

A large, light-colored police badge is centered on the page. The badge is shield-shaped with a laurel wreath border. At the top, it says 'PATROLMAN'. Below that, a banner reads 'N. COVENTRY TWP.'. In the center, there is a circular seal with 'COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA' around the perimeter. Below the seal, another banner says 'POLICE'. At the bottom, a rectangular box contains the letters 'PA'. The badge is overlaid on a background of diagonal stripes in grey and orange.

NORTH COVENTRY
TOWNSHIP
POLICE DEPARTMENT
2009
ANNUAL REPORT

Robert A. Schurr
Chief of Police

General Overview

2009

SIGNIFICANT INCIDENTS

January:

Student with BB gun at North Coventry Elementary
Drug arrest – Food Court lot at Coventry Mall
Burglary – AT&T store – Town Square
MIRT activation – West Chester
Drug arrest – Coventry Mall lot
Burglary – Kline Avenue

February:

Indecent Exposure – Giant
Burglary – Scholl Road
Drug violation – S. Hanover St.
Sexual Assault Investigation – Garner Ave.

March:

Drug violation – River Road
Death Investigation – W. Cedarville Road

April:

Squatters – wooded area off of East Main Street
Stolen vehicle – Coventry Mall
Burglary – Basement Services
Stolen Vehicle – Hanover Garden Apartments

May:

Fatal Crash – Route 100
False ID & Resisting Arrest – E. Schuylkill Road
Death Investigation – Hanover Garden Apartments
Assault – TGI Fridays lot
Death Investigation – Marshall Drive
Forgery Investigation – Coventryville Road
Burglary – French Creek Drive
Drug arrest – East Main Street

June:

Burglary – Eagle Pool & Spa
Theft of Motorcycles – East Main Street
Bomb Threat – Coventry Mall
MIRT activation – West Chester
Burglary – Valley View Apartments
Capture prison escapee / drug arrest – Kenilworth / Coventry Mall

July:

Fights – Norco Fire Company Fair
Bicyclist Struck by Vehicle – East Schuylkill Avenue
Soliciting Ordinance Violation – Harvey Lane, Keim St, Grandview Circle
False ID / Warrant Service – Kohl's
Burglary – Kline Place Apartments

August:

Death Investigation – West Cedarville Road
Burglary – Reiff Avenue
Sexual Assault Investigation – Scholl Road
Underage DUI crash – Shenkel Road
Lost gun – South Hanover Street
Ignition Interlock Violation – Wawa

September:

Burglary – Coventry Motors
Stolen Vehicle – Hanover Garden Apartments
Recovered Stolen Vehicle – Laurel Locks Farm
Welfare check / house condemnation – Valley View Road
Attempted burglary – Blossom Way
Burglary – Miller Road
Death Investigation – River Road

October:

Vehicle Theft – Highland Manor Apartments
Hit and Run crash – South Keim Street
Burglary – Coventry Pointe Lane
Death Investigation – Kline Avenue
Road Rage – Route 422 at Hanover
Serious Injury Crash – Route 100 south of Lenape Crossing
Retail Theft / Drug arrest/ warrant service – Kohl's
Fatal Crash – 1300 block South Hanover Street

November:

Recovered Stolen Vehicle – Valley View Apartments
Burglary – Unionville Road
Attempted Burglary – Shenkel Road

November Cont'd...

Possible Intruder – West-Mont Christian Academy
Death Investigation – Grandview Circle
Death Investigation – GlenMar Drive
Burglary with guns stolen – Sheep Hill Road

December:

Numerous Thefts from vehicles – Coventry Lakes area, Evans Road
Death Investigation – Temple Road
Sexual Assault Investigation – West-Mont Christian Academy
Death Investigation – Laurelwood Road
Reckless Driver / Fleeing Police arrest – Route 724

Compared against 2008, reported crime in North Coventry Township decreased by 28 crimes during calendar year 2009, with a total of 687 crimes reported to the North Coventry Township Police Department in 2009. Part I crimes, the more serious category of crime and that which is reported annually to the Federal Bureau of Investigation for comparison purposes, decreased 3 % and Part II crimes, those crimes deemed less serious, decreased 4 %.

