

# **Norwalk Board of Police Commissioners**

**Mayor Harry W. Rilling  
Commissioner Fran Collier-Clemmons  
Commissioner Tony Lopez**

## **CITY OF NORWALK BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS REGULAR MEETING April 18, 2022**

### **BY VIDEO CONFERENCE AND TELECONFERENCE**

ATTENDANCE: Mayor Rilling; Commissioner Collier-Clemmons; Commissioner Lopez

STAFF: Chief Thomas Kulhawik; Deputy Chief Susan Zecca; Deputy Chief James Walsh

Mayor Rilling called the meeting to order at 4:15PM.

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no public comments.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES- MARCH 21, 2022**

On page 2, line 5, add a period after the work priority, remove "and" and capitalize "They"

On page 3, under informational items change "complementary" to "complimentary"

On page 3, paragraph 1, line 3 change "dispatcher's" to "dispatchers"

On page 4, under the Executive Session, line 4, add a period after Officer Joseph Frattaroli.

On page 5, paragraph 4, line 2, add "to"

**\*\* COMMISSIONER LOPEZ MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF MARCH 21, 2022, AS AMENDED.**

**\*\* THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

### **RECOGNITION- OFFICER OF THE MONTH- OFFICER AKEEM BRYCE, OFFICER RICHARD MONTANEZ, OFFICER KENNEDY CLAVER-OBINAA & OFFICER RAMON TEJADA**

Chief Kulhawik said all over the state there have been issues with the theft of catalytic convertors from vehicles and on March 23, 2022, there was a report from someone on Water Street that saw some suspicious activity in a parking lot and Officer Tejada, Officer Claver-Obinna, Officer Bryce and Officer Montanez responded and arrested two individuals in the vehicle, and recovered six catalytic convertors along with the tools that were used to remove them. He said the individuals were found to have been responsible for numerous other thefts in

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Norwalk and other jurisdictions and has made a huge impact on the reports of catalytic convertors being stolen and he wants to recognize the officers for their outstanding work.

(The commissioners congratulated Officer Tejada, Officer Claver-Obinna, Officer Bryce and Officer Montanez)

## **OPERATIONS REPORT**

### **PATROL STAFFING**

Deputy Chief Walsh reported and said for the month of March the staffing was at 160 and there are 21 vacancies in patrol. He said a total of 182.75 sick days and 184.5 workers compensation days were used by sworn personnel. He said that two officers are in the academy, five officers are scheduled to go to the academy in April, and five spots are reserved for the June academy three officers are in que for review by POST for comparative hire in May 2022.

### **SELECTIVE ENFORCEMENT REPORT**

Deputy Chief Walsh reported on the Detective Bureau activity and significant cases and noted that 50 cases were opened, and they have one major investigation going on involving fraud by a local Attorney and there are many victims involved. He said the Detective Bureau has also been busy conducting background investigations for applicants.

Deputy Chief Walsh reported on the Special Services activity and said they opened 31 cases for the month and opened one fatal and three non-fatal overdose investigations and are conducting several temporary liquor investigations for summer applications as well as ongoing narcotic investigations.

Deputy Chief Walsh reported on the Special Victims activity and said they opened 73 cases in March, and the school resource officers opened 46 cases, and there is one ongoing human trafficking investigation and four ongoing sexual assault investigations. Commissioner Collier-Clemmons asked if there is significant activity regarding human trafficking in this area. Deputy Chief Walsh said there is a task force officer assigned and he works on many cases in the region, but we have not seen any cases in Norwalk.

Deputy Chief Walsh reported on the traffic unit and said there were 65 stops made, 25 citations were issued, five misdemeanor arrests were made, and 11 written warnings and 24 verbal warnings were issued. He noted that they concentrated most of their selective enforcement locations on Richards Ave., Hunters Lane, East and Cannon Streets, Silvermine Ave., Dry Hill Road, Mark Drive, Glover Ave., and Grist Mill due to citizen complaints.

Deputy Chief Walsh reported on Community Policing and noted there was active social media regarding the distractive driving initiative which is currently being done through a grant program. He said they also did Read Across America, and Sergeant Gulino has been very busy due to several ongoing outreach efforts assisting EDP residents with local agencies.

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Deputy Chief Walsh said there were 189 criminal arrests made for the month, there were a total of 3997 calls for service and 129 total infractions issued. Commissioner Lopez asked if there are any demographics around the infractions that were issued. Deputy Chief Walsh said they can work on some data once the grant initiative for distractive driving has been completed.

## **ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT**

### **MARCH TRAINING REPORT**

Deputy Chief Zecca reported and said they are continuing the annual firearms training, low light and use of force training, and the monthly ESU team, tactical teams, crisis negotiation team and K-9 unit have also done monthly training. She said they are now into review cycle training for a third of the department and have had classes on housing matters, legal concerns, driver training, police and the public training, sexual harassment prevention training and search and seizure as well as NCIC certification. She said a few of the detectives have also completed training on the CISS system (Connecticut Information Sharing System). She highlighted that they are training two new officers as Field Training Officers in preparation for the officers that they have been hiring and have had two officers attend MOI training to become certified trainers so they can teach some to the review credit training, and additionally had two supervisors attend some ESU leadership training. Commissioner Collier-Clemmons asked how the simulator fits into the training courses. Deputy Chief Zecca said it is scheduled in with the firearms training.

### **PERSONNEL MATTERS- DROP REQUEST- SERGEANT JEFFREY PROUDFOOT**

Chief Kulhawik noted that the DROP for Sergeant Jeffrey Proudfoot is based on Lieutenants pay because he has been an acting Lieutenant for many months and Mr. Burney said he is entitled due to the length of time he has been in that acting capacity.

**\*\* COMMISSIONER LOPEZ MOVED TO APPROVE THE DROP REQUEST FOR SERGEANT JEFFREY PROUDFOOT.**

**\*\* THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

## **INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

### **COMPLIMENTARY LETTERS**

Chief Kulhawik said he received a complimentary letter from the family of one of the officers whose mother unfortunately suffered a severe medical issue but thankfully has recovered and is doing well. Commissioner Collier-Clemmons said she thinks it's wonderful how quickly the department responded to one of their own and his family, but she wants it to be known this would have been done for anyone who was in this particular need.

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Chief Kulhawik said he received a complimentary email thanking Officer Richard Holmes for his kindness and mentioned that he is an asset to the department.

Chief Kulhawik said he received a complimentary email thanking the traffic unit for addressing their traffic concerns in the area of Rampart Road.

Chief Kulhawik said he received a complimentary email also thanking the traffic unit for addressing their traffic concerns in the area of Witch Lane and Hunt Street.

Chief Kulhawik said he received a complimentary email regarding a medical call that Sergeant Cowf, Officer Russo and Officer White had responded, and they had commented on how well the officers had handled the call as well as for their kindness.

## ADJOURNMENT

**\*\* COMMISSIONER COLLIER-CLEMMONS MOVED TO ADJOURN.**

**\*\* THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting adjourned at 4:45PM

Respectfully submitted,  
Dilene Byrd