



2020

Welcome to the second edition of the Rochester Police Department Newsletter!

We hope to share information and create a more transparent, understanding relationship with the community.

Let us know what you want to see more of!

CAB@CityofRochester.Gov



Or on Social Media



RPD Staff—Please continue to send us stories to recognize officers doing well!



Police and Community, Working Together

Dedication

We would like to dedicate this newsletter to our brother in blue, Lieutenant Aaron Colletti.

Lieutenant Aaron Colletti was a father, a son, a Husband, a brother, and a Man of Faith who we will miss dearly. Lieutenant Aaron Colletti, may you rest in peace.



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MESSAGE FROM CHIEF SINGLETARY



As we continue to navigate through unprecedented times in law enforcement's history, I would like to express my thanks and gratitude to all of you for your continued dedication and hard work you display each and every day. Words can't even begin to describe the courage many of you face as you continue to serve with PRIDE during such a climate as we find ourselves in today.

As Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. stated **“The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort and convenience, but where he stands at times of challenge and controversy.”**

I'll rewrite the phrase to say **“The ultimate measure of the Rochester Police Department is not where the organization stands in moments of comfort and convenience, but where the organization stands during times of challenge and controversy.”** It is unfortunate that we have to live out these moments (pandemic, civil unrest, negative discourse toward law enforcement) within our careers, however we have certainly risen to the occasion. What doesn't kill you makes you stronger.

The year 2020 has brought challenge and controversy to RPD's doorstep. Each and every time challenge and controversy has come knocking, RPD opened the door and welcomed such head on; and by my count we remain undefeated. We continue to lift one another up when the odds appear to be stacked against us. We continue to remain in solidarity as we have seen factions across our nation and city try to divide us. We continue to answer the call, when folks call 911; that is who we are.

The negative discourse toward law enforcement we bear witness to on a daily around the country and by some in our city, does not depict the identity of many police departments across this nation.

The RPD is comprised of men and women who continue to serve through a pandemic, civil unrest, and a litany of police reforms (passed and proposed). It certainly has not been an easy road as of late. Whether you have one year on the job, 5 years on the job or 20+ years on the job, now is when we need one another more than any other time in our careers. Together, and only together is how we will come out of this moment in law enforcement's history which no one from the RPD initiated or chose to be a part of.

The members of law enforcement who have come before us I am sure would tell us about the challenging times during their law enforcement careers and utter the words “trust me when I tell you, things will get better, it's just a matter of time.”

During this moment in our nation's history and the climate law enforcement finds itself in, there are many out there who want to bait us into being the next viral video around town or even across the nation. I say this to you, don't fall into their trap. Continue to do your job as you were trained and based on your experience, let me as your Chief take care of the rest. Don't get drawn into a debate with people who don't have experience in walking in your shoes. You're the expert! You're the professional! They're not!

Police and Community Town Hall Meeting

The Police and Community Town Hall was developed to enhance relationships between local police departments and the citizens of the Greater Rochester Community. We would like to thank both Maurice Jackson and Corey Hepburn for co-hosting the Town Hall meet with Chief Singletary. There will be more Town Hall Meetings in the future.



Monroe County Alliance of Community and Police:

Area Law Enforcement officials and pastors from Monroe County have formed an alliance to foster positive change within the Greater Rochester/Monroe County area between local police agencies and our community members. There have been numerous meetings thus far, with a Town hall meeting scheduled for Monday July 13, 2020 from 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm at the Seneca United Methodist Church. There will be more Town Hall meeting throughout Monroe County moving forward with dates and times to follow





Community Affairs Bureau

The Community Affairs Bureau is overseen by Deputy Chief Mark Mura. There are several sections that fall under the CAB:

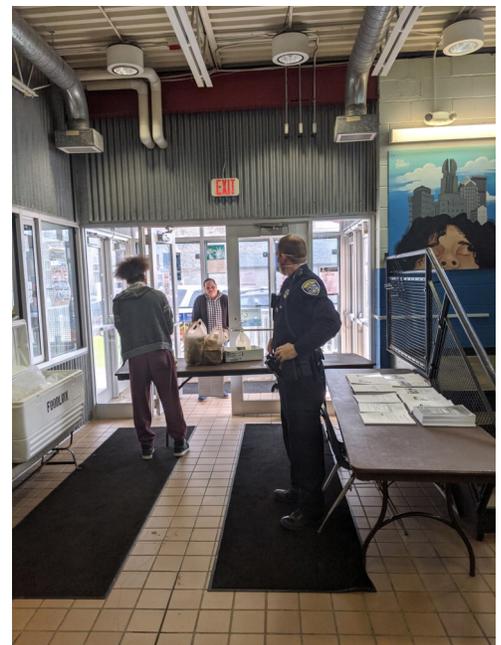
- Neighborhood Service Center Lieutenants
- Community Policing Unit: Crime Prevention Officers
- Recruitment Unit
- Office of Public Information

