



COLUMBUS POLICE DEPARTMENT

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

May 14, 2025

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

RE: POLICE DEPARTMENT ACTIVITY REPORT, APRIL 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 May 14, 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 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:

Madeline Kraus was sworn in on April 28, 2025 as the newest full time police officer. Officer Kraus graduated from the Madison College Police Academy in 2024 and has worked part time for the Fall River Police Department. She began her field training on April 30, 2025 with a training officer for the next 2-3 months.

The vacant Sergeant and remaining Officer vacancies have been posted for some time. Two (2) applications have been received from very experienced officers. Both of those applicants had been terminated by other, larger departments. cursory reviews were done and I deemed both ineligible to continue on in our process. The postings were renewed.

COMMUNITY EVENTS:

On April 26, 2025 I staffed the spring National Drug Takeback event at the Columbus Police Department. On that day we collected 38 pounds of drugs and packaging. Since the fall 2024 drug takeback event, we collected another 156 pounds in our secure lobby drop box, which is accessible 24/7. Total weight was 194 pounds. The drugs collected were turned over to the Wisconsin Department of Justice on April 28, 2025 at the State Patrol Headquarters in De Forest for incineration.

National Night Out is only 3 months away and will be on August 5, 2025 from 5:30 p.m.-7 p.m. Our committee of staff have already met and assignments given.

TRAINING:

All sworn staff attended firearms training at the Juneau range.

Officer Knoll attended the 3-day Wisconsin Department of Justice Training and Standards Bureau IDC (Instructor Development Course) class at the Columbus location of Madison College's Law Enforcement Training Center. This class is a requirement for any law enforcement officer to attend and teach a law enforcement skill/discipline at the instructor level. It includes formulating a lesson plan, training methods, testing, and other skills associated with teach a class to Wisconsin training standards. Officer Knoll will be attending 2 instructor level disciplines in the next few months and subsequently be credentialed as an instructor in them.

Lieutenant Ward and Administrative Manager Kellar attended a 2-day (virtual) training on WIBRS reporting. WIBRS stands for Wisconsin Incident Based Reporting System and is the required state system for collecting statistics from law enforcement agencies. We are required monthly to electronically report crime statistics to the state thru a WIBRS portal. While it may sound pretty straightforward, it is very complex and reportable incidents have a subsequent spider web of questions associated with them.

TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT/CITATIONS:

During the month of November officers issued 93 traffic citations, 134 warnings and 52 ordinance citations.

MATTERS OF INTEREST:

A road rage incident occurred which culminated with the driver of 1 vehicle pointing a pistol at the other. An arrest was made and criminal charges were issued.

We also had a separate road rage that happened involving 2 motorists near the school during the morning drop off time. One driver misinterpreted what he saw another vehicle do, and began yelling, blowing his horn, and squealed his tires to make a u turn and began following the other party at a high rate of speed to get her license plate number, which caused her fear. A citation for Disorderly Conduct 4th+ offense was issued to one of the parties.



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Officers were called to a pharmacy reporting they had filled a prescription they later found to be fraudulent. It was written on a prescription pad of a doctor who left the clinic he was working for in September 2024. During the course of this investigation, it was also discovered this same prescription pad was used to obtain a fraudulent prescription in Whitewater. That incident remains under investigation.

An elderly person who was on her computer received a pop up on her computer. When she tried to X out of it, a popup with a phone number to call for 'help' popped up. She called it and the person on the other end claimed to be from the Social Security Administration. She did provide personal identifying information that puts her at substantial risk of identity theft. She was provided steps to take to monitor the situation.

An elderly person was notified that a false check of hers in the amount of \$65,000 was attempted to be cashed in Fond Du Lac. She banks in Columbus but resides out of the city. She was referred to her local agency.

An elderly person was not able to access their streaming service to watch TV. He elicited the help of a neighbor, who went online to try and resolve. They believed they were connected to the streaming service, but in fact it was an extremely close web address, but not the legitimate streaming service. In the end, they were defrauded out of \$100d before realizing it was not the legitimate site.

A resident of Columbus was searching online for an apartment to rent. She found one posted in De Forest and communicated with the 'landlord.' In total she sent him \$3005 for first and last months rent, a pet fee and other miscellaneous fees. The post was a fraud and no documents were received. He also told her he was mailing the keys, which on its own is suspicious. She paid the funds through PayPal and the appropriate complaints to them are pending, awaiting their investigatory process.

A 51-year-old Beaver Dam male was arrested for Domestic Disorderly Conduct and Stalking following an investigation. He was taken into custody on our request as he lives in rural Dodge County and was not at the scene of the incident in Columbus when we handled the initial investigation.

Officers and other first responders were dispatched to a report of a 24-year-old male who had committed self-harm. On arrival he was located with substantial cuts on his arms and had lost a life-threatening amount blood. He was taken to a Madison hospital for surgery and had his mental health needs assessed.

The department investigated a report of child abuse against a 15-year-old male by his step dad. There was not enough information to support an arrest. The report has been reviewed to the Columbia County District Attorney's Office for charging review, as well as Social Services for any services they can offer the family.

A citation was issued to a 36-year-old man for theft following an investigation into missing monies from coin laundry machines located at an apartment complex.

A 24-year-old male from Stoughton was cited for theft following an incident at a convenience store. A customer had set purchased items, that were in a bag, down to do something else, and left the store without them. When he returned, the items were gone. Store video showed a license plate of the vehicle the suspect left in, which identified him.



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CALLS FOR SERVICE:

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

Nature of Call -----	Total Calls Received -----
911 HANG UP	15
ACCIDENT PROPERTY DAMAGE ONLY	4
ACCIDENT WITH PERSONAL INJURY	1
ASSIST ANOTHER AGENCY	8
BURGLAR ALARM	5
FIRE ALARM	2
MEDICAL ALARM	1
PANIC ALARM	1
ANIMAL COMPLAINTS	9
ANIMAL BITE	2
CHILD ABUSE	2
CITIZEN ASSIST	15
CIVIL	1
COMPLIANCE CHECKS	1
CONTROLLED	12
CONTROLLED BURN	1
CIVIL PROCESS	1
DISORDERLY CONDUCT	2
DISABLED VEHICLE	3
DOMESTIC ABUSE	2
DRIVING COMPLAINT	17
EMS CALL	19
EMS-PNB	1
EXTRA PATROL	3
FLEET MAINTENANCE	3
FOOT PATROL	2
FRAUD	6
GAS DRIVE-OFF	1
HARASSMENT	4
ROAD HAZARD	6
HOUSE WATCH	1
INTERNET CRIMES AGAINST CHILD	1
JUVENILE INCIDENT	5
KEEP THE PEACE	2
LITTERING	1
LOST AND FOUND	7
MUTUAL AID	2
NOISE COMPLAINT	4
OUT WITH PERSON	3
OPEN DOOR	3
ORDINANCE VIOLATION	2
OWI	5
PARKING ENFORCMENT	10



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PARKING VIOLATION	8
SECURITY	84
SPECIAL EVENT	1
SQUAD DAMAGE	1
STALKING	1
SUSPICIOUS	13
THEFT	3
THREAT	2
TRAFFIC CONTROL	1
TRAFFIC STOP	208
TRESPASS	2
TRUANCY	1
UNWANTED PERSON	1
VEH LOCKOUT	1
WARRANT	4
WELFARE	12

Total Calls: 539