AVALON POLICE DEPARTMENT





2017 ANNUAL REPORT

Prepared by:

Jeffrey R. Christopher

Chief of Police

PREFACE

TO: Mayor Martin L. Pagliughi, Council President John McCorristin, Council Vice President James Deever, Council women Nancy Hudanich Ed.D., Councilman Richard Dean, Councilman Charles Covington, Business Administrator's Scott Wahl and James Waldron.

I am honored to present to you the 2017 Avalon Police Department Annual report. Although Chief William McCormick was the Chief of Police in 2017, I wanted to provide you this information, as much of it will include my goals and objectives for 2018.

The Avalon Police Department has a dedicated staff of personnel. We strive to improve the services provided to the citizens and visitors of Avalon on a daily basis. Our mission statement is to maintain safety and security of all persons and property within the Borough of Avalon, but our mission is so much more. We strive to be the best that we can be. To continually better ourselves personally and professionally.

In this report, you will find information regarding personnel, job descriptions, assignments, statistics, calls for service, activities, goals, and objectives.

Jeffrey R. Christopher

Chief of Police

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PERSONNEL

The Avalon Police Department is made up of twenty one (21) sworn Law Enforcement officers. One (1) Chief of Police, one (1) Captain of Police, one (1) Administrative Sergeant, One (1) Detective Sergeant, One (1) Detective, Four (4) Patrol Sergeants, and twelve (12) Patrolman. There are four (4) full-time dispatchers and one (1) full-time relief dispatcher. There are three (3) administrative support staff personnel. One (1) Administrative assistant, and two (2) records clerks. The police department employs between four (4) to seven (7) part time relief dispatchers. The Department utilizes approximately twenty five (25) Special Law Enforcement officers

> William J. McCormick Chief of Police

> Jeffrey R. Christopher <u>Captain of Police</u>

Sergeants:

| John Roscoe |
|-----------------|
| Joseph Gaughan |
| Michael Paluch |
| David Glassford |
| Eric Heisman |
| Sean McNair |

Patrolman:

Tujuan Baile Rob Hampf Zach Saduk William Robinson Stephen Bowers Charles Hewitt Nicholas Brady Mark Glassford Anthony DeCesero Greg Armstrong Matthew Ardelean Andrew Peahota

Dispatchers

Christine Schroter Dawn Brady Wendy Connell William McCormick III Administration Detective Bureau Patrol Patrol Patrol Patrol

<u>Detective</u>

Matthew Sykes

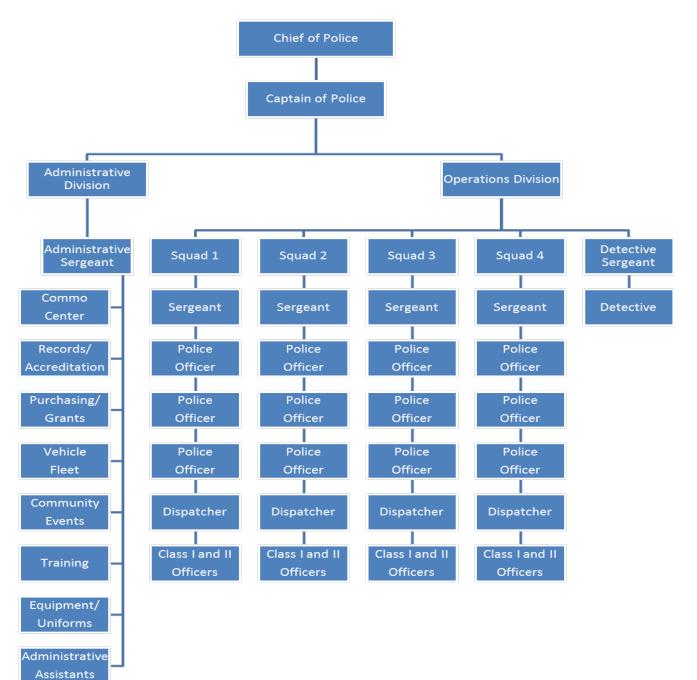
Relief Dispatchers

Nicholas Herman Alexis Hagner Melissa Cahill Paul Short

Support staff

Ruth Thraen Noreen Fitzpatrick Debbie Foley

ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE



Administration

The Chief of Police is the head of the Avalon Police Department and shall be responsible for the day to day operations and, to administer and enforce rules and regulations of the Department for its efficiency. The Chief assigns the duties and assignments of the personnel and manages the Department including purchasing equipment within budgeted resources. To set policy and procedures, issue directives and orders, attendance at Borough Council meetings, meet with community organizations, and delegate authority as appropriate for the efficient operation of the Department. The Chief of Police shall exercise any and all rights, authorities, powers, and responsibilities reserved solely as set forth in NJSA 40A:14-118 and reports to Borough Council once per month.

