

Richland Center Police Department



2024

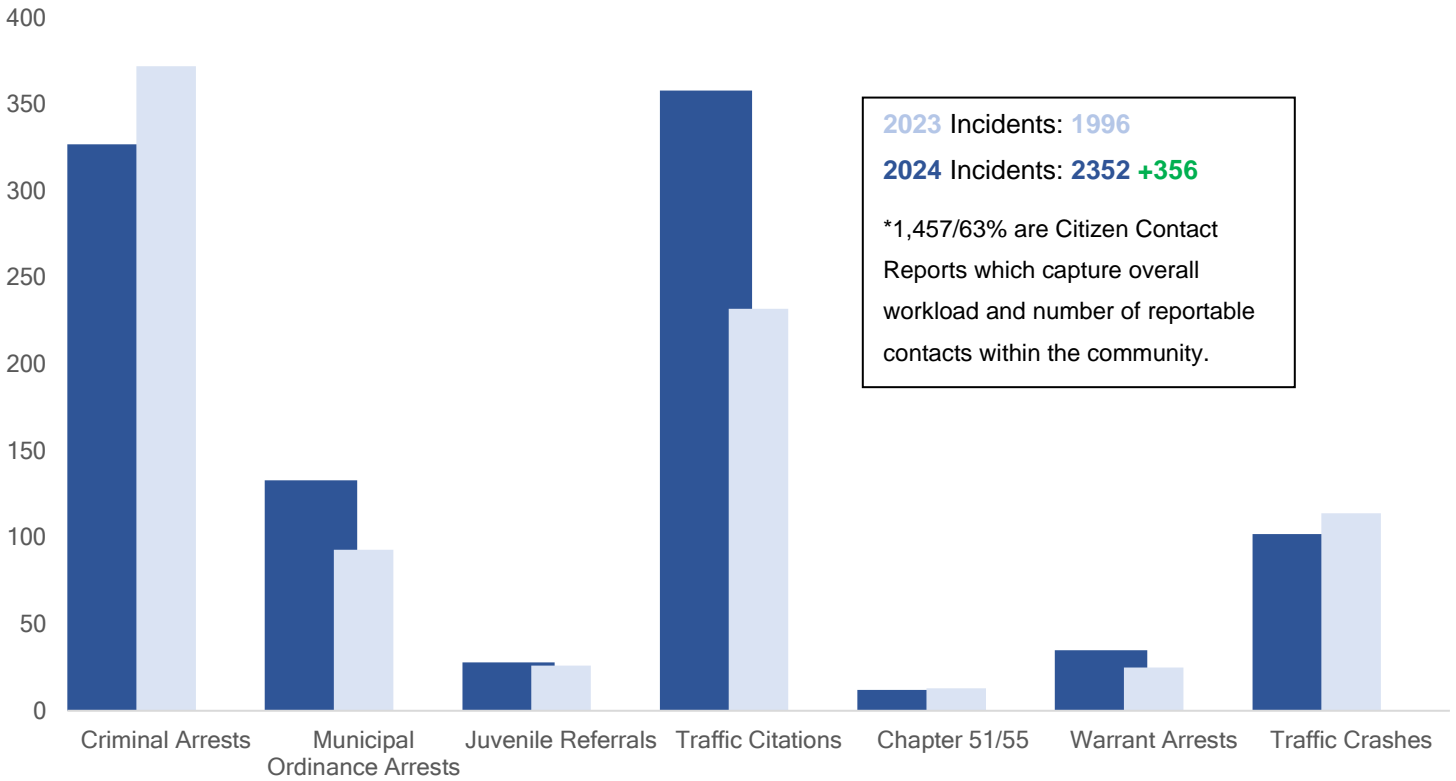


Annual Report

Billy J. Jones, Chief of Police

January 1-December 31st, 2024

2024 Patrol Statistics



2023 Incidents: 1996
 2024 Incidents: 2352 +356
 *1,457/63% are Citizen Contact Reports which capture overall workload and number of reportable contacts within the community.

