



Sycamore Police Department

2022 Annual Report



Police Department

James E. Winters

Chief of Police

Dear Mayor Braser and City Council Members,

On behalf of the dedicated men and women of the Sycamore Police Department, I am pleased to submit the 2022 Annual Report. Our officers logged 24,234 incidents in 2022, which included responses from violent crimes to community service calls and many incidents in between.

As you read this annual report, you will see the diverse duties and proactive efforts of our officers, all of which contribute to the Department's mission to provide a high level of public safety to our citizens. In 2022, the diverse duties included the outstanding response to a violent armed robbery, by multiple offenders, to the establishment of a therapy dog program with our School Resource Officer program. It was an instant success. Whether it was a crime in progress or simple assistance provided to a citizen, their commitment to service was as strong as ever.

While interest in a career in law enforcement has significantly decreased locally and nationally in the last several years, we recruited and hired quality individuals to fill officer vacancies. Those officers are already contributing to our public safety mission and connecting with our community. These recruiting challenges will likely persist in 2023, and beyond. However, we will continue to recruit and identify quality individuals who are committed to pursuing those that violate the law, while also demonstrating discretion, when warranted, to serve a greater good.

In 2022, the Sycamore Police Department reported crime through the National Incident Based Reporting System (NIBRS). This federally mandated system, which began in 2021, provides a data collection system to track and classify reported crimes. Overall, those crimes reported as Group A Offenses were consistent with previous years. Sycamore continues to enjoy a relatively low crime rate due to our committed officers, partnerships with other City departments and local businesses, and the support and engagement of our citizens.

As we begin 2023, we once again express our gratitude for the support of our elected leaders and that of the citizens of Sycamore. We remain dedicated to a community-based approach, with trained and professional police officers, which will focus on ensuring Sycamore remains safe for all those that live, work, attend school, and visit our great city.

Sincerely,

Jim Winters
Chief of Police

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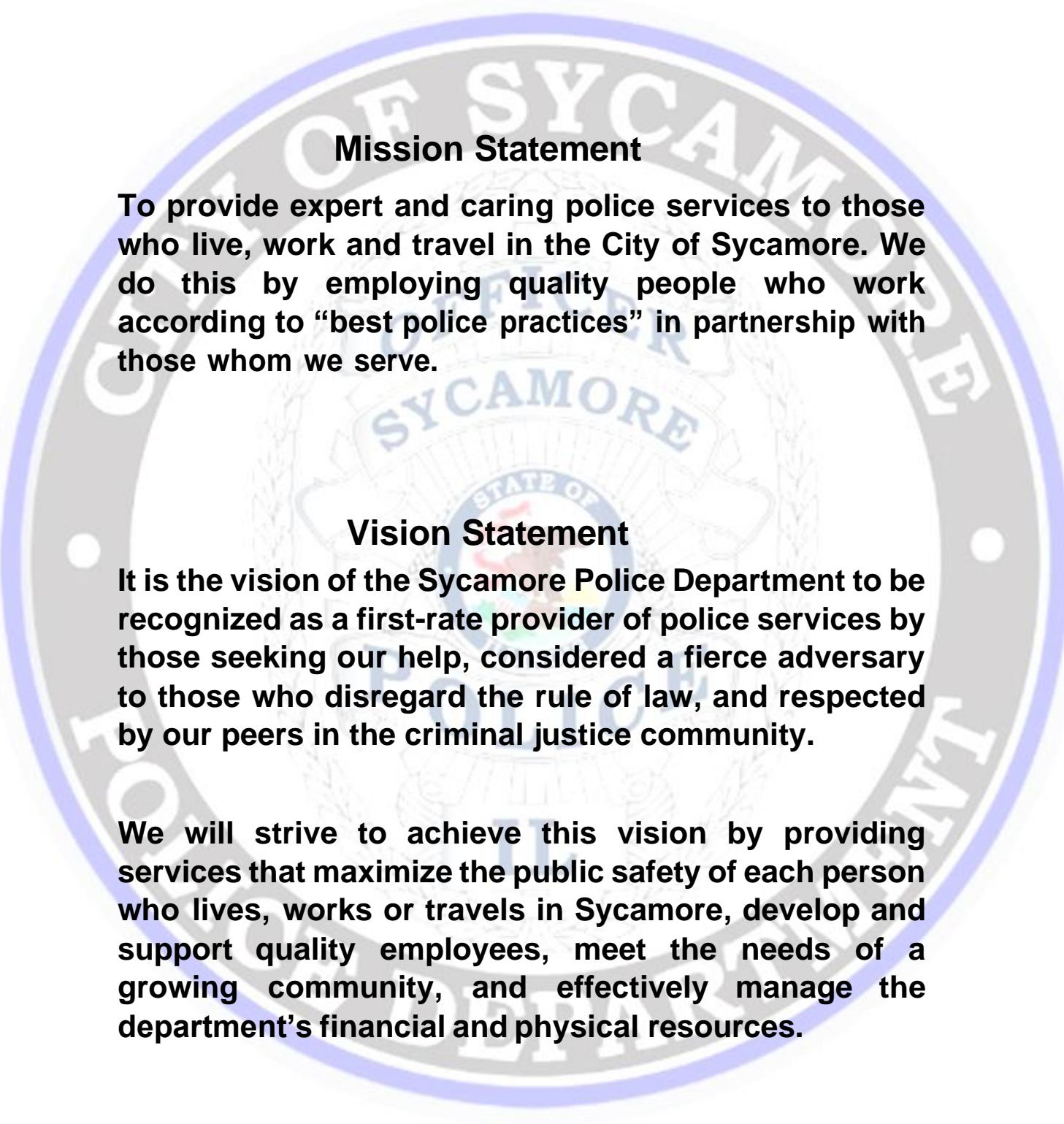
City of Sycamore Officials

Steve Braser	Mayor
Michael Hall	City Manager
Mary Kalk	City Clerk
Alan Bauer	First Ward Alderperson
Josh Huseman	First Ward Alderperson
Chuck Stowe	Second Ward Alderperson
Pete Paulsen	Second Ward Alderperson
Jeff Fischer	Third Ward Alderperson
Nancy Copple	Third Ward Alderperson
David Stouffer	Fourth Ward Alderperson
Virginia Sherrod	Fourth Ward Alderperson

Police and Fire Commissioners

Tana Knetsch	Chairperson
Samantha Dailey	Commissioner
Ray Dembinski	Commissioner
	(January to August 2022)
Jeff Richardson	Commissioner
	(August 2022 to Present)





