

Windom Police Department Year End Report

2019

MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF

Dear Mayor and City Council Members:

2019 was a very good year for the Windom Police Department. We added a K-9 to our agency, integrated new state mandated training and began a community policing partnership with Red Rock ALC.

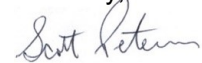
In June, Officer Louis Norell and K9 Bruno completed training in Blaine, Minnesota. The program was 13 weeks long and covered drug detection, tracking and apprehension of suspects. This was intense training for both Officer Norell and Bruno. They began patrolling the streets of Windom together in July. Bruno proved his worth to our agency last fall when a female, who had assaulted her boyfriend with a knife, barricaded herself inside of an apartment. She came out after learning that Bruno would be sent in to apprehend her. His presence deescalated this situation and the arrest was made without incident. We are glad to have Bruno as a member of the Windom Police Department.

In 2017, the Minnesota Legislature passed a law that requires officers to have training in crisis intervention, de-escalation skills and diversity training. We have sent officers to become instructors in crisis intervention and de-escalation. This past year, we integrated them with our yearly use of force training. Officers had practical exercises that allowed for them to use their communication skills before affecting a mock apprehension. Jim Axford assisted us in being the actor for this training.

In January, we began daily foot patrols of the Red Rock ALC Highland Building. In the past, there had been a high number of incidents originating from this facility. Our agency, along with staff from the ALC worked together to partner to reduce calls and provide a community policing presence that would benefit students and staff. The City of Windom and Red Rock ALC have entered into an agreement that funds a part-time officer position to be used to patrol the school. Officers have made many positive contacts with students and this program is a success. The agreement also allows the staff at the ALC and the Windom Police Department to attend training together that will benefit the community policing effort. I am very proud of what has been accomplished.

In closing, I wish to thank the Mayor and City Council Members for their continued support. I would also like to recognize Records Clerk Deb Nesselth and School Resource Officer Dana Wallace for their efforts in creating this report. I also wish to recognize our staff for the outstanding job they do each day. I am very proud of them!

Sincerely,



Scott Peterson, Chief of Police



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	Serving Since
Scott Peterson, Chief of Police	2011
Cory Hillesheim, Asst. Chief of Police	2009
Donna Marcy	2001
Dana Wallace	2002
Louis Norell	2011
Jon Beck *left dept in Feb	2013
Devin Kopperud	2014
David Huse	2017
Brandon Thongvivong *left dept in Dec	2017
Ryan Hillesheim *started in Mar	2019
Adam Watkins, PT *left dept in Dec	2019
Debra Nesseth—Records	1986

Officers in the community



BIKE EDUCATION



NIGHT TO UNITE



PEDESTRIAN SAFETY EVENT



COMMUNITY TALKS



Good Police Work in Action

An officer was out on patrol at 3am, when they spotted a vehicle driving through Windom with window tint that appeared to be too dark for Minnesota statute.

The officer spoke with the driver and discovered the driver didn't have a license, was under the influence of a controlled substance, and had numerous vials of Marijuana oil for vape pens.

This was the driver's second arrest for DUI.



**Window Tint violation
leads to drug charges and
DUI arrest.**

An officer noticed a vehicle driving in snowy weather without any lights. The officer smelled marijuana in the vehicle and a subsequent search found a large amount of packaged marijuana, marijuana wax and marijuana vape pens, all ready for sale, hidden in hockey equipment and "birthday" packages.

The driver and passenger were charged with several felony drug sale and possession charges.

The driver was also arrested for driving under the influence of Cocaine.



**No Headlights stop leads to
50 lbs of Marijuana, Cocaine,
\$800 in Drug Money**

Special thanks to the
Electric Department for the
use of their large floor scale

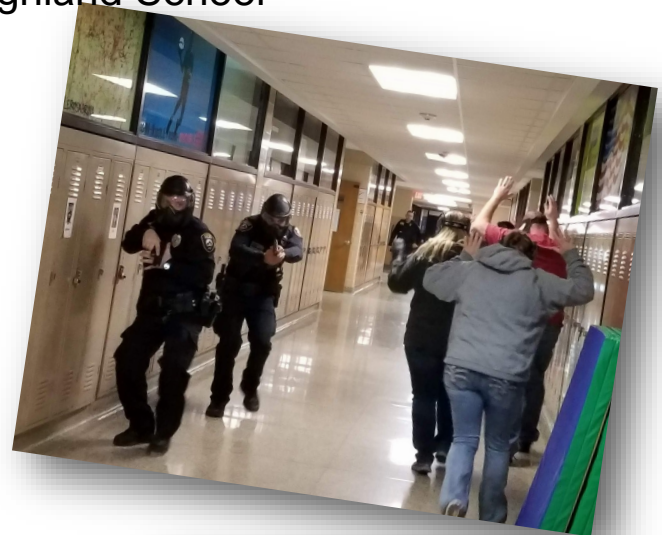


Trainings



Every year, officers have to complete annual training requirements in topics such as use of force, defensive tactics, OSHA, legal updates, weapons qualifications and a variety of other law enforcement related training. We use a combination of online trainings, instructor-led trainings and hands-on training. We are fortunate that several of our officers are trained to be instructors in a variety of topics.

