

# CARROLL POLICE DEPARTMENT



FISCAL YEAR 2024 – 2025

**MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF**

The Carroll Police Department presents our Fiscal 2024-2025 Year End Report. Through support and partnership with the community, Carroll continues to be a clean and safe town for residents and visitors. Support from the Mayor and City Council, as well as the citizens, has aided our dedicated employees to ensure that we meet our goals of providing a safe community for all.

We have had to hire new staff for the first time since 2021 and found that the hiring process has not become easier and that we still see low numbers of applicants. By maintaining the same staff over the last four years, we have been able to get well trained and seasoned officers protecting our community and proactively stopping crime. This is not the norm for departments around the state or nation, and we feel lucky that we have had very little turnover in recent years.

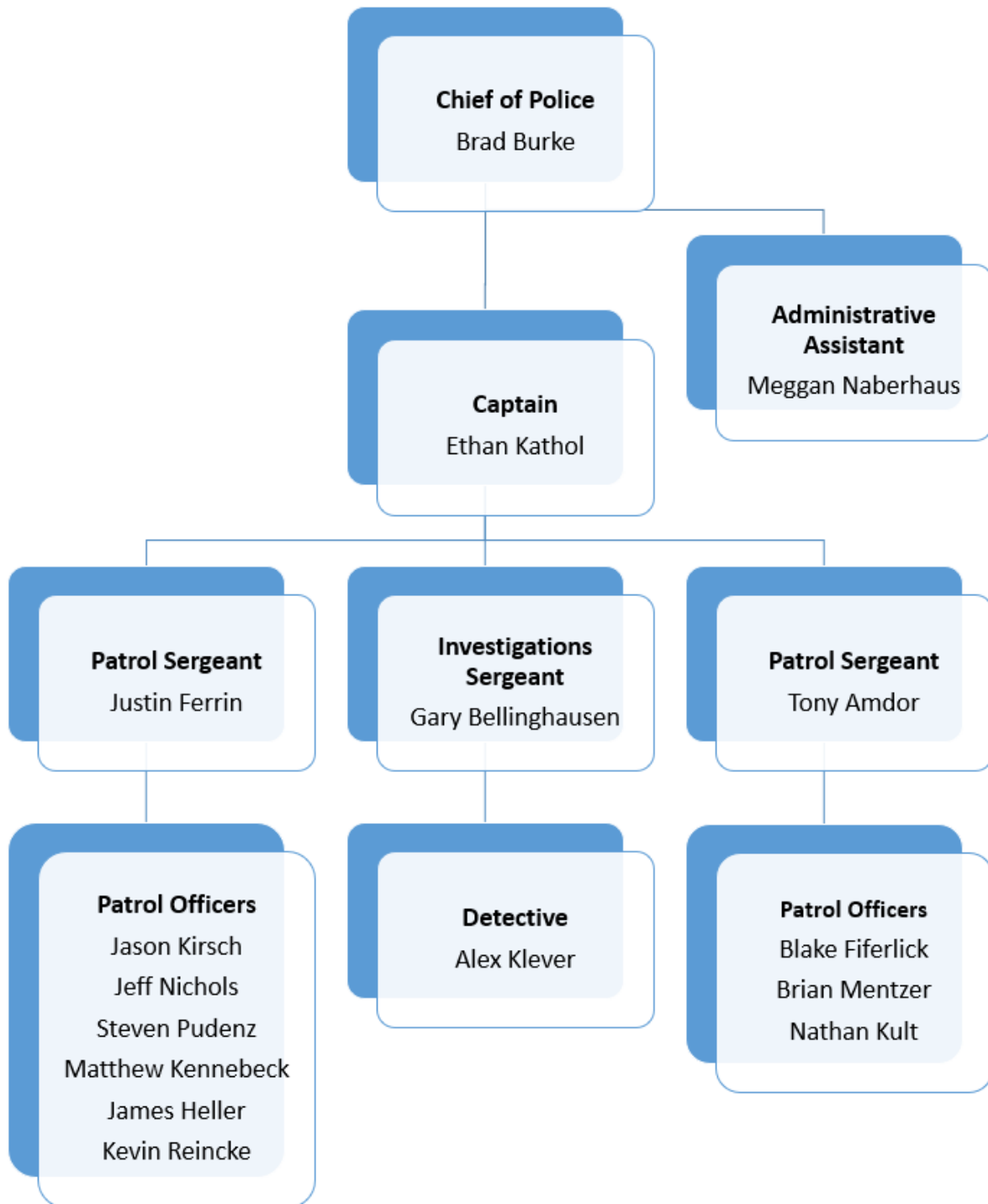
A new partnership with the Carroll Community School District discussed and approved over this fiscal year will bring the addition of a School Resource Officer next fiscal year. There will be major benefits to both the school and the community with this position and a cost sharing agreement has made this possible in the budget of both tax bases. This new position will require us to hire an additional officer to ensure that we still are able to provide the minimum number of two officers on duty at all times.

