

PKS Police Bulletin

By Ryan Thompson, Pine Knoll Shores Police Chief

The beginning of each year is always busy with identifying goals and how to achieve them in the most efficient manner possible. I am hopeful that we will be able to host a full schedule of community outreach events throughout the year. As I write this, the impacts of COVID and the Omicron variant are running through our communities, so we will have to wait and see what the near future will bring.

In January, your Police Department successfully completed an audit by the North Carolina Criminal Justice Training and Standards Commission, a division of the North Carolina Department of Justice. These audits occur every three years, and an inspector reviews our background investigation files to ensure we are completing thorough background checks on new police officers. The inspector also reviews our individual training files to make sure each officer is adequately training and qualifying on their issued firearms and completing the mandated in-service training that is set forth by the state. A lot of work goes into maintaining training files and ensuring that these strict training requirements are met by each officer every year, so I am grateful for the diligence and hard work of our staff to make sure we meet the state standard.

Right now, we are in the process of purchasing and training our staff on BolaWraps. A BolaWrap is a pre-escalation restraint device that discharges a Kevlar cord to restrain uncooperative or unresponsive individuals who are experiencing a crisis. A BolaWrap gives an officer the ability to safely detain an individual without waiting for the situation to unfold and escalate. Unlike a Taser, there is no use of electricity or pain to gain control and compliance, which makes this a potentially invaluable tool, especially in response to an individual experiencing a mental health crisis. There have already been a documented number of uses of a BolaWrap throughout the United States, and I am excited for the opportunity to provide another tool for our officers. Once our officers are trained and equipped, they will be the first officers in Carteret County to use this new technology. I am thankful to our town leadership for

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PUBLIC SAFETY

POLICE

During December, there were 6 arrests; 29 911 hang-ups; 12 alarm activations; 3 animal calls; 1 larceny call, 1 damage to property call, 1 breaking and entering call; 23 assist Fire/EMS calls; 3 motor vehicle collisions, 3 assist other agency calls; 87 traffic stops; 23 citations issued, which included 11 speeding, 2 license revoked/registration, 4 other traffic violations, 10 drug violations and 2 other criminal offenses. There were 15 beach patrols, 486 business checks, 517 foot patrols, and 127 residence checks. Police personnel participated in 36 training hours.

FIRE AND EMS

During December, responders handled 18 rescue and emergency medical service incidents, 4 service calls, 1 special incident call, 4 good intent calls, and 4 false alarm and false calls. Personnel participated in 1,189 training hours.

REMINDER: Lock your doors, especially your vehicles, and don't leave valuables in sight. Report suspicious people or vehicles to dispatch (726-1911) so that the police can be notified. You are not "bothering" the police if you call to report something that doesn't look right. They prefer to assess the situation rather than find out after the fact that you had noticed something and didn't report it. Alert citizens are assets to the community.

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ARTICLE DEADLINE

DUE DATE	ISSUE
Mon., Feb. 14	March
Mon., Mar. 14	April
Fri., April 15	May
Fri., May 13	June
Mon., June 13	July
Fri., July 15	August
Mon., Aug. 15	September
Fri., Sept. 16	October
Fri., Oct. 14	November

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

The 15th of the month prior to desired issue
Articles always welcome.