

POLICE DEPARTMENT

To the Citizens, the Select Board, and the Town Manager:



I begin by expressing my thanks to the residents of the Town of Farmington for their continued support. It is with great pride that the community I serve is the same community where I live.

We continue to plan and train for critical events, such as the one experienced by Lewiston in 2023. In August, we hosted a nationally recognized Active Shooter Incident Management response course, paid for by the Department of Homeland Security. This three-day immersive course brought together 70 fire, police, dispatch, and emergency management personnel from across our region to learn and demonstrate best practice response to many incident types.

Officers continue to provide training at workplaces, schools, and other gathering places to increase citizen preparedness. In doing so, we reaffirm our mission: “To create a feeling of safety for people within the Town of Farmington.”

We said goodbye to one of our staff in 2024, Sergeant Jesse Clement, who transferred to the Franklin County Sheriff’s Office. We are pleased to announce that Officer Jesse Dixon joined our team and completed our Field Training Program in December. Officer Dixon comes from Albion and is a recent graduate of University of Maine at Augusta with an associate’s degree in justice studies.

We are also proud to announce a few promotions this year. Ryan Rosie was promoted to the rank of Corporal and is now our lead training officer. Rex Schweighofer was promoted to Detective and is now our full-time investigator. Jonathan Parker was promoted to Sergeant and joins Sergeant Ethan Boyd in day-to-day supervision of our patrol staff. We are glad to recognize them for their professionalism and technical skills.

Officer Ethan Whitney earned his certification as a Field Training Officer. Officer Ariana Bacon completed a challenging certification program as a Forensic Phlebotomist and attended a “Women in Public Safety Leadership” seminar. Corporal Rosie is now certified as an Active Shooter/Active Threat Instructor and has provided county-wide training throughout the year.

School Resource Officer Matthew Brann completed the Advanced SRO course through the Maine Criminal Justice Academy and now serves as a mentor for SRO's from across our region. Deputy Chief Shane Cote is now in his 29th year of service at Farmington PD!

Drew Holston, our Parking Enforcement Officer, was appointed Animal Control Officer and has responded to a wide variety of domestic animal related calls. Robert Hallman continues his 27 years of service as the Crossing Guard for the W.G. Mallett School. Thank you to Office Manager Lynne Cary and Office Assistant Jocelyn Kelly for their continued efforts to improve our facility and keep our department operating efficiently.

Law enforcement has evolved quickly in the past couple of decades. Officers are always expected to be proficient in their traditional policing duties and increasingly expected to be our community's first response to a myriad of societal challenges. Examples include homelessness, substance use, mental and behavioral health response, dysfunctional family environments, and many more.

As such, we partner with agencies that unfortunately are experiencing challenges in recruitment and retention of qualified staff. For example, we no longer have access to mobile mental health crisis response services. As a result, the burden again falls onto families and the shoulders of our first responders. We hope to collaborate with partners in bringing this critical resource back to our area.

I wish to extend a heartfelt thank you to our fellow responders, Farmington Fire Rescue, Farmington Public Works, NorthStar Ambulance, area law enforcement agencies, and other unnamed organizations for their hard work and assistance.

I welcome your questions and concerns, compliments, and complaints. Feel free to stop in to say hello or meet the officer on duty. We are proud of the facilities provided to us by you, our citizens, located at 116 Franklin Avenue.

Respectfully submitted,

Kenneth A. Charles
Chief of Police

OFFICER OF THE YEAR



Corporal Ryan Rosie

CONGRATULATIONS!

Farmington Police Department 2024



Front row: K9 Hook, Sergeant Ethan Boyd, Chief Kenneth Charles, Sergeant Jonathan Parker, Officer Ethan Bronson, Animal Control Officer/Parking Enforcement Drew Holston, Office Assistant Jocelyn Kelly.

Back row: Officer Ethan Whitney, Officer Jesse Dixon, Officer Ariana Bacon, School Resource Officer Matthew Brann, Deputy Chief Shane Cote, Corporal Ryan Rosie, Office Manager Lynne Cary.

Summary of the Most Common Crimes or Police Calls/Complaints

Crime	2022	2023	2024
Rape	2	7	9
Assault	34	45	63
Burglary	7	6	3
Thefts (combined)	46	88	127
Criminal Mischief	33	22	23
Criminal Trespass	47	44	54
Drug Cases	25	26	26
Domestic Disturb.	37	59	59
Traffic Crashes	418	464	475
Arrests	502	555	382
OUI Arrests	39	28	12
Speeding Tickets	107	77	43
Traffic Warnings	4,591	4,026	2,716
Parking Tickets	768	999	954
Missing Persons	6	4	15
Harassment Calls	50	70	35
Security Checks	1,820	2,372	1,925
Total Traffic Stops	4,928	5,887	2,835

Police Revenues

	2022	2023	2024
Parking Tickets	\$6,930	\$11,010	\$15,157
Police Reports	\$1,154	\$1,571	\$1,120
Gun Permits	\$760	\$476	\$20
TOTAL	\$8,844	\$13,057	\$16,779

Parking Tickets Issued	954
Parking Tickets Paid	563