



BOW POLICE DEPARTMENT

2023 SWEARING-IN AND AWARDS CEREMONY



February 13, 2023
Bow Public Safety Building





PROGRAM

Chief's Welcome

Chief Ken Miller

In Memoriam

Officer Ervin Karic

Swearing-In

Officer Serena Shuter

Officer Micah Peterson

Officer Matthew Webber

K-9 Boris



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Department Citation

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Chief's Letter of Commendation

Sergeant Goodacre

2022 Officer of the Year

Closing Remarks

Chief Ken Miller



In Memoriam

Officer Ervin Karic

Hire Date: June 13, 2022

In Memoriam

1/28/1998 - 8/2/2022



Officer Karic joined the Bow Police Department on June 13, 2022 after graduating from the University of New Hampshire.

Officer Karic was a friendly, funny, and eager addition to the police department. Officer Karic had completed several weeks of field training and started the 190th New Hampshire Police Academy.

Officer Karic passed on August 2, 2022. May he rest in peace and we will always keep his family and friends in our thoughts and prayers.



Swearing-In

Officer Serena Shuter

Hire Date: June 13, 2022

Officer Serena Shuter was born and raised in Manchester, NH and graduated from Central High School in 2013.



After high school, she attended the American International College (AIC) in Springfield, MA where she played division 2 women's soccer, studied criminal justice, and participated in the Army ROTC program. Officer Shuter graduated from AIC in May of 2017 with a bachelor's degree in criminal justice and was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the Army National Guard.

Officer Shuter is currently serving in the New Hampshire Army National Guard as a First Lieutenant / Executive Officer in the 744th Forward Support Company in Hillsboro. In 2020, she graduated from the University of Massachusetts Lowell with a master's degree in criminal justice.

Officer Shuter graduated from the 177th Full-time New Hampshire Police Academy in December of 2018 and was previously working in the Town of Candia as a patrol officer.



Swearing-In

Officer Micah Peterson

Hire Date: June 13, 2022

Officer Peterson was born and raised in Fremont, NH. Prior to his law enforcement career, Officer Peterson attended Plymouth State University where he studied social work and played four years of soccer.



Prior to working for the Bow Police Department, Officer Peterson worked multiple years with Manchester's Division for Children, Youth, and Families.

In November of 2022, Officer Peterson graduated from the 190th New Hampshire Police Academy and has since begun our FTO Program, looking to graduate by the end of February.



Swearing-In

Officer Matthew Webber

Hire Date: January 9, 2023

Officer Webber was born in Illinois but was raised in Auburn, New Hampshire. He started his law enforcement career with the Old Orchard Beach Police Department in the summer of 2019 as a reserve officer. He was then hired full time to the Auburn Police Department in March of 2020 prior to coming to the Bow Police Department and was a graduate of the 182nd Police Academy.



Officer Webber attended Unity College and graduated in 2020 with a degree in conservation law enforcement. Officer Webber is an avid outdoorsman and enjoys hunting, fishing, hiking and snowmobiling in his free time.

Officer Webber married his high school sweetheart in 2020 and recently purchased a home in Northwood. Officer Webber is looking forward to serving the town of Bow.



Swearing-In

K-9 Officer Boris

Hire Date: September 2, 2022

K-9 Boris, a one-year-old German Shepherd, joined the Bow Police Department on Friday, September 2, 2022.

Master Patrol Officer Matthew LeBlanc was selected to be Boris's handler and attended patrol and narcotics training with K-9 Boris from September 2022 through February 2023.

K-9 Boris received his patrol certification in December 2022 and is ready to help track fleeing criminals, locate missing people, locate evidence, and search buildings.

When K-9 Boris completes detection school in February 2023, he will be able to alert to the presence of illegal drugs which will assist officers in articulating probable cause. K-9 Boris will be an asset in locating, seizing, and preventing drug crimes in our community.

The Bow Police Association's K-9 fundraiser and the support of the community have been incredible in continuing this important program. Without a doubt, the continuance of the K-9 program will be an asset to the Bow Police Department and the Town of Bow.



AWARDS

Medal of Valor

Awarded to any sworn officer who, in the performance of duty and in grave and imminent personal danger, performs an act, which is so laudable as to merit such praise.

