



2020

**SUN PRAIRIE  
POLICE DEPARTMENT**

**ANNUAL REPORT**



Vision, Mission, and Core Values.....	2
Chief’s Message.....	3
Sun Prairie Police Roster, City Council, and Police & Fire Commissioners.....	4
Retirements .....	5
New Hires .....	6-7
Awards and Anniversaries .....	8-9
Promotions and Transition .....	10
District Policing .....	11
District Liaison Officers and Public Safety Chaplains .....	12
Special Response Team and Detectives .....	13
COVID-19.....	14
Around Town .....	15
Community Support .....	16
Digital Resources.....	17
Mental Health Response Team and School Liaison Officers.....	18
Dispatch, Records, and Restorative Court .....	19
Property & Evidence and Department Training .....	20
Field Training Officers.....	21
Honor Guard.....	22
Traffic Safety and Emergency Management .....	23
Police Chief’s Community Advisory Board.....	24
Statistics.....	25-27

## VISION

A Sun Prairie where all can live safely and are empowered to share responsibility for public safety solutions, protected by a police department that is trustworthy and offers hope.

## MISSION

We will build relationships and solve problems.

## CORE VALUES

### **Exceptional Service and Problem Solving (Competence)**

We are committed to providing high quality policing services and strive for continuous improvement. We are responsive to community priorities and expectations, while educating the community on our capabilities and limitations. We measure our success by the number of problems we eliminate through community-based, problem-oriented, data-driven policing strategies.

### **Professionalism (Character)**

We understand that public trust is the foundation of our profession. We are accountable to ourselves, each other, and the community for our words and actions.

### **Employee Fulfillment (Leadership)**

We view all of our members as leaders with each offering a valuable contribution to our department. We are responsible for the performance, reputation, and morale of the department. We recognize and celebrate the accomplishments of our members.



It is my pleasure to present the Sun Prairie Police Department's 2020 Annual Report. 2020 brought many challenges and opportunities to our community, as well as our agency, and those aspects are highlighted in this report.

Sergeant Brenda Dahlen retired in 2020 after dedicating 27 years to our community. Executive Assistant Karen Stanek also retired after providing 32 tireless years of support to our department. Lieutenant Kevin Konopacki also retired after 17 years of law enforcement service. Michelle Garrison joined our department as our business manager and has been an incredible asset to our team. Officers Jason Scott and Tommy Foy were promoted to the rank of sergeant and are performing admirably.

While reorganizing our department, we added a third lieutenant position and promoted Lieutenant Ryan Cox to oversee our special operations. We also created a new community policing sergeant role that was filled by Sergeant Ray Thomson until December of 2020, when he was promoted to lieutenant. Once Lieutenant Thomson began his new role, the position of community policing sergeant was filled by Sergeant Chris Pederson in February 2021. Everyone has been doing a phenomenal job in their new roles and have shown innovation, dedication, and great leadership.

As 2020 was my first year as the chief of police, I want to thank all of the community members, businesses, and advocates that have reached out to welcome me and work with us to build relationships and solve problems. Our community truly is a special place and what makes it so great are our community members - each of you. Even under the challenges posed in 2020, our community remained strong and supportive of each other.

After completing my first year in Sun Prairie, I continue to be impressed with all members of our police department. COVID-19 produced many challenges and spurred new methods for serving our community, ensuring everyone's health and safety remained our top priority. Despite the concerns of a major health pandemic, our officers, detectives, specialized units, dispatchers, and professional staff exhibited dedication, service, teamwork, and connection to our community by serving our citizens every day.

Collaboration and relationships are key to solving problems and maintaining a safe community. COVID-19 effectively put a damper on our usual means of proactively visiting and interacting with members of our community. In an effort to remain engaged with everyone, we created a virtual citizens police academy, hosted virtual community forums, began vlogging, and expanded our social media presence. We also began walking door-to-door in various neighborhoods to proactively visit with residents, where we could talk outside while socially distancing.

As we enter 2021, we will continue to seek out innovative ways for providing our traditional high level of service and use creative means for engaging with our community, so that we may continue to identify needs and issues and collaborate together in solving problems. Our team is committed to creating new ideas for preventing and solving crime.

I want to take a moment to thank our entire community for supporting one another, showing each other kindness and respect, and working together to find solutions to issues. You make Sun Prairie Strong!

Feel free to contact me if you would like to meet to discuss any issues in your neighborhood or to share any thoughts, concerns, or ideas. I look forward to seeing you around town as we "build relationships and solve problems!"

A handwritten signature in white ink that reads 'Mike Steffen'.

**ADMINISTRATION**

Michael Steffes - Chief  
 Brian Teasdale - Assistant Chief  
 Jamie Peterson - Lieutenant  
 Ryan Cox - Lieutenant  
 Ray Thomson - Lieutenant

**SERGEANTS**

Jason Lefeber  
 Brandon Lingle  
 Josh Hameister  
 Ryahn Smith  
 Chris Pederson  
 Nolan Pickar  
 Jason Scott  
 Tommy Foy

**DETECTIVES**

Scot Bartnick  
 Frank Smith  
 David Hall  
 Michael Hartman  
 Cathy Schultz

**NON-SWORN**

Eric Jeffers - Community Service Officer  
 Anthony Martinez - Community Service Officer  
 Michelle Garrison - Business Manager  
 Cindy Piper - Municipal Court Clerk  
 Todd Lukens - Evidence Officer  
 Nicole Vedvik - Court Officer

**DISPATCH**

Nick Hagen - Dispatch Supervisor  
 Joe Hack  
 Chris Dauck  
 Cassie Fleischman  
 Ashley Gullixson  
 Tom Engen  
 Jeff Aurit  
 Jared Bruttig

**OFFICERS**

Jack Wilkinson  
 Gary Nichols  
 Jill Koll  
 Matt Koll  
 Zach Bolling  
 Amy Bolling  
 Damion Verhalen  
 Jennifer Nichols  
 Ben Plum  
 Brian Waldera  
 Jeremy Rademacher  
 Dan Enger  
 Barb Enger  
 Michelle Schultz  
 Jamey Davis  
 Lamont Crockett  
 Royse Sessums  
 Mackenzie Miller

**OFFICERS**

Brandon Reigstad  
 Jesse Davila  
 Brittany Lowrey  
 Ryan Barnes  
 Randy Humphrey  
 Dylan Kahl  
 Nate Walker  
 Jason Lingle  
 Freddy Garcia  
 Tyler Hetrick  
 Leonard Webster  
 Adem Hadji  
 Nate Hoffmann  
 Dalton Davies  
 Cody Ennis  
 Brett Bengsch  
 Thomas Wagner  
 Blaine Baumgartner

**CITY COUNCIL**

~ Paul T. Esser  
 Mayor  
 ~ Theresa McIlroy  
 District 1  
 ~ Steve Stocker  
 District 1  
 ~ Bob Jokisch  
 District 2  
 ~ Theresa Stevens  
 District 2  
 ~ Maureen Crombie  
 District 3  
 ~ Mike Jacobs  
 District 3  
 ~ Al Guyant  
 District 4  
 ~ Mary Polenski  
 District 4 / President

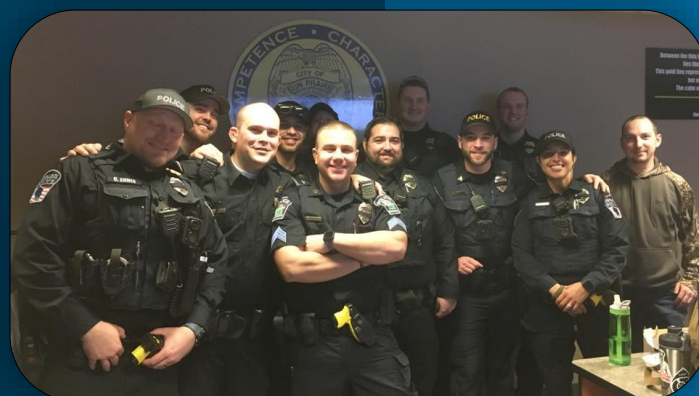
**POLICE & FIRE COMMISSIONERS**

~ Jeanne Gerg  
 President  
 ~ Scott Faust  
 Commissioner  
 ~ Angelika Gulbis  
 Commissioner  
 ~ Christina Outlay  
 Commissioner  
 ~ Newna Xiong  
 Commissioner  
 ~ J.T. Ruffin  
 Commissioner



**RECORDS**

Kristine Pittz - Records Supervisor  
 Anita Barman  
 Sarah Heling  
 Tracy Heath  
 Hayley Steele  
 Kristin Goehring  
 Shari Baumann  
 Ashley Vogt



## Sergeant Brenda Dahlen

The Sun Prairie Police Department honored Sergeant Brenda Dahlen on April 13, 2020 with a final radio sign off after 27 years of service. Brenda served our profession, community, and police department with dedication, loyalty, and compassion. Her commitment, mentorship, and friendship with her colleagues will never be forgotten. We thank Brenda for all that she has given to the profession.



