

ANNUAL REPORT

2025

CORTLAND POLICE DEPARTMENT



MISSION STATEMENT TO SERVE AND PROTECT



MISSION STATEMENT TO SERVE AND PROTECT

Our mission is simple and unwavering: to serve and protect the Town of Cortland with integrity, professionalism, and purpose.

Our core values are not slogans—they are the standard by which we live and work. They shape how we serve our community, how we treat one another, and how we make decisions every day.

We believe:

Human Kindness

The foundation of our mission. Every interaction matters. We are defined by our actions.

Courage

A selfless commitment to duty. We act when it is difficult, stand firm in the face of danger, and hold ourselves and one another to the highest ethical standards.

Service

"To serve and protect" is more than a phrase—it is our calling. It guides our work, our conduct, and our responsibility to this community.

We remain committed to these principles, knowing that trust is earned through consistent action, not words.

PROFESSIONALISM • ACCOUNTABILITY • COMPASSION • INTEGRITY • FAIRNESS • COURAGE

PROFESSIONALISM ACCOUNTABILITY COMPASSION INTEGRITY FAIRNESS COURAGE

LETTER FROM THE CHIEF

Welcome to the Town of Cortland. As Chief of Police, we appreciate you taking the time to learn more about our community, our department, and the shared responsibility we carry in keeping Cortland safe, welcoming, and strong.

At the core of our work is a simple but enduring belief: public safety is built on relationships. Community Policing is not just a strategy-it is a commitment to partnership, trust,

Our officers are more than enforcers of the law. They are guardians of this community-neighbors, problem-solvers, and professionals who are deeply invested in the well-being of the people they serve.

We continue to partner with IRIS, ensuring a direct connection to critical local resources during times of crisis. This collaboration allows us to meet challenges with both compassion and capability.

We have also advanced our use of Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED), a practical, common-sense approach to safety. Well-lit spaces, thoughtful design, and engaged communities naturally deter crime. These are not abstract ideas-they are measurable, effective strategies that make a real difference in everyday life. We remain committed to helping residents and businesses apply these principles throughout Cortland.

Still, the truth remains: we cannot do this work alone.

A safe and vibrant community is built shoulder to shoulder-with residents who stay aware, who look out for one another, and who take pride in where they live. Whether it's reporting suspicious activity, participating in neighborhood efforts, or simply knowing your neighbors, every action matters.

We encourage you to stay informed, stay engaged, and continue working alongside us. Our door remains open, and your voice matters in shaping the future of this community.

Together, we move forward. Together, we make a difference.

Together, we are Cortland.

Stay safe, stay engaged, and stay connected.



The Town of Cortland...

Since incorporated in 1865, the Town of Cortland has been characterized by hometown living in a warm community atmosphere. Nestled in rural DeKalb County, Cortland is located along Illinois Route 38 and Somonauk Road.

Cortland is unique from neighboring villages and cities because it is an Incorporated Town. The 2020 census conducted shows Cortland has a population of 4,398 citizens. Cortland is the third largest Town in Illinois, with only the Towns of Cicero and Normal having a greater population.

The Cortland Police Department is dispatched through the DeKalb County Sheriff's Office E9-1-1 Center. Patrol and investigative services are supplemented by the Sheriff's Police. The expertise of the DeKalb County Major Crimes Task Force is available in the event of a major violent crime. The department patrols 3.64

BUDGET

TOWN BUDGET \$9,336,910
POLICE BUDGET \$1,247,900



DEPARTMENT
CHIEF OF POLICE
COMMANDER
7 F/T OFFICERS
3 P/T OFFICERS
1 P/T ADMINISTRATIVE ASST.

FLEET

2017 Ford Explorer
2018 FORD TAURUS
2019 FORD TAURUS
2020 CHEVROLET TAHOE
2021 Ford Explorer
2025 Ford Explorer

GOALS & ACCOMPLISHMENTS



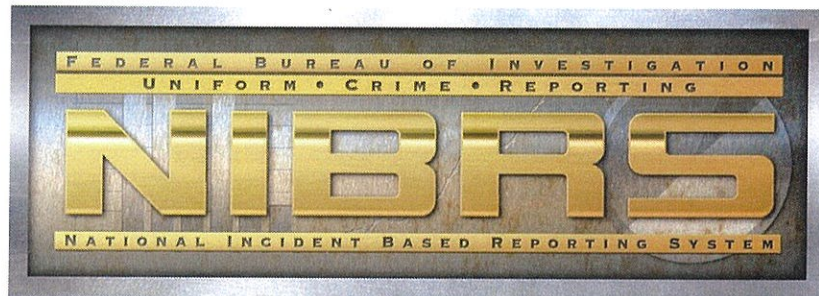
PD ACCOMPLISHMENTS 2025:

- Continued to partner with IRIS in DeKalb County. IRIS is an Integrated Referral and Intake System created by the University of Kansas Center for Public Partnerships and Research. DeKalb Count IRIS helps coordinate local resources in one easy to portal for referrals
- Continue to Partner with Safe Passage
- Lowered speed limit on Somonauk road to protect children and pedestrians using the waterpark, the baseball field and the walking path. (studies show that car vs pedestrian accidents over 39MPH is 75% likely to cause severe injury and at 46 MPH that risk increases to 90%)
- Using CPTED principles upgrades were completed at the intersection Somonauk and Meadow.
- Upgraded to *Taser 10* to meet best practice standards for Tasers
- 2025 saw a 10.81 % drop in crimes against persons simple assault,, and intimidation
- Responsive requests for numerous stationary patrols
- Daily presence at Cortland Elementary School
- Effective use of Adjudication to ordinance violations and issues

PD 2026 Goals:

- Continue to seek grant funding for personnel, equipment, and community programs.
- One officer to be trained in Cyber/AI criminal investigation.
- Continue to maintain all mandated training as directed by the Illinois Safety Act.
- Incorporate principles of Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) in The Town's building codes.
- Continue to forge positive relationships within our community and find new and innovative ways to address quality-of-life issues.
- Stress retention of qualified law enforcement professionals.