This year included an Active Shooter training using Airsoft guns with school staff volunteers at the Highland School



We also had a three-day long training in Crisis Intervention and De-Escalation Techniques for dealing with mentally ill or people in crisis.



K-9 Update



This last year the Windom Police Department created the first dual purpose K9 Unit, where the K9 is trained in both Narcotics Detection and Patrol (tracking, apprehension, articles, obedience, etc). The handler position was posted internally and after an application process, Officer Louis Norell was selected as the handler for the team.

After reviewing potential K9 business and outfitters, McDonough K9 was selected for providing the canine and training team in the 14-week, spring class of 2019. McDonough K9 worked with our department in carefully selecting the appropriate canine for the handler. A 2 year old, purebred German Shepherd, was selected from the Czech Republic, which is a descendant from previous military and police canines. This canine was given the name, Bruno, upon arriving to the United States.



Upon graduation at the end of June, Bruno was successfully trained to national standards under both the United States Police Canine Association (USPCA), and completed certification in the National Police Canine Association (NPCA) in both Narcotics and Patrol.



Since completion of K9 school, they have assisted on multiple different occasions, involving various incidents including a search warrants, traffic stops, missing persons, school locker sniffs, and violent offenders. They have also done multiple public demonstrations to various groups and events.

~K-9 Officer Norell



Investigator Update

2019 was another busy year for Investigations as I was involved in **over 300 cases**. However, I feel the cases I worked on in this year were of a larger scale and took a significant amount of time. As examples:

In April, a sex trafficking sting was conducted in Windom. The goal and purpose of this operation was to bring in people that were interested in the purchase of minors for sexual acts. 7 men were arrested and charged as a result of this operation. (4 men thought they were meeting with a person above age 18, the other 3 believed they were meeting with a person under the age of 16). I was honored to have the assistance of the following agencies which included the Cottonwood, Nobles, Murray, and Rock County Sheriff's Offices, and agents from Buffalo Ridge Drug Task Force.

In May, I started to get reports of people who had purchased headstones from Windom Monument Company. The people making reports had purchased their stones (most paid full price upfront) and the stones have not been placed in the cemetery. I have 1 file cabinet drawer completely full of the paperwork involved in this case, and it is still ongoing at this time. The owner has been charged with 5 felony theft by swindle counts and 1 gross misdemeanor, theft by swindle count. The criminal complaint lists 38 victims who have a combined total loss of \$80,404.54. This case is still moving through the court system.



I was invited to speak at the Red Rock Ridge Alternative Learning Center, along with Cottonwood County Probation Agent Jenny Quade, Cottonwood County Assistant County Attorney Kristi Meyeraan, regarding our jobs and how we all work together. We answered many "what if" questions and hopefully left the students with a better understanding of how the criminal justice system works from a person's first contact with the Police, through the Court system and finally Probation.

I assisted Windom Ambulance EMT Kristen Porath at the Babysitter Clinic. We talked to the future

babysitters about basic first aid steps for bumps/cuts and breaks, bug bites, allergic reactions and choking.

Police recordings and social media have been a burden to many agencies throughout the Nation, with people quick to find fault and make judgements against the Police. Windom Police did not escape the spotlight of Facebook as a video of myself and a Cottonwood County Deputy Sheriff surfaced. Often times, as in this case, the Police are unable to defend or speak about their actions when the videos are posted. This case is now through the court system with one person guilty as charged and the second person under court jurisdiction. Children involved in this case have been removed from the home and remain safe and healthy.

~Investigator Donna Marcy

School Resource Officer Update



Safety Patrol Training Camp



This is my 7th year as a School Resource Officer assigned to Windom Area Schools. I continue to teach a variety of topics in all K – 12th Grade classes. This will be my 17th year of teaching the DARE Program. In addition to the core DARE classes in 5th and 7th grade, we've added some intro DARE

lessons at Winfair about calling 911 and Medication Safety in response to the national Opioid Epidemic.

