

MONTHLY REPORT

MAY 2023

Upper Dublin Police Department
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Fort Washington, PA 19034

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



RE-ACCREDITATION ASSESSMENT

On Monday, May 8, 2023, the Upper Dublin Township Police Department began the process of undergoing its 6th re-accreditation assessment. The process culminated on Monday, May 22nd with an onsite assessment by the following Pennsylvania Law Enforcement Accreditation Commission (PLEAC) assessors:

James Gress, Assistant Chief of Police with the Allentown Police Department

Jared Hahn, Sergeant with the Lititz Borough Police Department

Louis Blauth, Esq. with the Allegheny County Police Department

There are more than 400 standards/bullets with which the police department must demonstrate compliance in each of the last three years. As part of the assessment process, the police department's policies were reviewed along with documentation demonstrating that the men and women of the police department abide by those policies. In addition, there was a tour of the police facility, static displays of police department equipment, ride-alongs, and interviews with select police department personnel. The accreditation program requires that the police department be reassessed every three years and this was the first time that the police department was assessed in its long-term temporary headquarters.

The accreditation process at the police department utilizes a team approach, with Cpl. Madrak serving as the Accreditation Manager. Assisting Cpl. Madrak on the day of the onsite assessment was Sgt. Judge, Sgt. Lavenberg, Sgt. Nick, and Ofc. Bochanski. Also aiding was Chief Wheatley, Deputy Chief Wade, Lt. Nyce, Carol Yannuzzi, and Corinne Dorn.

At the conclusion of the assessment, the PLEAC assessors were extremely impressed with the professionalism displayed by police department personnel. Ultimately there were zero findings as it

pertains to compliance with the accreditation standards/bullets; this is an extremely rare occurrence, so rare that this is only the 2nd time that this has taken place in the Commonwealth and the 1st time that a municipal police department has achieved this distinction. The PLEAC assessors advised that they would be recommending to the Pennsylvania Law Enforcement Accreditation Commission that the Upper Dublin Police Department be re-accredited for a three-year period beginning on May 28, 2023.

The Upper Dublin Township Police Department has been accredited by the Pennsylvania Chiefs of Police Association since May 2005, achieving Premier status in May 2020. For more information on the PCPA's law enforcement accreditation program visit: <https://www.pachiefs.org/pcpa-accreditation-program>.

**An Accredited Law Enforcement Agency since 2005
and granted Premier Agency status in 2020**



COMMENDATIONS

On Thursday, May 25, 2023, the Upper Dublin Township Police Department hosted its 2nd annual Commendation Ceremony. The purpose of this exciting event is to recognize the men and women of the police department who have demonstrated outstanding work and/or achievements in the last year. Aside from the numerous members of the police department who were present, there were more than 50 family and friends who also attended this event. At the conclusion of the Commendation Ceremony, awards were distributed, photographs were taken (provided at the end of the Monthly Report in the order listed below), and light refreshments and food were enjoyed by all.

Detective Michael Lebbly ~ *Merit*

On the evening of October 20, 2022, while off duty, Detective Michael Lebbly arrived at the Fort Washington LA Fitness. He observed a silver Honda Accord in the parking lot with a distinct sticker on the rear-trunk area. The vehicle's make, model, and color were identical to a vehicle observed during the commission of a crime in Upper Dublin Township only nine days prior on October 11, 2022. In addition to the distinct sticker, the vehicle had only one of two required New Jersey license plates affixed haphazardly to the vehicle. This license plate belonged to a gray Jeep, not a silver Honda. Raising more suspicion for Det. Lebbly, the car's VIN number was purposely obscured with a piece of paper in the front interior windshield area. Det. Lebbly contacted on-duty Upper Dublin Police Officers and notified them of his location, observations, and suspicions that the suspect from the October 11th incident and silver Honda operator would be inside the LA Fitness. Det. Lebbly and Ofc. Miller located the suspect inside the male locker room, and immediately took him into custody. Inside the suspect's vehicle, Det. Lebbly found seven license plates from four different states, twelve stolen wallets, thousands of dollars in Visa Gift Cards, multiple victims' bank cards, and drug paraphernalia. The suspect was charged with and pled guilty to one count of receiving stolen property and fourteen counts of identity theft.

