

Listed below are some of the training classes, seminars and programs that officers attended during 2008:

Article 35 Training: Article 35 is the justification in the use of physical force and the use of deadly physical force as defined in the New York State Penal Law. **All police officers** are taught Article 35 during the police academy and are required to know when they are justified to use physical and/or deadly physical force. They are taught what level of force to use against someone during an incident and what types of crimes are required to justify the use of force. During our refresher-training course, attended by all members, all were instructed and reminded about the five major steps to apply when considering the use of force or deadly physical force. The department firearms instructors teach this training during firearms training.

Basic First Aid/CPR/AED: **Officer Chris Casucci and Officer Rita McConnell**, both certified trainers in this topic provided instruction to **all officers** on basic first aid techniques for first responders, along with basic CPR procedure. Also included in this training block was a refresher course in the proper usage of the department's defibrillators (AEDs).

Firearms: **All officers** are required to qualify with their service weapon, other department weapons and with all their off-duty handguns. Firearms' training is conducted in two phases during the year. The first phase of training is focused on handgun qualifications with officers participating in three service weapon combat qualification courses, which consist of 150 rounds. In addition, a 50 round off-duty weapon qualification course is conducted. The second phase includes another service weapon qualification course and a simulated emergency situation exercise. This simulation program consists of officers acting in emergency mode, targeting potential threats and shooting, both handguns and shotguns. Both phases of firearms training were held at the NYPD range at Rodman's Neck in the Bronx. This training was done under the supervision of **Sergeants David Condon, Michael Glover and James Mitrione** and **Patrolman Richard Vasami**. All are certified firearms instructors.

Active Shooter Training: This training was a nationwide response by the law enforcement community to address school violence, in particular school shootings. Police Department's now make it a priority that in the event of a school shooting, the first responding officers will enter the building and begin to look for the shooter(s) to stop the violence. This training, attended by **All members** was conducted twice during the year, in April and again in November. This is scenario based training and was instructed by the above listed Firearms Officers. Members of the Pelham Manor Police Department also participated in this training.

Sgts. Jackson and Mitrione attended a **Threat Assessment for Schools** seminar. This seminar was directed at school administrators and security personnel as well as law enforcement and provided ideas and concepts on coordination of effort to safeguard students.

National Incident Management System (NIMS): Has been developed by the Federal Government to enhance Law enforcements ability to manage domestic incidents by establishing a single, comprehensive national incident management system. This mandated program outlines the benefits that all levels of government have the fundamentals and capability to work together efficiently. NIMS prepares officers on how to respond to, and recover from terrorist attacks, major disasters and other local emergencies. NIMS incorporates crisis management and consequence management as a single, integrated function rather than as two separate functions. **All Pelham officers** have completed the basic levels of NIMS with supervisors and

administration attending higher levels of these seminars, from the basic level to the command series.

Legal Bulletins: Each year the State Legislators make amendments to laws or create new laws. NYSPIN (New York State Police Information Network) sends each agency a legal bulletin on each change. **Each member** of this department is required to read and acknowledge having reviewed the updates. The changes range from Penal Law, Vehicle and Traffic Law, Public Health Law and Criminal Procedure Law.

S.A.V.E. Is Schools Against Violence in Education. This was a law enacted by New York State mandating every school district to enact a district wide safety plan for students and teachers. The Police department continues to work with the school district in a joint effort to prepare school personnel, students and police officers on how to respond to various situations in the schools while providing the highest degree of protection for all persons involved.

Sgt. Pat Polese and Officer Joseph DiBenedetto attended a four-week FBI certified training program to become **Tactical Officers**. With their training, the Pelham Police Department now has a trained six-man tactical team.

All members of the Pelham Police Department were trained on when to use and how to use the departments new **Dart Gun**. This weapon is used on small animals that may be rabid or acting in a manner that could create a health or danger to the community.

