

Windom Police Department Year End Report 2017

MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF

Dear Mayor and City Council Members:

2017 was a year of transition for the Windom Police Department. We had changes in personnel due to a retirement and an officer leaving for another agency. A bike patrol was introduced to the community during the summer months and we had an officer complete DRE (Drug Recognition Expert) Training.

Assistant Chief Kevin Patterson retired in September, after serving this community for 30 years. Kevin was an asset to the Windom Police Department and will be missed. We thank him again for his service.

Officer Luke Landgraf left our agency for Cottage Grove. This move allows Luke to be closer to family. He was with us for over 2 years. We wish him well in his new job.

Brandon Thongvivong was hired in November. He is a Windom native and a graduate of Minnesota State University-Mankato. Brandon is an outstanding addition to our agency.

David Huse was also hired in November. He had previous experience with Preston and Rushford Police Departments. He also served as a part-time deputy with the Fillmore County Sheriff's Office. David is also an outstanding addition to our agency.

A bike patrol was introduced to this community during the summer. We had 5 officers that participated. This was a good community-policing project and much positive contact was made with residents. Our officers also encountered several violations in their travels and acted accordingly.

Officer Jon Beck completed DRE Training in July. This was a 3 week course which included a week being spent in Sacramento, California. This training allows officers to detect people operating a motor vehicle while under the influence of drugs. There was no cost for this training, as it was covered by a federal grant.

I would like to thank Mayor Jones and the City Council for their support. Thanks to Records Clerk Deb Nesseth and Officer Dana Wallace for their assistance in creating this report. The Windom Police Department is committed to providing the residents of this community with a safe place to live. I am proud of our staff in their efforts to accomplish this.

Sincerely,



Scott Peterson, Chief of Police



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2017 BY THE NUMBERS

- 26 Drunk Driving Arrests
- 212 Adults Arrested
- 3972 Calls for Service



	Serving Since	
Scott Peterson, Chief of Police	2011	
Kevin Patterson, Asst. Chief of Police	1987	<i>Retired Sept 2017</i>
Cory Hillesheim, Asst. Chief of Police	2009	<i>Promoted Oct 2017</i>
Donna Marcy	2001	
Dana Wallace	2002	
Louis Norell	2011	
Jon Beck	2013	
Devin Kopperud	2014	
Luke Landgraf	2015	<i>Left Department Sept. 2017</i>
David Huse	2017	<i>Hired Oct 2017</i>
Brandon Thongvivong	2017	<i>Hired Oct 2017</i>

Officers in the community



NIGHT TO UNITE



BIKE PATROL



SHATTERED DREAMS



BIKE RODEO



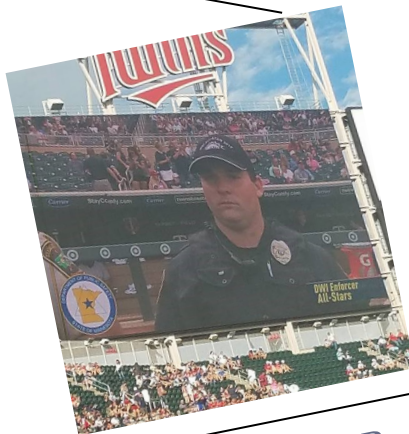
FIRST PITCH!!



MAY THE FORCE BE WITH YOU DAY



ACTIVE SHOOTER TRAINING



DUI ALL-STAR



NEW OFFICERS

Cases of Interest

Man threatens to shoot another couple, flees from scene with girlfriend, child and loaded shotgun in back seat. Officers quickly find vehicle arrest both.

Thousands of dollars of jewelry and guns stolen in theft ring

Man threatens to shoot juveniles with gun, pellet gun recovered

Man followed by squad car jumps out of moving vehicle, causes accident, runs from scene, K9 search leads to arrest of fleeing suspect.