Corporal Stephen Pimm & Sergeant Andrew Lavenberg ~ Letter

On November 7, 2022, the Montgomery County Communications Center received a 911 call from an unidentified male who stated he had a bomb and was going to blow up a SEPTA train in route to Lansdale. Since the cell phone used to make this call was a "911-Only" cell phone, its current location could not be pinged by the Montgomery County Communications Center. The last outgoing call the cell phone made was in the neighborhood of North Hills in Upper Dublin Township. Lansdale Police contacted Sergeant Andrew Lavenberg and informed him of the situation. Upper Dublin Police Officers responded to the North Hills neighborhood and searched for the 911 caller with negative results. Soon after, the audio recording of the 911 call was shared by Sergeant Lavenberg with the patrol supervisor, Corporal Steven Pimm. Cpl. Pimm immediately identified the 911 caller by his distinctive voice. Sgt. Lavenberg sent an image of the suspect to Lansdale Police. The conductor of the train was shown the picture of the suspect and he was able to confirm that the suspect attempted to board their train at the North Hills station but was denied entry because of his erratic behavior. Police officers from several municipalities converged at multiple train stations in the area to attempt to locate the caller. At Pennbrook station, a train with disembarking passengers was approached by detectives from Lansdale Police Department. The detectives were able to positively identify the suspect and take him into custody as he exited the train. During questioning, the suspect admitted to making the call out of anger after being denied entrance to the first train he had attempted to board. The suspect was charged with making terroristic threats and threats to use a weapon of mass destruction.

Patrol Officer Devon Petaccio, Patrol Officer Donald Thomas, & Sergeant Andrew Rowland ~ Lifesaving

On March 13, 2023, the Montgomery County Communications Center dispatched Upper Dublin Police Officers to the 400 block of Bellaire Avenue for the report of a male in his 60's in cardiac arrest. Sergeant Andrew Rowland was first on the scene followed by Patrol Officers Devon Petaccio and Donald Thomas. Ofc. Petaccio set up the bag valve mask and began administering oxygen as Sgt. Rowland and Ofc. Thomas administered chest compressions. Upon EMS arrival, the officers assisted EMS with attempts to revive the patient. Prior to being transported to the hospital, the patient regained a pulse.

Patrol Officer Gregory Borgmann & Patrol Officer Erik Lesser ~ Letter

On March 22nd, 2023, Patrol Officers Gregory Borgmann and Erik Lesser conducted a vehicle stop on an older-model white GMC van with temporary registration tags in the rear window, no vehicle inspection, and a cracked windshield. The vehicle was used during a theft of cooking oil six days prior in Plymouth Township. Upon approaching the vehicle, Ofc. Borgmann and Ofc. Lesser observed a layer of cooking oil coating the interior of the van and the obvious odor of cooking oil as well. After releasing the occupants and the vehicle with multiple warnings of violations, Ofc. Borgmann and Ofc. Lesser contacted the Plymouth Township Police Department. Upon further investigation, they created an informational bulletin that was shared throughout the region. Ofc. Borgmann and Ofc. Lesser was able to positively identify the occupants in their vehicle stop as the suspects in the Plymouth Township cooking oil theft case and thus solved the cooking oil theft case.

Patrol Officer Alexander Pratt, Patrol Officer Christopher Haggar & Detective Kevin Shanahan ~ Merit

On December 23rd, 2022, the Montgomery County Communications Center received a 911 call from a homeowner reporting a suspicious person attempting to enter locked vehicles on the 200 block of Fort

Washington Avenue. Patrol Officer Alexander Pratt arrived on scene and approached a female passenger in a white sedan that was left idling. While speaking to the female passenger, a neighbor alerted Ofc. Pratt to the suspicious male walking down the driveway. Ofc. Pratt attempted to question the male subject while guiding him away from the idling white sedan, but the subject was evasive in his answers and ignored Ofc. Pratt's instructions to stop moving. The subject suddenly ran and entered Ofc. Pratt's patrol vehicle's driver seat in an attempt to steal the vehicle and flee the scene. A physical struggle ensued but Ofc. Pratt was able to drag the subject out of the driver's seat. Patrol Officer Christopher Haggar arrived on scene during the struggle and the subject once again re-entered the patrol vehicle where he sat revving the engine and attempting to put the car in gear. The subject physically assaulted both police officers as they attempted to remove him from the patrol vehicle for the second time. Ofc. Haggar deployed his taser on the subject and Ofc. Pratt was able to handcuff his one arm, but the subject continued to resist. During the struggle, the female passenger fled the scene in the white sedan. Ofc. Pratt and Ofc. Haggar were able to drag the subject out of the vehicle as Corporal Stephen Pimm arrived on the scene to assist with placing the subject into custody. Ofc. Pratt and Ofc. Haggar received medical attention for their injuries. The subject was charged with aggravated assault, disarming a law enforcement officer, resisting arrest, reckless endangerment, loitering and prowling, robbery of a motor vehicle, and receiving stolen property.

