



County Police Ink

October 2010

New Castle County Police Department

What's Inside

Promotions

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Congratulations to all!

Colonel McGowan Promotes Eleven Officers

New Castle County Police Chief Michael C. McGowan announced the promotion of eleven police officers to supervisory ranks within the police department. The following officers have been promoted:

- Captain Robert Becker has been promoted to the rank of police major
- Senior Lieutenant Vaughn Bond has been promoted to the rank of police captain
- Senior Lieutenant Robert McLucas has been promoted to the rank of police captain
- Senior Sergeant Teresa Williams has been promoted to the rank of police lieutenant
- Senior Sergeant Phillip Hill has been promoted to the rank of police lieutenant
- Sergeant James Unger has been promoted to the rank of police lieutenant
- Officer First Class Benjamin Feldmann has been promoted to the rank of police sergeant
- Detective Allen Herring has been promoted to the rank of police sergeant
- Officer First Class Travis McDermott has been promoted to the rank of police sergeant
- Officer First Class Gerald Tatum has been promoted to the rank of police sergeant
- Detective John Williamson has been promoted to the rank of police sergeant

According to Colonel McGowan, "I am very proud of and excited for our most recently promoted officers. In fact, I am proud of all our officers. I wish them continued success as they are our present and future leaders." SEE Page 4 for additional pictures.



Major Robert Becker



Captain Vaughn Bond



Captain Robert McLucas

Teen Charged with Murder, Second Suspect Remains at Large

New Castle County Detectives have arrested a 16 year old male who has been linked to the murder of Jeffery Chambers who was slain in the last week of September in the Gwinhurst community. The teen has been identified as Cion Jones, a resident of the 100 block of W. 41 Street in the City of Wilmington. He has been charged with murder in the first degree, attempted robbery in the first degree, possession of a firearm during the commission of a felony, and conspiracy. He is currently being held at the New Castle County Detention Center without bail. A second suspect remains at large at this time. The investigation has revealed Chambers had engaged in a dispute with two men that led to the shooting in the 300 block of Odessa Avenue. When the original officers arrived at the scene, they located the 23 year old male subject who was suffering from an injury to his upper torso. The victim was treated at the scene by paramedics and then transported to the Christiana Hospital, where he died. Detectives are still searching for the other suspect involved in the shooting.

Probationer Arrested, found with Loaded Handgun, Two Homemade Bombs

The New Castle County Safe Streets Team has arrested Bryan George, a 24 year old male who resides in the 400 block of Washington Avenue in Wilmington, DE. He has been charged with weapon related offenses and resisting arrest after probation officers conducted a search inside his home and found a loaded .45 caliber handgun and two homemade bombs inside his closet. Also inside the closet, the officers discovered George had climbed through an attic access and refused to surrender. On Friday (10/1), officers from the county tactical utility team, arrested George in Edgemoor for carrying a switchblade and possession of prescription pills. Further research revealed he was on probation for a prior offense at that time. On Tuesday (10/5), officers from the Safe Streets Team responded to his home to conduct an administrative search due to the recent arrest. After knocking on the front door for several minutes, George's girlfriend (Erica McMillian, age 27) answered and told the officers that he was not at home. Probation officers then entered the home and searched for George. During the search, the officers located a small amount of marijuana, drug paraphernalia, a loaded handgun and two homemade "3/4" sticks of black powder explosives in his closet. While clearing the closet for any other devices, the officers discovered an attic access in the ceiling. The officers were able to gain access to the attic and locate George hiding inside. He and his girlfriend were each arrested. She for hindering prosecution and he for the following offenses: possession of a firearm by a person prohibited, possession of a deadly weapon by a person prohibited, possession of a destructive weapon, possession of drug paraphernalia, resisting arrest, and possession of marijuana. George has been arraigned and committed to the Howard Young Prison after failing to post \$13,500 secured bail. McMillian was charged with the drug offenses as well. She has been arraigned and released on \$2,500 unsecured bail.



