

# MEDINA POLICE DEPARTMENT

## 2023 ANNUAL REPORT

*Edward R. Kinney Chief of Police  
Dennis Hanwell Mayor*



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[www.medinaoh.org](http://www.medinaoh.org)





MEDINA POLICE DEPARTMENT  
*Integrity* ★ *Service* ★ *Community*  
2023 Annual Report

Mayor Hanwell and Members of Council,

As we conclude another year, the Medina Police Department is proud to present its comprehensive Year-End Report. This report serves as a reflection on the department's accomplishments, challenges, and ongoing commitment to ensuring the safety and well-being of the community we proudly serve.

Throughout the year, the men and women of the Medina Police Department have worked tirelessly to uphold the values of professionalism, integrity, and community engagement. This report aims to provide a transparent overview of the department's activities, initiatives, and key performance indicators, offering insight into the efforts made to maintain public safety and foster positive relationships within the city.

The Year-End Report highlights the collaborative efforts between law enforcement and the community, from crime statistics and community outreach programs to advancements in technology and training. As we navigate the complexities of modern policing, this report serves as a testament to our dedication to accountability, transparency, and continuous improvement.

We invite you to delve into the pages of this report to gain a deeper understanding of the challenges faced and the successes achieved in our collective pursuit of a safer and more vibrant community. The Medina Police Department remains steadfast in its commitment to serving and protecting, and we express our gratitude to the community for its ongoing support.

We serve proudly and take seriously the responsibility of keeping Medina a secure and welcoming place for all residents and visitors.

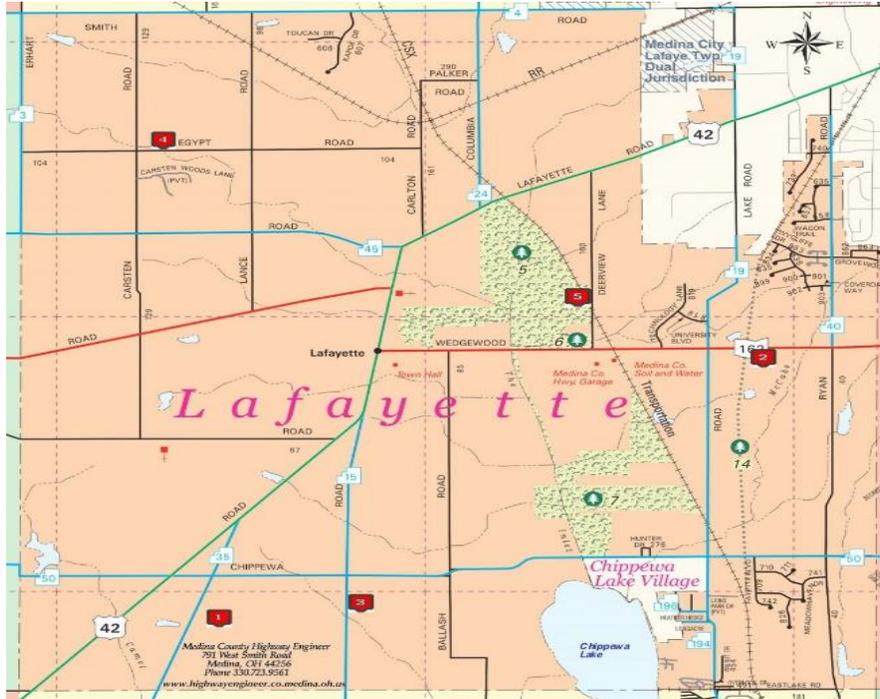
Respectfully submitted,



Edward R. Kinney  
Chief of Police



# Lafayette Township Profile



<p><b>Lafayette Township Population</b></p> <p>6,126</p>	<p><b>Square miles</b></p> <p>22.9</p>	<p><b>Borders</b></p> <p>Southwest side of the City of Medina</p>
<p><b>Largest natural lake in Ohio</b></p> <p>Chippewa Lake</p>	<p><b>Technology Park</b></p> <p>Medina County University Center University of Akron</p>	<p><b>Settled</b></p> <p>1820</p>

## Staff Roster

Name	Assignment	Hire Date
Edward Kinney	Chief of Police	1997
Scott Marcum	Lieutenant	2000
Bryan Wagner	Lieutenant	2003
Nathan Simpson	Sergeant	2003
Darin Zaremba	Sergeant	1995
Patrick Sloan	Sergeant	2003
Sara Lynn	Sergeant	2005
Joshua Wilson	Sergeant	2008
Raven Ory	Sergeant	2017
Derek Crooks	Sergeant	2014
Daryn Winebrenner	Officer	1995
Dan Warner	Officer	1995
Todd Grice	Officer	1996
Al Roland	Officer/SRO	2005
Matthew Martincin	Officer	2005
Kelly Moran	Officer	2007
Christopher Brink	Officer	2008
James Tighe	Officer/SRO	2009
Gregory Habrat	Officer/Property	2012
James Terwilliger	Officer	2013
Nicholas MacLarren	Officer/SRO	2013
Michael Wovna	Detective	2014
Christopher Deeks	Detective	2014
Jeffrey Smith	Detective	2014
Michael English	Detective	2015
Erica Anderson	Officer	2015
Andrew Dziak	Officer	2016

