

The background of the entire page is a dense, overlapping collage of Waukeee Police Department badges. The badges are silver with blue and black accents. The central badge is the most prominent, showing an eagle with spread wings at the top, a central shield with a landscape scene, and the text 'PATROL OFFICER', 'WAUKEE', 'POLICE', and 'IOWA'. The outer ring of the badge reads 'WAUKEEE POLICE DEPARTMENT'. Other badges are partially visible around it, some showing the words 'INTEGRITY' and 'PRINCIPLES'.

Waukeee Police Department
ANNUAL REPORT

2020

MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF

This has been another year that was filled with great successes and significant challenges. I want to thank all the members of the Waukee Police Department (WPD) for their dedication and commitment to excellence in the face of great adversity as we overcame unprecedented challenges regarding a worldwide pandemic and social justice issues within our nation. I'm very proud of all the officers and staff at the Police Department for their resilience as the Department implemented important operational changes to ensure the safety and welfare of our community members and Police staff as we continued to fulfill our mission of providing transparent, community-oriented public safety services to the many citizens and visitors of this great city. Despite the many issues that our officers and staff faced, they maintained a prevailing attitude of positivity and a strong work ethic resulting in numerous successes throughout the year.

Here is a listing of some of the many success the Waukee Police Department accomplished during this last year:

1. We hired 3 new officers to our staff, Officers Jackson, Gibbs and Meeker.
2. We promoted Officer Kelli Cichoski to the rank of sergeant. Sgt. Cichoski is the second female officer at the WPD to be promoted to the rank of sergeant.
3. We continued to invest in the leadership development of our officers. Two sergeants attended First Line Leadership training. Three other sergeants attended the 10-week Northwestern University Police Staff and Command School, which is an advanced leadership development course.
4. The City adopted a formal Animal Control program enforced by the Waukee Police Department in collaboration with AHeinz57.
5. During this last year the Waukee Police Department revealed a new design for our patrol vehicles.
6. And finally, with the opening of the new Northwest High School, in collaboration with the Waukee Community School District, we expanded our School Resource Officer staff to four officers.

The pandemic restrictions that were put in place presented some interesting challenges to the WPD in how we could continue our community

outreach programs. Because of concerns for the safety and welfare of our community members, officers and staff had to come up with innovative ideas on how we could continue to connect with our community members. While some of our programs were canceled, Sergeant Sposeto found solutions to these challenges resulting in great successes. She recorded videos for our Safety City incoming kindergartners instead of meeting with them in person. Instead of conducting our monthly WASP meetings with our senior citizens, we connected with the participants by making monthly calls to them and provided the members with a WPD Christmas ornament. We delivered Thanksgiving baskets to several needy families in Waukee. We altered our Shop With a Cop program by receiving a list of needed items from each family; we shopped for the items and then officers delivered the presents to insure they had a happy holiday.

The goal of the Waukee Police Department is to provide quality public safety services with an emphasis on professionalism and excellence. We believe in the words honesty, integrity and pride that are written on the patch that the officers wear on their uniform. Those words are the core foundation upon which we build the future of this department. We continually strive to improve ourselves in our pursuit of excellence. The members of the Waukee Police Department know that it is not the services that we provide, but how we provide those services that separates the WPD from all others. We greatly appreciate and thank each and every one of our community members for their continued support throughout these unprecedented times.

Please stay safe and be healthy.

John F. Quinn

Chief of Police

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MISSION AND VALUES

OUR MISSION

The Waukeee Police Department is dedicated to enhancing public safety through cooperative interactions within our community. We are responsible for protecting life and property, enforcing laws and taking appropriate action to combat crime. We are committed to providing a safe and secure living and working environment.

