

Mauston Police Department

2025 Annual Report



Chief Michael D. Zilisch

Mauston Police Department

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Mauston Police Department

January 16, 2025

To: Mayor Darryl Teske and Members of the Common Council; President Brian McGuire and Members of the Police and Fire Commission; and the Citizens of the City of Mauston.

This is the 2025 Mauston Police Department Annual Report for your review. I hope this document meets your expectations as we discuss the Mauston Police Department in the year of 2025.

The Mauston Police Department Annual Report is a yearly task my staff and I complete so the community can evaluate the historical data collected. This is one way the City of Mauston can gauge performance of its Police Department. This report will contain data from 2019 through 2025. This report does not contain all past reports of data but parts for comparisons.

In 2024 for 2025 the Mauston Police Department was excited to add an additional police officer position to patrol. You can see from the data this position was needed and continued hard work has continued to provide a very comprehensive service to our community.

The Mauston Police Department staff has been broken down into the following positions: Chief of Police, two Police Clerk positions, two Sergeant positions, a Detective, seven Patrol Officer positions. The Patrol Division also has specialty positions of a School Resource Officer and two K9 Officer positions.

This will be my 10th year as Police Chief of Mauston. 2025 was another year of continuing to provide the best policing product MPD can. I believe the data shows our staff really improved on areas of concern over the year. It has always been an honor to serve this community and MPD continues to push forward in our capabilities to serve the City of Mauston. We continue to improve our staff with training/professional development. We continue to push forward with new technology to assist our mission.

The Mauston Police Department appreciates the continued support from organizations, businesses, and community.

Thank you,

Chief Michael D. Zilisch

Mauston Police Department

The police profession is a noble and honorable calling that requires integrity, honesty, dedication, and a commitment to serve our community. We are tasked with providing effective service to our community in a professional and ethical manner. We can accomplish our goals by effective policy providing a blueprint for employees and through professional training.

MISSION STATEMENT

The full-time mission of the Mauston Police Department is to safeguard the lives, property, and rights of all people within the City of Mauston in an equitable and nondiscriminatory manner.

Vision Statement

The Mauston Police Department is committed to preventing crime, applying the law fairly, reducing fear of victimization within our community, while working in partnership with them. Protection of life, property, and order along with improving quality of life for our community.

VALUES OF THE MAUSTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

To accomplish the Department's Mission Statement, we are committed to the following values:

PROFESSIONALISM

Members of the Mauston Police Department strive to achieve and maintain the highest standards of ethics, integrity, and professional conduct. We hold the welfare of our citizens paramount and customarily carry out the affairs of the Department publicly. We are responsible to the community for our performance and remain accessible to the citizens at all times.

Mauston Police Department

COMPASSION

We strive for fairness and impartiality in all our actions, showing understanding, empathy, sensitivity, and caring for all people with whom we have contact.

TEAMWORK

Department Employees recognize the importance of each person as an individual and team member. We are most effective when we work together to identify and solve organizational and community problems.

INDIVIDUAL GROWTH

We are committed to providing an atmosphere of respect, health, and concern which permits all employees the opportunity to work and grow in a challenging environment.

