

THORNTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

MONTHLY REPORT

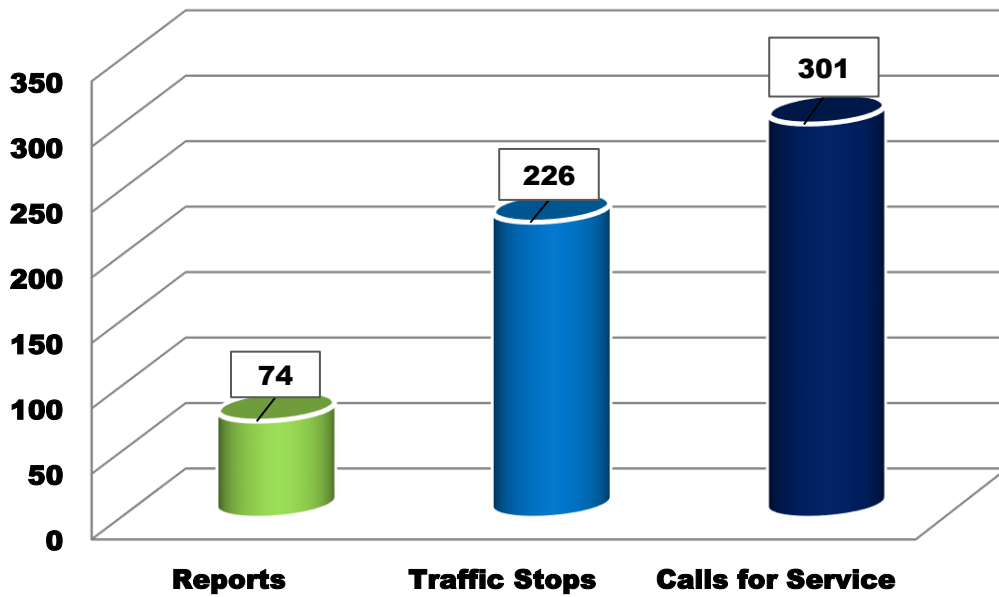
MARCH 2025



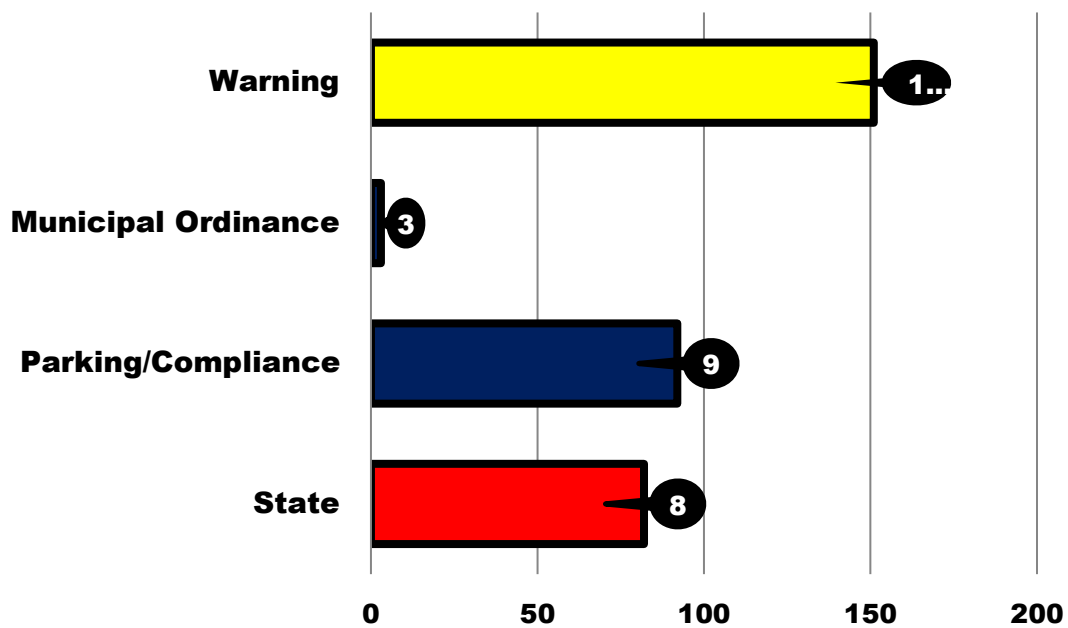
SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- **Call 911 if you see any suspicious activity.**
- **Due to the increased number of burglaries to motor vehicles in our commercial lots, residents are advised to remove all valuables from their vehicles and lock the vehicle upon exiting.**
- **Traffic enforcement in the village has increased, please remember to adhere to all traffic laws.**

