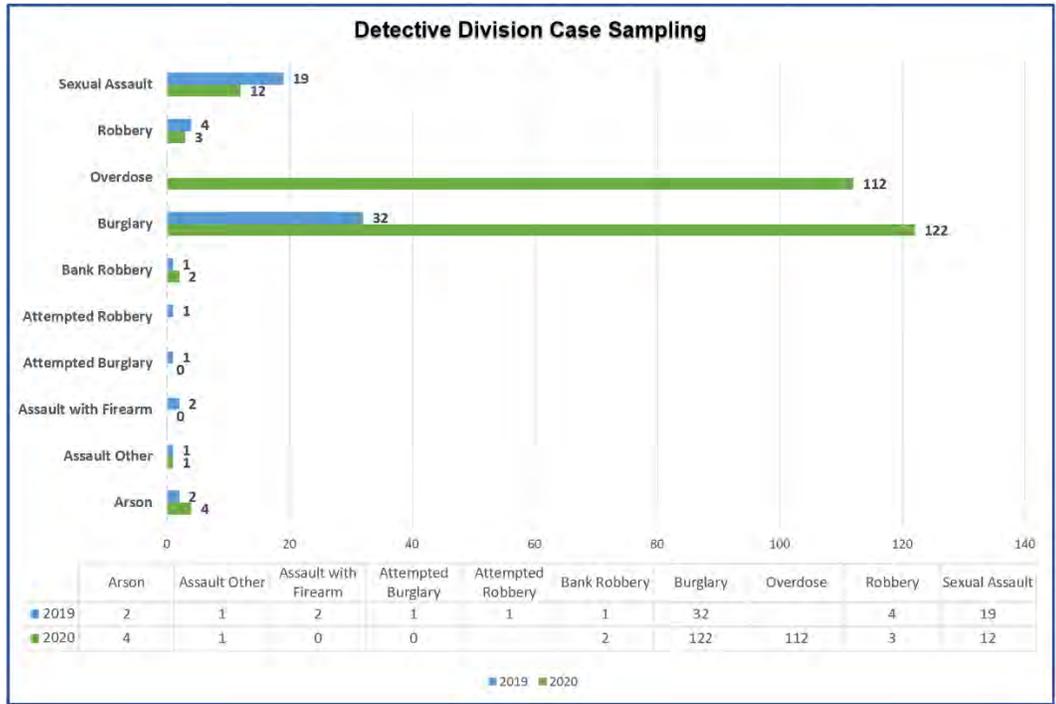
The EHPD Detective Division, commanded by a captain, is comprised of one (1) sergeant and six (6) detectives. Throughout the second half of 2020, the Detective Division was understaffed for extended periods of time due to two (2) long term injuries. Three (3) patrol officers were promoted to Detective in August, September and October, respectively. In addition to these three appointments, a retirement in the Detective Sergeant position created a re-appointment from the Patrol Division to the Detective Division. All of these changes created the opportunity for growth and restructure within the ranks. In addition to personnel changes, the Detective Division had to navigate the challenges presented by COVID-19. Their usual configuration is a shared workspace within an enclosed area which creates a synergistic effect amongst the detectives working within it; unfortunately, COVID-19 restrictions forced the Detective Division to alter the way they worked together – on several occasions, detectives had to work remotely, either because of the Governor’s executive orders, or because of quarantine restrictions. Through the use of Zoom™, Microsoft Teams™ and other virtual platforms, detectives were still able to manage their significant caseloads and stay up to date with investigations, all while maintaining social distance protocols.

The Detective Division is responsible for, or assisting with, criminal investigations regarding violent crimes, narcotics, burglaries, thefts, as well as other nonviolent crimes. The Detective Division is also responsible for processing crime scenes and the collection of evidence. They also conduct extensive background investigations for potential new hires for the Department, the East Haven Fire Department (EHFD) and the East Haven Public Safety Communication Center (EHPSCC).

Several detectives are certified instructors for the Department, members of the South Central Connecticut Traffic Unit (SCCTU), South Central Regional Special Weapons and Tactics Team (SCRSWAT) and members of the Department’s Juvenile Review Board. One (1) detective is assigned to conduct domestic violence incident follow ups to ensure victims have all the services and resources needed to remain safe. These specialized assignments are above and beyond the responsibilities of the Detective Division.

The Detective Division also provides assistance to the Patrol Division when needed and takes great pride in mentoring our patrol officers, teaching them investigative techniques to enhance their skills, knowledge of the job and broaden their experience.

In 2020, the Detective Division was involved in the investigations of approximately one hundred ten (110) major cases; compared to two hundred one (201) in 2019 which could be due to the effects caused by COVID-19. The chart is a small sampling of cases the Detective Division investigated in 2020.



Additionally, an extremely complex domestic violence homicide forced the Detective Division to reconfigure its manpower. A newly appointed sergeant as well as an officer from the Patrol Division were assigned to work solely on the case, which spanned across several months from July 2020 until an arrest charging the suspect with murder was made at the end of December 2020. At the time of this writing, the employees assigned to the case are still actively assisting the State’s Attorney’s office with trial preparation.

**JUVENILE REVIEW BOARD**

The EHPD Juvenile Review Board ("JRB") is a community-based diversionary and prevention program designed as an alternative response to a crime or wrongdoings perpetrated by troubled, or in trouble, youth and serves to reduce youth involvement with the juvenile justice system.

The EHPD JRB accepts referrals from Juvenile Court, Police or School for delinquency or status offenses committed in the Town of East Haven. Youth referred to the Board must be under the age of 18, accept responsibility for their actions, have no previous court or police involvement and not have committed a felony. Also, a parent/legal guardian must agree to JRB participation and involvement.

There are three ways that a youth can be referred to the Juvenile Review Board:

- A police officer may decide to divert someone rather than sending him/her to Juvenile Court
- The school can refer a student for consistent defiance of school rules, truancy, indecent or immoral conduct
- Parents can refer their child for being out of control

The EHPD JRB collaborates with the youth and their families to design a reparative action plan that emphasizes accountability, responsibility and repairing the harm done to people and relationships. The JRB plan consists of a combination of formal and informal responses to address the referral incident, as well as identifying the needs of youth and their families to recommend services and supports to increase skills for future success.

The JRB's recommendations may require that the youth offender perform a specified number of community service hours, work or make monetary restitution, attend individual or family counseling, submit to a psychiatric evaluation, participate in a drug/alcohol treatment program, apologize to the victim, do research and write a paper on a subject relevant to the incident, or anything else the JRB believes would be beneficial.

The Board consists of police personnel, school social workers and administrators, principals from the middle school and high school, clergy, juvenile probation, and a representative from the Town of East Haven Youth Services Bureau. Additionally, a juvenile prosecutor or a representative from DCF may participate in a case review when appropriate. This highly dedicated group of people, who represent a variety of disciplines, are able to assist and support youth and their families through difficult times.

The intent of this process is not punitive, but rather educational to strengthen competencies and knowledge of resources to reinforce the stepping stones of youth development and to deter future occurrences.

In 2020, all four (4) of the cases handled by the JRB were Breach of Peace complaints with one (1) involving an assault. These numbers are down from seven (7) cases 2019 (five breach of peace, one marijuana possession and one motor vehicle charges).

Since its inception in 2013, the EHPD JRB has sustained a 90% success rate and reduced repeat offenses.

# TRAINING DIVISION

In 2020, the East Haven Police Department (EHPD) has continued to provide training to officers that exceed the requirements of the Connecticut Police Officer Standards and Training Council (CT POST). In addition to providing training to all sworn personnel, the EHPD also provides training to our civilian staff which relates to their role or assignment at the EHPD.



