
2023 ANNUAL REPORT



**DEKALB
POLICE
DEPARTMENT**

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Chief's Message	2
About the Department	3
2023 Year in Review	6
Statistics	18
Divisions	27
Certifications, Fundraising, and Public Events	45
Upcoming Initiatives in 2024	52

MISSION STATEMENT:

The members of the DeKalb Police Department are committed to reducing crime and enhancing quality of life through an active partnership with our community.

VISION STATEMENT:

A city where family, business, and culture prospers in an environment where all people are treated with dignity, equity, and respect.





A MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF

To Our Community,

It's that time again: the DeKalb Police Department 2023 Annual Report is complete. The DeKalb Police Department has grown and is ready to build bridges in 2024!

The last couple of years I have attempted to identify one word to express the direction of the Department. This year is no different, and the watchword for 2024 is "unification!"

The DeKalb Police Department has made its mission to form a union with several community stakeholders in an attempt to build trust, faith, and transparency. This unified front has already begun to make an impact in the community and has proven to be a crime reducer for the City of DeKalb.

The DeKalb Police Department has developed unions with numerous community entities, here are just a few of them:

- DeKalb City Park District
- Building Leaders Advocating for Change (B.L.A.C. Inc.)
- Breakroom and Friends LLC.
- Opportunity DeKalb
- DeKalb School District 428
- Family Service Agency (DeKalb County)
- Safe Passage
- Belonging Council
- DeKalb Area Rental Association (DARA)
- New Hope Church

The unified front that has been established with these amazing and impactful groups has promoted public safety throughout the City of DeKalb and indirectly assisted the DeKalb Police Department deter and reduce crime. The DeKalb Police Department will continue to maintain and grow the community relationships it has acquired and will attempt to forge new partnerships to help build and strengthen the "Unity Bridge of DeKalb".

I am excited to see the development of the DeKalb Police Department Drone program. The department has acquired (2) state of the art drones to be used to provide additional public safety to the residents of the City of DeKalb. The DeKalb Police Department has identified (5) officers to receive drone training, and as soon as those officers have completed the training, we will deploy this impactful technology which will strengthen our public safety posture.

The DeKalb Police Department has grown its sworn officer count to 68 sworn police officers, with a budgeted sworn personnel count of 73. I have consistently expressed my belief that police visibility is one of the most effective crime deterrents, and as the Chief of Police I will continue to use this posture as our foundation to reduce crime.

I am also pleased to announce that the DeKalb Police Department has increased its staffing. Every division within the DeKalb Police Department; sworn and civilian, is approaching full staffing levels, and it is so exciting to have the staffing needed to provide complete Law Enforcement Services to the City of DeKalb, without eroding our personnel through excessive overtime shifts an extended hours of work.

The additional staffing will provide our personnel with the mental breaks needed to continue to be the professional agency that DeKalb citizens expect. I can't thank our city leaders enough for assuring that we have the necessary amount of staffing to effectively do our job!

I am extremely proud of every single member of the DeKalb Police Department, the professionalism displayed by the employees of the DeKalb Police Department is remarkable and consistent. I am extremely excited about the direction of the DeKalb Police Department and although the road ahead may be rough, DPD has the ability to navigate any and all terrains!

In conclusion, I have routinely expressed this statement, the key to a safer DeKalb is the continued teamwork between the police department and the community! We have the crime antidote in hand...DON'T LET CRIME WIN!

To the DeKalb Police Department: JOB WELL DONE!

"This is the way...The DPD Way!"



ABOUT THE DEPARTMENT

Chief of Police

David Byrd

Deputy Chief

Jason Leverton

Commanders

Craig Woodruff
Stylianos Lekkas
Chad McNett
Keith Ehrke #

Sergeants

Joseph Espy
Tony Kwasniewski
Keunte Mallett
Ryan Wilkens
Phillip Brown
Sonny Streit
Kris Mecca
Raynaldo Hernandez
Kevin Ferrigan
Jason Goodwin
Steven Parsons #

Sworn Officers

Brian Bollow
Anthony Densberger
Chris Sullivan
Lance Reinbolz
Jared Burke
Elizabeth Fabro
Aaron Gates
Bryan Soderstrom
Sadie Pristave
John Loechel
Allison Remnes
Habideen Olaniran
Danielle Sorenson
Josef Gordon
Charles Verdone
Aaron Kleinmaier
Jonathan Bell
Trevor Burdick
Max Paul
Elise Dusek
Kevin Ballschmiede
Kaela Moyer^

Sworn Officers

Jorge Abonce
Diego Casas
Mason Fleury
Brian Rodriguez^
Uriel Ortega
Michael Rinella
Betsy Cooper
Justin Donahue^
Ryan Diedrich
Romain Schaefer-
Carrington
Austin Jacquin
Hayden LaPointe
Chloe Albert
Hayden Patterson
David Moore
Troy Harness
Savannah Long
Anthony Antrobus
Conrad Newhouse^
Jesus Rodriguez
Justin Hickman

Sworn Officers

Landen Gladney+
Jovanni Montalvo+
Fidel Arias-Garcia+
Rahveon Valentine+
Zackary Geraci+
Andrew Strub+^
Robert Creek+^
Alexis Tipescu+^
Austin Patsch+
Paul Kozak+
Andres Ortiz+
Stavroula Tsina+
Kurt Kenworthy+
Marcus Jones+
Blake Vellido+

K-9 Chase

K-9 Drax~

K-9 Riggs

K-9 Ronin+

Administrative Assistant

Melissa Neblock

Records Supervisor

Hannah Tomash

Records Office Associates

Patty Pumfrey^
Carol Halsey
Adrienne Oziah^
JoAnn Chriske-
Deanna Gardner+
Kleady Hartwig+

Video Evidence Technician

Kody Williams

Communications Coordinator

Sean Woyna

Telecommunicators

Heide Clark
Brittany Hedin
Geoffrey Wells
Elizabeth Basham
Alyssa Jennings#
Jessica Green#^
Samantha Doty#
Emily Hopkins
Kelli Rogers^
Kaitlin Kleinmaier#
Jennifer Barnett
Rahveon Valentine-
Morgan Davenport+^
Pam Miller+^
Joshua Shriver+
Emma Valerius+
Kayla Taft+
Nicole Boyer+

Community Service Officers

James Rhoades
Daniel Gerace
Austin Peters
Justin Hatton

Court Security Officer

Raymond West

LEGEND:

#Promoted

+Hired

* Retired

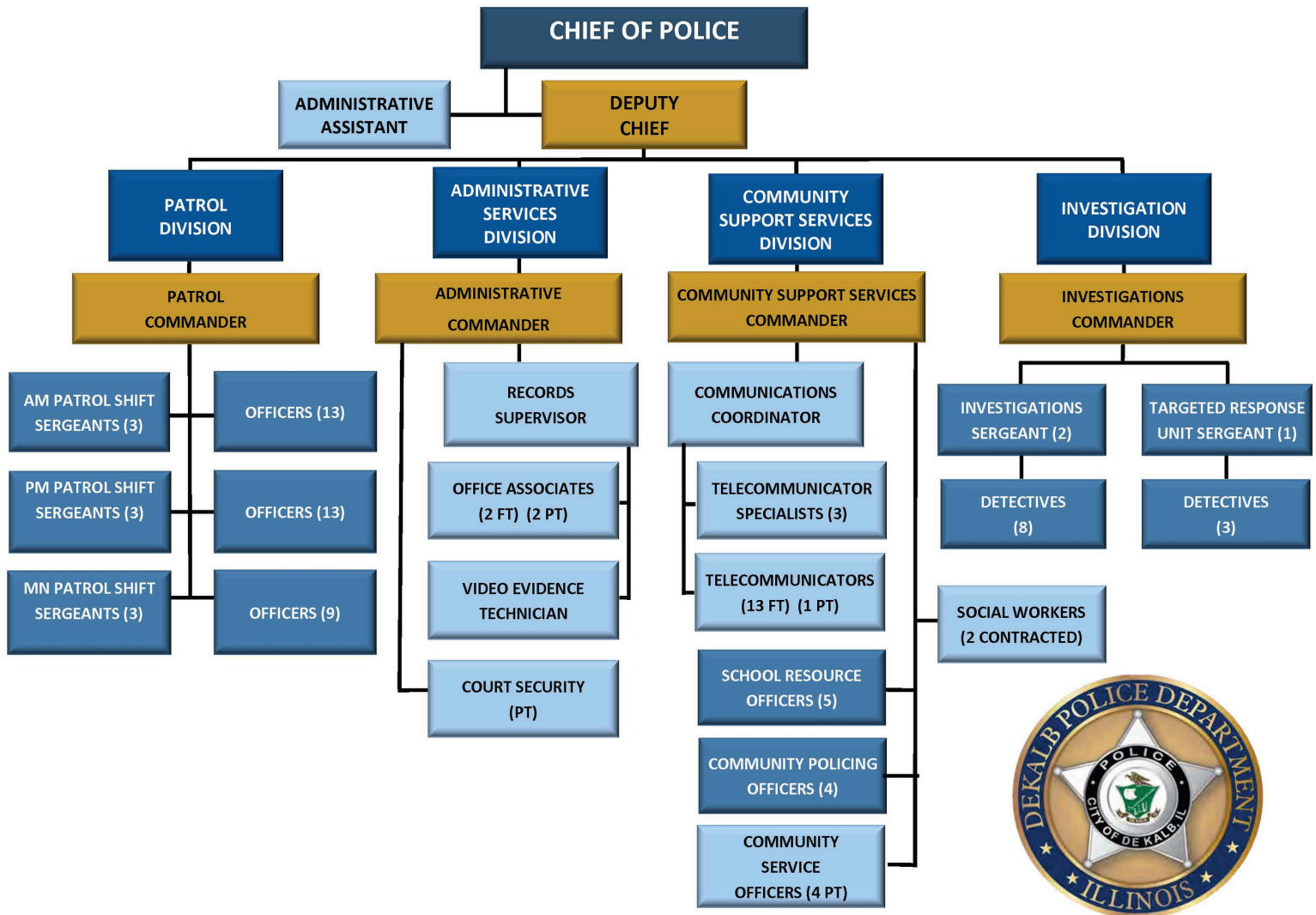
^Resigned

-Transferred

~Deceased

ORGANIZATIONAL CHART

DEKALB POLICE DEPARTMENT ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



FLEET:

- 16 - PATROL CARS
- 8 - DETECTIVE/TRU CARS
- 5 - SCHOOL RESOURCE CARS
- 5 - ADMIN VEHICLES
- 3 - K-9 SQUADS
- 4 - SUPPORT SERVICES CARS
- 1 - EVIDENCE VAN
- 2 - MOTORCYCLES
- 10 - PATROL BICYCLES
- 2 - CARGO TRAILERS
- 1 - UTILITY TASK VEHICLE
- 1 - RESCUE VEHICLE



STRATEGIC PLAN OVERVIEW

CORE VALUES

Every member of the DeKalb Police Department is expected to abide by these principles:

- **Integrity:** Being honest, fair, and ethical in every situation.
- **Professionalism:** Providing service with the highest level of skill, judgment, and respect.
- **Excellence:** Engaging in outstanding levels of performance.
- **Service:** Providing services at the highest level for the betterment of the community.
- **Collaboration:** Working together to benefit from the resources, knowledge, wisdom, and understanding of others.
- **Accountability:** Taking responsibility for our decisions and actions while doing everything possible to achieve the desired results.

COMMUNITY OBJECTIVES

In frequent interactions with community members, the following items have been identified as primary objectives for external initiatives of the Police Department:

- **Reduce violent crime.** This is being addressed through proactive patrols, focused attention to problem areas by our Advanced Criminal Enforcement Team, comprehensive investigations by our team of detectives, and collaboration with the State's Attorney's Office for successful prosecution of offenses.
- **Reduce disruptive incidents at schools.** This is being addressed through education, enforcement, and prevention strategies by our team of School Resource Officers and supplemented by directed patrols and enhanced investigations when needed.
- **Reduce disorderly conduct at parks and public places.** This is being addressed through directed patrols, community engagement and interactions by Police Officers at city parks and public places, and continued department-sponsored events such as Fun Jam in the Park and Water Wars in conjunction with other community partners.
- **Reduce aggressive driving incidents.** This is being addressed by a newly-formed Traffic Team that will focus on unsafe aggressive driving actions through dedicated deterrence and enforcement.

ORGANIZATIONAL OBJECTIVES

Command staff and supervisors have identified the following items as primary objectives for internal initiatives within the DeKalb Police Department:

- **Building trust and legitimacy.** Promoting trust and ensuring legitimacy in building a climate of belonging and inclusivity through principles of procedural and social justice, transparency, accountability, and honest recognition and remediation of obstacles, issues, and mistakes.
- **Effective policies and oversight.** Developing comprehensive and responsive policies on key law enforcement topics while implementing formal checks and balances as well as utilizing data collection with strategic analysis. These efforts are identified and enhanced by conformity and compliance with state and national accreditation standards.
- **Increase workforce staffing, diversity, wellness, and development.** Continue to increase staffing to address community needs, with an emphasis on workforce diversity in being a true reflection of the community. Emphasize the importance of wellness and safety in all facets, in addition to providing high quality and effective training and career development.
- **Public information, outreach, and engagement.** Continue to provide various outlets for the dissemination of public information. Enhance community outreach and engagement through involvement with various community groups, businesses, and individuals.

An aerial night photograph of a multi-lane highway. In the foreground, a police car with flashing blue and red lights is driving away from the camera. Further down the road, several other vehicles are visible, including a car with its headlights on. The road is illuminated by streetlights, and traffic signals are visible at an intersection. The background shows a dark treeline and a distant building with lights. The overall scene is a quiet night on a busy road.