This Spring, all 4-6 graders participated in 2 weeks of Bike Education. Over the summer, I was pleased to see many of the students using these skills.

I continue to help run the Crossing Guard program with the 3-8th grade students.

The biggest part of my job is engaging with students and building rapport with students and staff so on most days, you'll see me around talking with students, playing games, going to gym, reading in the library, patrolling, and helping out the administration with any police related issues.

This summer, I attended a Trauma Informed School Conference with the entire school Crisis Team.

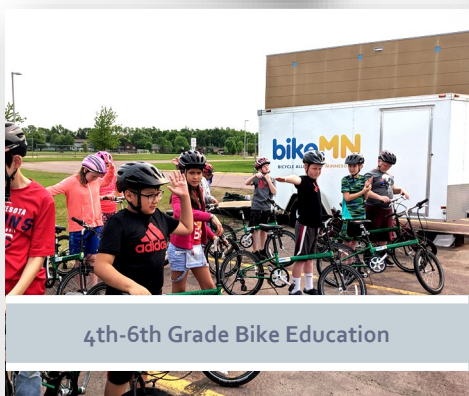
This will be a game changer for our community. I also helped the Crisis Team to plan and execute an all-staff

Reunification drill in case of an school evacuation.

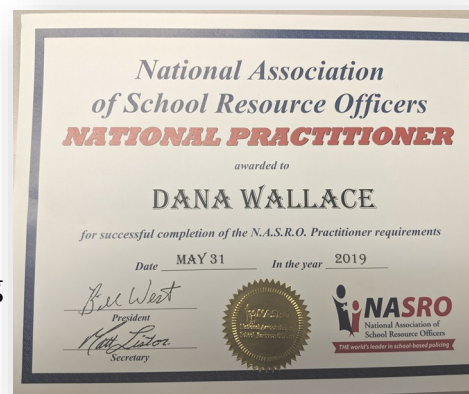
One of the most rewarding parts of my job is getting to know a student with challenges or trust issues with authority and working to gain the trust of that student—even if it takes years.

This year, I also completed my SRO National Practitioner certificate though the National Association of School Resource Officers (NASRO)

I work with a great school staff and administration and I couldn't do this job without their great support! ~SRO Dana Wallace



4th-6th Grade Bike Education



News from the Officers

As of June 2019, I was given the opportunity to represent the Windom Police Department in becoming a member of the High Risk Entry and Arrest Team (HEAT). The HEAT team is a multi-jurisdiction emergency response team that covers South West MN and North West IA. Along with this added assignment, I was fortunate enough to be the Field Training Officer (FTO) for two of our new hires this past year.



With the new addition of our K9 Officer Bruno, I have worked with Officer Norell and we were able to include K9 Officer Bruno in some of our Defensive Tactic training this past fall, which had a very positive feedback by all Officers and we are excited to add more K9 training to our current curriculum.

The Windom Police Department had a fantastic year and we look forward to continue our service to the community in the year ahead. ~Officer Kopperud



In the later end of the year, I attended the Zuercher Conference in Sioux Falls SD. It was at that conference, I was introduced to Field Op's. Field Op's is an app that Officers can use on their phone while on the scene of a call for service. The app's abilities consist of taking photos and linking them directly to the case file, taking an audio recording and linking to that case file, and also has GPS which dispatch can see where the Officer is at any given time. While I was at the conference, I was able to get the app at an extremely discounted rate. This app has streamlined the Officers abilities to finish a case in a timely manner

~Assistant Chief Cory Hillesheim

Field Ops



Ryan Hillesheim
swearing-in ceremony.

RECORDS REPORT 2019

We have had another eventful year with Police records this year. In 2019, the Windom Police Department Records had to train, test and transition to a new MN National Incident Based Reporting System (NIBRS).

We went to training and then each agency had "Testers" which included myself, that used a Bureau of Criminal Apprehension Criminal Reporting System to test and verify submission to the BCA to meet the test requirements, where you either passed or failed on your test submissions. Our deadline to stop the Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) and then start the NIBRS was February 1st, 2019. The FBI has set a firm date of January 1st, 2021 for all agencies in the United States to be transitioned to the NIBRS-only data collection.

It's been an interesting and somewhat difficult transition for all of us, but a good challenge, as well. The process involves the officer's first-hand information that they get at the scene of a crime to include in this report that goes to the National Based Reporting System. The accurate and complete crime information informs criminal justice partners with information they need to do their jobs and ultimately can help make communities safer.

