2024 Year End Review



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Chief's Letter

Chief's Letter

The Needham Police Department has continued to adapt to the changing environment in order to continue serving the needs of all our community members. Our profession continues to evolve, placing an extra burden on our officers and has redefined how we deliver police services. As the job has become more difficult, we have never lost sight of our mission which is to serve all residents and individuals who work or travel through our community. We will continue to develop and grow our community outreach and foster positive relationships.

As our officers' roles expand, we understand and embrace the complex and changing duties that our officers are faced with daily. We no longer just enforce the law. We wear many hats that require a great deal of training, compassion and understanding. Needham police officers perform at a high level in a multitude of different and difficult situations, while providing a high level of police services to our community.

Publishing an annual report allows us to communicate the department mission, operational structure, training, and department statistics while listening to community concerns. This will allow us to work to a greater mutual understanding and reinforce our commitment in partnership between the Needham Police Department and the Community we serve.

The Needham Police Department is participating in the Massachusetts Police Accreditation Program, a self-initiated process by which police agencies voluntarily strive to meet and maintain standards that have been established by the Massachusetts Police Accreditation Program. I am pleased to announce that the Needham Police Department has achieved full accreditation status. This is an important department-wide achievement that demonstrates Needham Police Department's continued commitment to the highest standards of law enforcement and service

- The agency is committed to meeting professional standards.
- The agency is willing to be assessed on a regularly scheduled basis by Commission-appointed assessors to confirm compliance with professional standards; and
- The agency agrees to correct any deficiencies discovered during the assessment process to establish or re-establish compliance with program standards.

Sincerely,

John J. Schlittler
Chief of Police

NEEDHAM POLICE DEPARTMENT AT A GLANCE

In 2024 there were 46 sworn officers in the town of Needham. The department is budgeted for a total of 53 sworn officers. This number includes the Chief, Deputy Chief, 3 Lieutenants, 7 Sergeants, 2 School Resource Officers, 2 Traffic Officers, 3 Detectives, 1 Court Officer, 1 Administrative Officer, 1 Community Safety Officer, 1 Community Outreach Officer and 23 Patrol Officers.

There are 10 civilian employees at the Police Department including 4 police dispatchers. Below is a breakdown of police personnel and the organizational structure of the department:

John Schlittler, Chief of Police

Paula Sheerin, Police Administrative Specialist

Community Services / Professional Development Division

This Division is responsible for Records, Training, Evidence Management, Firearms Licensing, Crisis Intervention, Community Outreach, Crime Analysis, Fleet Management, and the Budget.

| Christopher Baker, Deputy Chief | Aleah Donahue, Admin Specialist/ Records | |
|--|--|--|
| Richard Forbes, Administrative Sergeant | Kelsey Cournoyer, Crime Analyst | |
| James Wise, Administrative Patrol Officer | Emily Turnbull, Riverside Clinician | |
| Victoria Denneno, Community Outreach Officer | Ken Kurkjian, Fleet Maintenance | |

Investigative Services / Professional Standards Division

This Division is responsible for Investigations, Internal Affairs, Court Services, School Resource Officer Unit, Drug and Alcohol Testing, Warrant Management, Regional Intelligence and Metro-LEC.

| Matthew Forbes, Lieutenant | Edward Timmerman, Detective | |
|------------------------------------|---|--|
| Joe O'Brien Jr, Detective Sergeant | Francis Desimone, Court Officer | |
| Michael Schlittler, Detective | Nicole McMahon, School Resource Officer | |
| RJ Poirier, Detective | Joe Brienze, School Resource Officer | |

Traffic and Community Safety Division

This Division is responsible for Traffic Enforcement, School Safety, Parking Enforcement, Grant Management, Domestic Violence Action Committee, Hiring Process, and Human Rights Committee.

| Belinda Carroll, Lieutenant | Steven Kelly, Traffic Officer |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| Kelley Scolponeti, Community Safety Officer | Edward Bayiates, Motorcycle Officer |

Patrol Operations / Emergency Management Division

This Division is responsible for Patrol Operations, Dispatch Operations, Animal Control, Special Event Management, Mountain Bike Operations, Emergency Management, Honor Guard, and Major Road Projects.

| John McGrath, Lieutenant | Scott Lennon, Patrol Officer |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| Timothy Dooher, Patrol Sergeant | Sarah Timmerman, Patrol Officer |
| Richard Evans, Patrol Sergeant | Justin Young, Patrol Officer |
| Michael Lamb, Patrol Sergeant | Austin Broderick, Patrol Officer |
| Brian Gallerani, Patrol Sergeant | Andrew Tamkin, Patrol Officer |
| Anthony Frongillo, Patrol Sergeant | Jose Palomino, Patrol Officer |
| Matthew Palmer, Patrol Officer | Daniel Connor, Patrol Officer |
| Catherine McCullough, Patrol Officer | Georgios Emmanouilidis, Patrol Officer |
| Leo Schlittler, Patrol Officer | Donald Anastasi Jr., Patrol Officer |
| Julia Rutledge, Patrol Officer | Thomas Ferrara, Patrol Officer |
| Matthew MacDonald, Patrol Officer | David Parsons, Animal Control Officer |
| Robert Peck, Patrol Officer | Stephen Ryan, Police Dispatcher |
| Vincent Turco, Patrol Officer | Christopher Bender, Police Dispatcher |
| Roger Noll, Patrol Officer | Melanie Rutledge, Police Dispatcher |
| Jason Hasenfus, Patrol Officer | Michael Wilson, Police Dispatcher |
| Matthew Biellik, Patrol Officer | Luke Sheehan, Police Dispatcher |
| Matthew Doukas, Patrol Officer | |
| Brian Soll, Patrol Officer | |
| Patrick Keleher, Patrol Officer | |

ABOUT THIS REPORT

This annual report is produced by the Needham Police Department to provide citizens with a snapshot of services and activities conducted by the department this year. This report contains valuable information about crimes committed in Needham as well as information related to those crimes such as race, gender, and town residency status. This report also has updates from our specialty units and officers regarding their activities over the past year.

The 2024 Annual Report provides a comprehensive analysis of crimes that occurred within the town of Needham and were reported to the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) via the Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program. This national program has been collecting and organizing crime data since 1930 and is used by researchers, media, and the public to better understand criminal activity. The UCR collects general crimes statistics through the National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS). This voluntary system uses coding that is uniform throughout the country so that data can be compiled and analyzed. It separates criminal offenses into two types: Group A and Group B. Group A includes 46 offenses in 22 different categories. These offenses have been selected based on specific criteria and are determined to be relevant to law enforcement data collection. Group B offenses encompass all other crimes. The offenses and categories can be found in Appendix A.

In addition to looking at NIBRS data, this report also analyzes in-house data regarding incidents, arrests, motor vehicle accidents, traffic stops and calls for service. In many of these categories, we breakdown the data by race. The options listed for race vary slightly depending on the source. Our race data relating to motor vehicle stops is drawn from the Massachusetts Racial Profiling Reporting and includes Asian or Pacific Islander, Black, Hispanic, American Indian/ Alaskan Native, Middle Eastern/ East Indian (South Asian) and White. Race data relating to arrests, handcuffing, use of force and any other categories is taken from choices provided by the United States Census. The race options from the US Census include Asian, Black, American Indian/ Alaskan Native, Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander, Unknown and White. The US Census considers Hispanic to be an ethnicity. For the purposes of this report, we take individuals, who identify their race as White with a Hispanic ethnicity, to be Hispanic. Individuals who report their race as Black with a Hispanic ethnicity, are reported as Black in this report.

It is important to note that all this information is considered the best data at the time of writing this report, and that slight discrepancies or changes in the numbers may occur due to a variety of factors. For example, if an investigation is ongoing there is the potential for existing offenses to be changed based on updated information.

