



2020 ANNUAL REPORT

**POLICE
DEPARTMENT**

A message from the Chief of Police Robert Ring

The Findlay Police Department welcomes you to its 2020 Annual Report. The members of the Department are truly committed to their duties and they strive every day to provide professional and fair law enforcement services. The year 2020 was definitely a challenging one, but the members of the Department met the challenge and accomplished several key goals.



A backup VHF radio system was installed to provide a safety net with the current MARCS radio system. The VHF system can be utilized in an emergency or if the main MARCS radio system goes down. The VHF system will provide a key second layer of safety for not only the Police Department, but other city departments as well, as well as the citizenry.

At year's end, a new Brazos E-Citation system was about to be implemented. This system will improve upon an officer's ability to issue traffic citations quickly and accurately, as well as help the Department better track statistics related to traffic stops. The new system will also merge better with the Department's current Records Management System.

The Department continues to attain accreditation through the Commission on Accreditation of Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA).

There was plenty of personnel movement during 2020. Chief John Dunbar retired after 33 years of service in July. I was selected to replace him as the Police Chief in July. James Mathias was promoted to Police Captain in August and Justin Hendren was promoted to Police Lieutenant in December. Sergeant Brian Dill was selected to fill the supervisor role in the METRICH-Hancock County Drug Task Force. This position opened up after Lt. Hendren's promotion.

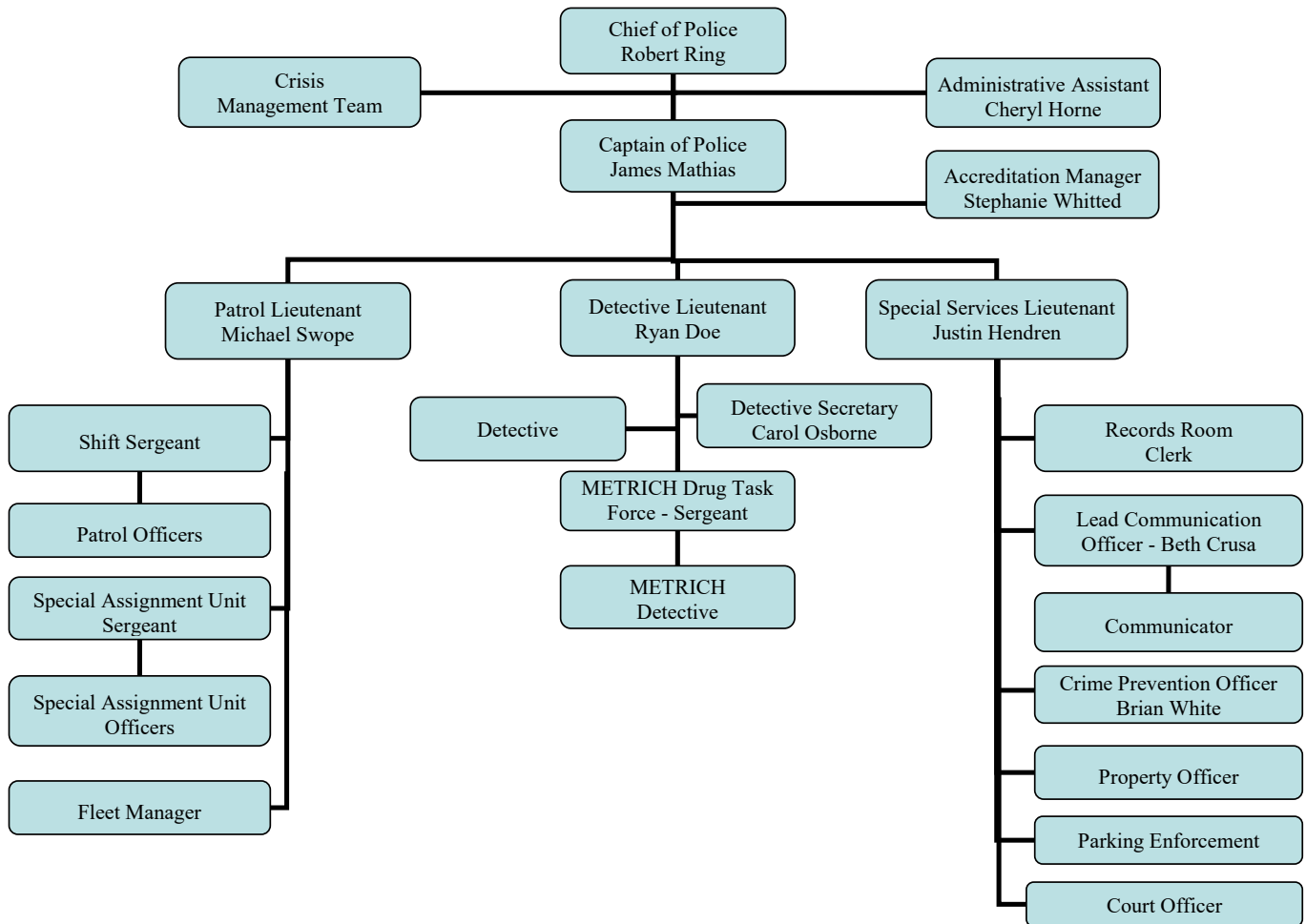
The Department also had two other retirements, as Bryon Deeter and Jay Myers called it a successful career. The Department hired four officers in 2020 to fill vacancies. Training of officers continued to be a goal on the forefront of the Department in 2020, and will continue into the future.

The Department continues to manage the Covid-19 pandemic. The members of the Department continued to serve throughout the entire pandemic and all calls for service were answered. I am proud of the dedication of all of the members who have put their duties above their own wellbeing as this pandemic continues on. The Department will strive to keep its service to the public at a high level as we go into 2021.

Chief Robert Ring

FINDLAY POLICE DEPARTMENT

CHAIN OF COMMAND





Patrol Division

The Patrol Division is the largest, most visible component for the Findlay Police Department and is the backbone of our organization. It provides the basic police services of preserving the peace and protecting the lives and properties of others. In our mission we are dedicated to preventing crime, enforcing laws, protecting life and property while upholding the constitutional rights of all. We will promote a safe and secure community through fair and professional policing. We are dedicated to preventing crime, enforcing laws, protecting life and property while upholding the constitutional rights of all. We value professionalism, integrity and teamwork with respect for each other and the community we are proud to serve.

The manpower for the Patrol Division for 2020 consisted of one Lieutenant, seven Patrol Sergeants, forty-three uniformed Patrol Officers and eleven Auxiliary members. This Division is divided into three shifts and the Sergeants and Officers are working four – ten hour shifts with three consecutive days off. The shifts are configured to maximize available personnel during peak periods of activity. Along with their patrol duties, many of the officers have other specialized assignments that require additional skills and training. In February, three new officers were hired to fill the vacancies within the department and they are Kyle Bormuth, Justin Jolliff and Matthew Schroeder. In November, we hired one new officer to fill a vacancy and he is Joshua Scharp.

The Patrol Division remained proactive throughout 2020, even with the COVID-19 pandemic through most of the year. The amount of calls for service was decreased from 2019.



Kyle Bormuth



Justin Jolliff



Matthew Schroeder



Joshua Scharp



Patrol Division

Below are some of the notable event stats and their comparison from the year prior:

	2019	2020	%Increase/ Decrease	Actual #
Calls for Service	44654	21223	-52.47%	(-23431)
Arrests	2614	1801	-36.83%	(-813)
Warrant Service	1178	509	-79.31%	(-669)
Domestic Disputes	663	701	5.57%	(+38)
Assaults	213	263	21.01%	(+50)
Homicide	0	0	No Change	
Sex Offense	130	129	0.77%	(-1)
Theft/Fraud/Forgery	852	862	1.67%	(+10)
Theft of Motor Vehicle	66	60	-9.52%	(-6)
Robbery	19	17	-11.11%	(-2)
Unlawful Entry	133	118	-11.95%	(-15)
Property Damage/Vandalism	189	225	17.39%	(+36)
Drug Complaints	584	425	-31.52%	(-159)
Alcohol Violations	164	119	-31.80%	(-45)
(OVI not included)				
School Walk Throughs	708	377	-61.01%	(-331)
Public Relations	174	70	-85.25%	(-104)



Patrol Division

Traffic enforcement remains a priority for the Patrol Division and officers work to enforce the traffic laws when they aren't busy handling calls for service. The goal is to reduce the number of collisions and associated injuries and fatalities. The number of property crashes decreased, but the injury crashes increased this year. There was an increase in OVI arrests, but some decreases in citations and traffic stops. We had one fatal crash this year; which was the same amount from last year, and suspected drugs and/or alcohol played a factor in this fatal crash investigation. We also had eighteen (18) vehicle pursuits this year compared to ten (10) last year. We also participated in the following national traffic safety enforcement efforts for primarily seat belts and OVI enforcement: *Click It or Ticket and Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over*. We also participated in the *Lights for Lives* with the Ohio State Highway Patrol for increased enforcement efforts around the Thanksgiving Day holiday to also reduce accidents involving serious/fatal injuries.

