

SOUTH BETHANY POLICE DEPARTMENT



Chief of Police Monthly Report July 2026

On July 4, 2026, our officers observed a motor vehicle failing to yield to a pedestrian in the crosswalk at Anchorage and Coastal highway. When the officer attempted to initiate a traffic stop, the vehicle fled southbound on Coastal highway at speeds over 100 mph. Our officers were informed by SUSCOM the vehicle was listed as a stolen vehicle. Due to the high amount of motor vehicle and pedestrian traffic; our officers terminated the pursuit prior to entering Fenwick Island's town limits. As our officers were returning to South Bethany, the suspect passed them at a speed of 105 miles per hour after doing a U-turn at the Maryland State line. Officers again initiated a vehicle pursuit and again terminated as they entered the Town limits of South Bethany. The vehicle was spotted travelling the wrong way on Ocean Drive and struck a parked, unoccupied vehicle. 5 juveniles exited the vehicle and fled on foot. With the assistance of Ocean View officers, the juveniles were located on the beach and taken into custody without further incident.

In the month of July, our officers responded to 7 separate complaints of noise and disorderly conduct at rental properties. Our officers were able to obtain voluntary compliance and did not have incidents of repeat violators.

Police Activity for July 2026

Total traffic tickets issued: 286

113 tickets issued on Coastal Highway / 173 tickets issued on Town owned streets.

Speeding – 108

Registration/Insurance violations – 44

Seatbelt - 1

License – 4

Title 16 – 1

DUI – 1

Cell Phone – 4

Crosswalk Violations: 12

Stop sign Violations: 39

Total warnings issued: 11

Parking Violations issued: 72

Town Code Enforcement Violations : 18

Black Gum / Kent Avenue Violations: 56

Total call for police services: 63

Residence/Business Checks – 4

Assist other agencies–16 (DSP– 7, OVPD –1, BBFD–1, DNREC–1, Fenwick Island – 6)

Welfare Check – 3

Local Fugitive – 1

Public Assist – 2

Town Ordinance – 13

Noise – 5

Disorderly Conduct – 2

Theft -2

Suspicious Vehicle - 1

Traffic Collisions (non-injury) – 2

Traffic Other/Hazard - 8

Lost and Found – 2

DUI – 1

Service Other - 1