Later, during the investigation, Detective Kevin Shanahan learned the white sedan was reported stolen out of Philadelphia days prior to the incident. Det. Shanahan was able to positively identify the female occupant when she was arrested by the Haverford Township Police Department while operating the white sedan. After listening to prison phone calls between the male and female, Det. Shanahan overheard the subjects discussing the incident via telephone, further incriminating themselves. The female subject was charged with receiving stolen property and theft from a motor vehicle.

Detective Kyle Gallen ~ Merit

Patrol Officer Bochanski, Patrol Officer Rebecca Carruthers, Patrol Officer Alexander Pratt, Detective Michael Scarpato, Sergeant Andrew Lavenberg, & Sergeant Stephen Nick ~ Letter

On November 11, 2022, Upper Dublin Police Officers were dispatched to the 3100 block of Walnut Avenue in the North Hills section of Upper Dublin Township. The Montgomery County Communications Center advised there were multiple reports of shots fired in the area with people screaming. Upon police arrival, a victim was located with a gunshot wound to his arm and thigh. Patrol Officers Rebecca Carruthers, Alexander Pratt, and Officer Andrew Bochanski immediately began providing medical care for the victim, securing the crime scene, and obtaining a description of the suspect, who had fled the scene. Sergeant Stephen Nick arrived and began coordinating the patrol response. Detectives Kyle Gallen and Michael Scarpato responded to the scene and began investigating the shooting. While speaking with residents, Ofc. Pratt was provided information that the suspect was inside a residence near the scene of the shooting. Sergeant Andrew Lavenberg assumed the role of incident commander and he began coordinating the response and activating the Montgomery County Special Weapons and Tactics Team (SWAT) – East Region. The suspect was located inside the residence and taken into custody.

Patrol Officer Rebecca Carruthers & Patrol Officer Christopher Haggar ~ Heroism Corporal Shea Creamer & Detective Kevin Shanahan ~ Merit
Patrol Officer Donald Thomas, Detective Michael Scarpato, Detective Michael Lebby, Deputy Chief Daniel Wade ~ Letter

On September 4, 2022, Upper Dublin Police were dispatched to the 3200 block of Pebblewood Lane in the Dresher section of Upper Dublin Township for a report of a shooting. The 911 caller was a juvenile male who reported that his mother had shot her husband. Upon arrival, Patrol Officer Rebecca

Carruthers, and Patrol Officer Christopher Haggar took tactical positions outside of the residence and began giving verbal commands for the suspect to exit the residence. The suspect exited and was quickly taken into custody by police. Following her arrest, Corporal Shea Creamer, Patrol Officer Donald Thomas, and Patrol Officer Carruthers entered and cleared the residence. They began providing medical care to the victim and securing the crime scene. Ofc. Carruthers and Ofc. Thomas applied a tourniquet to the victim in order to control bleeding from the wound until EMS arrived to transport. Following this incident, Deputy Chief Daniel Wade, Detective Sergeant Andrew Lavenberg, Detective Kevin Shanahan, Detective Michael Lebby, and Detective Michael Scarpato responded to the scene to assist with the investigation. They conducted interviews with the victim, the defendant, and the juvenile witness. They applied for and received a search warrant for the residence, with the search resulting in the recovery of the firearm used in the shooting. As a result of their coordinated efforts and extensive investigation, the offender was charged with attempted murder and related charges.

Patrol Officer Donald Thomas ~ Heroism

Patrol Officer Thomas Miller & Detective Michael Lebby ~ Merit

Patrol Officer Christopher Haggar, Detective Kyle Gallen, Detective Michael Scarpato, Detective Kevin Shanahan, Sergeant Andrew Lavenberg, Sergeant Andrew Rowland, Deputy Chief Daniel Wade ~ Letter

On April 26, 2022, Upper Dublin Police Officers were dispatched to the 400 block of Ambler Road in the Ambler section of Upper Dublin Township regarding a report of a suspicious person vandalizing the resident's vehicle and entering their garage. Further, it was reported that there was an attempted arson the night prior at the same residence. Montgomery County Communications Center advised that the male homeowner had gone out to confront the suspect and that shots were being fired. Patrol Officer Donald Thomas arrived on location and heard gunfire from the wooded area behind the residence. He made his way into the woods and could hear people screaming and an additional shot. He confronted the armed individual, later determined to be the homeowner. The homeowner, who was detained by Patrol Officer Thomas Miller, reported that the suspect had fled further into the wooded area. A search was conducted but the suspect was not located.

