



2021 ANNUAL REPORT

**POLICE  
DEPARTMENT**

# A MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF OF POLICE

## ROBERT RING



The Findlay Police Department welcomes you to its 2021 Annual Report. The members of the Department are committed to their duties and they strive every day to provide professional and fair law enforcement services. The Department accomplished several key goals in 2021 that should help the Department stay prepared for the challenges ahead.

A multi-purpose training room was constructed in the City's old gym. This remodel will allow the Police Department, as well as other city departments, to have adequate space for training sessions. The space can be converted from a classroom setting to a wide-open area for dynamic training. The City of Findlay funded the remodel, along with the support of a Crisis Intervention Training grant that purchased tables, chairs, and audio/visual equipment. The Department looks forward to the opportunities to host training courses in the future.

The Department's Dispatch Center received an upgrade to the work spaces where the Communication Officers work. The improvements have made the area more user friendly and comfortable with stand-up desks, lighting, and ergonomics.

The Department continues to attain accreditation through the Commission on Accreditation of Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA), as well as the Ohio Collaborative.

There were some staff changes in 2021. Lt. Michael Swope, Sgt. Daniel Harmon, Officer J.R. Rhoads, and Detective Ed von Stein all retired, as well as Auxiliary Officers David Young, Bill Domme, and Brian Young. Tom Wohlgamuth, a communications officer, also retired. Several of those retirements created openings in the Department leadership. Andrew Welch was promoted to Police Lieutenant in November. Brooks Deidrick and Dan Griffith were promoted to Sergeant in December. The Department hired three officers in 2021 to fill vacancies and at year's end there were four more officers in the hiring process. Joshua Bortel, Mason Warnimont, and Jacob Davis were the hired officers. The Department also hired Taylor Spigner to a communication officer position. I look forward to bolstering the ranks in 2022 to reach full authorized strength.

The Findlay Police Department is primed to meet the future challenges, and appreciates the support it receives from the Findlay community and the various partners that help us meet the needs of the community.

Chief Robert Ring

## **OUR VISION**

**We will promote a safe and  
secure community  
through fair and professional  
policing.**

## **OUR MISSION**

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

## **OUR VALUES**

**We value professionalism,  
integrity and teamwork  
with respect for each.**

# 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 value professionalism, integrity and teamwork with respect for each other and the community we are proud to serve.

The manpower allocated to the Patrol Division for 2021 consisted of one Lieutenant, six Patrol Sergeants, forty-one uniformed Patrol Officers and eight Auxiliary members. This Division is divided into three shifts with the Sergeants and Officers working four – ten hour shifts with three consecutive days off. The shifts are configured to overlap, maximizing 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 January, two new officers, Joshua Bortel and Mason Warnimont, were hired to fill the vacancies within the department. In August, Jacob Davis was hired to fill an additional vacancy.

The Patrol Division remained proactive throughout 2021, despite contending with effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. The amount of calls for service increased from 2020.

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

	<u>2020</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>% Increase /Decrease</u>	<u>(Actual #)</u>
Calls for Service	40987	41753	+1.87%	(+766)
Arrests	1801	2099	+16.55%	(+298)
Warrant Service	509	1184	+132.61%	(+675)
Domestic Disputes	701	822	+17.26%	(+121)
Assaults	263	523	+98.86%	(+260)
Homicide	0	0	No Change	
Sex Offense	129	122	-5.43%	(-7)
Theft/Fraud/Forgery	862	1160	+3457%	(+298)
Theft of Motor Vehicle	60	72	-9.52%	(+20)
Robbery	17	6	-64.71%	(-9)
Unlawful Entry	118	113	-4.24%	(-5)
Property Damage/Vandalism	225	259	+15.11%	(+34)
Drug Complaints	425	405	-4.71%	(-20)

Alcohol Violations (OVI not included)	119	207	+73.95%	(+88)
School Walk Throughs	377	363	-3.71%	(-14)
Public Relations	70	11	-84.29%	(-59)

Traffic enforcement continues to be an emphasis for the Patrol Division, with the overall goal of reducing traffic accidents and increasing motorist safety. The number of property crashes decreased, but the injury crashes increased in 2021. There was also an increase in OVI arrests and traffic stops, and a slight decrease in citations. There were three fatal crashes this year. There were also eleven motor vehicle pursuits in 2021, compared to eighteen in 2020.

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

	<u>2020</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>% Increase /Decrease</u>	<u>(Actual #)</u>
OVI	157	185	+17.83%	(+28)
Traffic Stops	4,627	5,174	+11.82%	(+547)
Citations	2,739	2,736	-.11%	(-3)
Property Crashes	974	883	-9.34%	(-91)
Injury Crashes	162	177	+9.26%	(+15)
Fatal Crashes	1	3	+200.00%	(+2)

### **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 the 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>2020</u>	<u>2021</u>
Total Calls	435	376
Oldest Person	86	80
Youngest Person	9	10
Guns Involved	5	3

Knives Involved	19	12
Other Weapons	1	3
Injuries	16	18
Arrests	13	11
CIT on Scene	384	416
Total Hours	369	339

**Quick Response Team**

The Quick Response Team (QRT) 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 essential to be successful in their roles. They continuously analyze 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 support 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 Department to coordinate the disbursement of Naloxone to patients/clients. There were one hundred eleven (111) suspected overdose reports compared to one hundred twelve (112) in 2020. There were ten (10) suspected overdose death reports compared to eleven (11) 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 well received when conducting demonstrations for groups, especially school children.

The K-9 units trained a total of seventy-eight (78) times for a total of one hundred ninety-five hours (195). The K-9 units were utilized twenty-three (23) times for street deployments and twenty-one (21) times for narcotics sniffs. In addition to the aforementioned weekly training, both K-9 units completed a week-long advanced training through the Ohio Tactical Officers Association (OTOA).

## **Other Equipment**

The Findlay Police Department camera trailer is primarily used to monitor large crowds at events throughout the city. There were six (6) events in 2021 in which the camera trailer was deployed. The department also owns two (2) drones that can be utilized in a variety of scenarios. There were six (6) occasions in which the drone(s) were deployed in 2021.

With the purchase of ten (10) less lethal shotguns, all patrol vehicles are now equipped with a less lethal shotgun instead of a traditional shotgun.

Additionally, the Findlay Police Department purchased the following equipment in 2021: upgraded cameras for the booking area, additional riot gear, five (5) additional evidence label printers, and one (1) new lidar speed measuring device.

## **Training and Facilities**

The City of Findlay Training Center was opened in 2021. This training center will accommodate approximately 60 people, and includes a small kitchen and SMART Board. While the Training Center is available for use by all city departments, it will allow the Findlay Police Department to host various training events, which will result in significant savings in training expenses.

Officers completed a variety of training courses throughout the year. Training was conducted through in-service training sessions and through other law enforcement training centers. The department conducted annual in-service training in topics such as Officer Response to Active Shooters, Driving, Firearms, Use of Force, Taser, Less Lethal Munitions, Self-Defense, and Legal Updates.

In addition, several officers received the following training classes: Forensic Interviewing, Crime Scene Photography, Criminal Patrol Drug Interdiction, Reasonable Force, Reid Interview Techniques, Basic Interview and Interrogation, Advanced Interview and Interrogation, Constitutional Use of Force, Prosecuting Drugged Drivers, Road Spike Deployment, and Drone training.

New department instructors were certified for the following: Less Lethal, De-Escalation, Taser, RAIDER, and Driving.

## **Patrol Division Goals**

- Continue providing a high level of professional service to the community through efficient and effective deployment of law enforcement personnel.
- Increase traffic enforcement in order to decrease the amount of crashes, including severe injury and fatal crashes.
- Continue to strengthen community relations through community policing.
- Continue to maintain a comprehensive training program to enhance our officer's skill sets.



On October 6, 2021, a trooper from the Findlay Post of the Ohio State Highway Patrol conducted a traffic stop on Interstate 75. During the traffic stop the driver of the vehicle struggled with the trooper and he was able to fire the trooper's service weapon, resulting in the trooper sustaining a gunshot wound. The driver of the car, identified as Robert Tramaine Hathorn, fled the scene.

