Significant Events:

On the following dates/times Elsmere Bureau of Police officers handled the below incidents and seized the following drugs, money and weapons during the month.

May 2, 2016:

*Update to the 100K Drugs and Weapons Seizure*

Back on March 11, 2016, the Elsmere Police Department concluded a drug investigation and arrested Robert Johnson (51 year old male from the unit block of Hazel Ave). Officers searched the residence and located approximately two (2) pounds of high grade marijuana, fifty-two (52) vials of steroids, fifteen (15) grams of cocaine, small amount of methamphetamines, and two (2) hand guns. Officers discovered that Johnson had access to a storage locker close to the residence. A second search warrant was executed at the storage locker. Officers were able to seize an additional twenty-five (25) pounds of high grade marijuana, the manufacturing equipment needed to produce steroids, one (1) hand gun, and one (1) shotgun. The street the value of the drugs is approximately $100,000.00.

On May 2, 2016, Cpl. John Mitchell arrested Johnson's girlfriend, Simone Gayle, 38 year old female from the unit block of Hazel Ave, because of her connection with the above listed drugs and weapons. Gayle was charged with Conspiracy and multiple Drug Dealing/Weapons offenses. Gayle was arraigned and unable to post the $69,500 cash bail.

May 2, 2016:

*2015 Officer of the Year*

On May 12th, 2016, the Elsmere Police Department held its 4th annual commendations ceremony at the Elsmere Town Hall. This year Ptlm. Ben Wingate was recognized as the Officer of the Year and received a plaque from Chief Laura Giles photographed below. Ptlm. Wingate started with the department back in February 2014. In 2015, Ptlm. Wingate seized 1,838 bags of Heroin, $57,000.00 of Drug Money, two (2)
firearms, and two (2) vehicles. Ptlm. Wingate also conducted 893 vehicle stops issuing 976 citations. Ptlm. Wingate also made 145 criminal arrests and authored 30 search warrants. The Elsmere Police Department congratulates and thanks Ptlm. Wingate for his dedication to the Town of Elsmere. Great job Ben!

May 15, 2016:

During the first two weeks of May, the Elsmere Police began receiving numerous complaints of vehicles being broken into throughout the town. In the overnight hours of Sunday May 15th, Cpl. Davis, Cpl. Rodick and PFC. Giles began an investigation to identify the suspects committing these crimes. At approximately 02:00 AM on Monday May 16th, the Officers observed two males acting suspiciously in the 1300 block of Sycamore Ave. As the Officers attempted to stop the suspects they immediately fled on foot. After a foot pursuit, both suspects were apprehended and identified as juveniles from the 200 block of Locust Ave. The suspects were found to be wearing latex gloves and in possession of burglary tools along with miscellaneous stolen items. Through their investigation, the three Officers were able to link the suspects to seven vehicles in the area of Sycamore Ave., Dover Ave., and Bungalow Ave. that were broken into throughout the night. Each suspect was charged with (7) seven counts of Burglary 3rd Degree (to a vehicle), (7) seven counts of Theft, Night Prowling, Resisting Arrest, Violation of Curfew, Conspiracy 2nd Degree, and Underage Consumption of Alcohol. The suspects were released on $12,000.00 unsecured bail and turned over to their parents.
May 19, 2016:

On Thursday, 05/19/2016 at 8:00 pm, PFC. Giles stopped a subject riding a bicycle in the roadway while using a cell phone in the area of Dover Avenue. During the stop 19 year old, Davontay Douglas from the 100 block of N. Connell Street, Wilmington, was found to be in possession of 140 bags of heroin stamped “POWER”, $255.00 of suspected drug proceeds and marijuana in his possession. Douglas was charged with Operating a Bicycle While Using a Cell Phone, Improper Use of Headphones While Operating a Bicycle, Possession of Marijuana, Possession of Heroin and Possession with the Intent to Deliver Heroin. He was released on $9,100.00 unsecured bail and ordered to have no contact with the Town of Elsmere.

May 26, 2016:

On May 26, 2016, Cpl. Mitchell investigated a report of an unlawful sexual contact in the area between the Serpes Bakery and the Community Liquors on Kirkwood Hwy. The female victim was walking in the above listed area until she was approached by the suspect, Daniel Walker (44 year old male). Walker grabbed the victim on the breast and told her "Thank you." Walker fled the area, but he was quickly located and arrested by Lt. Shelton and Cpl. Davis. Walker was charged with Unlawful Sexual Contact Third Degree and released on $1,000 unsecured bond.
May 26, 2016:

On May 26, 2016, Ptlm. Wingate observed the operator of a gray Infiniti using a cell phone while driving on Kirkwood Hwy. After the vehicle was pulled over, Ptlm. Wingate observed a glass bong sitting in the cup holder with marijuana in it. A search of the vehicle yielded 7.9 grams of marijuana and a concealed 9MM Taurus semi automatic hand gun. The suspect, Shane Gilliam (24 year old from Maryland), was taken into custody without incident. Gilliam was charged with carrying a concealed deadly weapon, possession of a deadly weapon by a person prohibited, possession of marijuana, possession of drug paraphernalia, using a cell phone while operating a m/v, failure to have insurance identification, and failure to have registration in possession. Gilliam was given $3,300.00 unsecured bail and was released.