During the ensuing investigation, Patrol Officer Christopher Haggar and Detective Kevin Shanahan canvassed the area, locating witnesses and surveillance video pertinent to the case. Detective Michael Lebby, through information obtained during the investigation, was able to develop a possible suspect. He then conducted surveillance and was able to positively identify the suspect. Detective Kyle Gallen, Sergeant Andrew Lavenberg and Deputy Chief Daniel Wade conducted an interview with the suspect and his mother, wherein the suspect admitted to being on the property and injuring his arm. This interview was key to locking the suspect into his story. Det. Gallen and Detective Sgt. Lavenberg then conducted an interview with the suspect's ex-girlfriend during which she advised the suspect was familiar with the property and that he had previously admitted to his animosity towards the demolition of the property. On May 6, 2022, a search warrant was conducted at the suspect's residence. During the search warrant service, Detectives located multiple items of evidentiary value, circumstantially linking the suspect to the shots fired and arson incidents. Based on the information obtained during the investigation, Det. Lebby was able to charge the suspect with multiple felonies including arson.

**Proudly Serving the Upper Dublin Township Community
since 1928**



COMMUNITY RESPONSE UNIT

Driving Under the Influence (DUI) Checkpoint:

On Friday, May 12, 2023, the Eastern Montgomery DUI Task Force conducted a DUI Checkpoint in Upper Dublin Township. As a result of the DUI Checkpoint, arrests were made, and drugs were seized.

The Eastern Montgomery County Impaired Driving Task Force is comprised of police officers from the Pennsylvania State Police and the following municipalities: Abington Township, Ambler Borough, Cheltenham Township, Hatboro Borough, Jenkintown Borough, Lower Moreland Township, Upper Gwynedd Township, Springfield Township, Upper Dublin Township, Upper Moreland Township, Whitemarsh Township.

Career Fair:

On Saturday, May 20, 2023, Ofc. Petaccio and Cpl. Madrak attended the Career Fair that was hosted by the Philadelphia Police Department on the campus of Temple University. More than 100 law enforcement agencies from across the United States were scheduled to attend the career fair. This career fair is purported to be the largest law enforcement career fair on the east coast of the United States. The Upper Dublin Township Police Department is always seeking recruits who want to proudly serve the Upper Dublin Township community!

Internship Program:

On Tuesday, May 16, 2023, the Upper Dublin Township Police Department welcomed intern Jordan Fafara. Jordan is currently a junior at Cabrini University in Radnor. She is a Criminology major with a Sociology minor and is scheduled to graduate in 2024. Jordan will be with the police department through the summer. She is currently enrolled in the police department's 9-week Citizens Police Academy. Jordan ultimately would like to have a career in law enforcement, and we are hopeful that her experience with the police department will further that desire.

If you or someone you know would be interested in potentially serving as an intern with the Upper Dublin Township Police Department, please contact Cpl. David Madrak at david.madrak@udpd.us.

Motor Carrier Safety Assistance Program (MCSAP):

Ofc. Bochanski and Ofc. Ciuffetelli, both assigned to the Community Response Unit (CRU) conducted Motor Carrier Safety Assistance Program inspections and enforcement activities during the month of May which resulted in:

- 9 Level-1 inspections completed
- 5 Level-3 inspections completed
 - 27 citations issued

INVESTIGATIONS

Detective Unit & Patrol Division

On Saturday, April 29, 2023, Upper Dublin Police officers were dispatched to a shooting in the North Hills section of Upper Dublin Township. Upon their arrival, they located one victim who had sustained a non-life-threatening gunshot wound. Detectives responded to the incident. The crime scene was processed, and several pieces of evidence were located. This is an active investigation.

On Monday, May 1, 2023, Upper Dublin Police Officers were dispatched to a retail establishment along Bethlehem Pike, in the Ambler section of Upper Dublin Township, for a reported retail theft of cold and allergy medications, in which the male actor had already left the store. An Ambler Police Officer observed a male fitting the description walking south along Butler Pike south of Bethlehem Pike. The Ambler Police Officer conducted an investigative stop on this male and found he had a large amount of cold and allergy medications in his possession. The manager of the store was driven to this scene and positively identified the male as the same person he observed taking the items from the store, which totaled over \$1000.00. This male was arrested for retail theft and later waived his preliminary hearing. He is currently in the Montgomery County Correctional Facility.