Mission Statement

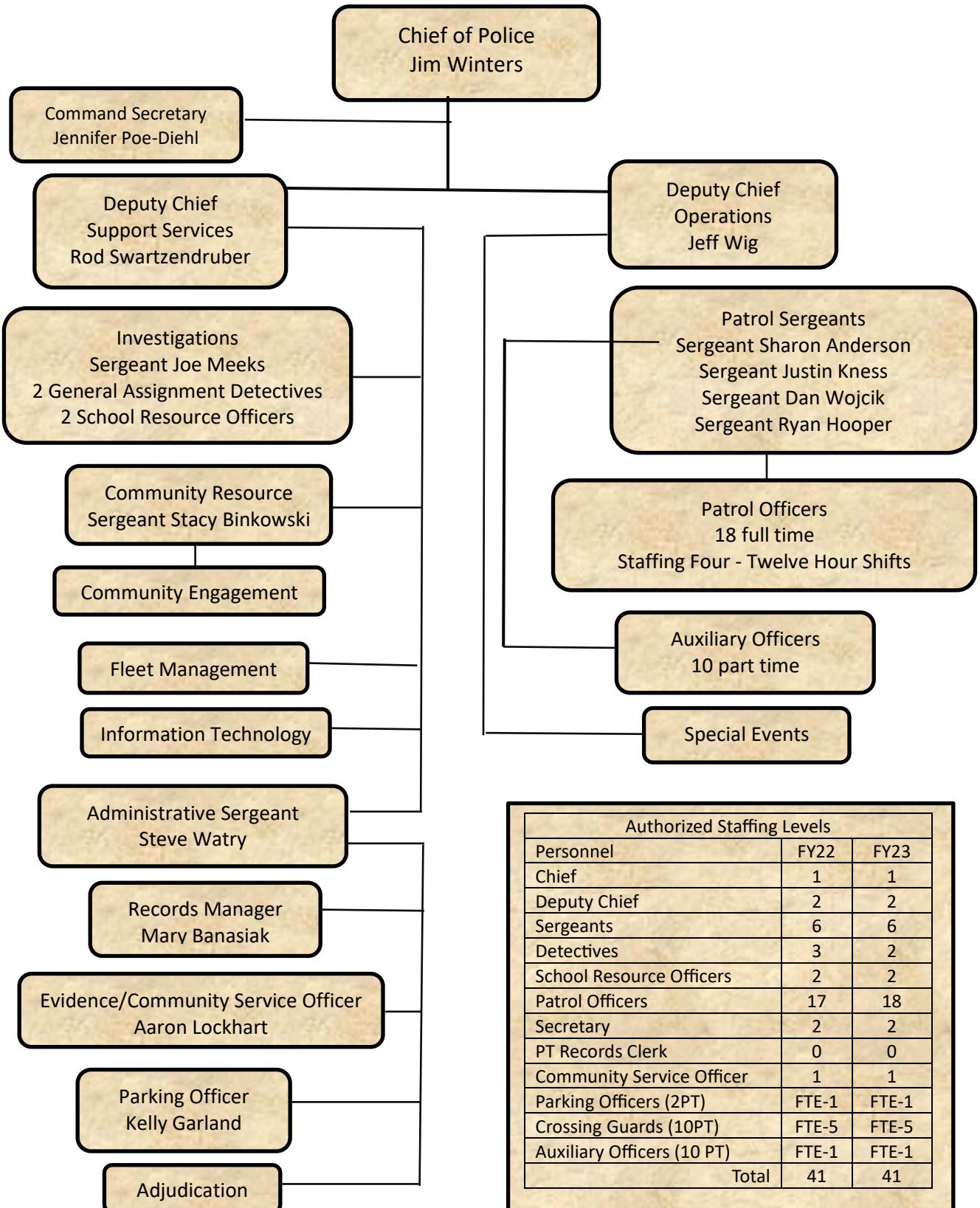
To provide expert and caring police services to those who live, work and travel in the City of Sycamore. We do this by employing quality people who work according to “best police practices” in partnership with those whom we serve.

Vision Statement

It is the vision of the Sycamore Police Department to be recognized as a first-rate provider of police services by those seeking our help, considered a fierce adversary to those who disregard the rule of law, and respected by our peers in the criminal justice community.

We will strive to achieve this vision by providing services that maximize the public safety of each person who lives, works or travels in Sycamore, develop and support quality employees, meet the needs of a growing community, and effectively manage the department’s financial and physical resources.

ORGANIZATIONAL CHART

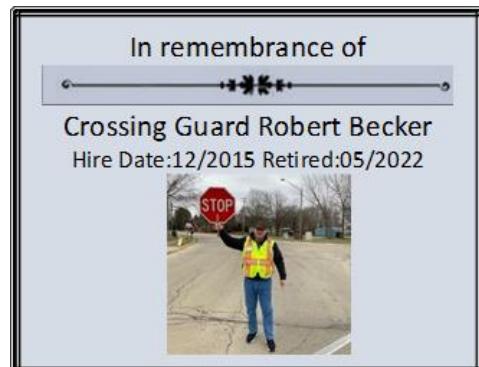


ROSTER

Administration	
Chief James Winters	2016
Deputy Chief Rod Swartzendruber	1993
Deputy Chief Jeff Wig	2001
Secretary Jennifer Poe-Diehl	2021
Sergeants	
Sergeant Sharon Anderson	1993
Sergeant Justin Kness	2003
Sergeant Steven Watry	1993
Sergeant Joseph Meeks	2007
Sergeant Ryan Hooper	2012
Sergeant Dan Wojcik	2003
Patrol/Investigations	
Officer Stacy Binkowski	2006
Officer Cheryl Senne	2006
Officer Michael Eide	2007
Officer Andrew Neuman	2007
Officer Dana Allen	2008
Detective John Keacher	2010
Officer Andrew Mankivsky	2013
Officer Alex Morfin	2015
Detective Greyson Scott	2015
Officer Jason Wittenberg	2020
Officer Dylan Belcher	2020
Officer Ryan Nicholson	2020
Officer Zachary Nelson	2021
Officer Raven Burress	2021
Officer Kevin OKeefe	2021
Officer Hunter Whitfield	2022
Officer David Dortmund	2022
Officer Abigail Abonce	2022
School Resource Officer	
SRO Kaitlyn Pedersen	2015
SRO Daniel Ludwig	2016
Records	
Manager Mary Banasiak	2018
Community Service Officer	
CSO Aaron Lockhart	2021
Parking Enforcement	
Kelly Garland	2016

Auxiliary Officers	
Ray Puentes	1989
Barbara Paulson	2008
Rich Calligan	2009
Randy Brown	2010
Tyler Wyatt	2012
Kevin Noe	2014
Anne Bachara	2021
Ron Lieving	2021
Crossing Guards	
Jane Curce	2011
Louis Curce	2012
Harold Duncan	2012
Joseph Rudinski	2015
Carolynn Werline	2015
Donna Freed	2015
Cindy Henderson	2020
Michelle Howley	2020
Marla Duncan	2021
Anne Bachara	2021
Erica Surges	2021
Ronnie Paxton	2022
Dennis Liesz	2022

Employees who left in 2022		
	Hire	Separation
Deputy Chief Steve Cook	02/18/1991	06/03/2022
Deputy Chief Mike Anderson	12/16/1991	06/03/2022
Officer Sebastian Szpara	12/28/2020	12/29/2022
Officer Michael Cicchetti	06/03/2021	04/08/2022
Aux Officer Steve Rubeck	11/01/2000	07/25/2022



NEW EMPLOYEES

	<p>Officer Hunter Whitfield was sworn in on January 7, 2022. Officer Whitfield attended the Macon County Law Enforcement Training Center in Decatur, IL and graduated on April 15, 2022. Officer Whitfield's badge was pinned on him by his father, retired Aurora Police Department Lieutenant Chris Whitfield.</p>
	<p>Officer David Dortmund was sworn in on May 20, 2022. Officer Dortmund attended the Macon County Law Enforcement Training Center in Decatur, IL and graduated on August 26, 2022. Officer Dortmund is pictured being sworn in by Sycamore City Clerk Mary Kalk</p>
	<p>Officer Abigail Abonce was hired as an Officer August 10, 2022. Officer Abonce attended the Macon County Law Enforcement Training Center in Decatur, IL and graduated on November 11, 2022. Officer Abonce's badge was pinned on by her husband, Detective Jorge Abonce of DeKalb PD.</p>

RETIREMENTS

	<p>On June 2, 2022, Deputy Chiefs Steve Cook and Mike Anderson retired after 30 years of service to the City of Sycamore. Mike and Steve served in various capacities including patrol, investigations, and administration as well as being involved for many years with special event planning. Congratulations Deputy Chiefs Cook and Anderson on your retirement and thank you for your service to the City of Sycamore!</p>
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ADMINISTRATIVE LEADERSHIP

Administrative Leadership is provided by Chief James Winters and Deputy Chiefs Rod Swartzendruber and Jeff Wig. Chief Winters is tasked with overall leadership and accountability. He serves as chief policy maker and guides the direction of the department. He is the primary liaison with the community and city administration and represents the department at city council. Deputy Rod Swartzendruber heads the Investigations Division and oversees Support Services. This includes the School Resource Officers, records management, fleet maintenance, quartermaster, and technology. Deputy Chief Jeff Wig heads the Operations Division which includes the patrol division, special events, social media, and community outreach. The command staff is supported by Administrative Secretary Jennifer Poe-Diehl.



Chief
James Winters



Deputy Chief
Rod Swartzendruber



Deputy Chief
Jeff Wig



Administrative Assistant
Jennifer Poe-Diehl

First line supervision is provided by four patrol sergeants, an administrative sergeant, and a detective sergeant.



