

# Rhode Island State Police

## Annual Report 2024



*Ninety-nine years of tradition, embracing progress towards the future.*





**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**

Dear Governor McKee,

I am pleased to provide you with the 2024 Rhode Island State Police Annual Report, my third 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 2024 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.

In 2024, Rhode Island state troopers removed a significant number of impaired drivers from Rhode Island roadways, effecting 977 arrests for DUI related offenses. Additionally, Detectives within the Computer Crimes Unit (CCU) and High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area Task Force (HIDTA) were steadfast in their efforts to combat electronic, digital and drug related crimes. For example, CCU Detectives investigated 414 incidents and arrested 66 subjects for a variety of crimes, including some of the most serious crimes against children. Members of HIDTA arrested 97 individuals suspected of serious drug crimes that continue to threaten the health and safety of our communities. To further the Division's commitment to public safety, the State Police HIDTA Task Force and Intelligence Unit, on behalf of the Department of Public Safety, received a \$4 million dollar "Anti-Heroin Task Force Program" award from the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Community Oriented Policing Services. This award will enable the State Police to allocate additional resources to focus on large-scale illicit narcotics distribution, making our communities a safer place to live and prosper.

In 2024, the groundbreaking ceremony for the new Rhode Island State Police Southern Public Safety Complex was held in October. This project addresses an urgent need to replace the aging Hope Valley and Wickford Barracks that were constructed in the 1930s. This new facility will provide modern infrastructure to meet the increasing demands of modern-day policing while providing a professional, efficient, and safe work environment for troopers to interact with the public. The central location of the Southern Public Safety Complex will provide greater visibility, increased public access and a strengthened State Police presence in the southern region of the State.

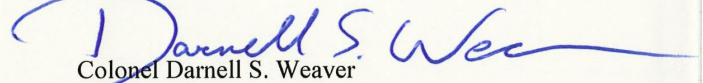
Throughout 2024, the Rhode Island State Police along with several other public safety agencies finalized plans to implement a Statewide Computer Aided Dispatch and Records Management System, projected to roll out in 2025. The new System will enhance data sharing and interoperability among Rhode Island public safety partners and will be made available to all law enforcement agencies and public safety dispatch centers that wish to participate. This project, for the first time in the State's history, will connect all participating agencies to the same cloud-based solution.

To enhance our community partnerships, the Division conducted two consecutive Citizen Academies in 2024. We engaged with members of the community and instructed them on important law enforcement topics with the goal of increasing cooperation and understanding. The Division also held its 59<sup>th</sup> State Police Recruit Training Academy and graduated 29 new troopers in June.



As we approach our 100-year anniversary, the Division continues its commitment to providing unparalleled law enforcement services to citizens and visitors of Rhode Island. 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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# COMMAND STAFF



**Colonel Darnell S. Weaver**



**Lieutenant Colonel Robert A. Creamer**



**Major John M. Allen**



**Major Kenneth M. Moriarty**



**Major Ronald J. Longolucco**



**Major Peter J. Cambio**



**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.**

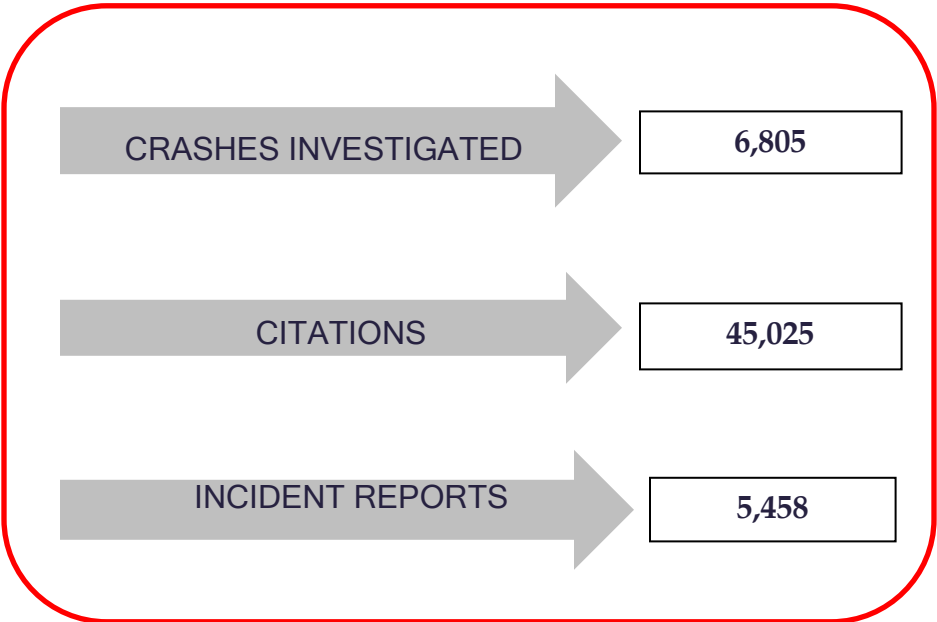
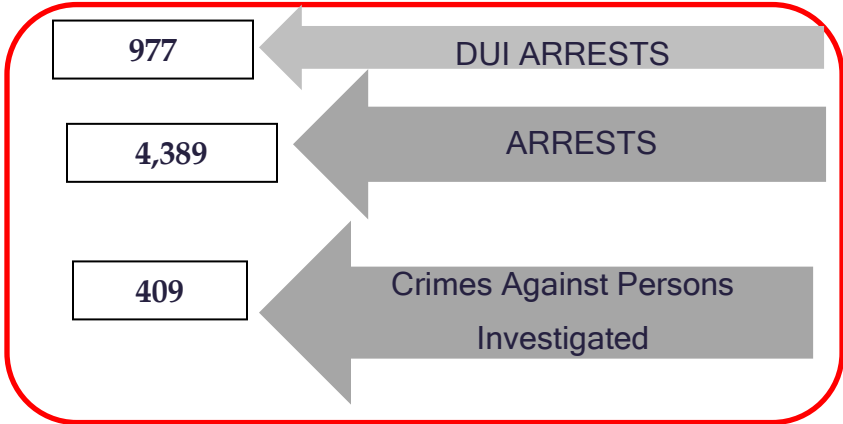
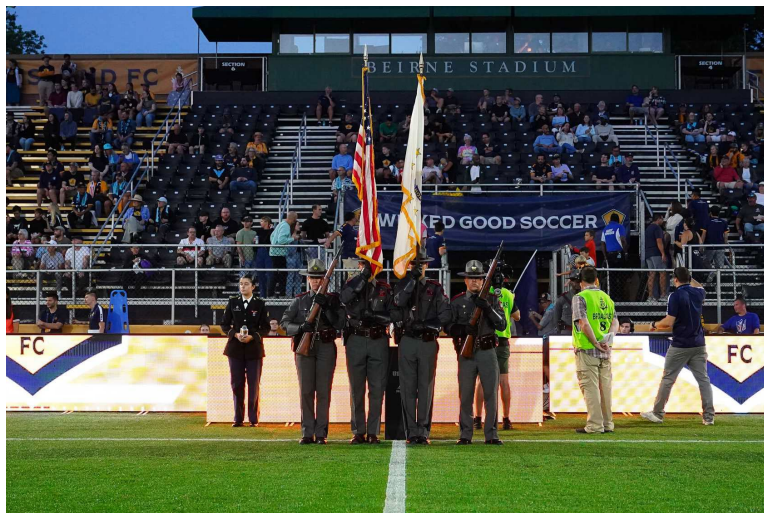
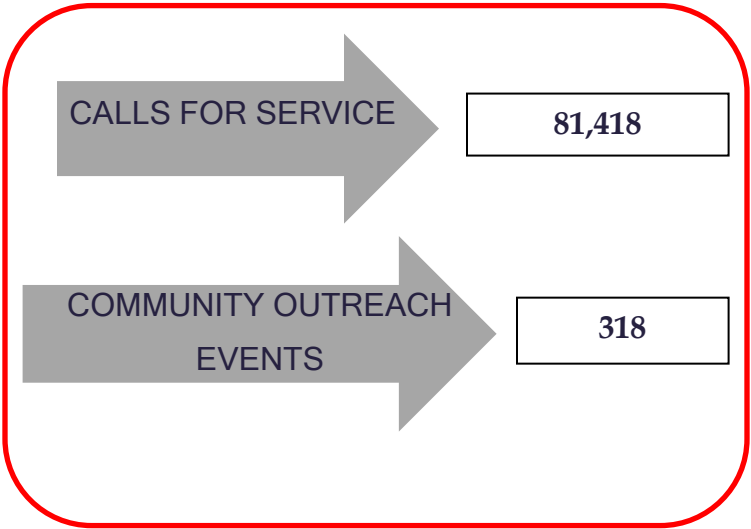


