



2022

Altoona Police Department

Annual Report

Chief Kelly Bakken

February 20, 2023



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Altoona Police Dept. Organizational Chart

Chief Kelly Bakken

LT Scott Kelley

Confidential Administrative Assistant Krista Hamm

Sgt. Jake Henning

Sgt. Jeff Baumgarten

School Resource Officer Jared Rico

Detective Tim Peterson

Police/Fire Part-time Administrative Assistant Vacant

Therapy Dog Donut

Officer Joe Kranig

Officer Jon Lauscher

Officer Ed Bell

Officer Mike Madrid

Officer Chris Draz

Officer Sandy Bautch

Officer Joel Field

Officer Zach Junker

Officer Kienna Marshall

Officer Evan Dieringer

Part-time Officer Amanda Carrier

Community Service Officer Noah Baumgarten

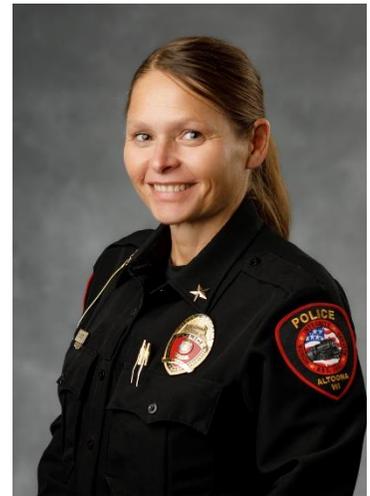


Introduction

I am pleased to present the 2022 Altoona Police Department Annual Report. It is an honor and a privilege to serve the City of Altoona. We have a great community that actively ensures our community is a great place to live, work, and play. Our police department consists of dedicated, professional men and women devoted to serving the people of Altoona, whom I am proud to serve alongside.

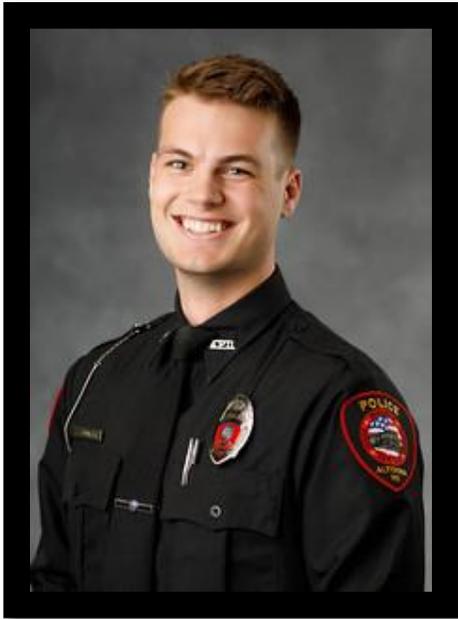
The Altoona Police Department is a proactive department continually seeking innovative strategies to solve community problems. The police department thrives on problem-solving through building relationships and working with all facets of our community.

Our mission: We are focused on providing excellent services to the City of Altoona, its community members, businesses, and visitors. Our goal is to provide the highest quality of life to our residents; through a partnership with the community, we address community problems and the needs of the city. By forming relationships, we can prevent and reduce crime, safeguard the rights of all, and improve public safety together.



Staffing Report



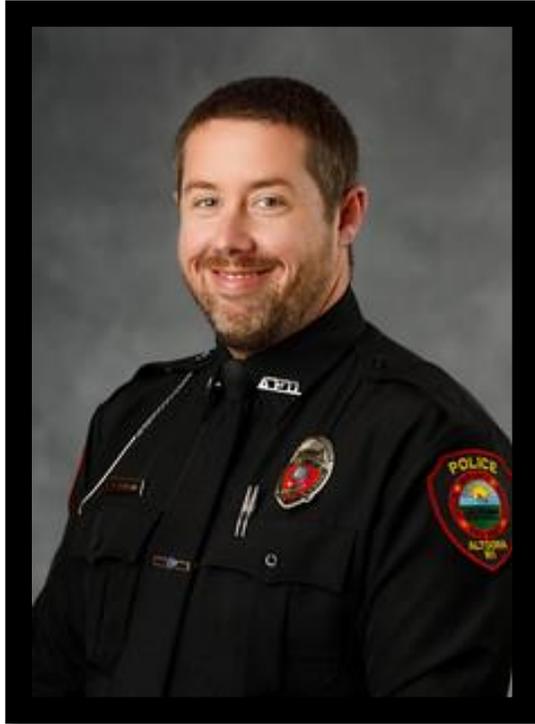


Altoona sponsored Zach Junker through the 2022 spring law enforcement academy. Zach was hired to fill a full-time patrol position in May of 2022. Zach has been a welcome addition to our full-time staff.



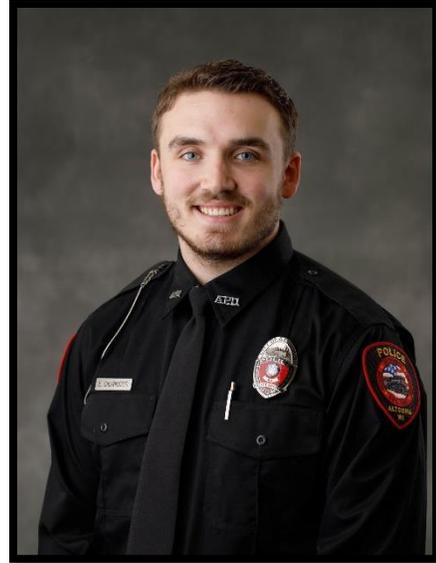
Kienna Marshall was hired full-time in June of 2022 after completing the spring police academy. Kienna has been a great addition to our full-time patrol staff.

In June 2022, Tim Peterson filled the department Detective position. Detective Peterson received multiple challenging cases upon his start. He has done a great job working with the team and continuing to build his investigative skills to solve cases and serve our community.



In August 2022, Jared Rico was selected to fill the School Resource Officer Position. Jared has taken on the position with a willingness to learn and work with the school district and students to make the Altoona School District a safe place for all students to learn and thrive.

Evan Dieringer recently transitioned from CSO to full-time patrol and is attending the 2023 spring police academy, graduating in May. Evan will then begin the patrol training program.



In October council approved the addition of Community Service officers; we were fortunate to hire Evan Dieringer, a 4th-year student at UWEC. Evan was later promoted to fill a full-time vacant patrol position. At the same time, we hired Noah Baumgarten, a 2nd-year student at CVTC. Both have been great additions to our staff and have worked diligently to make the CSO program successful.



2022 brought some changes to our full-time patrol staff, with two officers leaving for other opportunities in the private sector and a newly created position still vacant. It was a challenging time hiring and training multiple officers. Although hiring has been challenging, we are incredibly grateful to continue receiving high-quality applicants. Our police training program was put to great use, and we ended the year with fantastic officers ready to serve the city of Altoona. We look forward to working with the 2022 hires and will continue to seek highly motivated and highly qualified personnel in 2023!

TRAINING REPORT

Staff development continues to be a priority for the police department; we work diligently to ensure our staff is highly trained. 2022 brought excellent leadership training and up-and-coming instructors to our department, capable of leading and training other staff.

The police department utilizes several online resources, including Virtual Academy, to supplement our in-person training. In addition to the training listed below, all staff participated in implicit bias training, effective communications, de-escalation, firearms, EVOG, Pepperball, Taser, and mental and physical wellbeing training. High-quality training provides enhanced service to the community and reduces liability. Along with our 24 hours of recertification required by the state to maintain our certifications, the following staff attended specialized training in 2022.

- **Chief Bakken:** Wisconsin Public Records Laws, Redacting Open Records
- **Lieutenant Kelley:** Wisconsin Command College (anticipated graduation June 2023), Firearms Instructor
- **Sergeant Henning:** First Line Supervision, Leadership in Police Organization
- **Officer Bell:** Tactical Instructor
- **Officer Rico:** School Resource Officer NASRO, REID Interview and Interrogation, ATF Fire Investigations/Explosives, Cellebrite Certified Operator
- **Officer Lauscher:** Tactical Shield Training
- **Officer Draz:** Response to Sexual Assault
- **Detective Peterson:** DCI Officer Involved Critical Incident, Crime Lab Crime Scene Processing, ICAC training
- **Officer Kranig:** PBT Testing
- **Officer Madrid:** Crisis Intervention Team Training (CIT)

- **Officer Bautch:** Seated Field Sobriety Testing
- **Officer Junker:** 720 Basic Recruit Training, Advanced Roadside Impaired Driving Enforcement (ARIDE)
- **Officer Marshall:** 720 Basic Recruit Training, Crisis Intervention Team
- **Krista Hamm:** Redacting Records, Wisconsin Public Records Laws

Donut continues his certification through the Alliance of Therapy Dogs and has been working to mentor other Therapy Dogs!