Sgt. James Mitrione attends monthly meetings of Tactical team leaders. These meetings are a sharing of ideas and information to better coordinate the tactical services of all Westchester county tactical teams. During 2008, there was a county wide tactical emergency drill that was conducted at Playland. After the initial drill, all the tactical teams practiced training exercises. The Pelham Tactical team continues to participate in monthly training exercises with the Eastchester and Tuckahoe tactical teams.

Sgt. James Mitrione attended a **SWAT Supervisor and Command Decision Making** seminar. In this training, students were taught proper SWAT command protocols.

Det. John Hynes attended the annual Juvenile Officers training conference. Det. Hynes is also the Zone representative to the NY Juvenile Officers Association.

Sgt. Daryl Jackson attended a **Street Survival** training session that addressed topics such as Criminal Investigative skills and defensive tactics.

Sgt. Mitrione along with Officers McDowell, Corrado, Pallett, and Det. Deere attended a Conference dealing with the proliferation of **Gangs in Westchester**. This training was instructed by the Yonkers PD Gang unit and provided the officers with what to look for and how to deal with Gangs and related gang violence. This training also helped to enhance the officers understanding of gangs and the potential issues they bring to their communities.

Officer Richard Vasami became a certified **Datamaster operator**. This instruction now allows Vasami to test persons who are suspected of drunk driving. **Sgts. Jackson, Polese and Mitrione** were recertified in this same training during 2008.

All Officers participated in **Patrol Survival Encounter Techniques Training**. This training, more commonly referred to as Survival house training is conducted at a local Pelham home and provides real life scenarios on responding to a variety of calls that police officers regularly respond to.

All active members of the department participated in a training session that dealt with **Felony Stops**. This program deals with the function of stopping vehicles where the occupants are possibly armed and/or suspects in violent acts. This training, conducted at the K-Mart parking lot in Pelham Manor, was also attended by several members of the Pelham Manor PD.

Sgt. Jackson and Officer Brian Hendrie attended a seminar on the **Handling and Processing of Juvenile Cases**. With an increase in the number of incidents which involve underage persons, it has become more important that these cases are handled correctly and in accordance with all applicable laws.

A member of the **Westchester County DA's** office came to Pelham HQ and provided officers with a refresher class on DWI cases and AUO cases. AUO cases are arrests where the driver of an automobile has a suspended or revoked license.

Lt. DelGrosso and Sgts. Condon, Jackson and Borsella all attended a seminar on **Performance Based Management** taught by a Professor from Iona College.

Officer Ryan Carden and **Officer Chris Casucci** attended **General Topics Instructor** course which enables them to instruct Pelham Officers on all topics. Casucci is a certified First Aid instructor and Carden became a certified **Firearms Instructor** which will now allow him to be one of the instructors during the annual firearms training.

Sgt. Dave Condon attended a **Taser Instructor** course which enables him to teach all Pelham officers on how to properly use the department tasers.

Sgts. Anthony Borsella and James Mitrione and **Officers Casucci and McDowell** attended a training conducted by Con Edison on **Metro-North safety** as it relates to electrical safety issues.

Sgt. Mitrione and Officer Paul Sousa attended a training conducted by the Lebanese national Security Force on dealing. This training dealt with national safety issues as it relates to terrorists and terrorism. In that same training concept, **Det. Deere and Officer Sousa** attended training on becoming **Field Intelligence Officers**. This training, attended by local, State and Federal agencies, explained how to share intelligence and all the methods of sharing and how to find out information on suspects on a more global scale.

Officer Eugene Sisto attended a **Tactical Life Saving** training program. This program dealt with serious injuries incurred in a tactical situation and how to stabilize an injured person until the scene becomes safe for paramedics to respond and take further action to treat the injured.

Sgt. Mitrione, Officers Jason Pallett and Danny Green attended a seminar on **Homeland Security Issues in Suburban Policing**. Officers in this training learned how to spot suspicious persons or actions that may affect security both locally and nationally.

