



# RIVERSIDE TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT

*2018 Annual Report*

This report has been produced in an effort to increase agency transparency and accountability to the public. We hope this report provides the public with valuable insight into the issues we face and the services our agency provides. We continue to strive to provide the highest quality police service to our community with professionalism, respect, and integrity.

William T. Eliason  
Chief of Police

2/14/2019



# RIVERSIDE TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT

## MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Riverside Township Police Department is to maintain the quality of life we enjoy and to ensure Riverside is a safe place to live, work and play.

This will be accomplished through protecting life and property, arresting violators, safeguarding individual liberties, building community partnerships, preventing crime and resolving those crimes which do occur.

The Riverside Police Department recognizes that we cannot fulfill this mission without community support. It is imperative that a dialogue characterized by mutual trust and open and honest communication be maintained between this agency and our community. Our vision includes a willingness to continually examine and modify policies and procedures and assure that our mission is accomplished in a manner compatible with the best interest of the community.

We are committed to this mission and conduct our responsibilities toward a goal of excellence and with dedication to the community we serve.

# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The officers of the Riverside Township Police Department strive every day to provide police services in a manner consistent with what our residents request and require. We feel that the police services we provide are second to none. Your Officers work each day to ensure that we are building community relationships while maintaining a vigilant approach to our citizens safety. This is accomplished by maintaining an active, visible and interactive presence throughout the community and treat each encounter with the public as an opportunity to help. We are all looking forward to a productive, happy and safe 2019!

The following 2018 Riverside Township Police Annual Activity report is our third annual report and we will work to improve on the report each year to provide as much information to the public as allowed by law. Any questions or comments on how we can improve our services can be forwarded to the Chief of Police, William T. Eliason directly at [weliason@riversidepolice.nj.org](mailto:weliason@riversidepolice.nj.org), contact (856) 461-8820 or feel free to stop in and see me.

Thank You,

William T. Eliason

Chief of Police

Township of Riverside

# PERSONNEL

2018 marked another transitional year for the Riverside Police Department with the departure of two officers, the promotion of Brandon Conard to the position of Sergeant, Ptl. Kevin Joo being assigned to the Detective Bureau and the hiring of Ptl. Christopher Deffler.

Officer	Badge #	Years of Service
Chief William T. Eliason	7013	24
Captain Hans D. Jaensch	7014	22
Lieutenant Louis Fisher	7015	21
Sergeant Ron Brock	7019	16
Sergeant Brandon Conard	7022	11
Patrolman Anthony Congemi	7020	15
Patrolman Anthony Cicali	7024	14
Patrolman Timothy Marano	7032	12
Patrolman Brendon Griffin	7041	5
Detective Kevin Joo	7044	4
Patrolman Nicholas Wallace	7043	4
Patrolman Travis Perinho	7042	3
Patrolman Scott Snow	7037	2
Patrolman Shane Pettit	7046	3
Ptl. Christopher Deffler	7048	<1
SLEO II Robert Settimio	7031	3
Clerk Mildred Abriola	N/A	8

## DETECTIVE BUREAU

The Detective Bureau is staffed by two detectives. One is a Detective Lieutenant responsible for the supervision of the Bureau. Our detectives handle dozens of cases annually. They are responsible for investigations, evidence collection, evidence management, interviews, surveillance, and monitoring crime trends and addressing them.

	2018	2017	2016
Investigations	73	69	99
Arrests	14	26	33

## PATROL DIVISION

The patrol officers of the Riverside Police Department are the core of the agency. They are tasked with wearing many different hats to ensure the quality of service we provide is outstanding. Riverside Police are not detached to specialized units therefore they must be capable of handling any situation that arises which is not limited to criminal activity. As Riverside does not have a paid fire department and emergency medical services are shared with Delran our officers are usually the first to arrive in any emergency. These same officers are responsible for daily patrol, traffic enforcement, and answering calls for service. All of the functions they perform yield a great deal of report writing as well.

## SPECIALIZED TRAINING

We believe that training our officers is the best way to improve our quality of service. Many of our officers have specialized training including:

- Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) – 3 Total
- Undercover Narcotics Investigation
- School Resource Officer
- Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) – 2 Total
- K9
- L.E.A.D. (Law Enforcement Against Drugs)
- Bike Patrol

## RECORDS

We are currently staffed with a part-time records clerk. The clerk has alleviated countless hours of work previously assigned to a patrol officer including:

- Data entry
- Discovery preparation
- Filing
- Purchasing supplies
- Preparing reports for the public
- Monthly Uniform Crime Reporting

### **How do I request a copy of a report?**

- Copies of reports can be requested by completing a Discovery Request form and mailing it or dropping it off at the police station. When your discovery request has been fulfilled you will be notified to when it is ready. ([Discovery Request](#))
- Motor vehicle crash reports may be picked up at the station after they have been reviewed.
- You can contact Police Records Clerk Millie Abriola at (85)461-8820 ext. 116 or [mabriola@riversidepolicenj.org](mailto:mabriola@riversidepolicenj.org) to inquire about a reports status.

