



# AYER POLICE DEPARTMENT

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William A. Murray  
*Chief of Police*

## MEMORANDUM

**To:** Town Manager Pontbriand  
**From:** Chief William A. Murray  
**CC:** file  
**Date:** January 20, 2021  
**Re:** December 2020 Monthly Report

During the month of December 2020 the Police Department logged 874 events. We assisted the Fire Department on 30 medicals and 15 other Fire Department related calls. Here are some 2020-year end stats:

Offense	Total
Animal Complaint	234
Assault	44
Arson	1
Assist Other Agencies	122
Burglary/Breaking & Entering	8
By-Law Violations	23
Civil Complaint	7
Disturbance	175
Domestic	63
Drug/Narcotic Violations	12
Fraud	83
Intimidation	9
Larceny	49
Motor Vehicle Accidents	127
MV Stops	1273
Motor Vehicle Theft	2
Pornography/Obscene Material	4
Shoplifting	1
Statutory Rape	4
Vandalism of Property	35
Weapons Law Violation	2

During this continued time of COVID-19 our numbers of calls for service and motor vehicle stops have significantly dropped. Our mission is focused on ensuring resident quality of life through high visibility and assisting the Board of Health with necessary SOP enforcement. In this midst of COVID-19 uncertainty and fear, the men and women of Ayer PD report every day to their assigned positions ready and willing to assist.

In spite of COVID-19 the Department continues on in its effort toward Certification. We have regained the services of our Consultant, while adhering to strict COVID-19 guidelines and we remain on track to be assessed sometime early in the new year.

December 10, 2020 marked the end of my 33<sup>rd</sup> year as a Police Officer for the Town of Ayer! While I have seen and experienced much in my long career, 2020 has certainly been an unprecedented year of change and new experiences. What hasn't changed is my commitment to provide the highest possible level of customer and police service to the citizens of Ayer.

We continued the hiring process this month to fill 2 open Police Officer and 1 Communicator positions and expect to have recommendations to the Town Manager for appointment sometime early next month.

A third Patrol Officer position has become open due to the retirement of Sgt. Mike Edmonds on November 30. Mike was with the Department for 24 years and spent many years prior to that in other departments. A stalwart Commander of the Day Shift, Mike assisted in so many other areas unrelated to his daily supervisory duties. He leaves massive shoes to fill and will be thoughtfully missed.

Even with COVID-19, Sgt. John MacDonald has once again pulled off what has become an ever increasing outpouring of public generosity through our Holiday Toy Drive and Fill a Cruiser event. This year we took in applications and prefilled bags with toys and clothes for families to pick up at designated times. The excess, and there was a box truck full of it, was donated to the Toys for Tots organization.

Complaints against Employees:       None

Commendations to Employees:       None

Training classes that officers attended during December, either collectively or individually, were in the areas of:

- Firearms Qualification
- Implicit Bias
- CJIS Recert
- Defensive Tactics
- Legal Update
- Domestic Terrorism
- Longevity in LE
- P&P 4.01 Professional Standards
- BLS/CPR Instructor Update
- Dynamics of DV for Dispatchers

In total the Department spent 162 hours in training for the month.