



2023 Annual Report

Mount Pleasant Police Department

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Our Department

The Mount Pleasant Police Department has an authorized strength of 56 sworn members consisting of 12 command staff members who oversee the department's operations. We currently have five detectives assigned to the Detective Bureau, three K-9's and handlers, one School Resource Officer (SRO) assigned to Case High School and two Community Oriented Policing (COP) Officers assigned to the Lakeside COP House. In addition, we have one officer assigned to the multi-jurisdictional Gang Task Force as well as the Metro Drug Unit.

The Mount Pleasant Police Department stresses building community relationships and trust through Community Oriented Policing. In addition, the department places a strong focus on specialized and advanced training for its members. Continuous training and education allows the department to provide its services with the highest degree of professionalism, integrity, and efficiency.

Message from the Chief of Police:

We present this 2023 Mount Pleasant Police Department annual report for your review. Hopefully this report will provide valuable insight and information about the Mount Pleasant PD as an organization.



MISSION:

The Mount Pleasant Police Department is committed to providing dedicated service to maintain order, prevent crime, and to protect life and property while improving the quality of life for our valued citizens. We will pride ourselves on demonstrating professionalism, accountability, respect, transparency, compassion, and collaboration in the course of carrying out our mission. We are also committed to the utmost in wellness and safety for the men and women who proudly serve the Village of Mount Pleasant.

VISION:

It is the vision of the Mount Pleasant Police Department to grow and adapt to the ever-changing needs of the community, and to provide the highest quality level of service and protection to our citizens.

VALUES:

- Professionalism – exercising responsible and ethical behavior while providing quality services
- Accountability – holding ourselves and others accountable to a high standard
- Respect – treating people fairly while being empathetic, caring and welcoming
- Transparency – providing open, honest, and responsive communication
- Compassion – genuine concern and empathy for others
- Collaboration – working inside and outside the department to create and maintain quality professional relationships

After achieving accreditation status in 2022, we continue to document and analyze our procedures with the goal of improving our operations, and participating in the re-accreditation process every three years.

In 2023, sworn law enforcement staff again participated in a variety of specialized and department-wide trainings to better prepare for the handling of dangerous and complex situations. These trainings involved an element of de-escalation with the goal being an increased ability to respond to a wide range of situations while minimizing the danger for all involved. Whether it's a large scale "active shooter" type drill, or a use of force scenario, the goal is to make the training as realistic as possible.

As in recent years, the recruitment and retention of officers remains a challenge. In early 2023 the police department, with approval for the Police and Fire Commission, implemented a revised lateral transfer hiring process to accelerate the hiring of sworn law enforcement officers currently working fulltime in the profession. The future of law enforcement is dependent upon who we hire today.

Our officers continue to dedicate themselves to a difficult profession. I am grateful and extremely proud to work with some of the finest law enforcement officers and civilian employees.

Thank you for your interest in the Mount Pleasant Police Department.

Sincerely,



Matthew J. Soens

Chief of Police



Mount Pleasant Community Oriented Policing (COP) Officers



NATIONAL NIGHT OUT!

LOCATION:
MOUNT PLEASANT
CAMPUS PARK
AUGUST 6TH
4-8P



FEATURING A VERY SPECIAL
DUNK TANK!



\$5/DUNK
OR **\$1/3 BALLS**

- #1: SGT. SWART - 4:15P
- #2: SGT. GIESE - 4:45P
- #3: LT. PAULSON - 5:15P
- #4: SRO OFC. BEN - 5:45P
- #5: CHIEF BOTSCH - 6:15P
- #6: INV. SCHAUER - 6:45P
- #7: OFFICER KWAPIL - 7:15P
- #8: SGT. VACCARO - 7:45P



Mount Pleasant K-9 Report

Unfortunately, Mt Pleasant lost K9 Brutus unexpectedly due to a medical issue. He passed on June 9th. K9 Brutus worked from 4/2013 until 6/2023 and in that time located illegal drugs, located dangerous suspects, help take guns off the streets and participated in dozens of K9 demonstrations for the community. Currently we have one active K-9 working for our department. Officer Zach Giovannoni, was teamed up with Aspen, a Belgian Malinois. The team started their service together in 2023. Aspen certified in Narcotics Detection, Tracking, Building Searches, Area/Evidence Searches, and Criminal Apprehension. The types of Narcotics the K9s can detect are: Cocaine/Crack Cocaine, Methamphetamine, and Heroin. The K9 Unit attend various fundraisers and public demonstrations throughout the year as well.

