



ANNUAL REPORT 2018

Mount Pleasant Police Department



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MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF'S OFFICE

It is with great pleasure that the Mount Pleasant Police Department presents this 2018 annual report. This report is meant to provide information to our citizens about the structure and operations of our police department. I am thankful for the dedicated men and women of this department, and the courageous work they do on a daily basis. The professionalism in which they carry out their service to the community is testament to their passion and commitment. It is truly an honor to stand beside this dedicated staff of sworn, and non-sworn personnel.

Department Focus

While one of our main goals will always be to ensure the safety of our citizens, the Mount Pleasant Police Department continues to focus on building partnerships within the community with an emphasis on establishing relationships built on mutual trust. Through our continued Community Oriented Policing philosophy, we aim to provide the highest quality services combined with a high degree of professionalism that will include the input and ideas from village residents. Together, working as a team, our citizens and police department can be more effective solving community issues and being proactive when facing future concerns. We cannot overstate the benefits that exist from citizen and police collaboration. We not only want our residents to be safe, we want them to feel safe as well.

“The Mount Pleasant Police Department continues to focus on building partnerships within the community with an emphasis on establishing relationships built on mutual trust.”

Reflecting on 2018

The past year brought several changes to the department. The most noteworthy change was the retirement of Timothy Zarzecki after 10 years as the Chief of Police, and 30 years with the department. Zarzecki decided to retire from this long and accomplished law enforcement career and pursue other passions. In the 10 years that Zarzecki was the chief, there were many accomplishments. Zarzecki was closely involved in the planning of the first Mount Pleasant Community Oriented Policing House, the planning and construction of the new police department facility and firing range, and the establishment of the department's first Citizens Academy and Peer Officer Support Team (POST). We wish him luck in his future endeavors.

Hiring/Recruitment

2018 also brought changes in personnel. We had two officers retire and several additional positions to fill. Sgt. Paul Maccari retired after nearly 38 years of service with the Mount Pleasant Police Department. In addition, Officer John Blicke retired with 16 years on the department. Officers Dietrick Williams, Mike Lodygowski, Dan Neumann, Rachel Koessl, Alejandro Padilla, Ben Wilde, and Mike Smits were hired. On January 22, 2019, we also added Jason Straka and Zachary Giovannoni to our roster. We are authorized at 58 sworn positions. Currently, we have 53 sworn officers. We have five additional positions to hire in 2019, one being the vacant chief position, and have another hiring process underway to fill these positions.

In December of 2018, we attended a Law Enforcement career fair in Madison as a way to bolster our applicant pool. We have plans in 2019 to attend similar career fairs. While the number of law enforcement applicants is down nationwide, we will continue striving to attract the best possible candidates for future employment with our department.

Looking Ahead

The Mount Pleasant Police Department operates on a \$7 million budget with the majority of funds allocated to cover personnel costs such as wages and benefits. In addition to personnel costs, the budget includes funding for capital purchases including, but not limited to, the following in the 2019 budget:

BUDGETED AMOUNT	CAPITAL ITEM
\$192,000	Squad Cars
\$150,000	Portable Radios
\$40,000	Mobile Squad Radios
\$17,000	License Plate Reader
\$12,000	Tasers
\$12,000	Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (Drone)
\$12,000	Hard Body Armor
\$11,000	Gas Masks

As we continue into 2019, the Mount Pleasant Police Department would like to extend our best wishes to everyone with the hope of a safe year ahead.

Matthew J. Soens
Interim Police Chief

2018 AT A GLANCE



53

AUTHORIZED SWORN PERSONNEL



28,416

INCIDENT NUMBERS



7

AUTHORIZED CIVILIAN PERSONNEL

4

PART TIME CIVILIAN PERSONNEL



2,167

ARRESTS



\$7,000,000

OPERATING BUDGET



7,105

Traffic CITATIONS (Municipal & Circuit)



1,098

TRAFFIC CRASHES



156

O.W.I. ARRESTS



23

THEFTS OF MOTOR VEHICLES/



500

REFERRALS TO DISTRICT ATTORNEY

COMMUNITY ORIENTED POLICING

Community policing creates a positive partnership between law enforcement and residents. The more involved law enforcement is with the community they are sworn to protect, the more residents can help law enforcement achieve their goals. Officers at MPPD embrace this philosophy, which helps to improve public perceptions, cooperation, and trust. Officers are given latitude in determining solutions to problems they encounter in their beat areas or when assisting citizens. Additionally, we utilize social media to clearly, quickly and effectively share information with the public. We embrace transparency in our policing efforts.



