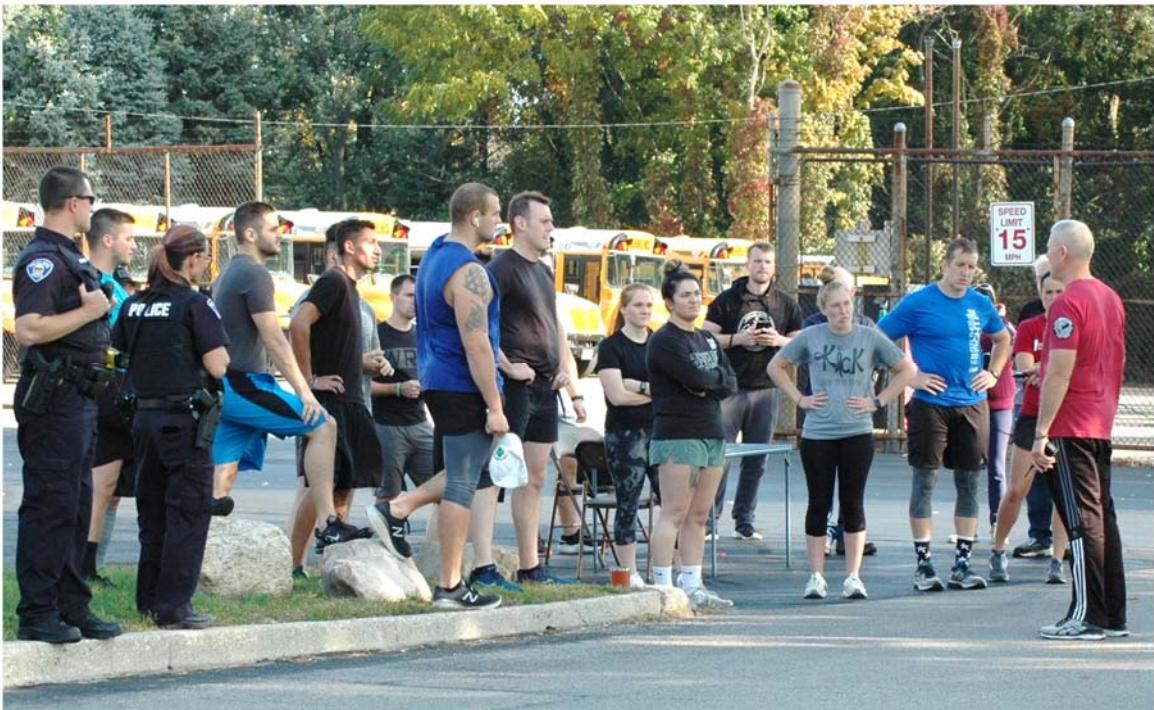


WICKLIFFE POLICE DEPARTMENT

2020 Annual Report



Police applicants participate in written and physical fitness tests to fill three patrol openings

WICKLIFFE POLICE DEPARTMENT

2020 Annual Report

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MISSION STATEMENT

To provide the public with effective and professional law enforcement
while treating all people with dignity and respect.

CORE VALUES

Honesty

Honesty is demonstrated over time and in a variety of situations. It is a series of behaviors that the officer has demonstrated over time that has gained the trust of others through establishing himself/herself as straightforward and sincere. This credibility has been developed through the absence of such counter-productive behaviors as: rationalizations, forgetful-ness, and shading the truth. The officer is willing to admit fault and correct mistakes as quickly as possible.

Sense of Urgency

The officer assertively approaches tasks or situations with immediate action. A sense of urgency is demonstrated most obviously by the officer's prompt response to all calls for service. Officers should possess a sense of urgency about completing investigations, conducting follow-ups, returning phone calls, responding to pages, etc. The officer approaches all aspects of the job in an eager manner.

Attention to Detail

Attention to detail is demonstrated by a constant awareness to the myriad of variables that come into play due to the nature of the job. This attention to detail not only serves as a defense mechanism (e.g., recognition of the 10 deadly errors) but also drives the officer to strive for perfection in each task the officer performs. This attention to detail ensures that all tasks are completed correctly the first time; including filling out and completing forms and reports.

Team Oriented

A team-oriented individual realizes that each officer contributes to the group effort; however, it is the collective efforts of the members that assures the overall goals of the Wickliffe Police Department are achieved. The officer works with others as a team member and strives not for individual recognition but for the recognition of the group. Team players demonstrate this value by providing back-up and offering assistance to others without being told or asked.

Professionalism

The officer who exhibits professionalism does so by performing his/her duties in an exemplary manner for others to follow. By possessing this skill and experience, he/she has made a commitment to excellence. Specific traits that the professional officer demonstrates include punctuality, courtesy, polite-ness, compassion, respect for others, and projects a well-groomed and able image.

Adaptability

The adaptable officer can quickly adjust and perform job duties in extreme, unknown, and ever-changing conditions. This officer anticipates change and promptly adapts. Adaptability is characteristic of officers who are able to prioritize and handle many tasks simultaneously through the use of divided attention skills. The officer is able to compromise and follow through to the successful completion of a task.

Self-Discipline

The self-disciplined officer has an internal control system that allows him/her to function independently without constant supervision. This officer is accountable for his/her actions. The focused officer recognizes the job that needs to be done and does it well, regardless of how "unpleasant" it may be. He/she is not unduly influenced by outside factors which may be a detriment to job responsibilities. Self-discipline allows the officer to project the positive image of and respect for the department at all times.

Performance Driven

The officer is driven to work hard as evidenced by the quantity and quality of services provided to the public. The officer strives to stay busy throughout his/her shift; continually looking for ways to support the objectives of the department. The performance driven officer effectively uses traffic enforcement and criminal arrests to save lives and to protect the public.

Officer Safety

The safety conscious officer demonstrates a high level of awareness in every situation. Through this awareness the officer realizes the potential risks associated with the job (e.g., recognition of the 10 deadly errors). He/she is proactive so as to guard himself/herself, as well as others, from potential dangers. He/she is physically fit enabling the officer to meet the demands of the job. Officer safety is predicated on the willingness of an individual to improve his/her skills through training.

Leadership

A leader is someone who consistently exhibits the core values of this organization and is willing to take command of situations, when appropriate. Although leadership is expected of supervisors, every officer can demonstrate leadership by selflessly taking the responsibility to lead in difficult situations. Leadership is also the ability to stand up for what is right, alone if necessary, even when the decision is not "popular".

WICKLIFFE POLICE DEPARTMENT

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LETTER OF INTRODUCTION

Police Chief Ic

I respectfully submit this volume of reports and activities transacted by the Wickliffe Police Department for the calendar year 2020. The biggest challenge of 2020 was dealing with the coronavirus which has effected every aspect of how the police department functions. Trying to keep employees safe while still providing a high degree of safety and service to our residents was difficult at times but successfully accomplished. In addition to the CDC standards of mask wearing, social distancing, and hand washing, police department employees were separated from one another by a variety of different methods to include eliminating roll calls and working from inside the patrol cars to file reports electronically. Additional strategies included taking complaints over the phone when possible for minor incidents, limiting traffic stops and socially distancing from citizens when possible. Even with these precautions the duties of a police officer require close contact with residents and visitors from time to time when rendering assistance or effecting a physical arrest. All inmates were required to wear a mask when entering the jail common area. The Willoughby Municipal Court drastically reduced the amount of time an inmate would spend actually in the court house by standardizing personal bonds for almost all misdemeanors thus eliminating overnight stays at the Wickliffe Jail with the exception of felony arrests. Almost all contact we have with Willoughby Municipal Court is through video conferencing.

The statistical reports, graphs, and charts contained in this annual report show the patterns of crime, incidents and other activities responded to by the police department this year. While the police department keeps statistical data on all types of criminal activity within the city we use a series of thirteen crime categories that we monitor from year to year that provides a snapshot of criminal activity during any given time period. Self-initiated activity by our police officers is the backbone of the police department's strategies for fighting crime and keeping Wickliffe a safe community to live in. This process was severely curtailed in 2020 because of the coronavirus pandemic which negatively impacted our delivery of service. We saw an increase of 33% and 40% respectively in assaults and burglaries during the year. The two most troubling types of crime that have been increasing dramatically over the past decade are weapons used in crimes and narcotics activity. Both of these categories decreased significantly; weapons by 30% and narcotics by 50%, however, these reductions are a direct result of the negative effects of the pandemic and do not reflect a true picture of crime in the city. We will closely monitor all criminal activity going forward in hopes of regaining the actual crime levels in Wickliffe after the pandemic subsides.

I will briefly highlight two of the more significant cases the police department investigated in 2020. On September 14, 2020 the police department received a complaint of an aggravated robbery at the Quality Inn on Euclid Avenue. A prostitute met a client at the hotel and a few hours after their arrival at the hotel the client fell asleep. The female prostitute went to the hotel parking lot and met four of her accomplices who were armed with handguns; all five went back to the room and threatened the client and then beat him with the handguns asking him for money. The female has been identified and indicted for aggravated robbery and is awaiting trial. Detectives continue to investigate this crime and have identified one of the male accomplices and are gathering more evidence for a criminal charge.



Detectives interview a suspect of an aggravated robbery

On October 23, 2020 the Wickliffe Police and Fire Departments responded to 29514 Euclid Avenue, down, for an apartment fire. Upon arrival it was determined that there was a female trapped inside the apartment and officers attempted to make entry but were prevented because of the extreme heat, in fact both of those officers suffered smoke inhalation and required hospitalization. The female victim was eventually removed from the building by firemen and transported to a hospital where she eventually died from her injuries.

