

MONTHLY REPORT

FEBRUARY 2022

Upper Dublin Police Department
520 Virginia Drive
Fort Washington, PA 19034

Contact Us:

215-646-2101

Udpd@udp.d.us

[Facebook](#)

[Twitter](#)

<https://www.upperdublin.net/departments/police/>



COMMENDATIONS

The Upper Dublin Police Department values the hard-work, dedication, and diligence of its members. The Department seeks to recognize those members who continuously strive to do their best and serve as examples to the community and their peers. The following commendations were awarded to personnel during the month of January:

Letter of Commendation – Officer Bortnichak

On Wednesday, February 10, Ofc. Bortnichak was on routine patrol on the 300 block of Commerce Drive, in the Fort Washington section of Upper Dublin Township, when he located a female lying on the ground. The female was struggling to move and was not dressed for the weather, had no shoes on and was covered in mud. The temperature was 21 degrees. From his initial interaction, Ofc. Bortnichak learned the female was outside for hours exposed to the cold weather and possibly under the influence. He immediately requested an ambulance and wrapped her in an emergency blanket. Emergency Medical Services responded, provided additional care, and transported the female to Abington Memorial Hospital.

The Upper Dublin Township Police Department is guided by the philosophy of Professionalism, Integrity and Community Policing. Our greatest asset is our personnel; our greatest strength is our partnership with our community.



INVESTIGATIONS

Patrol Division & Detective Unit

On Monday, February 7, 2022, Upper Dublin Police Officers were dispatched by the Montgomery County Communications Center for a report of theft at a storage facility in the 1700 block of Limekiln Pike in the Dresher section of Upper Dublin Township. Upon arrival, it was discovered that catalytic converters were stolen from multiple vehicles. The case was turned over to the Detective Unit who immediately began an investigation. A possible suspect was identified, and search warrants have been served during this ongoing investigation.

On Monday, February 7, 2022, Ofc. Devlin and Ofc. Timcho conducted a felony vehicle stop on Welsh Road in the area of Dreshertown Road, in the Dresher section of Upper Dublin Township. The vehicle driver was subsequently arrested because of a warrant for aggravated assault being held by the Norristown Police Department.

On Wednesday, February 9, 2022, Ofc. Muk was on patrol in the area of Butler Pike and Bethlehem Pike, in the Ambler section of Upper Dublin Township. While on patrol he observed a vehicle exiting from a convenience store parking lot and make a left turn onto East Butler Pike. Upon checking the vehicle registration, it was determined that it was expired. Ofc. Muk conducted a vehicle stop. When he approached the vehicle he discovered marijuana in plain view. An investigation ensued, the vehicle driver agreed to perform Standardized Field Sobriety Tests and was subsequently arrested on suspicion of Driving Under the Influence as well as possession of drugs.

On Wednesday February 16, 2022, Upper Dublin Police Officers were dispatched by the Montgomery County Communications Center to the area of North Limekiln Pike and Jarrettown Road, in the Dresher section of Upper Dublin Township, for a report of a reckless driver. The reporting party stated that a dark colored pickup truck was swerving and had been driving in the oncoming lane of travel. The last location update put the vehicle at Broad Street and Susquehanna Road. While responding to the area Cpl. Nick observed a dark pickup truck traveling southbound on Pinetown Road. As the vehicle reached the intersection of Pinetown Road and Highland Avenue the pickup truck appeared to make a very wide right turn and began traveling westbound on Highland Avenue. The driver's side wheels drove on and over the double yellow line while the vehicle traveled approximately 15-mph in a 35-mph zone with its left directional activated. The vehicle then turned into a driveway on the 1300 block of Highland Avenue at which time Cpl. Nick initiated a vehicle stop based on the information provided by reporting party and Cpl. Nick's own observations. The vehicle driver agreed to perform Standardized Field Sobriety Tests and was subsequently arrested on suspicion of Driving Under the Influence.

Criminal charges and any discussion thereof, are merely allegations and all defendants are presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty.

On Saturday, February 19, 2022, Sgt. Rowland was conducting a directed patrol at a hotel located along the 200 block of Commerce Drive, in the Fort Washington section of Upper Dublin Township. While checking the registrations of vehicles in the parking lot it was determined that one of the vehicles had an expired registration. A short while later the vehicle was observed exiting the parking lot at which time a vehicle stop was conducted. While conducting the vehicle stop drug paraphernalia (heroin and methamphetamine related) was recovered.

On Sunday, February 20, 2022, Sgt. Rowland was on patrol in the area of Welsh Road and Dreshertown Road in Dresher section of Upper Dublin Township. At that time, he was reviewing the active events in Montgomery County and noticed that the Upper Moreland Police Department had been dispatched by the Montgomery County Communications Center to a shot fired call at the PetSmart on Welsh Road. The reporting party claimed that a shot was fired at their vehicle after a road rage incident which had blown out the rear window of the car. The caller was able to provide to police the vehicle registration which indicated that the owners of the vehicle resided in Upper Dublin Township. The vehicle was subsequently located by Upper Dublin Police Officers, a felony vehicle stop was conducted, and the suspect was detained.

On Thursday, February 24, 2022, Sgt. Rowland was proceeding south on Virginia Drive in the area of Camp Hill Road in the Fort Washington section of Upper Dublin Township. At that time, he came behind a vehicle with an expired registration. While following the vehicle, he detected an odor of burnt marijuana which did not dissipate as he continued to follow the vehicle. While following the vehicle he observed it cross the double yellow center divider line and cross over the white hashed lines which separate the left and right lane. While following the vehicle he also noticed that the driver's side window was partially open. Sgt. Rowland initiated a vehicle stop for the observed violation. Upon approaching the vehicle, he contacted the driver and could immediately detect a strong odor of burnt marijuana. An investigation ensued, the vehicle driver agreed to perform Standardized Field Sobriety Tests and was subsequently arrested on suspicion of Driving Under the Influence as well as possession of drugs and drug paraphernalia.