Year End Crime Review

| | Group A | Group B |
|------|-------------|---------|
| 2020 | 1318* (598) | 401 |
| 2021 | 554 | 295 |
| 2022 | 668 | 318 |
| 2023 | 787 | 441 |
| 2024 | 645 | 255 |

^{*}In 2020, there were 720 unemployment fraud claims, without those offenses there were 598 Group A offenses

In 2024, the Town of Needham had 645 Group A offenses. This is 141 less than 2023. There were no homicides, prostitution, or non-forcible sex offenses reported in 2024.

In 2024, Needham had 255 Group B offenses. This is 186 less than 2023.

Group A Offense Specifics

| Offense | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 |
|--------------------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|
| 100 Kidnapping | 0 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 1 |
| 11A Forcible Rape | 5 | 1 | 3 | 5 | 2 |
| 11B Forcible Sodomy (Open and Gross) | 0 | 0 | 6 | 2 | 2 |
| 11D Forcible Fondling (Indecent A&B) | 3 | 4 | 7 | 15 | 14 |
| 120 Robbery (Unarmed) | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 0 |
| 13A Aggravated Assault | 14 | 16 | 18 | 21 | 11 |
| 13B Simple Assault | 42 | 39 | 59 | 55 | 49 |
| 13C Intimidation | 13 | 15 | 18 | 16 | 17 |
| 200 Arson | 0 | 3 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| 210 Extortion/ Blackmail | 0 | 3 | 9 | 15 | 6 |
| 220 Burglary/ B&E | 14 | 23 | 23 | 25 | 30 |
| 23A Pick Pocketing | 0 | 3 | 3 | 7 | 6 |
| 23B Purse-Snatching | 1 | 2 | 3 | 9 | 4 |
| 23C Shoplifting | 3 | 2 | 12 | 16 | 12 |
| 23D Theft from A Building | 20 | 23 | 17 | 21 | 18 |
| 23F Theft from A MV | 27 | 6 | 13 | 50 | 43 |
| 23G Theft of MV Parts | 0 | 4 | 19 | 4 | 0 |
| 23H All Other Larceny | 79 | 75 | 101 | 136 | 119 |
| 240 MV Theft | 8 | 5 | 7 | 16 | 13 |
| 250 Counterfeiting/ Forgery | 28 | 14 | 67 | 39 | 33 |
| 26A False Pretenses/ Swindling | 70 | 91 | 104 | 86 | 93 |
| 26B Credit Card/ ATM Fraud | 6 | 12 | 5 | 23 | 7 |
| 26C Impersonation | 191 | 42 | 65 | 91 | 86 |
| 26D Welfare Fraud | 720 | 65 | 11 | 42 | 6 |
| 26E Wire Fraud | 0 | 1 | 0 | 4 | 1 |
| 26F Identity Theft | 0 | 3 | 1 | 7 | 0 |
| 26G Hacking/ Computer Invasion | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |

| 270 Embezzlement | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
|------------------------------------|----|----|----|----|----|
| 280 Stolen Property Offenses | 1 | 5 | 11 | 1 | 17 |
| 290 Destruction/ Damage/ Vandalism | 54 | 65 | 60 | 50 | 41 |
| 35A Drug/ Narcotic Violations | 10 | 23 | 11 | 14 | 4 |
| 35B Drug Equipment Violation | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 36B Statutory Rape | 1 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 0 |
| 370 Pornography/ Obscene Material | 3 | 3 | 6 | 3 | 3 |
| 520 Weapons Law Violation | 2 | 3 | 4 | 6 | 4 |

Assault Offenses (13A, 13B, 13C)

There were 77 total assault offenses committed in 69 cases in 2024. This is 15 less offenses than in 2023, where there were 92 total assault offenses committed. The total number of incidents involving assault offenses increased from 64 in 2023 to 69 in 2024.

There were 13 aggravated assaults offenses in 11 cases in 2024. Of these 11 cases, 5 resulted in arrest, 4 resulted in summons to court, 1 resulted in an arrest warrant and 1 had a report taken with no further action required. The case in which there was only a report taken, the suspect was never identified or located so no charges could be filed.

There were 69 simple assault offenses in 49 incidents cases. In 10 of the incidents the suspect was arrested, in 23 incidents the suspect was summoned to court and in 11 incidents a report was taken but no further action was required. 2 cases resulted in arrest warrants and 3 were referred to other agencies.

There were 17 intimidation charges in 17 incidents in 2024. 3 of the remaining incidents resulted in the suspect being arrested, 3 resulted in the suspect being summoned, 2 resulted in arrest warrants and 8 incidents had a report taken with no further action. 1 incident remains under investigation.

| Case Outcome | Count |
|--------------------------|-------|
| Arrest | 16 |
| Summons | 28 |
| Under Investigation | 1 |
| Report Taken | 19 |
| Warrant Requested | 2 |
| Referred to Other Agency | 3 |
| Total | 69 |

Forcible Sex Offenses (11A, 11B, 11C, 11D)

In 2024, the Needham Police Department took 16 separate reports related to forcible sex offenses with 20 total charges. This category includes forcible rape (11A), forcible sodomy (which includes open and gross lewdness) (11B), sexual assault with an object (11C) and forcible fondling (11D).

1 of these charges were 11A forcible rape. 16 of these charges were 11D forcible fondling (Indecent Assault and Battery). There were 2 charges of 11B forcible sodomy, both of which were for the charge of open and gross lewdness.

Robbery (120)

There were no incidents of robbery in Needham in 2024.

Extortion/Blackmail (210)

There were 6 incidents that involved extortion or blackmail in 2024. In all 6 cases, a report was taken, and the parties were advised.

Burglary/ Breaking & Entering (220)

There were 38 charges of burglary/breaking and entering in 30 different cases in 2024. Of the 30 incidents, 3 resulted in an arrest, 3 resulted in a summons, 7 had a report taken and required no further action and 17 remain under investigation. The cases that remain under investigation are awaiting the results of lab analysis or other search warrants before they can be resolved.

| Case Outcome | Count |
|---------------------|-------|
| Arrest | 3 |
| Summons | 3 |
| Report Taken | 7 |
| Under Investigation | 17 |
| Total | 30 |

Counterfeiting/ Forgery (250)

There were 47 charges counterfeiting/forgery in 34 incidents in 2024. Many of these are related to mailbox fishing, which has been an ongoing issue in Needham and surrounding communities.

| Case Outcome | Count |
|---------------------|-------|
| Arrest | 1 |
| Warrant Requested | 2 |
| Summons | 5 |
| Report Taken | 25 |
| Under Investigation | 1 |
| Total | 34 |

Stolen Property Offenses (280)

There were 17 charges relating to stolen property offenses in 2024.

Larceny/ Theft Offenses (23A-23H)

There were 234 larceny offenses in 202 cases in 2024.

| Case Outcome | Count |
|---------------------------|-------|
| Arrest | 3 |
| Summons | 11 |
| Arrest Warrant | 6 |
| Closed/ No Further Action | 176 |
| Under Investigation | 6 |
| Unfounded | 0 |
| Total | 202 |

Fraud Offenses (26A-26E)

There were 194 fraud offenses in 186 cases in 2024.

| Case Outcome | Count |
|---------------------|-------|
| Arrest | 1 |
| Summons | 4 |
| Closed | 175 |
| Under Investigation | 5 |
| Warrant Requested | 1 |
| Unfounded | 0 |
| Total | 186 |

Destruction/ Damage/ Vandalism to Property (290)

There were 41 vandalism/destruction of property related offenses in 41 cases in 2024.

| Case Outcome | Count |
|---------------------|-------|
| Arrest | 1 |
| Summons | 7 |
| Closed | 31 |
| Under Investigation | 0 |
| Warrant Requested | 2 |
| Total | 41 |

Drug/ Narcotic Violations (35A)

There were 4 cases with narcotics/ drug violations in 2024. 3 of the 4 were arrests, the fourth incident resulted in a court summons

| Case Outcome | Count |
|--------------|-------|
| Arrest | 3 |
| Summons | 1 |
| Closed | 0 |
| Total | 4 |

Pornographic/ Obscene Material (370)

There were 3 incidents with charges involving the possession of pornographic/ obscene material in 2024.

| Case Outcome | Count |
|--------------|-------|
| Closed | 2 |
| Summons | 1 |
| Total | 3 |

Weapons Law Violations (520)

There were 4 cases involving weapons law violations in 2024. 2 cases were arrests and 2 resulted in a summons to court.

