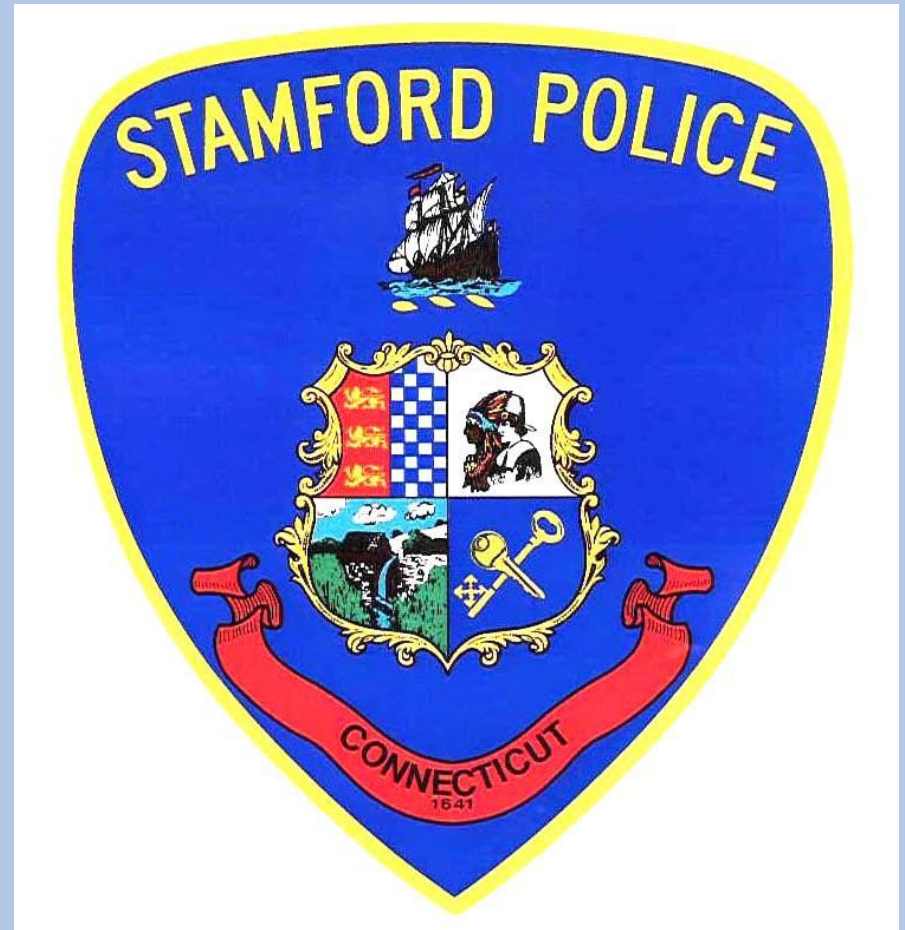
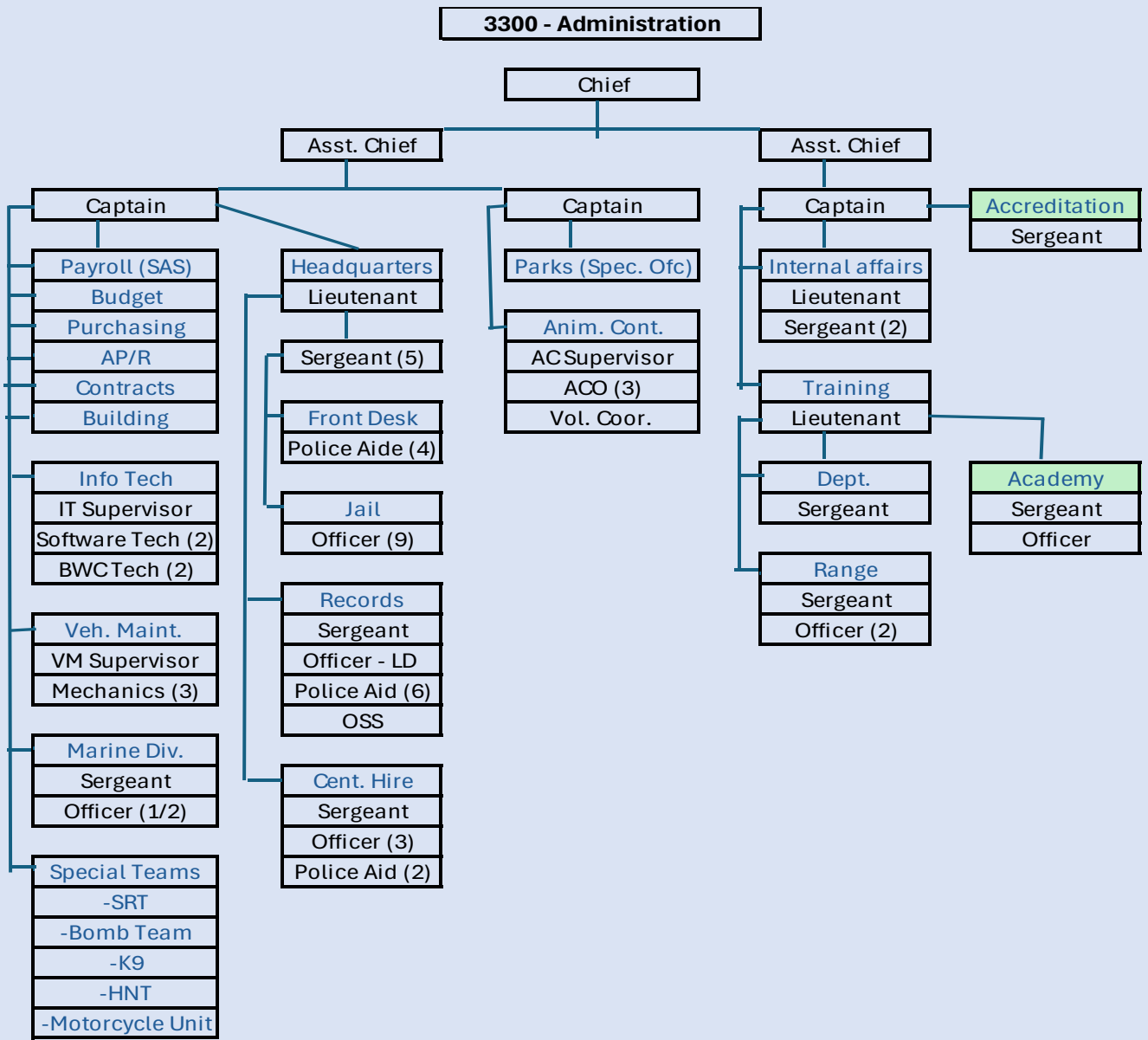