I invite you to review our statistics, which will give you a numerical look at the activity for the police department, along with the narratives which will provide more information on the intangible services provided by the police department. This report will fulfill the purpose of measuring the performance from year to year, as well as providing information on any changes within the department.



Brad Burke

Chief of Police

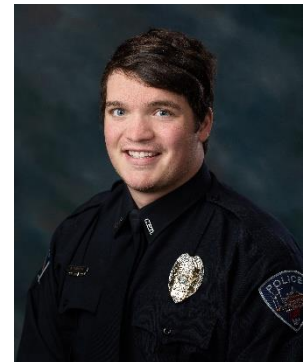


During fiscal year 24/25 we had one officer resign. Officer Patrick McCarty resigned to accept a position as a Trooper for the Iowa State Patrol. His last day of service for the Carroll Police



Department was on February 1, 2025. During our hiring process to backfill Officer McCarty's position, our candidate had an unknown medical condition that disqualified him from the position. This condition was found during his medical physical. No other candidates were satisfactory for the position and the application process was restarted. There have been many hires in the fiscal year 25/26 budget to backfill that open position as well as expanding our force to 16 full-time officers with the addition of a school resource officer.

In the fall of 2024, Carroll Community School District Superintendant Dr. Casey Berlau requested a partnership with the City of Carroll to provide a School Resource Officer (SRO). On April 12, 2025, a memorandum of understanding was finalized with the school to provide this resource. The officer continues to be an employee of the City and the school will reimburse the City seventy percent (70%) of the total cost of the SRO's annual salary and fringe benefits. This equates to \$81,599.18 from CCSD in fiscal year 25/26. The cost will continue to be shared at this percentage as expenses increase as set forth in the Teamster Local Union 238 agreement with the City. Officer Matt Kennebeck has been assigned to the SRO position beginning the 2025 fall school year. Officer Kennebeck has been employed with the City since August 9, 2019, and was previously assigned as a canine handler with Eudoris.



With the addition of the SRO, we have an authorized number of 16 certified full-time officers, 1 certified part time officer, and one civilian administrative assistant beginning the fiscal year 25/26 budget. With our call volume, this number is sufficient to handle the daily workload while always providing two officers minimum on duty at any given time of the day. Officers are assigned to one of three watches, which are dayshift, afternoon shift, and night shift. Each shift has one sergeant assigned and three patrol officers. Officers work rotating nine-hour days, but do not rotate shifts.

Below is the current seniority list showing rank and hire date for each officer on the department. The average tenure of the current officers is right at ten years with the average age just over 39.

NAME	RANK	EMPLOYMENT DATE
BURKE, BRADLEY	CHIEF OF POLICE	12/26/06
KATHOL, ETHAN	CAPTAIN	07/28/14
BELLINGHAUSEN, GARY	SERGEANT	07/26/99
AMDOR, ANTHONY	SERGEANT	10/05/15
FERRIN, JUSTIN	SERGEANT	01/12/15
KLEVER, ALEX	DETECTIVE	01/23/12
KIRSCH, JASON	PATROL OFFICER	03/26/12
NICHOLS, JEFFERY	PATROL OFFICER	11/13/17
FIFERLICK, BLAKE	PATROL OFFICER	12/16/18
PUDENZ, STEVEN	PATROL OFFICER	12/17/18
MENTZER, BRIAN	PATROL OFFICER	07/01/19
KENNEBECK, MATTHEW	RESOURCE OFFICER	08/09/19
HELLER, JAMES	PATROL OFFICER	07/26/21
KULT, NATHAN	PATROL OFFICER	08/23/21
REINCKE, KEVIN	PATROL OFFICER – PT	10/20/17
NABERHAUS, MEGGAN	ADMIN. ASSISTANT	10/25/99

