

**AMHERST POLICE DEPARTMENT**

**ANNUAL REPORT**

**JULY 1, 2012 – JUNE 30, 2013**

## Message from the Chief FY13

Members of the Amherst Police Department continue to expand and explore innovative ways to accomplish our goal of remaining one of the most highly regarded and professional police departments in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. While the landscape of modern day policing is increasingly difficult and ever changing, the men and women of this department continue to meet and exceed the high expectations our community has come to expect from us.

We work diligently and remain unwavering in our commitment to serve and protect all community members. The men and women of the police department embrace the challenges we face and take pride in the consistently high level of service we provide to our community.

The dedicated, professional and highly trained members of the department continue to embrace our sector based and community policing philosophies. This commitment to consistent assignments and problem oriented policing provides officers with the opportunity to develop new ideas and problem solving techniques with members in their respective patrol districts.

We continue to work, in a variety of partnerships, with neighborhood groups, other town departments, students and the University of Massachusetts Police Department and Administration. We value our partnerships as they enable us to coordinate a multi-agency approach to enhancing the quality of life in our shared community. Significant reductions in crimes against property, burglaries and thief can be attributed to the hard work of our officers and information obtained through our relationships with community groups.

The police department remains committed to its continued collaborations with the Amherst school administration on the development of school safety and emergency plans. Over the years, the police department has hosted joint trainings and table top exercises with school personnel and other town departments involving critical incident preparedness. Our established cooperative training program is now considered a model for other local towns and law enforcement agencies.

The police department continues to explore innovative methods, grants and additional revenue streams to assist us in our mission and enable us to achieve our goal of increasing the number of officers in our agency to match acceptable state and federal staffing level.

The members of the Amherst Police Department will continue to strive to meet the needs and expectations of the diverse community we serve and protect.

Amherst Police Department  
Detective Bureau  
Annual Report  
FY2013

Officers that are assigned to the Detective Bureau share a variety of responsibilities within the Amherst Police Department. Their primary function continues to be as support for the patrol division during lengthy or labor intensive investigations. Detectives have expanded their roles within the agency and the community, while maintaining a consistent and vital role as criminal investigators.

Detectives continue to act as a liaison to Court system, to include the prosecution of criminal cases in both the Superior and District Courts. Their role also includes advocacy referral with the Northwestern District Attorney and the various support programs that are in place by that office. Detectives from the Amherst Police Department are members of several steering groups that routinely conference and conceptualize specific actions to improve the quality of services and life throughout Hampshire County.

The investigating detectives continue to enjoy an excellent relationship with the Amherst schools. Detective David W. Foster has taken point on working with the schools to discuss general safety concerns and the minimization of crime within the district. He helps to facilitate a regular round table discussion with the schools that is used to identify safety concerns and assist the student population. Detective Foster also represents the Amherst Police Department at the Hampshire County Juvenile Court where he acts as the police prosecutor, oversees juvenile matters of concern, and contributes to the various juvenile probation functions.

Detective Janet Lopez has taken a more job specific role within the detective bureau, and is working as the lead investigator on all domestic related crimes. Her responsibilities include the investigation of specific assaults, criminal harassment, and child abuse cases. She is responsible for identifying and assisting victims that are in crisis through advocacy and support. Detective Lopez works closely with the District Attorney's Office, the Department of Children and Families, and the Five College Community. She has also established a series of outreach programs that have been very successful.

The past fiscal year was an active one for the detective bureau. Several extensive investigations were undertaken, including serious motor vehicle collisions, robberies, burglaries, thefts, and assaults. A total of 210 suspects were identified and charged through arrest, summons or indictment for a total of 308 crimes.

The detective bureau has added two new investigators, Detective Jamie Reardon and Detective Michael Forcum. Their addition allows the detective bureau to provide support to the patrol division on a continuous basis. They join the aforementioned Detectives Lopez and Foster, as well as Sergeant David R. Knightly, Detective Christina B. Knightly, Detective Richard S. Maclean and Detective Gregory D. Wise to complete the current staffing.

