

LINDEN POLICE DEPARTMENT



2025 ANNUAL REPORT



DEREK ARMSTEAD
Mayor

City of Linden
CITY HALL
301 NORTH WOOD AVENUE
LINDEN, NEW JERSEY 07036

MICHELE YAMAKAITIS
Council President

JOSEPH C. BODEK
Municipal City Clerk

Phone 908-474-8493
Fax (908) 474-8497

ALEXIS ZACK
Chief Financial Officer

July 07, 2026

Attached is the Annual Report for the Linden Police Department for the year ending December 31, 2025. I am proud of Chief David Hart and his staff, and the effective operation of the Linden Police Department. As head of the Linden Police Department, my goal is to make sure you receive the best police protection and services that the City of Linden can provide. As your Mayor, I assure you that this is occurring.

The information contained in this report substantiates that the Police Department is run in a professional manner, and I will make sure that it continues to do so.

Regards,

Mayor Derek Armstead

DA/lc



DEREK ARMSTEAD
MAYOR

City of Linden

Union County, New Jersey
Department Of Police
City Hall - 301 North Wood Avenue
Linden, New Jersey 07036
(908)474-8500



DAVID R. HART
CHIEF OF POLICE

July 2026

Mayor Armstead:

I hereby submit the Annual Report of the Linden Police Department for the year ending December 31, 2025. This report has been prepared to introduce the readers to the wide range of activities and responsibilities of the various Bureaus, Divisions and Units within the Linden Police Department.

The Linden Police Department continues with our overall goals of reducing crime and increasing community policing initiatives citywide. This includes improving our relationships with our residents, businesses, schools and faith-based institutions within our community.

In 2025, the Linden Police Department completed 65,016 police actions resulting in 57,399 police reports. Our officers continue to perform their duties with dedication, professionalism and respect.

We continue to hire, promote and train our officers within our agency to ensure that they are prepared and safe while performing their duties and that our citizens receive the service that they deserve. We will continue to enhance our training and improve our technology within the department to ensure our goals continue to be met.

In 2025, the agency earned Accreditation the first ever through New Jersey State Association of Chiefs of Police. We have expanded LEAD, Law Enforcement Against Drugs within all the fifth grades in our public schools. We also have expanded our camera technology and drone program and remain committed to improved mental health training and ARRIVE Program.

I would like to thank all of the personnel in the Linden Police Department both sworn and civilian. This includes: our Officers and Detectives, Supervisors, 911 Dispatchers, Clerical and Support Staff and Crossing Guards. Their continued dedication and hard work does not go unrecognized.

I would like to thank you Mayor and the Linden City Council for continuing to support myself and our department this past year. I am proud to be the Chief of the Linden Police Department and I am proud of all those who serve in this department.

Respectfully submitted:

David R. Hart

David R. Hart
Chief of Police

Retired Members

<u>Name</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>Retired</u>			
ADAMS, EDWARD	Detective	7/1/2013	KOVAC, JOHN	Det./Lieutenant	4/1/2006
ALLISON, DAVID	Investigator	4/1/2013	KURZWEIL, WILLIAM	Patrolman	9/1/2005
ANTONIEWICZ, WALTER	Lieutenant	1/1/2016	LACOSTA, ANTONIO	Sergeant	4/1/2025
ASLIN, CHRISTOPHER	Captain	7/1/2013	LARMORE, THOMAS	Detective	12/1/2017
ASLIN, KEITH	Lieutenant	2/1/2016	LEPORINO, FRANK	Detective	1/1/2014
ASLIN, MARIANNE	Det./Sergeant	7/1/2013	LORD, WILLIAM	Lieutenant	1/1/2011
BIRCH, JOSEPH	Det./Sergeant	11/30/2021	LORDI, ANTHONY	Sergeant	12/1/2020
BABULSKI, MICHAEL	Lieutenant	9/1/2020	MANGANIELLO, DAVID	Detective	3/1/2012
BABINCAK, JOHN	Patrolman	5/1/2007	MARCINO, MATTHEW	Det./Lieutenant	12/1/2015
BIVONA, SALVATORE	Chief	4/1/2013	MARCINO, RICHARD	Det./Sergeant	1/1/2005
BOOK, BRUCE	Patrolman	4/1/2003	MARONEY, JAMES	Patrolman	4/1/2016
BOYLE, MICHAEL	Chief	2/1/2011	MASON, ERIC	Sergeant	3/1/2008
BRADY, KEVIN	Detective	2/1/2012	MARCUS, PHILIP	Detective	2/1/2023
BUNK, ROBERT	Officer	1/1/2014	MATLOSZ, PIOTR	Investigator	4/1/2017
BURNETTE, MICHAEL	Detective	2/1/2022	MIKOLAJCZYK, KENNETH	Sergeant	12/1/2020
BURKE, MICHAEL	Detective	6/1/1999	MIKOLAJCZYK, KEVIN	Detective	12/1/2020
BUTCHKO, JOSEPH	Patrolman	10/1/1996	MILIANO, JOHN E.	Chief	10/1/2007
CARHART, JEFFREY	Det./Sergeant	6/1/2020	MILLER, THEODORE	Officer	1/1/2014
CASEY, MARK	Detective	7/1/2010	MIRANDA, JAMES	Patrolman	3/1/2007
CHABAK, EDWARD	Sergeant	2/1/2015	MNICH, MICHAEL	Sergeant	1/1/1998
CHESLOCK, ROBERT	Detective	2/1/2018	OSADA, ROBERT	Detective	9/1/2006
CIRELLI, RICHARD	Sergeant	1/1/2014	PADILLA, ANGEL	Patrolman	11/1/2017
CLARK, JEFFREY	Lieutenant	7/1/2017	PARDO, THEODORE	Patrolman	2/1/1994
CONRAD, RAYMOND	Investigator	1/1/2014	PARFITT, EDWARD	Sergeant	3/1/1986
CORDOMA, FRANK	Patrolman	12/1/2009	PENN, JOHN	Sergeant	1/1/2005
CROTEAU, BRIAN	Patrolman	1/1/2009	PERRELLA, ANDREW	Sergeant	2/1/2021
DEMCOVITZ, THEODORE	Lieutenant	12/1/2008	PETRUSKY, MICHAEL	Patrolman	10/1/2015
DIAS, TOD	Patrolman	5/1/2010	RIZNYK, EDWARD	Patrolman	1/1/2008
DRAKE, PATRICK	Sergeant	1/1/2014	ROSE JR., ANDREW	Patrolman	1/1/2011
DRAKE, WALTER	Lieutenant	6/1/2000	SAAKE, MICHAEL	Captain	9/1/2017
ELIAS, ROSHAN	Officer	8/1/2022	SADOWSKI, DANIEL	Detective	2/1/2017
FECH, BRIAN	Lieutenant	2/1/2023	SALERNO, SCOTT	Sergeant	6/1/2020
FORFA, RICHARD	Officer	3/1/2024	SARNICKI, JAMES	Captain	2/1/2020
FRONHEISER, JAMES	Patrolman	7/1/1996	SCHULHAFFER, JAMES	Chief	9/1/2016
GALLO, CHARLES	Patrolman	9/1/2012	SEARLES, JEFFREY	Officer	2/1/2021
GALLO, ROBERT	Patrolman	5/28/1988	SENKUS, GEORGE	Det./Captain	10/1/2011
GEISHEIMER, DON	Captain	2/1/2023	SLOTTER, DENNIS	Sergeant	5/1/2001
GERBOUNKA, RICHARD J.	Det./Captain	1/1/1994	SPANO, ANDREW	Detective	7/1/2011
GIEGRICH, ROBERT	Detective	2/1/2008	STADNYK, DOUGLAS	Sergeant	2/1/2009
GONCALVES, ALVARO	Det./Sergeant	6/1/2013	STANICKI, DANIEL	Detective	1/1/2009
HANCE, EDWARD	Det./Sergeant	4/1/2007	STANICKI, GARY	Patrolman	10/1/2001
HASZKO, ANDREW	Investigator	12/1/2010	STANICKI, LOUIS	Detective	1/1/2006
HATZLHOFFER, ANTHONY	Patrolman	2/1/2015	STRUSZCZYK, TOM	Sergeant	9/1/2023
HICKMAN, GARY	Officer	12/1/2013	TAYLOR, BRUCE	Lieutenant	12/1/2008
HORRE, JOHN	Sergeant	1/1/2010	TEMPALSKY, DONALD	Det./Lieutenant	4/1/2008
JOHNSTON, JOHN	Detective	7/1/2013	TEMPALSKY, JOSEPH	Det./Lieutenant	2/1/1997
JONES, ANNEESAH	Patrolman	6/1/2017	TOMKO, KRIS	Patrolman	5/1/2010
JONES, SCOTT	Patrolman	4/1/2022	TOTH, THOMAS	Captain	2/1/2023
JUNAY, THOMAS	Patrolman	1/1/2007	TRACY, VICTOR	Patrolman	2/1/1997
KAHANA, MARK	Investigator	11/1/2017	TYRA, FRANK	Detective	1/1/2001
KAULFERS, JOSEPH	Detective	2/1/2023	TYRA, RAYMOND	Det./Captain	8/1/2009
KLEBAUR, VINCENT	Det./Sergeant	7/1/2001	TYRA, WILLIAM	Detective	8/1/1995
KLEINHAS, CALVIN	Lieutenant	10/1/1995	VANDERWAL, MARINUS	Patrolman	8/1/1984
KNAP, TADEUSZ	Patrolman	9/1/2000	VARGA, EDWARD	Patrolman	1/1/1994
KNAPP, WILLIAM	Patrolman	5/1/2011	VITRANO, JEFFREY J.	Det./Captain	8/1/2021
			ZACK, KATHLEEN	Patrolman	10/1/2015
			ZACK, PAUL	Officer	6/1/2018

