

# Linden Police Department



2022

# Annual Report



OFFICE OF  
DEREK ARMSTEAD  
MAYOR

# City of Linden

Union County, New Jersey

CITY HALL - OFFICE OF THE MAYOR  
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LINDEN, NEW JERSEY 07036-4296

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May 1, 2023

Attached is the Annual Report for the Linden Police Department for the year ending December 31, 2022. I am proud of Chief David Hart and his staff, and the effective operation of the Linden Police Department. As head of the Linden Police Department, my goal is to make sure you receive the best police protection and services that the City of Linden can provide. As your Mayor, I assure you that this is occurring.

The information contained in this report substantiates that the Police Department is run in a professional manner, and I will make sure that it continues to do so.

Regards,

Mayor Derek Armstead

DA/rkt



DEREK ARMSTEAD  
MAYOR

# City of Linden

Union County, New Jersey  
Department Of Police  
City Hall - 301 North Wood Avenue  
Linden, New Jersey 07036  
(908)474-8500



DAVID R. HART  
CHIEF OF POLICE

April 10, 2022

Mayor Armstead:

I hereby submit the Annual Report of the Linden Police Department for the year ending December 31, 2022. This report has been prepared to introduce the readers to the wide range of activities and responsibilities of the various Bureaus, Divisions and Units within the Linden Police Department.

The Linden Police Department continues with our overall goals of reducing violent crime, reducing burglaries and increasing community policing and outreach citywide. We always strive to improve our relationships with our citizens, schools, faith-based groups and our business community.

In 2022, the Linden Police Department completed 74,191 police actions resulting in 67,523 police reports. Our police officers continue to perform their duties with dedication, professionalism and respect. The demands and mandates that the department must perform has only added to the need for a strong and vibrant department.

We continue to hire, promote and train our officers to the highest standards in the profession. This ensures that our officers are prepared and safe while performing their duties and that our citizens receive the services they deserve. One of our programs, that I am most proud of is the "ARRIVE" Program. This allows a Police Officer to work with a Mental Health Specialist in a car to respond to a mental health crisis or those with special needs. It has been a huge success and the Linden and Elizabeth Police Department are a model for the State of New Jersey. In 2023, training, transparency and accountability and community outreach will remain at the core of our department philosophy.

I would like to thank all of the personnel in the Linden Police Department both sworn and civilian. This includes: our Officers and Supervisors, 911 Dispatchers, Clerical and Support Staff and Crossing Guards. Their professionalism, dedication and continued hard work does not go unrecognized.

I would like to thank you Mayor and the Linden City Council for continuing to support myself and our department this past year. I am proud to be the Chief of the Linden Police Department and I assure you of the department's dedication for the citizens of Linden.

Respectfully submitted:

David R. Hart  
Chief of Police



**Deceased Officers of the  
Linden Police Department**

ALBRIGHT, GEORGE	GRIEB, ARTHUR	NOVAK, MICHAEL
BABYAK, GEORGE	GUMAUKAS, JOSEPH	NOVALANY, CHARLES
BARTON, HOWARD	GUSHIN, NATHAN	NOVALANY, JOSEPH
BARTUS, PETER	GUYDAN, JOHN	ORLOWSKI, FELIX
BARWICK, DONALD	GUYDEN, MICHAEL	ORZECZOWSKI, JOHN
BECKMAN, RAYMOND	HALASZ, STEPHEN	PECESKY, JOHN
BERLIN, ANTHONY	HALLINAN, WILLIAM	PERKIN, KENNETH
BERLINSKI, ROBERT	HALYSICK, JOHN	PETROSKI, NANCY
BETTLE, CHARLES	HEISS, FREDRICK	PICKEL, GEORGE
BRANAGAN, THOMAS	HENSEL, JOSEPH	PILCH, LEO
BRAUN, EUGENE	HERGENHEN, ARNOLD	PODOLLA, RUDOLPH
BREEN, MICHAEL	HERGENHEN, LOUIS	POLI, THEODORE
BRIENZA, MARIO	HERGERT, LOUIS	ROGERS, ARTHUR
BRIGHT, THOMAS	HERO, MATTHEW	ROSE, ANDREW Sr.
BROOK, DOUGLAS	HICKEY, FRANK	ROSEBROCK, PAUL
BUCKEYSEY, STEPHEN	HILL, HAROLD	ROSS, WILLIAM
BURKIZER, HENRY	HORSCH, RALPH	RYAN, GROVER
BYKO, JOHN	INTILI, LOUIS	SAWCZYN, GERALD
CAFFREY, GERALD SR.	JENEY, ROBERT	SCHULTZ, STEPHEN
CALLAHAN, FRANCES	KALAIPOS, JOHN	SINGER, ALBERT
CARHART, ALBERT	KENNY, JAMES	SINNOTT, RICHARD
CARTER, JAMES	KIMAK, JOHN	SKALASKI, STEPHEN III
CHABAK, JOHN	KLUGE, WILLIAM	SKOLSKY, JOHN
CHAPMAN, JAMES	KLUNDER, CHARLES	SMOLYN, JOHN
CHESNEY, EDWARD	KLUNDER, JOHN	SOLSKY, SIGMUND
CLARK, GEORGE	KNAP, ELMER	STADNYK, GEORGE
CROTEAU, ROBERT	KOELLER, CHARLES Jr.	STUCKEY, OLIVER
CROTEAU, WILFRED	KOELLER, CHARLES Sr.	SVOBODA, GEORGE
CUPREWICH, VINCENT	KOLOGI, EDWARD	SWEENEY, FRANCIS
DACKERMAN, VICTOR	KOPEC, JOSEPH	SWEET, ANDREW
DANIELS, CASPER	KOVAL, ALEXANDER	SZUBA, HENRY
DAVIS, LONNIE	KOVTUN, JOHN	TOMASZEWSKI, HENRY
DECKER, GEORGE	KUCZYNSKI, DANIEL	TRATULIS, JOHN
DEMYANOVITCH, PETER	KUDELKO, STEPHEN	TROIANO, JOHN
DESSEFFY, WILLIAM	LAVOICE, HARRY	TOLKASZ, ALBERT
DEUBEL, FRANCIS	LELLO, DOMINIC	TYRA, FRANCIS Sr.
DEUBEL, THOMAS	LISA, ANTHONY	UMINSKI, NICHOLAS
DOUGHERTY, NEIL	LISA, LOUIS	VALVANO, MICHAEL
DROZDOWSKI, WALTER	LONARDO, CARMEN	VAN DORN, JOHN
DUDASH, CHARLES	LUKAS, ALBIN	VIGGIANO, FRANK
EDZEK, FREDERICK	MACHUTA, RONALD	VIRKAITIS, JOSEPH
EICHHORN, WARREN	MALSAM, ROCHUS	VOYNICK, JAMES
EIMONT, LEON	MANUZZA, STEVE	VOYNICK, MICHAEL
EVAN, MARK	MARCZAK, MICHAEL	WAGNER, HARRY



**Deceased Officers of the  
Linden Police Department**

FARKAS, STEPHEN  
FEDOROWITZ, ALEX  
FEENEY, JOHN  
FEHN, JOHN  
FLANAGAN, EDWARD  
FLANAGAN, GLENN  
FLYNN, THOMAS  
FRANK, CARL  
FRANK, JAMES  
FRAZIER, WILLARD  
FRIEDRICHSEN, KURT  
GALINAT, EMIL  
GERGICH, EDWIN Sr.  
GERGICH, EDWIN

MARTINKO, JOHN  
McCANDLES, FREDERICK  
McCANE, THOMAS  
McCUE, MARK  
McKENNA, JOHN  
McMICKENS, FRANK  
MESLER, LANCE  
MESLER, RUSSELL  
MILES, CHARLES  
MILIANO, ANTHONY  
MITCHELL, JAMES  
MODRAK, GEORGE  
MONTESI, ANTHONY  
MURIN, GEORGE

WASHBURN, WILLIAM  
WEBER, MICHAEL  
WEITZMAN, HARRY  
WILLIAMS JOSEPH  
WILLISON, FRANK  
WOHLTMAN, WILLIAM  
WOLF, ANDREW  
WOLF, STEPHEN  
WRESNIEWSKI, EDWARD  
WRONSKI, JOHN  
YAMAKAITIS, WILLIAM  
ZASIMOVITCH, JOHN  
ZOPPI, MICHAEL  
ZYCH, JOHN

## **2022 Retirements**

<b>Detective Michael Burnette</b>	<b>2/1/2022</b>
<b>Officer Scott Jones</b>	<b>4/1/2022</b>
<b>Officer Roshan Elias</b>	<b>8/1/2022</b>

