

# **Woonsocket Police Department**

## **Juvenile Division**

### **2024 Annual Report**

**Submitted by: Detective Joshua Smith #17 (1/30/25)**

**Presented to: Chief Thomas Oates III**

**Acting Deputy Chief Adam Remick**

**Acting Detective Captain Edward Cunanan**

**Detective Lieutenant Ronald Marcos**

**Detective Sergeant Phil Kamer**

## *Woonsocket Police Department Juvenile Division*

Detective Sergeant Phil Kamer

Detective Joshua Smith

Detective Jamie Martin (*IOD as of 6/19/24*)

Detective Cory Johnson

Detective David Wahl (*Retired as of 7/14/24*)

Detective Gabriel Koneczny (*Promotional Transfer as of 9/1/24*)

The Juvenile Division is a specialized branch of the Detective Division and is primarily responsible for investigating and prosecuting crimes involving juveniles as both victims and offenders. The fundamental goals of the Juvenile Division are the protection of juvenile victims as well as assisting with the education and rehabilitation of all juvenile offenders.

The Juvenile Division is comprised of one Officer-In-Charge (OIC) Detective Sergeant, one Family Court Prosecution Detective, and four Investigative Detectives. The OIC, the Prosecutor, and two of the Investigative Detectives are assigned to Days (0830-1630 hrs.); the remainder of the division is assigned to Nights (1630-0030 hrs.). Most of the detectives in the division are Reid Interview certified.

Detective Sergeant Phil Kamer is the Officer-In-Charge of the Juvenile Division. He oversees the daily operations of the Juvenile Division and functions as the Acting Detective Lieutenant as needed. He is the primary investigator of all missing person cases as well as the discretionary authority of DCYF investigations in accordance with RI General Law 40-11-7. He is responsible for the coordination and submission of Juvenile Detention Data Summaries mandated by U.S. Department of Justice Statutory Regulations and R.I. General Laws and the related Annual Federal Audit. Furthermore, he is a liaison to the Woonsocket Education Department to coordinate all police related matters from investigations to training including the supervision of School Resource Officers/Detectives. Moreover, he operates as the Detail Officer ensuring said assignments are adequately staffed, scheduled, and in adherence with WPD Policies and Procedures as well as Local, State, and Federal Laws. Furthermore, as a RI Police Academy Certified Physical Fitness Instructor, he is a critical element of the department's health and wellness programs encompassing gym operation/oversight, annual physical fitness tests, and an annual weight loss program. As a veteran law enforcement officer and Senior Detective Sergeant, Phil Kamer conducts and assists in an investigatory as well as supervisory capacity with all investigations and assignments needed.

Detective Joshua Smith is the Family Court Prosecutor as well as Detective Administrator to the Juvenile Hearing Board and functions as the primary Acting Detective Sergeant as needed. The Family Court Prosecutor reviews, prepares, and submits Wayward and Delinquent Complaints to the Family Court. Traditionally, the Woonsocket Police Docket designated court days are Wednesdays at 1400 hrs. for the Formal Magistrate Calendar and

Fridays at 0900 hrs. for the Formal Chief Judge/Family Court Judge Calendar. Since the Covid-19 Pandemic, court dates have been extended to all days of the week including Web-Ex Remote Hearings when needed. Additionally, the Prosecutor must be available for specialized appearances such as Emergency Detention Hearings, Capias Hearings, Probable Cause Hearings, Waiver Hearings, Compliance Calendar Reviews, and Drug Court (Wed. & Friday 1400 hrs.) if needed. Also, as the Prosecutor, he is the liaison to the Family Court Intake/Diversion Program. He provides service for all Family Court Summonses. He is responsible for the arraignment, pre-trial, review, and dispositions of all Wayward Cases presented by the Woonsocket Police before the Family Court. He exclusively coordinates Disobedient Petitions (Status Arrest Cases) between Social Services (Community Care Alliance, DCYF, etc.) and the Family Court. Additionally, he prepares all Delinquent Cases for presentation to the Attorney General's Office and assists with said cases until their dispositions. The Prosecutor serves as the primary liaison between the agency and the Attorney General's Office, Public Defender's Office, Court-Appointed and Private Counsel and the Family Court Clerk's Office. He maintains all Juvenile Division Records and ensures that case files are complete and current. In addition, he serves as an assistant to the WPD Accreditation Coordinator for Juvenile Division compliance as well as maintaining the Juvenile Detention Data Summaries in preparation for the related Annual State/Federal Audit.

