



# WEST HENNEPIN PUBLIC SAFETY

## 2022 ANNUAL REPORT

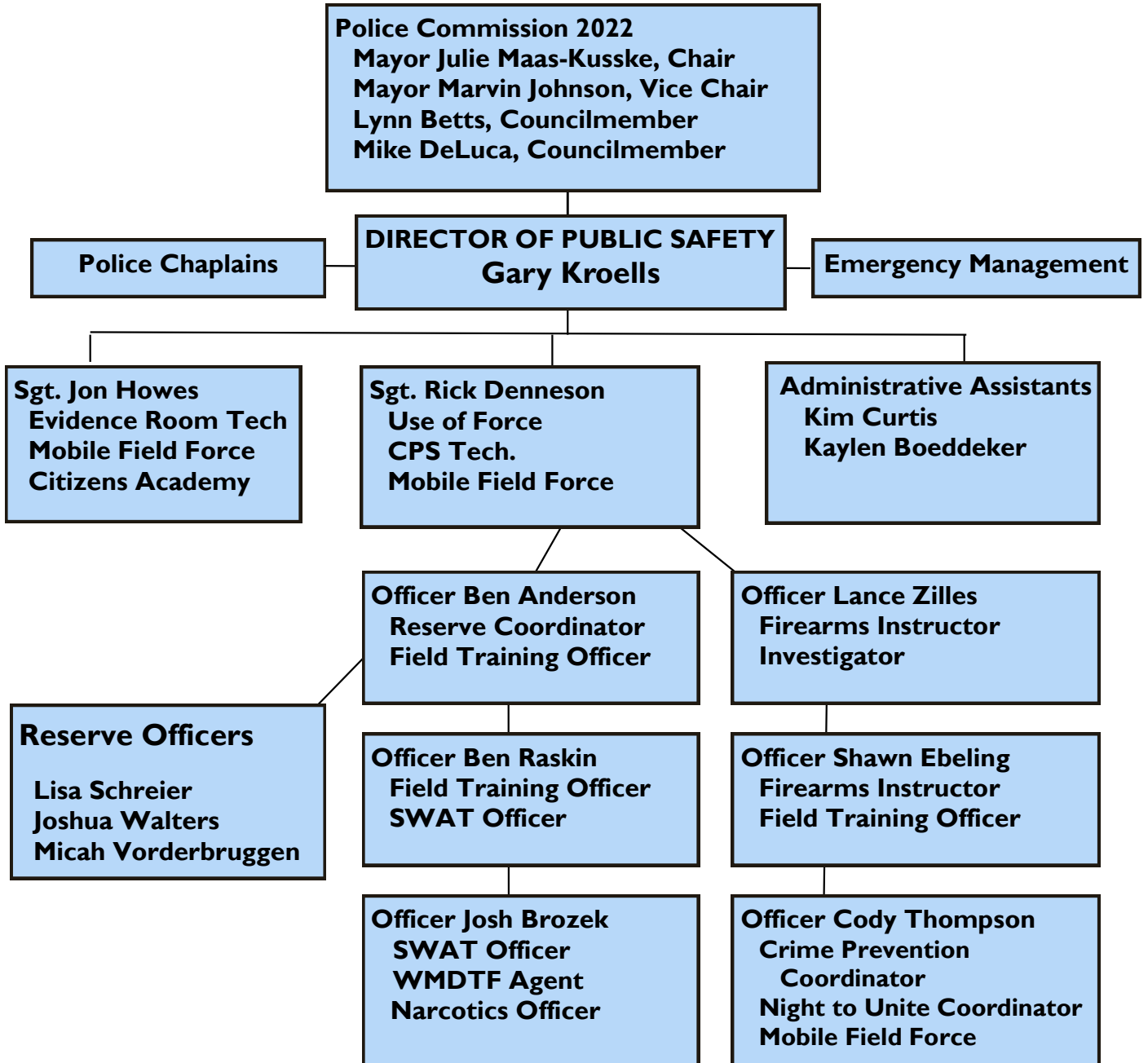


### MISSION:

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



# WEST HENNEPIN PUBLIC SAFETY



Serving our Community proudly with our core values:

Honor Courage Common Sense Respect & Dignity Loyalty Fairness Trust



# WEST HENNEPIN PUBLIC SAFETY



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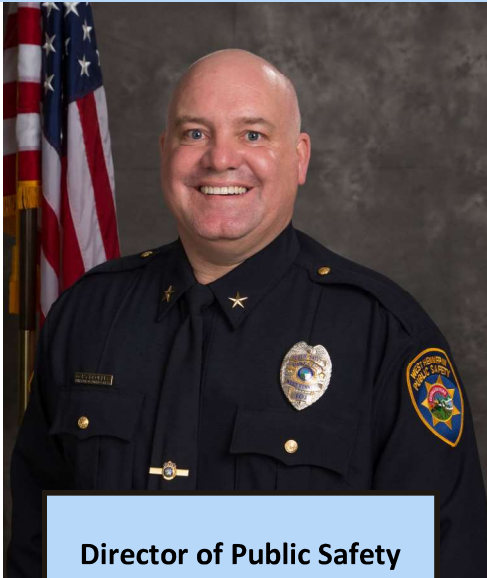
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# WEST HENNEPIN PUBLIC SAFETY



## 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 and privilege to submit the 2022 *Annual Report*.

Construction continued on Highway 12 in 2022. I am proud to report the most dangerous intersection on Highway 12 was completed in October and is providing a safe and efficient controlled intersection at County Road 92. We want to thank our citizens for their patience and understanding during construction of this much needed safety improvement on Highway 12. By working together, we are improving the safety along Highway 12.

2022 was a challenging year as we were short staffed in our patrol division for most of the year. West Hennepin officers stepped up and worked many additional hours to keep the citizens protected and without any service interruptions for the year.

In late summer of 2022, the City of Independence constructed a public safety storage facility for heated storage of our patrol squads and public works equipment, along with a workout room for our officers to improve their physical and mental health. Additionally, North Memorial Health signed a long-term contract to provide an ambulance facility inside the new building. The addition of this ambulance facility has improved response times and service to our citizens with emergency medical needs.

In 2022, the West Hennepin Public Safety Department advanced our investigative technology by partnering with Flock Safety to add two automatic license plate readers (ALPR) on Highway 12. These ALPRs have been vital in our investigations and have assisted in several arrests involving stolen vehicles in our communities.

The West Hennepin Public Safety Department remains strong and committed to our citizens. Together, we will work through any emergency as we have done so many times in the past.



As your Chief of Police, I welcome all of you to speak with me about any concerns or questions you may have. My door is always open for you and I can be reached directly at (763) 479-0500 or by emailing me at [gkroells@westhennepin.com](mailto:gkroells@westhennepin.com).



# WEST HENNEPIN PUBLIC SAFETY



## LAW ENFORCEMENT TRAINING

The Minnesota POST board annually requires officers to obtain training hours in different categories. These training sessions go towards the continuing education credits officers need to keep their Peace Officers License active in the State of Minnesota.



**CERTIFIED**  
CRIME FIGHTER



**Sergeant Rick Denneson**  
Use of Force Instructor

In 2022, our department started using a program called Certified Crime Fighter, a cloud-based law enforcement training compliance system. This program allows us to quickly and efficiently track and record officers' training classes. It also helps us track and ensure our officers have completed the mandated training and that each officer earns the required credits for their license renewal.

Whether the training is in-house - such as our annual use of force refresher or one of our six department shoots - or an outside class that officers may attend on understanding autism or medical first aid, our new program will help us track and maintain training records 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The program also sends notifications to officers when courses are assigned, pending, completed, or failing compliance.

