

# POLICE DEPARTMENT

In March of 2019, the residents of Nottingham voted to approve a warrant article to allow Mobile Data Terminals (MDTs) be installed in the patrol vehicles. After a myriad of difficulties (apparently not isolated to just our agency), we are finally near the finish line. Thank you for your support in allowing us to join everyone else in Rockingham County.

In late spring and early summer, we lost three members of our department, -two went to other agencies and the third entered retirement. Sgt. Ross Oberlin served law enforcement with distinction in every capacity assigned to him for 32 years and his decision to move onto the next chapter has left a void here. We will obviously move on, but his service deserves recognition and my personal thanks.

Prior to the writing of this report, Lt. Brian Spagna tendered his plan to retire at the end of January after having spent his entire career of nearly 23 years with the Nottingham Police Department. Brian has been an integral member of this agency in many capacities, but his capacity as a training officer and mentoring of new officers will be greatly missed. He advocated for more training and developed training plans that are being copied by other agencies. On a personal note, Brian has had my back for all the years he's been here and that is a debt that can never be repaid. We wish Brian and his family well as he moves onto the next chapter.



As a result of the personnel changes, we brought three new members on board, - all three of them residents of Nottingham. Two of them, Officers McBride and Alvarez graduated from the NH. Police Academy in December, and the third, Officer Ed Myers will be entered into the Academy in January. It generally takes time for newer officers to assimilate into the community they serve, our newest members are already of the community and I believe that makes for a better understanding of our community dynamic. We welcome our newest members and hope that they will choose to serve Nottingham for a very long time.

Officers Alvarez, McBride & Myers

As always, there are many individuals and entities to thank for their assistance throughout the year. Town Administrator Chris Sterndale and his staff are integral to our mission with admin support, -Public Works Director Shawn McLean and his band for their efforts during long duration storms, and Chief Jay Vilchock and the Nottingham Fire/Rescue Department, our long serving brothers and sisters in service to our community for their continued assistance in all manner of events. I would like to thank the Board of Selectmen for their on-going support, -with the many, many important issues to be dealt with, there are always they are always available to listen and lend whatever assistance may be necessary. It is not always the case in other communities. Over the past year, the staff of the Nottingham Police Department has succeeded in a herculean effort of provide service to our residents despite a severe staff shortage, -I don't have the words to express my personal appreciation for that effort, I'm immensely proud of our little band.

And thank you to our residents who make up a unique community that demonstrates a deep caring for their fellow citizens, provides for its children and elderly and supports its municipal services. Thank you and enjoy 2020.

Chief Gunnar Foss  
Chief of Police