



2016 proved to be a very difficult and complex year for the law enforcement nationally and locally. 2016 was one of the most deadly years for law enforcement deaths with many officers being ambushed while performing their duties. Many of these attacks were the result of declining police/community relationships. When these incidents occurred the Natick Community came out in force to support the Natick Police Department and the job that the men and women of the department do every day to serve the community. However, it became clear that as an organization we cannot take this relationship for granted. We embarked on a track of improving our community engagement. This included additional training for every member of the organization on implicit bias and the role it plays in our actions as human beings. The Natick Police Department is committed to work with and for our community and positive community engagement is our goal.

Our community continues to suffer, along with the entire Commonwealth, with the crisis from drug addiction. In 2015 we had 24 overdoses and 2 deaths due drug addiction. In 2016 we had 21 overdoses and 3 deaths. This is a crisis that has called for a strong local response. Although law enforcement has not been historically considered a partner in providing support for families that suffer through this disease the Natick Police Department has committed to partnering with the newly formed Town of Natick Opioid Task Force to address this issue from a local, compassionate perspective. This crisis effects many families of our community and also effects our crime activity as we have seen an increase in property crimes.

## **Personnel Updates**

The Natick Police Department saw the resignation of Officer Bandon Hanss.

James F. O'Shaughnessy was named the Natick Police Department Officer of the Year for the year 2016.

James started his career as a Natick Police officer in October of 2008. James currently serves in the Patrol Division and as a Field Training Officer and a member of our Honor Guard. He was chosen to be part of the Field Training program at a relatively early stage in his career because it was obvious that he was the type of officer we wanted our new hires to emulate. He takes this task very seriously and it is evident in the fine work being done by those members who were fortunate enough to have been taught by James.

What makes James such a unique and special officer is his ability to not only apprehend criminals or perform life saving techniques as described above, but how he is able to comfort or help others with a sincere smile and kind heart and his willingness to always go the extra mile to get the job done or help someone in need. He has had too many letters to count, written on his behalf by thankful citizens who were so moved by his kindness that they wanted it recognized. It is indeed rare to find such diverse qualities in an officer and we are all fortunate to have him working in Natick.

## **Court Activity**

During 2016, 1,104 complaints were forwarded to the Natick District Court for prosecution. In addition the Records staff processed 1,699 Offense Reports, 850 motor vehicle crash reports, and 3,679 traffic citations.

The following illustrates traffic enforcement and crash data for 2016 as compared to 2014 and 2015 data:

<b>Violation Breakdown</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>
Civil Motor Vehicle Infractions	1,077	662	537
Written Warnings	2,214	2,753	2531
Arrests	143	196	156
Criminal Complaints	477	457	400
OUI	50	68	55

<b>Crash Particulars</b>			
Total Crashes	857	887	850
Fatal Injury	1	3	4
Non-Fatal Injury (incapacitating)	22	26	21
Non-Fatal Injury (non-incapacitating)	59	64	52
Possible Injury	71	79	65

## **Animal Control**

The following is a list of Animal Control activity during 2016:

<b>Domestic</b>		<b>Wildlife</b>	
Unrestrained Dog Complaints	24	Sick /Injured Raccoons	28
Barking Dog Complaints	50	Sick/Injured Skunks	56
Dogs Struck By Motor Vehicles	9	Sick/Injured Possums	3
Stray Dogs Reported	97	Sick/Injured Woodchucks	0
Dog Bites Reported	21	Sick/Injured Squirrels	4
Lost Dogs Reported	56	Coyote/Fox Sightings	32
Lost Cats Reported	46	Sick/Injured Fox	8
Stray Cats Reported	13	Sick/Injured Birds Of Prey &	60
Cats Struck By Motor Vehicles	17	Sick/Injured Rabbits	5
Cat Bites Reported	0	Sick/Injured Bats	2
Lost Exotic Birds	3	Deer Struck By Motor Vehicles	45
Lost Ferrets	0	Deceased Animals (Roadways)	45
<b>Informational Statistics</b>			
Animal Cruelty Cases Investigated	51		
Wild Animals Removed From Dwellings	14		
Citations Issued	9		
Written Warnings Issued	27		

Mutual Aid To Other Communities	0
Assistance Calls For Service	212
Informational Calls	52
Livestock Complaints	10
Farms/Barns Inspected	25
Kennels Inspected	2

**Internal Affair Complaints:**

Types:	Abusive Language –	0
	Conduct Unbecoming -	1
	Excessive Force -	1
	Violation Policy -	2
	Violation Rules -	0
Disposition:	Unfounded -	3
	Sustained -	0
	Under Investigation -	1
	Not Sustained -	0
	Exonerated -	0