WICKLIFFE POLICE DEPARTMENT

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Over the next few weeks information was uncovered that makes the fire suspicious; detectives are still investigating this incident.



Fire damage to downstairs apartment on Euclid Avenue



An officer receives treatment for smoke inhalation

The Wickliffe jail housed 443 people last year which represents a 40% reduction in inmates from 2019, once again, this decrease is a result of the coronavirus pandemic and should not be viewed as an overall reduction in criminal activity in the city.



Det. Lt. Hengst



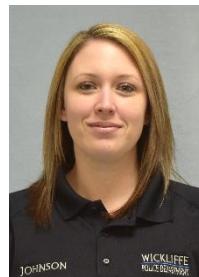
Ptl. Lako



Ptl. Veri



Disp. Hirz



Disp. Johnson

The police department experienced a number of personnel changes in 2020 with four full time employees retiring, one full time and three part time employees being hired. Dispatcher Hirz retired in February after serving the Wickliffe residents for twenty-three years. Patrolman Lako retired in September after serving for over twenty-four years. He felt compelled to retire earlier than he had planned because of the dangers of the coronavirus. Patrolman Veri retired with twenty years of service, earlier than planned, because he wants to focus on growing his landscape business. Lastly, Lieutenant Hengst retired in November to accept the Directors position at the Lake County Narcotics Agency. The last fourteen years Lieutenant Hengst was in charge of the detective bureau with the responsibility of all serious felony investigations in the city, additionally, he was the SWAT team commander for the Western Lake County Emergency Response Team for ten years. I along with all the police department employees wish our retirees good fortunes in their future endeavors. In 2020 the police department created one new position and filled three vacancies of existing positions. K. Tennyson was hired in January as the police department custodian on a part-time basis and she has done an outstanding job keeping the station clean and sanitized. Disp. Hirz and Ptl. Veri each decided to return to the police department as part-time employees. Ptl. Veri's primary responsibility will be to continue as the community policing officer and Disp. Hirz will work as a dispatcher and detective bureau secretary when needed. Disp. Johnson was hired in March to fill the vacant full-time



K. Tennyson

WICKLIFFE POLICE DEPARTMENT

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dispatch position, she had worked as a corrections officer in the North Royalton Jail for eleven years before coming to Wickliffe. Patrolmen Cook and Smith have agreed to accept the added responsibility of being members of the Western Lake County Emergency Response Team (SWAT) and both were appointed to the team in February.

The daily operation of the police department is financially supported through the safety fund which covers employee costs, training, fuel, vehicle maintenance, building maintenance, utilities, etc. The equipment needs of the police department are funded through the capital improvement fund and the law enforcement trust fund. This year from capital we purchased two new replacement marked patrol SUV's and one Dodge pickup truck to be used by the detective bureau as part of our normal routine replacement program. We also purchased a Watch Guard digital video file server and four digital cameras to be used with the Watch Guard file server. These Watch Guard components are the first stage of a two or three year process to replace all digital recording cameras used in the police building as well as body worn cameras and dash cameras. Currently we have three separate systems for recording police interactions with citizens which requires three separate methods of retrieving this data and is cumbersome and time consuming for clerical staff. The new system, when fully implemented, will store all the digital data on one file server which will be easily retrievable by all police employees. Other items purchased through police capital include computer upgrades, ERT equipment, detective equipment, patrol shields, and HVAC equipment. The law enforcement trust fund receives a small amount of money each year generated from criminal forfeitures and is restricted to equipment purchases for the police department. This year we purchased fitness equipment, training, and chemical agents. As a result of the coronavirus pandemic the Federal Government offered financial assistance to municipalities to help cope with the city's reduction on finances in 2020. All departments within the city of Wickliffe made purchases from this federal program. The police department purchased two new marked Ford SUV's fully equipped for road patrol, one new Ford F-150 police responder pickup truck, laptop computers, sanitizing equipment, and touchless water fountains.

For many years the Wickliffe Police Department has participated in regional special teams throughout Lake County in an effort to pool combined resources with other cities to defray the costs and staffing needs of each of these specialties. The Western Lake County Emergency Response Team (SWAT) consists of police officers from Wickliffe, Willowick, Willoughby, Eastlake, Willoughby Hills, and Kirtland who train monthly on all aspects of critical incidents to include, hostage situations, barricaded gunman, and warrant service. The combined population of the area served by the ERT is approximately 80,000 with the primary goal of safely solving all critical incidents through negotiations when possible. The Lake County Crash Reconstruction Team consists of police officers from western Lake County who have specialized training in the investigation of serious accidents that goes beyond the basic methods of vehicle accidents. We also participate with the Mentor Fire Department Public Safety Dive Team for water related accidents and searching for missing swimmers, boaters, and lost articles that may be related to criminal activity. Our Community Policing Program which is managed by Patrolman Veri has been dramatically reduced this year because of the pandemic. He still maintains a community policing office receiving phone calls and emails, however, in person events have all been cancelled. Hopefully, if the COVID-19 pandemic gets under control in 2021, we can restart the programs that have made community policing so successful in years past. The school resource program has also been put on hold for most of the year because of the pandemic but we are ready to restart our presence in the schools as soon as it becomes safe. Our tradition of holding the "shop with a cop" program for the under privileged children of Wickliffe was also cancelled this year, however, our officers still wanted to do something charitable for Christmas so they selected three charities, the Wickliffe School Resource Center, Vineyard Community Church Food Pantry, and the Prayers From Maria cancer research organization. Eighteen officers generated money for donations to these charities through "No Shave November" which allows them to grow beards during November and December.

2020 is like no other year in our lifetime with all the unknown conditions and factors effecting the police department as a result of the pandemic and I am proud to state our police department employees remained dedicated to their sacred duty of protecting our residents. Mayor Barbish and City Council gave us their unconditional support throughout the year and I thank them for their continued trust in the police department as we carry out our mission.

**WICKLIFFE POLICE DEPARTMENT
MEMORANDUM**

TO: Lt. Jon Bush
FROM: Sgt. Isaac Petric
DATE: January 3, 2020
RE: Commendation for Ptl. Pecnik & Ptl. Merrifield

On 1-2-20, at approximately 0223 hrs, Ptl. Pecnik observed a suspicious vehicle in the parking lot of Gabriel Bros., 30150 Euclid. The vehicle was occupied by a male sleeping in the driver's seat. Ptl. Merrifield arrived to assist Ptl. Pecnik and they attempted to awaken the driver. Once the driver was awake, he appeared that he may have been under the influence. The driver was asked out of the vehicle, but he attempted to put the vehicle in drive. Ptl. Merrifield was able to put the vehicle back into park moments before the driver began to rev the engine. The driver was tasered and removed from the vehicle, where he continued to resist arrest, until he was eventually taken into custody. Through the subsequent investigation, a loaded firearm, crack/cocaine, and a significant amount of suspected heroin and US currency was located in the vehicle. The driver was found to have a prior conviction of involuntary manslaughter as well. I commend Ptl. Pecnik and Ptl. Merrifield for their sense of urgency, teamwork, and ability to adapt to a fluid situation that could have ended up with a more serious outcome for both the officers and the driver.

Respectfully Submitted,



Sgt. Isaac Petric

Cc: Ptl. Merrifield
Ptl. Pecnik

WICKLIFFE POLICE DEPARTMENT

MEMORANDUM

TO: Chief Ice

FROM: Sgt. Mark Sopko

DATE: January 27, 2020

RE: Commendation for Ptl. Heaton and Ptl. Cook

Chief Ice,

I would like to take a moment and recognize the outstanding teamwork displayed by Ptl. Heaton and Ptl. Cook for the arrests of four suspects in the early morning hours of January 23, 2020 (Refer WPD Report #20-00176). On that date, Ptl. Heaton initiated a traffic stop for a moving violation. Within two minutes, Ptl. Cook arrived on scene to assist since there were four occupants in the vehicle at the time of the traffic stop. Almost immediately, both officers observed signs of suspicious behavior from the occupants. Upon subsequent investigation at the scene, Ptl. Heaton and Ptl. Cook recovered a loaded firearm underneath the driver's seat in addition to a significant amount of illegal drugs that were present inside the vehicle.

Without having to be requested, both Ptl. Veri and Ptl. DiDona also arrived on scene to assist their fellow officers since there was still much work to be completed. Once all of the officers worked as a team and cleared the scene of the traffic stop, all four suspects were transported to the WPD jail for further investigation. At the WPD jail, Ptl. Heaton and Ptl. Cook recovered a large amount of illegal drugs and paraphernalia that were concealed on two of the suspects. It was later found that our officers had located approx. 14.5 grams of suspected Methamphetamine, which is nearly 5X the bulk amount of the drug, in addition to suspected crack cocaine.

Ptl. Heaton and Ptl. Cook then spent the next several hours interviewing each of the suspects individually. During the interviews, Ptl. Heaton and Ptl. Cook worked as a team throughout the entire process. As a result, they were able to obtain the truth from several of the suspects that had initially lied on numerous occasions. Our officers subsequently learned that as Ptl. Heaton was initiating the traffic stop, the driver alerted the other suspects that he was armed and then proceeded to conceal the firearm underneath the driver's seat just prior to Ptl. Heaton's initial approach. Our officers also obtained a confession from the driver that he was in fact a drug trafficker because he intended on selling the large amount of Methamphetamine in order to make a profit.

