

# Ridgeway Marshal's Office

208 Jarvis Street, Suite B Ridgeway, WI 53582  
Marshal Michael J. F. Gorham

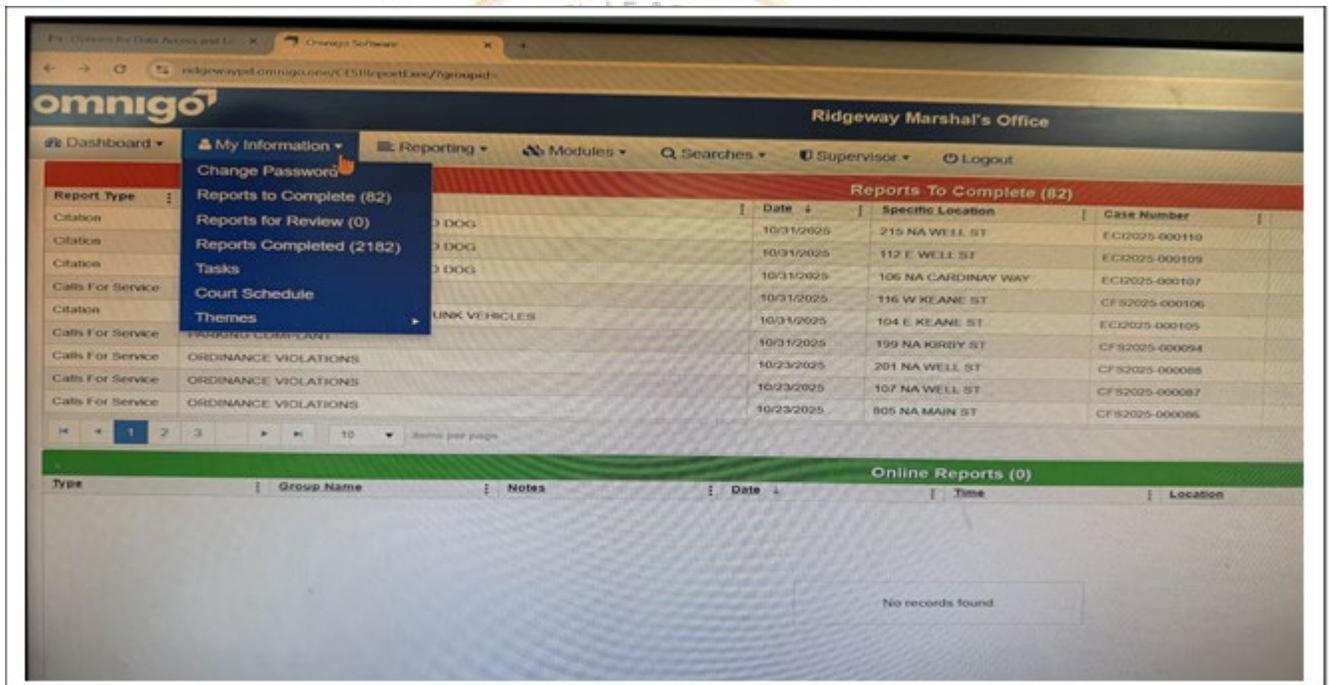
November 4, 2025

Village President, Brad Butler  
Village Board of Trustees, Ridgeway  
208 Jarvis Street  
Ridgeway, WI 53582

## October 2025 Monthly Report

### Report Submission Update

The delay in submitting this monthly report should now be resolved, following the recent restoration of the Iowa County Sheriff's Office report management software. With the outage addressed, timely report submissions are expected moving forward.



*"Partnership of Service and Protection"*  
Office: 608-924-1030 (voicemail) 24 Hour Dispatch: 608-930-9500  
[marshal@ridgewaywi.gov](mailto:marshal@ridgewaywi.gov)

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## Data Entry Backlog

One significant challenge that remains is the backlog of data entry from the Iowa County Sheriff's Office (ICSO) into our system. To provide context, since 2019, I have completed 2,182 reports. However, there are still 82 reports pending entry and completion. This backlog is a time-consuming and tedious task, which unfortunately reduces available patrol time.

