

PENNSAUKEN TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT

2400 BETHEL AVENUE PENNSAUKEN, NEW JERSEY 08109

Sergeant Christopher L. Sulzbach

Traffic Safety Unit

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July 27, 2012

Josh Ottenberg Camden County Prosecutor's Office Camden, New Jersey

Dear Sir,

Chief John Coffey has instructed me to contact your office and ask you to review our plan for sobriety checkpoints in August and November of this year. Enclosed find a proposal forwarded to Captain Connor for his input in the process.

This department plans on establishing two checkpoints for the year 2012. The dates for the checkpoints are August 24th and November 21st. All checkpoints will begin with a mandatory roll call at 2230 hours and end at approximately 3:00AM the following morning.

Similar requests have been made in previous years and were reviewed by your self. If I may be of any further assistance or answer any questions regarding this intended operation, I may be reached at 856-488-0080 Ext. 2301.

Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Sgt. Chris Sulzbach

Traffic Division

Department of Public Safety Bureau of Police 2400 Bethel Avenue Pennsauken, New Jersey 08110

July 27, 2012

To:

CAPTAIN CONNOR

From:

SGT. CHRIS SULZBACH

Subject:

SOBRIETY CHECKPOINT PROPOSAL, 2012

Sir:

As in previous years, the Traffic Division submits that the department should consider the use of sobriety checkpoints during the year. The use of such checkpoints is constitutional when properly applied and is well grounded in case law, both federal and state. Contained herein is analysis of the township wide DWI problem and documentation that I believe supports the use of checkpoints on our highways.

The department has used checkpoints on previous occasions, and deploys roving patrols each weekend of the year. On at least 21 prior occasions, this department has established checkpoints in different locations in the township. In these prior years, charges of 39:4-50 were filed vs. over 225 motorists.

In a larger sense, just over 1 in 5 drunk drivers arrested in Pennsauken is as a result of, or involved in a crash. Annually, about 3% of all reported crashes in the township involve a drunk driver:

<u>YEAR</u>	TOTAL COLLISIONS	TOTAL INJURIES
2000	1988	524
2001	1946	516
2002	1996	424
2003	2052	429
2004	1871	326
2005	2067	411
2006	1905	500
2007	1954	445
2008	1775	388
2009	1715	393
2010	1886	389
2011	1941	455

Percentage of Drunk Drivers Involved in Collisions

TOTAL <u>YEAR</u>	<u>DWI</u>	CRASHES	APPROX. % OF DWI'S INVOLVED IN COLLISIONS
2000	353	61	16%
2001	412	84	20%
2002	322	58	18%
2003	307	52	17%
2004	300	71	23%
2005	312	80	26%
2006	349	84	21%
-2007	394	86	19%
2008	362	78	21%
2009	342	61	18%
2010	317	61	19%
2011	372	62	17%

Saturday and Sunday mornings, during any month from midnight to 4 AM are the days of the week and the times that are most likely to produce drunk driving arrests. However, the Wednesday prior to, and the morning of Thanksgiving, and the weekend of St. Patrick's Day have been shown to produce a relatively large number of arrests. I would suggest establishing checkpoints on weekend mornings as well as the Wednesday prior to Thanksgiving.

Turning to the location of the checkpoint(s), officers have conducted one-hour counts at three locations in the township for your review. Counts were taken at the approximate times the checkpoint will be held. Locations examined include three major roadways in different areas of the township. Among the factors considered were officer safety, safety of motorists, and traffic volume.

<u>Traffic Count (Veh. /hr.)</u>
720
419
731

SH 130 at Cove Rd is a site that has been used in prior years. This site is very near the geographic center of Pennsauken. About 40% of all DWI arrests occur on, or at an intersection with Rt 130. The roadway itself runs due north/south and basically dissects the town, connecting several towns, bridges, and counties. The entire township falls within about a three-mile radius of this location. This location has produced numerous DWI arrests in the past.

Haddonfield Road is a well traveled roadway. In logistical terms, the section of roadway is fairly straight with few view obstructions. There is a parking lot that would provide for assessment of suspects and the area is well lit.

SH 130 at Marlton Pike is a heavily traveled road. The northbound side of Rt 130 offers

approximately 2000 feet of unobstructed visibility from the intersection of Rt 38/70 westbound to Rt 130 and Marlton Pike. There are several lots that would serve our purposes for assessing drivers.

