
Cuba Police Department

2023 Year-End Report



MARCH 5

Cuba Police Department
Authored by: Chief Dustin T. Burch



2023 Year-End Report

Cuba Police Department

The following pages outline the 2023 year-end report for the Cuba Police Department.

“Effective Policing”

MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF:

The mission of the Cuba Police Department is providing the highest level of professional emergency service to the public by protecting lives, property, and the environment. Our police officers respond and mitigate thousands of emergency situations annually. As our community continues to grow, our responsibility to provide the highest level of care and first-class service remains constant. 2023 presented a higher number of calls for service than usual. Adjustments were made to meet the demands of the Village and Town, while fighting to remain within budget. Being prepared to respond to and successfully manage emergency calls continues to be our priority. Our police officers are prepared, and have acquired the necessary skills and latest technologies to protect our citizens from the unthinkable occurrences that our community could potentially endure. As I prepare to complete my thirteenth year as Police Chief and my 20th year as an officer of the Cuba Police Department, I continue to look for opportunities to improve our services. I continue to try to create and foster a culture of perpetual learning, and continued quality improvement. As the Department moves forward, we also have the responsibility to evaluate how we are meeting the needs of our community in a safe, effective and efficient manner. I am honored to present the 2023 annual report which illustrates our commitment to the citizens of our community. We will endeavor to build on our accomplishments and exemplify the honor, pride, and long-standing history of providing quality and caring service. We will uphold the traditions that are the foundation of the Cuba Police Department.

Respectfully,

Dustin T. Burch

Chief of Police

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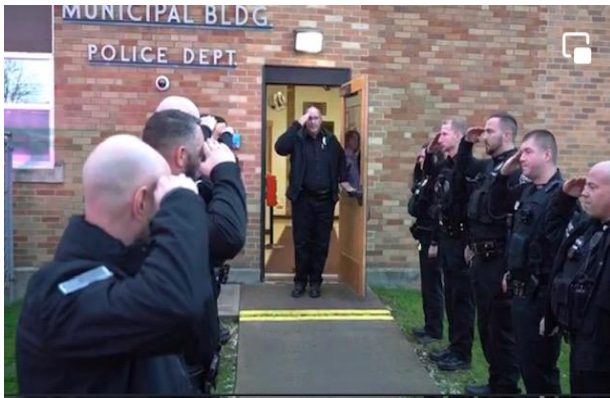
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Staff

The Cuba Police Department is comprised of 16 officers. 6 full-time and 10 part-time officers. The breakdown of staff is as follows: Chief of Police, Sergeant, Investigator, 2 School Resource Officers, 11 Patrolman and 1 police chaplain.

Retirements



Jim Galatio – 33 Years of Service



Dave Bentley – 44 Years of Service



Walt Mackney – Retired to become Allegany County Undersheriff.

Training

In 2023 the Cuba Police Department averaged more than 150 hours of In-Service training. This is approximately 1% less than last year's total. This was in part, due to scheduling challenges and the lack of training opportunities due to our call volume. Our affiliation with the Alfred State Police Academy has assisted us with training efforts and many of our recruits have graduated from this excellent academy. Some of our training Included: Firearms, Pistol Course, Tactical Shotgun, Rifle Qualifications (annual training), Pepper Ball, Evidence Technicians Training, Interview and Interrogation, Defensive Tactics, Patrol Techniques, Traffic Enforcement, Criminal Interdiction, ALERT (Active Shooter Response), Taser Policy and Use. We also are fortunate to have several "in-house" experts who can train personnel in areas of Radar and Laser Speed Enforcement, Handcuffing and Self Defense, Taser Certification, and Firearms, etc.

Cuba Police Department
Yearly Training Record Spreadsheet

Topic	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Firearms	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	12
Pistol Course	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	12
Tactical Shotgun	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	12
Rifle Qualifications	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	12
Pepper Ball	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	12
Evidence Technicians Training	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	12
Interview and Interrogation	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	12
Defensive Tactics	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	12
Patrol Techniques	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	12
Traffic Enforcement	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	12
Criminal Interdiction	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	12
ALERT (Active Shooter Response)	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	12
Taser Policy and Use	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	12
Radar and Laser Speed Enforcement	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	12
Handcuffing and Self Defense	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	12
Taser Certification	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	12
Firearms, etc.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	12

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 2023 included:
 - Axon Body Camera Grant (\$50,000.00)
 - Ballistic Vests (50% Grant Funds to replace older vests, \$5000.00)
 - Upgraded Internet Switch for municipal building (\$8000.00) Shared Service Grant.



