



FRANKLIN BOROUGH POLICE DEPARTMENT
ANNUAL REPORT

2023

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Table of Contents	2
Message from the Chief	3
Code of Ethics	4
Mission Statement and Core Values	5
Accreditation	6
Organizational Structure	7
Franklin Borough Data	8
Retirements.....	9
Promotions	10
Recruitment	11
Statistics	12
Use of Force	12
Naloxone Deployments	13
Records Section.....	13
Internal Affairs.....	14
Traffic.....	16
Investigative Section/Detective Bureau	17
Training.....	18
Function Responsibilities	19
Calls for Service.....	20
Noteworthy Cases.....	21
Community Outreach	23
Contact Us.....	31

MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF

Dear Community Members,

On behalf of myself and the entire Franklin Borough Police Department, allow me to extend our gratitude to each and every one of you who are taking the time to review our annual report. Your interest and commitment to staying informed about our profession and the needs of your community is greatly appreciated!

The annual report serves as a comprehensive overview of our efforts, achievements, and challenges throughout the past year. Additionally, this report reinforces the importance of our transparency and accountability within our profession and to the citizens of Franklin Borough.

Your feedback and engagement are invaluable tools as we strive to serve and protect our community to the best of our abilities in a dynamic environment that requires us to remain at the forefront of training and trends to continue to exceed your expectations for stellar service.

As we continue to develop to better meet your needs, please know that your safety and well-being always remain our top priority. We are committed to building upon our successes, addressing areas for improvement, and advocating for the improved quality of life for Borough residents and their visitors.

Once again, thank you for taking the time to review our annual report and we look forward to the continued opportunity to serve you with pride and professionalism.

Best regards,



Gregory M. Cugliari
Chief of Police



Code of Ethics

AS A LAW ENFORCEMENT EMPLOYEE, my fundamental duty is to serve the community; to safeguard lives and property; to protect the innocent against deception, the weak against oppression or intimidation and the peaceful against violence or disorder; and to respect the constitutional rights of all to liberty, equality, and justice.

I WILL keep my private life unsullied as an example to all and will behave in a manner that does not bring discredit to me or to my agency. I will maintain courageous calm in the face of danger, scorn, or ridicule; develop self-restraint; and be constantly mindful of the welfare of others. Honest in thought and deed both in my personal and official life, I will be exemplary in obeying the law and the regulations of my department. Whatever I see or hear of a confidential nature or that is confided to me in my official capacity will be kept ever secret unless revelation is necessary in the performance of my duty.

I WILL never act officiously or permit personal feelings, prejudices, political beliefs, aspirations, animosities, or friendships to influence my decisions. With no compromise for crime and with relentless prosecution of criminals, I will enforce the law courteously and appropriately without fear or favor, malice, or ill will, never employing unnecessary force or violence and never accepting gratuities.

I RECOGNIZE the badge of my office as a symbol of public faith, and I accept it as a public trust to be held so long as I am true to the ethics of police service. I will never engage in acts of corruption or bribery, nor will I condone such acts by other police officers. I will cooperate with all legally authorized agencies and their representatives in the pursuit of justice. I know that I alone am responsible for my own standard of professional performance and will take every reasonable opportunity to enhance and improve my level of knowledge and competence. I will constantly strive to achieve these objectives and ideals, dedicating myself to my chosen profession...**LAW ENFORCEMENT.**



MISSION STATEMENT

The Franklin Borough Police Department will commit its resources in partnership with the community to:

- Promote a safe and secure environment, free from crime and fear of crime
- Maintain order and provide for a safe and expeditious flow of traffic
- Practice our core values of integrity, respect, service, and fairness.

CORE VALUES

INTEGRITY

Integrity is the hallmark of the Franklin Borough Police Department, and we are committed to the highest performance standard, ethical conduct, and truthfulness in all relationships.

We hold ourselves accountable for our actions and take pride in a professional level of service and fairness to all.

RESPECT

We treat all people in a dignified and courteous manner, and exhibit understanding of ethnic and cultural diversity, both in our professional and personal endeavors.

We guarantee to uphold the principles and values embodied in the constitution of the United States and the State of NJ.

SERVICE

We provide service in a courteous, efficient, and accessible partnership.

We foster community and employee involvement through problem-solving partnerships.

FAIRNESS

We treat all people impartially, with consideration and compassion.

We are equally responsive to our employees and the community we serve.

ACCREDITATION

The Franklin Borough Police Department proudly participates in the esteemed New Jersey Law Enforcement Accreditation Program, a progressive initiative designed to enhance the effectiveness and accountability of law enforcement agencies. Accreditation serves as a proven method to evaluate and elevate overall performance, rooted in the adoption of rigorous standards that delineate professional objectives with clarity.

This voluntary program, developed by the New Jersey State Association of Chiefs of Police and modeled after the esteemed CALEA national program, underscores our commitment to excellence in law enforcement. It necessitates adherence to a comprehensive set of professional standards tailored specifically for New Jersey agencies, fostering the adoption of best practices throughout the field.

Since its inaugural accreditation in 2021, our department has upheld these standards with dedication and diligence. Under the scrutiny of trained assessors from the New Jersey Law Enforcement Accreditation Commission (NJLEAC), our policies, procedures, management, operations, and support services were comprehensively evaluated against 112 stringent benchmarks.

