

McCandless Police Department

Memorandum

Date: April 12, 2021
To: Town Council
From: Ryan Hawk, Chief of Police
RE: Monthly Activity Report – March 2021

We have experienced a higher than usual call volume in the month of March as we see the public slowly return to normal after a year of the Covid-19 pandemic. This past month, two officers attended training in De-Escalation, which assists in techniques for diffusing volatile situations. We now have 75% of the department trained in De-Escalation with the remaining officers scheduled in August. One officer was trained to be an instructor in the use of a Red Dot sight, which is a new sight system that many officers are switching to for improved accuracy. One officer received training in being a firearms instructor, which brings the total to three officers in our department, who are now able to instruct and annually qualify all officers in the extensive use of firearms. One officer was recertified as the department's Taser Instructor, which brings the total to two officers certified to instruct and qualify all officers in the use of Tasers. Two officers attended a webinar on the Lethality Assessment Program (LAP), which aids in identifying potential deadly domestic violence situations. One officer attended a webinar on Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and how it affects law enforcement officers. The majority of officers have completed their Annual Mandatory two-day In Service Training. All officers participated in a power point presentation from Allegheny County 911 Emergency Services related to their implementation of a new nationwide technology for better locating and pinpointing wireless callers who are uncertain of their location and do not have a physical address.

On 3/3/21, Lieutenant Basl, Sergeant Egli and I were asked to participate in numerous tabletop exercises in emergency management scenarios at Beattie Technical School. School administrators were very thankful for our participation in this training.

On 3/7/21 Officer David Machesney was dispatched to the driver's license center practice area at Duncan Plaza for an unconscious female driver slumped over the wheel of her vehicle with the engine running and her foot on the gas pedal with the engine revving loudly. An unrestrained child approximately 4-5 years old was in the back seat. Officer Machesney was able to instruct the child to unlock the door and physically remove the driver while successfully ensuring both the driver and child were safe.

The North Hills DUI Task Force in conjunction with the National Highway Transportation Safety Administration Checkpoint Strike Force conducted a successful roving DUI patrol in McCandless, Pine, Marshall and Richland during the month of March. This program continues to be an invaluable collaborative effort of law enforcement providing public safety to all drivers sharing the roadways in the North Hills.