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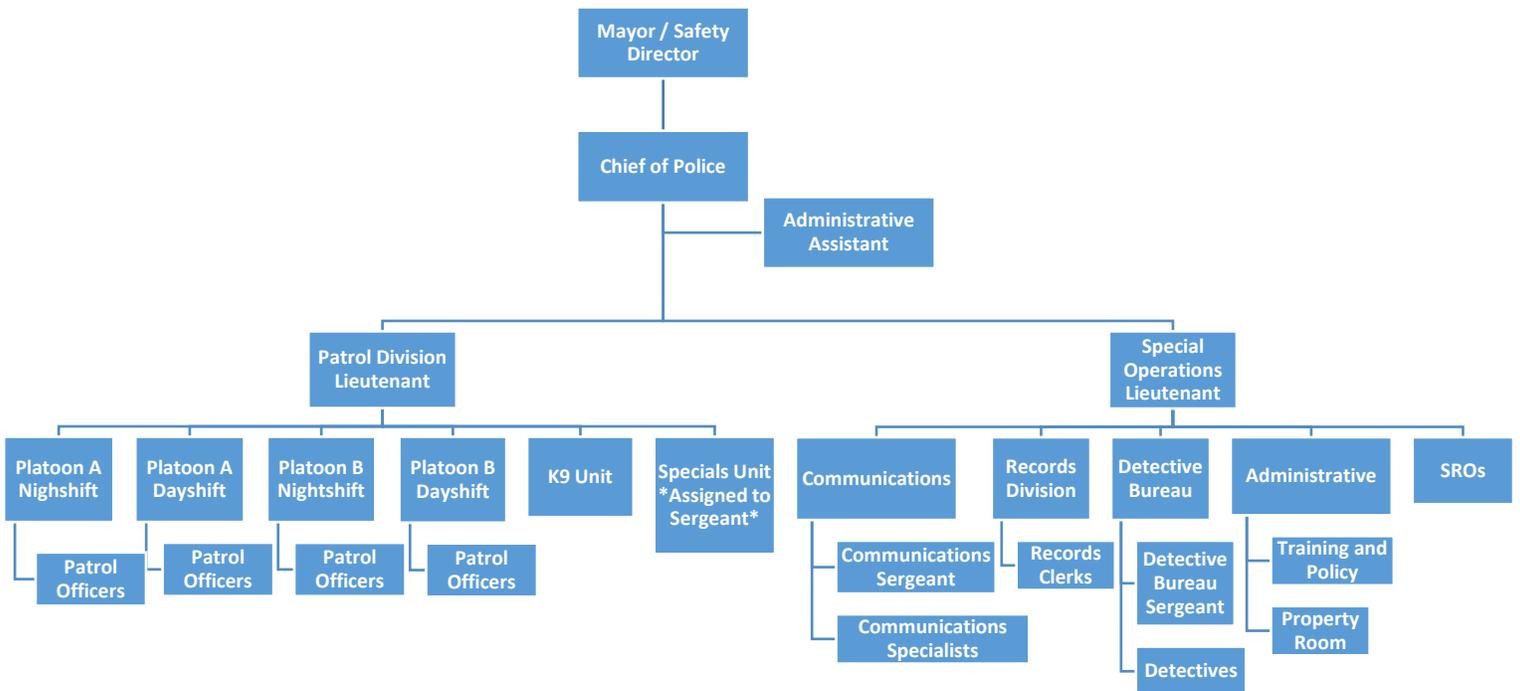
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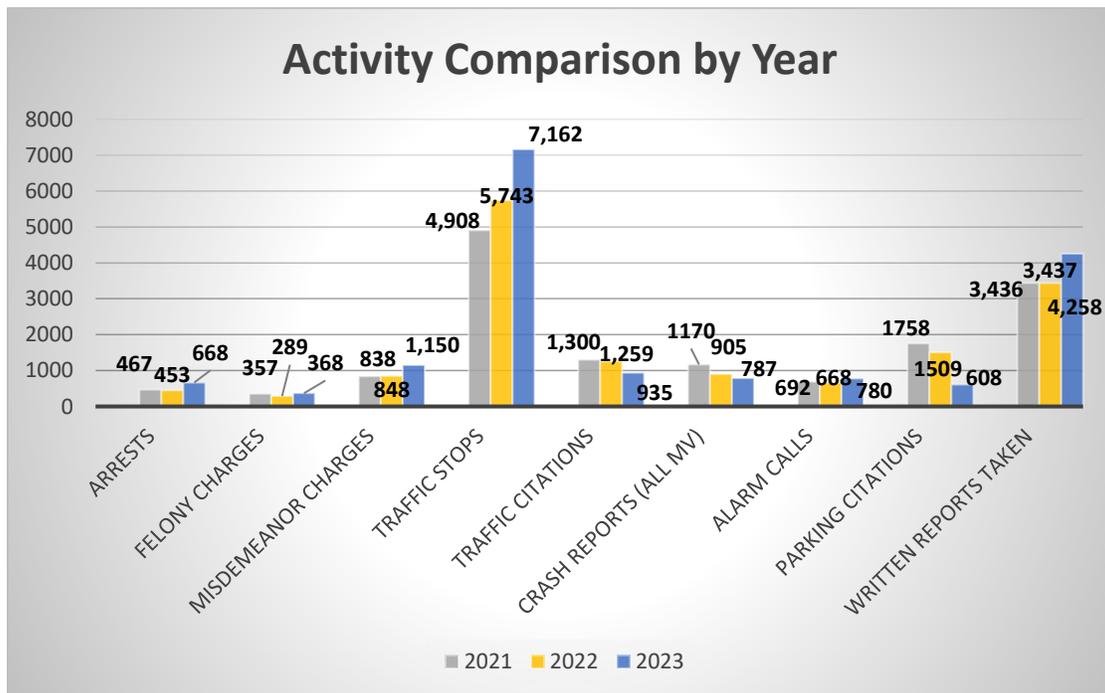
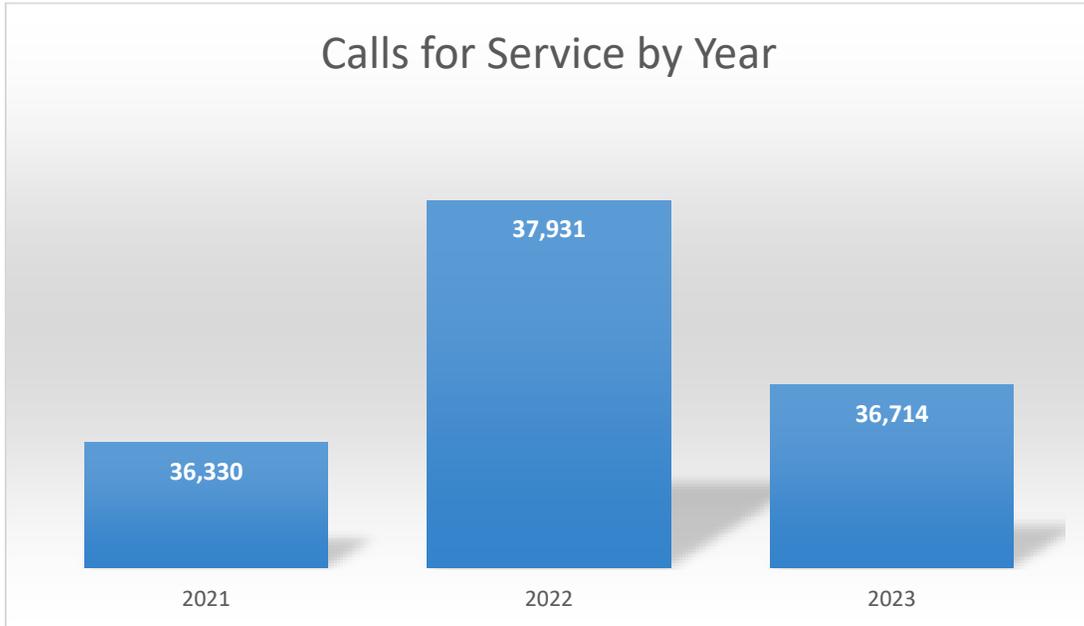
Christopher Wade	Officer	2018
Evan Scherer	Officer	2018
Joseph Calabrese	Officer	2018
Tyler Hughes/K9	Officer	2019
Matthew Witthuhn	Officer	2019
Tyler Howell	Officer	2021
Lauren Brooks	Officer	2021
Ian Baker	Officer	2021
Seth Gonyea	Officer	2022
Tyler Thompson	Officer	2023
Dalton Weber	Officer	2023
Ryan Laskowski	Officer	2023
Bailey Hagan	Officer	2023
Patty Miller	Dispatcher	1999
Denise Indovina	Dispatcher	2001
Andrew Demczyk	Dispatcher	2013
Crystal Vance	Dispatcher	2015
Calvin Undercoffer	Dispatcher	2017
Tricia Glauner	Dispatcher	2022
Patrick Villeneuve	Dispatcher	2022
Stacy Henry	Dispatcher	2023
Jennifer Strassel	Dispatcher	2023
Natalie Santivaschi	Administrative Assistant	2011
Alyx Pasanen	Records	2023
Taylor Yaworski	Records	2023
Leann Kerr	Records	2023
William Pavlick	Parking Attendant	2018

