

Hudson Police Department FY 2017 Town Report

Preface:

It gives me pleasure to share with the citizens of Hudson, your Police Department's 2017 Annual Town Report. The following information will summarize the year in a few short pages. I cannot express enough, the gratitude I have for the women and men (both civilian and sworn) that comprise the Hudson Police Department. If it were not for their efforts day-in and day-out we would not be the successful organization that we are today and for our tomorrows.

I have listed a few of my concerns below. One that will be important to the tax-payers of Hudson is the need to plan for an expansion of the police department. Not everyone realizes that Hudson is the ninth (9th) largest community (population wise) out of the 234 Towns and Cities and 25 unincorporated places in this State. Nor will people realize that we had a minimum of 38,868 calls for service during the year. The Town of Hudson is a business and every taxpayer is an owner. To be successful we must make investments into our business and an expansion of the police facility is one that **is** needed. We have been making adjustments and placing Band-Aids on things for the last fifteen years. We are at a point where we need to invest into the police facility. We will need your support as we move forward with this endeavor.

Concerns:

Criminal

Identity Thefts

There are waves of criminal groups traveling the country. They come into an area and install credit card skimming devices on ATM machines and at gas pumps. Once your debit or credit card is used in one of these devices, criminals are able to duplicate your cards and use them to steal money from you. The reason for this is that once the criminals have your information, they will use it for their organization and at the same time they are selling your information over the internet to other criminals where they can use your information to create scams and profit from it. Be as diligent as you can, check your bank statements carefully, go inside to pay for your gas, inspect the machine for tampering. If you see anything suspicious report it to the gas station or bank and your local law enforcement immediately. It is very hard to make arrests in these cases because the suspects are hard to identify.

Scams

These types of cases continue to happen. Law Enforcement is sharing as much information between agencies as we can to solve these crimes. There are still groups that travel the country targeting different areas and then move on to other parts of the country. If you receive a message that says you won the lottery, especially a foreign lottery, and one that you didn't even buy a ticket for, you did not win. Delete the email or hang up on the caller. Do **not** send them any money. **THIS IS A SCAM**. If you get a phone call from someone claiming to be a police officer and they have arrested a loved one of yours and they ask you to pay the bail. They have the ability to manipulate you to learning a loved one's name. Even if they put you on the phone momentarily with someone else who claims to be your grandson/granddaughter, or etc. Do **not** send them money. **THIS IS A SCAM**. If you think you or someone you know may be falling victim to a scam, please contact us at 886-6011.

Facility

Dispatch Consoles

The Fire Chief and I have dispatch equipment that repair parts have not been for since 2009. The Board of Selectmen have been working with us to find money to make this purchase happen without any tax increase to the citizens of Hudson during 2018. This has been, and is a priority and is receiving our full attention.

Expansion of Police Department

For almost a decade I have been advocating for the Town to take care of some building needs for such departments like the Fire Department. I was doing this because if those problems weren't fixed in a timely matter than the tax payers of Hudson would be in a significant dilemma as the police department would soon be in need of an expansion. Now, that the Town has decided to solve the fire departments issues, it is time to start taking a look at addressing the spatial needs of the police department. Currently we are working with the Board of Selectmen and other Town staff to address the needs of the police department.

The police department was originally designed in 1993 to be a 24,000 square foot facility at a cost of \$3,000,000.00. The governing body at that time said they would only allow \$1.5 million to be used. The construction was cut down to a 14,000 square foot building. The architects explained that their experience showed we would outgrow the building in ten (10) years versus having a facility that would last for twenty (20) to twenty-five (25) years. We have now been in this building for over 22 years. We have made changes to the interior but are at a point where we need to expand the footprint of police facility so that we can accommodate our needs. I look forward to working with our community, the governing body(ies), and department heads to help us meet the needs of the police department.