Personnel

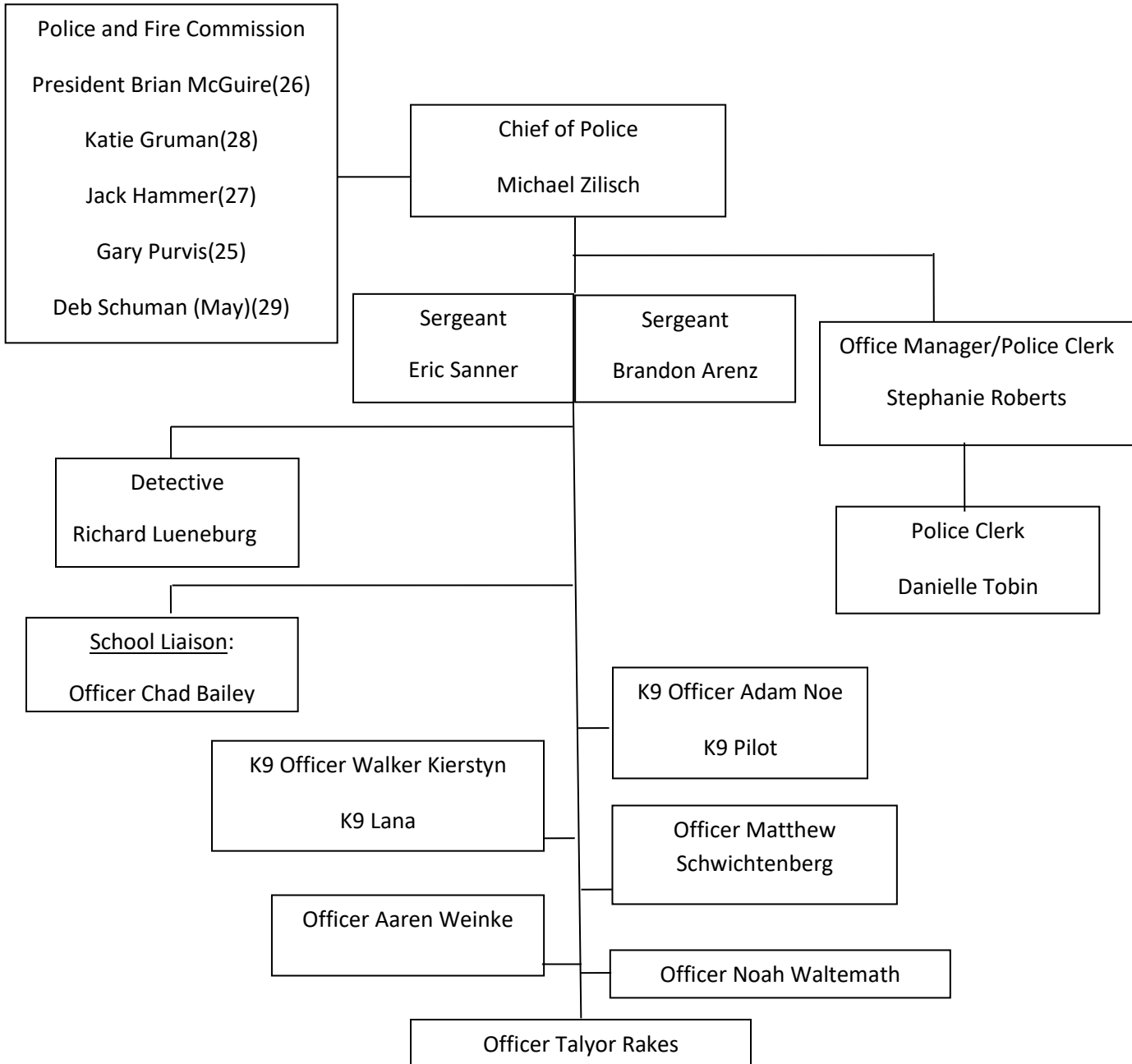
Mauston Police Department

<u>Position</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Years of Service (MPD)</u>
Chief of Police	Michael Zilisch	23 years, 8 months
Sergeant	Eric Sanner	16 years, 8 months*
Sergeant	Brandon Arenz	4 year, 11 months
Detective	Richard Lueneburg	20 years, 8 months
School Resource Officer	Chad Bailey	20 years, 11 months
K9 Officer	Adam Noe	13 years, 10 months*
	K9 Pilot	8 years, 11 months
Patrol Officer	Matthew Schwichtenberg	4 years, 11 months
Patrol Officer	Aaren Weinke	4 years, 11 months
Patrol Officer	Noah Waltemath	2 years, 3 months
Patrol Officer	Walker Kierstyn	1 year, 4 months
	K9 Lana	1 year, 4 months
Police Officer	Taylor Rakes	8 months
Police Clerk	Stephanie Roberts	3 year, 2 months
Police Clerk	Danielle Tobin	2 year

* Includes years served in all positions with the Mauston Police Department full or part time.

Mauston Police Department

Organizational Chart 2025



Support Services

Mauston Police Department

The Support Services consists of two full-time employees, an Office Manager/Police Clerk and a Police Clerk. The office hours are 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM Monday through Friday. The Support staff team is responsible for providing customer service to citizens, support command staff, officers, and assisting the department in assigned projects. Some of the daily tasks associated with these positions are record management, mailings, collection of money, taking open records requests, answering phones, dispatching calls for service, and overall customer service.

The Support Staff are also dispatchers responsible for gathering necessary complaint information for the officers and keeping track of where and when the officers are on a call. The Support Staff are primarily dispatchers for non-emergency calls that come through our agency, however emergency calls do take place and are handled by staff or by passing along information to the Juneau County Communication Center.

Data entry is a very significant part for Support Services. This can include managing our Records Management System, preparing pre-trials, court, scanning, filing, verification of incidents in our RMS, and monitoring payment/non-payment in our parking program.

The Support Staff reports to the Chief of Police. The Office Manager is in charge of the day-to-day operations and overseeing the running of the office with providing the above listed tasks. The Office Manager is responsible for the Incident Based Reporting (IBR), which is done monthly. State Statute requires all agencies in the State of Wisconsin to report their crime statistics to the Office of Justice Assistance (OJA). The Police Clerks are responsible for all open records requests, which are very time consuming. Each report must be read to have confidential information redacted. Generally, the request will be fulfilled within seven to ten business days.

The Officer Manager is our Time Agency Coordinator (TAC), and Train Administrator. Both systems are tools used for law enforcement agencies to access confidential records such as driving records(DOT), criminal histories, and wanted person files. The Officer Manager is responsible for all users, which would be 12 people consisting of our command staff, officers, and support staff who must be properly trained, certified, and re-certified. The Office Manager also assists with TraCS, which is how Officers issue warnings and citations regarding ordinance and traffic violations. Needless to say Support Services is a very large part of the police department and how we accomplish our goals. The City of Mauston has been blessed to have many past and present dedicate professionals.

Mauston Police Department

Patrol Division

The patrol division consists of seven (7) patrol officers. The patrol division has one School Resource Officer and two (2) K9 Officer Positions. These Officers are the core of the agency. The division is overseen by Patrol Sergeants and the Chief of Police.

Patrol officers respond to calls for service and engage in proactive police activities which include criminal enforcement/investigations, special events, traffic enforcement, ordinance enforcement, and community security checks. Patrol is the backbone of the police department and focus on Mauston Police Department (5) pillars of policing. The pillars: Criminal Investigation/enforcement, civil matters, traffic and ordinance law enforcement, community engagement, and property protection. These pillars are used for performance evaluation and is a basic way to think about what policing is or does.

The patrol officers handle the majority of the calls for service and investigations from start to finish. Cases that need further investigation or expertise are forwarded to the detective division.

Detective Division

The detective division consists of one (1) detective who is overseen by Patrol Sergeants and the Chief of Police. The detective division focuses on the more serious, time-consuming calls for service. This position has increased our ability to focus on crime, and has led to a safer community. This position has also allowed patrol officers to get back out into the community instead of being consumed by lengthy investigations.

The community has seen a very unfortunate growth of drug investigations over the last couple of years, which most communities can relate too. The detective division also investigates other serious crimes related to the increase of drug cases from property crimes to deaths. The detective has the flexibility to access resources and time that the patrol division just does not have.

This position has become a very useful and a needed division that I am very thankful as a resident and the Chief of Police to have for our community.

Mauston Police Department

HISTORICAL DATA

This section will compare the last seven years of data. All data points are compared to each other and provides information about our community, regarding trends and growth. This data assists us in our budgeting process, technology, personnel, enforcement techniques, and the ever-changing landscape of policing. Data like this is the backbone for evaluating our performance. This evaluation process allows us to adapt to the community needs and the calls for service we encounter.

The City of Mauston has grown some regarding our area, however our overall population (residents) during these time periods has stayed the same. Our “transient population” has only continued to increase as the Mauston area has continued to be developed. The Mauston area has continued to add additional residences and other economic growth. The continued development of these areas around the City of Mauston continues to affect MPD.

