



NEW CASTLE COUNTY COUNCIL PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING

Co-Chair: Brandon Toole, First District
Co-Chair: Kevin Caneco, Twelfth District

October 14, 2025
4:00 PM

VIRTUAL ZOOM WEBINAR MEETING &
LOUIS L. REDDING CITY/COUNTY BUILDING
1ST FLOOR COUNCIL CHAMBERS
800 N. FRENCH STREET, WILMINGTON, DE 19801**

MINUTES

A. Meeting Call to Order

The Public Safety Committee meeting was called to order at 04:00 PM by Mr. Caneco.

Members present: Kevin Caneco, David Carter, John Cartier (virtual), Dee Durham, Valerie George, Penrose Hollins, Janet Kilpatrick, Timothy Sheldon, George Smiley, Jea Street (virtual), David Tackett, Brandon Toole, Monique Williams-Johns

Members absent: none.

B. Approval of Minutes

-A motion was made by Mr. Carter, seconded by Ms. Durham, to approve the minutes from September 9, 2025 Public Safety Committee meeting. The minutes were approved by voice vote at 4:01 PM.

C. Review/Discussion of Resolution(s)

none

D. Review/Discussion of Ordinance(s)

°25-115: AMEND THE GRANTS BUDGET: APPROPRIATE \$36,983.00 FROM THE STATE OF DELAWARE, DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE – SPECIAL LAW ENFORCEMENT ASSISTANCE FUND (SLEAF) TO THE SLEAF PROTECTIVE RIDING GEAR GRANT, TO BE ADMINISTERED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY, DIVISION OF POLICE
Prime Sponsor(s): Mr. Toole, Mr. Caneco

°25-116: AMEND THE GRANTS BUDGET: AUTHORIZE THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE TO SIGN AN AGREEMENT AND APPROPRIATE \$98,444.46 FROM THE STATE OF DELAWARE, DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO BELVEDERE FIRE COMPANY COMMAND VEHICLE GRANT FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
Prime Sponsor(s): Mr. Toole, Mr. Caneco

°25-125: AMEND THE GRANTS BUDGET: APPROPRIATE \$30,000 FROM THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE TO THE ASSET FORFEITURE-FEDERAL GRANT, WHICH IS ADMINISTERED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY, DIVISION OF POLICE
Prime Sponsor(s): Mr. Toole, Mr. Caneco

(To be voted on at the 10/28/25 Council Meeting)

Public Comment made online by "Dawn."

°25-126: AMEND THE GRANTS BUDGET: APPROPRIATE \$60,000 IN ACTUAL PROGRAM INCOME TO THE COMMUNITY POLICING GRANT, WHICH IS ADMINISTERED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY, DIVISION OF POLICE

Prime Sponsor(s): Mr. Toole, Mr. Caneco

(To be voted on at the 10/28/25 Council Meeting)

E. Presentations

Presentation of PAB Annual Report by Kim Eppehimer.

Discussion among Council Members, Mr. Street and Mr. Hollins, and NCCPD Colonel Leonard.

Discussion by NCCPD of recent Public Safety concerns and practical next steps residents can take to help safeguard their homes and properties.

Discussion among Council Members, Mr. Smiley, Mr. Tackett, Mr. Street, and Ms. Williams-Johns and NCCPD Community Services Unit representative, Master Corporal Pierce.

PAL Update

Discussion among Council Members, Mr. Street, Ms. Williams-Johns, Mr. Tackett, Ms. Kilpatrick, and Mr. Toole, and NCCPD Senior Police Lieutenant Dolan and Colonel Leonard.

F. Other

Mr. Caneco and Mr. Toole presented a New Castle County Council Tribute to NCCPD K9 Unit handler, Master Corporal Tanyer for K9 Nox. Honoring K9 Nox's outstanding dedication and commitment to the New Castle County Police Department and exemplary service to the citizens of New Castle County.

Mr. Street discussed the recent shootings of two Newark High School teenagers on Sixth and Pine Streets, near Maurice Pritchett Sr. Academy in Wilmington.

G. Public Comment

Public Comment was made online by Rob Bullock.

H. Adjournment

- A motion was made by Mr. Smiley, seconded by Mr. Carter, to adjourn the **Public Safety Committee Meeting**. The motion was approved, and the meeting was adjourned at 04:12 PM.

