

# ANNUAL REPORT



# 2020



**RAYMOND J. HAYDUCKA**  
CHIEF OF POLICE





## ***A MESSAGE FROM CHIEF RAYMOND J. HAYDUCKA***

Like no other year before, 2020 challenged our country, our state, and our community. Our police department was forced to adjust all our procedures to meet the widespread needs of our community due to the pandemic. At the same time, every police agency in the United States came under scrutiny and demands for increased accountability as a result of several controversial use of force incidents throughout the country. As these calls for increased accountability came, I immediately issued a letter to the community describing, in detail, the measures the South Brunswick Police Department takes in order to protect and serve our residents, and to ensure accountability each and every day. (See page 3)

Throughout the year, I met with various community members, from teenagers to faith leaders, to foster a dialogue on our police accountability procedures. Time and time again, residents praised the steps we were taking, and remarked that the South Brunswick Police Department should be the model for other police departments. It is our goal to provide the very best fair and ethical police services by ensuring accountability, and by embracing modern and contemporary police practices.



Our efforts were recognized around the state when I was appointed by the New Jersey Attorney General to a working group to update and revise the Use of Force Policy for all law enforcement agencies in the state. (<https://www.nj.gov/oag/force/docs/UOF-2020-1221-Use-of-Force-Policy.pdf>) In this updated policy, the number 1 Core Principle is “The Sanctity of Human Life and Serving the Community”. Our officers are committed to, and are embracing, this principle, along with all Core Principles set forth in the policy.

Our focus on the “Sanctity of Human Life and Serving the Community” could not have been highlighted more than in this past year. As the world shut down in March, it was our police officers who continued to come to work to meet the needs of our community. Their duties ranged from dropping off food for the needy, to helping our long term care facilities, to coordinating masks and glove supplies for our fire and EMS. Time and time again, officers met the unprecedented challenges the year threw at us. Our commitment to serving our community was rewarded with countless meals and letters of thanks from residents.

As Chief of Police, I could not be more proud of the men and women of this department. This past year will be remembered by many for the difficulties we faced, but I will remember it for the outstanding work we performed. Our commitment to our community has never been stronger, and our desire to succeed has never been greater. We will continue to serve the Township of South Brunswick with integrity, respect, and professionalism, adapting to meet the ever-changing needs of our community. I am committed to leading one of the finest law enforcement agencies in the state as we address the needs of the future.

***Raymond J. Hayducka***

Chief of Police





## A Letter From Chief Raymond J. Hayducka to the Community

*June 8th, 2020*

South Brunswick Community,

Over the last week I have received many questions about the South Brunswick Police Department. These questions primarily pertain to the tragic incident in Minneapolis, which led to the in-custody death of George Floyd. I have answered as many questions as possible by e-mail, phone call, or in person. Many are questions regarding what I am doing to prevent this from taking place in South Brunswick Township.

First and foremost, the entire South Brunswick Police Department sends their condolences to the family and those that are grieving George Floyd's death. We, as an agency, are angry about what took place. This anger only renews my personal commitment to continue leading a professional police department that protects and serves the community each and every day.

There are many things we, as an agency, do daily to ensure we are policing in a professional and fair manner. We are committed to treating all citizens with **integrity, respect, and professionalism**. These are the CORE Values of the South Brunswick Police Department. These values are instilled in every officer from the first day they are hired. In addition, they are continually emphasized each and every day. I have made it abundantly clear that I expect my officers to always prevent any act of misconduct, and report any and every situation which they believe constitutes misconduct.

Our efforts to provide our community with fair, impartial, and effective policing begin even before our officers are hired. Our background checks are lengthy and extremely in-depth, to be sure that only the best applicants are hired to serve as South Brunswick police officers. After hiring, each officer's actions are continually reviewed throughout a comprehensive field training program, and any improper actions are immediately addressed.

The South Brunswick Police Department prides itself on the training we provide our officers on a continual basis. In addition to the significant training required of all local police departments in the State of New Jersey, the South Brunswick Police Department takes part in many hours of additional in-service training. I sincerely believe we are one of the best trained agencies in the State of New Jersey. In 2019, our officers logged 4788 hours of formal training. This training includes, but is not limited to, de-escalation, bias incident, use of force, domestic violence, first aid, and CPR. Our full-time Training Bureau is tasked with ensuring the officers obtain the latest and most contemporary law enforcement training available. This unit conducts hands-on realistic de-escalation and scenario-based training.

We consider every day a training day in the South Brunswick Police Department, which leads to very important informal training. Prior to every shift our first line supervisors are required to critique calls with their squads, review video, and discuss policy with their officers in order to be more proficient and improve performance. We strive for excellence, and can only achieve this by continually improving our performance through our training efforts, and the actions we take when dealing with those we serve.

We are an open and transparent agency. Since I was sworn in as the Chief of Police in 2005, we have published an extensive Annual Report documenting all of our activities as an agency. These reports are available at <http://www.southbrunswicknj.gov/police-annual-reports>.





We also have a citizen's police academy that gives participants a hands-on view and access to all facets of the agency. The course is held once a week for 11 weeks. This program provides an excellent opportunity for any resident to see first-hand the inner workings of our agency. It also gives the participants an opportunity to meet the members of the department, and to build relationships. We run this program twice a year and, if necessary, I have the full support of Mayor Carley and the governing body, along with the Township Manager, to expand it so we can accommodate all that want to attend. I encourage everyone to take advantage of this program.

For years, my officers and I have worked diligently to build relationships through community outreach programs and our community policing efforts. We do this so we can continue to build trust with the South Brunswick community.

We believe the time to build trust and relationships is before a controversial incident takes place. I believe we have this trust, however we will not rest on our past performance. We will continue to develop and earn trust each and every day. Over the years, we have met with hundreds of community groups, numerous businesses, and thousands of individual residents, and have always been willing to listen to their fears, concerns, questions, and suggestions. This practice will continue, as our strength as a police agency is dependent on having a good relationship with our community. I believe our community policing programs are second to none. We have thousands of residents attend and volunteer at our National Night Out event every year. In addition, we run many other programs such as the Youth Police Academy, Senior Citizen Outreach, Child ID Day, Blue Angel Lockbox Program, Heroes and Helpers, SAFE Program Drug Education, ASAP Training, School Resource Officer Program and many others. A full description of these programs is available to review in our Annual Report.

In 2019, there were 88,211 total calls for service handled by the South Brunswick Police Department. This includes, but is not limited to, routine motor vehicle stops, first aid calls, domestic violence calls, emotionally disturbed persons, neighbor disputes, robberies, and community policing contacts. Force was used 17 times in 2019, which is a rate of .02% of all calls for service. There were no use of force incidents involving in-custody deaths, police shootings, or discharge of weapons. An administrative review is conducted by a command level officer on each and every use of force incident. It is then routed to my office for final review. All actions in 2019 were found to be in compliance with department rules and regulations, and New Jersey Attorney General Guidelines.

The South Brunswick Police Department has an Office of Professional Standards, which is responsible for handling all internal affairs matters. We accept complaints regarding police misconduct 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Every police officer in the South Brunswick Police Department is trained to accept a complaint either verbally or in writing. We also make the Complaint Against Police Officer form available on the department website. All complaints are investigated to a logical conclusion, to be sure all actions taken were appropriate. Our internal affairs policy is strictly adhered to. In addition, we have an Early Warning System in place to identify any officers with performance problems, along with the appropriate intervention to correct their actions. We publish an overview of our internal affairs investigations in our Annual Report. These steps, and others, keep us in compliance with the New Jersey Attorney General's Internal Affairs Policy.

The South Brunswick Police Department is one of eight nationally accredited police agencies in the state of New Jersey. This is done through the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies. (<https://www.calea.org/>) We have also achieved and maintain state accreditation through the New Jersey





State Association of Chiefs of Police (<https://www.njsacop.org/>). We are one of only three agencies in the State of New Jersey that has achieved both distinctions. Accreditation is a progressive, contemporary, and time proven method of helping law enforcement agencies improve their overall performance, and it ensures we are using the best police practices in the United States, and in the State of New Jersey.

I would also like to note that the following are restricted or required in the South Brunswick Police Department, and are in compliance with the NJ Attorney General’s Guidelines:

- Chokeholds and strangleholds are banned, unless it is a deadly force situation.
- We require officers to de-escalate situations, whenever possible, by communicating with subjects and maintaining distance. Officers are provided specific, ongoing training in this discipline.
- We require verbal warnings, when possible, prior to discharging a firearm.
- We require officers to exhaust all alternatives, when possible, before discharging a firearm.
- We require all officers to intervene and stop excessive force, and report it along with any and all misconduct.
- South Brunswick police officers are not permitted to shoot at moving vehicles, unless it is a deadly force situation and no other option is available.
- We require adherence to a strict use of force continuum, and only use deadly force as a last resort.
- We require officers to document and report each time they use, or threaten to use, force.