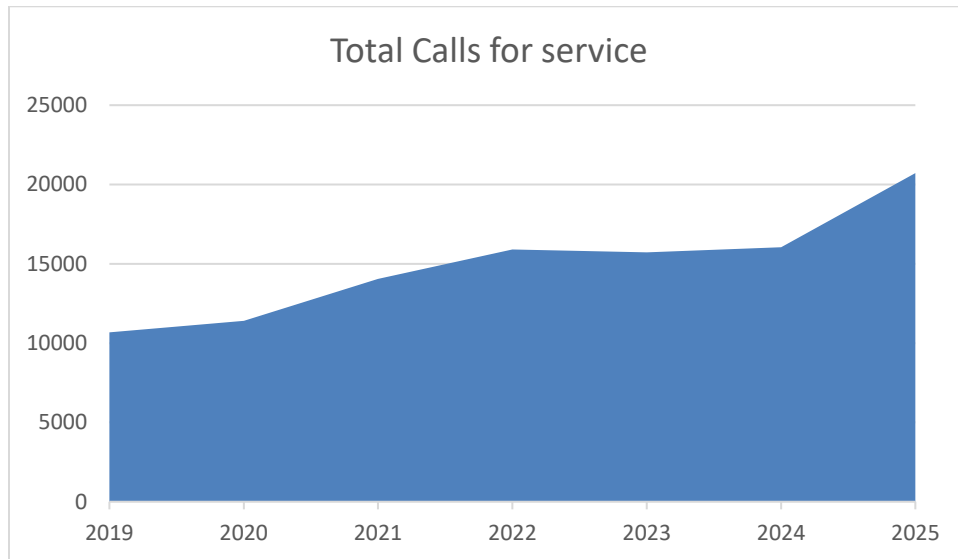
All the charts below are data pulls from our current Record Management System (RMS). This is important as the data presented is compared year to year and category to provide accurate data sources. New categories are sometimes created to capture or break out specific data sets. One very small goal for the department is to accurately record our activities as it does provide a better picture of what we are doing for the public. We will continue to improve this area for our community.

In 2025, MPD was able to add an additional officer to patrol. This position was filled in mid-year, trained, and reported to the patrol division late fall. During the year 2025 MPD continued to strive to improve and to be proactive. 2025 was our highest call volume year to date.

This is a great accomplishment for the community and department. Much of the increase is from our continued pursuit of being more proactive and progressive. As we look through this data, you will see we continue to improve with Self-Generated Activities and again Total Calls for Service.

Mauston Police Department

Total Calls for Service



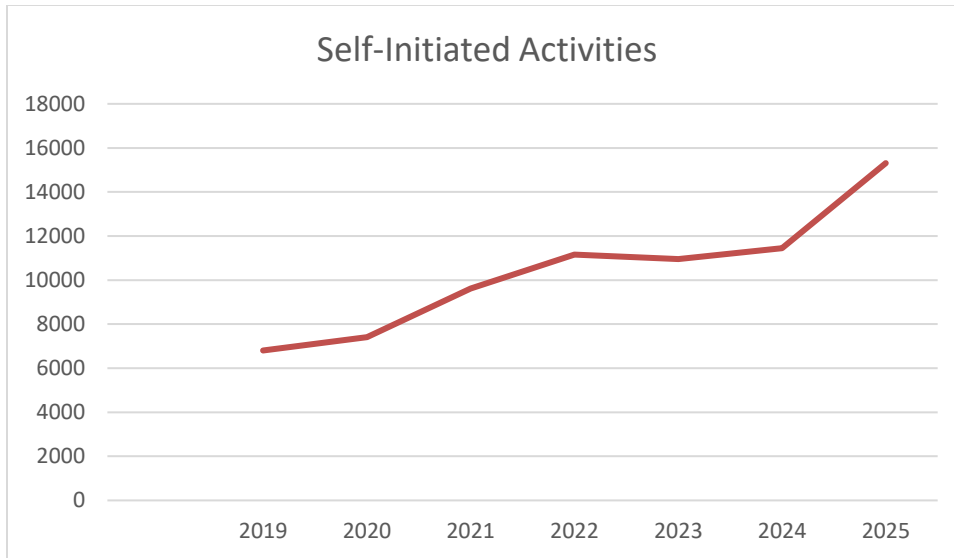
As you can see from the chart above our total calls for service had significant increases from 2019 to 2022, then plateaued for three years with a substantial increase in 2025. Specifically, our call volume increased from 10864 calls in 2019 to 20718 in 2025. The data shows the Mauston Police Department has almost doubled in seven years regarding workload. This is a very sufficient development for the Mauston Police Department. This (7) seven-year chart shows how evaluating data is an invaluable tool to evaluate the past and plan for the future.

For reference 2024 total calls for service was 16054. In 2025 the total call for service was 20718. That is an increase of 4664 call for service from 2024 to 2025.

To provide a perspective of volume the Juneau County Sheriff Office total calls for service was 27604 in 2025 and the City of Mauston PD was 20718, which is a difference of 6886 total calls.

