

*Guilderland Police  
Annual Report*

**2021**

*Daniel P. McNally  
Chief of Police*

*Curtis A. Cox  
Deputy Chief*

*Eric H. Batchelder  
Captain*

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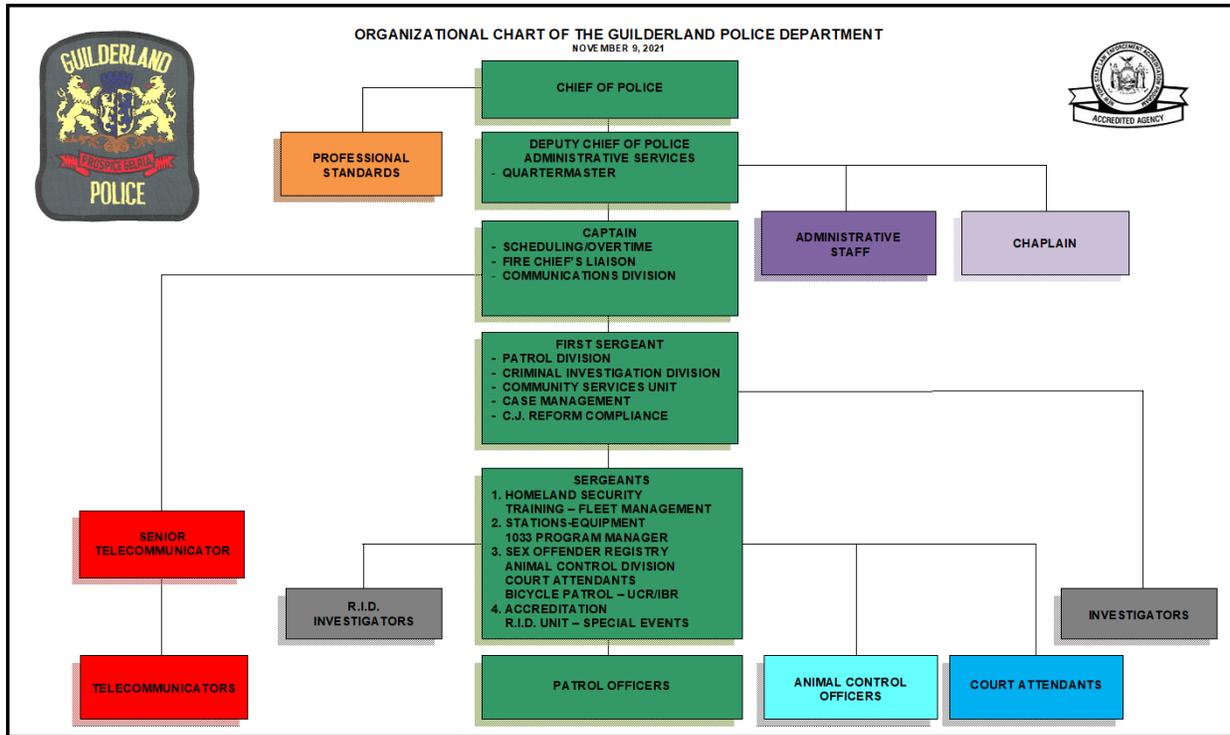


**Offender watch**  
*Prevent the Unthinkable*



Find us on  
**Facebook**  
[www.facebook.com/guilderlandpolice](http://www.facebook.com/guilderlandpolice)

# ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



**MISSION STATEMENT:** *The Guilderland Police Department, in partnership with the community we serve, is committed to enhancing the quality of life in the Town of Guilderland by protecting life and property, maintaining order, and impartially enforcing the law while upholding the human and constitutional rights of those we serve. To fulfill our mission we will at all times, conduct ourselves with the highest ethical standards, professionalism and integrity.*



## A MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF



Dear Supervisor Barber, Town Board Members and Residents of the Town of Guilderland:

On behalf of the men and women of the Guilderland Police Department, it is my honor and privilege to present our 2021 Annual Report. The report utilizes statistics, charts, graphs, and documentation to help summarize the incredible work done by our members, sworn and unsworn, as we negotiate the challenges of a lingering pandemic and significant changes in the criminal justice system.

On March 15, 2021 the Town of Guilderland Police Reform & Reinvention Collaborative Committee finalized its recommendations and action items. A significant amount of progress has been made toward satisfying many of the recommended action items. A complete action item status report will be made available in the near future. The original recommendations and action items can be found on the Town of Guilderland webpage: <https://www.town-ofguilderland.org/police-reform-and-reinvention-collaborative-committee>

On December 9, 2021, the New York State Association of Chiefs of Police proposed a number of amendments to the New York State Legislature regarding the Raise the Age Law, Cash Bail Law, and Criminal Discovery Law that directly impact public safety on a daily basis. We are hopeful that these common sense changes will strengthen the criminal justice system and make our communities even safer as we address a spike in violent crime in the Capital Region, State and Nation.

I would like to thank the members of the annual report committee, especially Deputy Chief Cox and Linda Cardinal, for your dedication to this project. I also would like to thank all of the members of the Guilderland Police Department for their professionalism and dedication to our community.

Meeting the challenges and providing exceptional service cannot be accomplished without strong community support. We will continue to work closely with our community and partners to provide the very best services possible to our residents and visitors. Thank you for your trust and support. It is well appreciated by our members. It is a pleasure to serve as your chief.

Sincerely,  
Chief Daniel P. McNally



### The Cops Who Didn't Come Home *Seventy-three officers were killed feloniously while on duty last year, a 20-year high*

January 12, 2022

By Christopher Wray

While many Americans celebrated the holidays with their families in the final week of 2021, law enforcement kept working. Tragically, four officers didn't make it home to their loved ones that week. They were murdered while doing their job keeping others safe.

Baltimore Police Officer Keona Holley, ambushed while alone in her car, died on Christmas Eve. Five days later in Illinois, Wayne County Sheriff's Deputy Sean Riley was killed during a call for assistance. On Dec. 30, also in Illinois, Bradley Police Department Sgt. Marlene Rittmanic was shot while attempting to locate the owner of dogs left in a car. And on New Year's Eve, Cleveland Police Officer Shane Bartek was killed in an attempted carjacking.

These four murders brought the total number of officers feloniously killed in the line of duty in 2021 to 73, the highest annual number since the 9/11 attacks. That's the equivalent of one officer murdered every five days. In a year when homicides and violent crime reached distressing levels, this 20-year high hasn't received the attention it deserves.

Especially troubling is that a record number of officers killed—nearly half—had no engagement with their assailant before the attack. Each story is heartbreaking: A 30-year Florida deputy [murdered one shift shy of retirement](#); an officer ambushed [on his first day on the job](#), leaving behind a wife and 6-month-old son; a combat veteran and his police dog killed while serving together.

At the Federal Bureau of Investigation, we experienced loss in 2021, too. Special Agents Laura Schwartzenberger and Daniel Alfin were murdered while doing the difficult job investigating crimes against children. FBI Task Force Officer Greg Ferency of the Terre Haute, Ind., Police Department was ambushed and killed outside an FBI office.

When I started as FBI director, I made it my practice to call the chief or sheriff of every officer intentionally killed in the line of duty. I have now made more than 200 such calls. Each conversation reminds me that behind the uniform, the badge, and, yes, sometimes the flashing lights in your rearview mirror, there are real people. With each call, I think about the families and friends who lost someone they loved, the children who will grow up without a parent, and the communities deprived of a public servant.

We owe it to them to redouble our efforts to take the most violent offenders off the streets and to make sure officers have the resources, equipment and training they need to do their jobs safely. Even more, we need to ensure the brave men and women know that the communities they serve have their backs.

Every day, officers willingly put themselves at risk not knowing what dangerous situation or traumatic event they might encounter. I won't pretend every person who carries a badge is beyond reproach, but the overwhelming majority do the job with the professionalism and commitment to equal justice citizens rightly expect.

I meet frequently with chiefs and sheriffs across the country, and they are concerned about morale and the challenges of recruiting the next generation of officers. They understand that trust and transparency are vital to safety, and they are committed to finding ways to improve interactions. And while respect must be earned, if we are going to recruit and retain the kind of people willing to put their lives on the line to protect others, we have to show that we value their sacrifices.

Civic and business leaders, government officials and responsible citizens need to consider how we talk about engaging with law enforcement. When police are miscast as lacking humanity—devoid of empathy and compassion—everyone suffers. Departments lose good officers who are hard to replace, and communities are less safe.

As we reflect on 2021, let's honor the memories of those who lost their lives protecting others. Let's commit to making communities safer, finding ways to improve interactions between law enforcement and those they serve, holding everyone to the high standards befitting men and women in uniform, and valuing those who do their jobs with honor.

*Mr. Wray is the FBI Director.*

## FROM THE CHAPLAIN'S DESK

Greetings from the Chaplain's desk;

It has been my honor and privilege to continue to serve the Guilderland Police Department as Police Chaplain. I am encouraged by the support that the Police Department, the Town Supervisor, and the community has shown for the Law Enforcement Chaplaincy program. As the department Chaplain, my duties include providing support to department personnel, aiding the public in times of need, and assisting when a member of the department is sick or injured.

While our community continued to experience the effects of the pandemic, the work of the Guilderland Police Department did not cease. Under Chief McNally's leadership, the department excelled in recruiting new officers, while increasing training and staffing throughout the department. As the community continued to focus on staying healthy, the work of keeping us safe, responding to emergencies and ensuring that our community was served with the upmost respect and dignity was performed by the

incredible members of the Guilderland Police Department. As residents and visitors to the Town of Guilderland, we owe a debt of gratitude to these amazing men and women.

Although many of the opportunities for interactions with members of the department continued to be limited this year, I have had the privilege of continuing to speak with and be available to the great officers serving our town. I also continue to be an advocate for those who are willing to don the uniform of service and be willing to sacrifice self for a greater cause. The members of the Guilderland Police Department deserve all our respect and admiration. That respect is earned each day as I have witnessed every officer serve with distinction and honor.

I am humbled and thankful for the opportunity to serve my community and my GPD family this year. I pray a blessing of peace, safety, compassion, and grace upon us all.