Total Adult Cases = 1,877

Total Juvenile Cases = 444 (involve a juvenile in the reporting process)

2024 Top 10 Incident Call Types

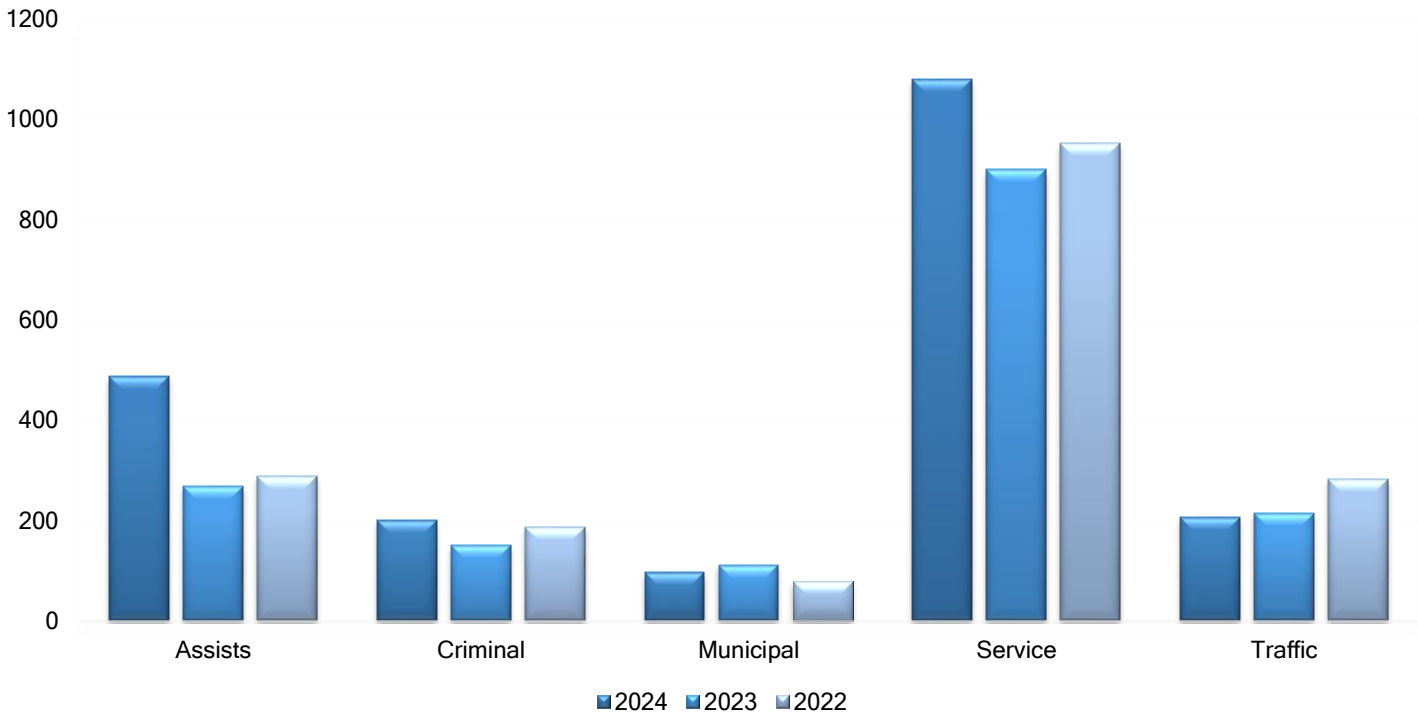
Information	658
Welfare Check	167
Vehicle Lockout	159
Suspicious Activity	143
Traffic Crash	103
Animal Complaint	97
Disorderly Conduct	74
Assist Richland EMS	71
Keep the Peace	66
Assist Richland County Sheriff's Department	65

3-Year Incident Comparison

Numbers are calculated by incident types with **30 or more** police calls in a calendar year for the following categories:

Assists, Criminal Arrests, Municipal Arrests, Service Calls, & Traffic

2022-2024



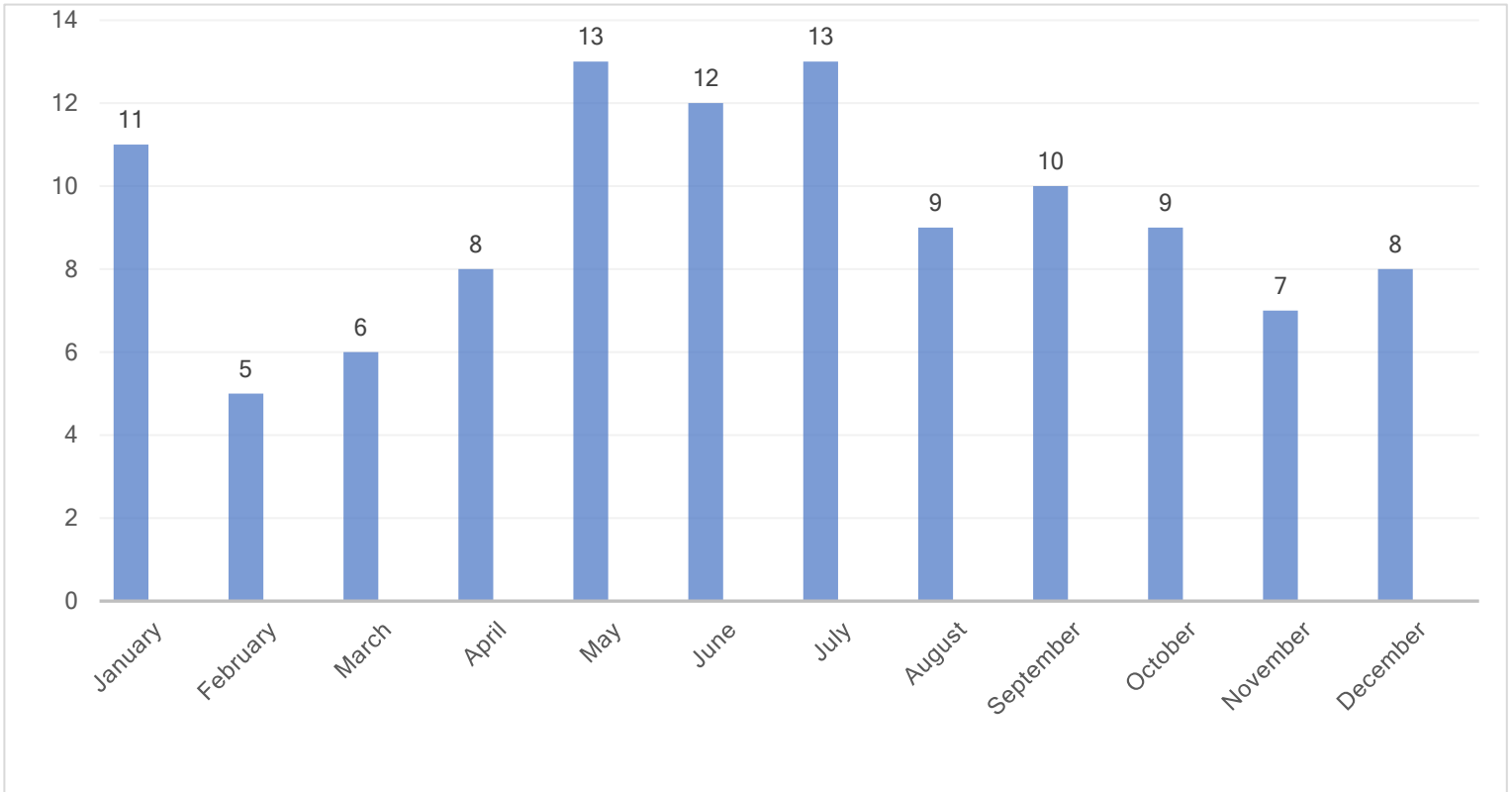
Totals* between 2022-2024

Policing Categories

<u>Assists</u>	<u>Criminal</u>	<u>Municipal</u>	<u>Service</u>	<u>Traffic</u>
Alarm 99	Bail Jumping 198	Animal Complaint 288	Civil Problem 181	Crash 308
Asst. EMS 158	Disorderly Conduct 166		Info. Report 1,826	Equip. Warn. 98
Asst. Motorist 79	Domestic DC 91		Noise Complaint 73	Speeding 319
Asst. P&P 113	Possess Drugs 83		Susp. Activity 322	
Asst RCSO 139	Retail Theft 102		Welfare Check 573	
Veh. Lockout 411				
Warrant Arrest 76				
Keep the Peace 167				