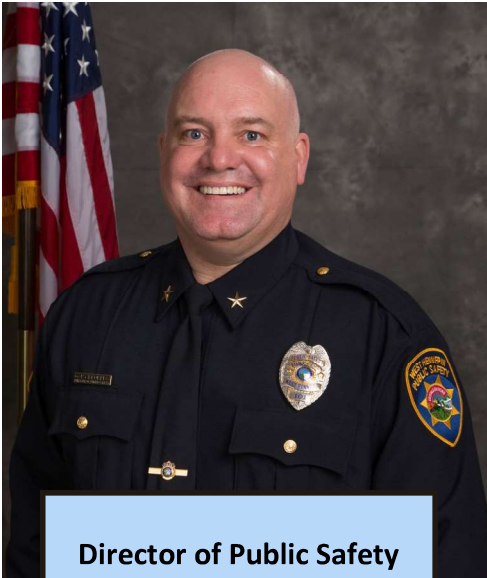
We submit a reimbursement request to the POST board each year for money spent on training officers. The Certified Crime Fighter program helps us prepare the necessary reports for reimbursement monies from the state. It will help us by cutting training records maintenance time in half, ensuring officers are in compliance with the required training they need to complete and is easily viewable by command staff to see who will need what training in the upcoming year—another piece of technology to help us stay efficient and on track.



# WEST HENNEPIN PUBLIC SAFETY



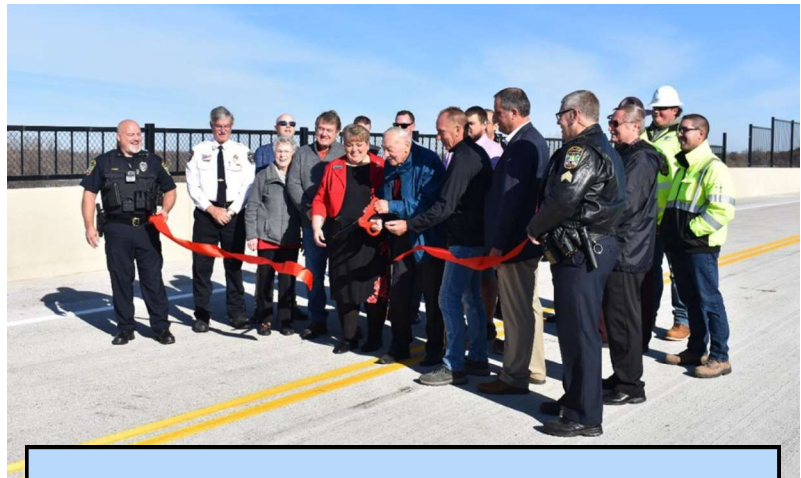
## HIGHWAY 12 SAFETY COALITION



**Director of Public Safety  
Gary Kroells**

I am proud to report that Highway 12 reopened for a final time on October 31, 2022. Completing the final stages of construction along Highway 12 provides much-needed and long-overdue safety improvements at County Road 92. This project included an overpass of County Road 92 over Highway 12 and the BNSF railroad, along with adding a round-a-bout onto Highway 12 at County Road 92.

After many years of waiting, County Road 92 at Highway 12 is a controlled intersection, which has created safer access to Highway 12. The intersection officially reopened on October 31 with a ribbon-cutting ceremony on the bridge over Highway 12.



**Ribbon cutting on October 31st for the reopening of  
Highway 12 at County Road 92**

The West Hennepin Public Safety Department will continue to be your voice and stand with you to improve the safety of Highway 12. Our top priority remains the safety and protection of people traveling on Highway 12.



**Aerial views of the redesigned intersection, round-a-bout, and  
County Road 92 overpass at Highway 12**



# WEST HENNEPIN PUBLIC SAFETY



## TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT

Traffic enforcement has always been a priority of West Hennepin Public Safety. Before the creation of the West Hennepin Public Safety Department (WHPSD) in 1979, traffic safety was not consistent, resulting in an overwhelming number of severe crashes and deaths on the roadways. Traffic enforcement and traffic safety at a local level are two reasons for having our own police department.

The WHPSD has always been a leader in traffic enforcement and traffic safety. We have participated in many traffic safety-related programs, such as the federally funded Safe & Sober program, now known as the Towards Zero Deaths (TZD) program, where through a federal grant, our department receives money to fund traffic enforcement shifts that officers work outside of their regular duties. These shifts focus on DWIs, speeding, seatbelts, and distracted driving, which are the leading factors that cause crashes. Statistics show that alcohol is a factor in just over 30% of fatal crashes.

We regularly work with our neighboring departments involved in the TZD grant to do "high visibility" enforcement. Several cars will saturate an area with a known problem or where we have received several driving complaints. Each weekend in Hennepin County, a police department hosts a TZD shift to focus enforcement on impaired driving. West Hennepin hosts one of these in our area about four times yearly. A TZD enforcement shift can bring 4-8 additional patrol cars to our communities to look for impaired drivers.

Traffic safety education is one of the 4 E's in traffic safety – enforcement, engineering, EMS, and education. Over the years, West Hennepin Public Safety has been involved in several types of traffic safety education. We have done child seat safety education for parents in Orono, Watertown, and Delano schools, talking with parents about proper child safety seat use. Our Citizens Academy also highlights both traffic safety and DWI enforcement every year. Our department regularly speaks to new drivers in the Delano school district as part of their driver's education program. We also participate twice each school year in the Orono High School Forensics Day for traffic safety education. We have also spoken to several civic groups that invited us to discuss traffic safety issues.

Our department has three portable speed display signs. These signs are deployed in areas where we have found an issue with speeding vehicles or have received several complaints of speeders from area residents. The signs can be mounted on a speed limit sign, giving a driver an immediate indicator of their speed. They also record data on how many vehicles pass by, the speed of each one, and what time of day they are going by. Not only do they educate the driver immediately as to their speed, but it also helps us deploy officers during the peak problem times to provide enforcement.

In 2020, Minnesota saw some of the highest totals of fatal crashes in 15 years. Since then, they have slowly been coming down again, mainly due to officers being diligent about traffic enforcement and education. But ultimately, each driver must take responsibility for their driving.

The 5th E in traffic safety is Everyone. Traffic enforcement is something that the West Hennepin Public Safety Department will not let off the throttle on!



**Sergeant Rick Denneson**  
**Patrol Sergeant**





# WEST HENNEPIN PUBLIC SAFETY

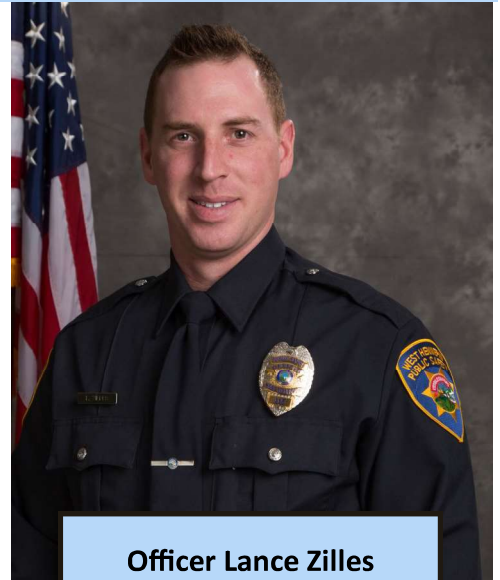


## INVESTIGATOR’S REPORT—CASES OF INTEREST

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 to three years.

Officer Lance Zilles was assigned to investigations in 2020. He has been with West Hennepin Public Safety for eight years. Prior to this, Officer Zilles had a year filled with investigating internet scams, phone scams, thefts, child protection reports, adult protection reports, burglaries, domestics assaults and much more.