## INTERNAL AFFAIRS

The Riverside Police Department strives to maintain community trust through our Internal Affairs Bureau. The goal of Internal Affairs is to insure that the integrity of the department is maintained through a system of internal discipline where fairness and justice are assured by objective, impartial investigation and review. A summary of our 2018 Internal Affairs investigations is listed below:

**Section IV.14B**

**PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS SUMMARY REPORT FORMS**

**Agency:** Riverside Township

**County:** Burlington

**Reporting Year:** 2018

**TABLE 1 -- COMPLAINTS FILED**

Type of Complaint	Anonymous Complaints	Citizen Complaints	Agency Complaints	Total Complaints
Excessive Force	0	1	0	1
Improper Arrest	0	1	0	1
Improper Entry	0	0	0	0
Improper Search	0	0	0	0
Other Criminal Violation	0	0	0	0
Differential Treatment	0	0	0	0
Demeanor	0	0	0	0
Domestic Violence	0	0	0	0
Other Rule Violation	0	2	0	2

<b>TOTAL</b>	0	4	0	4
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# PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS SUMMARY REPORT FORMS

Agency: Riverside Township

County: Burlington

Reporting Year: 2018

TABLE 2 -- AGENCY DISPOSITIONS

	Sustained	Exonerated	Not Sustained	Unfounded	Administratively Closed	Total Dispositions
Excessive Force	0	0	1	0	0	1
Improper Arrest	0	0	1	0	0	1
Improper Entry	0	0	0	0	0	0
Improper Search	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Criminal Violation	0	0	0	0	0	0
Differential Treatment	0	0	0	0	0	0
Demeanor	0	0	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0	0	0

Domestic Violence						
Other Rule Violation	0	0	0	0	2	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	0	0	2	0	2	0



## PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS SUMMARY REPORT FORMS

Agency: Riverside Township

County: Burlington

Reporting Year: 2018

TABLE 3 -- COURT DISPOSITIONS

Court	Cases Dismissed	Cases Diverted	Acquittals	Convictions
Municipal Court	0	0	0	0
Superior Court	0	0	0	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	0	0	0	0

## CALLS FOR SERVICE

Calls for police service cover a wide range of situations. They include calls for criminal activity, emergency medical services, fire and any other time the public perceive the need for police presence.

CALLS FOR SERVICE
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2014	6691
2015	7165
2016	7244
2017	7490
2018	7161

## CRIMINAL ACTIVITY

Many of these investigations are the result of proactive police patrol through motor vehicle stops and pedestrian encounters.

INVESTIGATIONS	
2014	877
2015	1287
2016	1136
2017	1261
2018	1062

INVESTIGATION TYPES	2018	2017	2016	2015
*All Investigation Types not Listed*				
Aggravated Assault	17	15	7	16

Aggravated Assault on Police	3	2	2	7
Bicycle Theft	4	14	19	25
Arson	0	2	-----	-----
Burglary of Business	0	1	6	2
Burglary of Residence	9	6	5	9
Burglary of Vehicle	12	13	6	30
Child Abuse/Pornography	8	4	6	7
Death Investigations	16	14	9	9
Drug Distribution	7	8	6	7
Drug Death by Overdose	9	4	8	2
Drug Overdoses	45	37	39	30
Drug Possession	162	212	149	113
NJ Transit Light Rail Platform	86	126	113	195
Missing Persons	12	39	37	23
Murder	0	0	1	0
Open Alcohol in Auto/Public	23	73	-----	-----
Resisting Arrest	3	9	6	15
Robbery	2	6	5	3
Sexual Assault	10	4	10	8
Simple Assault	31	49	54	32
Soliciting Without a Permit	24	24	23	20
Stolen Motor Vehicles	4	11	8	9
Suicidal/Person in Crisis	78	67	74	84
Suspended Drivers	75	100	95	93
Unlicensed Drivers	126	155	111	113
Weapon	33	31	16	12
Warrant Arrests	179	418	289	272

The complaints below are divided into three categories. Indictable Offenses are charges of the 1<sup>st</sup> thru 4<sup>th</sup> degree which are presented to a Grand Jury for indictment. Disorderly Person Offenses typically carry a term of less than 6 months in jail. Ordinance violations are laws of the municipality which are subject to fines only up to \$2,000. A list of Riverside ordinances can be found online at: [ecode360](#)

COMPLAINTS FILED	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014
Indictable Offenses	106	145	140	174	190
Disorderly Person Offenses	186	490	667	567	491
Ordinance Violations	542	655	448	352	670

## ADULT ARRESTS

ADULT ARRESTS	
2014	686
2015	980
2016	784
2017	958
2018	738

## JUVENILE ARRESTS

JUVENILE ARRESTS	
2014	55
2015	45
2016	39
2017	52
2018	58

## DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Domestic violence should not happen to anyone. The sad reality is it does, on an all too often basis. Domestic violence is rarely an isolated incident. It is frequently a repeated act with the intensity of violence increasing with each incident, sometimes with tragic results. The cycle of violence must be broken. The Riverside Police Department remains vigilant in investigating and prosecuting offenders of domestic violence.

