

MONTHLY REPORT

MARCH 2023

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COMMUNITY RESPONSE UNIT

Activities & Events:

- On Wednesday, March 8, 2023, Cpl. Madrak provided a Workplace Safety presentation to approximately 40 people at Supplee Presbyterian Church located in the Maple Glenn section of Upper Dublin Township. The presentation was well-received by those in attendance.
- On Friday, March 10, 2023, Cpl. Madrak provided a School Safety presentation to approximately 10 educators at the Reformed Church Nursery School in the Willow Grove section of Upper Dublin Township. The presentation was well-received by those in attendance.
- On Tuesday, March 14, 2023, Ofc. Taylor attended a career fair at Jarrettown Elementary School.
- On Monday, March 20, 2023, while attending the Pennsylvania Law Enforcement Accreditation Conference, Cpl. Madrak presented to a group of 75 law enforcement professionals about the Upper Dublin Police Department's Response and Recovery from Hurricane Ida. The presentation was three (3) hours in length and resulted in a question-and-answer session at its conclusion.

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INVESTIGATIONS

Detective Unit & Patrol Division

On Sunday, February 19, 2023, Ofc. Haggar was dispatched by the Montgomery County Communications Center to the area of Elliger Avenue and Prospect Avenue, in the Fort Washington section of Upper Dublin Township for a report of a hit-and-run in progress. It was later learned that the vehicle crash occurred at the off-ramp from Route 309 northbound to Highland Avenue. Upon completion of the investigation into the circumstances of the vehicle crash, Ofc. Haggar filed charges against the vehicle driver for Endangering the Welfare of Children, Recklessly Endangering Another Person, and Driving Under the Influence. The defendant subsequently turned himself in to the Upper Dublin Police Department on Sunday, March 19, 2023.

On Tuesday, February 28, 2023, Ofc. Haggar was dispatched by Montgomery County Communications Center to a daycare / preschool located in the Maple Glen section of Upper Dublin Township for the report of an intoxicated person. Upon Ofc. Haggar's arrival, it was determined that the person who was intoxicated was a teacher whose conduct placed the class, which consisted of (12–18-month-old) children in danger. At the completion of the investigation, Ofc. Haggar filed charges of Endangering the Welfare of Children and Public Drunkenness. The defendant subsequently turned himself in to the Upper Dublin Police Department on Sunday, March 20, 2023.

On Wednesday, March 1, 2023, Ofc. Fiedler investigated a blackmail / extortion complaint filed by an adult male resident. The complainant had exchanged nude pictures through a mobile app, using his real name and phone number, with someone who claimed to be an interested female. This other user soon began to demand that the complainant send them a large sum of money, otherwise the other user would send nude pictures of the male to his family and co-workers. The investigation could not determine the identity or location of the other user.

On Sunday, March 5, 2023, Ofc. Carruthers was dispatched by the Montgomery County Communications Center to a retail store within the Promenade complex, 1100 Market Street, in the Dresher section of Upper Dublin Township for a report of two (2) separate retail thefts. The thefts were committed an hour apart by the same female who was arrested after a brief foot pursuit. She has already been linked to similar thefts in other jurisdictions. An investigation is in progress into the organized theft ring she may be part of.

On Sunday, March 5, 2023, Upper Dublin Police Officers were dispatched by the Montgomery County Communications Center to Beechnut Circle, located in the Maple Glen section of Upper Dublin Township for reported thefts from motor vehicles. Upon investigation, it was learned that three (3) males had been observed entering vehicles. A K-9 from the Montgomery Township Police Department was brought to the scene to complete a track, but it was unsuccessful. DNA was collected and logged into the Property & Evidence Control function of the Department. Similar crimes took place the prior evening. The investigation is in progress.

On Monday, March 6, 2023, Upper Dublin Police Officers were dispatched by the Montgomery County Communications Center to a business in the Ambler section of Upper Dublin Township for a reported skimmer. Detectives responded to the scene and located a skimmer on the ATM machine. The scene was processed for latent evidence and the investigation is ongoing.

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On Wednesday, March 8, 2023, Upper Dublin Police Officers took a report of sextortion of a juvenile. These crimes are becoming increasingly frequent and often target juveniles. These crimes are often perpetrated by actors outside of the country, there are few investigative leads to follow, and the cases are rarely prosecuted. Community members are urged to use caution when engaging in this type of online activity.