**Retired Members of the  
Linden Police Department**

<u>Name</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>Retired</u>			
ADAMS, EDWARD	Detective	7/1/2013	KOVAC, JOHN	Det./Lieutenant	4/1/2006
ALLISON, DAVID	Investigator	4/1/2013	KRALOVICH, JOSEPH	Detective	1/1/2003
ANTONIEWICZ, WALTER	Lieutenant	1/1/2016	KUCZYNSKI, FRANCIS	Deputy Chief	6/1/2004
ASLIN, CHRISTOPHER	Captain	7/1/2013	KURZWEIL, WILLIAM	Patrolman	9/1/2005
ASLIN, KEITH	Lieutenant	2/1/2016	LARMORE, THOMAS	Detective	12/1/2017
ASLIN, MARIANNE	Det./Sergeant	7/1/2013	LEPORINO, FRANK	Detective	1/1/2014
BIRCH, JOSEPH	Det./Sergeant	11/30/2021	LORD, WILLIAM	Lieutenant	1/1/2011
BABULSKI, MICHAEL	Lieutenant	9/1/2020	LORDI, ANTHONY	Sergeant	12/1/2020
BABINCAK, JOHN	Patrolman	5/1/2007	MANGANIELLO, DAVID	Detective	3/1/2012
BIVONA, SALVATORE	Chief	4/1/2013	MARCINO, MATTHEW	Det./Lieutenant	12/1/2015
BOOK, BRUCE	Patrolman	4/1/2003	MARCINO, RICHARD	Det./Sergeant	1/1/2005
BOYLE, MICHAEL	Chief	2/1/2011	MARONEY, JAMES	Patrolman	4/1/2016
BRADY, KEVIN	Detective	2/1/2012	MASON, ERIC	Sergeant	3/1/2008
BRIGHT, THOMAS	Lieutenant	7/1/1987	MATLOSZ, PIOTR	Investigator	4/1/2017
BUNK, ROBERT	Officer	1/1/2014	MIKOLAJCZYK, KENNETH	Sergeant	12/1/2020
BUNK, ROBERT F.	Detective	7/1/1992	MIKOLAJCZYK, KEVIN	Detective	12/1/2020
BURNETTE, MICHAEL	Detective	2/1/2022	MILANO, JOHN E.	Chief	10/1/2007
BURKE, MICHAEL	Detective	6/1/1999	MILLER, THEODORE	Officer	1/1/2014
BUTCHKO, JOSEPH	Patrolman	10/1/1996	MIRANDA, JAMES	Patrolman	3/1/2007
CAREW, MATTHEW	Officer	8/1/2014	MNICH, MICHAEL	Sergeant	1/1/1998
CARHART, JEFFREY	Det./Sergeant	6/1/2020	OSADA, ROBERT	Detective	9/1/2006
CASEY, MARK	Detective	7/1/2010	PADILLA, ANGEL	Patrolman	11/1/2017
CHABAK, EDWARD	Sergeant	2/1/2015	PARDO, THEODORE	Patrolman	2/1/1994
CHESLOCK, ROBERT	Detective	2/1/2018	PARFITT, EDWARD	Sergeant	3/1/1986
CIRELLI, RICHARD	Sergeant	1/1/2014	PENN, JOHN	Sergeant	1/1/2005
CLARK, JEFFREY	Lieutenant	7/1/2017	PERRELLA, ANDREW	Sergeant	2/1/2021
CONRAD, RAYMOND	Investigator	1/1/2014	PETRUSKY, MICHAEL	Patrolman	10/1/2015
CORDOMA, FRANK	Patrolman	12/1/2009	POWELL, JAMES	Detective	5/1/1998
CROTEAU, BRIAN	Patrolman	12/31/2008	RIZNYK, EDWARD	Patrolman	1/1/2008
DEHLER, DAVID	Detective	11/1/2013	ROSE JR., ANDREW	Patrolman	1/1/2011
DEMCOVITZ, THEODORE	Lieutenant	12/1/2008	SAAKE, MICHAEL	Captain	9/1/2017
DIAS, TOD	Patrolman	5/1/2010	SADOWSKI, DANIEL	Detective	2/1/2017
DRAKE, PATRICK	Sergeant	1/1/2014	SALERNO, SCOTT	Sergeant	6/1/2020
DRAKE, WALTER	Lieutenant	6/1/2000	SARNICKI, JAMES	Captain	2/1/2020
ELIAS, ROSHAN	Officer	8/1/2022	SCHULHAFFER, JAMES	Chief	9/1/2016
FRONHEISER, JAMES	Patrolman	7/1/1996	SEARLES, JEFFREY	Officer	2/1/2021
GALLO, CHARLES	Patrolman	9/1/2012	SENKUS, GEORGE	Det./Captain	10/1/2011
GALLO, ROBERT	Patrolman	5/28/1988	SLOTTER, DENNIS	Sergeant	5/1/2001
GERBOUNKA, RICHARD J.	Det./Captain	1/1/1994	SPANO, ANDREW	Detective	7/1/2011
GIEGRICH, ROBERT	Detective	2/1/2008	STADNYK, DOUGLAS	Sergeant	2/1/2009
GONCALVES, ALVARO	Det./Sergeant	6/1/2013	STANICKI, DANIEL	Detective	12/31/2008
HANCE, EDWARD	Det./Sergeant	4/1/2007	STANICKI, GARY	Patrolman	10/1/2001
HASZKO, ANDREW	Investigator	12/1/2010	STANICKI, LOUIS	Detective	1/1/2006
HATZLHOFFER, ANTHONY	Patrolman	2/1/2015	TAYLOR, BRUCE	Lieutenant	12/1/2008
HICKMAN, GARY	Officer	12/1/2013	TEMPALSKY, DONALD	Det./Lieutenant	4/1/2008
HOPTAY, STEPHEN	Lieutenant	4/1/1996	TEMPALSKY, JOSEPH	Det./Lieutenant	2/1/1997
HORRE, JOHN	Sergeant	1/1/2010	TOMKO, KRIS	Patrolman	5/1/2010
HREHA, JOHN	Patrolman	7/1/1992	TRACY, VICTOR	Patrolman	2/1/1997
JOHNSTON, JOHN	Detective	7/1/2013	TYRA, FRANK	Detective	1/1/2001
JONES, ANNEESA	Patrolman	6/1/2017	TYRA, RAYMOND	Det./Captain	8/1/2009
JONES, SCOTT	Patrolman	4/1/2022	TYRA, WILLIAM	Detective	8/1/1995
JUNAY, THOMAS	Patrolman	1/1/2007	VANDERWAL, MARINUS	Patrolman	8/1/1984
KAHANA, MARK	Investigator	11/1/2017	VARGA, EDWARD	Patrolman	1/1/1994
KLEBAUR, VINCENT	Det./Sergeant	7/1/2001	VITRANO, JEFFREY J.	Det./Captain	8/1/2021
KLEINHAS, CALVIN	Lieutenant	10/1/1995	YADLOWSKI, WALTER	Lieutenant	7/1/1980
KNAP, TADEUSZ	Patrolman	9/1/2000	ZACK, KATHLEEN	Patrolman	10/1/2015
KNAPP, WILLIAM	Patrolman	5/1/2011	ZACK, PAUL	Officer	6/1/2018
KOLOGI, RONALD	Patrolman	1/1/1996			



# Administrative Division

## **ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISION**

The Linden Police Department's Administrative Division is responsible for the overall efficient and effective operation of the entire police department. The division is comprised of the Chief of Police, an Administrative Captain, and two full time Administrative Assistants. If needed, based upon specific assignments, other sworn or civilian members are added to the division on a temporary or part time basis. The Administrative Division oversees all of the remaining divisions of the police department and is responsible for the promulgation and dissemination of daily informational bulletins, special orders, personnel orders, rules and regulations, standard operating procedures as well as policies and procedures to all department employees. This is accomplished utilizing various methods, including staff meetings, verbal reports, written reports and computerized information sharing via the Department's document management system. The Administrative Division also receives and assists in managing and referring out to specific divisions the vast amount of requests and correspondence that is received from the public, the business sector and other government agencies and officials.

In 2019, the Administrative Division began the process of managing the review and, if needed, revision of a number of Policies and Procedures and Standard Operating Procedures (SOP's) of the Linden Police Department. Current Policies and Procedures are being revised and redistributed as Standard Operating Procedures to reflect a more standardized method of appearance to make future review and revision easier and reduce possible confusion on what guidance the most current SOP's contain.

An unforeseen project started by the Administrative Division in 2020 was the management of the procurement and replacement of personal protective equipment and cleaning supplies for the Police Department due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This project continued throughout 2021 due to the continuing waves of COVID-19 variants. Although the Police Department already maintained a supply of medical type personal protective equipment, the types and amounts now required well exceeded the supply at hand. The Administrative Division staff utilized every contact and means available to ensure that front line personnel had and continue to have what is needed to aid in maintaining a safe working environment. The Linden Police Department was also one of only three Union County NJ police departments able to apply for and obtain grant money through the US Department of Justice to help offset the costs of Police Department COVID-19 related expenses. This grant process was completed in January 2022.

Additionally, the Administrative Division oversees the following important functions of the police department:

**Budgeting and Accounting** - This includes planning for the future financial needs of the department as well as managing the current expenditures of budgeted funds.

**Planning** - In conjunction with the budgeting function, planning is the continuous process in which the future needs and goals of the department are predicted and assessed. The preferred methods used to accomplish these needs and goals may lead to requests for future funding through



the budgeting process or changes in the policies or standard operating procedures of the department.

**Timekeeping** - This is the day to day and long term maintenance of the attendance records (sick time, vacation days, holidays, overtime, etc.) of all employees of the police department. The department currently utilizes the computerized Police Officer Scheduling System (POSS) for timekeeping functions.

**Payroll** - In conjunction with the timekeeping function, payroll includes the continuous management of each police department employee's pay and overtime, ensuring that the various contractual pay rates and adjustments are accurate and reported to the City of Linden's payroll department in an efficient manner. Additionally, all sworn officer pay resulting from City of Linden Extra Duty Assignments, is managed within the Administrative Division and reported to the City of Linden's payroll department.

