

Westchester Police Department

ANNUAL REPORT



Daniel Babich
Police Chief

2024

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DEAR VILLAGE BOARD & CITIZENS OF WESTCHESTER,

The Westchester Police Department Annual Report highlights our accomplishments and ongoing efforts to provide the highest level of service in the ever-evolving field of law enforcement. This report offers a snapshot of our progress in 2024, including the expansion of key programs such as the Flock License Plate Recognition Program, Retail Security Camera Program, and our growing community engagement initiatives. These programs have not only enhanced public safety but have also strengthened our partnerships within the Village and the broader community.

I want to take a moment to commend our dedicated staff for their unwavering commitment to serving our residents. Their professionalism and compassion have been recognized throughout the year through citizen letters, phone calls, emails, commendations, and public acknowledgments. Our officers and staff are the backbone of this department, making it possible to continuously improve the quality of police services for the Village of Westchester.

I would also like to extend my sincere gratitude to Village President Greg Hribal, the Village Board, and the Village Administration for their ongoing support and confidence in the Westchester Police Department. Their steadfast commitment enables us to fulfill our vital mission of keeping our residents safe and secure.

Looking ahead, we remain focused on building a stable and resilient department by strengthening recruitment practices, enhancing training opportunities, prioritizing succession planning, fostering community partnerships, and adapting our organizational structure to meet the challenges of an ever-changing future.

Thank you for your continued trust in the Westchester Police Department. We remain dedicated to serving and protecting our community with integrity, professionalism, and care.

Sincerely,
Daniel Babich
Chief of Police

MISSION







**IT IS THE MISSION OF THE WESTCHESTER POLICE DEPARTMENT TO
PROTECT THE LIVES AND PROPERTY OF THE PEOPLE WE SERVE,
TO REDUCE THE OCCURRENCE OF CRIME, AND TO CONTINUALLY
PROVIDE PROFESSIONAL PUBLIC SAFETY SERVICE
WHILE PARTNERING WITH THE COMMUNITY TO IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF LIFE.**

**OUR GOAL IS TO DO SO WITH HONOR, INTEGRITY AND ACCOUNTABILITY
WHILE CONDUCTING OURSELVES WITH THE HIGHEST ETHICAL STANDARDS TO
MAINTAIN PUBLIC CONFIDENCE AND TRUST IN OUR POLICE DEPARTMENT.**



CODE OF ETHICS & OATH OF HONOR

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-  As a law enforcement officer, my fundamental duty is to serve the community; to safeguard lives and property; to protect the innocent against deception, the weak against oppression or intimidation, and the peaceful against violence or disorder; and to respect the constitutional rights of all to liberty, equality, and justice.
-  I will keep my private life unsullied as an example to all and will behave in a manner that brings credit to myself and my agency. I will maintain courageous calm in the face of danger, scorn, or ridicule; develop self-restraint; and be constantly mindful of the welfare of others. Honest in thought and deed both in my personal and official life, I will be exemplary in obeying the laws of the land and the regulations of my department. Whatever I see or hear of a confidential nature or that is confided to me in my official capacity will be kept ever secret unless disclosure is necessary in the performance of my duty.
-  I will never act officiously or permit personal feelings, prejudices, political beliefs, aspirations, animosities, or friendships to influence my decisions. With no compromise for crime and with relentless prosecution of criminals, I will enforce the law courteously and appropriately without fear or favor, never employing unnecessary force or violence, and never accepting gratuities.
-  I recognize the badge of my office as a symbol of public faith, and I accept it as a public trust to be held so long as I am true to the ethics of the police service. I will never engage in acts of corruption or bribery, nor will I condone such acts by other police officers. I will cooperate with all legally authorized agencies and their representatives in the pursuit of justice.
-  I know that I alone am responsible for my own standard of professional performance and will take every reasonable opportunity to enhance and improve my level of knowledge and competence.
-  I will constantly strive to achieve these objectives and ideals, dedicating myself to my chosen profession...law enforcement.