Geoffrey Ekstein, Chaplain



# ACCREDITATION

Since 2009, the Guilderland Police Department has been an accredited agency through the New York State Law Enforcement Accreditation Program. Being an accredited agency is something that the department is proud of as only approximately one third of law enforcement agencies across the state are accredited. Our agency works tirelessly to comply with the state's 110 standards to ensure that the agency is partaking in best contemporary practices and operating on sound policy in order to best serve the public. The New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services describes accreditation as a progressive and contemporary way of helping police agencies evaluate and improve their overall performance. It provides formal recognition that an organization meets or exceeds general expectations of quality in the field. Accreditation acknowledges the implementation of policies that are conceptually sound and operationally effective.

The New York State program became operational in 1989 and encompasses four principle goals:

1. To increase the effectiveness and efficiency of law enforcement agencies utilizing existing personnel, equipment and facilities to the extent possible;
2. To promote increased cooperation and coordination among law enforcement agencies and other agencies of the criminal justice services;
3. To ensure the appropriate training of law enforcement personnel; and
4. To promote public confidence in law enforcement agencies.

The reaccreditation process occurs every five years and the police department was recently



reaccredited in July 2019. The department utilizes sworn personnel to maintain the accreditation program. Sergeant Matthew Egnor is the Program Manager and Officer Kyle McCormick is the Assistant Program Manager.

For anyone who is interested in learning more about the NYS Law Enforcement Accreditation Program please visit the following website:

<https://www.criminaljustice.ny.gov/ops/accred/> or contact Sgt. Egnor at 518-356-1501 ext. 1121 or email [egnorm@gpdny.org](mailto:egnorm@gpdny.org).

New York State Law Enforcement Accreditation Program

**2.7 Responsibility and Authority - CRITICAL STANDARD**

**ADMINISTRATION**

**STANDARD 2.7** The agency has a written directive requiring responsibility be accompanied by commensurate authority. The directive shall include provisions for:

- A. Each employee being accountable for the use of delegated authority;
- B. Supervisory personnel being accountable for the performance of employees under their immediate control;
- C. All sworn personnel being required to obey any lawful order of a superior transmitted by any duly authorized agent of that superior, regardless of rank involved, and;
- D. Procedures to be followed when a conflicting order or directive is received including when to notify command officers of conflicting orders.

*Commentary: The intent of this standard is to establish guidelines for the delegation of authority, and provide open communication among ranks without compromising emergency operations.*

*At every level within the agency, personnel should be given the authority to make decisions necessary for the effective execution of their responsibilities. Each officer is responsible for acts and omissions while on duty and must be accountable for this authority. In addition, having a procedure on how to handle conflicting orders will provide personnel with the appropriate guidance in situations where immediate obedience may be necessary in order to protect life or protect the welfare of the public.*

**Compliance Verification Strategies**

Assessors may seek to verify agency compliance with this standard by using one or more of the strategies listed below. Other strategies identified by the agency may also be acceptable.

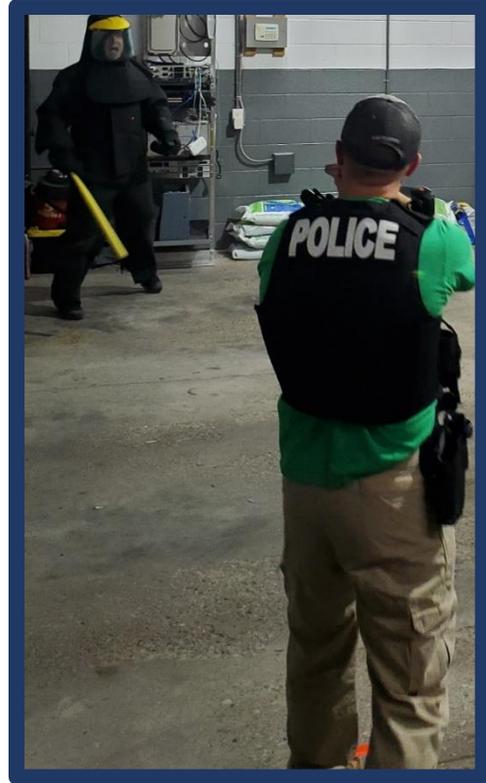
1. A copy of the written directive is available for review.
2. Interview(s) with agency personnel to verify their understanding of and compliance with this standard.

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**Example of one of the 110 Standards of the  
New York State Law Enforcement Accreditation Program**

# TRAINING

Training in 2021 for the Guilderland Police Department consisted of 29 hours of mandatory topics such as firearms, a review of our use of force policy, less lethal equipment, de-escalation and legal updates. In addition, several officers throughout the department receive numerous hours of specialized training in a wide variety of areas. This training consisted of topics such as crisis intervention, criminal investigations, advanced traffic enforcement techniques such as DWI enforcement and enforcement of Driving While Ability Impaired by Drugs, and many more.



In 2021, the Guilderland Police Department implemented Procedural Justice training to the entire department. Procedural Justice is defined as “the procedures used by police officers where citizens are treated fairly and with proper respect as human beings.” This training has been taught to law enforcement agencies across the country with great success in establishing positive relationships between police officers and the communities they serve. This training was a refresher for the Guilderland Police Department in a good way, as it reinforced the principles and values that members of the department had already been utilizing in their daily activities. Procedural Justice training was an important step in ensuring our residents receive the respect and professionalism they deserve from our police department.

# COMMUNICATIONS

The Guilderland Police Department Communications Division is staffed with certified Enhanced 911 telecommunicators. E911 means that when you call 911, the address you are calling from is automatically displayed on the telecommunicator's screen. This is crucial in the event a person becomes unconscious before being able to give their location or nature of the emergency.



**THANK YOU,  
DISPATCHERS!**  
NATIONAL PUBLIC SAFETY  
TELECOMMUNICATORS WEEK

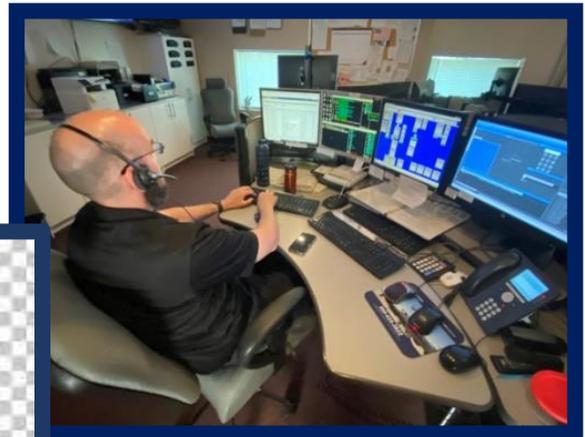
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*Telecommunicators received 35,178 911 calls for service- including cellular 911 calls, and 911 calls determined to be non-emergency.*

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The Town of Guilderland Emergency Services that includes Police, Fire and EMS, operate on the Albany County 800MHz trunked radio system. This system allows seamless communications with all Albany County emergency responder agencies, some surrounding county emergency responder agencies as well as local schools and school busses. The system employs the latest radio technology and has proven to be a great public safety asset allowing radio interoperability among all agencies that once all operated independently.

The Division is a 24 hour operation and is a vital link to the residents and businesses in this town to the emergency personnel in the field. This year, New York State has recognized telecommunicators as first responders. It is staffed with 11 telecommunicators and 1 supervisor. Each telecommunicator is trained in Emergency Medical Dispatch (EMD), Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) and Automated External Defibrillator (AED) and recertify every two years.





# PATROL



Patrol, often considered the “backbone” of any law enforcement agency, is the largest division of the Guilderland Police Department consisting of 27 patrol officers. In 2021, the Town of Guilderland hired four new patrol officers to fill vacancies within the department. The patrol division consists of uniformed officers operating marked Guilderland Police Department patrol vehicles that respond to calls for service as well as perform targeted patrol based on identified problem areas. The responsibility of a patrol officer is important, as they are most often the first interaction a member of the public has with the Guilderland Police Department.

fatal crashes are also investigated by the unit’s highly trained investigation and reconstruction officers.

The unit is an active member of the Albany County Traffic Safety Awareness Committee and the Albany County Stop DWI program. Officers participate in many programs such as Buckle Up New York, Operation Safe Stop Education and Enforcement Day, No Empty Chair, and the STEP (Selective Traffic Enforcement Program) which is the aggressive enforcement of such violations as aggressive driving, speeding, and driver distraction such as cellular phone use. It also hosts the Stop DWI Victim’s Impact Panel six times a year.

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*Our organization prides itself on approaching law enforcement from a very community oriented perspective.*

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The patrol division is given as much training and as many resources as possible to ensure that members of the public feel confident in our ability as a law enforcement agency. Patrol officers with the Guilderland Police Department have the knowledge and skill to handle a large variety of situations ranging from active critical incidents to mental health emergencies. Our patrol division is also responsible for traffic enforcement throughout the Town of Guilderland as well as preliminary investigations into criminal matters.

The department is dedicated to keeping our roads safe through the strict enforcement of vehicle and traffic laws as well as deterrence and public education efforts. The department’s Traffic Safety Unit (TSU) works in conjunction with the patrol division to address traffic related concerns and to enforce the vehicle and traffic laws. Serious personal injury and

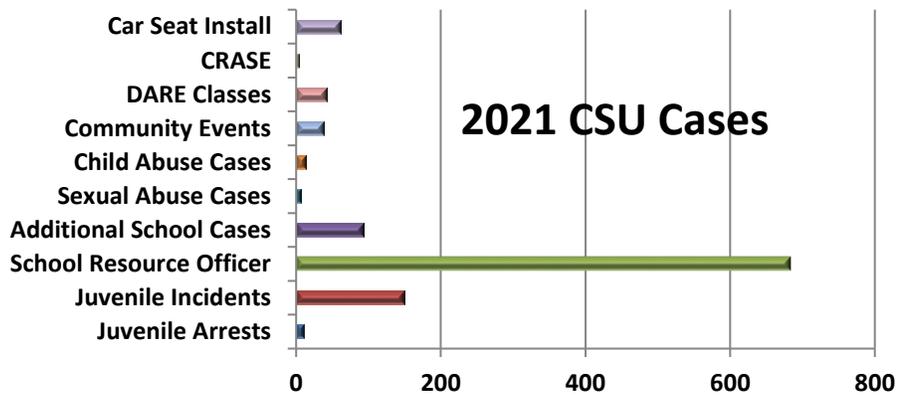


# COMMUNITY SERVICES UNIT

The Guilderland Police Department Community Services Unit (CSU) is staffed with a full time officer, a school resource officer (SRO) and an investigator that works in the Criminal Investigation Division (CID). All officers in the unit are certified juvenile officers that have extensive training in juvenile law, sexual/child abuse and missing person's investigations. The CSU assists the patrol division with juvenile related offenses and felony juvenile cases. The SRO is assigned to the Guilderland Central School District and works primarily out of the high school supporting students and staff by maintaining school safety and security. In

The CSU coordinates the set-up of National Night Out and provides an educational display at the Altamont Fair. Officers in the CSU attend training sessions related to forensic interviewing of children, missing children and child abuse.