I also want to end my letter in dedication to a long-time working partner of mine at the Cottonwood County Attorney's Office. Our office works closely with the County Attorney's Office on a daily basis. A very dedicated, hardworking, super organized secretary and friend, Kim Quiring, passed away in November, 2019. I had enjoyed our working partnership since August of 2000. God Bless you Kim, I miss you every day.

Sincerely,



Deb Nesseth, Legal Secretary



RECORDS AND STATS

Crimes and Arrests	11
Traffic Related	12
Common Crimes and 10 Year Trends	13
Calls for Service	14
30 Year Data Trends	15

*Arrests Data - Represents the number of arrest charges per offense, not the number of individual cases (ex. One person charged with three offenses would count as three arrest charges)

532	240	43	2019 Criminal Cases - Adult Arrests - Juvenile Arrests
66	32	15	Assault (All Degrees + Threats of Violence)
10	1		Burglary (All Degrees)
58	43		Check Fraud, Check Forgery, Dishonored Checks, Theft by Check, Theft by Swindle, Identity Theft Fraudulent use of Debit (Money) Card, Fraud-Phone Scam, Financial Exploitation, etc.
30	17		Crimes Against Administration of Justice (Including Obstructing Legal Process, False Name to Officer, Falsely Reporting a Crime, Probation Violation, Violation of Protection/ Harassment Order, Sex Offender-Fail to Change Address, Violation of Court Order and Danco Order, etc.
5	3		Crimes Against Family (Including Child Neglect and Malicious Punishment to a Child)
31	2	1	Criminal Damage to Property (All Degrees)
			Cruelty to Animals / Animal Neglect
9	5	6	Disorderly Conduct
29	3		Disturbing Peace, Harassing Communications/ Harassment, Interfere with 911 Calls, and Solicitation
25	19	9	Drug Related Offenses
1	2		Escape-Fleeing an Officer with / not with Motor Vehicle and Fugitive from Justice
			Extradition
1			Extortion/Coercion
1			ICAC (Internet Crimes against Children)
1	1		Kidnapping-Deprive of Custodial Rights-False Imprisonment
32	28	2	Liquor Violations (Including DUI's-all Degrees, Minor Consumption, Open Bottle, Underage Drink/Drive, Disruptive Intoxication, etc.)
			Murder
			Murder - Attempted
1	1		Negligent Fires/Unlawful Burning
			Obscenity (Obscene material, possess pornographic/electronic images of minors & Indecent exposure
8	5		Property Offenses (Including Crimes Against Property, Trespass & Unlawful Deposit of Garbage)
6	7		Prostitution - Hires to Engage in Prostitution & Distribution Electronic Communication Material Relating to Sexual Conduct to a Child
1	1		Possess Burglary Tools
1			Recovered Bikes
6			Recovered Vehicles
1			Robbery
4			Runaway/Incorrigible Juvenile/Curfew & Truancy
6	3	3	Sex Offenses (Including Criminal Sexual Conduct, all degrees & Solicitation)
			Stolen Property-Receiving/Possession
2		1	Tampering/Entering Motor Vehicle
1	1		Tax-Intent to Escape Tax
51	5		Theft (All Degrees)
2		1	Theft (Shoplifting)
3			Theft of Bikes
5	1	3	Tobacco Use/Possession/Violation
		5	Traffic (Other than simple Juvenile Traffic Citation)
77	38		Traffic-Misd/Gross Misdemeanor Traffic Violations and Hit and Runs
6	1		Vehicle Theft
			Weapons (Carry firearm in public place / Possess Incapacitation Device)
1			Weapons (Fireworks-Discharging)
5	2	1	Weapons (Possess Ammo/ Firearm - Conviction of Adj. Delinquent for Crime of Violence, Felon Convicted of Crime of Violence & Point Gun /Dangerous Weapon
486	221	47	2019

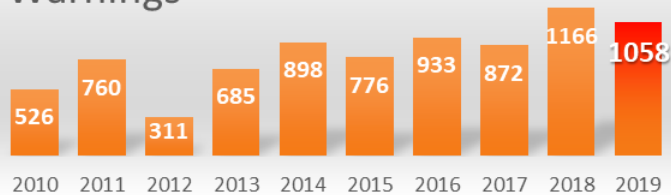
2019	Accident/Injuries	2018
162	Total Accidents	137
7	Persons Injured	10
0	Fatalities	0

	Citations	
148	Moving Tickets	128
3	Non-Moving Tickets	5
907	Warnings (Verbal/Written)	1033
1058	Total Warnings and Tickets	1166