# Medina Police Department

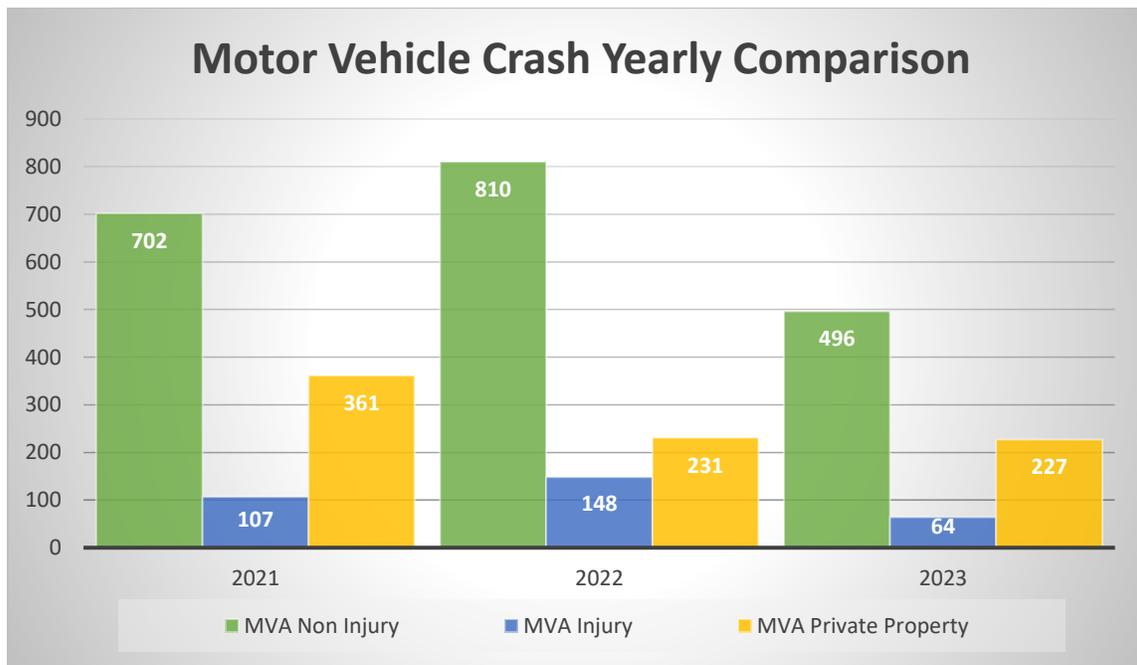
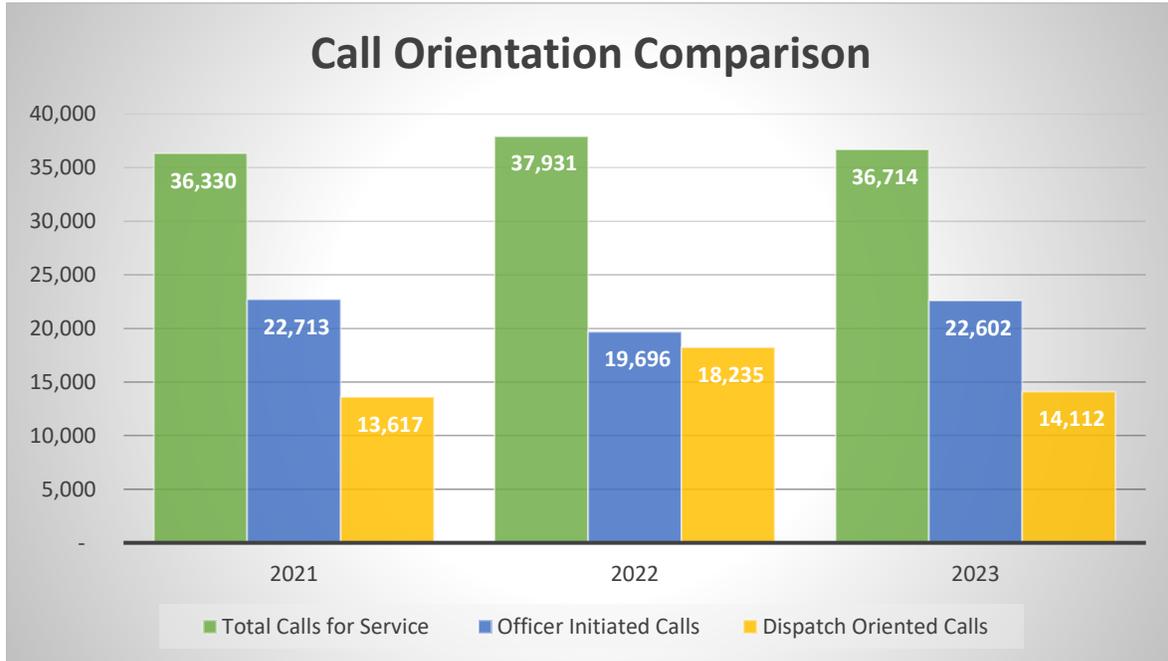
## Organizational Chart



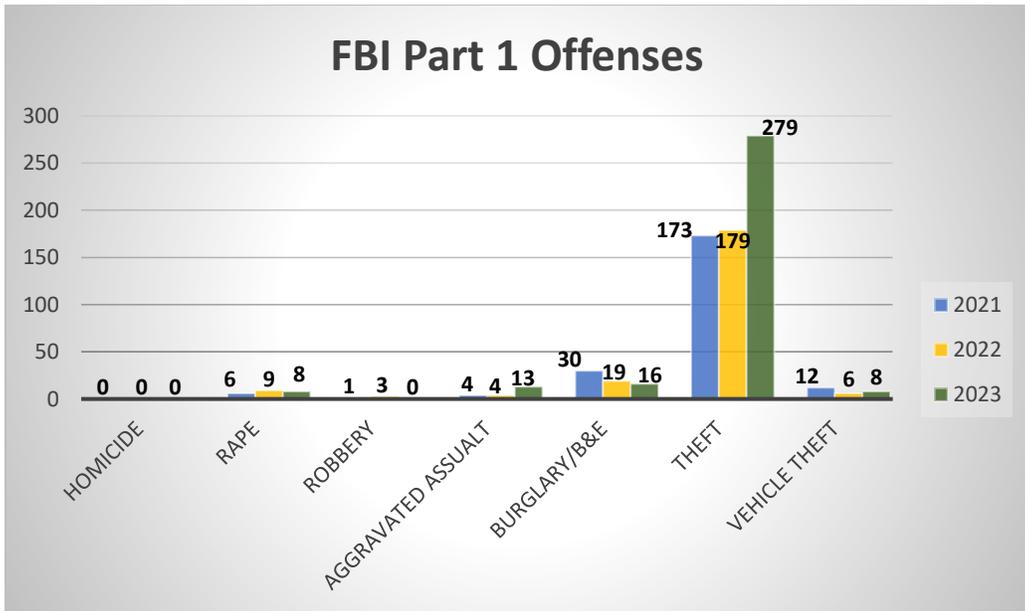
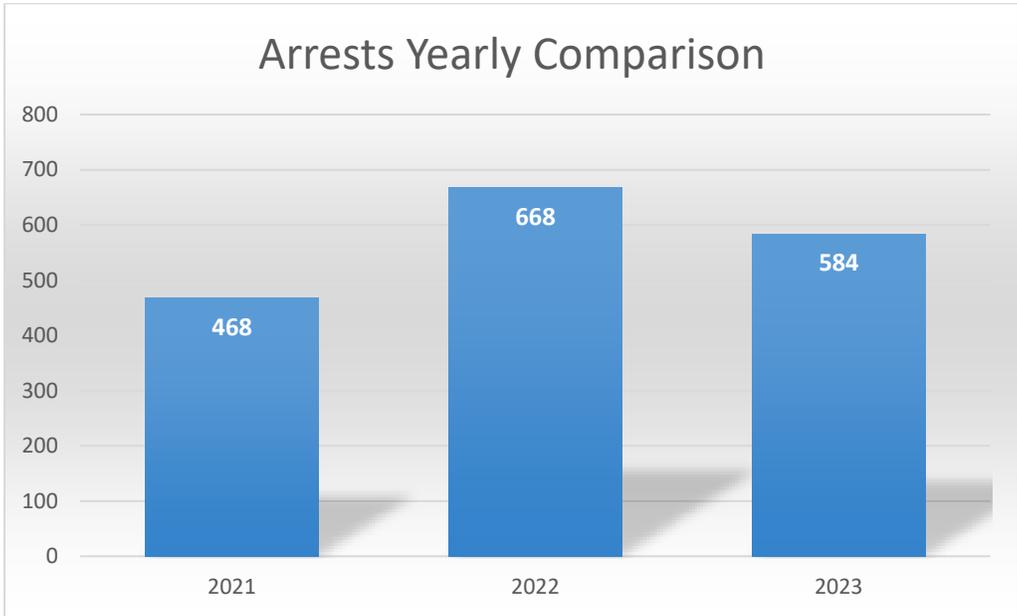
# Department Statistics