Mauston Police Department

Self-Initiated Activities

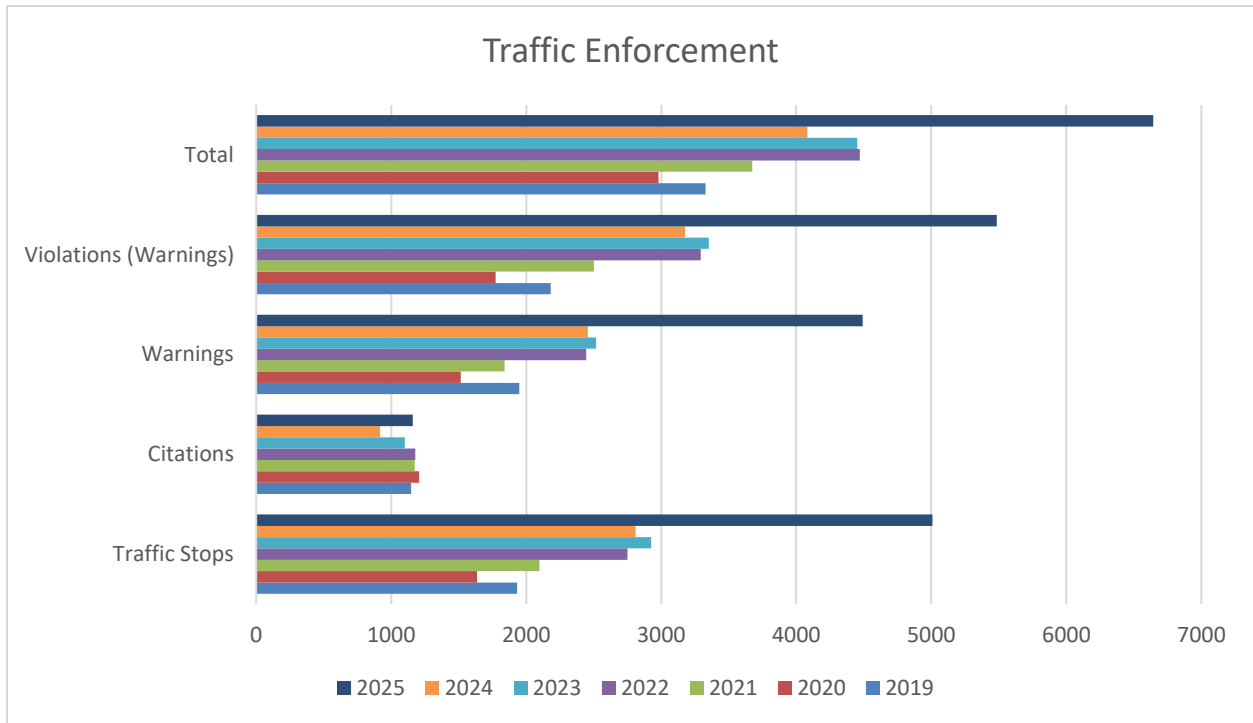


Self-Initiated Activities are officer generating activities. The officers conduct these activities during their shifts. This would include Traffic Stops, Ordinance enforcement, Building Checks, Community Orientated Policing Contacts, and Citizen Contacts. These functions are being conducted between assigned calls from citizens.

The above totals are officers being proactive in enforcement of traffic laws, local ordinances, relationship building, and security practices. As a department, we continue to improve providing the best product we can to the citizens we serve. Data like this is one-way MPD can gauge activity of staff. This is one of the ways we as a department measure our time management. Self-Initiated Activities make up 73% of MPD call volume.

Mauston Police Department

Traffic Enforcement



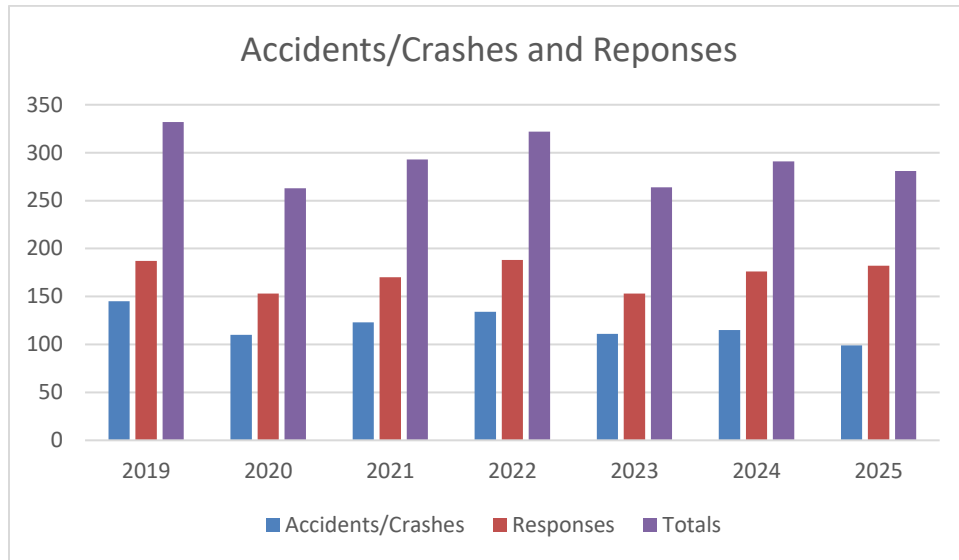
This chart displays Traffic Enforcement and the results over a seven-year period. While examining this data you can see a sufficient increase in Traffic Stops from 2024 to 2025.

In 2024 MPD conducted 2808 traffic stops and in 2025 MPD conducted 5008. This is an overwhelming increase from 2024 and 2025. Enforcement of traffic law is an important tool for all law enforcement agencies to change dangerous driving behavior. This was an important department focus as we received increased complaints about traffic/driving behavior in 2024. Every department wants voluntary compliance with the rules of the road, however that does not always happen.

In 2025 with our increased enforcement efforts, we received far fewer complaints in the City of Mauston. It is important to note our total citations stayed similar to past years however, our warnings increased sufficiently.