Det. John Hynes and Officer Jason Pallett attended a seminar on **The New York State Fair Access law and stalking**. This seminar provided information on how to build a strong case in instances where stalking is the crime.

Officers Brian Hendrie and Danny Green attended a **Street Crimes Seminar** that addressed topics such as Criminal Investigative skills, Interview techniques and intelligence gathering.

Sgt. Anthony Borsella attended a seminar about **Mass Attack Incidents and Police Evolution**. This training was based on the evolution of school based shootings and how they have evolved in recent years and become more frequent and deadly.

Officer Ryan Carden attended a **Glock armorers school**. Carden is now certified and trained to break down and assemble all of the departments Glock firearms.

Officer Paul Sousa attended a seminar on **Specialized Protective Security Training**. In this seminar, officers were taught the proper techniques of protecting a dignitary or other person who would be considered a target to various hate groups, fanatics or other groups/individuals who may be targeting high profile persons.

Det. Hynes, Officers Pallett and Carden continue to pursue Criminal justice degrees

In addition to training, during 2008, many officers performed lecture's or participated in similar type teaching programs both within and outside of the Village. Some of those are:

Sgt. Borsella, Det. Hynes and P.O. Vasami all participated in a general discussion of Police work as part of Hutchinson School's Community Day.

Det. Hynes instructed 6th-8th grade students on personal safety, neighborhood safety personal rights and underage drinking. In addition, Hynes is the **DARE** officer and instructed local 5th graders on the course specific DARE curriculum.

Officers Hendrie and Sisto visited the **Hutchinson School Tiny Tot program** and gave a brief explanation on various aspects of police work. Topics discussed were bicycle safety, safety when crossing the street, safety tips in dealing with and avoiding strangers and how and when to call 911. Additionally, all the students were shown various pieces of police equipment, police uniforms and police vehicles and explained the purpose of the different items.

Sgt. Jackson and Officer Hendrie went to the Pelham Childrens Center Afterschool Program at Hutchinson School. They spoke to the children on a variety of safety related topics.

Det. Hynes, P.O. Pallett and P.O. Sisto conducted safety presentations to the Junior Wonders Nursery School. Topics discussed were safety issues related to the age of the children.

Det. Hynes participated in an interview conducted by the production class at PMHS. This interview was televised on the local access station. The interview concerned issues related to the DARE class and alcohol abuse and underage drinking.

Det. Hynes and Sgt. Borsella conducted a bicycle safety session to the Boy Scouts from St. Catharines. Hynes explained the laws on using bikes on public streets, wearing helmets and the importance of a properly maintained bicycle.

Sgt. Borsella participated in several K-9 demonstrations. He conducted a demonstration at the Huguenot Fair. He participated in the American Cancer Relay for Life. He also attended the Hutchinson School 5th grade picnic and gave a demonstration. **Sgt. Mitrione** also attended the Huguenot Fair and did a show and tell involving the tactical van along with tactical

Det. Hynes participated in the Pelham Civics sponsored Pelham High School sophomore career awareness day program as an instructor.

Sgt. Mitrione and Det. Hynes presented lectures and taught a variety of classes at the Police Academy to the current police recruit class. Some of the topics were Firearms, Observation and Patrol, Felony Stops, Domestic Violence and Interactive training. In addition, **Det. Hynes** also taught a segment on Juvenile Rights at the Supervisors school which was also held at the Police Academy.

Sgt. Mitrione, Det. Hynes and P.O, Hendrie participated in several youth related education programs. The officers went to both Colonial School and Hutchinson School and spoke about safety issues related to Halloween. The officers also spoke to 6th grade students at the Middle School and spoke about general safety issues concerning how to protect themselves and how to avoid trouble and troubling situations. They also met with 8th grade students and spoke on Drug and Alcohol awareness. All these sessions took place during the students Heath class periods.

Chief Benefico was a panelist on a PACT sponsored group discussion entitled “**Teen Drug and Alcohol Use in Pelham: Good News, Bad News.**” The discussion centered around the local results of the Michigan Survey.