## PATROL CARS



One patrol car was budgeted for purchase in fiscal year 24/25 and two patrol cars were pushed back from the 23/24 budget year. Two vehicles were received in September and the third was received in March. With these deliveries, I anticipate that our rotation is back in order and believe that Ford will be able to produce vehicles in a manner that we shouldn't have to push vehicles back from year to year.

For fiscal year 25/26, we will be ordering one police vehicle. I continue working with the local dealerships to get orders in as quickly as possible when the ordering bank opens. They believe this will get us higher on the manufacturing list and help with receiving orders instead of being cancelled. The local dealers have also been able to match or beat the state bids.

Seven of our vehicles are all-wheel-drive Ford SUVs, which have allowed the officers to safely and quickly respond to calls during the winter months. The eighth vehicle is a four-wheel drive Chevrolet truck. All vehicles are equipped with mobile data terminals, along with other equipment, which is used for report writing and traffic enforcement activities. Four of the current patrol vehicles are hybrid. The average cost for fuel in the hybrid patrol units is \$2,486 per year at the current fuel cost of \$2.16 per gallon. If we continue to purchase hybrid vehicles, the expected cost

savings per year would be around \$10,000 if all patrol vehicles are hybrids. The cost difference to purchase a hybrid vehicle is about \$4,000. Vehicles are typically traded after five or six years, so the cost benefit to purchase the hybrid is about \$2,000 per vehicle. The performance of the hybrid is similar to the Eco Boost patrol unit, and I plan on continuing the purchase of hybrids for patrol vehicles.

## **EQUIPMENT**

The Carroll Police Department prides itself on having up-to-date and technologically advanced equipment for our officers to use daily. To keep up to date with the changes in society, we need to have proper tools to combat issues. The police department completes many hours of research before making purchasing decisions on new equipment and evaluates all options before making purchases.

All officers are issued equipment needed to complete their daily activities when they are hired. Officers are supplied uniforms including duty belts, handguns, radios and many other items which are carried on their duty belt or vest. Officers are trained in the use of all equipment and are required to complete maintenance, as necessary, for the equipment to continue to function as designed and to prolong the life of the equipment.

Officers are assigned and carry Glock 17 9-mm handguns with Trijicon red dot sights. Each patrol car is equipped with a .223 caliber Rock River rifle and Remington 12-gauge shotgun. The rifle is also equipped with red dot sights and has been for many years. Officers spend many hours training to be proficient with their firearms and qualify multiple times a year on the Iowa Law Enforcement Academy mandated qualification courses.



This fiscal year, we updated the in-car and body camera system. Previously we operated WatchGuard which was acquired by Motorola. We stayed with the Motorola product during the



upgrade as they presented a very robust camera system that operates similar to the previous system, so officer training was minimal. The new camera system has the capability to also be used as a license plate reader (LPR). This function allows the camera to read and record license plates on vehicles within sight of the

camera. The system compares that data with a database checking for wanted people, wanted vehicles, AMBER alerts, and expired registration among other police notifications. The data can be searched for investigations and since the installation has been used for a number of cases to aid in the investigation.

We continue to upgrade software used for report writing and traffic enforcement. This software enables the officers to be more efficient with these tasks and allows for information to quickly be shared with other agencies, such as the court system. The software is accessed from the patrol vehicle using the mobile data terminals, and also in the office at desktop workstations. Most of the software used by the officers is provided at no cost from the Iowa Department of Transportation and reports are stored on an internal server within the department. This software also makes our mandated reporting to the FBI for National Incident-Based Reporting System much easier.

We have had a number of in-car computer or mobile data terminal upgrades this fiscal year. The computers in the car that have been replaced were between seven and ten years in age. These computers, Panasonic Toughbook, are a main source of communication and report writing for the officers and operate at all times the assigned officer is on duty. The Toughbook has proven to be rugged and capable of the working environment in the patrol car.

