

THORNTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

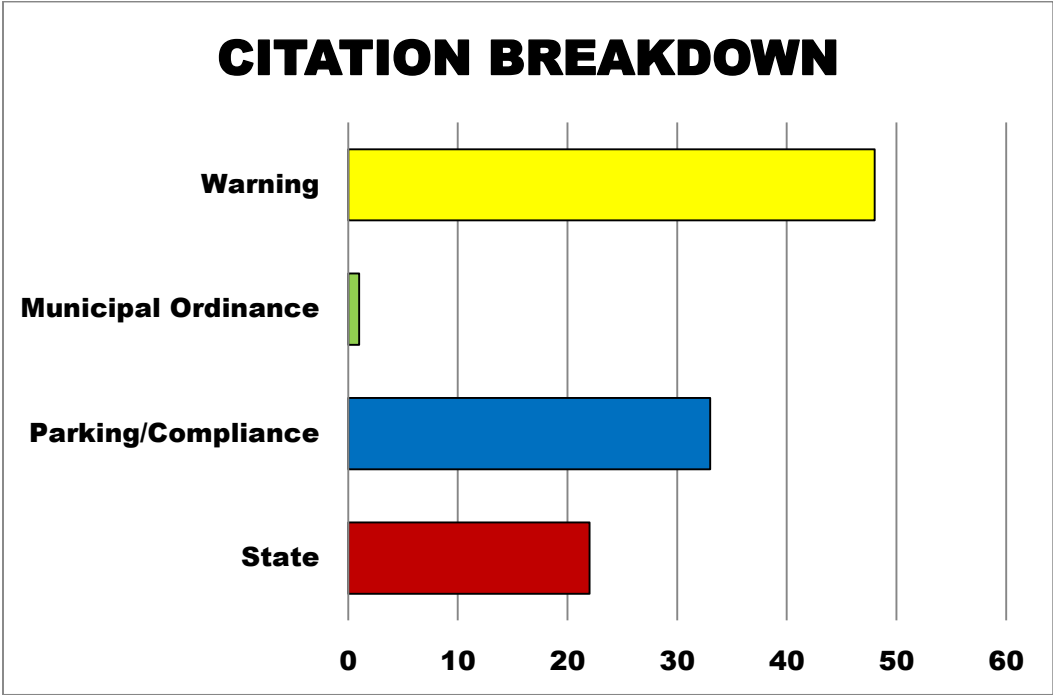
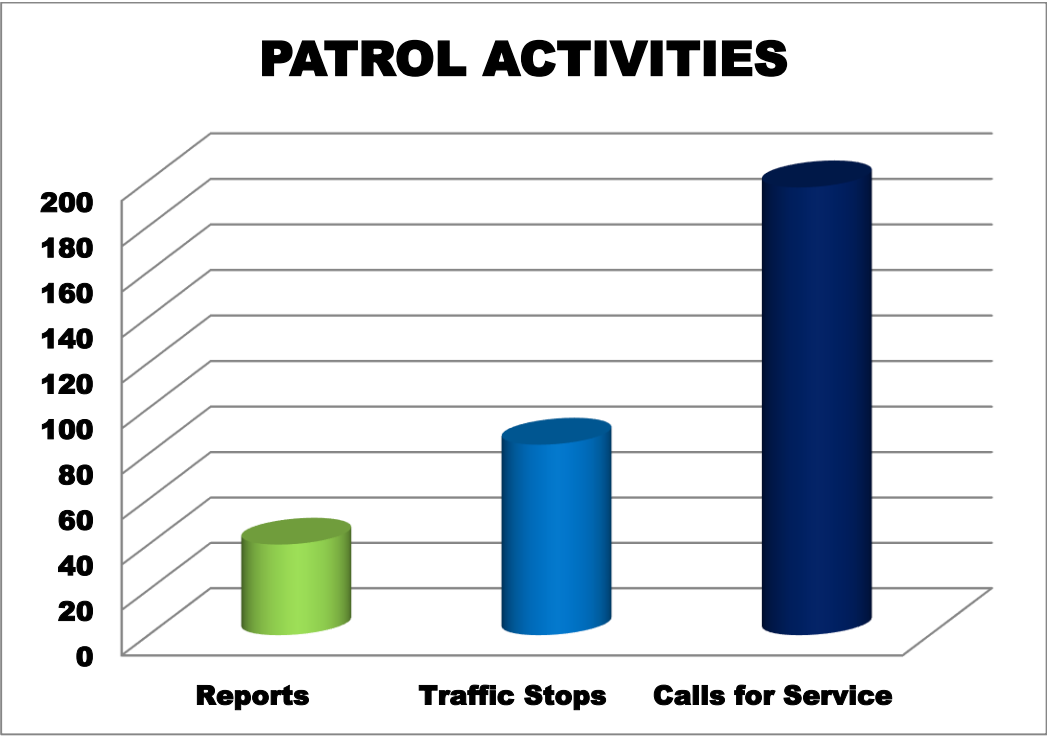
MONTHLY REPORT

