

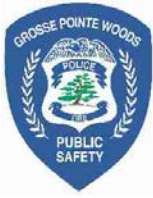
City of Grosse Pointe Woods
Department of Public Safety
Annual Report
2018



TABLE OF CONTENTS

Preface - Director's Letter

Mission Statement	1
Introduction	2
Department Personnel	3
Organization Chart	4
Total Incidents	5
Index Crimes Breakdown	6
Non-Index Crimes Breakdown	7
Index & Non-Index Crimes Totals	8
Crime & Arrest Totals	9
Moving & Meter Violations	10
Traffic & Pedestrian Accidents	11
Department Training	12
Fire Operations	13
Emergency Medical Services	14
Detective Bureau	15
Special Response Team	16
Auxiliary Unit - Crossing Guards	17
Promotions	18
Officer & Supervisor of the Year	19
Honors & Awards	20
Public Safety Open House	21 - 22
Prayer	23



CITY OF GROSSE POINTE WOODS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY



John G. Kosanke, Director
20025 Mack Plaza
Grosse Pointe Woods, MI 48236-2397

May 06, 2019

Mayor Robert Novitke
Grosse Pointe Woods, MI 48236

Dear Mayor and City Council,

On behalf of the members of the Department of Public Safety, I am pleased to present the Annual Report for 2018 showing the crime statistics of the Grosse Pointe Woods Department of Public Safety. The department has continued to perform to the best of its ability to maintain safety for the community.

2018 was an especially active year packed with major renovation projects to our prisoner lock-up, Dispatch and Detective Bureau areas. Due to the magnitude of the jail cell project, the construction is still in its final stages but is expected to be completed by the time this report is published. The costs are being covered by funds received from a State of Michigan grant in the amount of \$500,000.00. The award identified \$400,000.00 for the lock-up build-out and \$100,000.00 to cover the cost of adding another work station (equipment and additional radio console) in the Dispatch center for a second Dispatch position. An additional amount of \$146,476.00 was added by the City to complete the project with items necessary and required to ensure officer and prisoner safety. Once the construction is complete and has been thoroughly tested, the department will move forward with the anticipated Dispatch and Lock-Up consolidation with the Village of Grosse Pointe Shores.

In order to make room for the expansion of the prison cell area, the Detective Bureau offices were relocated to another building across the parking lot which formerly housed the Medstar ambulance employees. The move required the building to be completely renovated. The reconstruction, which included repainting, new carpeting, and the addition of office lighting, was completed in May.

The addition of a second Dispatch radio console in August, 2018 provided the department with the additional equipment needed to receive and dispatch calls.

A portion of the State of Michigan grant money was used to replace the analog security system with a state-of-the-art internet protocol system as well as to purchase and install cameras to record all prisoner movements from intake to release.

Under the guidance of Information Technology Manager Gary Capps, the Fire Inspector's office in the basement was transformed into the headquarters for Public Safety Information Technology, including CLEMIS. The room now has its own cooling system for the protection of the valuable equipment inside.

An important equipment upgrade came to fruition in 2018 when the department's 911 telephone answering equipment was replaced after over 24 years of service. New parts for the aging equipment were no longer available so the upgrade was essential. A decision was made after careful review of presentations made by four vendors and tours of area departments who were already using the chosen equipment. A Netclock master time server was included in the new equipment to validate 911 events and accurately record response times.

Although there were ongoing distractions with all the construction going on within the department, our focus remained on fighting crime and maintaining the safety of the residents and businesses in the community. The total number of crime statistics for 2018 represents a slight 2.6 increase from 2017 with 633 crimes reported.

Larceny continued to be the highest crime reported in the community with a total of 162 incidents, two more than in the previous year. Although the number of burglaries increased from 20 to 41 and the number of robberies increased from one to six, auto theft decreased by 40%.

Our highest non-index crime was fraud, with a 12% increase from 2018. Our statistics show that intimidation/stalking also increased by 30%. We are pleased to report that the crimes of damage to property, D.U.I arrests, and non-aggravated assaults decreased by 24%, 48%, and 14% respectively.

There was a 22% decrease in fire runs with 219 in 2018 compared to 282 in 2017. The number of actual fires decreased from 29 to 14 although the amount of fire damage increased from \$45,500 in 2017 to \$827,500 in 2018.

As our officers work diligently to protect the community, we continue to provide them with the best protective gear possible. The purchase of fifteen ballistic helmets in 2018 was an upgrade from helmets which were not designed to stop small arms projectiles. In addition, 15 Immediate Response carrier system kits were also purchased to replace outdated Active Shooter supplies. The carrier kits included tactical vests and ballistic trauma plates.