## TRAINING

The state of Iowa requires that officers receive a minimum amount of ongoing training over the course of the year. The police department has taken the initiative to provide the officers more than

the required amount. This gives our officers the tools needed to be effective and provide the best service to our community. Many of our officers are instructors in different areas including firearms, taser, defensive tactics, bloodborne pathogens, chemical munitions, radar, field sobriety testing and DARE. Others have received training, which allows them to be proficient or classified as an expert in domestic abuse and sexual assault investigation, fingerprints, accident investigation and evidence collection and storage. By completing the training, we can better handle any issue that arises.

We utilize many sources for training including internal training, as well as the Iowa Law Enforcement Academy (ILEA) and Midwest Counterdrug Training Center, both located at Camp



Dodge in Johnston, IA. Officers also complete monthly on-line training through an Iowa-based company called Police Legal Science. The training ranges from legal updates to state mandated training of bias prevention and de-escalation.



The Iowa Communities Assurance Pool (ICAP) has partnered with former US Attorney for the Northern District of Iowa, Kevin Techau, to provide quarterly training to officers. This training is provided online and covers many different topics that officers may deal with on a daily basis. Iowa Municipalities Workers' Compensation Association (IMWCA) also provides online training software. We utilize the software for CPD policy training and review. A policy is uploaded into the software to create the training/review while also requiring proof of proficiency by mandating officers to pass a quiz after the review. This allows each officer to stay current with City of Carroll Police Department policies.

This past year we sent four officers who have not been trained through Advanced Roadside Impaired Driving Enforcement training. This is a training program that bridges the gap between Standardized Field Sobriety Testing, which is taught to all officers in the academy, and the more intensive Drug Recognition Expert training. The purpose of the training is to train the officers to observe, identify, and articulate the signs of impairment from drugs, alcohol, or a combination of both. We continue to send officers through this training as a refresher or at the start of their career.

In preparation for the SRO, we began training Officer Kennebeck in many aspects of the new position. He completed ALICE Instructor Training, which stands for alert, lockdown, inform, counter. This training prepares the officer for an active shooter situation and also certified him as an ALICE instructor so he can deliver precise training to others in and out of law enforcement on how to respond in these situations. He also completed SRO school through the National Association of School Resource Officers. Officer Kennebeck is also now a member of this association and able to use that membership to get resources and best practices for the position from other members and a law professor specializing in school law.

Other ongoing training during the year included CPR recertification, rifle armorer school, tactical medical for patrol, de-escalation, report writing, interview and interrogation, and critical incident review to name a few. Officers who are also certified instructors through the ILEA were recertified if their certifications were expiring, including firearms and TASER instruction. Continued monthly training on law updates, as well as quarterly fitness and firearms training, continues to be a priority for all officers.

## **BUDGET**

The budget for the police department during F.Y. 24/25, including pension contributions and medical insurance premiums, was \$2,157,185. This was an increase of \$52,540 from F.Y. 23/24, with most of that coming in the form of regular salaries and wages. Due to some unexpected costs, I was over budget by \$17,406. This was due to vehicle purchases rolling over from prior years and an unexpected HVAC repair. The re-estimated budget was underspent by \$114,592. The re-estimated budget includes allocated funds rolled over from the previous year. A large portion of the re-estimated budget that was not spent was on salary due to officers resigning in the middle of a fiscal year. Our budget, compared to other departments our size, remains below average. This can be contributed to low overtime costs due to an efficient schedule which accommodates time off requests with little requirement to pay overtime to cover hours. F.Y. 25/26 has a budget total in the amount of \$2,350,597.

## STATISTICAL INFORMATION

Attached to this narrative are statistical reports documenting our calls for service, arrest information, citations issued, and cases documented. We analyze the times, dates and locations of various crime and traffic information to better perform our duties. The statistics are used to focus efforts on trouble areas and work with community members in those areas to reduce crime and provide safe neighborhoods throughout the community. By utilizing the crime trends, we are able to use selective enforcement and determine manpower and equipment requirements for the basis of department budgeting.