Maybe you have lived with abuse, maybe it happened just once; maybe you work or live next to someone who is being abused right now. There is help! You just need to remember two things: first, abuse is never okay; second, you are not alone. Help is yours for the asking. Your safety as well as the ones attached to you is a priority. If you know someone who you think is being abused - a friend, family member, co-worker, client, patient or parishioner - please contact the Riverside Police Department and stop the violence. (domesticviolence.org)

With your help and continued support we can continue to reduce the occurrences of Domestic Violence and increase the frequency with which police are notified of potential cases of Domestic Violence.

Domestic violence calls are a highly volatile situation for officers to respond to. In 2018 Riverside Police responded to 157 calls for domestic violence. In Riverside the most frequent day domestic violence calls were received was Sunday between 7 pm and 7 am. The Riverside Police also assist victims with obtaining Temporary Restraining Orders (TRO) on weekends, holidays, and other times the courts are close.

Another service we assist victims with is a referral to a member of The Domestic Violence Response Team (DVRT). The DVRT is a free service to victims of domestic violence. Area volunteers respond to the police station during instances of domestic violence and provide the victim assistance with housing, counseling and child care issues. We are currently seeking volunteers for the DVRT. Information about volunteering may be found on our website: <http://www.riversidetwp.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/11/DVRT-2009.pdf>

	2018	2017	2016
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Domestic Violence Calls	157	120	131
Domestic Violence Arrests	31	34	32
Officer Hours Spent	354	204	223
Temporary Restraining Order <b>Granted</b>	18	13	22
Temporary Restraining Order <b>Denied</b>	3	1	6
Temporary Restraining Order <b>Violations</b>	3	7	5
DVRT Requested	9	5	14
DVRT Responded	4	2	6

## DWI AND TRAFFIC CRASHES

DWI ARRESTS	
2014	50
2015	20
2016	42
2017	44
2018	55

TRAFFIC CRASHES	
2014	123
2015	108
2016	99
2017	105
2018	127

## MOTOR VEHICLE VIOLATIONS

SUMMONSES ISSUED
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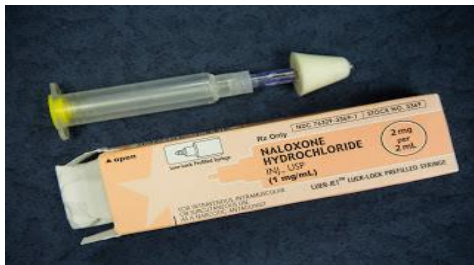
2014	1127
2015	1668
2016	1693
2017	1871
2018	1793

## NARCOTICS LAB SUBMISSIONS

The numbers below represent the number of cases in which narcotics were submitted to the Burlington County Forensic Laboratory for examination. Riverside has been number one in this category on a per officer basis every year since 2008. We do not believe the drug problem in Riverside is different from that of any other town. We attribute this to an aggressive approach to narcotics interdiction while on patrol.

2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
109	108	116	81	74	105	70	90	95

## NARCAN/NALOXONE



In response to the growing epidemic of heroin and opiate-based drug overdoses and deaths, the Riverside Township Police have obtained the anti-overdose drug, Naloxone, also known as Narcan. This drug is administered as a nasal spray to victims to combat the immediate effects of an opiate-induced overdose and to save lives. Every

officer with the Riverside Police Department is trained to administer the drug. **In 2018 Riverside Police responded to 45 drug overdose calls up from 37 in 2017, and administered the drug 20 times.** In some circumstances more than one dosage was required. **In 2018 there were 9 overdose fatalities.**



In addition to Riverside officers carrying Narcan to combat this nationwide epidemic, the Riverside Police Department has attempted to be on the forefront of addiction treatment services and advocacy. NJTIP is a Not for Profit organization founded by Louis J. Fisher. The NJTIP program is considered the Recovery Partner of the Riverside Township Police Department. NJTIP is designed to assist individuals of addiction that are at high risk of overdose. NJTIP works with those individuals to attain placement in addiction treatment facilities, monitors their progress, advocates on their behalf if needed and assists in guiding addicted persons towards after care treatment. NJTIP maintains an all-volunteer staff that assists addicted persons navigate the difficult road of addiction recovery. If you or your loved one has succumbed to addiction and need recovery help, please check out the NJTIP website at [NJTIP.net](http://NJTIP.net).

