



## ANNUAL POLICE REPORT - 2008

This year there were 3,269 police incidents dispatched in the Township. That is a reduction of 577 incidents from last year most of which was caused by a decrease in officer-initiated activity such as traffic stops. In addition, we handled 336 incidents in the Borough of Modena. It was a very challenging year because of budget adjustments made at the beginning of the year and the loss of our full-time administrative assistant. We did later hire a part-time administrative assistant. We also had at least one full-time police officer off either on sick leave, disability or family medical leave for the first 9 months of the year. We finally returned to full staffing in October.



Team members secure the front of the target location on Hephzibah Hill Road on May 29, 2008.

Photo by S. Harper/EFPD

In 2008, we were faced with ever-increasing level of violence in not only our township but also the surrounding area. We initiated an investigation in May based on information provided by the Coatesville City PD of a location in the township where crack cocaine and marijuana were allegedly being sold and the suspects were known to be involved in a series of drug related robberies. Informants reported that the suspect(s) had ballistic body armor, were armed with pistols and possibly an AK style assault rifle. We developed probable cause for a search warrant and applied to Magisterial District Justice Gill for the warrant. She approved it and on May 29, 2008, we executed the warrant at the



address on Hephzibah Hill Road with the assistance of the Western Chester County Emergency Response Team. The tactical team surrounded the target location and set containment while evacuating nearby residents. Several suspects were taken into custody without incident. Small amounts of controlled substances, packaging materials, electronic scales, and a stolen gun were located. In addition, 7.62 mm ammunition and accessories for an AK-47 rifle were found. No one was injured. Although the primary target was not located on this date, he was found a week later in Coatesville City.









Our police officers also were busy investigating crashes. According to Chester County DES dispatch records there were 101 motor vehicle accidents including one fatal accident. Police officers also made 695 traffic stops this year.

We handled 289 reports, 244 alarm activations, 122 domestic disputes and 309 requests by a citizen for a phone call.

Although final numbers are not yet available it appears that we finished this year under budget.

I am proud of the work of our police officers this year and look forward to another challenging year but hopefully one in which we can continue to well serve and protect our community.

> Sincerely yours, Peter J. Mango Peter J. Mango Chief of Police

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