

WILLIMANTIC POLICE DEPARTMENT



September 5, 2019

Services Provided

The Willimantic Police Department is responsible for the enforcement of State, Federal and local ordinances laws within the Willimantic Taxing District. Under the present table of organization, the department consists of the Patrol Division, Detective Division and Administrative Division. There are a total of 44 sworn officers and 7 civilian support staff. The Willimantic Police Department is currently moving towards accreditation through the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA), which is the internationally recognized gold standard for law enforcement excellence.

The department is led by Chief Roberto M. Rosado and Deputy Chief Robert Buckner. The Chief of Police and Deputy Chief have a combined 50 years of Law Enforcement experience. They receive their support from a strong administrative staff consisting of four (4) Lieutenant Division commanders for the Patrol Division, Detective Division, Traffic and Training, and Professional Standards and Accreditation. Three civilian staff supports the daily duties of providing records, permits, and preparing criminal justice paperwork for court proceedings.

The Willimantic Police Department provides full-service law enforcement for the citizens of the city of Willimantic. The City of Willimantic is approximately 4.4 square miles, with a population of approximately 18,000 residents. The dedicated men and women of the Willimantic Police Department are committed to providing quality service while working cooperatively with the community to enforce the laws, preserve peace, and provide a safe environment thus improving the quality of life of our residents. Our Department consists of 44 sworn officers of which there are 18 patrol officers, 6 Detectives, 1 School Resource officer (SRO), 3 K-9 Officers, 4 Sergeants, 6 corporals, 4 Lieutenants 1 Captain/Deputy Chief.

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Patrol Division

The patrol Division is the department's largest organizational unit. The division is commanded by Lieutenant, Paul Hussey (24 years of experience) and is comprised of three Sergeants, six Corporals, eighteen Officers, and three K9 Officers. The primary objective of the Patrol Division is to provide prompt, professional service to the Willimantic Taxing district and protect the safety and security of our citizens. The Patrol Division is the most visible and recognizable part of the Police Department and are the first responding Officers to any incident or accident.

Detective Division

The Detective Division is commanded by Lieutenant Doug Glode (17 years of experience) and consists of one Sergeant, five Detectives and one Detective evidence technician. The main function of the Detective Division is to provide follow up or secondary investigations on felony crimes and narcotics investigations. The Division is well trained to investigate homicides, robberies, serious assaults, sexual assaults, crimes against children and narcotics investigations. The Division has been successful in not only investigating these types of cases but also having them successfully prosecuted. Members of the Detective Division have also been assigned as task force officers for Statewide Narcotics, the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) and FBI. They have all received extensive, specialized training in crime scene investigation, forensics, and evidence collection.

Traffic Enforcement and Accidents

The Willimantic Police Department's Traffic Enforcement and Accidents Division is led by Lieutenant Matt Solak (14 years of experience). This unit has a dedicated Accident Reconstruction Unit, which consists of six specially trained Officers who are all graduates of the Institute of Police Technology and Management's (IPTM) accident investigation classes. The Accident Reconstruction Unit is assigned to investigate all serious and fatal traffic accidents occurring in Willimantic. In our preventative efforts, the Willimantic Police conducts dedicated

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traffic enforcement patrols all year long, and we are an annual recipient of both the Connecticut Department of Transportation's DUI Enforcement Grant and Distracted Driving Grant, which provide funding for traffic safety patrols throughout the year.

Professional Standards and Accreditation

The Willimantic Police Department has begun the process to improve standards and attain accreditation through the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA). Lieutenant Charles Miller (12 years of experience) is leading the organization on this development.

K-9 Division

The Willimantic Police Department has three K9 Officers assigned as handlers, who live and work with their K9 partners once they become certified through the Connecticut Police Work Dog Association. All three K9 teams are certified in patrol response, narcotics detection, and tracking, and have been used to find missing persons, detect large quantities of drugs, and apprehend dangerous criminals. Additionally, the Willimantic Police K9 Division has been the recipient of a total of six Daniel Wasson Memorial Awards, which is annually awarded to the best K9 teams in the state. Our K9 teams have also been requested to assist Police Departments in numerous surrounding towns, as well as the State Police, when the services of a narcotics or tracking dog is needed.

