

191 S. Main Street
Newtown, CT 06470
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Brian Budd
Scott Cicciari
Julia Conlin
Rance Thompson
Philip Cruz

TOWN OF NEWTOWN

POLICE COMMISSION

The Board of Police Commissioners
Regular Meeting, Tuesday, December 5, 2023, 6:30 P.M.
191 South Main Street, Newtown, CT
Conference Room

MINUTES ARE NOT FINALIZED UNTIL APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS

Commissioners Present: Brian Budd, Scott Cicciari, Julia Conlin, Philip Cruz, Rance Thompson

Also Present: Chief David Kullgren, Deputy Chief Bryan Bishop, Five members of the police union: Det. Daniel McAnaspie (Union President), Lt. Liam Seabrook (Union Vice President), Officer Maryhelen McCarthy, Officer Felicia Figol, Lt. Scott Smith; one member of the public: Scott Baggett; and First Selectman Jeff Capeci.

Commissioner Budd called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m., beginning with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Board of Police Commissioners Chairman and Vice Chairman, discussion and possible action

Commissioner Cruz nominated Commissioner Budd as Chairman. Commissioner Cicciari seconded the motion. All in Favor. Motion passed.

Commissioner Budd nominated Commissioner Cicciari as Vice Chairman. Commissioner Thompson seconded the motion. All in Favor. Motion passed.

Public Participation

Scott Baggett, 26 Hall Lane, stated he is here to represent Hall Lane and appreciates the town looking at the traffic issues on Hall Lane. He stated that making a portion of Hall Lane one-way will divert the traffic to Blakeslee and then back on to Hall Lane. He questioned if the town had looked at the option of speed tables. He inquired whether the state could help with traffic issues due to the interstate running down the middle of town and four state roads intersecting the town. First Selectmen Jeff Capeci stated that he was at a meeting with the state DOT where Hall Lane was addressed and how it backs up when I- 84 is backed up. He stated that there would need to be a discussion with state legislatures and having them force those giving directions, such as google or maps, to only give direction options that include state roads.

Police Union Participation

Det. Dan McAnaspie, Union President, introduced the officers in attendance at the meeting and welcomed the new commissioners.

Consideration and Action on Minutes: Commissioner Cicciari moved to accept the minutes of the regular meeting of November 7, 2023. Commissioner Budd seconded. All in favor. Motion passed.

Chief's Report

Chief Kullgren shared with the new commissioners that the Chief's Report shows interaction networking with other agencies (see enclosure). He stated that there was a meeting with Mitch Bolinsky and the state DOT to discuss traffic concerns in town, and are currently working on signage requests that the engineering department is considering. Chief Kullgren stated that the chevron warning signs that were added at the Botsford Railroad Bridge have been knocked down on numerous occasions. The next action suggested is adding warning lights to signs approaching both directions. The pricing for these signs is being looked into.

Old Business

Hall Lane, discussion and possible action on options for a one-way road

Chief Kullgren stated that the traffic unit had reviewed Hall Lane. Traffic counts are about 650 vehicles per day. He also stated a concern for the intersection with Hanover, where larger vehicles have gotten hung up on their chassis. He is currently working with the state DOT for signage for narrow roads. There has been a recommendation to test out making Hall Lane a one-way road from Currituck to Sealand to force traffic onto other routes. Chief Kullgren stated that vehicle counts would be conducted on Blakeslee before and after a change to a one-way road. This would include vehicle counts for the test period. Commissioner Budd inquired about obtaining current data collection on the traffic counts. Chief Kullgren stated that there is no current data on Sealand or Blakeslee but will set it up before the test period begins. Commissioner Cruz questioned increased traffic on Currituck and what the cause and effect would be. First Selectman Capeci suggested a traffic light at the end of Currituck. Commissioner Budd questioned the 650 number and when the data was collected. Chief Kullgren stated the counts were done mid-summer. Commissioner Budd asked for current traffic counts before the next PC meeting to assist in making a final decision. Commissioner Cicciari expressed a concern about making the road a one-way and how it will affect the traffic to other roads. Chief Kullgren stated that the legislative option would be the best option. Commissioner Budd questioned adding signage for "narrow road," and a sign for "no thru trucks." Chief Kullgren stated that the "narrow road" signage could be put up but the "no thru trucks" signage would have to be applied for.

