



PUBLIC SAFETY

Above: Penguin Plunge, 2010

COVENTRY POLICE DEPARTMENT

1585 MAIN STREET



ANNUAL REPORT

Fiscal Year 2009-2010



We are pleased to present this annual report that describes some of the highlights and accomplishments of the Coventry Police Department during the past fiscal year. Hopefully, this report will not only be informative, but also help the reader to gain an understanding of the variety of services that the Coventry Police Department provides throughout the year.

As submitted in our budget document last year, our goals for fiscal year 09/10 were;

ADMINISTRATION

- Continue to comply with POST Accreditation standards for all three tiers.
- Work toward CALEA compliance with an anticipated on-site assessment by spring of 2010.
- Increase specialized training for field officers particularly in computer crimes and identity theft.
- Evaluate implementation of alarm ordinance in an effort to decrease false alarms.

OPERATIONS

- Provide adequate patrol coverage throughout town 24 hours a day.
- Increase crime prevention efforts and presentations to crime watch and neighborhood groups.
- Collaborate with School District and Youth Services Office on presenting prevention programs with school aged youths.
- Evaluate change in Table of Organization to provide for more efficient patrol services.
- Respond to all calls for service and investigate reports of criminal and suspicious activity in an efficient manner.
- Aggressively enforce DUI laws and hazardous moving vehicle violations.

SUPPORT

- Effectively utilize the Community Service Officer in order to make more efficient use of police officer's time.
- Foster more efficient administrative processes by using existing technologies and creating electronic forms and reports and minimize duplication of effort.
- Coordinate with other law enforcement agencies participating in the Regional Service Sharing Agreement in motor vehicle and other enforcement efforts.
- Upgrade agency communications to the citizens in order to provide useful information and to gather feedback regarding perceptions of agency effectiveness.
- Implement and appropriately utilize Reverse 911 Communication tool for emergency notifications.

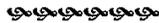
I'm pleased to report that we have met or exceeded most of our goals for the time period covered by this report. The information to follow will highlight some of those areas.



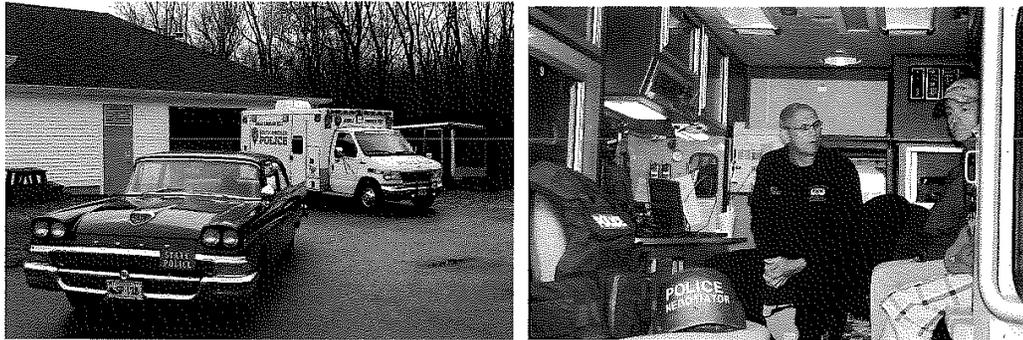
Beginning in July, the agency began ensuring a minimum staffing level of at least two officers on duty at all times. This was done to ensure the safety of the officers on duty as well as providing adequate police coverage for the Town. In working with the Police Union, this was accomplished in the most fiscally responsible manner possible.

The overall crime rate for 2009 dropped nine percent (9%) from 2008.

Members of the Police Department have been coordinating with the School District and the Emergency Management Director in conducting emergency drills in all of the Town's schools. Continued attention in this area will help provide for a safe and prepared environment for all school children.



An Open House was held on April 17th to welcome members of the community to the Police Department and to showcase some of our services and activities. In addition to a number of displays of local and regional equipment and services, there was fingerprinting for children, and the Lion's Club sponsored a raffle for a bicycle.



During the last week of April, the Coventry Police Department underwent an on-site review by the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies. A team of police professionals from other areas of the country spent several days reviewing our policies and procedures, facilities, and operations to verify that we comply with the 446 CALEA standards. A written report will be submitted to the Commission for an anticipated accreditation award in July. This is a significant achievement for the agency as we will be one of only twelve municipal law enforcement agencies in the state to have received accreditation, and the smallest agency to have accomplished this. Having been accredited by the Connecticut POST Council in March of 2009, we continue to comply with POST accreditation standards.



