



October, 2020
Monthly Report

Chief Leon J. Grim

The mission of the South Heidelberg Township Police Department is to serve the people of the community and those who work in, and visit the Township, through purposed policing that protects our citizens, prevents criminal acts and traffic crashes, and provides the highest quality of law enforcement services available anywhere.



Wednesday, October 28th, 2020, was National First Responders Day, and the South Heidelberg Township Police Department got the opportunity to celebrate the day with a visit by Miss Keystone State Pre-Teen Athena Worley, who brought treats for all of our Officers. Our Police Department continues to be grateful for the unwavering support from our business owners and residents like Athena.

OCTOBER CALLS FOR SERVICE

Incidents	2019	2020
South Heidelberg	199	213
Heidelberg Twp.	(0) *	53
Robesonia	(1) *	59
Wernersville	(9) *	86
OCTOBER TOTAL	209	411
YEAR TO DATE	2439	3691

*Indicates that calls for the other municipalities are included in the total number of South Heidelberg calls in 2019 and listed as assists to the Heidelberg Township P.D. or the Western Berks P.D.

CITATIONS

CITATIONS	2019	2020
OCTOBER	55	92
YEAR TO DATE	708	851

VEHICLE MILEAGE

45-1	128,709	2014	Ford Explorer (McQuate & Fizz)	528 Miles Driven in October
45-2	94,157	2017	Ford Explorer (Lanza & Doelp)	2,714 Miles Driven in October
45-3	94,692	2014	Ford Taurus (McMahon & Shaner)	822 Miles Driven in October
45-4	60,530	2017	Ford Taurus (Baxter & Hook)	2,464 Miles Driven in October
45-5	105,200	2014	Dodge Charger (Out of Service)	
45-6	56,124	2018	Ford Explorer (Patton & Cooper)	2,471 Miles Driven in October
45-7	23,255	2020	Ford Explorer (Oxenford & Ranft)	2,576 Miles Driven in October
45-8	86,680	2013	Dodge Charger (Bell)	386 Miles Driven in October
45-90	15,775	2020	Ford Explorer (Chief)	1,303 Miles Driven in October

OCTOBER 2020

Total Calls for October: 411

October 2020	South Heidelberg	Heidelberg	Robesonia	Wernersville
Abandoned Vehicle	1			1
Accident Related DUI				
Accident Non-Reportable	7		3	2
Accident Pedestrian				
Accident Reportable	4		2	2
Animal Case		2		1
Assault	1	1		
Assist to Children & Youth				
Assist to EMS	6	3	2	
Assist to Fire Department				1
Assist to other Agency in SH				
Assist to other Agency outside SH	16		1	1
Attempted Burglary				
Bad Check	1			
Burglar Alarm	12	2	1	1
Burglary			2	
Child Abuse	3	1	1	
Child Custody Issue	1			
Civil Matter			3	
Community Relations	6		1	1
Criminal Mischief		1		1
Death Investigation				1
Deer Hit	1			
Disabled Vehicle	2		1	
Disorderly Conduct	6	3	8	2
Dog Incident	4			
Domestic	10	3	6	6
DUI				2
Drug Abuse	1	1		
Excessive Noise		2	1	1
Fight	1			
Fire	2	1		1
Fire Alarm	6			1
Fire Works	2			1
Follow-Up Investigation				

Fraud	7		2	1
General Complaint	2			1
Harassment	1	1		
Hazardous Condition				
Hit and Run	2	1	1	1
Hold-up alarm				
Hunters				
Identity Theft				
Illegal Dumping				
Information	5	1		1
Intelligence Information				
Lift Assist			1	
Loitering				
Medical Alarm			1	
Mental Subject	6	1	1	2
Miscellaneous	2			
Missing Adult		1		
Missing Juvenile		1		
Neighbor Dispute				
News Media				
Open Door/Window				1
Ordinance Violation			1	
Other Type Alarm	3			
Parking Complaint	2	1	1	5
PFA Information	2			
Police Advisory	5	3	1	
Possession of Controlled Substance				1
Possession of Drug Paraphernalia				
Possession with Intent to Deliver				
Property Damage (Non-Offense)				
Property Lost	1			
Property Recovered/Found	3	1		
Public Drunkenness	1			
Public Service (Assist Motorist)				
Railroad Crossing Malfunction	1			
Rape				
Receiving Stolen Property				
Reckless Driver	3	1		2
Recovered Stolen Property				
Retail Theft				
Road Condition				