Mauston Police Department

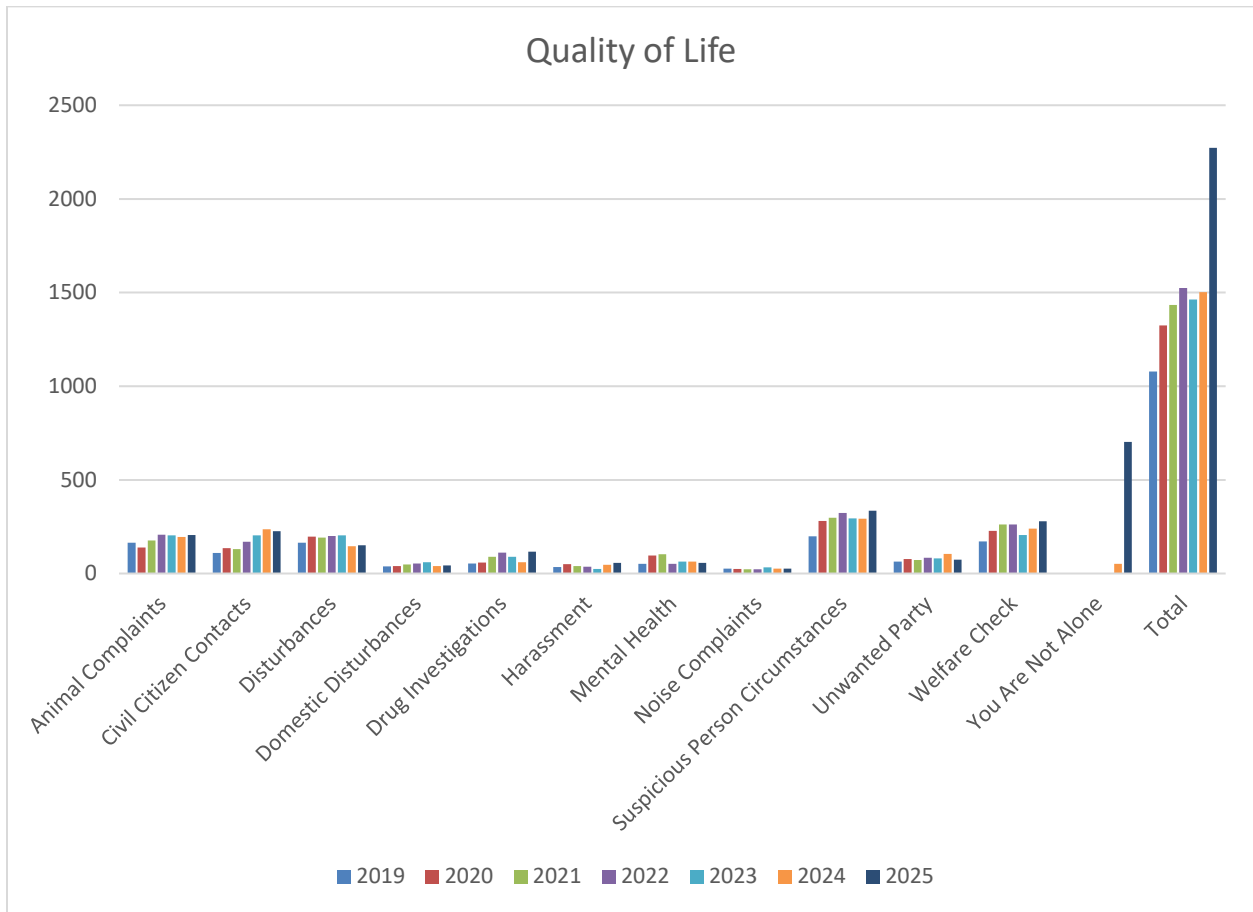
Accidents and Crash responses



This chart displays accidents, which include reportable/non-reportable and responses to those incidents. Accidents are preventable incidents for both citizens and our department. Our hope is to reduce these numbers with education and enforcement procedures. During the review of this data, MPD will continue to attempt to reduce this type of events.

Quality of Life Issues

Mauston Police Department



There is a lot of information within this chart. This chart is some of the quality of life calls for service we receive from our citizens throughout the year. This list of calls encompasses some serious and non-serious calls for service.

For most people the problem they are encountering at the moment in time is serious to them. We strive to treat every call with the same importance. The 2025 data shows an increase with many of the data sets. This data set displays; increases, decreases, flat/stable areas, which is why, in is important to review data and focus on areas of concern from year to year or over a period. Increase occurred with Animal Complaints, Drug Investigations, Harassment, Suspicious Persons, and Welfare checks. You Are Not Alone had its first full year of implementation, which has been very rewarding for the department and provides another service to the community.

Mauston Police Department

Training and Equipment:

The training year of 2025 was a busy one once again. As we continue to grow, we face new challenges both professionally and within changes in law. We must adapt to these changes allowing for our abilities to adjust to changing times. It is within training that we test our current skills and abilities against new policy, procedure, best practice, and law.

As administrators, we started 2025 with both Sergeants and Chief of Police attending the Wisconsin Chiefs of Police Winter Conference. We then attended the summer conference in Green Bay as well. This event is a great tool in learning best practices, new techniques or solutions to problems from not only those within the Wisconsin Law Enforcement network but nationally as well. With case studies from around the globe, prominent speakers on the topics of leadership, to connect with peers this training is a valuable resource to better all of us as administrators and formal leaders.

A training calendar is not complete without annual or semi-annual statutory required training. March 10th was our less lethal training refresher. This focused on our annual training of the Taser 10 device, along with application of non and less lethal impact munitions. We utilized scenarios based on real world applications where difficulties were noted or failure were encountered both within our local agencies and on a national scale. This provides a real-world application and we are able to see the results of the actions of others and adapt our applications to have a more effective or desirable outcome. On June 2nd the entirety of the Mauston Police Department completed the required Emergency Vehicle Operation and Vehicle Pursuit training. This training event was particularly special this year thanks to the cooperation from Dells Raceway that allowed us to train on their closed track and the new environment allowed instructors to provide new challenges. We completed our annual firearms recertification and yearly policy training as well.

On June 11th members of the Mauston Police Department, Mauston Area Ambulance, Wisconsin State Patrol, firefighters from across Juneau County and Mauston Fire Department joined together to conduct rescue task force training. This was administered and led by Sergeant Arenz and Chief of Police Zilisch. When we are given the opportunity to not only train ourselves but also train with our first responder partners our ability and effectiveness as individuals and as a global team grow exponentially. Lessons were learned, mistakes were made, dedication to the task and what it meant was evident on all participants' faces. It is in training where failure is a teachable moment, and lessons are to be learned. It is in real world application that we cannot accept failure, for in our profession lives depend on us to get it right the first time.

Mauston Police Department

Individual achievements this year were aplenty as well within the training category. Officer Noe completed Emergency Vehicle Operations instructor training that complemented his already existing vehicle contacts instructor certification. Officer Waltemath, Officer Kierstyn, Officer Weinke, and Officer Schwichtenberg all completed Basic SWAT operators' course that was held in Green Lake Wi. This course provides the necessary tools and skills that we ask of patrol officers. These tactics are no longer so specialized to one group or a set of individuals, and we ask our officers to engage in dangerous and sometimes deadly situations. We must continue to strive to be the best that we can, we must continue to strive to learn all that we can. With the ever-changing environment that is law enforcement, we find new threats come to our doorsteps more often than we would like to admit. The training team of the Mauston Police Department continues to push the envelope of what we know and are capable of and encourages officers to seek training outside of our influence. This is a two-factor task. One it brings new ideas, concepts, and tactics to the department, and secondly, we all understand we do not know everything.

Officer Bailey attended the Wisconsin School Resource Officer's conference where he met with other Law Enforcement professionals from around Wisconsin to discuss current trends, emerging trends, new problems, and new solutions. While school and student safety is a paramount objective within the Mauston Police Department it is Officer Bailey that stands on that front line every day. Ensuring he is properly trained and equipped for this task will always be a priority.