In 2022, Investigator Zilles reviewed, followed up and submitted 31 criminal cases for charging. Investigator Zilles provided assistance on hundreds of other reports and cases taken by patrol officers.



**Officer Lance Zilles**  
Investigator







# WEST HENNEPIN PUBLIC SAFETY



## INVESTIGATOR'S REPORT—CASES OF INTEREST

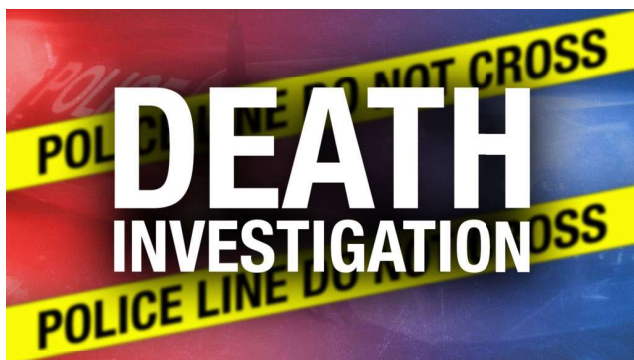
In May of 2022, West Hennepin Public Safety (WHPS) patrol officers received a call for service around 2:45 a.m. regarding a 6-year-old child not breathing. Officers arrived and provided medical aid to the child, who was later pronounced deceased at the scene. Investigator Zilles responded to the scene, and a death investigation was underway.

After interviewing all the family members living in the home, Investigator Zilles learned that the parents of the six-year-old were known narcotics users, and they believed the child accidentally ingested some of their narcotics.

Investigator Zilles obtained a search warrant, and officers searched the residence. Officers located multiple items of drug paraphernalia, and a key piece of evidence was a rolled-up dollar bill. An unknown person had previously used the dollar bill to smoke fentanyl-laced heroin.

Investigator Zilles sent the dollar bill to the Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension (BCA) to test for the victim's DNA, which revealed his saliva was on it and he had been chewing on it.

The toxicology report from the Hennepin County Medical Examiner's Office indicated the victim died due to acute fentanyl toxicity. Investigator Zilles submitted the case to the Hennepin County Attorney's Office and they have charged her with 2nd-degree manslaughter. The case is currently in the Hennepin County court system.





# WEST HENNEPIN PUBLIC SAFETY



## INVESTIGATOR'S REPORT—CASES OF INTEREST

In August of 2022, West Hennepin Patrol Officer Anderson and Investigator Zilles received a call for service regarding a suspicious male in the City of Independence. The unidentified male was reportedly walking around the homeowner's property with a suitcase and had entered the residence.

As the officers responded, the Hennepin County 911 Division advised that the suspect was now in a truck belonging to the homeowner's husband and driving away. Officer Anderson and Investigator Zilles arrived and located the suspect in the stolen vehicle near the end of the dirt road attempting to leave. Officer Anderson and Investigator Zilles blocked the end of the driveway and initiated a felony traffic stop.

The suspect complied with the officers' commands and was taken into custody. Investigator Zilles conducted interviews with the suspect and homeowners. The suspect stated he worked for the CIA and was on an undercover mission. The male said he had an earpiece, and "they" told him what to do on his covert mission. The homeowner stated she did not know the person on her property and that he had also gone into the basement of her house, verified by video on her cameras.



The officers determined the suspect was suffering from a mental health crisis and was ultimately arrested and charged with motor vehicle theft and criminal trespassing. By arresting the suspect on the listed charges, he was also able to get help for his mental health. The criminal case is still pending.



# WEST HENNEPIN PUBLIC SAFETY



## INVESTIGATOR'S REPORT— FRAUDULENT ACTIVITY

In 2022, West Hennepin Public Safety (WHPS) took multiple calls for service regarding scams. Scams have become increasingly common and scammers are extremely smart regarding different technology platforms. Phone scammers are incredibly difficult to track and accounted for \$68.4 billion of stolen or fraudulently obtained funds in the US in 2022.

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In July of 2022, Officer Anderson conducted a traffic stop on a speeding motorist in the City of Maple Plain. The elderly motorist was visibly distraught and stated he was on the phone with someone who kidnapped his grandson and the motorist needed to go to the bank to get money to pay the ransom. Officer Anderson attempted to convince the motorist that it was a scam but the male did not believe it.

Officer Anderson brought the motorist back to WHPS to meet with Investigator Zilles, who began researching the phone number and found it was an untraceable "burner phone." Investigator Zilles contacted the grandson's parents who stated he was at camp. Family members contacted the camp staff and the grandson was confirmed safe and not kidnapped. Without this traffic stop and investigation, the elderly motorist would have fallen victim to the theft of thousands of dollars.

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In November of 2022, an Independence resident called WHPS to report her \$3,000 American Express gift card had been compromised and drained of the funds. The victim called American Express and the company stated there is no way to prove that she did not make the purchases, all of them made on Amazon. American Express stated they would not refund the money.

Investigator Zilles obtained a subpoena through the Hennepin County Attorney's Office and sent it to Amazon. The data supplied by Amazon indicated that unknown persons created multiple Amazon accounts in various names and the purchases shipped throughout California. This data helped substantiate that the victim did not make the purchases. WHPS gave the Amazon subpoena response data to the victim which she provided to American Express. American Express ultimately re-opened her case and fully refunded her money. Although Investigator Zilles could not track the suspects, which is very common in scams, the victim did not suffer a monetary loss.



# WEST HENNEPIN PUBLIC SAFETY



## RESERVE OFFICER PROGRAM



**Officer Ben Anderson**  
Reserve Coordinator

The West Hennepin Public Safety (WHPS) Reserves had another productive year in 2022. The reserves supported our communities by riding with and assisting officers and helping at community events, donating 1,001.5 hours to WHPS and the cities of Maple Plain and Independence! The ongoing service the WHPS volunteer reserve officers provide to our communities is invaluable. Using the modest value of \$24.69 per hour (national 2018 formula), that is a value of \$24,727 to our communities for a minimal cost.

The WHPS Reserves have a variety of backgrounds and careers in their personal lives. We have reserve officers who work in non-law-enforcement professions and others who are going to school to become law enforcement officers. Regardless of your experience or career, if you are a citizen willing to volunteer your time to your communities, we encourage you to consider

becoming a WHPS Reserve Officer. We provide training and uniforms, and you get to work with some of the most remarkable people in the world!

WHPS held many training events for the reserves. They trained on our new body-worn cameras, received firearms and less-lethal exposure, taser, pepper spray, traffic control, and use of force training. The Reserves assisted with numerous community events, including the Orono Discovery Center Vehicle Fair, Maple Plain Fire Open House, Trunk or Treat, Liberty Triathlon, Tour De Tonka, Toys for Tots, and of course, View Santa.