## Squad Car Maintenance Issues

Another pressing issue involves the squad car, which is nearing ten years old and is showing signs of wear and tear. Notably, there is an ongoing electrical drain that consumes power even when the vehicle is turned off. As a result, I have had to jump-start the squad frequently—a situation that has become an ongoing source of humor among my colleagues at the Sheriff's Office. The squad currently has 101,000 miles and over 6,000 hours of engine time.

## Community Concerns and Anonymous Letter

I would also like to address an anonymous letter received, which accused me of ignoring ordinance violations and alleged dereliction of duty. While receiving such correspondence from the public is often upsetting—especially when it is not well-informed—it is essential to recognize this as a demonstration of the constitutional right to criticize government without fear of retribution. I suspect the author chose anonymity to avoid criticism from fellow citizens.

In response, I am deliberate about the information I share in public forums, particularly given the contentious nature of today's social media platforms. Even on our local Ridgeway community page, I frequently encounter snarky comments and neighbor disputes. Sharing a police blotter would likely exacerbate tensions. Instead, I publish a monthly report to the board and invite citizens to meet with me for open dialogue and transparency.

Ridgeway is a small community of approximately 650 people. My original goal was to recreate an atmosphere similar to fictional "Mayberry RFD," especially after previous administrations had enforced heavy-handed policing practices. Achieving balance has been my primary focus, with a strong emphasis on prioritizing problem-solving, policing, and enforcement for significant events.

## Ordinance Enforcement Practices

Regarding the specific concerns raised in the anonymous letter, I addressed the residence on Main Street with the owner in question, and matters relating to the Well Street Properties are also being managed, though the owner was currently hospitalized. While I have received criticism for my approach to ordinance enforcement, it is essential to note that these are local violations and are considered low-priority within the criminal justice system—comparable to visiting the emergency room for a minor cold. Other issues remain a higher priority.

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A key takeaway is that Ridgeway may benefit from reconsidering its approach to ordinance enforcement, possibly moving away from relying on sworn law enforcement officers for such matters. Additionally, some ordinance language is vague and difficult to interpret. For example, section 9.09(2) states: "Clutter shall be determined by a signed or verified complaint about materials being left lying around a house." This vagueness has led to confusion in the past, such as when a property owner requested to see the signed complaint. Ted Frank, our current prosecuting attorney, has advised that my letter to the violator now serves as the signed, verified complaint.

## Transition of Policing Responsibilities

Finally, I continue to work on the transition of policing responsibilities, which will presumably be handled by the Iowa County Sheriff's Office in the future.

