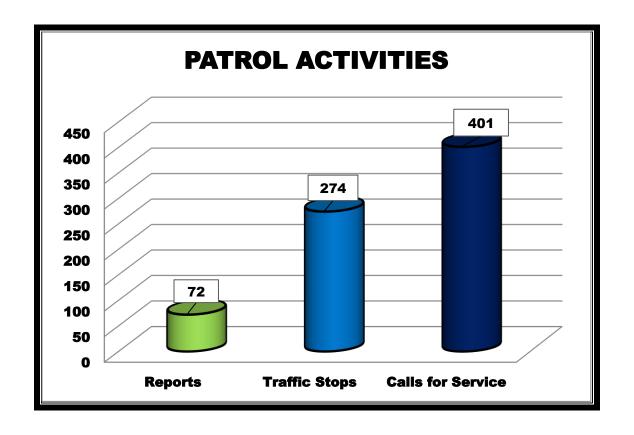
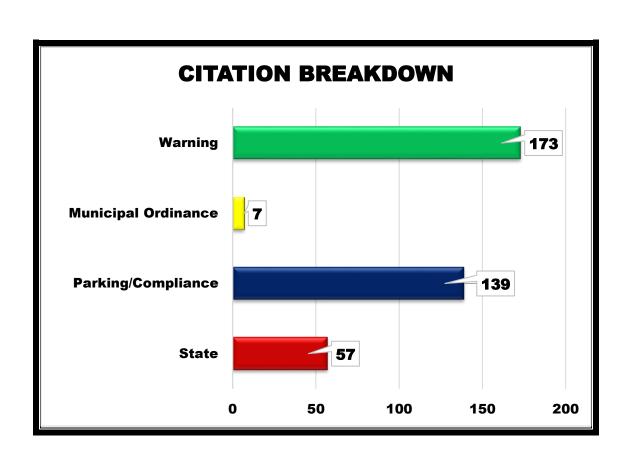
THORNTON POLICE DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORT MAY 2025

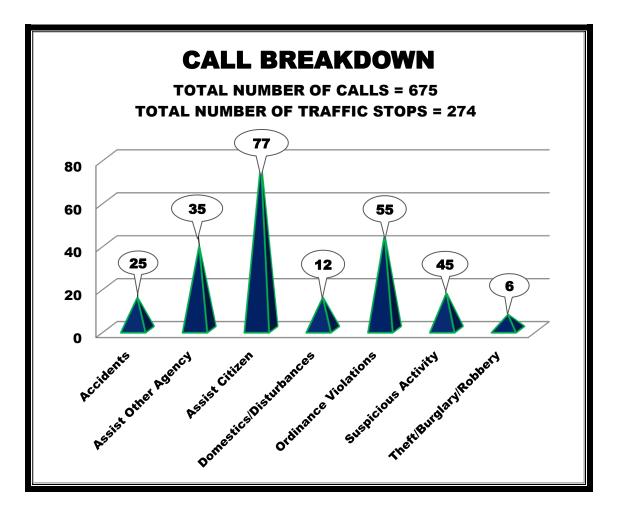


SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- > Call 911 if you see any suspicious activity.
- > Due to the increased number of burglaries to motor vehicle and stolen vehicle in the South Suburbs, residents are to remove all valuables from the vehicle and lock the vehicle upon exiting.







Notable Incidents

While conducting stationary patrol at Armory and State Street, a Thornton Officer observed a black sports car speeding northbound on State. The vehicle turned west on Armory and shut off its lights upon spotting the patrol car, then fled at a high rate of speed. Officers followed and located the vehicle abandoned behind a building near 172nd Street. The driver, described as a male with dreadlocks, fled on foot into nearby woods. A check of the Indiana temporary tag revealed it was stolen, and the vehicle itself was confirmed stolen out of Orland Park. Officers from South Holland and Orland Park, along with a K9 unit from Country Club Hills, assisted in searching the area. A drone was deployed but the suspect was not located. The stolen vehicle, linked to a fraudulent purchase exceeding \$280,000, was recovered and towed for processing. Minor property damage to a power pole and utility box was also reported in the area.