PATROL ACTIVITIES



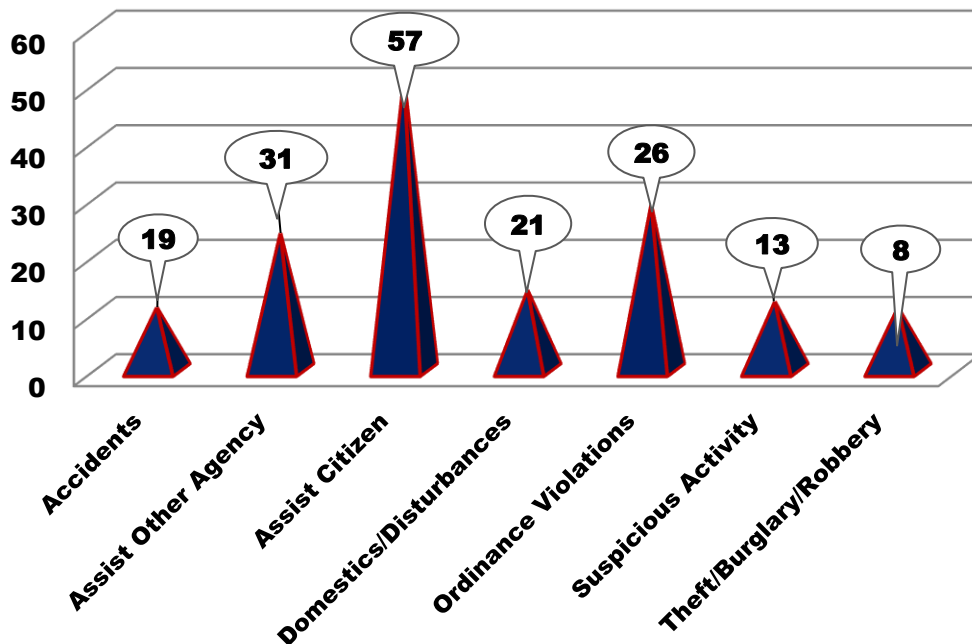
CITATION BREAKDOWN



CALL BREAKDOWN

TOTAL NUMBER OF CALLS = 527

TOTAL NUMBER OF TRAFFIC STOPS = 226



Notable Incidents

On 03/01/2025, while on routine patrol, a Thornton Police Officer observed a green Fiat traveling eastbound on Ridge Road near Parnell Avenue at an unusually slow speed and partially off the roadway. The vehicle's erratic movement caused concern among nearby motorists, one of whom flagged down the officer and pointed toward the Fiat. The officer conducted a traffic stop and made contact with the driver, who was found to be incoherent and unresponsive to repeated requests for a driver's license and proof of insurance. Concerned for the individual's well-being, the officer requested backup. Upon arrival of a second officer, the driver was asked to step out of the vehicle. When the driver refused to comply and tensed up, officers assisted him out of the vehicle and safely placed him in handcuffs for his safety and theirs. A subsequent search of the vehicle revealed no illegal substances or evidence of drug use. Believing the driver may have been experiencing a mental health crisis, officers called for medical assistance. The Thornton Fire Department responded and transported the individual to Ingalls Hospital for further evaluation. The vehicle was removed from the roadway by a local towing service. After reviewing body camera footage and evaluating the totality of the circumstances, the department determined that criminal charges would not be filed. However, the driver was cited for driving under the speed limit and improper lane usage. A medical re-examination form was submitted to the Illinois Secretary of State to request a review of the individual's fitness to drive.

On 03/02/2025, officers from the Thornton Police Department were dispatched to the parking lot of Koch's Lounge following a report of a physical domestic disturbance involving a male and female subject inside a silver vehicle. Witnesses reported a struggle between the two individuals, after which the female exited—or was pulled from—the vehicle and entered a separate gray vehicle. Both parties then left the area, traveling southbound on Chicago Road in separate vehicles. While officers were enroute, ECOM dispatch advised of a possible shooting incident involving vehicles matching the description of those involved in the earlier domestic dispute. The reported shooting occurred in the area of 300 block of Blackstone. Thornton officers responded immediately and searched the surrounding area but initially found no evidence of gunfire. Shortly after, the male involved in the initial dispute arrived at the Thornton Police Department in a silver Chrysler 300. The individual, who appeared to be bleeding from the mouth and had a bullet hole in the driver's side door of his vehicle, reported that he had been assaulted and later shot at by the female suspect following their altercation. According to the victim, the two had previously been in a relationship and had met to discuss personal matters, which escalated into a physical confrontation in the Koch's Lounge parking lot. The victim alleged that the female suspect punched him in the face, retrieved his firearm, and later fired two rounds at him from her own vehicle during a subsequent encounter on Blackstone. The victim was evaluated on scene by Thornton Fire Department paramedics and declined further medical treatment. Thornton officers coordinated with the Glenwood Police Department to locate the female suspect at a residence in Glenwood. The Thornton Police Department also contacted the Illinois State Police Crime Scene Unit to process the victim's vehicle, for which the victim gave verbal consent. The female was charged with aggravated discharge of a firearm. The Thornton Police Department would like to thank the Glenwood Police Department and the Illinois State Police for their assistance in this case.

