

# SARATOGA SPRINGS POLICE DEPARTMENT



## **“GOOD TO KNOW...”**

FROM THE DESK OF:

CPL. AARON D. ROSEN, PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER

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### **(POLICE BLOTTER INFORMATION- Apr. 2010)**

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#### **STATISTICAL DATA:**

In 2010, the Saratoga Springs Police Department has handled a total of **2643** offenses. (Year-to-date)

The Department handled: **503** reported incidents in Apr. 2010. (**420-** in 2009; **372-** in 2008); an overall **26%** average annual increase in incidents over the past two years.

The Department currently has **14 Patrol/Administrative Officers**, and **2 Animal Control/Code Enforcement officers**, actively patrolling Saratoga Springs. Each officer works various shifts, providing the residents 24/7-365 coverage; with police supervision round-the-clock.

The Department currently has **3 sworn Investigators**. They are assigned in-house, and at the Westlake High School. **2** part-time “Uniformed” Investigators also assist the Investigations Division via the Patrol Division. Investigations have been working **152 active** cases, for **April 2010**. They had an approximate clearance and/or solvability rate of: **45%**. This month, Investigators have written **4** search and/or arrest warrants, and have provided nearly **103** school presentations (WLHS, and elementary schools). These presentations have included: NOVA, NOVA graduations, and RADKids courses.

#### **DEPARTMENT HAPPENINGS:**

The Saratoga Springs Police Department was recently awarded the policing services contract for the City of Bluffdale. Members of the SSPD Team are excited to be a part of an exciting new opportunity to serve the residents of Bluffdale. Chief Hicken and the SSPD team have begun preparations to assume the police responsibilities; replacing the Unified Police Department. The change-over is anticipated to occur on July 1, 2010. The hiring process is underway, and conditional offers of employment have been made to potential candidates.

The SSPD is in the process of hiring four new Patrol Officers, a part-time records clerk, and a Police Supervisor has been appointed. These new additions will serve the City of Bluffdale, at their city offices. They will wear similar uniforms, badges, and equipment as the SSPD officers. They will also drive vehicles that will appear similar to the Saratoga Springs Police Department, however will be marked with “Bluffdale” on the side.

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### **(POLICE BLOTTER INFORMATION- Apr. 2010/Con't.)**

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## **CASE SAMPLING:**

### **#1- DOMESTIC VIOLENCE**

Officers responded to the Stillwater subdivision on the report of a couple who had a physical altercation. It was discovered that the husband/wife couple had been arguing about the couple's pets. The suspect was upset the cats were scratching their furniture; the victim was upset the dog was let loose inside their home. The altercation became physical, and due to the physical violence, one arrest was made on-scene.

### **#2- STALKING**

After a nearly three year struggle with domestic violence at the hands of an ex-boyfriend, a Saratoga Springs woman was allegedly being stalked by this ex-boyfriend. While the victim was walking through a local shopping center parking lot, the man approached the woman and made a threatening "gun-like" gesture toward the female. He fled on foot, following the SSPD officers being called by the victim. Following a thorough investigation, criminal charges for Stalking were filed with the City Prosecutor. The suspect faces additional jail time for violating a court order, by attempting to contact the woman.

### **#3- KIDS BURGLARIZE RESIDENCE**

Three area teens are in trouble with the law following their unlawfully entering a residence in the Sunrise Meadows subdivision. The boys entered the home while the owner was out of town. They allegedly took alcohol and possibly money from the homeowner. He called police when he noticed the missing cash and liquor. The case is being screened by the Juvenile section of the Utah County District Attorney's office. Residential burglary is a third degree felony.

### **#4- ARREST WARRANT**

While on routine patrol, a day-shift Saratoga Springs Police Officer conducted a traffic stop on a vehicle, near the Crossroads. A computer check was performed, and it was discovered that the driver had nearly \$57,000 in outstanding arrest warrants (assault, domestic violence assault, disorderly conduct, speeding). He was arrested on-scene, and was transported to jail and booked.

### **#5- DUI AND DRUGS**

On April 10<sup>th</sup>, an alert off-duty SSPD officer was washing his vehicle at the AutoSpa car wash. While doing so, he noticed an SUV parked near the vacuums for nearly fifteen minutes. It was just after midnight, and the officer couldn't see anyone around the truck. He called for an on-duty unit to also respond. The on-duty patrol officer was just across the street, and pulled-up almost immediately. The officer noticed the suspect sitting inside the vehicle, and asked him what he was doing. The driver said, "just vacuuming". No vacuum was running. The interior of the vehicle reportedly smelled like "burnt drugs", and the driver was subsequently arrested for DUI, and possession of drug paraphernalia. After a consent search was conducted, it was discovered the driver had nearly fifty (50) drug syringes, and burnt spoons with residue on them, all in his possession. He was taken into custody.

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## **(POLICE BLOTTER INFORMATION- Apr. 2010/Con't.)**

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### **#6- A "TWO-FER"!!**

On April 11<sup>th</sup>, SSPD Officers responded to the Hawk's Landing subdivision on the report of an Assault in progress. Upon arrival, it was determined that a male/female party had become physically engaged in an altercation. The female party was attempting to retrieve her children from the house. The male and female began arguing, and

she allegedly began shoving and hitting the man. Officers interviewed both parties and the witnesses. The woman was arrested and cited for the Simple Assault.

Following her being issued a citation, she got into her vehicle and left the scene. A backing officer could smell the odor of an alcoholic beverage coming from the woman, while they were talking earlier. The officer conducted a traffic stop on the vehicle a short time later. Field sobriety testing was conducted, and the woman was also arrested for suspicion of DUI. The vehicle was impounded and the woman taken into custody.

#### **#7- DRUGS**

An SSPD Officer was dispatched to the Loch Lomond subdivision on the report of a possible drug exchange between the occupants of two vehicles. Upon arrival, the officer met with the witness, and received a license plate. The vehicle was registered to a known drug user in the immediate Lehi area. The officer decided to pay a visit to the home of the suspect. The suspect answered the door, admitted to being the one driving the suspect vehicle, and gave consent for the officer to search the interior of the vehicle. During the search, a substance consistent with marijuana was found throughout the interior of the car and its console. A glass pipe, listed as paraphernalia was also discovered. A Utah County Sheriff's K-9 was also deployed on-scene, and assisted with the drug search.

#### **#8- EVEN MORE DRUGS!**

While working the Saratoga Springs Municipal Court, an SSPD Officer recognized two defendants in the courtroom as having been involved in recent drug activity and a drug arrest. During the court session, one of the defendant's began speaking to the Judge. The judge became suspicious, and ordered the defendant to undergo immediate drug testing. His brother, the other defendant, became quite nervous. The Judge ordered the other brother to also be tested on-site. Both tested positive for various narcotics. The Judge gave both defendants a court date, and a mandate to "clean their systems". He ordered them to undergo further testing at their next court appearance. Another failure to "pass" a drug screen will likely result in their doing jail time.

For more information or public safety tips, be sure to check out the Saratoga Springs Police Department's Crime Prevention Newsletter. This feature is being provided as a community resource in order to better inform our residents of basic tips and tools in preventing crime, upcoming events, and other community policing resources. You can find the newsletter by connecting to: <<http://www.saratoga-springs.net/departments/publicsafety/police/>> and click the 'Crime Prevention Newsletter' link, which is found along the left-hand column.

#### **Have a safe month!**

-Cpl. Aaron D. Rosen, PIO SSPD