Sometimes training is not simply enough. That is why all of us at the Mauston Police Department continue to look for the newest device, equipment, and tools to help us perform our duties efficiently and safely. While there always seems to be a new gimmick or slight change in existing equipment that some agencies use to justify a purchase, it really is with the concept of a new purpose or mission that we use to address the acquisition of new equipment. In 2025 we started to look for the future of law enforcement and what seems like a concept out of a sci-fi movie. We began implementation, training, and evaluation of AI report writing through a company called Karda. This allows officers to input their body camera video and AI will return a written report. This report is then proofread by the officer, and adjustments made before final submission. We also purchased a laser-based training pistol for use with the Mantis System. This allows a cost-effective alternative to live fire training. It functions as a normal firearm without the kick. It allows for thousands of rounds to be simulated with no additional cost. Since the implementation of the Mantis system, Officer Bailey for example has fired over 10,000 rounds.

Sometimes we experience a problem or difficulty that requires a new solution. Through changes in law, we found it to be increasingly difficult to prosecute certain drug cases. Sergeant Arenz set out to find a solution to continue to hold people accountable. One such difficulty resided within new instructions for jury's which required quantitative testing on certain categories of illegal drugs. As it stands the State of Wisconsin Crime lab does not perform quantitative testing.

Mauston Police Department

Sergeant Arenz found and contacted a company that produces a device called NirLight. Sergeant Arenz is currently in the evaluation and approval stage of our 60-day demo. The product is the first one in the State of Wisconsin. Sergeant Arenz has taken it upon himself to seek approval and legal recommendations from state agencies along with legal counsel. The device is manufactured from a company in Sweden, and it was initially designed for use by the Swedish Police Forces. The device not only provides a presence or absence for more than 250 substances currently, and is growing, but also provides quantitative results for many of those categories.

It is with fiscal responsibility in mind that we continue to advance our abilities. This is mostly done through grants whether they be from State or Federal sources. Through a grant by the State of Wisconsin, we were able to obtain a new PBT device. This device allows every patrol vehicle to have a device at their disposal with plans to apply again for another device so that we have spare equipment in the case of failure.

Mauston Police Department

Budget:

These are the actual fiscal numbers for parts the Mauston Police Department budget for the below listed years by line item. These numbers indicate what was actually spent, not what was budgeted but the last three columns.

Police	FY21 Actual	FY22 Actual	FY23 Actual	FY24 Budget	FY24 Actual	FY25 Budget	FY25 Actual	% Budget
100-00-52100-191-000 - Police Protective Cloth/Gear	9,204	6,431	8,776	11,750	7,984	11,750	10,127	86.19%
100-00-52100-213-000 - Police Legal	12,470	14,195	16,313	18,000	11,287	18,000	8,901	49.45%
100-00-52100-216-000 - Police Hire & Recruitment	1,823	-	594	500	1,344	500	645	128.95%
100-00-52100-217-000 - Police Investigations	10,875	7,218	17,463	15,000	8,250	15,000	7,001	46.67%
100-00-52100-217-100 - Police K9 Unit Expenses	1,573	1,685	1,494	2,000	11,349	2,000	950	47.50%
100-00-52100-217-900 - K-9 Unit Special Acct Expenses	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.00%
100-00-52100-217-300 - Fed Equity Share Expense	876	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.00%
100-00-52100-221-000 - PD Electricity	5,065	5,784	5,627	6,250	5,675	6,250	6,190	99.05%
100-00-52100-222-000 - PD Heating Gas	1,922	2,823	2,230	4,700	2,062	4,700	1,843	39.22%
100-00-52100-224-000 - Police Telephone/Fax	9,963	9,844	9,141	9,500	9,296	9,500	9,584	100.88%
100-00-52100-290-000 - Police Contractual Service	4,961	13,104	15,528	29,000	23,733	15,000	11,352	75.68%
100-00-52100-310-000 - Police Office Supplies	2,776	3,068	1,513	2,250	1,585	2,250	2,474	109.94%
100-00-52100-313-000 - Cleaning Supplies - PD	173	1,474	1,578	1,750	1,017	1,750	956	54.65%
100-00-52100-320-000 - Police Membership/Dues	130	525	200	500	350	500	600	120.00%
100-00-52100-321-000 - Police Publications	70	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.00%
100-00-52100-330-000 - Police Educ/Trng/Travel	7,174	19,830	10,949	15,000	13,500	15,000	18,862	125.75%
100-00-52100-331-000 - Police Motor Fuel	16,663	24,668	19,733	25,500	17,222	25,500	17,004	66.68%
100-00-52100-341-000 - Police Prof Equipt/Supplies	219,009	22,444	20,709	22,000	21,913	22,000	43,455	197.52%
100-00-52100-352-000 - Police Office Equip Maint/Service	2,363	3,184	3,767	2,750	2,708	2,750	434	15.79%
100-00-52100-353-000 - Police Info Tech	12,552	17,248	7,521	12,500	12,998	12,500	9,745	77.96%
100-00-52100-354-000 - Police Equipmnt Maint (Non Office)	5,444	4,295	4,426	6,000	5,293	6,000	5,757	95.95%
100-00-52100-361-000 - Police Building Maintenance	8,457	18,639	4,708	7,250	7,178	7,250	3,183	43.90%
100-00-52100-390-000 - Police Miscellaneous	153	79	1,422	500	50	500	158	31.50%
Grand Total	333,694	176,536	153,693	192,700	164,793	178,700	159,221	89.10%

Overall MPD came in under budget. The main reason for this was lack of staffing in one full time position and some yearly contractual items. The budgetary process was very consistent with almost 94% of the above budget used. MPD consistently from year to year closes it budget around this percentage. This is good to note, meaning the line items are a true reflection of what is needed regard resources. This is something every administrator/leader wants to see. This is an important process every year as the City of Mauston strives to be fiscally responsible with the funds it receives.

This again is only some of the line items within the Police Department budget but provides a good representation of the department's discretionary money.

