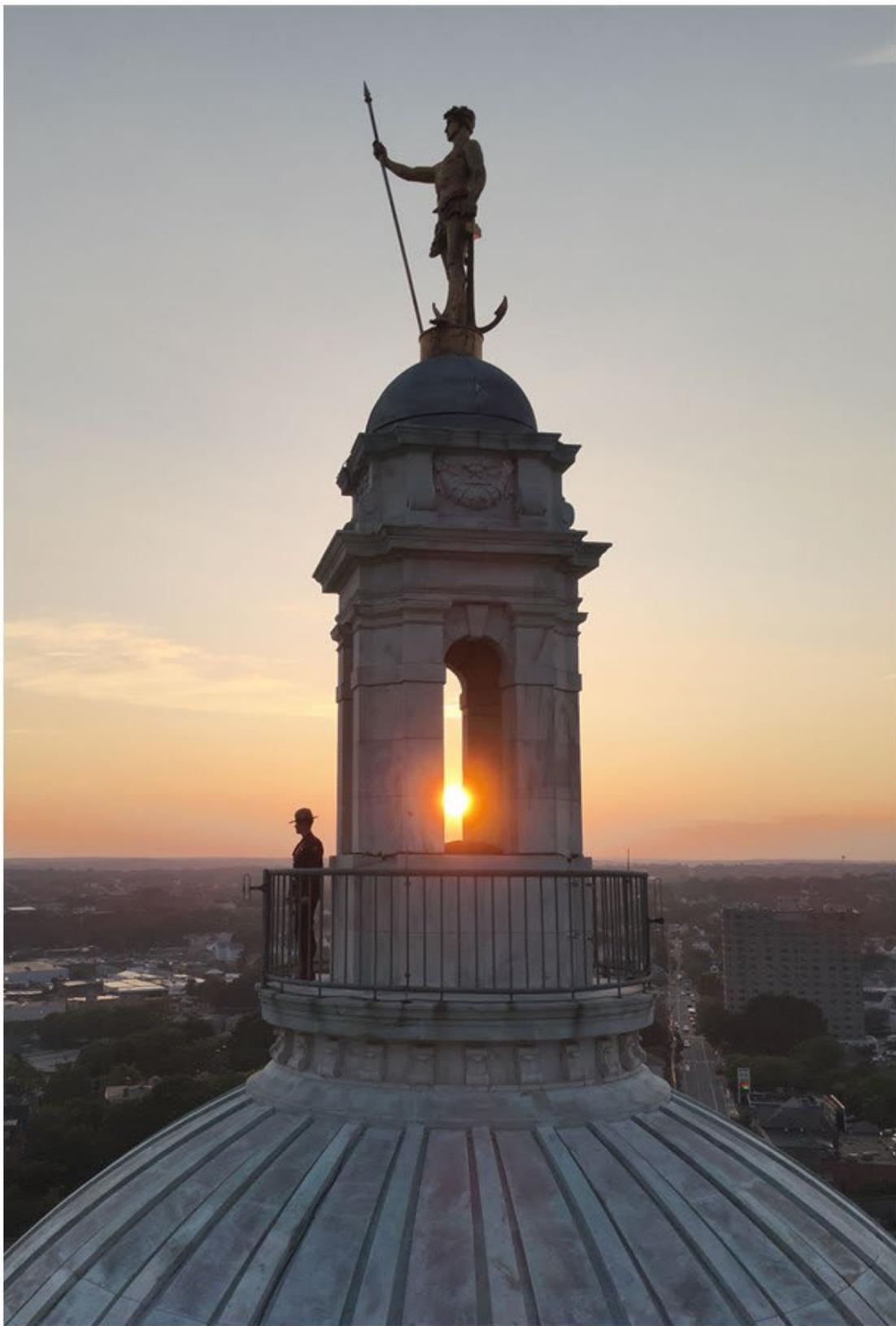


RHODE ISLAND STATE POLICE



2023 ANNUAL REPORT



State of Rhode Island
DIVISION OF STATE POLICE
 State Police Headquarters, 311 Danielson Pike, North Scituate, Rhode Island 02857
 OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT AND DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SAFETY

Colonel Darnell S. Weaver
Superintendent

The Honorable Daniel J. McKee
 State of Rhode Island
 State House
 82 Smith Street
 Providence, RI 02903

Dear Governor McKee,

I am pleased to provide you with the 2023 Rhode Island State Police Annual Report, my second since being named Superintendent in April, 2022. The following pages reflect the activity and services the Division has rendered to the citizens of our State during the 2023 calendar year. This report is submitted in compliance with §42-28-6 of the General Laws of Rhode Island, 1956, as amended, and contains examples of accomplishments and services delivered by each barracks, bureau, and unit.

Despite nationwide challenges in recruiting qualified law enforcement officers, our members worked tirelessly to conduct a productive recruitment drive and application process throughout 2023. This effort was instrumental in our ability to recruit diverse and highly qualified candidates for the 2024 training academy. The Community, Diversity and Equity Unit attended 220 events which included numerous schools, nonprofit community organizations, and volunteer-driven neighborhood associations. The commitment of these members increased our outreach to all 39 cities and towns, which enhanced our police-community relationships.

In 2023, Troopers affected the most Driving Under the Influence (DUI) arrests and seized the most firearms in the history of the Division. Members seized 326 firearms, a 35% increase from 2022. Many of these firearms were undetectable firearms or "ghost guns." We will continue our efforts to remove these dangerous weapons from our cities and towns. Moreover, Troopers made 1,020 DUI arrests, a 29% increase from 2022. With advancements in forensics and genetic genealogy, the Special Victim's Unit has successfully arrested a suspect in a 1987 sexual assault. Our detectives will continue to pursue additional cold cases. These significant arrests and seizures are the result of our Trooper's steadfast dedication, vigilance, and commitment to our time-honored Motto – "In the Service of the State."

Throughout 2023, we engaged in several collaborative efforts with other agencies. For example, we partnered with the Capitol Police and Division of Sheriffs to conduct numerous active shooter trainings at several state buildings. These ongoing training events will ensure timely and coordinated responses in the event of an active threat. Additionally, our members provided support for the prestigious Army vs. Navy football game held at Gillette Stadium in Foxborough, Massachusetts. In coordination with the Massachusetts State Police, both Uniform and Detective Bureau Troopers were tasked with providing escorts, canine sweeps, and security assistance for this multi-day event. All members involved in this collaborative operation worked diligently and displayed the utmost professionalism.

The Rhode Island State Police continues its commitment to providing unparalleled law enforcement services to citizens and visitors of Rhode Island while simultaneously adhering to our long-held traditions. On behalf of the men and women of the Rhode Island State Police, I thank you for your support and look forward to our continued work together.