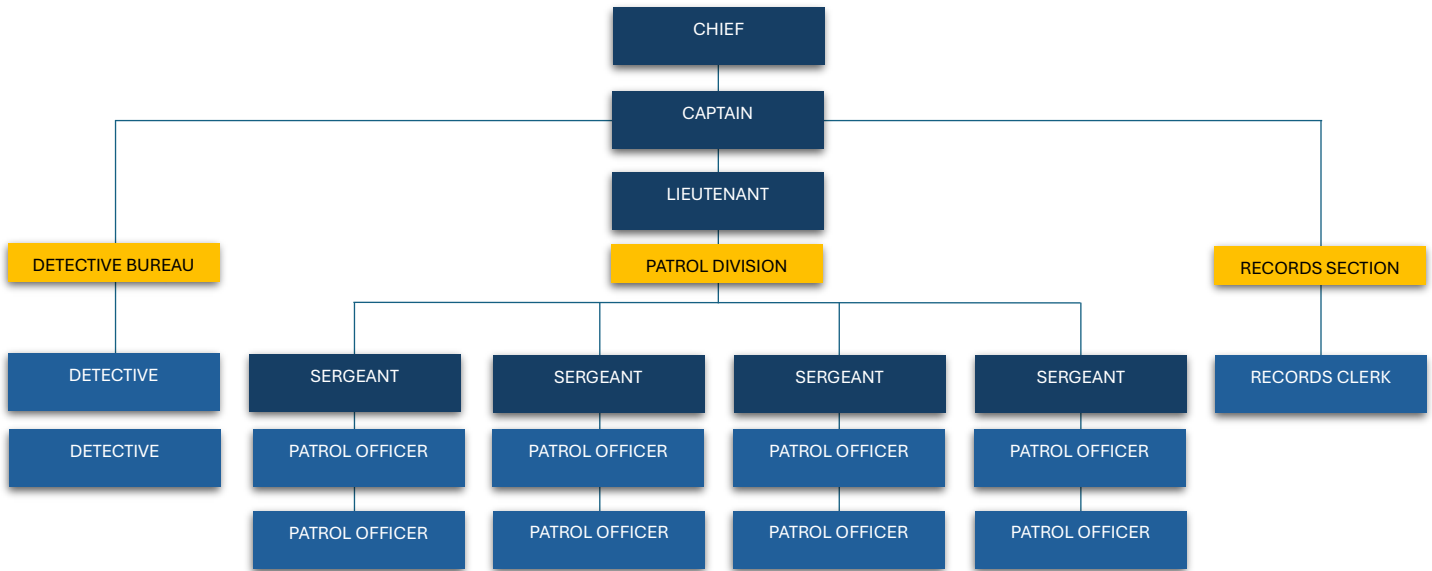
The assessment, conducted by experienced law enforcement practitioners from across the state, encompassed meticulous review of written materials, thorough interviews, and on-site inspections. Accreditation status, granted for a period of three years, underscores our ongoing commitment to upholding these exacting standards. Annual reports and proofs of continued compliance are mandatory, ensuring accountability and transparency in our operations.

Achieving accredited status represents a momentous professional milestone, affirming the soundness and efficacy of our policies and procedures. It reflects our unwavering dedication to excellence and our steadfast commitment to serving and protecting the Franklin Borough community with the highest standards of professionalism and integrity.



ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

*The roster below reflects department active personnel and assignments as of December 2023



PERSONNEL (17 Sworn Officers; 1 Civilian)

Administrative Division (3)

Chief Gregory Cugliari #26
 Capt. Seamus Geddis #22
 Lt. Nevin Mattessich #20

Investigative Section / Detective Bureau (2)

Det. Eric Moschberger #35
 Det. David MacQuesten #32

Records Section (1)

Wendy Burdge

Patrol Division (12)

Sgt. Robert Vander Ploeg #28
 Sgt. Rafael Burgos #15
 Sgt. William Grissom #24
 Sgt. David Schneider #29
 P.O. Jesse Babcock #27
 P.O. Zachary Oren #30
 P.O. Daniel Flora #31
 P.O. Nicholas Della Fera #33
 P.O. Brendan Prol #34
 P.O. Zachary LaGrave #36
 P.O. Alex Lospinuso #37
 P.O. Jake Rotunda #38



FRANKLIN BOROUGH DATA

GEOGRAPHY

Total Area: 4.43 sq mi **Land:** 4.36 sq mi **Water:** 0.07 sq mi

Total Roadways: 26.87 mi **Highways:** 3 (Rt. 23, Rt. 631, Rt. 517)
Municipal: 21.00 mi **No. of Roads:** 94
County: 2.93 mi
State: 2.94 mi

DEMOGRAPHICS

FRANKLIN BOROUGH		
Data is based on the 2020 Census Count	POPULATION	
RACE / ETHNICITY	#	%
WHITE	3,822	78%
BLACK or AFRICAN AMERICAN	108	2%
HISPANIC – ANY RACE	661	13%
AMERICAN INDIAN or ALASKAN NATIVE	6	<1%
ASIAN	78	2%
NATIVE HAWAIIAN or PACIFIC ISLANDER	0	0%
SOME OTHER RACE ALONE	28	<1%
POPULATION OF TWO or MORE RACES	209	4%
TOTAL	4,912	100%

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Mayor

Mayor John Sowden IV

Municipal Clerk

Darlene Tremont

Council Members

Concetto Formica Stephen Skellenger

Rachel Heath Joe Limon

John Postas Gilbert Snyder

RETIREMENTS



P.O. KORGER #16

On May 1, 2023, Officer Jeffrey Korger officially retired from the Franklin Borough Police Department after 25 years of professional and dedicated service to our agency and the citizens of our community.