The CSU oversees the Guilderland Law Enforcement Explorer Post, which entered its 29<sup>th</sup> year. The Explorer program is a career-oriented program that allows the youth of our community between the ages of 14-21 an opportunity to explore law enforcement by working closely with members of the Guilderland Police Department. The post meets twice a month for training



addition, the officers provide the Guilderland School District with Drug Abuse Resistance Education (D.A.R.E.) and various instruction on topics like health, forensics and public policy. The CSU works to identify and resolve community problems through proven law enforcement programs such as Rape Aggression Defense Program (R.A.D.), Drug Take Back Day and Coffee with a Cop. The CSU participates in community partnership events like local food drives and Dick's Sporting Goods Shop with a Cop. The CSU gives presentations to senior citizens on fraud prevention, provides CRASE(Civilian Response to Active Shooter Events) training and installs child car seats by appointment.

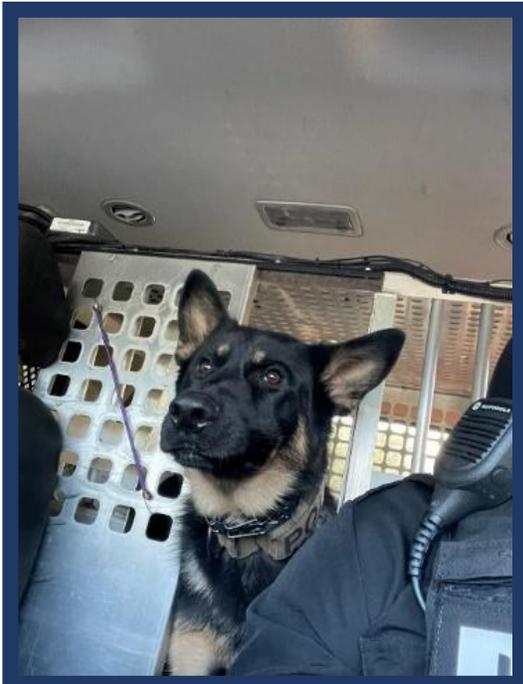
and provides assistance with community programs sponsored by the CSU. During the year, Explorers receive training in police exercises and compete with other area posts. The training provides Explorers with skills they will use in the future as potential police officer candidates, community leaders and over the summer at the Explorer Academy in Connecticut. The Explorer Academy is a week-long multi-phased police academy where Explorers work alongside and compete against regional explorer programs. The Explorer program has been a valuable tool to interact with the youth of our community.

## K9

In 2021, our longtime K9 officer Don Jones and his partner "Rocky", retired from the Guilderland Police Department. Officer Tylor Stevens was selected to fill the vacant position. Officer Stevens has been a member of the Guilderland Police Department since August of 2006. He is a highly qualified and professional police officer who takes a tremendous amount of pride in his role as our K9 handler.

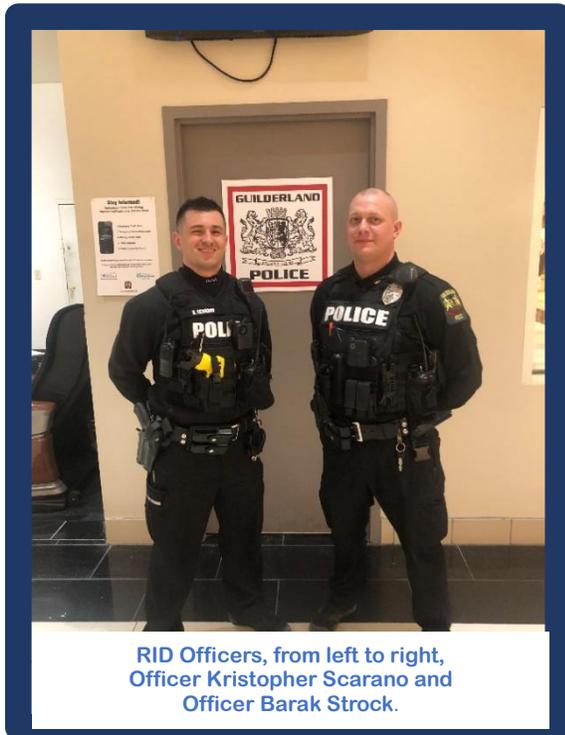
His partner, K9 "Max", is a one and a half year old German Shepherd. Officer Stevens and Max participated in 6 months of extensive training in explosives odor recognition and detection, tracking articles, and handler protection. The long duration of the training was crucial for both Officer Stevens and Max to become well acquainted with each other and to learn the very important responsibility of becoming a K9 officer team.

# Max



## RETAIL INTERDICTION DETAIL

The Town of Guilderland is home to the fifth largest shopping mall in New York State, Crossgates Mall. The Guilderland Police Department maintains a substation in the mall for handling complaints and arrests that occur at the mall and on the eastern end of town. In 2018, the department initiated the Retail Interdiction Detail (R.I.D.) at Crossgates in anticipation of the holiday shopping season and due to several instances of public disorder. The detail is composed of two uniformed "RID" Officers that are assigned there. The officers work "flex shifts" that coincide with the mall's hours of operation. The mall hours changed during 2021 due to the COVID pandemic, however the RID Officers continued to patrol the mall and changed their shift hours accordingly to maintain a presence. RID Officers address issues related to theft from stores as well as disruptive or other criminal behavior. The RID Officers team up with Crossgates Mall Security and Management, as well as loss prevention personnel from various stores to form a unified effort in reducing thefts. In 2021, there were a total of 225 arrests made at Crossgates Mall, 119 of those arrests were made by the RID officers.



In 2021, the mall welcomed Albany 518 Snug\* to its anti-crime efforts. Albany 518 Snug deploys outreach workers in the mall to assist with identifying and interrupting potentially violent situations.

\*For more information on Albany 518 SNUG visit their Facebook page @albany518snug



# CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION DIVISION

The Criminal Investigation Division handles a wide variety of cases within the department. It is staffed with 3 investigators who are supervised by the first sergeant. Members of the CID carry a caseload, work on assigned tasks and assist the Patrol Unit when needed. The CID primarily handles felony cases. The functions of the CID are distributed among the members in the division. Some of the CID's other functions are crime scene technicians, evidence and property room, accident investigation, photo arrays, pistol permits, employee background checks, peddlers permit backgrounds, the administration of processing warrants, warrant investigations, professional standard investigations, drug investigations, death investigations and criminal investigations.

Successful outcome of investigations means working closely with other agencies. This list is an example of agencies that we collaborate with regularly.



#### Federal Agencies:

- Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives
- Secret Service
- Postal Service
- Drug Enforcement Administration
- Department of Homeland Security
- Federal Bureau of Investigation

#### State Agencies:

- State Police
- Narcotics Enforcement Task Force
- Department of Corrections and Community Supervision

#### Local Agencies:

- Albany County Sheriff's Department
- Albany County District Attorney's Office
- Capital Region Crime Analysis Center
- Local Police Departments
- Town of Guilderland Fire Departments
- Town of Guilderland Emergency Medical Services

In the past few years, identity theft has become a serious and overwhelming problem nationally. The CID investigates these complaints but also offers the residents with the following warning:

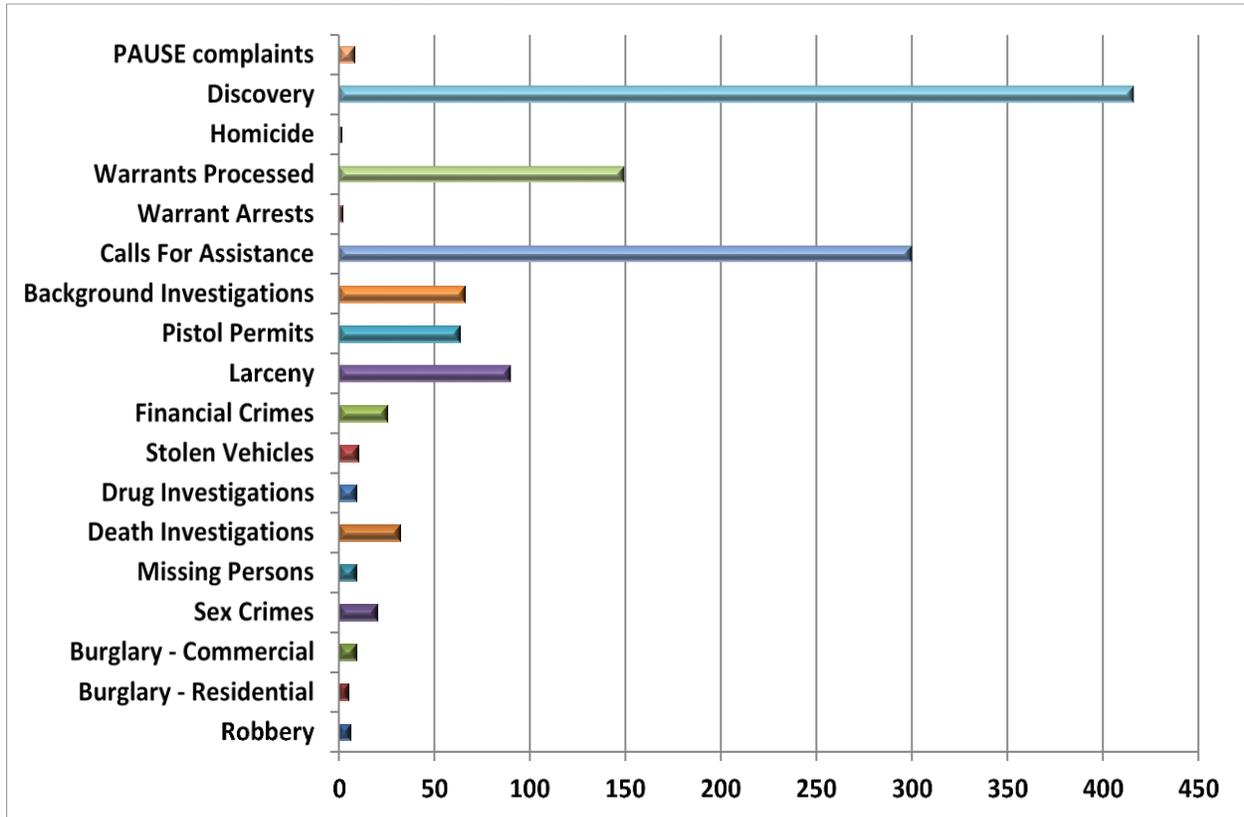
*Take care to help keep your information private and do not open emails from people or companies you are not familiar with. Only use reputable web sites. When shopping on-line, be sure to check that purchases are being made through secure web sites. When in doubt call companies directly.*

