



Barnegat Police

2021 Annual Report

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Mission & Values

Mission:

The mission of the Barnegat Township Police Department is to provide for the well-being of the community through effective police provision of order maintenance, law enforcement, emergency services, and crime prevention; to guarantee the constitutional rights of all people, to provide rapid response to those in danger or otherwise in need of aid, and to maintain an open dialogue with citizens in order to identify problems within Barnegat Township and resolve those problems through an interactive partnership with the community we serve.

Values:

Integrity - Integrity is a core agency value and is demanded of every member, at all times. We recognize that integrity is the foundation of community trust.

Empathy - Empathy is among the most fundamental values that we embrace. Empathy promotes cooperation and understanding. The ability to see a situation from another's perspective is critical to conflict resolution, de-escalation, and collaborative solutions.

Accountability - We are accountable to each other, and to the people we serve.

Fairness - Treating all people with fairness is basic to human dignity.

Respect - Respect for the community is essential for establishing and maintaining the spirit of cooperation needed to be an outstanding police department

Vision:

Our vision is to create the environment where residents are free to live their lives safe from fear of crime, and confident in the fact that we will be there to help them solve their problem when they need us.

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COMMAND STAFF



Chief – Keith A. Germain
Chief of Police



Captain – Jason Carroll
Executive Officer



Lieutenant – Jeffrey Ryan
Support Services Division Commander



Lieutenant – Andrew Parsley
Operations Division Commander

SENIOR MANAGEMENT INSTITUTE FOR POLICE



Captain Jason Carroll graduated from the Police Executive Research Forum's elite, three-week Senior Management Institute for Police (SMIP).

SMIP is a program of the Police Executive Research Forum that provides senior police executives with intensive training in the latest management concepts and practices used in business and government. It also features discussions of the most challenging issues facing law enforcement executives today.

A demanding three-week course, SMIP brings together a faculty from top universities, successful law enforcement chief executives, and subject matter experts from the private sector. It is designed for mid- to upper-level police executives who ultimately will lead police agencies throughout the United States and other participating countries. SMIP's curriculum addresses the issues that demand the attention of today's forward-thinking law enforcement leaders.

Chief Keith A. Germain recognized Captain Carroll for his excellent performance at the institute and his commitment to continued professional development.

"While we have an outstanding agency, we recognize our responsibility to always get better and put in the effort to make sure that we are on the very cutting edge of the profession," said Germain.

"Captain Carroll is the perfect example of a selfless servant leader who has spent an entire career putting the welfare of the agency and our service population ahead of his own. We're fortunate to have leaders of his caliber who are willing to take the time far away from family and friends to put in the work required to be a top-tier law enforcement executive."

Tuition for the institute, typically held in Boston but held in Orlando this year due to Covid, was paid for with drug seizure funds.



**Captain Jason
Carroll**



NJSACOP Command & Leadership Academy

Lieutenant Andrew Parsley graduated from the highly competitive and challenging NJSACOP Command & Leadership Academy.

Chief Keith A. Germain recognized Parsley as an invaluable member of the Command Staff.

“His work ethic and dedication is unmatched,” said Germain.

“He represents the ideal for our agency. From his positive attitude, to his willingness to take on any challenge, to his team-first approach that makes everyone around him better-- if up and coming officers want a blueprint for a successful career done the right way, they’ve got the perfect example leading the Operations Division right now.”

Lieutenant Parsley performed so well throughout the 13-week course that he has been invited back as an instructor for the Spring session of the Command & Leadership Academy.

To develop the program, NJSACOP officials traveled to the U.S. Military Academy at West Point to work with the Academy's Department of Behavioral Sciences and Leadership to adapt the fabled West Point model of command and leadership to the needs of law enforcement.

The result of this collaboration is the NJSACOP Command & Leadership Academy, a unique blend of theory and application. Candidates with the greatest leadership potential are selected for this highly competitive program from municipal, county, state, and federal agencies from throughout the region.



**Lieutenant Andrew
Parsley**



CALEA ADVANCED LAW ENFORCEMENT ACCREDITATION

CALEA Advanced Law Enforcement Accreditation is a status of achievement awarded to a police agency which is able to prove that it complies in both policy and practice with nearly 200 different professional standards.

The Barnegat Police Department became the first agency in the history of Ocean County to be awarded CALEA Advanced Law Enforcement Accreditation when it was found to be in full compliance with the standards in November of 2011. Our agency was awarded its second re-accreditation in 2014, its third re-accreditation in 2017 and its fourth in 2021.

The difficulty in achieving CALEA Advanced Law Enforcement Accreditation is evidenced by some simple statistics. Of the nearly five-hundred police departments in the state, only eight have received Law Enforcement Accreditation. Additionally, there are no other CALEA Law Enforcement accredited agencies in either Ocean or Atlantic counties.

What are the Benefits of Accreditation?

Accountability: CALEA standards give the Chief of Police a proven management system of written directives, sound training, clearly defined lines of authority, and routine reports that support decision-making and resource allocation.

Reduced Risk and Liability Exposure: Barnegat Township receives a reduction in liability insurance fees and deductibles because of the department's accredited status.

Stronger Defense Against Civil Lawsuits: Accredited agencies are better able to defend themselves against civil lawsuits. Also, many agencies report a decline in legal actions against them once they become accredited.

Increased Community Support: Accreditation embodies the precepts of Community Oriented Policing. It creates a forum in which law enforcement agencies and citizens work together to prevent and control challenges confronting law enforcement and provides clear direction about community expectations.



DEPARTMENT HISTORY

The Barnegat Police Department first opened its doors at 8:00am on Tuesday, July 3rd, 1973. The agency started with just three officers: Chief William Brazzel, Patrolman Kenneth Vogel, and Patrolman Harold Powell. The early Barnegat PD patrolled the Township from 8am to midnight.

The first police department headquarters was located on West Bay Avenue near Route 9 on the second floor of what was then the municipal building. That building was originally constructed in 1910 as Barnegat's first post office.

More officers would be added during the 1970s as the town's population steadily grew. Some of those early officers would have a large impact on the future of the agency. Ed Smith and Joe Manger, both veterans of the Woodbridge Police Department would leave Woodbridge PD for jobs in Barnegat. Both would become Chief; Chief Smith in 1979, and Chief Manger upon Smith's retirement in 2004.

On January 1, 1977, Barnegat officially changed its name from Union Township to Barnegat Township. Consequently, the agency was officially changed from the Union Township Police Department to the Barnegat Township Police Department.