The OVI's, citations, and crash reports were broken down as follows:

	2019	2020	%Increase/ Decrease	(Actual #)
OVI	137	157	3.59%	(+20)
Traffic Stops	6436	4627	-32.70%	-1809
Citations	2788	2739	-1.77%	(-49)
Property Crashes	988	974	-1.43%	(-14)
Injury Crashes	151	162	7.03%	(+11)
Fatal Crashes	1	1	No Change	



Sergeant Andrew Welch has been named Officer of the Year 2019. Sgt. Welch has been with the Findlay Police Department since March 28, 2005, and was promoted to Sergeant on May 26, 2015. In addition to his duties as a Patrol Sergeant, Andrew serves as the CMT Commander and is an instructor for both RAIDER and A.L.i.C.E. training



Patrol Division

CIT

A Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) is a police mental health collaborative program. The term "CIT" is often used to describe both a program and a training in law enforcement to help guide interactions between law enforcement and those living with a mental illness. The Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) program is a community partnership of law enforcement, mental health and addiction professionals, individuals who live with mental illness and/or addiction disorders, their families and other advocates. Crisis teams support people who might otherwise need to go to hospital, for example due to psychosis, severe self-harm or suicide attempts. They usually include a number of mental health professionals, such as a psychiatrist, mental health nurses, social workers and support workers.

	<u>2019</u>	<u>2020</u>
Total Calls	459	435
Oldest Person	70	86
Youngest Person	9	9
Guns Involved	2	5
Knives Involved	11	19
Other Weapons	4	1
Injuries	21	16
Arrests	4	13
CIT Officer Initial	363	349
CIT On Scene	384	416



Patrol Division

Quick Response Team

Is a team of passionate individuals who work to provide prevention and specialized behavioral health and substance abuse services to individuals, children and families in our multi-cultural communities in order to strengthen family life and promote personal growth. They offer a nurturing environment focused on personal growth and self-care through trainings and the development of skills. Family Resources is dedicated to supplying employees with the necessary skills and tools necessary to be successful in their roles. They continuously analyzes the formal structure to support the program (e.g., referral protocols, polices and Memoranda of Understanding among the participating partners). They also work with recovery providers to create “fast tracks” to treatment and recovery supports via the development of referral agreements that triage individuals having an overdose event. They maintain the program in a way that complies with state and federal patient confidentiality requirements. They receive overdose event data and schedule visits within seventy-two (72) hours with the Patrol Officers of the Findlay Police Department. They also work with the Health Departments to coordinate the disbursement of Naloxone to patients/clients. There were one hundred twelve (112) suspected overdose reports compared to ninety-five (95) in 2020. There were eleven (11) suspected overdose death reports compared to nine (9) in 2020.

K-9 Units

The Findlay Police Department has a long history of providing exceptional police canine services. We have two officers (handlers) and their canine partners. The dogs spend their working hours and off duty hours with the officer. The canines are cross-trained to handle patrol duties, such as building searches and tracks, and also drug detection. The teams receive extensive weekly training in both areas. The teams are also requested to provide assistance to other law enforcement agencies. The dogs are also well received when conducting demonstrations for groups, especially school children.

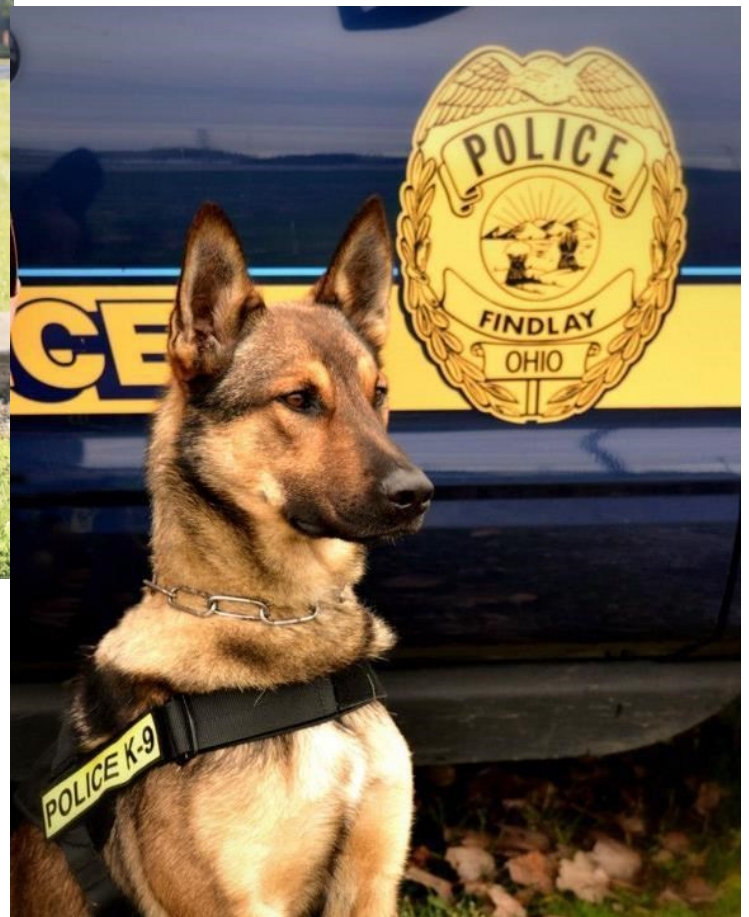
The K-9 units trained a total of seventy-eight (78) times; forty-five (45) trainings for Ofcr. Paugh and Shadow and thirty-three (33) times trainings for Ofcr. Atkins and Deke. Ofcr. Paugh and Shadow were utilized forty-eight (48) times; forty-five (45) for narcotic searches, two (2) patrol tracks, and one (1) article search. Ofcr. Atkins and Deke were utilized twenty-one (21) times; twenty (20) narcotic searches and also Deke had one (1) bite on a male suspect on August 2, 2020, during a domestic dispute call and warrants.



Patrol Division



K9 Deke & his handler
Officer Jacob Atkins



K9 Shadow



Patrol Division

Other Equipment

There were three events where the camera trailer was used throughout the City of Findlay. There were also four drone deployments involving the Patrol Division. We also installed Stop Sticks (tire deflation devices) in the remaining half of the marked patrol fleet this year to complete our fleet. We also had one successful deployment and usage of the Stop Sticks this year during a vehicle pursuit. We purchased the following equipment: electronic citation program along with driver's license scanners, chairs, stand up desks, ballistic shield and close quarter entry tools for the Sergeant's vehicle, active shooter training items/supplies, animal snare, and ice rescue ropes.

Training and Facilities

Officers completed various training course during the year. Instruction was conducted from police department instructors and through other law enforcement training centers. The department covered annual training topics such as officer response to active shooters, driving, firearms, use of force, taser, less lethal, self-defense, and legal updates for all personnel.

In addition, several officers received the following training classes: Crisis Intervention Training (CIT) Basic, Field Training Officer (FTO), Criminal Patrol Baseline & Drug Investigations, Hazmat Awareness, Reid Interviewing and Advanced Interrogation, Ohio Revised Code Update, First Line Supervision, Basic Interview and Interrogation, Search and Seizure, Ambush Response Tactics, Vehicle Searches, Crime Scene Photography II, Female Only Subject Control, Budgeting for Law Enforcement, and Glock Armorer Re-certifications.

