

## **REPORT OF THE POLICE DEPARTMENT**

Last year the town promoted Officer Michael Trafecante to Sergeant. In addition to his patrol and investigation duties, Sergeant Trafecante will assist me with the administrative functions of the department. Sergeant Trafecante has worked extremely hard during this transition period and I thank him for his continued dedicated service to the department and the town.

On August 4, 2010 Officer John Chase graduated from the 45<sup>th</sup> Municipal Police Officers' Class Western Massachusetts Police Academy. Officer Chase rejoined the department and I know Officer Chase will work extremely hard protecting the Town of Princeton.

On July 1, 2010 Princeton appointed Officer Travis Russell as its sixth full-time police officer. I requested this new position and thank the Board of Selectmen and the residents of Princeton for their support. Officer Russell attended the State Police Municipal Academy in New Braintree and graduated January 21, 2011.

In July we received a State 9-1-1 Department Public Safety Answering Point and Regional Emergency Communication Center Support and Incentive Grant. We will use a portion of this grant to replace two mobile data terminals, used in our cruisers, and another portion to install Electrostatic Discharge flooring to our dispatch center.

On August 25, 2010 Officer Thebeau arrested two individuals for breaking and entering. Officer Thebeau's extensive investigative work enabled him to solve four housebreaks that occurred in Princeton and led to criminal charges for four individuals. I also thank the town resident that made the suspicious person call which helped lead to these arrests.

# PRINCETON POLICE DEPARTMENT

The following is a report of the major activities of the Police Department for 2010:

Accidents .....	60
Alarms .....	171
Annoying Phone Calls .....	10
Arrests/Summons Arrests .....	103
Assist Area Police Departments .....	53
Assist Other Town Departments .....	110
Breaking and Entering Dwellings .....	21
Breaking and Entering Vehicles .....	8
Disturbances .....	41
Domestic Disturbances .....	21
Fire Department Assists .....	79
Fraud .....	5
Investigations .....	39
Juvenile Problems .....	4
Larcenies .....	5
Lost/Missing Persons .....	6
Medical Assists .....	104
Motor Vehicles Disabled .....	60
Motor Vehicle Thefts .....	2
Narcotic Investigations .....	5
Public Safety Assists .....	314
Public Service Assists .....	1349
Restraining Orders Served .....	2
Suspicious Incidents .....	60
Suspicious Motor Vehicles .....	92
Suspicious Persons .....	42
Vandalism .....	11
911 Abandoned/Hang Up/Misdialed Phone Calls .....	37

I appreciate the support, dedication and professionalism of all the police officers and Dispatchers. I also appreciate the selectmen and other town officials, who continue to support this department in providing the highest quality police protection, safety, and public service to the Princeton community.

Respectfully submitted,  
Michele R. Powers, Chief of Police



# Princeton Fire Department

8 Town Hall Drive Princeton, MA. 01541  
(978) 464-2707 [www.princetonfd.org](http://www.princetonfd.org)



*Fire - Emergency Medical Services - Community Education*

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**Chief Raymond A. LaPorte NREMT-P**

## **Report of the Princeton Fire Department 2010**

The Princeton Fire Department responded to 326 calls for service last year. The men and women that make up our dedicated staff have my full respect and admiration for the professionalism they bring to the jobs they perform.

The roles within the fire service continue to evolve as needs evolve, with a large part of our mission being not only the "traditional" roles of Firefighter or EMT, but the more specialized roles related to Paramedic, Technical Rescue, and Hazardous Materials.

Most of our membership lives out of Town, and that increases the response times. Our staff is "on-call" and may not be available when the "tones go off". This increases risks to patients, homeowners, and members.

Our basic mission is to provide adequate Life Safety in Fire and EMS, and to protect property when possible. We continue to operate with on-call volunteer staff, knowing there is no way to guarantee response, and not knowing whether we can muster staff to handle the incident.

Last year we needed mutual aid ambulance coverage for staffing concerns 13 times. Basic Life Support (BLS) requested Advanced Life Support (ALS) intercepts to get a Paramedic while enroute to the hospital 12 times. When someone calls 911, they expect a response. It is that simple. They expect fully trained, respectful, proficient providers to be there.

We can no longer avoid the issue of staffing. We provide on-call staffing because we understand it is less expensive than the alternatives. We answer over 300 calls for service each year, and have no guarantee that we can staff an incident, because we have no full-time staff on the Fire Department. We have a great track record, with contingency plans and hopes, but in the end it is still the members' dedication that the Town depends on for coverage of our emergency needs.

The call volume is up, and with that the risks.

In Fire and EMS we take on a certain level of risk, we are even comfortable with it, but some risks should not be comfortable.