The EHPD strives to develop and train its officers with the most competent, current, and high-quality training available to the law enforcement community. This commitment will aid the EHPD in better serving the community and the employees of the agency. In addition, it also helps the EHPD to develop an open relationship amongst all ranks, positions, and roles so that all personnel know and can take a personal stake in meeting the training goals of the EHPD.

In addition to the training required by CT POST, the EHPD elects to send individual officers or groups of officers to training in several other areas. The training that EHPD officers received in 2020 is listed below:

- Active Shooter Response Multi-Agency Integration
- Advanced Death and Cold Case Investigations
- A-RIDE
- At-Scene Crash Investigation
- Blood Borne Pathogens
- COLLECT Training
- Conducting Proper and Effective Investigations
- Constitutional Law and Legal Updates
- CREST SWAT School
- Crime Scene Processing
- Crisis Negotiation Team Training
- Crowd Management
- Daigle Law Group Use of Force Summit
- De-Escalation and the Mentally Ill
- Domestic Violence: Train the Trainer
- DUI Investigations
- Ethics
- Evidence-Based First Line Supervision
- Fair and Impartial Policing
- Field Training Officer (FTO) Certification
- Firearms & Patrol Rifle Qualifications
- Hate & Bias Crimes
- Human Behavior
- Interview and Interrogation
- John M. Bailey Seminar
- LEADS (De-escalation) Train the Trainer
- LOCKUP™ Instructor Certification
- Mobile Communications Vehicle Training
- Policy and Procedures Updates
- Spector Criminal Justice Methods of Instruction
- Stopping Suspicious Persons
- Street Sourcing
- Taser™ Recertification/Certification
- Taser™ Instructor Recertification/Certification
- Tweed New Haven Airport Security Training
- Use of Force Law

High liability classes include training on firearms, defensive tactics, Conducted Electrical Weapon (CEW) (TASER™) use, use of force, etc. Conducting smaller classes for these high liability training sessions allows for better instructor/student interaction and helps to ensure that students are understanding and retaining the training they are receiving.

The training needs of the EHPD and of individual officers are continually reassessed and regular communication between supervisors and the Training Division helps identify future training opportunities and determine which officers made need additional training in a specific area. The Training Division is also constantly adapting to include all legislative updates which have a direct impact on the Department and its daily operations. During 2020, the most significant update was in regards to The Police Accountability Act which is in its infancy and still being developed and modified.

One such step focuses on the initial training recruits receive after graduating the Academy. Before beginning field training with a Field Training Officer (FTO), they are required to complete several days of administrative training with special emphasis on policies and procedures. High liability policies are discussed in depth and are signed off on through the use of PowerDMS. Legal review training is conducted annually Department-wide and proves to be thought-provoking and valuable to a Department guided by progressive modern policing strategies.

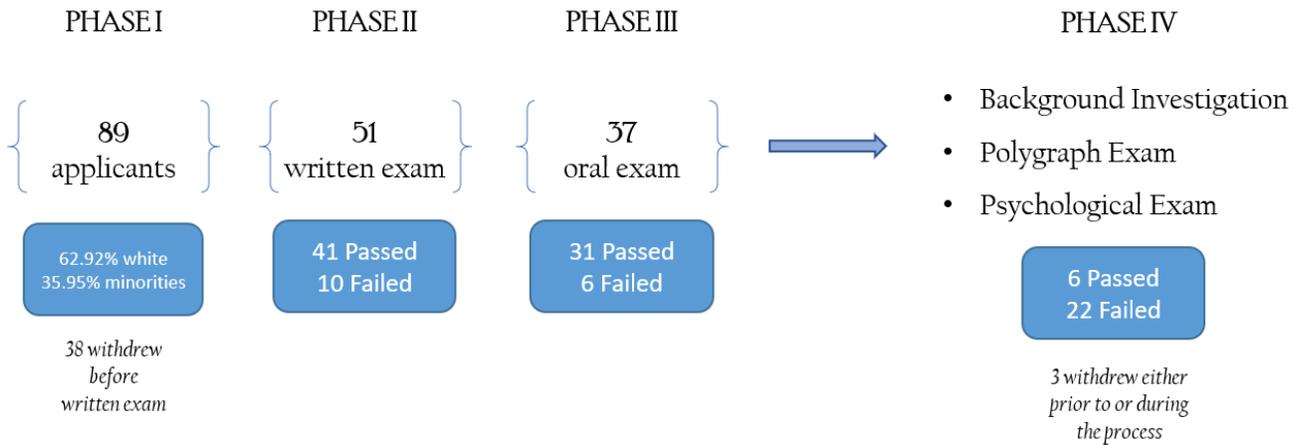
In conclusion, the EHPD recognizes that in order to achieve these goals, highly competent, effective, and pertinent training must be offered to employees, both sworn and non-sworn of all ranks. By using training to improve the abilities and skills of all employees, the EHPD will reduce liability to the Town and offer better police services to the community we are sworn to protect.

## **Recruitment**

The East Haven Civil Service Commission advertised for the position of entry level Police Officer and the EHPD used various outlets to advertise and reach out to community members in an effort to attract the greatest number of quality candidates possible. This included advertisement in the local media and the Department's Facebook page.

Our last major recruitment campaign to attract a greater number of qualified, diverse candidates was in 2019. For the first time in the history of the EHPD, a recruitment video was filmed and garnered a decent response. Through the use of Facebook analytics, we learned that our recruitment video reached thousands of people, spanning the country from Connecticut to California, and many states in between. We determined our target audience which will help us with future community engagement and recruitment efforts.

The results of the most recent hiring process are as follows:



When analyzing all the applicants that chose to report a racial/ethnic background, it was discovered that 62.92% of candidates were White (Non-Hispanic) and 35.95% were minorities. The 35.95% of minority applicants is well above the 2010 East Haven Population Census data which shows 25.5% of East Haven residents who identify themselves as a minority race or ethnicity. This shows that the East Haven Police Department is receiving a more diverse applicant pool than is reflected in the East Haven community.

In 2020, the East Haven Board of Police Commissioners hired six (6) entry level recruit patrol officers and three (3) certified transfer police officers to fill vacancies created by promotions and retirements.

## RECORDS DIVISION

In 2020, the Records Division was staffed by two (2) full-time civilian clerks and one (1) part-time civilian clerk. This unit is primarily responsible for maintaining the majority of the Department's records and providing reports, and other requested documents to the public in accordance with Connecticut's Freedom of Information Act (CT FOIA), as well as providing documents to court. The Records Division is also responsible for processing the initial steps for pistol permit applications and files firearms transfer records, processes court subpoenas, COLLECT/NCIC Validations, and collects fees for various permits and parking fines.



### Summary of Records Unit Activity – 2020

# Revenue



**\$40,241**

(Total revenue \$33,318 in 2019)

# SPECIALTY UNITS

## CANINE UNIT

The Canine Unit is an invaluable tool that is used in the assistance of apprehending suspects, locating missing persons, crowd control, locating hidden narcotics, evidence location, and community relations.