JOINT RESOURCES

Working together with other agencies is a priority of the police department. The Altoona Police Department utilizes several shared resources with area agencies. Sharing resources offer additional services without the financial burden. Currently, the Altoona

Police Department has officers on the Regional SWAT team, Regional Special Events Team, Chippewa Valley Computer Forensics Laboratory, Crime Stoppers, Regional Child Abduction Response Team, Regional Incident Management ICS Team, and we are working on developing a Regional Critical Incident Response Team.

SWAT

The Eau Claire County Regional SWAT team consists of state and local law enforcement agencies throughout northwest Wisconsin, including Dunn County, Eau Claire County, Chippewa County, WI State Patrol, Menomonie Police Department, Chippewa Falls Police Department, Bloomer Police Department, UWEC Police Department, and Altoona Police Department. The team has 21 tactical personnel, two radio communications personnel, one Township Fire Command, ten negotiators, and five medics. The tactical team responds to high-risk situations requiring additional personnel, specialty equipment, and officers training in advanced tactics. The Eau Claire County Regional Team is recognized as one of eight state regional teams through Wisconsin's Emergency Management, Aligned Law Enforcement Response Teams (ALERT). Altoona Officers assisted with four call-outs in 2022, including one negotiator-specific call-out. Detective Tim Peterson is a Negotiations Team Leader, Officer Joel Field is a SWAT Team Leader, and Officers Jon Lauscher and Edward Bell are members of the SWAT team.



Special Events Team

The Altoona Police Department is a member of the Eau Claire County Regional Special Events Team. The team, which is coordinated through the Eau Claire County Sheriff's Office was created in 2018 after local and state law enforcement leaders identified the need for a more collaborative and professional response to significant events, including demonstrations and civil unrest. In response, Wisconsin Emergency Management spearheaded a state-wide initiative to create regional response teams throughout the state. The Eau Claire County Regional Special Events Team was selected to represent the West Central Region.

The immediate response area includes the following counties: Barron, Chippewa Clark, Eau Claire, Dunn, Pepin, Pierce, Polk, St. Croix, and Taylor. There are currently 17 officers assigned to the team. Partnering agencies include: Altoona Police Department, Eau Claire Police Department, Chippewa County Sheriff's Office, Chippewa Falls Police Department, Lake Hallie Police Department, and University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire Police Department. The team is funded by

grant money obtained through Wisconsin Emergency Management and partnering agencies. The special events team was not deployed in 2022. Officers Chris Draz and Jarred Rico are members of the Special Events Team.

Crime Stoppers

Altoona is the coordinating agency for Eau Claire County Crime Stoppers. Participating agencies are Eau Claire County, the City of Eau Claire, the UWEC Police Department, and the Altoona Police Department. Crime stoppers provides a platform for anonymous crime reporting with rewards for information leading to an arrest. In 2022 there were 483 tips received. Crime Stoppers assisted in solving several crimes throughout the county. Lieutenant Scott Kelley is the coordinator of Crime Stoppers.



**Eau Claire County Crime
Stoppers 715-874-TIPS**

Eau Claire County Child Abduction Response Team

The Child Abduction Response Team is comprised of members from local law enforcement and private businesses within Eau Claire County. The team trains together to form a cohesive and efficient group to respond to child abductions. The team was not utilized for any calls in 2022. Detective Tim Peterson is a member of the Child Abduction Response Team.

Chippewa Valley Regional Computer Forensic Lab

The Chippewa Valley Regional Computer Forensics Laboratory is a shared service between the Eau Claire Police Department, Eau Claire County Sheriff's Office, Altoona Police Department, and the state Division of Criminal Investigations (DCI).

Forensic examiners assigned to the lab receive hundreds of hours of training. They are skilled in examining digital evidence from computers, cellular phones, vehicles, storage devices, surveillance systems, etc.



Data stored in these devices provide evidence in the form of photos, text messages, call logs, internet browsing history, location data, and other evidence. Over the past ten years, having the ability and resources to download digital evidence has become a critical part of a successful investigation.

The Altoona Police Department forensic examiners are Lieutenant Kelley, Sergeant Baumgarten, and Officer Rico. In 2022 Altoona staff examined approximately 60 devices related to Altoona cases. These cases include such things as burglary, domestic abuse, theft, financial crimes, battery, child pornography, homicide, child enticement, drug cases, and missing person cases.

West Central Drug Task Force

The West Central Drug Task Force (WCDF) is comprised of law enforcement representatives from six counties stretching from the Mississippi River to the middle of Wisconsin. Membership includes the Sheriff's Offices of Clark, Chippewa, Eau Claire, Dunn, Buffalo, and Pepin; the Municipalities of Chippewa Falls, Fall Creek, Eau Claire, Altoona, and Menomonie; and the State Agencies of the Wisconsin State Patrol, the Department of Criminal Investigation, and the Universities of Stout and Eau Claire.

Nine full-time, three part-time Drug Investigators, and one part-time Administrative Specialist are assigned to the Task Force from the member agencies. The Eau Claire County Sheriff's Office has served as Project Director since the inception of the Task Force in 1988.

The Task Force acts as a regional repository for illegal drug-related criminal activity and a coordinator of enforcement action against this activity. This action is coordinated within the Task Force by an Oversight Committee comprised of members' representatives. Day-to-day operation is supervised by a Field Operations Supervisor and Supervisors from the jurisdiction where an action occurs. Using its regional resources, the Task Force can direct equipment and personnel anywhere within the six-county area and sometimes, when needed, to assist in actions outside the boundaries of the Task Force.

Although Altoona does not have an officer assigned to the drug task force, we are a member agency and share the resources. Our supervisors, detective, and patrol officers often work closely with the drug task force to investigate and apprehend drug offenders within the City of Altoona. Chief Bakken is a participating board member of WCDF and is the coordinator for the task force drug testing.

Special Assignments/Duties

- Chief Bakken: Wisconsin Chiefs of Police 3rd Vice President, Chippewa Valley Technical College Foundation Board of Directors, Chippewa Valley Technical College Criminal Justice Advisory Board, West Central Drug Task Force Board of Directors, Area Chief's Group Chair, Public Information Officer Commander, Regional Incident Command Team, Homeland Security Advisory Board, and WCPA mental health ad-hoc.
- Lieutenant Kelley: CVRCFL supervisor/examiner, Crime Stoppers LE coordinator, Firearms Instructor, Physical Fitness Assessor, Property Room supervisor, Neighborhood association liaison, Child Abduction Response Team (CART).
- Sergeant Baumgarten: Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) investigator, Drone supervisor, CVRCFL examiner, Emergency Services Association President.
- Sergeant Henning: Boat Patrol coordinator, Police Training Program supervisor, CALEA coordinator, Bigs in Blue, Emergency Vehicle Operation (EVO) instructor, Public Information Officer/social media, Regional Incident Command Team, Public Information Officer Eau Claire Emergency Operations, Emergency Services Association Secretary.
- Detective Peterson: Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) investigator, SWAT negotiator team lead, Public Information Officer/social media, Child Abduction Response Team (CART), Drug Endangered Children (DEC), Bigs in Blue, Therapy Dog Handler, Multi-Disciplinary Team.
- SRO Rico: CVRCFL examiner, Drone operator, social media, Bigs in Blue.
- Officer Kranig: Firearms instructor, department armorer, property room officer, Bigs in Blue.
- Officer Lauscher: SWAT, property room officer.
- Officer Bell: SWAT, Police Training Officer, STAR program coordinator, Taser Instructor, PepperBall instructor.
- Officer Madrid: Police Training Officer

- Officer Draz: Special Event Team Member, Taser instructor, PepperBall Instructor
- Officer Bautch: Drone operator, Police Training Officer, Bigs in Blue
- Officer Field: Firearms instructor, SWAT, Tactical Response instructor, Police Training Officer

Unmanned Aircraft System – Drone Program



MAVIC 2 ENTERPRISE DUAL

The Altoona Police Department drone took flight twenty-two times in 2022. The deployments included searching for suicidal subjects, searching for suspects that committed crimes, documenting major crime scenes, assisting neighboring agencies in locating suspects, training flights, researching, and documenting community events.