2023 YEAR IN REVIEW

2023 SNAPSHOT



68 SWORN OFFICERS
25 CIVILIAN EMPLOYEES



\$16.3M POLICE BUDGET



3,957
TRAFFIC/ORDINANCE
CITATIONS



1.67 OFFICERS PER
1,000 RESIDENTS



POPULATION: 40,624



3,637
PART A CRIMES



1,035 ACCIDENTS



2,276 ARRESTS



0 SUSTAINED
USE OF FORCE
COMPLAINTS



0 SUSTAINED
COMPLAINTS



144 COMMENDATIONS



3 DOCUMENTED
CITIZEN APPRECIATIONS



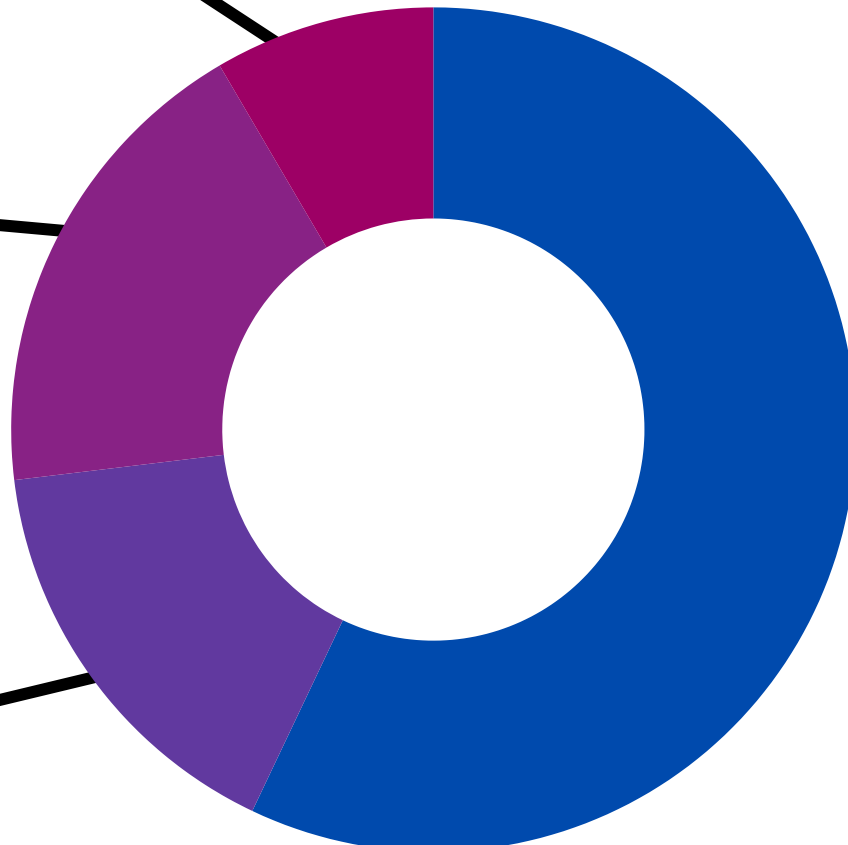
POLICE DEPARTMENT 2023 BUDGET
BY EACH OPERATING DIVISION
\$16.3M TOTAL

ADMINISTRATION
\$1,271,113
7.8%

INVESTIGATIONS
\$2,968,804
18.2%

COMMUNITY SUPPORT
SERVICES
\$3,017,617
18.5%

PATROL
\$9,051,614
55.5%



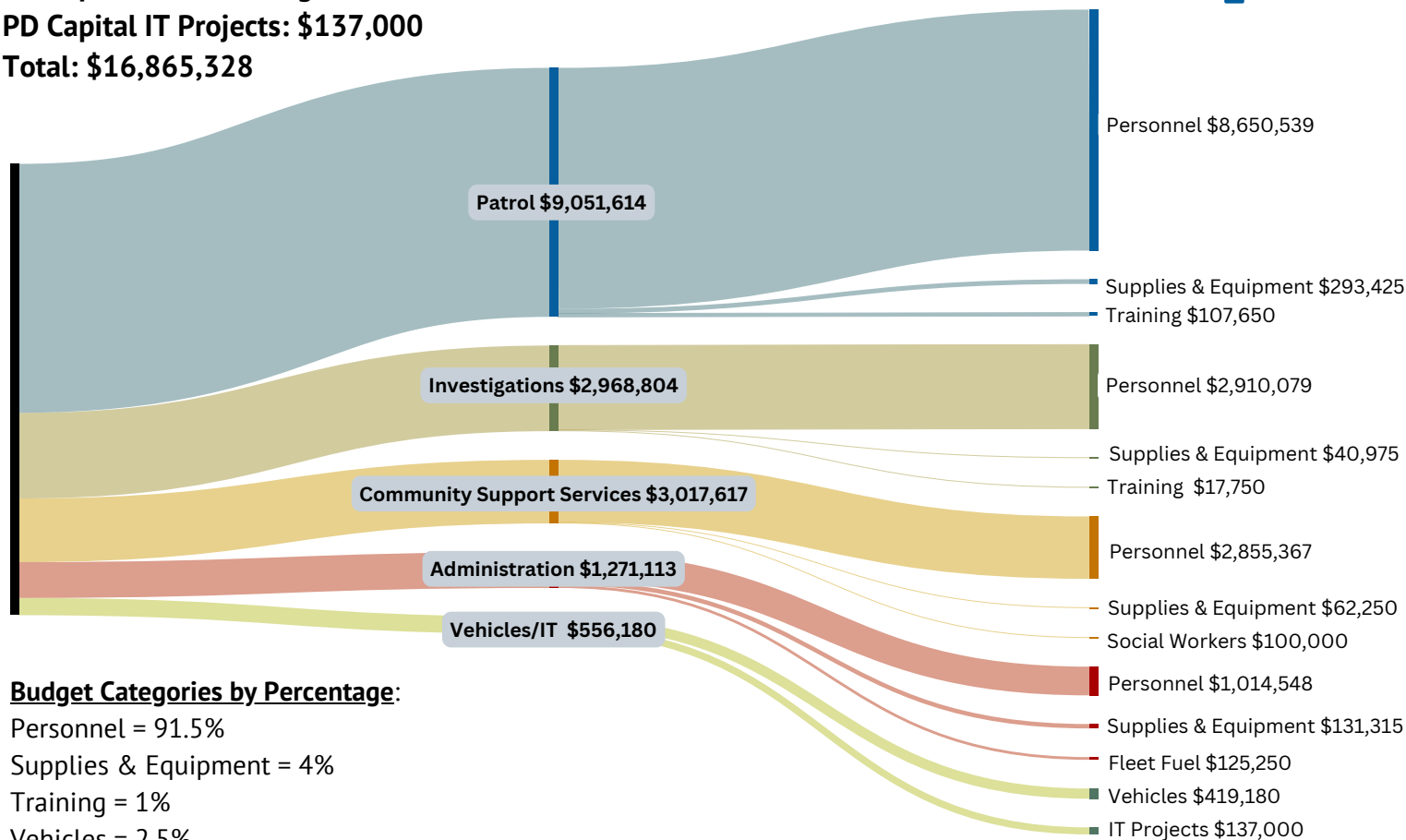
BUDGET BREAKDOWN:

Police Department Budget: \$16,309,148

PD Capital Vehicle Budget: \$419,180

PD Capital IT Projects: \$137,000

Total: \$16,865,328



Budget Categories by Percentage:

Personnel = 91.5%

Supplies & Equipment = 4%

Training = 1%

Vehicles = 2.5%

IT Projects = 1%



GRANTS:

The Police Department budget is supplemented by various grants that help fund specific programs. Some grants span multiple years; the amounts below reflect the amounts expended in calendar year 2023:

Edward Byrne DOJ Grant – No new grant funds were received in 2023, but prior grant awards were expended on various items of technology equipment.

Illinois Training and Standards Board Camera Grant - No new grant funds were received in 2023, but prior grant awards were expended on public safety cameras throughout the community.

Tobacco Compliance Grant - \$6,096 - This state grant program provides expense reimbursement for conducting compliance checks of tobacco vendors.

Illinois Department of Transportation Traffic Grant - \$13,483 - These funds were used for special traffic enforcement details during holiday peak travel periods.

Patrick Leahy Bulletproof Vest Partnership Grant - \$8,000 - This grant reimburses up to half the cost of bulletproof vests for new officers as well as five-year replacement vests.

FOID Compliance Grant - \$10,500 - The Illinois State Police provides expense reimbursement for conducting compliance checks for individuals who have had their FOID cards suspended or revoked.

Toyota Community Grant - \$13,500 - The local Toyota dealer facilitated a grant to fund a replacement K-9 and its initial training after K-9 Drax unexpectedly died from a medical issue.

COPS Hiring Grant - \$140,490 - Federal funding began in 2023 to help offset the cost of hiring three additional officers, for a total of \$375,000 over three years.

2023 IN REVIEW HIGHLIGHTS

STAFFING INCREASE:

The Police Department was granted approval to increase staffing to 70 sworn officers in 2023, though attrition kept the number at a maximum of 68 for the year. The Police Department has authorization to add three more sworn officers in 2024 to bring the total to 73.



CONTINUING CRISIS INTERVENTION TEAM (CIT) TRAINING:

Over the past several years, the Police Department has participated in various behavioral health initiatives as part of the federal Police-Mental Health Collaboration Program. As part of continuing CIT training, team members become specialists in at intervening with persons experiencing a personal crisis due to behavioral health issues. Three embedded social workers provided through the Northwestern Medicine Ben Gordon Center continue to work part-time within the Police Department as part of the CIT concept. CIT response includes referral to support services, alcohol and drug addiction intervention, and conflict mitigation.



2023 IN REVIEW HIGHLIGHTS

LICENSE PLATE READERS INSTALLED:

In April of 2022, the DeKalb Police Department launched its Automatic License Plate Reader program. This program was funded by the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant provided by the United States Department of Justice. These sophisticated cameras photograph a vehicle's license plate and instantly compare it to a database of felonious vehicles, stolen cars, missing persons, etc. The cameras regularly record more than 50,000 plates daily. This technology has greatly impacted the police department's operations by identifying vehicles involved in a criminal act within a fraction of the time previously required. The Department has identified and arrested suspects in weapons calls, home invasions, armed robberies, burglaries, and significant thefts. In 2023, the department added an additional 9 license plate readers to further assist with investigations. By monitoring the cameras, the dispatch center also has directed officers to stolen vehicles in our community, resulting in the recovery of nine stolen vehicles and the arrests of those involved.

BODY WORN CAMERAS:

Following a pilot program in 2020, the Department purchased Axon body cameras and implemented them in 2021. All officers now wear the body cams. These cameras record every police enforcement activity, help with evidence capture and retention, and allow seamless sharing with other police agencies, as well as the DeKalb County State's Attorney's Office. The cameras also have proven useful as tools for transparency and accountability for the Department. In 2023, the department received upgraded cameras as part of the original contract. The new cameras provide better battery life and streamlined functionality.



FIREARM OWNERS IDENTIFICATION (FOID) COMPLIANCE PROGRAM:

Beginning in September 2023, the Illinois State Police (ISP) initiated a program to disperse funds among participating departments to conduct FOID Compliance Checks of individuals who have had their FOID card suspended or revoked. In conjunction with ISP, the Police Department compiles information on those potentially out of compliance and assembles a team of officers to perform compliance checks. This program has the potential to increase safety in the community by ensuring compliance with the confiscation of invalid FOID cards and the transfer of firearms to legal FOID cardholders or storage at the Police Department for safekeeping.

In 2023 the Dekalb Police Department conducted 51 compliance checks, with 24 individuals being placed into compliance, 10 invalid FOID cards confiscated, and 5 firearms transferred to lawful cardholders or to PD custody.

2023 IN REVIEW STAFF ACCOMPLISHMENTS

NEW HIRES

The DeKalb Police Department hired 15 sworn officers in 2023. Officers Gladney and Montalvo were sworn in during January. Officer Arias-Garcia was sworn in during February. Officer Valentine, Gercaci, and Strub were sworn in during May. Officers Creek, Tipescu, Kozak, and Patsch in August. Officer Ortiz was sworn in September and Officer Tsina was sworn in October. Officers Kenworthy, Jones and Vetillo were sworn in December.



In addition to sworn personnel, the department also hired additional civilian personnel. Communications hired full-time telecommunicators Morgan Davenport, Pam Miller, Joshua Shriver, Emma Valerius, Kayla Taft, and Nicole Boyer. The records department also hired Deanna Gardner and Kleady Hartwig.

2023 IN REVIEW

STAFF ACCOMPLISHMENTS

PROMOTIONS:

Commander Keith Ehrke and Sergeant Steven Parsons were promoted in April.

In 2023, three new positions were created for Telecommunicator Specialists to help with Quality Assurance of calls, as well as develop other skills and leaderships qualities. These include the duties of the LEADS Agency Coordinator (LAC), Training Coordinator, and CAD Administrator. Promotions were Kaitlin Kleinmaier, Alyssa Jennings, Jessica Green, and Samantha Doty.



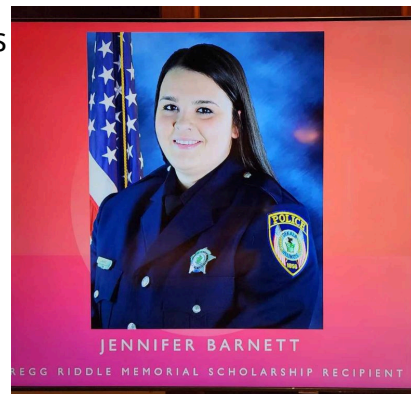
YEARS OF SERVICE MILESTONES:

Officer Christopher Sullivan and Telecommunicator Heide Clark reached their 20 years of service.