In 2020, the three K-9 teams were deployed thirty-one (31) times; compared to thirty-seven (37) times in 2019 and seventy-two (72) times in 2018. The annual statistics comparison follows:

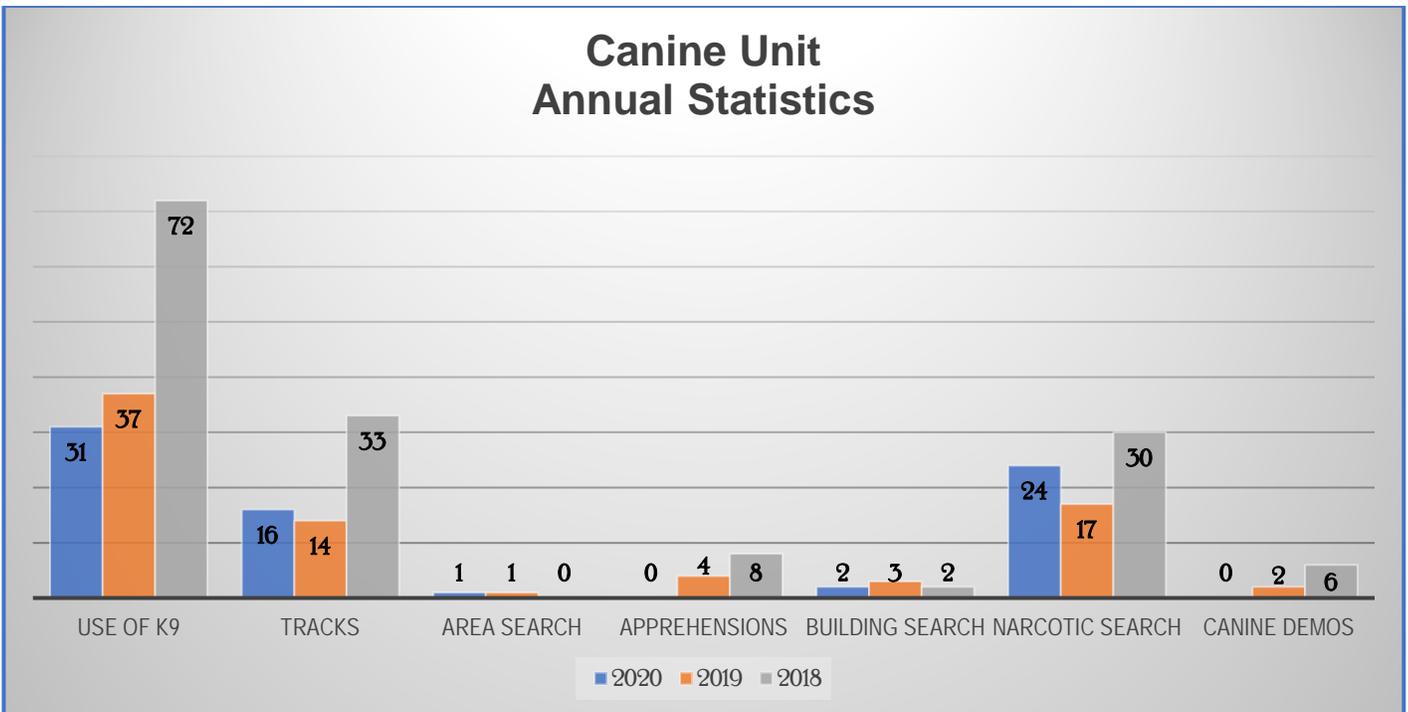




Photo: Mark Zaretsky / Hearst Connecticut Media

A long-term goal of the K-9 Program was to expand the unit to include additional K-9 teams. In early 2020, a second and third team were funded. K-9 Enzo and K-9 Mack, along with their handlers, completed K-9 Academy training in March 2020.

*K-9 teams from left, Officer Kevin McGuire and K-9 Ace, Officer Danny Palma and K-9 Enzo, and Officer Fred Seago and K-9 Mack*

The Department has received overwhelming support for its K-9 Program and plans to pursue additional support through private donations and continued fundraising in 2021.

Officer McGuire and his K-9 partner Ace were awarded the 2019 Tracking Award (conferred in 2020) from the Connecticut Police Work Dog Association. Upon responding to a located stolen vehicle, on scene officers advised that the driver had been identified and had been reported missing for approximately two weeks. It was further advised that the driver had several outstanding warrants and that they believed him to be suicidal. A track was conducted and subsequently the suspect was located in a marsh by K-9 Ace.

*East Haven Police Department is a proud participant in the annual Shoreline Law Enforcement Diaper Drive. K-9 Enzo and K-9 Mack thank the citizens of East Haven for their generous donations making this another successful community event.*

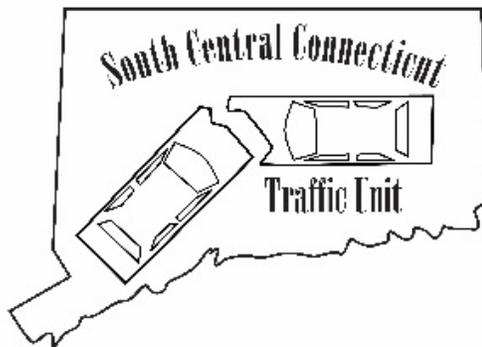
*Bare Necessities' successful partnerships with the Law Enforcement Community along the Shoreline provides diapers, wipes and all basic essentials to those in need through local food pantries and community service organizations such as the Branford Community Dining Program, Old Saybrook's Social Service Program, and has significantly supplemented distribution in Guilford, Madison, Clinton and East Haven.*



## **SOUTH CENTRAL CONNECTICUT TRAFFIC UNIT – ACCIDENT RECONSTRUCTION**

The South Central Connecticut Traffic Unit (SCCTU) consists of police officers employed by the East Haven Police Department (EHPD), North Haven Police Department (NHPD), North Branford Police Department (NBPD), Branford Police Department (BPD), Madison Police Department (MPD) and the Guilford Police Department (GPD). The SCCTU operates under a police mutual assistance compact in accordance with C.G.S. §7-227a.

Officers assigned to the SCCTU receive advanced training to investigate serious injury and fatal motor vehicle collisions. These training classes include, but are not limited to, At-Scene Traffic Crash Investigation, Advanced Crash Investigation, Traffic Crash Reconstruction, Pedestrian/Bicycle Crash Investigation, Motorcycle Crash Investigation, and Driving Under the Influence (DUI) Enforcement.



The SCCTU utilizes many tools to investigate and document the scene of a serious injury or fatal motor vehicle crash. These tools include a digital camera and digital video camera, an LTI Impulse LR 200 Laser with a Mapstar Angle Encoder, a Bosch CDR Event Data Recorder Imager, a Nikon Total Station, and a FARO 3D Laser Scanner.

An updated FARO 3D Laser Scanner was purchased in late 2020, and is a cutting-edge piece of technology for creating a scaled diagram of the scene of an incident. The 3D Laser Scanner and other items like it are quickly becoming the industry standard for traffic crash investigations. All of these tools are housed within the South Central Connecticut Police Services Crime Scene Vehicle, which is used as a mobile investigation office to investigate serious injury or fatal motor vehicle collisions and major crime scenes.

East Haven currently has seven (7) officers that are trained to investigate serious injury or fatal motor vehicle collisions and are assigned to the SCCTU. In 2020, the SCCTU was utilized to investigate nine (9) total incidents, three (3) of which occurred within the Town of East Haven; compared to ten (10) total incidents, four (4) of which occurred within the Town of East Haven in 2019.

## **SOUTH CENTRAL REGIONAL SPECIAL WEAPONS AND TACTICS TEAM**

The East Haven Police Department recognized that a mutual agreement with neighboring police departments allows for the sharing of specially trained officers and other law enforcement resources among jurisdictions that would normally be beyond the capability of an individual department acting independently. As a result, the Department is an active participant of the South Central Regional Special Weapons and Tactics Team (SCRSWAT).



