

## **Maplewood Police Auxiliary**

### **Frequently Asked Questions**

Q: What is the Maplewood Police Auxiliary?

A: The Maplewood Police Auxiliary is a group of local residents who volunteer to be trained and serve as law enforcement officers in the Township in support, and under the supervision, of the Maplewood Police Department.

Q. How long has Maplewood had a Police Auxiliary?

A. The Police Auxiliary in Maplewood began as a civil defense unit in the 1940's to augment the forces of the Maplewood Police Department with trained resident volunteers in times of disaster, war, or other emergency. It has evolved over the years, based on changes in New Jersey state law, to become a reserve unit for the Maplewood Police Department to supplement the Township's full-time police force.

Q. How many members does the Maplewood Police Auxiliary have?

A. The Auxiliary currently has 13 members, although one of them will be retiring on November 1. Another Auxiliary officer recently resigned because she was hired as a full-time officer by the South Orange Police Department

Q. Where do the Auxiliary officers come from?

A. Under state law, Auxiliary officers must live either in the town where they serve or in a town within 5 miles that does not have its own Auxiliary police unit. The Maplewood Police Auxiliary is currently made up only of residents of Maplewood and South Orange.

Q. What is the demographic makeup of the Maplewood Police Auxiliary?

A. The officers of the Maplewood Police Auxiliary represent a diverse cross-section of the community. The unit includes officers from across the age spectrum, a mix of male and female officers, officers of color, and members of the LGBTQ community.

Q. Who supervises the Maplewood Police Auxiliary officers?

A. The Police Auxiliary falls under the Township's Office of Emergency Management, which has delegated supervisory authority over the Auxiliary to the Chief of Police. The Chief designates a Maplewood Police Department Sergeant to serve as liaison to the Police Auxiliary, and the Auxiliary also has its own Chief.

Q. What are the duties of a Maplewood Police Auxiliary officer?

A. Auxiliary officers, under New Jersey law, are sworn peace officers authorized to perform all of the functions of full-time police officers and to enforce all state and local laws. The assigned duties for Maplewood Police Auxiliary officers regularly include assisting during special events (such as parades, Fourth of July,

MayFest, Halloween, etc.), weekend crosswalk details around houses of worship, night patrols, traffic details, and responding to local emergencies such as storms or power outages.

Auxiliary officers accompany full-time Maplewood Police Department officers on calls, including violent felonies, to provide backup support, and are authorized to issue citations and make arrests. They are also assigned to provide security at crime scenes. While on patrol, Auxiliary officers work in teams of two, so each officer will have a partner, whereas full-time Maplewood Police Department officers generally patrol individually.

Q. What are the requirements to become a Maplewood Police Auxiliary officer? Do prospective officers undergo background checks?

A. Aside from the residency requirements mentioned above, candidates for the Maplewood Police Auxiliary must be at least 18 years of age, U.S. citizens, possess a valid New Jersey driver's license, have no criminal record, and be of good physical and mental health. Prospective Auxiliary officers undergo the same background checks, fingerprinting, and psychological evaluations as the Township's full-time police officers.

Q. What initial training do members receive before becoming Auxiliary Police officers?

A. Auxiliary Police officers are required to attend a training academy that is offered by the State of New Jersey and usually held each Spring at the Essex County Police Academy. The classes take place over several weeks and total more than 80 hours of training, including exams. The training courses include the legal power and authority of auxiliary police officers, use of force, motor vehicle stops, CPR/first aid, crowd control, witness interviews and report writing, search and seizure, and crime prevention. Only candidates who complete and pass this training academy are qualified to join the Maplewood Police Auxiliary.

After graduating from the Academy, new Auxiliary officers are assigned to a field training officer and must undergo "on the job" training and pass various practical tests within 12 weeks in order to proceed to serve in the unit. They undergo the same field training and are required to pass the same tests as full-time Maplewood Police Department officers.

Q. What ongoing training do Auxiliary officers receive?

A. Officers in the Maplewood Police Auxiliary undergo monthly mandatory training sessions, including all of the training required by the New Jersey Attorney General for full-time police officers. On an annual basis, all officers (both full-time and Auxiliary) must participate in training on subjects such as use of force, de-escalation, crowd control, and implicit bias. Auxiliary officers are also required to maintain their First Aid, CPR, and hazardous materials certifications on an ongoing basis in order to remain eligible to serve in the unit.

Q. Are Auxiliary officers armed?

A. Yes. While on duty, Maplewood Police Auxiliary officers are permitted to carry a Department-issued handgun. The handguns available to Auxiliary officers are maintained securely in a gun locker at Police Headquarters while not in use. The guns are issued by the Watch Commander on duty and must be signed out at the beginning of an Auxiliary officer's shift and signed back in at the conclusion.

Q. How long have Auxiliary officers been armed?

A. We have not been able to determine precisely when Maplewood Police Auxiliary officers began being armed, but our information suggests that this practice began in the 1960's or early 1970's. The arming of Maplewood Police Auxiliary officers, subject to the approval of the Chief of Police, was most recently specifically authorized by the Township Committee by resolution in June 1988. In any event, we believe that the Auxiliary officers have been armed for approximately 50 years.

Q. Have there been any instances where an Auxiliary officer has discharged his or her weapon while on duty?

A. No, there are no records or reports of any Auxiliary officer ever firing his/her service weapon.

Q. What firearms training do Auxiliary officers receive?

A. New Auxiliary officers must undergo and pass the same weapons safety, range safety, and handgun qualification training as full-time Maplewood Police Department officers.

Q. Are Auxiliary officers required to undergo regular firearms training?

A. Yes. Auxiliary officers are required to recertify their firearm qualification twice per year in order to continue to carry a firearm on duty, which is the same requirement as for full-time Maplewood Police Department officers.

Q. What authority do Auxiliary officers have while not on duty? Are they permitted to act as police officers or carry firearms while off-duty?

A. Auxiliary officers have no authority while off-duty and are not permitted to carry firearms or perform police functions while not on duty.

Q. Do other towns in New Jersey have auxiliary police units? Are they armed?

A. Yes, there are many local police auxiliary units throughout New Jersey and they are specifically permitted and governed by state laws. Some local New Jersey auxiliary police units are armed (for example, Union, Springfield, and Livingston), while others are not (for example, Newark and Hillside).

Q. Do Maplewood Police Auxiliary officers want to become full-time police officers?

A. Some do wish to pursue a career in law enforcement, and take advantage of their time as Auxiliary officers to obtain training and experience to further that

goal. Most Maplewood Auxiliary officers, however, have full-time careers in other industries and have no intention to become full-time police officers.

- Q. Does the Township ever hire officers from the Auxiliary to become full-time Maplewood Police Department officers?
- A. Yes. There have been several instances where Maplewood has hired members of the Police Auxiliary to become full-time Maplewood Police Department officers. Chief DeVaul is a former Auxiliary officer, as are two patrol officers that have started with the Department in the past few years. South Orange has also hired two Maplewood Police Auxiliary officers to join their full-time police force in recent years.
- Q. Are Maplewood Police Auxiliary officers paid?
- A. No, the Maplewood Police Auxiliary is a completely volunteer unit and officers receive no compensation for their service. Necessary equipment, such as uniforms, is provided by the Maplewood Police Department from the annual police budget.
- Q. How many hours of service does the Maplewood Police Auxiliary provide to the community each year?
- A. From 2015 to 2019, the Police Auxiliary provided over 20,000 hours of service, for an average of more than 4,000 hours per year.
- Q. How much money does the Maplewood Auxiliary Police save the Township?
- A. This is difficult to calculate because it is undetermined how many hours of service provided by Auxiliary officers would have otherwise needed to be provided by full-time Maplewood Police Department officers working overtime. The average overtime cost for a Maplewood Police Department patrolman, however, is approximately \$75 per hour.
- Q. What uniforms are worn by the Auxiliary officers? Are they the same as those worn by full-time Maplewood Police Department officers?
- A. The uniforms worn by Maplewood Auxiliary Police are different from those worn by full-time officers. The Auxiliary officers wear shirts that are a different color, pants with a yellow stripe on them, different patches (that say "Auxiliary"), and carry different badges.
- Q. How often is an Auxiliary officer on duty? Do they do a certain number of shifts per month?
- A. On a monthly basis, Auxiliary officers are required to perform at least two night shifts (usually lasting from 7 PM to Midnight), one weekend shift (usually lasting from 8 AM to 1 PM), one evening meeting per month to fulfill mandatory training requirements. Most Auxiliary officers regularly volunteer for shifts beyond these minimum requirements. Auxiliary officers are also expected to be available and assist with special Township events and in the event of local emergencies. Because Auxiliary officers live locally, while most full-time Maplewood Police

Department officers do not, they can generally respond quickly in emergency situations such as major storms or power outages.

Q. What discipline or consequences would an Auxiliary officer who engages in misconduct be subject to?

A. Maplewood Auxiliary Police officers are subject to the same Internal Affairs process as full-time officers. If an Auxiliary officer is found to have committed misconduct, he/she can be subject to discipline including suspension or termination from the unit. Their conduct could also be reviewed by the Essex County Prosecutor's Office and they could be subject to criminal charges if appropriate.

Q. Are Auxiliary officers required to fill out use of force reports?

A. Auxiliary officers are subject to same use of force guidelines and requirements as full-time Maplewood Police Department officers, including the mandate to complete a use of force report if they use force while on duty.

Q. Have there been any instances where Auxiliary officers have used force on duty?

A. The Maplewood Police Department has reviewed its records since 2010 and found only one incident in the past decade where force was used by Auxiliary officers. In that instance, two Auxiliary officers needed to use compliance holds to restrain a domestic violence suspect who was resisting arrest.

Q. Have there been any internal affairs complaints from residents regarding Maplewood Police Auxiliary officers?

A. The Maplewood Police Department has no record of any internal affairs or other public complaints regarding the conduct of any Auxiliary officer for at least the past twenty years.

Q. Do Auxiliary officers wear body cameras while on duty?

A. They have not done so. The Maplewood Police Department did not have a sufficient supply of body-worn cameras to provide them to Auxiliary police officers. The Department is planning to acquire additional body cameras so that they can be supplied to Auxiliary officers, who will be required to wear them while on duty and to activate them as necessary pursuant to standard departmental procedure.

Q. Do Auxiliary officers ever go into the schools while on duty?

A. No. Maplewood Auxiliary Police officers do not go into the schools while on duty. Auxiliary officers are generally on duty only on nights, weekends, and holidays, so they are not working during regular school hours. Also, to the extent that police officers are hired to provide security at school-related events, such as high school football games, those officers are full-time Maplewood Police Department officers, not Auxiliary officers, due to contractual obligations. Auxiliary officers do not participate in DARE/LEAD programs in schools, nor are they involved in school security drills (such as "code red" drills).

- Q. Were Maplewood Police Auxiliary officers involved in any of the incidents on July 5, 2016?
- A. No. There were four Auxiliary officers on duty and assigned to Memorial Park that evening, but all were directing traffic that night after the fireworks. Those Auxiliary officers were not present at the use of force incidents that occurred that evening.

## **ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTS**

- A. New Jersey Attorney General Opinions Regarding Auxiliary Police
- B. 1988 Maplewood Township Committee Resolution regarding Auxiliary Police
- C. State of New Jersey Emergency Management Auxiliary Police Organization & Training Plan
- D. Maplewood Police Department Standard Operating Procedure for Auxiliary Police Unit
- E. Maplewood Police Auxiliary Assignment Process
- F. Maplewood Police Auxiliary 2018 report on hours of service, special events, and training
- G. Maplewood Police Auxiliary 2019 report on hours of service, special events, and training
- H. Maplewood Police Auxiliary Additional Assignments
- I. Maplewood Police Auxiliary 2020 Roster
- J. Expenses Incurred to Outfit a New Maplewood Police Auxiliary Officer
- K. Transcript of July 16, 2020 Maplewood Township Public Safety Committee meeting (questions and answers regarding Auxiliary Police are on pages 47-111)

**A**

**New Jersey Attorney General Opinions Regarding  
Auxiliary Police**



087-17

State of New Jersey  
DEPARTMENT OF LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY  
DIVISION OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE  
25 MARKET STREET  
CN 085  
TRENTON, NEW JERSEY 08625-0085  
TELEPHONE 609-984-6500

W CARY EDWARDS  
ATTORNEY GENERAL

DONALD R BELSOLE  
FIRST ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL  
DIRECTOR

June 12, 1987

Colonel C.L. Pagano  
Superintendent, Division of State Police  
Division Headquarters  
P.O. Box 7068 River Road  
West Trenton, NJ 08628

Dear Superintendent Pagano:

Due to recent changes in the Special Law Enforcement Officers Act, N.J.S.A. 40A:14-146.8 et seq., and Gun Control Act, N.J.S.A. 2C:39-6, the Attorney General has received numerous inquiries regarding the powers, duties and proper utilization of civil defense auxiliary police officers appointed pursuant to the Disaster Control Act, N.J.S.A. App. A:9-30 et seq. Specifically, questions have been asked regarding whether and under what circumstances auxiliary police officers may carry firearms and whether such ability to carry is contingent upon a particular training program.

Civil defense auxiliary police officers belonging to a duly authorized civil defense organization may assume the powers and duties of police officers only during periods of state or local emergency or disaster and during training exercises in preparation for such occurrences. All auxiliary police officers must complete minimum basic training as prescribed by the State Police. If authorized by the local governing body and chief of police, auxiliary police officers may carry firearms under general firearms legislation only while on duty during a declared emergency or disaster and only while participating in a duly authorized training exercise in preparation for such occurrences. Those auxiliary police officers who are authorized by their local governing body and chief of police to carry firearms during such limited situations must at least satisfactorily complete a firearms training course approved by the Police Training Commission as mandated by N.J.S.A. 2C:39-6 before they may carry a firearm.

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under any circumstance and they also must satisfy the annual qualification requirement of that statute. In addition to these minimum training requirements imposed by the firearms laws, auxiliary police must also satisfy any additional training requirements imposed by the State Police.

Civil defense auxiliary police are authorized by the Disaster Control Act. N.J.S.A. App. A:9-30 et seq. That Act vests in the Governor wide-ranging powers and authority to protect the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of this State in times of emergency or disaster. N.J.S.A. App. A:9-33. Through this Act, the Governor is empowered to administer, direct and coordinate auxiliary police officers throughout the State. N.J.S.A. App. A:9-45. Pursuant to this authority, Governor Meyner issued a Proclamation on September 23, 1954, regarding the powers, duties and training of auxiliary police officers. This Proclamation stated in part:

. . . During any emergency. . . or during any practice, drill or activity in preparation for such emergency. . . the auxiliary police of duly authorized municipal civilian defense organizations in this State shall have power to enforce all laws made or to be made for the conservation of the peace and for the good government and protection of the citizens and inhabitants of this State, and to apprehend offenders against such laws, and for the purpose of preserving the public peace and preventing or quelling public disturbances shall have all the powers of peace officers [and] police officers. . . [Governor's Proclamation, 1954 N.J. Laws 1215].

By this Proclamation, the Governor clearly granted auxiliary police officers the full range of police officer powers during declared emergencies, disasters and training in preparation for such occurrences. Formal Opinion No. 4 (1961). These powers, absent a superseding declaration, are in effect today.

The Governor has delegated his authority to administer auxiliary police to the State Police. N.J.S.A. 52:14D-1 et seq. Executive Order No. 101, 1980 N.J. Laws 881 - 882. Within the State Police, the Office of Emergency Management is responsible for administering auxiliary police.

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With the enactment of N.J.S.A. 2C:39-6j, some confusion apparently exists over the ability of auxiliary police officers to carry firearms. The language of the Governor's Proclamation has consistently been interpreted to authorize auxiliary police to carry firearms within the discharge of their actual duties which includes bona fide training exercises. Formal Opinion No. 24 (1977); Formal Opinion No. 4 (1961). Guidelines promulgated pursuant to the Governor's administrative authority over auxiliary police require that the municipal governing body and chief of police authorize auxiliary police officers to carry firearms before they are able to do so. Directive No. 95 (Revised January 26, 1982); Directive No. 30 (Revised November 7, 1966). It should be emphasized that neither the Disaster Control Act, the Governor's Proclamation nor the Auxiliary Police Organization and Training Plan require that auxiliary police be armed. Whether auxiliary police should be armed is left in the first instance to local discretion exercised by the local governing body and chief of police. Similarly, none of these authorities directly states or implies that authorization to carry firearms, once granted, must be a blanket one. It is not only permissible, but appropriate, to restrict the carrying of firearms by auxiliary police officers to specific emergency situations and specific training exercises which implicate the carrying of firearms.

Given the executive origin of the grant of authority for auxiliary police to be armed, the question arises whether N.J.S.A. 2C:39-5 and 6 also controls the authority, subject to municipal discretion, of auxiliary police officers to carry firearms conferred by the Governor's Proclamation. The authority to carry firearms conferred on auxiliary police by the Governor's Proclamation has consistently been viewed to be subject to the general firearms control legislation of the State. Formal Opinion No. 24 (1977); Formal Opinion No. 4 (1961). There have been no developments in experience since the issuance of these opinions or in the legislative process which would indicate that auxiliary police should not be subject to N.J.S.A. 2C:39-5 and 6.\*

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\* Since the Governor's Proclamation has consistently been interpreted, as it is here now, to subject auxiliary police to the general firearms control statutes, this opinion does not consider whether the Disaster Control Act would permit the Governor to arm an emergency force without regard to the prevailing general firearms control statute. Cf., Worthington v. Fauver, 88 N.J. 183, 200 (1982).

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N.J.S.A. 2C:39-6 lists specific categories of persons, generally law enforcement personnel, who may carry a firearm without a permit. It is necessary to compare auxiliary police to the categories of persons mentioned in N.J.S.A. 2C:39-6 to determine whether they may statutorily carry a firearm in the performance of their duties as provided pursuant to gubernatorial authority.

As indicated previously, the Governor's Proclamation conferred on auxiliary police all the powers of "police officers" during periods of emergency or disaster and in training exercises to prepare for such occurrences. A review of the specific categories of law enforcement officers listed in N.J.S.A. 2C:39-6 finds no mention of auxiliary police officers. However, N.J.S.A. 2C:39-6(c)(1), exempts from permit requirements for a hand gun or long gun ". . . any other police officer, while in the actual performance of his official duties . . ." Since auxiliary police are "police officers" during periods of emergency or disaster and in training exercises to prepare for such occurrences who are not otherwise mentioned in other sections of N.J.S.A. 2C:39-6, they fit the definition of "other police officers" who are thereby authorized to carry firearms pursuant to N.J.S.A. 2C:39-6(c)(1). Being subject to N.J.S.A. 2C:39-6, auxiliary police must fulfill the training and qualification requirements of N.J.S.A. 2C:39-6j. Since an auxiliary police officer's authority to carry a firearm is not absolute but strictly limited to periods of emergency, disaster and training, the Superintendent has imposed appropriate restrictions on the handling and storage of firearms by auxiliary police officers reflective of their duty limitations. Under these restrictions, each auxiliary police officer authorized by the municipality and chief of police to carry a firearm, shall be issued a weapon by the municipality which the officer shall fire for qualification and annual re-qualification. The weapon will be stored and secured by the municipality and issued to the individual only at such time as required for training or in response to a declared emergency. Individuals will not be authorized to carry privately owned weapons.

Questions have arisen regarding the proper utilization of auxiliary police officers. Municipal civil defense auxiliary police may be activated only for emergencies, disasters, and training activities. Emergencies and disasters are statutorily defined by the Disaster Control Act. N.J.S.A. App. A:9.33.1. Any training activities that auxiliary police officers participate in must be "bona fide". Formal Opinion No. 4 (1961). In exercising

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the Governor's grant of supervisory authority over the auxiliary police forces the Superintendent has issued directives mandating minimum basic training for all auxiliary police officers. In addition, the Office of Emergency Management has issued an Auxiliary Police Organization and Training Plan. This Plan provides guidelines for the proper utilization and training of auxiliary police officers. This Plan outlines acceptable training activities for auxiliary police officers. Local governing bodies and police chiefs must adhere to these guidelines. Formal Opinion No. 4 (1961). The extent to which participation by an auxiliary police officer in routine police functions serves as training is a matter to be decided by the Superintendent of the State Police. Likewise, it is within the discretion of the Superintendent of the State Police to determine the kinds of training exercises which are appropriate for an auxiliary police officer to carry or not to carry a firearm. An auxiliary police officer cannot engage in routine police functions outside the scope of specifically authorized training practices established by the Auxiliary Police Organization and Training Plan promulgated by the State Police.

To summarize, auxiliary police officers have full police powers but only during periods of declared emergency or disaster and bona fide training exercises in preparation for such occurrences. Basic training requirements for auxiliary police officers are established by the State Police. It is within the discretion of the State Police to specify the police functions in which auxiliary police may engage as bona fide training exercises in preparation for an emergency or disaster. Subject to the training and qualification requirements of N.J.S.A. 2C:39-6j, an auxiliary police officer may carry a firearm if authorized by the local governing body and chief of police only while on duty during a declared emergency or disaster and while participating in a training exercise for which the Auxiliary Police Organization and Training Plan authorizes carrying a firearm. Before auxiliary police officers can carry firearms under these limited circumstances, they must at least satisfactorily complete a firearms training course approved by the Police Training Commission.

Very truly yours,

W. Cary Edwards  
Attorney General

By:   
Frederick P. DeVesa  
Assistant Director

cc: Donald R. Belsole, Director  
First Assistant Attorney General  
John G. Holl, Chief of Staff



State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY  
DIVISION OF STATE POLICE

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT SECTION  
POST OFFICE BOX 7068  
WEST TRENTON, NEW JERSEY 08626 - 0068  
(609) 882 - 2000

W. CARY EDWARDS  
Attorney General

COLONEL C. L. PAGANO  
Superintendent

July 9, 1987

Dear Chief of Police:

Enclosed is the Attorney General's Opinion which deals with requirements and authority for carrying of firearms by Auxiliary Police.

In summary, the Opinion states that members of a duly authorized auxiliary police unit, upon the completion of the provisional firearms training course, have the authority to carry firearms during periods of emergencies and disasters and during periods of training and exercise in preparation for emergencies and disasters, subject to further restrictions regarding the handling and storage of firearms.

These requirements and procedures for compliance are detailed below.

- A. In order to be considered a "duly authorized" auxiliary police unit, the following documents must be submitted and approved by the State Police Office of Emergency Management
1. A copy of your town's resolution creating or establishing auxiliary police.
  2. A current roster, submitted each year, which includes full name, address (including town), telephone number, social security number, full date of birth, name of academy and date basic training was completed.
  3. A copy of your town's Hazard Identification Capability Assessment that illustrates the potential hazards facing your jurisdiction. This information must be supplied by your Emergency Management coordinator.

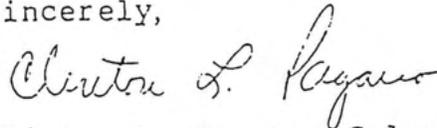
4. A projected training plan for each calendar year (January - December) developed and submitted in advance by your police department's Training Officer, utilizing the Hazard Identification survey as a guideline. The training your auxiliary police receive must relate to the Hazard Identification. This plan, developed in four three-month quarters, should list classroom subjects as well as specific on-the-job training, including time, date, and assignment (i.e., 4th of July, four hours crowd control, fireworks in the park).
  5. At the end of each three-month quarter, within 15 days, the Training Officer must submit a compiled inventory of the exact hours of each type of training each officer has received, noting those officers that have not complied with the dictates of Directive 98 (eight hours per month, 24 hours per quarter), and the plan for making up shortages.
  6. A Standard Operating Procedure that provides guidelines and limitations of authority for the auxiliary police to work within. The S.O.P. should contain specific language relating to issues such as the use of force, powers of arrest, hot pursuit, and use of firearms. Additionally, the S.O.P. must address the last sentence in paragraph one, page three of the attached Opinion which states: "It is not only permissible, but appropriate, to restrict the carrying of firearms by auxiliary police officers to specific emergency situations and specific training exercises which implicate the carrying of firearms".
- B. Although the authorization for arming auxiliary police rests solely with the local governing body and subject to the approval of the Chief of Police, the decision to implement cannot be made until the following requirements are met.
1. Auxiliary police officers must satisfactorily complete the Provisional Firearms Training Course approved by the Police Training Commission as mandated by N.J.S.A.2C:39-6j.

2. Upon completion of the Firearms Training Course, the Chief of Police must certify to the State Director that auxiliary police officers have satisfactorily completed the Firearms Training Course approved by the Police Training Commission.
- C. Any municipalities choosing to arm, having complied with the contents of paragraphs A and B, are subject to the following restrictions regarding the handling and storage of firearms.
1. Each auxiliary police officer authorized by the municipality and Chief of Police to carry a firearm, shall be issued a weapon by the municipality which the officer shall fire for qualification and annual re-qualification.
  2. The weapon will be stored and secured by the municipality and issued to the individual only at such time as required for training or in response to a declared emergency.
  3. Individuals will not be authorized to carry privately owned weapons.

Within thirty days, this office will direct a letter to each Chief of Police with an auxiliary police file, indicating the present status of the auxiliary police program. Contained in this letter will be specific dates for compliance and response.

If you have any further questions regarding this program, you may telephone the New Jersey State Police, Office of Emergency Management at 609-530-4849.

Sincerely,



Clinton L. Pagano, Colonel  
State Director  
Office of Emergency Management



X90 107-1

**State of New Jersey**  
DEPARTMENT OF LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY  
DIVISION OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE  
25 MARKET STREET  
CN 085  
TRENTON, NEW JERSEY 08625-0085  
TELEPHONE: 609-984-6500

ROBERT J. DEL TUFO  
ATTORNEY GENERAL

April 17, 1990

ROBERT T. WINTER  
DIRECTOR

Chief William E. Chisholm  
Springfield Police Department  
100 Mountain Avenue  
Springfield, New Jersey 07081

Dear Chief Chisholm:

Thank you for your letter of March 26, 1990 and the enclosed opinion dated March 23, 1990 from Jay L. Kloud, Esq. concerning the carrying of firearms by auxiliary police officers.

Initially, I should like to make it clear that the role of this office is to assist the administration of criminal justice - and not substitute for the role of the municipal attorney or county prosecutor. Accordingly, we recommend that you provide a copy of this letter to Mr. Kloud in order that he may then discuss it with us.

Basically, our concept of the role of auxiliary police officers is a narrow one. They were created as a World War II emergency measure and subsequently assigned to the supervision of the Emergency Management Section of the New Jersey State Police. Their functions are not those of a regular police officer and their powers and training, since 1986, are considerably less than those of special law enforcement officers. The duties of an auxiliary are limited to times of disaster or emergency or in training for such an event. "A municipality cannot substitute civil defense auxiliary police for regular or special police officers . . ." Attorney General Formal Opinion No. 4 (1961).

The Legislature has adopted policies which reflect its concerns for training and education of a variety of law enforcement officers and varying degrees of authority for them to carry weapons. As a result, there is a positive emphasis for police training of and weapons restriction to certain classes of law enforcement personnel. At the same time there is an awareness of the potential liability consequences when there is a deviation from these requirements.

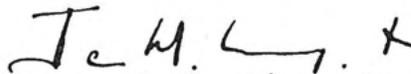
From this perspective, we would be disinclined to approve a municipal policy which authorizes auxiliaries to have weapons in their possession at all times - particularly if the policy is objected to by the Chief of Police. Any convenience that may be achieved by not using a police storage facility is clearly outweighed by the risk involved.

It was only after several years of study that the Attorney General and State Police issued directives concerning this subject. The Auxiliary Police S.O.P. (III, C 1) provides that "Firearm assignments to auxiliary police will be made at the discretion of the local Chief of Police." State Police Directive No. 98 states "the extent of police authority and the arming of auxiliary police with weapons during periods of training shall be determined by the governing body of the municipality, subject to the approval of the Chief of Police" (emphasis supplied). There is no requirement whatsoever that auxiliary police should be armed.

Mr. Kloud is correct when he advises that the above do not have the same force as statutory law. However, it would appear to be irresponsible for a governing body to choose to ignore direction from the agency which is charged with the responsibility to administer our laws with respect to emergency management. This is particularly so when it is confronted with the consequences of potential tort and Section 1983 liability for damages or insurance coverage disclaimer as the result of preferring convenience instead of caution. These directives would, at the very least, be evidential as to the appropriateness of a policy which would authorize such officers to possess weapons at all times (c.f. the statutory requirement that special law enforcement officers are only armed while on duty).

As indicated above, we are available to discuss this matter with Mr. Kloud.

Very truly yours,

  
James M. Keating, Jr.  
Deputy Attorney General  
Police Legal Advisory Section

/rs

c: DAG Boris Moczula, Chief  
Police Legal Advisory Section



## State of New Jersey

### DEPARTMENT OF LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY DIVISION OF STATE POLICE

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT SECTION  
POST OFFICE BOX 7068  
WEST TRENTON, NEW JERSEY 08628-0068  
(609) 882-2000

ROBERT J. DEL TUFO  
Attorney General

COLONEL JUSTIN J. DINTINO  
Superintendent

December 22, 1992

Chief Richard G. Baroch  
Bergenfield Boro Police Department  
198 N. Washington Avenue  
Bergenfield, NJ 07621

Dear Chief Baroch:

Over the past several months this office has received several requests for information pertaining to "on-the-job" training of auxiliary police.

Accordingly this office is taking this opportunity to remind all effected jurisdictions that all such training must be approved by the mayor in cooperation with the local Emergency Management coordinator. All training will be under the direction of the chief of police and every auxiliary police officer will be subject to the rules, regulations, and disciplinary requirements of the municipal police department.

All training must be bona fide and will not be abused as to the extent. In no case will auxiliary police officers be used as a substitute for regular or special police officers. Any attempt to do so is unlawful. An auxiliary police officer cannot engage in routine police functions outside the scope of specifically authorized training practices established by the "Auxiliary Police Organization & Training Plan" as promulgated by the New Jersey State Police Office of Emergency Management.

Further, in order for any auxiliary police program to be valid, including any subsequent training, this office must have on file the following documents in their current form:

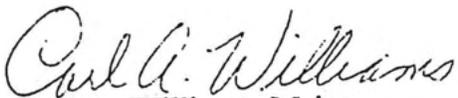
- A Municipal Resolution authorizing and establishing the Auxiliary Police Program.
- A Hazard Identification Assessment.
- A current roster of all auxiliary police personnel.

Chief Baroch  
Page 2  
December 22, 1992

Standard Operating Procedures approved by the  
New Jersey State Police Office of Emergency Management.  
An annual training schedule.  
Quarterly training reports.

Should you have any questions regarding the administration of this program, you may contact  
Lt. Thomas Dombroski at (609) 538-6061.

Sincerely,



Carl A. Williams, Major  
Deputy State Director  
Office of Emergency Management

ah

X.

ON THE JOB TRAINING

Auxiliary Police shall receive on the job training.

This is necessary so that the auxiliary police will be adequately trained and qualified to render proper service in the event of emergency and for the protection of the community, in addition to maintaining their interest.

1. Additional training in first aid is highly recommended especially C.P.R. (Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation), since the auxiliary police will be used in emergency situations further and continued training in first aid is essential.

Following are suggested activities wherein the auxiliary police can receive the practical on the job training necessary. This course of training may vary according to local conditions.

1. Traffic Control
  - a. Manual Signals and Gestures
  - b. Operation of Signal Lights
2. Crowds and Assemblages
  - a. Parades
  - b. Riots
  - c. Celebrations
  - d. Strikes
3. Courts
  - a. Personal Appearance
  - b. Unbiased Presentation
4. Police Headquarters Operations
  - a. Switchboard
  - b. Accepting Complaints
  - c. Reports
  - d. Prisoner - Booking
  - e. Prisoner - Property
  - f. Operation - Radio Base Station
  - g. Teletype Operation
  - h. Call Box System
  - i. Public Relations
  - j. Transportation and Evacuation of Patients
5. Preservation of Evidence
  - a. Preserve Scene - crime or disaster
  - b. Physical
  - c. Personal
  - d. Evidential
  - e. Continuity of Transmission

- X. ON THE JOB TRAINING - Continued
6. Use of Deadly Force
  7. Firearms
    - a. Hand Gun
    - b. Rifle
    - c. Pump Gun
    - d. Auto Shot Gun
    - e. Tear Gas Gun
  8. Auxiliary Officers Daily Report
  9. Fingerprinting
    - a. Survivors
    - b. Post Mortem
  10. Review of Hand to Hand Combat
    - a. Holds



*State of New Jersey*  
DEPARTMENT OF LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY  
DIVISION OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE

25 MARKET STREET  
CN 085

TRENTON, NJ 08625-0085  
TELEPHONE: (609) 984-6500

DEBORAH T. PORITZ  
ATTORNEY GENERAL

TERRENCE P. FARLEY  
DIRECTOR

February 18, 1994

Chief John McNiff  
Bloomfield Police Department  
Bloomfield Plaza  
Bloomfield, New Jersey 07003

Dear Chief McNiff:

Donald McCann of the Police Services Section has asked me to reply to you concerning the correspondence which you have received from Paul L. Kleinbaum, Esq.. He wrote to you on January 27, 1994 with respect to the utilization of auxiliary police officers by the Bloomfield Police Department.

If Mr. Kleinbaum is correct in stating that auxiliaries are regularly assigned to foot and vehicle patrol and are authorized to issue tickets, this practice should be terminated at once. This is particularly critical if you have provided these officers with weapons while they are undertaking these impermissible activities.

You are aware, I am certain, that auxiliaries serve an extremely limited role as a part of the municipal police function. As successors to the World War II civilian defense, their activities are now restricted to acting only in the event of or in training for a declared emergency. Moreover, any such assignments must be in accordance with an emergency management plan submitted to the Division of State Police.

There is no legal justification for the Bloomfield Police Department to attempt the substitution of auxiliaries for those kinds of law enforcement officers who can lawfully exercise police powers. Your municipal attorney or prosecutor should also

October 6, 1994  
Page 2

advise you as to the legality of enforcing any actions which may have been taken by these auxiliaries in the past as well as the potential for tort and Section 1983 liability which might arise from them.

Please advise if you have any further questions concerning this matter.

Very truly yours,

James M. Keating, Jr.  
Deputy Attorney General

c: Prosecutor Clifford J. Minor  
DAG Gregory J. Sakowicz  
Chief Donald McCann

**B**

**1988 Maplewood Township Committee Resolution regarding  
Auxiliary Police**

TOWNSHIP OF MAPLEWOOD

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Township of Maplewood has had, as a part of its Civil Defense Program, a reserve police organization known as the "Township of Maplewood Police Reserves"; and

WHEREAS, under Title 58 (App. A:9-45) of the New Jersey Statutes, all local Civil Defense matters must be coordinated through a local Emergency Management Council; and

WHEREAS, said statute and the rules and regulations promulgated by the Governor through the State Office of Emergency Management permit municipalities to organize an "Auxiliary Police" organization.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT AND IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MAPLEWOOD:

1. That the Township of Maplewood Police Reserve shall and are hereby designated as the "Township of Maplewood Auxiliary Police" with powers and duties as set forth in Title 58 (App. A:9-45) of the New Jersey Statutes and the rules and regulations promulgated by the Governor through the State Office of Emergency Management.

I, Elizabeth J. Fritzen, Township Clerk of the Township of Maplewood, in the County of Essex and State of New Jersey, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a resolution adopted by the Township Committee, of said Township, at a regular meeting of said Committee held June 7, 1988.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of the Township of Maplewood, in the County of Essex and State of New Jersey, this 7th day of June 1988.

E. J. Fritzen

# C

## **State of New Jersey Emergency Management Auxiliary Police Organization & Training Plan**

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State of New Jersey  
Emergency Management

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# Auxiliary Police

## Organization & Training Plan

State of New Jersey:  
Governor Chris Christie

Department of Law & Public Safety:  
Attorney General Anne Milgram

Division of State Police:  
Colonel Rick Fuentes, Superintendent  
Director, Office of Emergency Management

*The original training manual, revised in 2001,  
was created under Acting Governor Donald T. DiFrancesco (State of New Jersey),  
John J. Farmer, Jr., Attorney General (Department of Law & Public Safety),  
and Carson J. Dunbar, Jr., Superintendent and  
Director, Office of Emergency Management (Division of State Police)*



DEPARTMENT OF LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY  
DIVISION OF STATE POLICE  
OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

AUXILIARY POLICE ORGANIZATION AND TRAINING

I. General

1. This plan is for use as the guide in the selection and training of members of the Auxiliary Police.
2. The New Jersey Civil Defense and Disaster Control Plan provides for the appointment of auxiliary police to augment the forces of the regular police departments in the event of emergencies. Emergencies defined as follows under Title 58, Appendix A: 9-33.1, New Jersey Statutes Annotated.
  - a. "Disaster" shall mean any unusual incident resulting from natural or unnatural causes which endangers the health, safety or resources of the residents of one or more municipalities of the State, and which is or may become too large in scope or unusual in type to be handled in its entirety by regular municipal operating services.
  - b. "Local disaster emergency" shall mean and include any disaster or the imminence thereof, resulting from natural or unnatural causes other than enemy attack and limited to the extent that action by the Governor under this act is not required.
  - c. "War emergency" shall mean and include any disaster occurring anywhere within the State as the result of enemy attack or the imminent danger thereof.
  - d. "Emergency shall mean and include "disaster" and "war emergency" as above in this section defined.
3. The Civil Defense and Disaster Control Act Proclamation, Rules and Regulations, pursuant thereto vest police authority in Civil Defense Auxiliary Police during periods of training and emergencies.
4. The prescribed basic and in-service training course for Auxiliary Police.

II. STATE ORGANIZATION

1. "Hereafter all references to Civil Defense or Civil Defense and Disaster Control shall be interpreted to mean Emergency Management by authority of Executive Order No. 101."

The State Emergency Management Disaster Plan provides for the Emergency Management organization, (See Civil Defense and Disaster Control Plan, Revised March 1973.)

January 14, 1981

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Regional, County and Municipal Emergency Management Coordinators

**FROM:** Clinton L. Pagano, Colonel  
State Director  
Office of Emergency Management

**SUBJECT:** Governor Byrne's Executive Order No. 101  
dated December 17, 1980

On December 17, 1980, Governor Brendan T. Byrne signed Executive Order No. 101 establishing the Office of Emergency Management within the Division of State Police, Department of Law and Public Safety.

All functions delegated or assigned to the Civil Defense Preparedness Agency, the Federal Disaster Assistance Administration and the Federal Preparedness Agency have been transferred to the Office of Emergency Management.