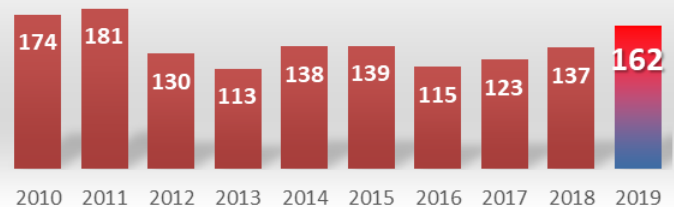
	Driving Under Influence	
7	Misdemeanor	12
14	Gross Misd/Felony	15
21	Total DUI's	27
0	Underage Drink/Drive	2



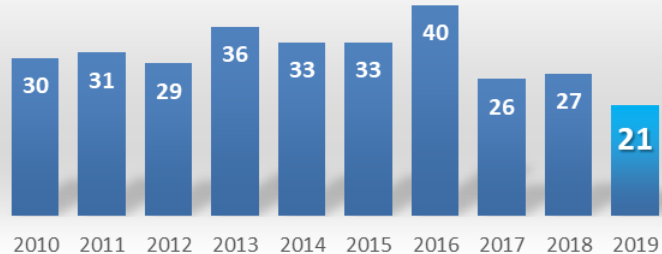
10 yr Total Traffic Citations and Warnings



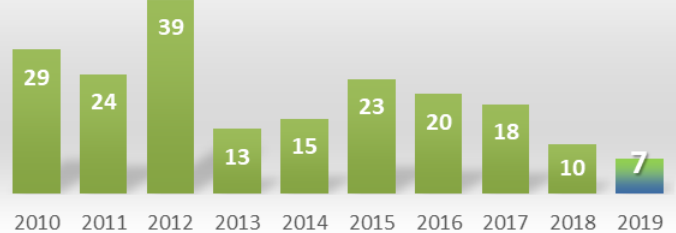
10 yr Total Accidents



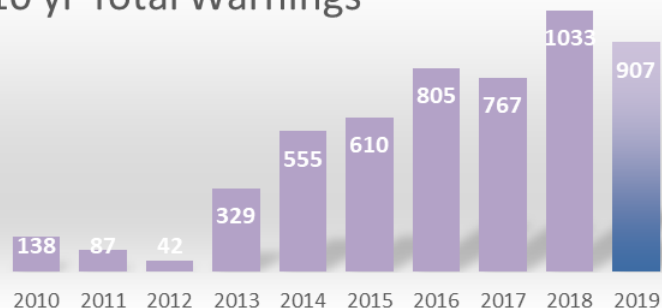
10 yr DUI Arrests



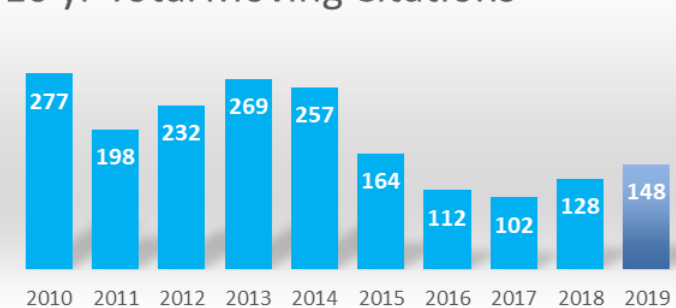
10 Yr Persons Injured in Motor Vehicle Accidents



10 yr Total Warnings



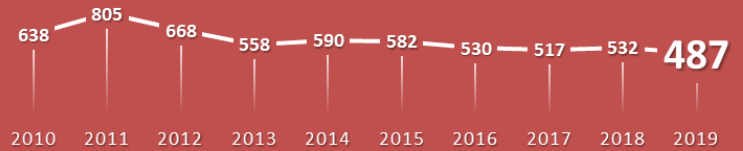
10 yr Total Moving Citations



Common Calls For Service

Miscellaneous Calls	259
Public Assists/Misc. Public	248
Ambulance Calls	213
Suspicious Activity	197
All Traffic Accidents	162
Assist Other Agency	117
Concern for Welfare	95
Disturbances	77
Assault	66
Check Fraud, Forgery, Scams	58
Domestic Disturbances	55
Funeral Escorts	54
Theft	51
False Alarms	45
Traffic Accidents	44
Liquor Violation	32
Criminal Damage to Property	31
Crimes against Administration of Justice	30
Harassment	29
Dogs/Cats Impounded	28
Lost/Found/Recovered Property	27
Missing, Lost or Runaways	26
Drug Related	25
Mental Illness/Suicidal	16
Burglary	10
Disorderly Conduct	9
Property Offenses	8
Prostitution/ Child Pornography	6
Recovered Vehicles	6
Criminal Sexual Conduct	6
Vehicle Theft	6
Crimes against Family	5
Tobacco Violations	5
Weapons	5
Runaway	4
Bike Theft	3
Tampering with Motor Vehicle	2
Theft- Shoplifting	2
Fleeing	1
Extortion	1
Internet Crimes Against Children Report	1
Kidnapping	1
Negligent Fires	1
Poses Burglary Tools	1
Recovered Bikes	1
Robbery	1
Tax Evasion	1
Weapons (Fireworks)	1