CITY OF STAMFORD
POLICE DEPARTMENT

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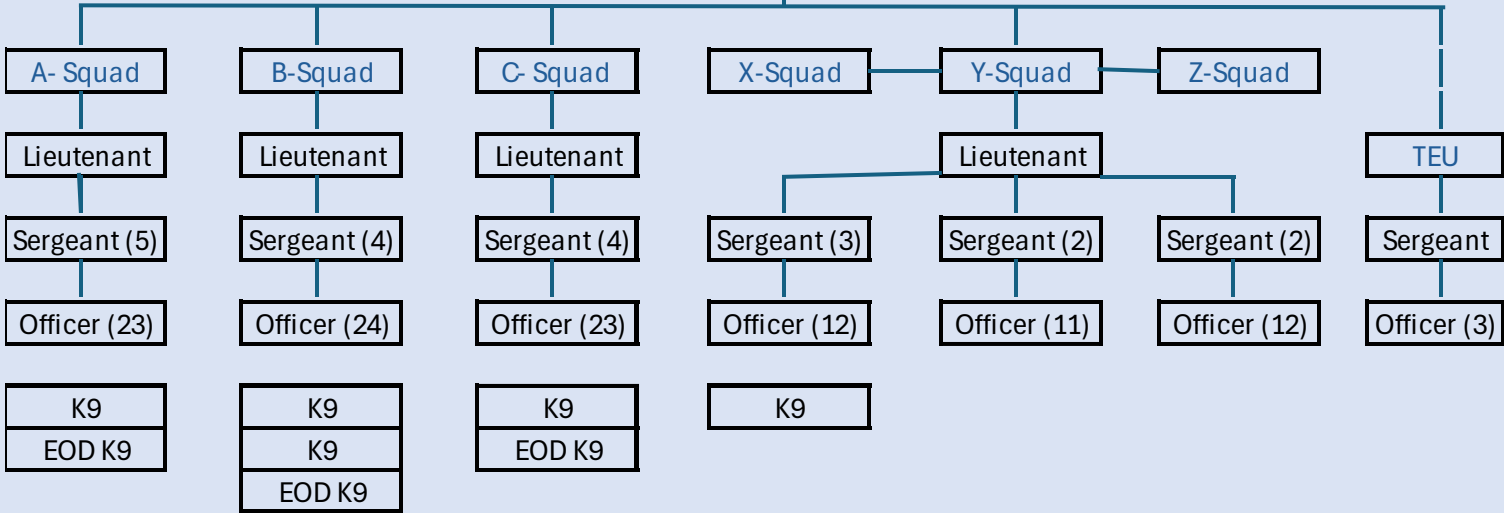




