



2020

ANNUAL REPORT  
DEPARTMENT OF POLICE

MISSION STATEMENT/NORTHBRIDGE POLICE DEPARTMENT

*The mission of the Northbridge Police Department is to provide quality police services in cooperation and partnership with the community, emphasizing integrity, fairness and professionalism in order to improve the quality of life in Northbridge.*

\*\*\*\*\*

I am submitting to the people of Northbridge a complete report of the Northbridge Police Department for calendar year 2020.

Cruiser patrols covered 152,039 miles using 14,490 gallons of gasoline. The present fleet of police vehicles is six marked police cruisers and four unmarked cruisers.

A total of 302 persons were arrested or summoned into court. These persons were prosecuted at the Uxbridge District Court, Milford Juvenile Court, Worcester Six Person Jury Session, Worcester Grand Jury and Superior Court.

These persons committed a total of 613 criminal violations in our community.

The breakdown of the 302 persons arrested or summoned into court is as follows:

Adult males 198      Juvenile males 19

Adult females 85      Juvenile females 0

In addition, 35 persons were held in Protective Custody and we received 63 reports of Vandalism.

A breakdown of the 613 criminal offenses taken before the different courts is as follows:

Allow Unlicensed Operator of MV	1
Animal Cruelty	15
Assault	3
Assault Dangerous Weapon	5
Assault and Battery	13
Assault and Battery Domestic	5
Assault and Battery Domestic/Family	28
Assault and Battery Dangerous Weapon	25
Assault and Battery Disabled Person	3
Assault and Battery/Serious Bodily Injury	3
Assault and Battery Person over 60	8
Assault and Battery on Pregnant Female	3
Assault and Battery Police Officer	3
Attach Plates Illegally	3
Break and Enter Dwelling NT	1
Child Endangerment While OUI	1
Conspiracy	2
Destruction of Property under \$1200	4
Discharge BB Gun Public Way	22
Disorderly Person/Conduct	16
Disturbing the Peace	2
Distributing Class A Drug	9
Distributing Class D Drug	2
Distributing Drugs 1000' of School Zone	2
Fail to register as a sex offender	1
Fail to Stop for Police Officer	5
Failure to stop for traffic light	1
Failure to Stop/Yield	2
False Report of a crime	1
Filing a false Police Report	1
Home Invasion	4
Improper use of credit card under 1200	1
Improper use of credit card over 1200	1
Indecent A&B under 14	1
Interfere with police/fire personnel	4
Intimidate witness	6
Kidnapping	2
Larceny from MV	1
Larceny by Check	3
Larceny of MV	1
Larceny Over \$250.00	2
Larceny Over \$1200.00	2
Leave scene of MV accident	1
Leave Scene Property Damage Accident	16
Leave Scene Personal Injury Accident	2
License not in possession	2

Malicious Destruction of Property -1200	2
Malicious Destruction of Property +1200	4
Marked Lanes Violation	13
Minor possession of alcohol	1
Negligent Operation of MV	12
No Inspection Sticker	2
Number Plate Violation	2
OUI-Alcohol	10
OUI 2 <sup>nd</sup> offense	4
OUI drugs	2
Open Container ~ Alcohol	2
Open Container in MV	2
Open Container-Marijuana	2
Operate un-insured MV	21
Operating MV Unlicensed	34
Operating Un- Registered Recreational Vehicle	5
Operating Un Registered Recreational Vehicle on Public way 1	
Operating Un Registered Recreational Vehicle on Private property 1	
Operating MV w/license Restrictions	1
Operating MV after revocation/ registration	7
Operate after Suspension Registration	7
Operate MV Suspended/Revoked License.	19
Person Under 21 Possess/Transport Alcohol	4
Possession Class A drug	3
Possession Class B drug	6
Possession Class C drug	3
Possession Class D drug	8
Possession Class E	3
Possession to distribute, Class D	5
Reckless Endangerment of Child	1
Reckless Operation, MV	3
Receiving stolen vehicle	3
Receiving Stolen property +1200	2
Recreation or snow vehicle violation	6
Resisting Arrest	5
Revoked Registration	7
Shoplifting	16
Shoplifting by concealment	4
Shoplifting 2 <sup>nd</sup> Offense	1
Strangulation/Suffocation	6
Statutory Rape of child	1
Threat to Commit Murder	12
Trafficking 18gmore/less than 36g Heroin	4
Use MV without authority	4
Use of electronic device while operating mv	1
Vandalize Property	19

Violation Harassment Prevention Order	2
Violation Restraining Order 209A	13
Wanton Destruction Personal Property	3
Warrants	4
Warrants D/W	31
Warrants S/W	26
Warrant of Apprehension	5
Warrant Section 35	1