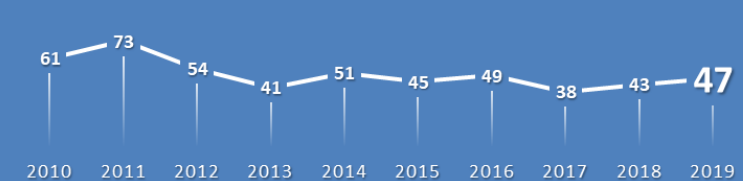
10 YEAR - TOTAL CRIMINAL CASES



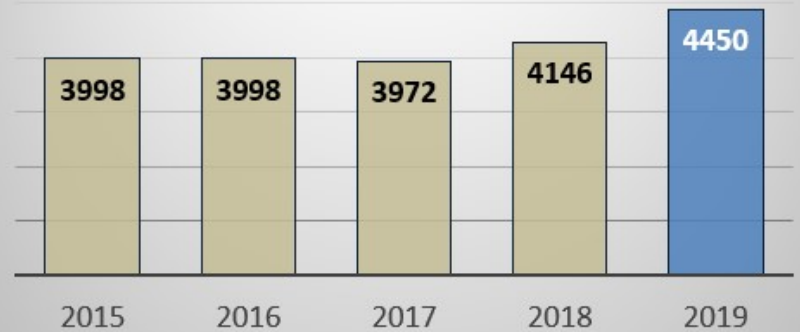
10 YEAR - ADULT ARRESTS



10 YEAR - JUVENILE ARRESTS



5 Yrs of Total Police Calls For Service



7%

Increase in Case Reports vs last year

Top 5 Criminal Cases 2019

77 -Traffic Violations (Misd, GM, H+R)
66 -Assault/Terroristic Threats
58 -Fraud, Forgery, Theft by Swindle
51 -Theft
32 - Liquor Violations

Top 5 Criminal Cases 2018

96 -Traffic Violations (Misd, GM, H+R)
57- Liquor Violations (DUI's, etc)
50 - Drug Related
47 - Assaults/Terroristic Threats
42 - Criminal Damage to Property

Top 5 Adult Arrests 2019

43 -Fraud, Forgery, Theft by Swindle
38 -Traffic Violations (Misd, GM, H+R)
32 -Assaults/Terroristic Threats
28 -Liquor Violations (DUI's, etc)
19 -Drug Related Violations

Top 5 Adult Arrests 2018

57 - Traffic Violations (Misd,GM, H+R)
57 - Drug Related Offense
45 - Liquor Violations (DUI's, etc)
24 - Assaults/Terroristic Threats
16 - Crimes against the Administration of Justice