## Executive Assistant Karen Stanek

The Sun Prairie Police Department honored Executive Assistant to the Chief of Police Karen Stanek on June 5, 2020 as her final day with the department. Karen served our department, community, and profession for 32 years with a high level of dedication, commitment, and tireless loyal service. Karen's work was often hidden as support service, but she was an integral component to our success. We thank Karen for all that she has given to the profession.



## Lieutenant Kevin Konopacki

The Sun Prairie Police Department honored Lieutenant Kevin Konopacki on January 15, 2021 with a final radio sign off after 17 years of law enforcement service. Kevin has served our profession, community, and police department with dedication, compassion, integrity, and influential leadership. His commitment to the Sun Prairie community, energetic presence, and entertaining personality will forever be remembered. We thank Kevin for all that he has given to the profession.





**Community Service Officer  
Anthony Martinez**

Community Service Officer Ernest "Anthony" Martinez was born and raised in Austin, Texas until moving to Wisconsin in 2015. Anthony was in the U.S. Air Force from 2008 to 2012 as a hydraulic specialist / aircraft mechanic, attaining the rank of E-3 (senior airman). He attended Herzing University where he received a bachelor's degree in criminal justice in 2017. Anthony joined our department in March as the second shift CSO.



**Business Manager  
Michelle Garrison**

Michelle Garrison brings 10 years of administrative experience in the police and fire service from Lake Forest, Illinois. Prior to joining our department, she worked in the city's building inspection department for one-and-a-half years as a permit specialist. Michelle has a bachelor's degree in corporate communications and political science.



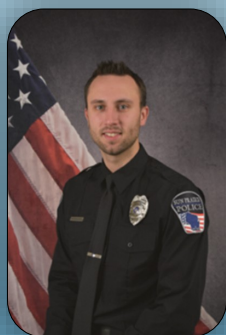
**Dispatcher  
Jeff Aurit**

Jeff Aurit brings a combination of experience, both in dispatching and law enforcement. Jeff has a combined five years of dispatching experience with area police departments and has been a part time police officer for one-and-a-half years. Jeff graduated from Madison College Law Enforcement Academy and has an associate's degree in criminal justice - law enforcement.



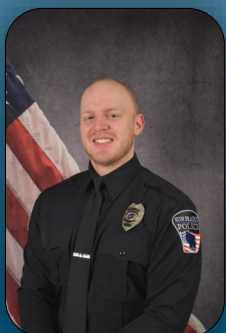
**Dispatcher  
Jared Bruttig**

Jared Bruttig is a graduate of University of Wisconsin Whitewater with a bachelor's degree in marketing and a minor in criminology. Jared has served as a police reserve officer with the Saukville Police Department for the last three years and has professional experience in business and marketing. Jared has a passion for service and public safety and enjoys serving the residents and visitors of Sun Prairie.



**Police Officer  
Brett Bengsch**

Bachelor's degree - justice and public policy; Concordia University, 2017  
 JBM Patrol and Protection; July 2016 - February 2018  
 Department of Military Affairs; February 2018 - October 2018  
 Blackhawk Technical College - Police Recruit Academy; May 2019  
 Dane County Sheriff's Deputy; October 2018



**Police Officer  
Thomas Wagner**

Bachelor's degree - criminal justice; University of Wisconsin Platteville, 2019  
 National Honor Society; 2013 - 2015  
 4-H Club member



**Police Officer  
Blaine Baumgartner**

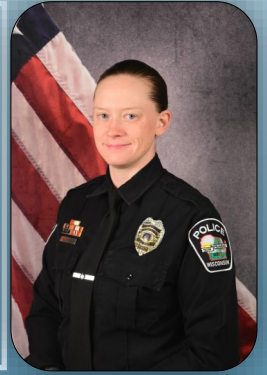
Bachelor's degree - University of Wisconsin Platteville, 2018  
 North Central Technical College - Police Recruit Academy; December 2018  
 Wausau Police Department - community service officer; May 2017 - February 2019  
 Wisconsin State Capitol Police Department - police officer; February 2019



**K9  
Eragon**

K9 Eragon Laroja was born in Czech Republic on March 8, 2019; he is a purebred German Shepherd Dog. He was selected by Officer Jason Lingle out of 10 other K9 candidates based on specific traits and drives that were observed during training scenarios. The two graduated Shallow Creek Kennel Academy in August of 2020. K9 Eragon has proven to be a valuable member of the department. He works well in all situations and enjoys being around others.

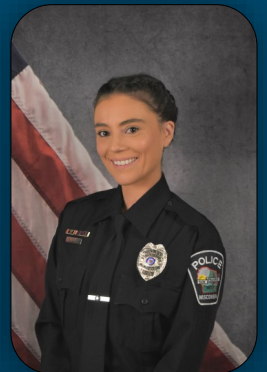
**Officer of the Year - Officer Mackenzie Miller:** This award is given to one officer for sustained service and teamwork. This award is given yearly to a sworn officer, exclusive of sworn supervisory and sworn administrative staff, who has consistently performed at a high level and who has excelled in teamwork to help the department achieve its mission during the course of the previous year. This officer's daily work reflects an awareness of departmental operating procedures, core values, and objectives.



**Employee of the Year - Records Administrative Assistant Ashley Vogt:** This award is given for sustained service teamwork. This award is given yearly also and all other departmental staff not included in the officer of the year award are eligible. The same criterion applies as with the officer of the year award.



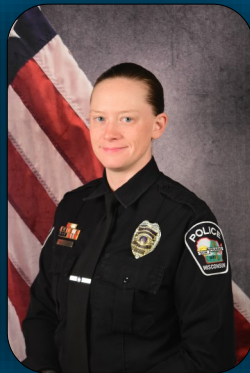
**Chief's Award - Sergeant Jason Scott, Officer Cody Ennis, Officer Brittany Lowrey, Officer Leonard Webster, Officer Dylan Kahl, and Officer Nate Hoffmann:** This award is given by the chief to any department member, sworn or non-sworn, for an outstanding contribution to the department. This award covers many service categories and is given solely at the discretion of the chief as often as they deem appropriate.



**Life Saving Awards - Officer Brandon Reigstad, Officer Michelle Schultz, Officer Tyler Hetrick (2), Officer Leonard Webster, Officer Freddy Garcia, and Officer Dalton Davies:** This award is given to any department member or citizen whose action directly contributed to the saving or significantly prolonging of human life. For example, a subject being discharged from the hospital would constitute significantly prolonging human life.



## Five Years



Cassie Fleischman

Lamont Crockett

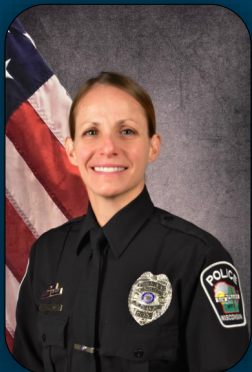
Royse Sessums

Mackenzie Miller

Jason Scott

Cody Ennis

## Ten Years



Barb Enger

Michael Hartman

Cindy Piper

Brian Teasdale

## Twenty Years

## Twenty-Five Years

Officers Jason Scott and Tommy Foy were promoted to the rank of sergeant.