School Resource Officer

The Willimantic Police Department has had a dedicated School Resource Officer (SRO) since 2009, who is specifically assigned to work in both the Middle and High Schools, as well as respond to our two elementary schools. Because of the unique nature of working with youth, our SRO maintains a close working relationship with the Willimantic Juvenile Court and Probation Department, as well the Department of Children and Families, and frequently assists the Patrol and Detective Divisions with cases involving children. Our SRO is also one of our

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three certified SafeKids car-seat installation technicians.

Emergency Services

The Willimantic Police Department has the only municipal SWAT Team in Windham County, which allows us to be proactively prepared for the event of an active threat/shooter incident, hostage or barricade situation, or other critical incident. All of our SWAT Team members are graduates of either the National Tactical Officers Association or Capitol Region Emergency Services SWAT Schools, and in 2018 the Willimantic Police SWAT Team hosted their first ever 50-hour SWAT School, training police officers from other Departments in Connecticut as well as Massachusetts. The SWAT Team also has a medic permanently assigned to the unit, as well as two hostage negotiators. All SWAT team members train together monthly, and receive extensive firearms, negotiation, and tactical training. The Willimantic SWAT Team is also one of the only teams in the entire state to have an MRAP rescue vehicle, which was acquired at no cost to the town in 2014.

TRAINING

As required by Connecticut state statute, all Willimantic Police Officers are graduates of the Connecticut Police Academy in Meriden, and after their graduation from the academy they are assigned to a 400 hour "on the job" field training program. However, the training does not stop after completion of the academy, and throughout an Officer's career they are offered a wide variety of training opportunities, including classes offered through the Police Academy, local universities, and national conferences. Every three years each Willimantic Police Officers receives state-mandated recertification training, and twice a year the Willimantic Police conducts firearms training and use of force training. The Willimantic Police Department also provides adjunct instructors to the Law Enforcement Council of Southeastern Connecticut and the Connecticut Police Academy. Our Officers also pursue their training and education outside of police work as well; Chief Rosado is a 2015 graduate of the FBI National Academy, which is internationally recognized as the premier executive training for law enforcement, and over half of our Department has a Bachelor's Degree or higher.

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Community Policing

Unlike some Police Department's that have a "Community Policing Division", the Willimantic Police is truly a *Community Policing Department*. Each of our Divisions and Officers contribute positively to our interactions with the citizens we serve, and we host and sponsor numerous events throughout the year in collaboration with many civic groups in Willimantic. Each summer, we host two separate Youth Leadership Academies in conjunction with Windham PRIDE (Partnership to Reduce the Influence of Drugs for Everyone), and every fall the Willimantic Police hosts a popular twelve-week Citizen's Police Academy. The Willimantic Police also has an assigned member to the Windham Community Care Team, to work proactively to address the issues of homelessness, and we have the only Police-Assisted Substance Abuse Recovery program in Windham County. The Willimantic Police Department also has a dedicated Bike Patrol, who are all graduates of the International Police Mountain Bike Association training program. In addition to each of these programs, Willimantic Police Officers are out in the community giving safety presentations, visiting schools, reading to children, and attending conferences and special events that promotes the partnership.

Administrative Services

The Willimantic Police Department is a full-service police agency which is operational 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. In addition to our Patrol and Detective Division services, we have a fully-staffed Administrative Division which provides access to following resources:

- 1) Records – The police department provides copies of local criminal records and CFS (calls for service) reports during normal business hours. The records staff maintains local arrest records, crime reports and accident reports.
- 2) Fingerprints - The police department provides fingerprinting service for the residents it serves for such things as pistol permits and job applications.

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- 3) Property & Evidence - The property and evidence officer receives stores, retrieves, disperses and disposes of all evidence, found property or property held for court proceedings. Additionally, there is a prescription drug drop box available 24 hours a day in the lobby of Police Headquarters for the safe and legal disposal of prescription drugs.