The former title of "Civil Defense" is henceforth changed to "Office of Emergency Management" and your Municipal organization should reflect this change in conformity with State and Federal designations. All duties, functions and powers of the Municipal Civil Defense Coordinator shall be exercised by the Municipal Coordinator of Emergency Management and one or more deputies as may be necessary.

I call upon the services of your office to effectuate the change within you respective municipality.

Please hand deliver the extra copy of this memorandum to the Mayor or Chief Executive of your community.

/s/  
Clinton L. Pagano, Colonel

## II. STATE ORGANIZATION

2. The Governor is the head of Emergency Management in New Jersey. He/she is authorized by law to establish an adequate organization to control and direct all resources of the State and all the political subdivisions thereof that may be necessary to cope with any conditions that shall arise out of any emergency when so declared to exist by the Governor.
3. The State Office of Emergency Management is, by law, in the State Department of Law and Public Safety, Division of State Police. The State Emergency Management Director is authorized and empowered to organize and direct the Emergency Management control activities of the State Government and all political subdivisions of the State in the name of the Governor.
4. The State is divided into three regions, comprised of seven (7) counties, each, and each Region headed by a Coordinator, Deputy and staff. Each of the twenty-one (21) counties is headed by a County Coordinator, Deputy and staff.
5. Every municipality is required to organize a local civil defense council composed of not more than 15 members, appointed by the chief executive of the municipality to hold office at the will and pleasure of the appointing authority. The Chief of Police of the municipality must be a member of this council. Where there is no Chief of Police, the police executive of the municipality must be a member of this council.
6. In every municipality of this State, the Chief Executive shall appoint an Emergency Management Coordinator from among the residents of the municipality. The Municipal Emergency Management Coordinator shall serve at the pleasure of the Chief Executive.

## III. ORGANIZATION OF AUXILIARY POLICE

Title 58, New Jersey Statutes Annotated.

App. A:9-45. Orders, rules and regulations; blackouts, air raids, etc., posting.

1. In order to accomplish the purposes of the Civil Defense and Disaster Control Act, the Governor is empowered to make such orders, rules and regulations as may be necessary and adequately to meet the various problems presented by any emergency and from time to time to amend or rescind such orders, rules and regulations, including the organization, recruiting, training, conduct duties and powers of auxiliary police.

2. The authority for the appointment; of the members of the auxiliary police by the Governor is contained in Title 58, App. A:9-33, as amended by Chapter 251, Laws of 1942; Chapter 86, Laws of 1949; and Chapter 438, Laws of 1953 - an act concerning civilian defense and disaster control during emergency. Members of the auxiliary police have police powers conferred by law only in the actual performance of duty when properly called as provided in Directive #28 (Governor's Proclamation on Auxiliary Police Powers) and Directive #30, (Regulations for Training Auxiliary Policemen with Regular Police Forces), and shall exercise no power as a member of the auxiliary police except when so called.
3. Supplementary provisions to these Directives are included in Informational Bulletin 214; Informational Bulletin 73-2; Informational Bulletin 74-11; Information Bulletin 81-1 Directives No. 95, 96 and 97.
4. Regulations in addition to those prescribed herein may be adopted for the control of auxiliary police as deemed necessary by the proper authorities, but will not be in conflict with this plan.

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY  
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE  
TRENTON, NEW JERSEY**

OCTOBER 8, 1957

**DIRECTIVE NO. 28**

**TO :** Civil Defense and Disaster Control Directors and County and Regional Coordinators

**FROM:** Thomas S. Dignan, Acting State Director of Civil Defense and Disaster Control

**SUBJECT:** Governor's Proclamation on Auxiliary Police Powers

Governor Meyner has granted to Civil Defense Auxiliary Police of New Jersey the power of enforce all New Jersey Laws during emergencies and training exercises. The governors proclamation shall take effect immediately.

Under Chapter 251, Section 13, Laws of 1942, as amended by Chapter 86, 1949, "An act concerning Civil Defense During an Emergency," such rules and regulations promulgated by proclamation of the Governor are binding by all political divisions, public agencies; public officials and public employees of New Jersey and upon each and every person within this State. Upon the adoption and promulgation of such orders, the State Civil Defense Director must send a copy to the local chairman and to the clerk of each municipality of this State in which the order will take effect.

The municipal clerk must post the order in a public place in the municipal building.

As prescribed in the State Civil Defense Law, the State Director is sending to the clerk of every municipality in the State a copy of proclamation for posting.

A copy of this proclamation also is enclosed for the information of your council and staff.

Particular attention is invited to Paragraph 2 of the proclamation which points out that the State Director shall establish specific time limits and rules and regulations for training purposes.

Local directors shall bring this proclamation to the attention of their Mayors and Chiefs of Police

**THOMAS S. DIGNAN, ACTING STATE DIRECTOR  
OF CIVIL DEFENSE AND DISASTER CONTROL**

IV. PROCLAMATION - DIRECTIVE NO. 28

1. The following Governors Proclamation sets forth the Rules, Duties and Powers of the Auxiliary Police:

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**  
Executive Department  
**P-R-O-C-L-A-M-A-T-I-O-N**

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Civil Defense Plan states in part, "The Purpose of Civil Defense is to minimize the effects upon the civilian population of any emergency resulting from enemy action or sabotage..."; and

WHEREAS, the development and training of adequate civilian defense auxiliary police forces are essential to further safeguard the public security, health and welfare:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ROBERT B. MEYNER, Governor of the State of New Jersey, in order to provide further safeguards for the public security, health and welfare, and pursuant to the authority vested in me by the State Constitution and by the Laws of this State, Do Hereby Make, Promulgate and Proclaim, effective immediately, the following Rules concerning the duties and powers of auxiliary police of duly authorized municipal civilian defense organizations in this State:

1. During any emergency, as defined in Chapter 251 of the Laws of 1942, as amended and supplemented, or during any practice, drill or activity in preparation for such emergency duly authorized by the State Civilian Defense Director, the auxiliary police of duly authorized municipal civilian defense organizations in this State shall have power to enforce all laws made or to be made for the conservation of the peace and for the good government and protection of the citizens and inhabitants of this State, and to apprehend offenders against such laws, and for the purpose of preserving the public peace and preventing or quelling public disturbances shall have all the powers of peace officers, police officers and constables.
2. Within time limits and rules and regulations to be prescribed by the State Civilian Defense Director, and with the approval of the governing body of any municipality, the auxiliary police of the duly authorized civilian defense organization of such municipality may be attached to the local police force for the purpose of training. During such period of training such auxiliary police shall have all the powers of peace officers, police officers and constables except as may otherwise be prescribed by such municipality.
3. Each auxiliary police officer, before assuming the duties of his office, "shall take and subscribe to the oaths required by Chapter 1 of the Title "Oaths and Affidavits" of the Revised Statutes (R.S. 41:1-1 et seq.), which oaths shall be filed with the clerk of the municipality in which each such officer resides.

4. Auxiliary police officers in good faith carrying out, complying with, or attempting to comply with rules and regulations made and promulgated herein or pursuant hereto, or performing any authorized service in connection therewith, shall have and possess all the rights, privileges and immunities conferred upon civilian defense volunteers by the laws of this State.

GIVEN

under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of New Jersey, this twenty third day of September in the year of Our Lord one thousand nine hundred and fifty-four, and in the Independence of the United States, the one hundred seventy ninth

/s/ Robert B. Meyner

GOVERNOR

BY THE GOVERNOR

/s/Edward J.Patten  
Secretary of State

V. **REGULATIONS FOR TRAINING AUXILIARY POLICE WITH REGULAR POLICE FORCES.**

1. **The Basic Auxiliary Police Training Course is a joint effort of the New Jersey State Association of Chiefs of Police and New Jersey Office of Emergency Management**

Therefore:

- a. **The Police Training Section of this course cannot be revised changed or amended, except by the State Director, with the approval of the New Jersey State Association of Chiefs of Police Advisory Committee.**
  - b. **Any changes, revisions or amendments to the Emergency Management Section of this Course must have the written Authorization of the New Jersey State Director and the Attorney General.**
  - c. **Any subsequent changes, revision or amendments will incorporated into and become part of this Manual.**
  - d. **Local agencies authorized to conduct this Course will maintain established standards.**
2. **This Course is established as a statewide training program. Local limitations and restrictions, in accordance with Directive #30, shall be included in the "On-The-Job-Training" programs of the jurisdiction concerned.**

STATE OF NEW JERSEY  
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE  
TRENTON, NEW JERSEY

NOVEMBER 7, 1966

DIRECTIVE NO. 30

TO : Civil Defense and Disaster Control Directors and County and Regional Coordinators

FROM: Thomas S. Dignan, State Director of Civil Defense and Disaster Control

SUBJECT: Regulations for Training Auxiliary Policemen with Regular Police Forces

In accordance with the Proclamation Dated September 23, 1954 by Governor Robert B. Meyner concerning the powers of auxiliary policemen, there are hereby set forth the rules and regulations covering their actions while training with regular municipal police forces. Whenever a municipality does not have a regular police department, the time of regular training and the decision to arm or not to arm the auxiliary police shall rest with the governing body of the municipality. The time limits, rules and regulations are as follows:

1. The length of time the Auxiliary police may be attached to the local police for training shall be determined by the governing body and the Civil Defense Director, subject to the approval of the Chief of Police as set forth in the Civil Defense and Disaster Control Auxiliary Police Code.
2. During the period of time that the auxiliary police are attached to the local police for training, they shall be under the direction of the Chief of Police and subject to the rules and regulations for the government and discipline of the municipal police department.
3. The extent of police authority and the arming of the auxiliary police with weapons during such periods of training shall be determined by the governing body of the municipality and subject to the approval of the Chief of Police.
4. Trainees for auxiliary police shall be required to complete the basic course of training prior to assignment to duty, as prescribed the Chiefs of Police Advisory Committee.
5. These same regulations shall apply during "The time of drill of activity in preparation for such emergency," as stated in Paragraph No. 1 of Governor Robert B. Meyner's Proclamation dated September 23, 1954.
6. All previous copies of Directive No. 30 as superseded by this revision.

/s/

THOMAS S. DIGNAN

STATE OF NEW JERSEY  
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE  
TRENTON, NEW JERSEY

MARCH 3, 1961

INFORMATIONAL BULLETIN NO. 214

TO : Civil Defense and Disaster Control Directors and County and Regional  
Coordinators

FROM: Thomas S. Dignan, Acting State Director of Civil  
Defense and Disaster Control

SUBJECT: Formal Opinion by Attorney General David D. Furman  
Concerning Duties and Powers of Civil Defense  
Auxiliary Police

Attached is a copy of a formal opinion from Attorney General David D. Furman, as requested by this office through Major General James F. Cantwell. This opinion substantiates our own opinion as to the powers and duties of the auxiliary police.

I suggest that you publicize this through you local papers.

/s/  
THOMAS S. DIGNAN, ACTING STATE  
DIRECTOR OF CIVIL DEFENSE AND  
DISASTER CONTROL

TSD:HCE  
Attachment

INFORMATIONAL BULLETIN NO. 81-1

TO : Regional, County and Municipal Emergency Management Coordinators

FROM: Colonel Clinton L. Pagano  
State Director

SUBJECT: Formal Opinion 1961-No 4, by Attorney General David D. Furman,  
Dated February 7, 1961, Concerning Duties and Powers of Auxiliary  
Police

The following is a copy of a Formal Opinion from Attorney General David D. Furman. This opinion substantiates our own opinion as to the powers and duties of the Auxiliary police.

I would suggest that the county and local organizations continue to be guided by the contents therein.

Clinton L. Pagano, Colonel  
Superintendent

CLP/jhs

STATE OF NEW JERSEY  
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE  
TRENTON, NEW JERSEY

February 7, 1961

Major General James F. Cantwell  
Chief of Staff  
Department of Defense  
Trenton, New Jersey.

FORMAL OPINION 1961 - NO.4

Dear General Cantwell:

You have requested an opinion as to the police powers and duties of Civil Defense Auxiliary Police. My conclusions are based upon a construction of the Civil Defense and Disaster Control Act (L. 1953, c 438 supplementing L. 1942, c.251; App. A:9-33 to 57), the regulations proclaimed by the Governor pursuant thereto, and related general laws on police powers and carrying of firearms.

The Civil Defense and Disaster Control Act is broadly drawn to provide a system of protection to the public, including rescue operations and maintenance clear legislative intention is evident that Civil Defense auxiliary police be adequately trained to supplement regular police forces in safeguarding against war disaster and in coping with war disaster or disaster from natural causes such as hurricanes or floods.

The statute sets forth App. A:9 - 45

"In order to accomplish the purposes of this act, the Governor is empowered to make such orders, rules and regulations as may be necessary adequately to meet the various problems presented by an emergency and from time to time to amend or rescind such orders, rules and regulations, including among others the following subjects:

"....c. Concerning the organization, recruiting, training, conduct, duties and powers of volunteer agencies, including air raid wardens, auxiliary police and firemen, demolition and clearance crews, fire watchers, road repair crews, rescue squads, medical corps, nurses' aides corps, emergency food and housing corps, utility repair squads, and all other civilian protection forces exercising or performing any functions or duties in connection with the problems of local civilian defense or disaster control."

Governor Meyner issued a proclamation prescribing rules and regulations for the development and training of civil defense auxiliary police on September 23, 1954. After declaring that such officers in the civil defense auxiliary statute, the Governor in his proclamation vest equivalent powers in such auxiliary police during periods of training, as follows:

FORMAL OPINION 1961 No 4. - Continued

"Within time limits and rules and regulations to be prescribed by the State Civilian Defense Director, and with the approval of the governing body of any municipality, the auxiliary police of the duly authorized civilian defense organization of such municipality may be attached to the local police force for the purpose of training. During such period of training such auxiliary police shall have all the powers of peace officers, police officers and constables except as may otherwise be prescribed by such municipality."

My understanding is that your inquiry is directed to the police powers and duties of civil defense auxiliary police in time other than periods of emergency. By the Governor's proclamation the civil defense auxiliary police are limited in exercising police powers to periods of training, subject to Disaster Control and the approval of their municipal governing body. They other than regular police officers is that, without the development of knowledge of skill in police methods, the auxiliary police could not handle rescue operations, expedite traffic flow and enforce the criminal laws during a war emergency or local disaster emergency.

The Acting State Director of Civil Defense and Disaster Control Promulgated Supplementary rules and regulations for the training of Civil Defense Auxiliary Police on October 10, 1957.

"In accordance with the Proclamation dated September 23, 1954 by Governor Robert B. Meyner concerning the powers of auxiliary policemen, there are herewith set forth the rules and regulations covering their actions while training with regular municipal police forces. Wherever a municipality does not have a regular police department the time of regular training and the decision to arm or not to arm the auxiliary police shall rest with the governing body of the municipality. The auxiliary police shall be subject to the orders of the Civil Defense Director. The time limits, rules and regulations are as follows:

- "1. The length of time the auxiliary police may be attached to the local police for training shall be determined by the governing body and the Civil Defense Director, subject to the approval of the Chief of Police.
- "2. During the period of time that the auxiliary police are attached to the local police for training, they shall be under the direction of Chief of Police.
- "3. The police authority and the arming of the auxiliary police with weapons during such period of training shall be determined by the Civil Defense Council, subject to the approval of the governing body of the municipality and the Chief of Police.
- "4. Members of the auxiliary police shall be required to complete a preliminary course of training prior to assignment to duty, as prescribed by the Chief of Police.

FORMAL OPINION 1961 -No 4 Continued

"5. These same regulations shall apply during the "Time of Drill or activity in preparation for the drill" as stated in paragraph No. 1. of Governor Robert B. Meyner's Proclamation dated September 23, 1954."

My conclusion is that the Civil Defense and Disaster Control Act and rules and regulations pursuant thereto vest police authority in civil defense auxiliary police during periods of training. Without adequate training, including law enforcement experience, the civil defense workers would be helpless and unequipped for the disaster or emergency against which the Legislature has sought to safeguard.

The critical question remaining is the length and extent of police training. Discretion has been reserved in the municipal governing body and State Director of Civil Defense and Disaster Control to approve the time limits and scope of police training of the Civil Defense Auxiliary Police. Several guiding legal principles, however should be stated. Training must be bona fide and must not be abused as to extent. A municipality cannot substitute civil defense auxiliary police for regular or special police officer; and extension of the period of training to accomplish such a result would be unlawful. During valid periods of training civil defense auxiliary police are exempt from prosecution for the crime of carrying a concealed weapon (N.J.S. 2A: 151-41-43). A municipality may be subject to liability for damages in an action founded upon its negligence in not adequately training a civil defense auxiliary police officer, for example in the law of arrest or the use of firearms. See McAndrews v. Mularchuk, 33 N.J. 172 (1960).

The objective in the application of the Civil Defense and Disaster Control Act should be to develop civil defense auxiliary police for disaster and emergencies through training and experience but without disruption of regular police activity or substitution of auxiliary police for regular or special municipal police officers.

Sincerely Yours,

/s/  
David D. Furman  
Attorney General

DDF:gd

**NEW JERSEY CIVIL DEFENSE AND DISASTER CONTROL**

**INFORMATIONAL BULLETIN No. 68-6**

**Dated April 2, 1968**

**TO:** Civil Defense and Disaster Control Directors and  
County and Regional Coordinators

**FROM:** Thomas S. Dignan, State Director  
Civil Defense and Disaster Control

**SUBJECT:** TRAINING & EDUCATION - Auxiliary Police Training

**References:**

1. Directive No. 30 (Revised November 7, 1966) State of New Jersey Department of Defense, Division of Civil Defense, entitled Regulations for Training Auxiliary Policemen with Regular Police Forces.
2. Auxiliary Police Plan Organization and Training Manual Division of Civil Defense and Disaster Control, Department of Defense, (Revised 1966).
3. Law and Order Training for Civil Defense Emergency, DOD, OCD, Instructor Manuals IG-10.1A and IG-10.1B and Student Manuals SM-10.1A and SM-10.1B.

There appears to be some confusion as to the appropriate course for the training of Auxiliary Policemen. This came about with the publication of the Instructors Guides and Student Manuals by the Office of Civil Defense. To eliminate all confusion, the State of New Jersey's Auxiliary Police Plan Organization and Training Manual is the only authorized course of instruction for the basic Auxiliary Policemen training course prescribed by the State of New Jersey's Chiefs of Police Advisory Committee.

Directive No. 30 states in part, "Trainees for auxiliary police shall be required to complete the basic course of training prior to assignment to duty, as prescribed by the Chiefs of Police Advisory Committee."

The Police Advisory Committee reviewed the Federal "Law and Order Training for Civil Defense Emergency Instructor Guides and Student Manuals." The following is a reprint of their findings.

## TRAINING AND EDUCATION - CONTINUED

"It is the opinion of the Police Advisory Committee that these Federal Auxiliary Instructor Guides and Student Training Manuals are favorable...However, the Instructor Guides parts "A" and "B" specifically state in the introduction "In no instance should this guide serve as the sole source of information for the instructor nor should he use or quote it as the sole authority in any given subject matter area." In view of this, it is the decision of this committee that they be used to supplement the basic Auxiliary Police Plan Organization and Training for the State of New Jersey.

Regarding the student manuals, Part "A" and "B"; these present an overview of the police role in a Civil Defense emergency; training in those skills to insure that the auxiliary policeman is able to handle the duties assigned in order to maintain law and order; provides background, basic understanding and a reference, and therefore are acceptable as supplements to the New Jersey Auxiliary Police course."

To summarize - The Basic Auxiliary Policemen's course is prescribed in the State of New Jersey's "Auxiliary Police Plan, Organization and Training" manual. The Federal Auxiliary Instructor Guides and Student Training Manuals may be used to supplement the prescribed course.

The Federal Instructor Guides and Student Training manuals may be used when an organization extends the basic course beyond the 36 hours of prescribed instruction.

/s/  
THOMAS S. DIGNAN

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY  
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE  
TRENTON, NEW JERSEY**

April 17, 1973

**INFORMATIONAL BULLETIN NO. 73-2**

**TO: Civil Defense and Disaster Control Directors and  
County and Regional Coordinators**

**FROM: J. Morgan Van Hise, Acting Director of Civil  
Defense and Disaster Control**

**SUBJECT: Reduction of the Age Minimum for Auxiliary Policemen**

Due to the fact that 18-year olds now have full adult responsibilities and privileges under the law, they may now be recruited for service in Civil Defense and disaster Control Auxiliary Police.

This information Bulletin should be related to Directive No. 28 and No. 30 which deal with Auxiliary Police.

Information Bulletin No. 71-5 is hereby rescinded.

*/s/*

**J. MORGAN VAN HISE**

**DIRECTIVE NO. 95**

**(Revised January 26, 1982)**

**TO: Regional County and Municipal  
Emergency Management Coordinators**

**FROM: Colonel Clinton L. Pagano  
State Director of Emergency Management**

**SUBJECT: Auxiliary Police Training - Firearms**

Due to the many inquires concerning the training and authority to carry firearms by Auxiliary Police, this statement of policy is hereby directed to all State, county and municipal authorities and should be related to Directive No. 30.

Although firearms training is not a mandatory requirement of Auxiliary Police, the authorization for arming of Auxiliary Police rest solely with the local governing body and subject to the approval of the Chief of Police. Should the municipality choose to authorize the Auxiliary Police to carry firearms, they must comply with the State of New Jersey Police Training Commission's requirements which are authorized in the Police Training Act Title 52:17 B-66.

Any problems arising from the use of firearms during training, competitions or assigned duties will be the sole responsibility of the municipality giving the authorization.

**Clinton L. Pagano, Colonel**

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY  
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE  
Trenton, New Jersey**

June 7, 1976

**DIRECTIVE NO. 96**

**TO:** Civil Defense-Disaster Control Directors and  
County and Regional Coordinators

**FROM:** J. Morgan Van Hise, Acting Director  
Civil Defense-Disaster Control

**SUBJECT:** RULES AND REGULATIONS - Auxiliary Police

Auxiliary Police personnel may be assigned duty in a municipality other than that of their residence, provided the required training has been completed, they are properly registered as Auxiliary Police CD-DC volunteers, and that such assignment is required to meet an emergency situation or provides "on the job training" as prescribed or directed by the municipal CD-DC Director with the approval of the local Chief of Police.

*/s/*  
J. Morgan Van Hise

**April 1, 1991**

**DIRECTIVE NO. 97**

**TO:** Regional and County Emergency Management Coordinators  
and Municipal Emergency Management Directors

**FROM:** Colonel Justin J. Dintino, Superintendent  
State Director of Emergency Management

**SUBJECT:** RULES AND REGULATIONS - Auxiliary Police

1. All members of the Auxiliary Police must be residents of the municipality where they hold such membership. This order takes effect immediately.
2. Any member of an Auxiliary Police Department, who has completed Auxiliary Police training and has been a sworn member of the local Auxiliary Police Department prior to March 31, 1980, without complying with the residency requirement, may continue membership as presently held.
3. Applications for an exception to this Directive will be considered on a case by case basis, and the following prerequisites must be satisfied.
  - A. There is no Auxiliary Police program in the municipality in which the applicant resides.
  - B. The applicant's residence is not more than five miles from the appointing town's border.
  - C. The applicant must be approved by the appointing authority's Chief of Police.
4. Applications for exception must be submitted through the Municipal Emergency Management Coordinator, accompanied with a written justification, approved, and certified by the appointing authority's Municipal Emergency Management Coordinator and the Chief of Police.
5. For your information and compliance.

Directive No. 97 dated April 16, 1980, is rescinded.

Justin J. Dintino, Colonel  
State Director  
Office of Emergency Management

**VI. SELECTION AND APPOINTMENT**

1. **Qualifications -** Members of the auxiliary police shall be citizens of the United States, of good moral character and must be physically qualified to perform the duties assigned. (Physical handicaps will not be used as a disqualification, so long as the individual can perform the assigned duties) The minimum age shall be 18 years.
2. Each applicant must be registered as a member of a local Emergency Management organization and must take a loyalty oath and affix signature before a person authorized to administer oaths in this State (41:2-1). This oath is to be filed with the municipal clerk. Form as follows:

**OATH OF ALLEGIANCE. PERSONS REQUIRED TO TAKE.** (section 41:1-1 Revised Statutes, as amended June 17, 1971). FORM.

I, \_\_\_\_\_, do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of New Jersey, and that I will bear faith and allegiance to the same and to the Governments established in the United States and in this State, under the authority of the people. (So help me God).

Sworn and subscribed before me \_\_\_\_\_ this  
\_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ A.D. 19\_\_\_\_ P.O.  
Address \_\_\_\_\_

Clerk \_\_\_\_\_

3. **Auxiliary Police officers must hold an Identification Card signed by the local Emergency Management Coordinator, in accordance with Informational Bulletin No. 22.**
4. **Prior to appointment for training, and oral examination of applicants shall be conducted by the Chief of Police to determine individual qualification.**
5. **Each applicant must be screened to ascertain the individual is a good security risk and not engaged in any un-American activity or other activity which would discredit the auxiliary police.**
6. **Applicants will be required to complete the basic auxiliary police course as prescribed by the Police Advisory Committee prior to assignment to duty.**
7. **Applicant will complete the Auxiliary Police Registration Information Form and information will be checked for record through the State Bureau of Identification and the National Crime Information Center by the State Bureau of Identification to determine whether the individual has a criminal record.**

VI. SELECTION AND APPOINTMENT - Continued

Auxiliary Police - Registration Information			
COUNTY	_____		DATE _____
NAME	_____	_____	_____
	(LAST)	(FIRST)	(MIDDLE)
ADDRESS	_____		
AGE	_____	D.O.B _____	HEIGHT _____ WEIGHT _____
RESIDENT OF	_____		(MUNICIPALITY)
SSN	_____		
AUXILIARY POLICE GRADUATE	_____	DATE	_____
AUXILIARY POLICE SCHOOL ATTENDED	_____		
SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT	_____		

8. Each applicant for appointment will be required to complete a personnel information form in duplicate, original to be filed in the records bureau of the municipal police department, copy to be forwarded to the County Emergency Management Coordinator. The County Emergency Management Coordinator will forward a copy to the trainee's Municipal Emergency Management Coordinator.

This form will include a list of capabilities and special qualifications such as profession, trade, ability to speak a foreign language(s) and any other special abilities. Sample form follows:

AUXILIARY POLICE PERSONNEL INFORMATION APPLICATION

MUNICIPALITY \_\_\_\_\_ COUNTY \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_ OCCUPATION \_\_\_\_\_

EMPLOYER \_\_\_\_\_

BUSINESS TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_ NORMAL WORK HOURS \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ Height \_\_\_\_\_ Weight \_\_\_\_\_ Eyes \_\_\_\_\_ Hair \_\_\_\_\_

Citizen? \_\_\_\_\_ Marital Status \_\_\_\_\_ Physical Condition \_\_\_\_\_

Physical Handicaps? \_\_\_\_\_

Education (include special schools) \_\_\_\_\_

Previous Police experience(include kind, where, when) \_\_\_\_\_

Military Experience? (type of discharge-rank held) \_\_\_\_\_

Foreign Languages? \_\_\_\_\_ Speak? \_\_\_\_\_ Write \_\_\_\_\_

Are you licensed to drive? \_\_\_\_\_ Driver's License# \_\_\_\_\_

Do you own a car? \_\_\_\_\_ Make \_\_\_\_\_ Type \_\_\_\_\_ Color \_\_\_\_\_

Registration # \_\_\_\_\_ Radio Equipped? (Citizen band, Etc) \_\_\_\_\_

Do you possess firearms? \_\_\_\_\_ If so, specify:

Kind \_\_\_\_\_ Make \_\_\_\_\_ Serial# \_\_\_\_\_ Condition \_\_\_\_\_

Kind \_\_\_\_\_ Make \_\_\_\_\_ Serial# \_\_\_\_\_ Condition \_\_\_\_\_

Any special qualifications? Name Them \_\_\_\_\_

Have you ever been arrested, indicted or convicted of a crime other than a Motor Vehicle violation? \_\_\_\_\_

If yes, give details including disposition of case \_\_\_\_\_

Are you now, or have you ever been a member of an organization which advocates the overthrow of our Government? \_\_\_\_\_

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Social Security # \_\_\_\_\_

(PLEASE PRINT)

## **VII. ORGANIZATION OF SCHOOLS**

- 1. Schools may be organized on a county level; trainees from other counties may attend. Two or more municipalities may combine to organize a single school.**
- 2. Qualified instructors only will be appointed to give instructions to auxiliary police. Preference should be given in the selection of instructors to personnel who have had experience as police instructors or to the other qualified members of police departments. In the event such personnel are not available, services of other competent teachers may be used.**
- 3. A roster and attendance record will be kept by the Director of the school. Copies will be forwarded to the State Director of Emergency Management, and to the County Emergency Management Coordinator or the individual Municipal Emergency Management Coordinator.**
  - a. A sample copy of an acceptable attendance record follows (See Attached)**



## VIII. SCHOOL REQUIREMENTS

In compliance with existing Emergency Management Directives, Informational Bulletins, Proclamations, and Rules and Regulations governing the training of auxiliary police, the following procedures are to be followed in the establishment and conduct of auxiliary police training schools.

1. Submit in duplicate Auxiliary Police Personnel Information Form to the Course Director, who will:
  - a. Forward two copies to the County Coordinator:
    1. One copy for County Files
    2. One copy to be forwarded to trainee's local coordinator
  - b. Forward one copy to Municipal Police Department, to be filed in the records bureau of that department.
2. Trainee must register as a member of his local Emergency Management organization.
3. Trainees must take the oath of allegiance and affix signature (Directive #2) before a person authorized to administer oaths in this State (41:2-1) New Jersey Statutes Annotated).

Copy of oath to be filed with Municipal Clerk.
4. School may be conducted on a municipal or County basis. If held on a municipal level, local Emergency Management Coordinator will provide County Coordinator with copies of all completed forms, attendance records and course gradings.
  - a. It is not compulsory to stay within County boundaries.
5. The course shall consist of instruction in subjects shown in basic training course and code for auxiliary police.
  - a. Auxiliary Police are required to receive 20 hours of police training.
  - b. Eight or 16 hours of American Red Cross First Aid Training, plus two hours of Emergency Childbirth.

Anyone who holds a current American Red Cross First Aid card need not repeat the course, providing the card does not expire within one year from the date of the Auxiliary Police course. However, Emergency Childbirth is a requirement and the American Red Cross Instructor is the authority to accept the substitution of any previous training in this segment.

VIII. SCHOOL REQUIREMENTS - Continued

- c. Hazardous Material Awareness training will be given to the Auxiliary Police trainee's as part of the Basic Training Course. Training will be administered by qualified instructor's and will conform with current Awareness training standards.
6. Certificates of award will be issued to those trainee's that have satisfactorily completed the course.

There is no make-up for missed segments of this course. Substitute training may be approved by the responsible authority; i.e., the Municipal Chief of Police for the police section, the American Red Cross Instructor for First Aid and the Hazardous Materials Instructor for the Awareness Training.

Substitute police training must be authorized in writing by the Chief of Police.

7. Upon successfully completing the basic course of training, enrollee shall be required to take the oath of office as an Auxiliary Police Officer, which will be signed by him and filed with the Municipal Emergency Management Coordinator. The Municipal Coordinator shall provide the Municipal Clerk with a copy of this oath. Form as follows:

**OATH OF OFFICE. PERSONS REQUIRED TO TAKE.** (Section 41:1-3, Revised Statutes, as amended June 17, 1971). FORM.

I \_\_\_\_\_, do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will faithfully, impartially and justly perform all the duties of the office of \_\_\_\_\_ according to the best of my ability. (So help me God)

Sworn and subscribed before me \_\_\_\_\_ this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ A.D. 19\_\_\_\_ P.O. Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk

8. Must hold identification card signed by local Emergency Management Coordinator.
- a. Following completion of course, trainee shall report to his Municipal Coordinator, file oath of office, and obtain an Identification Card. Active membership in the local Emergency Management organization is a requisite for on-the-job training, subject to the approval of the Chief of Police.

**NOTE:** Completion of this course is a prerequisite for acceptance as an Auxiliary Police Officer. However, it is not authorization for police duties, functions or responsibilities. See Section III and IV.

## IX. BASIC TRAINING COURSE AUXILIARY POLICE

The Basic course shall consist of a minimum of 36 hours.

<u>SUBJECT</u>	<u>Time Allotted</u>
1. INTRODUCTION INDOCTRINATION A. School Requirements - Oath, etc. B. Note Taking C. Auxiliary Police Powers	2 hours
2. NEW JERSEY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT CONTROL PLAN A. Definition and Purpose B. Human Relations	2 hours
3. CIVIL GOVERNMENT AND POLICE AGENCIES A. Organization of government - Federal, State, County, Municipal B. Police Agencies Operating in the State of New Jersey	2 hours
4. TRAFFIC CONTROL A. Basic Techniques in Handling Traffic B. Title Thirty-Nine, R.S.	2 hours
5. PATROL FUNCTIONS A. Vehicles B. Foot C. Marine	2 hours
6. CROWDS AND ASSEMBLAGES A. The Law and Basic Procedures in Handling Disorders Resulting from Violence, Panic, Mobs, etc.	2 hours
7. CRIMINAL LAW A. General Principles of New Jersey Law B. Elements of Various Crimes	2 hours
8. COURTS A. Powers and Function of the Courts with Particular Emphasis on Magistrates' Courts B. Court Procedures, Testimony and Courtroom Demeanor	2 hours
9. PRESERVATION OF EVIDENCE A. Preserving Scene and Evidence B. Obtaining Witnesses	2 hours

**IX. BASIC TRAINING COURSE AUXILIARY POLICE - Continued**

<u>SUBJECT</u>	<u>Time Allotted</u>
10. <b>ARREST AND SEIZURE</b> A. Powers and Methods with Due Process of Law	2 hours
11. <b>HAZARDOUS MATERIALS AWARENESS</b> A. Classroom Portion of Haz/Mat Awareness Course	6 hours
12. <b>FIRST AID</b> A. Multi Media Course - 8 hrs or Standard First Aid & Personal Safety- 16 hrs. B. Emergency Childbirth - 2 hours	10 hours

**GRADUATION EXERCISE AND ISSUANCE OF CERTIFICATION OF ACCOMPLISHMENT**

**NOTE**

Holders of American Red Cross First Aid cards, effective for at least one year from date of Auxiliary Police training, may be credited for completion of the First Aid requirement of this course by showing their card to the Attendance Record Keeper. Emergency Childbirth is not included in the American Red Cross Multi Media Course, and is a requirement of the Auxiliary Police Training Program.

Qualified active members of First Aid Squads and prior Hazardous Materials trained personnel should see the Attendance Record Keeper for accreditation of past training.

## **RULES GOVERNING THE CONDUCT OF A BASIC AUXILIARY POLICE COURSE**

As noted in the Auxiliary Police Plan Organization and Training Manual, the compulsory, basic and essential training required for auxiliary policemen have been established and must be adhered to.

Despite the justification of a cause, no one is authorized to excuse an attendee from any segment or portion of this course, except as follows:

An attendee who has missed any Police segment may contact his Chief of Police re: the possibility of making it up under his jurisdiction. A letter from the Chief stating that an individual has made up the missed segment(s) to his satisfaction will enable the Host Agency to credit the trainee accordingly.

Anyone who has completed the American Red Cross Multi Media First aid Course and holds an effective card will not be required to take the course again. For accreditation, present card to the Attendance Record Clerk (card must be effective for at least one more year).

Note: The American Red Cross Multi Media Aid Course is required. However, anyone who has completed Emergency Medical Training (E.M.T.) may apply to the American Red Cross for accreditation. If approved, the attendee will not be required to take the first aid training again.

The above also applies to the Hazardous Materials Awareness Course. Anyone who has completed Awareness Training, and possesses a valid certificate of completion will not be required to take the Haz/Mat Awareness Training again. (Note, if training received is dated, and trainee has not had any exposure in dealing with Haz/Mat incidents, it is suggested that this training be administered to those personnel again as a refresher course.)

## X. ON THE JOB TRAINING

Auxiliary Police shall receive on the job training.

This is necessary so that the auxiliary police will be adequately trained and qualified to render proper service in the event of emergency and for the protection of the community, in addition to maintaining their interest.

1. Additional training in first aid is highly recommended especially C.P.R. (Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation), since the auxiliary police will be used in emergency situations further and continued training in first aid is essential.

Following are suggested activities wherein the auxiliary police can receive the practical on the job training necessary. This course of training may vary according to local conditions.

1. Traffic Control
  - a. Manual Signals and Gestures
  - b. Operation of Signal Lights
2. Crowds and Assemblages
  - a. Parades
  - b. Riots
  - c. Celebrations
  - d. Strikes
3. Courts
  - a. Personal Appearance
  - b. Unbiased Presentations
4. Police Headquarters Operations
  - a. Switchboard
  - b. Accepting Complaints
  - c. Reports
  - d. Prisoner - Booking
  - e. Prisoner - Property
  - f. Operation - Radio Base Station
  - g. Teletype Operation
  - h. Call Box System
  - i. Public Relations
  - j. Transportation and Evacuation of Patients
5. Preservation of Evidence
  - a. Preserve Scene - crime or disaster
  - b. Physical
  - c. Personal
  - d. Evidential
  - e. Continuity of Transmission

**ON THE JOB TRAINING Continued**

- 6. Use of Deadly Force**
- 7. Firearms**
  - a. Hand Gun**
  - b. Rifle**
  - c. Pump Gun**
  - d. Auto Shot Gun**
  - e. Tear Gas Gun**
- 8. Auxiliary Officers Daily Report**
- 9. Fingerprinting**
  - a. Survivors**
  - b. Post Mortem**
- 10. Review of Hand to Hand Combat**
  - a. Holds**

Dear Coordinator:

The attached S.O.P. is a guide for all municipalities. It can be condensed or enlarged to include the necessary elements of auxiliary police operations in your municipality under the control and supervision of the Chief of Police of the municipality.

Submit your respective auxiliary police S.O.P. to:

Office of Emergency Management  
New Jersey State Police Section Chief  
EOC, Box 7068, West Trenton, NJ 08625

Sincerely Yours,

Clinton L. Pagano, Colonel  
State Director  
Office of Emergency Management

**AUXILIARY POLICE  
STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES  
(S.O.P.)  
FOR THE**

Municipality of: \_\_\_\_\_

County of: \_\_\_\_\_

Population \_\_\_\_\_

Area (Square Miles) \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Regular Police \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Police Vehicles \_\_\_\_\_

## AUXILIARY POLICE

### STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES (SOP)

#### I. AUTHORITY AND PURPOSE

A. In cooperation with the New Jersey State Police Office of Emergency Management, and pursuant to Resolution of the Governing Body dated \_\_\_\_\_, the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ in the County of \_\_\_\_\_ has established an Auxiliary Police Unit.

