

THE 10-4

A NEWSLETTER OF THE CRANSTON POLICE DEPARTMENT RETIREE ASSOCIATION



FOUNDER and HONORARY PRESIDENT – RICO MACCARONE

Issue 12, Volume 2

April 10, 2019

TOGETHER WE SERVED



TOGETHER WE REMEMBER



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GUEST SPEAKER AT APRIL MEETING

Thinking about estate planning or having a will can be not only troublesome, but sometimes it's the last thing we think about during our busy schedule.

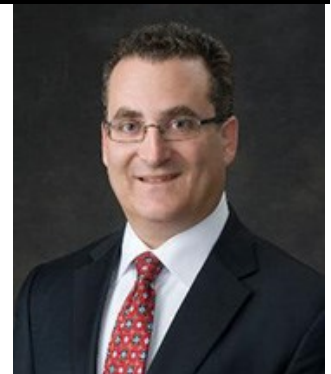
In order to provide our CPD family with some insight on these matters, the Cranston Police Department Retiree Association has obtained the services of Attorney Nichols A. Lambros to speak at our next CPDRA meeting.

Attorney Lambros is admitted to practice law in Massachusetts and Rhode Island. In addition to his law degree, Attorney Lambros has earned a Master of Laws in Banking and

Financial Law Studies from Boston University of Law. Since 1993, his practice has focused primarily on estate planning and probate administration. Mr. Lambros also regularly serves as a court appointed guardian ad litem in guardianship proceedings.

Currently Attorney Lambros is the managing partner of Lambros Law located at 100 Midway Road, suite 16, Cranston, RI.

Due to the importance of this subject matter, we are inviting all CPD retirees, widows, and sworn police officers and civilian personnel of the Cranston Police De-



Attorney Nichols Lambros

partment.

Our next CPDRA meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 25, 2019 at 7:00pm in the community room of CPD Hdqtrs.

Attorney Lambros's presentation will begin at approximately 7:20pm.

We hope to see everyone there.

CPD WEARING AUTISM AWARENESS PATCH FOR APRIL

For the month of April, 2019, officers of the department will be wearing a custom made autism awareness patch on the right shoulder of their uniforms. These patches will only be worn for one month.

Anyone wishing to obtain one can contact the department. The cost is ten dollars per patch, and the proceeds will go to support autism awareness projects.



Honorary President:**Rico Maccarone****President:****Peter Sepe****Vice President:****James Perry****Secretary:****Gertrude Fitta****Treasurer:****Mark Sepe****Managing Editor, 10-4****James Ignasher****Board Members:****Robert Baccari****Richard Gallo****Gary Nottarianni****Vincent McAteer Sr.****Floyd Smith****Printing:****FEDEX, Warwick,, RI****CPDRA Finances to Date:****Savings: \$1,795.75****Checking: \$9,360.87****CPDRA Expenditures:**

*** Memorial engraving
for Off. C. Zola, Off. L.
D'Errico and Det. W.
Palmer: \$684.00**

**NEXT CPDRA MEETING****Date: April 25, 2019****Times: 7:00pm**

**Location: Community
Room at CPD Hdqtrs,
Garfield Ave., Cranston,
RI**

CRANSTON WAS FIRST IN STATE WITH POLICE CARS

The Cranston Police Department was the first in Rhode Island to use a motorized patrol car for police work. It was an idea that was hailed as innovative and progressive by some, and preposterous and wasteful by others.

Prior to the advent of the automobile, Cranston's officers covered their beats by horseback, bicycle, and walking. When a citizen needed the police, they often had to go and find the beat officer. All of that changed in July of 1910 when the CPD obtained its first police car, a black Ford Model T with a 35 hp motor reportedly capable of achieving a top speed of 60 mph — probably down hill, with the wind behind it.

The car was primitive compared to police cars that came later. It lacked emergency lights, siren, and radio, as well as creature comforts like heat and AC. It had a canvas top, but was open at the sides, which meant it was cold in the winter, and wet when it rained. Yet it was a vast improvement over the horse or bicycle.

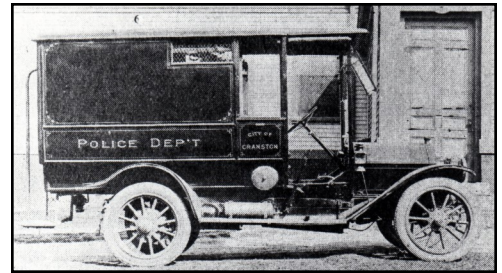
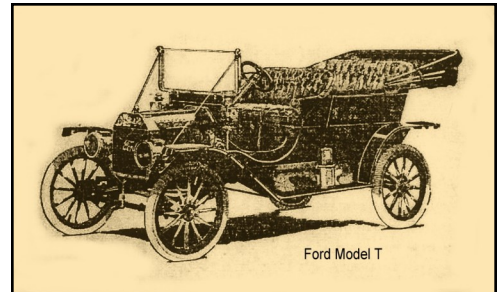
A plan was instituted where an officer was stationed at police headquarters in Knightsville with the car parked outside. In this way, a citizen could call the station to request an officer, and the officer could respond quickly thus saving time in emergencies.

The plan worked well, and an article in the Providence Journal stated in part, (Cranston), "will probably go down in history as the first city in the world in which a patrolman covers his beat in a high-powered, distance-destroying, upholstered buzz buggy".

Early autos were notoriously unreliable. Engines tended to overheat in summer and fail to start in winter, and flat tires were common and expected. Yet cars were still cheaper and easier to maintain than a horse.

