



# WAUWATOSA

## POLICE DEPARTMENT



2023 Annual Report



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## Mission, Vision & Values



### MISSION

Dedicated service and protection for all.

### VISION

To foster a safe and secure community through collaboration, trust and exceptional police service.

### VALUES

Courage, Integrity, Respect, Compassion



## Command Staff



James H. MacGillis  
Chief of Police



Luke G. Vetter  
Patrol Bureau Captain



Shane R. Wrucke  
Support Services Captain



Gary J. Gabrish  
Administrative Captain





## Mayor & City Administrator



Mayor Dennis McBride



City Administrator James Archambo

## Police and Fire Commissioners



Left to right: Greg Leahy, Stan Stojkovic, Danielle Basil-Long, Victor Plantinga, Phillip Morris



## James H. MacGillis Letter from the Police Chief

Dear Mayor, Members of the Common Council, and Citizens of Wauwatosa,

The 2023 annual report allows us as an organization to inform about the services we have provided over the last year. I would be remiss if I didn't acknowledge the dedicated and hardworking staff that continually accomplish our mission of providing dedicated service and protection for all, despite the staffing challenges we continue to struggle with. We remain steadfast in building public trust while providing exceptional police service.

Wauwatosa is a beautiful and unique community. Although it has a small-town feel, the community is comprised of 48,000 residents, making it the 14<sup>th</sup> largest city by population in Wisconsin. That population more than doubles during the daytime due to the city's rich retail, commercial, medical, and educational services. Wauwatosa becomes the 4<sup>th</sup> largest city by population every day, therefore the Police Department must be diverse and adaptable to the ever-changing policing needs due to the daily population shift.

During 2023, our progress on Centers for Public Safety Management (CPSM) recommendations transitioned to organizational improvements, several of which aligned with identified CPSM goals. To that end, an Employee Relations Project group was established to focus on those improvements, consisting of both formal and informal leaders within the department along with other key intergovernmental stakeholders. Some of these accomplishments include:

- Retention of tenured members and recruitment of new employees
- Applying City workplace flexibility policy to the Police Department
- Promotional process and policy improvement
- Relationship building between police department staff and city staff
- Crime reduction initiatives
- Focus on strategic initiatives
- Incorporation of technology to increase policing efficiency

I am pleased to share that the 5-year CPSM study was completed in 2.5 years, with an 87.19% completion and integration return. We will continue to evaluate our changes, while also determining how we can deliver policing services more efficiently into 2024. This will involve exploring our staffing levels, our organizational structure, the policing services we provide, and how those goals align with our strategic plan.

Thank you for putting your trust in us. Public safety is a shared responsibility, and we can't do it without the community's ongoing support.

Sincerely,



James H. MacGillis  
Chief of Police



## Luke G. Vetter

### Letter from the Patrol Bureau Captain

The Patrol Bureau is made up of the largest number of men and women who serve as the “backbone” of the department. They provide 24/7 patrols and response to the city while fulfilling numerous specialty roles that you will read about in the following pages. We have been continually hiring and training officers to provide exceptional police services to the community.

Technology is an ever-changing piece of police work. We must learn to complete our daily mission by working smarter and harder. Crime data analysis, video cameras, license plate readers, social workers, online form submissions, and Community Service Officers round out the tools we currently use to meet the challenge of providing more service with less staff. In 2023, we saw a 16% increase in calls for service over 2022, all the while only having 75% of the authorized number of sworn officers to do that work.

I am proud of the work ethic and resourcefulness of our front-line staff. The Support Services and Administrative Bureaus provide constant support to meet our Department’s goals and mission.

To make our streets safer, the Patrol Bureau introduced a harm reduction strategy for traffic safety. By analyzing our traffic crash data through a weighted system of severity and recency, we were able to determine our most dangerous intersections. This method identified trends not previously seen in our analysis of crash volume. Our patrol officer’s traffic enforcement is now directed toward the areas around these streets and intersections to look for behaviors of unsafe driving. The attached map is where many of those efforts have been taking place throughout 2023.



**Shane R. Wrucke**  
**Letter from the Support Services Captain**

The Support Services Bureau is responsible for oversight of the enhanced policing contracts at the Milwaukee Regional Medical Center, the Training and Personnel Division, and the Investigative Division.

In October of 2023, the Wauwatosa Police Department negotiated and executed a contract for enhanced police services in the Emergency Department of Froedtert Hospital. This step was the third phase of the transition process. As of December 31, 2023, three officers per shift are assigned to the Milwaukee Regional Medical Center campus.

The enhanced service contracts satisfy several effective objectives for the Police Department and the Milwaukee Regional Medical Center. The contracts established a long-term strategic partnership to meet the needs of the campus without impacting community policing. The contracts improve public safety on the campus through collaboration and proactive approaches.

All sworn personnel of the Police Department attend training to familiarize themselves with the campus, each entity, and their relevant policies and procedures. Refresher training is also conducted on an annual basis and as needed. Data regarding police activity is analyzed and reported to formulate mitigation strategies.

The Training and Personnel Division manages the hiring of and promotion of sworn positions and coordinates internal and external training for all Police Department staff. The Investigative Division is responsible for investigating criminal activity, conducting pre-employment background investigations, and property management.

The Support Services Bureau supports the mission of the Wauwatosa Police Department's commitment to dedicated service and protection for all through quality hiring practices, professional criminal investigations, and community policing principles.





**Gary J. Gabrish**  
**Letter from the Administrative Bureau Captain**

The Administrative Bureau is comprised of sworn officers and civilian personnel that serve as a supporting function of the Police Department. Its divisions include the Communications Division, Community Support Division, which oversees Police Reserves and Community Service Officers, and the Administrative Division. The Administrative Division is responsible for security and building maintenance, records, technical services, jail and confinement, and the front office.

The Communication Division is the focal point for incoming communications. They keep our personnel safe and informed through call-taking and dispatching all Police and Fire activity in the City. Members of our customer service front office and those assigned to records are responsible for providing information and answering questions about Department operations. This Bureau maintains responsibility for the record-keeping function of the department and provides public access to department records as specified under Wisconsin State Statutes. The Police Department receives nearly 3,000 requests for public records annually.

