MENOMONIE
POLICE DEPARTMENT

ANNUAL REPORT

2022

Chief's Welcome

On behalf of the Menomonie Police Department I'm pleased to present the 2022 Annual Report. The MPD continued to utilize the procedural justice paradigm of policing in 2022. Through procedural justice the MPD incorporated problem and community oriented policing strategies, and furthered the development of Project Hope. Additionally, this report will provide quantitative data that was acquired during the year.

I would like to take a moment to thank the men and women of the Menomonie Police Department for their professionalism and willingness to adapt to the needs of the community we serve. We wouldn't have been successful without their dedicated service. Finally, I would like to thank the Mayor and City Council for the support they have shown for the MPD, notably the incredible support they have shown for Project Hope.

Eric M. Atkinson
2022 Police Chief

Welcoming Chief Hollister

In April 2023, the City of Menomonie Police and Fire Commission has officially appointed Commander Rick Hollister to serve as the City's next Police Chief.

Chief Hollister values community engagement and intends to continue the department's efforts to partner with the community.

Chief Hollister has 37 years of law enforcement experience. He served the first five years of his law enforcement career with the city of Osseo before joining the Menomonie Police Department. During Chief Hollister's tenure he served as a patrol officer, patrol sergeant, lieutenant and as a commander for both the Administrative Services/Criminal Investigations Bureaus and the Operations Bureau.

Throughout his career, Chief Hollister had the opportunity to serve on the West Central Drug Task Force's Oversight Committee, coordinate MPD's field training operations and participate as an MPD SWAT operator. Additionally, Commander Hollister created the Dunn County Child Abduction Response Team, facilitated a variety of regional training events, managed critical incidents that involved a multitude of entities and modernized the MPD Police Chaplain Program.

Project Hope

2022 Overview

- Continued to use the evidence-based Botvin LifeSkills® Training (LST) program in the schools. The LST curriculum teaches K-12 students good decision making skills; how to build self-esteem; provides strategies to avoid drug abuse; and how to avoid violence.
- Continuation of the Youth Response Team (YRT). The YRT meets every two weeks to discuss at-risk youth in the SDMA system. At-risk youth include individuals experiencing behavioral problems (non-criminal actions), suffering from trauma, addiction issues and truancy. Once the YRT identifies a youth in need, members of the YRT work with the youth — and their parents — to provide resources that help mitigate the issue(s). The resources that are offered include treatment, counseling, mentoring opportunities and wrap-around services. The YRT comprises various community shareholders dedicated to protecting and serving youth. Members include MPD youth services officers (YSO), Dunn County Department of Human Services social workers, and counselors from the SDMA.
- Expanded use of the Drug Endangered Children (DEC) team. The DEC team consists of members of the MPD, Dunn County Sheriff's Office, Dunn County District Attorney's Office and Dunn County Department of Human Services. DEC team members assess children and their family situations to ensure a safe environment that is free of dangerous drugs. The DEC team helps remove children from dangerous situations at home and places them in safe environment while directing families to programs such as Family Treatment Court.

2022 Milestones

- January: Received $485,000 COSSAP grant.
- Summer: Informal outreaches following Quick Response Team (QRT) model.
- August: PTAC Conference in Chicago, which was a huge step in developing QRT. Representatives from six agencies attended and were the largest group at the conference.
- August: Began using Cordata, an independent software case management system, for QRT.
- October: Began discussing using Cordata for YRT.
- October: Officer Aaron Bergh started as Behavioral Health Officer. Trained in substance use disorders, intervention methods, motivational interviewing, and pathways to treatment.
- Fall: Angels of Red Cedar takes significant shape.
- End of 2022: Partnered with Dunn County Sheriff's Office to expand Project Hope to the County.

Looking to 2023

- January: Angels of Red Cedar training.
- February: Angels of Red Cedar & QRT officially launched.
- Finalize development of officer-led diversion for adults & youth
- Grow & refine QRT process
- YRT: Revisiting procedures and documentation. Formalize tracking through Cordata to secure additional funding for mentoring services.

Notable Investigations and Calls

The Criminal Investigations Bureau (CIB) and the Administrative Services Bureau (ASB) are both supervised by Commander Chris King. 2022 saw the addition of Josh Draeger in the second Youth Services Officer role.