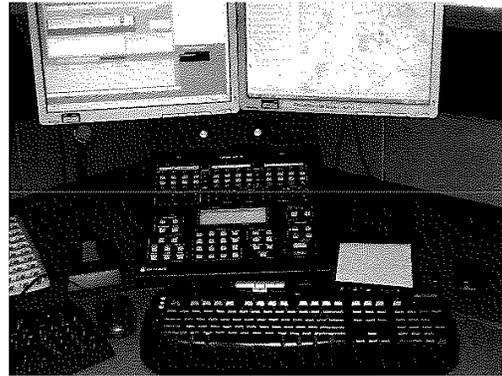
We continue to find new ways to utilize the Community Service Officer (CSO) to allow officers more time for investigating serious matters and providing preventative patrol. The CSO had been assigned the follow-up activities on reported abandoned vehicles on both public and private property and as a liaison to the Zoning officials regarding reported violations of the newly enacted blight ordinance.

In addition to their required review credit training, members of the department were sent to over forty (40) different training courses throughout the year. Some of classes were highly specialized courses, enabling officers to conduct technical accident investigation, conduct more in-depth crime scene investigations or prepare identity theft cases.

The department received Justice Assistance Grant in the amount of \$30,000.00 as part of the Recovery Act. These funds were used to upgrade the agency's Computer Aided Dispatch and Records Management Systems which had not been upgraded since their initial installation in 2002. These improvements allow dispatchers and officers to utilize the data we collect in a more effective manner.

At the same time, the department's dispatch center was outfitted with new furnishings, video, and radio equipment. Existing capital improvement and operating funds were used in addition to surplus Homeland Security Grant Funds to purchase these items. The dispatch area is now outfitted with two independent dispatch stations in the event of a large-scale incident or activity requiring two dispatchers.

All grant reporting requirements for the use of the AARA funding have been satisfied.



A number of police employees were recognized for exemplary performance during the year. Awards and certificates were presented during Town Council meetings for the following employees;

- **Sergeant Michael McDonagh** was awarded a Meritorious Commendation certificate for his diligence to duty and service to the community in apprehending a suspect committing a burglary into the AVS Gas Station at approximately 4 AM. While on patrol, Sergeant McDonagh heard an audible alarm and knew it was the service station, where he immediately responded and apprehended a suspect leaving the building after having smashed through the glass door.
- **Marine Officer Norm Meikle** was issued a Meritorious Commendation Certificate for saving an individual who was seriously injured while operating a jet ski on Coventry Lake.
- **Officer Ted Opdenbrouw** was issued a Meritorious Commendation Certificate for outstanding and on-going traffic safety and enforcement efforts.
- **Sergeant Chris Fiore and Officer Robert Dexter** were awarded the Police Service Cross medal for their confrontation with an armed adversary who had threatened other individuals with a weapon.

- **Officer Gail McDonnell and Officer Michelle Hicks** were recognized by Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) for their enforcement efforts during the past year.

In addition, two citizen recognition certificates were given by the Police Department to two local residents. One resident observed a suspect breaking into a vehicle during the early morning hours. This individual confronted the suspect and held him until the arrival of the police. The second citizen observed a house burglary in progress. He called the Police Department and gave an accurate description while at the same time trying to block the suspect's escape from the residence. The suspect was apprehended a short time later after a brief pursuit.