**Personnel File Management** – The Administrative Division maintains the personnel files for all Linden Police Department employees.

**Extra Duty Management** – Prior to 2018, the two union's representing the sworn officers of the Linden Police Department were given the time consuming responsibilities of conducting the 24 hour a day intake and awarding of the City of Linden's Extra Duty Assignments for sworn officers. In 2018, the responsibility for the administration of these private entity requests for officers to perform duties such as security or traffic control was turned over to the Administrative Captain. Vendors requesting officers now directly contact a third party service that is responsible for the scheduling and publishing of assignments as well as awarding assignments to a requesting officer in a fair and transparent manner utilizing a set of rules provided by the Department. The third party service is also responsible for the billing to the vendor for services provided and providing payment for services provided in the manner requested by the City of Linden.

A part time Public Information Officer (PIO) is also part of the Administrative Division and reports directly to the Chief of Police while serving in this function. The PIO is the first link in helping to get information to assist in the accomplishment of the Linden Police Department's mission out to the public. The information provided may be in the form of press releases about specific incidents or events, interviews with print or other media outlets, social media postings, emergency alerts, personal appearances by the Chief of Police, PIO or other officers, and helpful safety tips. The Linden Police Department currently has a specific webpage within the City of Linden's website, and also utilizes social media sites such as Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, and Nixle to provide the public with information.



# Investigative Division

## **DETECTIVE BUREAU**

The General Assignment Detective Bureau is part of the Investigative Division within the Linden Police Department. The bureau is staffed by one lieutenant, two sergeants, nine detectives and a civilian clerk. The detectives investigate all indictable crimes within the City of Linden with the goal of preparing for the successful prosecution of these cases in Union County Superior Court. Detectives may also help to identify individuals who commit disorderly person's offenses which are heard in Municipal Court, at the discretion of the detective supervisor in charge. The clerk assists the unit personnel with general clerical duties and coordinates the issuance of identification documents for Linden city employees, liquor establishment employees and taxicab drivers, as required by city licensing ordinances. In addition, the clerk also maintains databases for the city's Virtual Block Watch camera registration program.

Patrol Officers generate initial investigative reports and, after review by a detective supervisor, a detective will be assigned to start a follow-up investigation when appropriate. During 2022 detectives investigated approximately 2000 cases. The cases varied from violent crimes to fraud to large scale shopliftings. The detectives and detective supervisors participate in an on-call rotation whereby certain personnel are always available to immediately respond to crime scenes or conduct further investigative efforts whenever required during nonbusiness hours.

There are times when a detective responds to the scene of certain crimes where evidence needs to be preserved and collected. Some examples of these crimes include, but are not limited to: homicide, aggravated assault, robbery, sexual assault, and commercial and residential burglaries. The detectives may request assistance from the Union County Sheriff's Office Crime Scene Unit when the crime scene is large and intricate.

When dealing with homicides, the Union County Prosecutor's Office Homicide Task Force is the lead investigating agency. The Linden Police Department has assigned a police officer to the Union County Homicide Task Force on a temporary but fulltime basis. This cooperative arrangement provides needed manpower to the county-wide task force while allowing this department to have immediate access to intelligence and assistance when needed during the course of the investigation of such violent crimes. The officer assigned will receive valuable training and experience which will undoubtedly be beneficial to both the officer and this agency. Several current detectives and supervisors have been assigned in the past and their knowledge and contacts developed during those times are an invaluable asset to the Linden Police Department.

Detectives attend training on the latest crime trends and investigative techniques, as well as additional training based on specialized duties to which they may be assigned. This training



and continuing education is vital for our detectives to serve the community with excellence and integrity when conducting their investigations.

The Detective Bureau has one detective dedicated to gather criminal intelligence. This detective reviews and disseminates intelligence from various law enforcement agencies throughout the country. The detective attends virtual meetings within the county to discuss criminal intelligence with neighboring jurisdictions and other interested agencies. He also reviews daily police incident reports and uses this information to determine any crime trends that are occurring in Linden and surrounding communities. The criminal intelligence detective maintains a working relationship with the Newark Real Time Crime Center (NRTCC). The NRTCC conducts three conference calls per week with multiple jurisdictions within northern New Jersey to discuss criminal activity throughout the region. The relationship that has been formed with the NRTCC is a valuable resource for investigative leads, intelligence gathering and dissemination of our case intelligence.

In addition to their normal caseload of follow-up investigations based on their assigned geographical areas of responsibility, most detectives have secondary responsibilities and specialties:

The Detective Bureau has four detectives assigned as Megan's Law investigators. These detectives are responsible for ensuring that sex offenders living and working within our jurisdiction are properly registered in accordance with New Jersey state law. They will also work with the Union County Prosecutor's Office when making sex offender notifications to the public to ensure all notifications are made in accordance with guidelines set forth by the New Jersey Attorney General's Office and applicable law.

General Assignment has two detectives assigned to investigate matters related to liquor establishments in Linden. Their investigations can range from minor noise complaints at a local bar to conducting an initial investigation into the sale of a liquor license. The detectives maintain contact with the New Jersey State Division of Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC), conduct periodic inspections of licensed liquor establishments to ensure compliance with ABC regulations, and also attend meetings with the Linden City Clerk and local ABC Board as different needs arise regarding licensing and violation issues.

The Detective Bureau has one detective who is assigned as the Municipal Counter-Terrorism Coordinator (MCTC). The MCTC serves as a liaison between the Linden Police Department and the Union County Counter-Terrorism Coordinator as well as with the FBI's Joint Terrorism Task Force (JTTF) based in Newark, New Jersey. This detective was formerly assigned to the JTTF for five years and has been formally trained in investigating matters related to homeland security and national security.



One of the roles the MCTC performs is the forwarding of Suspicious Activity Reports (SARs) to the proper investigative agencies, whether on the county, state or federal level. SARs are initiated under the "See Something- Say Something" campaign wherein anyone can report suspicious behavior with the goal of thwarting potential terrorist activity. The detective also maintains a positive, proactive and professional relationship with any agency that may need his assistance with further investigations. Such agencies include the FBI's JTTF, the New Jersey Office of Homeland Security and Preparedness as well as the Union County Prosecutor's Office.

The Linden Police Department currently has another detective assigned to the FBI's Joint Terrorism Task Force. Having a detective assigned to the JTTF allows our department to easily access the assistance of the FBI and their intelligence during various criminal investigations.

The General Assignment Detective Bureau has the responsibility of being the lead investigative agency in alleged animal cruelty complaints. The primary animal cruelty detective has attended a forty-hour training program in order to investigate these crimes and offenses, and has been certified as a Humane Law Enforcement Officer (HLEO). This detective, along with an assisting detective, work exclusively with one designated Assistant Prosecutor at the Union County Prosecutor's Office for legal advice regarding animal cruelty or to have criminal charges approved when appropriate. Any citizen, at any time, may call the Linden Police Department to report animal cruelty concerns and an officer will be dispatched to investigate and check the welfare of the involved animal(s) and take immediate action to ensure the safety of the animal if necessary. Animal cruelty can range from leaving an animal outside or in a car in harsh weather conditions, to intentional physical abuse. When an officer determines that such an offense has occurred, the HLEO may conduct further investigation to collect evidence and prosecute any responsible parties for acts deemed in violation of state animal cruelty statutes.

During the course of their investigations, Linden Police detectives frequently work cooperatively with many different agencies including, but not limited to: the Union County Prosecutor's Office, New Jersey State Police, the FBI, US Immigration and Customs Enforcement, NJ Department of Corrections, and numerous police agencies and private entities within our state, and often times, surrounding states.

## Juvenile Bureau

The Linden Police Department Juvenile Bureau, a unit of the Investigative Division, investigates all crimes and offenses committed by youths under the age of 18 and all crimes and offenses where a juvenile is a victim. Included in this category are all drug and alcohol violations, child abuse, sexual abuse cases Cyber Crimes and Simple Assaults. Many cases investigated by the Juvenile Bureau are not criminal in nature, but affect the health and welfare of the child. Examples of these investigations are runaways, truants, incorrigible youths, sick and injury calls, and parent/child disputes.

The Juvenile Bureau is involved in activities which attempt to ward off improper activity before it starts, in cooperation with organizations such as the Juvenile Conference Committee, Mayor's Youth Commission, Union County Missing and Exploited Children Commission, Union County Underage Drinking Commission, Union County Juvenile Officer's Association, New Jersey State Juvenile Officer's Association, Union County Youth Services Division and the Nationwide Amber Alert system.

The Juvenile Bureau Commander, a lieutenant, acts as the Liaison Officer between the Linden Board of Education and the Linden Police Department. The Lieutenant is also the Department's Bias Incident Liaison to the Union County Prosecutor's Office. Under the Lieutenants command is a sergeant, who also serves as the Community Liaison, four detectives, one clerk, who assists the office with record keeping and general clerical duties and 3 Special 3 Law Enforcement Officers or SLEO'S for short. Retired Law Enforcement Officer were rehired by the city to work in the school system. 1 is assigned to Linden High School /Academy building and the other 2 are assigned 1 each to the two middle schools in town. In all of the schools, the detectives work with the school personnel to ensure that the school environment is safe and secure. The detectives also lecture outside of the school setting to a wide variety of groups that may request a guest speaker regarding any of the functions of the Juvenile Bureau, Crime Prevention or general community outreach initiatives.