Also in 1977, Barnegat PD became just the second police agency in New Jersey to make the change to semi-automatic firearms, arming its officers with the Smith and Wesson Model 39. While Dover Township PD (Toms River) was the first in New Jersey to make the change to semi-auto pistols (6 months before Barnegat PD), Barnegat PD was the first agency in New Jersey to use 9mm semi-automatic pistols.

By 1977, the town's population had grown to 8,000 and the department had grown to eight patrolmen, two lieutenants, a captain, and a detective.

In 1979, Edward Smith was appointed Chief of Police.

In 1981, the department moved to its current location at 900 West Bay Avenue. Other than a small addition, the building that housed the agency's 14 officers in 1981 is the same one that houses the 51 officers who work for the department today.

In 1991, Barnegat PD began using its first Computer Aided Dispatch and Records Management System provided by Computer Information Systems, a Chicago-based company.

In June of 2000, Captain Kenneth Vogel, one of the original three officers, became the first officer to retire from the Barnegat Police Department after 25 or more years of service.

In 2002, Sarah Girgenti was hired as the department's first female officer. The next two years saw the addition of three more female officers giving the department the highest percentage of female officers in Ocean County.

In 2004, Barnegat PD transitioned fully from shotguns to patrol rifles (Colt M4) becoming what is believed to be the first agency in New Jersey to deploy patrol rifles as the only agency long guns.

In 2004, Barnegat PD installed mobile data computers in all of its marked patrol cars, vastly increasing officer capabilities and efficiencies while in the field.

In 2005, Joseph Manger was appointed Chief of Police. Manger was a veteran of Woodbridge PD before joining the Barnegat force in 1975. Manger started the Detective Bureau within the Barnegat Police Department as the first detective and created many of the processes and procedures still in place today. With his appointment as Chief, Manger represented the first change in leadership for the department in over two decades. Manger engineered the first major restructuring of the department's organizational structure since its inception and was the driving force behind the professionalization of the police department through the pursuit of accreditation.

In March of 2005, Barnegat PD issued QuikClot Hemostatic Agent to its officers, becoming one of the first agencies in the state to provide the unique treatment for traumatic bleeding control.

In December of 2006, Arthur P. Drexler was appointed Chief of Police.

In 2007, Barnegat PD installed mobile video recorders (MVRs) in all of its marked patrol cars, becoming one of the first agencies in Ocean County to fully adopt mobile cameras.

In 2008, the Barnegatpolice.com website was launched.

In November of 2008, Barnegat PD was awarded state accreditation by the New Jersey State Association of Chiefs of Police. The accreditation award was the culmination of Chief Manger's vision of professionalism and accountability and the pursuit of accreditation that he began in 2005.

On February 24, 2011, Barnegat PD launched its Facebook Page.

In November of 2011, Barnegat PD was awarded international accreditation from CALEA (Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies), becoming the first agency in the history of Ocean County to be CALEA accredited (and one of only seven CALEA accredited municipal police agencies in the State of New Jersey).

Today, Barnegat PD remains the only CALEA accredited agency in Ocean County, having successfully earned re-accreditation in 2014, 2017 and 2021.

On February 1, 2012 Barnegat Ptl. Lauren Keilitz and Ptl. Michael Diblasi were featured on a live morning segment of Fox and Friends in New York City for the rescue of a man trapped in a burning vehicle. Ptl. Keilitz was able to get the car open and pulled the unresponsive man free of the vehicle as it was engulfed in flames. This marked the first time that a Barnegat Police officer appeared in a live, national news studio broadcast.

On February 9, 2016, Barnegat Township entered into an agreement with the Ocean County Sheriff's Department to provide dispatch services for the agency.

On February 1, 2017, Richard J. Dugan became Chief of Police in his 30th year of service.

In July of 2017, Barnegat PD saw the first change in uniform since 1977, moving from the concealable vest and French blue button-down shirts, to the Cowell external vest carrier with French blue Blauer Armorskin shirts. This move allowed for the transfer of equipment and weight off of the duty belt to the load-bearing vest— a move that studies showed reduced injury to officers and on the job injury claims.

The move further allowed Barnegat PD to become the first agency in New Jersey to mandate the wearing of rifle-resistant body armor by all uniformed officers. The move further allowed the officers to carry their newly issued CAT-7 tourniquets.

On February 1, 2018, Keith A. Germain became the agency's 6th Chief of Police.

In November of 2018, Barnegat PD adopted a new patch and logo featuring the Half Moon, the ship on which Henry Hudson was sailing near Barnegat Inlet when the Dutch initially settled and named our area Barndegat.

In December of 2018, Barnegat PD began mandatory use of body worn cameras for all uniformed officers assigned to patrol duties.

On March 5, 2019, MaryAnn Cirulli was promoted to sergeant, becoming the first female sergeant in the history of the agency.

In June of 2019, Barnegat PD began deploying the Axon Taser X2 as a form of enhanced mechanical force, increasing the available force options for officers on dangerous calls for service.

In January of 2020, Barnegat PD launched its new sUAV (drone) unit with the addition of a DJI Matrice 210 sUAV equipped with FLIR thermal imaging and 300x zoom optics. The sUAV can be used for missing persons or suspect searches, surveillance, scale MVA diagramming, and special event or critical incident situational awareness.

On October 6, 2020, the Barnegat Township Committee awarded a bid for the construction of a new police headquarters and town hall. The bid was awarded to Frankoski Construction Company of East Orange, New Jersey.

In October of 2020, the agency launched its Precision Policing Initiative. Precision policing is a systematic and proactive approach to ensuring public safety. It organizes a police agency's structure around data and information to build investigations of high value suspects committing the most crimes. It involves a more collaborative inter-agency cooperation, but also a strong focus on community collaboration. Precision Policing is built upon the foundation of two primary components: Focused Enforcement and Neighborhood Policing.

The establishment of Neighborhood Policing Zones marked the first significant change in patrol zones and assignment of areas of responsibility in more than four decades.

On April 1, 2021, the Stafford Township Police Department began providing dispatch services for Barnegat PD.

Barnegat PD Duty Pistol History

1973: Smith and Wesson Model 66; .357 caliber revolver

1977: Smith and Wesson Model 39; 9mm semi-automatic pistol

1994: Glock 19; 9mm semi-automatic pistol

2000: Glock 22; .40 caliber semi-automatic pistol

2014: Glock 21; .45 caliber semi-automatic pistol



Barnegat PD Patch

Barnegat started as a bayside village whose inhabitants historically made their living and often survived off of the sea. When Henry Hudson first anchored off of Barnegat Inlet on September 2, 1609, it was recorded in the ship's log that this area was "a very good land to fall in with, and a pleasant land to see."