B. The \_\_\_\_\_ Auxiliary Police Unit will be used as prescribed by the Annotated Statutes of New Jersey, Appendix A, Chapter 9 (National Defense Title) and other related orders and directives of the State Director of Emergency Management, or the Governor of New Jersey, and the State Civil Defense Act (Chapter 251, P.L. 1942, as amended).

C. As prescribed by these Statutes, Auxiliary Police shall be used, under direct supervision of the municipal Chief of Police, only during a properly declared State of Local "emergency or disaster", and during periods of bonafide training in preparation for such occurrences, as approved by the Mayor in cooperation with the Municipal Emergency Management Coordinator.

#### II. MISSION OF THE AUXILIARY POLICE

A. The precise implementation of the Local Auxiliary Police will be the responsibility of the Chief of Police of the municipality wherein the members reside after consultation with the Mayor and Emergency Management Coordinator.

B. The assignment of Auxiliary Police to an "emergency", "disaster", or "training" mission will be directed by the Chief of Police or Mayor in cooperation with the Emergency Management Coordinator.

C. Auxiliary Police detailed to duty for "training", or an "emergency/disaster" assignment must adhere to the following procedures:

1. **Before assuming their assignments:** Report to Police Headquarters and **personally** log in by entering their name, date, time of reporting, and specific assignment, in the Auxiliary Police Docket.

**Note:** Those auxiliary officers authorized to carry a weapon must also properly sign out the weapon assigned to them.

2. **Upon completion of assignment:** Report to Police Headquarters and **personally** log out by entering name, date and time completed assignment in the Auxiliary Police Docket.

**Note:** Those auxiliary officers authorized to carry a weapon must also sign in the weapon that was issued to them.

## AUXILIARY POLICE SOP - CONTINUED

The Auxiliary Police Officer will also note in the Docket, any unusual events or incidents encountered during his tour of duty, and will submit a signed special report covering the specific details.

3. Auxiliary Police properly summoned and assigned to duty are covered by State Statutes for insurance in case of personal injury or death only during the time of assignment to duty.
4. In event of an extreme "emergency/disaster" every effort will be made to comply with all rules and regulations pertaining to Auxiliary Police activities. However, if action has to be taken immediately, verbal approval should be obtained from the Chief of Police, the Mayor, Emergency Management Coordinator, or other person in charge of the Police at the time of the "emergency".
5. Auxiliary Police, when properly assigned, must follow and comply with all rules and regulations of the regular Police Department; those established for Auxiliary Police; and such additional rules and regulations as may be prescribed by the Chief of Police or his designated representative.
6. Regular Police personnel, regardless of rank, will not relinquish their authority to supervise, to a member of the Auxiliary Police, even if the Auxiliary Police Officer is of higher rank.
7. No remuneration is paid to a member of the Auxiliary Police Unit for performance of duty, neither monetary nor otherwise.

## **AUXILIARY POLICE SOP - CONTINUED**

### **III. DUTY ASSIGNMENTS OF AUXILIARY POLICE**

**A.** Auxiliary Police defined in App. A:9-45. (See Directive No. 28, revised 10-8-57 re Chapter 251, P.L. 1942 as amended by Chapter 86, P.L. 1949). Personnel properly enrolled, trained, and certified, according to the Orders, Rules and Regulations of App. A:9-45 as "Auxiliary Police", shall have the powers of a regular Police Officer during a designated "emergency/disaster" or properly assigned "training mission" only.

All assignments of Auxiliary Police will be approved by the municipal Chief of Police or other responsible person having authority for their assignments during an "emergency/disaster", or "training" mission.

**B.** The following list is representative of functions which may be proper and appropriate for assignment to Auxiliary Police. This list is not exclusive and other functions may be assigned at option of the Chief of Police as appropriate to the individual's level of training, ability, and requirements of the situation:

1. Vehicular and pedestrian traffic control.
2. Receive and disseminate warnings.
3. Disseminate information and instructions to the public as directed.
4. Security of Federal, State, County, or local government buildings within the community as directed.
5. Security of essential industrial sites, utility and power stations, sewage systems, water distribution facilities, transportation centers, radio and television stations, and communications centers within the municipality.
6. Assist with the staffing and functioning of the Emergency Operations Center.
7. Enforcement of Law and Order as required and/or directed.
8. Documentation of all tasks initiated or completed, and reporting unusual incidents encountered during assigned duty.

**AUXILIARY POLICE SOP - CONTINUED**

**IV. ARMING OF AUXILIARY POLICE**

**A. Arming of the Auxiliary Police has not been authorized by the Governing Body for the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_.**

**A. Arming of the Auxiliary Police has been authorized by the Governing Body for the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_, subject to approval of the Chief of Police, pursuant to Municipal Resolution dated \_\_\_\_\_.**

**B. The Chief of Police for the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_, has approved arming members of the Municipal Auxiliary Police Unit subject to compliance with the following procedures, prerequisites, and restrictions:**

- 1. Firearms assignments to Auxiliary Police will be made at the discretion of the Municipal Chief of Police.**
- 2. Each Auxiliary Police Officer, before assignment of a firearm, must satisfactorily complete a FIREARMS TRAINING COURSE approved by the N.J. Police Training Commission as provided by N.J.S.A. 2C:39-6j.**
  - a. All Auxiliary Police Officers will be trained and qualified by a competent and sanctioned regular Police firearms instructor who has been certified by the N.J. Police Training Commission (PTC).**
  - b. Each Auxiliary Police Officer will be required to fire for requalification once every six months.**
- 3. Auxiliary Police Officers will have their character, medical records, and psychological backgrounds investigated to ensure that they are fit to be trained and entrusted with a firearm.**
- 4. Auxiliary Police Officers must be properly covered with insurance by the municipality authorizing them to be armed.**
- 5. Auxiliary Police Officers shall be required to meet such additional qualifications for use of weapons as may be prescribed by the municipal Chief of Police or other competent authority.**

## AUXILIARY POLICE SOP - CONTINUED

6. Firearms assignments will not be made to any Auxiliary Police Officer until such time as the officer has complied with the requirements prescribed by the Attorney General for training in the use of force.
7. No Auxiliary Police Officer will be permitted the assignment of a firearm without first having received training in a Weapons Safety and Range Safety Course given by a competent and sanctioned regular Police firearms instructor certified by the N.J. Police Training Commission. Retraining in this course will be required semi-annually in conjunction with requalification in firearms.
8. Firearms assignments will be made in strict conformance to the following procedures:
  - a. The Auxiliary Officer will report to Police Headquarters for assignment to "training" or to an "emergency/disaster", and will sign in for duty in the Auxiliary Police Docket.
  - b. The Auxiliary Officer, if his/her assignment requires that they be armed, will be issued a Police Department owned weapon on which the Officer has met all qualification requirements, by the regular Police Officer in charge of the Police Station.
  - c. The Auxiliary Officer will initial receipt for the weapon on a "weapon-sign-out" form.
  - d. Upon completion of his assignment for which the weapon was issued, the Auxiliary Police Officer will immediately return to Police Headquarters and turn in the weapon, and sign the "weapon-sign-out" form indicating that the weapon has been returned to the Station House.
  - e. **UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES WILL AN AUXILIARY POLICE OFFICER BE PERMITTED TO CARRY A FIREARM CONTRARY TO THE ABOVE MENTIONED PROCEDURES FOR ASSIGNMENT OF WEAPONS.**
9. All Auxiliary Police Officers, when on assignments requiring the carrying of a firearm, will be under the supervision of a responsible, regular Police Officer.
10. All Auxiliary Police Officers are to be aware that it is not only permissible, but appropriate, to restrict the carrying of firearms by Auxiliary Police Officers to specific emergency/disaster situations and specific training exercises which implicate the carrying of firearms.

## AUXILIARY POLICE SOP - CONTINUED

### V. POLICE POWERS OF AUXILIARY POLICE

A. As stated in Section III, Part A of this SOP, Auxiliary Police Officers have the powers of regular Police Officers ONLY during designated emergencies/disasters and when in performance of a properly assigned training mission. These powers, however, can be restricted and controlled in accordance with applicable Laws of New Jersey, Directives of the N.J. Office of Emergency Management, the State Attorney General's Office, the County Prosecutor's Office, the Municipal Chief of Police, or any other agency empowered by law to do so.

B. The Auxiliary Police Officer, during a training assignment or designated emergency/disaster is required, by fact of his/her granted powers, to strictly adhere to all rules and restrictions applicable to regular Police Officers IN ADDITION to those rules and regulations so applicable to his/her specific assignment as an Auxiliary Police Officer. These rules and restrictions shall include, but under no circumstances be limited to, the use of force, or deadly force; powers of arrest; and to procedural guidelines established for fresh pursuit as set forth in Appendices I and II of this SOP. Under no circumstances, however, is fresh pursuit to be initiated by an Auxiliary Police Officer.

C. Under all circumstances, the Auxiliary Police Officer on training assignment or on duty for a designated emergency/disaster will be under the supervision of a regular Police Officer, and will obey all lawful orders from his supervising regular Police Officer.

### VI. USE OF FORCE, INCLUDING DEADLY FORCE

See Appendix I "Guidelines for Use of Force, including Deadly Force, by Law Enforcement Officers".

## **AUXILIARY POLICE SOP - CONTINUED**

### **VII. FRESH PURSUIT**

**A.** See Appendix II, "Statewide Guidelines Adopted by the New Jersey Attorney General and the New Jersey Prosecutor's Association regarding "High Speed Motor Vehicle Pursuits".

**B.** Under no circumstances will an Auxiliary Police Officer initiate a Fresh Pursuit (High speed motor vehicle chase).

### **VIII. SUMMARY**

**A.** Auxiliary Police are deemed a necessity to a well organized Emergency Management organization in any municipality. Their qualifications should meet a standard to enable them to perform their assignments in a proper manner. The service they perform is a reflection upon the municipality they serve, and the Office of Emergency Management of the State of New Jersey. Proper selection and training of Auxiliary Police Officers is essential for an efficient operational agency to supplement the regular Police force in event of any Local, State or National emergency.

**B.** Auxiliary Police services are built on existing law enforcement organizations. Through years of law enforcement, America's Police departments have developed and used methods and procedures for handling emergencies of all types. Police problems encountered in Emergency Management are closely related to those of peacetime operations, but are multiplied under emergency conditions in direct proportion to the extent of the emergency.

**C.** The many Police agencies in New Jersey which participate in law enforcement programs must be ready to mobilize for emergencies, and to work together as one functioning organization. To this end, the Emergency Management policies, administration, operation, and training of Police services should be uniform.

November 1, 1985

**DIRECTIVE No. 98**

**TO :** Regional, County and Municipal  
Emergency Management Coordinators

**FROM:** Colonel Clinton L. Pagano, Superintendent  
State Director of Emergency Management

**SUBJECT:** Auxiliary Police On-the-Job Training

1. Authority and Purpose

- 1.1 In accordance with Title 58, Appendix A:9-45, New Jersey Statutes Annotated, and a proclamation by Governor Robert B. Meyner, dated September 23, 1954, the Director of the State Office of Emergency Management is empowered to promulgate "time limits and rules and regulations" regarding the training of Auxiliary Police.
- 1.2 The purpose of this directive is to implement and provide regulations for a mandatory auxiliary police on-the-job training program, consisting of at least eight hours of training each month. Participation in this program by all auxiliary police officers is intended to insure every officer is adequately equipped to assist and supplement the regular police department in the event of an emergency.

2. General Provisions

- 2.1 During on-the-job training, auxiliary police officers shall be under the direction of the Chief of Police of their municipality. They shall be subject to the rules, regulations and disciplinary requirements of the municipal police department.
- 2.2 The extent of police authority and the arming of auxiliary police with weapons during periods of training shall be determined by the governing body of the municipality, subject to the approval of the Chief of Police.
- 2.3 Training must be bona fide and shall not be abused as to extent. Auxiliary police officers shall not be used as a substitute for regular or special police officers; scheduling or extending a period of training to accomplish such a result is unlawful.

## DIRECTIVE NO. 98 - CONTINUED

- 2.4 Compliance with the requirements of this directive shall be the responsibility of the Chief of Police or his designee.
- 2.5 A municipality may be subject to liability for damages in an action founded upon its negligence in not adequately training an auxiliary police officer.

### 3. Training Regulations and Requirements

- 3.1 Due to the unique geographic, demographic and socioeconomic makeup of each municipality within the State of New Jersey, the content of on-the-job training programs for auxiliary police will be the responsibility of the Chief of Police of each municipality. A vulnerability study shall be conducted by the Emergency Management Coordinator with input from the local defense council, to assist the Chief of Police in determining the type and extent of training which would be most effective for the community. In any event at least eight hours of on-the-job training will be offered. (See Appendix I for instructions on conducting a vulnerability study.)
- 3.2 Every auxiliary police officer will participate in a minimum of (8) eight hours of on-the-job training per month. It is recommended that a two hour supplemental classroom training session be included as part of the minimum monthly training hours. (See Appendix I for suggested topics and activities for on-the-job training.)
- 3.3 Annually, the Chief of police shall submit to the Director of the Office of Emergency Management the names and addresses of current auxiliary police members and an outline of the proposed training program for these officers. The proposed training program shall be broken down into four three-month quarters. (See Appendix I for an example of a program.)
- 3.4 At the completion of each quarter of training, the Chief of Police or his designee shall compile a report indicating the length and nature of the training actually conducted and a list of auxiliary police officers who successfully completed the program. Those members who did not participate or meet minimum requirements will also be listed. The report shall be submitted through the local Emergency Management Coordinator, to the State Director of the Office of Emergency Management.
- 3.5 An auxiliary police officer who does not successfully meet minimum training requirements at the completion of a three-month period shall be advised and given an opportunity to makeup the training during the next three-month period. If the officer does not make significant progress in fulfilling the minimum requirements during this period, he/she shall be suspended from the program for one year.
- 3.6 An auxiliary police officer who does not report to and serve the community at (50%) fifty percent of exercises or emergencies per year may be suspended from the program for a period of one year.

**DIRECTIVE NO. 98 - CONTINUED**

- 3.7 An auxiliary police officer who, because of illness or other extraordinary circumstances, is unable to comply with provision of 3.5 or 3.6 of this directive may submit a request for a leave of absence to the Municipal Emergency Management Coordinator.**
- 3.8 An auxiliary police officer who resigns, is on leave of absence or who is suspended for a period of one year or more, shall, at the discretion of the State Director of Emergency Management, be required to complete the basic training course or other refresher courses before being reinstated as an active member.**

**Clinton L. Pagano, Colonel**

# **D**

## **Maplewood Police Department Standard Operating Procedure for Auxiliary Police Unit**

# MAPLEWOOD POLICE DEPARTMENT STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE

Subject: <b>AUXILIARY POLICE UNIT</b>		Number: <b>9.02</b>	No.of Pages: 13	Effective Date: 10/20/2010
Issuing Authority: Chief Robert J. Cimino		Issuing Authority Signature: 		Signed Date: <i>5/19/14</i>
Source Documents: New Jersey Office of Emergency Management Directives		Supercedes: SOP 016, 155	Accreditation Standards: 2.6.2 (NJLEAC)	
Reviewed/Revised Dates:	Revised: 5/19/14			

## AUXILIARY POLICE UNIT

**I. PURPOSE:** It is the purpose of this General Order to establish uniform procedures for the specific guidelines, duties and responsibilities regarding the Maplewood Police Auxiliary.

**II. POLICY:**

A. In cooperation with the New Jersey State Police Office of Emergency Management, and pursuant to Resolution of the Township Committee dated June 7, 1988, (see Attachment A) the Township of Maplewood in the County of Essex has established an Auxiliary Police Unit. The Auxiliary Police Unit shall be included in the Department's Table of Organization and fall within the Support Services Division under the Administrative Command.

B. The Township of Maplewood Auxiliary Police Unit will be used as pre-described by the Annotated Statutes of New Jersey, Appendix A, Chapter 9 (National Defense Title) and other related orders and directives of the State Director of Emergency Management, or the Governor of New Jersey, and State Civil Defense Act (Chapter 251, P.L. 1942, as amended).

C. The Municipal Emergency Management Coordinator for the Township of Maplewood is the Business Administrator. The Chief of Police has been designated as the Deputy Municipal Emergency Management Coordinator for the Township by the Business Administrator. The Business Administrator has delegated the responsibility of supervising the Auxiliary Unit to the municipal Chief of Police. The Auxiliary Unit shall

only be utilized during a properly declared State of Local “emergency or disaster”, and during periods of bona-fide training in preparation for such occurrences, as approved by the Mayor in cooperation with the Municipal Emergency Management Coordinator.

### **III. PROCEDURES:**

#### **A. Mission**

1. The precise implementation of the Local Auxiliary Police force will be the responsibility of the Chief of Police after consultation with the Mayor and Emergency Management Coordinator.
2. The assignment of Auxiliary Police to an “emergency”, “disaster”, or “training” mission will be directed by the Chief of Police or Mayor in cooperation with the Emergency Management Coordinator.
3. Auxiliary Police detailed to duty for “training” or an “emergency/disaster” assignment must adhere to the following procedures:
  - a. Before assuming their assignments: Report to Police Headquarters and personally log in by entering their name, date, time of reporting, and specific assignment in the Auxiliary Police Docket.
  - b. Upon completion of assignments: Report to Police Headquarters and personally log out by entering name, date and time completed assignment in the Auxiliary Police Docket. The Auxiliary Police Officer will also note in the Docket any unusual events or incidents encountered during his/her tour of duty and will submit a signed special report covering the specific details.
  - c. Auxiliary Police properly summoned and assigned to duty are covered by State Statute regarding insurance in case of personal injury or death only during their time of assignment to duty.
  - d. In the event of an extreme “emergency/disaster” every effort will be made to comply with all rules and regulations pertaining to Auxiliary Police activities. However, if action has to be taken immediately, verbal approval should be obtained from the Chief of Police, Mayor, Emergency Management Coordinator or other person in charge of the Police at the time of the “emergency”.
  - e. Auxiliary Police, when properly assigned, must follow and comply with the rules and regulations of the regular Police Department, those established for Auxiliary Police and such additional rules and regulations as may be prescribed by the Chief of Police or designated representatives.

f. Regular Police personnel, regardless of rank, will not relinquish their authority to supervise to a member of the Auxiliary Police, even if the Auxiliary Police Officer is of a higher rank.

g. No remuneration is paid to a member of the Auxiliary Police force for performance of duty, neither monetary nor otherwise.

#### B. Selection Criteria for Auxiliary Police Unit

1. Applicants for the Maplewood Police Auxiliary Unit shall submit to a background investigation equal in scope to that conducted for a full time Officer.

2. Every Auxiliary Officer applicant shall have their fingerprints taken and forwarded to the New Jersey State Police and Federal Bureau of Investigation, where such fingerprints shall be kept on file.

3. No person shall be appointed as an Auxiliary Police Officer unless the appointee is a resident of the Township of Maplewood or a neighboring community (within 5 miles and without an Auxiliary Police Force) and meets the following qualifications:

- a. Is a citizen of the United States;
- b. Is of sound body and good health;
- c. Is able to read, write and speak the English language well and intelligently;
- d. He/ She shall possess formal education or training as evidenced by a Senior High School Graduation Certificate or Equivalency Certificate.
- e. Is of good moral character and has not been convicted of any crime involving moral turpitude;
- f. Must possess a valid New Jersey Drivers License; and
- g. Must be at least 18 years of age at the time of appointment.

i. Note- For purposes of the selection process the statutory age requirement for hire of between twenty-one (21) and thirty (35) years for regular fulltime officers relates to pension system eligibility requirements and therefore does not apply to Auxiliary Police Officers.

4. The applicant shall possess formal education or training as evident by a Senior High School Graduation Certificate or Equivalency Certificate and shall be able to provide proof of same upon submission of application.

5. No person is eligible for appointment as an Auxiliary Officer if such person:

- a. Serves as a full time or Auxiliary Officer in another jurisdiction.
- b. Resides in a Township that has an active Police Auxiliary.

c. Has been convicted of a crime as designated by the criminal code of New Jersey or any other criminal code of any other state, providence or territory or the United States of America.

6. The Chief of Police shall assign officers to conduct detailed background investigations on all applicants. The investigations will include but not be limited to:

a. Initial Interview with applicant:

i. Candidate Writing Samples;

ii. Verification of Qualifying credentials (Age, Driver's License, Citizenship, etc.);

iii. Fingerprint Submission;

iv. Review of Application and Submitted Documents.

b. Criminal History Check and thorough review of any criminal record found, if any;

c. Check with police departments where applicant lives or has lived previously;

d. Motor vehicle background

e. Character

f. Educational verification

g. Check with high school and college of applicant for disciplinary records;

h. Employers (past and present)

i. Neighbors, friends and references

j. Verification of at least three (3) Personal References;

k. In-depth interviews with spouse/family members; and

l. Credit checks.

7. Immediately prior to the commencement of the background investigation, the applicant will be subject to pre-appointment evaluation procedures such as written surveys on topics which include but are not limited to honesty, illegal drug use, socialization, work ethic, customer service and dependability as well as general intelligence testing which measures an applicants aptitude for law enforcement related work. The background investigator shall be responsible for the administration of these surveys/tests under the direct supervision of the Administrative Commander. All results will be reported directly to the Administrative Commander and shall be considered confidential. Results shall only be revealed to personnel on a need to know basis.

8. Upon completion of a satisfactory background investigation, qualifying candidates will be subject to an interview with the Chief of Police and other representatives

from the Police Administration as well as ranking members of the Police Auxiliary Unit.

- a. Candidates will be asked a series of general questions that are designed to assist the interviewers in selecting those individuals who possess the necessary abilities and qualities most likely needed to develop into a Police Auxiliary Officer deserving of the public trust.
- b. All applicants will be asked the same series of questions, with follow-up questions spawning from their answers.
- c. The interviewers will rank the candidates based on their responses to the questions as well as their personal communication and presentation skills.

#### 9. Psychological Fitness Examination.

- a. Applicants will be required to undergo an emotional stability and psychological fitness examination, conducted and assessed by a qualified professional, the results of which shall be reviewed by the chief of police in order to make an assessment concerning the candidate's qualification for appointment to the position of Police Auxiliary Officer. Such applicant will be required to provide the department with any and all relevant medical history to assist department investigators in the background investigation.
- b. The exam will be conducted by a qualified professional of the department's choice and at the department's expense.
- c. Records regarding the emotional stability and psychological fitness exam will be maintained by the Office of the Chief of Police.

#### 10. Medical Examination.

- a. All applicants will be subject to a medical examination performed by a qualified professional to certify the general health of the applicant.
- b. The purpose of the medical examination is to determine the applicant's ability to participate in physical fitness training during basic police training. The examination will also determine general health and identify any medical problems that may affect future work performance, affect length of service, or contribute to work related disabilities.
- c. The medical exam will be conducted by a qualified professional of the department's choice and at the department's expense.

d. Records regarding the medical exam will be maintained by the Office of the Chief of Police.

11. All Police Auxiliary Officers are required to successfully complete an approved basic training course for Auxiliary Police Officers, comparable to that of regular officers, as prescribed by the Police Advisory Committee prior to taking an oath of Office and routine assignment in any capacity in which the Auxiliary Officer is allowed to carry a weapon or is in a position to make an arrest. The course shall be approved by the NJ State Office of Emergency Management/ New Jersey State Police.

12. The Chief of Police reserves the right to disqualify any applicant, at any phase of the selection process prior to appointment as a Police Auxiliary Officer, upon the discovery of any fact that the Chief of Police feels would normally exclude said candidate from continuation in the hiring process, including the discovery of false, misleading or incomplete information on the application for appointment.

13. All Auxiliary Police Officers, before assuming the duties of their office, shall take and subscribe to the oaths required by N.J.S.A. 41:1-1, et seq.

#### C. Arming of Police Auxiliary Officers

1. Arming of the Auxiliary Police has been authorized by the Township Committee for the Township of Maplewood subject to the approval of the Chief of Police pursuant to municipal Resolution dated June 07, 1988.

2. The Chief of Police for the Township of Maplewood has approved arming members of the Municipal Auxiliary Police Unit subject to compliance with the following procedures, prerequisites and restrictions:

a. Firearms assignments to Auxiliary Police will be made at the discretion of the municipal Chief of Police.

b. Each Auxiliary Police Officer, before assignment of a firearm, must satisfactorily complete the "PROVISIONAL POLICE OFFICERS FIREARMS TRAINING COURSE" as approved by the N.J. Police Training Commission (PTC) and mandated by N.J.S.A. 2C:39-6j.

i. No Auxiliary Police Officer will be assigned a firearm without first having received training in a Weapons Safety and a Range Safety Course to be given by a competent and sanctioned Departmental Police firearms instructor certified by the N.J. PTC.

ii. Prior to assignment of weapons, all Auxiliary Police Officers will be trained and qualified by a competent and sanctioned Departmental firearms

instructor who has been certified by the N.J. PTC. The training will be conducted at the Department and will be the same mandated Academy firearm training that is provided to the regular permanent Police Officers prior to being assigned there weapon.

iii. Each Auxiliary Police Officer will be required to qualify two times a year, approximately once every six months, on a N.J. PTC approved daytime / nighttime Firearms Qualification Course. This will be completed during the Departmental Qualifications.

c. Each Auxiliary Police Officer shall train and show proficiency with Less Lethal Weapons authorized for carry by the Municipal Chief of Police in the same fashion and with the same frequency as regular officers of the department.

3. Auxiliary Police Officers will have their character, medical records and psychological backgrounds investigated to ensure they are morally, physically and mentally fit to be trained and entrusted with a firearm.

4. Auxiliary Police Officers will be properly covered with insurance by the municipality authorizing them to be armed.

5. Firearms assignments will not be made to any Auxiliary Police Officer until such time as the officer has been instructed in the most current "GUIDELINES FOR USE OF FORCE" as issued by the County Prosecutor's Office and /or the State Attorney General's Office. The current issue of these guidelines will be reviewed bi-annually with each Auxiliary Police Officer.

6. Firearms assignments will be made in strict conformance to the following procedures:

a. The Auxiliary Officer will report to Police Headquarters for assignment to "training" or an "emergency/disaster" and sign in for duty in the Auxiliary Police Docket.

b. The Auxiliary Officer, when on duty, will be issued a Police Department-owned weapon on which the Officer has met all qualification requirements, by the regular Watch Commander in charge of the shift.

c. Upon receipt of his/her weapon, the Auxiliary Officer will initial the "weapon sign-out form".

d. Upon completion of the assignment for which the weapon was issued, the Auxiliary Officer will immediately return to Police Headquarters, turn in the weapon and sign the "weapon sign-out form" indicating that the weapon has been returned to the Station house.

e. UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES WILL AN AUXILIARY POLICE OFFICER BE PERMITTED TO CARRY A FIREARM CONTRARY TO THE ABOVE MENTIONED PROCEDURES FOR ASSIGNMENT OF WEAPONS.

7. All Auxiliary Police Officers are to be aware that it is not only permissible, but also appropriate, to restrict the carrying of firearms by Auxiliary Police Officers to specific “emergency/disaster” situations and “training” exercises which implicate the carrying of firearms.

D. Training

1. The Chief of Police shall designate a regular officer of the department as a liaison to the Maplewood Police Auxiliary Unit. Such officer shall hold the rank of sergeant or higher. The liaison officer shall report to the Administrative Commander. The duties of the liaison officer shall include, but shall not be limited to the following:

- a. recruitment and selection activities;
- b. academy and in-service training activities;
- c. scheduling activities;
- d. budgeting activities;
- e. equipment acquisition and maintenance activities; and
- e. reporting activities

2. All Auxiliary Officers shall, at a minimum, receive in-service training equivalent to that which is required by statute, Attorney General Guidelines/Directives and Prosecutor Directives for regular full-time officers performing like functions.

3. Additional Departmental training in all aspects of Police work will be provided monthly at the regularly scheduled Auxiliary meetings. This training will include in (in addition to all mandatory training) additional training deemed appropriate to further the member’s knowledge and abilities to perform their duties.

4. The Police Auxiliary unit will establish its own Field Training Officer (FTO) program consistent with the regular officer FTO program.

E. Police Powers of Auxiliary Police Officers

1. As stated in the policy statement of this directive, Auxiliary Police Officers have the powers of regular Police Officers during designated “emergency/disaster” situations and when in performance of a properly assigned “training” mission. These powers, however, can be restricted and controlled in accordance with applicable Laws of New Jersey, directives of the N.J. Office of Emergency Management, the State Attorney General’s Office and County Prosecutor’s Office, the Municipal Chief of Police or any other agency empowered by law to do so.

2. The Auxiliary Police Officer, during a “training” assignment or designated “emergency/disaster”, is required by fact of his/her granted police powers, to strictly adhere to all Departmental rules, regulations and standard operating procedures applicable to regular Police Officers. These rules and restrictions shall include, but under no circumstances be limited to; Attorney General and Prosecutor guidelines or directives, Title 39, Title 2C, Statutes concerning Powers of Arrest, etc. and procedural guidelines established for fresh pursuit (i.e. high speed motor vehicle chase). Under no circumstances, however, is fresh pursuit to be initiated by an Auxiliary Police Officer.

3. In all circumstances the Auxiliary Police Officer on “training” assignment or on duty for a designated “emergency/disaster” will be under the supervision of a regular Police Officer and will obey all lawful orders from his/her supervising regular Police Officer.

4. Auxiliary Officers shall have no law enforcement powers while off duty and therefore are not authorized to act in the capacity of a law enforcement officer while off duty. Moreover, Auxiliary Officers are prohibited by statute and this directive to carry a firearm on their person while off duty.

#### F. Command Structure of Police Auxiliary Unit

1. The rank structure within the Maplewood Police Auxiliary Unit is as follows:
  - a. Auxiliary Chief – the Auxiliary Chief has overall responsibility for the efficient operation of the Police Auxiliary Unit.
  - b. Auxiliary Lieutenant- the Auxiliary Lieutenant shall be primarily responsible for all duties associated with the administrative functions of the Police Auxiliary Unit.
  - c. Auxiliary Sergeant- the Auxiliary Sergeant is primarily responsible for the direct supervision of field activities and training assignments carried out by Auxiliary Officers.
  - d. Auxiliary Officer- the Auxiliary Officer may be assigned to any duty or function prescribed by the Chief of the Auxiliary Unit, including, but not limited to, motorized patrol, foot patrol, bicycle patrol and training assignments.

#### G. Duty Assignments of Police Auxiliary Officers

1. Auxiliary Police defined in APP. A: 9-45 (See Directive No. 28, revised 10-8-57 re Chapter 251, P.L. 1942 as amended by Chapter 86, P.L. 1949). Personnel properly enrolled, trained and certified according to the Orders, Rules and Regulations of App. A:9-45 as “Auxiliary Police”, shall have the powers of a regular Police Officer during a designated “emergency/disaster” or properly assigned “training mission” only. The municipal Chief of Police or other responsible person

having authority for their assignment during an “emergency/disaster” or “training mission” will approve all assignments of Auxiliary Police.

2. The following list is representative of functions that may be proper and appropriate for assignment to Auxiliary Police. The list is not exclusive and other functions may be assigned at the discretion of the Chief of Police as appropriate to the individual’s level of training, ability and requirements of the situation.

- a. Provide assistance during disasters, natural or unnatural, emergencies and the like.
- b. Vehicular and pedestrian traffic control.
- c. Receive and disseminate warnings.
- d. Disseminate information and instructions to the public as directed.
- e. Security of Federal, State, County or Local government buildings within the community as directed.
- f. Security of essential industrial sites, utility and power stations, sewage systems, water distribution facilities, transportation centers, radio and television stations and communication centers within the municipality.
- g. Assist with the staffing and functioning of an Emergency Operating Center.
- h. Enforcement of Law and Order as required and/or directed.
- i. Documentation of all tasks initiated or completed and reporting unusual incidents encountered during assigned duty.

#### H. Uniforms and Equipment

1. All Auxiliary Police Officers shall adhere to the rules and regulations of the regular Police Department with respect to uniform and appearance guidelines set forth in the Departmental directives. In accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:14-146.6 Auxiliary Police Officers shall distinguish themselves from regular officers by wearing a different color uniform and patch than regulars.

2. The Maplewood Police Department will provide all of the necessary uniforms and equipment for the Auxiliary members. No officer will utilize any piece of equipment that has not been provided by or approved by the Department.

3. With the exception of the Officers weapon, O/C spray and radio (maintained by the department), the following items will issued by the Department and maintained by the members:

- a. Summer Shirt
- b. Winter Shirt
- c. Pair of Pants
- d. Uniform Hat
- e. Blauer Type Jacket
- f. Bullet Resistant Vest
- g. 2 Inch Pant Belt
- h. Class B Summer Shirt
- i. Class B Winter Shirt
- j. Pair of BDU Pants
- k. Baseball Cap
- l. Garrison Belt
- m. 4 Belt Keepers
- n. Holster
- o. 2 Speed Loaders w/ Belt Holders
- p. 1 Pair of Hand cuffs and Carry Case
- q. Radio Holder
- r. Baton Holder
- s. O/C holder
- t. MPD Aux. Badges

4. The department will provide all new Police Auxiliary Officers with individual body armor that, at time of purchase, meets or exceeds minimum specifications established by the National Institute of Justice. All equipment issued to and maintained by the Auxiliary Officer remains the property of the Township of Maplewood and must be returned upon completion of service. Police Auxiliary Officers of all ranks that are assigned to field duties and/or training activities shall be required to wear department issued body armor.

5. Any additional Items that are approved for use and not provided by the Department may be purchased by the Officer and will remain his/her property upon completion of service.

#### I. Service Requirements

1. All Auxiliary Police Officers shall satisfy a minimum service requirement in order to remain an active member of the unit in good standing. Each officer must perform a minimum of 200 hours in each calendar year as specified below:

- a. Officers must perform a minimum of two (2) "Training Night Patrols" per month.

- b. Officers must perform a minimum of one “Training Sunday Church Traffic Detail” per month.
- c. Officers must attend the Monthly Training meetings held on the first Tuesday of each month.
- d. Officers may, at the discretion of the municipal Chief of Police or other designated representative, utilize a Saturday “Patrol Training Detail”, Sunday “Patrol Training Detail” or “Court Building Security Detail” to satisfy the “Training Night Patrol” requirements.
- e. Officers must also be available for approximately 50% of the Township’s special training details, which include but are not limited to, parades and celebrations, storm damage, power outages and other instances as requested by the Township of Maplewood, the Chief of Police or other designated representative.
- f. Any officer not satisfying these requirements will be subject to discipline by the Chief of Police and the Chief of the Auxiliary utilizing the departmental Rules and Regulations as a guideline.

#### J. Building Security/Court Room Security

- 1. During scheduled Municipal Court sessions, when on duty, Auxiliary Police members will seek training in building security methods by reporting to the desk area and assisting the Watch Commander as needed, specifically by:
  - a. Assisting the Watch Commander / desk with general inquiries in the front hall lobby area.
  - b. Assisting the Watch Commander with any prisoner maintenance or support duties that may arise during the court session.
  - c. Conduct random inspections of the buildings front entrance, restrooms, hallways, exterior building perimeter and parking areas.
  - d. Create an atmosphere of uniformed police presents while court is in session.

#### K. Emergency Recall

1. In the event that there is a need to summon the Police Auxiliary Officers for a disaster, natural or unnatural, emergency, or other specialized duty assignment, the following procedure shall be followed.

a. The Chief of Police and/or Department OEM coordinator or in their absence the watch commander shall make the determination on whether or not to summon the Police Auxiliary to duty.

b. Contact shall be made to the Chief of the Auxiliaries or his designee and an indication of how many officers are needed shall be made. It will be the responsibility of the Chief of the Auxiliaries or his designee to contact the Auxiliary members.

c. All responding members will report directly to Headquarters and check in with the Watch Commander for instructions and assignment.

d. Any emergent recall of the Police Auxiliaries will be promptly reported to the Captain in Charge of OEM/Auxiliaries and Chief of Police.

#### L. Promotions

1. Promotions within the Auxiliary Police Unit will be made in consideration of the number of years of service the Auxiliary Officer completed; the information contained in the Auxiliary Officer's personnel file and the results of an interview by a panel of officers chosen by the Municipal Chief of Police which shall include the Auxiliary Chief. Promotions to the rank of Sergeant will require the candidate to have a minimum of 5 years of service with the Maplewood Auxiliary Unit to be eligible. All other promotional candidates will be chosen at the discretion of the Auxiliary Chief and the municipal Chief of Police.

#### M. Fund Raising Activities

1. The Maplewood Auxiliary Police Unit is funded by the Township of Maplewood's OEM budget. Therefore, there shall be no fundraising activities allowed by members of the Auxiliary Unit .

**-END-**

Attachment A: Township Resolution Dated June 7, 1988 Establishing Auxiliary Police Unit

# E

## Maplewood Police Auxiliary Assignment Process

# **Maplewood Police Auxiliary Assignment Process**

## **Minimum Time Commitments**

1 Sunday traffic control training detail - 4 hours

2 night patrol training - 10 hours (5 hours each)

1 monthly meeting, organizational & training - 3 hours

(10 meetings per year; no meetings in July & August)

**Total minimum monthly commitment - 14 to 17 hours**

2 range qualifications per year - 4 hours per qualification

**Total minimum annual commitment - 202 hours**

Volunteer for events throughout the year

Respond to 50% of call-outs

## **DUTIES**

All duty appearances require the Officer to check in with the Watch Commander on duty, retrieve their weapon locker key from the cabinet in the Watch Commander's office, proceed to the Auxiliary ready room, complete a duty time sheet, unlock their weapon locker and sign out their weapon in the weapon book and bring the duty time sheet to the Watch Commander before beginning their assigned patrol.

At the start of their tour the Officer checks the patrol vehicle for any damage to the vehicle and proper working order of all the lights and sirens. They also check the trunk for the necessary supplies that may be needed while on tour such as oxygen tank, flares, caution tape, gloves and medical supplies. If there is any damage noted the Watch Commander is informed and it is entered into CAD. If there are any supplies needed they are obtained from the stored stock. They then call in service and begin their tour.

Upon completion of their tour the Officers return to Headquarters, call out of service, check in with the Watch Commander, lock their weapon in the locker and return the key to the Watch Commander's office and go home.