Sergeants Ryan Cox and Ray Thomson were promoted to the rank of lieutenant.



Dispatcher Nick Hagen was promoted to dispatch supervisor; Dispatcher Eric Jeffers transitioned to community service officer.

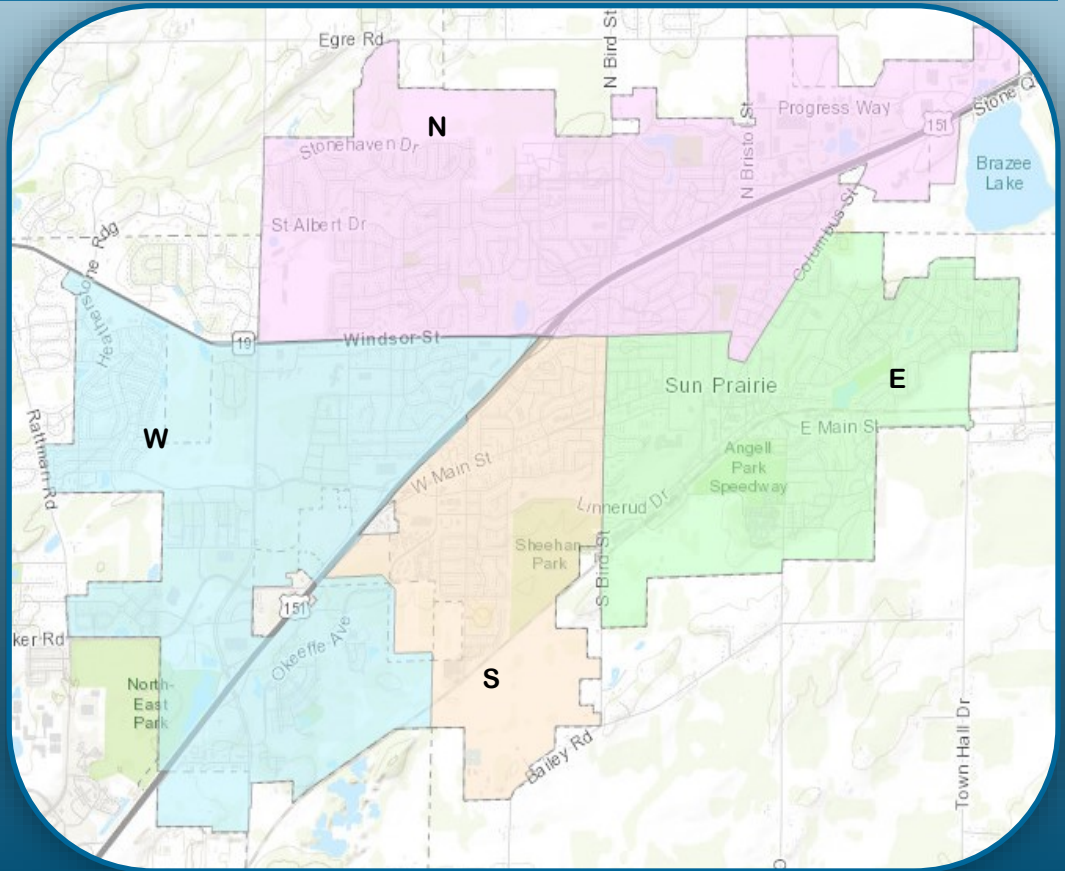


Police departments typically divide their municipalities into districts to aid patrol officers as they provide police services. The Sun Prairie Police Department is no exception; however, our officers are assigned to one geographical district for an entire year. Sun Prairie has four policing districts.

This designated assignment in just one district for the entire year allows police officers the ability to build relationships with business owners and residents and dedicate their time for problem-solving strategies and community engagement opportunities.

This is effective, as patrol officers become familiar with individual areas of our city, allowing them to uncover issues and to address them immediately.

Criminal activity, ordinance violations, and general quality of life issues will be the focus of patrol officers as they work hard in their assigned district. Each of the four police districts has a dedicated sergeant uncovering problems and leading a patrol team to identify solutions.



**North District**  
Sergeant Jason Lefeber  
1st Shift  
(6:00am - 2:00pm)



**East District**  
Sergeant Ryahn Smith  
2nd Shift  
(2:00pm - 10:00pm)



**West District**  
Sergeant Brandon Lingle  
1st Shift  
(6:00am - 2:00pm)



**South District**  
Sergeant Jason Scott  
3rd Shift  
(10:00pm - 6:00am)

## DISTRICT LIAISON OFFICER PROGRAM

The District Liaison Officer Program consists of four officers, with one officer assigned to each of the city's four districts. The goal of the program is to help patrol officers carry out the mission of proactive problem-solving policing. In 2020, we had three officers in this role.

The DLOs are assigned specific neighborhoods based on the history of service calls and amount of city resource dedication. DLOs take proactive measures to help reduce repeat calls for service at addresses within their assigned areas. They work closely with property owners to address ongoing issues that affect the quality of life for area residents. DLOs also assist the detective bureau on major case investigations and coordinate most patterned crime investigations in the community.

The officers assigned to the DLO Program are tasked with creative problem solving and community engagement. Generally, they will not be primary call takers; however, nothing will prevent them from assisting with calls for service, should a DLO or supervisor deem it beneficial. Nothing will prevent the members from being sent to emergencies when required.

Each DLO is also part of the department's Mental Health Response Team and Gang Response Team. DLOs work closely with landlords and business owners to provide crime prevention. The DLOs also manage certain level drug investigations in their assigned district.



**East District**  
Officer Dan Enger



**West District**  
Officer Jeremy Rademacher



**North District**  
Officer Mackenzie Miller



**South District**  
Vacant

## PUBLIC SAFETY CHAPLAINS

We are very proud of our eight dedicated volunteer Public Safety Chaplains (they also help with our city's fire and EMS), whose mission is to provide additional resources for the support and comfort to our employees, both active and retired, and their families.

They are further available to citizens who are experiencing severe anxiety, stress, or crisis, especially related to serious incidents or accidents which involve death and / or life threatening injury. They provide counseling, ministry, spiritual guidance, and comfort to those most vulnerable during a tragic event.

In recognizing the value of area clergy, our department does not endorse or promote one religion over another.



**Our dedicated Public Safety Chaplains are:**

- Head Chaplain Father Mike Tess (St. Barnabas Episcopal)
- Pastor Charlie Brandt (Bethlehem Lutheran)
- Pastor Jenny Arneson (Sun Prairie United Methodist)
- Pastor Robert Neubert (Burke Lutheran)
- Deacon Joe Stafford (St. Albert the Great Catholic)
- Pastor Luke Were (Peace Lutheran)
- Pastor Jon McNary (Heartland Community)
- Pastor Rick Bloom (Calvary Baptist)
- Lieutenant Kevin Konopacki is the department's liaison.

## SPECIAL RESPONSE TEAM

The Special Response Team (SRT) is made up of Sergeant Brandon Lingle, Sergeant Ryahn Smith, Officer Dan Enger, Officer Mackenzie Miller, Officer Jesse Davila, and Officer Randy Humphrey. In addition to our team members, we have members join us from both the Middleton and Fitchburg Police Departments. This team assists patrol when situations require advanced tactical training and to assist with the execution of search warrants.



2020 was a very busy year for us with the civil unrest we experienced over the summer. We deployed to Madison twice to help with the protests and riots that occurred. Our team did an excellent job in helping return peace to the city and help save lives and protect property.



Overall, it was a very good year, as we executed a few search warrants and were able to remove some illegal guns and drugs from the streets. COVID-19 affected the team's ability to conduct warrants safely. We are hoping to increase our warrants in 2021 as well as replace older equipment.