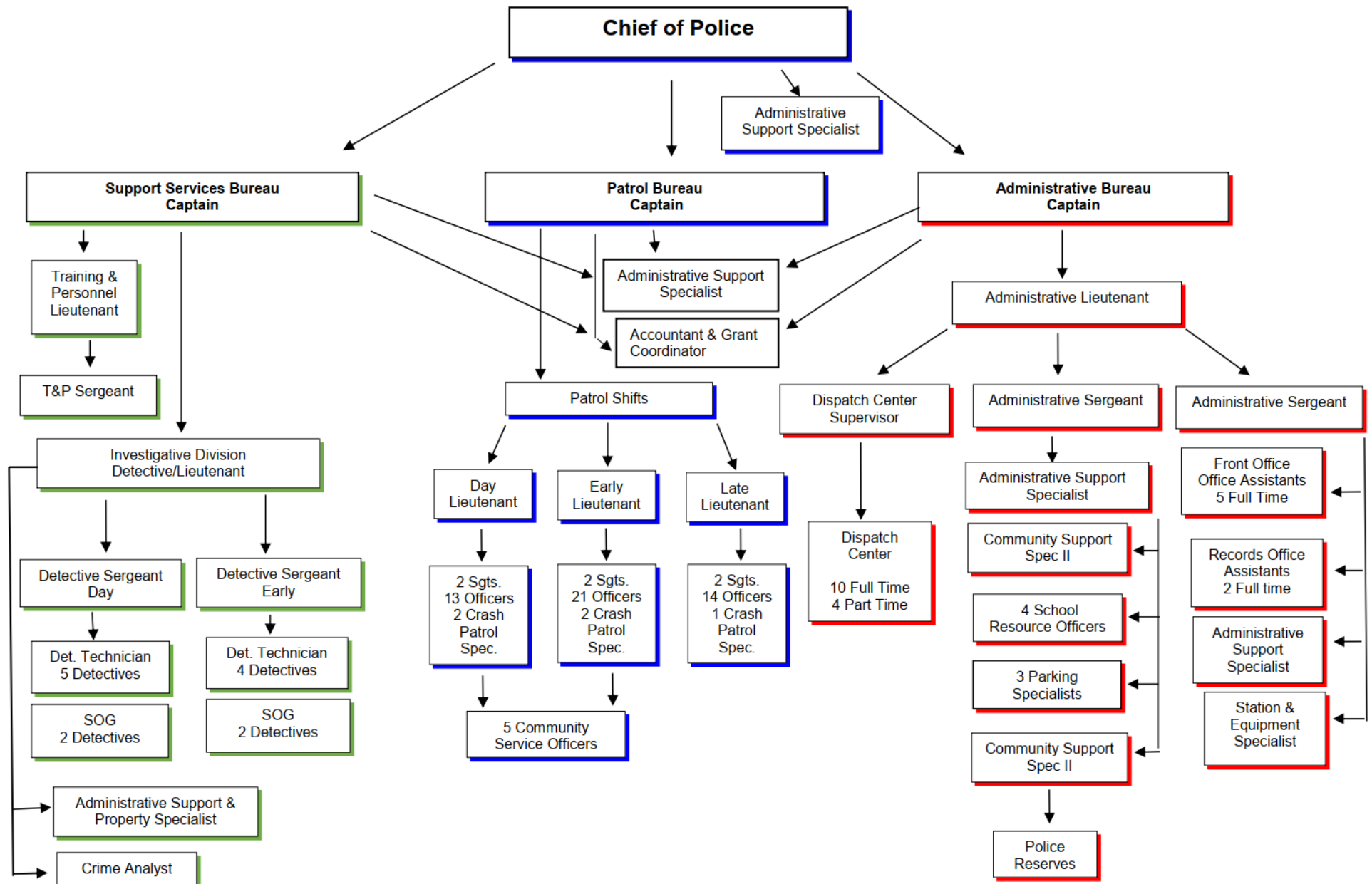
The City of Wauwatosa hosts numerous special events every year and depends on the Community Support Division to oversee these events for coordination with the public for overall safety. Many times, these events also coincide with our schools. The members of the school resource officer team, the Wauwatosa Police Reserves, and community service officers all fall under the umbrella of the Administrative Bureau.

A work group within the Administrative Bureau coordinates with the Police Chief to develop and maintain the annual operating budget. The Bureau continues to work diligently on grant opportunities, financial programs, and asset forfeiture accounts to supplement our budget. Administrative Bureau services also work with the fleet manager to purchase, outfit, and maintain a fleet of more than 50 police vehicles.

The Bureau strives to have a teamwork environment and utilizes the City's policy and stance of workplace flexibility to benefit our personnel. We continue to work together to expand the flexibility policy through internal programs, employee strengths, and teamwork to meet the needs of the public. We continue to look to our personnel to generate new ideas as well as provide ingenuity toward avenues of job direction. By improving work share dynamics, having clear job descriptions, and an independent work environment, we help to keep the Police Department moving in a positive direction. We exist to support the mission and values of the entire department from behind the scenes.



# Wauwatosa Police Department – Organizational Chart



## **CHIEF OF POLICE – JAMES H. MACGILLIS**

ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT SPECIALIST – MARY WEGER

### **PATROL BUREAU**

#### **CAPTAIN LUKE G. VETTER**

ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT SPECIALIST – TERESA KOBS

##### **DAY SHIFT**

LT. CHAD GEISZLER  
SGT. THOMAS ORLOWSKI  
SGT. JOSEPH LEWANDOWSKI

##### **EARLY SHIFT**

LT. JOSEPH ZIENTEK  
SGT. KURT SVATEK  
SGT. EDWARD TYRPAK

##### **LATE SHIFT**

LT. CHRIS MCATEE  
SGT. JACOB GROSENICK  
SGT. JORDAN YANDRE

PEARSON, MICHAEL  
GIBBS, JULIE  
CEFALU, DAVID  
DIENHART, DEREK  
MITCHELL, DANIEL  
MISZEWSKI, STEVEN  
SALYERS, RALPH (A&I)  
MACHALK, TRAVIS  
WADE, BRYAN (A&I)  
WONG, JOSEPH  
SANFELIPPO, ANTHONY  
PENTIMALLI, KELSEY  
ALBITER, MARIA  
NELSON, ADAM  
MUDASSAR, S. ARSLAN  
SAFFOLD, JEREMY  
SIBLEY, BRENNYN  
SINGH, MANVINDER

ZIEGLER, BENJAMIN & K9 ZEV  
SCHLEIS, DEXTER  
PATNODE FONSECA, ALEJANDRO  
OPELT, GEORGE  
MARTELL, MATTHEW  
TRESTER, DANIEL (A&I)  
RADWILL, AARON  
MORK-CARDON, KEIAGANE  
GEORGE, COLLIN  
BENSON, ERIC  
HERRERA, ALEXANDER  
STREETER, ELI  
JOYCE, TEAGAN  
PYTLIK, TYLER  
ROMANT, EMMA  
TEMPLER, NATHAN  
FOSTER, SHAUN  
GILBREATH, ROBERT

REBHOLZ, BENJAMIN & K9 KOA  
FLORYANCE, ANDREW  
MILLS, STEPHEN  
TAPP, ADAM  
JOHNSON, JEFFREY  
SCHWABENLANDER, RYAN (A&I)  
GEE, SHANNON  
STEBERL, KARL  
KRIZ, MITCHELL  
SMITH, DURELL  
EIGENBROD, COLAN  
SHOMAN, JACOB  
WELLS, GARRETT  
LEEMAN, MICHAEL  
BARTOSIK, ZOSIA

##### **FTO TRAINING PROGRAM**

GERSTMEIER, JACK  
LA FONTAIN, KAYLA  
FABER, JACOB  
SANTANA, CASSANDRA  
BUBLITZ, CHAD  
LOZANO, RICARDO



## **SUPPORT SERVICES BUREAU**

**CAPTAIN SHANE R. WRUCKE**  
ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT SPECIALIST – TERESA KOBS

### **TRAINING & PERSONNEL**

LT. KATIE GIERACH  
SGT. ABBY PAVLIK

### **INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION / DAY**

LT. JOSEPH ROY  
SGT. BRIAN SKORNIA

DET. TECH. STEPHEN KIRBY  
JOHN MILOTZKY  
RYAN CEPICAN  
JOEL KUTZ

KELLY ZIELINSKI (SOG)  
MARTIN KECK (SOG)  
BRAD ISAACSON (SOG)  
KIRK WILL (HIDTA)  
STEPHEN SCHMIDT (USMS)