In 2018, MPPD added a third Community Oriented Policing (COP) officer to the Crime Prevention unit. One of these COP positions was paid for through a grant from SC Johnson for 6 years. These three officers work overlapping shifts to insure maximum police visibility and police/community relationship building in the Lakeside neighborhood. This area of the village historically has been ridden with more crime when compared to other areas of the village. We are able to expand our COP efforts throughout the Village while meeting the needs of others.



In addition to our COP efforts in the Lakeside neighborhood, we participate at various community group events, safety fairs, Special Olympics fundraisers, Coffee with a Cop, schools, and neighborhood association meetings. This is important in building trust with the public. The COP house continues to operate with the majority of the expenses covered by donations, grants, and fundraising efforts, with minimal expense to village taxpayers. In 2018 the COP house golf outing raised \$12,600.00 which helps fund needed supplies and operating costs.

2018 COP Activities

- Circles of Support
- English Classes
- Lunch with a COP
- Computer Classes
- School Supply Battle
- Reading Classes
- National Night Out
- Shop with a COP
- Fundraising
- Christmas Party
- Coffee with a COP
- 4th of July Parade
- TRIAD
- Youth for Christ
- Crime Stoppers
- Community Service
- Neighborhood Watch
- Haunted COP House

Officers at the COP house have formed meaningful partnerships with local government and private organizations in order to bring services to the area that will improve the quality of life for area residents. The house serves as the hub for the neighborhood residents, community engagements, and provides a base of operations for the village wide COP effort.

Since the inception of our COP house, we have met monthly with

neighborhood residents and responded to their concerns.

Additionally, we have worked towards making aesthetic improvements in this neighborhood and village. Officers have identified and addressed building code violations, dilapidated properties to be raised, and graffiti. A partnership with the municipal court to provide opportunities for community service work was successful.



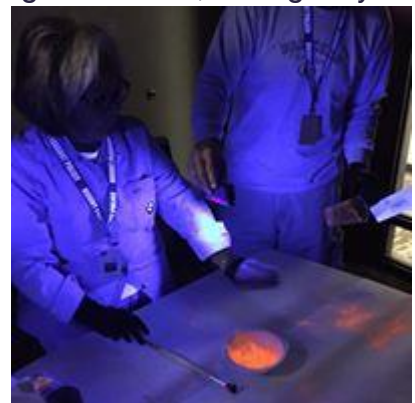
CITIZENS POLICE ACADEMY

The Citizen Police Academy (CPA) is an educational program designed to provide the residents of Mount Pleasant and Racine County a better understanding of the Mount Pleasant Police Department as an organization and its role in the community. Participants of the academy gain an understanding of all facets of the profession including responsibilities, laws, officer wellness, and community-oriented policing. One of our main goals in the academy is to develop a partnership between the citizens of the community and their local law enforcement agency.



In 2018, the department hosted its fourth Citizen Police Academy class. The fourth class was the biggest to date with 27 citizens ranging in ages from 18 to 78. The CPA consists of a series of twelve classes held once a week with three additional weekend classes for additional hands on training in firearms, emergency vehicle operation, and crime scene processing. During the academy participants were able to learn a wide variety of topics taught by officers in the department and guest speakers. Incorporated in

many of the topics was hands-on training as well as scenarios.



Citizen Police Academy Training in Topics

- *Professional communications*
- *Ethics*
- *Officer wellness*
- *Emergency vehicle operation*
- *Firearms*
- *Investigations*
- *Drugs*
- *Police operations*



Participants also were able to learn from experts in the field of medical examiner's office, Office of Victim Witness, Probation and Parole, and communications.

On the twelfth week, the students meet for a review of the academy and graduation ceremony. During the review students are able to interact with the Chief of Police, administration, and patrol officers whom participated. Students are often surprised to learn how much training and knowledge is required to be successful in the law enforcement profession.

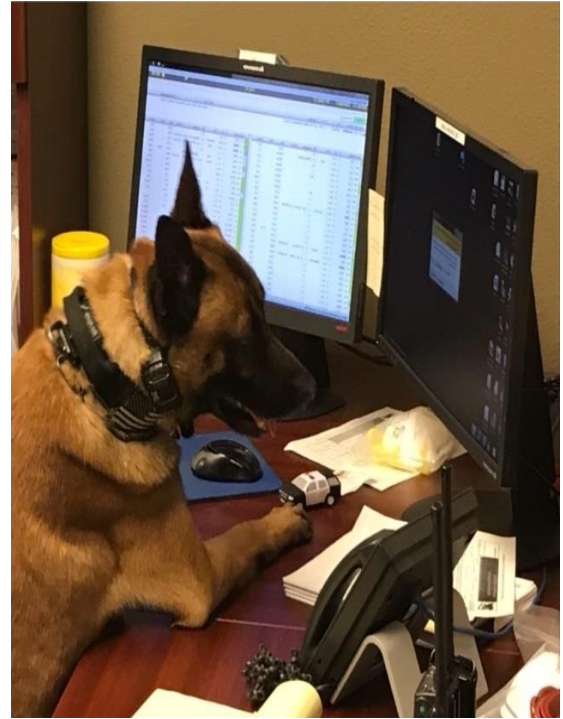
Several students from previous CPA classes created a Citizen Police Academy Alumni group to support the department as well as the Village of Mount Pleasant. The group helps with COP events and has begun working with the Parks Department to bring new and exciting community events to the village. In 2018 the CPAA Group was involved in Mount Pleasant Day as well as organizing the new Ghost and Goblins Walk for the community.