This is a broad overview of what we are doing, as an agency, to ensure we are taking the necessary steps to prevent an in-custody death from taking place. In addition, these are just some of the steps that the dedicated officers and civilian staff of our police department are taking to ensure that everyone is treated in a fair and just manner. The men and women of this agency are dedicated to protecting and serving the South Brunswick community and all persons we encounter, regardless of race, religion, or creed. We will always strive to continuously improve our methods, so we can protect and serve with honor and integrity.

In closing, I want everyone to know that my officers and I will never tolerate police misconduct in any form. I want to thank the public for the many recent letters supporting me and the dedicated members of the South Brunswick Police Department. It is a pleasure to serve as your Chief of Police.

Sincerely,

***Raymond J. Hayducka***

Chief of Police





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## MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the South Brunswick Police Department is to provide effective and efficient police services, through a partnership with the community, to prevent and deter crime as well as reduce the fear of crime, protect property and individual rights, and improve traffic safety through education and enforcement.



## CORE VALUES

**INTEGRITY** We are committed to maintaining the trust of our community through honest, moral, and ethical behavior that is above reproach.

**RESPECT** We are dedicated to be objective, fair, consistent, and compassionate in the treatment of our community and fellow employees in all of our actions.

**PROFESSIONALISM** In partnership with the community, we strive to provide responsive, effective, and quality service through teamwork, problem solving, and personal accountability.

## VISION STATEMENT

The South Brunswick Police Department is staffed with the finest men and women in the United States.

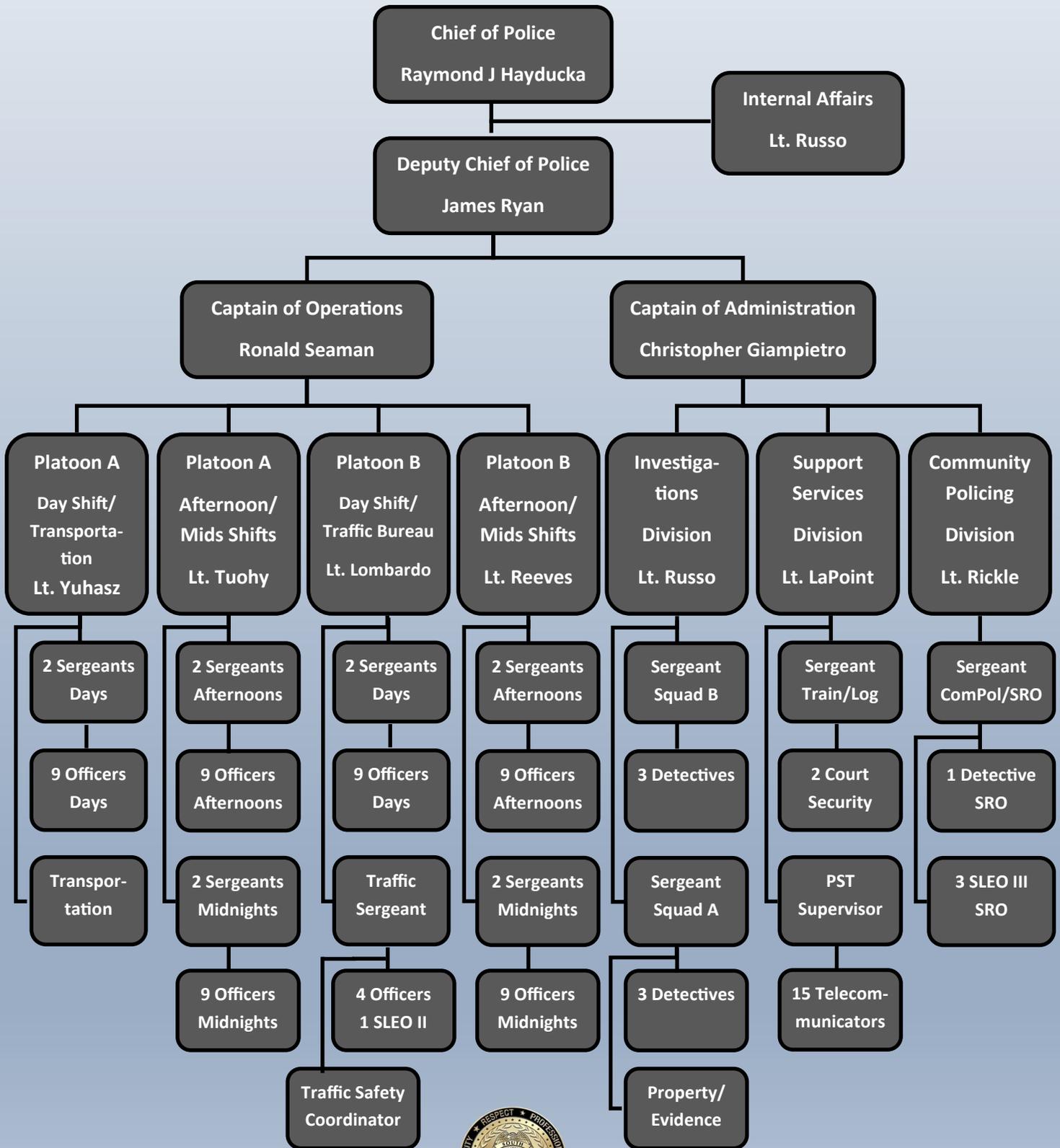
We will provide a level of service which is second to none. We will deliver a progressive and cost effective law enforcement service, as well as identifying and meeting the challenges of our increasingly diverse community. We will continue to seek input from our citizens and employees in hopes to improve the lives of our township residents and guests.

To achieve this vision, the South Brunswick Police Department is dedicated to sustaining a quality and equitable work environment that is based on merit and developing its members through effective training and leadership.





# TABLE OF ORGANIZATION





## PERSONNEL ACTIONS

### Retirements

July 1st, 2020

Lieutenant Laszlo Nyitrai - 25 Years Service

December 31st, 2020

Sergeant Daniel Olsson - 25 Years Service

### New Appointments

May 4th, 2020

Patrol Officer Kyle Klemas

November 10th, 2020

Patrol Officer Jake Pietrefesa

Patrol Officer Jae Kim



### Promotions

July 9th, 2020

Lieutenant Dennis Yuhasz

Sergeant William Merkler



### Assignments

Awards Committee - 1/4/20

Sergeant Tara Jaidullo

Sergeant William Merkler

Sergeant Richard Schwarz

Back-Up Internal Affairs Officer - 1/22/20

Lieutenant Roger Tuohy

Resiliency & Wellness Committee - 7/14/20

Lieutenant Frank Lombardo

Lieutenant Dennis Yuhasz

Sergeant Robert Jaidullo

Sergeant Michael Pellino

Detective Monica Posteraro

Detective Rick DeLucia

Officer Brooke LaBell

Officer Andre Civil

Civil Unrest Team—7/20/20

Officer Jamal Benbow

Officer George Morgan

Officer Brooke LaBell

Officer Dale Hubner

Rapid Response Team—12/14/20

Officer Dale Hubner

Officer Jamal Benbow

Officer Brooke LaBell

Officer George Morgan





# BUDGET

The Police Department’s budget is comprised of salaries and wages, and operating expenses.

The salaries and wages budget includes police officers, dispatchers, and civilian employees. The operating expenses budget includes equipment, supplies, training, service contracts, and program expenses.

The chart below compares the 2019 and 2020 expenditures:

Activity	Total Operating Budget		% Change	Total Grant Funding		% Change
	2019	2,020.00		2019	2020	
<b>Total Actual Expenditures</b>	\$12,598,749.72	\$12,909,923.72	2.47%	\$65,927.00	\$16,979.35	-74.25%
<b>Salaries and Wages-Total</b>	\$12,288,838.16	\$12,624,722.36	2.73%	\$38,705.00	\$6,195.00	-83.99%
<b>Police</b>	\$10,732,266.52	\$11,114,285.92	3.57%	\$38,705.00	\$6,195.00	-83.99%
<b>Dispatch</b>	\$1,005,854.64	\$1,036,556.08	3.05%			
<b>Crossing Guards</b>	\$172,123.98	\$107,733.81	-37.41%			
<b>Transportation</b>	\$379,593.02	\$366,146.55	-3.54%			
<b>Emergency Mgmt.</b>	\$0	\$0.00	0.00%			
<b>Operating Expenses-Total</b>	\$309,911.56	\$285,201.36	-7.97%	\$27,222.00	\$10,784.35	-60.38%
<b>Police</b>	\$293,227.42	\$274,079.91	-6.53%	\$27,222.00	\$10,784.35	-60.38%
<b>Dispatch</b>	\$10,914.82	\$8,479.46	-22.31%			
<b>Crossing Guards</b>	\$1,002.05	\$1,088.82	8.66%			
<b>Transportation</b>	\$3,170.50	\$883.71	-72.13%			
<b>Emergency Mgmt.</b>	\$1,596.77	\$669.46	-58.07%			

## OVERTIME

Police overtime pay for 2020 totaled \$149,448.54. This represents a decrease of \$61,497.48 compared to 2019.