The SCRSWAT is comprised of officers from the East Haven Police Department (EHPD), North Haven Police Department (NHPD), North Branford Police Department (NBPD), Branford Police Department (BPD), Guilford Police Department (GPD), and the Madison Police Department (MPD). The EHPD currently has six (6) officers assigned to the SCRSWAT.

They are required to train twice a month and the Crisis Negotiation Team trained three (3) times in 2020. The COVID-19 pandemic presented challenges which included the cancellation of a large joint training operation which has been rescheduled to the summer of 2021.

In 2020, SCRSWAT, including the Crisis Negotiation Team, was called out three (3) times and they were placed on standby for issues that resolved themselves four (4) times. The Crisis Negotiation Team trained (3) times in 2020.



## AWARDS & RECOGNITION

Recommendations for Commendations submitted by supervisors are reviewed periodically throughout the year by the Awards Committee. Sixty-six (66) awards were conferred in 2020:

### MEDAL OF MERIT

The Medal of Merit is awarded to a member of the Department who, in the line of duty, performs an outstanding act at personal hazard, not meeting the stringent requirements for the Medal of Honor. The Medal of Merit is awarded in cases involving an armed adversary.

Carangelo, Joseph (DR 20-0082 / CN 20-5714)  
Gorman, Ryan (DR 20-0082 / CN 20-5714)

### COMMENDATION MEDAL

The Commendation Medal is awarded to a member of the Department or to any other person, who contributes to an unusually effective police accomplishment.

Carangelo, Joseph (DR 21-0079 / CN 20-33364)  
Fiorillo, Anthony (DR 19-0254 / CN 19-24300)  
Marsico, Stephen (DR 21-0079 / CN 20-33364)  
Messina, Jack (DR 20-0115 / CN 20-9465)  
Palma, Donato (DR 21-0079 / CN 20-33364)  
Pelham, Tyler (DR 21-0079 / CN 20-33364)  
Savo, Kyle (DR 19-0228 / CN 19-18390)  
Sego, Frederick (DR 20-0115 / CN 20-9465)

### UNIT CITATION MEDAL

The Unit Citation Medal is awarded to a group of officers acting in concert to accomplish a specific task, and whose efforts and accomplishment exceed the normal requirements of police service.

Bissette, Kershen (DR 20-0190 / CN 20-20487)  
Burrell, Nicole (DR 19-0264 / CN 19-25515)  
Carangelo, Joseph (DR 19-0264 / CN 19-25515; DR 20-0118 / CN 20-2411)  
Celentano, Robert (DR 20-0193 / CN 20-22979)  
Colbert, Monique (DR 20-0118 / CN 20-2411)  
Conyers, Shirley (DR 20-0118 / CN 20-2411)  
Coppola, William (DR 20-0193 / CN 20-22979; DR 21-0079 / CN 20-33364)  
DeCrosta, Benjamin (DR 20-0118 / CN 20-2411)  
Delgado, David (DR 20-0190 / CN 20-20487; DR 20-0193 / CN 20-22979)  
Finoia, Joseph (DR 20-0193 / CN 20-22979)  
Fiorillo, Anthony (DR 20-0082 / CN 20-5714)  
Gerosa, George (DR 20-0193 / CN 20-22979)  
Halligan, Sean (DR 21-0079 / CN 20-33364)  
Juliano, Michael (DR 20-0190 / CN 20-20487)  
K-9 Ace (DR 19-0264 / CN 19-25515)  
Klarman, Kevin (DR 20-0118 / CN 20-2411)  
McGuire, Kevin (DR 19-0264 / CN 19-25515; DR 20-0118 / CN 20-2411)  
Messina, Jack (DR 20-0118 / CN 20-2411)

Michalowski, Ryan (DR 20-0118 / CN 20-2411)  
Montagna, Frank (DR 20-0193 / CN 20-22979)  
Nguyen, Jimmy (DR 20-0190 / CN 20-20487)  
Northrop, Dylan (DR 20-0190 / CN 20-20487)  
Perry, Molly (DR 20-0193 / CN 20-22979)  
Sego, Frederick (DR 20-0118 / CN 20-2411)  
Trinh, Jonathan (DR 20-0082 / CN 20-5714; DR 20-0118 / CN 20-2411)  
Wambolt, Matthew (DR 20-0118 / CN 20-2411)  
Wilson, Raymond (DR 20-0118 / CN 20-2411; DR 20-0190 / CN 20-20487; DR 20-0193 / CN 20-22979)

## **CHIEF'S LETTER OF RECOGNITION**

A Letter of Recognition is awarded to a member of the Department, or to any other person, who contributes to effective police accomplishment which does not meet the requirement of a Commendation Medal.

Adams, Nicholas (DR 19-0299 / CN 19-25663)  
Celentano, Robert (DR 19-0374 / CN 19-29616)  
Coppola, William (DR 19-0008 / CN 19-1497; DR 20-0125 / CN 19-29929)  
Delgado, David (DR 19-0374 / CN 19-29616)  
Gerosa, George (DR 19-0299 / CN 19-25663)  
K-9 Enzo (DR 20-0239 / CN 20-31661)  
Klarman, Kevin (DR 19-0254 / CN 19-24300)  
McGuire, Kevin (DR 19-0297 / CN 19-25903)  
Michalowski, Ryan (DR 19-0262 / CN 19-25246)  
Mulhern, Joseph (DR 19-0299 / CN 19-25663; DR 20-0111)  
Nguyen, Jimmy (DR 19-0008 / CN 19-1497; DR 19-0374 / CN 19-29616)  
Palma, Donato (DR 19-0010 / CN 19-1737; DR 19-0297 / CN 19-25903; DR 20-0239 / CN 20-31661)  
Savo, Kyle (DR 20-0139 / CN 20-13516)  
Vailette, Jeffrey (DR 20-0125 / CN 19-29929)  
Wahib, Ahmad (DR 19-0254 / CN 19-24300)  
Wambolt, Matthew (DR 20-0115 / CN 20-9465)  
Wilson, Raymond (DR 19-0254 / CN 19-24300)

## Other Departmental Awards

**Medal of Honor.** The Medal of Honor is awarded to a member of the Department who, in the line of duty beyond the normal requirement, performs an exceptionally outstanding act at the risk of his/her life.

**Purple Heart Medal.** The Purple Heart Medal is awarded to a member of the Department who, in the line of duty, who sustains a major wound inflicted by an armed adversary.

**Silver Medal.** The Silver Medal is awarded to a member of the Department who has received ten commendations.

**Bronze Medal.** The Bronze Medal is awarded to a member of the Department who has received at least five commendations.

**Dedicated Service Medal.** The Dedicated Service Medal is awarded to a member of the Department who continuously and unselfishly devotes his/her energy to police service above the normal requirements.

## CONNECTICUT POLICE WORK DOG ASSOCIATION

2019 Tracking Award (*conferred in 2020*)

Officer Kevin McGuire  
K-9 Ace

## EAST HAVEN ROTARY CLUB

Joseph Buonome Memorial Public Safety Award

*Postponed due to COVID-19*

## MOTHER'S AGAINST DRUNK DRIVING

Law Enforcement Recognition Award

Officer Kevin McGuire  
(2020, 2019, 2017, 2016)

Officer Jonathan Trinh  
(2020, 2019, 2018)

# THE EAST HAVEN POLICE ATHLETIC LEAGUE

The East Haven Police Athletic League (EHPAL) is A 501-C 3 Non-Profit Organization overseen by the Chief of Police and an Executive Board comprised of Officers and members of the community.