The Riverside Township Police will continue to categorize this problem as a HIGH priority and will continue to investigate, charge, and prosecute anyone who manufactures, sells or distributes heroin, prescription pills or any other addictive narcotics in and around the township. Citizens are encouraged to continue to assist police with information on those they believe are distributing narcotics within the township. Call 856-461-8577 or email at: [crimetips@riversidepolice.nj.org](mailto:crimetips@riversidepolice.nj.org)



## K-9 Unit



K9 Nikko is certified for patrol, narcotics detection, and is capable of tracking suspects and missing persons. Nikko along with his handler, Ptl. Anthony Congemi, trained for hundreds of hours and have become a valuable asset to the Riverside Police Department and surrounding communities.

They have responded to requests for mutual aid in other Burlington County communities to assist with tracking suspects and narcotics detection. In addition to numerous successful narcotics searches and tracking of suspects, Ptl. Congemi and Nikko also conduct foot patrols and participate in community event demonstrations.

<b><u>Congemi and Nikko</u></b>	<b><u>2018</u></b>	<b><u>2017</u></b>	<b><u>2016</u></b>	<b><u>2015</u></b>
<b>Demonstrations</b>	2	6	6	2
<b>Surrenders</b>	25	42	26	13
<b>Apprehensions</b>	0	1	0	1
<b>Foot Patrol Hours</b>	66	128	141	45
<b>Narcotics Searches</b>	29	60	19	6
<b>In-Service Training</b>	17	23	24	7
<b>Property Checks</b>	39	71	37	15
<b>Local Suspect Tracks</b>	1	0	1	2
<b>Building Searches</b>	14	46	13	7
<b>Local Crowd Control</b>	0	0	0	0
<b>Mutual Aid Narcotics</b>	0	4	1	2
<b>Mutual Aid Assist</b>	1	1	2	0
<b>Mutual Aid Track</b>	2	1	0	5
<b>Mutual Aid Crowd Control</b>	1	1	0	1

## FIREARMS APPLICATIONS

The Riverside Police Department has been receiving a high volume of applications for firearms. Firearms permits are currently being handled by two officers as the process includes background checks of applicants by our officers. The application process includes an extensive applicant background screening. These background checks are time consuming for the officers who must complete them during their normal shifts.

Firearms Applications	2018	2017	2016	2015
Distributed	63	79	71	74
Issued	53	67	61	79
Denied	2	1	2	1

## ALARM CALLS

Each year Riverside Police are dispatched to alarm calls for businesses and private residences. Most alarm calls are the result of user error or equipment malfunction, but they are all investigated as crimes in progress or emergencies.

Alarms	2018	2017	2016	2015
False Alarms	171	190	181	197
Summons	8	7	5	1
Warning Letters	2	3	7	12

## MEGAN'S LAW

Megan's Law offenders are required by law to register in the municipality which they plan to live. For details on NJ Attorney General Guidelines as they pertain to Megan's Law please visit [www.nj.gov/oag/dcj/megan/guidelines.htm](http://www.nj.gov/oag/dcj/megan/guidelines.htm).

In Riverside Township we currently have 13 registered.

Tier Levels	2016	2017	2018
Tier 1 (Low Risk) Offenders	9	7	6
Tier 2 (Moderate Risk) Offenders	3	6	7
Tier 3 (High Risk) Offenders	0	0	0

Below is a “Frequently asked Questions” chart provided by the NJ State Police.

#### **Common Questions About Megan’s Law**

##### **Q1 What is registration?**

A1 Sex offenders must fill out a registration form and submit it to their local police department. The form requests personal information of the sex offender, including home address and place of employment. The accuracy of the information on the form is confirmed. This information is kept by the Division of State Police in a Sex Offender Registry.

##### **Q2 What types of offenses require registration?**

A2 The offenses requiring registration include aggravated sexual assault, sexual assault, aggravated criminal sexual contact, criminal sexual contact if the victim is minor, endangering the welfare of a child by engaging in sexual conduct which would impair or debauch the morals of the child, endangering the welfare of a child through acts involving pornography featuring a child, promoting prostitution of a child, luring or enticing, kidnapping, criminal restraint, and false imprisonment if the victim is a minor and the offender is not a parent of the victim.

##### **Q3 Who is required to register?**

A3 Sex offenders who have been convicted since Megan’s Law went into effect on October 31, 1994, or who were serving a sentence on the effective date of the law are required to register. Sex offenders who have been found to be repetitive and compulsive by experts and the courts, regardless of the date of conviction, are required to register.

##### **Q4 Are juvenile sex offenders required to register?**

A4 A juvenile sex offender is a person who commits a sex offense while under the age of 18. Juvenile sex offenders must register like adults.

**Q5 Are sex offenders convicted in another state required to register when they move to New Jersey?**

A5 Sex offenders convicted in another state are required to register within 10 days of moving to New Jersey. In addition, sex offenders convicted in another state are required to register even if they are just attending school or are employed in New Jersey.

