



# Town of Montgomery

Community Committed

## Police Department



Stephen Ragni  
Department Executive Officer

110 Bracken Rd

Montgomery, N.Y.12549

845-457-9212 (P)

845-457-4127 (F)

### Executive Order 203 Implementation Plan

On June 12, 2020 in response to nationwide protests against police brutality and other perceived constitutional rights violations, our NYS Governor enacted an executive order requiring police agencies to develop a comprehensive plan for reform and modernization of police strategies and programs. The Town of Montgomery acknowledges the protests taking place throughout the country and in our own community in response to the murder of George Floyd. The Town of Montgomery acknowledges that these protests illustrate a potential loss in confidence in police departments throughout the country and brings into question our own police department practices and the relationship between our police department and our community. The Town of Montgomery acknowledges that this loss of confidence has been fueled by our country's history of police-involved deaths of black and African American, Hispanic/Latinx and Asian-American Pacific Islander (AAPI) people. The Town of Montgomery acknowledges that our law enforcement officers are essential to ensuring the public's safety and that they put their lives on the line every day. This fact was made more profound by the recent loss of Police Officer, and former Town of Montgomery resident Domenic Winum, who lost his life on a routine traffic stop this year. This executive order will be done to make specific changes, will help rebuild that confidence and restore trust between our police department and the community we serve through the plan provided below.

The Town of Montgomery has a population of about 24,000 people and is about 50 square miles in size. The Village of Walden, Village of Maybrook and the Village of

Montgomery each have their own police department.

The population breakdown of the town is approximately 73% White, 15% Hispanic, 10% African American and 2% other.

The Town of Montgomery Police Department staffing includes;

Chief of Police,

Department Executive Officer,

1 Detective Sergeant,

4 Patrol Sergeants,

12 Full Time Police Officers,

22 Part Time Officers,

2 School Resource Officers,

1 Records Clerk,

1 Full Time Dispatcher,

5 Part Time Dispatchers,

1 Full Time Animal Control Officer,

1 Part Time Animal Control Officer.

There is 1 African American Police Officer, 4 Hispanic Officers, 1 Dispatcher of Indian descent, 4 Female Officers and a total of 10 female employees.

In 2019 there were 228 Arrests, 8725 Blotter Entries, 1419 Blotter Entries that were listed as a Traffic Stop, 6 Blotter Entries listed as Mental Health calls, and 38 Blotter Entries that were listed as an Emotionally Disturbed Person. There were 538 Blotter Entries that were listed as Medical Calls. Medical Calls usually dealt with officers assisting Ambulance Corps personnel with a patient or acting in the capacity as an EMT.

In 2020, the year of the pandemic, there were 109 arrests. This was a drop in the number by 119 arrests. There were 8655 Blotter Entries, a drop in the number by 60. There were 1024 Traffic Stops, a drop in the number by 395. There were 4 Mental Health calls, a drop in the number by 2. There were 54 Emotionally Disturbed Persons calls which showed an increase in the number by 16. There were 504 Medical Calls, a drop in the number by 34.

In 2020 there was 1 citizen complaint that involved use of force by an officer. The arrest ratio of the 109 arrests were 87% White and 13% African American/Hispanic.

The Town of Montgomery Police Department has worked to develop a good relationship with the citizens and members of the community. TMPD also works hard to develop a good relationship with the three Village Police Departments, the Orange County Sheriff's Office and the New York State Police.

The Town of Montgomery Police Department also continues to develop a good working relationship with our local schools, faith-based groups and local business owners.

### **Reform / Reinvention Implementation Points:**

1) Provide the following training to department personnel:

- Implicit Bias Training,
- Cultural Awareness Training,
- De-escalation Training,
- Procedural Justice Training,
- Defensive Tactics, Less Than Lethal Force Training,
- Critical Incident Response Training,

2) Annual Reviews on Use of Force Incidents and Civilian Complaints.

3) Transparency:

- Place General Orders on Police Department Web Site (to the extent such documents would not compromise the manner in which criminal investigations are

conducted and/or which would otherwise be subject to the Freedom of Information Law).

- Include an On-Line Complaint, Concern or Compliment module on the Police Department Web Site. One way would be to submit a complaint, concern or a compliment by sending an email with a direct link to the Chief. Another way would be to submit an anonymous complaint or concern message to the Chief by having a tab on the web site that would accommodate such type of communication.

#### 4) Equipment:

- Implement the use of body cameras,
- Continue the use of and annual training in Less Lethal Force options.

#### 5) Review and update the following policies:

- Use of Force (New policy prohibits chokeholds and requires the duty to intervene),
- Mission Statement (New policy places a high regard on Human Life),
- Arrest Procedures,
- Vehicle and Traffic Stops,
- Body Cameras,
- Crisis Intervention and Response.

#### 6) Mental Health Contacts

- Set up a Liaison with Orange County Mental Health Department,
- Work in conjunction with mental health providers and violence reduction programs to identify at risk individuals and to provide appropriate support,

- Respond to and assist at risk individuals for the purpose of referral to appropriate counseling or assistance programs.

## 7) Recruitment

- Announce any upcoming Civil Service Exams on the Police Department Web Site,
- Post the date of the exams on the Web Site,
- Provide information on how to sign up for the exam,
- Provide information on any study sites or any study aids for an upcoming exam,
- Having our Officers and Community members act as Role Models to encourage young people and young people of color to have an interest in working as a police officer.

8) Continue and enhance the current Hope Not Handcuffs Program and to support the Town Supervisors Opioid Intervention Program.

9) Have quarterly meetings either in-person or Zoom with members of the Executive Order 203 Steering Committee. Work together with community partners to put together an annual community event.

10) Establish a short-term goal of having all policies and procedures being compliant with New York State Law Enforcement Accreditation Standards. Establish the long-term goal of one day becoming certified as an accredited law enforcement agency.

11) Setting up a 3-tiered discipline system with reviews being made by the officer's supervisor, the Chief/ Department Executive Officer and the Town Supervisor/Town Attorney. If a criminal action is warranted, then the District Attorney's Office will obtain control.

12) Work to establish a program similar to PAL (Police Athletic League) working with our youth to create community activities both athletic related and more to interact with our town police officers.

13) Provide a Community Survey program so that citizens can provide feedback based on their interactions with our police officers and our agency.

14) Pursue additional training for our members based on the availability of funding to support such training.

15) Continue to work with our local law enforcement partners. Build upon existing relationships with the village police departments (Montgomery, Maybrook, and Walden), the Orange County Sheriff's Office and the New York State Police.

16) Require that at the point of contact with any member of the public, a Town of Montgomery Police Officer shall provide a business identification card to said member of the public.