

DANIEL C. O'LEARY
CHIEF OF POLICE

BROOKLINE POLICE DEPARTMENT

Brookline, Massachusetts

October 29, 2014

Personnel Order 2014-73

Subject: Commendations

Sergeant Michael Raskin

During the month of May we experienced an upswing in residential breaking and enterings. During this crime spree, officers arrested one subject and obtained an arrest warrant for second subject. This second subject was later arrested in Florida. Even with these two arrests, break-ins continued in a section of town. A Police Supervisor developed a plan to deploy officers to the area where breaks were still occurring.

On June 26, 2014 a "live" breaking and entering call came in from a homeowner on Cypress St. The female victim provided a physical description of the male perpetrator. The victim relayed that the male culprit had jumped out a second story window of the residence and had fled down Cypress St. toward Washington St.

Detective Michael Raskin was assigned to this area and responded to the Cypress Street address. Soon after the crime was broadcast he took note of a female standing alone on the corner of Cypress Street and Stanton Road. Her actions of looking around in all directions led him to think she was watching or waiting for someone. Additionally he recalled information that a possible suspect in the break-ins was usually accompanied by a woman in order to facilitate his crimes. Detective Raskin decided to conduct a threshold inquiry- field interview on the female subject.

During his inquiry of this female she revealed that she was in the area waiting for her boyfriend. She informed Detective Raskin that she and her boyfriend had come from the suboxone clinic in Brighton. She states she did not know his whereabouts. She did indicate they planned to meet at the CVS on Washington Street.



Subsequently, this woman was arrested for shoplifting items from this CVS. Detective Raskin was able to obtain the identity of the woman's boyfriend and a photo array was put together. The victim of the Cypress Street break-in positively identified the subject as the person who she confronted in her home. Follow up investigation resulted in the boyfriend being formally charged with three break-ins in Brookline. He was later arrested. He is also believed responsible for several others.

Based on the initiative and quality work that was demonstrated by recently promoted Sergeant Michael Raskin, multiple break-ins were cleared. The crime spree Brookline experienced at that time ended with the arrest of this subject as well as the other two mentioned above. Because of his work in this case Sergeant Michael Raskin will be awarded both a Certificate of Commendation as well as a Letter of Commendation.

Detective Jeffrey Emmerso

While experiencing a number of "package thefts" throughout the community a plan was developed and implemented by members of this Department to stop, identify, and apprehend the persons responsible for these crimes. These crimes were occurring for a number of months throughout the Town and it was believed that a number of separate individuals were responsible for committing them. On July 9, 2014 Detective Jeffrey Emmerso observed a subject riding a bike in the Longwood area. This subject appeared to be riding aimlessly and without purpose. Detective Emmerso maintained surveillance on this subject for a period of time and eventually observed him enter a courtyard on Beacon Street which was shielded by high shrubbery. Detective Emmerso exited his unmarked vehicle and maintained surveillance on foot. He subsequently observed the subject exit the courtyard on his bike carrying a package. Detective Emmerso stopped the subject at that point in order to conduct a threshold inquiry.

During this stop, Detective Emmerso determined that the package had just been stolen from a Beacon Street address and that the subject had two outstanding warrants for his arrest.

Detective Emmerso maintained diligence in making observations in the area where specific crimes have occurred. He displayed good observation skills and used these skills to develop a suspect. He then maintained surveillance until a crime was committed which allowed him to make an arrest of this subject.

Because of his work on this case, Detective Jeffrey Emmerso will be awarded both a Certificate of Commendation as well as a Letter of Commendation.



Patrol Officer Barry McNeilly
Patrol Officer Edward Tam

On July 16, 2014 at approximately 5:15PM a caller reported that he had observed a subject breaking into a motor vehicle that was parked in a parking lot at 826 Boylston Street. The caller also provided a thorough description of the subject. Multiple officers responded to the area. Patrol Officer Barry McNeilly met with the caller and was able to learn that the subject ran from the vehicle and entered the parking lot of St. Lawrence Church. The caller then observed the subject search through a wallet and eventually throw an item onto the ground. The subject then fled out to Boylston Street. Patrol Officer Edward Tam then observed a subject matching the description given on Boylston Street and stopped him to conduct a field interrogation.