While on patrol, a Thornton officer observed a Dodge Charger driving in the wrong lane on Margaret Street. The driver disregarded a red light and fled at a high rate of speed, reaching approximately 100 mph northbound on State Street. The vehicle turned off its tail lights during the flight, and the pursuit was terminated near 153rd Street. Riverdale Police later initiated their own pursuit with the same vehicle, which was eventually terminated near I-94 and 130th Street. South Holland Police located the vehicle via license plate recognition, and it was entered into LEADS as wanted for Aggravated Fleeing and Eluding.

A Thornton Officer observed a male yelling at two females outside a convenience store while refueling a squad car. The disturbance stemmed from a verbal argument between the male and his girlfriend following an outing. Both parties admitted to shoving one another, but no one claimed injury or identified the initial aggressor. The male had a legally owned firearm in his vehicle, which was verified and secured during the investigation. Officers provided domestic violence information sheets to all involved. The females left in a rideshare, and the male was released at the scene.

Officers responded to a report of a suspicious vehicle that had been parked for several hours. A white Mitsubishi SUV was located and found occupied by a non-English speaking male. A Spanish speaking officer assisted with translation. The driver claimed he was in the area looking for work and frequently visited Thornton with friends. He consented to a search of his person and vehicle, which yielded no contraband. He was advised to leave the area. Further investigation revealed the driver is a known associate of a suspect involved in a prior drive-by shooting in the area. An extra patrol watch was requested.

Officers responded to a report of a loose, aggressive Pitbull in a front yard. Upon arrival, the dog charged at an officer, who successfully repelled it using OC spray. The dog fled to the backyard and did not return. Attempts to contact the residents were unsuccessful. The dog's owner will be issued two local ordinance citations for Dog at Large and Vicious Dog at Large. A court date has been set.

Thornton Officers responded to a call regarding a stolen Penske rental truck spotted at a local gas station. Upon arrival, officers located the yellow box truck with an obscured license plate, towing a stolen trailer and a Jeep SUV. Two occupants were detained on scene. A search revealed suspected methamphetamine and drug paraphernalia. The truck was confirmed stolen, and the trailer was overloaded with personal belongings and three pit bulls, which were secured by officers. A K9 search led to the recovery of additional drug-related evidence. Both suspects were charged with Criminal Trespass to a Motor Vehicle and Possession of Drug Paraphernalia. The methamphetamine was submitted for further testing, and additional charges are pending. The suspects were released on citations with a court date.

Officers responded to a disturbance call involving a male attempting to force entry into an upper-level apartment. Witnesses reported the man was yelling, banging on the door, and eventually kicked it in. A silver Audi registered to the male was located on scene. Attempts to contact anyone inside the residence were unsuccessful, though officers observed movement and closed curtains. It was later confirmed that the male subject had a valid, non-expiring order of protection against him by the female resident. A phone call from the female indicated she was inside and safe, though a male voice was overheard prompting her responses. Due to the nature of the situation, the South Suburban Emergency Response Team (SSERT) was activated. The female later exited the residence voluntarily, and the male was taken into custody without incident. He was transported to the Thornton Police Department for processing. The order of protection was confirmed as valid.

A complainant reported that their vehicle was entered while parked at their workplace between 7:30 PM and 9:30 PM. Although nothing was stolen and no damage occurred, security video later showed a black SUV entering the lot around 11:00 PM and flashing headlights on the complainant's vehicle, possibly indicating key fob access. No suspect or vehicle information could be obtained due to limited video footage. The complainant did not request a formal report but wanted police awareness.

An officer conducted a traffic stop on a vehicle for speeding and expired registration. Upon contact, the driver admitted to possessing cannabis and voluntarily handed over a red bag containing cannabis flower, edibles, and paraphernalia. A further search revealed additional pre-rolled blunts. The driver was cited for expired registration and unlawful transportation of cannabis. Cannabis was seized, and a court date was set. All actions were recorded on body-worn camera.

The Thornton Police Department assisted the following agencies from patrol, South Suburban Emergency Response Team-SSERT, South Suburban Major Crimes Task Force and Suburban Major Accident Reconstruction Team-SMART: Glenwood PD, Illinois State Police, Richton Park PD, Park Forest PD, Posen PD, Calumet City PD, Midlothian PD and Oak Forest PD.

