

To: Lavon Phillips, Business Administrator
From: Joseph Candido, Director of Public Safety
Date: August 4, 2025
Subject: Monthly Report

Personnel

Currently, the department has several personnel issues affecting staffing levels:

- **Long-Term Injuries:**
 1. Sgt. Grochowski
 2. PO Chesney
 3. PO Notare
- **On-the-Job Injury (OJI):**
 - PO Araneda is out on long-term OJI leave. There is a strong possibility that his injury may lead to retirement.
- **Military Leave:**
 - PO Twining remains on extended military leave.
- **Light Duty Assignments:**
 - Lt. Rodriguez – Expected to return in the near future
 - PO Ravioli – May require further treatment, potentially prolonging absence
 - PO Elbaum – Expected to return shortly
- **Administrative Leave:**
 - Sgt. Gravina is currently on administrative leave as the Police Training Commission (PTC) has suspended his license pending review of an incident. Preliminary findings suggest the investigation is likely to result in his exoneration.

Budgetary Considerations

Overtime expenses have risen significantly over the past two months. As of July, the department has incurred **\$538,584.75** in overtime costs. I will be addressing this issue with the Chief to identify contributing factors and develop strategies to reduce these expenses.

Additionally, one officer is scheduled to retire effective **September 1, 2025**.

Daily Operations and Projects

1. **Vehicle Upgrades:** Four new quads have been ordered to replace units that are approximately 20 years old. Delivery is expected by the end of the month, with at least one potentially arriving in time for National Night Out.

2. **National Night Out:** Scheduled for **August 5** from **6:00 PM to 9:00 PM** at Johnson Park. The event is sponsored by PBA 168 and remains on schedule.
3. **Vehicle Procurement:** New vehicles purchased with 2024 capital funds are arriving ahead of schedule, with deliveries occurring between late July and August. This improved timeline reflects better planning and coordination compared to previous years.
4. **Traffic Management:** The closure of Cedar Swamp Road has significantly increased traffic on Leesville Road and Frank Applegate Road. These issues are being addressed as staffing allows.
5. **State-Mandated Training:** Recent mandates require four hours of active shooter training and four hours of defensive tactics, which have placed additional strain on resources.
6. **Class I Officers:** Background investigations for three Class I Officers have been completed. Their deployment is pending budget approval, after which they will assist with parking enforcement and court operations.
7. **Dispatch Vacancy:** Background checks are underway to fill an open dispatch position.
8. **Recruit Training:**
 - Four recruits began training at the Monmouth County Police Academy on **July 21**.
 - Four recruits have successfully passed the Ocean County Police Academy pretest and are scheduled to start on **September 2**.
 - Candidate Arianne Broughton underwent emergency surgery and will miss the September academy. She will retest in October and is expected to attend the Ocean County Police Academy in November.
9. **Call Volume:** To date, the department has responded to **64,555 calls for service**, projecting an estimated total of **111,000 calls** by year-end. This figure may rise further during the holiday season when call volume historically increases.

Please let me know if further details or clarifications are required.

Respectfully,
Joseph Candido
Public Safety Director

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