

# *Fanwood Police Department*

*2022*

## *Annual Report*



# 2022 Executive Summary

2022 was a great year for the Fanwood Police Department. It was the first full year that the Fanwood Police Department was no longer under the oversight of the Union County Prosecutor's Office.

As a Law Enforcement Agency, the members of the FPD continued to provide exceptional policing services, while slowly distancing itself from a global pandemic.

While several officers resigned, some leaving law enforcement and others moving onto other agencies, several new officers were hired. Additionally, a new Administrative Assistant / Records Clerk was hired.

The profession of law enforcement is ever changing. As a result more diverse and technological training classes are necessary. In this spirit, the agency continues to send all of its personnel, sworn and civilian, to the necessary courses to accomplish our mission.

2022 saw the most successful National Night Out since its inception. This cannot be accomplished without the support of the many local businesses that provided financial support.

In 2022, the Police Department received a \$10,000 donation from Dr. Cesar DePaco, Founder and CEO of Summit Nutritionals. The funding is being used for four new Automated External Defibrillators (AED) and sixteen new "Outer Vest Carriers" for all sworn officers.

With the support of the Honorable Mayor Colleen Mahr, members of the Borough Council and Borough Administrator, the Fanwood Police Department continued its mission in Community Engagement. The department participated in numerous community related activities aimed at increasing the already solid relationships with all members of the Borough of Fanwood.

## *Fanwood Police Department*

### *Mission Statement*

***“We, the members of the Fanwood Police Department, are committed to excellence in law enforcement and are dedicated to the people, traditions, and diversity of the Borough. We will provide service with understanding, response with compassion, and performance with integrity.”***



From the Fanwood Police Patrol and Operations Division led by Lt. Dan Kranz.....

**In 2022, the Fanwood Police Department created and/or revised a significant number of policies as it continues the goals of becoming an even more professional police agency. This work continues and is conducted with the best practices in Law Enforcement as the model.**

A total of 79 policies were issued in 2022 (as compared to 63 in 2021)

General Orders: 7

Attorney General Guidelines: 21

Personnel Orders: 11

Special Orders: 7

Miscellaneous Orders: 33

**The members of the Fanwood Police Department pride themselves in community engagement well above and beyond the daily calls for service that residents and businesses see them involved in. Some of these community based events include:**

April: Easter Bunny Event

May: Safety Bug at SPF High School, Memorial Day Parade

June: Ladies Night, Special Olympics Torch Run, Senior Picnic

July: Fan Jam, Junior Police Academy with SPPD

August: National Night Out

September: Fanny Wood Day

October: FanWoof Day, Walk to School Day, Fanwood 5K,  
Halloween Parade, Police & Pumpkins Event

November: Raiders Don't Risk It, Shop Small Saturday

December: Santa Run, Paterson Road Christmas House, Tree  
Lighting and Giving Tree

**As in any organization, our personnel have life changing events outside of the department.**

**During 2022:**

One officer was married

One officer got engaged

One officer and their spouse welcomed a baby boy



Fanwood Giving Tree

Moving into 2023, the Fanwood Police Department has again raised the bar and continues to strive towards reaching these goals and objectives.

**General Goals:**

- Continue providing transparent and communicative correspondence with the Fanwood community.
- Increase our social media exposure and town-wide alerts for major incidents, road closures, and weather events.
- Evaluate current staffing levels.
- Increase proactive patrol to include DWI, narcotics, and overall traffic enforcement.
- Continue issuing General Orders and other policies.
- Evaluate current command structure and make recommendations for future promotional exams.
- Hire a Special Class 2 Officer to be utilized in various capacities.
- Upgrade handguns as our current models are nearing their life expectancy.
- Upgrade our bike patrol so they can be utilized in the warmer months.

**Training Goals:**

- Have two more officers certified in Crisis Intervention Training.
- Hold training events with community organizations and schools focusing on active shooter response.
- Continue to meet with all schools in town to progress the risk assessments completed in 2022.
- Have another officer certified as a firearms instructor.
- Continue to send supervisors to leadership/management classes.

**Community Policing Goals:**

- Continue the current community policing projects.
- Develop unique events and ideas to bring the police department together with the Borough community
- Create a challenge coin for dissemination.

From the Fanwood Police Traffic Bureau, led by Sergeant Daniel Piccola.....

In November 2021, two new marked police vehicles were ordered and the Fanwood Traffic Unit worked with East Coast Emergency Lighting, Kenilworth, NJ, to fully equip the two (2) 2022 Ford Explorer Police vehicles with the latest technology and reliable equipment to further assist our Police Officers in the field.

