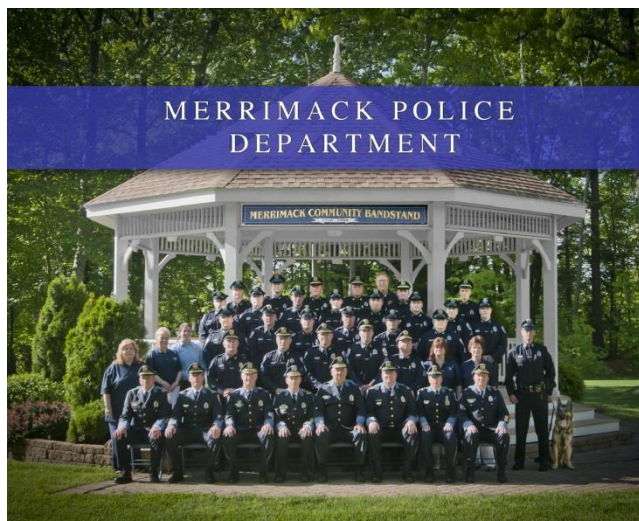


Merrimack Police Department 2015 Annual Report

Submitted by Chief of Police Mark E. Doyle



To the Honorable Town Council, Town Manager and the citizens of Merrimack, I hereby submit my report for the Merrimack Police Department and Public Safety Communications Center for the 2015 calendar year.

Our community policing philosophy is deeply rooted in our mission, and because of the partnerships we've formed with the schools, the business community, civic organizations and residents, we have been named as the safest community in New Hampshire and **32nd safest community in the United States!** Merrimack has been recognized as one of the top 100 safest cities in America with 25,000 or more people – **4** years in a row!



This report will identify the dedicated men and women who serve the Merrimack community. Some of our activities will also be listed here. More detailed accounts regarding our calls for service are available online at our website at www.merrimacknh.gov/police or by simply requesting the data from our Records

Division. On our website, you can also access our [Daily Logs](#), [Press Releases](#) and a [Mapping](#) feature pinpointing the location of criminal activity in and around our neighborhoods.

Your Police Department stands ready to address the challenges we all face this coming year. Our employees are committed, compassionate professionals, dedicated to working their hardest to provide the finest in law enforcement services to the citizens of Merrimack. These officers, Dispatchers and employees have also completed roughly **2571** hours of training this past year - training designed to help them better meet the needs of the community.

The Police Public Safety Communications Center operates 24 hours per day, 7 days per week and dispatches for all Emergency Services, including the Fire Department; EMS; and Public Works. They received over **3513** “911” emergency calls from the E911 Center in Concord, and we received approximately **70,600** telephone calls during the year as call-takers; handling requests for service and as part of the normal course of business for the police department.

For those citizens who are not aware, we are now on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [LinkedIn](#), [Instagram](#), [Google Plus](#) and [Pinterest](#). Also, don't forget to sign up for [Nixle](#) to receive notifications of traffic detours, power outages, missing persons, or emergency situations that affect the community. We recently added our Merrimack Police Community Television show which airs monthly and is also available for viewing, along with many other police department videos on our [YouTube Channel](#). We've also rolled out our new free Smartphone App which provides another level of and ease of access to information, updates and our programs. The App can be downloaded from Google Play® and iTunes® – just search under “Merrimack Police”. The accessibility of these social media sites by our citizens has helped us bring more information, more quickly, to those who wish it...please take advantage of this media access to your police department to stay abreast of current events and happenings in and around your Town.

Our Community Services Division, in conjunction with [Merrimack Crimeline](#), has signed up **32 Crime Watch neighborhoods** (a total of **62** streets) in an effort to keep our citizens informed of criminal activity and to receive feedback on problems in their particular neighborhoods. Crimeline also has an on-line feature for providing our department with anonymous [TIPS](#) regarding criminal activity.

