

ORDINANCE INVESTIGATION DIVISION

The Ordinance Investigation Division is responsible for the enforcement of all local codes, rules and regulations of the Town. Investigations are conducted to determine compliance with codes regarding housing, building, zoning, sanitation, amusements, etc. Each Investigator is a highly trained professional that handles cases which are not routinely accomplished by uniformed personnel. They initiate investigations of possible violations of Town Code found through public complaints and regular patrols throughout the Town.

Investigators conduct confidential and sensitive investigations which involve surveillance, follow-up, and court preparation. They conduct investigations of town employee accidents, incidents, injury claims and backgrounds of perspective employees, as well. Investigators work with the other department divisions, as well as, other outside agencies.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Serving as the Emergency Management office, the Department of Public Safety is actively involved in all phases of preparedness for natural and man-made emergencies and disasters. In its efforts to plan for disasters, the department coordinates drills conducted with local fire departments, police departments and other emergency responding agencies. During the time of an actual emergency the department integrates activities of its own divisions as well as those of local, state and federal agencies. As part of this division, the department maintains a townwide communications center which, in the time of an emergency, is the "hub" of the *Emergency Operations Center* (EOC).

TOWN OF SMITHTOWN



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TOWN SUPERVISOR

TOWN COUNCIL
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"HELP US TO HELP YOU"

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

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DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR

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CHIEF JOHN VALENTINE
DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR

The Department of Public Safety consists of five operating divisions: Fire Prevention, Park Ranger, Ordinance Compliance, Waterways & Navigation and Emergency Management. The department is responsible for the uniformed enforcement and security activities within the Town. This is accomplished by the various divisions patrolling in a community oriented fashion in an area of fifty-four square miles and serving a population of over 160,000. Smithtown has miles of shoreline and hosts thousands of parkland acres. Outdoor activities take place in our 5 beaches, 2 state parks, 3 county parks, a municipally owned pool and golf course, 2 marinas, 3 boat launching ramps, and over 25 town parks. Insuring a continuity of government, department operations are conducted around the clock. The Department of Public Safety maintains high standards of professionalism and utilizes modern training methods, vehicles, vessels and equipment.

ADMINISTRATION

The Department Director serves at the direction of the Supervisor and Town Board as the chief fiscal and disciplinary officer with overall responsibility for the administration of the department. A deputy assists with supervision of the day to day operations and supervisory personnel are responsible for the functions of each division.



FIRE PREVENTION

Fire Marshals are New York State peace officers charged with the enforcement of national, state and local fire prevention laws. Law enforcement training is provided through the Nassau and/or Suffolk County Police and Sheriff's academies. The Fire Marshals are certified fire/arson investigators through state and national fire academies and are also registered by NYS as fire code enforcement officials. Fire Marshals maintain other required certifications in disciplines such as hazardous materials response and handling, safety officer, incident command and emergency management.

Fire Marshals conduct code compliance and safety inspections of commercial and municipal sites. Reports are provided to administrators and owners which list items in need of corrective action. Determinations are made if businesses are required to obtain any operating permits issued by the division. Fire Marshals respond to fire scenes to perform the investigation necessary to determine the nature of the origin and cause. While performing investigations, Fire Marshals work with the police arson squad, department of health and social service officials and other various agencies. They also respond to life safety incidents involving

Town properties and personnel for documentation, mitigation and corrective action. Because the town is host to one of the largest industrial parks in the country, there is concern also for hazardous material incidents. On a daily basis Fire Marshals gather information relative to the handling and use of such materials.

Through fire-safety education programs to a variety of audiences, we have found another vital tool for the prevention of fire, and to train people how to handle emergency situations. Audiences include health care workers, children, senior citizens, civic groups and persons who are physically challenged. Training sessions are also provided to Town employees in a variety of topics, including but not limited to; fire prevention, CPR, fire extinguisher use and workplace hazard recognition.

PARK RANGER DIVISION

The Park Ranger Division is comprised of trained uniformed law enforcement personnel who actively patrol all Town parks, beaches and Town owned facilities. Under New York State Law, all Park Rangers are peace officers utilized to enforce Town codes, parks rules and regulations, as well as, state and federal laws. Park Rangers work in conjunction with the Suffolk County Police Department, the New York State Department of Conservation, other town departments and various state and local enforcement agencies.

This division is a twenty-four-hour patrol operation responsible for maintaining order, preserving Town property, deterring crime (vandalism, burglaries of Town buildings, trespassing, public disorder, etc.) and arresting offenders. Park Rangers assist in searches for missing persons or children in our parks and beaches and furnish the public with information regarding park rules, regulations and procedures. Among their duties, Rangers respond to incidents such as motor vehicle accidents involving town

vehicles and personnel to insure proper documentation of incidents and notification of appropriate outside agencies. Division personnel attend community meetings to discuss various situations which are of concern to residents and have given talks to community groups on several topics including park and beach safety and crime prevention.

WATERWAYS & NAVIGATION DIVISION

The Waterways & Navigation Division consists of the Bay Constables. Personnel in this division actively enforce all federal, state and local laws that deal with navigation, marine fish and wildlife conservation and preservation. Like the Park Rangers and Fire Marshals, the Bay Constables are peace officers under New York State Law and are trained at the Suffolk County Police or Sheriff's Academy. The division manages both the Town marina and mooring areas and assigns slips and moorings to the Town's boating community. This division is responsible for the planning and installation of channel markers that help ensure the safe and orderly flow of boating traffic in the local harbors and inlets.

The Bay Constables regularly patrol Smithtown waters to maintain a safe boating environment and they regularly assist boaters. They conduct safe boating seminars to the public and also hold boating classes in the local schools to the younger town residents.