During the 2022 calendar year, the detectives assigned to the Juvenile Bureau investigated over 405 incidents that were referred to the Linden Police Department, or initiated out of the Juvenile Bureau. Juveniles were taken into custody for incidents ranging from Aggravated assault with a weapon to disorderly persons offenses.

In 2022 Detectives assigned to the unit handled all preparations for National Night Out activities, which was one of the biggest and best National nights out we have had. Detectives also assisted the Linden Board of Education with both Middle Schools and the High School Graduation. In 2022 the Juvenile Bureau once again hosted our Youth Academy. The Youth Academy ran for a full week during the month of July. 25 Boys and Girls, all residents of Linden spent a week learning all about the different aspects of policing along with drill instruction and

Physical fitness training. The week finished up with a graduation ceremony for family and friends. This year was also a first for Linden Police Department as we held our first ever Citizens academy run by the Juvenile Bureau. The citizen's academy was held every Wednesday Night for 8 weeks and like the Youth academy it gave the citizens an insight into what the Police department does on a regular basis.

In 2022, the State of New Jersey Juvenile Justice Commission's Detention Monitoring Unit performed an onsite visit to the Linden Police Department to ensure that all state and federal laws pertaining to arrested juveniles were being followed. This is the 25<sup>th</sup> consecutive year that our Department was found to be in compliance with all state and federal guidelines without any violations.



## **Narcotics Bureau**

The Linden Police Department Narcotics Bureau stresses integrity, professionalism, fairness, and partnerships. The Narcotics Bureau is currently staffed by three detectives, a sergeant, and a lieutenant, reporting to the Investigative Division Commander. These dedicated individuals are tasked with the primary or follow-up investigation of all narcotic related violations and vice offenses (prostitution and gambling). All members of the Narcotics Bureau are current members of the New Jersey Narcotics Enforcement Officers Association and have completed various seminars, courses and schools relating to the enforcement of the New Jersey Drug Statutes, Drug Identification, Advanced Narcotics Investigations and the Laws of Arrest, Search and Seizure. Continued in-service training for the members of the Narcotics Bureau is essential to ensure that they remain cognizant of the ever-changing drug subculture and enhance their expertise in the field of narcotics.

The Linden Narcotics Bureau is often involved in multi-jurisdictional investigations, collaborating with county, state, federal, and other municipal agencies in order to reach their objectives. Many of the cases are often time consuming and labor intensive. A typical investigation of this type might involve protracted physical and electronic surveillance, extensive research into the criminal organization, and financial backgrounds of the subject or subjects under investigation. These cases routinely generate seizures of narcotics and other controlled dangerous substances, and forfeitures of firearms, US currency, and assets of the criminal enterprise. In addition, they provide a wealth of criminal intelligence that is valuable to the entire law enforcement community.

The unit has a detective available on an on-call basis, twenty-four hours a day, and seven days a week. In addition to the detective's self-initiated investigations and regular caseload, the on-call detective will immediately respond and follow up investigations of large-scale drug seizures, overdoses, and prescription fraud.

During the 2022 calendar year, the Linden Police Narcotics Bureau was able to successfully complete eight (8) "self-initiated" and "information received" type investigations, resulting in 16 arrests. Of the seven (7) investigations, the approval and execution of nine (9) Superior Court approved Search Warrants on persons, locations, and vehicles were conducted. These statistics do not equate to the actual number of cases the Narcotics Bureau investigated because the detectives also conduct follow up investigations of all additional narcotics related cases that are generated by the Patrol Division and Juvenile Bureau.

In addition, the Linden Narcotics Bureau collaborated with a federal, county, and local agencies to execute an additional four (4) Search Warrants resulting from a long-term Title III, multi-agency and multi-jurisdictional investigation. The experiences gained in surveillance techniques, networking opportunities and the exposures to federal investigations will pay huge dividends to the Linden Police Department and the city's citizens for a long time.

The Detectives assigned to the Narcotics Bureau recorded forty-two (42) narcotic overdose cases which included eight (8) fatal overdoses during the 2022 calendar year. All fatal overdose cases require an extensive follow-up investigation in an effort to identify the potential

source of supply of the narcotics contributing to the death and seek criminal charges against those responsible.

Narcotics Bureau personnel manage the Linden Police Department's participation in Project Medicine Drop, a statewide initiative in cooperation with the New Jersey Division of Consumer Affairs, whereby citizens can safely, securely and anonymously dispose of unused or unwanted medications in an effort to avoid misuse and abuse, and do so in an environmentally sensitive manner. The main feature of this program is a secure drop box, located in the vestibule of police headquarters, where citizens can place unneeded or expired solid pharmaceuticals such as pills, capsules, patches, inhalers, and pet medications, and keep them away from those at risk of abusing them. The drop box is available to anyone, 365 days a year, at any time of the day or night, and those depositing these items will not be questioned by police officers. The contents of the drop box will periodically be collected and taken for destruction by Narcotics Bureau personnel. During 2022, approximately 268.70 pounds of medications were deposited by citizens and safely destroyed.

In addition to this stationary drop box, the unit also has a portable drop box which the detectives take to local business or community events to allow employees or other community members the opportunity to dispose of these pharmaceuticals.

In closing, during year 2022 numerous drug traffickers were placed under arrest and prosecuted, large quantities of controlled substances and several weapons were taken off the street, and currency from proceeds from sales of narcotics was seized. All this was done in an effort to maintain a high quality of life in the city of Linden for our residents and those who are visiting.

# Professional Standards



## **Internal Affairs**

The Linden Police Department Internal Affairs Unit is part of the Professional Standards Division. The Professional Standards Division Captain oversees one (1) Lieutenant, one (1) Sergeant and one (1) Detective assigned to the Internal Affairs Unit. As needed, the Internal Affairs Unit obtains the temporary assistance of additional Officers specifically trained to perform pre-employment background investigations for both sworn and unsworn positions within the Linden Police Department.

During 2022, Internal Affairs handled or reviewed 65 internal/external complaints. 59 complaints were against sworn personnel and six complaints were against non-sworn employees. For sworn personnel complaints, there was no complaints of excessive force, one complaint of improper arrest, no complaints of improper entry, no complaints of an improper search, no complaints of other criminal violations, one complaint of differential treatment, 17 complaints of demeanor, no complaints of domestic violence, and 46 other rule violation complaints.

Twenty-four complaints were external complaints from citizens, none of them were anonymous, and 41 complaints were internal complaints, initiated within the police department. There were 65 closed in calendar year 2022, 27 were sustained, zero were not sustained, one was unfounded, 25 were exonerated, and two were administratively closed. There were 28 investigations opened in 2022 which were carried over into 2023.

The Internal Affairs Unit is also mandated to review all use of force incidents and police vehicle pursuits. During 2022, there were 43 use of force incidents involving 84 officers. There were also 35 vehicle pursuits reviewed.

The Internal Affairs Unit also conducts the Linden Police Department's random drug testing program, and when necessary, reasonable suspicion drug testing for sworn employees. In 2022, 30 sworn employees were randomly drug tested with all tests negative for illegal substances. There were zero reasonable suspicion drug tests administered. Additionally, drug testing for all City of Linden police officer applicants is administered through Internal Affairs. Thirty-two police officer applicants were drug tested in 2022. None of them were positive for illegal substances resulting in an automatic disqualification for employment.

The Internal Affairs Unit is also charged with completing pre-employment background investigations on individuals for positions of Police Officer, 911 Tele-communicator, Auxiliary Police Officer, Parking Enforcement Officer, police department civilian employee and City of Linden Office of Emergency Management member. In 2022, 68 full pre-employment background investigations were completed.

The Internal Affairs Unit conducts twice-yearly checks of the driver's licenses of all sworn members. This check ensures that all officers currently have and have had at all times during the year, valid driving privileges. The check also ensures that all sworn personnel have not failed to report any traffic tickets that may have been received as required by Department Standard Operating Procedure (SOP). There were no invalid driver's licenses found and no violations of this SOP in 2022.

As mandated by the State of New Jersey Attorney General Guideline on Internal Affairs Policy and Procedure, the following is a Synopsis of Disciplinary Action for all complaints where a fine or suspension of six days or more was assessed to an agency member in 2022: No officer was terminated for conduct unbecoming a public employee and other sufficient cause.

**Linden Police Department  
Training Unit Annual Report 2022**

**TRAINING UNIT**

Training is the core ingredient to any successful law enforcement agency. The Linden Police Department's Training Unit is responsible for ensuring that all Police Officers and Dispatchers receive federal, state, and local mandated training. The Training Unit, a part of the Professional Standards Division, is staffed by a Lieutenant who serves as the Unit Commander, a Sergeant who serves as the Field Training Coordinator, a Sergeant who serves as the Supervisory Firearms Instructor/Rangemaster, and a Field Training Manager (FTM). The Field Training Manager manages the field training schedule and records associated with trainees currently in their field training and working test period. The FTM also assist with the new hire orientation as well as the Pre-Academy Training Program preparing new hires for academy training. The Probationary Officer Training Course (POTC) is completed during the post academy training phase and is supervised by our Field Training Coordinator. In addition to their duties associated with the Field Training and Evaluation Program, they also oversee training record management of all Police personnel.