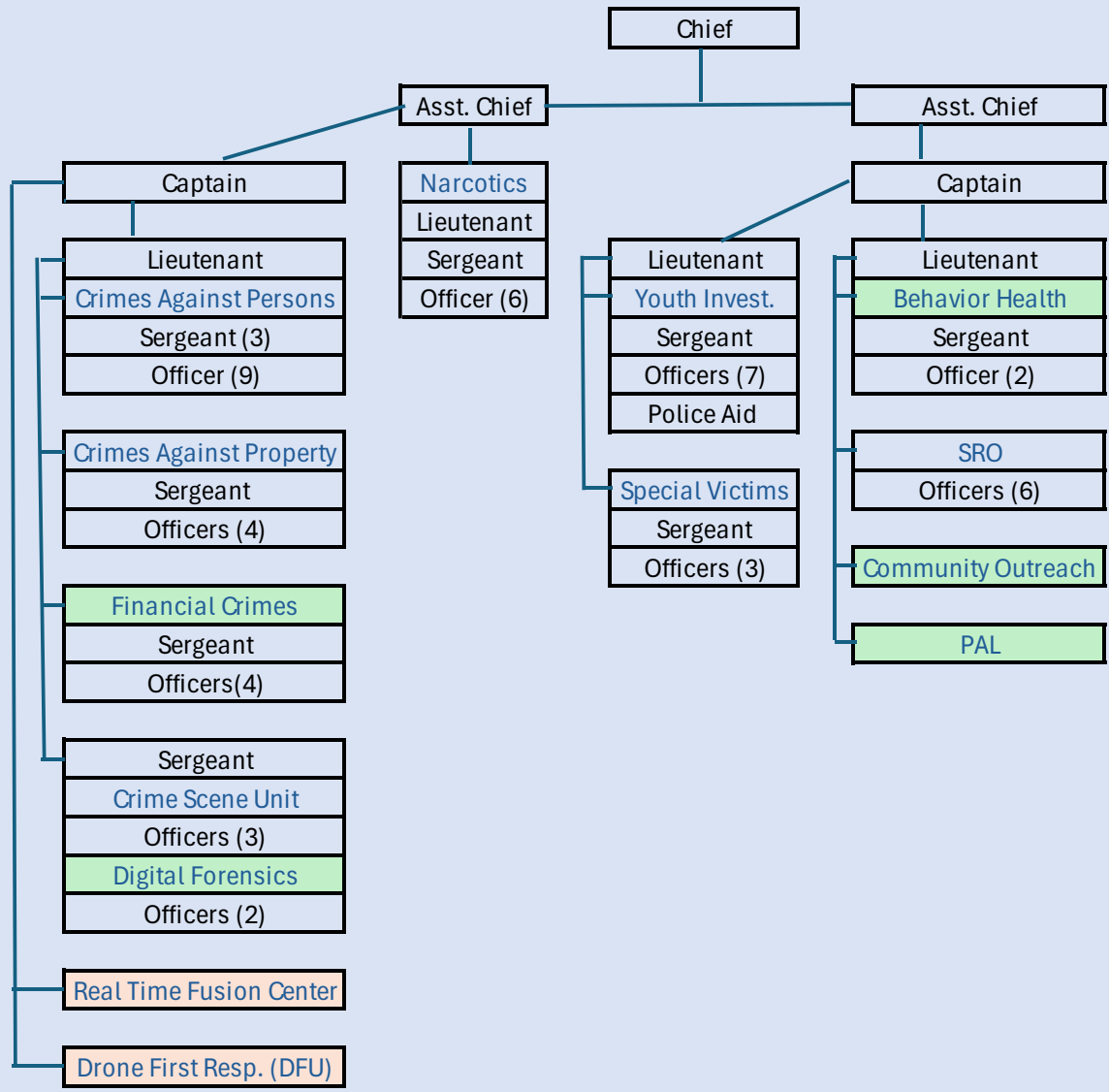
3301 - Patrol

Asst. Chief

Captain



3304 - Investigations



Staffing Updates

The Police Department is requesting an increase of our budgeted Police Officer positions from the current number of 217 to 230 (300 total sworn positions). The reasons for this request are as follows:

- The PD has been budgeted with as many as 314 sworn positions in the early 2000's. Since then, we have fallen to our current budgeted size of 287. During this same time, Stamford has grown to become the second largest city in Connecticut, but our Department has remained the smallest of the five large cities in the State.
- Over the past five years, our Department has responded to the expanding needs of the community and initiated several new units including Behavioral Health, Financial Crimes, Digital Forensics, Community Outreach, Stamford Regional Police Academy, State mandated Accreditation unit, Real Time Crime Fusion Center, and a Drone as First Responder (DFR) program.
- State mandated reporting requirements have dramatically increased the amount of time required to handle common police activities such as motor vehicle accidents, traffic stops, domestic violence incidents, racial bias incidents, etc. leaving less time for proactive activities such as traffic enforcement and community policing.
- The increased workload and shortage of officers have resulted in frequent order-back situations with many officers ordered to work double shifts multiple days in a row. During 2024, officers were ordered to work an extra 1058 days in addition to shifts covered voluntarily. The resulting officer fatigue has led to nine officers resigning since 2022, which historically had been extremely rare, and has further exacerbated the situation.