In 2023 Mt Pleasant also added Kala an Electronic detection K9 used for assisting in Child Exploitation and Human Trafficking cases. Kala is a Yellow lab who is partnered with Investigator Justine Justman. Kala is also an emotional support K9 as well. She is used during Officer critical incident debriefs along with Child abuse / Sexual assault victim interviews to provide comfort.

Due to the special capabilities of our K-9 teams, they are regularly called upon to respond to burglaries in progress, robberies, open doors, alarms, narcotics in progress, fleeing suspects, dangerous wanted parties and calls involving weapons.

Through assisting Officers in reaching peaceful conclusions under dangerous conditions, our department's K-9's increase Officer safety and, by extension, our K-9 partners significantly enhance public safety.

The Mount Pleasant K-9 Unit assisted the following outside agencies during 2023: Racine Police Department, Sturtevant Police Department, Caledonia Police Department, Racine County Sheriff's Office, Kenosha County Sheriff Department, Wisconsin State Patrol, FBI, and the Wisconsin DOC.

Two highlights from K9 Kala was assisting another Police department on a homicide case where she located a cell phone in a ditch line associated with the homicide. In a second case she was assisting with a ICAC search warrant where she located a camera in a child's room and then later located the suspects cell phone.



| K9 Stats and Illegal Substance Recovery | (2018) | (2019) | (2020) | (2021) | (2022) | (2023) |
|--|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Deployments | 160 | 96 | 118 | 77 | 51 | 26 |
| Drug Paraphernalia | 14 | 17 | 20 | 5 | 4 | 1 |
| Marijuana | 1321.4g | 530g | 159.3g | 2484.6g | 130 g | 0 |
| Crack / Cocaine | 29g | 5.6g | 16.4g | 0g | 1.9 g | 0.3g |
| Heroin | 1.3g | 0.8g | 16.7g | 46.5g | 130 g | 0 |
| Meth | 0g | 3.8g | 2g | 0g | 1.2 g | 0 |
| Fentanyl | N/A | N/A | 27g | N/A | 130 g | 0 |
| Apprehension Assists | 9 | 4 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 1 |
| Firearms | 2 | 0 | 9 | 5 | 1 | 2 |
| Vehicle Sniffs | 114 | 79 | 98 | 48 | 40 | 12 |
| Building / Yard searches | 20 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 1 | 2 |
| Tracks | 2 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 5 |
| School Searches | 6 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 4 | 1 |
| Prison Searches | 2 | 1 | 5 | 5 | 1 | 4 |
| Public Demonstrations | 13 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 37 |
| Devices located | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | 51 |
| Critical Incident debrief / victim | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | 18 |

RECORDS DEPARTMENT

Records Clerks

Our Records Department is open to the public, Monday-Friday 8a – 5p. This division is staffed with 4 full time clerks and 2 part-time clerks (Includes weekend hours). One person is assigned to the Support Lead position M-F. The Administrative Captain oversees the operations of the Record's Department and Property room. His efforts are focused on staff development and our department's ability to provide excellent customer service. In December of 2023 one full-time clerk resigned. We hired 1 full time clerk to fill this vacancy.

Police records clerks provide prompt and courteous customer service to the: public, courts, officers, supervisors, and to our partner agencies. Clerks look through our report materials and identify errors or missing documentation so they can be corrected prior to dissemination. A clerk's close attention to details ensures that records are complete, accurate, and readily available to our stakeholders. This effort limits any complications with case prosecutions due to missing or incorrectly processed files and helps our department to maintain our professional image as an WILEAG accredited police department.

