
Cuba Police Department 2021 Year-End Report



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Cuba Police Department
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2021 Year-End Report

Cuba Police Department

The following pages outline the 2021 year-end report for the Cuba Police Department.

“Effective Policing”

Yes, that is our goal. Being effective in law enforcement takes on many facets. First and foremost, you must provide for the personal safety and security of every citizen in your community. This is not limited to residents alone, there are many visitors to our village, town and lake each and every year. Whether they work in our community, shop here, visit relatives or for any other reason, the police department is here to serve all. To be effective we must recognize and adapt to the changing patterns of crime and disorder in our area as well as those that surround and influence our community. These patterns become visible when we compile data as seen in this report, but are also apparent in our interactions with citizens, businesses, manufacturers, the courts, probation, and any number of social agencies. We bring as much formal and informal information together as possible and collaboratively work together to address the predominate issues we identify. Our actual focus is dependent upon resources available and the degree of importance to the overall goal of a safe community. Every member of the police department is committed to providing the most effective policing possible and strives for a quality of life in our community that is the envy of all others. This report reflects some of our efforts this past calendar year. I am proud of the job we continue to do each and every day. I thank the community for the privilege of serving them.

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Staff

The Cuba Police Department is comprised of 15 officers. 5 full-time and 10 part-time officers. The breakdown of staff is as follows: Chief of Police, Sergeant, Investigator, School Resource Officer, 11 Patrolman and 1 police chaplain.

Merit Awards (Awards for exceptional service):

Top Shot – Award for marksmanship at yearly firearms in-service training.



Sergeant Brad Howe



Patrolman Seth Farrand

Community Service – Award for outstanding volunteer service.



Chaplain Jeff Giampa

Top Cop DWI Award – Award for DWI arrests and keeping our roads safe from impaired drivers.



Investigator Jim Galatio

Leadership Award – Award for demonstrating leadership and guidance in the community.



School Resource Officer Aaron Wight

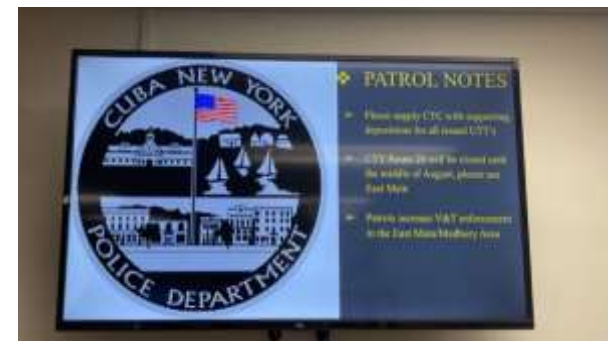
Officer of the Year Award – Award for demonstrating continued, exemplary service.



Patrolman Dave Bentley

Equipment/Technology

- All Law Enforcement Agencies depend on quality equipment in order to be efficient, train productively, and serve their communities well. Cuba is no different. Each year new and innovative technologies and equipment become available which enhance the productivity and safety of police agencies and help our department better serve our community. Some of the new or updated purchases of 2021 included:
 - One 2021 Dodge Charger Police Patrol Unit (Replacement for older, high mileage unit).
 - 2 new Ballistic Vests (50% Grant Funds to replace older vests).
 - iPad on shared services from the school for virtual arraignments.
 - Grant for 4 new in-car computers/scanners and printers (valued at \$15,000).
 - Electronic information centers for the public and police.
 - 3 New Taser units.
 - 3 New body cameras



PROCEDURES

Constant change is quite normal when it comes to the legal system. Implementation of new laws, regulations, and mandates are some of the greater challenges we face. Not all come from a single source, many factors contribute to law enforcements procedural adjustments, new laws, court regulations, social agency requirements, and even the physical and mental health areas all contribute to how and what we are required to do each day. One recent change that has made a large impact is the “Medical Marijuana” and the decriminalization of Marijuana law. The statute allows for a great deal of flexibility in the manufacture, distribution, and use of this product. Police agencies have been forced to change a number of approaches in this area, from detainment of suspected offenders, to establishment of probable cause to arrest. Locally we keep a watchful eye on known abusers and apply ordinances and codes as appropriate. One segment of our operation requiring procedural change has been changes to bail reform. As we have a single individual assigned to this area, we have been forced to limit hours to this area. As the clerical work increases some time must be dedicated to solely transcription and data entry for bail reform alone. Follow up investigations remain a large challenge, with only one full time investigator more and more is asked of our patrol force. Officers are always required to complete much more extensive investigations than normal time allows. But the investigator is always ready to assist and officers do gain experience which will aid us in the future. We participated in a police reform committee in 2021. We learned that our community is by and large in support of our police department and some new procedures were implemented. Hopefully our policies and procedures are a reflection of our times and the changing cultural norms we perceive within our community. In this way we remain consistent in addressing the needs of our citizens.