If you find yourself to be a victim of identity theft, run a credit report and flag your credit to protect against future occurrences. Report the theft of your identity directly to institutions that may have credit opened in your name that you did not authorize so an investigation may begin. Most financial institutions will require you to file a report with your local police department. The police will review your case, ask for supporting documentation and try to identify a suspect. Suspect identification can be difficult when purchases are made over the internet and

from different states. Victims of identity theft should also report it to the Federal Trade Commission. This can be done online at [www.ftc.gov](http://www.ftc.gov). The best way to prevent identity theft is to protect all your personal information and be proactive by actively monitoring your credit report for any unauthorized activity. Additional financial fraud/scams are occurring using a variety of methods. Calls for winning the lottery, a family member being arrested, cashing checks sent to you where you keep a portion of your money and your computer being compromised are just a few of these fraudulent incidents. Frequently the victims are asked to purchase gift cards and send the numbers to the caller for payment. This is fraud and reputable companies will not ask for payment this way. Further, reputable companies will not ask you to send cash through the mail or wire cash to them to pay charges.

Contact your local police department and ask questions if you receive a call you believe to be a scam. Research the company to see if there are other complaints prior to sending out any money. Contact the police department to report this type of fraud whether or not you have been a victim. Internet based crimes should also be reported to the FBI Internet Crime Complaint Center by visiting [www.IC3.gov](http://www.IC3.gov).

The 2014 homicide of the Chen family on Western Ave remains open and anyone that has any information that may help solve this case should call the CID or the New York State Police at 518-783-3212 or <https://troopers.ny.gov/>.



## Highlight Cases CID Handled

### March:

A victim was approached by 3 males in the parking lot at Crossgates Mall in an attempt to pick a fight. After the victim declined, one of the males started punching the victim in the face with a closed fist and robbed him of his cell phone and personal items. The suspect, Edward Johnson of Troy was arrested for this incident. Johnson entered into a plea agreement in Guilderland Town Court in full satisfaction of all charges.

### April:

Several stores at Crossgates Mall reported being burglarized overnight. Suspect photos were obtained from store and mall surveillance footage. Robert Ardoin was arrested for an unrelated shoplifting incident at Crossgates a few weeks later and matched the person in the surveillance footage. Additional evidence from the burglaries were sent to the New York State Police Forensic Investigation Center and a DNA profile was developed. That DNA profile matched Ardoin and he was later arrested for these burglaries. Through investigation, it was discovered Ardoin committed burglaries in malls in other states and investigators from those states were advised of Ardoins arrest and location. This case is pending in Albany County Court.

### June:

The Guilderland Police Department received a report of a burglar alarm at CVS Pharmacy located at Routes 20 and 155. While officers checked the back of the building, they observed a male flee the building on foot. The suspect, John Whiteford was arrested after a short foot pursuit. Whiteford was on parole for previous burglary charges. Through investigation, it was learned that Whiteford had tampered with and disarmed the store alarm the previous night, before the store closed. CVS remotely set the alarm, which triggered when Whiteford entered the store. Whiteford was linked to a similar burglary at Cumberland Farms on Western Avenue. Whitefords case is pending in Albany County Court.

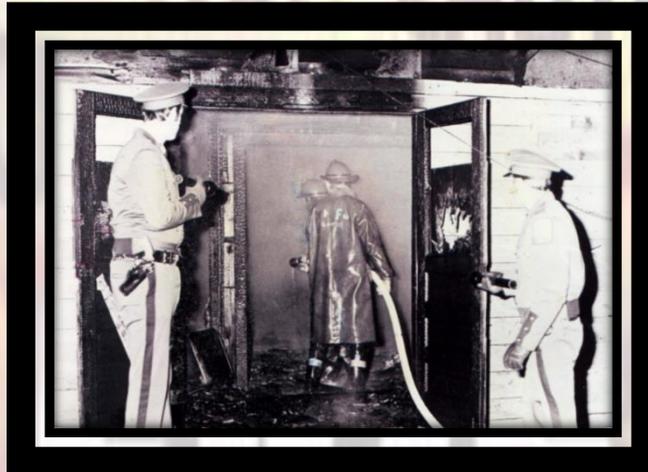
### December:

The Guilderland Police Department received an emergency medical call for an intoxicated male that fell and hit his head. The male died at the hospital and after an autopsy his death was ruled a homicide. Jason Seminary was arrested for this homicide. This case is pending in Albany County Court.

## FIRE INVESTIGATION

The Town of Guilderland Fire Investigation Unit was formed in 1977 and was one of the first combined firefighter and police officer investigation units in New York State. At that time the "Arson Squad", or it's code name "Unit 74", consisted of one police officer, Douglas Laremore, and one volunteer firefighter, Robert Perry of the McKownville Fire Department. In the early 1980's Guy Comparetta, of the Fort Hunter Volunteer Fire Company, joined the Arson Squad.

least 120 hours of training at the New York State Fire Training Academy in Montour Falls. In addition, members must receive continuing education annually. An example of topics covered in this training include fire investigation, fire analysis, fire investigation methodology, fire investigation technology, hazardous materials, failure analysis and analytic tools, fire science, fire chemistry, thermodynamics, thermometry, fire dynamics, explosive dynamics, computer



*Officer Douglas Laremore (left) at the scene of a structure fire in the late 70's*

In the late 1980's the town's unit was reformed and renamed as the Fire Investigation Unit which included three police officers; Chief (then Officer) Dan McNally, Officer Brian Forte (retired), Altamont police officer Tom Pollard (retired) and three volunteer firefighters; Guy Comparetta (Fort Hunter Fire Company), Bill Dvorscak (Guilderland Center Fire Department), and Bob Borowitz (McKownville Fire Department). Currently the Fire Investigation Unit consists of town police officers, town building inspectors, town fire inspectors, and volunteer firefighters who are trained in fire investigation. To be certified as a fire investigator in New York State, members must complete at

fire modeling, fire protection systems, evidence documentation, collection and preservation, as well as electricity and electrical systems. The New York State General Municipal Law stipulates that the fire chief of any fire department must determine or cause to be determined the cause of any fire or explosion they are called to suppress. When necessary, the Fire Investigation Unit is called by the incident commander to conduct this investigation. If the cause is determined to be suspicious or an act of arson for example, a criminal investigation commences in hopes of determining the individual or individuals that are responsible and bringing them to justice.

# ANIMAL CONTROL

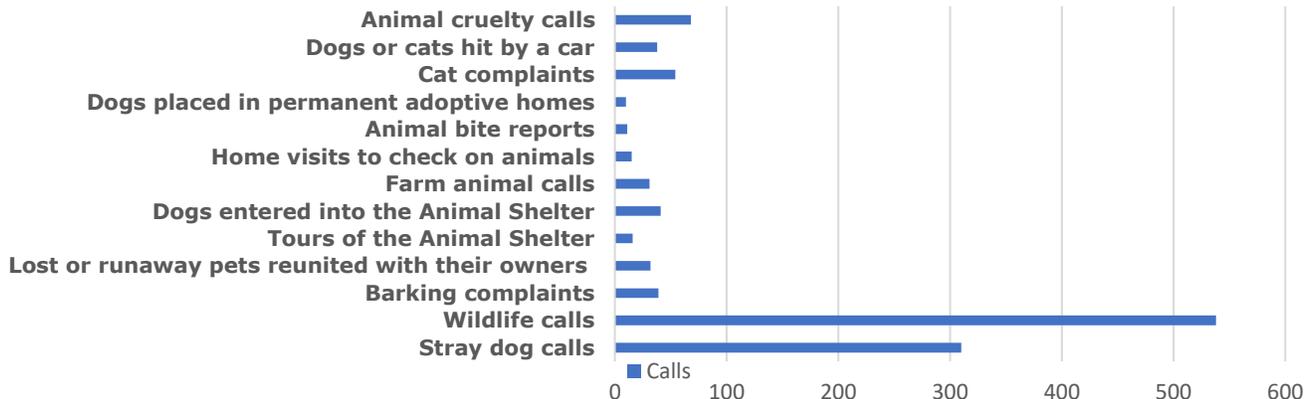


The Guilderland Animal Shelter temporarily houses dogs and cats that are left unattended, stray or found within the Town of Guilderland. After a period of time, if an owner cannot be located, the shelter will commence an adoption process.

There are two animal control officers who are responsible for;

- Enforcing laws and ordinances in the Town concerning animals,
- Supervising the care and protection of animals impounded,
- Seizing and impounding stray and Dangerous animals,
- Issuing tickets in accordance with provisions of law,
- Investigating and take corrective action on complaints concerning animals running at large and unlicensed dogs,
- Maintaining records relating to the investigation of animal complaints,
- Impounding unlicensed animals running at large,
- Securing uncontrollable animals,
- Investigating reports of cruelty to animals,
- Testifying in court, as required,
- Enforcing quarantine laws and ordinances applicable to dogs,
- Picking up and disposing of deceased animals,
- Transporting sick or injured animals to a veterinarian for treatment,
- Maintaining records and information regarding the licensing of dogs and other animals in accordance with the provisions of applicable laws,
- Investigating complaints regarding stray, dangerous and/or injured animals,
- Assisting with the maintenance and operation of the animal shelter and the care of any animal there at,
- Performing a dog census,
- Assisting with animal adoptions and related paperwork,
- Assisting with animal adoption clinics,
- Conducting animal redemptions.