Hit and Run driver hits vehicle causing heavy damage leaves scene and calls 911 claiming that someone did a hit and run on their vehicle. Driver arrested for DUI and Hit and Run.

Officers patrolling parks find and arrest man for a Criminal Sexual Conduct assault in progress of a juvenile

Officers assist BCA to arrest two suspects with Child Pornography

Juveniles held hostage in vehicle after drug deal goes bad

Multiple agency coordination leads to warrant arrest of man wanted for multiple felonies

Stolen vehicle from Windom recovered in Iowa—multi state investigation leads to multiple arrests

Officers responded to a call of young child with his foot caught in the window of a plastic toy. After cutting the hard plastic, the child was free to run and play again.

In September of 2017, the Windom Police Department took a report of a domestic and robbery by force involving the family member, who fled the scene.

The suspect was found later in the evening with the assistance of Jackson County Sheriff's Office and Heron Lake PD in Heron Lake, where he was arrested.

Further investigation led to three search warrants, 12 firearms and hundreds of rounds of ammunition seized.

Charges beyond the original complaint of Robbery and Theft, included multiple counts of Felon's in Possession of Firearm/ammo on two separate individuals.

~Officer Louis Norell





In beginning of 2017, Windom PD along with Cottonwood County Sheriff's Office and Lakefield PD collaborated and bought the MILO Range. The MILO Range is a system that puts officers in a situations to make a decision using Use of Force. The Windom PD staff trains on this system yearly. The goal of the Windom PD is to have the system available to the public once a year for community outreach so they can understand what law enforcement officers go through on a daily basis.

- Cory Hillesheim

Great Police Work in Action

In March, two officers doing late night park patrols, interrupted an in-progress crime of Criminal Sexual Conduct involving a young juvenile and an adult male. After an investigation, one man was charged with 3rd Degree Criminal Sexual Conduct, Possession of Methamphetamines, and Marijuana.



In October, a vehicle was stolen from a local dealership.

A male and female had been to the business the day before they acted suspiciously, however they were not identified by the business employees.

The next day, the door to the business was kicked in and 3 sets of vehicle keys and a vehicle was stolen. A theft report was filed and the vehicle was entered into the national computer system as stolen.

Two weeks later, the vehicle was recovered at a casino in Iowa. An Iowa DCI agent was able to retrieve video footage of a female and 2 males that were seen near the vehicle. Photos were taken of

the people in the video and those photos were shared with other agencies in the area. A North Sioux City Police Officer was able to identify the female in the video.

**Multi-state
investigation
recovers
locally stolen
vehicle**

The photos of the video were also shown to Windom Auto Outlet employees who confirmed they were the suspicious people looking at vehicles.

A phone interview with one of the suspects, who was already in custody in Nebraska, revealed that three people drove the car to the casino in IA.

~Officer Donna Marcy

2017 was a big year for the Windom Police Department, with the new patrol bikes, two new officers, and multiple training opportunities.

The new bikes offered a great way to interact with the public and also offered a new way to patrol. I personally have made one traffic stop on the bike and with the aid of another officer on the bike, we were able to track down a driving complaint that lead to a DUI arrest.

With the new hires, I had the opportunity to be a FTO (Field Training Officer) to both of them. It was a great experience for me.

This year attended the less-lethal shotgun instructor's course and also a defensive tactics course.

This year we saw several serious calls, but I chose to write about an unusual call we had this fall.

In early November, we discovered how many police officer's it takes to wrangle a pig. It was right around midnight when dispatch sent out an animal call for a pig that had escaped from a trailer near Prime Pork and the driver was requesting assistance in catching it.

“The officers decided to use the squad cars like a cowboy would use a horse.”

The first officer arrived on scene and realized that the pig was much larger than expected and was not going to be wrangled on foot. The addition-

al officers arrived and a game plan was established.

The officers decided to use the squad cars like a cowboy would use a horse. After some convincing the officers were able to chase the pig into the pinch point so the officers and the truck driver could chase the pig back into the hog barn.

