# WILMETTE POLICE DEPARTMENT ANNUAL REPORT 2020

WILMETTE



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# Letter from the Chief

The men and women of the Wilmette Police Department are dedicated to serving with compassion and empathy. Officers of the Wilmette Police Department are a highly skilled, trained and dedicated group of professionals who pride themselves on community engagement efforts which foster meaningful interactions with our residents, visitors and businesses. The Wilmette Police Department is committed to the principle that all individuals will be treated with dignity and respect.

2020 marked the beginning of the Coronavirus global pandemic. While this pandemic touched the lives of every citizen, it proved especially difficult for essential workers. As law enforcement officers, we found ourselves with the challenging task of having to effectively



provide critical police services while protecting the general public, residents, our employees and their families. Due to the selfless efforts of our dedicated staff and through the support of our community, we were able to accomplish these goals. We found encouragement through public donations of protective personal equipment and grateful messages. Additionally, many members of the community supported local businesses through meal donations to Village personnel, including police and fire. The community support was overwhelming.

Following a police-involved homicide in Minneapolis, MN which resulted in the death of George Floyd, we saw a national level of civil unrest and anti-police sentiment that I have not witnessed in my career. This was a horrific incident resulting in the loss of human life and those responsible are necessarily being held accountable. While tragic, my hope is this incident will be used to promote positive dialogue and thoughtful change. I fully support additional officer training, transparency, and accountability in policing and strongly believe that racial bias has no place in policing or in our community. The Wilmette Police Department has a long and proud history of professionalism, promoting the highest standards of policing and respecting all individuals regardless of their race, ethnicity, gender, religion, or sexual orientation. We are actively working to support legislative and policy changes that ensure transparency and accountability in policing while also recognizing the rights of crime victims and preserving the constitutional rights of all those we serve.

During the period of civil unrest, Wilmette Police personnel volunteered to work extra hours and days to provide additional staffing, both locally and regionally, to help protect citizens, property, and businesses. We are a proud organization in a noble profession. Members of this Department consistently demonstrate a commitment to providing professional law enforcement services, ethically and impartially, to all people and to the residents of the Village of Wilmette, the source of our authority.

Sincerely,

Kyle Murphy, Chief of Police

This report is meant to provide a snapshot of the agency and provide some benchmark data for crime in the community.

# **Mission Statement**

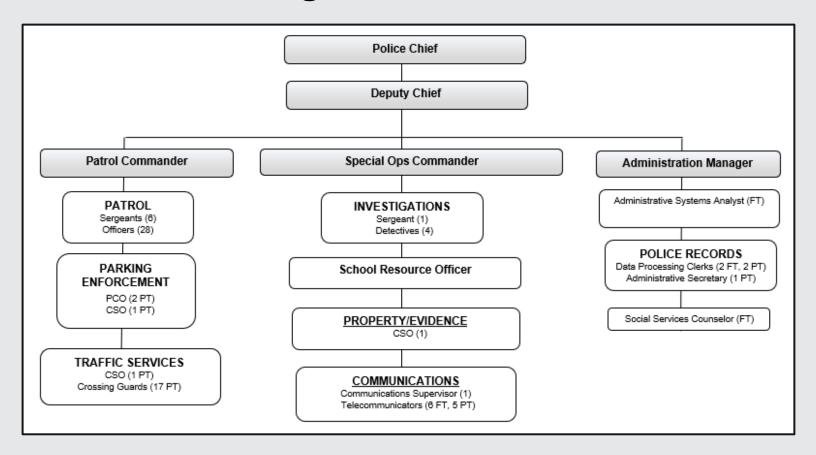
The Wilmette Police Department is dedicated to providing impartial law enforcement, community-oriented services and police protection to all persons in the Village, while maintaining the highest ethical and professional standards.