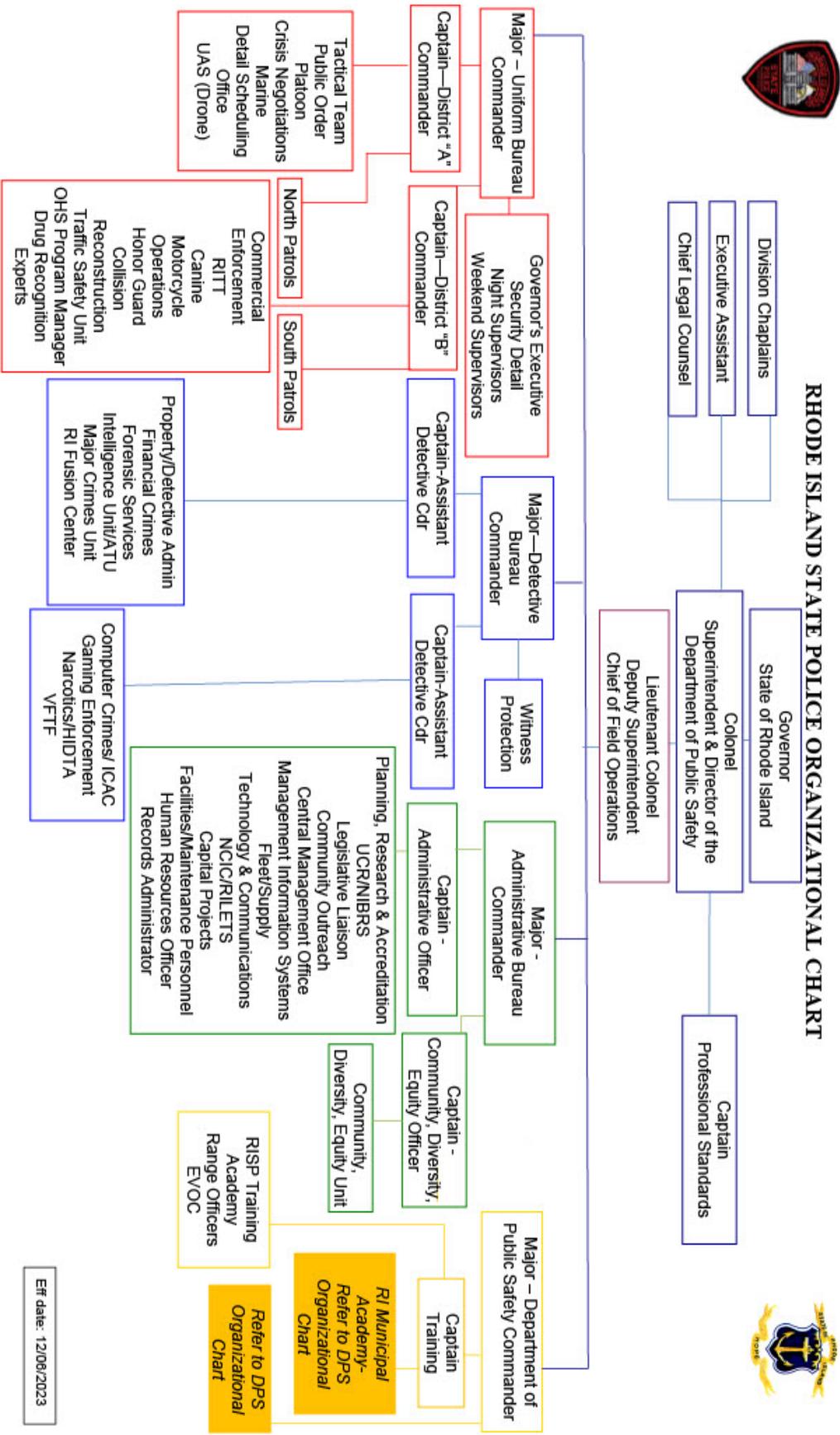
Respectfully,


 Colonel Darnell S. Weaver
 Superintendent

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ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



Eff date: 12/06/2023

COMMAND STAFF



Colonel Darnell S. Weaver



Lieutenant Colonel Robert A. Creamer



Major John M. Allen



Major Kenneth M. Moriarty



Major Kenneth S. Buonaiuto



Major Ronald J. Longolucco



Captain Kenneth D. Jones



Captain David T. Bassignani



Captain Peter J. Chabot



Captain Mark W. Gilson



Captain Thomas E. Jaques



Captain Jeffrey P. L'Heureux

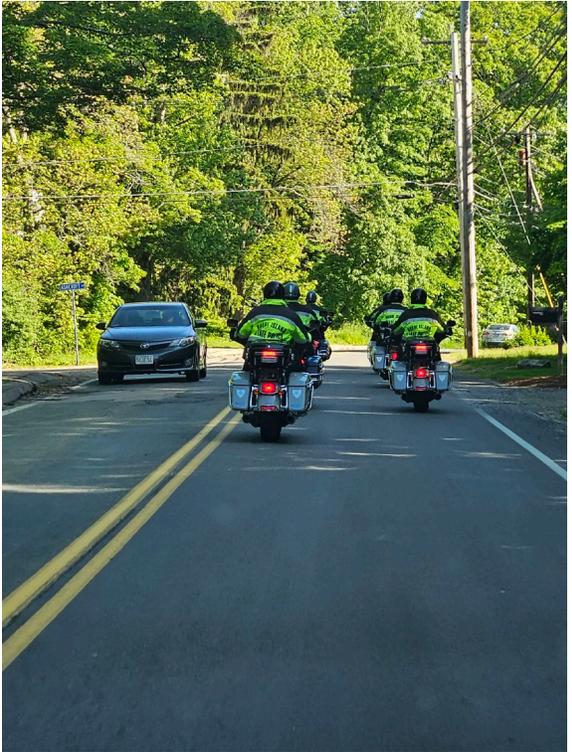
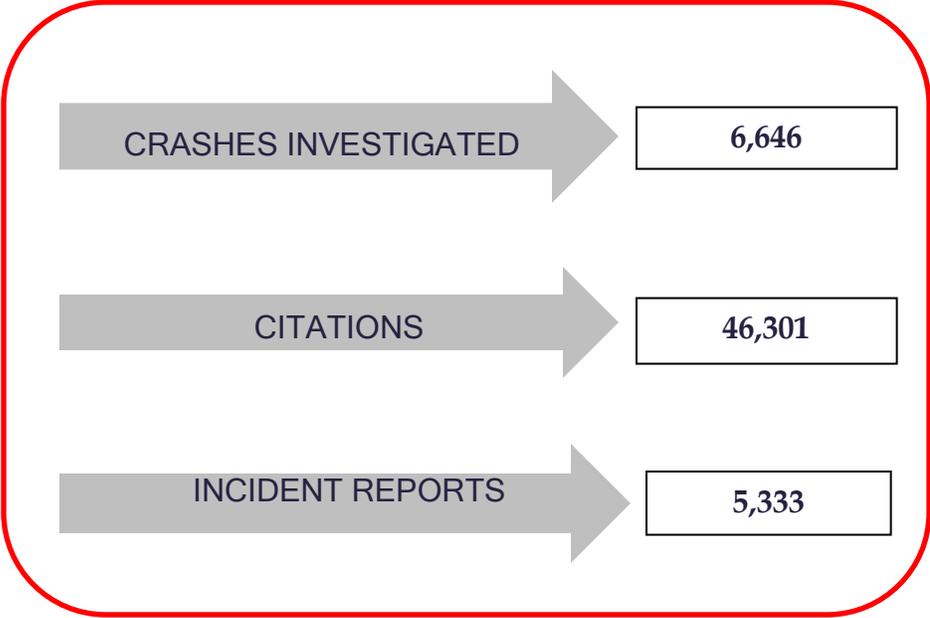
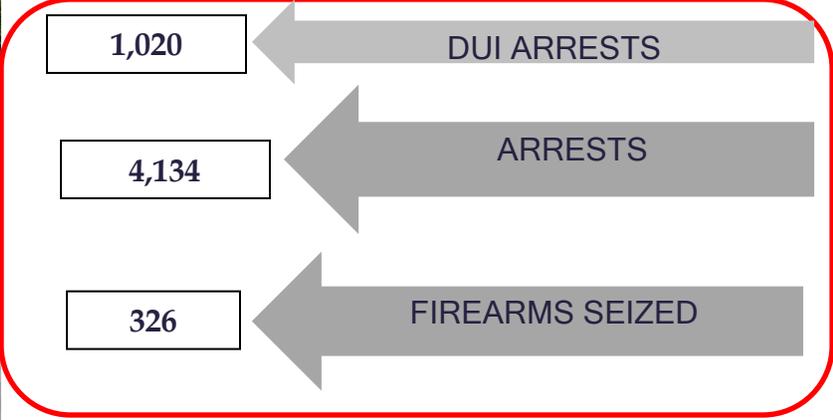
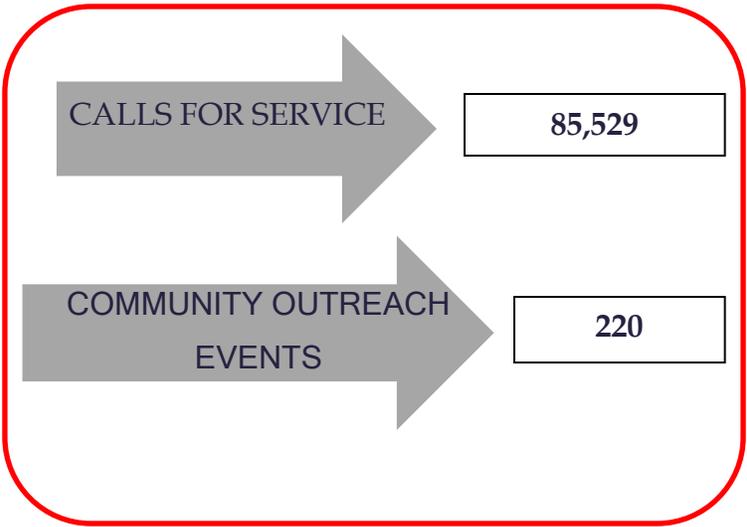


Captain Timothy E. Allen, Jr.



Captain Peter J. Cambio

2023 BY THE NUMBERS



UNIFORM BUREAU

The Uniform Bureau is responsible for policing the Town of Exeter and all state highways, the investigation of crashes and incidents on those highways, and the conduct of inspection and enforcement programs essential to the safety of citizens. Additionally, Uniform Bureau Troopers perform all functions associated with the statewide enforcement of laws, the prevention of crime, the pursuit and apprehension of offenders, and the gathering of legal evidence to ensure conviction of such offenders.