## DETECTIVE BUREAU

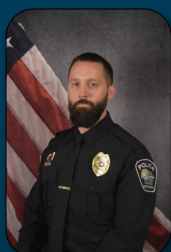
The detective bureau consists of Detectives Scot Bartnick, Frank Smith, David Hall, Mike Hartman, Cathy Schultz, and Lieutenant Ryan Cox.

Detectives generally work more complex and lengthy investigations such as crimes against children, sexual assaults, robberies, death investigations, and frauds.

Our detectives also assist with background investigations of potential hires for the police department.

The detective bureau investigated numerous high profile cases. Some of the more notable cases included:

- West Main Street near Clarmar Drive - Fatal Crash: Pending
- East Main Street at White Tail Drive - Fatal Crash: Pending
- Columbus Street - Swatting Incident: Active / Pending
- Wyoming Avenue - Swatting Incident: Active / Pending
- January North Pine Street - Shooting / Domestic Incident: 1 Arrest
- May Foxdale Drive - Shooting: 1 Arrest
- May Kwik Trip - Shooting: 2 Arrests
- May Rock Sports Bar - Shooting: 1 Arrest
- June North Pine Street - Shooting: 2 Arrests
- June Athletic Way - Shooting: 1 Arrest
- June Vandenburg Heights - Shooting: No Arrests
- July Sunfield Street - Shooting: 1 Arrest
- August Vandenburg Heights - Shooting: Active / Pending
- September Foxdale Drive - Shooting: Active / Pending
- October Park Circle Parking Lot - Shooting: Active / Pending
- November Marcus Theatre Parking Lot - Shooting: Multiple Arrests
- November Hunters Trail - Shooting: Active / Pending
- November U.S. Highway 151 - Shooting: Active / Pending
- November Rock Sports Bar - Shooting: Active / Pending
- BP Gas Station / West Main Street - Shooting: Two Arrests
- Park Circle - Armed Robbery: Multiple Arrests
- Series of Auto Thefts / Burglaries: Multiple Arrests



Shooting: 16  
 Death Investigation: 5  
 Child Abuse: 2  
 Sexual Assault (Child): 7  
 Burglary: 2  
 Sexual Assault (Adult): 2  
 Internet Crimes Against Children: 14  
 Robbery: 3

\*Due to a switch over to a new records management system in 2020, the numbers reported here are low.



Heartland Church Donation

In 2020, our country experienced a worldwide pandemic never before seen in our lifetime. Throughout the year, it was impossible to look at the internet or turn on the television without seeing news of the COVID-19 virus.

Due to the quick spread of the pandemic, our department immediately instituted many changes. We asked our records staff to work remotely to minimize their risk. Instead of in-person roll calls, we moved to virtual roll calls and virtual staff meetings. As our squad cars are the work spaces of our officers, and they occasionally transport other people, we routinely fogged squads and our buildings to combat COVID-19.



Mask Distribution Vehicles



Yahara Bay Distillery Hand Sanitizer Donation

Throughout 2020, the city's public safety team remained prepared to answer your call for service in the safest and healthiest manner possible. Our officers responded to many incidents by telephone to minimize physical contact with citizens. They also wore face coverings during interactions with each other and community members.

To minimize community members standing in line for service at the police department, we closed our lobbies to normal business traffic and instituted ways for people to obtain services online. Officers and dispatch operators remained available by a telephone in the lobbies 24 hours a day. Our cleaning crew cleaned all high touch areas multiple times each day.



Facebook Post



Shop With(out) A Cop

Amid the stress and uncertainty, our entire team has remained prepared to serve you. We were impressed with the sense of community throughout the year. Although we remained socially distanced, our community stood together to help neighbors and support our local businesses and restaurants.



Shop With(out) A Cop

We have a strong sense of community in Sun Prairie and believe COVID-19 forged an even tighter bond among all of us. Our community continues to make it through hard times - together - and we are so honored to play a part in that.



Shop With(out) A Cop



Fastenal Donation



Shop With(out) A Cop



Meeting Eragon



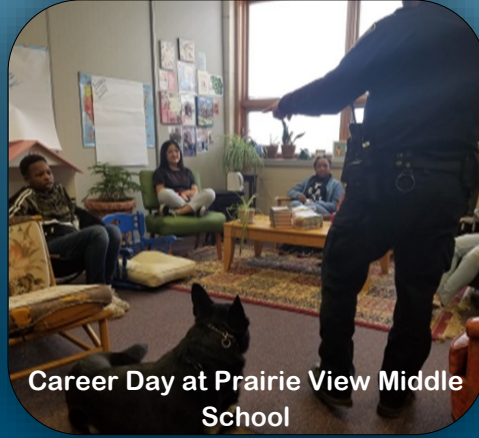
Crossing Guard Recognition Week



Halloween



Holiday Lights Parade



Career Day at Prairie View Middle School



Shop With(out) A Cop



Sunshine Place Sunshine Santa



Rooster Chase & Catch



Sunshine Place Bike Distribution



Token Springs Flower Bed



Girls on the Run



UW Platteville Career Day

The Sun Prairie Police Department is humbled by the tremendous outpouring of support from our community. For the handwritten notes, treats, children's drawings, cases of water, pats on the back, and words of encouragement - WE THANK YOU! We have been reminded daily how incredibly lucky we are to work in this community.

Our pledge to you is that our department will continue to abide by our vision, mission, and core values. You will be protected by a police department that is trustworthy and offers hope. We will build relationships and solve problems. We will provide high-quality policing services and strive for continuous improvement.



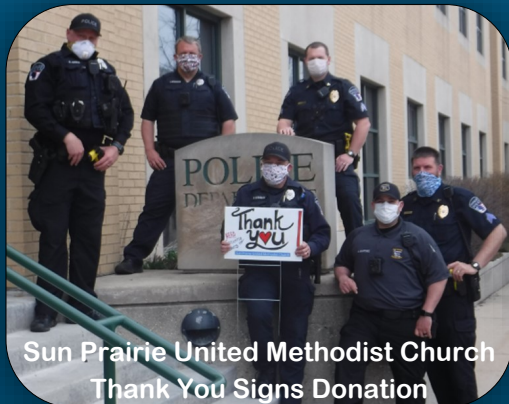
Firehouse Subs Donation



Petterson Family BW3 Donation



Tymeria's Birthday Gift Donation



Sun Prairie United Methodist Church  
Thank You Signs Donation



Gus's Diner Donation



Girl Scout Cookie Donation



Keller K9 Donation



Mission BBQ Donation



Great Lakes Distributing  
Monster Energy Drink Donation

The Sun Prairie Police Department's social media presence and use of digital resources is constantly evolving. Our goals include community outreach, recruitment, emergency notifications, and transparency. Follow us on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram (@sunprairiepd)!



Follow us on Facebook where we highlight our employees and the positive impact they have on our community.



Receive text and e-mail alerts from our agency via Nixle. Sign up is easy and free. Alerts include severe weather, snow emergencies, road closures, press releases, and more.



Submit an anonymous tip to our department via our website or by texting SUNPRAIRIE to 847411.



The Wisconsin Crime Alert Network (WCAN) is a statewide program that links law enforcement agencies with the business community and the public in a partnership to fight crime. WCAN allows law enforcement agencies to send out information rapidly whenever a crime or a suspect may affect citizens or their businesses. You can receive alerts via email, phone, text, or fax.



Visit our website to submit an anonymous tip, make an open records request, pay tickets, view media releases, and review crime mapping data.



Follow us on Twitter for up-to-the-minute information on incidents occurring in our city such as traffic crashes, road closures, severe weather warnings, police incidents, and more. Follow us at @sunprairiepd.



Instagram was the newest social media platform employed by the Sun Prairie Police Department in 2020.