Officer Korger started his career in 1998, after graduating from the Morris County Police Academy, and became the 26th full-time officer to protect and serve the Borough of Franklin since the department was established in 1915. He began his journey in the patrol division before becoming the sole detective in 2007. Officer Korger has been a member of the Sussex County Emergency Response Team, an accident reconstruction specialist, a firearms instructor, and a G.R.E.A.T. instructor. He has amassed over 100 law enforcement certifications and received the Franklin Borough Police Department Life Saving Award.

Thank you for your commitment and invaluable contributions toward helping our department reach its goals. We wish you great success and happiness in all your future endeavors!



PROMOTIONS



SGT. SCHNEIDER #29

In March of 2023, we began the process of identifying officers who have the potential to assume greater responsibility and possess the skills, knowledge, and abilities required to perform at the level of sergeant.

During our promotional process, officers underwent a series of testing phases to assess their knowledge of criminal and motor vehicle law, state directives and guidelines, case law, and best practices for law enforcement.

Candidates for promotion were also interviewed and presented with scenarios to evaluate the decision-making and leadership qualities necessary for supervision.

Ultimately, our officers combined their years of training and experience in the field with countless hours of studying and preparation for the test. And although all did very well and we're proud of their performance, Officer David Schneider claimed the top spot.

Sgt. Schneider began his career with the Glen Ridge Police Department before finding a home with the Franklin Police in 2014. In 2019 he was assigned to the detective bureau and shortly thereafter, his dedication and excellence were recognized with the prestigious Sussex County Detective of the Year award.

In 2020 he took on a pivotal role with the Sussex County Narcotics Task Force, where he not only spearheaded numerous large-scale investigations, but also assumed the responsibility of training new officers in undercover operations.

His expertise has extended to key roles such as an In-Service Training Instructor at the Morris County Police Academy, a Drug Recognition Expert, and a Field Training Officer for new recruits. Sgt. Schneiders commitment to public safety has garnered him multiple accolades, including the 2017 Top Cop Award and various recognitions from organizations like Mothers Against Drunk Driving.

His commendable achievements are further underscored by letters of appreciation from supervisors and members of the public, showcasing his outstanding contributions to law enforcement.



RECRUITMENT

The process of hiring new police officers is a rigorous and comprehensive process designed to ensure the selection of qualified and dedicated individuals. Prospective officers undergo a series of thorough interviews followed by an in-dept background investigation, medical exams, and drug screening. Successful candidates then face months of intensive training at the police academy, followed by their entry into our department's field training program where they perform under the guidance of a supervisor who closely monitors their progress.

This meticulous hiring process aims to recruit individuals with the highest standards of character, competence, and commitment to serving and protecting the community.



P.O. LOSPINUSO #37

Alex Lospinuso is a dedicated and lifelong resident of Sussex County who has woven himself into the fabric of our law enforcement community.

His commitment to public service is deeply ingrained, influenced by the distinguished career of his father, retired Lt. Mark Lospinuso, who served the Sussex County Sheriff's Department with honor for 28 years. Alex's unwavering dedication and determination to serve his community mirror the values instilled by his father. He laid the foundation for his law enforcement journey at Kittatinny Regional High School and Sussex County Community College. As a graduate of the Passaic County Police Academy (Class 21-56) and an intern with the Sussex County Prosecutors Office, Alex further honed his skills and knowledge.

Following in his father's footsteps, he joined the Sussex County Sheriff's Department as an investigator, solidifying his commitment to upholding the safety and well-being of the community he holds dear before finding a home with the Franklin Borough Police Department.



P.O. ROTUNDA #38

Jake Rotunda, another lifelong resident of Sussex County, has a strong educational background and a commitment to public service. Graduating from the Citadel Military College of South Carolina, he earned a bachelor's degree in Intelligence and Security, specializing in Counterterrorism, and complemented it with a minor in Criminal Justice. During his time at the Citadel, Jake showcased his leadership skills as a four-year member and team captain of the Division 1 wrestling team, excelling both academically and athletically by consistently making the dean's list.

As a Platoon Sergeant, he demonstrated his dedication to duty and discipline. Jake is a proud graduate of Pope John Regional High School and further honed his skills through an internship with the New Jersey State Police Drug Trafficking North Unit. Additionally, he successfully completed the rigorous training of the Morris County Police Academy's 101st class, solidifying his commitment to maintaining law and order within the community.

STATISTICS

USE OF FORCE

In 2023, the Franklin Borough Police Department recorded **15,088 calls for service**, which included both reported incidents and officer-initiated activities. Officers resorted to the use of force in just six instances. This means our officers **used force in less than 1% of the total service calls**.

The Use of Force reports showed that the members of our agency, in the vast majority of incidents, utilized the minimum amount of force necessary to control and de-escalate the situation.