Deceased Officers of the Linden Police Department

ALBRIGHT, GEORGE	GUMAUKAS, JOSEPH	MURIN, GEORGE
BABYAK, GEORGE	GUSHIN, NATHAN	MYHOWITZ, MICHAEL
BARTON, HOWARD	GUYDAN, JOHN	NOVAK, MICHAEL
BARTUS, PETER	GUYDEN, MICHAEL	NOVALANY, CHARLES
BARWICK, DONALD	HALASZ, STEPHEN	NOVALANY, JOSEPH
BECKMAN, RAYMOND	HALLINAN, WILLIAM	ORLOWSKI, FELIX
BERLIN, ANTHONY	HALYSICK, JOHN	ORZECOWSKI, JOHN
BERLINSKI, ROBERT	HEISS, FREDRICK	PECESKY, JOHN
BETTLE, CHARLES	HENSEL, JOSEPH	PERKIN, KENNETH
BRANAGAN, THOMAS	HERGENHEN, ARNOLD	PETROSKI, NANCY
BRAUN, EUGENE	HERGENHEN, LOUIS	PICKEL, GEORGE
BREEN, MICHAEL	HERGERT, LOUIS	PILCH, LEO
BRIENZA, MARIO	HERO, MATTHEW	PODOLLA, RUDOLPH
BRIGHT, THOMAS	HICKEY, FRANK	POLI, THEODORE
BROOK, DOUGLAS	HILL, HAROLD	POWELL, JAMES
BUCKEYSEY, STEPHEN	HOPTAY, STEPHEN	ROGERS, ARTHUR
BUNK, ROBERT F.	HORSCH, RALPH	ROSE, ANDREW Sr.
BURKIZER, HENRY	HREHA, JOHN	ROSEBROCK, PAUL
BYKO, JOHN	INTILI, LOUIS	ROSS, WILLIAM
CAFFREY, GERALD SR.	JENEY, ROBERT	RYAN, GROVER
CALLAHAN, FRANCES	KALAPOS, JOHN	SAWCZYN, GERALD
CAREW, MATTHEW	KENNY, JAMES	SCHULTZ, STEPHEN
CARHART, ALBERT	KIMAK, JOHN	SINGER, ALBERT
CARTER, JAMES	KLUGE, WILLIAM	SINNOTT, RICHARD
CHABAK, JOHN	KLUNDER, CHARLES	SKALASKI, STEPHEN III
CHAPMAN, JAMES	KLUNDER, JOHN	SKOLSKY, JOHN
CHESNEY, EDWARD	KNAP, ELMER	SMOLYN, JOHN
CLARK, GEORGE	KNAP, TADEUSZ	SOLSKY, SIGMUND
CROTEAU, ROBERT	KOELLER, CHARLES Jr.	STADNYK, GEORGE
CROTEAU, WILFRED	KOELLER, CHARLES Sr.	STUCKEY, OLIVER
CUPREWICH, VINCENT	KOLOGI, EDWARD	SVOBODA, GEORGE
DACKERMAN, VICTOR	KOLOGI, RONALD	SWEENEY, FRANCIS
DANIELS, CASPER	KOPEC, JOSEPH	SWEET, ANDREW
DAVIS, LONNIE	KOVAL, ALEXANDER	SZUBA, HENRY
DECKER, GEORGE	KOVTUN, JOHN	TOMASZEWSKI, HENRY
DEHLER, DAVID	KRALOVICH, JOSEPH	TRATULIS, JOHN
DEMYANOVITCH, PETER	KUCZYNSKI, FRANCIS	TROIANO, JOHN
DESSEFFY, WILLIAM	KUCZYNSKI, DANIEL	TOLKASZ, ALBERT
DEUBEL, FRANCIS	KUDELKO, STEPHEN	TYRA, FRANCIS Sr.
DEUBEL, THOMAS	LAVOICE, HARRY	UMINSKI, NICHOLAS
DOUGHERTY, NEIL	LELLO, DOMINIC	VALVANO, MICHAEL
DROZDOWSKI, WALTER	LISA, ANTHONY	VAN DORN, JOHN
DUDASH, CHARLES	LISA, LOUIS	VIGGIANO, FRANK
EDZEK, FREDERICK	LONARDO, CARMEN	VIRKAITIS, JOSEPH
EICHHORN, WARREN	LUKAS, ALBIN	VOYNICK, JAMES
EIMONT, LEON	MACHUTA, RONALD	VOYNICK, MICHAEL
EVAN, MARK	MALSAM, ROCHUS	WAGNER, HARRY
FARKAS, STEPHEN	MANUZZA, STEVE	WASHBURN, WILLIAM
FEDOROWITZ, ALEX	MARCZAK, MICHAEL	WEBER, MICHAEL
FEENEY, JOHN	MARTINKO, JOHN	WEITZMAN, HARRY
FEHN, JOHN	McCANDLES, FREDERICK	WILLIAMS, JOSEPH
FLANAGAN, EDWARD	McKANE, THOMAS	WILLISON, FRANK
FLANAGAN, GLENN	McCUE, MARK	WOHLTMAN, WILLIAM
FLYNN, THOMAS	McKENNA, JOHN	WOLF, ANDREW
FRANK, CARL	McMICKENS, FRANK	WOLF, STEPHEN
FRANK, JAMES	MESLER, LANCE	WRESNIEWSKI, EDWARD
FRAZIER, WILLARD	MESLER, RUSSELL	WRONSKI, JOHN
FRIEDRICHSEN, KURT	MILES, CHARLES	YADLOWSKI, WALTER
GALINAT, EMIL	MILIANO, ANTHONY	YAMAKAITIS, WILLIAM
GERGICH, EDWIN Sr.	MIRANDA, JAMES	ZASIMOVITCH, JOHN
GERGICH, EDWIN	MNICH, MICHAEL	ZOPPI, MICHAEL
GORDON, GEORGE	MODRAK, GEORGE	ZYCH, JOHN
GRIEB, ARTHUR	MONTESI, ANTHONY	

LINDEN POLICE DEPARTMENT
Seniority and Appointment Roster

1	Hart, David	Chief	Aug. 03, 1987	56	Olbrys, Michael	Det	Jan. 14, 2013
2	Bara, Andrew	Lt.	Aug. 01, 1992	57	Paster, Leon	Sgt.	Jan. 13, 2014
3	Hammer, Peter	Inv.	July 18, 1994	58	Scanlon, Nicholas	Off	Jan. 13, 2014
4	Kother, David	Det.	July 24, 1995	59	Jordan, Raul	Off	July 15, 2014
5	Dudash, Gary	Off.	Jan. 09, 1997	60	Mikolajczyk, Adam	Sgt	July 15, 2014
6	Mekovetz, John	Det/Lt	Jan. 09, 1997	61	Niedziolka, Mieszko	Sgt	July 15, 2014
7	Fortuna, Douglas	Det.	Jan. 12, 1998	62	Melendez, Camille	Det	July 15, 2014
8	Fernandez, Airan	Det/Lt	July 15, 1999	63	Hanns, Wayne	Sgt	July 8, 2015
9	Cacioppo, Joseph	Capt.	July 15, 1999	64	Andrews, Nicole	Det.	July 8, 2015
10	Edgar, James	Det	July 1, 2000	65	Matusawicz, Anthony	Off	July 8, 2015
11	Rawlins, Maurice	Det	July 1, 2000	66	Wisnowski, Sonia	Off	July 8, 2015
12	Favor III, Anthony	Det	Jan. 08, 2001	67	Guzman, David	Off	July 8, 2015
13	Cataline, Michael	Sgt.	July 23, 2001	68	Philippakos, Nektarios	Det	July 8, 2015
14	Williams. Abdul	Capt.	July 23, 2001	69	Hemenway, Daniel	Det	July 8, 2015
15	Damatta, Matthew A.	Sgt.	Jan. 14, 2002	70	Smith Jr., Robert W.	Off	Jan. 4, 2016
16	Koziol, Travis J.	Det/Sgt.	Jan. 14, 2002	71	Oliveira-Mendes, Daniel	Off	Jan. 4, 2016
17	Calleja, Eric	Det/Sgt	Sept. 2, 2004	72	Appello, Joseph F.	Sgt	Jan. 4, 2016
18	Milos, Keith	Det	Jan. 17, 2005	73	Mack IV, Edward J.	Off	Jan. 4, 2016
19	Kozak, Peter	Inv.	Jan. 17, 2005	74	Basich, John P.	Off.	Jan. 4, 2016
20	Guenther, Christopher	Capt.	July 18, 2005	75	Condora, John	Sgt.	Jan. 4, 2016
21	Jones, Matthew	Sgt.	July 18, 2005	76	Wegrzynek, Raymond	T/O	July 5, 2016
22	Ordonez, Ivan	Lt	July 18, 2005	77	Shults, Jabari	Det	July 5, 2016
23	Mitros, Peter	Off.	July 18, 2005	78	Scott, Ryan	Off	July 8, 2016
24	Jedrzejewski, Martin	Det/Lt.	July 18, 2005	79	Russo, Nicholas	Off	July 14, 2016
25	McPhail, Jacyn	Det.	July 18, 2005	80	Pereira, Paulina	Off	Dec. 27, 2016
26	Zevlikaris, Afstratios	Det.	July 18, 2005	81	Diaz, Mikael	Off	Dec. 27, 2016
27	Mohr, Jason	Det	Jan. 16, 2006	82	Vasquez, Victoria	T/O	Dec. 27, 2016
28	Richmond, Michael	Lt	Jan. 16, 2006	83	Zaccaro, Ryan	Inv.	Dec. 27, 2016
29	Tristao, Danny	Lt.	Jan. 16, 2006	84	Franjul, Ariel	Det	July 7, 2017
30	Bachmann, Rick	Capt.	July 18, 2006	85	Mutz, Michael	Off	Dec. 26, 2017
31	Solano, Jimmy	Sgt.	July 18, 2007	86	Mercado, Maria	Det	Dec. 26, 2017
32	Turon, Daniel J.	Off	July 18, 2007	87	Stuart, Michael	Off	Dec. 26, 2017
33	Conk, Ian D.	Lt	Jan. 14, 2008	88	Abrantes, Marco	Inv.	Dec. 26, 2017
34	Rizzo, Michael A.	Sgt	Jan. 14, 2008	89	Amaral, Michael	Off	Dec. 26, 2017
35	Perez, Javier J.	Det.	Jan. 14, 2008	90	Wilson, Antonio	T/O	Dec. 26, 2017
36	Wegrzynek, Vincenzo A.	Lt	Jan. 14, 2008	91	Isidoro, Richard	Off	Dec. 26, 2017
37	Oliviera, Monika	Sgt.	July 16, 2008	92	Mesaros, Gabrielle	Off	Dec. 26, 2017
38	Melchionna, Nicole	Lt.	July 16, 2008	93	Mele, Dominick	Off	May 1, 2018
39	Matlosz, Tomasz A.	Off	Jan. 1, 2009	94	Viana, Daniel	Off	July 6, 2018
40	Sheehan, Gavin M.	Sgt.	Jan. 1, 2009	95	Dume, Renald	Off	July 6, 2018
41	Rivera, Joseph D.	Lt	Jan. 12, 2009	96	Rozycki, Michael	Inv.	July 6, 2018
42	Palma, Philip M.	Off.	Jan. 12, 2009	97	Capers, Laron	Off	July 6, 2018
43	Sanchez, Robert	Capt.	April 1, 2009	98	Polchlopek, Slawomir	Off	July 6, 2018
44	Vasquez, John A.	Sgt.	July 12, 2010	99	Berrios, Jonathan	Off	July 6, 2018
45	Schulhafer, James E.	Sgt.	July 12, 2010	100	Matlosz, Matthew	Off	July 6, 2018
46	Hubert, Timothy	Sgt.	Feb. 14, 2011	101	Sheehy, Joshua	Off	September 6, 2018
47	Garrison, James	Det.	July 25, 2011	102	Arnold, Richard	Off	September 6, 2018
48	Diaz, Stephanie	Det.	Sept. 7, 2011	103	Smith, Juan	Off	February 25, 2019
49	Velarde, Juan	Sgt	Sept. 7, 2011	104	Inrgam, William	Off	February 25, 2019
50	Wisnowski, Matthew	Sgt.	Jan. 1, 2012	105	Pacheco, Julian	Off	July 1, 2019
51	Cistaro, Michael	Det/Sgt.	Jan. 1, 2012	106	Armel, Michael	Off	September 2, 2019
52	Ramirez, Christian	Det/Sgt	Jan. 1, 2012	107	Suggs, Antoine	Off	September 2, 2019
53	Dziadosz, Wojciech	Off	Jan. 1, 2012	108	Joseph, Dolph	Off	February 3, 2020
54	Halkias, John	Sgt.	Jan. 1, 2012	109	Tavarez, Yokanis	Off	August 10, 2020
55	Heston, Ralph	Off	Jan. 1, 2012	110	Annunziato, William	Off	January 2, 2023

