



To: Board of Representatives Parks and Recreation Committee
From: Thaddeus K. Jankowski Director, Office of Public Safety, Health & Welfare
Date: August 20, 2018
Subject: Park Policing

Background:

1. **State Standards:** All Police Officer hiring is guided by strict State Standards dictated through the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection, Police Officer Standards and Training Council (POSTC). This includes training requirements, medical qualifications, psychological qualifications and a polygraph for both new and lateral hires of Uniform and Park Police.
2. **Requirement:** Law enforcement is required to be under the authority and direction of the Police Chief.
3. **Budget:** There are 287 Uniform SPD and 2 Park Police Officer positions funded in the adopted budget.
4. **Park Police:** Through negotiations an agreement was reached and the Park Police Officers were sworn in by the Police Commission. However, both parties are still working on issues such as scheduling. Negotiations are scheduled and ongoing.

June/July 2018 Policing Data (Please see Assistant Chief Wuennemann report to the Parks and Recreation Commission attached)

In June and July 2018 there were approximately 1800 patrols/activities/operations which led to approximately 174 proactive operations addressing issues such as loud music, parking, animal complaints, drunkenness, etc. There were approximately 170 calls (approximately 2.7 per day) into the PSAP (911) by residents, Operations personnel and/or lifeguards. The majority of the calls were for disorderly conduct for loud music, fireworks, etc. Six hundred and ninety citations/tickets were issued in the six Beach Parks by Parking Enforcement; with other infractions cited and issued by Uniform and Park Police.

Park Policing Moving Forward

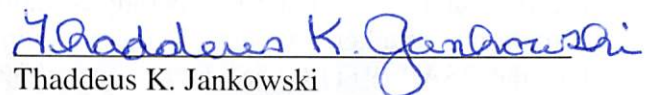
Park Police Officers are an important part of the Stamford Police Department. Other policing options or additional hires will be considered in the future if the budget supports, current issues are resolved, and viable candidates are available to be hired that meet the Police Officer

Standards and Training Council (POSTC) training requirements, medical qualifications, psychological qualifications and polygraph.

Current Policing in Stamford Parks:


1. Captain Lombardo a 45 year law enforcement veteran, experienced with Stamford Parks, has been assigned to the District 3 Command to work with the Park Police, Daily Patrol, Parks and Facilities, the Parks Commission and Committee. He will address policing issues and concerns within Stamford Parks.
2. Obtain maximum utilization of existing Park Police Officers, especially during the peak summer season for as many hours needed up and above normal scheduled hours.
3. Utilize Daily Uniform Patrol to police Stamford Parks appropriately.
4. Utilize additional Uniform Patrol Officers as needed to be assigned to Stamford Parks with the possibility of a Uniform Seasonal Parks Division being formed.
5. Continue to utilize technology to assist in Policing Stamford Parks. There are currently eight Blue Light Emergency Phone Towers with approved video surveillance at eight Stamford Parks (Carwin, Cove, Cummings, Hatch field, Lione, Mill River, Scalzi and Veterans Park).
6. Continue to work with Parking Enforcement to address parking issues, providing an additional presence of authority in Stamford Parks.
7. Continue to work with the more than 65 Operational Personnel, lifeguards and residents to proactively report incidents in parks for proper policing.
8. Continue to work with Shelter for the Homeless, Pacific House to provide outreach counseling for potential homeless in Stamford Parks with the opportunity for assistance and placement.
9. Implore the Parks and Recreation Commission to review Park Rules and Regulations for improvements to address residents' concerns.
10. Research other viable options to address park rules and regulation enforcement.

Respectfully,


Thaddeus K. Jankowski



STAMFORD POLICE DEPARTMENT
INTRA - OFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: Park Commission
FROM: Asst. Chief T. Wuennemann 
RE: Police Activity in the Parks
DATE: August 1, 2018

The attached 7 page document contains some of the police activity which the Parks Police and Regular Patrol Officers have been involved in since June. It is by no means all-inclusive of police activity in the parks. As we have stated before we conduct several thousand programmed patrols a year in the parks.