**Captain Erik Yanyar**





# 2024 BY THE NUMBERS



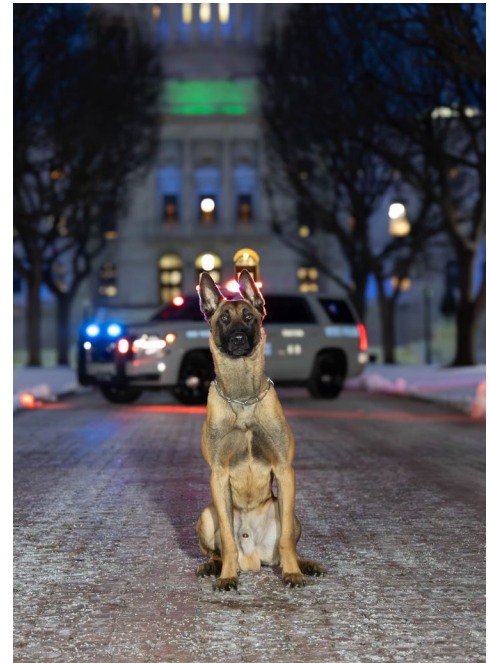


# UNIFORM BUREAU

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 conducting the 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

The Canine Unit is comprised of 19 sworn members and their respective canines. This unit has the capability of offering a wide range of services, to include patrol/utility service, search and rescue, narcotics detection, explosive detection, human remains detection, electronic storage device detection, and the Division also offers a compassion/therapy canine. Rhode Island State Police canine teams are utilized regularly by the Division and frequently assist federal, state, and local law enforcement throughout the Northeast. During 2024, canine teams were deployed in 426 calls for service. 266 of these calls were to assist other agencies. In October 2024, the Canine Unit conducted their annual training week where members certify in their specific disciplines. The teams are certified within the standards of the New England State Police Administrators Compact (NESPAC), and the International Police Work Dog Association (IPWDA). Canine team members and fellow canine handlers from various local Departments and other NESPAC agencies participate in bi-weekly in-service training sessions. This training helps hone our ability to provide a much-needed service within this highly specialized field throughout the State of Rhode Island.



In 2024, canine teams were utilized in the following investigations: 94 canine narcotics searches with seizures. A combined total of over \$198,350 in property and United States Currency was also seized because of these investigations. 131 explosive detection sweeps were conducted, assuring secure and safe environments during large scale events and called-in threats. 88 patrol service calls were responded to, resulting in 16 criminal apprehensions and six (6) recovered firearms due to our canine searches. Ten (10) missing person searches were conducted resulting in three (3) people being safely located. Ten (10) canine human remains detection searches were also completed. Five (5) electronic storage device searches were conducted resulting in the seizure of several concealed electronic devices. 18 public speaking/canine demonstrations took place during the year, educating the public to the duties

and responsibilities of our Canine Unit, while building a stronger bond with our community. Additionally, our compassion/therapy canine team participated in 25 “sit-ins” during interviews conducted by our Special Victims Unit.

On July 13, 2024, A Division member and his canine responded to the town of West Warwick, to assist that agency with tracking a suspect who had fled from them on foot. The suspect was wanted by the Cranston Police Department under the 24-hour domestic violence law. The Trooper was advised by assisting Departments that the suspect may be in possession of firearms. The canine team began a track of the suspect which led them through a densely wooded area.

