



POLICE DEPARTMENT
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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TRUMBULL POLICE DEPARTMENT CONTINUES EFFORT TO HIRE OFFICERS

The Trumbull Police Department welcomed four (4) new police officers to the town's police force in a continuing effort to fill the ranks. Three more recruits are expected to graduate the police academy in December, but the department still falls short of its authorized strength of eighty-one (81) officers, due to the lengthy process involved with hiring new officers.

Although the police department has been authorized for eighty-one (81) officers for several years, they have been unable to attain that number. When two of its senior officers recently retired with more than 30 years of service to the town, that created four (4) vacancies in the department. A testing process was already underway after earlier retirements, but the selection, background investigations, and training process take more than eighteen (18) months for the recruits to start working on the road. Right now, the newest seven (7) officers in training represent almost ten percent (10%) of the department, which has an impact on overtime callback, but which needs to be filled in order to maintain the regular patrol staffing. In addition, the police department faces the possibility of further losses in the future, with at least twelve (12) more officers eligible for retirement over the next year.

The four new officers who recently graduated from the Connecticut Police Academy in Meriden completed over 850 hours of classroom instruction, practical instruction, and

physical fitness conditioning. They began their 400 hours of Field Training on Tuesday, September 25, 2018. During this time, the officers will ride with training officers who will train them on department policies, rules, and procedures, while exposing them to actual policing by responding to calls for service. The new officers are Samantha Bardos, Brendan Burke, Abigail Frazier, and Derek Laaser.

The police department is in the midst of the hiring process now and expects to have an active list of candidates within the next several weeks. Hiring information is always posted on the Town's website when the testing process is being scheduled.

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