Part I crimes consist of murder, rape, robbery, assault burglary, arson, theft and motor vehicle theft. The reporting of these crimes is consistent across the United States and can be used for comparison purposes. The total of Part I crimes decreased 9 from 273 in 2008 to 264 in 2009, a 3 % decrease. The breakdown of the specific Part I crimes for the past five years is displayed below.

Part I Crime	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005	Change 2008 to 2009
Homicide	0	0	0	0	0	SAME
Rape	2	1	0	2	0	UP 1
Robbery	0	1	5	3	2	DOWN 1
Aggravated Assault	1	4	3	10	12	DOWN 3
Burglary	24	26	27	38	28	DOWN 2
Theft	229	233	257	263	268	DOWN 4
Motor Vehicle Theft	8	8	8	21	16	SAME
Arson	0	0	0	3	0	SAME

Part II crimes are all other crimes and are generally considered less serious. The total Part II crimes decreased by 19 from 442 in 2008 to 423 in 2009, a 4% decrease.

General Arrest Information

TYPE OF ARREST	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005	% CHANGE 2008 to 2009
Felony	13	29	30	40	35	DOWN 55%
Misdemeanor	150	148	131	151	137	UP 1%
Summary Non-traffic	154	198	238	183	225	DOWN 22%
Moving traffic violations	761	1,036	1,134	696	751	DOWN 27%
Non-moving traffic	487	578	607	338	494	DOWN 16%
Warning Notices	975	867	865	1,012	708	UP 9%
Parking Tickets	54	114	99	93	33	DOWN 53%
Field Interviews	169	81	36	61	29	UP 52%

Felony and misdemeanor arrests are criminal arrests either by an officer taking a person into custody or by issuing a summons for a person to appear at court. These crimes are punishable by incarceration, probation and/or fines. Felony crimes are more serious in nature than misdemeanor crimes.

Summary non-traffic violations are for the lowest level of non-traffic related infractions. These are typically used for such violations as disorderly conduct, low levels of theft, underage consumption of alcohol and violations of township ordinances.

Moving traffic violations are for unsafe driving actions that have the potential to result in a crash. These include such things as speeding, disregard of traffic control devices, racing on highways, etc. During 2009, these totals do not reflect citations issued as a result of overtime traffic details such as Smooth Operator or Buckle Up PA. These numbers are presented later.

Non-Moving traffic violations encompass traffic violations that are more administrative in nature than dangerous, such as driving with a suspended license, vehicle equipment violations and overweight vehicles. Again, these totals do not include citations issued during overtime traffic details. These numbers are presented later.

Warnings are issued for both moving and non-moving violations at the discretion of the police officer in lieu of a citation.

Parking tickets are issued for parking violations witnessed within the township that are supported by a vehicle code violation.

Field Interviews are for contacts that officers make with members of the public of an investigative nature that are not related to an official police incident.

POLICE SERVICES OVERVIEW

The residential treatment facility located at 919 Cherry Hill Lane continued to be active during 2009, accounting for 27 police responses for unauthorized departures, disruptive and assaultive patients, one of which assaulted police with a rock and was subdued with a Taser, medical and mental health issues and 911 hang-ups.

The police department also was involved with various issues at Basement Services 911 including a reported burglary, embezzlement and various issues pertaining to business practices.

The police were at a Roberta Drive residence numerous times throughout the year for domestic related issues.

In addition to crimes and other calls for service, NCPD officers responded to 139 animal calls. Officers handled service calls involving cattle, horses, a turtle, a fox, a hawk and a snake in addition to the usual dog calls. Police also were dispatched to assist the Emergency Medical Services 388 times during 2009.

ACCREDITATION

2008 saw the culmination of a project several years in the making, accreditation of the North Coventry Township Police Department through the Pennsylvania Chiefs of Police Association. During 2009, the department continued to show proof of compliance in daily operations and addressed standards that the Accreditation Commission added or update. Reaccreditation is scheduled for the summer of 2011.

PUBLIC RELATIONS AND SPECIAL DETAILS

The North Coventry Township Police Department participated in 44 Public Relations details throughout the year. Several citizens were involved in various programs designed to give the public insight into law enforcement. These ranged from single shift “ride-alongs” to intern programs lasting several months. We also fingerprinted 24 people for employment purposes.

