



WEST HENNEPIN PUBLIC SAFETY

2019 ANNUAL REPORT



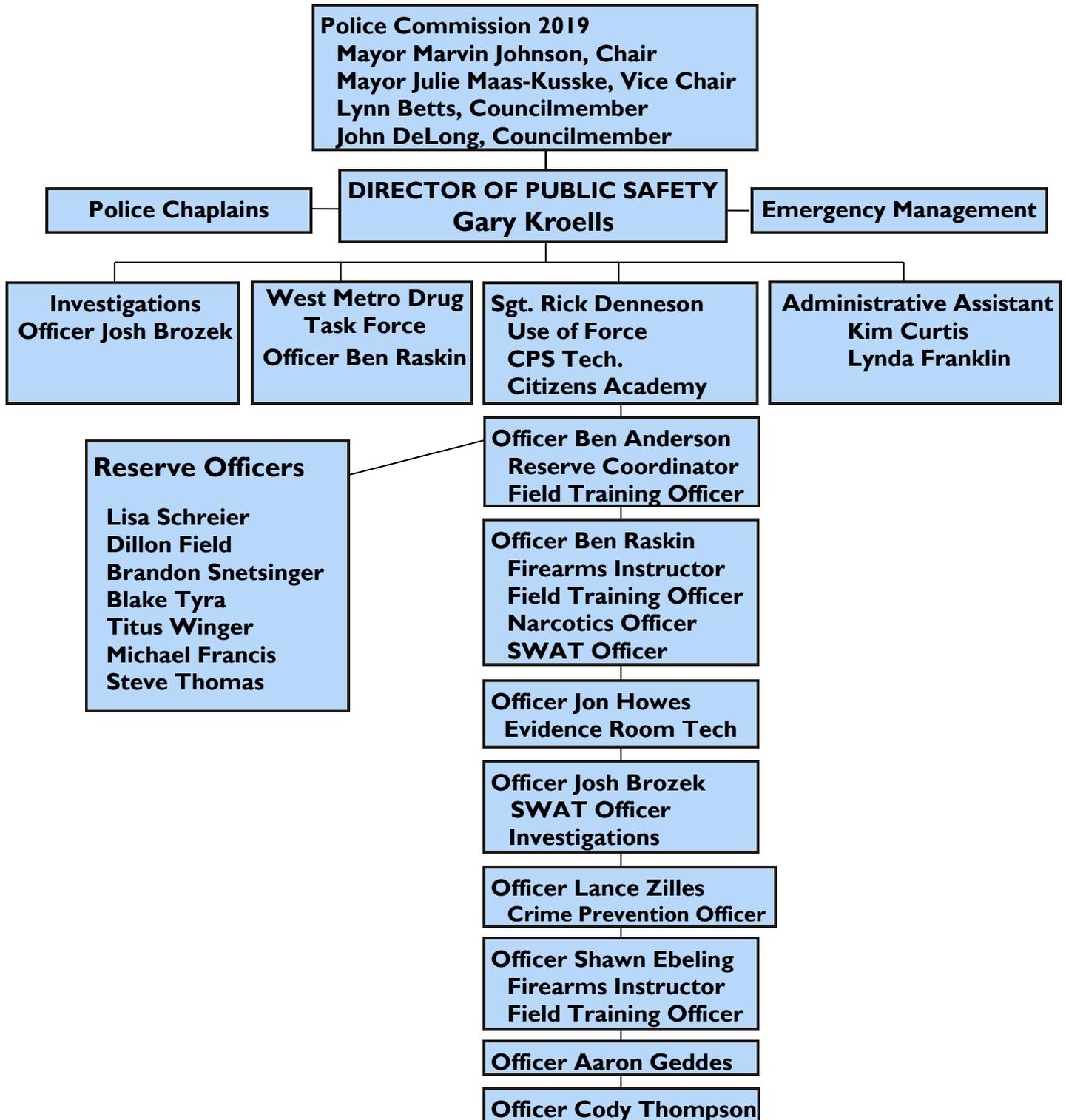
MISSION:

To protect and serve the citizens of Maple Plain and Independence in a professional and compassionate manner.



WEST HENNEPIN PUBLIC SAFETY

WEST HENNEPIN PUBLIC SAFETY ORGANIZATIONAL CHART





WEST HENNEPIN PUBLIC SAFETY

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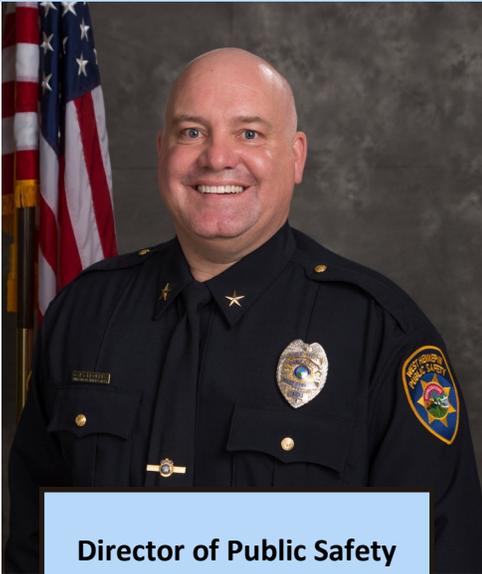
Serving our Community proudly with our core values:

Honor Courage Common Sense Respect & Dignity Loyalty Fairness Trust



WEST HENNEPIN PUBLIC SAFETY

DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE



**Director of Public Safety
Gary Kroells**

As Director of Public Safety for the West Hennepin Public Safety Department, it is my honor to submit the *2019 Annual Report*.

In this year's report, you will find information highlighting different areas of law enforcement, training, emergency management, community involvement, and our volunteer programs. This report reflects the commitment our staff continues to show towards our citizens and our community.

West Hennepin will continue to search for effective and efficient ways to provide proactive police services to our citizens. Our interaction with the public and our citizens is paramount in our work toward the betterment of our communities. Trust is a significant aspect of our service, and we continue to work every day to keep and build that trust with our citizens.

In 2019 all of our squad and booking room video systems were upgraded from the initial deployment of cameras in 2008. The vehicles now have cameras that capture video data from the backseat and behind the patrol vehicle, in addition to the front-facing cameras that the first system provided. The video quality was upgraded from standard definition to full color 1080p. This upgrade also included a replacement server with enough storage capacity to include future body camera deployment in the next two years.

In 2019 Officer Ben Raskin was deployed to Kuwait as a Master Sergeant serving with the Minnesota National Guard. Officer Raskin returned home safely to his family and ours. We are very proud of his service to our nation and the citizens he serves as a member of West Hennepin Public Safety.

West Hennepin Public Safety is proud to report the Highway 12 Safety Coalition is still strong and moving forward with MnDOT and Hennepin County DOT for the improvements for County Road 92 and 90. The upgrades for these intersections will occur in the spring of 2021 with a controlled intersection at both locations.

As you review this report, I hope that you feel the same pride that I do in recognizing the accomplishments our department achieved in serving our citizens in 2019.

It is truly an honor and privilege to serve as the Director of Public Safety for the West Hennepin Public Safety Department. I hope that we have made a positive impact on your lives as we continue working hard for you in 2020 and beyond.