Hudson's visit led to a series of explorations by Dutch ships and explorers and led to the first European settlers here. It also resulted in the area being named Barndegat— a Dutch word meaning a pool created by a dike breach— which morphed into our present-day name of Barnegat. To read about the history of the name "Barnegat," and why it *does not* mean an "inlet of breakers"

Hudson's ship during that first visit was the Halve Maen (Half Moon), a Dutch vlieboot (flyboat). It serves as the centerpiece of the new patch. Flying on the stern of the ship is the Prince's Flag, which flew on Dutch ships of that period.

The Prince's flag influenced several official flags in the area including the flags of New York City, Albany, Jersey City, Bronx, Albany, and Hofstra University, among others. In our case, its colors serve as the basis for the orange in the outside of the patch and the blue of the water.

Above "Police" on the patch sits our agency motto, *a regnati consensu*, which translates to "from the consent of the governed"— a line borrowed from the Declaration of Independence that states "Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed."

The patch retains a shape similar to the 1977-2018 Barnegat Police patch as a nod to its longevity during all but the first few years of the agency's existence.

The Safest Cities in New Jersey 2021

safewise.com

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INDEPENDENT STUDY FINDS BARNEGAT TOWNSHIP TO BE THE SAFEST TOWN IN OCEAN COUNTY

Years ago, Barnegat was a very different town. If we use 1992 as an example, there were 2 murders (none in 2020), 33 aggravated assaults (9 in 2020), and 55 burglaries (12 in 2020). Those significantly higher crime numbers in 1992 occurred despite the fact that the population at that time was less than half what it is today.

Nearly 30 years later, the partnership between the community and the police department continues to pay dividends as we enjoy historically low crime rates (typically the lowest of any town in Ocean County with more than 10k residents) and a designation as the safest town in Ocean County.

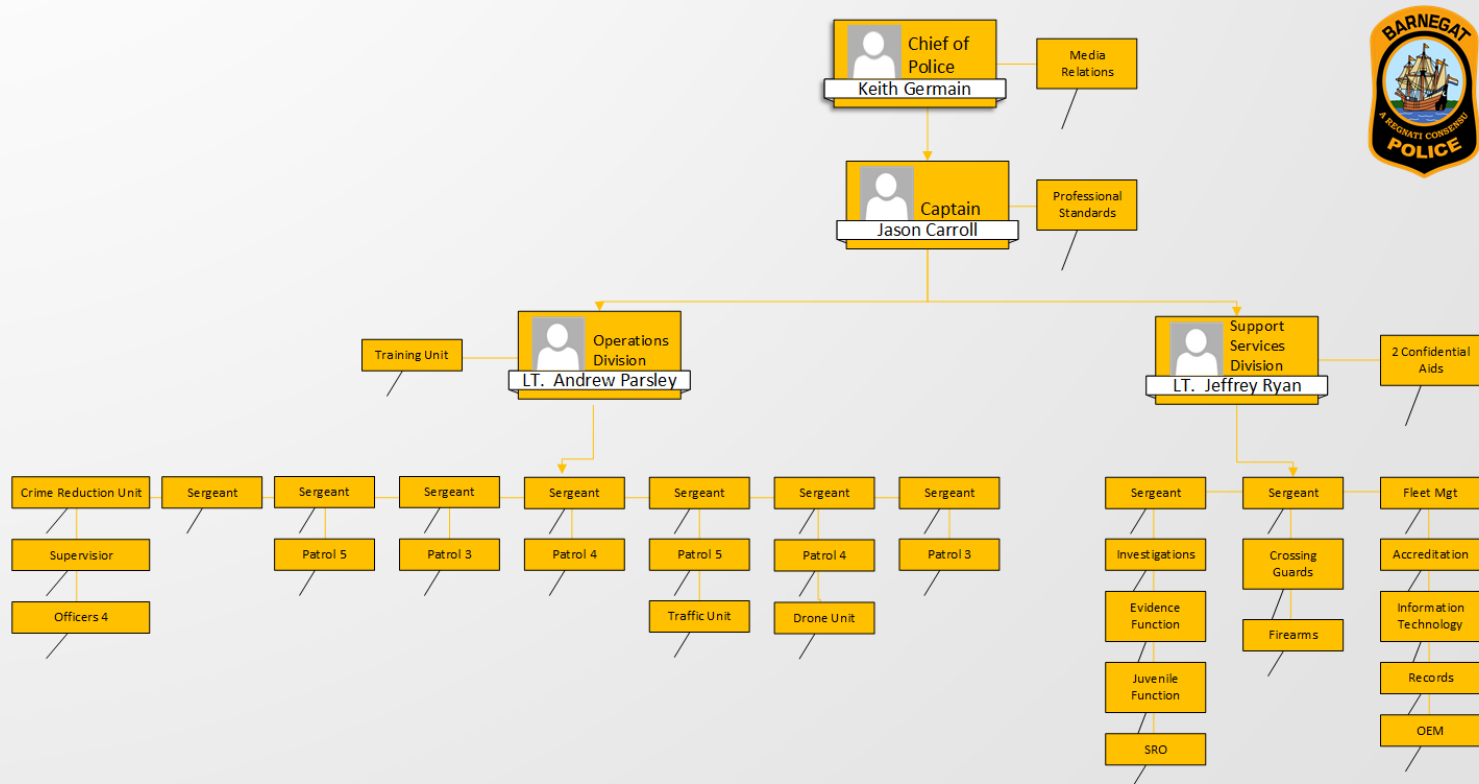
At the same time, our dedicated and committed officers handled nearly 21,000 calls for service in 2021 and used reportable force in only 30 of those calls for service--meaning our officers peacefully resolved and/or effectively de-escalated 99.9% of their calls for service.

And that's the winning formula: a professional, adaptable, and well-trained police department paired with a supportive and engaged community.