The previous four fiscal years are listed with the statistics to give a better understanding of the trends or changes in crimes throughout the city. The Carroll Police Department recorded 7,364 total calls for service in fiscal year 24/25. These include any call requiring officer assistance, such as medical calls, and calls initiated by officers. This was a decrease in calls over the previous fiscal year, but still near the higher end of the last five years. We continue to complete a high number of foot patrols at parks, businesses, and high call volume locations. The intended goal is to have an officer presence and decrease crime while also being visible to the public. Motor vehicle accidents remained similar to last year but still higher than previous fiscal years. There were 269 calls for service regarding motor vehicle accidents including property damage and injury accidents.

Almost all officers have undergone additional impaired driving recognition. Removing intoxicated drivers from streets is of high importance to the police department. The average breath alcohol content (BAC) in Carroll County for fiscal year 24/25 was 0.155%. The legal operating level is less than 0.08%. The highest BAC recorded during an OWI arrest by our department was 0.236%. Alcohol is not the only intoxicant that officers are making arrests for OWI. Other drugs include marijuana, methamphetamine, and opioids. OWI arrests are again low this fiscal year, and some of that can be contributed to many of the bars and restaurants closing earlier in the evening due to low attendance. Patrons are also utilizing an after-hours cab company.

This year clearance rates increased, and we are well above the national average. A clearance consists of either a clearance by arrest or clearance by exceptional means. Clearance by exceptional means is defined as the offender was identified and enough evidence was gathered to support an

arrest or make a charge, but by means outside the control of law enforcement, the arrest is prohibited. In Carroll, this means that the County Attorney declines prosecution, death of the offender, victim refusal to cooperate, or the denial of extradition of a suspect from another jurisdiction. The overall clearance rates for all cases within the department is 67.2%. This is a small increase over last year. Our detective and officers work together to clear cases as quickly and efficiently as possible while collecting as much evidence as possible before closing a case. CPD clearance rate for theft was 50.9% (38% in 23/24) well above the 2023 (most recent data available) national average of 15%. We continue to look for ways to improve this and find that theft cases are some of the most challenging to close. The national average clearance rate for aggravated assault is 46.1%. There have only been four reported aggravated assault cases. Of those four cases, we have arrested offenders in all of those cases. Our overall assault clearance rate is 56%, which is a decrease from last fiscal year. Our goal is to continue to increase assault clearance rates, but officers sometimes find that evidence will not support the claim among other issues. Officers quickly respond to assault reports but find that parties have separated and that most witnesses are not willing to cooperate with an investigation. Luckily, we are finding more and more residences and businesses utilizing surveillance systems, which aid in making arrests in assault cases among all reported crimes. Aggravated assault is in the category of violent crime, along with murder, manslaughter, forcible rape, and robbery. We have had eleven reported incidents of violent crimes other than aggravated assaults. Those cases are all being investigated as sex offenses. There were nine reports of violent crime in FY 23/24. The national clearance rate for violent crime is 39%, which we are at 40%. All property crimes include theft, burglary and arson, according to the FBI, who records crime statistics and comprises National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS). Our clearance rate in property crime is 50.9% (38% in 23/24) and the national average is 16%. While we are above the national average, we are making strides to increase this percentage even more. These offenses can be large annoyances to victims and leave them feeling violated as offenders have entered their property to take or damage items. The full-time detective has worked tirelessly with officers, victims, and witnesses to work on increasing our clearance of property crimes. Patrol officers who are the first to respond to a report of crime have stepped up in assisting the detective, learning some skills to work cases quicker and without as much assistance from the detective. We have established relationships with property owners

and local businesses to gain access to surveillance cameras to allow for quick and efficient search of that evidence and continue to look for new ways to work with victims and witnesses.

Attached at the end of this report are the statistics for traffic offenses, criminal cases, and a list for traditional problem areas within the city.

## **CONCLUSION**

Overall, I feel that the Carroll Police Department completed our goals for the year. I was disappointed to report that we had an officer resignation during the fiscal year since we have not had to replace any officers since 2021. We struggled getting a lot of applicants who could pass the standards, and once we had a candidate that we were excited for, an unexpected medical issue paused the process. I'm proud to report on crime statistics, especially that we have a high clearance rate for all crimes and that there are no aggravated assault cases carrying over from the year. We continue to look for ways to improve our proactivity and feel that we have a good grasp on problem locations and issues.

