

2020 Annual Report



Hinsdale Police Department





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A Letter from the Chief

Brian King
Chief of Police
Email: bking@villageofhinsdale.org
Phone: 630-789-7070



On behalf of the men and women of the Hinsdale Police Department, thank you for reviewing our annual report.

2020 was a year like no other in the annals of American Law Enforcement. What started as a typical year quickly morphed in March to the "Year of COVID". A state wide lockdown emptied the streets in the community, closed businesses and schools and had our normally bustling commuter train depots deserted as employers directed their employees work from home.

At the police station, new protocols were put into place to protect the health and safety of our employees and to ensure that strength of our force would be sufficient to respond to emergencies in the community. Officers were masked, grouped in shifts, given specific vehicles to drive to avoid contamination, and directed to respond by phone to police calls for service when their actual presence was not required. It was a stark change in direction for a police force that values community engagement and contact.

There was one component that did not change for our employees; the demonstration of support from the community. At the height of the lock down, residents sent messages of gratitude and occasionally self-packaged meals to express their appreciation.

In June after our staff acclimated to a new COVID normal, a period of social unrest occurred nationwide after the death of a man in police custody in Minneapolis. A total of three peaceful demonstrations occurred in Hinsdale two of which terminated at the front steps of the police station. Overnight vandalism and looting occurred in some areas in DuPage County. Although no property destruction occurred in Hinsdale, extra officers were stationed in the business areas overnight and some business chose to place plywood boards on their windows.

For our officers, who were lauded as essential workers in March, the shift in the public perception of law enforcement in the national media and some social media outlets was stark. There was one component that did not change for our employees; the demonstration of support from the community. At the height of the discontent, residents once again sent messages of support and meals to express their appreciation.

The Hinsdale Police Department is a values driven agency. We are guided by key organizational values including the impartial treatment of all, accountability and transparency. We recognize that effective policing occurs only with the confidence and support of the community. As a matter of fact, it cannot occur without it. Knowing that we have the overwhelming support of the community is something that we do not take for granted. We also recognize that confidence and support is not given freely; it is earned through impartially, reasonably and professionally interactions.

On behalf of the men and women of the Hinsdale Police Department, I would like to thank you for your continued encouragement and support. Please be assured that our commitment to professional and ethical policing remains as strong as ever and we will continue to endeavor to earn the trust that you have placed in us.

Sincerely,

Brian King

Department Mission and Values

The mission of the Hinsdale Police Department is to provide the community with impartial law enforcement, community-oriented services and police protection in our Village, while maintaining the highest ethical and professional standards.



We believe the success and effectiveness of our organization is built upon values.

To fulfill our mission, we are committed to:

- * Providing the community with a high level of service.
- * Acknowledging our responsibility and accountability to the citizens of Hinsdale, our source of authority.
- * Performing our duties within the spirit and to the letter of our laws and the Constitution.
- * Remaining sensitive to human needs and treating each person with respect, compassion and dignity.
- * Promoting mutual trust between the department and the citizens and institutions of Hinsdale.
- * Enhancing the safety and feeling of security for Village residents.
- * Fostering a quality work environment that encourages open communication and affords trust, respect and support for each member.
- * Approaching each situation as unique and responding creatively with empathy and the prudent use of discretion.



Chief
Brian King



Deputy Chief
Thomas Lillie



Detective Sergeant
Louis Hayes



Sergeant
Mark Wodka



Sergeant
Kevin Susmarski



Sergeant
Thomas Krefft



Sergeant
Dan Blake



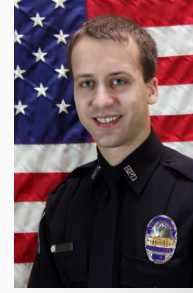
Detective
Art Holecek



Juvenile Officer
Karen Kowal



Officer
Jeffrey Huckfeldt



Officer
Grant McElroy



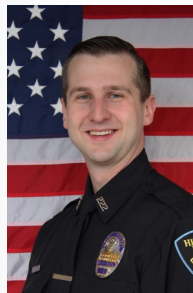
Officer
Kevin Berland



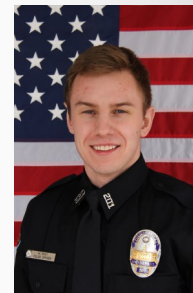
Detective
Carter Sward



Officer
Ryan Grah



School Resource
Officer Dan Mazepa



Officer
Matthew Root



Officer
Andrew Gallik



Officer
Frank Smith



Officer
Teresa McIntyre



Officer
David Rodriguez



Officer
Mike Dzierzega



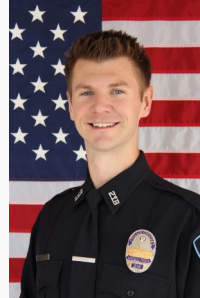
Officer
Jim Litrenta



Officer
Giovanni Montecinos



Officer
Sandra Acevedo



Officer
Matt Gallik

Civilian Staff



Community Service
Officer Nina Szaflarski



Community Service
Officer Matt Miller



Parking Enforcement
Officer Grant Davis



Parking Enforcement
Officer Daniel Sanchez



Investigative Aid
Frank Homolka



Records Clerk
Mike Hogan



Administrative
Analyst Anna Benson



Admin Coordinator
Safia Rusulis

Volunteers



Nancy Anetsberger



Edna Burke



Shelia Chatham



Donna Donaldson

Retirements:

Sergeant

Brian Davenport

7/31/20



Sergeant Brian Davenport retired from the Hinsdale Police Department on July 31st, 2020 after 27 years of dedicated service.

