




P O L I C E M O N T H L Y R E P O R T

To: Dennis Bullen, Interim Town Manager
From: Lee Miller - Police Chief 
Date: March 2nd, 2026
RE: Police Department Report for February 2026

Police Department Updates

Message from Chief Miller

This month has been an especially busy one for the Police Department — from handling calls for service and follow-up investigations to preparing for and participating in a significant trial. I appreciate the continued hard work and professionalism everyone has demonstrated.

In addition to daily operations, I have taken over the Safety Committee, and we have resumed holding regular monthly meetings. Amanda and I have completed two on-site building inspections to evaluate our compliance with the Maine Bureau of Labor Standards (BLS) minimum standards. At this point, both buildings will require some improvements to meet those standards fully. I have completed detailed reports outlining our findings, and I welcome the opportunity to review them with anyone interested so we can discuss what steps are needed to ensure compliance moving forward.

I have also been working through our accreditation process and have completed a review of all 164 applicable standards. As expected, this has identified several areas where we needed to implement new policies, update existing ones, or ensure required training is completed. Officers are currently working on required training assignments, policy acknowledgments, policy quizzes, and online coursework. Our goal is to have all required components completed by the end of March, with an on-site accreditation assessment scheduled for late summer.

We are making strong progress, and I appreciate everyone's effort and commitment to improving our department.

Policies and Administrative

We've started using **TextMyGov** to share important information directly from the Police Department with our community. This platform works similarly to the Town's text alert system but is specific to Police Department updates.

Policies and Administrative Cont.

We'll use it to notify residents about road closures, major incidents, public safety concerns, and other important police-related information.

To sign up, simply text **LINCOLNPD** to **91896**. Stay informed and stay connected.



I recently met with Kristin Coburn, the Public Health Nurse for the Lincoln area. She works for the State of Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention and will be a valuable resource for our department and the community.

Kristin can assist in a variety of situations, including repeated calls for falls, concerns regarding infant nutrition or new parents needing guidance, general health and wellness concerns, and helping elderly residents remain safely in their homes. She is also able to meet directly with individuals and families, assess their needs, connect them with appropriate services, and help facilitate conversations about transitioning to assisted living or other supportive housing when appropriate.

I have shared her contact information with several departments in town so we can utilize her as a resource across multiple areas. If you encounter a situation where she may be able to assist, I strongly encourage you to consider making a referral.

Contact Information:

Kristin Coburn

Email: Kristin.Coburn@maine.gov

I want to share information about a statewide, anonymous Humanitarian Assistance Group that provides emergency financial support to individuals and families experiencing hardship through no fault of their own.

This program is designed to help during sudden and traumatic situations that create immediate financial strain, such as:

- A family displaced by a fire
- A parent who needs to stay in a hotel while their child undergoes emergency surgery
- Other unexpected emergencies that place a temporary financial burden on a household

The process is simple and respectful. Basic information about the situation is submitted, and three board members review the request. If approved, a \$500 check is issued — no further questions asked.

If you encounter a situation that may qualify, please bring it to my attention. We can review the circumstances and, if appropriate, move quickly to support the individual or family in need.

We've also added another option through our website to strengthen accountability and transparency within the department. Community members can now submit either a complaint or a compliment regarding one of our officers directly online.

I believe it's important that citizens have multiple, accessible ways to share feedback — whether it's positive or raises a concern. Open communication builds trust and helps us continue improving our service to the community.

This system integrates with our Use of Force and Pursuit tracking programs to ensure proper documentation, review, and oversight.



You can check it out by scanning the QR code.
<https://www.frontlinepss.com/ia/portal/LincolnME>

Patrol and Detective Highlights

Earlier this month, Officer A. Winslow testified in Superior Court during a three-day trial involving gross sexual assault charges. This case was the result of a multi-year investigation and prosecution. The defendant was found guilty and sentenced to 26 years in prison. Outstanding work by Officer Winslow and the District Attorney's Office for their dedication and persistence in seeing this case through to conviction.

Officer Peters recently concluded a financial exploitation investigation involving a vulnerable victim who relied entirely on the suspect to manage their finances. Through a thorough and well-organized investigation—supported by documented evidence and direct statements—the elements of the crime were clearly established. The case resulted in multiple felony charges, and the suspect was taken into custody.

Detective Jacob continues to manage several active investigations, including a drug overdose death. Earlier this month, he collaborated with the Maine State Police on a serious incident and also assisted the Office of State Fire Marshal with a fire investigation. His ongoing work reflects strong interagency cooperation and commitment to thorough investigative efforts.

Community Outreach

Our Stuff the Cruiser event on the 27th was a great success! Thanks to the generosity of our community, we collected over \$800 in food and donations — all of which will directly support the school food pantry.

A huge thank you to SRO Peters for organizing the event and leading the effort to collect donations. He did an outstanding job bringing everything together.

We also want to recognize the staff and students who volunteered their time to help make this event possible. Your hard work truly made a difference.

And thank you to Walmart for allowing us to set up at your location and supporting this important cause.

We are grateful for the continued support from our community!



Grants

We've received an update on the evidence room shelving project funded through our recent grant. Installation is expected to take place in March.