CAB Tasks will include:

- Coordinated visible neighborhood presence
- Focused response to nuisance locations
- Increased involvement in addressing crime
- Positively affect community perception
- Knock & Talks and Traffic Checkpoints after critical incidents affecting a neighborhood
- Increase outreach opportunities
- Neighborhood Service Centers will work with Section Captains to solve problems
- CAB Command will triage neighborhood complaints and issues
- Opportunities for consultation and involvement
- Increase trust and confidence in Police
- Enable and empower citizens
- Identify and implement solutions
- Influence strategic priorities and decisions

Serving with
PRIDE:

Professionalism
Respect
Integrity
Dedication
Excellence



Meet the Recruitment Unit

Our new recruitment officers-Officer Michelle Calderon and Officer Orlando Rivera



Officer Michelle Calderon- Officer Michelle Calderon, started her career with the Rochester Police Department 15 years ago. She grew up on the City's west side, where she graduated from Edison Tech High School, and proudly served the area that she grew up in. Officer Calderon is now a member of the Community Affairs Bureau-(CAB) Recruitment Team as well as a member of RPD's Hostage Negotiation Team. She just finished up her first recruit class #68, as a Class Counselor. Officer Calderon says, "I take pride in having the opportunity to work within our community to recruit individuals that can make a difference in our city!"

Officer Orlando Rivera- As a first generation Puerto Rican American, Officer Orlando Rivera started his career with the Rochester Police Department 19 years ago, after a ride along. He was born and raised on the City's east side and attended the Rochester City School District. After joining the department, he patrolled and served the Clinton Ave Community where he grew up in. He has worked in the Backgrounds Unit since 2007, where his primary focus was conducting background investigations and polygraph examinations on incoming police candidates. He has worked within the Community Affairs Bureau facilitating relations between our Department and local neighborhoods. He also spent time working as a School Resource Officer, enabling him to further his reach in the community with city youth. He has been honored and blessed to serve the community he was born and grew up in.

Recruitment Questions? Email us!

Recruit@CityofRochester.Gov

Officer Recognition

Central Section

Officer Kate Turner

While scanning Facebook in March of last year, Kate saw a reference to hosting an Exchange Student.

After reviewing about 100 student bio's, Kate settled on a 17 year old Italian high school student named Giulia. Giulia had a high grade point average and was interested in cheerleading. Kate being a cheerleader and now a coach for kids thought she was the perfect fit.

Giulia arrived in August. She is happily attending High School with good grades and is picking up English very well.

Kate, her boyfriend Jason and Giulia are adapting well to life together. Kate who has no children, is learning to be a mom to a teenager, and Giulia is learning about US lifestyle, Wegmans, the weather and taking a car everywhere. Kate and Giulia seem very happy together, and we in Central Section are proud of Kate's dedication and love for Giulia during this process.

CLINTON SECTION

Sergeant Kaela Pitts

Sgt. Kaela Pitts is a veteran officer with over 13 years on the job and currently supervises the First Platoon in Clinton section. For the past three summers, Sgt. Kaela Pitts has dedicated a week of her time to volunteer as a Camp Counselor at Camp Heroes. Camp Heroes is organized and sponsored by the Volunteers of America in which at-risk youth from economically disadvantaged households are given the opportunity to participate in a summer camp experience. The camp is held at the Rochester Rotary Sunshine Camp and is staffed with first responders from Police, Fire and EMS. She serves as an instructor who teaches and demonstrates on the RPD, and serves as a Camp Counselor for the entire week to help the children who attend. Sgt. Pitts' efforts to be a positive role model for the youth go above and beyond the call of duty. A video of last summer's camp experience can be seen [here](#) and the smiles on the young lady's face while standing next to Sgt. Pitts says it all.

Genesee Section

Officer James LaRuez

In January, 2020, Officer LaRuez took the initiative to start reading to classes of autistic students at School #29, on Kirkland Rd. He would read to four different classes, for a half-hour each. With Officer LaRuez's background of being on the Crisis Intervention Team, he began this effort in an attempt to help the children in these classes feel more comfortable with police officers. Officer LaRuez's hope was that when the children interact with the police during a positive setting, the children would then be more at ease and willing to speak with police during higher stress situations when the children may need help.