The canine led the Trooper to an area with thick brush, at which time the Trooper observed the suspect’s leg protruding through the thick brush. The Trooper along with additional police officers began giving the suspect verbal commands to show his hands. The suspect failed to comply with verbal commands and remained still in the thick brush where Troopers were unable to see his hands. Since the suspect may have been armed, and the Troopers could not see his hands, the Trooper commanded his canine to apprehend the suspect. After the successful canine apprehension, the suspect was placed into custody without further incident and with no injury to responding Troopers or Officers.

On November 17, 2024, A Division member and his cadaver detection canine responded to the Arcadia Management Area to assist the Hope Valley Barracks with a human remains investigation. The Medical Examiners Office identified the recovered remains as that of a female who was reported as a missing person out of the Warwick Police Department in 2022. As a result of the cadaver canine’s search and subsequent recovery, the Warwick Police Department arrested and charged a suspect for her murder.

## **Commercial Enforcement Unit – Sergeant Mark Perotti**

During 2024, the Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Unit (CEU) performed 5,121 road-side inspections which included 202 Hazardous Materials carriers and 3,011 inspections related to Traffic Enforcement stops. As a result of these roadside inspections, 11,123 violations were cited with 702 vehicles and 397 drivers placed Out of Service due to unsafe operating conditions. The CEU participated in the annual Road Check event in May of 2024, sponsored by the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration. During this event, the CEU conducted 502 inspections resulting in 78 vehicles being placed Out of Service, 29 drivers being placed Out of Service, 712



vehicle violations being issued and 131 driver violations being issued over a three-day period in May. These totals surpassed the totals from Road Check 2023 and showed an increase of 13% in inspections completed.

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 having one of the lowest commercial motor vehicle fatality rates for calendar year 2021. Rhode Island was also recognized by the 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 2024, the Dive/Marine Unit responded to requests for assistance from local and federal agencies, as well as the Rhode Island State Police. The Unit engaged in various missions, such as recovering a crashed aircraft at Quonset Airport, retrieving a stolen vehicle submerged in Roger Williams Park, retrieving a deceased individual in Omega Pond in East Providence, and collecting evidence for the Adult Correctional Institute.



In June 2024, a Memorandum of Agreement was signed between the United States Coast Guard and the Rhode Island Department of Public Safety, which will remain in effect for four years before renewal.

During 2024, the United States Coast Guard solicited the assistance of the Rhode Island State Police Dive/Marine Unit for missions, including hull searches and inspections for several Coast Guard Cutters, the recovery of navigational aids in Narragansett Bay, and the maritime security escorts for LPG tankers to the Port of Providence.

In September 2024, a team member successfully attained Dive Instructor Certification. This achievement represents a significant milestone for the Dive/Marine Unit, as it now includes a qualified instructor capable of delivering certification courses for the SDI Open Water Scuba Diver, Advanced Adventure Diver Specialty, Computer Diver, Rescue Diver, Divemaster, and Assistant Instructor. This enhancement will offer local training and certification for current and future Division divers.



## 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 part of the State. 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 our law enforcement partners in Charlestown, Coventry, East Greenwich, Hopkinton, Richmond, Westerly, West Greenwich, and West Warwick. With a complement of 29 sworn members, the Troopers assigned to the Hope Valley Barracks also have ancillary responsibilities and specialty unit assignments, which include the Tactical Team, Canine Unit, Crisis Negotiation Unit, Marine and Dive Unit, Collision Reconstruction Unit, Honor Guard, and the Community, Diversity and Equity Unit.

Between November 2023 and February 2024, there were reports of multiple commercial burglaries in Southern Rhode Island. During this period, members of the Hope Valley Barracks investigated three (3) incidents: an attempted B&E at the Dunkin Donuts located at 250 Nooseneck Hill Road, Exeter, which occurred on November 22, 2023; a burglary at the Dunkin Donuts located at 561B South County Trail, Exeter, which occurred on December 29, 2023; and a burglary at the Sweetspot Marijuana Dispensary, located at 560 South County Trail, Exeter, which occurred on February 29, 2024. In addition to the Hope Valley Barracks investigations, the South Kingstown Police Department had investigated a burglary on December 23, 2023, at the Five Guys Restaurant located at 600 Kingstown Road, Wakefield, Rhode Island, and the Charlestown Police Department had investigated a burglary at the Downey Weaver American Legion Post, located at 20 Whipple Drive, Charlestown, where an automated teller Machine (ATM) was stolen.



Troopers from the Hope Valley Barracks worked collaboratively with area police departments and identified three subjects responsible for the incidents. Based on this investigation, the three suspects were charged with 14 criminal counts related to the crimes committed in the Town of Exeter. Furthermore, the information from this investigation provided probable cause to charge the three concerning their involvement in the incidents in South Kingstown and Charlestown.

## Lincoln Woods Barracks – Lieutenant Sean McGehearty

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 Canine, Dive/Marine, Tactical Team, Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS), Executive Protection Unit, and Collision Reconstruction. Troopers assigned here also respond to the majority of incidents at State Government facilities such as the Adult Correctional Institution (ACI), State House, and Court buildings.



On April 30, 2024, at approximately 2:50 a.m., the Lincoln Woods Barracks was contacted by the Peabody, Massachusetts Police Department concerning an ongoing investigation in their jurisdiction. The Peabody Police Department reported that they were investigating a crime of domestic violence in their city and believed the suspect was in the State of Rhode Island based on cellular device geolocation data. During the commission of the crime, the suspect abducted a six (6) month old child he had in common with the victim and fled in a stolen motor vehicle. Additionally, the suspect threatened to harm himself and the child if approached and/or confronted by law enforcement. The Peabody Police Department established probable cause to charge the suspect with the following crimes: Domestic Assault and Battery, Domestic Strangulation, Kidnapping, Threats to Commit Murder, and Larceny of a Motor Vehicle.

The Lincoln Woods Barracks immediately conveyed the information from the Peabody Police Department to patrolling Troopers. Troopers assigned to the Lincoln Woods Barracks immediately responded to the City of Providence. Troopers diligently canvassed an area corresponding to the cellular device geolocation data provided by the Peabody Police Department.