K9 OFFICER PROGRAM

Mount Pleasant Police department has two K9's certified in Narcotics Detection, Tracking, Building Searches, Area/Evidence Searches, and Criminal Apprehension. The types of Narcotics the K9s can detect are: Marijuana, Cocaine/Crack Cocaine, Methamphetamine, Ecstasy, and Heroin.

The K-9's and their handlers train on average seven hours a week to maintain skills they use on a daily basis. When Brutus and Ares are not sniffing out crime, they also participate in school demonstrations and community functions throughout the year.



K9 Stats and Illegal Substance Recovery (2018)

Deployments	160
Drug Paraphernalia	14
Marijuana	1321.4g
Crack / Cocaine	29g
Heroin / Fentanyl	1.3g
Street Value of Drugs Seized	\$29,588
Apprehension Assists	9
Bites	2
Firearms	2
Vehicle Sniffs	114
Building / Yard searches	20
Tracks	2
School Searches	6
Prison Searches	2
Public Demonstrations	13

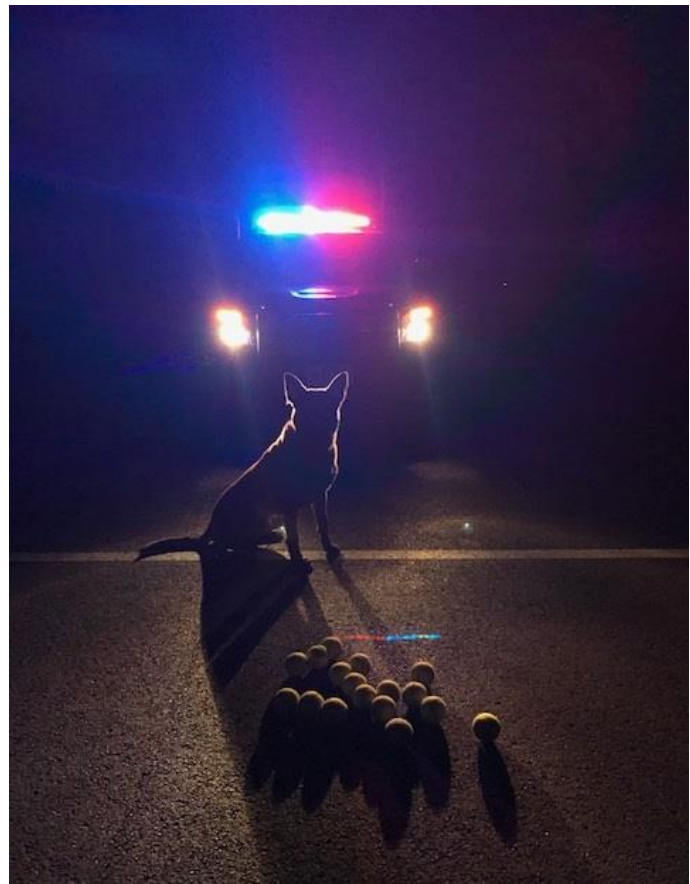
K9 Training

In 2018, Mount Pleasant Police Department along with the Racine Police Department, Sturtevant Police Department and the Racine County Sheriff's Office, hosted the Annual Wisconsin Law Enforcement Canine Handler Association (WLECHA) training conference. This 4-day working conference focuses on placing the K9 handlers and their partners through a variety of scenarios and situations to help enhance their skills and abilities. Educating the handlers in Emergency



Medical procedures to help ensure the health of their K9 partners in the field and helping them problem solve issues relating to dog training are other areas of the conference. This year was a record year for WLECHA, as there were 146 K9 teams in attendance. K9s and their handlers spent the days rotating through stations located

at various locations throughout Racine County. A separate Drug Interdiction class was also held in which 12 K9 teams were learning how to search and use their K9 partners to locate drugs within hidden compartments within vehicles. The Mount Pleasant K9 Unit assisted the following Agencies during 2018: Mount Pleasant Police Department, Racine Police Department, Sturtevant Police Department, Caledonia Police Department, Racine County Sheriff's Office, Kenosha Police Department, Oak Creek Police Department, Kenosha County Sheriff's Office, Waterford Police Department and US Marshalls.