The police department conducted security checks at township residences for 68 vacationing families during 2009. These ranged from short trips to residents who depart the township for the winter months. Police officers conducted 270 security checks of our schools and 748 checks of township business zones and infrastructure facilities. The police department answered 215 security alarms during 2009 and performed 26 well-being checks.

The police department conducted the DARE program at the North Coventry Elementary School and West-Mont Christian Academy. The program involved 123 students from six classrooms.

During 2009, the police department conducted Tobacco Compliance Checks at local businesses that sell tobacco on 3 occasions. These were done in order to insure that illegal sales to minors were not occurring. The checks resulted in no sales of tobacco products to minors, indicating compliance by the merchants.

The North Coventry Township Police Department conducts DUI enforcement in an effort to reduce fatalities, injury and property loss within the township. The police department made 49 DUI arrests during 2009, which represents a decrease of 21 DUI arrests compared to 2008. 4 of these arrests were the result of a crash, compared to 17 DUI crashes in 2008.

The department again hosted a sobriety checkpoint on Route 100 at Lenape Crossing. It was held on August 8, 2009 and resulted in a DUI arrest and a drug arrest. This operation was a part of the Chester County DUI program.

Officers participated in 14 other concentrated DUI enforcement details during the year as part of the Pottstown Area TEAM DUI program. 6 of these were fixed location operations on highways in the greater Pottstown area, 1 fixed checkpoint in Chester County and 7 were roving operations within North Coventry Township. The costs incurred for manpower while these operations are in progress are reimbursed through outside sources.

2009 saw the continuation of the Route 100 Smooth Operator program in conjunction with PENNDOT and the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission's project to improve traffic safety along Route 100. The project started in 2007 and the increase in traffic citations issued can be noted in the chart. During 2008, the program was expanded to include Route 724. While the short term infrastructure improvements have been completed, the enforcement activities continued. A nine mile stretch of Route 100 extending south from Lenape Crossing continues to be designated as a Highway Safety Corridor where fines for moving violations are doubled. On 62 different occasions, officers were assigned to Route 100, Route 724 and the feeder roads strictly for traffic enforcement, focusing on aggressive driving. This entire project was funded by the Commonwealth. This project alone is responsible for a significant number of traffic citations issued during 2009 as well as overtime hours worked by the officers. Officers issued 378 citations, made 3 DUI arrests and 3 other arrests. This program was discontinued at the end of 2009.

North Coventry Police Department also participated in the Buckle-Up PA seatbelt enforcement program again. On 26 occasions, officers took to the highways during reimbursed grant periods to increase seatbelt usage among motorists. Officers issued 138 citations.

During 2009, the radar speed display trailer was placed along the highway 173 times to assist with voluntary speed limit compliance by motorists. Covert monitoring of the speed trailer has shown that most motorists who are exceeding the speed limit as they approach the trailer do lower their speed to the posted speed limit.

Vehicle Crashes

Type of Crash	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005	Change 2008 to 2009
Fatal	2	2	1	1	1	NONE
Reportable	105	114	111	116	125	DOWN 9
Reportable DUI	3	8	7	Not recorded	Not recorded	DOWN 5
Non-reportable	226	212	216	276	237	UP 14
NR DUI	1	6	3	Not recorded	Not recorded	DOWN 5
Unfounded	10	18	28	4	Not recorded	DOWN 8
Other	N/A	N/A	18	21	28	N/A
Deer Struck N-R	22	16	14	Not recorded	Not recorded	UP 6

Note: It was partially through 2006 that the category of “Unfounded” was added to document crashes the police department was dispatched to but unable to be located within the township. These may have included non-reportable crashes where the operators exchanged information and departed prior to police arrival. These may have been previously reported as “Other”, which is no longer a reporting option. During 2007, we started to track DUI crashes, both reportable and non-reportable, as well as non-reportable deer struck crashes.

Overall, the total number of vehicle crashes that North Coventry Township Police Department responded to in 2009 decreased 2% from 376 in 2008 to 369 in 2009.

FATAL CRASHES:

North Coventry Police investigated two fatal crashes during 2009. The first was a three vehicle crash on Route 100 south of Cedarville Road on May 1, 2009 at about 1615 hours. A northbound driver attempted to pass another vehicle on the right, made contact with the vehicle he was passing and lost control, spinning across the southbound lane where he was struck by a southbound motorist. The southbound motorist died as a result of the impact. The operator at fault was charged with Homicide By Vehicle and DUI. He pled guilty on 2-19-2010 and was sentenced to prison.