Medal of Bravery

Presented to a sworn officer who, in the performance of duty and in grave and imminent personal danger, engages in combat with an armed and dangerous felon, or is wounded as a result of such combat.

Distinguished Service Medal

Presented to a sworn officer who, in the performance of duty and at personal danger, apprehends or causes to be apprehended through his or her actions a dangerous felon and/or has been confronted by a situation in which a weapon was pulled on him and he was personally threatened. The officer determined and used the best possible course of action to take under the circumstances that confronted him.

The Department Citation

Presented to a sworn officer who, through his or her own outstanding initiative and diligence, apprehends or causes to be apprehended a felon who might otherwise have gone undetected.

Life Saving Award

Presented to a sworn or civilian member of the department for a successful effort in saving a human life, which involved exceptional performance.

Department Service Award

Presented to an employee who designs or recommends procedures which cause the department to function more effectively or efficiently or who performs an action that significantly furthers attainment of the department's mission.

Citizens Award

Presented to a citizen or organization which provides extraordinary service to the Bow Police Department or substantially assists in the apprehension of a criminal.

Chief's Letter of Commendation

Presented to any employee who, in the opinion of the Chief of Police, has performed an act or service that merits such recognition.



Department Citation

Officer Harry Handy

Animal Cruelty Investigation

Over the course of September and October 2022, Ofc. Handy investigated an animal cruelty case involving the death of a one-year-old Belgian Malinois.

Allegations were that the dog's owner used a pellet gun and knife to kill the dog after suffering from a non-life-threatening injury.

Ofc. Handy conducted a thorough investigation involving interviews, coordinating with multiple law enforcement agencies, applying for and executing a search warrant, and collecting physical evidence.

On 10/19/22, Ofc. Handy's search warrant was executed, resulting in the deceased dog's exhumation. The dog's remains were x-rayed, showing approximately 10 pellets inside the carcass. In addition to witness statements, this confirmed the dog suffered before dying.

Officer Handy applied for an arrest warrant on charges of felony animal cruelty. The suspect was arrested and held by the judge at arraignment.



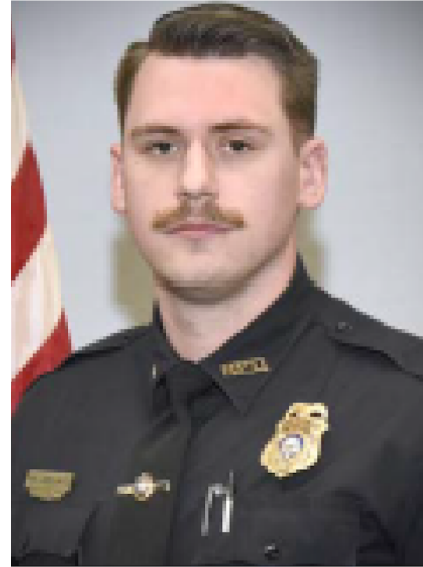


Department Citation

Master Patrol Officer Matthew LeBlanc

Apprehension of Homicide Suspect

On July 24, 2022, at approximately 12:30 am, Master Patrol Officer Leblanc responded to the Town of Hooksett to assist with an incident that occurred on Main Street.



At the time, Hooksett Police located a deceased person who they believed had been struck by a vehicle. While MPO LeBlanc was looking for a possible suspect vehicle, he proactively initiated contact with a male walking on West River Road and identified him as a 26-year-old from Franklin NH.

As he was speaking with the male, Hooksett Police determined it was not a hit and run but that the person had been fatally stabbed. Hooksett Police advised the person MPO LeBlanc was speaking with was actually believed to be responsible for the stabbing and fled the scene prior to officers arriving. MPO Leblanc was able to place the suspect into custody without incident.

MPO LeBlanc remained on the scene and assisted NH State Police. Additionally, he met with NH State Police Major Crime and the NH Attorney General's Office and provided them with details of the arrest which directly led to the suspect being charged with one count of second-degree murder.



