

# ANNUAL REPORT

2023

*We strive to earn your confidence and trust.*



Chief Edward R. Lennon, Jr.  
Deputy Chief Patrick Tracy

## EAST HAVEN POLICE DEPARTMENT

471 North High Street  
East Haven, Connecticut  
[www.easthavenpolice.com](http://www.easthavenpolice.com)

Integrity Community Accountability Respect Excellence

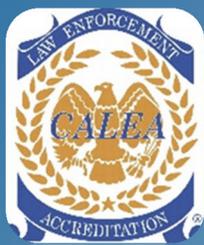


Chief Edward R. Lennon, Jr.

## Chief's Address

*“Ultimately, leadership is about keeping your team focused on a goal and motivated to do their best to achieve it, especially when the stakes are high and the consequences really matter. It is about laying the groundwork for others' success, and then standing back and letting them shine.”*

*-Chris Hadfield*



*The East Haven Police Department is a nationally CALEA-accredited agency whose mission is to enforce the law and protect life and property by establishing proactive problem-solving partnerships with our citizens.*

*Our stringent goal is to improve the delivery of public safety services by maintaining a body of standards developed by public safety practitioners covering a wide range of up-to-date public safety initiatives.*

*I'm honored to serve the Town of East Haven and reflect on the many achievements of our sworn and civilian members at the East Haven Police Department (EHPD). As in years past, our dedicated personnel and community partners continue to work tirelessly in the collective pursuit of safety and justice. It is my privilege to share the progress we've made and recognize the many accomplishments by our Department in 2023.*

*The EHPD continually seeks new ways to improve and fortify its commitment to public trust and confidence. In pursuit of this endeavor, the Department commenced the LINKED - Autism Safety Project, aiming to strengthen our connections with the autism community. The program maintains a database of individuals, outlining specific needs of those registered, along with providing sensory kits in patrol vehicles. With the implementation of LINKED, we hope to foster inclusivity between emergency responders and individuals with disabilities.*

*This past year has presented unique challenges nationwide. I'm proud to report that, through proactive policing strategies, the Department has effectuated increased patrols using strategic enforcement – most notably through the EHPD's traffic unit. This, compounded by the Department's continued unification with surrounding Towns to address traffic-related concerns, works to provide every community member with the safety they're entitled to. We have made significant strides in enhancing public safety and hope to further enrich collaborative partnerships among those we serve.*

*Since 1975, the EHPD has been working to identify the remains of a homicide victim. The Department had the unique and somber privilege of providing a family closure after forty-eight (48) years. After tirelessly working on this case for over four decades with multiple generations of investigators, the Department was able to use cutting edge advanced forensic DNA technology to identify the victim. Although the case remains open, as a suspect has not been arrested, the family of the victim was able to finally bring their loved one home and give her a proper burial.*

*In the spirit of compliance and dedication, I'm pleased to announce the EHPD achieved national re-accreditation through the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA) – dubbed the “gold standard in public safety.” This voluntary accreditation process demonstrates our commitment to police accountability, transparency, and public service. As one of only thirty (30) CALEA-accredited Connecticut law enforcement agencies, I could not be prouder to celebrate this achievement.*

*From new pursuit prevention technologies to the use of genealogy databases, the EHPD consistently seeks progressive and innovative methods to overcome adversity and increase positive outcomes for our community stakeholders. As we look to the challenges and opportunities in 2024, I'm confident that our Department will continue to demonstrate integrity, professionalism, and dedication – unwavering in our shared mission of serving the Town of East Haven.*

*I offer this 2023 Annual Report to highlight the culmination of the EHPD's efforts. I encourage you to review our Annual Report. For further information about the Department, our future plans, and the quality of our personnel, please visit our website at [www.easthavenpolice.com](http://www.easthavenpolice.com) and our social media pages on Facebook, Instagram, and X (formerly Twitter).*

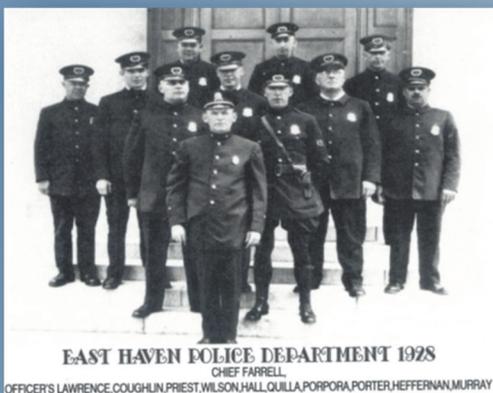
## HISTORY OF THE EAST HAVEN POLICE DEPARTMENT

The East Haven Police Department (EHPD) was established in 1925 during the tenure of First Selectman Robert H. Gerrish, and the first Chief of Police was Hugh Farrell. The Police Department was originally located at the East Haven Town Hall but was later moved to its current location at 471 North High Street when the new building was completed in 1974.

