



Ten Things to Know About the Fox Point Police Department



1. The mission of the department is to protect life and property. Thomas J. Czaja is the chief. Gerald E. Lamm is the captain. The police force has four sergeants, one investigator, ten officers, and six auxiliary (trained volunteer) officers. Almost all have college degrees. The process to become a cop is competitive. It requires a thorough background check and an intensive psychological exam. A patrol officer's annual salary ranges from \$48,534 to \$65,696 plus benefits.
2. Fox Point is not Mayberry R.F.D. Cops do not sit around and think of ways to look busy. Village police respond to many calls for assistance, including those involving burglaries, robberies, accidents, alarms, fires, vehicles and traffic, juveniles, domestic violence, and disorderly conduct. The police also lead many crime prevention and safety programs.
3. Officers carry .40 caliber Sig-Sauer semi-automatic handguns. All squad cars are equipped with video cameras, computers to run license plate and drivers license checks, first aid kits, M-16, .223 Cal Rifles, and 12 gauge shotguns. Dispatch services, located at the Bayside Police Department, are shared with neighboring

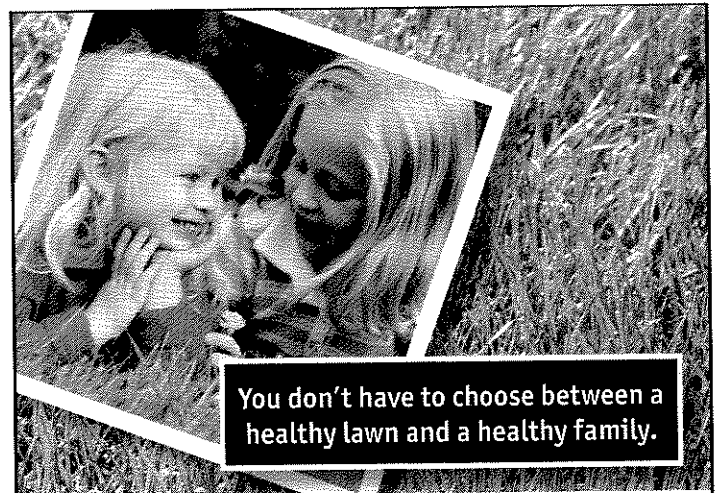
communities. Fox Point police – and those in surrounding communities -- frequently assist one another. This is called "mutual aid."

4. In incidences on April 16, 2009 and February 15, 2010, the police were required to use lethal force. Both incidents involved the apprehension of robbery suspects. No one apart from the alleged perpetrator was injured – and videos of the events revealed that effective police work was the reason.
5. From a cop's point of view, traffic stops are inherently dangerous because the officer is so exposed. A back-up squad car that arrives on the scene is a routine safety precaution. A driver should stay in the car, hands at the ten and two position on the wheel with driver's license, registration, and proof of insurance ready to hand to the officer. The police issue about as many warnings as citations. The police do not have a quota they must meet – nor are fines a significant source of funds for the village.
6. Police officers are required, day-to-day, to make judgment calls in the context of highly ambiguous situations. This is not easy.

7. Police work involves interaction with many non-residents. In fact, about one-half of individuals who appear in Fox Point municipal court do not live in the village. Fox Point police pull over a considerable number of drivers suspected of driving while impaired. The level of impairment often is extreme. This is a serious problem.
8. A good cop has good people skills, patience, common sense, intelligence, and a reasonable balance of humor and skepticism toward everyday life. The Fox Point Police Commission, lead by President Stephen E. Kravit, carefully screens candidates for these traits.

9. When the weather turns bitter cold, crime tends to drop.
10. Citizen surveys consistently reveal a high degree of community satisfaction with the Fox Point Police Department.

Mr. Frazer is a trustee on the Fox Point Village board. The views expressed are his own and not necessarily those of the village, the village board, other village board members, or Neighborhood Communications, LLC.



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