Montgomery Township Police Department

2017 ANNUAL REPORT

In This Report:

Contact Us:

1001 Stump Road
Montgomeryville, PA 18936
Emergency: 911
Non-Emergency: 215-362-2301
Email: police@montgomerytwp.org
Sign up for E-News at
www.montgomerytwp.org

Follow us on Twitter
@MontTwp

Like us on
Facebook

Message from the Chief

On behalf of the men and women of the Montgomery Township Police Department, it is my honor to present our 2017 Annual Report. The Montgomery Township Police Department is a full time, accredited law enforcement agency, consisting of thirty-six sworn officers and nine support personnel, dedicated to providing progressive and professional police services to our community. This annual report has been composed to provide you with a general overview of the police department's activities in 2017 as well as valuable information to ensure the safety and security of our community.

This year's annual report highlights some of the many activities and programs that our department conducted in 2017. These activities and programs are an essential part of the services our department provides, enabling us to foster partnerships with those in our community. These partnerships are vital to the public safety of our community. As partners in public safety, I encourage everyone to be the eyes and ears of our department. Report any suspicious activities within your neighborhood. Remember, insignificant events are sometimes more than they appear, so don't hesitate to call. We appreciate your help!

In closing, the Montgomery Township Police Department would like to thank you for your continuous support, and we hope that you find this annual report to be both informative and interesting. Should you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact us.

Sincerely,
J. Scott Bendig
Chief of Police

Mission Statement

The mission of the Montgomery Township Police Department is to achieve and maintain a highly professional organization that affirmatively promotes, preserves and delivers a feeling of security, safety and quality service to members of the residential, commercial and industrial community.

Montgomery Township Police Highway Safety Unit

The Montgomery Township Police Department's Highway Safety Unit was created in an effort to reduce the number of traffic crashes and improve highway safety throughout the township. This is accomplished through a combination of traffic enforcement, motorist education, and traffic engineering. The Highway Safety Unit also participates in several programs and initiatives aimed at improving safety:

- Aggressive Driving Enforcement and Education
- Buckle-Up PA Seat Belt Enforcement and Education
- Montgomery Township Regional DUI Enforcement Team
- Montgomery-Bucks County Motor Carrier Enforcement Team

The Highway Safety Unit also conducts traffic studies to identify those locations where safety improvements may be needed.

If you have a concern regarding a highway safety issue, please do not hesitate to reach out to the Highway Safety Unit by contacting 215-362-2301 or police@montgomerytwp.org.

Involved in an accident? Not sure what to do?

No one ever expects to be involved in an auto accident, but it happens. If you are involved in an accident, you need to know what to do at the scene, how to report it, and who to notify.
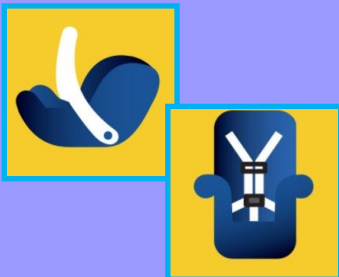
- At the scene of the accident, assess the situation for your immediate safety. Stay in the car if there is a risk of danger. If your vehicle is creating a safety hazard or blocking traffic, consider moving your vehicle to a safe location. Before doing this, it is best to take photos of the vehicles involved and any damage.

- Call 911 to report the accident. The police will gather all the necessary information and complete an accident report. Generally a copy of the report is given at the scene. If not, check with the police department on their policy on how to obtain a copy of the accident report. If you choose to not contact the police, make sure to gather the other driver(s) name, driver's license number, address, phone number, vehicle tag number and vehicle insurance information. Always contact police if there are any injuries.

- Call your insurance company to report the accident. Be prepared, they will want to know all the details pertaining to the accident.

Always be aware of your surroundings. Drive defensively and be attentive at all times.