All Sunday traffic details are assigned yearly on a weekly rotational basis for each of the four squads. Each squad is directed by an Auxiliary Sergeant with a certain number of Officers based on the current membership and divided equally to each squad. These squads usually stay the same unless the number of members dictate moving personnel around. Each Sergeant is responsible for his/her squad and acts as the first in the chain of command for their crew. The hours of duty are from 0800 hours to 1200 hours. During their shift Officers are required to conduct pedestrian crossing and traffic control for each entry and exit of the church schedule. While in between these duties they conduct patrols of the town and are available to back-up the regular Officers on their calls at the discretion and authority of the Watch Commander on duty. While patrolling they keep aware of any safety issues such as lights out, disabled vehicles, parking and operating violations and respond to any calls as assigned by Headquarters. If necessary and approved by the Watch Commander these Officers can continue to patrol after the completion of the Sunday detail.

Night patrol training is done by sign-up with a partner at the monthly meetings and posted on a calendar placed in Watch Command. The normal hours of duty are from 1900 hours to 2400 hours. During their shift Officers are required to conduct patrols of the town checking the various parks and other locations such as Maplewood Center, Ricalton Square, NJ Transit train station, Springfield Avenue and businesses throughout the town. They are also available to back-up the regular Officers on their calls at the discretion and authority of the Watch Commander on duty. While patrolling they keep aware of any safety issues such as lights out, disabled vehicles, parking and operating violations and respond to any calls as assigned by Headquarters.

Special event duty is accomplished by Headquarters requesting members to volunteer for the specific tour and a list is created and forwarded to the Police Department prior to the event. At the event Officers take their direction from the Officer in Charge and receive their post assignment(s) for the duration of the event. Those assignments may be adjusted or changed at the discretion of the OIC at any time as he/she sees fit.

Call-outs are done either by text or phone notification and are responded to by members who are available for duty. Upon arriving at Headquarters the Officer will get their post assignment duty from either the Watch Commander or on scene by the OIC. As with special event duties those assignments may be adjusted or changed at the discretion of the Watch Commander or OIC at any time as he/she sees fit.

## **NEW RECRUITS**

When a person is interested in joining the unit he/she completes a lengthy 17 page application and submits it to the Auxiliary Liaison Officer for consideration. The Department runs a full background check based on the information provided and their neighbors are interviewed. They then come in to HQ and take a Wunderlich test to determine, in part, their suitability as an Officer of the Police Auxiliary. If they are deemed a viable candidate they are enrolled in the Essex County Auxiliary Officer Academy in Cedar Grove. The Academy classes run from March to May and consists of night classes three times a week for eight to nine weeks for approximately 120 hours.

Once a recruit graduates from the Academy they start their training with the Auxiliary Liaison Officer at Headquarters. This training includes all of the required classroom training pursuant to the Attorney General guidelines and the Police Department SOP. They also receive training in the proper handling of a firearm and qualification with the weapon before they are allowed to begin their field training with an Auxiliary Officer. This training normally lasts for two months for an average of 20 hours a month.

If the recruit passes all of the training curriculum and firearms qualification they are sworn in by the Township and start their field training. They are assigned to a Squad Sergeant responsible for the traffic and pedestrian crossing training and ride with other Officers for the night patrol and special event training. The total time of field training is approximately one year. All training is reviewed and discussed with the Auxiliary Liaison Officer.

## **LIAISON OFFICER**

The Auxiliary unit always has a regular Police Officer acting as the Department Liaison between the Auxiliary and the Chief of Police. The liaison Officer, currently Sgt. Wright, is the chain of command for the Auxiliary Chief to the Department Chief. The liaison Officer duties include moderating the monthly meetings, procuring the specific training required each month, coordination the bi-annual firearms qualification and verifying the hour reports needed for submission to the State of New Jersey on a quarterly and yearly basis. All training and firearm qualifications are recorded on separate roster sheets and kept with the Department's Auxiliary filings. If tests are taken by the unit for specific training those results are also stored with the filings.

The monthly meetings normally occur on the first Wednesday of each month (except for July and August) and start at 1930 hours with the administrative section of the meeting. Patrol sign-up calendars are passed around and filled out, hour requirements from the previous month are reviewed and any issues that may have arisen are discussed. Current events and situations within the town are brought to the attention of the unit by the Liaison Officer. If volunteers are needed for an upcoming event requests are made and Officers sign up.

The training portion of the meeting then occurs based on the specific requirements of the Department and in conjunction with the Attorney General's guidelines. These training sessions include, but are not limited to; Use of Force, Domestic Violence, De-Escalation techniques, Vehicle Pursuit, Internal Affairs, Crime Prevention Training, Night Patrol Training and Community Policing, CPR and First Aid Training, Firearms Training and others like defensive tactics and radio transmissions. The Use of Force, Internal Affairs, Vehicle Pursuit, Domestic Violence training is conducted twice a year as well as Firearms Qualifications whereby each Officer must achieve a passing score for both day and night shooting.

If any member has an issue or concern they first bring it to the attention of their Auxiliary Squad Sergeant who then forwards the information to the Auxiliary Chief. If no resolution can be effected then the Auxiliary Chief forwards the information to the Liaison Officer for assistance. The issue is then either resolved or forwarded to the Department Chief for review and/or action.

## **INTERNAL AFFAIRS**

All members of the Maplewood Police Auxiliary are subject to the same Internal Affairs process as any other member of Police Department. Any complaint of misconduct or violation of the department's policies and procedures is handled by the Professional Standard's Unit.

# **F**

## **Maplewood Police Auxiliary 2018 report on hours of service, special events, and training**

# Maplewood Police Auxiliary 2018

Total Hours – 3,256 hours  
Sunday Details – 580 hours  
Night Patrols – 1,360 hours  
Classroom and Training – 316 hours

1 Chief, 1 Captain, 4 Sergeants, 12 Officers

Chief Joseph Kelly  
Captain Joseph Yacenda  
Sergeant John Ceglie  
Sergeant Angela Baldassarre  
Sergeant Dana Roberts  
Sergeant Kimberly Tortoriello  
Reserve Fred Philpot  
Reserve Shaun Chalk  
Reserve Edward Meade  
Reserve Craig Goldstein  
Reserve Lewis Mahaffey  
Reserve Benjamin Ero  
Reserve George Curtis  
Reserve Gregory Petronzi  
Reserve Daniele Tortoriello  
Reserve Dharmvir Gehlaut (Suspended since October 2017)  
Reserve Rony Desarme (Resigned April 2018)  
Reserve Andrew Nelson (Resigned July 2018)

Sergeant Joseph Guglielmo – Police Liaison (January to September)  
Sergeant Alexander Wright – Police Liaison (September to Present)

## Special Events

**Maplewood Mentors** (January and February, 8hrs) – Reserve Curtis  
Responsibilities: Initial meeting at the Maplewood Diner in January, working with the group at DeHart Park in February.

**Lion's Den** (February, 3hrs) – Captain Yacenda, Sergeant Ceglie, Reserve Curtis  
Responsibilities: Community outreach meeting with the cub scouts at Prospect Presbyterian Church for informational session on Police duties and safety issues, explaining the difference in the Auxiliary uniform followed by a question and answer period.

**Mayfest** (May, 5hrs) – Sergeant Ceglie, Reserve Philpot, Reserve Curtis, Reserve Nelson, Reserve D. Tortoriello  
Responsibilities: Traffic control, pedestrian crossings, barricade movement for vendors, community outreach, information table for recruitment, response to resident with a parking complaint, assist with lost child, first aid treatment when needed, training of three new officers for event duties.

**Memorial Day Parade** (May, 5hrs) – Chief Kelly, Sergeant Roberts, Reserve Chalk, Reserve Meade, Reserve Mahaffey

Responsibilities: Traffic control, pedestrian crossings, barricade movement, street closures, community outreach.

**Sam's Wine Tasting** (June, 5hrs) – Sergeant Ceglie

Responsibilities: Traffic control, pedestrian crossings, barricade movement, street closures, community outreach, drinking age verification, alert to driving away after drinking.

**Maplewood Pride** (June, 5hrs) – Reserve Curtis

Responsibilities: Traffic control, pedestrian crossings, barricade movement, community outreach, first aid treatment when needed,

**July 4<sup>th</sup> Festivities and 5K** (July, 13hrs) – Sergeant Roberts, Reserve Meade, Reserve Goldstein, Reserve Mahaffey, Reserve Curtis

Responsibilities: Traffic control, pedestrian crossings, barricade movement, street closures, community outreach.

**Maplewoodstock** (July, 5hrs) – Sergeant Roberts, Reserve Curtis

Responsibilities: Traffic control, pedestrian crossings, barricade movement, street closures, community outreach, first aid treatment when needed.

**National Night Out** (August, 5hrs) – Sergeant K. Tortoriello, Reserve Philpot, Reserve Meade, Reserve Mahaffey, Reserve Curtis, Reserve D. Tortoriello

Responsibilities: Traffic control, pedestrian crossings, barricade movement, street closures, community outreach, recruitment information table, dressed as superhero characters for children, assisted with games played, handed out popcorn, cotton candy, food and ices, first aid treatment when needed.

**Movies in the Park** (August, 5hrs) Captain Yacenda

Responsibilities: Pedestrian crossings, pedestrian safety, protection of movie equipment, first aid treatment when needed.

**Oysterfest** (September, 5hrs) – Reserve Curtis

Responsibilities: Traffic control, pedestrian crossings, barricade movement, street closures, community outreach, first aid treatment when needed.

**Art Walk** (September, 5hrs) – Reserve D. Tortoriello

Responsibilities: Traffic control, pedestrian crossings, barricade movement, street closures, community outreach, first aid treatment when needed.

**MW in Motion 5K** (October, 5hrs) – Captain Yacenda, Sergeant Baldassarre, Reserve Chalk, Reserve Curtis, Reserve D. Tortoriello

Responsibilities: Traffic control, pedestrian crossings, barricade movement, street closures, community outreach, first aid treatment when needed.

**Winners Church Diwali Festival** (October, 5hrs) – Reserve Meade, Reserve Curtis

Responsibilities: Traffic control, pedestrian crossings, barricade movement, street closures, community outreach.

**Village Halloween Party** (October, 5hrs) – Reserve Mahaffey, Reserve Curtis

Responsibilities: Traffic control, pedestrian crossings, barricade movement, street closures, community outreach, first aid treatment when needed.

**Pets for Vets 5K Run** (November, 5hrs) – Captain Yacenda, Reserve Chalk, Reserve Goldstein, Reserve Mahaffey, Reserve Curtis

Responsibilities: Traffic control, pedestrian crossings, barricade movement, street closures, community outreach, first aid treatment when needed.

**First Responder Mass – St Joe’s Church** (November, 2hrs) – Chief Kelly, Sergeant K. Tortoriello

Responsibilities: Traffic control, pedestrian crossings, community outreach.

## **Training**

January – Improvised Explosive Device Training,

I.E.D – Improvised Explosive Devices training was conducted by Sgt. Guglielmo.

When responding, remember the 5 C’s – Confirm, Clear, Cordon (our main responsibility is cordoning off the area), Control and Check. Determine if the threat is direct, or feasible – most important. Review the “Considerations for Responding” law enforcement paragraph in the handout provided.

February – Night Patrol Training and Community Policing

Community policing – walk the Center and engage with store owners and the public.

Provide extra attention to other locations and key areas, i.e. both 7-11s, Wawa, gas stations, liquor stores, and with warming weather, all parks.

April – Crime Prevention Training, Firearms Qualification

Handouts of the 6520 Security Reminder Form and a Security Checklist were provided.

If you notice an issue, complete the form and request a case number. If possible, make contact with the property owner and review the situation. Review the Patrol Pad before leaving HQ and speak to the Watch Commander, and provide extra attention and visibility to areas of recent crime activity.

Firearms qualifications were conducted and each member must earn a passing score to continue with the unit.

June – Use of Force, Internal Affairs, Vehicle Pursuit, Domestic Violence

All four required training modules were reviewed by the Auxiliary members and after each module a test was taken requiring a passing grade to continue the ability to continue on the unit.

September - Radio Transmissions

All Members are to familiarize themselves with the new 7-1 Ford Interceptor patrol vehicle.

Reminders: use your ID#s and not vehicle #s when transmitting over the air. Use a calm voice when speaking and do not hold the microphone too close to your mouth so your speech will be clear. Hold the talk button in until you hear the “click” before you start speaking. Keep your messages as brief as possible.

October – Workplace Harrasment

Sgt. Wright led a training session regarding harassment in the workplace, with a handout delivered to all members. Harassment can be in the form of a sexual, religious, racial or ethnic basis and will not be tolerated by anyone in the department or unit.

There was also a review conducted of all common codes and signals currently in use by the dispatchers and full-time officers, with a handout provided.

Please use the codes and signals at all times, in order to keep your radio transmissions clear and concise.

November – Use of Force, Internal Affairs, Vehicle Pursuit, Domestic Violence

Sgt. Wright led a thorough review of Use of Force.

The continuum of force includes: constructive authority, -physical contact, physical force, mechanical force, enhanced mechanical force and deadly force. Make sure to deploy the appropriate level of force based on the threat encountered. It is mandatory to fill out the use of force report if any force above physical contact is effected during the event.

December – CPR and First Aid Training, Firearms Qualification

CPR refresher training was conducted by Sharon for the members in attendance that were not up to date with their status. Members were instructed on the proper cycles of breaths and compressions for infants, children and adults and techniques were practiced with a partner and a test administered. Updated CPR cards will be mailed to Members in January.

# **G**

## **Maplewood Police Auxiliary 2019 report on hours of service, special events, and training**

# Maplewood Police Auxiliary 2019

Total Hours – 4,209

Sunday Details – 735 Hours

Night Patrols – 1,290 Hours

Classroom and Training – 1013 Hours (Including 3 new members attending the Police Academy)

1 Chief, 1 Captain (Until August), 4 Sergeants, 13 Officers

Chief Joseph Kelly (Retired in April)

Chief Joseph Yacenda (Captain until appointed Chief in August)

Sergeant John Ceglie

Sergeant Angela Baldassarre

Sergeant Dana Roberts

Sergeant Kimberly Tortoriello

Reserve Fred Philpot

Reserve Shaun Chalk

Reserve Edward Meade

Reserve Craig Goldstein

Reserve Lewis Mahaffey

Reserve Benjamin Ero

Reserve George Curtis

Reserve Gregory Petronzi

Reserve Daniele Tortoriello

Reserve Dharmvir Gehlaut (Suspended until August, reinstated and requested medical leave for the remainder of the year)

Reserve Robert Keller (Sworn in May)

Reserve Samantha O'Connor (Sworn in May)

Reserve Kevin Angerville (Sworn in May, Resigned in September)

Sergeant Joseph Guglielmo – Police Liaison

## Special Events

**Food Drive** (February, 3hrs) – Reserve Goldstein

Responsibilities: Community outreach, assisted in preparing and handing out food to the needy.

**St Patrick's Day 5K** (March, 5hrs) – Chief Yacenda, Sergeant Roberts, Reserve Philpot, Reserve Chalk, Reserve Curtis

Responsibilities: Traffic control, pedestrian crossings, pedestrian safety, barricade movement, street closures, community outreach, first aid treatment when needed.

**Easter Egg Hunt** (April, 5hrs) – Reserve Mahaffey

Responsibilities: Traffic control, pedestrian crossings, pedestrian safety, barricade movement, street closures, community outreach, first aid treatment when needed.

**SOMA Little League Parade** (April, 5hrs) – Chief Yacenda, Sergeant Roberts, Reserve Philpot, Reserve Mahaffey, Reserve Curtis

Responsibilities: Traffic control, pedestrian crossings, pedestrian safety, barricade movement, street closures, community outreach, first aid treatment when needed.

**Mayfest** (May, 7hrs) – Chief Yacenda, Reserve Meade, Reserve Goldstein, Reserve Curtis, Reserve Keller, Reserve O'Connor, Reserve Angerville

Responsibilities: Traffic control, pedestrian crossings, barricade movement for vendors, community outreach, information table for recruitment, alert PSEG to gas leak-corner of Springfield Ave and Rutgers St, response to resident with complaint of suspicious car parked in driveway, assist with lost child, first aid treatment when needed, training of three new officers for event duties.

**Memorial Day Parade** (May, 5hrs) – Reserve Chalk, Reserve Mahaffey

Responsibilities: Traffic control, pedestrian crossings, pedestrian safety, barricade movement, street closures, community outreach, first aid treatment when needed.

**Maplewood Pride Parade** (June, 5hrs) – Sergeant Roberts, Reserve Ero

Responsibilities: Traffic control, pedestrian crossings, pedestrian safety, barricade movement, street closures, community outreach, first aid treatment when needed.

**Maplewood Pride Day** (June, 5hrs) – Sgt K. Tortoriello, Reserve Meade, Reserve Goldstein, Reserve Curtis, Reserve Petronzi, Reserve Keller

Responsibilities: Traffic control, pedestrian crossings, pedestrian safety, barricade movement, street closures, community outreach, first aid treatment when needed.

**Maplewood Police Open House** (June, 5hrs) – Sergeant K. Tortoriello, Reserve Goldstein, Reserve Ero, Reserve Keller, Reserve Angerville

Responsibilities: Community outreach, assisted in presenting the features of the building to visitors, informing parties of the role of the Auxiliary in the town.

**July 4<sup>th</sup> Festivities and 5K** (July, 13hrs) – Reserve Chalk, Reserve Meade, Reserve Goldstein, Reserve Curtis, Reserve Petronzi, Reserve Keller, Reserve O'Connor, Reserve Angerville

**Maplewoodstock** (July, 10hrs) – Reserve Keller, Reserve Angerville

**National Night Out** (August, 5hrs) – Sergeant Roberts, Sergeant K. Tortoriello, Reserve Chalk,

Reserve Mahaffey, Reserve Ero, Reserve Curtis, Reserve Petronzi, Reserve D. Tortoriello, Reserve O'Connor, Reserve Angerville

**Safety Fest** (September, 5hrs) – Chief Yacenda, Sergeant Ceglie, Sergeant K. Tortoriello, Reserve Chalk, Reserve Goldstein, Reserve Curtis

Responsibilities: Traffic control, pedestrian crossings, pedestrian safety, barricade movement, street closures, community outreach, first aid treatment when needed.

**Movies in the Park** (September, 5hrs) – Reserve D. Tortoriello

Responsibilities: Pedestrian crossings, pedestrian safety, protection of movie equipment, first aid treatment when needed.

**Oysterfest** (September, 5hrs) – Reserve D. Tortoriello

Responsibilities: Traffic control, pedestrian crossings, barricade movement, street closures, community outreach, first aid treatment when needed.

**Art Walk** (September, 5hrs) – Sergeant Roberts, Reserve Mahaffey, Reserve Ero, Reserve Keller  
Responsibilities: Traffic control, pedestrian crossings, barricade movement, street closures, community outreach, first aid treatment when needed.

**SOMA Event** (October, 5hrs) – Chief Yacenda, Reserve O’Connor  
Responsibilities: Traffic control, pedestrian crossings, barricade movement, street closures, community outreach, drinking age verification, alert to driving away after drinking.

**Maplewood Village Halloween Party** (October, 5hrs) – Sergeant K. Tortoriello, Reserve Curtis, Reserve Keller, Reserve O’Connor  
Responsibilities: Traffic control, pedestrian crossings, barricade movement, street closures, community outreach, first aid treatment when needed

**Maplewood in Motion 5K** (October, 5hrs) – Chief Yacenda, Sergeant Baldassarre, Sergeant Roberts, Reserve Philpot, Reserve Chalk, Reserve Mahaffey, Reserve D. Tortoriello, Reserve O’Connor  
Responsibilities: Traffic control, pedestrian crossings, barricade movement, street closures, community outreach, first aid treatment when needed.

**Lion’s Den Scout Meeting** (November, 3hrs) – Chief Yacenda, Reserve Curtis, Reserve Keller  
Responsibilities: Community outreach meeting with the cub scouts at Prospect Presbyterian Church for informational session on Police duties and safety issues, explaining the difference in the Auxiliary uniform followed by a question and answer period.

## **Training**

### **January** – De-Escalation Techniques

Sgt. Wright led an interactive training session focused on de-escalation techniques.

In volatile situations, saying the right thing is a critical component to de-escalate. You must make contact with the person and maintain mental self-control. Always focus on the outcome, not the cause of the incident. Be aware that even with the proper approach, the situation could still go wrong. Key: never compromise officer safety during an incident.

### **February** – AG Directive 2018-6 “Immigrant Trust Directive”

Sgt. Wright delivered a briefing on Attorney General Directive 2018-6, known as the “Immigrant Trust Directive”. This Directive is designed to strengthen trust between New Jersey’s law enforcement officers and the state’s diverse immigrant communities, thereby ensuring that victims and witnesses feel safe reporting crimes. The Directive is intended to draw a clearer distinction between state, county, and local law enforcement officers, who are responsible for enforcing state criminal law, and federal immigration authorities, who enforce federal civil immigration law. The Directive limits the types of voluntary assistance NJ law enforcement officers may provide to federal immigration authorities and applies to state and local police officers, state and county correctional officers, and state and county prosecutors.

### **March** – Defensive Tactics and Arrest Techniques at American Jiu Jitsu

Tony Avila of American Jiu Jitsu, along with other members of his dojo, led a hands-on training session in the use of mixed martial arts. The focus was on deploying various controlled techniques in physical altercations, including: secure non-compliant actors in a position to be handcuffed, close quarters weapon retention, physically neutralizing an actor with a hand-held weapon. All members practiced the techniques demonstrated.

#### April - Use of Force, Vehicle Pursuit, Domestic Violence

Sgt. Wright led a training session to review de-escalation techniques, as well as a detailed briefing on departmental policy and Attorney General guidelines related to vehicle pursuits and the Use of Force. The continuum of force includes: constructive authority, physical contact, physical force, mechanical force, enhanced mechanical force, deadly force. Make sure to deploy the appropriate level of force based on the threat encountered. It is mandatory to fill out the use of force report if any force above physical contact is utilized.

There are NO vehicle pursuits authorized in Maplewood, absent extenuating circumstances and clear approval from the Watch Commander.

#### May – Firearms Qualification

Firearms qualifications were conducted and each member must earn a passing score to continue with the unit.

#### June – Internal Affairs

Sgt. Wright led a session to review Internal Affairs policies and guidelines. Basically, any complaint must be taken in any form, from anyone, and at any time. If approached by someone about a complaint, contact Central to have a full-time officer respond as well. Do not make any attempt to dissuade or make it more difficult in any way for someone to register a complaint. Complainants are not required to provide any personal information; a complaint can be made on behalf of someone else.

#### September – Handcuff Maintenance and Techniques

Sgt. Wright demonstrated the proper technique for cleaning and maintaining our issued S&W handguns; reminder to also properly clean and maintain handcuffs. All Members are required to clean their assigned handgun after each qualification and after any other range practice throughout the year.

#### October – Internal Affairs, Use of Force, Domestic Violence, Vehicle Pursuits

Sgt. Wright led a refresher briefing session on several critical topics, including: Internal Affairs – any complaint must be taken in any form, from anyone, and at any time; Vehicle pursuits – generally no pursuits in Maplewood, get critical info over the air ASAP, i.e. license plate, description of vehicle and actors, direction of flight, etc.; Use of Force – continuum of force, Use of Force report required if any force above physical contact is utilized; Domestic Violence – maintain contact and cover; mandatory arrest if injuries are present. Reviewed policy and guidelines regarding emancipation. Always check for warrants and restraining orders.

#### November – Community Policing

Officer Matt Jones delivered an update on the Community Service Bureau regarding their current activities, including the Holiday Toy and Winter Hat / Glove /Scarf Drives. The CSB is also accepting cash and food donations on behalf of a local church that will provide Thanksgiving dinner to approximately 300 families. As a reminder, all Members are required to review the Patrol Pad and speak to the Watch Commander before leaving HQ in regards to supporting high visibility crime prevention activities, including: assisting in the placement and removal of decoy vehicles and providing extra visible attention and to high traffic areas and locations of recent crime activity.

#### December – Firearms Qualification

Firearms qualifications were conducted and each member must earn a passing score to continue with the unit.

**H**

**Maplewood Police Auxiliary Additional Assignments**

## **Maplewood Police Auxiliary Additional Assignments**

- Assisting Maplewood PD with National Accreditation Presentation
- Assisting with conducting Open House tours of the Maplewood Police Department
- Attending Departmental Promotions/Auxiliary Graduations
- Dressing as Various Superhero Characters for National Night Out and taking pictures with attendees.
- Working the Face Painting/Tattoo Stand for NNO
- Representing the Maplewood Police Department at the wakes and funerals for Police Officers and Township Employees.
- Assisting the Maplewood Police Department Traffic Unit with specialized details such as DUI and Click it or Ticket
- Conducting street light surveys throughout the town, reporting which lights are not functioning as well as provide recommendations for additional lighting.
- Providing presentations for the Lion's Den Scouts Outreach
- School Mentoring Program
- Working as instructors for the Maplewood Junior Police Academy
- Assisting with the Youth Pool Party
- Attending the First Responder Mass
- Singing at the Responder Mass
- Attending the Veterans Ceremony
- Singing at the Veterans Ceremony
- Dressing as characters at MayFest
- Handing out informational and recruitment flyers at MayFest
- Assisting with Movies in the Park
- Click it or Ticket Details
- Conducting walking details on Springfield Ave and in Maplewood Center during the Maplewood Against Crime (MAC) Order (November to January)
- Offering bicycle safety tips at the Maplewood Safety Fest
- Assisting with the Dickens Village event

I

**Maplewood Police Auxiliary 2020 Roster**

## Maplewood Police Auxiliary Roster – 2020

RANK	LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	BADGE / ID #	Year Joined*	Years of Service
CHIEF	YACENDA	JOSEPH	690	1990	30
SGT	CEGLIE	JOHN	686	1989	31
SGT	BALDASSARRE	ANGELA	692	1992	28
SGT	ROBERTS	DANA	712	1999	21
SGT	TORTORIELLO	KIMBERLY	714	2000	20
P/O	PHILPOT	FRED	705	1993	27
P/O	CHALK	SHAUN	716	2005	15
P/O	MEADE	EDWARD	724	2008	12
P/O	GOLDSTEIN	CRAIG	727	2010	10
P/O	MAHAFFEY	LEWIS	728	2010	10
P/O	ERO	BENJAMIN	729	2010	10
P/O	CURTIS	GEORGE	732	2013	7
P/O	PETRONZI	GREGORY	733	2013	7
P/O	TORTORIELLO	DANIELE	735	2014	6
P/O	KELLER	ROBERT	740	2019	1
P/O	O'CONNOR	SAMANTHA	741	2019	1

\*All Auxiliary Academy classes started in March.

## Maplewood Police Auxiliary Assignment Process

Minimum Time Commitments

- 1 Sunday traffic control training detail - 4 hours
- 2 night patrol training - 10 hours (5 hours each)
- 1 monthly meeting, organizational & training - 3 hours  
(10 meetings per year; no meetings in July & August)

Total minimum monthly commitment - 14 to 17 hours

2 range qualifications per year - 4 hours

Total minimum annual commitment - 202 hours

- Volunteer for events throughout the year
- Respond to 50% of call-outs

All Sunday traffic details are assigned yearly on a weekly rotational basis for each of the four squads. The hours of duty are from 0800 hours to 1200 hours.

Night patrol training is done by sign-up with a partner at the monthly meetings and posted on a calendar placed in Watch Command. The normal hours of duty are from 1900 hours to 2400 hours.

Special event duty is done by requesting members to volunteer and a list is created and forwarded to the Police Department prior to the event.

Call-outs are done either by text or phone notification and are responded to by members who are available for duty.

All duty appearances require the Officer to check in with the Watch Commander on duty, retrieve their weapon locker key from the cabinet in the Watch Commander’s office, proceed to the Auxiliary ready room, complete a duty time sheet, unlock and sign out their weapon in the weapon book and bring the duty time sheet to the Watch Commander before beginning patrol.

**Average Monthly Hours – 2019 (full year)**

	TRAFFIC							
PATROL	CONTROL	EMERGENCY	COURT	RANGE	CLASS	ADMIN	MEETING	EVENT
TRAINING	TRAINING	TRAINING	TRAINING	TRAINING	TRAINING	HOURS	TRAINING	TRAINING
108	62	2.5	2	13.5	54	13.75	17	41

# **J**

## **Expenses Incurred to Outfit a New Maplewood Police Auxiliary Officer**

**Costs to Outfit a member of the  
Maplewood Police Auxiliary**

Vest	\$810.98
Uniform	\$1,301.93
Psychological	\$425.00
Evaluations	\$20.00
Ammunition	\$1,381.60
Total	<u>\$3,939.51</u>

\* Ammunition last purchased in June of 2017 and purchased on an as needed basis.

# **K**

**Transcript of July 16, 2020 Maplewood Township  
Public Safety Committee meeting  
(questions and answers regarding Auxiliary Police are on pages 47-111)**

1 PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING  
2 TOWNSHIP OF MAPLEWOOD, NEW JERSEY

3

4

5

6 TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS  
7 VIA VIDEOTAPE  
8 OF REGULAR MEETING

9 HELD VIRTUALLY  
10 THURSDAY, JULY 16, 2020  
11 7:30 P.M.

12

13

B E F O R E:

14

GREGORY LEMBRICH, Chairman  
FRANK McGEHEE, Mayor  
DEAN DAFIS, Deputy Mayor  
JIMMY DeVAUL, Chief of Police

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A L S O P R E S E N T:

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MICHAEL WEBER, Chief of Fire  
ALBERT SALLY, Deputy Chief of Police  
JOSEPH YACENDA, Chief of Auxilary Police  
JOSEPH KELLY, Retired Chief of Auxiliary Police

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angelabuonocsr@gmail.com

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STENOGRAPHER'S STATEMENT

The following represents a verbatim transcript stenographically written from the audio-taped proceeding provided.

The quality of the audio recording largely determines the quality of the transcript. Any background noise or other disturbance, such as, but not limited to, environmental sounds (e.g., humming from other devices, sirens, alarms, ringing sounds, papers shuffling), or any cross-talking or coughing, or simply the distance of the speaker to the microphone, all can lead to a marked reduction in the quality of the audio recorded, which in turn can, and generally does, impact the transcript quality.

Having not been physically present at this proceeding, please note throughout the transcript the following will be used:

"VOICE" may be used to identify a speaker.

"INAUDIBLE" to identify voices heard but not clearly discernible within the context.

CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: Okay. It's 7:29.

The mayor, the deputy mayor, and the chief of the fire department are here, so we'll give it just one more minute but then we'll start on time.

All right. I'm showing 7:30. So I'm going to go ahead and call this meeting of the Maplewood Public Safety Committee meeting to order. And as usual we're going to start with the fire department.

So Chief Weber, I will give you the floor, if you want to take us through -- we received the monthly report from May. If you want to take us through the highlights of the May Monthly.

CHIEF WEBER: Okay. Sure. As always I will try and just be quick with this and give you the highlights.

So 254 responses, 123 EMS. There were eight mutual aid responses which is obviously way down from the previous month. Seven of those were taken care of by South Orange.

There were only nine COVID-19 related calls during the month of May, down from 33 in April. There were ten responses to fires during May including three mutual aid structure fires, two cooking fires, two car fires, an outside fire, and

one structured fire in Maplewood.

The structure fire in Maplewood was down on (inaudible) development; it involved the trash compactor. The fire was extinguished by fire service personnel and was contained at the compactor room. A moderate smoke condition was throughout the first and second floors of the building and was ventilated through mechanical means.

Three mutual aid fires occurred one in -- I'm sorry, one in Millburn on Dorset Lane, one in Orange on 94 Park Street and one in Irvington at 28 Martin Place.

There were just one mutual aid cover assignment in Irvington during the month of May. The county protocol suspending mutual aid house coverage was lifted. That's how we ended up getting back to standby coverage.

There were eight motor vehicle accidents with injuries during the month of May. There were two pedestrians struck by motor vehicles during the month of May. One was on Oakview Avenue, and one was on Manley Terrace. I know in the past reports, I think Mr. Dafis had asked about the locations of those because we had some target areas we were concerned about. I don't think either one

of those in May occurred in those target areas.

We responded to four calls for power lines down. There were three carbon monoxide incidents during the month of May, none of which had significant levels of CO. The department took delivery of the new Chevy Tahoe command vehicle on May 12th and it was placed in service the following day on the 13th.

Obviously that was held over from 2019 but we finally did take possession of it and it's beyond our expectations. It's been fantastic.

I wanted to just bring up one thing about the EMS calls that I thought you might be concerned about because -- and we have to really track a little bit better, but I just was looking at the numbers and the fire department responded to 22 EMS calls in the month of May. That involved drugs, alcohol or psychiatric issues representing an increase of over 70 percent from the same month last year.

So we're going to be watching these numbers going forward as this represents a significant increase. And we suspect maybe obviously with the COVID situation, all that's going on, it might be something we have to address.

1 Over the last month as COVID-19 calls  
2 have slowed, we had a little lull period obviously  
3 before the regular calls started picking back up  
4 again. And during that time the call volume dropped  
5 a little bit and firefighters have taken advantage  
6 of the additional time to make improvements to both  
7 firehouses, both fire headquarters and Station 2.

8 The apparatus bay doors were painted at  
9 both fire headquarters and Station 2 matching the  
10 patterns that are on the apparatus. The curbs were  
11 painted at fire headquarters and the fire department  
12 sign in front of headquarters was polished and the  
13 pole was painted.

14 The flagpole in front of headquarters  
15 was sanded and painted. The warning signs in front  
16 of fire headquarters were both painted and the  
17 planting bed in front of fire headquarters was  
18 rebuilt with six-by-six pressure-treated lumber.

19 White and black sand was ordered for  
20 the repair of the historic firehouse lanterns above  
21 the doors at fire headquarters. And the small patch  
22 of grass in front of headquarters is being replaced.

23 I'm just mentioning that because, you  
24 know, there was a slight lull period and the guys  
25 took advantage out of the spare time and put it to

1 good use. The calls obviously have now picked back  
2 up, again, both the EMS and so the fire calls.

3 The only other thing, Captain continued  
4 to perform a weekly decontamination of both  
5 firehouses and apparatus during the month of May and  
6 we will probably continue that until -- until  
7 further notice even though our COVID calls have  
8 dropped dramatically, which is a good thing.

9 So that is pretty much it. The only  
10 other thing I wanted to talk to is I wanted to  
11 request permission to prepare and announce a  
12 captains and deputy chiefs exam, since we currently  
13 have a list for neither. And, you know, it's  
14 something even if we don't make promotions, we  
15 should have standing lists.

16 And obviously if you announce a list,  
17 you need to allow them time to prepare. So even if  
18 we did it tomorrow, not suggesting that we will  
19 tomorrow but, you know, it wouldn't happen until mid  
20 to late fall when you establish a list.

21 So it's really something we  
22 should -- and we did put it in the budget and it  
23 was -- I believe it was approved for the 2020  
24 budget, so the money is already approved for that.  
25 That's pretty much it.

1 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: Thanks, Chief.  
2 And now I agree that we should have a list. I don't  
3 know where the mayor or the deputy mayor want to  
4 weigh in on that. But I think the appropriate next  
5 step would be I'll put this on for discussion at  
6 Tuesday night's Township Committee meeting.

7 And, you know, I don't think we'll have  
8 any objection from any of my colleagues but, you  
9 know, I agree, you know, we should have a list, if  
10 we don't have a list now. Even if there aren't any  
11 positions to fill, there will be at some point.  
12 Time marches on.

13 So I don't know if -- I don't know if  
14 the mayor or the deputy mayor wanted to comment on  
15 that before we move to questions?

16 MAYOR McGEHEE: Thank you, Chairman.  
17 I do support creating a list and getting ready for a  
18 test. I think in any business, corporation, you  
19 know, you want to have the opportunity to move up  
20 and be successful. And since we have exhausted our  
21 deputy and our captain's list, I think it's most  
22 prudent to fill that back in. So I would support  
23 your measure, Mr. Lembrich.

24 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: Okay. Thank you,  
25 Mayor. So does anyone have questions, mayor or

1 deputy mayor, for the chief?

2 MAYOR McGEHEE: I just have a few,  
3 Mr. Lembrich.

4 I just want to check in on the fire at  
5 19 Essex, just get an update. I know we had six  
6 fires. I wanted to know how -- if we have any  
7 update on the family that was displaced; any  
8 information on that one?

9 CHIEF WEBER: So, yeah. I have been  
10 keeping in touch with the brother of the female  
11 victim.

12 And the latest word I had heard was  
13 that the victim, 64-year-old victim was removed from  
14 the second floor via ground ladder, has been removed  
15 from the ventilator and is recovering.

16 MAYOR McGEHEE: Yes.

17 CHIEF WEBER: So the fact that he has  
18 been removed from the ventilator is really, really  
19 good news. And I will continue to check up with  
20 him. I know -- I don't believe he has been released  
21 from the hospital yet, but all things considered,  
22 it's almost a miracle that that guy's in such good  
23 shape. So I will keep you posted on that one as  
24 soon as I get further information.

25 MAYOR McGEHEE: Thank you. I

1 appreciate that, Chief.

2 And then also I just want to recognize  
3 the great job on training. I saw training went up  
4 11 percent month over month. So from 135 to 150  
5 days of training. So the more training, the better.  
6 I have seen it in action and I appreciate everyone's  
7 efforts in that regard.

8 CHIEF WEBER: Okay.

9 MAYOR McGEHEE: N95 masks you're in  
10 good shape? I saw some statistics.

11 CHIEF WEBER: Yeah, yeah, in good  
12 shape. Well, yes, we're in very good shape with the  
13 masks.

14 We're going to start working on some  
15 Tyvek suits. We have decent stock but if there's  
16 any kind of a surge, so we're going to move forward  
17 with trying to track down -- they're not easy to get  
18 right now. The local painting stores have been very  
19 helpful in providing, but it's still a backlog right  
20 now. So we'll be in decent shape by -- by the early  
21 fall.

22 MAYOR McGEHEE: Okay. And command  
23 vehicle looks really good. I saw you took care of  
24 the back of it now, so we're good to go. That's  
25 great.

1 CHIEF WEBER: Yeah, it's in great  
2 shape.

3 MAYOR McGEHEE: And I am happy to see,  
4 you know, that in May we saw a 10 percent drop in  
5 COVID cases. That's --

6 CHIEF WEBER: Right.

7 MAYOR McGEHEE: -- obviously we have  
8 to be cautious, as we know there are some spikes  
9 happening all around us, but I am happy to see it  
10 down from 33 to 9. That was great news for me to  
11 read personally.