The department has three pilots; Sergeant Baumgarten, Officer Bautch, and Officer Rico. Each pilot completed the beginner and advanced UAS Operator course at Chippewa Valley Technical College and then passed the Federal Aviation Association sUAS certification.

This year, we implemented weekly training flights to ensure officers remain proficient in flying the drone. Pilots work together to design lesson plans, which include various flying techniques in multiple conditions.

Using the drone for cases provides additional safety for citizens and officers; operating the aircraft from a safe location and providing personnel on the scene advanced notice of concerns—such as approaching vehicles or suspect movement—is very beneficial. It is also an effective means to document large scenes, such as traffic crashes and homicides. One of the most important uses is utilizing the attached camera with FLIR (Forward Looking InfraRed) technology to locate missing children or vulnerable adults.

The drone has proven to be a valuable asset to the department in collecting evidence and locating subjects. The use of the drone has drastically increased as officers become more familiar with the operation, allowing for the drone to be utilized for various applications.

Boat Patrol Program



The boat patrol program was administered from May 12, 2022, to September 25, 2022. The department actively patrolled Lake Altoona on 21 days between May and September; for a total of 80 officer hours. Other reimbursable hours included administrative hours for documentation and training time. We sold our 10-33 boat and purchased a new boat this year. The new boat is far more versatile and appropriate for the body of water we patrol.

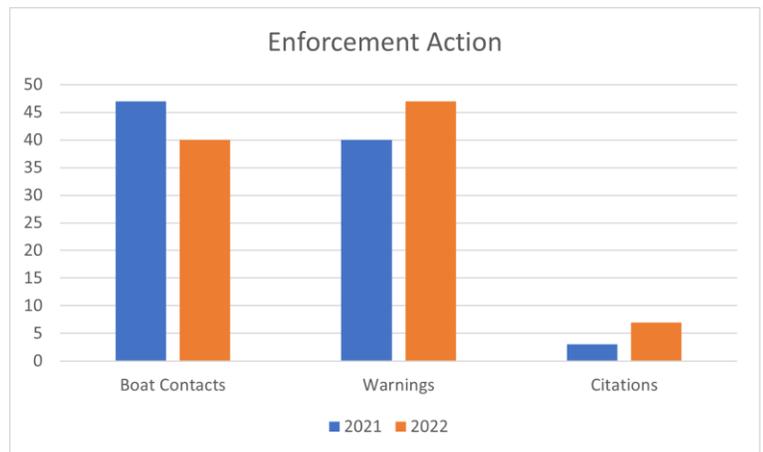
The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources reimburses the boat patrol program. All costs associated with the program are reimbursable up to 75%. This includes officer wages, mileage, fuel, oil, equipment, and time spent completing required paperwork. Officer fringe benefits are reimbursed up to 50%. The program did not use overtime, so no additional costs were accrued; these are dollars that would have been spent on officer hours, regardless. Other expenses associated with the program are all reimbursable, including the boat we purchased. The funds from the sale of the 10-33 boat were used to purchase the new boat; however, the DNR still reimburses us for the cost of the new boat, which will be 75% of the total cost paid over five

<u>Costs:</u>	
Wages and Fringe Benefits	\$5768
Equipment, Fuel, and Milage	\$3427
2022 Lund Adventure	\$31,957
Total	\$41,152
<u>Revenues 2022:</u>	
DNR Expected Reimbursement	\$10,910

years.

The department recorded 47 warnings issued and seven citations. The citations included one PFD violation and six registration and titling violations. The rate of inspection and warnings shows the high volume of education provided to recreationists. These positive contacts typically resulted in voluntary compliance, corrective behavior, and increased water safety. No number can be assigned to the effectiveness of the patrol regarding publicity and deterrence. The law enforcement presence on the lake continues to be positive, and complaints on the lake are lower than previous years. In addition to enforcement, the department assisted with two search and rescue operations—both ended in safe resolutions.

Overall, the boat patrol program provides a great community policing aspect to our department. We distributed donated ice cream coupons and water bottles to children for wearing life jackets. Boat patrol allows our officers to connect with a community section that is often unreachable. The department was also more efficient in addressing complaints on the lake and increasing public safety.



Community Outreach

Community involvement is crucial to the department's success. With the ease of COVID restrictions, 2022 provided more opportunities to participate in community events.

Through our community involvement, we are able to build trusting relationships with the community. This trust is the platform that furthers our mission to work with the community to solve community-based problems. Community involvement also allows the officers to interact positively rather than the often negative situations they handle daily. We hope to continue to build our community outreach through more youth-based activities throughout the summer.

The police department hosted our annual bike rodeo, Fishing with a Cop, the spring and fall prescription drug take-back day, and National Night Out. We also enjoy our partnerships with neighborhood organizations and clubs. In 2022 we joined the first Chippewa Valley area Bigs in Blue program, partnering with Altoona School District and Big Brothers Big Sisters to mentor Altoona students. We were invited to speak at the

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Sunrise Exchange Club, which focuses on supporting child abuse prevention programs, veterans' issues, and Americanism for our youth. We also provided several safety presentations to local businesses and school staff.

We also enjoyed participating in the Back-to-School Ice Cream Social, River Prairie Easter Egg Hunt, Frosty Toona, Mock Prom Crash, the Ginormous Pumpkin Festival, Fall Frenzy, Homecoming Parade, Cinder City Days Parade, State Fair Bike Rodeo, Concerts in the Park, the Association of Altoona Emergency Services Pancake breakfast and Spaghetti Feed, as well as many more.

We also had fun supporting other local non-profit groups while doing some off-duty team building. We participated in the Eau Claire Friends of the Fair donkey races, Big Brothers Big Sisters Bowl for Kid's Sake, the Good Soul 5K run, Special Olympics Polar Plunge, and Special Olympics Cop on a Rooftop.



Big in Blue

In 2022 the department partnered with Big Brother Big Sisters of Northwestern Wisconsin to bring the Bigs in Blue program to the Altoona School District. Bigs in Blue is a one-to-one mentoring program that connects youth with police, building strong, trusting, lasting relationships. These relationships help build stronger bonds between law enforcement and the families we serve. Officers meet with youth weekly at school and attend events hosted by Big Brothers and Big Sisters in our area. Currently, the department has five officers that participate in the program. The Bigs in Blue program benefits our community, school, and officers. It's an incredibly rewarding way to mentor youth struggling with various life challenges.

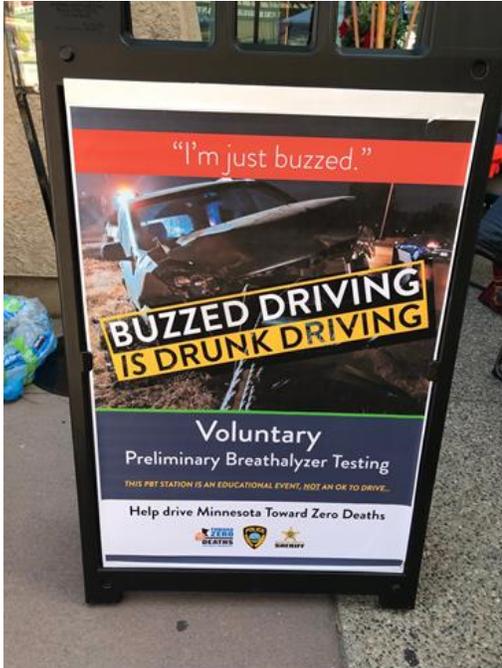


Impaired Driving Educational Event



In 2022 we partnered with the Wisconsin State Patrol and the Eau Claire County Sheriff's Office to bring our first annual educational event focused on educating our community about impaired driving. This event is designed to enhance public safety through education.