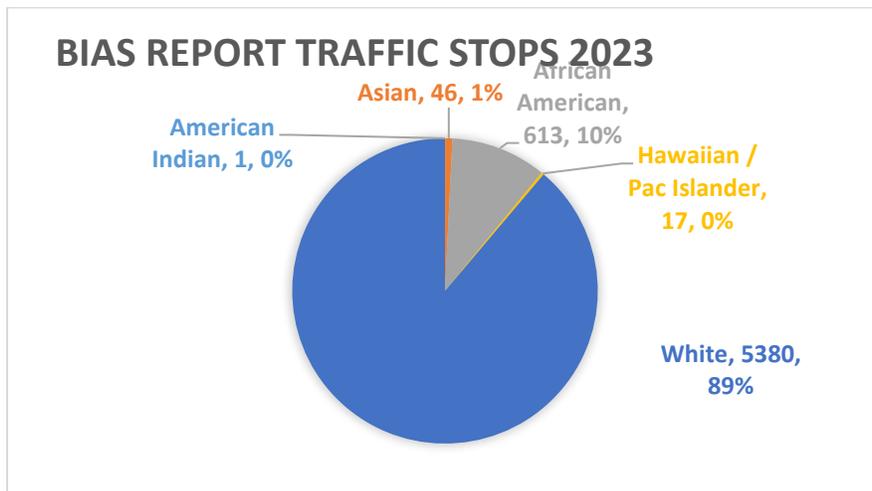
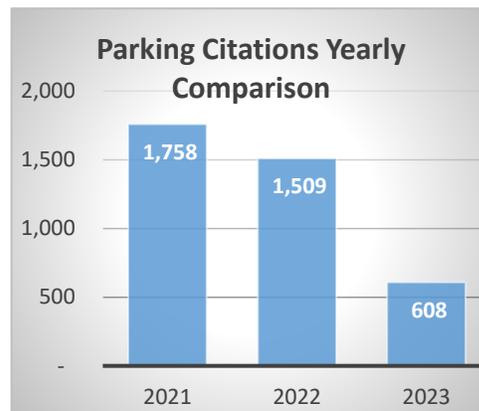
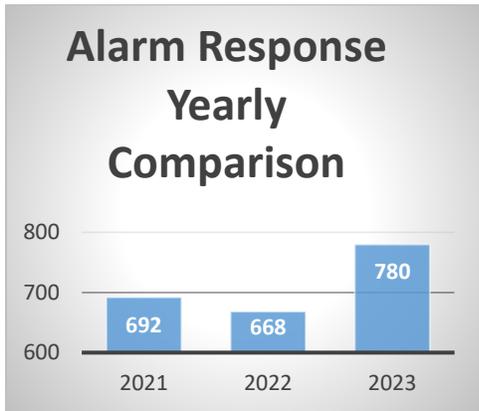
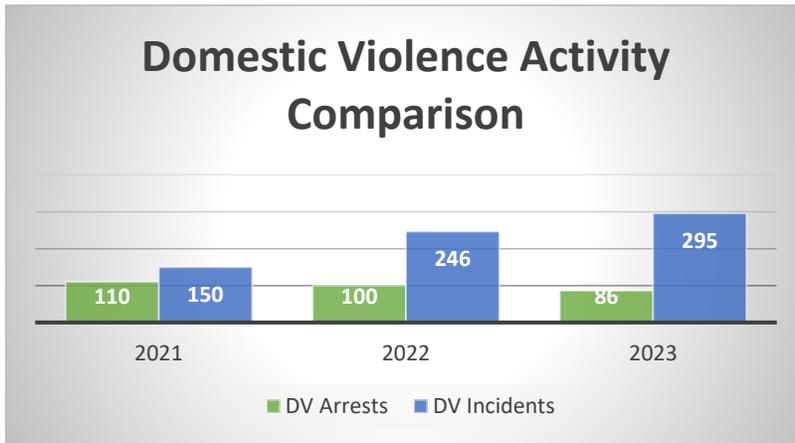