12 CHIEF WEBER: There was one more topic  
13 I wanted to share with you guys just to bring you up  
14 to date. So our ladder truck is out for service.  
15 It's been out for about a week now and we're  
16 anticipating it will be out for another five or  
17 six days.

18 I received a call from the chief of the  
19 Union Fire Department, Chief Scanio, a very good  
20 guy. And what was happening is we were  
21 getting -- our first two ladders were going to be  
22 coming from Irvington. Well, Irvington has been in  
23 a little trouble lately and they're going down to  
24 riding a 2 and 1, which is how we ride. Obviously a  
25 little heavier on the apparatus. But Union is a

1 situation where when Irvington went down to one  
2 ladder, they were covering Hillside, Union,  
3 Irvington and us with a ladder, which is really  
4 unfair to Union.

5 So the chief reached out to me and he  
6 suggested a solution which was to allow us to use  
7 the reserve ladder, not only let us use the reserve  
8 ladder, they were going to send the ladder with a  
9 certified driver from Union, because obviously the  
10 ladders are not exactly the same. And then we would  
11 send one of our firefighters to ride in Union to  
12 replace the guy that was sent over.

13 So I had a meeting with Sonja and also  
14 reached out to Roger Desiderio, ran the concept past  
15 him. Chief Scanio advised me that they had done  
16 this in the past with Elizabeth and it worked very  
17 well.

18 So after I got the approvals from both  
19 Sonja and Roger, we put it into action. For the  
20 last two days we have had the Union ladder in  
21 Maplewood with one of their drivers and our -- we  
22 have sent one of our firefighters to ride in Union.  
23 It has worked remarkably well. And there are  
24 benefits beyond just a ladder, as far as I'm  
25 concerned, melding departments together and building

1 mutual relationship.

2 So I just wanted to bring you guys up  
3 to date on that situation, that we have a ladder in  
4 town right now and it's a great situation.

5 MAYOR McGEHEE: That's great to hear.  
6 I have one question related to that issue and that  
7 is because this firefighter is now part of our  
8 family, does that mean that he has to cook on  
9 Sundays?

10 CHIEF WEBER: Well, if he has  
11 scruples, maybe. We got to test him out. It's  
12 going to be hard to beat the Maplewood guys but we  
13 will test him out.

14 MAYOR McGEHEE: Awesome. Just two  
15 more questions, Mr. Chairman, I will be done.

16 One is I'm happy to see, with the radio  
17 equipment, that now we are attached with Millburn.  
18 I think that's important from my reading.

19 And then finally I wanted to check in  
20 on what the finding is with the captain's elbow. I  
21 read there was a slight injury. I wanted to see how  
22 the captain was doing who hurt his elbow on the  
23 27th?

24 CHIEF WEBER: He is -- he is doing  
25 very well. He never missed a day of work except to

1 go get some X-rays. And it's a very minor fracture.  
2 Because he's in the Fire Prevention Bureau, he was  
3 cleared to come to work full-time. So he hasn't  
4 missed a day. And he says it's feeling very, very  
5 good. And I think he's very near 100 percent at  
6 this point. So that worked out well.

7 Thank you for asking.

8 MAYOR McGEHEE: Awesome. Thank you,  
9 Chief. And thank you, Mr. Lembrich.

10 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: All right. So,  
11 Chief, I had -- I had one question and that was  
12 just, you know -- and the mayor mentioned that we,  
13 you know, now have a good radio link with Millburn.

14 I just wanted to see if you have any  
15 update on the situation with South Orange and our  
16 compatibility with South Orange, whether we have at  
17 long last made any progress there, or whether that  
18 is still to come?

19 CHIEF WEBER: It's a very -- it's an  
20 excellent question. And unfortunately, no, we still  
21 have not made any progress with South Orange. I  
22 know that -- I have been advised that their  
23 administration has been informed of the situation  
24 and that it should have trickled down to the chief  
25 of the department, but we still have not received

1 that, any information.

2 I will reach out again early next week  
3 and see if the chief will respond to that. But  
4 unfortunately, no, we still are not -- they -- we  
5 have their program frequency in our radios, they  
6 have not installed our frequency in their radios as  
7 of today.

8 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: Okay. We will,  
9 either I or the mayor, will speak with the Village  
10 president to follow up on that.

11 CHIEF WEBER: Thank you.

12 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: Deputy Mayor, did  
13 you have any questions on the May Monthly or  
14 generally before we move on to the OT?

15 DEPUTY MAYOR DAFIS: Thank you,  
16 Chairman Lembrich. No, I do not have any questions.  
17 I am very disappointed to hear that the radio  
18 frequency situation has not been figured out with  
19 South Orange and I want to go on record to express  
20 my displeasure about that.

21 I know the mayor has had conversations  
22 with the South Orange Village president about this  
23 and she indicated that she was going to get on it,  
24 so I don't know what the breakdown is. I really  
25 don't know what the breakdown is.

1 This is the other company that we are  
2 considering marrying with, right?

3 CHIEF WEBER: Right.

4 DEPUTY MAYOR DAFIS: Getting into a  
5 marriage with. So this is very, very disappointing  
6 for me. And I hope it is addressed very quickly.

7 CHIEF WEBER: Right. I'm pretty sure  
8 -- I will-- I will -- as I said, I will reach out  
9 and get back to you guys. Like I said, I will reach  
10 out early next week and see if I can move it along  
11 and see if that -- that information has trickled  
12 down to the administration.

13 DEPUTY MAYOR DAFIS: But this  
14 is -- this is ongoing. This isn't -- this has been  
15 going on for months and months and months, actually  
16 it's over a year --

17 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: Years.

18 CHIEF WEBER: Yeah. Yeah.

19 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: This was going on  
20 for quite some time on, you know, with your  
21 predecessor also. And, you know, and I think the  
22 deputy mayor is being polite and I appreciate it,  
23 but, you know, the issue is not on our side here,  
24 obviously. You know, we have been trying to get  
25 this done for a while.

1 We've put their frequency on our radios  
2 and they have not done the same. And, yeah, we'll  
3 need to follow up with the Village president and try  
4 to apply some pressure there, but it's clear that  
5 the leadership over there just doesn't want to  
6 cooperate.

7 CHIEF WEBER: I mean we spent a lot of  
8 money on the system, and one of the clear advantages  
9 of that 700-band system was that you can program all  
10 the mutual aid companies into your radio. It's --  
11 obviously we all rely on mutual aid heavily these  
12 days, and that gave us that enormous advantage.

13 And I can -- I don't want to -- I  
14 don't want to disparage anybody. What I can tell  
15 you is that the firefighters, when they respond in,  
16 they are frustrated and they want the frequency in  
17 their radios. They -- they -- they share that with  
18 us. So we'll figure out what the -- the problem is  
19 and move forward, hopefully.

20 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: Yeah, I know -- I  
21 know the problem is not the rank-and-file,  
22 it's -- it's not the guys who are showing up to the  
23 fires that don't want it. You know, as I -- you  
24 know, but this is really a safety issue and, you  
25 know, and I -- you know, I would hate to see this

1 become an issue, you know, beyond just the  
2 theoretical problem where, you know, where the  
3 safety is compromised because they couldn't hear us.

4 CHIEF WEBER: Right. So...

5 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: Okay. So I think  
6 the OT will, as has fortunately become commonplace,  
7 I think it'll be a short discussion with the lowest  
8 May and June in -- in recent memory, certainly in  
9 the last five years by -- by quite a bit.

10 So obviously, you know, what -- what we  
11 have done in terms of staffing and also what, you  
12 know, what our firefighters have done in terms of,  
13 you know, serving through this pandemic has been --  
14 you know, has really been above and beyond.

15 So, you know, the fact that the  
16 overtime has been so low, I think is sort of a  
17 tribute to both things, both that we have adequate  
18 staffing and that the staff we have are -- are the,  
19 you know, the right people for the job and very  
20 devoted.

21 So I don't -- other than just to -- to  
22 note that and to ask you again, you know, sort of  
23 convey our appreciation to, you know, to the whole  
24 department for -- for that, I don't really have any  
25 other questions or comments on the overtime.

1 I don't know if the mayor or deputy  
2 mayor have anything they want to chime in with?

3 MAYOR McGEHEE: Just it looks great.  
4 I mean, the five-year trend is unbelievable. So  
5 great job. And thank you. Appreciate it.

6 CHIEF WEBER: I do want to just -- I  
7 want to advise you that we will see, you know, the  
8 summer is here --

9 MAYOR McGEHEE: Right.

10 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: Um-hum.

11 CHIEF WEBER: -- we will see an  
12 uptick. And also recall that during the -- the  
13 throes of the pandemic, which I don't want to say  
14 were adamant, but the worst parts (inaudible) --  
15 guys actually cancelled vacation and came to work.  
16 So those vacations, they got pushed down the line.

17 So I don't anticipate a massive surge  
18 but there will be a surge. It won't look like this  
19 all year. Obviously they'll start using their  
20 vacation days and personal days, so we'll see an  
21 uptick.

22 But, yes, historically low right now  
23 and I'm very happy about that. And no one is to  
24 be -- we have virtually no sick time, I mean so, you  
25 know, anything that does cause overtime will just be

1 contractual stuff.

2 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: Great.

3 CHIEF WEBER: In addition to that,  
4 though, I spoke with Sonia and we discussed the ARD  
5 program, which in the contract that was just signed  
6 they were going to -- she wanted to use them up  
7 during this calendar year.

8 And we realize that if we could spread  
9 it out to a year from when the contract was signed,  
10 it would allow them to spread those days out, you  
11 know, past the hot period of the summer now and  
12 probably lessen the potential for overtime.

13 She agreed to that, the union agreed to  
14 that. So instead having to use all those backlog  
15 ARDs by the end of the year, they're going to be  
16 able to go to June 3rd of next year, which I think  
17 will help the situation dramatically.

18 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: That's great.  
19 That is a win-win for the Township and the  
20 department.

21 CHIEF WEBER: A hundred percent.

22 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: You know, and I  
23 know in talking to some of the firefighters, you  
24 know, that was something that they were concerned  
25 about, is, you know, having their -- you know, if

1 they were in a use-it-or-lose-it situation by the  
2 end of the year, you know, they would be put in a  
3 position where they needed to take time off they  
4 didn't necessarily want to take and cost the  
5 Township money that --

6 CHIEF WEBER: Right.

7 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: -- particularly  
8 with the budget we're having this year, we don't  
9 necessary want to rush to spend.

10 So I think that's -- that's a great  
11 solution --

12 SPEAKER: It is.

13 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: -- and it's, you  
14 know, a really good example of how the union and the  
15 Township have cooperated and collaborated, you know,  
16 through this contract cycle. So I'm glad to hear  
17 that.

18 The next -- next item, I also imagine  
19 will be brief, and that's a consolidation update  
20 from the mayor.

21 MAYOR McGEHEE: Thank you,  
22 Mr. Lembrich. At this point with COVID-19, there  
23 has been no movement. The czars haven't reached  
24 out, so we're pretty much at a standstill at this  
25 point.

22

1 I just want to take a sidebar and say  
 2 per our conversation about the radio site, I took  
 3 the liberty to -- to reach out to Village president,  
 4 Sheena Collum, and made her aware of the situation.  
 5 So hopefully we'll get some push on there. But,  
 6 obviously, follow up through on your channels as  
 7 well.

8 CHIEF WEBER: Thank you, Mr. Lembrich.  
 9 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: Okay.

10 The next item I had on my agenda was --  
 11 was talking about the promotional process. But,  
 12 Chief, I think we already covered that in your  
 13 report. You know, I think, you know, there's going  
 14 to be a recommendation from the public safety  
 15 committee to move forward, that -- that we'll  
 16 discuss at a Township Committee meeting Tuesday  
 17 night. And then, you know, be able to give you, you  
 18 know, I can only assume we'll give a green light for  
 19 that, you know, next week.

20 CHIEF WEBER: Great. Thank you very  
 21 much.

22 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: I don't have any  
 23 other questions.

24 Mayor or deputy mayor, do you have any  
 25 questions for the chief before we move to public

23

1 comment?

2 DEPUTY MAYOR DAFIS: No questions.  
 3 Thank you, Chairman.

4 MAYOR McGEHEE: I do not. Thank you.

5 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: Chief, is there --  
 6 is there any parting words you want to give us  
 7 before we go to public comment?

8 CHIEF WEBER: No. I think we -- we  
 9 covered pretty much, you know, what we had to cover.  
 10 I appreciate it.

11 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: Okay. Yeah, we're  
 12 probably going to have a lengthy PD portion of the  
 13 agenda tonight, so I think, you know, we were able  
 14 to move through this efficiently and that was good.

15 I will open the floor. If anyone has  
 16 public comment or questions for the -- for the fire  
 17 chief?

18 There's a way through Zoom that you can  
 19 -- you can raise your hand, I think, or put  
 20 something in the chat, or just unmute yourself and  
 21 speak up and if there's too many people, we'll take  
 22 turns.

23 I'm not seeing or hearing anything. We  
 24 have a lot of members of the public here, but I  
 25 think most of them are probably, if I were to bet,

24

1 here for the public -- for the police portion of the  
 2 Public Safety Meeting.

3 So I am, Chief Weber, going to -- to  
 4 end the fire portion of the public safety meeting  
 5 and thank you, as always, for -- for your presence  
 6 and your reports.

7 CHIEF WEBER: Okay. My pleasure.  
 8 I would stay in, I know it's an issue  
 9 (inaudible) plan, but I have an obligation this  
 10 evening, so I'm going to sign out. But thank you  
 11 very much and talk to you all soon.

12 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: Thanks, Chief.  
 13 MAYOR McGEHEE: Take care.

14 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: All right. So  
 15 that completes the fire department portion of the  
 16 meeting. We're now going to move into the Maplewood  
 17 Police Department portion of the meeting.

18 Just so everyone understands, you know,  
 19 the -- the agenda for this meeting, I'll just run  
 20 through it quickly so people know what's going to be  
 21 discussed and when.

22 We're going to start with the monthly  
 23 report. The Chief of Police DeVaul will run through  
 24 the highlights of the May report. And if there's  
 25 anything that has happened in June or July that he

25

1 wants to highlight and bring to our attention, he  
 2 can do that.

3 We'll then discuss the overtime. We'll  
 4 also go through the UCR and crime trends. We'll  
 5 talk about any update from the community board on  
 6 police.

7 Other items on the agenda for tonight  
 8 are plan for enforcement of mask and social distance  
 9 requirements, which is going to be the -- the police  
 10 and also other departments working together on that.

11 We'll talk about the status of the  
 12 promotional process and scheduling of any  
 13 interviews, if necessary. We will then move to Item  
 14 Number 7 on the agenda which is the Maplewood Police  
 15 Auxiliary.

16 I have sent a list of 40 questions,  
 17 most of which had multiple parts to Chief DeVaul and  
 18 also Chief Yacenda, who are -- who are here tonight,  
 19 so they can address those issues.

20 The last item on the agenda is the  
 21 status of the Youth Restorative Justice Program.

22 And then the ninth item will be public  
 23 comment. So at that time, you know, we'll ask  
 24 people to, you know, to either raise their hands  
 25 virtually in the Zoom or type into the chat so that

1 we can take public comment.

2 And then after that we'll close the  
3 public portion of the meeting. And we have one item  
4 on for executive session, a personnel matter that  
5 will be just the Public Safety Committee, the Chief  
6 of Police and the Township Administrator.

7 So with that, Chief, let's -- let's  
8 move into the May Monthly. We have your report but  
9 if you want to walk us through any highlights. And  
10 also, if there's any other significant developments  
11 you want to update us on.

12 CHIEF DeVAUL: Okay. And  
13 Mr. Lembrich, if you don't mind, I can merge the  
14 Restorative Justice and the year-to-date UCR in with  
15 the Monthly just for process, to make it quicker.

16 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: I -- I think  
17 efficiency will be appreciated. So -- so --

18 CHIEF DeVAUL: Okay.

19 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: -- so you can  
20 cover Items 1, 3 and 8 all together now. That would  
21 be great.

22 CHIEF DeVAUL: Okay. You have -- you  
23 have the Monthly. The UCR for the month of May  
24 continues to be outstanding. There was no incident  
25 of homicide, rape, robbery, agg assault or burglary

1 in the Township, which is phenomenal for the month.

2 Overall crime is down just about 10  
3 percent. The only UCR crime that we had is theft,  
4 which is predominantly shoplifting. Auto theft,  
5 there was two auto thefts for the months and both  
6 vehicles had their key in it.

7 I wanted to point out the Restorative  
8 Justice. There were no juveniles referred to the  
9 Restorative Justice. And we didn't have any  
10 arrests. So that's great as well.

11 I would also like to point out as part  
12 of the monthly the training report from our  
13 professionals standards unit for May. We completed  
14 in-service training which encompassed firearms  
15 qualifications, domestic violation, use of force,  
16 motor vehicle pursuits, Internal Affairs complaints  
17 and procedures, Miranda training, and ODR updates.  
18 That's with regards to domestic violence. Other  
19 than that, I don't have anything to add for the  
20 monthly.

21 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: Okay. You  
22 had -- you had sent an email to us -- to us earlier  
23 today that I -- I was hoping you can share with the  
24 committee.

25 CHIEF DeVAUL: Was that with

1 regards -- was that with regards to the reserve  
2 officer?

3 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: Yes, the -- the  
4 sexual assault --

5 CHIEF DeVAUL: Okay. I was notified --

6 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: -- arrest.

7 CHIEF DeVAUL: I was notified by Union  
8 Police Department, through -- through my chain of  
9 command structure, of course, that one of our  
10 reserve officers was -- he helped a sexual assault  
11 case and they came -- they came to identify the  
12 person with his assistance and an arrest was made in  
13 that case.

14 It's my understanding that Union PD is  
15 going to recognize the officer and do a press  
16 release shortly. And that was Officer Arrow.

17 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: Wonderful.

18 So Mayor or Deputy Mayor, do you have  
19 any questions on the monthly, that you see on crime  
20 trends or the Youth Restorative Justice Program, for  
21 Chief DeVaul?

22 MAYOR McGEHEE: Thank you, Chairman.  
23 Just one quick question.

24 First and foremost, the statistics look  
25 great. Very impressive and really my hat goes off

1 to all the officers, detectives, that were involved  
2 who make these statistics stick and resonate.

3 I just had a question. I notice that  
4 we have a lot of calls to -- basically to the  
5 7-Eleven, Wawa and -- and -- and the Walgreens, a  
6 lot of I believe shoplifting, the shoplifting --

7 CHIEF DeVAUL: Only thing open.

8 MAYOR McGEHEE: Say what?

9 CHIEF DeVAUL: It's the only thing  
10 open, Mayor.

11 MAYOR McGEHEE: Okay. Have there been  
12 conversations with them to see if they would put in  
13 some kind of security detail just to help us  
14 mitigate the risk of us dealing with some of this,  
15 you know, constant, you know, call-in to address --

16 CHIEF DeVAUL: I think -- I think that  
17 we're all facing the same struggles at this point,  
18 be it economically, and further circumstances. I  
19 can tell you that we have been working with all of  
20 those locations in a partnership.

21 They're experiencing something, the  
22 trends from which even the fire chief had -- had --  
23 had brought up. We're seeing things that are trend  
24 that are unusual and it is mostly COVID-related. We  
25 are seeing far more domestic calls than we had.

1 We're seeing a lot more not only  
2 shopliftings but the shopliftings that we're seeing  
3 are not usual shopliftings. Usual shoplifting is  
4 the kid goes in there, takes it and runs out. No.

5 MAYOR McGEHEE: Okay.

6 CHIEF DeVAUL: We are seeing people  
7 stealing gas out of necessity. We are seeing people  
8 stealing food out of necessity.

9 I can't tell you how many times, and  
10 I'm not going to be specific, where officers engaged  
11 in, even as of yesterday, where -- where the officer  
12 had brought the person back, they had apologized,  
13 and the officer actually wound up paying for the  
14 item that was taken.

15 We're seeing trends now that are  
16 unusual, Mayor. And I think -- I think that  
17 everybody is -- when I say "everybody," I mean  
18 businesses, are very cognizant as well because  
19 they're calling after the fact because they're not  
20 looking for confrontations in their locations. They  
21 are receptive to us having the people bring the  
22 items back and not pressing charges against them.

23 So, you know, the one thing that we  
24 don't do here and it's against the law for us to do,  
25 is we can't create DCR crimes, okay. So if a crime

1 they will not take anything over a -- anything under  
2 a violent crime offender.

3 MAYOR McGEHEE: Understood. Thank  
4 you, Chief.

5 That's -- the only other question I had  
6 out of curiosity, it's not in the report but just  
7 out of curiosity, is just related to our training  
8 and our process when people call dispatch. And we  
9 don't have to discuss that now, it would be for  
10 another meeting, but I'm just trying to understand  
11 when dispatch is called, what is the, you know, the  
12 SOPs related to that? So we can talk about it at  
13 another, but just put that on your radar.

14 CHIEF DeVAUL: Yes, absolutely. And I  
15 appreciate that.

16 The one thing that I will say is the  
17 people who call headquarters, obviously that topic  
18 is important to them. So we never -- we never  
19 minimize that and I make sure that the dispatchers  
20 don't minimize that.

21 When they challenge them, we try to --  
22 we try to talk to the dispatchers and make them  
23 realize, you know, the perspective from which the  
24 caller is -- is -- is calling from. And, you know,  
25 we are -- we are in this situation where -- where we

1 is committed, the crime is committed. The fact that  
2 we come up with a successful resolution, such as  
3 returning items, you know, the numbers are what the  
4 numbers are and we're not going to -- we're not  
5 going to skew them. But I can tell you the things  
6 that we're seeing, as the fire department indicated,  
7 are highly unusual. That's where you would not  
8 expect it.

9 MAYOR McGEHEE: Thank you, Chief. I  
10 appreciate that. That makes total sense.

11 And just myself, my colleagues, we  
12 received numerous email communications from our  
13 community regarding, you know, delays in their  
14 unemployment claims and things along those lines, so  
15 I can see there being a correlation there. So -- so  
16 thank you.

17 CHIEF DeVAUL: And one note on that,  
18 because of the way the court system is right now  
19 with not accepting complaints and not getting  
20 warrants, we -- not enforcing warrants, you know, we  
21 enforce the law. We don't make the law. We are  
22 particularly cognizant about that because we are  
23 looking to mitigate circumstances instead of make  
24 them worse.

25 The county jails will not take them,

1 are not trying to -- we want to be understanding to  
2 the caller, but we also have to know what our big  
3 picture is and we are trying to find solutions and  
4 not trying to cause problems.

5 MAYOR McGEHEE: Thank you, Chief.  
6 Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That's all from me,  
7 Mr. Lembrich.

8 CHIEF DeVAUL: Chairman, I think you  
9 froze. Chairman Lembrich?

10 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: Sorry, Chief. I  
11 was frozen there for a minute, so I may have missed  
12 something.

13 So I think -- unless anyone has any  
14 other questions on those topics, I wanted to move on  
15 to the overtime, which I think is, you know, is also  
16 going to be a shortened positive discussion.

17 In looking at the overtime it looks  
18 like in terms of -- of hours, and dollars, we're,  
19 you know, in terms of overtime, we're down about  
20 40 percent, maybe a little more this year.

21 And overall total salaries and OT this  
22 year, you know, are actually, you know, despite the,  
23 you know, the step-up adjustment for salaries, you  
24 know, we're still six figures lower, over \$100,000  
25 lower at this point this year versus last year.

1 So, you know, obviously I think, you  
 2 know, as with the fire department, I think  
 3 it's -- it's, you know, it's proper staffing and  
 4 also the proper staff. You know, it's we have the  
 5 numbers to keep OT to a minimum but also we have the  
 6 right people in the positions who are -- who  
 7 will -- particularly during the pandemic were  
 8 showing up for work, you know, were not calling in,  
 9 you know, weren't, you know, weren't using a lot of  
 10 vacation time.

11 So, you know, so we certainly  
 12 appreciate it. A time when our town needed our  
 13 first responders most, I think the men and women on  
 14 the front lines really stepped up. And I know a  
 15 number of them are actually on this call, but, you  
 16 know, please convey our gratitude and appreciation  
 17 to the men and women of your department for that.

18 CHIEF DeVAUL: Sir, this has been a  
 19 collaborative effort. Everybody -- I may be chief  
 20 and when things go well I get credit and when they  
 21 don't go well I get blamed, but I can tell you that  
 22 this has been a collaborative effort. And I have  
 23 worked closely with the Union officers and we have  
 24 all -- we make it a point to go into as many lineups  
 25 as we can to keep the officers positive and to keep

1 couple of minutes, Chief, to tell the community what  
 2 crime is like in Maplewood these days.

3 And does it -- how does it compare to  
 4 what you know, being someone who has been with the  
 5 department for a really long time.

6 And before you go there, I just want to  
 7 set aside and not talk about -- because you already  
 8 addressed this -- the crime that we're seeing that  
 9 clearly stems from the significant economic hardship  
 10 that people are experiencing right now due to  
 11 unemployment due to the pandemic. And I want to  
 12 commend you and our officers for their being  
 13 sensitive and professional in dealing with those  
 14 circumstances.

15 But beyond that, let's talk about crime  
 16 in Maplewood. What's it like? Do we have a lot of  
 17 crime? And what -- what does that crime look like?

18 What about violence, violent crime?  
 19 Give us a little bit of a sense, give the community  
 20 a little bit of a sense of where we are in Maplewood  
 21 at the moment.

22 CHIEF DeVAUL: Thank you,  
 23 Deputy Mayor. So uniform crime reporting, that is  
 24 what we're required to do on a quarterly basis. We  
 25 do it monthly. We review it monthly and we submit

1 them feeling safe and to make sure that they know  
 2 that they're supported and that's why they're coming  
 3 to work.

4 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: Thanks, Chief. Do  
 5 -- do either of my colleagues, the mayor or the  
 6 deputy mayor, have any questions on the monthly, the  
 7 OT, the UCR or Youth Restorative Justice before we  
 8 move on in the agenda?

9 MAYOR McGEHEE: I have no further  
 10 questions. Go ahead, Mr. Dafis.

11 DEPUTY MAYOR DAFIS: Okay. Sorry,  
 12 Mayor. Thank you, Lembrich -- Chairman Lembrich.

13 I have a couple of questions, Chairman.  
 14 Because we have a significant number of community  
 15 members with us tonight, which we don't ordinarily  
 16 have at these meetings -- and that is sad that we  
 17 don't, and I hope that will change going forward  
 18 even when we Zoom in-person meetings responsibly and  
 19 safely.

20 I wanted to ask the chief to generally  
 21 talk about, since the public doesn't have access to  
 22 the UCR report that we keep mentioning, which is  
 23 essentially a report that establishes crime trends  
 24 in our community, what is happening, what are we  
 25 looking at, et cetera, I wonder if you would take a

1 it to the FBI monthly. And then we review it with  
 2 all of our -- with all of our -- our supervisors in  
 3 the department to see what the crime trends are and  
 4 how we're going to address them.

5 So violent crime in Maplewood  
 6 year-to-date is down 38 percent. And as a part of  
 7 the monthly, I also provided a ten-year graph  
 8 on -- on where we're at as far as violent crime and  
 9 we are substantially lower, 50 percent lower or more  
 10 in most cases in violent crime compared to ten years  
 11 ago.

12 Now, I don't think that that is a trend  
 13 that affects COVID much. I think that's a trend  
 14 that is affected by our officers. It's affected by  
 15 officer deployments and stuff like that. I  
 16 think -- I think things like burglary are affected  
 17 by -- by COVID because more people are home. So we  
 18 have seen a drastic decrease in burglary  
 19 over -- over the past ten years and particularly in  
 20 2020.

21 In 2020, though we're already seven  
 22 months into this year, there has only been four  
 23 burglaries. So that is -- that is unheard of. This  
 24 time last year there was seven which is -- I'm  
 25 sorry, this time last year there was 11. And we

1 were actually down from the year before. So we are  
2 trending, we are trending down and the reason for  
3 the burglaries is because people are home.

4 So auto theft. That is way down.  
5 However, what is consistent for the past few years,  
6 motor vehicles mostly run on these key fobs now.  
7 People are leaving the key fobs in their cars  
8 consistently.

9 Last year -- last year we had 23 auto  
10 thefts, and 21 out of 23 had the key in the car. So  
11 far this year we have had 17 auto thefts, which  
12 sounds like a lot but -- but ten years ago there  
13 was, let's see if I can see it real quick -- ten  
14 years ago we had 100. So we went from 100 auto  
15 thefts down to, you know, 20. And even -- and even  
16 lower than that now. So our residents need to keep  
17 their keys out of their cars and that will help  
18 that.

19 The largest thing, Mr. Deputy Mayor, is  
20 theft. And that is one thing that people  
21 come -- they have become complacent on, they'll  
22 leave valuable things in their cars. They'll leave  
23 things out unattended. And particularly now during  
24 COVID, when you have more people walking around with  
25 less to do, they're more apt to -- because it's

1 right there, a crime waiting to happen, you are more  
2 likely to have something taken quickly.

3 So overall crime in Maplewood is  
4 tremendously low. And if we could get our residents  
5 to be more responsible with their things, that would  
6 be very helpful.

7 DEPUTY MAYOR DAFIS: Thank you, Chief.  
8 I appreciate that. And I'm sure the community  
9 appreciates some color here.

10 So crime is overall down and I'm glad  
11 to hear that violent crime, in particular, is not a  
12 thing in Maplewood, for the most part.

13 I know we have -- I know we have some  
14 domestic violence incidents in there that we  
15 obviously deal with. But you said that crime is  
16 tremendously low, especially in comparison to  
17 historical trends, which is terrific.

18 Would you also say that you're  
19 confident as the chief that we have the staff that  
20 we need to cover what we need to cover?

21 CHIEF DeVAUL: Yes. Definitely.  
22 Absolutely. That question has come up several times  
23 about staffing and -- and what they're doing  
24 and -- and assignments. A lot of the things that  
25 we're able to do are because of these crime trends.

1 So we're able to do more neighborhood inspections.  
2 We're able to do more traffic enforcement. We're  
3 able to do more pedestrian safety.

4 So it affords us -- it affords us the  
5 ability to -- to be more active and proactive in our  
6 community.

7 DEPUTY MAYOR DAFIS: Terrific. I'm  
8 glad to hear that. I'm glad to hear that we're  
9 fully staffed to meet the demand in your community  
10 currently. And I thank you for explaining that to  
11 the community, Chief. Thank you very much.

12 I have no further questions, Chairman  
13 Lembrich.

14 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: Thank you,  
15 Deputy Mayor.

16 So the next item on the agenda, Item 4  
17 is an update from the community board on police.  
18 So, Deputy Mayor, do you want to sort of take that  
19 as liaison?

20 DEPUTY MAYOR DAFIS: Sure. As -- as  
21 you, my colleagues know, and as the community may  
22 have heard because we have had participation in our  
23 public sessions, the community board on police  
24 recommended that they extend their membership by two  
25 additional members at large from the community,

1 voting members at large from the community. And we  
2 will be introducing that amendment to our charter,  
3 the community board's charter, on Tuesday night at  
4 our next public session.

5 So we'll be moving forward with that.  
6 And we are scheduling interviews of applicants who  
7 have reached out to us who are very, very interested  
8 in being involved in policing in our community. And  
9 we're really grateful for everyone's engagement. We  
10 look forward to the interviews and to getting two  
11 new members.

12 CHIEF DeVAUL: I just would like to  
13 add that Deputy Chief Sally is here with me as well  
14 and we are committed on our end to coordinating and  
15 cooperating with the community board on police.

16 CHIEF LEMBRICH: Outstanding.

17 The next item on the agenda, Item 5 is  
18 plan for enforcement of mask and social distance  
19 requirements. You know, I know this is going to be  
20 a cooperative effort between the police, between our  
21 Township health department, and also a new  
22 initiative that we're looking into of having, you  
23 know, non-police help the ambassadors, social  
24 distance ambassadors.

25 And I was thinking that either the

1 mayor, having worked with the health department on  
2 this, or the -- or, you know, or the deputy mayor as  
3 chair of the Board of Health, might want to provide  
4 some -- some additional information on that.

5 MAYOR McGEHEE: Thank you,  
6 Mr. Chairman.

7 Yes, we had a meeting this week. And  
8 basically the -- the plan that we're laying out is  
9 going to leverage brand ambassadors. These  
10 ambassadors are going to be active in key community  
11 areas, such as our parks, so that they can provide a  
12 tangible reminder as well as, you know, provide  
13 masks or facial coverings. It will be in tandems of  
14 two.

15 We have two strategies; one is that it  
16 will leverage youth in the parks, you know, in  
17 tandems of two, just try to promote social  
18 distancing, you know, and -- and wearing facial  
19 masks.

20 And then also in our special  
21 improvement districts, we're going to look for a  
22 different type of employee, more of an adult to help  
23 in this regard too. They'll have on bright-colored  
24 T-shirts, they'll have documentation with them as  
25 well as facial masks. But this is a way for us to

1 Board of Health, do you have anything else that you  
2 wanted to add on -- on that subject.

3 DEPUTY MAYOR DAFIS: No. The mayor  
4 covered it sufficiently. Thank you, Chair.

5 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: Great. Okay.  
6 Moving right along, we're on to Item 6, which is  
7 status of the promotional process and scheduling of  
8 interviews, if necessary.

9 Chief, can you sort of give us  
10 something? I know there was a test held. We  
11 probably have results at this point. Can you sort  
12 of tell us where we're at in terms of what positions  
13 are open, what positions we expect to be open and  
14 what the next step should be from your view in terms  
15 of the process of getting lists together?

16 CHIEF DeVAUL: So I would ask that,  
17 yes, we have had the test and they're all scored and  
18 -- and we're ready to go. We have an opening for  
19 lieutenant immediately. And we have an open -- an  
20 opening for a sergeant immediately, and a second  
21 sergeant on September 1st.

22 So I would ask that -- that whatever  
23 interviews that we do, that we do them at -- at the  
24 same time so that way September 1st we will be ready  
25 to go or -- or thereabouts -- or thereabouts to have

1 proactively enhance or -- or support the Executive  
2 Order by the governor but in a way that is maybe  
3 less confrontational, in a way that provides us with  
4 a little more of a positive directive in that  
5 regard.

6 And, you know, my personal comment, I  
7 know there are some police officers are on this call  
8 so I want to publically state it, I really  
9 appreciate if you gentlemen always have your masks  
10 at all times. Most of you do. I appreciate that.  
11 But I would appreciate if all of you do. We lead by  
12 example. And it would be great to see you guys out  
13 there and gals out there with your masks.

14 You know, you have it on your side or  
15 around your neck. You know, I have one right here  
16 that I wear all the time. But really seeing you  
17 guys and gals out there, you know, having them  
18 physically on your person really, really helps set  
19 the tone and also helps with the positive message  
20 that we're trying to resonate throughout our  
21 community.

22 So thank you, Mr. Chairman.

23 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: Thank you,  
24 Mr. Mayor.

25 And, Deputy Mayor, as Chair of the

1 two sergeants and one lieutenant put in place.

2 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: Okay. So -- so  
3 right now, if I understand, Chief, there's a  
4 lieutenant position open?

5 CHIEF DeVAUL: Yes.

6 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: And we'll promote  
7 a sergeant to lieutenant, which will open up a  
8 sergeant position?

9 CHIEF DeVAUL: Yes.

10 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: And then we have a --

11 CHIEF DeVAUL: And we have --

12 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: -- and then we  
13 have sergeant retirement coming up at the end of the  
14 summer. And we'll fill that position with another  
15 promotion from patrol officer to sergeant?

16 CHIEF DeVAUL: Correct. I anticipate --

17 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: Okay.

18 CHIEF DeVAUL: I anticipate -- I

19 anticipate a -- a captain retirement at the end of  
20 the year, but we have some time for that.

21 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: Right. Right.

22 So, yeah, we don't need a -- do we currently -- do  
23 we have an active captain's list or have we done a  
24 captain's test?

25 CHIEF DeVAUL: We do have an active

1 list.

2 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: Okay. All right.

3 So we now have an active list for captain,

4 lieutenant and sergeant; is that correct?

5 CHIEF DeVAUL: That's correct.

6 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: Okay. But we --

7 you know, we need to do interviews for lieutenants

8 and sergeants.

9 So that's another thing I will put on

10 for discussion at the Tuesday night's Township

11 Committee meeting, would be to set a date, you know,

12 provide you a date for interviews.

13 CHIEF DeVAUL: Sounds good. I know --

14 I know the officers worked hard on it. They would

15 be happy.

16 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: So we would be --

17 I believe we would be -- so for lieutenant we would

18 interview the top three. And then for sergeant you

19 would probably want us to interview more since

20 there's two positions; is that right?

21 CHIEF DeVAUL: Yeah, I would ask you

22 to interview four. Name one immediately and then

23 -- of course, this is all, you know, you get to

24 promote when you want to, but I would ask you to --

25 I would ask you to interview and make one and then

1 Chief Kelly.

2 CHIEF KELLY: Thank you.

3 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: So between those

4 two gentleman, I think they probably have over

5 75 years in on the reserves. So, you know, so we

6 certainly have -- I think we also have a number of

7 current and former reserves on the call.

8 So, but, you know, but Chief, I will be

9 directing the questions to you. And if you have --

10 you know, if you want to defer those, any questions

11 to anyone else on the call, just let me know.

12 CHIEF DeVAUL: Absolutely.

13 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: And, you know, and

14 we can -- we can recognize them.

15 But I sent you a list of -- I think I

16 said before no fewer than 40 questions that had come

17 up over the course of the community board on police,

18 the Township Committee meeting last week, and also

19 emails and other comments that have been sent to

20 Township Committee members.

21 So I wanted to -- to go through those.

22 And some of those questions have -- have multiple

23 parts. I think -- I think many of them we can

24 probably, you know, are either "yes" or "no"

25 questions, or could be handled pretty quickly, but,

1 name one is what I would do for the opening

2 September 1st.

3 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: Okay. All right.

4 So, yeah, what I'll do, you know, without, you know,

5 without hearing any objection from my colleagues,

6 although they can speak up if they want, is to, you

7 know, convey your request and the Public Safety

8 Committee's recommendation to the Township Committee

9 that we set a date for promotional interviews for

10 lieutenant and for sergeant, interviewing the top

11 three on the -- on the current ranking list for

12 lieutenant, and the top four for sergeant, so that

13 we're ready to fill the vacancies that exist now and

14 also the one that we -- we already know will be

15 coming at the end of the summer.