Canine Unit – Corporal Sean Pasley

During 2023, the Rhode Island State Police Canine Unit was utilized in a myriad of investigations to include: 65 narcotics searches, 103 explosive detection sweeps, 83 patrol service calls, 9 missing person searches, and 7 human remains detection searches. The investigations resulted in the seizure of over \$922,870.00 in U.S. currency, 10 firearms, 25 criminal apprehensions, the locating of 1 missing person and the assurance of safe and secure environments during large scale events and called-in threats. Additionally, members of the Canine Unit took part in 18 public speaking engagements to educate the public as to the duties and responsibilities of the Unit while building a strong bond with the service community.



Commercial Enforcement Unit – Acting Lieutenant Mark Perotti

During 2023, the Commercial Enforcement Unit (CEU) performed 4,644 roadside inspections which included 182 Hazardous Materials carriers and 2,474 inspections related to traffic enforcement stops. As a result of these roadside inspections, 10,270 violations were cited with 646 vehicles and 380 drivers being placed “Out of Service” due to unsafe operating conditions.

Throughout the year, CEU members are called upon to speak at various safety meetings and provide valuable information to the commercial trucking industry. CEU Troopers provide training to local police officers that include topics such as Commercial Vehicle Traffic Enforcement and Size and Weight Enforcement. CEU members sit on a variety of committees that influence the commercial motor vehicle industry on both a local and national level.

Rhode Island has maintained a low commercial motor vehicle crash and fatality rating for several years and was recognized by the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) for one of the lowest commercial motor vehicle fatality rates for calendar year 2023. Rhode Island was also recognized by FMCSA for a productive and focused safety enforcement program. Rhode Island will continue in its efforts toward further reductions in commercial motor vehicle crashes.



Dive/Marine Unit – Sergeant Ryan Mahoney

During 2023, the Dive/Marine Unit received multiple requests for assistance from local and federal agencies, in addition to those from the Rhode Island State Police. The Unit was involved in a variety of missions, including aiding the Rhode Island State Police Major Crimes Unit in evidence recovery for a homicide investigation, removing an underwater navigational hazard for the

United States Coast Guard, and the recovery of a submerged vehicle and its sole occupant in the City of East Providence. In addition, the Unit was involved in the recovery of a drowning victim in the Wenscott Reservoir in the Town of North Providence.

During May 2023, a grant application was submitted to the Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) Fiscal Year 2023 Port Security Program to acquire and outfit a new marine vessel for the RISP Marine/Dive Unit. During August 2023, the Dive/Marine Unit received notification that the application for federal assistance was approved for award. With this award, the Dive/Marine Unit will procure a 30-foot Munson Packcat Dive Vessel. During August 2023, the Dive/Marine Unit appointed 2 new members. In addition, during September 2023, WPRI/Target 12 showcased the Dive/Marine Unit's training and capabilities in a 7-minute video segment.

Executive Protection Unit – Sergeant William Corson

The Rhode Island State Police Executive Protection Unit (EPU) is assigned to protect the Governor, the Governor's immediate family, and any other individuals as designated by the Governor or the Division of State Police. Members of the EPU are highly trained in personal protection, physical security, and threat assessment. The EPU works closely with other state, local, and federal agencies to provide protection for the Governor and other visiting dignitaries. The EPU is accredited by the National Governor's Security Association, which requires compliance with professional standards, training, and best practices.

Hope Valley Barracks – Lieutenant Mark McGehearty

The Hope Valley Barracks provides law enforcement coverage to a large geographical area in the southwestern portion of the State of Rhode Island. The barracks is responsible for approximately 25 miles of Interstate 95 and serves as the primary law enforcement agency for the Town of Exeter. The Hope Valley Barracks also assists local law enforcement partners in the Towns of Charlestown, Coventry, East Greenwich, Hopkinton, Richmond, Westerly, West Greenwich, and West Warwick. The Hope Valley Barracks has a complement of 25 sworn members, which is down from 31 sworn members in the previous year. There is also 1 civilian member on staff at the barracks. The troopers assigned to the Hope Valley Barracks also have ancillary responsibilities and specialty unit assignments, which include the Tactical Team Unit, Canine Unit, Crisis



Negotiation Unit, Dive/Marine Unit, Collision Reconstruction Unit, Honor Guard, and the Community, Diversity and Equity Unit.

On August 10, 2023, troopers assigned to the Hope Valley Barracks received a complaint from Hasbro Children’s Hospital regarding a 2-year-old female that had tested positive for cocaine and was receiving treatment for a possible narcotics overdose. During the follow-up investigation, troopers determined that the infant was exposed to the narcotics while being watched by her grandmother at a residence in Exeter, Rhode Island. As a result of the investigation, the grandmother was charged with Child Endangerment (2 counts), First Degree Child Abuse, and Criminal Negligence.

On June 11, 2023, troopers assigned to the Hope Valley Barracks conducted a motor vehicle stop on Route 95 South in East Greenwich. During the motor vehicle stop, troopers developed probable cause that there was a firearm in the vehicle. During a subsequent search of the vehicle, troopers located a loaded 9mm handgun, two high-capacity magazines, and a quantity of the controlled substance fentanyl. As a result of the investigation, the operator was charged with License or Permit Required to Carry a Firearm, Possession of a Large Capacity Feeding Device (2 counts), and Possession of a Schedule I to V Controlled Substance. The passenger was charged with License or Permit Required to Carry a Firearm, Possession of a Large Capacity Feeding Device (2 counts), Possession of a Schedule I to V Controlled Substance, Giving a False Document to a Public Official, and Obstructing a Police Officer.

On October 14, 2023, troopers assigned to the Hope Valley Barracks conducted a motor vehicle stop on Victory Highway in the Town of West Greenwich. During the motor vehicle stop, troopers learned that the operator’s driver’s license was suspended. During an inventory of the vehicle, troopers located 2 loaded 9mm pistols, 11 high-capacity magazines, and a quantity of the controlled substance Oxycodone. The operator was charged with License or Permit Required to Carry a Firearm (2 counts), Possession of a Large Capacity Feeding Device (11 counts), and Possession of a Schedule I-V Controlled Substance.

Lincoln Woods Barracks – Lieutenant Erik Yanyar

The Lincoln Woods Barracks decreased its complement of troopers from 42 to 33 in 2023 due to barracks transfers and Detective Division selections. The Lincoln Woods Barracks handles the busiest patrol area in the State and leads the Division in arrests, accident investigations, incident investigations, and calls for service. In addition to their normal patrol duties, several troopers also have commitments to various specialty units such as the Canine Unit, Dive/Marine Unit, Tactical Team Unit, Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) Unit, Executive Protection Unit, and Collision Reconstruction Unit. Troopers assigned to the Lincoln Woods Barracks responded to the majority of incidents at State Government facilities such as the State House, Adult Correctional Institution (ACI), and courthouse buildings. Members of the Lincoln Woods Barracks routinely assist the High Intensity



Drug Trafficking Area Unit (HIDTA), Violent Fugitive Task Force, Major Crimes Unit, and Computer Crimes Unit.

During 2023, the Lincoln Woods Barracks had a dramatic increase in Driving Under the Influence of Alcohol/Narcotics arrests. During July 2023, troopers received several Emergency 911 calls regarding a vehicle operating erratically and colliding with the guardrail and other vehicles. The vehicle continued on Route 95 and a motor vehicle pursuit ensued. Once stopped, troopers placed the operator into custody after he was suspected of being under the influence of narcotics. During the arrest, troopers seized a modified Banshee MK10 semi-automatic rifle with an extended magazine, from the front seat, which was in close proximity to the intoxicated operator. The suspect did not have a license or permit to carry a firearm and several larger capacity magazines were located in the vehicle. The operator was charged with multiple firearms charges, Driving Under the Influence, Reckless Driving, and Carrying a Weapon While Intoxicated.

Operations Officer – Lieutenant Peter Filuminia

During 2023, the Operations Officer coordinated the Division's response to several events, to include: the Inauguration of Governor Daniel McKee, the Bristol 4th of July Celebration, the Newport Folk & Jazz Festivals, Eastern States Exposition (the Big "E"), Audrain's Newport Car Show-Tour D'Elegance and the New England State Police Administrators Compact activation for the security of the Army vs. Navy football game. The Operations Officer oversees and creates operational plans for numerous dignitary security protection details. In addition, the Operations Officer manages the State's response to AMBER and Silver Alerts. This responsibility requires constant coordination with local police departments to ensure specific criteria are met prior to issuing any statewide alert.

Scituate Barracks – Lieutenant Edward Viera

Troopers assigned to the Scituate Barracks patrol an area that encompasses approximately 310 square miles, primarily Interstate 295, Routes 6, 146 and 99. The Barracks is situated in the northwest part of the state and is responsible for various calls for service. In addition to their normal patrol duties, members of the Scituate Barracks also participate in a variety of the Division's specialty units.