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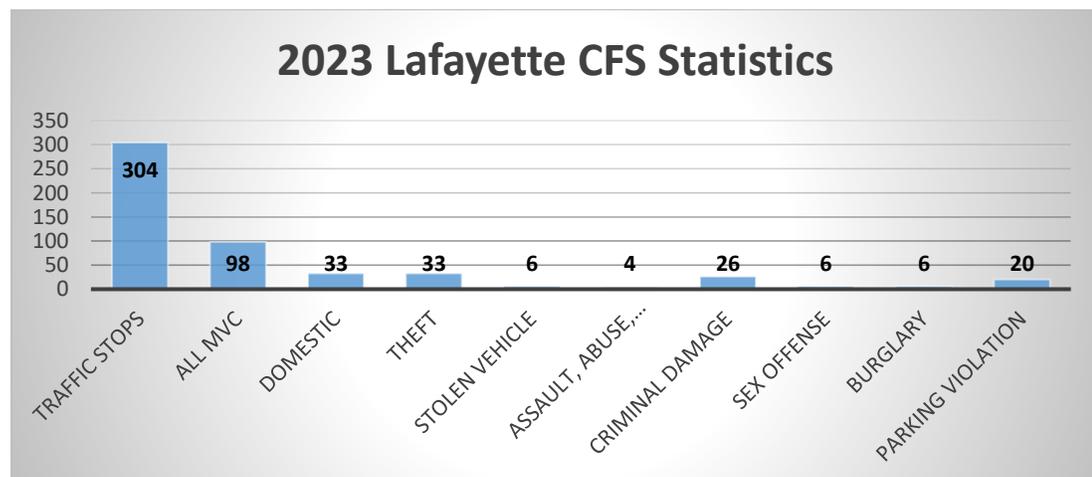
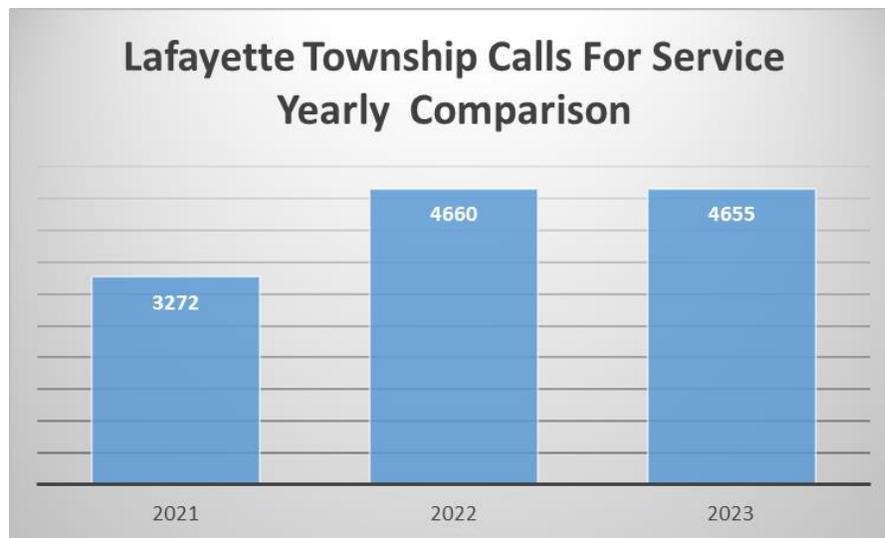
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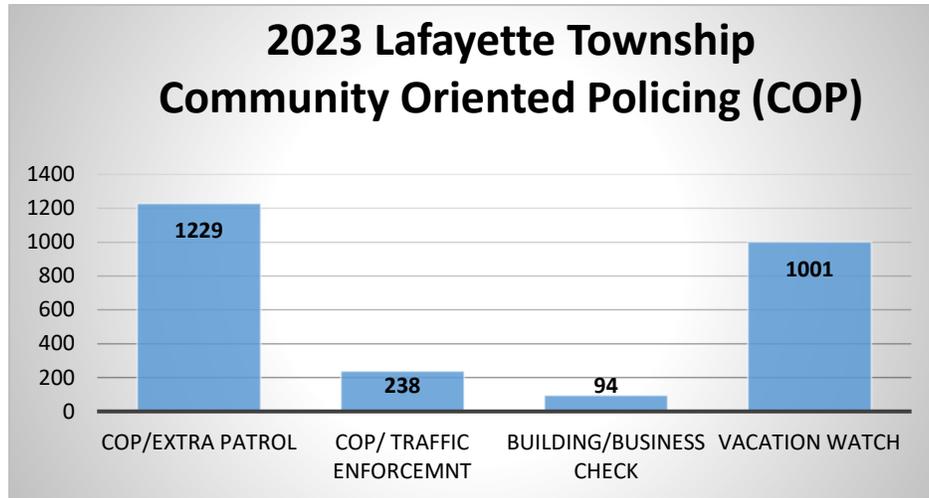




## Lafayette Township Police Service –

Medina Police Department is retained for police services by Lafayette Township. A five-year contract is in place through 2027. Last year, MPD officers responded to over 4,600 calls for service originating in Lafayette Township. Community Oriented Policing (COP) has grown over the past three years. A glimpse of activity in Lafayette Township for 2023 is reflected in the charts below.





## *Patrol Division*



The uniformed patrol division is the first to represent the Medina Police Department, the City of Medina and Lafayette Township in response to citizen requests for service. The patrol division is also responsible for carrying out initial crime scene investigations, traffic enforcement, motor vehicle accident investigations and assisting on LST and fire calls. The patrol division consists of 41 fulltime officers and is commanded by Lieutenant Bryan Wagner.

In 2023 the Police Department added four new officers to the ranks. Officer Tyler Thompson and Officer Dalton Weber both graduated from the Ohio State Patrol Academy in February of 2023. Officer Tyler Thompson was a member of the Medina Fire Department and is a lifelong Medina city resident. Officer Dalton Webber graduated from the Ohio State University and was recruited after completing his internship at the Medina Police Department. Officer Ryan Laskowski was hired in March of 2023 as the departments first lateral transfer. Officer Ryan Laskowski brings a total of 12 years of experience collectively between Lakewood and Wooster PD. In April of 2023, Bailey Hagan was hired. Officer Hagan completed the Basic Police Academy through Cuyahoga Community College. He is a Strongsville High School graduate who now resides in Brunswick.

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The Medina Police Department employees received an abundance of training in 2023. The Ohio Attorney General mandates 24 hours of continuing education for all Officers, these hours were again exceeded in 2023. Officers attended Dr. Gilmartin's seminar on Emotional Survival for Law Enforcement which was sponsored by The Medina County Chief's Association and Alternative Paths. In addition, Officers attended legal update training, defensive tactics update training, firearms training, emergency vehicle operations training, self-defense instructor training, school-based policing training, supervisory course training, active threat incident training, patrol interdiction training and critical intervention training to name a few. In June of 2023 Sergeant Joshua Wilson graduated from the Ohio State University's Public Safety Leadership Academy (PSLA). The PSLA program is an intense 11-week residential training program geared toward building strong leaders in Law Enforcement. Sergeant Joshua Wilson's capstone project encompassing officer education and training led to the deployment of his model within the department.



### **VEHICLE PURSUIT REVIEW –**

Deciding whether to pursue a motor vehicle is a critical decision that must be made quickly and under difficult and unpredictable circumstances. Officers must remember that the most important factors to the successful conclusion of a pursuit are self-discipline and sound professional judgement. An officer's conduct during the course of a pursuit must be objectively reasonable; that is to say, "what a reasonable officer would do under the circumstances".

The Medina Police Department had nine vehicle pursuit incidents in 2023. All nine pursuits were reviewed. The corresponding incident report, any evidence and video footage were collected and analyzed. Eight of the nine vehicle pursuit incidents were compliant with Medina Police Department Policy 314 VEHICLE PURSUITS. During a July 2023 pursuit Officers pursued a vehicle at unsafe speeds and failed to terminate the pursuit when appropriate. Due to these factors, two Officers received written reprimands and the shift Sergeant received a written reprimand for lack of supervisory control over the pursuit.

### **USE OF FORCE REVIEW –**

The Medina Police Department recognizes and respects the value of all human life and dignity without prejudice. Vesting officers with the authority to use reasonable force to protect the welfare of the public requires monitoring, evaluation and a careful balancing of all interests.