TC AWARDS/SCHOLARSHIPS:

Telecommunicator Specialist Jessica Green received a scholarship from the National Emergency Number Association (NENA) to attend their national conference in Grapevine, Texas in June. She was picked from applications received from across the United States and brought back several new skills to apply to her position.

Kaitlyn Kleinmaier and Samy Doty received awards from the ETSB for exemplary service.



OFFICER OF THE YEAR:

This year, Officer Allison Remnes received the esteemed State of Illinois Law Officer of the Year award from the DeKalb County Veteran Organization 40 & 8. This organization, known officially as "La Société des Quarante Hommes et Huit Chevaux," was established after World War I to honor the courageous French Nurses who saved numerous soldiers' lives. Membership is exclusive and extended to Honorably Discharged Veterans and currently serving Military Personnel, following a recent amendment to Article IV of the society's constitution. Officer Remnes' unwavering dedication, steadfast commitment, and exceptional service to the community have undeniably made a profound impact.



2023 IN REVIEW

STAFF ACCOMPLISHMENTS

AWARDS:

In 2023, the department held an award ceremony during Police Week to honor staff members' actions from 2022. The ceremony recognized individuals who have distinguished themselves and the department by their exemplary acts of bravery, professionalism, and praiseworthy deeds.

Detectives Kleinmaier and Sergeant Parsons were awarded the Top Gun in Detectives. Officer Patterson was awarded the Top Gun in Patrol. Detective Kleinmaier was awarded Fugitive Apprehension in Detectives. Officer Patterson was awarded Fugitive Apprehension in Patrol. Officer LaPointe was recognized as being a top performer in Traffic Enforcement. Detective Abonce, Detective Streit, and Telecommunicator Hedin were awarded the Chiefs Award.

The detective division was acknowledged for their performance in various cases including First Degree Murder, illegal drug, cash, firearm and drug seizure, and aggravated criminal sexual assault.

Commander McNett, Detective Loechel, Officers Fleury, Rinella, Burdick, Densberger, Burke, Olaniran, and Cooper were recognized for their performance as Field Training Officers.

Adrienne Oziah was awarded the Outstanding Service Award for her work in the Records Department.



Officer Bollow and Detective Moyer were awarded the Medal of Honor by Governor JB Pritzker, Illinois State Police (ISP) Director Brendan F. Kelly, and law enforcement officials from across the state during the Law Enforcement Medal of Honor Ceremony in Springfield. It's a significant recognition of their exceptional dedication and service to the citizens of Dekalb. The Medal of Honor is a prestigious honor that highlights his courage, selflessness, and commitment to upholding the safety and well-being of the community.



2023 IN REVIEW NOTEWORTHY CASES

JANUARY ARMED ROBBERY

Officers responded to the “There’s Fun in Store” (Gaming Store) located at 229 E. Lincoln Highway for a possible armed robbery. It was determined that a male offender brandished a firearm and demanded U.S. Currency. The armed offender fled the scene with an unknown amount of U.S. Currency. The Detective Division disseminated a community alert via social media. That alert displayed a still photo of the possible offender which was retrieved from video surveillance from the gaming store. Numerous tips from the community were received, and those tips led to the arrest of the armed robbery offender Javaughn J. Owens. It was determined that the firearm used in the robbery was a BB Gun, not a firearm. After further investigation by the DeKalb Police Department, there is significant evidence linking Javaughn Owens to (2) additional property crimes in the City of DeKalb. Burglary at Lehan’s Drug Store 1407 S. Fourth St. and Criminal Damage to Property at State Farm Office 129 E. Locust St. Javaughn Owens was charged with Aggravated Robbery (Class 1 Felony), Burglary (Class 2 Felony) Lehan’s Drug Store, Criminal Damage to Property (Class 4 Felony) Lehan’s Drug Store, and Criminal Damage to Property (Class A Misdemeanor) State Farm.

JANUARY NOTEWORTHY CASES

Officers observed Donovan Johnson, who was known to have warrants, exiting a vehicle and running into his residence. Officers responded and quickly set up a perimeter. A search warrant was obtained after a female occupant denied that he was in the house. The entry team forced open the apartment door and Johnson was arrested for multiple warrants including Aggravated Domestic Battery and Unlawful Possession of a Controlled Substance with intent to deliver.

A female contacted the Police Department because her ex-boyfriend, Glendell Miller was outside her residence telling her that he would be coming into her apartment and he was holding a gun. Using University Village cameras, he was located and arrested (without the gun) for Disorderly Conduct. After being trespassed from University Village and posting bond, he was released. He was later observed by several officers going into the #600 building at 820 N. Annie Glidden Rd. and coming out a few seconds later. Officers observed Miller tucking something into his waistband as he was exiting the building. Miller was arrested in University Village with a ghost gun. Ghost guns are unserialized and untraceable firearms that can be bought online and assembled at home.

Officers responded to Hillcrest Dr. and Annie Glidden Ave. for a report of a theft of an AR-15. An officer met up with the victim at Varsity Blvd. and Pappas Dr. and advised that the suspect vehicle may be in the parking lot of 1110/1120 Varsity Dr. Officers located the vehicle, conducted a felony traffic stop, and located the stolen firearm in the trunk of the vehicle.

FEBRUARY HOMICIDE

Officers were notified that a male who had been dropped off at Northwestern Medicine-Kishwaukee Hospital with a gunshot wound to the abdomen. Due to the life-threatening nature of his injuries, he was airlifted to a Rockford hospital where he subsequently died while receiving medical treatment. The investigation quickly led to the identification of a male suspect, who was placed under surveillance. Officers saw him enter a Jeep Grand Cherokee in the 800 block of Ridge Drive at 11:49 PM and attempted to stop the vehicle. The suspect fled from police, ultimately going eastbound on I-88 at a high rate of speed where he was eventually stopped near Midwest Road at 12:26 AM with the assistance of the Kane County Sheriff’s Office and Illinois State Police. Calvin Hamilton was taken into custody and brought back to the DeKalb Police Department. Additional witnesses were located and it was determined that Deaundre Brooks had been shot by Hamilton during a dispute while they were traveling in a vehicle on I-88 between Route 47 and Peace Road returning to DeKalb. Calvin Hamilton was arrested and charged with First Degree Murder.

MARCH HOMICIDE

Officers responded to 847 Russell Road and located a male subject lying on the parking lot ground unresponsive. The victim Carl Austin was transported by DeKalb Fire Department to Northwestern Medicine Kishwaukee Hospital with several gunshot wounds. Carl Austin was pronounced deceased shortly after arriving at the hospital. Witnesses at the scene of the shooting provided a detailed description of the possible offender. The DeKalb Police Department, along with the DeKalb County Special Operations Team (SOT) conducted a door-to-door search for the offender.

At 847 Russell Rd., Officers made contact with a subject fitting the description provided by witnesses. The subject/offender Romel A. Hollingsworth Jr. was apprehended, and a firearm was located. Romel A. Hollingsworth Jr. was charged with First Degree Murder.

2023 IN REVIEW NOTEWORTHY CASES

APRIL AGGRAVATED CRIMINAL SEXUAL ABUSE

The DeKalb Police Department was notified by Huntley Middle School staff that an inappropriate encounter between a staff member and a minor had occurred on school premises. Officers responded to Huntley Middle School and interviewed several staff members and students. It was determined that a criminal act had been committed by a Huntley Middle School staff member against a Huntley Middle School student. The DeKalb Police Department Detectives conducted a thorough investigation and determined that Quinyatta L. Hutchinson had engaged in sexual conduct with a minor on school property and obtained a warrant for Hutchinson's arrest for Aggravated Criminal Sexual Abuse. Hutchinson's vehicle/License plate was identified through the Automated License Plate Reader System entering the DeKalb city limits later that night and officers responded to Hutchinson's residence where he was located and taken into custody without incident. Quinyatta L. Hutchinson was charged with two counts of Aggravated Criminal Sexual Abuse.

APRIL ARMED ROBBERY

The DeKalb Police Department investigated an armed robbery of a pizza delivery driver in the area of 227 West Locust Street where two males robbed the delivery driver at gunpoint. The investigation led to the identification of one of the suspects, Jacques D. Alexander, and an arrest warrant was issued. Officers attempted to serve the arrest warrant for Alexander at the 100 block of West Lincoln Highway and the suspect and two unknown subjects fled on foot. Officers apprehended all three fleeing subjects after a short foot pursuit. Officers recovered a 9mm Glock semi-automatic pistol from the backpack of one of the fleeing subjects, identified as Anthony D. Hernandez. The third subject (A minor 17 YOA) was arrested for an outstanding nationwide no-bond warrant for Armed Robbery out of the state of Iowa. Jacques Alexander was charged with Aggravated Robbery, Anthony Hernandez was charged with Resisting a Peace Officer Aggravated Unlawful Use of a Weapon (two counts) Possession of a Firearm (NO FOID) Possession of Firearm Ammunition (NO FOID).

MAY HOMICIDE

Officers were notified that a 15-year-old female from DeKalb who had not been seen by family members for days. Phone records indicated her last location was at 536 College Avenue. An investigation led to police finding the body of the missing female in a dumpster on a property adjacent to 536 College Avenue. Various search warrants were conducted, and evidence led to a suspect being detained

Timothy M. Doll was charged with First Degree Murder (2 counts), Aggravated Criminal Sex Abuse, Concealment of a Homicide, Aggravated Domestic Battery, Obstruction of Justice (2 counts), Unlawful Restraint, and Unlawful Communication by a Child Sex Offender.

Doll was currently on probation for a prior Aggravated Criminal Sexual Abuse case from 2020. He was in compliance as a registered sex offender, having recently registered with the DeKalb Police Department in April. The investigation determined that Doll and the victim had argued and then he held the victim down and suffocated her with a pillow until she lost consciousness, to which she did not recover. He later put her body in the dumpster, removed her personal items from his apartment, and threw her phone away in the garbage at another location. Gracie A. Sasso-Cleveland's official cause of death was determined as asphyxiation by the Coroner's Office.

MAY HOMICIDE

The DeKalb Police Department received a report of shots being fired at 432 Russell Road. Upon arrival, officers located two individuals who had been shot. Both were transported to Northwestern Kishwaukee Hospital. One individual Marlon King was pronounced dead, while the other was airlifted to a Rockford hospital for further treatment. Preliminary investigation indicated that the individuals were involved in a confrontation that led to gunshots being fired by multiple subjects. The DeKalb Police Department took Jayden C. Hernandez into custody and charged him with First Degree Murder, Mob Action, and Resisting a Peace Officer. Carreon S. Scott was also taken into custody and charges with First Degree Murder, and Mob Action.

MAY THEFT

The DeKalb Police Department began an investigation into a financial crime involving a local business Cole Pallet after they learned of some unapproved transactions and conducted an internal audit. They contacted the police to report that an employee had made illegal transactions with the company's funds, forged checks, and made online purchases for personal use. Following an investigation, the offender was identified as Paa'Shion Mhoon. Officers and detectives executed a search warrant at the offender's home and recovered evidence, as well as property and funds obtained illegally. Mhoon was at the home and taken into custody without incident and charged with Theft over \$1,000,000 – Class X Felony, Misappropriation of Financial Institution Property Over \$1,000,000 – Class X Felony, Continuing Financial Crimes Enterprise – Class 1 Felony, and Forgery (3 counts) – Class 3 Felony.

2023 IN REVIEW NOTEWORTHY CASES

JUNE AGGRAVATED DISCHARGE OF A FIREARM

The DeKalb Police Department responded to a call of shots fired in the 800 block of Fotis Drive where they spoke with a victim who said his brother/offender Jaylen Grayer fired shots at him, while the victim was driving his motor vehicle westbound on Hillcrest Drive toward Fotis Drive. The victim's vehicle had one bullet hole located in the trunk area of the vehicle. A crime scene was identified in front of 1006 Aspen Court, where multiple spent casings were located. A search warrant was executed at the aforementioned location by the DeKalb County Special Operations Team (SOT), at which time Jaylen Grayer was taken into custody without incident and charged with Aggravated Discharge of a Firearm -(Class 1) Felony, Aggravated Unlawful Use of Weapon (Class 4) Felony, Possession of a Firearm/No FOID-(Class 3) Misdemeanor, and Possession of Firearm Ammunition/No FOID (Class A) Misdemeanor.

JULY NOTEWORTHY CASES

DeKalb Police Department officers heard several gunshots coming from the general area of 800 block of Crane Drive. Officers responded to the area and began canvassing the area for a potential crime scene. Several witnesses directed officers to the area of 831 Crane Drive, at which time officers deployed their gun detection K-9 Chase and located several spent shell casings in the parking lot. Officers reviewed video surveillance and identified a vehicle that sped away from the scene. The DeKalb Police Department was able to obtain the make, model, and registration by accessing the DeKalb Police Department's automated license plate reader system. Detectives tracked down the aforementioned vehicle and the suspect in the city of Chicago. The suspect was contacted by detectives and a firearm was recovered.

Officers responded to Northwestern Medicine Kishwaukee Hospital regarding a possible criminal sexual assault. Detectives learned that the victim communicated with the offender Tyrus Bartholomew, through the "Tagged" online dating application. Bartholomew arranged a date with the victim and picked her up from her residence in DeKalb. When the victim entered the vehicle, Bartholomew immediately brandished a firearm, drove her to another location, and sexually assaulted the victim. Bartholomew threatened to kill the victim if she contacted police, and the victim was released.

The DeKalb Detective Division was able to ascertain Bartholomew's license plate information and after a review of the Automated License Plate Reader system, it was determined that Bartholomew's vehicle was traveling in the area of Rockford, Illinois. The DeKalb Police Department were able to locate Bartholomew's vehicle in Rockford, Illinois, and subsequently placed him under arrest without incident. Tyrus J. Bartholomew was charged with Aggravated Kidnapping-Felony Class X, and Aggravated Criminal Sexual Assault- Felony Class X (two counts).