**Q6 Are sex offenders required to report changes of address?**

A6 Sex offenders are required to report every change of address. Sex offenders must notify the local police at least 10 days prior to the move. In addition, law enforcement agencies will monitor whether sex offenders are reporting changes of addresses. Some sex offenders must verify their addresses annually. Others must verify their addresses every 90 days.

**Q7 How long must sex offenders register?**

A7 All sex offenders subject to Megan's Law must register for the remainder of their lives. Sex offenders may apply to the court to be removed from the Sex Offender Registry if they committed only one offense, have not committed another offense for 15 years, and prove that they are not likely to pose a threat to the safety of others. Juvenile sex offenders may also apply to the court to be removed from the Sex Offender Registry if they were under the age of 14 at the time of their offense but are now over the age of 18.

**Q8 What if a sex offender fails to register?**

A8 Failure to comply in any way with Megan's Law is a fourth degree crime. If you know someone has been convicted of a crime requiring registration, you can always provide that information to the local police or county prosecutor. However, they will not be able to advise you whether or not that particular sex offender is registered.

**Q9 Once sex offenders are registered, how does the notification process work?**

A9 The county prosecutors receive the registration forms from the local police. The prosecutors then must determine the risk to the community -- the likelihood that the sex offender will commit another crime. In making that determination, the prosecutors weigh many factors set by statutes and the Attorney General's Guidelines. The prosecutors classify sex offenders in one of three tiers based on the degree of risk they pose to the public: low risk (Tier 1), moderate risk (Tier 2), or high risk (Tier 3). Classification in a tier determines who will receive notification.

**Q10 Who will receive notification?**

A10 If the risk level is low (Tier 1), law enforcement agencies are notified. If the risk level is moderate (Tier 2), in addition to law enforcement agencies, schools, licensed day care centers, summer camps, and registered community

organizations are notified of sex offenders that they are likely to encounter because of the possibility that pedophiles and sexual predators will be drawn to these places. If the risk level is high (Tier 3), in addition to law enforcement agencies, schools, licensed day care centers, summer camps, registered community organizations, and members of the public are notified.

**Q11 What information is provided in a notification?**

A11 In all three levels of notification, the information provided includes the offender's name, description and photograph, address, place of employment or school if applicable, a description of the offender's vehicle and license plate number, and a brief description of the offense.

**Q12 How will I be informed?**

A12 You will receive personal notification of the location of all high risk (Tier 3) offenders that you are likely to encounter in your neighborhood. A law enforcement officer, such as a police officer, state police trooper, or investigator from your county prosecutor's office, will come to your door and deliver a notice to an adult member of your household.

**Q13 May I share information with friends?**

A13 You may share and discuss the information you have received with those residing in your household or with anyone caring for your children at your residence in your absence. You may NOT share this information with anyone outside your household or not in your care. You may NOT copy or post the notice. Law

enforcement will notify all appropriate community members, schools, organizations, residences, and businesses.

**Q14 What if I move to a new neighborhood?**

A14 Megan's Law information is only given to persons already living in the neighborhood. This information will NOT be given by law enforcement agencies to persons who are considering moving into the neighborhood. Also, the seller may NOT be required as a condition of the sale to tell the buyer about Megan's Law notifications. However, once a home is actually purchased, the new owner may request Megan's Law notifications from the local police department.

**Q15 Is information available on the Internet?**

A15 Information is available on the Internet at the following website: [www.njsp.org](http://www.njsp.org). Click onto the Sex Offender Registry icon. The law limits the information to be placed on the Internet to all high risk (Tier 3) offenders and some moderate risk (Tier 2) offenders. The law excludes all juvenile sex offenders (except for Tier 3 juvenile sex offenders), most moderate risk offenders whose crimes were committed against members of their families or households, and most moderate sex offenders whose crimes were considered statutory because of age.

**Q16 What should I do if I receive a notification?**

A16 Reinforce general precautions about staying away from strangers and ask your children to tell you or their caretakers where they will be at all times. Use the information responsibly. Talk to your children. Tell them to treat the sex offender as a stranger. Tell them where the sex offender lives, what he or she looks like, and what to do if they encounter or are approached by that person. If you believe that a crime is being committed by a sex offender, contact your local law enforcement agency immediately as you would do in any case of suspected criminal activity.

**Q17 Are there any other steps I can take to protect my family?**

A17 There is no law that can ever completely protect us. Adults need to teach children about basic safety precautions. Check with your child's school to determine whether a program is in place to teach children about strangers. Also, check with the school and other locations where your child spends time on a regular basis to determine whether safety precautions are in place.

**Q18 What am I prohibited from doing?**

A18 Any actions taken against the individual named in the notification, including vandalism or property, verbal or written threats of harm, or physical violence against this person, his or her family, or employer, will result in arrest and prosecution for criminal acts. Vigilantism is not only a crime, it is an action that will undermine the efforts of those who have worked hard to enact this law.