The Traffic Unit worked closely with the Borough Engineer to address further speeding/traffic complaints throughout the town, which were down in 2022. We have added several "Stop For Pedestrian" signs throughout the Borough, mostly at high-traffic pedestrian crossings, as well as at secondary, less-traffic pedestrian crossings. We continue to alert motorists traveling through the Borough about pedestrian and motorist safety. The message board, which doubles as a RADAR speed sign, was deployed throughout the Borough to warn residents and visitors to "Keep Vehicles Locked," "Watch for Pedestrians," "Phone Down, Eyes Up" and monitored speed. The Traffic Unit, in collaboration with the County of Union Division of Engineering, conducted several traffic studies, which accurately monitored speed and traffic volume utilizing pneumatic tubes in specific areas to combat all speeding and traffic complaints. More studies will be conducted in 2023.

A new pedestrian crosswalk is also in the works at the intersection of Midway Avenue and Forest Road. The intersections of North Martine Avenue/Paterson Road and North Martine Avenue/Watson Road have seen increased violators "blocking the box." Currently, there are signs posted, along with a blinking red traffic signal at Watson Road, to prevent motorists from "blocking the box" and creating gridlock, preventing traffic from entering and exiting those side streets. New "boxes," consisting of large white painted diagonal lines in a box shape, are also in the works to make motorists more aware and to prevent those intersections from being blocked. This will also assist the Fanwood Fire Department and Fanwood Rescue Squad when they respond to calls for service traveling on Watson Road and entering North Martine Avenue.

Parking complaints on roadways near the High School (Pleasant, Montrose and Portland Avenue) have been down this school year. More signage has been placed in those areas and the areas have been heavily enforced by the Traffic Unit by writing summonses to violators.

Some major events that have been handled by the Traffic Unit include the Memorial Day Parade, Fan Jam, Fanny-Wood Day, the Fanwood 5K and the Halloween Parade. The Traffic Unit also assisted the Fanwood Fire Department with escorting Santa for the annual Santa Run.



From the Fanwood Police Investigative Division, led by Sgt. Phillip Ugone.....