16 CHIEF DeVAUL: Yes. Thank you.

17 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: Thank you. So the

18 next item will probably not go as quickly. It's,

19 you know, going to be a more in-depth discussion,

20 and that's on the Maplewood Police Auxiliary.

21 You know, Chief, I know we're joined

22 here tonight also by -- I just wanted to take a

23 moment to recognize that we're joined by the current

24 chief of the auxiliary police, Mr. Chief Yacenda.

25 And also I think I see the retired former chief,

1 you know, if there's any we're not ready to answer

2 tonight and we are going to need more information,

3 you can let us know that as well.

4 CHIEF DeVAUL: Sure.

5 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: So unless --

6 unless you think there's a better way of doing this,

7 I was thinking I would -- I would ask you the

8 questions one by one. You could provide whatever

9 response you have or -- or refer to another

10 individual and then we could move on to the next

11 one?

12 CHIEF DeVAUL: Sure.

13 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: Okay.

14 So, Chief, how long has the auxiliary

15 existed in Maplewood and why was it created?

16 CHIEF DeVAUL: So in 1988 I became a

17 Maplewood police auxiliary officer. So my history

18 with the auxiliary officers begins in 1988. I know

19 that there was a chief at that time who was

20 Joseph Freeman and -- and Chief Kelly at the time

21 was a captain.

22 I know that the Township ordinance was

23 created in 1988. And I know from historical

24 information, including -- including photos and other

25 things that -- that they were part of an OEM unit

1 that was run by the Office of Emergency Management.  
2 Basically it was civilians that were used in times  
3 of emergency.

4 Chief, Chief Kelly, I defer to you, if  
5 you know any more on that, on the creation?

6 CHIEF KELLY: No. The only thing I  
7 could tell you, I believe it was 1943, was created  
8 the Office of Civilian -- Civilian something like  
9 that, and there were probably about 150 members. I  
10 tried to find where the picture was, I looked at,  
11 looked at that.

12 But as far as before, Chief Bench I go  
13 back to, because then it was a Chief Freeman and  
14 then it was myself. But I have no other history on  
15 that but it goes back 78 years.

16 CHIEF DeVAUL: Mr. -- Mr. Lembrich,  
17 this is, the police reserves, are run under the  
18 Office of Emergency Management and controlled  
19 through the Township of Maple -- Maplewood. And  
20 through resolution or through ordinance, it's  
21 through -- it's designated to me to be in charge of  
22 them. But to this day it remains Office of  
23 Emergency Management.

24 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: Thank you.  
25 How many members does the auxiliary

1 currently have and how does that compare to -- to  
2 where we have been in the past?

3 CHIEF DeVAUL: So right now we have  
4 15. Right now we have 15. But I can tell you that  
5 that goes up and down. When I joined there was in  
6 the twenties. Maybe the chief would know during his  
7 tenure how many -- how many more there were.

8 But people come and go. And the reason  
9 being is, is some get other jobs. Some realize that  
10 the commitment to this program is more than they can  
11 sustain. It requires -- it requires hundreds of --  
12 of hours of volunteering. We provide an enormous  
13 amount of training and with that comes  
14 responsibility.

15 So people's day-to-day lives and  
16 circumstances change. But generally my experience  
17 has been under -- under 20 is generally my  
18 experience.

19 CHIEF KELLY: Yeah, I agree, too much  
20 involvement in this. People can't do it today.  
21 That's why the numbers have shrunk.

22 CHIEF DeVAUL: And -- and I know, I'll  
23 talk about it in a few minutes, but another thing is  
24 -- is of that 15, we've lost three of them to our  
25 ranks, one of which went to the South Orange police,

1 two of which went to us.

2 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: Right. And I --  
3 and I think we had one go to -- one got hired by a  
4 university, right? Was it NJIT, or Rutgers, or --

5 CHIEF YACENDA: Yes. That was about  
6 five years ago. Officer Davis was taken on by them.  
7 You're correct, Chairman Lembrich.

8 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: And -- and did we  
9 have someone go to Irvington or -- I thought we had  
10 someone go to somewhere that wasn't Maplewood or  
11 South Orange.

12 CHIEF YACENDA: To my recollection, I  
13 don't remember anybody getting on the force in  
14 Irvington --

15 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: Oh, okay.

16 CHIEF YACENDA: -- but it is a  
17 possibility.

18 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: Okay.

19 CHIEF DeVAUL: I lose track. I mean,  
20 we currently have -- we currently have three or  
21 four -- now that I look at it, we currently have  
22 four Maplewood police officers who were reserves who  
23 are -- who are still currently working.

24 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: Mm-hm. So in  
25 terms of the size of our reserve force, you know,

1 currently being in the teens, do you know how that  
2 compares to Auxiliaries in surrounding communities,  
3 whether we're larger, smaller, about the same?

4 CHIEF DeVAUL: These questions came  
5 too soon for me. I'm not familiar with the other  
6 programs. I'm not -- I don't know how they're --  
7 they're deployed in other programs.

8 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: Okay. So how long  
9 have auxiliary officers been armed in Maplewood?

10 CHIEF DeVAUL: Chief?

11 CHIEF KELLY: I don't know the answer  
12 to that question. When I came on in 1972, you know,  
13 we were armed.

14 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: So, I mean, would  
15 it -- would it be fair to say that at least since  
16 1972?

17 CHIEF KELLY: That would be fair,  
18 yeah.

19 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: Okay. So, and,  
20 you know, and for as long, Chief Yacenda and Chief  
21 DeVaul, for as long as you've been around, the  
22 reserves have been armed?

23 CHIEF YACENDA: Yes, that's correct.

24 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: Okay. Yeah, so I  
25 -- I don't know that we need to, you know, go back

1 any further than that. So it's been quite a while.  
 2 So -- and this may, Chief DeVaul, you  
 3 know, if you're not familiar with the surrounding  
 4 communities, it may be a question more for Chief  
 5 Yacenda or -- or Chief Kelly. The -- what other  
 6 communities in this area, sort of surrounding  
 7 communities, have auxiliary reserve units? And  
 8 which are armed and which aren't?

9 CHIEF YACENDA: I don't know the exact  
 10 number of units in the state. But based on some  
 11 research and information that I have, to the best of  
 12 my knowledge, there are over 30 reserve or auxiliary  
 13 units within the State of New Jersey. And there are  
 14 quite a few in our general vicinity, four of which  
 15 are armed as we are.

16 There are others, such as Newark and  
 17 Hillside, that are not. Irvington had been thinking  
 18 about it as of a couple of years ago. I don't know  
 19 where they are with that.

20 So to answer your question, I don't  
 21 have the exact numbers, but I believe it's a little  
 22 over 30 townships within the state that have these  
 23 type of units. And I can only speak for the ones  
 24 surrounding us, that out of the six or seven right  
 25 in our area, four of them are armed.

1 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: So and those four  
 2 are -- are Union, Springfield, and Livingston; is  
 3 that right? Or is there another besides us?

4 CHIEF YACENDA: I -- I believe there's  
 5 another but at the time -- at this moment, I cannot  
 6 think about that fourth town's name.

7 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: Okay.

8 CHIEF YACENDA: But you're correct  
 9 with the first three, yes.

10 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: Okay.

11 CHIEF YACENDA: Absolutely.

12 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: What is the  
 13 demographic makeup in terms of gender, age, race of  
 14 the auxiliary membership? And, you know, and how  
 15 does that number sort of compare to -- to recent  
 16 years?

17 CHIEF DeVAUL: Again, I think that  
 18 that fluctuates. If you had asked me that last  
 19 year, we would have been 50 percent African-American  
 20 and --

21 CHIEF YACENDA: There was almost  
 22 20 percent female at that time, Chief DeVaul.

23 CHIEF DeVAUL: Right. And -- and  
 24 depending whether you -- whether you include  
 25 Hispanic as white, we have several Hispanic as well.

1 But this year we have lost two of our  
 2 African-American officers because we hired them.  
 3 They work here now.

4 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: Right.

5 CHIEF YACENDA: I can -- I can tell  
 6 you -- I can tell you that currently the makeup of  
 7 the unit is 20 percent minority, 25 percent female,  
 8 and the rest is, you know, Hispanic or white male.

9 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: Okay. So you've  
 10 already addressed -- you know, the township does  
 11 hire officers from the auxiliary to become full-time  
 12 officers. And I -- I think you said there's four  
 13 currently, Chief; is that right?

14 CHIEF DeVAUL: Yes.

15 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: So -- and -- and  
 16 two of them in the last few years, right;

17 officer -- Officer Nelson and Officer

18 Engerville (phonetic)?

19 CHIEF DeVAUL: Yes.

20 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: And I think we  
 21 also mentioned that, you know, that some have gone  
 22 to other departments.

23 CHIEF DeVAUL: And we have two  
 24 dispatchers. We have two dispatchers who are -- who  
 25 are currently reserves. And we have a records clerk

1 who is a reserve officer.

2 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: Okay. So in  
 3 addition to the officers from the reserves who've  
 4 become full-time Maplewood officers, we also have  
 5 three other staff at headquarters who are reserves?

6 CHIEF DeVAUL: Yes. And ironically  
 7 enough, they were employees first, saw what they  
 8 were doing, saw the trends and -- and how we utilize  
 9 the unit, and then they became involved in -- in the  
 10 unit, in the reserves.

11 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: Okay. What  
 12 criteria are required for members to join the  
 13 auxiliary in terms of age, in terms of residence?

14 CHIEF DeVAUL: So I'm reading directly  
 15 from our police department website because they have  
 16 a link on our website. We have the -- we have the  
 17 application on our -- on our website as well.

18 Maplewood Police Department is seeking members for  
 19 the police auxiliary. You must be a U.S. citizen,  
 20 18 years of age or older, and physical -- good  
 21 physical health and mental health. No -- no  
 22 criminal record. A valid driver's license. And you  
 23 must reside within 5 miles of Maplewood, provided  
 24 that -- that town you live in does not have a police  
 25 auxiliary.

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1 So one of our auxiliaries now lives in  
2 South Orange, and she happens to be a -- a  
3 dispatcher.

4 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: What kind of  
5 background checks or other due diligence are done on  
6 prospective auxiliary members?

7 CHIEF DeVAUL: So Mr. Lembrich, that's  
8 the easy thing for -- for us. Because in order for  
9 them to get the training that's required to do this,  
10 not only do they meet -- meet our training, but they  
11 have to meet -- our standards, they have to meet the  
12 standards of the New Jersey PTC who is -- who  
13 provides the training.

14 So they have the same exact background  
15 investigation conducted as our regular police  
16 officers, including a -- a mental -- a mental  
17 evaluation. Matter of fact, they get subjected to  
18 two of them, mental health evaluations.

19 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: So how does -- so,  
20 you know, so the background check that they go  
21 through is -- is similar, if not the same, as the --  
22 as the full-time police; is that right?

23 CHIEF DeVAUL: They get -- they get --  
24 they get fingerprinted just like every other person.  
25 They have to meet the standards of -- of the

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1 academy. They have to, obviously, they have to be  
2 able to pass the academy, which -- which is, you  
3 know, the training for the reserves officers has  
4 morphed and changed over the years because,  
5 obviously, our reserve officers have full-time jobs.  
6 So now they're offered -- now they're offered -- and  
7 they're generally given at a -- at a community  
8 college or a state college someplace where they're  
9 providing the -- the classroom space. But it's  
10 usually done two to three nights a week over the  
11 course of three to four months, and that -- that  
12 training -- that certification process is done by  
13 the state.

14 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: Okay. And what  
15 standards are used by the auxiliary or by the MPD to  
16 determine whether an applicant is selected for the  
17 program beyond the background check you just  
18 mentioned? Is there, you know, any other criteria  
19 or standards we use when bringing someone on?

20 CHIEF DeVAUL: The difference about  
21 -- now, we have -- we have the application on the  
22 website, and people submit to it. People submit to  
23 volunteer.

24 How the process works for us is because  
25 it is a budgetary issue. I can't have just as many

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1 as -- as I want because it's very expensive. To  
2 outfit and train a new reserve officer is several  
3 thousand dollars. And when I'm going to be adding  
4 reserve officers and training them, I ask for  
5 permission to do so at the Public Safety Committee  
6 meeting knowing that there's an expense that's  
7 involved.

8 So we typically will take one or two a  
9 year, depending on -- depending on how -- how the  
10 unit moves or fluctuates. Plus, the -- the training  
11 usually is only once or twice a year. So we have to  
12 be prepared for a class when they're ready to -- to  
13 do that. So what happens is, is when the  
14 applications come in, they -- the applicants are  
15 subjected to the same processes of our regular  
16 officers: I assign them a background investigator.  
17 They reach out to them. They check their  
18 references. Before -- before I even meet them these  
19 -- all these things happen. They pass -- they pass  
20 a psychological evaluation before I even meet them.  
21 They pass the background with an evaluation by the  
22 investigator who it's assigned to. And then our  
23 command staff will interview them.

24 And generally speaking, we will narrow  
25 it down to one person -- I'm sorry -- three people

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1 for every one position because we know we  
2 can't -- because financially -- financially, we  
3 can't take them all. To outfit them costs 3/\$4,000  
4 a person.

5 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: I understand.  
6 So you mentioned the academy, and we  
7 had a lot of questions from the public about  
8 training. So I wanted to sort of -- so there's  
9 initial training requirement where they go to -- to  
10 a police academy.

11 Do you know who runs that academy and  
12 how many hours that is?

13 CHIEF DeVAUL: I'm not sure. I'm not  
14 sure of the hours on it, actually. I think that's  
15 one of those questions where I wasn't able to get an  
16 answer to it as quickly. You know --

17 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: I understand.  
18 CHIEF DeVAUL: I know -- I know that  
19 they happen to be a couple of times a week, a couple  
20 of hours a day, so probably, like, ten hours a week.

21 CHIEF YACENDA: Based -- excuse me, if  
22 I may, based on the previous classes that we have  
23 had our auxiliary members in the academy, it is  
24 upwards of 100 hours of training at the Essex County  
25 Police Academy before they even take the final test

1 to pass.

2 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: Okay.

3 CHIEF DeVAUL: Yeah. And then when  
4 they get here, Mr. Lembrich, we have to -- the  
5 auxiliaries go through the same training that we do.  
6 So when we do our annual and semiannual training,  
7 they do it with us. And for those who work at  
8 night, we make accommodations.

9 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: Okay. So in terms  
10 of -- in terms of on-the-job training, is they -- do  
11 they have a probationary period after the academy?

12 CHIEF DeVAUL: They have -- well, they  
13 do have a probationary period, but that could  
14 be -- that could be much shorter, Mr. Lembrich,  
15 because if they don't pass -- similar to our -- our  
16 field training that we have now here at the police  
17 department, they're -- they are assigned a field  
18 training officer. Our officers are assigned a field  
19 training officer, and -- and it's completed within  
20 12 weeks. If they're unable to -- to complete it --  
21 which -- which involves the training, the putting in  
22 the hours for the training, passing of the test --  
23 Mr. Lembrich, the use of force testing and the  
24 testing that our officers, our regular officers  
25 receive, the reserve officers take that same test.

1 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: Okay.

2 CHIEF YACENDA: And that's twice a  
3 year.

4 CHIEF DeVAUL: That is twice a year.

5 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: Twice a year.  
6 Okay.

7 CHIEF DeVAUL: Spring and fall.

8 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: So, you know, and  
9 then we also had a lot of questions, which I'll get  
10 to, about firearms. But while we're still on the  
11 subject of training, what training do the officers  
12 get in firearms? And how, if at all, does it differ  
13 from the training required for a full-time Maplewood  
14 Police Department officer?

15 CHIEF DeVAUL: It doesn't differ at  
16 all. As a matter of fact that standard is not set  
17 by us. That's -- the standard for firearms is set  
18 by the attorney general.

19 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: Okay. So -- so  
20 they need to qualify and get recertified, sort of,  
21 on -- on the same schedule as our full-time police?

22 CHIEF DeVAUL: Yes. We have -- we --  
23 we have to score an 80. We have to score an  
24 80 percent to pass, and so do they, twice a year.

25 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: Okay. So, you

1 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: Okay.

2 CHIEF DeVAUL: They have --

3 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: So in terms -- so  
4 in terms of ongoing training once someone is in the  
5 auxiliary, you know, are they required to receive  
6 the same -- the same training that -- mandated by  
7 the New Jersey Attorney General, use of force,  
8 racial bias, et cetera; do they get the same  
9 training --

10 CHIEF DeVAUL: They do.

11 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: -- that the  
12 full-time officers get?

13 CHIEF DeVAUL: They do. Yes.

14 And then we provide them the  
15 opportunity -- so what we do is, because of our  
16 schedule, we open up Wednesdays, and we try to get  
17 as many people in on those days as we can. And that  
18 -- that affords, you know, the ability to people's  
19 schedules to be flexible. And then we will have  
20 people come in at night to train those who aren't  
21 able to.

22 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: Okay.

23 CHIEF DeVAUL: But, yes, they receive  
24 the same use of force training and -- and other  
25 mandatory AG-required training.

1 know, there's also a lot of questions that, you  
2 know -- because a lot of members of the public, you  
3 know, didn't even, you know, didn't know that there  
4 was a reserve force. So --

5 CHIEF DeVAUL: I think the last -- I  
6 think the last actual push that we had was in 2015  
7 where we were trying to recruit people because there  
8 was an article on the Village Green from  
9 2015 -- excuse me, I've got to drink some water.

10 But in 2015, we had a recruitment effort, and since  
11 then we had a -- we were up to staff.

12 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: Okay. So what  
13 police duties are auxiliary officers allowed to  
14 perform, and what, if anything, are they not allowed  
15 to do that full-time officers can do?

16 So, you know, can they pull over  
17 vehicles, issue tickets, make arrests, respond to  
18 calls? You know, what -- can you -- can you walk me  
19 through for my benefit and also the committee's and  
20 the public's, you know, what are the -- what are the  
21 similarities? What are the differences? What can  
22 they do? What can they not do?

23 CHIEF DeVAUL: So there's a big  
24 difference -- there's a big difference, now that I  
25 got a drink of water too -- but there's a big

1 difference between what we ask them to do and what  
2 they're allowed to do.

3           When they -- when they completed their  
4 training, they are a police officer while they are  
5 on duty. They do not have powers when they are  
6 on -- when they are off duty. They only have powers  
7 within our community and when they are on duty. So  
8 I know that answers one of the questions. But they  
9 have the right to enforce all New Jersey law that  
10 our regular police officers do.

11           CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: And -- and do they  
12 have any restrictions in terms of what kind of calls  
13 they can respond to, where they can make arrests,  
14 et cetera, or do they have the same powers?

15           CHIEF DeVAUL: Well, no. We restrict  
16 them.

17           CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: Okay.

18           CHIEF DeVAUL: We restrict them. You  
19 know, I mean, Mr. Lembrich, if we went under -- if  
20 we went under that -- if we went by that model, our  
21 officer would not have been involved in -- in  
22 solving a sexual assault in Union, but -- but they  
23 were.

24           So we do not -- we do not utilize our  
25 officers as -- as primary responders, and that's for

1 many reasons. One, it's contractual; we can't use  
2 them to replace our officers. And we don't send  
3 them instead of our officers because, one, it would  
4 be unfair to them, but it would be -- it also would  
5 not be safe for them.

6           However, when they respond to calls,  
7 they can respond to calls along with our officers,  
8 and they have -- but they have ridden with our  
9 officers before. They can ride with our officers.  
10 We don't force them to. We don't force any of our  
11 officers to -- to ride together or not. They --  
12 they -- they decide that on their own. They train  
13 together. They ride together. But our reserve  
14 officers are not primary responders. We do not send  
15 them to take reports because we're -- they do not  
16 take the place of our police department. They  
17 enhance it and supplement it, but they do not  
18 replace it.

19           CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: Okay. In terms of  
20 the uniforms, what are the differences between the  
21 uniforms worn by the auxiliary versus worn by the  
22 full-time MPD officers?

23           And -- and how would a resident be able  
24 to sort of spot the difference between the two, if  
25 they were to see them?

1           CHIEF DeVAUL: Well, generally  
2 speaking, people will see the -- people see the  
3 uniform and -- and make assumptions. The uniforms  
4 are completely different, and we do that purposely.  
5 Our -- our uniforms are all navy blue and we don't  
6 have stripes, and our patches say "Maplewood  
7 Police."

8           So the resident is afforded every  
9 opportunity they possibly can to realize that  
10 they're reserve officers without the reserve officer  
11 going up to them and saying, "I'm a reserve  
12 officer."

13           So the color of their shirt is  
14 different. Their badge is different. Their patch  
15 is different. Their pants with the stripe is  
16 different, but you still have to take the time to  
17 read that. But when you're -- when you're  
18 confronted by a person of authority, you just assume  
19 that that's a law enforcement officer.

20           CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: So, Chief, we're  
21 getting some questions in the chat, so I -- and I  
22 want to just, you know, clarify something you just  
23 said about one of our reserve officers being  
24 involved in solving a sexual assault crime in Union.  
25 You know, that -- that was not while he was on

1 duty --

2           CHIEF DeVAUL: No.

3           CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: -- as a -- as a  
4 reserve.

5           CHIEF DeVAUL: No.

6           CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: Right. So --

7           CHIEF DeVAUL: No. These are -- these  
8 are our residents. These are our volunteers. These  
9 -- these are, you know, I'm trying to say that this  
10 is -- this is the community helping, you know, on  
11 and off duty. That's who they are.

12           CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: Right. Okay. So  
13 yeah, so that was not an on -- that was not an  
14 on-duty auxiliary officer?

15           CHIEF DeVAUL: No. And I see  
16 something about a volunteer. It does not say,  
17 "Volunteer," because they're not a volunteer.  
18 Essentially they volunteer, but the patch does not  
19 say that they are a volunteer.

20           CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: So how often is an  
21 auxiliary officer on duty and, you know -- do they  
22 do a certain number of shifts per week, per month,  
23 or per year? Is -- you know, what is, sort of, the  
24 requirement to be active?

25           CHIEF DeVAUL: So, Chief Yacenda, I'm

1 just going to give some basic statistics, and then  
 2 if you want to add to that, that -- that's fine.  
 3 CHIEF YACENDA: Okay.  
 4 CHIEF DeVAUL: So I -- I got the  
 5 statistics for -- for '18 and '19. I can tell you  
 6 2020, obviously -- there's just nothing normal about  
 7 2020. I can tell you that I -- that I deactivated  
 8 the unit. So right now our unit is on standby. And  
 9 even though our unit is on standby, they are on  
 10 standby so I'm not requiring them to meet their  
 11 minimum -- although they're meeting their minimum  
 12 training requirements and standards, they're  
 13 not -- I'm not holding them to their monthly  
 14 commitments.

15 So 2020 looks -- looks very different.  
 16 One of their biggest assignments is on Sundays to  
 17 help out with our -- our churches, which we would  
 18 never be able to sustain or support without them.  
 19 But for 2020 there's been very, very little that --  
 20 that they've been doing. However, we have called  
 21 them in several times for storms, emergencies, and  
 22 other crime scenes.

23 2018, they worked a total of  
 24 3,256 hours. They -- they worked 580 hours of  
 25 Sunday details. They worked 1,360 hours of night

1 patrols. They've had 300 hour -- over 300 hours of  
 2 classroom training. That was in '18.

3 In '19, they're -- they're very active,  
 4 even more so. They racked up 4,209 hours. They put  
 5 735 hours of Sunday details, 1,290 hours of night  
 6 patrol, and 851 hours of classroom training.

7 And, Mr. Lembrich, this does not  
 8 include the -- the great number of times that we  
 9 have called them in for emergencies. The -- the  
 10 amount of -- I have not begun to talk about the --  
 11 the special events that they -- that they  
 12 participate in. I'll just -- I'll just do it  
 13 quickly.

14 MAYOR McGEHEE: So Chief -- this is  
 15 the mayor -- so you just provided some statistics  
 16 that are very interesting. Do you have them broken  
 17 out by officer, or those are just macro statistics?

18 CHIEF DeVAUL: No, that's totals.

19 MAYOR McGEHEE: Okay.

20 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: And Chief, you  
 21 know, that actually leads to -- to, sort of, my next  
 22 question, which is I wanted to ask about what  
 23 assignments are given to auxiliary officers during  
 24 events? Because it sounds like that's a big part of  
 25 their role. And then what assignments are they

1 given when they're on duty but events aren't  
 2 occurring? So sort of -- you know, maybe you could  
 3 describe what a typical shift would look like for a  
 4 reserve when there's a major event going on and  
 5 maybe what a typical shift might look like when  
 6 there's not an event.

7 CHIEF DeVAUL: So when they  
 8 work -- when they work night patrols, they do that  
 9 only in pairs. That typically -- typically will  
 10 involve them coming in anywhere from 6 o'clock and  
 11 working until 11:00 or 12:00. And during those  
 12 times we ask them to do several things. In the  
 13 summertime, we ask them to walk -- to walk the  
 14 Village. We ask them to -- to walk Springfield  
 15 Avenue. We ask them to participate in our -- in our  
 16 traffic details. We get -- we get grant money to do  
 17 DWI details. We ask them to participate in them.

18 Then as far as these special events go,  
 19 again, everything -- everything is very different.  
 20 If you ask me about National Night Out, they're  
 21 wearing costumes and -- and helping support the  
 22 function. Without them, we wouldn't be able to do  
 23 it.

24 If you ask about -- if you ask about  
 25 MayFest or Fourth of July, those events are security

1 events. They're not -- they're not at a crossing  
 2 event, so we're asking them to do crowd control. If  
 3 you talk about the Memorial Day parade, we ask them  
 4 to do traffic control.

5 I want to distinguish something  
 6 that -- that -- that I've heard and I think there's  
 7 a common misunderstanding about. Crossing guards  
 8 are not permitted to direct traffic. One of the  
 9 number one complaints I receive about our school  
 10 crossing guards is why aren't they directing  
 11 traffic. Okay? In order for you to be a traffic  
 12 director, there's a certification for that. Okay?  
 13 Not just anybody can go out in the road and direct  
 14 traffic. Okay?

15 So it's one thing to be crossing people  
 16 for -- for church, and it's a whole entirely  
 17 different thing to direct traffic when a car just  
 18 smashed into a light or something and we have  
 19 several locations where traffic has to be  
 20 controlled.

21 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: Thanks, Chief.

22 So moving on to -- to the next  
 23 question, why do auxiliary officers need to be  
 24 armed? And could they be assigned to only perform  
 25 duties for which firearms would not be necessary?

1 CHIEF DeVAUL: Well, I'm going to --  
 2 I'm going to take that standard and apply it to my  
 3 whole police department because I'm asking my  
 4 reserve officers to do everything from crowd  
 5 control, to traffic control, to providing security.  
 6 So if I have officers from the reserves providing  
 7 traffic control for Memorial Day parade, none of us  
 8 need guns. So in that circumstance, no. But I'm  
 9 asking them to do crowd control at very large events  
 10 that have sometimes several thousand people -- several  
 11 thousand people. They need to be armed.

12 To add to that, when we have  
 13 emergencies -- I won't even go into crime scenes  
 14 because without -- without the reserves for crime  
 15 scenes -- when we have a crime scene, sometimes we  
 16 have to maintain that 24 hours a day over the course  
 17 of several days, and that requires -- that requires  
 18 two to four officers per scene when -- when  
 19 something happens. And if it wasn't for them -- and  
 20 they would have to be armed -- we would not -- one,  
 21 we would be paying more money than I could even  
 22 imagine to regular officers: have to do this, but  
 23 -- but as support -- as support staff for police  
 24 security functions, the amount of -- the amount of  
 25 hours that they put in is not even calculated in

1 what I'm -- in what I'm referring to.  
 2 But we are asking them to do the duties  
 3 of a police officer while they're on duty and, at  
 4 times -- at times, sometimes under the worst  
 5 conditions. And under those worst conditions, our  
 6 officers have to be prepared, just as our regular  
 7 officers have to be prepared. And I'm not going to  
 8 put them in a position where they're not prepared.  
 9 They respond at a moment's notice --  
 10 and they have while the COVID is in effect -- at a  
 11 moment's notice for crowd control, not just traffic  
 12 control. They have responded for emergencies to  
 13 help with -- with emergency scenes.  
 14 When something happens at a particular  
 15 time during the day, these 15 people are a resource  
 16 that is right there. So if I have to call my  
 17 officers in, yes, there's an expense, but there's  
 18 also a delay. Without delay, I have access to  
 19 15 people and whoever is -- is available, any help  
 20 that they can. But generally speaking, I can get  
 21 two/three/four people at any given time. And that  
 22 is right away in an emergency situation. And they  
 23 have to be armed.  
 24 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: Okay. Thanks,  
 25 Chief. You've -- you've actually covered a few

1 questions with that answer, so I'm going to -- I'm  
 2 going to move on. I'm just going through, you know,  
 3 again, questions that we've received from -- from  
 4 the public, either in meetings or -- or by email to  
 5 TC members.

6 Why are auxiliary reserve officers in  
 7 other -- in some other communities unarmed? And if  
 8 they can do it there, why can't Maplewood? What's  
 9 the difference?

10 CHIEF DeVAUL: Well, the  
 11 different -- well, I can tell you that I don't know  
 12 the answer to that question, as I mentioned before,  
 13 and I don't know what they have them doing, and  
 14 that's the answer.

15 I could tell you what I have my -- my  
 16 -- my reserve officers doing. If I have a crime  
 17 scene, I have two officers -- two Maplewood police  
 18 officers and two reserve officers protecting that  
 19 crime scene, therefore having two Maplewood officers  
 20 available for regular patrol and to respond on  
 21 calls.

22 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: What consequences  
 23 are there for auxiliary officers who engage in  
 24 misconduct? Can they be prosecuted?  
 25 Do they have the same internal affairs

1 process as full-time officers where they can be  
 2 disciplined or removed?

3 CHIEF DeVAUL: They do. There is not  
 4 a special guideline for -- for -- for them.

5 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: So, basically, the  
 6 same process? They can be prosecuted. They can go  
 7 to internal affairs. It's --

8 CHIEF DeVAUL: They are served -- they  
 9 are served the same notice of administrative action.  
 10 They are served the same notice if they -- if they  
 11 do something that would be reviewed by the  
 12 prosecutor's office, they would receive the same  
 13 notice. They would be involved -- they would be  
 14 treated no differently than a regular officer as far  
 15 as a -- an internal affairs matter.

16 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: Are auxiliary  
 17 officers required to fill out use of force reports?  
 18 And is there any difference in the use of force  
 19 policy or reporting requirements for auxiliary  
 20 officers versus full-time MPD.

21 CHIEF DeVAUL: The use of force  
 22 standard is set by the attorney general, and we have  
 23 adopted that policy. And that encompasses all of  
 24 our -- of our police auxiliaries as well.

25 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: Have there been

1 any civilian or IA complaints against Maplewood  
2 auxiliary officers? If so, how many and how are  
3 they handled?

4 CHIEF DeVAUL: Well, the process  
5 was -- the process would be the same. And I'm  
6 unaware -- and maybe -- maybe either chief can  
7 assist. I am unaware of any external complaint that  
8 was received. And let me -- let me be specific,  
9 Mr. Lembrich, because if an officer does something  
10 below our standards, we will initiate an  
11 investigation ourself. So I'm not going to include  
12 something like that because that could be something  
13 like not fueling up a car. You know, we -- we hold  
14 our officers to a standard and to the system.

15 These officers are -- just to give you  
16 an example because of rights of privacy, if these  
17 officers do not fill their hours obligations -- they  
18 have a requirement for training. If they do not  
19 fulfill their training -- as it stands right now, if  
20 you do not fulfill your requirement, you do not  
21 ride. It is -- it is as simple as that. And the  
22 moti -- and the people who volunteer realize at that  
23 point that this is a commitment, and either they're  
24 going to keep up with their training or  
25 they're -- or they're going to be dismissed

1 from -- from the reserves.

2 And that happens, and it's unfortunate,  
3 but life being what it is, not everybody can commit  
4 to the training and the riding that we do.

5 However, I will discipline you if you  
6 don't get your hours in. It's as simple as that. I  
7 require you to be here on time. So -- so there  
8 are -- there are things that we ask from the  
9 reserves. And that, I'll call it a quid pro quo,  
10 wants to be here on Sundays to help out with our  
11 community crossings and activities. I can't tell  
12 you the amount of events that they go to and  
13 participate in, I don't -- I don't even want to  
14 start, you know -- they're countless. But they also  
15 want to ride and -- and participate with our other  
16 events.

17 So -- so there is a check and balance  
18 so that they stay trained and that they stay active.  
19 But, yes, I will discipline you and not let you ride  
20 if you don't put your time in.

21 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: Okay.

22 MAYOR McGEHEE: This is the mayor. A  
23 couple of questions. I want to jump in.

24 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: Yeah.

25 MAYOR McGEHEE: You've talked about,

1 you know, when you need these -- the officers in an  
2 emergency situation.

3 CHIEF DeVAUL: Yes.

4 MAYOR McGEHEE: Correct. Now, just  
5 looking at the UCR report and all the data provided,  
6 you know, our crime is as low as it's ever been.  
7 You know, so how often are they put in a situation  
8 where a firearm would be required, i.e., an  
9 emergency situation, percentage-wise?

10 CHIEF DeVAUL: Well it's not just  
11 that. That's -- that's -- that's not necessarily  
12 what you -- so emergency situation is a three-car  
13 accident with a rollover on Prospect Street and,  
14 holy cow, I have two people working.

15 MAYOR McGEHEE: So do they need -- so  
16 do they need --

17 CHIEF DeVAUL: Absolutely.

18 MAYOR McGEHEE: -- a gun for --

19 CHIEF DeVAUL: They absolutely do  
20 because not only are they doing traffic control, but  
21 they're doing crowd control.

22 MAYOR McGEHEE: So you need -- you  
23 need a gun for traffic control?

24 CHIEF DeVAUL: That's just -- no,  
25 crowd control.

1 MAYOR McGEHEE: Crowd control.

2 DEPUTY MAYOR DAFIS: Wait a minute.  
3 Wait a minute. I got to jump up in here. Chief, I  
4 respect you and I -- and I really, really  
5 appreciate -- I know you probably feel like you're  
6 doing a deposition right now.

7 CHIEF DeVAUL: No, it's -- not really.

8 DEPUTY MAYOR DAFIS: And I appreciate  
9 Chairman Lembrich's extensive questioning. Thank  
10 you for covering most of the points the community is  
11 interested in knowing about.

12 But you got a car upside down on  
13 Prospect Street and you need to respond to that, and  
14 you're telling me you need guns for that?

15 Why do you need guns for that when you  
16 know the fire department is there extricating or  
17 whatever the term of art is? Why do you need guns  
18 for that?

19 CHIEF DeVAUL: So are you suggesting  
20 that we put them in a uniform and put them in a  
21 police car and then not --

22 DEPUTY MAYOR DAFIS: No, I'm not  
23 suggesting anything. You -- you explain your  
24 statement. Why do you need guns for that? Why do  
25 you need guns for that?

1 CHIEF DeVAUL: I just explained it to  
2 you. I just explained it to you. Because you put  
3 them in a police car, and you put them in a uniform,  
4 and you ask them to do traffic -- or traffic control  
5 and some crowd control, and the people don't know  
6 the difference, and their -- their normal uniform --  
7 I'm not going to change their -- I'm not going to  
8 change how they respond to things for a very  
9 isolated -- for something that happens. So I'm  
10 going to think, okay, this is a car accident. You  
11 don't need your gun. But you still need the police  
12 car, and you still need your uniform on because you  
13 need identify -- you need to be identifiable.

14 DEPUTY MAYOR DAFIS: But it's a car  
15 accident where the fire department has shown up and  
16 EM -- who are EMS trained. That's why our fire  
17 department is exceptional, exceptional across the  
18 state in terms of training, right? So they've shown  
19 up, and they're trying to extricate the persons out  
20 of the vehicle, the person or persons out of the  
21 vehicle. And we have people on scene, police  
22 department support, providing crowd control.

23 You're saying that in that  
24 circumstance, fire -- a firearm is required? It's a  
25 -- it's a car accident.

1 CHIEF DeVAUL: So I think that -- I  
2 think that if we're going to go through  
3 scenario-based incidents like this -- and I know I  
4 said that quickly, but I can very, very quickly say  
5 other things as well. Okay? We could -- a  
6 large -- a large fight -- a large fight after  
7 a -- after a football game at Columbia High School.  
8 And those are realistic things as well.

9 So I think to -- I think to just take  
10 this scenario based, I don't think that it's  
11 productive because I think I could come up with -- I  
12 think -- sir, I think that you could come up with an  
13 example where -- where they don't need a gun, and I  
14 think that I can come up with an example where  
15 they -- where they would need a gun. And the bottom  
16 line is -- for me, the bottom line is, is we're not  
17 giving them a separate uniform, and there's an  
18 expectation for when the people wear the uniform and  
19 see the police car on -- on who the person is that  
20 is in that car.

21 And I think that we've already  
22 established that most people are not reading the  
23 badges to -- to determine who is who and who is  
24 different. And I'm not going to be the one to put  
25 them in a -- in a situation any -- to be handled any

1 differently than -- than we would.

2 DEPUTY MAYOR DAFIS: Sure, Chief. And  
3 I want to get us back on track. And I apologize for  
4 derailing us there.

5 I think it's fair. I think you and I  
6 can agree, again, respectfully -- I think you and I  
7 can agree that the point that you were trying to  
8 make -- and it's a very good point, and it goes  
9 without doubt -- unquestionably, the auxiliary force  
10 brings great value to our community and supports our  
11 police department. And I think that was the point,  
12 essentially, that you were trying to make. And  
13 perhaps, as you said yourself -- and, you know, as  
14 we're talking, we say things sometimes and -- and in  
15 that moment you mentioned the scenario that doesn't  
16 necessarily support the idea of having to have a  
17 firearm, right? Because, you know --

18 CHIEF DeVAUL: Right. But I wouldn't  
19 ask them to do something differently than they're  
20 doing now.

21 DEPUTY MAYOR DAFIS: You wouldn't ask  
22 them to do something differently than you're doing  
23 now, but you agree that the scenario that you  
24 mentioned isn't necessarily supportive of this idea  
25 that, you know, this is where we need the firearm,

1 right?

2 CHIEF DeVAUL: Sure. Then again,  
3 under that scenario, you know, the reserve officers  
4 and the regular officers are -- are qualified to  
5 carry their weapon. And now that -- now you're just  
6 saying don't carry their weapon. When they're on  
7 duty, we ask them to carry their weapon.