The mission of EHPAL is to promote interaction between community members, especially young people, and East Haven police officers through recreational and educational activities. Building trust with area youth by participating in athletic and competition-based activities with the goals of instilling the core values of sportsmanship, self-discipline, and teamwork by providing a safe, recreational environment that promotes self-esteem, confidence and physical fitness for those who participate.

Unfortunately, the EHPAL program was severely impacted by the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic as strict social distancing protocols were in place restricting interaction between East Haven officers and our community's youth.



**APPENDIX**

**STATISTICAL DATA**

**USE OF FORCE**

**AND**

**MOTOR VEHICLE PURSUITS**

**January 1 to December 31, 2020**

It is the East Haven Police Department's (EHPD) highest priority to value and protect human life. The public authorizes the police to use force that is objectively reasonable for the protection of human life. As such, it is the policy of the Department for officers to use only the amount of force necessary to bring a person or incident under control in pursuit of this mission.

The Department maintains motor vehicle pursuit and use of force policies and procedures, training, and review mechanisms that ensure force by officers is used in accordance with the rights, privileges, and immunities secured and protected by the United States Constitution and/or laws of the United States; and that any unreasonable uses of force are identified and responded to appropriately. These policies and procedures ensure officers use non-force techniques to effect compliance with police orders whenever feasible, use force only when necessary, use force in a manner that avoids unnecessary injury to officers and civilians, and de-escalate the use of force at the earliest opportune time.

Members of the Department are expected to use only that degree of force that is objectively reasonable in making a lawful arrest, placing a person into protective custody, effectively bringing an incident under control, or preventing harm to or death(s) of others or themselves.

Officers who use more force than objectively reasonable to gain control of a subject or to prevent harm to another person shall be subject to severe discipline or discharge from the Department.

### **Use of Force Reporting Process**

A use of force case is defined as a situation involving one or more officers using force against one or more subjects in order to effect an arrest, place a person into protective custody, effectively bringing an incident under control, or preventing harm to or death(s) of others or themselves.

A use of force case may require multiple officers to use different types of force during the encounter (i.e., taser, non-compliant handcuffing).

Therefore, the responsibility of officers using, observing, or discovering a use of force that rises above "*de minimis*" force to notify their supervisor(s) of such reportable force as soon as possible. Officers involved in the use of reportable force shall document such force in a Use of Force Report that completely and accurately describes the use of force; officers are held strictly accountable for material omissions or inaccuracies in a Use of Force Report.

Supervisors review all uses of force except for those that are designated to be investigated by the Internal Affairs Officer. When appropriate, a supervisor will respond to the scene of a use of force incident to assist in a thorough and complete review of the incident. Upon reviewing a use of force, the reviewing supervisor documents his/her findings in a Supervisory Force Review Report.

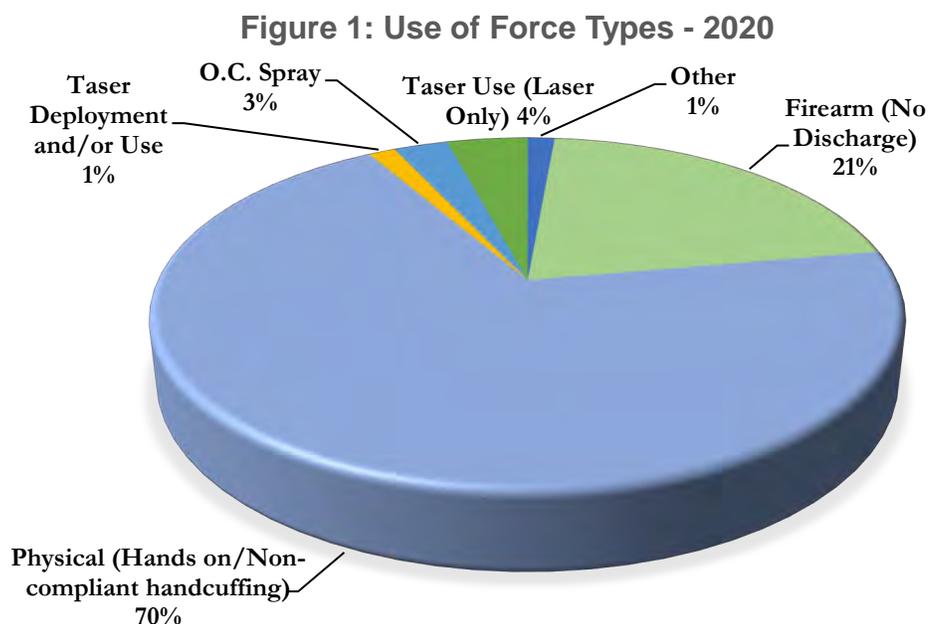
The appropriate Division Head reviews Supervisory Force Review Reports to ensure findings are supported by a preponderance of the evidence. If necessary, the Division Head may order additional investigation to ensure the completeness of the use of force review.

### Use of Force Categories

- Baton
- Canine Bite
- Chemical Agent (Tear Gas)
- Firearm (Discharge)
- Firearm (No Discharge)
- O.C. Spray
- Other (i.e. Force stop of a motor vehicle)
- Physical (Hands-On/Non-compliant Handcuffing)
- Pursuit
- Taser Deployment and/or Use
- Taser Use (Laser Only)

### Use of Force – 2020

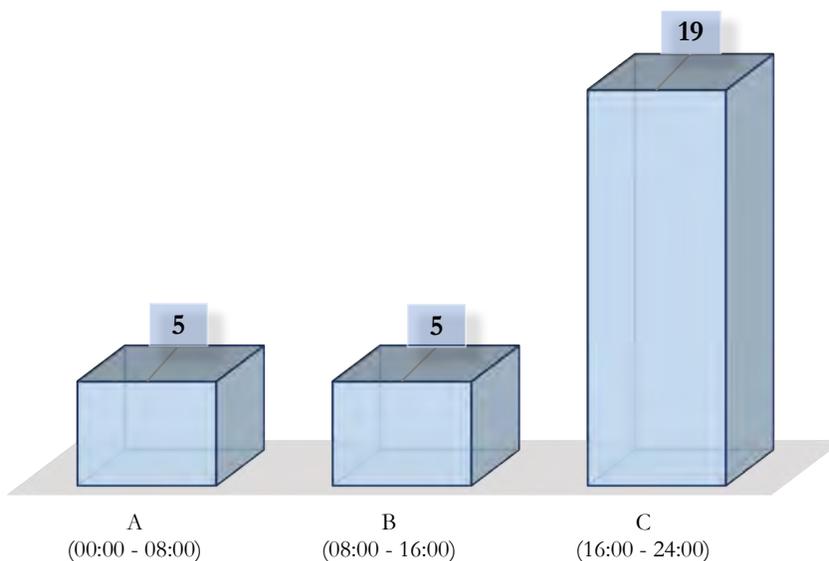
There were twenty-nine (29) cases upon which one type or multiple types of force from the aforementioned categories were utilized. The total number of subjects to whom force was used against in the twenty-nine (29) cases were thirty-three (33), and the total number of officers involved amounted to sixty-six (66). As depicted in Figure 1, various types of force were deployed and were found to be objectively reasonable.



The highest percentage of force type used during 2020 was Physical (Hands-on/Non-compliant Handcuffing), which accounted for 70%; Firearm (No Discharge) 21%; Taser Use (Laser Only) 4%; O.C. Spray 3%; Taser Deployment and/or Use 1% while the category of Other accounted for 1%.