“There's no doubt that the Neighborhood Policing model that we embraced last year is already paying dividends and having a positive impact on our ability to keep Barnegat one of the safest communities in Ocean County”, said Chief Keith Germain



DEPARTMENT ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



2021 Promotions

Jason Carroll to the rank of Captain



Captain Carroll became a Barnegat Police officer in 2001 after serving on active duty with the United States Coast Guard for 8 years. He has been involved in the department training unit from the early days of his career and was promoted to the rank of Sergeant in 2006. He served as a Patrol Sergeant until 2016 when he assumed the duties of the Internal Affairs and Community Policing functions. He took over as the patrol division commander when he was promoted to Lieutenant in 2018. Captain Carroll received his Bachelor's Degree from Fairleigh Dickinson University in 2017 and earned his Master's Degree in Administrative Science from FDU in 2019. As Captain, Carroll acts as the executive officer of the agency and oversees the Professional Standards Unit.

Andrew Parsley to the rank of Lieutenant

Lieutenant Andrew Parsley began his career at Barnegat Twp. in 2005 after graduation from the Ocean County Police Academy. In 2007 he became a member of the Ocean County Regional SWAT team and Ocean County Sniper Platoon until January of 2018 when Andrew was promoted to the rank of Sergeant within the Operations Division. In February 2021, Andrew was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant and is currently assigned as the division commander of the Operations Division. In addition to being a member of the BTPD Training Unit since 2008, he served as a Physical Fitness Instructor at the Ocean County Police Academy where he assisted in the training of all police recruits.



Vincent Damiano to the rank of Sergeant

Sergeant Vincent Damiano began his career with the Barnegat Township Police Department in April of 2008. He worked as a Patrolman for a majority of his career, with temporary assignments to the Detective Bureau. He was afforded the opportunity to become a Field Training Officer where he trained new officers for their career as a Barnegat Township Police Officer. He was responsible for spearheading the department drone program and serves as the unit head since its inception. He was promoted to Sergeant in February of 2021 where he is currently assigned to the patrol division. He is a first-line supervisor for the evening shift and strives to have a positive impact on the officers under his command and the residents of Barnegat Township.



Bryan Nogowski to the rank of Sergeant

Sergeant Bryan Nogowski began his career in law enforcement in 2001 with the Long Beach Township Police Department as a Class 1 Police Officer. He continued his career with the Ocean Township Police Department for four years as a Communications Officer and was then hired by the department as a Class II Police Officer after attending the Burlington County Police Academy. In 2006 he began his career with the Barnegat Township Police Department as a Patrolman until being promoted to Sergeant in October of 2021. During his career, he has served as a Field Training Officer and was a member of the department's Bicycle and Motorcycle Unit. He is currently an instructor in the Department's Training Unit and the Department's Supervisor of the Law Enforcement Support Office program.



2021 Hire



Ptl. Daniel Dugan

Ptl. Dugan was hired on February 2, 2021. Ptl. Dugan represented home-grown talent being born and raised in Barnegat. He came to our agency with experience as a Class II SLEO with the South Toms River Police Department. Despite finishing 2nd overall on our entrance test, he was skipped three times as his uncle's employment with the agency barred his hiring under the township's nepotism ordinance. With Captain Dugan's retirement, Ptl. Dugan became eligible for appointment.

2021 Retirement



Cpt. Ryan Dugan

Captain Ryan Dugan, #293 retired after nearly 31 years of honorable and commendable service to Barnegat Township. Captain Dugan started with the agency as a dispatcher and rose through the ranks as a patrol officer, detective, sergeant, lieutenant, and captain. He served his final three years as the agency's executive officer.



“It makes sense from an operational standpoint, and it makes sense from a financial standpoint.” – Chief Keith Germain

For most of Barnegat PD’s history, we had in-house dispatch service. 9-1-1 calls have always gone to the County. The County has also historically dispatched our fire and first aid assets (going forward the County will continue to receive 9-1-1 calls and dispatch fire and first aid).

In 2016, faced with ballooning and unsustainable dispatch costs, the PD was at a crossroads. Among available options to resolve the cost issues were hiring additional dispatchers, negotiating changes to the collective bargaining agreement with dispatchers, or seeking a shared services agreement with another agency. Our agency’s recommendation at the time was to pursue a shared services agreement with the Ocean County Sheriff’s Department.

Sheriff Mastronardy stepped up in the PD’s hour of need and created a shared services solution that represented a significant cost savings for the Township. That 2016 Township Committee made the best decision for the Township based on the recommendation presented to them by the police department at that time.

For five years now, we’ve continued to receive feedback from the community and our officers that they miss the benefits of local dispatch. Our challenge has been to come up with a solution that provides the benefits of local dispatch, but with the cost savings inherent in a shared services agreement. A shared services agreement with Stafford for police dispatching presented an ideal solution. We get the benefit of local dispatch knowledge and a solution involving a neighboring agency with whom we work on a regular basis. It makes sense from an operational standpoint, and it makes sense from a financial standpoint.

As for in-house dispatch, I’d love to have that option. But the reality is that there is no way to bring dispatch back in-house without a significant cost increase. That is not a recommendation I am willing to make as I do not believe it is in the best interests of the agency or the Township.

I want to thank Sheriff Mastronardy and all of the hardworking members of the Ocean County Sheriff’s Department Communications Division for their support and service over the last five years. Sheriff Mastronardy has been exceedingly helpful to our agency and Township-- something that we will not forget.

I also want to thank Chief Dellane, the Stafford Township Mayor and Council, Stafford Township Administrator Matthew von der Hayden and Barnegat Administrator Martin Lisella for working with us to come up with a shared services agreement that benefits both townships. And finally, I want to thank Mayor Bille and this 2021 Barnegat Township Committee for making a decision on their first day of work to improve the overall service that we’re able to provide to our residents who deserve nothing less than the best.

We’re looking forward to this new partnership and to keeping Barnegat the safest town in Ocean County. --Chief



2021 Patrol Highlights

March 2021 – Units responded to a suicidal male armed with a firearm who barricaded himself in his residence. A lengthy negotiation process resulted in the subject surrendering peacefully and being transported to a psychiatric facility.

March 2021 – A report of a male standing on a vehicle kicking in the windshield resulted in one arrest.

March 2021 – A motor vehicle stop resulted in one arrest for possession of CDS and possession of urine for the purpose of defrauding a drug test.

April 2021 – A large fight incident in which one subject brandished a bat resulted in an arrest for unlawful possession of a weapon.

May 2021 – A Domestic Violence call resulted in one arrest after the subject attempted to flee resulting in a foot pursuit.

June 2021 – A call for a subject holding a knife to a women's throat in a vehicle resulted in one arrest.

June 2021 – A suspicious person call resulted in one subject being arrested for possession of a handgun.

July 2021 – A traffic stop resulted in one arrest for possession of Crystal Methamphetamine.