## Animal Control Calls for Service



**RICHARD R. MURRAY TOWN OF GUILDERLAND ANIMAL SHELTER**

6363 French's Mill Road  
 Guilderland Center, New York 12085

**Appointments:** Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 9am – 4pm    **Open House:** Saturdays 12pm to 5pm



**Guilderland**  
CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

## GRANT




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***The Guilderland Police Department received a \$345,994.00 award to increase safety within the seven school buildings of the Guilderland Central School District***

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In April of 2020, the Guilderland Police Department submitted a grant application to the United States Department of Justice COPS office in hopes of receiving funding as part of their School Violence Prevention Program (SVPP). These funds are allocated to improve security at schools and on school grounds within local jurisdictions. This application was supported by Congressman Paul Tonko and in

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*The grant was written to enhance first responder radio communications within all of Guilderland’s school buildings by installing Distributed Antenna Systems (DAS) at each location.*

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collaboration with the Guilderland School District who provided the 25% funding match. In September, the department was notified that we were one of 160 awardees nationally.

The Town of Guilderland emergency services (Police, Fire and Emergency Medical Services) had recently transferred from its own emergency radio system to the Albany County 800 megahertz digital trunking system which allows all responders in the county and surrounding counties to communicate on a variety of channels. This system is essential for interoperability during emergencies. Although the Albany County system is very robust, similar to that of cellular phone signals, there can be areas especially

within big buildings such as schools, where the signal maybe limited. The DAS is a series of antennas strategically placed within the school buildings that through an outside antenna connects to the digital system. When responders use portable radios within these buildings, it allows the radios to talk directly to the system without any signal loss. Deputy Chief Curtis Cox, who managed the project, said that “during critical incidents or emergencies it is essential that responders can communicate effectively while operating well within the confines of a building. These systems have accomplished this goal.”

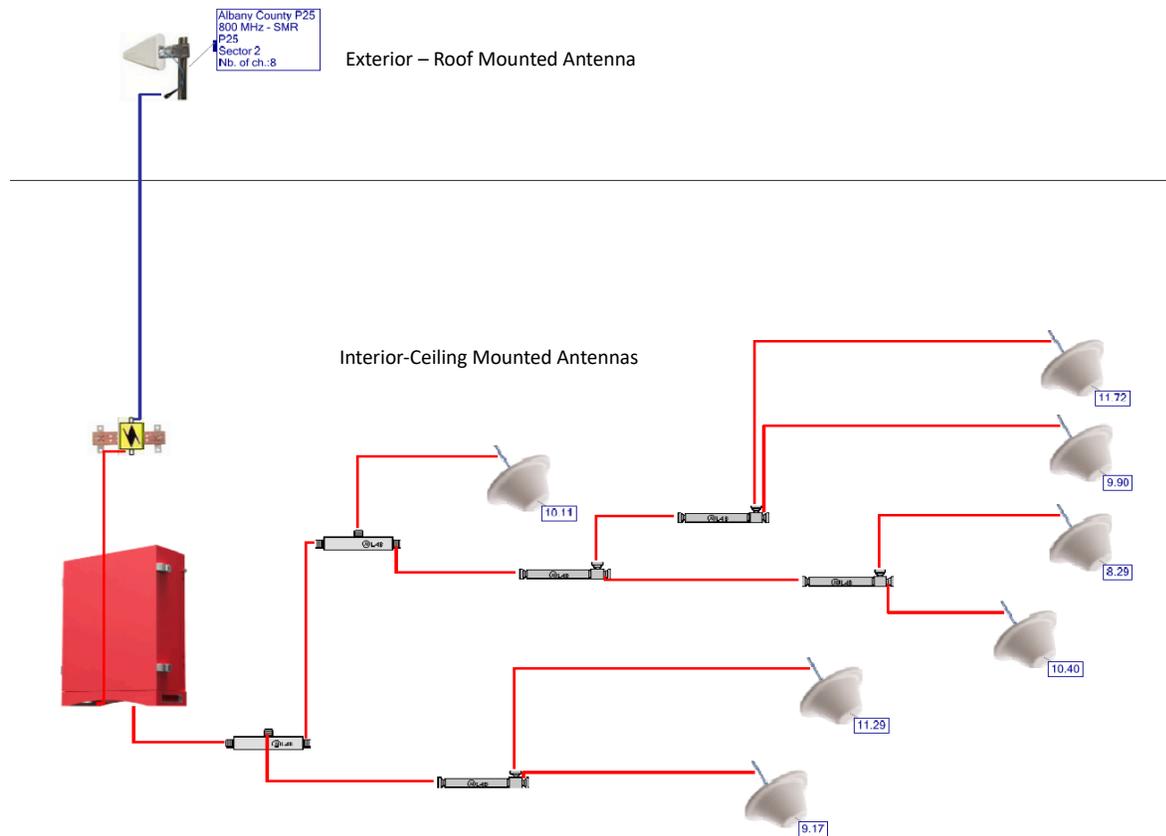
In early spring of 2021, all school buildings were surveyed for signal loss and areas identified where DAS antennas would be needed. In June the competitive bid was awarded to Mann Wireless of Ballston Spa, New York. Installation of such a large project needed to be coordinated during the times students and staff were not in school. The project was completed during summer vacation and operational by the first day of school in September. With other school construction projects underway during this period, Mann Wireless was able to coordinate with them and significantly reduce the cost and duration of the project.

Javier Jaramillo of Mann Wireless stated, “We share in the safety mission of all our customers. We, too, are parents and caregivers, and we hold safety in

K-12 schools in the highest regard. Our team was thrilled to work with the Guilderland Police Department and Guilderland School District to achieve 100% radio signal coverage throughout all seven schools in the district."

Guilderland School Superintendent Dr. Marie Wiles said "This project is an excellent example of the strong partnership between the Guilderland School District and the Guilderland Police. By working together and leveraging our resources, we

have greatly improved our emergency communication capacity at each of our seven school buildings, making them even safer for our students and staff. The outcome of this collaborative effort, supported by a successful grant application, is invaluable."



# QUALITY ASSURANCE

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
The Officers Responded Promptly	26	8	0	0
The Officers were knowledgeable regarding situation/complaint	24	11	0	0
The Officers acted in a professional/courteous manner	30	5	0	0

“Great listener, caring, and knowledgeable”

Month	Surveys Sent Out	Surveys Received Back
January	12	3
February	11	5
March	9	3
April	13	6
May	6	3
June	8	1
July	11	3
August	8	2
September	9	3
October	8	1
November	9	4
December	10	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>35</b>

“Officers were courteous, responsive, professional, helpful, and sympathetic”

“Officers were extremely pleasant, professional, knowledgeable, and helpful”

“The Officer was professional and very helpful. My thanks and high praise for the dedicated Guilderland Police Department for their work and commitment to serving our community”



# PROMOTIONS

On January 1, 2021 Chief McNally made the following promotions:



Lieutenant Eric Batchelder was promoted to the rank of Captain, which more proportionately reflects his duties within the command staff. Captain Batchelder has been serving since 2001.

Senior Investigator Thomas Funk was promoted to the rank of First Sergeant and assigned to supervise the Criminal Investigation Division and the Community Services Unit. Because many of the duties of these units overlap, by having one supervisor will better coordinate their activities. First Sergeant Funk has been serving since 1994.



In 2021 Chief McNally made the following assignments:

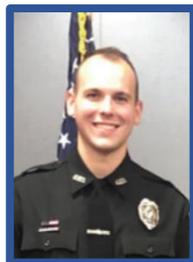


**Officer Matthew Hanzalik** was appointed to the rank of investigator and assigned to the Criminal Investigation Unit. Investigator Hanzalik, who had been assigned to the Community Services Unit who is a youth officer and DARE instructor, will remain with those duties and specialize in youth investigations.



**Officer Tylor Stevens** was appointed as the departments new Canine Handler. (See related article)

**Officers Zachary Collen and Ian Kelley** were appointed to the town Fire Investigation Unit. (See related article)



**Officer Sean Ralston** was appointed to the Community Services Unit and assigned as a School Resource Officer primarily stationed at the Guilderland High School.



# NEW HIRES

W  
E  
L  
C  
O  
M  
E



Officer  
Mario Hluch



Officer  
Barak Strock



Officer  
Olivia DiBella



Officer  
Kristopher Scarano

T  
O  
G  
P  
D



K9 Officer  
Max

## 2021 RETIREMENTS

*Thank you for your service*



**Officer Donald Jones** retired after a 23-year career with the department. Officer Jones was the department K-9 Officer. Officer Jones was general topics training instructor as well as a Taser and Range instructor. Officer Jones was an accident investigator and served on the Guilderland Police Special Response Team as well as the Albany County Emergency Response Team.



**Officer Russell Tallman** retired after a 26-year career with the department. Officer Tallman most recently had been assigned to the patrol division and was the coordinator of our social media outlets as well as our police department website.



**Telecommunicator Kris Kelly-Sweeney** retired after a 30-year career in our communications division. She served as our e-Justice NY (Criminal Justice Information Services) Terminal Agency Coordinator (TAC). In this F.B.I required role, she maintained our system access to the Division of Criminal Justice Services and conducted routine security and integrity audits.