8 DEPUTY MAYOR DAFIS: Well, we're not  
9 saying anything. We're not making any conclusions.  
10 I just think that we need to be very fair in how we  
11 characterize what's going on because we want to be  
12 credible. Right? This is a fact-gathering  
13 opportunity tonight. We want to answer all the  
14 questions of the community. And if you, or I, or  
15 anyone else here, including the community members,  
16 come across as already sided/decided, then we're not  
17 really doing anything; we're just talking to  
18 ourselves, right? You've decided your position.  
19 I've decided my position. Mr. Lembrich has decided  
20 his position. And the community members from  
21 different community groups have decided their  
22 position. But that's not what we want to do  
23 tonight.

24 I think what we want to do tonight --  
25 Mr. Lembrich is really leading us very exceptionally

1 down that road -- is to gather information. To  
 2 gather facts. And -- and we want to do that  
 3 in -- in a way that is absolutely diplomatic, and  
 4 respectful, and -- and a way that doesn't presuppose  
 5 some of the answers to the very, very important  
 6 questions that the community has. And that's all I  
 7 was getting at. And I meant --

8 CHIEF DeVAUL: So --

9 DEPUTY MAYOR DAFIS: -- no disrespect.

10 CHIEF DeVAUL: No problem.

11 CHIEF YACENDA: Chief DeVaul, may I  
 12 say something, please?

13 CHIEF DeVAUL: Well, hang on.

14 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: Chief, why don't  
 15 -- why don't you address this, and then -- and then  
 16 we'll try to get back on track --

17 CHIEF DeVAUL: Okay.

18 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: -- with the  
 19 questions.

20 CHIEF DeVAUL: Just quickly. Sir,  
 21 there's something you're -- Mr. Dafis, there's  
 22 something that you're referring to, and it's called  
 23 a CERT team. We used to have it here in Maplewood.  
 24 That -- that -- a CERT team is a Civilian Emergency  
 25 Response Team. Okay? That was under -- and that is

1 also under the Office of Emergency Management, and  
 2 that was for -- that is for people who wanted to  
 3 volunteer and do certain things. Okay?  
 4 Mr. Manning -- Mr. Manning, the prior business  
 5 administrator, was actually on the CERT team as a  
 6 resident in town.

7 And the CERT team members did exactly  
 8 what you are suggesting. We could contact them  
 9 quickly at a moment's notice, and they could come  
 10 out and help us with traffic and stuff like that,  
 11 depending on what level of -- of training that they  
 12 had. But they require a lot of training as well,  
 13 so -- and volunteering is -- is different.

14 So, yes, there is a unit that does  
 15 that. It is called the CERT team. They are trained  
 16 by our county of the Office of Emergency Management.  
 17 And they are different than our police reserves.

18 CHIEF YACENDA: Chief DeVaul and  
 19 Chairman Lembrich, may I please have a few seconds  
 20 to speak to Committeeman Dafis's question of his  
 21 scenario and the --

22 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: Yes. Chief --

23 CHIEF YACENDA: -- situation that we  
 24 had?

25 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: Yes. Chief --

1 Chief, why don't you do that, and then we'll -- and  
 2 then we'll get back to the -- to the questions from  
 3 the community, but you -- go ahead.

4 CHIEF YACENDA: Very quickly.

5 Mr. Dafis, there was one time that I was on patrol  
 6 duty protecting the fire department and their truck  
 7 while they were on the scene. And we had my car on  
 8 one side and a barricade on the other. And while I  
 9 was in that protection mode, there was a vehicle  
 10 with multiple passengers that went around the  
 11 barricade, almost hit one of the firemen. And when  
 12 I noticed it, I informed the vehicle to pull over.

13 Now, in that situation, I went up to  
 14 the vehicle to ask those people to please not go  
 15 around barricade because they were putting firemen's  
 16 lives in danger. Well, at that point, I did not  
 17 know who was in the vehicle. I didn't know what  
 18 they had in the vehicle or what they could have done  
 19 to me. So I was very pleased that the Maplewood  
 20 Police Department trained us and issued us firearms  
 21 because in that situation I probably wouldn't have  
 22 been able to do what I did.

23 Thank you.

24 DEPUTY MAYOR DAFIS: I appreciate  
 25 that. And thank you for the color; that's really

1 great. Did you have to draw your gun in that  
 2 circumstance?

3 CHIEF YACENDA: No, sir, I did not.

4 DEPUTY MAYOR DAFIS: Right. How many  
 5 times have you had to draw your gun?

6 CHIEF YACENDA: The only times that I  
 7 have ever drawn my weapon while I've been on patrol  
 8 is during building searches, when we are asked to  
 9 support the regulars in searching a vacant building  
 10 or, at night, a commercial building. That is kind  
 11 of a -- a protocol, just in case so that if -- you  
 12 know, we're ready. And that's really the only times  
 13 I remember in my 30 years that I've ever drawn my  
 14 weapon.

15 DEPUTY MAYOR DAFIS: That's good to  
 16 hear. And -- and do you think that if you could  
 17 draw your gun, that situation that you referred to  
 18 so well would have made things better? Made the  
 19 community safer?

20 CHIEF YACENDA: In the -- the car stop  
 21 that I was speaking of with the fire department?

22 DEPUTY MAYOR DAFIS: Yes, sir.

23 CHIEF YACENDA: No. There was no  
 24 reason for me to draw my weapon, so I didn't even  
 25 think of it.

1 My point is that at least I knew I had  
 2 protection if things went bad. That is my point I  
 3 was trying to make.  
 4 DEPUTY MAYOR DAFIS: Thank you.  
 5 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: Thank you, Chief.  
 6 CHIEF YACENDA: Without being armed, I  
 7 would have never had that protection.  
 8 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: Thanks, Chief. I  
 9 -- you know, I think we'll try to move back to the  
 10 questions now.  
 11 So, Chief DeVaul, can you address --  
 12 one of the questions of the community is: What is  
 13 the relationship like between Maplewood's full-time  
 14 police officers and the auxiliary officers? Do they  
 15 work together? Do the full-time officers support  
 16 the reserves, or do they have concerns about the  
 17 reserves?  
 18 CHIEF DeVAUL: Well, I think it's a  
 19 double-edged sword. I think that they love them  
 20 when they're doing the job that they don't want to  
 21 do. And a majority of the time, that's standing in  
 22 the rain directing traffic at a traffic pole that's  
 23 down. You know, I -- there is no -- and I say that  
 24 in jest, there is no animosity between -- between  
 25 the officers.

1 There's several regular officers and  
 2 reserve officers on this. They work together. They  
 3 volunteer together. They train together. I have no  
 4 doubt that -- that each knows what their role is. I  
 5 think that the -- the reserve officers take their  
 6 leads from the regular officers, and I think that  
 7 they know that there's a supportive nature.  
 8 But I will tell you that our  
 9 officers -- our full-time officers welcome them when  
 10 they're doing certain duties. That's for sure.  
 11 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: Okay, Chief. I'm  
 12 going to move on to the next question.  
 13 If they were no longer permitted to  
 14 carry firearms, how would the auxiliary program  
 15 change? Would the officers continue to volunteer?  
 16 What -- what duties, if any, could they no longer be  
 17 expected to perform?  
 18 CHIEF DeVAUL: Well, I can't speak to  
 19 -- I can't speak to how would they react if you  
 20 disarm them. I would -- I would assume -- I don't  
 21 want them -- I don't want to make any assumptions.  
 22 Whatever -- if they're disarmed, then -- then we'll  
 23 see where it goes from there. But essentially, if  
 24 you disarm them, I would say that you're essentially  
 25 making them into a CERT team, and then they would

1 have to re-evaluate what they want to do because  
 2 they would have a very -- if they're no longer  
 3 enforcing law, if they're no longer enforcing law,  
 4 then you've changed what they're doing, and then  
 5 they'll have to decide what they're going to do.  
 6 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: Okay. I had a  
 7 question, and I think I -- I think I know the answer  
 8 to this one, is: What compensation benefits do  
 9 auxiliary officers receive? And then what cost do  
 10 they incur, and are those costs reimbursed by the  
 11 department?  
 12 And I think you mentioned before that,  
 13 you know, onboarding a new reserve actually, you  
 14 know, costs several thousands dollars. But, you  
 15 know, can you speak to, sort of, what are the costs?  
 16 CHIEF DeVAUL: The costs for  
 17 outfitting a reserve officer is their cost for the  
 18 uniforms, the cost for the bulletproof vest, and the  
 19 cost for their training. Other than that --  
 20 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: Okay.  
 21 CHIEF DeVAUL: -- they volunteer their  
 22 time.  
 23 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: Okay.  
 24 SPEAKER: Is there a cost associated  
 25 with the firearm?

1 CHIEF DeVAUL: Meaning?  
 2 SPEAKER: Do we -- do we pay for their  
 3 firearm?  
 4 CHIEF DeVAUL: Their guns are probably  
 5 60 years old, so I'm going to say probably at some  
 6 point we did.  
 7 SPEAKER: Okay. Thank you.  
 8 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: So do auxiliary  
 9 officers wear body cameras while on duty? If not,  
 10 why not? And can this be changed?  
 11 CHIEF DeVAUL: Yeah. That's a -- they  
 12 do not carry them currently. As I indicated before,  
 13 generally -- generally speaking, if they're  
 14 responding along with our officers, our officers  
 15 would have the body cameras.  
 16 I don't -- I don't think that the  
 17 reserves would object to wearing them, and I -- I  
 18 have no objections to having them wear -- wearing  
 19 them. And I think that this becomes a budgetary  
 20 issue to -- to get more of them, but we do have  
 21 spares.  
 22 So generally speaking, we don't  
 23 -- during special events -- there would be no reason  
 24 to have the officers to have body cameras on at a  
 25 Memorial Day parade. Okay? Our regular officers

1 don't have them on. I wouldn't anticipate the --  
 2 the reserve officers to have them on. But generally  
 3 speaking --  
 4 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: Chief, when you  
 5 say, "Have them on," you mean have them turned on,  
 6 not --  
 7 CHIEF DeVAUL: Correct.  
 8 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: -- have them -- so  
 9 when you --  
 10 CHIEF DeVAUL: Activated.  
 11 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: So they -- the  
 12 officers would be --  
 13 CHIEF DeVAUL: Activated.  
 14 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: The officers are  
 15 wearing them at all times while on duty, the  
 16 full-time officers?  
 17 CHIEF DeVAUL: Correct.  
 18 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: They just don't  
 19 have them turned on while they're at a parade?  
 20 CHIEF DeVAUL: Correct.  
 21 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: Okay.  
 22 CHIEF DeVAUL: So -- so we have  
 23 anywhere from four to six extras, and a majority of  
 24 the time -- a majority of the time we would have  
 25 extra cameras that would be available for them to

1 use. We could provide the training. We already  
 2 have the infrastructure. And then over the course  
 3 of -- over time, obviously, considering how things  
 4 go, I would ask to add a couple a year, obviously,  
 5 in the budget because they are expensive. Body  
 6 cameras are \$800, and they're not getting any  
 7 cheaper.  
 8 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: Okay.  
 9 CHIEF DeVAUL: But we have the  
 10 infrastructure and cameras to implement it right  
 11 now.  
 12 DEPUTY MAYOR DAFIS: So, Mr. Lembrich,  
 13 may I jump in here for just a minute? I just want  
 14 to make sure I understand, and I want to clarify it  
 15 for the community because there's some -- some  
 16 questions in the chat about this.  
 17 So, Chief, are our auxiliary officers  
 18 wearing body cams right now --  
 19 CHIEF DeVAUL: No.  
 20 DEPUTY MAYOR DAFIS: -- "yes" or "no"?  
 21 They are not. But you were saying that  
 22 there are some extras available that would allow  
 23 them to do so without additional expense to  
 24 taxpayers, right?  
 25 CHIEF DeVAUL: Correct.

1 DEPUTY MAYOR DAFIS: Right. So now  
 2 that we know -- that we all know that they are  
 3 responding to calls just like police officers, of  
 4 course, in a support capacity, but nonetheless in  
 5 danger as we have established in certain  
 6 circumstances, why aren't they wearing body cams  
 7 now?  
 8 CHIEF DeVAUL: Because they're never  
 9 alone. They're never alone. That means at any  
 10 given crime scene or at any given traffic accident  
 11 they're, you know -- usually there's at least  
 12 two/three Maplewood officers, and they have their  
 13 body cameras on.  
 14 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: Right. In any  
 15 event, Chief, it sounds like this is something that  
 16 we can -- we can remedy. Right now, you know, the  
 17 program is not active due to COVID. But it sounds  
 18 like when they start back up again, this is  
 19 something that we can change. And that may be a  
 20 recommendation that comes out of the Public Safety  
 21 Committee tonight to -- you know, whether it be the  
 22 Township Committee or the Office of Emergency  
 23 Management.  
 24 CHIEF DeVAUL: Yes.  
 25 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: So, you know, I

1 think --  
 2 CHIEF DeVAUL: And that -- and that  
 3 would be easy. It's one training in our policy  
 4 which requires them to, one, wear; two, use it; and  
 5 then three, tag it, which means to identify areas,  
 6 specific areas, of use for the camera when they --  
 7 when they intentionally turn it on; and then to  
 8 train them in the actual unit.  
 9 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: So, Chief, a  
 10 similar question with regard to dash cameras. You  
 11 know, when the auxiliary officers take out a police  
 12 car, does that car have a dash cam?  
 13 CHIEF DeVAUL: No. And we're phasing  
 14 away from dash cams because of the cost.  
 15 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: Okay. So we're  
 16 actually -- we're phasing out the dash cams now --  
 17 now that we have fully -- full stock of body cams;  
 18 is that right?  
 19 CHIEF DeVAUL: Yes. The cost of one  
 20 dash cam for a car is \$25,000, compared to 800 for a  
 21 body cam.  
 22 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: Gotcha. Okay.  
 23 Do auxiliary officers ever go into the  
 24 schools in any capacity, whether responding to calls  
 25 or for educational or community service events? Do

1 they ever work at school events such as football  
2 games or other competitions?

3 CHIEF DeVAUL: No, they don't -- they  
4 may -- they may volunteer at certain things, but  
5 they don't go anywhere uninvited.

6 So -- so as far as the activities go of  
7 sporting events, our officers are -- are  
8 contractually hired. So they would not be there  
9 taking the place -- the place of the paid police  
10 officer. The school contracts with -- with police  
11 to provide security. So our auxiliaries would not  
12 supplement that.

13 If they happen to go there to watch the  
14 game because they happen to be on duty that evening,  
15 that's that. But they don't go there to teach  
16 either DARE or LEAD. They don't go there, you know,  
17 in something that would be other than an emergency.

18 So if we get a call at a school as  
19 indicated before -- a burglary, a trespassing, or  
20 something like that -- they would go and supplement  
21 our officers, but they don't --

22 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: And --

23 CHIEF DeVAUL: -- participate in  
24 school events.

25 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: Okay. And, you

1 know, let's say for one of the drills, you know --

2 CHIEF DeVAUL: No.

3 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: -- code red or  
4 lockdown drill, they don't go on those?

5 CHIEF DeVAUL: No. I have specially  
6 trained officers. The way -- the way the drills  
7 have been changed throughout the communities and  
8 throughout the states, they are -- they are moving  
9 more and more away from police officers and the  
10 police officers' activities within the schools to  
11 more of a highly trained officer who is -- their  
12 function is to more judge, analyze, and provide  
13 recommendations rather than the realisticness of  
14 that. So the answer is "no."

15 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: Okay. Thanks,  
16 Chief. I think you may have already covered this  
17 one, but do auxiliary police have to wear vests or  
18 body armor?

19 CHIEF DeVAUL: We supply them.

20 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: Okay. Do  
21 auxiliary officers have the same legal protections  
22 as full-time officers? And if -- if not, how does  
23 it differ?

24 CHIEF DeVAUL: Well, when they're on  
25 duty, they're covered as -- as any other police

1 officer is by the township.

2 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: Okay.

3 CHIEF DeVAUL: But they -- they don't  
4 have any union protections.

5 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: Okay. Yeah. So I  
6 think that may have been what the -- what the  
7 question was getting at that I received --

8 CHIEF DeVAUL: Okay.

9 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: -- you know, was  
10 -- are they a member of the same union?

11 CHIEF DeVAUL: No.

12 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: No?

13 MAYOR McGEHEE: So, Chairman, let me  
14 ask: So are they protected by Statute 40A?

15 CHIEF DeVAUL: I'm not sure.

16 MAYOR McGEHEE: Okay.

17 CHIEF DeVAUL: I'm not sure that I've  
18 read 40A particularly for reserves.

19 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: Okay. So, Chief,  
20 I -- I think you may have covered this also, but who  
21 supervises the auxiliary officers? Is it other

22 auxiliary officers? Is it full-time officers? Is  
23 it both? I -- I know ultimately it's you but --

24 CHIEF DeVAUL: Yeah.

25 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: -- sort of

1 day-to-day, who's -- who's providing supervision?

2 CHIEF DeVAUL: So the reserves have a

3 chain of command structure similar -- that the  
4 police department has. They have a chief of police

5 that was -- that was interviewed and selected by the  
6 Township Committee from other candidates. They have

7 sergeants for each squad, and generally -- generally  
8 there hasn't been a -- a lieutenant's position

9 because the numbers just -- the amount of officers  
10 just do not support it.

11 So they do have their own structure  
12 within. And then there is a liaison appointed by  
13 the police department -- that's currently Sergeant  
14 Alex Wright -- and he is to oversee their training.

15 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: Okay. Thanks,  
16 Chief.

17 Just a few more questions: Were  
18 auxiliary officers involved in the incident on  
19 July 5, 2016? How many auxiliary officers were  
20 present that evening, and what roles did they play?

21 CHIEF DeVAUL: I do -- I do believe  
22 there were some officers working that evening, but  
23 they were -- there were four?

24 CHIEF YACENDA: Yes.

25 CHIEF DeVAUL: I do believe --

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1 CHIEF YACENDA: Myself included.  
2 CHIEF DeVAUL: Right. But there  
3 were -- none of them were involved in any activities  
4 of July 5th, '16.  
5 CHIEF YACENDA: That is correct, sir.  
6 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: So -- so the  
7 incidents that resulted in discipline, and obviously  
8 the audio and video that was -- the appalling video  
9 that was shown, you know, eventually to the public,  
10 that -- that didn't involve any auxiliary officers?  
11 CHIEF DeVAUL: No.  
12 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: Okay.  
13 CHIEF YACENDA: Correct.  
14 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: Has -- has any  
15 Maplewood auxiliary officer ever discharged a  
16 firearm while on duty?  
17 CHIEF DeVAUL: Not in my 32 years.  
18 Chief?  
19 CHIEF KELLY: Not in mine, 46.  
20 CHIEF YACENDA: And not in my 30.  
21 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: Okay. You already  
22 answered the department provides the firearm.  
23 So -- so the firearm that an auxiliary  
24 officer carries when he or she is on duty is not  
25 their personal weapon?

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1 CHIEF DeVAUL: No. Nor are our police  
2 officers; they're ours.  
3 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: Okay.  
4 CHIEF DeVAUL: They are -- they are  
5 locked -- they are locked/stored here in a gun  
6 locker. They're maintained at police headquarters.  
7 They sign them in and out when -- when they report  
8 to headquarters for duty.  
9 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: And then, you  
10 know, we asked about discharging the firearm. And I  
11 think Chief Yacenda mentioned before that sometimes,  
12 you know, weapons are drawn when doing, like, a  
13 search of a structure. Do -- are you aware of  
14 whether there's been any constructive authority with  
15 the firearms? You know, have -- have any reserves  
16 had to draw a firearm on an individual?  
17 CHIEF DeVAUL: I -- I'm not positive.  
18 I'm not positive.  
19 I mean, Chief Kelly, you've caught some  
20 robbers?  
21 CHIEF KELLY: Yes. I had to draw. I  
22 had to draw it. Coming out of a building. I didn't  
23 know who they were or nothing like that. I had to  
24 draw a gun on them.  
25 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: Okay. But that

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1 was a robbery situation; is that what the chief was  
2 saying?  
3 CHIEF KELLY: Yes, it was. And also  
4 another time we --  
5 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: Okay.  
6 CHIEF KELLY: -- on a DWI patrol, we  
7 stopped a car that had a gun in the car. I had to  
8 draw a gun on them too.  
9 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: Okay. The -- the  
10 last question I have -- and, Chief, you mentioned  
11 that there's a portion of the police department  
12 website for the auxiliary, but what efforts are made  
13 to make the public aware of the existence of the  
14 auxiliary -- auxiliary police force and its role?  
15 And I think you mentioned the website,  
16 and I think you also mentioned National Night Out.  
17 But, you know, can you talk a little bit more about  
18 sort of the role that the auxiliary plays in the  
19 community and how the community can learn more?  
20 CHIEF DeVAUL: I think -- I think that  
21 -- that our community gets to know our Maplewood  
22 auxiliaries at the special events that they  
23 participate in monthly.  
24 We've had -- we've had some positive  
25 articles come out about the officers doing good jobs

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1 and such, but I honestly don't know how much  
2 that -- that really helps towards advertising it.  
3 I can tell you that before COVID,  
4 Saturday nights and -- Friday nights and Saturday  
5 nights in the Village, we've had them historically  
6 walking, getting to know the residents.  
7 Springfield Avenue, we have them -- we  
8 have them walking, letting the community members see  
9 them.  
10 We just had them -- I say "just," but  
11 actually it's months ago now. But they go on our  
12 bike patrol with our regular officers.  
13 We make -- we make a lot of effort for  
14 them to -- to cooperate with our officers to try to  
15 -- to try to, you know, let them be seen. But  
16 honestly, unless somebody takes the time to -- to  
17 look at their uniform and see that it's different,  
18 I'm not sure that they know the difference.  
19 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: Okay.  
20 CHIEF DeVAUL: You know?  
21 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: Thanks, Chief. I  
22 mean -- and, you know, that takes it through the,  
23 you know, 40 questions, some of which were in  
24 multiple parts that we had received --  
25 CHIEF DeVAUL: Can I say add one

1 thing, Mr. Chairman?

2 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: -- from the  
3 community.

4 Absolutely, Chief.

5 CHIEF DeVAUL: One thing -- one thing  
6 that I don't want to get lost in this is that  
7 in -- from 2018 to now, three African-American  
8 Maplewood reserve officers are now police officers.  
9 And then if you go back a little further you have an  
10 additional.

11 The utilization of this -- of this unit  
12 for this community answers a lot of the questions  
13 that the community is talking about. When I heard  
14 things about when I was going for chief and after  
15 talking about, How are you recruiting? What is your  
16 process?

17 The Maplewood Police auxiliary unit  
18 is a -- it is a fantastic recruiting tool. And over  
19 the past three to five years it's proven -- it's  
20 proven as such to be. If somebody within the  
21 community has aspirations to want to be a police  
22 officer, this is the way to do it.

23 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: Right. Well, you  
24 know, and I -- I can certainly confirm that, you  
25 know, having -- having interviewed the officers that

1 you're talking about and, you know, all the officers  
2 who've been hired over the last four and a half  
3 years, being in those interviews, you know, there's  
4 certainly, you know -- having officers who have  
5 already served alongside our officers, have -- and,  
6 you know, who know our community, who are from our  
7 community, you know, is certainly a huge plus. And,  
8 you know -- and it's been really our pleasure, I  
9 think, to hire some -- some local young people, you  
10 know, who had served on the reserves to be full-time  
11 officers.

12 I want to -- Chief, I want to thank  
13 you. I want to thank Chief Kelly and Chief Yacenda  
14 as well for -- for chiming in. That is -- like I  
15 said, that is -- that is all the questions that I  
16 had received. And I -- I wanted to see if there's,  
17 you know, any other questions that -- from the mayor  
18 or the deputy mayor, my fellow committee members  
19 here?

20 DEPUTY MAYOR DAFIS: I have a couple  
21 questions. Thank you, Chairman Lembrich.

22 Do we still have our township  
23 administrator with us this evening? I know we're  
24 running pretty late into the evening.

25 Is Ms. Viveiros available?

1 ADMINISTRATOR VIVEIROS: I'm here.

2 DEPUTY MAYOR DAFIS: Hi, Sonia. Thank  
3 you for hanging in there tonight.

4 So I had a couple follow-up questions  
5 which I thought you would probably be better suited  
6 to answer, if not the chief himself.

7 So the auxiliary, they don't belong to  
8 a union. Who insures them? How does the township  
9 insure them, God forbid something bad happens?

10 Do you know anything about that?

11 ADMINISTRATOR VIVEIROS: Generally  
12 speaking, that's going to fall under the township's  
13 policy. So they would be covered, just like any  
14 volunteer.

15 DEPUTY MAYOR DAFIS: So -- so they  
16 would be covered as the volunteer insurance?

17 ADMINISTRATOR VIVEIROS: It falls  
18 under the same umbrella.

19 DEPUTY MAYOR DAFIS: Okay. All right.

20 And -- thank you, Sonia. I appreciate that.

21 And I want to go back to the chief for  
22 -- for a second.

23 Chief, thank you so much tonight. I  
24 know you were in the hot seat, and it's not over yet  
25 because we have to hear from our community members

1 who are still very much engaged, and it makes me so  
2 proud that everybody is hanging in there with us  
3 tonight.

4 And I want to thank Mr. Lembrich again,  
5 our chair, for walking us through all these very  
6 important 40 questions.

7 So -- so, Chief, essentially you've  
8 established for us that under New Jersey state  
9 law -- New Jersey state law allows an auxiliary  
10 force or a reserve force, whatever we want to call  
11 it, to be deputized with the same powers of regular  
12 police officers, right? So the law allows that.  
13 And as far as we all can remember, at least as  
14 Mr. Lembrich said so well, back in 1972 at least --  
15 or whatever it was, in the '70s -- that, you know,  
16 our auxiliary officers have been deputized  
17 accordingly.

18 So while they cannot respond to a -- a  
19 call on their own, they're not first to the scene,  
20 they support a supportive function -- they do, on  
21 occasion -- not primarily, but on occasion they do  
22 perform in -- in a capacity that supports our  
23 officers on patrol, whether that is supporting an  
24 arrest, pursuant to a traffic stop, whether that is  
25 effectuating an arrest in a supportive fashion in

1 another circumstance, whatever it is. They can  
2 write tickets. They can do all the things. We have  
3 decided 40 years ago, whatever it was, for Maplewood  
4 Township that that was appropriate for us. And as  
5 far as we all can remember, firearms were provided  
6 accordingly because we didn't want people to go out  
7 there and be in harm's way without protective  
8 firearm.

9           So -- so would you say, Chief DeVaul,  
10 that all of these things considered that you talked  
11 about tonight so well, that -- and recognizing the  
12 differences too -- right? -- in terms of how many  
13 time -- how many hours a month they serve, and how  
14 available they are, as opposed to our regular  
15 officers and our regular staffing -- would you say,  
16 though, in fairness, that in your opinion the  
17 auxiliary police force is an extension of our police  
18 force in Maplewood?

19           That's my only question to the chief.

20           CHIEF DeVAUL: So that's a hard one to  
21 answer because obviously I was a police reserve,  
22 so -- so I feel about it one way. And as a  
23 professional chief, I recognize them to what -- to  
24 be what they are, which is volunteers.

25           So no, I don't take them as an

1 extension to -- to our officers because they  
2 couldn't -- they couldn't, nor would I have them, do  
3 their job independently.

4           So I'm -- that's how I'm -- I'm going  
5 to check my personal feelings at the door, and my  
6 professional opinion on this is I would not have  
7 them act as the role of our police officers. They  
8 are in the role to support our police officers.

9           DEPUTY MAYOR DAFIS: Okay. Thank you,  
10 Chief.

11           And thank you, Mr. Lembrich.

12           CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: Okay. So I want  
13 to thank my -- thank my colleagues as well, as, you  
14 know -- as I already thanked the chiefs.

15           You know, at this point, you know, as  
16 Chair, you know, I'll certainly entertain any  
17 motions for recommendations to make to the Township  
18 Committee. But, you know, one recommendation that I  
19 would like to make that we've already be -- has  
20 already been discussed is that we -- we move  
21 towards, you know, when the reserve program -- when  
22 the auxiliary program resumes, having the officers  
23 who are going out on patrol and on duty, you know --  
24 having -- you know when they're going to be out, you  
25 know, at, you know -- you know -- you know, going

1 out beyond the headquarters on duty, whether it be  
2 to -- to cross, or traffic patrol, or anything else,  
3 that they be provided with a body cam, that they  
4 receive training on the body cams. It sounds like  
5 that's something that we could implement.

6           So I think that's a recommendation  
7 that, you know -- that I would like to make or I  
8 would propose making to my fellow committee members.

9           So, Mr. Mayor or Mr. Deputy Mayor, do  
10 you -- do you have comments on that, or is there  
11 anything else -- any other recommendations that you  
12 would like to make coming out of -- of this meeting?

13           MAYOR McGEHEE: Thank you,  
14 Mr. Chairman.

15           In regards to your recommendation, if  
16 that was -- if that's the decision that we decide to  
17 move forward with in terms of the officers  
18 continuing to bear arms, then, yes, I think, without  
19 question, moving forward if they are to bear arms in  
20 the future, they must have a body cam. If that  
21 doesn't happen, it's all or nothing, number one.

22           But what I'd like to do is I'd actually  
23 like to -- first and foremost, let me just recognize  
24 the many residents who've reached out over the  
25 couple weeks with their, you know, concerns, with

1 their thoughts, with their opinions, with their  
2 perspectives. I think that was appreciated.

3           Tonight, my recommendation, although  
4 they are not active, is actually to suspend the  
5 whole program for a good 90 days. I think what  
6 we've started tonight is the beginning, but there  
7 needs to be further and a thorough assessment  
8 regarding the future direction of this program,  
9 including the removal of firearms.

10           Due to the amount of information that's  
11 been provided in regards to the program, including  
12 its origin, its initial purpose, you know, the data  
13 that's been provided -- the chief provided more data  
14 tonight which I wasn't cognizant of, I think a  
15 90-day period where we can go back and review this  
16 information and further assess so that we can come  
17 to a finalized and thoughtful decision on a  
18 strategic path, I think, is really in the best  
19 interest of -- of our community.

20           In my preliminary assessment, you know,  
21 and the due diligence I've done through  
22 conversations, I can say I haven't uncovered any  
23 incident where there's been use of a firearm. That  
24 said, though, I honestly, personally, can't identify  
25 a rationale why our auxiliary officers should bear

1 arms.

2 I think during this suspension it's my  
3 hope that we have a series -- more of conversations,  
4 of constructive conversations and meetings,  
5 including having the actual officers, including the  
6 chiefs and other officers, come and have  
7 conversations with the Public Safety Committee, with  
8 the greater Township Committee, and also with some  
9 of the individuals and organizations that reached  
10 out in the community. I think we need to have more  
11 conversations.

12 In addition, you know, I think -- which  
13 is concerning to me and we need to do a deeper dive  
14 into the disciplinary and accountability measures  
15 that are included for auxiliary officers. In the  
16 event that there is -- a situation arise, I have  
17 some concerns about that.

18 Also, I think that we as a township  
19 need to do a much better job of raising the  
20 awareness of the community of this program,  
21 inclusive of who is on -- they're not officers, so  
22 including a better website that shows who they are.  
23 They live in our community. They're volunteers. So  
24 that we can see who they are, their names, their  
25 addresses, all that information, I think personally.

1 We could check with legal. But they are not  
2 officers; they're volunteers.

3 We need to put these FAQs that we  
4 talked about tonight on our website so that we can  
5 vet through them.

6 We need to put the SOPs on the website  
7 so we can vet through them.

8 We need to really do a better job of  
9 being transparent and provide all this information  
10 to our community so they can make a full assessment  
11 of that.

12 But most importantly, although the  
13 program is not active, during the suspension of this  
14 program, it will immediately address the question at  
15 hand which is it will prevent any incremental  
16 firearms from being on our streets.

17 And that is my recommendation.

18 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: Chief, you know,  
19 we didn't -- you know, among the questions that  
20 was -- that were asked, you know, we didn't actually  
21 ask you for your recommendation on this point. But,  
22 you know, since it's now been brought up, you know,  
23 do you have a recommendation in terms of, you  
24 know -- as the supervisor, of whether the -- the  
25 auxiliary police should be armed or not armed?

1 CHIEF DeVAUL: We're asking  
2 them -- well, yeah. My personal opinion is, is you  
3 have to arm them. But we're asking them to do the  
4 work of a police officer, and that's why they should  
5 be armed.

6 So both personally and professionally,  
7 they should be armed if we're asking them to do this  
8 job.

9 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: Okay. So thanks,  
10 Chief.

11 Deputy Mayor, did you have anything you  
12 wanted to say?

13 DEPUTY MAYOR DAFIS: I do, Chairman.  
14 Thank you.

15 I was hoping to hold back tonight from  
16 the community and not make a statement, hold back  
17 for Tuesday night at our public session, but I'm  
18 going to speak based on the information that we have  
19 right now and all of the facts that we have  
20 established, most notably that we live in a  
21 community that is seeing historically low crime  
22 rates. The chief himself said, quote, unquote,  
23 Tremendously low, especially as we talked about  
24 violent crime in our community.

25 My position is -- what I want to do for

1 the community as an elected official is to reduce  
2 the possibility of harm. I recognize the value of  
3 our auxiliary force. I would like them to continue.  
4 I would like us, as the mayor indicated, to engage  
5 in a wholesome conversation about what that looks  
6 like for the future of Maplewood for our community,  
7 tailor it to our community, what their duties would  
8 be. But all things considered, living in a  
9 community that has low crime, living in a community  
10 where the chief has also established that we are  
11 fully staffed as a police department, I find it  
12 unconscionable, uncomfortable, completely out of  
13 sorts with what's going on all around us and in our  
14 community specifically, as the facts have been  
15 established, to have an expansive police force.

16 Because at the end of day, we have 65  
17 police officers right now. We have 15 auxiliary  
18 police officers who are deputized to act as police  
19 officers. Granted, only in a supportive fashion,  
20 only in certain times of the month. But basically  
21 we're saying -- 65 plus 15 equals what? -- 80. I'm  
22 a lawyer. I'm not an MBA person so my math is not  
23 always right, but I think it's 80. I don't think we  
24 need 80 police officers in Maplewood.

25 So, no, I don't think we should move

1 forward with the body cams. I would not support  
2 that recommendation.

3 I understand that that recommendation  
4 is well-intentioned. Of course that recommendation  
5 supports transparency and accountability. So  
6 if -- if our auxiliary force were to remain  
7 functioning in the same manner, of course I would  
8 require body cams for greater transparency and  
9 accountability.

10 But I really, really think we need to  
11 move forward here in a way that allows us to reduce  
12 harm. We have a police department. We've  
13 established its professionalism. We have  
14 established its training. We have a Maplewood  
15 community board on police that is doing really well  
16 in data collection, in -- in creating greater  
17 transparency about our police department and greater  
18 community relations with our police department.

19 So why do we need more officers? We do  
20 not. We do not need, as the mayor said, more guns  
21 on the street. It creates the potential of harm at  
22 a time when we are living in extremely anxious times  
23 and uncertain times, when domestic violence calls --  
24 we're seeing an uptick, when we're seeing an uptick  
25 in greater anxiety.

1 good conscience to say, Oh, yeah, let's arm them.  
2 Let's keep them armed. Let's give them body cams,  
3 and let's give them everything they want. Let's  
4 militarize the fuckers. Let's do it all. We can't  
5 do that. We shouldn't do that, and it's the wrong  
6 way to go.

7 And this is no disrespect or anything  
8 personal against any of our reserve members.  
9 They're exceptional members of the community. It's  
10 a great -- it's a great recruiting opportunity, as  
11 we've established, for our police department. Local  
12 and homegrown, that's the best -- that's best in  
13 practice in terms of recruiting.

14 And I know a lot of these people. I  
15 know them. They're black, and they're gay, and  
16 they're women, and they're incredibly diverse. So  
17 it's not personal against our auxiliary force, but  
18 the greater good here for Maplewood is reducing the  
19 possibility of harm. And in that vein, I cannot  
20 support body cams. I cannot support moving forward  
21 with firearms for our auxiliary. I only support a  
22 conversation where we figure out how we can continue  
23 on with our auxiliary in a different manner that  
24 supports the community and supports the police  
25 department but not in a policing capacity.

1 And nothing presented tonight -- and I  
2 appreciate, Mr. Lembrich, your taking the time to  
3 take us through all of those questions that were  
4 really important. I really appreciate you painting  
5 the picture. And the picture is one that does not  
6 support our having 80 police officers in Maplewood.  
7 It does not.

8 I don't care what Irvington does  
9 because I don't know what their crime stats are. I  
10 don't care what Livingston does because I don't know  
11 what their crime stats are. I don't know how many  
12 police officers they have. I know what Maplewood  
13 does. And our responsibility as elected leaders --  
14 and we will hear from the public in a minute -- but  
15 as elected leaders, it is to reduce the possibility  
16 of greater harm in our community. Okay?

17 And, you know, it's a little bit of an  
18 insult -- it's a little bit of an insult -- and we  
19 can't escape our past. We are going to work really  
20 hard to reckon our past, but we can't escape our  
21 past. And to know -- and to know that some of our  
22 auxiliary officers were directly involved in the  
23 extremely racial incident against our youth in our  
24 community not too long ago that everyone knows  
25 about, I don't see how we move forward as this with

1 Thank you.

2 CHIEF DeVAUL: Mr. Dafis, I'm sorry.  
3 You just said that supports the police department?  
4 What you just said -- and I'm sure  
5 there's -- there's officers on this line right now,  
6 and I'm sure they are offended by what you just  
7 said. And if they weren't, I'll be offended for  
8 them because you don't have to protect the residents  
9 from the Maplewood Police Department or the  
10 Maplewood Police Reserves. And I'll make that  
11 statement, and I say it with respect.

12 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: Okay.  
13 Let's -- you know, thanks, everyone, for their  
14 comments. We're going to move to public comment  
15 next. You know, obviously this will be on for  
16 discussion at Tuesday night's Township Committee  
17 meeting. While not necessarily all framed as  
18 motions, you know, what really I heard, three  
19 different motions from three members which -- which  
20 seem to -- to be at least somewhat contradictory to  
21 one another.

22 You know, so I think we'll -- you know,  
23 the appropriate place to probably discuss this is  
24 going to be at Tuesday night's Township Committee  
25 meeting where we'll have all five voting members of

1 the Township Committee and can make decisions about,  
2 you know -- about the future of -- of the program.