**MISCELLANEOUS:**

Complaints Investigated	19,182
Motor Vehicle Citations Issued	766
Parking Tickets Issued	269
Bank/Burglar Alarms	360
Funeral Service Traffic	10
Medical Calls	2273
Motor Vehicle Lockouts	163
Unattended Deaths	16
Overdoses	39
Section 12s	114

**ACCIDENTS INVESTIGATED:**

Property Damage – Over \$1,000	166
Property Damage – Under \$1,000	248
Personal Injury Accident	23
Persons Injured	27
Pedestrians Injured	2
Bicyclist Injured	0
Persons Killed	0

The Animal Control Officer responded to 732 animal complaints in 2020. **The Animal Control Officer would like to remind residents that all dogs need to be registered and have to display their registration tags. This assists the Animal Control Officer in identifying owners of lost or injured dogs.**

A breakdown of calls investigated by the Animal Control Officer is as follows:

Stray Dogs	66
Dogs Picked Up	28
Dogs Returned	33
Dog complaints	60
Dog Bites/Attacks	27
Dogs Missing	16
Dog vs. Auto	1

Deceased person w/dog	1
Cat vs Auto	3
Cat complaints	11
Cats Missing	16
Cats Found	1
Cats Returned	2
Citations Issued	2
Cruelty complaints	15
Wildlife Vs Auto	14
Wildlife complaints	187
Wildlife Injured	4
Wildlife Release	1
Wildlife Removal	39
Livestock Complaints	9
Misc.Information	162
Missing pets (other)	3
Emergency Euthanization	20
Scheduled Euthanization	2
Medical transports	8
Kennel Inspections	1

The year 2020 brought its own unique challenges to the police department with the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic. The pandemic posed two major concerns for the police department the spread of the COVID-19 virus among residents and the disruption of emergency police services in Northbridge due to employee illness and illness of family members. On March 10, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts declared a state of emergency and urged other agencies to take action to prevent the spread of the COVID-19 virus. The police department participated in numerous virtual conference calls with local, state and federal agencies on the COVID-19 Pandemic. Chief Warchol issued an emergency special order and created a more specific department policy to confront the problems associated with the COVID-19 virus. These protocols were put in place to minimize the police department's exposure to the COVID-19 virus, while also realizing that police department employees could not cut off all contact with the public and had a duty to assist and provide police services to residents whether by phone or in person. During the initial stages of the virus, personal protective equipment such as rubber gloves, medical facial masks, protective Tyvek suits and disinfecting supplies were difficult to obtain. The police department had to find innovative supply sources to replenish its supply of needed equipment.

Even with the pandemic in full swing the police department had to continue to provide services to the community and ensure that police department personnel

received their annual state mandated 32 hours of in service training and all other training requirements required by the State of Massachusetts. Training opportunities were severely limited by the COVID-19 pandemic. In person in service training was discontinued and all remaining officers completed their annual in service training virtually through the Municipal Police Institute. Additionally, police officers attended specialized training in the following areas: leadership, do's & don'ts of using the internet, frauds and identity theft, preventing targeted violence, active shooter training, civil rights, firearms training, emergency management, threat assessment, COVID-19 pandemic training; Critical Information Management System training, Interactive Mapping for Analysis & Crash Tracking, ECitation training, and intoxilyzer recertification.

School Resource Officer Tom Dejordy continued to assist the school administration during the COVID-19 shutdown. With the children returning to school in November, SRO Dejordy returned to his normal daily school duties at the Northbridge Public Schools and the Whitinsville Christian School. The School Resource Officer is present in our schools at the request of the school administration and he provides a valuable resource and helps to maintain a safe school environment

In 2020, Governor Baker signed into law the new Police Reform Bill. The new reform legislation requires that police departments need to be certified by a newly formed nine member Post Commission by July 1, 2021. The Post Commission will require minimum certification standards for all law enforcement agencies that require the establishment or amending of police department policies and procedures in the following areas:

- Use of Force and Use of Force Reporting
- Officer Code of Conduct
- Officer Response Procedures
- Criminal Investigation Procedures
- Juvenile Operations
- Internal Affairs and Officer Complaint Investigation Procedures
- Detainee Transportation
- Collection and Preservation of Evidence
- School Resource Officer Policy
- Search Warrant Execution
- Missing Persons (Facial Recognition)
- Training Policy
- Handling Critical Incidents (Crowds and Demonstrations)
- Mental Health Co-Response Policy
- Anti-Profiling Policy
- Background Investigation Policy
- Bias-Free Policing Policy

○ Critical Incident and Stress Management Policy

The police department is well prepared to meet these guidelines as most of these policies and procedures are already in place. The Town of Northbridge is well served by the men and women working on the police department.

Reserve Officers Sean McDevitt and Benjamin O'Donnell were appointed full time police officers. Both officers will be attending a 22 week police academy in Randolph, MA beginning on February 08<sup>th</sup> and they will graduate in July 2021.

