



SWEET HOME POLICE DEPARTMENT
CHIEF OF POLICE
 1950 Main Street
 Sweet Home, OR 97386
 (541) 367-5181 Fax (541) 367-5235

	This Month	Last Month	Last Year	Year to Date	5 Year
	03/31/2021	02/28/2021	03/31/2020	03/31/2021	2020-01979
Call Volume	674	642	658	2020-01979	2040
CAD Calls	1453	1266	1286	4070	4131
ONIBR Person Crimes	16	13	7	49	40
ONIBR Person Crimes Cleared	14	10	6	38	26
ONIBR Property Crimes	33	44	45	103	124
ONIBR Property Crimes Cleared	8	16	13	29	43

Trends:

Since April of 2020 we have tried to track some of the implications that COVID-19 may have had on a variety of calls for service. We have been trying to determine what effects the current pandemic situation has on them. The calls that we are monitoring include thefts, domestic violence calls, child abuse calls (physical and sexual), suicide calls, mental health calls and burglaries. Below is a comparison of those types of calls between the first quarter of 2020 and the first quarter of 2021.

	1st Quarter 2021	1st Quarter 2020	Difference		
Domestic Violence/Dispute Calls	125	105	20		19.05%
Child Abuse(Physical/Sexual)	123	86	37		43.02%
Suicidal Calls	31	13	18		138.46%
Mental Health Calls	120	31	89		287.10%
Burglary	5	8	-3		-37.50%

Several of these calls raise significant concerns for our community. Those include the mental health calls, suicidal calls and child abuse calls for service. The calls that are listed under the mental health calls can be subjective in nature. These are the calls where the officer that is responding believes that the mental health of the person associated with the call has played a significant part in the PD having to respond. Not all of these calls result in any type of law enforcement action being taken. In order to attempt to address the increase in these calls, CSO Morgan and I have been in contact with Linn County Mental Health. Our intent is to work with Linn County Mental Health on a regular basis (ideally weekly) and attempt some additional outreach and follow-up with certain individuals that we are having repeated contacts with.

Our increased engagement with Linn County Mental Health may also help us address the increase in calls involving individuals believed to be suicidal. The same type of follow-up may benefit those individuals as well.

May is designated as Mental Health Awareness Month which is appropriate and timely for our increased calls for service associated with it. Throughout May, our hope will be to raise awareness about Mental Health and ensure that individual know that they are not alone.

The final concern regarding the pandemic's potential impact seen in our calls for service are associated with reports of child abuse. The concern is that our calls of this nature have increased 43% between the first quarter of 2021 compared to the first quarter of 2020. Not all of these cases are substantiated for any type of abuse, whether that is physical or sexual. Many involve concerns for the welfare or safety of a child and do not equate to abuse. Some encouragement can be taken from this increase. That is the simple fact that citizens are continuing to call and report potential concerns for children. Many other inferences can be made as to why the calls have increased but it is difficult to identify the exact problem.

Staffing remains an issue for our Department. We are currently in the process of filling two open police officer positions. We have several background investigations going on and are still actively recruiting other potential applicants. These positions are in addition to one other that has been filled, but the officer is still in our field training program. In essence, we are down three patrol officers.

The good news is that Officer Ean Mason has completed the DPSST Police Academy and is back at the Department training with a field training coach. Upon his graduation, Officer Mason received the Outstanding Health & Fitness Award for his Basic Police Class BP405. This award is presented to the individual who excels in the area of physical fitness. We are very proud of Ean and look forward to his continued success in his public safety career.

Person Crimes are defined as:

	<u>Mar-21</u>	<u>Mar-20</u>
Assault(All)	4	4
Child Neglect	0	0
Criminal Homicide	0	0
Elder Abuse	0	0
Forcible Rape	0	0
Harassment	4	1
Menacing	2	0
Other Sex Offense	2	0
Person All Other	1	1
Strangulation	1	0
Violation Court Stalking Order	0	0
Violation Restraining Order	2	1
	16	7

Property Crimes are defined as:

	<u>Mar-21</u>	<u>Mar-20</u>
Arson	0	0
Burglary	1	4
Criminal Mischief	6	5
Forgery	0	0
Fraud	6	1
Motor Vehicle Theft	0	2
Reckless Burning	0	0
Recovered Stolen	0	0
Robbery	20	33
Theft		
	33	45



Oregon

Kate Brown, Governor

Department of Public Safety Standards and Training

4190 Aumsville Hwy SE
Salem, OR 97317-8981

4/2/2021

Chief Jeffrey Lynn
Sweet Home Police Department
1950 Main Street
Sweet Home, OR 97386

Dear Chief Lynn,

I am pleased to inform you that Police Officer Ean Mason is the recipient of the Outstanding Health & Fitness Award for Basic Police Class BP405. This award is presented to the individual who excels in the area of physical fitness.

It is important that our public safety professionals attain and maintain a high level of physical fitness, which will enable them to perform their jobs of providing emergency services to others. Police Officer Mason has demonstrated an understanding of the importance of physical fitness in his chosen career and serves as a role model for other public safety professionals.

Our compliments on the award recipient's achievement and wish continued success in their public safety career.

Sincerely,

Lindsay Hale

Professional Standards/Interim Training Division Director
Department of Public Safety Standards and Training
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