August 2021 – A concerned citizen reported suspicious traffic at a residence which resulted in three arrests for possession of heroin and paraphernalia.

August 2021 – A domestic violence incident resulted in one arrest for aggravated assault on an officer, resisting arrest and criminal mischief for defecating in the police jail cell.

September 2021 – A domestic violence incident resulted in one arrest for assault and strangulation.

September 2021 – One arrest was made for possession of a handgun after a subject threatened a delivery driver with the same.

September 2021 – A suspicious person incident resulted in one arrest after one nude male entered a residence and caused damage.

November 2021 – A disturbance call resulted in two arrests after one subject brandished a pipe and the other brandished a Taser device. A search warrant resulted in the seizure of an unregistered handgun.

December 2021 – A kidnapping call resulted in a 1st degree kidnapping charge and arrest after a subject took a juvenile from a home and crossed state lines.



CRIME REDUCTION UNIT (CRU) – 2021 HIGHLIGHTS

- May 2021 – CRU Units conducted a motor vehicle stop when the accused attempted to flee on foot. A search of the vehicle led to the seizure of methamphetamine and CDS packaging utilized for redistribution. At the conclusion of the investigation, units recovered 1 thousand dollars of methamphetamine and made two arrests for 3rd degree possession of CDS with the intent to distribute.
- May 2021 – CRU Units conducted a street operation in Settlers Landing. Subjects were observed engaging in a CDS transaction. At the conclusion of the investigation, units recovered 10 grams of crack cocaine and 40 ecstasy pills. Two arrests were made for 3rd degree possession of CDS with intent to distribute
- June 2021 – CRU Units executed a knock and announce search warrant in Settlers Landing along with an additional search warrant on a vehicle. At the conclusion of the investigation, units recovered 350 bags of heroin/fentanyl and made one arrest for 3rd degree possession with intent to distribute.
- June 2021 – CRU Units attempted to make a motor vehicle stop when the accused fled from the stop heading North on the Garden State Parkway. The vehicle was later located in Toms River where the driver was taken into custody. One arrest was made where the driver was charged with 2nd degree eluding.
- July 2021 – CRU Units conducted a motor vehicle stop at which time the occupants were observed concealing cocaine and heroin/fentanyl. At the conclusion of the investigation, units recovered \$2500.00 worth of cocaine and 50 bags of heroin/fentanyl. Two arrests were made for 2nd degree possession of CDS with intent to distribute.
- September 2021 – CRU units were conducting surveillance on a vehicle that traveled to Northern NJ where suspicious activity was observed. A motor vehicle stop was executed on the vehicle upon its return to Barnegat Township. At the conclusion of the investigation 1,550 bags of heroin/fentanyl (Street Value = \$15,000) were recovered. Four arrests were made for 2nd degree possession with intent to distribute.
- August – November 2021 – Multi-jurisdiction investigation led to 24 arrests for various offenses involving distribution of CDS, 24 search warrants executed resulting in the seizure of over 4 Kilograms of cocaine, over 15lbs of marijuana, over \$650,000 in seized currency, 7 firearms (3 handguns, 3 handguns “ghost guns”, and pistol grip shotgun), 10 vehicles (many high end) and additional illegal narcotics. The Investigation spanned Ocean, Monmouth and Middlesex counties also including Manhattan NYC.



Detective Bureau

2021 Highlights

January 2021 – A stabbing took place at Georgetown Park during a sale of Marijuana. At the conclusion of the investigation four arrests were made with a total of nine separate charges.

July 2021 – Multiple motor vehicles were stolen in overnight hours. Detectives identified two juvenile suspects who were charged with the thefts.

July 2021 – Multiple car thefts from the Horizons, Heritage Point and Pheasant run developments. At the conclusion of the investigation, four subjects were charged with a total of 8 separate charges.

August 2021 – Detectives investigated an assault which resulted in one arrest for 2nd degree aggravated assault.

September 2021 – Detectives identified and charged two subjects with theft and criminal trespass after entering homes in the Crosswinds Development and taking a video game system which was eventually returned to the owner.

September 2021 – Detectives investigated a subject who borrowed a vehicle from a friend and then falsely reported it stolen. One arrest was made for 3rd degree theft of the motor vehicle.

September 2021 - Various property locations within Barnegat Twp. were spray painted. Evidence recovered from a canvass resulted in the paint used, where it was purchased and who purchased it. One arrest was made for 4th degree criminal mischief.

October 2021 – A delivery driver left his vehicle idling in the lot of his place of employment which was then stolen. Two juveniles were charged with the theft. This incident resulted in a joint agency investigation which led to the apprehension in Atlantic City of the juveniles after a string of thefts throughout Ocean County.

November 2021 – An investigation involving a fight with weapons led to one arrest for 2nd degree robbery.

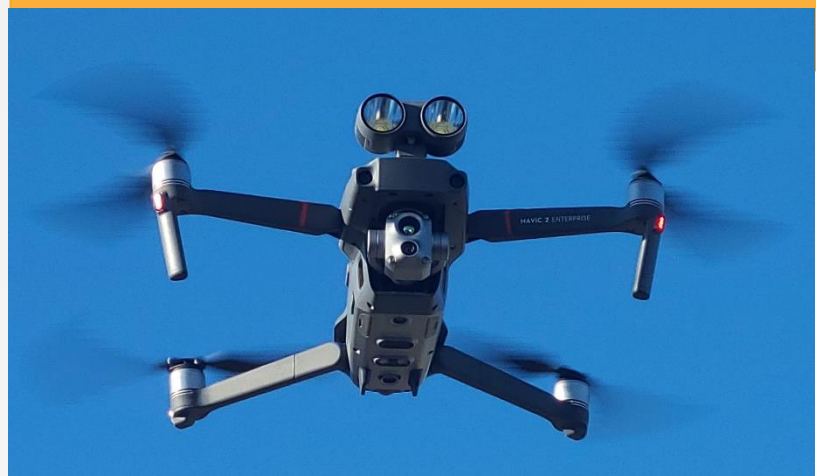
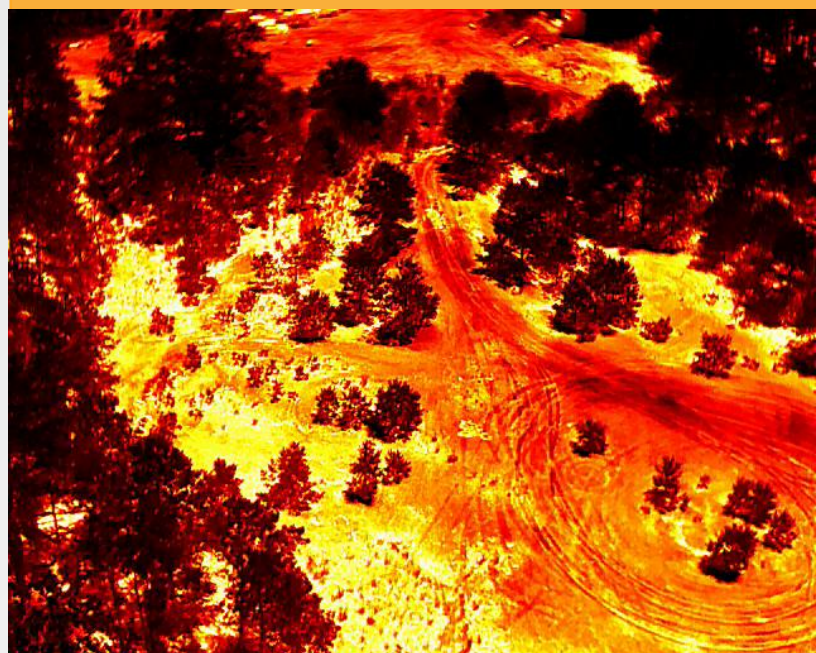
December 2021 – A resident became the victim of a scam in which the victim believed their grandchild had been arrested and needed bail money. Detectives worked with the Dept. of Homeland Security and Social Security Administration which led to two arrests.