At approximately 3:19 a.m., a Trooper observed the suspect vehicle on Hartford Avenue in the City of Providence. The Trooper immediately acted and effectuated a motor vehicle stop on Melissa Street. The suspect exited the vehicle and fled on foot. After a foot pursuit and violent physical struggle, the Trooper apprehended the suspect with the assistance of additional members of the Rhode Island State Police and Providence Police Department.

Subsequently, Troopers located the abducted six (6) month old child unrestrained and motionless in the stolen motor vehicle. Troopers made forcible entry into the vehicle and rendered immediate care to the child.

The suspect was charged with Assault of a Police Officer, Resisting Arrest, Obstructing Officer in Execution of Duty, and as a Fugitive from Justice from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

## Operations Officer – Lieutenant Peter Filuminia

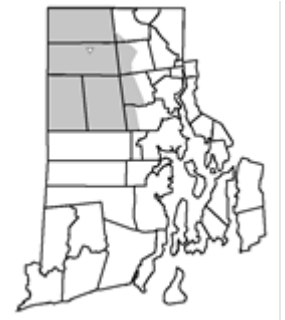


During 2024, the Operations Office coordinated the Division's response to the following events: the Governor's State of the State Address, Pell Bridge Run, Newport Folk and Jazz Festivals, The Big "E" Eastern States Exposition, parades to include the Bristol Independence Day Celebration, and other ceremonies that involve the Division Honor Guard

Unit. In addition, the Operations Officer oversees and creates operational plans for numerous dignitary security protection details that include visits to Rhode Island by numerous political and military dignitaries. The Operations Officer also handled and coordinated with local police departments regarding numerous requests for Silver Alerts.

## Scituate Barracks – Lieutenant Edward Viera

Troopers at 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 Division specialty units.



In 2024, Troopers at the Scituate Barracks made 142 arrests for driving under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs. Additionally, between the months of July through December, Troopers from the Scituate Barracks investigated numerous complaints related to an Income tax, insurance, and accounting firm located in the City of Providence. Troopers initially identified and met with five (5) separate victims, all of whom responded to this business for income tax preparation.

Upon investigation, Troopers determined that the owner of this firm advised his clients that their tax returns had been completed and provided them with a statement outlining the total amount of both State and Federal returns they were to be provided by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS). Several victims never received their returns at all and others who did receive them were requested to return the funds to the firm so "amendments" could be made, reportedly for the victims to obtain "additional money" in returns from the IRS, however, they never received any of the falsely promised returns.

At the culmination of this months long investigation involving bank search warrants, victim interviews, and other investigative efforts, on September 6<sup>th</sup>, Troopers arrested two (2) suspects, both of whom were charged with a total of 12 felonies and one (1) misdemeanor. In total, approximately \$37,000.00 was stolen from the victims involved and another \$42,000.00 in fraudulent checks were written by the suspects.



To date, new victims continue to come forward, with six (6) responding to the Scituate Barracks since September.

In separate incidents, this same firm and suspects were investigated and charged with numerous forgery and counterfeiting offenses for manufacturing and issuing false registration and insurance documents under the guise of a registration and insurance service. These separate incidents account for losses of tens of thousands of dollars to numerous victims.

Troopers are still actively involved with both investigations as new victims continue to come forward.

### **Tactical Team – Lieutenant Nicholas Rivello**

In 2024, 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, as well as 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. 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 Advance Sniper trainings and Mechanical Breaching trainings. 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. Two (2) new team members were onboarded to the tactical team in November and will attend both the NESPAC Basic SWAT School and NESPAC Advanced SWAT School, which are expected to be held in May and October of 2025.

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.

In 2024, the Tactical Team completed 288 hours of training. The Tactical Team was involved in 28 calls for service, including: three (3) high-risk warrant services, two (2) barricaded subjects, four (4) requests to assist NESPAC State Police agencies or local Rhode Island police departments, 16 security details, and three (3) community outreach events.

## Traffic Safety Unit – Sergeant Louis Fiorenzano

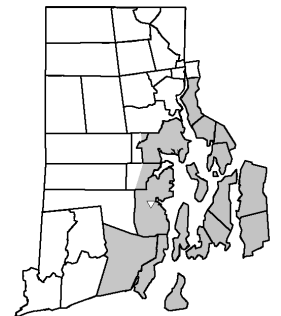
The Rhode Island State Police, in conjunction with the Rhode Island Department of Transportation's Office of Highway Safety, created a specialized unit funded by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration dedicated to reducing impaired driving. The Traffic Safety Unit's (TSU) sole focus is to reach the goal of zero traffic fatalities on Rhode Island roadways as outlined in the Department of Transportation's ten-year plan. The path to this goal is clearly delineated in the State Police General Order 56A1 Section III which establishes traffic enforcement as one of the Division's highest priorities.

The TSU has been utilized in various communities throughout the state in need of additional traffic enforcement. Unit members have been assigned to special enforcement details with other communities such as Providence, Bristol, Newport, Middletown, North Providence, Woonsocket, Cranston and Warwick. During the holiday season, TSU members participated in a statewide "Honor Patrol" program coordinated by Mothers Against Drunk Driving. This past year, Unit members patrolled the highways in honor of Robert Metheny. Mr. Metheny was struck by a drunk driver while riding his bicycle on Pleasant View Avenue in Smithfield on September 29, 2024. He was transported to Rhode Island Hospital where he later died on October 12, 2024. The TSU was honored to patrol in memory of those whose lives were cut short in the hands of impaired drivers.

The members of the TSU are highly specialized in the apprehension of impaired, reckless, and aggressive drivers statewide. In 2024, the Traffic Safety Unit handled 5,161 calls for service. These calls for service yielded 4,144 traffic summons and 608 arrests, of which 350 were for impaired driving. The unit also completed 55 incident reports and investigated 61 motor vehicle accidents. Due to TSU's expertise and flexibility, members are sometimes called to assist local communities with Drug Recognition Expert evaluations.