*incidents that have 30 or more calls for service per calendar year

Reported Accidents City-Wide



Parking Lot Accidents*

Wal-Mart	5
Kwik-Trip (Downtown)	6
Kwik-Trip (East)	3
McDonald's	3
Community Center	2

*Lots with 2 or more accidents

Street Related Accidents*

Park St.	3
Main St.	7
Main St. @ Seminary St.	3
US Highway 14	7
Church St.	2
Sextonville Rd.	2
Main St. @ Sixth St.	2
Sixth St.	3
Haseltine St.	2
Mill St.	3
Cedar St.	2

*Streets/Intersections with 2 or more accidents



Richland Center Police Department Financial Totals

Parking and Administrative Office

- **\$12.00** Parking Tickets \$10,567.00
- **\$20.00** Alternate Side Parking Tickets \$ 5,557.00
- **\$25.00** Snow Emergency Parking Tickets \$ 2,375.00
- **\$50.00** Handicap Parking Tickets \$ 200.00
- **Miscellaneous** (bike licenses, records requests*, copies, etc.) \$ 2,615.14 +\$2,517.72

Court ordered fines/fees paid to RCPD \$15,442.13

TOTAL funds collected & deposited with the City Treasurer: \$36,756.27

*As of January 1st, 2024, open records requests are charged a \$25.00 processing fee

Police Officer Years of Service & Rank

Full-Time

Officer Dan Pepich	28 years
Detective Jason Pilla	23 years
Chief Billy Jones	21 years
Lieutenant Lauren Moe	15 years
Officer Joe Nusse	15 years
K9 Officer Shawn Deneen	12 years
CRO Officer Jared Wilson	11 years
Officer Elizabeth Deitelhoff	10 years
K9 Officer Shaylyn Isaacson	5 years
Sergeant Nathan Coleman	3 years
Officer Michael Wiegel	1 year
Officer Nathen Fogo	.5 year

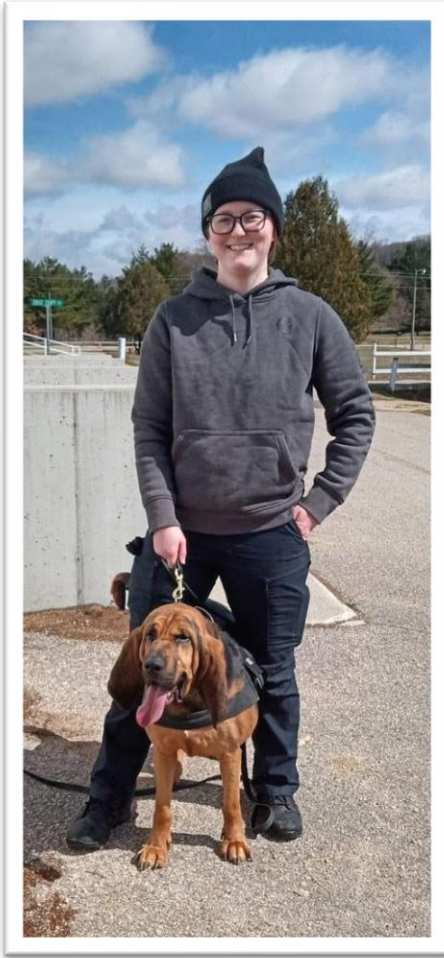
Part-Time

Officer Chad Kanable	4 years
Officer Isaac Gerber	4 years
Officer Chris Schildgen	1 year
Officer Tyler Barr	1 year

SPECIAL TEAMS & DEPARTMENT ACTIVITIES

K9 Unit- Update

K9 Lucy & Officer Shaylyn Isaacson



The Richland Center Police Department K9 program was first introduced in 2020 with the addition of K9 Lucy. Officer Shaylyn Isaacson adopted K9 Lucy who is a tracking bloodhound and can be used to search for missing and deceased parties. During the year of 2024, K9 Lucy did not receive any requests for deployment. However, K9 Lucy and Officer Isaacson continue to stay up to date with tracking training.

With the help of our community and local businesses, our K9 program continues to grow and participate in new learning opportunities and trainings. K9 Lucy is featured on a BBQ sauce served at a local restaurant, Pine River Smoke Company.