On Tuesday, May 2, 2023, Ofc. Timcho and Ofc. Lesser was dispatched to a retail establishment located in the 1600 block of North Limekiln Pike, in the Dresher section of Upper Dublin Township, for a report of a retail theft. The suspects stole over \$2,000.00 worth of cologne and fragrances. The suspects distracted the employees and stole the merchandise. With the assistance of the Detective Unit, two of the three suspects have been identified. The investigation is ongoing.

On Thursday, May 4, 2023, Upper Dublin Police Officers were dispatched to the Route 309 southbound ramp exit at Pennsylvania Avenue, in the Fort Washington section of Upper Dublin Township, for a vehicle accident. Upon Ofc. Bolanos and Ofc. Borgmann arrived on the scene, debris was observed scattered across the roadway, and a pickup truck had crashed into the embankment near the exit ramp. Upon Sgt. Rowland arriving on the scene, he observed the vehicle driver asleep in the vehicle and drugs in plain sight. Once the vehicle driver was awakened, he exited the vehicle and was administered Standardized Field Sobriety Tests. A short time later the driver was placed under arrest for Driving Under the Influence, amongst other charges; in addition, a firearm was seized from the vehicle as well.

On Sunday, May 7, 2023, Upper Dublin Police Officers were dispatched to shots fired call in the Glenside section of Upper Dublin Township. Upon arrival, a residence of interest was located, and contact was made with several individuals on the property. Detectives responded to the incident. Based on the thorough initial investigation conducted by the responding Upper Dublin Police Officers, a search warrant was secured by detectives for the residence. A search of the house was conducted resulting in several items of evidentiary value being seized, including drugs, drug paraphernalia, and firearm parts.

On Saturday, May 13, 2023, Ofc. Pratt and Ofc. Lesser conducted a vehicle stop in the area of Fitzwatertown Road and Susquehanna Road as a result of vehicle code violations. Through their investigation, they developed reasonable suspicion of criminal activity and called for a narcotics detection K9. The K9 alerted and the vehicle was seized so a search warrant could be obtained. Ofc. Pratt and Ofc. Lesser recovered a stolen firearm and a small amount of illegal drugs. The driver has been charged and is awaiting his preliminary hearing.

On Wednesday, May 17, 2023, Ofc. Haggar investigated an ongoing complaint of trespassing and harassment between neighbors in the 500 block of Meadowbrook Avenue, in the Ambler section of Upper Dublin Township. Ofc. Haggar determined that one neighbor had been previously warned to stay off the victim's property. Ofc. Haggar was able to obtain digital evidence of the crimes. The suspect has been charged and is awaiting his preliminary hearing.

On Wednesday, May 17, 2023, Sgt. Rowland was conducting a directed patrol in the 200 block of Commerce Drive, in the Fort Washington section of Upper Dublin Township. While at that location he observed a vehicle that committed a vehicle code violation at the intersection of Commerce Drive and Delaware Drive. Upon further investigation, he determined that the vehicle had several other violations of the vehicle code. Sgt. Rowland conducted a vehicle stop on the ramp to Route 309 South from Pennsylvania Avenue. As the vehicle came to a stop, Sgt. Rowland began to detect the odor of burnt marijuana. He contacted the driver and confirmed the vehicle was the source of the burnt marijuana smell. The driver subsequently admitted to smoking marijuana prior to driving and having marijuana in the vehicle. The driver submitted to Standardized Field Sobriety Tests and was subsequently arrested on suspicion of Driving Under the Influence amongst other charges.

On Thursday, May 18, 2023, Ofc Pratt and Ofc. Lesser investigated a single-vehicle DUI crash in which the vehicle went off the road and flipped onto its side in the 100 block of Camphill Road in the Fort Washington section of Upper Dublin Township. The driver admitted to the recent use of illegal drugs. Ofc. Pratt and Ofc. Lesser obtained a search warrant for medical records and blood which is currently undergoing testing at the National Medical Services laboratory.

On Saturday, May 20, 2023, Ofc. Reading located a vehicle that sat through two traffic signal cycles on Commerce Drive at the intersection of West Pennsylvania Avenue, in the Fort Washington section of Upper Dublin Township. Ofc. Reading contacted the driver and determined that they were intoxicated by alcohol. The driver was arrested for Driving Under the Influence (DUI) and refused a blood test. Ofc. Reading completed a criminal complaint and charged the driver with DUI. This case is pending a preliminary hearing.