AUGUST NOTEWORTHY CASES

In August officers responded to an address on Eves Circle West for a reported armed robbery and made contact with the victim, and it was alleged that a male offender robbed the victim at gunpoint. The victim provided a description of the subject identified as Vernon Edwards and was able to identify him from a photo line-up. Edwards was located at his residence and placed into custody without incident. It was determined that a BB gun was used in the robbery and that several of the victim's stolen items were recovered inside and outside of the offender's residence. Vernon Edwards was charged with Aggravated Robbery-Felony Class 1.

2023 IN REVIEW NOTEWORTHY CASES

SEPTEMBER ARSON

The DeKalb Fire Department and the DeKalb Police Department were dispatched to 1215 Blackhawk Road, formerly Fanatico restaurant, in reference to an active structure fire. After the fire was extinguished, DeKalb Police Department Detectives, DeKalb Fire Department Arson Investigators, and a Special Agent from the Office of the State Fire Marshall responded to the scene. Investigators determined that Arson was the cause of the fire and evidence was collected. Observant witnesses in the area provided a description of possible suspects. Public Safety Cameras, privately owned cameras, and license plate readers were reviewed to help identify the suspects. Through the course of the investigation, investigators discovered Rasim Spaijoski paid Richard Chase for starting the fire at the business. Officers learned that Richard Chase paid Joshua Patton to assist with starting the fire. Additional evidence was collected to confirm that Spaijoski encouraged Chase to start the fire. Additional charges are possible against the suspects in this investigation. The following individuals were arrested and transported to the DeKalb County Jail Richard Chase was charged with Arson (Class 2 Felony), and Unlawful Possession of a Controlled Substance (Class 4 Felony). Joshua Patton was charged with Arson (Class 2 Felony), and Unlawful Possession of a Controlled Substance (Class 4 Felony). Rasim Spaijoski was charged with Solicitation (Class 2 Felony), and Arson (Class 2 Felony).

OCTOBER NOTEWORTHY CASES

On October 2, 2023 the DeKalb Police Department responded to an armed robbery in the area of the 100 block of South 7th Street. Officers contacted the victim who stated that an unknown male subject made contact with him while he was attempting to enter his vehicle. The subject pointed a gun at him and demanded his cell phone and money. The unknown male subject forced the victim back into his residence to retrieve his wallet and more money and threatened to kill the victim if he contacted the police and fled the scene. Officers reviewed video surveillance from several locations in the area and were able to identify the alleged offender. The DeKalb Police Department requested and was granted a search warrant for 117 East Locust Street. The DeKalb Police Department, along with the DeKalb County Special Operations Team (SOT), executed the search warrant and located the alleged offender inside the residence. The search warrant also led to critical evidence being located regarding the home invasion/armed robbery investigation. Anthony Redd was charged with Home Invasion-Felony, Armed Robbery-Felony, and Unlawful Restraint- Felony.

On October 26, 2023, officers conducted an investigative stop on a passenger vehicle in the 800 block of Pappas Drive, DeKalb, Illinois. Officers made contact with three occupants in the vehicle and were subsequently notified that one of the occupants was wanted on a parole violation warrant from the Illinois Department of Corrections. The investigative stop also led to the recovery of a loaded handgun inside the passenger area of the vehicle. Three offenders were arrested without incident. Trevon Williams was charged with Armed Habitual Criminal-Felony, Aggravated Unlawful Use of Weapon (No FOID) – Felony, Aggravated Unlawful Use of Weapon (No CCL)- Felony, Unlawful Possession of Weapon Felon-Felony, and Driving While License Suspended- Misdemeanor. Jaquest Swafford was charged with Unlawful Possession of Weapon Felon- Felony, Unlawful Possession of Ammunition by Felon, and Unlawful Possession of Firearm without Requisite FOID. Darnell Torres was charged with Aggravated Unlawful Use of Weapon (No FOID)- Felony, Aggravated Unlawful Use of Weapon (No CCL)- Felony, and Unlawful Possession of Weapon by Felon-Felony.

NOVEMBER RECKLESS HOMICIDE

DeKalb Police Department Officers responded to a serious 2-vehicle crash at 1200 S. 7th Street. Officers, along with the DeKalb Fire Department arrived on scene and rendered medical attention to a seriously injured passenger in one of the vehicles involved. The seriously injured passenger was transported to an area hospital, where she unfortunately succumbed to her injuries. Officers determined that the driver of the at-fault vehicle was driving under the influence of an alcoholic beverage at the time of the crash, and were subsequently arrested and charged. James Corralejo was arrested and charged with Reckless Homicide- Felony, Aggravated Driving Under the Influence of Alcohol/Death- Felony, and Driving Under the Influence of Alcohol.



STATISTICS

GROUP A OFFENSES

Calls for Service	2021	2022	2023
Murder	3	1	4
Negligent Manslaughter	1	0	1
Justifiable Homicide	1	0	0
Non-Consensual Sex Offenses	63	76	69
Aggravated Assault	174	125	92
Simple Assault	1,075	981	1,096
Intimidation	116	107	83
Kidnapping/Abduction	12	8	8
Consensual Sex Offenses	5	1	4
Human Trafficking-Commercial Acts	0	0	0
Human Trafficking-Involuntary Servitude	1	0	0
Crimes Against Person Total	1,451	1,299	1,357

The National Incident Based Reporting System (NIBRS) divides all crimes into two categories, Group A and Group B. The Group A crimes are further separated by the nature of the victim. The chart below groups the most significant crimes against a person, crimes against property, and crimes against society reported in 2022.



ADDITIONAL GROUP A OFFENSES

The National Incident Based Reporting System (NIBRS) divides all crimes into two categories, Group A and Group B. The chart below groups additional crimes against a person, crimes against property, and crimes against society reported in 2023.

Calls for Service	2021	2022	2023
Robbery	25	31	19
Burglary/Breaking & Entering	107	81	90
Larceny/Theft Offenses	845	917	876
Motor Vehicle Theft	71	61	44
Arson	9	8	6
Destruction of Property	573	527	368
Counterfeiting/Forgery	54	40	21
Fraud Offense	563	356	322
Embezzlement	3	2	1
Extortion/Blackmail	7	3	1
Bribery	0	0	0
Stolen Property Offenses	2	2	1
Crimes Against Property Total	2,260	2,028	1,749
Drug / Narcotic Violation	234	322	399
Drug Equipment Violation	37	38	66
Gambling Offenses	0	0	0
Pornography/Obscene Material	6	6	11
Prostitution	4	2	1
Weapons Law Violation	74	55	47
Animal Cruelty	3	8	6
Crimes Against Society Total	358	431	530

GROUP B OFFENSES

The NIBRS Group B crimes are considered less serious than Group A crimes. Group B also only reports the offenses that resulted in an arrest, as opposed to crimes in Group A, which are reported regardless of an arrest.

Offense	2021	2022	2023
Fraudulent Checks	4	5	1
Curfew/Loitering/Vagrancy	4	4	1
Disorderly Conduct	1,070	886	750
Driving Under the Influence	81	75	74
Disruptive Intoxication (state charge, not city ordinance)	1	0	0
Family Offenses, Non-Violent	8	14	11
Liquor Law Violations	30	18	16
Voyeurism	0	0	0
Runaway	12	4	6
Trespass of Real Property	302	307	383
All Other Offenses	588	366	362
Total Part B	2,100	1,679	1,530



CALLS FOR SERVICE: PUBLIC SERVICE AND MISCELLANEOUS

Calls for Service	2021	2022	2023
Alarm	811	731	546
Assist Business	449	223	433
Assist Citizens	5,319	4,667	3,863
Assist Fire Department	245	376	374
Assist Outside Agency	1,388	1,491	944
Child Custody / Exchange	290	303	257
Citizen Contact	128	208	216
Keys in Car	1,475	1,319	1,031
Lost / Found Property	365	228	178
Outside Agency Warrant Arrests	502	544	534
Public Presentations / Community Engagement	569	574	571
Warrant Attempts / Paper Service	200	338	203
Accidental Injury (Requiring Police Report)	0	3	0
Deaths (Non Criminal)	63	34	46
Missing Adult	78	38	24
Reported Vehicle Repossession	172	179	101
Sex Offender Registration	290	346	306
Unfounded 9-1-1 Calls	3,176	2,696	3,870

CALLS FOR SERVICE: QUALITY OF LIFE ISSUES AND COMMUNITY CARETAKING

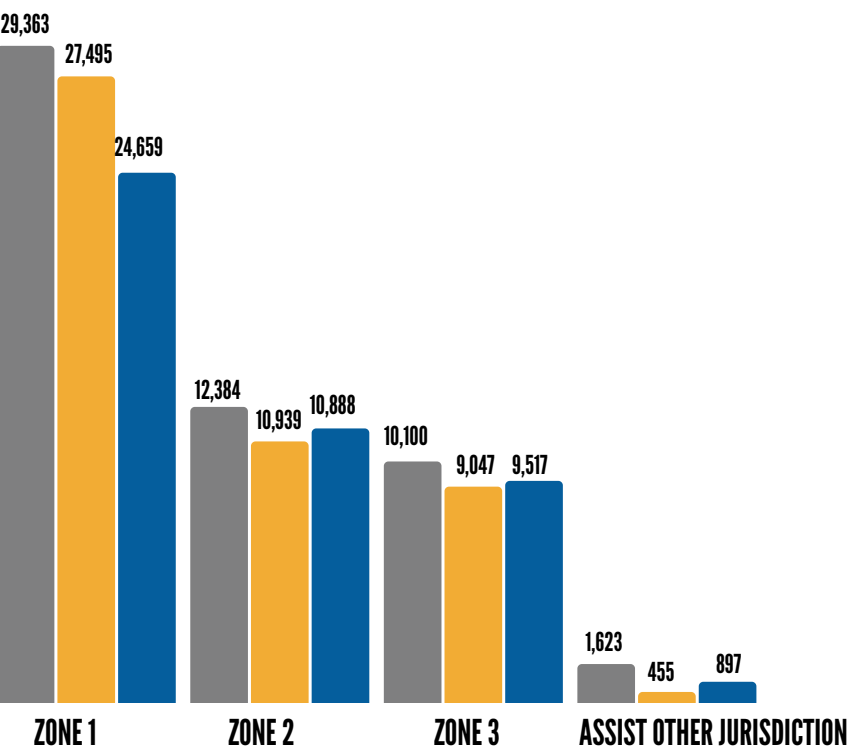
Calls for Service	2021	2022	2023
Animal Calls	651	651	705
Disorderly Conduct	1,175	1,231	880
Intoxicated Subjects	276	188	216
Juvenile Offenses	416	476	512
Suspicious Activity	2,020	2,082	2,091
Behavioral Health Issues	675	501	539
Check Well Being	1,081	1,053	1,055
Civil Disputes	364	697	293
Domestic Calls	1,732	1,826	1,610
Landlord / Tenant Disputes	73	36	15
Municipal Ordinance Violations	1,427	853	727
Neighbor Trouble	186	162	167
Relocation Complaints	126	76	38

GENERAL STATISTICS

CALLS FOR SERVICE BY ZONE

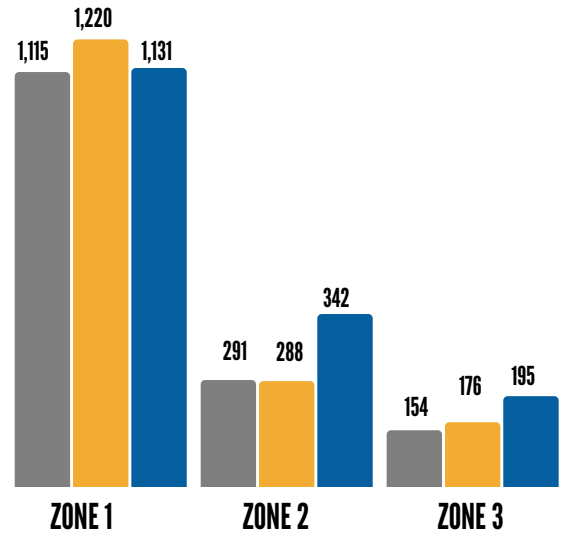
THE DEPARTMENT HAS SEEN A DECREASE IN TOTAL CALLS FOR SERVICE FROM 2021 THROUGH 2023.

■ 2021 ■ 2022 ■ 2023



ADULT ARRESTS

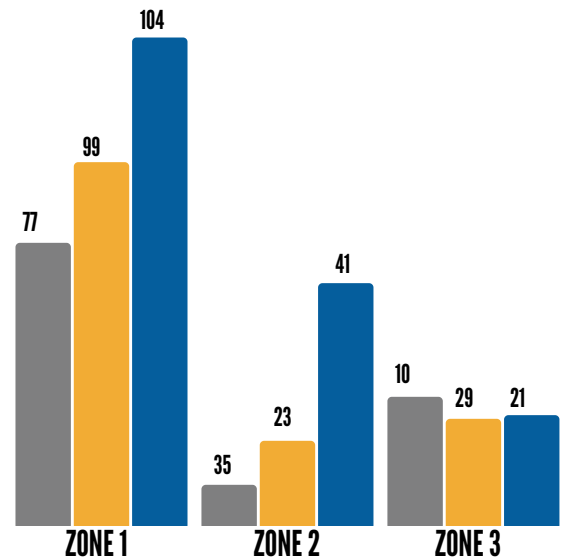
■ 2021 ■ 2022 ■ 2023



JUVENILE ARRESTS

THE DEPARTMENT HAS SEEN A INCREASE IN OVERALL ARRESTS FROM 2021 THROUGH 2023.