This is just one example of the dedication and teamwork that is displayed by both Ptl. Heaton and Ptl. Cook on a daily basis. I wanted to take the time to recognize their hard work and commend them on a job well done.

Respectfully,



Sgt. Mark Sopko

Cc: Lt. Bush
Ptl. Heaton
Ptl. Cook

WICKLIFFE POLICE DEPARTMENT

MEMORANDUM

TO: Lt. Bush

FROM: Sgt. James Coolick

DATE: 02-14-2020

RE: Commendation to Ptl. Regnier and Ptl. Budzicki

I would like to commend Ptl. Regnier and Ptl. Budzicki for their actions taken on the morning of February 13th, 2020 while investigating a breaking and entering which occurred at Spinner's Discount Tobacco and Beverage. At approximately 0535 hrs Ptl. Budzicki responded to an alarm at the business along with Ptl. Rosen and I. Upon our arrival, it was learned that someone had thrown a rock through a glass door and had stolen over \$1,000 worth of cigarettes. This was the second time the business had been broken into in just over a month.

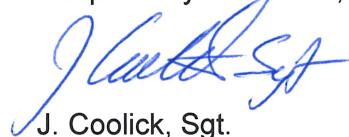
Ptl. Budzicki observed fresh shoemarks in the newly fallen snow which led away from the business. These footprints were tracked, leading to the west through backyards and business parking lots. Ptl. Budzicki made contact with an employee of Vittorio's and took the initiative to review their security camera footage. On viewing this, the suspect was seen walking northbound on Robindale St prior to the theft.

Ptl. Regnier arrived on scene to drop off equipment and took the initiative to check for the distinctive shoe prints left by the suspect, as the track was initially lost by the plowed streets. Ptl. Regnier later located the shoe prints further down on Robindale St and he, along with Ptl. Budzicki, followed those tracks through several yards and eventually found they had originated at a residence on E. 296th St.

Ptl. Regnier and Budzicki then took the initiative to attempt to make contact with the occupants of the home and question them about the shoemarks. During this encounter, a suspect was identified, though he initially denied any involvement. This male's information was passed on to the detective bureau who recognized him as a suspect from the prior breaking and entering incident. Through further investigation, the male was later taken into custody and evidence linking the male to both breaking and entering crimes was located at his residence.

I would like to acknowledge Ptl. Regnier and Budzicki for their initiative in locating the suspect and his residence in this incident. I believe that their actions were critical in making an arrest in this case and they should be commended for it.

Respectfully Submitted,


J. Coolick, Sgt.

Cc: Sgt. Petric
Ptl. Regnier
Ptl. Budzicki

WICKLIFFE POLICE DEPARTMENT

MEMORANDUM

TO: Lt. Bush

FROM: Sgt. James Coolick

DATE: 10-07-2020

RE: Commendations for Response to Willowick PD OIS

Lt. Bush,

I would like to recognize and commend several officers and dispatchers for their response to an officer involved shooting in the city of Willowick by the Willowick Police Department. On Friday, October 2nd 2020 at approximately 1745 hrs, the Willowick Police Department was sent to check for a possibly impaired driver in their city. This call quickly escalated into a hit/skip vehicle crash and then a police pursuit of the offending vehicle.

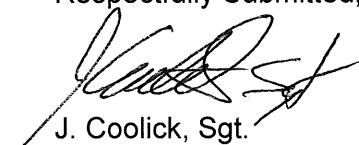
Several on-duty Wickliffe PD officers began heading in that direction due to the proximity of the chase to the Wickliffe border. Wickliffe PD officers then heard on the radio that the male driver subject had stopped his car on a residential street and had produced a handgun. The next radio traffic indicated that shots had been fired and that an officer had been shot.

Every available Wickliffe PD officer, on their own initiative, responded to the scene at this point. It was still initially unknown if the male subject had been taken into custody or the status of the officer who had been shot. Wickliffe officers arrived to an understandably tense and uncertain scene and immediately began assisting Willowick officers with multiple tasks including taping off and securing the incident scene, taking photographs, interviewing potential witnesses and collecting written statements.

During this time, there was almost non-stop radio traffic between the main and secondary Police Department channel and the Fire Department channel. The on-duty dispatchers remained calm and answered all requests which included directing officers to the incident scene and dispatching an ambulance for the injured Willowick officer.

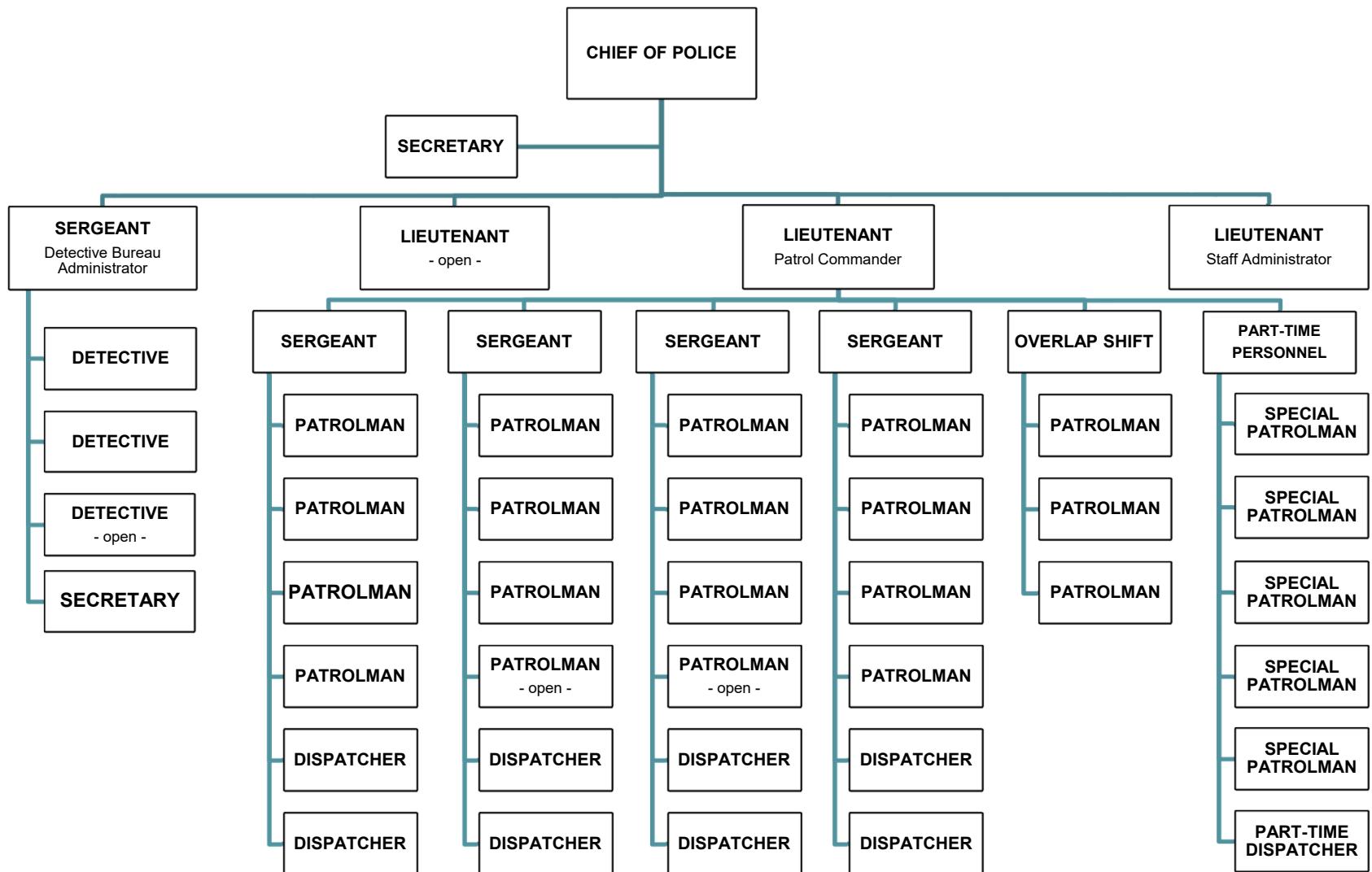
I can think of few calls that are more serious than hearing a fellow police officer has been shot. I would like to commend Det. Moreland, Ptl. Sabruno, Ptl. Smith, Ptl. Fitch, Ptl. Merrifield, Disp George, and Disp Johnson for their response to this call.

