

The Connecticut Police Chiefs Law Enforcement Memorial



John J. Donahue
Inspector
Waterbury
Died: 08/02/1920

On Monday, June 21 1920, at 5:30 a.m., a man named Arthur Brouix of Biddeford, Maine entered Waterbury Police Headquarters stating he wanted to file a larceny complaint. Brouix reported that his twenty-three year old wife Georgiana Rheame had stolen \$650.00 from him and was planning on leaving the city. Since no detectives were on duty at that time, the desk officer told Brouix to return at 7:30 a.m., and speak with the detectives about his complaint.

Promptly at 7:30 a.m. Brouix returned to Police Headquarters and was interviewed by Inspector John F. Donahue, a seventeen-year veteran of the Police Department. After taking Brouix' complaint, Inspector Donahue and some other inspectors located Rheame at the Waterbury train station where she and another man, who Brouix claimed was her new boyfriend, were attempting to board a train to leave the city. Inspector Donahue and the other inspectors returned Rheame and the man to Police Headquarters.

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Upon returning to Police Headquarters, Brouix entered the Detective Bureau and observed that Inspector Donahue was taking a statement from Rheame. Brouix then

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drew his pistol and pointed it at Inspector Donahue, who attempted to calm Brouix and talk him into surrendering the pistol. Instead, Brouix shot Inspector Donahue in chest.

Inspector Donahue was transported to St. Mary's Hospital where a bullet was discovered lodged next to his spine. After six weeks in the hospital, Inspector Donahue died of his wounds.