## Wickford Barracks – Lieutenant Charles LeValley

The Wickford Barracks is staffed with 30 sworn members who manage an extensive patrol area encompassing both its jurisdiction and the Portsmouth Barracks area, which is now closed. Despite fewer service calls in Portsmouth, travel time significantly extends response and patrol durations. This year the Wickford Barracks investigated 32 incidents, 27 accidents and effected 25 arrests in the geographical area that was previously the responsibility of the Portsmouth Barracks. Additionally, Troopers effected 512 arrests and investigated 560 incidents and 952 accidents in the traditional Wickford Barracks patrol area.



On September 5, 2024, Troopers from the Wickford Barracks were actively searching for a vehicle that had been broadcasted as a "Be on the Lookout" or BOLO for driving erratically and at a high rate of speed. Troopers subsequently stopped the vehicle and determined the operator to be under the influence of intoxicating liquor and/or drugs. While attempting to take the driver into custody, the driver resisted arrest and actively struggled with responding Troopers. After gaining control of the subject,

further investigation revealed that the subject was in possession of two (2) stolen firearms as well as large capacity feeding devices. The subject was subsequently arrested and charged with Driving Under the Influence of Liquor – B.A.C. Unknown – First Offense, Refusal to Submit to a Chemical Test – First Offense, License or Permit Required for Carrying a Pistol (Two Counts), Carrying a Weapon While Intoxicated (Two Counts), Possession of a Firearm by a Person Convicted of a Crime of Violence (Two Counts), Possession of Stolen Firearms (Two Counts), Loaded Weapons in Vehicles (Two Counts), Weapons Other than Firearms Prohibited, Resisting Arrest and Large Capacity Feeding Devices Prohibited.





# 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 Herbert Tilson

The core mission of the Auto Theft Unit (ATU) 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 related to the Registry of Motor Vehicles.

During the calendar year 2024, members of the ATU were responsible for the recovery of 79 stolen motor vehicles and investigated a total of 102 incidents, resulting in 34 arrests.

## ACI Investigations Unit – Lieutenant Herbert Tilson

The ACI Investigations Unit thoroughly investigates all complaints made by both prison employees and incarcerated inmates. These detectives collect criminal information from prison investigators employed at the Department of Corrections, which is shared with other law enforcement agencies to bolster officer safety. Detectives assigned to the ACI Investigations Unit are also responsible for 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 (DCYF) at the Rhode Island Youth Detention Center.

During the calendar year 2024, members of the ACI Investigations Unit were responsible for 201 arrests and investigated 95 incidents. These cases included but were not limited to assaults against correctional officers, conveyance of unauthorized articles, fugitives from justice, violation of domestic no contact orders, and sexual assaults.

## 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 ones 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. In 2024, the ICAC Task Force

was comprised of seven (7) sworn State Police members and three (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 and brings together law enforcement, cyber security experts, the business community, and educational institutions to help secure the state's cyber critical infrastructure.

In September 2024, the ICAC Task Force received numerous Cybertip reports from the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children regarding a subject possessing and transferring files of child pornography. Upon analysis of the cloud storage account, detectives observed several image and video files of an adult male engaged in first-degree child molestation with a prepubescent female toddler. A further review of data revealed these images and videos appeared to be self-produced by the account holder and contained global positioning system (GPS) data identifying the criminal offense as occurring within the State of Rhode Island. The suspect was ultimately identified and an open-source search revealed he had two toddler daughters. One of the daughters was the victim depicted in the image and video files.

In October 2024, ICAC members executed an arrest and residential search warrant at the suspect's residence. During a Mirandized interview the suspect confessed to committing first-degree child molestation involving one of his prepubescent daughters. The suspect was charged with First-Degree Child Molestation, Production of Child Pornography, and Possession of Child Pornography.

This year, supervisors parsed through 2,911 cyber tips resulting in approximately 251 investigations. Analysts and detectives conducted 163 forensic examinations, assisting 12 other State Police units, as well as 24 outside agencies. Overall, ICAC members were responsible for 414 incidents and 66 arrests. Additionally, six (6) 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, and 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**

Control of property is critically important within investigative areas and in regard to the proper handling, security and disposition of evidence. The evidence and property control officer and assistant officer are tasked with ensuring that all items of evidence and other property are properly stored, secured and maintained.

From January 1, 2024, through December 31, 2024, the Evidence/Property Unit researched cases and prepared to destroy 914 pieces of evidence from the disposed cases. During that same time, the Evidence/Property Unit received 4,945 pieces of evidence. Members of this 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 canine units, and locating records pertaining to detective cases. This year, due to staffing shortages, the office also resumed the function of organizing, conducting, assisting and overseeing 189 employee background investigative reports.

## **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 called upon frequently to investigate public corruption, extortion, forgery, credit card fraud, identity theft and money laundering. In 2024, the Financial Crimes Unit opened 139 investigations and made 53 arrests.

Throughout 2024, the Financial Crimes Unit continued to investigate a variety of fraud related cases and continued 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.

Members within the unit have become increasingly more efficient in investigating cryptocurrency crimes and continue to utilize dedicated software, which was developed specifically to track and trace cryptocurrency transactions. Unit members have been able to successfully freeze and seize funds associated with fraudulent activities with the expectation that these funds will be returned to the victims of these crimes.



## Forensic Services Unit – Lieutenant Kenneth DeMarco

The Forensic Services Unit (FSU) received a total of 465 requests for service over the past year. Of that total, 75 requests were from outside agencies to include 17 local police departments, six (6) state agencies and one (1) out of state police department. The FSU also conducted presentations at multiple venues including area colleges, the citizens academy and New England State Police Association Compact (NESPAC) training events.