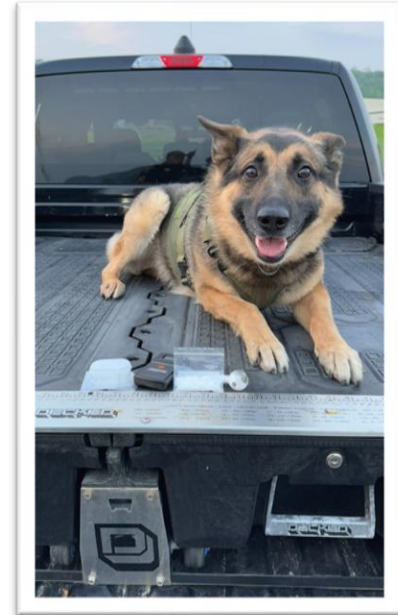
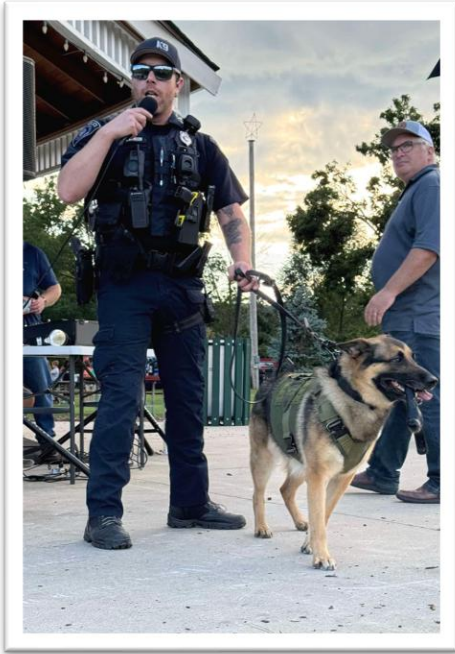
The restaurant serves a menu item named "Doug's Dawgs," and when purchased, they donate part of the proceeds to the RCPD K9 fund. This is one example of the many community members that support K9 Lucy and K9 Teddy, in which we are incredibly grateful for!



K9 Unit- Update

K9 Teddy & Officer Shawn Deneen

Officer Deneen and K9 Teddy continued with a successful year in 2024. Numerous narcotic arrests were contributed to K9 Teddy when Teddy was deployed on traffic stops by Officer Deneen. This included Methamphetamine, Cocaine, and illegal firearms. Teddy was deployed for two high risk calls; once commands were given that the K9 would be deployed, the suspects surrendered without further incident.



Officer Deneen and K9 Teddy took part in two major K9 conferences in 2024. The first was the Southern Police K9: K9 Street Survival, a 3-day Conference in Sauk County. K9 Teddy also took part in the Wisconsin Law Enforcement Canine Handlers Association (WLECHA) conference in Fond Du Lac, WI.

K9 Teddy took part in two competitions at the conference. One was a 'Patrol Challenge' in which the K9's are tasked with locating a person in a large building. Teddy was able to locate the party in approximately 30 seconds, hidden in the ceiling. K9 Teddy also took place in the 'Narcotics Challenge' where the K9's are tasked with locating as many hidden narcotics as they can in 3 minutes. K9 Teddy was able to locate five hidden narcotics, which placed him tied for second place amongst approximately 150 K9's!



Officer Deneen continues training and networking throughout Wisconsin. K9 Teddy has gained a reputation in the K9 community as a high quality, dependable police K9. In 2023, K9 Teddy was requested as one of the first dogs to enter the search area for James Yblonski, a 13-year-old boy who went missing in Sauk County. Teddy was specifically requested because of his reputation as an excellent human tracker. This networking has led to dozens of relationships with departments throughout Wisconsin and the Midwest.

Community Resource Officer (CRO)- Update

Officer Wilson started his second year as the Community Resource Officer for the Richland School District. This position has continued to have a positive impact on the school district and community. Violations are down this year in comparison to last year, and more specifically, possession of vape violations are down 77% when comparing the fall semester of 2023 to the fall semester of 2024. Officer Wilson attributes this to the district partnering with Richland County Crimestoppers to install over 30 vape detectors throughout the High School and Intermediate School. The vape detectors alert Officer Wilson and school principals when a person uses a vape device and have been a powerful deterrent in keeping vape devices out of the school district.