The current patch worn by EHPD officers has a depiction of the Old Stone Church, of which according to published records was completed in 1774. Originally, the EHPD officer's patch had a State emblem with the municipality's name. At some point during Chief Pascarella's tenure (1965-1993), the patch was changed from a standard State patch to a drawing of the Old Stone Church. The Old Stone Church is one of the most recognized landmarks in the Town of East Haven.

In 1993, the newly appointed Chief of Police James Criscuolo requested that a new patch be designed in the style similar to that of the New York City Police Department. The patch changed shape and a new depiction of the Old Stone Church was penned by Sergeant Ed Peterson (Retired), completing the design.

Currently, there are sixty-two (62) sworn personnel and seven (7) civilian staff that comprise the East Haven Police Department.



Adopted in 1969, the Town of East Haven has a Mayor-Council form of municipal government in which the Mayor of East Haven is elected by its voters every two (2) years. Under the present form of government, the Mayor is the chief executive officer of the Town of East Haven. In addition to the Mayor, there are also fifteen (15) council members who are elected at-large every two (2) years.

The Town of East Haven has an active Police Department and a Fire Department that are available to members of the community 24-hours a day. The Town of East Haven also has several schools throughout its districts that serve Kindergarten through Grade 12. The schools include Deer Run Elementary School, the East Haven Academy, East Haven Adult Learning Center, D.H. Ferrara Elementary School, Momauguin Elementary School, Overbrook Elementary School, Grove J. Tuttle Elementary School, Joseph Melillo Middle School, and the East Haven High School.

According to the CT Data Collaborative and ADVANCECT of 2023, the Town of East Haven's land area consists of 12 square miles with a population size of 28,054; the population per square mile is 2,281 consisting of the following race/ethnic elements (2017-2021): White/Caucasian (65%), Hispanic/Latino\* (17%), Asian (5%), Black/African American (10%), Other (4%) which includes American Indian, Alaska Native, Native Hawaiian, Pacific Islander, two or more races.

In further accordance with the Town Profile of 2023, the median age (2017-2021) of the residents of the Town of East Haven is 43 years old and the median household income is \$74,238 with 15,762 employed and 724 unemployed with a poverty rate of 8%. In addition, the Town's major employers are East Haven Builders Supply, Stop & Shop, Regalcare at New Haven, ShopRite, and Town Fair Tire.

\*Hispanic includes those of any race. Remaining racial groups include only non-Hispanic.

## TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT UNIT

Comprised of a supervisor and patrol officer(s), the Traffic Enforcement Unit is tasked with ensuring the safety of roadway users and pedestrians. The Unit identifies and evaluates unregistered, uninsured, stolen, or suspicious motor vehicles. Officers utilize various equipment to collect accurate, quantifiable information when addressing hazards or complaints. To reinforce its effectiveness in 2023, the Unit was bolstered by support from other regional traffic units from within our compact to address complaints of speeding and roadway safety compliance.

Since its inception in June 2022, the Regional Unit's statistical data follows:

Deployments (35); Motor Vehicle Stops (2,149); Infractions (756); Warnings (464); Vehicles Towed (162); Misdemeanor Summons (84); Custodial Arrests (4); Wanted Persons Warrants (4); DWI (2); Family Violence Felony (1); Stolen Vehicle Recovered (1); Weapons Offense (1). While many cars were pulled over, enforcement action was taken only 44.4% of the time. The majority of issued citations were for unregistered and/or uninsured motor vehicles, and for unlicensed drivers.

## LANGUAGE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM ASSESSMENT

The EHPD has continued its efforts to enhance communication with Limited English Proficiency (LEP) residents by utilizing EHPD Authorized Interpreters (EHPDAI's) and the Language Line service. This ensures that the EHPD has and will continue to have effective communication with and provide timely and meaningful access to police services to all members of the community, regardless of their national origin or limited ability to speak, read, write, or understand English. In 2023, data collected from LEAS (CAD/RMS) showed 129 calls for service requiring language assistance, of which the targeted languages were Spanish (126), Arabic (1), Hindi (1), and Polish (1). The data collected continues to indicate that Spanish is the primary language of the LEP community and that Spanish speakers are the most likely residents requiring language assistance when having contact with police personnel. By comparison, 2022 data showed 96 calls for service: Spanish (81), Mandarin (6), Arabic (3), Italian (2), Portuguese (2), All Other (1); and 2021 showed 38 calls for service, 36 of which were for Spanish interpretation.

In summary, language interpretation services have been effectively provided to LEP members of the community, ensuring they have meaningful access to police services.



## PATROL DIVISION

The EHPD Patrol Division, commanded by a captain, is considered the backbone of the Department. In most cases, patrol officers are the ones who interact with the community in the initial stages of their need for law enforcement. This gives our officers the opportunity to demonstrate their knowledge, professionalism and compassion which builds trust and a strong relationship with our citizens.