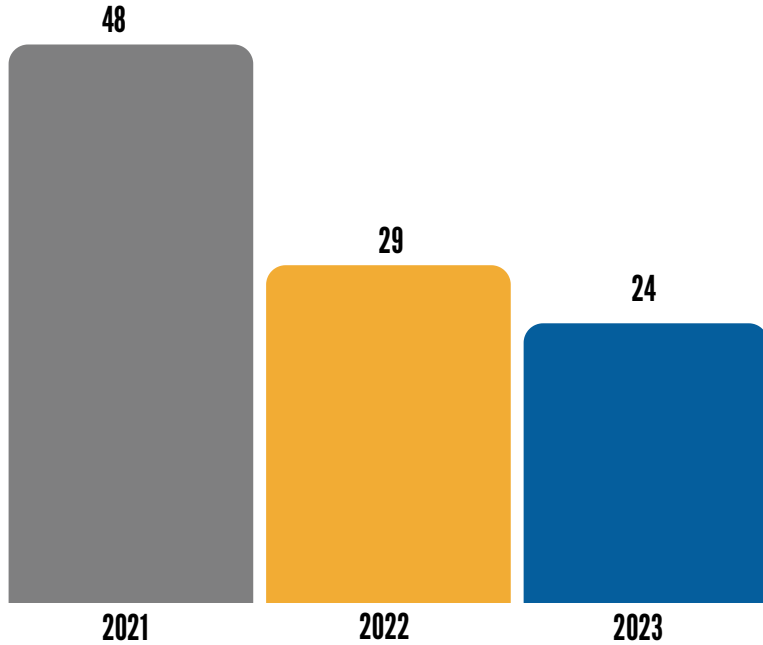
■ 2021 ■ 2022 ■ 2023



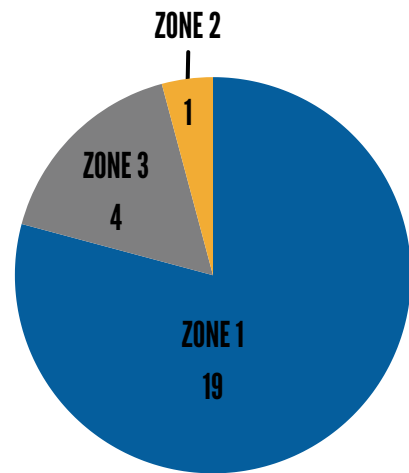
GENERAL STATISTICS

CONFIRMED SHOTS FIRED

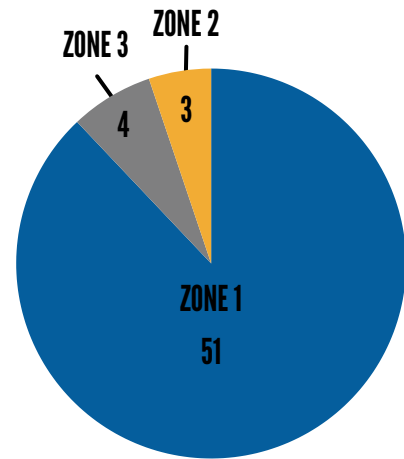
CONFIRMED SHOTS FIRED INCLUDE THOSE WHERE EVIDENCE OF A SHOOTING OCCURRED WAS LOCATED, SUCH AS A VICTIM, SPENT CASING, BULLET HOLE, VIDEO EVIDENCE, OR EYE WITNESS.



24 CONFIRMED SHOTS FIRED BY ZONE IN 2023

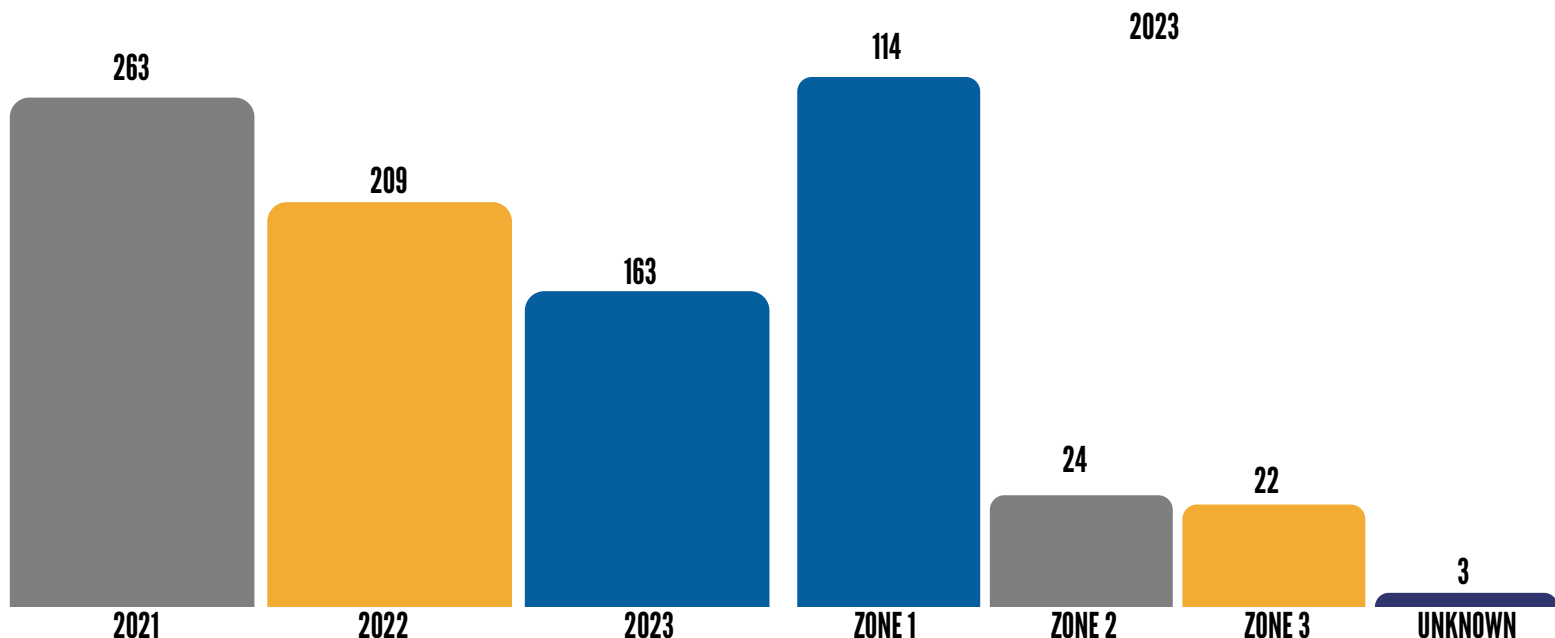


58 FIREARMS SEIZED BY ZONE IN 2023



VIOLENT CRIMES

VIOLENT CRIMES INCLUDE HOMICIDE, AGGRAVATED ASSAULT/BATTERY, CRIMINAL SEXUAL ASSAULT, AND ROBBERY.



2023 VIOLENT CRIMES BREAKDOWN

IN 2021, ALL ILLINOIS POLICE DEPARTMENTS WERE REQUIRED TO SWITCH TO THE NATIONAL INCIDENT BASED REPORTING SYSTEM (NIBRS). DUE TO THIS CHANGE IN THE REPORTING FORMAT, DIRECT COMPARISONS BETWEEN PREVIOUS YEARS WITH DIFFERENT FORMATS ARE NOT VIABLE.

TRAFFIC STATISTICS

	2021	2022	2023
Traffic/ Ordinance Citations Issued	2,208	3,661	3,957
DUI Arrests	81	75	74
Warnings Issued	1,053	2,386	2,702
Parking Tickets Issued	6,657	5,870	4,414



	2021	2022	2023
Abandoned Autos	287	203	203
Pedestrian Warnings	7	5	3
Driving Complaints	419	645	544
Parking Complaints	754	687	670

ACCIDENT STATISTICS



	2021	2022	2023
Property Damage Only	1,067	1,230	870
Accidents with Injuries	207	46	161
Fatalities	2	1	4





DIVISIONS

CHIEF'S OFFICE
COMMUNITY SUPPORT SERVICES
PATROL INVESTIGATIONS
ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES



CHIEF'S OFFICE

The Office of the Chief is accountable for all aspects of the Police Department's function and mission. The Chief of Police provides leadership, direction, serves as the department's primary liaison with all internal and external stakeholders, and builds partnerships that focus on enhancing public safety and the quality of life for the community.

Deputy Chief Jason Leverton is responsible for overseeing all of the operating divisions of the Police Department. The Deputy Chief performs most of the business aspects of the Police Department, such as payroll processing, invoice payment for goods and services, budget preparation and execution, uniform and equipment provision, building maintenance coordination, and fleet management. He also administers the department's policy manual and serves as the accreditation manager to maintain state accreditation standards. He provides administrative review of use of force situations and also reviews business and liquor license applications. Lastly, he serves as the Chairman for the DeKalb County Emergency Telephone System 9-1-1 Board (ETSB).

Administrative Assistant Melissa Neblock is primarily responsible for disseminating the DeKalb County Intelligence report, providing support for the Office of the Chief and Command staff, and serves as the first point of contact for the public wishing to speak with the Chief.



COMMUNITY SUPPORT SERVICES

The Community Support Services Division focuses on community engagement, communications, community policing, behavioral health, and community wellness calls for service. The Department is made of both sworn and civilian personnel. In 2023, Department staff had 379 documented community engagement events. In future years, this division will expand to have a Crisis Intervention Teams (CIT). Commander Lekkas oversees this division.



COMMUNITY SERVICE OFFICERS



The Community Service Officers (CSOs) are non-sworn, part-time civilian members of the Police Department. They perform law enforcement-related community services that do not require the enforcement authority of a sworn police officer. Their duties include: checking the security of vacationing residents' homes, marking and towing abandoned autos, taking fingerprints for business licensees, managing lost & found items and bicycles, and assisting all divisions with various tasks.

VOLUNTEERS

Law enforcement volunteers are comprised mostly of college students with aspirations of law enforcement careers and local residents who are interested in assisting the police in their mission. They perform service for the department without promise, expectation, or receipt of compensation for services rendered. These services may include traffic control during special events or parades and assisting the department in other various ways. The volunteer program is a registered participant in the National Volunteers in Police Service (VIPS) program.

COMMUNITY SUPPORT SERVICES



20,700 911 CALLS



57,612 ADMINISTRATIVE CALLS



47,776 POLICE CAD CALLS



7,677 FIRE / EMS CALLS

COMMUNICATIONS

Communications Center employees work as the frontline response for receiving emergency and non-emergency telephone inquiries and requests for Police, Fire, and Emergency Medical Services (EMS) in the community and fire protection district. The Communications Center is staffed 24/7 with 2023 authorized staffing of a Communications Coordinator, 16 full-time and 1 part-time highly-trained Telecommunicators (TCs). Communications Coordinator Sean Woyna serves as the manager of the center and direct supervisor of the TCs. Three new full-time positions were added in 2023 known as Telecommunicator Specialists. These positions are each assigned special tasks to assist in the running of the Communications Center, as well as will perform Quality Assurance/Quality Improvement evaluations to ensure calls are handled up to the Department's standards.

Each telecommunicator is required to complete and maintain certifications of Public Safety Dispatch, which encompasses Law Enforcement Dispatch, Fire Service Dispatch, and Emergency Medical Dispatch. To comply with Illinois Department of Public Health standards, TCs are required to maintain at least 12 hours of continuing education credits each year to retain their Emergency Medical Dispatch License. Last year, Communications completed over 1500 hours of training. These hours came in the form of both online continuing education, as well as in-person classes, and both state and national conferences.

Telecommunicator Specialist Jessica Green was selected by a national board to receive a scholarship to attend the national conference of the National Emergency Number Association (NENA) in Grapevine, TX. Telecommunicator Jennifer Barnett was the recipient of the Gregg Riddle Memorial Scholarship to attend Illinois' statewide 9-1-1 conference in October in Springfield.



COMMUNITY SUPPORT SERVICES

COMMUNICATIONS

In addition to their Police, Fire, and EMS duties, TCs monitor radio traffic for Public Works, other neighboring police agencies, and all security cameras throughout the Police Department, City Hall, DeKalb Taylor Municipal Airport, and mobile public safety cameras, as needed. Telecommunicators dispatch calls for service for the DeKalb Police Department, DeKalb Fire Department, and the Northern Illinois University Department of Public Safety.

Communications personnel are responsible for performing electronic checks of vehicles, persons, items, and warrants for traffic stops and investigations at the request of our sworn personnel. TCs also perform tasks involving administrative support, monitoring Smart911, and disseminating Rave notifications to city residents in events of severe weather, snow route activations, road closures, safety concerns, or other emergencies requiring targeted or city-wide notification. Alert DeKalb is an emergency notification system provided by the Smart911 platform. This program can keep residents informed of criminal activity, weather alerts, or traffic problems. In 2023, more than 180 messages were sent to residents. In 2023, the DeKalb Police Department fully transitioned to a Next Generation (NG) 9-1-1 system. This allows for a more accurate call distribution of 9-1-1 calls, as well as accepting text-to-911. Thanks to this infrastructure, the DeKalb Police will also be able to accept images and to connect live video feeds from smart devices in the future.

Members of the Communications Division are always looking to make improvements to not only our community at events like National Night Out but also in their working environment. In 2023 the Street Department helped fabricate a raised flower bed for TCs to beautify their workplace with flowers they purchased and planted themselves.

Half of the TCs are members of the Illinois Telecommunicator Emergency Response Taskforce (IL-TERT). These TCs are deployable around the state in times of need and undergo specialized training on how to work within the National Incident Management System (NIMS) framework for large-scale incidents and catastrophes. Additionally, Communications Coordinator Sean Woyna attended training for Communications Technician (COMT) to become deployable both statewide and nationally in the event of a hazardous incident.



COMMUNITY SUPPORT SERVICES

SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS



Five officers are assigned as School Resource Officers (SRO), and fall under the Community Support Services Division. They are assigned to the schools to promote school security, help educate the students, and to be liaisons between the police, district staff, students, and parents.