Community Concerns

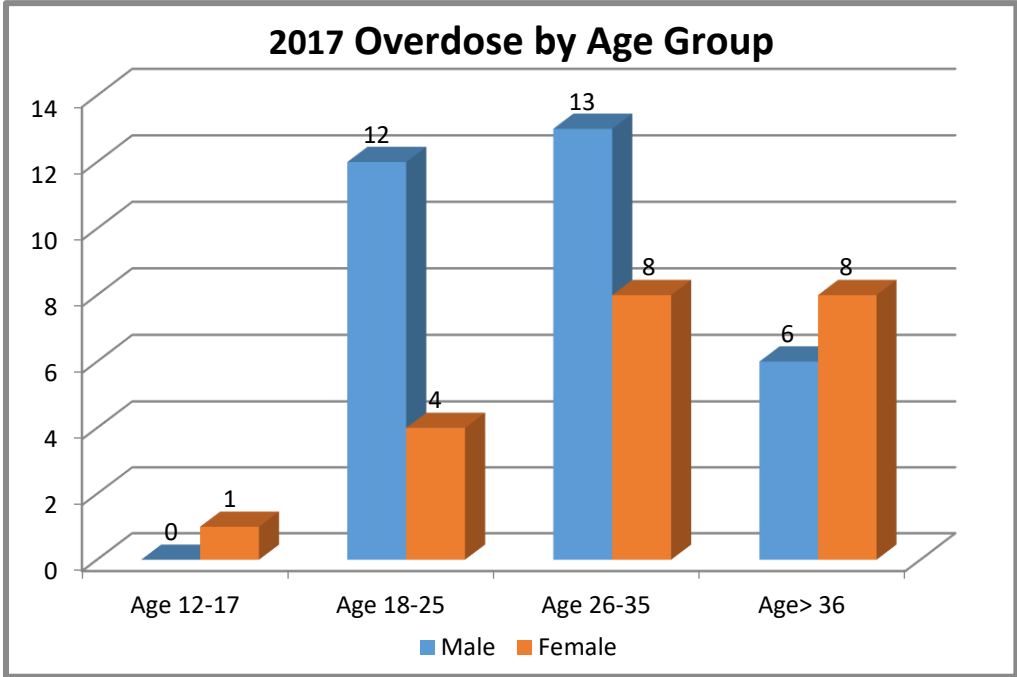
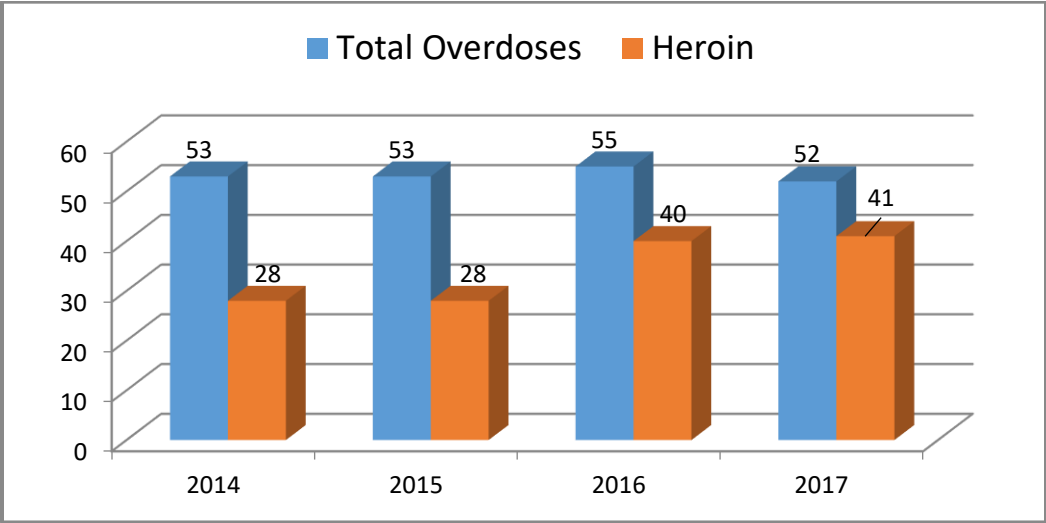
Heroin/Fentanyl