This program intends to give people a chance to learn for themselves how alcohol affects them. Most people

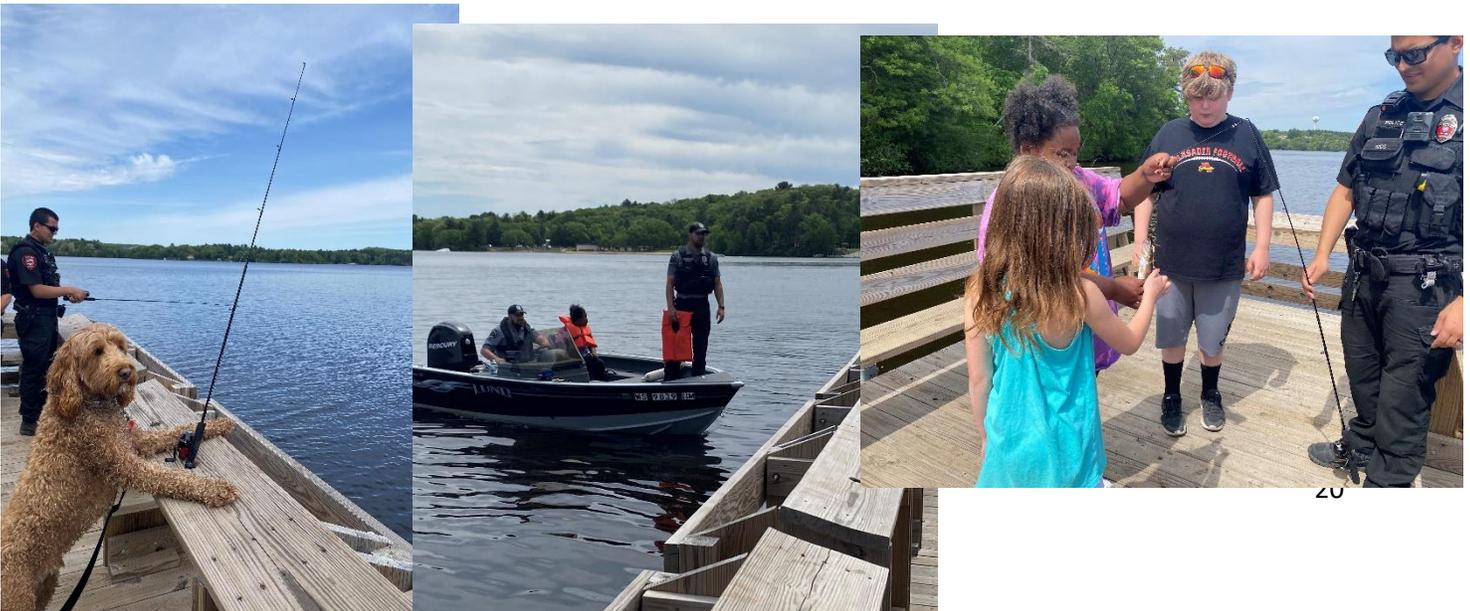


know that the prohibited alcohol concentration is 0.08 for a typical OWI offense, but they have no idea what being 0.08 may feel like.

This was indeed an educational opportunity as each person was asked how many drinks they had, over how long of a time, and when they had their last drink. The officers then discussed how the body absorbs alcohol and how the absorption can be affected by food and time. They also clarified for each person that their blood alcohol concentration may be elevating if they had consumed alcohol recently and that this was simply an educational tool, not an ok to drive! Officers discussed with participants that an OWI arrest could be made if someone shows signs of impairment, even if they are below the prohibited level. Not only does the program help people understand how alcohol affects them, but it also helps dispel false beliefs.

Fishing with a Cop

In 2022 we launched our first annual Fishing with a Cop program, aimed to work with at-risk youth, allowing them to get hooked on fishing while bonding with law enforcement officers who love to fish. We teamed up with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to make this event extra special for the kids. The officers obtained donations and utilized the funds to purchase tackle and fishing rods for each kid. The kids were taught different fishing techniques and were given boat rides. The first annual event was invitation-only. In 2023 we plan to expand the event to include any youth that wants to participate. The kids, officers, and Donut had a blast fishing lake Altoona.



CALEA Accreditation

The department has undertaken a project to become an accredited agency. Accreditation is achieved by meeting set standards developed for law enforcement agencies. Altoona Police are working towards accreditation through the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA). CALEA provides accreditation standards for law enforcement agencies in North America.



Currently, we are in the self-assessment stage. This means we are working on revising policies and practices to reach all of the standards. It has allowed us to take a good look at day-to-day activities and ensure we provide the best service to our community. We have been working on reviewing department policies, comparing them to the approved standards, and making revisions to meet the North American standards for accredited law enforcement. We have also improved data tracking, like use of force, bias policing, and evidence inventory. This data will allow us to strengthen our evidence integrity and increase transparency. The standards set by CALEA are considered the gold standard in public safety, and obtaining accreditation will benefit the police department.

The benefits of the program are:

Increased Community Advocacy - Accreditation embodies the precepts of community-oriented policing. It creates a forum in which law enforcement agencies and citizens work together to prevent and control challenges confronting law enforcement and provides clear direction about community expectations.

Staunch Support from Government Officials - Accreditation provides objective evidence of an agency's commitment to excellence in leadership, resource management, and service delivery. Thus, government officials are more confident in the agency's ability to operate efficiently and meet community needs.

Stronger Defense Against Civil Lawsuits - Accredited agencies can better defend themselves against civil lawsuits. Also, many agencies report a decline in legal actions against them, once they become accredited.

Reduced Risk and Liability Exposure - Many agencies report a reduction in their liability insurance costs and/or reimbursement of accreditation fees.

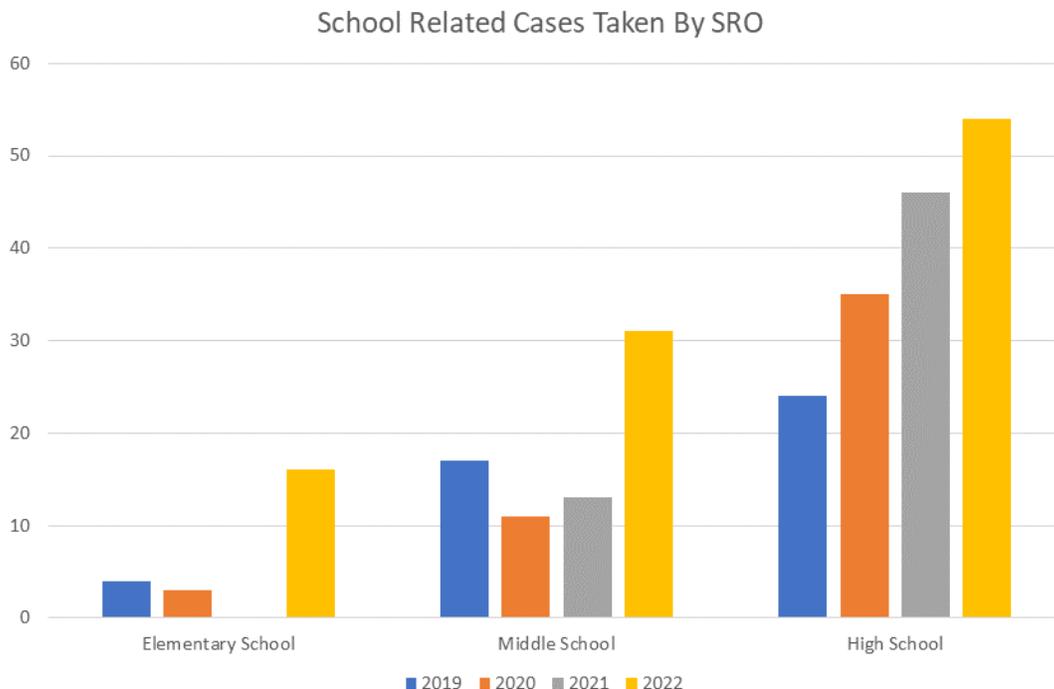
Greater Accountability within the Agency - CALEA standards give the agency administrators a proven management system of written directives, sound training, clearly defined lines of authority, and routine reports that support decision-making and resource allocation

School Resource Officer

The Altoona School Resource Officer works closely with school staff and students to ensure a safe and productive learning environment. The SRO has made several safety suggestions to the school, which have been implemented, such as several security cameras in high-risk locations in the district. In addition, the SRO has attended several school-related after-school events such as Football Games, Basketball Games, Concerts, and Dances. The SRO assisted the school in several cases but has kept citations and juvenile referrals as a last resort for struggling students; instead of focusing on enforcement, the priority is diversion and education. The SRO also conducts house visits with school staff for truancy-related issues. The SRO continues to create a strong partnership with the Altoona School District and the Altoona Police Department that will remain strong for years.

With the increasing population of Altoona and the rising student population rates, the SRO caseload has increased. The SRO is responsible for all four schools, making it difficult for the SRO to be present at all the schools as much as the staff and the SRO would like. The SRO works with staff to implement alternative resources to supplement law enforcement resources.