The Department has officers assigned to three (3) shifts: Midnight Shift (A) 00:00 – 08:00, Day Shift (B) 08:00 – 16:00, and Evening Shift (C) 16:00 – 24:00. Figure 2, depicts the number of uses of force cases per shift during 2020:

**Figure 2: Use of Force Cases Per Shift 2020**



The highest number of cases involving uses of force occurred on the Evening Shift with nineteen (19) incidents which saw an 11.76% increase from seventeen (17) incidents in 2019; the Midnight Shift had five (5) cases which was a decrease of 28.57%; compared to seven (7) incidents in 2019, and five (5) cases occurred on the Day Shift which remained unchanged from 2019.

Of the twenty-nine (29) use of force cases, there were thirty (30) arrests and five (5) emergency/exam committals under Connecticut General Statute §17a-503 (please note: these numbers can overlap). A total of fourteen (14) white subjects, twelve (12) black subjects, and seven (7) white subjects with Hispanic ethnicity were involved in these incidents. Of the thirty-three (33) subjects involved in the use of force incidents, twenty-five (25) were males and eight (8) were females. White subjects accounted for 42.42%, black subjects accounted for 36.36%, and white subjects with Hispanic ethnicity accounted for 21.21% of those who were involved in the use of force cases in 2020.

## Analysis – Patterns & Trends

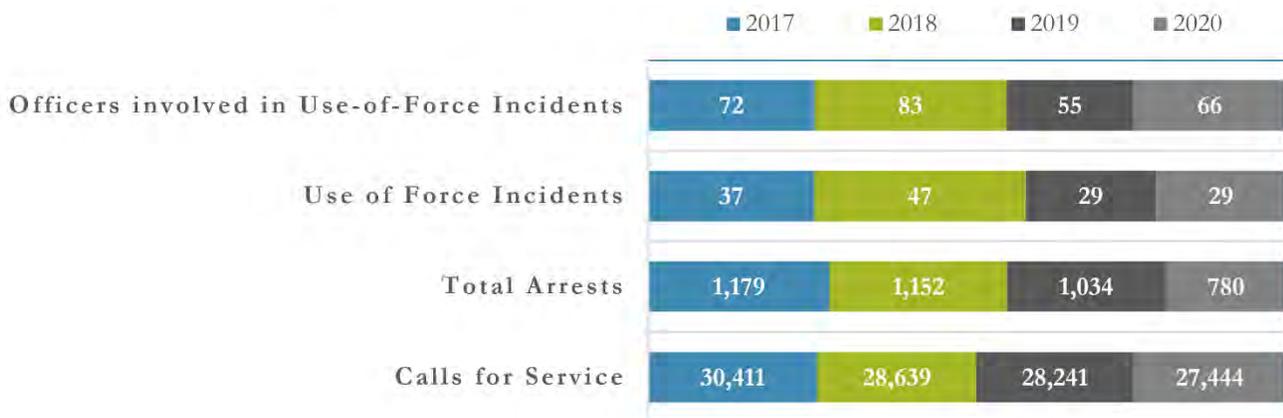
The table below is a comparison of data collected from use of force cases during 2019 and 2020:

Description	2019	2020	Difference 2019 vs. 2020	Percentage Change 2019 vs. 2020
Calls for Service <i>(includes self-initiated activities)</i>	28,241	27,444	-797	-2.82%
Total Arrests	1,034	780	-254	-24.56%
Total Use of Force Incidents	29	29	0	0.00%
Total of Officers involved in Use of Force Incidents	55	66	+11	20.00%

In 2020, there were no serious injuries to subjects and officers involved in the aforementioned uses of force; a total of four (4) subjects sustained minor injuries and one (1) officer temporarily experienced the effects of O.C. Spray. In comparison, four (4) officers sustained minor injuries in 2019.

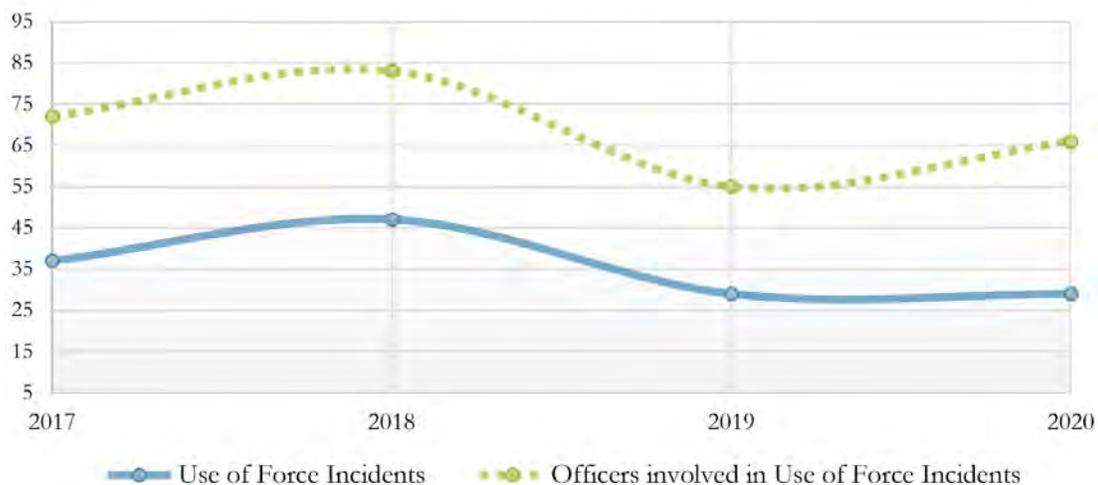
The cases involving the use of force by officers accounted for less than 0.1% of the Department's CFS in 2020.

**Figure 3: Use of Force Data Snapshot  
2017 - 2020**



The graph presents a comparison of data collected from use of force incidents during 2017 through 2020.

**Figure 4: Use of Force Cases  
2017 - 2020**



An analysis of the 2017 through the 2020 use of force data was conducted in order to identify possible trends and patterns. In comparing these years, the bulk of the use of force cases occurred between the hours of 1600 – 2400, which is the evening shift. The encounters resulting in uses of force stemmed mainly from various calls for service that were not self-initiated by officers. Although there was an increase in the number of black subjects who were involved in uses of force in 2020 from 2019, the majority of the use of force cases involved white subjects from 2017 to 2020. Furthermore, the number of use of force cases has been in decline since 2018, and has remained constant from 2019 to 2020 as officers continue to utilize de-escalation methods. There were, however, no noticeable trends regarding injuries to both the subjects or officers, which have remained low.

In accordance with Policies and Procedures No. 407 – Use of Force Review and Investigations, no officer was found to be in violation of the Department’s policy; therefore, there was no need for remedial training or equipment alterations. However, the Department’s Use of Force Policies and Procedures were updated to reflect changes in State Law (Police Accountability Bill) as it applied to use of force.

### **Motor Vehicle Pursuit Reporting Process**

The Department recognizes and treats each motor vehicle pursuit as a use of force incident. Motor vehicle pursuit is defined as an attempt by a police officer in an authorized emergency vehicle to apprehend any occupant of another moving motor vehicle, when the driver of the fleeing vehicle is attempting to avoid apprehension by maintaining or increasing the speed of such vehicle or by ignoring the police officer’s attempt to stop such vehicle.