Use of Force Report Details

County	Agency Name	Officer Name	Officer Gender	Officer Race/Ethnicity	Incident Date	Incident Type	Officer Injured	Force Type	Subject Type	Subject Age	Subject Gender	Subject Race
Sussex	Franklin Boro PD	Zachary Oren	Male	White	10/16/2023	Welfare Check	False	Used arms/hands	Person	49	Male	White
Sussex	Franklin Boro PD	William Grissom	Other		10/16/2023	Disturbance (drinking, fighting, disorderly)	False	Used arm bar on	Person	49	Male	White
Sussex	Franklin Boro PD	Daniel Flora	Other		8/22/2023	Domestic	False	Used arms/hands	Person	38	Female	White
Sussex	Franklin Boro PD	William Grissom	Other		8/22/2023	Domestic, Assault	False	Used arm bar on	Person	38	Female	White
Sussex	Franklin Boro PD	Alex Lospinuso	Other		8/12/2023	Suspicious person	True	Used take down on, Used ar...	Person	26	Male	White
Sussex	Franklin Boro PD	Jesse Babcock	Other		8/12/2023	Suspicious person	False	Used take down on, Used ar...	Person	26	Male	White
Sussex	Franklin Boro PD	Nicholas Della Fera	Other		6/23/2023	Medical Emergency, Potential Mental Health...	False	Used take down on	Person	48	Male	White
Sussex	Franklin Boro PD	Robert Vander Ploeg	Male	White	3/13/2023	Domestic	False	Used take down on	Person	30	Male	White
Sussex	Franklin Boro PD	Zachary Lagrave	Other		3/13/2023	Domestic	False	Used take down on	Person	30	Female	White
Sussex	Franklin Boro PD	Brendan Prol	Other		2/5/2023	Theft/Shoplifting	True	Used arms/hands	Person	30	Male	Two or more

<https://www.njoag.gov/force/>

It is the policy of the Franklin Borough Police Department that officers hold the highest regard for the dignity and liberty of all persons and place minimal reliance upon the use of force and instead use de-escalation tactics to the extent possible under the circumstances. Our department respects and values the sanctity of human life and the application of deadly force is a measure to be employed only in the most extreme circumstances.

Law enforcement officers have been granted the extraordinary authority to use force when necessary to accomplish lawful ends. That authority is grounded in the responsibility to comply with the laws of the State of New Jersey regarding the use of force and to comply with the provisions of our department Standard Operating Procedures.



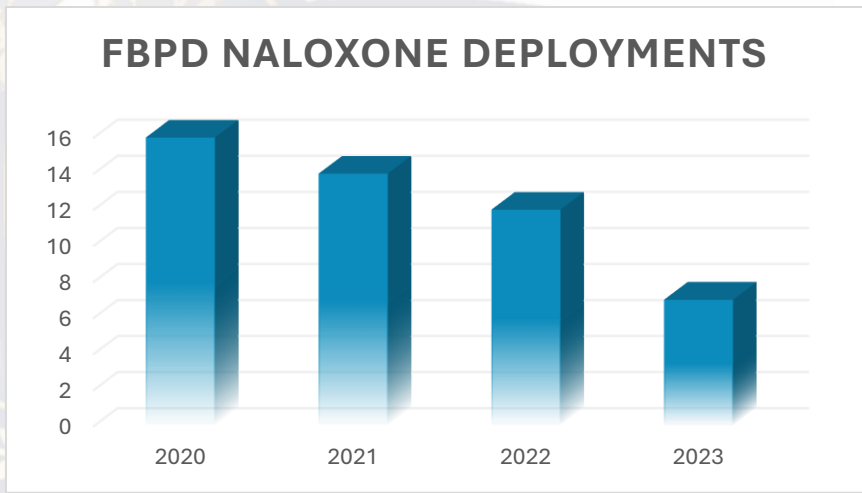
NALOXONE DEPLOYMENT

The Franklin Borough Police Department has partnered with the Sussex County Prosecutors Office, the Sussex County Center for Prevention and Counseling, and the Walkkill Valley Community Coalition to help improve well-being and safety of those in our community.

By participating in addiction recovery initiatives like the Community Law Enforcement Addiction Recovery (C.L.E.A.R.) Program and Operation Helping Hand, the number of naloxone deployments in our community has steadily decreased each year.

This has resulted in a reduction in the number of naloxone deployments by our department by more than half (56% decrease) since 2020.

YEAR	NALOXONE DEPLOYMENTS
2020	16
2021	14
2022	12
2023	7



RECORDS SECTION

The Franklin Borough Records Section manages and maintains all official records generated by the department. Duties include data entry, record keeping, information retrieval, file management, fulfilling public records requests, compliance, and reporting, and providing administrative support. They play a crucial role in maintaining accurate records, ensuring compliance with regulations, and supporting law enforcement operations.

RECORDS PROCESS	AMOUNT
Open Public Records Act Requests (OPRA)	13
Discovery Requests	78
Incident Processing and Management	358

INTERNAL AFFAIRS

The Franklin Borough Police Department strives to maintain a high quality of law enforcement services. Improving the relationship between employees and the public facilitates cooperation vital to the department's ability to achieve its goals. We are committed to providing law enforcement services that are fair, effective, and impartially delivered. It is our policy to accept and investigate all complaints of department and employees' alleged misconduct or wrongdoing from all people who wish to file a complaint, regardless of the hour or day of the week. This includes reports from anonymous sources, juveniles, undocumented immigrants, and persons under arrest or in custody.

All alleged instances involving an officer whose behavior, performance, or failure to act violates departmental rules, regulations, procedures, as well as relevant criminal and civil statutes, and the United States or New Jersey Constitutions, will be treated as reportable incidents. All reportable incidents shall be carefully and thoroughly reviewed by the Internal Affairs Supervisor to determine the manner of response that best serves the public, the department, and the employee. Reportable Incidents classified as misconduct will result in an internal investigation conducted in accordance with the New Jersey Attorney General's Internal Affairs Directive and this written directive.