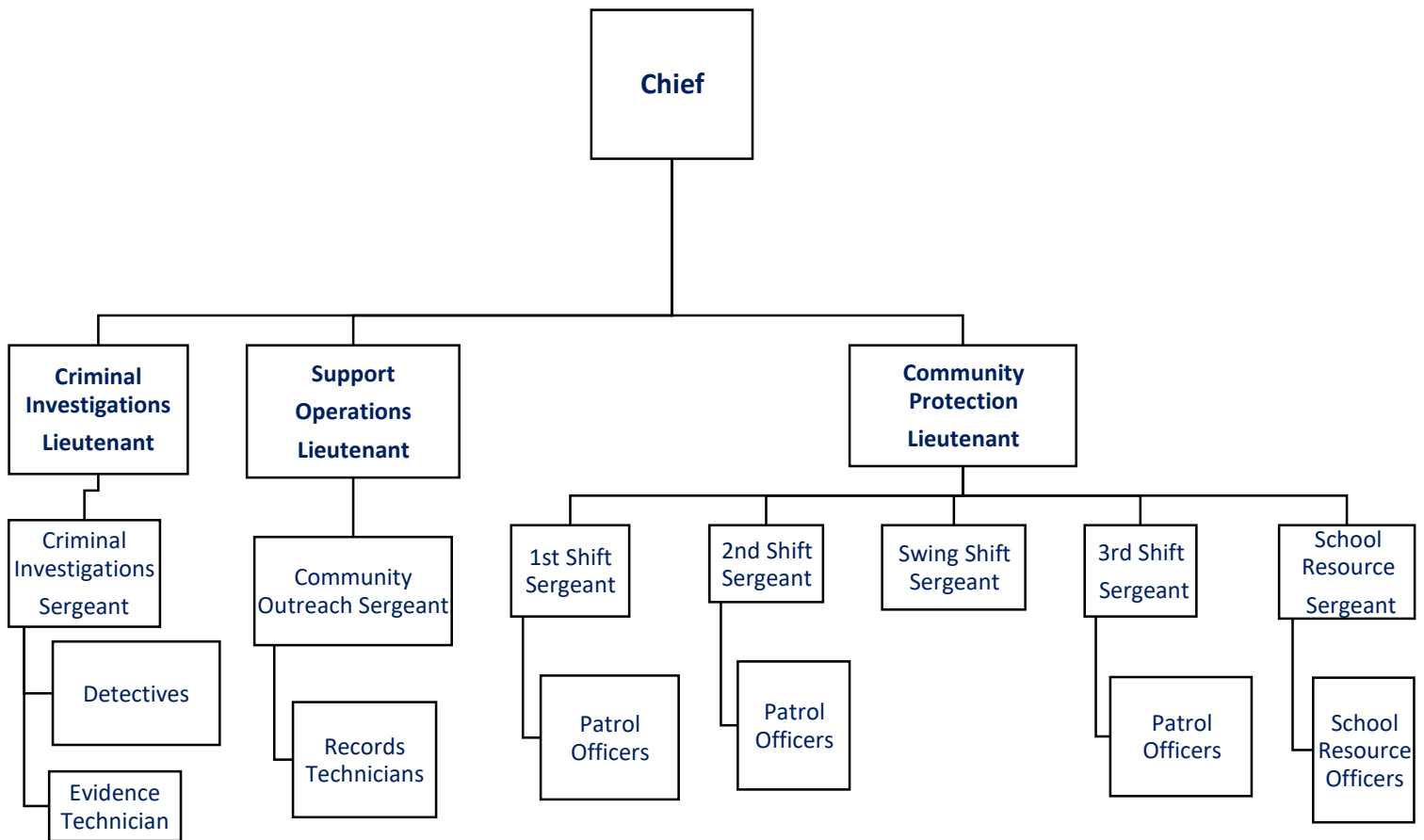
OUR VALUES

Honor, Integrity and Pride are the top three values we strive to uphold. We are accountable for reflecting these values in our professional and personal lives.



ORGANIZATIONAL CHART

The Waukeee Police Department employs 28 sworn officers who serve a community of over 24,000 residents. In addition, the department employs three civilians who provide essential services in Records and Property & Evidence.



