

# SOUTH BETHANY POLICE DEPARTMENT



## Chief of Police Monthly Report for February 2024

on August 7, 2023, the Governor signed House Bill 206 into law, converting the former Council on Police Training into the Delaware Police Officer Standards and Training Commission (POST) and adding several new sections to Title 11, Chapter 84.

Among other things, HB 206 provides that POST shall require that all Delaware police departments establish, either individually or in combination with other departments, police accountability committees or boards (PACs). The South Bethany police department has partnered with Ocean View and Fenwick Island police departments to meet this requirement and will have our first PAC meeting in April.

The police department is making excellent progress on meeting our accreditation goals. We have 128 written policies that have met the accreditation standards and are beginning work on providing proofs of operations.

February of each year, we are required to report to the Delaware Police Officer Standards and Training Commission (POST) all training, certifications, qualifications, and disciplinary actions that has resulted with termination of employment or decertification of a police officer. This has been completed and submitted.

After a long delay, the two newer police Tahoe's have finally been fully marked as South Bethany Police with the Town's logo on them.

Corporal Shaun Baldasano was recognized by the Bethany-Fenwick Area Chamber of Commerce at the Joshua M. Freeman first responder awards ceremony as the Officer of the Year for our department. Mayor Tim Saxton was in attendance and Corporal Baldasano's wife, Marissa accepted the award in his absence. Corporal Baldasano is still currently deployed to the Middle East with the Air National Guard.

On three separate occasions a criminal suspect fled from our officers in a motor vehicle. The suspect was driving in excess of 100 mph on Coastal Highway and disregarding the stop light at Evergreen road. On each occasion, our officers displayed professionalism with pursuit management and not adding more risk to the public. The suspect was apprehended and was charged with multiple felony and misdemeanor offenses.

As of February 28, 1:15 pm, our department has written 89 traffic tickets and responded to 35 calls for service. Officers performed 9 business and 4 residential property security checks. Officers responded to 6 Town Code violations, one suspicious person, 12 assists to other police agencies, and apprehended 2 wanted fugitives.

*Jaxu P. Lewis*  

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Chief of Police