RECORDS - EVIDENCE DEPARTMENT / CLERKS (SUPPORT STAFF)

Records clerks are often the first contact the public has when entering our building as they “man” the front windows and are the face of the police department within the building. They assist customers with open records requests, taking payments and directing them to the correct people within the department or courts. They often deal with victims of crimes, traffic crashes, ordinance or traffic violators who have been cited/arrested and later have questions or concerns.

Behind the scenes, the clerks are typing reports, entering warrant and data, compiling reports for the District Attorney’s Office and addressing the numerous Open Records requests.

Our clerks are also essential with the E-TRACS program to download and process the officer’s electronic citations, which are then submitted to the state and to our courts. This is essential for our accurate Traffic and Data Collection

Program. This also involves the TRACS Electronic Accident reporting system, which allows those involved in a crash to access the report for themselves and their insurance companies. We are also working with Carfax who also provides a similar service for the same cost when a person wants to retrieve an accident report.

Our Evidence/Property Section work diligently to store secured evidence that the officers log into evidence at the police department, respond to evidential record requests from defense attorneys as well as the District Attorney’s Office. They also manage the Drug Drop box, which has become very popular for the public having a safe and efficient way to dispose of old and/or unused prescriptions. Our Evidence Custodian also assists officers with court room testimony and provides secure evidence to officers for court cases.

The support staff members are a vital part of our organization and provide a very important service to the police department, its officers, and the community.

RECORDS YEAR IN REVIEW

- Over 600 open records requests in 2018. That is more than 2.3 per work day.
- 1,098 Accidents processed in 2018
- 8,985 Citations Processed in the year
- 2,523 Property reports created
- Over 5,000 items entered in to evidence

DETECTIVE BUREAU

The Detective Bureau at the Mount Pleasant Police Department is staffed with a detective Lieutenant and four sworn detectives. The unit also provides for a temporary assignment that allows officers to work in the bureau for up to 1 year. This assignment offers insight into the more complex aspect of police investigations. Our detectives are extensively trained in all facets of conducting investigations for all types of incidents. Their responsibilities include crime scene examinations, case follow-up, investigations, offender processing, and presenting cases for prosecution. They also receive specialized training with an emphasis on areas they frequently handle and are assigned investigations accordingly.

The Detective Bureau has an exemplary reputation in the law enforcement community and our detectives have participated in numerous multi-jurisdictional investigations with federal, state and municipal agencies. Their primary goal is to work together to keep the community safe.

Some of the types of criminal activity that are investigated by the bureau include but are not limited to

- Crimes Against Persons (Assaults)
- Financial and Computer Crimes (Fraud, Identity Theft, Phishing Scams)
- Property Crimes (Burglary and Thefts)
- Stalking (Unwanted Contact)
- Harassment (Behavior intended to disturb or upset)
- Domestic Violence and Sexual Assaults

2018 Cases Worked by Detective Bureau

Sex Offences	34
Burglary	74
Motor Vehicle Thefts	23
Aggravated Assault	11
Assault	80
Fraud	208
Arson	1
Death Investigation	36

Detectives are also utilized by the patrol staff as mentors and sources of information that assist officers in concluding reports and investigations at the patrol level.

SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER – J.I.CASE HIGH SCHOOL

Almost 30 years ago the Mount Pleasant Police Department started our School Resource Officer program. The goal of our SRO program is to provide safe learning environments, provide valuable resources to school staff members foster a positive relationship with students and develop strategies to resolve problems that affect our youth with the goal of protecting all children, so they can reach their fullest potential.

Officer Nick Bjelajac started his third year as the Case High School, school resource officer. He works closely with school administration to educate staff and students in the newly implemented ALICE safety program. He is regularly in the

class room speaking to students on a variety of topics such as illegal drugs, identity theft / fraud, and computer safety.

The police department with the assistance of school administration created the Case High School Criminology Club in which the SRO is the advisor. Officer Bjelajac arranges for

speakers and experience for the club members to learn more about the police profession and the many different opportunities there are to work in this field.

In 2018, the Mount Pleasant Police Department began working with the Evergreen Academy on updating their safety plans and educating

their staff in the ALICE Model. Officer Nick Bjelajac has been working with Evergreen administration in both educating the staff and in creating scenarios in which staff could apply what had been taught.