The department added two very successful programs this past year, one of them being “[Coffee with a Cop](#)”. This is a national program which allows people the opportunity to meet and speak with their officers over a cup of coffee in a comfortable setting. Special thanks to all the local coffee shops for being such great supporters of the program. Our newest program is a firearm safety class. Fifteen local residents took advantage of this course which was instructed by three of our best Firearms training instructors. We will be offering this class twice a year with hopes to spread the knowledge on how to handle and care for a firearm.

If you wish to learn more about our statistics; our [35 Community Service Programs](#); join our [Citizens Police Academy](#); or to sign up for our e-mail update/notification list, please visit the Police Department web site at www.merrimacknh.gov/police.

2015 was the completion of our second year with the [Merrimack Police Volunteers](#), they are a group of citizens that have been thoroughly screened by the department, and are deployed to assist with special functions, from traffic posts at parades to searching for lost persons. A total of over 295.5 hours were logged by this special group this past year.

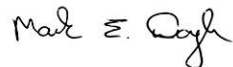
Not unlike other communities in our region, we are working hard to develop strategies with local and regional partners to address the increasing epidemic of heroin use and drug overdoses. Merrimack is not alone. Since the beginning of 2015, we have responded to 35 drug and alcohol-related overdoses of which 16 were attributed to Heroin/Fentanyl use - a slight increase in Heroin-related overdoses from 2014. Four (4) of those who overdosed on Heroin/Fentanyl died. The median age of those who overdosed in 2015 was 34 years of age.

Moving forward, our local strategy included hosting a public forum at the High School in June, partnering with Nashua Public Health, a local Pharmacist, and a parent of a substance misuser who is spearheading a support group. The forum was very-well attended. We also held an educational outreach program for Faculty and Staff at Merrimack High School regarding the opioid crisis.

Your Police Department continues to work diligently to forge and maintain the partnerships that make our town a thriving and safe community for our residents and visitors alike. At this time the Merrimack Police Department would like to extend a sincere “Thank You” to the people of Merrimack for all the support and trust that they have given us to do our job! We will continue to create, build and maintain stronger bonds with all of our community partners and serve with only the highest level of transparency, integrity and professionalism.

As always, let’s all keep Merrimack Safe...if you “See Something, Say Something®”!