New Business

2024 Board of Police Commissioners Meeting Calendar, discussion and possible action

Commissioner Budd went over the calendar meeting dates.

Commissioner Cicciari made a motion to accept the first Tuesday of each month, excluding July 2 for the calendar year 2024 at 6:30 p.m., as the standing Police Commission meeting. Commissioner Thompson seconded the motion. All in Favor. Motion passed.

Correspondence

None

Commissioners' Participation

None

Public Participation

Commissioner Budd asked if there was any additional public participation. There was none.

Executive Session

Personnel Matters, discussion, and possible action on the position of acting Sergeant

Commissioner Budd made a motion pursuant to 1-200(a) to move into Executive Session to discuss the appointment, employment, and performance evaluation of personnel and to invite Chief Kullgren and Deputy Chief Bryan Bishop. Commissioner Cicciari seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried. The meeting entered Executive Session at 6:51 p.m. Commissioner Cicciari made a motion to leave Executive Session and return to open session at 7:11 p.m., seconded by Commissioner Thompson. The motion unanimously carried.

Adjournment: Having no further business, Commissioner Cicciari motioned to adjourn the regular meeting of the Board of Police Commissioners at 7:11 p.m., seconded by Commissioner Cruz. Motion Passed. All in Favor.

Dana Ulibarri, clerk

Enclosures

Chiefs Report December 2023

DB Activity Report – Nov 2023

Incident Statistics Nov. 2023

Nettleton Ave Traffic Evaluation

Newtown Stats 2022-2023 w chart-2

November Training Report

Chief's Report

Police Commission

12/05/2023

Personnel Report:

- Department Authorized Strength - 45 personnel
 - Injury/Extended Leave – 1 personnel
 - Field Training – 0 personnel
 - Military Deployment - 1 personnel, w/ USCG
 - Effective Strength – 43 personnel
 - One Retirement is scheduled for January 2024
 - Recruiting has begun

Activities:

- Chief & Deputy Chief:
 - 11/8 CIRMA Law Enforcement Advisory Committee
 - 11/8 Range Tour Jersey City with WestCOG
 - 11/9 Department Head Meeting
 - 11/9 Middlesex County Prosecutors Office Briefing
 - 11/13 States Attorney Meeting on Mutual Aid Agreement
 - 11/14 Supervisors Meeting
 - 11/14 Fairfield County Chief of Police Meeting
 - 11/16 Regional Training Facility Meeting WestCOG
 - 11/16 District School Security Meeting
 - 11/17 Radio Project Meeting
 - 11/17 DOT / Mitch Bolinsky Traffic Meeting
 - 11/21 Supervisors Meeting
 - 11/21 DEA Meeting w/ CT Supervisory Agent
 - 11/21 Newtown Sandy Hook Community Foundation Distribution Committee
 - 11/22 Follow up w/ DOT Engineer on 11/17 meeting, working on items.
 - 11/27 New Selectman Briefing
 - 11/27 Leadership Team Meeting, Prevention Council
 - 11/29 Curtis Packaging Meeting, traffic concerns
 - 12/1 Radio Project Meeting
 - 12/5 Special District School Security Meeting
- Patrol:
 -
- Community Service Division:
 - See Attached Training Report.
- Training:
 - See Attached Training Report.
- Detective Bureau
 - See DB Activity Report
- Traffic:
 - Damaged chevron signs Botsford Rd / Railroad overpass both directions. Sign request made to PW for illuminated warning signs in both directions 12/4.

Department of
Police Services
191 S. Main Street
Newtown, CT 06470



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Chief of Police
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TOWN OF NEWTOWN

DETECTIVE BUREAU ACTIVITY October 30, 2023 through November 29, 2023

Summary of New Cases Investigated by the Detective Bureau:

1 Robbery / Extortion
2 Firearms Surrenders
1 Risk Protection Order Service

Summary of New Cases Investigated by the Youth Division:

1 ICAC Cybertip Investigation
1 Sex Offense

Total New Investigations: 6

Cases of Note:

Robbery / Extortion:

The Detective Bureau is investigating an extortion of an undocumented resident of Newtown. That investigation is ongoing.