The 2022 CIB is comprised of:
Detective Lieutenant Matt Benrud – General Investigations
Detective Lieutenant Chad Mroczenski – General Investigations
Investigator Wade Schlichting – Drug Investigator
Investigator Maloree Zassenhaus – Youth Services Officer
Investigator Joshua Draeger– Youth Services Officer

MARCH
M22-0467 / DOME: Rose Barfield smashed a cooking pot over the head of her boyfriend, resulting in serious injuries that required major medical care. She was charged with Disorderly Conduct, Domestic Abuse, Substantial Battery, and two counts of Bail Jumping. She did not show up for her sentencing and a warrant was issued for her arrest.

M22-0496 / JUVENILE SEXUAL ASSAULT: Chandler Gordon was arrested and charged for the sexual assault of multiple juveniles. They received a deferred agreement.

APRIL
M22-00728 / INTERNET CRIMES AGAINST CHILDREN: MPD received a Cyber Tip from the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC) stating that an individual had uploaded approximately 40 images that contained either "Apparent Child Pornography" or "Unconfirmed CP" to the Dropbox, Inc application. The suspect was identified as Anthony Placzkowski, who is a resident of Menomonie. During the course of investigation, several images of child pornography were located on Placzkowski's cell phone. Placzkowski was subsequently arrested and charged with ten (10) felony counts of Possession of Child Pornography. Placzkowksi's case is still currently pending with a Jury Trial.

MAY
M22-00993 / JUVENILE SEXUAL ASSAULT: An MHS student had reported to staff that they had been touched inappropriately by another student during school hours. Following investigation, the accused MHS student was subsequently referred for Fourth (4th) Degree Sexual Assault, as they were a juvenile at the time of the assault.

MAY
M22-1117 / DRUG (Cocaine): Investigators from the West Central Drug Task Force completed two controlled buys for a total of 5 grams of cocaine from Aaron Reynolds of River Falls. Cases are currently pending and bound over for trial.

M22-1130 /DRUG (Mushrooms): Investigators from the West Central Drug Task Force completed a controlled buy of 16 grams of Psilocybin mushrooms from Christopher Russell of Menomonie. A follow-up Search Warrant yielded 421 grams of psilocybin mushrooms. The case is pending.

JUNE
M22-1454 / JUVENILE PROTECTION: A toddler was blinded in one eye and received a broken orbital following an incident at home when they were left in their older sibling's care. When investigators attempted to conduct follow up investigation by examining the contents of the mother's phone, she and the older sibling smashed the phone on the ground in an attempt to destroy any evidence that might have been found there. The toddler's mother was arrested for obstructing and the sibling was referred for obstructing.

JULY
M22-1716 / DRUG ENDANGERED CHILDREN: A newborn baby tested positive for methamphetamine and cocaine. The child was placed in protective placement; despite this the child's mother kidnapped the baby and fled to Minnesota. The child was located and the mother arrested, and lost rights to the newborn and another child.

AUGUST
M22-1795 / DRUG and SWAR (Methamphetamine and Fentanyl): A subject who is now a confidential informant delivered M30 pills to Patrick Haynes, who then delivered them to his wife, that overdosed. A Search Warrant at the subject's room at the motel they were staying at yielded thirty-one M30 fentanyl pills and four grams of methamphetamine.

Notable Investigations and Calls

SEPTEMBER

M22-2211 & 2289 / BURGLARY: Burglary to the Verizon store and T-Mobile store. In both instances, a rock was used to smash the door in order to gain entry and items were taken from within the stores. The suspects were apprehended and connected to similar burglaries in 9 states. One suspect was convicted for the crimes, and the other is awaiting a jury trial.

OCTOBER

M22-2332/ DRUG (Methamphetamine): A subject, who is now a confidential informant, was arrested by patrol with 50 grams of methamphetamine. This information was able to further the investigation into Vong Xiong, as the statement delivery was supported by the subject's statement, phone download, and the tracker on Xiong's car.

The subject received probation for this case on a Friday in October, and was arrested on the following Sunday for Possession with Intent to Deliver. They were sentenced to probation with a prison sentence that was sentenced but not imposed.

