

Dover Police Department

*Monthly Report
To
Mayor & City Council
“To Protect and Serve”*



March 2004

April 22, 2004

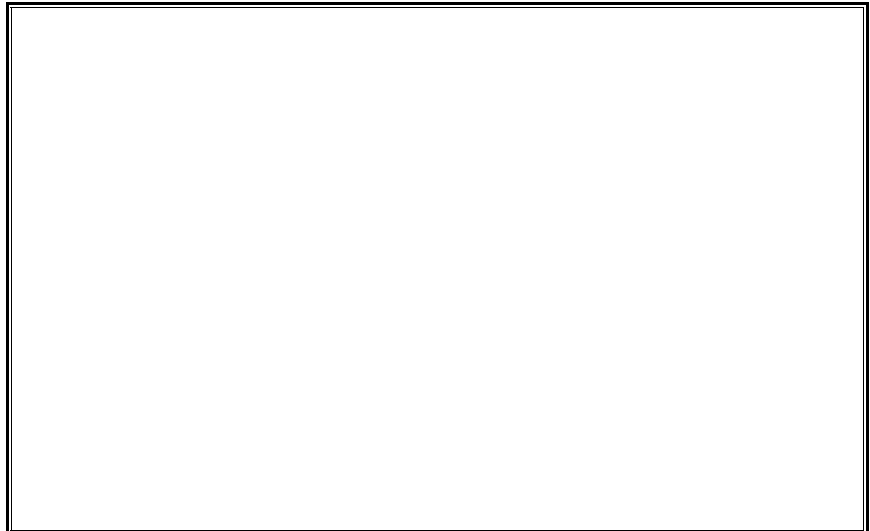
The Honorable James L. Hutchison, Mayor
Members of Dover City Council
City Hall
Dover, DE 19901

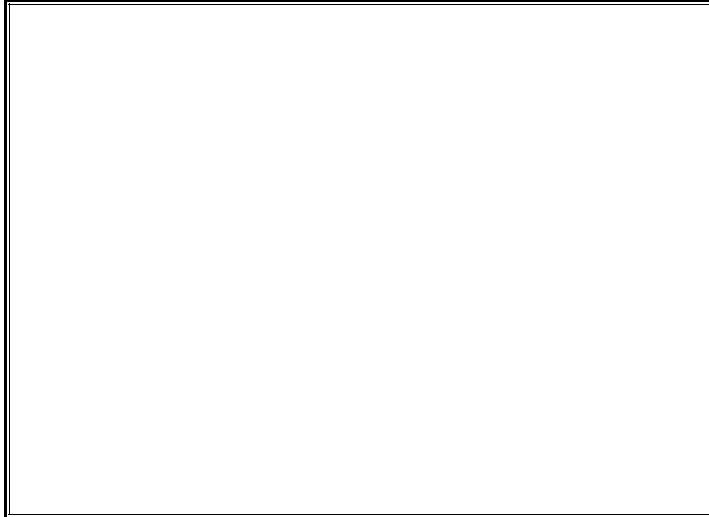
Mayor Hutchison and Council Members:

The following is the report on Police Department activities for the month of March 2004:

COMPLAINTS

Total complaints received through March 31st numbered 7,364. This is an increase of 426 complaints over the same time period for last year.



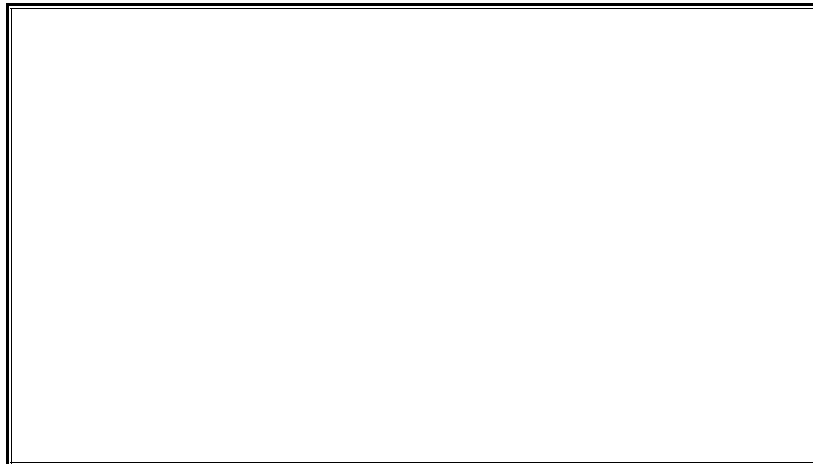


TRAFFIC ARRESTS

The department issued 5,204 traffic citations through this reporting period. This is an increase of 908 citations over the number issued during the same period last year.

TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS

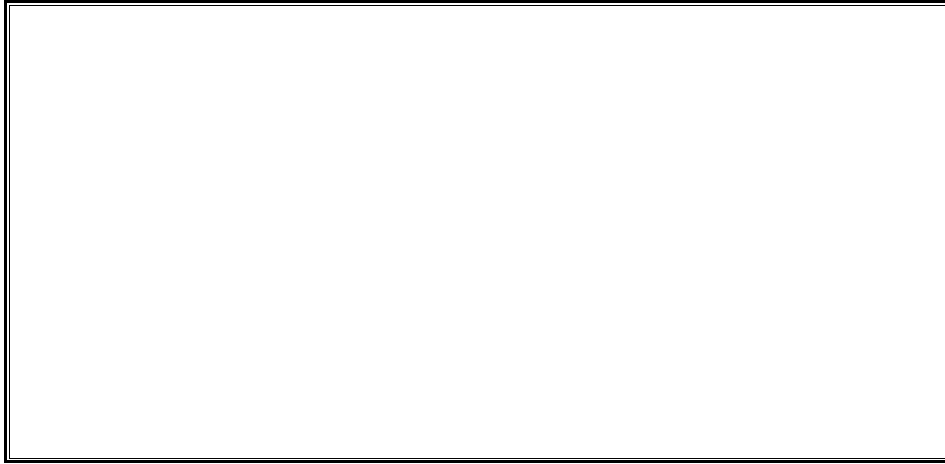
Through March 31st, police investigated 475 traffic accidents. This is a decrease of 98 accidents investigated during the same period last year.



CITY ORDINANCE SUMMONS

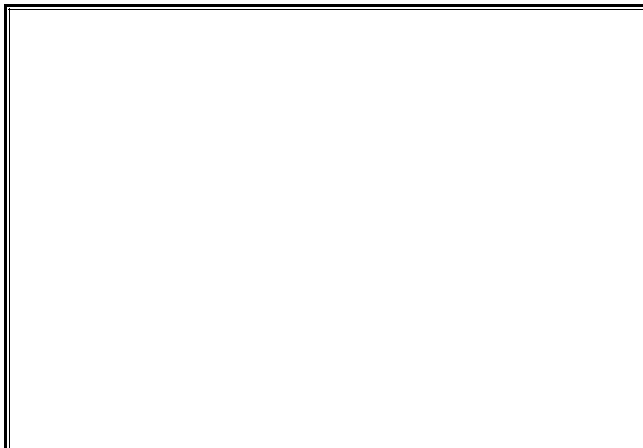
Through March 31st, we issued 2,260 city ordinance summons a 5% increase over March of last year.

*Note: Of those summonses issued in March, 44 were issued for handicapped parking violations, 32 for fire lane parking violations, 28 for false alarms (25 for 3-5 alarms, 2 for 6-9 alarms, and 1 for 10-15 alarms) and 15 for noise violations (9 for vehicle violations and 6 for residence violations).



911 CENTER

During the month of March, our 911 Center handled a total of 10,048 calls averaging 324 calls per day. Dispatchers handled 1,860 calls on the 911 lines, an average of 60 calls per day.



EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS & BASIC LIFE SUPPORT DIVISION:



Ambulance Service Inc. (ASI) responded to 358 emergency calls in March resulting in 279 patient transports. The average response time from dispatch by 911 to arrival on scene was 7 minutes and 36 seconds. Additional units responded to 10 of the 358 calls.

On March 8, 2004, Lt. Counselman attended the meeting of the Delaware Homeland Security Terrorism Preparedness Working Group. Items of discussion continued to be the FY 02/03 Grant Equipment Program Procurement Process, (Weapons of Mass

Destruction Equipment for first responders), the FY 04 State Homeland Security Grant Program, and training needs for current Delaware Law Enforcement officers at various levels.

Operation Liberty Shield reimbursement was approved, (\$1,940 in overtime cost to the Dover Police Department), regarding the Orange Alert Status during the period 12/21/03 – 01/09/04.

A prioritized list of needs / projects regarding potential funding that would be available for physical security equipment at critical infrastructure facilities has been forwarded to the Delaware Emergency Management Agency for consideration. A meeting with City Officials and DEMA has been scheduled in April.

CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS



PLANNING AND TRAINING

During the month of March, Officers/Civilians attended the following schools, seminars, or classes:

2 Officers	K-9 Narcotics Training	8 hours (each)
2 Officers	K-9 Explosives Training	8 hours (each)
4 Officers	K-9 Proficiency Training	20 hours (each)
1 Officer	FBI National Academy	120 hours
1 Officer	Fraud Investigation Training	8 hours

PLANNING AND TRAINING (continued)

1 Officer	Annual C.A.L.E.A Conference	10 hours
1 Civilian	Electronic Records Management Training	8 hours
3 Officers	State & Local Terrorism Training	16 hours (each)
2 Officers	Auto Theft Investigation Training	8 hours (each)
85 Officers	Pistol Qualification	5 hours (each)
81 Officers	Shotgun Qualification	1.5 hours (each)
85 Officers	Use of Force Review	1 hour (each)
74 Officers	Riot Control	1 hour (each)
85 Officers	C.P.R./A.E.D. Recertification	4 hours (each)
71 Officers	Weaponless Defense Training	4 hours (each)
73 Officers	Safe & Legal Stops Training	4 hours (each)
71 Officers	Building Searches Training	4 hours (each)

On March 5, 2004, Dover Officers responded to an alarm at the D'Elagance Beauty Salon where a suspect broke the front window of the business and removed a small amount of United States Currency. The suspect had fled the scene prior to the officers' arrival. On March 8, 2004, Dover Police Department received another alarm from the same business. The suspect again broke the front window and entered the business. Dover Officers responded and located the suspect inside. The suspect was apprehended without incident and charged with both burglaries.

On March 10, 2004, a 21-year-old victim was leaving his place of employment on Bay Road when he was approached by 4 suspects, who demanded his vehicle. The victim refused at which time he was punched by one of the suspects and shot in the head by another suspect. Fortunately, the victim sustained only a grazing wound and was treated and released from Kent General Hospital. The suspects abandoned their robbery attempt and fled in their vehicle. Dover Officers responded to the scene and broadcasted a description of the suspect vehicle. Smyrna Police Officers observed the vehicle and attempted to stop it. A pursuit ensued and the suspects abandoned the vehicle in McClain Gardens in Smyrna. Smyrna Officers were able to apprehend one of the suspects. A Dover Officer with his K-9 partner responded and located a second suspect. A third suspect was identified and apprehended the next day. A local citizen located the gun that is believed to be the one that was used to commit this offense and turned it over to the police department.

The Dover Police Department, in conjunction with Del Dot, and Nestor Traffic Systems implemented the City's first E.R.L.S.P. (Electronic Red Light Safety Program) at the intersection of Route 13 and Webbs Lane. The program is intended to increase motorist's compliance with red light laws and therefore reduce collisions. The ultimate goal is to reduce injuries and fatalities. The system began operating on March 15, 2004, with a 30-day period of warnings only. Effective April 15, 2004, civil fines will be assessed to violators.

On March 15, 2004, Dover Officers observed an illegal drug transaction on East Water Street. Officers attempted to stop two suspects in a mini van, but the suspects fled resulting in a pursuit. The suspect vehicle fled north out of the city and onto Delaware Route 9. Delaware State Police Helicopter assisted with the pursuit as it progressed into New Castle County. The pursuit ended when the suspect vehicle became stuck in traffic. New Castle County Police Officers assisted in arresting the two suspects. Officers located drug paraphernalia and bullets inside the suspect vehicle.

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Dover Police Officers investigated two burglaries that occurred in separate dorm rooms of Carpenter Hall of Wesley College on March 18, 2004. The first occurred when a victim awoke to find the suspect in her dorm sexually assaulting her. She screamed and told the suspect (who was known to her) to leave, which he did. The second victim was also asleep in her room when she was awakened and observed the suspect standing over her with his pants down. She screamed and the suspect (who was known to her also) fled. Dover Officers have arrested the suspect. He is a student at Wesley College.

I am pleased to report that on March 19, 2004, Lt. Lester Boney graduated from the F.B.I. National Academy in Quantico, Virginia. Lt. Boney underwent 10 weeks of intense Law Enforcement Management Level Training. The F.B.I. National Academy is one of the most distinguished and sought after Law Enforcement schools. Less than one percent of all Law Enforcement Officers are accepted to receive this training. Upon his return from the Academy, Lt. Boney resumed his assignment as the Criminal Investigation Unit Commander.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jeffrey Horvath
Chief of Police