Respectfully Submitted,



J. Coolick, Sgt.

WICKLIFFE POLICE DEPARTMENT ORGANIZATIONAL CHART 2020



WICKLIFFE POLICE DEPARTMENT

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POLICE DEPARTMENT ROSTER

as of December 31, 2020

<u>NAME</u>	<u>DATE OF HIRE</u>
Chief Ice	02/13/1988
Lieutenant Bush	05/01/1995
Lieutenant Thompson	02/13/1988
Sergeant McCaffery	12/11/1995
Sergeant Coolick	08/30/2004
Sergeant Krivacic	03/05/2001
Sergeant Sopko	06/08/2002
Sergeant Petric	10/10/2000
Detective Dondrea	11/28/1995
Detective Moreland	07/31/1992
Patrolman Shum	04/22/1991
Patrolman Brenner	01/06/1992
Patrolman Rosen	03/24/1998
Patrolman Regnier	03/05/2001
Patrolman Sabruno	06/08/2002
Patrolman Kuhse	11/08/2007
Patrolman Peeples	02/04/2008
Patrolman Cook	01/11/2011
Patrolman Ankuda	06/27/2012
Patrolman Smith	08/01/2012
Patrolman Fitch	07/16/2013
Patrolman Budzicki	01/14/2014
Patrolman DiDona	02/25/2014
Patrolman Merrifield	08/25/2016
Patrolman Heaton	02/06/2017
Patrolman Pecnik	04/28/2014
Patrolman Paull	03/04/2019
Special Patrolman Valko	06/09/2014
Special Patrolman Nosse	05/29/2018
Special Patrolman Hanlon	10/08/2018
Special Patrolman Bender-Walker	04/15/2019
Special Patrolman Veri	10/26/2020
Dispatcher Stein	12/11/1994
Dispatcher Horn	08/03/2003
Dispatcher Shaw	04/14/1998
Dispatcher George	02/17/2017
Dispatcher Turk	03/20/2017
Dispatcher Gordon	04/02/2018
Dispatcher Brzeski	06/25/2018
Dispatcher Johnson	03/02/2020
PT Dispatcher Hirz	04/24/2020
Secretary Lentine	05/19/1997
Secretary Miklus	04/28/2014

WICKLIFFE POLICE DEPARTMENT

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AUXILIARY POLICE ROSTER AND ACTIVITY

<u>NAME</u>	<u>LENGTH OF SERVICE</u>
Auxiliary Lieutenant Stuck	29 years
Auxiliary Sergeant Savochka	12 years
Auxiliary Patrolman Kallay	10 years
Auxiliary Patrolman Townsend	10 years
Auxiliary Patrolman Koporc	6 years
Auxiliary Patrolman Hannus	1 year
<u>AUXILIARY POLICE ACTIVITY</u>	<u>HOURS WORKED</u>
Auxiliary Meetings	72.0
Borromeo FEST - cancelled	0
Graduation Parade	6.0
Homecoming Parade	3.0
Mater Dei School Dances – cancelled	0
Memorial Day – cancelled	0
Mt. Carmel Parties - cancelled	0
Mt. Carmel Festival – cancelled	0
Wickliffe High School Football	
TOTAL HOURS	153.0

SCHOOL GUARD ROSTER

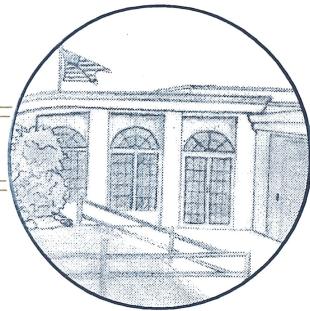
<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>NAME</u>
Euclid / Lloyd	J. Oaks
Euclid / Rockefeller	R. Might
Lincoln / Arlington	J. Vincent
Lincoln School	V. Hill
Lincoln / Ridge	L. Ensch
Ridge / Rockefeller	W. Patterson
Substitute	S. Veri
Substitute	G. Iacobucci

WICKLIFFE POLICE DEPARTMENT

2020 Annual Report

CASH SHEET FUNDS RECEIVED BY THE POLICE DEPARTMENT

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Municipal Court Fines	116,951.24	110,922.83	131,316.23	152,072.46	120,077.92
Enforcement & Education Fines	408.00	768.00	1,086.00	506.00	634.00
Jail Recoupment Fees Collected	7,222.02	4,405.00	5,423.48	4,520.22	3,600.27
Parking Fines	15,885.00	15,050.00	16,955.00	21,495.00	13,890.00
Report/Photo Copies	23.00	41.00	50.00	22.00	38.00
Bicycle Licenses	2.00	2.00	6.00	4.00	2.00
Witness Fees	422.60	337.45	290.30	312.50	104.00
Miscellaneous / Auction Fees	3,885.00	780.00	769.50	2,924.50	2,829.50
State Forfeited Funds	22,370.00	2,997.00	7,835.00	8,542.91	30,267.58
Federal Forfeited Funds	16,882.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Collected	184,050.86	135,303.28	163,731.51	190,399.59	171,443.27



CITY OF WICKLIFFE

Department of Police

28730 Ridge Road • Wickliffe, Ohio 44092-2598
Phone (440) 943-1234 • Fax (440) 943-7159

RANDY E. ICE
CHIEF OF POLICE

January 4, 2021

Mayor John Barbish
City of Wickliffe
28730 Ridge Road
Wickliffe, Ohio 44092

Dear Mayor Barbish:

Listed below is the yearly report for 2020 for the Wickliffe Police Department.

3284	Police/Fire/EMS Calls Received on E911
1618	Persons Arrested (including felonies, misdemeanors, and traffic)
1570	Adults
48	Juveniles
443	Persons Housed in Wickliffe City Jail
1061	Parking Tickets Paid
469	Animal Complaints
459	Accidents Investigated
16	Buildings Unlocked
404	Vehicle Lockouts
647	Alarms, False Alarms, and Accidental Alarms
15601	Total Calls for Service

Respectfully submitted,


Randy E. Ice
Chief of Police

DETECTIVE BUREAU REPORT*Detective Sergeant McCaffery*

I have been assigned as the officer in charge of the detective bureau since November of 2020 after the retirement of Detective Lieutenant Hengst. Detectives Dondrea and Moreland are assigned to the unit and are responsible for conducting investigations into general felony offenses and drug related cases. Detective Bureau Secretary Miklus duties include handling fingerprint and BCI files, managing and downloading dash-cam, booking, and interview videos for serious offenses, and preparing documentation and paperwork to assist in the prosecution of Wickliffe PD cases, both at the municipal court and felony levels.

The Wickliffe Police Department Detective Bureau is responsible for follow-up investigations of felonies and certain misdemeanors. We are assigned to various shifts, Monday through Friday, and are on call at all other times. Detectives are responsible for the investigation of felony criminal offenses, maintenance of the warrant validation files, and the management of NCIC fingerprint files and FBI/BCI criminal identification files. We maintain complete records of liquor permits, authorized gambling events, and criminal case dispositions. Other duties include: processing crime scenes, securing and processing evidence, managing the property room and evidence room, and completing record expungements.

In 2020, the WPD detective bureau conducted 47 narcotics related investigations in a continuing effort to interdict the flow of heroin and other illegal drugs into Wickliffe and Lake County. We arrested 58 people as a result of those 47 cases. Although heroin and other opiates continue to be the main focus of our efforts, we are seeing a resurgence in both crack cocaine and methamphetamine trafficking as well. We also investigated six overdose deaths in 2020 which led to arrests.

Detectives Dondrea and Moreland both perform Computer Voice Stress Analysis testing for the police department. The CVSA is similar to a polygraph, and in 2020, we used this technology extensively to conduct background investigations on patrol officer candidates. The technology was also used several times to assist detectives in criminal investigations.

The detective bureau investigated 146 criminal cases in 2020. The types of crimes ranged from rapes and burglaries, to robberies, thefts, counterfeiting, weapons offenses, drug trafficking, and more. Of the 146 cases worked, 102 were cleared by arrest or exceptional means (such as a victim not wanting to pursue the matter or arrest by another agency), for a clearance rate of 69.8%, which is well above the national average. Examples of cases worked by detectives in 2020 include the following:

- In February, a female was found deceased with indicators that she had died from a drug overdose. Detectives investigated and discovered that a relative and another associate had sold the deceased heroin. The two persons were charged with corrupting another with drugs (F-1). Detectives also investigated other overdoses deaths, suicides and suspicious deaths.
- On June 19, 2020, detectives assisted patrol with a report of a shooting at the Fairbridge Hotel. Through the investigation, detectives learned that a male had arrived at the hotel and attempted to gun down another male as he was leaving the hotel. Warrants have been obtained for a suspect male, who is currently a fugitive.



Security camera captures a photo of the suspect's vehicle in a drive-by shooting at a local hotel

WICKLIFFE POLICE DEPARTMENT

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- Also in June, detectives investigated a rape/felonious assault of a juvenile. Detectives identified a suspect, who was also suspected in two other local area rapes. Detectives, along with the U.S. Marshal's Violent Fugitive Task Force, spent two days tracking the suspect. The suspect was located in Euclid by a detective and, with the aid of patrol units, was taken into custody.



Booking and arrest photos of the suspect of the rape and felonious assault of a juvenile

- In November, detectives investigated two burglaries on the same street. A suspect, who was a relative of one of the victims, was tracked down and taken into custody with assistance from a patrol officer at a hotel in Willoughby.

In addition to the above, detectives investigated numerous assault and felony thefts including the serial thefts of catalytic converters in numerous other jurisdictions by an organized group of suspects. Detectives located and arrested a suspect which led to other agencies solving their thefts. Finally, detectives investigated several rape cases, bringing criminal charges in four of the incidents.



Burglary suspect awaiting arraignment

In November, Detective Lieutenant Hengst retired after 27 years of service and took on the position of Director of the Lake County Narcotics Agency. We would like to thank Lt. Hengst for his years of dedication and steadfast leadership to the city of Wickliffe and the police department and wish him good luck at the Lake County Narcotics Agency.

In closing, I would like to also thank the members of the Detective Bureau for their thoroughness, hard work, and dedication; Chief Ice for his leadership and support; and Mayor Barbish and City Council for their continued support of the investigative efforts and technologies that we provide to the citizens of this community.