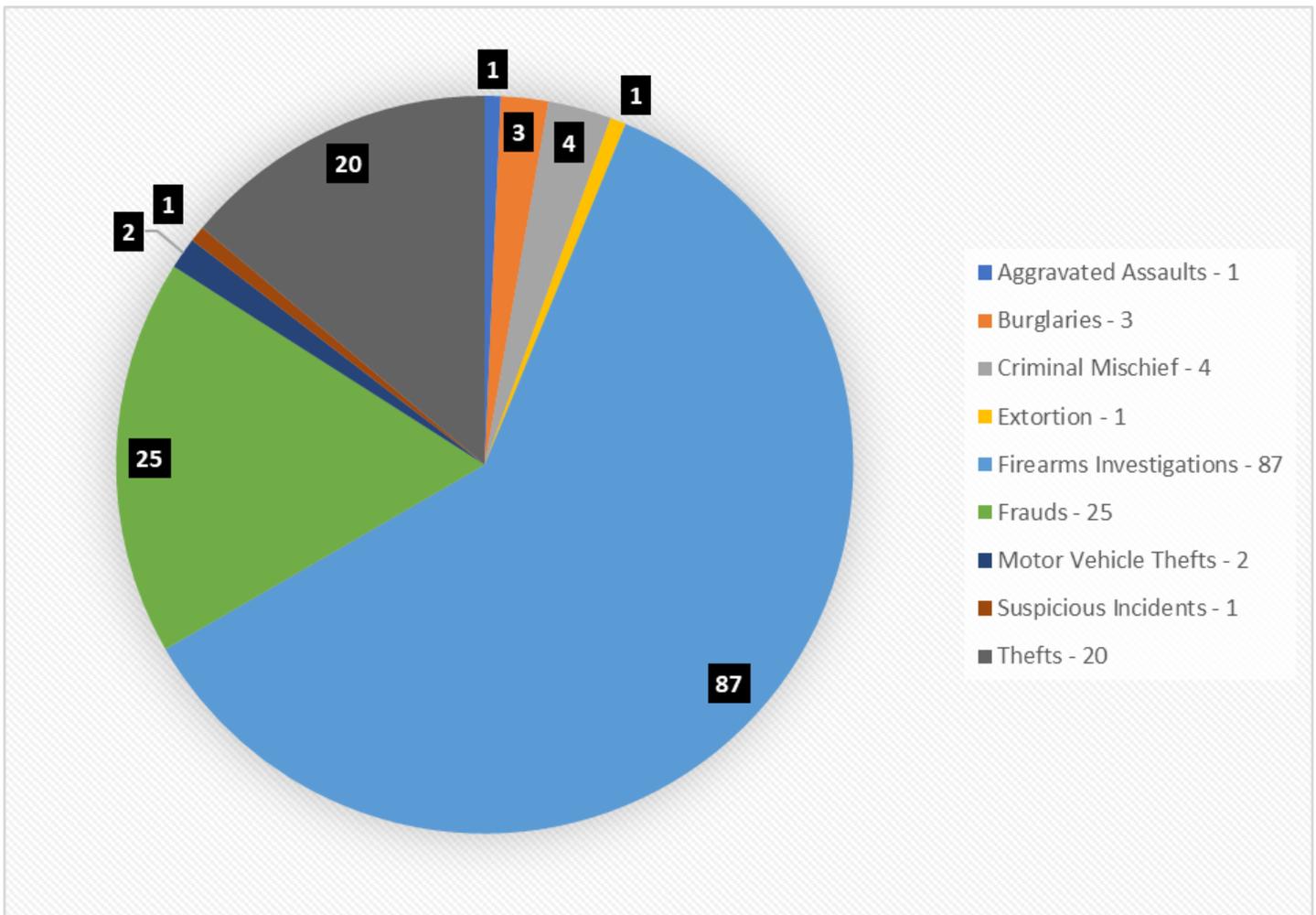
### **2022 Detective Bureau Report**

The Fanwood Detective Bureau is comprised of a Sergeant and a Detective. They are dedicated to investigating crimes ethically and diligently to help ensure the successful prosecution of all of those that wish to harm Fanwood Borough residents or visitors.

October 2022, Sergeant Ugone assumed command of the Detective Bureau. In 2022 Detectives who were on-call responded to nine crimes outside of regular scheduled hours.

The Detective Bureau investigated the cases in the chart below in addition to providing fingerprinting service to 29 citizens and conducted 49 background check requests from other agencies.

Below is a summary breakdown of the significant investigations conducted by the Detective Bureau in 2022.



## Significant Cases and Goals for 2023

**February 12, 2022 – Theft** - A resident of North Avenue reported being a victim of fraud and identity theft through a computer hacking scam. The resident received a pop-up on his computer stating his accounts were in danger and needed to contact Microsoft. He called and spoke with an unknown male whom he gave access to his computer. This unknown person created accounts utilizing the victim's personal information and instructed the victim to wire transfer over \$200,000.00 into the accounts, which he did. The resident realized that this may be a scam and contacted the Fanwood Police. Over the course of a 6-month period and through various investigative means, the Fanwood Detective Bureau was able to recover over 97% of the original amount of the wire transfer.

**April 20, 2022 – Shoplifting** - The Detective Bureau responded to the Fanwood Liquor Store on a tip from the owner that a person was in the process of stealing a bottle of Johnnie Walker Black Label 750 ml. The Detective Bureau observed the subject exit the store with the bottle, the subject was placed under arrest for shoplifting, processed and released on a summons to appear in court.

**June 15, 2022 - Burglary** - A resident of Elm Street reported a Burglary to their residence. Patrol responded and determined that there was forcible entry made through the basement window.

**November 09, 2022 – Skimming Device**- Patrol Officers were dispatched to the Exxon Gas Station located at 2 South Avenue for a report of a credit/debit card skimming device located inside one of the gas pumps. This device is commonly used to extract credit/debit card information. The device was discovered by a mechanic who was servicing the pump. The device was seized by police as evidence and the incident was documented by patrol officers. The incident was forwarded to the Detective Bureau who is continuing the investigation with the United States Secret Service.

**December 05, 2022 - Burglary**- A resident of Belvidere Avenue reported a burglary to their residence. Patrol responded and determined that there was forcible entry made through a rear glass door.

### 2023 Goals

- Digitize thousands of old paper case files to allow for better organization and searching of files.
- Update and purge the Evidence storage room.
- Hold Mobile Prescription Drop offs at various locations throughout the year to allow for those who may be more comfortable going to a private location rather than the police department to drop off unused medications.
- Host fraud awareness events for residents giving updates on current scams and frauds being committed and provide examples of what to look for as to not become a victim.
- Utilize case management software to assign and track cases.