The Supervisory Firearms Instructor/Rangemaster is responsible for coordinating all range training including the mandated firearms training and any enhanced training which may be required depending on the need for such training. This sergeant is also responsible for coordinating any outside agency range training conducted at our Linden PD Range. They are also responsible for outfitting all Linden PD recruits with their essential gear and equipment necessary to complete the BCPO range activities. Continuous weapon and equipment inspections are conducted and supervised by this supervisor.

In-service training, coordinated by the Field Training Coordinator, also encompasses mandated annual or semiannual training. Training needs are also continuously assessed based upon after action reporting and body camera review. Based on a "needs assessment" training may be required to correct actions and/or reduce liability. The Training Sergeant is responsible for the randomized review of BWC recordings. Recordings are evaluated to identify training needs of the agency.

Mandated training is not the only training that the Unit is required to oversee and manage. Police Officers may be sent to receive additional training upon request or based upon the needs of the Department. The purpose of training and professional development is to enhance job skills and produce a competent, safe, and efficient police officer.



**Linden Police Department  
Training Unit Annual Report 2022**

Some of the required mandated training include but are not limited to some of the following topics/courses:

<i>"HYPERDRIVE" Narcotics Investigation Training</i>	<i>Leadership &amp; Command</i>
<i>2-Day Property and Evidence Management Course</i>	<i>LIDAR Operator Course</i>
<i>3 Day New Detective and New Criminal Investigator</i>	<i>Line Officer Training: Staying Healthy &amp; Resilient</i>
<i>A Deep Dive Into Cell Phone Records and Tower Dump</i>	<i>Managing &amp; Organizing Major Investigations</i>
<i>Active Attack Integrated Response (AAIR)</i>	<i>Marjory Stoneman Douglas School Shooting: Lessons</i>
<i>Active Counter Measures (ARCON)</i>	<i>Methods of Instruction</i>
<i>Active Shooter Level 1</i>	<i>Motor Vehicle (MV) Stop Training</i>
<i>Active Shooter Threat Instructor</i>	<i>Municipal Cannabis Law Webinar</i>
<i>Active Shooters &amp; Mass Assaults</i>	<i>Narcotics 1: Drug Identification Including Arrest</i>
<i>Advanced Gang Awareness</i>	<i>Narcotics II: Investigatory Techniques</i>
<i>Advanced Pistol Instructor</i>	<i>New Jersey Case Law/Search and Seizure</i>
<i>Advanced Small Unit Tactics</i>	<i>New Jersey Firearms Law (Update and Overview)</i>
<i>Alcotest 7110 Initial Operator Course</i>	<i>New Jersey Open Public Records Act</i>
<i>Arrest Search &amp; Seizure</i>	<i>New Perspectives on Title 39: Bicycle/Pedestrian</i>
<i>Autism Shield - Autism Recognition and Response</i>	<i>NIMS I-300</i>
<i>Auto Theft and Vehicle Crimes</i>	<i>NJ CJIS Training (TAC)</i>
<i>Basic Budgeting</i>	<i>NJTR-1 Crash Form Refresher</i>
<i>Basic Crash Investigation Course</i>	<i>Work Zone Safety Awareness for Local Police</i>
<i>Basic Field Training School</i>	<i>Traffic Incident Management Training</i>
<i>Basic Police Motorcycle Operator</i>	<i>NJOEM Basic Workshop in Emergency Management</i>
<i>Becoming the Title 39 Expert</i>	<i>New Jersey State Police - NIBRS</i>
<i>Bias Incident Investigations</i>	<i>Officer Safety &amp; Wellness Symposium</i>
<i>Budgeting &amp; Financial Administration for Police</i>	<i>PAPD Ballistic Shield Instructor</i>
<i>Business Grammar &amp; Proofreading</i>	<i>Performance and Accountability</i>
<i>Certified Search &amp; Seizure Instructor</i>	<i>Pistol Mounted Optics Instructor</i>
<i>Crisis Intervention Training (CIT)</i>	<i>Police Chiefs In-Service Series</i>
<i>Command Leadership Institute (CLI)</i>	<i>Police Executive Institute</i>
<i>Confronting the Toxic Officer</i>	<i>Police Motorcycle Operator's Instructor Transitional Certificate</i>
<i>Crash Investigation 1</i>	<i>Police Motorcycle Instructor Certification</i>
<i>Creating and Implementing Employee Development Plan</i>	<i>Police Motorcycle Operator Skills Refresher</i>
<i>Crime Prevention for Community Police Officers</i>	<i>Practical Traffic Engineering for Police Officers</i>
<i>Criminal Investigations</i>	<i>Pre-Employment Background Investigations</i>
<i>Criminal Investigations of Computers &amp; Electronic</i>	<i>Proactive Police Supervision</i>
<i>Current Trends in Document Fraud</i>	<i>Protecting the Pedestrian Officer</i>
<i>Customer Service Training</i>	<i>RADAR Instructor Refresher</i>
<i>Dark Web and Cyber Crimes Investigation</i>	<i>Railroad Investigation and Safety Course</i>
<i>Defensive Tactics Instructor Certification</i>	<i>Range Master</i>
<i>DELTA Class #29</i>	<i>Report Writing</i>
<i>Desk Officer Reporting Training</i>	<i>Retirement Planning (PFRS)</i>
<i>Diversity Programs Forum</i>	<i>Rutgers Pre-Conference Seminar: Ethics</i>
<i>Document Fraud for Law Enforcement</i>	<i>Rutgers Public Purchasing Educational Forum</i>
<i>Drug Recognition Expert (DRE) Association Training</i>	<i>Search and Rescue Initial Actions (SARIA)</i>
<i>Driver Simulator Training</i>	<i>Security Assessment Training</i>
<i>Drone Certification &amp; Crash Reconstruction Course</i>	<i>Sergeant Training Course</i>
<i>DWI Detection and SFST Course (HGN)</i>	<i>Sex Crimes &amp; Child Abuse</i>
<i>Eloped Patient and Missing Person Workshop</i>	<i>Shelter Field Guide Training</i>



**Linden Police Department  
Training Unit Annual Report 2022**

*Emergency Vehicle Operator's Course (EVOC)*  
*Executive Leadership Institute (ELI)*  
*FBI Advanced Interview Interrogation*  
*FEMA NIMS I-300*  
*Financial Investigations*  
*First Responders to Bomb Threats in Schools*  
*Flock Safety User Training*  
*Forcible Entry for Patrol Response*  
*Foundation for Executive Leadership*  
*Front Line Supervision Program*  
*G-191 Emergency Operations Center/Incident Command*  
*Gang Investigation Seminar*  
*Getting the Most from Microsoft Excel*  
*Gina DeJesus: An Abduction and Story of Survival*  
*Glock Armorer - Basic Cert/Recert*  
*Gracie Survival Tactics (GST) - Dual Certification*  
*High Impact Supervision (HIS)*  
*How to Research Case Law with Google Scholar*  
*Human Sex Trafficking for Law Enforcement*  
*ICAT & ABLE*  
*Identifying Criminal Vehicles and Occupants*  
*Internal Affairs Investigations: Complaint/Proced.*  
*Interview & Interrogation Training Course*  
*Investigating Threats Made on Social Media*  
*Juvenile Investigations*

*Sig Sauer Armorer*  
*Sig Sauer P320 Armorer Certification*  
*Sig Sauer P365 Armorer's Certification*  
*Sig Sauer P365 Armorer's Certification*  
*Sig Sauer Rifle Armorer Certification*  
*Suicide by Cop*  
*Suicide Prevention*  
*Supervisor Training Course*  
*Supervisor's Role as Trainer & Coach*  
*The Art of Interviewing*  
*The Gun Game*  
*The Reid Technique of Investigative Interviewing*  
*The Street Smart Cop/Pro-Active Patrol Tactics*  
*Tips for Successful Supervisors*  
*Top Gun Class 57*  
*Understanding the Numbers on the FTO DOR*  
*Understanding the Victim of DV*  
*Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) Training*  
*Use of Force and Pursuit Policy*  
*Use of Force Summit*  
*Using Digital Data to Solve Homicides*  
*Victimology: Investigative Perspective (LE)*  
*VTAC Pistol Gunfighter*  
*Women in Command*  
*Worst Case Discharge Drill*

During the past year, Police Officers from the Linden Police Department have received training offered to various law enforcement agencies nationwide including collaborative training with the following agencies/entities:

- *Bergen County Prosecutor's Office*
- *Bridgeway Behavioral Health Services*
- *CIT International*
- *Cranford Police Department*
- *Division of Criminal Justice*
- *Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA)*
- *FBI Law Enforcement Executive Development Association (LEEDA)*
- *Federal Bureau of Investigation*
- *Franklin Township Police Department*
- *New Jersey State Police (NJSP)*
- *New Mexico Tech University*
- *Glassboro Police Department*
- *Howell Police Department*
- *Louisiana State University*
- *Monmouth County Prosecutor's Office*
- *Morris County Prosecutor's Office*
- *Mount Olive Police Department*
- *National Tactical Officers Association*
- *NCBRT Academy of Counter Terrorist Education*
- *NJ Department of Corrections NJDOC*

**Linden Police Department  
Training Unit Annual Report 2022**

- *NJ Division of Highway Traffic Safety (NJDHTS)*
- *NJ Narcotics Enforcement Officers Association*
- *NJ Office of Homeland Security and Preparedness (OHSP)*
- *NJ Office of the Attorney General*
- *NJ State Association of Chiefs of Police (NJSACOP)*
- *Northwestern University*
- *Passaic County Prosecutor's Office*
- *Penn State University*
- *Philipps 66 Refinery*
- *Rutgers University*
- *Sig Sauer Academy*
- *Stockton University*
- *Texas State University*
- *Union County Prosecutor's Office*

Training Unit personnel are also responsible for the following areas:

- *Academy Instructors*
- *Accreditation Management (NJSACOP)*
- *Alcotest/SFST/HGN cert/re-cert*
- *DMS management*
- *Equipment acquisition & distribution*
- *Firearm training records*
- *Firearms maintenance and repairs*
- *In-house Instructors*
- *Managing the Training, Firearms, and Range Budgets*
- *Training facilities management*

# Support Services



## **BWC UNIT**

This unit is tasked with managing all digital evidence (body camera footage, in-car camera footage, evidence photos, video statements, video surveillance, radio transmissions, 911 and phone calls) by packaging these items in a format that can be shared with requestors. Ideally, these items are stored in Evidence.com where they can be found by case number and shared.

