

THORNTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

MONTHLY REPORT

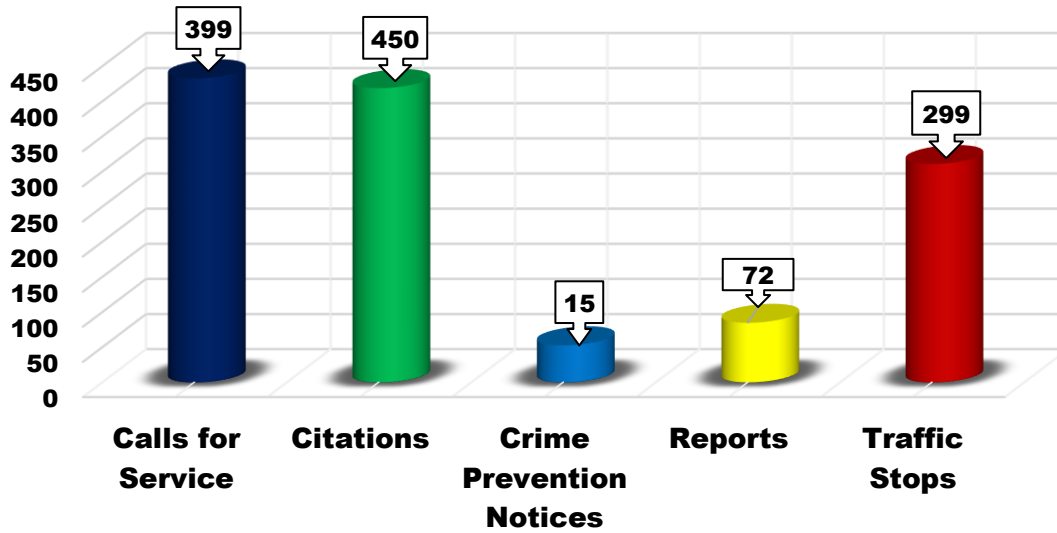
MARCH 2026



SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

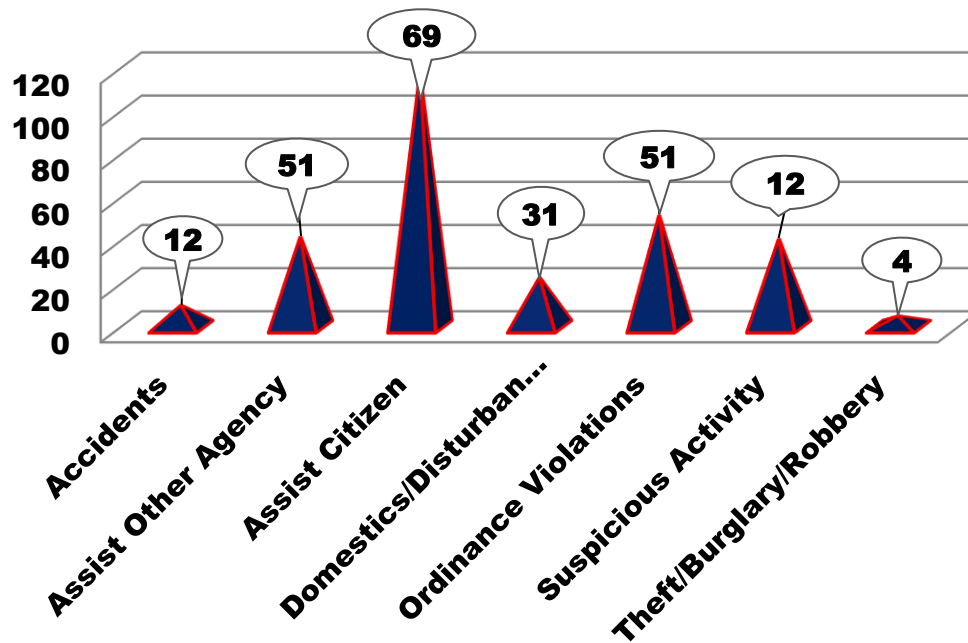
- The Thornton Police Department is warning residents about a new scam involving individuals posing as the Cook County Courts. Victims are receiving messages claiming they have unpaid court tickets and are instructed to scan a QR code to make immediate payment. These messages are fraudulent. The court system will not request payments or sensitive information through unsolicited texts or QR codes. Residents are strongly advised not to scan the QR code, click any links, or provide personal or financial information. If you receive such a message, delete it and report it to your local police department.
- Please remember to call **911** (Emergency) for active emergencies, such as crimes in progress, imminent threats to life, serious injuries, or fires. For non-emergencies that require police assistance, please call **(708) 877-2531**. We have been receiving calls and messages for service on our Administrative/Records telephone line and this number is not monitored after business hours.