The Medina Police Department used force in thirty-four incidents in 2023. All thirty-four incidents were reviewed. Similar to the review of Vehicle Pursuits the process includes analyzing corresponding incident reports, use of force reports, video coverage and all evidence to determine compliance. Thirty-two of the thirty-four incidents complied with the Medina

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Police Department Policy 300.4 REPORTING THE USE OF FORCE. During one incident the involved Officers were verbally counseled for failing to use a safety belt during the transport of the subject. During another incident two Officers failed to immediately activate their body worn cameras, they were both verbally counseled.

The thirty-four use of force incidents in 2023 are represented in the following demographics by race and sex; 19 White Males, 4 White Females, 8 Black Males, 3 Black Females.

**K9 DEPLOYMENTS –**



In early 2023 the Medina Police Department retired K9 Nero and began the process of acquiring a new canine. Officer Tyler Hughes was selected to be the newest canine handler and selected his new partner, Tango. Tango is a one-year-old German Shephard who was bred in Czech Republic. Tango received extensive training at Shallow Creek Kennels (PA) and is certified in narcotics, apprehension and tracking.

Both Tango and Officer Tyler Hughes completed their training in November of 2023 and were certified through the State of Ohio for patrol utilization. Tango has already assisted in one arrest and several drug seizures. Officer Tyler Hughes has been busy introducing Tango to the community through patrol interactions and demonstrations.

**SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS -**



The Medina Police Department provides three full-time School Resource Officers (SRO) that work collaboratively with the Medina City School District. The SRO positions are partially funded by the Medina County Drug Advisory Committee(MCDAC) grant established by the anti-drug levy. Medina Police Department completed the grant application process for consideration.

Under the command of Lieutenant Scott Marcum, SRO Nicholas MacLarren is assigned to Medina Senior High School, SRO Al Roland is assigned to A.I. Root Middle School and SRO James Tighe is housed at Claggett Middle School. These SRO's primarily ensure a safe and positive learning environment for students, staff, facilities and community. The



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SRO's role is based on a triad concept; law enforcement, teacher and informed counselor.

In their law enforcement roll, each SRO is responsible for any calls for service occurring within their respective school. They also collaborate with other agencies such as the Medina County Health Department and Medina County Job and Family Services. The SRO's serve as a liaison between the youth and law enforcement by establishing relationships in a non-confrontational environment. As counselors, School Resource Officers work with the faculty



and administrators to uphold school policies and procedures. They maintain a close working relationship with school counselors, social workers, psychologists, nurses, and teachers to assist students in building positive relationships. Officers MacLarren, Roland, and Tighe recognize the importance of mentoring youth at risk. They work diligently to build rapport with students at risk, and take extra time to provide guidance to those students with special needs.

Officer Tighe takes on additional duties as a certified D.A.R.E. instructor. The Drug Abuse Resistance Education (D.A.R.E.) program is the most comprehensive drug prevention curricula in the world. Officer Tighe teaches the concepts of D.A.R.E. to 5<sup>th</sup> grade students within the Medina City Schools. The effective multicultural curriculum includes subject matter that includes bullying, internet & social media safety, vaping, and negative effects of all types of drug use. Officer Tighe engages the students in scenario-based activities and encourages development of positive and effective skill in decision making.

As teachers, our SRO's lead and participate in after school activities where they can also build positive relationships with our youth. Our SRO's lead many youth programs such as "ROADWISE"; a teenage awareness driving program using driving simulators to promote safe driving habits. In conjunction with the American Automobile Association and during driver safety month our SRO's provide students and staff with vehicle safety checks. They also teach concepts of the "Sober Truth Program" with a goal of reducing the use of alcohol in our youth. SRO's teach applicable self-defense strategies and basic safety awareness through the "Campus Awareness Training"(CAT) to graduating females that will be transitioning to the college campus life. Also among the SRO schedule are various activities and programs such as, "See Something/Say Something" presentations, Bike to School, Shop with a Cop, Special Olympics, dances, rallies, assemblies and they are active participants in the Medina County Police Activities League.

While the primary goal of our School Resource Officers is to provide safety, they also play an integral role in uniting law enforcement, youth, faculty, and community on a foundation of understanding and cooperation.

### **Medina County SWAT TEAM**

Medina Police Department dedicates three officers to the Medina County SWAT Team. SWAT officers engage in rigorous monthly training that specializes in SWAT scenarios, skills development, and team collaboration and coordination. In 2023, the Medina County SWAT Team was activated 5 times:

- On March 11, 2023, the SWAT Team was activated to act as a react team in the City of Wadsworth in regards to a drag queen reading.
- On June 10, 2023, the SWAT Team was activated for a male who threatened his neighbors. The suspect was wearing body armor and was observed with a long gun. The suspect was outside his residence yelling that people were trying to kill him. After almost 5 hours, the suspect exited the front of his residence and was taken into custody.
- On July 21, 2023, the SWAT Team was activated to secure a residence for a search warrant in the City of Wadsworth. The suspect had an extensive CCH and was known to have weapons. The suspect exited his residence and was taken into custody.
- On October 21, 2023, the SWAT Team was activated to secure a residence for a search warrant and also for an arrest warrant. The charge in this case was rape, a felony of the first degree. The suspect was taken into custody without incident.
- On October 27, 2023, the SWAT Team was activated to secure a residence for a search warrant in the City of Wadsworth. The suspect was known to carry firearms and had an extensive CCH. It was decided to use a city utility truck and have three operators drive to the residence acting as if there was a gas leak. As the truck pulled up with the yellow light flashing, the suspect asked what was going on. When he was told there was a gas leak, he exited his residence and operators moved in and secured the suspect.

### **COMMUNITY OUTREACH –**

Through out the year officers commit time in connecting with the community on an amicable level. They extend trainings and expertise where reasonable and they attend and participate in many community events, they stop and chat when time allows, and bike through neighborhoods. Officers attended many community events throughout the year. Some of the events include; Easter Egg Hunts, National Night Out, Bike to School, Touch a Truck, Juneteenth Festival, Halloween events, Candle Light Walk, Kids Day on the Square, Visit from Santa, Shop with a Cop, various

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job fairs and block parties and many other community events. The Annual Special Olympics Torch Run came through Medina once again. Lieutenant Bryan Wagner, Sergeant Nathan Simpson and Detective Michael English carried the Flame of Hope in support of the mission. Many Officers also participated in the Tunnels to Towers 5K, several in full uniform. Here are a few additional highlights –



**Women's Self Defense Class**

Medina Police Officers taught Women's Self Defense classes in 2023. This is a five-week instructional course hosted at the Medina Rec Center that teaches women personal safety and various techniques including striking, escaping and countering an attack. The final day of class participants adorn protective pads and use their new skills to simulate real life scenarios.



**Kids Day of Safety and Play, Touch a Truck & National Night Out -**



During the Summer of 2023 Medina Police Officers engaged with the community during several events including the Kids Day of Safety and Play on Public Square, National Night Out and Touch a Truck both hosted at the Medina Recreation Center parking lot.

Officers open and display police vehicles for children to sit in and tour, demonstrate equipment, engage with attendees, and give out coloring books, pencils, stickers and even place temporary tattoos on children attending.