WEST HENNEPIN PUBLIC SAFETY

TRAINING AND EDUCATION

Training and continuing education are both a big part of the job for each West Hennepin Public Safety officer. Officers must remain current on policies, procedures, law updates, and technology. They must also keep their skill proficient with their firearms, driving skills, and hand-to-hand combat/defensive tactics. When officers attend use-of-force refresher training, they do so in full uniform with all their use-of-force tools such as their Taser, chemical pepper spray, baton, and handcuffs. They also train on how to appropriately detain people with the use of handcuffs. Except for the driving skills, most of this training is done “in-house.” Several officers have taken certified trainer classes to be able to teach the other officers the skills they need.



Sergeant Rick Denneson
Use of Force Instructor

Every year the requirements for mandatory training are increased for an officer to keep their peace officer license current. Online training outlets that we subscribe to fulfill many of the annual requirements, but some learning is done off-site in a classroom.

We also promote employee development and advancement by attending relevant training courses. Courses may be recommended by the department or chosen by the officer to enhance their leadership skills and abilities. Promoting these skills provides our officers on the street with better decision-making skills, not only for everyday decisions but also for the more technical or complicated scenarios that they may face. It also puts them on track for advancement within our department.

In 2019, WHPSD officers attended over 600 hours of training away from the office and their regular shifts. With our staffing, we can accomplish this with schedule adjustments, which minimizes the costs and potential conflicts with scheduling patrol coverage.

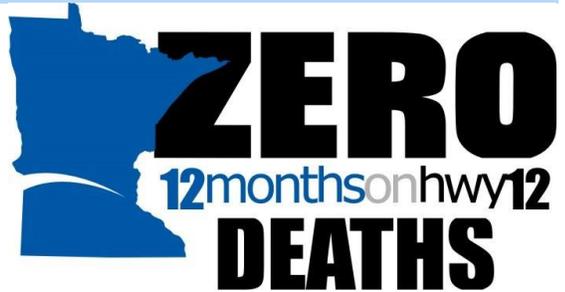




WEST HENNEPIN PUBLIC SAFETY

HIGHWAY 12 SAFETY COALITION

In the fall of 2014, the Hwy 12 Safety Coalition was formed to improve safety and reduce serious injury and fatality crashes along Highway 12. Over the past five years, many safety improvements have been made to Highway 12 to save lives.



Those improvements have included:

- ◆ Centerline and shoulder rumble strips.
- ◆ Left-hand turn lanes at County Road 92 to go north or south from Highway 12.
- ◆ LED intersection lighting at multiple intersections.
- ◆ Development of controlled intersections at County Road 90 and 92 in 2021.
- ◆ Addition of a concrete median barrier between I-394 and County Road 6.
- ◆ Centerline delineators from County Road 90 to Delano.
- ◆ Early warning message boards between Maple Plain and Delano.
- ◆ Tree clearing in the road right-of-way from Delano to County Road 6 in Orono.

MnDOT released an educational video to highlight the improvements over the past five years. It can be found on YouTube at <https://youtu.be/RJkbnGP3do>.

Completion of the Final Plan design for Highway 12 upgrades occurred in 2019 for the intersection improvements at County Road 90 and County Road 92. At this time, a roundabout is planned for both locations. The roundabout at County Road 90 will be "at grade," with construction expected to occur in 2021. The plans for County Road 92 include a bridge design that will elevate County Road 92 over Hwy 12 and the BNSF railroad. Construction for County Road 92 will begin in 2021, with completion expected in 2022.

WHPS recognizes that it takes "Everyone" to make our roads safer. Together we can make the highway safer for everyone traveling along the Highway 12 corridor.

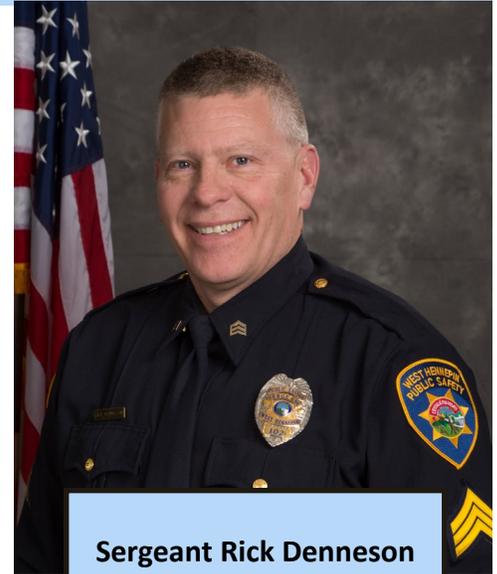




WEST HENNEPIN PUBLIC SAFETY

TECHNOLOGY AND LAW ENFORCEMENT

Technology plays a significant role in a police officer's daily life. In my career of 30+ years of law enforcement, I have seen many additions, advancements, and changes in technology. There were no in-car computers, telephones, video cameras, or advanced weaponry. Distance and terrain limited the capabilities of the radio. Reference materials such as maps, address books, laws, and tickets were all carried either in a briefcase or placed in the door pocket or center console of the car. Your clipboard was kept on top of the console so you could write down the address of a call for service and the time that you were dispatched, arrived, and when you left. If you did not have the addresses of your city memorized, then you looked them up on a paper map – sometimes while flying down the highway to get to whoever needed help. Now that was distracted driving!



Sergeant Rick Denneson
Patrol Sergeant

Today, a computer in the car tells you what the call is, documents your times, gives you a Google map of where your call is, and can give you driving directions. It also sends your tickets or your reports that need to be printed to one of the two printers mounted in the car for immediate access. The in-car video system has three cameras in the vehicle – front, rear, and back seat. There is a camera on my gun, a red-dot aiming system on my rifle, and fingerprints are done on a glass screenpad in the office and submitted instantly to the national database. In the past, fingerprints were taken using black ink rolled out on a pad and the prints were rolled onto paper cards, then mailed in for inclusion in the database.

In 2019, the Hennepin County 911 Dispatch Center updated the computer-aided dispatching (CAD) program that we use to get our calls in our car. The new program was significantly different from the previous one, and it was a substantial change for every officer to learn and understand. We increased our online training with additional training technology in the office. And we continue to investigate the cost and benefits of having body-worn cameras on each officer. Cell phones are assigned to the patrol cars, and they have become our digital cameras. New and ever-changing apps give us portable access to reference materials and safety information at our fingertips. Learning to keep up with changing technology has become as important as keeping up with our skills, policies, and law changes.

WEST HENNEPIN PUBLIC SAFETY

WEST METRO DRUG TASK FORCE (WMDTF)



Officer Ben Raskin
West Metro Drug Task
Force Agent

The West Metro Drug Task Force (WMDTF) is a joint task force created to combat narcotics in western Hennepin County and the Twin Cities metro area. The WMDTF was established in 2003 with the cooperation of West Hennepin Public Safety, Medina Police Department, Minnetrista Public Safety, Orono Police Department and the Hennepin County Sheriff's Office. There are currently six agents assigned to the task force, which investigates narcotics-related criminal matters. Each member agency has at least one officer designated to the task force. A drug task force agent conducts long-term complex investigations, drafts and executes search warrants, conducts undercover operations and assists local law enforcement with critical incidents.