Group B Offense Specifics

| Offense | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 |
|---------------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|
| 90A Bad Checks | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 90C Disorderly Conduct | 2 | 6 | 5 | 5 | 10 |
| 90D DUI | 18 | 13 | 20 | 18 | 12 |
| 90E Drunkenness | 3 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| 90F Family Offense (nonviolent) | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 90G Liquor Law Violation | 10 | 13 | 11 | 8 | 11 |
| 90J Trespass of Real Prop | 7 | 2 | 3 | 6 | 7 |
| 90Z All Other | 65 | 44 | 67 | 87 | 83 |
| 99 Town Traffic Bylaw | 295 | 212 | 210 | 325 | 151 |
| Totals | 401 | 295 | 318 | 449 | 275 |

^{*}Codes 90A and 90E were converted to 90Z starting in 2022.

90C- Disorderly Conduct

There were 10 disorderly conduct offenses in 2024. 2 was for annoying/accosting another person, 7 were for disorderly conduct and 1 was for indecent exposure.

90D- DUI

There were 12 DUI Offenses in 2024. 11 were for OUI Liquor and in one case the operator was charged with both OUI Liquor and OUI Drugs. 8 of these cases were arrests and 4 resulted in a summons to court.

90G- Liquor Law Violation

There were 11 liquor law violation incidents in 2024. There were 3 violations for open container in a motor vehicle, and 8 violations for selling/delivering to person under 21.

90J-Trespass of Real Prop

There were 7 trespass of real property offenses in 2024.

90Z-All Other

The 90Z category captures virtually all offenses that do not fall into the other IBR codes. There were 83 total 90Z offenses in 2024. This includes 10 arrest warrants, 27 abuse prevention order/harassment prevention order violations and 11 criminal harassment offenses. Other types of offenses that fall into this category include unlicensed home improvement contractors, conspiracy, unauthorized use of a computer system, filing a false police report, secret sexual surveillance, and evidence tampering. Many of them are utilized in conjunction with other offenses when an incident occurs.

SPECIAL STUDIES

The Needham Police Department has implemented 5 areas of interest in an attempt to capture more detailed data based on current issues and citizen concerns. These areas are mental health, drug overdoses, handcuffing domestic violence and use of force. To get this data, officers are required to provide information on each of these topics when they complete their report. If the incident or arrest involves any of the special studies, they are required to answer the questions related to that topic. The questions and data gathered from these special studies are detailed below.

Mental Health

In 2024 there were 209 calls that were deemed mental health related. For this data we are considering a "mental health related call" an incident in which mental health is playing a major role. There was an average of 17 mental health-related calls per month. The highest number was 23 in May and the lowest number was 9 in August. This is the second year that August had the lowest number of mental health related calls. There were 184 total mental health related calls in 2023 and 164 in 2022, meaning that we are continuing to see an increase in this type of issue.

While the nature of mental health calls can vary greatly, sometimes they get resolved by an individual being transported to the hospital for treatment. This transport can be at the patients' request or agreement (voluntary) or under a Section 12 (involuntary). In some instances, the subject of a mental health call is taken directly to court. Someone may also be taken to the hospital based on medical issues that are also present at the time of the call. More information about these transports in Needham in 2024 can be found in the charts below.

Mental Health Transport Data

| Transport Type | Count | Percent of Total |
|--|-------|---------------------|
| Section 12 (Initiated by Police) | 78 | 37.3% |
| Section 12 (Initiated by a Doctor/ Therapist) | 38 | 18.2% |
| Voluntary | 29 | 13.9% |
| Court Order | 0 | 0% |
| No Transport | 59 | 28.2% |
| Medical | 5 | 2.4% |

| Transport Type Comparison | | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 |
|---|----|------|------|------|
| Section 12 (Initiated by Police) | 52 | 65 | 57 | 78 |
| Section 12 (Initiated by a Doctor/ Therapist) | 29 | 13 | 22 | 38 |
| Voluntary | 37 | 28 | 38 | 29 |
| Court Order | 1 | 3 | 1 | 0 |
| No Transport | 88 | 51 | 51 | 59 |
| Transport for Medical Reason | ** | 4 | 15 | 5 |

^{**} We did not track "medical" as a transport type until 2022

Drug Overdoses

In 2024 there were 8 suspected overdoses in Needham. 2 of these were opiate drug overdoses and 6 of them were overdoses from another substance. This is a decrease in overdoses from 2023, which had 24 total overdoses.

| Overdoses | Total | S |
|------------------|-------|---|
|------------------|-------|---|

| Year | Total Suspected Overdoses |
|------|----------------------------------|
| 2020 | 12 |
| 2021 | 17 |
| 2022 | 9 |
| 2023 | 24 |
| 2024 | 8 |

Of the 8 overdoses in 2023, 2 of them had Narcan administered by police personnel. 6 overdoses did not require the use of Narcan. There were no overdoses that led to a death this year.

Handcuffing

Handcuffing is an inevitable and necessary part of policing. The Needham Police Department documents instances of handcuffing and the reasons as to why it was utilized in any particular interaction. In 2024, there were 89 times that handcuffing was used. This number is one more than last year, which had 88 instances. 56 out of the 89 (62.9%) of those instances in 2024 were arrests.

The department tracks the reason that handcuffs were used in each instance. Officers are able to utilize handcuffing to affect an arrest, for officer safety, for the subject's own safety and for mental health related reasons. Of the 89 handcuffing instances, the reasons were listed as follows:

| Handcuffing Reason | Count |
|-------------------------|-------|
| Arrest | 56 |
| Warrant of Apprehension | 10 |
| Mental Health Issue | 12 |
| Officer Safety | 5 |
| Protective Custody | 5 |
| Other | 1 |
| Total | 89 |

| Subject Race | # Of Encounters in which handcuffing was used |
|--------------|---|
| Black | 19 |
| Hispanic | 7 |
| White | 58 |
| Asian | 5 |
| Indian | 0 |
| Total | 89 |

Domestic Violence

In 2024 there were 87 Domestic Disturbance/ Domestic Violence related calls in Needham. This is two less than 2023, which had 89 domestic violence calls.

45 out of 87 (51.7%) of these calls were verbal only in nature and did not escalate into any form of physical violence. 22 (25.3%) calls had the offense of assault and battery attached to them, 10 (11.5%) calls were related to a 209A violation, 9 (10.3%) of the domestic related calls reported threats/intimidation and 1 (1.1%) reported sexual assault.

72 of the domestic related calls reported this year had no injuries, 11 had minor injuries and 4 had moderate injuries associated with the incident.

In 32 of the 87 incidents, there was no current restraining order/ protection order in place and the victim declined obtaining an emergency protection order at the time of the incident. In 11 instances, the victim did elect to get an emergency order in place. In 13 cases, there was already an active restraining order or abuse prevention order in place at the time of the incident. In 2 cases, there was a previous order that had expired. In 1 case the victim chose to go straight to court to file for the order.