LINDEN POLICE DEPARTMENT
Seniority and Appointment Roster

111 Kepa, Pawel	Off	August 10,2020	131 Jimenez, Giovanni	Off	January 2, 2023
112 Colon, Jesse	Off	August 10,2020	132 Rivera, Adrian	Off	January 2, 2023
113 Dziadosz, Katarzyna	Off.	February 1, 2021	133 Artley, Emily	Off	July 10, 2023
114 Brynych, Oleksandr	Off.	February 1, 2021	134 Garcia, Laura	Off	July 10, 2023
115 Gallego, Anthonie	Off	February 1, 2021	136 Eliscar, Josue	Off	July 10, 2023
116 Hernandez, Daniel	Off.	February 1, 2021	135 Sitko, Kacper	Off	July 10, 2023
117 Landy, Luis	Off.	July 14, 2021	137 Miller, Devon	Off	July 10, 2023
118 Jerome, Victorson	Off.	July 14, 2021	138 Tarnawski, Alexander	Off	July 10, 2023
119 Pirozzoli, Connor	Off	July 14, 2021	139 Vento, Victoria	Off	January 2, 2024
120 Iazzetta, Jillian	Off.	July 14, 2021	140 Rojas, Joseph	Off	January 2, 2024
121 Brown, Rahmell	Off.	July 14, 2021	141 Alvarez, James	Off	January 2, 2024
122 Depczynski, Kara	Off.	January 10,2022	142 Lozano, Camilo	Off	January 2, 2024
123 Rosas, Luz	Off	January 10,2022	142 Rosa, Brian	Off	January 2, 2024
124 Gallegos, Bryant	Off.	January 10,2022	143 Serrano-Jaurogui, Oriana	Off	January 2, 2024
125 Martinez, Amanda	Off.	January 10,2022	144 Hernandez-Buitrago, Yalixa	Off	January 2, 2024
126 McNeill, Naomi	Off	January 10,2022	145 Valente, Nelson	Off	July 9, 2024
127 Accevedo, Tiara	Off.	February 22, 2022	146 Canadas, David	Off	July 9, 2024
128 Davis, Davonne	Off	July 11, 2022	147 Echevarria, Daniel	Off	January 2, 2025
129 Wasik, Anna	Off	July 11, 2022	148 McCloud, Kalil	Recruit	July 7, 2025
130 Maybaum, Jeremy	Off	November 14, 2022	149 Annunziato, William	Off	January 2, 2023

2025 Promotions

Sergeant Gavin Sheehan to Lieutenant	11/1/2025
Officer Adam Mikolajczyk to Sergeant	11/1/2025
Detective Juan Velarde to Sergeant	11/1/2025
Officer Philip Palma to Sergeant	11/1/2025
Detective Matthew Jones to Sergeant	11/1/2025

Officers Hired in 2025

Daniel Echevarria	1/2/2025
Kalil McCloud	7/7/2025

2025 Retirements

Sergeant Antonio Lacosta	4/1/2025
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2025 Deaths

Robert F. Bunk
David Dehler
Stephen Hoptay
Francis Kuczynski
Joseph Kralovich

ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISION

The Linden Police Department's Administrative Division is responsible for the overall efficient and effective operation of the entire police department. The division is comprised of the Chief of Police, an Administrative Captain, and two full time Administrative Assistants. The Administrative Division oversees all of the remaining divisions of the police department and is responsible for the promulgation and dissemination of daily informational bulletins, special orders, personnel orders, rules and regulations, standard operating procedures as well as policies and procedures to all department employees. This is accomplished utilizing various methods, including staff meetings, verbal reports, written reports and computerized information sharing via the Department's document management system. The Administrative Division also receives and assists in managing and referring out to specific divisions the vast amount of requests and correspondence that is received from the public, the business sector and other government agencies and officials.

In 2019, the Administrative Division began the process of managing the review and, if needed, revision of a number of Policies and Procedures and Standard Operating Procedures (SOP's) of the Linden Police Department. Current Policies and Procedures are being revised and redistributed as Standard Operating Procedures to reflect a more standardized method of appearance to make future review and revision easier and reduce possible confusion on what guidance the most current SOP's contain.

Additionally, the Administrative Division oversees the following important functions of the police department:

Budgeting and Accounting - This includes planning for the future financial needs of the department as well as managing the current expenditures of budgeted funds.

Planning - In conjunction with the budgeting function, planning is the continuous process in which the future needs and goals of the department are predicted and assessed. The preferred methods used to accomplish these needs and goals may lead to requests for future funding through the budgeting process or changes in the policies or standard operating procedures of the department.

Timekeeping - This is the day to day and long term maintenance of the attendance records (sick time, vacation days, holidays, overtime, etc.) of all employees of the police department. The department currently utilizes the computerized Police Officer Scheduling System (POSS) for timekeeping functions.

Payroll - In conjunction with the timekeeping function, payroll includes the continuous management of each police department employee's pay and overtime, ensuring that the various contractual pay rates and adjustments are accurate and reported to the City of Linden's payroll department in an efficient manner. Additionally, all sworn officer pay resulting from City of Linden Extra Duty Assignments, is managed within the Administrative Division and reported to the City of Linden's payroll department.

Personnel File Management – The Administrative Division maintains the personnel files for all Linden Police Department employees.

Extra Duty Management – Prior to 2018, the two union's representing the sworn officers of the Linden Police Department were given the time consuming responsibilities of conducting the 24 hour a day intake and awarding of the City of Linden's Extra Duty Assignments for sworn officers. In 2018, the responsibility for the administration of these private entity requests for officers to perform duties such as security or traffic control was turned over to the Administrative Captain. Vendors requesting officers now directly contact a third party service that is responsible for the scheduling and publishing of assignments as well as awarding assignments to a requesting officer in a fair and transparent manner utilizing a set of rules provided by the Department. The third party service is also responsible for the billing to the vendor for services provided and providing payment for services provided in the manner requested by the City of Linden.

A part time Public Information Officer (PIO) is also part of the Administrative Division and reports directly to the Chief of Police while serving in this function. The PIO is the first link in helping to get information to assist in the accomplishment of the Linden Police Department's mission out to the public. The information provided may be in the form of press releases about specific incidents or events, interviews with print or other media outlets, social media postings, emergency alerts, personal appearances by the Chief of Police, PIO or other officers, and helpful safety tips. The Linden Police Department currently has a specific webpage within the City of Linden's website, and also utilizes social media sites such as Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, and Nixle to provide the public with information.

RECORDS BUREAU

The Records Bureau is considered the records management center of the Linden Police Department; every report, regardless of nature or seriousness of the case, is ultimately sent to the Records Bureau. The Bureau, comprised of five clerical staff members supervised by the Support Services Sergeant, collect, assemble, and file the ever-increasing volume of recorded information coming to the attention of the Police. Although Police Officers devote a considerable amount of time to paperwork, prosecution would be impossible without diligent and reliable record keeping.

Every report submitted to the Records Bureau is reviewed by clerical staff members for completeness. Clerks prepare reports for all indictable cases and forward them to the Union County Prosecutor's Office for action by the Grand Jury and/or trial in Superior Court. A total of **701** Indictable Crime Packages were compiled in **2025**.

One of the primary functions of the Bureau is the generation and submission of the Uniform Crime Report (UCR). Each month, the Sergeant prepares the required data into a report, which generates statistical data that is forwarded to various governmental agencies including the New Jersey State Police and the Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI). **2025** UCR statistics are provided at the end of this report. On *July 12, 2024*, this Bureau assisted with the integration of NIBRS (National Incident-Based Reporting system), and the Linden Police Department is now a **NIBRS certified agency**.

The firearms application and permit process are handled almost exclusively by the Records Bureau Firearm clerks. Clerks are assigned to assist applicants with the required paperwork and guide them through the application process. Clerks ensure that the completed package, including all job and personal reference requests (two per applicant) are verified and submitted to the Sergeant who completes the required background checks. This process involves a great deal of interaction with the public, the applicant, and multiple local, county and state Police agencies. In **2025**, the Department issued **1,212** Firearms ID Cards and/or Firearms Handgun Permits, and also issued **158** Carry Permits.

The Bureau clerks are responsible for preparation of weekly "lawyer packages" in response to Open Public Records Act (OPRA) requests for accident reports by Law Offices and Private Medial Organizations/Practices. For **2025**, the Records Bureau prepared and provided **740** accident report packages.

The clerks are responsible for maintaining records for every aspect of Police activity, from warrants, to parolees, to vehicle tows and expungements. The Report Management System (RMS) database must be updated regularly so officers and dispatchers can access important information, including active restraining orders, firearm permits, and special safety notifications for people and addresses. Records Bureau Clerks are also responsible for the processing of additional miscellaneous government documents which include the following: Death Lists (**248 Death Lists**), and the verification and completion of DWI/DUI case files (**101 DWIs/DUIs completed**). Clerks also maintain the Linden Emergency Response System (LERS) (**2 LERS entries created for 2025**), which provides Police with residential information of elderly or at-

risk residents that may not be able to open their door during an emergency. Clerks are jointly responsible for looking up and completing background checks for NJ Child Protection & Permanency (CP&P - formerly DYFS), military inquiries, and good conduct letters (**64 in 2025**), as well as preparing use of force and pursuit reports for review by Internal Affairs. A clerk is assigned to oversee, under the Sergeants supervision, the Department's College Internship Program for the Records Bureau.

