Scotia Police Department

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Daniel P. Harrigan
Chief of Police

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A-Squad (Sgt. Bean)

A-Squad:

Chief,

Below is a summary for the month of September 2021.

Staffed by

Sgt Bean, Ptl. Iwan, and Ptl. Peckham

Statistics:

In the month of September, Alpha squad completed 23 traffic stops that resulted in 10 uniformed traffic tickets being issued. We handled 4 motor vehicle accidents during the month of September. The squad had a total of 16 arrest with 4 being Felonies and 10 being misdemeanors and 2 violation arrests. Squad A handled 125 total complaints this month and assisted with 21 fire medical calls 72 properties were checked, officers continued walking beats on Mohawk Ave, interacting with the community on a daily basis.

Monthly Developments:

In the month of September our Detectives, were assigned a total of 6 Cases. 4 Burglary Case, 1 Fraud case, 1 Assault case. Det. Iwan investigated a check cashing case where the suspect was arrested on 2 felony charges. Det. Coke was assigned a Burglary Case that occurred at CVS where surveillance video and follow-up investigation lead to the suspects being arrested. Det Bean and Det. Peckham investigated a Burglary at a local gym where 2 Felonies and a Misdemeanor warrant were issued for the suspect in the case. Det. Iwan was assigned an Assault case at which occurred at the Family Dollar, the investigation resulted in 1 Felony and 2 Misdemeanor charges.

Alpha Squad will continue with the Community Policing Mission of the Scotia Police Department.

B Squad (Sgt. Halbfinger)

B-Squad:

Chief,

Below is a summary for the month of September 2021.

Staffed By:

Sgt. A. Halbfinger and Ptl. M. Marchesani and Ptl. Malagisi.

Stats:

During the month of September, B-Tour officers responded to 102 complaints and received 258 CAD incidents altogether including 9 domestics. The shift conducted 35 traffic stops resulting in 18 V&T arrests including 1 DWI, handled 3 MVA's and logged 623 patrol miles. Officers made 10 misdemeanor arrests and 2 felony arrests and 4 warrant arrests for not only our agency, but Saratoga County Sheriffs and the State Police over the course of the month.Ptl. Spaulding also conducted multiple DOT inspections during the course of the month resultingin a number of V&T and DOT violation tickets.

B-line remained proactive by conducting 44 property checks of local businesses and properties and continued conducting daily foot patrols. Officer's conducted daily school detailsat Sacandaga and Lincoln Elementary Schools. B-line officers had a very busy month and had a lot of good training opportunities for Ptl. Malagisi, who is set to complete field training in early October. Sgt. Halbfinger completed Ptl. Malagisi's Taser training and certification during the month.

Monthly Developments:

On 9/4/2021, while on a traffic stop, Sgt. Halbfinger and Ptl. Malagisi noticed several juvenile males were recklessly riding bicycles and popping wheelies in traffic causing vehicles to swerve into the opposite lane of traffic to avoid a collision. Both officers attempted to make contact with the males on 2 occasions but the group fled on foot both times. On the third attempt, Sgt. Halbfinger was able to detain one of the juveniles and identify a second. Both males were charged with 3 misdemeanors stemming from the incident and were given a family court appearance ticket to answer for the charges.

On 9/8/2021, Ptl. Marchesani, Ptl. Spaulding and Ptl. Malagisi responded to the S. Ballston Ave apartments for an unattended death. The scene was photographed and next of kin was located for the victim.

On 9/9/2021, Ptl. Marchesani and Ptl. Malagisi conducted a traffic stop on Brian Horn, who was known to Ptl. Malagisi to not have a valid driver's license. During the search incident to arrest and an inventory of the vehicle, Horn was found to be in possession of cocaine and methamphetamine. Horn was charged with criminal possession of a controlled substance 5th, a felony, as well as 2 other misdemeanors and V&T violations. Horn also had several warrants out for his arrest from the State Police as well as Scotia Police Dept.

On 9/14/2021, Ptl. Marchesani and Ptl. Malagisi received a stolen vehicle hit on their patrol vehicle's LPR. A traffic stop was initiated and both occupants of the vehicle were detained. The vehicle was reported stolen out of Utica NY. The vehicle's stolen status was confirmed with Utica PD. After some investigation, it was found that the passenger of the vehicle was the titled owner and his ex-girlfriend who lived in Utica was the registered owner and the one who reported the vehicle stolen. The male took the vehicle without the female's knowledge because he bought it and felt he didn't need permission. Both parties agreed to not tow the vehicle and allow the male to keep the vehicle and return it when he was done using it.

-On 9/17/2021, Sgt. Halbfinger, Ptl. Marchesani and Ptl. Malagisi responded to a walk in at the station for a domestic that had just occurred. The victim reported her ex-boyfriend, Christopher Vazquez, threw a large piece of metal at her vehicle containing her and her daughter as she was backing out of the driveway. While officers were taking the report, Vazquez walked in the station to confront the victim and was subsequently arrested and charged with Criminal Contempt 1st, a felony, as well as 3 misdemeanors.

On 9/19/2021, Sgt. Halbfinger, Ptl. Marchesani and Ptl. Malagisi responded to a domestic involving a woman hanging out of a window yelling for bystanders to call 911. The victim stated her husband left in a Gray SUV during the incident, which was located by Sgt. Halbfinger a short distance away from the location of the call. A traffic stop was initiated so the male operating the vehicle, Kevin Smith, could be questioned about the incident. During the stop, Smith was found to be intoxicated and charged with DWI.