Off. Conrad Chickinski, a 34 year veteran of the Northbridge Police Department retired from the police department on September 25, 2020. During Off. Chickinski's career as a police officer he served the police department in numerous roles. Off. Chickinski served as the cruiser maintenance officer, making sure the police department's cruisers were in top condition, as well as Breath Test Recertification Instructor; Active Shooter Instructor and a radar certification officer. As computer crimes became more prevalent and people became victims of identity theft and consumer fraud, Off. Chickinski became our resident expert and was assigned to the police department's identity theft and consumer fraud unit. Conrad was dedicated to the Northbridge Police Department. The entire police department wishes Conrad a long and healthy retirement.

#### January

- Chief Warchol met several neighbors concerning speeding on Eisenhower Drive...
- Chief Warchol met with the town manager to review the police department's FY21 budget.
- Chief Warchol attended the Central MA Chiefs of Police meeting at Wachusett Country Club in West Boylston.
- The police department completed its Annual Civil Service Summary of all civil service employees for the MA Department of Human Resources.
- Chief Warchol, Lt. Labrie, Sgt. Ouillette, Sgt. Patrinelli, Sgt. Gorman and Sgt. Borrelli attended a leadership conference in Milford sponsored by the MA Chiefs of Police.
- Chief Warchol completed the police department's FY 21 Budget and submitted it to the Town Manager.

- Chief Warchol completed the police department's 2019 Annual Report.
- SRO Dejordy spoke to several law classes at the high school about a career in law enforcement.
- SRO Dejordy spoke to the 7<sup>th</sup> grade health classes on street drugs.
- SRO Dejordy in conjunction with the Worcester County District Attorney's office spoke to classes about the "Do's and Don'ts of using the Internet".
- SRO Dejordy spoke to employees of the Whitinsville office of the Department of Children and Families on Enhanced Lockdown procedures.
- Chief Warchol contacted the Executive Office of Health and Human Services regarding the police department's Annual Drug Destruction Report.
- Detective White attended a seminar on "Identifying the Imposter" sponsored by the New England State Police Information Network in Franklin, MA.
- Chief Warchol met with the Town Manager Gaudette and Town Treasurer Harris to discuss a potential threat involving a town resident.
- SRO Dejordy attended a seminar in Lexington on "Preventing Targeted Violence" sponsored by the MA Partnership for Youth.

## February

- Hands Free driving law went into effect February 23, 2020. This law (Chapter 122 of the Acts of 2019) prohibits operators of motor vehicles from using any mobile electronic device, including a cell phone, unless the device is used in a hands free mode. Officers have conducted numerous motor vehicle stops for infractions of the law. Officers issued either written warning motor vehicle citations or verbal warnings to educate the public about the new law.
- Member communities of the Blackstone Valley Connector met at the police department training room for their monthly meeting.

- Members of the Green Community Program visited the police station to conduct an inspection of the newly installed electronic controlled HVAC system.
- Chief Warchol hosted the Town Managers monthly staff meeting at the police department.
- Chief Warchol attended a Safety Committee meeting at the police station.
- Sgt. Patrinely and Off. Dejordy trained employees of Department of Children and Families in Active Shooter procedures.
- On Friday, February 7<sup>th</sup> the police department received numerous reports of trees being blown down blocking streets and trees on utility wires causing scattered power outages throughout the town.
- Sgt. Gorman attended a “Civil Rights Symposium” for police officers in Southbridge. Every police department is required by law to have a Civil Rights officer.
- Lt. Labrie and SRO Dejordy participated in “Futures Day” at the Balmer School. Futures Day allows students to visit and learn about various employee occupations that may be of interest to the student.
- Sgt. Levesque and Off. Dejordy attended a state wide meeting for all firearms instructors at Gillette Stadium in Foxboro.
- Chief Warchol attended a Central MA Chiefs Meeting in Webster.
- Chief Warchol attended a Blackstone Valley Regional Emergency Planning meeting in Uxbridge.
- The Northbridge Police Department received a grant from the MA Department of Criminal Justice Information Services to outfit the police department’s police cruisers with the necessary hardware and software to begin issuing electronic citations (ECitations) for motor vehicle infractions.
- Chief Warchol and Det./Sgt. Ouillette attended an Opioid Task Force meeting at the Uxbridge Police Department.

- SRO Dejordy, the Probation Supervisor and head Clinician from the Uxbridge District Court Drug Court spoke to juniors and seniors about drug use and addiction. The presentation included 3 local speakers who are recovering from substance abuse and spoke on their personal problems with addiction and how it affected them and their families.
- SRO Dejordy spoke to students at the Balmer School and the Northbridge Elementary School about School Bus Safety and proper behavior while riding on the School Bus.
- SRO Dejordy attended a seminar on “Threat Assessments” sponsored by the FBI and the District Attorney’s Office.