M22-2595 / TSTO, DRUG and SWAR (THC and Mushrooms): Search Warrant following two separate traffic stops involving Austin Robert, one that yielded 1.5 pounds of THC and 14 grams of mushrooms. Cases are still pending.

NOVEMBER

M22-2830 and 22-2841/DRUG and SWAR (Fentanyl): Juanita Mosay delivered M30 fentanyl pills to Delany Pax, resulting in Pax's death. A Search Warrant and custodial interview yielded a confession for the delivery, and to delivering 100-200 pills in the Polk County area every two weeks between 06/2022 and 11/2022. The cases are pending and Mosay is out of custody on bond.

M22-2132, M22-3053, M22-2987, M22-2669, M22-2649, and M21-2440 / WEAP, DRUG, and SWAR(s) (Methamphetamine, Cocaine, and THC): Multiple cases and search warrants involving Craig Johnson occurred from 11/21 to 12/22. Charges range from Possession of Methamphetamine, Possession with Intent to Deliver Methamphetamine, Possession of Cocaine, Felon in Possession of a Firearm, and Maintaining a Drug House.

Cases are all still pending and Johnson's defense was seeking "global resolution." Johnson has other out of-county methamphetamine cases as well.

DECEMBER

M22-02988 / JUVENILE DISORDERLY CONDUCT: A physical altercation took place between two MHS students during school hours. The assault was eventually broken up by MHS staff and other students. The suspect was subsequently arrested and charged with Battery and Disorderly Conduct. They received a Deferred Prosecution agreement.

M22-3112 / DRUG (Methamphetamine): The WCDTF completed a controlled buy into Xa Xiong for 1 ounce of methamphetamine. The case was submitted to the DA's office for a warrant for his arrest. His whereabouts in the Eau Claire area are unknown.

M22-1843 and M22-3122 / DRUG and SWAR (Methamphetamine and Fentanyl): The WCDTF completed controlled buys in to Vong Xiong of Eau Claire. Xiong is tied into a on-going conspiracy case in the Eau Claire area, and is also tied into MN ongoing conspiracy case due to his cartel sources. The buys yielded 55 grams of M30 pills (over 500 pills) and two separate methamphetamine-controlled deliveries for 68.5 and 57.6 grams.

In building the case, it included multiple GPS tracker installs, two poll cameras, Pen trap and Trace funded through the DEA on Xiong's phone, and a sealed warrant for a his arrest in December.

Xiong was later apprehended on his way back from his source in Minnesota. A search warrant of the car at the impound lot resulted in a seizure of 2lbs of methamphetamine. His source was confirmed via custodial interviews, observing a hand to hand delivery, phone tolls, the pen trap and trace, as well as his phone download.

The Dunn County DA's office is currently working on an offer of five years initial confinement and five years extended supervision, which is a significant sentence given Xiong has almost no criminal history. He is currently in jail with a $20,000 cash bond.

2022 Statistics

Offense	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2013-2022 avg
Murder	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	0.3
Rape	4	7	4	7	19	6	6	6	5	1	6.5
Robbery	2	2	2	0	2	1	1	0	0	0	1
Aggravated Assault	18	32	21	24	24	20	29	29	31	30	25.8
Simple Assault	68	87	66	53	42	63	54	27	31	40	53.1
Burglary	61	55	59	41	30	28	21	16	16	12	33.9
Theft	359	347	354	328	318	270	247	195	221	201	284
Motor Vehicle Theft	13	14	12	11	14	17	19	10	27	10	14.7
Arson	1	0	1	0	0	1	2	0	0	0	.5

The MPD responded to a total of 12,119 incidents in 2022 which totals an average of 33 incidents daily.