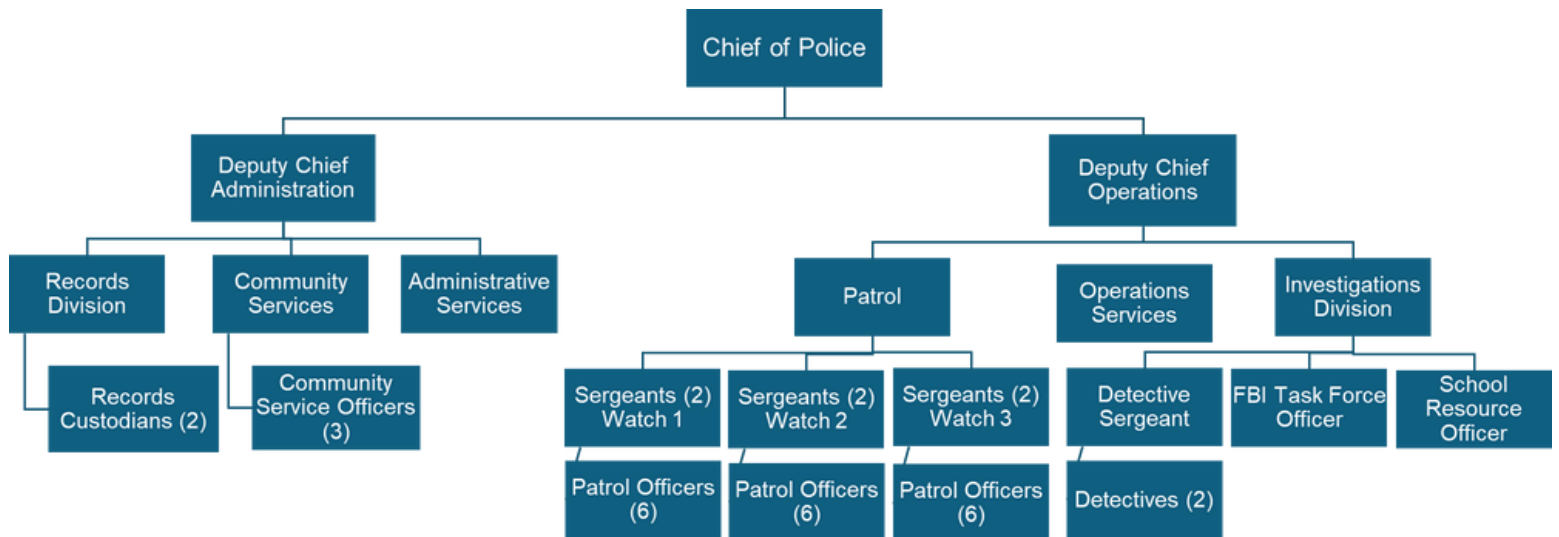
ON MY HONOR, I WILL NEVER BETRAY MY BADGE, MY INTEGRITY, MY CHARACTER, OR THE PUBLIC TRUST.

I WILL ALWAYS HAVE THE COURAGE TO HOLD MYSELF AND OTHERS ACCOUNTABLE FOR OUR ACTIONS.

I WILL ALWAYS UPHOLD THE CONSTITUTION, MY COMMUNITY, AND THE AGENCY I SERVE.

ORGANIZATIONAL CHART

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RECRUITMENT & GROWTH

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In 2024, the Westchester Police Department continued to grow, welcoming new police recruits, Vernardo Cruz and Ryan McCarthy, to our team. Recruit Cruz successfully graduated in December 2024, and Recruit McCarthy is currently attending the Suburban Law Enforcement Academy (SLEA) at the College of DuPage.

Our commitment to strengthening the department remains a priority. As part of our ongoing recruitment efforts, we have extended conditional offers to three new police applicants, who are set to begin their training at the police academy in mid-April 2025, pending completion of the entry process.

Through strategic hiring, training, and mentorship, we continue to invest in the future of law enforcement in Westchester.