Officer LaRuez's initiative and efforts to help students in the Genesee Section feel comfortable with the police, and to expand positive relations with our community are to be commended. His constructive actions help to improve our profession in times when we must rely more on our community to trust us and work with us.

Goodman Section

Officer Bernard McDonald

Officer McDonald has been volunteering in the community since he has been with the Rochester Police Department. He was recognized in 2017 for his off-duty literacy work with the Police Athletic League. Since 2005 he has volunteered his time as an indoor and outdoor track coach at Rush-Henrietta High School. In the past he has volunteered as a youth mentor at New Life Fellowship Church, specializing in police-community outreach. He also volunteers as a coach with a pop-warner football team, the Rush Henrietta Renegades.

Lake Section

Officer Brian Cala

On January 25, 2020, Officers Brian Cala and Louis Mastrangelo responded to 108 Glendale Pk. for the report of an individual acting erratically. It was further believed that this individual had damaged several vehicles in the surrounding area.

Officers Cala and Mastrangelo positioned themselves on the porch of 108 Glendale Pk., knocked on the door, and waited for one of the occupants to answer the door. Jamal Dima exited the located, approached Officer Cala, and without warning, violently attacked Officer Cala, stabbing him in the face with a kitchen knife. Officer Cala was able to draw his firearm, and fired five rounds at the suspect. Despite being struck by one round in the wrist, the suspect was able to flee the location.

Officer Mastrangelo immediately rendered medical aid to Officer Cala, who was bleeding significantly from the injury he sustained. While rendering aid, Officer Mastrangelo displayed incredible composure and had the presence of mind to broadcast the suspect's description as well as the suspect's direction of travel.

T/Sergeant Timothy Luety responded to the area to assist with the investigation and observed the suspect in the area of 400 Dewey Avenue. With the assistance of Officers Thomas Kirk and Bryan Munson, the suspect was taken into custody following a use of force.

Following a meticulous investigation, Jamal Dima was charged with one count of Attempted Aggravated Assault upon a Police Officer.

Officer Cala was treated at Strong Memorial Hospital, in which he recovered from this vicious, unprovoked



Investigator Mark Rine

Investigator Mark Rine is a Rochester Police Investigator, currently working Patrol Section Investigations - 2nd platoon. After high school, Mark Rine enlisted in the US Marines, where he worked as an Aviation Ordnance Technician.

In 2010, Mark Rine, joined the Rochester Police Department, as an officer- he worked East 3rd, West 1st, Genesee 1st, and Genesee 4th platoons. In 2017, Officer Mark Rine was promoted to an investigator. As an investigator, Mark Rine worked in Lake Section on 3rd and 2nd platoon. In 2020, Investigator Rine transferred to Patrol Section Investigations. Investigator Rine is also a member of the Rochester Police Department's Bomb Squad, where he has been a member since 2015.



Investigator Rine enjoys riding his bicycle with his son and spending quality time with family. Something that you did not know about Investigator Rine is that during his stint in the Marines, he lived in Japan for two years. Investigator Rine's favorite food is Mexican, and he enjoys watching the movie "21 Jump Street". Investigator Rine's colleagues appreciate his easy-going demeanor as well as his sense of humor; they say he is a "joy" to be around. His confidence in investigations is noticed within his peers and supervisors.

Investigator Rine's long term goal is to work in the Special Investigations Section as well as JTTF.

Investigator Mark Rine- we salute you on a job well done, keep up the excellent work.

Meet RPD's Liaisons to the LGBTQ+ Community

Investigator Kim Rasbeck

Investigator Rasbeck is a U.S. Navy Veteran, who worked part-time for two Police Departments in Massachusetts prior to being hired at the Rochester Police Department. She worked as a summer Officer in Provincetown Massachusetts and also worked for Hampden Massachusetts Police Dept. Inv. Rasbeck been with RPD for 16 years, where she started her career on the East Side working Clinton Section then Goodman Section 3rd platoon. She also worked in the Traffic Enforcement Unit before being promoted to Investigator in May 2013, where she currently works in the Major Crimes Unit. Inv. Rasbeck is also a member the Crisis Intervention Team (EDPRT.) She is has also served as the RPD liaison to LGBTQ Community since 2009.



Officer Audrey DiPoala

Officer DiPoala has been with the Rochester Police Department since January 2015 and has been working Goodman Section 3rd Platoon for most of her career.