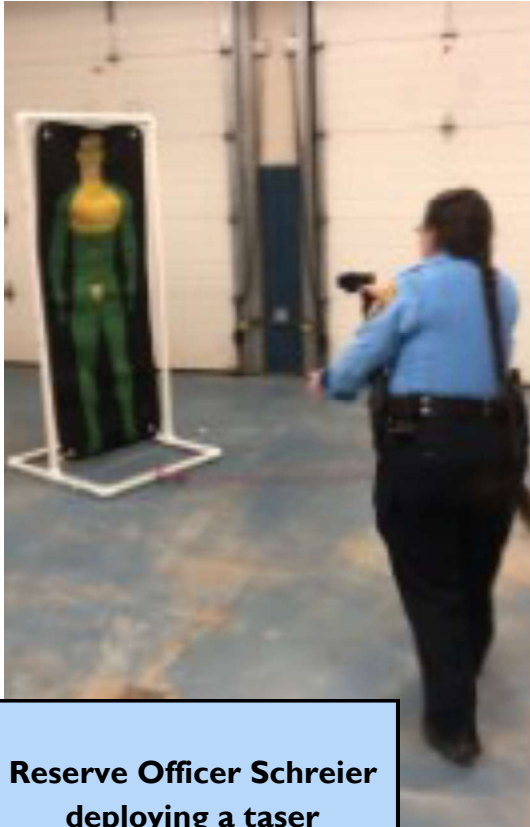
**Patches of Police agencies that have hired WHPS Reserve Officers**



# WEST HENNEPIN PUBLIC SAFETY



## RESERVE OFFICERS IN ACTION



**Reserve Officer Schreier  
deploying a taser**



**Reserve Officer Walters  
training with chemical spray**



**Reserve Officer Vorderbruggen at  
traffic control training**



# WEST HENNEPIN PUBLIC SAFETY



## VIEW SANTA 2022



**Sgt. Howes, Reserve Vorderbruggen, Officer Anderson, Reserve Schreier, Reserve Walters, and Sgt. Denneson with Santa in the Independence City Hall Atrium**



View Santa returned to its usual route and its longtime traditions for the 42nd year in 2022. Santa visited with children of all ages in the atrium at Independence City Hall, and at Veterans Memorial Park and Haven Homes in Maple Plain. The reserves handed out bags of candy to children along the route and collected a trailer full of food for local food shelves. Thank you to all of our citizens that gave so generously!



“Maple Plain and Independence residents give generously to local food shelves each year,” stated Chief Gary Kroells. “It was another exceptional year with many people coming out to see and talk with Santa despite the cold temperatures.” The police reserves collected 1,579 pounds of food and almost \$680 in cash donations for the Delano Helping Hands food shelf!



# WEST HENNEPIN PUBLIC SAFETY



## ADMINISTRATIVE AND RECORDS DIVISION



**Administrative Assistant  
Kaylen Boeddeker**

**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. Kaylen Boeddeker is the administrative assistant/Terminal Agency Coordinator (TAC), National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS) manager, and is primarily responsible for managing the Records Division, including collecting and reporting data on crimes and 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 (BCA).
- 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

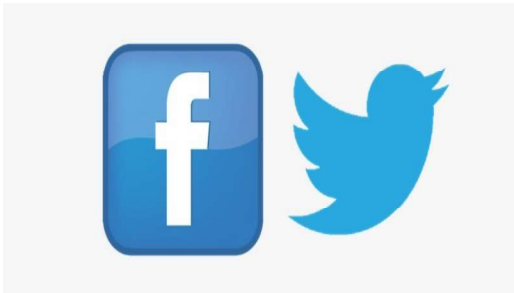


## CRIME PREVENTION

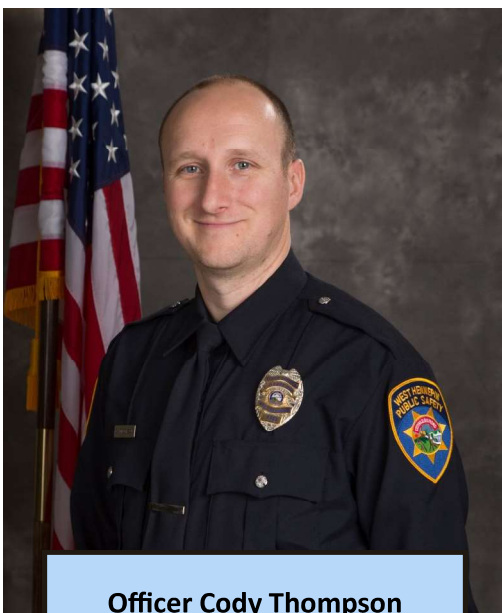
West Hennepin Public Safety (WHPS) officers work extremely hard to prevent crime but we can't do it alone.

**Crime Prevention ...  
Works with a Plan**

WHPS regularly receives tips from concerned citizens that may see something out of the ordinary or suspicious. We encourage you to call so we can check it out. Some of the tips we receive lead to arrests, including drunk drivers, seizure of drugs and damage to property crimes. Educating citizens with crime prevention information has assisted WHPS with making our area a better place to live, work and play!



To stay connected with our communities, WHPS utilizes social media to quickly spread information to community members so they are informed of crime alerts, law enforcement events, classes and important notifications. We currently communicate via Facebook, Twitter and Neighbors/Ring Public Safety apps. Follow us today!



**Officer Cody Thompson  
Crime Prevention Coordinator**

Officer Thompson conducted the yearly alcohol and tobacco compliance checks by sending an underage decoy into alcohol and tobacco establishments within WHPS' jurisdiction. All nine establishments passed the compliance checks!

In 2023, WHPS will continue to offer free training on alcohol and tobacco compliance with the owners and employees of local establishments. We will be hosting two classes each calendar year, one in the spring and one in the winter at Independence City Hall.

If you have any questions, concerns, or comments, please get in touch with Officer Thompson.

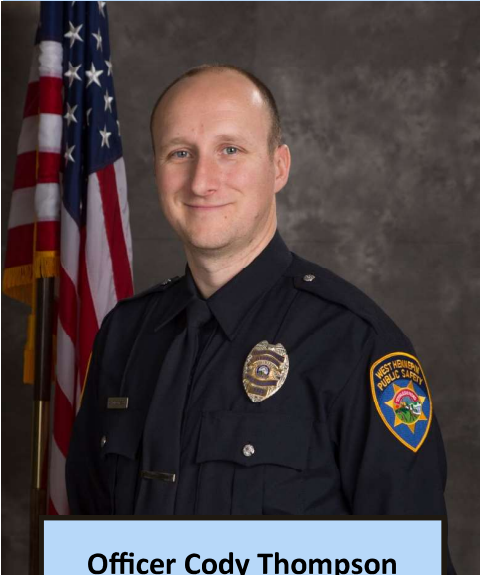




# WEST HENNEPIN PUBLIC SAFETY



## COMMUNITY PROGRAMS—NIGHT TO UNITE



**Officer Cody Thompson  
Night to Unite Coordinator**

West Hennepin Public Safety (WHPS) participated in the Night to Unite event on August 2nd, 2022. We once again had perfect weather and an amazing turnout with our Maple Plain and Independence residents. Along with our partner in public safety (Maple Plain FD), we attended 13 parties! WHPS has been involved in the Night to Unite celebration since 2006.

Each year, we seek hosts in the City of Independence and Maple Plain to host neighborhood parties at their homes or street block. WHPS police officers, reserve officers, and Maple Plain firefighters enjoy participating in the event. If you would like to host a party in 2023, please reach out to Officer Raskin or contact WHPS.

We look forward to gathering once again in 2023. Mark your calendars for Tuesday, August 1st.