In the 1930's the FBI began collecting and publishing crime data collected from police agencies across America. Crimes were classified and counted using standardized definitions so that crime could be looked at comparatively throughout the nation. The most severe crime per incident was reported, along with suspect and victim demographic information. There were two groups of offenses. Part I Offenses focused on the most severe crimes including: Murder/Non-Negligent Murder, Forcible Rape, Robbery, and Aggravated Assault, Burglary, Larceny-theft, Motor Vehicle Theft, and Arson. The second group of crimes, Part II Offenses, included Other Assaults, Forgery, Fraud, Stolen Property Offenses, Sex Offenses, Drug Offenses, Liquor Laws, Offenses against Families and Children, Operating While Under the Influence, Disorderly Conduct, and All Other Offenses. However, in the 1980's, the outline of what data to collect was revisited, as the Uniform Crime Reporting System was limited in scope and did not give an accurate view of crime statistics. From this effort, changes were made and the Incident Based Reporting system was established. The changes that were implemented allowed for a much more in-depth understanding of what crime looked like in each city and allowed for analysis to be completed to allow for the development of crime prevention strategies. More than one crime per incident could be reported, as well as a more thorough portrait of the involved parties. The crimes could be looked at in terms of location, category of crime, and date and time of occurrence, enabling officers to focus their efforts based on trends identified with data. For example, officers can use the data to support their observations that Friday night in a college town in Wisconsin will have an increased number of drinking offenses after 7 PM. Likewise, the data can show the burglaries in a town occur in the same types of locations at a similar time or day of the week, officers can increase patrol in those locations to attempt to prevent further victimization.

Wisconsin developed an even more detailed version of the Incident Based Reporting system and required all agencies in the state to shift their reporting to the new system by 2021. Menomonie Police Department completed this transition in 2017 and has been able to use the comprehensive data to help establish programs with the intention of preventing crime as well as creating solutions to provide a multifaceted approach to address crime trends.

Statistics

Diversions: Pre-Charge Diversion, Deferred After Guilty Pleas, Treatment Opportunity Program
The success rate of these programs countywide is noted below:

Precharge Diversion Program (PCD): 2022 Success rate (completion) 30 of 61 = 49% for the year; 391 of 553 71% for the program to date (since 2016)

Treatment Opportunity Program (TOP): 2022 Success Rate (completion) 15 of 25 = 60% for the year; 103 of 169 61% for the program to date (since 2017)

DAGPs (DA agreements to complete things in lieu of Jail, this does also include TOP) successful completion rate

Mental Health

The below call classifications occur when an officer interacts with an individual in a mental health crisis. A Chapter 51 Emergency Detention may be utilized to take a person in to protective custody if there is a substantial likelihood that that individual may harm themselves or others.

Incident	Welfare Checks	Mental Call	Chapter 51
Number	370	165	20

Meth, opioid, and overdose data.

The data below is depicts the number of incidents in which methamphetamine or opioids (heroin, oxycodone) were recovered.

Incident	Methamphetamine	Opioid	Overdose
Number	37	3	10

Domestic Violence

The Menomonie Police Department began using the Lethality Assessment Program (LAP) in 2015. In 2017, the MPD developed the Domestic Violence Response Team.

Year	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Number	147	155	179	146	135	166	184	177

2022 Use of Force Statistics

While the goal is always for subjects to comply voluntarily, sometimes officers will have to use force to achieve control and accomplish their legitimate law enforcement duties. The table below includes use of force statistics. The types of force are noted in the far left column. There were 44 total incidents in 2022 that required officers to use force. In some occasions, more than one officer was required to use force. This is reflected in the table below.

The goal of passive countermeasures is to decentralize a subject, directing the subject to the ground. This may occur if officers believe that they will be unable to achieve control with the subject standing.
The goal of active countermeasures is to interrupt the subject's ability to resist, enabling the officer to direct the subject to the ground for stabilization, handcuffing, and other follow-through procedures.

UOF TYPE	NUMBER	PERCENT OF UOF	PERCENT OF TOTAL CALLS FOR SERVICE (12,119)
TOTAL POINTING FIREARM	31	70%	.25%
TOTAL POINTING TASER	10	25%	.08%
TOTAL PASSIVE COUNTERMEASURES	43	98%	.35%
TOTAL FIREARM DEPLOYED	0	0	0
TOTAL TASER DEPLOYED	2	4.5%	.02%
TOTAL FOCUS STRIKE/ACTIVE COUNTERMEASURES	2	4.5%	.02%
TOTAL OVERALL	88	-	.73%
TOTAL INJURIES TO SUSPECTS	4	9%	.03%
TOTAL INJURIES TO OFFICERS	4	9%	.03%
TOTAL OVERALL	8	18%	.06%