West Metro Drug Task Force Agencies:

**West Hennepin Public Safety
Department**

Medina Police Department

**Minnetrista Public Safety
Department**

Orono Police Department

**Hennepin County
Sheriff's Office**



WEST HENNEPIN PUBLIC SAFETY

WEST METRO DRUG TASK FORCE (WMDTF)

The year 2019 was very productive for the West Metro Drug Task Force (WMDTF). The task force executed 134 search warrants, which led to 112 arrests. The WMDTF seized 3.4 pounds of cocaine, 152 pounds of crystal methamphetamine, 117 pounds of marijuana, and 30 guns.

The estimated street value of the narcotics seized by the WMDTF in 2019 is close to \$3.5 million. The pictures below are from significant search warrants that were executed.



Forty-nine and a half pounds of methamphetamine that were seized in one case.



One pound of heroin, thirty-seven pounds of methamphetamine, and \$89,000.00 were seized in this case.





WEST HENNEPIN PUBLIC SAFETY

USE OF FORCE—FIREARMS TRAINING



Officer Ben Raskin
Firearms Instructor

West Hennepin Public Safety (WHPS) conducts ongoing training throughout the year in the areas of use of force and firearms. We conduct a minimum of four live-fire firearms trainings each year to ensure officers' proficiency with weapons and appropriate application in different situations.

We continue to ensure that our officers are outfitted with the latest equipment and that they are up to date with current trends in the use of force and firearms technology.



For many years, WHPS has incorporated scenario-based, decision making, and de-escalation training into our use of force program and 2019 was no exception. Columbia Heights PD again provided us with access to their video simulation system called Laser Shot. We spent a week in March of 2019 rotating the officers through simulations that put officers into life-like situations that require varying levels of force. In each scenario, officers practice how to address the characters in the simulations by utilizing de-escalation techniques and the application of varying levels of force up to deadly force. Following each scenario, our instructors debrief the scenario and review the actions the officer took to address the simulation. This provides a valuable training tool for officers, aiding them to hone their skills in dealing with any potential use of force scenarios and ensure we are using only enough force that is necessary to address a situation.



Video simulation training using the Laser Shot system on loan from the Columbia Heights Police Department



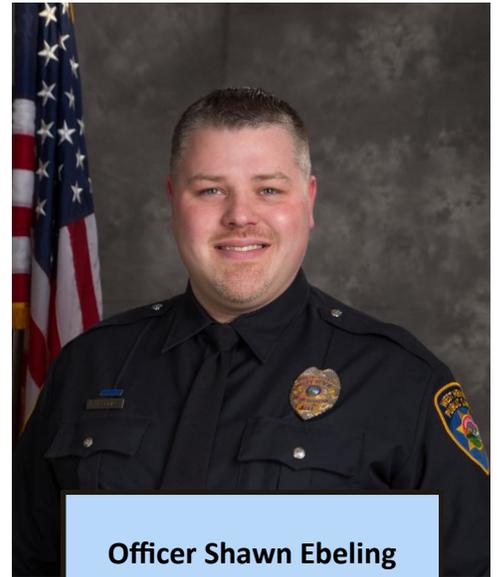
WEST HENNEPIN PUBLIC SAFETY

USE OF FORCE—FIREARMS TRAINING

Each year WHPS officers also need to complete hours of training pertaining to use-of-force and the use of deadly force. This training is augmented with the partnership we have with the League of Minnesota Cities called Peace Officer Accredited Training OnLine (PATROL), which provides in-depth review and training on legal aspects, case law, and practical application of use-of-force and use of deadly force.



2019 provided for a challenging but fruitful year for training. All of our live-fire training occurs outside, and this year officers were subject to several training days in severely inclement weather: officers trained in negative 10 degrees; heavy snow; rain and wind; and above 85 degrees with high humidity. As uncomfortable as this can be, it provides our officers with realistic challenges that we may face in practical application.



Officer Shawn Ebeling
Firearms Instructor



One full range day each year is spent training in low/no light conditions as we serve our community 24 hours a day. This provides our officers with valuable training in the dark and forces officers to utilize all their tools, including several light sources and tactical approaches to effective night operations.

DELANOSPORTSMENSLUB.COM
OFFICIAL WEBSITE OF THE DELANO SPORTSMEN'S CLUB



We would also like to thank the Delano Sportsmen’s Club for their continued support and cooperation with us by providing access to their range. For several years, we have been fortunate enough to have been asked to participate in an annual social gathering between the members and local law enforcement, allowing members to meet officers and ask any questions that members may have for law enforcement.



WEST HENNEPIN PUBLIC SAFETY

RESERVE OFFICER PROGRAM



**Officer Ben Anderson
Reserve Coordinator**

The West Hennepin Public Safety (WHPS) Reserves had another outstanding year in 2019. WHPS Reserves provided service at many community events, donating a total of 1,882 hours to WHPS and the cities of Maple Plain and Independence! Using a modest value of \$24.69 per hour (national 2018 formula), that is a value of \$46,466 to our communities for a very minimal cost. The on-going service provided by the WHPS volunteer reserve officers to our communities is invaluable.

The dedication of WHPS to the Reserve Officer Program was evident with many training opportunities. Our program is designed to help everyday citizens become confident and competent at performing their duties through a process of training and continued development. Training topics include: responding to traffic emergencies, radio usage, use of force, handling medical emergencies, handcuffing, baton, chemical munitions (pepper spray), and Taser certifications. The reserves were also given guidance and training in personal

budgeting and financial wellness. WHPS reserves donate a great deal to our communities—and WHPS tries to give back to them with elements of personal development to supplement their professional development.

This year WHPS was proud to have Reserve Officer Faust move on to be a licensed officer with the Minnesota State Patrol. Many WHPS reserves have gone on to successful careers as licensed officers in Minnesota and beyond. The officers of WHPS are excellent examples and provide mentoring to those who are seeking a career in law enforcement. Being a reserve officer is probably the best way to get the hands-on, real-life experience that you get by being on the front lines. If you want to learn to be a successful police officer, you should consider working with successful police officers.



**Patches of Police
agencies that have hired
WHPS Reserve Officers**



WEST HENNEPIN PUBLIC SAFETY

RESERVE OFFICERS IN ACTION



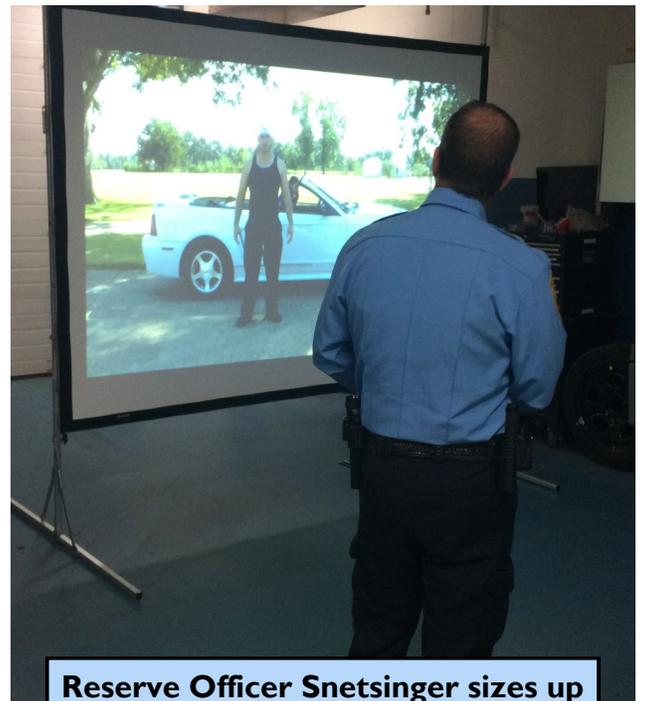
Reserve Officers Schreier and Field share safety information with a citizen at the Maple Plain Fire Department Open House



Reserve Officer Tyra directs a "suspect" on what to do during a training exercise



Reserve Officer Francis and his wife Connie celebrate his graduation from the Hennepin County Reserve School



Reserve Officer Snetsinger sizes up his response to a virtual training exercise



WEST HENNEPIN PUBLIC SAFETY

VIEW SANTA 2019



Left to right: Reserve Steve Thomas, Reserve Mike Francis, Reserve Titus Winger, Santa, Reserve Lisa Schreier, Reserve Dillon Field, Reserve Blake Tyra, Officer Aaron Geddes, and Sgt. Rick Denneson.