BURGLARY / AUTO THEFT

NEW CASTLE COUNTY



S/Sgt. ROBERT J. MAGUIRE
CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS UNIT
PROPERTY SQUAD SUPERVISOR

BURGLARY DEFINITION:

ACCORDING TO DELAWARE CRIMINAL CODE,
BURGLARY IS WHEN A PERSON KNOWINGLY ENTERS OR
REMAINS UNLAWFULLY IN A BUILDING WITH THE INTENT TO
COMMIT A CRIME THEREIN.

BURGLARY FACTS

(AS PER FBI / BUREAU OF JUSTICE / PEW RESEARCH CENTER)

- **A BURGLARY OCCURS APPROXIMATELY EVERY 26 SECONDS IN THE UNITED STATES.**
- **HOMES WITHOUT A SECURITY SYSTEM ARE 300% MORE LIKELY TO BE BROKEN INTO AND BURGLARIZED.**
- **46.9% OF PEOPLE DON'T HAVE A HOME SECURITY SYSTEM INSTALLED IN THEIR HOME.**
- **83% OF WOULD-BE BURGLARS CHECK FOR THE PRESENCE OF A SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM (ALARM OR VIDEO) BEFORE ATTEMPTING A BREAK-IN.**
- **34% OF BURGLARS USE THE FRONT DOOR WHEN BREAKING INTO A HOME.**
- **NATIONALLY, POLICE SOLVE ONLY 12% OF REPORTED BURGLARY CASES.**

DELAWARE VS. U.S. BURGLARY FACTS

(AS PER THE FBI AND NCCPD CIU)

- **DELAWARE SITS IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NATIONAL AVERAGE FOR BURGLARIES (203.1) PER 100,000 PEOPLE**
 - **HIGHER END STATES INCLUDE WASHINGTON (563), NEW MEXICO (604), LOUISIANA (497), NEVADA (436), CALIFORNIA (371), COLORADO (395)**
 - **LOWER END STATES INCLUDE FLORIDA (173), CONNECTICUT (130), MAINE (115), RHODE ISLAND (128), NEW JERSEY (148)**
- **AVERAGE CLEARANCE RATE FOR NCCPD BURGLARIES, INCLUDING VEHICLE BURGLARIES, IS BETWEEN 40-50%. NATIONAL AVERAGE IS 12% FOR RESIDENTIAL BURGLARIES. 2024 NCCPD HAD A 44% CLEARANCE RATE**
- **COUNTIES IN DELAWARE**
 - **NEW CASTLE COUNTY SAW A 31% DECREASE BETWEEN 2018 – 2022**
 - **KENT COUNTY SAW A 4% DECREASE (SAME TIMEFRAME)**
 - **SUSSEX SAW A 44% DECREASE**

SATG BURGLARIES:

(SOUTH AMERICAN THEFT GROUPS)

**TYPICALLY TARGET WEALTHY INDIVIDUALS OF EAST AND SOUTH
ASIAN DESCENT**

**FREQUENTLY TRAVEL FROM OTHER STATES TO COMMIT THESE
CRIMES**

**BURGLARIES WILL OCCUR WHEN THE RESIDENCE IS
UNOCCUPIED AND USUALLY RESULT IN SIGNIFICANT FINANCIAL
LOSS**

**ORGANIZED GROUPS OF PROFESSIONAL THIEVES, USING
SOPHISTICATED TECHNIQUES AND TACTICS TO INCLUDE:**

**PREOPERATIONAL SURVEILLANCE, ELECTRONIC
COUNTERMEASURES, GPS TRACKERS**

AUTO THEFT

2024: 759 CASES, 20.28% CLEARANCE RATE

2025 (THRU 9/30): 507 CASES, 17.4% CLEARANCE RATE

TRENDS:

KIAS AND HYUNDAIS (2011-2022)

HIGH END (MOSTLY MOPAR)

UNSECURED VEHICLES

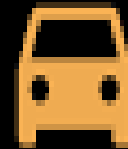
DID YOU LEAVE YOUR KEYS IN THE CAR?

DON'T FORGET TO REMOVE ALL
VALUABLES AND SPARE KEYS BEFORE
LOCKING YOUR CAR



#9PMROUTINE

#9PMROUTINE



Bring in all keys and valuables



Turn on porch lights



Lock your shed, garage, house
and car



Check your mail and bring in any
packages

WHAT ELSE CAN BE DONE?

ALARM SYSTEMS

WORKING SURVEILLANCE CAMERAS

LPR CAMERAS

CAREFUL WHAT YOU PUT ON SOCIAL MEDIA

LOCK, LOCK, LOCK