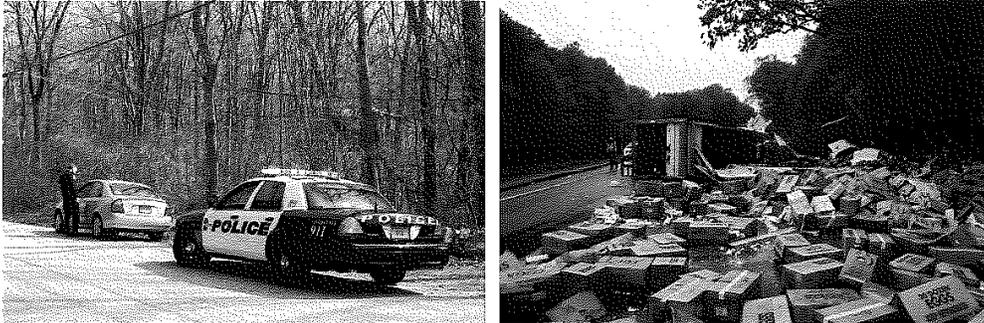


The Town Council approved a special appropriation for the purchase of a lake patrol boat that was previously owned by the Department of Environmental Protection. This boat replaced the 16' Boston Whaler that had been in service for well over twenty years. The new boat is a 21 foot Sunbird with a 175 hp engine and provides much needed equipment storage and protection from the weather. The boat has been outfitted with lighting and other emergency equipment and will be a more visible presence to ensure boating safety on the Lake.

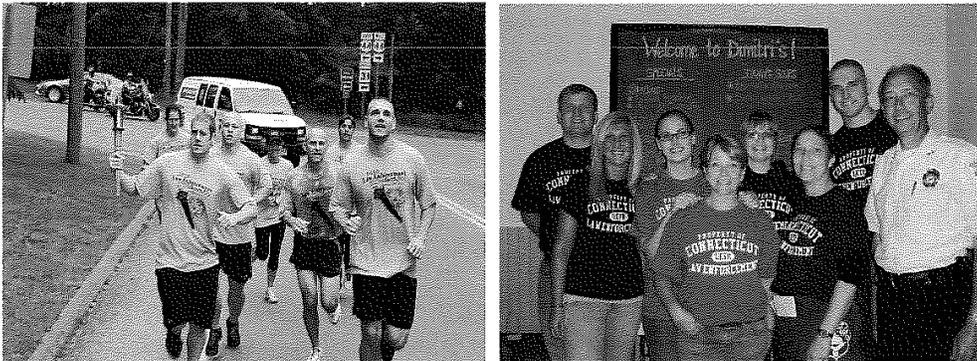


The department continued to participate with the regional Metro Traffic Unit in conducting enforcement efforts as well as providing a highly trained officer to be part of the Accident Investigation Unit. The department sponsored two Sobriety checkpoints during the fiscal year as well as conducting concentrated enforcement of speeding and seatbelt violations. We continued to apply for and receive grant funding through the Department of Transportation to offset the costs of these additional enforcement efforts.

There were no fatal traffic accidents during the fiscal year. There were however, three serious accidents in which we used the services of the Metro Accident Investigation Unit to assist during the investigation.



Members of the department continue to support Special Olympics Connecticut by hosting a number of fundraising events during the year, including Tip-a-Cop, a 'Penguin Plunge' at Patriot's Park in December and the Torch Run in June. The department raised over \$15,000.00 through its efforts and was recognized as one of the top fundraising departments (number six) in the State at the annual awards luncheon.



The number of calls for service remained fairly consistent with previous years, However as the complexity and scope of investigations increases, the time required to thoroughly investigate the incidents also increases. A listing of the type and number of calls for service during the fiscal year is attached.

The agency's budget for last fiscal year was \$1,596,009 which included funding for the Animal Control and Lake Patrol functions. The budget provides for nineteen full time positions which includes fourteen sworn officers (including the Chief), three dispatchers, an Administrative Assistant and a Community Service Officer. In addition, the department employs part-time dispatchers to cover weekend assignments and a Constable for patrolling the Lake during the boating season.

The department remained within its allocated budget for the fiscal year while at the same time use existing operating budget funds (to supplement other funding) to upgrade the dispatch furniture and radio equipment.

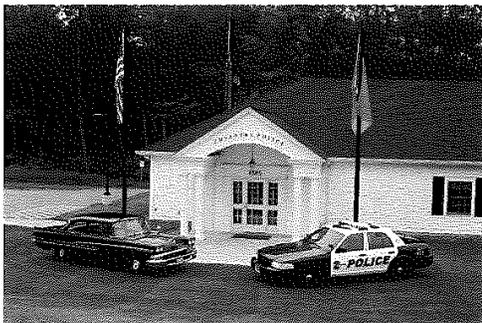
Members of the department became involved in six (6) vehicle pursuits during the year. Four of these pursuits were terminated by the officer or supervisor. All of the pursuits received administrative review and were found to be within the law and consistent with department guidelines.

There were ten (10) instances where it was necessary for officers to use force during the course of their duties. All of these incidents received administrative review and were found to be within the law and departmental guidelines.