The conclusion of each internal affairs investigation will result in one of the following four (4) dispositions:

- **Sustained.** A preponderance of the evidence shows an officer violated any law; regulation; directive, guideline, policy, or procedure issued by the Attorney General or County Prosecutor; agency protocol; standing operating procedure; rule; or training.
- **Unfounded.** A preponderance of the evidence shows that the alleged misconduct did not occur.
- **Exonerated.** A preponderance of the evidence shows the alleged conduct did occur but did not violate any law; regulation; directive, guideline, policy, or procedure issued by the Attorney General or County Prosecutor; agency protocol; standing operating procedure; rule; or training.
- **Not Sustained.** The investigation failed to disclose sufficient evidence to clearly prove or disprove the allegation.

The Franklin Borough Police Department adheres to a system of progressive discipline, aligned with the New Jersey Attorney General's Guidelines, that includes the following elements:

- Oral reprimand or performance notice;
- Written reprimand;
- Monetary fine;
- Suspension without pay;
- Loss of a promotional opportunity;
- Demotion; and
- Discharge from employment.

Our internal affairs policy is designed with the primary aim of enhancing our ability to deliver police services while assuring the people of our community that complaints of police misconduct are properly addressed.

Annually, our police department furnishes the Sussex County Prosecutor’s Office with a comprehensive statistical report detailing the nature of complaints received and the outcomes of our investigations. Furthermore, this report is made readily accessible to the public through our official website.



2023 Internal Affairs Summary 2023

Internal Affairs: 2023 Snapshot

This sheet contains some top-line facts and figures for Internal Affairs cases closed in 2023.
Detailed breakdowns can be found in the subsequent pages.

	# allegations	# initial allegation sustained	# other allegation sustained	# not sustained
Criminal violation	0	0	0	0
Differential treatment	0	0	0	0
Excessive force	0	0	0	0
Improper arrest	0	0	0	0
Improper entry	0	0	0	0
Improper search	0	0	0	0
Domestic violence incident (non-criminal)	0	0	0	0
Demeanor	0	0	0	0
Other rule violation	4	1	0	3
TOTAL	4	1	0	3

Distribution of sources for complaints closed in 2023

	Anonymous	Agency	Civilian
#	0	3	1
%	0%	75%	25%

Frequency of discipline by type for complaints closed in 2023

Oral reprimand or performance notice	0
Written reprimand or written warning	0
Monetary fine or loss of pay	0
Suspension without pay	0
Separated while IA pending	0
Demotion or loss of promotion opportunity	0
Discharge from employment	0
Training, coaching, or counseling	0
Loss of time	1
None	3
TOTAL	4

2023 Summary

Total Pending from Prior Years	0
Total Opened	6
Total Closed	4
Total Sustained	1
Total Not Sustained	3
Total >180 Days	0
Total Pending at end of 2023	2

NOTE: This sheet provides a snapshot of IA cases at a single point in time. As a case progresses, classifications and categorizations may change.

A single Internal Affairs case may involve one or more officers. This Summary refers to the count of OFFICERS who were named in an Internal Affairs Complaint.

For more information regarding the Franklin Borough Police Departments Internal Affairs function, please visit www.franklinborough.org and click the Internal Affairs link under the Public Safety section.

TRAFFIC

Traffic and pedestrian safety are some of the top priorities of the Franklin Borough Police Department.

Officer efforts resulted in the following traffic related statistics:

Description	2023	2022	Increase/Decrease
Motor Vehicle Stops	3,403	2512	+35%
Summonses Issued	924	855	+8%
Warnings Issued	2,479	1,657	+50%
Driving While Intoxicated Arrests	11	13	-15%
Driving While Suspended	44	44	0%
Traffic Control / Radar Details	2,554	4,282	-40%
Motor Vehicle Accidents	267	272	-2%
Motor Vehicle Incidents	33	24	+38%
Disabled Vehicles Assisted	94	79	+19%
Traffic Complaints	22	31	-29%

PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS – ETHICS STATEMENT CONCERNING ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITY

The Franklin Borough Police Department fully complies with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 40A:181.2 which prohibits the establishment of any ticket or arrest quota but does permit the compiling of non-revenue statistical data. Members of the Franklin Borough Police Department as specifically prohibited from considering municipal revenue when deciding as to whether to make an arrest, issue a summons or a warning. Each circumstance is unique, and officers are obligated to make any and all enforcement decisions based upon the circumstances attendant to the specific violation at hand.

No officer has earned any benefit or demerit based upon the amount of summonses issued or arrests made. All members of service have complied with legal obligations. It is the police of the Franklin Borough Police Department to prevent and prohibit the practice of bias-based policing, bias-based profiling, and other discriminatory practices by employes of this department in detention, interdiction, traffic contacts, field contacts, asset seizure and asset forfeiture. Bias-based policing, bias-based profiling, and discriminatory profiling are violative of the Equal Protection Clause of the 14th Amendment to the United States Constitution and in direct contravention of the New Jersey Attorney General Directive 2005-01 and New Jersey Attorney General Directive 2019-3.

INVESTIGATIVE SECTION / DETECTIVE BUREAU

The Detective Bureau’s abilities and resources complement the Patrol Division to further the pursuit and apprehension of criminal violators. The Detective Bureau ensures the thorough handling of all investigations of magnitude or criminal investigations requiring the coordination of multiple investigative bodies at the local, county, state, and federal levels.