### **INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION / EARLY**

DET. SGT. JAMES WOOD

DET. TECH. MICHAEL ROMEIS  
TIMOTHY KASTNER  
NICHOLAS STAHL  
BETH ITNYRE

### **CRIME ANALYST**

DOMINICK RATKOWSKI

### **PROPERTY MANAGER**

VICTORIA DEVITA





## **ADMINISTRATIVE BUREAU**

### **CAPTAIN GARY J. GABRISH**

ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT SPECIALIST – TERESA KOBS

ACCOUNTANT / GRANT COORDINATOR – KARLA OLSON

ADMINISTRATIVE LT. BRADLEY BECKMAN

#### **COMMUNITY SUPPORT**

SGT. JAMES MORRILL

LAURA LAURISHKE

#### **COMMUNITY SUPPORT OFFICERS**

MIKE MCDERMOTT

DAN KANE

#### **SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS**

FARRIS GRIFFIN

PHONEXAY YOTHSACKDA

CORDERO FINLEY

#### **DISPATCH CENTER**

TAMARA ENGELKEN - SUPERVISOR

KATIE MEYER

SCOTT BURGARDT

GREG GEIS

KATIE MARTORANO

KERRI JAY

KATIE TYRPAK

CHELSEA WAWRZYNIAKOWSKI

TIA HARRIS

BRIANNA POTTER

KYLE MELTESEN

RUTH PHILLIPS

KATELYN HERMANN

#### **FRONT OFFICE & RECORDS**

SGT. CORY WEX

NICOLE LAMBRECHT

ALEXANDER WITT

BAILEY MANGOLD

ROSALYN WOZNY

MAIJA PTASZEK

SUSAN SELNER

#### **ADMINISTRATIVE SYSTEMS**

KATHY WICINSKI

BRADLEY DALEIDEN

#### **PARKING SPECIALISTS**

JERRY VANROO

ANTHONY ROBERTS

TARA WRIGHT



## **NEW SWORN OFFICERS**

**January** – Emma Romant, Thomas Hensler, Nathan Templer, Martin Moreno-Padilla, Dayton West

**February** – Brennyn Sibley

**March** – Shaun Foster, Manvinder Singh

**May** – Jack Gerstmeier, Kayla La Fontain

**August** – Jacob Faber, Cassandra Santana, Chad Bublitz, Robert Gilbreath, Ricardo Lozano

## **PROMOTIONS**

**Officer Jacob Grosenick** was promoted to the rank of **Sergeant** effective January 4, 2023. Sergeant Grosenick was assigned to Late Shift in the Patrol Division.

**Officer Jordan Yandre** was promoted to the rank of **Sergeant** effective October 9, 2023.

**Patrol Specialist Beth Itnyre** was promoted to the rank of **Detective** effective October 9, 2023

## **RETIREMENTS**

**Detective James Short** retired on April 6, 2023. He began his career with the City as a Police Officer in November 1995. He was promoted to Detective in April 2008. Detective Short received several Meritorious Service Citations. He was a diligent investigator and dedicated to solving crime and protecting the citizens in this community. He was with the department for over 27 years.

**School Resource Officer Tracy Burbach** retired on February 13, 2023. She began her career with the City as a Police Officer in January 2009. She was a School Resource Officer for 11 years and passionately served the Wauwatosa School District; primarily the students at Longfellow Middle School. In 2019, she received the Police Blue Star Award for injuries sustained during the performance of her police duties in November 2018. SRO Burbach served two other police agencies before coming to Wauwatosa.

**Officer Nichole Gabriel** retired on April 17, 2023. She began her career with the City in October 2002. Officer Gabriel received a letter of commendation for active police work and was a member of the assessment team. Officer Gabriel previously served with the Milwaukee County Sheriff's Office where she received a Lifesaving Award. She served the citizens of Wauwatosa for 20 years.

**Officer Patrick Kaine** retired on June 9, 2023. He began his career with the City in October, 1996. Officer Kaine received several awards for his bravery, vigilance in solving crimes, and for his dedication to the citizens of Wauwatosa. Officer Kaine will be remembered for his ability to be a consistently strong role model for younger officers, and his willingness to go above and beyond to keep Wauwatosa a safe city.



**Property Clerk Karen Roy** retired on February 14, 2023, on her anniversary date after 34 years of serving the citizens of Wauwatosa. She was hired in February 1989 as a Front Office Clerk and was promoted to Property Clerk in March 2011 where she assisted the Detective Bureau. Karen received many awards throughout her career and helped hundreds of people who needed fingerprints for their professional licenses. In 2021, Karen was the recipient of the Distinguished Neighbor Award. Her Wauwatosa neighbors presented this to her for her more than 30 years of volunteering at neighborhood events, including organizing Block Parties, Chili Cookoffs, etc.

**The following were recognized at the Wauwatosa Police Department's 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Recognition Awards Ceremony held at the Wauwatosa West High School Auditorium on March 21, 2024 for actions in 2023.**

### ***Citizen Awards***

**Citizen Service Award** – A plaque and letter from the Chief of Police for life saving efforts without regard for their own personal safety, assisting in the apprehension of a criminal or taking action to preserve public safety.

Garrett Kaufmann

### ***Other Agency***

**Chief's Excellence Award** - Recognizing a Sworn Law Enforcement professional who has demonstrated exemplary performance in service to the Wauwatosa Police department and/or community through work on a specific project(s) or performance during a specific incident(s).

MPD Officer Richard Schnier  
MPD Forensic Investigator Don Sanford  
MPD Detectives Steven Jegen  
Michael Martin

### ***Civilians***

**Letter of Commendation** – Recognizing a commendable act or series of actions during the performance of their job.

Telecommunicator Greg Geis  
Telecommunicator Tia Harris

### ***Sworn Staff***

**Letter of Appreciation** – recognizing a noteworthy contribution provided to the department.

Officer Maria Albiter  
Officer Travis Machalk  
Officer Adam Nelson

Officer Kelsey Pentimalli  
Patrol Specialist Ralph Salyers  
Patrol Specialist Bryan Wade



**Chief's Excellence Award** - Recognizing a member who has demonstrated exemplary performance in service to the department and/or community through work on a specific project(s) or performance during a specific incident(s).

Officer Julie Gibbs  
Officer Alexander Herrera  
Officer Anthony San Felippo

**Meritorious Arrest Citation** – Recognizing exceptional employment of trained police investigative and interrogative skill, ability, and intensity in the arrest and clearance of a criminal offense. The member's powers of observation, prowess, and knowledge of criminal activity and/or tactical approach to a crime in progress demonstrate the member's professionalism.

Officer David Cefalu  
Officer Benjamin Rebholz & K9 Koa  
Officer Eli Streeter  
Detective Martin Keck  
Detective Kirk Will

**Departmental Commendation** – Recognizing an act which displays outstanding achievement or brings credit to the department. Performance above and beyond that required by an officer's basic requirement.

Detective Timothy Kastner  
Sgt. Abby Pavlik  
Sgt. Kurt Svatek

**Award of Merit**

An award granted for an outstanding accomplishment which has resulted in improved administration, improved operation, or substantial savings in manpower or operational costs, where the officer has gone far beyond the requirements of the normal assignment to contribute to a more efficient and effective police service, or for outstanding police work of a continuing nature which has brought great credit to the department.

Detective Stephen Kirby

**Life Saving** - An award granted to a member for a successful effort in saving a human life, which involved exceptional courage or performance.

Sgt. Kurt Svatek





## Social Worker Role & Facility Dog Jordan

In April 2022, the Wauwatosa Health Department hired a full-time Social Worker, Kendall Wolter, to assist Wauwatosa residents with accessing necessary community services and resources, primarily in response to increased mental health concerns following the COVID-19 pandemic. Kendall's position is a shared position between the Health, Fire, and Police Departments in Wauwatosa. She receives referrals from all three departments to connect with individuals in the community who may need help accessing services and support. Kendall can assess individuals to determine what kind of assistance they may benefit from and then facilitates referrals to appropriate community services and agencies.



In 2023 alone, Kendall received a total of 185 referrals for service, with 80 of them being directly from the Wauwatosa Police Department. The highest number of referrals (57) were for direct mental health support. Other common referrals included aging-related concerns (45), basic needs resources (27), and homelessness (25). Out of the 185 referrals, 123 were able to be successfully connected with a service to address their needs.

Kendall meets people where they are; whether it's at her office, at someone's home, or out in the community. Kendall has established working hours at various locations in the city, including City Hall, the Fire Department, and the Police Department.