Respectfully,

Michael J. Gorham  
Village Marshal



*"Partnership of Service and Protection"*

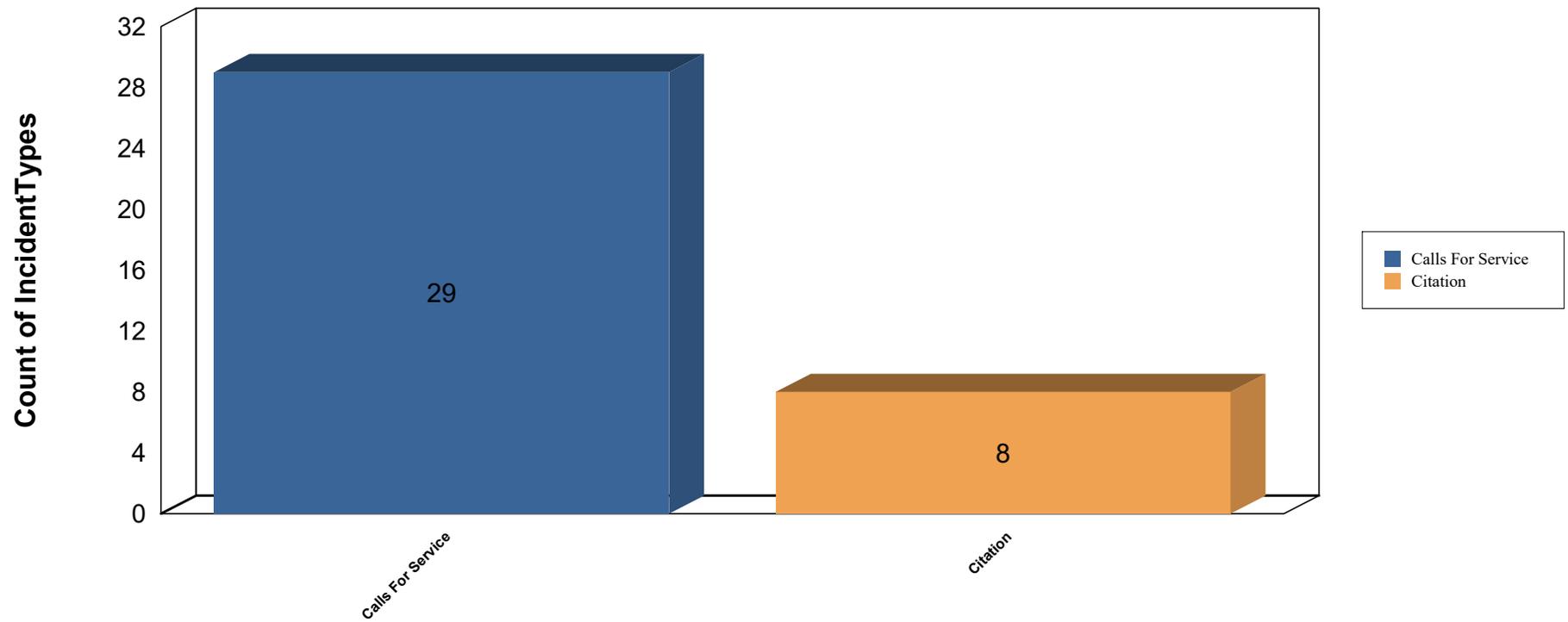
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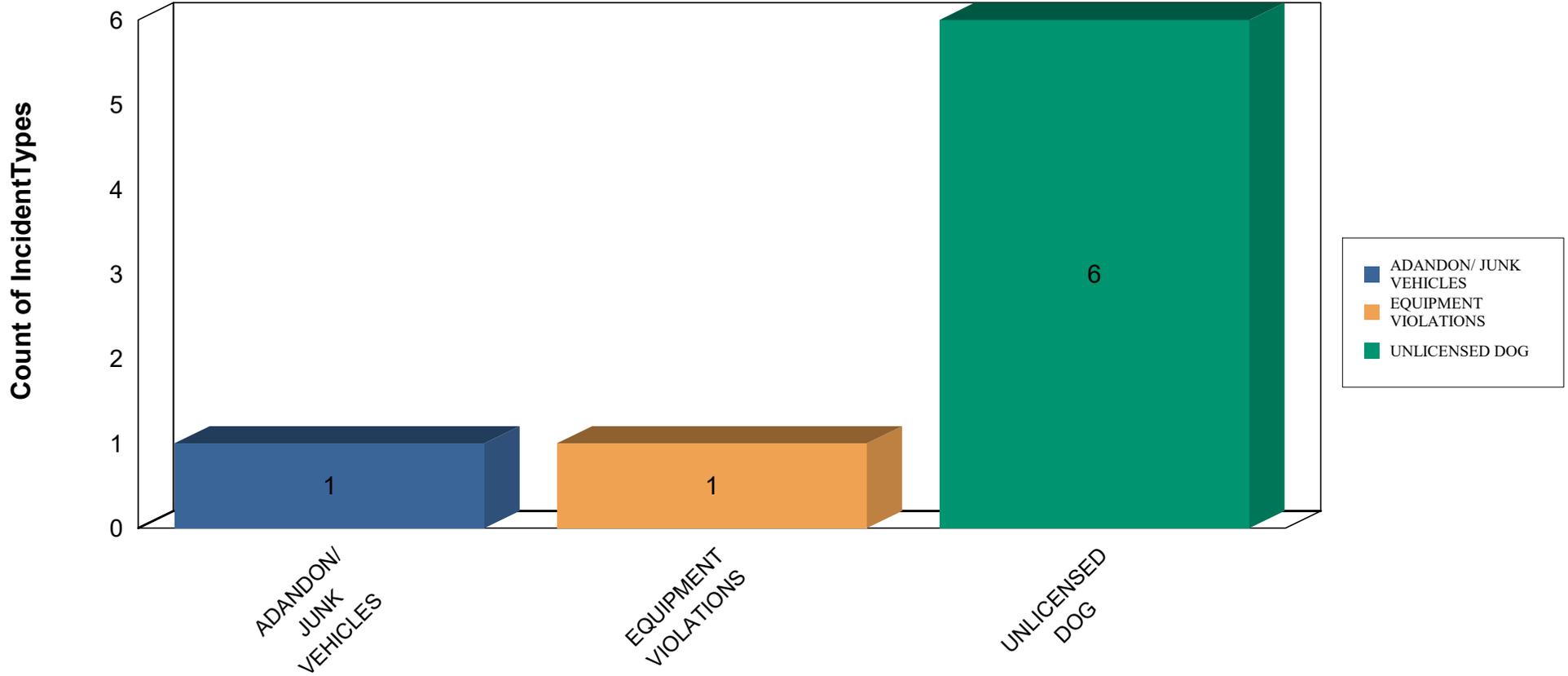
# Ridgeway Marshal's Office