~Officer Devin Kopperud





On a May evening around 10:30pm, I was dispatched to the Southwest part of Windom on the report that a person had pointed a gun at some people and was then leaving the scene. The caller was able to describe a car that the suspect left the scene in. I went to the area along with Officer Norell.

We saw the vehicle leaving the area and conducted a felony traffic stop on the vehicle a short distance from where the incident happened. We removed the driver from the vehicle and she informed us that there was a gun in the backseat. We then removed the passenger from the vehicle and detained him.

There was a 1 year old child in the backseat. The child was in a car seat but the seat was not secured to the vehicle.

During a search of the vehicle we found a loaded shotgun at the foot of where the child was. The shotgun was off safe and there was a round in the chamber. The victims were interviewed and told us that the suspect had loaded the shotgun as he was walking toward them. He then pointed the gun at several people who were outside, including some children. The victims were able to correctly tell us how many rounds the suspect had put into the gun. During the initial arrest of the driver I had smelled an odor of alcohol coming from her. I conducted field sobriety tests at the jail which the driver failed. A breath test taken more than 4 hours after the initial call determined her blood alcohol content to be at .08. The driver was found guilty of 3rd degree DUI and illegal transport of a firearm. The passenger was found guilty of 2nd degree assault with a dangerous weapon.

- Officer Jon Beck

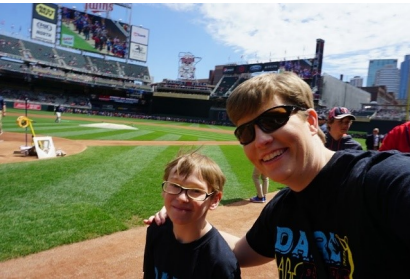
School Resource Officer Update

In 2017, I started my 5th year collaborating with the Windom Schools as the School Resource Officer. I continued the SRO's mission of building trust and rapport with students and staff by teaching a variety of classes, addressing safety concerns, and bonding with the students.



The biggest project I worked on was the Shattered Dreams Program, presented this past April, at the Windom High School. We had a realistic Mock Crash with full emergency response including a helicopter, hospital, morgue and a mock court case. The assembly brought in several area speakers who had been personally affected by drunk or distracted driving. The YouTube video we created was shown to several area schools as part of their distracted driving program. <https://goo.gl/MgFVu3>

I created a brand new "Stop, Walk and Talk" Bullying training video for all K-5th graders starring our 4th grade class. This video was well received, and kids still are using the skills they learned in class. You can check out the video here - <https://goo.gl/hH6EPa>



I had the privilege of presenting a statewide Webinar for BikeMN on the bike training we do in Windom.

One of my 5th Grade DARE students won a statewide essay contest and was selected to throw out the first pitch at a Twins Game.



Every day is different at school as I find myself doing different things every day. I teach a variety of topics including Bullying and Internet Safety to the entire K-12 student body, DARE, alcohol abuse awareness, traffic safety, students'

rights, and campus safety. One of the most interesting classes I teach is a once a month class with the 10th graders called "Ten Talks." The students pick the topics they want to learn about and I put together a class. We've had classes such as Sexual Assault, Healthy Teen Relationships, Stress Relief, Traffic Stops and Search and Seizure.

I continue to build rapport with the students whether it is by helping a student with a problem, playing in gym class, high fives, helping with homework or reading my favorite book to a class.

I am honored to serve the City of Windom and Windom Area Schools in the best job one could ask for!