HONORING A LEGACY OF SERVICE

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The Westchester Police Department proudly congratulates Sergeant Brian Lamphere on his retirement after 20 years of dedicated service. Sergeant Lamphere began his career with the department in 2005 as a Patrol Officer, later serving ten years as a D.A.R.E. Officer, where he made a lasting impact on the youth in our community. For the last seven years, he served as a Sergeant, demonstrating strong leadership and unwavering commitment to public safety.

We thank Sergeant Lamphere for his years of service, dedication, and contributions to the Village of Westchester. His legacy will be remembered, and we wish him all the best in his well-earned retirement!



SUCCESSION PLANNING

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To ensure strong leadership and continuity within the department, the Westchester Police Department promoted Sergeant Kevin Tierney in May 2024 to fill a vacancy created by retirements. Sergeant Tierney's dedication, experience, and commitment to serving the community make him a valuable leader as the department continues to evolve and grow.

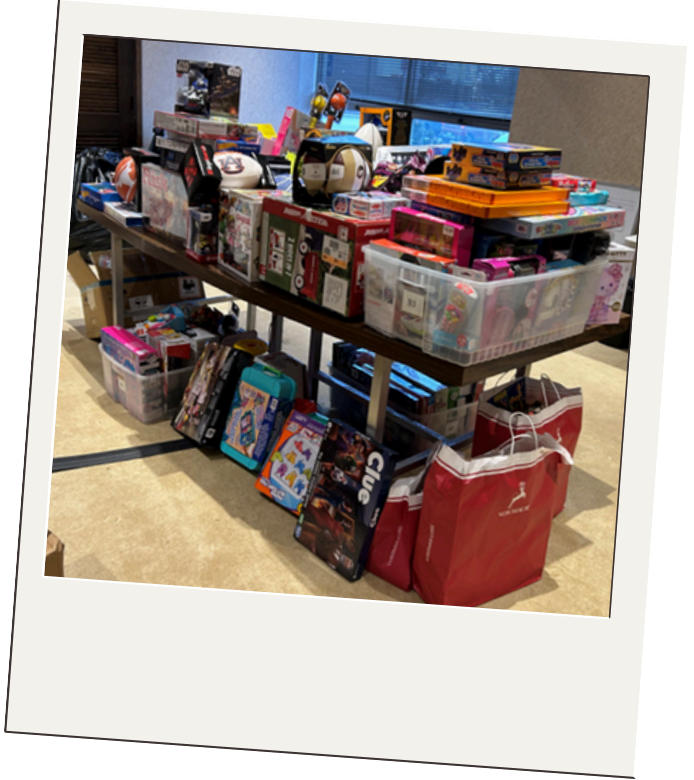
We congratulate Sergeant Tierney on his well-earned promotion and look forward to his continued contributions to the Westchester Police Department and the Village of Westchester.



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

SPREADING HOLIDAY CHEER WITH TOYS FOR TOTS

This year, the Westchester Police Department joined the Toys for Tots Celebration for the first time—and we didn't hold back! Thanks to our generous community, we helped collect one of the largest toy donations across the Chicagoland area. To make sure Santa's sleigh was well-stocked, our Chief even rented a U-Haul trailer and hitched it to his truck, stepping in as Santa's honorary helper!



HONORING OUR HEROES WITH WOUNDED WARRIORS

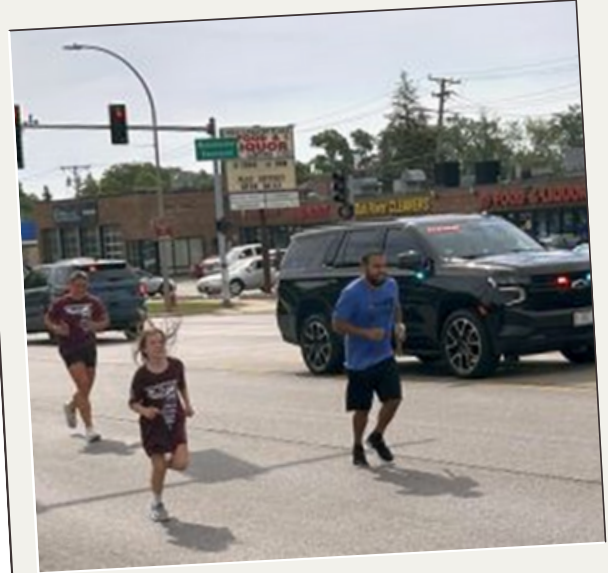
The Westchester Police Department, in partnership with the Brookfield Zoo Police Department, proudly took part in the 2024 Wounded Warriors Celebration. This meaningful event honors those who have sacrificed to protect us on the home front. We are grateful for the opportunity to show our appreciation and support for these brave men and women.