WICKLIFFE POLICE DEPARTMENT

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DETECTIVE BUREAU SUMMARY

Prepared by Detective Bureau Secretary Miklus

TRENDS IN SERIOUS CRIMES					
TYPE OF CRIME	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
HOMICIDE/MURDER	0	0	0	1	0
ATTEMPTED MURDER	0	0	0	0	0
RAPE/SEX	12	22	12	21	20
ROBBERY	9	13	7	2	2
ASSAULT	28	25	16	20	30
BURGLARY/B&E	36	26	17	14	20
THEFT	194	129	127	165	162
VEHICLE THEFT	9	12	9	18	15
FRAUD	43	48	24	40	42
ARSON	0	0	2	1	1
WEAPONS	37	41	39	73	57
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE	39	43	46	59	46
NARCOTICS	454	521	742	744	373

DEPARTMENT INCIDENT TOTALS					
CRIME	COUNT	CRIME	COUNT	CRIME	COUNT
Agg. Vehicular Assault	1	Domestic Violence	46	Possession of Criminal Tools	7
Alarm	11	DUI	53	Property	102
Animal	103	DUS	287	Property Damage	42
Violation-TPO	3	Escape	1	Property Unlocked	12
Arson	1	Family	111	Receiving Stolen Property	13
Assault	30	Firearms Seized	45	Resisting Arrest	16
Assist (Other Dept)	119	Fireworks	7	Robbery	2
Attempted Auto Theft	0	Flee/Elude	32	Robbery (Aggravated)	2
Attempted Burglary	0	Fraud	42	Sex	20
Attempted B&E	3	Harassment – General	65	Solicitors	8
Attempted Murder	0	Hazards	2	Suicide	3
B&E	14	Health & Welfare	97	Suicide Attempt	3
Burglary	6	Inducing Panic	0	Suspicious	308
Business	50	Juvenile	99	Tampering with Evidence	3
Child Abuse	1	Kidnapping	0	Telephone Harassment	13
Child Endangerment	3	Littering	2	Theft	162
City Business	40	Menacing	6	Theft (Auto)	15
Criminal Damaging	30	Mental	58	Unauthorized Use MV	8
Criminal Mischief	4	Missing Person	4	Use of 911 / Knowingly Abuse	1
Criminal Trespass	22	MVA	33	Utilities	5
Curfew	10	Narcotics	373	Vandalism	3
Death	24	Noise Disturbance	16	Vehicle	42
Disorderly Conduct	33	Obstruction/Falsification	62	Veh Plates Recovered by WPD	17
Disorderly Intox	23	Parking	12	Warrants	230
Dispute/Disturbance	334	Personal Injury	4	Weapons	57

POLICE ACTIVITY
Annual Report 2020

Prepared by Dispatcher Gordon

	COMPLAINTS	ASSISTS	PARKING	MISD	FEL	MISD WAR	FEL WAR	OVI	WARNING	TRAFFIC	MILEAGE
SHUM	129	181	108	25	7	4	3	0	43	24	8504
BRENNER	151	172	143	16	9	3	4	1	45	145	7858
LAKO	58	32	23	7	6	7	2	1	39	51	2220
ROSEN	190	96	96	26	4	8	4	1	44	22	9158
REGNIER	178	223	57	30	8	5	6	3	67	97	5999
SABRUNO	220	133	62	35	11	8	8	4	43	64	6723
VERI	116	105	29	11	3	7	6	0	18	41	4559
KUHSE	184	145	65	47	14	5	6	0	70	98	6725
PEEPLES	234	140	101	26	24	9	4	4	24	60	5287
COOK	220	177	4	67	32	21	12	0	61	65	5894
ANKUDA	211	140	122	31	20	7	2	8	73	95	7174
SMITH	180	113	38	43	28	12	10	0	40	49	7071
FITCH	197	214	13	54	30	17	7	2	133	79	9015
BUDZICKI	172	166	43	34	17	4	4	1	36	37	6487
DIDONA	157	115	33	27	9	6	7	0	41	36	5638
MERRIFIELD	173	129	91	71	24	14	9	4	94	118	8606
HEATON	156	125	90	38	25	13	8	0	91	86	7030
PECNIK	175	115	65	29	9	3	4	0	59	61	6112
PAULL	241	205	112	17	2	14	2	3	117	67	10217
HANLON	128	156	0	4	5	8	4	0	46	151	10589
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTALS	3470	2882	1295	638	287	175	112	32	1184	1446	140866

Prepared by Disp. K. Gordon
Completed 3/12/2021

WICKLIFFE POLICE DEPARTMENT

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ARRESTS/CITATIONS BY OFFICER

Prepared by Dispatcher Gordon

OFFICER	CRIME TYPE				TOTAL
	Traffic	Misdemeanor	Felony	Warrant	
0125 – Lt. Thompson	0	0	0	0	0
0130 – Ptl. Shum	24	25	7	7	63
0133 – Ptl. Brenner	145	16	9	7	177
0134 – Det. Lt. Hengst	0	0	0	1	1
0135 – Det. Moreland	0	1	14	0	15
0136 – Lt. Bush	0	0	0	0	0
0137 – Det. Dondrea	0	1	4	0	5
0138 – Det. McCaffery	0	3	11	0	14
0139 – Ptl. Lako	51	7	6	9	73
0141 – Ptl. Rosen	22	26	4	12	64
0217 – Sgt. Petric	0	1	0	3	4
0144 – Ptl. Regnier	97	30	8	11	146
0145 – Sgt. Krivacic	2	1	1	0	4
0146 – Sgt. Sopko	1	0	0	0	1
0147 – Ptl. Sabruno	64	35	11	16	126
0148 – Sgt. Coolick	1	0	1	0	2
0211 – Ptl. Veri	41	11	3	13	68
0149 – Ptl. Kuhse	98	47	14	11	170
0150 – Ptl. Peeples	60	26	24	13	123
0151 – Ptl. Cook	65	67	32	33	197
0152 – Ptl. Ankuda	95	31	20	9	155
0153 – Ptl. Smith	49	43	28	22	142
0155 – Ptl. Fitch	79	54	30	24	187
0156 – Ptl. Budzicki	37	34	17	8	96
0157 – Ptl. DiDona	36	27	9	13	85
0158 – Ptl. Merrifield	118	71	24	23	236
0159 – Ptl. Heaton	86	38	25	21	170
0220 – Ptl. Pecnik	61	29	9	7	106
0160 – Ptl. Paull	67	17	2	16	102
0221 – Spl. Ptl. Hanlon	151	4	5	12	172
TOTALS	1450	645	318	291	2704

WICKLIFFE POLICE DEPARTMENT

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JAIL REPORT

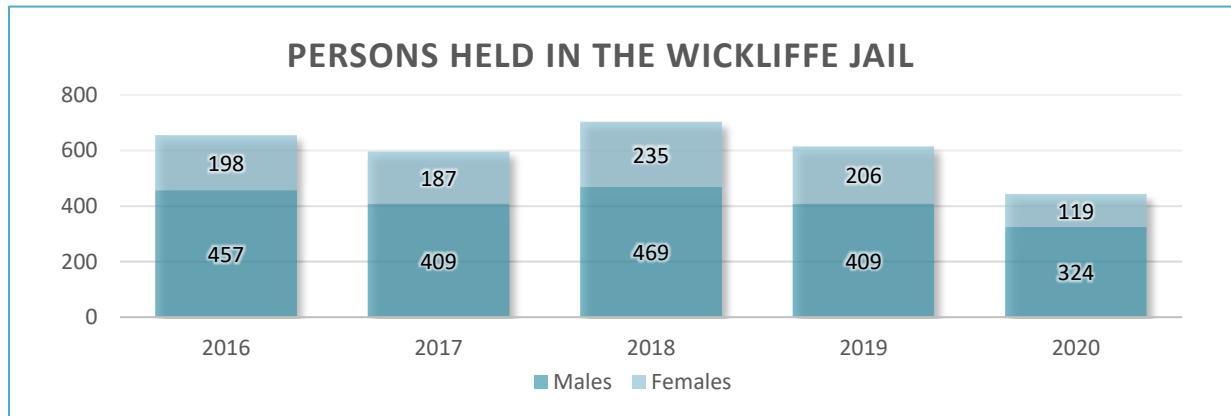
Detective Sergeant McCaffery

The Wickliffe City Jail is a twelve-day facility that consists of eight jail cells. Four of these cells are designated for male prisoners and two cells are designated for female prisoners. Two cells are designated for those prisoners who are under the influence of alcohol or narcotics, suicidal, security risks or require an increase in surveillance. The jail does not hold arrested juveniles.

During 2020, the jail held 443 prisoners who were held on bond, waiting for arraignment or court appearances, or serving court ordered sentences. 226 of the prisoners were held on various felony charges and 217 prisoners were held on misdemeanor charges. Prisoners spent an average of 11.45 hours in the jail and the average daily population of the jail was 1.21 prisoners. 324 males and 119 females were housed in the jail during this period. The jail was inspected by the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Corrections.

Per Wickliffe Policy, a jail officer is responsible for checking on the welfare of each prisoner every hour and provides for their needs. Prisoners are fed three times a day and can receive snacks between meals. Meals are purchased by US Foodservice, a provider of meals to other jail institutions and hospitals, and BJ Wholesale Club. Meals are prepared in the jail kitchen.

A video arraignment system is in place whereby prisoners “appear” before a Willoughby Court Judge from the jail office via a computerized teleconferencing system. A confinement expense reimbursement program has been instituted. Those prisoners able to pay can be ordered by the court to pay up to \$65.00 per day for their stay in the city jail. In 2020, Wickliffe received \$3,600.27 in jail confinement reimbursement fees collected by the Willoughby Municipal Court.