## March

- Chief Warchol participated in a MEMA webinar concerning the COVID-19 virus.
- Chief Warchol participated in a conference call with the International Association of Chiefs of Police concerning the COVID-19 virus.
- Chief Warchol spoke with area police chiefs regarding emergency mutual aid procedures for dispatching and police services in the event that local services are disrupted due to the COVID-19 virus.
- Mandatory police in service training has been cancelled due to the COVID-19 virus. There are eight (8) police officers who did not attend in service training. Chief Warchol made arrangements with the Municipal Police Institute (MPI) to have these officers complete their in service training online.
- The Northbridge Police Department responded to a working fire at West End Firewood on Purgatory Road. Lt. Labrie was in charge of the overall police operations and did an excellent job of coordinating all necessary police services and investigations between the fire department, and fire marshal’s office. Additionally, Police Dispatcher Victoria Schotanus did a tremendous job handling, coordinating and documenting all incoming and outgoing phone calls and radio transmissions.
- The Northbridge Police Department provided a police escort for the Northbridge Elementary School and Balmer School teachers and administrators who conducted a motor vehicle procession through the

streets of Northbridge to bring some cheer to their students who are out of school due to the COVID-19 virus.

- Chief Warchol attended an emergency Staff Meeting with the Town Manager and all department heads to discuss emergency plans concerning the COVID-19 virus.
- Chief Warchol issued a “Special Order” to department personnel on the police department’s response and protocols for dealing with the COVID-19 virus in the workplace and in responding to calls for service.
- Chief Warchol completed a policy and procedure for the police department’s response to a Pandemic.
- Chief Warchol and several Blackstone Valley Police Chiefs participated in a conference call to discuss police response and police/fire dispatch emergency response in the event that police department personnel are absent as a result of employee illness. It is highly unlikely that police departments could expect to receive mutual aid assistance to supplement the police department’s resources during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Chief Warchol and Senator Michael Moore discussed the shortage of personal protective equipment for first responders. Senator Moore forwarded Chief Warchol’s concerns to Secretary Turco of the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security. A statewide survey was sent to all cities and towns concerning available inventory of personal protective equipment.
- Chief Warchol and Lt. Labrie conducted a staff meeting of all police department command personnel to discuss the police department’s response to the COVID-19 virus.
- All police department in service training has been cancelled in response to Governor’s Baker’s Emergency Declaration concerning the COVID-19 virus.
- Chief Warchol, Lt. Labrie, Off. Westbury, Detective White and Ms. Corey attended the Middle School’s student of the month breakfast.
- Det./Sgt. Ouillette attended the Blackstone Valley Opioid Task Force meeting in Uxbridge.

- Chief Warchol attended a meeting/presentation on the new proposed Fire Station at the Northbridge High School.
- Chief Warchol attended a meeting with the planning board with JMK Gardening, LLC concerning a proposed marijuana cultivation operation on Sutton Street.
- Lt. Labrie, Sgt. Patrinelli and Off. Derkosrofian attended a seminar sponsored by Worcester County District Attorney Joe Early's office for training in the Worcester County's Critical Information Management System which tracks opioid overdoses and deaths in all communities for the purpose of information sharing among communities so early intervention services can be provided to substance abusers and their families.
- Chief Warchol and Lt. Labrie met with representatives of Riverside Community Health Services to discuss policies pertaining to their group home on Mendon Road.
- SRO Dejordy attended a regional SRO meeting with Judge Erskine, Milford District Court and the District Attorney's office in Mendon.

#### April

- Chief Warchol continues to maintain contact with area police chiefs concerning the COVID-19 Pandemic.
- Chief Warchol maintains daily contact with Administrative Assistant Kim Corey while she continues to work from home.
- The police department received 437 calls for service from 04/03/2020 to 04/06/2020 and attempted to handle minor calls for service over the telephone due to the COVID-19 pandemic, however, numerous calls still required an onsite response from the police department.
- Cleaning & disinfecting supplies, hand sanitizer and rubber gloves are still difficult to obtain, but the police department has received generous donations from various organizations including: Frontline Cleaning, Advance Auto Parts and the Northbridge Public Schools. The police department sincerely thanks these organizations for their support and generosity during these difficult times.
- No police department personnel have tested positive for the COVID-19 virus during the month of April.