Town of Cuba Police Department



Police Reform and Reinstitution Plan

Police Reform

The formation of the Cuba Police Reform and Reinvention Collaborative was in part to meet the requirements and aid our municipality in meeting the requirements of Executive Order No. 203 issued by Governor Andrew Cuomo on June 12th. The order required local governments with police agencies to engage the community in a reform effort to “eliminate racial inequalities” by reforming and modernizing police procedures, strategies, and tactics to meet those ends. At the end of this process, the pertinent local governments would be required to submit a plan to New York State or risk losing State funding. The purpose of the Cuba Police Reform and Reinvention Collaborative was twofold: to create a plan to help guide our municipality with our police agency in our efforts and to create a framework for the Cuba Police Department to create our reform plan. The Collaborative was comprised of two groups, the Community Stakeholder workgroup made up of members of the community, ethnic and religious groups and the Municipal workgroup comprised of elected officials, police chief, Town and Village officials and legal representatives as well as the Cuba PBA union. In addition to bringing together a diverse and driven group of stakeholders to form the town’s collaborative, six public forums were held, and an online public comment forum and survey was created to solicit input from Cuba residents on their ideas for reform. Over the past several months, the collaborative met to discuss needs, priorities, and various topics related to police reform. Throughout that discussion a number of themes became evident:

- Building a law enforcement workforce that is representative of the community it serves.
- Connecting law enforcement to the community.
- Creating better mechanisms for addressing mental health and substance use issues in the community.
- Increasing lines of communication between the police and the community.
- Ensuring law enforcement officers are held accountable for their actions.

Evidence

Property and Evidence are of critical importance to the operation of any Law Enforcement Agency and here at the Cube Police Department we have trained and skilled personnel able to process many types of crime scenes. The officers have been trained to work in conjunction with the New York State Police and New York State Crime Laboratory. Officer Aaron Wight is in charge of our property room. He is certified in property/evidence room management and as such arranges for the recording and storage of evidence collected at these various crime scenes as well as property recovered as the result of other investigations. Technology is a great help in this process and saves time as we can code each item and store the property on movable shelving units installed several years ago. We also have security cameras monitoring the room 24/7 as well as electronic door locks that record entry into the room for integrity.



Evidence Continued...

During the course of 2021 the Cuba Police Department logged the following types of evidence:

Electronic – 82 Items

Firearms/Weapons – 7 Items

Narcotics/Drugs – 21 Items

Money/Counterfeit Money – 3 Items

Rape Kits – 4 Items

Blood Evidence – 3 Items



Audit

During 2021 the property room manager completed a yearly audit. During this audit 5 percent of total inventory to include drugs, cash and firearms were reviewed and verified. This audit was found to be in 100 percent compliance. Two staff members that do not have access to the property room as well as 1 non-police staff, community member were all present for this audit for integrity purposes.

Inventory

During 2021 the property room manager completed a yearly inventory of the property/evidence room. During this inventory 10 percent of total inventory to include drugs, cash and firearms were reviewed and verified. This inventory was found to be in 100 percent compliance. The Cuba Police Department Property Room Manager and an Officer to serve as witness were both present for this inventory to preserve integrity.

Community Outreach

Throughout 2021 the Cuba Police Department participated in numerous community outreach programs. Some of those included:

- Bike rodeos with the summer recreation program
- Taking youth fishing on Cuba Lake
- Youth firearms safety courses
- New York State armed guards training
- Throwing the first pitch out for the Cuba Little League kick off
- Flag raising at Cuba Lake
- Teaching numerous classes at the school and Boces
- Department tours
- Assisting with many parades
- Booth at the Garlic Festival
- Honor guard at Watkins Glen for Nascar
- And many, many others....



Year End Statistics

Definitions

1. **Closed** – Indicates that the cases have been closed by arrest or by investigation. Closed by investigation represents cases where no criminal prosecution is being sought or where a warrant has been issued for an individual’s arrest.
2. **Open** – Cases that still remain open under investigation.
3. **Exceptionally Cleared** – Case is cleared due to unusual circumstances. Example: suspect has died or is in jail on other charges where the cases were merged together.