PATROL ACTIVITIES



CALL BREAKDOWN

TOTAL NUMBER OF CALLS = 698
TOTAL NUMBER OF TRAFFIC STOPS = 299



Notable Incidents

- On March 1, 2026, at approximately 2200 hours, Thornton Officers were dispatched to the 100 block of Cora Court for a report of a stolen motor vehicle. Upon arrival, officers spoke with a family member of the vehicle owner and reviewed video footage captured by a residential doorbell camera. The footage showed a light-colored sedan entering Cora Court from Highland Avenue and stopping in front of the residence. Two male offenders exited the vehicle, both wearing hooded sweatshirts and face coverings. The offenders approached a black 2020 Hyundai Elantra with heavily tinted windows. One offender appeared to use a light source to look inside the vehicle. After a short time, the offenders gained entry to the vehicle by unknown means. One offender entered the driver's seat and started the vehicle, while the second offender returned to the suspect vehicle. Both vehicles were last seen traveling eastbound on Cora Court. The vehicle had last been observed parked at the location earlier in the day between approximately 1400 and 1500 hours. The stolen vehicle was entered into LEADS, and an ISPERN notification was issued. Video evidence is being submitted by the registered owner and will be included in the case file. Body-worn camera footage was also recorded.
- While on patrol, a Thornton Officer observed a black Kia SUV parked and unoccupied at the dead end of Vincennes Avenue south of Armory Drive. A LEADS inquiry revealed a local alert associated with the registered owner, who had recently been terminated from a nearby business and had reportedly made threats of workplace violence. Officers conducted a search of the surrounding area, including the business location, with negative results for the registered owner. Management of the business was notified that the vehicle was located nearby and was advised that the Thornton Police Department would conduct extra patrol checks throughout the night. While officers were in the area, a separate vehicle approached, and the driver reported being the victim of a recent road rage incident in which shots were fired at his vehicle near 159th Street and Halsted Street. The individual stated the incident had already been reported to a neighboring jurisdiction. Officers contacted the outside agency and confirmed the report. Relevant case information was documented for reference.
- On March 4, 2026, at approximately 5:56 PM, Thornton Officers were dispatched to a restaurant in the 100 block of South Williams Street for a report of criminal damage to a vehicle. Upon arrival, officers met with the complainant, who reported that a recently hired employee had been terminated after one day of training. The individual became upset, yelled, and made verbal threats before leaving the premises. A short time later, the complainant was notified by a tenant that something had occurred outside the location. The complainant then observed that his vehicle, a white 2025 Hyundai Elantra, had sustained damage to the rear window, which appeared to have been shattered. Officers documented the damage and collected photographic evidence. The complainant declined to pursue criminal charges at this time but requested documentation of the incident. A possible suspect has been identified, and officers are attempting to obtain additional evidence, including security camera footage.