**Police/Fire and residents in the 2022 Night to Unite event**





# WEST HENNEPIN PUBLIC SAFETY



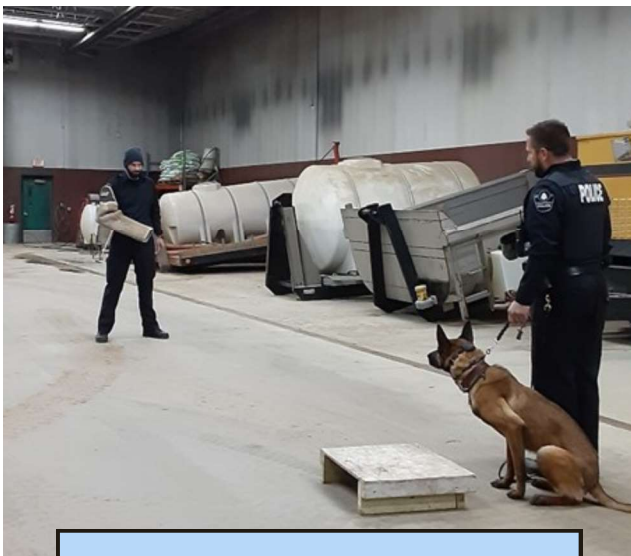
## COMMUNITY PROGRAMS—CITIZENS POLICE ACADEMY

# West Hennepin Citizens Police Academy

In the spring of 2022, the West Hennepin Public Safety Department held its 21st class of the Citizens Police Academy.

Twelve citizens that live or work in or around the community participated in the eight-week academy, attending one night each week to learn about the West Hennepin Public Safety Department, its officers and reserves, and their duties.

The participants learned about law enforcement topics such as use of force, narcotics and investigations, traffic and DWI enforcement, court proceedings and K-9 officers. The participants had several opportunities to receive hands-on training in some topics. In a controlled setting, they experienced walking up to a car on a mock traffic stop and interacting with a driver. They also toured the Hennepin County 911 Dispatch Center in Plymouth and listened to one side of actual 911 calls.



**Minnetonka K9 and officer/handler demonstrating K9 apprehension training**

The academy is a great opportunity for community members to meet most of the West Hennepin Public Safety officers and to better understand their jobs through lectures, hands-on sessions 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. Contact the office if you are interested in attending.



# WEST HENNEPIN PUBLIC SAFETY



## COMMUNITY PROGRAMS—CITIZENS POLICE ACADEMY



Discussion portion of the FireArms Training Simulator (FATS) session



Preparing for a mock traffic stop



**Class of 2022**



# WEST HENNEPIN PUBLIC SAFETY



## EVENTS OF THE YEAR 2022



**Sergeant Denneson and Investigator Zilles with Thank You cards from local preschool students**



**Chief Kroells, Reserve Schreier, Sergeant Howes and Sergeant Denneson at the Maple Plain Fire Department Open House**



**Officer Raskin and Chief Kroells at Trunk or Treat in Maple Plain**



# WEST HENNEPIN PUBLIC SAFETY



## PROMOTIONS AND NEW EMPLOYEES



Sergeant Jon Howes

Congratulations to Officer Jon Howes, who was promoted to Patrol Sergeant at West Hennepin Public Safety in August. Sgt. Howes has been with West Hennepin Public Safety for 17 years. During his career at West Hennepin Public Safety, he has served as a patrol officer, general investigator, and agent on the West Metro Drug Task Force from 2013 to 2017. Sgt. Howes manages the evidence room and coordinates the annual Citizens Academy. He resides locally with his two daughters.

"I have enjoyed all 17 years working at West Hennepin Public Safety and look forward to many more. I have developed lifelong memories and friendships while working with these two communities. I am excited to continue to serve the citizens of Maple Plain and Independence in this new role," said Sgt. Howes.



West Hennepin Public Safety is excited to introduce the newest member of our team, Kaylen Boeddeker, as our new Administrative Assistant. Kaylen comes from Maple Grove Police Department as a Records Management Technician. Kaylen graduated with a Law Enforcement degree from Minneapolis College and a certificate in Law Enforcement from Hennepin Technical College. Kaylen resides in Loretto with her two pups, Charlie and Hazel. Kaylen enjoys fishing and playing with her dogs in her free time.



"I'm very excited to begin my career with West Hennepin Public Safety. Being close to home and having such a supportive group of people to work with is refreshing. I can't wait to meet and interact with the City of Maple Plain and Independence staff and residents."

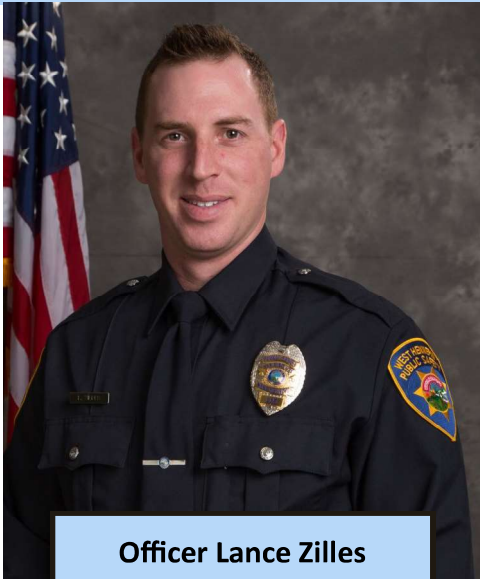
Chief Kroells stated, "West Hennepin is fortunate to hire a qualified candidate who values our communities and the people we serve."



# WEST HENNEPIN PUBLIC SAFETY



## USE OF FORCE—FIREARMS TRAINING



**Officer Lance Zilles  
Firearms Instructor**

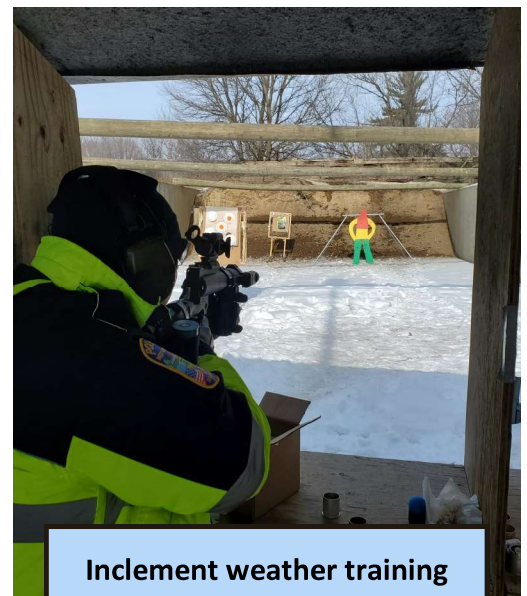
West Hennepin Public Safety (WHPS) conducts firearms and use-of-force training staggered throughout the year. We have a minimum of four live-fire firearms training sessions each year with scenario-based training to ensure officers' proficiency with weapons and their appropriate application in different situations.



Each year WHPS officers also need to complete several hours of training on use-of-force and the use of deadly force. A partnership with the League of Minnesota Cities provides additional training through a program called "Peace officer Accredited TRaining OnLine" (PATROL). It provides in-depth review and training on case law, legal aspects, and practical application of use-of-force and de-escalation methods.

WHPS equips each officer with several force options and training on their appropriate use. Deadly force options include a handgun and a rifle. Each officer is also equipped with chemical spray, an expandable baton, and a TASER™. Each squad car is equipped with a 40mm less-than-lethal launcher for deploying kinetic impact projectiles.

The 40mm launcher accurately launches large foam sponges, pepper spray, or distraction devices at much greater distances than previously possible, allowing officers to respond more safely to violent encounters without using lethal force and allowing more time and distance to de-escalate a volatile situation.