The SRO would like to increase the time spent in each school to create more positive relationships; however, the current structure does not allow enough time. The Altoona Police Department and the School District of Altoona will continue working closely to ensure sufficient time is provided to each school and maintain a safe and effective learning environment.



Donut – The Therapy Dog

In March 2020, the Altoona Police Department obtained a 12 -week-old Labradoodle from Blueberry Cottage Labradoodles for the purpose of training him to be a therapy dog. Donut was certified when he reached one year through the Alliance of Therapy Dogs.

Donut continues to be assigned to now Detective Tim Peterson; however, is still being utilized in the school daily. Donut is trained so that any officer can handle him, so SRO Rico has been working to build a bond with Donut that allows Officer Rico to take Donut to the school. Having Donut at the school benefits Officer Rico, the students, staff, and Donut! Detective Peterson continues to work with Donut to ensure he maintain his certification as a therapy dog.

Donut has been an invaluable addition to the Altoona Police Department and the Altoona School District. The amount of assistance Donut provides to students daily is unmeasurable. Donut is the most incredible tool for building relationships with students. Donut is still part of the intermediate school reward system and the most popular.

Outside of the school district, Donut has assisted with interviews of victims, including domestic violence, sexual assaults, and other complex topics. He has been utilized in mental health cases to calm the patient, which allows for transport, and has even been requested back when someone was having a difficult day, helping that person avoid being placed in a facility. In addition, Donut has visited assisted living homes and nursing homes and attended the college wellness days. Many different departments, businesses, non-profits, and events have requested Donut visit and be present at events.

Donut is present at most city events, greeting people and allowing for easier conversation with our law enforcement. In addition, Donut is on our social media page and is loved by the community. Recently, Donut won the 2022 Volumeone's most liked celebrity in the Chippewa Valley.

Donut also spends a fair amount of time in the Altoona Emergency Services building, greeting law enforcement officers, civilian visitors, and fire and EMS staff. Donut adds a smile to everyone's face. The staff appreciates having Donut in the office; several have mentioned they wanted to work for Altoona because Donut is in the office. Having Donut to pet after a rough call for service has been valuable to the wellbeing of our staff.

The cost of a therapy dog has been minimal; Donut was donated to our department. In addition, a local veterinarian donates his vet care, and a local pet store donates his dog food. Some of his training has also been donated, and the training that was not donated was of minimal cost. The certification was also minimal cost.

The value of therapy dog programs has become more known within law enforcement because of Donut and what he does. Altoona Police Department has proudly assisted

multiple other agencies in obtaining therapy dogs; Donut is the leading example within the Wisconsin law enforcement therapy dog program.



Investigations

The two positions responsible for most of the investigative work done by the department are the detective and the school resource officer (SRO); while these positions often handle cases more sensitive in nature, such as crimes against children and sex crimes, patrol officers also contribute to other types of investigations to help keep caseloads more manageable.

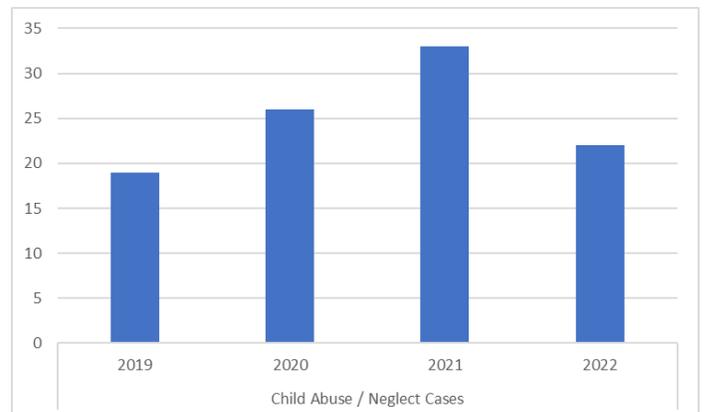
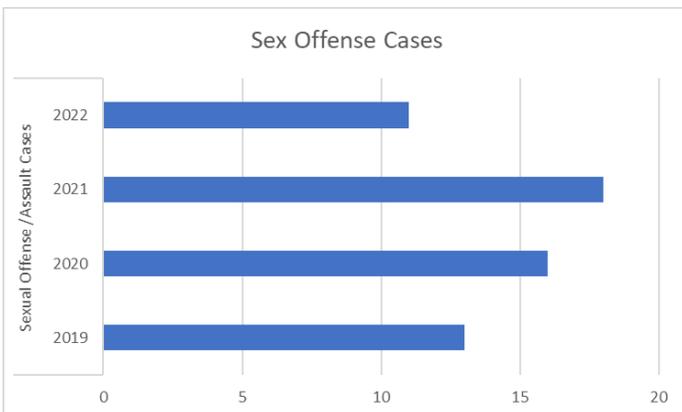
In 2022, Tim Peterson was assigned as the department's detective. Detective Peterson was immediately tasked with several significant cases. Detective Peterson has worked diligently to solve those cases and balance numerous other substantial cases, all while attending several detective training courses.

Some of the investigative highlights from 2022 are as follows;

In early 2022, we worked with the Rockford, Illinois, Police Department to arrest two people for the homicide of an Altoona resident. The homicide case took a tremendous amount of time and effort. We executed many search warrants and subpoenas, collected a substantial amount of evidence, and worked with several agencies to put the case together. Although the suspects have been charged in the case, they have not been convicted, so the casework will continue until the court hearing.

We also investigated a fatal hit-and-run case that occurred in the early morning hours on Highway 12. Staff worked diligently to put the pieces of the case together and make a quick arrest. This case also took substantial amount of teamwork and outside resources to obtain enough evidence to charge the suspect. This case is also pending a court hearing.

Over the course of the year, many of the cases investigated were in relation to children. Investigators looked into internet crimes against children (ICAC) cases, primarily involving child pornography, child neglect, child abuse, and sexual assault cases.



Community Service Officer (CSO)

In October 2022, we started a Community Service Officer (CSO) program. The CSO program is designed to work with local colleges to hire criminal justice students. We hire civilian employees, give them experience in law enforcement, and we get to work with them to develop skills, learn department policy and procedure, and become familiar with the city. The department can then sponsor the students through the police academy and potentially hire them as patrol officers.

The CSO Program has many job duties and responsibilities. Generally, focusing on parking enforcement, responding to animal nuisance calls, animal bite calls, and ordinance violations. The program is developing and growing as the CSOs become familiar with the city and the needs of the city. Outside of responding to calls, some of the other duties are assisting with community events, keeping found property updated, assisting the front desk, helping the patrol unit when needed, and many more tasks. The CSOs can fill duties that don't require a patrol officer, freeing the patrol officers for proactive patrol and response to severe calls for service.

The CSOs patrol the city to locate possible problem areas and educate the property owners on our ordinances. This allows the CSOs to work on communication and problem-solving skills while improving the quality of life within the city. Their efforts in ordinance enforcement have reduced the time patrol officers and the city planner has spent enforcing such things as junk.



ALTOONA PD - PART TIME COMMUNITY SERVICE OFFICER



JOB DESCRIPTION:

- Pay: \$18.23 per hour
- Flexible 20-30 hour per week
- Expected to work some nights and weekends
- Parking Enforcement
- Animal Control
- Ordinance Enforcement
- Miscellaneous tasks

QUALIFICATIONS:

- Prior work experience in a Law Enforcement setting - Preferred
- Pursuing a degree in Criminal Justice - Preferred
- Be at least 18 years of age
- Pass a background investigation
- Possess a valid driver's license

APPLY TODAY!