The suspect's vehicle was recovered behind a business on County Road 140 in Findlay. After a 14-hour search by multiple Ohio agencies, including air support, the suspect was located and taken into custody.





Sergeant David Hill passing out gift cards for the purchase of gasoline



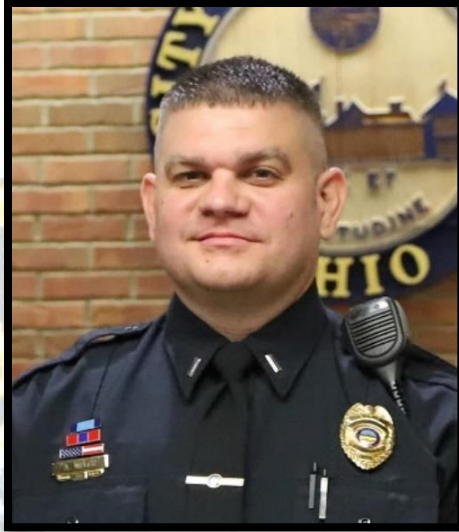
Cedar Creek Church members providing the officers with small gift bags



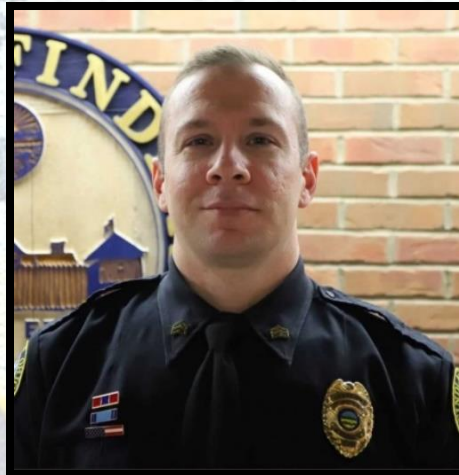
Girl Scouts sharing treats with officers

# PATROL DIVISION PROMOTIONS

**Lieutenant Andrew Welch**



**Sergeant Brooks Deidrick**

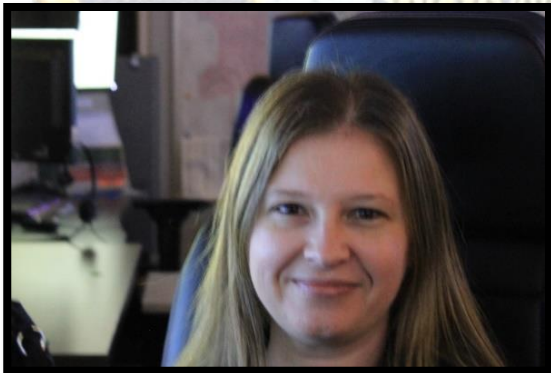


**Sergeant Daniel Griffith**





Congratulations to the 2021 Officer of the year Brooks Deidrick. Brooks began his career with the department in 2011 as a patrol officer. He has served as a field training officer in the patrol division, a member of the department's honor guard, and a firearms instructor/armorer. He is also a squad leader on the crisis management team. He was the Findlay Police Department's Officer of the Year in 2020. Deidrick is a graduate of Findlay High School and holds an associate degree in criminal justice from Owens Community College. Before college, he served as a paratrooper in the U.S. Army, with tours of duty in Afghanistan and Iraq.



Congratulations to the 2021 Dispatcher of the year Jessica Rayle. Jessica began her career with the Findlay Police Department on December 3, 2007. She is a dedicated employee who takes pride in her work and our organization. She consistently offers suggestions and ideas to enhance our operation. Jessica is well respected by her coworkers, supervisors and administration.

# DETECTIVE DIVISION

In 2021 the Detective Division consisted of four general detectives. This staffing level has remained the same for at least three years. Throughout the year, one 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.

The Detective Division has a compliment of three detectives (one sergeant, two detectives) assigned to the Vice Narcotics Unit.

For 2021, there were a total of 113 cases assigned to the detectives.

The total number of charges for 2021 were 1225. These charges were through an arrest or requesting charges upon completion of investigations.

	<b>2021</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>3-year average</b>
<b>Misdemeanor</b>	788	949	1331	1022
<b>Felony</b>	359	294	574	409
<b>Juvenile</b>	78	99	180	119

The 2021 goals for the Detective Division were:

- 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

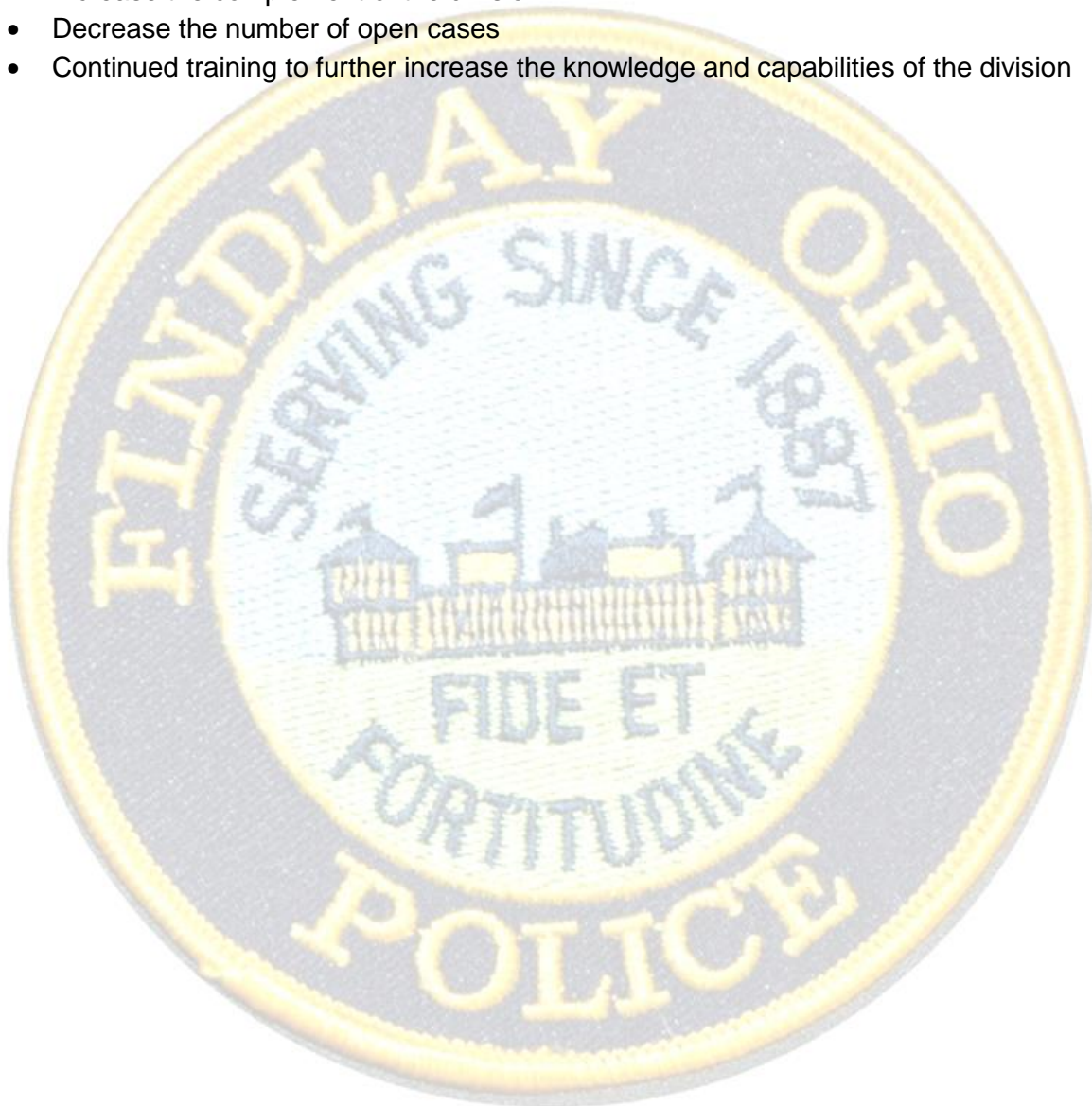
Two of the newer detectives received a variety of training topics to assist their investigative abilities. Three of the detectives received training to conduct background investigations. This training resulted in streamlining our process and creating a uniform documentation process.