STATISTICS



Implemented in 2021 to improve the overall quality of crime data collected by law enforcement, NIBRS captures details on each single crime incident—as well as on separate offenses within the same incident—including information on victims, known offenders, relationships between victims and offenders, arrestees, and property involved in crimes.

Unlike data reported through the UCR Program's traditional Summary Reporting System (SRS)—an aggregate monthly tally of crimes—NIBRS goes much deeper because of its ability to provide circumstances and context for crimes like location, time of day, and whether the incident was cleared.

NIBRS is an incident-based reporting system designed to enhance the quantity and quality of crime data collected by the law enforcement community.

NIBRS is the path forward and will improve the way the nation collects, reports, analyzes, and uses its crime statistics to inform, educate, and strengthen our nation's communities. Law enforcement agencies can contact the FBI's UCR Program at ucr@fbi.gov for information and assistance.



Offense and Arrest Summary Report

Printed On: 04/20/2026

2025

Page 1 of 1

Agency: CORTLAND

Total Offenses 112 Clearance Rate 40.18%
 Last years rate 41.84%
 Total Arrests 43 Hate Crime Offenses 0
 Law Officers Assaulted 0

Arrest Reporting

Group "A"	Adult	Juvenile	Unknown	Total Arrests	Arrests Reported Last Year
Murder	0	0	0	0	0
Negligent Manslaughter	0	0	0	0	0
Justifiable Homicide	0	0	0	0	0
Rape	0	0	0	0	0
Robbery	0	1	0	1	0
Aggravated Assault	2	0	0	2	0
Burglary	0	0	0	0	0
Larceny	0	0	0	0	2
Motor Vehicle Theft	0	0	0	0	0
Arson	0	0	0	0	0
Simple Assault	13	0	0	13	8
Intimidation	0	0	0	0	2
Bribery	0	0	0	0	0
Counterfeiting/Forgery	0	0	0	0	0
Vandalism	0	0	0	0	1
Drug/Narcotic Violations	13	2	0	15	12
Drug Equipment Violations	0	0	0	0	0
Embezzlement	0	0	0	0	0
Extortion/Blackmail	0	0	0	0	0
Fraud	0	0	0	0	0
Gambling	0	0	0	0	0
Kidnapping	0	0	0	0	0
Pornography	0	0	0	0	0
Prostitution	0	0	0	0	0
Sodomy	0	0	0	0	0
Sexual Assault w/Object	0	0	0	0	0
Fondling	1	0	0	1	0
Incest	0	0	0	0	0
Statutory Rape	0	0	0	0	0
Stolen Property	0	0	0	0	0
Weapons Law Violations	0	0	0	0	0
Human Trafficking, Commercial Sex Acts	0	0	0	0	0
Human Trafficking, Involuntary Servitude	0	0	0	0	0
Animal Cruelty	0	0	0	0	0
Total Group A Arrests	29	3	0	32	25
Group "B" Arrests					
Bad Checks	0	0	0	0	0
Curfew/Vagrancy	0	0	0	0	0
Disorderly Conduct	0	0	0	0	0
DUI	0	0	0	0	1
Drunkenness	0	0	0	0	0
Family Offenses-nonviolent	0	0	0	0	0
Liquor Law Violations	0	0	0	0	0
Peeping Tom	0	0	0	0	0
Runaways	0	0	0	0	0
Trespass	0	0	0	0	0
All Other Offenses	11	0	0	11	11
Total Group B Arrests	11	0	0	11	12
Total Arrests	40	3	0	43	37

