



## Police Department

The mission of the Berlin Police Department is to protect the lives and property of the citizens of the community, consistent with the Constitution of the United States and the State of New Hampshire. We continue to serve the community in a way that reflects the morality, beliefs, and customs of the citizenry we serve.

**Community:** The Berlin Police Department remains committed to the furtherance of its support for the Androscoggin Valley Chamber of Commerce and all of its activities, such as the summer ATV Fest and fall River Fire. Each year, these Chamber-sponsored events have grown in scope. While a considerable challenge to the Department, the increased attendance and resulting economic boost is great for the community. Many of those in attendance from afar return every year and many make additional trips throughout the year to enjoy the recreational options that exist here. Some have purchased property and vacation here, further boosting the economic impact on the community.

While large community events give us high visibility, it is the largely unseen duties and projects that consume us. Our work within the community is that of outreach to individual citizens and organizations that work within our community as providers of specialized services to our citizens. We work with providers of many community services, to include mental health, domestic violence, and juvenile and adult and elderly services. While we work with and assist these providers, each and every one of our officers also receives training and peer mentoring to work with citizens on an individual basis. We provide counseling and relief at all hours of the day and especially at night. Our goal is to provide service that renders comfort, as well as information to those seeking assistance from an entity as they move forward.

Illegal drugs and drug activity continue to be a problem not only in our community but in society; activity not only encompasses victims of drug activity but drug users as well. The Berlin Police Department remains committed to working within the community to assist victims

of drug activity. Operation Granite Shield continues to provide grant funding in order to gather information, and we continue to collaborate with the NH Drug Task Force as well. It is imperative that we work to find answers and solutions to this serious societal problem. To that end, DARE in our school system has been replaced with LEAD: Law Enforcement Against Drugs. DARE targeted fifth grade students, while the LEAD program will ultimately reach students in other grades with age-appropriate content. We believe this program will better deliver the message that we hope to bring to our students, the adults of tomorrow.

**Department/Personnel:** While fiscal year 2018, brought significant personnel changes, 2019 was another year of significant and challenge for the Berlin Police Department.

In September of 2018, Police Commissioner Jerry Nault was reappointed to the Berlin Police Commission. Along with Pierre Morin and Marc Tremblay, our department continues to thrive in part because of their knowledge and commitment. The community is fortunate to have such individuals working for its citizens as well as its Police Department.

September 2018 was a year of both gain and loss on the personnel side of our department. Dennis Gale and Noah Dumas were hired as patrolmen. Both have since graduated from the NH Police Standards and Training Academy and are now fully-certified officers. Lieutenant Corey Riendeau, Prosecutor, tendered his resignation to become Warden of the Northern NH Correctional Facility. We wish Corey much success in his new position and thank him for his years of service.

When someone leaves a position, that position must be filled with a person who can fulfil its obligations. Corporal William Daisey was chosen to fill that position. He was also promoted to the rank of Lieutenant. Lieutenant Daisey brings his tireless work ethic to his position, and we wish him well.

December 2018 saw the retirement of Detectives' Secretary JoAnn Theriault. Prior to her retirement, she was chosen as Employee of the Year. We thank JoAnn for

her years of service as a valued employee and friend to many; she is missed. Hollie Walters, a full-time dispatcher for many years, was tasked with the job of replacing JoAnn. Hollie's transition allowed for the promotion of Beth Bouchard from part-time to full-time dispatcher. We believe they will be very successful in their new positions.

Lieutenant Kerry Theriault was chosen as Officer of the Year. Kerry is a valued colleague and very deserved of this honor. His knowledge and demeanor are a beacon for younger officers as they move forward in their careers.

March 2019 saw more personnel movement in our ranks. Lieutenant Tim Godin retired after a long and successful career. He was a multi-faceted instructor for the department as well as for other area law enforcement agencies. Additionally, he instructed local businesses and their employees on various ways to better serve their customers and be safe doing so. March also saw the promotion of Officer Zach Howry to the position of corporal. Zach has a bright future and is very well-suited to assume this new position; his work in the community on- and off-duty is exemplary. Sergeant Geoff Bardeen resigned in March to pursue another career. We thank all three officers for their past and continued service and wish them well in their new endeavors.

In April 2019, Lieutenant William Daisey conducted DWI training for local and State law enforcement agencies in the area. It was excellent training and gave the agencies not only an opportunity to gain valuable information in eliminating impaired drivers from our roads, but to actually meet, get to know, and collaborate with one another.

Chief Peter Morency was appointed Vice-Chair of the New Hampshire Police Standards and Training Council, an important position that deals with all aspects of law enforcement in New Hampshire. Chief Morency has the experience and expertise to aid in guiding the Council forward.

<b>Total Calls for Service</b>	<b>20,757</b>
Accidents	223
Accidents Within an Intersection	86
Animal Complaints	270
Assaults	94
Assist to Berlin Ambulance	867
Assists from Gorham PD	66
Assists to Gorham PD	65
Assists to other Berlin Departments	289
Burglaries	26
Criminal Threatening	118
Dog Complaints	334
Domestic Violence Incidents	237
Drug Complaints	184
DWI Violations	37
Felonies	236
Involuntary Emergency Admissions	57
Juvenile Arrests	27
Juvenile Incidents	149
Milan Calls for Service	1,083
Misdemeanors	938
Motor Vehicle Stops	2,213
Motor Vehicle Violations	324
Motor Vehicle Warnings	1,919
OHRV Accidents	25
OHRV Complaints	89
OHRV Traffic Stops	53
Overdose – Suspected	31
Parking Tickets	352
Protective Custody Arrests	114
Restraining/Stalking Orders	88
Sexual Assaults	36
Thefts	198
Total Arrests	817
Vandalism/Criminal Mischief	131
Verbal Arguments	62

May 2019 saw the City and all of its departments wrestling with budgets. The State's inability to adequately fund education is an ongoing problem and one that leads communities, particularly those

with low real estate values, to constantly work to cut their budgets to ensure that education and all other public services are not severely impacted, all the while limiting property tax increases. We were fortunate to have Mayor Paul Grenier and Superintendent Corrinne Cascadden traveling to Concord on a number of occasions to address our community's concerns in testimony to our Governor and Legislators. It is our hope that their excellent work will assist and ultimately yield real solutions to this problem. This, not a band-aid approach, is what is needed. Our, and every other departments', future and success are at stake.

Finally, the Berlin Police Department joined others in the State by filing an Opioid Lawsuit on behalf of the City of Berlin. We are hoping funds may be forthcoming to assist us in the community fight to eradicate the scourge that envelops us.

Respectfully submitted,  
*Peter Morency*  
Chief of Police