# Value Statement & Guiding Principles

The Wilmette Police Department has foundational values and pledges it commits to:

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

# 2020 Wilmette Police Department Organizational Chart



The Wilmette Police Department is a full-service law enforcement agency established by ordinance in 1886. In 1986 it became one of the first law enforcement agencies in the country to obtain Law Enforcement Accreditation from the Commission of Law Enforcement Accreditation (CALEA). It has subsequently been reaccredited by the Commission by consistently adhering to standards of professionalism outlined by the commission and allowing CALEA Assessors to conduct an annual review of the agency's policies and practices on a four-year reaccreditation award cycle. We are one of just 4% of law enforcement agencies in the United States that has sought and maintained an Accreditation Status and one of select few that has maintained Accreditation from its inception in the 1980's. This outside agency evaluation covers over 400 standards of the best policies and practices in law enforcement. This includes areas such as use of force, rights of citizens and detainees, diversionary programs, biased-based policing, community relations and internal affairs.

# Village of Wilmette Profile

The Village of Wilmette is located approximately 15 miles north of downtown Chicago. The Village extends five miles west from Lake Michigan and is approximately one mile wide. What started as a small rural farming community in 1872 is now home to over 27,000 residents.

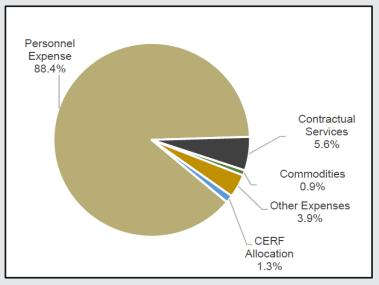
Wilmette is a vibrant community where citizens, civic organizations, businesses and local governments work together to ensure the community retains its hometown identity, high quality of life and natural beauty. The Village is a home rule community with a Village President and Board of Trustees elected at large and a Village Manager who is responsible for the day to day operations of the Village.

For more information, visit: www.wilmette.com

# Police Department Budget

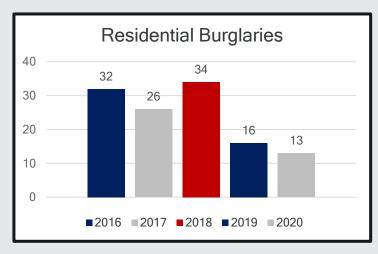
The Wilmette Police Department's operating budget is approximately 10 million dollars, which is approved by the Board of Trustees. Personnel services include support staff such as a Social Services Counselor, Records Clerks, and 9-1-1 Tele-Communicators. The Wilmette Police Department remains one of the lowest staffed agencies for sworn officer per 1,000 residents in the area.

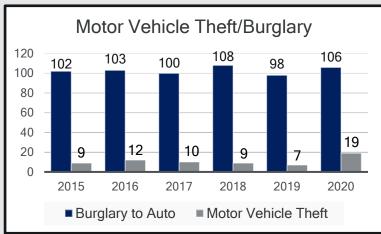
| Expense by Category  | Budget<br>FY2020 |
|----------------------|------------------|
| Personnel Expense    | 8,659,930        |
| Contractual Services | 537,685          |
| Commodities          | 86,750           |
| Other Expenses       | 388,695          |
| CERF Allocation      | 125,690          |
| Capital Outlay       | -                |
| TOTAL BUDGET         | 9,798,750        |



# **Burglary**

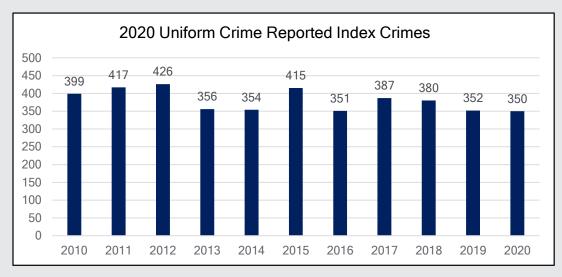
Burglaries continue to be of concern. Of the 106 Burglary to Auto cases, only 10 of the motor vehicles were locked. Citizens are reminded to Hide valuables, Take their keys, and Lock their doors.