In 1914, the department purchased a second automobile, but the make and model was not recorded.

The following year the department obtained a combination patrol wagon - ambulance for \$950. The vehicle was cus-



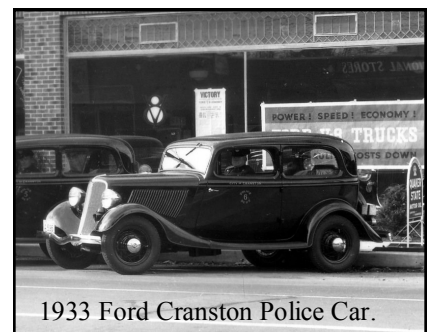
1915 patrol-ambulance wagon.

tom built at a shop in Edgewood on a Cadillac chassis. When put into service it carried rescue and first aid equipment. Although it lacked emergency lighting, it was equipped with a large bell to warn of its approach. This vehicle remained in service until it was replaced by another in 1925.

By 1933 Cranston cruisers were equipped with the first police radios. They operated on an AM band, and could receive, but could not transmit, which left a measure of doubt if a call had been received or not.

By 1935, The department was utilizing Ford patrol cars equipped with V-8 engines that reportedly could reach speeds between 60 to 70 mph.

Just imagine if an officer from that era had a chance to look at a modern computer-equipped cruiser of today.



1933 Ford Cranston Police Car.

"Attention to Orders" - NEVER TO BE FORGOTTEN

In each issue of the 10-4 Newsletter, we take this opportunity to honor those CPD members who are no longer with us, and who continually placed their lives on the line to serve and protect the citizens of Cranston, R.I.



Detective William J. Palmer, (53), passed away on Monday, February 25, 2019. He was the beloved husband of Mary Ann (DeBalsi) Palmer, and father of Bill Palmer Jr., and twins Jenna and Joseph Palmer, and brother of retired CPD Detective Thomas Palmer.

Bill was a 28-year veteran of the Cranston Police, serving in the patrol division, and then for 17 years in the B.C. I. Division. He was highly respected in the field of crime scene investigation and also served as a forensics instructor at the New England Institute of Technology.

Rest in peace our brother.

All Are Welcome To The X-cops Breakfast

Spring is here and with warm weather we all want to get outside after a winter of hibernation. Why not joins us at the Ex-cops breakfast held the last Tuesday of every month at the Cranston Diner. (1150 Oaklawn Avenue).

Breakfast starts at 8:30 and we can stay as long as we want to.

The food is great and it gives everyone a chance to catch up and reminisce about old times.

What do you have to lose?

Try it, you might like it.

The Police Department Is Seeking Old Photos & Other Memorabilia.

As you may or may not know, money from the former Fraternal Order of Police (Cranston Lodge) has been allocated for a departmental history project. At present, the department is seeking old photos to scan and copy with the intent of having them framed and hung around the new station. (All original photos will be returned.)

It is also planned to have permanent display case featuring memorabilia such as badges, iron claws, etc.

For further info contact Detectives John Ryan or Bob Santagata.

Jake Moretti—Retiree of the Month

John "Jake" Moretti was sworn in to the Cranston Police Department on July 5, 1977. He was promoted to Sergeant in 1988, and Detective Sergeant in 1995. After retiring in July of 2002 he served with the Rhode Island Airport Police for thirteen years before retiring in 2016. He now lives in Smithfield where he and his wife Shirley spend time with their grandchildren.

Good luck Jake in all your future endeavors.



Jake Moretti



Image From The Way-Back Machine



Above photo, L to R: Capt. Jordan, Joe Pelosi, John Montanaro, Sam Schlageter, Capt. Moretti. Photo taken August 13, 1969.

THE LINEUP GALLERY



Off. Mike Castelli



Det. Rick Cragin



Off. Warren Edman (D)



Off. John T. Enos (D)



Det. Rick Falcone



DARE Off. Tom Fazio



Off. James Fox (D)



Sgt. Steve Gabreille



Det. Tom Gaulin



Det. John Rafferty



Off. Bill Remington

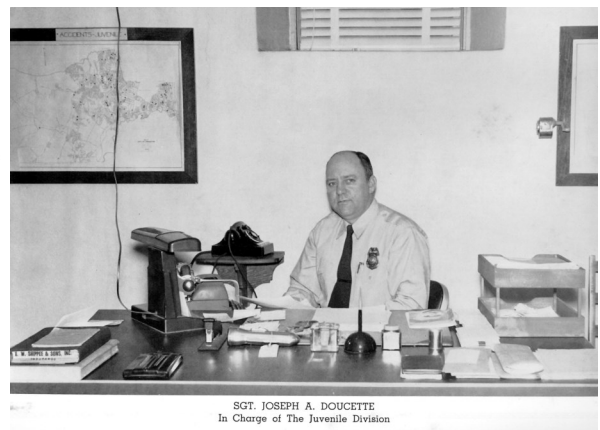


Det. Bob Ricci

LEGEND: (D) after a retiree's last name in the "Line Up Gallery" indicates the officer has passed away.



INSPECTOR ANTHONY J. MORETTI
In Charge of The Detective Division



SGT. JOSEPH A. DOUCETTE
In Charge of The Juvenile Division

NOTE: We are always looking for photos from our retirees for the website and the 10-4. Sending your photos allows us to properly recognize your dedication and professionalism while serving the citizens of Cranston, RI as a member of the Cranston Police Department.