Fulfilling discovery and OPRA requests are major responsibilities of the Unit, however, every Bureau in the Department (Detectives, Traffic, Juvenile, Internal Affairs, Training, and Patrol) relies on the BWC UNIT. Case detectives request digital evidence to help in their investigations and prosecution of violators. The Traffic Bureau investigators request footage on leaving the scene and fatal accidents. The Juvenile Bureau requests video surveillance on incidents in schools for issues and security concerns for students. IA looks for digital evidence for citizen complaints and other incidents that require IA review. The Training Unit is made aware for issues observed in footage provided by patrol officers in the field, and patrol requests vary from user issues, tagging evidence, maintenance of products, and connectivity.

The Unit strives to keep up with technology so that officers in the Linden Police Department are provided with the most advanced products and training available. It has been well documented that making this a priority will strengthen police accountability, professionalism and improve evidence documentation.

## **FULFILMENTS**

- In **2022**, there were **500** requests for evidence.  
Urgent or high priority matters such as requests from the UCPO and outside agencies (MCPO, ACPO, ATF, and FBI) were at **313**.
- In **2022**, there were **83** OPRA requests involving BWC or other video footage. (This video footage requires redactions per OPRA guidelines).
- In addition to discovery requests, the BWC Unit provided **18** completed packages for Civil Subpoenas and TORT claims. This includes digital evidence and paperwork.

## **EVIDENCE.COM**

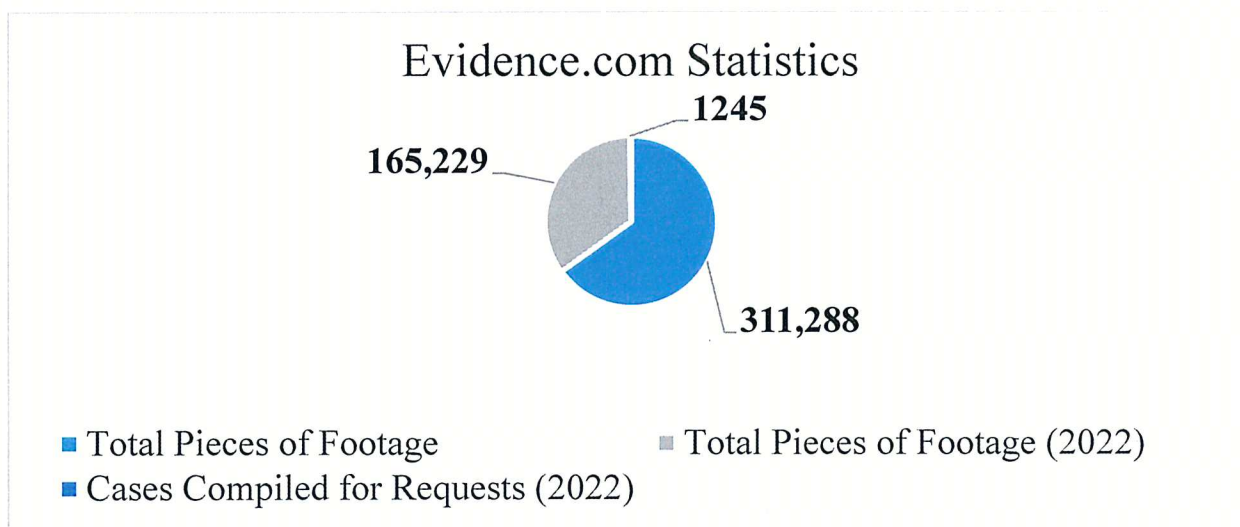
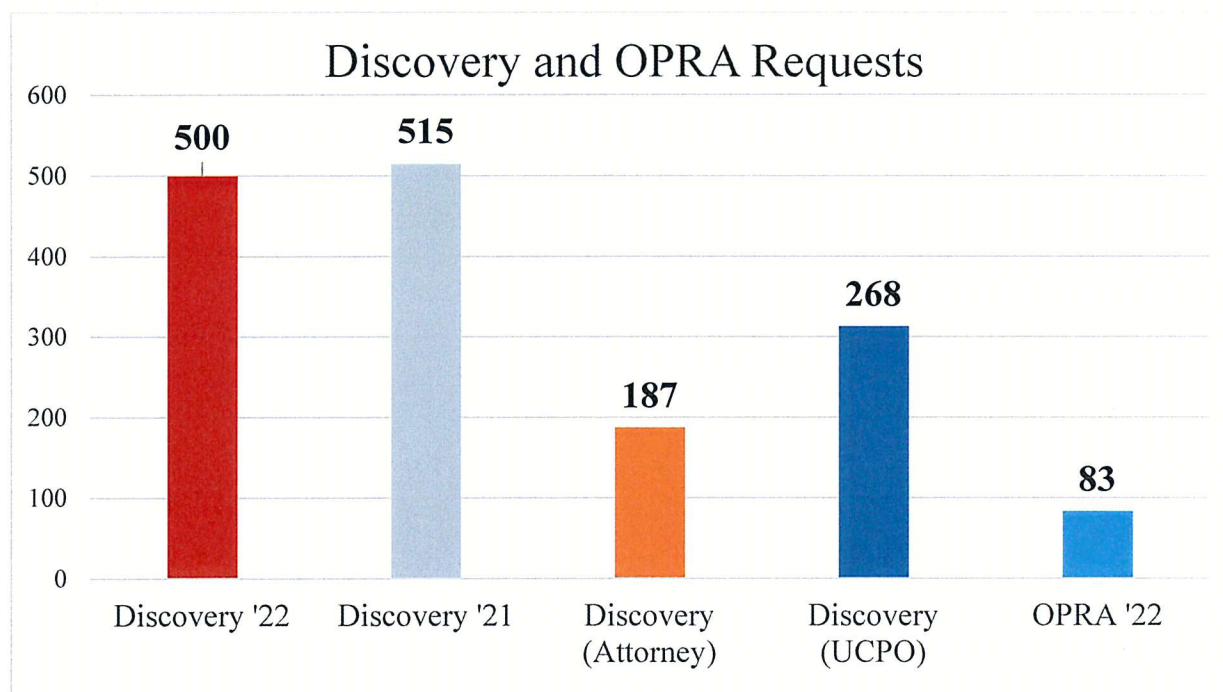
- In **2022**, there were over **165,229** pieces of digital evidence to manage.
- **1,350** Cases were put together for critical incidents (investigations, arrests, motor vehicle crashes, OPRA and IA) for future requests through discovery, OPRA, subpoena and common law.
- The Unit is tasked with pulling radio transmissions, phone calls, and video surveillance. In **2022**, there were **1300** entries in Access Database that included requests for radio transmissions, 9-1-1 and other phone calls.

## **AXON TRAINING**

In **2022**, **9** new Police officers were trained in the use of body-worn cameras, Evidence.com, and the Fleet system. Each officer was instructed on BWC and FLEET use, Evidence.com and AXON applications.

## **BWC CONCLUSION**

The BWC Unit requires the help of the Clerks in Records, the Detectives in Property and Evidence and IT, to fulfill the daily requests for criminal cases, civil subpoenas, tort claims and OPRA requests. The number of requests increase each year and keeping up with these requests can be at times daunting, however the team continues to produce, and fulfillment is completed without fail.



### Office of Information Technology

The timely, reliable transfer of information is critical to ensuring the safety of Emergency Services personnel. The Computer Services Unit is responsible for 354 users in the Police Department, Fire Department, and Office of Emergency Management (O.E.M.). The system handles every aspect of emergency response,



from the initial phone call through emergency response into the subsequent investigation. The failure of this system for even a short amount of time jeopardizes the safety of the public and our personnel.

The Office of Information Technology is comprised of a full-time senior technician, three full-time technicians and a police officer under the supervision of a Support Services Sergeant. The maintenance and upkeep of various hardware and software for each department in multiple locations, as well as the troubleshooting, is the primary function of the Unit. The Unit is regularly tasked with testing and evaluating various software programs to meet the ever-changing needs of all of our City offices.