POLICE DEPARTMENT COMMAND STAFF

Chief of Police



Chief John Quinn
Chief of Police

Lieutenant Command Staff



Lt. Scott Cunningham
Community Protection



Lt. Jeremy Long
Criminal Investigations



Lt. Jeff Mellencamp
Support Operations

POLICE DEPARTMENT PERSONNEL

Sergeant Staff



Sgt. Mackenzie Sposeto
Community Outreach



Sgt. Hector Arias
School Resource Division



Sgt. Brandon Pettit
Community Protection



Sgt. Neil Lemke
Criminal Investigations



Sgt. Robert Gitzen
Community Protection



Sgt. Brian Murra
Community Protection



Sgt. Kelli Cichoski
Community Protection

POLICE DEPARTMENT PERSONNEL

Officers and Administrative Staff



Rod Schettler

Community Protection



Jon Oakley

Community Protection



Brett Armstrong

Community Protection



Josh Minikus

Criminal Investigations



Susan Kies

Criminal Investigations



Kathryn Guess

Community Protection



Scott Kinney

Community Protection



Dace Richardson

Community Protection



Corby Robbins

Community Protection



Christopher Kickbush

Community Protection



Nick Gilchrist

Community Protection



Bryan Levsen

Community Protection



Josh Eastcott

Community Protection



McKenna Olberding

Community Protection



Cole Jackson

Community Protection



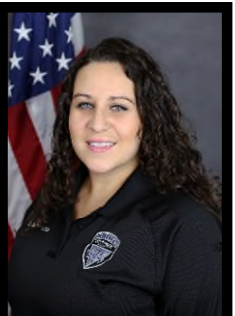
Austin Gibbs

Community Protection



Bryce Meeker

Community Protection



Lea Scaletta

Evidence Technician



Ashley Morris

Records Technician



Abbey Christensen

Records Technician

COMMUNITY PROTECTION DIVISION

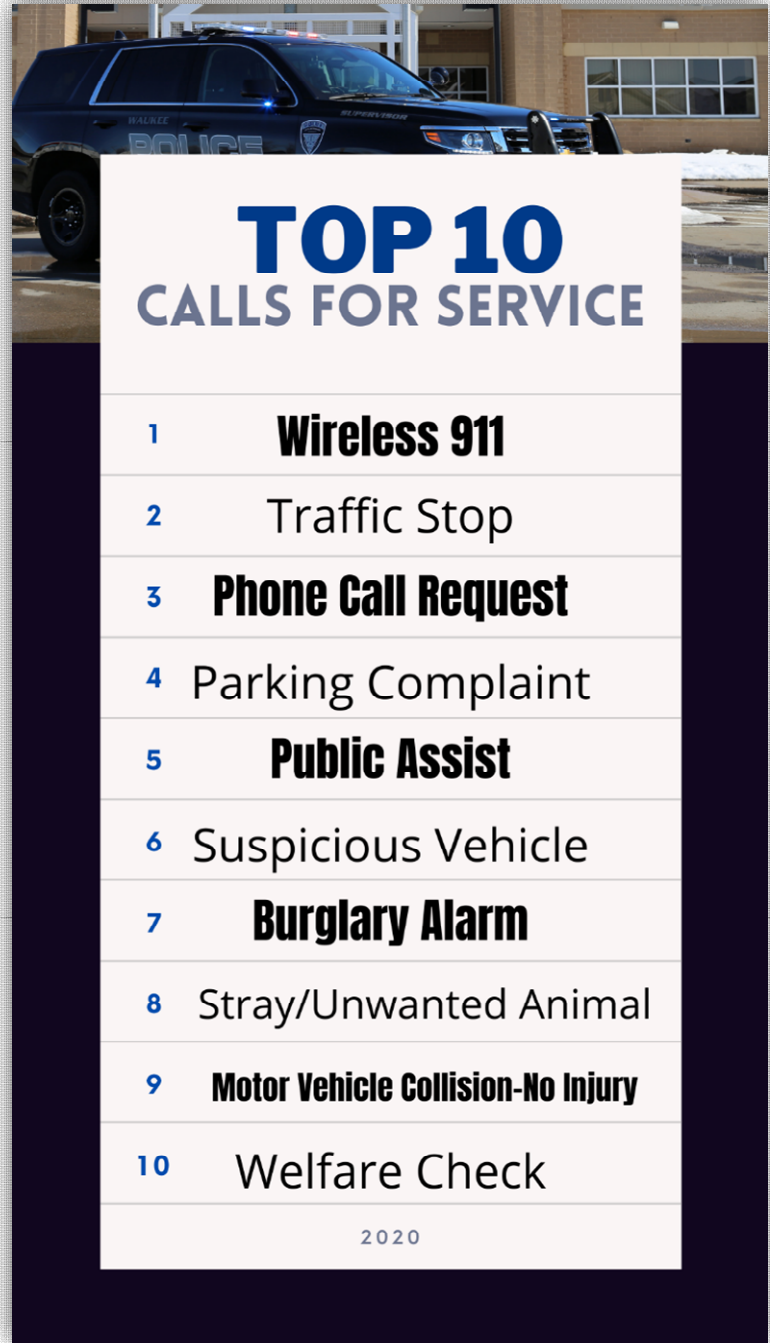
Community Protection

The Community Protection Division (CPD) is our largest division. It consists of a lieutenant, five sergeants and 16 officers. Their primary responsibilities include: respond to calls for service, enforce criminal and traffic codes, monitor the schools, help with crime prevention, and conduct preliminary investigations of offenses, incidents and more. They are the most visible of all the divisions and operate on three shifts, giving the city 24/7 coverage.