## QUASI DUTY

“Quasi duty” is when a police officer is hired through our agency to perform a service, such as security or traffic control, for an outside contractor. Officers work these details outside their normal duty hours, and are paid for by the outside contractor.

Officers worked a total of 6,888 billable quasi duty hours, 111.5 quasi duty hours at a reduced rate, and 214.25 hours of non-billable quasi duty in 2020. This represents a decrease of 6,595.25 hours of billable quasi duty, a decrease of 65.5 hours at a reduced rate, and a decrease of 165.5 hours of non-billable quasi duty compared to 2019. The Township received \$102,054.75 after officer payments from quasi duty assignments in 2020. Non-billable and reduced rate quasi duty had a cost of \$20,579.00 in 2020, a decrease of \$15,297.50 over 2019.





## GRANTS:

The South Brunswick Police Department received additional funds from the following grants:

	2019	2020
NJ Body Armor Replacement Fund Grant	\$7,961.89	\$7,466.57
Federal BVP Grant	\$417.45	\$1,669.80
Click It or Ticket Seat Belt Enforcement Grant	\$5,500.00	-
Cops in Shops	\$2,585.00	-
Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over	\$3,630.00	\$5,445.00
Drunk Driving Enforcement Fund Grant	\$9,836.55	-
Distracted Driving	\$5,225.00	-
Pedestrian Safety	\$14,465.00	\$385.00
N.J. Transit Grant - Transportation Bus *		Amount TBD
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$49,620.89</b>	<b>\$14,966.37 *</b>

\*Cost of Medium Duty Bus awarded under FTA Section 5310

## FORFEITURE FUNDS:

Forfeiture monies are acquired through the seizure of property and assets used in the commission of a crime, or as a result of criminal activity. This money is then strictly allocated for law enforcement purposes, and is carefully overseen by the Middlesex County Prosecutor.

Accounting for the forfeiture funds for 2020 was as follows:

### State of New Jersey

January 1, 2020 balance	\$55,980.22
Funds received in 2020	\$4,185
Funds expended in 2020	\$6,065.05
Interest received in 2020	\$264.70
Ending Balance for 2020	\$54,365.14

### Federal

January 1, 2020 balance	\$40,446.56
Funds received in 2020	\$ 0
Funds expended in 2020	\$1,173.90
Interest received in 2020	\$209.72
Ending Balance for 2020	\$39,482.38





# UNIFORM CRIME REPORT STATISTICS

The Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) program is a system of collecting and analyzing crime and arrest statistics gathered on selected types of crime. The UCR program’s primary objective is to generate reliable information for use in law enforcement administration, operation, and management.

Offense Type (Part 1 Index Crime)	2019 Offense Count	2020 Offense Count	Change In Offense Count	Percentage Change From 2019
Homicide	0	0	0	0.0%
Rape	5	6	1	20.0%
Robbery	5	3	-1	-40.0%
Aggravated Assault	6	14	8	133.3%
Simple Assault	113	125	12	10.6%
Burglary	36	42	6	16.7%
Theft	204	303	99	48.5%
Motor Vehicle Theft	14	9	-5	-35.7%
Arson	3	0	-3	-100%
<b>Part I Total</b>	<b>389</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>28.5%</b>
<b>Part I Cleared</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>-21</b>	<b>-18.3%</b>
<b>Clearance Rate in %</b>	<b>29.56</b>	<b>18.80</b>	<b>-10.76</b>	<b>-36.4%</b>

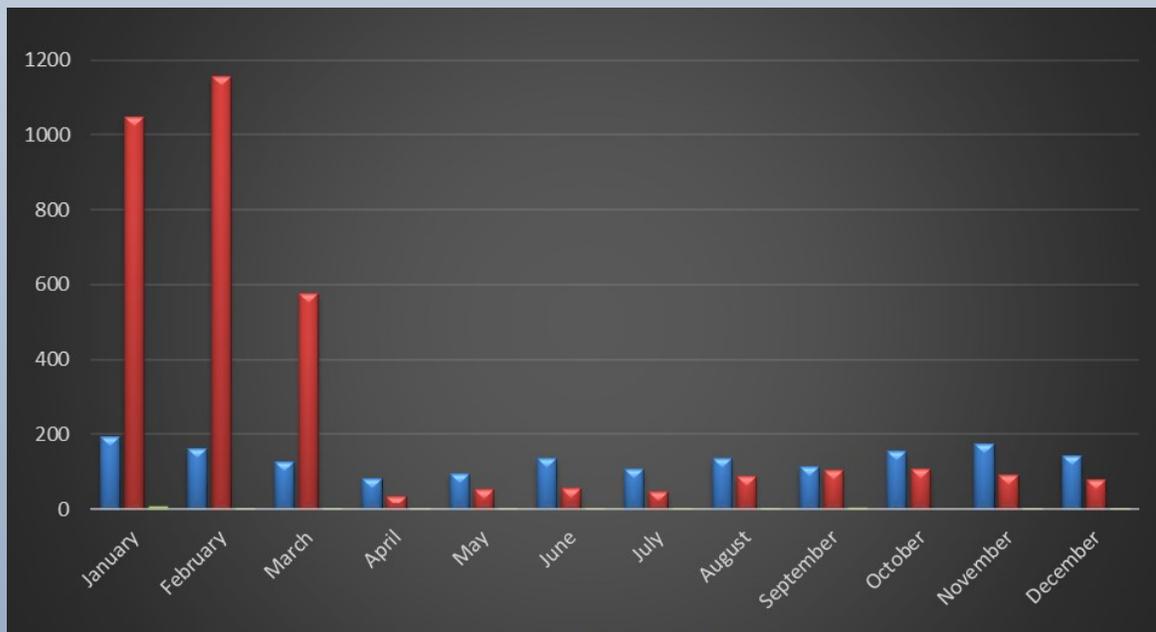
UCR Arrests	2019 Arrest Count	2020 Arrest Count	Change In Arrest Count	Percentage Change From 2019
Adults	411	195	-216	-52.6%
Juveniles	44	25	-19	-43.2%
<b>Total</b>	<b>421</b>	<b>220</b>	<b>-201</b>	<b>-47.7%</b>
<b>Station House Adjustments (Juvenile Diversions)</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>-4</b>	<b>-30.8%</b>





## TRAFFIC STATISTICS

2020 Totals	Traffic Crashes	Citations	DUI
January	194	1048	7
February	163	1157	2
March	127	576	2
April	81	35	1
May	96	53	1
June	135	55	1
July	107	48	3
August	135	87	1
September	113	104	4
October	155	107	0
November	174	90	2
December	143	79	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>1623</b>	<b>3439</b>	<b>27</b>



	2019	2020	Change	% Change
Motor Vehicle Stops	17,465	3,530	-13,935	-79%
Summonses Issued	15,581	3,439	-12,142	-77%
Crashes	2,575	1,623	-952	-36%
Fatal Crashes	4	5	1	25%
DUI Arrests	89	27	-62	-69%





## COVID-19 Pandemic Response

On March 10th, we reached the one-year anniversary of the first possible reported COVID-19 case in South Brunswick Township. On that date, Office of Emergency Management Director and South Brunswick Police Chief Raymond Hayducka and Township Manager Bernard P. Hvozdic Jr. took a moment to recognize all the hard work put forth by so many in battling the pandemic. That very first notification didn't come from a doctor, hospital, or public health official, but from our partnership with our schools. Our school district became one of the first in Central New Jersey to go completely virtual. Our initial planning and coordination led to quick isolation of community and school cases. In the following days, the entire State would be shut down and life would change.



Our community responded to the crisis as they always have, by rising to meet the challenge. Each time we reached out and asked for assistance, our community members responded. Our business community rallied to supply much-needed gloves, masks, and sanitizing equipment to our EMS, police, and fire agencies. Our Social Services food

pantry received hundreds of donated food items, and thousands of dollars in contributions. Local groups gathered donations to help with all our efforts. Countless residents and families donated or dropped off meals for officers at Headquarters. Officers conducted numerous graduation and birthday drive-by celebrations to help lift spirits.

Throughout the pandemic, the combined emergency services of police, fire, and EMS were at the forefront. Our township declared a State of Emergency at the start of the pandemic, and it is the longest declaration in township history. There were over 4,000 EMS calls, over 600 fire calls, and 74,000 police calls in the first year of the pandemic. While we continue to push through as a collective community, the pandemic has taken a heavy toll. In the first 12 months, we lost 60 community members and 2,160 residents fell ill to the virus. The members we lost were from all aspects of our community, and their loss will forever be felt.



Chief Raymond Hayducka said, "We have a long way to go, but we see progress. The fear that consumed so much of last March has been replaced by the hope of today. I want to thank the Mayor and Council for their support throughout this unprecedented year. The

resources and assistance they provided have enabled us to get through these difficult days." He added, "I am proud of the men and women of the South Brunswick Police Department and all those who have pulled together. We will continue to work to address the many issues before us as a result of the pandemic. We have seen time and time again, from Hurricane Sandy to this pandemic, it is our neighbors and our community that we can count on. We will get through this together."