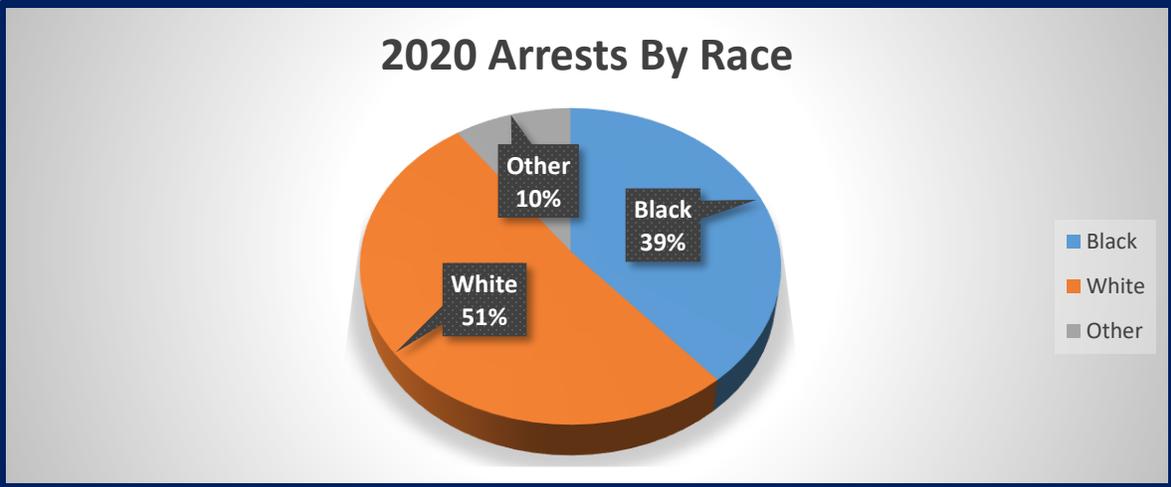
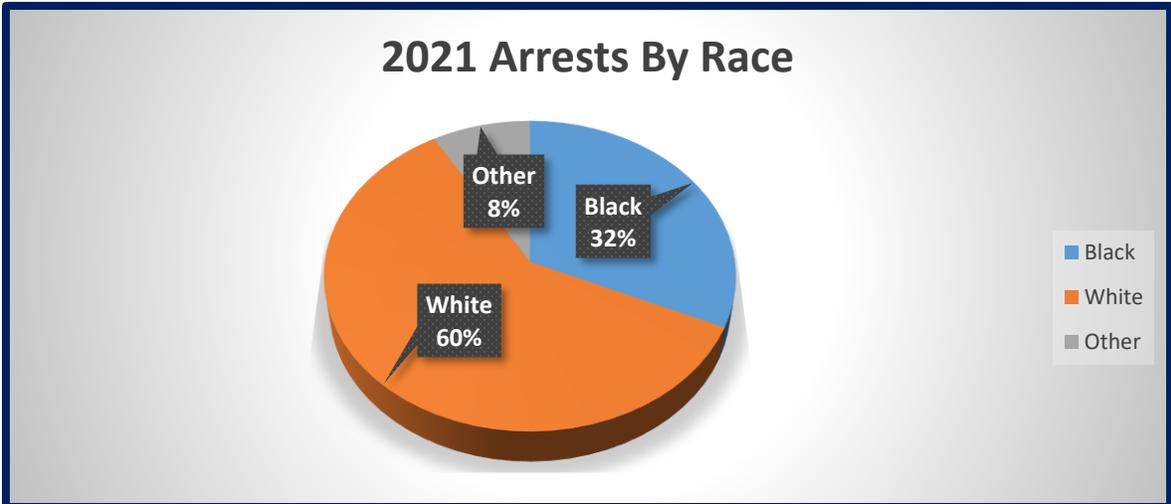
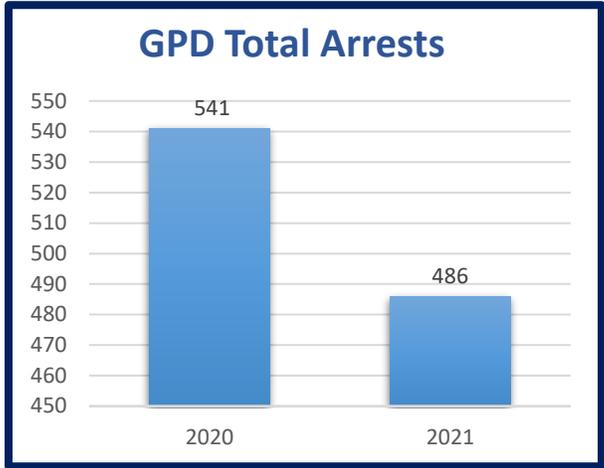
*Never forget the difference you made*

## MILESTONES

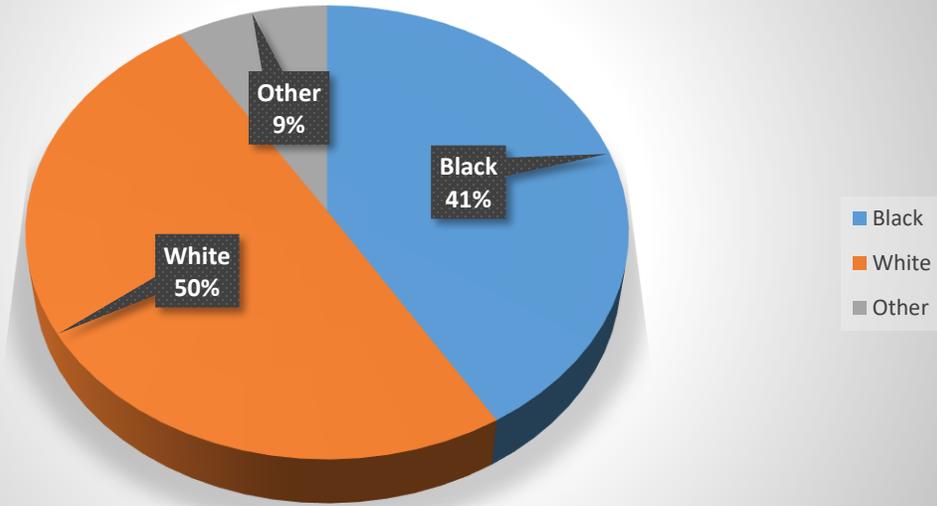
*In recognition of those who have 20 or more years of dedicated service to the Guilderland Police Department*

Employee	Position	Hired	Years
Curtis Cox	Deputy Chief of Police	1984	37
Daniel McNally	Chief of Police	1988	33
Adam Myers	Officer	1992	29
Thomas Funk	First Sergeant	1994	27
Gina Spadaro	Senior Telecommunicator	1995	26
Charles Tanner	Investigator	1995	26
Carl Duda	Sergeant	1995	26
Nicholas Ingle	Officer	1995	26
Robert Meyers	Animal Control Officer	1996	25
Robert Bailey	Officer	1997	24
John Ginder	Telecommunicator	1997	24
Eric Batchelder	Captain	2001	20
Brian Leach	Investigator	2001	20
Steven Witham	Telecommunicator	2001	20
Susan Infante	Telecommunicator	2001	20

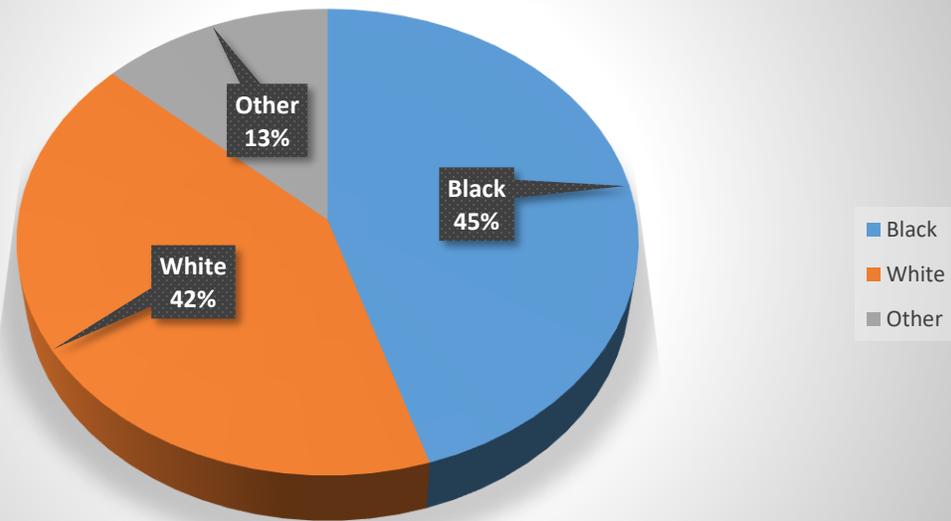
# STATISTICS

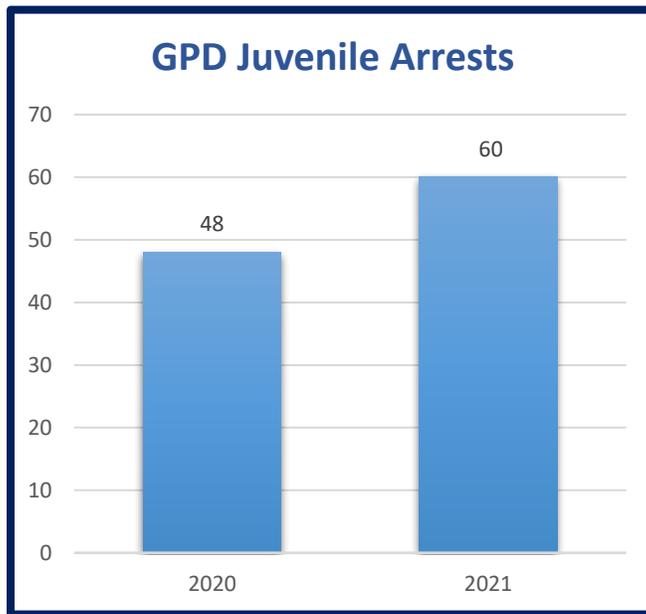
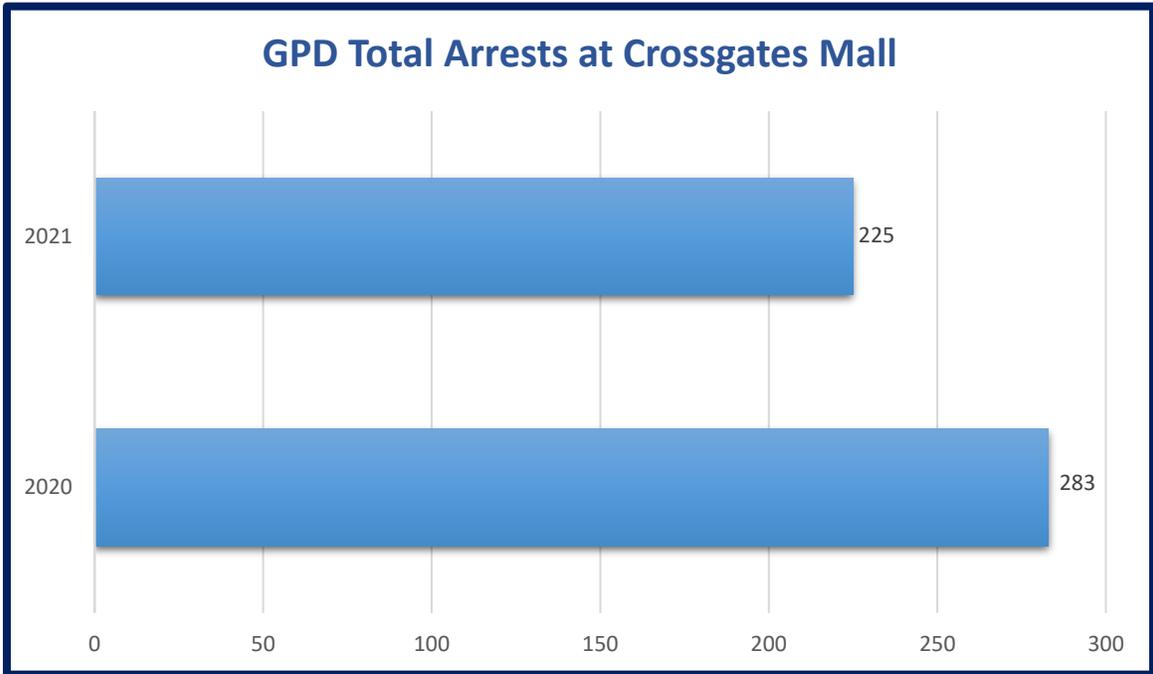