# **Uniform Crime Reporting & Index Crimes**

Crimes are counted through the Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program. The UCR program was developed in 1930 so that city, county and state law enforcement agencies would be able to provide the FBI with standard crime statistics. UCR crime statistics are used in many ways. Law enforcement agencies use the statistics in operation, management and administration. The UCR program classifies offenses using specific definitions to eliminate differences among various states' definitions of crimes. A community's crime index, or "crime rate" is based upon the total number of "Part 1" crimes. Part 1 crimes include murder, forcible rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, theft, motor vehicle theft and arson.



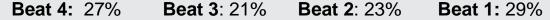
| Department Performance Measures |        |        |        |        |                          |  |
|---------------------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------------------------|--|
| Description                     | 2016   | 2017   | 2018   | 2019   | <b>2020</b> <sup>†</sup> |  |
| Total Calls for Service         | 18,398 | 18,528 | 20,285 | 21,542 | 17,468                   |  |
| Part I Offenses (most serious)  | 351    | 387    | 380    | 352    | 350                      |  |
| Other Offenses                  | 412    | 378    | 429    | 526    | 665                      |  |
| Traffic Crash Investigations    | 806    | 751    | 788    | 713    | 367                      |  |
| Traffic Citations               | 1,576  | 1,768  | 2,104  | 1,759  | 793                      |  |
| Parking Citations               | 7,892  | 7,394  | 7,315  | 5,316  | 3,053                    |  |
| Adult Arrests                   | 331    | 226    | 338    | 318    | 186                      |  |
| Juvenile Arrests                | 74     | 43     | 32     | 44     | 29                       |  |
| DUI Arrests                     | 46     | 29     | 34     | 32     | 29                       |  |

<sup>†</sup> The impact of COVID-19 is evident in the statistics for 2020. Due to reduced travel, restricted public interactions, and general health & safety concerns, the Department saw a significant decrease in the number of calls for services, as well as certain services rendered.

# Incident Volume by Beat

In 2020 the Wilmette Police Department handled 17,468 calls for service. The majority of calls for service were from the public requesting officer assistance and included some officer generated activity.

Officers respond to a variety of priority calls from the public and also engage in an assortment of self-initiated activities like business checks, traffic details, community presentations, and foot patrols. Officers are assigned a patrol beat each day but may respond to other areas of town as dictated by the severity of the call and volume.



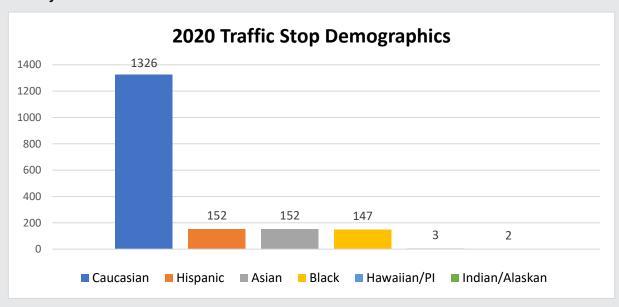


<sup>\*</sup> Pending District Court cases impacted the ability to enforce certain parking restrictions since 2019.

# Illinois Traffic Stop Study 2020

During 2020 the Wilmette Police conducted 1,973 traffic stops. This was over a 50% decrease in activity which was due to the pandemic. The table below summarizes data for stops, and the result of the stop (citation /warning).

The outcomes of these stops are consistent with a fair and impartial application of authority and discretion.



|             | 2020 Traffic Stop Outcome |         |         |           |
|-------------|---------------------------|---------|---------|-----------|
|             | Caucasian                 | Drivers | Minorit | y Drivers |
| Total Stops | 1326                      | 74%     | 456     | 26%       |
| Citation    | 309                       | 23%     | 129     | 28%       |
| Warning     | 1017                      | 77%     | 327     | 72%       |

The Illinois Department of Transportation is responsible for the collection and compilation of data. Additional information can be found <a href="here">here</a>.

