

THORNTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

MONTHLY REPORT

May 2026



SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

usa 🇺🇸 THORNTON POLICE DEPARTMENT – 4TH OF JULY SAFETY MESSAGE 🇺🇸 usa

As we celebrate **Independence Day** and the **250th Anniversary of America**, the Thornton Police Department wishes everyone a safe and enjoyable holiday with family, friends, and neighbors.

This is a time to honor our nation's history, reflect on the freedoms we enjoy, and celebrate the spirit of our community. We encourage everyone to enjoy the festivities responsibly and help make this holiday safe for all.

Please remember:

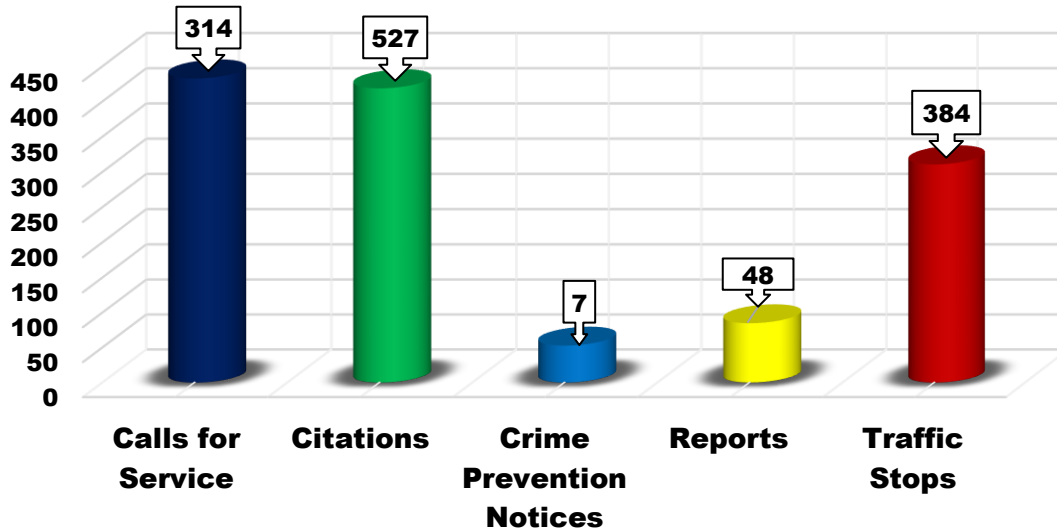
- 🇺🇸 **Fireworks are illegal** within the Village of Thornton and can cause serious injuries, fires, and property damage.
- 🚗 **Never drink and drive.** If you plan to consume alcohol, designate a sober driver, use a rideshare service, or make arrangements to stay where you are.
- 👨👩👧👦 Keep a close eye on children during holiday celebrations and gatherings.
- 🚑 Report emergencies by calling 911 immediately.

Our officers will be on patrol throughout the holiday weekend to help ensure the safety of our residents and visitors.

Let's celebrate America's 250th birthday with pride, responsibility, and respect for our neighbors. Together, we can make this Independence Day a memorable and safe one for everyone.

Have a safe and happy Fourth of July from the Thornton Police Department! usa 🇺🇸 🚗 🇺🇸

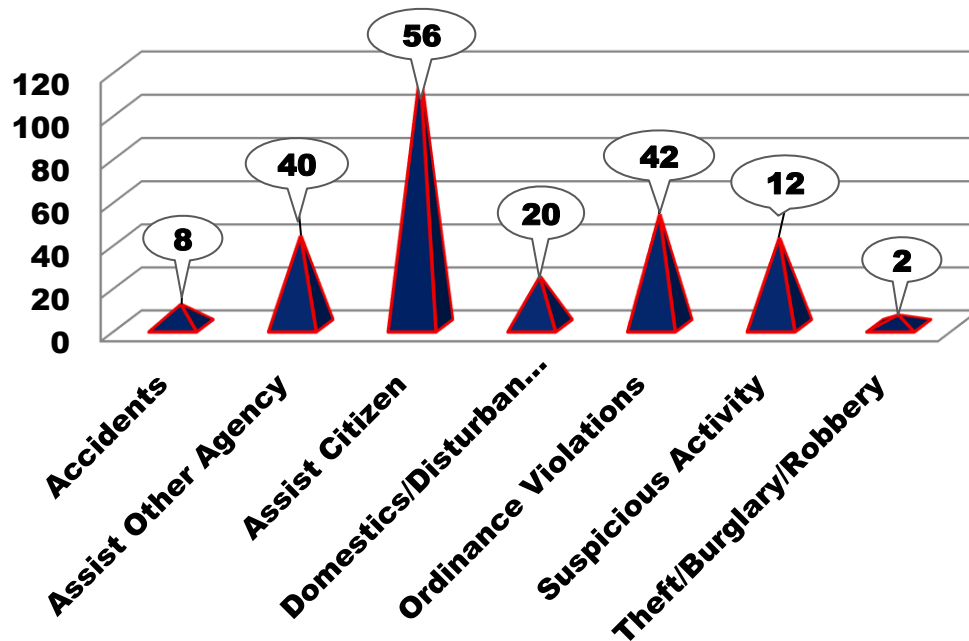
PATROL ACTIVITIES



CALL BREAKDOWN

TOTAL NUMBER OF CALLS = 698

TOTAL NUMBER OF TRAFFIC STOPS = 384



Notable Incidents

On 05/01/2026, Thornton Officers responded to a reported burglary in progress at the American Legion on Williams Street. Upon arrival, officers observed multiple offenders exiting the building and entering two waiting vehicles. When officers attempted to stop the vehicles, both fled the scene, leading to a pursuit through Thornton and into neighboring jurisdictions. The pursuit was terminated when speeds exceeded safe limits and traffic conditions created a safety concern. Officers returned to the scene and conducted a search of the building. An investigation revealed that three masked individuals forcibly entered the business by breaking the front door glass. Once inside, the offenders damaged several gaming machines in an apparent attempt to steal money. The suspects fled when they became aware of responding police units. Detectives processed the scene, recovered surveillance footage, and collected evidence. No suspects are currently in custody, and the investigation remains ongoing.