The expansion to the Office of Information Technology brought with it an enormous number of tasks that needed to be completed in 2022, on both the Public Safety and Non-Public Safety side. Among these tasks was the procurement of hardware/software for a citywide printer upgrade, Wi-Fi upgrade for City Hall, implementation of a cloud based system for Construction Code, installation of key card access for city offices, upgrade to Office 365, security upgrade from tier 1 to tier 3, and citywide Iris scanners used for time management. These and other projects will allow the City to operate more efficiently while increasing the safety of its digital information. Additionally, the Office of Information technology conducted a citywide inventory of all information technology related assets, such as computers, monitors, and printers.

To add, in 2022, the Office of Information Technology, along with FLOCK Safety, implemented 20 Automated License Plate Readers (ALPR) throughout the city. These ALPR cameras alert the Linden Police Department in real time when detecting flagged motor vehicle license plates, such as stolen vehicles and wanted/missing persons. To expand this project, the Linden Police Department, in partnership with FLOCK Safety installed 75 Raven gunshot detection devices citywide. These devices provide real time detection of possible gun fire and alert the Linden Police Department for an appropriate response. The use of FLOCK Safety devices by the Linden Police Department has been an asset to both Uniformed Services and various investigative divisions within the agency in order to more effectively and efficiently combat crime within the city.

In 2022, The Office of Information Technology continued its partnership with Eastern Data Communications, in the expansion of our city-wide camera system. After completing the extensive planning stages in 2020, cameras and communication equipment were ordered for Martin Luther King Jr. Park, to allow for video coverage of the exterior of the park and surrounding streets. In 2022, the installation was complete in Martin Luther King Jr. Park. Additional cameras were also successfully installed in the Raymond Wood Bauer Promenade.

There were over **1200** repair requests in **2022**, which came in the form of phone calls, emails, and the completion of the Linden Police Department and City of Linden IT trouble sheets. Examples of these requests include connectivity or network issues. This does not represent an accurate accounting of all requests, as emergency calls and requests are frequently given directly to the technician. This also does not include any hardware, software or camera system upgrades.

In **2022**, the Office of Information Technology worked with an operating budget of **\$1,316,400**. This amount included all digital evidence projects, all hardware and software purchases, maintenance contracts, and new renovations related items such as wiring and hardware.



## **PROPERTY AND EVIDENCE**

In **2022**, the Property and Evidence Unit consisted of two detectives. The main responsibility of this unit is to maintain the integrity of property and evidence collected by officers, detectives, investigators and citizens. Evidence examples include narcotics, bodily fluids, DNA, weapons and various owner possessions (cash, jewelry, identifications). Our detectives receive all evidence, ensure that it is properly packaged and labeled, and then enter the evidence into the Beast Record System. The evidence is then submitted to the appropriate agency, whether automatically or by request. All evidence is either stored for future use or until the expiration date arrives. If the owner of the property responds to retrieve the property, and it can be released, it is released back to them. Once the items reach their expiration date, items in good condition are auctioned off, and the rest are destroyed.

In addition to these detectives, the Unit has one part-time civilian clerk who primarily handles evidence already stored in our main vault. This clerk works on purging property by preparing the evidence for auction, destruction, and maintaining evidence status according to established guidelines, which is critical.

- In **2022**, 2339 items were submitted into Property and Evidence. See attached table for a list of items.

### **Property and Evidence Report**

<b>Category</b>	<b>2022</b>
<u>Total Items Submitted</u>	<b>2339</b>
<u>DVD &amp; Video Discs</u>	<b>142</b>
<u>CD Audio 911-Tele</u>	<b>10</b>
<u>Video Statements</u>	<b>4</b>
<u>Handguns</u>	<b>35</b>
<u>Rifles / Shotguns</u>	<b>14</b>



<u>Knives</u>	<b>35</b>
<u>Fired Evidence (casings)</u>	<b>66</b>
<u>Bicycles</u>	<b>24</b>
<u>License Plates</u>	<b>110</b>
<u>Counterfeit Currency</u>	<b>12</b>
<u>Found Property Cases</u>	<b>215</b>
<u>Items Transferred to Other Agencies</u>	<b>429</b>
<u>Items Auctioned to PropertyRoom.com</u>	<b>72</b>
<u>Items Returned to Owner</u>	<b>166</b>
<u>Items Submitted to UCPO lab</u>	<b>653</b>
<u>Evidence transports to lab, ballistics, other locations</u>	<b>109</b>

## RECORDS BUREAU

The Records Bureau is considered the records management center of the Linden Police Department; every report, regardless of nature or seriousness of the case, is ultimately sent to the Records Bureau. The Bureau, comprised of five clerical staff members supervised by the Support Services Sergeant, collect, assemble, and file the ever-increasing volume of recorded information coming to the attention of the Police. Although Police Officers devote a considerable amount of time to paperwork, prosecution would be impossible without diligent and reliable record keeping.

Every report submitted to the Records Bureau is reviewed by clerical staff members for completeness. Clerks prepare reports for all indictable cases and forward them to the Union County Prosecutor's Office for action by the Grand Jury and/or trial in Superior Court. A total of **112** Indictable Crime Packages were compiled in **2022**.

One of the primary functions of the Bureau is the generation and submission of the Uniform Crime Report (UCR). Each month, the Sergeant prepares the required data into a report, which generates statistical data that is forwarded to various governmental agencies including the New Jersey State Police and the Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI). **2022** UCR statistics are provided at the end of this report.

The firearms application and permit process is handled almost exclusively by the Records Bureau Firearm clerks. Clerks are assigned to assist applicants with the required paperwork and guide them through the application process. Clerks ensure that the completed package, including all job and personal reference requests (usually two per applicant) are verified and submitted to the Sergeant who completes the required background checks. This process involves a great deal of interaction with the public, the applicant, and multiple local, county and state Police agencies. In **2022**, the Department issued **325** Firearms ID Cards, **829** Firearms Handgun Permits, and **14** Carry Permits.

The Bureau clerks are responsible for preparation of weekly "lawyer packages" in response to Open Public Records Act (OPRA) requests for accident reports by Law Offices and Private Medial Organizations/Practices. For **2022**, the Records Bureau prepared and delivered **1974** accident report packages. These OPRA Requests generated **\$9,696.65** in revenue.



The clerks are responsible for maintaining records for every aspect of Police activity, from warrants, to parolees, to vehicle tows and expungements. The Report Management System (RMS) database must be updated regularly so officers and dispatchers can access important information, including active restraining orders, firearms permits, and special safety notifications for people and addresses. Records Bureau Clerks are also responsible for the processing of additional miscellaneous government documents which include the following: burn requests (**933 Burn Requests**), Death Lists (**330 Death Lists**), and the verification and completion of DWI/DUI case files (**108 DWIs/DUIs completed**). Clerks also maintain the Linden Emergency Response System (LERS) (**08 LERS entries have been created for 2022**), which provides Police with residential information of elderly or at risk residents that may not be able to open their door during an emergency. Clerks are jointly responsible for looking up and completing background checks for NJ Child Protection & Permanency (CP&P - formerly DYFS), military inquiries, and good conduct letters (**34 in 2022**), as well as preparing use of force and pursuit reports for review by Internal Affairs. A clerk is assigned to oversee, under the Sergeants supervision, the Department's College Internship Program for the Records Bureau.

## FINANCIAL REPORT

For the year **2022**, the Records Bureau generated **\$16,282.65 in revenue**. The Records Bureau was responsible for collecting revenue for the following services provided throughout **2022**:

Records Bureau		
Service Type	Number of Requests	Revenue
Good Conduct Letters	34	\$170.00
Alcoholic Beverage Control Licenses (ABC)	51	\$1,275.00
Open Public Record Act (OPRA) Requests	42	\$648.00
Crash Reports	1974	\$9,696.65
Incident Reports	202	\$768.80
Firearms Identification Cards	325	\$1,625.00
Handgun Purchase Permits	829	\$1,658.00
Carry Permits	14	\$0



Revenue Overview - 2022	
Month	Revenue
January	\$1,507.65
February	\$1,284.50
March	\$1,442.30
April	\$1,590.70
May	\$1,406.70
June	\$1,498.90
July	\$1,430.70
August	\$1,476.20
September	\$1,202.35
October	\$1,382.35
November	\$1,422.20
December	\$638.10
Total	\$16,282.65

## 2021 Uniform Crime Reporting Summary

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## **9-1-1 CENTRAL DISPATCH**

9-1-1 Central Dispatch is the Emergency Center for the City of Linden. Central Dispatch handles all emergency and non-emergency telephone calls and radio transmissions for the Linden Police Department, Linden Fire Department, Emergency Medical Services and Office of Emergency Management (OEM). In 2022, there were **20** dispatchers handling all calls coming in from the public. Calls coming in are often highly stressful and have to be handled by highly trained personnel. Examples of calls are reports of disputes, motor vehicle accidents and several other serious calls for police and fire response. Our dispatch center is manned 24 hours a day / 7 days a week in order to serve anyone visiting and those residing in the City of Linden.

9-1-1 Central Dispatch is dedicated to providing the best service possible and to do so, each dispatcher is trained and certified in CPR, 911 telephone answering and Emergency Medical Dispatching. Most are trained in CIT- (Crisis Intervention Team) a program designed to provide each dispatcher with the knowledge about mental illness, crisis resolution skills and access to community based services.

