



COLUMBUS POLICE DEPARTMENT

159 S. Ludington St.
Columbus, WI. 53925
920-623-5919 (Main)
920-623-5930 (Fax)

February 16, 2025

Mayor Hammer
Members of the Common Council
Columbus Police and Fire Commission:

RE: POLICE DEPARTMENT ACTIVITY REPORT, JANUARY 2025

Attached is the monthly report for the Columbus Police Department.

Please feel free to contact me at any time if you have questions.

Chief Dennis Weiner



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PERSONNEL

The department is not fully staffed. Current staffing as of February 16, 2025:

	Authorized by Budget	Actual
<u>Sworn Officers</u>		
Full-time sworn police positions:	10	8
Patrol Officer Full time	6	5
Sergeant	1	0
Lieutenant	2	2
Chief	1	1
<u>Clerical</u>		
Office Manager (full-time)	1	1
Public Safety Clerk (full-time)	1	1

Current Staff:

Name	Date of Hire
Chief Dennis Weiner	02/18/2008
Lieutenant Roger Witthun	12/17/2001
Lieutenant Darrel Ward	09/19/2022
Sergeant Mike Rosecky	12/30/2022
Officer Julia Knoll	01/03/2022
Officer Matt Dammen	01/03/2023
Officer Spencer Trevorrow	07/31/2023
Officer Colton Hayes	07/30/2024
Officer Cole Vance	08/05/2024
Officer Terry Seely(part time)	
Officer James Kicmol (part time)	09/25/2023
Office Manager Erika Kellar	02/04/1999
Public Safety Clerk Kimberly Kehoe	01/13/2025



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PERSONNEL:

Only 1 application was received for the Lieutenant position, who was an internal applicant. I interviewed the applicant at length about my expectations for this position moving forward. He was then interviewed by the Police and Fire Commission her certified him as being eligible for hire. I subsequently promoted Sergeant Michael Rosecky to Lieutenant effective January 20, 2025. Lieutenant Rosecky has been with the Columbus Police Department for 2 years as a Sergeant. Prior to that he was a patrol deputy with the Columbia County Sheriff's Office for 7 years. He is a current member of the multi-jurisdictional Columbia County Emergency Response Team (ERT) and has extensive training in various tactical areas, including Active Threat and Active Shooter. He is also a certified firearms instructor and also serves as a FTO (Field Training Officer) who trains and works with new employees when hired.

The promotion of Sergeant Rosecky to Lieutenant Rosecky has created a Sergeant vacancy. The Police and Fire Commission approved posting internally only first. I received 1 application. That promotion process continues.

TRAINING:

All officers attended the annual county wide in-service with all other departments within the county. The training was held in Portage. Topics included legal update, technology updates, and ½ the day was spent doing active shooter training. The active shooter training was held in an abandoned school in the City of Portage and provides for a very realistic environment. Officers used simunition rounds in specially converted firearms during this training. Simunition rounds are plastic rounds that include a water-based soap that indicates where the round impacts. These rounds sting and can cause injuries to the skin. Layered clothing and protective head and face gear is worn by all participants.

TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT/CITATIONS:

During the month of November officers issued 83 traffic citations, 150 warnings and 23 ordinance citations.

MATTERS OF INTEREST:

We took a report of contractor fraud from an elderly resident of the city. She paid a contractor from out of town some money in May 2024 for some work at her residence. The work was never done. Excuses and promises were made to get the work done or pay her back. There was no follow thru and the elderly person reported it to us. We are attempting to locate the suspect to take him into custody for Theft by Contractor.

A vehicle was reported stolen from a residence on W. James Street. The current owner did not have a loan on the vehicle and there was no reason it would have been repossessed. It was entered as stolen into the national database. Officers spent a significant amount of time doing neighborhood and business canvasses for any witnesses or video footage. It was discovered the next day the vehicle had been repossessed, incorrectly. The previous owner had a loan on the vehicle through a prominent national auto finance company, headquartered in California. For some reason, their computer flagged this vehicle as being up for repossession, which notifies a 3rd party company electronically, who is a broker for the finance company, and assigns a tow company to do the repossession. The owner got her car back the next afternoon. I assisted on this investigation and was very disappointed with the "It happens all the time" and other dismissive comments from an upper-level manager at the nation auto finance company as well as the broker.

A local business received a notice last year purported to be from a company they do business with, reporting of a change in routing number and account number to send electronic payments to. It was on that company letterhead, including the persons signature block they normally deal with. They made the change in their system and began sending payments to the new routing and account number. It was a scam. The local business was contacted by the real company several months later



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inquiring about the \$35,000 they were behind in payments. The company stated there had been no change in the routing and account number to make payments to. The payments had been made, but to the scam banking information. That matter is under investigation.

Officers were up on USH 151 on 2 occasions this month closing and/or diverting traffic off the highway due to part of the road being closed due to traffic crashes.

CALLS FOR SERVICE:

Columbus Police Department
Total CAD Calls Received, by Nature of Call

Nature of Call	Total Calls
911 HANG UP	17
ACCIDENT PROPERTY DAMAGE ONLY	9
ACCIDENT WITH PERSONAL INJURY	4
ASSIST ANOTHER AGENCY	11
BURGLAR ALARM	5
FIRE ALARM	3
MEDICAL ALARM	3
ANIMAL COMPLAINTS	2
ANIMAL ABUSE OR NEGLECT	2
ATTEMPTED HOMICIDE	1
BATTERY	2
BOND VIOLATION	1
DETOX	1
CITIZEN ASSIST	15
COMPLIANCE CHECKS	1
CONTROLLED	11
DISORDERLY CONDUCT	3
DEATH INVESTIGATION	2
DISABLED VEHICLE	6
DOMESTIC ABUSE	2
DPW	2
DRIVING COMPLAINT	10
ELUDING	2
EMS CALL	21
ESCORT	1
EXTRA PATROL	4
FIRE GAS LEAK/CARBON MONOXIDE	2
VEHICLE FIRE	1
FLEET MAINTENANCE	3
FOOT PATROL	2
FRAUD	5
HARASSMENT	3
ROAD HAZARD	5
HOUSE WATCH	2
JUVENILE INCIDENT	5



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LOST AND FOUND	3
NOISE COMPLAINT	1
OUT WITH PERSON	5
OPEN DOOR	6
ORDINANCE VIOLATION	7
OWI	1
PARKING ENFORCMENT	43
PARKING VIOLATION	7
PROPERTY DAMAGE	1
SECURITY	143
SPECIAL EVENT	1
SUSPICIOUS	4
THEFT	1
THREAT	1
TRAFFIC CONTROL	2
TRAFFIC STOP	207
TRO/INJ VIOL	1
UNWANTED PERSON	1
VEH LOCKOUT	7
VEH THEFT	1
WARRANT	1
WELFARE	13

Total Calls: 626