Sergeant
Sharon Anderson



Sergeant
Steven Watry



Sergeant
Justin Kness



Sergeant
Joseph Meeks



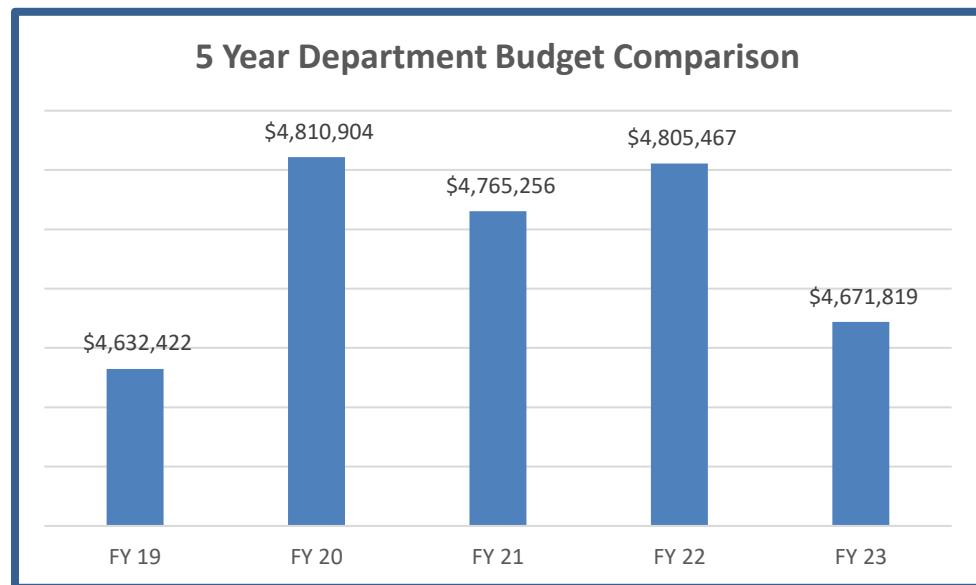
Sergeant
Ryan Hooper



Sergeant
Dan Wojcik

BUDGET OVERVIEW

FY23 Capital Budget		FY23 Department Budget	
Patrol Squad Replacement	\$44,500	Personnel	\$3,472,796
Ammunition	\$9,000	Commodities and Supplies	\$45,750
Ballistic Vests	\$6,300	Dispatch and Contractual Services	\$883,500
In-Car Radars	\$2,000	Miscellaneous Equipment	\$1,100
Replacement Computers	\$5,000	Pension Contribution	\$268,673
In-Car Laptops	\$8,000		
Administrative Vehicle	\$28,000		
Taser Cartridges and Supplies	\$3,000		
Electronic Messaging Board	\$21,500		
Reinforces Security Planter	\$11,500		
Motorola Cloud Based Storage	\$24,750		
Unmanned Aerial System (UAS)	\$7,004		
Total	\$170,554	Total	\$4,671,819



NEW IN '22



Through capital funding, a concrete planter reinforced with bollards was constructed by a local contractor to enhance protection for visitors and officers near the building entrance. The building has been struck twice by vehicles which left the roadway while traveling on DeKalb Avenue.



With the numerous ponds within Sycamore and the Park District, the Department purchased multiple water rescue bags for patrol vehicles upon the suggestion of one of our officers. Officers were trained on the use of the water rescue bags and considerations when entering water or accessing frozen ponds.

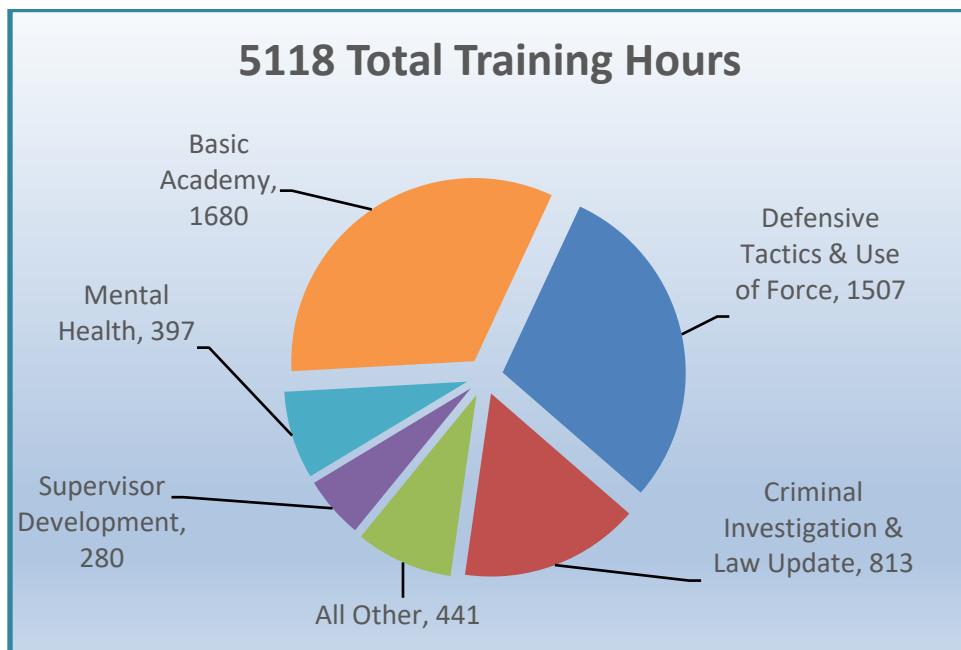
An Unmanned Aerial System (UAS) or commonly referred to as a drone, was purchased for searches of missing persons or to document a crime scene. Legislation in 2023 is anticipated that will allow for additional use of UASs at events in public areas to increase safety.



TRAINING

The Sycamore Police Department makes every effort to provide our officers with as much training as possible, while staying within the confines of the budget and the patrol schedule. We utilize training provided by the state mobile training units, in-house training, computer-based training, and training from outside sources.

Over the last several years the department has placed an emphasis on mental health training. Twenty of our officers have attended the 40-hour "Crisis Intervention Team" (CIT) training and 3 more are scheduled to attend soon. Our goal is to have all officers trained in CIT within the next 2 years. Although these types of classes represent a large time commitment, the benefits far outweigh the costs.



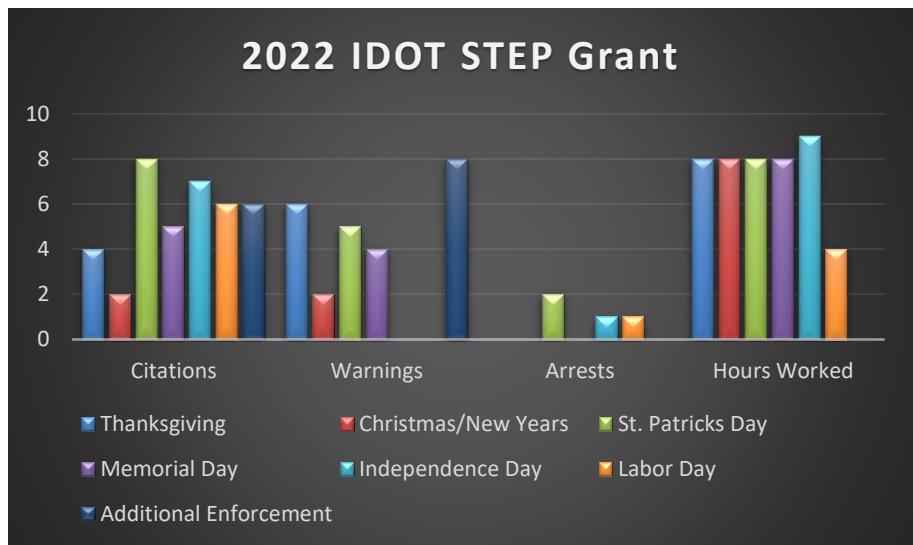
In 2022 the police department provided 5118 hours of formal training. This number does not include the hundreds of hours spent field training new officers once they graduate from the training academy. The chart below divides our training into several general categories to give perspective on the types of training we do.



IDOT GRANT FUNDING – Traffic Safety Program

Sustained Traffic Enforcement Program - STEP Grant

In 2022, the Sycamore Police Department received STEP grant funding for a variety of enforcement campaigns throughout the year for increased enforcement. The police department was awarded \$5,886 to reimburse the city for personnel costs. The grant was managed by Sgt. Joseph Meeks and Sgt. Ryan Hooper during 2022, and they worked with the Illinois Department of Transportation law enforcement liaisons and grant administrators to ensure the timely and appropriate use of the grant funding.



The goal of the Illinois Department of Transportation's Bureau of Safety Programs and Engineering is to actively work with local and state agencies to meet the goal of zero fatalities on Illinois roadways. IDOT provides grant funding opportunities to strive to make this goal a reality.