TRAINING

The Mount Pleasant Police Department is dedicated to providing the highest quality internal and external training for all officers. It is important to keep all officers trained to the highest level in order to provide the high-quality service to residents, those whom travel through, visit, and work in the Village. In 2018, all officers attended the first spring in-service training in department history, Officers were provided instruction on ProPhoenix RMS and WDA, Taser recertification, and evidence collection and packaging.

Also, in 2018, the department was fortunate to have access to properties within the Foxconn development area for residence entry and active shooter training. These trainings also allowed officers to continue training rescue task force steps with the South Shore Fire Department. Numerous local and federal agencies were also able to utilize several properties



for training purposes. All department's involved were thankful for the opportunity to conduct many different trainings for their officers.

In addition to the in-house training, officers were sent to numerous hours of specialized outside training. Officers successfully completed training in Active Assailant, Surviving a Vehicle Ambush, REED Interview Techniques, Instructor Development, Field Training Officer, Firearms Instructor, Northwestern School of Police Staff and Command, Leadership in Police Organization, FBI LEEDA Trilogy, Heroin Epidemic, and Fighting Fentanyl.

Total New Officer Training Hours

- 720 hours completed at Police Academy.
- 680 field training hours with MPPD Field Training Officers
- Following completion of FTO program, Probationary officers are shadowed and evaluated in the final phase.

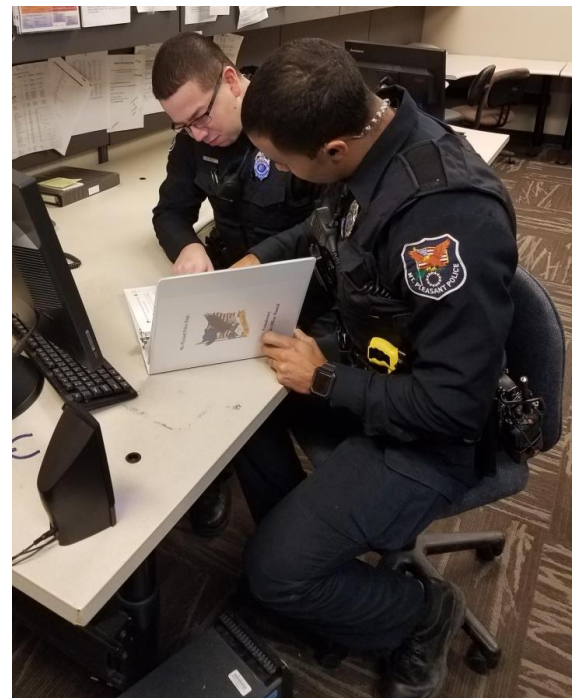
NEW OFFICER FIELD TRAINING

The Mount Pleasant Police Department's Field Training Program sets a training and evaluation standard for our newly hired Officers. The Field Training Program is designed to ensure officer and public safety, while teaching the Probationary Officer how to provide professional service. The goal is solo patrol entrustment. Upon completion of the basic 720-hour Police Academy, the Probationary Officer returns to the department for continued on-the-job training. The Field Training Program consists of three 5-week phases, followed by a shadow and evaluation period.

The Probationary Officer has a Primary Field Training Officer (FTO) but will work with other FTO's in each phase of training on all three shifts. This allows the new officer to draw on the different strengths and experience provided by different instructors as well as provide the department with evaluations of the Probationary Officer from different perspectives.

During the evaluation period, the Probationary Officer operates as a solo patrol squad. The Field Training Officer monitors the activity from a nearby squad. This allows the Probationary Officer to demonstrate their capability to safely operate on their own.

Upon successful completion, the Primary Field Training Officer and Field Training Supervisor discuss the progress of the training. Once the Probationary Officer has demonstrated that they can safely and professionally perform the required patrol functions, the Officer is released to solo patrol.



MOUNT PLEASANT FIREARMS RANGE

In 2018, the Mount Pleasant Firearms range has been used by several different local law enforcement agencies with an estimated 150,000+ rounds fired. The firearms range has provided local agencies a year-round location in which officers can be trained in an environment that is clean, safe and private. Trainers have utilized the open concept to create movement and reaction scenarios that would not be possible in a public range or outside environment in which weather might present limitation.



TECHNOLOGY

The Mount Pleasant Police Department has always been on the fore front of technology and implementing the newest technological tools. In 2018, the department added an additional Automated License Plate reader to the fleet. These ALPR units have proven to be valuable in investigations not only in the Village but throughout Southeastern Wisconsin.

The department also purchased 17 new VieVu body worn cameras.

These cameras supplement the in-squad audio and video recording system already in place in all of the marked patrol squads. Body cameras go where the officers go and capture video and audio.