Statistics from: 10/1/2025 12:00:00AM to 10/31/2025 11:59:00PM

## Count of Reports Completed



# Count of Incident Types



12.50% # of Reports: 1 Citation ADANDON/ JUNK VEHICLES

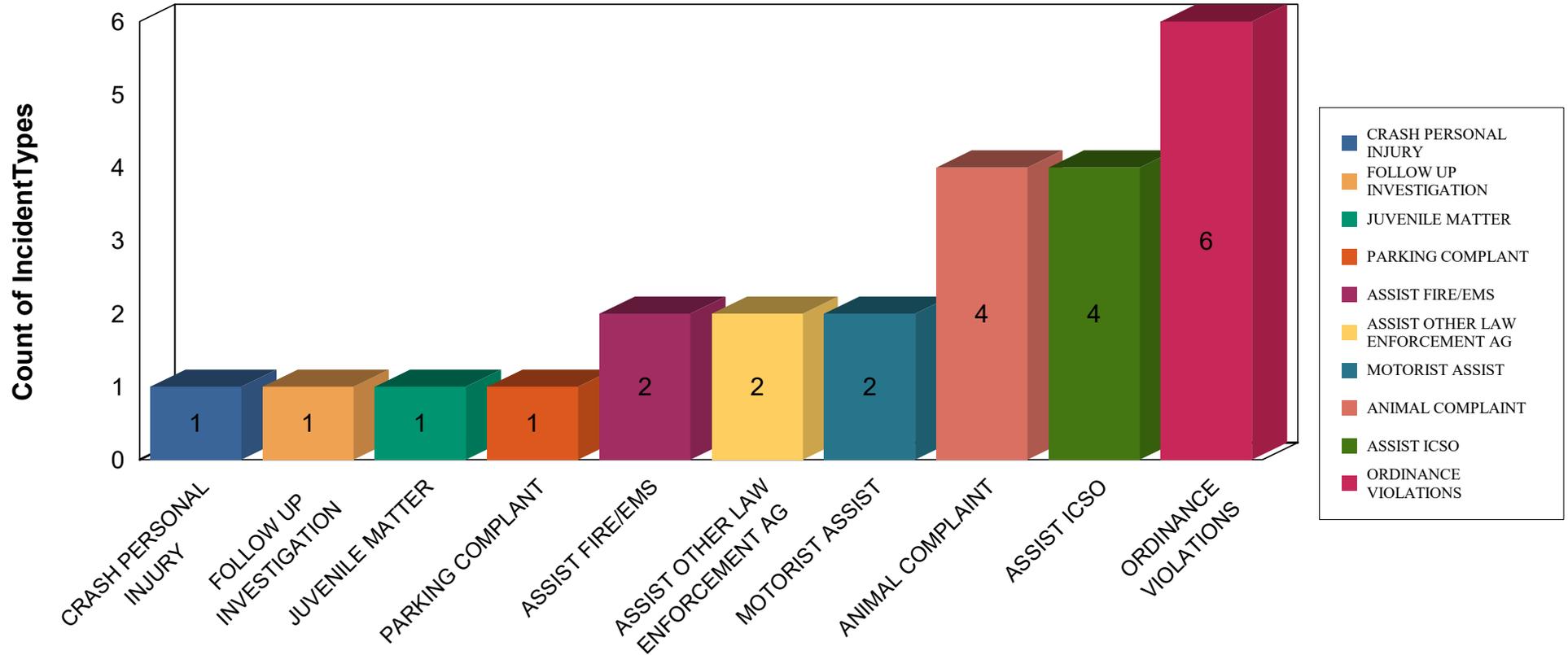
12.50% # of Reports: 1 Citation EQUIPMENT VIOLATIONS