# **Bias-Free Policing**

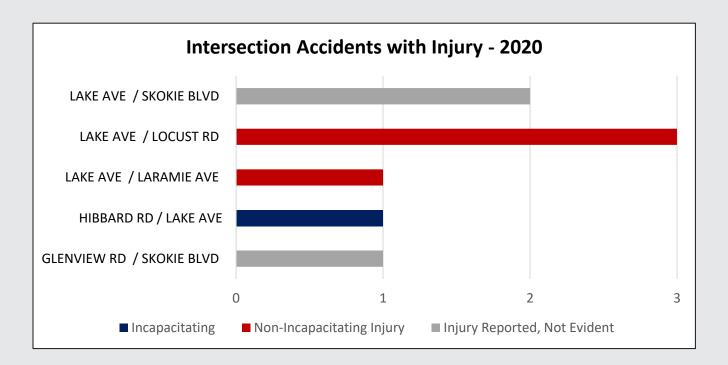
As part of our commitment to bias-free policing practices, we conduct annual training and analyze traffic and pedestrian stop data to help determine if any issues exist or if any additional training is needed.

An analysis of data revealed no negative pattern or trend of bias based practices. Specifically, there were no statistical differences in the outcomes of discretionary stops between how Minority populations were treated in comparison to Caucasian drivers. Additionally, there were no bias based policing complaints filed during 2020.

# **Traffic Services Statistics**

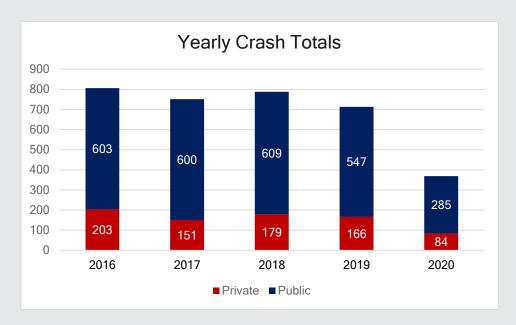
The traffic enforcement philosophy of the Wilmette Police Department remains focused on promoting traffic safety at high accident locations, in school zones and in areas where residents have voiced concerns. We continue to work with the public on safe driving habits through education and enforcement.

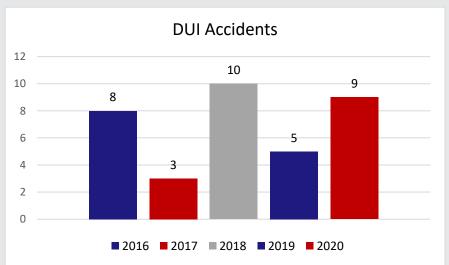
| Top 10 Accident Intersections | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 |
|-------------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|
| LAKE AVE / SKOKIE BLVD        | 25   | 34   | 26   | 19   | 14   |
| ILLINOIS RD / SKOKIE BLVD     | 12   | 9    | 18   | 10   | 3    |
| LAKE AVE / LOCUST RD          | 12   | 8    | 14   | 6    | 6    |
| GREEN BAY RD / LINDEN AVE     | 5    | 9    | 12   | 4    | 2    |
| RIDGE RD / WILMETTE AVE       | 10   | 15   | 12   | 12   | 4    |
| GLENVIEW RD / SKOKIE BLVD     | 17   | 15   | 12   | 10   | 5    |
| LAKE AVE / RIDGE RD           | 8    | 10   | 12   | 5    | 1    |
| GREEN BAY RD / LAKE AVE       | 9    | 18   | 10   | 7    | 2    |
| LAKE AVE / LARAMIE AVE        | 5    | 23   | 10   | 10   | 6    |
| HIBBARD RD / LAKE AVE         | 9    | 14   | 10   | 7    | 3    |



Residents may contact our Non-Emergency number at 847-256-1200 should they have a traffic concern, request additional traffic enforcement or inquire on the placement of a temporary speed display.