Pennsylvania Car Seat Laws

Birth to Age 4	Children Younger than 2	Children Age 4 to 8	Children Age 8 and Older
All children from birth to age 4 must be secured in an approved car seat anywhere in the vehicle.	Children younger than age 2 must be secured in a rear facing car seat until the child outgrows the maximum weight and height limits.	All children 4 years of age and older, but less than 8 years of age, must be secured in a seat belt system and an appropriate belt-positioning booster seat anywhere in the vehicle.	All children 8 years of age and older, but less than 18 years of age, must be secured in a seat belt system anywhere in the vehicle.

Be informed! Make sure your child is in the correct car seat for their age and size. For more information, or to get your car seat inspected, contact Montgomery Township Police at 215-362-2301 or police@montgomerytwp.org.
*Photos courtesy of NHTSA.GOV

Montgomery Township Police Community Connections

Junior Police Academy

D.A.R.E.

Montgomery Township Police, along with 7-11, hosted the first annual Operation Chill.

National Night out was held on August 1, 2017. National Night Out is a community building campaign that promotes police-community partnerships. National Night Out is held the first Tuesday in August.
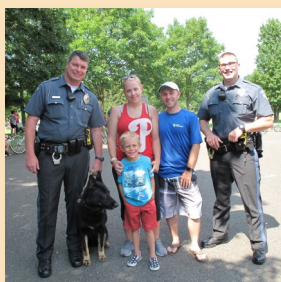
Boy Scout Troop 547's visit to the station

Emergency Services Day

Community Policing Officer Johnson at the International Spring Festival

Stoneridge Development 4th of July Parade

Det. Sgt. Davis handing out Halloween candy to trick-or-treaters
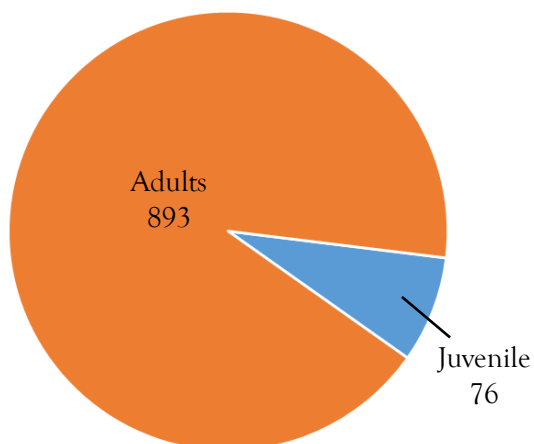
Local Government Week

Montgomery Township Police, along with the Attorney General's office, conducting a Senior Fraud Seminar
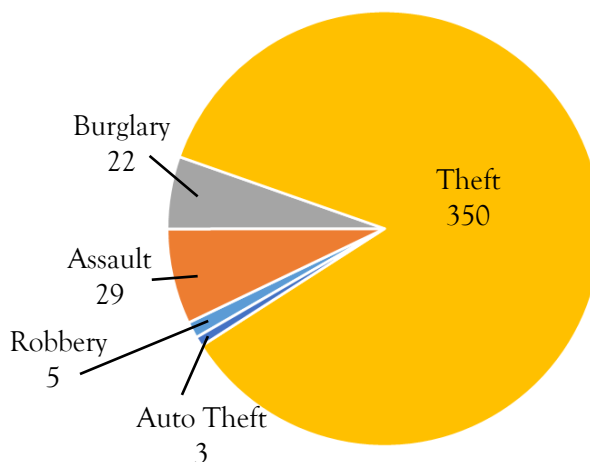
For more information on Montgomery Township Police Community Events, join us on Facebook!