The STEP grant has a variety of campaigns with different goals to work towards increasing the safety of the motoring public and work towards reducing fatalities on the roadways. Occupant Protection campaigns focus on seatbelt violations for drivers and passengers and child passenger violations. Impaired Driving campaigns strive for increased patrols and enforcement of drivers operating a vehicle while under the influence of alcohol, cannabis, drugs, intoxicating compounds, or any combination thereof. The officers conducting Impaired Driving campaigns must also have received additional training in the enforcement of the state's DUI laws. April has been declared Distracted Driving Awareness month, and the Distracted Driving campaign goes all month long and has increased enforcement of distracted driving, including the use of cell phones while driving. Sycamore PD also conducts additional speed enforcement details during the year with grant funding, focusing on one of the leading causes of great bodily harm and fatalities in crashes.

Sycamore PD conducted increased enforcement campaigns for Christmas, New Year's, St. Patrick's Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Distracted Driving, and Speed Enforcement throughout the year.

Sycamore PD officers work towards the goal of reducing the number of crashes and fatalities on the roadways with the appropriate use of enforcement and education for our community members that live, work, and travel in the City of Sycamore.

FLEET

Unit #	Year	In-Service Date	Make	Model	Assignment	Odometer 2022 start	Odometer 2022 end	Total Miles	Fuel Used Gallons
181	2018	9/25/2018	Ford	Explorer	Patrol	88,670	110,818	22,148	2,266.7
182	2018	9/25/2018	Ford	Explorer	Patrol	77,514	107,375	29,861	2,900.1
202	2020	4/7/2020	Ford	Explorer	Patrol	24,626	44,868	20,242	1,720.9
211	2021	4/23/2021	Dodge	Ram	Patrol	12,672	32,366	19,694	2,571.6
212	2021	6/11/2021	Ford	Explorer	Patrol	1,691	8,304	6,613	545.3
214	2021	1/20/2022	Ford	Explorer	Patrol	0	13,522	13,522	1,200.4
221	2022	7/1/2022	Ford	Explorer	Patrol	0	7,040	7,040	582.6
222	2022	12/1/2022	Ford	Explorer	Patrol	0	2339	2,339	176.5
						Total Patrol		121,459	11,964.1
172	2017	8/30/2016	Ford	Explorer	Admin/Training	89,168	107,133	17,977	1897
161	2016	11/20/2015	Ford	Explorer	SRO	73,621	76,999	3,378	276.0
162	2016	1/23/2016	Ford	Explorer	SRO	81,666	85,301	3,635	291.1
164	2016	10/30/2017	Chevy	Impala	Admin	59,545	67,615	8,070	353.6
183	2018	9/3/2018	Ford	Explorer	Admin	38,566	51,307	12,741	502.6
201	2020	3/17/2020	Ford	Explorer	Admin	3,676	9,038	5,362	305.8
133	2013	12/4/2017	Chevy	Traverse	Invest	52,722	57,007	4,285	263.9
141	2014	2/5/2015	Chevy	Impala	Invest	70,356	77,214	6,858	328.8
144	2014	5/5/2016	Jeep	Patriot	Invest	62,811	65,644	2,833	170.1
113	2011	6/25/2016	Dodge	Ram	CSO	123,525	128,549	5,024	478.4
151	2015	6/10/2016	Chevy	Impala	Admin/Training	84,280	99,987	15,707	519.6
						Total Non-Patrol		67,893	3,489.9
						Combined total		189,352	15,454.0



OPERATIONS OVERVIEW

The operations division is the largest, most visible component of the police department and is comprised of the patrol unit. Patrol officers work 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Patrol is divided into 4 teams that work 12-hour shifts, 2 during the day and 2 during the night. Each team is supervised by a sergeant, who reports to the operations deputy chief.

Patrol Officers have many duties and responsibilities which include:

- Detect and deter criminal activity.
- Respond to calls for service, including crimes in progress.
- Investigate reported crimes and apprehend offenders.
- Enforce traffic laws, increase traffic safety, and investigate traffic crashes.
- Enforce city ordinances.
- Engage in community outreach and find ways to improve the quality of life for our citizens and visitors.



Dispatch services are provided through a contract with the DeKalb County Sheriff's Office. These services include answering emergency (911) and non-emergency phone lines and routing calls for service to the officers. In 2022 the dispatch center logged 24,234 events in Sycamore. The table below shows some of the more common events.

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
911 Hang-up	481	554	667	502	350
Crash Related	526	528	391	495	385
Assault/Battery/Fight	59	63	53	53	79
Assist Motorist	271	251	146	204	202
Assist Other Agencies	465	476	308	344	313
Burglary	14	14	12	11	7
Burglary to Vehicle	36	21	45	24	16
Extra Patrols	3985	4665	4446	4197	3864
Criminal Damage	83	123	95	87	101
Disorderly Conduct	171	151	148	180	167
Domestic Disturbance	310	286	265	310	299
Driving Complaint	320	287	283	312	283
Foot Patrols	655	1508	1455	1103	1441
Fraud	175	202	416	299	139
Juvenile Calls	132	100	177	146	148
Keys locked in Vehicle	589	573	393	450	407
Noise Complaint	155	150	165	165	138
Ordinance Violations	456	246	150	77	95
Improper Parking	750	535	184	211	294
Alarms	406	399	353	385	369
School Patrols	853	910	307	702	1180
Sex Offenses	24	53	22	16	24
Suicide & Attempt	42	44	44	46	45
Suspicious Activity	585	482	463	390	352
Theft	168	202	201	236	210
Traffic Stops	2835	2510	1533	1626	2165

Patrol Regular Hours Worked – 38,138
Patrol Overtime Hours Worked – 2,612
Field Training Hours Worked - 1,769
Detective Regular Hours Worked – 9,348
Detective Overtime Hours Worked - 287
Total Administrative Hours Worked – 9,293
Total Department Hours Worked (Regular and Overtime) – 55,338

CRIME STATISTICS (NIBRS)

National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS) was implemented in January 2021 to improve the overall quality of crime data collected by law enforcement. NIBRS captures details on each single crime incident, as well as on separate offenses within the same incident.

Offense Distribution Report

Offense	2021 Total	2022 Total
09A - Murder and Nonnegligent Manslaughter	1	1
100 - Kidnapping/Abduction	2	4
11A - Rape	7	4
11D - Fondling	4	5
120 - Robbery	1	3
13A - Aggravated Assault	12	17
13B - Simple Assault	70	110
13C - Intimidation	8	7
200 - Arson	1	
220 - Burglary/Breaking and Entering	12	8
23C - Shoplifting	107	101
23D - Theft from Building	1	1
23E - Theft from Coin-Operated Machine or Device	1	
23F - Theft from Motor Vehicle	21	17
23G - Theft from Motor Vehicle Parts/Accessories	8	7
23H - All Other Larceny	58	81
240 - Motor Vehicle Theft	7	4
250 - Counterfeiting/Forgery	10	3
26A - False Pretense/Swindle/Confidence Game	90	61
26B - Credit Card/Automatic Teller Machine Fraud	9	11
26E - Wire Fraud	2	
26F - Identity Theft	126	23
26G - Hacking/Computer Invasion		1
280 - Stolen Property Offenses		1
290 - Destruction/Damage/Vandalism of Property	63	71
35A - Drug/Narcotic Violations	27	28
35B - Drug Equipment Violations	9	9
370 - Pornography/Obscene Material	2	6
40A - Prostitution	1	
40C - Purchasing Prostitution		1
520 - Weapons Law Violations	3	4
720 - Animal Cruelty	1	
Total	664	588

ARREST STATISTICS (NIBRS)

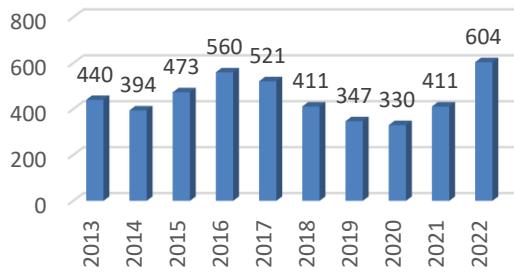
Along with offenses reported, NIBRS also includes data on arrests made. The table below shows arrests made by category in 2022 for criminal offenses.