On Friday, February 25, 2022, Cpl. Nick received a tip regarding possible prostitution and drug activity at a hotel located along the 200 block of Commerce Drive, in the Fort Washington section of Upper Dublin Township. The tip was investigated and with the assistance of the Detective Unit narcotics were seized.

During the month of February, the Detective Unit worked with the Montgomery County Office of Children and Youth on multiple investigations of child abuse. Our ongoing relationship further enhances the investigations conducted by both agencies.

During the month of February, Ofc. Petaccio trained with the Detective Unit in order to enhance her investigative abilities. During that time, Ofc. Petaccio showed a high level of skill and involved herself in several significant investigations. Her investigative training will benefit her while on patrol.

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COMMUNITY RESPONSE UNIT

The Community Response Unit (CRU) participated in a Books with the Blue event in collaboration with the Upper Dublin Public Library (UDPL) this month. Ofc. Bochanski held an Identity Theft Prevention class in the UDPL auditorium for Upper Dublin Township residents as part of the Adult Education Series. The CRU received Sensory bags for the police vehicle fleet from the Sandy Run Middle School Autism Support group. Teacher Steph Chrzanowski organized a fundraiser with her students as a class project. The students used the proceeds to purchase and assemble the Sensory bags. The bags contain toys and objects that can be used by police officers to assist in interacting with autistic children in stressful situations.

The CRU received another complaint about commercial vehicle parking on local streets. They discussed the issues with the acting Upper Dublin Township Manager and is now working on drafting a parking ordinance restricting the parking of commercial vehicles, recreational vehicles, and trailers for consideration by the Board of Commissioners. The CRU Traffic Calming Team discussed a plan for moving forward with physical traffic calming projects. The Township Traffic Calming policy is now under revision.

The CRU coordinated an Aggressive Driver Enforcement detail this month. CRU officers also conducted four days of Motor Carrier inspections and enforcement on local highways. MCSAP efforts resulted in the completion of 14 Level 1 inspections, with 31 citations issued that resulted in \$10,931.50 fines and costs. In addition two dangerous vehicles were placed out-of-service.

Lastly, the CRU provided 8 full or partial patrol coverage shifts this month due to short staffing.

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TRAINING

Ofc. Petaccio successfully completed the Department's Field Training and Evaluation Program. Ofc. Petaccio has been assigned to Platoon D, under the supervision of Sgt. Rowland and Cpl. Garay.

Chief Wheatley, along with Deputy Chief Wade and Lt. Nyce strive to ensure that all Upper Dublin Police supervisors receive continual police leadership training. As such, Cpl. Garay and Cpl. Scheier completed another segment of the FBI LEEDA leadership institute. The purpose of the FBI LEEDA program is to advance the science and art of law enforcement leadership and promote the exchange of information to improve law enforcement management practices through training, education, and networking among police professionals. Cpl. Garay and Cpl. Scheier will now be able to utilize this

training when supervising their respective platoons as well as assist them with their own career development.

STATISTICS

Table 1. Department-Wide Activity for the Month of February

Type of Activity	Totals
Calls for Service	1,574
Investigative and Supplemental Reports	182
Crash Reports	39
Directed Patrols	211
Foot Patrols	37
Vehicle Stops	209
Premise Checks	121
Premise Checks – Schools	40
Premise Checks – Vacant	18

Table 2. Community Response Unit Activity for the Month of February

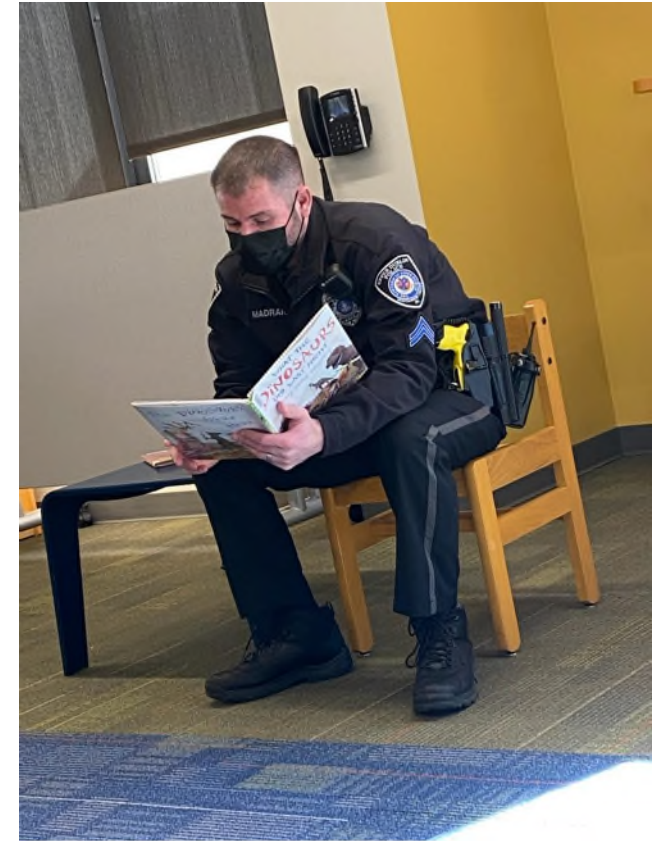
Type of Activity	Totals
Abandon Vehicle Investigations	2
Bridge & HUB Program Referrals	5
Parking Complaint	1
School Bus Violations	6
Speed Trailer Deployments	1
Traffic Complaint	2

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since 1928**





Commendations



Books with the Blue