SRO Chris Sullivan and SRO Josef Gordon are primarily assigned to the High School. SRO Allison Remnes is assigned to the elementary schools. SRO Danielle Sorenson and SRO Anthony Densberger are primarily assigned to the middle schools. In total, there were 448 school-related incident reports.

SROs participate in a variety of different academic settings. Examples include driver's education classes, elementary lessons on emergency workers and community helpers, and reading recitals (in person and virtual). SROs implemented a variety of new programs in 2023, including behavior incentive programs, the Brave Action Rewarded Behavior (BARB) award, turkey disguise contest, and a winter gear drive.



COMMUNITY SUPPORT SERVICES

ALERT, LOCKDOWN, INFORM, COUNTER, EVACUATE (ALICE)

The City and the DeKalb School District continued the strategy for lockdown procedures called the ALICE plan. Prior to this plan, lockdown procedures involved the staff locking their doors, moving the students to a part of the room where they could not be seen, and quietly remaining there until an “all clear” announcement was given. The ALICE plan offers a different philosophy in light of recent school violence.

The philosophy of ALICE is to use technology and information in a way so that staff and students can

make informed decisions in a crisis, remove as many people as possible from the danger zone, and provide realistic training so that those involved in a crisis have a better chance of surviving. All DeKalb School District employees attended mandated ALICE training; once the staff received training, a letter was sent home to all of the parents of DeKalb School District students explaining the new ALICE procedures. All students were trained on what to do during an Intruder Drill and the last step was to plan for a rally point and an offsite evacuation. Drills were then performed at each school and observed by ALICE-certified instructors. The ALICE procedures have educated and prepared all the students/staff on how to react and enhance survivability for a situation that we hope will never occur.

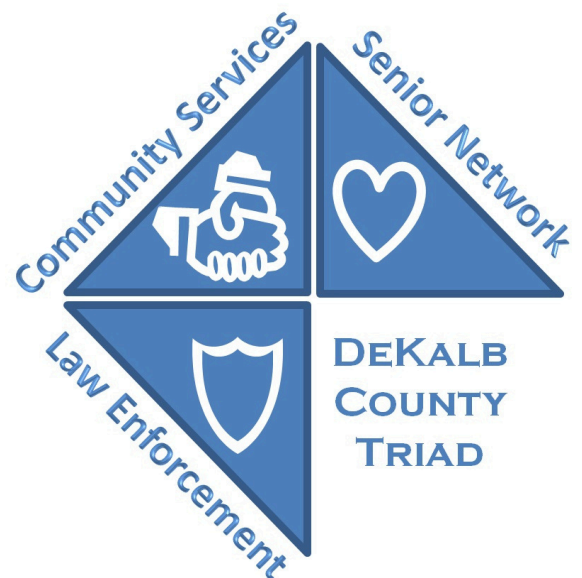


TRIAD

TRIAD was founded in 2013 through the Family Service Agency of DeKalb. Their areas of expertise include:

- Senior Services
- Elder Abuse
- Crime Prevention
- Community Awareness

Officer Sorenson serves as a member of the TRIAD team. TRIAD hosts numerous events throughout the year. These events focus on the well-being and protection of seniors. The TRIAD team is comprised of Law Enforcement, Community Organizations, and individuals working together to improve the quality of life for older adults in DeKalb County. The focus is on resources that make the maximum positive impact. TRIAD volunteers provide the momentum that helps make a difference for seniors. TRIAD works closely with senior service agencies and local law enforcement to bring crime prevention, education, recreational events, and volunteer programs to the seniors of DeKalb County.



SPECIAL NEEDS ALERTS

The DeKalb Police Department launched an online form for individuals and their families with special needs to be able to share information with first responders. Obtaining this information before an emergency allows first responders to be aware of an individual's characteristics and tendencies before arriving on the scene. First responders can see the information and photos provided while responding to the scene of an accident, fire, or any citizen interaction. All information provided is available for every inquiry.

When emergency personnel are dispatched to an address or a person with this form in place, the special needs information provided would be immediately available to the first responder. This guidance and direction provided to the first responder can be critical in an emergency.

COMMUNITY SUPPORT SERVICES

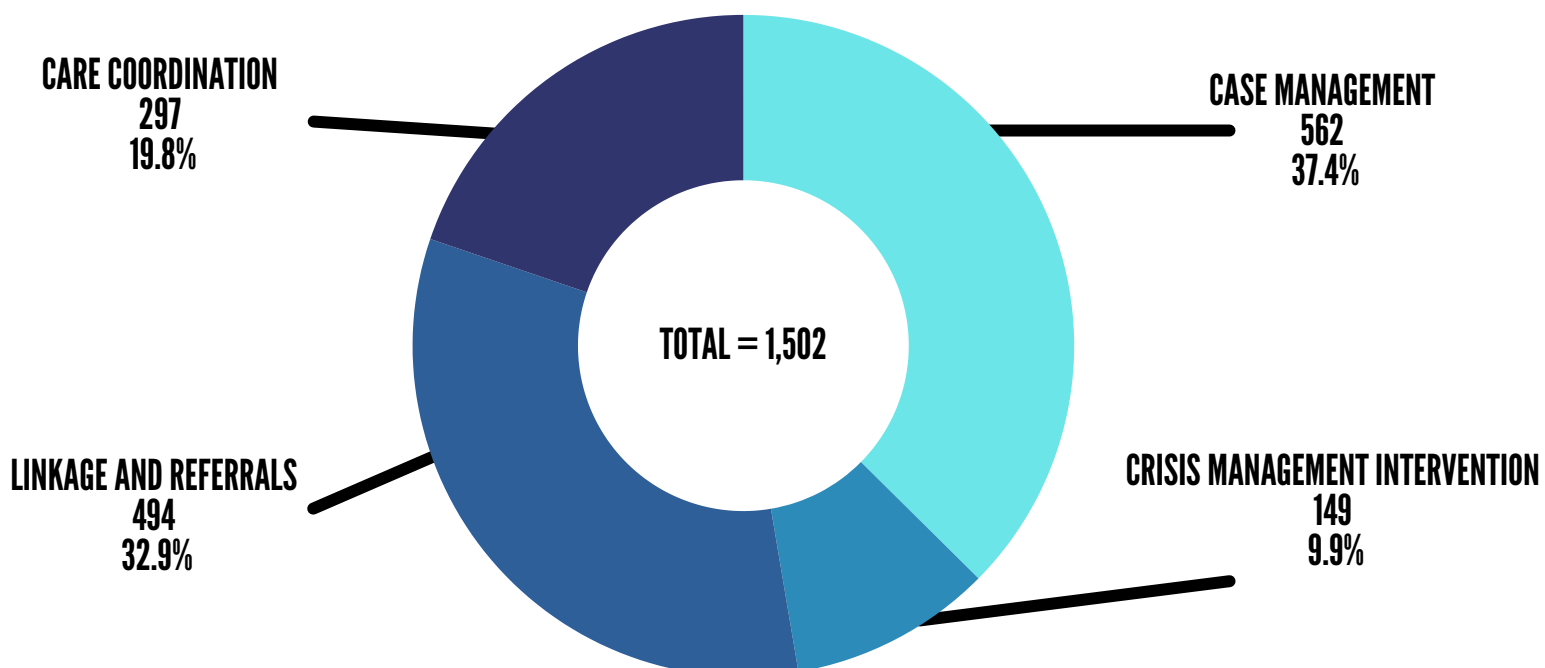
SOCIAL WORKERS

The Social Worker Liaison Program was a result of the Police-Mental Health Collaboration project which designed a strategic plan to collaborate with mental health providers, addiction recovery services, DeKalb County Treatment Courts, Elder Care Services, Safe Passage, Hope Haven, housing programs, area hospitals, and other community resources to provide comprehensive support and services to individuals in need. The positions are funded by the DeKalb County Community Mental Health Board and supplied by Northwestern Medicine - Ben Gordon Center.



Social workers also assist the Sycamore Police Department and the DeKalb County Sheriff's Office. The goal of the program is to provide a wrap-around service to an individual or family in need and ensure that the community is working together to improve the quality of life of that individual or family. The Social Worker Liaison addresses barriers that prohibit individuals from reaching this goal through crisis management, care coordination, linkage to care, and case management.

Individuals and families who have a behavioral or mental health concern at the time of contact with an officer are referred to the Social Worker Liaison for follow-up services. DeKalb Police officers directly referred 494 individuals to Social Worker Liaisons in 2023. The program had a total of 1,008 social work service deliveries to DeKalb residents in 2023. In other instances, the Social Worker Liaison can be called upon to respond on-scene to assist officers in providing crisis support and linkage for services to individuals and families as deemed appropriate. There were 101 cases of on-scene support. The breakdown of all DeKalb Police Social Worker Liaison services is charted below.



PROJECT HOPE

In its fifth year, Project HOPE (Heroin/Opioid Outreach Prevention and Education) helped place 29 people into various addiction treatment facilities this past year, and 80 since its inception. This program intends to intercept opioid abuse at its earliest point possible by getting opioid users into treatment before entering the criminal justice system. The DeKalb Police Department has partnered with DeKalb County Health Department, DeKalb County State's Attorney's Office, DeKalb County Probation, and Northern Illinois University. It is their goal to expand Project HOPE throughout the county and work with area law enforcement agencies to train other officers on how to assist those in need of treatment.

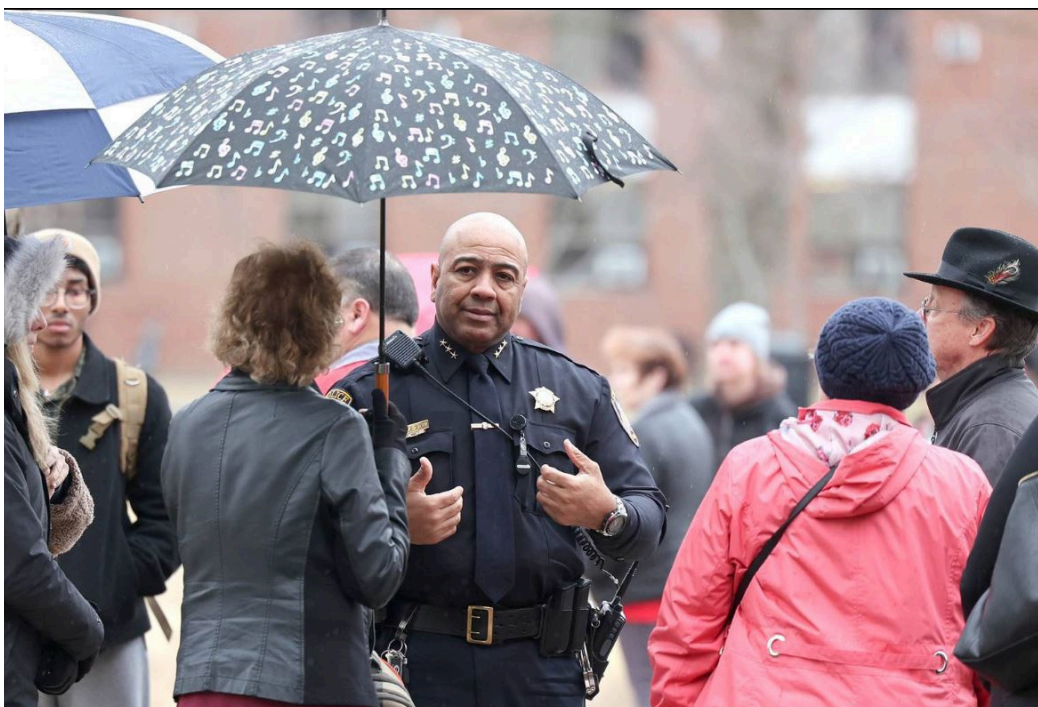


RAPE AGGRESSION DEFENSE TRAINING (RAD)

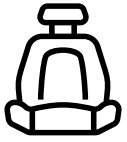
The DeKalb Police Department continues to host self-defense classes specifically for women. The course is called RAD - Rape Aggression Defense, and is designed to enhance the option of self-defense so it may become a viable option to female victims. Topics include basic physical defense techniques, legal rights for defending yourself, and identifying or reducing risks.

NOT ON MY CAMPUS

The Student Associations of Northern Illinois University and Kishwaukee College, along with the DeKalb and NIU Police Departments, are working together to help make the campus and community a safer place. This program encourages accountability, responsibility, situational awareness, and supporting one another. Not on My Campus is committed to ensuring that individuals have a place for a positive voice to support and encourage all those who have been victims of intolerance and to encourage those who have been victims of intolerance and to encourage those who have committed these acts to join in taking a personal pledge to end intolerance and crime.



PATROL DIVISION



37 CAR SEAT SAFETY CHECKS



37 LETHALITY ASSESSMENTS



461 SEX OFFENDER REGISTRATIONS



34 TOBACCO COMPLIANCE CHECKS

The Patrol Division is represented by the dedicated men and women who respond to calls for service, make on-view arrests, and investigate criminal acts of all types. In 2023, our officers responded to 44,763 total calls for service. Officers within the Patrol Division are the most visible representatives of the department and they are the first responders to incidents being dispatched from the 9-1-1 Emergency Communications Center or by encountering a situation as it occurs. Patrol officers also get to know the various neighborhoods throughout the city and the community members they serve. When not responding directly to calls or addressing other quality-of-life issues, the patrol officers use proactive time to combat ongoing crime problems in specific areas. Specialized units operate under the Patrol Division's span of control and include: Bike Patrol, Motor Unit, Domestic Violence Unit, Field Training Program, ILEAS Mobile Field Force, Sex Crimes Registration and Monitoring Unit, Honor Guard, Child Passenger Safety Seat Program, and Tobacco Compliance Program. Each unit is designed to meet the needs of the community in the most efficient and professional manner possible.