In 14 of the 87 calls, there were children either present or involved in the incident and DCF was notified.

Use of Force

The Use of Force incidents that Needham Police are involved in are a result of an individual's level of unlawful compliance/resistance and not an officer looking to harm the public. We are obligated morally, by law and by policy, to use only that level of force that is reasonable and necessary to affect an arrest, to ensure public safety or protect ourselves or others from harm.

In 2024 there were 20 times in which force was used during a call for service. In some calls, multiple types of force or force used by multiple officers were necessary to resolve the situation and maintain safety for all present. In two calls, there were multiple subjects.

| Type of Force | Total Times Utilized |
|-----------------------|----------------------|
| Hands on Control | 40 |
| Taser (Displayed) | 3 |
| Taser (Spark Display) | 0 |
| Taser (Drive Stun) | 0 |
| Firearm Unholstered | 2 |
| Less Lethal (Ready) | 0 |

| Subject Race | # Of Encounters in |
|--------------|----------------------|
| | which force was used |
| Black | 5 |
| Hispanic | 1 |
| White | 14 |
| Asian | 2 |
| Unknown | 0 |
| Total | 22 |

2024 RACE AND GENDER INTERACTIONS

The Massachusetts Racial Profiling Reporting includes the following options when identifying a person by race: Asian or Pacific Islander, Black, Hispanic, American Indian/ Alaskan Native, Middle Eastern/ East Indian (South Asian), and White. For clarity, some of these category titles have been shortened in the tables below but are representative of all individuals within that category.

Motor Vehicle Stop by Race and Gender

| Race | Gender | | | |
|----------------|--------|------|---|--|
| | Female | Male | X | |
| Asian | 158 | 192 | 0 | |
| Black | 138 | 241 | 0 | |
| Hispanic | 158 | 309 | 0 | |
| Middle Eastern | 33 | 106 | 0 | |
| White | 1643 | 1863 | 2 | |
| Total | 2130 | 2711 | 2 | |

Motor Vehicle Stops by Race and Resident Status (City/Town)

| Race | Resident | | Non-Re | esident | Total | | |
|----------------|----------|---------|--------|---------|--------|---------|--|
| | Number | % Total | Number | % Total | Number | % Total | |
| Asian | 88 | 1.82% | 262 | 5.41% | 350 | 7.23% | |
| Black | 16 | 0.33% | 363 | 7.50% | 379 | 7.83% | |
| Hispanic | 19 | 0.39% | 448 | 9.25% | 467 | 9.64% | |
| Middle Eastern | 26 | 0.54% | 113 | 2.33% | 139 | 2.87% | |
| White | 700 | 14.45% | 2808 | 57.98% | 3508 | 72.43% | |
| Total | 849 | 17.53% | 3994 | 82.47% | 4843 | 100% | |

Motor Vehicle Stops Disposition by Race

| Race | | Arrest | Civi | l Fine | No En | forcement | Criminal A | pplication | Verb | al Warning | Writte | n Warning | | Total |
|----------------|----|---------|--------|---------|-------|-----------|------------|------------|------|------------|--------|-----------|------|---------|
| | # | % Total | Number | % Total | # | % Total | # | % Total | # | % Total | # | % Total | # | % Total |
| Asian | 3 | 0.06% | 27 | 0.56% | 2 | 0.04% | 5 | 0.14% | 229 | 4.73% | 84 | 1.73% | 350 | 7.23% |
| Black | 2 | 0.04% | 16 | 0.33% | 7 | 0.14% | 13 | 0.27% | 251 | 5.18% | 90 | 1.86% | 379 | 7.83% |
| Hispanic | 1 | 0.02% | 33 | 0.68% | 5 | 0.10% | 40 | 0.83% | 267 | 5.51% | 121 | 2.50% | 467 | 9.64% |
| Middle Eastern | 1 | 0.02% | 13 | 0.27% | 1 | 0.02% | 0 | 0.00% | 85 | 1.76% | 39 | 0.81% | 139 | 2.87% |
| White | 10 | 0.21% | 218 | 4.50% | 34 | 0.70% | 48 | 0.99% | 2213 | 45.69% | 985 | 20.34% | 3508 | 72.43% |
| Total | 17 | 0.35% | 307 | 6.34% | 49 | 1.01% | 106 | 2.19% | 3045 | 62.87% | 1319 | 27.24% | 4843 | 100% |

Arrest- The person was arrested as a result of the stop. Civil Fine- The person received a civil fine that they could choose to pay or appeal. No Enforcement- Stop was initiated due to a motor vehicle accident or disabled motor vehicle, but there was no action that warranted enforcement of any kind. Criminal Application- The person committed an offense that was criminal in nature and would be required to attend a hearing for the violation. Verbal Warning — The person was given a verbal warning for their violation. Written Warning — The person received a paper citation, but nothing further was required of them.

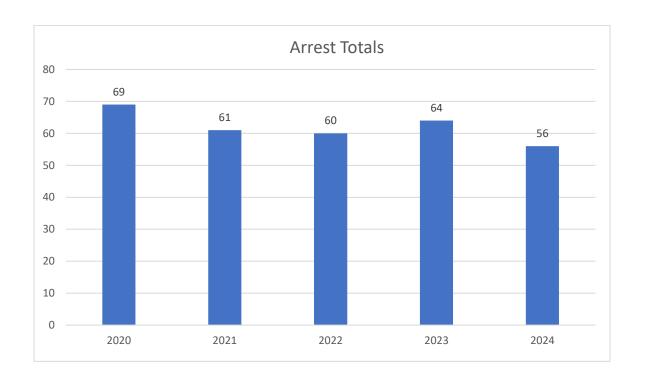
POLICE ACITIVITY SUMMARY

Arrests
There was a total of 56 arrests in Needham in 2024. This is 6 less than 2023.

| 2022 | | | |
|----------|-------|--|--|
| Race | Count | | |
| White | 43 | | |
| Black | 10 | | |
| Hispanic | 4 | | |
| Asian | 3 | | |
| Total | 60 | | |

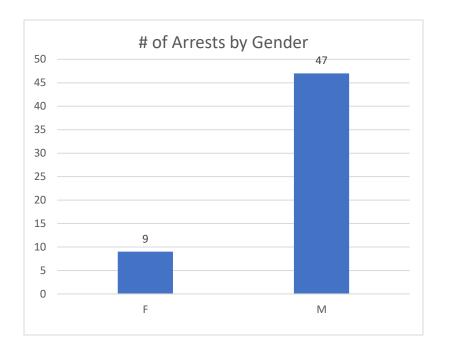
| 2023 | | | |
|----------|-------|--|--|
| Race | Count | | |
| White | 35 | | |
| Black | 16 | | |
| Hispanic | 12 | | |
| Asian | 1 | | |
| Total | 64 | | |

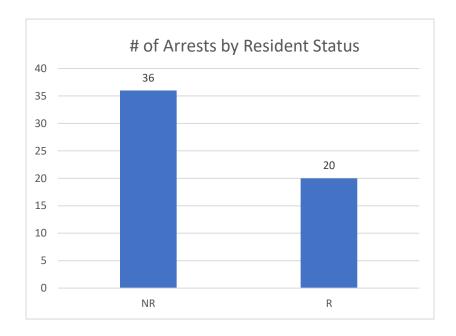
| 2024 | | | |
|----------|-------|--|--|
| Race | Count | | |
| White | 34 | | |
| Black | 13 | | |
| Hispanic | 4 | | |
| Asian | 5 | | |
| Total | 56 | | |