## **Princeton Fire Department Year End Statistics -2010**

<b>Ambulance</b>	<b>176</b>
<b>Automobile Accidents</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>Ambulance Mutual Aid</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Fire Alarms</b>	<b>48</b>
<b>Investigations</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>Public Service</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>Brush Fires</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>Carbon Monoxide</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Car Fires</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Chimney Fires</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Illegal Burning</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Cellar Pumping</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>Furnace Problems</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Hazardous Materials</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Oven Fires</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Other</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>Mutual Aid</b>	<b>7</b>

**Respectfully Submitted,**

**Raymond A. LaPorte NREMT-P  
Fire Chief, Ambulance Director, EMD**

## **REPORT OF THE BUILDING DEPARTMENT**

Greetings Citizens of the Town of Princeton

The year 2010 continues to be a year of challenges for our town and our nation. With the severe economic downturn beginning to improve slowly we are anticipating slow growth of building construction projects and improvements out into the next calendar year. We did have 5 new single-family homes permitted as well as a total of 100 remodeling projects, which represents a slight increase from last year's totals.

The Town of Princeton however continues to be a very attractive community in which to live because of its pristine landscapes and rural character. We are hopeful that as the economic recovery continues across nation and the Commonwealth, the Town of Princeton's construction activity will rebound firmly as it has in years past. Several new changes to building code requirements with the introduction of the eighth edition of the State Building Codes may affect your current and future projects, so please feel free to contact us at any time. Several changes in our zoning bylaws have been implemented as well. We would like to take this opportunity to thank Don Steadman, Plumbing/Gas Inspector, for his 30 years of faithful service to the Town of Princeton and wish him well on his retirement.

The Building Department's Inspectors and Support Staff are:

John Wilson  
Inspector of Buildings / Zoning Enforcement Officer

Richard Breagy  
Local Inspector

Robert Warren  
Electrical Inspector

Jeremy Pierce  
Plumbing/Gas Inspector

Linda Albrecht  
Administrative Assistant

Office Hours are as follows:

\* Monday –Thursday 8:00 am-4:00 pm

Inspectors' Office Hours, Wednesday – 5:00 pm-7:00 pm (unless by appointment)

All of the Building Department staff wishes to thank you for your continued support and remain anxious to serve you. Please contact our office when contemplating a construction project as early as possible. This will help us serve you more efficiently and make the permit process a pleasant experience.

Respectfully Submitted,

John S. Wilson  
Inspector of Buildings/ Zoning Enforcement Officer



## REPORT OF THE BUILDING DEPARTMENT

The following is the report of the activities of the Building Department for the calendar year 2010.

<b>Purpose of Building Permit</b>	<b>Number of Construction Permits</b>	<b>Residential Home Value</b>
<b>Residential</b>		
One Family Dwellings	05	\$ 2,270,871.00
Foundation Only	03	\$ 0.00
Additions & Alterations	85	\$ 1,408,636.00
Swimming Pools	05	\$ 49,400.00
<b>Non-residential</b>		
<b>(Additions/Alterations)</b>	05	\$ 41,246.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>\$ 3, 770,153.00</b>

### Fees Collected in Calendar Year

Building permits	105	\$ 38,146.00
Plumbing permits	26	\$ 2,240.00
Gas piping permits	36	\$ 2,595.00
Gas storage permits	26	\$ 910.00
Electrical (Wiring) permits	67	\$ 6,605.00
Woodstove permits	19	\$ 760.00
Oil burner permits	31	\$ 975.00
Smoke detector permits	30	\$ 1,500.00
Driveway permits	04	\$ 80.00
Fireworks	01	\$ 35.00
Tank Removal	05	\$ 175.00
Demolition Permit	03	\$ 150.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>353</b>	<b>\$ 54,171.00</b>

## **REPORT OF THE ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER FOR THE YEAR 2010**

In 2010 the town of Princeton had over two hundred animal control calls that came through the dispatch center. This number does not include calls to residents for unlicensed dogs after the dead line of April 30<sup>th</sup>, court appearances or any other animal control issues. Below is a breakdown of the calls I received for 2010.

Nuisance Calls (1C) according to the by-laws: 62-----13 less than 2009

Dog/Cat Bites: 9-----same as 2009

Dogs/Cats hit by Vehicles: 7-----4 more than 2009

Missing Dogs/Stray dogs found: 83-----same as 2009

Farm Animal Calls: 8-----4-less than 2009

Wildlife Calls: 27-----12 less than 2009

Cat Calls: 21-----same as 2009

Dogs adopted From Holding Kennel: 1-----same as 2009

The Town of Princeton licensed 815 dogs in 2010. Holding fees for dogs picked up, fines issued for by-law violations and unlicensed dogs fines I issued totaled \$665.00. I hope to get more dogs licensed in 2011 than in 2010 with assistance from the town clerk. I also hope to get the residents of Princeton to understand how important it is to abide by the Town of Princeton's Dog Restraint/Regulations. I would like to thank the town clerk, all the dispatchers and the police officers for all their help and support this past year. I look forward to being your Animal Control Officer in 2011!

Respectfully Submitted,

Louis Massa

Animal Control Officer