In 2020, officers responded to 13,853 calls for service. Of these calls 2,366 were 911 calls, 1,865 traffic stops and 935 phone call requests.

There was a significant amount of calls for stray/unwanted animals which led to the start of a collaboration with AHeinz57 Pet and Animal Rescue.

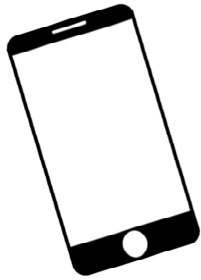
While maintaining the safety of our city, our patrol officers still provide the highest level of professionalism and integrity within our community.



COMMUNITY PROTECTION DIVISION

Looking at the Numbers

During the global pandemic we had a slight increase in calls compared to the year prior. However, as a result of more people staying home, there was a significant decrease in traffic stops which led to a lower amount of citations, warnings and parking violations.



13,853
CALLS FOR SERVICE
PREVIOUS YEAR: 13,639

1,865
TRAFFIC
STOPS
PREVIOUS YEAR: 3,124

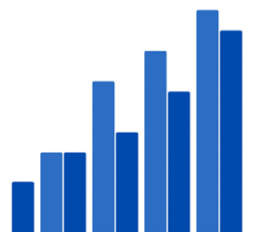
880
CITATIONS
PREVIOUS YEAR: 1,719



1,095
WARNINGS
PREVIOUS YEAR: 2,100

207
PARKING TICKETS
PREVIOUS YEAR: 523

348
ARRESTS
PREVIOUS YEAR: 352



SAFEGUARDS IN EFFECT

Pandemic Preparations

The COVID-19 global pandemic brought many changes to the citizens of Waukee and to the Police Department. Officers still maintained 24/7 coverage to the city, just with precautions in place. In March of 2020, with little known about the Coronavirus, safety measures were quickly initiated should several officers fall ill. A COVID-19 Safehouse plan was started where Dallas County officers, EMTs and firefighters would have a quarantined place to stay away from their families, should they contract COVID-19 or due to contact tracing. Fortunately, this Safehouse was never needed.

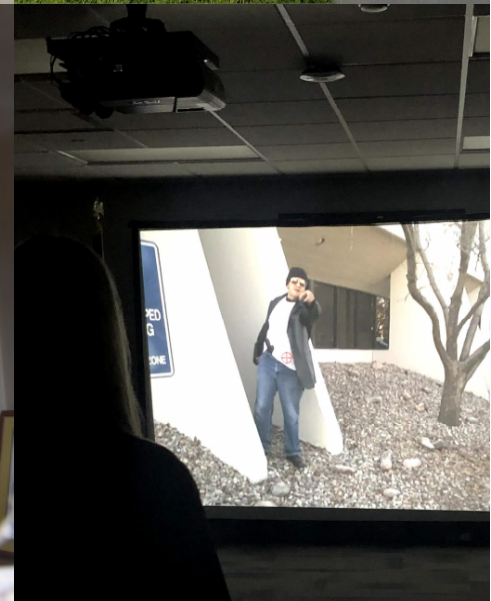
With the help of Dallas County Emergency Management and other local donations we were able to help offset our limited supply of Personal Protective Equipment. There was also an outpouring of support from our community.



SAFEGUARDS IN EFFECT

Training

This year we focused on additional training opportunities. The Department worked on verbal and use of force scenarios using Ti Training. Ti Training provides a highly interactive learning experience through a simulator. We also went hands on and practiced domestic scenarios where the suspect was armed with a simulated paint gun. We had our newest two sergeants, Sergeant Murra and Sergeant Cichoski, attend First Line Leadership Training. Three additional sergeants were sent to Command School where they went through an intensive police management and leadership program. Officer Kinney attended Precision Driving Instructor School where he learned about precision driving and the impact it can have on our community.



School is Back in Session

School Resource Officers

The School Resource Officer (SRO) program is a partnership with the Waukeez Community School District to provide Waukeez Police Officers within the schools. SROs are certified law enforcement officers and act as educators in safety and law related issues, which provides resources to the school administration, and a link between the police department and the student community.