Training was received by two detectives for overdose investigations and further training in child abuse/sexual assault complaints. This will allow us to assist our community partners investigating these complaints.

The department also entered an agreement with Hancock Public Health to create an interface with our records system. The interface will allow timely, and automatic notifications, to Hancock Public Health for any drug overdose complaints that the department responds to.

The objectives for the Detective Division for 2022 include:

- Increase the complement of the division
- Decrease the number of open cases
- Continued training to further increase the knowledge and capabilities of the 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, overdose deaths, gambling, weapons, prostitution, and gang activity in all of Hancock County.

The METRICH Unit saw the departure of its long-time supervisor, Justin Hendren, who promoted out of the unit. Sergeant Brian Dill took over that roll around the beginning of 2021. Due to continued budgetary constraints, one vacant position from the Hancock County Sheriff's Office is not expected to be filled until sometime in 2022.

The unit worked understaffed and under new leadership in 2021. There were also indirect consequences of the Covid-19 pandemic that decreased activity for the unit. The Hancock METRICH Enforcement Unit generated 197 reports, which is down 36% from 2020. Of those reports, there were 124 narcotic cases, 43 field interviews and 14 overdose death investigations. The results of those cases resulted in 168 felony charges and 1 misdemeanor charge forwarded to the Prosecutor's Office for prosecution. Three of the overdose death cases resulted in a strong enough case to warrant the request for charges.

The METRICH Unit executed 8 narcotics search warrants, 7 were residential and 1 was for a business. Those warrants were often served with the assistance of the Findlay Police Department's Emergency Response Team (ERT). Through those efforts, our Unit seized \$32,644 in cash, sizeable amounts of illegal narcotics and five firearms. One of those warrants involved

an area business that was selling illegal marijuana and THC items within a drive-thru. We also assisted McComb Police Department in a couple of possible drug investigations.

Methamphetamine, heroin and heroin/fentanyl mixtures continue to be the most prevalent drugs in the City of Findlay and Hancock County. Methamphetamine seizures continued to increase locally and nationally. It's cheap, easy to get ah

old of and highly addictive. This shows no signs of slowing down any time soon.

The following drugs were seized from investigations in 2021:

- \* 45.0 grams of Crack Cocaine (down from 2020)
- \* 20.6 grams of Cocaine (down from 2020)
- \*100.7 grams of Heroin/Fentanyl mix (down from 2020)
- \*236.2 grams of Methamphetamine (+38% from 2020)
- \*over 14.7 pounds of marijuana

The METRICH Unit works closely with other local, state and federal agencies. The unit has assisted the following agencies in 2021 with covert investigations: U.S. Marshals Service, 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 McComb Police Department.

Current drug legislation is moving away from fighting the sale and distribution of illegal narcotics and focusing on the rehabilitation of addicts. This is causing a trickle-down effect on how we do business. We have seen, at least regionally, less and less willingness of people to work with us to buy drugs and move up the ladder to bigger dealers. They are taking their chances in court and getting decreased penalties. We have also had to deal with funds and grants being reduced Statewide making it harder to have the most up-to-date training and equipment to do our investigations. METRICH still does their best to make sure we have what we need, but this may get harder and harder as funding continues to funnel to rehabilitation and programs for addiction. We will continue to find alternative methods and work with the system to continue to get drugs off the streets.

The objectives for 2022 for this unit are:

- Increase drug education presentations
- Increase drug offender investigations/arrests
- Increase forfeitures on money and property of drug offenders
- Work more with Prosecutors to be involved in the penalty process for users vs. dealers

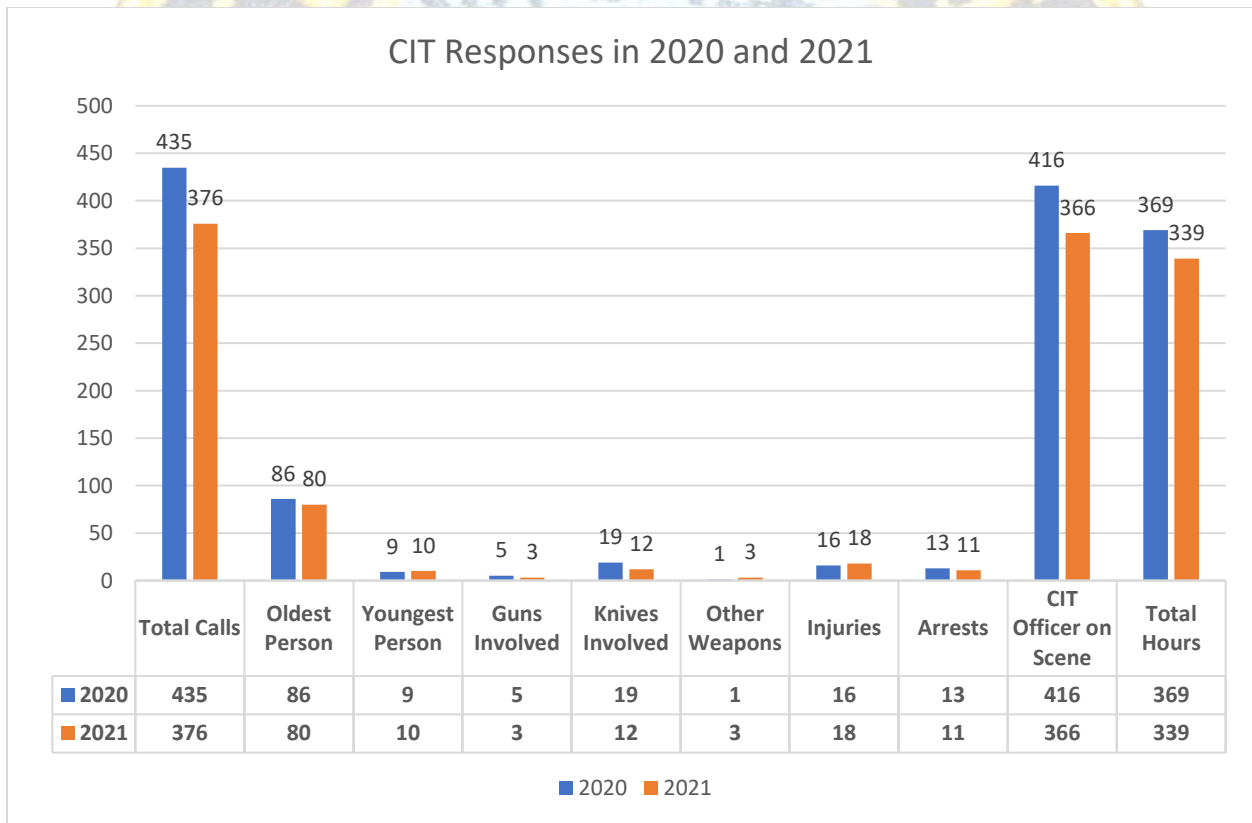
- Put our efforts at other areas to include human trafficking and solicitation locally
- Work with more adjacent agencies and METRICH Units to broaden our knowledge base
- Continued cooperation with Federal, State, and local agencies to reduce narcotic activity in Findlay and Hancock County





# CRISIS INTERVENTION TEAM

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.