It is the policy of the Coventry Police Department to investigate all complaints of alleged employee misconduct and to equitably determine whether the allegations are valid or invalid and to take appropriate action. All allegations of departmental or officer misconduct shall be properly investigated whether such complaints are received verbally, in writing, through a third party, or anonymously.

The Coventry Police Department employs a structured disciplinary system to be followed in cases of alleged or suspected violations of department rules, orders, Town of Coventry personnel rules, or any applicable state or federal statutes by members of the department. This procedure is meant to assure prompt and thorough investigation of complaints to clear the innocent, establish guilt of wrongdoers, and facilitate fair, suitable and consistent disciplinary action. The personnel complaint procedure is explained on the department website.

There were two personnel complaints involving members of the agency. One of these complaints was from a member of the public, and the other was generated internally. The external complaint was not sustained and the one generated internally was withdrawn and resolved without discipline. We believe this minimal level of personnel complaints speaks highly of the professionalism and courtesy exhibited by members of the department and demonstrates a well-disciplined agency. We will continue to be diligent in ensuring the highest levels of integrity and standards of police service and to investigate all personnel complaints thoroughly and fairly.





**Coventry Police Department
Incident Analysis**

7/1/2009...6/30/2010

1st	Shift 2nd	3rd	Total
1508	3335	2686	7507

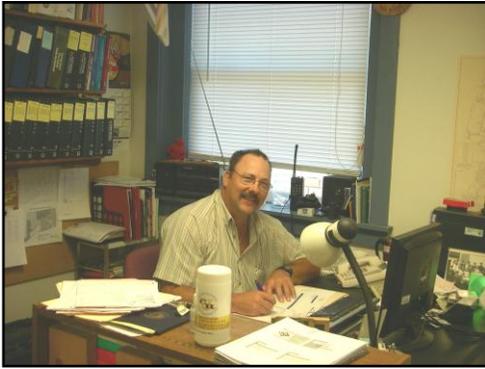
UCR	Nature	1st	2nd	3rd	Total
		1	0	1	0
001	Marine Patrol Activity	0	11	5	16
029	Disabled Motor Vehicle	35	50	47	132
11A	Forcible Rape	1	0	3	4
11B	Forcible Sodomy	0	2	0	2
11D	Sex Forcible Fondling	0	0	1	1
120	Robbery	1	0	1	2
13A	Aggravated Assault	5	1	2	8
13B	Simple Assault	2	10	14	26
13C	Intimidation	3	18	17	38
151	Suicide	0	1	0	1
152	Suicide Attempt	5	11	6	22
220	Burglary	9	30	25	64
23C	Shoplifting	0	0	1	1
23D	Larceny Theft From Building	2	0	1	3
23E	Theft From Coin-Op Machine	0	1	0	1
23F	Theft From MV	3	13	2	18
23G	Theft of MV Parts/Access	0	1	0	1
23H	All Other Larceny	8	48	24	80
240	MV Theft	1	4	1	6
250	Counter/Forgery	1	2	0	3
2604	Fireworks/Gunshots	2	13	24	39
2608	Abandoned MV	2	3	0	5
2609	Littering	2	13	4	19
2619	Building Check	2	1	3	6
2625	Notification	4	1	0	5
2631	Public Hazard	29	47	58	134
26A	False Pretenses/Swindle/Confidence	0	7	0	7
26B	Credit Card/Auto Teller Fraud	2	28	8	38
26C	Impersonation	0	6	4	10
290	Vandalized	21	66	36	123
2914	Animal Complaint	56	238	79	373
3009	Susp Person/Activity/MV	151	204	242	597
326	Illegal Parking	5	8	11	24
332	Harassment/Harassing Phone Calls	4	24	36	64
334	Untimely Death	1	6	0	7
343	MV Accident (Injuries)	20	23	26	69
344	MV Accident Evading	9	12	15	36
346	MV Accident (No Injuries)	31	75	84	190
347	MV Accident Summary	5	13	10	28
351	Alarm	112	157	110	379
353	Medical	126	186	149	461