The LexisNexis public crime map, Community Crime Map, connects law enforcement with the community to reduce crime and improve public safety. Crime mapping helps the public get a better idea of the crime activity in their area so they can make informed decisions about how to stay safe.

## MENTAL HEALTH RESPONSE TEAM

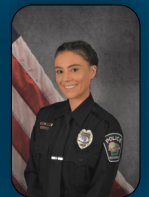
The Mental Health Response Team is a special group of officers who work on long term relationship building with mental health consumers and building relationships with groups that serve those consumers. This team works with people who live, work, or attend school in our community. The goal is to help them locate resources throughout the health care system. This helps consumers to have the support they need, which reduces their need for emergency services, and ultimately helps to steer them away from the criminal justice system.

This year, the team saw the transition of leaders. Early in the year, Sergeant Brenda Dahlen retired, who had overseen the team since its creation. The team transitioned to Sergeant Ray Thomson, who was later promoted. The team is now led by Sergeant Chris Pederson.

In 2020, the team had the honor of hosting crisis intervention training classes hosted by the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI). This class helps provide officers with the skills to deescalate mental health calls and redirect consumers to mental health providers. The class was so popular that the team is hosting a second class in 2021. The department has a goal of having all officers certified. Currently, the department has about half of all staff trained.

A representative of our team also attends the bimonthly Forensic Systems meetings; these keep our team informed of any changes or updates. These provide an excellent opportunity to discuss any issues our team is having with all of the leaders in mental health in the Dane County area.

Our team continues to strive to meet the needs of any person in crisis while keeping them, the officers, and the community safe. Mental health response will continue to be a priority for our department.



## SCHOOL LIAISON OFFICERS

The police department has two officers assigned to work in the schools, teaming with school administration to ensure a safe learning environment for our students.

Officer Lamont Crockett completed his second school year in the spring of 2020, providing coverage at Sun Prairie High School and Prairie Phoenix Academy. Officer Tommy Foy continued his role providing coverage for Cardinal Heights Upper Middle School, Prairie View Middle School, and Patrick Marsh Middle School.



Both Officer Crockett and Officer Foy excel in the relationships they have made with school staff and, most importantly, the students. Officer Crockett and Officer Foy are very visible in the community and are key to the success of this program.



2020 was a challenging year with COVID-19; in person learning was suspended in early 2020. Officers Crockett and Foy returned to the patrol division to provide supplemental staffing while students participated in virtual learning.

In late 2020, Officer Foy was promoted to the rank of sergeant and was replaced by Officer Jamison Davis.

## DISPATCH

The Sun Prairie Police Department Communications Center processes all incoming non-emergency calls for service and dispatches police units accordingly. The communications center is equipped with the latest technology, including computer aided dispatch (CAD) workstations. These workstations are equipped with an extensive mapping system that provides the ability to plot the location of calls, view emergency personnel using an automated vehicle location utility, and provide navigation capabilities.

The communications center handles after hours walk-in customers, alarm monitoring, video camera monitoring, and provides a 24 / 7 city answering point.

The center is staffed 24 hours a day and consists of eight dispatchers and one communications center supervisor.



## RECORDS

The records bureau consists of 10 employees - the records supervisor / systems manager, seven administrative assistants (five full time, two part time), a municipal court clerk, and a court officer. The bureau operates out of two locations - 300 E. Main St. and 2598 W. Main St. The lobby windows are open 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM, Monday through Friday. In 2020, the closing of both locations' windows was initiated by COVID-19; but services were still provided online and via telephone.

Administrative assistants maintain all paperwork and official records for incidents handled by the Sun Prairie Police Department. They greet the public and answer general questions, as well as assist the communications center by initiating calls for service requests from citizens during business hours. They handle citation payments and process parking citation suspensions, respond to all open records requests, provide fingerprinting services, and prepare monthly reports.



The court officer is the liaison between the department and the Dane County District Attorney's Office. They are responsible for ensuring prompt attention is provided to all arrests made by the police department in order to provide timely court appearances for all defendants as provided by law.

In addition, the court officer is responsible for conducting city background investigations, fulfilling requests for digital evidence, and managing the department's social media accounts. They also oversee the department's involvement with local restorative justice programs.

The department launched a new records management system on October 21, 2020 called CentralSquare (CS Pro). The new system features custom fields, forms, modules, dashboards, and a built-in report generator. The web-based system works with our existing computer aided dispatch (CAD) system, has a Tracs to TiPSS interface, and meets NIBRS reporting requirements.

## RESTORATIVE JUSTICE & COMMUNITY RESTORATIVE COURT

The Sun Prairie Police Department takes pride in our continued participation in various county restorative justice programs. Our collaboration with agencies such as Briarpatch and Community Restorative Court help ensure we utilize practices that help make the justice system fair and equitable for everyone, including victims, offenders, and the involved community.

Juvenile Restorative Justice is an alternative to municipal court for youth ages 12 to 16 that have committed non-traffic related offenses. Community Restorative Court is a program for young adults ages 17 to 25 that have committed either municipal or misdemeanor offenses such as battery, disorderly conduct, obstructing, theft, or criminal damage to property.

The goal of both programs is to repair the harm, reduce further risk, and rebuild community trust. Program participants agree to immerse themselves in the process, take responsibility for their actions, and repair harm.

## PROPERTY & EVIDENCE

Property and evidence responsibilities are administered by our evidence officer and are overseen by our special operations lieutenant. The evidence officer manages all items that have been collected by, or turned over to, representatives of the department. Property is then properly packaged and stored at one of three locations. Property is managed for court purposes, investigations, storage, disposal, and for return to property owners.



The evidence officer provides instruction for officers and citizens in the best practices for collecting, maintaining, and packaging of property. They will assist with evidence collection in the field at the request of patrol and investigative staff. They work closely with the Wisconsin State Crime Laboratory, Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene, and other federal and state agencies for processing of evidence.

We participate with Wisconsin Surplus Online Auctioning in order to dispose of unclaimed property items and generate revenue for the city. The department also partners with Dream Bikes, a nonprofit organization that takes unclaimed bicycles and assists young adults in teaching them how to fix bikes and job training.

## DEPARTMENT TRAINERS



Detective Scot Bartnick:  
Firearms & ALERRT



Officer Zach Bolling:  
EVOC / Vehicle Contacts



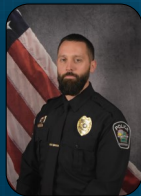
Lieutenant Ryan Cox:  
DAAT & ASIM



Officer Lamont Crockett:  
EVOC / Vehicle Contacts



Officer Barb Enger:  
DAAT & Firearms



Detective David Hall:  
Firearms, ICAT, & ALERRT



Sergeant Josh Hameister:  
Firearms



Detective Michael Hartman:  
EVOC / Vehicle Contacts



Officer Randy Humphrey:  
Firearms



Officer Gary Nichols:  
Firearms & ALERRT



K9 Officer Ben Plum:  
Firearms & ALERRT



Officer Jeremy Rademacher:  
EVOC / Vehicle Contacts



Sergeant Ryahn Smith:  
DAAT, PCS, ICAT, & ALERRT



Chief Mike Steffes:  
Firearms, DAAT, PCS, & LPO



Officer Brian Waldera:  
Firearms & ALERRT



Officer Nate Walker:  
Firearms



Officer Leonard Webster:  
DAAT

## DEPARTMENT TRAINING

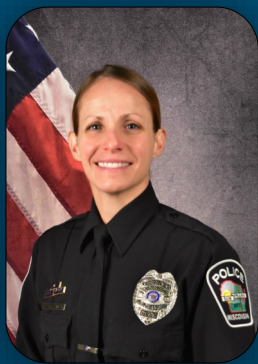
The Sun Prairie Police Department has designated specially trained instructors that are tasked with the professional development of our staff. Department instructors will deliver training during quarterly in-service sessions that are specifically designed to enhance targeted skill sets. These sessions and associated training plans are developed utilizing the professional standards for law enforcement and are often based on state and national lessons in the field.

