



# Essex County Sheriff's Department

## Sheriff Kevin F. Coppinger

# INFORMATION UPDATE



VOLUME Two, No. 2

July, 2018

## ESSEX COUNTY EXPANDS PROGRAMS AND OPENS TRANSITION UNIT AT PRE-RELEASE & RE-ENTRY CENTER



**GRAND OPENING OF NEW CENTER** Sheriff Kevin Coppinger, Special Sheriff William Gerke, Superintendent Michael Marks and Assistant Superintendent James Petrosino.

The Essex County Sheriff's Department (ECSD) opened its new Re-Entry Transition Unit (RTU) at the department's Pre-Release Center in Lawrence where inmates within the last 90 days of their sentence will be provided Re-Entry services to help them effectively transition back to the community.

The new Re-Entry Transition Unit is part of ECSD's commitment to reduce inmate recidivism by working collaboratively with federal, state, local community partners and stakeholders for the success of inmate reintegration efforts.

The focus of this new program is to implement individual re-entry plans that include both inpatient and outpatient substance abuse treatment, career training, educational programming, mental health and veteran service referrals to reduce recidivism. This unit will work collaboratively with the programs and services already being provided at the Middleton House of Correction.

The Re-Entry Transition Unit is a critical part of that effort because it helps prepare an inmate to take a more productive and responsible role in the community and helps them avoid falling back into criminal behavior. A successful re-entry is a win-win for everyone and the ECSD is grateful to its community partners for their participation and support.

In recent years, the Work Release Program has made a concerted effort to focus on high-quality, life-changing, career-building employment opportunities for inmates in collaboration with area business partners. The goal of Work Release and Electronic Monitoring Programs (EMP) is to provide gainful employment opportunities, job skills and the ability to live responsibly and independently.

"These quality jobs have proven to provide marketable skills and training that they take with them upon their release," said Director of Inmate Work Release Jennifer Cantwell.

One of our goals is to have inmates leave our correctional facility with some basic resources set up for them that first day out, such as steady work, a decent salary coming in and transportation to and from work. During the time they are program participants, they are being paid by the employer. These funds are held in an account for them. Following a satisfactory introductory period in the workforce, the inmate may be considered for the EMP Program. Currently nearly 50 inmates are placed on EMP. They reside at independent sober living homes or their personal residences with support of a responsible sponsor. These inmates are finishing up their sentences and are returning to their own communities. With steady employment, a place to live and savings in place for living expenses, they are given an opportunity to be self-sufficient and have a sense of pride with their skills, ultimately, providing a strong foundation for reintegration.





## From the Sheriff's Desk...



Sheriff Kevin F. Coppinger

It's been a busy year as we have been working on so many fronts to make positive changes and to begin new initiatives and programs. It is gratifying when the ECSD's efforts are recognized and applauded.

PAARI- the Police Assisted Addiction and Recovery Initiative- recently celebrated its third anniversary by recognizing leaders, locally and nationwide, who have partnered with PAARI in the fight against the opioid epidemic.

I am proud that ECSD's entire Detox Unit team was honored with the Leadership Award for Innovation in battling the opioid epidemic. Our team was recognized for innovative approaches to treatment for inmates and re-entry into society. The Middleton Jail houses 42 detox unit beds each for male and female inmates, and also works with two recovery coaches from PAARI.

The battle to end the opioid epidemic requires every community working in partnership with law enforcement at every level and we are proud to be part of those efforts.



ECSD DETOX TEAM...Dasha Maslova, Chief Fred Ryan, Gary Barrett, John Rosenthal in the back, Sheriff Coppinger, Rob McDaid, Allie Hunter McDade, Paul Roycroft, Martha Rumble, Laura Dow, Jason Faro, Jennifer Claypool and Steve Lesnikoski.

## SUMMER YOUTH ACADEMY SHINES AGAIN



The Lt. Governor visited the Youth Academy and presented a citation from her and Gov. Baker to Judy Lacroix for her many years of hard work and dedication to the Youth Leadership Academy. L-R: Sheriff Coppinger, Judy Lacroix, Lt. Gov. Karyn Polito, Dir. Jay Fallon and Christina Heacock of HIDTA.

Thanks to ECSD Youth Academy staff and volunteers for another successful summer. The unique program is a week long experience for elementary and high school students from communities across Essex County. The Academy provides positive alternatives to drug use and assists children in making educated and healthy decisions.