New in the fall of 2023, the Police Department welcomed Facility Dog Jordan, a three-year-old female yellow lab who provides emotional support and comfort to Wauwatosa first responders. A facility dog is a specially trained dog that works in group settings, is trained to perform basic commands, and can provide calming techniques to enhance therapies, promote participation, and reduce anxiety in professional environments. Jordan was donated to the city by *Partners With Paws Service Dogs* and is shared between the Police, Health, and Fire Departments. Kendall is Jordan's primary handler and is responsible for getting Jordan to each department consistently. Jordan also has several designated secondary handlers in each department.

For more information, contact Social Worker Kendall Wolter at 414-333-3719 or [kwolter@wauwatosa.net](mailto:kwolter@wauwatosa.net).



## Patrol Bureau

### Drug Recognition Experts (DRE's)

A Drug Recognition Expert is a police officer trained to recognize impairment in drivers under the influence of drugs other than, or in addition to, alcohol. The International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP) coordinates the International Drug Evaluation and Classification (DEC) Program with support from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA).

The DRE protocol is a standardized method to determine:

1. Whether or not the suspect is impaired; if so,
2. Whether the impairment relates to drugs or medical condition; and if drugs,
3. What category or combination of categories of drugs is the cause of impairment?

The Wauwatosa Police Department has six certified Drug Recognition Experts: Lt. Katie Gierach, Sgt. Cory Wex, Sgt. Kurt Svatek, Detective Ryan Cepican, Officers Ryan Schwabenlander and Mitchell Kriz. Detective Cepican is also a certified DRE Instructor.

In 2023, our DREs conducted 54 evaluations, of those 54, 13 were actual enforcement evaluations. The other 41 were training/instructor witness evaluations. Det. Cepican taught during 3 DRE schools, taught Advance Roadside Impaired Driving Enforcement (ARIDE) classes and presented to Marquette Law School.

### Special Response Team (SRT)

In 2023, Sergeant James Wood led the Wauwatosa Police Department Special Response Team (SRT).

Members of SRT are trained in a wide variety of tactics and skills including hostage/citizen rescue tactics, the execution of high-risk search/arrest warrants, and resolution of armed & barricaded criminal suspects. Members are also specially trained in the use of chemical irritants and other non-lethal force options. To maintain membership in the SRT, officers must pass a challenging annual physical fitness test, an annual weapons qualification, and meet minimum training hours.



The Crisis Negotiation Unit is a critical component of SRT. Negotiators are specially trained in the use of verbal communication to bring a safe resolution to a tactical situation. SRT members have regular training with other agencies and professional organizations, such as the National Tactical Officer's Association and the Wisconsin Crisis Negotiators Association.



## Critical Incident Response Team (CIRT)

The Critical Incident Response Team (CIRT) is a specially trained crowd management unit responsible for the protection of life and property during planned and spontaneous events. CIRT members train in a variety of skills and tactics including crowd management, chemical irritant dispersal, and non-lethal considerations.

CIRT trains with the Suburban Major Incident Response Team in preparation for large events, such as the Republican National Convention and other crowd management needs.



Lieutenant McAtee is the Commander of the Wauwatosa Police Department Critical Incident Response Team and a Commander in the Suburban MIRT.

Sergeant Orlowski is the Team Leader of the Wauwatosa Police Department Critical Incident Response Team and Assist Commander in the Suburban MIRT. Officer Kelsey Pentimalli is the Assistant Team Leader for CIRT.

## Police Motorcycle Unit

Serving the Wauwatosa community since 2008, the Motorcycle Unit provides excellent police service through high-visibility traffic enforcement, crash investigations, and assisting in special events including dignitary and funeral escorts, as well as parades and other demonstrations.

In 2023, the department added a brand-new Harley-Davidson Police motorcycle to the fleet. We have six trained motor officers and operate three Harley-Davidson Police motorcycles.



Officers rode over 10,000 miles and participated in numerous special events, such as the 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade, and Tosa's Night Out. We also escorted the C.O.P.S. Kids Camp for surviving children of law enforcement officers who died in the line of duty.





## Crash Investigation Unit

The Crash Investigation Unit is a full-time team of investigators, spread over three patrol shifts. Their main duties include responding to major vehicle crashes and crime scenes.

This uniformed patrol division is staffed by five Patrol Specialists. Each member will receive specialized training in crash investigation, including fundamentals of vehicle dynamics and crime scene evidence collection. Crash Investigators respond to any crash resulting in a fatality, as well as any crash where there are traumatic injuries or may likely result in a fatality. They investigate hit-and-run crashes resulting in injury, and assist the patrol division with crime scene processing and investigations as needed. These Specialists receive advanced training and assist with processing and photographing evidence and crime scenes.

In 2023, members of the Crash Investigation Unit responded to 179 Personal Injury crashes, 323 hit-and-run crashes, 1 fatality, and responded to 1,003 property damage-only crashes.



## Community Service Officer

The Community Service Officers (CSO) are uniformed, part-time, non-sworn officers of the Wauwatosa Police Department. They provide police services to the community that don't require a response from a sworn officer. Their purpose is to work in partnership with patrol officers and citizens to maintain a safe, peaceful community by providing professional police services dedicated to the highest standards of ethics and integrity.



In 2023, the department's five CSOs responded to 1,658 calls. While the typical calls for service the CSOs respond to are considered a "lower priority" (such as graffiti complaints, abandoned autos, traffic control, etc.), having them available to supplement our busy patrol staff greatly enhances the department's ability to serve the community.

As a bonus, since revamping the CSO program in 2023, three of our CSOs have gone on to become sworn Police Officers with our department.





## K-9 Unit

The K9 Unit is an integral part of the Police Department assisting patrol officers in the apprehension of criminals, locating missing persons, and detecting/locating illegal narcotics and weapons. The K9 Unit assists the School District and school resource officers in conducting random narcotic sweeps. The unit also works with our Community Support Division by conducting demonstrations at Tosa's Night Out and other events.

Lieutenant Chris McAtee is the K9 Unit Commander. Sergeant Kyle Strands oversees the day-to-day operations as the K9 Unit Supervisor.

### Track With Arrest

On 12/21/23, at 12:02 am, Officer Gilbreath pursued a stolen Nissan Maxima reported to be involved in entering vehicles in the 4100 block of N. 97 St. During the pursuit, the vehicle crashed in the 4200 block of N. 104 St., and 5 occupants fled on foot. A perimeter was established around a large area. K9 Koa was deployed to track the fleeing suspects. During the search, K9 Koa located 4 of 5 suspects. It was later determined the suspects and vehicle were involved in a shooting the previous day in Milwaukee. The suspects and the evidence (clothing) located during the track were used by the Milwaukee Police to conduct their investigation.

Officer Rebholz and K9 Koa received a Meritorious Arrest Award in regards to this track apprehension.

### Criminal Apprehension

On 5/22/23 at 8:53 pm, officers were dispatched to the 4000 block of N. 100<sup>th</sup> St., for a disorderly conduct complaint. The described vehicle was located, refused to pull over and a vehicle pursuit was initiated. Upon the conclusion of the pursuit in Menomonee Falls, the driver refused to comply with officers' commands. While standing through the sunroof of the vehicle, the driver repeatedly reached down into the vehicle, attempting to grab something. After Menomonee Falls police officers deployed and struck the driver with four less-than-lethal rounds, the driver still failed to surrender. At this point, K9 Zev was deployed, running up the hood of the vehicle and apprehending the driver until officers took him into custody. A loaded handgun was located near where the driver was in the vehicle.



## Support Services Bureau

### **Wauwatosa Police Department collects and reports crime data using the National Incident Based Reporting System (NIBRS).**

NIBRS is an incident-based reporting system which means data is collected on each single crime occurrence. For each of the offenses coming to the attention of law enforcement, various facts about the crime are collected. NIBRS collects data on every single incident and arrest within 22 offense categories made up of 46 specific crimes called Group A offenses. Group A offenses include crimes such as assault, burglary, narcotics, homicide, motor vehicle theft, robbery, etc.