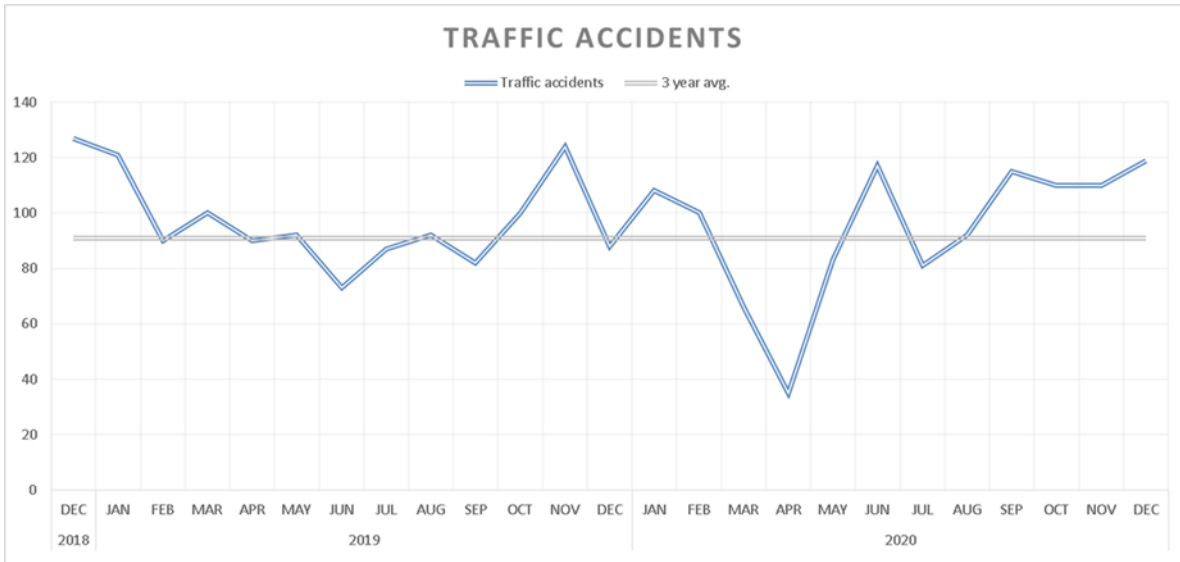
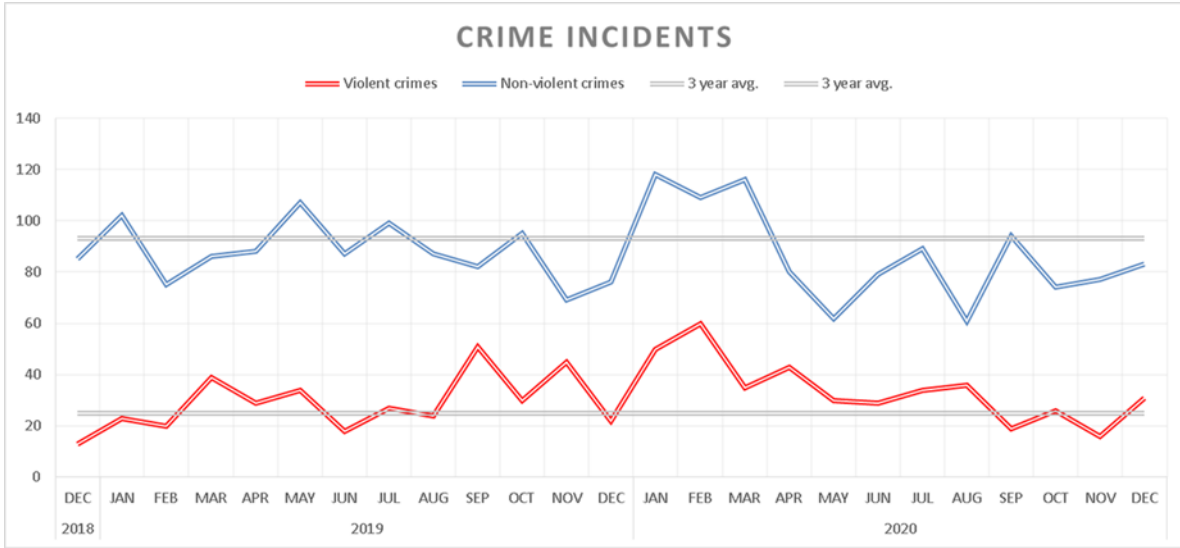
New department instructors were certified for the following: Basic Hostage Negotiator, Taser Instructor, High Threat Vehicle Engagements Instructor, Driving Instructor, and Police Rifle Instructor.

The Department also benefitted from free regional trainings through the Ohio Peace Officer Training Academy. These classes are offered at various locations around the State of Ohio and also locally with several mobile trainings to cover many topics in the field of Law Enforcement. A summary of these free trainings includes: Alcohol Breath Testing Devices (to include BAC DataMaster and Intoxilyzer 8000) and Advanced Roadside Impaired Driving Enforcement.

Four new patrol cars (Ford Police Interceptor SUV) were purchased this year and were outfitted with computer tablets. There was some delays due to COVID-19, but these vehicles were put in operation in late December.

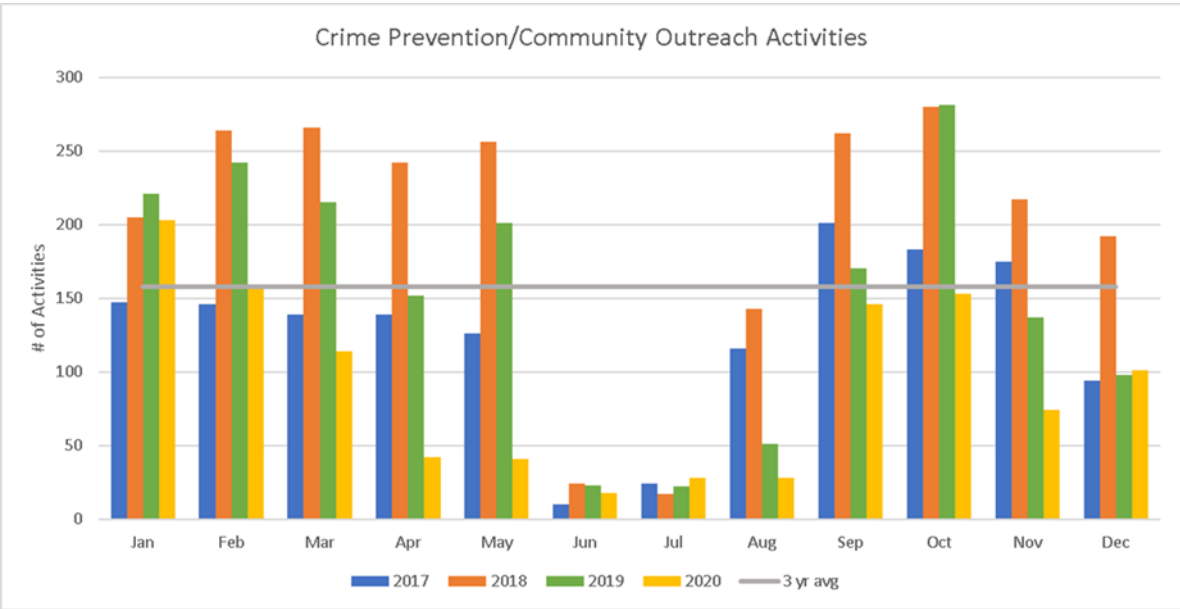
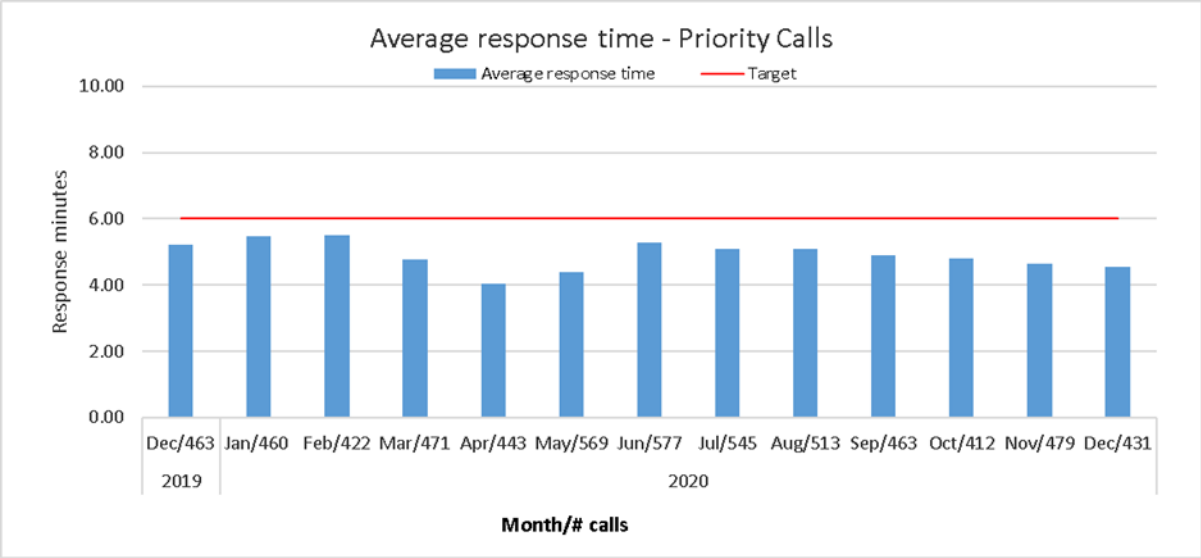