Congratulations and Thank You for your service!



Promotions:

Sergeant

Dan Blake

9/2/20



Officer Daniel Blake joined the Hinsdale Police Department in March 25th, 2013. On September 2nd, 2020 he was promoted to a Sergeant after 7 years of dedicated service as Field Training Officer, Field Training Coordinator, Defensive Tactics Instructor and Physical Fitness Coordinator.

Congratulations!



Welcome to our Team!

Montecinos 3/23/20

Acevedo 3/23/20

M. Gallik 9/17/20



In 2020 we recruited and welcomed three new police officers to our staff.

Giovanni Montecinos grew up in Bolingbrook and graduated high school in 2014. He was awarded a scholarship to the University of Pikeville in Kentucky where he participated on the college bowling team while completing his bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice. He graduated the Macon County Law Enforcement Academy.



Sandra Acevedo grew up in Cicero and graduated from J. Sterling Morton Easy High School in 2014. She went on to Concordia University in River Forest, where she played Women's Lacrosse and majored in Criminal Justice. She graduated the Macon County Law Enforcement Academy.

Matt Gallik was raised on the southwest side of Chicago and graduated from Brother Rice High School in 2007. He played college volleyball at Lewis University while acquiring a bachelor's degree in Sports Management. In September of 2015, he was sworn in as a Police Officer with the Hoffman Estates Police Department where he served as a patrol officer and then as Tactical Unit Officer. Matt joined the Hinsdale Police Department in September of 2020

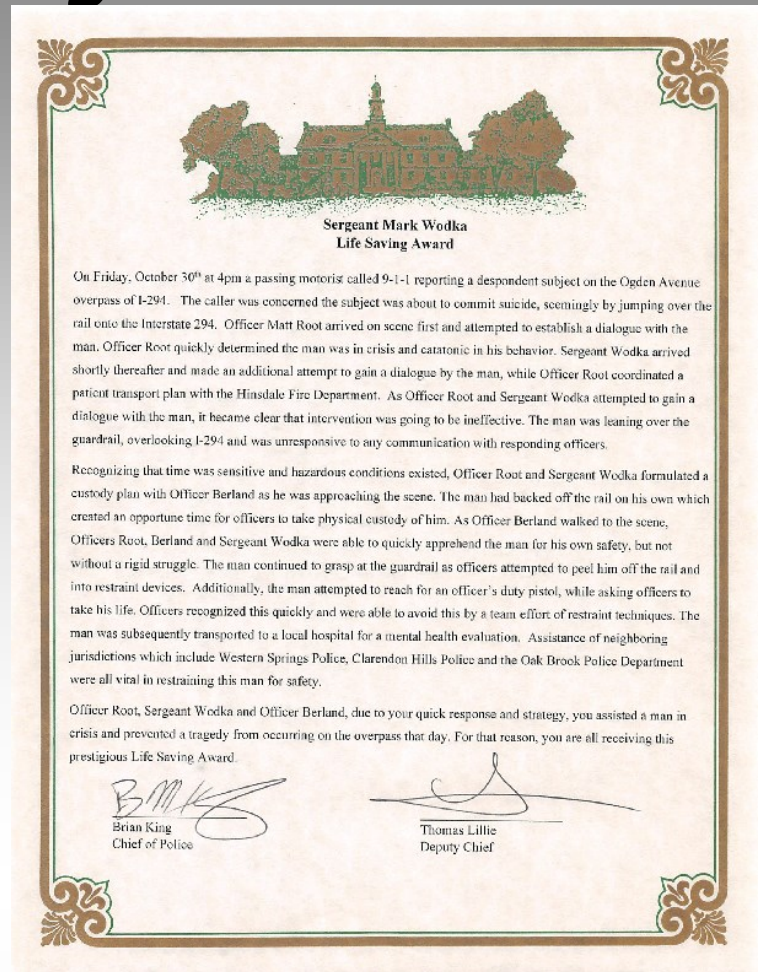


Employee Recognition

2020 Service Excellence Award

Sgt. Susmarski, Ofc. Grant McElroy and CSO Nina Szaflarski were nominated by their co-workers for the 2020 Service Excellence Award. Sgt. Kevin Susmarski and Ofc. Grant McElroy, were nominated for their significant contributions to the revamping of the Field Training and Evaluation Program, a program that will likely be a prototype for other agencies as well. CSO Nina Szaflarski is recognized for her tremendous ability to be flexible and positive in her job as well as accepting additional duties related to the pandemic.