The Captain of Police reports directly to the Chief of Police. The Captain duties include: Supervision of the Administrative and Operations Divisions, has charge of the department in the Chief's absence, Internal affairs supervisor, department payroll, department training, approves time off, assigns officers engaged in activities to protect persons and property within the Borough, reviews reports, supervises the dispatch center, reviews daily logs, evaluates Sergeants, interviews and hires Special Officers, and performs any duties as needed by the Chief.

The Administrative Sergeant reports to the Captain. Primary responsibilities include, but are not limited to: maintaining department accreditation, vehicle fleet management, supervision of the records bureau and communications division. In addition, the Admin. Sgt. oversees the smooth operation of the police building, computer systems, technology, and assists with training throughout the department.

Patrol

The Patrol Division is the backbone of the Department. It is the most visible part of the Department and usually the public's first point of contact. Patrolmen work 12 hours shifts, switching from day to night shift every two weeks. There are four squads. Each squad has a Patrol Sergeant, three Patrolmen and a dispatcher. Patrolman are always in full dress uniform. There is a minimum of one patrol car on the road at all times, barring an emergency situation. Primary duties of the Patrolmen include: vehicle patrol, criminal law enforcement, traffic enforcement, borough ordinance enforcement, preliminary investigations, responding to various calls for service, security at accident/fire scenes, protection of all persons and property within the Borough. Below is a list of generated reports and calls for service that reflect the work of the Patrolman for the year 2017.

Calls for service

There were **3,841** calls for service. That number reflects any call that was received from a citizen. There were **32,290** incidents. This number is reflected anytime an incident is created in our system. An incident can be something an officer does in the course of their duties such as a call from a citizen as well as self-initiated activity.

Incidents: Enforcement

| Motor Vehicle stops | 3624 |
|--------------------------------|-------|
| Motor Vehicle crash | 74 |
| Traffic Summons | 710 |
| Traffic warnings | 3,276 |
| Warrant arrests | 81 |
| Parking summons | 972 |
| Boat violation warnings | 75 |
| Boat violation summons | 26 |
| Boat assists | 47 |
| Borough ordinance summons | 972 |
| Noise unfounded | 99 |
| Trash summons issued | 55 |
| Unlicensed driver | 36 |
| Investigations | 173 |
| Driving while intoxicated | 15 |
| Suspended drivers | 41 |
| Bicycle Violations | 2742 |
| Criminal mischief | 31 |
| Missing persons | 17 |
| Simple assault | 19 |
| Aggravated assault | 1 |
| Drug violation charges | 63 |
| Possession of CDS | 11 |
| CDS distribution | 1 |
| Unlawful possession of weapons | 1 |
| Suicide/attempt | 2 |
| Receiving stolen property | 2 |
| Intoxicated person | 44 |
| Burglary | 24 |
| Lewdness | 1 |
| Harassment | 6 |
| Urinating in Public | 79 |
| Misstating age to gain alcohol | 7 |
| Terroristic threats | 1 |
| | |

| Domestic Violence | 9 |
|---------------------------|----|
| Theft of services | 2 |
| Resisting arrest | 2 |
| Underage alcohol | 8 |
| Open container of alcohol | 38 |
| Dogs on Beach | 71 |
| Construction after hours | 7 |
| Fireworks complaints | 11 |
| Theft of services | 2 |
| Shoplifting | 4 |

OTHER

Detectives

The Avalon Police Department Detective Division is made up of two officers. There is one Detective Sergeant and one Detective. Detectives are responsible for day to day criminal investigations, investigating accidents and fire scenes, background investigations, firearms applications, sex offender registrations, and much more. In addition to basic training received for patrol, Detectives receive advanced training in areas such as: Crime scene preservation and analysis, DNA collection, crime scene photography, advanced interview techniques, basic and advanced Detective courses, background investigations, Alcoholic Beverage control, fingerprint collection, cybercrimes, and more.