NALOXONE REPORT

Detective Sergeant McCaffery

In 2017, in response to the overwhelming opiate addiction epidemic and overdose deaths, Chief Ice agreed to purchase Naloxone, commonly referred to as Narcan, for officers to use in combating opiate overdoses. When administered to persons overdosing on opiates, Narcan has the ability to counter the effects of the opiate. The City of Wickliffe and the Lake County Department of General Health District provided officers with the Narcan. After receiving training in the use of Narcan, officers began carrying it in their patrol cars. In 2020, Narcan was used 23 times by officers in an effort to save lives. The following officers administered Narcan to overdosing persons: Ptl. Cook (6), Ptl. Ankuda (3), Sgt. Coolick (2), Sgt. Sopko (2), Ptl. Heaton (2), Det. Sgt. McCaffery (1), Sgt. Petric (1), Ptl. Shum (1), Ptl. Kuhse (1), Ptl. Budzicki (1), Ptl. Merrifield (1), Ptl. Pecnik (1), Ptl. Paull (1).

INTOXILYZER 8000*Patrolman Rosen*

In 2020, twenty-five (25) persons were arrested for an OVI offense. Of these, twenty-two (22) were suspected of being under the influence of alcohol, two (2) were suspected of being under the influence of a drug of abuse, and one (1) was suspected of being under the influence of alcohol and a drug of abuse.

Drugs that were suspected due to either admission of the driver or presence of evidence suggesting specific drug usage included the following:

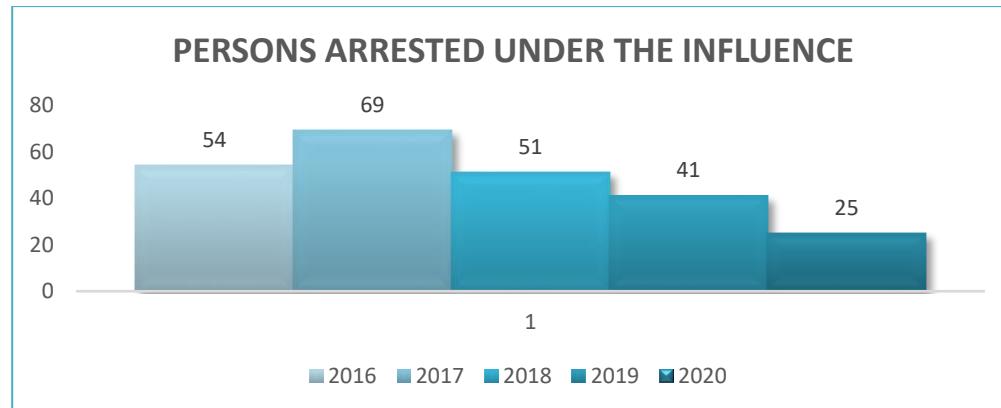
- Heroin: 2
- PCP: 1

For drivers believed to be under the influence of alcohol, a breath test is usually requested. If the driver is transported to the hospital for possible injuries, then a blood and/or urine sample is requested. If a driver is suspected of being under the influence of drugs, then a blood sample is requested. Under Ohio Law, drivers can refuse to submit a sample under most circumstances, although they may face a more severe sentence at court. In 2020, of all OVI arrests, seventeen (17) drivers submitted a breath, blood or urine sample and eight (8) refused for a refusal rate of 32%.

The average breath alcohol content (BAC) from all drivers who submitted a sample was .227. The average age of all OVI offenders was 36.

The breakdown of measured BAC from the seventeen (17) drivers who submitted a breath sample are:

.000 - .0799 = 0
.08 - .169 = 6
.17 - .239 = 2
.24 and above = 7



WICKLIFFE POLICE DEPARTMENT

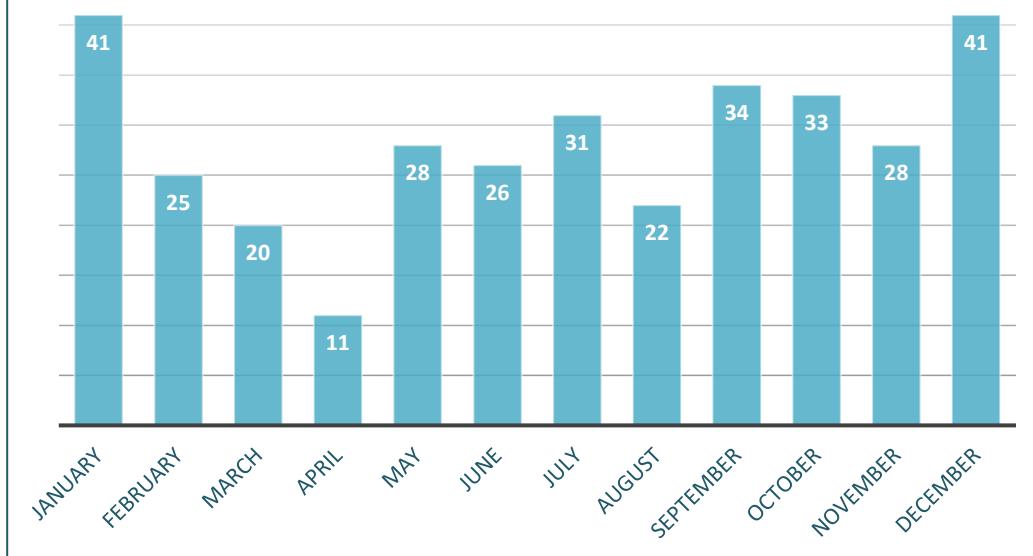
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ACCIDENT SUMMARY

Prepared by Dispatcher Turk

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Accidents/Public Street	313	383	318	366	327	295
Accidents/Private Property	57	51	24	30	54	45
Property Damage Only	295	335	265	296	23	31
Personal Injury	52	109	86	99	86	87
Pedestrian	1	0	0	6	1	1
Pedestrian Injury	1	0	2	6	1	1
Pedestrian Fatal	1	0	0	0	1	0
Driver/Passenger Fatal	1	0	0	1	0	1
Drivers Arrested	203	220	191	206	186	147
Drivers/Consumed Alcohol	8	21	15	14	10	14

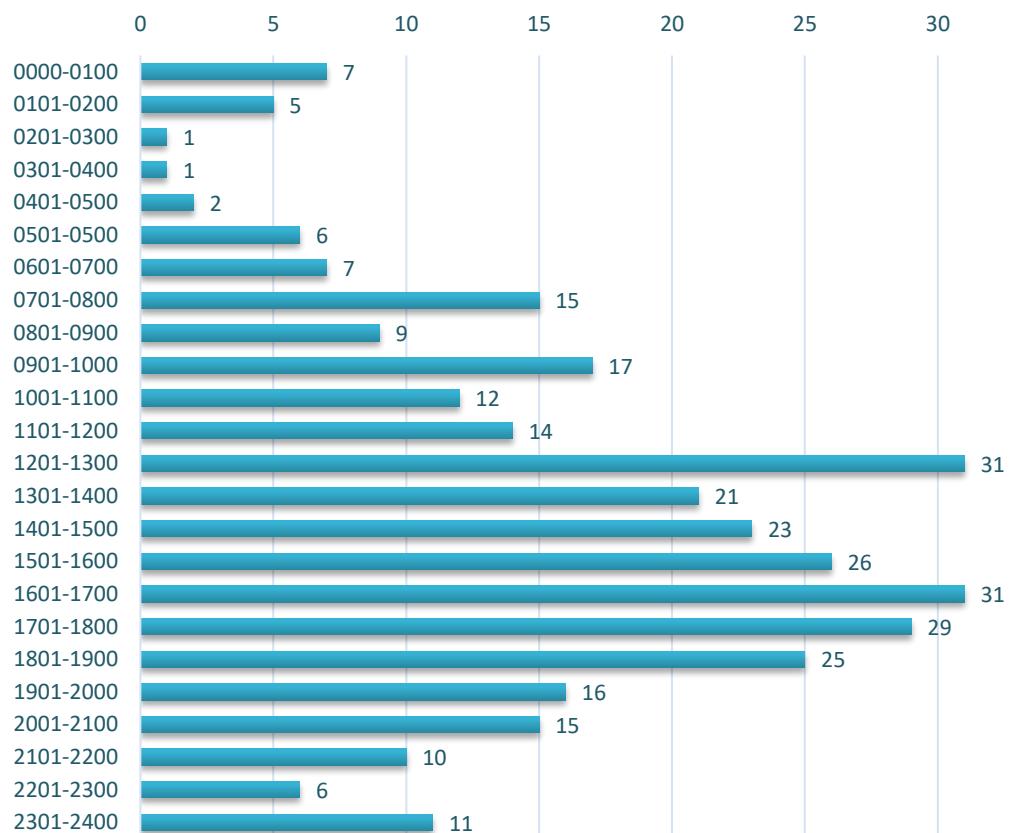
ACCIDENTS BY MONTH



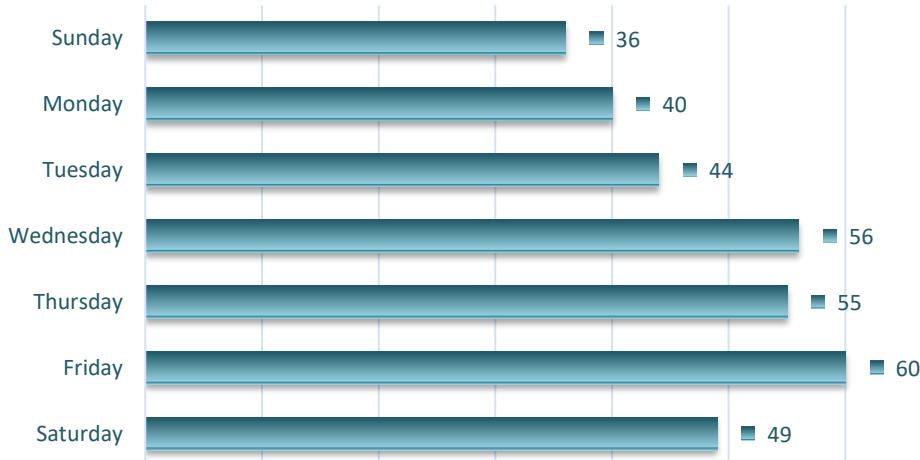
WICKLIFFE POLICE DEPARTMENT

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ACCIDENTS BY TIME OF DAY



ACCIDENTS BY DAY OF THE WEEK



SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER REPORT*Sergeant Petric*

In 2020, the Wickliffe Police Department continued its coordination efforts with the Lake County Juvenile Court, Prosecutor's Office, and the Wickliffe City Schools (both public and private). The SRO's handled numerous types of calls for service ranging from assaults and harassment to traffic control for the elementary school Halloween parade.

