

History of the Police Department

In 1795, Springfield Township was created from the Miami Purchase. Sometime later, the village of North College Hill was formed and the police department was organized under a marshal system.

In 1923, Deputy Marshal Arthur H. Seaman was killed while on duty, the victim of a hit-skip vehicle crash.

On Easter Sunday, 1928, Marshal Peter Dumele (53) was shot and killed in the line of duty while trying to stop a robbery in progress. The robbery occurred at the poolroom of William Warnken (on the corner of Hamilton and Sundale Avenues).

In 1941, North College Hill with a population exceeding 5,000 residents, was incorporated into a statutory city under Ohio law. The Marshal's Office was replaced by a police department. Marshal Frank X. Niehaus became the first Chief of North College Hill's Police Department. The badge style at this time was a pinched shield type (similar to the Cincinnati Police Badge style currently in use).

In 1954, the badge style changed to the Shield style that is in use today by sworn members of the North College Hill Police Department.

In 1960, Chief Frank X. Niehaus retires and Sergeant Stanley B. Petit is promoted to Chief of Police. Retired Chief Niehaus runs for the office of Mayor of North College Hill and wins the election by ONE vote. He was re-elected for a second term as Mayor and was well liked.

Chief Petit started with North College Hill as a patrolman in 1946 after returning from his service in the United States Marine Corps (13th Marine Regiment Artillery of the 5th Marine Division). Chief Petit retired on Memorial Day (May 30th) 1980 in which his last official duty was to serve as the Grand Marshal of the Memorial Day Parade.

In 1980, Sergeant Peter A. Zappulla, a life long resident of North College Hill, was sworn in as Police Chief. Chief Zappulla had started his career with the North College Hill Police Department in 1971. During Chief Zappulla's tenure, the police explorer program was started in conjunction with the Dan Beard Council and the Boy Scouts of America.

In 1988, the shoulder patch was changed from the "Arrowhead" style, to a unique State of Ohio outline containing the flag, eagle and a representation of the North College Hill Police badge.

On March 1st, 1997 after 26 years of service to the community, Chief Zappulla retires and becomes a local business owner in the community. He is replaced as chief by Sergeant John W. Fulmer, another life long resident of the community. Some of the programs Chief Fulmer instituted included the creation of the Bike Patrol Unit and the Citizen's Police Academy.

In 1997, the shoulder patch was changed from the State of Ohio outline to the shield style with the outline of City Hall emblazoned on the front of the patch.

January of 2000, after over two decades of service to the community, Chief Fulmer retires and Sergeant Paul R. Toth was promoted to chief. Chief Toth joined the North College Hill Police Force in 1985. Some of the programs instituted by Chief Toth include:

- High Risk Warrant Team
- Drug Interdiction Response Team
- S.P.E.A.R.S. (Elderly Resident Assistance Program)
- Project Safe Return (Alzheimer's Patient Assistance Program)
- The creation of a School Resource Officer position

In 2000, the shoulder patch was once again changed. The shield style with the outline of City Hall on the front of the patch was replaced by a shoulder patch which was designed by input from all members of the North College Hill Police Department. This patch incorporates symbols and features that all officers felt were significant to display upon the uniform.

History from

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