In addition to the Group A offenses, there are 10 Group B offense categories for which only arrest data is reported. Group B offenses include things such as disorderly conduct, operating while intoxicated, trespassing, etc.

The below table exhibits data reported to the Wisconsin Department of Justice and is current as of **03-06-2024**. All data represents the most accurate data available. Data is subject to change due to report processing and coding.

For the most up-to-date reported data and specific offense data, please visit:

<https://www.doj.state.wi.us/dles/bjia/wibrs-data>

### **4-Year Summary**

	2020	2021	2022	2023
<b>Calls for Service</b>	<b>23,118</b>	<b>27,114</b>	<b>30,065</b>	<b>34,944</b>
<b>Offenses</b>	<b>2,390</b>	<b>2,948</b>	<b>2,978</b>	<b>2,980</b>
Group A	1,840	2,292	2,221	2,101
Group B	550	656	757	879
<b>Arrests</b>	<b>1,223</b>	<b>1,123</b>	<b>1,403</b>	<b>1,678</b>
Group A	685	566	744	904
Group B	538	557	659	774
<b>Crashes</b>	<b>1,002</b>	<b>1,316</b>	<b>1,081</b>	<b>887</b>
Fatal	2	2	5	1
Hit & Run	146	213	201	105
Personal Injury	147	207	142	176
Property Damage Only	707	894	733	605
<b>Citations</b>				
Traffic	2,811	2,190	2,991	4,700
Parking	7,596	8,061	7,096	9,682



## Investigative Division

The Investigative Division investigates criminal matters and significant cases beyond the Patrol Division's scope. Comprised of a diverse team of detectives, detective technicians, and civilians, its primary duty is to resolve the most severe offenses. While all division members investigate these offenses, each specializes in a particular area. Detectives in the Digital Forensic Unit focus on unraveling electronic traces in cases, while Detective Technicians handle physical evidence processing. Presently, two detectives are specifically trained to handle sensitive crimes, aiding the city's most vulnerable victims, and one detective specializes in financial crimes.

Additionally, members of the Investigative Division actively participate in various regional task force groups. These collaborations involve working alongside agencies such as the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Drug Enforcement Administration, United States Secret Service, and the United States Marshal's Service, tackling crimes within and surrounding Wauwatosa. The Wauwatosa Police Department remains a lead agency of the Milwaukee Area Investigative Team (MAIT) in compliance with Wisconsin State Statute 175.47.

## Crime Analysis

Police departments have an abundance of crime data that includes incident locations, date, time, and criminal information. This data can help predict future crime trends criminal patterns, and develop crime prevention strategies. Crime analysis is not an exact science in terms of predictions or trends but is based on social theory and statistical probability. By using statistics, future crime trends can be predicted.

There are two general types of crime analysis: *Strategic Analysis* and *Intelligence/Tactical Analysis*. Strategic analysis uses long-term crime data to identify trends (crime increases and decreases) and problem locations. This analysis pulls together crime frequencies to predict when and where crime is most likely to occur, based on previous crime frequencies. This can help to identify areas in a city that attract criminal activity with the hope to address the underlying cause of why these areas consistently see the highest crime levels. Intelligence analysis is designed to obtain real-time information on suspects to help solve crimes and make arrests. This type helps to identify investigative leads and criminal organizations. Both types of analysis are used together to focus resources and solve crimes faster.

Crime mapping is another method used in crime analysis. Crime mapping software lets analysts examine more data than ever. This allows for a more advanced analysis of location data to determine crime trends. This information can also be used to link crime together based on location and time data. Crime mapping is quickly becoming an essential element of police patrols.

## Property Section

Police Department property is managed and maintained by our 3-person team under the Supervision of Lieutenant Joseph Roy: Evidence Custodian Victoria De Vita, Detective Technician Stephen Kirby, and Detective Technician Michael Romeis. The primary duties of the team are ensuring proper storage, security, records, property



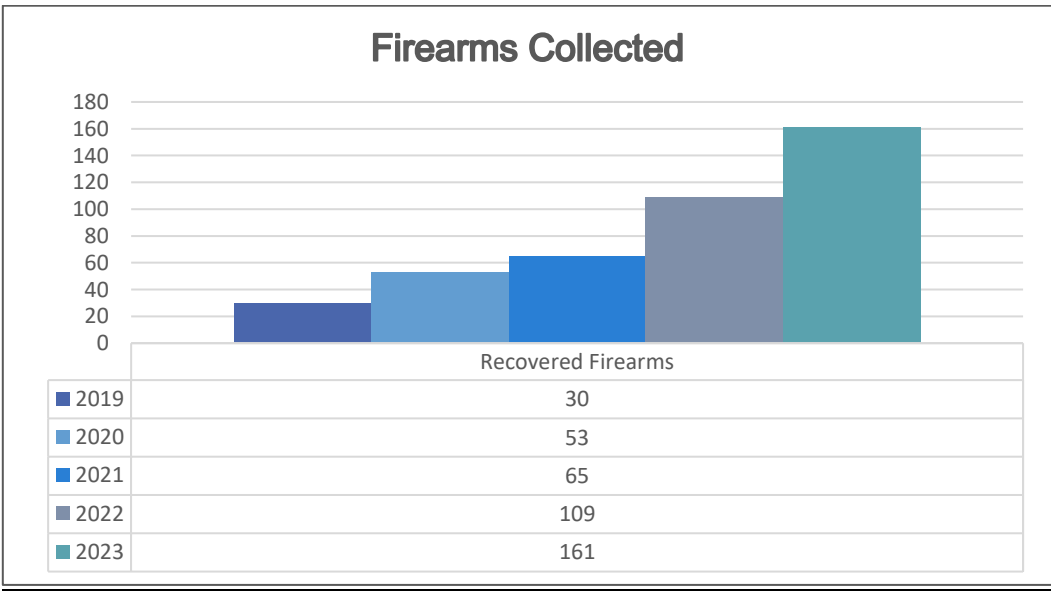
disposition, and recording chain of custody. Our division works closely with the Wisconsin State Crime Lab, submitting evidence for examination and the District Attorney's office, sharing and assessing cases.

The property room maintains and secures property from decade-old cases and items that require minimum retention, such as homicides. The Property Division is currently working on new and improved procedures to organize and research cases to determine property disposition and limit the number of intake items. An inventory of all items is planned for 2024 to help create more room for new storage as we are quickly outgrowing our current space.

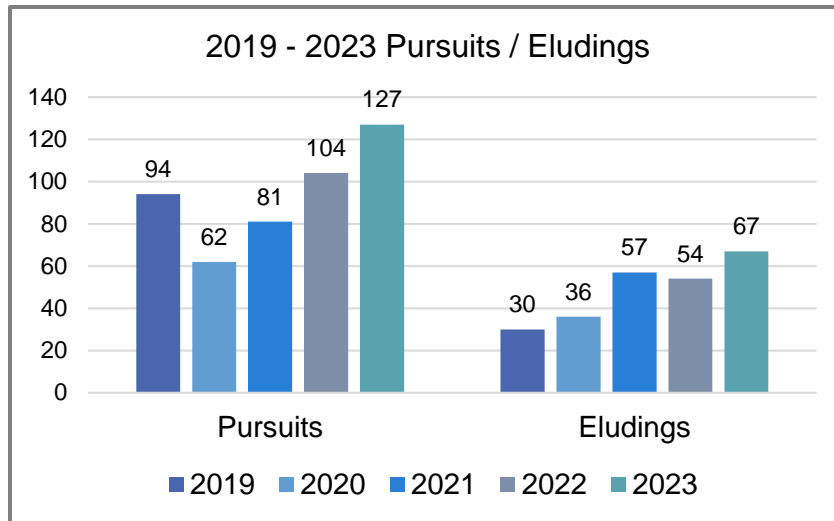
**Property Room Intake 2023:**

- Total Items entered into the Property Room include, but are not limited to items of evidentiary value, found property, items for safekeeping, seized, etc: **5,537**
- Items of controlled substances: **163**
- Firearms collected: **161**

In 2023, Wauwatosa Police Officers seized the highest number of firearms in recent history, indicating proactive efforts in removing these weapons from circulation. Police officers seize firearms from individuals who are not legally permitted to possess them as part of efforts to safeguard the community from gun violence. This action is crucial in preventing firearms from falling into the wrong hands, thereby reducing the risk of potential harm. Additionally, individuals who wish to dispose of firearms can voluntarily surrender them to the police, ensuring these weapons are securely managed and not used unlawfully. These measures collectively contribute to enhancing public safety and mitigating the impact of gun-related incidents within the community.



