



**CITY OF WATERBURY, NEW YORK
POLICE DEPARTMENT**

2-15TH ST.
WATERBURY, NY 12189

JOSEPH L. CENTANNI
CHIEF OF POLICE



MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF

As we enter the new year, I am honored to reflect on the efforts and achievements of the department in safeguarding our community. This annual report proudly presents the dedication and hard work exhibited by our officers.

Throughout the year, our members displayed exceptional commitment to public safety, tirelessly patrolling our streets. They responded to emergencies with resolve and diligently maintained peace. Their professionalism, courage and compassion have not gone unnoticed. Thanks to their determined efforts, our neighborhoods are now safer and more secure.

I extend my thanks to Mayor Charles Patricelli, General Manager Joseph LaCivita and the Waterbury City Council for their support. In addition, I express my heartfelt gratitude to the community for its continued encouragement, fostering unity and shared responsibility between our department and residents. Your vigilance, cooperation and trust have played a pivotal role in creating a safer environment for all.

Together, we have faced many challenges, none greater than the untimely death of Lt. Marc Langlais in April 2023. Lt. Langlais honorably served the department and the Waterbury community for 19 years; his spirit and commitment will forever be part of the department and city.

Our collaborative efforts have positively impacted the overall well-being of our city. As we look ahead to the coming year, I am confident that with continued resident support and officer dedication, we will build upon past successes and create an even safer and more vibrant Waterbury for all.

Thank you for your steadfast support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joseph L. Centanni".

Joseph L. Centanni
Chief of Police



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2023 Annual Report

Calls for Service

The department responded to 19,325 calls for service.

Arrests

The department made 561 arrests.

Traffic Enforcement

Motor vehicle stops serve many purposes including increased traffic safety, reduced crashes, positive interactions with motorists, and most importantly, reinforce the department's commitment to ensure a safe community with an active patrol division. The department conducted 3,759 motor vehicle stops in 2023.

In addition, the department continued its focus on the detection and apprehension of Driving While Intoxicated (DWI) and Driving While Ability Impaired (DWAI) enforcement. Specifically, they made 47 DWI arrests and 10 DWAI arrests. This is a 292% and 400% increase since 2021.

Firearms Recovery

The department seized 8 total firearms in 2023 including the acquisition of 5 unlawfully possessed firearms through officer-initiated actions. This is an outstanding accomplishment and a credit to the commitment our members have to keeping our city safe.



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Newly Implemented Department Programs

Domestic Violence Investigator

The department, in partnership with Equinox, was one of 39 police agencies nationwide to be awarded a \$500,000 grant to address domestic violence in our community. This funding was utilized for the addition of an investigator dedicated to handling domestic violence incidents and leading prevention programs and victim services initiatives.

The department conducted 429 domestic incident investigations, leading to 80 arrests and 130 Orders of Protection issued. Notably, 223 of these investigations were conducted collaboratively with the Equinox Advocate assigned to the city.

Expanded Animal Control Unit

The department added two new animal control positions to the patrol division in 2023, supplementing the existing investigator from 2022. Additionally, there was heightened focus on preventing, educating about, and enforcing cases of animal maltreatment, leading to the removal and safe placement of numerous animals and the criminal prosecution of offenders. The department saw a 14% increase in animal complaints during 2022 and a 35% increase since 2021.

Shared Service Agreements

The Waterbury Police Department, in partnership with the Menands and Green Island Police Departments, has entered into shared service agreements. These agreements enable each agency to pool personnel and resources, enhancing their collective response to various incidents.

Joint Services Rapid Deployment Team

The Waterbury Police Department, in partnership with the Menands and Green Island Police Departments, has established a Joint Services Rapid Deployment Team (RDT). This team, consisting of officers from the three agencies, is equipped and trained to respond to critical incidents.

All members successfully completed the Basic SWAT Operator Course sponsored by the New York State Department of Corrections and Community Supervision.



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Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion

The department implemented the community-based Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion (LEAD) program, designed to address complex situations involving low-level offenders dealing with drug addiction, mental health issues and homelessness.

New Hires

Officer Jeremy Billetts was appointed on January 13, 2023.
Officer Ryan Watson was appointed on June 16, 2023.
Officer Ravion Burt was appointed on June 16, 2023.

Promotions

Officer Philip Milano was promoted to sergeant on May 25, 2023.
Officer Vincent Nischo was promoted to sergeant on November 21, 2023.
Officer Jared Ellis was promoted to sergeant on November 21, 2023.
Officer Joseph McQueen was promoted to sergeant on November 21, 2023.

Retirement

Sergeant Anthony Buttofuoco retired on July 7, 2023.

Other 2023 Highlights

The department implemented several new initiatives in 2023. Some of them included:

- Initial Awards Ceremony held during National Police Week honors officers for their outstanding efforts throughout the previous year. The *Chief Michael E. Corbett Award*, presented at the ceremony, recognizes the Officer of the Year. In 2023, Sergeant Lyman R. Conrad received this prestigious honor.
- Implemented new and refined policies and procedures which have enhanced the professionalism of our agency, impacting both internal operations and external interactions.
- Active engagement in community events like Coffee with a Cop, Prescription Drug Drop-Off, Summer Concerts in the Park and National Night Out has strengthened the department's partnerships with the communities we serve.



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Goals for 2024

Looking ahead to 2024, we eagerly anticipate implementing exciting initiatives that align with our agency's growth and vision, embodying our community-first standards.

Some department goals include:

- Achieve the department's inaugural accreditation through the New York State Law Enforcement Accreditation Council, offering formal, independent recognition of quality standards in the field.
- Further improve our response to mental health calls by ensuring every member undergoes Critical Incident Training, specializing in law enforcement response to these sensitive events.