The events are in a reverse chronological order with the first one listed occurring on July 31st. An explanation for the numbering system as follows:


Numbers that begin with 18 are incident numbers and usually have an actual police incident report.

- 18 is the year
- Next two numbers, 06, 07 is the month
- Next two numbers is the day of the month
- Last four numbers are the incident number of the day

So 180703100042 would be incident number 42 on July 31st of this year.

Numbers that begin with 2018 and are followed by 6 more digits are CAD numbers which normally do not have any police incident reports assigned to them. You cannot tell what date they occurred just by looking at the number but they are in the attached document in their chronological sequence.

You will notice that some of the incidents listed are proactive work and others are officers responding to a call. This is only a two month synopsis of events but we believe the parks are doing well. I personally have eaten my lunch in Cummings Parks three times in the last two weeks and did not encounter any of the problems we had last year with the homeless population.



18-07-31-0042 Emotionally Disturbed Person Cummings Park 2045 hrs
Officers were sent to meet the fire department and EMS on a report of a disoriented female. EMS found the female in the park topless staring at a tree. The female, XXXX, did not know who she was or where she was. XXXXX was brought to Stamford Hospital. Officer McAllister and PPO Spinosa were able to find a family member who could identify her. XXXXX has issues when she doesn't take her medication.

2018-075957

Athletic Event

Carwin Park

At 1627, Sergeant Brown was approaching Carwin Park and got out with what sounded like a disturbance among 35 people inside, many of whom are well known to this agency. It soon became apparent that the group was involved in a highly competitive game of kick ball (no kidding). The players comprised men and women of ages ranging from 15 to 40 years old. Lieutenant Dohmann was advised (had to see it to believe it), and he responded as did Officer Smarth. The music had been turned down upon request, and the event was monitored for nearly an hour with no apparent problems or neighborhood complaints. The Officers cleared as the game was winding down, and the score was undetermined.

2018-076012

Parking Violations

Lione Park

At 1955, Sergeant Brown was checking Lione Park, which hosted the commonly large crowd as well as soccer game on the turf field. Several parking violations were observed and addressed. The park was cleared about 30 minutes later, with no problems reported.

1807290037 – 90F – 335 Soundview Ave

Rodney Williamson pushed past his girlfriend to get into her house after she refused him entry for being drunk. He fled in a vehicle and Parks Officer Gould located him in one of the parks. When Officer Bloomberg stopped the vehicle and exited her car, he took off. We were unable to locate him despite flooding the area and pinging his phone. The victim spoke to a counselor and all proper forms were completed. Warrant completed and submitted to Correnty.

2018-075610 Suspicious Vehicle Cove Island Park 1309hrs

Park Officer Gould observed a red Subaru Impreza driving around the bicycle track (not the main roadway) on Cove Island. The driver, Sixto Rochabrun, DOB 04-06-1947, stated that he was delivering food to a picnic but had no permit to drive on Cove Island. Rochabrun received an Infraction Ticket under the City Park Ordinance for Driving in a Non-Designated Area in a City Park (\$150 fine).

18-0729-0031 Loud Music Cummings Beach 1618 hrs

Park Officer Gould was dispatched on a report of loud music coming from the east end of the Cummings Beach East Parking Lot. DEIVY GABRI HERNANDEZ-MORILLO, DOB: 05/31/81 was issued an Infraction Ticket for AMPLIFIED MUSIC IN A CITY PARK of the Park Regulations. NOEL M NUNES, DOB: 08/17/62 was also issued an Infraction Ticket for AMPLIFIED MUSIC IN A CITY PARK of the Park Regulations.

1807220006 02:15hrs. 325 Bedford Street Assault.

Officers Donahue and Califano were flagged down on Bedford Street for a male bleeding. Officers spoke with the male who was ID as Kevin Sivulich 06/26/86 who appeared to be highly intoxicated slurring his speech and alcohol emanating from his breath. Kevin was extremely uncooperative with officers not wanting to give any information about the incident. After asking victim several times what happened he finally stated he was kicked out of a bar on Bedford Street but did not remember which bar. He stated he started to walk with a group of black males near Latham park but unsure exactly where. He stated they were having a conversation about racial slurs when he was punched in the face. Victim did not want a report taken by officers. Victim transported to Stamford Hospital and treated for his cut lip and cut on the back of his head.