## FLEET VEHICLES

Car #	Year	Model	Mileage
1	2014	Charger	22,485
2	2017	Explorer	10,352
3	2010	Charger	56,520
4	2017	Explorer	13,785
5	2014	Explorer	54,011
6	2017	Explorer	13,362
7	2017	Explorer	9,862
SRO	2009	Durango	102830
K9	2012	Charger	73,815
Unmarked	2005	Crown Vic	93,580
Unmarked	2011	Expedition	108767

Unmarked		Expedition	88192
Road Job	2008	Crown Vic	110,039
Road Job	2008	Crown Vic	88,978

## EQUIPMENT ADDITIONS

- Ten Rifles
- Rifle Cabinet

## COMMUNITY SERVICES

### Prescription Medication Drop Box

Unfortunately, prescription drug abuse is an escalating problem that often evolves into opiate abuse. The theft of prescription medication is also a growing trend. Jewelry boxes and medicine cabinets are often the first places a burglar checks when they break into a home. Proper and timely disposal of medications prevents it from falling into the wrong hands.



The Riverside Police Department received a medication drop off box which is installed in the front vestibule of the police station. The drop box, which resembles a mailbox, was provided through a program funded by CVS Pharmacy. The drop box is an environmentally responsible way to dispose of unwanted or unused medications and will be available to the public 24/7. In 2018 we collected and disposed of 140 lbs. of medication. Since it was put into service in April, 2015 we have collected and disposed of 560 lbs. of unwanted medication.

We ask that you deposit prescription medication only. All over the counter medication can be disposed of normally.

### Community Care Taking Cards

When officers respond to a home, or business and the owner is not available, they leave behind these bright yellow, highly visible cards. The cards help bring attention to a problem such as a broken window, or unlocked door.

### **Kidz FunZone Game Center**

The Kidz FunZone Game Center is a 2002 Chevrolet Silverado that was seized after being used in the attempted commission of a crime against a child. In three weeks the truck was transformed into a mobile gaming center with the help of our generous sponsors. The "Kidz FunZone Game Center" has three 55" televisions connected to XBOX 360's and a booming stereo system. It is also outfitted with outdoor games, sports equipment, and a 12'x12' outdoor movie screen. The truck was used throughout the year for outdoor movies and game nights and parades.

The Kidz FunZone would not be possible without the support of our generous sponsors. We are very grateful for their continued support.





### **Outdoor Movie and Game Nights**

The Riverside Police Department hosted three outdoor movie and game nights in 2018. The events were free and open to the public.



### **Police/Marine Youth Leadership**

Prior to the start of the football season the Riverside Police Department and members of the United States Marine Corps conducted a leadership and team building exercise with the Riverside High School football team. We would also like to thank the members of the U.S. Marine Corps for their time today and their service!

### **School Resource Officer Program**

This School Resource Officer (SRO) Program has been established to provide Police Officers for the Township's Public Schools. The Officer will provide a variety of educational resources to the School Community, law enforcement information and advice to students and parents, and a positive law enforcement presence in the schools. The SRO is not intended to merely serve as security personnel in the schools, yet the presence of the SRO will serve as a security function.

The SRO will not enforce the school disciplinary policies. The school environment is a community in and of itself. It remains, however, an integral part of the larger community of society in general. Although the members of the School Community are younger, the code of conduct remains the same. The SRO will enforce the law in the same unbiased and impartial manner as he enforces it in the larger Community.

### **Vulnerable Person Registry**



In recognition of Autism Awareness Month in 2015, the Riverside Police Department implemented a Vulnerable Person Registry program. The program is designed to support families caring for loved ones with physical and or mental disabilities who are prone to wandering and/or becoming lost. This includes, but is not limited to persons with Autism, Alzheimer's Disease, Dementia, Down Syndrome, brain injuries, and mental illness.

The registration will rapidly provide police with photographs, detailed physical descriptions, approach recommendations, and most importantly emergency contact information to be used in these circumstances.

The information will remain confidential at all times and will be released only to police, fire, and/or medical personnel assisting in the identification, safety, and rapid return if a registrant is found, reported missing, or otherwise determined to be at-risk by emergency response personnel. The registration packet can be picked up at the Riverside Police station or found on our [website](#). Additionally, all officers received training in "Autism Education for First Responders."

### **Free Child ID Cards**



In addition to being Memorial Day, May 25th is also the anniversary of Etan Patz's disappearance. Etan Patz was a six year old boy kidnapped in New York two blocks from his home while walking to his school bus stop in 1979. Recently a Maple Shade man was charged in his kidnapping and murder which ended in a hung jury this month.

In **1983**, President Ronald **Reagan** declared May 25, National Missing Children's Day. For more than three decades the search for Etan has continued. We would like to honor Etan by reminding parents, guardians, families and communities that every child deserves a safe childhood. Please take time to talk to your children about their safety, including their online presence and the existence of online predators.