The FSU continued to provide expert crime scene documentation and analysis throughout the state during the 2024 calendar year. 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. The FSU was re-accredited to ISO standard 17020 and remains the only internationally 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 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 the year 2024, the Fusion Center received a total of 1,299 requests for information from law enforcement agencies. These requests came from Federal, State, and municipal law enforcement throughout Rhode Island and other state jurisdictions. Many of the investigations initiated as a result of the requests led to criminal charges and/or are shared with other law enforcement agencies for additional follow up. Every tip, lead or request received by the Fusion Center is analyzed and disseminated in a timely manner to ensure the safety of the citizens of Rhode Island. The Fusion Center continued to expand its liaison program, enlisting

members of law enforcement and public safety officials to work on a part-time basis on site to facilitate the efficient exchange of intelligence information. Liaison members from the Warwick Police Department as well as the Rhode Island Department of Corrections Special Investigations Unit, the Providence Emergency Management Agency and the Rhode Island Emergency Management Agency are currently assigned part-time to the Fusion Center. Additionally, a full-time contract Intelligence Analyst was hired to replace a recently retired Analyst.

## **Gaming Enforcement Unit – Lieutenant Daniel Fleming**

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.

In March, members of the GEU initiated an investigation into an illegal gambling organization operating in the Providence Area. Detectives utilized a variety of investigative techniques to identify a subject conducting an illegal lottery ticket game. On April 9th, 2024, members of the GEU executed two search warrants in the City of Providence and arrested the previously identified subject for Forms of Gambling Prohibited, and Keeping Gambling Places or Devices and or Acting as a Dealer, Banker, or Lookout. As a result of the search warrants; \$24,151.00 in cash from illegal proceeds, betting slips, financial records, betting equipment, and a vehicle were seized. Banking information was obtained from the search warrants resulting in the additional seizure of \$133,525.40 of illegal proceeds.

In November, security personnel at Bally's Twin River Casino Resort reported a large disturbance to members of the GEU. This disturbance consisted of a physical altercation among nine (9) individuals within the Sportsbook area of the casino. As a result of this altercation, a casino employee was assaulted, and casino property was damaged. Detectives reviewed security footage and conducted an investigation in order to identify the subjects involved. On December 10th, 2024, members of the GEU successfully executed six (6) arrest warrants in the Cities of North Providence, Pawtucket and Cranston. The individuals arrested were those identified as responsible for instigating the disturbance and were charged with Felony Assault, Conspiracy, Vandalism, and Disorderly Conduct.

## HIDTA/Narcotics – Lieutenant Derek Melfi

The High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) Task Force continued their relentless pursuit of illegal firearms and narcotics. Although the HIDTA Task Force lost several Task Force Officers to reassignment, active HIDTA members continued their proactive approach to police work in another record setting year. The HIDTA Task Force continues to be the front runner in Division seizures of all illegal firearms, illegal narcotics, forfeited vehicles and forfeited U.S. Currency.



During the calendar year 2024, the HIDTA Task Force executed 114 search warrants and seized the following: 28.36 kilograms of Cocaine, 1,130 grams of Crack Cocaine, 202.2 grams of Heroin, 41.44 kilograms of Fentanyl, 227 Fentanyl Pills, 54.61 pounds of Marijuana, 655.3 grams of Methamphetamine, 3,298.1 grams of MDMA, 31 Alprazolam pills, 75 Clonazepam pills, eight (8) grams of Xylazine, 1,436 grams of Psilocybin, 104 Adderall pills, 24 Xanax pills, 124 Oxycodone pills, and 495 grams of LSD. Additionally, members also seized \$555,754 in U.S. Currency, 24 vehicles, and 52 firearms.

## 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 physical as well as electronic surveillance methods including electronic monitoring and Unit members often coordinate controlled purchases of various types of contraband. Additionally, members of the Intelligence Unit cultivate and manage confidential informants to further investigations and assist other members of the Detective Bureau with covert surveillance techniques and undercover operations.

Until September 2024, the Auto Theft Unit was assigned directly under the Intelligence Unit and members of the Intelligence Unit spent many hours assisting with investigations that resulted in 33 arrests and the seizure of six (6) firearms, \$38,647.00 in United States currency, ten (10) methamphetamine pills, 24 morphine pills, and multiple doses of anabolic steroids.



Due to the increase in gun violence involving outlaw motorcycle gangs and organized street gangs, as well as the prevalence of overdose deaths in the State of 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 21 individuals directly involved in possession of firearms, and distribution of narcotics. As a result of these complex and time-consuming investigations, the Intelligence Unit in 2024 has seized the following items: 20 Firearms (one being stolen in connection with a 2016 homicide), \$ 297,236 in United States currency, 737.7 Grams of Cocaine, 83.06 Grams of Crack Cocaine, 761.1 Grams of Fentanyl, 48 Fentanyl Pills, 24.3 Grams of MDMA, 45 Methamphetamine Pills, 22 Oxycodone Pills, 252.1 pounds of Marijuana, 1,471 Marijuana Plants, 4 Motor vehicles, 783.5 Grams of Psilocybin Mushrooms; and \$225,000 in Jewelry.

### **Major Crimes – Lieutenant Damien Longo**

During 2024, members of the Major Crimes Unit (MCU) effectuated 13 arrests and investigated 54 incidents. These cases included a variety of alleged criminal conduct, including but not limited to, murder, firearms violations, domestic violence, possession of illegal narcotics, and sexual assault. The majority of cases are long-term investigations requiring significant legal process. Members executed 133 arrest and search warrants in 2024. Many of the search warrants were data driven which requires countless hours analyzing the records. The investigations conducted by the MCU resulted in the seizure of 38 firearms and approximately \$160,000.00 in U.S. currency. Members of the MCU are also responsible for investigating officer-involved shootings and alleged excessive use of force incidents involving local police departments. Members also attended several trainings to enhance their investigative skills, to include the Annual Conference on Crimes Against Women and the Annual Homicide Conference.

### **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.

The year 2024 was the third complete year for the SVU. The SVU had two (2) new Detectives assigned who were provided specialized training in Human Trafficking, Sexual Assault, and Child Molestation, Missing Children, Internet Crimes, and Trauma Informed Interviewing.



Detectives used both comfort Canine Gus and the Unit's soft interview room to provide a more trauma informed approach to victims and their families. Detectives are assigned to the Statewide Human Trafficking Task Force and the Children's Advocacy Center's Multidisciplinary Team. Three (3) members of the Unit are certified statewide Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault, and Human Trafficking instructors providing trainings at the recruit and in-service level. Several Detectives are also

cross designated with both the FBI and HSI for Child Exploitation and Human Trafficking investigations. During 2024, the SVU investigated 202 incidents and affected 24 arrests.