This upcoming fiscal year we will be replacing the patrol rifle in the squad cars. This is an important tool for the officers in a high-risk situation. Our previous rifles are around 15 years old and in need of some major upgrades and repairs to stay functional. The expense for those repairs is not economical when comparing the cost to total replacement.

I believe the best change coming in the next fiscal year will be the addition of the School Resource Officer. I believe this position will create a safer environment at the community school system while creating positive relationships with the students, staff and parents. It will also bring a faster response to the school in an emergency situation with an officer in the school every day during school hours.

I hope you have found this report insightful and helpful. If there are any questions, feel free to contact me at 712-792-3536 or email [bburke@cityofcarroll.com](mailto:bburke@cityofcarroll.com).

**CITATIONS**

<b>CITATION TYPE</b>	<b>20/21</b>	<b>21/22</b>	<b>22/23</b>	<b>23/24</b>	<b>24/25</b>
Animal	10	6	9	5	1
Tobacco	11	11	22	14	11
Dark Windows	42	28	14	24	32
License Violation	268	197	198	167	150
Other	50	32	50	38	31
Registration	159	162	196	179	169
Seatbelt	47	71	69	45	37
Traffic	612	415	361	455	345
Violation (Parking)	82	85	136	83	210
Warning Notices	2678	2186	2591	2626	1851
Loud Stereo	0	0	0	0	0
<b>TOTAL CITATIONS</b>	<b>3959</b>	<b>3196</b>	<b>3697</b>	<b>3664</b>	<b>2837</b>

**SUMMARY OF OFFENSE – CASES**  
**JULY 1-JUNE 30**

<b>OFFENSE</b>	<b>20/21</b>	<b>21/22</b>	<b>22/23</b>	<b>23/24</b>	<b>24/25</b>
Murder/Non-neg. Man	0	0	0	0	0
Forcible Rape	3	1	3	2	1
Forcible Sodomy	0	0	0	0	0
Sex Assault w/Object	0	2	3	0	0
Forcible Fondling	6	11	8	7	10
Statutory Rape	2	0	0	3	0
Porno/Obscene Material	1	2	1	2	0
Incest	0	0	0	0	0
Peeping Tom	0	0	0	1	0
Robbery	1	0	0	0	0
Aggravated Assault	6	3	6	6	4
Domestic Violence	1	2	1	0	0
Simple Assault	28	22	40	19	30
Intimidation	1	3	0	2	2
Domestic Abuse	21	27	21	23	26
Burglary/B&E	21	11	16	15	14
Purse Snatching	0	0	0	0	0
Shoplifting	33	35	52	47	43
Theft from Vehicle	14	15	16	14	12
Theft Vehicle Part	6	0	3	3	3
Theft of Bike	3	5	4	4	4
Theft from Building	34	43	51	33	29
Theft from Vending	0	0	0	0	0
Other Larceny	4	5	4	3	2
Motor Vehicle Theft	4	9	8	6	9
Arson	1	1	1	0	0
Counterfeit/Forgery	15	16	10	6	4
Swindle/Confidence	3	5	1	13	7
Credit/ATM Fraud	15	9	14	5	5
Identify Theft	9	3	4	1	2
Impersonation Fraud	0	2	0	2	0
Welfare Fraud	0	0	0	1	0
Wire Fraud	3	1	4	5	2
Bad Checks	1	6	3	10	2
Embezzlement	1	2	0	1	3
Stolen Property	1	0	0	2	0
Vandalism	0	0	0	0	0
Vandalism/Business	5	6	2	7	4
Vandalism/Residence	19	7	8	9	6
Vandalism/Vehicle	28	25	17	26	28
Vandalism/School	2	0	0	1	3
Vandalism/Other	4	3	2	7	6
Weapon Law Violation	4	2	6	2	4