Thank you,



Mark E. Doyle
Chief of Police

Table of Organization

Chief of Police

Mark E. Doyle

Patrol

Captain Peter Albert –Patrol Commander

Lt. Dean Killkelley – Shift Supervisor

Lt. Matt Tarleton – Shift Supervisor

Lt. Theodore Dillon – Shift Supervisor

Sgt. Dennis Foley – Asst. Shift Supervisor

Sgt. Eric Marquis – Asst. Shift Supervisor

Sgt. Kenneth Macleod – Asst. Shift Supervisor

Sgt. Sean Cassell – Asst. Shift Supervisor

Sgt. Greg Walters – Asst. Shift Supervisor

Ofc. John Dudash

Ofc. William Gudzinowicz

Ofc. Daniel Lindbom

Ofc. Brandon Gagnon

Ofc. Christopher Dowling

Ofc. Jeff Sprankle

Ofc. William Vandersyde

Ofc. H. Clark Preston

Ofc. James Sullivan

Ofc. Paul Wells

Ofc. Sean McGuire

Ofc. Stephen Wallin

Ofc. Derek Hart

Ofc. Ryan Milligan

Ofc. Michael Lambert

Ofc. Marc Russomanno

Ofc. John D'Auria

Retired

Lt. Daniel Edmonds

Sgt. Joseph Goodridge

School Crossing Guards

Arthur Ducharme

Mary Ann Durin

Patricia Girouard

Administrative & Support Services Division

Captain Michael Dudash – Unit Commander

Lt. Brian Levesque – Administrative Services

Atty. Melissa Kowalewski - Prosecutor

Officer Robert Kelleher – Community Service Officer

Claire Rioux – Office Manager

Shannon Saari – Records Clerk

Holly Estey – Secretary to the Detective Unit

Karen Costello – Legal Secretary

Retired

Lt. Paul Trepaney

Judy York – Legal Secretary

Criminal Investigation Bureau

Det./Lt. Denise Roy – Bureau Commander

Det. Scott Park

Det. Michael Marcotte

Det. Richard McKenzie

Det. Christopher Spillane

Det. Michael Murray - School Resource Officer / MHS

Det. Thomas Prentice – School Resource Officer / MMS

Communications

John Spence – Assistant Communications Supervisor

Erika Maguire – Dispatcher

James Connelly – Dispatcher

Shannan Vital – Dispatcher

Michael Piccolo – Dispatcher

Derek Zagzoug – Dispatcher

Dawn Cote –Dispatcher

Christine Maille – Part Time Dispatcher

Alex Cronin – Part Time Dispatcher

Louisa Cavanaugh – Part Time Dispatcher

Merrimack Police Volunteers

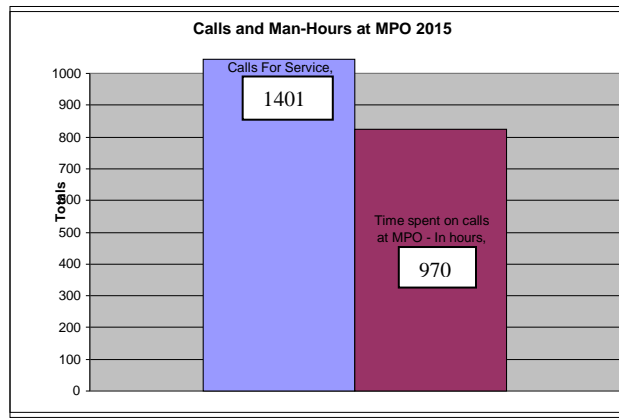
Brian Snell
Brian McCarthy
Gary Gahan
Lynn Christensen
Jody Plante
Rod Buckley
Pat Murphy
Judy Eriksen
Ron Ketchie

CALLS FOR SERVICE BREAKDOWN

*During 2015, your Police Department handled **35,795** calls for service, and also effected **493** arrests. A call for service can be any contact with the public that generates a report.*

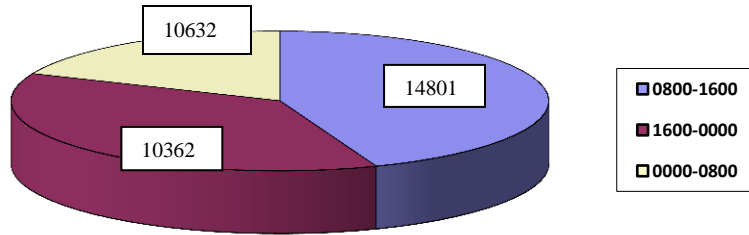
Request for Service by Beats (Sector)

| | <u>2013</u> | <u>2014</u> | <u>2015</u> |
|-------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Beat #1 | 8497 | 7926 | 8197 |
| Beat #2 | 9629 | 8374 | 8320 |
| Beat #3 | 9444 | 9367 | 9414 |
| Beat #4 | 7668 | 7604 | 7399 |
| Merrimack Outlets (MPO) | 1440 | 1372 | 1401 |



Request for Service by Time of Day

| | <u>2013</u> | <u>2014</u> | <u>2015</u> |
|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| 0800 – 1600 | 15494 | 15028 | 14801 |
| 1600 – 0000 | 12631 | 10458 | 10362 |
| 0000 – 0800 | 9415 | 10293 | 10632 |