Township Manager Bernard P. Hvozdic Jr. said, "We have come a long way in the past year, and we will continue to work with county and state health officials to address all pandemic related issues our residents may face, and to increase access to vaccines for all our residents."





# OPERATIONS COMMAND

The Operations Command is comprised of the Patrol Division, the Traffic Services Bureau, and the Transportation Bureau. Members of the Operations Command are typically tasked with responding to calls for service, including all EMS and fire calls, patrolling the roadways of South Brunswick, conducting directed patrols in response to identified trends, and assisting with traffic control, motor vehicle crashes, burglar alarms, and other criminal, motor vehicle, or quality of life issues. These officers are on the front lines, fulfilling our goal of protecting and serving the Township of South Brunswick.



## PATROL DIVISION

The Patrol Division’s primary mission is to maintain the welfare and safety of the people who reside in, work in, or visit the township. Officers respond to calls for service ranging anywhere from first aid calls to violent offender apprehension. They are responsible for traffic enforcement, motor vehicle crash investigations, initial criminal investigations, and a proactive response to a wide variety of calls for service that impact South Brunswick residents’ quality of life.



They achieve this goal by analyzing current traffic or criminal incident trends for patterns, and developing patrol strategies to address these concerns. This analytical approach provides a more efficient response to the township’s public safety needs than a random patrol strategy.

In 2020, the Department handled 64,579 calls for service. This averages nearly 177 calls per day, or more than seven calls per hour. Call volume was down significantly due to the pandemic, showing a decrease of nearly 27% over 2019.

	2019	2020	Change	% Change
All Calls For Service	88,211	64,579	-23,632	-26.79%
Operations Reports	11,041	9,891	-1,150	-10.42%
Investigations Reports	2,179	2,044	-135	-6.20%
Arrest Reports	657	286	-371	-56.47%





## Noteworthy Cases:

When a ten year old with special needs walked away from his residence one evening, officers quickly responded and conducted an extensive search of the area. Officers went door to door to homes in the neighborhood, and the child was located in good health.



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Officers responded to a shooting at Royal Oaks Clubhouse in which a victim suffered a gunshot wound to the abdomen. Officers secured multiple scenes, canvassed the area, spoke to many witnesses, and collected and processed evidence. The victim was transported to the hospital, and the actor was eventually captured and charged.

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Officers responded to a report of an emotionally disturbed person throwing furniture through the fourth floor window of a hotel in the township. Officers made entry to the room and secured a homeless man who was trespassing.

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Patrol responded to a commercial burglary in progress at a construction site in the early morning hours. A perimeter was established and, after officers searched a densely wooded area, one actor was taken into custody. The follow-up investigation lead to the apprehension of a second actor.

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Patrol officers responded to a residential burglary and lifted seven fingerprints from the scene. The fingerprints led to the successful identification and apprehension of the burglary suspect.

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Patrol officers responded to a residential burglary and searched the home for suspects. One officer was injured when he fell through the ceiling during the search. The investigation yielded several arrests for burglary.

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Patrol officers located a vehicle that was reported to have been taken without the owner's consent from New Brunswick. The driver was found to have a suspended license and an active out of county NCIC warrant, and was arrested.





## Noteworthy Cases:

Patrol officers responded to a local motel for a dispute. One of the involved parties was highly agitated and uncooperative. Officers were able to de-escalate the situation, and the subject was transported voluntarily to an area hospital for a mental health evaluation.



Patrol officers responded to a home for a reported emotionally disturbed person. Upon arrival, they had to disarm the subject of a knife. The subject was sent to an area hospital for an evaluation.

Patrol officers responded to a local motel for a reported emotionally disturbed person with a firearm. Officers convinced the subject to leave his room, and he was transported for an evaluation. After securing a search warrant, a gun was found in the room.

Patrol officers responded to a home to conduct a well-being check on an emotionally disturbed person. The highly agitated subject told officers they “would have to shoot him” and “they were about to go to war”. The subject advanced towards officers and was subdued using pepper spray. He was transported to an area hospital for a mental health screening.

Patrol officers responded to a gunshot victim in a township development. During the investigation, officers managed multiple crime scenes and searched for the suspect. Their investigation helped the victim positively identify the shooter.



Patrol officers responded to a multi-victim stabbing incident in a township development. Officers rendered aid, secured the scene, and conducted an extensive canvass, locating video surveillance of the incident. Evidence technicians processed the vehicle for evidence, and developed latent prints identifying two suspects. The incident resulted in three arrests for attempted murder and weapons offenses.





## Noteworthy Cases:

Patrol officers responded to a serious motor vehicle crash at Route 1 where a pedestrian was struck by a vehicle. Officers initiated first aid, applied a tourniquet, and performed CPR on the victim.

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Patrol officers responded to search for a missing special needs child in Dayton. It was late at night, the weather was cold, and the child was barefoot. Officers searched the area and located the child on the grounds of a school. He was in good health and was returned to his home safely.

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Patrol officers responded to a home where a man had collapsed in the front yard. Officers performed CPR and used their AED to shock his heart back into rhythm. He was transported to the hospital and, after a week of treatment, returned home to his family.

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While investigating a suspicious vehicle, officers arrested the driver for operating the vehicle under the influence as well as possession of a controlled dangerous substance. The officers obtained further information that later led to the arrest of an additional suspect for possession of drugs and weapons.

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Patrol officers received information that a suicidal man was heading to a location in South Brunswick with the intention of committing suicide. Officers observed the man's vehicle and conducted a motor vehicle stop. He was transported to the hospital for evaluation without any further issues.

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Patrol officers took a report of biased messages over the internet that included a possible threat of violence to a township school. The officers tracked the original message from a social media site, identified the person who posted it, and the follow-up investigation led to the arrest of a suspect.

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Patrol officers responded to a neighborhood to search for a missing emotionally disturbed juvenile. She left home on foot and was hiding to avoid her parents. Officers located the girl and transported her for a psychiatric evaluation at the request of her parents.





## TRAFFIC SERVICES BUREAU

The Traffic Services Bureau conducts traffic enforcement details and investigations of serious and fatal motor vehicle crashes. In addition, the Bureau also provides support to various public and private entities, and assists the Township Planning, Zoning and Code Enforcement Departments by conducting site plan reviews and site inspections, and providing feedback on engineering and construction projects. The Bureau also has a liaison assigned to the Traffic Advisory Committee, established by the Township Council.

The Traffic Services Bureau is highly responsive to the needs of individuals and groups within the community who express a concern about traffic safety. The Bureau welcomes and encourages township residents to bring forth information that will help us respond to their concerns with the appropriate measures.



The Bureau is also responsible for maintenance and repair of all Alcotest instruments, radar apparatus, and Lidar units, used for laser speed measurement. The Traffic Services Bureau inspects and regulates towing, vehicle junk titles, and annual taxi inspections. The Traffic Services Bureau oversees the training and day-to-day coordination of school crossing guards. The Bureau continues to maintain and train personnel on E-ticketing, automated license plate readers, and the use of radar.



The Bureau's goal for 2020 was to develop a tracking system for traffic complaints and inquiries, so that officers could focus their attention on areas identified as problem spots. The system, accessible to all Traffic Services Bureau officers, has been a success, allowing efforts to be clearly focused and collaborative, resulting in greater education and enforcement of traffic laws.

### Educational Initiatives:

- Distracted Driving Education
- National Night Out/Community Unity Day
- Youth and Citizens Police Academies
- National Teen Driver Safety Week
- Health Fair at South Brunswick High School
- Driver's Education classes at SBHS

### Traffic Enforcement Campaigns/Grants

- The Drunk Driving Enforcement Fund
- "Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over"
- "Click it or Ticket"
- "U-Text, U-Drive, U-Lose"
- "State Pedestrian Safety Enforcement Grant"
- Put the Brakes on Fatalities Day





### Noteworthy Cases:

On May 25<sup>th</sup> a 24-year-old man was travelling northbound on Route 130 near Ridge Road, when he crossed the median and struck a car driven by a 55-year-old woman. Both drivers suffered fatal injuries.



On June 19<sup>th</sup> an 81-year-old woman from Monroe Township was travelling westbound on Henderson Road, when she apparently disregarded a red light and struck two vehicles in the intersection. The woman suffered fatal injuries.

On September 30<sup>th</sup> a 14-year-old girl attempted to cross Route 1 by jumping over the divider. She was struck by a vehicle travelling northbound on Route 1 and died at the scene.

On August 31st, a 62-year-old man driving a tractor trailer struck the rear of a parked flatbed trailer. As a result, the driver was entrapped in the cab of his truck for an extended period of time and suffered fatal injuries.

On December 15<sup>th</sup> a 68-year-old woman on foot was attempting to cross Route 1 at Deans Lane against a red traffic signal when she was struck by a vehicle travelling northbound on Route 1 and died at the scene.