<b>OFFENSE</b>	<b>20/21</b>	<b>21/22</b>	<b>22/23</b>	<b>23/24</b>	<b>24/25</b>
Human Trafficking/Sex Acts	0	1	0	0	0
Prostitution	0	0	0	0	0
Drug/Narc Violations	38	26	22	19	8
Drug Equipment Viol	19	20	29	14	11
Nonviol Family Off	1	0	0	0	0
Drive Under Influence	37	18	13	9	15
OWI 2 <sup>nd</sup>	10	4	0	2	1
OWI 3 <sup>rd</sup>	0	2	1	1	0
Liquor Law Violation	9	8	8	3	7
Under 21 BAC .02	0	2	1	1	0
Drunkenness	24	25	13	35	21
Disorderly Conduct	3	4	16	12	17
Harassment	5	11	4	14	14
Curf/Loiter/Vagrancy	0	0	0	0	0
All Other Offenses	41	24	29	23	23
Bribery	0	0	0	0	0
Kidnapping/Abduction	0	0	1	0	0
Extortion/Blackmail	0	0	0	0	0
False Information	4	3	1	5	3
Indecent Exposure	0	0	0	0	0
Trespassing	21	14	16	27	12
Runaway	2	0	8	4	4
Missing Person	3	1	0	2	1
Cruelty to Animal	0	0	1	0	0
Lost Property	2	0	0	0	1
Found Person	0	0	1	1	0
Found Animal	3	0	0	0	0
Found Property	14	19	20	20	27
Unattended Death	3	5	5	2	11
Suicide	4	0	3	3	1
Attempted Suicide	1	0	0	0	0
Sick Cared For	0	0	0	0	0
Mental Case	1	1	3	0	0
Firearms Accident	2	0	0	0	0
Fire Investigation	0	0	1	4	1
Home Accident	0	0	0	0	0
Work Accident	0	0	0	0	0
Public Accident	0	0	0	0	0
Animal Bite	1	7	14	13	8
Dispose of Animal	0	0	1	0	0

<b>OFFENSE</b>	<b>20/21</b>	<b>21/22</b>	<b>22/23</b>	<b>23/24</b>	<b>24/25</b>
Warrant Outside	41	55	41	47	35
Restraining Order	7	5	8	21	11
10-50 Fatal	1	0	1	1	1
10-50 Car-Train Fatal	0	0	0	0	0
10-50 PI Personal Injury	4	6	4	5	9
10-50 PI MV Pedestrian	1	0	2	2	4
10-50 PI Car & Bike	1	1	2	0	3
10-50 PI Hit/Run w/Injury	0	0	0	0	0
10-50 PD Prop.	122	137	107	150	150
MV Pedestrian	1	0	1	1	0
10-50 Car & Deer	2	0	0	0	0
10-50 PD: Hit & Run	21	16	15	22	21
10-50 PD: City Vehicle	0	0	0	0	0
10-50 PD Police Vehicle	1	1	1	0	0
10-50 PD Under 1500	34	31	24	23	32
Assist Other Agency	4	3	3	4	6
Parking Violations	0	0	0	0	0
Moving Violations	1	2	1	1	0
Op After Revoked/Barred	28	25	18	18	24
Operate After Suspension	93	81	73	51	56
Misc. Public	46	43	40	29	45
Misc. Officer	0	0	0	0	0
<b>TOTAL CASES</b>	<b>956</b>	<b>885</b>	<b>861</b>	<b>878</b>	<b>848</b>

**SUMMARY – TRADITIONL PROBLEM AREAS**

	<b>20/21</b>	<b>21/22</b>	<b>22/23</b>	<b>23/24</b>	<b>24/25</b>
<b>Assault</b>	34	25	46	25	
<b>Burglary</b>	21	11	16	15	
<b>Criminal Mischief</b>	58	41	29	50	
<b>OWI</b>	47	24	14	12	
<b>Personal Injury Accidents</b>	7	7	9	8	
<b>Property Damage Accidents</b>	158	169	132	174	
<b>Hit &amp; Run Accidents</b>	21	16	15	22	
<b>Thefts</b>	98	112	138	110	



Front row, L to R: Sergeant Gary Bellinghausen, Captain Ethan Kathol, Chief Brad Burke, Sergeants Justin Ferrin and Tony Amdor

Middle row, L to R: Officers Kevin Reincke, Nathan Kult, Administrative Assistant Meggan Naberhaus, Officers Blake Fiferlick, Jeff Nichols, Steven Pudenz.

Back row, L to R: Detective Alex Klever, Officers James Heller, Patrick McCarty, Jason Kirsch, Matt Kennebeck, Brian Mentzer.