Reserve Officer Winger and retired Reserve Henthorne enjoy some fun and camaraderie while packing candy



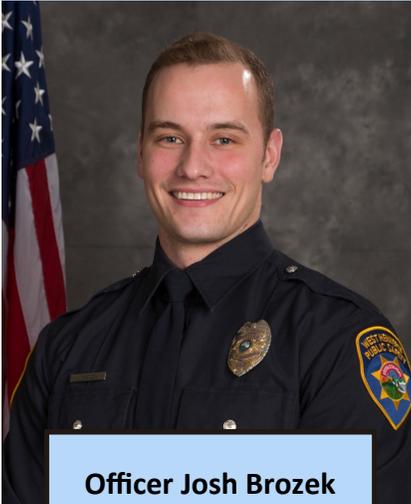
Reserve Officer Schreier preparing gift bags for the children along the route

“This year was a great year with many people coming out to visit Santa and making donations to the local food shelf. Every year the police reserves collect well over 1,000 pounds of food and several hundred dollars in cash donations,” said Director Gary Kroells. “The West Hennepin Public Safety volunteer reserve officers have been hosting this event for 39 years and it is a very special program for our small communities.”



WEST HENNEPIN PUBLIC SAFETY

LAKE MINNETONKA SWAT TEAM



Officer Josh Brozek
Current SWAT member

West Hennepin Public Safety is a member of the Lake Minnetonka SWAT Team, a multi-agency SWAT team. It was formed in 2008 by West Hennepin Public Safety, South Lake Minnetonka Public Safety, Orono Police Department, Minnetrista Police Department, and Wayzata Police Department. The team consists of eighteen members and West Hennepin Public Safety currently has two officers on it. The SWAT Team trains regularly: learning new techniques, devices, tools, and tactics to handle high-risk situations. They also assist other SWAT teams on mutual aid



Officer Ben Raskin
Current SWAT member

agreements. WHPS is thankful to participate in a unit like this that could not be funded by a single department.

In 2019, the Lake Minnetonka SWAT Team had three call-outs:

- April 12th, 2019: Lake Minnetonka SWAT assisted the West Metro Drug Task Force (WMDTF) with a warrant in the 1700-block of Eagle Lane in Mound. A juvenile male was suspected of selling large amounts of cocaine, marijuana, THC cartridges, molly, Xanax, and acid. The SWAT Team was used because the father had served prison time for 1st degree controlled substance charges and the juvenile suspect was previously arrested in possession of a stolen .380 caliber handgun. The father, a minor sibling, and the suspect were at the house.
- April 18th, 2019: Lake Minnetonka SWAT assisted Orono Police investigators with a search warrant in the 2700-block of Kelly Parkway, Orono. Information indicated that there might be firearms in the house, including a “sawed-off shotgun.” The front door of the residence was breached and five people in the residence and three from an RV parked in the yard were taken into custody. The warrant was for drugs and financial crimes.
- April 24th, 2019: Lake Minnetonka SWAT assisted the WMDTF with a warrant in the 1800-block of Symes St., Long Lake. Forced entry was made and two suspects were taken into custody. A juvenile female that was inside was released. Two interior doors were breached as well. The basis for the warrant was a door swab that hit for meth and coke. One suspect is known to possess handguns. The house also had surveillance cameras, which increased the risk level.





WEST HENNEPIN PUBLIC SAFETY

ADMINISTRATIVE AND RECORDS DIVISION



**Administrative Assistant
Lynda Franklin**

CONTACT US
1918 County Road 90
Maple Plain, MN

Office Hours
Monday-Friday
8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

(763) 479-0500

**For an emergency,
dial 911**



**Administrative Assistant
Kim Curtis**

The Administrative and Records Division of West Hennepin Public Safety consists of two Administrative Assistants with individual responsibilities. Kim Curtis is the administrative assistant/bookkeeper, Human Resources (HR) & benefits coordinator and recording secretary. Lynda Franklin is the administrative assistant/Terminal Agency Coordinator (TAC) and is primarily responsible for managing the Records Division, which includes the submission of state-mandated records. Together they perform various administrative and support services including:

- Assist the public on the phone and at the front window with public information requests, issuing burn permits, Permit to Purchase applications, etc.
- Department bookkeeping: payroll, HR & benefits coordination, accounts payables/receivables, maintaining financial status reports, bank account maintenance & reconciliation.
- Maintaining employee training records.
- Transcription of interviews and data entry into case files.
- Preparation of case files for criminal prosecution and court records management.
- State certified for transmitting reports to the Bureau of Criminal Apprehension.
- Preparing and transmitting monthly crime, property and arrest reports to the BCA.
- Sending weekly media reports and press releases to local newspapers.
- Maintaining records and reporting to the Office of the State Auditor for assets forfeiture programs.
- Compliance with OSHA reporting requirements.
- Storage, retrieval, and disposal of records; completing local background investigation checks.
- Collect, process, disseminate and maintain Department records in accordance with Federal and State Data Practices laws and record retention requirements.
- Criminal History Records Management.
- Updating suspense files for the Bureau of Criminal Apprehension (BCA).
- Linking criminal justice "suspense" records to the corresponding criminal history arrest records.

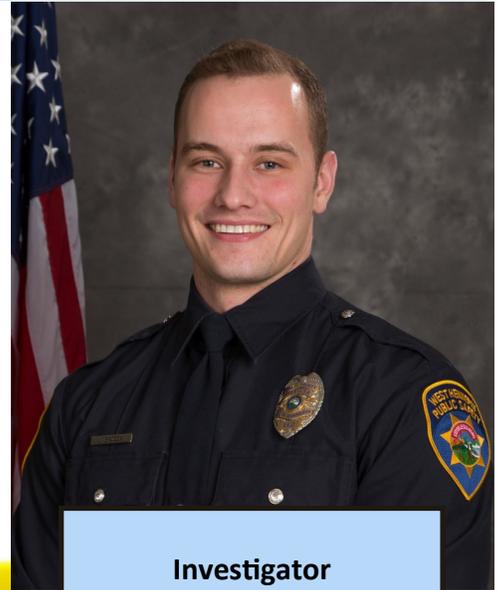


WEST HENNEPIN PUBLIC SAFETY

INVESTIGATOR'S REPORT—CASES OF INTEREST

The West Hennepin Public Safety Department strives to provide career development for its officers. Part of this process is to rotate the investigator position between experienced patrol officers every two years.