## TRANSPORTATION BUREAU

The Transportation Bureau is tasked with providing assistance to certain members of our population with no alternative means of transportation. This includes transporting disabled adults to their places of work or to medical appointments, and transporting senior citizens to various locations such as the South Brunswick Township Senior Center, food shopping, local banks, and post offices, as well as to their medical appointments. The Transportation Bureau also sells bus passes for those in need of transportation within the Township.



The Transportation Bureau is also responsible for filing the appropriate reports with the State of New Jersey, as well as applying for grants in order to obtain new vehicles.

The Transportation Bureau is staffed by six full time employees and one part time employee, operating a fleet of six buses, one minivan, and two sedans. All vehicles are ADA compliant.

Since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Transportation Bureau has also been assisting Middlesex County in delivering Meals On Wheels to eligible residents without other means of transportation.

	2020	2019	Difference	Percentage
<b>Medical Passengers</b>				
# Of Passengers To Appts.	360	473	-113	-24%
# Of Passengers From Appts.	361	461	-100	-21%
Total Miles Driven	9,053	10,373	-1,320	-13%
<b>Senior Center Passengers</b>				
# Of Passengers To Center	1,753	9,137	-7,384	-80%
# Of Passengers From Center	1,414	8,210	-6,796	-83%
<b>Disabled Adults Work</b>				
# Of Passengers To Work	908	2,468	-1,560	-63%
# Of Passengers From Work	971	2,124	-1,153	-54%
<b>CIL/Pioneer Evening Passengers</b>	48	192	-144	-75%
<b>Bus Pass Revenue</b>	\$3,310	\$12,530	-\$9,220	-73%





## ADMINISTRATION COMMAND

The Administration Command provides leadership, expertise, investigative support, and appropriate resources that support line operations in investigating criminal acts, solving problems, preventing crime, and improving the quality of life in our community. The Administration Command works coactively with citizens as well as officers to enhance community policing and partnerships throughout South Brunswick Township .

## SUPPORT SERVICES DIVISION

The Support Services Division is comprised of various bureaus, units and functions. These include the Training Bureau, Communications Bureau, Accreditation Unit, logistics function, administrative function, Court Security Unit, and the finance function. All these sections combined provide administrative and operational support for the South Brunswick Police Department. The Support Services Division provides the necessary tools and expertise to ensure that the department can operate successfully.

A recruitment poster for the South Brunswick Police Department. It features four police officers in uniform standing in front of American and New Jersey state flags. The text on the poster reads: "Become a South Brunswick Police Officer", "Now Accepting Applications Register by April 10, 2020", "Exam Date: April 22, 2020", "For more information contact a recruiter: sbpdrecruit@sbdnj.net Register at: www.policeapp.com", and "Affirmative Action Equal Employment Opportunity".

Become a South Brunswick Police Officer

Now Accepting Applications Register by April 10, 2020

Exam Date: April 22, 2020

For more information contact a recruiter: sbpdrecruit@sbdnj.net Register at: www.policeapp.com

Affirmative Action Equal Employment Opportunity

## TRAINING BUREAU

The Training Bureau coordinates various types of training for the members of the South Brunswick Police Department, including basic training for new recruits, mandatory, recommended, discretionary, and command staff training. The overall mission of the Training Bureau is to ensure the professional development of all staff, and it is the goal of the bureau to ensure that all of our employees receive training that is both relevant to their job and contemporary in content and delivery.



In 2020, the Training Bureau continued the agency commitment to training in a safe manner as allowed by the restrictions put in place for the COVID pandemic. This training is a cornerstone to our efforts to increase officer capabilities and mitigate agency liability. In 2020, officers completed 2,926 hours of training.





## ACCREDITATION UNIT

Accreditation is a progressive and time proven way of helping law enforcement agencies evaluate and improve their overall performance. In 2014 and 2017, our agency received national accreditation from the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA). CALEA recently completed its final assessment of the current accreditation cycle, and the department is on track to be reaccredited in 2021. The South Brunswick Township Police Department is recognized as one of only 16 law enforcement agencies in the State of New Jersey, and one of only nine New Jersey municipal law enforcement agencies, to achieve this prestigious honor.

In addition, we continue to maintain our accreditation status with the State through the New Jersey State Association of Chiefs of Police (NJSACOP). South Brunswick is just one of three departments in New Jersey with both CALEA and NJSACOP accreditation.



As a recognized leader in the Law Enforcement Accreditation movement, we have assisted numerous other agencies in achieving their accreditation.

## ADMINISTRATIVE FUNCTION

The administrative function includes the management of the Data Management System (DMS) and numerous other databases. Supporting DMS is labor intensive, and involves keeping up to date with ever changing directives from federal, state, and county authorities. Additionally, internal policy decisions and departmental directives are implemented and modified accordingly.

Scheduling is a critical aspect of administration, and all elements of personnel schedules are managed. Schedules are crafted to maximize efficiency of the agency and value received from human capital.

## LOGISTICS FUNCTION

The logistics function ensures that the police department is able to carry out its duties and serve the public by providing and maintaining the required means and tools, including day-to-day logistical support, and the procurement of necessary equipment, such as uniforms, defibrillators, ammunition, flares, and upgrades to Police Headquarters. In 2020, the Logistics Function was also responsible for ensuring all employees were properly equipped with COVID personal protective equipment (PPE).





## COMMUNICATIONS BUREAU

The Communications Center is a clearinghouse for information related to all emergency services. The Public Safety Telecommunicators (PSTs) operate and monitor approximately fifty radio channels serving over 800 portable and mobile radios. In addition, the PSTs operate the mutual aid radios such as SPEN (State Police Emergency Network) and the Middlesex County Hotline.

The PSTs are responsible for monitoring six 9-1-1 phone lines, five non-emergency phone lines, and four internal phone lines, as well as radio traffic transmitted from over 800 portable radios, around the clock.

On average, our dispatchers answer 1,755 9-1-1 emergency calls a month. For 2020 the PSTs handled a total of 81,711 telephone calls for the year. That averages 224 telephone calls per day!

In addition, the Communications Center dispatched numerous police, first aid, and fire calls for service:

	2019	2020	Decrease	% Decrease
South Brunswick Police Calls	88,312	70,256	18,056	20.44%
Cranbury Police Calls	21,180	16,330	4,850	22.89%
First Aid Calls	4,632	4,346	286	6.17%
Fire Calls	1,224	1,126	98	8.00%
<b>Total Calls</b>	<b>115,348</b>	<b>92,058</b>	<b>23,290</b>	<b>20.19%</b>

Each PST is able to access the New Jersey MVC files, Administrative Office of the Courts files, and the internet from their workstation. They track and document every call and all responding units in an in-house computer aided dispatch system. The PSTs also monitor approximately twenty security cameras and 22 panic alarms located in both the Police Department and the Municipal Building.

The PSTs monitor the APB Net information service which notifies every police department in the state of ongoing issues such as missing persons and wanted persons. The PSTs also monitor a system that alerts us if a bank robbery has taken place at an area bank.





The Communications Center works with an integrated Think GIS program which has automatic vehicle location capability for tracking the location of the patrol vehicles that are currently on duty. This assists the PSTs in locating an officer if the officer is unable to transmit their location for any reason. The Think GIS program is also able to plot the location of all incoming 9-1-1 calls directly on the map displayed on the PST's monitor. This technology is used daily to locate 9-1-1 cellular calls, and assist callers with determining their location when they are not familiar with the area. The Crime Mapper program has also been fully implemented, which better allows the department to visually follow crime trends, and to direct concentrated patrols in a more precise manner.



The Enforsys Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) system, which was initially installed in October 2007, is an integral part of the call taking and dispatch process. The software had a major upgrade in October, 2020, which has greatly improved its usability, with data continuously being updated or modified to ensure accuracy. The system is linked with Think GIS mapping software, giving dispatchers and officers exact location information on calls, and streamlining the call taking process, thereby affording the call taker more time to address the caller's needs. Think GIS has been modified to display the address, police patrol district, the residential development or shopping center, the

police tow zone, the primary fire company and the assigned fire box alarm plan, and the utility companies servicing the location. This enhances the call taker's ability to obtain pertinent information in order to make informed decisions from a central location and dispatch the appropriate agencies. All three fire companies assist with updating the fire box plans for their jurisdictions.

During summer and fall of 2020 the Communications Center went through a large planned transition. The phone system, which handles both 9-1-1 and administrative lines, was upgraded to the latest version. This upgrade makes our phone system software-based, and lead to our next big upgrade, which is our radio system. In November, the entire township switched from a local radio system to the Middlesex County P25 system. This increased our coverage and interoperability between departments throughout the county. Our previous radio system was over 20 years old and did not have the capabilities we now have.

The Communication Center continues to move forward in training and technology in an effort to provide the best service and protection for the officers and the public.





## INVESTIGATIONS DIVISION

The Investigations Division conducts follow-up investigations of all criminal matters.