On Saturday, May 20, 2023, Upper Dublin Police Officers were dispatched to the 900 block of Butler Pike, the Ambler section of Upper Dublin Township, for a report of a male breaking into the caller's vehicle. When the male observed the caller, he ran away. The male was wearing a black ski mask, black top, and camouflage pants. Upon Ofc. Spotts's arrival to the area, he observed a male matching this description entering the passenger door of a vehicle at the intersection of Butler Pike and Bethlehem Pike. Ofc. Spotts stopped this vehicle and identified the two male occupants. The investigation is ongoing.

On Saturday, May 20, 2023, Upper Dublin Police Officers responded to an apartment complex along Butler Pike, in the Ambler section of Upper Dublin Township, for a report of an unresponsive intoxicated male. The responding Upper Dublin Police Officers determined this male was suicidal, and convinced him to voluntarily go, via ambulance, to Jefferson Abington Hospital for evaluation.

On May 21, 2023, Upper Dublin Police Officers were dispatched to a residence in the Ambler section of Upper Dublin Township for a reported burglary. Detectives responded to the scene and began their on-scene investigation. Detectives secured several items of evidentiary value. This is an active investigation.

On Sunday, May 21, 2023, Upper Dublin Police Officers were dispatched to an incident of criminal mischief / slashed tires at a hotel located in the Fort Washington section of Upper Dublin Township.

Video surveillance from the hotel showed the suspect was a former employee who had just been fired earlier that morning. Ofc. Devlin is in the process of filing criminal charges.

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

TRAINING

On Monday, May 1, 2023, through Friday, May 5, 2023, Ofc. Petaccio completed International Police Mountain Bicycle Association training at the Abington Township Public Safety Training Center. Ofc. Petaccio, having completed this training, is now a member of the Upper Dublin Police Department's Bicycle Patrol Unit.

On Tuesday, May 2, 2023, and Wednesday, May 3, 2023, Ofc. Ferrara attended the Institute of Law Enforcement Education (ILEE) Traffic Patrol / Drug Interdiction training.

On Wednesday, May 3, 2023, and Thursday, May 4, 2023, Ofc. Reading attended Street Cop OneFace Training (Unmasking Facial Expression & Body Language for Law Enforcement).

On Monday, May 8, 2023, and Tuesday, May 9, 2023, Ofc. Timcho attended a two-day HADES Consulting Rifle Training. On Wednesday, May 10, 2023, Ofc. Timcho completed a one-day Red Dot Fundamentals Course.

On Monday, May 8, 2023, through Friday, May 12, 2023, Cpl. Pimm attended a five-day FBI LEEDA Executive Leadership Institute training.

On Monday, May 19, 2023, through Friday, May 26, 2023, Cpl. Pimm attended a five-day VALOR Officer Safety and Wellness Program training.

On Wednesday, May 3, 2023, through Friday, May 5, 2023, Sgt. Judge completed police motorcycle training that was hosted and sponsored by the Warrington Township Police Department. Sgt. Judge is now authorized to operate the Upper Dublin Police Department's motorcycle.

Ready to Protect, Proud to Serve



STATISTICS

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

Type of Activity	Totals
Calls for Service	1,726
Investigative and Supplemental Reports	177
Crash Reports	57
Directed Patrols	210
Foot Patrols	42
Vehicle Stops	183
Premise Checks	123
Premise Checks – Schools	58
Premise Checks – Vacant	0

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

Type of Activity	Totals
Bridge/HUB Program Referrals	2
Parking Complaint	2
Roadway Investigation	1
Traffic Complaints	4
Traffic Survey	4
Variable Message Board Deployments	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.





OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY

KEVIN R. STEELE

DISTRICT ATTORNEY

EDWARD F. McCANN, JR.

FIRST ASSISTANT DISTRICT ATTORNEY

COUNTY OF MONTGOMERY

COURTHOUSE

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NORRISTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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GLENSIDE MAN ARRESTED FOR PURCHASING, SELLING 15 FIREARMS; TRIPLE HOMICIDE, OTHER VIOLENT CRIMES CONNECTED TO THE GUNS

NORRISTOWN, Pa. (May 24, 2023) — Montgomery County District Attorney Kevin R. Steele and Upper Dublin Township Police Chief Francis Wheatley announces the arrest of Tamir Hartsock, 23, of Glenside, on numerous felony charges related to the straw purchasing and trafficking of 15 firearms, four of which have been recovered and connected to multiple homicides and other violent crimes in Philadelphia through NIBIN fired cartridge casing (FCC) leads.