1807200065 2130 hours 325 Bedford Street, Latham Park 520 Man with a Baseball Bat
Officers were sent code 3 to Latham Park for a white male in the park threatening another man. Officer arrived and spoke with the suspect William Fleming and the two victims. The male and female victim said that Fleming approached them with a baseball bat struck a picnic table they were sitting at and then yelled you want to fight. Full size alumni baseball bat was located and seized. Fleming was arrested for 53a-181 Breach of Peace and 53a-206(a) possession of a dangerous weapon.

1807210001 00:00hrs. Parking Violation Prospect Street
Officers Donahue and Califano issued parking ticket for Handicap violation on Prospect Street. Ticket issued to a Poutine King food truck. Photos of the violation taken and forwarded to SPD ID bureau. The Poutine King food truck has been advised several times in the past that they are not allowed to park in the area of Prospect Street. Tickets also issued in the past for same violation.

18-07-18-0048 Assault/ Narcotic Violation Latham Park 325 Bedford Street 2008 hrs
Officer Inverno was doing a Program Patrol when he saw a Michelle Molen run from the park towards 444 Bedford Street. Officer Inverno was then flagged down by Gail Lebeau age 68 who said that Michelle knocked her to the ground causing an injury to Lebeau's left elbow. Molen was then located in the parking lot of 444 Bedford Street by officer Bassone. She was detained and found to be in possession of crack cocaine. While being detained Michelle made comments that she wanted to kill herself and she was having breathing issues. Michelle was brought to Stamford Hospital where she was admitted. Warrant to follow for Assault of a person over 60, Breach of Peace and Possession of narcotics. Photos of Lebeau's

1807100023 Suspicious Person 1445 hrs Scalzi Park
Officers were sent to Scalzi Park on a report that there was a male in the park taking pictures of children at the park. The officers spoke to the mother of one of the children who stated that children were in the park running thru the sprinkler. There was a male lying on the ground taking pictures of the kids as they were running thru the sprinkler. The woman confronted the male who said he was a professional photographer and gave her his card. The male then left the park in a Tan Lexus ct plate 746-ZGJ. The card indicated that the photographer was a J Gregory Raymond 79 Courtland Ave phone # 203-820-7662. Officer Lee attempted to locate this male but was unable to.

Officer D Oliva was assigned FP-2 during the tour. He completed program patrols at the Ferguson Library, Veterans Park and 175 Atlantic Street. Officer Petrone and Officer Oliva also concentrated on the homeless that congregate in Latham Park.

1807080032 Disorderly Conduct 2023 hrs
Cummings Park

While out on foot at Cummings Beach, Park Officer Gould walked up on WALTER LEONEL PEREZ-MARTINEZ, DOB 12-30-1972, as he stood urinating between two cars in the middle of the Cummings Park main beach parking lot. Perez-Martinez was staggering drunk but otherwise compliant. He was issued an Infraction Ticket for Creating a Public Disturbance and sober family members were permitted to drive him out of the park. Both Perez-Martinez and his family were advised that a further such incident would result in arrest. Officers then collected the evidence and turned it into property

2018-06881 Motor Vehicle Stop 2211 hrs West Beach

While closing West Beach, Park Off. Gould noticed that in the large line of vehicles exiting was a raised Dodge Ram pickup truck that was repeatedly accelerating to tailgate the vehicle in front of it, then hanging back, then rapidly accelerating again to slow just off the other vehicle's rear bumper. As Gould maneuvered through the line of cars to execute an MV stop, the truck reached the Shippan Avenue exit and executed a high speed skidding turn onto Shippan Avenue, smoking the tires. The operator, TRAVIS ANTONIO TAMBURRO, DOB 06-10-2000, was charged with three counts of Following Too Closely, one count of Travelling Too Fast for Conditions, and one count of Unsafe Movement of Stopped Motor Vehicle (\$660 total fine).