- Submit a DJ-LE-330 Application and Resume
- For further information or how to apply, go to www.ci.altoona.wi.us/careers

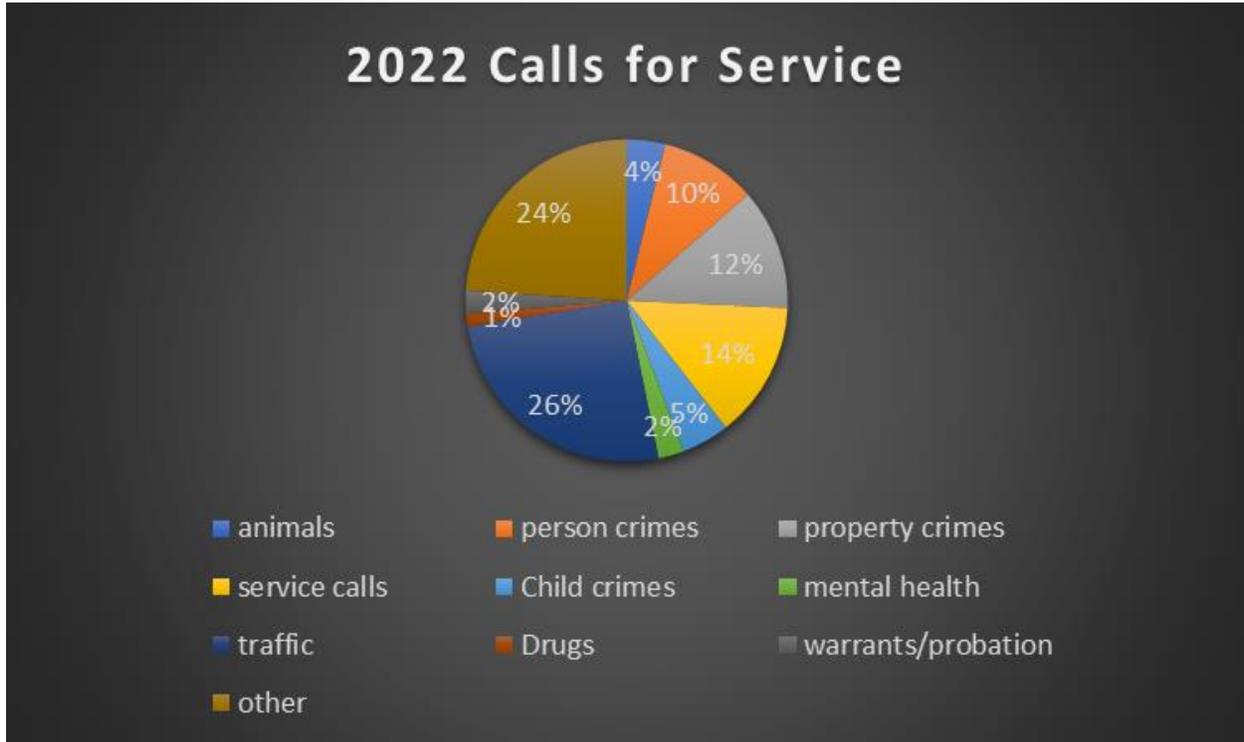


The City of Altoona is an equal opportunity employer



Calls for Service

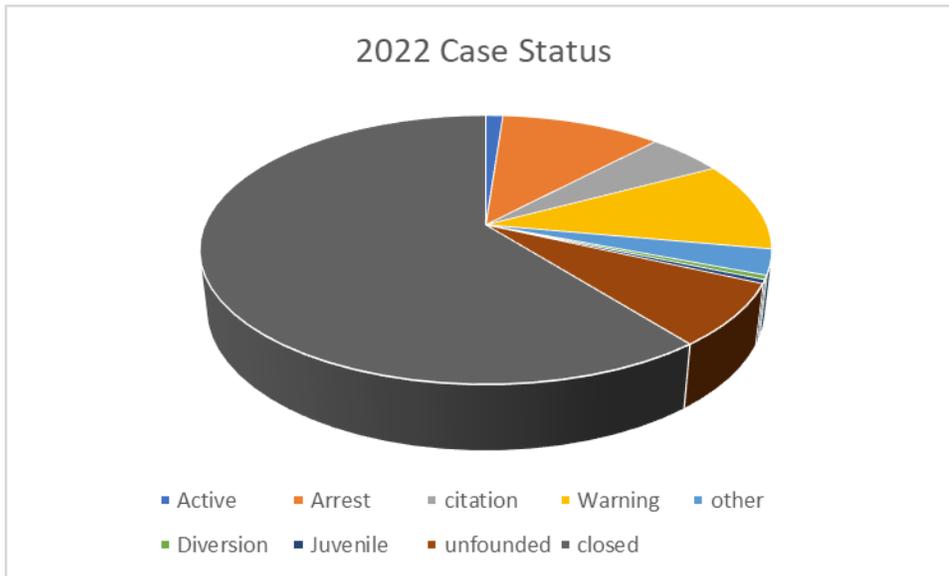
2021 proved to be a busy year for law enforcement; we responded to a total of 3089 calls for service.



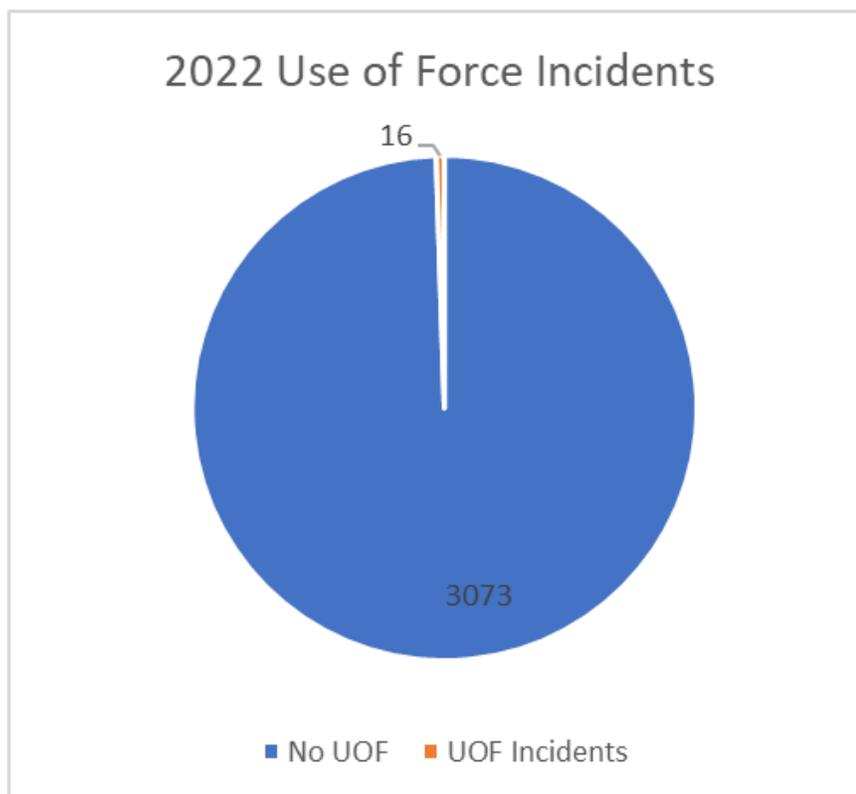
animals	117
person crimes	294
property crimes	368
service calls	415
Child crimes	145
mental health	78
traffic	776
Drugs	38
warrants/probation	70
other	755

Of the 3089 calls for Service, 1838, or 61.6%, were closed with no other action taken; these cases were closed for several reasons, including such things as no crime was committed, the victim did not want to pursue charges, or was uncooperative, there was not enough information provided, etc. Of the 3089 calls for service, 329, or 11% of the

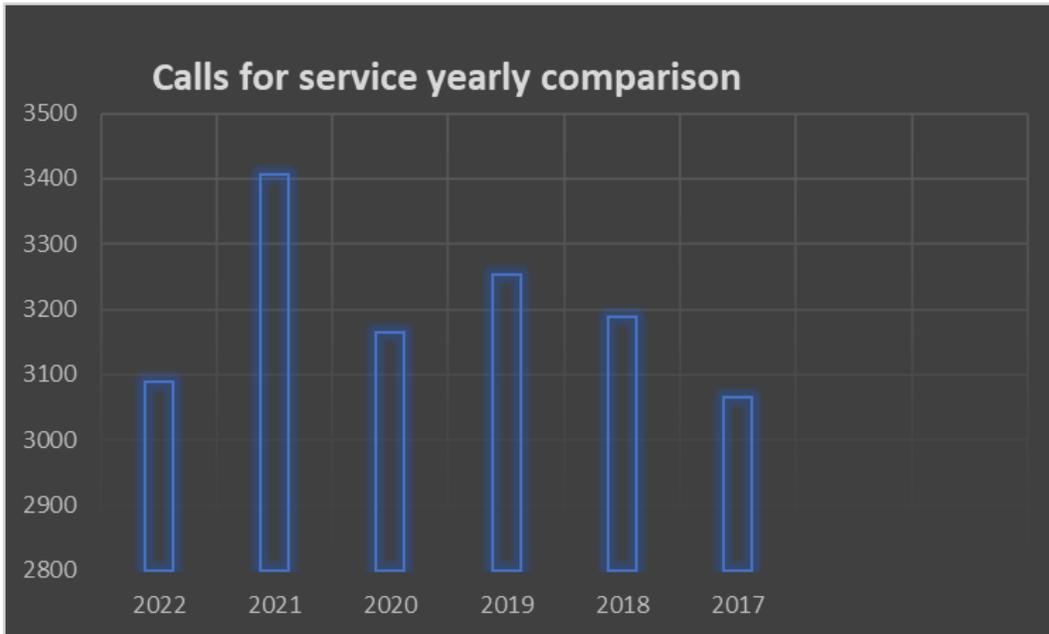
calls, resulted in the offender being arrested, and 156 resulted in a citation. In 2022 we began working with the district attorney's office on a diversion program for first-offense low-level offenders to give them the opportunity to improve their situation without a criminal offense record; we sent 15 cases to diversion and referred 14 juvenile cases to juvenile services.