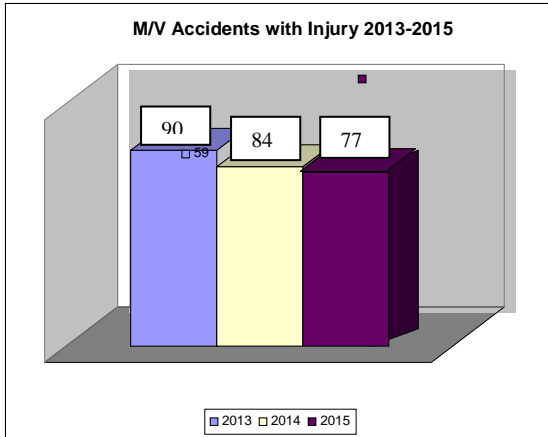
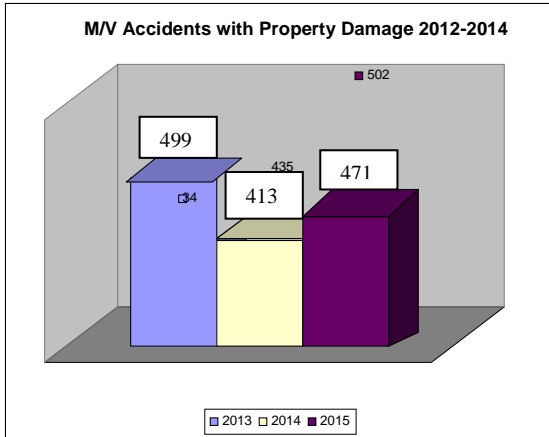


Crimes Investigated

| | <u>2013</u> | <u>2014</u> | <u>2015</u> |
|----------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Total Calls for Service | 37,540 | 35,679 | 35,795 |
| Homicides | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| Kidnap/False Imprisonment | 3 | 6 | 3 |
| Agg. Felonious Sex Assault | 8 | 8 | 12 |
| Sexual Assault | 7 | 2 | 6 |
| Robbery | 3 | 1 | 3 |
| Assault | 29 | 9 | 63 |
| Domestic related offenses | 149 | 62 | 114 |
| Arson | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Burglary | 5 | 10 | 20 |
| Theft related | 106 | 46 | 221 |
| Forgery | 8 | 4 | 15 |
| Fraud | 22 | 10 | 70 |
| Identity Theft | 5 | 2 | 54 |
| Criminal Mischief | 11 | 31 | 101 |
| Drug Offenses | 130 | 98 | 87 |
| False Report to L.E. | 2 | 5 | 9 |
| Alcohol Offenses | 26 | 18 | 21 |
| Protective Custody | 33 | 39 | 30 |
| Involuntary Emerg. Hosp. | 12 | 3 | 20 |
| Resisting Arrest | 22 | 16 | 10 |
| Weapons Offenses | 4 | 4 | 11 |
| Unsworn Falsification | 8 | 9 | 4 |
| Fugitive from Justice | 3 | 0 | 0 |
| Bail Jumping | 7 | 1 | 3 |
| Bench Warrant | 38 | 25 | 51 |
| Stolen Motor Vehicle | 8 | 14 | 6 |
| Breach of Bail/ Vio. Prot. Order | 25 | 20 | 8 |
| Disorderly Conduct | 18 | 11 | 14 |
| Prowling | 9 | 0 | 1 |
| Overdoses | 3 | 20 | 35 |

Motor Vehicle Accident Summary :

| | <u>2013</u> | <u>2014</u> | <u>2015</u> |
|------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Fatal Accidents | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| Personal Injury Accidents | 90 | 84 | 77 |
| Property Damage Accidents | 499 | 413 | 471 |
| M/V Off the road (No Damage) | 41 | 45 | 48 |
| Uninvestigated Accidents | 10 | 17 | 48 |
| Hit & Run / Personal Injury | 2 | 2 | 1 |
| Hit & Run / Property Damage | 42 | 27 | 35 |



“Drive Defensively at all Times”

