

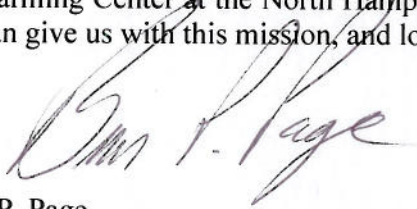
Report of the Police Department 2009

The year 2009 once again revealed some decreases in certain activity as compared to 2008. I can also report that the specific categories that showed decreases this year were not a surprise to me, because of some changes in direction the department was committed to throughout 2009. Some of the changes I refer to were recommended within the Assessment done of the police department by Municipal Resources Incorporated which was released in 2008. There were also some operational changes that needed to be made in order to ensure the police department was able to respond to priority services that our organization feels are important to the protection of life and property in North Hampton. The substantial increases from State costs being pushed down to the town budgets were not able to be funded within the individual department budgets over the last two years. With this said, I can assure you that the police department will continue to remain proactive in providing priority or quality of life services, but may have to become somewhat reactive in the provision of non-priority services. Based on budgetary trends it is *extremely* important for the residents of North Hampton to become the eyes and ears of their police department, and to take every opportunity to call when they feel that something is suspicious in and around their neighborhoods

In 2009 the overall calls for service decreased significantly from 11,231 to 9,538 (-15%). At the same time total number of Reportable Accidents (does not include self-reported) remained static going from 134 in 2008, to 133 in 2009. We were very fortunate to see this trend in Reportable Accidents where there were considerably less personnel hours available to be spent on traffic control in 2009 than there was in 2008. Investigative cases in 2009 were up considerably in 2009 going from 458 in 2008 up to 573 (+20%) in 2009. Although there are not always arrests made in these investigative cases, many times there is substantial time put into investigating them by our Detective, or by the Patrol Division. It is important to residents and non-residents that we continue to approach investigative cases in this manner in order to make sure that victims of crime are well represented. Of course it is also important that when someone has been accused and the reported event does not meet the definition of a crime, then we clear the names of those accused as well. In the arrests category where the arrests in 2008 totaled 280, we saw a decrease with the total arrests in 2009 being 248 (-12.9%). The majority (161) of these arrests made are of the incident based/warrant type which requires a great deal of investigation time before an arrest can be made where the remainder is protective custody or motor vehicle "on-view" arrests.

In 2009 we were very successful in placing an officer in the school for at least two to three days per week. This was due to our conviction to expand the school programs, and of course thanks to the Edward J. Byrne Justice Assistance Grant we were awarded under the Federal Stimulus Program. This allowed us to update the School Safety Plan originally adopted in 2007, and to continue to foster a strong relationship with the students and the staff. In addition, I would again like to thank the North Hampton School Board, and the Administration at the school for allowing Officer Oliveira and some of the other officers to spend considerably more time inside the school on other programs in addition to the DARE and Halloween Safety Programs.

As always, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the residents of North Hampton for their never-ending support, and also to remind them to call us if they see anything they consider dangerous or suspicious. This is more important than ever during the type of recessed economy we are currently experiencing. The success of any police agency relies greatly on the eyes and ears of the public, so please do not hesitate to call and make us aware of your concerns. In addition, I will take this opportunity to ask that any resident who wishes to be put on a volunteer list for hosting at an Emergency Warming Center should call us at the police department to leave your name and telephone number. These types of volunteers would be asked to provide light refreshments, coffee, and hot chocolate in the event we open the Warming Center at the North Hampton School. I thank all in advance for any assistance you can give us with this mission, and look forward to working with any and all volunteers.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Brian P. Page". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Brian" and last name "Page" clearly distinguishable.

Brian P. Page
Chief of Police