Officer Josh Brozek took over investigations in 2017 for the West Hennepin Public Safety Department and is in his second year. Officer Brozek assumed this position after three years of patrol experience and leadership.



Investigator
Josh Brozek

CRIME SCENE DO NOT CROSS

Theft by Swindle

On January 15th, 2019, West Hennepin Public Safety responded to a theft by swindle that had just occurred. Officers arrived and found the victim in front of the Bryantwood Apartments, where the incident had taken place. The victim advised she was selling a cell phone and was meeting a female who wanted to buy it. The victim stated she made contact with the female in front of the apartments, where she was given a rolled-up \$100 bill in exchange for the cell phone. After the transaction, the female suspect ran into the apartment building. The victim then discovered the \$100 to be a counterfeit bill.



Further investigation resulted in the identification of the suspect. It also led to the discovery that the suspect was involved in a wide-spread counterfeit money operation in the Twin Cities metro area. The suspect was located and charged with Gross Misdemeanor possession of counterfeit money and Misdemeanor theft by swindle.



WEST HENNEPIN PUBLIC SAFETY

INVESTIGATOR'S REPORT—CASES OF INTEREST

Stolen Vehicle

On January 17th, 2019, West Hennepin Public Safety received a report of a stolen car that had just occurred. Officers responded and learned that the suspect had left the parking lot as the owner of the vehicle walked outside. Surveillance video showed a suspect vehicle approaching the business minutes before the victim's car was stolen.

Ten days later, the automobile was discovered parked at the Mall of America with a male occupant at the wheel. At that time, the vehicle was displaying stolen license plates that registered to a similar style vehicle. When officers attempted to make a felony stop on the vehicle, it reversed into a squad car. Officers pinned the car in using squad cars, which led to a foot chase. The suspect was taken into custody and charged with Felony possession of stolen property, possession of stolen license plates, and fleeing police.



Check Forgery/Stolen Items

On January 30th, 2019, West Hennepin Public Safety was notified by a local business that a check that had initially been written for \$170.83 was deposited in an account for \$2,170.83. Further investigation found the intended party never received the check, and it had been stolen.



The check had been deposited into a bank account that was traced to the main suspect in the case. Surveillance video caught the suspect making the deposit, which matched the photograph on file with Minnesota Driver and Vehicle Services.

A search warrant was executed on the suspect's house, where officers found documentation for the checking account and fraudulent check. Officers also located items from recent burglaries inside the suspect's garage that were seized and released to neighboring agencies.

The suspect was charged with Felony check forgery and Felony receiving stolen property.



WEST HENNEPIN PUBLIC SAFETY

INVESTIGATOR'S REPORT—CASES OF INTEREST

Criminal Vehicular Operation

On March 22nd, 2019, West Hennepin Public Safety received a call of a multi-vehicle crash involving five vehicles, four drivers, and a pedestrian. The suspect in the incident was flown to the hospital by North Memorial Air Ambulance and was suffering from critical injuries. One driver was transported by Ridgeview Ambulance and was suffering from significant injuries.

Further investigation revealed the suspect driver to have drug paraphernalia and narcotics in the vehicle and a prior history of narcotic use. Officers executed a search warrant to obtain a sample of the driver's blood for testing, which revealed the presence of narcotics.

The suspect driver was charged with Felony Criminal Vehicular Operation, Felony narcotics possession and Gross Misdemeanor Driving While Impaired.





WEST HENNEPIN PUBLIC SAFETY

INVESTIGATOR'S REPORT—CASES OF INTEREST

On August 2nd, 2019, West Hennepin Public Safety received a call of a stolen and forged check being presented at the Bank of Maple Plain. Officers responded and found that a check that was stolen from Buffalo, MN, was cashed in Maple Plain. There were two suspects in the case, and they came in at different times to attempt to cash a forged check.

Further investigation revealed that the suspects stole the checks from a residence in Buffalo, MN, and they came to Maple Plain to attempt cashing them because the victim's bank account was with the Bank of Maple Plain. One suspect succeeded in cashing a fraudulent check for \$2,500, but the other's attempt failed.

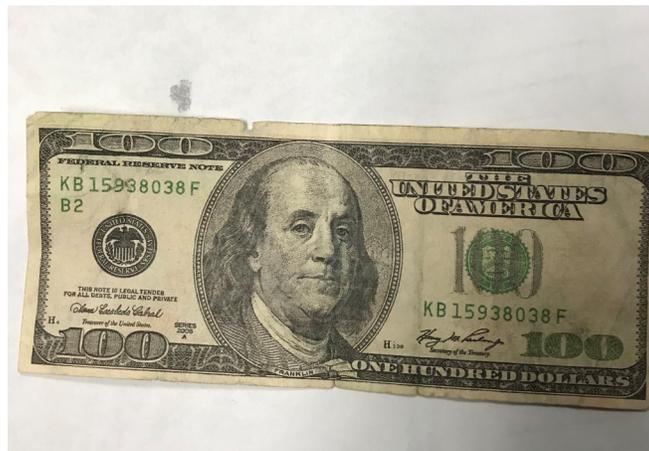
The Hennepin County Attorney's Office charged one suspect with Felony check forgery.

Counterfeit Currency

On August 10th, 2019, West Hennepin received a call for counterfeit currency being presented at two different businesses. The counterfeit bills were \$10 bills that had been washed and printed over to look like \$100 bills.

Further investigation found the suspects had committed similar acts throughout the metro area. Suspects were eventually arrested while trying to purchase items with more counterfeit currency.

The case was forwarded to the US Secret Service for charging as all of the Twin Cities Metro-area cases were combined to charge the suspect at the federal level.





WEST HENNEPIN PUBLIC SAFETY

CRIME PREVENTION



MINNESOTA CRIME
PREVENTION ASSOCIATION

In October 2019, Officer Zilles attended the annual Minnesota Crime Prevention Association Conference in Duluth, MN, for the second year in a row. At the conference, Officer Zilles learned about new and upcoming problems occurring in various communities. Topics included how to protect yourself from phone scams, the opioid epidemic, and issues with social media.

West Hennepin Public Safety (WHPS) officers were invited this year to the first “Coffee With A Cop” event at Haven Homes. We spoke with the residents about current issues in the media and local trends and crime affecting the community.



Over the course of the year, Officer Zilles continued to provide training for alcohol compliance with the employees of local restaurant establishments.

Officer Zilles also conducted alcohol compliance checks by sending underage decoys into the food and beverage establishments within WHPS jurisdiction during the 2019 calendar year. WHPS saw a 100% success rate with every employee requesting identification from the decoys, and all the establishments passed with flying colors.



