

**TOWN OF SENECA FALLS
POLICE DEPARTMENT**

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**Seneca Falls Police
January 2014
Monthly Report**

**Town of Seneca Falls
Board Meeting
February 4, 2014**

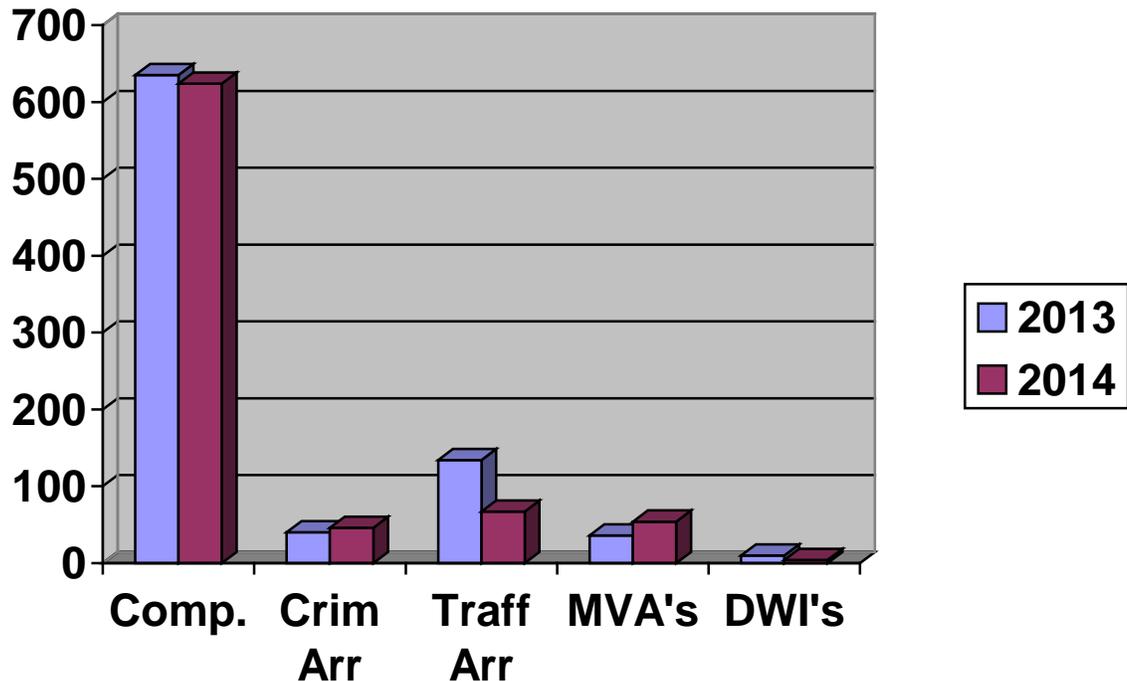
Submitted by: Chief Stuart W. Peenstra

January Statistics

In the month of January 2014, the Seneca Falls Police Department handled 624 calls for service. Of these 624 calls for service, 46 resulted in criminal arrests. The Seneca Falls Police Department responded to 55 traffic accidents. SFPD also conducted 118 traffic stops for the month of January with 67 traffic tickets issued and 4 Driving While Intoxicated arrests.

In comparing January 2014 to January of 2013, calls for service were down 2% (635/624); Criminal arrests were up 15% (40/46); traffic arrests were down 50% (134/67); traffic accidents were up 50% (36/54); and Driving While Intoxicated arrests were down 60% (10/4).

The Seneca Falls Police Department was assisted by outside law enforcement agencies on 28 calls for service and assisted other outside law enforcement agencies on 19 calls for service in the month of January 2014.



Criminal Investigation Division

During January of 2014, the Criminal Investigation Division of the Seneca Falls Police Department arrested (1) individual on (2) felony charges and (1) miscellaneous charge.

CID was assigned approximately 25 new cases in January of 2014. Approximately 17 of those cases were background investigations for perspective employees. The background investigations were a time sensitive matter as the Finger Lakes Law Enforcement Police Academy begins on February 10th of 2014. This involved / required the assignment of a uniformed member of the department to CID.

CID continued to assist the New York State Police with the 1985 Homicide investigation. It appears this assignment will carry over into February of 2014.

CID assisted the Seneca County Narcotics Unit with the execution of a search warrant at 26 Green Street in the Town of Seneca Falls. Said warrant resulted in numerous drug related criminal charges.

CID also submitted testimony to the Seneca County Grand Jury on cases from arrests in the previous months.

CID also continued to work on open cases from previous months and assisted the road patrol with open investigations.

Staffing

On January 26th 2013 Officer Dan Jacobsen resigned from the Seneca Falls Police Department to take a full time job with the Seneca County Sheriff's Department Road Patrol Division. Officer Jacobsen started Part-Time with the Seneca Falls Police Department in October of 2012. Officer Jacobsen was then appointed as a Full-Time Police Officer with the Seneca Falls Police Department in December of 2012.