Detectives assigned to this division also initiate criminal investigations through the use of informants and other investigative tools. They review all police-reported incidents, and correlate information as it may pertain to open investigations. They work closely with neighboring police agencies, as well as county, state, and federal law enforcement.

The Investigations Division is charged with these additional responsibilities:

- Obtain and execute search warrants and arrest warrants
- Conduct surveillances of suspicious persons and activities
- Process crime scenes for physical evidence
- Interview and interrogate victims, witnesses, and suspects
- Provide case preparation and testimony for prosecution
- Gather and provide law enforcement intelligence services
- Identify, collect, and analyze physical evidence and property
- Conduct pre-employment background investigations, firearms application investigations, and liquor license application investigations.



The Investigations Division consists of the Detective Bureau, Office of Professional Standards/Internal Affairs Unit, and the Property and Evidence Unit. The Investigations Division is staffed by a lieutenant, two sergeants, six detectives, and three civilian staff members.

Category:	2019	2020	Change	% Change
Cases Assigned	1090	1560	470	43.1%
Cases Closed	1058	1376	318	30.0%
Arrests	98	61	-37	-37.7%
Clearance Rate (Part I Crime)	29.56%	18.80%	-10.76%	-36.4%
Backgrounds	312	761	449	143.9%





## Noteworthy Cases:

Theft: Detectives investigated a motor vehicle theft and carjacking. The actor threatened a man in the parking lot of a local business with a knife and stole the man's car. Several hours later, the actor was located driving the stolen car in Philadelphia and arrested.

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Theft: Detectives investigated a series of thefts from an appliance distributor in the township. It was estimated that over \$100,000 worth of appliances were stolen over the course of 18 months by two suspects. Search warrants were approved. Two residences and a business in Ewing were searched, and several of the appliances were recovered during the investigation. The two suspects were arrested.

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Restaurant Fraud: Several township restaurants and three restaurants from neighboring towns reported receiving nearly 1,000 prank phone calls over a four month period. The caller placed bogus food orders and never picked them up, and became increasingly offensive towards the restaurant staff answering the phones. The caller used 75 different VOIP numbers to make the calls. Detectives sent out 30 subpoenas, which helped identify the adult actor, who was charged with Cyber Harassment and Theft of Services.

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Shooting: Detectives continued investigating a drive-by shooting at an apartment building on Route 27. Surveillance video of the suspected actor and vehicle was obtained from a nearby business. Detectives collected 15 shell casing from a semi-automatic handgun, which matched shell casings recovered during a shooting in another jurisdiction. Detectives are continuing to work with other agencies in an attempt to identify the suspect.

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Attempted Murder: Detectives investigated a shooting incident where the victim suffered multiple gunshot wounds and survived. Eight search warrants were executed, and the two adult actors were identified. One suspect was arrested shortly afterwards, and the second suspect was located in Delaware and arrested. Both men were charged with attempted murder and weapons possession.

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Robbery: Detectives investigated a report of an assault and robbery at a hotel. The lengthy investigation revealed that two men had committed a robbery earlier in the evening in New York. A third man drove them to the hotel in South Brunswick, and subsequently robbed them while they were at the hotel. The two men gave statements to detectives about the robbery in South Brunswick and were released. The suspect was arrested later in the day and charged with the crime. Detectives learned later about the New York robbery, and are working with the New York authorities to bring the two men to justice.





## Noteworthy Cases:

Fraud: Detectives investigated fraud linked to the previous robbery case. The victim reported that the two actors from New York used his identity to obtain a bank loan of nearly \$50,000. Detectives are working with the Middlesex County Prosecutor's Office in order to close this investigation.

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Postal Thefts: Detectives re-opened a 2019 case involving thefts and damage to mailboxes at the Dayton and Monmouth Junction Post Offices after the suspects' car was located. A search warrant was executed on the car, and items were found tying the actors to the vehicle, along with mail stolen from multiple jurisdictions. Two of the three actors were arrested.

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Construction Site Burglary & Theft: Detectives investigated several construction site burglaries involving the theft of several thousand dollars' worth of tools. Two suspects were identified, and one was located by a police K-9 after a foot pursuit. The second suspect was later identified and arrested.

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Theft: Detectives are investigating a theft of perfume valued at \$500,000 from a township warehouse. The business owners believe the theft was committed by an employee. Detectives worked with the NJSP and conducted eight polygraph examinations. The investigation is ongoing.

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Theft: Detectives investigated stolen landscaping items from multiple township residents. The victims reported that someone dug out and removed plants, flowers, and lighting during the overnight hours. Two adult actors were identified later in the month during a narcotics investigation. The two actors were arrested and most of the landscaping items were located and returned to their owners.

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Theft: Detectives are investigating a report of theft from an individual shopping at a grocery store. According to the victim, she was distracted by one person at the store while another person stole her wallet from her handbag. The victim's credit cards were used to make purchases at several different stores. A license plate from the suspect's car was recorded by the store's video surveillance system, but the vehicle was rented with bogus information. The investigation was closed.

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Narcotics Arrest: Detectives conducted a narcotics investigation resulting in the arrest of a township man. Detectives worked with agents from the DEA and conducted a search warrant of a Kendall Park home. An adult resident was arrested for possessing and selling narcotics.





## Noteworthy Cases:

**Aggravated Assault and Attempted Murder:** While sitting in their car, two men from East Brunswick were assaulted by three township residents. The assault occurred because of a dispute from a few weeks earlier. One of the victims was slashed with a knife. He was treated at a local hospital and released. The second victim was stabbed in the chest and suffered life threatening injuries. Detectives interviewed the two victims, recovered the suspect’s fingerprints from the victim’s car, recovered blood from one of the actors left at the crime scene, and wrote and executed 13 search warrants. As a result of their hard work, three township residents were arrested and charged with the crime.

**Burglary Arrest:** A suspect was developed in the burglary of a local convenience store. This resulted in a multi-jurisdictional investigation, culminating with the arrest of the actor during the course of a similar burglary in a neighboring jurisdiction. Detectives were able to charge the actor based on the clothing he was wearing at the time of his arrest.

**Bias Incident, Threats and Harassment:** Detectives investigated threats made to the victim via text messages and social media. The victim is a local social activist whose personal information was obtained from the internet and sent out nationally to people who oppose his political beliefs. One of the suspects was identified and spoken to. He denied any involvement in the incident.

**Theft:** Detectives are investigating a theft of two handguns. The victim reported that an unknown person stole the two firearms from his residence while he was moving out of state. The victim believes the guns may have been taken by an employee of the moving company working in his home. The investigation is ongoing.

## PROPERTY AND EVIDENCE:

Category:	2019	2020	Increase/Decrease
Total Cases	679	356	-47%
Total Items	1,742	936	-46%
Items Released/Disposed	462	341	-26%
Weapons Destroyed	22	6	-72%
Project Medicine Drop	354 lbs.	333 lbs.	-5%
Items Transferred to Labs	109	116	6%
Forfeiture Applications	3	2	-33%





## OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS

The South Brunswick Police Department is dedicated to providing the best possible police service to the citizens it serves. Officers are carefully selected and receive the best possible training to help them perform their duties in a fair, honest, impartial, and professional manner. The Office of Professional Standards/Internal Affairs Unit of the South Brunswick Police Department is responsible for ensuring that members of the department meet the highest standards of professional conduct and are responsive to the citizens they serve. The Office of Professional Standards is also responsible for the thorough investigation of all complaints of misconduct against members of the South Brunswick Police Department.

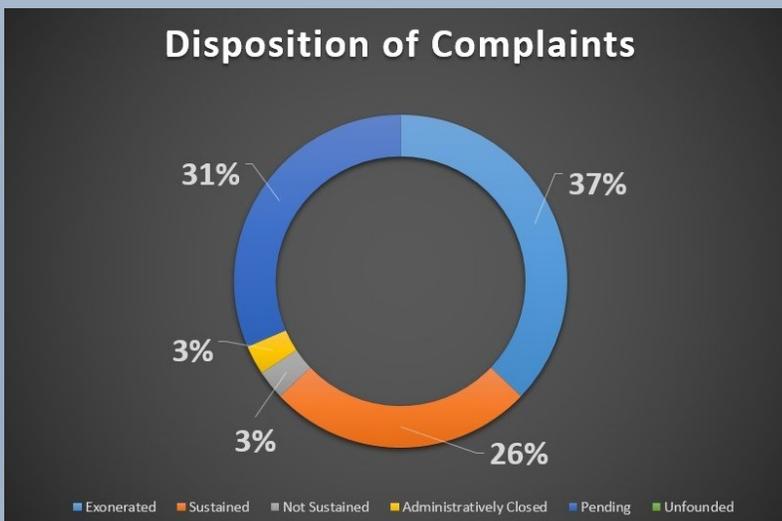
The Office is charged with administering the investigative and disciplinary processes for the South Brunswick Police Department. The Office of Professional Standards reports directly to the Chief of Police.