**Inclement weather training  
with the 40mm launcher**



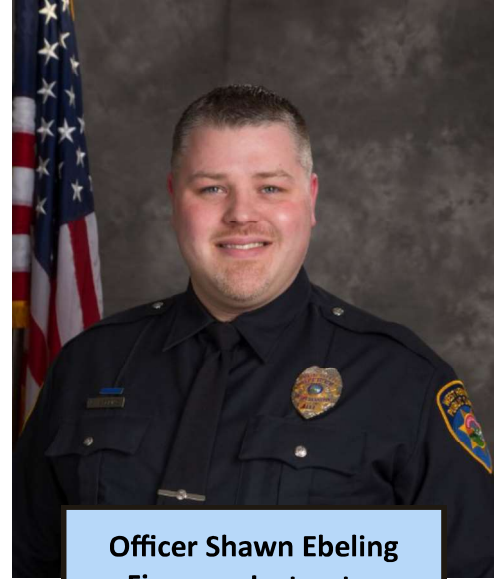
# WEST HENNEPIN PUBLIC SAFETY



## USE OF FORCE—FIREARMS TRAINING



**Live-fire range training**

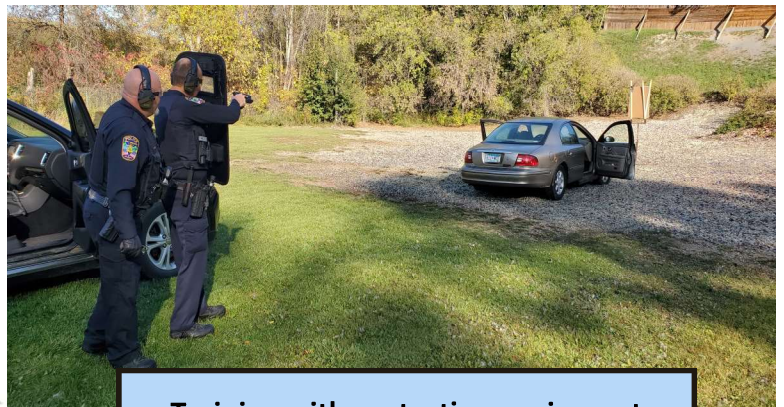


**Officer Shawn Ebeling  
Firearms Instructor**

Officers spend one full range day training yearly in low-light / no-light conditions and inclement weather as we serve our community 24 hours a day. Training in these conditions provides our officers with valuable experience in less-than-optimal light conditions. It forces them to utilize all their tools, including several light sources and tactical approaches to operate effectively in night and inclement weather situations.

Officers also train with protective equipment such as masks, ballistic shields, and body armor. Varying scenarios require officers to utilize various combinations of tools and equipment to ensure their and the public's safety and mitigate injury.

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.



**Training with protective equipment**

[DELANOSPORTSMENSCLUB.COM](http://DELANOSPORTSMENSCLUB.COM)

OFFICIAL WEBSITE OF THE DELANO SPORTSMEN'S CLUB

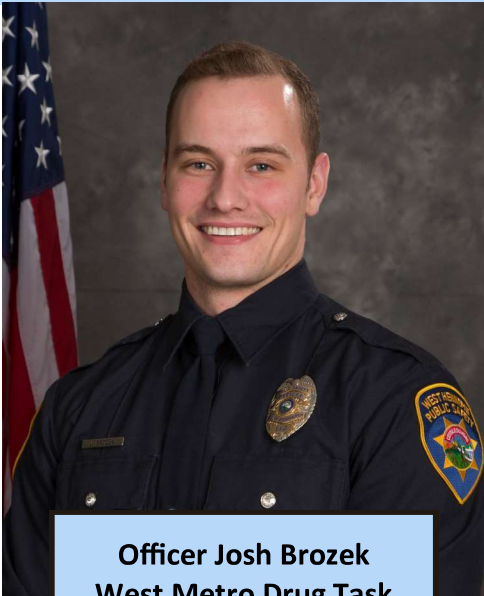




# WEST HENNEPIN PUBLIC SAFETY



## WEST METRO DRUG TASK FORCE (WMDTF)



**Officer Josh Brozek**  
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**





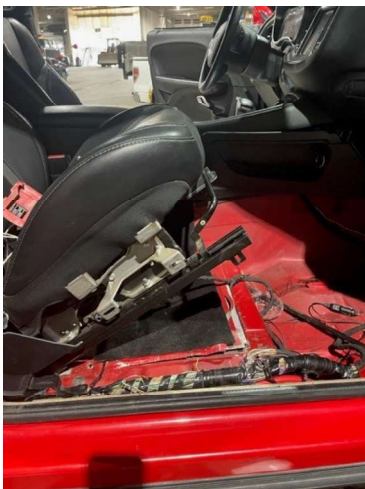
# WEST HENNEPIN PUBLIC SAFETY



## WEST METRO DRUG TASK FORCE (WMDTF)

2022 was very productive for the West Metro Drug Task Force (WMDTF). The WMDTF seized 71.5 pounds of cocaine, 93.35 pounds of crystal methamphetamine, 216.5 pounds of marijuana, and 84 guns.

The pictures below are from significant search warrants that were executed.





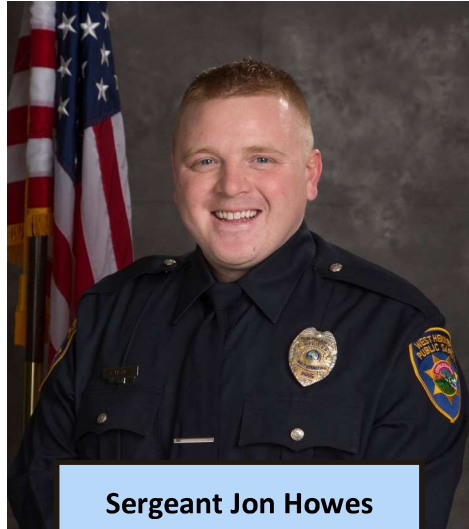
# WEST HENNEPIN PUBLIC SAFETY



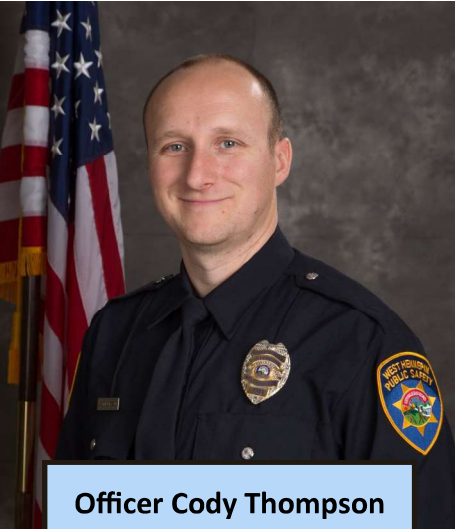
## WEST COMMAND MOBILE FIELD FORCE



**Sergeant Rick Denneson**  
Mobile Field Force



**Sergeant Jon Howes**  
Mobile Field Force



**Officer Cody Thompson**  
Mobile Field Force

The West Command Mobile Field Force (WCMFF) is made up of representative officers from 27 suburban law enforcement agencies in suburban Hennepin County. The mission of this collaborative team is to provide a rapid deployment of highly trained law enforcement personnel to preserve life, ensure public safety, protect property, and maintain quality of life throughout Greater Hennepin County. This team of officers, and all of the agencies they represent, are very committed to working hard to protect lawful first amendment protests and demonstrations, while ensuring those gatherings remain non-violent and safe for those in attendance.



WCMFF is a specially trained team of officers capable of responding to incidents of member agencies in which large numbers of people require management for public safety reasons and to protect First Amendment rights and peaceful protesting.