# COMMUNICATIONS

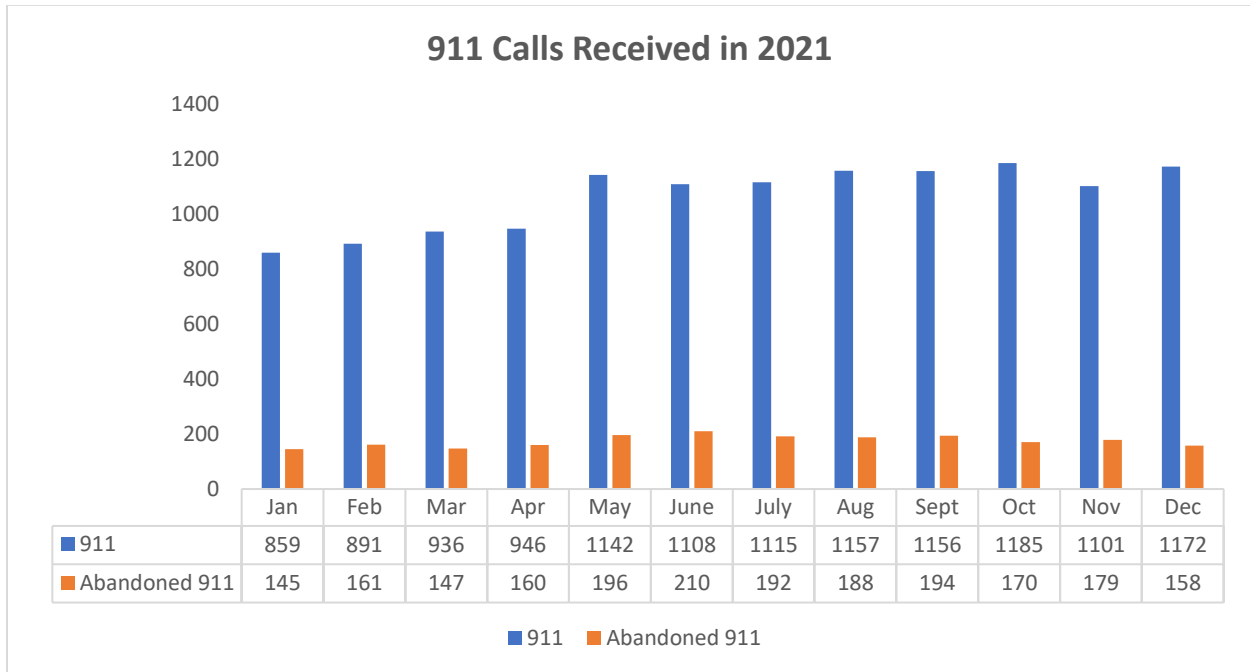
The Communications Center for the City of Findlay provides the best customer service to the community and its visitors. Staffing for the center includes one communications supervisor and 10 Communications Dispatchers. The center is equipped with state-of-the-art public safety communications equipment to help ensure that calls are received and processed quickly and officers are dispatched in the most efficient manner. The dispatchers are caring and compassionate individuals who service the Findlay community 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

All dispatchers are certified by the Association of Public-Safety Communications Officials (APCO) in Emergency Medical Dispatch (EMD) and they are certified Public Safety Telecommunicators (PST). In addition to the APCO certifications the dispatchers also attend A.L.I.C.E (Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter and Evacuate) active shooter training sessions along with other communications-based training throughout the year.

The Findlay Fire Department has recently acquired APCO Fire Service Dispatch Guidecards. The guidecards will improve our agency's call taking and dispatching by providing rapid and consistent instructions that were customized to meet our agency's needs and resources. They give dispatchers ready access to precise information for specific call types and provide call handling techniques — which means the callers get the fast, consistent and appropriate information they need and expect in an emergency.



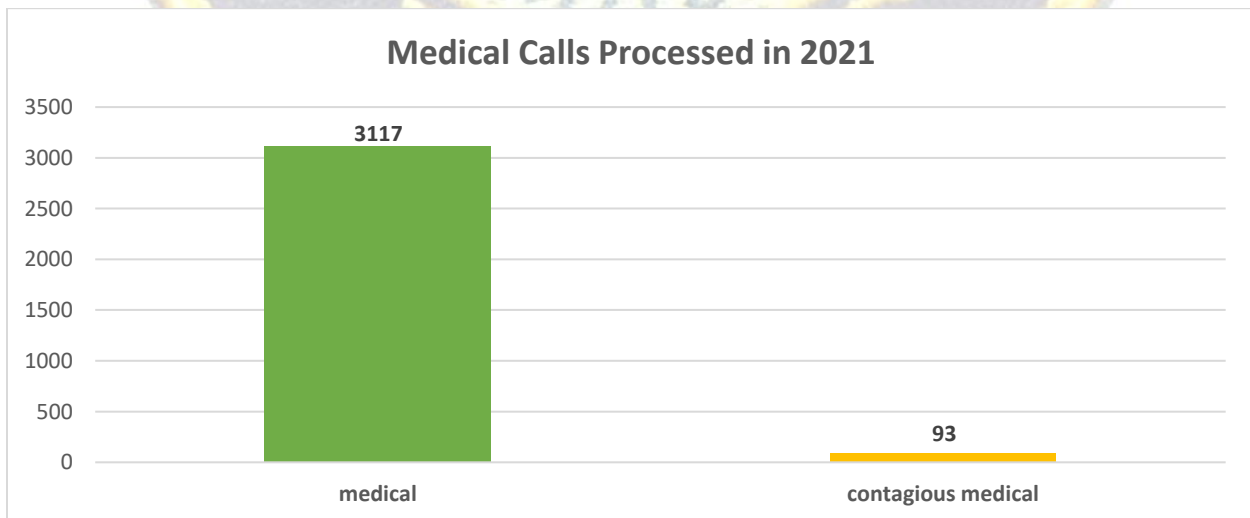
In 2021 the communications center received & placed a total of 52,555 telephone calls. Out of those calls received, 14,868 were placed to 911.



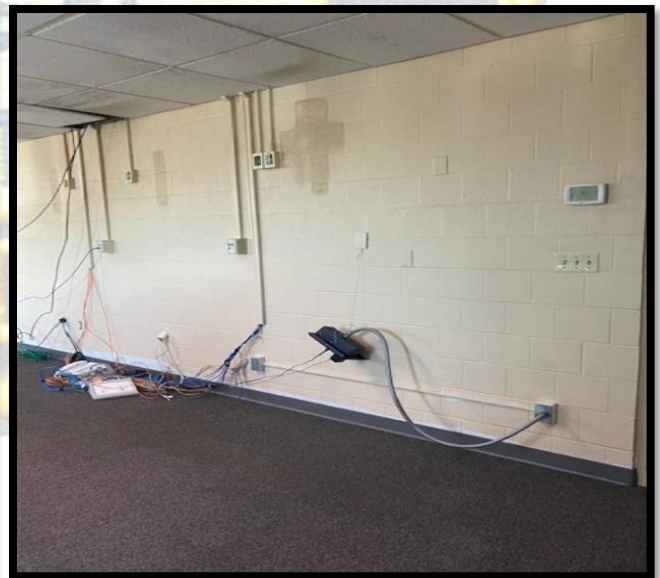
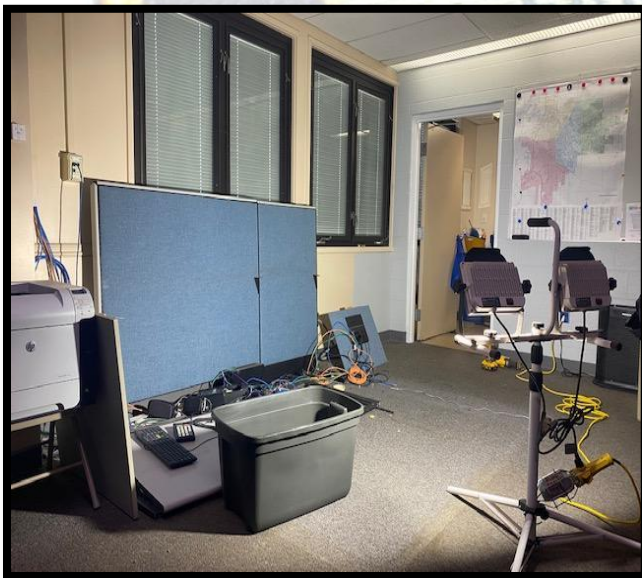
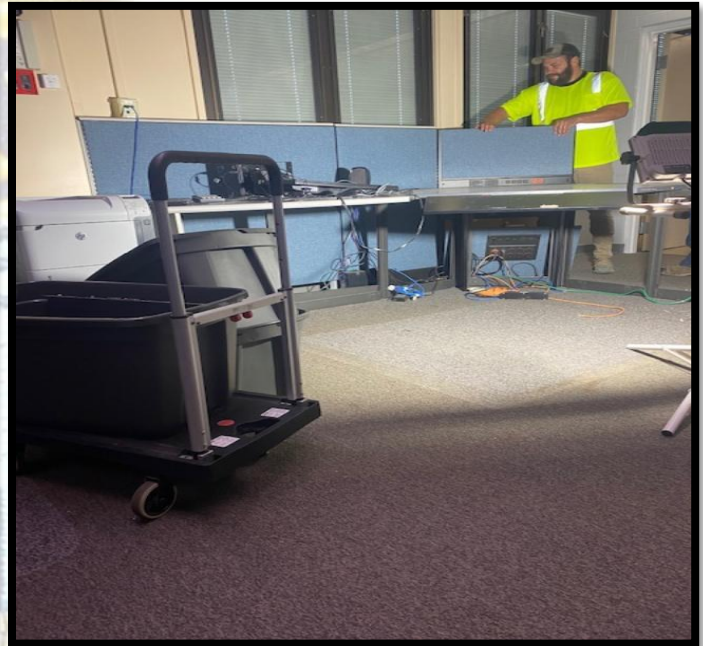
In addition to answering 911 calls, dispatchers also received and placed a total of 37,687 phone calls on the non-emergency lines.