BIKE PATROL

The mission of bike patrol is safety and crime reduction with a focus on the highly populated areas around Northern Illinois University. There are seven officers and one sergeant assigned to bike patrol at various times throughout the year, and their proactive efforts were key in the downward trend of a variety of crime categories. Bike patrol is also utilized at various community events such as parades, 4th of July fireworks show, Cornfest, and Homecoming.



DRONES IN LAW ENFORCEMENT

Drone and camera technology allows law enforcement to have a better vantage point during crime scenes or special events. Community member Bob Myers has volunteered his services to assist the department when needed. The department also plans on adding its own drone program in 2023. The police department will enhance its technology by adding Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAV), commonly referred to as drones, to the list of resources available to the DeKalb Police Department. Drones have a variety of public safety uses, from finding missing persons, locating fleeing subjects, and providing aerial photos of accidents and crime scenes, all without putting the public or officers at undue risk. There are currently 5 officers in training for these program.



PATROL DIVISION

MOTOR UNIT

2023 was the 19th consecutive year of service by the DeKalb Police Department's Motor Unit. The Motor Unit is typically used for traffic enforcement and community policing functions throughout the city. From supporting community events to patrolling parks and recreational paths throughout our city, the Motor Unit is an invaluable tool. The Motor Unit is comprised of Officers Lance Reinbolz and Jared Burke, who are both certified Motor Officers through the Illinois Training and Standards Board.



DOMESTIC VIOLENCE UNIT

The Domestic Violence Unit (DVU) in 2023 was comprised of Commander Steve Lekkas and Officers Sadie Pristave and Betsy Cooper. The DVU is a Patrol Division function, and its mission is to stop the cycle of violence. This can be accomplished through an effective, professional police response and investigation; and working in concert with the State's Attorney's Office, Safe Passage's Domestic Violence Advocacy Program, and by utilizing evidence-based practices. The DVU officer is tasked with reviewing domestic violence cases, executing warrants on offenders, conducting follow-up investigations, and assisting other officers with complicated cases based on their training, knowledge of the law, and experience. Officers work closely with the victims to prevent violence from reoccurring while supporting their immediate safety and advocacy needs. In 2016, the DVU partnered with DCFS to focus on domestic violence involving children.

K-9 UNIT

In December, the department's K-9 Unit welcomed a new member, "Ronin," who was purchased, trained, and assigned to Sergeant Steven Parsons. With this addition, the Unit now has a total of three specialized K-9s. K-9 "Riggs" specializes in drug detection and tracking, while K-9 "Chase" focuses on firearms detection and tracking. The newly added K-9 "Ronin" is trained for drug detection, tracking, and patrol utilities. K-9s Riggs and Ronin can detect narcotics such as cocaine, crack cocaine, heroin, methamphetamine, and ecstasy. K-9s Riggs and Ronin are trained in article searching for discarded evidence. K-9 Ronin is trained in building search and area search for suspects. K-9 "Chase's" expertise lies in identifying gunpowder, ammunition, spent casings, and gunshot residue. In 2023, the K-9s were deployed 216 times, yielding 61 seizures of illegal contraband, 26 arrests, 2 firearms, spent shell casings, 69 grams of cocaine, 21 grams of meth, 35 pills of ecstasy, and 60 items of drug paraphernalia.



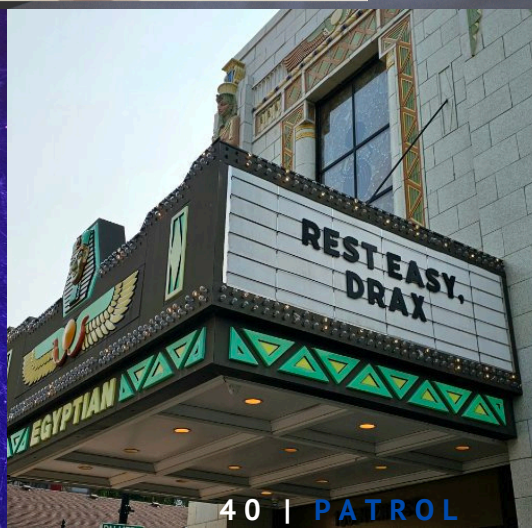
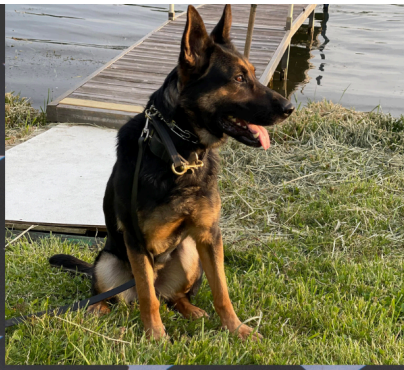
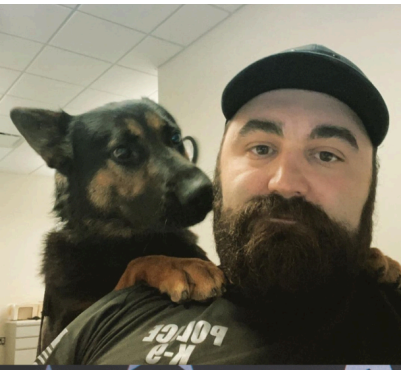
PATROL DIVISION

The DeKalb Police Department was deeply saddened to announce the unexpected passing of K-9 Drax, a beloved member of our law enforcement family. On May 31st, K-9 Drax succumbed to a medical issue, despite the best efforts of veterinary professionals to save him.

K-9 Drax was sworn into the DeKalb Police Department on December 3, 2021, and quickly proved to be an invaluable asset to our force. Drax and his dedicated handler, Sergeant Parsons formed an inseparable team, working tirelessly to ensure the safety and security of our community.

The loss of K-9 Drax has left a void in our department, and our thoughts and condolences go out to Sergeant Parsons and all those who had the privilege of working alongside him.

We would like to express our sincere gratitude to the veterinary professionals who provided compassionate care to K-9 Drax.



PATROL DIVISION

FIELD TRAINING

The DeKalb Police Department has 12 Field Training Officers. The Field Training Officers are responsible for training new police officers and providing periodic checkup rides for new officers while on probation. The Field Training Program consists of 12 to 16 weeks of training for each new officer. The training is divided into four sections and usually requires three Field Training Officers to complete the program. Eleven officers were trained in 2023.



ILEAS

The DeKalb Police Department has an officer assigned to the Illinois Law Enforcement Alarm System (ILEAS) Mobile Field Force. Since individual departments cannot typically field a team of officers to handle major crowd control incidents, ILEAS formed the Mobile Field Force.

A contingent of police officers from ILEAS member departments conduct training together to address incidents such as crowd control, protests, large-scale acts of civil disobedience, and other crowd management concerns.



SEX CRIMES REGISTRATION AND MONITORING (SCRAM) UNIT

The police department formed a team of officers who are responsible for monitoring, registering, and completing compliance checks for registered Sex Offenders and Violent Offenders Against Youth in the community. This team is supervised by Sgt. Tony Kwasniewski.

In 2023, the department completed 461 Sex Offender registrations, 56 compliance checks, and made 14 arrests or obtained warrants for those in violation of the Sex Offender Registry Act.



PATROL DIVISION

HONOR GUARD

The DeKalb Police Department Honor Guard was first formed in 1996 for the dedication of Moudy Park, which was named after DeKalb Police Officer Tim Moudy who died in an accident in 1994. The Honor Guard continues to serve in a variety of ceremonies that include parades, inaugurations, memorials, and ceremonies.

Officers assigned to the Honor Guard also are members of a multi-jurisdictional Honor Guard made up of officers from DeKalb Police Department, DeKalb County Sheriff's Office, NIU Police Department, and Sycamore Police Department.



CHAPLAIN PROGRAM

The DeKalb Police Chaplains volunteer their time to provide spiritual guidance and counseling to the men and women of the police department, their families, and to community members in need. The Chaplains Program has been essential in dealing with crisis situations as well as taking the time to address the overall well-being of those who serve.

POLICING INITIATIVE WITH THE NIU POLICE DEPARTMENT

The DeKalb and Northern Illinois University Police Departments work more with one another to address student and community needs. Together initiatives are planned to implement proactive policing strategies, and discuss training needs.

BARTENDER TRAINING FOR INTERVENTION PROCEDURES (TIPS)

One of the continual goals of the department and the city is to train establishments on local and state liquor laws and ordinances. This past year, servers, managers, and bartenders completed the courses online. Participants were instructed on the proper and effective ways to deal with difficult patrons and responsible serving. The course included ideas to prevent problems and liability for the establishments and the individual server. The course included proper carding of patrons and acceptable forms of identification. This course will be a continuing effort in years to come to assure compliance within the city. The original On Premise TIPS program focuses on open alcohol service for on-site consumption. The Off Premise program is training for package sales locations for off-site alcohol consumption. In-person TIPS training is no longer offered as it has moved entirely to online training through the TIPS website.

CHILD PASSENGER SAFETY SEAT PROGRAM

The DeKalb Police Department started the Child Passenger Safety Seat Program in 2001. Seven staff members are currently certified as Child Passenger Safety Seat Technicians. Techs are available to assist citizens in answering any questions they may have, as well as making sure their child passenger safety seat is:

- Installed correctly.
- Not included in a manufacturer safety recall.
- Meeting current safety standards.
- Correctly sized for the child.

In order to be certified, staff members must attend a 32-hour class sponsored by National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

The training covers topics such as injury prevention, crash dynamics, federal safety standards, vehicle occupant protection systems, and the correct installation of child restraint systems. During 2023, 37 car seat checks and installations were completed at the DeKalb Police Department.



TOBACCO COMPLIANCE CHECKS

The DeKalb Police Department has obtained a grant which allows the opportunity to perform tobacco compliance checks. With grant monies disbursed through the Illinois Department of Human Services, 34 tobacco vendors across the city were checked once throughout 2023. The program includes notifications to all tobacco licensees in the City of DeKalb that police would be checking tobacco sales compliance throughout the year. They were given a packet of information on how to prevent the sales to minors and explanations of the law. They also were given posters to hang up, letting customers know that the tobacco licensees would be checking identification for age before a tobacco sale. Using minors 16 to 20 years of age, the businesses were later checked for compliance to laws prohibiting the sale of cigarettes to minors. In 2023, four businesses were found to be in violation.

INVESTIGATIONS DIVISION



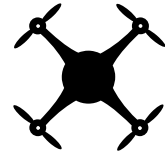
**452 CASES ASSIGNED:
194 DETECTIVE, 258 TRU**



**224 CASES
CLEARED BY ARRESTS**



**6 SPECIAL OPERATION
TEAM CALL OUTS**



3 DRONE CALL OUTS

The Investigations Division is comprised of highly trained professionals that specialize in criminal investigations. Commander Keith Ehrke oversees the division, along with Sergeants Steit, and Mecca. The Investigations and Targeted Response Unit (TRU) detectives conduct follow-up on criminal investigations for serious crimes reported to the police. Typically, a uniformed police officer responds to a call for service and prepares a police report which may require follow-up investigation. A detective is then assigned to conduct the follow-up, often requiring many hours of investigation before an arrest is made or a case is closed. In 2023, Officer Lance Reinbolz was promoted to the Investigations Division.



INVESTIGATIONS DIVISION

TARGETED RESPONSE UNIT



258 ASSIGNED CASES



33 COVERT OPERATIONS

The primary focus of the Targeted Response Unit (TRU) is to implement a proactive, problem-solving initiative, consistent with the department's community-oriented policing philosophy. TRU addresses street crime and quality of life issues in order to improve public safety. TRU is responsible for monitoring all registered sex offenders, parolees, individuals wanted on warrants, and gang members residing within the community. TRU is on the frontline of proactive policing through the pursuit of known offenders by initiating a variety of street-level investigations and supporting the Investigations and Patrol Divisions.

In 2023, the Targeted Response Unit made 186 arrests and conducted 33 narcotics operations that resulted in the covert purchases of various controlled substances. Narcotics seized included fentanyl, mushrooms, meth, heroin, ecstasy, cocaine, and cannabis. United States currency and 18 firearms were seized. TRU served 84 arrest warrants and performed 13 search warrants on local residences. TRU also conducted proactive street enforcement activities. TRU also followed up with drug overdose survivors, and offered assistance with finding treatment and providing rides to long-term substance abuse treatment facilities. TRU operates with two detectives, led by Sergeant Mecca.

The Targeted Response Unit also investigates gang-related crime, gathers intelligence, and performs gang awareness presentations. TRU works closely with the community and other law enforcement agencies. They continue their outreach program to the community by discouraging gang involvement and forming relationships with DeKalb residents.



DEKALB COUNTY SPECIAL OPERATIONS TEAM

Eight DeKalb Police officers are members of the DeKalb County Special Operations Team (SOT). The DeKalb Police Department, Sycamore Police Department, and Northern Illinois University Police Department combined resources with the DeKalb County Sheriff's Office, to implement a multi-jurisdictional Special Operations Team. The presence of a trained and skilled law enforcement tactical unit at critical incidents has allowed the resolution of critical incidents while mitigating the risk of serious injury or death to citizens, law enforcement, and suspects. The agencies involved in SOT recognize the benefits of a well-managed coordinated response to critical incidents and the affect the multi-jurisdictional organization has as a force multiplier that enhances the participating agencies' abilities to keep pace with incoming call volume during critical incidents. The members of the SOT conduct monthly trainings and many of the members are firearm and defensive tactics instructors who also train others. SOT supports local law enforcement agencies requesting a tactical response to critical incidents in DeKalb County.



TRAINING

The DeKalb Police Department remains committed to training officers and support personnel in the many facets of law enforcement. On July 1st, 2022, the State of Illinois enacted numerous in-service training mandates to ensure that all police officers meet professional standards. The DeKalb Police Department strives to not only meet these standards but exceed them. The scope of law enforcement duties requires ongoing training and recertification in a broad range of topics, including cultural diversity, de-escalation, and procedural justice training. In 2023, sworn police officers logged more than 5,541 hours of training and civilian employees logged 1,612 hours of training, not including time spent in the academy by ten new entry officers.