- On March 5, 2026, the Police Department was notified by the Public Works Department that a Nissan Altima, previously seized pursuant to Village ordinance and secured in a municipal lot, was missing from the property. Public Works personnel reported that a tow truck had removed the vehicle from the secured lot without authorization. Officers reviewed municipal camera footage and observed a red tow truck entering the secured lot and removing the vehicle. The tow truck was identified through markings and license plate reader technology as belonging to a local towing and auto sales business. With assistance from the Illinois Statewide Auto Theft Task Force and the Illinois Secretary of State Police, officers responded to the business location. The tow truck involved in the incident was located on site, and officers made contact with an individual associated with the business. The individual stated that he had previously sold the vehicle and later retrieved it using a GPS tracking device after being contacted by another party. He also claimed he had received permission from the Police Department to recover the vehicle; however, this claim was determined to be false. The individual directed officers to the vehicle's location. A separate towing service responded and recovered the vehicle, returning it to secured custody. Two local ordinance citations were issued for criminal trespass to property and theft. The individual was provided a court date at Village Hall.
- While on patrol near the intersection of Vincennes Road and Armory Drive, an officer observed an orange Chevrolet Camaro performing reckless driving maneuvers (donuts) in a local business parking lot. When the officer illuminated the vehicle with a spotlight, the driver fled the parking lot and entered the roadway, disregarding a red traffic signal. The officer activated emergency lights and attempted a traffic stop; however, the vehicle accelerated at a high rate of speed, reaching speeds in excess of 100 mph in a posted 40 mph zone. The vehicle continued to flee, disregarding multiple traffic control devices. Due to the excessive speeds and danger to the public, the officer terminated the pursuit. Using license plate reader technology, the vehicle was later identified as an orange Chevrolet Camaro bearing Indiana registration. The vehicle was entered into LEADS as a felony vehicle in connection with aggravated fleeing and eluding. If located, the vehicle will be subject to tow and possible seizure pursuant to applicable statutes.
- A Detective conducted a routine sex offender residence compliance check on registered sex offenders within the Village of Thornton. During the check at a listed residence on Queens Lane, officers made contact with an occupant of the address who advised that one registered sex offender does not reside at the location. The occupant stated the individual only receives mail there and does not maintain a bedroom, personal belongings, or any other indicators of residency. Based on the information obtained, the subject was determined to be potentially non-compliant with Illinois Sex Offender Registration Act residency requirements. The individual will be entered into LEADS as non-compliant for failure to accurately report residence information in accordance with applicable state statute.
- Officers on patrol observed an adult male (Hispanic, shirtless, shoeless, soaking wet) walking in the middle of Armory Dr. near S. Clark St. with severe head and facial trauma and a bloody nose. An ambulance and Spanish-speaking officer were requested; Thornton Fire transported the victim to the hospital. South Holland officers determined the male had been assaulted and possibly threatened with a firearm; the exact location of the incident was unknown initially. Officers later located the primary scene on the access road west of the railroad tracks off Armory Dr., where a sweatshirt, blood, and vehicle skid marks were found. The scene was photographed via Axon Capture and the sweatshirt was collected and later turned over to detectives. A detective responded to the hospital to interview the victim. Supplements from responding officers are attached. Investigation ongoing.

- Officers were dispatched to a local business for a report of an unwanted subject. Upon arrival, officers spoke with a supervisor who reported that a former employee had been observed on the property and was last seen in the nearby parking lot of a restaurant in South Holland. The subject has been involved in multiple recent incidents involving threats toward the business and its employees and has previously been advised by both company representatives and police that they are not permitted on the property. Officers conducted a search of the surrounding area, including nearby businesses, but were unable to locate the individual. A department alert was completed regarding the subject.
- Officers responded to the 800 block of Park Avenue for a report of a disturbance involving multiple individuals arguing outside a residence. Upon initial arrival, the area was clear. A second call was received shortly after reporting the subjects had returned and were again causing a disturbance. Upon officers' return, a male and female were observed arguing in a driveway. The female reported she had been involved in a physical altercation and alleged she was struck in the face during the incident. Officers observed minor injuries but the female initially declined medical attention. Statements gathered on scene were inconsistent regarding who was involved in the physical altercation, and witnesses provided conflicting accounts. Due to the inconsistencies and lack of corroborating evidence, no arrest was made at that time in relation to the domestic incident, which remains under investigation. While on scene, officers determined the male subject had an active failure to appear warrant out of Cook County for a traffic-related offense. The warrant was confirmed, and the subject was taken into custody without incident and transported to the police department for processing.

The Thornton Police Department assisted the following agencies from patrol, SSERT, SSMCTF and SMART: Homewood PD, Glenwood PD, South Holland PD, Chicago Heights PD, Park Forest PD, Tinley Park PD, Richton Park PD, Blue Island PD, Bridgeview PD, Evergreen PD and the Illinois State Police.