The Patrol Division is divided into three (3) separate shifts consisting of lieutenants, sergeants, and officers with members having specialized skills or assignments to include school liaison officers and bicycle officers, federal task force officers, as well as three (3) K-9 officers.

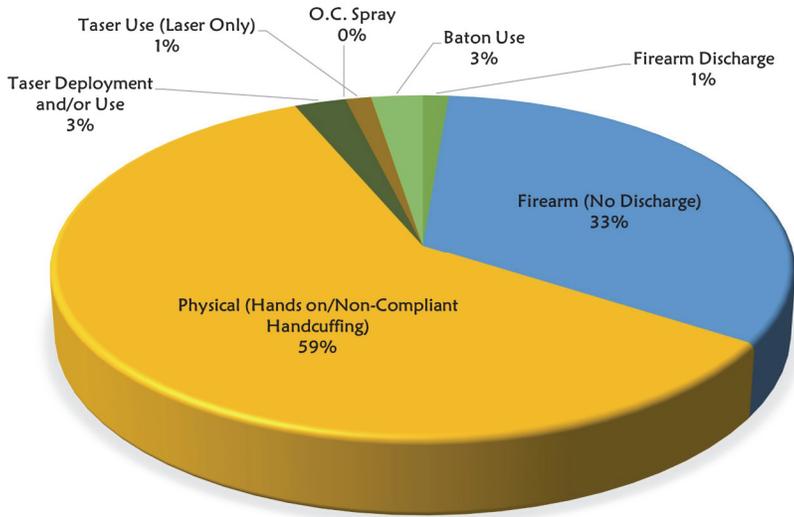
Two (2) patrol officers continued their duties as School Resource Officers (SROs), each assigned to East Haven High School (EHHS) and Joseph Melillo Middle School (JMMS), respectively. Both officers have been welcomed by school administration and students alike, and have been very busy in dealing with the unfortunate recent uptick in fighting and undesirable behavior amongst students, some of which has been driven by social media (such as Tik-Tok challenges and the like). Both SROs have assisted with investigations involving juveniles and have made numerous visits to students' homes to help resolve issues, as well as serving on the EHPD Juvenile Review Board.

## CALLS FOR SERVICE

	2023	2022	2021	2020
Calls for Service	27,645	28,731	28,738	27,444
Arrest(s)*	842	626	582	500
Citations/Infraction(s)	496	653	653	390
Domestic Violence Incident(s)	365	396	397	392
Motor Vehicle Accident(s)	736	751	745	661
Motor Vehicle Stop(s)	2,028	2,201	1,935	1,166
Stolen Motor Vehicle(s)	102	91	106	82
Theft from Motor Vehicle(s)	129	192	141	158
Shoplifting(s)	282	253	360	294
Psych. Emergencies	272	233	247	200
Use of Force Incident(s)	28	40	35	29

\*For 2021 and 2020, reporting parameters were updated to reflect more consistently accurate data.

### USE OF FORCE TYPES - 2023

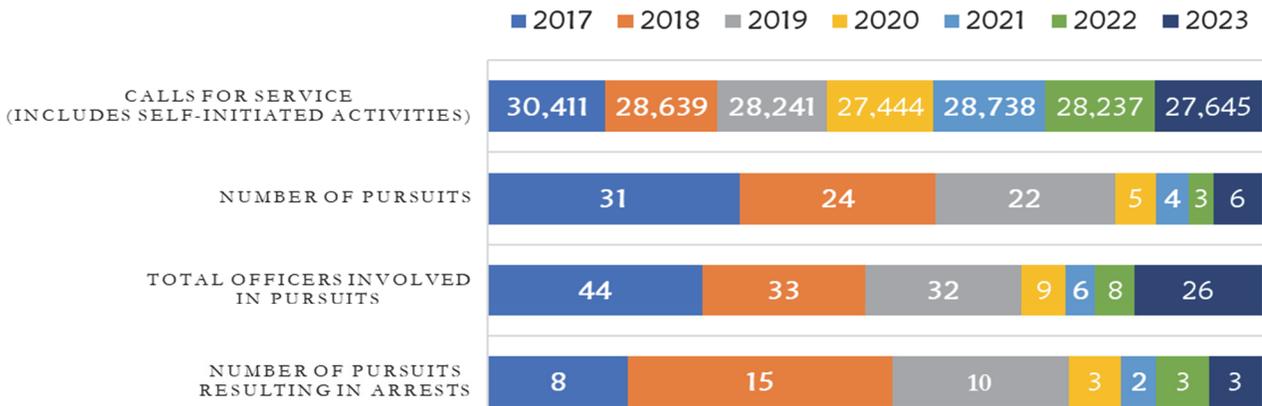


An analysis of use of force data collected from 2017 through 2023 was conducted in order to identify possible trends and patterns, and concluded the following information:

- There were twenty-eight (28) use of force cases which shows a 30% decrease compared to 2022.
- The number of use of force cases remained well within the average of the overall number of use of force cases that occurred from 2017 through 2023.