Offense Reporting

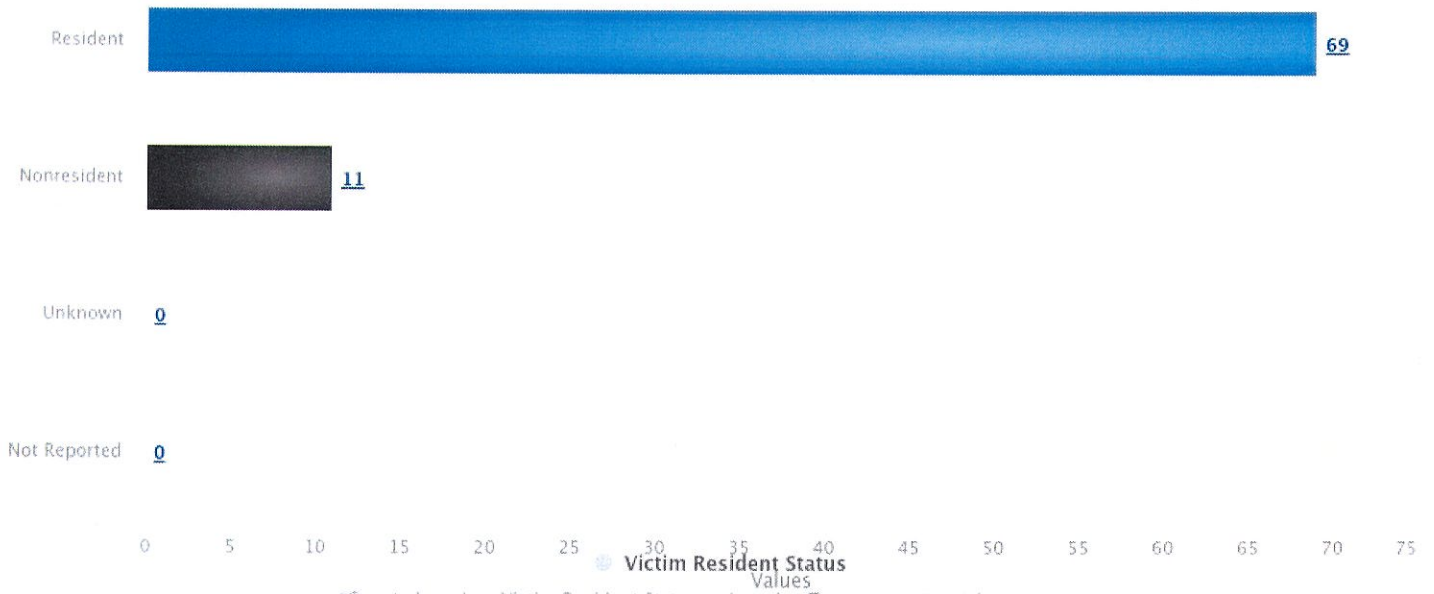
Group "A"	Offenses Reported	Offenses Cleared	Offenses Reported Last Year
Murder	0	0	0
Negligent Manslaughter	0	0	0
Justifiable Homicide	0	0	0
Rape	1	0	2
Robbery	2	1	0
Aggravated Assault	2	2	0
Burglary	3	1	1
Larceny	25	1	15
Motor Vehicle Theft	2	1	5
Arson	1	1	1
Simple Assault	22	17	25
Intimidation	4	1	9
Bribery	0	0	0
Counterfeiting/Forgery	2	0	1
Vandalism	5	1	12
Drug/Narcotic Violations	17	15	11
Drug Equipment Violations	0	0	0
Embezzlement	0	0	0
Extortion/Blackmail	0	0	0
Fraud	21	1	13
Gambling	0	0	0
Kidnapping	0	0	0
Pornography	1	0	0
Prostitution	0	0	0
Sodomy	0	0	0
Sexual Assault w/Object	0	0	0
Fondling	3	2	0
Incest	0	0	0
Statutory Rape	1	1	1
Stolen Property	0	0	0
Weapons Law Violations	0	0	1
Human Trafficking, Commercial Sex Acts	0	0	0
Human Trafficking, Involuntary Servitude	0	0	0
Animal Cruelty	0	0	1
Total Group "A"	112	45	98

Population : 4642

Offense Distribution Breakdown Report
Beginning Date: 01/01/2025 Ending Date: 12/31/2025

Victim Resident Status by Location Type

Agency: CORTLAND
Offense: Group A Offenses
Click the bars to view breakdown



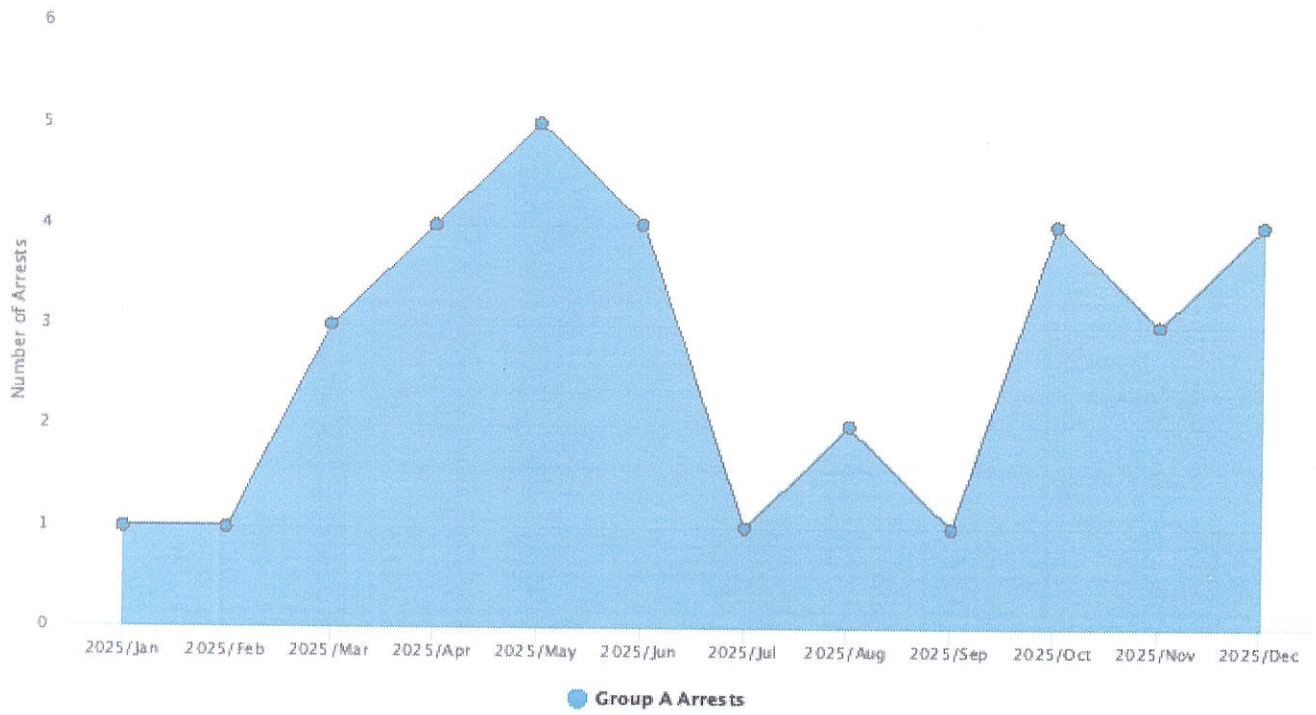
*Counts based on Victim Resident Status or Location Type may not match counts based solely on the number of offenses.

