Medfield Police Department

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen
and Residents of Medfield:

I am pleased to present the 2021 Medfield Police Department's Annual Report which highlights the activities and accomplishments throughout the calendar year.

As the nation embraced a "New Normal", the Police Department slowly resumed regular operations. While we navigated through uncertain times with Covid, we took the opportunity to focus on additional training, programs and assignments to enhance operations, enforcement and career development. These internal changes allowed officers to learn new skills and resulted in several new assignments. This year, I had the pleasure of promoting Sergeant Conor Ashe. Sgt. Ashe transferred to our agency in 2019 and quickly established his reputation as a competent leader. He assisted in field training and currently supervises some of our newer officers on the evening shifts. The vacancy he left in Detectives was assumed by veteran Officer Robert Flaherty who has proudly served the Town for over 30 years. Detective Flaherty brings a wealth of institutional knowledge to this position. Officer Paul Treggiari assumed a new position as the School Resource Officer and Officer Ledbetter attended training in Bike Patrol. The Department began using this new resource in the center of town and at the State Hospital over the summer.

As we evaluated changes in our Town, we recognized a growing need to address the influx of commercial vehicles travelling our roadways. Officer William Bento became certified in Weights and Measures and began commercial traffic enforcement. The fines are directly routed back to the Town to address roadway issues that arise from the damage these vehicles create. We also enhanced bike safety by the addition of several lane markings and established bike lanes on Route 27.

As expected, Police Reform had very little impact on our operating procedures. The Department easily met the requirements of the reform including new policy language. We completed a two year revision of all our policies and issued them with training over the summer.

In response to inflation and supply chain challenges, the department took a financially conservative and long term purchasing approach. We were able to offset rising costs resulting in our Department remaining under budget for the second year in a row. We supplemented a significant amount of our training and specialized purchases with grants, including a MIIA grant which allowed us to purchase a training program focusing on de-escalation techniques in dangerous situations.

Despite a national crisis in police officer recruitment and retention, we stayed the course of replenishing our ranks and welcomed Officer Francis Thisse, lateral Officer Joshua Souza and recruit Officer Daniel Neal who is expected to come online in April 2022 after completing the academy. The Department also hired Rhoda Lafond and Rebecca Gallant who, as the first points of contact with our agency, are both experienced dispatchers.

I would personally like to recognize some of the extraordinary actions of our members this past year. Sergeant Conor Ashe, Officer Wayne Sallale and Officer William Bento were

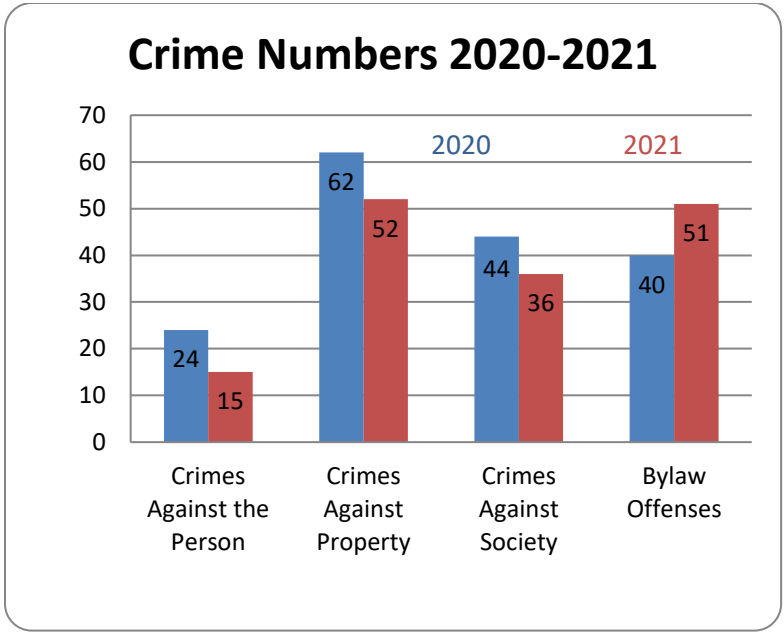
presented by the Board of Selectmen the distinguished “Life Saving Medal” for their heroic actions at a catastrophic motor vehicle accident on South Street. I would also like to thank Officer Michael Stanley for his service to our country as he was deployed for much of the year.

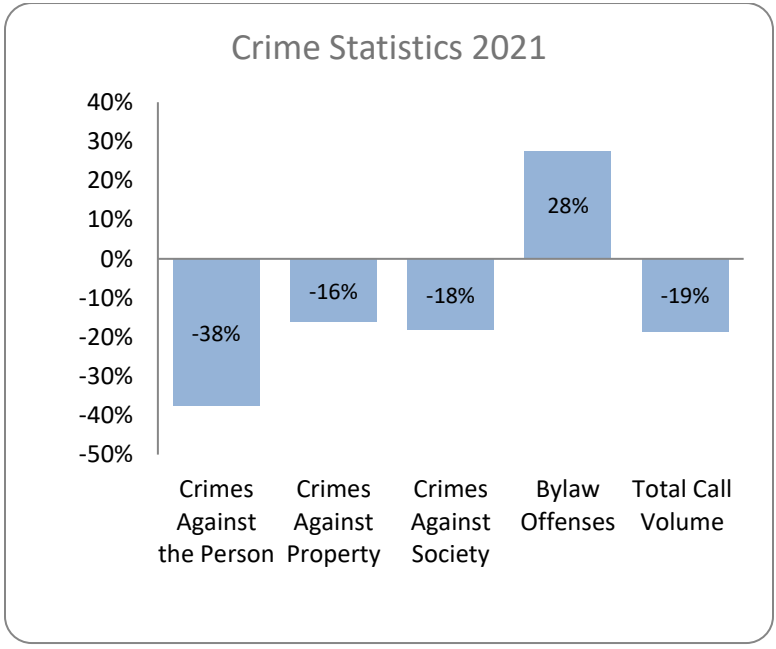
While the country saw stark increases in violent crime, we are proud to report a continued decline in our statistics. Through the additional enforcement efforts of our team, the department was able to place a strong focus on quality of life issues as represented by our increase in By Law offense cases and traffic enforcement.