Professional development is critical for continued department success. The profession requires exposure to specialty training that must be sought from outside resources. All staff members are given additional opportunities to attend training outside of the department to reach this objective. Specialty instructors are also often brought into the department to attend our in-service to deliver training.

2020 was a challenging year to say the least for our field training team. We selected three new trainers - Officer Brandon Reigstad, Officer Jesse Davila and Officer Ryan Barnes. We lost three trainers to different positions within the department. We also hired multiple officers and had to train six new officers throughout the year.

Combine all of that with the fact that our nation and community faced a pandemic, the likes of which have not been seen in over 100 years. We had to develop new, safe, and innovative ways to accomplish the training that was needed for our new officers while still following the health guidelines related to curbing the exposure to COVID-19. Both our field trainers and our new officers had to take precautions that our other staff did not, some of which made their days at work much more difficult and stressful.

Through all of that, they did a fantastic job. We have high hopes and lofty expectations for this team moving into 2021, where we will select more field training officers and hire more new officers. This team will play a large role in the guidance and mentoring of both those groups.

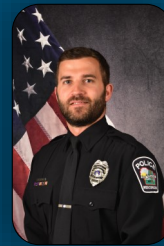
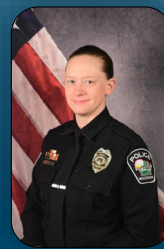
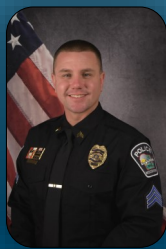
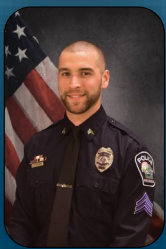


The 2020 Sun Prairie Police Honor Guard consisted of Sergeant Nolan Pickar, Sergeant Brandon Lingle, Detective Cathy Schultz, Officer Mackenzie Miller, Officer Jamey Davis, Officer Amy Bolling, and Officer Michelle Schultz. We were also fortunate enough to add Officer Nate Hoffmann and Officer Royse Sessums to the team.

Our team typically represents the department at events across the state. These events include funerals for line of duty deaths, off duty deaths, and retired officers. We also represent the agency at many community events such as the Groundhog Day celebration and the annual awards ceremony. But as we all know, 2020 was a year like no other.

We were able to participate in the 2020 department awards ceremony and the Groundhog Day celebration before the pandemic arrived. The honor guard also assisted with the funeral ceremony for Dane County Sheriff's Department Deputy Rick Treadwell. Due to the pandemic, events such as the Wisconsin Law Enforcement Memorial Ceremony, the Citizens Academy graduation, and the Milwaukee Brewers Law Enforcement Appreciation game were cancelled.

We are looking forward to 2021, and hope we can get back to representing our community and profession soon.



The Sun Prairie Police Honor Guard is a proud member of the Wisconsin Honor Guard Association.



**TRAFFIC SAFETY** - In 2020, Sergeant Jason Lefeber oversaw the Traffic Safety Program. The department receives numerous traffic complaints from concerned citizens each year. Some of those traffic complaints involve complaints against a specific motorist in real time. Others are complaints involving a particular area in the city where a specific traffic violation is a concern (e.g. speeding or traffic sign violations). Those are the types of complaints where the department uses a mid to long term plan to address the concern. Those plans often include conducting a speed survey, working with other departments for a possible solution (e.g. working with public works to implement traffic signs / lights), and dedicating patrol resources to monitor and enforce a problem area over a period of time.

In 2020, the department received 844 traffic complaints from citizens. The vast majority of these were “real time” complaints of a specific vehicle or vehicles which were addressed at that time by an officer. Of those complaints, 26 were given further analysis through this program because they were larger scale / pervasive traffic concerns. As a result of the analyses of those reported complaints, officers conducted directed patrols to the concerning area at various locations throughout the city. These directed patrols ranged in duration from a few days to as long as a month; however, most were one to two weeks in duration.



Additionally, in partnership with the public works department, this program analyzed reported issues of speeding 14 times over the course of the year. These were done by utilizing JAMAR traffic recording devices that both departments share. These devices are generally deployed for three to seven days, depending on the nature of the data trying to be obtained as a result of the concerns that were raised. The department’s speed trailer was often utilized, as well. It provides a visual indication of speed, which can be helpful, as the visual stimuli can reinforce proper driving behavior.

Once again, our department participated in several statewide traffic safety mobilizations. Due to COVID, the mobilization that is usually done during

Memorial Day was moved to the July 4th holiday time period. It was the Click-It or Ticket Campaign where seatbelt safety is the main emphasis. In August (Labor Day) and December (New Year’s), we participated in the Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over Campaign where impaired driving is the emphasis. Participating in these mobilizations makes us eligible for different types of grants from the state DOT.

In 2020, the Sun Prairie Police Department responded to 862 reports of vehicle crashes; 377 ended up being reportable crashes. These numbers are about 17% less than 2019, which is likely due to the lockdown in March and April that greatly reduced vehicular traffic.

It is clear from the number of complaints and informal conversations had with citizens that traffic safety is an important concern with members of the Sun Prairie community. The police department agrees with those concerns and is dedicated, through the Traffic Safety Program, to address those concerns.

**EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT** - The emergency management team for the city is comprised of a director (police chief) and three coordinators (fire chief, emergency medical services chief, and assistant police chief). The team is supported by various city departments and divisions, including engineering, public works, wastewater, utilities, community development, building inspection, and administrative services. Together, this group is charged with preparing the community for emergency situations, including weather related disasters.

The City of Sun Prairie maintains an Emergency Operations Center (EOC). The purpose of the EOC is to provide a suitable area for representatives of emergency services and support agencies to help coordinate resources for in-field command.



A new program was established offering Sun Prairie residents a voice in their police department. A Police Chief's Advisory Board was formed for purposes of providing a collaborative forum for police - community interaction to address safety and related issues in order to further enhance the quality of life in our community. The board will also serve as a valuable resource for the chief of police in the development of community policing concepts and programs, the formation of strategies, and help increase public awareness and communications of the department. A four-week application process began in August, which resulted in 80 inquiries and 49 applications being submitted. We were so encouraged by the positive response to the program. We are grateful to serve a community of individuals so willing to step up and lend their perspective, background, and skills for the greater good of us all. Common themes throughout the applications we received included the desire to:

- Bridge the gap and strengthen relations between police and community
- Assist in enhancing trust and transparency
- Learn and better understand police operations and policies
- Ensure that all individuals calling Sun Prairie "home" feel safe and valued
- Come together to find common ground

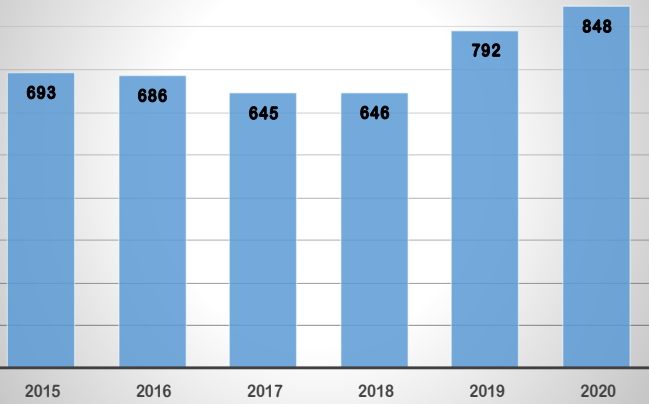


In effort to maintain safe social distance, two separate forums were held where we all had the opportunity to meet and hold great dialogue - sharing thoughts, suggestions, and concerns. It was not an easy task selecting board members from this group of very caring residents; however, in order to build a community advisory board made up of the best possible mix of representation and diversity of backgrounds across the city's four police districts, 17 members were selected.