**Coventry Police Department
Incident Analysis**

7/1/2009...6/30/2010

355	MV Stop	435	503	502	1440
358	Serve Warrant	1	1	2	4
35A	Drug/Narcotic Violation	3	10	10	23
35B	Drug Equipment Violation	0	6	1	7
36B	Statutory Rape	0	1	0	1
375	Routine Assistance	12	124	104	240
377	Open Door/Window	4	3	6	13
388	Miscellaneous	69	140	81	290
388	Miscellaneous	0	1	0	1
396	Escort	4	13	13	30
398	Missing Person	3	2	14	19
399	Lost And Found	7	40	26	73
400	Family Matter - Non Arrest	5	32	27	64
40A	Prostitution	0	0	1	1
4811	Finger Printing	3	224	2	229
4858	Fire	12	18	30	60
4873	Assist Other Agency	31	85	68	184
520	Weapon Law Violations	1	1	0	2
861	Disturbance (Non-Domestic)	31	38	77	146
863	Town Ordinance Violation	0	1	0	1
889	Check Welfare	12	63	42	117
890	MV Erratic Operation	16	73	92	181
891	MV Lock Out	8	45	31	84
90A	Bad Checks	1	0	0	1
90C	Disorderly Conduct	6	1	3	10
90D	DWI	16	2	14	32
90F	Family Offenses, Nonviolent	1	1	1	3
90G	Liquor Law Violation	0	0	1	1
90J	Trespass of Real Property	0	4	0	4
90Z	All Other Offenses	7	14	14	35
911	911 Hang Up Call	24	76	89	189
H109	Junk MV	0	5	0	5
Sup	Supplemental	135	474	365	974



FIRE MARSHAL/ EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Noel Waite, Fire Marshal/Director EMHS

This past year was busy with a total of 327 inspections being conducted. And unfortunately it was also a busy year for fires in town, with a total of 17 fires being investigated, five of which were large dollar losses.

As part of our program to help lower home owners insurance rates we were able to acquire two 12,500-gallon underground water storage tanks to be used for fire suppression. There are two locations in the north end of town being investigated for possible instillation sites. This will reduce the need to transport water to more remote sites.

NORTH COVENTRY VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

The North Coventry Volunteer Fire Department has been providing fire suppression and emergency medical services since 1947 to the Town of Coventry. We operate out of two fire stations; 3427 Main Street and 999 Merrow Road, Coventry CT. Our fleet of equipment includes two engine tanks, one engine, one heavy rescue, a light duty rescue, a quick response medical vehicle and a forestry truck.

During the period of June 2009 through May 2010, the North Coventry Volunteer Fire Department responded to 588 calls for service. The duties of the NCFD are not limited to fire suppression. They also include emergency medical services, Haz-mat operations, vehicle extrication, ice rescue and mutual aid to surrounding departments. The men and women of NCFD are classified as first responders which means that they are certified to the Emergency Medical Responder or Emergency Medical Technician level and respond to calls for service either in emergency vehicles or personal vehicles.

The North Coventry Volunteer Fire Department is certified to the Mobile Intensive Care level and is therefore responsible for initiating and providing patient care and preparing the patient for transportation by the ambulance. As MIC providers, we are also responsible for the administration of epinephrine, defibrillation and aspirin.

Our membership consists of 30 dedicated men and women who respond to calls and attend mandatory training sessions required by OSHA, NFPA and the State of Connecticut. Members log in over 1750 hours of training to meet these requirements and provide a professional service to the residents of Coventry.

This past year, we received our third award from the Assistance to Firefighters grant. We received a total of \$40,000, which was used to purchase a new cascade system that was recently installed and put into service. Due to the receipt of the grant, this is another item we have been able to take off of the Capital Expenditures list with the Town.

During this past year, the President and Chief worked diligently with the Town Manager to draw up contracts that protect the fire department and serve the Town as well. We also worked with the Finance Director to establish a new method of paying bills through the Town's Finance Office, effective January 1, 2010.

The fire department continues to take part in Jerry Lewis' "Fill the Boot" campaign for Muscular Dystrophy and recently collected nearly one thousand dollars at Dunkin Donuts and Highland Park Market.

Members of the North Coventry Fire Department will be heading to the National Fire Academy in Emmitsburg, Maryland at the beginning of October to take part in the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial where Firefighter/EMT Denny Myshrall will be honored.

We continually seek new membership. Please feel free to stop in and see us any Wednesday night beginning at 7:00pm in Station 11 located at 3427 Main Street, or feel free to stop by on the 4th Monday of the month for our General Business Meeting. This meeting begins at 7:30pm and is also held at Station 11.