FINANCIAL REPORT

For the year **2025**, the Records Bureau generated **\$68,893.90 in revenue**. The Records Bureau was responsible for collecting revenue for the following services provided throughout **2025**:

Records Bureau		
Service Type	Number of Requests	Revenue
Good Conduct Letters	64	\$320.75
Alcoholic Beverage Control Licenses (ABC)	124	\$3,235.50
Open Public Record Act (OPRA) Requests	81	-
Crash Reports	740	\$11,882.70
Firearms ID Cards/Handgun Purchase Permits	1,212	29,754.95
Carry Permits	158	\$23,700.00

Revenue Overview - 2025	
Month	Revenue
January	\$8,348.52
February	\$7,184.86
March	\$5,778.64
April	\$7,024.89
May	\$4,889.71
June	\$5,904.92
July	\$6,261.47
August	\$3,138.44
September	\$5,030.82
October	\$6,777.71
November	\$4,004.92
December	\$4,549.00
Total	\$68,893.90

2025

2025 Uniform Crime Reporting Summary

[illegible]

BWC Unit

The Body Worn Camera (BWC) Unit is responsible for managing all forms of digital evidence, including body camera footage, in-car camera footage, evidentiary photos, video statements, video surveillance, radio transmissions, documents, and 911 and phone calls. This evidence is packaged in a standardized format to facilitate sharing with authorized requestors. Ideally, all digital evidence is stored in the Axon Evidence.com database, a cloud-based platform, where it can be accessed and retrieved by case number, allowing for seamless sharing and collaboration. The BWC Unit is comprised of one full-time clerk and one detective as of November, 2025; both under the supervision of a Support Services Sergeant.

Key functions of the BWC Unit are fulfilling discovery requests and Open Public Records Act (OPRA) requests, which represent significant duties within the department. The unit supports multiple divisions across the department, including Detectives, Traffic, Juvenile, Internal Affairs (IA), Training, and Patrol. For instance, case detectives rely on the unit to obtain digital evidence critical to their investigations and prosecution efforts. Traffic Bureau investigators utilize footage for incidents such as hit-and-runs and fatal accidents, while the Juvenile Bureau requests video surveillance related to incidents in or around schools for safety and security purposes. Internal Affairs examines digital evidence related to citizen complaints and incidents requiring internal review. Additionally, the Training Unit regularly reviews footage for performance-related issues observed in patrol officers' fieldwork. Patrol requests often involve troubleshooting user issues, retagging/reassigning evidence, maintaining equipment, and ensuring connectivity. The unit further supports inter-agency investigations, extending to the county, state, and on occasion, the federal level as well. Weekly fulfillment of requests from county prosecutors' offices.

The BWC Unit is committed to staying ahead of technological advancements to ensure that officers within the Linden Police Department have access to the most cutting-edge tools and training available. Prioritizing these efforts has been shown to strengthen police accountability, enhance professionalism, and improve the overall documentation of evidence.

DIGITAL EVIDENCE & SHARE FULFILMENTS

In 2025, there were over **121,189 pieces of digital evidence** logged and managed.

- **1,959 digital cases** were put together for critical incidents (investigations, arrests, motor vehicle crashes, OPRA and IA) for future requests through discovery, OPRA, subpoena and common law.
- **1,124 requests for evidence.** Comprised of documents, video, photo, and audio acquisitions (radio transmissions, 9-1-1, and other phone calls).
- Urgent or high priority matters such as requests from the UCPO and outside agencies (MCPO, ACPO, ATF, and FBI) were at **834**.
- **205 OPRA requests** involving BWC or other video footage. (This video footage requires redactions per OPRA guidelines).
- **8 completed packages** for subpoenas; this included digital evidence and paperwork.

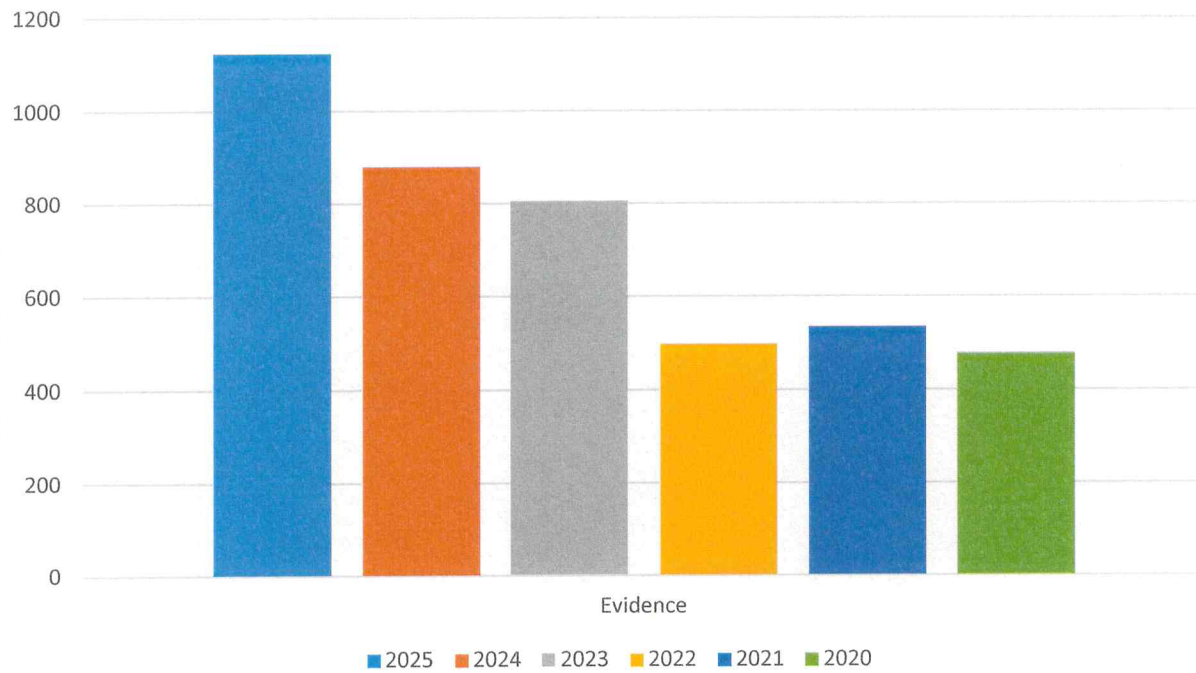
PROJECTS

- **AXON Body 4 Camera Rollout:** In 2025, the entire inventory of AXON Body 3 body-worn cameras was replaced with the new Body 4 model. The new advanced model provides enhanced functionality, including a talkback feature, live video feeds and higher battery life.
- **AXON Training:** In 2025, all 145 sworn police officers, along with 4 school resource officers (SRO) were trained in the use of the new body-worn cameras.

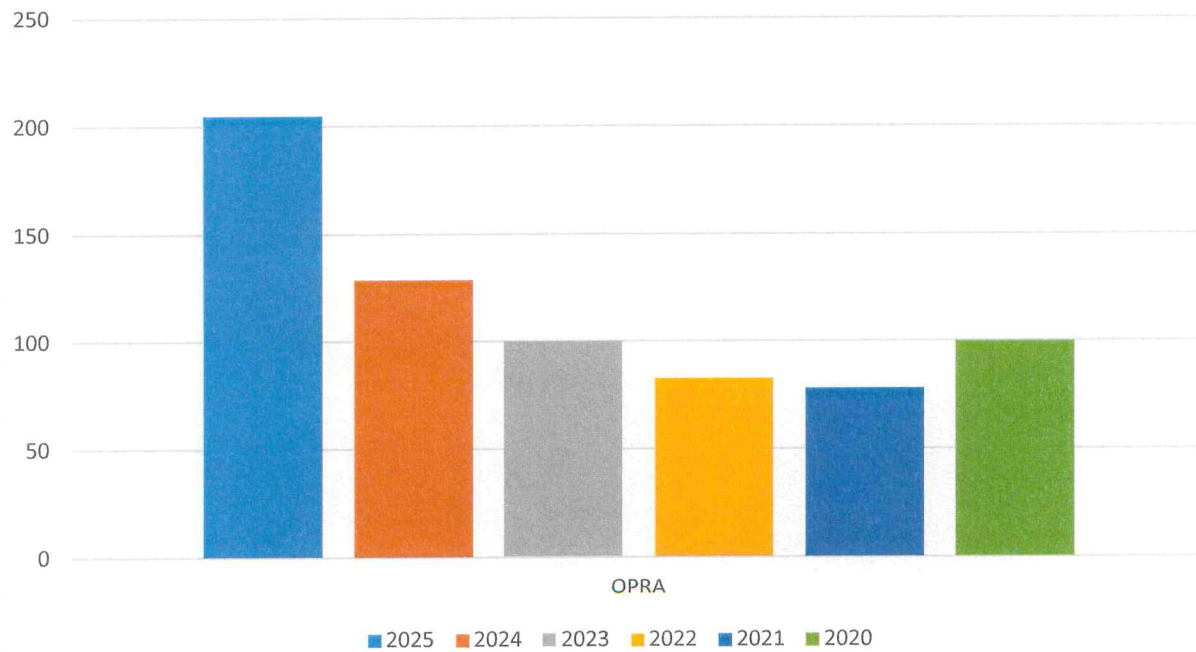
BWC CONCLUSION

The BWC Unit relies on the collaborative support of the clerks in the Records Bureau, the Detectives in Property and Evidence, and the IT Unit to efficiently fulfill daily requests related to criminal cases, civil subpoenas, tort claims, and OPRA requests. As the volume of these requests continues to grow annually, the task of managing and processing them can become increasingly challenging. Despite these pressures, the team consistently meets the demands, ensuring that all requests are fulfilled accurately and on time, without exception.

