



WATERTOWN POLICE DEPARTMENT

David Brower, Chief of Police

Watertown Police and Fire Commission Monthly Newsletter – October 2025

Police and Fire Commission – Monthly DTF Update

School Resource Officer Update

High School – Officer Evan Bresser

Officer Bresser reports continued issues with student vaping and THC use. He is working closely with school administration, parents, and families to address ongoing truancy concerns. Citations have been issued for violations related to vaping, THC, and truancy. Additionally, citations for disorderly conduct were issued in connection with a bullying incident.

An evacuation drill is scheduled for October 20, 2025.

Homecoming week concluded without any significant issues. Both the football game and the dance went smoothly overall. One incident involved an adult who entered the school without authorization prior to the football game; the individual was removed and issued a warning for trespassing.

Middle School – Officer Chris Karnatz

Officer Karnatz reports a positive start to the school year, assisting students as they acclimate to the new term. Truancy issues have already begun to surface, and he has been conducting home visits and phone calls with families in coordination with Student Services and the Truancy Abatement Coordinator. Two truancy citations have been issued so far this year.

Officer Karnatz assisted in coordinating the middle school's intruder lockdown drill. There have been two fights requiring police enforcement action and two threat assessments conducted to date.

He continues to mentor Officer Stacy as she transitions into her new role as the elementary school SRO and is assisting with setup and orientation. Officer Karnatz also provides security for School Board meetings.

Detective Recognition

Detective Dakota Lenske – Drug Task Force

Detective Dakota Lenske, assigned to the Drug Task Force since January 2024, was recently nominated and selected for the Enrique Camarena Award, recognizing his outstanding dedication to drug enforcement and community safety.

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In his nomination, Captain Jon Caucutt highlighted Detective Lenske's exemplary work and leadership:

- Has established himself as a proactive leader in drug enforcement.
- Developed an extensive knowledge base of local drug offenders, diligently tracking their cases, bond conditions, addresses, and associates.
- Initiated 143 cases, resulting in 17 search warrants and 14 controlled buys.
- Effectively utilizes technology, including FLOCK camera systems, to monitor and investigate criminal activity.
- In one notable case, Detective Lenske identified and tracked a suspect traveling from Texas to Wisconsin, leading to the seizure of more than 20 kilograms of cocaine.
- Recognized for his strong communication skills and willingness to assist fellow officers at any hour.

Detective Lenske has received multiple commendations for his performance and professionalism, including recognition from the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office for his pivotal role in locating a sexual assault victim and identifying suspects in a drug-related assault investigation. In September, the Fort Atkinson Police Department also commended him for his professionalism, knowledge, and support during a major case.

This award represents only a small portion of Detective Lenske's success and continued dedication to his role within the Drug Task Force.

Calls for Service Summary – September 2025

The Watertown Police Department handled a total of 1,270 calls for service between September 1 and September 30, 2025.

Activity Highlights:

- **Traffic Enforcement:** 295 traffic stops were conducted during the month.
- **Disorderly Conduct:** 114 incidents were reported.
- **Welfare Checks:** 84 calls for welfare checks were handled.
- **Assists:** Officers responded to 44 assist calls with other agencies and 9 assist calls with the Fire Department.
- **Drug Activity:** 10 incidents were investigated.
- **Domestic Incidents:** 10 domestic-related calls were reported.
- **Parking Complaints:** 36 calls were logged.
- **Trespassing:** 30 trespassing complaints were addressed.
- **School Enforcement:** 25 school-related calls for service were handled.
- **Theft and Fraud:** 12 theft reports and 9 fraud-related cases were investigated.
- **Animal Complaints:** 20 reports of animals at large and 6 animal bites were recorded.

Overall, September reflected steady call volume consistent with prior months. Officers continued proactive patrols, including 41 foot patrols, 63 door checks, and 8 bar checks.