Statistics

| Category | 2020 | 2021 | % of change |
|----------------------------|------|------|-------------|
| 1. Calls to service | 1593 | 1901 | 19.33 % |
| 2. Vehicle Stops | 190 | 341 | 79.47% |
| 3. Criminal Investigations | 309 | 294 | -4.85 % |
| 4. Juvenile Crimes | 6 | 10 | 66.66 % |
| 5. Motor Vehicle Accidents | 112 | 115 | 2.67 % |
| 6. Traffic Tickets Issued | 147 | 201 | 36.73% |

Information

Criminal Investigations:

The department conducted 294 criminal investigations for 2021. Of these 142 were closed by arrest, 25 were exceptionally cleared, 127 remain open.

During 2021, 142 arrests were made. The following is the breakdown of charge classification: 30 were felonies, 114 were misdemeanors, and 68 were violations. There were 10 warrant arrests. * These numbers include arrests were multiple charges applied to one person*

Domestic Disputes:

There were 112 domestic disputes reported and handled for 2021 a 2.75% increase.

Vehicle stops:

During 2021 there were a total of 341 vehicle stops conducted by our department and 201 uniform traffic tickets issued. Town – 74, Village – 41. Lake – 79, I-86 – 6. These numbers show that our department has issued several warnings allowing for motorist to feel comfortable driving on our roads while still ensuring a totality of highway traffic safety. The issuing of traffic tickets is an unpleasant but necessary part of the patrol officer's job. By curbing cell phone, seat belts and speeding violations, along with making DWI arrests, their efforts make the streets a safer place for us all.

Motor Vehicle Accidents:

During 2021 a total of 115 motor vehicle accidents were handled/investigated. Of these 68 were property damage, 11 were personal injury, and 0 was a fatal accident.

Parking Citations:

15 Parking citations/complaints were issued/handled for 2021.

Pill Drops:

During 2021 the Cuba Police Department hosted 0 pill drops that coincided with the Drug Enforcement Agency's official national drug take back day. One was held in October. There were a grand total of 0 cars that dropped off narcotics. We also received pill drop offs at our police station by residents utilizing our drug drop box monthly. The grand total of narcotics taken in at the Cuba Police Department pill drops and drop box were 12 LBS of narcotics being taken off the street. Total conservative street value of narcotics is approximately \$2000.00.

SRO:

2021 was our fourth full year with the School Resource Officer program in full effect. This is funded by the school and we have seen a nice change in tone and relationship between the students and the police department. Officers are in the schools daily and also attending field trips, sporting events, dances and even eating lunch with the students. Several classes have been taught by the SRO also. We have seen a 66% increase in juvenile crimes in 2021. This is probably due to the fact that school is back in session from the pandemic in 2020. Listed below are a breakdown of all activity completed in 2021 by CPD SRO's.



| | | | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Ambulance Assists - 5 | First Aid - 5 | Fire Calls - 3 | Police Calls - 29 |
| Violations - 9 | Misdemeanors -7 | Felony's - 4 | Mental Health - 8 |
| Tickets in School Zone - 18 | Accidents - 3 | CPS Calls - 32 | Probation - 7 |
| PINS Petitions - 3 | K9's - 1 | Parent Meetings- 11 | Student Mentor - 3 |
| Super. Hearings - 0 | Classes - 16 | SRO Meetings -0 | Admin. Meetings - 4 |
| Dances - 2 | Sports Games - 15 | Field Trip - 1 | Graduation - 1 |

Warrants

Warrants received:

The Cuba Police Department received 36 new warrants in 2021. 6 were felony level, 8 were misdemeanor level, 9 was traffic related, 13 were violations and 0 were search warrants. 30 total were executed. 0 were cleared by the court. 68 total warrants remain open from 2002 to the present due to a person living in another state or out of extradition boundaries. *It should be noted that these number include our warrants as well as warrant cases in which our office arrested an individual for other agencies warrant and turned them over to that agency. *

Vehicle Lock Outs

The Cuba Police Department unlocked 58 vehicles for motorists in 2021. 28 were for Cuba residents. 30 were for non-residents. Upon checking with locksmith rates the Police Department has saved Cuba residents a grand total of \$3000.00.

Larceny/Burglary Theft and Recovery

During 2021, \$128,536.00 in goods/cash/firearms/jewelry/vehicles were reported stolen to the Cuba Police Department. \$ 108,901.05 was recovered and returned to residents/victims of these burglaries and larcenies.