The above locations represent suitable logistics to establish and maintain a checkpoint and include fairly well traveled roads, off road areas to investigate, exposure of our efforts and motorists and officer safety. Each of these areas is routinely patrolled by roving DWI patrols and has produced DWI arrests over the past year. Each location is suitable for a checkpoint and allow for the quick and safe deployment of and removal of the checkpoint. Should this proposal be accepted, I will prepare the necessary traffic control plan for the site chosen, inclusive of tapers and warning devices. Signage will be used on location to advise of our mission. Marked police units will be used and uniformed officers will wear reflective material vests to increase visibility.

The detail should be comprised of the nine member traffic division, under my command, and should be supplemented by patrol officers. A total of 12-14 officers will be needed. A plan concerning the deployment and removal of the checkpoint, neutral and courteous procedures of the involved personnel, arrests, and the processing of arrests is included and will be disseminated to officers in roll call at approximately 2230 hours on the date of the checkpoint.

The pre-determined procedure will be to briefly detain each vehicle approaching the checkpoint and further detain those who show indicia of DWI. This plan will not be deviated from without my approval. In past years the average delay has usually been less than 2 minutes and those waiting have been largely supportive of our efforts.

In the event of an unanticipated period where the traffic backs up longer then projected, we will allow a determined number of vehicles to proceed through the checkpoint without stopping. This will ensure the safety of both the officers and the motorists.

Each officer who participates in the operation will be required to submit a report as to their duties during the checkpoint. An after action report of the conduct and the results of the detail will be forwarded to your office and the Camden County Prosecutors Office.

At your convenience, please review this proposal. On your order, I will provide a copy of this memo to the Office of the Camden County Prosecutor for review at least 72 hours prior to implementation of the plan

Respectfully submitted,

Sgt. Chris Sulzbach Traffic Division

CS: 11

Department of Public Safety Bureau of Police 2400 Bethel Avenue Pennsauken, New Jersey 08110

September 14, 2012

To:

Capt. Connor

From:

Sgt. Sulzbach, Traffic Division

Subject:

Sobriety Checkpoint 8/24 - 8/25/2012

Sir:

In reference to the above listed checkpoint, I submit the following for your review. On 8/24/2012, at approximately 2230hrs, all officers assigned to the detail reported to Roll Call for instruction and assignments. Among those things discussed at that time were specific duties of each officer along with their professional and courteous conduct with respect to citizen contacts. It was determined that we would briefly intervene in the travel of each vehicle along Haddonfield Road in both directions.

The checkpoint was established at approximately 2300hrs following a traffic control plan which reduced 4 lanes to 2 lanes. During the operation four officers were sufficient in stopping vehicles on the roadway. The delay to motorists didn't exceed 1 minute and the vehicles waiting didn't exceed 200 feet or so.

The officers were instructed to briefly speak to the motorists and determine whether or not there was any indication of alcohol consumption or intoxication, which would warrant further investigation. In the event that some indicia of intoxication was observed, the motorists were directed to enter a parking lot for further investigation.

The detail was concluded at approximately 0300hrs on 8/25. The weather for this detail was clear. In addition to the reflective channeling devices and flares placed on the roadway, a sign was located within each taper advising the public of our mission and all officers were in uniform and used marked vehicles with overhead emergency lighting.

In the course of the check point 470 vehicles were temporarily detained, 3 arrests were made for DWI.

The public was generally supportive of our efforts. Each officer participating in the checkpoint has submitted a memorandum regarding their participation, which is on file in the Traffic Division.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sgt. C. Sulzbac Traffic Division

Department of Public Safety Bureau of Police 2400 Bethel Avenue Pennsauken, New Jersey 08109

August 29, 2012

To:

Sgt. Sulzbach #127

From:

Sgt. Len Rebilas #125

Subject: D.W.I. Checkpoint 8-24/25-2012

Dear Sir,

On 8-24-2012 I was assigned to the D.W.I. checkpoint that was to be located at 2932 Haddonfield Rd. from 22:30 hrs. to 03:30 hrs. At 22:30 hrs. I responded to HQTS. for roll call training where I received my assignment as the transport officer for the checkpoint. After roll, I responded to the area of 2932 Haddonfield Rd. to assist units with the setup of the checkpoint on Hadddonfield Rd. Cones, barrels, signs and marked patrol units were used to set up the checkpoint. After the completion of the setup, I the assumed my post as the transport officer. I then transported suspects who were arrested for D.W.I. to police HQTS. for processing.