Patrol Division





Patrol Division



More details on Key Performance Indicators can be found at: www.findlayohio.com/performance





Patrol Division

Patrol Division Goals

- Continue providing a high level of professional service to the community and increase the capabilities to provide a proactive police force.
- Decrease the amount of crashes, including severe injury and fatal crashes.
- Continue to develop relationships with the citizens to assist in providing effective and quality law enforcement.
- Send as many officers to available training opportunities as possible to improve their overall knowledge and skill set.



Patrol Division





Vice Narcotics Unit/ METRICH

The Findlay Police Department Vice/Narcotics Unit is part of the Detective Division. Members of the Findlay Police Department Vice/Narcotics Unit are assigned to the Hancock County METRICH Enforcement Unit, a ten-county drug task force based out of Mansfield, Ohio. METRICH is one of the only de-centralized task forces in the state and is also the largest drug task force in the State of Ohio. The Hancock County METRICH Drug Task Force is funded by grants issued through the State of Ohio, therefore is able to operate at a significant savings for the taxpayers of the City of Findlay and Hancock County.



The Hancock County METRICH Enforcement Unit is currently comprised of two Detectives and a Sergeant from the Findlay Police Department, and one Detective from the Hancock County Sheriff's Office. The METRICH Unit is assigned to investigate narcotics, gambling, weapons, prostitution, and gang activity in all of Hancock County.

The METRICH Unit experienced personnel changes in 2020. A Detective from the Hancock County Sheriff's Office was transferred back to the Patrol Division in early 2020. Due to budgetary constraints, this vacant position is not expected to be filled until sometime in 2021.

Even while working under staffed for most of 2020, the Hancock METRICH Enforcement Unit generated 308 reports, which represent a 7% increase from 2019. Of those reports, the unit investigated 237 narcotic cases, conducted 58 field interviews, and investigated 13 deaths. These investigations resulted in 207 felony charges and 6 misdemeanor charges to be requested to the Prosecutors Office for prosecution.

The METRICH Unit executed 12 narcotics search warrants, often with the assistance of the Findlay Police Department's Emergency Response Team. Through the execution of the search warrants, the METRICH Unit seized \$17,255.00 in cash, various illegal narcotics, several firearms, and was able to reduce the availability of drugs in the City of Findlay and Hancock County.

Methamphetamine, heroin and heroin/fentanyl mixtures continue to be the most prevalent drugs in the City of Findlay and Hancock County. Methamphetamine seizures have increased dramatically in the last few years, both locally and nationally. There are numerous reasons for the increase in methamphetamine abuse. The drug is relatively inexpensive, is readily available throughout the region, and is highly addictive.



Vice Narcotics Unit/ METRICH



The following drugs were seized from investigations in 2020:

- *72.6 grams of Crack Cocaine (-.45% from 2019)
- *262.7 grams of Cocaine (-89% from 2019)
- *158.8 grams of Heroin/Fentanyl mix (+306% from 2019)
- *135 doses of LSD (+193% from 2019)
- *170.2 grams of Methamphetamine (-6% from 2019)

The METRICH Unit works closely with other local, state, and federal agencies. The unit has assisted the following agencies in 2020 with covert investigations: Shelby County Drug Task Force, Seneca METRICH Enforcement Unit, Wyandot County METRICH Enforcement Unit, Wood County Sheriff’s Office, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and Identification (BCI&I), and the Federal Drug Enforcement Agency (D.E.A.).

The objectives for 2021 for this unit are:

- Increase drug education presentations
- Increase drug offender investigations/arrests
- Increase forfeitures on money and property of drug offenders
- Continued cooperation with Federal, State, and local agencies to reduce narcotic activity in Findlay and Hancock County



Detective Division

The Detective Division remained at four general detectives and the detectives in the METRICH unit. This allocation was the same as 2019 staffing levels. Throughout the majority of 2020, one general detective was on extended medical leave.

The general investigation detectives investigated a variety of major crimes. They also assisted patrol officers on various cases.

Detectives work with the Hancock County Child Protective Services Unit to investigate child physical and sexual abuse cases. Both agencies utilize the Center for Safe and Healthy Children to conduct interviews of juvenile victims.

Mobile and computer forensic investigations continued. The detectives also assisted other law enforcement agencies in these investigations.

For 2020, there were a total of 102 cases assigned to the detectives.

The total number of charges for 2020 were 1342. These charges were through an arrest or requesting charges upon completion of investigations. The lower number of charges is due to two factors; lower call volume due to the COVID stay at home orders and the METRICH charges are no longer included in the Felony charge total.

	2020	2019	2018	3 year average
Misdemeanor	949	1331	1312	1197
Felony	294	574	656	508
Juvenile	99	180	228	169

2021 goals for the Detective Division:

- Variety of training topics for the two recently assigned detectives
- Adding an additional detective
- Continue to grow our partnerships with external partners to reduce drug overdoses and investigate offenses involving juvenile victims



Crime Prevention

The 2020 Crime Prevention Division consisted of one officer supervised by the Special Services Lieutenant. Officer Brian White managed the Crime Prevention office for the 2020 calendar year.

The Crime Prevention Division was responsible for community outreach, neighborhood safety and educational topics presented throughout the community. Traditionally, this has included programs at community schools, public safety events and safety presentations at local businesses and organizations.

Most of the topics discussed in schools are topics not normally covered in class, with an emphasis on drug education and prevention, and social skills building. The presentations discussed in the community related to crime prevention techniques relevant to specific businesses and crime trends.

The division was also responsible for its own administrative duties such as creating presentations, budgeting, record keeping and scheduling. The crime prevention officer frequently reviews police reports for new crime trends to alert the community. The crime prevention officer maintains the Findlay Community Watch Map, which offers a visual representation of most crime reports taken in the past 12 months.

The division was also responsible for conducting background checks for solicitor and taxi cab driver permits issued through the City of Findlay, as well as panhandling permits





Crime Prevention

In response to the Pandemic, Officer White moved his in-person school presentations to a virtual format. This included “live” presentations paired with pre-recorded presentations. The Crime Prevention office was able to utilize Zoom for most these presentations, along with the addition of a YouTube channel for the Findlay Police Department Crime Prevention office. Both Zoom and YouTube were new additions to the Crime Prevention office. To keep younger children engaged

Storytime with officer keeping kids engaged

Coffee with Cop events also may go digital

By JEANNIE WILEY
STAFF WRITER

A Findlay police officer is using a digital approach to keep in touch with youngsters who are currently out of school because of COVID-19.