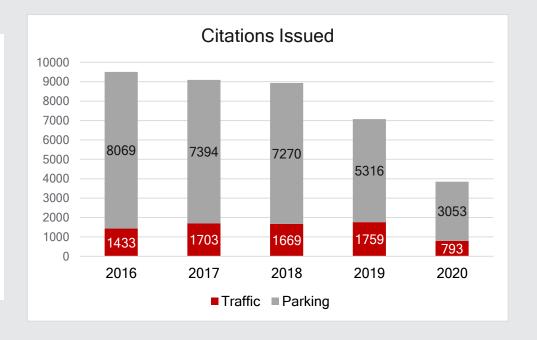
Speed, backing, and improper turning continue to be frequent contributing factors to accidents.





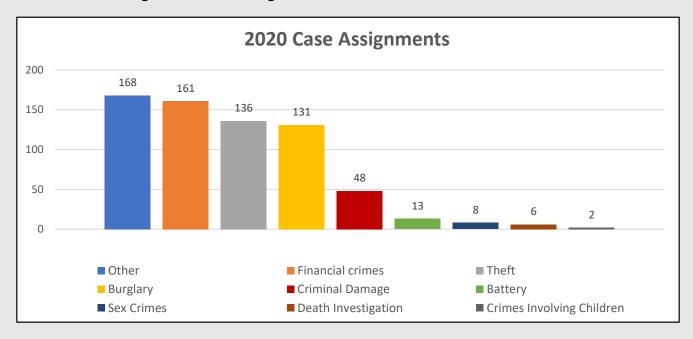
In 2020, most of the DUI accidents occurred between 4:00 pm and 6:00 pm. In all but one crash, the driver was the sole occupant of the vehicle.

Throughout the year, the Wilmette Police Department participated in several traffic campaigns focused on occupant restraint, speed, distracted driving and DUI enforcement.



# **Investigations Division**

The Investigations Division is comprised of a Sergeant, four Detectives, and one School Resource Officer. Detectives specialize in the investigation of deaths as well as crimes such as burglary, robbery, assault and battery, auto theft, and identity theft. During the course of an investigation, Detectives may be called upon to interview victims, witnesses, suspects and offenders, and to examine crime scenes for physical evidence with which to identify suspects. In 2020, there were 673 cases assigned for investigation.



- \* Financial crimes include fraud, forgery, identity theft, and unlawful use of credit cards
- \*\* Theft includes regular theft and retail theft
- \*\*\* Burglary cases include residential, commercial, and non-residential properties

Investigators are assigned to follow up on crimes that were initially reported to the uniformed patrol division. A case might be assigned to a particular investigator due to on-call status or because it involves his/her area of expertise. Investigators are subject to call-in 24 hours/day, 7 days/week, and members of the division are also sometimes called upon to work with other local, state, or Federal agencies to assist with more serious or complex cases. Detectives also conduct background checks for potential Village employees.

# 2020 Wilmette Police Significant Investigations

#### **Bank Robbery**

In January the Bank of America was robbed by an unknown offender. The subject's picture was sent to local news agencies and police departments and Wilmette Investigators working with the FBI received several tips on the identity of the offender. An arrest warrant was obtained, and the offender was taken into custody and charged federally with Bank Robbery.

#### **Garage Burglary**

In February two unknown offenders entered an attached garage and stole a vehicle. The vehicle was recovered the following day and processed by Wilmette Evidence technicians. Two juvenile suspects were developed, one as a result of recovered DNA evidence. One of the juvenile suspects was arrested and charged and the second has several outstanding warrants for similar crimes.

#### Auto Theft

In March Wilmette Investigators assisted in a collaborative effort with several area police agencies to address the increasing auto theft pattern affecting suburban towns. The investigation culminated in two search warrants being served on residences in the south suburbs. Seven offenders were taken into custody with four firearms and stolen vehicle being recovered.