Ronald A. Young  
Lieutenant

**POLICE PERSONNEL CHANGES**  
**JULY 1 2012 – JUNE 30, 2013**

**RESIGNATIONS:**

*Sworn Police Officers*

Hunter J. Guiles

Carlos M. Gutierrez

July 1, 2012

December 3, 2012

*Civilian Personnel*

**RETIRED:**

*Sworn Police Officers*

**NEW HIREES:**

*Sworn Police Officers*

Rita M. Contardo

Samuel W. Hebb

Michael J. Barone

September 4, 2012

September 24, 2012

January 3, 2013

*Civilian Personnel*

Amber Sullivan

July 9, 2012

**PROMOTION:**

*Sworn Police Officers*

**TERMINATION:**

*Sworn Police Officers*

## **Awards and Recognition**

July 12, 2012

The Amherst Police Department was awarded \$55,000 from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety and Security to fund the salary, benefits, training and equipment needs of a Civilian Crime and Intelligence Analyst at the police department. Amber Sullivan was hired by the department to assist in the prevention and reduction of crime and disorder by conducting data analysis of crime, traffic and other incident research, and offer input on strategic and tactical decisions related to the staffing and deployment of officers.

August 24, 2012

The Amherst Police Department was the recipient of an Award of Excellence for Municipal Departments in the annual Massachusetts Law Enforcement Challenge (MLEC). The Challenge is a joint initiative supported by the Massachusetts Chiefs of Police Association (MCOPA) and the Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety and Security (EOPSS). The award program recognizes police departments from across the state for their traffic safety efforts to reduce motor vehicle-related fatalities, injuries and economic loss in communities by combining traffic enforcement with public information and education

November 13, 2012

The Town of Amherst Police Department received a \$300,000 award from the Department of Justice, Office on Violence Against Women. This federal grant was obtained in collaboration with the University of Massachusetts Police Department, the University of Massachusetts Center for Women & Community (CWC) and the Northampton Police Department. The award will continue to fund a full-time Civilian Advocate, Ilana Gerjuoy, who currently works on site at the Amherst and University of Massachusetts Police Departments assisting survivors of domestic and sexual violence.

December 3, 2012

The Amherst Police Department received a Traffic Enforcement Grant in the amount of \$6,000 from the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security, Highway Safety Division. The funds from this grant were utilized to fund the Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over and Click It or Ticket mobilizations. The grant funding enabled the Amherst Police Department to increase traffic enforcement of drunk driving laws and seat belt violations.

March 13, 2013

The Amherst Police Department was the recipient of \$10,000 in grant funding as part of the 2013 Underage Alcohol Enforcement Grant Program from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety and Security (EOPSS). This program provides overtime funds

for the enforcement of underage alcohol laws through activities such as compliance checks at liquor serving establishments, party patrols, and surveillance patrols. The Amherst Police intends to use this funding to assign extra patrols to enforce the open container of alcohol bylaw and underage drinking laws.

May 2, 2013

The Amherst Police Department was awarded state accreditation from the Massachusetts Police Accreditation Commission. In 2001, the Amherst Police Department became the second police department in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to be awarded accreditation status, and was successfully reaccredited in 2004, 2007 and 2010. The police department was subject to an extensive peer review process in February by the Commission's assessment team. While here and as part of the verification process, assessors examined the department's policies, procedures, operations, staffing, equipment and facility maintenance to demonstrate adherence to the Accreditation Commission's strict, best practice standards. The Amherst Police Department successfully passed all 252 mandatory standards and exceeded the required optional standards by twenty percent.

June 6, 2013

The Amherst Police Department was awarded \$5,000 to enhance pedestrian and bicycle safety. The grant was provided by the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security (EOPSS) with funding from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) specifically to improve pedestrian and bicyclist safety. Amherst was one of 48 police departments to receive this grant. The grant will fund targeted enforcement and decoy patrols, breakaway signs and crosswalk reflective tape. A combination of enforcement techniques and equipment will help the department analyze and crack down on drivers, pedestrians, and cyclists who do not share the road appropriately, putting themselves or others in danger.

