



# Memorandum

To: Shea Charles, City Manager

From: George Basar, Chief of Police

Date: November 5, 2013

Subject: Monthly Departmental Report – October 2013

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Below is a statistical report of the Howell Police Department for the Month of October, 2013:

## CALLS FOR POLICE SERVICE

Officers responded to 768 calls for police service in October, 2013.

The Howell Police Department prides itself on a proactive rather than reactive philosophy of policing. This *preventative* approach is reflected in the Calls For Service in October, 2013:

- Building Check at 115 (in which 9 buildings was found open);
- Citizen Assist at 71;
- Area Check at 67;
- Assist EMS at 60;
- Foot Patrol at 39.

## Further, Officers:

- Documented 49 reports of Suspicious Activity (37 Suspicious Situations, 8 Suspicious Persons, and 4 Suspicious Vehicles);
- Conducted 27 Motorist Assists;
- Assisted Non-Law Enforcement Agencies 23 times;
- Assisted Other Law Enforcement Agencies 22 times;
- Conducted 17 Welfare checks.

## Criminally, Howell Police Officers addressed:

- 20 Assault complaints\* (18 Assault and Battery and 2 Aggravated/Felonious Assault);
- 14 Larceny complaints (6 Larceny from Building, 3 Larceny From Grounds, 2 Larceny from Auto, 2 Retail Frauds, and 1 Larceny of Gasoline);
- 8 Assault Complaints\*;

- 6 Violation of Controlled Substance Act;
- 4 Damage to Property Complaints;
- 3 Trespass Complaints.

*\*The OSSI system does not differentiate between the Assault and Battery that involved a domestic relationship and an Assault and Battery under non-domestic circumstances. To date, the Livingston County Information Technology, which owns and manages the system has not provided that level of functionality.*

#### ARRESTS

Overall, the department executed 22 physical arrests. These arrests include 13 various type of Warrant Arrests, 7 Assault and Battery – Domestic, 1 Driving While License Suspended, and 1 Trespassing arrest.

#### WARRANTS REQUESTED

During the month of October, the Howell Police Department submitted 42 warrant requests to the Prosecutor’s Office and the City Attorney. Of the cases submitted, 23 criminal/traffic charges were obtained, which includes 20 misdemeanor offenses, 3 felony offenses and 19 charges were denied.

#### TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT/TRAFFIC CRASHES

Traffic Enforcement:

During the month of October, 2013, Howell Police Officers conducted 131 traffic stops.

Howell Police Officers issued a total of 147 Uniform Traffic Citations (UTC) in October, 2013.

The top 5 citations issued are as follows:

- Speeding 1 – 10 over limit at 23;
- Expired Plates at 22;
- No Proof of Insurance at 12;
- Use of Private Property to Avoid a Traffic Control Device at 12;
- Defective Headlight at 9;
- Failure to Stop Within a Clear Distance at 7.

During October, 2013, Officers issued 83 parking citations.

Traffic Crashes:

On the traffic crash side, Howell Police Officers responded to a total of 34 traffic crashes, of which 28 are reportable\*.

PIA	PDA – Traffic Area	PDA Non-Traffic Area	Accident – Hit and Run
3	25	6	0

*\*Property Damage Accident – non-traffic area occur on private property and therefore are not reportable*

#### DEPARTMENTAL STATISTICS

The following is an analysis of Departmental productivity on a shift level.

Shift	Reports	Arrests	Citations	Parking Citations
Midnights	198	3	27	16
Days	223	11	29	64
Afternoons	306	8	77	3
Other*	41	2	14	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>768</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>147</b>	<b>83</b>

\*Other includes Criminal Investigations, School Resource Officer, LAWNET Officer and Desk Personnel.

This data can be refined to averages per shift, per day:

Shift	Reports	Arrests	Citations	Parking Citations
Midnights	6.4	.1	.9	.5
Days	7.2	.4	.9	2.1
Afternoons	9.9	.3	2.5	.1

#### RESIDENTIAL VACATION CHECKS

During the month of October, 2013, 164 Residential Vacation Checks were conducted.

#### SPECIAL EVENTS

On October 26<sup>th</sup>, Howell Police Officers attended the Legend of Sleepy Howell event. This annual event is managed by the Howell Area Recreation Authority and is held on the last Saturday in October.

This event caused the closure of Grand River Avenue from 1500 – 2200 hours for trick-or-treating, vendors, hay rides and other Halloween type activities. A “Headless Horseman” 5k and 10k races followed the event, with the course running through the residential streets, city cemetery and the city park.

Sgt. Kelleher was the departmental representative for this event and he facilitated the Department’s involvement well. Officers and volunteers from the Citizen’s Emergency Response Team were stationed at traffic points, pedestrian crossing points and on the race course.

#### TRAINING

On October 15<sup>th</sup>, Sergeants Woods and Kelleher and Kym Lockhart attended advanced training for the OSSI Records Management System. This training was conducted by Sungard/OSSI and was hosted by the County of Livingston.

#### LAWNET

During the month of October, the LAWNET Officer reports the following seizures:

- 465.6 grams, or 2 pound of marijuana;
- 484 live marijuana plants;
- 2.0 grams of hashish oil;
- .2 grams of heroin.

Additionally, 11 investigations were initiated, and 4 arrests were executed.