- The category of force, Physical (Hands-on/Non-compliant Handcuffing), was the leading type of force used by officers in 2023 which continues to be the trend (2017 - 2023). There were a total of 165 officer-involved use of force cases, compared to 111 in 2022, an increase of 48.65% (54) due to the nature and severity of several incidents. Overall, these numbers continue to be proportionate over the past seven (7) years, and accounted for about 0.1% of the Department’s calls for service in 2023.
- Individuals who were subjected to force comprise the following ethnicity: White (non-Hispanic) (43.75%), black (non-Hispanic) (43.75%), white Hispanic (28.12%) and black Hispanic (0%). Based on historical data and trends (2017 - 2023), white (non-Hispanic) continues to be involved in the majority of cases.

### Pursuit Snapshot



An analysis of pursuit data collected from 2017 through 2023 was conducted in order to identify possible trends and patterns. Based on analyzing the data, the number of pursuits and the number of officers involved in pursuits have been steadily decreasing over the past several years; this continued downward trend is due to officers adhering to State Law and the Department’s Policies and Procedures as to when a pursuit can be initiated. Officers are increasingly evaluating the circumstances prior to engaging in pursuits.

The number of operators who failed to stop after being signaled to do so by an officer has decreased slightly in 2023 when compared to 2022. One hundred seven (107) operators failed to stop for officers in 2023 while one hundred twelve (112) operators failed to stop in 2022; a 4.67% decrease.

## DETECTIVE DIVISION

The Detective Division is responsible for, or assisting with, criminal investigations regarding violent crimes, narcotics, burglaries, thefts, as well as other nonviolent crimes. The Bureau also processes crimes scenes and evidence collection, and also conducts extensive background investigations for potential new hires for all Town Public Safety services to include the East Haven Fire Department (EHFD) and the East Haven Public Safety Communications Center (PSCC).

In 2023, the Detective Division was involved in the investigations of approximately 539 cases; compared to 2022 (494), 2021 (495) and 2020 (496), respectively.

This is a sampling of cases:

	2023	2022	2021	2020
Abuse of Child	12	3	4	2
Arson	0	0	0	4
Assault Other	14	17	20	1
Assault with Firearm	3	1	0	0
Attempted Burglary	6	2	4	6
Attempted Robbery	1	1	0	1
Bank Robbery	0	0	0	2
Bomb Threat	1	0	2	0
Burglary	56	24	45	122
Fraud	186	212	167	145
Homicide	1	1	0	1
Identity Theft	59	53	35	24
Overdose	47	63	58	56
Report of Gunshots	31	24	28	40
Robbery	4	10	3	3
Sexual Assault	13	25	31	12
Stolen Vehicles	105	58	98	77
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>539</b>	<b>494</b>	<b>495</b>	<b>496</b>



## DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

A detective is designated to conduct domestic violence incident follow ups which can include providing safety plans, assisting in connecting victims with Domestic Violence Advocates and other resources. We collaborate with several agencies such as the Connecticut Coalition Against Domestic Violence (CCADV), the HOPE Family Justice Center of Greater New Haven and the Umbrella Center for Domestic Violence Services, both of which are subsidized through BHcare (our local mental health agency) with whom we have a longstanding partnership.

In 2023, there was a **7.83% decrease** in domestic violence calls (-31) with a total of 365 calls for service; compared to 2022 (396), 2021 (368), 2020 (392), 2019 (397) and 2018 (410), respectively.

## JUVENILE REVIEW BOARD

The Juvenile Review Board (JRB) is a community-based diversionary and prevention program that collaborates with troubled youth and their families to design reparative action plans that emphasize culpability and responsibility. The process is not punitive but rather connects youth with resources utilized to reinforce the stepping stones of youth development to deter future occurrences.

In 2023, of the ten (10) cases handled by the JRB, five (5) were breach of peace complaints, two (2) were conspiracy of larceny of motor vehicle, one (1) was interfering with police officers, two (2) were threatening. These numbers are a decrease from 2022, which saw fifteen (15) cases;

compared to 2021 (14), 2020 (4) and 2019 (7), respectively.

Since its inception in 2013, the JRB continues to enhance the program through intervention strategies predicated on individual growth and personal responsibility. For instance, this year, of the ten (10) minors reviewed by the JRB, there were zero reoffenders. Additionally, the JRB policy was updated to reflect the latest methods of coordinating community resources and evaluating cases.

As the JRB steps into the new year, it remains encouraged by the number of youths' lives transformed by the chance to make amends through the power of compassion and accountability.

# Jane Doe Homicide: Patricia Meleady Newsom

## 1975 – Jane Doe Discovered Behind Bradlees Department Store

On August 16, 1975, a truck driver making a routine delivery to Bradlees Department Store on Frontage Road discovered a body concealed in a drainage ditch. The unidentified woman’s body – bound with electrical cord, gagged, and wrapped in a canvas tarpaulin – was taken to the medical examiner’s office. Upon autopsy, the death was ruled a homicide from asphyxia by smothering.