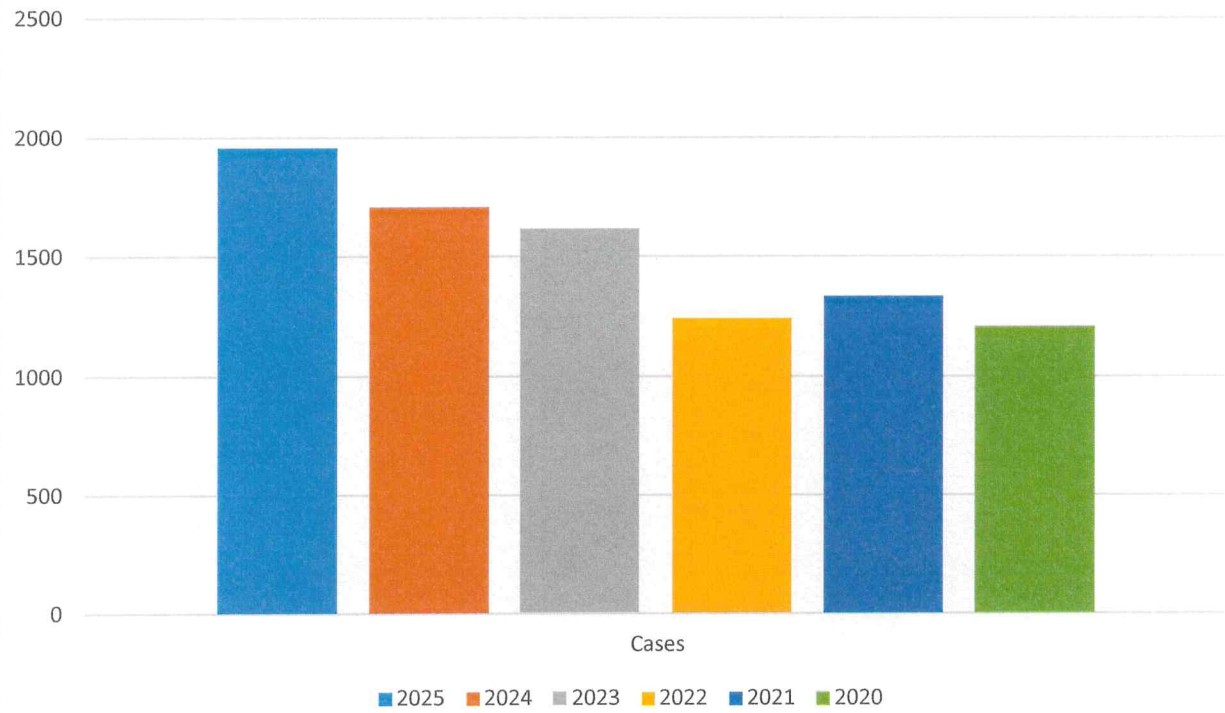
Evidence Requests



OPRA Requests



Cases



Office of Information Technology

The Office of Information Technology (IT Unit) is comprised of 4 full-time technicians under the supervision of a Support Services Sergeant. The unit is responsible for approximately **400 users** in the Police Department, Fire Department, Office of Emergency Management (O.E.M.), and assorted City of Linden offices. Maintenance and upkeep of various hardware and software for each department, onsite and across multiple offsite locations, is the primary function of the unit. The IT unit is regularly tasked with testing and evaluating various software programs to meet the ever-changing needs of all of our city offices, and to keep up with modern technology enhancements.

There were **over 1,341 repair requests** in 2025, which came in the form of phone calls, emails, and the completion of the Linden Police Department and City of Linden IT Trouble Sheets. Examples of these requests include connectivity or network issues. This does not represent an accurate accounting of all requests, as emergency calls and requests are frequently given directly to the technicians. This also does not include any hardware, software or camera system upgrades.

In 2025, the Office of Information Technology worked with an **operating budget of \$1,899,440.00**. This amount included all digital evidence projects, all hardware and software purchases, maintenance contracts, and new renovations related items such as wiring and hardware.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY PROJECTS

In 2025, the Linden Police Department's Office of Information Technology successfully completed several key projects that have greatly improved the department's technological infrastructure, security, and operational efficiency.

- Cybersecurity was of heavy focus in 2025 to keep up with the ever-evolving cyber-attack landscape. More advanced measures were implemented to safeguard sensitive data. Vulnerability monitoring and mitigation packages were put in place to provide more overview of the environment and patch any gaps that were found. Multiple iterations of deprecated software were removed and replaced with modern, more secure solutions. Providing enhanced functionality to the user, while simultaneously securing the machine against cyberattacks.

- A key project focused on improving operational efficiency was the installation of new Cradlepoints in police and fire department apparatuses, providing seamless internet connectivity. These mobile hotspots allow officers and firefighters to access critical data in real time, improving response times and situational awareness while in the field. Additionally, the department integrated the Police Department QED Computer-Aided Dispatch (CAD) and Report Management System (RMS) with the Fire Department's ProPhoenix system, and conducted a large-scale data export and migration of over a decade of Fire Department reports. The project moved all the data from the defunct FHWeb system database data into the ProPhoenix platform, effectively unifying past and present Fire Department data into a single platform.
- Significant enhancement to the CCTV security system citywide – remote sites and police headquarters all received new camera installations, replacement of deprecated cameras, and new DVR servers.
- New enhancements to the virtual environment were deployed, further enhancing virtual desktop interface (VDI) efficiency and management. In addition, modern, more secure remote access was put in place to improve remote work connectivity to the virtual desktop environment, streamlining investigations in the field.
- As part of an effort to increase surveillance and public safety, the Drone First Responder (DFR) program was put in place. This entailed installation of a docking station at Police Headquarters where an aerial drone can be deployed from and respond to any point in the city within minutes. The drone can provide an aerial overview, in both standard and infrared, of the scene before officers arrive. Expanding pre-arrival intelligence, and enhancing officer safety. The DFR system was also integrated with our computer aided dispatch (CAD) system, allowing for automated deployment to incident locations.
- Installation of additional card swipe access throughout the city and public safety departments. These systems provide enhanced security by controlling and monitoring access to sensitive areas, ensuring only authorized personnel can enter these locations.
- LiveScan system and alcotest machine replacement – both of these staple law enforcement supplemental systems have been in place at the department for many years, and have received hardware upgrades this past year. In addition to this satisfying new statewide compliance mandates, it provides enhanced functionality to users and high security transmission of data to state and federal databases.

These projects represent significant strides toward enhancing the safety, security, and efficiency of the Linden Police Department. The Office of Information Technology looks forward to continuing its work to support the department's mission in the year ahead.

DETECTIVE BUREAU

The **Detective Bureau**, a critical component of the Linden Police Department's Investigative Division, is staffed by one lieutenant, two sergeants, nine detectives, and a civilian clerk. The bureau's primary mission is the investigation of all indictable crimes within the City of Linden to ensure successful prosecution in Union County Superior Court. While detectives focus on high-level offenses, they may also address disorderly persons offenses in Municipal Court at the discretion of a supervisor. To support these operations, the bureau's clerk manages essential administrative tasks, including issuing identification documents for city employees and licensed workers and maintaining the Virtual Block Watch database.

The investigative process typically begins with initial reports generated by patrol officers, which are reviewed by a detective supervisor to determine if a follow-up investigation is warranted. In 2025, detectives handled approximately 1200 cases, ranging from violent crimes and fraud to large-scale retail theft. To maintain constant operational readiness, detectives and supervisors participate in an on-call rotation, ensuring personnel are available to respond to crime scenes or conduct urgent investigations outside of standard business hours. In cases of homicide, the department collaborates closely with the Union County Prosecutor's Office Homicide Task Force. By assigning a Linden officer to this task force full-time, the department maintains immediate access to regional intelligence and high-level training, fostering an invaluable internal knowledge base.

Beyond these primary duties, detectives manage the following **secondary responsibilities and specialties**:

- **Departmental Training & Instruction:** The majority of detectives serve as the department's instructors for several critical disciplines throughout the year, ensuring all personnel remain proficient in essential and mandated law enforcement skills and tactics.
- **Megan's Law Investigations:** Four detectives ensure sex offenders residing or working in the jurisdiction are properly registered and coordinate with the Union County Prosecutor's Office regarding public notifications.

- **Humane Law Enforcement (HLEO):** Two certified HLEO detectives lead investigations into animal cruelty—ranging from neglect to physical abuse—working directly with a designated Assistant Prosecutor.
- **Counter-Terrorism & Intelligence:** One detective serves as the Municipal Counter-Terrorism Coordinator (MCTC), liaising with the FBI's JTTF and NJ Homeland Security. **A second detective is assigned directly to the FBI's Joint Terrorism Task Force (JTTF)**, providing a dedicated link to federal national security investigations. Additionally, a criminal intelligence detective coordinates with the Newark Real Time Crime Center (NRTCC) to share regional data.
- **Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC):** One detective oversees local liquor establishments, managing inspections and licensing matters while ensuring compliance with state ABC regulations.
- **Continuous Training:** All detectives undergo ongoing education regarding emerging crime trends and specialized techniques to ensure they serve the community with the highest standards of excellence and integrity.

Through these specialized assignments and a commitment to continuous education, the Detective Bureau remains dedicated to providing the City of Linden with thorough, professional investigative services.

Juvenile Bureau

The Linden Police Department Juvenile Bureau, a unit of the Investigative Division, investigates all crimes and offenses committed by youths under the age of 18 and all crimes and offenses where a juvenile is a victim. Included in this category are all drug and alcohol violations, child abuse, sexual abuse cases Cyber Crimes and Simple Assaults. Many cases investigated by the Juvenile Bureau are not criminal in nature, but affect the health and welfare of the child. Examples of these investigations are runaways, truants, incorrigible youths, sick and injury calls, and parent/child disputes.

The Juvenile Bureau is involved in activities which attempt to ward off improper activity before it starts, in cooperation with organizations such as the Juvenile Conference Committee, Mayor's Youth Commission, Union County Missing and Exploited Children Commission, Union County Underage Drinking Commission, Union County Juvenile Officer's Association, New Jersey State Juvenile Officer's Association, Union County Youth Services Division and the Nationwide Amber Alert system.

The Juvenile Bureau Commander, a lieutenant, acts as the Liaison Officer between the Linden Board of Education and the Linden Police Department. The Lieutenant is also the Department's Bias Incident Liaison to the Union County Prosecutor's Office. Under the Lieutenants command is a Sergeant, who also serves as the Community Liaison, four detectives, one clerk, who assists the office with record keeping and general clerical duties and 4 Special 3 Law Enforcement Officers or SLEO'S for short. Retired Law Enforcement Officer were rehired by the city to work in the school system. 1 is assigned to Linden High School /Academy building and the other 2 are assigned 1 each to the two middle schools in town. In all of the schools, the detectives work with the school personnel to ensure that the school environment is safe and secure. The detectives also lecture outside of the school setting to a wide variety of groups that may request a guest speaker regarding any of the functions of the Juvenile Bureau, Crime Prevention or general community outreach initiatives.

During the 2025 calendar year, the detectives assigned to the Juvenile Bureau investigated over 375 incidents that were referred to the Linden Police Department, or initiated out of the Juvenile Bureau. Juveniles were taken into custody for incidents ranging from Aggravated assault with a weapon to disorderly persons offenses.

