

SARATOGA SPRINGS POLICE DEPARTMENT



“GOOD TO KNOW...”

FROM THE DESK OF:

CPL. AARON D. ROSEN, PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER

(POLICE BLOTTER INFORMATION- May 2010)

STATISTICAL DATA:

In 2010, the Saratoga Springs Police Department has handled a total of **2984** offenses. (Year-to-date)

The Department handled: **508** reported incidents in May 2010. (**470**- in 2009; **408**- in 2008); an overall **25%** average annual increase in incidents over the past two years.

The Department currently has **19 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 **159 active** cases, for **May 2010**. They had an approximate clearance and/or solvability rate of: **30%**. This month, Investigators have written **2** search and/or arrest warrants, and have provided nearly **98** school presentations (WLHS, and elementary schools). These presentations have included: WLHS programs, NOVA graduations, and a radKIDS Committee with a Wal-Mart donation toward radKIDS training equipment.

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 has been completed. The SSPD team welcomes: Officer Nathan Harris (UCSO), Officer Shane Taylor (Unified PD), Officer Merrick Pack (Farmington PD), Officer Kevin Flinton (Airport PD), and Officer Carl Hamer (Logan PD). Also two part-time records clerks: Jaime Soakai and Kelli Brownlee, were added to the SSPD family. All of 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.

(POLICE BLOTTER INFORMATION- May 2010/Con't.)

CASE SAMPLING FOR MAY 2010:

#1- FRAUD

Officers responded to the Harvest Hills subdivision on the report of a victim who'd apparently received a letter, and had been offered a "secret shopper" position with a company named: Money-Op.com. It was discovered that the "company" had later mailed the victim a cashier's check, and requested that he sign a contract, and mail certified funds to an address in England. The check did not clear the bank, and the victim lost nearly \$3,000.

******(Note- Remember to always be wary of offers for quick cash, or anyone offering to give you large sums of money upfront, with the request that you return money via a wire transfer, or funds drafted through your own bank, and a request to send money elsewhere- especially out of the country.)

#2- NO BUSINESS LICENSE: HAVE WARRANTS- WILL TRAVEL

On May 7, SSPD Officers were asked to make contact with three males selling their wares in the Harvest Hills subdivision. While speaking with the men, who were in town selling products door-to-door, it was discovered that two of the three of them had outstanding warrants. One of the men had a \$50,000 felony drug warrant. The other male had a minor traffic offense warrant. Both were placed into custody, and were transported to the Utah County Jail for booking.

#3- DUI: DRIVER LICENSE EXPIRED FOR 14 YEARS

An SSPD Officer on routine patrol conducted a traffic stop on a vehicle being operated by a male driver whose license had expired in 1997. During the stop, it was discovered that both the driver and passenger had been consuming marijuana and prescription narcotics. A police K-9 was deployed on-scene. After the dog "alerted" on the vehicle, two baggies of marijuana and drug paraphernalia were found inside a hidden compartment within the vehicle. The passenger admitted to being the owner of the drugs, and also volunteered that his friend, the driver, had also partaken of the illegal substances. Both were booked into jail, and the vehicle was impounded.

#4- THREATENING SHOPPER

A local retailer contacted SSPD and requested that officers respond to their store. The SSPD Officer met with several of the store's staff. It was determined that a shopper, who has portrayed possible mental illness, had been stalking and pursuing a personal relationship with a store employee. After several attempts to ask the woman to leave the store and to not continue loitering, the female suspect became verbally irate and threatened store management with a physical confrontation. The woman, on several occasions, has attempted personal contact with the male employee- including trying to physically hug the male employee. The woman was escorted out of the store, and off of their property by the police.

#5- DUI, DRUGS AND COURT

On May 14th, while the Saratoga Springs Justice Court was in session, an SSPD Officer was requested to check the welfare of a woman in the parking lot of the City Offices. While watching the woman walking around the parking lot, it appeared that she was impaired. She was stammering, and did not appear to be cohesive with her movements. The officer asked her if she was okay; she said she was. The officer then asked the woman if she was under the influence of any drug or narcotic. She said she'd ingested Methamphetamine and had been under the influence of the drug for several days. The woman said she drove to the courthouse to drop-off a friend for her court appearance. After routine field sobriety testing, it was discovered that the woman, by her own admission, allegedly operated the vehicle while impaired by the drugs. She was subsequently arrested on-scene and taken to jail.

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#6- LOUD PARTY

SSPD Officers were requested to respond to the new condominium subdivision just East of the Del Taco, on Venetian Way. At some point, in the early morning hours of May 21, we received a complaint of loud music and

yelling by “partiers”. Upon arrival, officers spoke with two people on a balcony. They were asked to come and talk to the officers. They did not come to the door. Eventually, another young man answered the door. He said that he lived there, but had just been “woken up” by the officers knocking on the door. After an investigation, it was determined that there were several young people at this residence. Alcohol was a factor in this incident. Several of the party-goers were intoxicated, and thus caused the noise to the neighbors. Five arrests were made, and one of the homeowners (not the man who initially opened the door), was also arrested for contributing to the delinquency of the minors at the party.

#7- FIGHT

Two people were involved in a physical altercation at the High School on May 21. While on patrol at the school, the School Resource Officer was requested to assist with the investigation of two young men being involved in a fight on school grounds. After the investigation, it was discovered that one of the men were actually adults, and had been asked to leave the property by the school administration. Instead, the man instigated an altercation with one of the WLHS students. Both parties were cited and charged with Disorderly Conduct for disrupting the school’s activities.

#8- SELF-ARREST?!

While working a normal shift for the police department, an SSPD Officer visited the residence of a man who resides in the Lake Mountain subdivision. The man was being sought for an outstanding \$10,000 arrest warrant. Officers met with a family member on-scene. They were informed that the man they were looking for was not at home, but was at work. About one hour later, the man contacted Dispatch, and asked to speak with the officers. He asked if he could meet with them, in person, about, “...whatever it is you need.” He was told that would be “great”! When the man arrived at the SSPD offices, he was placed into custody, informed of his warrant, and then taken to jail.

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 great start to summer! See you at SPLASH!

-Cpl. Aaron D. Rosen, PIO SSPD