WEST HENNEPIN PUBLIC SAFETY

COMMUNITY PROGRAMS—CITIZENS POLICE ACADEMY

West Hennepin Citizens Police Academy

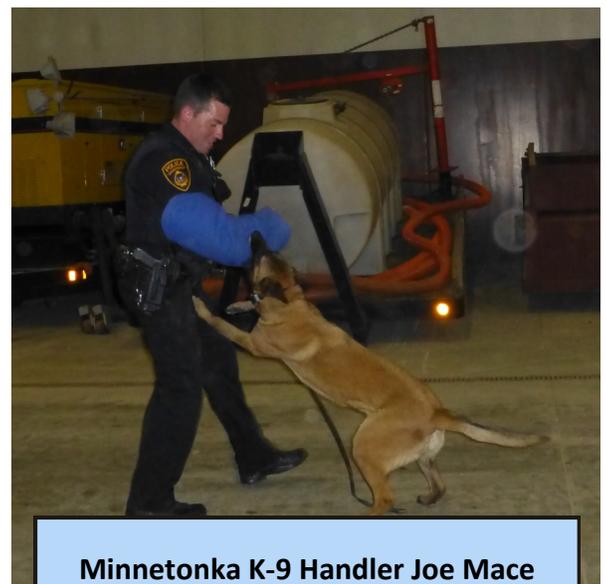
In the spring of 2019, the West Hennepin Public Safety Department presented its 20th class of the Citizens Police Academy.

Thirteen citizens from in and around the community participated in the eight-week-long course, attending class one night each week. The course teaches attendees about aspects of law enforcement, the West Hennepin Public Safety Department, its officers, and their duties.

The Citizens Police Academy (CPA) teaches participants about many different law enforcement topics such as the use of force, narcotics and investigations, traffic and DWI enforcement, court proceedings, and K-9 officers. The participants had several opportunities to receive some hands-on training in some of the topics. In a controlled mock setting, they got to see what it feels like to approach a car on a traffic stop and interact with a driver. They also toured the Hennepin County 911 Dispatch Center in Plymouth and were able to listen to actual 911 calls.

The CPA is an excellent opportunity for community members, business owners, and people that work in our cities to meet the officers of the West Hennepin Public Safety Department. It provides citizens with the opportunity to meet the officers and learn about law enforcement through lecture sessions, hands-on activities, and asking questions. Almost all of the officers take part in teaching the classes.

The Citizens Academy is held annually at the West Hennepin Public Safety Department starting in mid-February.

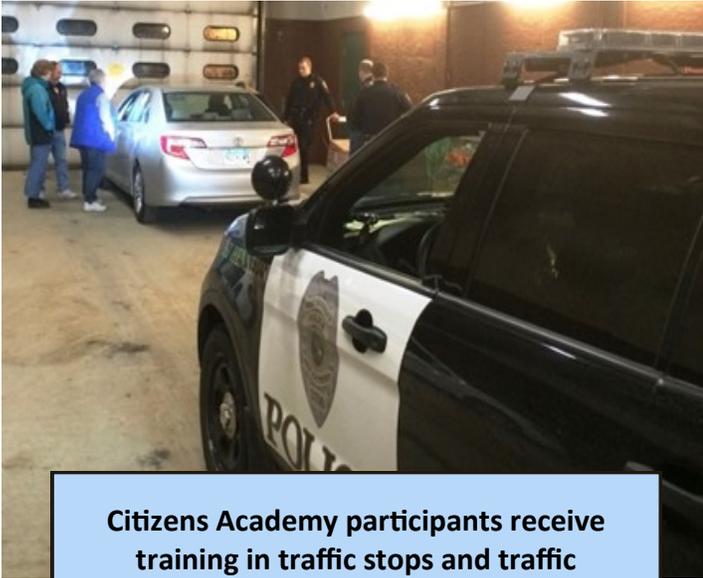


Minnetonka K-9 Handler Joe Mace demonstrating a bite apprehension

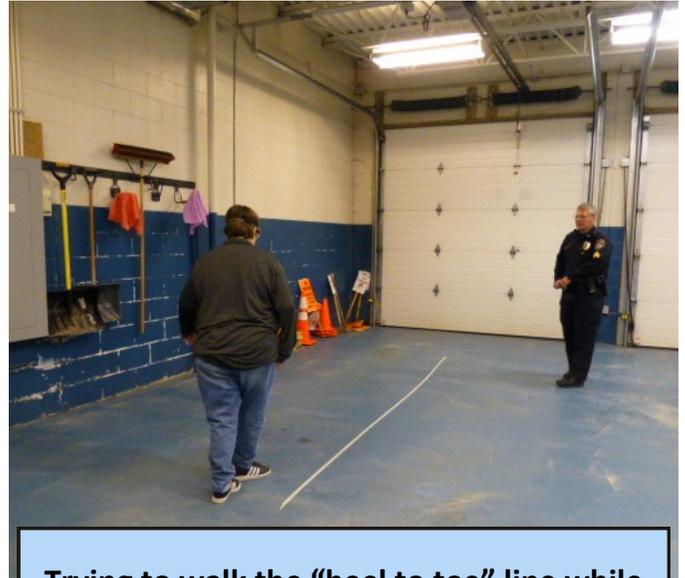


WEST HENNEPIN PUBLIC SAFETY

COMMUNITY PROGRAMS—CITIZENS POLICE ACADEMY



Citizens Academy participants receive training in traffic stops and traffic enforcement



Trying to walk the "heel to toe" line while wearing "Fatal Vision" goggles—goggles that simulate being intoxicated.



Citizens Police Academy
2019 Graduating Class



WEST HENNEPIN PUBLIC SAFETY

COMMUNITY PROGRAMS—NIGHT TO UNITE



Officer Lance Zilles
Crime Prevention Officer

On August 6, West Hennepin Public Safety (WHPS) organized a Night to Unite event. WHPS has been involved in the Night to Unite celebration for 14 years, since 2006. WHPS police officers and several reserve officers, along with Maple Plain firefighters, participated in the event. There were seven hosts in the City of Independence, with the parties being held at private residences. The City of Maple Plain organized a “Party in the Park” for their residents to come together and mingle.

West Hennepin officers and reserves and Maple Plain firefighters had the privilege of attending each of these parties and enjoying the great food and conversation provided by the residents of Independence and Maple Plain.

2019 Night to Unite
Participants from Night to Unite and Director Kroells mingling
with some local residents.





WEST HENNEPIN PUBLIC SAFETY

EVENTS OF THE YEAR



Michael Francis
Reserve Officer

*Welcome to our new
reserve officers!*

Michael Francis and
Steven Thomas



Steven Thomas
Reserve Officer



Picking pumpkins at the annual
department appreciation dinner in October



Officer Raskin presenting a plaque to
Director Kroells for
Operation Spartan Shield



Officer Ben Anderson being presented with a
DWI All-Star Honorable Mention award for
DWI arrests during TZD events



WEST HENNEPIN PUBLIC SAFETY

ORONO HIGH SCHOOL FORENSICS FIELD TRIP



**Officer Ben Anderson
Forensics Field Trip
Instructor**

Since 2014, West Hennepin Public Safety (WHPS), the Orono Police Department (OPD), and the Orono High School (OHS) have partnered to educate many students of OHS about aspects of law enforcement during a day of hands-on learning and classroom sessions.

The students who participate are enrolled in the OHS Forensic Science curriculum. Almost every OHS student chooses this class elective and the police departments enjoy sharing this day with the students.

WHPS and OPD officers, along with the Hennepin County Medical Examiner’s Office, present sessions on different areas of law enforcement. The topics include Crime Scene Examination, Traffic Stops, K-9 or Narcotics, SWAT Equipment Demonstrations, and Use of Force. Along with classroom lectures, hands-on sessions with role players add a level of connection and excitement for the students as they participate and try to fill the role of a police officer. Students also have the opportunity to meet with local officers and ask any questions they may have about what we do or why we do it.

