## POLICE

## 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. We continue to serve the citizens in a way that reflects the morality, beliefs, and customs of the community.

The officers at the Police Department render their services to the citizens with professionalism and dedication. Through hard work, perseverance, and dedication, in conjunction with the support of the public, the Department continues its effort to reduce the crime rate. Only through this partnership can we collectively continue to make this community safer. This year, Berlin was ranked the fifth safest place to live in New Hampshire.

## **Retirements/Promotions/Appointments:**

July 2014 sadly saw the resignation of Officer Matt Carter; he was an integral part of the organization and was well respected by his colleagues. He chose to return to his career with the Berlin Water Works but remains with the Police Department as a part-time officer. To fill the vacancy, Adam Labonte was hired. Officer Labonte is a life-long resident of Berlin who came to the Department as a fully-certified officer from the New Hampshire State Police. We are excited to have him on our roster.

Long-time Police Commission Chair Steve Griffin resigned after nearly 15 years of service to the City. He was a dedicated commissioner who had the best interests of the Department and the citizens at heart. The vacancy was filled by Commissioner Marc Tremblay, who was a certified officer with the Department years ago. We look forward to working with Commissioner Tremblay and believe his professionalism and insight will prove invaluable as the Department continues to move forward.

"Call to Duty" Memorial: In the Berlin past, the Police Department hosted several "Call to Duty" Memorial Ball fundraisers to the support



memorial's perpetual care and scholarship fund. This year, the event was changed to a golf tournament and was even more successful. It was supported by many area businesses and citizens and was very well attended. The Department is comfortable in knowing that the memorial will be cared for, and the community's students will have the ability to receive grant funding for years to come.

NH Police Standards & Training Academy Expansion: The Academy's basic training semester increased to 16 weeks from the previously-established 14. Law enforcement duties have expanded tremendously, and as such, more training is needed to handle the many facets of the job.

**Body Cameras**: During the past year, controversial issues generated the confrontation of law enforcement officers by masses of citizens. This resulted in the public demand that officers wear body cameras. The Berlin Police Department recognized the need for body cameras years ago, at which time several were purchased. The Department is pleased to report that now every patrol officer wears a body camera. This has tremendously enhanced the resolution of investigations, arrests, and complaints, as the cameras provide proof and the opportunity to view exactly what the officers have observed.

**Building**: After many years of trying to expand the Department's facility, it was decided that a new garage would be built for the Recreation Department, and the Police Department would extend into the existing

Recreational Department garage. The Berlin High School Building Trades program has erected the new building, and the Police Department is in the process of expanding operations into the Recreation Department's vacated space.

**Drug Task Force**: The Department had an assigned officer to the NH Attorney General's Drug Task Force for the last twenty years. This year, it was determined that we would no longer participate in their program, and the officer was brought back and reassigned to the uniformed division so that efforts could be concentrated locally.

## STATISTICS July 2014-June 2015

Total Calls for Service	17,324
Accidents	206
Accidents Within an Intersection	60
Animal Complaints (bear, cat etc)	168
Assaults	110
Assist to Berlin Ambulance	921
Assists from Gorham PD	53
Assists to Gorham PD	81
Assists to other Berlin Departments	546
Burglaries	49
Criminal Threatening	89
Dog Complaints	394
<b>Domestic Violence Incidents</b>	248
DWI Violations	37
Felonies	212
Juvenile Arrests	39
Juvenile Incidents	172
Milan Calls for Service	631
Misdemeanors	949
Motor Vehicle Stops	2,448
Motor Vehicle Violations	207
Motor Vehicle Warnings	1,777
Parking Tickets	360
<b>Protective Custody Arrests</b>	64
Restraining/Stalking Orders	80
Sexual Assaults	39
Thefts	322
Total Arrests	680
Vandalism/Criminal Mischief	201
Verbal Arguments	71

Respectfully submitted, *Peter Morency*Chief of Police

2015 Report of City Council Contingency Fund Expenses per RSA 31:98-a	
Purpose	Amount
Election Expenses	29.00
PSNH (Relocation of poles for snowmobile trail) Northland Dairy Bar - Bedbug	1000.00
Forum	500.00
Total	1529.00