A Records Clerk's area of responsibility includes: Front counter assistance, receiving payments, open record requests, report redaction, assist with municipal court check-ins, transcription of officer case reports, quality control with police reports/records, report submissions to the DA'S office and the Department of Transportation (DOT), process electronic citations through the state's TRACS software, manage alarm records, finger print card submissions to the Criminal Information Bureau (CIB), validation and purging of CIB records, citizen finger-prints scheduling, processing bond payments, maintenance our department's subpoena calendar, and management of vehicle suspensions related to unpaid parking citations.

Additionally, clerks assist citizens who call or stop in to file a report by giving them proper directions. They provide answers and reports at the request of citizens, defendants, and crime victims. This can be on the phone or face-to-face in our lobby. Clerks have demonstrated compassion, professionalism, and patience throughout those interactions.

RECORDS PROCESSING TOTALS DURING 2023

- 24,936 = Total calls for service
- 9,395 = Number of traffic and ordinance citations processed
- 1,639 = Total arrests
- 952 = Open records requests
- 926 = Vehicle crashes
- 326 = Parking Tickets

PROPERTY MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT

The property department oversees the electronic documentation, storage, and transfer of all property and evidence that is secured by officers at the Mount Pleasant PD. This section is staffed by civilians to reduce operating costs. The Police Record's Lead manages the day-to-day property intake and release process, orders supplies, and works closely with our part-time evidence custodian and a part-time records clerk to properly maintain the secured property room. Seized property, found property, or evidence is eventually returned to the owner, kept indefinitely, or properly discarded. Some unclaimed property is auctioned.

Additional functions of the property department personnel include: inspect package seal integrity, document chain of custody for property signed out to officers for the court or the crime lab, fulfill requests for digital evidence from the district attorney's office and the public, manage the movement of inventory located in our impound lot, and assist with property room audits.

Total property stored at MPPD as of 12-31-2023 = 19,538 items

PROPERTY MOVEMENT TOTALS DURING 2023

- 2,481 = Total number of new evidence or other property items secured by MPPD
- 1,327 = Items discarded due to: closed cases, statute of limitations,
- 805 = Items released to owner
- 40 = Items auctioned