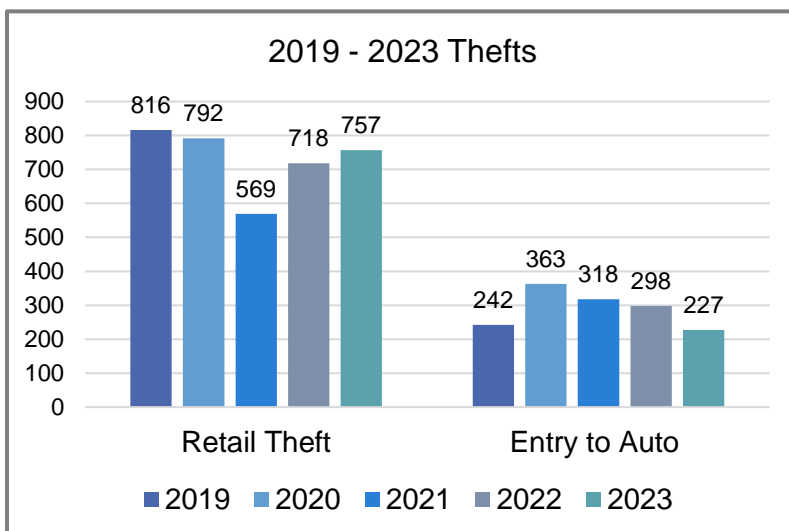
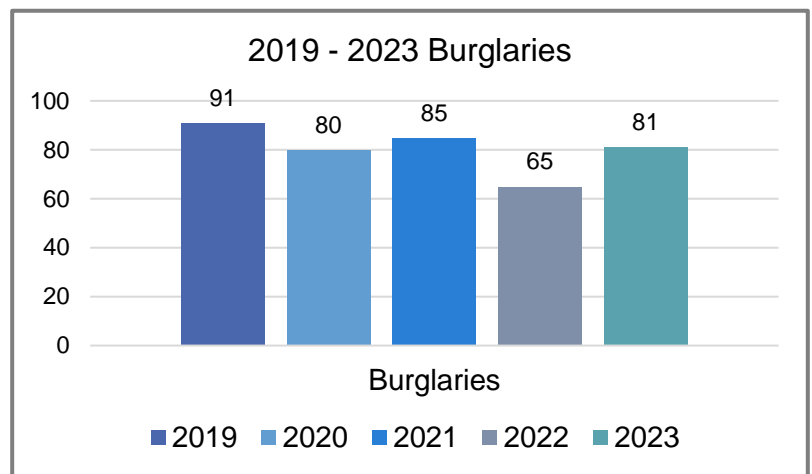




The chart shows Pursuits & Eludings 2019 through 2023.

Eluding is when a suspect(s) in a vehicle fails to stop for an officer and then flees at a high rate of speed. Officers then make the decision not to chase or to initiate a pursuit. This chart shows an increase in both.

In 2023, 81 burglaries were reported to the Police Department. This chart shows an increase in burglaries from 2022– 2023.



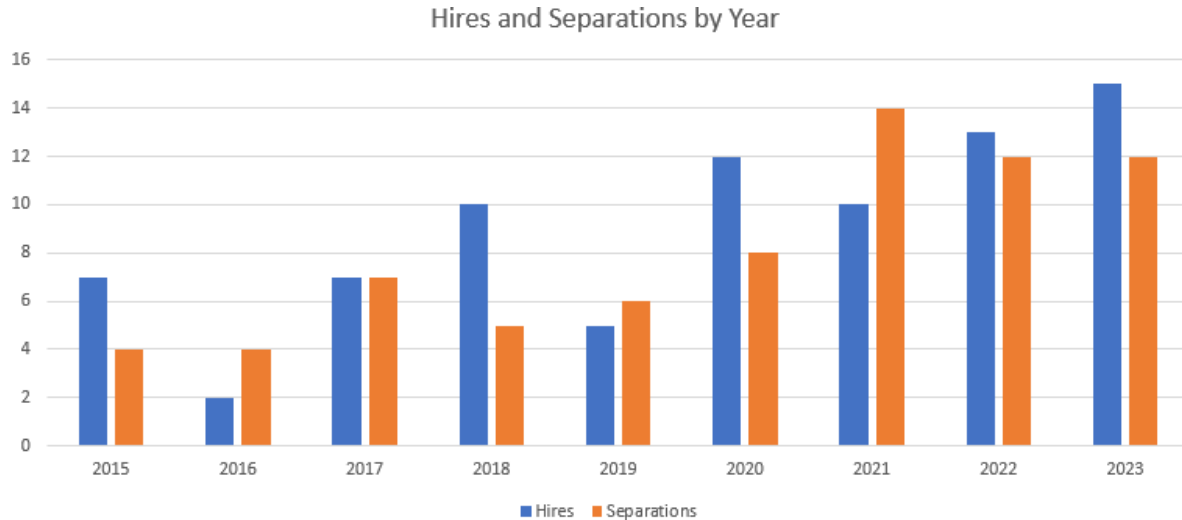
2023 showed an increase in theft from retail establishments.

From 2022 to 2023, there was a 23.8% decrease in entry to auto.

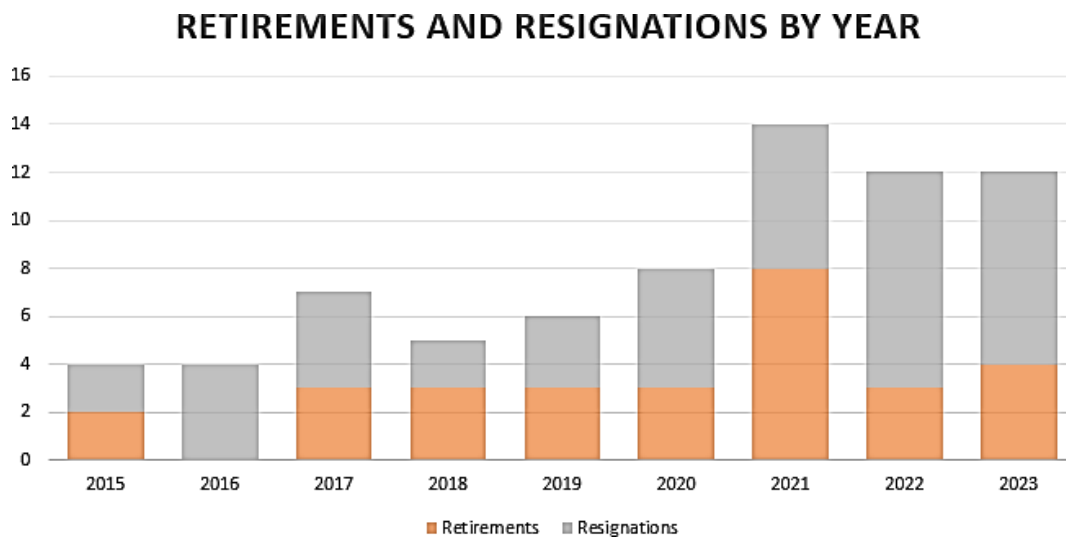


## Personnel

In 2023, the Wauwatosa Police Department set a new mark for the most police officers hired in a single calendar year with 15 new hires (previous high: 13 officers in 2022). The department had 12 sworn employees depart the agency, matching the previous year's total separations. The department's authorized strength is 110 sworn employees. The year began with 93 sworn personnel and ended with 96.