In 2017, The Avalon Police Detective Division conducted multiple details and investigations to protect the safety of our residents and visitors. Background checks were conducted on taxi cab drivers, Jitney drivers, recreation employees, camp counselors, and vendors. These background checks included a check of their criminal histories, United States Department of Justice National Sex Offender Registry, active warrants, and a thorough review of the history of their motor vehicle operation. There were twenty seven (27) investigations for Recreation employees and councilors and eighty four (84) investigations on Jitney and Taxi drivers.

Alcoholic Beverage Control

Prior to the 2017 summer season, The Avalon Police Detective Division conducted Alcohol Beverage Control inspections of all of our establishments who serve alcohol and sell packaged goods. These inspections ensure that each business was in compliance with the local, state, and federal guidelines. These inspections included a thorough review of daily receipts, bank statements, payroll, daily expenditures, deposit slips, documentation of checking, and a review of the current employee list. After reviewing all of the Administrative documents, the bars and walk in refrigerators were inspected. Throughout the summer months, random inspections are conducted throughout these establishments for any violations of local, state, and federal law.

Background investigations

The Detective Division does extensive background checks on new officers and dispatchers. These investigations include, visitation of residences, monitoring of social media, high school and college transcripts, school discipline records, retrieval of criminal and non-criminal contacts with towns where they reside and have resided, New Jersey State Police record checks, contacting references and family members, criminal history, motor vehicle history, juvenile and domestic history, Central Drug Registry checks, financial history, and employment history. Twenty six (26) investigations were conducted in 2017 as the police department employs many seasonal officers during the summer season.

Cops n Shops

The Avalon Police Detective Division applies for a grant annually through the New Jersey Division of Alcoholic Beverage Control Commission called, "cops n shops". This is funded by the state and consists of two officer teams working in plain clothes throughout establishments in the borough, to prevent the sales of alcohol to minors. During the summer of 2017, seven individuals were charged with misstating age to gain entry into local establishments while conducting these details.

Property.

The Avalon Police Detective Division maintains all of the property that is retrieved through criminal investigations, property found for safekeeping, and property that is found and turned in to police officers. In 2017, the Detective Division as well as the Patrol Division, worked rigorously in locating rightful owners of found property, which resulted in the majority of found property being returned to their owner's. The extra effort put in by our department is always appreciated by our resident and visitors. The Avalon Police Department also receives any unused prescription medications, which are stored in the evidence room, later being turned over to the DEA to be destroyed. This program helps keep these drugs off our streets.

<u>Firearms</u>

The Avalon Police Department Detective Division is responsible for conducting background checks for individuals applying for firearms identification cards or permits to purchase or carry handguns. These background checks are conducted in conjunction with the New Jersey State Police Firearms Unit. In 2017, the Detective Division conducted 6 firearms investigations. Monitoring this information and conducting thorough investigations is important to our officers who respond to daily calls as well as the safety of our residents and visitors.

Cooperation with local Law Enforcement agencies

The Avalon Police Detective Division attends monthly Detective meetings at The Cape May County Prosecutor's Office with Detectives throughout the county. Intelligence, current cases, and drug trend information are shared to assure the safety of officers and assist with investigations. The Detective Division monitors All Point Bulletins (APB), county intelligence reports, and monthly intelligence reports where the information is shared to our patrol officers for their safety while working the street.

Dispatch

The Avalon Police Department has a fully equipped dispatch center and is the hub of our department where virtually every call for service originates. Dispatchers are required to perform a full range of radio and telephone operations duties in directing public safety personnel and equipment. They document all calls for service by generating a report on a computer aided dispatch, (CAD) report. Dispatchers are trained in and certified in 9-1-1 and Emergency Medical Dispatching. The Avalon Police Department dispatch center continues to dispatch the Stone Harbor Police Department. Additionally, they are required to answer all 9-1-1 calls for Fire and EMS services and appropriately transfer these types of calls to the Cape May County Dispatch center who ultimately handle dispatch duties for the Avalon Volunteer Fire Department and Avalon Rescue