- The MA Chiefs of Police Association arranged for each police department to receive five (5) N95 masks for each sworn police officer. Police departments need to pick up the N95 masks at their regional MEMA office.
- Lt. Labrie instructed a law class for the high school using a Zoom conference call.
- The police department assisted the fire department with traffic enforcement during a fire at the Village Laundromat on N. Main St...
- On Monday, April 13, the police department responded to numerous calls concerning the storm which knocked down trees and utility wires across town resulting in numerous power outages throughout town.
- Chief Warchol participated in a conference call with the MA Chiefs of Police Executive Board and Secretary Thomas Turco, Executive Office of Public Safety and Security. 178 Chiefs of Police participated in the conference call concerning the COVID-19 Pandemic.
- Chief Warchol is in the process of planning ongoing mandatory in service training for department personnel for first responder training, CPR and firearms. Because of the COVID-19 virus, training must take place using social distancing so as to minimize person to person contact.
- Chief Warchol met with police department staff to discuss enhanced protection measures concerning police/public encounters during calls for service involving persons infected with the COVID-19 virus.
- Chief Warchol continues to monitor and maintain contact with town departments and area police departments concerning the COVID-19 Pandemic.
- The police department was informed by the Executive Office of the Trial Court that Emergency Restraining Orders MGL 209A and Harassment Prevention orders MGL 258E can now be requested and obtained online through the use of email. The police department implemented new procedures to comply with the Trial Courts order.

- Chief Warchol continues to maintain contact with federal, state and local agencies concerning the Covid-19 Pandemic.
- Off. Dejordy went to MEMA Headquarters in Framingham to pick up new KN95 protective masks for the police and fire department. Previous masks delivered to the police and fire department were only 28% effective according to a recent MIT study.
- All police officers have completed their annual in service training at the MPTC site in Boylston or online through Municipal Police Institute (MPI).
- All police department personnel are still required to complete CPR and medical First Responder training which is scheduled for late May and June.

## May

- Chief Warchol continues to maintain contact with federal, state and local agencies concerning the Covid-19 Pandemic.
- Chief Warchol and Chief White had a virtual meeting with Town Accountant Neil Vaidya concerning reimbursement for COVID-19 costs from MEMA/FEMA.
- The Northbridge Police Department assisted with traffic so the 2020 senior class could safely participate in a motor vehicle parade throughout town. Approximately 75 vehicles participated.
- Chief Warchol contacted the administrative offices for the vacant Burger King Restaurant to request that they block the Providence Road/Rte. 122 entrance/exit to avoid motor vehicles cutting through the parking lot to avoid the traffic lights at Plummers Corner.
- Chief Warchol participated in a virtual staff meeting with the Town Manager.
- Off. Derkosroffian participated in a Zoom with the DOT concerning their Interactive Mapping Portal for traffic crash analysis.
- SRO Dejordy participated in a virtual meeting with the Northbridge High School law class.

- The police department is currently in the process of conducting training on responding to an “Active Shooter” situation.

#### June/July

- Chief Warchol continues to stay in contact with state, local and federal officials concerning the COVID-19 Pandemic.
- Chief Warchol had conversations with Ashley Schultz, Grants Office concerning eligibility for Grant Funding.
- Chief Warchol received information that a town resident was planning a “Black Lives Matter” protest for Monday June 08, 2020 at 6:00 PM.
- Chief Warchol and Lt. Labrie contacted the event organizer and learned that they plan to meet at Balmer School and march to the Town Common, where a small ceremony will take place and then march back to the Balmer School.
- Chief Warchol, Lt. Labrie, Det./Sgt. Ouillette and Sgt. Patrinelli held a staff meeting to develop an Operational Action Plan for the planned protest.
- Chief Warchol contacted the MA State Police, the Central MA Law Enforcement Council and all Chiefs of Police from the surrounding police departments to inform them of the planned protest march in the event we would require mutual aid assistance.
- The Northbridge Police Department provided support for the BLM protest on Monday June 08, 2020. The police department provided traffic enforcement for the march and the protest on the town common. Approximately, 120 people participated in the march which was peaceful and lasted for approximately 2 hours.
- Chief Warchol participated in a department head virtual staff meeting.
- All uniformed personnel have completed firearms qualifications. Officers followed social distancing guidelines.
- All uniformed personnel completed active shooter training following social distancing guidelines.

- All police department personnel will be completing mandatory first aid and CPR training following social distancing guidelines.
- Chief Warchol has maintained contact with the Executive Office of Public Safety & Security, Central MA Chiefs of Police Association, MA Chiefs of Police Association and the International Chiefs of Police Association concerning the recent national events and proposed new legislation concerning police reform.
- Since 2017, the police department has been voluntarily submitting Use of Force Reports to the DOJ/FBI Use of Force Reporting System.
- Department personnel received training on the police department's new Ocker's Touchview Interactive Display Panel smartboard which was purchased using grant funding.
- Chief Warchol participated in a virtual zoom MA Chiefs of Police Meeting with approximately 175 police chiefs.
- Chief Warchol participated in a virtual zoom Central MA Chiefs Meeting with approximately 75 police chiefs.
- Det./Sgt. Ouillette participated in the Uxbridge District Court meeting concerning their Drug Court.
- Chief Warchol participated in a virtual zoom staff meeting with the town manager and department heads to discuss the town meeting.
- Chief Warchol participated in a virtual zoom meeting with Secretary Thomas Turco, Executive Office of Public Safety and Security. Approximately 250 police chiefs from across Massachusetts participated to discuss the governor's Police Reform Bill.
- Chief Warchol attended the Annual Spring Town Meeting.
- Chief Warchol and all police department personnel were re certified in CPR.
- Chief Warchol participated in a telephone conference with Ms. Ashley Schultz from the Grants Office to discuss possible grant funding to replace aging police cruiser Mobile Data Terminals.