In 2014, there were 466,949 entries for missing children under the age of 18 into the FBI's National Crime Information Center, also called NCIC. An outstanding organization, the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC), works closely with law enforcement to locate these children. They staff a 24 hour tipline to report sightings of missing children 1-800-THE-LOST (800-843-5678).

They also provide a cybertipline to report; child pornography, molestation, child sex trafficking, online enticement of children, unsolicited obscene material sent to a child, etc. You can submit a cybertip at: [CyberTipline](#). Parents and educators can find resources to share with your children at [Child Safety and Prevention](#).

In recognition of National Missing Children's Day and in an effort to promote child safety, we began annually fingerprinting children free of charge at the Riverside Police Department on the closest Saturday to May 25<sup>th</sup>. The fingerprints will be on a child identification card for you to keep and provide to police if your child goes missing. Fingerprinting can also be done throughout the year by appointment.

### **Free Bicycle Registration**

Bicycle theft is a common problem in most towns. It is often difficult to determine ownership of a bicycle on scene with a suspect or when recovered as abandoned. Stolen bicycles are commonly sold for scrap metal. In an effort to combat this problem the Riverside Police Department registers bikes free of charge every Saturday from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m., or by appointment. The registration numbers help police identify stolen bicycles, arrest thieves, and return stolen bikes to their rightful owners.

### **L.E.A.D.**



This education program provides fifth graders with the knowledge to make the right choices when it comes to drugs and alcohol. It also teaches problem solving techniques for everyday situations. Steps include defining the problem, assessing the choices, responding by making a choice and evaluating if the choice was the right decision.

### **Officer Phil Program**

This program is directed toward children in kindergarten through fifth grade, and illustrates the importance of obeying the rules set by parents and society. It presents various problems and solutions in a manner children easily understand and readily accept.

### **Read Across America**

Each year in February Riverside Police Officer volunteer to read to elementary school students during the Read Across America event. It is a great opportunity for officers to spend a few minutes with children in a setting the children are familiar with.





### **College Student Intern Program**

The Riverside Township Police Department is committed to developing partnerships with the community through the Volunteers in Police Service Program. An important part of the volunteer program is student internships, where students and the police department both benefit from shared experiences.

It is the policy of the Riverside Township Police Department to provide a positive learning environment for interested college students to experience the various aspects and responsibilities of law enforcement first hand. While working on operational, administrative and support functions, the intern is provided with an atmosphere of learning through a combination of hands-on and observational experiences.

### **Police Explorer Program**



The Riverside Police Explorers Post is an organization affiliated with the Boy Scouts of America. The Explorers learn and experience different aspects of law enforcement under the supervision and guidance of members of the Riverside Police Department. Although they have no law enforcement authority, they often augment the Police Department by assisting with community related functions.

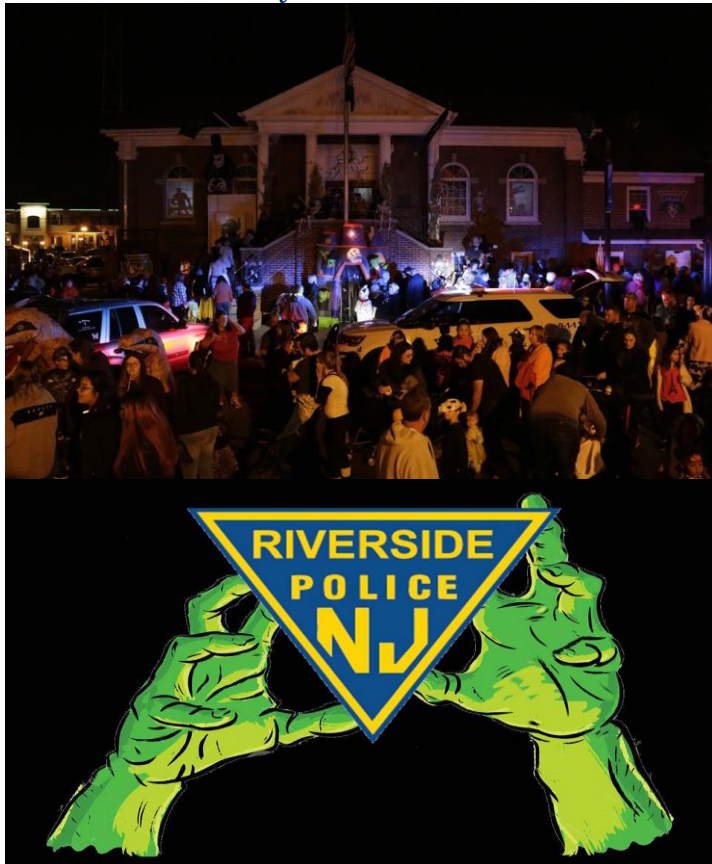
On June 1<sup>st</sup>, the Riverside Police Explorers attended the 2018 New Jersey Police Explorer Competition. The annual event is held at Stockton University over a 3 day period. While there, Explorers live on campus and compete against other Explorer posts from across the State. This year, 15, of New Jersey's top Explorer posts attended the event. The students learned about Criminal Justice from Stockton University Professors and various experts in the law enforcement field. They also competed in multiple events and police scenarios including; physical fitness drills, traffic stops, building searches, domestic violence, active shooter, burglaries, and other team competitions.