These cameras are an important evidence gathering tool which can

be used in both criminal and non-criminal investigations. The department is aware these cameras do have limitations but feel they increase transparency with the public.



The department has expanded the use of the XRY system (Forensic Examination Software for Electronic Devices) for recovering data from electronic devices. XRY lets examiners to dump all the raw data from a device. This memory dump gives you access to system, protected and deleted data, and also allows the department to overcome security on some locked devices.

HONOR GUARD

The Mount Pleasant Police Department represents the Village of Mount Pleasant in a professional manner when called upon to provide honor guard detail. The Mount Pleasant Police Department Honor Guard performs at various authorized functions such as funerals, parades, ceremonies, charitable causes, or other special events. The Honor Guard participated in many community events in 2018, including the National Police Week Memorial for Racine County, Special Olympics, and posted Colors at the annual Policeman's Ball. Due to the unfortunate loss of some officers in the line of duty, the Honor Guard appeared at various lines of duty death funerals in 2018.

Honor Guard Members

Jason Vaccaro
Dale Swart
Nicole Knierim
Nicholas Bjelajac
Benjamin Mieloszyk
Phillip Patek
Jared Smetana



PEER SUPPORT AND CRITICAL INCIDENT STRESS MANAGEMENT (CISM)

The purpose of a peer support group is to aid an officer during times of both professional and personal crisis through the use of specially-trained volunteer officers within the department. Left untreated, the effects of trauma, depression, anxiety, marital discord, and alcoholism among them can be career and or life ending. In an intensely familial profession, a police officer may be more likely to seek help through one of their peers than someone outside of the uniform. Our Police Department currently has 6 Peer support members.



One of the tools our Peer support team members have been trained in is Critical Incident Stress Management, or CISM. CISM is an intervention protocol developed specifically for dealing with traumatic events. It is a formal, highly structured and professionally recognized process for helping those involved in a critical incident.

During a CISM debrief, Officers are encouraged to share their experiences, as well as express emotions and concerns. Officers learn to recognize the different symptoms and reactions to stresses that they may be experiencing. CISM is not psychotherapy. The team members are prepared to offer assistance in connecting the Officer with professional resources. This is a confidential, voluntary and educative process, sometimes called 'psychological first aid'.

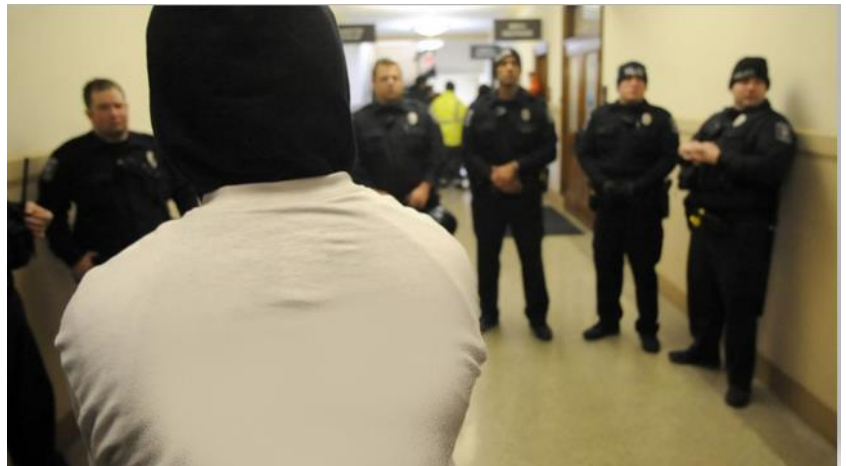
Peer support is fairly new to the Mount Pleasant Police Department. We will continue to develop the program and add new members to fit the needs of the Department. We feel this is paramount to a healthy future for the Officers, and family members of this Department.



CIVIL DISTURBANCE TEAM

The Mount Pleasant Police Department currently has 10 officers assigned to its Civil Disturbance Team. The MPPD Civil Disturbance Team is one team within the larger Racine County Civil Disturbance Operations Initiative with multiple agencies. The main objectives for the Civil Disturbance Team is to maintain a visible presence and enforce quality of life issues. Additionally, allowing citizens to peacefully gather and demonstrate their freedoms without violence. In 2018, the Mount Pleasant Civil Disturbance Team was deployed for three events.

- Civil unrest in the City of Racine in response to an Officer involved shooting.
- Politically motivated “Voces de la Frontería” that gathered in the City of Racine.
- Presidential visit for the groundbreaking of the Foxconn project.



The Team continues to train alongside additional elements from other agencies to not only ensure the highest level of service to the Village of Mount Pleasant, but also the residents of the County of Racine.



TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT GRANTS

In 2018, the Mount Pleasant Police Department along with other law enforcement agencies throughout the State of Wisconsin have come together to participate in several different traffic enforcement initiatives like Operation While Intoxicated (OWI), Click it or Ticket and speeding. These traffic enforcement initiatives are designed to be a tool in

educating the public in a few of the most dangers facing motorists.

The Mount Pleasant Police Department is hosting the Operating While Intoxicated and Click it or Ticket grants for all



agencies east of Interstate 94. During deployments, we adopt a zero-tolerance policy for unrestrained occupants and operators under the influence in all traffic stops. Both grants allow us the financial resources to assign additional officers to areas and intersection in which there are high percentages of accident or traffic safety concerns. By participating in both of these grants the department has an additional 1000+ hours of traffic enforcement.

2018 Deployments

OWI Joint Grant with Mount Pleasant Police Department and Caledonia Police Department:

- 935 deployment hours in 2018 for MPPD
- 1,370 contacts made between MPPD and CAPD
- 1,626 Citations issued
- Grant amount of \$80,000.00

Seat Belt Joint Grant with 7 Local Agencies:

- 216 deployment hours in 2018 for MPPD
- 346 contacts made by MPPD officers
- 461 citations issued by MPPD officers
- MPPD Grant amount of \$15,000.00

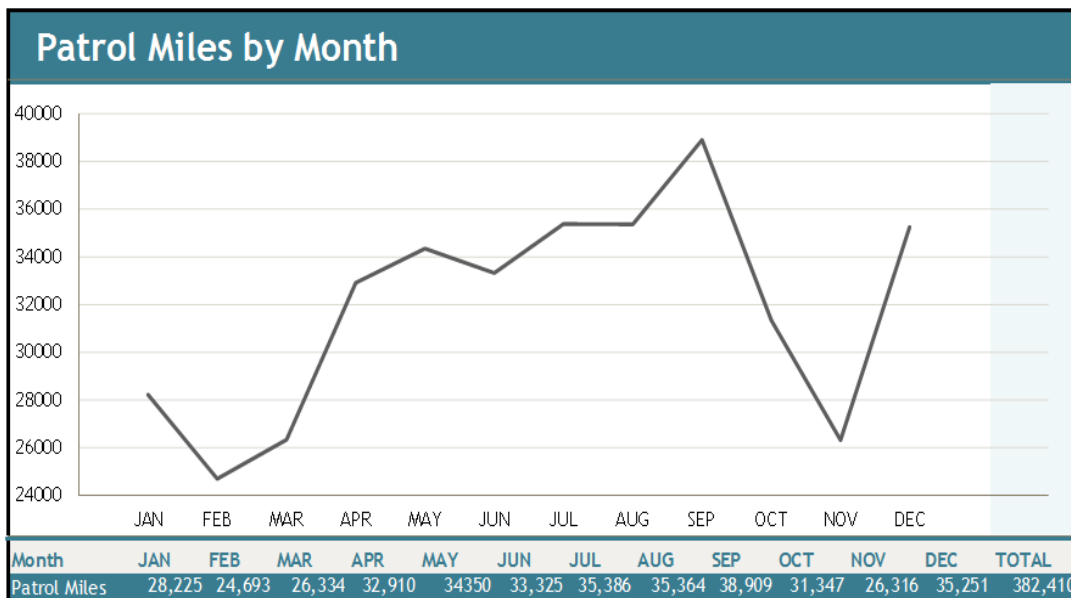
BOTS Traffic Safety Equipment Grant:

- Grant amount of \$4,000.00
- Equipment Purchased - 8 PBT units, traffic vests, LED Traffic direction wands

FLEET MAINTENANCE



The patrol division currently has 18 squad cars. The majority of our squads are Dodge Chargers and Chevy Tahoes. The department has additional vehicles used by administration, Detective Bureau, and special assignments. Three old squad cars were replaced by three new Chevy Tahoes in 2018. New squad cars include a welcome safety feature; they have a redesigned prisoner seatbelt that allows officers to buckle prisoners in without reaching over them.



*Graph shows miles driven by squads in the patrol division only



- The major crime scene unit, a former South Shore ambulance, is deployed when a major incident occurs. It contains all the supplies and equipment necessary to process a major crime scene. It also serves as a command post during these events.
- Our COP truck was donated to the police department by Porcaro Ford. The COP division utilizes this vehicle in their daily activities and at community events.
- The UTV is a great addition to our fleet. It assists our officers and investigators get to off-road crime scenes that are not accessible by squad car. It is also used at large events that are happening in the community.
- Our Motor Unit consists of two, 2007 Harley Davidson Police Road King motorcycles. They generally operate between April 1st and November 1st. We are adding a 2019 Harley Davidson Police Electra Glide to the Unit for 2019. The motorcycles are used for patrol, traffic enforcement, special events and escorts for visiting dignitaries.