Special Officers

Special officers are a vital part of the organization. Without Special officers, the Department would not be able to adequately maintain safety and security of all persons and property within the Borough of Avalon. I cannot express how important these officers are to the Avalon Police Department and the Borough of Avalon. In 2017 we employed approximately twenty (20) Special Officers. Six (6) were Class I and fourteen (14) were class 2. Only three (3) were returning from the previous year. At the time of this report, only (2) class 2 officers are scheduled to return for the summer of 2018. Current trends in hiring full time police officers from a pool of certified class 2 officers throughout the state is a major factor. Many class 2 officers work only one (1) summer, then get a full-time job opportunity that prohibits them from returning. Currently we have already hired an additional thirteen (13) Special officers in preparation for summer. This number changes almost daily. Finding and keeping qualified Special officers is becoming increasingly difficult. The Avalon Police Department insists on having high standards and employ only those that are qualified that would represent the Department in a positive manner.

Additionally, when special officers work for the Department for one (1) year or less due to employment with other agencies, we pursue reimbursement for half of the training expenses, as permitted by law, from the hiring agency. We have been very successful over the past few years in receiving reimbursement.

We utilize Special offices in numerous ways including bike patrol, foot patrol, vehicle patrol, and on the marine unit. Last summer we had two (2) boats in the water. We have an experienced Special Class 1 officer, who is a retired Lieutenant from State Corrections that has been assigned to the Marine unit for the Past 11 years and does a great job. His name is Ed Szubski. Anyone that regularly operates a boat or watercraft in the waters of Avalon knows officer "ski". We plan again to have two boats in the water this coming summer and may again consider the purchase of a new Patrol boat.

Support staff

Records Clerks

The police department has two very experienced records clerks. Ruth Thraen has nearly 38 years and Debbie Foley has 32 experience. The records bureau is responsible for the safekeeping, storage, and managing of all records within the police department. Records includes but is not limited to: Criminal investigation reports, traffic reports, accident reports, summons, employee personnel files, training files, medical files, firearms reports, Departmental statistics, issuing of equipment and more. The records bureau is responsible for uniform crime reporting, (UCR) to the FBI, NCIC validations on a monthly basis, and reports to the State Police and County Prosecutor's office. They provide all information regarding discovery and OPRA requests.

Administrative assistant.

The police department has an experienced Administrative assistant with nearly 30 years of experience, Noreen Fitzpatrick. The Administrative assistant is responsible for purchase orders, paying bills, correspondences with beach patrol, answering phone calls, and any task assigned by the Administrative Sergeant, Captain, or Chief.

Training

A breakdown of the schools attended during 2017, by members of this department are as follows:

| COURSE TITLE | PERSONNEL | HOURS |
|--|-----------|--------|
| Proactive Patrol/Becoming a Street Smart Cop | 1 | 16 |
| PT Instructor School | 4 | 160 |
| Arrest Search and Seizure Updates | 8 | 56 |
| Legal Updates | 6 | 48 |
| Alco-test Re-cert | 4 | 16 |
| NJCOP Front Line Supervision Program | 4 | 160 |
| 9-1-1 Course | 4 | 160 |
| Filing for OPRA Discovery | 4 | 4 |
| Methods of Instruction | 1 | 40 |
| First Net Review Session | 1 | 2 |
| RADAR Instructor Re-cert | 1 | 4 |
| Firearms Background Course | 2 | 12 |
| CODIS Training | 2 | 8 |
| OPRA Spotlight: Lyndenhurst Decision | 2 | 3 |
| RADAR Re-cert | 15 | 120 |
| Dispatch Monthly (When Seconds Count) | 14 | 168 |
| Mandated In-service | 19 | 237.5 |
| Amber Alert High Risk Investigations | 2 | 32 |
| | TOTAL | 1246.5 |

In addition to the above, each officer had approximately 18 hours of firearms training (Including both handgun and carbine training – Department 378 hours), representing **a total of 1624.5 hours of training for 2017.** This figure is for full time personnel and all dispatchers. It does not include training received by special officers employed seasonally.