The investigation into Hartsock's suspected illegal firearms activities involved multiple agencies including the Montgomery County Detective Bureau's Violent Crimes Unit (VCU), the ATF, Pennsylvania Office of the Attorney General's Gun Violence Task Force, Upper Dublin Township Police, Marple Township Police and Philadelphia Police. The investigation began in April 2023 after Philadelphia Police recovered firearms from people not allowed to possess a firearm and those guns were linked back to purchases by Hartsock, which is indicative of straw purchasing and gun trafficking.

The investigation found that Hartsock purchased his first two guns on Sept. 9, 2020, less than a month after his 21st birthday, and then continued buying handguns through December 2022. At one point, he bought seven handguns in a four-month period. Of those 15 firearms he purchased, only four have been recovered, meaning 11 are still unaccounted for.

The tenth firearm purchased by Hartsock—a Glock, Model G27, .40 caliber, semi-automatic purchased on Feb. 19, 2021—was recovered by Philadelphia Police on April 28, 2023, at the scene of a triple homicide at 5957 Palmetto Street. A bullet taken from the body of one of the deceased was entered into NIBIN—the National Integrated Ballistic Information Network—which generated a NIBIN lead. That lead was then confirmed by Philadelphia Police through a ballistic comparison finding that the bullet came from the Hartsock-purchased Glock. A NIBIN lead was also generated that linked the same gun to a shooting that two months earlier on Jan. 23, 2023, at 3670 W. Indian Lane.

The first firearm Hartsock purchased on Sept. 9, 2020—a Glock, Model 22, .40 caliber, semi-automatic handgun—was recovered on Sept. 6, 2022, by Philadelphia Police when they heard approximately 50 shots fired in the Carlisle Street area. Police stopped a fleeing vehicle and apprehended the three occupants, one of whom was in possession of

the Glock and was arrested on firearms charges. The FCCs from this gun were entered into NIBIN, which generated NIBIN leads connecting the gun to four violent crimes in Philadelphia. These leads are still in process of being visually compared by the Philadelphia Police:

- January 15, 2021 – **shooting** at 5043 Greene Street, with no victims on scene;
- August 4, 2021 – **shooting** at 3652 Germantown Ave., where police found four victims with gunshot wounds;
- August 19, 2021 – **homicide** at 5104 Germantown Ave., where one person was killed and five others were shot;
- May 30, 2022 – **homicide** at 1543 W. Erie Ave., where one man was found dead, and more than 25 FCCs were recovered on scene from three different guns.

Two other firearms purchased by Hartsock were also recovered—one on June 26, 2021, during a DUI checkpoint in Philadelphia (the driver was charged with DUI and firearms violations) and one on Oct. 7, 2022, during a traffic stop by Marple Township Police (both the driver and the passenger were arrested on firearms charges).

The majority of Hartsock’s gun purchases were made online, then, as required by law, the firearms were shipped to a federally licensed firearms dealer in Montgomery County, who completed the required forms and background check to complete the transaction.

“This defendant and his trafficking of firearms to violent criminals, including murderers, shows just how dangerous straw purchases are and what a danger they are to public safety,” said DA Steele. “Gun traffickers like Hartsock are enabling violence and murder. Law enforcement at all levels—local, state and federal—are committed to partnering to stop the illegal sales of guns. And we have seen through this case that the use of the NIBIN machine and database can make a huge difference in tracking firearms and the violence committed with them.”

Hartsock was arrested on charges of Unlawful Sale/Transfer of a Firearm, Dealing in the Proceeds of Unlawful Activities, Corrupt Organizations, Conspiracy, Unsworn Falsification, and Criminal Use of a Communications Facility. He was arraigned today before Magisterial District Judge Jay S. Friedenber, who set bail at \$500,000 cash. The defendant was unable to post bail and remains in the Montgomery County Correctional Facility. A preliminary hearing is in the process of being scheduled.

The case will be prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Samantha Arena.

Approved for release:
Kevin R. Steele

CRIMINAL CHARGES, AND ANY DISCUSSION THEREOF, ARE MERELY ALLEGATIONS AND ALL DEFENDANTS ARE PRESUMED INNOCENT UNTIL AND UNLESS PROVEN GUILTY.