75.00% # of Reports: 6 Citation UNLICENSED DOG

**Grand Total: 100.00% Total # of Incident Types Reported: 8 Total # of Reports: 8**

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# Count of Incident Types



3.45% # of Reports: 1 Calls For Service CRASH PERSONAL INJURY

3.45% # of Reports: 1 Calls For Service FOLLOW UP INVESTIGATION

3.45% # of Reports: 1 Calls For Service JUVENILE MATTER

3.45% # of Reports: 1 Calls For Service PARKING COMPLANT

6.90% # of Reports: 2 Calls For Service ASSIST FIRE/EMS

6.90% # of Reports: 2 Calls For Service ASSIST OTHER LAW ENFORCEMENT AG

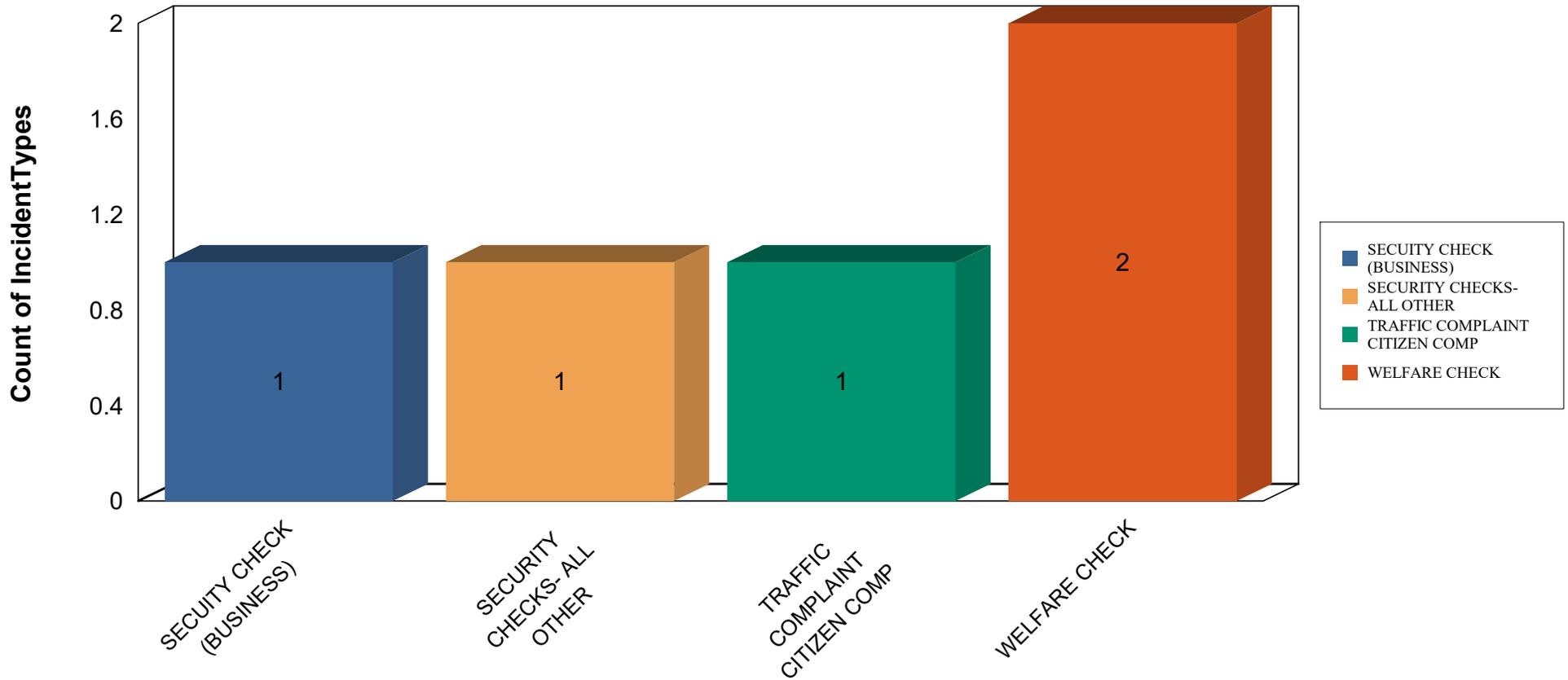
6.90% # of Reports: 2 Calls For Service MOTORIST ASSIST