-School Resource Officer Dana Wallace



187 Classes
taught to
K-12 in 2017

16- Concern for Welfare

10—Disorderly Conduct/
Assaults/Fights

10—Students Out of Control

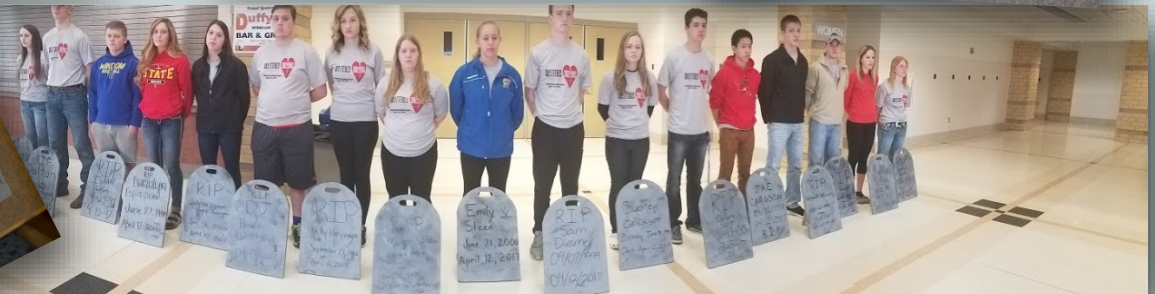
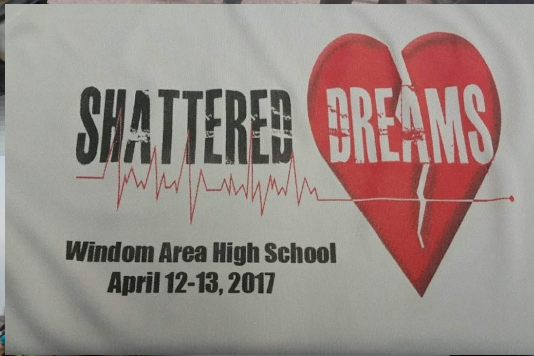
5—Thefts

3—Threats to School Safety/
Weapons Violation

3—Trespassing/Suspicious
Person

6—Drug/Alcohol/Tobacco
Violations

Top Case Reports created during 2017

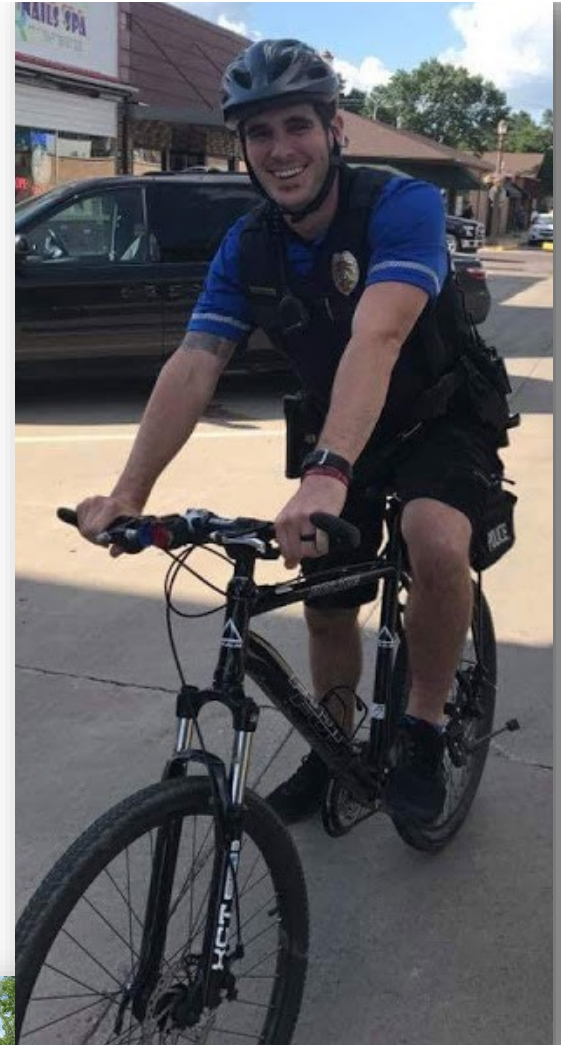


BIKE PATROL

Five officers donned new uniforms and two bikes to do Bike Patrol in Windom this summer. Officers patrolled parks, downtown areas, playgrounds and businesses watching for any criminal activity and interacting with the public in a friendly manner. Officers were out during the day, evening and overnights, as staffing allowed for an extra officer to patrol on the bike. The community and kids loved seeing and interacting with the officers on bike and look forward to more patrols in 2018