Detective Bureau

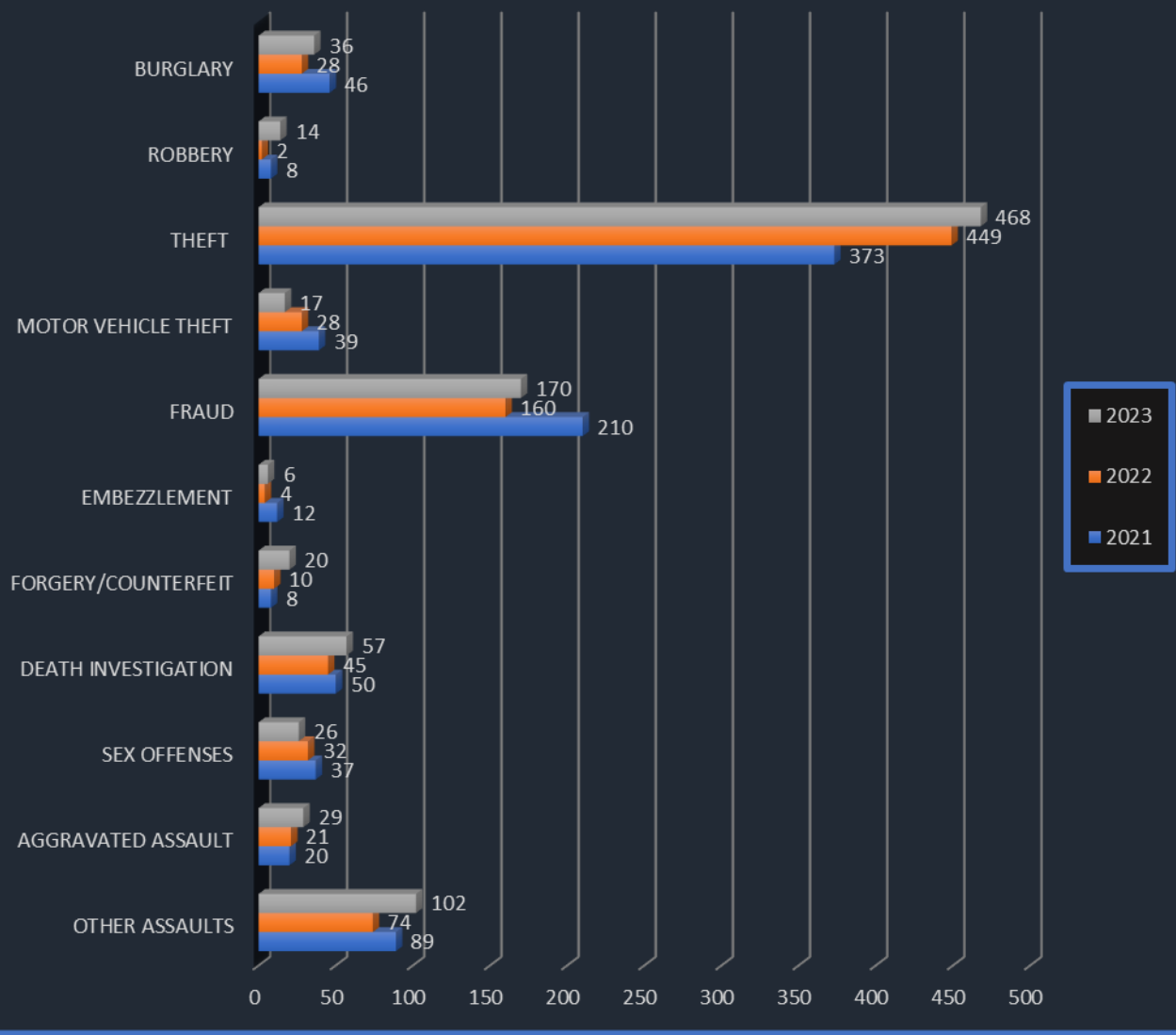
The Mount Pleasant Detective Bureau is staffed with a detective sergeant, five detectives and a temporary detective. The temporary detective position is a two-year assignment and is filled by a patrol officer. One of our detectives is currently assigned to the Greater Racine County Gang Task Force. This position investigates gang related crimes in the area.

The Detective Bureau's primary role is conducting criminal investigations such as deaths, robberies, burglaries, sexual assaults, thefts, arsons, and white-collar crimes. In 2023 the Detectives worked on over 350 cases. Detectives are assigned cases that are too lengthy and complex for patrol officers to handle. Depending on the complexity of the case, detectives can work on cases for months even years, often traveling out of the village in search of suspects and witnesses. In addition to criminal investigations, the Detective Bureau tasks include: employment backgrounds, firearm traces, transporting evidence to and from the crime lab and asset seizure requests.

The Mount Pleasant Police Department is an affiliate of The Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) Task Force program. The ICAC program is a national network of 61 coordinated task forces representing over 5,400 federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies. ICAC is dedicated to investigating, prosecuting and developing effective responses to internet crimes against children.

In 2023 the Mount Pleasant Detective Bureau added K9 officer Kala to the unit. Detectives have utilized K9 Kala on several ICAC cases in 2023. K9 Kala is an Electronic Storage Detection (ESD) canine and she is specially trained to locate items with an internal storage device including cellular phones, tablets, computers, 'flash drives,' SD cards and many other electronic items. ICAC cases are not the only cases K9 Kala assists with. She has been utilized by detectives in other cases to locate disregarded, lost or hidden electronics. Detectives also utilize Kala as a comfort dog during interviews of victims and suspects.

CRIME DATA



Field Training Program for Probationary Officers

The Mount Pleasant Police Department follows a structured and standardized program to teach probationary officers how to provide the highest quality level of service and protection to the public. The Field Training Officer (FTO) Program assists with facilitating the officer's transition from the academic setting, the police academy, to the actual performance of general law enforcement duties of the Village of the Mount Pleasant Police Department. The ultimate goal of the FTO process is to improve the overall effectiveness and efficiency of the law enforcement service.