TRAINING FOR SPECIAL OFFICERS

| Special Officer Class II (Academy) | HOURS |
|------------------------------------|-------|
| Matthew Flynn | 320 |
| Christopher Giacomelli | 320 |
| Christopher Yuhas | 320 |
| Christopher Nazha | 320 |
| Theodore Kot | 320 |
| Christopher Rutter | 320 |
| Brandon Flynn | 320 |
| Christy Saulle | 320 |
| Patrick Bukenas | 320 |

| Kyle Pankok | 320 3200 |
|---|--------------------|
| Special Officer Class I (Academy) | |
| Patrick Brunett | 80 |
| Joseph Stoltenberg | 80 |
| Christopher Perrone | 80 |
| Nicolas Santiago | 80 |
| | 320 |
| Firearms Qualifications | 32 |
| Bike Training | 352 |
| Agency Training/In-service | 192 |
| 2017 Special Officer Patrol Practices Seminar | 56 |
| Total Hours | 4152 |

Total Training for the Department, which includes both Full Time and Seasonal Personnel is: 5776.5 Hours

Instructors

The Avalon Police department works very closely with the Cape May County Police Academy. We assigned officers who are motivated and have advanced training in specific areas to periodically instruct the police academy. This is an essential function to support the academy and provide instructors to train the recruits. Below is a list of officers that have been assigned to instruct and the number of hours.

| Sgt. Paluch Sgt. Glassford Sgt. Mcnair | 51.5 33.5 38 | hours hours hours |
|--|--------------------|-------------------------|
| Sgt. Heisman | 28 | hours |
| Det. Sykes | 79.5 | hours |
| Ptlm. Saduk | 59.5 | hours |
| Ptlm. Robinson | 57 | hours |
| Ptlm. Bowers | 65 | hours |
| Disp Schroter | 112 | hours |
| Ptlm. Hewitt | 43.5 | hours |
| Ptlm. M. Glassford | 10.5 | hours |
| Ptlm. Brady | 17 | hours |

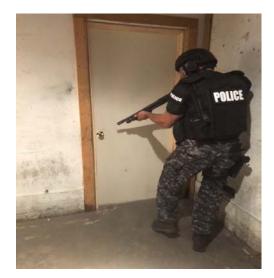
Police department instructors provided 595 hours of instruction in 2017

Accreditation

The Avalon Police Department is an accredited agency through the New Jersey State Chiefs of Police Association. This is a never ending process. The Administrative Sergeant is responsible for maintaining records. Policies are regularly updated to ensure compliance and best practices standards. The next re-inspection process will occur in the spring of 2019.

County SWAT team

The Avalon Police Department has one (1) officer assigned to the Cape May County Special Weapons and Tactics Team part time. That officer is Patrolman Zachary Saduk. Patrolman Saduk's primary responsibility is to patrol for the Borough of Avalon, however he is assigned to special twelve (12) hour training once per month. He attended a basic SWAT operator course for five (5) days in Moyock North Carolina, (formerly Blackwater). Ptlm. Saduk will respond to any SWAT operation county wide upon a "call out". This year, the county team had 58 call outs, for such things as: Barricaded suspects, high risk narcotics search warrants, etc.



Proactive strategies / Community outreach

Community Policing

The Avalon Police Department has taken a proactive approach to securing items that are stolen as a result of crimes of opportunity. Avalon experiences high numbers of thefts of bicycles, from open garage doors and unlocked vehicles. When officers observe unsecured bikes and open garage doors during the evening hours, they will stop at the residence and advise them of the risks as well as request that they secure their items. This seems to be very appreciated by the residents.

Senior Alone

The Avalon Police Department continues the Senior Alone program. The program allows seniors to call in to Police Dispatch every day by 11 a. m. If there is no call, the dispatcher will call the senior to check on them. If no contact is made, an officer will be dispatched to the senior's residence to ensure that they are not in need of assistance. As of the current date, 10 seniors are on the list. In 2017, two new seniors were added to the Senior Alone Program. During the month of December, the Avalon Police Department and Avalon Rescue Squad visit each senior personally. Gifts are given and batteries are changed in the senior's smoke detectors. During this visit, the seniors are able to meet the officers and dispatchers they speak with daily. We are able to answer any questions or concerns the senior may have. This program has been successful for many years and receives great praise from the participants. The officer who is in charge of the Senior Alone program is Ptlm. Robert Hampf