On 9/27/2021, Ptl. Marchesani responded to a report of an assault at the ARC house on Garnett Ln. The victim, an ARC employee, stated he was hit in the face with a binder and punched by another female employee over a dispute over found money. The female employee was charged with harassment and issued an appearance ticket.

On 9/29/2021, Ptl. Marchesani, Ptl. Ecker, Ptl. Halbfinger and Ptl. Malagisi received a call for an unresponsive woman on the ground in an apartment. All units responded as well as Scotia FD. Scotia FD administered Narcan to the victim who regained consciousness and normal breathing and admitted to snorting heroin before passing out. The victim was transported to Ellis Hospital for treatment.

On 09/29/2021, Sgt. Halbfinger and Ptl. Malagisi received notification that Schenectady PD had a domestic incident involving a female, Parvatie Sukhram, that had a bench warrant out of Scotia. Sukhram was arrested by both officers and transported to Schenectady County Jail to answer for her charges.

C Squad (Sgt. Brady)

C-Squad:

Chief,

Below is a summary for the month of September 2021.

Staffed by:

Sgt. Brady, Ptl. Coke, and Ptl. Peck

Statistics:

During the month of September 2021, C Squad members responded to 95 complaint calls and logged 1,296 miles. A total of 8 felony, 11 misdemeanor, and 3 violation arrests were made. C Squad conducted 43 traffic stops, which resulted in 14 traffic citations. 37 parking tickets wereissued, and 46 property checks were administered.

Monthly Developments:

C Squad would first and foremost like to congratulate our team member Shawn Coke for his promotion to Sergeant. It is a well-deserved designation. He will be moving on to lead D Squad and we will miss him on our Squad. However, we look forward to having Officer Malagisi join us. On October 9, 2021 he will have successfully completed his 12 week field training program and will be working on his own independently.

On 9/02/2021 Sgt. Brady and Sgt. Coke had an incident of runaway autistic youth where the male was amped up. Working together with Mobile Crisis we were able to deescalate the situation by calming the male down and eventually getting him to take his medication.

On 09/02/2021- Officer Peck, Officer Coke and Sgt. Brady responded to a Domestic incident where the victims vehicle was taken and then recovered while officers were on scene.

On 09/10/2021- Officer Peck, Officer Iwan, Sgt. Coke responded to an unattended death on James St. The case is being handled by Detectives, but did not appear to be suspicious.

On 9/20/2021-Sgt. Coke and Sgt. Brady responded to a call for an EDP in the area of Fifth St. The female was extremely upset and struggling with mental health issues. We were able to consult with Northern Rivers and have them respond to the scene to assist her.

Sgt. Coke conducted a thorough investigation of a burglary to CVS that resulted in the arrest of several perpetrators.

D Squad (Ptl. Ecker)

D-Squad:

Chief,

Below is the summary for September 2021.

Staffed By:

The shift is staffed by the Officer in Charge, Ptl. Spaulding, along with Ptl. Falkowitz, and Ptl. Ecker.

Stats:

The month of September 2021 was extremely productive for Squad D. Squad D members responded to 106 complaint calls. The shift worked very hard to stay diligent on patrol, logging a total of 1,448 miles and conducted 68 traffic stops. Altogether, the shift issued 43 Vehicle and Traffic tickets, and logged 12 misdemeanor arrests. The shift had 1 felony arrest. Squad D issued a total of 7 parking tickets, and completed 150 property checks of local businesses and residences. The shift also assisted the Fire Department with 15 medical/fire calls.

Monthly Developments:

On September 4, 2021, Ptl. Ecker was on routine patrol on Mohawk Avenue. Ptl. Ecker observed a vehicle entering the Village from the Western Gateway Bridge. The vehicle drove directly over the center island at Mohawk Ave/Schonowee Ave, hitting the curb and blowing out the right front tire. A subsequent traffic stop led to a DWI investigation. The vehicle operator was ultimately arrested and charged with Aggravated DWI. The vehicle operator had a BAC of 0.21%, more than twice the legal limit.

On September 14, 2021, Ptl. Ecker and Ptl. Falkowitz responded to 25 Mohawk Avenue #4, Brazilian Jiu Jitsu, for a reported Burglary. Patrols arrived on scene and observed the rear door of the building to be smashed in. Security footage did show a male with a mask in the building at approximately 2:15 AM, and then exiting shortly thereafter. Through investigation, a suspect has been identified and our Investigations Division has issued an arrest warrant for this incident.

On September 14, 2021, Ptl Ecker was on routine patrol on Sacandaga Road and identified a vehicle operating with improper license plates. Upon traffic stop, the vehicle in question was found to have a Suspended Registration and no insurance. The vehicle operator, Joseph Mariani, was also found to have a Suspended NYS Driver's License. The vehicle needed to be impounded due to the above. During an inventory of the vehicle, a loaded 9 MM handgun was found underneath the front passenger seat. Joseph did not have a valid permit to carry a handgun in NYS, and is also a convicted felon. Joseph was issued multiple Uniform Traffic Tickets and was also charged with felony Criminal Possession of a Weapon. Joseph was transported to the Schenectady County Correctional Facility, where he is still being held without bail.