The police academy consists of a total of 720 hours. It provides a solid foundation in education and training to individuals aspiring to become law enforcement officers. Recruits undergo training to prepare them for challenges and responsibilities associated with police work.

Upon successful completion of the police academy, the probationary officer(s) begins a week-long in-service training at the Mount Pleasant Police Department. This training is conducted by instructors who are qualified in many different disciplines. The purpose of this training is for the probationary officer to demonstrate their understanding of the basic fundamental, tactical, and technical skills necessary to ensure their safety. Qualification courses and scenario-based trainings are what the probationary officer must complete successfully.

Once the probationary officer successfully completes the in-service training, they enter the Field Training Officer (FTO) Program. The FTO Program for the Mount Pleasant Police Department is based off of the Field Training Solutions philosophy. The program consists of a total of four phases. The first three phases consist of a minimum of five weeks each. The last phase; shadow phase followed by the evaluation period, consists of one week each.

The field training officers have a number of responsibilities; documenting their daily activity, and providing instruction and guidance, mentorship, and coaching to the probationer. All documentation goes on a daily activity report. The FTO and Probationer review the daily activity reports together to clarify things, answer questions, and evaluate the overall daily performance.

During the first phase, the probationer is assigned to their first field training officer, also known as their primary FTO. The probationer rides along with a different FTO and on a different shift during each phase. Once the probationer successfully passes the three phases, they then return to their primary FTO for the final phase; shadow week and evaluation week. At this phase, the primary FTO is able to identify the probationer officer's growth since day one of field training. The primary FTO shadows the probationer for a full week to determine if they're ready to move forward in to the final evaluation phase. During the evaluation phase, the

primary FTO determines if the probationer demonstrates their capability to assume patrol responsibilities on their own.

The FTO process doesn't end once the probationer has completed the four phases, and is granted solo patrol. Every 3 months until they reach their 18-month probationary period, the FTO Supervisor meets with the probationer and their direct patrol sergeants to ensure their performance is improving and their knowledge is expanding. Coaching and mentoring is crucial in this entire process, and ongoing training and professional development are typically required throughout a law enforcement officer's career.

During the year 2023, we had a total of eight probationary officers who successfully passed the field training program. They are continuing to advance their knowledge, skills, and abilities that this law enforcement profession demands.

--End--

Lt. Samantha Plank

Training

Training stands as a cornerstone in the law enforcement profession, constituting a career-long process aimed at improving safety, efficiency, and professional development. Additionally, it addresses evolving legal and procedural standards, often necessitated by supreme court rulings, while mitigating liability risks.

The Wisconsin Department of Justice Training and Standards Bureau sets forth training requisites. Presently, a minimum of 720 hours of basic training at the police academy is mandated. Following this, officers undergo an additional 17 weeks of field training within their agencies before assuming solo patrol duties. To maintain law enforcement certification, officers must fulfill annual or biennial training mandates, encompassing firearms proficiency, at least 24 hours of additional training, and emergency vehicle operation and control. Furthermore, adherence to additional training standards and best practices is mandated by the Wisconsin Law Enforcement Accreditation Group (WILEAG).

In-Service Training

In 2023, the department concentrated its internal training initiatives across three in-service sessions. These sessions typically encompass components of the Unified Tactics curriculum, covering Professional Communications, Constitutional Law, Defense and Arrest Tactics, Emergency Vehicle Operation and Control, Vehicle Contacts, High-Risk Vehicle Contacts, Scenarios, Firearms, Rifles, and Tactical Response. Additionally, topics such as De-escalation, Ballistic Shield usage, First-Aid, Narcan administration, and Active Shooter Scenario training were incorporated.

Specialized Training

External training considers officer interests, career development, and department needs.