Disposition:	2019	2020
Exonerated	10	8
Sustained	3	3
Not sustained	0	0
Administratively Closed	0	0
Pending	2	7
Unfounded	0	0
<b>Total:</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>18</b>

**Citizen Generated Complaints**

Disposition:	2019	2020
Exonerated	5	5
Sustained	24	6
Not Sustained	1	1
Administratively Closed	1	1
Pending	0	4
Unfounded	0	0
<b>Total:</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>17</b>

**Internally Generated Complaints**



In 2020, we had a single Internal Affairs Major Incident:

An Internal Affairs investigation determined that an officer violated Department rules, specifically Performance of Duty and Neglect of Duty, for leaving a scheduled training assignment to attend an unauthorized meeting, and for leaving work early without prior approval. The officer was suspended for 30 days.





## USE OF FORCE

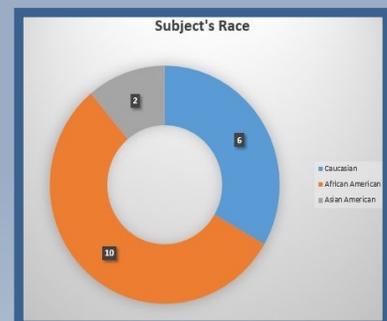
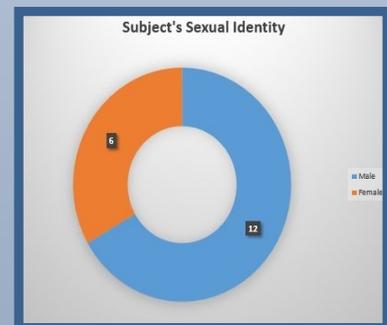
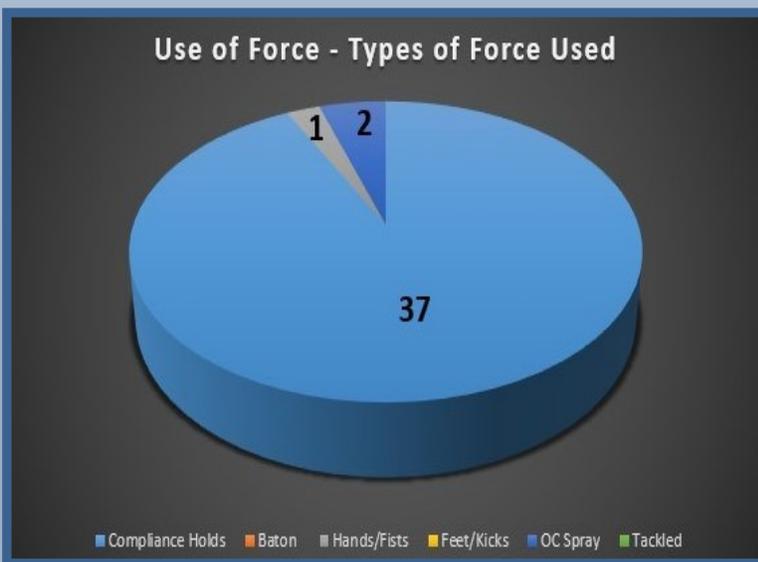
In 2020, there were 70,256 total calls for service handled by South Brunswick Police Department. Force was used in 18 of those cases, a rate of .03%. There were 40 Use of Force reports completed in 2020 for the 18 incidents involving force during a police action.

Each Use of Force incident received a timely and thorough command-level administrative review. These reviews are a critical priority of the department. Lieutenants examine all aspects of each incident to determine if the actions were in accordance with our high level of standards, as well as meeting the New Jersey Attorney General’s Guidelines. All officers’ actions were found to be consistent with department rules and regulations and state guidelines.

Here is an overview of the Use of Force Incidents in 2020:

- No subjects were injured as a result of the force used. One officer reported being injured during the use of force.
- 26 separate officers utilized force throughout the year.
- 10 of the 18 use of force incidents involved people who were categorized as having mental health issues.
- The level of force used by officers in all of the incidents involved physical force – placing hands on a person, restraining a person.
- 2 of those incidents officers used mechanical force - Vexor spray.
- 10 subjects were arrested, with 5 of them being charged with resisting arrest.

Our Support Services Bureau will continue to incorporate training to provide officers with de-escalation techniques and realistic scenario-based exercises to address use of force incidents and interactions with emotionally disturbed persons.





## COMMUNITY POLICING DIVISION

The Community Policing Division is comprised of the Community Policing Bureau and the School Resource Officer Bureau, which, working together, proactively and coactively address the needs and concerns of the South Brunswick community regarding community partnerships, quality of life issues school security, and crime prevention.

### COMMUNITY POLICING BUREAU

The Community Policing Bureau is responsible for the planning, facilitation, and implementation of programs and initiatives that reach out to the community with the purpose of reducing crime and the fear of criminal acts, and empowering community members and groups to assist the police department in our shared goal of combating crime in South Brunswick Township. We achieve this goal by partnering with various individuals and groups throughout town, developing shared goals, and acting together to reach those goals.



The pandemic made our job, as an agency, much more difficult. During a year in which every police agency across the country would have benefitted from increased communication and more productive partnerships with their communities, we were faced with the challenge of how to achieve that without meeting face-to-face. Rising to the challenge, we adapted many of our partnerships to a virtual platform, maintaining the lines of communication at a time when our community needed us the most.

### NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

National Night Out is our biggest and most anticipated community event of the year. We will typically host up to 7,000 residents, provide free food, games, prizes, and displays, and gain new friends within the community. We see this event as essential to maintaining lines of communication with our community, a necessity, as a police department is strongest when



it has the full support of the community behind it. It was with no small degree of trepidation that we found we needed to cancel our National Night Out 2020 event.





## **CITIZENS POLICE ACADEMY**

Our Citizens Police Academy program provides education on law enforcement topics to a group of adult residents. The program's first session was scheduled to start in March, when COVID-19 forced us to cancel the class. Twenty adult citizens had been selected to attend eleven weeks of classes. Topics would have included an overview of the criminal justice system, criminal and motor vehicle law, patrol, investigations, ethics, use of force, first aid, and many other specific aspects of policing. Attendees would have gone through several shoot/don't shoot scenarios with a firearms simulator, and would have participated in practical exercises. Participants would have been left with a greater understanding of police operations and concerns, and the police department would have met new community contacts, a win/win for both the community and the police department. The agency looks forward to holding future classes when safe.

One Citizens Police Academy alumni meeting was held in 2020. During this meeting, information was shared about the newly discovered coronavirus, along with steps to take to prepare for what could come next. Though no one could have foreseen the impact the pandemic was going to have, meeting with different stakeholders and with the alumni was very beneficial. COVID-19 forced us to cancel the three other previously scheduled meetings for 2020.

## **YOUTH POLICE ACADEMY**

Our Youth Police Academy, typically very popular with incoming 6th grade students, was not held this year due to the pandemic. This program is held during the summer, and typically hosts three sessions, each a week long, during which students are introduced to the police department, and instructed on law enforcement topics such as basic training, patrol, investigations, traffic, and many other intricacies of police work. We look forward to holding this program again when it is safe to do so in person.

## **NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH PROGRAM**

Our Neighborhood Watch program successfully teams officers up with community members in an attempt to keep a watchful eye on our neighborhoods. Citizens are trained to be good observers, contacting police when they see anything amiss. In 2020, we were able to connect with two neighborhoods prior to the pandemic, and six other neighborhoods virtually, giving information on topics such as scams, home security, and personal safety.

## **SENIOR CITIZEN OUTREACH**

Recognizing the value of providing training on various personal safety topics to our senior citizens, officers were able to give one presentation to our senior citizens prior to the beginning of the pandemic, but were able to participate in other virtual events sponsored by the Senior Center.





## BLUE ANGEL LOCKBOX PROGRAM

This program places lockboxes purchased by the police department on the homes of individuals 55 years old or older, and who live alone, or are alone on a frequent basis, and who may need the police to enter their homes to render emergency medical care. This program was maintained throughout the pandemic, and 86 residents took advantage of this free program in 2020.



## CHILD ID DAY

The purpose of this program is to provide hard, permanent cards containing specific identifying information for children, which would be useful to an investigating agency if a child should go missing. Unfortunately, due to pandemic, we were unable to hold Child ID Day in 2020.

## HEROES AND HELPERS

After six years of holding this program, which celebrates the community-focused accomplishments of ten students from South Brunswick, selected based on their positive community and school spirit, community service, positive role model behavior, and a display of positive peer pressure, we were unable to hold this program in 2020 due to COVID-19.

## CRIME PREVENTION IN THE COMMUNITY

During the course of a typical year, our police department provides over 100 presentations to a variety of community groups, such as scout troops, homeowners associations, businesses, and houses of worship, all designed to strengthen our relationship with the community, as well as provide advice to our residents on community building,



safety, active shooter response, and crime prevention.