18-0705-0050 Disorderly Conduct leads to OUI Arrest West Beach

While working the OUI detail Capt Hohn observed a call for assistance on his car computer by the head lifeguard at West Beach. The lifeguard identified as John Costello relayed that several families with children approached him to complain that there was a group of two H/M's and a W/F acting inappropriately(imitating sex acts in the sand) in front of children. Also, that they appeared to be under the influence of drugs or alcohol. The Captain called Costello and as the Captain arrived in the West Beach parking lot Costello pointed out the trio. From a distance it was observed that the males were wrestling and stumbling around. Before they could be approached they entered a Blue Nissan Sentra with NY plates. The vehicle was followed and it was observed going through a stop sign and traversing the curb near the soccer field. A M/V stop was initiated, an investigation started and Officers Petrenko, Moller, Williams and Gould responded to assist. The operator was identified as David Chavez DOB: 06/20/87 and he smelled of an alcoholic beverage. The passenger was identified as Heather Hilsenroth DOB: 05/06/85 and the rear passenger was identified as Ivan Mendoza DOB: 06/06/86. All three were issued summons for Creating a Public Disturbance due to their actions on the beach. Chaves was removed from the vehicle and the FST's were administered. Chaves failed two out of three FST's and was placed under arrest for OUI, Fail to Drive Right and Fail to Obey a Stop Sign. At HQ's Chaves blew a .175 and a .174 on the drager. His vehicle was towed by East Coast Towing and a \$100.00 bond was levied on Chaves. This was a nice job by Lifeguard Costello who stayed

past his shift to make sure the police were aware of the citizens' concerns of these three people. With his actions in following and pointing out this trio he was responsible for holding them responsible for their actions and taking a drunk driver off the road.

2018-067762 90C 2041hrs 100 Bridge St
Officers were sent code 3 to the above location on report of a fight near the basketball court. That during the fight one male acted like he had a handgun on him. The caller would not stay on the line nor give any further info. Upon arrival all was calm with a few young males on the basketball court. No one in the park saw anything and there was no evidence of a fight.

18-0704-0022 Marijuana/Interfering Arrest Lione Park
At 1408, Officer Smarth was on general patrol through the crowded park on Merrell Avenue, when he observed a car parked at the edge of the parking lot missing a rear bumper/registration plate. Officer Smarth got out to speak with the operator identified as Haggai Francois Lherisson (20) of Bridgeport. The odor of marijuana was strong coming from the vehicle, and Officer Smarth was soon after joined by Officers Inverno & Neri, and Officer Rosa and PPO Spinella. Lherisson was extremely uncooperative and appeared to be under the influence of a drug, refused to speak with the Officers, and refused to exit his vehicle. Lherisson had to be forcibly removed from the car and was eventually placed under arrest and handcuffed for Interfering with the Officers. He continued to struggle against the Officers and based upon his actions and appearance an ambulance was called to have him evaluated at Stamford Hospital. Officer Rosa located and recovered a bag of marijuana in the dashboard console of Lherisson's vehicle, later weighed at 1.56g. Officers rode the ambulance with Lherisson, and he momentarily calmed down as he was brought into the E.R. While waiting to be evaluated, Lherisson again acted out and had to be forcibly restrained by Officers Neri and Inverno. The E.R. doctor felt there was nothing wrong with Lherisson because he was "walking and talking" and refused treatment. Lherisson was discharged and again struggled against the Officers out of the E.R. and had to be physically placed into the patrol car. Once at booking, Lherisson became combative during the booking process and had to be taken to the floor to control him. He aggressively refused to be booked and comply with booking protocol, and booking Officers had to remove parts of his clothing prior to placing him into a cell. Lherisson was charged with Interfering W/Police, Possession of Marijuana (less than half ounce), and motor vehicle violations. Use of Force Report completed. Lherisson was held on bond.

1807020032 OUI Arrest 1600 hrs 200
Shippan Ave
Officer Lee was dispatched to West Beach on a report of a male in a silver pickup truck drinking beer. Officer Lee checked West Beach with negative results and then found the vehicle parked in Cummings Park. Officer Lee approached the vehicle and asked the driver, Richard DeGabriel, to turn the vehicle off. DeGabriel told Officer Lee that he was just sitting in his car and refused to turn off the vehicle. DeGabriel then proceeded to drive his vehicle around Officer Lee's vehicle and leave the park traveling north on Shippan Ave. A slow speed pursuit began and DeGabriel stopped his vehicle in front of 200 Shippan Ave. (Grade A). Officer J. Williams arrived as back up and noticed DeGabriel reaching for something on the front passenger seat.