2020 Life Saving Awards



Alliance Against Intoxicated Motorists Recognition of Commendable DUI Enforcements



Service Anniversaries



—Sgt. Mark Wodka

04/06/2000



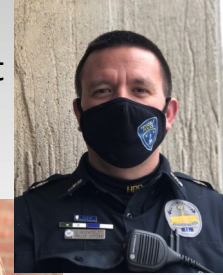
—Sgt. Thomas Krefft

2/10/2005



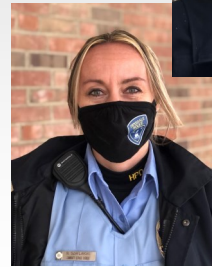
—Ofc. Jeffery Huckfeldt

6/20/2005

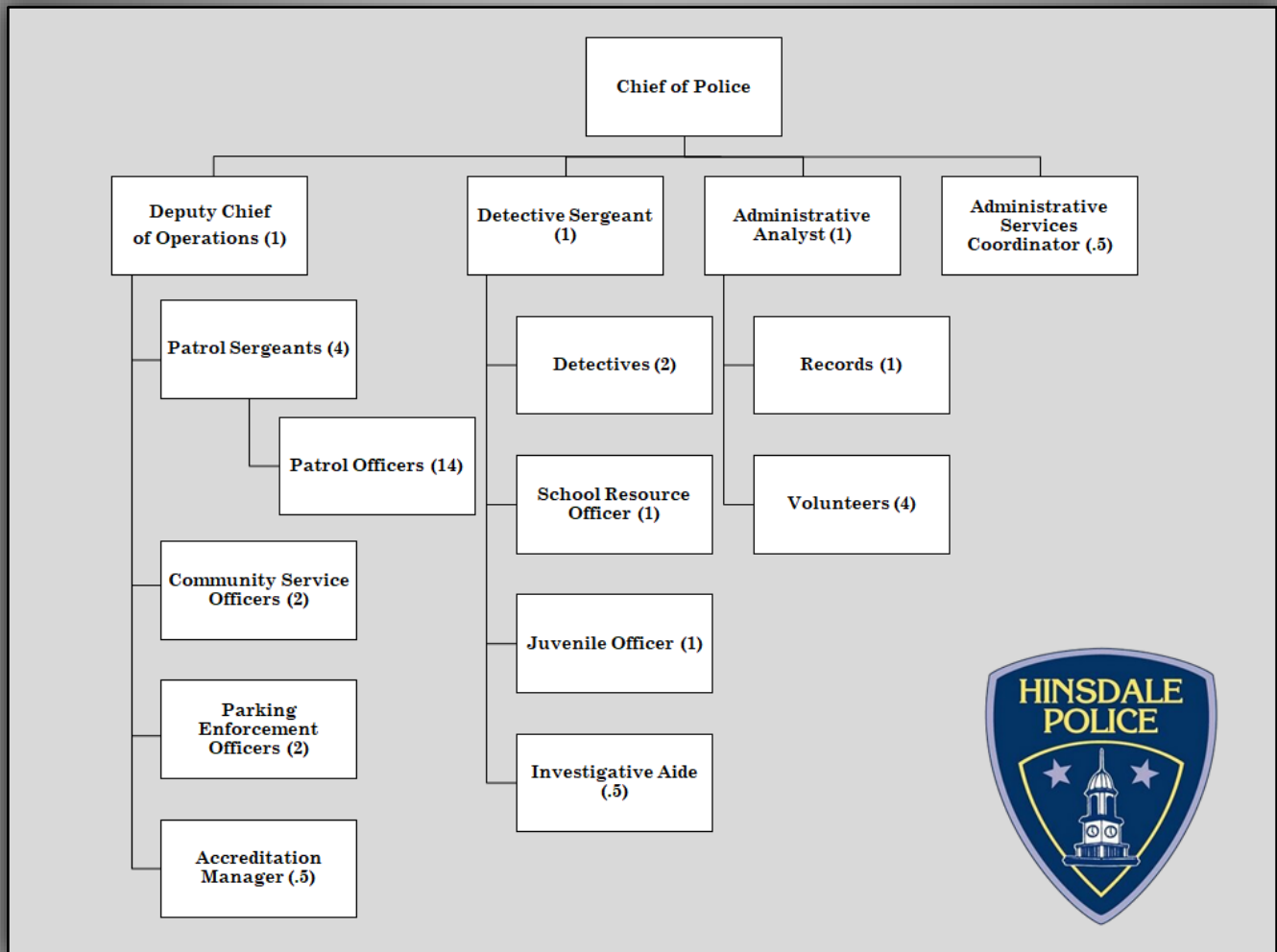


—CSO Nina Szaflarski

4/29/2015



Department Organization



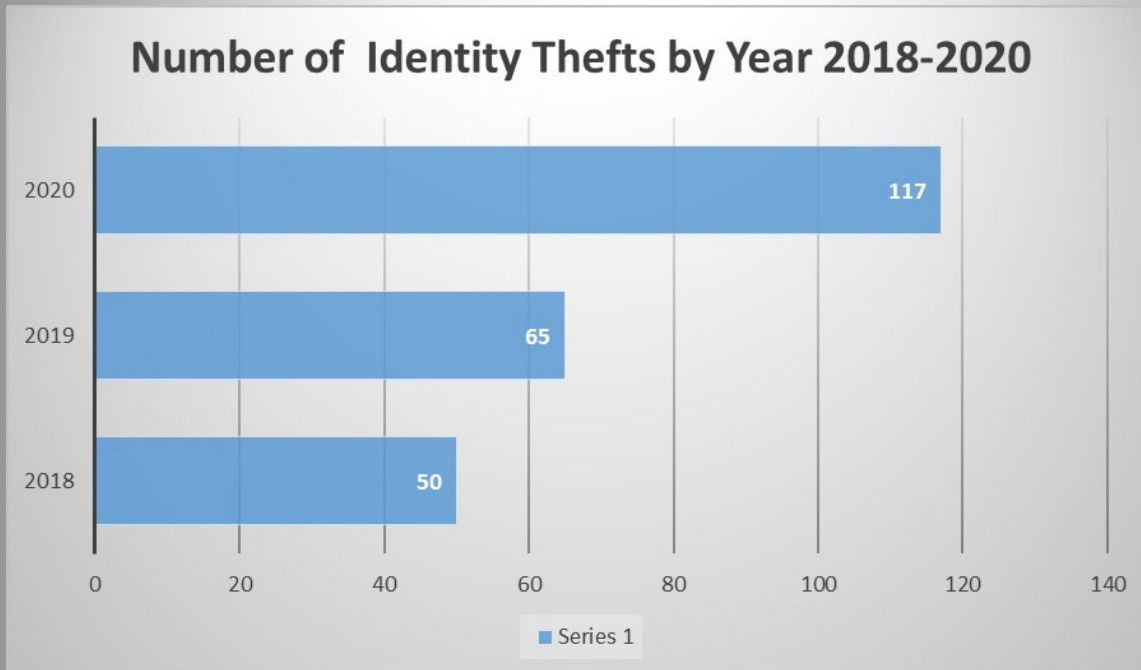
The Hinsdale Police Department is authorized for 26 sworn police officers, 3 full time civilian staff, 6 part time civilian staff, and 4 volunteers.



Crime Data and Stats

Hinsdale residents continue to experience an array of financial crimes, including Identity Theft. In 2020, the entire State saw an increase in scams related to Illinois Department of Employment Security (IDES), through