June 27, 2013

The Amherst Police Department, for the second consecutive year, has been awarded a grant from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety and Security (EOPSS) under the Edward J. Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program. The \$41,250 grant award will enable the department to extend the Crime and Intelligence Analyst program for a twelve month period by funding the salary, benefits, training and equipment needs of Civilian Crime and Intelligence Analyst, Amber Sullivan, who was appointed after an extensive selection process in July 2012. Ms. Sullivan continues to work closely with patrol operations and the detective bureau to accomplish the police department's overall goal of reducing and preventing crime within the Amherst community.

The following officers were honored by the Amherst Police Department:

January 17, 2013

Officer Michael Forcum and Officer Scott Thurston were issued letters of Merit. Presented by their peers, these officers were recognized for their actions and professionalism while

investigating a disturbance at Village Park Apartments. While conducting an area canvass the officers heard an alarm and observed smoke coming out of a window air conditioning unit. The officers quickly made entry, attempted to ventilate the smoke filled apartment and during a sweep located and removed an unconscious, unresponsive citizen from the apartment. While the citizen was treated for smoke inhalation, the officer's actions and professionalism ensured a positive outcome in such a dangerous and potential lethal situation.

## Annual Report Communications Center FY2013

It is the mission of our emergency dispatchers to consistently provide the highest quality emergency and non-emergency services to the public in the most expedient and professional manner. They remain committed to serving as the vital link between the public and emergency service providers through responsiveness and technical excellence. Our emergency dispatchers strive to be lifelong learners. As required by their profession, they accept responsibilities, face and meet challenges and embrace necessary change with a willing and positive attitude.

The Massachusetts State 911 Department instituted some sweeping changes in FY2013 in regards to setting higher standards statewide for the profession. The State now requires all professional 911 dispatchers to attend a minimum of 16 hours of training per year. The Commonwealth also requires fully certified dispatchers attain and maintain certification in Emergency Medical Dispatch (EMD) and Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR). While the new mandates may have caused concerns in other departments, the only issue that needed to be addressed in the Amherst Communications Center was an increased level of documentation. As professional training has been a constant in the communication center for over a decade the new State directives had no impact on the current staff of professional emergency dispatchers. Professional development has been a mainstay with the staff in the communications center and certification in EMD and CPR were instituted long before the State mandate. Our emergency dispatchers continue to participate in training opportunities in house, online and throughout the region which enables them to acquire new skills to ensure they keep pace with the ever changing demands of their profession.

It is the goal of the communications center to remain one of the most progressive and professional communication centers in the region. As part of the new State standards, it is mandated that a community must retain an outside resource to provide Emergency Medical Dispatch (EMD) if a community is unable to attain EMD certification for their emergency dispatchers. After completing the application process with the state, on June 1, 2012 the Amherst Communications Center earned State recognition as a Certified Emergency Medical Dispatch Resource. Due to this fact, the Amherst Communication Center now provides EMD service to neighboring communities.

The unique demands of the position of emergency dispatcher have historically contributed to high employee turnover nationwide. The mandated hours needed to cover a 24 hour center coupled with the stress of the job itself, along with the stress it puts on an employee's personal life, often make it difficult to recruit and retain qualified personnel. However, due to the support of the town and additional funding from a State 911 grant the Amherst Communications Center remain fully staffed with highly trained, certified and professional emergency dispatchers.

We face some serious challenges looking forward to fiscal year 2014 including increasing call volume, the continued evolution of the public's expectations of their emergency dispatch staff and technologies such as next generation 911 (NG911) on the verge of being released nationwide.

The current staff includes Michael Curtin, William Worthley, Elizabeth Chudzik, Jessica Pronovost, Joshua Cicia, Janet Sharp, Scott Delpozso, Jason Rushford, Scott Houston, Stephanie Everett, Kevin Gleason and Jeremy Kommel-Bernstein. The department continues to monitor regional communications efforts and looks forward to the upcoming fiscal year.