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 registered 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 24 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 two (2) civilians assigned to the SVU.

## **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 four (4) State Police Detectives, one (1) full-time Providence Police Patrolman and one (1) full-time Cranston Police Detective. Additionally, there are three (3) full-time Deputy US Marshals and two (2) part-time US Marshals. There are also five (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 US Marshals Service with federal arrest powers.

In 2024, members of the VFTF arrested 214 people wanted by law enforcement agencies and courts within the State of Rhode Island and across the United States. These arrests included: Five (5) wanted for Murder, 17 wanted for Armed Robbery, four (4) wanted for Kidnapping, 38 wanted for Sexual Assault/Child Molestation, 30 wanted for Delivery of Narcotics/Possession with Intent to Deliver Narcotics, 29 wanted for Breaking and Entering/Burglary/Home Invasion, and 58 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 multiple other State and City Police agencies with apprehending suspects who were currently in the State avoiding apprehension known as Fugitives from Justice.

During the month of March 2024, members of the VFTF were requested by the Allen County Sheriff's Office in the State of Ohio to assist with locating a dangerous fugitive who had committed the crimes of murder and rape. After an intense investigation, members located the individual in the city of Providence. Members were able to develop a possible address for the subject by conducting physical surveillance, electronic surveillance and the drafting of court authorized search warrants to identify a possible location. The target was taken into custody without incident.





# 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 (CDE) Unit seeks a cooperative relationship with members of the community, community groups, and organizations within the private sector. The Unit provides information concerning public safety to the public via lectures, presentations, and material handouts.

The Community, Diversity & Equity Officer is responsible for communicating the community's concerns with the Superintendent of the Rhode Island State Police. There is a commitment to correcting actions, practices and attitudes that may contribute to community tensions and grievance as well as developing recommendations and options for models that agencies can use to collaborate with our community in hiring, training, promotion, policy development, accountability process, as well as general information about the operation of and opportunities to partner with each agency.

The CDE actively engaged with schools, nonprofit community organizations, and neighborhood associations, building relationships through outreach events. These efforts represented a diverse community, with many efforts driven by our volunteer unit members. Additionally, the Division hosted two Citizens Academy sessions - one in the spring and another in the fall.



## Facilities/Capital Projects Management – Mr. Carmino Paliotta

In 2024, the new Rhode Island State Police Southern Public Safety Complex broke ground in West Greenwich, and construction timelines have been consistent with initial plans. With a goal of substantial completion in late Spring, 2026, this new Southern Public Safety Complex will replace the aging Hope Valley and Wickford Barracks and will enable Troopers to more effectively serve the community.

Throughout 2024, the Division continued with several capital projects to improve the Training Academy facilities. The Rhode Island State Police Training Academy had a new electronic security gate as well as a range safety gate installed during the year. Additionally, a new fence was installed around the perimeter of the property, as well as generators installed to allow for continued training regardless of weather.

Several contracts were awarded for continued improvement projects. These contracts include a feasibility study for a field house on the Training Academy grounds as well as the renovations of the Richard Rhodes House and Radio Building located on the Headquarters campus, and replacement LED lighting within 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 in the fleet. 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, approving major repairs, registrations for all vehicles, auto body repair, ordering tires, fuel fobs, completing monthly and yearly mileage reports, entering data of all maintenance performed on vehicles, and facilitating 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 Office processes all uniform/supply requests and handles subsequent uniform and supply distribution and tracking. The Office 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.

In 2024, Rhode Island State Police Fleet/Supply continued their support of our entire Department with Fleet and Supply purchasing, disposal and maintenance needs. Approximately 55 new Dodge Durango Police vehicles were added to the Fleet in 2024; 30 of these vehicles were added to supplement the Division's uniformed patrol, 18 vehicles were added to supplement Detective and Administrative Units and seven (7) were added to supplement our Canine Units. Approximately 72 out-of-service vehicles were taken off the road and disposed of through State Fleet's "GovDeals" disposal protocol. Additionally, the Supply Administration accommodated equipment/uniform sizing, ordering and issuing for 29 newly hired recruits from the 2024 State Police Academy.

### **Management Information Systems – Mr. Christopher Kayrouz**

The Rhode Island State Police Management Information Systems (MIS) Unit is composed of a dedicated team of Information Technology professionals. The Unit is responsible for ensuring seamless access to critical systems and data, providing effective technical support, and maintaining the digital infrastructure that is fundamental to Division operations. In 2024, the MIS Unit focused on enhancing network stability, security, and connectivity across all Rhode Island State Police sites and locations. Throughout the year, the MIS Unit has successfully met the dynamic needs of the agency, responding quickly to challenges and ensuring minimal disruption to services. The team has implemented several key upgrades and provided robust technical support to ensure that Division operations run smoothly 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year. As always, we remain committed to delivering high-quality IT services that support the agency's mission and contribute to its overall success. During the year, the MIS Unit implemented an array of various upgrades to mission-critical equipment to further enhance the cyber security posture of the Rhode Island State Police.

### **Planning, Research & Accreditation – Sergeant Melissa Rand**

The Planning, Research and Accreditation Unit (P,R&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.

The P,R&A oversees the Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Unit 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.

In 2024, the Unit successfully completed the Year-3 Remote Based Assessment for CALEA with 100% of reviewed standards being found in compliance. The Unit is looking ahead to another Remote Based Assessment as well as a Re-accreditation On-Site visit from CALEA personnel in 2025.

### **Radio Services Unit – Mr. Thomas Crotty**

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

### **Records Unit – Sergeant Melissa Rand**

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 of Rhode Island.

In 2024, the Records Unit processed 1,013 games of chance applications, including 37 senior citizen recreational bingo applications, 45 special bingo applications and 17 weekly bingo applications. Additionally, over 3,200 criminal cases were expunged or sealed. Furthermore, over 300 background checks for outside law enforcement agencies were conducted and several records retention projects were initiated.