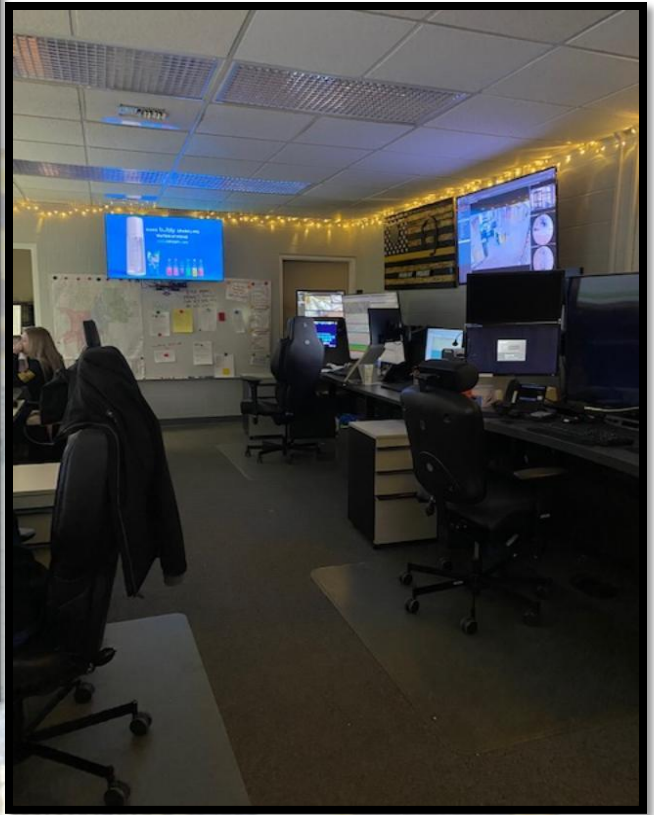
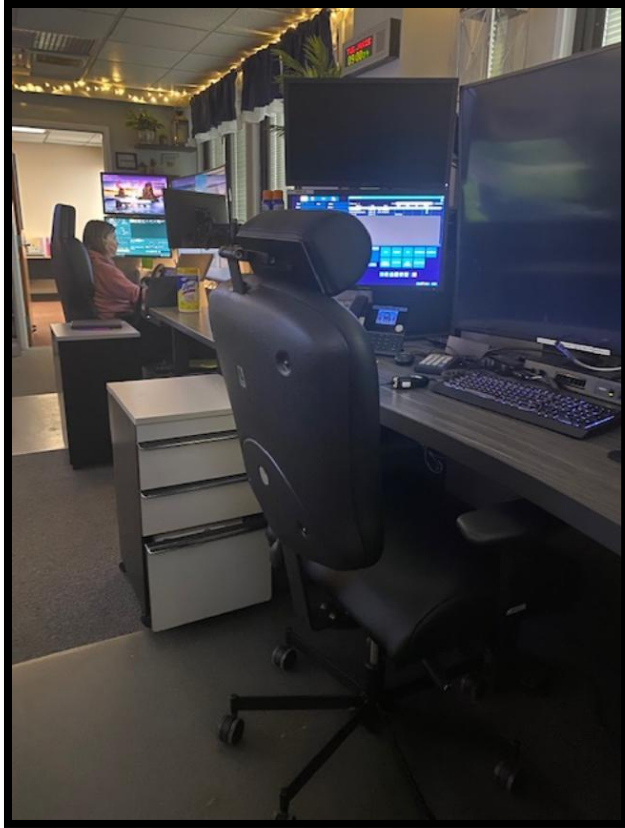
A total of 43,732 calls for service were entered by dispatchers into the Tyler New World CAD system. Officers were dispatched to 35,060 of those calls.

3,210 medical calls were processed by dispatch. Out of those, 93 calls involved patients that were potentially contagious.

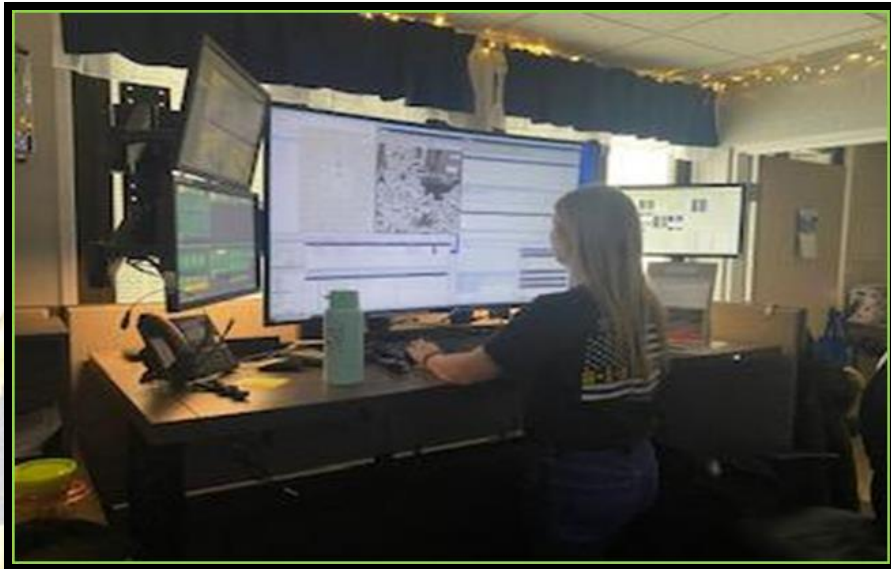


Our communications center was remodeled in the fall of 2021. The demolition began on September 27. In addition to all new workstations being installed the walls were also painted. The workstations were torn down 2 at a time so that the communications center could remain fully functional during that time period. The entire project took approximately 3 weeks to complete.