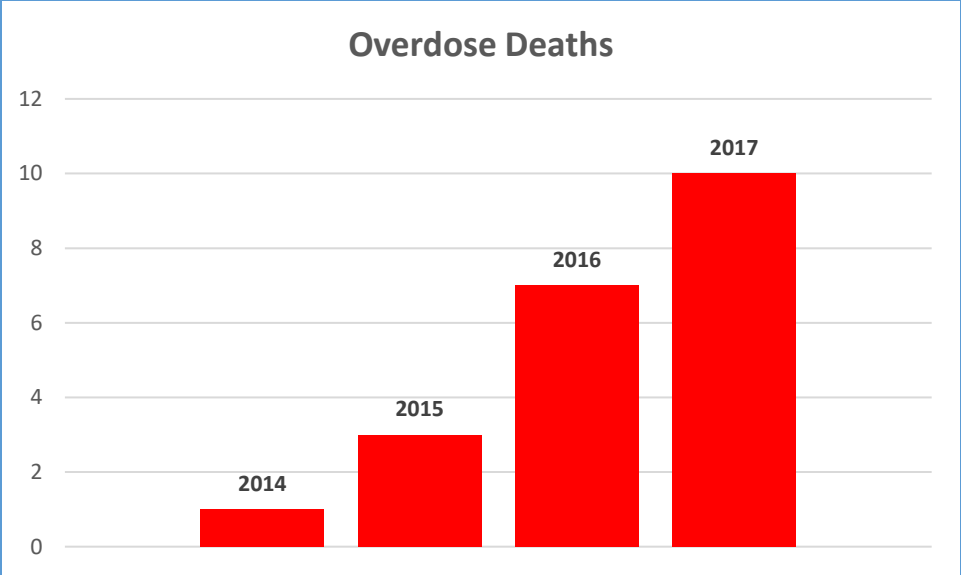
I am grateful for all the efforts of law enforcement to remove this dangerous drug off the streets. However, there is more work that has to be done. This is a community problem and we need to be concerned as a community as it effects all of us in one way or another. Whether it's the costs associated with healthcare, the costs it puts on public safety to respond to these types of calls. It affects us all. We cannot blame the people who use this type of drug. We have to understand that there are different reasons why people end up with a physical need to use. Just like one person is allergic to peanuts, dairy, gluten, or bee stings, and someone else is not. Our bodies respond differently to different things. In many cases it only takes a few uses of a prescription medication and the body continues to crave that medication when it has been stopped. When the supply is cut off the physical need is still present and people who we may never thought of being addicted to drugs becomes addicted. Law Enforcement has to continue its efforts to go after dealers who are selling this fatal drug.

The data below only shows numbers of people where medical action was taken. There were many, many other people who became conscious prior to the start of medical treatment and therefore have never been counted as an overdose.

The death rate in Hudson rose from seven (7) to ten (10) for a forty-three percent (43%) increase. Hudson was tied for seventh (7th) (the way it is track by the drug monitoring information the State provides us) the State with the most overdose deaths. Please keep in mind that Hudson is the ninth (9th) largest community in the 234 (or so) towns and cities that comprise this state. For Hudson that is one (1) death in every 2,500 residents. The amount of overdoses equates to one (1) person for every 500 residents.

By now, many of us know of someone or knew someone who lost their life to this drug, including myself. I would encourage anyone who feels that they are going to use and they are trying not to use, to contact the Hudson Police Department. We will do what we can to get you to a facility to help you manage your addiction. Every time you ingest this drug it may be your last. Let us try and help you.





Statistics:

The Police Department utilizes many policing models to help reduce, prevent and solve crimes. For calendar year 2017 we had 38,867 calls for service.

Activity	1/01/16 -12/31/16	1/01/17 -12/31/17	% Δ
Total Arrests	1,042	1,145	10%
Juvenile Arrests	126	117	-7%
DWI Arrests	114	126	11%
Drug Arrests	85	140	65%
Crime vs Person			
Homicide	0	0	NC
Aggravated Assault	35	21	-40%
Simple Assault	124	141	14%
Sexual Assault	12	22	83%
Robbery	5	1	-80%
Crime vs Property			
Arson	0	2	NC
Burglary	32	28	-13%
Criminal Mischief	116	115	-1%
MV Theft	22	13	-41%
Theft/Larceny	277	255	-8%
Theft/Fraud	102	141	38%
Motor Vehicle			
State Reportable MVA's	654	656	0%
MV Citations	1,152	1,188	3%
MV Warnings	9,248	13,354	44%
Domestic Disturbances	344	356	3%

*N/C- not capable of being computed, zero incidents to calculate against for the prior year.

Initiatives:

CALEA – National Accreditation

In December of 2017 we were reassessed through CALEA. The process was led by Chief Michael Yaneiro of the Jacksonville, North Carolina Police Department and assisted by Major Traci Estep of the Lee County Sheriff's Office, Florida. They reviewed all of our policies and procedures and conducted numerous interviews with various people from and around Hudson. This was to ensure we are living up to the standards set by CALEA. I am grateful that we had the opportunity to talk and exchange ideas. I believe all three departments learned something from one another. We will have official results in March of 2018.