The Gun Involved Violence Elimination (GIVE) Initiative

The GIVE Initiative is a statewide gun violence reduction program, sponsored by the Division of Criminal Justice Services in Albany, NY. GIVE stemmed from Operation IMPACT, a program that aimed to reduce crime more generally, in New York counties (outside of NYC) that account for more than 80% of the State's Part I index crimes. The GIVE Initiative began in July 2014.

Rochester uses Hot Spots Policing and Focused Deterrence most frequently. There are Street Outreach programs (SNUG, Save Our Streets, etc.) that work in Rochester as well. Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) is used on an as-needed basis.

In addition to using these strategies, Monroe County and City of Rochester agencies work closely together to focus on reducing violence and gun crime. Funded agencies include the Rochester Police Department, District Attorney's Office, Monroe County Sheriff's Office and Probation Department.



GIVE Partners



Message from the Director of Animal Services

RAS Part of National Coalition Implementing Supportive Services

Rochester Animal Services was selected to be part of the coalition focused on creating a model for animal welfare organizations to emulate throughout North America. That model is now named Human Animal Support Services and we are thrilled to be involved in shaping the future of our organization and our industry. The following list includes the first 12 elements of the model. I have added a few lines under each element to explain how we have implemented or plan to implement into Animal Services operations.

1. **Shelter** - The core functions of the shelter are to provide emergency medical care and short-term housing for pets with urgent needs and to ensure public safety and public health priorities are met.

We limited our field services response to priority incidents involving public or animal safety and similarly limited intakes to animals posing threats to safety and loose animals that were critically sick or seriously injured. As we phase into re-opening, we will prioritize the most at-risk animals and continue diverting intake as much as possible.

2. **Remote Help** - Customers can reach the organization quickly and easily using remote technologies like text, phone and web chats. We are currently accessible via telephone (585-428-7274) and email (animalservices@cityofrochester.gov) Monday – Saturday 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Additionally, web inquiries directed to Info@cityofrochester.gov receive an auto-reply message indicating that a representative will follow up. We are exploring other platforms and processes to improve accessibility. The adoption process has moved online facilitated by the adopets adoption tool. We are in the process of adding online forms for finders to report Found Pets and for owners to report Lost Pets.

3. **Volunteers** - Volunteers are engaged in every area of the organization, including field and outreach services. Volunteers have been involved in many aspects of the operation for years. We are planning to expand into some other areas including foster care, pet reunification, remote help, outreach/pet owner support, and more. Join our Volunteer Team now.

4. **Telehealth** - Telehealth services are available for pet owners considering surrender and for foster caregivers and finders of pets who may be sick or injured. Shelter Veterinarian, Dr. Newmark, will continue to use telemedicine (i.e., practicing veterinary medicine, which requires a doctor-patient relationship) to assist foster caregivers with concerns related to their fosterlings. Telehealth (i.e., a broader classification of service; does not constitute practicing medicine; will not allow dosing, prescribing, or ordering treatments; and does not require a doctor-patient relationship) will be provided to the extent possible for owners and finders seeking guidance.

5. **Intake-to Placement** - Pets physically entering the shelter have outcome pathways identified before or at the time of intake, so in-shelter length of stay is drastically reduced.

We are trying to limit intakes to dangerous dogs and unidentified pets found at-large and unable to be reunited with owners in the neighborhoods. Healthy animals will go home with finders or directly to foster homes for the 3-day redemption period with reunification efforts employed. If not reunited with owner, pet will be rehomed directly from finder or foster home. Animals with medical or behavioral concerns will be examined, treated, and provided shelter and enrichment while seeking appropriate placements in adoptive homes or with rescue partners. We will continue to make appropriate euthanasia decisions to alleviate suffering and support community safety.

6. **Foster** - The vast majority of pets are housed in foster homes, not shelter kennels and most foster pets are adopted directly from foster homes. We will continue to move animals from the shelter into foster homes as quickly as possible to keep the shelter population low and available for medical and safety concerns. This requires a constant recruitment effort for foster caregivers and foster team leaders to coordinate small groups of foster caregivers. Our goal is to have more animals in foster homes than in the shelter and a surplus of foster caregivers awaiting foster placements. Join the Foster Care Team now.

7. **Keeping Families Together** - Pet owners can access pet support services, including housing, medical and behavioral support, pet food and supplies, to help keep the human-animal family together. We will continue to provide and expand medical support, pet food and supplies to support pet retention and keep families together. Through partnerships with local dog trainers and referrals to behavior hotlines, we will address behavior concerns to reduce relinquishment. We have links on

RAS Part of National Coalition Implementing Supportive Services Cont'd

on our website for pet-friendly housing and will explore other ways to overcome housing barriers.