August

- Off. Conrad Chickinski worked his last patrol shift on Wednesday, August 19, 2020 and will officially retire from the police department on September 25, 2020 after 34 years of service.
- Chief Warchol continues to monitor the COVID-19 situation and maintains contact with local, state and federal agencies concerning the pandemic.
- Chief Warchol received complaints that a licensed liquor establishment has been violating state mandated guidelines concerning the re-opening of liquor establishments. The police department made several unannounced visits to the establishment and observed no violations. Lt. Labrie and BOH Agent Gniadek made a visit to the liquor establishment to speak to the proprietors about state/local guidelines for opening during the COVID-19 Pandemic.
- During the Tropical Storm Isaias on August 4, 2020 the police department received a large volume of calls concerning numerous trees being blown down and large scale power outages throughout Northbridge.
- The Northbridge Police Department responded to 1078 calls for service during this time period.

## September

- Chief Warchol participated in a virtual Safety Committee meeting.
- Chief Warchol participated in a virtual Central MA Police Chiefs Meeting.
- Chief Warchol met with the new Northbridge Middle School Principal John Diorio to discuss the new school year, COVID-19 procedures, the School Resource Officer and the traffic problems when the middle school resumes classes.
- Chief Warchol met with the new Headmaster at Whitinsville Christian School Mr. Richard Lukianuk to discuss the new school year and the School Resource Officer. Chief Warchol also discussed the traffic problems with morning student drop off and afternoon student pickup. Many of the traffic problems are related to the COVID-19 pandemic requiring students to social distance when being dropped off or picked

up. Lt. Labrie and SRO Dejordy assisted the Whitinsville Christian School in improving traffic patterns to ease congestion during morning drop off and afternoon pickup.

- Chief Warchol met with the new Northbridge Public Schools Director of Facilities George Simmons.
- Chief Warchol participated in a virtual MA Chiefs of Police Meeting.
- Chief Warchol and Det./Sgt. Ouillette met with Uxbridge Judge Lemire, District Attorney Joe Early and Worcester County Sheriff Lew Evangelidis to attend the Uxbridge District Court Drug Court Graduation.
- Lt. Labrie and Off. Derkosrofian along with the MA Criminal Justice Information Systems implemented E Citations at the Northbridge Police Department. All motor vehicle citations are completed electronically and the operator's copy is printed in the cruiser and a copy of the citation is automatically submitted to the Registry of Motor Vehicles.
- SRO Dejordy is assisting School Administration with residential checks on students that have not signed on for remote learning and missed several days of school.
- SRO Dejordy met with Middle School Administration to discuss and implement a new traffic pattern in the parking lot for morning student drop-off and afternoon student pickup. The new traffic pattern will hopefully ease congestion during the morning drop off and afternoon pickup.
- SRO Dejordy attended a virtual student liaison meeting with school officials and MA Department of Children and Families.

#### October

- Chief Warchol and Lt. Labrie met with the Town Manager and participated in a conference call with Attorney Brian Maser.
- Chief Warchol, Lt. Labrie and Attorney Brian Maser participated in a meeting at the police station.
- Chief Warchol had a conference call with Brian Smith, MHQ to discuss the purchase of a new hybrid police cruiser.

- Chief Warchol and SRO Dejordy met at the Northbridge Middle School to discuss the new traffic pattern design on Linwood Ave.
- Chief Warchol contacted the Municipal Police Training Committee to discuss training procedures for the mandatory annual in service training for police officers in 2021. Due to COVID-19 all in service training will be conducted online.
- Chief Warchol spoke to Mr. Caggiano at the Municipal Police Training Committee about upcoming recruit training academies.
- Chief Warchol spoke to Mr. James Barron at the Civil Service Commission concerning various police department administrative issues.
- All police personnel are in the process of being re trained in the administration of nasal narcan.
- Chief Warchol had all police department personnel review their sexual harassment policy.
- Off. Westbury attended a MA civil rights symposium designed to train local law enforcement officers how to identify, investigate and prosecute hate crimes under the Massachusetts statute and federal law.
- Chief Warchol participated in a virtual Safety Committee meeting.
- Chief Warchol participated in a Planning Board Tech Review meeting concerning 342-350 Providence Road.
- Chief Warchol participated in a virtual Blackstone Valley Opioid Task Force Meeting.
- The police department has seen a tremendous surge in the number of first time applicants applying for a License to Carry Firearms.
- All police officers are currently in the process of completing mandatory low light firearms qualifications.
- Due to COVID-19, the Municipal Police Training Committee has informed police departments that annual mandatory in service training will be conducted online in 2021. The MPTC announced that there will be no cost to departments for this training.