On 03/06/2025, the Thornton Police Department received a phone call from a resident of Fort Wayne, Indiana, regarding concerns over the handling of her deceased mother's remains by a Thornton-based funeral service provider. The complainant, seeking an independent autopsy for her mother, located a business operating under the name "Gilliard and Sons" through an online search. She contracted with the company to transport the body from Fort Wayne to Thornton for examination at Forensic Mortuary Services. The transport took place on February 19, 2025. According to the caller, upon arrival at the hospital in Indiana, the funeral service representative allegedly attempted to circumvent hospital protocols to retrieve the body. Hospital staff intervened to ensure that standard procedures were followed. The complainant paid \$1,600 to Gilliard and Sons for transportation and cremation services, and an additional \$3,600 to Forensic Mortuary Services for an autopsy. In the days following the transport, she reported feeling uncomfortable with continued requests for additional funds from the funeral provider and subsequently chose to use another funeral service for the cremation. When she requested a refund and the release of her mother's body, the provider allegedly refused both. The complainant later contacted the Fort Wayne Police Department. Following their involvement, the funeral provider agreed to release the body. Arrangements were made for a new funeral home based in Indianapolis to retrieve the remains on March 7, 2025. Concerns remain regarding the validity of a death certificate that states the deceased was cremated on February 28, 2025—prior to the planned transfer. Thornton Police advised the complainant to coordinate directly with the new funeral provider and to contact local law enforcement should the remains not be those of her mother upon retrieval. She was also instructed to file a formal police report with Fort Wayne authorities and to forward all related documentation to the Thornton Police Department. An internal review revealed that neither Gilliard and Sons nor Forensic Mortuary Services currently hold valid business licenses or permits to operate within the Village of Thornton. Thornton Code Enforcement has been notified and is investigating further.

On the evening of March 6, 2025, Thornton Police officers were dispatched to a residence on Indianwood Drive following a report of an intoxicated and unwanted individual who refused to leave the property. Upon arrival, officers were met by the homeowner, who requested the removal of a female subject who was visiting her son. The subject was located in the basement area of the residence and was visibly intoxicated. When officers attempted to detain her, she became combative and physically resisted efforts to escort her from the property. During the incident, the subject kicked one of the officers in the knee, resulting in a battery charge. Once outside the residence, the subject continued to act belligerently and refused to enter a marked Thornton Police vehicle. Officers were ultimately able to secure her in the vehicle and transported her to the Thornton Police Department for processing. At the station, the subject remained uncooperative during the booking process. She was cited for battery and resisting a peace officer. Additionally, a no-trespass order was issued at the homeowner's request, prohibiting her from returning to the residence. The subject declined medical assistance at the scene. No further injuries were reported.

On 03/14/2025, while assisting with a stalled vehicle in the area of Margaret Street and Schwab Avenue, a Thornton Police officer was approached by a local resident who identified herself as the victim of a hit-and-run accident that occurred on March 4, 2025. The victim informed the officer that she had just seen the suspect vehicle from the incident — a white Jeep — pull into a nearby driveway on East Margaret Street. She also recognized the individual who exited the vehicle as the driver involved in the crash. Upon checking the license plate, officers confirmed that the vehicle matched the description and registration from the original case report. Police made contact with the registered owner of the Jeep, who initially denied knowledge of the accident but later assisted officers in having the suspect exit the residence. The male subject, who did not initially provide identification, later admitted to being involved in the hit-and-run and stated he fled the scene because he believed his driver's license was suspended. The individual was taken into custody without incident, transported to the Thornton Police Department for processing, and issued a citation for Leaving the Scene of a Property Damage Accident. He was later released on a cite-and-release with a scheduled court appearance on April 7, 2025, at the Markham Courthouse. Additionally, during the course of the investigation, it was discovered that the vehicle's insurance had been canceled due to non-payment. The vehicle owner may face further administrative action regarding this matter.

The Thornton Police Department assisted the following agencies from either patrol, SSERT, SMART or SSMCTF: Glenwood PD, East Hazel Crest PD, Dolton PD, Tinley Park PD and South Holland PD.