13.79% # of Reports: 4 Calls For Service ANIMAL COMPLAINT

13.79% # of Reports: 4 Calls For Service ASSIST ICSSO

20.69% # of Reports: 6 Calls For Service ORDINANCE VIOLATIONS

# Count of Incident Types



3.45% # of Reports: 1 Calls For Service SECURITY CHECK (BUSINESS)

3.45% # of Reports: 1 Calls For Service SECURITY CHECKS- ALL OTHER

3.45% # of Reports: 1 Calls For Service TRAFFIC COMPLAINT CITIZEN COMP

6.90% # of Reports: 2 Calls For Service WELFARE CHECK

**Grand Total: 100.00% Total # of Incident Types Reported: 29 Total # of Reports: 29**

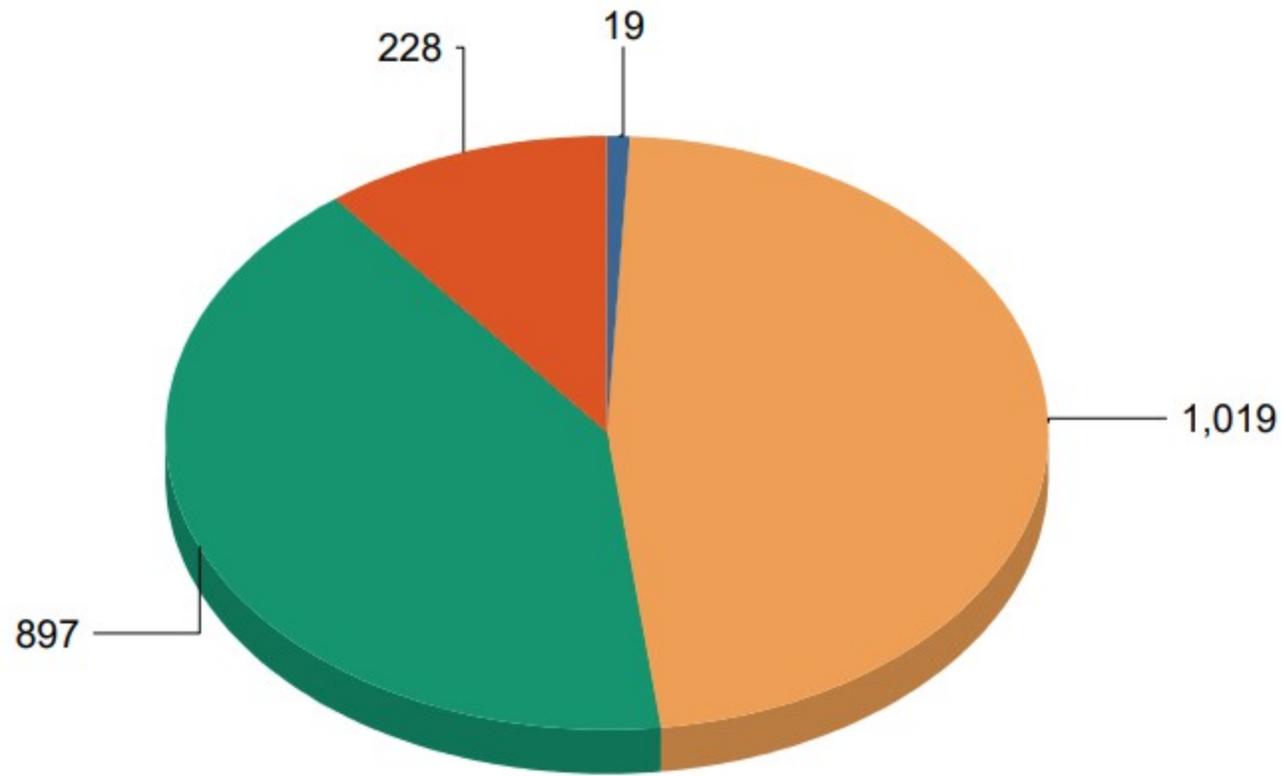
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**Grand Total: 100.00% Total # of Incident Types Reported: 37**

