

WASHINGTON COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

2010 Report for Waitsfield Activities

The Town of Waitsfield has contracted with the Washington County Sheriff's Department for many years. The Sheriff's Department is glad to be able to assist with public safety within your community. Although the Department's main functions in statute are to transport prisoners, mental health patients and juveniles who are in custody of the State of Vermont and serve civil process, we take great pride in being able to be part of keeping the citizens and visitors within the County safe.

In the spring of 2010 the Sheriff's Department was once again honored by Vermont's Governor Highway Safety Program. Our Department placed 1st in the Sheriff's division of the Vermont Law Enforcement Challenge for our efforts in keeping the roadways safe within Washington County in 2009. In the past five years the Washington County Sheriff's Department has consistently placed in the top 5, having three 1st, one 2nd and one 3rd place finishes.

We continue to work to enhance safety within the County from searching out wanted persons, to patrols and motor vehicle check points, snowmobile patrols, offering hunter safety classes, assisting with snowmobile safety classes, providing presentations of the rollover convincer (a seat belt use demonstrator) and speaking to youths in regards to highway safety and preventing underage drinking. We once again handed out over 2000 candy canes on Christmas Eve, reminding drivers to have a safe and happy holiday season.

County wide, our patrol efforts during fiscal year 2010 generated 323 incidents and 1771 Vermont Traffic Citations. The Department arrested 35 persons for DUI, 31 persons for driving with a criminally suspended license and arrested 15 persons on arrest warrants.

During fiscal year 2010 we patrolled 836 hours funded by the Town of Waitsfield. In the course of our patrols many vehicles are stopped and at times warnings are given. The following Vermont Traffic Complaints were written by the Washington County Sheriff's Department while on patrol (does not include warnings):

Activities	2009 - 2010	2008 - 2009
Speeding	260	311
No Inspection	26	22

Driving License Suspended, Civil	8	10
No License	6	8
No Insurance	9	8
No Registration	5	7
No Insurance, Snow Mobile		2
Misuse of plates	3	
Regulations in Municipalities	1	
Driving to the right	1	
Limitations on passing	1	
Following too closely	1	
Stop/Yield Intersections	1	
Vehicle entering from private road	1	
Seatbelt violation	1	
Junior operator violation	1	
Passenger age violation	1	
Minor possessing alcohol	1	

The Sheriff's Department also dealt or assisted with 47 incidents such as procuring liquor for a minor, 2 illegal alcohol possessions by a minor, 11 DUI arrests, 2 criminally suspended driver's licenses, 2 possession of regulated drug arrests, 4 suspicious persons/circumstances complaints, as well as assisting other agencies in Waitsfield.

The Sheriff's Department augments town funded patrols with patrols funded by grants. The Washington County Sheriff's Department receives two grants each year- one for Highway safety/aggressive driving and one for DUI enforcement. Grant funded patrols have put extra patrols in Waitsfield, at no cost to Waitsfield.

We are proud of the work we do and take pride in our efforts in making Washington County a safe place to live and work.

Professionally,

W. Samuel Hill
Sheriff