2017 Statistics

Arrests

- Adults 893
- Juvenile 76

Part I Offenses

- Burglary 22
- Assault 29
- Robbery 5
- Auto Theft 3
- Theft 350

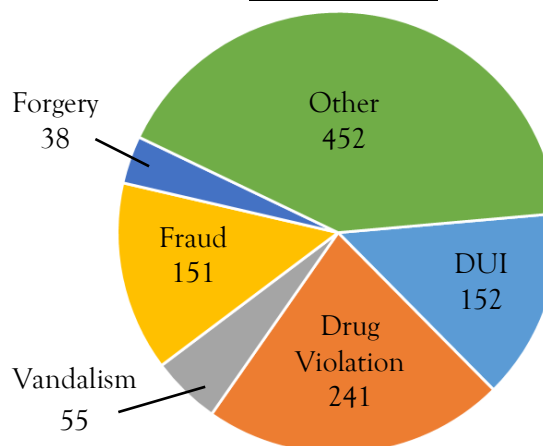### Part II Offenses

- Forgery 38
- Other 452
- Fraud 151
- DUI 152
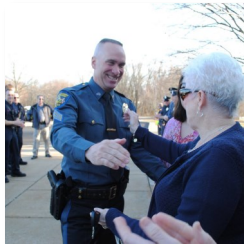- Vandalism 55
- Drug Violation 241

2017 Grant Money

In 2017, the Montgomery Township Police Department received $77,123.18 in county, state, and federal funding. This funding was used to conduct seat belt, impaired driving, drug enforcement details and purchase equipment.

Department News

In 2017, Montgomery Township Police had five department members retire. Their service to the township was 164 years combined! Sgt. Daniel Mitchell retired after 33 years of service. He began his career with the township in 1985 as a police officer. He also worked in the Detective Division and worked his way up the ranks to Sergeant. Detective Michael Solis retired after 29 years of service. He began his career with the township in 1989 as a police officer assigned to the Highway Safety Unit. In 1997, he was assigned to the Detective Division. Detective Sgt. Joseph Bennis served 46 years with the department. He began his career in 1972 as a patrol officer. He was then assigned to the Detective Division and later became the Detective Sergeant. Officer James Matlack retired after 30 years of service to the department. He was hired in 1988 as a patrol officer. Officer Matlack is best known in our community for his service as our Crime Prevention/Community Policing Officer. After 26 years of service, Officer Andrew Dalton retired. Officer Dalton began his career with the township in 1992 as a police officer. He worked in the Highway Safety Unit and was also a member of Montgomery County SWAT.
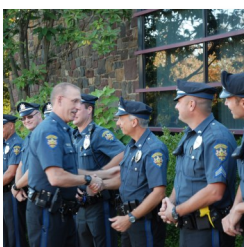

Detective Michael Solis

Sgt. Daniel Mitchell

Det. Sgt. Joseph Bennis

Officer James Matlack

Officer Andrew Dalton

Congratulations and best of luck on your retirement!

Welcome to the Department! Officer Andrew Haber, Officer Andrew Bouch, and Officer Bins Thomas were sworn in on May 22, 2017.

Officer Thomas Ward and Officer Lee Wagner were promoted to the rank of corporal.

Officer Jason English became Montgomery Township Police Department's newest DARE instructor!

Montgomery Township Police Department became reaccredited by the Pennsylvania Law Enforcement Accreditation Commission.

Congratulations to Officer Robert Johnson on being named Pennsylvania Crime Prevention Officers' Association Officer of the year!

Smart911™

Have You Registered?

Montgomery County participates in Smart 9-1-1. With Smart 9-1-1, you can add pertinent information that would help first responders in the event of an emergency whether the call is from a home or mobile phone. Information you can add to Smart 9-1-1 could be: **People and Household Information, Medical Information, Address and Location Information and other information such as emergency contact.** Sign up now to give 9-1-1 the pertinent information they need so first responders can assist you more quickly.

For more information visit the Smart 9-1-1 website at: https://www.smart911.com/

Don't Be a Victim of Theft

In 2017, Montgomery Township Police has seen an increase in theft from vehicles. Follow these steps to protect yourself from becoming a victim:

- Keep your unattended vehicle secure at all times. Criminals will often walk down neighborhood streets or parking lots to check vehicle doors.

- Do not leave any valuables inside of your car. If leaving purses or bags inside your vehicle, make sure they are not visible through the windows.

- Make sure to park your vehicle in a well lit area at night.

Remember, KEEP YOUR VEHICLE LOCKED!