Top 3 Juvenile Arrests 2019

15 -Assaults
9 -Drug Related Offenses
6 -Disorderly Conduct

Top 3 Juvenile Arrests 2018

14 -Liquor Violations ((DUI's, Underage)
6 -Disorderly Conduct
4 -Sex Offenses

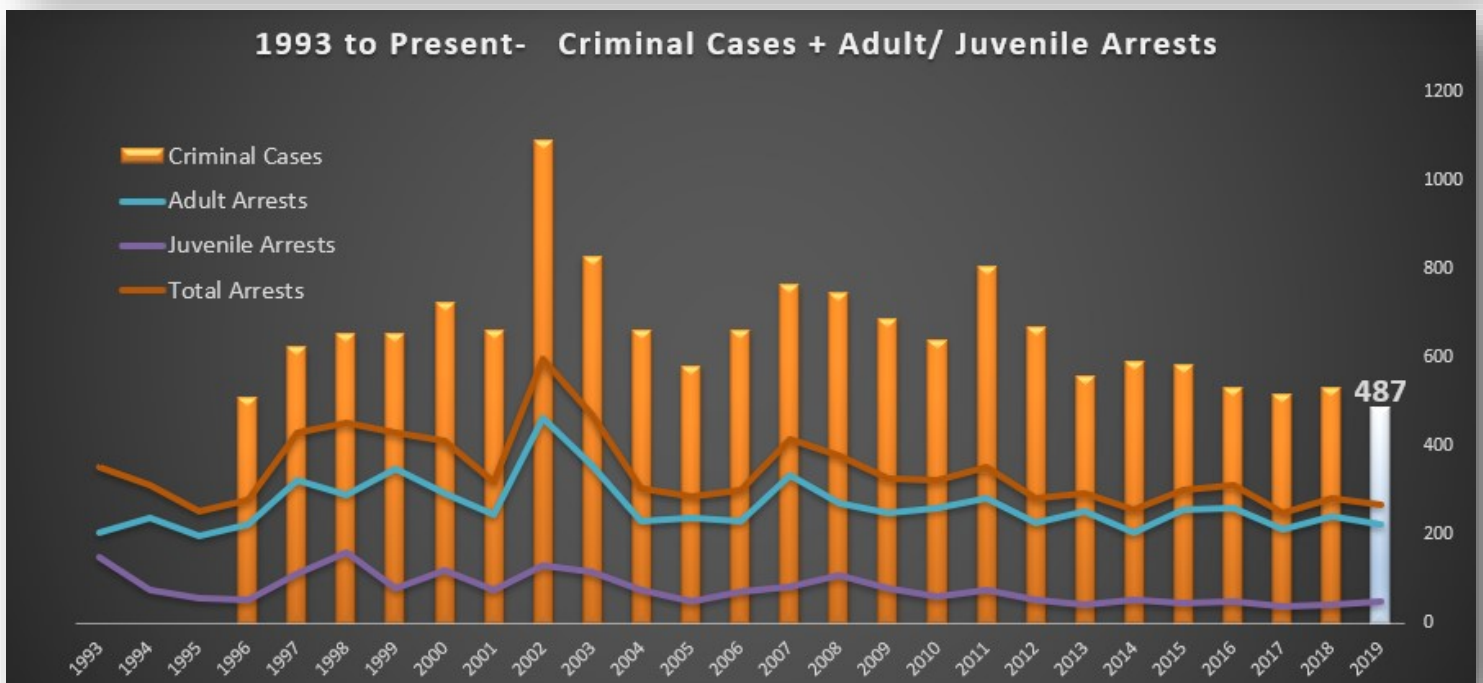
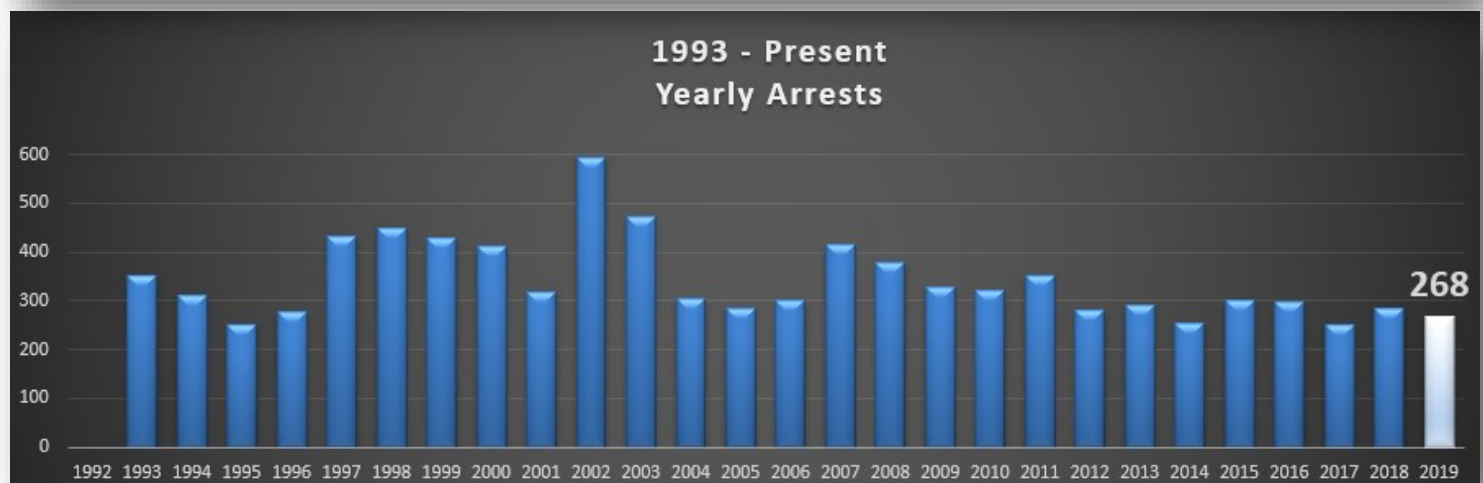
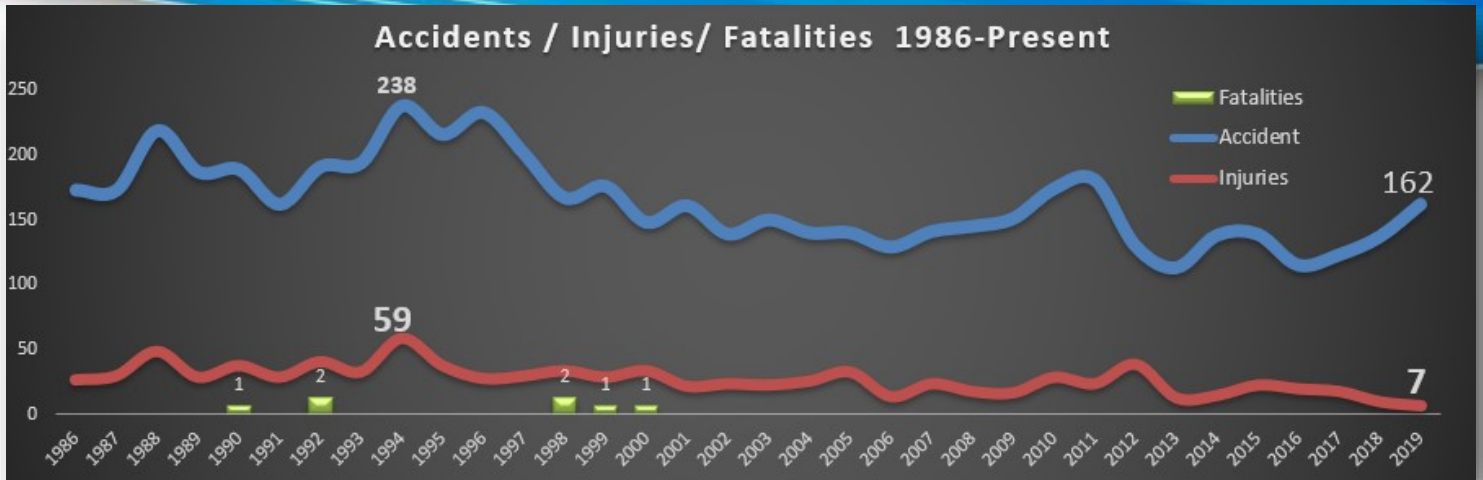
Other Police Activity