The SRO program is best summed up as follows: if the courts, schools, and police form a triangle, then the SRO is at the center of the triangle. The SRO's purpose is to facilitate communication between these three groups. The following are some examples of how the relationship benefits all three organizations in the triangle. If an administrative investigation reveals criminal activity in the school, that principal contacts the SRO. The SRO can then access police resources to conduct the investigation. The SRO knows the standard required to prosecute a juvenile criminally and can advise the principal if such conditions are met. Another example is if an investigation starts off of school grounds, it may lead to the discovery of inappropriate activity that had occurred in one of the schools. In some instances, school administrators are better equipped to handle such problems that do not require police action.



The Wickliffe Public Schools and the Wickliffe Police Department collaborated to take the SRO program in a new direction. A continuing aspect of the SRO program continued in 2020. A police officer would be assigned to WHS for a four-hour block. This was an elective side job and did not take away from day to day operations of the police department. This new way of looking at the SRO program allowed different officers to become accustomed to the way the schools operate, and gave them a chance to interact with the students in ways that they may not have been able to do as part of their daily patrol duties.

Early in 2020, the global community was affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. The City of Wickliffe was not spared. The uncertainty with in-person learning caused the police department to temporarily stop the above mentioned side job at WHS. This was done out of an abundance of caution to both school students and staff as well as police personnel. The COVID-19 pandemic also prevented the police department from collaborating with the schools in the Shop-With-A-Cop program. In lieu of Shop-With-A-Cop, money was donated to 3 local charities, of which, included the Wickliffe Family Resource Center. The hope for 2021 is that the Wickliffe Police Department and the Wickliffe City Schools would be able to resume their positive and productive collaboration.

The men and women of the Wickliffe Police Department would like to show their appreciation to Mayor Barbish, City Council and the school's administrators, teachers, staff, and students.

EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM

Lieutenant Bush



The WESTERN LAKE COUNTY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM (ERT) is comprised of police officers from the cities of Wickliffe, Eastlake, Willoughby, Willoughby Hills, Willowick, and Kirtland. Assigned officers are volunteers who perform the duties of the team in addition to their regular assignments. Representing the City of Wickliffe on the team are Lt. Bush, Sgt. Coolick, Ptl. Kuhse, Ptl. Cook, and Ptl. Smith. Ptl. Cook and Ptl. Smith were assigned to the team in January of 2020 after Lt. Hengst retired from the team and Lt. Bush was named the team Commander.

The primary duties of the team involve serving high-risk search and arrest warrants, handling barricaded subjects and hostage situations, and handling any other high risk situations that require a tactical resolution. In addition to the tactical component of the team, there are several negotiators who specialize in finding peaceful solutions to stressful and sometimes violent situations. Representing the City of Wickliffe as negotiators are Sgt. McCaffery, Sgt. Sopko, and Ptl. Peeples.

The ERT was utilized three times in 2020. Two of the incidents involved the service of search warrants in Willowick. Both of the warrants were served without injuries, and narcotics and weapons were recovered. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic calls for service dropped dramatically which lessened the need for the ERT to be called out.

In April the ERT was called to a residence in Willoughby Hills for a report of shots fired at a large party and persons possibly injured and barricaded in the house. The house was being used as an Airbnb and was rented for a large party. Officers made forcible entry into the residence after an uncooperative person exited the residence and advised that there were numerous persons inside and they would not come out and they were refusing to let anyone leave. Eight persons were detained inside the house and turned over to Willoughby Hills officers to be charged. No one was injured during the incident.

The ERT team continues to strive for a high level of training so that dangerous incidents may be handled in the safest manner possible. The team conducts regular monthly training days, as well as a week-long session of firearms and tactics training conducted in September. This year's training was taught by instructors from Norse Tactical, a company specializing in SWAT tactics. Officers received extensive instruction in firearms and room clearing tactics.

Normally in September, Wickliffe CNT officers attend the annual Midwest Crisis Negotiators Conference in Columbus, Ohio. The conference highlights the peaceful resolution of critical incidents, and it presents an excellent opportunity for quality lectures and networking. This ongoing training is essential to maintaining the proficiency of the team; however, due to the COVID-19 pandemic the conference was cancelled this year.

In closing, I would like to thank Mayor Barbish, Wickliffe City Council, and Chief Ice for their continued support, which allows members of the ERT to provide our community with the best possible services. I would also like to thank and congratulate retired Lt. Hengst for his 24 years of dedicated service to the ERT. Lt. Hengst was instrumental in the building, continued improvement, and professionalism of the Western Lake County ERT.

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U.S. MARSHAL'S NORTHERN OHIO VIOLENT FUGITIVE TASK FORCE

Detective Dondrea



The U.S. Marshal's Northern Ohio Violent Fugitive Task Force is led by Deputy U.S. Marshal Bobie Davis. The task force is comprised of Deputy U.S. Marshals, Ohio Adult Parole Officers and various officers from police departments throughout Lake, Geauga and Ashtabula Counties. I have been assigned to the Painesville division of the task force since it originated in November of 2012. The purpose of this task force is to apprehend violent fugitives, suspects with felony warrants and suspects with violent/serious misdemeanor warrants that originate in Lake, Geauga or Ashtabula County. The task force can also be called out for serious incidents that require the expeditious apprehension of the suspect(s) involved.

Due to the Covid-19 epidemic, the task force did not function from mid-March until late May. Even after that time frame, the task force operated less frequently due to jail capacity concerns.

In 2020, the task force made 38 arrests. One of the arrests was for attempted murder, one for aggravated arson, one for kidnapping, two for rape, five for robbery, and two for weapons related offenses. The task force made numerous other arrests for domestic violence offenses, narcotics trafficking offenses and theft related offenses. A number of these offenses originated within the City of Wickliffe or its surrounding communities.

I would like to thank Mayor Barbish, Wickliffe City Council, and Chief Ice for their support of this task force.



A fugitive is apprehended by the U.S. Marshal's Task Force

COMMUNITY POLICING

Patrolman Veri

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020, numerous events that would have been held throughout the year through the Wickliffe Police Community Policing Office were cancelled due to social distancing regulations. Cancelled events included:

- 3rd grade seatbelt program
- Annual bike rodeo
- Annual Christmas Party/Winter Social at the police station
- Block Watch meetings
- Block Watch summer cookout
- Coffee with a COP
- Day camp activities at the police station
- Daycare presentations at city daycare centers
- Fingerprinting at the Movie in the Park events
- Police station tours with the boy scouts and girl scouts
- National Night Out
- Safety talks with the residents at the Senior Center
- Stranger Danger

Throughout the month of February, I met with the director of Play Academy and discussed plans to complete the Stranger Danger class in the summer. Due to the pandemic, the class was modified for social distancing and held outside. A total of 38 children were separated by age into three classes. All of the children received a Wickliffe Police Department backpack, crayons, and coloring books.

A drug awareness class was held at All Saints School in March prior to the quarantine orders. I spoke to Mrs. Fudd's 6th grade class about drug awareness and surrounding themselves with good and positive influences.

In May, Evan and Renee from the Willoughby Starbucks featured our department at their store during National Police week and brought coffee and pastries with a thank you card signed by each of their employees.

The Halloween Party was held at the high school in October. Lt. Bush attended with me and we passed out candy in the parking lot to the children as they drove past with their families. The turnout was overwhelming and enjoyed by kids in their costumes and their parents.

A "Fill the Cruiser" annual food drive was held in the parking lot of Spinner's Tobacco in December from 10 a.m.-noon. The police SUV and Councilman Gehardstein's pick-up truck were filled several times with non-perishable food items that were collected for the Our Lady of Mt. Carmel food pantry. The director of the food pantry was very thankful as every shelf in the pantry was filled.

The COVID-19 pandemic cancelled almost every event and function our Community Policing program supports, but we are determined to resume all the programs once it is safe.

Thank you to everybody who participated!! especially the Wickliffe Police Department and the Wickliffe, OH Fire Department. I was blown away and we are so thankful for all of your efforts in helping my boy have a special day!! THANK YOU THANK YOU THANK YOU!!!