EHPD released a description of the decedent to the public. She was a young white or Latina female in her early 20’s with shoulder-length brown hair and hazel eyes. She had not had any children. Her ears were pierced, and she was wearing small gold circular earrings. Police thought she might have a light mole on her chin. Her fingernails were short, her hands seemed unworn by labor, and her appearance was neat. Her dental work was extensive, which suggested she came from a well-to-do family. Though her body was bloated and showing signs of decomposition from having been in the water, police were still able to get good quality fingerprints. Armed with a description, dental records, fingerprints, and a blood type, police believed it would only be a matter of days before she was identified. As days turned into weeks, they created a composite sketch from the body which was published in the local papers and circulated in the region. As weeks turned into months, the Town was responsible for handling her body and she was buried in State Street Cemetery, Hamden CT. Though she lived on in the hearts of the EHPD investigators who worked on her case, several leads yielded unfruitful results in the ensuing years.

## 1995 – Potential Suspect Emerges

**A suspect emerges in the cold case.** In 1985, the individual (suspect) was convicted for the 1984 murder of 59-year-old Amelia Cave in Hancock Maine. Nine years prior, in 1975, the male suspect lived in East Haven – about a mile from Bradlees Department Store – at the same time that the body was found in the drainage ditch; however, at the time, he was not on the EHPD’s radar. In 1995, on a tip, EHPD Detectives traveled to Thomaston State Prison in Maine to interview the incarcerated individual who denied involvement in Jane Doe’s death. The similarities between the two murders are eerily striking. Unfortunately, the individual (suspect) passed away in October 2022 along with any potential for an arrest should they ever be identified as Jane Doe’s killer.

## 2020 - Investigation Reopened

In 2020, Captains Joseph Murgo and David Emerman were determined to restore the identity of their 1975 Jane Doe case, and with the rise of genetic genealogy, they believed that they could. Although the medical examiner had kept her pubic bone, they were unable to recover any DNA from it. **Finding her body became a high priority.**

## 2022 - Exhuming Jane Doe at State Street Cemetery

By 2022, the Captains realized that she had been buried at State Street Cemetery, but it was no longer professionally managed – records were sparse to non-existent, the grounds were barely maintained, knowledge of the cemetery was being forgotten. Although the first exhumation was unsuccessful, the second located a metal casket and when opened, there was an autopsy sheet covering the body – which was missing its pubic bone. **Success – Jane Doe had been found.**

## 2023 – Identifying Jane Doe

Jane Doe’s femur bone was turned over to **Identifinders International, Inc.** who developed a full DNA profile and began their genealogical work. Meanwhile, a woman living in northeast Tennessee, 700 miles from East Haven, Connecticut had been long searching for her missing sister and had submitted her own DNA to GED-match, praying against time and holding out hope. In early April, with a modicum of internet sleuthing, Linda Doyle from **Identifinders** was able to immediately verify the truth of their DNA discovery and Maryann Newsom Collette, after 48 years, would sadly learn of her sister’s untimely fate.



## The Press Conference

This monumental news would be hard to keep quiet for long, and the EHPD wanted Maryann to help them announce it to the world:

**THE EAST HAVEN JANE DOE HAS BEEN OFFICIALLY IDENTIFIED AS PATRICIA MELEADY NEWSOM**

Patricia was an 18-year-old girl who had allegedly run away from a New York boarding school sometime between 1973 and 1974. Her family, missing her for nearly half a century, will now have few answers and some closure. Patricia Meleady Newsom, once lost in anonymity, now stands as a testament to the tireless efforts of those who refused to forget her. Her name is finally restored, and her memory lives on.



## Finding Justice for Patricia Meleady Newsom

Miss Newsom’s murderer has yet to be identified and this remains an active investigation.

## SOUTH CENTRAL CONNECTICUT TRAFFIC UNIT - ACCIDENT RECONSTRUCTION

The SCCTU operates under a police mutual assistance compact in accordance with C.G.S. § 7-277a and is comprised of police officers from East Haven, and our neighboring towns of North Haven, North Branford, Branford, Madison, and Guilford.

East Haven currently has five (5) officers that are trained to investigate serious injury or fatal motor vehicle collisions and are assigned to the SCCTU.

In 2023, the SCCTU was utilized to investigate eight (8) total incidents; four (4) of which occurred within East Haven.

## SOUTH CENTRAL REGIONAL SPECIAL WEAPONS AND TACTICS TEAM

A mutual agreement with our compact agencies (noted above) allows for the sharing of specially trained officers and other law enforcement resources that would normally be beyond the capability of an individual department acting independently. Currently, there are six (6) EHPD officers assigned to the team.

In 2023, SCRSWAT, including the Crisis Negotiating Team, was activated two (2) times and they were placed on standby and/or accepted nine (9) consultations.