TECHNOLOGY & SOCIAL MEDIA

Alert DeKalb is an emergency notification system provided by the Smart911 platform. This program can keep residents informed of criminal activity, weather alerts, or traffic problems. In 2023, more than 112 messages were sent to residents. The DeKalb Police Department also has additional ways for the community to connect with the department. One connection is with the Neighbors by Ring app. This app allows the DeKalb Police to inform the community of real-time crime and safety events. The Neighbors by Ring App also allows residents to share something directly with the department. You do not need Ring devices to participate; anyone with any camera system can upload content to the Neighbors App. To download, residents can text “join today” to “555888.” The department also continues to reach residents through the below social media platforms regarding police-related information, community events, and to seek public assistance to help solve crimes.

EVIDENCE



The Evidence Section includes services for the intake and retention of all items of evidence collected by police officers and detectives, as well as lost and found items. Part-time Community Service Officer (CSO) Jim Rhoades serves as the department's designated property officer and is assisted by part-time CSO's Dan Gerace and Ray West. They are responsible for the receipt, storage, safekeeping, release, and proper disposal of all evidence and property taken into custody by the police department, in accordance with federal and state laws, as well as internal policies. The evidence custodians took in more than 4,353 items of evidence in 2023. The Evidence Section also handles the Drug Take Back program. The addition of body-worn cameras in 2021 significantly increased the volume of digital evidence. Evidence Technician Kody Williams manages the digital videos and photos for court and FOIA purposes.

NATIONAL PRESCRIPTION DRUG TAKE BACK PROGRAM

The department continues to participate in the National Prescription Drug Take Back Program. This program is free and anonymous for those who wish to drop off expired, unused or unwanted prescription, or even over-the-counter medicines. A major goal of this program is to reduce prescription drug abuse and prevent accidental overdose deaths and harm to the environment as a result of improper disposal. The department has now partnered with Inmar Intelligence. Inmar provides medication disposal services to law enforcement agencies operating drug take-back programs. This free program is fully funded by drug manufacturers. It operates pursuant to Federal Regulations (Title 21 CFR Part 1317) enforced by the DEA, which defines prompt, safe, and effective methods for the disposal of controlled substances. This program includes a new medication collection kiosk located in our facility, and all materials, and disposal services, at no charge. Citizens may drop off unwanted medications year-round using a drop box in the lobby of the police headquarters. Liquids and syringes are unable to be accepted. In 2023, we destroyed 150 pounds of prescribed medicine that was turned into the department over the last year.

COURT SECURITY

The Police Department continues to provide security for the city court proceedings which take place at the Police Department. The Court Security Officer assists individuals with court procedure, helps provide instructions to attendees, and performs security measures to ensure a safe environment. CSO Ray West typically provides this service.



ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES DIVISION

RECORDS

The Records Section is responsible for the collection and retention of police reports, citations, parking tickets, arrests, and all other data and records pertaining to the functions of the police department. Records staff are charged with maintaining the integrity and confidentiality of police records to ensure the credibility of information in the administration of justice, from the point of police contact to the adjudication of cases in court. They also are responsible for the timely fulfilment of subpoenas, report requests by the State's Attorney's office and the City's Legal Department, Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests, National Incident Based Reporting System (NIBRS) compliance, and internal requests for records regarding all matters.



The division is staffed by Deanna Gardner, Kleady Hartwig, and Carol Halsey. Adrienne Oziah, JoAnn Chriske, and Patty Pumfrey resigned from the department in 2023.

The Records personnel also provide service at the front desk in the public lobby, which includes walk-in customers in need of police service, records requests, general information, mail and package delivery, and vendor service accommodations. In addition, they are the primary point of telephone contact for records and report inquiries to the police department.





CERTIFICATIONS,
FUNDRAISERS,
AND COMMUNITY
EVENTS

CERTIFICATIONS

STORM READY CERTIFICATION INFORMATION

The City of DeKalb was first certified by the National Weather Service in December 2015 as a Storm Ready Community. The police department has been primarily responsible for maintaining the Storm Ready certification.

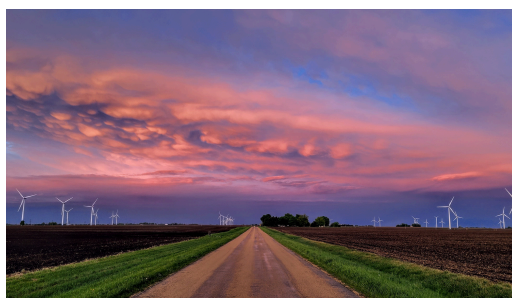
This certification requires verification that the City utilizes several methods of receiving and monitoring National Weather Service information, including weather radios, television, AM/FM radio, statewide public safety messaging systems, internet websites, and the monitoring of advanced weather radar.

The City also must verify its methods of disseminating local weather warnings, which include outdoor warning sirens, a public access television channel, an automated local weather alert broadcast system through Rave, and a local flood warning system.

The City also demonstrates its readiness through a comprehensive emergency action plan, departmental weather emergency policies, 24-hour monitoring of weather situations, and its ability to disseminate warnings at any time with personnel who work around the clock.

The police department works to provide weather spotter training to its own employees, other city employees, and members of the public in conjunction with the National Weather Service. Because of this, the City of DeKalb also is recognized as a Weather-Ready Nation Ambassador by the National Weather Service for its efforts in community collaboration in storm readiness. Spotter training to the community was limited to online classes only in 2022 but in-person training is already scheduled for 2023 through the National Weather Service.

The DeKalb Police Department expresses its gratitude to longtime community member and meteorologist Gilbert Sebenste of Allison House LLC, who regularly provides weather information to the department on a volunteer basis, and also is a certified spotter trainer through the National Weather Service.



BREAST CANCER AWARENESS

During Breast Cancer Awareness Month, many officers purchased pink badges and patches to wear to stimulate conversation with the community and to encourage public awareness about the importance of early detection and the ongoing fight against breast cancer. The DeKalb Police Department also offered the pink patches for sale to the public as a fundraiser with profits to be donated to a charitable organization. The profit from patch sales was \$319. This donation was made to Bringing Joy which is a local group that helps cancer patients in need.



DEKALB PBPA

The DeKalb Police Benevolent & Protective Association (PBPA) Unit #71 serves as the charitable arm of the DeKalb Police Department. Members put on a variety of events throughout the year, including the April pancake breakfast and summer golfing outing. The organization also donates to a variety of charity organizations both locally and nationally. In 2023, The DeKalb PBPA co-organized and participated in a charitable “Toys for Tots” basketball game which featured “Guns N’ Hoses” – a team of DeKalb Police Officers and Firefighters. The annual fundraiser garnered an abundance of community support and toy donations for less fortunate children.



SPECIAL EVENTS

HEROES & HELPERS

The DeKalb Police Department and Target partner to show their giving spirit by organizing the Heroes & Helpers program. The program is aimed at giving children the chance to spend a morning with local police officers as they shop together for the perfect Christmas gifts. The all-volunteer event acknowledges the hard times some families might experience during the Christmas season, so the DeKalb Police work in conjunction with DeKalb Community Unit School District 428 to select children to go on a \$100 shopping spree with a police officer. With the help of fundraising and private donations, this program raised enough money for more than 115 children to participate in the program in 2023.



DEKALB FRIENDS AND FAMILY CHRISTMAS PAY IT FORWARD

2023 marked the third annual DeKalb Friends and Family Christmas Pay It Forward Event put on by Chief Byrd. He collected private donations and went to Walmart and Target to help local families with their holiday shopping. This event focuses on choosing a random shopper at the check out and presenting them with a certificate and money towards their total shopping bill. Chief Byrd was able to impact 30 families with the help of generous donors.



COMMUNITY COLLABORATION EVENTS

SAFE PASSAGE

The DeKalb Police Department participated in events hosted by Safe Passage during Sexual Assault Awareness Month.

Take Back the Night is one event with a march and a vigil that encourages members of the community to join and stand in alliance for survivors of sexual assault.



AUTISM AWARENESS

Autism Awareness month was recognized in April with the addition of a squad car hood logo and officers purchasing special Autism Awareness blue badges. The Autism Caregiver Group partnered with the DeKalb Police Department to put on a safety event to teach families about how children with autism may interact with police in a variety of different settings.

The DeKalb Police Department currently offers families the ability to notify the department of anyone in their family who has special needs so emergency responders are aware before responding to the scene. Individuals can fill out the form at the police department or submit the form online.



BELONGING PROJECT

Chief Byrd and the DeKalb Police Department were part of the Belonging Project in DeKalb, along with many other agencies. This project was funded through a Healing Illinois Grant from the State of Illinois Department of Human Services and the DeKalb County Community Foundation in partnership with Family Service Agency, City of DeKalb, Ellwood House Museum, DeKalb County History Center, and Northern Illinois University to help co-create a culture of belonging in the community. In October 2020, dr. john a. powell, an internationally recognized expert in civil liberties, structural racism, housing, poverty, and democracy, joined community members for a candid conversation about belonging and actions needed to create a culture of belonging in the community. It's through this conversation that the DeKalb community's Belonging initiative began.



PUBLIC EVENTS

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT



National Night Out is America's Night Out Against Crime. This is a community education event sponsored by the National Association of Town Watch (NATW). This event includes the DeKalb Police Department, DeKalb County Sheriff's Office, Sycamore Police Department, Cortland Police Department, Northern Illinois University Police Department, and DeKalb Fire Department. Several police and fire vehicles go on display including fire trucks, squad cars, a police motorcycle, a police bicycle, and a mobile command center.

COP ON A ROOFTOP

2023 marked the 20th Anniversary of the Dunkin' Donuts partnership with the Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics Illinois. This event has been a huge success over the years; in fact, more than \$7.6 million has been raised in Illinois during this great partnership. The Cop on a Rooftop event was held at more than 300 Dunkin' locations across the state to rally the communities in support of local Special Olympics athletes. The department was able to raise over \$2,000 to help support Special Olympics Illinois.



GOLF OUTING

The 21st Annual PBPA Golf Outing was held in 2023. The golf outing is the organization's largest event during the year. 117 golfers participated and raised \$1,500 for charity. \$500 went to Illinois Special Olympics, \$500 for Heroes and Helpers, and \$500 for the Walk to End Child Abuse. The department looks forward to continuing the event and to raising funds for local charities.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT EVENTS

CITIZEN APPRECIATION AWARDS

DeKalb Police Department held the second annual Citizen Appreciation ceremony to recognize citizens who assisted the department in the prior year. Citizens included Angelia P., Amonaquettenette P., Alicia T., Jennifer H., Mark H., Joseph M., Jenny S., John W., Mercedes H., Randy G., Vanessa C., and Jim S. These citizens, even with the potential of personal risk, took extended action to assist officers in providing public safety and service to the DeKalb community. The department commended citizens who acted as supporters of the department, and for the service and loyalty they provided to their fellow citizens.



OTHER COMMUNITY EVENTS

In addition to the above-listed events, DeKalb officers and staff attend many other community events. Some of the events attended this year include Fun Jam, Family Fun Fest, Cornfest, NIU Homecoming, Pride, Take Back the Night, and Spooktacular. The department plans to continue attending these events in future years.

If there is an event you would like an officer to attend, please reach out to the police department!!



FUN JAM IN THE PARK

This summer the DeKalb Police Department launched Fun Jam in the Park which is a series of engaging family events that were held every Tuesday and Thursday from June to August at various parks throughout the city of DeKalb. Through collaborating with the DeKalb Park District, Opportunity DeKalb, Blac Inc., and The Breakroom and Friends, the initiative was a success due to participation from community volunteers and city employees. The events offered a diverse range of activities, from board games and arts and crafts to sports which fostered a wonderful atmosphere of camaraderie and connection. It was an excellent chance to both give back to the community and enjoy an evening filled with shared experiences





UPCOMING INITIATIVES

2024

UPCOMING INITIATIVES

PUBLIC SAFETY CAMERAS

The police department will continue to enhance its public safety camera system to monitor high crime areas. Cameras are present at key locations in the city to deter gang activity and violent crimes, and to aid investigations. Residents also can voluntarily register their Ring cameras and home security cameras with the police department.



TRAFFIC UNIT

As our manpower increases throughout 2024, we will be able to allocate officers to a “Traffic Unit”. This traffic unit will work proactively to enforce traffic laws, handle crash reports, educate the motoring public, and field public complaints about speeders and reckless drivers. The Traffic Unit will help make DeKalb a safer place for motorists and pedestrians alike

EXPANSION OF CIT PROGRAM

The Police Department continues to expand the Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) program by training additional officers and fostering it's partnership with Northwestern Medicine Kishwaukee Hospital and the DeKalb County Community Mental Health Board. The department seeks to add more social workers in 2023 which will assist the department as it continues to better provide service to persons suffering from mental and behavioral health issues.

RECRUITMENT

In 2024, the department will continue to boost recruitment efforts with the goal to reach 73 sworn officers by the end of the year. Increased staff numbers will help to reduce overtime, and increase resources to focus on behavioral health responses, community engagement, and traffic enforcement.



EVENTS CALENDAR

Spring

- PBPA Pancake Breakfast
- Take Back The Night
- Walk to End Child Abuse

Summer

- Camp Power
- Golf Outing
- National Night Out
- Camp Maple Leaf
- Fun Fest
- Cop on the Rooftop
- Fun Jam

Fall

- Corn Fest
- NIU Homecoming Events
- Spooktacular
- Operation Warm

Winter

- Heroes & Helpers
- Pay It Forward
- Toys for Tots
- Lights on Lincoln
- Santa Comes to Town