COP ON A ROOFTOP & THE TORCH RUN – SUPPORTING SPECIAL OLYMPICS

In May 2024, officers from the Westchester Police Department took their coffee game to new heights—literally! We proudly participated in the Cop on a Rooftop fundraiser in support of the Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics Illinois.

The Torch Run is the largest year-round fundraising movement for Special Olympics Illinois, with two key goals: raising funds and increasing awareness for the incredible athletes who compete. Westchester Police teamed up with fellow law enforcement and municipal partners for the 2024 event, working together to make a difference!



NATIONAL NIGHT OUT – STRENGTHENING COMMUNITY BONDS

National Night Out is all about building relationships between law enforcement and the community, creating safer, more connected neighborhoods. The event enhances trust and brings people together in a positive, welcoming environment where residents can ask questions, meet officers, and enjoy a night of camaraderie. We're proud to be part of this nationwide tradition and appreciate everyone who came out to celebrate with us!



SHOP WITH A COP – BRINGING JOY TO LOCAL FAMILIES

Shop with a Cop is a heartwarming event focused on supporting underprivileged children and families in our community. Many kids may not have regular opportunities to engage with police officers, but this event provides a chance for them to build positive relationships in a fun, relaxed setting.

Beyond the shopping experience, Shop with a Cop teaches children that police officers are real people—individuals with families, hobbies, and a shared commitment to keeping them safe. Most importantly, it reminds them that we are always here to help and protect.



ADVANCING EQUIPMENT & TRAINING FOR A SAFER COMMUNITY

The Westchester Police Department remains committed to ensuring our officers have the **tools, technology, and training** necessary to serve and protect the community efficiently. In 2024, we made significant upgrades to both equipment and training programs, enhancing our operational effectiveness.



- **Enhanced Patrol Fleet:** Three new patrol squads were outfitted and deployed, replacing older frontline vehicles to maintain a reliable fleet.
- **Upgraded Communication Technology:** New portable and mobile radios were issued to patrol officers, detectives, and command staff, improving communication and response capabilities.
- **Modernized Technology Infrastructure:** Computers were purchased to support the growing technological needs of the department, including a patrol laptop replacement program to ensure officers have up-to-date, reliable technology in their vehicles.
- **Body-Worn Camera Program Expansion:** Grants from State and Federal agencies provided funding to support our body-worn camera initiative, reinforcing transparency and accountability.
- **Strengthened Security Measures:** The department upgraded all security cameras within the facility and deployed Flock License Plate Reader Cameras in key areas of Westchester, providing enhanced security for residents and businesses.
- **School Safety Training:** Our School Resource Officer trained District 92.5 teachers and students in ALICE training, a research-based active shooter response program designed to prepare school staff and students for emergency situations.

Through these strategic investments in equipment and training, the Westchester Police Department continues to prioritize **public safety, officer preparedness, and community protection.**

CRIME STATISTICS & INCIDENT REPORTS

The Westchester Police Department is committed to transparency and community awareness. Below is a breakdown of 2024 crime statistics and incident reports, detailing the number and types of calls for service handled by the Westchester Police Department throughout the year.

By analyzing this data, we continue to enhance public safety, allocate resources effectively, and strengthen our partnership with the community.