Mauston Police Department

2025 Notable Events:

Chief Zilisch, SRO Bailey 20 Years of Service

In February, the department celebrated two career milestones. We honored SRO Chad Bailey and Chief Michael Zilisch for twenty years of dedicated service to the City of Mauston. SRO Bailey was a patrol officer for the first fifteen years of his career and has spent the last five years as the School Resource Officer for the Mauston School District. Chief Zilisch began his career as a patrol officer in 2002. He remained in that role until 2013 when he was promoted to Lieutenant. In 2015, then Lieutenant Zilisch was promoted to his current position as Chief of Police.

New Hire

In 2025, the Mauston Police Department was given the opportunity to add an additional officer position to our roster, giving us a total of eleven sworn personnel. In April, Officer Taylor Rakes was hired and began the field training process. In August, Officer Rakes completed his field training and began solo patrol.

Cop on a Rooftop

On May 16th, our department participated in Cop on a Rooftop to benefit Special Olympics. Our officers set aside their fear of heights and stood atop the Dunkin Donuts roof, encouraging people to stop in for a donut or coffee. While some were brave enough to climb to the roof, other members of our department delivered pre-orders of donuts throughout the city. We were also able to introduce the community to a rather hairy member of our department, Sgt. Squatch.

Detective Lueneburg 20 Years of Service

On May 21st, we celebrated another career milestone. Detective Richard Lueneburg was honored for his twenty years of dedicated service to the City of Mauston. Detective Lueneburg began his career in 2005 as a patrol officer, a position he held until 2017 when he was promoted to be our department's first Detective.

EVOC Training

Every two years, police officers are required to freshen up their driving skills and go through emergency vehicle operation training. This year, the owners of Dells Raceway Park were gracious enough to allow us access to their facility so we could train in a controlled environment. While we kept our vehicles away from the wall (and each other), we were able to gain valuable experience while driving at higher speeds.

Mauston Police Department

Ride With the Lights

On June 28th, four members of our department traveled to the Green Bay area to participate in the Police Lights of Christmas Ride with the Lights event. This event began at the Epic Center near Lambeau Field and ended 1.5 hours later at Wisconsin International Raceway. This event raised money for the Police Lights of Christmas organization.

Christmas in July

On July 18, some members of our department and their families attended the Green Bay Blizzard indoor football game. While there, they became “Elficers” to assist Q90FM and the Police Lights of Christmas at Santa’s Workshop. They constructed stuffed animals and put together gift bags for children in attendance.

Cops @ Culvers

On July 29th, our officers donned aprons and helped out at Culver’s of Mauston for Cops @ Culvers. This was another fundraising event promoted by Police Lights of Christmas. We worked the lunch and dinner shift, delivered food at the drive through, inside, and cleaned tables. We enjoyed meeting the many people who came out to support such a great cause.

Hatch Public Library Bike Rodeo

Sgt. Sanner and Officer Rakes helped with the Hatch Public Library Bike Rodeo. Unfortunately, due to weather, it was held in the basement of the library. Fortunately, due to the library’s remodel, there was plenty of room for the kids to decorate their bikes, test their skills on the obstacle course, deliver newspapers via bicycle, and sign up for fun raffles. While there were a couple of minor fender benders, our department was thankful we didn’t have to write any crash reports.

National Night Out

On August 5th, we hosted our first National Night Out event at the Juneau County Fairgrounds. National Night Out is a community event that aims to bring the community and first responders together. We were joined by area EMS, fire, and law enforcement agencies. Attendees were able to check out the gear we use, ask questions, and leave with goodie bags. We were also joined by the National Guard, food trucks, Soda Haven, and Chill’n Sweets

Mauston Police Department

Chief's Conference

Twice a year, our command staff attends the Wisconsin Chiefs of Police Association/Wisconsin Police Leadership Foundation conference. In the winter, the conference is held in Wisconsin Dells. In the summer, it is held in Green Bay. We are able to hear talks from nationally renowned speakers, critical incident debriefs, and legal updates. The command staff is able to network with executives from other agencies, troubleshoot common issues faced in the law enforcement community, and speak with vendors to learn about the latest gadgets available. The summer conference is particularly beneficial as it allows the command staff to get away from the day-to-day workload, compare notes, and regroup as a cohesive administration.

Parades

Throughout the year, our department helps plan and provides security for the various parades our citizens always look forward to enjoying. While it is a lot of work to ensure the safety of all, it is very rewarding to see the smiles on the faces of both the fans of the parade as well as the parade participants.

Mental Health Awareness Badges

In May of 2025, Jim Murphy of WRJC radio (with some encouragement of local citizens), arranged a telethon for local law enforcement agencies to be able to purchase green badges. The green badges symbolize Mental Health Awareness month which is in May of each year. We were able to purchase the badges with those funds and proudly displayed them on our uniforms in the month of September for the first time. You will see them again in May of 2026.

Halloween

Halloween is a time we most look forward to as a department. For years, we have situated ourselves on Milwaukee Street at Elm Street to hand out glow sticks and candy to all the ghosts and goblins running around. This year, we handed out over 1,000 glow sticks and thousands of pieces of candy. It seems Trick-or-Treating gets bigger every year which is a testament to our awesome community. We cannot confirm nor deny that our own department members may be responsible for some of the candy going missing.

Northern Lights

One of the perks of working night shift is our ability to catch a glimpse of the Northern Lights which seem to be visible more and more lately. In between calls for service and proactive policing, it is nice to slow down and take a moment to take in nature's beauty.

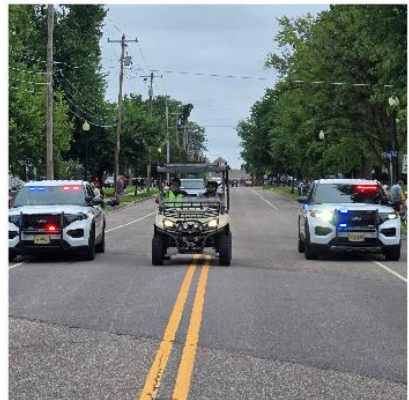
Mauston Police Department

Police Lights of Christmas

On December 2nd, our command staff traveled to Pulaski, WI for a Police Lights of Christmas fundraising “hand off” event. Throughout the year, the donated funds raised at events our department attended were tallied by Police Lights of Christmas. At the “hand off” event, the Police Lights of Christmas organization gave out \$300,000 in gift cards to 115 law enforcement agencies. This was the first year the Mauston Police Department participated in such a worthwhile cause. We look forward to being a part of these events in years to come. Our department received approximately \$2,500 in various gift cards to give out within our community and will be determining that process in the near future.