## Ridgeway Marshal's Office

Statistics from: 10/13/2018 12:00:00AM to 10/13/2025 11:59:00PM

### Count of Reports Completed

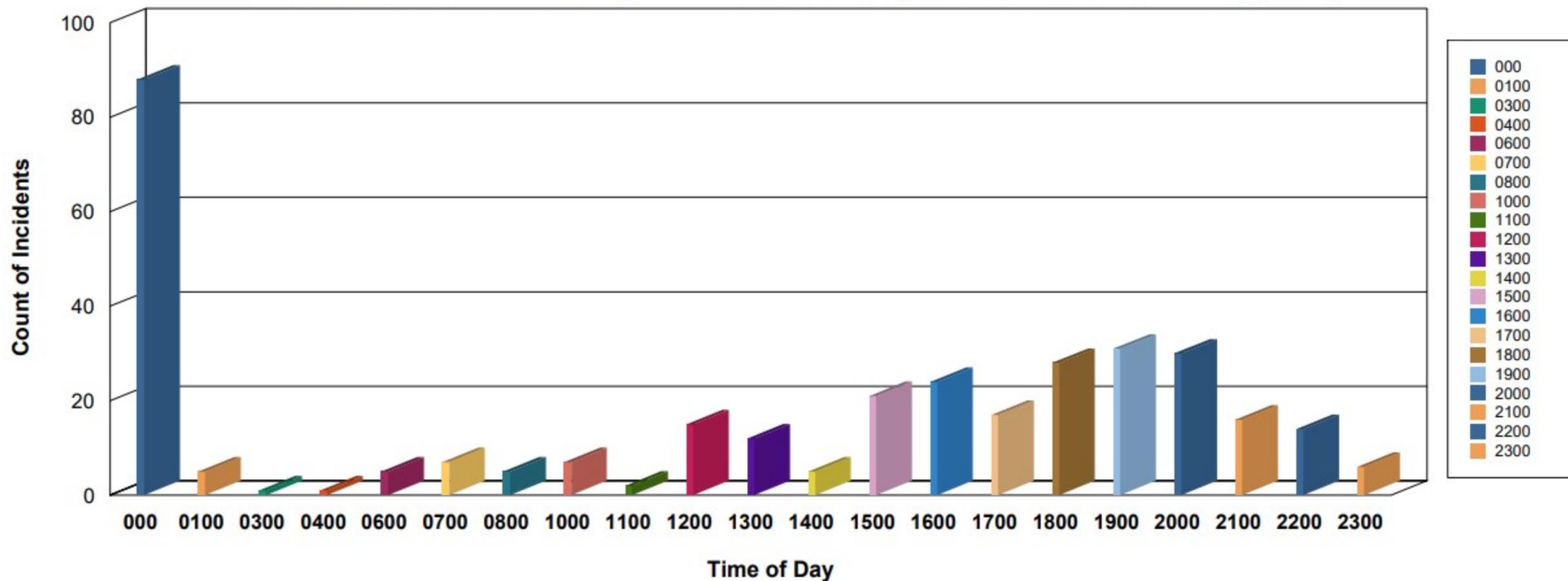


BEAT INFO	19	0.9%
Calls For Service	1,019	47.1%
Citation	897	41.5%
Incident Report	228	10.5%
<b>Total:</b>	<b>2,163</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