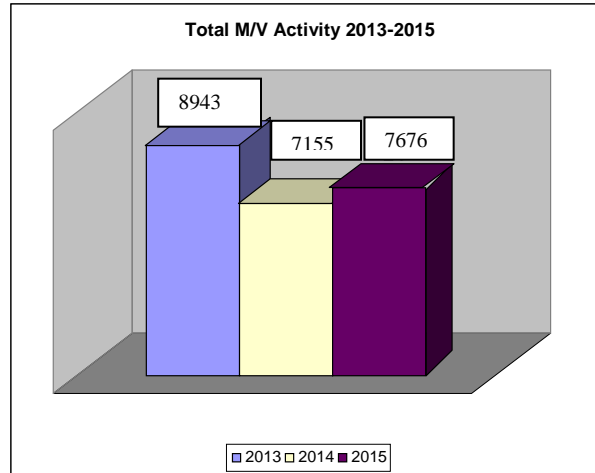
Traffic accidents are more likely to occur in the Town of Merrimack between the hours of:

| | | |
|------------------|---|-----|
| 8 A.M. – 4 P.M. | = | 290 |
| 4 P.M. – 12 A.M | = | 218 |
| 12 A.M. – 8 A.M. | = | 68 |

During 2015 between the hours listed above, a total of **576** traffic accidents occurred within our Town.

Motor Vehicle Enforcement Summary

| | <u>2013</u> | <u>2014</u> | <u>2015</u> |
|---------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Motor Vehicle Summons | 670 | 568 | 710 |
| Defective Equipment Tags Issued | 1003 | 594 | 850 |
| Traffic Warnings Issued | 7270 | 5993 | 6116 |



Animal Control

| | <u>2013</u> | <u>2014</u> | <u>2015</u> |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Animal Control Complaints - Total | 520 | 540 | 429 |
| Cruelty Reports | 16 | 11 | 19 |
| Bites Reported | 23 | 26 | 22 |
| Running at Large | 234 | 236 | 220 |
| Nuisance Offense | 17 | 15 | 15 |
| Summons Served | 37 | 60 | 0 |
| Stray Farm Animals | 9 | 9 | 3 |
| Wild Life & Bear Calls | 164 | 100 | 82 |
| Dogs Released to Animal Rescue League | 13 | 36 | 26 |
| Cats & Miscellaneous | 54 | 64 | 24 |

School Resource Officer's Report

The School Resource Officers (SRO) are primarily responsible for working within the school system as a law enforcement officer. Their role also involves promoting a safe and drug-free environment while building positive relationships between students, faculty and the police. The SRO's must be motivated to work with the youth and have the ability to gain the respect of adolescents and teenagers while holding them accountable for their actions. The SRO's must have the unique ability to perform the functions of a law enforcement officer, educator and counselor, while becoming an integral member of the school community.

The Merrimack Police Department and the Merrimack School District, continue to work closely to ensure the safety of the children attending Merrimack schools. Once again, Merrimack was fortunate to receive funding from the Federal Drug Free Community Grant which funds the School Resource Officer in the Merrimack Middle School. Because of the valued partnership between the police and school system, this detective has a daily presence with your children while they are at school, and continues to be a positive influence in your child's life.

Along with Detective Prentice, who serves as the SRO at the Merrimack Middle School, Detective Murray is located at Merrimack High School. Both detectives continuously strive to maintain a safe learning environment for your children while they are located at school, and also serve as mentors to them when they are not.

The information below reflects activity between January 01, 2015 and December 31, 2015 and is a combination between the Merrimack High School and Merrimack Middle School.

| | <u>MHS</u> | <u>MMS</u> | <u>Total</u> |
|-------------------------------|-------------|------------|--------------|
| Calls for service | 363 | 245 | 608 |
| Arrest | 17 | 3 | 20 |
| Accidents | 10 | 1 | 11 |
| Thefts | 15 | 8 | 23 |
| Criminal Mischief | 7 | 4 | 11 |
| Assaults | 18 | 2 | 20 |
| Court | 5 | 2 | 7 |
| Counsel Students | 1101 | 580 | 1681 |
| Parental Consultations | 164 | 165 | 329 |
| Classroom Lecture | 12 | 34 | 46 |
| Truancy | 65 | 30 | 95 |
| Agency referral | 65 | 6 | 95 |
| Meetings | 38 | 62 | 100 |
| Events attended | 42 | 50 | 92 |
| Mediation | 26 | 15 | 41 |
| Meeting with JPPO | 9 | 8 | 17 |