

## **MIT Police**

The [MIT Police Department](#) is under the command of chief of police John DiFava, who is also the director of facilities operations and security. Deputy chief Jay Perault is responsible for the day-to-day operations of the department. Captain Albert F. Pierce, chief of staff, works closely with the administration in overseeing dignitary protection, the Special Services division, and the Crime Prevention Unit. Captain David Carlson continues to be responsible for training and administrative duties. Captain Craig Martin is responsible for day-to-day direct supervision of the patrol function.

The core mission of the MIT Police is to provide a safe and secure environment, as free of negative external interference as possible, to enable members of our community to engage in their academic pursuits and research endeavors with minimal distraction. The department continues to base its policing style on problem-solving principles to ensure that its resources are returning maximum value to the community. Input and involvement from those we serve, especially as to how the agency addresses the needs and concerns of MIT, is not only welcomed but solicited. This information is considered critical to our daily operation and is of extreme importance in matters of planning and resource allocation.

While our main focus is and will continue to be on the entire MIT community, the department actively engages in the development and maintenance of constructive relationships with the surrounding communities, as well as with local and national peer universities in the areas of research and education.

### **Patrol Division**

As indicated, Captain Martin is the commander of the MIT Police patrol division, which makes up 75% of our manpower. The patrol division provides quality service and a uniformed presence throughout the Institute. Our patrol officers are trained to focus on maintaining a safe and secure academic and living environment. The continued presence of foot, bicycle, motorcycle, and cruiser patrols conveys our effort to work in partnership with our community members to foster a willing, positive, and rewarding experience for all.

On April 13, a memorial service was held for the one-year anniversary of the loss of patrol officer Sean Collier. This service was attended by faculty members, staff, students, family, friends, representatives of outside police agencies, and Massachusetts dignitaries.

The Honor Guard, made up of nine members of the patrol division, participates in parades and special events at MIT and outside the Institute. The Honor Guard and members of our department have represented the MIT Police and the Institute at numerous events within the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

In April, on the one-year anniversary of the Boston Marathon incident, the Honor Guard mounted a wreath in honor of Sean Collier at a ceremony held on Boylston Street in Boston. Collier was also honored in May at the National Police Week ceremonies in

Washington, DC, during which his name was added to the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial. Chief John DiFava, members of the command staff, sergeants, patrol officers, and members of the Honor Guard were in attendance.

### **Special Services Division**

The Special Services unit is staffed by three detectives and one captain. An on-call detective is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, to assist the patrol division during major incidents. This unit is responsible for investigating all part-one crimes, which include but are not limited to rape, domestic violence, suicide, robbery, arson, drug offenses, and assault and battery. All detectives are certified to investigate sexual assault crimes. Captain Pierce, commander of the division, works with the MIT senior administration during sensitive critical incidents. The division also provides assistance to any member of the MIT community dealing with the Massachusetts court system. Special Services continues to collaborate with a number of outside law enforcement agencies, as their investigations on occasion require additional investigative expertise. Members of the Special Services unit enhance their investigative skills by attending specialized courses. In addition, temporary assignments are filled by officers, affording them investigative experience and further career advancement within the department.

In December a unit detective was promoted to patrol sergeant, and a patrol officer was promoted to detective.

### **Executive and Dignitary Protection and Institute Events**

An assigned sergeant oversees the responsibilities associated with the process, planning, and implementation of executive and dignitary protection as required. Coordination of security for events at Gray House and dignitary protection for high-ranking individuals visiting the Institute require partnering with local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies as well as the US Secret Service, the Department of Homeland Security, and the State Department. The continued partnership with the Office of Institute Events and Protocol ensures that proper safety and protection planning and processes are in place for all large-scale and high-level Institute events.

### **Community Policing**

With student safety in mind, the crime prevention sergeant worked with the Graduate Student Council to implement a new model of policing on the campus. An officer was assigned to patrol and serve as a resource to the graduate student community. From a satellite office located in Sidney-Pacific, this officer worked collaboratively with students in the northwest resident dormitories to proactively address public safety concerns. Public safety presentations were provided throughout the year to educate the MIT community on safety and awareness. In addition, summer orientation programs were offered to MIT community groups such as the Minority Introduction to Engineering and Science, Sloan Scholars, and Interphase programs. In August and September, new student orientations were conducted for the incoming student population. These presentations provide incoming students with information related to services and resources offered by the MIT Police.

## **Crime Prevention**

The Crime Prevention Unit offers presentations to new employees, graduates, undergraduates, visiting scholars, and international graduates and issues crime bulletins and alerts to inform the community of on- and off-campus incidents. In addition, the self-defense training program for women continues to be well attended.

## **Detail Office**

The detail office, located in the basement of W20, approves MIT student organization and department events. Police details are assigned to these events. In addition, the detail office works closely with project managers from MIT Facilities to assign police details to construction sites for the safety of the public. Security is also assigned for the protection of dignitaries and VIPs visiting the Institute.

## **Training**

The MIT Police Department conducts an in-service training program in conjunction with instructors from the Cambridge Police Department and Harvard University. This program consists of scenario-based training focusing on such areas as radiation protection, dealing with disturbed individuals, and officer rescue.

In addition to the many training programs individual officers attend throughout the year, the entire department conducted or received training in the following areas:

- Active shooter training
- Defensive tactics
- Quick clot and tourniquet application

## **Emergency Operations Center**

The MIT Police Department plays a major role in the Emergency Operations Center (EOC), which is designed to marshal the resources of the Institute to resolve emergencies. The department actively supports the EOC by attending monthly meetings and participating in emergency drills. The EOC benefits the Institute by supporting large-scale events with an active command post.

## **Fourth of July**

The Fourth of July celebration attracts visitors from local areas as well as visitors from all over the world. A unified command center staffed by law enforcement agencies (federal, state, local, and campus) is on site to coordinate the response to incidents that may occur during the event. Public safety officials are prepared to handle crowd control, personal safety, disorderly conduct, and emergency medical situations.

### **Local Emergency Planning Committee**

Our department is represented on the Cambridge Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC). Since the committee's inception, MIT has participated in quarterly meetings and annual emergency preparedness drills with the city of Cambridge. As a result of MIT's participation with LEPC and its close ties to Cambridge public safety, there is a strong working relationship with the city.

**John DiFava**  
**Chief of Police**