Notable topics covered in 2023 include:

- Advanced Criminal Investigations
- Force Science Realistic De-escalation
- Advanced Interview and Interrogations
- Group Crisis Intervention
- Advanced Evidence Processing
- Field Training Officer
- Patrol Response to Suspicious Death
- Sexual Offenses, Mind and Motivation
- End the Stigma/Overcoming Stigma
- DOJ Front Line Supervisor
- Active Shooter Incident Management
- Child Abuse Investigations
- Elder Abuse Investigations
- Internet Crimes Against Children
- K-9 Narcotics and Patrol
- PEER Support
- Crypto Currency Investigations
- DNA Collection Procedures

Training for the Future

While minimum standards are overseen by the Department of Justice, they may not fully align with public expectations. The majority of police interactions do not involve use of force or arrests. However, those that escalate often result in ground-level confrontations. These confrontations significantly increase the risk of injury to both officers and suspects. Gracie Survival Tactics (GST) for Law Enforcement has developed a training system to address deficiencies that may not be covered through basic training. GST focuses on verbal and physical de-escalation techniques, utilizing body mechanics to manage aggressive subjects while minimizing harm to both parties. This approach represents the future of defense and arrest tactics, emphasizing control without resorting to excessive force.



Advancing Training Initiatives

Advanced GST training, while highly beneficial, can be cost-prohibitive and logistically challenging. However, through collaboration with the Racine Unified School District, the Mount Pleasant Police Department successfully hosted a one-week GST Instructor course. The training was attended by officers from the Wisconsin area, as well as out of state. This initiative was successful and resulted in three department instructors trained, free of charge. Building on this success, the department aims to host two GST courses in 2024.

Mount Pleasant Firearms Range

In 2023, the Mount Pleasant Firearms range was used by seven different local agencies. In addition, the retiree qualification and Citizens Police Academy also made use of the range. We continue to receive positive feedback for the facility, which offers a secure training environment year-round. Instructors routinely make use of the mechanical functions to simulate shoot/no-shoot scenarios. This feature enables the assessment of shooting fundamentals, as well as decision-making ability. Maintenance of the range continues to be supported by the fees charged to outside agencies.



Disturbance Response Unit

In 2023, the Mount Pleasant Police Disturbance Response Unit (D.R.U.) continued to provide emergency response coverage and to increase its capabilities. It has continued to advance its capabilities with specialized gear and training to respond to critical incidents and large scale disturbances. The MPPD D.R.U. has continued its efforts with the Racine Area Crowd Control Assets (RACCA), which involves various agencies such as Racine County Sheriff, City of Racine Police Department, Caledonia Police Department, Sturtevant Police Department and Burlington Police Department.

In 2023 the D.R.U. increased its capabilities by sending two unit members (Ofc. Smetana and Ofc. Rhey) to TEMS (Tactical Emergency Medical Service). Sgt. Vaccaro and Sgt. Wroblewski attended Pepperball instructor school. The school enable these unit members to instruct and qualify members of the D.R.U. as well as other officers of the PD to utilize the Pepperball launcher platform.

The Disturbance Response Unit when deployed ensures to maintain a visible peaceful presence where ready to enforce quality of life issues as well as the interest of the community and property within. The protection of both people exercising their first amendment rights to gather and demonstrate as well as citizens carrying on with their day to day remains the a main focus of the unit when it is deployed.

The Mount Pleasant D.R.U. continues to ensure the highest level of service to the Village of Mount Pleasant, as well as anywhere else within the State we are asked to deploy to. The unit is commanded by Sgt. Vaccaro and Sgt. Wroblewski.



Mount Pleasant Police Department Fleet:

The department has several different types of squad cars that are used. We currently have Dodge Chargers, Ford Explorers and we are phasing out the Chevy Tahoe's that make up our patrol fleet. In addition, we use additional vehicles for administration, investigations and special assignments. We also have specialty vehicles to include motorcycles, a major crime scene unit, a utility-terrain vehicle and a pickup truck which are used for COP events, major crimes scenes, undercover work and dignitary escorts. At the end of 2023 we purchased our first all electric squad, Ford Lightning pick-up.

Three new squads were purchased as part of our squad replacement program. Three new Ford Explorers were purchased for the Patrol Division. Two of the Explorers are Hybrids which will decrease our fuel consumption and help with the overall budget. We continue to maintain our fleet and replace the squads based on the number of miles and the performance of the vehicle.



Traffic Unit

The traffic unit was a new addition to the Mount Pleasant Police Department in 2022 and in the 2nd year of this unit (2023) we had 1 Officer running in the unit.