Arrest Trends Report

Beginning Date: 01/01/2025

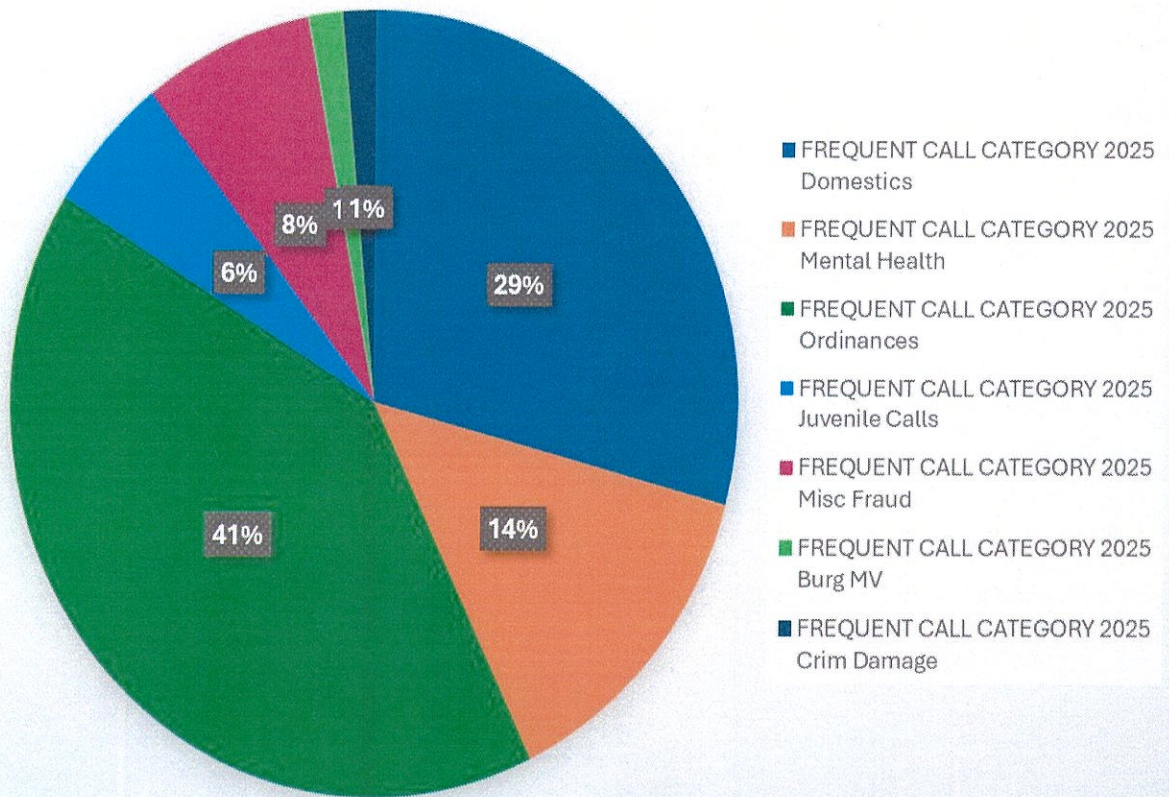
Ending Date: 12/31/2025

Agency: CORTLAND
Offense: Group A Offenses



FREQUENT CALL CATEGORY

2025



Arrest Distribution Report

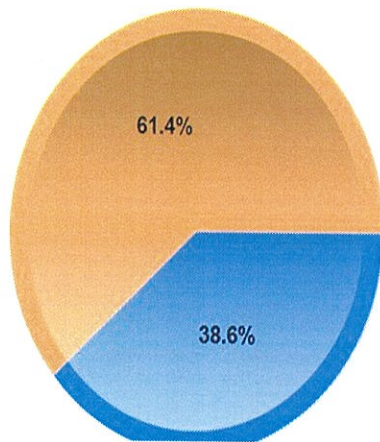


Beginning Date: 01/01/2025

Ending Date: 12/31/2025

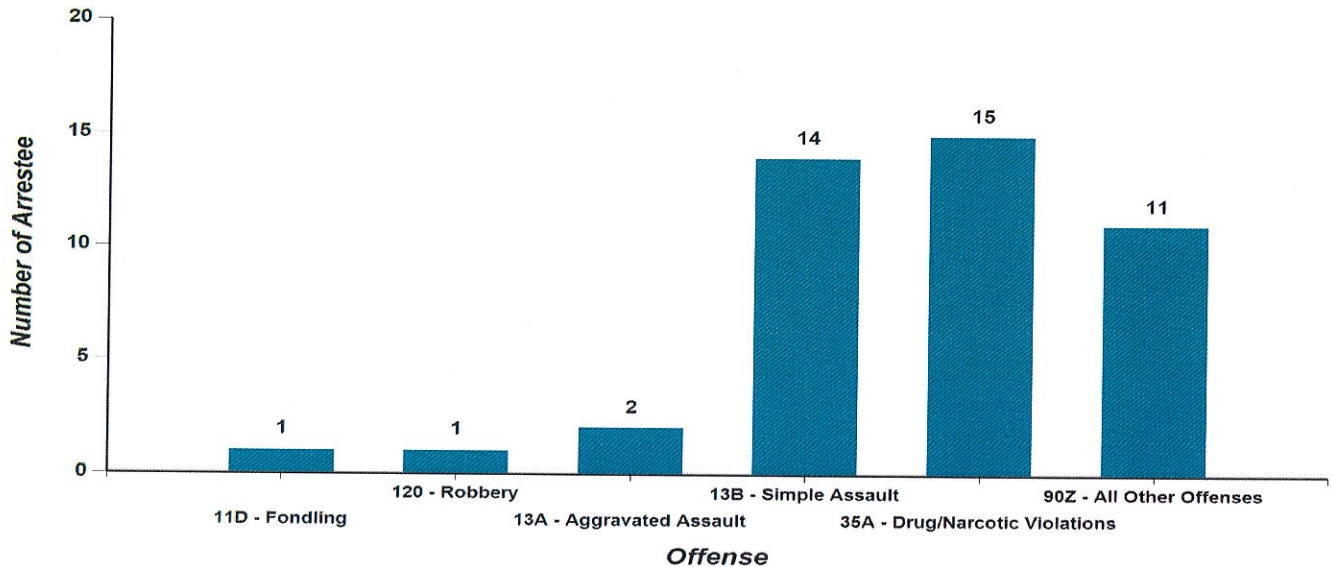