Bike Officer Highlights

- ◆ Rode silently up to 4 juveniles shooting fireworks in the park and ended up finding illegal fireworks, marijuana and cigarettes.
- ◆ Stopped a driver for a DUI. Other squad officers assisted and driver was arrested.
- ◆ Reunited a lost child at the county fair
- ◆ Quickly and easily warned Fair patrons of impending severe weather
- ◆ Led Riverfest Parade
- ◆ Attended Windom's Bikeable Community Workshop
- ◆ Assisted with searching for a suspect



Records Report

In my 2017 year-end letter, with regards to the records management work at the Police Department, the highlights I experienced paled in comparison to the most significant transition in the Department that I've had in my almost 32 years at the Police Department with the retiring of Assistant Chief Kevin Patterson. While I have enjoyed working with all the officers that have come and gone with the Department, my 2017 letter this year is dedicated to Asst. Chief Patterson.

In my almost 32 years with the City of Windom Police Department, the Police Officer I had worked the most years with was Kevin Patterson. We started working for the Windom Police Department within 10 months of each other and started our careers in the old Cottonwood County Jail building in '86-'87. Our working space was very limited. There were eight of us, Badges #201-#207, and myself, that shared office space consisting of two rooms, the Chief's office and the rest of us sharing one room in part of the building. The Sheriff's Dept. and Jail occupied the rest of the building. We worked together for 5 years in the little office space that we had before moving into the present Law Enforcement building in 1992. During the 30 years of Kevin's career with the Police Department, Badge #205 belonged to him, and he wore it with purpose and honor.

Retired Asst. Chief Patterson was a very dedicated employee throughout his career. He was a hard working Patrolman and a Sergeant/Investigator like no other. He had this way about him that could get people to open up to him in all types of situations and investigations. There was a character quality about Kevin that made him so effective, and his honesty and dedication was an attribute to who he was as a person and employee with the City of Windom.

My days are now different at the office, but having the privilege of working with such a fine person, Patrolman, Police Officer, Sergeant/Investigator, and Assistant Chief, was an honor for me. Thank you, Kevin, for all your hard work and dedication for 30 years. I wish Kevin the very best and wish him well in his retirement and what his future holds for him and his family.