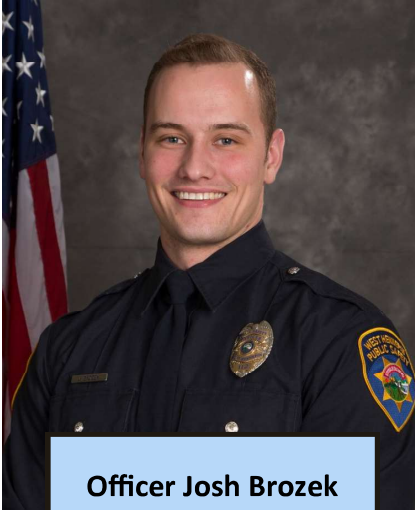
West Hennepin Public Safety has committed three officers to West Command Mobile Field Force Platoon 6 with Sgt. Rick Denneson assigned as Squad Leader and Officer Cody Thompson and Sgt. Jon Howes as operators.



# WEST HENNEPIN PUBLIC SAFETY



## LAKE MINNETONKA SWAT TEAM



**Officer Josh Brozek**  
Current SWAT member

West Hennepin Public Safety (WHPS) 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 WHPS has two officers on it. The SWAT Team trains regularly: learning new



**Officer Ben Raskin**  
Current SWAT member

techniques, devices, tools, and tactics to handle high-risk situations. They also assist other SWAT teams on mutual aid agreements. WHPS is thankful to participate in a unit like this that could not be funded by a single department.

Lake Minnetonka SWAT team participates in a yearly training at Camp Ripley where teams from throughout the state come together to train. Every year, three teams are chosen to host the training and those teams are responsible for organizing the training and coordinating with each team for scheduling. The scenarios are larger-based scenarios that often include multiple buildings and ten or more actors. This training helps teams practice large-scale incidents where team security and scene safety are a concern.

The trainings can include many different variables from large-scale active shooters, armored vehicle training/course work, hostage rescue, large crowd control during a critical incident and much more. The training is vital in preparing teams for large-scale incidents that many teams are not able to train for during their monthly training.



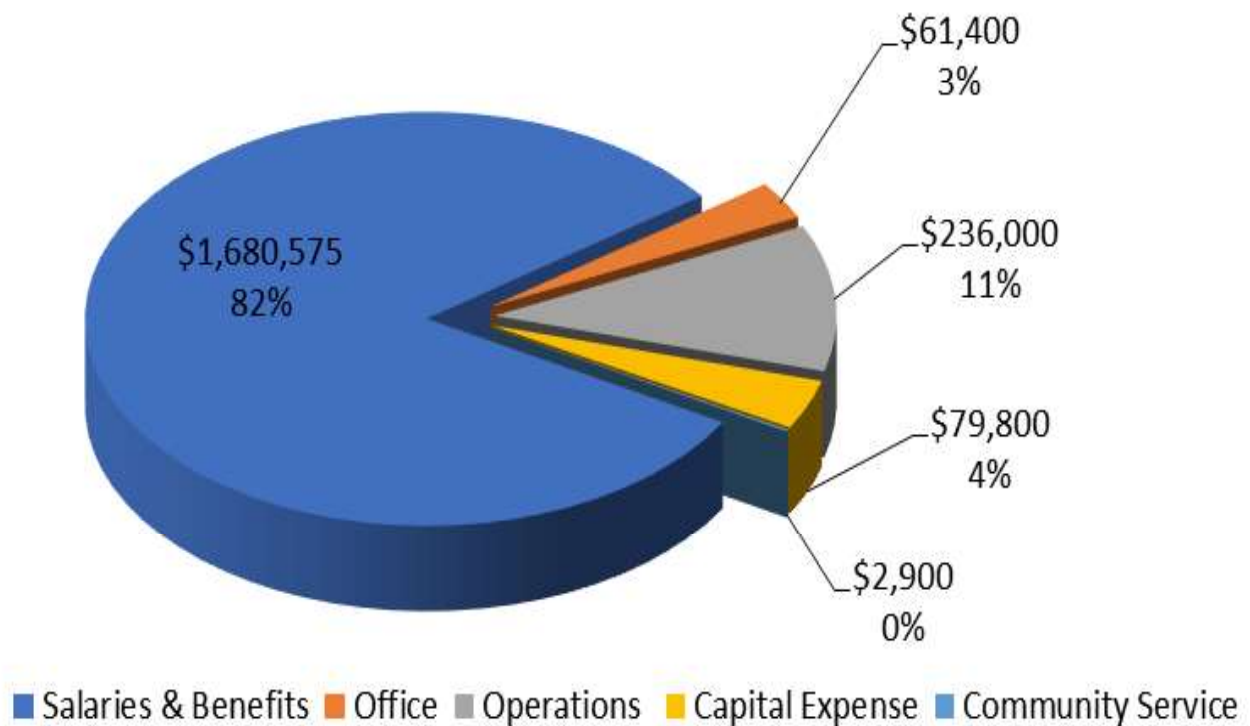


# WEST HENNEPIN PUBLIC SAFETY



## FINANCIAL SUMMARY: 2022 BUDGET

### 2022 Budget Total \$2,090,756



The personnel section accounts for 82% of the overall budget. It includes health and dental benefits, overtime, PERA contributions and medical disability insurance that West Hennepin is mandated to pay. The remaining funds are allocated to office supplies, police department operating costs, capital expenses and community service programs.