unemployment fraud. Our detectives followed up on several large-scale Identity Theft cases that ultimately resulted in a variety of State and Federal prosecutions. Some of these stemmed from credit card application fraud, apartment rental schemes, and other scams.

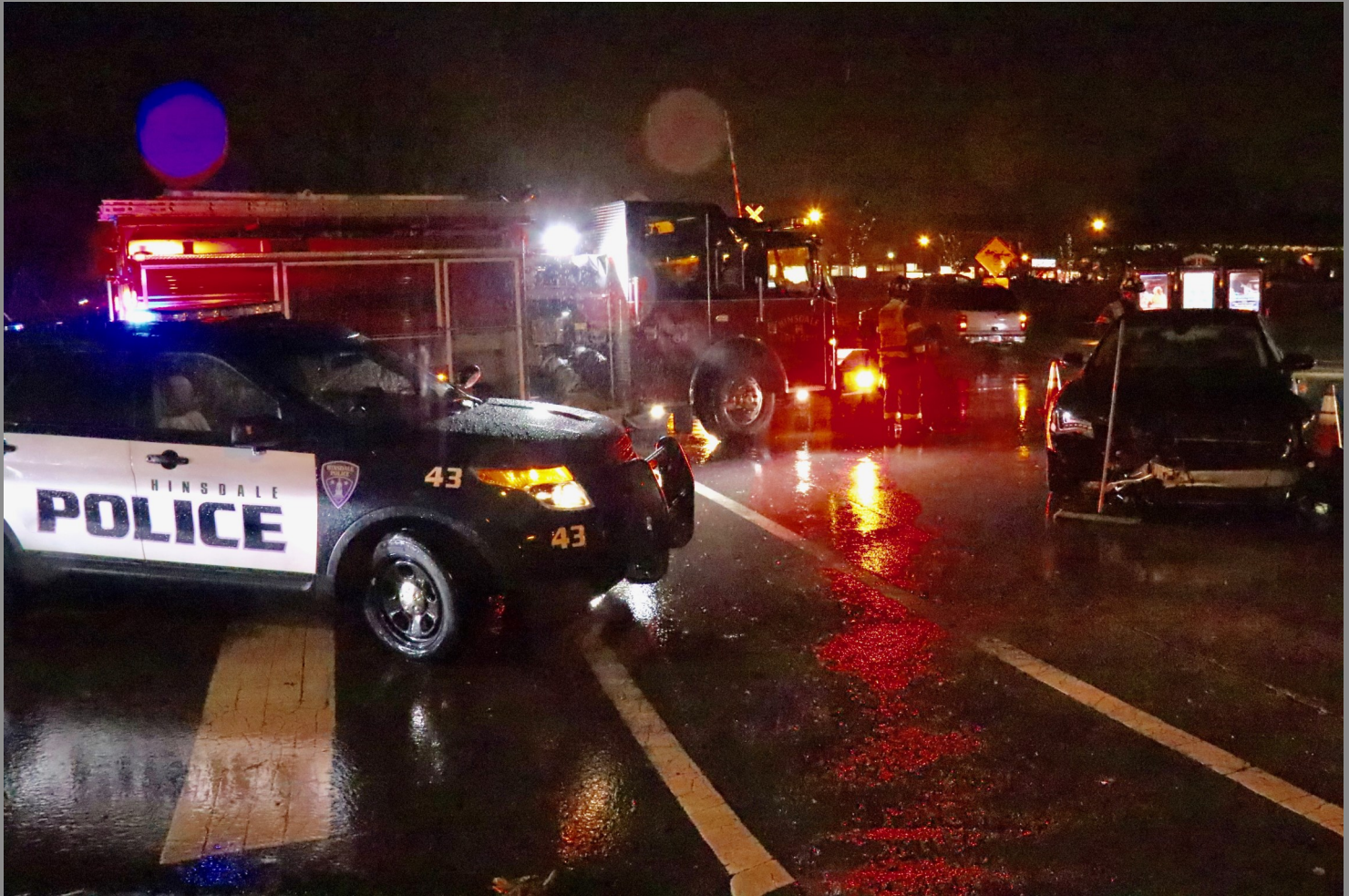
The jurisdictional issues around financial crimes tend to be complicated. Our Department continues to take the lead in cases where Hinsdale residents are impacted by Identity Theft or Unlawful Use of Credit Cards. And we will aggressively pursue charges in these matters. Our Department also offers resources to prevent these sorts of crimes, or to restore losses if already victimized. The Federal Trade Commission's [identitytheft.gov](https://www.ftc.gov/identitytheft) website is great place to learn more about these complex crimes.



