

# WATERBURY POLICE EXPLORERS

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## Special Interest Articles:

- Explorer Main Office to Open in 2013
- Explorer Gift Wrapping at Brass Mill Center
- Team Recreational Month Honored In October

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## Waterbury Explorers to Open Main Office

The Waterbury Police Explorers plan to open a Main Office location in the Brass Mill Center.

The Brass Mill Center, a proud supporter of the program, has agreed to donate a location for the Waterbury Police Explorers to open a Main Office in the city's mall.

The location, a storefront found on the lower level by Macy's will serve as a community center where people will be welcomed to attain information about the program. The location

will also serve as a recreational center for explorers as well as a tutoring center. "It will be a great asset for the program, Explorers will have a place to relax and socialize; get to know each other," said Senior Advisor Officer Jose Diaz, "we will also have a greater opportunity to let the community know about our program."

The Waterbury Police Explorer Office is currently at the Waterbury Police Department Training Division at 240 Bank

Street. The Waterbury Police Explorers will continue to use the Police Department Training Division as a "Training Center" where meetings and training sessions will be conducted.

Explorers can plan on seeing more event assignments with the Brass Mill Center as the partnership continues to grow. The administrative personnel are still finalizing plans with officials from the Brass Mill Center. The location is expected to open in the early months of 2013.

## Third Annual Awards/ Promotion Ceremony Celebrated

The Waterbury Police Explorers 2011-2012 Awards Committee hosted the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Waterbury Police Explorer Awards and Promotion Ceremony in July.

The ceremony held at the Waterbury Police Activity League facility attracted an audience of more than 20 parents/guardians, friends, and supporters. The committee reviewed hundreds of shift reports, disciplinary files, and supervisor recommendations before proposing a finalized program to the Waterbury

Police Explorer Advisors.

Over thirty out of approximately 150 explorers were honored at the ceremony. "It would be in our favor to personally award each explorer for the dedication and hard work they have contributed to the program and the community, the ceremony however was designed to meritoriously award those explorers who have went above and beyond their responsibilities," said Explorer Captain Ysmael Peguero in opening remarks of the ceremony.

Awards that were given at the ceremony included Law Enforcement Service, Explorer of the Year, Tenure, Perfect Attendance, Community Service, Law Enforcement Training, Physical Agility, Firearms, Most Improved and Academic.

The ceremony also publically recognized several promotions of explorer supervisors who have tested for open positions.

The committee is currently working on the 2012-2013 ceremony.

## Explorer SWAT Team Come in First Place



After ten months of training and constant dedication, the first ever Waterbury Police Explorer SWAT Team put their skills to the test at the Connecticut Police Cadet SWAT Challenge hosted by NERLEEA.

On Saturday October 20 after over 6 hours of competition the Waterbury Police Explorer SWAT Team posed for a picture with their medals.

“It was great to see the team come together and show off the skills we have learned,” said SWAT Team Leader Wandel Rodriguez.

The challenge which included several regional explorer posts was held at Stone’s Ranch in East Lyme, Connecticut.

The Waterbury Police Explorer SWAT Team earned first place in Rapid Response and third place

in a Sniper Challenge.

Tryouts to join the 2012-2013 Waterbury Police Explorer SWAT Team will take place sometime within the next few months.

SWAT Team members are currently holding fundraisers to purchase training equipment. For more information regarding the SWAT Team please contact Advisor Jose Peguero.

*“It was great to see the team come together and show off the skills we have learned.”*

## Explorer Gift Wrapping Planned for 2013 Holiday Season

The Brass Mill Center and the Waterbury Police Explorers are partnering up to offer the community professional gift wrapping services.

Explorers will be located in the lower level JCPenney Court “Gift Wrapping Store” across of Santa Clause. The community is welcomed to get all of their gifts wrapped by trained explorers at affordable costs.

In response to popular demand, the Waterbury Police Explorers have increased hours of operation during the 2012 Holiday Season.

Explorers will begin the Third Annual Waterbury Police Explorer Gift Wrapping Fundraiser on Friday November 23, also known as “Black Friday.” The explorers will also be available for gift wrapping November 30-December 2 and every day after

December 7 until Christmas Eve. Times will vary in between regular mall operation hours.