During 2023, troopers at the Scituate Barracks made 28 arrests for various narcotics violations. Additionally, during April 2023, Scituate Barracks troopers, with assistance from members of the Financial Crimes Unit, assisted in the arrest of a subject involved in a multi-state internet scam. The scam involved obtaining money under false pretenses by targeting the victim with a computer virus. In this case, the victim was taken for \$64,000.00 cash in the effort to clear the virus. A New Jersey man was arrested while in the act of picking up a cash payment from the victim's residence.

Tactical Team – Lieutenant Nicholas Rivello

During 2023, the Tactical Team continued to train at a high level of expertise in many areas, to include: hostage rescue, downed officer rescue, barricaded suspects, high-risk search warrants, large structure and building clearing, woodland/open area searches, canine tracks, dignitary protection, and active shooter scenarios. The Tactical Team assisted local police departments with firearms and active shooter training, and with the execution of search and arrest warrants. The Tactical Team also assisted Division members with in-service training related to firearms proficiency, patrol rifle proficiency and patrol tactics training. Tactical Team members also volunteered their time with parade and public relations details. Additionally, several Tactical Team members serve as instructors/cadre throughout the year at NESPAC approved Tactical schools.

Each Tactical Team member has completed the NESPAC Basic SWAT School and Advanced SWAT School. Team members are also specialized in various disciplines and have completed Basic and Advanced Sniper trainings and Mechanical Breaching training. Team Leaders also continued to meet monthly with New England State Police SWAT teams to exchange training initiatives, discuss after action reports and newly tested and acquired equipment. During March 2023, 1 new team member was on-boarded to the Tactical Team and later completed both the NESPAC Basic SWAT School and NESPAC Advanced SWAT School, which took place at the Connecticut State Police Training Facility in Meriden, CT.

The Tactical Team continues to work closely with the Division Canine Unit, Crisis Negotiation Unit, Rhode Island Explosives Operations Division, Rhode Island National Guard 13th Civil Support Team (CST) and local police agencies.

During 2023, the Tactical Team completed 200 hours of training. The Tactical Team was involved in 31 calls for service, including: 5 high-risk warrant services, 1 barricaded subject, 6 requests to assist NESPAC State Police agencies or local Rhode Island police departments, 15 security details, and 4 community outreach events.

Traffic Safety Unit – Sergeant Lawens Fevrier

The Rhode Island State Police, in conjunction with the Rhode Island Department of Transportation's Office of Highway Safety, created a specialized unit funded by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration dedicated to reducing impaired driving. The Traffic Safety Unit's (TSU) sole focus is to reach the goal of zero traffic fatalities on Rhode Island roadways as outlined in the Department of Transportation's 10-year plan. The path to this goal is clearly delineated in State Police General Order 56A1 Section III, which establishes traffic enforcement as one of the Division's highest priorities. This includes strict enforcement of all motor vehicle laws, such as Driving Under the Influence, speed and aggressive driving violations, as well as passenger safety laws.

The members of TSU are highly specialized in the apprehension of impaired, reckless, and aggressive drivers statewide. During 2023, the Traffic Safety Unit handled 5,119 calls for service. These calls for service yielded 3,950 citations/warnings and 528 arrests, of which 499 were for impaired drivers. The Unit also investigated 39 incidents and 18 motor vehicle accidents. Due to the TSU expertise and flexibility, Unit members are regularly called to assist local communities with aggressive traffic enforcement.

Wickford Barracks – Lieutenant Charles LeValley

During 2023, the Wickford Barracks experienced a decrease in troopers from 33 assigned members to 28. However, these troopers continued to handle the same patrol area and duties as the previous year. The new troopers that commenced their Field Training at the Wickford Barracks were transferred to other barracks and a new complement of troopers were assigned. These new troopers successfully completed both their Field Training and probationary period.



Notwithstanding the added responsibility of a full-time assignment to the Newport Bridge & Turnpike Authority, the troopers at the Wickford Barracks continued to handle a high level of investigations with 623 offense reports for the year. The troopers assigned to the Wickford Barracks were frequently called upon to assist with dignitary escorts, funeral details, and many other activities. During 2023, the number of arrests continued to remain steady with 490 arrests. In addition, the Barracks investigated 869 accidents, which was an increase compared to the 835 accidents investigated during 2022.

During September 2023, members of the Wickford Barracks arrested two individuals for serious major crimes. The first was arrested for First Degree Child Molestation and the second was arrested for Second Degree Sexual Assault (4 counts). Both arrests were the result of extensive investigations.

DETECTIVE BUREAU

The Detective Bureau is comprised of detectives, investigators and task force officers from federal and local agencies who investigate crimes that require specialized investigative techniques. Some of these techniques include forensic examinations and the cultivation of informants. They require exhaustive dedication, and ultimately, accurate court testimony to pursue a case through to its final resolution.

Auto Theft Unit – Lieutenant Marc Alboum

The Auto Theft and Insurance Fraud Unit (ATU) functions under the Intelligence Unit and is comprised of 1 Detective Corporal and 1 Detective Trooper. The core mission of the Unit is to work in conjunction with the National Insurance Crime Bureau, along with other local, state, and federal agencies to prevent motor vehicle theft and facilitate the recovery of stolen motor vehicles. In addition, the mission also involves the prevention of fraudulent insurance claims and other purported fraud relative to the Registry of Motor Vehicles.

Due to the increase in high-end used vehicle auto theft, larceny of rims and catalytic converters, members of the ATU have targeted individuals involved in these illicit operations. These complex investigations have led to successful outcomes that have included the execution of multiple court-authorized search warrants leading to the arrests of multiple suspects directly involved.

In addition, the ATU investigated an identity theft/vehicle fraud out of the State of New York, purported by a Rhode Island resident. Members of the ATU were able to locate the suspect vehicle in the City of Providence and later at the Colonial Inn located on Mink Street, Seekonk, Massachusetts. With the assistance of the Seekonk Police Department, the operator was arrested and positively identified. A search warrant was issued for the hotel room at the Inn and a second subject was located and arrested with evidence recovered from the room supporting a coordinated theft/identity fraud ring where multiple victim identity documents were located.

During 2023, members of the ATU were responsible for the recovery of 28 stolen motor vehicles and has successfully investigated 37 cases of insurance fraud. The ATU has worked well within a multi-jurisdictional task force to successfully deter high-end auto theft and insurance fraud, rim theft, and a catalytic converter theft ring that has plagued multiple jurisdictions and states.

Background Unit – Lieutenant Cynthia Trahan

During February 2023, the Background Unit was formed. The Unit is responsible for conducting, completing, managing, and assisting with a variety of extensive backgrounds to include, but not limited to: Rhode Island State Police recruits, Rhode Island State Police civilian employees, Department of Public Safety E-911 employees, Judicial & Magistrate nominees, and Cabinet members. In addition, the Unit assists

with a variety of investigatory checks for other Department of Public Safety agencies, to include the Capital Police and the Division of Sheriffs.

During 2023, the Rhode Island State Police completed 253 background investigations, of which 171 were full background investigations (104 were managed by both the Background Unit & the Detective Bureau and 67 were completed by members of the Background Unit).

Computer Crimes – Lieutenant Eric Yelle

The Computer Crimes Unit (CCU) investigates criminal violations of law which involve the use of a computer and/or digital devices in the commission of a crime. These crimes encompass all types of criminal activity, ranging from traditional crimes to those involving the internet such as child exploitation, unlawful computer access, online fraud, identity theft, and network intrusions.



The CCU oversees the Rhode Island Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) Task Force, which is a Department of Justice grant-funded program. During 2023, the ICAC Task Force was comprised of 7 sworn State Police members and 3 civilian members, as well as detectives from the Warwick Police Department, Cranston Police Department, East Providence Police Department, Pawtucket Police Department, Bristol Police Department, Portsmouth Police Department, Middletown Police Department, and Homeland Security Investigations (HSI).

The CCU also oversees the Joint Cyber Task Force, which serves as a communications conduit between federal, state, military, and private entities. The Joint Cyber Task Force brings together law enforcement, cyber security experts, the business community, and educational institutions to help secure the State's cyber critical infrastructure.

During 2023, supervisors parsed through 2,404 cyber tips, resulting in approximately 224 investigations. Analysts and detectives conducted 175 forensic examinations, assisting 13 other State Police units, as well as 29 outside agencies. Overall, ICAC members were responsible for 399 incidents and 55 arrests. Additionally, 7 more arrests were prosecuted federally.