The Waukeez Police Department has four SROs who work within the Waukeez Community Schools. Sergeant Hector Arias moved over as the sergeant in charge of the School Resource Officers. Officer Nick Gilchrist served in his second year as the SRO for Waukeez High School. Officers Dace Richardson and Corby Robbins joined the division and oversee Timberline, Prairieview, South Middle and Waukeez Middle Schools.

With many students at home officers made sure to keep in contact and check on online learners to maintain the SRO/student relationship. The US Department of Agriculture and the National School Lunch program were able to offer grab and go meals for families during the start of the pandemic and over the summer. Officers helped pass out meals during this time at several sites throughout the city.



Above and Beyond

SERT

Suburban Emergency Response Team (SERT) provides specialized tactical and crisis negotiation responses to critical incidents and high-risk situations on a 24-hour call status. Special operations conducted by SERT may include high-risk search or arrest warrants, barricaded subjects, hostage rescue, or dignitary protection. SERT was called to help the surrounding metro areas several times throughout 2020.



Drug Drop Box

Inside our lobby we offer a drug drop box available for proper disposal of unwanted, unused or expired medications. We also participate in the DEA's National Prescription Drug Take-Back Day to help combat the epidemic of addiction, overdose and death due to abuse of prescription drugs. This year we collected 252.6 pounds of prescription drugs to be destroyed.

Police Chaplain

For the third year, Pastor Patrick Quaid, of Lutheran Church of Hope Waukee serves as our Police Chaplain. The Police

Chaplain Program creates a partnership with

leaders of the community to respond and assist police and community members during times of crisis. In a challenging year, Pastor Pat's guidance has been a welcomed support system.



GROWING THE FORCE

New Officers

We added two new officers to our department this year. Officer Cole Jackson came to us as a certified officer from the Jefferson Police Department. He has several years of experience and is a great addition to our team. Officer Austin Gibbs was a new hire we sent through the Iowa Law Enforcement Academy (ILEA). After a few weeks of online learning and several months of training at the academy he graduated in December of 2020. Officer Gibbs will complete additional months of training with a Waukee Field Training Officer before patrolling individually.



Promotions

In July, Detective Kelli Cichoski was promoted to the rank of sergeant. Her wide range of skills and leadership ability have been a great asset to the Department. She headed back on patrol as the swing shift sergeant for the Community Protection Division.