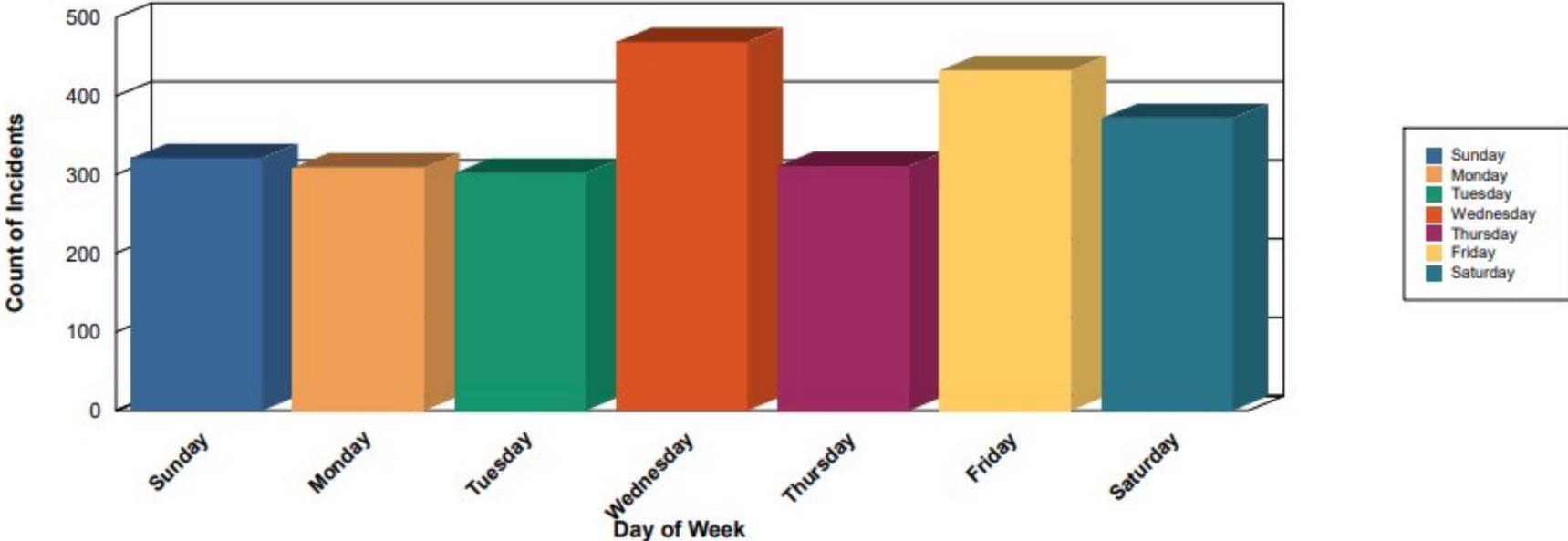
Statistics from Occurred Date: 10/13/2018 12:00:00AM to 10/13/2025 11:59:00PM

Incident Report

### Count of Incidents by Time of Day (For All Incident Types)



### Count of Incidents by Day of Week



Total Count for <b>Sunday</b> : 321
Total Count for <b>Monday</b> : 309
Total Count for <b>Tuesday</b> : 302
Total Count for <b>Wednesday</b> : 469
Total Count for <b>Thursday</b> : 311
Total Count for <b>Friday</b> : 433
Total Count for <b>Saturday</b> : 372

**Total Number of Incident Types : 2,517**  
**Total Number of Reports : 324**

# Daily Events Average By Day

## Ridgeway Marshal's Office

Report Range : 10/13/2018 12:00 AM To 10/13/2025 11:59 PM

Report Title :