Crime Prevention Officer Brian White has begun “Storytime With Officer White.” He records children’s storybooks, which can be viewed on the police department’s YouTube channel.

As of last week, White had recorded eight books. Selections include “Good-

See STORY, Page A2



Screen shot image

FINDLAY POLICE DEPARTMENT Crime Prevention Officer Brian White reads “Goodnight Moon” in a video posted to the department’s YouTube channel. White, who typically interacts with students at the city’s schools, is working to remain a reassuring presence as school is suspended over coronavirus concerns.

and give a sense of normalcy, Officer White also implemented “Story Time with Officer White”. This consisted of Officer White reading an assortment of Children’s books, which were recorded and uploaded to the department’s YouTube account for children to view at home.

As many routine activities such as birthdays and celebrations were forced to be cancelled due to the Pandemic, Officer White and the Findlay Police Department took strides to keep area youth engaged. One notable adaptation was the introduction of “Birthday Parades”. Officers from the Findlay Police

Department, the Findlay Fire Department, the Hancock County Sheriff’s Office and Hanco EMS would pair up to drive past the birthday boy or girl’s house and light up the neighborhood with lights and sirens to summon attention to the birthday. Not only did this raise the moods of the birthday participant, it also lightened the day for those first responders.





Crime Prevention

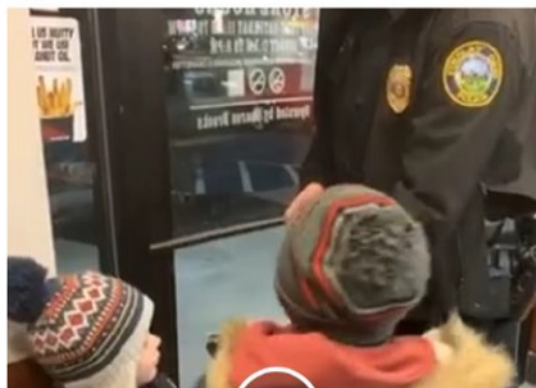
If there's been one benefit for the division in 2020, it was the ability to utilize funds normally reserved for community outreach events to replenish supplies used by officers as giveaways throughout the year. This includes items such as coloring books, stress ball "badges", key chains, flashlights, Frisbees, magnets, water bottles and stickers, which are the most popular. These giveaway items are an invaluable resource for officers, as they can break the ice and lighten the moment. Officers can be seen handing out these stickers on a regular basis, as children frequently approach officers and ask for them. This allows one more positive engagement for officers and can change negative attitudes one sticker at a time .

The cops walked in right when i was trying to wrestle these boys around into listening to me. When they saw the cops and i said look who's here they both stood real still lol He asked are you guys listening to your mom & gave them fist bumps 🤝 He said he had something in the car for them, he went out and got them sticker badges and told them they better listen to their mom 😊 Super nice findlay police officers 👍🚓

Social Findlay Findlay Police Department

Neighborhood Watch

The Neighborhood Watch Program, commonly referred to as "Block Watch" continues to be a community asset to both the citizens of Findlay and the police department. With most cities facing higher crime rates and budget constraints, Neighborhood Watch Programs serve to augment police personnel. The Neighborhood Watch Program allows citizens to work hand and hand with law enforcement to help reduce crime, increase community pride and solve common problems.





Crime Prevention

2020 was a challenging year for the Block Watch Program, as all active watches suspended in person meetings due to the Pandemic. To maintain a successful watch group it is imperative to keep its members engaged with each other. Many groups took to a virtual format whether it be video such as Zoom, or more commonly creating individual social media accounts for their groups. With a change in the Findlay Police Department's report management system in 2019, the crime prevention officer was able to create detailed Block Watch Reports that were disseminated to individual watches on a regular basis. This further helped to keep the groups engaged and informed of trends in their area.

FINDLAY POLICE DEPARTMENT CRIME PREVENTION DIVISION CENTER STREET BLOCK WATCH REPORT (08/01/20 - 09/18/20)				
Address (Block Number)	Disposition	Date And Time	Incident Number	Incident Type
1000 TIFFIN AVE	Report Taken	08/02/2020 09:53:19	2020-00015587	Suspicious Activity/Person/Veh
600 CARNAHAN AVE	Report Taken	08/03/2020 01:19:01	2020-00015632	Suspicious Activity/Person/Veh
700 CARNAHAN AVE	Report Taken	08/06/2020 20:15:45	2020-00015906	Child Abuse
400 CLINTON CT	Report Taken	08/12/2020 18:30:01	2020-00016384	Missing/Runaway
600 CHERRY ST	Report Taken	08/13/2020 00:59:00	2020-00016421	Traffic Stop
RIVERSIDE PARK	Report Taken	08/15/2020 18:26:25	2020-00016617	Missing/Runaway
1100 TIFFIN AVE	Report Taken	08/16/2020 14:31:55	2020-00016680	Domestic Dispute In Progress
800 MCCONNELL ST	Report Taken	08/19/2020 20:58:38	2020-00016942	Burglary
1000 TIFFIN AVE	Report Taken	08/24/2020 22:21:32	2020-00017474	Accident - Injury
DAYTON AVE / LYNN ST	Report Taken	08/26/2020 00:18:58	2020-00017577	Traffic Stop
RIVERSIDE PARK	Report Taken	08/30/2020 17:37:30	2020-00017768	Vandalism-Paint
1000 FOSTORIA AVE	Report Taken	09/02/2020 00:32:03	2020-00017951	Suspicious Activity/Person/Veh
900 TIFFIN AVE	Arrest	09/05/2020 00:49:25	2020-00018204	Wanted Person
RIVERSIDE PARK	Report Taken	09/09/2020 15:39:51	2020-00018520	Sex Offense

Community Outreach

Despite the Pandemic, 2020 saw continued involvement with agencies and organizations that were relevant to the mission of the Findlay Police Department and the Crime Prevention Division. Most of these meetings were transitioned from in person meetings to virtual meetings over Zoom.

The Crime Prevention Division continued to be a part of many different boards and civic organizations throughout the community.

The crime prevention officer was active with the following community groups:

- Crime Stoppers
- Community Partnership Council
- Opiate Task Force Community Awareness Committee
- Opiate Task Force Education Committee
- ADAMHS Marijuana and Vaping Committee
- Family and Children First Council
- Help Me Grow Advisory Committee
- Hancock County Handle With Care
- Hidden in Plain Sight
- Adult Protective Services I-Team Committee





Crime Prevention

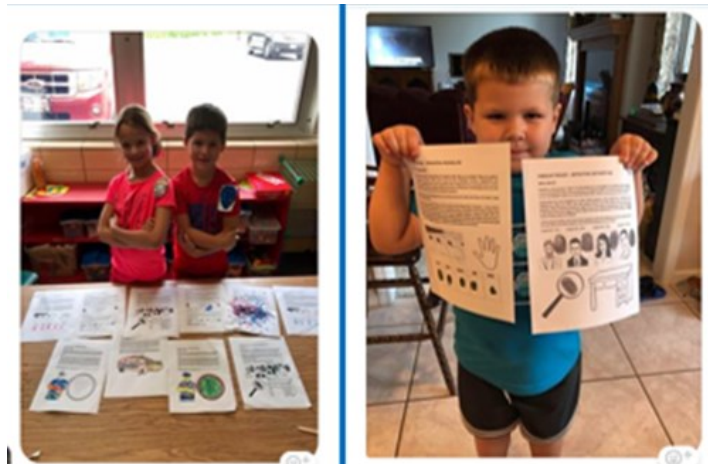
- Camp 911 Committee
- Safe Kids Committee
- Ohio Crime Prevention Association
- Ohio School Resource Officer Association
- Findlay/Hancock County Crime Prevention Association
- Safe Kids
- TRIAD/SALT (Seniors and Law Enforcement Working Together)
- Hancock County Handle With Care Committee
- Halloween Parade Steering Committee
- NAMI of Hancock County



National Night Out

Unfortunately, due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, Findlay like many other communities was forced to cancel our annual Flag City National Night Out Event. National Night Out, a program promoting the awareness of law enforcement and public safety programs in the community, is traditionally held the first Tuesday evening of August. Attendance at this signature event had steadily been growing through the years with annual attendance around 1200.