**Shop with a Cop –**

The Fraternal Order of Police Lodge #204 supports this county wide event and rallies together many county organizations to spread the joy of Christmas. The Medina Police Department was represented by numerous departmental members and hosted 20 children this year. First responders



and volunteers from around the county accompany less fortunate children through a day of holiday activities that include, a visit from Santa, breakfast, transport in a lights and siren vehicle parade, shopping at Walmart and lunch with many special treats and fun between. We are thankful for the strong support and widespread community generosity that elevates this event to its capacity.

### **Juvenile Diversion-**

The Medina Police Department participates in the Medina County Juvenile Traffic Diversion Program. A program offered to all first-time juvenile traffic offenders ages 16 or 17 years old. The one day class provides an alternative to the Juvenile Court system for an initial offense. A three-hour class is offered at Medina High School and is taught by police officers. Driving simulators and hands-on driving exercises are used in a controlled environment to enhance the classroom portion. Participation requires a fee of \$50 which covers the administrative costs. Upon completion of the program, neither the juvenile nor their parent(s) need to appear in court. Thus the juvenile's driving record remains clear. Medina Police referred 84 juveniles to the program in 2023.

## **SPECIAL OPERATIONS DIVISION**

### **Detective Bureau –**

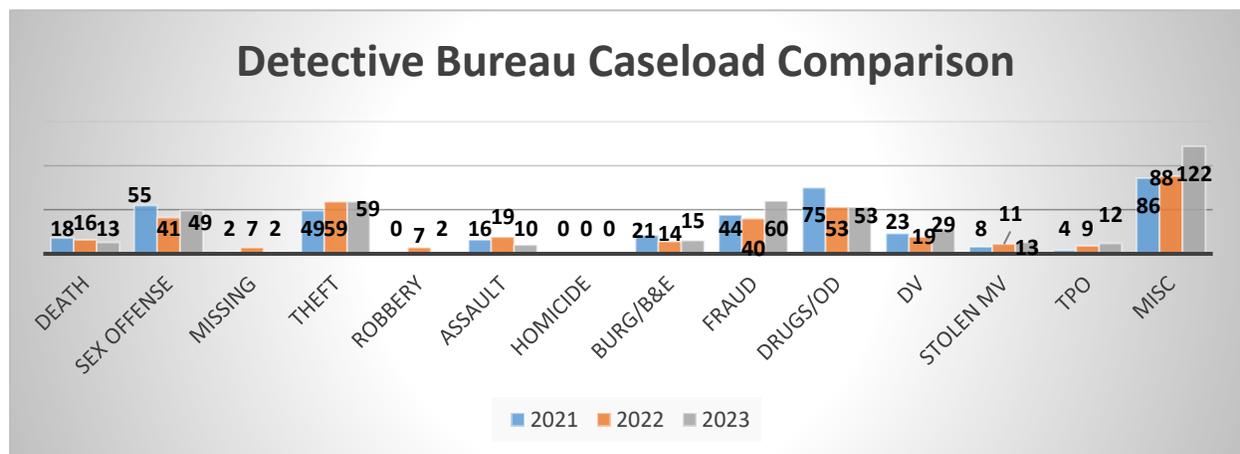


Lieutenant Scott Marcum commands the Detective Bureau. The officers assigned to the Detective Bureau investigate felony and misdemeanor cases and complete pre-employment background investigations. Most DB cases originate with the Patrol Division and are forwarded to the DB for additional investigation.

Detectives are responsible for managing cases throughout the investigative process and through court proceedings. The Detective Bureau is staffed with four detectives. Detectives rotate through a weekly on-call schedule throughout the year and they respond from home for emergency investigations.

A detective is currently assigned to work as a liaison with the Medina County Drug Taskforce in which assistance is provided with search warrants and undercover drug operations. Detectives are also assigned to the Child Abduction Response Team (CART), which is a county wide, multi-jurisdictional team. The detectives assigned to CART participate regularly in

training and scenarios specific to investigations involving missing or abducted children and at-risk adults. The Detective Bureau was forwarded 473 cases in 2023. Cases are triaged prior to assignment which allows detectives the ability to prioritize solvable cases with actionable leads or evidence over cases with a low probability of being solved. More than 240 cases were presented to the grand jury resulting in 135 felony charges. More than 45 search warrants were obtained along with countless requests for grand jury subpoenas. There were 24 cases in which digital forensics were used and detectives completed 16 pre-employment background investigations.



**Property/Evidence -**

Daily maintenance of the Medina Police Department’s Property/Evidence Room involves the collection, preservation, storage, security and disposition of evidence and other property. Evidence is maintained only as long as necessary for use in any pending investigation or prosecution. Non-evidentiary property is maintained only until it can be returned to its rightful owner or otherwise be disposed of in accordance with the law.

The Property Room is managed by a part-time officer under the command of Lieutenant Scott Marcum. The officer devotes 29 hours a week to the department’s continuous flow of property and evidence. In addition to the preservation of property and evidence the property officer handles testing submissions, tends to inquiries regarding property and organizes the annual property auction. Assistance is sometimes rendered by support staff personnel and intermittent volunteers when necessary and sustainable.

The property officer also handles maintenance of the Prescription Drug Drop Box in the lobby of the police department. The total collection for 2023 was 338.59 pounds.



**Property Room Activity**

	<b><u>Property Received</u></b>	<b><u>Narcotics</u></b>	<b><u>BCI Lab Submissions</u></b>	<b><u>Items Destroyed</u></b>	<b><u>Items Forfeited</u></b>	<b><u>Items Auctioned</u></b>
<b><u>2023</u></b>	<b>1217</b>	<b>377</b>	<b>123</b>	<b>540</b>	<b>620</b>	<b>35</b>
<b><u>2022</u></b>	<b>1023</b>	<b>285</b>	<b>123</b>	<b>1058</b>	<b>674</b>	<b>33</b>
<b><u>2021</u></b>	<b>1161</b>	<b>494</b>	<b>203</b>	<b>1081</b>	<b>1421</b>	<b>65</b>

**Dispatch/Communications -**



In totality, The Medina Police Department Communications Center provides dispatch services for five first responder agencies including police, fire and EMS. Communication services are provided to the Medina Police (includes Lafayette Township) and the Medina City Fire Department. Three agencies contract our dispatch services; Montville Police Department, Medina Township Police Department and the Cleveland Clinic’s Life Support Team. Additionally, the Communication Center serves as a

point of contact for all City services outside regular business hours since the communication center operates 24 hours a day 365 days a year.

In 2023 the Communications Center staff handled 69,230 Calls for Service (CFS) to include all five of the agencies served. They also handled 8,443 9-1-1 calls and processed 80,426 calls on the non-emergency phone line. Our communication operators answered 99.58% of 9-1-1 calls in less than 15 seconds, and 99.83% of 9-1-1 calls were answered under 20 seconds which significantly exceeds the standard set by Ohio Administrative Code, Rule 5507-1-18, established at 90% within 15 seconds and 95% within 20 seconds. Furthermore, 73% of 9-1-1 calls were answered in three seconds or less.