- Assist other agencies – 2600
- Traffic stops – 1261
- Administration duties – 1103
- Civil matters/assist citizen – 931
- Suspicious incidents – 658
- Public complaints – 564
- Motor vehicle accidents – 496
- Disturbances unwanted – 420
- Other traffic services – 417
- Alarms – 407
- Check well-being – 357
- Domestic – 284
- Animal complaint – 277
- Identity/fraud/deceptive crime – 126
- Traffic/warrant arrest – 87
- Criminal damage/trespass – 84
- Lost/recovered property – 163
- Juvenile problems – 57
- Harassment/threat – 63
- Motor vehicle theft – 32
- Crisis intervention – 31
- Battery/assault – 26
- Disorderly conduct – 24
- Sex crimes – 8
- Weapons offense – 3
- Robbery – 4
- Elderly crimes – 2
- Vehicular hijacking – 2
- Homicide (includes attempt) – 1
- Arson – 1
- Possession or sale of drugs – 1
- Home invasion – 0

PERCENTAGE CHANGE

2023-2024

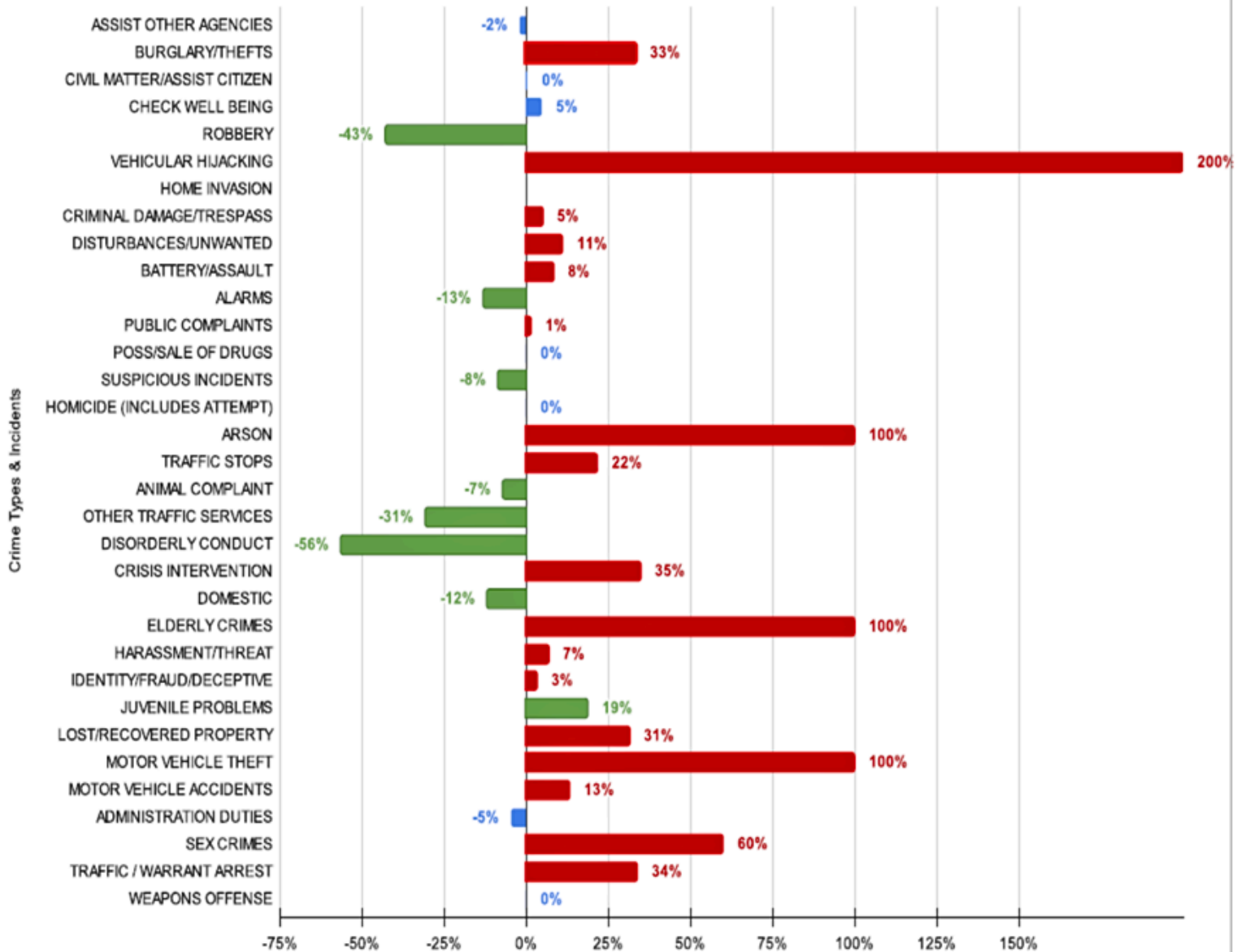
<u>Crime Types & Incidents</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2024</u>	Observation	% Change
ASSIST OTHER AGENCIES	2651	2600	decrease	-2%
BURGLARY/THEFTS	141	188	increase	33%
CIVIL MATTER/ASSIST CITIZEN	927	931	increase	0%
CHECK WELL BEING	341	357	increase	5%
ROBBERY	7	4	decrease	-43%
VEHICULAR HIJACKING	0	2	increase	200%
HOME INVASION	0	0	no change	none
CRIMINAL DAMAGE/TRESPASS	80	84	increase	5%
DISTURBANCES/UNWANTED	378	420	increase	11%
BATTERY/ASSAULT	24	26	increase	8%
ALARMS	468	407	decrease	-13%
PUBLIC COMPLAINTS	556	564	decrease	1%
POSS/SALE OF DRUGS	1	1	no change	0%
SUSPICIOUS INCIDENTS	719	658	decrease	-8%
HOMICIDE (INCLUDES ATTEMPT)	1	1	no change	0%
ARSON	0	1	increase	100%
TRAFFIC STOPS	1036	1261	increase	22%
ANIMAL COMPLAINT	298	277	decrease	-7%
OTHER TRAFFIC SERVICES	601	417	decrease	-31%
DISORDERLY CONDUCT	55	24	decrease	-56%
CRISIS INTERVENTION	23	31	increase	35%
DOMESTIC	322	284	decrease	-12%