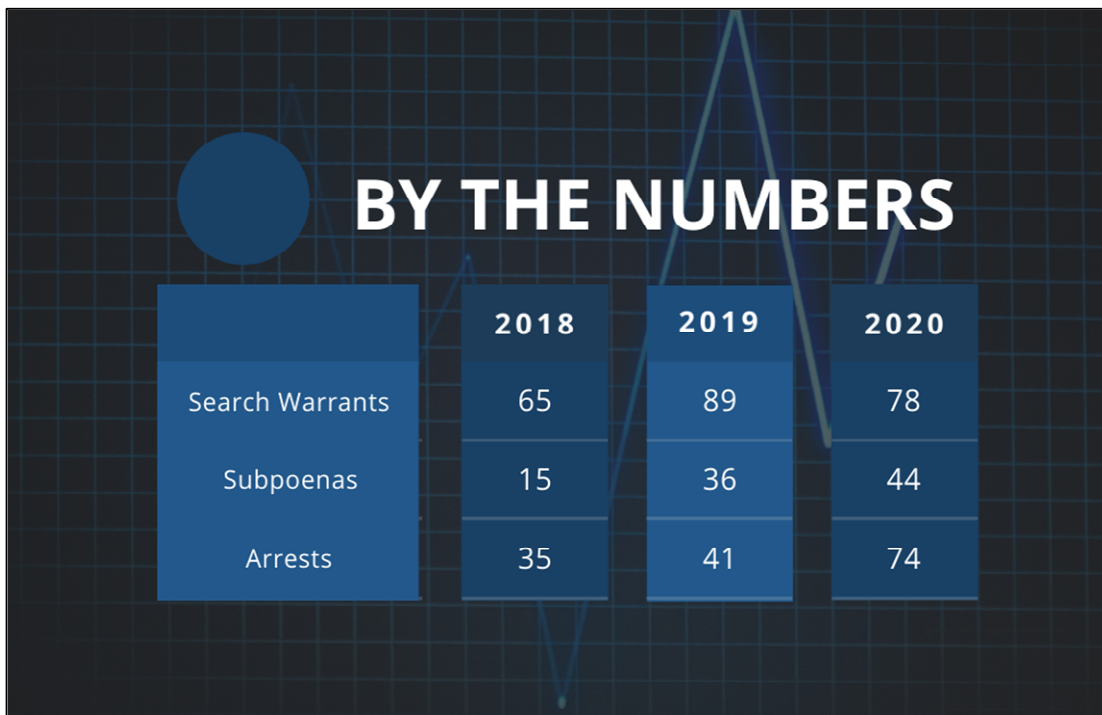


CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS DIVISION

Criminal Investigations

The year 2020 for the Criminal Investigations Division (CID), like all divisions in the Department, was one that required a lot of flexibility and commitment from the staff. There was a change in staff and leadership in the division due to Sergeant Arias being awarded a new position and Detective Kelli Cichoski being promoted to sergeant. Sergeant Neil Lemke was chosen to fill the vacant sergeant role. Officer Minikus, as a seven-year veteran of the Waukee Police Department, Firearms Instructor and certified Field Training Officer, was selected to become the next detective.

COVID-19 required changing processes and priorities to ensure the safety of the investigative staff and also to support the mitigation efforts to keep the public safe from the possible spread of COVID-19. Due to these changes, we took the opportunity to promote more training for the entire division. The division had a combined (not counting evidence) 125.5 continued training hours this year.

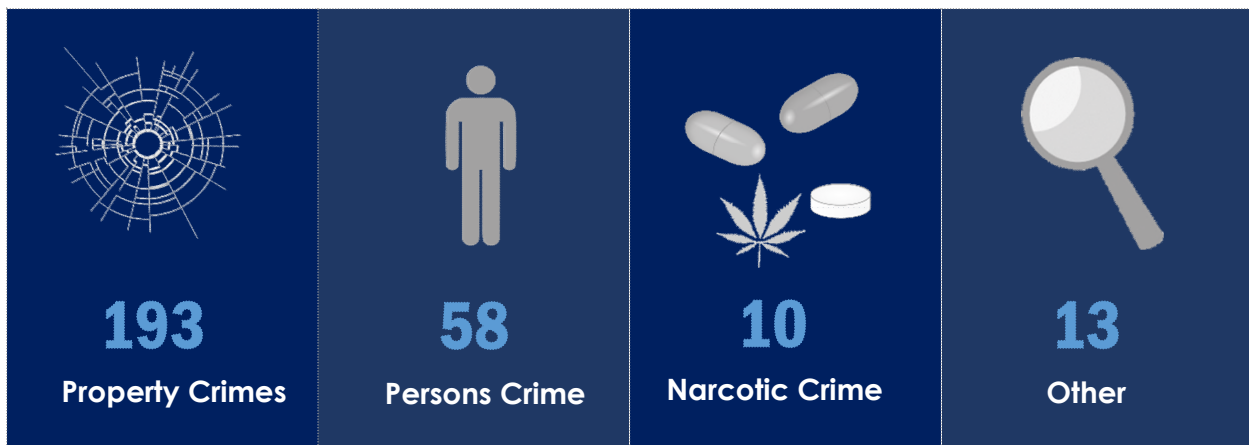


CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS DIVISION

Cases

The Waukee Police Department Criminal Investigations Division has case work divided into categories. The categories are: Crimes Against Persons, Computer Crimes, Narcotics and Property Crimes. While there is a breakdown of case types within the Criminal Investigations Division, no detective is limited to any specific type of investigation. The purpose of the breakdown of case types is to identify specific people to be assigned training. This training is to assist in having subject matter experts within the division to ensure success for the entire division regardless of the type of case.

For the year, there was a substantial increase in property crimes that were referred to the Criminal Investigations Division, but there were slight declines in other areas such as crimes against persons and narcotics. The total number of property crimes assigned to the division was 193, which is up from 166 in the previous year. This trend appears to be consistent throughout the metropolitan area for 2020.



CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS DIVISION

Evidence

Evidence Technician Lea Scaletta Brown continued her upgrade in the evidence room and to the evidence process. She has updated and replaced several body cameras to improve the functionality of the department and the digital evidence collection, storage and maintenance. She has continuously worked with IT to improve the storage systems for digital evidence (primarily the L3 in car system).