Detective Jamie Martin is a Day Juvenile Investigative Detective. He investigates Wayward and Delinquent. The Investigative Detective deals with juveniles not only as offenders, but also victims of all crimes. As a Juvenile Detective, he exclusively investigates major cases such as child abuse, neglect, and child molestation cases. Moreover, he conducts reviews of DCYF Investigative Findings Reports. He is ICAC (Internet Crimes Against Children) certified. Subsequently, he coordinates with various social services in relation to the needs of victims on a case-by-case basis with these intensive investigations. Furthermore, as a Day Juvenile Detective, he is assigned to Department of Education Investigations ranging from employee to student criminal misconduct. As an Investigative Detective, he augments the overall Detective Division with all cases (adult and juvenile) or when called-in on a 'major case.' He is a certified BCI Investigator and Drone Pilot. Additionally, Detective Martin excels with technology related cases and is certified in Digital Forensics. Moreover, he specializes in Child Enticement and Internet Crimes against Children Cases and has been awarded by the RI Attorney General's Office for such casework. Also, he functions as an alternate Family Court Prosecutor and WPD Detective for the Juvenile Hearing Board.

Detective Cory Johnson, the Senior Active-Duty Investigative Detective, is a Day Juvenile Investigative Detective. He investigates Wayward and Delinquent Cases. The Investigative Detective deals with juveniles not only as offenders, but also victims of all crimes. As a Juvenile Detective, he exclusively investigates major cases such as child abuse, neglect, and child molestation cases. Subsequently, he coordinates with various social services in relation to the needs of victims on a case-by-case basis with these intensive investigations. Moreover, he conducts reviews of DCYF Investigative Findings Reports. Furthermore, as a Day Juvenile Detective, he is assigned to Department of Education Investigations ranging from employee to student criminal misconduct. As an Investigative Detective, he augments the overall Detective Division with all cases (adult and juvenile) or when called-in on a 'major case.' He is a certified BCI Investigator and certified in Crisis De-Escalation. He was a former Field Training Officer

and School Resource Officer. Also, he functions as an alternate Family Court Prosecutor and WPD Detective for the Juvenile Hearing Board.

Detective David Wahl is a Night Juvenile Investigative Detective. He investigates Wayward and Delinquent Cases that originate on the Eastside of the city and assists citywide as needed. The Investigative Detective deals with juveniles not only as offenders, but also victims of all crimes. As a Juvenile Detective, he exclusively investigates major cases such as child abuse, neglect, and child molestation cases. Moreover, he conducts reviews of DCYF Investigative Findings Reports. Subsequently, he coordinates with various social services in relation to the needs of victims on a case-by-case basis with these intensive investigations. Also, as a Night Juvenile Detective, he is responsible for all malicious property damage cases. In addition, he performs Night Bail Hearings. As an Investigative Detective, he augments the overall Detective Division with all cases (adult and juvenile) or when called-in on a 'major case.' Detective Wahl is a negotiator for the Special Response Team (SRT).

Detective Gabriel Koneczny is a Night Juvenile Investigative Detective. He investigates Wayward and Delinquent Cases that originate on the Eastside of the city and assists citywide as needed. The Investigative Detective deals with juveniles not only as offenders, but also victims of all crimes. As a Juvenile Detective, he exclusively investigates major cases such as child abuse, neglect, and child molestation cases. Moreover, he conducts reviews of DCYF Investigative Findings Reports. Subsequently, he coordinates with various social services in relation to the needs of victims on a case-by-case basis with these intensive investigations. Also, as a Night Juvenile Detective, he is responsible for all malicious property damage cases. In addition, he performs Night Bail Hearings. As an Investigative Detective, he augments the overall Detective Division with all cases (adult and juvenile) or when called-in on a 'major case.' Detective Koneczny is a tactical operator on the Special Response Team (SRT).

Additionally, there are four School Resource Officers (SROs)/Detectives: Detective Michael Velino, Detective Scott Breguet, Officer Sergio Pratt and Detective Joseph Brazil whose position is currently covered by Officer Nicholas D'alessio. Their primary responsibilities are school assignments but also assist as needed for detective cases and assignments.

The Juvenile Division acts as the primary liaison between the police department and:

- Rhode Island Family Court
- Attorney General's Juvenile Prosecution Unit
- Juvenile Probation Office
- Public Defender's Office, Court Appointed Counsel, Private Attorneys
- Department of Children, Youth, and Families (DCYF)
- Day One (Forensic Interviews for Crimes Against Children)
- Community Care Alliance (CCA)/Family Care Community Partnership (FCCP)
- Mentor Rhode Island (Juvenile Justice Initiative)
- Woonsocket School Department
- Woonsocket Truancy Court
- Woonsocket Prevention Coalition
- U.S. Department of Justice Statutory Regulations

## *Juvenile Hearing Board*

The Juvenile Hearing Board (JHB) is essential in assisting to achieve the Rhode Island Family Court goal of educating and rehabilitating the juvenile offender. It is the first step in providing for the first time Wayward Offenders with the opportunity to be diverted from the Family Court. It operates as an extension of the court and possesses many of its authorities to impose sanctions. All statistics of the JHB are submitted annually to the Family Court for analysis in accordance with Rhode Island General Law 8-10-23.1.