Cyber Crimes/Joint Cyber Task Force – Lieutenant Eric Yelle

The Joint Cyber Task Force (JCTF) is comprised of members from the Rhode Island State Police CCU, Rhode Island State Fusion Center (RISFC), and individuals representing State government, information technology, academia, healthcare, finance, utilities, private sector, and the defense industry. As a communications conduit between Federal, State, military, and private entities, the JCTF assists with analysis and support before and during major cybersecurity incidents affecting critical infrastructure in Rhode Island and ensures continuity of services following an incident.



The JCTF continues to collaborate with other cyber-related task forces and partners such as the State and Local Cybersecurity Grant Program (SLCGP) Planning Committee, the Secretary of State's Election Cybersecurity Review Board, the HAVA Task Force, Rhode Island Emergency Management Agency's Critical Infrastructure/Key Resources Working Group, and the FBI's Infraguard.

Evidence and Property Control – Lieutenant Cynthia Trahan

The Evidence and Property Control Officer is tasked with ensuring that all items of evidence and other property are properly stored, secured, and maintained. Control of property is critically important within investigative areas and with the proper handling, security, and disposition of evidence. During 2023, the Evidence and Property Unit received 4,407 pieces of evidence. Additionally, after researching cases, 1,883 pieces of evidence were destroyed from disposed cases.

The Unit must ensure that all statutes, policies, protocols, and court orders are adhered to when releasing or preserving any property and/or evidence. Furthermore, duties also include preparing and conducting evidence views, assisting in forfeiture proceedings, creating training aids for the Canine Unit, and locating records pertaining to detective cases.

Financial Crimes – Lieutenant Richard Ptaszek

The members of the Financial Crimes Unit (FCU) are a diverse group of investigators who are skilled in various areas of criminal investigations including, but not limited to, mortgage fraud, bank fraud, embezzlement, elder exploitation, and cryptocurrency investigations. The Unit is frequently called upon to investigate public corruption, extortion, forgery, credit card fraud, identity theft and money laundering. During 2023, the Financial Crimes Unit opened 179 investigations and made 110 arrests.

During 2023, the FCU continued to investigate a variety of fraud related cases and began to see an increase in cryptocurrency crimes. Although cryptocurrency has been in existence since 2009, criminals have been increasingly utilizing this type of currency to perpetrate their fraud schemes. With the ease of moving funds via online platforms, criminals have the ability to "hide" these funds and move them to distant locations including outside of the country. With the continued increase in cryptocurrency investigations occurring within the FCU, the Unit was able to purchase software, which was developed specifically to track and trace cryptocurrency transactions. With this newly obtained tool, investigators can follow cryptocurrency transactions related to fraud cases with the potential to retrieve these funds.

Forensic Services Unit – Lieutenant Kenneth DeMarco

During 2023, the Forensic Services Unit (FSU) received a total of 449 requests for service. Of that total, 88 requests were from outside agencies to include 17 local police departments, 3 state agencies and 1 out of state police department. The FSU hired a civilian forensic scientist with several years of experience in a major crime lab. This new employee will assist the FSU in staying at the forefront of forensic science and will support our commitment to improve upon the expertise of the FSU,

especially in the complex areas of investigative genetic genealogy and advanced evidence processing techniques.

During 2023, the FSU continued to provide expert crime scene documentation and analysis throughout the State. This included death investigations, shooting incidents, fingerprint development and identification, video analysis, crime scene investigations and the deployment of unique pieces of equipment such as the 3D laser scanner and the mobile crime lab.

Also, the FSU underwent an intensive external inspection in the fourth quarter of 2023. As a result, the FSU will receive its accreditation to ISO standard 17020 and will become the only accredited police lab in the State of Rhode Island. The purpose of accreditation is to formally recognize that the personnel assigned to the FSU are qualified, competent, and comply with international standards in their respective fields of investigation.

Fusion Center – Lieutenant Philip Martin

The core mission of the Rhode Island State Fusion Center (RISFC) is to facilitate the timely and accurate exchange of information between federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies as well as private and public sector institutions. Through a cooperative and coordinated approach, the Fusion Center augments law enforcement operations by acting as a comprehensive, centralized Intelligence Center to facilitate the exchange of information on a statewide basis. The Fusion Center collects, analyzes, and disseminates intelligence information to identify, investigate and prevent criminal activity and terrorism. The Fusion Center is closely associated with the United States Department of Homeland Security to ensure that it conforms with nationally recognized standards and best practices. The Fusion Center also works collaboratively with the Federal Bureau of Investigation on criminal and public safety matters.



During 2023, the Fusion Center received a total of 1,268 requests for information from law enforcement agencies. These requests came from federal, state, and municipal law enforcement throughout Rhode Island and other state jurisdictions. Additionally, the Fusion Center investigated 176 incidents. These incidents were initiated through tips and leads provided by members of law enforcement, citizens, as well as public and private sector partners. Many of these investigations led to criminal charges and/or are shared with other law enforcement agencies for additional follow up. Every tip or lead received by the Fusion Center is analyzed and disseminated in a timely manner to ensure the safety of the citizens of Rhode Island. Additionally, the Fusion Center was able to expand its liaison program, enlisting members of law enforcement to work on a part-time basis on site to facilitate the efficient exchange of intelligence information. Officers from the North Providence and Warwick Police Departments, the Rhode Island Department of Corrections Special Investigations Unit, as well as the Providence Emergency Management Agency are currently assigned part-time to the Fusion Center.

Gaming Enforcement Unit – Lieutenant Herbert Tilson

The Rhode Island State Police Gaming Enforcement Unit (GEU) continues to be dedicated to ensuring the integrity of gaming within the State. Working in conjunction with the Department of Business Regulations - Division of Racing and Athletics and the Division of Lottery, the GEU is responsible for conducting criminal investigations, due diligence background investigations for both casino employees and vendor companies, along with generating intelligence information. This is accomplished by working with internal resources and many outside law enforcement and licensing agencies throughout the country and overseas.

During February 2023, members of the GEU were contacted by security personnel at Bally's Twin River Casino Resort regarding a stolen Bally's Reward Card. The investigation revealed that an individual had used the victim's Bally's Rewards Card and taken \$125.00 of free play. The suspect used the victim's Bally's Rewards Card on 5 occasions at 5 separate video lottery terminals. Further investigation revealed that the suspect had been using the victim's Bally's Reward card since December, 2022 and had stolen well over \$1,500.00. This individual was arrested for Access to a Computer for Fraudulent Purposes (5 counts); Obtaining Money Under False Pretenses over \$1500.00 and Receiving Stolen Goods.

On June 22, 2023, Rhode Island officially became the 7th state to legalize igaming. The announcement was met with optimism from State leaders who overwhelmingly passed the measure with little opposition. The vast undertaking to make igaming a reality in Rhode Island fell into the hands of the Bally's Corporation, Rhode Island Lottery (RILOT), the Department of Business Regulation (DBR) and the Gaming Enforcement Unit. Members of the GEU have conducted extensive background investigations which required regular overseas travel to ensure the utmost transparency and diligence in ensuring a successful transition. The anticipated launch date for igaming is scheduled for March 1, 2024.

HIDTA/Narcotics – Lieutenant Derek Melfi

During 2023, the High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas Task Force (HIDTA) executed 140 search warrants and seized the following: 24.75 kilograms of Cocaine, 904.8 grams of Heroin, 27.35 kilograms of Fentanyl, 5,440 Fentanyl Pills, 14.6 pounds of Marijuana, 2,070.7 dosage units of Methamphetamine, 1,956 grams of MDMA, 43 Alprazolam pills, 130 Clonazepam pills, 757.8 grams of Xylazine, 1,320 grams of BHO, 686 dosage units of steroids, 81.5 grams of Methylphenidate, and 410.6 grams of Psilocybin. Additionally, members also seized \$1,157,965.00 in United States currency, 32 vehicles, and 142 firearms, 69 of which were "ghost guns."



During 2023, the HIDTA Task Force took an even more proactive approach to illegal narcotics, and illegal firearms, to include the most recent uptick in “ghost guns” and “switches,” which are devices used to alter a firearm to shoot in a fully automatic manner.

Utilizing enforcement methods to include street-level patrol and proactive policing, members of the HIDTA Task Force were responsible

for seizing 294% more firearms, affecting 51% more arrests, and seizing 134% more United States currency than in calendar year 2022.

Intelligence – Lieutenant Marc Alboum

The core mission of the Intelligence Unit is the investigation of organized criminal activity perpetrated by members of the New England La Cosa Nostra (NELCN), local and regional outlaw motorcycle gangs, street gangs, individuals engaged in illegal narcotics and human trafficking, as well as public officials engaged in activities encompassing public corruption. Due to the Intelligence Unit's focus on identifying and investigating organized criminal groups, the investigations are often complex and multi-faceted. To facilitate their investigative obligations, members of the Intelligence Unit routinely utilize traditional and non-traditional investigative techniques. These techniques include physical surveillance and electronic surveillance methods, including electronic monitoring and undercover operations. Unit members often coordinate controlled purchases of various types of contraband. Additionally, members of the Intelligence Unit successfully cultivate and manage confidential informants to further investigations. Members of the Intelligence Unit continue to assist members of the State Police Detective Bureau and Uniform Bureau, as well as other agencies with covert surveillance techniques and undercover operations.