BTPD

Drone Unit

The Barnegat Township Drone Unit was established in 2019 after our agency identified the need for the technology. Our Drone Unit consists of three drone models, each of which have a specific purpose. We have a larger Matrice M200 with interchangeable cameras used for search & rescue, accident reconstruction and general situational awareness. We also have two smaller drones which are different variations of the Mavic 2. The Mavic 2 drones are utilized for search & rescue, photo/video capture, communications with subjects on the ground, and general situational awareness. The key function of these drones is their ability to be deployed in just a few minutes; reducing response time to a missing or endangered person. Drones can also be used as a means to establish the size of a forest fire or flooded area due to a significant weather event. Our agency has a total of 10 trained UAV pilots as well as a Certificate of Authorization from the FAA granting the use of our drones for law enforcement purposes.





WOMEN IN LAW ENFORCEMENT

The Barnegat Police Department has been proud to have the largest percentage of female officers in our area for more than a decade. The women in our agency have and continue to fulfill numerous roles within the agency including patrol officer, SWAT team member, traffic safety investigator, assistant accreditation manager, and sergeant.

We continue to see historically high percentages of female applicants to our agency and applaud our current female officers who serve as great role models for women seeking a career of service in law enforcement.

**Barnegat
Township Police
Department has
the highest
amount of female
officers per
capita in Ocean
County**



SNOW BOWL CHAMPIONS

Barnegat Township Police Officers participated in the 2021 Snow Bowl. Held at MetLife Stadium, Snow Bowl is a 6-on-6 flag football fundraiser tournament to benefit the athletes of Special Olympics New Jersey. After a long day the BTPD team went undefeated (6-0) to bring home the championship!

From Left to Right:

Ptl. Calicchio

Ptl. Dugan

Sgt. Venuto

Ptl. Mason

Ptl. Henry

Ptl. Russionello

Ptl. Moran

Ptl. Negrón

Ptl. Carlo

Ptl. Lentini

Ptl. Simko

Supporting
Member:

Vincent Venuto



COMMUNITY POLICING



"Barnegat residents have made a significant investment in the Barnegat Police Department over the years," said Police Chief Keith Germain. "And while we're proud of the historic low crime rates we've achieved, we want to provide more value to the community."

NEIGHBORHOOD POLICING



In the old days— before policing became so dependent upon the automobiles that put both a physical and psychological barrier between officers and the residents— residents knew who their police officers were. They knew them by name. They were comfortable approaching them when there was a problem in their neighborhood.

In turn, the officers knew the neighborhood. They knew the residents. They could identify isolated problems and solve them before they grew into larger, community-wide problems.

As Barnegat grew and became busier over the past 50 years, officers became increasingly disconnected from the community. We lost that neighborhood connection and the ability to collaboratively solve problems at the neighborhood level.

The Neighborhood Policing Initiative is being embraced to reconnect the community with officers at the hyper-local level. The agency has set up 9 Neighborhood Policing Zones (NPZs) and assigned officers to each zone.

Those officers will work the assigned NPZ on a regular basis, allowing a return to the days when residents and officers knew each other by name and worked together to address issues impacting the neighborhood.

When there's an emergency, call 9-1-1. But when you have a problem or issue in the neighborhood that doesn't require an immediate or emergency response, we encourage you to reach out for one of your neighborhood officers.





Coffee with A Cop was launched in Hawthorne, California in 2011 when Officers from the Hawthorne Police Department were looking for ways to interact more successfully with the citizens they served each day. Community policing has long been considered a framework for establishing trust between the community and the police. However, over time the character and composition of our nation's communities have changed due to shifting demographics, more commuters, and the introduction of different communication methods such as websites and social media. The Hawthorne Police Department hit upon a simple plan to break through the barriers that have been built over the years—a cup of coffee. Coffee with a Cop events are now held in all 50 states and is one of the most successful community oriented policing programs across the country. The program has also expanded outside the United States to Canada, Europe, Australia, Africa, and Latin America. The key to Coffee with a Cop's growing success is that it opens the door for interactions outside of the crisis situations that typically bring law enforcement officers and community members together.

Barnegat officers held numerous coffee with a cop events during 2021 with the generous support of Wawa, who provided the coffee free of charge.



Introducing our newest hire: K9 Tracker



In August of 2021, Ptl. Russoniello was assigned as a K9 handler within the Crime Reduction Unit (CRU) and the Department purchased K9 "Tracker" from a reputable working dog breeder.

K9 "Tracker" is an 18 month old male German Shorthaired Pointer born in Belgium. He was brought over to the United States only days before the Department purchased him.

Ptl. Russoniello and his K9 "Tracker" successfully completed the NJ Department of Corrections K9 Scent School in December of 2021 and were certified as a Narcotics Detection K9 team.

During the K9 Scent School, K9 "Tracker" was imprinted on the following illegal narcotic substances: Heroin, Cocaine / Crack Cocaine, Meth-amphetamines and MDMA (Ecstasy).