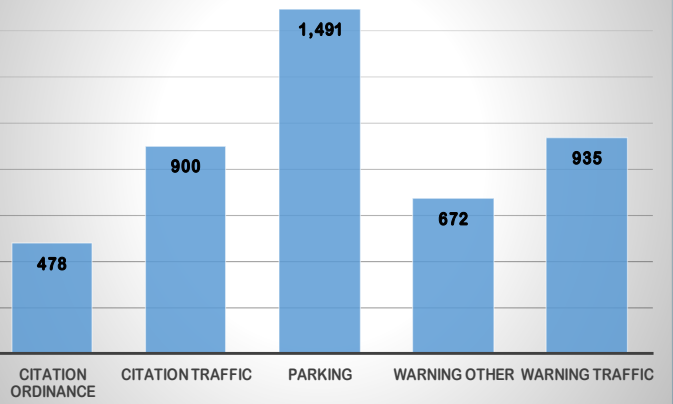
A productive first meeting was held on November 19th, where members were introduced to each other and had the opportunity to share their unique perspective and motivation for being a part of the board. Board decorum, logistical items, and board priorities were addressed. The first couple of topics selected by the board to be addressed in 2020 were our Mental Health Response Team and use of force. Additionally, each month, we discuss current events, social justice issues, and national law enforcement news.

We are so excited about this advisory board and the positive impact we will be able to make - together - in our community.

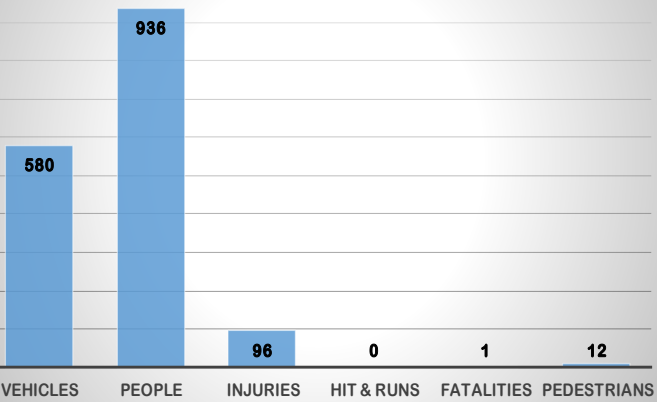
### Arrests



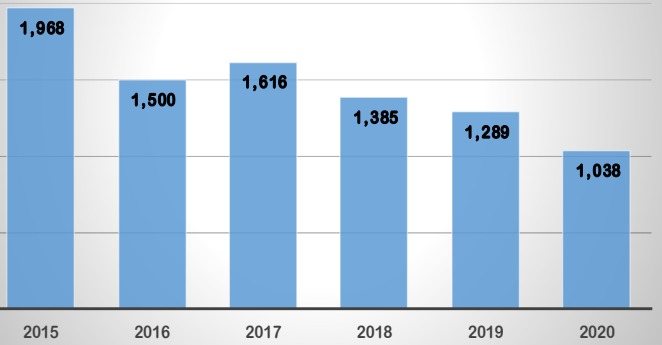
### Citations by Type



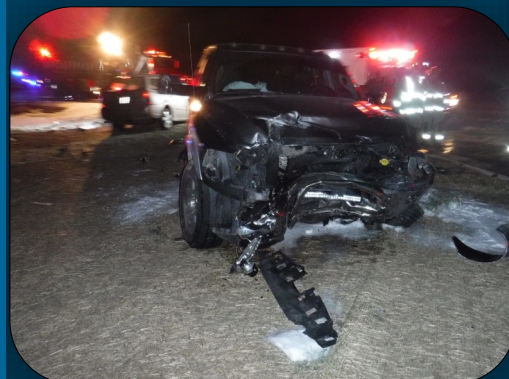
### Accident Involvements



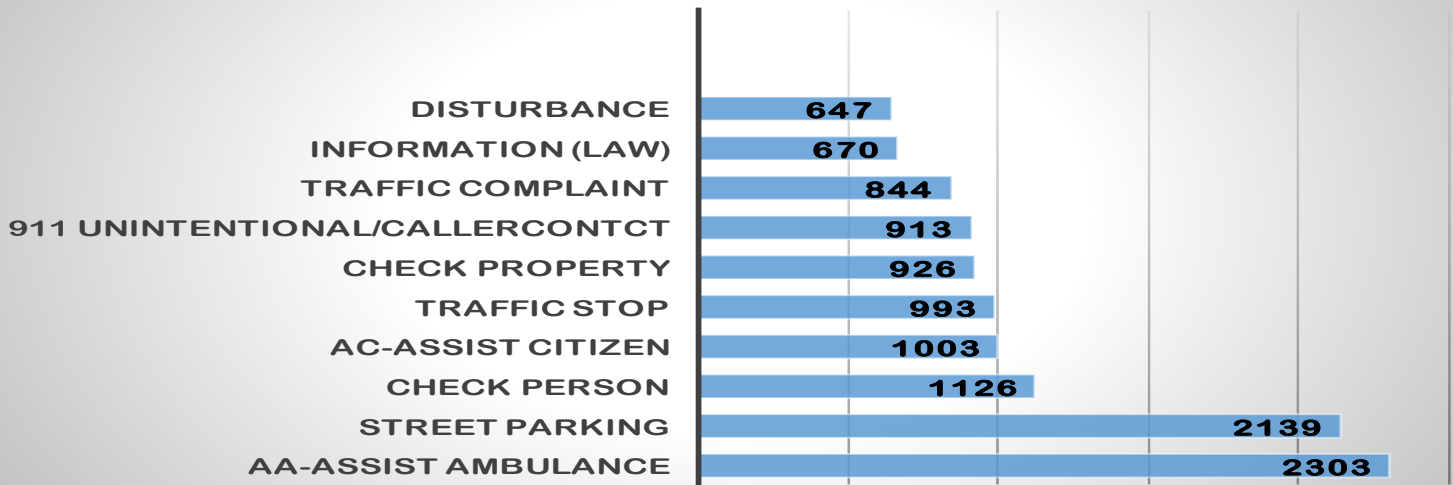
### Pounds in Med Drop



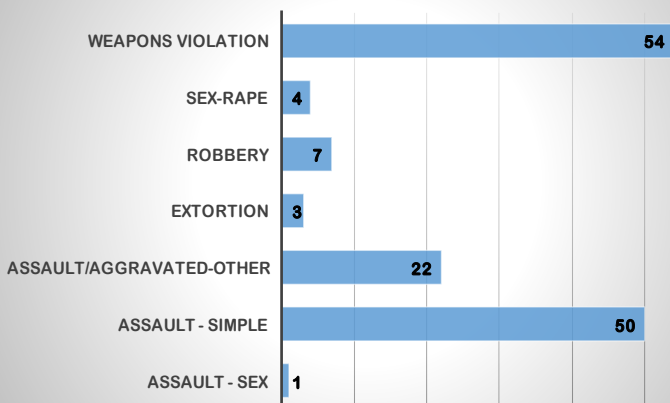
YEAR	CRASHES	REPORTABLE
2018	959	444
2019	952	476
2020	862	377



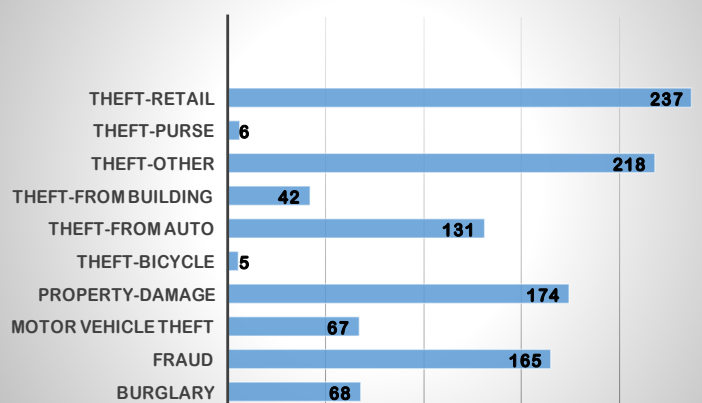
## Top 10 Calls for Service



### Person Crimes



### Property Crimes



### Department Complaint Summary

#### Non-Minor Complaints:

Reports of conduct or patterns of conduct that, if proven true, would likely result in a letter of reprimand or more serious discipline.