The fundraiser has proven to be a success in previous years. All net proceeds will benefit the Waterbury Police Explorers and their efforts in “Investing in the Future of Law Enforcement” and instilling characteristics of leadership.

## Bus Added to Explorer Fleet



The Waterbury Police Explorers have recently added a Blue Bird school bus to the Explorer fleet.

The bus which was donated in partnership with the Waterbury Police Activity League will be used for transporting explorers to large events, special field trips, and

other professional transportation uses.

Senior Advisor Officer Jose Diaz was recently licensed by the state of Connecticut to operate commercial motor vehicles.

The addition to the Waterbury Police Explorer Chevrolet Suburban and

Chevrolet Express was made in response to the gradual increase of membership of the Waterbury Police Explorers.

A special token of gratification is extended to all supporters of the Waterbury Police Explorers Post 4141.

## Team Recreational Month Enjoyed by All

The Waterbury Police Explorers named October 2012 Team Recreational Month.

Throughout the month, explorers met every Tuesday to play recreational sports. The special activity was designed to encourage continued partnership among explorers. The Waterbury Police Explorers is currently the largest explorer post of its kind in the Northeast region of the United States. "There are over 100 members enrolled in the program, and it

becomes difficult to create long everlasting relationships with your colleagues when you only meet to train and work," replied Associate Advisor Officer Frank Lee during a conversation about the activity.

All training sessions and meetings that were originally scheduled in October were postponed.

"I really enjoy seeing the explorers play together, it helps build teamwork among all explorers of all ranks," said Officer Lee.

Explorers played various

sports including dodge ball, tennis, and basketball. The Waterbury Police Activity League also opened up their fitness center to explorers. The fitness center has gym equipment as well as several video games and a virtual rock wall.

All explorers were well pleased with the activities that were planned throughout the month and the administrative staff promises to hold similar activities in the future, according to Explorer Captain Ysmael Peguero.



## Explorers Attend Post University: CSI Academy

In the late summer of 2012, about twenty Waterbury Police Explorers opted out of summer activities to attend the Post University CSI Academy.

The commuting academy which ran from 8AM to 4PM everyday from Monday to Friday at Post University in Waterbury welcomed the Waterbury Police Explorers in attendance for the second year. Professor Scott Flebotte, academy director and Post University Professor from the Criminal Justice Department, altered the program agenda to

include a broader overview of the Law Enforcement field. The weeklong academy, which is also opened to the public introduced students to Crime Scene Investigation, Weapons of Mass Destruction, Police Operations, Sex Crimes, and many other topics of the Law Enforcement Field.

The program welcomed knowledgeable experts in the field of Law Enforcement from the Waterbury Police Department, Naugatuck Police Department, the State of Connecticut Forensics Lab, several

Massachusetts Police Departments, and other law organizations. All instructors had over six years experience.

"I really enjoyed it, I learned a lot of things that helped me understand the different crimes officers investigate," said Explorer Sergeant Nohemy Rossi.

The academy ended in a reception honoring all students. The Waterbury Police Explorers look forward to returning the following year for another week long academy, which officials from Post University promise to be a fun, educational and fulfilling experience.



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*“By beginning to show the future of law enforcement how to become pillars of the community, this stereotype is slowly being proven wrong.”*

## Explorers Help Build KaBoom Playground

On a sunny hot day in June, over forty explorers joined community efforts to build a playground in Chase Park.

The event assignment, only one out of many of its kind was a way to help construct profound caring citizens. Explorers are taught characteristics of leadership, one of which is

becoming a well respected pillar of the community. An infamous stereotype against police officers is that they are mean power hungry individuals. By beginning to show the future of law enforcement how to become pillars of the community, this stereotype is slowly being proven wrong.

The KaBoom Playground was built in one day by hundreds of community volunteers. Another similar detail assignment was the construction of the city’s largest mosaic, which over 20 explorers helped build.

The Explorers volunteer in more than 15 similar activities throughout the year.