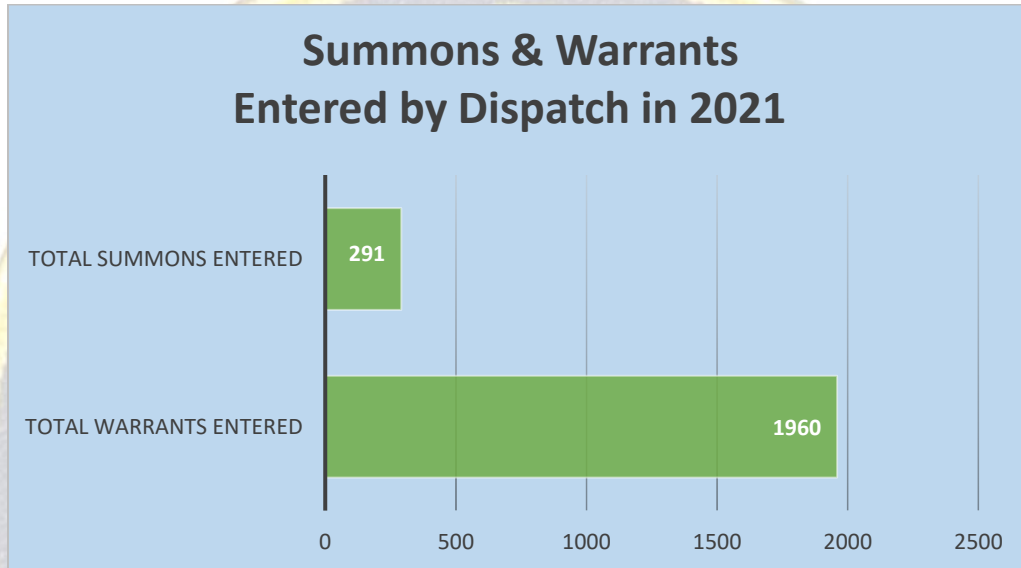


One of the new features of the work stations are desktops that raise and lower. Dispatchers spend long shifts tied to their workstations, often going many hours without a break to stretch. These workstations offer maximum adjustability, allowing dispatchers to sit or stand, and switch between the two quickly. Traditional fixed-height desks don't provide the flexibility many dispatch work stations need.



Taylor Spigner joined the Findlay Police Department Communications Center as a dispatcher in August of 2021. Taylor previously worked at Marathon Petroleum Company as a security guard. Taylor lives in Findlay with her husband James. They have been married for 3 years. She also has a 9 year old son named Parker.

Dispatchers are responsible for entering summons, civil protection orders & warrants issued by the Findlay Municipal Court into both our inhouse records management system and into the Law Enforcement Automated Data System (LEADS). 2,251 papers were issued by the court.



Communications Center goals for 2022

- 2 dispatchers becoming APCO certified training officers.
- 1 dispatcher become an APCO Fire Service Communications Instructor so that they can train the remaining dispatchers.
- To hire 1 additional dispatcher.

# PARKING & RECORDS DIVISION

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
<b>Parking Tickets Issued: TOTAL</b>	2086	5585	3979	4238	4572
<b>Parking Enforcement</b>	1727	5022	3466	3916	4212
<b>Patrol</b>	359	563	513	273	291
<b>Parking violations - Money Collected</b>	\$22,117.00	\$54,487.30	\$47,666.00	\$57,416.00	\$53,015.00
		\$2,020.00			
<b>Parking Lot Rental - Money Collected</b>	\$34,058.00	\$35,628.00	\$34,783.00	\$34,538.00	\$34,828.00
<b>Findlay Inn &amp; Conference Center</b>	\$20,328.00	\$20,328.00	\$20,328	\$20,328.00	\$20,328.00
<b>Remaining City Lots</b>	\$13,730.00	\$15,300.00	\$14,455.00	\$14,210.00	\$14,150.00
<b>Warning Tickets Issued</b>	1100	1711	1629	636	834
<b>False Alarm Charges-Fees Collected</b>	\$2,050.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,350.00	\$900.00	\$2,050.00
<b>Bike License-Fees Collected</b>	\$31.00	\$16.00	\$24.00	\$20.00	\$7.00
<b>Records Room</b>					
<b>Report Charges</b>	\$1,671.97	\$1,247.60	\$1,018.00	\$296.00	\$311.30
<b>Postage Reimbursement</b>	\$228.05	\$80.86	\$112.72	\$1.40	\$7.72
<b>Cruiser Rental-Fees Collected</b>	\$3,795.96	\$4,255.00	\$2,625.00	\$1,272.00	\$6,894.00
<b>Totals</b>	\$63,951.98	\$97,714.76	\$88,578.72	\$94,443.40	\$97,113.02



# PROPERTY ROOM

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 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.

## **Staffing**

Sergeant David Hill #880 was assigned as the Property Officer for 2021. Several Patrol Officers assisted him during the calendar year.

## **Key Activities & Accomplishments**

The Property Officer turned over funds to the Auditor's Office "Safekeeping" Fund in 2021 in the amount of \$60,136.84, paid out was \$1036.00 to owners'/court fines, bringing the balance to \$119,366.51 at years end. An additional \$10,752.86 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 over 60 boxes of prescription medications weighing over 1500 lbs. along with over 500 street drug related items. Also, a total of (2) handguns were also incinerated.

Total number of items that were entered into property was 5867, of those, 3792 items entered the Property Room in 2021. Items removed from the Property Room during 2021 were 728 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 36 bicycles were also donated to Bikes, Books and Badges.

At the close of 2021 there were a total of 13,085 items being held in the Record Management System. The breakdown is as follows: 11,371 items in PD ORI of LERMS and 1714 items in Hancock Metrich (VNU) ORI of LERMS.

By the close of 2021 all remaining items from the old Record Management System (InterBadge) were successfully merged over into the Tyler System.

### Objectives for the Next Year

- Expand Special Services by one full time employee to assist with property and court duties.
- Continue to vet property for removal from Property Room.
- Initiate a rotating Property Audit system.



# 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.

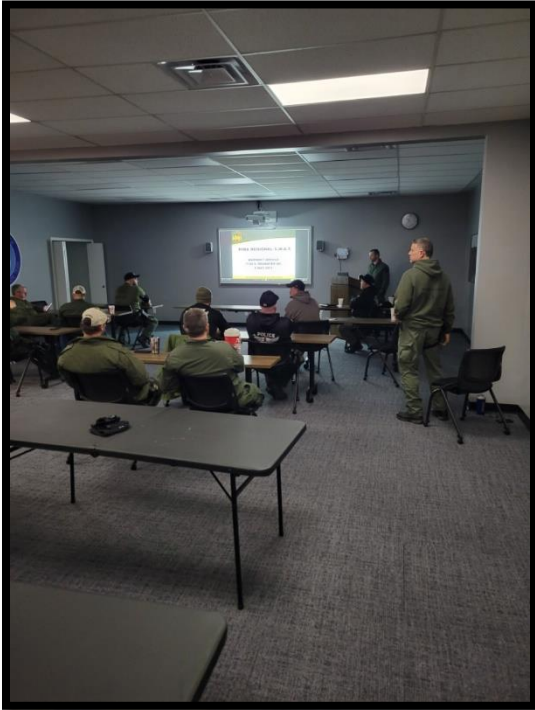
The CMT is comprised of 4 groups, the Emergency response team (ERT), the Crisis Negotiator Team, the Tactical Dispatchers, and the Tactical Emergency Medical Support (TEMS). The CMT is led by the CMT Commander.

The largest component is the Emergency Response Team (ERT). The ERT is staffed by the Tactical Commander who oversees the operations of two squads of up to 8 members each. Each squad is supervised directly by a Team Leader, who is one of the 8 squad members. The ERT is staffed by three Sergeants, nine Patrol Officers, and two Detectives. At year's end, each squad was operating with 7 officers.