Offense	2021	2022
09A - Murder and Nonnegligent Manslaughter	1	1
100 - Kidnapping/Abduction	2	1
11D - Fondling	1	
13A - Aggravated Assault	2	6
13B - Simple Assault	29	40
13C - Intimidation	2	1
23C - Shoplifting	14	21
23H - All Other Larceny	1	4
250 - Counterfeiting/Forgery	1	
26A - False Pretense/Swindle/Confidence Game	1	
290 - Destruction/Damage/Vandalism of Property	3	2
35A - Drug/Narcotic Violations	2	12
520 - Weapons Law Violations	3	4
90C - Disorderly Conduct	6	1
90D - Driving Under the Influence	27	49
90G - Liquor Law Violations	2	2
90J - Trespass of Real Property	8	1
90Z - All Other Offenses	111	174
Total	216	328

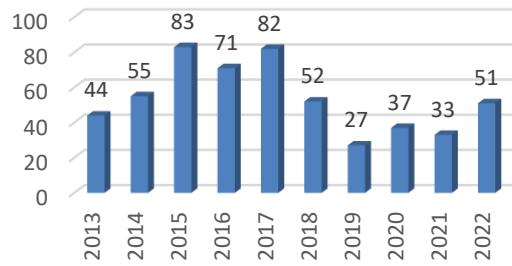


NUMBERS AND TRENDS

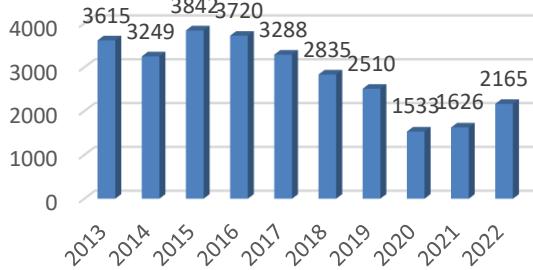
Total Arrests



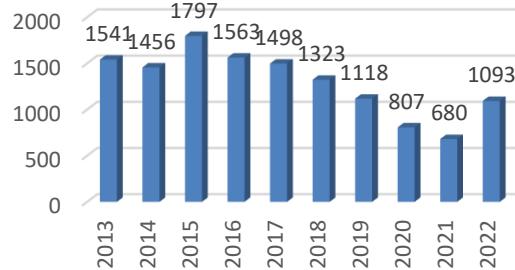
DUI



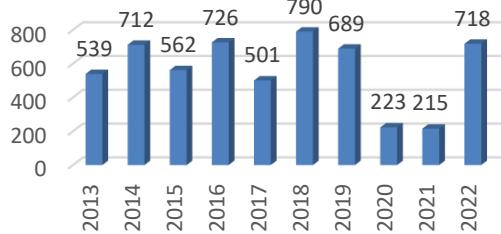
Traffic Stops



Traffic Citations



Parking Citations Other Than Meter



Non-Traffic Ordinance Citations



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



Officer Cheryl Senne began a new Community Outreach initiative to connect with kids during summer months. “Pops with Cops” was a success as officers stopped by the Sycamore pool and other locations to share a welcomed summer treat.

Our FOP Lodge 133, once again, participated in fund-raising for Special Olympics. One of the fund-raising events was Cop on Top which was held at the Sycamore Dunkin’ Donuts.



The partnership with the Sycamore School District remains a priority for the Police Department. In August, School Resource Officers and other department personnel participated in the Back 2 School Bash in the downtown area. This well attended event afforded the Police Department, as well as other City departments, the opportunity to meet and talk with students, their families, and school staff.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



Through a generous donation from Meijer, Shop with a Cop was once again a big hit. Twenty-five Sycamore students were provided funds to buy Christmas presents while shopping with a Sycamore officer.

Chops with Cops provided officers an opportunity to reach out to all ages during a dinner event hosted by Tom and Jerry's of Sycamore.



St. Peter's Episcopal Church hosted a breakfast for police and fire in September.

Follow Sycamore Police Department on social media:

 www.facebook.com/Sycamore-Police-Department-138279532912035/

 <https://twitter.com/SycamorePolice>

Instagram <https://www.instagram.com/sycamorepolice/>

Stay Informed!
Register with

 **CodeRED™**

Keeping citizens informed.
<https://public.coderedweb.com/cne/en-US/BF1C895164F1>

The City of Sycamore's
Mass Notification
System

SPECIAL EVENTS

Special events in Sycamore continue to be popular, seeing growth in the number of events requested and an increase in the use of food truck vendors. In 2022, the Sycamore Police Department took part in or planned over two dozen community related events not only in our city, but in adjoining ones. Among the variety of events hosted within the city, the Sycamore Police Department planned and provided public safety at:

- Street Dances
- Rib, Rhythm, and Brews
- Farmers Markets
- Moose Fest
- Back 2 School
- National Night Out
- Krate Fest
- Sycamore High School Homecoming
- Touch a Truck
- Tuesdays on the Town
- Turning Back Time Car Show
- Downtown Trick or Treating
- Pumpkin Run
- Pumpkin Festival
- Santa Walk

As in the past our largest events were National Night Out, Back 2 School Bash, Ribs, Rhythm, and Brews, Turning Back Time Car Show, and Pumpkin Festival. All these events drew large crowds to our community.



2022 Pumpkin Fest – photo courtesy of Bob Myers



2022 Back to School Bash



2022 National Night Out



2022 Turning Back Time Car Show, photo credit TBT Car Show.

AUXILIARY PROGRAM

Sycamore Police Auxiliary Officers assist the police department with traffic control and crowd management at special events and community emergencies, including weather related incidents, major traffic crashes, and other public disasters. These extremely valuable, part-time, non-sworn personnel, allow us to be more efficient, and free up sworn officers to engage in other activities.



Ray Puentes



Barb Paulson



Rich Calligan



Randy Brown



Tyler Wyatt



Kevin Noe



Anne Bachara



Ron Lieving

RECORDS MANAGEMENT

Mary Banasiak serves as our full-time records clerk. She is our primary point of contact for people who come into the police department lobby or who call our non-emergency phone numbers. Her duties include filing and maintaining incident reports, entering data into the records management system, responding to subpoenas and freedom of information requests, assisting with administrative adjudication, providing the State's Attorney's office with reports and videos, and archiving older reports.



Incident reports filed in 2022----- 2781
Freedom of Information Requests in 2022---- 413



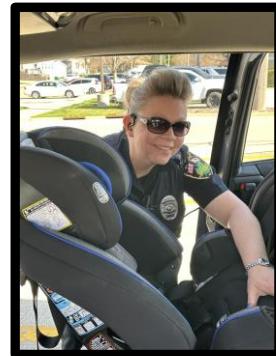
SPECIAL PROJECTS AND PROGRAMS

Lethality Assessment Program

The Lethality Assessment Program, or LAP, is a partnership between local law enforcement and Safe Passage to identify victims of domestic violence who are in high danger of being harmed or killed and link them with domestic violence victim services. While at the scene of domestic violence investigations, officers ask the victim a series of questions designed to identify risk factors. If the answers to these questions indicate positive for specific risk factors, the officer contacts the domestic violence hotline and attempts to get the victim to speak to the on-call advocate.

LAP Assessments completed in 2022- 28 / 2021- 15

Indication of high danger in 2022 – 13 / 2021 – 9



Child Passenger Safety

The Sycamore Police Child Passenger Safety Program consists of sworn and non-sworn personnel who undergo 4 days of training through "SafeKids", to become nationally certified Child Passenger Safety Technicians. Technicians inspect child car seats and assist with proper installation, while providing education about the proper way to secure a child in a vehicle. Child seats are often available for donation to caregivers in need due to the generosity of grants through the Illinois Department of Transportation and SafeKids.

Child restraint seats inspected/installed in 2022 – 43 / 2021-17

Family Finder Program

This program is an attempt to identify people in our community who are at a higher risk of getting disoriented and/or lost, generally due to a medical condition such as dementia or Alzheimer's, or due to special needs. This voluntary program establishes a database of those suffering from such conditions and allows police department personnel access to a photo and various pieces of information that could assist us in locating that person, should they be reported missing. The Family Finder Program is administered by Officer Cheryl Senne.

Elderly Service Officer / TRIAD

Officer Senne is also assigned as our Elderly Service Officer. She has received advanced training through the Illinois Attorney General's office to become aware of the needs and problems of the senior community and play a more active role in preventing crimes against older people. She also belongs to the DeKalb County TRIAD, which is a partnership between law enforcement, community organizations, and individuals, working together to improve the quality of life for older adults in DeKalb County.

Drug Overdose Prevention Program (DOPP)

In recent years our nation has experienced a sizable increase in cases of opioid addiction and overdoses. In response to this crisis, we have partnered with the DeKalb County Health Department through DOPP, which is a coalition of non-EMS first responders concerned with quick response to drug overdoses in DeKalb County. As part of our overdose prevention program, every Sycamore Police Officer has been issued and trained to use Naloxone, a medication designed to rapidly reverse an opioid overdose.