Scott P. Livingstone  
Chief of Police



Annual Report, Communications Center  
FY 2013  
JULY 1 2012 – JUNE 30, 2013

**RESIGNATIONS:**

**RETIRED:**

**NEW HIREES:**

**PROMOTION:**

**TERMINATIONS:**

**CALLS FOR SERVICE**  
*Summary Report*  
**FISCAL YEAR 2013**

**Total Police Calls:           18,035**  
**Number of responders:       27,814**

<b>CALL CATEGORY</b>	<b># CALLS</b>	<b>#RESPONDERS</b>
ALARMS & SECURITY CHECKS	1984	2,925
ANIMAL WELFARE	545	700
ASSAULT	89	210
ASSIST OTHER AGENCY	466	671
COMMUNITY OUTREACH/ASSIST	5168	7,154
DEATH INVESTIGATION	15	74
DISTURBANCE RELATED INCIDENT	1668	4,438
INCIDENT FOLLOW UP	1676	1,875
MISSING PERSON OR CHILD	31	59
MOTOR VEHICLE CRASHES	786	1,269
MOTORIST INTERACTIONS	3007	4,144
PROPERTY DAMAGE	135	174
SERVICE OF PROTECTION ORDERS, SUMMONS AND COURT ORDERS	829	1,105
SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY	1229	2,381
THEFT	407	635
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>18,035</b>	<b>27,814</b>

**CALLS FOR SERVICE**  
*Detailed Report*  
**FISCAL YEAR 2013**

<b>ALARMS &amp; SECURITY CHECKS</b>	<b>1984</b>	<b>11%</b>
Security Check	1,117	
Commercial Alarm		
Residential Alarm	197	
911 Hang Up	231	
Bank / A T M Alarm	62	
Open Door/Window	39	
House Check	3	
<b>ANIMAL WELFARE</b>	<b>545</b>	<b>3%</b>
Animal Complaint	424	
Animal Admin Services	121	
<b>ASSAULT</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>0%</b>
Assault	52	
Sex Offense	17	
Robbery	3	
Rape	17	
<b>ASSIST OTHER AGENCY</b>	<b>466</b>	<b>3%</b>
Assist Other P D	299	
PERMITS	87	
Parking Ban	76	
PD Mutual Aid Into Amherst	4	
<b>COMMUNITY OUTREACH/ASSIST</b>	<b>5168</b>	<b>29%</b>
Assist Citizen	732	
Assist Business/Agency	746	
Medical Assist	494	
Community Policing	660	
Well Being Check	422	
Assist A F D	440	
Liquor Law Violation	294	
Escort	290	
Recovered Property	302	

Admin Duty	252	
Prop/Evid Admin	247	
Medical / Mental	86	
Citizen Transport	142	
Liquor I D Check	38	
Protective Custody	17	
Recovered M V	6	
<b>DEATH INVESTIGATION</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>0%</b>
Unattended Death	15	
<b>DISTURBANCE RELATED INCIDENT</b>	<b>1668</b>	<b>9%</b>
Noise Complaint	868	
Disturbance	559	
Domestic	134	
Fight	91	
T B L Violation	16	
<b>INCIDENT FOLLOW UP</b>	<b>1676</b>	<b>9%</b>
Follow Up	1,347	
Prisoner Transport	175	
Prisoner Monitor/Booking	59	
On-Line Incident Report	48	
Crime Scene/admin	30	
Civil Complaint	11	
Lock Up Incident	6	
<b>MISSING PERSON OR CHILD</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>0%</b>
Missing Child	13	
Missing Person	9	
Located Person	9	
<b>MOTOR VEHICLE CRASHES</b>	<b>786</b>	<b>4%</b>
M V Crash P D	686	
M V Crash P I	100	
<b>MOTORIST INTERACTIONS</b>	<b>3007</b>	<b>17%</b>
M V Stop	1,477	
Traffic	573	
Suspicious Motor Vehicle	472	
M V Complaint	149	
Disabled Motor Vehicle	192	
Traffic Enforcement	112	
Assist Motorist	15	
Traffic Monitor	14	
M V Pursuit	3	

