



## **COLUMBUS POLICE DEPARTMENT**

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

August 13, 2025

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

### **RE: POLICE DEPARTMENT ACTIVITY REPORT, JULY 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 August 13, 2025:

	Authorized by Budget	Actual
<b><u>Sworn Officers</u></b>		
Full-time sworn police positions:	10	8
Patrol Officer Full time	6	5
Sergeant	1	0
Lieutenant	2	2
Chief	1	1
<b><u>Clerical</u></b>		
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 Darrell Ward	09/18/2022
Lieutenant Michael Rosecky	12/30/2022
Sergeant vacant	
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 Madeline Kraus	04/28/2025
Officer vacant	
Office Manager Erika Kellar	02/04/1999
Public Safety Clerk Kimberly Kehoe	01/13/2025



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### PERSONNEL:

Six (6) applicants completed a ride along for the vacant officer position. None had been thru a Wisconsin police academy which starts mid-August. Five (5) were eliminated for consideration and 1 was moved forward to take the PRT (physical readiness test). This is the physical fitness test where minimum standards have to be met before you will be accepted to the police academy. On the day of the PRT exam, she arrived, said she wasn't feeling well and wanted to withdraw totally from this process. The vacancy is currently posted again for those who have been through a Wisconsin police academy. If no takers, we will post again in October, for the January 2026 police academy.

The Sergeant position remains to be posted with no applications being received since June. In June we received an application from a very experienced officer from a different part of Wisconsin, currently working for an agency in southwestern Wisconsin a little bigger than ours. He had previously been an officer in a large metropolitan city in another state. He came to Columbus multiple times, rode along, and met with me, where he continued to express serious interest. A few days later when contacted to schedule a psychological exam he changed his mind and said he was no longer interested.

### MUTUAL AID:

On July 24 I assigned Lieutenant Rosecky to work patrol in the City of Portage from 10 a.m.-330 p.m. A long time Portage Police Department Lieutenant who retired several years ago passed away. The department requested Mutual Aid from other agencies in the county to cover their city so the entire Portage Police Department could attend the funeral, committal service and luncheon. An officer from 2 other agencies assisted as well.

### BUILDING:

We had the large front windows of the department wrapped with a vinyl covering, with our name as well as the city logo.

We also added a large badge graphic and "Columbus Police Department" vinyl lettering to the back wall of the front office and in the large conference room at the police department. Both projects add a degree of personalization to the building.

### FLEET:

A black 2017 Ford Police Interceptor was purchased with LESO monies, to be part of the assigned/take home squad program.

### COMMUNITY EVENTS:

The department participated in the Cops at Culvers event on July 29. We delivered meals and custard to the drive thru as well as those who chose to dine in. Over 100 regional Culvers restaurants participated in the event. Tips or donations that were given are converted to meal cards and returned to law enforcement to give out to those in need. All staff who participated had a great time interacting with the public on a casual level. Thanks to all who tipped, rounded up or otherwise donated to help those in need.

Fire Chief Hazeltine and I read to the library summer school program kids. We also showed them our vehicles and equipment.

Officer Knoll read to children at the library on an additional date.

A private Daycare brought several children to the police department for a tour of the building and to see our equipment.

The city's recreation department summer kids program came to the department for a tour of the building and to see our equipment as well.



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### **ROAD CONSTRUCTION:**

The road construction on Ludington Street and Park Avenue was very problematic for officers and motorists. Especially during the time N. Ludington Street was closed at the railroad tracks. "Road Closed" and "Detour Ahead" signs were completely disregarded by a significant number of motorists, who often found themselves only being able to go so far and then have to turn around. Many blatantly drove around barricades and signs, into the other lane of traffic and continued driving. Vehicles diverted for 2 weeks to take other routes during their travels, resulted in speeding issues and complaints on the most common routes. Many citations for speeding or ignoring the signs/barricades were issued during the month.

