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Mayor & Council
Borough of Roselle Park
Roselle Park, New Jersey

Police Chief's Monthly Report for April 2016

During the month of April the Roselle Park Police Department participated in a statewide distracted driving crackdown program, the program is named “**U Drive, U Text, U Pay**” the crackdown was conducted for a 21 day period from April 1, 2016 to April 21, 2016. The program is designed for Police Departments to assign patrol officers for a certain number of hours throughout a shift each day for a 21 day period and the officers target all detracted, and careless drivers. At the conclusion of this program all motor vehicle violations issued by officers during this time period are forwarded to the New Jersey Division of Highway Traffic Safety where they are recorded and the departments with large numbers of violations will be considered for future grants from the State. At this point the State has not committed to funding this program, but they are reviewing all violation numbers from throughout the State and will decide if this program will continue with funding in the future. As a result of this year's program the Roselle Park Police Department issued the following violations during the 21 day period; **11 seatbelt, 32 speeding, 40 cell phone/ texting, 16 suspended drivers, 3 child restraint, 2 reckless drivers, 11 careless drivers, and 168 other violations.** A total of 283 summonses issued, the Police Department committed a total of 160 man hours to this program for the 21 day period. This is a great program which educates the motoring public on the dangers of distracted driving, I am hopeful that the State will offer State funding for this program in the future.

On May 12, 2016 I will be attending the Auxiliary Police graduation at the Union County Police Academy, the Roselle Park Police Department will have five recruits graduating from this class and I am looking forward the added Auxiliary police division within the Police Department. The Auxiliary

Officers will be utilized during special town events for added security, and they will also be assigned to various law enforcement assignments throughout town to help enhance the police presence within the Borough.

On April 19, 2016 the Police Department conducted a seatbelt inspection detail on Galloping Hill Road at the intersection of East Colfax Avenue. The seatbelt inspection check point is designed for Police Officers to detect vehicle occupants who fail to utilize safety restraints while in a moving vehicle as required by State motor vehicle laws. The April 19th seatbelt detail was conducted for a two hour period and as a result of that detail 11 summonses were issued to vehicle occupants who failed to wear the required safety restraints while in a moving vehicle. The violations issued on these details has decreased since the Police Department first began this program several years ago, and this decrease in violations is a clear indication that this type of detail is successful in educating the public on the dangers associated with failing to wear safety restraints.

Very truly yours,

Paul W. Morrison
Chief of Police

