



# SHREWSBURY POLICE DEPARTMENT

Bi-Monthly Newsletter  
January & February 2024

106 Maple Avenue | 508-841-1212 | Chief Kevin E. Anderson

VISION: "To be fully engaged in our community to co-produce public safety that reduces crime and improves quality of life."



The Shrewsbury Police Department has 75 employees, serving approximately 38,000 residents, and is the 44th most populated community in the state, out of 351 communities. Click [here](#) to watch a tour of the station with Chief Anderson.

The Department is comprised of the following personnel:

- 59 Sworn Officers
- 9 Dispatchers
- 4 Administrative Assistants
- 1 Animal Control Officer
- 1 Mental Health Clinician

## PERSONNEL:

SPD is pleased to announce that Sergeant Ryan Bradley has been assigned to the new Community Services Sergeant position! Sgt. Bradley has assisted with numerous community services and engagements over the years, where he's pictured below (on the far right) from an event he assisted with in October of 2023.

Sergeant Timothy Finacom also had an article published in the FBI-Leeda Insider, Winter 2024 Edition. The article, "Enhancing Law Enforcement Preparedness: Specialized Training for Responding to Individuals with Disabilities," showcases Sgt. Finacom's dedication and commitment to public safety, the department, and the community. Click [here](#) to read the article in full.

February 15th was National School Resource Officer Appreciation Day! We would like to recognize our own SRO's, Alicia Brownell and Shawn Valliere. SRO Brownell is in the High School, and has been a Shrewsbury Police Officer for approximately 8 years. SRO Valliere covers the Middle and Elementary schools, and has been an officer in Shrewsbury for approximately 20 years.

SPD is currently seeking one more Office Assistant to complete the administrative team. Click [here](#) to visit the town's website and job posting.



## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT/EVENTS:

On Friday, January 12th, SPD conducted a training session on Active Shooter scenarios for Shrewsbury Public Library employees. The presenters included Chief Anderson, Ofc. E. Sloan, Sgt. B. Sklut, Lt. Cameron, and Sgt. Vitols. The training on this day consisted of educating employees on what to expect, some tactics and techniques to protect themselves as well as library patrons, and how to recognize suspicious activity or individuals.



On Friday, January 26th, Chief Anderson was at Shrewsbury High School for a Lunch and Learn event. Chief Anderson joined several students for lunch and had good and meaningful discussions with students about what it is like to be a police officer. Thank you to Shrewsbury High School for inviting us to get to know your community better!



On Tuesday, February 6th, SPD held our monthly "Coffee with a Cop" event at the Shrewsbury Towers. Ofc. Zona, Sgt. Bradley, Lt. Cameron, and Lt. Perna brought the donuts and coffee, and enjoyed some great discussions!



On Wednesday, February 7th, SPD officers Brownell & Bourette attended the Shrewsbury High career fair! It was so inspiring to see the enthusiasm and engagement from both the students and professionals. It was a blast sharing insights and opportunities with the future leaders.

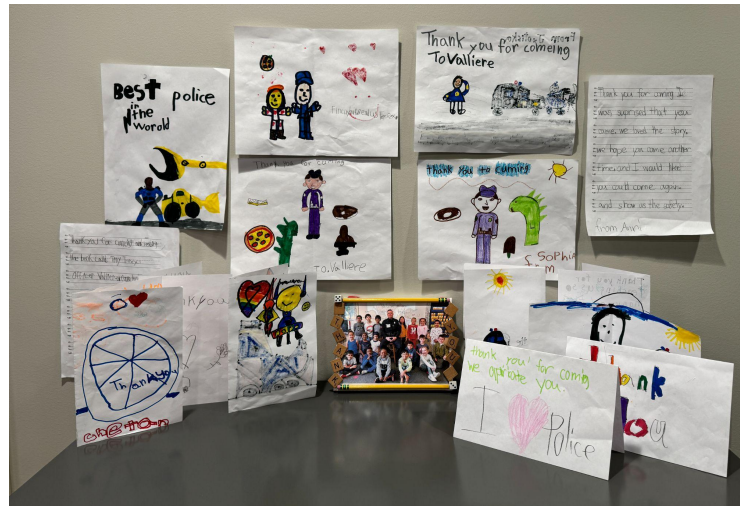
On February 20th, we had the honor of celebrating a truly special milestone in our community - Mrs. Chang's 100th birthday! Mrs. Chang has been part of the RUOK program, where citizens living alone in Shrewsbury can call us for daily check-ins. It's been a privilege to be part of her life and to ensure her safety and well-being. Happy birthday, Mrs. Chang! Your resilience and spirit inspire us all.