The following numbers were generated by Officer Nicole Knierim who absolutely went above and beyond with her commitment to traffic enforcement in the Village of Mount Pleasant.

- 🔍 Traffic Stops – 2,466
- 🔍 Traffic Citations – 3,725
- 🔍 Traffic Warnings –171
- 🔍 Total Traffic Bond - \$454,729
- 🔍 Extra Attentions for traffic concerns – 186 (These were traffic related and generated throughout the year as citizen complaints and Officer generated)
- 🔍 OWI arrests – 2
- 🔍 Felony/Misdemeanor fresh arrest and warrants – 42
- 🔍 Total Bond for Felony / Misdemeanor arrests - \$60,901

Motorcycle Unit

Calls for Service:

Motor Officers are assigned to patrol areas in the village. Officers will respond to calls for service just like officers assigned in patrol cars. These calls are either assigned by dispatch or officer initiated. They do not include traffic enforcement calls. The only difference is that Motor Officers cannot transport people and are sometimes limited with the equipment that they can carry. Total calls for service:

| 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 |
|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| 221 | 177 | 250 | 316 | 239 | 316 | 291 |

Traffic Enforcement:

This category is for traffic stops that are made by a Motor Officer while on patrol and on a motorcycle. This reflects a total number of stops that resulted in either a warning or citation. Total number of traffic stops:

| 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 |
|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| 79 | 70 | 119 | 209 | 126 | 83 | 72 |

Special Events:

During the year our unit will attend safety fairs, block parties and other community-based events that are not patrol related. This allows for us to engage the public in a positive manner, promotes the unit and public safety. Total number of special events:

| 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 |
|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| 10 | 8 | 9 | 7 | 9 | 11 | 6 |

Escorts:

Motorcycles have been found to be a very valuable tool to use when escorting dignitaries or other motorcades. Unlike a patrol car, the motorcycle has the ability to move through traffic better and address hazards. Our unit receives training on escorting methods each year and applies them regularly. Total number of escorts:

| 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 |
|-----------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Data incomplete | 4 | 13 | 3 | 5 | 2 | 4 |



Incident Command / Active Shooter Training

Mount Pleasant Police in 2023 utilized Case High School for this year's active shooter / Incident Command Training. Trainers from the Mount Pleasant Police Department worked hard to make this training as realistic as possible. This was accomplished by using members from our Citizens Police Academy as role players. This training was a three-day training which involved high stress scenarios.

Unfortunately, these encounters are a real event which threatens communities in today's society. These large-scale training events are a necessary to improve the quality of service. This department looks forward to working together with other agencies in the future to provide the best quality of service possible.

Officer also took part in a multi-agency simulation training hosted by the Racine Police Department. C3 Pathways provided the training in which it was a live simulation event. Scenarios were put in a computer program, and officers had to work through the incident. C3 Pathways even provided a flight simulator where a helicopter pilot was available for each scenario.

As we move towards 2024, we look forward to more multi-agency trainings. With the advancement of technology and simulators, we are able to bring realistic training to our officers.

Peer Support & Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM)

The purpose of a Peer Support Team 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, and marital discord can be career and/or life threatening. Many times, a police officer may be more likely to seek help through a peer versus someone not affiliated or familiar with the challenges of law enforcement.

Our Peer Support Team Members have been trained in 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 might experience. The team members are prepared to help in connecting the officer with professional resources if needed. This is a confidential, voluntary and educational process, sometimes called 'psychological first aid'.

The Mount Pleasant Police Department currently has 11 Peer Support Members to include ESD K9 Kala who is a new addition to the unit along with her partner Detective Justman. K9 Kala offers a soft head and wet kisses to some of the functions of this team. During 2023 we were able to better the program by making more in depth connections with our EAP program and going over potential scenarios as to how the process would work in case a real world need ever came up.

Police Chaplain Program

The Chaplain Program has a direct correlation with the Peer Support and Officer Wellness programs. The idea is to provide a different look and approach to the mental well-being of the officers at MPPD. The department utilizes one volunteer chaplain. When requested by officers, a chaplain can be called out to a scene to assist with stressful and traumatic incidents or situations.