Complaint Type	Finding
Non-Minor (1)	Sustained
Non-Minor (1)	Unfounded
Minor (3)	Unfounded

#### Minor Complaints:

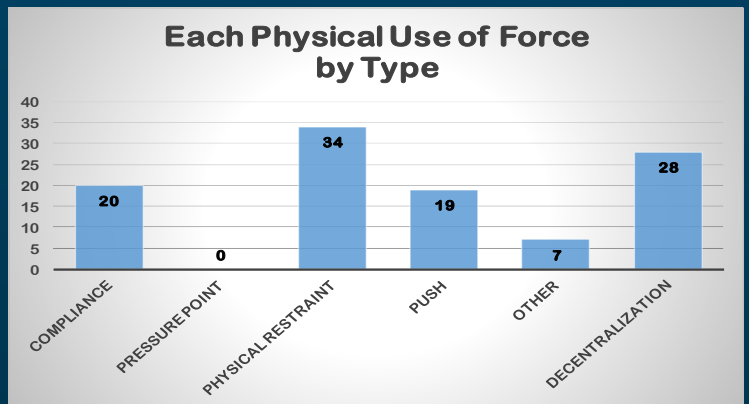
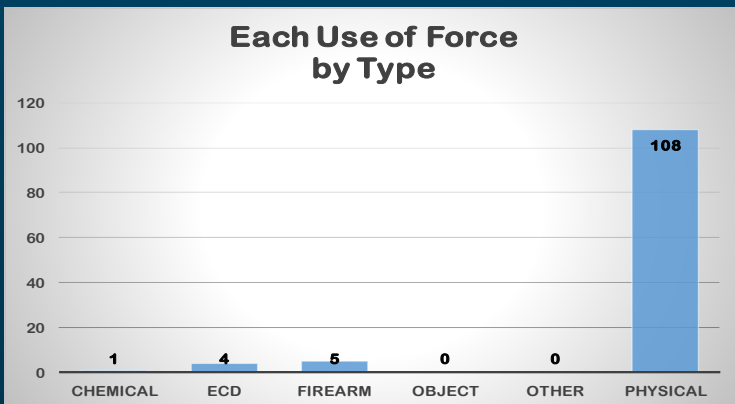
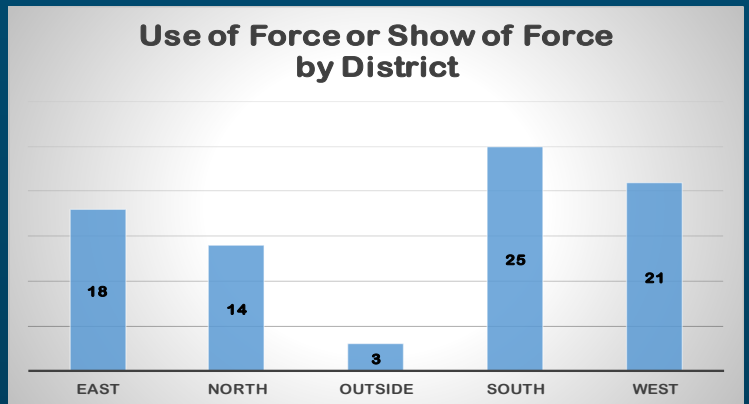
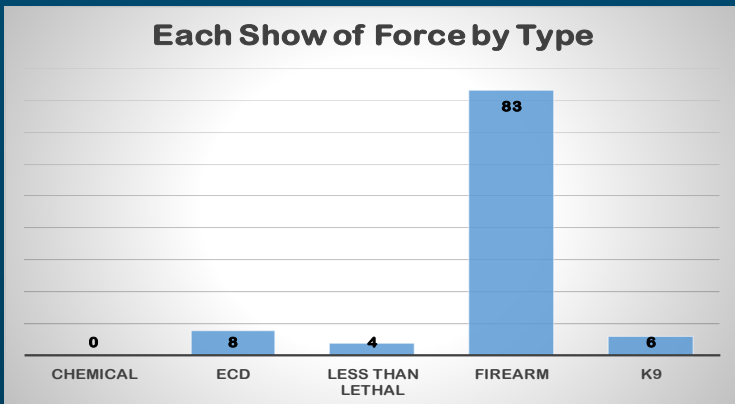
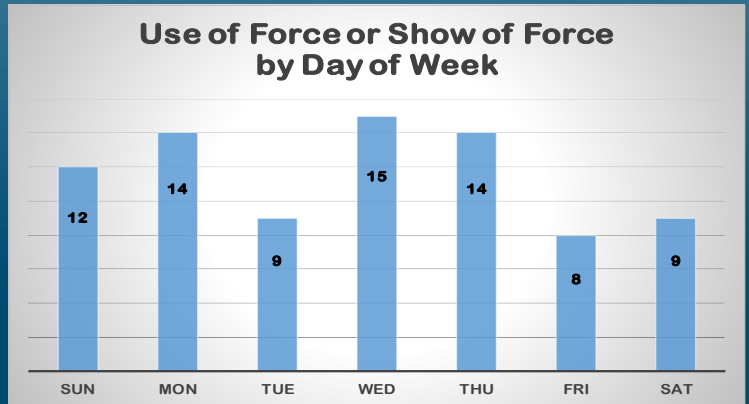
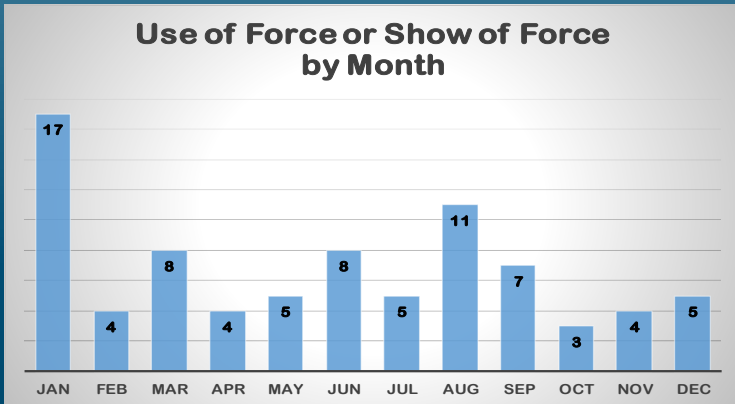
Reports of conduct or patterns of conduct that, if proven true, would likely result in action less than a letter of reprimand.

The Sun Prairie Police Department tracks all incidents that involve a show of force or use of force. It is important to note, that if an animal needs to be euthanized due to injury or disease, it is tracked as a use of force; in 2020, there were five such incidents. In 2020, the Sun Prairie Police Department responded to 81 incidents involving human subjects. Within these 81 incidents, there were a total of 90 subjects involved.

A change in practice in how a show of force was counted from previous years occurred in 2020. If an officer displayed a show of force towards multiple subjects, for example on a traffic stop, previously that would count as one show of force. Half way through 2020, the Sun Prairie Police Department began counting each person that a show of force was displayed on as a separate show of force.

The highest frequency of force used was that of physical restraint. The highest number of uses of force occurred in the month of January, with Wednesdays being the highest frequency of any day of the week. Officers displayed a show of force or used force in all four city districts and also in outside jurisdictions. Ten officers and eight subjects were injured during these use of force incidents. One officer was injured and removed from full duty for several months.

\*Please note, a single incident can have multiple uses of force by an officer or multiple officers.





**Westside Community Services Building**  
**2598 West Main Street**



**City Hall**  
**300 East Main Street**



COMPETENCE

CHARACTER

LEADERSHIP

CITY OF

SUN PRAIRIE

STATE OF  
WISCONSIN

POLICE

DEPT.