POLICE-SOCIAL WORKER LIAISON PROGRAM

2022 is the fourth year for our police social worker collaboration. This program came about as the result of a partnership with Northwestern Medicine Behavioral Services, and the DeKalb County Mental Health Board. Officers have access to a certified social worker who is assigned to the police department and can consult with the social worker regarding mental health calls and collaborate on interventions for people in need. The social workers then link individuals with appropriate social services.

Sycamore Police referrals to our social workers:

2022 – 146 2021 – 108 2020 – 105

MENTAL HEALTH INITIATIVES

Crisis Intervention Training

Crisis Intervention Training is an in-depth, 40-hour, state certified course for law enforcement officers. Topics include, but are not limited to:

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mental illness recognition• Substance abuse and dual diagnosis• Child and adolescent disorders• Psychotropic medications• Geriatric issues• Medical conditions that mimic mental illness	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Autism and persons with disabilities• Law enforcement compliant surrender• Excited delirium• Risk assessment and crisis intervention skills• Symptoms of PTSD and police response
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20 of our officers have been certified through the week-long crisis intervention training course. Three officers are scheduled to attend the course in the first quarter of 2023. All our officers continue to receive regular instruction in Mental Health Awareness and Officer Wellness.



Physical Fitness

In addition to increasing our officer's ability to assist the public in mental health crisis, we also strive to focus on our officer's wellness, physically and mentally. Regarding physical wellness, we expanded our workout facility at the police department through a grant from the KATZ Foundation.

Employee Wellness Checks

To support the overall wellness of department personnel, all officers attended wellness checks with a mental health professional during the month of June. These sessions provided personnel the opportunity to discuss current strategies for coping with job related stressors and provided additional ideas to handle these and future stressors.

AWARDS IN 2022

Officers were recognized for various efforts throughout 2022. Forty Certificates of Recognition were presented, and these pictured officers' actions were recognized at a higher level through the Department's Award Program



In January of 2022
Officer Stacy Binkowski and
Officer Andrew Mankivsky
were presented the
Award of Merit.



In March of 2022
Officer Dana Allen
Officer Dan Ludwig
Officer Kaitlyn Pedersen
Officer Cheryl Senne
were presented the
Distinguished Service Award.



In June of 2022
Officer Raven Burress
and Officer Zach Nelson
were presented
Life Saving Awards.



In December of 2022
Officer Hunter Whitfield
was presented a
Life Saving Award.

CROSSING GUARDS

The Sycamore Police Department Crossing Guards are an invaluable asset to the police department and the school district. Our crossing guards are deployed at 11 locations throughout the city. These individuals work in all kinds of weather to make sure our children get to school safely each day. The crossing guards work before and after school on every school day from August through June. They are supervised by Administrative Sergeant Steve Watry.



Jane Curce
West School Entrance



Louis Curce
State & Alma



Harold Duncan
Rt 23 & Maplewood



Joe Rudzinski
DeKalb Ave. & Center



Carolynn Werline
Freed & Janet



Donna Freed
Somonauk & Lincoln



Cindy Henderson
Locust & Lincoln (Afternoons)



Michelle Howley
Lincoln & Locust (Mornings)



Marla Duncan
Brickville & Freed



Anne Bachara
Turner & Locust



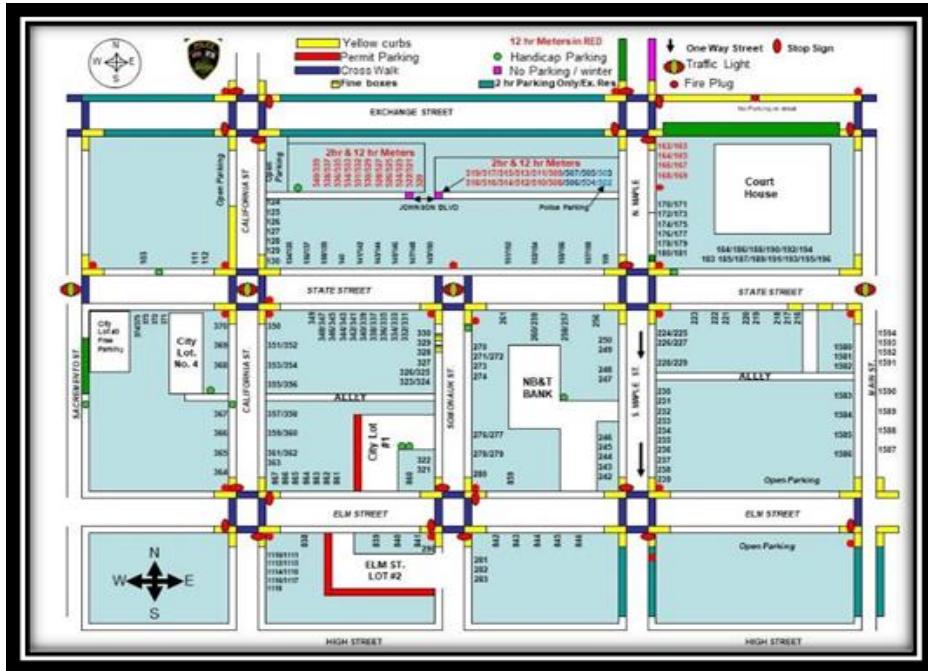
Erica Surges
Rt 23 & Mt. Hunger



Ron Paxton
Borden & South Prairie School

PARKING ENFORCEMENT

The parking division is comprised of one part-time Meter Enforcement Officer, Kelly Garland. Her duties include issuing citations for overtime meter violations and enforcing other parking regulations in the downtown business district. In addition, Kelly performs routine maintenance and repairs on our vintage parking meters.



In 2022 the parking division wrote 2,348-meter violation tickets.

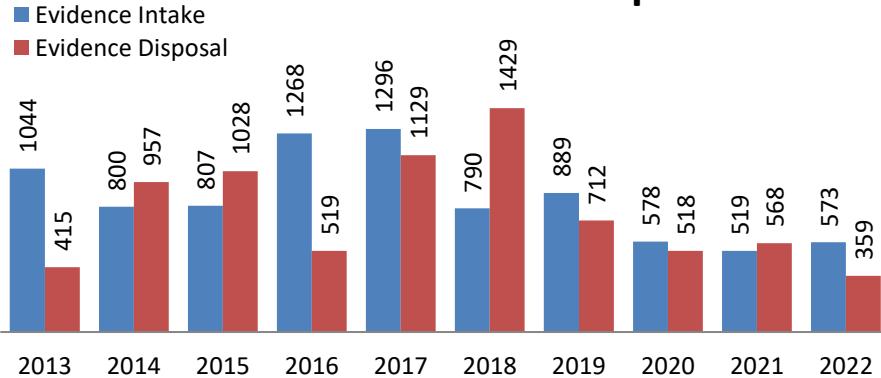


EVIDENCE MANAGEMENT

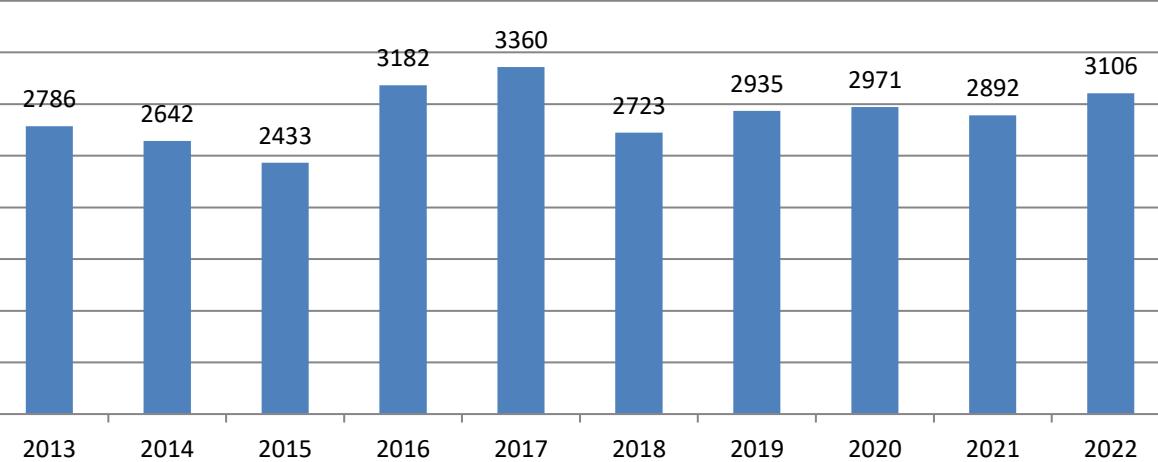
Aaron Lockhart is our evidence custodian and Community Services Officer. As evidence custodian Aaron is responsible for the intake of evidence collected by the officers, storage of the evidence, and then overseeing the proper disposal of the evidence. Aaron also transports evidence to and from the state laboratory as needed and maintains records anytime evidence is checked in or out of the evidence vault. CSO Lockhart addresses ordinance complaints and assists with fleet and building matters.