Like many other programs, Officer White was able to shift to a virtual format. During the week of August 3rd through August 7th, daily activities were posted on the Findlay Police Department’s social media accounts and YouTube channel. This consisted of officer interviews, coloring activities and interactive activities such as deciphering fingerprints to determine the culprit and photo line ups. Area residents were encouraged to send in pictures of themselves with completed activities for a chance to win a new bicycle courtesy of the Police Department’s Bike’s, Books and Badges Program.





Crime Prevention

Bikes, Books and Badges

The vision of the Findlay Police Department Bikes, Books and Badges Program is to take abandoned bicycles recovered in the City, refurbish them and distribute them back into the community to children in need. This is traditionally facilitated with the assistance of the Allen Oakwood Correctional Institution (AOCI).



Findlay Police Department

Published by Brian S. White [?] · March 10 at 8:00 AM · 🌐

We wanted to introduce you to Joe Wahrer of Allen Oakwood Correctional Institution in Lima, Ohio. Joe helps us out with our "Bikes, Books and Badges" program by taking abandoned bicycles recovered in Findlay and transporting them to the prison where inmates clean them up and make necessary repairs. Joe then brings them back to Findlay where they're distributed to area youth and adults in need.

Joe and his crew have been helping us out for about 6 years now. Joe is retiring in the next few months and we wanted to say thanks for all he's done for us. Hopefully his successor will continue the tradition.

Thanks Joel



turning to outdoor recreation and dwindling supplies in stores during the Pandemic.

To alleviate the bulk supply of bicycles, Officer White opened the program (traditionally restricted to school students or youth) to any agency and client in need of a bicycle, such as stability housing programs and substance recovery programs. These bicycles were used as transportation to meetings and work and were critical to helping people get back on their feet. Officer White was able to give away 103 bicycles over the course of 2020, an increase of 30 from the previous year.

...

AOCI has a program for inmates that allows them to clean, adjust and repair the bicycles free of charge to the city. This allowed the Findlay Police Department to maintain an inventory of bicycles for the 2020 calendar year. In April of 2020, AOCI's bicycle Program Director, Joseph Wahrer completed his final year with the prison and retired in the summer of 2020. This, paired with the COVID-19 Pandemic caused a shutdown of the program and continuation for this partnership for 2021 is uncertain.

At the start of 2020 the Bikes, Books and Badges Program saw a large carryover of bicycles from 2019 due to low demand the previous year. This proved to be advantageous, as we saw an increased demand in bicycles due to residents



Photo courtesy of Findlay City Schools

Bicycle donated

Officer Brian White and the Findlay Police Department recently donated this bicycle to a Findlay High School student in need. The bicycle was presented to Megan Simon, assistant principal at Findlay High School.





Crime Prevention

Camp 911

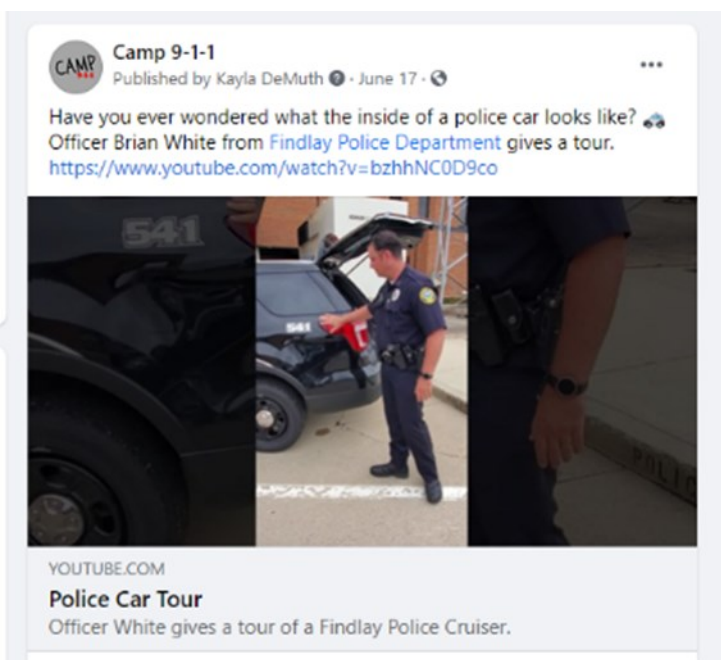
CAMP 911, traditionally held the second week of June, continued in 2020, in a virtual format. Some of the topics covered included School Bus Safety, Fire Safety and Prevention, Stranger Danger, First Aid, Bicycle Safety and a multitude of other topics.

Prior to the start of the camp, area safety forces met at the Cube to stuff approximately 200 program bags filled with materials for the week long program. Presentations were then recorded and distributed to area youth by YouTube.

Social Media

One of the few things impacted by the Pandemic was the use of social media for the Crime Prevention Division. In fact, this proved to be a valuable asset for distributing information to citizens and highlighting virtual events held by the police department. The department utilized Facebook and Twitter to keep the public up to date on crime trends and public safety topics.

The Police Department sought the public's assistance in identifying suspects, which was highly successful. Facebook and Twitter, paired with the Findlay Community Watch Map, offer great tools in keeping the public up to date on what's going on in the community.



UPDATE: THE SUSPECTS IN THIS CASE HAVE BEEN IDENTIFIED - THANK YOU FOR THE TIPS

Request for Assistance: FPD Case 2020-13677



Theft Suspects



Request for Assistance: FPD Case 2020-13677

The Findlay Police Department is requesting your assistance in identifying the male and female in this photograph.

It's believed that on 07/07/2020, they entered Plato's Closet (1745 Tiffin Ave.) and stole merchandise from the store. **ADDITIONAL PHOTOS INCLUDED.**

Anyone with information can contact police dispatch at (419) 424-7150 and reference the above listed number, or private message this page. You can also contact **Crime Stoppers** at 419-425-TIPS (8477) and you may be eligible for a reward.



Findlay Police Warn Of Coronavirus Scammers

May 1, 2020

The Findlay Police Department is reminding people that scammers always try to take advantage of people during times of crisis or disaster and that the coronavirus pandemic is no different.

Police say they've received calls from residents reporting that someone has contacted them by telephone claiming to be with the police department saying they were collecting donations related to the pandemic.

Police say they are not collecting donations and this is a scam that pops up during any crisis or disaster.

The police department advises people who receive such a call to simply hang up the phone.



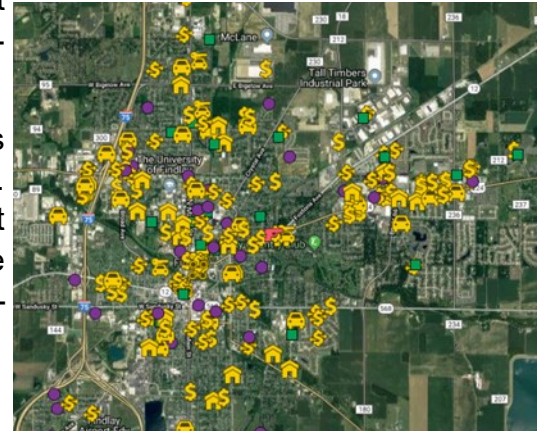


Crime Prevention

Findlay Community Watch Map

The Findlay Community Watch Map is an interactive map maintained by the crime prevention officer. The Community Watch Map, available under the links section on the police department website, offers citizens a visual representation of the crimes that are occurring in their neighborhoods over the past 12 months. The Community Watch Map is updated on a regular basis and displays the date, type of activity, a short description and the report number should the public have information related to the incident.

The Community Watch Map is a useful tool for the public as well as officers in addressing problem areas around the city. This map can be located on the Findlay Police Department webpage under "Links" or by entering the following website address: <https://www.findlayohio.com/government/city-departments/police/community-watch-map>



Coffee with a Cop

Despite the Pandemic, Coffee with a Cop continued for 2020. CWAC is a nationwide effort to bridge the gap between citizens and law enforcement. With no set agendas or topics, members of the community could discuss the issues in their neighborhoods, or simply enjoy a cup of coffee while getting to know officers. As businesses closed towards the beginning of the Pandemic, CWAC moved to a virtual format utilizing Facebook Live. Some events were cancelled, but towards the end of the summer, in person meetings were brought back with social distancing guidelines in place.