## CANINE UNIT

The Canine Unit is an invaluable resource that is used in the assistance of apprehending suspects, locating missing persons, locating hidden narcotics, evidence location, and community relations.

In 2023, the three (3) K-9 Teams were deployed seventy-five (75) times; compared to 2022 (45) and 2021 (43), respectively.



**K-9 ACE**

OFFICER MCGUIRE



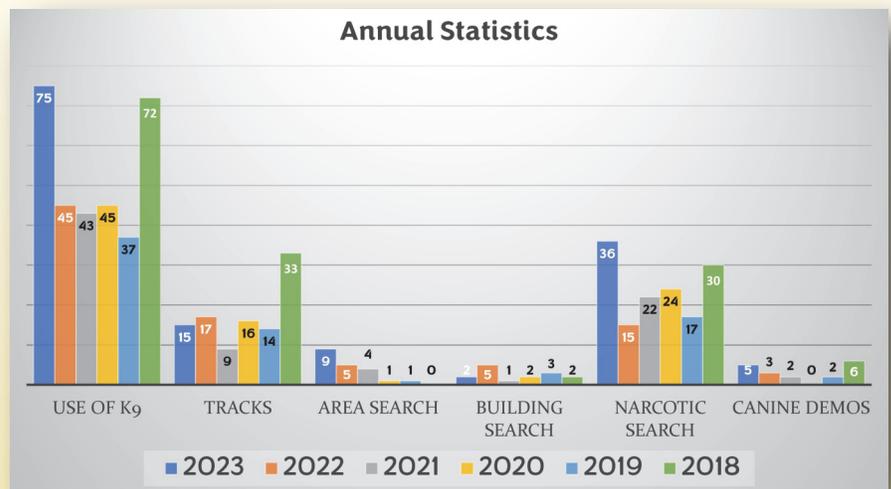
**K-9 ENZO**

OFFICER PALMA



**K-9 MACK**

OFFICER MARSICO



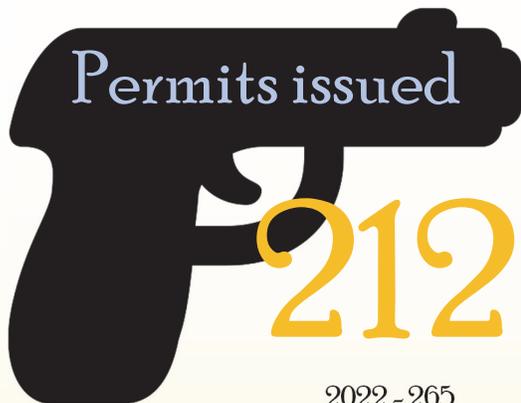
In 2023, EHPD partnered with both experts and advocates to implement the **LINKED – Autism Safety Project** to enhance connectivity between emergency responders and the autism community. The project combines training, workshops, and resources to increase awareness of autism and other developmental disabilities among first responders. Training includes an overview of autism spectrum disorder, real life case scenarios, and proactive strategies from a clinical, first responder and parent perspective. Beyond education, **LINKED** maintains a database of individuals in local municipalities – outlining the specific needs of those registered – to ensure compassionate, effective interactions and promote inclusivity. Department patrol vehicles are equipped with sensory kits, to include white boards, noise cancelling headphones, light sensitivity glasses, and sensory fidget toys, as recommended by professionals. This equipment is designed to increase support and safety during emergencies. With the launch of **LINKED**, officers now have specialized tools and knowledge to best support individuals with disabilities, and the Department reaffirms its commitment to protecting all members of the community, without exception.



## RECORDS DIVISION

The Records Division is primarily responsible for maintaining the majority of the Department's records and providing reports, and other requested documents to the public in accordance with Connecticut's Freedom of Information Act (CT FOIA), as well as providing documents to court.

The Records Division is also responsible for processing the initial steps for pistol permit applications, files firearms transfer records, processes court subpoenas, COLLECT/NCIC Validations, and collects fees for various permits and parking fines.



2022 - 265  
2021 - 393  
2020 - 262

## Revenue



2022 - \$38,995  
2021 - \$33,311  
2020 - \$40,241



The East Haven Police Athletic League (EHPAL) is a 501-C 3 Non-Profit Organization overseen by the Chief of Police and an Executive Board comprised of officers and members of the community.

During 2023, EHPAL enrolled twelve (12) East Haven youth into its **Martial Arts and Boxing Programs** with Mike Conroy's American Martial Arts.

EHPAL partnered with **Foxon Recreation League** to host the annual "Pass with a PAL" baseball warm-up at the CT Sportsplex. There were two age groups with over ten (10) participants combined.

EHPAL sponsored youth sports teams in the **Foxon Recreation League** and **Sal Tinari's "Biddy Basketball."**

Along with assistance from **East Haven Youth Services**, EHPAL conducted the second annual **EAST HAVEN NATIONAL NIGHT OUT** in August at the East Haven Town Beach Splash Pad.