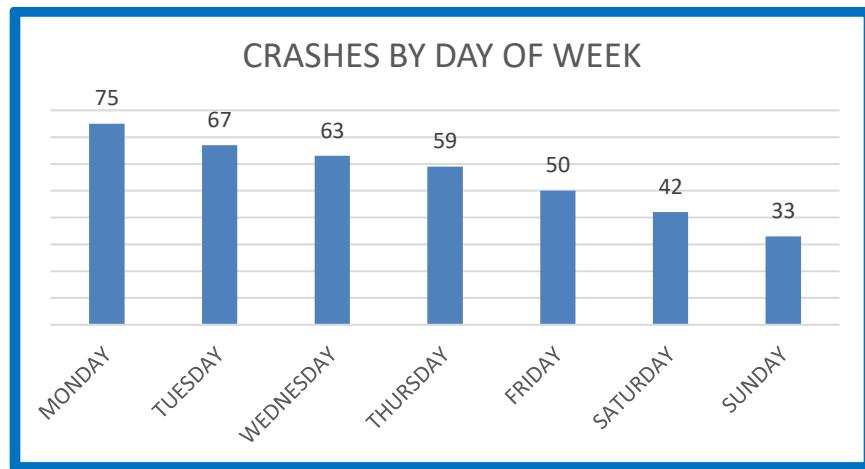
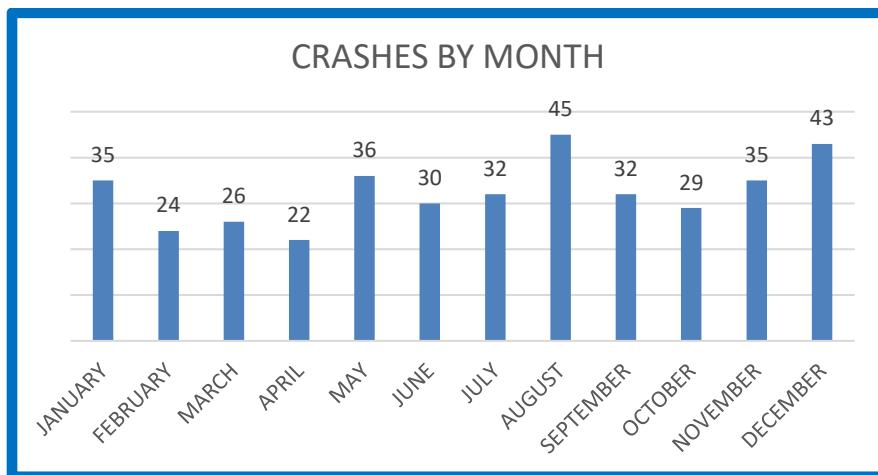
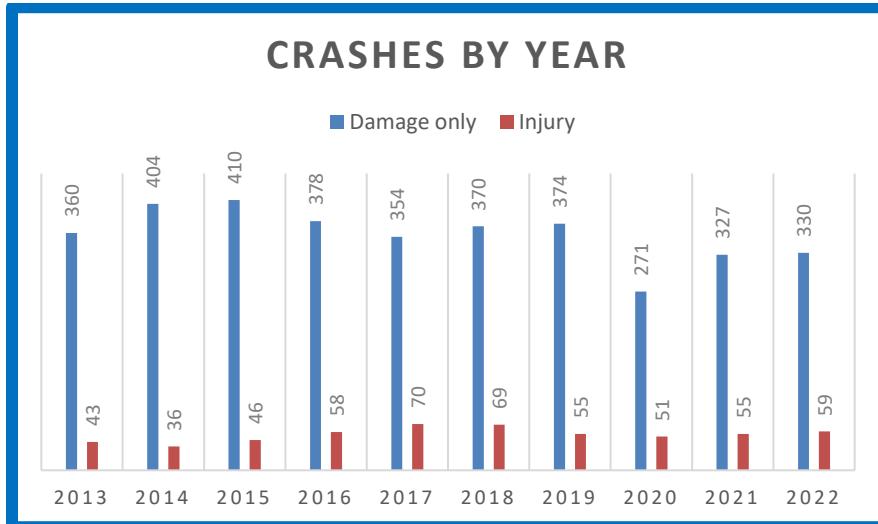
Evidence Intake and Disposal

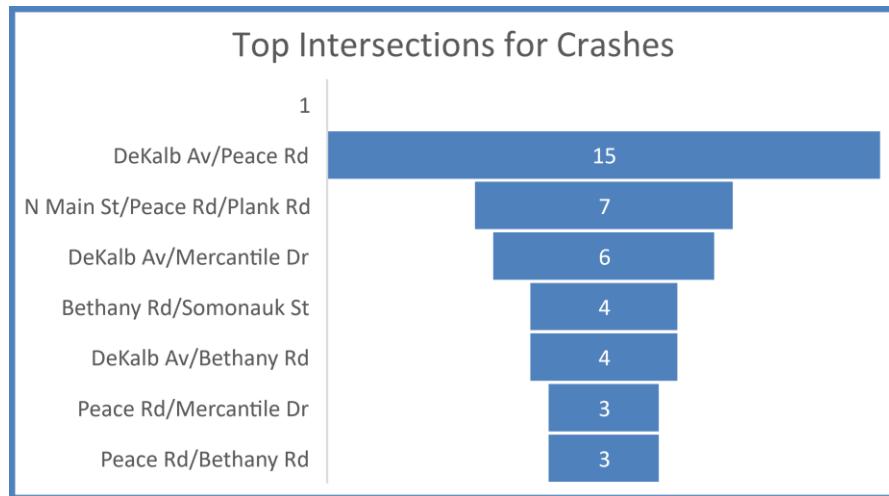
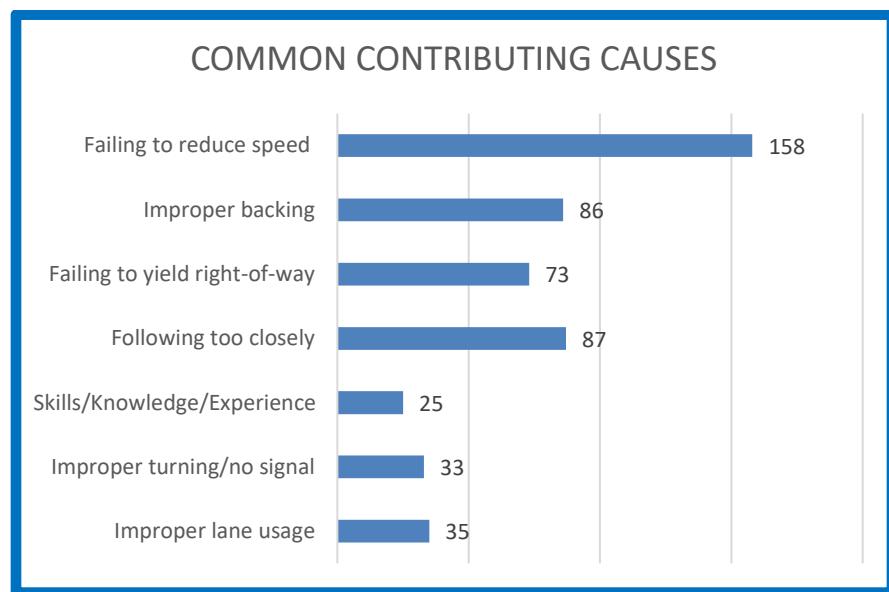
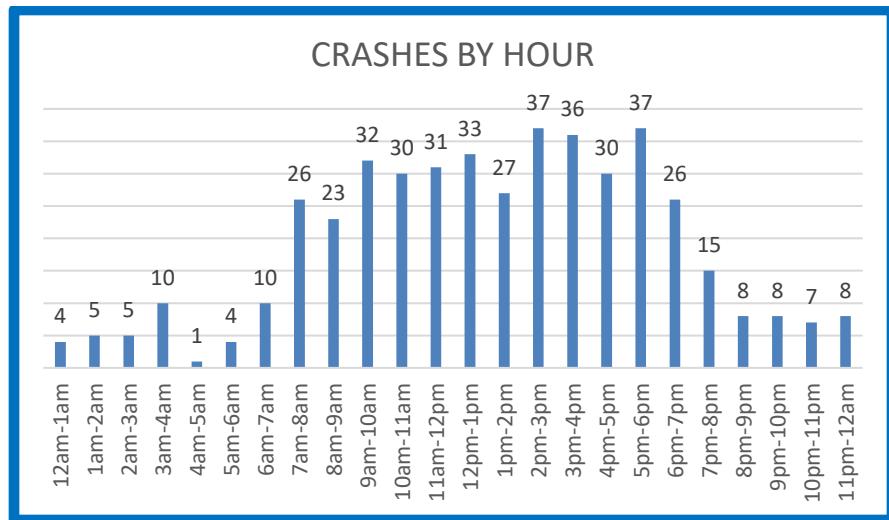