Cruiser Equipped with ALPR Computer System, Locates Stolen Car

County Police have arrested a Wilmington teen and charged him with receiving stolen property after he was found to be operating a stolen vehicle. The apprehension was a result of a "hit" from an Automated License Plate Recognition (ALPR) computer system. On Thursday (10/07) at 12:45 a.m., Officer Kevin Donohue was patrolling the area of Memorial Drive and Karlyn Drive when a 2001 Toyota Highlander passed him. Donohue's ALPR computer system suddenly "alerted" to the car which meant the vehicle had been reported stolen. Officer Donohue followed the car to the WAWA Store on Route 13 and watched the occupants at a distance while another officer arrived for backup. With appropriate coverage, the officers moved in and arrested the driver while he was fueling the vehicle. Four other subjects were also detained but not charged with the vehicle theft. One of the occupants (16 year old male from the 100 block of Memorial Drive) was found to be in possession of a four inch steak knife. The teen was arrested and charged with carrying a concealed deadly instrument. He was later released to his parents. The driver of the stolen car, a 17 year old male who resides in the 100 block of N. Lincoln Street in Wilmington, was arrested and charged with receiving stolen property. He was released on \$5,000 unsecured bail. The automatic License Plate Recognition (ALPR) delivers the ability to read vehicle license plates and check them against an installed database for rapid identity verification. The system has been used to locate stolen or wanted vehicles and identify parking-ticket scofflaws. This rapidly deployable, scalable solution uses rugged infrared cameras that connect to leading-edge optical character recognition (OCR) technology software, allowing officers to conduct surveillance under varied lighting and weather conditions. Captured information is immediately processed, and officers are alerted only when a "hit" occurs.



Serial Burglars Arrested, Suspected in over 40 Crimes

Detectives have arrested two men for multiple counts of burglary and related offenses after an alert investigator located a stolen ring at a local jewelry store. The detective, who was investigating an unrelated crime, observed the ring among other jewelry that had been recently pawned. After confirming it was reported stolen, he authored a search warrant for the home of the seller and located thousands of pieces of stolen goods. On October 13, Detective Eric Godwin responded to a local jewelry store in Christiana to investigate an unrelated crime. While viewing the recently pawned property, he came upon a ring that had distinguishing characteristics that he believed to have been stolen. Based on the characteristics, Godwin conducted a computer inquiry and determined the ring had been reported stolen on October 4 from a home in Newark. The detective learned the ring had been pawned by a male subject named Amara Gumaneh who resides in the Hunters Crossing Apartments. Detective Godwin later executed a search warrant at Gumaneh's apartment where he recovered a large amount of stolen property that included: jewelry, electronic devices, wallets, credits cards and foreign currency. Two handguns with obliterated serial numbers were also found in the home. The two male residents of the apartment, Amara Gumaneh (19) and Kessellee Kanda (20), were found at home and were arrested without incident. They were originally charged with seven counts of burglary and related offenses. Both were committed to prison after failing to post secured bail on October 13. As a result of additional follow-up and linking some of the recovered property to other victims, detectives charged them with an additional 26 criminal offenses stemming from this case. So far, the suspects have been linked to burglaries that have occurred in the following communities over the past four months: Rutherford, Harbor Club Apartments, Scottfield, Robscott Manor, Breezewood, Harmony Woods, and other communities within the City of Newark.



Canine Track Leads to Drug Bust

County Police have arrested Kyle Skinner, a 20 year old male who lives in Newark, DE. He has been charged with drug violations and criminal impersonation after police encountered him while searching for a robbery suspect and found he was in possession of marijuana. Although he was not involved in the robbery, he provided a false name and was later found to be wanted for three capiases. On Wednesday evening (10/13), Senior Corporal Jim Fitzgerald and his canine partner Rony conducted a track from the area of the Georgetown Village Apartments for a reported robbery investigation. While searching the area, they encountered a male subject who was singing lyrics aloud that led the officers to believe he may have had drugs in his possession. The officers stopped him and his friend to see if they may have been involved in the robbery. The friend provided identification, an alibi and was not wanted –so he was free to go. Skinner was unable to provide an identification card and later admitted to being in possession of marijuana. After giving a false name and failing to properly add his date of birth and supposed age (didn't add up), he provided his true identity. A computer inquiry revealed he was wanted three times for various charges. Skinner was charged with criminal impersonation, possession of marijuana, possession of drug paraphernalia, and hindering prosecution. He has been arraigned and committed to prison after failing to post \$4,000 secured bail.