On March 1st, Ofc. Hester, Ofc. Ljunggren, and SRO Valliere had the privilege of visiting Floral Street School to read to the students. They stated it was a rewarding experience fostering positive relationships with our community's youngest members. Seeing the joy on their faces as they listened attentively to stories was truly inspiring. Thank you to Floral St School for inviting us and allowing us to engage with these bright young minds, and to Mrs. Grossman's class for the thank you gift for Ofc. Valliere!



SPD is thrilled to announce that the Polar Plunge event we participated in on Saturday, March 2nd, was a massive hit, thanks to all of the amazing participants and supporters! Together, various Police Departments and other organizations set out with the goal of raising \$30,000, and guess what? With your incredible enthusiasm and generosity, the goal was surpassed by leaps and bounds! The event raised a whopping \$42,645 for Special Olympics of Massachusetts! Shoutout to everyone who took the plunge, donated, volunteered, or cheered from the sidelines. Your contributions will make a real difference. To the right find pictures from the event and our officers who took the plunge. Here's to making waves and spreading warmth in our community!



## TRAINING:

Over the last couple of weeks, our officers have been completing their annual Taser training. This training incorporates Use of Force and De-escalation Training into the curriculum, which includes both classroom and practical sessions. Tasers are an important tool that gives officers a non-lethal option to use during certain circumstances when subjects are posing a threat to them or someone else. Studies and our own officer's experiences have shown that officers simply displaying a Taser to assaultive subjects many times can de-escalate a situation without having to use any force at all. (See pictures on next page)

Every year all Shrewsbury Officers also complete in house training such as Use of Force, Defensive Tactics, De-Escalation, Firearms, and First Aid/CPR. In addition to this annual training, officers also complete other annual trainings for their "In Service" training, as well as other additional specialized trainings.

Northeast Emergency Management Training & Education Center (NEMTEC) recently conducted Intermediate Incident Command System for Expanding Incidents training (ICS-300) inside our newly constructed training room. This partnership with SPD provides a facility for Central, MA emergency managers to learn and network together in a state-of-the-art classroom.



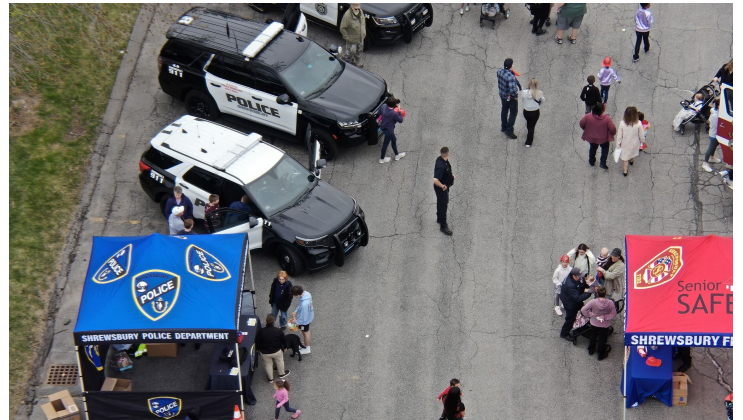
## LOOKING AHEAD:

SPD's Licensing Officer Wnek would like to remind everyone seeking a new, or renewing their LTC (License to Carry) to please call 508-841-1408 in order to make an appointment. Applications dropped off will not suffice. Click [here](#) to follow a link to the application with instructions from Officer Wnek.

Dog and Kennel license renewal is due in March. Please click [here](#) to pay online.

Mark your calendar for our 2nd annual Touch-a-Truck event happening on Saturday, April 6th, 2024, from 12-4 pm! This event will happen at 333 South Street, in Shrewsbury. Get ready to experience the thrill of exploring all sorts of cool trucks and vehicles. As we celebrate Autism Acceptance Month in April, the event will have a sensory-friendly atmosphere. Last year was a blast, and we're gearing up for an even bigger and better event this time around! Don't miss out on the fun – everyone's invited, so bring your friends and family along. We can't wait to see you there!