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 (Sergeant) 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 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.



Narcotics Enforcement

The Cuba Police Department Narcotics Unit was established in 2023 to investigate narcotics crimes at the local and federal levels occurring in our jurisdiction. This unit attempts to identify and make positive prosecutable cases against narcotics traffickers. The goal of this narcotics unit is to identify and arrest the highest-level narcotics traffickers and to realize the maximum allowable incarceration times for the defendants and the maximum amount of seizure of illegally obtained assets from those defendants. The Cuba Police Department Narcotics Unit works closely with the DEA, the Olean Police Department Street Crimes Unit, the Southern Tier Regional Drug Task Force and the Allegany County District Attorney's Office. The Cuba Police Department Narcotics Unit is comprised of one investigator and one sergeant and works closely with all patrol staff. Anyone with any narcotics information is urged to email us at tips@cubapd.org.



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 Kendra Waters is in charge of our property room with the assistance of Officer Aaron Wight. He is certified in property/evidence room management and as such they arrange for the recording and storage of evidence collected at 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 2023 the Cuba Police Department logged 276 items of evidence. The following are some of the types of evidence logged:

Electronic – 90 Items
Firearms/Weapons – 14 Items
Narcotics/Drugs – 60 Items
Money/Counterfeit Money – 23 Items
Rape Kits – 0 Items
Blood Evidence – 1 Items



Audit

During 2023 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.

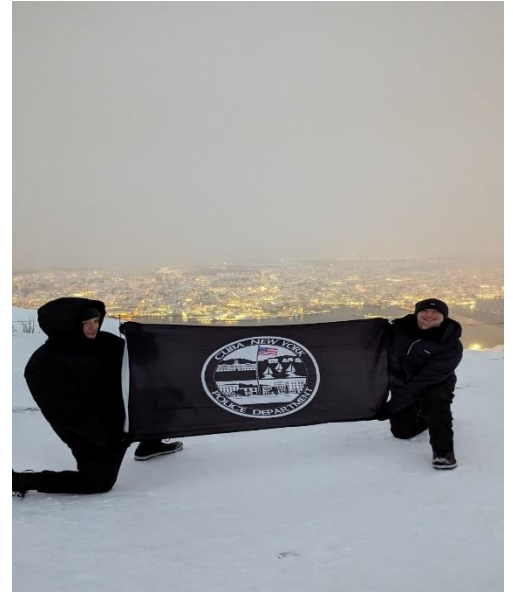
Inventory

During 2023 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 2023 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	2022	2023	% of change
1. Calls to service	1968	2856	45.12 %
2. Vehicle Stops	351	555	58.11%
3. Criminal Investigations	271	418	54.24 %
4. Juvenile Crimes	6	14	133.33 %
5. Motor Vehicle Accidents	105	103	-1.90 %
6. Traffic Tickets Issued	193	431	123.33%



Information

Criminal Investigations:

The department conducted 418 criminal investigations for 2023. Of these 205 were closed by arrest, 28 were exceptionally cleared, 185 remain open.

During 2023, 205 arrests were made. The following is the breakdown of charge classification: 40 were felonies, 207 were misdemeanors, and 198 were violations. There were 41 warrant arrests. * These numbers include arrests were multiple charges applied to one person*

Domestic Disputes:

There were 96 domestic disputes reported and handled for 2021 a 12.72 % decrease.

Vehicle stops:

During 2023 there were a total of 555 vehicle stops conducted by our department and 431 uniform traffic tickets issued. Town – 135, Village – 183. Lake – 108, I-86 – 5. 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 2023 a total of 103 motor vehicle accidents were handled/investigated. Of these 76 were property damage, 26 were personal injury, and 1 was a fatal accident.

Parking Citations:

74 Parking citations/complaints were issued/handled for 2023.

Pill Drops:

During 2023 the Cuba Police Department hosted 1 pill drop 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 33 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 71.5 LBS of narcotics being taken off the street. Total conservative street value of narcotics is approximately \$12000.00.

SRO:

2023 was our sixth full year with the School Resource Officer program in full effect and our 1st year with an SRO in the Elementary School. 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 133% increase in juvenile crimes in 2023, likely do to the raise the age legislation. Some of these occur in the school but most of them are outside of school hours. Listed below are a breakdown of all activity completed in 2023 by CPD SRO's.