The city appointed board is comprised of seven (7) members that voluntarily serve the community in some capacity. The current JHB members are Administrator Detective Joshua Smith, Chairwoman Nancy Irza, Secretary Lisa Carcifero, Desta Heath, Judy Zagaglia, Emma Dandy, and Roberto Gonzalez. The skill sets possessed by the JHB encompass career educators, licensed social workers, behavioral specialists, a retired Family Court clerk, a social service family care worker, and a local pastor.

As previously stated, the JHB operates as the first step in the diversion of juvenile offenders from a Family Court Formal Calendar. The JHB annual statistical reports are compiled and submitted by Detective Joshua Smith for analysis on Federal, State, and Municipal Levels.

### **2024 JHB Annual Report**

Total Cases Heard: **22**

Gender: Males **10**, Females **12**

Race: White **12**, Black **7**, Hispanic **3**

Ages of Offenders: 10 yrs. old & under = **0**, 11 yrs. old = **1**, 12 yrs. old = **4**, 13 yrs. old = **2**,  
14 yrs. old = **3**, 15 yrs. old = **5**, 16 yrs. old = **3**, 17 yrs. old = **4**

Criminal Offenses: Simple Assault and Battery **5**, Vandalism **1**, Disorderly Conduct **13**,  
Obstruction **1**, Shoplifting **1**, Larceny < \$1500 **1**, Tampering w/ Auto **1**  
Fraudulent Use of Credit Card **1**, Conspiracy **1**, LSOA Attended **1**,  
Reckless Driving **1**

Type of Sanctions: Reflection Essays **22**, Apology Letter **4**, School Report **6**,  
No Further Trouble **7**, No Social Media **3**, Restitution **1**

## *Woonsocket Juvenile Comprehensive Crime Statistics*

The following appendixes are the Woonsocket Police Department's Juvenile Detention Statistics. This summary is compiled by the Rhode Island Department of Public Safety in compliance with the Federal Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act (JJDPA) regulations.

These statistics are compiled annually and summarize juvenile information documented by the Woonsocket Police Department. The information is comprised of offenses, non-offenses, as well as various demographics for the year 2024.

Note: The Rhode Island Department of Public Safety's compilation is pending (Summer/Fall 2025). A Revised Report Addendum will possibly be available at that time to provide these statistics.

**The following attached lists are in-house statistics compiled by the Juvenile Division Prosecution noting Total Petitions Filed to Family Court categorized into *Delinquent* and *Wayward* Offenses.**

### **2024 RI Family Court Cases**

Total Petitions Filed= **93** Delinquent Charges, **176** Wayward Charges, **1** MV Violation (under 16)

#### **Delinquency Petitions**

- 1** – Discharge of Firearm when Committing a Crime of Violence
- 6** – Possession of Firearm by Minor
- 1** – Possession of Stolen Firearm by Minor
- 2** – Carry Pistol without Permit/License

**3 – Felony Assault by Use of Device Similar Appearance to Firearm**

**2 – Large Capacity Feeding Device Prohibited**

**1 – Alteration of Marks of Identification of Firearm**

**2 – Possession of Ammunition by Minor**

**2 – Possession of Firearm on School Grounds**

**10 – Possession Weapon on School Grounds**

**2 – A&B on Police Officer**

**3 – A&B on School Official**

**6– Felony A&B**

**1 – 1<sup>st</sup> Degree Child Molestation**

**1 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree Child Molestation**

**1 – Possession of Child Pornography**

**2 – Transfer of Child Pornography**

**1 – Production of Child Pornography**

**6 – 1st Degree Robbery**

**5 – 1st Degree Arson**

**10 – B&E**

**3– Larceny Over \$1,500**

**5 – Possession of Stolen Auto**

**2 – Driving Without Consent of Owner**

**1 – Possession of Controlled Substance I-V (Mushrooms)**

**14 – Conspiracy (Felony)**

### **Wayward Petitions**

**5 – Weapons Other than Firearms Prohibited**

**2- Firing in Compact Area**

**31 – A&B**

**44 – Disorderly Conduct**

**2 – Domestic A&B**

**1 – Domestic Disorderly Conduct**

**1 – Intimidation of Witness and Victims of Crime**

**13 – Resisting Arrest**

**28 – Obstruction of Justice**

**10– Vandalism**

**6 – Larceny Under \$1500**

**3 – Shoplifting**

**1 – Possession/Receiving of Stolen Goods Under \$1,500**

**3 – Tampering with Auto**

**4– Violation of Home Confinement**

**5– Violation of Curfew**

**2 – Disobedient**

**2 – Possession of Marijuana less than 1 ounce**

**1 – Possession of Controlled Substance (Crack)**

**1 – Possession of Fireworks**

**1 – Distribution of Tobacco to Person Under 21**

**1 – LSOA - Attended**



**2** – Operating Motor Vehicle without a License (1st Offense)

**7** – Conspiracy (Misdemeanor)

### Moving Violation

**1-** Follow Too Close

### **Family Court 2024 Pedigree Statistical Analysis**

There was a total of **114** respondents petitioned to RI Family Court in 2024:

**75** males & **39** females

**44** = White

**36** = Black

**32** = Hispanic

**2** = Asian