On Wednesday, March 8, 2023, Ofc. Thomas was dispatched by the Montgomery County Communications Center to a delayed report of a domestic violence incident involving strangulation that took place within an apartment complex located in the Ambler section of Upper Dublin Township. On Thursday, March 9, 2023, the defendant was arrested at his apartment after failing to surrender to police at an earlier scheduled time.

On Friday, March 10, 2023, Ofc. Spotts conducted a vehicle stop on Susquehanna Road at the intersection of Twining Road for fraudulent inspection stickers. The driver had an active bench warrant from the Bucks County Sheriff's Department. The driver was arrested for the warrant and transported to the Bucks County Correctional Facility.

On Saturday, March 11, 2023, Ofc. Ferrara investigated a contractor fraud / theft complaint filed by a resident. The resident had ordered and pre-paid \$3,000.00 for custom furniture over a year ago from a company in Bedminster, Bucks County, but never received the product or a refund. The company, A & A Custom Furniture, has had multiple complaints filed against them in Montgomery and Bucks Counties. These complaints are being consolidated into one investigation and prosecution by the Bedminster Township Police Department in conjunction with the Bucks County District Attorney's Office.

On Monday, March 13, 2023, Ofc. Marchesani was dispatched by the Montgomery County Communications Center to the 1400 block of Peg Street, in the Dresher section of Upper Dublin Township for the report of attempted theft. According to the victim, a male entered the business through a rear door and attempted to steal a purse. A Patrol Bulletin was created and disseminated to other law enforcement agencies. The investigation is in progress.

On Wednesday, March 15, 2023, Ofc. Devlin investigated a complaint of illegal dumping in a dumpster at the rear of a business in the Fairway Shopping Center, which is in the Dresher section of Upper Dublin Township. The person responsible was identified as an Upper Dublin Township resident who lives near the shopping center. The business manager did not want to file charges against the female and only requested that she be warned. Ofc. Devlin spoke to this female directly and told her that her actions were considered theft of services, and provided the warning as requested by the complainant.

On Wednesday, March 15, 2023, Ofc. Dease and Ofc. Ferrara was dispatched by the Montgomery County Communications Center to a suspicious occupied vehicle in one of the parking areas of The Woods Apartment complex. The driver (only occupant) was identified as a private security guard. While speaking to this driver, Ofc. Dease observed an unopened package of marijuana in plain view on the seat. The driver claimed he had a medical marijuana card, but it was not in his possession.

at the time. There were no odors of marijuana coming from the car and the driver did not exhibit any signs of impairment. The marijuana was seized for destruction and no charges were filed.

On Friday, March 17, 2023, Upper Dublin Police Officers were dispatched by the Montgomery County Communications Center to assist the Horsham Township Police Department concerning a bank robbery that took place on Welsh Road, in their jurisdiction.

On Friday, March 17, 2023, Ofc. Lesser and Ofc. Borgmann was on Welsh Road, in the Dresher section of Upper Dublin Township when they conducted a pedestrian stop of a male who was in the area of a theft from a business located in Upper Moreland Township. The individual who committed the theft was able to be identified and was the male who was stopped by Ofc. Lesser and Ofc. Borgmann. As a result, charges are now pending against that male by the Upper Moreland Township Police Department.

On Friday, March 17, 2023, Upper Dublin Police Officers were dispatched by the Montgomery County Communications Center to a residence in the Dresher section of Upper Dublin Township for a reported vehicle theft. Responding officers were advised that the resident had left the keys in their unlocked vehicle in the driveway. The vehicle was later located in Brooklyn, New York. The case has been turned over to the Detective Unit for further investigation.

On Saturday, March 18, 2023, Upper Dublin Police Officers were dispatched by Montgomery County Communications to assist the Horsham Township Police Department concerning a shooting and subsequent homicide that took place at a cemetery on Limekiln Pike, in their jurisdiction.

On Saturday, March 18, 2023, Ofc. Lesser and Ofc. Borgmann was dispatched by the Montgomery County Communications Center to Route 309 southbound for the report of a vehicle crash. Upon investigation, witnesses stated that the vehicle was traveling more than 100 mph before striking the divider and crashing. The vehicle was later located on Hagues Mill Road with severe damage and the driver was subsequently arrested for Driving Under the Influence.