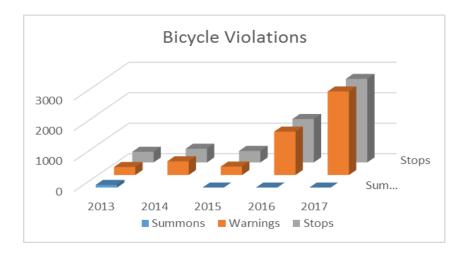
Body Worn Cameras

In 2017 the Department began utilizing body worn cameras. They were acquired at no cost to the borough through a grant that was offered by New Jersey State Attorney General's Office. The grant awarded the Avalon Police Department with \$10,000, which covered the cost of 40 body worn cameras. The implementation of these cameras were seamless and the benefits are overwhelming. There were a handful of complaints against officers that were immediately proven false. Body worn cameras are here to stay.



Bicycle Enforcement

In recent years, bicycle safety has been a top priority. In 2017 the Police Department made several changes to the way we deploy officers to combat this issue. Some changes that occurred were in policy and manner of assigning manpower. The primary strategy used was to educate bicyclists on the laws and dangers of operating bikes in an unsafe manner. Safety of the citizens was the driving force behind this initiative. There were 2742 stops conducted on bicyclists which was nearly a 100% increase from the year prior. 2016 was nearly a 500% increase from all previous years. As you will see, this was a major initiative with clear results. Each of these stops resulted in, at a minimum, the operator being explained the laws and dangers, and provided a safety card with valuable information. As nearly all bicycle violations occur in the summer, this was an extraordinary amount of contacts made in a short amount of time. The result of this effort was a success. See the below graph for comparison to recent years.



AHLOA

Community connections is an event held at the Avalon Community Center. The Avalon Police Department set up a table at the event. We were able to provide important information on safety, and get to know the people of Avalon on a personal level, and listen to any complaints they had.

The Chief of Police meets with members of AHLOA to discuss the needs of the citizens. Captain Christopher addressed members and residents at the yearly AHLOA public safety meeting.

Cape May County Special Olympics Torch Run.

The Avalon Police Department regularly participates in the Law Enforcement Special Olympics torch run. The run is a volunteer basis and officers participate on their own time. Each Department is given a few mile section of the Marathon that starts in Cape May and ends at the Cape May County Police Academy. The purpose is the raise money for the Special Olympics. In 2017, Ptlm. William Robinson participated in the event.

Cops and Coffee

In 2017 the Avalon Police Department continued "Cops and Coffee" which was started in 2016. This is a nationally recognized event where police officers advertise that they will be in a certain location and time, usually at a local establishment that serves coffee. Citizens are encouraged to come speak with officers in a casual environment. The purpose is to get to know the officers personally as well as provide the opportunity for citizens to tell officers about any problems or issues they are experiencing. We participated at various locations, including Uncle Bills pancake house, the Pudgy Pelican, and Avalon Coffee. While kids don't usually drink coffee they never miss an opportunity to get their picture taken with the Friendly Avalon Cops.





National night out

Members of the Avalon Police Department participate in National Night Out. This is a great opportunity to allow the public to get to know the officers. Kids enjoy getting a tour of the police vehicles. Below is Patrolman Steve Bowers showing some kids the inside of a Patrol vehicle.



Police unity tour

The Police unity tour is a 3-day bike ride that originate in Atlantic City and travels to the Law Enforcement memorial in Washington D.C. Over the years, the Avalon Police Department has had numerous officers participate in the local Chapter of the tour. The officers are required to raise approximately \$2000 in donations to be permitted to ride and that money goes to maintaining the National Law Enforcement memorial in Washington D.C. In 2017, we had two (2) officers make the ride. Detective Matthew Sykes and Patrolman TuJuan Baile road their bicycles two hundred plus miles, representing the Avalon Police Department and Officers who have fallen in the line of duty. Special officer and Dispatcher Paul Short is also instrumental to the tour with his logistics support as he was the lead car of the tour, serving as a guide to the route and setting the pace of bicyclists.