Community Programs and Events:

Citizen Police Academy: We had a great class that began last April. Participants ranged from business owners, Town employees, and residents. This one night a week for 10 week program has been well received. Many participants in this program stated they wished it was mandatory for all residents to go through.

AARP: We conducted three AARP Safe Driving classes during the year. This two day (three hours each day) is personalized for people over 55 years of age, and many may benefit with a discounted insurance rate just by taking

the course. Participants are reminded of safe driving habits and are made aware of various dangers encountered while driving.

Drug Take Back Program: We collected 369 pounds (one pound more than last year) of unused prescription medications. We have a drop off box in the lobby where people can drop off their unused medications to us for disposal. Unused medications should not be disposed of down toilets and into the sewer system. We also participate in two drug take back programs with the DEA.

Blood Drives: I would like to thank Information Manager Jamie Iskra who is stepping down from the lead role in putting on this charitable event. She has done this for the last ten years. Master Patrol Officer Pat McStravick will be taking the lead and Ms. Iskra will assist as he learns the ropes. We conducted two successful Red Cross sponsored blood drives, hosted the Special Olympics Torch Run, sponsored CHiPS "Fright Night", participated in Toy Drive: in partnership with Recycled Percussion (a Las Vegas act and the group is from Goffstown NH), collected donations at the annual Salvation Army Bell Ringing, and participated in many other charity events.

Social Media:

The use of social media has been very helpful to us. It has helped us broadcast information such as when to avoid a road due to an accident or when we are looking for a suspect and we have a photo(s). The community has helped us solve crimes in identifying suspects and on a couple of occasions suspects have turned themselves in once they saw our post on social media. As Sir Robert Peele said in his "Nine Principles of Policing", Principle number 7; "...the police are the public and the public are the police..." I believe this is a fine example of the partnership we have with the community. I would encourage as many people to join our page so you can be up-to-date as to what your police department is doing, and help keep this community safer.

Goings and Comings:

Goings:

- Lieutenant Charles Dyac retired after serving the Town for 24 years. Most will remember his fantastic renditions of the National Anthem at various events to include a special invitation by Governor Lynch to sing at his inauguration. Lt. Dyac was curtained called back into the House Chamber. Thank you for your service and we wish you and your family the best of luck in your future endeavors.
- Captain Kevin DiNapoli retired after serving the Town of Hudson for nineteen (19) years. After serving NH for a little over twenty (20) years (we hired him from Raymond PD) he has left to work in Massachusetts. Thank you for your service and we wish you and your family the best of luck in your future endeavors.
- Telecommunications Technician Katherine Mascaro served the Town of Hudson for Two (2) years. She left us to work in the private sector.

Comings:

- Officer Robert McNally is a Hudson resident and graduated from the Hudson school system. We hired him from the private sector.
- We have one vacant officer and one vacant Telecommunications Technician position open.

Goals and Objectives for 2017:

- To continue to ensure our officers receive the best training in modern day police practices.
- Host community based programs to reduce crime and to foster our Partnership with the Community.
- Reduce the number of motor vehicle collisions on the three main arteries in Hudson through education, motor vehicle enforcement and police presence.
- Continue to identify and arrest sexual predators and to provide educational programs to parents and children through our schools.
- Continue to focus our resources on identifying and arresting drug dealers in our Community.
- Continue coordination and collection of CALEA proofs of standard compliance in preparation for future re-accreditation.
- Continue to utilize the Police Department's Directed Patrol System with emphasis on neighborhood presence to reduce criminal activity.
- Working with the Selectmen to fund and replace dispatch consoles that have been outdated since 2009 and improve the overall Town dispatch infrastructure.
- Develop plans for a police facility expansion.

Closing:

On behalf of the Hudson Police Department I would like to thank the Citizens of Hudson, the Board of Selectmen, Town Administrator Steve Malizia, Department Heads, and the School District for their continued support.

To the employees of the Hudson Police Department; thank you for all your efforts in keeping our agency one of the best in the State. The honor is mine to represent you. I look forward to working with the community to keep Hudson a great place to own a business and an even better place to raise a family.

Sincerely,

Jason J. Lavoie
Chief of Police
Town of Hudson, NH