



# COLUMBUS POLICE DEPARTMENT

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

January 14, 2026

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

**RE: POLICE DEPARTMENT ACTIVITY REPORT, DECEMBER 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 January 14, 2026:

	Authorized by Budget	Actual
<b><u>Sworn Officers</u></b>		
Full-time sworn police positions:	10	9*
Patrol Officer Full time	6	3
Sergeant	1	1
Lieutenant	2	2
Chief	1	1

\* includes 2 in the police academy until May 15

<b><u>Clerical</u></b>		
Office Manager (full-time)	1	1
Public Safety Clerk (full-time)	1	0

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 Julia Knoll	01/03/2022
Officer Matt Dammen	01/03/2023
Officer Spencer Trevorrow	07/31/2023
Officer Madeline Kraus	04/28/2025
Officer Brandon Leipart	12/29/2025
Officer David Griscom	12/29/2025
Officer vacant	
Administrative Manager Erika Kellar	02/04/1999



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### PERSONNEL:

Kimberly Kehoe is no longer with the Columbus Police & Fire Departments. We are working on filling her position.

David Griscom and Brandon Leipart have been hired to fill 2 of the officer vacancies and began on December 29. On January 12 they began the 720-law enforcement academy at Madison College. They will graduate May 15 and return to the department for their 3-month local training.

I recognized Sergeant Julia Knoll to the department in December for her tireless work investigating several different and extremely complicated cases the last several months. These have included sex offenses and financial crimes, which have required detailed witness/victim/suspect interviews, the writing of numerous subpoenas, search warrants and analyzing multiple device/phone downloads which are extremely complex. Her work has been meticulous. She manages to do all of this during her patrol shifts, due to current staffing it is difficult to isolate her to these cases. She continues to work on one of the bank fraud investigations, and has identified victims in other states whose identities were stolen and they were defrauded out of a lot of money.

### TRAINING:

I inadvertently forgot to include November training in last month's report. All sworn staff attended a night shoot firearms training at the range in rural Juneau. Every year we do a night shoot, in darkness to simulate in real life the added dynamics of acquiring a target/threat, recognizing whether it's a shoot/no shoot scenario and responding accordingly and accurately. This all has to be done without telegraphing your location with the supplemental lighting on the firearms and rifles by using short blips of light.

### COMMUNITY EVENTS:

In July we participated for the first time in the Cops at Culvers event. This is a large, statewide event, for participating Culvers restaurants. We had staff, including myself, work in the restaurant delivering food and custard to customers most of a day in July. The store donated a percentage of all sales that day as well as we accepted donations via rounding up at the register or in collection containers. All funds are generated into gift cards and returned to the police department to give to someone in need during the year. We received various gas, food and retail gift cards in December equating to the amount donated by the restaurant and public. We awarded several of the cards to the family of a 5-year-old child with cancer, who have to travel out of state for treatments.

Sergeant Knoll represented our department at the county wide Shop with a Cop event at the Portage Walmart. She was paired with a child, they shopped, and went back to the Sheriff's Department to wrap the gifts and have lunch.

The local Columbus Kiwanis organization also had a Shop with a Cop event, where 2 families were chosen for a shopping trip. Sergeant Knoll and Officer Kraus met with the families and shopped at the Beaver Dam Walmart.

### TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT/CITATIONS:

During the month of October officers issued 77 traffic citations, 121 warnings and 14 ordinance citations.



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## ITEMS OF INTEREST:

A resident of Madison reached out to us about being defrauded out of a deposit to rent a house in Columbus. She had paid \$475 electronically, in response to an online Columbus "For Rent" posting she saw on Facebook without viewing the house in person. Turns out the actual house in Columbus was not for rent. Pictures that were used to make the Facebook post look legitimate were taken from the internet as the house was recently listed for sale with many pictures. The victim was referred to her local police department as she does not reside here and was not scammed in the City of Columbus.

We were made aware of sexual assault of a child allegations involving a parent while they lived in Columbus. The incidents continued after they moved out of Columbus. We investigated the incident along with another police department and social services. The suspect was arrested and has been charged with a felony, Repeated Act of Sexual Assault of a Child, At Least 3 Acts of 1<sup>st</sup> Degree Sexual Assault of a Child.

On New Year's Eve we responded to a residence for a drug overdose. The officer administered 2 doses of Narcan and the subject was transported to the hospital by EMS. He is being charged with possession of controlled substance and possession of drug paraphernalia.

On New Year's Eve we received a report of a vehicle traveling into the city on hwy 89 that was reported to be driving erratically and all over the road. The caller was following. As the officer arrived in the area, the vehicle entered the city and went off the road by the Kestrel Ridge Golf Course, causing damage and dual airbag deployment. The driver refused to get out of the car and obey the officer's commands. Once out of the vehicle, he continued to be hostile and uncooperative and was taken to the ground, where he continued to physically resist. He was held there until backup from Fall River and the Columbia County Sheriff's Office arrived. A taser was eventually deployed. The suspect, a 23-year-old male was arrested for Operating While Intoxicated, Resisting an Officer, Possession of Drug Paraphernalia, and operating without a valid license. He refused a legal blood draw at the hospital, a search warrant was issued, and he was eventually transported to jail.

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

Nature of Call	Total Calls Received
911 HANG UP	12
ACCIDENT HIT AND RUN	5
ACCIDENT-NON REPORTABLE	1
ACCIDENT PROPERTY DAMAGE ONLY	9
ACCIDENT WITH PERSONAL INJURY	1
ASSIST ANOTHER AGENCY	4
BURGLAR ALARM	5
FIRE ALARM	6
MEDICAL ALARM	3
PANIC ALARM	1
ANIMAL COMPLAINTS	6
ANIMAL BITE	2
BOND VIOLATION	1
CAR VS DEER	1
CHILD ABUSE	1
CHILD CUSTODY	1
CHILD SEXUAL ASSAULT	1



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CITIZEN ASSIST	13
CONTROLLED	8
DISORDERLY CONDUCT	7
DEATH INVESTIGATION	1
DISABLED VEHICLE	11
DPW	1
DRIVING COMPLAINT	10
EMS CALL	25
EMS-PNB	1
EXTRA PATROL	6
GENERAL FIRE	1
FIRE GAS LEAK/CARBON MONOXIDE	3
STRUCTURE FIRE	1
VEHICLE FIRE	1
FRAUD	2
ROAD HAZARD	3
HOUSE WATCH	4
JUVENILE INCIDENT	3
KEEP THE PEACE	1
LOST AND FOUND	2
OUT WITH PERSON	4
ORDINANCE VIOLATION	2
DRUG OVERDOSE	1
OWI	7
PARKING ENFORCMENT	18
PARKING VIOLATION	9
SECURITY	90
SEX OFFENSE	1
SLIDE OFF	3
SPECIAL EVENT	1
SUSPICIOUS	4
THEFT	3
THREAT	1
TIPS/LEADS	1
TRAFFIC CONTROL	4
TRAFFIC STOP	162
TRO/INJ VIOL	1
UNWANTED PERSON	1
UTILITIES	1
UTILITY ISSUE	1
VEH LOCKOUT	3
VEH THEFT	1
WARRANT	1
WELFARE	13

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Total Calls: 497