Funded through New England HIDTA, MA Exec. Office of Public Safety and Security and the Sheriff's Department. This summer 511 students participated at Essex Technical High School in Danvers and learned about water safety from the U.S. Coast Guard stationed in Newburyport, among other activities. The program is overseen by Sheriff's Department officers.







## ESSEX COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT GRADUATES 26 CORRECTIONAL OFFICERS FROM BASIC TRAINING ACADEMY



Sheriff Kevin F. Coppinger administered the oath in June to 26 new Correctional Officers of the Essex County Sheriff's Department (ECSD). The Basic Training Academy graduation ceremony was held on the campus of Northern Essex Community College (NECC) in Haverhill where family, friends and colleagues were on hand to applaud their achievement. NECC is the home of the Academy during their 12-week Basic Training. Classrooms, outdoor space, and gym facilities are all used to provide comprehensive venues for both physical and classroom training. After daily physical fitness training, recruits received instruction on a variety of subjects to prepare them for a career as a Correctional Officer.

"Long before the academy begins, the recruits work with the training department at the Middleton facility to pass in depth background checks, a physical conditioning test and a number of other tests to be accepted into the Academy. This process is led by the Director of Training Christine Arsenault and her team. A lot of effort goes into applying and getting accepted into the academy. This is merely the first step in a comprehensive program designed to test the determination of the recruits while preparing them for a career within our department," said Sheriff Coppinger. The Basic Training Academy was led by Commandant Michael McAuliffe and a dedicated group of instructors including Drill Instructor Michael Smolski, Drill Instructor Jacquelyn Richards, and Drill Instructor Wayne Rodgers.

NECC President Lane Glenn congratulated the graduates while explaining the importance of having community colleges offer courses that allow students to prepare for careers in law enforcement and other civil service careers. Sixty college credits or military service is a requirement for applying to become a Correctional Officer.

These graduates are now part of a 600 + person team that is tasked with care, custody and control of over 1,500 inmates currently in the custody of the Essex County Sheriff's Department. The new officers are assigned to a variety of positions to fill the needs of the agency. Ongoing training will continue in-house to familiarize these graduates with assignments and protocol.

### **Congratulations to ECSD's new Correctional Officers:**

Haley Andrews, Timothy Banahan, Derek Broughton, William Clancy, Meghan Cokely, Justina Cositore, Said Djedid, Zachary Dunham, Jeffrey Elliott, David Finlay, Achilles Gikas, William Glidden, Luis Lopez, Matthew Lorizio, Christopher Mead, Joseph Mestone, Matthew Milaiko, Michelle Mitchell, Thomas Myers, Thomas O'Toole, Michael Perroni, Jeremy Quinton, Chantel Russo-Manzo, Matthew Spilios, Christopher Troy, Robert Waggoner.



## MANY THANKS TO ECSD BLOOD DRIVE DONORS

In June, employees of the Essex County Sheriff's Department once again rolled up their sleeves to give the gift of life on the Boston Children's Hospital Bloodmobile. This important event was well attended and exceeded expectations.

"Sincere thanks to the many ECSD employees who made this event a success. It is very rewarding to know that we collected enough blood to help 230 patients at area hospitals and cancer treatment centers," said Sheriff Coppinger, a strong advocate of blood donation partnerships.



DONORS C.O. Michelle Lima, C.O. Toni Wakester, Asst. Supt. Maurice Pratt, C.O. Richard Gamble, Sgt. John Fay, and C.O. Vincent Troisi help Sheriff Coppinger make the Blood Drive a success.



ECSD Sgt. Donald Evans and K9 Varick compete at USPCA trials.

## ECSD'S NATIONALLY CERTIFIED K9 UNIT CAPTURES TOP HONORS

Members of the ECSD K9 unit participated in the regional United States Police Canine Association (USPCA) Patrol dog trials. This is a nationally recognized organization that trains and certifies many surrounding departments' K9 teams. In this year's trial, 27 K9 teams from 11 different departments participated.

K9s were tested in Apprehension, Obedience, Evidence Recovery and Suspect Search. Once again, the Essex County Sheriff's Department teams did extremely well winning several events including the "Overall Top Dog" of the trial. ECSD K9 handlers dedicate an enormous amount of time, effort and training necessary to compete and succeed at these trials.

Congratulations to ECSD K9 handlers Sgt. Donald Evans and K9 Varick, Sgt. Steve Tsoukalas and K9 Deimos, and Lt. John Pickles and K9 Lennin who participated and became a nationally certified K9 team.



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