Due to the increase in gun violence involving outlaw motorcycle gangs and organized street gangs, as well as the prevalence of overdose deaths in Rhode Island, members of the Intelligence Unit have targeted individuals involved in these illicit operations. These complex investigations have led to the execution of multiple court-authorized search warrants leading to the arrests of 20 individuals directly involved in shootings, possession of firearms, and distribution of narcotics.



During 2023, members of the Intelligence Unit seized 28 regulated firearms and 15 “Ghost Guns,” 10,341 Fentanyl pills, 107 grams of Fentanyl, 72 Amphetamine/Methamphetamine pills, 3.34 kilograms of Cocaine, 1.35 pounds of Marijuana, 42 grams of Psilocybin Mushrooms, and \$105,962 in United States currency. Additionally, the Intelligence Unit participated in a Title III investigation with the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) Safe Streets Task Force.

Major Crimes – Lieutenant Damien Longo

During 2023, the Major Crimes Unit (MCU) welcomed 3 new detectives from the Uniform Bureau. These members were transferred into the Detective Bureau with 10 years of experience. Each member carried their own unique knowledge base and insight with them from patrol to detectives. Their addition has been invaluable to forwarding the goals of the MCU and the mission of the State Police as a whole.

During 2023, members of the MCU made 241 arrests and investigated 142 incidents. These cases included a variety of alleged criminal conduct, including but not limited to: murder, firearms violations, domestic violence, possession of illegal narcotics, fraud and assault. Members of the MCU are also responsible for investigating officer-involved shootings and use of force incidents involving local police departments. The Major Crimes Unit has 2 detectives assigned to the Adult Correctional Institution (ACI). These detectives thoroughly investigate all complaints made by both prison employees and incarcerated inmates. These detectives collect criminal information from prisoner investigators employed at the Department of Corrections, which is then shared with other law enforcement agencies to bolster officer safety. Detectives assigned to the ACI handle the prosecution of all inmates who are considered fugitives from other states. These detectives also handle offenders who are in the custody of the Department of Children, Youth and Families at the Rhode Island Youth Detention Center.

Special Victims Unit – Lieutenant Heather Palumbo

The Special Victims Unit (SVU) is responsible for investigating cases involving sexual assault, domestic violence, child abuse, child molestation, missing children, sex offender registration violations, commercial sexual exploitation of children, and human and labor trafficking. Detectives within the Unit specialize in investigating serious violent crimes against children and other vulnerable populations such as individuals with developmental disabilities and the elderly. Detectives collaborate with our community partners, including but not limited to, the Attorney General’s Office, the Children’s Advocacy Center, Hasbro’s Aubin Child Protection Center, DCYF, Day One, the Coalition Against Domestic Violence, Law Enforcement Advocates, the Office of Healthy Aging, and the Rhode Island Department of Behavioral Healthcare, Developmental Disabilities, and Hospitals (BHDDH). Detectives coordinate a collaborative and multi-disciplinary approach to special victim cases and ensure a timely response and greater support to the victims and their families.

2023 was the second full year for the SVU. The Unit had 3 new detectives assigned who were provided specialized training in Human Trafficking, Sexual Assault and Child Molestation, Missing Children, Internet Crimes, and Trauma Informed Interviewing. The Unit's Comfort Canine, Gus, was reassigned to a newly assigned detective and they both successfully completed the necessary certifications. Detectives used both Gus and the Unit's Soft Interview Room to provide a more trauma informed approach to victims and their Families. The Unit worked to be proactive regarding commercial sexual trafficking of minors and made 5 arrests. Additionally, detectives continued casework related to the arrest of Frank Joseph Thies, an arrest made from a 1987 sexual assault and child molestation cold case. Mr. Thies was brought to justice as a result of the dedicated work of State Police detectives, advancement of DNA technology, and the assistance of the Indiana State Police.

The Rhode Island Sex Offender Registry (RISOR) oversees the software program Offender Watch, the statewide registry database and community notification website. The database contains over 2,600 actively registering offenders. The RISOR Program Coordinator provides training for designated law enforcement and government users in Rhode Island. RISOR exchanges information with federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies to effectively track and register sex offenders who arrive in, reside in, or leave the jurisdiction. RISOR assists law enforcement with all aspects of the registration process including, but not limited to, monitoring incarcerated sex offenders, determining duration of registration, ensuring offenders register within twenty-four hours upon release in accordance with RIGL § 11-37.1, resolving technical issues with the electronic operating system, and coordinating efforts to apprehend violators and/or absconders. RISOR also responds to inquiries from sex offenders and members of the community pertaining to sex offender registration and community notification. The Unit is comprised of 2 civilians assigned to the Special Victims Unit.

Violent Fugitive Task Force – Lieutenant Robert Richardson

The Violent Fugitive Task Force (VFTF) is jointly supervised by the Rhode Island State Police and the Deputy United States Marshals. The Unit is comprised of 4 troopers, 1 full-time Providence Police Patrolman and 1 full-time Cranston Police Detective. Additionally, there are 3 full-time Deputy U.S. Marshals and 2 part-time U.S. Marshals. There are also 5 police officers working part-time in the Unit from Portsmouth, Middletown, Pawtucket, Warwick and North Providence. All State Police and local Department Task Force Officers are specially deputized with the United States Marshals Service with federal arrest powers.

During 2023, members of the VFTF arrested 201 people wanted by law enforcement agencies and courts within the State of Rhode Island and across the United States. These arrests included: 8 wanted for Murder, 14 wanted for Armed Robbery, 1 wanted for Kidnapping, 27 wanted for Sexual Assault/Child Molestation, 24 wanted for Delivery of Narcotics/Possession with Intent to Deliver Narcotics, 16 wanted for Breaking and Entering/Burglary/Home Invasion, and 60 wanted for Felony Assault, including firearm related assaults.

The VFTF brought additional criminal charges on persons for new firearms, narcotics, resisting arrest, and obstruction of justice violations. Members seized multiple firearms and narcotics during these investigations. Members also arrested multiple subjects for warrants issued for Violations of conditions of Parole. Task Force members assisted several other state and city police agencies with apprehending suspects who were currently in the State avoiding apprehension, known as Fugitives from Justice.

During September 2023, members of the VFTF were requested by the Cumberland Police Department to assist with locating a dangerous fugitive who had committed the crime of murder. After an intense investigation, members located the individual in the City of Warwick. Members were able to develop a possible address for the subject by conducting physical surveillance, electronic surveillance, and drafting court authorized search warrants to identify a possible location.



ADMINISTRATIVE BUREAU

The Administrative Bureau provides the materials and services that enable the Division to accomplish its mission. The Bureau's responsibilities include all aspects of personnel management, information technology, research and accreditation, procurement, fleet, and facilities.

Community, Diversity & Equity Unit – Captain Kenneth Jones

The Rhode Island State Police Community, Diversity & Equity Unit (CDE) is dedicated to fostering cooperative relationships with community members, groups and private sector organizations. The commitment involves providing valuable public safety information through lectures, presentations, and material handouts. Additionally, we make resources available to the Division of State Police to educate the public on matters of public safety.



In the execution of these responsibilities, the Community, Diversity, Equity Officer remains attuned to the community's current climate, ensuring that information dissemination positively impacts police-community relationships. This includes promptly communicating community concerns to the Superintendent and advocating for corrective measures when necessary as well as addressing actions, practices, and attitudes that may contribute to community tensions. In addition, the CDE strives to develop recommendations and model options for agencies to enhance collaboration with the community. This

includes areas such as hiring, training, promotion, policy development, accountability processes, and general information about agency operations. The CDE is dedicated to facilitating partnerships between agencies and the community, fostering transparency, trust, and mutual understanding. The CDE seeks a cooperative relationship with members of the community, community groups, and organizations.

During 2023, CDE members engaged in 220 community outreach events. These events included, but were not limited to: Kids, Cops and Classrooms, Kids, Cops and Christmas, food drives, and events and partnerships to support the Autism Project, AAA Northeast, Boys and Girls Club of Rhode Island, Big Brothers, Big Sisters of Rhode Island, and Eastbay Community Action. CDE members engaged with multiple schools, a diverse range of nonprofit community organizations, and volunteer-driven neighborhood associations in outreach events.