During the stop, the witness positively identified the subject stopped as the person who broke into the motor vehicle. Upon questioning, this subject admitted he broke into the vehicle and told the officers where he threw the wallet. The owner of the vehicle was located and told officers that his wallet, credit cards, passport and \$80.00 were taken from his car. Officers searched the area and located the wallet, credit cards and passport. Upon booking, \$80.00 was located on the arrested subject's person. It was also learned that this subject was part of a group of unauthorized solicitors dropped off in the area to solicit magazine subscriptions.

Based on this quick response, these Officers worked with a citizen who was willing to report a crime and, together, arrest a person who had broken into a parked motor vehicle. Based on their actions, both Patrol Officer Barry McNeilly and Patrol Officer Edward Tam will be awarded a Letter of Commendation.

Patrol Officer Kevin Sullivan
Patrol Officer Michael Keaveney

On July 17, 2014 at approximately 6:00PM Brookline dispatch received a 911 call from an individual who stated that he was shot by a BB while walking on Freeman Street. Upon arrival on scene Patrol Officer Kevin Sullivan and Patrol Officer Michael Keaveney met with the caller to get further details. Both the caller as well as a second individual stated to the officers that while they were walking in the area of 145 Freeman Street they had been hit by a BB. While speaking to the first two reporting parties another individual approached them and stated he was also shot by a BB while walking on Freeman Street.

Officers then directed all three victims to stand around the corner while they investigated the matter. Both officers began to move down Freeman Street while trying to ascertain the origination of the BB's. As the officers were doing this, one of the original victims disregarded the officer's instructions and walked back onto Freeman Street. While there, he was once again hit by a BB. At that time officers could hear a BB gun being fired from the third floor of 145 Freeman St. Officers



Sullivan and Keaveney immediately entered the building and made their way to the third floor and knocked on the door. A male opened the door and officers asked him to turn over the BB gun that he was using to shoot at the people on the street. This subject then brought both officers into his bedroom where he turned over two BB guns, a Colt .45 pistol as well as a rifle with a scope.

After providing Miranda warnings this subject was asked about his actions. He then admitted to shooting the people with the BB gun. He also told officers that he did it because he was bored. He was placed under arrest for multiple counts of Assault and Battery by Means of a Dangerous weapon.

Officers Sullivan and Keaveney did an excellent job determining where the BB shots were fired from. Furthermore, it should be noted that the location of the incident is very close to Still St. Park. Due to the time of the day the park was being utilized by both adults and children. Because of their actions, they were able to make a quick arrest and prevent other people from being injured. Both Patrol Officer Kevin Sullivan and Patrol Officer Michael Keaveney will be awarded both a Certificate of Commendation as well as a Letter of Commendation.

Patrol Officer Brendan Morgan

On July 21, 2014 at approximately 12:36AM Patrol Officer Brendan Morgan was travelling on Boylston Street in the area of Brookline Village when he observed a motor vehicle travelling at a high rate of speed. Patrol Officer Morgan subsequently effected a traffic stop resulting in the arrest of the driver for operating after suspension. A criminal history check of the subject was conducted and Patrol Officer Morgan learned that the operator had multiple charges of drug distribution on his criminal record. When advised that his vehicle was going to be towed, Patrol Officer Morgan observed the operator to become excessively nervous and concerned about this vehicle. During the inventory search of this vehicle, Patrol Officer Morgan located a small amount of marijuana, large sums of cash separated into multiple bundles, three cell phones and in the glove compartment, he located two separate plastic bags containing a white powder believed to be the Class-B Cocaine. Also located was a digital scale as well as dozens of small empty plastic bags. Ultimately this inventory search of the vehicle resulted in the discovery of 48 grams of Cocaine and \$3255.00 in cash. The subject was subsequently charged with Drug Trafficking and multiple other offenses.

Patrol Officer Morgan displayed excellent awareness and observation skills while on patrol and was able to initiate a thorough investigation which led to an arrest of a person who makes his living selling drugs.

Because of his work on this case, Patrol Officer Morgan will be awarded both a Certificate of Commendation and a Letter of Commendation.



