

McCandless Police Department

Memorandum

Date: February 8, 2021

To: Town Council

From: Ryan P. Hawk, Chief of Police

RE: Monthly Police Activity Report – January 2021

It is with sincere sadness that we mourn the loss of Retired Officer Gary Lunz on 1/21/21. Lunz served the Town of McCandless Police Department from November 1992 through early 2013. Gary was a great officer and a good friend to all who knew him. He was one of the good guys and he will be sorely missed. Rest in Peace Officer Lunz, we'll hold the line from here.

President Trump signed an Executive Order on Safe Policing for Safe Communities in late 2020. This order established that law enforcement agencies must submit their use of force policies for compliance adhering to all applicable Federal, State and local laws. In January 2021, we received notice that our certification was accepted and that our policies and procedures conform to the required standards of Safe Policing for Safe Communities.

Moving forward, we continue to seek out all training regarding equal rights discrimination, de-escalation tactics, changes to the use-of-force spectrum and the like. We have a renewed hope in upholding our sworn duties to serve and protect the public while retaining or regaining public trust and faith in police and this profession. Half of the department had training dealing with Tactical Communication and De-Escalation. This training will enable officers to better defuse intense situations utilizing best practices. The final half of the department will complete this training by March. Officers were also recertified in First Aid and CPR.

On January 21, 2021, Officer Michael Cavaliere responded to a 911 call for an elderly female who stopped breathing and a neighbor was attempting to perform CPR chest compressions with help from the 911 dispatcher. Upon taking quick command of the scene, Officer Cavaliere moved the female to the floor, continued CPR and administered an AED. While the AED advised not to shock, Officer Cavaliere successfully continued CPR bringing the female back to consciousness upon the arrival of EMS.

Despite the temporary suspension of drug take backs due to COVID, 38 pounds of unwanted expired drugs were transported to Ross Township Police Department, where the PA National Guard Counter Drug Joint Task Force collects and destroys meds.

Our K9 Joy has received his new bullet/stab protective vest thanks to the incredibly charitable donation from a non-profit organization, Vested Interest in K9s, Inc. The money was raised by generous McCandless citizens from Lake Marshall Dr.

Long-time residents from Pine Creek Road sent a very sincere thank you letter for the electronic speeding signs posted on Pine Creek Road during December and January. Residents were in “disbelief” after seeing the difference these much-needed signs have slowed traffic. The department hopes to acquire additional signs in the future.