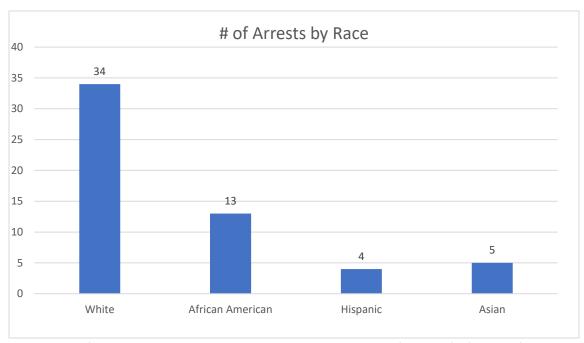


47 of the 56 arrests were males, which equals 83.9% of the total arrests for the year. 9 of the arrests, or 16.1% were female subjects. 36 out of 56 (64.3%) of the subjects arrested in 2024 were non-residents. 20 subjects (35.7%) were residents of Needham.

| CITY | COUNT |
|-------------|-------|
| BOSTON | 5 |
| BRIGHTON | 1 |
| BROCKTON | 2 |
| CAMBRIDGE | 1 |
| DEDHAM | 4 |
| KINGSTON | 1 |
| MEDFIELD | 1 |
| MIDDLEBORO | 1 |
| NATICK | 1 |
| NEEDHAM | 23 |
| NEW BEDFORD | 1 |
| NEWTON | 4 |
| NORWOOD | 1 |
| PEMBROKE | 2 |
| RANDOLPH | 1 |
| REVERE | 1 |
| ROCHESTER | 1 |
| WATERTOWN | 1 |
| WESTON | 1 |
| WEYMOUTH | 1 |
| WINCHESTER | 1 |
| WOBURN | 1 |
| TOTAL | 56 |







The breakdown of arrestees by race is shown above. In 2024, 60.7% of arrests (34) were of white subjects. 13 arrestees were African American, which equates to 23.2% of the total. There were 4 (7.1%) Hispanic individuals, and 5 (8.9%) Asian individuals arrested.

There were Twenty-two (22) arrests involving BIPOC individuals. Nineteen (19) of those Twenty-two (22) arrests were for offenses in which arrests are mandated or are a preferred response. Six (6) of the arrests involved an active Arrest Warrant. There were Three (3) arrests for Operating Under the Influence. Five (5) arrests involved a Domestic Assault and Battery/ Violation of Restraining Order. One (1) arrest was Larceny from a Building. One (1) was for Operating with a Suspended License. One (1) was for Unlicensed Operation and Attaching Plates. Two (2) involved Larceny, Breaking into a Depository, Receiving Stolen Property, and Conspiracy stemming from one incident. There was one (1) arrest involving the following charges: Oper a MV With License Suspended, Reckless Operation Of Motor Vehicle, Fail to Stop For Police, and Receiving a Stolen Motor Veh. One (1) arrest involved two counts of Indecent Assault and Battery on a Person 14 or over. One (1) arrest involved Oper a MV with a Suspended License, Operating and Uninsured MV and Possession of Class D Drug with Intent to Distribute.

There were Thirty-four (34) arrests involving white individuals. Twenty eight (28) of the arrests involved offenses that mandate arrest or are a preferred response. There were eleven (11) arrests involving an active Arrest Warrant. Nine (9) of the arrests involved Domestic Assault and Battery or a violation of a Restraining Order. There were Six (6) arrests involving operation of a Motor vehicle under the influence of drugs or alcohol. There was One (1) arrest involving Disorderly Conduct. There was One (1) arrest for Unlicensed Operation of a MV and One (1) arrest for Operating a MV with a Suspended License. One (1) Arrest was for Operation of a MV with a Suspended License, and Possession of a Class B Drug. There was One (1) arrest for Assault W/Dangerous Weapon- Baseball Bat, Carrying a Dangerous Weapon, Malicious Destruction of Property, and Assault W/Dangerous Weapon. One (1) arrest involved Disorderly Conduct, A&B on a Police Officer and Resisting Arrest. There was One (1) A&B on a Police Officer and Resisting

Arrest, Assault, and Disorderly Conduct. One arrest was for (1) involved Conspiracy and Receiving Stolen Property.

Juveniles

Mental Health Related Incidents

We had 72 Mental Health Incidents involving juveniles. This is the same number of mental health related juvenile calls as 2023. 35 of those calls involved a student at the Walker School.

Offenses

There were no juveniles arrested in 2024.

There were 6 juveniles that had to appear for a hearing at Juvenile Court. There were 10 juveniles that voluntarily entered our Diversion Program.

Total Calls and Types

The Needham Police Department had a total of 53,696 calls for service in 2024. This increased by 3,649 calls or 7.3% from 2023, in which there were 50,047 calls. The number of calls the police department handles each year continues to increase; in 2022 the department had 43,912 calls for service.

Calls can be broken into priorities based on the level of urgency. The highest priority is level 1, which includes burglar alarms, fires, motor vehicle crashes with injury and sudden deaths. The number of priority 1 calls went up in 2024 by 76 or 1.9% from 2023. Priority 2 includes calls for suspicious activity, fraud, larceny, and well-being checks. The number of priority two calls increased from 2722 to 2811 between 2023 and 2024, which is a 3.3% increase. Priority 3 is the lowest priority level and encompasses the majority of everyday calls. This includes security checks, animal calls, public assistance, motor vehicle stops and administrative calls. The number of priority 3 calls saw and 8% increase from 2023 to 2024.

| Priority Level | # Of Calls |
|----------------|------------|
| 1 | 4048 |
| 2 | 2811 |
| 3 | 46835 |
| Total | 53696 |

DIVISION UPDATES

Traffic and Community Safety

Traffic

In 2024, 2148 traffic violations were issued. Most of these violations were written warnings issued to the operator. \$30,335 in fines were issued in 2024.

| Violation Type | Count | Percent of Total |
|--------------------------|-------|------------------|
| Civil Citation | 354 | 12.8% |
| Criminal Citation | 277 | 12.8% |
| Arrest | 36 | 1.8% |
| Verbal / Written Warning | 1479 | 72.1% |
| Municipal Violation | 2 | .43% |
| TOTAL | 2148 | 100% |



The highest number of written violations were issued for red light or stop sign violations. There were 406 of these violations- 325 warnings, 65 civil citations, 14 criminal citations, 1 municipal citation and 1 arrest.

The second highest number of written violations were for handsfree first offense / cell phone use. There were 350 of these violations, 247 of which were warnings. 93 were issued as civil citations, 9 were given as criminal citations and 1 of these violations

was part of an arrest. Other commonly issued violations include unregiserested motor vehicle (300) and speeding

There were 277 Criminal Violations in 2024. This includes 64 for operating a motor vehicle with a suspended/revoked license, 41 for having an uninsured motor vehicle, and 36 for operating a motor vehicle without a license

Accidents

There were 482 motor vehicle accidents reported in 2024. The number of motor vehicle accidents increased by 32 from the total of 450 accidents in 2023. 482 is slightly higher than our pre-pandemic accident totals and is the highest number we've seen in many years. In 2016- 2019 the Town of Needham was averaging 457 accidents per year.

| Year | Total # of Accidents | |
|------|-------------------------|--|
| 2024 | 482 | |
| 2023 | 450 | |
| 2022 | 451 | |
| 2021 | 370 | |
| 2020 | 286 | |
| 2019 | 467 | |
| 2018 | 419 | |
| 2017 | 480 | |

In 2024, 325 crashes occurred in an area with no traffic controls. 79 accidents occurred where there was a traffic light, 65 occurred where there was a stop sign and 13 occurred where there was another type of control (yield sign, railroad signals, warning signs, etc.).

October had the highest number of crashes at 53 and July and August had the lowest at 30. The overall average number of crashes per month in 2024 was 40, which is higher than 2022 and 2023. Based on this year's data the most common days for motor vehicle accidents were Tuesday with 84 accidents

throughout the year. The day with the least accidents was Sunday, with a total of 32.