ELDERLY CRIMES	1	2	increase	100%
HARASSMENT/THREAT	59	63	increase	7%
IDENTITY/FRAUD/DECEPTIVE CRIME	122	126	increase	3%
JUVENILE PROBLEMS	48	57	increase	19%
LOST/RECOVERED PROPERTY	124	163	increase	31%
MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT	16	32	increase	100%
MOTOR VEHICLE ACCIDENTS	438	496	increase	13%
ADMINISTRATION DUTIES	1156	1103	decrease	-5%
SEX CRIMES	5	8	increase	60%
TRAFFIC / WARRANT ARREST	65	87	increase	34%
WEAPONS OFFENSE	3	3	no change	0%

PERCENTAGE CHANGE

2023-2024

CONTINUED

Percent Change: 2023 and 2024



LOOKING AHEAD

As we move into 2025, the Westchester Police Department remains committed to excellence, integrity, and community-focused policing. Like many law enforcement agencies nationwide, we have faced challenges in recruiting new officers. However, these challenges have not and will not compromise our high standards. We continue to hire only the most qualified individuals, ensuring that every officer meets our rigorous training and ethical requirements before serving our community.

We are incredibly proud of our team—a group of dedicated, professional, and highly trained officers who work tirelessly to uphold public safety and build trust within our community. Their commitment to protecting and serving Westchester remains unwavering, and we deeply appreciate the strong partnerships we have with our residents and local organizations.

Looking ahead to 2025, we are excited to grow, adapt, and continue strengthening our department. Through ongoing recruitment efforts, professional development, and community engagement, we will ensure Westchester remains a safe and welcoming place for all. Thank you for your continued support and collaboration—together, we make Westchester stronger.



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WE ARE WESTCHESTER