NEW POLICE OFFICERS



Mike Lodygowski

Mike graduated from Indian Trail High School in 2006 and then attended Gateway Technical College. In 2011, Mike earned his Associate Degree in Criminal Justice. Mike was hired by the Racine Police Department in 2013 where he was employed until 2018 when he decided to seek employment with the Mount Pleasant Police Department. After successfully moving through the field-training program, Mike was assigned to the 2nd shift patrol division.

Dan Neumann

Dan graduated from Case High School in 2001 and then attended UW Whitewater. In 2005, he earned a Bachelor's Degree in Physical Education with an emphasis on health, human performance, recreation and coaching. Dan worked as a patrol officer with the Racine Police Department from 2013-2018, and was then hired by the Mount Pleasant Police Department. After successfully moving through the field-training program, Dan was assigned to the 2nd shift patrol division.



Rachel Gardinier

Rachel graduated in 2010 from Bradford High School. In 2013, she earned her Associate Degree from Gateway Technical College and graduated from Gateway's Police Academy in 2014. Rachel worked as a boat patrol officer for the Town of Troy, followed by a full-time dispatcher with the Racine County Communications Center in 2015. Rachel was also a part-time officer for the Waterford Police Department prior to being hired by the Mount Pleasant Police Department in 2018. Rachel is currently assigned to the 2nd shift.

Alejandro Padilla

Alejandro graduated from Tremper High School in 2012. In December of 2018, he earned a bachelor's degree from UW Parkside in Criminal Justice. From 2015- 2018 Alejandro worked for the Kenosha Police Department as a Community Service Officer until gaining employment with the Mount Pleasant Police Department. Alejandro attended the Fox Valley Technical College Police Academy where he graduated and is currently working with a field-training officer (FTO) until he is ready for solo patrol.



NEW POLICE OFFICERS – Continued



Ben Wilde

Ben graduated from Catholic Central High School in Burlington, WI in 2009. In 2014, he earned his bachelor's degree from Wisconsin Lutheran College, majoring in psychology. In 2015, he was employed by Racine County Behavioral Health where he was a youth and family service facilitator. After graduating from the police academy at Gateway Technical College, Ben began the Mount Pleasant Police Department's field training program and is currently assigned to solo patrol on 2nd shift.

Mike Smits

Mike graduated from the Notre Dame Academy in Green Bay in 2010. He then enlisted with the US Army where he proudly serves in the reserves. Mike also attended UW Oshkosh where he earned 126 credits. Mike had been employed by Menards, until being hired by the Mount Pleasant Police Department in 2018. After graduating from the police academy at Gateway Technical College this past January, Mike began the field-training program where he will prepare for solo patrol.



PROMOTIONS



David Stroupe
Lieutenant of Patrol



Eric Giese
3rd Shift Sergeant



Dale Swart
2nd Shift Sergeant

RETIREMENTS



Tim Zarzecki

In 1988, Tim started with the Mount Pleasant Police Dept. and was promoted to sergeant in 1997 where he supervised all patrol shifts and the detective bureau. Zarzecki was appointed chief in 2008 and was instrumental in the planning and construction of the new police facility and COP house, as well as implementing a Community Oriented Policing strategy and PEER Support Team. He also served twice as the Interim Village Administrator.



Paul Maccari

Paul began his law enforcement career with the Mount Pleasant Police Department in 1980. As a patrol officer, Paul worked all three shifts, and was a trained Traffic Investigator, Evidence Technician, Field Training Officer, Evidence Custodian, and Motor Officer. In 2009, Paul promoted to the position of sergeant where he was assigned to 2nd shift. He was later reassigned to 1st shift where he remained until he retired.



John Blicke

John left the Racine Unified School District in 2002 to become a police officer with the Mount Pleasant Police Department. John began as a 2nd shift officer until he was able to transition to 1st shift. As a patrol officer, John was a trained Evidence Technician, Humane Officer, as well as a CIT (Crisis Intervention Team) Officer.



Bill Klaus

Bill was hired as a patrol officer in 1991, and was assigned to all three shifts throughout his career. He also worked inside Case High School for four years as the School Resource Officer. Bill was a trained Field Training Officer and Evidence Technician. In 2008, Bill promoted to sergeant where he was assigned to 2nd shift and later the detective bureau. In 2011, Bill decided to join our records department team where he worked as one of our police records clerks until he retired.