Ptl. Russoniello and K9 "Tracker" have already conducted in excess of three hundred (300) searches while in training or actual deployments. These searches were conducted in various types of environments including in buildings, homes, vehicles, heavy equipment, boats, prisons and open fields.

Ptl. Russoniello and K9 "Tracker" conduct monthly "In-Service" trainings to maintain proficiency and certification as a Narcotics Detection K9 team.



2021 DEPARTMENT STATISTICS

Incident Statistics – Officers responded to a total of 20,894 calls for service in 2021.

Dispatch Statistics – Dispatchers handled a total of 35,618 requests in 2021.

Officer Interactions – Barnegat Township Police Officers recorded approximately 23,791 individual interactions with public in 2021.

Use of Force Statistics – In 2021, Barnegat Township Police Officers recorded force on a total of 30 incidents within the 20,894 incidents that they responded to.

Motor Vehicle Crash Statistics – Officers responded to 614 motor vehicle accidents in 2021.

Firearm Permit Statistics – 645 firearm applications were processed in 2021.

Drug Overdose Statistics – 58 overdoses were reported in 2021.

Forfeiture Assets Recovered – \$39,301 worth of assets were recovered throughout 2021.

2021 Grants Total – Total = \$33,000. In addition to regular grants, our agency received a state Body Worn Camera grant in the amount of \$114,128 as a result of the new state requirement for officers to wear body-worn cameras. Although our agency already began wearing BWC's in January of 2019, as a result of the grant we were able to upgrade our cameras spending \$21,261 of the grant. The balance of the grant may be utilized through 2025.

Detective Bureau Statistics – The Investigative Division was assigned to 275 cases in 2021. 54% of those cases were either deemed to be unfounded or cleared by Arrest, Summons, Warrant or Exceptionally cleared.



BTPD TRAINING UNIT

The Training Unit prides itself on preparing enhanced training for all law enforcement personnel to better prepare officers for any call for service. We believe through consistent training and education the officer will be successful in their decision making process, techniques, and strategies to de-escalate any encounter they are challenged with. Ultimately, training provides officers with the resources and tools needed to safely overcome any challenge they face, which provides better service to members of our community.

“Our officers rigorously train over 120 hours a year so they will be prepared and effective in any stressful encounter”, said Sgt. Nicholas Venuto, head of the department’s Training Unit.





BTPD FIREARMS TRAINING

The purpose of Barnegat Township's firearms unit goes well beyond semi-annual firearms qualifications. All of the unit's instructors strive to empower this agency's officers with the knowledge and practical abilities necessary to process information quickly and make decisions effectively. Instructors provide officers with 7 dedicated firearms training days per year where topics include tactics, target identification, weapon manipulation, moving and shooting, as well as high stress scenario based training. It is our goal as an agency to prepare officers to make effective real world decisions that could potentially have life and death consequences. Policing is a life-saving profession, and with proper training we believe that we can mitigate some of the risks involved in the most dangerous calls we answer.

– Ptl. Kyle Cranmer, Department Range Master

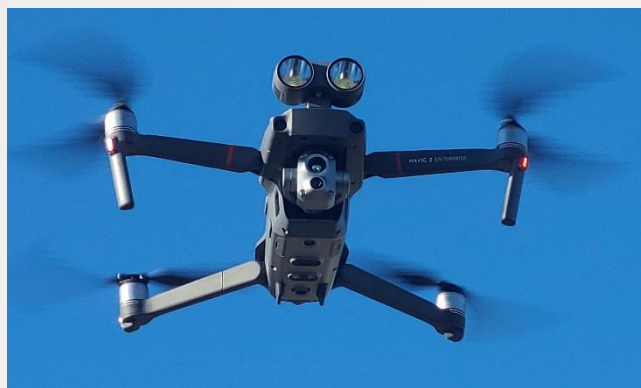


ASSET FORFEITURE FUND

Our agency utilizes a Law Enforcement Trust Account (LETA) to purchase law enforcement-related items and training. The LETA account contains no taxpayer dollars and is instead funded completely by money seized from criminal activity.

The use of LETA funds is at the discretion of the Chief of Police with required review and approval by the Ocean County Prosecutor.

During 2021, \$25,159 in LETA funds were used to acquire a drug-detecting K9, an Unmanned Aerial Vehicle, and tuition for an officer to attend the Senior Management Institute for Police.



RESILIENT

NEW JERSEY RESILIENCY PROGRAM FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT



In 2019, the Attorney General issued the "Officer Resiliency Directive". This directive came as a result of the rise in Police Officer suicides across the nation. The directive's focus is to change the culture within Law Enforcement, encouraging officers to seek assistance in dealing with the everyday stressors of police work. Additionally, this directive required that every agency within the State of New Jersey appoint a "Resiliency Program Officer". The Resiliency Program Officer or "RPO," is specifically trained to attempt to identify fellow officers who may be in need of mental or physical assistance. It is the job of the RPO to guide the officer in need of assistance in the right direction before it's too late. Each Resiliency Officer also serves as a confidential source for officers who wish to discuss any issues they may be having personally or professionally.

"The Barnegat Police Department prides itself on going above and beyond, in every aspect of police work. That mindset certainly does not change in terms of our officer's physical and mental health", said Ptl. Richard Boyle, head of the department's resiliency program. "While our department has always recognized the importance of being physically fit, the Officer Resiliency Directive sheds light on the necessity to maintain officer's mental health as well." The Barnegat Police Department has identified several officers who have taken it upon themselves to be there for their fellow colleagues and have elected them to serve as additional "Resiliency Officers" within the department. These officers are trained and tasked with attempting to identify any "red flags" that if not addressed, could lead to poor consequences for a fellow officer. We as a department now train on Officer Resiliency yearly and maintain it as a paramount priority.

"The Barnegat Police Department prides itself on going above and beyond, in every aspect of police work. That mindset certainly does not change in terms of our officer's physical and mental health", said Ptl. Richard Boyle, head of the department's resiliency program.

Drug Recognition Experts



DREs are the main resource that police departments have available to them to detect impairment due to drugs including marijuana. With New Jersey's legalization of marijuana with no other testing mechanism available, DREs are the only viable tool available to combat impaired operation of vehicles.

According to the New Jersey Association of Drug Recognition Experts, The Drug Recognition Expert program and procedures were initially developed in the 1970's by the Los Angeles Police Department. This procedure trains officers to use a standardized twelve- step evaluation process that allows the officer to determine whether the suspect is under the influence of drugs, and to determine the category of drug that is causing the observable impairment. The twelve-step procedure also allows the officer to rule in or out many medical conditions, such as illness or injury, which may be contributing to the subject's impairment.