The Medina Communications center is currently considered a secondary Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP). This designation follows that all wireless calls are initially routed through the Medina County Sheriff’s Dispatch Center, to which their telecommunicators must

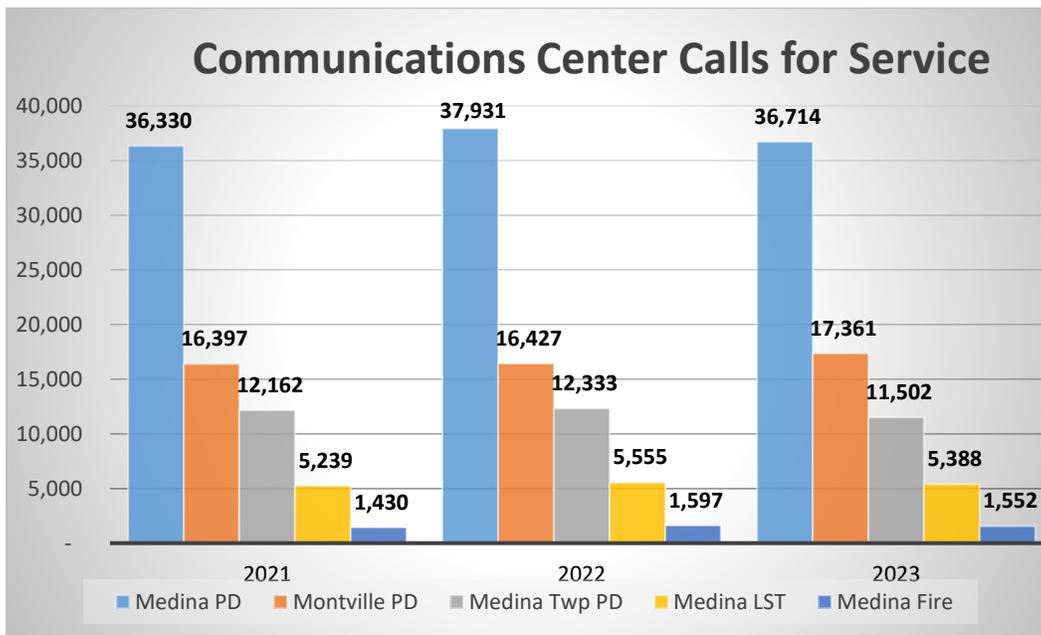
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forward them to the responsible agency. In 2023, The Medina Police Department received 6,007 transferred 9-1-1 calls from the Medina County Sheriff’s Office. Throughout 2022, Medina Police Department completed all of the necessary requirements to become a primary PSAP, to include training and other rules set forth by the Ohio 9-1-1 Program Office and the Ohio Administrative Code. As we move forward into 2024, to better serve our communities, Medina Police Department will continue working with the county and wireless carriers for direct routing of wireless 9-1-1 calls that originate within our communication center’s boundaries to include; the City of Medina, Montville Township and Medina Township.

In 2023 two communications operators were recognized at the Medina County Safe Communities Award Ceremony for their skillful and attentive handling of observing an alert for a stolen vehicle entering the City of Medina. Patrick Villeneuve and Tricia Glauner dispatched, logged and coordinated with other agencies flawlessly as a pursuit took place, which eventually led to three arrests and prevention of a crime.



We welcomed two new hires to the communications center in 2023. Stacey Henry was hired in June. She is a resident of the City of Medina. Jennifer Strassel was hired in November and resides in Sharon Township. Both have completed their training programs and look forward to serving our communities. We currently have two vacancies in the communication center.



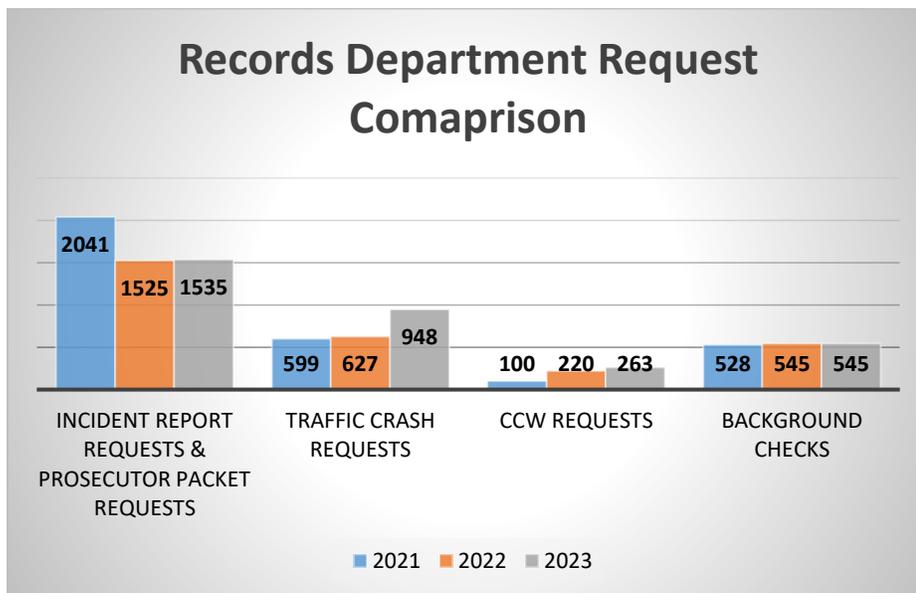
**Records Department –**

The Records Division is manned by one full-time records custodian and three part-time records clerks, under the command of Lieutenant Scott Marcum. Records staff serve as an central point of support to all divisions of the Medina Police Department, to the public and the many agencies with which we collaborate.



All police records, to include many forms of citations, car and body camera video, electronic recordings, such as radio communication and 911 calls are processed, stored and distributed by the Records Division Staff. In addition, Records personnel assist in state mandated reporting of accidents, towed vehicle tracking, domestic violence reporting, maintenance of parking violations, false-alarm notifications and vacation watch tracking.

The Medina Police Department Records staff organize, file, preserve and prepare all forms of records for retention and destruction according to the department records retention schedule. They assist the public daily by fulfilling public records requests, issuing solicitor registration licenses, issuing bicycle licenses, and as a source of general information. The records division is an essential entity to the department, the community and beyond.



## *Police Specials Unit*

The Medina Police Department “Specials Unit” was established in April of 1958. At that time, nine members of the community formed the volunteer unit to assist and supplement the Medina Police Department. Over the years, the unit has grown and evolved, but one aspect remains the same; the members of the unit continue to donate thousands of volunteer hours to the community and the police department. Our Special’s Unit consisted of 19 members in 2023. Ten members being OPOTC state certified and held to the same standards for training as a full-time officer. The remaining nine non-certified members are not required to complete the training, but many choose to do so. All members are regularly trained to handle medical emergencies. We gained one non-certified member to the Specials roster in 2023. Special Stephen Rice, a Cleveland Clinic communications operator is happy to give back to the community.

Collectively in 2023, members volunteered nearly 1,354 hours to the community and to MPD. Hours are accumulated by attending monthly meetings, fulfilling training requirements, riding with officers, working paid details and most importantly, working volunteer details. The Specials Unit provides security and traffic control at most community and school events.

Many of these events could not be held without the presence of Specials Unit volunteers. We thank them for their dedication to serving the Medina community. The members of the Specials’ Unit plan on continuing on with their long-dedicated history of serving the Medina Community into 2024.