The year by the numbers

| | 2020 | 3 Yr. Average | Selected Offenses | 2020 | 3 Yr. Average |
|-----------------------------------|--------|---------------|------------------------|------|---------------|
| Calls for Service | 14,590 | 15,597 | Vehicle Burglaries | 58 | 55 |
| Total Arrests | 285 | 278 | Residential Burglaries | 13 | 13 |
| Total Traffic Stops | 3,673 | 4,230 | Other Burglaries | 9 | 9 |
| Total Citations & Warnings Issued | 4,203 | 4,912 | Vehicle Thefts | 11 | 14 |
| | | | Theft | 253 | 164 |
| | | | Assault/Battery | 42 | 44 |
| | | | Robbery | 0 | 1 |

Traffic Safety



| Offense | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 |
|--|------|------|-------|-------|
| Disobeyed Traffic Control Device | 342 | 275 | 311 | 130 |
| Disobeyed Railroad Control Signal | 27 | 32 | 14 | 14 |
| Disobeyed Stop Sign | 655 | 463 | 392 | 239 |
| Improper Lane Usage | 361 | 379 | 342 | 196 |
| Driving while License Suspended/Revoked | 87 | 134 | 109 | 112 |
| Failure to Wear Seatbelt/Child Restraint | 96 | 126 | 173 | 24 |
| Failure to Yield | 120 | 134 | 136 | 73 |
| Speeding | 2211 | 2156 | 1,985 | 2,169 |
| Driving Under the Influence of Alcohol/Drugs | 68 | 77 | 67 | 76 |
| Insurance Violation | 113 | 102 | 113 | 142 |

| 2020Traffic Stops | | | | |
|--------------------------|-----------|-----|----------|-----|
| | Caucasian | | Minority | |
| Total Stops | 2,331 | 64% | 1,314 | 36% |
| Benchmark | 74.06% | | 25.94% | |
| Reason For Stop | | | | |
| | Caucasian | | Minority | |
| License/ Registration | 96 | 4% | 70 | 5% |
| Equipment Violation | 217 | 9% | 160 | 12% |
| Moving Violation | 2,018 | 87% | 1,084 | 82% |
| Outcome | | | | |
| | Caucasian | | Minority | |
| Warning | 1,319 | 57% | 674 | 51% |
| Citation | 1,012 | 43% | 640 | 49% |



Traffic stops and traffic enforcement are two of the most routine activities for our patrol officers. The goal is to create a safe environment for pedestrians and the motoring public and to detect and deter criminal activity. The police department conducted roughly 4,700 traffic stops in 2019, a slight increase from 2018. The State of Illinois requires law enforcement agencies to collect and publish traffic stop data. The Hinsdale Police Department prides itself on delivering professional bias free policing while maintaining the highest ethical standards.

Investigations

Our Investigations Division includes a Detective Sergeant, two Detectives, an Investigative Aide who handles Evidence and Property, a DARE/Juvenile/Crime Prevention, School Resource Officers, and an Administrative Services Coordinator.

The Investigations Division follows up on crimes of residential burglary, robbery, auto theft, unnatural deaths, financial schemes, sex crimes, school threats, identity theft, domestic violence, and other violent and property crimes. We assign detectives to a county-wide task force that handles homicides, officer-involved shootings, predatory child sex cases, and other complicated investigations.

Despite challenges from COVID-19, our investigators organized several efforts to connect criminal investigations related to metropolitan-wide crime sprees affecting Hinsdale. By working with other police departments, investigators maximize crime-fighting resources, such as the high-tech software and tools necessary to analyze data, connect cases, and identify criminal networks.

The Evidence and Property function maintains items collected at crime scenes, as well as found property. The unit oversees the processing of these items by laboratories, forensic units, and scientists. Evidence may include recovered weapons, automobiles used in crimes, DNA, fingerprints, sex assault kits, electronic devices, and digital media.