### **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. In 2024, 100 new municipal police officers graduated from the RIMPTA.

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 in order 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.

The Technical Services Unit is responsible for 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, seven (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 and the NLETS (The International Justice and Public Safety) national network. The Technical Services Unit is also responsible for all Rhode Island State Police internal telecommunications services. Telephone services and data circuits are managed and supported by the Technical Services Unit as well as technology related project management services initiated by Rhode Island State Police.

## **Telecommunications Unit – Mr. Jack Chan**

The RILETS/Telecommunications Unit operates 24 hours a day, seven (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 other police officers.

The Unit is responsible for maintaining affidavit and arrest warrants for the State Police, conducting intensive 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

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 normal business hours for the Rhode Island Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV), the Unit assisted with requests for license, identification card or registration information.

## Training Academy – Lieutenant Nicholas Rivello



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.

Between the months of January and June, the Rhode Island State Police Recruit Training Class of 2024 was in session. Upon graduation, 29 recruits successfully completed the training academy and were sworn in as new Troopers.

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.

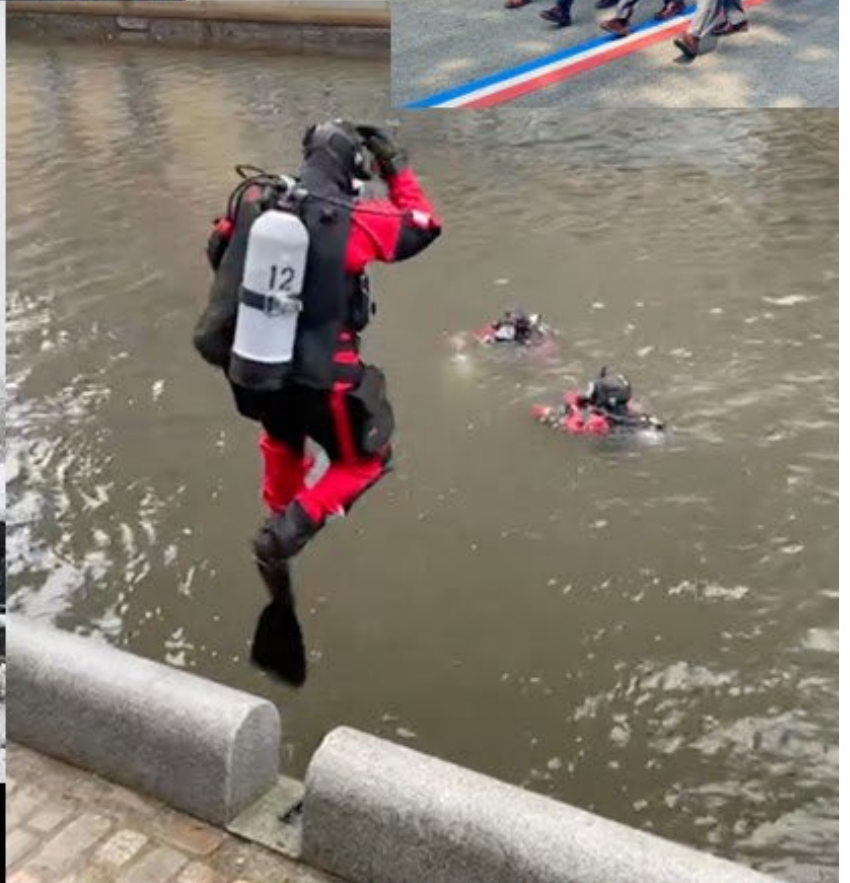


## **Uniform Crime Reporting- Mrs. Linda Fraccola**

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 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 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 for members of the public to access public information regarding crime statistics more easily and in a timely manner.







## Professional Standards

The Professional Standards Unit is under the command of Captain Timothy Allen, Jr, a 28-year veteran of the Rhode Island State Police. Captain Allen was assigned to the 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 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 Professional Standards Unit is responsible for investigating all complaints and allegations of misconduct made against sworn law enforcement and civilian employees of the Division. The Professional Standards Unit 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 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.

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

In 2024, the Rhode Island State Police interacted with the public while responding to 81,418 calls for service, initiating 45,393 motor vehicle stops and 4,389 arrests, investigating 6,805 accidents, and issuing 45,025 citations.

During this same period (2024), the Professional Standards Unit investigated twenty-seven (27) complaints that alleged employee misconduct. Fifteen (15) complaints were generated internally by another Division member, and a civilian public member made the remaining twelve (12) complaints.

Ten (10) of these complaint investigations were closed with a classification of "unfounded," and seventeen (17) resulted in a classification of "founded."

## Statistical Tables

### Summary of Professional Standards Unit Investigations for Calendar-Year 2024:

Type of Investigation	Qty	Unfounded	Founded w/ Discipline	Unsubstantiated	Pending
Unprofessional Behavior (Sworn)	10	7	3	0	0
Job Performance (Sworn)	16	3	13	0	0
Racial Profiling (Sworn)	0	0	0	0	0
Off-Duty Conduct (Sworn)	0	0	0	0	0
Violation of Pursuit Policy	1	0	1	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0	0
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

### Summary of Use of Force Incidents for Calendar-Year 2024:

Force Type	Proper Use- Justified	Unjustified/Corrective Action Taken	Total
Physical	23	0	23
Cap Stun	1	0	1
Taser	8	0	8
Baton	0	0	0
K9	1	0	1
Unintentional K9 Bite	0	0	0
Lethal Force	0	0	0
Firearm Drawn to Gain Compliance	8	0	8
Discharge of Firearm (Animal Euthanasia)	2	0	2
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>43</b>

### Comparison to Previous Years:

Force Type/Yearly Comparison	2024	2023	2022	2021
Physical	23	32	32	29
Cap Stun	1	2	1	0
Baton	0	0	0	0
Taser	8	11	8	11
K9	1	1	0	5
Unintentional K-9 Bite	0	0	0	1
Lethal Force	0	0	1	0
Firearm Drawn to Gain Compliance	8	12	4	12
Discharge of Firearm (Animal Euthanasia)	2	13	5	5
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>63</b>