Our inaugural **TOUCH-A-TRUCK** event was a well-attended crowd-pleaser complete with a YNHH helicopter visit!

The annual EHPAL **"SPOOKY MOVIE NIGHT"** featured Disney's animated version of **The Addams Family**.

Our popular **EHPAL Bingo fundraisers** were held throughout the year and EHPD personnel regularly participate in these events to show their support.

*The mission of EHPAL is to promote interaction between community members, especially young people, and East Haven police officers through recreational and educational activities. Building trust with area youth by participating in athletic and competition-based activities with the goals of instilling the core values of sportsmanship, self-discipline, and teamwork by providing a safe, recreational environment that promotes self-esteem, confidence and physical fitness for those who participate.*





## TRAINING DIVISION

The Department continues to provide the most progressive, comprehensive, and high-quality training that exceeds the requirements of the Connecticut Police Officer Standards and Training Council (CT POST) to our sworn personnel as well as for civilian staff as it relates to their role or assignment which in turn reduces liability to the Town and offers better police services to the community.

In 2023, these were the various trainings provided in-person or virtually:

- 93rd COMMAND OFFICERS DEVELOPMENT COURSE
- ACCIDENT RECONSTRUCTION
- ACTIVE SHOOTER INSTRUCTOR CERTIFICATION
- ACTIVE SHOOTER RESPONSE
- ADVANCED INSTRUCTION FOR MARKSMANSHIP
- ADVANCED INTERVIEW & INTERROGATION
- ADVANCED ROADSIDE IMPAIRED DRIVER ENFORCEMENT (ARIDE)
- ADVANCED TRAFFIC CRASH INVESTIGATIONS
- ALICE INSTRUCTOR TRAINING (VIOLENT CRITICAL INCIDENT RESPONSE)
- AR-15 ARMORER
- AT SCENE TRAFFIC HOMICIDE INVESTIGATIONS
- BACKGROUND INVESTIGATIONS
- BIT TORRENT INVESTIGATIONS
- BLUE BRIDGE AUTISM
- BODY-WORN / DASH CAMERAS
- CELL PHONE INVESTIGATIONS
- CHIEF STATE'S ATTORNEY DETECTIVE SCHOOL
- COVERT MEDIA INVESTIGATIONS
- CRIME SCENE PROCEDURES
- CRISIS INTERVENTION
- CRISIS NEGOTIATION
- CRITICAL INCIDENT COMMAND
- CRITICAL LEGAL ISSUES FOR POLICE SUPERVISORS AND EXECUTIVES
- CT GANGS AND GANG VIOLENCE
- CT SCHOOL SAFETY SYMPOSIUM
- DISPATCH RESPONSE TO ACTIVE KILLERS
- DOMESTIC VIOLENCE HOMICIDE INVESTIGATIONS
- ELDER ABUSE INVESTIGATIONS
- EYEWITNESS INVESTIGATIONS
- FBI LEEDS SUPERVISOR INSTITUTE
- FBI NAA REGIONAL COMMAND COLLEGE
- FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT LAW ENFORCEMENT SEMINAR
- IMPLICIT BIAS & PROCEDURAL JUSTICE
- INTERNAL AFFAIRS
- IPMBA POLICE CYCLIST CERTIFICATION
- K-9 OFFICER TRAINING & CERTIFICATION
- LASER TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT INSTRUCTOR
- LAW ENFORCEMENT PEER SUPPORT
- LAW ENFORCEMENT RESPONSE TO AUTISM (LINKED PROGRAM)
- LESS LETHAL FORCE: OC AND BATON
- LESS LETHAL MUNITIONS
- LETHALITY ASSESSMENT PROGRAM
- NEOA CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS SCHOOL
- PATH TO VIOLENCE: IDENTIFYING AND STOPPING THE SCHOOL ATTACKER
- PATROL RIFLE INSTRUCTOR
- PATROL RIFLE/FIREARMS
- PHYSICAL AGILITY ASSESSMENT EXAMINER
- PISTOL MOUNTED OPTICS
- POSITIVE YOUTH DEVELOPMENT
- RISK PROTECTION ORDERS
- SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER
- SCHOOL SAFETY PLANNING
- SEXUAL ASSAULT INVESTIGATIONS
- SPECIAL VICTIMS INVESTIGATION
- STATE ACCREDITATION
- STATEMENT ANALYSIS
- STINGER® SPIKE SYSTEM TRAINING
- SUPERVISOR TRAINING FOR SUICIDE PREVENTION
- SUPERVISING CRITICAL INCIDENTS
- SWAT OPERATIONS
- TACTICAL EMERGENCY CASUALTY CARE
- TASER® CERTIFICATION
- UNDERCOVER CONCEPTS AND TECHNIQUES
- UNCOVERING FINANCIAL CRIMES
- USE OF FORCE LEGAL TRAINING

## COMMISSION ON ACCREDITATION FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES (CALEA)

In 2023, the Department achieved its second consecutive 4-year national reaccreditation award by the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA) – dubbed the “gold standard in public safety.” Since 2019, the Department has maintained its accreditation status, reaffirming its commitment to police compliance and accountability. As one of only thirty (30) CALEA-accredited Connecticut police departments, this milestone achievement echoes the continued efforts and dedication of personnel to uphold the national standard of policing practices.