Scaletta Brown had a huge investment in training in 2020. She attended in-depth crime scene training that will assist the Criminal Investigations Division in evidence collection at crime scenes. Scaletta Brown attended 105 hours of training for evidence collection, evidence management and crime scene management. She is also working on necessary steps to have a formalized certification as a Crime Scene Technician.

The resiliency of the investigative staff and their ability to adapt and continue to accomplish their mission cannot be understated. The staff faced endless challenges throughout the year with both, heavy work load and dealing with the stresses and difficulties of COVID-19

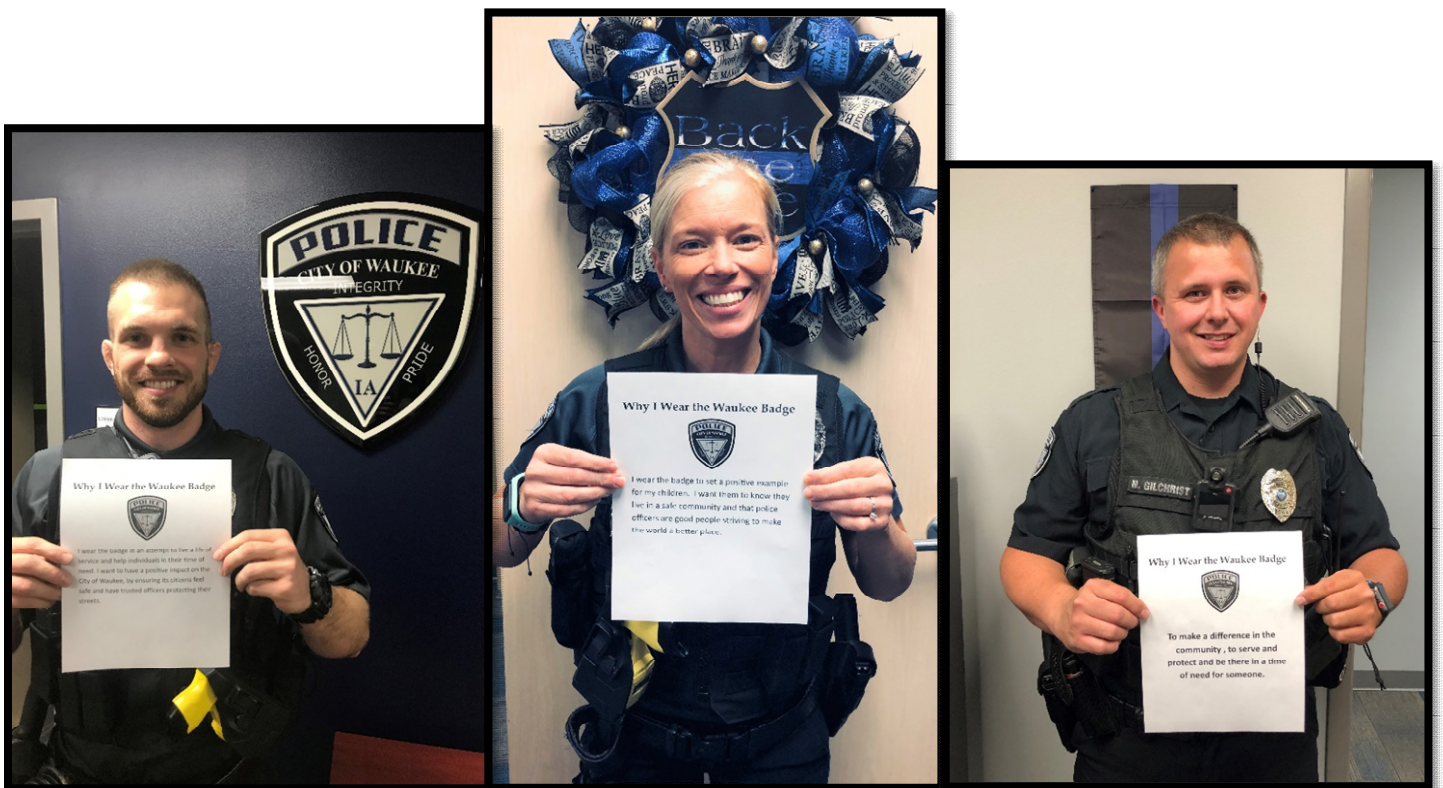


SUPPORT OPERATIONS DIVISION

Support Operations

The Support Operations Division is just that; it supports all aspects of the department in order to make us run efficiently. The division is led by Lieutenant Jeff Mellencamp, and he runs the day to day building and vehicle management. He is also working on the details for the future Public Safety Building, expected in 2025.