All dispatchers are proficient with data entry into our QED Records Management System. The dispatchers are responsible for handling inquiries with the States computer system for motor vehicle and driver license checks, wanted and missing persons, stolen and recovered vehicles, firearms and several other items.

9-1-1 Central Dispatchers participate in the National Night Out and Fire Prevention Night in front of City Hall every year. They discuss 9-1-1 procedures, medical tips, and provide educational handouts to those in attendance.

Call volume increases every year. In 2022, a total of **74,095** incidents were recorded through 9-1-1 Central Dispatch with over 65,000 incidents handled by police officers.

Dispatcher Wendy Slovinsky retired in 2022 after 25 years of service. We wish her a happy retirement.

# Uniformed Services Division



## **UNIFORMED SERVICES DIVISION**

The Uniformed Services Division is the largest and most recognizable division within the Linden Police Department; they wear uniforms, drive marked vehicles, and regularly interact with members of the public. It is comprised of sixty-four (64) sworn Police Officers, eighteen (18) Supervisors, and six (6) civilian personnel assigned to one of four Patrol Platoons or the Traffic Bureau.

During the 2022 calendar year, officers responded to seventy-three thousand seven hundred and fifty-three (73,753) calls for service. Officers were also involved in the arrest of six hundred and forty-eight (648) persons for a variety of crimes and ordinance violations, as well as outstanding Municipal and Superior Court warrants. We take extensive measures and remain vigilant to protect our community from acts of terrorism, and have provided numerous investigative leads to both State and Federal agencies.

In addition to serving as first responders to emergencies, medical calls, motor vehicle crashes, and other calls for service, the mission of the Uniform Services Division is focused primarily on reducing crime and promoting safety through traffic enforcement. Community Policing is a cornerstone of our strategy to reduce crime; these Officers patrol our streets twenty-four hours a day, which puts them in a unique position to building and strengthen the relationships essential to keep our neighborhoods safe and crime-free.

The Uniform Services Division is the largest group of personnel within the Linden Police Department. It is commanded by Captain Christopher Guenther, who is assisted by Lieutenant Rick Bachmann. Together, they set policy, provide direction, and disseminate information across the various throughout the division. They also provide critical support to assist with the pre-planning and coordination of all special events and details requiring police resources.

The Captain's Office is supported by four (4) Lieutenants, one in command of each of four (4) Patrol shifts. They are the leaders of their shift, and as such are responsible for the Officers under their command. They ensure that patrol resources are managed efficiently on a day-to-day basis and take command of critical incidents.

Each platoon also has three-four (3-4) Sergeants who serve as front line supervisors; they are generally assigned to work in the field. They are tasked with mentoring and directly coordinating the activities of the Officers under their command. Additionally, in the Shift Lieutenant's absence, the senior Sergeant serves as the Shift Supervisor.



The Traffic Bureau is commanded by Lieutenant Ian D. Conk who is, with the assistance of Sergeant Monika Oliveira, responsible for supervision over four (4) Traffic Investigators, one (1) Patrol Officer, four (4) Parking Enforcement Officers, two (2) full-time Principal Clerks, and fifty-four (54) School Crossing Guards. The Traffic Bureau Commander is also responsible to oversee the Police Motor Unit and the thirteen (13) Motor Officers assigned on an as-needed basis from various divisions in the Department.

The Traffic Sergeant directly oversees and coordinates the implementation of traffic control plans for several large-scale events throughout the city, including the annual Halloween Parade, Special Olympics Torch Run, Police Unity Tour, and America's 9/11 ride to name a few. She also directly supervises traffic enforcement, investigative, and parking enforcement efforts.

In the 2022 calendar year, Two thousand, six hundred and thirteen (2,613) motor vehicle collision reports were completed within the City. Five Hundred and twelve (512) of those crashes involved injury to one or more persons, seventy-eight (78) crashes involved pedestrians or pedal-cyclists, with Two (2) of the total crashes resulting in loss of life.

The primary responsibility of the Traffic Bureau Investigators is to apply advanced collision investigation training to investigate motor vehicle collisions; these Officers are the lead investigative unit for all collisions that involve death or serious bodily injury. Investigator also review and approve each NJTR-1 crash report, conduct follow-up investigations on each hit-and-run crash, as well as in cases involving motor vehicles abandoned on City streets and in cases where fraudulent documents are suspected. They review and prepare all "Driving while Under the Influence" (DUI) cases for prosecution, which includes the transportation of blood and urine samples to the NJ State Police Lab in Sea Girt for analysis, and the return of completed search warrants to the court.

Traffic Investigators are additionally tasked with traffic surveys, in which traffic data is compiled and reviewed in response to a variety of special requests related to traffic flow, handicapped and restricted parking, and further analyzation of other roadway data statistics. The resultant data of these surveys is relied upon by the Mayor, the Chief of Police, the City Clerk, the City Engineering Department and other members of the governing body, so that they may make informed decisions regarding State, County, or Municipal traffic laws, Ordinances and for budgeting purposes.

The members of the Traffic Bureau work closely with counterparts in the New Jersey State Department of Transportation (NJDOT), Union County Traffic Safety Bureau, Linden Engineering Department, Linden Parking & Transportation Bureau, and individual sub-contractors to implement traffic safety plans associated with construction and utility work within the City. Each job requires a traffic safety plan, and the Traffic Bureau is required to review and approve each and every schematic before work can begin.



The Traffic Bureau is charged with the supervision and management of the Linden Police Department's Alcotest® 7110, manufactured by Dräger. Those who operate a motor vehicle in the state of New Jersey are required to provide a breath sample when suspected of driving under the influence of intoxicants. The Alcotest® 7110 is the official breath test machine recognized by the Superior Court of New Jersey to measure the operator's breath sample for blood alcohol content, following an investigation and probable cause determination of operation while under the influence. In 2022, one hundred (100) drivers were placed under arrest for suspicion of driving while under the influence of alcohol or other intoxicants.

Speeding is consistently among the top concerns reported by residents of the City. Many of the marked patrol units operated by the Linden Police Department are equipped with speed detecting radar units; Traffic Bureau personnel are responsible for certifying and maintaining these units, as well as two Custom handheld radar units. In addition, the Traffic Bureau deploys several speed monitoring variable message boards that can be used to display important information during emergencies or public events. These units are positioned in designated areas upon the request of citizens, elected officials, or based on available data which collect, analyze and compile data regarding traffic speed and volume.

Our High Intensity Traffic Enforcement (H.I.T.E.) Unit is presently served by one Officer, but is typically comprised of a cadre of two to four (2-4) Officers. This Unit, under direct supervision of the Traffic Bureau Sergeant, develop and implement targeted traffic enforcement plans in designated areas based on concerns from residents and elected officials. The Unit also participates in wide-scale enforcement campaigns, many of which are funded by a traffic safety-related grants. In 2022, the Linden Police Department participated in programs that targeted aggressive & distracted driving, driving while intoxicated, pedestrian safety, abandoned & uninspected vehicles, and seat belt use.

The Traffic Bureau employs one (1) Parking Enforcement Supervisor and three (3) full-time Parking Enforcement Officers. Their primary duty is the enforcement of parking violations throughout the City; in 2022 they identified thirteen thousand, seven hundred and nine (13,709) violations. They are also often assigned to assist with school traffic and clerical duties, and provide critical assistance during large-scale events and emergencies as needed.

The Linden Police Motor Unit falls under the dominion of Lieutenant Conk and the Traffic Bureau. Due to the extreme difficulty and demanding skill level, assignment as a Motor Officer is an exciting and highly prestigious achievement. Fifteen (15) Motor Officers are assigned from divisions outside of the Traffic Bureau. Responsibilities to this Unit include: equipment procurement; routine maintenance; motor assignments; uniforms and operator



equipment; and the fulfillment of police escort requests. The Motor Officer is a highly visible, public favorite and great tool for community policing.

Two (2) civilian Clerks handle all clerical related details. During regular office hours, they are tasked to assist residents, business owners, and insurance companies with questions regarding motor vehicle crashes, permits for roadwork and dumpsters, handicap parking applications, and residential parking permit requests. They are responsible for scheduling, payroll, and the procurement, issuance, and replacement of uniforms and equipment for the Adult School Crossing Guards. Additionally, they are ascribed with documenting all City property reportedly damaged as a result of a motor vehicle collision. They also digitally save and send copies of each motor vehicle crash report to the New Jersey State Department of Transportation (NJDOT) and Carfax.

One thousand, five hundred and sixty-five (1,565) vehicles were towed under the authority of the Linden Police Department in 2022. The Traffic Bureau clerks work closely with authorized tow companies, and the New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission to process vehicle's titles for seventy-six (76) vehicles that were so far abandoned after towing and impound.

The Adult School Crossing Guards (guards) program is among the most visible and recognizable aspects of the Linden Police Department. These guards are uniquely positioned to observe and report problems in the community, oftentimes before others are even aware. Fifty-four (54) Guards are deployed strategically at posts throughout the City. The guards provide adequate and consistent assistance to primary school-aged children at designated intersections as they walk to and from school. The decision as to guard intersection positioning is based on specific criteria and data evaluated each year. All guards are inspected periodically throughout the school year, and each guard is required to attend an annual physical and retraining to ensure suitable and consistent protection for children attending both public and private school within the City.