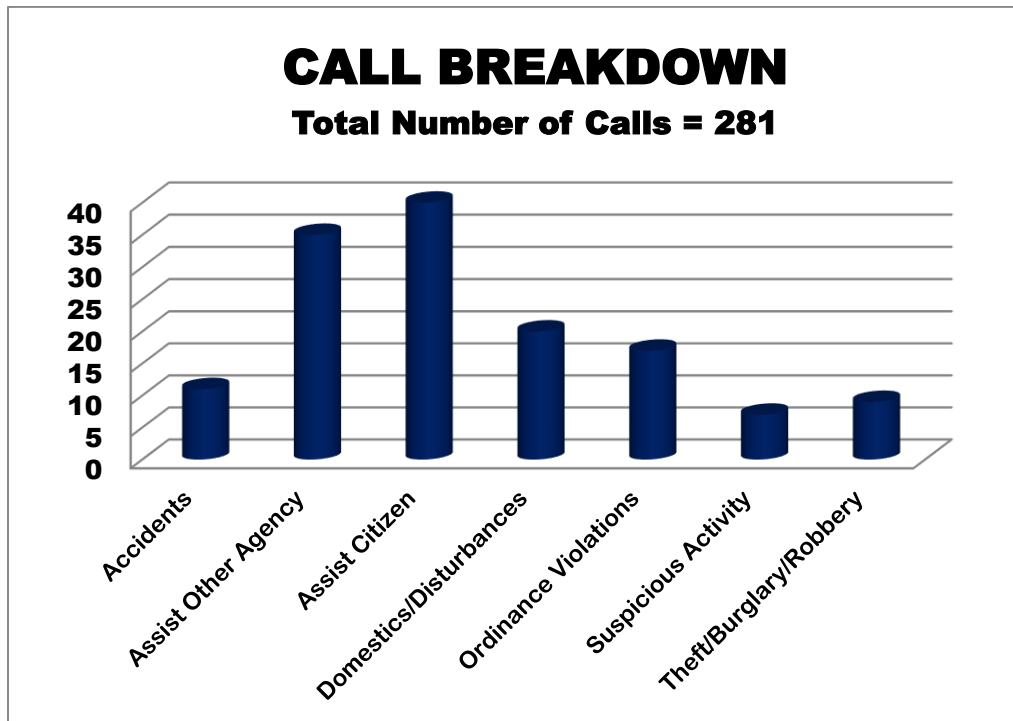
JULY 2024



Special Points of Interest

- **Increased number of attempted burglaries and thefts in the Village of Thornton. Please remember to always lock your vehicle and residential doors. Call 911 if you see any suspicious activity.**
- **Be vigilant and research any person or company wanting to do storm repairs on your property. If you are unsure, please contact the Building Department at the Village Hall at (708) 877-4456 for a list of licensed contractors in the village.**





Notable Incidents

On July 9, 2024, Officers Leone and Bennett were dispatched to Koch's Lounge after receiving reports of a fight in progress. While en-route, dispatch informed the officers that the front window of Thornton Slots had been broken. Upon arrival, officers observed shattered glass and a trail of blood leading from Thornton Slots to Koch's Lounge. The manager of Koch's Lounge, reported that two individuals, described as "Russian guys," had been involved in a fight and had left the premises. The officers then learned that the victim was at the Thornton Police Department. Upon arrival, they found the victim with injuries to his hand and head. He reported that the incident began when he was confronted by a male who made an offensive gesture. After a brief altercation, the victim was pushed through the front window of Thornton Slots, resulting in multiple deep lacerations. The suspects fled the scene in a white pickup truck, described as a dually with no truck bed and a white paper tag in the rear window. The victim stated he had never seen the suspects before and expressed his willingness to press charges if they are apprehended. Thornton Fire Department responded to the scene and treated the victim, who declined transportation to the hospital, opting to seek medical care independently. A board-up company has been contacted to secure the broken window at Thornton Slots. This case remains under investigation.