ICAC Cybertip:

The Youth Bureau is investigating an ICAC Cybertip where a Newtown teen self-reported that he has been the victim of a social media scam / extortion.

Sex Offense:

The Youth Bureau also investigated a possible sexual offense. The alleged offense was determined to have happened in another jurisdiction, and the case was transferred.

Observed Trends:

- There have still been numerous Fraud / Bad Check calls for service received by the Newtown Police Department. These Calls for Service generally encompass common scams via phone call, text or email, and fraudulently issued or modified bank checks. A social media post was created in an attempt to educate Newtown residence regarding a common scam.

- There has been an unprecedented increase in written checks being stolen from residential / commercial “blue” USPS mailboxes. These checks are then fraudulently negotiated, typically out of state. The Newtown Police Department has created several public notices advising the residents of Newtown to stop mailing paper checks, or delivers these mailings directly to the post office counter.
- The Youth Division has been active in the community, making a visible presence to community businesses.

Prepared by Detective Lieutenant Liam Seabrook

Newtown Police Department

Incident Statistics Report

11/01/2023 00:00 Thru 11/30/2023 23:59

Call Type Description	Total for Period
P 911 CHECK	13
P ABANDONED MOTOR VEHICLE	1
P ACCIDENT RECON CALL OUT	1
P ALARM - CANCELLED	19
P ALARM FALSE	48
P ALARM-STORM RELATED / EXCUSED	1
P ANIMAL CALL	30
P ASSIST AGENCY / MUTUAL AID	23
P BUILDING CHECK	929
P CIVIL MATTER	12
P COMMUNITY POLICING / EVENT	4
P CRISIS INTERVENTION	5
P DISABLED MOTOR VEHICLE	25
P DISPUTE	10
P DOMESTIC	1
P DRONE CALL OUT	3
P DUI	3
P DUMPING / LITTERING	4
P ERRATIC OPERATION	26
P ESCORT	2
P FIRE ASSIST	5
P FIREARMS / AMMUNITION SURRENDER	2
P FOUND / LOST PROPERTY	15
P FRAUD / BAD CHECK	17
P HARASSMENT	8
P HEALTH / WELFARE CHECK	26
P K9 CALL OUT / TRAINING	2
P LARCENY	2
P LOCKOUT MOTOR VEHICLE / BUILDING	1
P MEDICAL ASSIST	6
P MISCELLANEOUS SERVICE	18
P MISSING PERSON	1
P MOTOR VEHICLE INCIDENT	5
P MVA	38
P MVA - DEER	10
P MVA - EVADING	5
P MVA - INJURY	9
P NOISE COMPLAINT	8
P PARKING ENFORCEMENT / COMPLAINT	3
P PUBLIC HAZARD	21
P RECREATIONAL SHOOTING	12
P SEX OFFENSES	1

Incident Statistics Report

11/01/2023 00:00 Thru 11/30/2023 23:59

Call Type Description	Total for Period
P STOLEN MOTOR VEHICLE	1
P SUICIDE THREAT / ATTEMPT	2
P SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY	87
P THREATENING	2
P TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT	36
P TRAFFIC STOP	74
P TRAFFIC STUDY / COMPLAINT	3
P TRESPASSING	1
P UNATTENDED DEATH	3
P WARRANT SERVICE	3
TEST CALL	1
Total:	1588

Newtown Department of Police Services
Traffic Unit
Nettleton Ave
2016 Vehicular Speed and Volume Evaluation
CFS# 1600022452

Completed by Ofc. Benjamin Mulhall



Overview

The Newtown Police Department's Traffic Unit was requested to conduct an evaluation of traffic speeds and volume on Nettleton Ave and Juniper Rd. This request originated from a citizens complaint.

Location Details

Nettleton Ave is a dirt road that located between Elm Dr and Juniper Rd is approximately 780 feet long. Approximately 500ft of the road is privately owned, starting at Elm Dr by Robert Hall who lives at 5 Nettleton Ave. The rest of the 280 feet of road is owned by the Town Of Newtown (this information was gained from the Town of Newtowns GIS web site).