Sincerely,

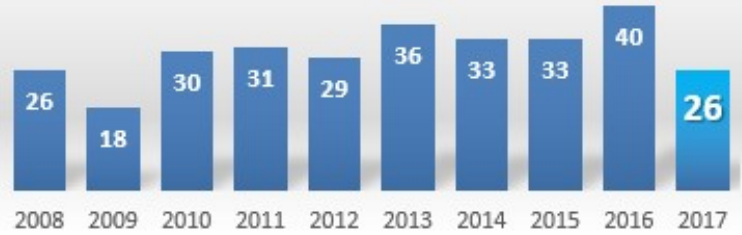


Debra Nesseth, Legal Secretary

Windom Police Department



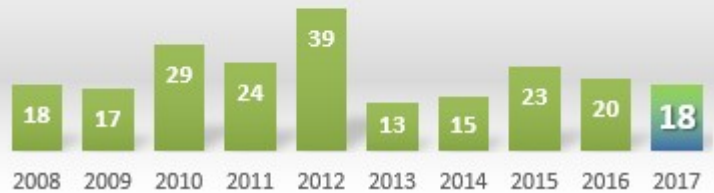
10 yr DUI Arrests



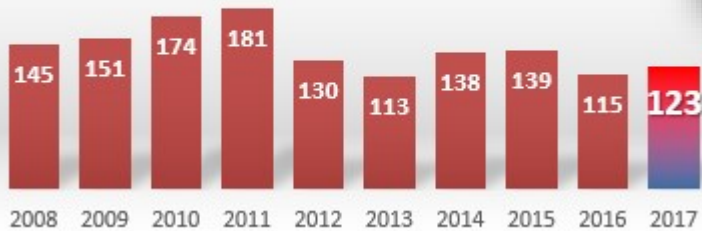
10 yr Total Citations and Warnings



10 Yr Persons Injured in Motor Vehicle Accidents



10 yr Total Accidents



2017	Accident/Injuries	2016
123	Total Accidents	115
18	Persons Injured	20
0	Fatalities	0

	Citations	
102	Moving Tickets	112
3	Non-Moving Tickets	16
767	Warnings (Verbal/Written)	805
872	Total Warnings and Tickets	933

	Driving Under Influence	
7	Misdemeanor	17
19	Gross Misd/Felony	23
26	Total DUI's	40
1	Underage Drink/Drive	2

63	40	12	Assault (All Degrees + Terroristic Threats)
21	1		Burglary (All Degrees)
33	2		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.
23	16		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.
3	3		Crimes Against Family (Including Child Neglect and Malicious Punishment to a Child)
38	3		Criminal Damage to Property (All Degrees)
6			Cruelty to Animals / Animal Neglect
18	10	9	Disorderly Conduct
35			Disturbing Peace, Harassing Communications/ Harassment, Interfere with 911 Calls, and Solicitation
26	31	3	Drug Related Offenses
3	2		Escape-Fleeing an Officer with / not with Motor Vehicle and Fugitive from Justice
0			Extradition
4	3		Kidnapping-Deprive of Custodial Rights
39	33	8	Liquor Violations (Including DUI's-all Degrees, Minor Consumption, Open Bottle, Underage Drink/Drive, Disruptive Intoxication, etc.)
2	1		Negligent Fires
6	4		Obscenity (Obscene material, possess pornographic/electronic images of minors & Indecent exposure
21	6		Property Offenses (Including Crimes Against Property, Trespass & Unlawful Deposit of Garbage)
0			Recovered Bikes
1			Recovered Vehicles
1	1		Robbery - 1st Degree
14		3	Runaway/Incorrigible Juvenile/Curfew & Truancy
2	1		Sex Offenses (Including Criminal Sexual Conduct, all degrees & Solicitation)
0			Stolen Property-Receiving/Possession
5			Tampering/Entering Motor Vehicle
2	2		Tax-Intent to Escape Tax
67	6	1	Theft (All Degrees)
2			Theft (Shoplifting)
1			Theft of Bikes
3		3	Tobacco Use/Possession/Violation
0		3	Traffic (Other than simple Juvenile Traffic Citation)
71	43	1	Traffic-Misd/Gross Misdemeanor Traffic Violations and Hit and Runs
2			Vehicle Theft
2		1	Weapons (Carry firearm in public place / Possess Incapacitation Device)
1		1	Weapons (Fireworks-Discharging)
2	4		Weapons (Possess Ammo/ Firearm - Conviction of Adj. Delinquent for Crime of Violence, Felon Convicted of Crime of Violence & Point Gun /Dangerous Weapon
517	212	45	2017