For additional information please contact Chief Scott Morris at (860) 558-1051, President Beth Mancini at (860) 712-0252, or any member at station 11 at (860) 742-1606.

Calls for Service: May 2009-June 2010

Type	Number
Medical	250
Mutual Aid Medical	1
Structure Fire/Smoke in the Building	10
Mutual Aid Structure Fire/Smoke in the Building	17
Fire Alarm	15
Vehicle Fires	3
Chimney Fires	3
Brush Fires	4
MVA	61
Mutual Aid MVA	53
Haz -Mat	5
Carbon Monoxide	5
Wires/Trees Down	23
Service	75
Officer	27
Station Coverage	8
Search/Water Rescue	0
Investigation	4
Stand-by/Misc.	24



Coventry Volunteer Fire Assoc. Inc.

P.O. Box 1 • 1755 Main Street
Coventry, Connecticut 06238



Coventry Volunteer Fire Department (CVFA) is comprised of over 120 dedicated volunteers of which over 80 are active: trained in firefighting, emergency medical services, rescue diving and community service. Each year CVFA sets goals to provide the most current education in emergency response.

Administration:

- Working with the Town Manager, Town Council and Fire Marshal to provide quality, rapid and safe response to emergency calls .
- Completed fire contract with the Town of Coventry
- Apply for and approval of a third ambulance at no cost to residents
- Refurbish Forestry/Brush truck at no cost to residents
- Purchased new Emergency Utility Vehicle with donations

Operations:

- Provide 24 hour volunteer duty crews
- Increase membership and retention of members through training
- Increase Junior Firefighter membership

Support:

- Increase certification of first responders to have emergency medical services personnel in all areas of Coventry
- Coordination between mutual aid towns to assist with large scale incidents
- Utilization of Computer generated Patient Care Reports to provide accurate documentation

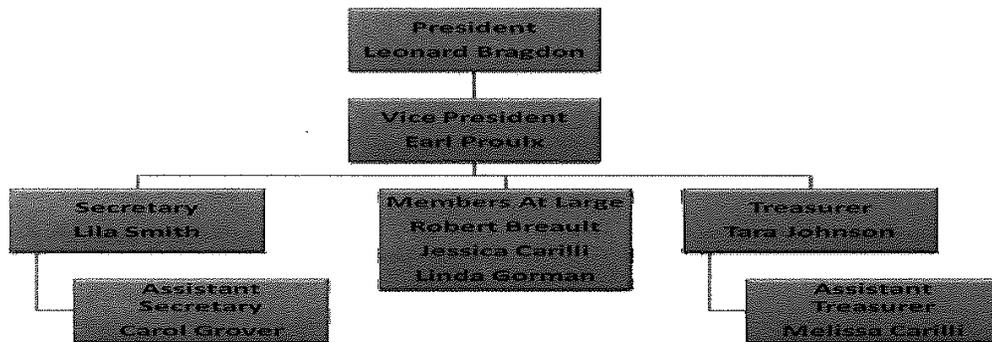


Coventry Volunteer Fire Assoc. Inc.

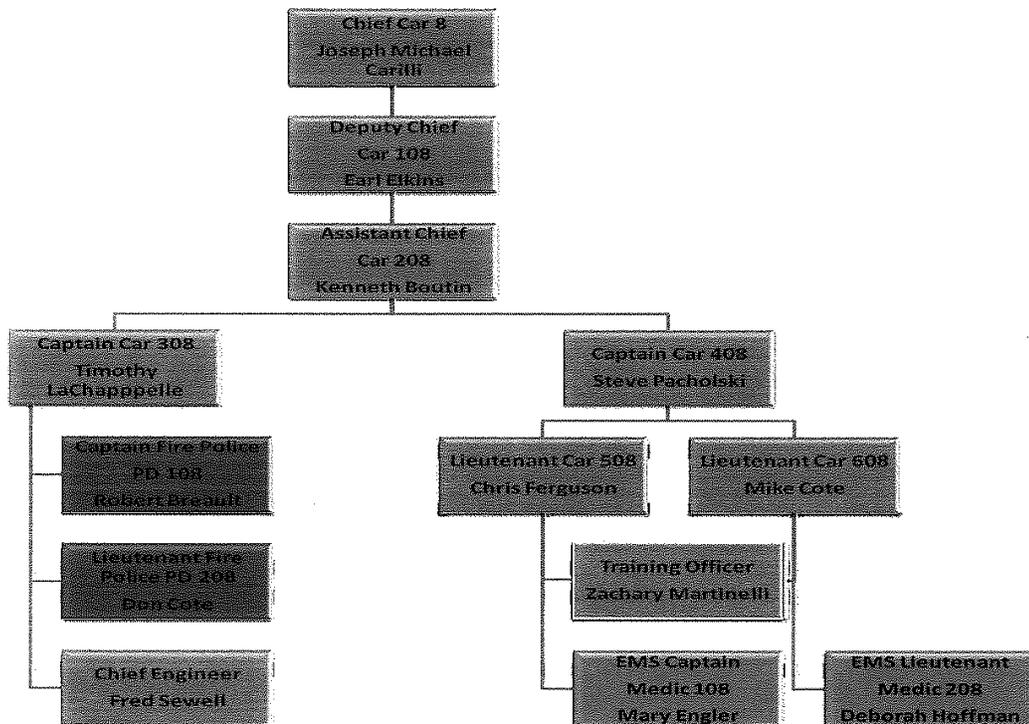
P.O. Box 1 • 1755 Main Street
Coventry, Connecticut 06238