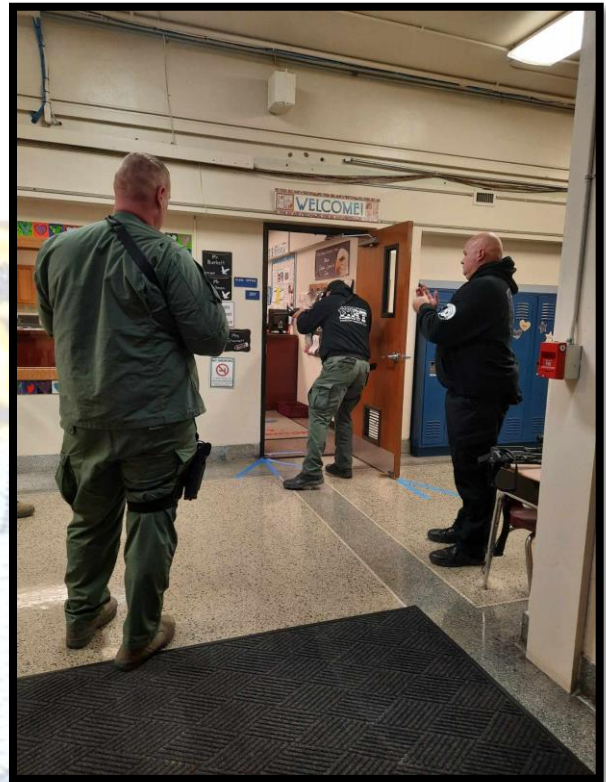
The Crisis Negotiator Team (CNT) is another component of the Crisis Management Team. There are four negotiators on the team, and currently a sergeant heads the group. These officers are specially trained Crisis Negotiators who are responsible for interaction and communication with anyone involved in 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 2021, 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 5 search warrants. All 8 search warrants were served without any injuries reported to anyone involved. The ERT also assisted the Hancock County Sheriff's Office with an Active Shooter report at Ball Metal. The facility was checked and no threat was located. The ERT assisted the Ohio State Patrol with a manhunt of a suspect who was involved in the shooting of a Trooper. An exhaustive search was completed and the suspect was apprehended. The ERT partnered with the OSP, Toledo Police Department SWAT, and the Border Patrol to make the apprehension.



### CMT Goals and Objectives

- Continue to train on a monthly basis
- Continue with scenario training
- Provide training opportunities from outside the department
- Fill the two open positions for ERT operator
- Train a new Sniper
- Increase our training with TEMS
- Increase training with Outside agencies
- Increase classroom trainings
- Host trainings

# NEWLY REMODELED TRAINING CENTER





# CRIME PREVENTION DIVISION

The 2021 Crime Prevention Division consisted of one officer supervised by the Special Services Lieutenant. Crime Prevention Officer Brian White continued to manage the Crime Prevention Office for the 2021 calendar year.

The Crime Prevention Officer was responsible for community outreach, neighborhood safety presentations 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, as well as social skills and relationship building. 322 class presentations were provided for 2021. Presentations discussed in the community related to crime prevention techniques relevant to specific businesses and community crime trends. 52 community presentations were provided for 2021.

The Crime Prevention Office is responsible for its own administrative duties such as scheduling, budgeting, record keeping and producing presentations. The Crime Prevention Officer frequently reviews police reports for new crime trends to build

awareness in 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 Crime Prevention Officer also maintains the Police Department Website, as well as the Department's Facebook, Twitter, Nextdoor and YouTube accounts.

Other duties include conducting background checks for solicitor, taxicab and panhandler permits issued through the City of Findlay, producing crime reports, attending both job and safety fairs, and organizing department events. The Crime Prevention Officer also conducts media interviews based on public safety and community relations topics.

## Adaptations for 2021

With the start of the Coronavirus Pandemic in 2020, the Crime Prevention Division moved to a virtual format for all presentations. This format continued into the summer of 2021, with a transition back to in person meetings during the fall. With the start of the 2021 – 2022 school year, all class presentations were moved back to an in-person format, with adherence to CDC recommendations. When presentations could not be held in person, presentations were provided virtually, or through the Police Department's YouTube page.



## Neighborhood Watch

The Findlay Neighborhood Watch Program, commonly referred to as “Block Watch”, continued to be an asset to both the citizens of Findlay and the Findlay Police Department. 28 Watches currently exist in the Findlay Block Watch Program.

With most cities facing higher crime rates and budgetary 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.



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
600 CLINTON CT	Report Taken	08/12/2020 18:30:01	2020-00016394	Missing/Runaway
600 CHERRY ST	Report Taken	08/13/2020 08:59:00	2020-00016421	Traffic Stop
RIVERSIDE PARK	Report Taken	08/15/2020 14:26:25	2020-00016417	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	08/28/2020 22:21:32	2020-00017474	Accident - Injury
DAYTON AVE / LYNN ST	Report Taken	08/28/2020 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

2020 was a challenging year for the Neighborhood Watch

Program, as all active watches suspended in person meetings due to the Pandemic. 2021 saw a return of approximately 25% of the normal meetings, while another 25% remained virtual. As of the end of 2021 the remaining 50% has not yet resumed operation. Despite the reluctance to return to meetings, one new watch was added for 2021.

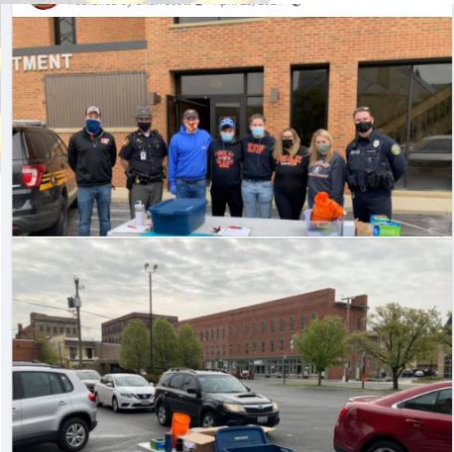


To keep all watches engaged, the Crime Prevention Officer continues to provide detailed Neighborhood Watch reports to the Watch Captains, as well as synopsis of what calls are occurring in their area. This information is distributed to members by Watch Captains. While this cannot replace the benefit of in person meetings, it does keep the groups engaged. We're hopeful that all watches will be back to in person meetings by the end of 2022.

## Community Outreach

Despite the Pandemic, 2021 saw continued involvement with agencies and organizations that were relevant to the mission of the Findlay Police Department and the Crime Prevention Division. Throughout 2021, meetings were a blend of in person and virtual meetings.

The Crime Prevention Officer sat on 22 separate boards and committees for 2021. The Crime Prevention Officer has also provided presentations to a variety of civic organizations throughout the community. 171 meetings were attended for 2021.



Some of the community groups the Crime Prevention Officer was active with include:

- Crime Stoppers
- Community Partnership Council
- Opiate Task Force Community Awareness Committee
- Opiate Task Force Education Committee
- Help Me Grow Advisory Committee
- Hancock County Handle with Care
- Hidden in Plain Sight
- Adult Protective Services I-Team Committee
- 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



The Crime Prevention Division also represented the Findlay Police Department at a variety of community events. Examples include sporting events, community resource fairs, safety expos, job fairs and medication collections. Limited tours of the police department were also provided to Scout groups for 2021.

### Flag City Night Out

Each year the Findlay Police Department hosts its signature event, Flag City Night Out at Riverside Park. Due to the Coronavirus Pandemic, 2020's event was canceled, but lived on in a virtual format. With transmission rates declining moving into the summer of 2021, as well as the availability of vaccines, the annual event was able to return for 2021.

The goal of the Crime Prevention Office has always been to keep Flag City Night Out a free event to the community. Advertised as a "leave your wallet/purse at home" event, donations from the community allow the event to take place. We'd like to thank Padrone's Pizza, Utz Snacks, Movement Church, Kona Ice, Hempy Water, We Serve Coffee, Dick's Towing, Ary Entertainment and the Fort Findlay FOP Lodge 20 for keeping 2021's event free.



2021's event included the annual Mascot Games, train rides, live music, an inflatable obstacle course and axe throwing, children's activities, and demonstrations. In 2019 the Police vs. Fire Games were introduced to Flag City Night Out. The Police and Fire Games has become a crowd favorite and has continued for 2021. This event pairs up local children with police officers and fire fighters to build relationships. The police were able to take the traveling trophy for 2021.



While no official statistics are recorded at the event, attendance is traditionally estimated by supplies/giveaways handed out at the time. Traditional attendance is estimated at 1,000, however 2021's event saw a large increase to approximately 1,300. The larger than expected turn out is a testament to the enjoyment of the event, as well as the beautiful weather and lack of in person events for 2020.

### **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. 57 abandoned/recovered bicycles were provided back to area residents for the 2021 calendar year.