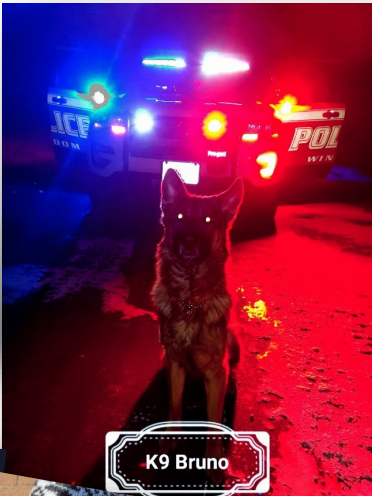
Misc. activity that the officers have made reports on.

	2019	Change	2018
Ambulance Assists	213	-12	225
Assist Other Agency	117	63	54
Concern for Welfare	95	19	76
Dogs/Cats Impounded	28	2	26
Disturbances	77	13	64
*Domestic Disturbances	55	12	43
Funeral Escorts	54	21	33
False Alarms	45	-28	73
Lost/Found/Recovered Property	27	6	21
Mental (inc. Suicidal, etc)	16	-14	30
Miscellaneous (Includes Informational Calls, Exchange of Information with other Depts, etc)	259	28	231
Missing, Lost or Runaways	26	5	21
Prowlers, Suspicious Persons/Activity Window Peepers, etc.	197	-11	208
Public Assists/Misc. Public	248	25	223
Traffic- Hit and Run Accidents	44	12	32
Vacation Home Requests	4	2	2

*The Domestic Disturbances totals above don't reflect some of the more serious domestics, resulting in assaults and possibly other charges

Long Term Data Trends





WINDOM POLICE JULY STATS

Total Calls for Service: 388

Adults Arrests: 11
Juvenile Arrests: 0
Warrants Served: 3

Category	Count
Accidents	9
Assaults	2
Domestic Violence	10
Drug Possession	5
Disorders	5
Public Access	41
Residence	2
Violation	4
Harassment	1
Assaults	6
Animal Neglect	1
Disturbance	1
Other	1