In commemoration of the 4th anniversary of the Hands-Free Law, MassDOT partnered with BU AdLab to develop a new campaign to combat distracted driving: "mass DO NOT DISTURB." This campaign aims to raise awareness and promote safer driving habits by encouraging drivers to enable the "Do Not Disturb" function on their mobile devices while behind the wheel.



An advertisement for the 'mass DO NOT DISTURB' campaign. The background is a gradient of green and blue. On the left, the text reads "Hands-free while driving. It's the law!" followed by instructions for iOS and Android users to turn on the "DO NOT DISTURB" feature. On the right, a smartphone is shown with the "mass DO NOT DISTURB" app icon, which features a white crescent moon on a blue background. Below the icon, the text says "On the road, put phones on hold." and the "massDOT" logo is at the bottom.

## ADVICE:

The list below is some advice for how to avoid becoming a victim of fraud and/or scams:

- Keep an eye out for skimming devices. See the photo below for examples on how you can spot these devices.
- Place phone number on National [Do Not Call Registry](#)
- Never buy from an unfamiliar company
- Ask that an offer be put in writing, and hang up if request is refused
- Never agree to have courier pick up a check at your home, or wire money
- A legitimate business will not ask you to send money utilizing gift cards
- Never agree to confirm bank account or credit card information to an unfamiliar company
- Always take time to make a decision
- Only open attachments from known senders
- Do not click on links in unsolicited emails or respond
- Do not click on internet "pop-ups"
- Make certain you have up to date anti-virus software
- Don't use the same password for all online accounts
- Don't access online banking or accounts using unsecured wireless networks
- If a caller says, "It's your grandson," ask "Which one?" - Do not provide a name or personal information

\*\*Contact the station at 508-845-1212 to check if the request is legitimate or a scam - it is always better to be safe than sorry!

We would like to encourage all parents to be vigilant for dangerous drugs. Our phones are always on and our doors are always open to anyone with any questions or concerns about drugs, suspicious activity, or if anyone needs help with prevention or recovery. Click [here](#) for a guide discussing Fentanyl.



## GRANTS/TRAFFIC:

SPD is participating in a nationwide "Highway 20 Speed Enforcement Project." Law enforcement agencies across the country are coming together to try to improve safety and reduce crashes on Rt. 20. The Nation's longest highway, Rt. 20, stretches through 12 US States from Boston to Newport Oregon. This initiative consists of putting extra officers on speed enforcement posts, on four selected days throughout the year. The first day of this initiative was January 17th, 2024, and SPD assigned an officer to speed enforcement for a 4 hour period on this day. SPD takes traffic safety on Rt. 20 (Hartford Turnpike) seriously throughout the year. In 2023, we responded to 175 crashes on this roadway, 21 with reported injury. Shrewsbury Officers conducted 938 motor vehicle stops on Rt. 20, in 2023, for various infractions, as part of an ongoing effort to reduce crashes and increase safety. We encourage everyone to please drive slow and stay alert, and have a safe 2024!

## INCIDENTS AT A GLANCE - JANUARY 2024:

Total Arrests	27		Identity Theft	7
Total Incidents	3452		Investigations	89
Criminal Summons Issued	27		Larcenies & Shopliftings	22
911 Calls	821		Medical Calls	245
Accidents/Disabled Vehicles	211		Missing Persons Reported	4
Animal Complaints	42		Motor Vehicle Stops	429
Arrest Warrants Served	11		OUI Alcohol/Drugs	5
Burglar Alarm Calls	58		Suspicious Persons	138
Disputes and Disturbances	40		Threats & Assaults	6
Domestic Disputes	7	Well-being Checks	53	

## MISSION STATEMENT:

"The mission of the Shrewsbury Police Department is to enhance the quality of life and safety of our community by developing lasting partnerships with our residents and visitors. We dedicate ourselves to serving The Town of Shrewsbury with honor, service, and integrity."

"We Serve Better Together"

CLICK [HERE](#) FOR PRESS RELEASES

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