### **Residential Burglary**

In May a suspect was interrupted by the homeowner while committing a residential burglary in Northfield. The offender fled the scene in their vehicle while being pursued by the victim. While traveling through Wilmette the offender ran a red light and crashed into a vehicle before continuing to flee. Wilmette Police located the offending vehicle shortly thereafter disabled and parked in a business lot in Wilmette. The joint Wilmette and Northfield investigation identified the suspect and a warrant was issued for his arrest. He was later arrested in Ohio after fleeing the state and is being held on local charges. After those cases are concluded he will be held for extradition back to Illinois to face his charges here.

#### Sex Offenses Involving a Minor

In July, a juvenile victim reported being sexually abused by an adult in Wilmette. A second victim was later identified who made similar reports of abuse. A search warrant was obtained and served on the home of the offender in Wilmette. Evidence was recovered related to the victim's reports as well as images of child pornography. Numerous felony charges for sex related crimes involving a minor were filed against the adult subject.

### **School Resource Officer**

One sworn officer is assigned as the School Resource Officer. The SRO acts as a liaison to each of the public and private schools in the Village which includes two high schools, two parochial grammar schools, a private primary school and seven public schools. The SRO conducts staff training and grade specific education classes on safety and personal responsibility. The SRO is an investigating officer for juvenile related issues for school aged children

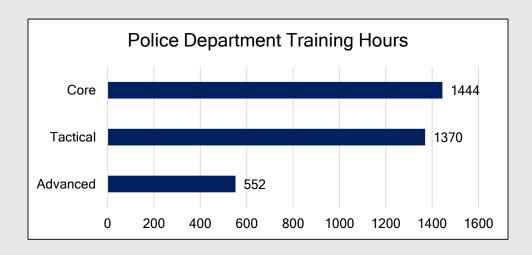


in the community and coordinates the police department's role in DCFS investigations. This position has also evolved into the primary resource of emergency preparedness planning and training for all schools which includes observations of state mandated safety drills and exercises.

# **Training**

The Wilmette Police Department is committed to maintaining well trained and professional police officers through continual high-quality training and education. In addition to state mandated training from the Illinois Law Enforcement Training and Standards Board, Wilmette Officers attend in-house and regional classes on many subjects to include: legal updates, crisis intervention, mental health awareness, scenario based and decision making strategies, de-escalation techniques, and the use of force.

In 2020, the Department provided a total of 3,366 hours of training to officers. Over 500 hours were spent on advanced training such as Incident Command, and Crime Scene Reconstruction. Nearly 1,400 department training hours were devoted to specialized/tactical training.



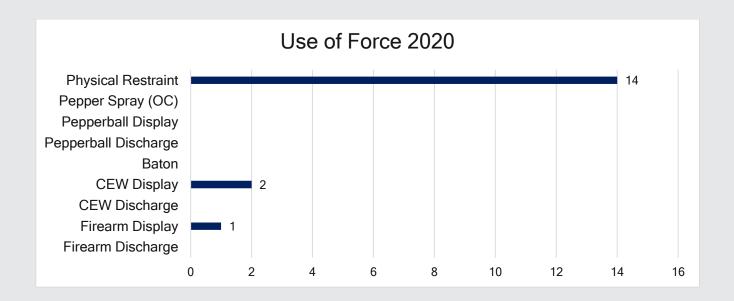
# Recruitment

The Wilmette Police Department is dedicated to recruiting, selecting, training and retaining the highest quality police officer and support staff. The Village of Wilmette is an Equal Opportunity Employer and the WPD actively recruits any qualified person regardless of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, or age. It is our goal to obtain a work force consisting of the most qualified people who proportionally reflect the makeup of the available workforce in the area.