Of the 12 separations in 2023, four were retirements and eight were resignations.



## Training

The Wisconsin Law Enforcement Standards Board (LESB) requires that to maintain certification, all law enforcement officers must complete 24 hours of training during the fiscal year, July 1 - June 30. Furthermore, the LESB reimburses our department \$160 for each officer who re-certifies, which is calculated into our training budget. While considering officers who retired before meeting the requirement, and newly certified officers who were not eligible for the reimbursement, our department received reimbursement for 91 officers for fiscal year July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023, a total of \$14,560.00.

Our officers received their training both in-house, provided by our team of certified instructors, and externally, by attending off-site training events.

Our employees, both sworn and non-sworn attended over 150 training events held either off-site or in virtual format. These external trainings were funded through the department's annual professional development budget. Additionally, our personnel were able to receive funding through the City of Wauwatosa's "Invest in People" internal grant program.

The Training and Personnel Division continued its increased focus on administering police officer hiring processes frequently throughout the year. In 2023, we were able to establish timelines for hiring that allow us to be the most efficient with the scheduling of our hiring processes: fewer processes = the same number of hires.

We also were able to continue to provide our personnel with training hours that exceeded the minimum amount required by the Law Enforcement Standards Board. Our team of instructors put in hours of hard work in developing lesson plans that reflect current trends and issues in policing.

In 2024, we will persist with our aggressive hiring needs while also providing high-quality training to our personnel.



## Public Information Office

The Public Information Office (PIO) is responsible for providing accurate and timely information to the media, government officials, and citizens during daily agency operations and in emergencies. Our team helps those who live, work, and play in Wauwatosa stay informed about the safety and well-being of our community by sharing police department activities and initiatives, answering questions for the media, and responding to and releasing information during critical incidents.

The PIO team produces and disseminates content and messaging for the police department using a variety of communication tools and platforms. The Wauwatosa Police Department operates a Facebook page, X (formerly Twitter) account, Instagram account, and LinkedIn account as well as communicates via email, phone, or face-to-face.

The City of Wauwatosa also utilizes an emergency alert system to provide real-time communication about emergencies or other situations that may impact the community. Notifications can be received via email, text, or voice and include events such as weather emergencies, missing children, evacuation notices, and police and fire incidents. Residents are urged to sign up for this free program at [Wauwatosa.net/alert](https://www.wauwatosa.net/alert).

The Public Information Office plays a vital role within the department, serving as a liaison between the Police Department and the community we serve to provide transparency and promote credibility and public trust. The PIO team is led by Sgt. Abby Pavlik.



## Administrative Bureau

### Communications Division

The Wauwatosa Communications Division serves as the central hub for emergency responses in the City of Wauwatosa, operating as the PSAP or Public Safety Answering Point. Tasked with handling 911, emergency, and non-emergency calls, our telecommunicators swiftly assess each situation to determine the appropriate response resources. Whether it's dispatching police, fire, medical personnel, or other city services, our team acts decisively, documenting vital information and facilitating critical aid, from providing information to orchestrating life-saving interventions on the ground. Fully staffed our telecommunicators are comprised of nine full-time, five part-time, and one supervisor. Our division faces the common challenge of maintaining optimal staffing levels, particularly over the past year. Success in our center demands a blend of sharp critical thinking and strong interpersonal skills, qualities we rigorously evaluate through various assessments during the hiring process. Once onboard, trainees undergo comprehensive training spanning 4-6 months, acquiring essential skills, including CPR and EMD certification, to excel in their roles.

In addition to their primary responsibilities, some telecommunicators take on additional roles within the center. Three dedicated "Communications Training Officers" collaborate to mentor and support trainees as they navigate their roles and strive for excellence.

Our center is constantly evolving to meet the changing needs of our community. Recently, we expanded our capabilities by sending two telecommunicators to Incident Tactical Dispatch training. This equips them to effectively respond alongside command personnel and provide vital assistance during active scenes. Additionally, one telecommunicator underwent specialized training in Peer Support, offering invaluable assistance to colleagues in managing job-related stressors and challenges. Two telecommunicators joined the Negotiator Team at the end of the year. Their expertise now extends to assisting with delicate situations involving hostages, suicidal individuals, and barricaded subjects, further enhancing the department's crisis response capabilities. These initiatives are a testament to our commitment to continuous improvement and ensuring the highest level of service to our community.



Our telecommunicators are not just employees; they embody our department's mission. They operate round the clock, just like our police officers and firefighters, ensuring prompt responses to every call and radio transmission. While the job can be stressful, with each call bringing a whirlwind of emotions, it's profoundly rewarding to know that our actions directly impact positive outcomes. Our telecommunicators are committed to serving the community, supporting fellow first responders, and fostering a cohesive team environment.





## Community Support

The Community Support Division embodies the Wauwatosa Police Department's philosophy of community-oriented policing. The philosophy enables its officers to function as community workers and organizers to work with other service providers and alongside neighborhood residents. The goal is to assist the public to prevent, resist and eliminate crime and other disorders in their neighborhoods while adhering to the Constitution and the rule of law.

The Community Support Division provides citizens, community groups, businesses, schools, social, and civic groups with programs aimed at establishing and maintaining productive partnerships. Emphasis is directed at known and potential problem areas while strengthening the established programs. An Administrative Lieutenant with a staff of one Sergeant, six Officers, an Administrative Support Specialist, and part-time Community Service Officers comprise the Community Support Division.



## Police Reserves

The Wauwatosa Police Reserve Unit is a group of volunteer men and women from Wauwatosa and the surrounding area that augment the Wauwatosa Police Department throughout the year. Formed in 1942, the Wauwatosa Police Reserve Unit has the distinction of being one of the oldest in the country.

In 2023, the Reserves ended the year with 23 active members divided into four platoons. There were four past members throughout 2023. The Reserve Unit has its own command staff consisting of a Captain, Executive Lieutenant, Treasurer, and Secretary. A Lieutenant guides each platoon. The Chief of Police has the final authority to command, train, and supervise the Reserve Unit.

Reserve members are trained to assist the Police Department in emergencies as well as routine events including; the 4<sup>TH</sup> of July parade & fireworks, Homecoming Parades, Tosa Tonight Summer Concert Series, several bike races, various festivals, organized walks, and runs, National Night Out festivities, Mayfair Mall Holiday patrol, Shop with a Cop at Meier and Dick's Sporting Goods, and the Village Holiday Tree Lighting.

Each member must commit to a minimum of 75 hours of service per calendar year. Included in the commitment are training, monthly meetings, and squad riding activities. Most reserves routinely exceed the minimum hour requirement.

The Reserve Unit requires that each member is trained in weapons familiarization, traffic control, and Defense and Arrest Tactics (DAAT). All members participate in refresher firearms and D.A.A.T. courses each year.

Reserve Officers volunteer for many reasons including serving the community, valuable real-life training, and gaining a perspective into law enforcement as a career.