Complaint

The complaint is that on Thursdays and Fridays during evening rush hour there is an excessive amount of traffic that travels down Juniper Rd and cuts through Nettleton Ave to get to Elm Dr. The complainant also stated that these vehicles have been traveling at a high rate of speed.

Recorded Data

On 11/4/2016 at approximately 1200hrs the Newtown PD Traffic Unit installed both of the departments traffic counters on Juniper drive the first approximately 150ft before Nettleton Ave Between Rt 302 and Nettleton. The second traffic counter was placed approximately 180ft after the intersection with Nettleton Ave and Juniper Rd. The counters were in place until 11/11/2016 at approx.. 1300hrs. This data was recorded to see approximately how much traffic uses Nettleton Ave. The counters were placed on Juniper Rd because Nettleton Ave. is dirt making it difficult to secure the counter to the roadway. See Attached Data.

The data shows the approximate average of vehicles using Juniper Rd to be 132 vehicles a day through the course of a week. Of those 132 vehicles approximately 33 use Nettleton Ave. This was determined by finding the average of vehicles that continued past the intersection of Nettleton Ave. The peak time of use is morning rush hours and evening rush hours.

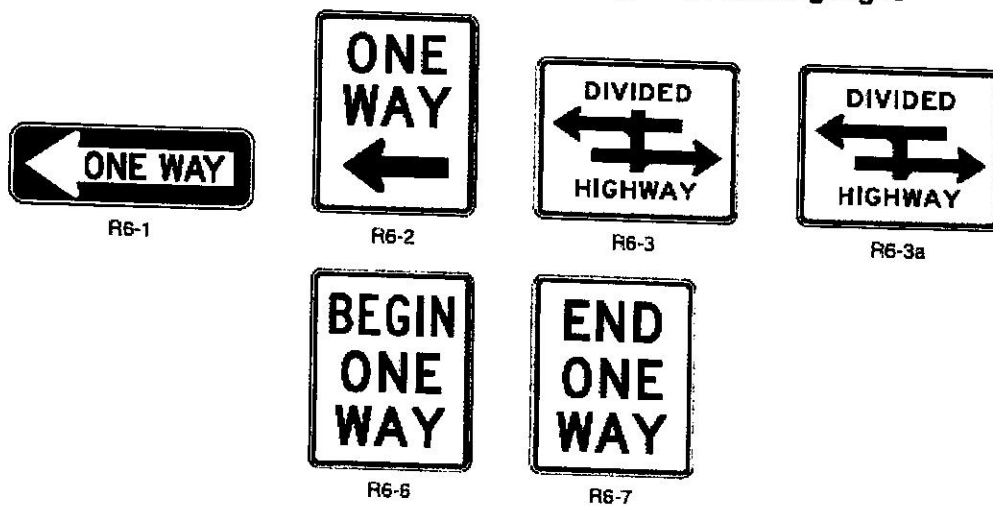
Speed data was also collected showing the average speed was below the roads posted speed limit 25mph both before and after Nettleton Ave.

Recommendations

The Newtown Police traffic unit after speaking with the Towns Highway Department, the owner of the privately owned section of roadway the Newtown Police Dept. Traffic Unit recommends the roadway be turned into a ONE WAY street, allowing vehicles to travel from Elm Dr. to Juniper Rd. This would eliminate any traffic cutting through to avoid traffic backups created by the intersection of RT 302 and RT25. This traffic is expected to increase due to the State of Connecticut repairing the roadway and bridge in the area of Rt. 302 and Elm Dr. After this repair is completed the Newtown Police Dept. Traffic Unit will reevaluate the traffic using Juniper Rd. as a cut through to see if two way traffic can be restored to Nettleton Ave.

A BEGIN ONE WAY (R6-6) sign should be placed approximately 150 feet in from Elm Dr on both sides of Nettleton Ave this will allow the first two driveways on Nettleton Ave to still exit onto Elm Drive. The END ONE WAY (R6-7) Sign should be placed on both sides of Nettleton Ave. at the intersection of Juniper Rd facing Elm Dr. On the reverse side facing Juniper Rd. a Do Not Enter (R5-1) sign should be placed.