In 2025 Detectives assigned to the unit handled all preparations for National Night Out activities, another huge turn out and a great event after last years had to be cancelled due to in climate weather. The Juvenile Bureau also assisted the Linden Board of Education with both Middle Schools and the High School Graduation along with being present at most of the Elementary School ceremonies. In 2025 the Juvenile Bureau once again hosted our Youth Academy. The Youth Academy ran for a full week during the month of July. 30 Boys and Girls,

all residents of Linden spent a week learning all about the different aspects of policing. The Linden High School ROTC Program along with Prior Youth Academy alumni a total of 25 Junior Mentors assisted in Drill and Physical Fitness training. The week finished up with a graduation ceremony for family and friends.

In 2025, the State of New Jersey Juvenile Justice Commission's Detention Monitoring Unit performed an onsite visit to the Linden Police Department to ensure that all state and federal laws pertaining to arrested juveniles were being followed. This is the 28th consecutive year that our department was found to be in compliance with all state and federal guidelines without any violations.

In 2025 the Linden Police department, in cooperation with the Linden Board of education continued its LEADS Program. The Law Enforcement Against Drugs program continued this year with all 8 Elementary schools being completed. Each Elementary school has at least 3 or more 5th grade classes. The instructors go to the schools three days a week for an hour a day to teach. This year we were able to add more instructors to assist in getting all the schools done in one year. .

Linden Police Department

Narcotics Bureau

The Linden Police Department's Narcotics Bureau prioritizes ethical conduct, expert performance, equity, and cooperative alliances. Throughout most of 2025, the unit retained its core team consisting of three detectives, a single sergeant, and one lieutenant, who all answer to the head of the Investigative Division. This skilled group manages both originating and ongoing probes into drug offenses and related vices like gambling and prostitution. All personnel are affiliated with the New Jersey Narcotics Enforcement Officers Association and have participated in diverse workshops, classes, and programs covering New Jersey's drug regulations, substance identification, sophisticated drug inquiries, and protocols for detentions, inspections, and confiscations. Regular refresher courses are vital to help the staff stay ahead of evolving drug scenes and sharpen their narcotics-handling proficiency.

The unit often joins forces in cross-boundary efforts, teaming up with regional, statewide, national, and neighboring police forces to accomplish their aims. These undertakings are generally exhaustive and resource-heavy, frequently requiring sustained in-person and tech-based oversight, deep dives into illicit groups, and audits of targets' monetary profiles. Operations like these regularly yield captures of illegal drugs and regulated items, plus the reclamation of guns, money, and syndicate properties. They also deliver key insights that aid the full spectrum of policing. Furthermore, the bureau handles the assembly and logging of offender intel, data on drug overdoses, Naloxone applications by responders, and observations of shifts in controlled substance usage, holding, creation, and circulation.

Highlighting the bureau's joint initiatives, it took a leading position in Operation "Live Line," an extended collaborative probe that wrapped up on May 29, 2025, spanning across Union, Essex and Middlesex Counties and resulting in search warrants being executed in Linden, Roselle, Elizabeth, Plainfield, Rahway, East Orange, Newark, and Avenel. Directed by the Union County Prosecutor's Intelligence and Narcotics team alongside the Linden Narcotics Bureau and various partners, this action zeroed in on a complex narcotics trafficking ring centered in Linden and Roselle. Outcomes

included detaining a recovery of \$79,777 in cash, six handguns, more than 431 grams of cocaine powder, 73 grams of crack, 500 Fentanyl pills disguised as Xanax, 127 Grams of Suspected Methamphetamine, 22 Grams of Heroin, numerous prescription tablets, 19 pounds of cannabis, heroin, possible meth, diluting materials, and tools for drug prep and packing.

Moreover, starting November 2025, onward into the holiday period, the Narcotics Bureau adjusted its routine activities to include active uniformed patrols and increasing police visibility. These activities emphasized prominent surveillance in retail centers, commercial strips, and busy pedestrian zones, featuring spot inspections, on-foot park-and-walks, and direct engagements with store staff and patrons. The patrols extended to checks at the train station, specific hotspots, and public green spaces, with officers performing vehicle halts, foot stops, and stepping in for support where necessary to bolster security amid heightened holiday activity.

The bureau ensures constant availability with a round-the-clock, year-round on-call investigator ready to tackle emergencies such as significant drug arrests, overdoses, and fake prescription schemes, in tandem with their standard workloads and independent pursuits.

For 2025, the Linden Narcotics Bureau wrapped up 16 self-initiated probes and external leads, featuring 17 judicially approved search warrants, for individuals, premises, and vehicles, culminating in 29 arrests for violation of the comprehensive drug reform act. This tally omits extra reviews of drug matters forwarded from patrol units, youth services, and citizen alerts through tip lines.

Bureau investigators observed a 12% continuing decline in drug overdoses over 2025, tallying 51 cases versus 58 in 2024, with 6 deaths compared to 7 prior, and 37 Naloxone uses, a 29% fall from the previous year. Each deadly incident demands a rigorous follow-through to trace the drug origin and charge culprits.

The bureau's staff directs the department's role in Project Medicine Drop, a state-level effort with the New Jersey Consumer Affairs Division, letting people discard extra or old meds securely, without names, and in a green way to prevent improper use. Central to it is a locked bin in the station's entry area for dropping off unused pills, capsules, skin patches, breathers, and vet drugs, keeping them from those prone to misuse. It's open nonstop every day, no queries from

officers. The team collects and incinerates the items routinely. During 2025, around 191.4 pounds of meds were handed over and disposed of safely.

Supplementing the permanent bin, the group uses a transportable one at nearby companies and events, giving staff and locals easy access to drop off drugs.

The actions of the Linden Police Department's Narcotics Bureau foster and promote an elevated living standard in Linden for inhabitants and visitors.

Linden Police Department – Uniformed Services Division 2025 Annual Report

The Uniformed Services Division is the largest and most visible part of the Linden Police Department. Our officers in uniform, driving marked vehicles, are the front line of public safety and community engagement in our city. The division is made up of 92 sworn officers, 18 supervisors, and 7 civilian staff members, serving in four Patrol Platoons and the Traffic Bureau.

Public Safety and Emergency Response

In 2025, our officers responded to 64,974 calls for service, ranging from emergencies and medical incidents to routine public assistance. They made 917 arrests for various criminal offenses and outstanding warrants. The division also worked closely with State and Federal agencies, contributing to investigations aimed at keeping our city safe from acts of terrorism.

Commitment to Community Policing

We are proud of our commitment to community policing—officers are on patrol 24/7, building trust and strong relationships with residents. Our mission goes beyond crime response; we focus on proactive policing, traffic enforcement, and maintaining a visible and positive presence throughout the city.

Leadership and Operations

The division is led by Captain Robert Sanchez and Lieutenant Dan Tristao, who provide direction and oversight. Each of our four patrol shifts is supervised by a Lieutenant and four Sergeants, ensuring that resources are deployed effectively and that critical incidents are managed swiftly.

Traffic Bureau Highlights

The Traffic Bureau, led by Lieutenant Ian Conk and Sergeant Monika Oliveira, plays a key role in keeping our streets safe. In 2025, officers investigated 2,699 vehicle crashes, including 721 that involved injuries and 93 involving pedestrians or cyclists. Sadly, 1 crash resulted in a fatality.

Traffic Investigators specialize in serious crash investigations, DUI enforcement, and reviewing all motor vehicle collision reports. They also conduct traffic studies to help city officials make data-driven decisions on road safety and infrastructure.

The Bureau works closely with local and state agencies to manage traffic safety plans for construction and special events. In 2025, 108 DUI arrests were made, and speed enforcement remained a top priority with radar and speed-monitoring equipment deployed citywide.

Parking and Community Support

Our Parking Enforcement team issued 26,670 citations last year and also helped with school traffic and public events. Civilian staff handled crash report requests, processed 1,570 towed vehicles, and supported School Crossing Guard operations.

Linden Police Department – Uniformed Services Division 2025 Annual Report

Motor Unit and Escorts

The Linden Police Motor Unit, known for its precision and public presence, includes 15 specially trained officers. They provide escorts for parades, funerals, and other major events, serving as ambassadors of the department during public functions.

School Crossing Guards

One of the most recognized aspects of our department is our team of 56 Adult School Crossing Guards. These dedicated individuals ensure the safety of our children at key intersections during school hours. Each guard is trained annually and monitored throughout the year to maintain high standards of service.

Drone as a First Responder Program

In October 2025, the Linden Police Department implemented a Drone as First Responder program as part of its ongoing efforts to enhance public safety through innovative technology. This program utilizes an autonomous drone that is remotely operated by a trained and FAA-certified pilot. By providing real-time aerial video, the technology significantly improves situational awareness and allows officers to gain critical information about an incident, often before personnel arrive on scene.

9-1-1 CENTRAL DISPATCH

9-1-1 Central Dispatch is the Emergency Call Center for the City of Linden. Central Dispatch handles all emergency and non-emergency telephone calls and radio transmissions for the Linden Police Department, Linden Fire Department, Emergency Medical Services (EMS) and Office of Emergency Management (OEM).

In 2025, there were **21** dispatchers handling all the calls that came in from the public. Calls coming in are often highly stressful and are handled by our highly trained personnel. Examples of these calls are reports of disputes, motor vehicle accidents, domestic violence incidents, structure fires, medical emergencies, and several other serious calls for a police and/or fire response. Our dispatch center is staffed 24 hours a day, 7 days a week in order to serve our Linden residents, as well as anyone visiting the City of Linden.

9-1-1 Central Dispatch is dedicated to providing the best services possible and to do so, each dispatcher is trained and certified in CPR, 911 telephone answering and Emergency Medical Dispatching. All dispatchers are also trained in CIT- (Crisis Intervention Team) a program designed to provide each dispatcher with knowledge about mental illness, crisis resolution skills and access to community-based services.

All dispatchers are proficient with data entry into QED, our Records Management System and Computer Aided Dispatch. The dispatchers are responsible for handling inquiries with the States computer system for motor vehicle and driver license checks, wanted and missing persons, stolen and recovered vehicles, firearms and several other items.

9-1-1 Central Dispatchers participate in the National Night Out and Fire Prevention Night in front of City Hall every year, as well as the CIT Easter Egg Hunt and CIT Barbeque. They discuss 9-1-1 procedures, medical tips, and provide educational handouts to those in attendance.

In 2025, a total of **65,000** incidents were recorded through 9-1-1 Central Dispatch with over **57,000** incidents handled by police officers.