On 05/04/2026, Thornton Officers responded to a commercial property on Westview Drive for a report of a semi-truck striking a parking block and causing damage. Upon arrival, officers learned the truck had left the scene before police arrived. The property owner provided surveillance footage showing the semi-truck striking the parking block. During the investigation, officers identified the driver and determined he did not possess the proper commercial driver's license required to operate the vehicle. It was also determined that the driver had left the scene after the crash. Further investigation revealed the vehicle owner had allowed an unauthorized individual to operate the commercial vehicle and was also in violation of vehicle registration requirements. The involved parties were released with a court date, and the incident was documented. No injuries were reported.

On 05/09/2026, Thornton Officers responded to a residence on Wolcott Street for an ambulance assist after family members reported that a 48-year-old male had been in a locked bathroom for an extended period of time and was not responding. Upon arrival, officers and emergency personnel gained entry to the bathroom and located the male unresponsive in a bathtub. Fire Department paramedics assessed the individual and determined there were no signs of life. The individual was subsequently pronounced deceased by medical personnel. Family members advised that the individual had entered the bathroom several hours earlier to take a bath and had not responded to attempts to communicate with him. They further advised that he suffered from pre-existing medical conditions, including diabetes and high blood pressure. Detectives responded to assist with the investigation, and the Cook County Medical Examiner's Office was notified and responded to the scene. The Medical Examiner assumed responsibility for determining the official cause and manner of death. At this time, there were no indications of foul play. The incident remains under review pending the findings of the Cook County Medical Examiner's Office.

On 05/09/2026, Thornton Officers responded to a residence on Indianwood Drive for a disturbance involving individuals attempting to retrieve personal property. During the investigation, officers learned that a verbal altercation had occurred between a resident and a visitor. The visitor alleged that the resident threatened him with a knife and provided a written statement regarding the incident. Officers interviewed all parties involved. During the investigation, the resident admitted making statements involving a knife during the confrontation. Officers also observed evidence of prohibited open burning occurring on the property. As a result of the investigation, a 32-year-old Thornton man was arrested and issued citations for two counts of Disorderly Conduct and one count of Prohibited Open Burning. He was processed and released with a future court date. The incident remains documented, and additional complaints may be reviewed as necessary.

On 05/14/2026, Thornton Officers responded to Wolcott Elementary School for reports of a large fight involving juveniles and adults. Upon arrival, school staff had already separated the involved parties and the altercation had ended. The investigation revealed that a dispute related to an ongoing bullying issue escalated into a physical confrontation between two families on school property. Several individuals reported minor injuries, including facial bruising, cuts, and abrasions. Officers and detectives conducted interviews with involved parties and reviewed school surveillance footage. The video showed members of one family approaching and confronting another family that was meeting with school administrators. The confrontation quickly escalated into a physical altercation. Based on witness statements and video evidence, two juvenile females were identified as the primary aggressors and were each issued local ordinance citations for Battery. Investigators determined that the actions of the involved parents were in defense of their children, and no criminal charges were filed against either parent. School officials worked with the involved family regarding future conduct on school property. The incident remains documented by the Thornton Police Department.

On 05/19/2026, Thornton Officers responded to a business on Clark Street for a report of suspicious individuals in a parking lot. The complainant reported that while sitting in his parked vehicle before work, a white four-door sedan entered the lot and three individuals exited the vehicle. One of the subjects was observed carrying a reciprocating saw while approaching the complainant's vehicle. Upon noticing the complainant inside the truck, the subjects immediately returned to their vehicle and fled the area at a high rate of speed. The business owner provided photographs of the individuals and vehicle, which were collected as part of the investigation. Subsequent information received by the Thornton Police Department indicated that the individuals associated with the incident were later arrested by another law enforcement agency in connection with a burglary investigation. No criminal offense was committed within the Village of Thornton, and the incident was documented for intelligence purposes.

On 05/24/2026, Thornton officers assisted a neighboring police department with an investigation involving a damaged vehicle located near the railroad tracks at Ridge Road and Margaret Street. Upon arrival, officers observed a vehicle with significant front-end damage near the tracks. Officers conducted a search of the area for the driver, who had left the vehicle prior to their arrival. During the search, officers located an individual hiding in a wooded area adjacent to the tracks. The individual complied with officers' commands and was taken into custody without incident by the investigating agency. Thornton officers assisted with securing the scene and locating the subject. A use-of-force report was completed in accordance with department policy due to the display of a firearm during the encounter. Body-worn camera footage was recorded throughout the incident. The primary investigation was handled by the assisting agency.

The Thornton Police Department assisted the following agencies from patrol, SSERT, SSMCTF and SMART: Lynwood PD, Chicago Heights PD, Matteson PD, Glenwood PD, Homewood PD, Illinois State Police and South Holland PD