This year, a comprehensive site-based assessment reviewed the following standards for compliance: Written Directives (Agency Policies and Procedures), Actual Practices, Leadership Responsibilities, Training and Recruitment Strategies, Facility Inspections, and included public comments and community feedback.

This accreditation signifies the Department’s dedication to the highest levels of integrity and performance – strengthening its trust among the residents it serves. Notably, this accomplishment was only made possible through the continued support of the East Haven community, as well as the tenacity of sworn and non-sworn members of this Department. As the East Haven Police Department continues its mission of professionalism and safety, this achievement reflects its ongoing pursuit of law enforcement excellence.



*Department leaders attended the annual CALEA Conference in Oklahoma City, representing the agency before CALEA’s Commission. After rigorous evaluation by commission members, to include interviews and report reviews, the Department was awarded its official reaccreditation. The purpose of this voluntary process is to improve and enhance the Department’s practices, ensuring it provides the best services to the surrounding community.*

## BIAS-BASED PROFILING COMPLAINTS ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW

The Department is committed to protecting the Constitutional and civil rights of all persons. In doing so, the EHPD prohibits any form of discriminatory practices including all forms of bias-based policing.

The Professional Standards Officer (PSO) monitors and investigates any bias-based policing complaints. The PSO supports the effective supervision and management of all employees including the identification of and response to potentially problematic behaviors as early as possible. All bias-based policing complaints, whether verbal or written, are documented in the Department Review (DR) module.

It is the policy of the EHPD that no officer shall respond or investigate a suspicious person’s complaint if the reason for the suspicion is based solely on the person’s race, ethnicity, gender, and/or perceived religion. Having no complaints stemming from field contacts shows adherence to this policy.

The EHPD remains committed to addressing issues associated with bias-based policing. The Department conducts annual training on bias-based policing topics, analyzes trends in traffic stop data, completes thorough investigations into bias-based policing complaints and continually reviews the Department’s best practices.

Based on the administrative review of the Department’s practices including citizens’ concerns, no trends or patterns of bias-based policing were identified; however, EHPD had one (1) bias-based complaint in 2023 which was determined to be unfounded, which means there is sufficient evidence to prove the complaint or incident is false or not factual and did not occur as reported.

## EARLY INTERVENTION SYSTEM (EIS)

It is the policy of the Department to intervene as rapidly as feasible to address problematic behavior to mitigate risk and liability.

The Department regularly uses the Early Intervention System (EIS) which is monitored by the Professional Standards Officer (PSO). The EIS supports the effective supervision and management of sworn and civilian personnel including the identification of and response to potentially problematic behaviors as early as possible.

Whenever an incident triggers EIS, a thorough review of each incident is conducted to verify a valid trigger. Once a trigger is confirmed, the PSO creates a written report reviewing the incident. If a problematic behavior or incident needs to be addressed, the PSO notifies the employee’s direct supervisor to mediate the matter. That supervisor then completes a Department Review Report outlining any intervention needed.

During 2023, the EIS had the following confirmed triggers:

- FIREARM USE - NO DISCHARGE
- ARREST FOR INTERFERING WITH AN OFFICER

After reviewing each incident, it was determined no intervention was necessary. The EIS continues to be an effective tool for monitoring officers and fostering positive changes.

It should be noted that while using EIS during 2023, it was discovered some categories were not triggering appropriately. This issue has since been resolved and the Department is currently updating our Early Intervention System policy to reflect these corrections. The implementation of these changes is scheduled to occur in early 2024.

## POLICE SERVICES PERSONNEL *by the numbers*

Chief of Police  
Deputy Chief of Police  
Captains (2)  
Lieutenants (5)  
Sergeants (9)  
Detectives (6)  
Patrol Officers (38)  
Part-Time Officers (4)  
Civilians (7)  
PSCC Lead Dispatchers (2)  
PSCC Dispatchers (8)  
PSCC Part-Time/Per Diem (2)



## HONORABLE BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS

Chairman Dominic Balletto  
Vice Chairman Joseph DiSilvestro  
Commissioner Paul Carbo  
Commissioner Dianne Romans  
Commissioner Barbara Barbuito

The annual report is designed, compiled and published by Confidential Secretary Marsha M. Maldonado with editorial assistance from Mary Sparago, Accreditation Clerk, using various reporting data provided by Department administrative and sworn personnel, divisions and specialty units, as well as online research sources. Printed by Minuteman Press in East Haven, CT.