The second fatal crash occurred on South Hanover Street near Brianna Circle on 10-29-09. A northbound motorist accelerated greatly and lost control, clipping a second vehicle and shearing off a utility pole. She was extricated and died while enroute to the hospital.

REPORTABLE CRASHES:

Reportable crashes are defined as those crashes in which an injury is produced or the vehicle is damaged to the extent that it is not operable under normal conditions and requires towing. The data and circumstances from these crashes are forwarded to the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation. During 2009, the North Coventry Township Police Department continued to use an on-line crash reporting system using the existing records management system for general police reporting. This method is more efficient, allows for internal error correction and saves the township postage as forms are no longer mailed to Harrisburg. North Coventry Police Department responded to and investigated 108 reportable crashes in 2009.

NON-REPORTABLE CRASHES:

Non-reportable crashes are those crashes that do not meet the criteria for Reportable Crashes. The North Coventry Township Police Department responds to all non-reportable crashes upon the highway. A police incident report is prepared if at least one of the involved parties desires such. The police department may not investigate non-reportable crashes on private property such as the Coventry Mall. During 2009, the North Coventry Township Police Department investigated 249 non-reportable crashes, up 6% from 2008.

REVENUE RECEIVED

Accident Reports	\$4,337.15
Alarm Fees	\$2,100.00
Borough of Pottstown	\$4,115.05
Chester County Drug Task Force	\$0
County of Chester, The	\$18,255.42
Coventry Retail (<i>formerly The Goodman Co.</i>)	\$134,085.07
DARE	\$1,337.00
District Court 15-3-01	\$65,832.49
Donations	\$680.00
Fingerprints	\$90.00
Grant	\$5,000.00
Inland Management LLC	\$81,524.57
Miscellaneous	\$3,251.53
Parking Tickets	\$365.00
PSP Fines	\$7,062.26
Reimbursement – Highway Enforcement	\$17,748.42
<i>Total Received:</i>	<i>\$345,783.90</i>

Total Revenue Received for 2008 - \$268,643.45

Total Revenue Received for 2007 - \$311,410.86

Total Revenue Received for 2006 - \$244,495.15

Total Revenue Received for 2005 - \$255,620.61

Total Revenue Received for 2004 - \$215,787.52

OVERTIME WORKED BY NCPD OFFICER *

<u>OFFICER</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>2008</u>
Sergeant Malason	196.9 hrs	400.4 hrs
Corporal Holliday	162.5 hrs	141.75hrs
Corporal Zinger	247 hrs	273.25 hrs
Corporal Hollis	220.2 hrs	275.7 hrs
Detective Prouty	112.5 hrs	154 hrs
Officer Deichert	200 hrs	152 hrs
Officer Hipple	74.25 hrs	105 hrs
Officer Smith	199 hrs	312.6 hrs
Officer Gro	191.4 hrs	51.75 hrs
Office Machese	171.75 hrs	125.5 hrs
Officer Haines	127.05 hrs	79.5 hrs
Officer Engel	115.5 hrs	12 hrs
TOTAL OVERTIME WORKED FOR 2009:		2018.05 hrs

Total Overtime Worked for 2008 – 2163.95 hrs

Total Overtime Worked for 2007 – 1840.35 hrs

Total Overtime Worked for 2006 – 1516.5 hrs

Total Overtime Worked for 2005 – 1601.8 hrs

Total Overtime Worked for 2004 – 1252.4 hrs

**Note: Overtime Worked by NCPD Officer is comprised of paid overtime, compensatory time, and reimbursable overtime. Total Overtime Worked for 2009 includes 205.25 hours of compensatory time and 558.15 hours of reimbursable overtime.*

OVERTIME WORKED BY OFFICER ACTIVITY

Court Hearings	1061.7 hrs
Investigation/Arrest	154.05 hrs
Shift Coverage	99.7 hrs
DUI Checkpoint	78.5 hrs
Training	101.7 hrs
Qualification/Shoot	7 hrs
Community Relations	50.5 hrs
<u>Other</u>	<u>464.9 hrs</u>

TOTAL OVERTIME: 2018.05 hrs

As is clearly indicated by the overtime breakdown over 50% of overtime is incurred due to officers attending hearings at either the District Court or County Court levels.