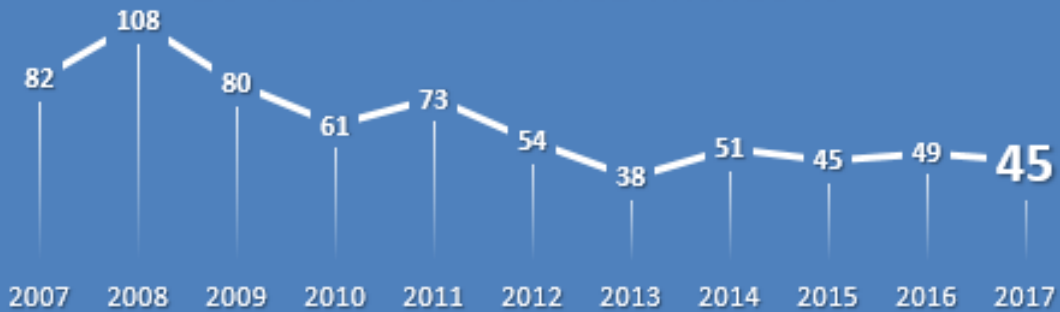
10 YEAR - TOTAL CRIMINAL CASES



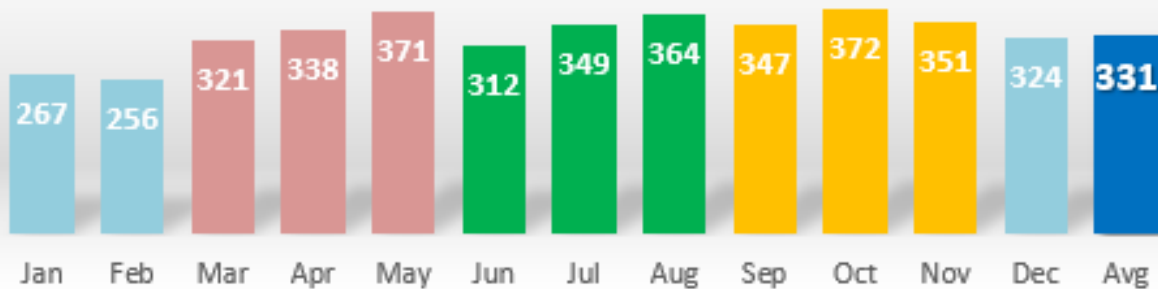
10 YEAR - ADULT ARRESTS



10 YEAR - JUVENILE ARRESTS



2017 Calls For Service by Month



Total Cases in 2017 — **3972**

Total Cases in 2016 — **3998**

Top 5 Criminal Cases 2017

71 - Traffic Violations
67 - Theft
63 - Assaults + Terroristic Threats
39 - Liquor Violations
38 - Criminal Damage to Property

Top 5 Criminal Cases 2016

78 - Traffic Violations
60 - Criminal Damage to Property
55 - Disturbing the Peace/Harassment
48 - Liquor Violations
41 - Assaults



Top 5 Adult Arrests 2017

43 - Traffic Violations
40 - Assaults/Terroristic Threats
33 - Liquor Violations
31 - Drug Related Offense
16 - Crimes against the Administration of Justice

Top 5 Adult Arrests 2016

57 - Liquor Violations
50 - Traffic Violations
41 - Drug Related Offense
30 - Assaults/Terroristic Threats
21 - Crimes against the Administration of Justice

Top 3 Juvenile Arrests 2017

12 - Assaults + Terroristic Threats
9 - Disorderly Conduct
8 - Liquor Violations

Top 3 Juvenile Arrests 2016

11 - Liquor Violations
9 - Criminal Damage to Property
7 - Assaults



Other Police Activity

Misc. activity that the officers have made reports on.

	2017	Change	2016
Ambulance Assists	215	-26	241
Assist Other Agency	130	32	98
Concern for Welfare	116	7	109
Dogs/Cats Impounded	27	-20	47
Disturbances	99	27	72
*Domestic Disturbances	52	8	44
Funeral Escorts	46	14	32
False Alarms	69	7	62
Lost/Found/Recovered Property	31	-15	46
Mental (Inc. Suicidal, etc.)	17	-3	20
Miscellaneous (Includes Informational Calls, Exchange of Information with other depts, etc.)	262	25	237
Missing, Lost or Runaways	25	0	25
Prowlers, Suspicious Persons/Activity Window Peepers, etc.	186	-26	212
Public Assists/Misc. Public	218	28	190
Traffic- Hit and Run Accidents	30	3	27
Vacation Home Requests	5	-7	12



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