Facilities/Capital Projects Management – Mr. Carmino Paliotta

During 2023, the Division embarked on several capital projects to improve the facilities of the Division. New windows and a new heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) system were installed at the Rhode Island State Police Training Academy. Additionally, improvements were made to the firing range and the roadway leading into the Training Academy grounds, and security gates are planned for installation at the entrance to the compound as well as at the firing range area. Furthermore, a new rubber floor was added to the exercise/gym building.

The Division replaced 2 aging hot water heaters at the Headquarters building and is currently creating a maintenance schedule for the HVAC system. The Division addressed the basement water concerns at the Wickford Barracks by closing in subgrade windows, re-grading the back lot, as well as the front lawn and installing a new bulkhead enclosure.

The Division is moving forward with construction documents for renovating the Captain Richard Rhodes House and is exploring options for additional renovations to buildings located on the Headquarters complex.

Fleet/Supply Administration – Sergeant Scott Carlsten

The Fleet/Supply Administration Unit is responsible for a variety of administrative functions including fleet management of approximately 390 vehicles assigned to the Rhode Island State Police and coordinating the purchase of new vehicles to replace the older vehicles no longer suitable for state police use. The Unit is responsible for researching vehicles and equipment that best fit the needs of the Division. The Unit is also responsible for ordering new vehicles, writing vehicle specifications, purchasing emergency equipment, monitoring fleet maintenance and major repairs. In addition, the Unit manages registrations for all vehicles, monitors auto body repair, compiles monthly and yearly mileage reports, manages the data of all maintenance performed on vehicles, and facilitates factory recalls or other vehicle safety issues in the fleet. The Fleet Manager reviews all collision reports involving Rhode Island State Police vehicles for submission to the Division's Quarterly Collision Review Board.

Additionally, the Fleet/Supply Administration Unit processes all uniform/supply requests and handles subsequent uniform and supply distribution and tracking. The Unit ensures that the Division is properly equipped and complies with the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA) Standards pertaining to equipment, vehicles, and record keeping.

During June of 2023, the Division's long serving civilian Administrative Support Specialist retired from the Rhode Island State Police. During August 2023, this vacant position was filled by another civilian employee, who was formerly assigned as a Division Utility Maintenance Technician. During November 2023, the Division appointed a civilian employee to the newly created Division Fleet Project Manager position. This new employee brings to the Division many years of fleet management experience and is a welcomed addition to Rhode Island State Police Fleet Administration.



Management Information Systems – Mr. James Shea

The Management Information Systems (MIS) Unit has prioritized software support this year, introducing new databases for members of the Division and actively engaging in the research and development of additional ones. In tandem, several significant projects were successfully executed, including the implementation of a new data store and the upgrading of building switches. The Unit's commitment to providing unwavering support to the Division remains steadfast, evident in the resolution of over 3,800 trouble tickets throughout the year. The MIS consistently upholds a high standard of excellence in service delivery, ensuring that the Division's operational needs are met seamlessly and around the clock.

In the pursuit of enhancing organizational efficiency and security, the MIS team achieved significant milestones in 2023. First, the MIS Unit successfully upgraded the Headquarters conference rooms, equipping them with state-of-the-art technology to facilitate seamless communication and collaboration. This improvement ensures that meetings and presentations are conducted with the highest level of professionalism and effectiveness. Additionally, the Unit's commitment to staying at the forefront of technology led to the updating of the FSU Forensic Computers, providing Division forensic experts with the latest tools and resources to conduct thorough and precise investigations.

The MIS Unit fortified our cybersecurity infrastructure by partnering with a leading network security company. The installation of their 24x7x365 monitoring services ensures round-the-clock protection against potential threats, bolstering our defenses and safeguarding sensitive information. These accomplishments collectively reflect the Unit's dedication to innovation, technological advancement, and the ongoing pursuit of excellence in MIS operations.

Planning, Research & Accreditation – Corporal Melissa Rand

The Planning, Research and Accreditation Unit (PR&A) conducts research, collects, and compiles statistical information, and prepares documents on law enforcement related topics to enhance the operational and administrative capabilities of the Division. The Unit also coordinates the preparation, revision, and editing of all policies, directives, and practices as part of a steadfast commitment to satisfy the standards promulgated by the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA) and the Rhode Island Police Accreditation Commission (RIPAC).

In addition, the Unit responds to inquiries from law enforcement agencies, represents the Division on various national, state, and local organizations and committees regarding law enforcement, and manages the Division's Internship Program.

PR&A oversees the Uniform Crime Reporting Unit (UCR) which is staffed by a full-time civilian Operations Manager, as well as the Rhode Island State Police Records Unit which is staffed by a full-time trooper and a civilian records administrator.

During 2023, the Unit successfully completed the Year-2 Remote Based Assessment for CALEA with 100% of reviewed standards being found in compliance, as well as a successful Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) Audit. Additionally, due to a retirement in the Command Staff, the Non-Commissioned Officer in charge of the Unit was assigned to represent the Division as a Commissioner on the Rhode Island Police Accreditation Commission.

Radio Services Unit – Mr. Thomas Crotty

The Director of Radio Communications has served with the Division of State Police for over 25 years. He is responsible for the performance of the Rhode Island State Police radio communication systems. The radio systems provide voice and data communications for the Division and are supported by 13 communication sites located throughout the state. The system also supports radio traffic for the Rhode Island Public Transit Authority (RIPTA), Department of Environmental Management (DEM), and the Department of Transportation (DOT) Traffic Operations Center. In addition to the State agencies, the RISP radio infrastructure also supports the statewide 800 MHZ interoperable radio system (RISCON). This radio network is used by numerous cities and towns as their primary radio system, but also provides statewide interoperability for thousands of first responders. The infrastructure also supports radio systems used by the FBI, US Coast Guard, FAA, NOAA, and other governmental agencies.

As the microwave and 800 MHz radio communications systems are the lifeline of the Rhode Island State Police, it is imperative that the systems are at an optimum level of performance at all times. The staff inspects and monitors all communication sites on a regular basis to ensure that the systems are kept at the highest level of reliability. Radio Services is also responsible for the installation and repair of the fleet emergency systems that include emergency lights, radio equipment, mobile data, and radar units.

Radio Services is currently involved in projects to upgrade the microwave network.

Records Unit – Corporal Melissa Rand

During 2023, the Rhode Island State Police created an official Records Unit within the Administrative Bureau of the Division. The duties of the Records Unit include managing charitable gaming, criminal expungements and/or sealings, records retention and assisting in providing information for background investigations for law enforcement agencies located outside the State of Rhode Island. Previously, these duties had been distributed across various positions throughout the Division. The creation of the Records Unit has allowed for more streamlined and efficient practices in administrative functions.

During 2023, the Records Unit processed 1153 games of chance applications, to include 1045 raffle applications, 40 senior citizen recreational bingo applications, 58 special bingo applications and 10 weekly bingo applications. Additionally, nearly 3,000 criminal cases were expunged or sealed due to the passage of State statutes regarding the expungement of all marijuana criminal convictions consisting of offenses that are now lawful, as well as the automatic sealing of cases dismissed at arraignment.

Rhode Island Municipal Police Training Academy – Lieutenant Christopher Zarrella

The primary mission of the Rhode Island Municipal Police Training Academy (RIMPTA) is to provide basic training to Rhode Island's municipal, college and university police officers. This training is based on nationally accepted standards for police recruit training. The goal of RIMPTA is to provide coordinated, state of the art training from different perspectives in order to produce well rounded, competent, educated and highly motivated police officers. During 2023, 118 new municipal police officers graduated from the RIMPTA. The 142nd session of RIMPTA was the largest graduating class in the history of policing in the State of Rhode Island.

The RIMPTA also embraces the mission of providing quality in-service training to members of the law enforcement community. Staff offer new programs to prepare members of the law enforcement community for the ever-changing roles and responsibilities they must assume to protect lives and property.

Technical Services – Mr. William Guy

The Rhode Island State Police Technical Services Unit is comprised of a dedicated team of employees who support a variety of technical and telecommunications services providing vital data to the law enforcement community throughout the state.

At the heart of the Rhode Island State Police Technical Services Unit is the Rhode Island Law Enforcement Telecommunications System (RILETS), which provides network services and data access to law enforcement officers statewide. The RILETS

network connects to 70 criminal justice agencies within the state, providing a vital link to local, state, regional and national criminal justice data resources. Drivers' license information, motor vehicle registration information, criminal history and wanted persons checks are among some of the data elements provided by the RILETS network to the law enforcement community. The RILETS network support and help desk services are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

RILETS also provides Rhode Island users with connectivity to the Federal Bureau of Investigation's Criminal Justice Information Services (CJIS) national network located in West Virginia and the NLETS national network located in Arizona.