There are no other programs like it in the State of Minnesota. It is an incredible example of partnership between police departments, schools and the community, which builds and fosters trust and awareness.





WEST HENNEPIN PUBLIC SAFETY

ORONO HIGH SCHOOL FORENSICS FIELD TRIP



WHPS Officer Aaron Geddes working with a student on her traffic stop approach.

OPD Officer Susan Schultz demonstrating Field Sobriety Tests.

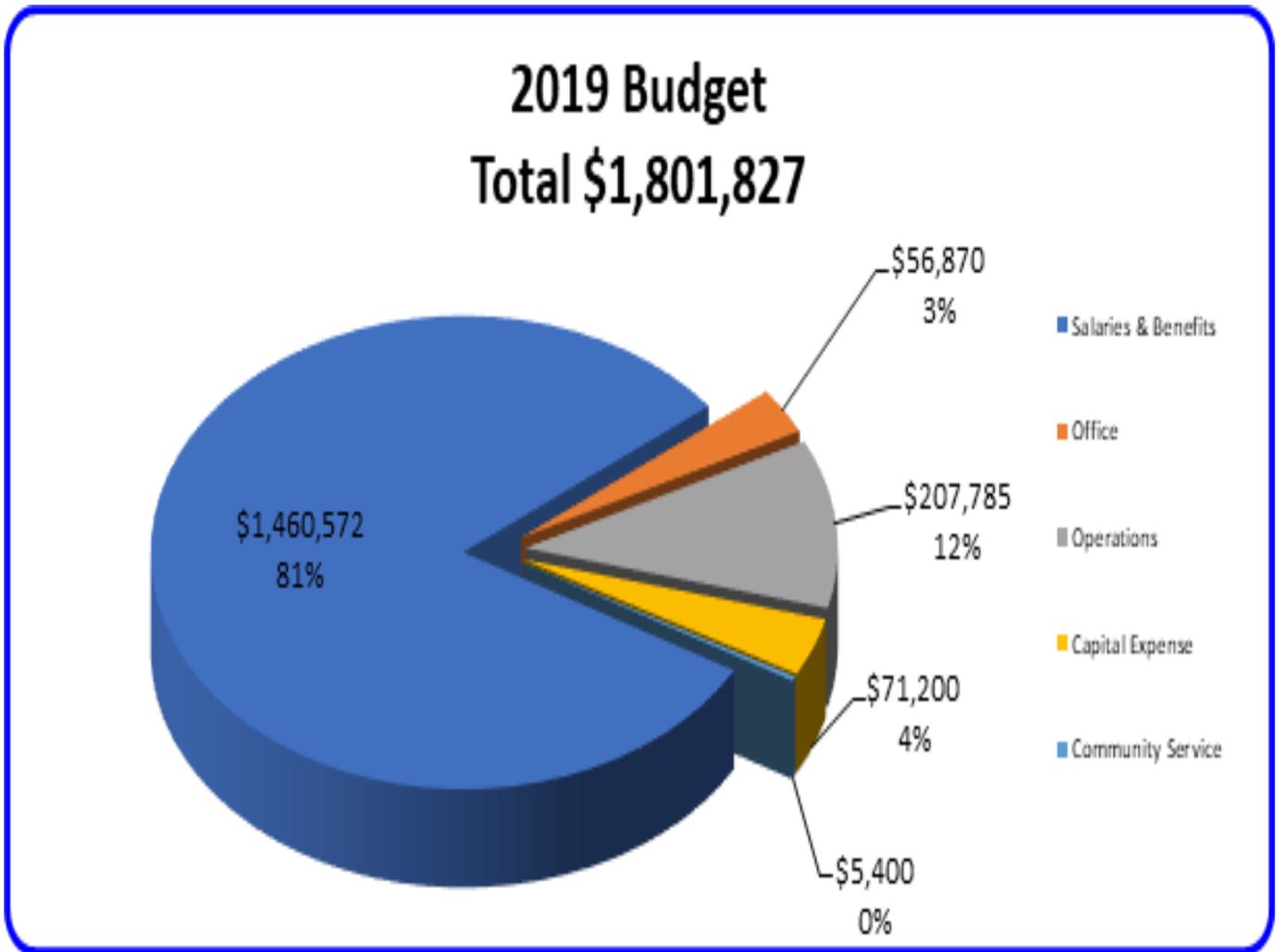


WHPS Sgt. Rick Denneson instructing students on use of force and what they may experience as a law enforcement officer.



WEST HENNEPIN PUBLIC SAFETY

FINANCIAL SUMMARY: 2019 BUDGET



As indicated above, 81% of the West Hennepin Public Safety Department budget is dedicated to the salaries and benefits for the ten full-time licensed police officers and the two full-time administrative assistants. The remaining funds are allocated to office supplies, police department operating costs, capital expenses and community service programs.