Of the 3089 calls for service in 2022, 16 calls resulted in a use of force incident. One was a taser deployment, one was a deadly force/firearms situation, eleven were compliance holds, and three were decentralizations. A total of 0.5% of our calls for service resulted in the use of force.



Calls for Service Yearly Comparison



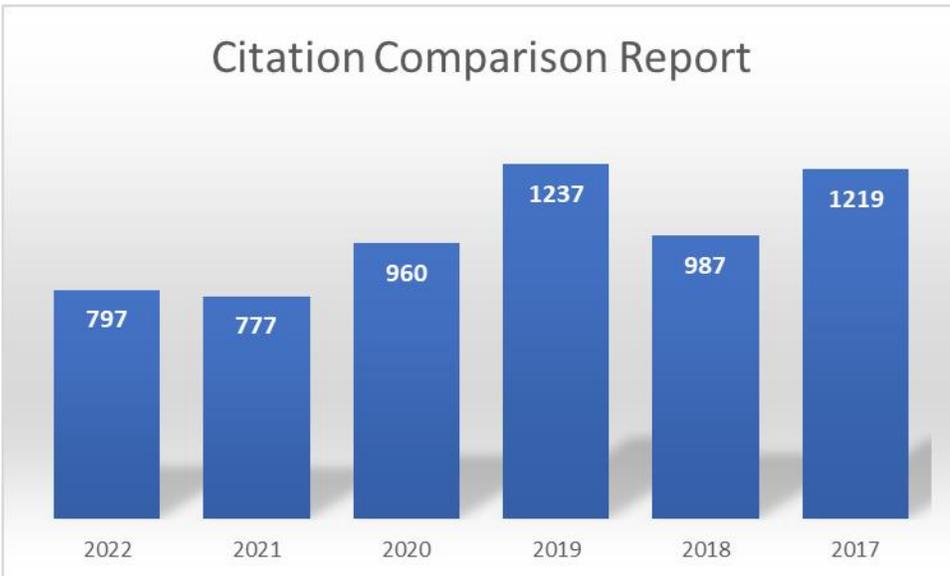
In 2022 we saw a decrease in calls numbers. Of the last five years, 2022 calls for service were the lowest. In comparing the call detail, property crime and crimes against persons were relatively the same in 2021 and 2022; crimes against children were up in 2022, drug cases and court violations were significantly down. Our drug cases and court violations come from proactive patrol and detective activity. The department has ten patrol officers, with two patrol members leaving and one newly created position not filled. The patrol staff worked short three members in 2022 for approximately six months and one member for the entire year, resulting in decreased proactivity.

2022 Traffic Report

	2022 Traffic Report
Citations	797
Warnings	1540
Crash Reports	193
parking citations	170

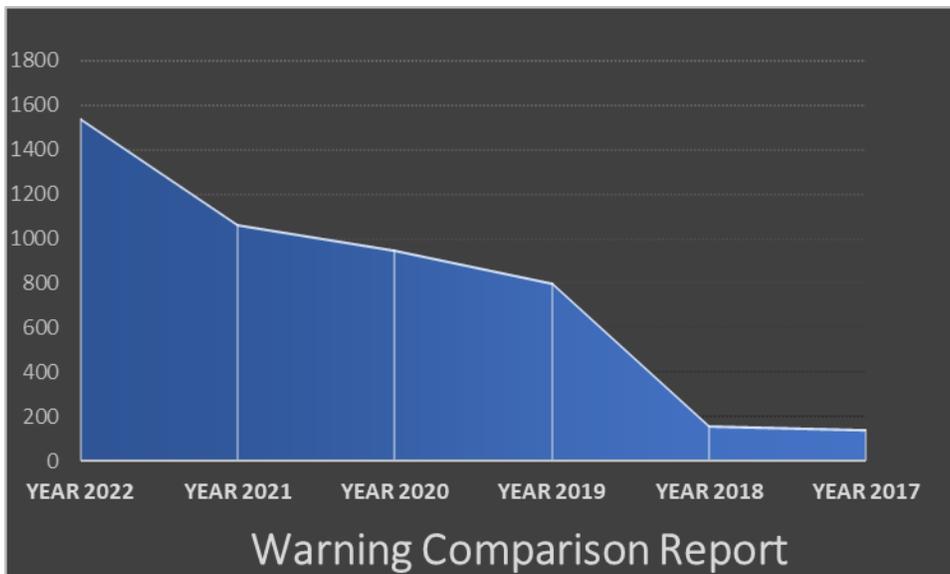


Citation Comparison Report



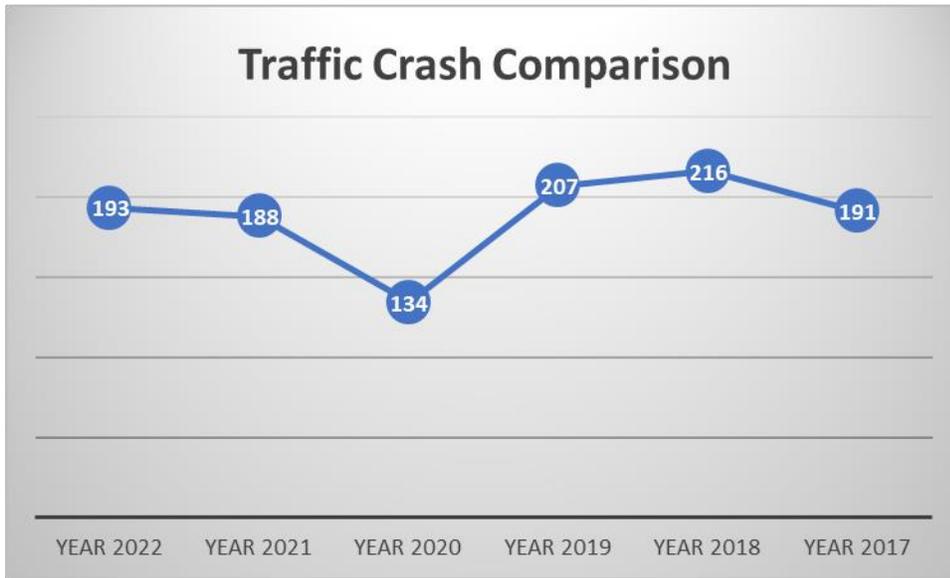
Our 2022 number of citations ended the year similarly to 2021.

Warning Comparison Report



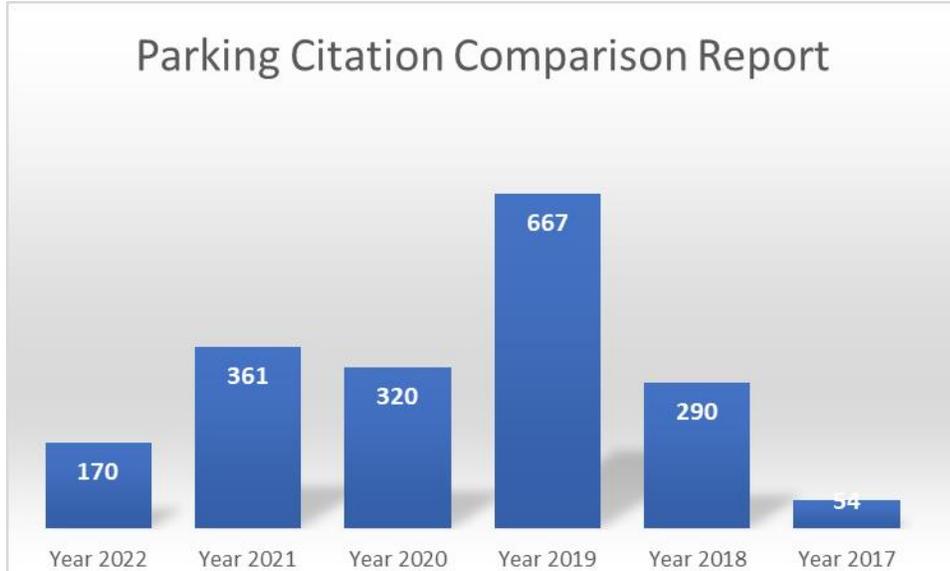
Warning numbers increased significantly in 2022 due to better documentation of warnings over the past couple of years and the addition of parking warnings to our tracking system.