The bicycle refurbishing program was traditionally facilitated with the assistance of the Allen Oakwood Correctional Institution (AOCI). AOCI would collect the bicycles from Findlay, take them to the prison and inmates would clean and repair the bicycles. The bicycles were then returned to Findlay free of charge. That program was shut down in 2020 at the start of the Pandemic and has yet to return. With the retirement of the AOCI Program Director who was a bicycle enthusiast, the program now appears defunct. During the summer months, Officer White used the extra time in his schedule to refurbish the bicycles himself.

With the need for bicycles in the community at an all-time high (2020 was a record year, with 103 bicycles given back to the community), Officer White has been in talks with the City Mission to initiate a similar program. The City Mission already offers residents a bicycle to repair for personal use and the City Mission is a beneficiary of bicycles that the Crime Prevention Division cannot refurbish. As reconditioned bicycles from the Crime Prevention Division are currently stored in the old Hochstetler Mill building, located doors away from the City Mission, this appears to be a great partnership. One of the goals for 2022 is to finalize this partnership.

In 2021 the Bike's, Books and Badges Program paired up with the Fort Findlay FOP Lodge 20 to create Cops and Kids Get Creative. Several events were held where area youth listened to Officer White read a children's book and then recreated their vision on painted pottery. A copy of the book was then provided to those in attendance, compliments of the Fort Findlay FOP Lodge 20.

These successful events have been in high demand and more are being planned for 2022.



### **Bikes, Books and Badges Bicycle Rodeo**

The Findlay Police Department Bikes, Books and Badges Program traditionally hosts an annual Bicycle Rodeo in May to kick off summer. Due to the Coronavirus Pandemic, the 2021 event had to be cancelled. We're hopeful this event can return in May 2022.

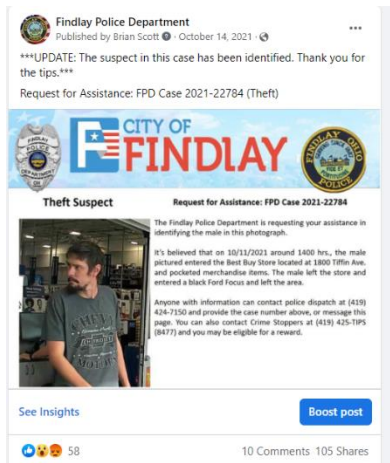
### **Camp 911**

CAMP 911, a partnership between the Findlay Police Department, Findlay Fire Department, Hancock County Sheriff's Office, Hanco EMS and the Findlay Health Department was able to return for 2021. Class size was reduced for 2021, but still offered a morning and afternoon session.

CAMP 911 is a week-long program in June that educates children entering Kindergarten on a variety of safety topics including School Bus Safety, Electrical Safety, Fire Safety and Prevention, Stranger Danger, First Aid, Bicycle Safety and a multitude of other topics. The children also had a chance to interact with first responders from each agency, see the police K-9 dogs perform and see "Life-flight" land and talk with the pilots.



## Social Media



One of the few items not 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 events held by the police department. The Crime Prevention Officer utilized Facebook, Twitter, Nextdoor and YouTube to keep the public up to date on crime trends and public safety topics.

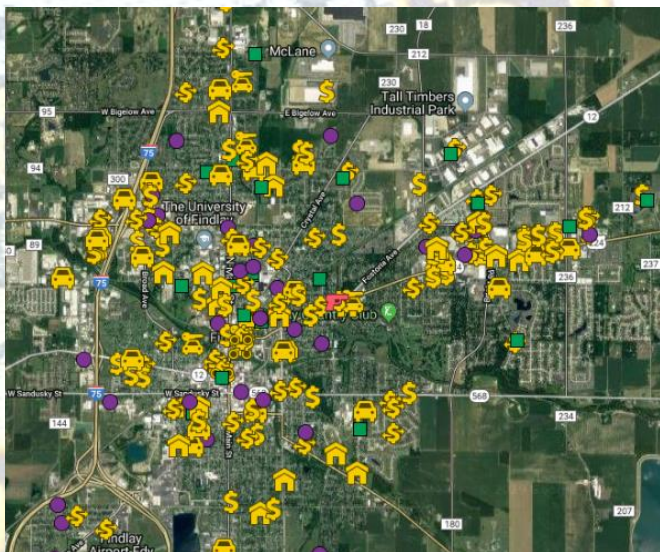


The police department sought the public's assistance in identifying

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 crimes occurring in their neighborhood.

## 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.

## City Permits



The Crime Prevention Officer is responsible for processing all permit requests related to Panhandling, Soliciting Door to Door Sales and Taxicabs. The Crime Prevention Office processed a total of 54 permits for the 2021 calendar year.

## Coffee with a Cop

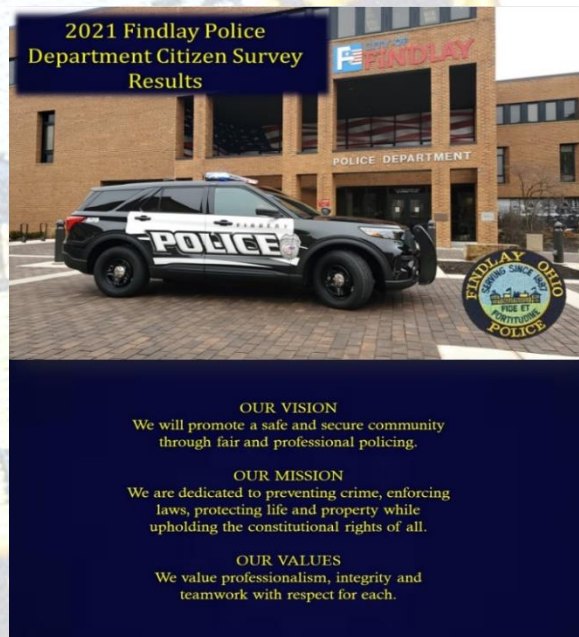
Coffee with A Cop is a nationwide effort to bridge the gap between citizens and law enforcement. 2021 saw the return of Coffee with A Cop. Monthly events were held at Coffee Amici, where members of the community could meet to discuss issues in their neighborhoods, or simply enjoy a cup of coffee while getting to know officers. Depending on the time of year, attendance ranges between 5 – 15 citizens, with many returning for future events. Due to the success of Coffee with A Cop, the Crime Prevention Officer was contacted by 50 North to begin a second meeting for each month at their facility for seniors. The first of these events will start in 2022.



## Annual Citizen Survey

Every year the Crime Prevention Division conducts a Citizen Survey to ensure the department is meeting the needs and expectations of our community. This survey was made accessible during the month of December on the Police Department's social media and website, or by collecting hard copies from the lobby of City of Findlay Municipal Building. The survey was also advertised in local media outlets. These surveys were voluntarily and anonymously filled out by citizens, then submitted online or by returning the completed surveys to Police Administration.

The survey posed several key questions to assist the Department in determining citizen perceptions of safety, quality of life and the quality of police services. Community feedback serves as a "report card" and provides helpful insight when establishing goals, enhancing training and shaping the future direction of the Police Department.



The results of the 2021 Citizen Survey show that the men and women of the Findlay Police Department continue to provide a high quality of service to Findlay residents. Using the standard letter grading scale of A - F, the police department averaged a B+ for the services it provided, when accounting for neutral or no contact responses. This represents an improvement from the 2020 Citizen Survey. Although members of the Police Department continue to deliver high quality police services, there are opportunities for the police department to continue to improve.

## Goals for 2022

Goals for 2022 would include finalizing a bicycle refurbishing program for Bikes, Books and Badges with the City Mission. Based on the Pandemic, we'd also like to return the Bicycle Rodeo to the May calendar.

With so many programs and a limited budget of \$6,000.00 to accomplish its mission, the Crime Prevention Officer will continue to forge other relationships in the community to maintain its programming and expand in the future. One such idea would be implementing a Citizen Police Academy, as well as a Junior Police Academy.

## 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 Crime Prevention 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.