A police officer may only engage another vehicle in a pursuit if the officer has reasonable suspicion to believe that the driver or occupant has committed or is attempting to commit a crime of violence, or there are exigent circumstances that warrant the need to apprehend the suspect in a timely manner because of the potential for harm to the public if the apprehension does not occur. The officer(s) must be able to articulate the exigent need to apprehend the driver or occupant(s) because of the potential harm or risk to the public.

Whenever a police officer engages or is involved in a pursuit, the police officer completes an Incident Report and a Use of Force Report describing the circumstances of the pursuit; officers are held strictly accountable for material omissions or inaccuracies in an Incident Report or Use of Force Report.

Supervisors review all uses of force including pursuits except for those that are designated to be investigated by the Internal Affairs Officer in accordance with Policies and Procedures No. 407 – Force Investigations and Review. Upon reviewing a pursuit, the reviewing supervisor documents his/her findings in a Supervisory Force Review Report. As of January 1, 2019, supervisors must also complete a State of Connecticut Pursuit Tracking Form, which is then submitted to the State of Connecticut Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection.

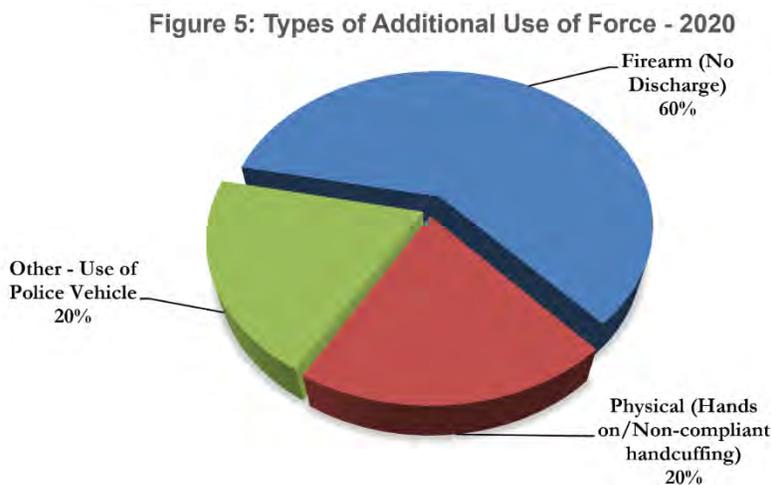
The appropriate Division Head reviews Supervisory Force Review Reports to ensure findings are supported by a preponderance of the evidence. If necessary, the Division Head may order additional investigation to ensure the completeness of the pursuit/use of force review.

### Motor Vehicle Pursuits – 2020

There were five (5) pursuits that involved nine (9) officers; compared to twenty-two (22) pursuits involving thirty-two (32) officers in 2019. Of the five (5) pursuits, there was one (1) in which additional force was applied including the following:

- Three (3) officers displayed their firearms during the incident; this resulted in additional uses of force, which was categorized as Firearms (No Discharge).
- One (1) officer used hands-on to control the subject during the incident; this resulted in additional uses of force, which were categorized as Physical (Hands-on/Non-compliant Handcuffing).
- One (1) officer used the push bumper on the police vehicle to prevent the subject’s vehicle from moving after a motor vehicle accident; this resulted in additional use of force, which was categorized as Other.

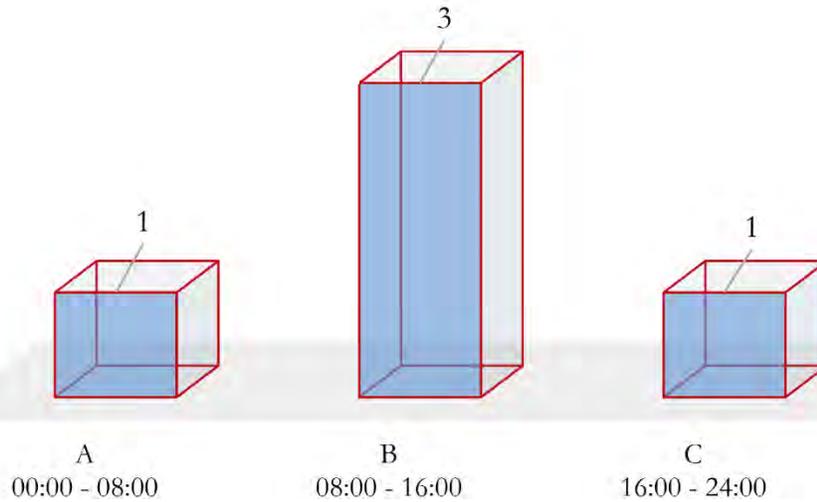
Figure 5 depicts the percentages for the types of additional force used by members of the Department during the abovenoted pursuit.



The highest percentage of additional force type used during this pursuit was Firearm (No Discharge), which accounted for 60%; Physical (Hands-on/Non-compliant handcuffing) amounted to 20% and Other – Use of Police Vehicle accounted for 20%.

Figure 6, below, depicts the number of pursuits per shift during 2020.

**Figure 6: Number of Pursuits Per Shift - 2020**



The highest number of pursuits occurred during the Day Shift (08:00-16:00), which amounted to three (3) occurrences. The Evening Shift (16:00-24:00) and the Midnight Shift (00:00-08:00) each had one (1) pursuit occurrence.

Of the five (5) pursuits, three (3) apprehensions/arrests were effected. Two (2) pursuits resulted in no arrest due to the unknown identity of the operator/offender. Two (2) of the five (5) pursuits ended in motor vehicle accidents and one (1) person was reported to be injured. Based on known information, the majority of the offenders were white males.

**Data Comparison**

The table below is a comparison of data collected from pursuits during 2019 through 2020:

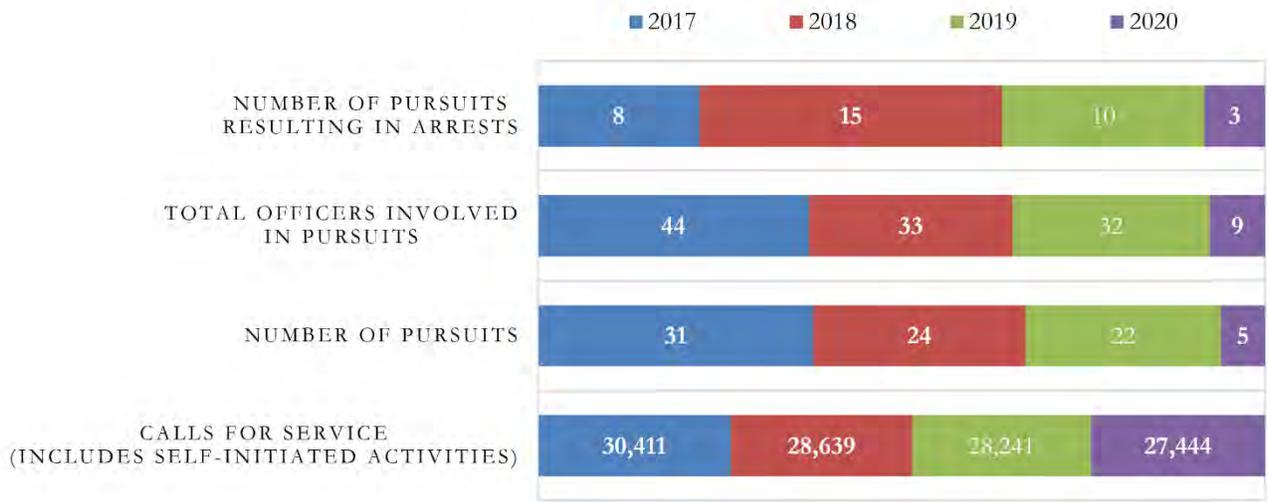
Description	2019	2020	Difference 2019 vs. 2020	Percentage Change 2019 vs. 2020
Calls for Service <i>(includes self-initiated activities)</i>	28,241	27,444	-797	-2.82%
Number of Pursuits	22	5	-17	-77.27%
Total Officers Involved in Pursuits	32	9	-23	-71.88%
Number of Pursuits Resulting in Arrests	10	3	-7	-70.00%

In 2020, one (1) person was reported to be injured, which resulted from an accident caused by the fleeing motor vehicle during a pursuit; the same in 2019.