Figure 2B-13. ONE WAY and Divided Highway Crossing Signs



R5-1

2022 NEWTOWN POLICE DEPARTMENT STATISTICS
CALLS FOR SERVICE

	2022												YTD
	Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	
Calls for Service	1579	1218	1500	1336	1682	1614	1657	1610	1756	1916	1599	17618	17618

TRAFFIC CRASHES

	2022												YTD
	Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	
Property Damage	59	57	48	55	64	50	43	46	58	58	53	59	593
Personal Injury	4	7	7	8	10	15	4	11	12	9	9	9	96
Total Traffic Accidents	63	64	55	63	74	65	49	57	70	67	62	68	689

	2022												YTD
	Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	
Property Damage	79	44	56	51	47	49	43	42	68	65	59	71	674
Personal Injury	12	6	9	8	13	10	10	9	4	11	10	10	112
Total Traffic Accidents	91	50	65	59	60	59	53	51	72	76	69	81	786

TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT

	2022												YTD
	Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	
Verbal Warning	94	89	110	66	74	57	64	64	54	35	41	41	722
Written Warning	30	18	14	32	13	9	20	20	9	6	16	16	199
Moving Violation	15	16	25	8	17	13	8	14	15	23	12	12	186
Total Enforcement Action	143	123	149	96	104	79	92	98	78	64	71	69	1107

	2022												YTD
	Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	
Verbal Warning	21	18	23	30	36	41	36	74	93	83	68	52	599
Written Warning	0	1	6	21	17	10	23	13	14	18	3	3	141
Moving Violation	3	10	7	22	16	9	9	15	21	7	9	11	139
Total Enforcement Action	24	29	36	53	69	60	68	102	130	110	90	66	879

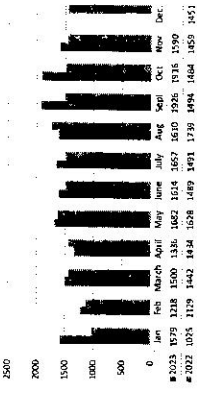
Traffic Enforcement (Written Warnings)



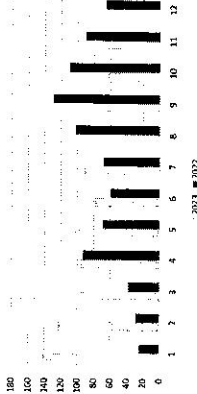
Traffic Enforcement (Moving Violations)



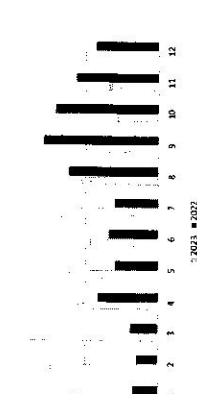
Calls for Service



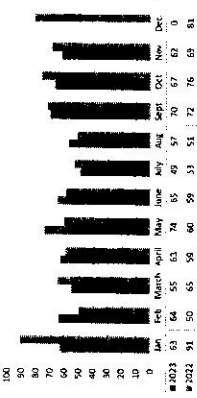
Traffic Enforcement (Total)



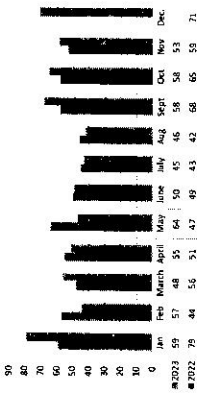
Traffic Enforcement (Verbal Warnings)



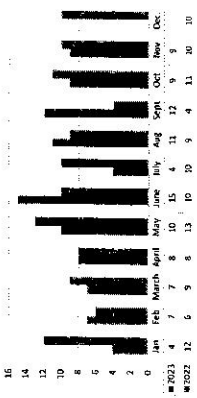
Traffic Crashes (ALL)



Traffic Crashes (Property Damage Only)



Traffic Crashes (Injury)





**Newtown Police
Training**

TOWN OF NEWTOWN

Department

November 2023

During this month the following training was completed and/or instructed:

Employee	School Type	School Name	Date	Hours
Det. Monckton, Ofc. Mulhall	ESU	Sniper Monthly Training	11/8/2023	8
Lt. Seabrook, Det. Monckton, Ofc. Hayes, Ofc. Mulhall	ESU	ESU Monthly Training	11/3/2023	8
K9 Ofc. Figol	K9	K9 Monthly Training	11/14/2023, 11/28/2023	8
Lt. Robinson, Sgt. Ruszczyk	Mental Health	SMART Training – Bridgeport	11/2/2023, 11/9/2023, 11/16/2023, 11/22/2023, 11/30/2023	2
Lt. Robinson	School Security	John Jay College	11/30/2023	2
Sgt. Silver, Sgt. Wood	Supervisor	Performance Appraisals	11/2/2023	4
Lt. Robinson, Sgt. Ruszczyk	Mental Health	SMART Training – Train the Trainer	11/3/2023, 11/10/2023, 11/17/2023	4
Ofc. Crone, Ofc. DiGiovanni, SRO Pereira, Ofc. Rojas, Sgt. Wisnatner	Firearms	Red Dot Sights/New Firearm Orientation	11/5/2023	4
Ofc. Crone, Ofc. DiGiovanni, SRO Pereira, Ofc. Rojas, Sgt. Wisnatner	Firearms	Range	11/6/2023	8
Ofc. Flynn, Sgt. Lorancitis, Ofc.	Firearms	Red Dot Sights/New Firearm Orientation	11/6/2023	4

McCluskey, Ofc. Piazza				
Ofc. Flynn, Sgt. Lorancitis, Ofc. McCluskey, Ofc. Piazza	Firearms	Range	11/7/2023	8
Sgt. McDermott, Ofc. Nosal, Ofc. Wlasuk	Firearms	Red Dot Sights/New Firearm Orientation	11/7/2023	4
Ofc. McDermott	Mental Health	Safleo Train the Train the Trainer	11/8/2023, 11/9/2023 Ofc . Hyvarinen, Det. McAnaspie, Sg	8
Sgt. McDermott, Ofc. Nosal, Ofc. Wlasuk	Firearms	Range	11/8/2023	8
Sgt. Chapman, Ofc. Greco, Ofc. Hull, Ofc. Lopez, Ofc. McCarthy, Sgt. Wood	Firearms	Red Dot Sights/New Firearm Orientation	11/8/2023	4
Sgt. Chapman, Ofc. Greco, Ofc. Hull, Ofc. Lopez, Ofc. McCarthy, Sgt. Wood	Firearms	Range	11/9/2023	8
Ofc. Caramadre, K9 Ofc. Figol, Ofc. Ongara, Ofc. Tardim	Firearms	Red Dot Sights/New Firearm Orientation	11/12/2023	4
Ofc. Caramadre, K9 Ofc. Figol, Ofc. Ongara, Ofc. Tardim	Firearms	Range	11/13/2023	8
Ofc. Hyvarinen, Det. McAnaspie, ASgt. Pirhala, Lt. Robinson	Firearms	Red Dot Sights/New Firearm Orientation	11/13/2023	4
Ofc. Hyvarinen, Det. McAnaspie,	Firearms	Range	11/14/2023	8

ASgt. Pirhala, Lt. Robinson				
Ofc. Borges, Ofc. McDermott, Lt. Seabrook, Ofc. Wickman	Firearms	Red Dot Sights/New Firearm Orientation	11/14/2023	4
Ofc. Borges, Ofc. McDermott, Lt. Seabrook, Ofc. Wickman	Firearms	Range	11/15/2023	8
Ofc. Guernsey, Det. Harold, Sgt. Ruszczyk, Lt. Smith	Firearms	Red Dot Sights/New Firearm Orientation	11/15/2023	4
Ofc. Guernsey, Det. Harold, Sgt. Ruszczyk, Lt. Smith	Firearms	Range	11/16/2023	8
Sgt. Chapman	Mental Health	Victim Response	11/15/2023	
Ofc. McGowan, Ofc. Schoen	Firearms	Pistol Mounted Optics Instructor School	11/27/2023, 11/28/2023	8

Lieutenant Richard Robinson
Professional Standards Bureau Commander
Newtown Department of Police Services