Meetings & Administrative Activities:	369 hours
Training:	205 hours
Events:	1,109 hours
Squad Riding:	23 hours
<b>Total Hours in 2023:</b>	<b>1,706</b>





# TOSA'S NIGHT OUT

This year's Tosa's Night Out was celebrated at Hart Park in conjunction with the Tosa Tonight Concert Series on Wednesday, August 2<sup>nd</sup>. In addition to the live music and all of the fun that TNO brings, we enjoyed the fireworks too! The fireworks were courtesy of the Independence Day show that was rescheduled due to rain on July 4<sup>th</sup>. The combination of events brought a lot of people to Hart Park and the entire evening was a great success.

This annual event showcases services available to the City and allows many participants to display their areas of expertise to the community. This year, the Police Department brought back demonstrations by our K-9 unit and Motorcycle unit. Though those demonstrations were well attended, people couldn't help but notice the Flight for Life helicopter landing in Hart Park! A special thanks to all the outside agencies and participants who made this year's event so entertaining.

Each year, Tosa's Night Out is organized by the Wauwatosa Neighborhood Watch Committee and the Wauwatosa Police Department. Together, we strive to bring awareness to safety and crime prevention while continuing to build relationships in the community. We could not have this event if it weren't for our sponsors and volunteers and we are so thankful for their continued support!



## Crime Stoppers

Wauwatosa Crime Stoppers, Inc. is a diligent volunteer board that serves to deter and prevent crime in the City of Wauwatosa. The board accomplishes this goal by advertising cash rewards for information leading to an arrest; fundraising so that there is cash to pay out rewards when warranted; and finally voting to approve the payout of reward money.

The tipline process allows citizens to report crimes or criminal activity, which in many cases would go unsolved or undetected. The Wauwatosa Crime Stoppers and the Wauwatosa Police Department use technology called P3 Intel which allows anonymous tipsters to easily report crime information. Tips submitted through the P3 mobile app have no length limitations and allow images, video, and documents to be uploaded with the tip. Sophisticated encryption processes obscure all identifying information and provide assured anonymity for tipsters. The "P3 Tips" app is free and can be found in the Apple Store or Google Play. Even without the app, there is still an easy and secure option for submitting tips from any PC or mobile browser by going to [www.p3tips.com](http://www.p3tips.com). Any tips that lead to an arrest will result in a cash reward of up to \$1,000. One can also utilize the tipline at 414-771-TOSA and speak to a live operator. The tipline is unrecorded and does not have caller ID capabilities. The caller will remain completely anonymous, as the operator will never ask the callers to identify themselves. Finally, they will be assigned a confidential code number and given follow-up instructions to track the status of their tip and any possible reward information. After the information is gathered, the operator will forward it to the Police Liaison for dissemination and a supervisor if the information is time-sensitive.

Crime Stoppers received 12 anonymous tips in 2023 that led to the arrests of 7 individuals for narcotics and disorderly conduct violations. Other crimes reported included narcotics distribution and suspicious circumstances. As a result of these arrests, the Wauwatosa Crime Stoppers paid out \$300 in reward money.

To take a closer look at the Wauwatosa Crime Stoppers please visit [www.tosacrimestoppers.org](http://www.tosacrimestoppers.org) or Wauwatosa Crime Stoppers Facebook page.

### Wauwatosa Crime Stoppers Tipline - 414-771-TOSA (8672)



## Wauwatosa Crime Stoppers



Keeping Tosa safer with your tips  
[www.tosacrimestoppers.com](http://www.tosacrimestoppers.com)

*See Something...Say Something*





## School Resource Officers

We currently have three specially trained School Resource Officers assigned to work in the Wauwatosa School District. In addition to serving all of the schools in the District, the SROs also assist with the needs of the many private schools in the City.

The SRO Program is designed to promote a safe and healthy school environment and create strong and positive relationships between students, their families, school staff, and Police Officers. SROs routinely present information in classrooms and assemblies as guest speakers. They also enjoy being present at school plays, dances, sporting events, and other extracurricular activities.

Though there is a strong focus on school safety, the SROs will tell you the most rewarding part of their job is their daily interactions with students. The role of the SRO allows the officers to build rapport with kids, to be a consistent positive presence in their lives, and to simply be another trusted adult in the building. It is not uncommon for students to stop by an SRO's office just to say hi or to grab a bottle of water daily! Year after year the SROs enjoy taking part in helping students progress through their school careers and building long-lasting community relationships.

In 2023, from January to June, and September to December, the SROs responded to over 495 calls for service at the four secondary schools alone. This number does not reflect the call volume at elementary schools or private schools nor does it reflect the many interactions SROs had with students that did not rise to the level of a call for service being generated. Though SROs are law enforcement officers, it is important to note that one of their main goals is to find alternatives to taking legal action whenever possible.

### **OFFICERS LEFT TO RIGHT:**

Farris Griffin –  
Wauwatosa West

Cordero Finley –  
Longfellow & Whitman

Phonexay Yothsackda  
– Wauwatosa East





## Records

The Records Division is open Monday through Friday from 7:00 am to 3:00 pm. There are three clerks assigned to the Records Division. In addition to their internal Records duties, the clerks serve the public with counter service and inquiries via telephone, fax, or email. Each call handled by the police department generates at least one record request, many times generating multiple requests. In 2023, the Department logged 34,944 calls for service. Our crime data is interfaced with the Wisconsin Department of Justice which then provides the data to the Federal Bureau of Investigation for tracking.

Reports, including criminal complaints, ordinance violations, etc. are maintained for seven years. Serious crime reports, such as homicides, are kept indefinitely.

## Front Office

The front office is the public-facing interface at the police department and is responsible for answering the general, non-emergency telephone line. The desk is open from 7:00 am to 8:00 pm. There are four clerks assigned to the desk and they serve the public with counter service, data entry, and payment processing. They also support many areas of the police department through clerical functions including the officers, detectives, Records Division, Communications Division, processing arrest warrants, etc.

## Grants

The Police Department utilized funds from several different sources in 2023:

Grantor/Grant Name	Award Amounts
<b>Bureau of Transportation Safety</b>	<b>\$27,500</b>
Alcohol Enforcement	\$10,000
Speed Enforcement	\$4,500
Seatbelt Enforcement	\$8,000
Bicycle/Pedestrian Safety Enforcement	\$5,000
<b>Department of Justice</b>	<b>\$243,911</b>
Bulletproof Vest Partnership	\$17,850
COPS Hiring Program (2020 - 2023)	\$226,061
<b>Wisconsin Department of Administration</b>	<b>\$128,017</b>
Governor Evers Law Enforcement Agency (2022 - 2023)	\$128,017
<b>Cities and Villages Mutual Insurance Company</b>	<b>\$6,027</b>
Risk Reduction	\$3,527
Law Enforcement Risk Mitigation	\$2,500



## Conclusion

Thank you for taking the time to get to know the Wauwatosa Police Department. In 2024, we will be recalibrating our strategic plan while assessing our process, system, and organizational improvements that have been instituted via the application of CPSM recommendations. We will also be exploring the establishment of a Police Foundation, along with assessing our Department's training venues balanced with strategic needs.

The men and women of the Wauwatosa Police Department remain dedicated to providing exceptional police services to residents, visitors, and people who come to work and recreate in Wauwatosa. I want to publicly thank our staff for their input, dedication, and zeal. We look forward to fostering relationships and building new ones while working collaboratively with external stakeholders.

If you, or someone you know, is interested in joining our team and leading our community with compassion and integrity, please visit [www.serve2020.com](http://www.serve2020.com).

## Citizen Police Academy Class of 2023



***THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!***







Wauwatosa Police Department  
 1700 N. 116th Street, Wauwatosa, WI 53226  
[www.wauwatosa.net/Police](http://www.wauwatosa.net/Police)  
[www.facebook.com/WauwatosaPD](https://www.facebook.com/WauwatosaPD)  
[Twitter.com/WauwatosaPD](https://twitter.com/WauwatosaPD)