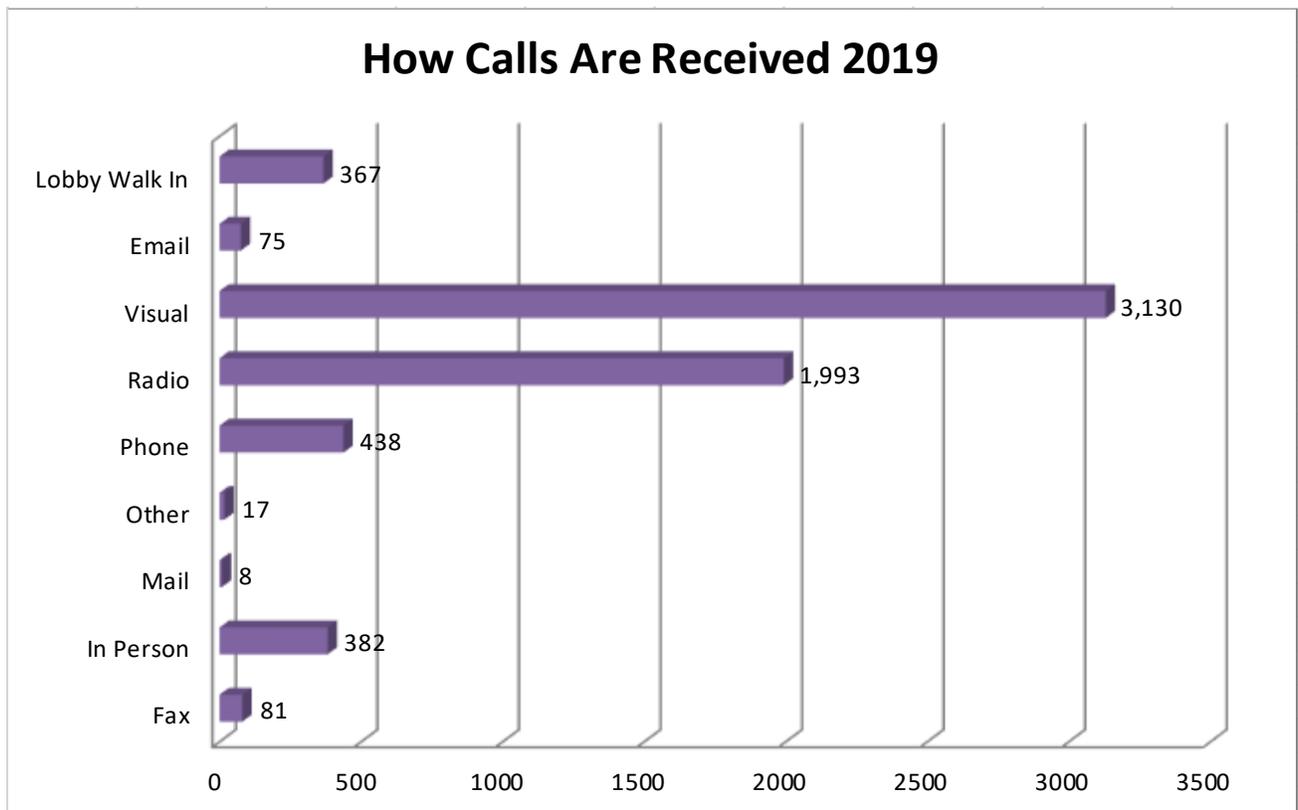
WEST HENNEPIN PUBLIC SAFETY

2019 ACTIVITY REPORT

In 2019, the West Hennepin Public Safety Department handled 6,491 incident complaint reports for the Cities of Independence and Maple Plain, with 3,821 incidents occurring in Independence and 2,255 occurring in Maple Plain.

Incident complaint reports include:

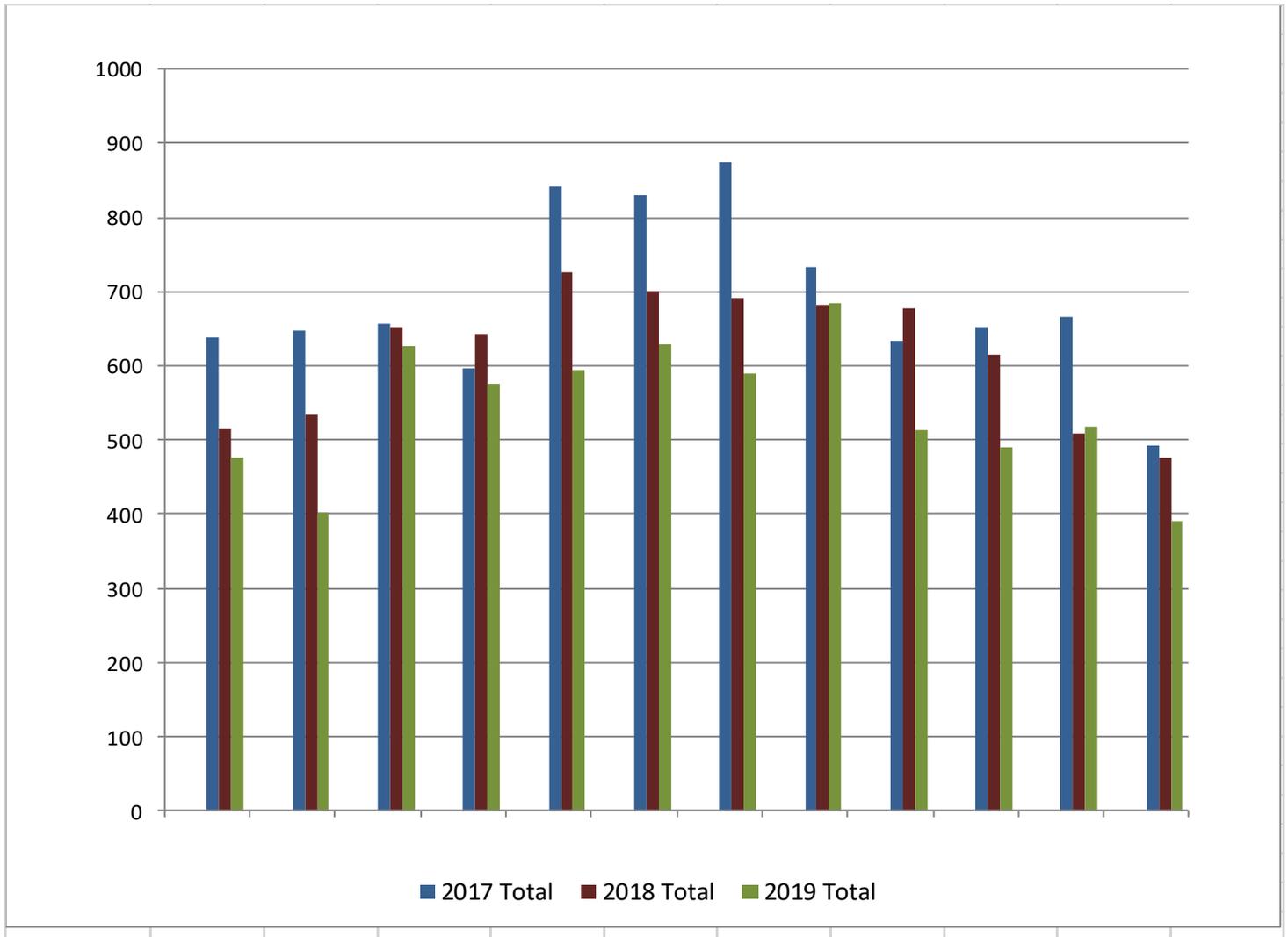
- 2,680 Traffic Stops and Traffic related offenses
- 181 Criminal Investigations
- 188 Property Damage Crashes
- 46 DWI Arrests
- 10 Personal Injury Crashes
- 1 Fatality Crash





WEST HENNEPIN PUBLIC SAFETY

2017-2019 Call Activity Report



West Hennepin Public Safety Department call activity per month for the past three years, 2017-2019



WEST HENNEPIN PUBLIC SAFETY

ACTIVITY REPORT: Comparing 2018 versus 2019

Offense	2018	2019
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City Of Independence

Criminal	120	91
Traffic	1,792	1,668
Part III	82	97
Part IV	372	431
Part V	1,631	1,534

Total City of Independence	3,997	3,821
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City Of Maple Plain

Criminal	61	64
Traffic	1,028	776
Part III	50	52
Part IV	267	212
Part V	1,507	1,151

Total City Of Maple Plain	2,913	2,255
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Grand Total Both Cities	6,910	6,076
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TZD	204	182
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Other ICRS	309	233
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Total ICR Reports	7,423	6,491
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Mileage	145,314	
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How Received

Fax	136	81
In Person	496	382
Mail	19	8
Other	28	17
Phone	429	438
Radio	2,131	1,993
Visual	3,703	3,130
Email	66	75
Lobby Walk In	415	367

Total	7,423	6,491
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WEST HENNEPIN PUBLIC SAFETY

FAREWELL – NATE FAUST



Nate Faust (center) with his brothers that work for metro police departments.

West Hennepin Public Safety (WHPS) Reserve Officer Nate Faust left our program in January of 2019 to be a part of the Minnesota State Patrol. Trooper Faust completed the academy and was assigned to the West Metro District. He was an excellent reserve officer while he was here and will continue that example as a state trooper. Nate joined his brothers in their service as law enforcement officers. Nate was thankful for all of the experience and mentoring he received from WHPS officers while he was with us.