On July 17, 2024, Officer Leone responded to a report of a stolen vehicle in the Thornton PD lobby. The vehicle owner reported his 2016 Jeep Cherokee SRT missing. The victim stated that he parked his vehicle at Freight Ninja, where his semi-truck is stationed, at approximately 3:00 AM. When he returned around 4:00 PM, the Jeep was no longer there. He mentioned that due to a power outage in the area, the gates to Freight Ninja were left open, allowing unrestricted access to the property. The owner of Freight Ninja informed the victim that he had observed his ex-girlfriend, and two male individuals in the lot. Unfortunately, the surveillance cameras at Freight Ninja were not operational due to the power outage, and no video evidence is available. The victim has stated he does not wish to press charges against his ex-girlfriend but only seeks the return of his vehicle. The investigation is ongoing.

On July 18, 2024, officers were dispatched to the 30 block of Arapaho for a reported burglary. The victim stated that her grandson had entered the home through an unlocked back patio door while she was asleep. The door was left unsecured due to an extension cord running from a generator into the house. The victim indicated that her grandson had a history of drug and alcohol abuse and was not welcome in the home. They noted that the grandson had been at the residence on July 16, uninvited, to assist with storm cleanup and had likely observed the unsecured door. The victim was informed by her sister that items, including alcohol and cigarettes, from her home were found in her garage. Additionally, receipts from White Castle paid with her Discover card were discovered. Further investigation revealed unauthorized use of the Discover card at White Castle, Target, and Speedway. A search of the victims home revealed the following stolen items: a Checkbook, Discover Card, \$40.00 in cash, scratch-off lottery tickets, bottle of Crown Royal, bottle of Tito's, multiple credit cards in the name of victim deceased husband, Chicago Cubs Championship Ring, men's watch, bag of old coins, a lockbox containing personal documents and four cartons of cigarettes. She also reported receiving social media posts from a family member, showing he grandson posing with some of the stolen items. The case has been turned over to the Thornton Police Department detectives who arrested and charged the grandson.

On July 27, 2024, the Thornton Police Department responded to a report of unauthorized individuals inside an apartment in the 500 block Chicago Rd. The incident involved an individual suspect, who entered the apartment without permission. The complainant contacted the police after being alerted by his indoor Ring camera about unknown individuals inside his apartment while he was at work. Upon arrival, officers met with complaint's mother, who was unable to provide the apartment number or access due to a lost key. The officers located the apartment using the mailbox and found it secured with a deadbolt. Later, the complaint provided police with camera footage showing two adult females inside his apartment. One of the females was seen inspecting the property and discussing the location of electrical outlets. The complaint suspected that one of the individuals worked for the apartment management company, which was confirmed during a follow-up conversation with the building manager. The manager informed the officers that the female was occasionally hired to clean vacant apartments but did not have permission to enter the apartment. The building manager suspected that she obtained the key from a storage area where cleaning supplies and extra apartment keys are kept. When contacted by police, the suspect confirmed entering the apartment with a neighbor, believing that the complaint had moved out. She admitted knowing she did not have permission to enter the apartment and she was charged with Criminal Trespass to Residence.

On July 30, 2024, at approximately 6:45 PM, the Thornton Police Department responded to a call for a mental health evaluation in the 600 block of E. Margaret St. The call involved an individual experiencing a mental health crisis. Officers Notter and Sergeant Moran were dispatched to the scene following a report of an individual with a known mental illness, was in distress and making suicidal statements. Upon arrival, they were met by a complainant who stated that the subject was inside the residence, breaking items, and had mentioned thoughts of self-harm. Officers made contact with subject at the staircase to the second level of the home. Sergeant Moran engaged in conversation with the suspect who was visibly upset following a verbal argument with his mother and partner. Through calm dialogue, Sergeant Moran was able to de-escalate the situation, and the subject agreed to step outside to speak with Thornton EMS personnel. Following the assessment by EMS, it was recommended that the subject be transported to Ingalls Hospital for further psychiatric evaluation. The subject complied, gathered a few belongings, and was transported by Thornton EMS. During the incident, the complaint informed the officers that the subject was not supposed to be at the residence and had entered by climbing through a window air conditioning unit slot.