Robbery				
Runaway				
Security Check			1	
Sex Offense	3			
Shot Heard	1			
Simple Assault				
Soliciting		1		
Special Detail				1
Speed Enforcement Detail				
Subject Stop		1		1
Suspicious Activity	6	5		1
Suspicious Person	2		1	2
Suspicious Vehicle	4			1
Telephone Detail	7	2	3	3
Theft	1		1	4
Theft From Building		1		
Theft From Vehicle		1		
Theft of Services				
Threats				
Tobacco Compliance Check				
Traffic Control				1
Traffic Light Malfunction	1			
Traffic Violations	37	6	8	20
Tree Down		1		
Trespasser			1	
Unauthorized Use				1
Vacation Check				
Vehicle Repossession				1
Vehicle Theft				1
Walkaway				
Wanted Person		1		2
Warrant Service	1			
Welfare Check	11	2	2	6
Wires Down			1	

	South Heidelberg	Heidelberg	Robesonia	Wernersville	Total
October 2020	213	53	59	86	411
Year to Date 2020	1884	456	574	777	3691

OCTOBER CALLS OF INTEREST

Incident # 45-20-03216 South Heidelberg Township

During the evening of September 25th, 2020, several municipalities reported the theft of political signs from their front yards. After a thorough investigation, and review of area surveillance video, four suspects were identified as those responsible for the theft of 20 political signs. They were:

25-year-old female from Reading

22-Year-old male from West Reading

21-year-old male from Reading

17-year-old female from South Heidelberg Township

The three adults were charged with theft and the Juvenile is being referred to the Youth Aid Panel for Community Service.

Incident # 45-20-03313 Robesonia Borough

On October 1st, South Heidelberg Township Police Officers were dispatched to Patterson Drive in Robesonia for a third-party report stating that the caller's Stepfather and Wife were arguing, and the Stepfather was threatening the Wife with a gun. A subsequent third-party call stated that the wife was being held at gun point by her Husband. Upon the arrival of Officers, it was learned that the incident stemmed from a misunderstanding after one of the couples' two Daughters texted her Sister stating that their Stepfather was on his way over to a separate location to deal with the Sister's Boyfriend. After several tense minutes, the situation was sorted out and all involved were found safe and not in danger.

Incident # 45-20-03325 Wernersville Borough

On October 2nd, Officers stopped 32-year-old male for suspicion of DUI. The male was found to be under the influence of heroin and was taken into custody at the intersection of Penn Avenue and Stitzer Avenues. He was charged with DUI and possession of narcotics and paraphernalia.

Incident # 45-20-03352 Heidelberg Township

On October 4th, South Heidelberg Township Officers assisted Community members in helping Heidelberg Township at 335 Fry Avenue celebrate her 100th Birthday party. The Police Department was assisted by members of the Robesonia Fire Department.

Incident # 45-20-3491 Wernersville Borough

On October 15th, Patrol Officers found a driver passed out in the driver's seat on Werner Street at the railroad crossing. Upon waking the driver, it was immediately apparent that the driver was under the influence of alcohol. The 41-year-old male was taken into custody and found to have a blood alcohol content of .131%. He was charged with DUI.

Incident # 45-20-03526 South Heidelberg Township

On Friday afternoon, the 16th of October, 2020, at 3:46 P.M. the South Heidelberg Township Police Department responded to the area of Grandview Avenue and Galen Avenue for a report of a missing male who had threatened to harm himself.

Upon arriving in the area, Officers began to search the area for the male, and upon attempting to search a locked shed with the assistance of family members, the male fired one round from a semi-automatic handgun in a direction away from the Officers. The Officers did not return fire, and moved to a safe position, securing the surrounding area. The Officers immediately established communications with the male via cell phone and began a dialog with the male to attempt to deescalate the situation.

The South Heidelberg Township Police requested assistance from the Lower Heidelberg Township Police, Sinking Spring Borough Police, Spring Township Police, and the Berks County Emergency Response Team. The Western Berks Fire Department and Western Berks Ambulance Association also assisted at the scene. A representative of Service Access Management, a Berks County Mental Health Crisis Intervention and Emergency Service also responded to assist at the scene.

At 6:43 P.M., after nearly two hours of negotiations, the male agreed to put his weapons down and leave the shed. He was then taken to Reading Hospital for a mental health evaluation. The male was found to have two rifles and two pistols in his possession at the time of the incident.

SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER



After a long delay, The Conrad Weiser Middle School and High School began in person classes on Monday, October 26th, 2020. On Thursday, October 29th, School Resource Officer, Sgt. David McQuate took part in Mr. Esser's Middle School Science class at Conrad Weiser.