WPD prioritizes officer education with 100% of the sworn officers having a fouryear college degree. Several officers have postgraduate degrees and one supervisor with a law degree. WPD began recruiting college graduates in 1970, making a four year college degree a requirement of hire as of 1991. Less than 4% of applicants seeking employment are hired as officers. 16% of the sworn officers are female. Currently ten employees have foreign language skills in the following languages: Farsi Korean Persian Swedish Spanish and Tagalog.

# **Use of Force**

There were 12 use of force incidents in 2020: Three occurrences were related to assault/battery calls, three were for theft incidents, three were for mental health crises, two were for traffic violations, and one was an order of protection violation. Of the 12 incidents, 8 subjects had a prior criminal history. All incidents in 2020 were found to be justified, and in accordance with department policy and state law. There were no complaints of excessive force in 2020.



#### 2020 Use of Force Incidents

| Physical Restraint | 14 (82%) |
|--------------------|----------|
| Firearm Displayed  | 1 (6%)   |
| ECW Displayed      | 2 (12%)  |

<sup>\*</sup> Note three incidents involved multiple types of force used

Firearm/CEW Displayed: All officer displays of a firearm or CEW were an appropriate response to the actions of the suspects or involved armed/reportedly armed suspects.

Merely displaying the weapon ended the incident without further use of force

# Complaints/Internal Investigations

Police Department employees are expected to conduct themselves in a professional manner at all times and in accordance with the Department's mission, values, policies and procedures. Any individual may submit complaints against a member(s) of the Police Department. Complaints can be submitted anonymously if preferred. All complaints are thoroughly investigated. This includes interviewing the complainant, witnesses, officer(s) involved, and a review of available audio/ video recordings. Incidents involving an accusation of sexual assault, officer involved shooting, or an in-custody death would be investigated by outside agencies.

Findings for internal investigations are classified in one of the following dispositions: Sustained, Not Sustained, Unfounded, Exonerated.

In 2020, there were four external complaints received alleging conduct violations by Wilmette Police Department employees: two were exonerated and two were withdrawn. There were two internal procedural issues: both were sustained.

# Records

Records The Section is responsible for the processing, distribution, and retention of police all documents. These documents include offense reports, crash reports, traffic citations, arrest and search warrants and any supporting documents. The Records Section also serves as a citizen support center taking calls and speaking face

|                               | 2016  | 2017  | 2018  | 2019  | 2020  |
|-------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Case Reports                  | 1,631 | 1,592 | 1,670 | 1,710 | 1,825 |
| Accident Reports              | 806   | 751   | 792   | 713   | 369   |
| FOIA Requests                 | 260   | 226   | 297   | 268   | 284   |
| Court Ordered<br>Expungements | 72    | 71    | 53    | 61    | 29    |
| Parking Tickets               | 7,892 | 7,394 | 7,315 | 5,316 | 3,053 |
| False Alarms                  | 1,025 | 1,025 | 837   | 821   | 580   |

to face with the citizens and visitors of Wilmette. The Records Section receives and processes Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests related to police activity, handles parking violation complaints, and directs citizens to the appropriate officer for incident related complaints. Much of 2020 was spent responding to the new Automatic Expungement law for juvenile records.

# Communications

The Wilmette Emergency Communications Center is staffed 24 hours a day 365 days of the year. The Emergency Communications Center, or Dispatch as it is commonly called, receives calls from citizens via both 911 and non-emergency telephone numbers. Calls are screened to determine the need for police, fire and/or ambulance assistance and whether a response is required.

The Wilmette Police Department uses a call priority and classification system to

ensure that those needing help most urgently get the fastest possible response. All telephone and radio conversations involving the Emergency Communications operations are recorded and strict attention to accuracy, speed and quality are maintained. The Emergency Communications Center is staffed by full time and part time telecommunicators.