<b>PROPERTY DAMAGE</b>	<b>135</b>	<b>1%</b>
Vandalism	135	
<b>SERVICE OF PROTECTION ORDERS, SUMMONS AND OTHER COURT ORDERS</b>	<b>829</b>	<b>5%</b>
Warrant Service	155	
Summons Service	318	
209 A	241	
258E Harassment Order	115	
<b>SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY</b>	<b>1229</b>	<b>7%</b>
Suspicious	1,115	
Trespass	62	
Drug Law Violation	20	
Annoying Call(s)	28	
Special / Unusual Occurrence	4	
<b>THEFT</b>	<b>407</b>	<b>2%</b>
Larceny	180	
B & E	74	
B & E M V	52	
Shoplifting	30	
Fraud	32	
Missing Property	27	
Stolen M V	12	

# OFFENSES REPORTED AND OFFENSES CHARGED

## *Summary Report*

FISCAL YEAR 2013

Total Offenders Charged: 1,563

Custodies: 832

Summons or Bylaw Citation 731

OFFENSE CATEGORY	OFFENSE INVESTIGATED	OFFENSE CHARGED
ALCOHOL RELATED OFFENSES	655	655
COMMUNITY DISORDER/QUALITY OF LIFE CRIMES	536	524
CRIMES AGAINST PERSON	402	228
CRIMES AGAINST PROPERTY	630	198
DRUG RELATED OFFENSES	154	144
MOTOR VEHICLE OFFENSES	724	680
WARRANT CUSTODIES	93	93
WEAPONS OFFENSES	1	1

## OFFENSES REPORTED

### *Detailed Report*

FISCAL YEAR 2013

<b>CRIMES AGAINST PERSON</b>	<b>402</b>
A&B	60
RESIST ARREST	50
A&B (DOMESTIC)	47
ASSAULT	20
ABUSE PREVENTION ORDER, VIOLATE	19
A&B WITH DANGEROUS WEAPON	18
A&B ON POLICE OFFICER	17
ASSAULT W/DANGEROUS WEAPON	17
RAPE	17
HARASSMENT, CRIMINAL	15
IDENTITY THEFT	12
ASSAULT (DOMESTIC)	11
WITNESS, INTIMIDATE	10
A&B SERIOUS BODILY INJURY	7
INDECENT A&B ON PERSON 14 OR OVER	5
INDECENT EXPOSURE	5
ROBBERY, UNARMED	5
ASSAULT / A&B DOMESTIC SECOND / SUB.	3
ASSAULT IN DWELLING, ARMED	3
CONTRIBUTE TO DELINQUENCY OF CHILD	3
A&B ON +60/DISABLED WITH INJURY	2
A&B PREGNANT PERSON	2
RAPE OF CHILD, STATUTORY	2
A&B ON CHILD WITH INJURY	1
ASSAULT TO RAPE	1
BURGLARY, ARMED & ASSAULT	1
INDECENT A&B ON CHILD UNDER 14	1
OBSCENE MATTER TO MINOR	1
ROBBERY, FIREARM-ARMED	1
OTHER CRIMES AGAINST PERSON	46
<b>ALCOHOL CRIMES</b>	<b>655</b>
LIQUOR, PERSON UNDER 21 POSSESS	344

TBL A2 S6: OPEN CONTAINER OF ALCOHOL	205
PROTECTIVE CUSTODY	54
LIQUOR ID CARD/LICENSE, FALSE/MISUSE	16
TBL A24 S4: UNLAWFUL POSSESSION OF KEG	15
LIQUOR TO PERSON UNDER 21, SELL/DELIVER	14
OTHER ALCHOL OFFENSES	6

<b>ARRESTED ON OTHER AGENCY WARRANT</b>	<b>93</b>
ARRESTED ON WARRANT INITIATED BY OTHER AGENCY	83
FUGITIVE FROM JUSTICE ON COURT WARRANT	3

<b>DRUG OFFENSE</b>	<b>154</b>
MARIJUANA, POSSESS LESS THAN OUNCE	103
DRUG, POSSESS CLASS B	18
DRUG, POSSESS CLASS E	9
DRUG, POSSESS / CULTIVATE TO DISTRIB CLASS D	7
CONSPIRACY TO VIOLATE DRUG LAW	4
DRUG, POSSESS CLASS A	4
DRUG, DISTRIBUTE CLASS D	2
DRUG, POSSESS CLASS C	2
DRUG, POSSESS TO DISTRIB CLASS C	2
DRUG, POSSESS TO DISTRIB CLASS A	1
OTHER DRUG OFFENSE	2