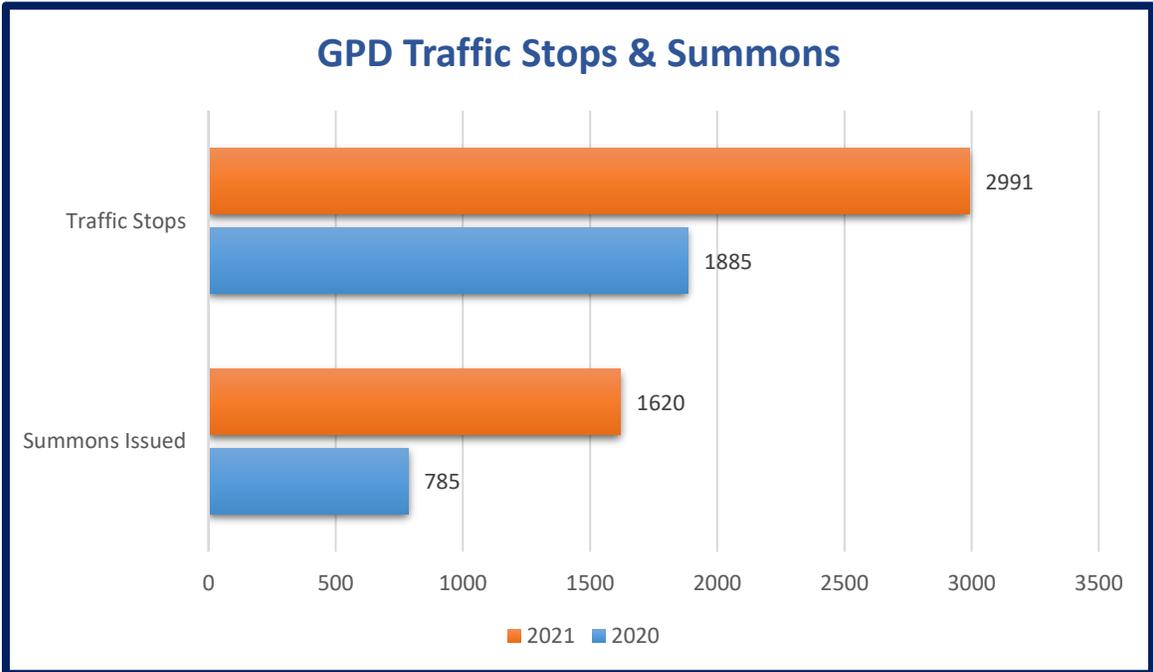
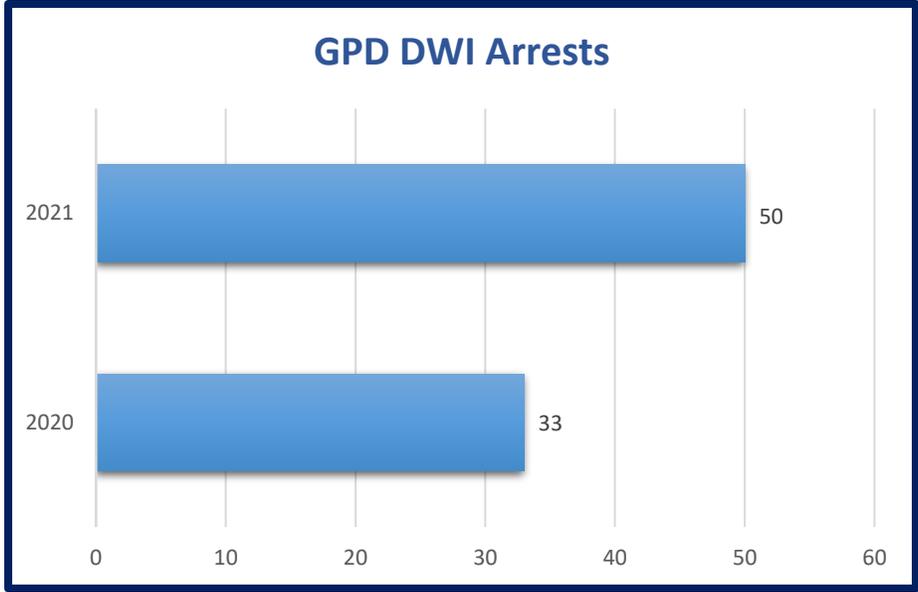
### 2021 Crossgates Mall Arrests By Race

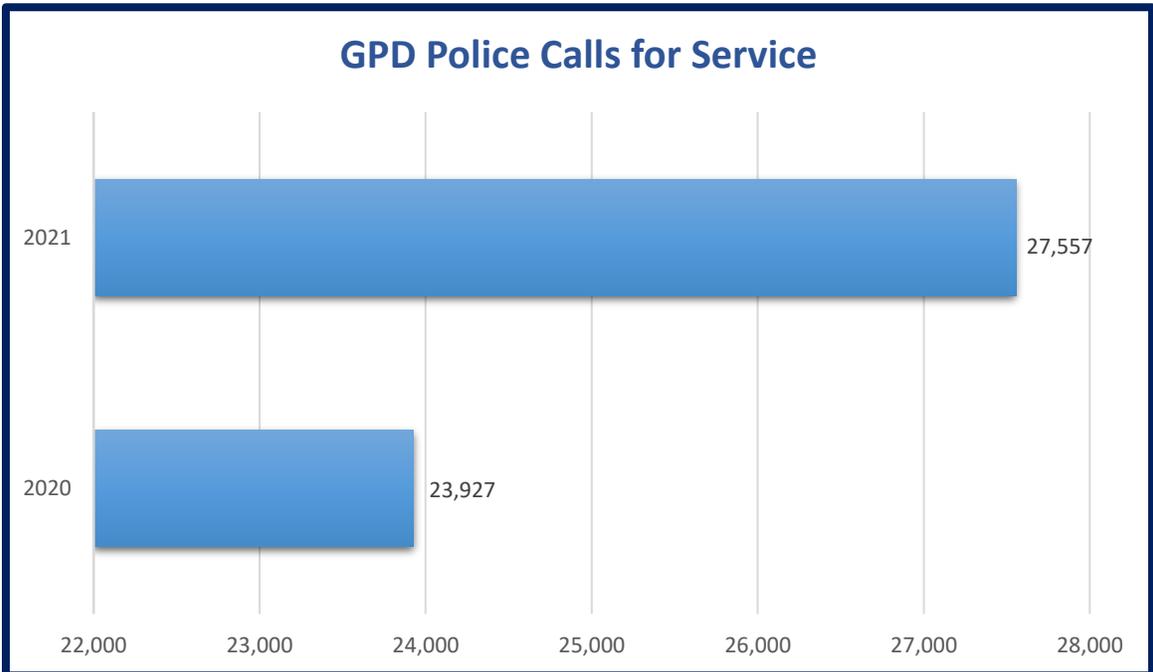
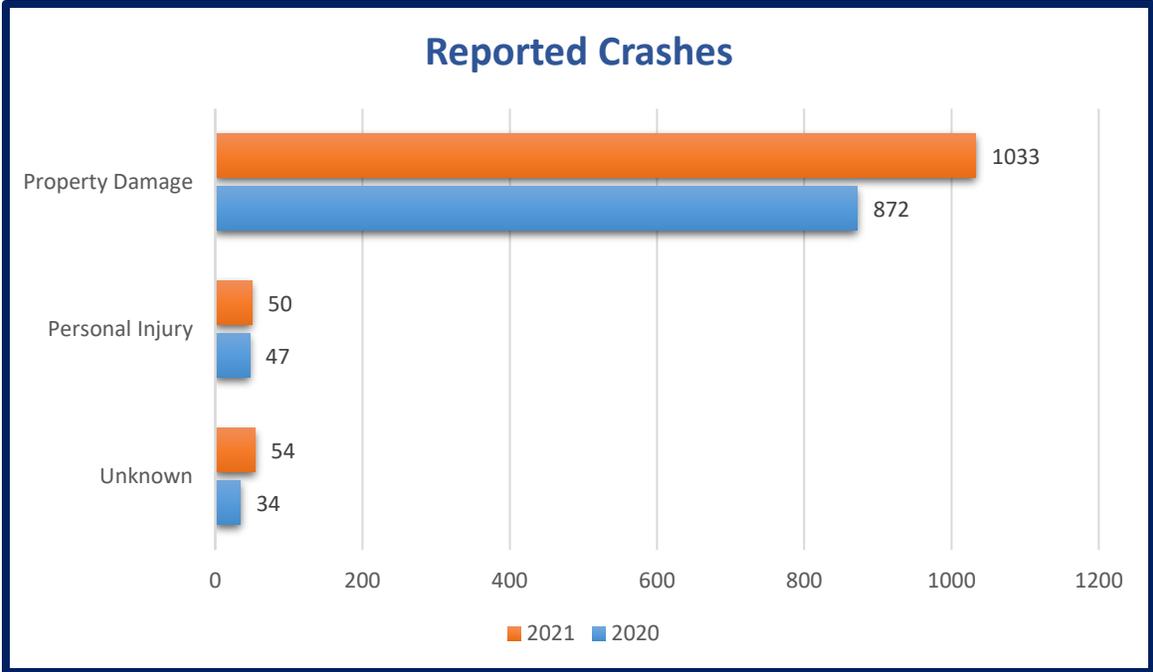