#### Events of Interest:

- On September 30<sup>th</sup>, LAWNET officers executed an arrest of a heroin dealer in the Howell city area with the assistance of the Howell Police Department. During the arrest, additional heroin was seized. This suspect had an outstanding LAWNET felony warrant for delivery of heroin.
- On September 30<sup>th</sup>, LAWNET officers investigated a report involving a methamphetamine lab located within the city limits. Further investigation resulted in the seizure of a “One Pot – Shake & Bake” and several components. Two subjects were arrested on separate charges. This is an active investigation.
- On October 11<sup>th</sup>, LAWNET officers conducted a traffic stop with the assistance of the Howell Police Department. The stop led to the seizure of nearly 2 ounces of marijuana along with paraphernalia indicating marijuana sales.
- On October 14<sup>th</sup>, LAWNET officers assisted LAWNET Team #1 and a second police agency with a joint investigation. This investigation led to a search warrant in which 60 pounds

of marijuana was seized. Subsequent investigation led to the seizure of 430 marijuana plants. It is estimated that this was an approximately \$3 million operation between narcotics and property.



*Marijuana seized from an illegal grow operation*



*Marijuana seized from an illegal grow operation*



*Components seized from a Meth Lab*



*Components seized from a Meth Lab*

Additional Information:

The LAWNET Officer has indicated that there are two issues of interest that bear noting:

1. Krokodil (Desomorphine): Krokodil (Crocodile) is a substance that originated in Russia within the last decade but has now spread to the US. The drug is highly addictive and was produced as a cheaper way to get the same high as that obtained from using heroin.

The drug is made up from combining substances with codeine (such as powdered codeine tablets) along with gasoline, paint thinner, butane, red phosphorus, and hydrochloric acid. The combination makes it so that the drug can be injected through veins. The high from Krokodil lasts for about an hour and a half.

The name originated from the green tint that occurs around the injection site as well as the scales that appear on the skin due to use. The drug causes vein collapse, tissue damage, and gangrene. Due to the decay of the flesh and veins, this can cause open sores with bone exposed with little to no feeling around the wound site. The life expectancy of a user is only 2 to 3 years.

The cost of heroin in the US currently ranges from \$20 - \$30 for an average dose while Krokodil averages \$8.

This drug entered the United States from the west coast and has rapidly expanded eastward and is now in Chicago. It is expected that this drug will enter Michigan shortly.

As recent as 10/18/2013, five individuals hospitalized in the Chicago area from Krokodil use. There are also reported incidents of Krokodil use and medical treatment in Arizona and Utah.

2. Kratom (Mitragyna Speciosa): A substance that is being sold in several Livingston County smoke shops and gas stations is said to be a generic form of synthetic Vicodin or Morphine. The substance is said to give the effects of being on Vicodin but is legal to obtain and use with no restrictions on age of purchase.

The substance is commonly converted from leaves into pill form where the leaves from the Mitragyna Speciosa plant are ground up and sealed inside the capsule for oral consumption. The plant is a green leafy plant in the coffee family that is typically 3-15 meters tall. The leaves contain Mitragynine and are commonly chewed as an opiate substitute.

This substance is widely and commonly used in Thailand and South-East Asia. This is not a new substance overseas and has been in use for a long time. The classification of the effects are listed as; Stimulant, Depressant, Intoxicant. The substance also is known by the following names: Kratom, Ketum, Kakuam, Ithang, and Thom.

LAWNET officers have conducted a handful of undercover purchases of this substance from local businesses but prosecution has been denied due to lack of any presence of "controlled substances".

Further information on the Kratom substance is that it is not illegal in the United States but has been mentioned in attempts to ban any form of synthetic form of narcotic. The DEA has the substance listed as a "Drug and Chemical of Concern".



*Kratom purchased in local Livingston County businesses*

#### CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS UNIT:

October has been a consistent month for the Criminal Investigations Unit. The Detective Bureau is currently investigating newly assigned cases as well as continued investigation of previously assigned cases.

#### Items of Interest:

- A Criminal Sexual Conduct (CSC) investigation has been opened that involves a juvenile that is alleged to have been assaulted by her grandfather several years ago. A Care House interview was conducted and the assault has been confirmed. Although the suspect now lives out of state and is in poor health, the case has been turned over to the Livingston County Prosecutor's Office. Warrant and extradition are being considered.

- The Detective Bureau assisted the fire department with an arson complaint on Clinton Street, where two garages were intentionally set afire. Evidence was collected from the scene and sent to the crime lab. The investigation is continuing.



- An investigation has been initiated that involved a death of a two year old which occurred in the parking lot of the Livingston County Sheriff's Department. The case was originally investigated by the LCSD and later turned over to the Howell Police Department. The investigation revealed that the infant had significant medical issues from birth and the death was ruled as natural.
- An investigation into the death of a female that was found in an apartment complex. Investigation determined that it is highly probable that the death was an unintentional heroin overdose. Official autopsy and toxicology reports are pending.

#### SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER

October, 2013 has been a busy month for the School Resource Officer. During the month of October, the SRO responded to 31 calls for police service, authored 22 non-criminal reports, 8 criminal reports, and 1 status offense report. The SRO submitted 8 criminal charges, and authored 8 supplemental reports.