Most accidents occurred between 7am and 7pm with the highest numbers occurring between 12pm and 1pm with a total of 52 accidents. The number of accidents drops significantly overnight with 24 occurring between 11pm and 7am for the entire year. This is 14 more overnight accidents than last year. Comparing the day of the week and time, the most accidents occurred on Mondays during the 2pm hour, with a total of 12 accidents.



60 Accidents involved injuries.

258 of the accidents were not at an intersection. 105 occurred at a 4-way intersection, 75 occurred at a T intersection, 7 occurred at on /off ramp, 20 occurred in a driveway, 8 occurred at a Y intersection, 1 occurred at a 5- point intersection, 2 occurred at an on ramp, and 6 were unknown.

There were 74 single vehicle crashes, 73 rear end crashes, and there were 155crashes at an angle.

382 crashes took place in the roadway, 76 occurred outside the roadway. 12 occurred on the roadside, 10 on the shoulder, and 2 were unknown.

275 of the accidents were collisions with another motor vehicle in motion. 111 were collisions with parked motor vehicles. 17 were collisions with an unknown fixed object. 14 were collisions with utility poles and 7 were collisions with a tree.

There were 18 motor vehicle accidents involving pedestrians in 2024. In 7 of these the pedestrians were on foot and 11 were cyclists. Of the accidents involving pedestrians, 10 took place at a crossing location (crosswalk).

Community Safety Officer



Community Safety Officer Kelley Scolponeti is under the direct supervision of the Lieutenant in charge of Traffic and Community Safety. Officer Scolponeti has the primary responsibility of training, scheduling, and supervising all Crossing Guards (civilian positions) as well as supervising parking enforcement and ticketing. She oversees 16 Crossing Guards who cover 66 school crossings daily. Officer Scolponeti often covers crossings herself and makes it a point to check in periodically with the Traffic Supervisors to discuss safety/traffic concerns they might have. Officer Scolponeti also serves as our liaison for the Center at the Heights. She makes weekly visits there to interact with the seniors in many ways. She'll stop in to have coffee with them and sometimes play pool and assist with meal deliveries. She decorates the CATH seasonally, including window paintings and holiday tree decorations. We have continued to hold Coffee with a Cop, in which several officers stop by to say "hi" and have a cup

of coffee. Officer Scolponeti also holds Crafts with a Cop once a month at the CATH and it is always well attended.

Officer Scolponeti assists the School Resource Officers with A.L.I.C.E. drills and periodically checks in

with the principals and the health and safety committees at each school. She enjoys assisting the 3rd grade physical education teachers with their 3rd grade bike rodeos and designs and issues over 350 bicycle licenses. She makes it a point to conduct "Officer Friendly" visits to the daycare schools within our town.

Officer Scolponeti is the liaison with the Council on Aging, the Commission on Disability, the Needham Community Council, and the Needham DPW Snow Removal Committee. She assists with the clothing drive and food pantry at the Community Council. She's part of the Needham Community Outreach Team and has luncheons with Needham Housing residents. She is also part of the Special Education Parent Advisory Council. Officer Scolponeti is the liaison for donations from community stores and she assists with



distributing the items throughout our town. Officer Scolponeti also conducts fingerprinting for Needham residents for licensing and job employment and completes all background checks for solicitors and vendors in town. She is also a certified car seat technician and is very involved in fundraising efforts around town and is a part of the Needham Police Working Dogs Foundation. She is the creator and artist

behind much of our Officer Rocket Swag and attends a variety of events to fundraise with these items. One of her most popular fundraisers is the "ride to school in a police car" auction item. She facilitates approximately 13 rides to school this year with the proceeds going to various charities. Some Highlights from officer Scolponeti in 2024 include:

- -Acquiring the Community Outreach Buys, a donated passenger bus from the Needham Housing Authority to be used for various events
- -Growing fresh vegetables for seniors in 3 community garden beds that were sponsored by the Needham Housing Authority
- Designed and issued over 400 Bike licenses along with installing over 250 orange bike safety flags during the bike rodeos
- Helped facilitate and plan several NPD events including Toys for Tots, Shop with A Cop, Open House, Inclusion Day, and The Girl/Boy scout tours of the NPD.

PATROL OPERATIONS / EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DIVISION

Patrol represents the majority of the Needham Police Department and is the most visible aspect of the job. Operating on a 24hr basis, its services include but are not limited to: protecting life and property,



enforcing all laws and town bylaws, preserving peace and public order, and identifying criminal offenders and criminal activity.

Each officer is assigned to a specific area of town, called a sector. The officer is responsible for handling all the calls within that sector. Additionally, the officer conducts the traffic enforcement in their area, building checks, and assists other officers as needed.

Although officers in patrol are primarily responsible for patrolling the town and answering calls for service, many officers have other duties and special assignments they complete. These vary in scope from assignments as Juvenile Officer to the MetroLEC Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) team and many others.

Dispatch

Throughout 2024 the Needham Police Dispatch center consisted of 5 full-time positions for Emergency Telecommunications Dispatchers

Dispatchers handled 9,016 Enhanced 9-1-1 calls in 2023. This is a 35.7% increase from the 6,646 9-1-1 calls received in 2022.

All Enhanced 9-1-1 Dispatchers throughout the Commonwealth of Massachusetts are required to undergo a minimum of 16 hours of continuing education annually. Needham Police Dispatchers met this training requirement and received training in topics including, but not limited to Mental Health First Aid for Public Safety, Multi-Agency Response to Active Shooter & Hostile Events, Excited Delirium Syndrome and Stress Management. Through the Answering Point and Regional Emergency Communication Center Support and Incentive Program the department received grant funding based on the previous year's 911 call center volume. During FY 2023 the Department was allocated \$98,451. The Department also received reimbursement for Training personnel in 911 Certification and Continuing Education.

Mountain Bike Unit

The Needham Police Department incorporates mountain bikes into its law enforcement and community policing efforts, enhancing both visibility and approachability. Officers on bicycles can often respond more quickly and efficiently to certain calls and locations compared to traditional patrol methods. The department's bike officers regularly conduct daily patrols throughout Needham and play a key role in securing special events year-round.

The Mountain Bike Unit is led by a Patrol Sergeant who serves as the unit commander. Assignment to the unit requires specialized training, including successful completion of the Mountain Bike Patrol School, certified by the Massachusetts Criminal Justice Training Council. This program, known as COBWEB (Cops on Bikes with Education for Bicyclists), is a 24-hour, three-day course that combines classroom instruction with field exercises. Officers completing the course gain in-depth knowledge of operational procedures, crime prevention strategies, tactical riding techniques, and effective communication.

The department's Mountain Bike Unit utilizes Trek Mountain bikes, equipped with front shocks, disc brakes, and durable frames to withstand rigorous use. Each bike is also fitted with high-intensity lights for enhanced visibility.

The Needham Police Department has found great success with its mountain bike patrols, which not only serve as an effective law enforcement tool but also foster meaningful interactions between officers and the community.