The Franklin Borough Police Department’s two assigned detectives act as liaisons to assisting law enforcement partners within the county, state, as well as federal entities. No two cases are the same and the below data is not reflective of the resources and manhours required to take each investigation to its furthest conclusion on behalf of the victims within our community.

Function Type	Amount
Criminal Investigations	34
Pre-Employment Background Invest.	2
Pieces of Evidence Processed	110
Megan’s Law Registrations	16
ABC Inspections	11
Firearm Application Investigations Conducted	71
Firearms Identification Cards Issued	88
Pistol Permits Issued	31
Carry Permits Issued	8

TRAINING

Annual training is essential for police officers to adapt to changes, enhance their skills, build positive community relations, and ensure that law enforcement practices align with evolving legal and ethical standards. It contributes to the overall effectiveness and accountability of police departments.

Officers completed a total of approximately **2,646** hours of training in the following courses:

- | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|
| Workplace Harassment Prevention | Temporary Detention/PREA |
| Substance Use Recovery | Field Training & Evaluation Refresher |
| Detainee Transportation | Fire Extinguisher |
| ALPR | Bias-Based Policing |
| Vehicular Pursuit (1 st) | Use of Force (1 st) |
| MEB Advanced Course | Tactical Training |
| Resiliency Program Review | Safety Training Videos from JCP&L |
| Investigative Report Writing | Emotionally Disturbed Persons |
| Vehicular Pursuit (2 nd) | Use of Force (2 nd) |
| Performance Evaluations | Basic Crime Scene Management |
| Legal Updates | Domestic Violence |
| Bloodborne Pathogens | Ethics |
| Criminal Justice Information System/MDT | Leadership |
| Hazard Communication & Right to Know | The Honor Game |
| Pre-Employment Background Investigation | Quota-Free Police Productivity System |
| Methods of Instruction | Simmunition Instructor |
| Internal Affairs | Interview & Interrogation |
| Driver Simulator Training | Field Training Program |
| Simmunition Instructor (Refresher) | Radar Certification |
| Pro-Active Patrol Tactics | Alcoholic Beverage Control |
| Glock Armorer | NJ Case Law/Search & Seizure Update |
| Effective Policing Skills and Tactics | Active Shooter |
| Defensive Tactics | Basic Course for Police Officers |
| DRE Instructor Recertification | Radar Certification (Refresher) |
| Accident Reconstruction | |



FUNCTION RESPONSIBILITIES

Our officers' shoulder a diverse range of responsibilities beyond their traditional duties of maintaining law and order. In addition to their primary role of patrolling neighborhoods and responding to emergencies, our officers are tasked with the myriad of other responsibilities listed below.

