

Belmont Police Department



Annual Report 2016

The Belmont Police Department continues to show an increase in “calls for service”. The total calls for 2015 were 10,736 with 2016 increasing to 11,144. This number has included in it 1371 total committed offenses along with 194 felonies. We also handled 234 motor vehicle accidents. Many of the crimes that we are seeing are attributed to the growing drug epidemic. So, as you can see your officers are working very hard to keep the community safe.

We were happy to announce the hiring of Maxwell Hodgdon who came to us from the Gilmanton Police Department. Officer Hodgdon filled an open full time position and has integrated into the community quite well. We also hired part time Officer Joseph McDowell. Officer McDowell came to the department from the Barnstead Police Department where he retired as the Chief. Officer McDowell is currently assigned to the school as a resource officer. Officer McDowell had prior experience in his career as an SRO with the Pelham Police Department.

Our K-9 teams consisting of Officer Evan Boulanger and partner “Vito” have been busy in their own right. Together they have been called on for services consisting of, searches for people or vehicles, drugs, buildings and detention centers more than 80 times. The calls have been dominated by 20 specific drug searches and 32 calls to track suspects who have fled from crime scenes. K-9 “Vito” has been used at the Belknap County Jail, several school districts, assisted DEA with a search of a residence on Concord Street, and approximately 10 search warrants. Notables in Belmont were the apprehension of a felon after a lengthy track which he received National Recognition for by the USPCA, after another lengthy track, he located two individuals who fled after a DWI accident. This K-9 team has been a valuable asset to Belmont.

The detective bureau has had a very busy year with the reported 194 felonies. Case preparation, interviews and court can take quite a bit of time. We have been seeing a rise in domestic violence particularly with strangulation reported cases. These elevate what might start off as a simple assault and immediately elevate it to a felony. Many factors are at play with domestic violence but substance misuse and finance seem to be leading trends. A standout case for 2016 was the shooting of a female on Arlene Drive. This case culminated with the arrest of the person responsible following a massive manhunt.

The men and woman of the Belmont Police Department continue to engage in community events and projects. Our “neighborhood watch” program is doing well and we would encourage neighborhoods who are not participating to contact us and learn about the program.

We have also provided training to Pike Industries in “workplace violence” the first company to provide this training to its employee’s. We currently have another Belmont company who has also requested this training. This training will be taking place in the near future.

We continue to reach out to the community with the National Night Out campaign where the community and first responders come together for events; displays and conversation (meet the

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police/fire personnel) We offer wellness fairs, book reading at the elementary school, safety day, bike rodeo's, and a host of other activities throughout the year. Please take time out of your day to attend these and make it a family event.

Since we joined forces with Laconia and Gilford our animal control officer has been outstanding. ACO Michelle King has been very attentive to calls, thorough with investigations, and fair to the community she serves. This has taken a huge burden off the officers who would normally have to handle these calls and allow them to concentrate on more serious incidents.

Also in 2016, the NH Chiefs of Police Association, along with McDonalds, wanted to recognize officers who went above and beyond in community service. I was happy to be part of the presentation that recognized Officer Joseph Marcello and Officer Evan Boulanger in a public event that took place at the Tilton McDonalds. It was exciting that two Belmont Officers were presented this award. These officers spend a lot of their own time working on community events and challenging others to take part. Congratulations to both.

The police department would like to thank the community for their continued support as maintaining a positive relationship is most important to us. Our officers try to develop a personal connection to those they serve and offer business cards to assist in that relationship. The more that **you** as a community interacts with the police department the more we can be pro-active as opposed to re-active. Together we can keep Belmont a safe community for young and old alike.

Here are some activity totals for 2016:

2016 Annual Activity	
Calls for Service	11144
Motor Vehicle Warnings	5549
Motor Vehicle Summonses	420
Municipal Summonses	65
Offenses	1371
Arrests	712
DWI Arrests	25
Accidents	224

Sincerely,

Mark B. Lewandoski

Chief Mark B. Lewandoski

Chief of Police

Contact Numbers

Emergency – 267-8350 or 9-1-1 / Non-Emergency – 267-8351

Website - <http://belmontnhpolice.org/>

<http://twitter.com/BelmontPolice>