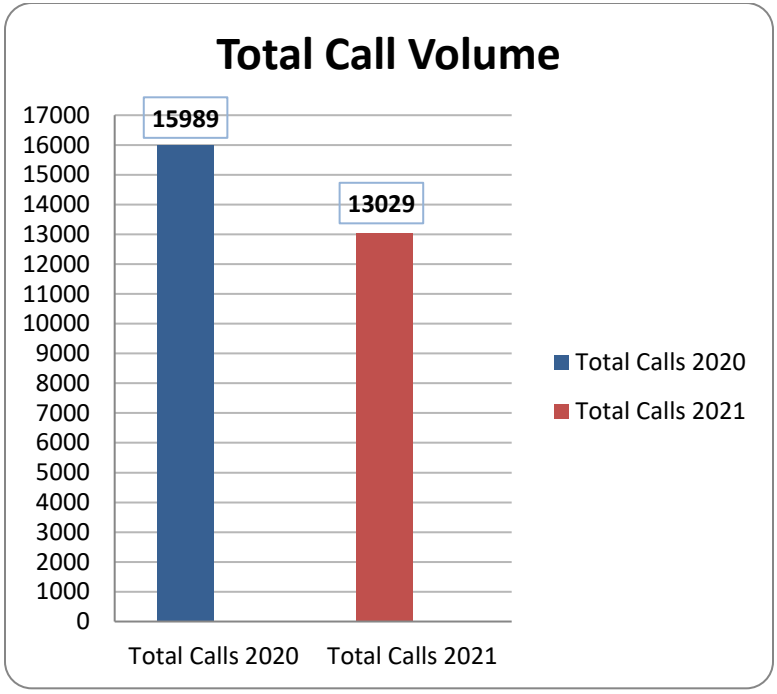
In closing, I would first like to thank the Board of Selectmen, Town Administrator, and many other town departments for their continued support of our agency and initiatives. Moreover, I want to express my gratitude to the citizens of Medfield who repeatedly demonstrate a willingness to work together to maintain our community standards. We look forward to serving you again in the coming year.

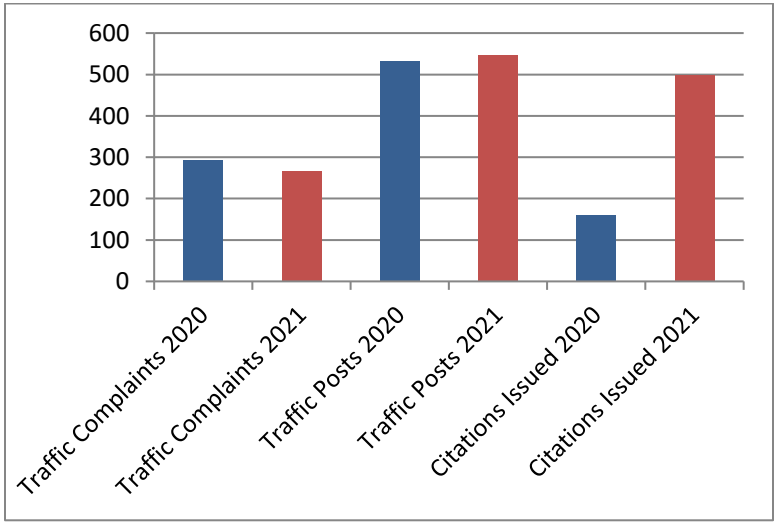
Respectfully Submitted,

Michelle D. Guerette
Police Chief


Crime Numbers 2020-2021
70
60
50
40
30
20
10
0
2020
2021
24
15
62
52
44
36
40
51
Crimes Against the Person
Crimes Against Property
Crimes Against Society
Bylaw Offenses


Crime Statistics 2021
40%
30%
20%
10%
0%
-10%
-20%
-30%
-40%
-50%
-38%
-16%
-18%
28%
-19%
Crimes Against the Person
Crimes Against Property
Crimes Against Society
Bylaw Offenses
Total Call Volume


Total Call Volume
17000
16000
15000
14000
13000
12000
11000
10000
9000
8000
7000
6000
5000
4000
3000
2000
1000
0
15989
13029
Total Calls 2020
Total Calls 2021
Total Calls 2020
Total Calls 2021


600
500
400
300
200
100
0
Traffic Complaints 2020
Traffic Complaints 2021
Traffic Posts 2020
Traffic Posts 2021
Citations Issued 2020
Citations Issued 2021