Coventry Volunteer Fire Association Organizational Chart Board of Directors



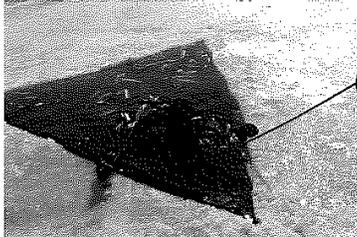
Fire Department Operational Chart





Coventry Volunteer Fire Assoc. Inc.

P.O. Box 1 • 1755 Main Street
Coventry, Connecticut 06238



Coventry Lake

Ice Rescue Training/Water Rescue



Flanders Road

Education and training are the foundation of the Fire Service. Search/rescue, dive operations, ambulance and fire operation, rehabilitation, hazardous materials, fire police, certification and recertification are areas members become proficient in.

The newest vehicle to assist in forest fire suppression and forest/trail rescue is the Polaris Ranger Emergency Utility Vehicle. This enables firefighters to navigate rocks, stumps and heavy terrain to reach the fire or injured person.

Coventry Volunteer Fire Department Dive team members enroll and become certified in Open Water, Advance Diver and Rescue Diver. Dive team members participate in monthly training dives with the Tolland County Dive Team. Divers complete ice dive training, black water training, lake and river training. Also members are enrolled in swift water training due to the many overflowing rivers in the spring.

The Coventry Volunteer Firefighters save the Town of Coventry approximately \$1,500,000.00 each year. This is based upon the over 60,000 hours the volunteers contribute each year.

Old Eagleville Road Training





Coventry Volunteer Fire Assoc. Inc.

P.O. Box 1 • 1755 Main Street
Coventry, Connecticut 06238



Coventry Volunteer Fire Association Incorporated has developed a National recognized Junior Firefighter program receiving two National Awards in three years. Today 17 Junior Firefighters age 14-17 are educated in emergency medicine and firefighting tactics. By following State guidelines the Junior Firefighters assist on the ambulance and at fires.



Jennifer Krawetzky



The National Volunteer Fire Council
Dunkin Donuts 2007 Outstanding
Junior Firefighter

Michelle Alyssa Carilli



Michelle Alyssa Carilli receives the 2010 National
Junior Firefighter of the Year Award



Coventry Volunteer Fire Assoc. Inc.

P.O. Box 1 • 1755 Main Street
Coventry, Connecticut 06238



Call Volume January 1, 2006- December 31, 2009

	1/1/06-12/31/06	01/01/07-12/31/07	01/01/08-12/31/08	01/01/09-12/31/09
Ambulance	759	802	832	872
Ambulance Standby	21	25	26	11
Drill/Training	420	349	329	371
Duty Crew	341	628	704	676
Duty Officer	N/A	165	237	179
EMS	4	4	4	N/A
Fire	250	225	245	171
Fire Prevention	16	20	18	15
Fire Standby	1	1	1	1
Meeting	158	124	119	115
Misc	2	4	1	4
Parade	1	2	1	2
Search	1	4	1	1
Work Detail	238	223	246	164
Totals	2212	2576	2764	2582