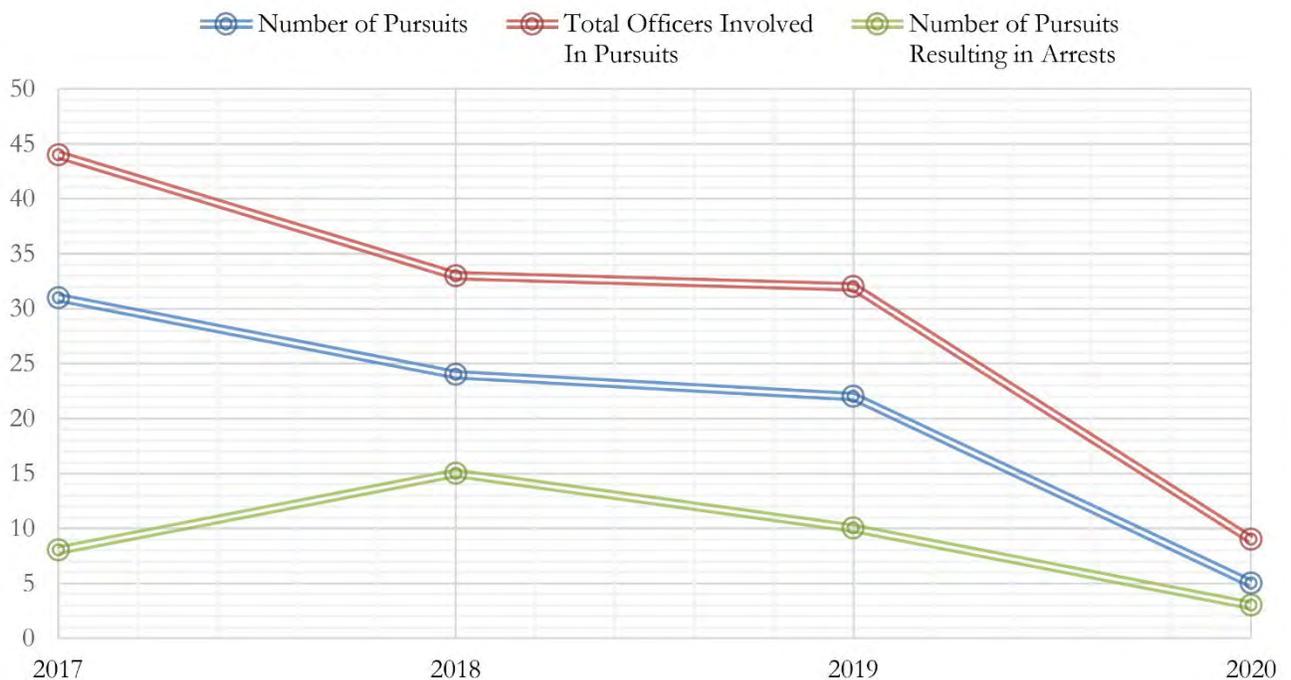
The incidents resulting in pursuits accounted for 0.01% of the Department's CFS in 2020.

The graph below presents a comparison of data collected from pursuits during 2017 through 2020.

**Figure 7: Pursuit Snapshot**



**Figure 8: Pursuits 2017 - 2020**



## Analysis – Patterns & Trends

An analysis of pursuit data collected from 2017 through 2020 was conducted in order to identify possible trends and patterns. Based on analyzing the data, the number of pursuits and the number of officers involved in pursuits have been steadily decreasing over the past several years; this downward trend is due to officers adhering to State Law and the Department's Policies and Procedures as to when a pursuit can be initiated. Officers are increasingly evaluating the circumstances prior to engaging in pursuits.

Upon reviewing the pursuits that occurred in 2020, one (1) officer was verbally counseled for violating Policy and Procedures No. 414 – Motorized Pursuits, and retrained on the policy to ensure knowledge and compliance. No additional corrective measures were deemed necessary. An evaluation and an analysis of all the pursuits that underwent a completed supervisory review did not indicate any further violations that required corrective measures.

Furthermore, an overall review of the policy and reporting procedures relating to pursuits concluded that there were no policy modifications needed. As officers continue to use their discretion and evaluate the circumstances of each incident, it is expected there will continue to be a downward trend in the number of pursuits for 2021.

## **BIAS-BASED PROFILING COMPLAINTS ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW**

The Department is committed to protecting the constitutional and civil rights of all persons. In doing so, the Department prohibits any form of discriminatory practices including all forms of bias-based policing.

The Internal Affairs/Professional Standards Officer (IAO) monitors and investigates any bias-based policing complaints. The IAO supports the effective supervision and management of all employees including the identification of and response to potentially problematic behaviors as early as possible, including any formal verbal or written complaints regarding bias-based policing.

All bias-based policing complaints are documented in the Department Review (DR) reporting system. An annual administrative review of the DR Reports for the year of 2020 were completed and revealed that the Department did not have any bias-based complaints in 2020.

Based on the administrative review of the Department's practices including citizens' concerns, no trends or patterns of bias-based policing were identified. In December 2020, the Honorable Board of Police Commissioners unanimously approved an update to Policy and Procedures No. 203 –

Addressing Biased Policing. This update ensures that no officer will respond to or investigate a suspicious person complaint if the reason for suspicion is based solely on the person's race, ethnicity, gender, and/or perceived religion unless there is a separate qualifying reason. The Policy and Procedures were similarly updated for the East Haven Public Safety Communication Center as well to ensure best practices.

## **EARLY INTERVENTION SYSTEM (EIS)**

It is the policy of the Department to intervene as rapidly as feasible to address problematic behavior to mitigate risk and liability.

The Department regularly uses the Early Intervention System (EIS) which is monitored by the Internal Affairs/Professional Standards Officer (IAO). The EIS supports the effective supervision and management of sworn personnel and civilian employees including the identification of and response to potentially problematic behaviors as early as possible.

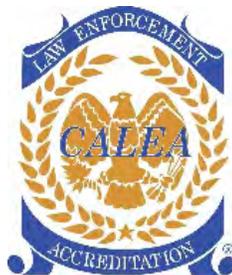
Whenever an incident is triggered, a review is conducted and a report is written by the IAO. If a problematic behavior or incident needs to be addressed, the IAO notifies the employee's direct supervisor to mediate the matter. That supervisor would complete a Department Review Report outlining any intervention needed.

During 2020, the EIS triggered when officers met the threshold for the following categories:

- Pursuits
- Physical Uses of Force (Hands-on and Non-compliant Handcuffing)
- Firearm Use - No Discharge

After reviewing each instance, there was no need for intervention.

The EIS has proven to be an effective tool for monitoring officers to encourage positive changes.



*The East Haven Police Department is a nationally CALEA-accredited agency whose mission is to enforce the law and protect life and property by establishing proactive problem-solving partnerships with our citizens.*

*We strive to improve the delivery of public safety services by maintaining a body of standards developed by public safety practitioners covering a wide range of up-to-date public safety initiatives.*