Officer Jacobsen requests to remain at the Seneca Falls Police Department as a Part-Time Police Officer. It is my recommendation to Supervisor Earle and the Town Board members that at the board meeting on February 4th 2014, Officer Jacobsen be appointed as a Part-Time Police Officer with the Town of Seneca Falls Police Department.

This appointment will increase the departments Part-Time Police Officer staff from 3 to 4 out of the available 7 positions.

Recruitment for the Police Academy

On January 21st 2014 the Seneca County Personnel Department received the results from the November 2013 Police Officer Civil Service test. Since receiving these results, Investigator Calabrese, Sergeant Petrocci, and I have been diligently working on background investigations to find highly qualified candidates to fill the current 2 full-time vacancies and 3 part-time vacancies. We are currently working off of a Town of Seneca Falls Civil Service list recruiting Town residents in an attempt to maintain staff in the future. Oral interviews were conducted during the last week in January. Candidates on the Town of Seneca Falls list were invited to a civil service physical agility on February 2nd which was held at the New York State Chiropractic College Training Facility. The 5 candidates that successfully passed the oral and physical agility will be administered a Polygraph Test on Monday February 3, 2014. Those candidates that successfully pass the Polygraph Test will have to pass a Psychological exam which is scheduled for February 5th, 2014.

Candidates that successfully pass all phases of the background investigation will be considered for hire by the Seneca Falls Police Department. Recommendation to Supervisor Earle; Public Safety Committee; and the Personnel Committee should be ready as soon as Thursday February 6th, 2014. It is requested that a special board meeting be scheduled sometime after the hiring recommendation has been announced. The special board meeting will be needed to appoint the candidates as a Police Officer "Recruit" for the start of the Finger Lakes Law Enforcement Academy on Monday February 10, 2014. The starting rate of pay for a Police Recruit during the academy will be \$9.82 an hour. Upon successful completion of the academy the Recruits will be re-appointed as Police Officers where their starting pay will increase to \$19.63 an hour.

Training

On January 1st, 2014, Sergeant Hawker completed her Recertification for the Datamaster and is now certified for the next two years. The Datamaster is an instrument used to determine a subject's blood alcohol content. The training was conducted online during Sergeant Hawkers regularly scheduled shift, thus creating no additional cost.

Grant's update

Federal COPS Grant

On May 31st 2013 the Seneca Falls Police Department with the assistance of the Town of Seneca Falls grant writers (J. O'Connell and Associates) submitted a Federal grant through the U.S Department of Justice (US DOJ) Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) for funding to establish a School Resource Officer (SRO) position for the Seneca Falls School District.

Recently, the Seneca Falls Police Department was advised by the COPS Office that we were not chosen to receive this grant. 144 agencies were chosen nationally funding 370 Officers totaling \$46,450,848. The City of Troy (Rensselaer County) was the only New York agency to receive this grant out of 47 New York agencies that applied.

The Seneca Falls Police Department is interested in establish an SRO program to help increase positive relationships with the students, teachers and parents throughout the community. This position would increase the safety of the students and staff, thus reducing crime. The SRO would proactively address pressures and problems before they become socially and legally unacceptable.

The Seneca Falls Police Department had strong written support from the following:

Congressman Richard Hanna
Congressman Tom Reed
Assemblyman Brian Kolb
Senator Michael Nozzolio
Seneca Falls Community Center
Seneca Falls School District
Seneca Falls Buisness Association
Finger Lakes Christian Fellowship

NYS Records Management Grant

The Seneca Falls Police Department has begun work with the town grant writers (J.O'Connell and Associates) on a records management grant. If awarded, this grant would assist this department with destroying unnecessary records and aid in reorganizing records that need to be maintained. This grant would also aid in the departments future records retention process.

Vehicle and Equipment Reserve **Account**

On February 4, 2014 I am asking Supervisor Earle and Town Board Members to place \$958 into the Vehicle and Equipment Reserve Account. This money was acquired from the sale of 2 surplus “Kustom” Golden Eagle Radar Units; Used Crown Victoria Trunk Organizers; and lost and found bicycles. The sales of these items were conducted through a company called “Auctions International” who specializes in online actions.

Senior Identity Theft and Scams **Presentation**

On February 19, 2014 “Lifespan” in conjunction with the Seneca Falls Police Department and Seneca Falls Community Center will host a Senior (60+) presentation on protecting yourself from the latest identity theft crisis and current/past scams.

For those interested, there is a Senior Luncheon at 12:00 PM for a cost of \$10. Otherwise, the free presentation begins at 1:00 PM. To register, please contact the Seneca Falls Community Center at (315) 568-6933. The deadline to register for the luncheon is February 14th, 2014.