3           You know, it sounds like, you know I  
4 had -- I had one motion. The mayor had an idea to  
5 put things on pause. The deputy mayor, you know,  
6 had -- had, I think, a stronger position than that.  
7 So, you know, my proposal would be that we, you  
8 know, we finish this item on the agenda and move to  
9 public comment, unless -- unless either of my  
10 colleagues -- the mayor, the deputy mayor, or the  
11 chief -- had anything they wanted to add before we  
12 do that?

13           MAYOR McGEHEE: Chairman Lembrich, I  
14 think it's time to give the public their -- their  
15 due.

16           CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: Okay. Chief or  
17 Deputy Mayor, anything else you want to add before I  
18 go to public comment?

19           DEPUTY MAYOR DAFIS: No, sir. Thank  
20 you.

21           CHIEF DeVAUL: No, sir.

22           CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: Okay.

23           To -- to do public comment, I -- there  
24 should be a -- a way to raise your hand in the Zoom.  
25 And three people, I see, have already done that. If

1 you're not able to find that, look for it or maybe  
2 post in the chat and someone who's done it may be  
3 able to help you. But that will be the easiest way  
4 for me to -- to do this. I only have one screen, so  
5 I'm going to take it in the order I see them on the  
6 screen.

7           The first raised hand for public  
8 comment is Axel Takacs. Am I saying that correctly?

9           AXEL TAKACS: That's correct, yes.

10           CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: Okay. Mr. Takacs,  
11 what's your comment?

12           AXEL TAKACS: Thank you very much. My  
13 name is Axel. I live in the Hilton neighborhood.  
14 So thank you-all for the explanation you gave, to  
15 Greg Lembrich for the questions you raised, and the  
16 chief for the answers.

17           I do appreciate what the chief said  
18 about finding solutions and not producing more  
19 problems with the community engagement. But I do  
20 think that because of all that I've learned in this  
21 meeting, however, that in agreement with Dean and  
22 Mayor Frank too, we should look at disarming the  
23 auxiliary police and their voluntary -- and that  
24 their voluntary deployment should be restricted to  
25 traffic/crowd control or other events. It's

1 just -- but I see no reason to keep them armed for  
2 these -- for these purposes.

3           In my view, arming volunteer police  
4 officers is highly unusual in normal nationwide.  
5 Actually, that's not in my view. Statistically, it  
6 is the exception. It is -- it is not the rule.  
7 Statistically, there are few -- much fewer who --  
8 that are -- many more that are disarmed nationwide.  
9 And I see no reason why Maplewood needs to be the  
10 exception to a national rule of mostly not arming  
11 voluntary police statistically.

12           So, again, why wait for a lethal or a  
13 violent incident to occur before disarming? We know  
14 that that would prevent it right now, so we should  
15 do it now.

16           And also, from what I've learned and  
17 based on the chief's response -- careful responses,  
18 it seems that the auxiliary police are armed  
19 basically because they're treated like police, have  
20 the power of police and so are police.

21           The chief did not say they were  
22 extensions of the police, but it seems effectively  
23 they are, from what I've understood, therefore they  
24 have guns. So there seems to be a circular issue,  
25 right? If we disarm them, then they won't be

1 police. Right? Well, that is something I want to  
2 look into. Right?

3           I understand the argument: Something  
4 might happen so we need guns. Something might  
5 happen to any civilian. We may need guns. Right?  
6 The question is if we want more guns at -- in our  
7 community.

8           So your examples -- the car that went  
9 around the barricade, the car accident, the fight --  
10 hypothetical fight at a high school. The assumption  
11 always going into it there might be a necessary use  
12 of gun all the time, therefore we need one. But by  
13 that logic, everyone needs a gun because there  
14 always might be a chance to use it. Right?

15           So if the auxiliary -- the volunteer  
16 police force is primarily used for managing and  
17 assisting at community events, which is festivals,  
18 city gatherings, and more -- and I appreciate that  
19 -- crosswalks during school days, religious  
20 services, why do they need to be armed? Do we  
21 really need more guns at events whose primary  
22 purpose is to provide a safe, playful, and welcoming  
23 space for our children? Do we need more guns on our  
24 way walking to church, mosque, temple, the  
25 synagogue?

1 So the chief said -- if they are  
2 treated as police and perform police duties, it  
3 seems to me they're extensions of the police, but  
4 they volunteer. So can we convert the auxiliary  
5 police to something similar or an expanded CERT team  
6 with other training or something new and different?  
7 As a community we together can, I think, be creative  
8 in this new idea. Right?

9 I support Maplewood looking into  
10 alternatives to policing in which volunteers may be  
11 trained, perhaps members of our community trained to  
12 respond to mental health issues, respond to  
13 situations involving those experiencing  
14 homelessness, to respond to noise complaints, to  
15 respond to, you know, other issues, atypical  
16 behavior at parks or recreational sites, other  
17 urgent but non-life-threatening situations, trained  
18 in restorative/transformational justice, deescalation  
19 techniques, emergency medical response.

20 There is precedent for this nationwide.  
21 There are, you know, areas doing this, even  
22 regionally. And I just refuse to be restricted by  
23 sort of this law/order enforcement ideology wherein  
24 the only way to keep us safe, the only way we can  
25 ever imagine our world is with more guns, more

1 enforcement, and more punishment.

2 I think if we continue to be  
3 constrained by this way of viewing the world, there  
4 will always be more and more guns. When do we have  
5 enough? How do we know when we have enough? Right?  
6 There's no logic to say we have enough now.

7 So, in short, because they are armed,  
8 because they are treated as police, then maybe we  
9 should disarm, and disband, and re -- reimagine  
10 something different and new. Something practical,  
11 but also far more restorative and transformational.  
12 Rather than being among the national exceptions by  
13 arming auxiliary police, Maplewood could be the  
14 example we set for other towns and cities nationwide  
15 to create a volunteer community-like group for  
16 neighbors seeking well-being and flourishing rather  
17 than what we currently have.

18 So thank you very much.

19 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: Thank you,  
20 Mr. Takacs.

21 And I, you know -- I just -- I didn't  
22 -- I didn't mention beforehand but, you know, due to  
23 -- due to our bylaws, that public comments are  
24 limited to three minutes. And I -- I didn't put  
25 that --

1 AXEL TAKACS: I did not know that. I'm  
2 sorry.

3 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: But going forward,  
4 we're going to limit comments to three minutes.

5 And there's a lot of people with their  
6 hands up, so I'm going to take them in the order  
7 that they popped up.

8 The next doesn't have a name, but it  
9 has a number ending in 3840. Could the person  
10 whose -- whose -- whose ID is -- ends in 3840 who  
11 raised their hand unmute themselves?

12 SPEAKER: Yes. Hello. Can you hear  
13 me?

14 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: Yes. Sir, can you  
15 identify yourself.

16 SPEAKER: Okay. My name is Fred  
17 Jermico (phonetic). I'm a Maplewood reserve officer  
18 with ten years in service.

19 I -- I have been on this call from the  
20 very beginning and I have heard the opinions, and I  
21 think I need to add my -- from my perspective.

22 I'm a second-generation African  
23 immigrant. My family is -- my mother, and sibling,  
24 and seven kids -- have lived in Maplewood for over  
25 30 -- 40 years. We have families. We have kids.

1 We have all of that in Maplewood. For a long time  
2 we have -- we -- we -- we didn't feel that sense of  
3 being part of community, from an immigrant point of  
4 view, until I became a Maplewood reserve. It  
5 changed a lot of things. It changed the dynamics.  
6 It made my siblings more bold to see their brother a  
7 Maplewood reserve in actually the full capacity of a  
8 cop.

9 We've all stated the reason why we  
10 should disarm the cop, and a lot of them make some  
11 sense. But the -- the (inaudible) does not support.  
12 In my opinion, Maplewood reserve have been there for  
13 over 40-something years with zero incident. Why  
14 now? What is -- what is the motivation? Why now?  
15 What -- what is the reason?

16 If you're saying that, Well, guns, then  
17 you might as well disarm every police officer on the  
18 street and disarm every military officer on the  
19 street because what we do for Maplewood is not just  
20 the policing, it's the community itself, to give  
21 those that have no voice a -- the impression of no  
22 voice, a voice.

23 If my mother, who's 76 years old, sees  
24 her son coming out in uniform and being part of the  
25 community, it emboldens (sic) her. You know, I think

1 we've seen that aspect of it, that the community  
2 itself did become part of the process, part of the  
3 system. It empowers them. Okay? Between myself  
4 and my siblings, we -- we've counseled hundreds of  
5 -- of members of this same community. When you take  
6 that away, you -- you -- you -- you reduce that.

7           So for me, I mean, whatever decision  
8 you guys make, what you will make. That's fine, you  
9 know. But I think you should look at bigger than  
10 that. If this incidents done by this country that  
11 has happened in the past 10, 20, 25, 30 years, and  
12 we really afford to make a point, then I see your  
13 argument.

14           CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: Okay, sir -- sir,  
15 you're over three minutes. So if you could -- if  
16 you could bring it to a -- if you could bring it to  
17 a conclusion?

18           SPEAKER: Anyway, so I guess all I'm  
19 saying is I need to -- I need to know why. If you  
20 are dissolving it, give me a reason I can work with.  
21 Dissolving them for the sake of we're not  
22 comfortable with it anymore, after 40-something  
23 years, for me and my family, I don't think it's a  
24 good enough reason. I don't think that this  
25 community has put us into consideration when you do

1 that.

2           That -- I guess that's my final say on  
3 it.

4           CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: Okay. Thank you,  
5 sir.

6           The next -- the next person who raised  
7 their hand is Heather Saslovsky. You can unmute  
8 yourself.

9           HEATHER SASLOVSKY: Thank you.

10           So first, I'm not sure if we're allowed  
11 to ask questions. So I'd ask you: Am I permitted  
12 to ask questions?

13           CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: Well, you can ask  
14 the question, but, you know -- you know, I -- I  
15 can't guarantee you that we'll be able to answer.  
16 But you can ask the question.

17           HEATHER SASLOVSKY: Sure. So first I  
18 want to know, the volunteer officer who solved the  
19 crime in Union, it sounds like did not -- was not on  
20 duty at the time. Right?

21           CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: That's -- that's  
22 my understanding.

23           HEATHER SASLOVSKY: And so the gun was  
24 locked at headquarters, right?

25           SPEAKER: What was the question?

1           CHIEF DeVAUL: Ben, that's not for  
2 you.

3           CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: Yeah, that --  
4 sorry, yeah. That's -- nobody --

5           CHIEF DeVAUL: That's for me.

6           CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: For the chair or  
7 for the chief.

8           So I -- Chief, you can go ahead and  
9 answer that.

10           CHIEF DeVAUL: He was -- he was off  
11 duty and he was not armed.

12           HEATHER SASLOVSKY: Okay. I just  
13 wanted to understand that.

14           And as to the incident that the other  
15 chief mentioned -- and I apologize I don't know your  
16 name, sir -- with the car that went around the  
17 barricade, were you alone?

18           CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: You're on mute,  
19 Chief. You're on mute.

20           CHIEF YACENDA: May I speak, Chairman  
21 Lembrich?

22           CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: I'll let you  
23 address the question, yes.

24           CHIEF YACENDA: Okay. Yes, I was  
25 assigned to that post because there were not enough

1 officers to control that scene and take care of  
2 other township issues at the time. So yes, I was  
3 alone.

4           HEATHER SASLOVSKY: Okay. So, I mean,  
5 for me, that goes back to certainly, at a bare  
6 minimum, the body cam scenario. Where a moment ago  
7 we were told that body cams weren't necessary  
8 because volunteers are never left alone, clearly  
9 that's not exactly accurate.

10           Additionally, as an attorney who's  
11 recently viewed more than the number of body cams I  
12 would like to, I have to say each and every one on  
13 of same scene shows a very different perspective,  
14 and that's the reason each and every officer wears  
15 the -- wears the body cam. I don't think that there  
16 should ever be a time that a law enforcement  
17 official is interacting with the public,  
18 particularly during the investigation of a crime,  
19 where they're not wearing and activating their body  
20 cam.

21           I think it's shocking that Maplewood  
22 doesn't have that policy already where much less  
23 progressive places, much less thoughtful places  
24 absolutely have that policy. I -- I find this  
25 absolutely shocking.

1 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: Okay.  
 2 HEATHER SASLOVSKY: I ought to add  
 3 that I think it's very unfortunate if our community  
 4 is not particularly welcoming to people so much so  
 5 that they need to carry a gun to feel emboldened  
 6 here, but I don't think that -- I actually don't  
 7 think anybody's really suggesting disbanding the  
 8 auxiliary team, at least not the TC. I didn't hear  
 9 anybody say that. But rather, putting it on pause  
 10 to figure out what's next.

11 And I don't think community comes from  
 12 carrying a gun. It may very well come from being on  
 13 the auxiliary force. I don't know. And I  
 14 don't -- I -- I just want to make clear to that  
 15 officer that I don't think anyone is discounting his  
 16 experience so much as questioning whether or not he  
 17 needs a gun to feel emboldened, to feel community,  
 18 to feel anything here.

19 I think the auxiliary police perform  
 20 quite a service to this town, particularly with  
 21 respect to the Sunday things you were talking about,  
 22 the holidays, the festivals, et cetera. I just  
 23 don't see any of those activities requiring a  
 24 firearm, and I think they actually statistically  
 25 make things more dangerous.

1 Township Committee, you know -- and, you know, in  
 2 consultation with the -- the Maplewood Police  
 3 Department. My understanding is that that decision  
 4 ultimately would reside within the Township  
 5 Committee.

6 Chief, is that -- is that your  
 7 understanding?

8 CHIEF DeVAUL: It was created by  
 9 resolution, so absolutely.

10 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: Yep. Okay.  
 11 The next hand raised is Khadijah  
 12 Costley White.

13 Dr. White, you can unmute yourself.

14 KHADIJAH COSTLEY WHITE: Yeah. I have  
 15 two unmutes when I talk because of my computer.

16 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: Okay.

17 KHADIJAH COSTLEY WHITE: So thanks for  
 18 letting me talk. I know we have three -- I have  
 19 three minutes.

20 I wanted to first say thanks for this  
 21 meeting and for this discussion. Thanks to Mayor  
 22 Frank for supporting more transparency and Deputy  
 23 Mayor Dafis for supporting what the community is  
 24 asking for.

25 Listen, I don't think any police

1 We all know that having guns accessible  
 2 makes you -- one more likely to be shot themselves  
 3 with their own firearm, let alone others. So I  
 4 ask --

5 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: Ms. Saslovsky,  
 6 could you wrap it up. You're over three minutes.

7 HEATHER SASLOVSKY: That was it.

8 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: Okay. Thanks.  
 9 Okay. The -- thank you for your comment.

10 The next person with their hand raised  
 11 is Sage T.

12 SAGE TERRITO: Hi. I'm Sage Territo.  
 13 I'm part of the MAPSO Youth Coalition. I want to  
 14 echo what other people are saying, that we have  
 15 enough police officers in this town, based on the  
 16 low crime rate, that we don't need an auxiliary  
 17 force because the auxiliary force, it seems, is  
 18 acting actually exactly like police, except they're  
 19 not police, right?

20 And I have a question, which is: Who  
 21 has authority to decide to disarm or dis -- disband  
 22 the auxiliary police?

23 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: So the auxiliary  
 24 police are under the Office of Emergency Management,  
 25 so that's a decision that would be made by the

1 officer, not a single one, would ever get on a  
 2 public meeting and advocate for an affiliate group  
 3 to not be armed. It's just not what cops do. They  
 4 never go anywhere and say, No one should have a gun.  
 5 Right? I mean, that's not even why we're having  
 6 this conversation. We're having this conversation  
 7 and this meeting in response to the community  
 8 feeling uncomfortable and concerned about a  
 9 volunteer force carrying guns.

10 One of your volunteer officers posted  
 11 an All Lives Matter sign in their front yard in my  
 12 neighborhood after we all watched officers slowly  
 13 suffocate a man to death on camera. Right? It's in  
 14 response to Black Lives Matter signs going up. So  
 15 there is a concern for me about the kinds of people  
 16 you're putting on this force.

17 And I'm not even clear how many people  
 18 are on it. We were first told 11 at one meeting.  
 19 Now we're told 15, that there's been a number of --  
 20 up to twenties in the past. And I want to know what  
 21 exactly is the racial makeup of this group now?

22 I don't find it compelling that you  
 23 guys get called in for emergencies and so you have  
 24 to have guns. Firemen don't get guns. EMTs don't  
 25 get guns. I don't understand why you have to. And

1 if a volunteer officer can't respond to an emergency  
2 without being prepared to kill someone, then I think  
3 this just should not exist.

4 I didn't come in here planning to call  
5 for an end to the auxiliary force at all, but the  
6 chief has made it really clear here that there  
7 should be no auxiliary force if we can't have one  
8 without guns. And so that makes me feel like there  
9 should be no volunteer force at all.

10 And honestly, Chief DeVaul's answers  
11 only left me with more questions. Is the chief  
12 honestly saying that 65 full-time officers and  
13 others on-call from surrounding towns are not a good  
14 enough force for Maplewood?

15 Why is the additional liability worth  
16 it? Why are there no use of force reports available  
17 on absolutely any of the current volunteer officers?  
18 Either they're facing the same situations as other  
19 police or they're not. But this alone suggests that  
20 they're working under very different conditions.

21 And why don't they carry body cameras  
22 if you think that any interaction with the public  
23 with them will result in violence? By their own  
24 admission, they haven't even used a firearm in  
25 46 years. Why is there -- is there any deescalation

1 training for these people that you expect might use  
2 a gun at any moment?

3 And it seems to me that Captain DeVaul  
4 is suggesting that it's the responsibilities that he  
5 gives them that requires them to be armed. So it  
6 sounds like they need another set of  
7 responsibilities.

8 At the end of the day, we live here.  
9 We are residents. We are saying that this is not  
10 acceptable, and I don't understand why this is such  
11 a simple ask. If you love this community and you  
12 want to volunteer, then volunteer without guns.

13 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: Thank you,  
14 Dr. White.

15 The -- the next comment -- next person  
16 who raised their hand to comment is Chavonne.

17 SPEAKER CHAVONNE: Hi. Can you hear  
18 me?

19 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: I can hear you,  
20 yes.

21 SPEAKER CHAVONNE: Okay. Hi. I'm  
22 here to add my voice to the collective calling to  
23 disarm and now disband the auxiliary police. So I  
24 was born and raised in Newark, but I've lived in  
25 Maplewood 12 years. Since moving here, I've had my

1 car entered and things removed more than once.  
2 About seven years ago, my family experienced a home  
3 invasion. And I'm just sharing this because I want  
4 you to know that I am not a stranger to acts being  
5 criminal and, yet, I am someone who is not comforted  
6 by the presence of police. And now the knowledge  
7 that there are semiofficial armed folks serving in  
8 some capacity in our community is very troubling to  
9 me, especially with the knowledge that they aren't  
10 wearing body cameras.

11 I think with everything that's going on  
12 nationally, we can look to other cities that are  
13 partaking -- that are taking progressive measures to  
14 decrease the extent to which the police function in  
15 their community. Maplewood should not be grappling  
16 with eliminating a volunteer force, let alone the  
17 idea of disarming it.

18 I think we can sort of look to our  
19 neighboring city, my hometown, Newark, for an  
20 example of a police alternative. They've launched  
21 initiatives such as the Newark Street Team, which is  
22 a community-based violence reduction strategy  
23 enlisting community members to help resolve disputes  
24 and work towards peaceful outcomes. Programs like  
25 this also demonstrate to me that those who wish to

1 be of service to a community need not be armed to do  
2 so.

3 I would like to see our community  
4 moving towards police alternatives, whether those  
5 alternatives consist of paid or volunteer roles. I  
6 just feel that we can identify needs specific to our  
7 community and find other solutions.

8 Thank you.

9 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: Thank you.

10 The next person who has raised their  
11 hand to comment is HannahPeralata17.

12 HANNAH PERALATA: Hi. Thank you. My  
13 name is Hannah Peralata. I live on Elmwood Avenue  
14 in Maplewood.

15 I was surprised and alarmed to hear  
16 that the auxiliary police are armed. I appreciate  
17 you-all for taking the time to answer our questions.

18 After hearing more information during  
19 this meeting, I've developed one new understanding  
20 that I feel really confident about, which is that  
21 Maplewood is a safe community. We've heard in this  
22 meeting that our violent and non-violent crime are  
23 both very low. And the anecdotes that Chief DeVaul  
24 shared show us that even in situations of nonviolent  
25 crime, escalation on the part of the community is

1 pretty unusual.

2 I also heard Chief DeVaul speak about  
3 arming the police -- the volunteer police force kind  
4 of out of respect for the duties that they're taking  
5 on, as well as -- as well as out of respect for  
6 their professional -- their personal safety. But I  
7 also heard them share that they're always with a  
8 fully trained police officer, a paid police officer,  
9 and that their duties are largely crowd control and  
10 traffic command.

11 So because of our country's and our  
12 town's history with police officers committing  
13 violent crimes against black people, I'm deeply  
14 uncomfortable with volunteer cops being armed. And  
15 I think that it's on the -- the burden is on the  
16 town to explain why volunteer cops should be armed,  
17 but I don't -- I don't think that we've seen  
18 evidence to support that.

19 So I hope that we will really deeply  
20 consider this idea of disarming the volunteer police  
21 force.

22 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: Okay. Thank you  
23 for your comment.

24 The next person with their hand raised  
25 is Robert.

1 ROBERT KELLER: Yes. Hi. Can you hear  
2 me?

3 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: Yes.

4 ROBERT KELLER: Hi. I'm Robert  
5 Keller. I'm currently on the auxiliary force, one  
6 of the more junior members, having just gone through  
7 the academy. And I can tell you that what hasn't  
8 been spoken about and should be mentioned -- and I  
9 can't do it in three minutes -- is the caliber of  
10 person that is on the force.

11 We speak of the police auxiliary in a  
12 context of one, but you should look at not only  
13 myself being a veteran, but 22 years in public  
14 service working with people with disabilities and  
15 social workers -- and I cannot emphasize enough --  
16 separate the guns and separate everything -- I  
17 cannot express enough the caliber of people that are  
18 the volunteers, and the hours that they've put in,  
19 and how proud they are to be part of the -- not only  
20 the community, but myself being new to the  
21 community, only two years, and having been an NYP  
22 auxiliary officer for five years.

23 We need to look at the caliber of the  
24 people that are on this force, and they are  
25 incredible. They are vice principals. They are

1 people that work within the community, outside the  
2 community, and push towards the community. There's  
3 a pile on right now of, you know, disarm, disband,  
4 do this. There needs to be an open dialogue.

5 And to the deputy mayor saying that the  
6 auxiliary police were involved in that incident,  
7 that's not true. They were on traffic, away from  
8 it. So let's not get muddled into the specifics of  
9 where they were when that incident happened. And I  
10 wasn't even here, but that was mentioned again.

11 We need to be very clear and concise,  
12 and we need to talk more about the quality and what  
13 it takes to become an auxiliary officer, rather than  
14 focus on what's on the belt and who they are.

15 So that has not been mentioned by  
16 anyone. So I feel, you know, that it needs to be  
17 talked about. Know the people that have gone  
18 through this training, what it takes to be part of  
19 this unit, and what it takes to stay on the unit.

20 So I would just like to express that.

21 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: Thank you, sir.

22 The next person is Sergeant DeCicco.

23 VINNY DeCICCO: Yes.

24 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: We can't hear you,  
25 Vinny. Okay.

1 VINNY DeCICCO: I'm back. I don't  
2 know -- is it working?

3 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: Yep. Yeah, we  
4 hear you.

5 VINNY DeCICCO: Okay. Thank you for  
6 giving me the opportunity to speak. My name is  
7 Vinny DeCicco. I'm a sergeant with the police  
8 department. I've been there for 19 years.

9 The question that keeps coming up about  
10 the reserves is, like, the numbers between how many  
11 we have and in addition to the department. So a  
12 number was thrown out around 80 total officers.  
13 About ten years ago, the attorney general did a  
14 study and survey on the township, discussed the  
15 population size, the call volume, everything about  
16 the police department. The numbers were broken  
17 down. Ten years ago, they said that for our police  
18 department we should have 76 officers. The highest  
19 we got up to in my time there has been 66. So to  
20 say now that 80 is too many and where we're  
21 currently at now, 64/65, is that not enough? What  
22 are we basing the numbers on? How are we looking at  
23 it? Yes, I understand the stats now. The crime is  
24 down but that fluctuates.

25 So, you know, to look at stats, yes,

1 they're fluid. You know, look at five years,  
 2 ten years. If ten years ago they said based on  
 3 population size -- look at what the population of  
 4 the town is now, more housing, more apartments. The  
 5 population size has definitely grown in the last ten  
 6 years. So if you're going to break down numbers,  
 7 then, you know, let's do it that way.

8 In addition to some of the  
 9 recommendations, I fully support a 90-day, you know,  
 10 reevaluation or suspension to look into different,  
 11 you know, recommendations and suggestions, whether  
 12 it is body cams, you know, more training for them  
 13 just as we've asked the Township Committee -- and we  
 14 thank you for that, the last handful of years --  
 15 increase our township budget in terms of our  
 16 training. You know, based on the time of have been  
 17 there, the money spent on training, you're -- you're  
 18 reaping the rewards now in highly trained officers  
 19 in the last handful of years, as opposed to when I  
 20 started where officers were not sent to training at  
 21 all, whether it was the academy or, you know,  
 22 in-service training within the department itself.

23 So that's just my two cents. Thank  
 24 you.

25 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: Thank you,

1 Sergeant.

2 The next person with their hand raised,  
 3 Sarah Rothman.

4 Sarah, you can unmute.

5 SARAH ROTHMAN: Hi. I also wanted to  
 6 just say thanks so much for the opportunity to have  
 7 this discussion and to answer some of the questions  
 8 about the auxiliary police. I really appreciate  
 9 that.

10 I also want to say I think it's great  
 11 that so many people want to volunteer for the  
 12 community and are willing to go through the time and  
 13 commitment for training. And if that's the case,  
 14 then I'm sure that there is a way to utilize that  
 15 excitement and commitment in a way that does not  
 16 need to involve firearms. And to -- I know a few of  
 17 the other commenters -- I certainly hear their piece  
 18 tonight for the need to be armed.

19 And furthermore, one outstanding  
 20 question has been, you know, are auxiliary police  
 21 officers police officers? And I heard loud and  
 22 clear tonight no, they're volunteers. So that, to  
 23 me, is also loud and clear. They're volunteers.  
 24 They should not be carrying firearms.

25 I think whether or not you have an

1 auxiliary force is really something that can be  
 2 grappled with completely separately. Like I said, I  
 3 love to see excitement and commitment to the  
 4 community channeled as much as possible. But as a  
 5 member of the Maplewood community, to imagine seeing  
 6 someone in the uniform that looks just like a police  
 7 officer, carrying a gun like a police officer who is  
 8 actually a volunteer, is not the way to promote  
 9 transparency in our community and not a way to make  
 10 our community feel as safe as possible.

11 Thank you.

12 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: Thank you.

13 The next person who raised their hand  
 14 in -- in at least the last in my queue, that I see,  
 15 is David Letwin.

16 David, if you're still there, you can  
 17 unmute yourself.

18 MAYOR McGEHEE: Did he freeze, Greg?

19 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: David?

20 MAYOR McGEHEE: Okay.

21 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: Okay. I'm not  
 22 hearing David.

23 So that was the last of the raised  
 24 hands. So I'm going to declare public  
 25 comment -- now David is saying his mike is not

1 working. So -- and unless you can get it working  
 2 now -- and then -- so we have -- Greg Petronzi has  
 3 raised his hand.

4 So, Greg, maybe you can come on. And  
 5 if David can get his mike working in the meantime,  
 6 we can go to him next.

7 GREG PETRONZI: Sure. So first of  
 8 all, thanks for organizing this meeting and  
 9 everybody for voicing their opinions and viewpoints.

10 If I could just sort of talk a little  
 11 bit about my experience as a reserve officer for the  
 12 past six or so years: I came on with absolutely no  
 13 firearms training or experience. And also sort of  
 14 in a place where I was never sort of a gun fan or an  
 15 owner of any sort. And the department did a really  
 16 excellent job in training me and getting me to  
 17 realize the importance of -- and the importance of  
 18 knowing how to use the firearm and how to sort of,  
 19 basically, respect it in the role of being an  
 20 auxiliary officer.

21 I think it's important to recognize  
 22 that the firearm isn't there to give us a sense of  
 23 importance. It's there to protect ourselves and the  
 24 people that we're there to try to protect and serve.  
 25 And that includes also our fellow officers and the

1 regular officers that we are there to support. So,  
2 you know, I just sort of wanted to iterate that --  
3 that really, the department has done an excellent  
4 job in the training and takes very strong  
5 accountability for how we're trained and -- and the  
6 role that we take as support police. And any time  
7 that somebody puts on a badge and a uniform,  
8 especially in today's climate, they're also a target  
9 and it's important to be able to be fully equipped  
10 in that role.

11 So -- and that's all. I didn't really  
12 want to say anything too -- too much other than  
13 that. So thanks for giving me the space to do so.

14 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: Thank you, sir.

15 Mr. Letwin, have you been able to fix  
16 your mike issues? If so, unmute.

17 DAVID LETWIN: Can you hear me?

18 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: Yes.

19 DAVID LETWIN: Oh, you can?

20 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: Yes.

21 DAVID LETWIN: Oh, great. I know it's  
22 getting late, and I don't -- I only want to take a  
23 couple seconds here to just say that I stand in  
24 solidarity with those community members who are  
25 opposed to armed auxiliary police. And in

1 particular, I stand with the comments that Dr. White  
2 made and that Chavonne made and their views that  
3 they expressed.

4 Chavonne mentioned these alternatives  
5 that police -- to policing that are happening in  
6 Newark and in other cities as well. And as I said  
7 at the Township Committee meeting last week, there  
8 is a historic opening right now in this country to  
9 talk and reassess the whole notion of policing as it  
10 exists in this country and has existed in this  
11 country, and I hope we take advantage, not only to  
12 confront the issue of auxiliary police in Maplewood  
13 but the broader issue of why do we have police in  
14 the first place? What role do they play? Are there  
15 better alternatives to armed police generally?

16 And I just want to post in the chat. I  
17 found a few links about this, people might find  
18 helpful, might find illuminating. And then a  
19 further link on the history of policing in this  
20 country that I think everybody should read because  
21 I'm sure, even the police officers who are here  
22 tonight, may not have much background in this  
23 history. And I think our community should be  
24 looking at these links, if possible, and I just put  
25 them in the chat.

1 And thanks very much for allowing me to  
2 speak.

3 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: Okay. Thank you,  
4 sir.

5 The next person with their hand raised  
6 is Vanessa Parvin.

7 VANESSA PARVIN: Hi. Thank you. I  
8 just have a question about the article in the  
9 Village Green five years ago indicated that the  
10 auxiliary officers do not respond to domestic  
11 violence calls or car chases. I wanted to just ask  
12 if that has changed since that article.

13 That's all.

14 CHIEF DeVAUL: It has not.

15 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: Okay. So the next  
16 person with their hand raised is Chief Yacenda.

17 CHIEF YACENDA: Thank you, Chairman  
18 Lembrich. I appreciate the opportunity. And I will  
19 make this as brief as possible.

20 Everybody out there on this call now  
21 knows me, as they can see my face. I've been on the  
22 Maplewood Police auxiliaries for 30 years. I've  
23 been a resident for over 33 years.

24 And I speak for all of my members,  
25 we're not a threat. We love this town. We love to

1 protect and serve. And that's what we're doing.  
2 The only problem is we can't be protected ourselves  
3 without having a weapon when we're out there. Yes,  
4 everybody has heard that, oh, all we do is events,  
5 or parades, or stand on the corner, but that is not  
6 the case, and things can -- can get crazy in a  
7 second, as we all know. We've seen it throughout  
8 the county. Okay?

9 There is just no way to logically -- to  
10 reimagine this volunteer unit to do what we do  
11 without having us armed because of the volatility  
12 that situations can explode to.

13 So I just want to reiterate we're not a  
14 threat. And we've had no incidents in our 78 years  
15 of auxiliary service to the Township of Maplewood.  
16 And I'm very sorry that people don't know the full  
17 information.

18 And I would offer to do a sit-down with  
19 anyone that's on these meetings, including all the  
20 members of the town council, to get this information  
21 out there correctly and intelligently so that people  
22 can make an educated decision about what they're  
23 asking the town council to do against the auxiliary  
24 unit.

25 Thank you.

1 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: Thank you, Chief.  
2 The next person who raised their hand  
3 was Craig Goldstein.

4 Craig, you can unmute.

5 CRAIG GOLDSTEIN: Thank you, Chairman  
6 Lembrich. How are you?

7 My name is Craig Goldstein. I'm an  
8 11-year member of the auxiliary unit in town. I  
9 have to say, I'm listening to this group on -- on --  
10 on here. I think it's a great opportunity to have  
11 this dialogue and discussion. I want to say that,  
12 like Chief Yacenda, you know, we know that there  
13 hasn't been any complaints against auxiliaries. We  
14 are out there serving the public. We choose to do  
15 this.

16 There has been comparisons to firemen  
17 and EMT. We're not. We choose to do this. We go  
18 through extensive training. Chief DeVaul makes sure  
19 that we get the training we need, that we are  
20 following all the protocols. Sergeant Wright is our  
21 liaison officer and he does a great job with our  
22 group explaining what's going on in our community,  
23 what's outside, how we're supposed to act.

24 We are not a threat to this community.  
25 We are someone who helps protect this community and

1 supports it.

2 And I have to say, hearing some of  
3 these items up there, you know, if we try and take a  
4 step back and not be offended by someone's words,  
5 but, you know, it is tough not to when you  
6 (inaudible) you know -- to, you know, sit down with  
7 people and Chief Yacenda was, about what auxiliaries  
8 do.

9 But I don't think disarming and -- or  
10 disbanding is the way to go with this. I think we  
11 really support this community in many ways.

12 Thank you.

13 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: Thank you.

14 The next hand raised is Tracy.

15 Tracy, you can unmute.

16 Tracy, are you there?

17 I don't hear Tracy. Okay. We're going  
18 to give Tracy a minute to maybe see if she can get  
19 on. But the next question is from "Joseph's iPad."  
20 I believe that's Chief Kelly.

21 So you can unmute.

22 CHIEF KELLY: Yeah. I just wanted to  
23 make a brief statement, that I think you're making a  
24 big mistake by disarming or disbanding the reserves.  
25 I think you have a diamond in the rough. You have a

1 gem in this town. Free help. I don't know how many  
2 times -- how many hours I've ridden in this town. I  
3 know I've been to (inaudible) by riding around in  
4 one or two cars. People have seen (inaudible) the  
5 car, I'm not going to (inaudible).

6 The police chief in (inaudible) reserve  
7 unit, the first reserve in Pennsylvania, and he's  
8 being applauded for doing it. So I think you're  
9 making a big mistake by getting rid of the reserves.

10 Thank you.

11 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: Thank you.

12 Tracy, were you able to -- to unmute  
13 and get on?

14 SPEAKER TRACY: Can you hear me?

15 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: We do now, yes.

16 SPEAKER TRACY: Okay. Great. Thank  
17 you for letting me speak and thank you for this  
18 meeting. I'm not a great public speaker, but I'm  
19 going to try my best.

20 I have to disagree. I don't -- I mean,  
21 it feels like the auxiliary police are working for  
22 the police and not so much for the community. The  
23 reason why I said this is because in my neighborhood  
24 we do -- we do have a -- a volunteer cop, and this  
25 person has called the cops on neighbors and visitors

1 a few times. And that doesn't feel very safe to me  
2 if -- if this person is working for the police.

3 So I just wanted to let you know that,  
4 that it's just not -- it's not only our family that  
5 feels this way. There are, you know, several people  
6 in the neighborhood that feels this way about this  
7 person.

8 So, yeah. And one cop who -- who --  
9 who appeared, he was like: I'm sorry, I had to show  
10 up. Someone called the cops on your friend.

11 You know? And it's just bizarre and  
12 it's -- I'm sorry. It's just not how it works. And  
13 it's not protecting the community at all. It's, you  
14 know -- and the thought that this person also said a  
15 lot of racist stuff to another neighbor, and to know  
16 that this person is carrying his gun, that doesn't  
17 make me feel good at all. It actually makes me very  
18 nervous.

19 And I wasn't going to speak up but  
20 because I heard two of the auxiliary cops, that they  
21 protect their community, that's not true. That is  
22 not true. Okay? So that's all I wanted to say.

23 Thank you.

24 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: Okay. I -- that  
25 is the end of the queue.

1 So obviously, you know, this will be --  
 2 Maplewood Police Auxiliary will be a discussion item  
 3 at next week's -- next Tuesday's Township Committee  
 4 meeting.

5 I want to thank the chief, my  
 6 colleagues and all the members of the public who  
 7 have come out tonight for this discussion.

8 I now -- unless either of my fellow  
 9 committee members has anything to go further  
 10 tonight, I'd like to entertain a motion to adjourn  
 11 the public portion of the meeting.

12 MAYOR McGEHEE: I'll second.

13 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: Okay. I'm -- I'm  
 14 in favor.

15 Deputy Mayor?

16 DEPUTY MAYOR DAFIS: Sorry about that.  
 17 I was on mute. Yes, I'm in favor.

18 CHAIRMAN LEMBRICH: Okay. So thank  
 19 you, everyone. Have a good night.

20 And the -- the Public Safety Committee  
 21 is going to adjourn the public meeting and will  
 22 resume in executive session for a personnel matter  
 23 on a separate Zoom in just a moment.

24 Thank you everyone. Good night.

25



1 C E R T I F I C A T E

2

3 I, ANGELA C. BUONANTUONO, a Certified  
 4 Court Reporter and Notary Public in the State of New  
 5 Jersey and a Registered Professional Reporter,  
 6 Certified LiveNote Reporter, certify that the  
 7 foregoing is a true and accurate transcript of the  
 8 audio-taped proceeding provided to me and  
 9 stenographically written to the best of my abilities.

10

11 I DO FURTHER CERTIFY that I am neither a  
 12 relative nor employee nor attorney nor counsel of any  
 13 of the parties to this action, and that I am neither  
 14 a relative nor employee of such attorney or counsel,  
 15 and that I am not financially interested in the  
 16 action.

17

18

19

20

21

22

23 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Angela C. Buonantuono, CCR, RPR, CLR

24 License No. 30XI00233100

25 Dated: September 8, 2020

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