While the DRE procedure's main objective is driving under the influence (DUI) enforcement, the procedures have been applied in probation and parole, drugs in the workplace issues and other areas where accurately identifying the drug-impaired individual is relevant.

The Barnegat Police Department currently has two certified DREs.



Barnegat Township Police Professional Standards Unit

In 2021, twenty (20) complaints against officers were filed with the Professional Standards Unit of the Barnegat Township Police Department. These complaints were lodged by either citizens (10) or police officers (10).

All of the complaints brought forth by citizens were as follows; three (3) complaints of improper demeanor by officers, three (3) complaints of differential treatment, three (3) reported policy violations, and one (1) report of excessive use of force. Each complaint can result in agency discipline. Violations of departmental rules and regulations can range in punishment from a negative performance notice to dismissal from the agency.

In each case, the Professional Standards Unit initiated an internal investigation to determine whether the complaint was valid. The outcome of each investigation was documented as follows:

- (3) Demeanor Complaints: 1 sustained, 2 exonerated
- (13) Policy Violations: 6 sustained, 1 not sustained, 1 exonerated, 5 pending
- (3) Complaints of Differential Treatment: 2 exonerated, 1 pending
- (1) Report of Excessive Use of Force: 1 pending

Of the 7 complaints that were found to be sustained, all resulted in minor discipline.

During 2021, officers of the Barnegat Police Department received 278 compliments and notices of positive performance from citizens and police supervisors. Every Barnegat police officer is held to a standard of exceptional professional performance and the positive feedback by the public and our supervisors exemplifies those highest standards of dedication and determination.



School Resource Officer Program

The importance of Officer Weber as the SRO in our High School cannot be understated. He is a positive presence in our halls, common areas, and classrooms. He connects with our students in a very authentic and caring way. These relationships help our students to feel safe, advocated for, and are an exceptional representative of the Barnegat Township Police Department as well as police officers in general. Officer Weber is truly an asset to our school community.

- Dr. Brian Latwis – Barnegat Twp. School District Superintendent

"My larger role is to help students feel comfortable and earn their trust as a positive role model who genuinely cares about them," – SRO Brian Weber



BTPD SHIELD Program



Student High Intensity Enrichment and Leadership Development

A “First of its Kind” Partnership with Barnegat School District

The SHIELD program is intended to provide meaningful instruction to students who wish to engage in coursework related to law enforcement, and eventually pursue a career within the law enforcement field. This program has been specifically created alongside police department and school district administration and has been tailored to meet the needs of the Barnegat community, while still ensuring that adequate curricular coverage suffices as the educational prerequisite to potentially serve as a contributing member of the Barnegat Police Department. Completion of the SHIELD program may meet educational criteria to enter the workforce in the Barnegat Police Department. The SHIELD program will provide life-skill and formal leadership development.

Beginning in the Fall of 2021, students who expressed interest in the SHIELD program had their schedules changed to reflect that interest, including enrollment in a full-year, 5-credit Introduction to SHIELD class, aligning with the A/B block schedule, throughout the entire year. SHIELD 1 meets the NJDOE mandated Career/Technical Education high school graduation requirement.

PIRATES DAY



Like the Fourth of July Fireworks Celebration, Pirate's Day was moved from its traditional location to accommodate larger crowds as well as to address safety concerns.

The event was a great success in its new location, and additional changes and improvements will be part of the 2022 Pirate's Day event.



Barnegat July Fireworks

For the first time since its inception, the Fourth of July Fireworks Celebration was moved from the Barnegat Dock area to the grounds of the Barnegat High School.

The new location allowed for a safer, more spread out, and more enjoyable experience for the community. Based on the overwhelming success and positive feedback, the fireworks will be returning to BHS in 2022.





Hoofy's Fall Fest is an annual event hosted by the Barnegat Township PBA 296. It was created to remember Ptl. Alex Hoffman #370 whose untimely passing left an unfillable void, in not only the department, but in each of his brothers and sisters in law enforcement. The event features food trucks, children's inflatables, live music, craft vendors, fire pits and more. Proceeds from this event help support the Alex Hoffman Memorial Scholarship Fund set apart specifically for Barnegat Township students.





Special Needs Resident Registration Form

If you or a loved one has special needs and might require assistance during an emergency such as an evacuation, major storm, or power outage, please fill out this form and return it to the police department so that we can add your information to our Special Needs Citizen Response Plan. By providing us with information about your special needs, you will be helping us to ensure that we can provide you with efficient and timely service during an emergency.

If you need assistance completing the form or would like a representative of the department to pick it up, please contact Police Headquarters at 609-698-5000.

All Information Will be Kept Strictly Confidential

Name _____

Address _____

Phone#- _____

Person to Contact in an Emergency: _____ Phone# _____

Challenges: (Please mark all that apply)

☐ mobility impaired, bed bound ☐ Dialysis
☐ wheel chair ☐ Alzheimer/dementia
☐ sight impairment, blind ☐ transportation dependent
☐ hearing impaired ☐ other
☐ oxygen/respirator use

We Remember...

Det. Sgt. Michael Duffy



Pictured: A young Ptl. Duffy just four years into his career (1980)

It is with great sadness that we mourn the passing of Detective Sergeant Michael J. Duffy (Ret).

D/Sgt. Duffy served with BTPD for 29 years, starting in 1976 (when we were still the Union Twp. Police Department) and retiring in July of 2006.

D/Sgt. Duffy was known for his sharp intellect, great sense of humor, and legendary storytelling abilities. He was a gifted detective who worked some of the most consequential cases in the history of the agency.

Our thoughts and prayers are with his wife and family.





IN CLOSING...

This past year was another in a string of busy and challenging years for our agency. Faced with significant changes stemming from both legislative and Attorney General mandates, our officers once again rose to the occasion.

Facing more hostile and less compliant individuals, our officers continued to demonstrate the highest-levels of professional skill in maintaining a historically low crime rate while using force in only 30 of their nearly 21,000 calls for service.

This job has never been harder, but thanks to the overwhelming support from the community and the Township Committee combined with the unmatched professionalism, dedication, and commitment of our officers, Barnegat remains a model for effective, efficient, and fair policing.

We look forward to serving the community and working together to make 2022 another safe and successful year for our great town.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Keith A. Germain'.

Keith A. Germain

Chief of Police