8. Case Management - Animal services personnel serve as trained case managers, helping people keep their pets; providing resources and support to struggling pet owners; and assisting owners who need to rehome their pet.

Our Animal Services Client Specialists will continue to serve in this capacity. We will augment their training with emphasis on the case management approach. The Client Specialists work in conjunction with our Field Services and Clinic teams to provide customized support for each household.

9. Getting Animals Home - The organization operates a comprehensive loose animal reunification service to successfully get most roaming pets home without them having to enter the shelter system.

Our Field Services team will be the first line of action on loose animal reunification. ACOs will continue to follow dogs or return dogs home without taking them to the shelter. Additionally, ACOs will knock on doors to try to locate the pet owner or neighbors who know where the pet lives. They will also continue to leave Notices and Found Pet Flyers in the neighborhood when owners cannot be located and pets must be taken to the shelter.

Volunteers may also assist with the pet reunification efforts both at the shelter (e.g., Lost and Found Reports) and in the neighborhoods (e.g., door knocking and hanging flyers).

People who find loose pets that are friendly and appear healthy are being asked if they can help us by temporarily holding the pets at their homes and assisting with reunification. By knocking on doors, hanging found pet flyers and posting in social media, community members can facilitate reunions often quicker and with far less stress for the pets.

10. Partnerships - Human social services agencies, rescue groups and other community partners work closely with the animal services organization, treating people and their pets as a family unit.

As a Steering Committee member of the Greater Rochester Animal Coalition (GRAC), we are intimately connected and collaborating with our local humane societies (Monroe and Wayne Counties), several local rescue organizations, the Rochester Community Animal Clinic, Habitat for Cats, and Rochester Hope for Pets. Additionally, we maintain relationships with dozens of other rescue organizations as transfer recipients of animals from the shelter. Through our Outreach and Pet Owner Support Programs we will connect with human social service agencies, faith-based organizations, neighborhood associations, and other community groups to collaborate in serving households with pets.

11. Self-Rehoming - Pet owners who can no longer keep their pets are given the tools to safely and quickly rehome their own pets with ongoing support from shelter staff or volunteers.

We provide guidance and discuss various platforms that owners may use when trying to rehome their pets and have links on our website to connect pet owners with pet rehoming services such as GetYourPet.com, Rehome by AdoptAPet.com, and Home-to-Home.

12. Animal Protection & Public Safety - Animal control and field services protect public health and safety, enforce animal cruelty and neglect laws, and aim to address the root causes of animal problems. They provide support, education, access to care and resources to the community.

Through our Field Services Unit, we will continue to address public health and safety concerns. At Animal Services, we believe that people are inherently good, not malicious, and are doing their best with limited resources. If we encounter intentional abuse, we make referrals to law enforcement. However, we will avoid criminalization of incidents related to resource barriers. Our Field Services team will continue to support people and their pets by sharing information, food, supplies, and access to other resources such as vaccinations and spay/neuter surgeries.

In addition to the HASS elements, we are also focusing on bringing more diversity, equity, and inclusion into our organization, trainings, policies, programs, and communications. This is such an exciting time in animal welfare. Throughout the industry there have been unprecedented changes, innovations, and shared learnings. It is a great time to get involved, so let us know if you want to be a part of these positive changes. Now, more than ever, we are making a difference together.

Stay safe and be well.

Chris



Be a cool pet owner!

When the temperature goes up, leave your pet at home!

- Leaving your pet in a hot car for even a short period of time can be very dangerous.
- Even with all the windows cracked, the temperature of a car's interior can quickly rise to deadly levels.
- Pets do not sweat the way we do; they cannot cool their bodies efficiently in hot temperatures.
- When overheated, pets can go into shock, leading to irreversible organ failure and death.
- If you think you will need to leave your pet in a car, even for a few minutes, leave them safely at home instead. They will be happy to see you when you return!



Vehicle heat studies prove the danger of leaving pets in parked cars, where temperatures can be more than 40 degrees higher than outside.

Questions? Call 311 • www.rochesteranimalservices.com

Believe. City of Rochester, NY
Lowell A. Blawie, Mayor
Rochester City Council

It is 9:00PM

Are your

- Car doors locked?
- Valuables removed from car?
- Garage doors closed and locked?
- Home doors closed and locked?
- Outside lights are on?

Make this your routine every night.

#9PMROUTINE - making it hard on criminals

A public service message from



Thieves look for easy targets.

Protect yourself, your home and your belongings.

#9PMRoutine

Public Service Announcements

Contact Us!



Rochester NY Police Department



@RochesterNYPD

@LaRonSingletary

@CityRochesterNY