Total Evidence On Hand



CRASH DATA 2022







INVESTIGATIONS DIVISION

The Investigation's Division is comprised of two general case detectives, 2 school resource officers, is supervised by the Detective Sergeant, and overseen by the Deputy Chief of Investigations and Support Services. The Investigations Division is responsible for handling more complex and/or long-term investigations, while also acting as a supporting resource for officers within the Patrol Division. The division is also responsible for the following:

- Sex Offender Registration and Compliance
- Alcohol and Tobacco Compliance Checks
- Internet Crimes Against Children
- DeKalb County Major Crimes Task Force Members
- FOID / CCL Compliance
- Police Drone Program
- Therapy K-9 Program

In 2022, the division underwent several personnel changes to include the Detective Sergeant and the two School Resource Officer positions. Sergeant Joe Meeks replaced Sergeant Jeff Wig as Detective Sergeant, and School Resource Officers Stacy Binkowski and Ryan Hooper were replaced by Officers Kaitlyn Pedersen and Dan Ludwig. Officer Ryan Nicholson was temporarily assigned to assist the division as an SRO for the 22-23 school year as well.



Left to Right: Detective Greyson Scott, Detective Sergeant Joe Meeks, Detective John Keacher



Left to Right: SRO Kaitlyn Pedersen, Officer Ryan Nicholson, SRO Dan Ludwig

In 2022, the Investigations Division was assigned 248 cases throughout the year, with a clearance of 92% (230 cases).



NOTABLE CASES FOR INVESTIGATIONS AND PATROL 2022:

Attempt Murder – May 18, 2022, Sycamore Police responded to the report of a stabbing in a residential neighborhood. Investigation led to the arrest of a male offender for Attempted Murder, Aggravated Battery, and Aggravated Battery with a Deadly Weapon.

Armed Robbery – February 11, 2022, Sycamore Police, joined by members of the DeKalb County Sheriff's Office and the DeKalb Police Department responded to an in-progress armed robbery at our local Walgreens. Officers located and confronted the offenders who were taken into custody. Multiple firearms were recovered as well as the proceeds from the robbery itself. The excellent work by our officers led to not only local charges for the offenders, but also assisted several other agencies in separate violent crime investigations.

Retail Thefts – In January of 2022, an investigation was started following multiple reported retail thefts from our local Menards. The investigation led to the arrest of a male offender who had repeatedly entered the business to steal various merchandise over the course of several weeks. The offender was charged with multiple class 3 felonies for Retail Theft.

Aggravated Home Repair Fraud – August 17, 2022, investigators were notified of a possible financial exploitation case by DeKalb County Elder Care Services. Following the extensive investigation, a male offender was arrested and charged with 2 counts of Aggravated Home Repair Fraud and one count of felony Theft.

Bank Robbery – March 2, 2022, Sycamore Police responded to Heartland Bank reference a robbery. The investigation eventually led to the arrest of a male and female offender. The case ultimately resulted in the offenders being charged at the federal level.

THERAPY DOG PROGRAM

The Sycamore Police Department began research into therapy dogs several years ago and initiated the program in September of 2022 with the arrival of Dooley. Dooley was trained for 14 weeks at Paws and Stripes College in Brevard County, Florida on obedience and socialization and achieved certification as an AKC therapy dog. Paws and Stripes College is a program that trains and certifies first responder therapy dogs for police and fire departments all over the country.

School Resource Officer Kaitlyn Pedersen was selected as the handler and trained with Dooley, a German Short Haired Pointer, in September for a week to acclimate as his handler.

Assigned as the Sycamore Middle School Resource Officer, Officer Pedersen and Dooley also provide support at the five elementary schools.



Dooley's primary role is to offer support to students, staff, and citizens. Statistics show physical contact with a dog releases serotonin (the happy hormone) throughout our bodies which levels out heightened emotions. Dooley has been deployed on countless occasions throughout the school district as well as the community since his arrival. Deployments include assisting students in mental health crisis or with heightened anxiety, offering support during a traumatic event, partnering with school social workers during interventions, public presentations, classroom presentations, and responding to another law enforcement agency to give support after the death of an officer.

ADMINISTRATIVE ADJUDICATION

The police department has been using the Administrative Adjudication process since August 2016. This process allows the department to enforce parking violations, ordinance violations and administrative tows, while providing citizens a more streamlined and convenient way to pay fines or contest their citations at local court which is held once a month. The violations listed below are some of the more common offenses handled through the administrative adjudication process.

Administrative citations written in 2022	
Parking meter violations	2349
Parking Tickets other than meter	718
Possession of illegal cannabis/drug equipment	47
Inoperable/abandoned or unlicensed vehicles	12
Retail theft	7
Fighting; Assault and Battery	25
Operating a vehicle with expired registration	43
Failure to wear seat belt	31
Administrative tows	161
Parking after 2" snowfall	129



Our adjudication program is administered by Sergeant Steve Watry with assistance from Clerk Mary Banasiak.

Leaning Forward in 2023

MAXIMIZE PUBLIC SAFETY

- ❖ Ensure **VISIBILITY** through residential patrols, foot patrols, public contacts and interactions at schools.
- ❖ Be **PROACTIVE WITH SELF-INITIATED ACTIVITY**, community education, compliance operations, and **CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS**.
- ❖ Leverage **INVESTIGATIVE TRAINING, TECHNOLOGICAL RESOURCES, AND CRIME SCENE CAPABILITIES** to increase solvability rate.
- ❖ **CONDUCT TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT** to promote traffic safety and reduce crashes.
- ❖ **ENGAGE WITH THE BUSINESS COMMUNITY** to promote public safety and crime reduction.

DEVELOP AND SUPPORT QUALITY EMPLOYEES

- ❖ Provide **ADVANCED PROFESSIONAL TRAINING** to employees through training consortiums and professional organizations.
- ❖ Conduct **MONTHLY POLICY REVIEWS, IN-HOUSE TRAININGS, AND ON-LINE LEARNING** to stay abreast of best practices, legal updates, and training mandates.
- ❖ Continue promoting **OFFICER WELLNESS** through **PEER SUPPORT, WELLNESS CHECKS, and ACCESS TO PERSONAL RESOURCES**.
- ❖ Allow opportunities for professional growth through **PERSONNEL ROTATIONS** and **SPECIALTY ASSIGNMENTS**.

MEET THE NEEDS OF A GROWING COMMUNITY

- ❖ Strengthen **COMMUNITY RELATIONSHIPS** with **PERSONAL ENGAGEMENT** in residential and business settings to promote partnerships and education.
- ❖ Continue to facilitate the **POLICE SOCIAL WORK PROGRAM** to address incidents involving persons with mental health concerns or social service needs.
- ❖ **LEVERAGE SOCIAL MEDIA** to connect to the community and provide information (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Code Red, City website).

EFFECTIVELY MANAGE THE DEPARTMENT'S FINANCIAL AND PHYSICAL RESOURCES

- ❖ Conduct quarterly budget reviews and needs assessment.
- ❖ Prepare for the conversion of the **FISCAL YEAR TO MIRROR THE CALENDAR YEAR** beginning **JANUARY 1, 2024**.
- ❖ Develop and update department policy and procedures to **INCORPORATE POLICE REFORM MANDATES AND LEGISLATIVE CHANGES TO BAIL REFORM**.