Please do not hesitate to call 911 to report suspicious activity.
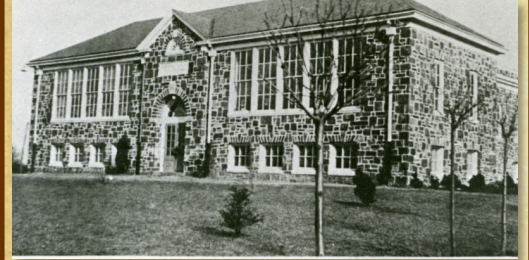
Pennsylvania Dog Laws

- All dogs three months of age and older must be licensed. Licenses are issued by the County Treasurer.

- All dogs must be under control and must not be allowed to run at large. Dogs are personal property, and owners are responsible for damages caused by their dog.

- It is illegal to mistreat or abuse any animal.

- It is illegal to abandon or attempt to abandon any dog.

- No dog under eight weeks of age may be sold, traded, bartered or transferred.

- You may not place any poison or harmful substance in any place where dogs may easily eat it, whether it is your own property or elsewhere.

- You must have a current kennel license if you operate a facility that keeps, harbors, boards, shelters, sells, gives away or transfers a total of 26 or more dogs in any one calendar year.

- Owners of dogs 3 months of age or older are required to have a current rabies vaccination.

- Dogs must NOT be tethered for longer than 30 minutes when the temperature is over 90 degrees or under 32 degrees.

Montgomery Township
A Piece of History

Five Points Intersection

Montgomery Township Consolidated School

Child Fingerprinting

Montgomery Township Police conducts child fingerprinting at various business safety events and most major township events throughout the year. The department has invested in special computer equipment to capture fingerprints. These print out in a child report where additional information can be filled out by the parents. This information is not stored in the computer system. This informational card including your children's fingerprints is good to keep on file in the event your child goes missing. All this information would be pertinent to the police and would save valuable time. For more information on child fingerprinting, contact Officer Johnson.

Don't forget to check our Facebook page or www.montgomerytownship.org for community events and programs! For more information on anything contained in this report, please contact us at 215-362-2301 or email: police@montgomerytwp.org.

2017 GENERAL POLICE ACTIVITY

CALLS FOR SERVICE	**Total Calls for Service**	**32510**
	Building Alarms	1310
	Directed Patrols	3923
	Vehicle Lockouts	306
CRIMINAL OFFENSES	Part I Offenses	409
	Part II Offenses	1089
	Total Criminal Offenses Reported	**1498**
	Part I Offense Arrests	196
	Part II Offense Arrests	773
	Total Arrests	**969**
VEHICLE CRASHES	Reportable Vehicle Crashes	272
	Non-Reportable Vehicle Crashes	1004
	Total Vehicle Crashes	**1276**
	Injuries Resulting from Vehicle Crashes	150
	Fatalities Resulting from Vehicle Crashes	3
TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT	Selective Traffic Enforcement Details	1774
	Traffic Stops	9857
	Traffic Citations Issued	4646
	Police Warning Notices	305
	Field Contact Cards	5299

2017 FBI UNIFORM CRIME REPORTING

	Type of Offense	Total Cases	Total Arrests
PART I OFFENSES	Murder	0	0
	Manslaughter	0	0
	Rape	0	0
	Robbery	5	6
	Assault (Aggravated)	4	3
	Assault (Non-Aggravated)	25	26
	Burglary & Unlawful Entry	22	13
	Theft (Excluding Auto Theft)	350	148
	Auto Theft	3	0
	Arson	0	0
	Total Part I Offenses	**409**	**196**
PART II OFFENSES	Forgery & Counterfeiting	38	15
	Fraud	151	21
	Stolen Property	2	2
	Vandalism	55	2
	Weapons Offenses	7	6
	Vice & Prostitution	0	0
	Sex Offenses	6	0
	Drug Law Violation	241	300
	Gambling	0	0
	Offense Against Family	135	2
	Driving Under the Influence	152	150
	Liquor Law Violation	13	54
	Public Drunkenness	37	37
	Disorderly Conduct	23	24
	All Other Offenses	229	160
	Total Part II Offenses	**1089**	**773**
	TOTAL OFFENSES	**1498**	**969**