This will be a significant undertaking for the department. We will need to establish a temporary evidence room, carefully remove and secure all current evidence items, allow for the installation of the new shelving units, conduct a full audit of the evidence room, and then reorganize and return all property to the newly updated space.

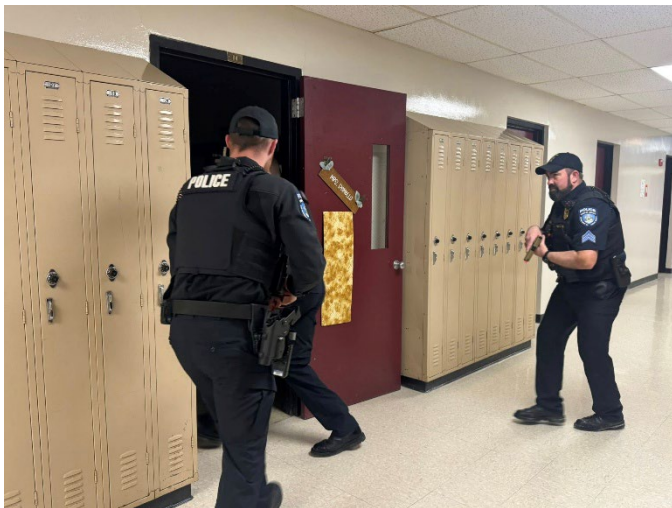
The project is being completed through a \$25,000 grant award and represents an important investment in our infrastructure. The upgraded shelving and organization system will strengthen our evidence management practices and support our ongoing accreditation efforts.

Trainings

During the recent school break, we spent time at the school conducting Active Shooter Response training. This type of training is critical to ensuring we are prepared to respond quickly, effectively, and safely in the event of an emergency.

This was the first of several planned trainings focused on school safety. These ongoing efforts are extremely important—not only for the safety of our students and staff, but also to ensure our officers are equipped with the most up-to-date tactics and skills to protect our community.

We remain committed to continued training and preparedness to keep our schools and community safe.



Training Cont.

Officer Morales recently attended Drug Recognition Expert (DRE) School. This nationally recognized program is coordinated through the academy and funded through Highway Safety grants. Thanks to a grant we received, the full cost of the training is covered, including required travel out of state to complete the hands-on, practical portion of the program.

A Drug Recognition Expert (DRE) is a specially trained law enforcement officer who is certified to identify when a person is impaired by drugs other than, or in addition to, alcohol. Through an intensive training process, DREs learn to recognize the signs and symptoms of impairment across several drug categories, including central nervous system depressants and stimulants, narcotic analgesics, hallucinogens, dissociative anesthetics, inhalants, and cannabis. The training includes classroom instruction, written testing, and extensive practical evaluations.



The practical portion of the training is conducted out of state, allowing candidates to observe and evaluate individuals under the influence of a wide range of substances. This exposure ensures they gain experience identifying impairment across multiple drug categories, which strengthens their ability to accurately assess drug-impaired drivers in the field.

Officer Morales will now move into the certification phase, which includes completing a series of documented evaluations under the supervision of certified instructors. If all requirements are met, she is expected to earn full DRE certification in the coming months.

We are proud of her commitment to advanced training and the positive impact this specialized skill will have on traffic safety in our community.

LD Bills, New Laws, and Case Law

With the new **“Red Flag” law** now in effect, we want the community to know that our officers have received the updated policy and guidance on how it will be implemented. In addition, all officers are completing training through our PowerDMS platform to ensure we are handling these cases consistently, lawfully, and with the appropriate level of care.

While the Red Flag law provides another legal tool, we will continue to actively use Maine's existing **Yellow Flag** process when appropriate. The Yellow Flag law has been an important resource that allows law enforcement to work with mental health professionals to assess situations and determine whether temporary firearm restrictions are necessary to protect individuals and the community. It remains a critical part of our approach to these calls.

Our priority is safety — both for the individual involved and for the public — while respecting due process and individual rights.

If you believe someone may be in crisis or showing behavior that raises concerns about their safety or the safety of others, we strongly encourage you to contact us. Early intervention matters. We would much rather respond, assess the situation, and provide assistance before a crisis escalates.

As always, if this is an emergency, call 911. For non-emergency concerns or to discuss whether the Yellow Flag or Red Flag process is appropriate, please contact our department directly.

Staffing

Officer N. Milner and Officer House are both progressing through the Field Training Program and are approximately halfway through. They have recently transitioned to new Field Training Officers. This rotation is required by our accreditation standards and is also considered best practice. It allows trainees to observe and learn different approaches to policing, helping them develop adaptability, confidence, and well-rounded skills as they begin their careers.

Officer Manna and Officer Denlinger are in Week Four at the academy and continue to progress in their training. Both are doing well and working through the structured academy curriculum.

We have also extended a conditional offer to a part-time officer candidate who is nearing completion of the hiring process. If all continues to go well, we anticipate bringing them on board sometime in March.

Month Vehicle Information

This information is up to date information, and the link is always public-facing, so you can access it anytime. This is the easiest way to keep everyone informed.



Scan the QR code or use the link below.

<https://public.powerdms.com/LincolnMEPD/documents/2698415>

Monthly Stats: Law Incidents: 312, Traffic Stops: 92, Total Criminal Violations: 8