*Fanwood Police Personnel providing traffic control for the Fanwood 5 K \* October 2022*

*L-R Director Bramhall, Officer Murphy, Officer Pineiro, Sgt. Piccola and Lt. Kranz*



*Director Bramhall and Lt. Kranz serving lunch at the Senior Summer Luncheon \* June 2022*



Mayor Colleen Mahr and Police Director Michael Bramhall at Fan Jam \* July 2022

Fanwood Police Personnel at Fan Jam \* July 2022



Mayor Colleen Mahr (center) and Councilwoman Eric McElroy-Barker (left) pose for a picture with Fanwood Police and DPW Personnel during Shop Small Saturday.

November 2022



National  
Night  
Out  
August  
2022





# National Night Out August 2022





***In June and August 2022, Fanwood Officers pulled over more than 185 motorists for failing to yield to pedestrians that were in the crosswalk. While several summons were issued, the primary goal was to educate drivers on pedestrian safety laws.***



***All School Crossing Guards were given letters of appreciation and gift cards to a local coffee shop to show them how much they are appreciated. \* December 2022***

*Police and Pumpkin with a Cop Event  
October 2022  
52 children participated!*



*Members of the Fanwood Emergency  
Services family congratulate another Fanwood  
resident who turned 100 Years old!  
October 2022*



*Mayor Mahr, Police  
Commissioner Walsh,  
and Director Bramhall  
survive a hail storm  
along with the Easter  
Bunny  
April 2022*





Officer Kathy Case (back row, 4th from left) and other Fanwood Police Personnel at the St. Barts L.E.A.D. Graduation ceremony. \* June 2022



Officer Michael Rusin giving a local group of Cub Scouts a tour of the Police Station.



Mayor Colleen Mahr (center) with the Fanwood recipients of the Knights of Columbus Shield Awards \* May 2022

*The Fanwood Police Award winner is Officer Michael Rusin (3rd from the left)*



Officer Sean Murphy at Fanwoof Day \* October 2022

*Welcome to the Fanwood Police Department Family*



Officer Kyle Rajcevic being sworn in by  
Mayor Colleen Mahr \* March 2022

Council President Anthony Carter presides over  
the swearing in of Officer Daniel Hudspith.  
May 2022



Mayor Colleen Mahr swears in  
Officer Sean Murphy \* October 2022

Police Director Michael Bramhall welcomes  
new Administrative Assistant/Records Clerk  
Adrienne Relford \* March 2022



Police Director Michael Bramhall accepts a \$10,000 donation from Deanna and Dr. Cesar DePaco, along with K9 Lanzer.

Dr. DePaco is the Founder and CEO of Summit Nutritionals International. \* December 2022



Members of the Fanwood and Scotch Plains Police Department pose with Marie Daniel (center) who coordinated the Hip Hop Dance Battle between the two police departments. The Hip Hop Dance battle is part of the youth Hip Hop Experience sponsored by the SP-F Recreation department. The 2022 Fanwood participant and winner of the Dance Battle was Officer Dan Hudspith (far right of the above picture)

## 2022 Statistics

(included is deviation from 2021)



### Total Calls

Calls for Service: 11,674 (+3%)

### Arrests

Adult Arrests: 34 (+54%)

Juvenile Arrests: 1 (+100%)

### Traffic Enforcement

Motor Vehicle Stops: 1,731 (-12%)

Summonses Issued: 1,060 (-12%)

Traffic/Radar Details 1,845 (+8%)

Motor Vehicle Violations: 945 (-18%)

Parking Violations: 115 (+267%)



★ Designed by TownMapel USA.com

### Training

Training Classes Attended 237 (+11%)



## **Fanwood Borough Mayor and Council Members (2022)**

Mayor Collen Mahr

Council President Anthony Carter

Council Member Patricia Walsh (Police Commissioner)

Council Member Erin McElroy Barker

Council Member Katherine Mitchell

Council Member Jeffrey Banks

Council Member Francine Glaser

### **Borough Administrator**

Rayna Harris

### **Police Department**

Director Michael J. Bramhall

Lieutenant Daniel Kranz

Sergeant Phillip Ugone

Sergeant Kevin Stomber

Sergeant Thomas Chisholm

Sergeant Ryan Gilmore

Sergeant Daniel Piccola

Officer Michael Rusin

Officer Kathleen Case

Officer Timothy Green

Detective Tyler Flowers

Officer Carlos Gonzalez

Officer Christopher Pineiro

Officer Kyle Rajcevic

Officer Daniel Hudspith

Officer Sean Murphy

SLEO Jack Ross

Administrative Assistant Adrienne Relford