Current Members of the Mountain Bike Unit are:

Sgt. Michael Lamb

Officer Austin Broderick
Officer Matthew Doukas
Officer Patrick Keleher
Officer Sarah Timmerman

COO Victoria Denneno Officer Brian Soll
Det. Edward Timmerman Officer Jose Palomino

Animal Control

The below table displays the activity of the ACO for 2024:

| Barn Inspection | 10 |
|-----------------------------|-----|
| Off Leash Check/ Violations | 8 |
| Animal Call (Non-Dog) | 218 |
| Animal Quarantine | 15 |
| Dog Call | 209 |
| Missing Animal | 5 |

INVESTIGATIVE SERVICES / PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS DIVISION

School Resource Officers

Needham currently has two officers assigned as School Resource Officers (SROs). They support the entire Needham School District as well as Saint Joseph's Elementary School and Saint Sebastian's School. SROs partner with school administrators throughout the school district to provide support and



guidance in a variety of ways and bridge student family-school life. SROs also work closely with school district guidance counselors and special education teachers to help support students. The SROs meet regularly with students and their families to provide this support. In addition to these meetings, SROs interact with the schools and Needham youth in a variety of ways. They help to deal with investigations that juveniles are involved in, help to aid students whose families may be experiencing hardship and help assist with school projects. Other examples of what our SROs have done in the past year include:

- Attended the annual Needham Harvest Fair to greet youth and their families
- Provided police escort rides to school for various raffles and fundraisers
- Visited classes throughout the school district and provide presentations and learning experiences on various subject matters such as 4th Amendment Rights/Search and Seizure, Social Media and Internet Safety, Bullying and Cyberbullying, Self-Defense, Bicycle Safety, Alcohol and Drug Awareness, and Vaping Awareness.
- Worked closely with school principals to provide armed intruder training and education (through presentations and practical drills) to staff members and students in each school
- Assisted the fire department in conducting fire drills in each school throughout the year
- Organized and ran the Needham Junior Police Academy, a weeklong camp for middle schoolers that

educates them about police work and provided interactive activities and field trips to explore the law enforcement field.

- Worked closely with the Needham Police Department Truancy Officer and Juvenile Court Prosecutor to create diversion paths that offer education, resources, and support to youth offenders to keep them out of the court system.
- Partnered with Needham Youth and Family Services and the Youth Resource Network to help support juveniles and their families
- Collaborated with the Community Service Officer to support Bike Rodeo events throughout the school district and for cub scout and boy scout troops
- Participated on the Substance Prevention Alliance of Needham (SPAN) committee and assist with planning and execution of campaigns and events
- Participated in Students Advocating Life (without) Substance Abuse (SALSA) to help support campaigns and events
- Attended various student club and athletic events to support students
- Participated in field day events at various schools
- Attended and coordinated between police department and schools to aid and support with various events such as prom, graduation, dances, and other school events
- Provided support for rising 9th graders on Step Up day.
- Collaborated with other Needham Police officers to organize and coach the annual Needham-Wellesley Powderpuff Football game, a month-long after-school program that prepares senior girls for the annual game
- Assisted with the annual Drug Take Back Event that occurs in the fall and spring of each calendar vear.
- Visited summer camps and programs to connect with juveniles and check in with them
- Attended Charles River YMCA public events

SRO Brienze is also responsible for the training and management of K9 Officer Rocket, who is a Community Resource Dog (CRD) for the department. SRO Brienze and Rocket continuously coordinate



programs.

with Golden Opportunities for Independence, where Rocket came from, to help other SROs and CRD's in the Needham area. This past year they visited several other communities including Newton, Walpole, and Dedham to provide support in various situations.

SRO Brienze runs Officer Rocket's social media pages and interacts with the community and attends various community events inside and outside of schools with Officer Rocket to speak about his role. They visit all the schools in town, Needham BI, nursing homes, and Center at the Heights as well as other town events such as the craft fair and various NHS sports games. They often partner with various town agencies and utilize Officer Rocket to help promote

Detectives

During 2024, the Detective Division was assigned cases for follow-up and investigation. These assignments include both Part A (i.e., drug offenses, burglary, assaults, sex offenses) and B crimes (ie check fraud, peeping tom), attempts to commit a crime and other situations which may not have amounted to a crime but required further investigation. Due to the complexity of the case many had

multiple Detectives assigned to them.

During the year, detectives investigated a range of crimes including but not limited to, identity theft, unemployment fraud, breaking and entering, robbery, armed assault, mail fraud, civil rights crimes and death investigations. Through these efforts Detectives have worked with our regional police partners, State Police, Federal Agencies including the FBI, DEA and Secret Service, as well as prosecutors in the District Attorney's office, the Massachusetts Attorney General's Office and the United States Attorney's office. Often, Detectives work with these other agencies to address crimes that increasingly extend beyond local boundaries and incorporate complex technical skills.

Needham Detectives are also members of the Norfolk County Police Anti-Crime Task Force (NORPAC). NORPAC provides for multi-agency investigations into drug trafficking, violent crime, and the apprehension of fugitives. The work of the Needham Police Detectives is exemplary and well regarded in the region. It is a credit to each Detective and the professionalism with which they approach their job. The distribution of illicit drugs in the community continues to be a major concern of the Police Department. Detectives were involved in several narcotic investigations which resulted in the arrest of several individuals. The offenses some of these individuals were charged with ranged from possession with intent to distribute marijuana to possession with intent to distribute heroin and fentanyl. Detectives continue to aggressively address the distribution of illegal narcotics through enforcement, education, and community partnerships. The Detective Division attends quarterly Norfolk County meetings held by District Attorney Morrissey in an exchange of information and investigative techniques to combat the opioid crisis.

Also in 2024, Needham Police Detectives and Patrol Officers investigated numerous contractor scams conducted by transient criminals. The scams targeted Needham residents, often elderly, and involved work that was to be completed on homes. The monetary damages of these crimes totaled in the hundreds of thousands of dollars. The investigations resulted in numerous individuals being arrested, charged, and prosecuted for various larceny related crimes.

Detectives attended specialized training courses including a semester long criminal investigation program held at the Rhode Island State Crime Laboratory through the University of Rhode Island. There, detectives learned theory and practice of crime scene investigation employing the modern techniques of crime scene preservation, crime scene search and collection, preservation and transmission of physical evidence. The class emphasized photography, the development, lifting and classification of latent fingerprints and report writing as well.

Detectives assisted in organizing the Department's highly successful Junior Police Academy. The Department, in collaboration with Needham Youth and Family Services, offered a week-long Junior Police Academy for rising 7th and 8th graders. This program is offered free of cost and held at both the Pollard Middle School and the Needham Police Department. Detectives interacted with students teaching them about fingerprinting, crime scene processing and photography.

COMMUNITY SERVICES / PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DIVISION

Crisis Intervention / Community Outreach

The primary responsibility of this program is to coordinate with Needham Community Crisis Intervention Team (NCCIT), the Substance Prevention Alliance of Needham (SPAN), and the Needham Coalition for Suicide Prevention to ensure people suffering from mental health and substance abuse disorders receive adequate follow up and access to resources. The program also coordinates with Regional, State and National Agencies such as Riverside, REACH, the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI), and the Norfolk District Attorney's Outreach Program. The Community Outreach Officer also acts as a liaison to Beth Israel Hospital and Newton Wellesley Hospital.

In December of 2020 the Police Department contracted with Riverside Community Care for a Jail Diversion Program (JDP) Clinician. The clinician is embedded in the Police Department, has access to reports of incidents involving mental health and substance abuse, and is available for co-response where applicable. Clinician Emily Turnbull is embedded in the police department and works closely with our Community Outreach Officer and other Crisis Intervention Trained Officers. In March of 2024, Officer Victoria Denneno was appointed as the Community Outreach Officer.

Together Officer Denneno and Clinician Turnbull have provided resources and assistance to numerous individuals and families. Some of the calls for service they handled included: mental health concerns, substance abuse, domestic violence, homelessness, hoarding, and cognitive health concerns. Having a full time officer and full time clinician have lessened the number of repeat calls to select addresses.

In addition to providing resources to individuals and families, the Community Outreach Team participated in numerous community events including the first ever Sensory Friendly Open House and National Night Out.