This year Riverside Police Explorer Capt. Alexa Ingra, Lt. Rick Loveland, Sgt. Jacob Arocho, Sgt. Zach DiFrancesco, Sgt. Cole Cerhiaro, and Gavin Martinez tested their skills against other elite Explorers. We are proud to announce that Riverside Post #70 to first place in the Domestic Violence scenario. Alexa Ingram finished 4<sup>th</sup> for physical fitness among the female attendees and the Riverside Explorers were selected as part of the "Best Platoon" award for the entire event. We are very proud of these outstanding members of our community and hope to see them succeed in the future.

The Explorers Program is open to youths between the ages of 15 and 21, many of whom have a desire to pursue a career in law enforcement. Interested parties should click the qualifications link below to see if he/she qualifies for the program. The activities of the Explorers include, but are not limited to, training, ride alongs, and community service, details of which can be found by clicking the activities link below. For further information about the Riverside Police Explorers Program, please contact Officer Anthony Cicali at: [acicali@riversidepolice.nj.org](mailto:acicali@riversidepolice.nj.org)

### **Haunted Police Station**

Riverside Township and the Riverside Police Association hosted our 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Trunk or Treat and Haunted Police Station in 2018. The event has become very popular in Riverside with an estimated crowd of 1,200 people this year. For the second year, we coordinated this event with a food donation driver and were able to donate @ 200 lbs of food to the Fishes and Loaves Food Pantry in Riverside.



### **Social Media Access**



As any successful law enforcement agency knows, continued communication with the community is vital to the overall success and safety of the town. Social media gives us an opportunity to rapidly disseminate critical information in the event of an emergency, provide timely press releases, and interact with the public to solve crimes and improve our service. Several crimes have already been solved as a result of our social media presence.

We encourage everyone to follow the Riverside Police Department using any of the following media tools. Stay informed, stay connected and stay safe!



### **Riverside Township Police Information Center**

This site is intended to serve as a central access point to receive all news and advisories from the Riverside Township Police Department. From this site, anyone may review information put out by the Riverside Township Police and sign up to be notified by email or other forms of social media. The site also includes links to the register with the department's Facebook, Twitter, YouTube and Nixle accounts. It can be located at:

<http://riversidepolicenj.blogspot.com>



### **Facebook**

Facebook is the world's most popular **social networking website**. It makes it easy for you to **connect and share** with your family and friends online. Keep up to date with the Riverside Township Police on news, advisories or upcoming events. "Like" us on Facebook! We can be found at:

<https://www.facebook.com/riversidepolicenj>



### **Twitter**

Twitter is a popular service for anyone to communicate and stay connected through the exchange of quick, frequent messages usually accessed through the use of software installed on a cellular phone, but also accessible from a tablet, laptop or desktop. People write short updates, often called "Tweets" of

140 characters or fewer which may also include photos. Follow us on Twitter to receive general information and updates. Follow [@riversidepdnj](#)



### **Nixle Program**

Not using Facebook or Twitter? This program provides members of the community with alerts and information without having to sign up for Facebook or Twitter. You will receive real-time Riverside Township Police alerts and emergency information directly to your e-mail or cell phone. Sign up at: <http://www.nixle.com/>



### **Riverside Police YouTube Channel**

With the assistance of YouTube.com, the Riverside Township Police are able to release videos to the public. Whether it be to request assistance with identifying criminal suspects or to simply provide helpful information, the ability to provide easily accessible video to the public allows the police to better perform their jobs. To locate our channel just search Riverside Police NJ on YouTube or click here: [Riverside Police YouTube Channel](#)

## **AWARDS**

- MADD drunk driving enforcement award
- Burlington County Prosecutors Office “Pro-Cops” award for Community Policing
- ASIS International Unit award for Community Policing
- Invited to speak at the state house where the Department was recognized with Senate and General Assembly resolutions
- New Jersey Dept. of Traffic and Highway Safety traffic enforcement 2<sup>nd</sup> place award for departments with 11-25 officer in New Jersey.
- New Jersey Law Enforcement Challenge Underage Alcohol Prevention Award.
- Courier Post readers selected the Riverside Police Department as the “Best in South Jersey”
- Jewish Community Service Award for the investigation of Bias Crimes

- New Jersey Attorney General's Award for Outstanding Community Policing.
- Burlington County Regional Chamber of Commerce "Voice of Business" award for excellence.