COMMUNITY POLICING



On October 9th, 2020, Sergeant David McQuate and Officer Maura McMahon visited the SpringRose Child Care Center and got to meet the children and show them the Police Cars.



Douglass M. Brown


210 North Sandy Lane
Sinking Spring, PA 19608
610-587-0987
dougbrown210@comcast.net

October 10, 2020

South Heidelberg Township Police Department
555 A Mountain Home Road
Sinking Spring, PA 19608

Dear Chief Grim,

Tim and I would like to thank the police department and the officers that took the time to meet with our daughter as well as the children at Spring Rose Day Care Center. Lauren came into our life at the beginning of this year after being in and out of foster homes because of the horrible actions by her biological parents. She is an absolute gift from god. I truly can't go an hour at work without wondering what adventure she is up to. Please thank Sgt. McQuate and the other officer (sorry for not knowing her name) for their time that day.

Sincerely,

Douglass M Brown



COMMUNITY POLICING



On Saturday, October 17th, 2020, the South Heidelberg Township Police Department had the honor to help resident June Gottshall celebrate her 100th Birthday. We were delighted to have the assistance of Spring Township PD, Sinking Spring PD, and the Western Berks Fire Department to make this event even more memorable. With 100 candles for the celebration, we were grateful the Fire Department was nearby.

Chief Leon J. Grim
Sergeant David McQuate
South Heidelberg Police
555A Mountain Home Road
Sinking Spring, PA 19608

October 19, 2020

Dear Chief Grim/Sergeant McQuate:

On behalf of my Grandmother, June E. Gottshall, at 4 Preston Road, as well as my late-Grandfather, Walter L. Gottshall, kindly accept this small gesture in Donation as a thank you for your service to our community. My Grandparents were married 77 years and have resided in South Heidelberg Township for 54 of those years. Your efforts were priceless for how and what you did for my Grandmother on her 100th Birthday. It was such an Honor for her. Her smile was glowing and she repeated how wonderful, how wonderful. Your Honor Parade is a treasure to her along with your kind 100th official birthday letter. It is framed by her favorite chair and the pink Badge and Snickers enjoyed by all.

Please extend our gratitude to your team of men and women, our Essential Workers, who make our lives a much better place every single day. Thank you for taking the time out of your lives to Honor a Centenarian. This has impacted my Grandmother, all of us and my 7 year daughter who saw a Chief Policeman closeup for the first time and was so delighted by your kindness.

My Grandmother said this when she first saw your fleet of vehicles, "I will never ever forget this for the rest of my life." She recalled the friendship that my Grandfather had with the late Chief Charlie Boyer. I remember him as a child, they were good friends and carried on together. I remember my Grandfather saying here comes the Fuzz so we would behave. She continued to remember her neighbors and how the Father of Charlie had so many chickens and was bitten by a fox that had rabies. Lastly, she said there was a Policeman who brought PopPop home a couple of times when he walked away. She said, he was the kindest man, he would always come in the house after he brought him home and spend time to talk with us. Sergeant McQuate also convinced my Grandfather to stop driving after he had a little mishap across from his driveway. He never tried to drive again after that talk. Two years ago, my Grandmother fell while my Grandfather was in Ephrata hospital with his last fall. Sergeant McQuate was on call and graciously assisted my whole family. My Grandmother opened her eyes in Tower Health on my birthday two years ago and asked me to get her a cup of coffee, we placed them together in Manor and my Grandfather passed away instead. We brought my Grandmother home to pass with hospice and she got better. Easily you see your Service to us is priceless. We are grateful to you for your kindness, your commitment and for your Honor Parade, this experience sure did make her day and all of ours extra, extra special.

In gratitude,

Melissa Strawser



COMMUNITY POLICING



On October 7th and again on October 27th, Chief Grim met with residents of Phoebe Retirement Center for a discussion of modern policing in the era of Covid-19. Residents were also presented with ways to detect and prevent fraud that focuses on the elderly community. On the October 27th visit, Chief Grim was accompanied by the Mayor of Wernersville, Keegan Worley.



On Halloween night, 2020, South Heidelberg Township Officers were stationed at the Western Berks Fire Department in Wernersville, the Ball Field in Robesonia, and at the intersection of Primrose and Ivy in South Heidelberg Township to distribute candy and glow sticks to the children. Some of the costumes were a perfect fit for the evening.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

Chief Leon J. Grim