ABC Compliance	ABLE	Academy Instructors	Accident Reconstruction	Accreditation
Det. Moschberger (1)	Sgt. Vander Ploeg	Capt. Geddis	Sgt. Vander Ploeg	Lt. Mattessich (1)
Det. MacQuesten (2)		Sgt. Vander Ploeg	Det. MacQuesten	Sgt. Vander Ploeg (2)
		Sgt. Schneider		
		Sgt. Grissom		
Active Shooter Instructor	Alcotest Coordinator	Armorer	Autism Resource Officer	Bias Incident Investigation
Sgt. Schneider (1)	Sgt. Vander Ploeg (1)	Sgt. Schneider	P.O. Babcock	Det. Moschberger
Det. Moschberger (2)	Sgt. Schneider (2)	P.O. Prol		Det. MacQuesten
Sgt. Burgos (3)				
Business Alarm / Emergency Contact Registration	BWC/MVR	Cellebrite Operator	CLEAR Program	Community Outreach
Sgt. Burgos	Capt. Geddis (1)	Sgt. Schneider	Capt. Geddis	Capt. Geddis
R.C. Burdge	Lt. Mattessich (2)			Chief Cugliari
Court Liaison	CPS Technician	Crossing Guards	Defensive Tactics	Discovery
Capt. Geddis	Sgt. Vander Ploeg	Det. MacQuesten (1)	Sgt. Grissom	Capt. Geddis
	Det. MacQuesten	Det. Moschberger (2)	Sgt. Schneider	R.C. Burdge
Drug Recognition Expert (DRE)	DV Response Team (DVRT) Coordinator	Equipment Maintenance	Evidence Management	Extra Duty Management
Capt. Geddis	Sgt. Grissom	Sgt. Grissom	Det. Moschberger (1)	Capt. Geddis
Sgt. Schneider			Det. MacQuesten (2)	
Facility Maintenance	Field Training	Fingerprint Compliance	Firearms (FBPD)	Firearms Applications
Sgt. Grissom (Manager)	Capt. Geddis (Coordinator)	Sgt. Burgos	Sgt. Schneider (Supervisor)	R.C. Burdge (Records)
Sgt. Vander Ploeg	Sgt. Vander Ploeg		Sgt. Burgos	Det. Moschberger (Investigation)
Sgt. Burgos	Sgt. Schneider		P.O. Prol	Det. MacQuesten (Investigation)
Sgt. Schneider	Sgt. Grissom		Det. Moschberger	Lt. Mattessich (Review)
	P.O. Babcock			Chief Cugliari (Approval)
Fleet Maintenance	Grants	Gun Violence Intelligence	Handle with Care Program	HLEO
Sgt. Grissom	Lt. Mattessich	Capt. Geddis	Det. MacQuesten	P.O. Flora
	Capt. Geddis			P.O. Della Fera
ICAT	Internal Affairs	Information Technology (IT)	Juvenile Liaison Officer (JLO)	LEAD Program
Sgt. Vander Ploeg	Capt. Geddis (Supervisor)	Capt. Geddis (Supervisor)	Det. MacQuesten	P.O. Babcock (1)
	Sgt. Vander Ploeg	Lt. Mattessich		P.O. Della Fera
	Sgt. Schneider	Sgt. Schneider		Sgt. Schneider
Live Scan	MEB Instructor	Megans Law	Milo Firearms Simulator Instructor	Motor Vehicle Titles
Lt. Mattessich	Sgt. Grissom	Det. Moschberger	Sgt. Vander Ploeg	Lt. Mattessich
	Det. Moschberger	Det. MacQuesten		
Naloxone	NIBRS/UCR	NJ Learn	NJ Suspicious Activity Reporting System (NJSARS)	OC Instructor
Capt. Geddis	Capt. Geddis	Lt. Mattessich	Capt. Geddis	Sgt. Grissom
	R.C. Burdge			
Operation Helping Hand (OHH)	Open Public Records Act (OPRA)	Physical Fitness Instructor	PowerDMS	Project Medicine Drop
Capt. Geddis	Capt. Geddis	Sgt. Grissom	Lt. Mattessich	Capt. Geddis (Coordinator)
	R.C. Burdge		Chief Cugliari	Det. Moschberger
				Det. MacQuesten
PTT Phones	Parole-Notification System	Public Information Officer (PIO)	Radar Instructor	Radios
Lt. Mattessich (1)	Capt. Geddis (1)	Chief Cugliari (1)	Sgt. Vander Ploeg	Sgt. Grissom
Sgt. Schneider (2)	Lt. Mattessich (2)	Sgt. Vander Ploeg (2)		Sgt. Schneider
Records	Resiliency	Right to Know	Safety & Security Assessor	Sexual Assault Response Team (SART) Coordinator
Capt. Geddis	Sgt. Vander Ploeg	R.C. Burdge	Sgt. Grissom	Sgt. Grissom
R.C. Burdge	Det. MacQuesten			
Scheduling	School Safety Team	Share911	SNAP Coordinators	Social Media
Capt. Geddis	P.O. Della Fera	Lt. Mattessich	Sgt. Schneider	Chief Cugliari
Chief Cugliari	Det. MacQuesten			
Special Event Planning	Special Needs Registry Liaison	Stationhouse Adjustments	Station Recording System	Sussex County Prosecutors Office (SCPO) Liaisons
Capt. Geddis	P.O. Babcock	Det. Moschberger	Capt. Geddis	Capt. Geddis
Sgt. Vander Ploeg		Det. MacQuesten		Det. Moschberger
				Det. MacQuesten
Terminal Agency Coordinator (TAC)	Traffic	Training	Vehicle Purchase & Upfitting	
Sgt. Grissom (1)	Sgt. Vander Ploeg (1)	Capt. Geddis	Lt. Mattessich	
Sgt. Vander Ploeg (2)	Det. MacQuesten (2)	Lt. Mattessich		



CALLS FOR SERVICE

In 2023, the Franklin Borough Police Department recorded **15,088 calls for service**, encompassing a wide variety of police functions, including responses to crimes in progress, traffic crash investigations, disturbances, security/property checks, motor vehicle stops, and other officer-initiated activities. The data below reflects a portion of the received calls for service and self-initiated incidents.

Call Types: 102 Calls for Service: 15,088 Arrests: 138

DESCRIPTION	COUNT
Ambulance / Medical	636
Assault	9
Bomb Threat	2
Burglar Alarm	215
Burglary	10
CDS Incident	3
Child Abuse / Neglect	2
Criminal Mischief	12
Death - Unattended	10
Disorderly Conduct	22
Dispute	131
Dispute - Domestic	75
Disturbance	18
Erratic Driver	147
Fraud	40
Harassment	87
Hazardous Condition	88
Mental Health	21
Missing Person	7
Motor Vehicle Stop	3403
Mutual Aid	142
Noise Complaint	39
Property Check	3374
Public Assist	440
School Detail	269
Sex Crime / Offense	5
Suicide / Attempted Suicide	2
Suspicious Incidents	347
Theft	84
Threats	22
TRO Incidents	34
Warrant Served	33

**Incidents of a similar nature were combined for formatting purposes.*



NOTEWORTHY CASES

- **Aggravated Assault with Imitation Firearm**

In March of 2023, Franklin PD conducted an investigation into aggravated assault with an imitation firearm that occurred at the Walmart. During the course of the investigation, it was determined that the suspect ran through the Walmart and utilized an imitation firearm to shoot projectiles at store patrons and staff members before fleeing the property. One employee was injured during the course of the incident. The defendant was charged with aggravated assault with a firearm (Imitation) and possession of a weapon for an unlawful purpose as well as disorderly conduct and harassment.

- **Burglary to Motor Vehicle**

In April 2023, Franklin PD conducted a motor vehicle burglary investigation which took place at the Shoprite. During the course of the investigation a suspect was developed and was observed on several video surveillance systems walking through the parking lots of the Walmart and Shoprite, as well as surrounding areas, and attempting to enter unlocked vehicles. The accused was charged with burglary, attempted burglary, and theft.