The School Resource Officer and Crime Prevention Officer/Juvenile functions provide public education and outreach programs: Bicycle Safety Rodeos, Drug Abuse Resistance Education (DARE), National Night Out, Department Open House, and Safety Village. This unit works within our schools and alongside our community partners to promote safety and share crime prevention tips.



Overnight Auto Burglaries and Stolen Automobiles

Overnight auto theft burglaries and stolen vehicle continued to impact the Village in 2020 .The lure of obtaining a luxury vehicle draws individuals to Hinsdale and other suburban communities. In most instances the theft of vehicles accrued because they were left unlocked with the key fobs inside. The police department has responded by increasing overnight patrols, tracking vehicle recovery locations, identifying and arresting the offender whenever possible. We ask that you do your part by locking your vehicle and removing the keys each and every night.



Training

Training in 2020 was impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, limiting officer participation in face-to-face courses or team scenarios for most of the calendar year. Albeit, members of the department were able to continue their learning and proficiency in alternative formats which included virtual and online format-based instruction. Officers completed mandated in-house training in criminal law and procedure, bias-free enforcement, use of force, pursuit and emergency vehicle driving, mental health assessment and crisis intervention, defensive tactics, and domestic violence. Officers also participate in annual proficiency training with their firearms and less-lethal weapons, including bean-bag shotguns, pepper spray, and baton. The department acquired and trained officers in new equipment, the TASER 7, the BOLA WRAP, and tire deflation devices (stop sticks). The new Taser allows for both close-range and longer-distance deployments, the BOLA WRAP is a device which deploys a rope which “wraps” suspects that are detained but non-cooperative with police commands to surrender, and the tire deflation devices are used to immobilize vehicles involved in serious crimes which are fleeing from officers.

Due to the increased frequency of public demonstrations in 2020, officers received training in crowd control and violent protestor apprehension techniques. Members of the department also established a department defensive tactics program. The program was developed to keep officers tactically proficient in the use of various hands-on restraint and control tactics which would limit the amount of necessary force to protect themselves and the arrestee. This program will continue.

Specialized training was also provided to certify some officers in the duties of Evidence Collection and Preservation, Breathalyzer Operator, Investigation of Cyber Tips, Street Crimes, and Crisis Intervention Team Training.



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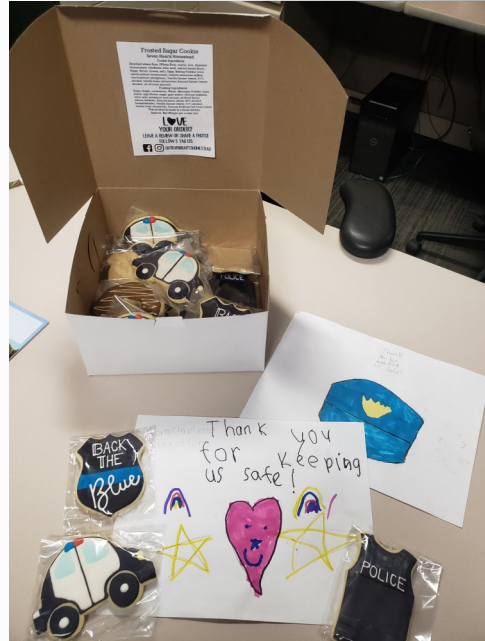
Hinsdale Police Department



Police department employees continued to work through periods of great uncertainty and fear through the COVID-19 pandemic followed by significant de-fund police protesting. During this time, maintaining psychological wellness was equally important to physical wellness. Supervisors and peer officers participated in both organized and informal training to keep officers from burnout and the negative psychological impacts these events can have on performance. Educational material is routinely distributed among peer officers.



Community Connections



Year 2020 was like no other but that did not stop us from being involved and supporting our local community events. Above, Juvenile Officer Karen Kowal proudly supports and celebrates our 2020 Graduates.



Virtual Station Tour

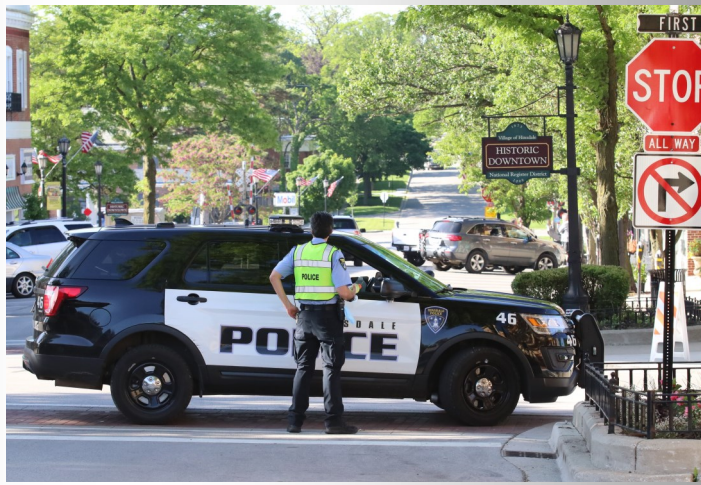


Due to COVID –19 restrictions we were unable to host our annual open house event in-person. We invite you to scan this QR code to view the video and join us on the virtual tour of our police station.