# Illinois Special Olympics

The Wilmette Police Department is one of the most active departments in the state with Special Olympics. In 2020 WPD collected \$16,810 in donations. WPD participated in the Polar Plunge, Plane Pull, Cop on Rooftop, and Torch Run fundraising efforts. The Wilmette Police Department received a Gold Medal for our fundraising efforts in 2020.









# **Open House**

The Wilmette Police Department typically hosts their annual Open House in the spring. The Police Department, in conjunction with the Wilmette Historical Museum, opens its doors for tours, photo ops, vehicle displays, special team presentations, and more. We plan on this event returning in 2022.



# **Social Media**

The Wilmette Police Department is on Social Media. We have an account with Nextdoor, Facebook, and Twitter so we can better communicate and connect with you about safety tips, crime alerts, etc.

Come check us out:







# Smart911

The Wilmette Police Department offers <u>Smart911</u>, a free service to individuals. This new system has a dual purpose: first, it allows you to create a Safety Profile which provides important information to first responders in emergencies, and second, it acts as the Village's emergency alert notification system.







# Safety Profile

#### What is a Smart911 Safety Profile?

Smart 911 is a free, opt-in service in which you create a Safety Profile. You provide information that you want 911 and first responders to have in the event of an emergency. When anyone in your household dials 911 from a landline or cellphone associated with their Safety Profile, their profile is immediately displayed to the emergency dispatcher. Your Safety Profile is secure and confidential, and is only accessible to emergency responders after you dial 911.

# Some of the information that could be life-saving includes:

- · Home & work addresses
- · Medications & medical equipment
- · Pets, service animals
- · Phone numbers of your family members
- · People living in your household
- · Medical conditions and allergies
- Vehicle descriptions
- Emergency contacts

# **Emergency Alerts and Village Service Notifications**

Can I register for Wilmette-specific alerts and notifications through Smart911? Yes - In your Safety Profile, you can choose to receive the notifications via phone call, text, e-mail or through the mobile app. When using the app, the system provides you real-time information based on your location. In addition to Wilmette specific alerts, the system allows you to opt-in to notifications from other local public safety agencies and the National Weather Service based on your location.

#### WILMETTE POLICE PERSONNEL ROSTER

#### Chief of Police

Murphy, Kyle

#### Deputy Chief

Collins, Patrick

#### Commanders

Robinson, Michael McGarry, Michael

#### Sergeants

Girard, Landon Sweet, David Ockrim, Roger Trage, Edmund Mercado, Alex Clark, Michael Gehrken, Solveig

#### Police Officers

Pasquesi, James Bullock, Sally Cavanagh, Connor Davis, Valerie Neubauer, Chris Gamba, Mark Kutschke, Jeffrey Golden, Brian Weinman, Carly Hornbacher, Josh Jurmu, Andrew Stenger, Brandon Monk, Russell Perez, José Slywka, Travis Barry, Matthew Handrick, Luke Favela, Michelle Folkerts, Robert Sokolnik, Jon Kiddle, Kevin Olivo, Maria

#### Rizzo, Nicholas Bell, Jeffrey Demos, Michael Falk, John Botterman, Tim Leigh, Stephen

Santana, Ray

Parisi, Julie Pavely, Raimond

Przekota, Chris

McGuire, Elizabeth

#### CIVILIAN PERSONNEL

#### Parking Control

Allen Stec

#### Community Service Officers

Halley, Gerald Eder, Steven Welter, Thomas

#### Social Service Counselor

Aron, Nellie

#### Communications Supervisor

Peterson, Eric

#### Data Processing Operators

Miller, Joan Cipolla, Chris (P/T) Janowiak, Emily

#### Administrative Secretary

Budd, Susan

#### **Telecommunicators**

Miagusko, George Serbe, Nigel (P/T) McGarry, Lynda Rigas, Basil Siegel, Matt (P/T) Weiner, Barry Kopecky, Chris (P/T) King, Freddie Alvarez, Bruno (P/T)

#### Administration Manager

Perley, Emma

#### Admin. Systems Analyst

Sam Walker