Detective David Wagner

On August 8, 2014 at 1:45 PM, Detective David Wagner was patrolling in the Longwood Avenue area in an unmarked police vehicle. We were experiencing an increasing number of bicycle thefts in this area. While on Longwood Ave, Detective Wagner observed a group of five young males. Four of these males were on bicycles and one was walking. After observing this, Detective Wagner decided to keep this group under surveillance. He watched them for about 25 minutes. During this time, the group would stop at other bicycles that were locked to poles and appeared to be checking them out. As the group approached a bicycle locked to a pole on Carlton and Beacon Street, Detective Wagner observed two of them to stop at the corner. One of the males reached into his backpack, removed a pair of bolt cutters and began to cut the chain which was used to secure the bicycle to a pole. Detective Wagner was able to interrupt this theft and held two of the youths. The other three fled on bicycles into Kenmore Square where they were stopped by other responding officers.

Subsequent investigation revealed that this group, in addition to attempting to steal the bicycle at Carlton and Beacon, had two other stolen bicycles in their possession. Each of these bicycles was valued at several hundred of dollars each. However, the owners of the other two bicycles could not be located. These two bicycles were seized by police. The subject who was attempting to steal the bicycle was placed under arrest.

Detective Wagner put himself in a position where he could have an impact on a growing crime spree that we were experiencing. By doing so he prevented the theft of a valuable piece of property, recovered other stolen property and sent a message to a group of people who were intent on stealing. Because of his actions, Detective David Wagner will be awarded both a Certificate of Commendation as well as a Letter of Commendation.

Patrol Officer Daniel Avila

On August 18, 2014, Patrol Officer Daniel Avila at approximately 4:30 PM conducted a traffic stop on Washington Street at Davis Ave. During his interaction with the occupants he learned the operator had a revoked license. In addition he learned that the passenger, who Officer Avila observed not to be wearing his seatbelt, had an active warrant for his arrest.

After placing both men in custody, Officer Avila engaged the passenger in a conversation. The passenger told Officer Avila that he had hidden contraband under the hood of the car. With this information Patrol Officer Avila located several packets of heroin under the hood.

After the subjects arrived at the police station for booking, police located a number of additional packets of heroin in the waistband of the passenger's pants. Upon being



questioned further, the passenger admitted to being engaged in the sale of heroin in neighboring jurisdictions. Based on the amount of heroin seized, along with the information developed by several officers, both subjects were charged with trafficking in heroin, conspiracy and other related offenses.

Because of his proactive traffic enforcement efforts, Patrol Officer Avila was able to develop a solid case of drug trafficking against two individuals. Based on his actions that afternoon, Patrol Officer Avila will be awarded both a Certificate of Commendation as well as a Letter of Commendation.

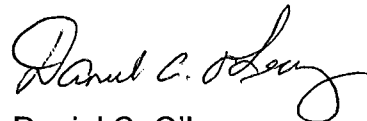
Detective David Wagner

On September 23, 2014, shortly after 1:00PM, Detective David Wagner was in the Brookline Village area. He was patrolling in an unmarked vehicle in an effort to apprehend the person responsible for a rash of package thefts. While on Kent Street Detective Wagner observed a male crouched down between two parked vehicles while talking on a cell phone. Detective Wagner went around the block and observed the subject in the same position while putting on a backpack. This subject then got up, looked around and walked up Linden Street. Very shortly after that, the subject made eye contact with Detective Wagner and abruptly changed direction. Detective Wagner then stopped the subject in order to conduct a field interrogation. During this stop, the subject gave Detective Wagner consent to search his backpack. Located in the backpack was a plastic bag containing a quantity of crystal methamphetamine. This subject was then placed under arrest.

Because of Detective Wagner's observation skills and attention to duty, he uncovered a male acting in a suspicious manner which resulted in an arrest for unlawful possession of a controlled substance. Detective Wagner will be awarded a Letter of Commendation for his actions in this case.

The above represents the quality of work that is performed on a regular basis by our officers. It is my honor to acknowledge their efforts to make Brookline a safe community.

DCO/kms



Daniel C. O'Leary
Chief of Police