Peaceful Demonstrations 2020





In 2020, three peaceful demonstrations were held within our downtown and business districts requiring additional resources from surrounding towns to ensure the safety of all .

We thank the following agencies that provided support and staff: *Clarendon Hills PD, Willowbrook PD, Western Spring PD, Burr Ridge PD, Oak brook PD, Darien PD.*

Department Services

Hinsdale Police Officers respond to emergency and non-emergency calls 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. They assist individuals that come to the police department that wish to make a report, get advice about a situation or simply speak to an officer about something. In addition to these traditional police services, the police department offers its residents a variety of other services and resources to help foster a safe environment in Hinsdale.

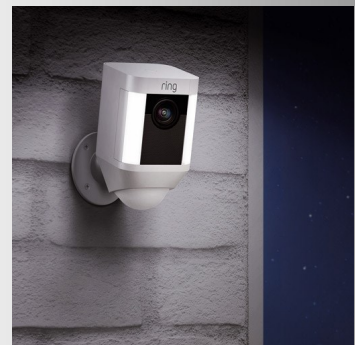
Special Needs Program The Persons with Special Needs Identification Program was created to assist residents of Hinsdale who may be at a greater risk of becoming confused, disoriented, lost or missing. This program is designed to provide the Hinsdale Police Department with the necessary information that will allow them to make faster identifications, reunite family members more quickly, and provide help to persons with special needs without delay. The police will collect and store photographs, emergency contact information, and other personal information relevant to the special needs for someone with physical or mental disabilities. The information contained in this database is used only for emergency responders for the purpose of identifying and locating an individual who is reported missing or found wandering.

No Soliciting Sticker These stickers for your home or business are available free of charge at the Police Department.



You Are Not Alone The You Are Not Alone (YANA) program is a free service to senior citizens who live alone and would benefit from someone checking on them on a regular basis. Independent, single residents enrolled in the program are called weekly for updates on important information about the community and to have their well-being checked. The program does not provide any medical assistance, service, or advice.

Block Watch Program Block Watch enlists the help of residents who have home outdoor video cameras to solve neighborhood crimes. Investigators have found when canvassing a neighborhood after a crime has occurred that a home video system may have captured a picture of a suspect and/or a vehicle. This can be an *extremely* valuable lead that can help in an investigation and may lead to an arrest. The Block Watch program is voluntary and asks residents who have outdoor surveillance cameras to register their camera with the Police Department. If a crime occurs in the neighborhood, we will ask you to check your camera system to see if you captured a picture that may aid in our investigation. The program has already helped with the identification of suspects in various cases. There is no charge to participate in the program and program participants will be kept confidential.

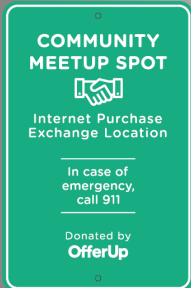


Car Seats Installation and Inspections

Community Service Officer Nina Szaflarski is a certified child passenger technician. Car seat inspections can be done upon scheduled appointment.



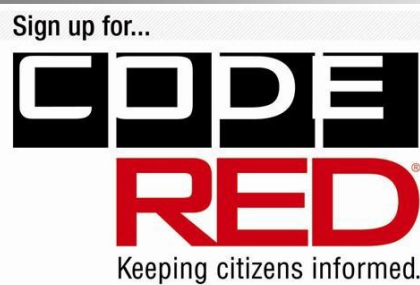
Fingerprinting Staff at the Hinsdale Police Department can provide ink and paper fingerprinting services. The fee is \$10 for residents, and \$25 for non-residents.



Meetup Spot The Hinsdale Police Department foyer is now a designated meet up spot for secure transactions for buyers and sellers from online marketplaces. The foyer is an accessible, well-lit, surveilled area that eliminates the need for two strangers to exchange items at a home or residence. Having a designated public space to conduct a transaction can help deter criminal intent and activity.

Drug Take Back Bin The Hinsdale Police Department has partnered with the Cook County Sheriff's Office to utilize their free Prescription Drug Take Back Program. There is a collection box located in the Hinsdale Police Department that can be accessed during lobby hours, which are Monday through Friday 9am - 6pm and Saturday 9am - 2pm. For your safety and the safety of the environment, drop off unused or expired prescription and non-prescription drugs with no questions asked to make sure they get disposed of safely. No needles or liquids are to be put in the collection bin.