Fitzgerald and Rony

Police Canine Locates Suicidal Missing Woman

A County Police canine has been credited with saving the life of a suicidal 41 year old female who had taken nearly 80 Clonazepam pills. On Wednesday (10/27) at 11:43 p.m., County Police responded to a home in the unit block of Gill Drive, in the community of Robscott Manor, for a report of a missing suicidal woman who had just ingested a large amount of prescription pills. When the officers arrived, they learned the woman had engaged in a verbal dispute with family members before taking the pills and fleeing the residence on foot. Corporal Paul Chickadel and his canine partner Renzo responded to the home and began a track from the driveway area where the woman was last seen. Renzo started tracking toward the rear yard and then along the sidewalk heading west on Cordrey Road. Renzo located the woman unconscious lying on the ground in the back yard of a home on Cordrey. The woman was rushed to the Christiana Hospital where she was treated and admitted for an evaluation.



Chickadel and Renzo

Domestic Victim Shoots Ex-Husband during Break-in

County Detectives are investigating a homicide that occurred late Thursday (10/28) in the Eagle Trace Townhouses. A female victim reported her ex-husband had broken into her home and was assaulting her (while she was sleeping in bed) when she shot him. The man died at the scene. On Thursday at 11:32 p.m., County Police received a 911 call from a home in the 300 block of Norman Drive for a report of a shooting that just occurred. A female caller reported she had just shot her ex-husband as he was assaulting her. At the scene, police found the deceased intruder in the bedroom and discovered the victim had apparent injuries her face. The investigation has revealed the victim had an active protection from abuse order against her ex-husband due to previous violent encounters. At the time of his death, he was wanted by police for violating the order and for causing significant damage to her car. Detectives learned the ex-husband had used a ladder to gain access to the victim's third floor bedroom window. He then entered the home through the window and began punching the victim about the head while she was sleeping in bed. The victim, who had been active with New Castle County victim advocates, was able to arm herself with a gun and shoot the intruder. She was then able to escape and call 911. The female victim, who complained of chest pains, was transported to the Christiana Hospital where she is being evaluated. The deceased has been identified as Gregory Thompson, a 57 year old male who resides in the 600 block of Country Path Drive in New Castle. No charges have been filed.

Two Charged with Manufacturing Marijuana

County Police arrested two adults for a marijuana growing operation who were cultivating the drugs in their bedroom. (Pike Creek) During the week of September 26th County Police received information about a subject who was possibly growing marijuana inside an apartment at 702 Greystone Lane, in the Summit Pike Creek Apartments. A few days later, the officer observed what appeared to be two marijuana plants on the balcony of the residence. On Wednesday (10/6) the officers executed a search warrant at the home where they found 10 marijuana plants growing in the tenants' bedroom. Three additional plants were found on the balcony and assorted paraphernalia, two Ecstasy pills and books on how to grow marijuana were discovered inside. Adam Woo, a 22 year old male and Kelin Stanley, a 22 year old female, were each arrested and charged with manufacturing marijuana, maintaining a dwelling for keeping a controlled substance, conspiracy, possession of drug paraphernalia, possession of marijuana, and possession of Ecstasy. Woo was arraigned and released on \$9,500 unsecured bail. Stanley was released on \$9,000 unsecured bail.

Congratulations to all!

Lieutenant Teresa Williams



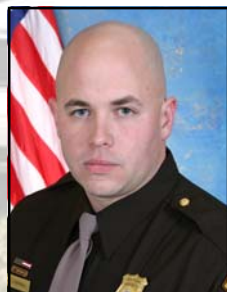
Lieutenant Phil Hill



Lieutenant James Unger



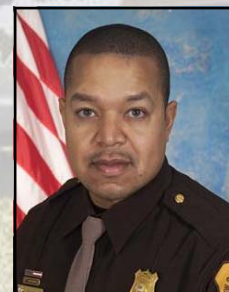
Sergeant Ben Feldmann



Sergeant Allen Herring



Sergeant Travis McDermott



Sergeant Gerald Tatum



Sergeant John Williamson