Report of the Fremont Police Department

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Fremont Police Department is to protect our residents and all those who pass through our community by establishing high standards of impartial and professional law enforcement. We, as dedicated officers, must learn from the past, meet the present challenge, and plan for the future.

2020 was definitely a challenging year for everyone. Like many agencies and businesses, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Fremont Police Department was forced to change the way we conducted business and cut back or modify many of our in person, non-emergency services.



Many residents and agencies stepped up over the past year to assist us in protecting our personnel and the public from further spread of the virus. Residents donated masks for our use, and for the public to pick up outside of the Safety Complex on the "mask tree" if needed.

We would also like to thank Cheryl Woodman and Carol Schreiber, and all the other

residents who showed up at one of our Department training sessions in June with dinner and donations to thank our personnel for their service. We can't say enough about how grateful we are for the support we receive from this community.

In January, we held our Departmental Award Ceremony at the Town Hall. Animal Control Officer Renee King was recognized for over ten years of service. Administrative Assistant Mary Wheaton-



Pinder was also recognized for her more than fifteen years of service to the Town. Selectman Roger Barham was given a Certificate of Appreciation from the Department for his assistance with training of our personnel. Officers Greg Huard and Joseph Gordon received the Honorable Service Award for over ten years of service to the Town of Fremont. Chief Twiss and Lieutenant Morelli received the Honorable Service Award for more than five years of Service to the Town. Sergeant Jason Larochelle was presented the Life Saving Award for his actions in response to a Drug Overdose. Officer Kurtis Boissonneault was presented the Exceptional Service Award for his actions while dealing with an armed individual who had been randomly firing his weapon. Officer Boissonneault was also presented a plaque, designating him as the Fremont Police Department Officer of the Year.



Officer Kurtis Boissonneault - FPD Officer of the Year Award

Two of our Full time officers left the Department in 2020 causing us to conduct an extensive hiring process to fill those two vacancies. We would like to welcome Officers Bailey Nasser and Rui Barbosa to the Department. The two new Officers started their employment with the town in late December and are currently attending the New Hampshire Police Standards & Training Council Academy to receive their certification as Police Officers. Once their Academy training is completed, they will enter a comprehensive Field Training Program riding with our senior personnel. We anticipate these two new officers will be fully trained by summer of 2021.

This past year, we also welcomed Officer Richard Crouse to our Department in a Part Time status. Officer Crouse works full time as a Conservation Officer for the NH Fish & Game Department, so he came to our agency as a fully certified officer and has quickly become an integral part of our team. Many of you might have seen Officer Crouse as a regular on the TV show North Woods Law!

The annual Race Into Winter (Grass Drags and Water Cross), hosted by the NH Snowmobile Association, which normally brings approximately 45,000 people to Fremont over the three days of the event was cancelled for 2020 due to Covid 19. After much discussion between the Town, our Public Safety Personnel, and the NH Snowmobile Association, it was decided that there was no way to safely conduct "social distancing" in an event of that size, and until the pandemic was more under control it would be better to cancel the event.

Members of the Fremont Police Department conducted multiple training sessions over the last year. These included Firearms, Taser, Less than Lethal Shotgun bean bag, Domestic Violence Training with the County Attorney's Office, and Active Shooter training using a live Fire Portable Firing Range. As is the current trend in Law Enforcement, in 2020, our personnel began utilizing Body Worn Cameras when in a Patrol function or responding to calls for service. Each officer was trained in the use of the cameras, as well as the laws and policies that pertain to their use. Any resident with questions about the use of the cameras is encouraged to contact the Police Department.



In December, the Fremont Police and Fire Rescue Departments conducted the 20th Annual Santa Parade. Once again, the event was a huge success and we received a great amount of positive feedback from the community. We want to express a special thanks to all the volunteers that make this event a success.

Santa Preparing to make his Rounds - 2020

To help combat the current opioid/drug epidemic, the Fremont police participated in the D.E.A. National Drug Take Back program again in 2020. The Drug Take Back Day provides the public a place to dispose of unused or expired prescription drugs. Medicines/prescription drugs, play an important role in treating many conditions and diseases and when they are no longer needed it is important to dispose of them properly to help reduce harm from accidental exposure or intentional misuse. Although the normal spring session of the Drug Take Back program was cancelled due to the CIVID virus, during the October session, the Fremont Police Department collected approximately 40 pounds of unused narcotics/drugs, which were turned over for destruction. Future Drug Take Back dates will be posted on the Fremont Police website and Facebook page.

Helpful Public Safety Hints:

#1. Please make sure your house number is visible from the road or on your mailbox. This will help officers and other emergency responders find your home in case of an emergency. Reflective numbers are a big help late at night.

#2. If you are leaving your home for an extended period of time, come into the police department or visit our web site to obtain a "**Vacant House Check Form**". Fill out the form and bring it to the police station. We will check your property while you are away and notify you if there is an issue.

#3. Please lock your cars at all times when they are unoccupied. We have seen an increase in of reported thefts from vehicles, and a common aspect of these reports is that the vehicle was left unlocked.

The Town of Fremont has an Alarm Ordinance that requires any alarm installed within the town to be registered with the Police Department. Without that information, we are unable to contact the owners in the event of alarm activation or other problems with the property. The required forms are available at the Safety Complex (we can mail them out while the building is closed to the public); or they can be downloaded from our website <u>www.fremontnhpd.com</u>. The Fremont Police Facebook page is kept up to date on current events in town as well as police activity and recent pictures. Please **do not** use the **Fremont Police Facebook Page** to report a crime or other public safety concern, as it is not monitored by on-duty personnel. If you see a crime or something suspicious, please call **911** to report it.

In 2020, Officers of the Fremont Police Department handled over 10,000 calls for service. Based on those calls for service, we took 213 Incident/Crime Reports, generated 20 Field Interview (Informational) Reports, took 70 Alleged Offenders into custody, Investigated 40 Reportable Motor Vehicle Accidents, issued 1,082 Motor Vehicle Warnings, 168 Traffic Citations, and 5 Parking Tickets.

To the residents of Fremont and the members of the Police Department: Administrative Assistant Mary Wheaton-Pinder, Detective Lieutenant Peter Morelli, Sergeant Jason Larochelle, Officers Gregory Huard, Nikki Bernier, Bailey Nasser, Rui Barbosa, Joseph Gordon, Joseph Wyner, Richard Crouse, Kurtis Boissonneault, Animal Control Officer Renee King, and Prosecutor Heather Iworski, **Thank You** for your support and dedication.

If you ever have any questions or concerns, please feel free to call my office at any time at (603) 895 2229 or email me at <u>itwiss@fremontnhpd.com</u>.

Respectfully submitted,

Jon Twiss Chief of Police