Drive-by birthday celebrations became the norm during the COVID-19 pandemic

WICKLIFFE POLICE DEPARTMENT

2020 Annual Report

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Chief Ice, Mayor Barbish, and the entire Wickliffe City Council for recognizing the importance of the Community Policing Program. With all of their support and allocating the funds for this program, it is successful and improved upon every year. We are looking forward to 2021 and hope to make improvements and additions to the program to help our department grow closer to the residents and business owners in our city.

Halloween Party – Trunk or Treat at the Captain's Stadium



TRAINING

Lieutenant Bush

In 2020, The Wickliffe Police Department, like the rest of the police departments in this country, was severely limited in providing training for its officers and dispatchers due to the social distancing required from the COVID-19 outbreak. Many of the training classes, seminars, and schools that were scheduled for our officers had to be cancelled or rescheduled into 2021. The Patrol Division's training suffered from this the most as most trainings the patrol officers attend are hands on and could not be conducted due to the restrictions; however, many officers completed online classes/trainings whenever possible. We will continue in 2021 to focus on the core courses essential to the patrol function. This core includes: The Reid Technique of Interview and Interrogation; Emergency Vehicle Pursuit and Response Training; Street Survival; Firearms, Arrest, and Survival Tactics (F.A.S.T.); Radar/Laser Certification; Criminal Patrol/Drug Interdiction; Counter Ambush Tactics for Law Enforcement; and crisis intervention training. Additionally, officers are encouraged to find elective training courses based on department needs and officer specialization.

Within the communications division, we were able to maintain our training and techniques essential to the dispatching function. It includes: Law Enforcement Dispatch, Fire Service Dispatch, Emergency Medical Dispatch, Hazardous Materials Response, Suicide Intervention, Domestic Violence Intervention, and 9-1-1 Liability. We have incorporated computer-based training for biennial re-certifications in Law Enforcement, Fire Service, and Emergency Medical Dispatch. This has proven to be cost-effective and less disruptive to manpower scheduling, while still providing the most up to-date training material available.

The Continuing Professional Training (CPT) requirement, established by the Ohio Peace Officer Training Council and the Ohio General Assembly, requires all full-time and part-time police officers to complete a set number of hours of annual professional training. Once again in 2020 the State of Ohio did not have any funding for required CPT hours; therefore, Ohio police officers were not required to attend any trainings. Despite there being no mandate, Wickliffe PD continues to require training for our officers. The average number of training hours per Wickliffe Police employee in 2020 was 25.25 hours.

Training highlights for the 2020 year include: 7 officers - Sgt. Krivacic, Sgt. Sopko, Ptl. Brenner, Ptl. Rosen, Ptl. Regnier, Ptl. Kuhse, and Ptl. Budzicki attended 40 hours of Crisis Intervention Team training hosted by Beacon Health; Lt. Bush, Sgt. Coolick, Ptl. Kuhse, Ptl. Cook, Ptl. Smith attended a 24-hour Norse Tactical Operators SWAT course; 5 officers - Sgt. McCaffery, Ptl. Kuhse, Ptl. Smith, Ptl. Merrifield and Ptl. DiDona were able to attend a 40-hour Evidence Tech course hosted by the Lake County Crime Lab.

During 2020, 21 full-time police officers, 1 part-time officer, 6 full-time dispatchers, and 1 part-time dispatcher attended training schools or seminars to update or enhance their skills and knowledge in various disciplines. Thirty-five (35) schools, seminars, or online training blocks were completed, covering twelve months of the year, totaling one thousand eighty-six (1086) hours of continuing education. This was approximately one third of the number of hours of training our officers and dispatchers complete during a normal year.

On behalf of the Wickliffe Police Department, I would like to thank Chief Ice, Mayor Barbish, and City Council for their recognition to the importance of having highly trained and professional police officers and their support in allocating the funds necessary to maintain and continually improve the Wickliffe Police Department.

WICKLIFFE POLICE DEPARTMENT

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SCHOOLS AND SEMINARS

LOCATION	COURSE NAME	ATTENDEES
Beacon Health, Mentor	Crisis Intervention Team Training	Sopko, Brenner, Rosen, Regnier, Kuhse, Budzicki
Cleveland, OH	Investigative Interviewing & Advanced Interrogation	Paull
Elyria PD	Homicide Investigation & Crime Scene Management	McCaffery
Euclid PD	CVSA Recertification	Dondrea, Moreland
Jefferson, IN	SWAT I	Cook, Smith
Jefferson, IN	SWAT Sustainment, Norse Tactical Course	Bush, Coolick, Kuhse, Cook, Smith
Lake County, OH	Notary Public Training and Certification	Johnson, Hirz (renewal)
Lake County Narcotics	Street Drugs: What Every Officer Needs to Know	Smith, Fitch, Merrifield, Paull
Mentor PD	Evidence Technician Training	McCaffery, Kuhse, Smith, DiDona, Merrifield
PowerPhone / online	EMD Telecommunicator-CPR	Stein, Gordon, Brzeski, Johnson
PowerPhone / online	Emergency Medical Dispatch Certification	Johnson
PowerPhone / online	Emergency Medical Dispatch Recertification	Horn, Shaw, Gordon, Brzeski, Hirz
PowerPhone / online	Fire Service Dispatch Certification	Johnson
PowerPhone / online	Fire Service Dispatch Recertification	Stein, Shaw, Horn, Gordon, Brzeski, Hirz
PowerPhone / online	Law Enforcement Dispatch Certification	Johnson
PowerPhone / online	Law Enforcement Dispatch Recertification	Stein, Shaw, Horn, Gordon, Brzeski, Hirz
Wickliffe PD / livestream	Basic Digital Forensic Analysis: Seizure	Nosse
Wickliffe PD / livestream	Crisis Intervention Team - 2020 CIT International	Petric, Fitch
Wickliffe PD / online	Basic Digital Forensic Analysis: Seizure	Thompson
Wickliffe PD / online	Direct NIBRS	Krivacic, Gordon
Wickliffe PD / online	Drafting the Bullet Proof Affidavit	McCaffery
Wickliffe PD / online	First Aid/CPR/AED Instructor Recertification Assessment	McCaffery
Wickliffe PD / online	NTOA Instructor Recertification	Coolick
Wickliffe PD / online	Ohio LEADS	Johnson
Wickliffe PD / online	Ohio School Threat Assessment Training	Fitch, Merrifield
Wickliffe PD / online	Public Records 101: What is a Public Record	Johnson
Wickliffe PD / online	Public Records 102: Exceptions to Releasing Record	Johnson
Wickliffe PD / online	Public Records 103: Investigative Records	Johnson
Wickliffe PD / online	Public Records 104: Retentions/Destructions	Johnson
Wickliffe PD / online	TAC In-Service Training	Krivacic
Wickliffe PD / online	Teen Sexting	Thompson
Wickliffe PD / Ptl. Clayton from Wlby PD	Stop the Bleed Course	Coolick, Sabruno, Smith, Fitch, Budzicki

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WICKLIFFE POLICE DEPARTMENT POLICE CAR INVENTORY

December 31, 2020

CAR #	ASSIGNED TO	MAKE	MODEL	COLOR	YEAR	MILEAGE
750	CHIEF	FORD	F-150 P/R 4X4	WHITE	2020	300
751	DET. BUREAU	CHEVROLET	IMPALA	GRAY	2016	27,748
753	DET. BUREAU	FORD	FUSION	SILVER	2018	11,209
752	DET. BUREAU	CHEVROLET	IMPALA	TAN	2010	70,312
754	PATROL	DODGE	CHARGER	WHITE	2019	38,074
755	PATROL	FORD	INTERCEPTOR	WHITE	2017	51,701
756	PATROL	FORD	INTERCEPTOR SUV	WHITE	2019	41,150
757	PATROL	FORD	INTERCEPTOR	WHITE	2017	61,965
758	PATROL	FORD	INTERCEPTOR SUV	WHITE	2019	52,811
759	PATROL	FORD	INTERCEPTOR SUV	WHITE	2017	73,000
765	PATROL	CHEVROLET	TAHOE	WHITE	2020	9,907
760	LIEUTENANTS	CHEVROLET	TAHOE	BLACK	2020	1,354
761	PATROL	FORD	INTERCEPTOR SUV	WHITE	2019	53,315
762	PATROL	FORD	INTERCEPTOR SUV	WHITE	2020	50
763	SWAT TEAM	CHEVROLET	E25 VAN	WHITE	2011	8,400
764	SERGEANTS	DODGE	CHARGER	WHITE	2019	12,415
766	UNDERCOVER	FORD	FUSION	BLACK	2010	64,100
767	PATROL	FORD	INTERCEPTOR SUV	WHITE	2020	50
767	DET. BUREAU	DODGE	DURANGO	GREEN	2003	187,580
768	DET. BUREAU	DODGE	RAM 1500	GRAY	2020	2,065
769	JAIL	FORD	TRANSIT	WHITE	2018	10,520
MC-1	TRAFFIC	HARLEY	FLHP	WHITE	2010	3,860

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ALARMING.

A disturbing number of weapons continue to be confiscated during routine traffic stops; putting our officers and the community in harms way.



GRATITUDE.

There has been a constant outpouring of support, respect, and concern for our department from the residents of Wickliffe and the surrounding communities throughout the pandemic and social unrest.



HOPE.

The year of 2020 has been unlike any year in our lifetime, and we are grateful that a police exam in September resulted in an excellent group of young applicants eager to join our forces and provide hope for the continued protection to the City of Wickliffe.