<b>PROPERTY CRIME</b>	<b>630</b>
LARCENY OVER \$250	150
LARCENY UNDER \$250	94
B&E NIGHTTIME FOR FELONY	54
B&E FOR MISDEMEANOR	22
MOTOR VEH, MALICIOUS DAMAGE TO	22
B&E VEHICLE FOR MISDEMEANOR	20
VANDALIZE PROPERTY	20
B&E DAYTIME FOR FELONY	19
B&E VEHICLE NIGHTTIME FOR FELONY	16
DESTRUCTION OF PROPERTY +\$250, MALICIOUS	16
DEFACE PROPERTY	15
DESTRUCTION OF PROPERTY -\$250,WANTON	30
DESTRUCTION OF PROPERTY +\$250, WANTON	13



TRESPASS	13
B&E VEHICLE / BOAT DAYTIME FOR FELONY	11
RECEIVE STOLEN PROPERTY +\$250	11
LARCENY FROM BUILDING	9
MOTOR VEH, LARCENY OF	9
LARCENY FROM PERSON	5
SHOPLIFTING BY ASPORTATION	9
RECEIVE STOLEN PROPERTY -\$250	4
SHOPLIFTING \$100+ BY CONCEALING MDSE	4
OTHER PROPERTY CRIME	64

**MOTOR VEHICLE OFFENSE 724**

OUI LIQUOR	133
OPERATION OF M/V To ENDANGER, NEGLIGENT	54
UNLICENSED OPERATION OF MV	44
LICENSE SUSPENDED, OP MV WITH	38
LEAVE SCENE OF PROPERTY DAMAGE	36
OUI LIQUOR, 2ND OFFENSE	16
UNINSURED MOTOR VEHICLE	11
UNREGISTERED MOTOR VEHICLE	9
LEAVING ACCIDENT SCENE AFTER PROPERTY DAMAGE	8
OPERATION OF M/V TO ENDANGER, RECKLESS	8
USE MV WITHOUT AUTHORITY	8
LICENSE REVOKED, OPERATE MV WITH	7
LICENSE SUSPENDED, OP MV WITH, second or subsequent	6
STOP FOR POLICE, FAIL	6
LEAVE SCENE OF PERSONAL INJURY	5
OUI DRUGS	3
LICENSE REVOKED AS HTO, OPERATE MV WITH	3
OUI LIQUOR, 3RD OFFENSE	1
OUI LIQUOR, 5TH OFFENSE	1
OTHER MOTOR VEHICLE OFFENSE	327

**QUALITY OF LIFE CRIMES 536**

TBL A2 S3: UNLAWFUL NOISE	223
TBL A2: NUISANCE HOUSE	131
DISORDERLY CONDUCT	122
NOISY & DISORDERLY HOUSE, KEEP	18
RIOT, FAIL DISPERSE	11
TBL ART 2 S 6 LITTERING	11

DISTURBING THE PEACE	10
SEX OFFENDER FAIL TO REGISTER	5
Dangerous Weapon, Possess While Committing Breach of Peace	3
RIOT, INCITE	1
SCHOOL, DISTURB	1
<b>WEAPONS CRIMES</b>	<b>1</b>
Dangerous Weapon, Possession While Arrested on Warrant	1

## **CITATIONS AND CRASH DATA FISCAL YEAR 2013**

### **CITATION:**

- Total Motorists: 2,710
- Total Violations: 3,465
  - Motorists Issued Warnings: 2,187
  - Motorists Issued Civil Infractions: 252
  - Motorists Issued Criminal Infractions: 271

### **CRASH:**

- Total Crashes: 790
  - Crashes with Injury: 100
  - Crashes/Fatal: 1
  - Crashes with Pedestrians: 12
  - Crashes/Bicycles: 23
  - Crashes/OUI: 25