Sergeant Mackenzie Sposeto is our Community Outreach Sergeant who plans programs that involve our community-from educating to helping in times of need. These include public events, safety talks, certifying crime-free multi-housing units and more. Unfortunately, due to COVID-19 the majority of our in-person events were canceled, but that didn't stop her from finding creative ways to keep the community connected. With a lot of people staying home, Sgt. Sposeto was able to create a completely virtual Safety City program, connect with our WASP members and produce public service videos to reach our community.



SUPPORT OPERATIONS DIVISION

Record Technicians

Another important part of this division are the two Records Technicians, Ashley Morris and Abbey Christensen, who are tasked with maintaining all public records: crimes, traffic, and all other incidents/events. Access to all records information is governed by local, state and federal laws. Record Technicians also help organize the community outreach programs, which due to COVID-19, looked a little different this year. While officers and staff were still available to the public the Public Safety Building doors were locked for about seven months. This significantly lowered the amount of civilian fingerprints that were done compared to the previous year. However, the amount of public record requests stayed relatively close with 794 requests in 2019 compared to 718 requests in 2020.



Grants

The Records Technicians took on the responsibility of sourcing new grant opportunities as well as maintaining current department grants. They completed an intensive grant writing workshop and as a result found new grants for the Department. One awarded grant for 2020 was the AAA Minnesota/Iowa Mini Grant for Traffic Safety programs. This helped our department secure funding for a powerful distracted teen driving PSA. Additional grants for the Department include matching funding for bulletproof vests, in-car cameras, extra patrol for the Governors Traffic Safety Bureau and funding for additional outreach programs.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

WASP

The Waukeee Area Seniors and Police (WASP) group involves senior citizens in the Waukeee area and aims to “Take the Sting Out of Crime!” The concept is to create a relationship between police and these community members while learning and voicing concerns regarding the 55 and older population. We were able to meet twice in 2020 before postponing the program for the remainder of the year. We managed to maintain our relationship with the WASP members through monthly postcards, phone calls and emails. At Christmas a special ornament and goodie bag was delivered to our members.



Safety City

Each year we host Safety City for students entering kindergarten at the Waukeee Community School District. Students learn about safety from officers and volunteers during this week-long course. Topics include safe street-crossing, safety belt usage, bullying, 911, bus rules, fire safety and more. This event was moved to a virtual platform with the program being sent out in sections.



COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Shoe Drive

The Dallas County Closet hosted a shoe drive and gave away shoes to many children getting ready to head back to school. We were able to volunteer and help fit the kids for their new shoes.

Halloween

Our annual Halloween Open House had to be canceled, but that didn't stop us from eating and handing out candy! While on patrol, our officers passed out goodies to the trick-or-treaters throughout the city.



COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Blue Blood Drive

LifeServe Blood Center and C.O.P.S (Concerns of Police Survivors) partnered together for the Blue Blood Drive. Several members of the Waukeee Police Department and City of Waukeee employees were able to participate in this event which was critically needed during the pandemic.

Thanksgiving Baskets

For Thanksgiving, we team up with the Waukeee Community School District to identify some families in need. Officers purchase items, with the help of some generous community donations, and created a Thanksgiving meal basket for each family. This year we were able to make 23 baskets to help feed those for Thanksgiving.



COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Operation Wish List

The Department continued its tradition of giving back to the community during the holidays. This year it just looked a little different. Shop With a Cop was transformed into Operation Wish List. Due to the need to practice social distancing, the Department was unable to take the kids shopping. Instead we collected their wish lists and purchased items. Officers helped wrap all of the gifts and delivered boxes upon boxes of gifts to 28 kids (10 families).



SUPPORT SYSTEM

Waukee Community Help

With an up and down, ever changing 2020, one thing remained the same: community support. The Waukee Police Department was continuously shown just how great the members of this city are; whether it was a handwritten letter or a smile and wave, we were constantly reminded that we are all in this together.



CONTACT INFORMATION

Online

www.waukee.org/police

Phone

DIAL 9-1-1 IN AN EMERGENCY

Non-Emergency Dispatch: 515-222-3321

Police Station: 515-978-7979

Email

Email general inquires to police@waukee.org.
Inquiries are then directed to the appropriate
division.

Police Station

1300 SE L.A. Grant Parkway

Waukee, IA 50263

Open 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday-Friday

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