TRAINING

During 2009, all members of the police department received training in CPR and AED, the annual training from the Municipal Police Officers Education and Training Commission and the in-car camera systems. The department was recertified in firearms, Defensive Tactics and Taser also.

During 2009, Corporal Zinger continued his college education pursuing a Bachelors Degree in Criminal Justice at Kutztown University. Sergeant Malason started pursuing his Masters Degree in Public Safety Management at Saint Joseph's University.

Corporals Hollis, Holliday and Zinger and Officers Prouty, Deichert and Hipple were recertified in Less Lethal Impact Munitions.

Officers Gro and Machese attended Advanced Use of Force training.

Corporal Zinger and Officer Hipple attended Sobriety Checkpoint Operations updates.

Officers Machese and Haines and Sergeant Malason attended EVOC updates.

Officer Smith and Corporal Zinger received training commensurate with their assignment to MIRT.

Officers Gro and Machese attended Dynamic Handgun training.

Officers Engel and Machese received DUI Breath Test instrument training.

Officers Smith and Machese attended Motor Carrier enforcement training.

Sergeant Malason, Corporal Hollis and Detective Prouty attended DEA Overview training.

Sergeant Malason attended Accreditation Manager Update training.

Corporal Zinger received training in Advanced Supervision.

Detective Prouty attended Internet Tools training, post blast investigations and child abuse investigation training.

Officer Smith attended Street Crimes seminar and active school shooter training.

Officer Gro attended Advanced Interview and Interrogation.

Officer Machese attended Officer Safety training, Street and Formal Interrogation training, Questioning Techniques, Body Language and Handling Deception training.

Officer Haines attended Standard Field Sobriety Testing training.

Officer Engel received training in crime scene forensics through the District Attorney's Office.

CHES-MONT EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM

The North Coventry Township Police Department is a founding member of the Chester – Montgomery Emergency Response Team (CMERT), the regional police tactical unit that covers the township as well as the western portion of Montgomery County and Colebrookdale Township in Berks County. The team is comprised of the command staff, entry personnel, tactical marksmen, negotiators and medics. During 2009, North Coventry Township Police Department had one officer assigned to CMERT.

The team practices for a minimum of 16 hours per month at various sites throughout the region. Occasionally the team travels to facilities not available in the local area for training, including the trip to Fort Indiantown Gap during September, 2009. The team had one activation during 2009, a high risk warrant service in Pottstown on Thursday, October 15, 2009.

NCPD K-9 UNIT

The police K-9 unit is operated by Corporal George R. Hollis. Greif is a German Shephard who was eight years old in February of 2010. Corporal Hollis and Greif attended training each month except August and September. During 2009, the K-9 unit performed 6 drug searches, 11 tracks, 5 public relations details, 2 building searches. During November 2009, Corporal Hollis and Greif attended a K-9 SWAT class.

FLEET MANAGEMENT

ODOMETER READING			
Car#/Make/Model	12-31-2009	1-1-2009	Mileage
1 – '03 Ford Crown Vic	82,574	69,449	13,125
2 – '06 Ford Expedition	66,910	49,650	17,260
3 – '06 Ford Expedition	50,284	41,750	8,534
4 – '08 Ford Expedition	31,020	5,560	25,460
5 – '09 Dodge Charger	26,261	0	26,261
6 – '06 Ford Crown Vic	81,428	53,196	28,232
7 – '07 Chevrolet Tahoe	38,890	24,411	14,479
8 – '05 Ford Crown Vic	92,204	74,285	17,919
TOTAL MILEAGE*:			154,655

Total Mileage for 2008 – 134,774

Total Mileage for 2007 – 118,099

Total Mileage for 2006 – 127,166

Total Mileage for 2005 – 114,831

Total Mileage for 2004 – 106,781

Total Mileage for 2003 – 110,554

Total Mileage for 2002 – 101,698

2009 saw the replacement of a 2005 Ford Crown Victoria marked patrol vehicle with a 2009 Dodge Charger outfitted as a patrol vehicle. The mileage total above includes 3,385 miles that were accrued on the 2005 Ford Crown Victoria that was decommissioned*.

During 2009, two additional vehicles were equipped with thermal imaging cameras with the use of DEA Asset Forfeiture Funds at no expense to the township residents.