## Explorers Continue to Work with Neighboring Communities

The Waterbury Police Explorers began to work in surrounding communities when they helped construct the Middlebury Police Explorers.

On recent occasions, the Waterbury Police Explorers have also worked closely with the Wolcott Police Explorers,

the Prospect Police Explorers, as well as continued teamwork with the Middlebury Police Explorers. “It is important for explorers to realize that all Law Enforcement officers around the nation must work together, we want to help build unities across town borders,” said Senior Advisor Officer

Jose Diaz. The Waterbury Police Explorers have also traveled to towns such as Hartford and Windsor Locks to work assignments.

Ongoing involvement in neighboring communities will continue to be an objective for the Waterbury Police Explorers.



## September 11 Tribute for Fallen Heroes

The Waterbury Police Explorers met on Tuesday September 11 to honor all fallen heroes who have paid the ultimate sacrifice when America’s beacon of freedom was attacked.

Explorer supervisors organized a “9/11 Run” around downtown Waterbury. Making several stops, one including the city’s Police and Firefighter Memorial, explorer supervisors read

tributes honoring fallen heroes.

Explorer Captain Ysmael Peguero and Explorer Lieutenant Jose Rodriguez designed a special cadence that was repeated throughout the roads of downtown Waterbury.

Explorers regularly honor officers who have fallen in the line of duty during general meetings.

The Waterbury Police Explorer makes it a responsibility to recognize and honor all heroes, past and present, who risk their lives every day for the safety and well being of citizens across the country.

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## Waterbury Police Explorers Post 4141

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*Explorer Meetings held every Tuesday from 6PM-8PM!*

All explorer donations or requests can be mailed to the above address ATTN: Officer Jose Diaz.

### We're on the Web!

See us at:

[www.waterburypoliceexplorers.org](http://www.waterburypoliceexplorers.org)

#### Facebook

[www.facebook.com/waterburypoliceexplorerspost4141](http://www.facebook.com/waterburypoliceexplorerspost4141)

#### Twitter

@WtbyExplorers

## Explorers Now Meeting On Tuesdays

The Waterbury Police Explorers have changed their meeting days to Tuesdays from 6PM-8PM.

At the start of the 2012-2013 school year, the Waterbury Police Explorers made a change to their schedule to better serve explorers with tutoring opportunities.

The day change will better serve explorers in their academic career as they will have the opportunity to schedule more tutoring sessions in the beginning of the week.

Captain Ysmael Peguero is currently in charged with scheduling explorers with the available

resources and appropriate tutors. This service is free of charge to all active explorers.

To make a tutoring appointment, explorers are asked to send an email to Captain Peguero with specific academic topics within 24 hours of the preferred tutoring date.

## Early Warning Weather Alerts

As the winter season is now amongst us, all explorers are encouraged to stay updated with the Waterbury Police Explorer facebook and twitter accounts as well as the Waterbury Police Explorers website.

You may also tune into WFSB during inclement weather for early warning weather alerts.

In addition, the Waterbury Police Explorers follow the Waterbury Board of Education schedule; if school is closed or dismissed early, all

explorer assignments for the day will also be cancelled.

If you have not signed up to receive automated messages or phone calls about detail assignments, please send an email to the Explorer Webmasters.

## About Our Organization...

The Waterbury Police Explorers is a non-profit youth organization centered in the Waterbury community to introduce the community youth, between the ages of 11-21, to the field of Law Enforcement while instilling leadership characteristics.

The program offers public and private companies and organizations several services such as traffic control, crowd control, first

aid/CPR coverage, color guard, and many other services.

All Waterbury Police Explorer funds are used for explorer training equipment, uniforms, and other related expenses. All funds are based on donations by public and private donators.

If you are interested in making a donation to the Waterbury Police Explorers or if you would

like the explorers to volunteer at an event for you, please contact us via email at [webmaster@waterburypoliceexplorers.org](mailto:webmaster@waterburypoliceexplorers.org) or by phone (203) 228-3422.

On behalf of the Waterbury Police Explorers, we would like to thank all of our supporters.