

POLICE DEPARTMENT

To the Citizens, the Select Board, and the Town Manager:



I begin by expressing my thanks to the residents of the Town of Farmington for their continued support. Public Safety is at times challenging and yet often rewarding field of work. We are fortunate to serve our special community surrounded by the best that Maine has to offer.

Tragic events in Lewiston this year have highlighted the need to ensure that all our officers are trained and equipped for any eventuality. Tactical medical training, active shooter response, and numerous other trainings have expanded our capabilities. Officers have provided training at workplaces, schools, and other gathering places to increase citizen preparedness. In doing so, we reaffirm our mission: "To create a feeling of safety for people within the Town of Farmington."

We have said goodbye to some of our staff in 2023. The 2022 Officer of the Year Christoph Mutschin will continue to serve law enforcement as a Maine State Police Trooper. Likewise, Officer Donald Gray departed in August to continue his career as a commissioned officer in the Maine Army National Guard. Animal Control Officer Matt Billian resigned so he could focus on his own rapidly expanding business.

We are pleased to announce that Officer Ariana Bacon was hired and has completed our Field Training Program in November. Officer Bacon comes to us from the Lewiston Police Department. Officer Rex Schweighofer came on board in April bringing experience from Jay Police Department, and he is a Field Training Officer among other specialties. Like many private and public sector employers, the ebbs and flows of staffing continue to be a challenge.

Officers Ryan Rosie and Ethan Whitney have received training in Critical Incident Stress Management protocols to support those dealing with traumatic experiences, first responders and citizens alike. Both serve on our county-wide team which has provided support to responders and involved people throughout the county. This is a critical service to promote the wellbeing of those who serve others.

Sergeant Ethan Boyd completed Crisis Intervention Team Training, joining myself, Deputy Chief Shane Cote, Sergeant Jesse Clement, School Resource Officer Matt Brann, and Officer Ryan Rosie. This program greatly improves our response to those experiencing crisis and mental health challenges.

Drew Holston, our Parking Enforcement Officer, has taken on the role of Interim Animal Control Officer since Matthew Billian's departure. Robert Hallman celebrated his 26th anniversary as our Crossing Guard for Mallett School.

Our effectiveness in responding to many societal challenges continues to improve because of the myriad of resources available locally. I would like to thank Kat Beaumont, our OPTIONS liaison, for her support of persons experiencing or affected by substance use disorder. Western Maine Behavioral Health and Veterans Affairs Crisis Services for their co-response services. Western Maine Community Action for their efforts in addressing homelessness in our area. Healthy Community Coalition for their leadership and resources to address many needs in our region. I apologize to our many partners not listed here!

Please remember our Unused/Unwanted Medications Disposal box is always available in our lobby (no needles or liquids please!).

As always, we need to recognize and thank our local partners, especially the members of Farmington Fire Rescue, Farmington Public Works, NorthStar Ambulance, area law enforcement agencies, and other unnamed organizations for their hard work and assistance.

I welcome your questions and concerns, compliments, and complaints. Feel free to stop in to say hello or meet the officer on duty. Kudos to Office Manager Lynne Cary and Office Assistant Jocelyn Kelly for improving our front office space. We are proud of the facilities provided to us by you, our citizens, located at 116 Franklin Avenue.

Respectfully submitted,

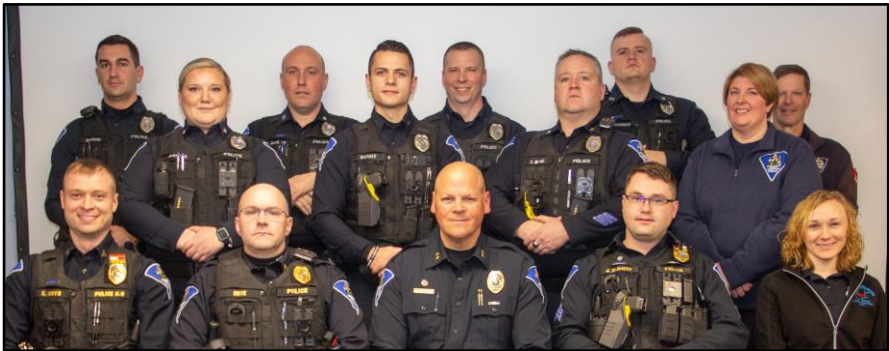
Kenneth A. Charles
Chief of Police

OFFICER OF THE YEAR



**Officer Ethan Whitney
Congratulations!**

Farmington Police Department 2023



Front Row: Sergeant Ethan Boyd, Deputy Chief Shane Cote, Chief Kenneth Charles, Sergeant Jesse Clement, Office Assistant Jocelyn Kelly.

Back Row: Officer Ethan Bronson, Officer Ariana Bacon, School Resource Officer Matthew Brann, Officer Ethan Whitney, Officer Jonathan Parker, Officer Ryan Rosie, Office Manager Lynne Cary, Animal Control Officer/Parking Enforcement Drew Holston.

**Summary of the Most Common Crimes or Police
Calls/Complaints**

Crime	2021	2022	2023
Rape	8	2	7
Assault	33	34	45
Burglary	5	7	6
Thefts (combined)	53	46	88
Criminal Mischief	58	33	22
Criminal Trespass	39	47	44
Drug Cases	6	25	26
Domestic Disturb.	70	37	59
Traffic Crashes	405	418	464
Arrests	221	502	555
OUI Arrests	42	39	28
Speeding Tickets	98	107	77
Traffic Warnings	2,766	4,591	4,026
Parking Tickets	593	768	999
Missing Persons	25	6	4
Harassment Calls	82	50	70
Security Checks	1,395	1,820	2,372
Total Traffic Stops	3,355	4,928	5,887

Police Revenues			
	2021	2022	2023
Parking Tickets	\$7,440	\$6,930	\$11,010
Police Reports	\$1,793	\$1,154	\$1,571
Gun Permits	\$625	\$760	\$476
TOTAL	\$9,858	\$8,844	\$13,057