**COOK COUNTY SHERIFF'S
PRESCRIPTION DRUG
TAKE BACK PROGRAM**



Community Electronic Notification Program

The Community Alert Network enables the Hinsdale Police Department to use e-mail, text, and/or voice call to send our pertinent community information, including crime or criminal information, street closings, utility notices, missing person flyers or other emergency information that may affect community members or the Village of Hinsdale. These in-

formative alerts are meant to educate the public, reduce fear, increase the chance that criminals will be caught, and help prevent future occurrences of crime. To register for the Community Alert Network, residents can visit and register at the online webpage which can be found at www.villageofhinsdale.org

Professional Standards

The Hinsdale Police Department is an accredited law enforcement agency, meaning we voluntarily meet an established set of professional standards through the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA) which requires:

- Comprehensive and uniform written directives that clearly define authority, performance, and responsibilities
- Reports and analysis to make fact-based and informed management decisions.
- Preparedness to address natural or man-made critical incidents
- Community relationship-building and maintenance
- Independent review by subject matter experts
- Continuous pursuit of excellence through annual reviews and other assessment

Vehicle Pursuits

Vehicle Pursuits

In 2020 there were 18 motor vehicle pursuits. This was an increase from five the prior year. On dozens of other occasions offenders associated with overnight burglaries and thefts fled after making contact with one of our squads, but no pursuit was initiated. The overriding responsibility of the Hinsdale Police Department is protect human life and property. When the risk for human life and property begin to outweigh the benefits of an arrest, officer are directed to terminate those pursuits.

The proliferations of chases in our jurisdiction is related to an increase in overnight activity with subjects that are increasingly shown to be armed during their crimes. The Hinsdale Police will engage offenders seeking to commit crimes in the community. We will balance the risk of the pursuit against the benefits of the arrest and prosecution. Each and every pursuit is reviewed at multiple levels of the organization to ensure that officers are complying with department policy and direction.

| Year | Motor Vehicle Pursuits |
|------|------------------------|
| 2017 | 2 |
| 2018 | 4 |
| 2019 | 5 |
| 2020 | 18 |

Use of Force

There were 14 Use of Force Incidents in 2020 down from 16 in 2019. Seven those involved arrest situations, and seven involved an individual that was highly intoxicated or having a mental health crises where the contact was intended to prevent self-harm. In 2020 the Hinsdale Police Department responded to over 14 thousand calls for service. Our use of force is exceedingly rare and our priority to safeguard citizens, arrestee's and police officers. In addition, our Officers engage and practice in de-escalation training and hands-on Use of Force training annually aimed at reducing the incidents when force becomes necessary and, if necessary, limits the risk to officers and arrestees.

| Type of Incident | Force Utilized |
|--|--------------------|
| Battery/Underage Alcohol Consumption | Empty Hand Control |
| Driving Under the Influence (x3 instances) | Empty Hand Control |
| Domestic Battery (x3 instances) | Empty Hand Control |
| Reckless discharge of a firearm | Empty Hand Control |
| Violation of order of protection | Empty Hand Control |

M.E.R.I.T.

M.E.R.I.T. stands for Metropolitan Emergency Response and Investigations Team. It is a consolidation of the law enforcement specialty teams within DuPage County. The MERIT components include:

- SWAT
- Crisis Negotiation Team (CNT)
- Canine Response Unit (CRU)
- Incident Management Assistance Team (IMAT)
- Planned Events
- Major Crash Reconstruction Team (MCRT)
- Major Crimes Unit (MCU)
- Public Integrity Team (PIT)
- Forensics Investigation Unit (FIU)
- Digital Forensics Unit (DFU)



The Hinsdale Police Department has an officer assigned to the SWAT team (Officer Berland), Crisis Negotiation Team (Sergeant Krefft), Major Crash Reconstruction Team (Officer McElroy) and members of our investigations unit can respond with the Major Crimes Unit and Forensics and Investigation Units as needed depending on where and what the crime is.

Our SWAT team member participates in twice a month training and our Crisis Negotiation team member participates in monthly training.

ILEAS

ILEAS stands for Illinois Law Enforcement Alarm System. It is another entity of mutual aid and emergency response to combine resources within Illinois. We have an officer assigned to this organization in the Mobile Field Force (Officer



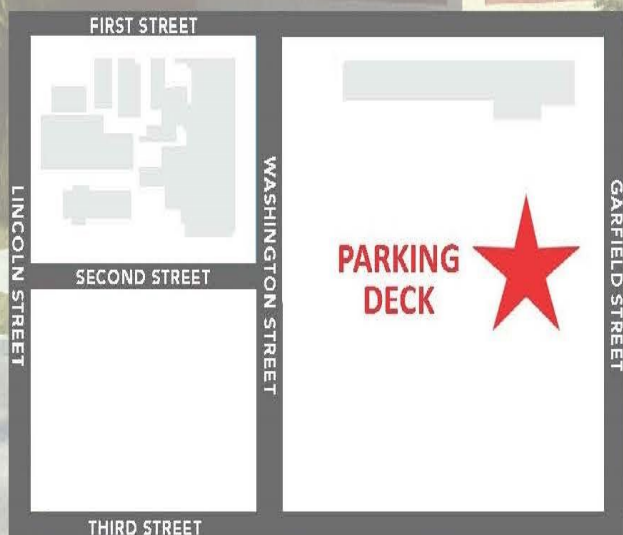
Mazepa) which is a civil disorder and large crowd control team. He participates in monthly training that involve arrest and control tactics, strategical formations and movements, as well as firearms training, first aid, and physical training. In 2019, there were ILEAS activations/personnel requests for planned protests, marathons, and man power assistance in St. Louis dealing with area flooding.

Internal Investigations

There were no internal investigations filed against a department in 2020.

Beginning July 16, 2020

Village of
Hinsdale
Parking Deck
Now Open!



To access free parking
Enter lot off Garfield,
just South of First Street