Offense	Resident	Nonresident	Total
11D - Fondling		1	1
120 - Robbery	1		1
13A - Aggravated Assault	1	1	2
13B - Simple Assault	12	2	14
35A - Drug/Narcotic Violations	6	9	15
90Z - All Other Offenses	7	4	11
Total	27	17	44

Resident Status Distribution

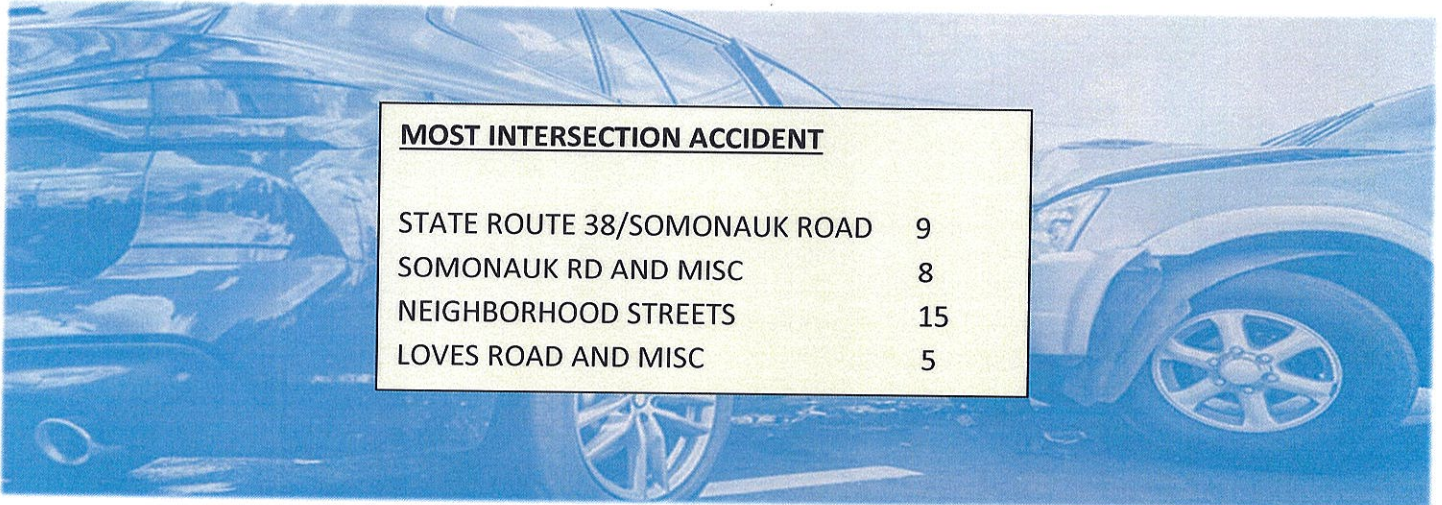
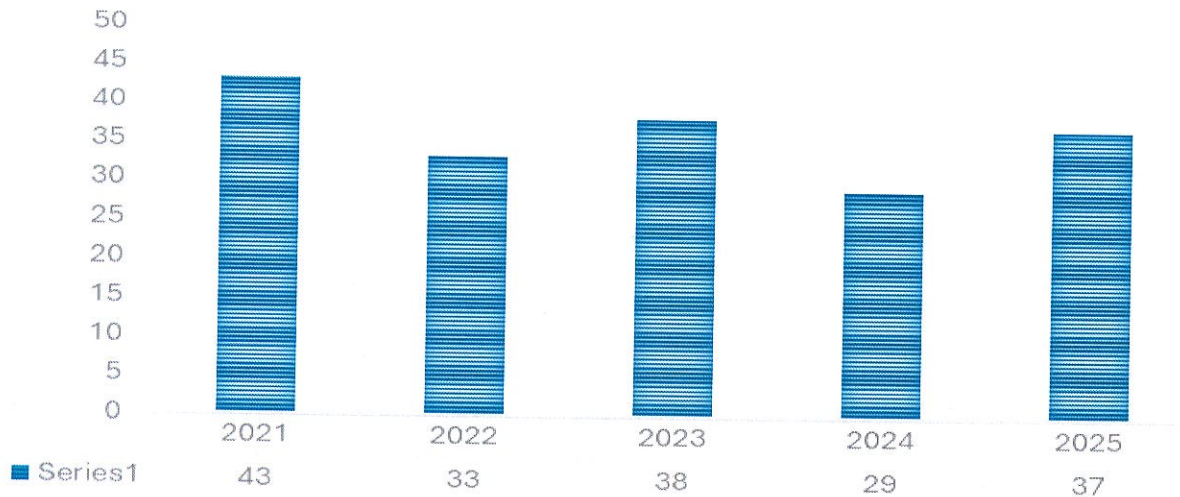