With the successful launch of our in-house Stamford Regional Police Academy last year and changes made to the hiring process, we are now in a better position to hire quality officers to reach our full complement of budgeted positions.

Besides the increase salary request for 13 positions (reflected in the Patrol-3301 salary line), the Department is requesting an increase in the Patrol OT account line from \$3,499,902 to \$4,018,350. The \$508,448 difference is based on current and projected manpower, past true costs in prior FY's, projected cost of the current FY, and the CBA raise increase in the coming FY. As we work towards increasing our manpower, it is expected that Patrol OT cost will decline in future FY's, however, this cost savings will not be realized in the upcoming FY due to the minimum 10-month turn-around training time between when a new recruit is hired and when they count towards minimum manpower.

Note: other than the adjustment to Patrol OT to reflect true costs, no increase has been requested in any other program OT line outside of the costs of the upcoming CBA raises.

Outside of additional manpower and Patrol OT increase requests, the Police Department budget recommendation includes only \$128,000 worth of non-CBA mandated increases, offset by \$36,600 in non-CBA reductions for a total of \$94,900.

The only non-manpower, non-Patrol OT, and non-CBA related requests are:

-Veh. Maintenance - \$30,000 to cover increased costs and complexity of replacement parts and increase in major repairs (engine replacement, transmissions) in aging fleet due to capital cuts.

-Equip. Maintenance (3300) - \$25,000 for additional License Plate Reader (LPR) locations to cover "blind spots" in the citywide network which will further aid in solving and reducing crimes.

-Investigations- \$10,000 due to increased travel costs for prisoner pick-ups, suspect/witness interviews and new fees introduced by phone companies for suspect phone tracking and search warrants.

The remaining net increase (increases and reductions) in non-CBA account lines are for utility costs (Electric and Comm Utility) and vendor contract increase in software.

Police Grants as of 12/20/2024

2024/25 AARP Auto Theft- \$94,444

2024/25 Click-It-Ticket \$9,423

2024/25 DUI- \$119,798

2024 Speed and Aggressive Driving- \$48,696

2022 COPS Hiring- \$750,000

SAMSHA-BHU Partnership- RNP- \$418,500 (\$127,009 to PD)

CT Public Health Community Violence Intervention -2024- (2nd year of funding)- \$88,330- Partner with Domus & Liberation Programs

2021 Connect & Protect - \$550,000 -Social Workers- RNP

JAG 2024- \$48,554- OT- First Responder Training on Vets in mental crisis- training provided by VA

The following grants are active- but all (or most) funding has been expended:

JAG 21-\$39,474- Pedestrian Safety

JAG 22-\$43,464- Extra walking Posts- OT

JAG 23- \$54,213- TACP Training/X-Ray Scanning System

The following awards have either expired, near expiration or in the process of being Closed Out:

2021 COPS SVPP-\$499,7171- Security Cameras for schools

2021 COPS Microgrant- \$124,994

2021 Body Worn Camera- \$133,151

2023 COPS Technology- \$ 250,000 Earmark- VR Systems & other equipment

Note: The Department also applied for and received a retroactive reimbursement from the State of \$236,880 for prior expenditures on BWC & Dash Cameras. Funds were deposited per the Controller's Office into the FY25 Taser & Camera acct. line.

Accomplishments and Potential Budget Adjustments

The Police Department is committed to providing the citizens of Stamford with the highest quality of care, protection, and service. The Police Department is recognized statewide and beyond as a leading innovative department that others strive to emulate and model themselves after. We were one of the first departments in the nation to introduce a Behavioral Health Unit with embedded social workers. Our Regional Police Academy has received rave reviews and is providing professional high-quality officers to Stamford and our local region. Our upcoming expansion of our joint Police and Fire Drone program is one of the first of its kind in the State. Our Special Teams have been recognized nationally and are routinely invited to assist and train with their corresponding elite Federal Units.

The additional staffing requested will allow the department to continue to lead the way in modern day law enforcement and provide the best possible services for the citizens of Stamford.

As outlined in our presentation, the majority of the increases in our proposed budget are non-discretionary contract benefits and utility and vendor annual increases. Any cuts to the proposed budget would be difficult to overcome, but every attempt will be made to maintain our expected level of service.