### 2020 Crossgates Mall Arrests By Race









Police Calls for 2021			Police Calls for 2020	
CALL TYPE		Percent Change	CALL TYPE	
911 ACCIDENTAL CALL	1518	5	911 ACCIDENTAL CALL	1449
911 HANG-UP CALL	1238	7	911 HANG-UP CALL	1158
911 NON-EMERGENCY / NUISANCE	129	-4	911 NON-EMERGENCY / NUISANCE	134
911 OPEN LINE	392	31	911 OPEN LINE	300
911 TRANSFER	829	33	911 TRANSFER	621
ABANDONED VEHICLE	17	42	ABANDONED VEHICLE	12
ALARM DROP	40	74	ALARM DROP	23
ANIMAL CONTROL COMPLAINT	1166	9	ANIMAL CONTROL COMPLAINT	1067
ASSAULT	18	-28	ASSAULT	25
ASSIST A PERSON	1088	6	ASSIST A PERSON	1022
ASSIST BY COM DIV	47	-80	ASSIST BY COM DIV	230
AUTO ACC PROP DAMAGE	1033	18	AUTO ACC PROP DAMAGE	872
AUTO ACCIDENT PERSONAL INJURY	50	6	AUTO ACCIDENT PERSONAL INJURY	47
AUTO ACCIDENT UNKNOWN	54	59	AUTO ACCIDENT UNKNOWN	34
BOLO	52	108	BOLO	25
BOMB THREAT (PD)	1	100	BOMB THREAT (PD)	0
BOY/GIRLFRIEND TROUBLE	7	-42	BOY/GIRLFRIEND TROUBLE	12
BURGLAR ALARM	1007	6	BURGLAR ALARM	951
BURGLARY IN PROGRESS	4	0	BURGLARY IN PROGRESS	4
CANCEL/DUPLICATE	67	-6	CANCEL/DUPLICATE	71
CAR BLOCKING	4	-69	CAR BLOCKING	13
CAR SEAT INSTALLATION	64	7	CAR SEAT INSTALLATION	60
CHECK A SUBJECT	705	-4	CHECK A SUBJECT	734
CHECK A TRAFFIC LIGHT	95	38	CHECK A TRAFFIC LIGHT	69
CHECK FOR HUNTER	32	14	CHECK FOR HUNTER	28
COMMUNITY SERVICES MEETING	2	200	COMMUNITY SERVICES MEETING	0
COMMUNITY SERVICES EVENT	127	98	COMMUNITY SERVICES EVENT	64
COURT ORDER	38	-3	COURT ORDER	39
COVID COMPLAINT	14	-13	COVID COMPLAINT	16
CUSTODIAL INTERFERENCE	35	-13	CUSTODIAL INTERFERENCE	40
DETAIL	110	7	DETAIL	103
DIG SAFE NOTIFICATION	1	-67	DIG SAFE NOTIFICATION	3
DISABLED MOTOR VEHICLE	291	2	DISABLED MOTOR VEHICLE	284
DMV REQUEST	0	-100	DMV REQUEST	1
DOMESTIC CALL	279	-8	DOMESTIC CALL	303
DPW ALARM	2	200	DPW ALARM	0

Police Calls for 2021			Police Calls for 2020	
DRUG COMPLAINT	0	-100	DRUG COMPLAINT	5
DRUNK ANNOYING	9	-18	DRUNK ANNOYING	11
DUPLICATE CALL	5	400	DUPLICATE CALL	1
EMOTIONALLY DISTURBED PERSON	231	34	EMOTIONALLY DISTURBED PERSON	173
EMS (JUVENILE) CALL	9	13	EMS (JUVENILE) CALL	8
EMS CALL	490	4	EMS CALL	471
EMS CALL - ECHO/DELTA RESPONSE	1	-50	EMS CALL - ECHO/DELTA RESPONSE	2
EQUIPMENT REPAIR	81	35	EQUIPMENT REPAIR	60
EXECUTING A WARRANT	4	-67	EXECUTING A WARRANT	12
FIGHT	123	54	FIGHT	80
FINGERPRINTS	161	42	FINGERPRINTS	113
FIRE CALL	244	20	FIRE CALL	203
FIRE INVESTIGATION	10	0	FIRE INVESTIGATION	10
FIREWORKS	41	-29	FIREWORKS	58
FOLLOW UP ON PREV. CALL	89	19	FOLLOW UP ON PREV. CALL	75
FOLLOW UP	1	-92	FOLLOW UP	12
FOOT PATROL	7	-13	FOOT PATROL	8
FOUND PROPERTY	85	-26	FOUND PROPERTY	115
GAS DRIVE OFF	28	155	GAS DRIVE OFF	11
GET A COMPLAINT	889	-23	GET A COMPLAINT	1161
GET A REPORT	1832	14	GET A REPORT	1609
GROUP ANNOYING	97	29	GROUP ANNOYING	75
HAZ PACKAGE	1	0	HAZ PACKAGE	1
HAZARDOUS MATERIAL CALL	2	100	HAZARDOUS MATERIAL CALL	2
HOLD-UP ALARM	49	26	HOLD-UP ALARM	39
HOUSE-VACATION	11	22	HOUSE-VACATION	9
INVESTIGATION	42	740	INVESTIGATION	5
JAIL RUN	1	0	JAIL RUN	1
JUVENILE INCIDENT	127	41	JUVENILE INCIDENT	90
JUVENILE SHOPLIFTER	12	-20	JUVENILE SHOPLIFTER	15
K-9 ACTIVITY	11	-69	K-9 ACTIVITY	36
KEEP THE PEACE	1	100	KEEP THE PEACE	0
LANDLORD/TENANT TROUBLE	9	-40	LANDLORD/TENANT TROUBLE	15
LARCENY FROM VEH/VEH GONE THROUGH	110	-19	LARCENY FROM VEH/VEH GONE THROUGH	136
LARCENY JUST OCCURRED	146	62	LARCENY JUST OCCURRED	90
LARCENY REPORT - NIP	1	100	LARCENY REPORT - NIP	0
LOCK OUT	101	0	LOCK OUT	101

<b>Police Calls for 2021</b>			<b>Police Calls for 2020</b>	
LOUD MUSIC	43	0	LOUD MUSIC	43
LOUD PARTY	30	-23	LOUD PARTY	39
MEETING	2	200	MEETING	0
MISSING PERSON	41	41	MISSING PERSON	29
NEIGHBOR TROUBLE	49	-6	NEIGHBOR TROUBLE	52
NOISE COMPLAINT	27	238	NOISE COMPLAINT	8
NOTIFICATION	373	-2	NOTIFICATION	382
OFFICER(S) NEEDS ASSISTANCE	0	-100	OFFICER(S) NEEDS ASSISTANCE	1
OPEN WINDOW/DOOR	43	87	OPEN WINDOW/DOOR	23
OTHER	126	-8	OTHER	137
OVERDOSE	2	200	OVERDOSE	0
PANIC ALARM	14	40	PANIC ALARM	10
P.O.P.	0	-300	P.O.P.	3
PERSON ACTING SUSPICIOUS	22	-46	PERSON ACTING SUSPICIOUS	41
PERSON ANNOYING	79	-4	PERSON ANNOYING	82
PERSON ATTEMPTING SUICIDE	10	-44	PERSON ATTEMPTING SUICIDE	18
PERSON DOWN	2	-33	PERSON DOWN	3
PERSON EXPOSING SELF	5	25	PERSON EXPOSING SELF	4
PERSON WITH A WEAPON	15	-25	PERSON WITH A WEAPON	20
PISTOL PERMIT	74	9	PISTOL PERMIT	68
POLICE COURT	61	39	POLICE COURT	44
POLICE INFORMATION	35	-22	POLICE INFORMATION	45
POLICE WANTED UNKNOWN	36	-3	POLICE WANTED UNKNOWN	37
PROPERTY CHECK	5595	30	PROPERTY CHECK	4306
PROWLER	32	33	PROWLER	24
ROAD HAZARD	144	3	ROAD HAZARD	140
ROBBERY	3	300	ROBBERY	0
SEX OFFENDER REGISTRANT	15	650	SEX OFFENDER REGISTRANT	2
SHOOTING	1	0	SHOOTING	1
SHOPLIFTER	92	-19	SHOPLIFTER	114
SHOTS FIRED	2	100	SHOTS FIRED	7
SNOW EMERGENCY (BIRD)	10	-76	SNOW EMERGENCY (BIRD)	42
SOMEONE IN BUILDING	16	7	SOMEONE IN BUILDING	15
STOLEN VEH CHECK	1	-80	STOLEN VEH CHECK	5
STRUCTURE FIRE	0	-200	STRUCTURE FIRE	2
SUSPICIOUS VEHICLE	129	-35	SUSPICIOUS VEHICLE	197
TEST CALL	40	-9	TEST CALL	44

<b>Police Calls for 2021</b>			<b>Police Calls for 2020</b>	
TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT	578	227	TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT	177
TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT COUNTY LINE	4	100	TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT COUNTY LINE	1
TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT CURRY RD	30	100	TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT CURRY RD	0
TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT E OLD STAT	56	1767	TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT E OLD STAT	3
TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT FULLER STA	6	100	TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT FULLER STA	3
TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT GUILD CTR	14	100	TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT GUILD CTR	0
TRAFFIC STOP	2991	59	TRAFFIC STOP	1881
TREE DOWN	81	-43	TREE DOWN	141
TROUBLE WITH A CUSTOMER	139	83	TROUBLE WITH A CUSTOMER	76
UFO SIGHTING	0	-100	UFO SIGHTING	1
VEHICLE ANNOYING	413	-3	VEHICLE ANNOYING	427
VEHICLE IN VIOLATION	60	13	VEHICLE IN VIOLATION	53
VEHICLE LARCENY	14	100	VEHICLE LARCENY	4
VIOLENT DOMESTIC	5	400	VIOLENT DOMESTIC	1
WARRANT	88	-58	WARRANT	211
WARRANT ENTRY	0	-100	WARRANT ENTRY	24
WATER BREAK	36	33	WATER BREAK	27
WELFARE CHECK	202	-5	WELFARE CHECK	213
WIRES DOWN/ARCING	54	-22	WIRES DOWN/ARCING	69
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>27557</b>		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>23927</b>