33 17 Comments 4 Shares 2.9K Views





Crime Prevention

Conclusion

The Crime Prevention Division is a valuable component to the mission of the Findlay Police Department which states:

“We are dedicated to preventing crime, enforcing laws, protecting life and property while upholding the constitutional rights of all.”

The programs offered by the Crime Prevention Division provides a valuable component to this mission, as well as the community.

The division would like to acknowledge the support of the community in the programs it delivers. A program such as this could not be successful without the continuing support of the public. The public is highly encouraged to offer feedback and suggestions at any time. We feel that the Crime Prevention division is a worthy investment for the police department and the City of Findlay.

Objectives for 2021:

- Expand Block Watch program
- Return of National Night Out
- Enhance social media presence with a focus on community relations



Crisis Management Team

The Crisis Management Team, or CMT, is comprised of four important components. Each component is specially trained in both tactical responses and Crisis Intervention training. The CMT trains on a monthly basis. That training encompasses tactics and firearms training. Scenario training is also held to improve search warrant executions and response to hostage/barricaded person situations. All positions on the CMT are voluntary positions. All CMT members have other day to day duties, but they come together as a unit when they are needed. CMT members are always on call.

The largest component is the Emergency Response Team (ERT). The ERT is staffed by the CMT Commander who oversees the operations of two - eight person squads, as well as the other three team components. Each squad is supervised directly by a Team Leader, who is one of the eight squad members. The ERT is staffed by four Sergeants, twelve Patrol Officers, and one Detective. At year's end, each squad was operating with seven Officers.





Crisis Management Team

The Crisis Negotiator Team (CNT) is another component of the Crisis Management Team. There are three negotiators on the team, and currently a Sergeant heads the group. These officers are specially trained Crisis Negotiators who are responsible for interaction and communication with anyone involved in a barricade incident, hostage, or similar situation.

The Tactical Dispatchers make up the third part of the CMT. They are responsible for radio communication among members of the CMT as well as any additional agencies that are assisting with an operation. Tactical Dispatch is also responsible for information gathering and organizing while assigned to the Mobile Command Center during call outs. The three dispatcher positions are staffed by Findlay Police dispatchers, led by the Senior Communication Officer.

The Tactical Emergency Medical Support (TEMS) members complete the fourth component of the CMT. TEMS is staffed by nine members of the Findlay Fire Department and the medics provide the ability to have immediate medical aid whenever the CMT was activated. An FFD Captain heads the TEMS group.

During 2020, the CMT assisted the METRICH Drug Unit in serving search warrants for drugs. These were search warrants that were considered to have a higher than normal degree of risk involved. The CMT assisted in executing eight search warrants. All eight search warrants were served without any injuries reported to anyone involved.





Communications

The Communications Center within the Findlay Police Department provides the citizens of our city and all visitors with excellent service. There are currently a total of 10 full-time dispatchers and a Lead Communications Officer (LCO). All employees of the Communications Center are certified with the Association of Public-Safety Communications Officials-International (APCO) in Emergency Medical Dispatching, Public Safety Telecommunicator and Cardiac Pulmonary Resuscitation. Each employee receives many hours of training and continuing education every year.

At this time there are 2 dispatchers that are APCO Communications Training Officers, with 1 more set to receive his certification within the first half of 2021. The LCO is currently certified to be an APCO Public Safety Telecommunicator Instructor along with being the APCO EMD Manager. Another dispatcher is certified to be an APCO EMD instructor. Each APCO certification must be renewed every 2 years.



Dispatchers created a total of 37,891 calls for service in 2020. Some of the most common calls for police assistance are listed below:

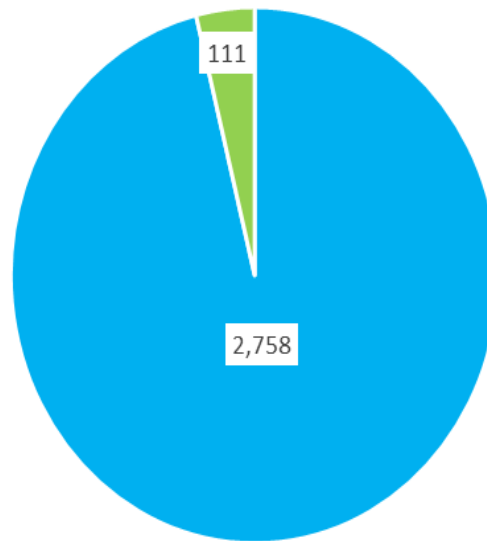
Call Type	# of Dispatch Cards Created
Animal Complaint	366
Assist Other Agency	420
Fireworks	150
Neighborhood Complaint	628
Parking Complaint	418
Peace Officer	345
Suspicious Activity/Person/Vehicle	2649
Trespassing in Progress	404
Welfare Check	399



Communications

In addition to having the single option call for service type of *medical* when entering a dispatch card, a new call type was created for *contagious medical*. This was created in March of 2020, soon after the World Health Organization declared the COVID virus a pandemic. By entering the call for service as contagious medical, the firefighters are able to see the type of call for service from their apparatus and respond accordingly with the proper personal protective equipment. Hanco Ambulance Service employees are also provided with the information.

Medical and Contagious Medical Calls For Service in 2020



A total of 2,869 medical calls for service were taken in 2020.

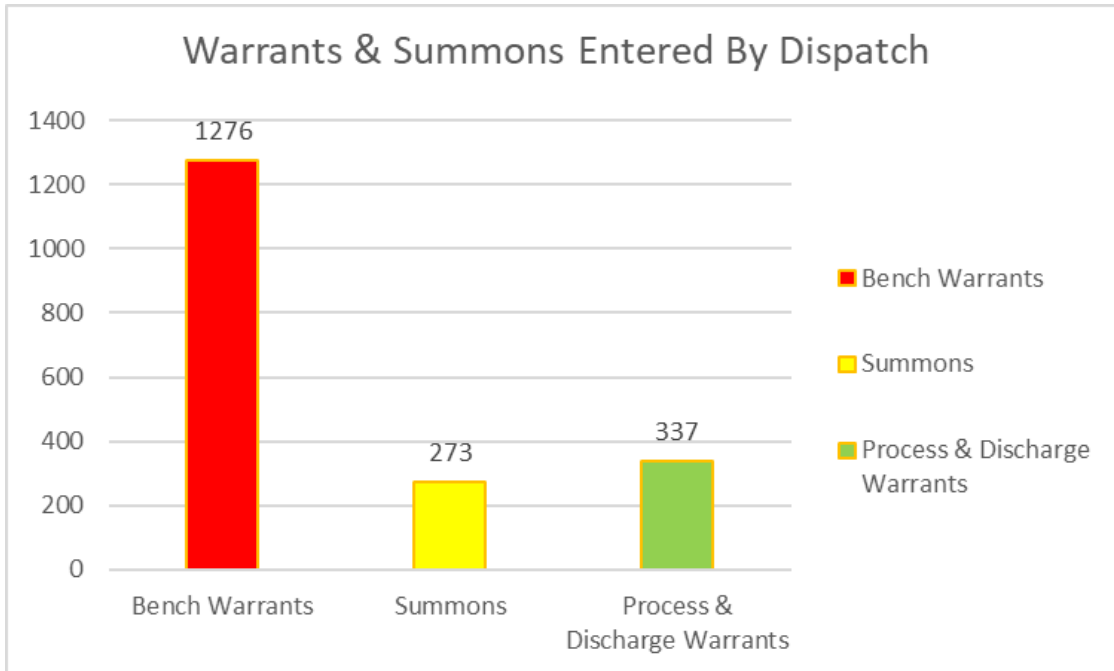
Contagious Medical (COVID related) calls accounted for 3.87% off all total medical calls.