# WEST HENNEPIN PUBLIC SAFETY

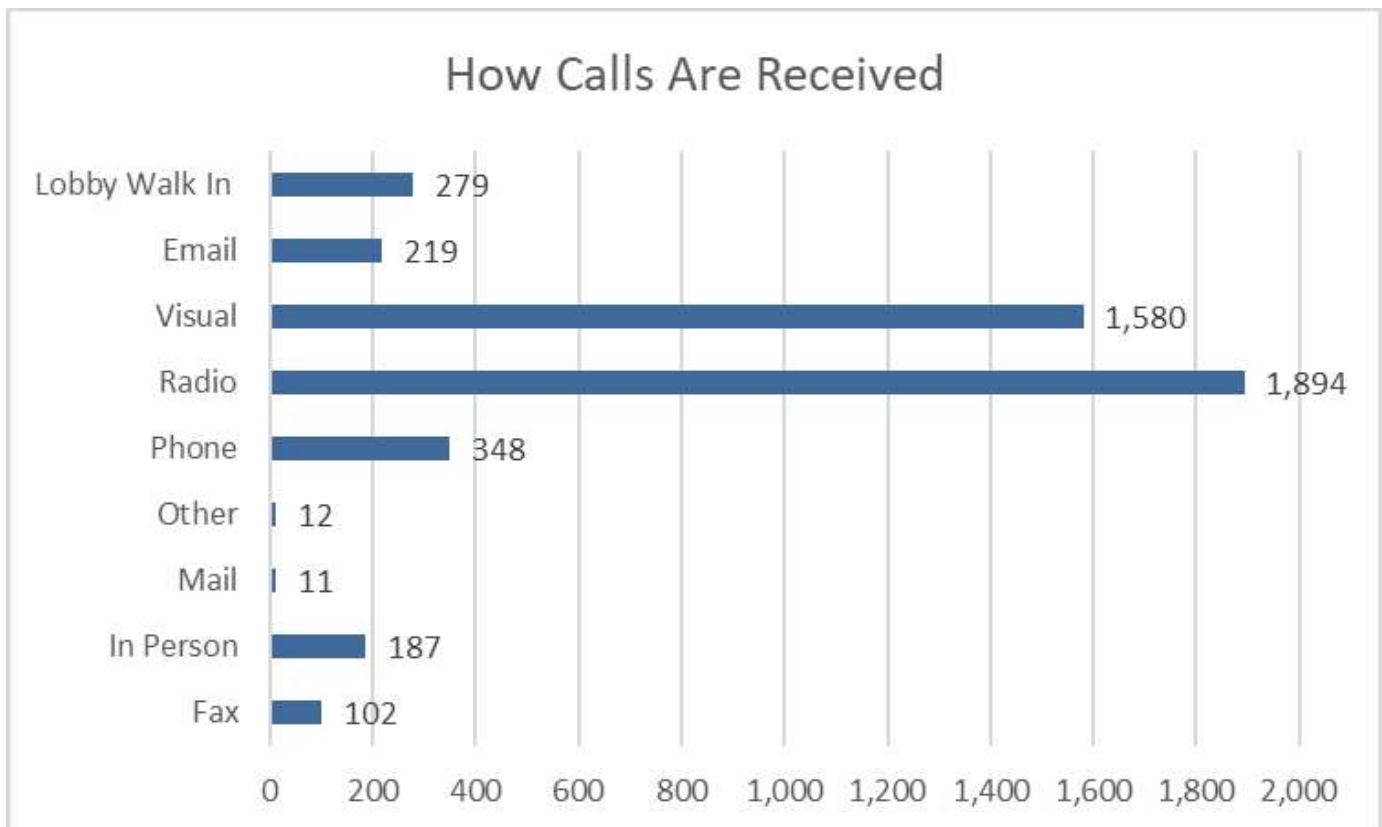


## 2022 ACTIVITY REPORT

In 2022, the West Hennepin Public Safety Department handled 4,179 incident complaint reports for the cities of Independence and Maple Plain, with 2,898 incidents occurring in Independence and 1,281 occurring in Maple Plain.

Incident complaint reports include:

- 1,463 Traffic Stops and Traffic related offenses
- 117 Criminal Investigations
- 77 Property Damage Crashes
- 22 DWI Arrests
- 6 Personal Injury Crashes
- 0 Fatality Crashes



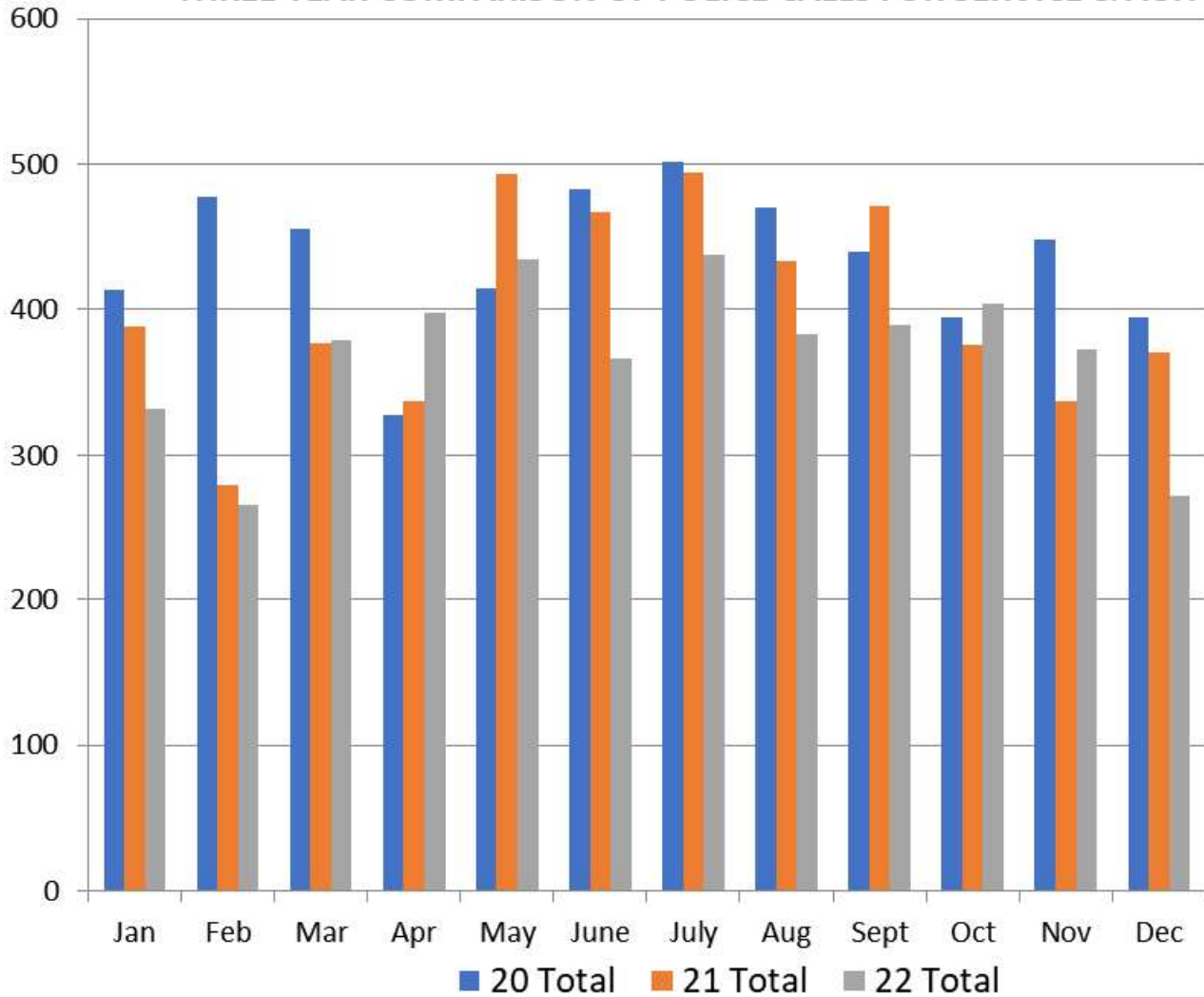


# WEST HENNEPIN PUBLIC SAFETY



## 2020-2022 Call Activity Report

THREE YEAR COMPARISON OF POLICE CALLS FOR SERVICE & ACTIVITY



West Hennepin Public Safety Department call activity per month for the past three years, 2020-2022



# WEST HENNEPIN PUBLIC SAFETY



## ACTIVITY REPORT: Comparing 2021 versus 2022

Offense	2021	2022
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### City Of Independence

Criminal	86	66
Traffic	1,211	1048
Part III	83	47
Part IV	390	402
Part V	1,387	1,335

<b>Total City of Independence</b>	<b>3,157</b>	<b>2,898</b>
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### City Of Maple Plain

Criminal	85	45
Traffic	409	332
Part III	32	19
Part IV	261	267
Part V	684	618

<b>Total City Of Maple Plain</b>	<b>1,471</b>	<b>1,281</b>
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<b>Grand Total Both Cities</b>	<b>4,628</b>	<b>4,179</b>
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TZD	58	160
Other ICRS	138	293
<b>Total ICR Reports</b>	<b>4,824</b>	<b>4,632</b>

### How Received

Fax	125	102
In Person	222	187
Mail	23	11
Other	15	12
Phone	397	348
Radio	1,907	1,894
Visual	1,907	1,580
Email	286	219
Lobby Walk In	85	279
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,824</b>	<b>4,632</b>



# WEST HENNEPIN PUBLIC SAFETY



## FAREWELL – ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT LYNDA FRANKLIN



Administrative Assistant Lynda Franklin retired on January 31, 2022, after 22 years of dedicated service to West Hennepin Public Safety and the citizens of Maple Plain and Independence. At Lynda's request, due to concerns about Covid-19, the department did not hold an Open House.

Lynda said, "I am very thankful for my career opportunities at West Hennepin Public Safety. I will miss the contacts and interactions with all our residents and those who expressed appreciation for our public safety department officers and staff. It has been a privilege and a joy to visit with each of you. Thank you to the cities of Independence and Maple Plain and their residents for your support, and a special 'Thank You' to Chief Kroells, Sgt. Denneson and the officers and staff for their support, humor, and making many days rewarding."