**Linden Police Department
Training Unit Annual Report 2025**

TRAINING UNIT

Training is the core ingredient to any successful law enforcement agency. The Linden Police Department's Training Unit is responsible for ensuring that all Police Officers and Dispatchers receive federal, state, and local mandated training. The Training Unit, a part of the Professional Standards Division headed by a Captain, is staffed by a Lieutenant who serves as the Unit Commander and the Field Training Coordinator, a Sergeant who serves as the Supervisory Firearms Instructor and Rangemaster, and a Detective who serves as the Field Training Manager (FTM). The Field Training Manager manages the field training schedule and records associated with trainees currently in their field training and working test period. The FTM also assists with the new hire orientation as well as the Pre-Academy Training Program preparing new hires for academy training. The Probationary Officer Training Course (POTC) is completed during the post academy training phase and is supervised by our Field Training Coordinator. In addition to their duties associated with the Field Training and Evaluation Program, they also oversee training record management of all Police personnel.

The Supervisory Firearms Instructor and Rangemaster is responsible for coordinating all range training including the mandated firearms training and any enhanced training which may be required depending on the need for such training. This sergeant is also responsible for coordinating any outside agency range training conducted at our Linden Police Department Firearms Range. They are also responsible for outfitting all Linden Police Department recruits with their essential gear and equipment necessary to complete the Basic Course for Police Officers (BCPO) range activities. Continuous weapon and equipment inspections are conducted and supervised by this supervisor.

In 2025 the Linden Police Department focused on several training initiatives to assist its employees with resiliency and career readiness, along with training to help them deal with members of the public dealing with mental health problems. Members of the Linden Police Department became certified instructors in Adult Mental Health First Aid, allowing them to instruct at our Department and to other law enforcement agencies in need. Three members of the Department now instruct throughout the county and to the recruits in the Academy. In addition, the Department re-certified members of the department in Adult Mental Health First Aid to maintain our certification with the One Mind Campaign, which was first achieved in 2021 and 2022.

**Linden Police Department
Training Unit Annual Report 2025**

In-service training, coordinated by the Field Training Coordinator, also encompasses mandated annual or semi-annual training. Training needs are also continuously assessed based upon after action reporting and body camera review. Based on a “needs assessment,” training may be required to correct actions and/or reduce liability. Recordings are evaluated to identify training needs of the agency.

In 2025, members of the Training Unit worked with the Support Services Unit for a rebranding of the Linden Police Department’s most visible division, Patrol. By utilizing personal and professional connections, the Linden Police Department partnered with vendor Wrap Specialties to redesign all marked patrol vehicles. In addition, Wrap Specialties mocked up and deployed window designs to our Patrol Units to highlight the Department’s support of the community.

Mandated training is not the only training that the Unit is required to oversee and manage. Police Officers may be sent to receive additional training upon request or based upon the needs of the Department. The purpose of training and professional development is to enhance job skills and produce a competent, safe, and efficient police officer. In 2025, examples of this training was Motor Vehicle Stop training for members of the Patrol Division; Incident Command Tabletop Training for all supervisors regardless of assignment, which was facilitated by the Bloodgood Law Enforcement Training Company; and training to increase the compliment of our Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) and newly launched Drone First Responder Program.

**Linden Police Department
Training Unit Annual Report 2025**

Some of the required mandated training include but are not limited to some of the following topics/courses:



<i>"HYPERDRIVE" Narcotics Investigation Training</i>	<i>Leadership & Command</i>
<i>2-Day Property and Evidence Management Course</i>	<i>LIDAR Operator Course</i>
<i>3 Day New Detective and New Criminal Investigator</i>	<i>Line Officer Training: Staying Healthy & Resilient</i>
<i>A Deep Dive Into Cell Phone Records and Tower Dump</i>	<i>Managing & Organizing Major Investigations</i>
<i>Active Attack Integrated Response (AAIR)</i>	<i>Marjory Stoneman Douglas School Shooting: Lessons</i>
<i>Active Counter Measures (ARCON)</i>	<i>Methods of Instruction</i>
<i>Active Shooter Level 1</i>	<i>Motor Vehicle (MV) Stop Training</i>
<i>Active Shooter Threat Instructor</i>	<i>Municipal Cannibals Law Webinar</i>
<i>Active Shooters & Mass Assaults</i>	<i>Narcotics 1: Drug Identification Including Arrest</i>
<i>Advanced Gang Awareness</i>	<i>Narcotics II: Investigatory Techniques</i>
<i>Advanced Pistol Instructor</i>	<i>New Jersey Case Law/Search and Seizure</i>
<i>Advanced Small Unit Tactics</i>	<i>New Jersey Firearms Law (Update and Overview)</i>
<i>Alcotest 7110 Initial Operator Course</i>	<i>New Jersey Open Public Records Act</i>
<i>Arrest Search & Seizure</i>	<i>New Perspectives on Title 39: Bicycle/Pedestrian</i>
<i>Autism Shield - Autism Recognition and Response</i>	<i>NIMS I-300</i>
<i>Auto Theft and Vehicle Crimes</i>	<i>NJ CJIS Training (TAC)</i>
<i>Basic Budgeting</i>	<i>NJTR-1 Crash Form Refresher</i>
<i>Basic Crash Investigation Course</i>	<i>Work Zone Safety Awareness for Local Police</i>
<i>Basic Field Training School</i>	<i>Traffic Incident Management Training</i>
<i>Basic Police Motorcycle Operator</i>	<i>NJOEM Basic Workshop in Emergency Management</i>
<i>Becoming the Title 39 Expert</i>	<i>New Jersey State Police - NIBRS</i>
<i>Bias Incident Investigations</i>	<i>Officer Safety & Wellness Symposium</i>
<i>Budgeting & Financial Administration for Police</i>	<i>PAPD Ballistic Shield Instructor</i>
<i>Business Grammar & Proofreading</i>	<i>Performance and Accountability</i>
<i>Certified Search & Seizure Instructor</i>	<i>Pistol Mounted Optics Instructor</i>
<i>Crisis Intervention Training (CIT)</i>	<i>Police Chiefs In-Service Series</i>
<i>Command Leadership Institute (CLI)</i>	<i>Police Executive Institute</i>
<i>Confronting the Toxic Officer</i>	<i>Police Motorcycle Operator's Instructor Transitional Certificate</i>
<i>Crash Investigation 1</i>	<i>Police Motorcycle Instructor Certification</i>
<i>Creating and Implementing Employee Development Plan</i>	<i>Police Motorcycle Operator Skills Refresher</i>
<i>Crime Prevention for Community Police Officers</i>	<i>Practical Traffic Engineering for Police Officers</i>
<i>Criminal Investigations</i>	<i>Pre-Employment Background Investigations</i>
<i>Criminal Investigations of Computers & Electronic</i>	<i>Proactive Police Supervision</i>
<i>Current Trends in Document Fraud</i>	<i>Protecting the Pedestrian Officer</i>
<i>Customer Service Training</i>	<i>RADAR Instructor Refresher</i>
<i>Dark Web and Cyber Crimes Investigation</i>	<i>Railroad Investigation and Safety Course</i>
<i>Defensive Tactics Instructor Certification</i>	<i>Range Master</i>
<i>DELTA Class #29</i>	<i>Report Writing</i>
<i>Desk Officer Reporting Training</i>	<i>Retirement Planning (PFRS)</i>
<i>Diversity Programs Forum</i>	<i>Rutgers Pre-Conference Seminar: Ethics</i>
<i>Document Fraud for Law Enforcement</i>	<i>Rutgers Public Purchasing Educational Forum</i>
<i>Drug Recognition Expert (DRE) Association Training</i>	<i>Search and Rescue Initial Actions (SARIA)</i>
<i>Driver Simulator Training</i>	<i>Security Assessment Training</i>
<i>Drone Certification & Crash Reconstruction Course</i>	<i>Sergeant Training Course</i>
<i>DWI Detection and SFST Course (HGN)</i>	<i>Sex Crimes & Child Abuse</i>
<i>Eloped Patient and Missing Person Workshop</i>	<i>Shelter Field Guide Training</i>

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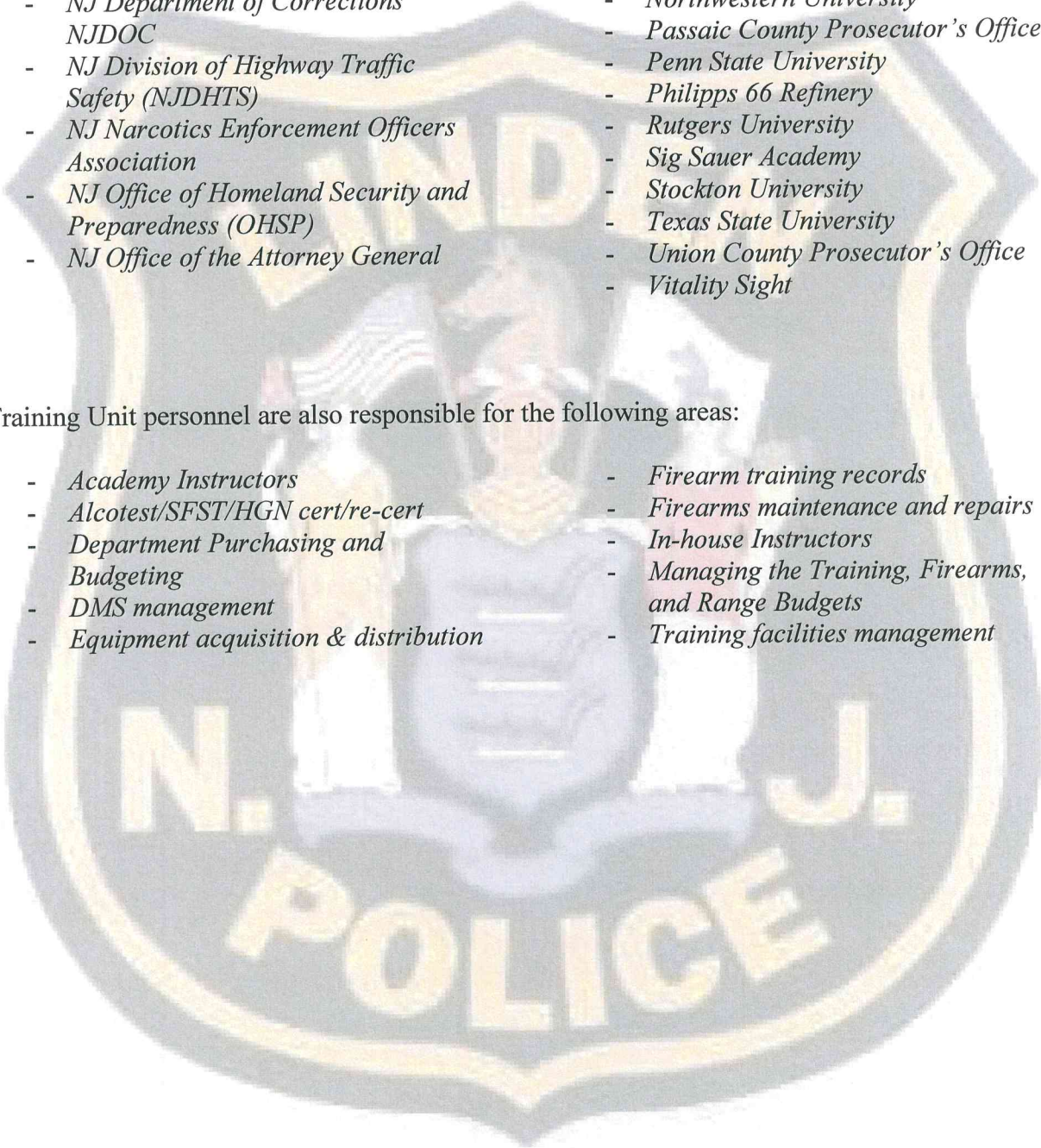