- **Assault and Weapons Offenses**

In July of 2023, Franklin PD conducted an investigation into a domestic violence incident which occurred within a private residence in the Borough in which the accused had threatened to harm and kill residents in the home while in possession of kitchen knives. Following the Franklin PD response and investigation, the accused was charged with assault by physical menace, harassment, possession of a weapon for an unlawful purpose, and terroristic threats.

- **CPR Rescue**

In July of 2023, Franklin PD responded to the Anytime Fitness gym in Franklin for a medical emergency. Upon arrival, the officers observed three Samaritans performing CPR on an unconscious male. The officers continued CPR and administered shocks with their patrol issued AED resulting in the male regaining consciousness after which he was able to be transported to a local hospital where he made a full recovery.

- **Aggravated Assault, Resisting Arrest, and Drug Charges**

In August of 2023, Franklin PD conducted an investigation into a male under the influence of narcotics acting disorderly and damaging private property at private residences. The accused was ultimately charged with several offenses including disorderly conduct, criminal mischief, resisting arrest, and aggravated assault on law enforcement officers.

- **Motorist Rescue**

In August of 2023, Franklin PD received a report of a motor vehicle accident on Rutherford Avenue near Stanaback Road. Franklin PD officers arrived on scene and immediately identified life threatening injuries to the operator of a motorcycle that had been involved in the accident. Officers applied a tourniquet to the motorcyclist's leg as well as other aid functions ultimately saving the motorcyclist's life.

- **Bomb Threat at Elementary School**

In September 2023, Franklin PD, with assistance from the Sussex County Prosecutor's Office, investigated multiple bomb threats made to a local juvenile and the Franklin Borough Elementary School via social media between September 9 and September 25. In each instance, the building was confirmed to be safe with assistance of the Morris County Sheriff's Office K9 unit trained in explosive detection as well as physical inspection by Franklin PD officers. The Franklin Borough Detective Bureau and Sussex County Prosecutor's Office were able to identify the juvenile suspect resulting in charges being issued for creating false public alarm.

- **Robbery and Weapons Offenses**

In October of 2023, Franklin PD, along with the Sussex County Guns and Narcotics Taskforce, conducted an investigation into the unlawful sale of illegal firearms. Pursuant to the investigation it was additionally determined that the defendants had intended to commit a robbery of the buyer, rather than a sale of a firearm. As a result of the investigation, two adults and two juvenile accused parties were charged with conspiracy to commit robbery, theft, conspiracy to commit robbery, possession of an imitation firearm, possession of a weapon for an unlawful purpose, and sale of an imitation firearm.

- **Multiple Motor Vehicle Burglaries**

In November of 2023, Franklin PD conducted an investigation into multiple motor vehicle burglaries which occurred within the Borough. The accused party was ultimately identified pursuant to investigation utilizing residential surveillance systems and other means. As a result of the investigation the accused was charged with burglary, theft, and fraudulent use of credit cards. The accused party was later accused of engaging in additional thefts at his place of employment and following an additional investigation in December of 2023, was identified and charged with theft, fraudulent use of credit card, and theft by deception.



COMMUNITY OUTREACH

In addition to our efforts to respond to the community's needs in a law enforcement capacity, the members of the Franklin Borough Police Department are fortunate enough to engage with Borough residents and its youth while supporting special services and philanthropic endeavors undertaken by the self-less volunteers who champion the quality of live for every resident. Our officers take pride in being present for the community even when no emergency exists and are grateful to acknowledge the following organizations and functions who have included our officers in their outreach efforts:

- Project Self-Sufficiency Season of Hope Toy Shop
- Operation Helping Hand
- Cram the Cruiser
- Coffee with a Cop
- Law Enforcement Against Drugs (L.E.A.D.)
- Prince of Peace Church Christmas Toy Drive
- Changing the Face of Addiction Walk
- National Night Out
- Center for Prevention and Counseling Boys Camp
- Franklin Elementary School Career Day
- Franklin Borough Carnival
- Franklin Library Touch-A-Truck Event
- Tours of Police Headquarters
- DEA National Rx Takeback Event
- Franklin PTO "Who Done It?" Game
- Lion Scouts Pack 49 Show and Tell
- Cyber Safety Presentation and Franklin Elementary
- Special Olympics Annual Law Enforcement Torch Run

The Franklin Borough Police Department also supported numerous organizations and activities held within the Borough including the NJ Youth Fishing Challenge, the Wallkill Valley Lady Rangers Field Hockey Team Car Wash Fundraiser, and more! As the community grows closer together, the Franklin Borough Police Department is happy to contribute to the law, order, and stability that accommodates the organizations and activities that make this community great!

















CONTACT US

I genuinely hope you found value in the information contained within this comprehensive annual report. This report reflects a portion of the efforts, achievements, and challenges faced by your dedicated professionals over the past year while upholding their oath to serve and protect our community.

At the core of our values lies an unwavering dedication to accuracy and integrity. We understand the importance of providing you, the members of our community, with reliable information about our activities and performance. Therefore, we want to assure you that every effort has been made to ensure that the information contained in this report is thorough, accurate, and complete.

As your police department, we remain committed to fostering open communication and unwavering trust. We believe that by working together, we can build a safer and stronger community for all.

Thank you for your continued support and trust in us.

- Chief Gregory M. Cugliari



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2023 Annual Report Prepared by Chief Gregory Cugliari and Sgt. Robert Vander Ploeg (PIO)

