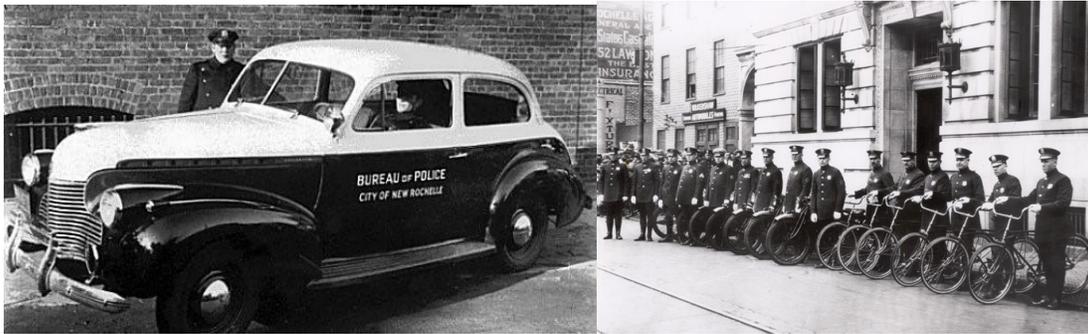


Introduction



The New Rochelle Police Department is an award-winning law enforcement art methods mixed with old-fashioned community engagement. It employs 216 personnel -- 174 of them sworn police officers -- and features all the latest developments, from top-of-the-line scientific forensics to community-oriented policing.

The Department responds to close to 50,000 calls for service, investigates more than 1,300 Part 1 crimes, and processes 1,500 arrests every year. On June 2, 1993, the Department was certified as an accredited agency by the New York State Law Enforcement Accreditation Council, making it among the first group of police departments in New York to earn accreditation; it has maintained continual accreditation since.

This is a full-service law enforcement agency for residents and business owners of New Rochelle, New York, which is located in Westchester County. An appointed Police Commissioner, Joseph Schaller, and Deputy Police Commissioner, Robert Gazzola oversee the Department, which is divided into three main divisions, each overseen by a captain. They are: Staff Services, Police Services and Criminal Investigations.

A Long and Proud History

The Town of New Rochelle established its first professional police department in the Spring of 1885, replacing a two-century old system of constables. Inherited from the Colonial Era, the constable-magistrate system was the almost universal system of law enforcement in the United States up until the middle of the nineteenth century. But population growth and increased mobility diminished the effectiveness of this relatively

informal system. American cities began establishing professional police organizations, and by the end of the century smaller communities like New Rochelle joined the trend.

Modeled after the New York City Police Department, the new New Rochelle Police Department consisted of four officers: a captain, William Conklin, to command the department; and three "roundsmen" -- Thomas Ford, Edward Kelly and William Stouter -- to patrol and provide other police services.

In 1896 Edward J. Timmons replaced Conklin; Timmons would go on to command the Department for the next 24 years, leading it through its most dramatic period of change and growth. In 1899, when New Rochelle incorporated as a city, Timmons became the Department's first Chief of Police.

It was during that same year that Timmons introduced bicycles, a mounted patrol and a horse-drawn wagon to increase mobility. In 1908 he introduced motorcycles to contend with the new policing challenges brought on by the advent of the automobile. In 1914 the Department added its first automobile, a second-hand Cadillac. By the time Chief Timmons retired in 1920 the New Rochelle Police Department had grown from a small cadre of four officers with little more substance than the old constables to a full-service Police Department with its own Headquarters, automobiles and motorcycles, and a force of 80 men.

The Department continued to grow through the Twentieth Century. For a short period during the early 1930s, it was divided into two precincts. But the new Second Precinct became a political football and, after the installation of a new communications system in 1935, it was abandoned and sold.

By the 1950's the Department had grown to more than 150 men, and had outgrown its old Headquarters on Lawton St. A new headquarters was built at 90 Beaufort Pl. attached to the new City Hall. In October of 1998, the Department moved into the state-of-the-art Police/Court Facility at 475 North Avenue.

The department has experienced its share of tragedies. Lost in the line of duty were:

- Special Patrolman Maurice Ahern - June 20, 1903
- Lieutenant Thomas J. Payne – September 23, 1929
- Patrolman Daniel F. Murphy – April 25, 1930
- Patrolman Timothy Mahoney – May 5, 1930
- Detective William E. Mancusi – July 20, 1934
- Police Officer Allen B. McLeod – February 14, 1977
- Detective John C. Phillips – October 1, 1981
- Police Officer Gary D. Pagano – September 14, 1982
- Police Officer Kathleen M. O’Connor-Funigiello - August 16, 2018
- Detective Mark Gado (Retired) - September 16, 2018

NRPD is regularly recognized for its excellence and has received the following awards:

1999 Semi-Finalist Webber Seavey Award for Quality in Law Enforcement

2002 Winner of ITT/IACP International Community Policing Award
(1 of only 5 winners worldwide)

2002 New York State Attorney General Award

2004 Finalist of ITT/IACP International Community Policing Award

2005 Winner of IACP/Motorola Webber Seavey Award for Quality in Law Enforcement (one of only three winners worldwide and the first municipal agency in New York State to receive the award)

2010 Semi-Finalist Webber Seavey Award for Quality in Law Enforcement

2011 Winner of Cisco/IACP Community Policing Award
(one of only five winners worldwide)