



COLUMBUS POLICE DEPARTMENT

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

March 11, 2026

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

RE: POLICE DEPARTMENT ACTIVITY REPORT, FEBRUARY 2026

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 March 11, 2026:

	Authorized by Budget	Actual
<u>Sworn Officers</u>		
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

<u>Clerical</u>		
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:

We have hired a lateral entry applicant with 1 ½ years experience. He will be sworn in at the March 17 council meeting and his anticipated start date is at the end of this month. This puts us at full staff, the first time in at least 5 years.

COMMUNITY EVENTS:

Officer Kraus participated in a Salute to Service event at one of the Columbus High School boy's basketball games.

TRAINING:

All sworn staff completed CPR, AED and First Aid certification as part of a mandatory department meeting.

FLEET:

Officers have been assigned their own squads. This was funded by our participation in the LESO program and not the city budget.

TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT/CITATIONS:

During the month of October officers issued 68 traffic citations, 91 warnings and 26 ordinance citations.

ITEMS OF INTEREST:

We received a report of a vehicle stopped in the middle of the street in a residential area and the occupant was yelling. On arrival, we discovered male subject who had been huffing aerosol inhalants and driving and attempting to inhale more as officers dealt with him. He was extremely aggressive and irrational. While attempting to remove him from the vehicle he physically fought with 2 officers and was tased multiple times before he could be removed from the car. He was arrested for Operating Under the Influence and several criminal charges related to the illegal use of an inhalant.

An officer attempted to stop a vehicle for speeding. A pursuit began, which ended several miles into Dane County. The driver fled on foot and was taken into custody a short distance later. Numerous drugs, including psychedelic mushrooms, methamphetamine and cocaine were located in the vehicle, in large quantities. He was arrested and taken to jail and is facing Federal charges as well as Operating Under the Influence of a Restricted Controlled Substance. The officer was injured during the incident, transported to the hospital by ambulance, treated, and released. The Columbia County Sheriff's Department took over the investigation at the scene due to the officer's injury.

An officer investigated multiple unauthorized charges on a person's credit card. The investigation revealed the suspect was a coworker. All employees place personal belongings in a common area during work and it is believed the suspect copied the information as the card was not taken. Attempts to locate and take her into custody were not successful. Felony charges and a warrant have been requested. The suspect no longer works there. The suspect has an open criminal case in Dane County for essentially the same behavior that occurred there.

The Dane County Sheriff's Office had a high-speed pursuit north of the city in the Town of Bristol. The pursuit was terminated by Dane County as it entered Columbia County. Twelve (12) minutes later a resident of Richmond St reported a suspicious vehicle pulled into the area at a high rate of speed and was making an odd noise. The occupants fled by the time officers arrived, and it was discovered this was the vehicle from the pursuit. Suspects had been identified as several hours later located by one of our officers sitting in a vehicle on School Street. Cocaine and paraphernalia were located in that vehicle. Two suspects face drug related charges in Columbia County, and traffic (Eluding an Officer-Felony) in Dane County.



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

Nature of Call	Total Calls Received
911 HANG UP	13
ACCIDENT HIT AND RUN	1
ACCIDENT PROPERTY DAMAGE ONLY	4
ASSIST ANOTHER AGENCY	7
BURGLAR ALARM	2
FIRE ALARM	1
ANIMAL COMPLAINTS	2
ANIMAL BITE	1
CAR VS DEER	2
MENTAL HEALTH COMMITMENT	1
CHILD ABUSE	1
CITIZEN ASSIST	9
CONTROLLED	6
DISORDERLY CONDUCT	3
DISABLED VEHICLE	11
DOMESTIC ABUSE	1
DPW	2
DRIVING COMPLAINT	18
ELUDING	1
EMS CALL	21
EXTRA PATROL	2
GENERAL FIRE	1
FIRE GAS LEAK/CARBON MONOXIDE	2
STRUCTURE FIRE	1
FIREARMS TRAINING	1
FLEET MAINTENANCE	3
FRAUD	2
HARASSMENT	1
HOUSE WATCH	3
JUVENILE INCIDENT	4
KEEP THE PEACE	1
LITTERING	1
LOST AND FOUND	3
OUT WITH PERSON	5
ORDINANCE VIOLATION	1
OWI	6
PARKING ENFORCMENT	25
PARKING VIOLATION	6
SECURITY	21
SPECIAL EVENT	1
SQUAD DAMAGE	1
SUSPICIOUS	6
THEFT	2
THREAT	2



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TRAFFIC CONTROL	3
TRAFFIC STOP	137
VEH LOCKOUT	5
WARRANT	1
WELFARE	13

Total Calls: 367