Crash Comparison Report



We ended 2022 with relatively the same number of crashes as we experienced in 2022.

Parking Comparison Report



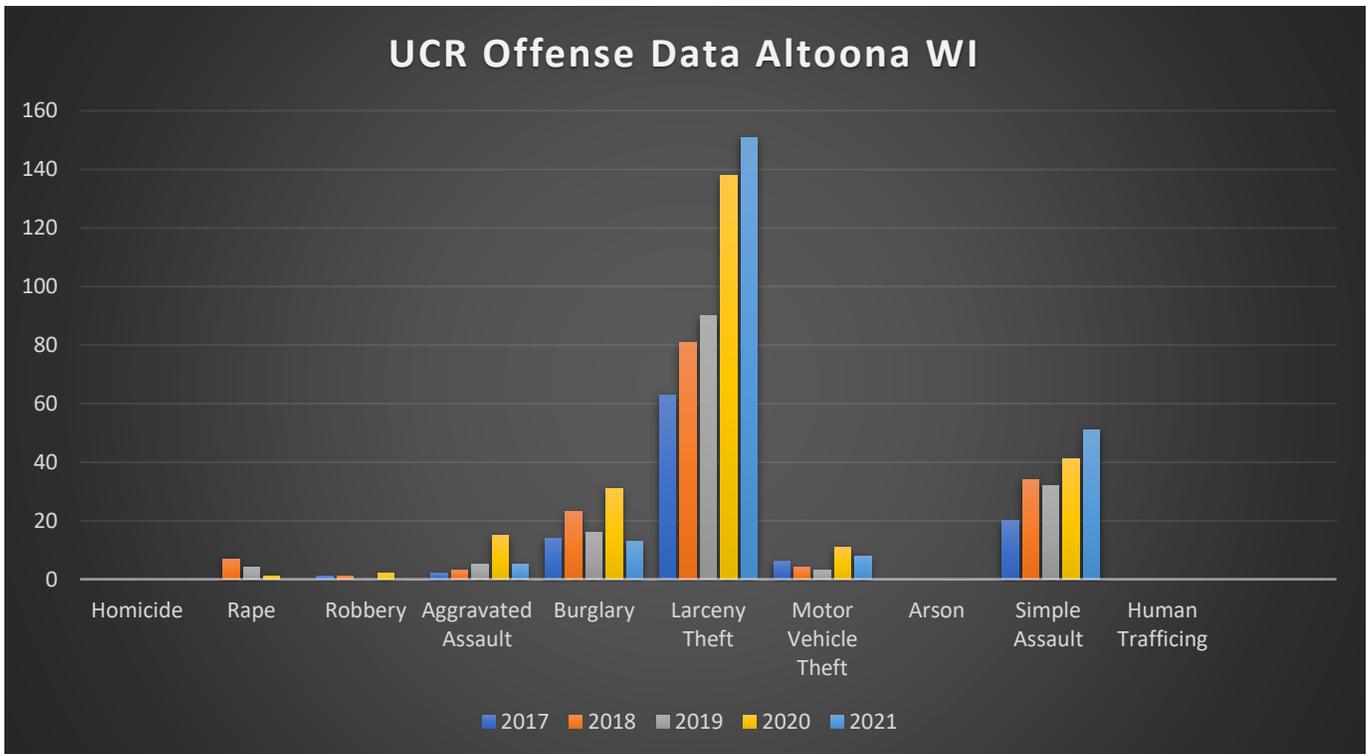
We started our CSO program in October of 2022; in looking at parking citations, we wrote as many parking citations in the last three months of the year as we wrote in the first nine months of the year. During the first part of the year we had staffing challenges, our ten person patrol staff were three person short for approximately six months.

Uniform Crime Report

The most recent FBI Uniform Crime Report information is based off of 2019 reports. The report indicates that based upon a 15 year trend, the overall crime rate in Altoona is decreasing, although that rate goes up and down from year to year.

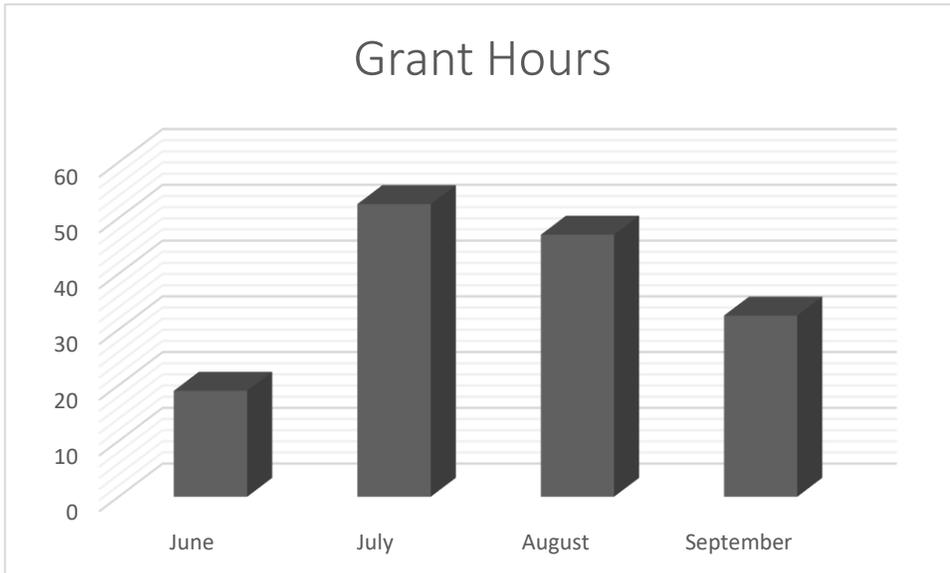
The city violent crime rate for Altoona in 2019 was lower than the national violent crime rate by an average of 70.12%, and the property crime rate in Altoona was lower than the national property crime rate average by 34.93%

In 2019 the city's violent crime rate was lower than the violent crime rate in Wisconsin by 61.33%, and the city property crime rate in Altoona was lower than the property crime rate in Wisconsin by 6.69%.



Grants

The Altoona Police Department again partnered with the Augusta Police Department and was awarded a \$30,000 speed enforcement grant through the Wisconsin Department of Transportation. The primary purpose of the grant was to enforce traffic



violations in problematic areas from June through September. Our low staffing numbers through the summer months limited staff availability, resulting in lower than expected use of the grant funding. Altoona officers spent 151 hours on traffic enforcement, a decrease from the 359 hours spent in 2021 for the same grant.

Traffic grant funding allows additional overtime hours to be allocated specifically for enforcing traffic offenses. Officer overtime hours are 100% reimbursed by Wisconsin DOT, not costing the city anything. Grant funding for traffic enforcement allows the department to focus on traffic enforcement that would not otherwise be enforced because of staff availability. In 2022 Altoona was reimbursed \$7,295.20 through the DOT grant. We anticipate we will again receive grant funding in 2023 for traffic enforcement.

Conclusion

2022 proved to be a busy year for law enforcement; staffing shortages for most of the year created unanticipated challenges; however, public safety remained a priority. We continued to build relationships through community service. Building relationships through community involvement and transparency creates trust. We solve community problems by partnering with our community through a trust-based relationship.

Overall the city of Altoona is a safe place to live and enjoy. Our call volume numbers were down in 2022; this appears to be decreased proactivity due to staffing shortages. Proactivity is vital to maintaining public safety and is something we continue to focus on increasing.

We continue to work on executive level and specialized law enforcement training for all police department staff. Educated law enforcement staff allows us to serve the community more efficiently and effectively through a highly professional and innovative team.

The police department's priority is to continue to partner with the community to make the community a better place for all to enjoy. We look forward to 2023 and continuing to build partnerships and improve our service to the community.

Respectfully,

Chief Kelly Bakken