- Chief Warchol has contacted the MA Department of Human Resources (Civil Service Unit) to begin the process of filling two vacant police officer positions. The next recruit training academy is scheduled for February 8, 2021 in Randolph, MA.
- Sgt. Levesque and Off. Dejordy attended mandatory Firearms Instructor recertification training. The training was sponsored by the Municipal Police Training Committee at Fort Devens.
- Chief Warchol held a staff meeting for all supervisory personnel. Major topics of discussion included the police department's Sexual Harassment Policy; the police department's response to Domestic Violence and mandatory virtual in service training for all police officers and dispatchers.
- Chief Warchol attended the annual Fall Town Meeting.
- Chief Warchol participated in a MA Chiefs of Police virtual meeting to discuss election security and possible post-election demonstrations.
- Lt. Labrie and Administrative Assistant Kim Corey attended the annual Blackstone Valley Regional Technical High School breakfast for area police chiefs.
- Chief Warchol, Det./Sgt. Ouillette and Sgt. Patrinelli conducted interviews to fill the two full time police officer vacancies on the police department.
- The police department participated in the Drug Enforcement Agency's National Drug Take Back Day. The police department collected 46.8 pounds of unwanted or unused prescription drugs.

## November

- Two officers from the Northbridge Police Department were exposed to a female suspect who had been taken into custody and was a confirmed positive case for COVID-19. The officers had to be quarantined for a period of 14 days. Both officers tested negative for COVID-19.
- Chief Warchol allowed male police officers to participate in a national charity event called "No Shave November". Chief Warchol allowed officers to grow a goatee if they donated \$50.00 out of pocket and the

Northbridge Police Association matched each officer's \$50.00 donation. All proceeds will be donated to the Northbridge Food Pantry.

- All police department telephones required a software upgrade, which required that all business phones would be out of service for approximately 30 minutes.
- Chief Warchol participated in the virtual Board of Selectmen's meeting to appoint two new full time police officers. Reserve Officers Sean McDevitt and Benjamin O'Donnell were appointed Student Officers by Town Manager Adam Gaudette. Both appointments will become effective February 08, 2021 the first day of the police academy in Randolph, MA.
- Off. Derkosrofian participated in a virtual seminar on the new MA Elicitations.
- The Board of Selectmen approved the Winter Parking which goes into effect December 01, 2020.
- Chief Warchol enhanced COVID-19 precautions at the Northbridge Police Department. Two Northbridge Police Officers tested positive for the COVID-19 virus and are under mandatory quarantine. One police dispatcher is under quarantine for having close contact with a family member who tested positive for the COVID-19 virus.
- All police officers and dispatchers were offered free voluntary COVID-19 testing at the Department of Corrections facility in Milford. The testing was sponsored by the Executive Office of Public Safety & Security. The testing was held on Friday 11/27 and Sunday 11/29. Several members of the department were tested for the COVID-19 virus.
- At approximately 3:08 AM on Wednesday November 25th, the Northbridge Police Department received multiple calls reporting gunshots in the area of B St., Whitinsville. Upon arrival at the scene officers observed a crowd of people in the vicinity of #10 & #12 B Street. Officers observed numerous shell casings in the street and several bullet holes in the walls and front doors of #10 & 12 B Street. No one inside the apartments was injured by the gunfire. A preliminary investigation at the scene indicates that the suspects riding on two motorcycles had stopped and fired their firearms at #10 & #12 B Street. This does not appear to be a random drive by shooting as it appears the

shooters were targeting a specific residence(s). This incident although a cause for concern does not pose any danger to the general public. This incident is under investigation by the Northbridge Police Department.

- Lt. Labrie applied for a Byrne Justice Assistance Grant – Local Law Enforcement Grant. The police department was notified that it was awarded \$39,969.73 to purchase a camera and replace aging mobile data terminal computers in the police cruisers.
- Lt. Labrie participated in a virtual Safety Committee meeting.
- SRO Dejordy conducted a safety seminar with all Pre K students at the Northbridge Elementary School.
- SRO Dejordy participated in a virtual High School law class speaking to students on “How To Become a Police Officer”.
- SRO Dejordy has been accompanying School Administration personnel with personal visits to student’s residences in an attempt to resolve attendance issues.
- SRO Dejordy assisted the MA Department of Children and Families in locating families who have not reported for mandatory DCF meetings.