When the checkpoint was complete, I assisted with the removal of the checkpoint equipment.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sgt. Len Rebilas #125

Department of Public Safety Bureau of Police

2400 Bethel Avenue Pennsauken, New Jersey 08109

September 4, 2012

To: Sgt. Chris Sulzbach

From: Lt. Marco Anthony

Subject: DWI Checkpoint

On Friday August 24 2012, I attended roll call at 2230 hrs for the DWI checkpoint. I was assigned to the booking area where I took care of logging in all arrests and processing of the

booking paperwork during this checkpoint.

Department of Public Safety 2400 Bethel Avenue Pennsauken, New Jersey 08109

August 24, 2012

To: Sgt. Sulzbach

From:

Ptl. R. Kern #181- Traffic Division

Subject: Sobriety Checkpoint

Sir,

On August 24, 2012 I was assigned to the DWI Sobriety Checkpoint. I reported to roll call at 2230 hours where I received my assignment and directions for the checkpoint. I then went to 2932 Haddonfield Road to assist with putting barriers and cones in place. Once the operation began my primary responsibility was to evaluate drivers that had been sent into the assessment area. I specifically looked for such physical indicators as bloodshot watery eyes, slow and slurred speech, and the odor of an alcoholic beverage on their breath. During the course of the operation, I conducted Standardized Field Sobriety tests on several drivers. At the conclusion of the assignment, I assisted with removing the traffic cones and barrels from the roadway that were used for the taper. This concludes my participation in this assignment.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ptl. R. Kern #181

Department of Public Safety Bureau of Police 2400 Bethel Avenue

Pennsauken, New Jersey 08109

August 24, 2012

To:

Sgt. Sulzbach

From:

Ptl. R. Figueroa #155

Subject: Sobriety Checkpoint

On 08/24/2012, I was assigned to the DWI Sobriety Checkpoint. I reported to roll call at 2230 hours where I received my assignment and directions for the checkpoint. At the conclusion of roll call, my assignment was the Alcotest operator located in the booking section of headquarters, 2400 Bethel Ave., Pennsauken, NJ. I placed two subjects on the Alcotest during the course of my duty. This concludes my participation in this assignment.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ptl. R. Figueroa #155

MEMORANDUM

Department of Public Safety

Bureau of Police 2400 Bethel Avenue Pennsauken, New Jersey 08109

August 27, 2012

To:

Sgt. Sulzbach

From:

Det. Philip Olivo #167

Subject: Sobriety Checkpoint

Sir.

On 8/24/12 - 8/25/12 I was assigned to work the DWI Sobriety Checkpoint. I attended roll call at 2230 hours where we were briefed on our assignments and directions for the checkpoint. At the conclusion of roll call I traveled to 2932 Haddonfield Road to assist with putting barriers and cones in place. Once the operation began, my primary responsibility was the chase vehicle. I watched for drivers who turned around, turned off of the roadway or who did not stop at the officers direction once they entered the Checkpoint area. I also watched for drivers who changed places with other occupants in their vehicle. During the course of the operation I stopped multiple vehicles. During the motor vehicle stops I specifically looked for physical indicators such as slow and slurred speech, bloodshot watery eyes and the odor of alcoholic beverage on their breath. If I determined that the driver of a vehicle had been drinking alcoholic beverages I then called for an assessor to respond to my location and assess the driver of the vehicle. At the conclusion of the operation I assisted with the removal of the traffic cones and barriers. This concludes my participation in this assignment.

Respectfully Submitted,

Pet-0/11/67

Det. Philip Olivo #167

Department of Public Safety

Bureau of Police 2400 Bethel Avenue Pennsauken, New Jersey 08109

August 25, 2012

To:

Sgt. Sulzbach

From:

Ptl. V Moles #171 - Traffic Division

Subject: Sobriety Checkpoint

Sir,

On August 24th, 2012 I was assigned to the DWI sobriety checkpoint at Haddonfield Road and Bailey Avenue. I reported to roll call at 2230 hours to receive my assignment. Immediately after, I responded to the checkpoint location and assisted in placing cones and barrels in the roadway for traffic control. My primary assignment was to greet motorist on the roadway, advise them why they are being stopped, and to look for signs of intoxication. During the course of the operation, I sent a number of vehicles into the assessment area to have field sobriety testing conducted on the drivers. At the conclusion of the checkpoint, I assisted in the removal of the cones and barrels from the roadway. That concludes my involvement in this assignment.

Respectfully Submitted.

