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QU And Hamden Police Conduct First On-Campus Joint Active-Aggressor Training Exercise



Pictured: Richard Cotto, director of training for the Hamden Police Department, led a joint exercise between the Hamden Police Department and the Public Safety Department at Quinnipiac University during a Jan. 7 training session at The Ledges residence hall at Quinnipiac.

Hamden: Months of planning by Quinnipiac University's Department of Public Safety culminated in a significant new milestone in campus safety preparedness with the university's first on-campus joint active-aggressor training exercise with the Hamden Police Department.

Held during winter break on January 7 at The Ledges residence hall on Quinnipiac's Mount Carmel Campus, the live exercise focused on coordinated response tactics, interagency communication, and operational preparedness between armed Quinnipiac public safety officers and members of the Hamden Police Department Emergency Services Unit/SWAT team.

The training underscores Quinnipiac's ongoing commitment to strengthening emergency readiness through close collaboration with local, state and federal partners, said Quinnipiac Chief of Public Safety Tony Reyes.

"This is part of an ongoing effort with our partners to ensure we are continuously training, identifying any interoperability challenges, and responding seamlessly if an incident were to occur," Reyes said. "This exercise reflects the strength of our partnership with the Hamden Police Department and our shared commitment to the safety of this community."

Reyes noted that on-campus, interagency training of this kind is uncommon and reflects a high level of mutual trust and collaboration.

"Very few police departments train with their university counterparts at this level," Reyes said. "I'm extremely proud of the relationship we have with Hamden Police. Their willingness to collaborate, share tactics, and train on-site speaks volumes about their commitment to Quinnipiac and to public safety."

Hamden Police Chief Edward P. Reynolds emphasized the importance of joint preparedness efforts.

"This training reflects our progressive approach to public safety and

our commitment to proactive preparedness," Reynolds said. "By working hand in hand with Quinnipiac University, we are strengthening coordination, communication, and response strategies to help ensure the safety of students, staff, and the greater Hamden community."

The exercise was coordinated by Lieutenant John Jacobi, Quinnipiac Public Safety's lieutenant of training and professional standards, whose efforts were instrumental in planning and executing the university's first on-scene interagency training with Hamden Police.

Photo by Quinnipiac University.



WPI Students Complete Intensive Research Projects

At Worcester Polytechnic Institute (WPI), all undergraduates are required to complete a research-driven, professional-level project that applies science and technology to address an important societal need or issue.

The following local area students completed projects in the Fall of 2025:

Hamden: Ryan Nemeti, class of 2027, majoring in Computer Science, completed a project titled "Optimizing Biki for First/Last Mile infrastructure."

North Haven: Ethan Anderson, class of 2027, majoring in Mechanical Engineering, completed a project titled "Metrics That Matter."

Bryce Petersen, class of 2027, majoring in Mechanical Engineering and Robotics Engineering, completed a project titled "Hands-on-Training for Next Generation Nanotechnologists."

GRADUATES

Trine University

Hamden resident, Muhammad Saleem completed requirements for a degree from Trine University at the end of the Fall 2025 semester.

Saleem earned a degree in Master of Science in Information Studies at Trine.

College of Charleston

Hamden resident, Liliana Otero Paugh recently graduated Cum Laude with a degree in Psychology from the College of Charleston.

Otero Paugh was among more than 185 bachelor's degree and master's degree candidates who participated in the Winter Commencement ceremony on December 13, 2025.

PRESIDENT'S/PROVOST'S LIST

Hofstra University

Wallingford resident, Madison Demko achieved a perfect 4.0 GPA during the Fall 2025 semester, earning a spot on the Provost's List at Hofstra University. Madison's major is English.

Nichols College

Northford resident, Catherine Pollock has achieved President's honors during the Fall 2025 semester at Nichols College, for a grade point average of 3.85 or higher.

College of Charleston

College of Charleston congratulates the following local area students named to the President's List for Fall 2025:

Hamden: Liliana Otero Paugh, majoring in Psychology.

Wallingford: John Ackerman, majoring in Business Admin.

DEAN'S LIST

PennWest University

Wallingford resident, Makena Sinisgalli was named to Penn West University's Dean's List for superior academic performance during the Fall 2025 semester.

Sinisgalli, a PennWest Edinboro student is pursuing a Bachelor of Science in Speech and Hearing Sciences.

Hofstra University

Wallingford resident, Kyle Criscuolo excelled during the Fall 2025 semester at Hofstra University, achieving a GPA of at least 3.5 to earn a spot on the Dean's List. Kyle's major is Television and Business.

Kutztown University

Wallingford resident, Lizzie Hope Brown has been named to the Fall 2025 Dean's List at Kutztown University, including Lizzie Hope Brown.

Saint Anselm College

Wallingford resident, Sara Wilonski was named to the Dean's List for the Fall 2025 semester at Saint Anselm College in Manchester, New Hampshire.

James Madison Univ.

Hamden resident, Lillian Torello has been named to the Dean's List for the Fall 2025 semester at James Madison University in Harrisonburg, VA.

Assumption University

Assumption University has announced the following local area students who have been named to the University's Dean's List for the Fall 2025 semester:

Hamden: Andrew Revels.

Northford: Robert Mullins.

Bucknell University

Bucknell University has released the Dean's List for outstanding academic achievement during the Fall semester of the 2025-26 academic year. This includes the following local area students:

North Haven: Mikey Brandt, 2026, Markets, Innovation & Design; Colin Knauft, 2026, Economics; Ryan Skoronski, 2028, Biology.

Wallingford: David Sorrells, 2028, Mechanical Engineering; Chiara Vessicchio, 2026, Mechanical Engineering.

Program Schedule for Suburban Garden Club

Please join us at the Suburban Garden Club programs this year! All programs will begin at 7pm and will be held at the Cheshire Senior Center, 240 Maple Ave. More information can be found at <https://www.cheshiregardeners.org/>

Wed., Jan. 21 (Snow Date Jan. 28): Wildflower Folklore. Ken Elkins. Learn to identify different wildflowers, their characteristics, habitats, and blooming seasons, as well as the rich history, mythology, and cultural significance surrounding various wildflowers.

Wed., Feb. 18 (Snow Date Feb. 25): Container Gardening Indoors and Out. Gregory Bugbee. Learn about choosing the right plants and potting soils for the right pots, watering and fertilizing techniques, and how to start plants from seeds and cuttings.