In 2020, we were unable to provide many in-person presentations, but still partnered with a variety of community groups to address our residents virtually on topics that included bias and social justice in policing, pandemic response, scams and fraud prevention, and personal safety.





## SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER BUREAU

The School Resource Officer (SRO) Bureau is responsible for the planning, facilitation, and implementation of programs and activities that reach out to school administrative and instructional staff, students, parents, and community members. The Bureau has the purpose of reducing crime and the fear of criminal acts within the school environment, providing guidance, instruction, and response within and around the schools, and assisting school staff in maintaining a safe school environment. We achieve this goal by partnering with various individuals throughout the school, including administrators, teachers, counselors, and students. The officers and members of the school community develop shared goals and act to reach those goals, with the ultimate objective being the reduction or prevention of crime in the schools, and the maintenance of a safe school environment.



The SRO program looked very different this year because all schools closed for the remainder of the year starting in March of 2020. Up to that point, the SRO Bureau had provided some students with S.A.F.E. lessons, but the program was not completed for the 5th graders. The Bureau made several presentations during the first three months of the year in all levels of education including both public and private schools. Multiple tours of headquarters were also given during the

first quarter of 2020. The SROs took on more of a security role from March forward. They checked every building daily and checked in with any staff working at the school. Over the next few months, our SROs provided traffic control and security anytime the students and/or staff were on campus. Starting in September, the public schools continued with remote learning, and our SROs continued to be accessible to the school district to take reports, do well being checks on students, and assist with events at the school such as book distribution and sporting events.

During 2020, members of the SRO Unit completed 93 Investigation Reports, charged four adults with criminal acts, and completed four Stationhouse Adjustment Agreements with qualifying juveniles in lieu of formal charges. Collectively we performed 22 well-being checks and handled 30 juvenile related incidents.

This year brought about many changes to our bureau. The SRO Bureau continued to provide assistance to the school buildings even as they were shut down. We recognize the schools are a lifeline for many of our students, and so the SROs maintained an open line of communication throughout the pandemic and assisted school officials in any way possible.





## SCHOOL SECURITY:

In 2020 the Board of Education hired a public safety expert for the school district, along with three security officers for the high school. These individuals are civilians with law enforcement backgrounds, and our SROs work closely with this security unit, providing a higher level of security within the schools. Every school building in the district is continually evaluated for physical safety and security, with school administrators and the school safety specialist being provided advice and suggestions related to increasing security. The ongoing relationship between our agency and the school district allows for conversations pertaining to school safety to remain a top priority.



Although school security drills looked different this year due to COVID-19, SROs observed various drills in every public school and several private schools, and provided information on improving the procedures, as well as addressing other school security concerns.

## SCHOOL PRESENTATIONS:

Historically the SRO Unit provides a multitude of presentations throughout the school district and private schools over the course of the year. Due to the pandemic, presentations were limited to the first quarter of the year in 2020, and some virtual presentations thereafter. Presentations on topics such as personal safety, the police role in the community, bullying prevention, and police familiarization are all topics that have been presented in the past, and will continue once we are able to safely do so.



## S.A.F.E. PROGRAM:

The Substance Awareness For Empowerment (S.A.F.E.) Program is South Brunswick Police Department's drug prevention program. This program places a uniformed police officer in an educational setting, helping 5th and 6th grade students develop and practice their decision making skills. By combining these skills with factual data on drugs, alcohol, smoking, and peer pressure, it's our goal to assist young people in developing strategies to keep safe and healthy. The first two parts of the program are taught to 5th grade students in the elementary schools, with a third component being delivered in Crossroads Middle School to 6th grade students. Saint Augustine's School and Noor Ul-Iman School are also offered all three parts of the program. In 2020, officers involved with the S.A.F.E. program delivered only six presentations in small assembly format, at which point the program was cut short due to the pandemic.





## Public Information Officer

It is the policy of the South Brunswick Police Department to cooperate fully and impartially with authorized news media representatives in their efforts to gather factual, public information pertaining to activities of this department, and to share important information with our community members. This task is accomplished through the Public Information Officer (PIO), who disseminates appropriate information as promptly as circumstances allow, without partiality, and in as objective a manner as possible.



The PIO shares information that may be of interest to the general public regarding policy, procedures, or events involving the police department, or other

newsworthy information, as long as the information:

- Is not legally protected from being released
- Does not unduly interfere with the mission of the Department
- Does not infringe upon the rights of a defendant
- Does not compromise the safety or privacy interests of officers, victims, witnesses, or others



The PIO routinely shares information with our community through the use of multiple social media platforms, on our web page, via our NIXLE notification system, and by providing information directly to media representatives.

Our police department strongly encourages our residents to follow our social media platforms and to sign up for our NIXLE feed to maintain open lines of communication and information sharing on events which may impact our community.



Our Web page may be accessed at: <http://www.sbtnj.net/departments/police>



Access our NIXLE feed by texting your zip code to 888777



Access our Twitter feed at: [SoBrunswickPD](#)



Our Instagram page may be accessed at: [sobrunswickpd](#)





## SBPD AND THE COMMUNITY



*Presentations to Our Community*



*Special Olympics Torch Run*



*Polar Bear Plunge*



*Donating to the Food Pantry*





# SBPD AND THE COMMUNITY



**Assisting Social Justice Marches**



**Community Engagement**



**Scouting**



**Managing Materials Donated By the Community**





## SBPD AND THE COMMUNITY



**Assisting Daniel Mark Anderl's Funeral**



**Assisting Lag BaOmer**



**Our Wonderful  
Administrative Staff!**





# Goals and Objectives For 2021

## **Goal #1: Enhance Oversight and Supervision of Operations Division:**

### ***Objectives:***

1. Increase transparency of operations through the deployment of body worn cameras on officers.
2. Expand command officer presence on all shifts to create increased accountability.
3. Create weekly auditing of operational activities including videos, reports, and use of force incidents.

## **Goal #2: Implement Increased Training For Use of Force Guidelines.**

### ***Objectives:***

1. Create short and long term training plans to address the changing Attorney General Guidelines.
2. Develop scenario-based and realistic training to reinforce de-escalation techniques.

## **Goal #3: Increase Detection of Impaired Driving**

### ***Objectives:***

1. Increase training of officers on impaired driving from both alcohol and narcotics.
2. Develop additional Drug Recognition Expert officers
3. Develop training for officers on search warrants for blood draws, in coordination with the Middlesex County Prosecutors Office.

## **Goal #4: Create Community Engagement in the Period of COVID**

### ***Objectives:***

1. Develop, adapt, and expand community outreach efforts utilizing technology.
2. Evaluate the development of an app to increase engagement.
3. Enhance and expand our school-based outreach programs.





## ***CLOSING REMARKS***

I would like to take a moment to thank you for taking an interest in the South Brunswick Police Department and for reading our Annual Report.

The year 2020 posed a unique set of challenges to the South Brunswick Police Department. Throughout the year, our police department was faced with the task of responding appropriately to our residents' concerns and needs, while also working to keep the community safe from the ravages of a pandemic.

As an agency, we responded the only way we know how: by partnering with our community at all levels, communicating with our residents, providing transparency as an agency, and always respecting the rights and viewpoints of all our residents. This response is ingrained in us at the very heart of our agency. Our Mission Statement references a partnership with the community to protect individual rights, and our Core Values of INTEGRITY, RESPECT, and PROFESSIONALISM speak of engaging in moral and ethical behavior, as well as partnering with the community. Responding to the needs of our diverse community is nothing new to our agency or our officers.

The biggest challenge our agency faced this year was how to partner with our community members at a critical time, while being unable to meet with them in person. COVID-19 challenged us to fundamentally change the way we interact with our community, and we adapted, providing the service our community has come to expect of us.

At the beginning of 2020, we created a set of goals and objectives to guide us through the year.

- Expand community policing outreach programs
- Enhance burglary prevention and awareness
- Develop improved methods for identifying, tracking, and reporting crime

When we set these goals, the challenges we came to face throughout the year were unforeseen and unexpected. Regardless, we continued to act on our goals, even throughout the pandemic, and were able to achieve success. Our goals for 2021 speak of transparency, accountability, and adaptation to a new norm, and I am fully confident that we will meet our goals. Our world is ever changing, and our agency is constantly evolving to provide the best police services possible for our community.

As Chief of Police, I am extremely proud of all members of this department. Their commitment to this police department and to their community is second to none. Our success, as an agency, is built on the relationship we've forged with our community members, and I greatly appreciate the support they have given us throughout the year. I would also like to thank our Mayor, Town Council, and Township Manager for their unwavering support of the South Brunswick Police Department.

Our commitment to our community has never been stronger, and our desire to succeed has never been greater. We will continue to serve the Township of South Brunswick with integrity, respect, and professionalism, adapting to meet the ever-changing needs of our community. I am committed to leading one of the finest law enforcement agencies in the state as we address the needs of the future.

Respectfully Submitted,

***Raymond J. Hayducka***

Chief of Police