The Mount Pleasant Police Department added a 2nd Chaplain in 2023. The new Chaplain is Pastor Matthew Groll. Chaplain Groll is a Pastor at the Blessed Hope Baptist Church in the Village of Mount Pleasant. Both Chaplains frequently make all 3 shifts of roll calls several times a month.

Mount Pleasant Police Department Chaplain Duties

- Assist in making notification to the family of officers who have been seriously injured or killed.
- Respond to the hospital or home of the officer's family.
- Provide counseling and support for officers and their families.
- Assist officers in the diffusion of a conflict or incident, when requested.
- Respond to natural and accidental deaths, suicides and attempted suicides, family disturbances, or any other incident that in the judgment of the Shift Commander or Supervisor will aid in accomplishing the mission of MPPD.
- Fostering familiarity with the role of law enforcement in the community.
- Assisting with death notifications to the victim's family.

*This list is not all encompassing.

Chaplain Rogers has been a pastor for 32 years and has served the greater Racine community for 20 years.

Chaplain Groll has been a pastor for 26 years, 15 as a youth Pastor, 3 as an assistant Pastor and 8 as a senior Pastor.

Citizen Police Academy

The Mount Pleasant Citizen Police Academy (CPA) is a twelve-week educational program designed to provide residents with a better understanding of the Mount Pleasant Police Department and its role in the community. Over the course the participants will hear presentations in over 20 different topics covering the many facets of the law enforcement profession. Participants also participate in a wide variety of hands-on activities to see what officers may encounter while on patrol. In 2023, we hosted our eight class with 18 residents from across the county.

In 2023, the Mount Pleasant Department partnered with the Volunteer Center of Racine for the second year of the Mount Pleasant Junior Police Academy. Over a week in June, several middle school aged students from across the county joined Mount Pleasant officers at the police department to learn about the law enforcement profession. The students participated hands on activities in evidence collection, traffic stops, and drones. We would like to thank South Shore Fire Department and RCSO Tactical Response Team for their time and explaining their roles in local law enforcement and keeping the community safe.

School Resource Officer – Case High School

For over 30+ years, the Mount Pleasant’s goal of our School Resource Officer (SRO) program is to ensure a safe and supportive learning environment for all students, provide essential resources and guidance to school staff, foster positive relationships with students. Officer Mieloszyk is entering into his second year at Case High School.

The SRO program at Case High Schools is designed to integrate law enforcement officers into the school community. By embedding officers within schools, we aim to create a secure environment where students feel safe, supported, and motivated to learn. SROs are committed to not only providing security but also acting as mentors, problem-solvers, and resources for both staff and students.

Key Objectives:

1. Safe Learning Environment
2. Supporting School Staff
3. Fostering Positive Relationships with Students
4. Developing Proactive Solutions for Youth Issues
5. Ensuring Protection and Prevention

Our School Resource Officer program plays a vital role in creating a safe and supportive school environment, where students can thrive academically and personally. By providing protection, resources, and guidance, SROs ensure that every child can reach their fullest potential. We remain committed to working collaboratively with school staff, students, and the community to continue building positive, proactive relationships that protect and support our youth.

Retirements



LT. Scott Geyer

August 1992- April 2023



Officer Jim Kelley

September 2000 – May 2023



Norine Young-Administrative Assistant

March 2011 – November 2023

Resignations



Shamel Shaw- Records Clerk
October 2022- December 2023



Officer Eric Oertel
August 2014- February 2023



Officer Benjamin Wilde
June 2018 – March 2023



Officer Matthew Prochaska
October 2008- October 2023

Promotions



Samantha Plank

Sergeant to Lieutenant



Drew Wroblewski

Officer to Sergeant

New Police Officers

Alex Nuter

January 2023

Edwin Rodriguez-Sanchez

January 2023

Mike Ditscheit

June 2023

Bradley Treiber

August 2023

Amanda Grunewald

August 2023

Thomas Durand

August 2023

Thomas Matoska

August 2023