Resident Status

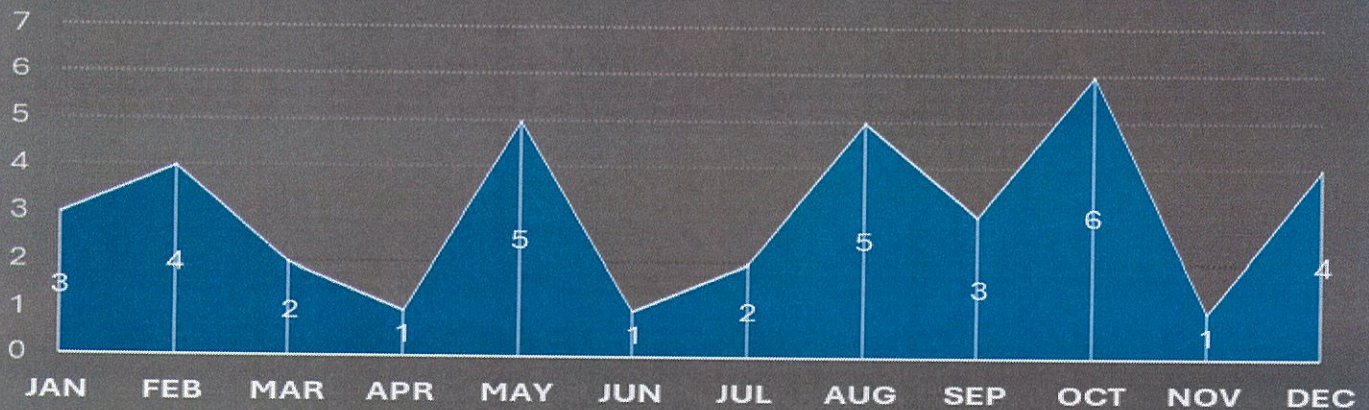
- Nonresident
- Resident



ACCIDENTS BY YEAR



Breakdown of Traffic Crashes by Month 2025



TRAFFIC OFFENSES

TRAFFIC CITATIONS

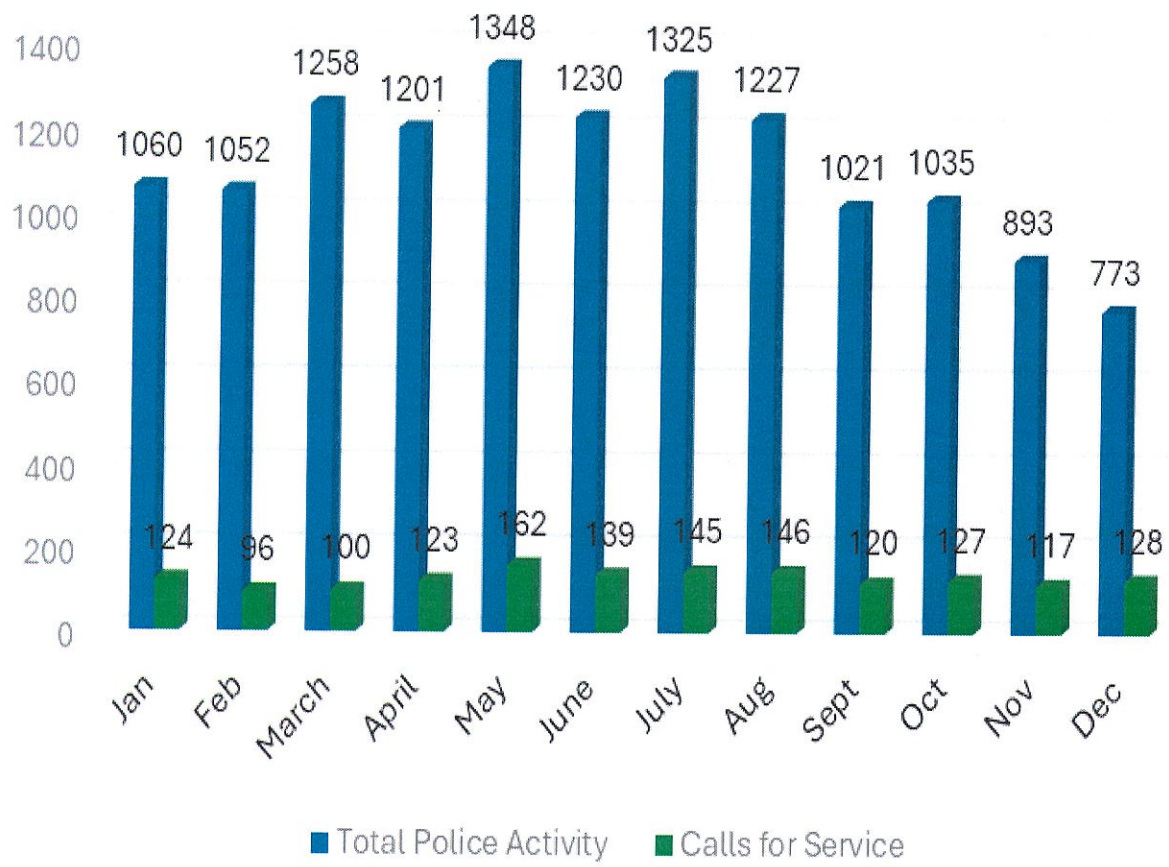
	2023	2024	2025
CANNABIS VIOLATIONS IN MOTOR VEHICLE	21	11	12
DISOBEY TRAFFIC CONTROL DEVICE	14	4	4
DRIVER LICENSE VIOLATIONS	29	10	12
DRIVER/PASSENGER SEAT BELTS	1	0	0
DRIVING UNDER THE INFLUENCE	0	2	0
ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION WHILE DRIVING	0	0	1
SUSPENDED DRIVERS LICENSE	14	6	16
FAILURE TO YIELD VIOLATIONS	5	3	2
IMPROPER LANE USAGE	0	3	1
MISCELLANEOUS	12	10	16
OPERATE UNINSURANCE MOTOR VEHICLE	14	9	11
REGISTRATION VIOLATIONS	13	9	2
SPEEDING VIOLATIONS	45	31	53
TOTAL	167	98	130