#### December

- The Northbridge Police Department had 4 positive cases of COVID-19. All 4 positive cases have returned to work. The last employee will return to work on 12/18/2020.
- Lt. Labrie, State Representative David Muradian, Grafton Chief of Police Norman Crepeau and Upton Chief of Police Bradley participated in a program called “Coats4Vets” which provided police departments with survival buckets containing a winter jacket and other essential items for the homeless population. The program was held at Gillette Stadium in Foxboro.
- On Saturday, December 5, 2020, during the height of the storm the police department responded to numerous reports of street flooding, trees down and power outages in various sections of Northbridge.
- The Town Manager has requested that all department heads submit a level funded FY22 budget by January 11, 2021. Lt. Labrie will be completing the FY22 budget.

- SRO Dejordy assisted the Middle School, Balmer School and Northbridge Elementary School with significant traffic problems.
- 
- SRO Dejordy visited with the 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade Computer/Technology Classes discussing the use of technology in police work.
- SRO Dejordy conducted Zoom meetings for the High School Health classes for the week of 12/21 to 12/23. Participants of the Uxbridge and East Brookfield drug courts will be speaking to students about their negative experiences with drug use and involvement in crime to support their substance abuse habits.
- Due to the increase of COVID-19 cases, Chief Warchol continued to enforce strict safety measures for all police officers and dispatchers while in the police station.
- Chief Warchol participated in a “Zoom” meeting with the Town Manager, Board of Health and the Fire Chief concerning COVID-19 vaccinations for all First Responders. Chief Warchol informed all police officers and dispatchers of the upcoming COVID-19 vaccinations, 18 police department personnel indicated they were interested in receiving the vaccination. The Town of Northbridge will be part of a regional COVID-19 vaccination program with several surrounding communities.
- Chief Warchol participated in a “Zoom” meeting with the MA Chiefs of Police and representatives of the Department of Homeland Security concerning upcoming COVID-19 vaccinations for First Responders.
- Chief Warchol spoke with Patricia Parent, Upton Public Health Nurse/Health Agent who is in charge of the regional COVID-19 vaccination program concerning police department personnel participating in the COVID-19 regional vaccination program.
- Chief Warchol participated in a virtual staff meeting with the Town Manager.
- Chief Warchol participated in a virtual “Zoom” meeting with the MA Chiefs of Police concerning the new Police Reform Bill signed by Governor Baker. The new reform legislation requires that police departments need to be certified by a newly formed 9-member Post Commission by July 1, 2021. The Post Commission will require

minimum certification standards for all law enforcement agencies that require the establishment of policies and procedures or the amending of current police department policies and procedures.

I would like to thank all the men and women of the Northbridge Police Department for their support and dedication during the past year. With their continued support and dedication the Northbridge Police Department continues to be among the best police departments in Worcester County.

I would like to thank Town Manager Adam Gaudette, the members of the Board of Selectmen, the Finance Committee and all other boards and departments for their continuous dedication and support during the year which made my job much easier.

This is my fifteenth and last annual report for the police department as your Chief of Police. After 44 years of service, I will officially retire from the police department on June 25, 2021. As a native son of Northbridge, it was an honor and privilege to serve as your police chief for the last fifteen years. I especially want to thank my wife Sandy and our three children Danielle, Jason and Bryan for their love and support during my career as a police officer in Northbridge.

Respectfully submitted,

Walter J. Warchol  
Chief of Police

The following is a list of 2020 Northbridge Police Department personnel:

Police Chief Walter J. Warchol  
Lt. Timothy Labrie  
Det./Sgt. John D. Ouillette  
Sgt. Brian R. Patrinelli  
Sgt. Richard Gorman  
Sgt. Carmen Borrelli  
Sgt. Ryan Levesque  
Officer Conrad Chickinski (Retired)  
Officer Matthew W. Leonard  
Officer Kristina M. Westbury  
Officer Levon DerKosrofian  
Officer Thomas J. DeJordy  
Det. Jeffrey White  
Officer Brian E. Collins  
Officer Randy D. Lloyd (Resigned)  
Officer Michael S. Marino  
Officer Jordan Tredeau  
Officer Ryan J. Falvey  
Officer Kaitlyn Laflash  
Officer Tyler Mitchell  
Reserve Police Officer Anthony R. Ciccone  
Reserve Police Officer James J. Berkowitz  
Reserve Police Officer Sean McDevitt  
Reserve Police Officer Victoria Schotanus (Resigned)  
Reserve Police Officer Benjamin O'Donnell

Administrative Asst. to Chief of Police Ms. Kim Corey

Full Time Dispatcher Lisa Gaylord  
Full Time Dispatcher Jennifer Leonard  
Full Time Dispatcher Victoria Schotanus (Resigned)  
Full Time Dispatcher AnnMarie Reynolds (Resigned)  
Full Time Dispatcher Brian Carroll  
Full Time Dispatcher Amanda Sinatra  
Part Time Dispatcher Ashley McCall  
Part Time Dispatcher Ryan Stockhaus  
Part Time Dispatcher Scott McKeown