On Wednesday, March 22, 2023, Ofc. Lesser and Ofc. Borgmann conducted a vehicle stop of a white van in the area of Dreshertown Road and Wellsly Road, in the Dresher section of Upper Dublin Township. While speaking with the occupants, Ofc. Lesser and Ofc. Borgmann noted the following: gloves, the odor of cooking oil, and a large amount of oil throughout the interior of the vehicle. They noted an associated call for cooking oil theft in Plymouth Township. Ofc. Lesser and Ofc. Borgmann corresponded with the Plymouth Township Police Department and positively identified the suspects in their theft case as the occupants of the van on their vehicle stop, thereby closing that police department's case.

On Friday, March 24, 2023, Ofc. Fiedler and Ofc. Bolanos took a delayed report of drug distribution from Fairwold Academy. The dean and a school counselor reported a 14-year-old student from Philadelphia had allegedly distributed homemade marijuana-infused gummies to other students on Tuesday, March 21, 2023. They claim the student admitted to making the gummies at her house. Due to the delay in reporting the incident, the investigation could not prove if infused gummies were distributed. Montgomery County Children and Youth Services were contacted, and they referred the case to the Philadelphia Department of Human Services.

On Sunday, March 26, 2023, Upper Dublin Police Officers were dispatched by the Montgomery County Communications Centers to a retail establishment within the Promenade, in the Dresher section of Upper Dublin Township for a report of an unknown male who had returned to the store after he had previously committed retail thefts of vitamins and supplements. According to the information received,

he was actively attempting to steal merchandise on this date. It had been determined that over the course of several visits to the store, the male had stolen over a thousand dollars of merchandise. As the call was being dispatched, Cpl. Pimm observed the male leaving in front of the store. He stopped the male, identified him, and determined that he had an extensive history of committing retail thefts in Montgomery County, Bucks County, and Philadelphia County. He is also on active probation in Bucks County and Philadelphia County. The male agreed to a voluntary statement at the Upper Dublin Police Department. After being read his Miranda warnings, he admitted to committing retail thefts in Upper Dublin Township and Marlton, New Jersey. The investigation is ongoing.

During the month of March, Ofc. Reading attended several preliminary hearings for his active cases. In three of the cases (DUI, trailer theft, and drug arrest), Officer Reading successfully held them for court in Montgomery County Common Pleas. The fourth case (theft) was settled at the preliminary hearing after the victim wanted to withdraw the charge.

The Upper Dublin Police Department's Detective Unit is tasked with conducting background investigations of possible new hires. This month they were assisted by an officer who was temporarily assigned to the Detective Unit to conduct these investigations. This officer's efforts have been invaluable. This remains an active process while the Detective Unit also conducts pressing criminal investigations.

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

TRAINING

From Tuesday, February 28 through Thursday, March 3, 2023, Ofc. Lesser and Ofc. Bolanos completed the Crisis Intervention Specialist (CIS) Training. The CIS training was hosted and sponsored by Montgomery County Emergency Services. CIS training prepares police officers and other criminal justice personnel to interact safely with individuals who are suffering from a mental health crisis. The training assures that every trainee can recognize and appropriately deal with any mental health situation. Training covers mental health law, the types and nature of psychiatric disorders, developmental disabilities, and substance use disorders. Suicide prevention, medications, and psychiatric terminology are also covered. The Upper Dublin Police Department requires all newly hired police officers to attend this training during their Field Training assignment.

On Tuesday, March 28, 2023, Ofc. Petaccio, Ofc. Lesser, and Ofc. Bolanos attended a Preliminary Hearing preparation course that was held at the Horsham Township Police Department.

During the month of March Sgt. Rowland, Cpl. Pimm, and Cpl. Madrak revised the Department's Field Training & Evaluation Program (FTEP). All of the documents associated with the FTEP were modified to meet the newly established standards and expectations. These were the result of a meeting with the Department's Field Training Officers in the month of February.

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STATISTICS

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

Type of Activity	Totals
Calls for Service	1,781
Investigative and Supplemental Reports	185
Crash Reports	46
Directed Patrols	247
Foot Patrols	58
Vehicle Stops	307
Premise Checks	118
Premise Checks – Schools	53
Premise Checks – Vacant	4

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

Type of Activity	Totals
Bridge/HUB Program Referrals	6
Traffic Complaints	6
Traffic Enforcement Detail	1
Traffic Survey	3

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.