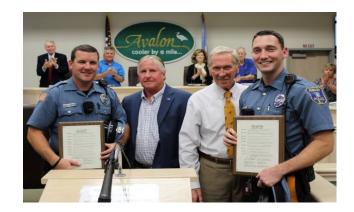
The Avalon Rescue squad also donated an ambulance, which was operated by EMT Jonathon Schwartz. The ride made stops in Delaware, Annapolis, and the 3rd day was the arrival to the memorial. Throughout the ride, multiple stops were made in each state where an officer has been killed in the line of duty. Each officers will ride for the memory of an officer killed in the line of duty. This year Det. Sykes and Ptlm. Baile rode for Officer Danny Faulkner of the Philadelphia Police Department, who was killed in December of 1981. The first photo below is the bike tour stopping at the Sea Isle Police Department to honor fallen officer Michael "Micky" Cullinane. The second picture is Det. Sykes, Ptlm. Baile, Sgt. McNair, Paul Short, and Kevin Scarpa at the Law Enforcement memorial in Washington D.C.



Recognition

Often, in addition to day to day events, some officers go above and beyond the call of duty to save lives. Below are events that occurred in 2017 that were recognized by the Borough or the Avalon Police Department awards committee.

Avalon Mayor Martin Pagliughi and Council President John McCorristin present proclamations to Patrolman Mark Glassford and Matthew Ardelean due to their heroic efforts in saving a despondent man's life. Patrolman Glassford entered the ocean in chest deep water in complete darkness and ragging water and convinced him to come ashore. He then subsequently accompanied the man, at his request, to the hospital.



Sgt. Michael Paluch, Ptlm. Anthony DeCesero, and S/O Paul Short get lifesaving awards at the Annual Avalon Police Department dinner for their life saving efforts that saved an individual that overdosed on narcotics. Sgt. Paluch and Ptlm. DeCesero received two awards for different cases.



Retirements

Two officers of the Department announced their retirement in 2017, though the actual date of their retirement was January of 2018. The two officers were Chief William J. McCormick and Sergeant Joseph Gaughan. Chief McCormick served for 31 years and Sgt. Gaughan served for 25. The experience that these officers possessed will be greatly missed. In 2017, we began preparations to fill their vacancies. Detective Matthew Sykes was selected to replace Sergeant Gaughan in the Detective Bureau and Patrolman William Robinson was selected to replace the second Sergeant position that would occur with subsequent promotions. He will be assigned to patrol. Sergeant John Roscoe was selected to be the next Captain. Peter J. Savini of Avalon, and Christopher Nazha of Linwood were selected to be the next full-time patrolmen.

Goals and Objectives

As the new Chief of Police, I am very fortunate to be beginning where my experienced, and dedicated, predecessor left off. I intend to continue the work he has started. For that reason, there are no changes that are immediately required to ensure the efficiency of the Department.

However, I realize that we can always improve, therefore I plan to review each and every policy to ensure that we are doing the best we can. Understanding my role as a risk manager, I intend to minimize the liability of the Department and Borough of Avalon by continually evaluating our policies and procedures for best practices. This profession is constantly evolving, therefore I do intend to lead this Department in a positive direction and implement change where it would improve and benefit the Department. There are always advancements in technology. I hope to acquire the funding to purchase the best equipment available to ensure that our officers can perform their duties in the safest, most efficient manner.

Training is a top priority. All members of the department will receive quality training, including myself and Captain, with up to date, professional training. There are many advanced training course I would like to see members of the Department receive.

I plan to improve community relations by any means available to me. The relationship with the community is such an important aspect of the job. I plan on encouraging officers to make regular appearances at community events, and get to know the citizens better. To participate in events that would bring credit to the Department.

I plan to acquire a new patrol boat before the summer starts if the budget permits. We have had two boats on the water for many years. The boats we currently have are not designed for patrol and get subjected to extensive wear and tear. Both boats are quickly nearing their end of useful life and incurring costly repairs. My plan is to keep two boats on the water during the summer. Additionally, we plan to continue the proactive enforcement of bicycles in order to maintain the safety of bicyclist and drivers on the streets while maintaining the trust and respect of the community. Education is the answer.

Conclusion:

I would like to thank Mayor Pagliughi, Borough Council members, Borough Administrator's Scott Wahl and Jim Waldron for your continued support. I would also like to thank you for your faith in me to serve as the Chief of Police. It is an honor and a privilege.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeffrey R. Christopher Chief of Police