### **TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT/CITATIONS:**

During the month of November officers issued 123 traffic citations, 186 warnings and 24 ordinance citations.

### **ITEMS OF INTEREST:**

The 4<sup>th</sup> of July for the most part was uneventful. One evening at the park there was a fight involving multiple people. One person was arrested and jailed on a probation violation and citations were issued.

Two people were involved in an argument in the parking lot of a business, which involved yelling, a taser and a knife. The vehicle was located a short time later and a male from Illinois was arrested and taken to jail for Disorderly Conduct While Armed.

There was an uptick in 911 disconnect calls this month. These calls can be problematic if we can't locate a caller to verify there is not an emergency or need. The person may have left the area of the call, or didn't answer their phone when the dispatchers try and call them back, which they do by policy when we are dispatched. We have been seeing more impact/alarm related 911 disconnect calls. These can occur when a phone is dropped on a hard surface or if you have an app that is set to dial 911 upon recognizing a hard substantial impact, such as a car crash.

An 84 year old woman went to a Columbus bank to withdraw \$25,000 cash. When the bank inquired about what she was going to do with it, she admitted the prior week she withdrew \$45,000 cash and gave it to a male, who she met in a parking lot at a business in Randolph. The \$25,000 was an additional amount she was getting to give to these people. She did not go through with it and was referred to the law enforcement agency where she lives. This scenario was very similar as the one we played through and made an arrest when he arrived in Columbus last fall. These are very common scams and very organized. It started with the victim receiving a pop up on her computer that the device had been compromised and to call a number to get it resolved. The smooth-talking scammer then talked her out of \$45,000 cash, and almost another \$25,000. I did call the scammer at the number the victim was calling him back at and had a conversation with him. Most likely in another country and very unapologetic and brazen about what he was doing.



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

Nature of Call -----	Total Calls Received -----
911 HANG UP	24
ACCIDENT HIT AND RUN	1
ACCIDENT-NON REPORTABLE	2
ACCIDENT PROPERTY DAMAGE ONLY	7
ACCIDENT WITH PERSONAL INJURY	2
ASSIST ANOTHER AGENCY	7
BURGLAR ALARM	3
ELEVATOR ALARM	1
FIRE ALARM	2
MEDICAL ALARM	3
AUTOMATIC LICENSE PLATE READE	1
ANIMAL COMPLAINTS	6
BATTERY	1
MENTAL HEALTH COMMITMENT	1
CHILD SEXUAL ASSAULT	1
CITIZEN ASSIST	22
CIVIL	3
COMPLIANCE CHECKS	2
CONTROLLED	13
CRIMINAL DAMAGE TO PROPERTY	3
DISORDERLY CONDUCT	6
DISABLED VEHICLE	11
DOMESTIC ABUSE	5
DPW	5
DRIVING COMPLAINT	29
EMS CALL	18
ESCORT	1
EXTRA PATROL	7
GENERAL FIRE	2
FIRE GAS LEAK/CARBON MONOXIDE	1
FIREWORKS	3
FLEET MAINTENANCE	3
FOOT PATROL	6
FRAUD	3
HARASSMENT	3
ROAD HAZARD	3
HOUSE WATCH	1
INTOXICATED PERSON	1
JUVENILE INCIDENT	3
KEEP THE PEACE	1
LOST AND FOUND	6
MISSING PERSON	1
NOISE COMPLAINT	1
OUT WITH PERSON	7
OPEN DOOR	4
ORDINANCE VIOLATION	2



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OWI	3
PARKING ENFORCMENT	19
PARKING VIOLATION	14
SECURITY	219
SPECIAL EVENT	5
SPEED BOARD	1
SUSPICIOUS	10
THEFT	2
THREAT	1
TIPS/LEADS	2
TRAFFIC CONTROL	1
TRAFFIC STOP	282
UNWANTED PERSON	5
UTILITY ISSUE	1
VEH LOCKOUT	2
WARRANT	5
WEATHER	1
WELFARE	18

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Total Calls: 829