Ambulance Assists - 5	First Aid - 5	Fire Calls - 3	Police Calls - 27
Harassment - 2	Criminal Mischief -9	Larceny - 2	Mental Health - 3
Traffic Complaints - 19	Accidents - 2	CPS Calls - 2	Probation - 8
PINS Petitions - 3	K9's - 0	Parent Meetings- 5	Student Mentor - 3
Super. Hearings - 0	Classes Taught - 18	SRO Meetings -2	Admin. Meetings - 6
Dances - 3	Sports Games - 9	Field Trip - 1	Graduation - 1
Admin Assist - 22	Fight Calls - 8	Home Visits - 3	Safety Meetings -2
Fire Drills - 5	Drug/Vape Calls - 9	Youth Court - 3	Staff Meetings - 2
Vehicle Unlocks - 3	Counselor Meetings - 3	PTO Meetings - 3	Board Meetings - 6
Truancy Calls - 2	PD Tours - 2	Concerts - 6	Book Fair -1
Lock In's -1			

Warrants

Warrants received:

The Cuba Police Department received 49 new warrants in 2023. 12 were felony level, 15 were misdemeanor level, 5 were traffic related, 8 were violations. 40 total were executed. 0 were cleared by the court. 71 total warrants remain open from 2004 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. *

Search Warrants

The Cuba Police Department executed a total of 10 search warrants for 2023. These were all felony level, high risk, narcotics search warrants. No injuries were sustained to any officers, civilians or suspects.

Vehicle Lock Outs

The Cuba Police Department unlocked 56 vehicles for motorists in 2023. 34 were for Cuba residents. 22 were for non-residents. Upon checking with locksmith rates the Police Department has saved Cuba residents a grand total of approximately \$4000.00.

Larceny/Burglary Theft and Recovery

During 2023, \$26,177.00 in goods/cash/firearms/jewelry/vehicles were reported stolen to the Cuba Police Department. \$22,282.00 was recovered and returned to residents/victims of these burglaries and larcenies.

Use of Force

During 2023 the Cuba Police Department responded to 10 calls in which an officer had to use physical force. No injuries were sustained to any arrestees. Officers had to be evaluated on 4 of these cases. They were treated by ambulance and released.

Use of Deadly Physical Force

During 2023 the Ciuba Police Department did not use deadly physical force.

Personnel Complaints

The Cuba Police Department received one official personnel complaint and through investigation and body camera footage as well as interviews with alleged involved parties' officers were exonerated.

The Cuba Police Department was reported to the Attorney Generals Office on two separate occasions by one individual. Upon an eight-month investigation by the New York State Attorney General's Office, the Cuba Police Department was informed that our agency's complaint was dismissed due to lack of evidence. We were found to be of no wrong doing.

The Cuba Police Department was reported to the New York State Division of Human Rights for three separate violations of human rights on one individual. Upon a two-month long investigation we received official notification from the Regional Director that these cases were dismissed in favor of the Cuba Police Department for no wrong doing on our part.

Reprimands

On two separate occasions, two different Cuba Police Department employees received official letters of reprimand by the Chief of Police. These were for situations where an officer violated a policy and were of a non-serious nature. They did not involve a civilian or a member of the public.

Average Emergency Call Response Time

(Dispatch to arrival)

2 minutes 5 seconds

Public Information

Medicine Box

The Cuba Police Department Drop Box for medication drop off is located in the main lobby of the police station. It can be accessed 24 hours a day 7 days a week 365 days a year. Pills can be left in original containers or placed in a bag. Please refrain from dropping liquids and or saves and creams in the box.

Property Checks

When you are planning to be away from your home for a period of time for any reason, the Cuba Police Department will periodically check your residence and notify you or your designee if any serious problems are discovered.

- Property checks are offered to Cuba residents free of charge.
- Property Check submissions must have an end date specified.
- As call volume allows, Officers will perform periodic inspections of your property while you are away.

Property checks include:

- A perimeter check consisting of a physical and/or visual check of all doors and windows
- Verification of vehicles left on the property
- Verification of any people found on the property *Should the need arise; we will have the information available to contact you or another responsible party.
- Only portions of the residential property with direct access will be checked by Officers

The Property Check service is NOT:

- A guarantee that the property is safe or that it will not be burglarized
- A guarantee that the property will be checked
- A substitute for an alarm system
- For properties in which someone is staying at the residence