<i>Emergency Vehicle Operator's Course (EVOC)</i>	<i>Sig Sauer Armorer</i>
<i>Executive Leadership Institute (ELI)</i>	<i>Sig Sauer P320 Armorer Certification</i>
<i>FBI Advanced Interview Interrogation</i>	<i>Sig Sauer P365 Armorer's Certification</i>
<i>FEMA NIMS I-300</i>	<i>Sig Sauer Rifle Armorer Certification</i>
<i>Financial Investigations</i>	<i>Suicide by Cop</i>
<i>First Responders to Bomb Threats in Schools</i>	<i>Suicide Prevention</i>
<i>Flock Safety User Training</i>	<i>Supervisor Training Course</i>
<i>Forcible Entry for Patrol Response</i>	<i>Supervisor's Role as Trainer & Coach</i>
<i>Foundation for Executive Leadership</i>	<i>The Art of Interviewing</i>
<i>Front Line Supervision Program</i>	<i>The Gun Game</i>
<i>G-191 Emergency Operations Center/Incident Command</i>	<i>The Reid Technique of Investigative Interviewing</i>
<i>Gang Investigation Seminar</i>	<i>The Street Smart Cop/Pro-Active Patrol Tactics</i>
<i>Getting the Most from Microsoft Excel</i>	<i>Tips for Successful Supervisors</i>
<i>Gina DeJesus: An Abduction and Story of Survival</i>	<i>Top Gun Class 57</i>
<i>Glock Armorer - Basic Cert/Recert</i>	<i>Understanding the Numbers on the FTO DOR</i>
<i>Gracie Survival Tactics (GST) - Dual Certification</i>	<i>Understanding the Victim of DV</i>
<i>High Impact Supervision (HIS)</i>	<i>Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) Training</i>
<i>How to Research Case Law with Google Scholar</i>	<i>Use of Force and Pursuit Policy</i>
<i>Human Sex Trafficking for Law Enforcement</i>	<i>Use of Force Summit</i>
<i>ICAT & ABLE</i>	<i>Using Digital Data to Solve Homicides</i>
<i>Identifying Criminal Vehicles and Occupants</i>	<i>Victimology: Investigative Perspective (LE)</i>
<i>Internal Affairs Investigations: Complaint/Proced.</i>	<i>VTAC Pistol Gunfighter</i>
<i>Interview & Interrogation Training Course</i>	<i>Women in Command</i>
<i>Investigating Threats Made on Social Media</i>	<i>Worst Case Discharge Drill</i>
<i>Juvenile Investigations</i>	

During the past year, Police Officers from the Linden Police Department have received training offered to various law enforcement agencies nationwide including collaborative training with the following agencies/entities:

- | | |
|--|--|
| - <i>Bergen County Prosecutor's Office</i> | - <i>Franklin Township Police</i> |
| - <i>Bloodgood Law Enforcement</i> | - <i>Department</i> |
| - <i>Training Group</i> | - <i>The Vitrano Group</i> |
| - <i>Bridgeway Behavioral Health</i> | - <i>Louisiana State University</i> |
| - <i>Services</i> | - <i>Monmouth County Prosecutor's</i> |
| - <i>CIT International</i> | - <i>Office</i> |
| - <i>Cranford Police Department</i> | - <i>Morris County Prosecutor's Office</i> |
| - <i>Division of Criminal Justice</i> | - <i>Mount Olive Police Department</i> |
| - <i>Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA)</i> | - <i>National Tactical Officers</i> |
| - <i>FBI Law Enforcement Executive</i> | - <i>Association</i> |
| - <i>Development Association (LEEDA)</i> | - <i>National Council for Mental</i> |
| - <i>Federal Bureau of Investigation</i> | - <i>Wellbeing</i> |
| - <i>Howell Police Department</i> | - <i>NCBRT Academy of Counter</i> |
| | - <i>Terrorist Education</i> |

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- A large, semi-transparent watermark of the Linden Police Department badge is centered on the page. The badge is shield-shaped with a yellow border. Inside, there is a central emblem featuring a figure holding a torch and a scroll, with the words "LINDEN" and "N.J. POLICE" visible in large, bold letters.
- *New Jersey State Police (NJSP)*
 - *New Mexico Tech University*
 - *NJ Department of Corrections NJDOC*
 - *NJ Division of Highway Traffic Safety (NJDOTS)*
 - *NJ Narcotics Enforcement Officers Association*
 - *NJ Office of Homeland Security and Preparedness (OHSP)*
 - *NJ Office of the Attorney General*
 - *NJ State Association of Chiefs of Police (NJSACOP)*
 - *Northwestern University*
 - *Passaic County Prosecutor's Office*
 - *Penn State University*
 - *Philipps 66 Refinery*
 - *Rutgers University*
 - *Sig Sauer Academy*
 - *Stockton University*
 - *Texas State University*
 - *Union County Prosecutor's Office*
 - *Vitality Sight*

Training Unit personnel are also responsible for the following areas:

- *Academy Instructors*
- *Alcotest/SFST/HGN cert/re-cert*
- *Department Purchasing and Budgeting*
- *DMS management*
- *Equipment acquisition & distribution*
- *Firearm training records*
- *Firearms maintenance and repairs*
- *In-house Instructors*
- *Managing the Training, Firearms, and Range Budgets*
- *Training facilities management*

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Patrol Vehicle Rebranding and Design



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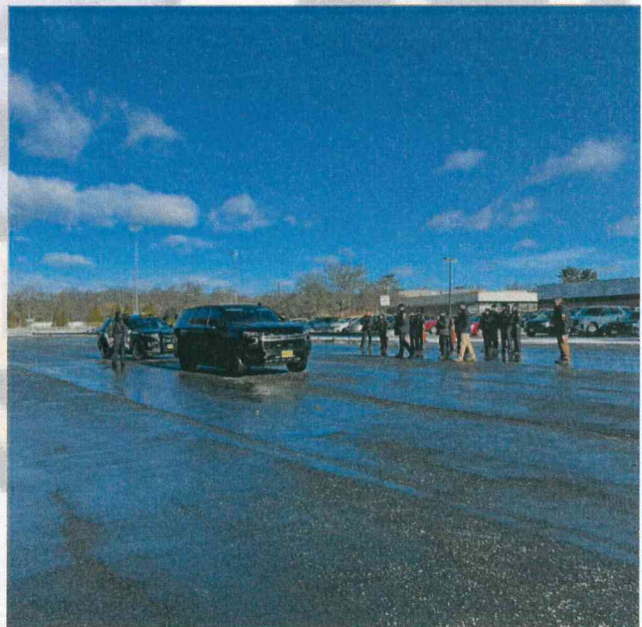
Firearms Training



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Motor Vehicle Stop Training



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Swearing in and Training of New Officers





D/Capt. Abdul Williams
Division Commander
D/Lt. Vinnie Wegrzynek
Bureau Commander

City of Linden
Union County, New Jersey
LINDEN POLICE DEPARTMENT

**Professional Standards Division
INTERNAL AFFAIRS**



D/Sgt. Eric Calleja
D/Sgt. Matthew Wisnowski
Det. Keith Milos
Det. Michael Stuart

2025 Annual Report

The Linden Police Department Internal Affairs Bureau IAB is part of the Professional Standards Division. The Professional Standards Division Commander oversees the Internal Affairs Bureau Commander. The command and control of the IAB rest with the IAB Commander who works directly with and oversees two Sergeants and two Detectives assigned to the bureau.

During 2025, Internal Affairs investigated 85 internal/external complaints. There were three allegations of a criminal violation, six of differential treatment, no excessive force complaints, 15 for demeanor, and 31 other rule violations.

Thirty-four complaints were external complaints from citizens or in some cases anonymous sources. Internal complaints initiated within the agency consisted of 51 separate cases. Investigations closed in calendar year 2025 included the following dispositions; 48 were sustained and eight were not sustained. In addition, over 215 performance notices were issued to agency personnel throughout 2025.

The Internal Affairs Bureau is also mandated to review all use of force incidents and police vehicle pursuits. During 2025, there were 57 use of force incidents and 25 vehicle pursuits reviewed.

The Internal Affairs Bureau also conducts the Linden Police Department's random drug testing program, and when necessary, reasonable suspicion drug testing for sworn employees. In 2025, 31 sworn employees were randomly drug tested with all tests negative for illegal substances. There were zero reasonable suspicion drug tests administered.

Additionally, drug testing for all City of Linden police officer applicants is administered through Internal Affairs. Fifteen police officer applicants were drug tested in 2025. None of them were positive for illegal substances resulting in an automatic disqualification for employment.

The Internal Affairs Bureau is also charged with completing pre-employment background investigations on individuals for positions of Police Officer, 911 Telecommunicator, Parking Enforcement Officer, Police Department Civilian Employee and City of Linden Office of Emergency Management. In 2025, 51 full pre-employment background investigations were completed.

Law enforcement licensing requires each sworn member of the agency to be licensed through the State of New Jersey. Part of the licensing and re-licensing process involves a background check. The background check includes fingerprinting, database checks, review of driving history, internal affairs investigative file review, and a social media check. Each year one third of the agency is required to go through this renewal process. In 2025, 50 sworn members were required to be relicensed. The IAB is tasked with this operation and ensures each of the required officers needing a renewal are relicensed. The IAB works closely with the Police Training Commission in meeting these new yearly objectives adhering to the Licensure Act.

The Internal Affairs Bureau conducts twice-yearly checks of the driver's licenses of all sworn members. This check ensures that all officers currently have and have had at all times during the year, valid driving privileges. The check also ensures that all sworn personnel have not failed to report any traffic tickets that may have been received as required by Department Standard Operating Procedure (SOP). There were no invalid driver's licenses found and no violations of this SOP in 2025.