2024 Needham JDP Data

| Yea | r End Data | a 2024 |
|-----------------------------------|------------|----------|
| Type of Response | Number | Referra |
| Initial Co-Response | 80 | Police |
| Initial Response (Clinician only) | 103 | Police H |
| Follow Up with PD | 73 | Self |
| Follow Up (Clinician only) | 188 | Family |
| Total Outreach | 444 | Commu |

| Type of Contact | Number |
|-----------------|--------|
| Phone | 189 |
| In-person | 145 |
| Telehealth | 3 |
| Email | 67 |
| Collateral | 40 |
| Total | 444 |

| Gender | Number |
|--------|--------|
| Male | 81 |
| Female | 97 |
| Other | 5 |
| Total | 183 |

| Age | Number |
|-------|--------|
| 0-12 | 9 |
| 13-17 | 21 |
| 18-26 | 22 |
| 27-65 | 99 |
| 66+ | 32 |
| Total | 183 |

Total Number of Initial Encounters183Total Number of Follow Ups261Total interactions by Clinician 2024444

| Referral Source | Number |
|-----------------|--------|
| Police | 60 |
| Police Handoff | 52 |
| Self | 17 |
| Family | 17 |
| Community | 36 |
| School | 1 |
| Other | 0 |
| Total | 183 |
| | |

| Presenting Problem | Number |
|------------------------|--------|
| Suicidal/Depression | 38 |
| Behavior Dysregulation | 55 |
| Psychosis/Mania | 9 |
| Homicidal/Violence | 1 |
| Substance Use | 15 |
| Dual Diagnosis | 4 |
| Family Discord | 14 |
| Housing Instability | 6 |
| Social Determinants | 7 |
| Other | 34 |
| Total | 183 |

| Outcome | Number |
|------------------------|--------|
| Section 12 | 13 |
| Voluntary ED | 6 |
| Mental Health Services | 4 |
| Substance Services | 2 |
| MCI Handoff | 17 |
| Shelter/Housing | 4 |
| Social Services | 7 |
| Re-Presented | 2 |
| Other | 59 |
| Unable to make contact | 21 |
| Declined Services | 48 |
| Total | 183 |

Training

Massachusetts Police Training Committee (MPTC) In- Service Training

The following list of courses were completed during FY2024 by sworn officers to comply with the MPTC Annual In-Service Training requirements: Legal Updates (6 Hours), Officer Wellness Series: We Are What We Do (6 Hours), Rules of the Road: Operating Under the Influence and Motor Vehicle Law Refresher (6 Hours), Report Writing and Courtroom Testimony (6 Hours), CPR / 1st Responder Lecture (3 Hours), CPR / 1st Responder Practical (3 Hours), Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) Commission training (2 Hours)

Annual Firearms Requalification and Training (8 Hours)

Use of Force

The following was a list of Use of Force Trainings that were offered by the Needham Police Department Training Division in 2024; Use of Force, De-Escalation Training, Defensive Tactics, Spring Firearms Training, Fall Firearms Training, Active Shooter Training (ALERRT), Force Science Training, and Taser 10 Certification.

Crisis Intervention

An additional eight (8) officers attended Crisis Intervention Training (CIT), bringing our total number of CIT trained officers to 42. Now approximately 90% of our current sworn staff have attended 40 hours of training geared toward better response to calls involving persons suffering from mental illness. We will continue to train personnel as the training becomes available. Officers also took Law Enforcement Officer and Autism Co-Response model.

State 911 Certification

Officers and Dispatchers are required to take 16 hours of continuing education each year to maintain their State 911 Certification. Officers and dispatchers fulfilled this responsibility by taking approved courses on the following topics: 911 Crisis Intervention, APCO E911 Telecommunicator Course.

Juvenile Related Training

In 2023 our School Resource Officers and other Officers attended the following trainings: National Association of School Resource Officers Conference, Juvenile Law Conference, Massachusetts School Law, MPTC School Resource Officer Inservice Training, Keeping Kids Safe and Secure, and Juvenile Justice from A to Z.

Metro-LEC Training

We are a participating agency in Metro-LEC. Metro-LEC is a regional agency that has several specialized units that share personnel and resources for specific circumstances such as: Basic SWAT School, Peer to Peer Suicide Training, Crisis Negotiation, Search and Rescue, SWAT and Tactical Response, Cyber Crime Unit, and a Mobile Operations Unit comprised of Motorcycles for events and other circumstances. The officers participate in monthly regional training with their respective units.

Advanced Investigation Training

Some of our officers attended more advanced investigative training in specific types of infestations such as Sexual Assault Investigator Training, Buccal Swab DNA Certification, Street Level Narcotics Investigations, Undercover Operations and Drug Investigations in Today's Policing, Cell Phone Investigations, Crime Scene Photography, Crime Scene Investigation Training, New England Narcotics Enforcement Officer Conference, and Cyber Crime Investigations.

Other training courses included Advanced Roadside Impaired Driving Enforcement, Basic Tactical Medical Instructor Training, Budget Training, Drone Operator Certification, Mental Health First Aid, Use of Force Investigations, Civil Rights, Executive Leadership Training, Front Line Leadership Training and Breath Test Operator Certification. Some Officers were certified as Police Background Investigators, Tactical Instructors, and Field Training Officers.

APPFNDIX A

GROUP A

- o Arson 200
- Assault Offenses 13
 - Aggravated Assault 13A
 - Simple Assault 13B
 - o Intimidation 13C
- o Bribery 510
- o Burglary/ Breaking and Entering 220
- Counterfeiting/Forgery 250
- Destruction/ Damage/ Vandalism of Property 290
- Drug/ Narcotic Offenses 35
 - Drug/ Narcotic Violations 35A
 - o Drug Equipment Violations 35
- o Embezzlement 270
- Extortion/Blackmail 210
- o Fraud Offenses 26
 - False Pretenses/ Swindle/
 Confidence Game 26A
 - o Credit Card/ ATM Fraud 26B
 - o Impersonation 26C
 - Welfare Fraud 26D
 - Wire Fraud 26E
- o Gambling Offenses 39
 - o Betting/ Wagering 39A
 - Operating/ Promoting/ Assisting Gambling 39B
 - o Gambling Equip Violation 39C
 - Sports Tampering 39D
- Homicide Offenses 09
 - Murder and Nonnegligent
 Manslaughter 09A
 - o Negligent Manslaughter 09B
 - o Justifiable Homicide 09C
- o Kidnapping/Abduction 100
- Larceny/ Theft Offenses 23
 - Pocket-Picking 23A
 - o Purse Snatching 23B
 - Shoplifting 23C
 - Theft from Building 23D
 - Theft from Coin-Operated Machine or Device 23E
 - o Theft from a Motor Vehicle 23F
 - Theft of a Motor Vehicle Parts or Accessories 23G

- o All Other Larceny 23H
- o Motor Vehicle Theft 240
- Pornography/ Obscene Materials 370
- Prostitution Offenses 40
 - Prostitution 40A
 - Assisting/ Promoting Prostitution
 40B
- o Robbery 120
- Sex Offenses, Forcible 11
 - o Forcible Rape 11A
 - o Forcible Sodomy 11B
 - Sexual Assault with an Object 11C
 - Forcible Fondling 11D
- Sex Offenses, Non-Forcible 36
 - o Incest 36A
 - Statutory Rape 36B
- Stolen Property Offenses 280
- Weapon Law Violations 520

GROUP B

- o Bad Checks 90A
- Curfew/ Loitering/Vagrancy Violations 90B
- Disorderly Conduct 90C
- o Driving Under the Influence 90D
- o Drunkenness 90E
- o Family Offenses, Nonviolent 90F
- Liquor Law Violations 90G
- o Peeping Tom 90H
- o Runaway 90I
- Trespass of Real Property 90J
- o All Other Offenses 90Z