Commendation Ceremony – Letter



Commendation Ceremony – Lifesaving



Commendation Ceremony – Merit



Commendation Ceremony – Letter



Commendation Ceremony – Merit



Commendation Ceremony – Letter & Merit



Upper Dublin Police Department



Commendation Ceremony – Letter & Merit



Commendation Ceremony – Letter, Merit, Heroism



Upper Dublin Police Personnel



UPPER DUBLIN POLICE
UNIVERSITY OF UPPON
MONTGOMERY COUNTY PA

**READY TO PROTECT,
PROUD TO SERVE**

ACCREDITED LAW ENFORCEMENT
PENNSYLVANIA
CHIEF OF POLICE
AGENCY

**UPPER DUBLIN TOWNSHIP
POLICE DEPARTMENT**

Specialized Services

- Bicycle Patrol Unit
- Field Training & Evaluation Unit
- Quick Response Service Medical Unit
- Major Incident Response Team
- Narcotics Enforcement Team
- Tactical Response Team

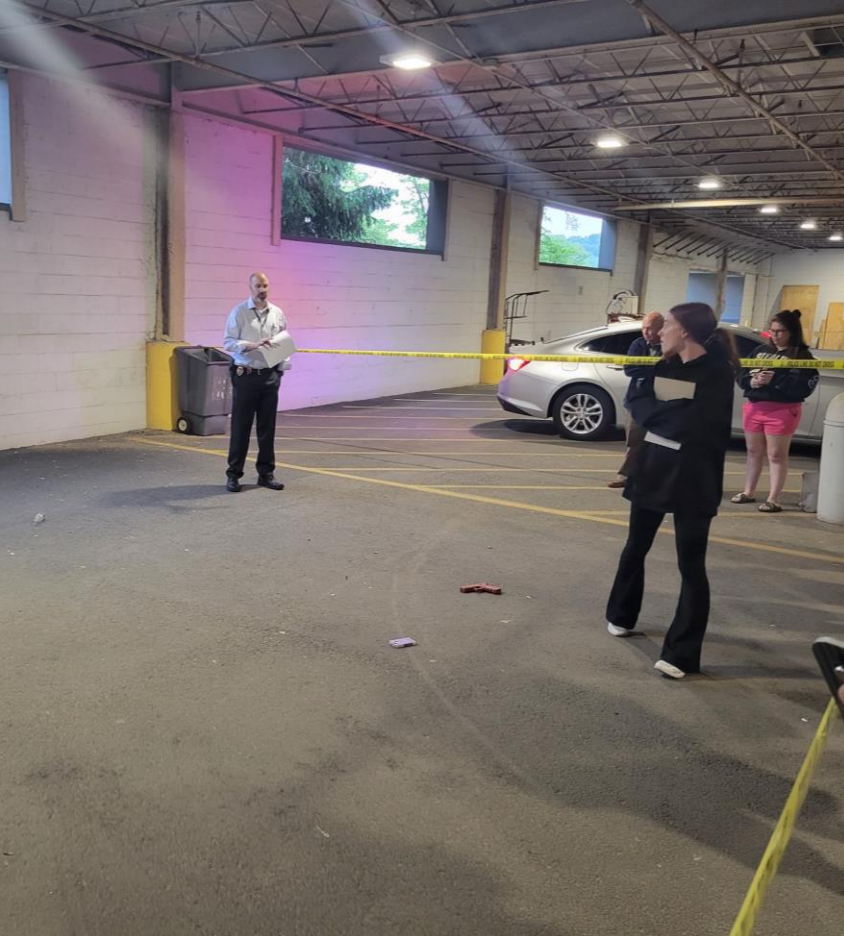
Civil Service Rules & Regulations

- Citizen of the United States
- 21 Years of

**UPPER DUBLIN
POLICE DEPARTMENT**

AN ACCREDITED LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY

Law Enforcement Career Fair



Citizen Police Academy – Criminal Investigations



Use of Force Training

Firearms Qualifications @ the
Montgomery County Public
Safety Training Center



Ready to Protect, Proud to Serve





National Police Week, May 9 to May 20, 2023

A graphic banner for Memorial Day. The top section features a blue background with a pattern of white stars. Below this is a horizontal band of light-colored wood grain. The words "MEMORIAL DAY" are printed in large, bold, black, distressed capital letters across this band. Underneath is a solid red horizontal band. The bottom section is a light-colored wood grain band containing the text "★ REMEMBER AND HONOR ★" in black, serif capital letters, flanked by two black stars. The bottom-most section is another solid red horizontal band.

MEMORIAL DAY

★ REMEMBER AND HONOR ★