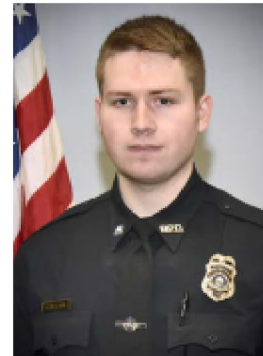
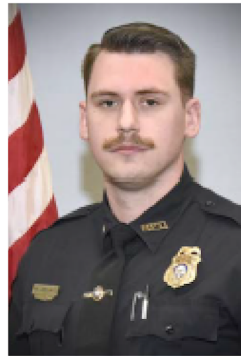
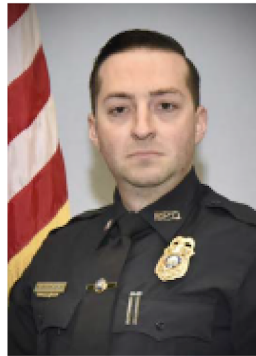
Chief's Letter of Commendation

Sergeant Robert Buchanan

Master Patrol Officer Matthew LeBlanc

Officer David Nelson

Apprehension of Felony Theft Suspects



On Monday, October 24, 2022, Sgt. Buchanan, MPO LeBlanc, and Ofc. Nelson responded to Garvins Falls Road for the report of two people stealing tools from a business. Upon the arrival of police, two male suspects fled the scene.

The officers were able to set up a perimeter and coordinate locating the suspects. One of the men who fled Sgt. Buchanan on a bicycle was taken into custody by MPO LeBlanc a short time later. Officer Nelson took the other male into custody who was located walking on Route 3A.

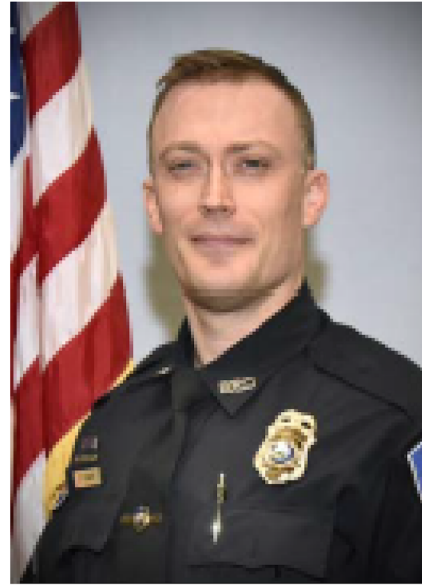
The results of the officer's actions led to the recovery of thousands of dollars worth of tools and the seizure of illegal drugs. The victims were very thankful for the quick response and swift actions by the officers to recover their property.



Chief's Letter of Commendation

Detective Tyler Coady

Investigation of Body Located in Merrimack River



On April 28, 2022, Bow Police received a report of a body found in the Merrimack River.

Detective Coady was called and responded from a training he was attending in Massachusetts. Detective Coady took over the investigatory process and dedicated a significant amount of time to this case.

After a week of spending countless hours reviewing surveillance cameras, conducting interviews, and following up on tips, Detective Coady was able to identify the person who was found deceased and give closure to family members.

Detective Coady remained dedicated to this case for several months investigating the cause of death. Detective Coady continued to work with other law enforcement agencies, assisted the Fish and Game dive team in attempting to locate evidence, watched hours of surveillance camera footage, collected evidence, and worked directly with the NH Medical Examiners Office.

Thank you Detective Coady for the amount of work, time, and dedication you showed on this case and for bringing closure and comfort to the person's family.



2022 Officer of the Year

Sergeant Philip Goodacre

2022 Officer of the Year

In 2022 Sergeant Goodacre started the year helping the department by temporarily filling the open School Resource Officer position.

In April, Sergeant Goodacre was promoted to the rank of Sergeant where he currently functions as a shift supervisor.



Sergeant Goodacre is the department's lead firearms instructor where he excels in teaching, mentoring, and making sure the program exceeds expectations. Sergeant Goodacre puts in the extra hours to ensure range safety, academy compliance, and understands the importance of a professionally run firearms program.

In July, Sergeant Goodacre converted the department shotguns to less lethal bean bag rounds. Sergeant Goodacre was responsible for acquiring the conversion kits, attending additional training, and then trained each member of this department on the new system. This new less lethal weapon system is an asset to the department as it provides an additional option of gaining compliance or taking someone into custody without having to use lethal force.

Sergeant Goodacre has been a member of the Bow Police Department since 2014 with prior law enforcement service with the Pembroke Police Department. Sgt. Goodacre was named the 2012 Pembroke Officer of the Year. Thank you Sgt. Goodacre for your continued dedication and professional service to the Town of Bow.

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