Officer Williams ordered DeGabriel out of the car at gun point and he refused. Officers approached the vehicle and had to forcibly remove DeGabriel from the vehicle and place him under arrest. DeGabriel appeared to be intoxicated and refused to perform any of the road side tests for OUI. DeGabriel also refused the DRAGER breath test. He was charged with OUI, Engaging Police in Pursuit, and Operating Under Suspension. NOTE: During the booking process it was discovered that this id DeGabreil's sixth arrest for OUI. Nice job by Officer's Lee and J. Williams.

18-0627-0039 Found Marijuana Carwin Park

At 1558, Sgt. Brown was on foot inside Carwin Park on Spruce Street in response to neighborhood complaints of gathered groups, gambling, drinking, and drugs. While warning a group inside the park about these complaints, Sgt. Brown recovered a black plastic bag containing a bag of marijuana near the playground (TPW 18.0g). No known owner. Turned into Property Division TBD. Backed by Officers Neri and Inverno, all persons run NCIC with negative results.

1806240035 Possible Kayaker in Distress Cove Island Park 2026hrs

Park Officer Gould responded along with Sgt. J. Lynch to a report of a possible kayaker in distress in the area of the Holly Pond Dam. After speaking with the complainant, officers learned that the kayaker had been trying to get over the Holly Pond Dam but was repeatedly pushed back by the tidal surge. The kayaker then appeared to give up and attempted instead to make it to shore on the Darien side, during which a severe thunderstorm broke out and the complainant lost sight of the kayaker. Darien PD was informed and Harbor 3 (Offs. Johnson & Fox) were called back. An extensive search of the shoreline by Darien PD and Harbor 3 proved negative and it appeared likely that the kayaker had crossed successfully and secured the kayak.

2018-06404 Walking Detail Mianus River Park 1330-1500hrs

Park Officer Gould undertook a walking detail in Mianus River Park to address long-term complaints of violations of the leash law. During the course of the detail, two Infractions were issued under the City Park Regulation for Unleashed Dog in City Park (\$100 fine).

18-0623-0016 Park Violations Carwin Park

At 1018, Officer Smarth was on general patrol when he observed two males in Carwin Park on Spruce Street drinking beer. The park is clearly posted prohibiting alcohol, and area residents have complained of intoxicated males drinking near the playground discouraging children and families from enjoying the park. Richard Gomez (30) of 56 Greenwich Avenue and Jesus Perez-Henandez (35) of NKA were each issued Infraction Complaints for violation of City Ordinance prohibiting alcohol in the park. Nice work by Officer Smarth in addressing this neighborhood quality of life issue.

1806210043 Parking Violation Food Truck 321 Bedford Street 2330hrs

While on a Programmed Patrol in the area of Latham Park Officers Califano and Donahue observed Julian's Hot Dog Truck operating while parked in an illegal parking spot. Officers spoke with the owner, Dominick Telesco and explained that in order to operate the food truck

and sell food the truck was required to be in a legal parking spot. Verbal warning was issued and the truck was moved. Photos and a report were taken and forwarded to Captain Hohn.

From 6/20 Daily Report, this is a weekly occurrence: Miscellaneous: West Side Blue Light checks; Carwin Park, Lione Park, Scalzi Park, Hatch Field, and Mill River Park - All Audio and Video functioning properly.

1806170044 13b 2315hrs Latham Park Bedford St Officers were sent to this location on report of an assault victim who was bleeding from the head. The victim Kevin Bryant stated he was jumped by a male who he believes is named Rick Gange. That Rick beat him up for no reason. Other park goers who saw parts of the fight stated it was a mutual fight and that Bryant had the worst injuries. Bryant was extremely intoxicated and was unable to give a statement this evening regarding the assault but stated he would come in a later date to do so. Officers canvased for the other person involved but were unable to locate him.