Ptl. V Moles #171 Traffic Division

Department of Public Safety 2400 Bethel Avenue Pennsauken, New Jersey 08109

08-25-2012

To: Sgt. Sulzbach, Traffic Division

From:

Ptl. G. Henkel #149, Traffic Division

Subject: Sobriety Checkpoint

Sir,

On 08-24 to 08-25, 2012 I was assigned to the DWI Sobriety Checkpoint. I reported to roll call at 2230 hours where I received my assignment and directions for the checkpoint. I then went to 2932 Haddonfield Road to assist with putting barriers and cones in place. Once the operation began, my primary responsibility was to speak to drivers that had been stopped in the greeting area. After determining whether or not the drivers had been drinking, I directed the drivers into the assessment area. I specifically looked for such physical indicators as bloodshot watery eyes, slow and slurred speech, and the odor of an alcoholic beverage on their breath. During the course of the operation, I directed several drivers into the assessment area. At the conclusion of the assignment, I assisted with removing the traffic cones and barrels from the roadway that were used for the taper. This concludes my participation in this assignment.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ptl. G. Henkel #149

Department of Public Safety 2400 Bethel Avenue Pennsauken, New Jersey 08109

08-25-2012

To: Sgt. Sulzbach, Traffic Division

From:

Ptl. Fabiani #187, Traffic Division

Subject: Sobriety Checkpoint

Sir,

On 08-24 to 08-25, 2012 I was assigned to the DWI Sobriety Checkpoint. I reported to roll call at 2230 hours where I received my assignment and directions for the checkpoint. I then went to 2932 Haddonfield Road to assist with putting barriers and cones in place. Once the operation began, my primary responsibility was to evaluate drivers that had been sent into the assessment area. I specifically looked for such physical indicators as bloodshot watery eyes, slow and slurred speech, and the odor of an alcoholic beverage on their breath. During the course of the operation, I conducted Standardized Field Sobriety tests on several drivers. At the conclusion of the assignment, I assisted with removing the traffic cones and barrels from the roadway that were used for the taper. This concludes my participation in this assignment.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ptl. Fabiani #187

Department of Public Safety Bureau of Police

2400 Bethel Avenue Pennsauken, New Jersey 08109

Auguest 24th, 2012

To:

Sgt. Sulzbach

From:

Ptl. W. HERTLINE III # 159

Subject: Sobriety Checkpoint

Dear sir,

On 08-24-12 I was assigned to the DWI Checkpoint at Haddonfield Rd. and Bailey Ave. I reported for roll call at 2230 hrs. at the Pennsauken Police Department were I received my assignment for the checkpoint.

I then responded to the above location and assisted in setting up the barriers and cones. Once the check point started I was assigned to be a greeter. While greeting I had several vehicles pull into the parking lot of 2932 Haddonfield Rd. to be evaluated. I also took count of every vehicle that passed through the check point both north and south bounds (470). At the end of the check point I assisted in breaking down the operation.

Respectfully Submitted,

Department of Public Safety

Bureau of Police 2400 Bethel Avenue Pennsauken, New Jersey 08109

August 25, 2012

To:

Sgt. Sulzbach

From:

Ptl. D. Foster #188

Subject: Sobriety Checkpoint

Sir,

On Friday August 24, 2012 I was assigned to work the DWI sobriety checkpoint at Haddonfield Road and Irving Avenue. At 2230 hours I responded to roll call where I was given my assignment. My assignment was to collect breath samples from individuals that were placed under arrest for the suspicion of DWI. Samples of their breath were collected by using the Alcotest Instrument 7110 MKIII-C. These samples were collected in the booking area of the Pennsauken Police Station. While inside the booking area, I assisted by processing individuals that were placed under arrest for the suspicion of DWI. I also issued appropriate summonses for drivers that were arrested for DWI.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ptl. D. Foster #188

Pel 12 To + #188

MEMORANDUM

Department of Public Safety Bureau of Police 2400 Bethel Avenue Pennsauken, New Jersey 08109

To:

Sgt. Sulzbach

From:

Ptl Goschler #148

Subject: DWI Checkpoint

On 8-24-12 at 2230hrs I responded to rollcall at the PAB . I was given my assignment as an greeter and the location of the checkpoint. I responded to the area of Haddonfield Rd. and Bailey Ave. Once at that location I assisted with setting up the traffic taper and barrels. I greeter several motorists through out the night, however I was unable to locate any intoxicated persons. At the end of the checkpoint I helped break down the taper and barrels. that ends my involvement in the checkpoint.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ptl T. Goschler #148