In addition to the RILETS network, the Technical Services Unit is responsible for all Rhode Island State Police internal telecommunications services. Telephone services and data circuits are managed and supported by the Technical Services Unit.

The Technical Services Unit also provides project management services for many of the technology related projects initiated by the Rhode Island State Police.

Telecommunications Unit – Mr. Jack Chan

Mr. Jack Chan is the Director of Operations and supervisor of the Rhode Island Law Enforcement Telecommunications System (RILETS)/Telecommunications Unit. He has served with the State Police for 7 years, starting as a Telecommunicator in July of 2016. The Director of Operations is the Alert Web Portal Administrator for Amber Alerts, Missing Senior Citizens (SILVER Alerts), and Law Enforcement Alerts (BLUE Alerts) and also performs the work of the RILETS/National Crime Information Center (NCIC) Quality Assurance Unit.

The RILETS/Telecommunications Unit operates 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year. The Unit provides access to several databases containing information collected by criminal justice agencies that is needed in law enforcement functions including: wanted person information, missing person information, unidentified person information, stolen property information, criminal history information, information on identifiable individuals compiled to anticipate, prevent, or monitor possible criminal activity, vehicle registrations, driver's licenses and more. The fundamental information and support provided by the Unit is essential for the safety of the troopers and members of other law enforcement agencies.

The Unit is responsible for a variety of functions, to include but not limited to: maintaining affidavit and arrest warrants for the State Police; conducting extensive backgrounds through database searches; creating, editing, and activating Alerts (AMBER Alerts, Missing Senior Citizen Alerts, SILVER and BLUE Alerts); entering and maintaining Parole Board Detention Warrants issued by the Rhode Island Parole Board and monitoring the National Alert Warning Systems telephones and Rhode Island Emergency Management Agency (EMA) radios for emergency and testing situations. After Rhode Island Department of Motor Vehicles normal business hours, the Unit assists with requests for license, identification card or registration information.

During 2023, the Unit completed several thousand computer checks that were requested by Division members.

Training Academy – Lieutenant Nicholas Rivello

The Training Academy is located at 64 Winsor Road in the Town of Foster. The Training Academy is responsible for conducting the Rhode Island State Police Recruit Training Program, all in-service training for members of the Division, and continuing education courses in law enforcement. The Training Academy coordinates training with other New England State Police Administrators Compact (NESPAC) Trainers. In addition, the Training Academy handles a variety of public service functions on behalf of the Division. These functions include coordinating and conducting law enforcement career awareness programs at high schools and colleges in Rhode Island and other New England states as part of the Division’s continuing recruitment effort to attract qualified candidates for the Rhode Island State Police.

On August 1, 2022, the Rhode Island State Police announced a recruitment and application process for the proposed 2024 Rhode Island State Police Recruit Training Academy. Much of 2023 was dedicated to the recruitment and testing process for the 2024 Rhode Island State Police Training Academy, which began January 8, 2024. The Training Academy recently implemented a series of Recruit Preparedness Program sessions for applicants. The overall mission of the Recruit Preparedness Program was to provide applicants with the necessary information and guidance to successfully perform and pass the Rhode Island State Police Training Academy. As of December 31, 2023, 35 applicants accepted conditional offers of employment with the Rhode Island State Police.



The goal of the Training Academy is to ensure the Rhode Island State Police remains at the forefront of law enforcement training to serve and protect the citizens of the State.

Uniform Crime Reporting- Mrs. Linda Fraccola

The Planning, Research and Accreditation Unit oversees the Uniform Crime Reporting Unit (UCR) which is staffed by a full-time civilian Operations Manager. The Rhode Island UCR System conforms to the specifications of the Criminal Justice Information Services of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, which provides an overview of crime that is based on the submission of statistics by law enforcement agencies.

The Rhode Island UCR Program serves as the state repository for the collection of crime statistics. The Program's primary objective is to compile reliable information for use in law enforcement administration, operation, and management. As the program has evolved and the demand for transparency has increased, so too has the demand for the data compiled under this Program. While the data has been publicly available via the "Crime in Rhode Island" annual static publication, the UCR Unit has released the Crime in Rhode Island Online Portal, which provides real time statistical information based on monthly data received from Rhode Island's law enforcement agencies. The goal of the Online Portal is to replace the Crime in Rhode Island annual static publication and to allow members of the public to access public information more easily regarding crime statistics, in a timely manner.

During 2023, the following information was added to the UCR Public Portal: murder incident reports, arrestee review reports, common warnings/quality control reports, and a gear icon on the home page located on "Crime Rate per 1,000 Population" header has been included and offers search criteria which allows the user greater ability to tailor their request.

Additionally, throughout 2023, the UCR continued to maintain the statewide certification in FBI XML data submissions, and the statewide National Incident Based Reporting System (NIBRS) public portal while revising the UCR/NIBRS resource document to assist with the history and functions of the UCR Unit. Furthermore, a "Frequently Asked Questions" section was added to the public portal to include a breakdown of crime categories, crime factors and offense codes, and the Ad-hoc query was modified to ensure the accuracy of reported data.



PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS

The Professional Standards Unit (PSU) is under the command of Captain Timothy Allen, Jr, a 26-year veteran of the Rhode Island State Police. Captain Allen was assigned to Lincoln Woods, Hope Valley, Portsmouth, and Wickford Barracks. He was transferred to the Detective Bureau in 2005. As a member of the Detective Bureau, Captain Allen served in the Intelligence Unit, Gaming Enforcement Unit, HIDTA (High-Intensity Drug Trafficking Area) Unit, VFTF (Violent Fugitive Task Force), and the Providence Police Gang Unit. In addition, Captain Allen served as the Officer-in-Charge of the HIDTA (High-Intensity Drug Trafficking Area) Unit, the Gaming Enforcement Unit, and the Intelligence Unit.

Captain Allen served seven years with the City of Central Falls Police Department before joining the Rhode Island State Police. He has a Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice from Roger Williams University and a Bachelor of Science in Education from Slippery Rock University in Pennsylvania.

The PSU is responsible for investigating all complaints and allegations of misconduct made against sworn law enforcement and civilian employees of the Division. The PSU strives to ensure that the integrity of the Division remains intact. Each investigation is conducted objectively, thoroughly, and without bias. A comprehensive investigation will end with one of three (3) determined classifications:

- **Unfounded** – Evidence proves that allegations of the complaint did not occur.
- **Unsubstantiated** – Evidence does not prove that the allegations of the complaint occurred or did not occur.
- **Founded**- Evidence proved that the allegations of the complaint occurred.

Founded complaints result in disciplinary sanctions or corrective action in compliance with General Order-3C, titled "Internal Investigation Procedure/Policy."

During 2023, the Rhode Island State Police interacted with the public while responding to 85,529 calls for service, initiating 46,054 motor vehicle stops and 4,134 arrests, investigating 6,646 accidents, and issuing 46,301 citations.

During 2023, the Professional Standards Unit investigated 29 complaints that alleged employee misconduct. 11 complaints were generated internally by another Division member, and a civilian public member made the remaining 18 complaints. Of these complaint investigations, 14 were closed with a classification of "unfounded," 14 resulted in a classification of "founded," and 1 is pending.

Statistical Tables

Summary of Professional Standards Unit Investigations for Calendar-Year 2023:

Type of Investigation	Qty	Unfounded	Founded w/ Discipline	Unsubstan- tiated	Pending
Unprofessional Behavior (Sworn)	11	6	5	0	0
Job Performance (Sworn)	4	2	1	0	1
Racial Profiling (Sworn)	2	2	0	0	0
Off-Duty Conduct (Sworn)	1	1	0	0	0
Violation of Pursuit Policy	2	0	2	0	0
Other	9	3	6	0	0
TOTAL:	29	14	14	0	1

Summary of Use of Force Incidents for Calendar-Year 2023:

Force Type	Proper Use-Justified	Unjustified/Corrective Action Taken	Total
Physical	32	0	32
Cap Stun	2	0	2
Taser	11	0	11
Baton	0	0	0
K9	1	0	1
Unintentional K9 Bite	0	0	0
Lethal Force	0	0	0
Firearm Drawn to Gain Compliance	12	0	12
Discharge of Firearm (Animal Euthanasia)	13	0	13
TOTAL:	71	0	71

Comparison to Previous Years:

Force Type	2023	2022	2021	2020
Physical	32	32	29	14
Cap-Stun	2	1	0	4
Baton	0	0	0	1
Taser	11	8	11	5
K9	1	0	5	2
Unintentional K9 Bite	0	0	1	0
Lethal Force	0	1	0	0
Firearm Drawn (to Gain Compliance)	12	4	12	14
Discharge of Firearm (Animal Euthanasia)	13	5	5	5
TOTALS:	71	51	63	45