2018-06145 Walking Detail Mianus River Park 1300-1500hrs
Park Officer Gould undertook a walking detail in Mianus River Park to address long-term complaints of violations of the leash law. During the course of the detail, two Infractions were issued under the City Park Regulation for Unleashed Dog in City Park (\$100 fine).

18-0616-0038 Loud Music Cummings Park 1611hrs
During a proactive patrol of Cummings Park, Park Officer Gould traced extremely loud music to a Hummer H3 located in the marina lot. The rear hatch was open and the entire exposed hatch was one large speaker. The amplifier with a heavy-duty power cable was located on the driver's seat and connected directly to the battery. Photos were taken and submitted. The owner, Haryn Herrera-Milian DOB 06-15-1990 of Norwalk, received an Infraction under the Park Regulation for Amplified Music in a City Park (\$100 fine).

18-0615-0042 90C 1900hrs
1040 Washington Blvd- Mill River Park
Officers were called to Mill River Park on a report of a fight. Upon arrival several people pointed out an H/M who appeared to be on something that has been harassing people. That he was walking up to random people trying to grab them and talking gibberish. Officers were told he was down toward the river so as officers were approaching they immediately recognized him as being Remy Malki from prior interactions. They also saw him trying to engage a group of girls in conversation and when asked why he was trying to talk to them he stated he thought they were pretty. Malki was placed under arrest and transported to HQ for Breach of Peace.

1806150043 TOWED M/C 1852hrs CUMMINGS PARK
Park Officer Gould was investigating a complaint of loud motorcycles driving in and out of Cummings Park. He saw a loud motorcycle entering the beach area from Shippan Avenue. The operator, Hans Tumax DOB 07-09-1993, had no face protection. He also had no license. Tumax was not the owner of the M/C. The owner, Olvin Caballeros-Guerra DOB 06-15-1986, was present but also had no motorcycle license. Tumax was cited for No Face Protection and Operating Without a Motorcycle Endorsement. The M/C was towed to Bill's South.

2018-06131 652 0002hrs COVE ISLAND PARK

While preparing to close the outer parking lot at Cove Island, Park Officer Gould observed a car with its lights off parked near the concession stand on the island. As Gould drove onto the island the car began to drive toward the exit. As the car neared the exit it put its lights on and Gould observed that it was driving on the narrow paved bicycle track instead of the roadway. The operator, Wenrui Huang, DOB 10-13-1993, stated he was out for a drive and didn't read any of the signs. He was cited for the park ordinances Violation of Park Curfew and Driving in an Unauthorized Area.

Officers did programmed patrols of Latham Park. During the program patrol officer Petrone found a Michelle Moulon unconscious possibly due to alcohol intoxication. Upon arrival EMS found that she was under the influence of alcohol and some other substances. June 10th)

1806100038 Loud Music Cummings Park

JANILLEX COLON and FAUSTO ARIEL LUCAS-ESPINAL engaged Park Officer Gould in an extended game of cat-and-mouse in which they would play extremely loud music from their vehicle and then turn it down whenever the marked patrol vehicle approached the area. Finally Gould parked off-premises and approached along the waterline, surprising them in the lot. By this time there had been four specific discrete instances of music being turned on and off over a period of half an hour or so. Each subject was charged with four (4) counts of AMPLIFIED MUSIC IN A CITY PARK under Park Reg. 175-1-23(b) (total \$400 fine each). In plain view on the driver's seat was a sound system using a power cable the diameter of a garden hose. The extremely large speakers were in the back. Photos taken and submitted. At 2204hrs Gould was elsewhere in the park and COLON and LUCAS-ESPINAL drove past, reactivating the loud music as they went by. COLON, who was driving, received an additional Infraction for AMPLIFIED MUSIC IN A CITY PARK AFTER 10PM, 175-1-23(c) (\$100 fine). They were informed the next event would result in arrest for DisCon. They left.

1806090015 627 1133hrs W. Broad // Hubbard

Officer Gipson was conducting a programmed patrol of Leone Park when he observed a vehicle leave the park at a high rate of speed, spinning its tires. Ofc. Gipson conducted a MV and identified the driver as Locksley Raffington. Raffington has a suspended driver's license and was issued a misdemeanor summons for the appropriate violations.