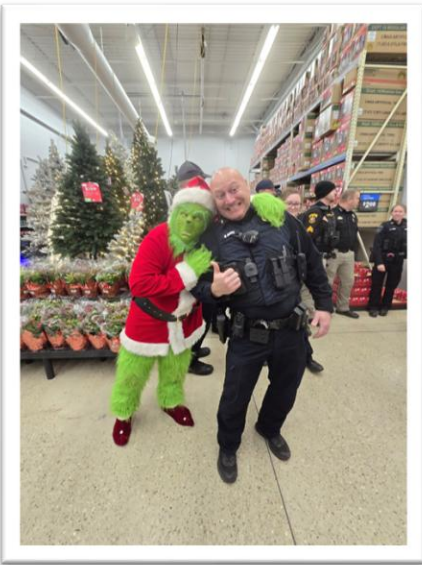
Officer Wilson continues to visit classrooms to discuss topics like deviant behavior, court cases and their outcomes, and taught a Trigonometry lesson about cosine and how it is used in police radar for traffic enforcement. Officer Wilson also assisted the Richland Primary School in “locating” their missing Gingerbread man. He plans to continue his Ride to School with Officer Wilson program at the Intermediate School, in which a student

from each grade is selected by staff based on academic achievement, excellent behavior, or a student in which staff believes could benefit from connecting with Officer Wilson.



Shop with a Cop- Update

Shop with a Cop program strives to create a positive interaction between law enforcement and the community by helping economically disadvantaged children shop for gifts for their families during the holiday season and is completely reliant upon public donations.



Staff members from the Richland and Ithaca School Districts nominate families that they feel are at an economic disadvantage for the holiday season. Shop with a Cop occurred on December 2, 2024. With donations from the Salvation Army and Walmart, we were able to assist 8 families (25 children) in shopping for items for the holiday season.



P.E.A.T Program- Update

After a successful first year with the P.E.A.T. Program, we are excited to continue to teach in the Richland Center School District and at St. Mary's School.

P.E.A.T. stands for **P**olice, **E**ducation, **A**ddiction and **T**ools. The program's mission is to educate youth about police officers and their roles within the community, provide educational information about the effects of using drugs, alcohol and violence, and provide tools to work through real life situations. A Parent Involvement sheet with some resources that can help with speaking with children about drugs, alcohol, and violence is sent home at the beginning of each session.

In 2023-2024, Officer Deitelhoff and Officer Wilson taught approximately 75 students in the sixth grade. The program is 4 weeks in length covering topics of drug education, vaping and addiction and tools for thinking that help students learn tools to *think through* real life situations. The students have one assignment during the session and that is to complete an advertisement for a safe, legal, and fun activity of their choice. This allows the students to use their creative thinking skills to think about something they like to do and to share it with their classmates.

The students did an outstanding job creating safe, legal, and fun advertisements. Each section of students, 4 in total at the Intermediate School and 1 at St. Mary's school, were judged on five (5) criteria. The criteria included the ability for staff and officers to recognize the activity, use of space, creativity, color, effort, neatness and presentation.



As part of the short verbal presentation, the students were asked to answer the following questions:

- What is their activity of choice?
- How does it make you feel?
- How would others feel if they joined you in the activity?

In the 2024-2025 school year, we are teaching close to 80 sixth grade students between the Richland Center Intermediate School and St. Mary's School. We taught about half of the students in October 2024 and have the Spring sessions scheduled for March and April 2025. As we end our sessions this Spring, we have partnered with Richland County Partners for Prevention and the Richland County Children and Family Advocacy Council and the Galaxie Skate Center to provide a safe, legal, and fun activity for the students in recognition of successfully completing the program.

National Night Out (NNO)

This was the 4th annual National Night Out (NNO) and 2024 was a fun filled event. For the first time, first responders from Richland County Fire/EMS and Richland Center/Richland County Law Enforcement participated in the 1st Annual First Responder Challenge!

The 2025 NNO event is already being planned and will be hosted at the Richland County Fairgrounds.