TRAFFIC WARNINGS

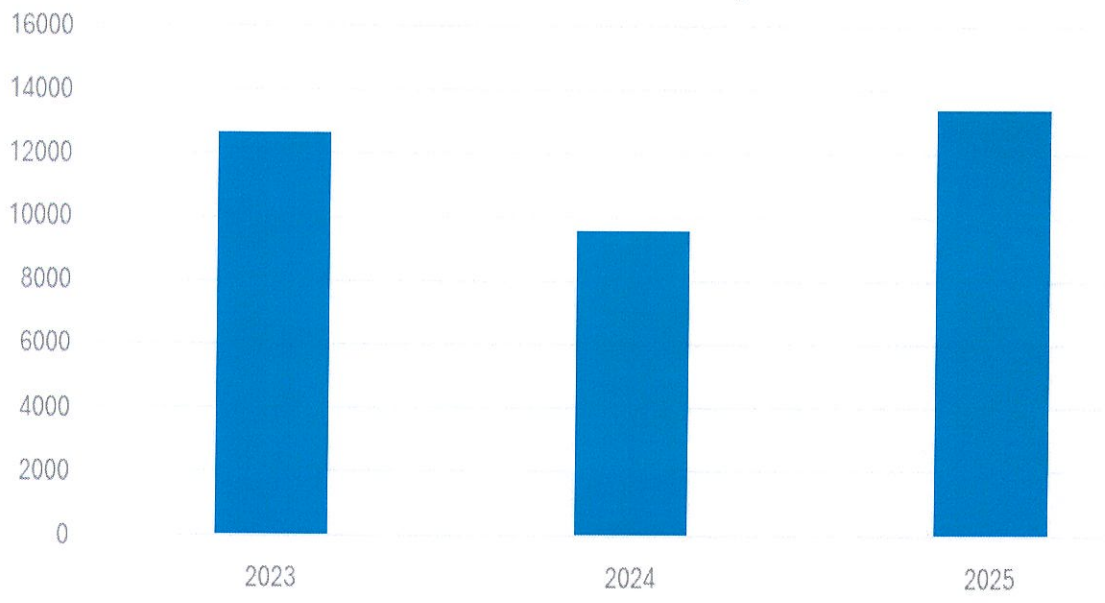
WARNINGS													
	Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
2023	4	5	10	21	18	17	45	15	18	18	18	17	206
2024	9	10	19	12	15	8	19	14	7	24	22	51	210
2025	39	38	100	68	57	29	59	43	75	73	61	19	661

BREAKDOWN of TOTAL POLICE ACTIVITY 2025

TOTAL POLICE ACTIVITY w/ CALLS FOR SERVICE (TOTAL CALLS VS CALLS ASSIGNED TO AN



2023-2025 Police Activity



COMMUNITY PROGRAMS



Project Child Safe

The Cortland Police Department provides up to six free firearm safety kits to each resident through a partnership with Project Child Safe, the Nationwide Firearms Safety Education program. The safety kits, which include a gun lock, will be distributed while supplies last.

Project Child Safe, a program developed by the National Shooting Sports Foundation (NSSF), has distributed more than 36 million firearm safety kits throughout the country since 2003. The program is supported by the firearms industry and donations by individuals and organizations.

By partnering with Project Child Safe, the Cortland Police Department is participating in a national effort to promote firearms safety education to all gun owners. Project Child Safe has distributed gun lock safety kits to all 50 states.

Operation Peace of Mind

Is a program that helps police officers provide assistance for the elderly. Many problems face senior citizens such as elder abuse, neglect and exploitation. It is our goal to help keep older adults safe from crime and provide the assistance needed to reduce their fears. A copy of the form that can be completed pro-actively is available on the next page.

Elder Watch

We partner with DeKalb County Elder Care Services to help older consumers recognize, refuse, and report fraud and scams.

Business Watch

Business watch is a crime prevention program to help reduce crime in the community. Its purpose provides a police presence when businesses close to ensure employees safety when leaving work and to reduce crime-related issues to businesses.

Vacation Watch

The Cortland Police Department offers a service for residents to check in on your property while you are away. Residents may request this service before leaving home for an extended period of time. By registering your home with the Police Department, officers may provide extra patrols of your residence while you are away. Notifying the department also provides a way to contact the resident if there is a problem at the home.

Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC)

Internet Crimes Against Children is through the Illinois Attorney General's office. This is a national network of coordinated task forces representing federal, state, and local law enforcement and prosecutorial agencies. These agencies are continually engaged in proactive and reactive investigations and prosecutions of persons involved in child abuse and exploitation involving the internet.

COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

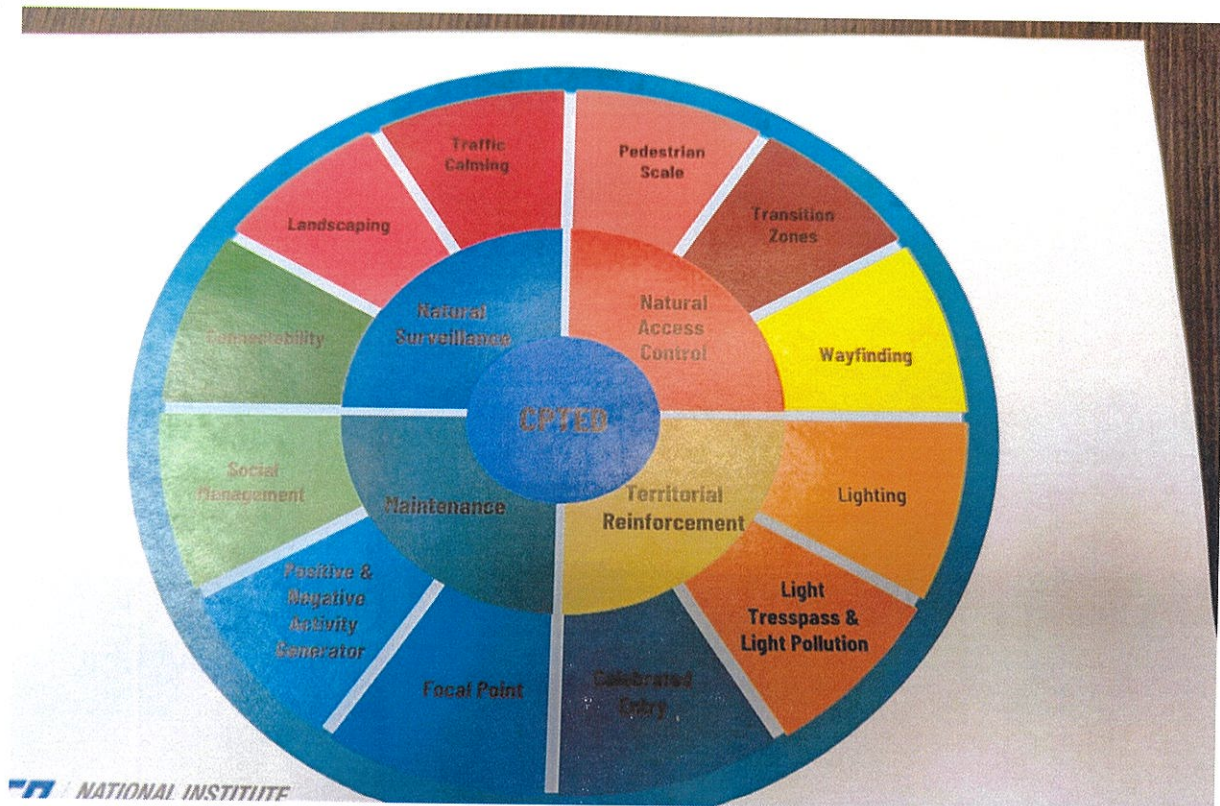


Crime Prevention Checklist

A Crime Prevention Checklist can assist residents with home security. This checklist can help identify any security risks, both inside and outside of the home. The homeowners will then be in a better position to take the appropriate action to correct any problems to prevent themselves from becoming a victim of a crime.

Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED)

CPTED is the proper design and effective use of the built environment that can lead to a reduction in the fear of and incidence of crime thereby improving the quality of life. CPTED is based on four overlapping principles: Natural Access Control, Natural Surveillance, Territorial Reinforcement, and Maintenance. The goal of CPTED is to reduce opportunities for crime that may be inherent in the design or structures or in the design of neighborhoods.



Crisis Intervention Training

Crisis Intervention Training (C.I.T.) is a critical part of officer training. It gives officers the skills to identify and assist people with mental illness and other disorders. The emphasis is on de-escalation while also being effective in helping the person in crisis

One of the core tenets of CIT is that there is a huge advantage to having those who suffer from mental illness meet the police during a non crisis day. This helps them feel more comfortable with the officer during a crisis because they are familiar with them. If any family feels they could benefit from this option feel free to contact us and schedule a meeting. It is also extremely beneficial for us to have pre-crisis information from you as to what can be done to mitigate the crisis by understanding particular triggers.



**CORTLAND POLICE DEPARTMENT
OPERATION PEACE OF MIND**

Allergies: _____

Medications: _____

Do you have a medical alert system/device?: _____

Mobility issues or assistive equipment?: _____

SECTION 4: PETS/LIVESTOCK (IF APPLICABLE)

Type of Pet(s): _____

Number of Pets: _____

Emergency Contact for Animal Care: _____

SECTION 5: CONSENT & ACKNOWLEDGMENT

I hereby consent to the Cortland Police Department maintaining this information for the purpose of welfare checks and emergency response.

I give permission to share this information with emergency personnel.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

SECTION 6: OFFICER NOTES (INTERNAL USE ONLY)

Initial Visit Completed by (Name/Badge): _____

Date of Check-In: _____

Any Special Concerns or Notes: _____

Any Special Concerns or Notes: _____