2025 was a lot of first regarding our Community Engagement focus. We are very proud of the engagement and look forward to 2026 as we continue to try and grow our outreach. MPD staff really enjoyed the interactions with the community.

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Mauston Police Department

YANA completed its first year which really showed the need and provided the department with great satisfaction, being able to provide a valuable tool to our community members.



MAUSTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

You Are Not Alone **YANA**

YANA is a free service offered by the Mauston Police Department for residents of the City of Mauston. If you are a senior citizen, live alone, are disabled, or just need someone to check in on you, ask how you can sign up!



For More Information about YANA:

Call 608.847.6363 or email pdclerk@mauston.com

Application forms are available at Mauston PD, Juneau County ADRC, or the Hatch Public Library.

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YANA is a free service offered by the Mauston Police Department for residents in the City of Mauston. This program is designed to provide scheduled phone contact to senior citizens, disabled persons, or anyone that can benefit from routine contact. The goal of this program is to provide a sense of security for those living alone as well as for loved ones of those living alone who may not live close by.

How does the program work?

From Monday through Friday, our clerical staff will call those enrolled in the program as desired at a predetermined time of day. If we are unable to make phone contact, we will attempt to call their emergency contacts or dispatch an officer to their residence to ensure they are ok. If the participant has a doctor's appointment or will otherwise not be home, simply let us know and we can adjust our time to call.

FAQ's:

Can I sign up my loved one? Yes, as long as they are aware you are doing so.

How often will I or my loved one receive a phone call? As often (once a day) or as little (once a week) as you'd like.

What if I am going on vacation, having family over, or don't wish to be contacted? We ask that you give our department a courtesy phone call to let us know your wishes and we will not attempt phone contact during that time.

Can I tell you where my house key is located in case you need to come in? Yes but it is not a requirement. We would keep a record of where your house key is hidden or stored (at a neighbor's house for example) and only use it in the event of an emergency or we feel we need to enter your home to make sure you are ok.

I'm not comfortable with a hidden key outside of my residence, can I give the police department a key to use if necessary? Yes. We will secure your house key at the Mauston Police Department and only utilize it to check on you in the event all other methods of contact are exhausted. This method is preferred.

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What time of day will you call? We can set a scheduled time from Monday through Friday 8:00am to 4:30pm to call that best suits your needs. Please remember, emergencies and other events that require our staff's immediate attention may delay our phone call. We would attempt to call within an hour of the predetermined time. Legal holidays will affect our calling.

What will we talk about? Anything you'd like to talk about! This program is designed as a general "check-in" with residents. We will ask how you are doing/feeling and if there is anything our police department can assist with. Our phone calls will normally last anywhere from one to three minutes.

The more we get to know the participant, the longer the phone call may last. Have a birthday coming up? Big win in your card club? We'd love to hear about that!

Will we call the emergency contacts if we cannot get ahold of the participant? Yes. The purpose of this program is to make contact with the participant to ensure their wellbeing. If we cannot make contact initially, we will utilize your emergency contacts. It is important your emergency contacts are aware they are listed with us and they should have a general knowledge of your day-to-day schedule.

This is a program that MPD is very passionate about and feel this is another way to provide to the community. In this instance we are giving back to a population that in many cases can be our most vulnerable: senior citizens, disabled persons, or anyone that can benefit from routine contact. Again, the "goal" of this program is to provide a sense of security for those living alone as well as for loved ones of those living alone who may not live close by.

This program provides those enrolled with a "sounding board" to ask for assistance, in many different categories. This type of program is the definition of Community Orientated Policing at its finest. We look forward to the program growing!

Mauston Police Department

Awards for Officers:

I truly believe rewarding great behavior and great employees is an absolute must for any organization. *In the arena of human life the honors and rewards fall to those who show their good qualities in action. – Aristotle*

With that being said, I have adopted the follow categories:

1. **Silver Star for Bravery** - The Silver Star is awarded for extraordinary heroism performed in the line of duty. It recognizes an officer whose act of courage goes above and beyond the call of duty.
2. **Law Enforcement Purple Heart** - The Police Purple Heart is issued to officers who are injured or disabled in the line of duty. Purple Heart recipients are eligible if they were required to seek professional medical attention and were out of work at least one week.
3. **Life Saving Award** - Issued to anyone whose actions saved the life of a fellow citizen in an emergency.
4. **Merit Award for Excellent Arrest** -This award is issued to law enforcement officers who make a notable arrest of a dangerous felon.
5. **General Commendation** - This award is issued to law enforcement officers whose actions deserve to be commended for an outstanding act during the performance of their duties.
6. **Honor Award for Public Service** - May be issued to law enforcement officers, elected officials or citizens whose leadership skills are outstanding in reducing crime or assisting departments in volunteer activities.
7. **Criminal Investigation Award** - In recognition of those detectives or investigators who are often not recognized for solving cases, yet are important in the investigation of all types of cases.
8. **Distinguished Police Service Award** - Recognizes law enforcement officers for honorable service (5 years minimum) and is normally issued at retirement.
9. **Correctional Officers Award** - Available for correction officers for 5 or more years of honorable service or for actions deemed noteworthy while performing their duty.
10. **John Edgar Hoover Memorial Award** - This award is issued to law enforcement officers who have successfully completed additional training to garner new skills in the field of criminal justice. It recognizes officers who continually seek a lifetime of education and advancement. It can also be issued to instructors or institutions who provide beneficial products or services to the law enforcement community.
11. **Knights of Justice Award** - This award is issued to the Good Samaritan who comes to the aid of those in need. Law enforcement officers automatically qualify as they put their life on the line every day they are on duty. Citizens involved as crime watch volunteers are also eligible.
12. **Civilian Medal of Appreciation** - This award is to thank a citizen for support of law enforcement by services or an act of valor. It can also be used to recognize private security whose actions aid local law enforcement officers.

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13. **K-9 Service Certificate*** - For the K-9 police dog that assists in the apprehension of criminals and the prevention of crime.

14. **K-9 Memorial Certificate*** - For the K-9 police dog killed in the line of duty.

This year we did not have any of these categories to issue to Officers.

Appendix 2025 Statistic report.

Please see attached document.