■ Medical Calls

■ Contagious Medical Calls



Communications



The dispatchers are also responsible for entering warrants and summons. A total of 1,276 bench warrants and 337 process and discharge warrants were entered by dispatchers between January 1, 2020 and December 31, 2020. The bench warrants and process and discharge warrants were entered into the Law Enforcement Automated Data System (LEADS) and into the Tyler/New World Law Enforcement Records Management System (LERMS). A total of 273 summons were also entered into LERMS.



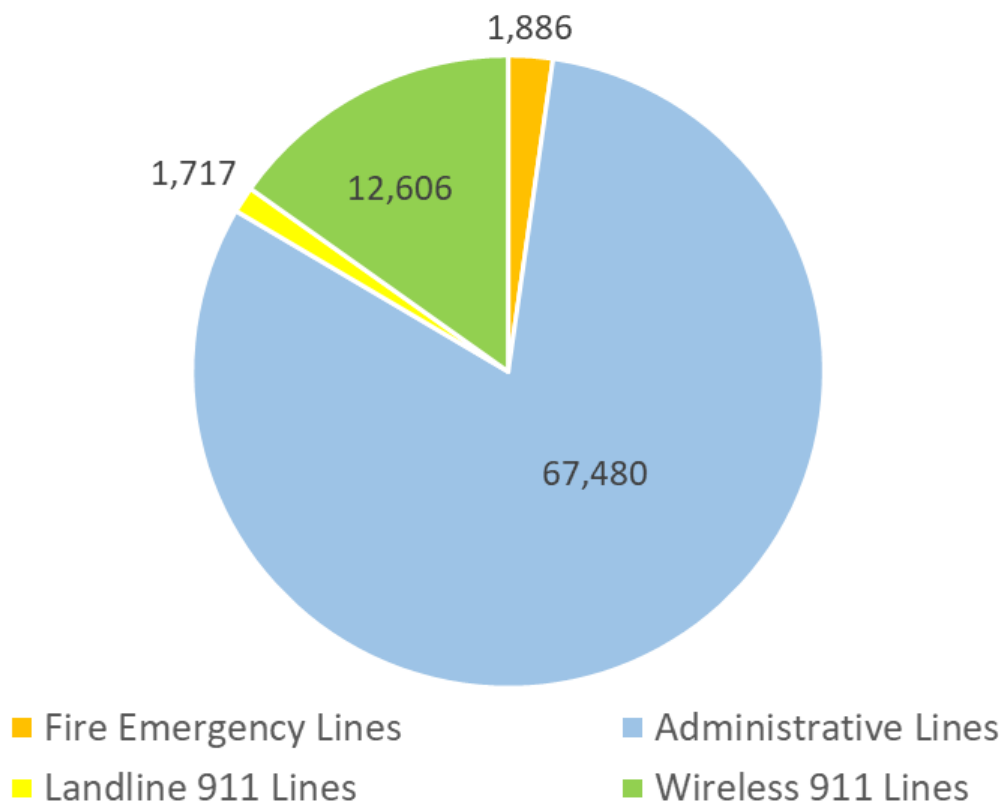
Dispatcher Doreen Roesch was chosen as the Dispatcher of the Year in 2019. This is the third time that Doreen has been given that honor. She started her career in May of 2005. 6 months into her employment she was selected to be an integral part of the Crisis Management Team as a Tactical Dispatcher.



Communications

In 2020 the Communications Center received 83,089 phone calls on the administrative, fire emergency, landline 911 and wireless 911 lines. The chart below breaks down the phone lines that the calls came in on.

The Number of Telephone Calls Placed to the Findlay Police Department in 2020





Communications



The Law Enforcement Automated Data System (LEADS) is an essential tool for police work. It provides law enforcement agencies with computerized information on individuals that they might encounter on traffic stops, when they've arrested someone for a crime, and numerous other instances. The LCO, Beth Crusa, is the new LEADS Terminal Agency Coordinator (TAC). She replaced Dispatcher Tom Wohlgamuth when he stepped down from that position in February, 2020. He had been the LEADS TAC for 7 1/2 years.

A LEADS auditor comes to the Findlay Police Department once every 3 years to review and audit the information that has been entered on warrants, stolen vehicles, stolen guns, missing juveniles and adults. The triennial audit was held on July 15, 2020. The auditor reviewed a total of 50 warrants out of the 904 that were entered into LEADS at that time. She found 2 non-critical errors and 1 discrepancy, resulting in a 96% accuracy rating.

Communications Center Goals

- Hire at least two more dispatchers within the first half of the year.
- Send dispatchers to more training sessions outside of the police department once COVID restrictions are relaxed.
- Train one of the dispatchers on LEADS validations and warrant checks.



Property

The property and evidence control function should provide for the security and control of seized, recovered, and evidentiary property as well as abandoned, lost or found property in the custody of the police department. This is critically important in supporting investigations, in helping to guarantee the successful prosecution at criminal/civil trials, in facilitating the timely return of property to its rightful owners, and in establishing the department's reputation as an honest, reputable agency worthy of the public's confidence and trust. It is critical that a law enforcement agency's property and evidence control function develop and maintain strict measures for the receipt, handling, security, and disposition of property.

The property officer is responsible for the proper cataloging and storage of all property that is recovered by the officers of the Findlay Police Department. He is also responsible for the disposition of this property.

The property officer reports to the Special Services Lieutenant. Sergeant David Hill #880 was assigned as the property officer for 2020. Several patrol officers assisted him during the calendar year.

The property officer did not turn over any funds to the Auditor's Office "Safekeeping" Fund in 2020 however, paid out was \$3163.06 to owners'/court fines, bringing the balance to \$60,265.67 at year's end. An additional \$13,246.86 was paid directly to the court(s) or owners, either pursuant to a court order or pursuant to an agreement made by the owners.

The property officer incinerated 75 boxes of prescription medications weighing over 1700.00 lbs. along with over 1000 street drug related items. Also a total of (3) handguns were also incinerated.

Total number of items that entered the Property Room in 2020 were 3102 items. Items removed from the Property Room during 2020 were 2630 items, by returning to owners, donating them to local charitable organizations, converting to city use, selling on GovDeals or by trash disposal. A total of 93 bicycles were also donated to Bikes, Books and Badges.

A total of 27 lots were sold on GOVDEALS making \$ 14,328.39. This money was turned over to the city's general fund.

At the close of 2020 there were a total of 11,761 items being held in the record management system. The breakdown is as follows: 8316 items in InterBadge, 2827 items in PD ORI of LERMS and 618 items in Hancock METRICH (VNU) ORI of LERMS.

Objectives for 2021

- Expand Special Services by one full time employee to assist with property and court duties.
- Complete transfer of records into the new RMS
- Initiate a rotating Property Audit System



Parking & Records

Police Department Parking & Records Division

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Parking Tickets Issued: TOTAL	3363	2086	5585	3979	4238
Parking Enforcement	2944	1727	5022	3466	3916
Patrol	419	359	563	513	273
Parking Violations - Money Collected	\$35,927.10	\$22,117.00	\$54,487.30	\$47,666.00	\$57,416.00
			\$ 2,020.00		
Parking Lot Rental - Money Collected	\$35,598.00	\$34,058.00	\$35,628.00	\$34,783.00	\$34,538.00
Findlay Inn & Conf Ctr	\$20,328.00	\$20,328.00	\$20,328.00	\$20,328.00	\$20,328.00
Remaining City Lots	\$15,270.00	\$13,730.00	\$15,300.00	\$14,455.00	\$14,210.00
Warning Tickets Issued	1337	1101	1711	1629	636
False Alarm Charges - Fees Collected	\$ 1,850.00	\$ 2,050.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,350.00	\$ 900.00
Bike License - Fees Collected	\$ 21.00	\$ 31.00	\$ 16.00	\$ 24.00	\$ 20.00
Records Room					
Report Charges	\$ 1,598.50	\$ 1,671.97	\$ 1,247.60	\$ 1,018.00	\$ 296.00
Postage Reimbursement	\$ 266.53	\$ 228.05	\$ 80.86	\$ 112.72	\$ 1.40
Cruiser Rental - Fees Collected	\$ -	\$ 3,795.96	\$ 4,255.00	\$ 2,625.00	\$ 1,272.00
Totals	\$75,261.13	\$63,951.98	\$97,714.76	\$88,578.72	\$94,443.40