Plans for the replacement of the department's 1991 Sutphen Aerial Platform Truck (Tower 5) began in 2017 when a committee was assembled to find the best available fire truck for the specific needs of Grosse Pointe Woods. The existing fire truck is a critical part of the firefighting fleet as it is used for large fire operations as well as rescues however it has exceeded the in-service date recommended by the National Fire Protection Agency (NFPA) and is no longer able to meet certain standards required by OSHA and the Department of Transportation. The need to maintain an aerial truck within our fleet as increased as several new multi-structured facilities have been added to the community. Existing facilities include The Rivers, Sunrise Senior Living Center, the Van Elslander Cancer Center, and the Grosse Pointe Library.

Intensive research by the committee on thirteen different truck manufacturers and on-site visits from four of them narrowed the list down to the two vehicles which were able to fit into the department's existing bay. Based on the committee's comparison of the two trucks, the decision was made to request permission to purchase an E-ONE 100' ladder which has the ability to maneuver and fit into cul-de-sacs and the narrowest areas of the city. In addition, the new truck will be equipped with substantial technology. Lieutenant James Lefurgey and Sergeant Joseph Provost have researched and recommended new equipment to update our fire-fighting capabilities. These two command officers have also accompanied me to Florida to complete the pre-build process. Some of the gas tools that the department is currently using will be eliminated and replaced with battery-operated tools. Charging stations will also be built into the truck. The purchase for the new truck, for which the total cost exceeds \$1,000,000.00, was approved by City Council at the end of December. The truck is expected to be added to the department's fleet in 2019.

Personnel changes in 2018 included changing the status of one part-time dispatcher to full-time to help maintain coverage on shifts and eliminate some of the need for road patrol officers to assist with dispatch coverage. Promotions included that of a sergeant moving up to the rank of lieutenant and that of an officer moving up to the rank of sergeant. The lieutenant promotion allowed another lieutenant to be able to provide daily supervision in the Investigations Bureau as of January 01, 2019. There were no new hires in 2018.

Our annual Public Safety Open House event included sessions on fire safety, a smoke house demonstration, a K-9 demonstration, a visit from the United States Coast Guard, child car seat safety inspections, and child fingerprinting. Last year's event, held on October 7, 2018, once again brought out record crowds.

As our officers work to the best of their ability to serve and protect the public, Chaplain Matthew Swiatek continues to provide a steady source of support and guidance for them whenever needed.

As you can see, much was accomplished in 2018 but there is much more work yet to be done in 2019. In conclusion, I would like to personally thank Building Official Gene Tutag and Information Technology Manager Gary Capps for the many long hours of hard work that they have given to the Public Safety renovation project. Without their knowledge, efforts, and dedication, we would not have made it as far as we did.

We are deeply grateful to the City of Harper Woods Department of Public Safety and Director James R. Burke for allowing us to house our prisoners during the on-going construction of our new jail cell. They have graciously accommodated us for eight months during 2018. We sincerely appreciate all they have done and continue to do.

I would also like to thank the Mayor and City Council for their help and support as we move closer to bringing the City's vision for the department a reality. In addition, I would like to thank City Administrator/Police Commissioner Bruce Smith for his continued support and guidance. I would also like to express appreciation to the residents and business owners of Grosse Pointe Woods for their support and recognition of the efforts of the members of our Public Safety Department. Most of all, I would like to thank the members of our department for their hard work and dedication. The safety and well-being of the members of this community will be my priority as I continue to work to the best of my ability to improve our department.

Respectfully yours,

John G. Kosanke

John G. Kosanke, Director of Public Safety

MISSION STATEMENT



The Mission of the Grosse Pointe Woods Department of Public Safety is to continually strive to improve the safety and quality of life within our community. This will be accomplished through a broad based combination of traditional and innovative police, fire and emergency medical services while always protecting constitutional and basic human rights. All members of the Department will at all times stand accountable for their conduct.



INTRODUCTION



Director of Public Safety John G. Kosanke

Each year, the Grosse Pointe Woods Department of Public Safety prepares an annual report of crime statistics for the City of Grosse Pointe Woods, the Michigan Incident Crime Reporting (MICR), and the Federal Bureau of Investigation Uniform Crime Report (UCR). This data is compiled from offenses reported to the Department of Public Safety, monthly police reports, and individual crime incident reports.

The primary objective of this annual report is to provide a reliable set of criminal justice statistics for police administration, operations, and management. The localized study of crime data enables personnel to assess the influence of crime in areas, neighborhoods, and with people. Similarly, crime statistics permit analysis among neighboring jurisdictions and with those of similar populations and other characteristics. A broad examination of the crime data allows individuals to view the nature and movement of crime, underlying changes, and fluctuations throughout the City of Grosse Pointe Woods, the State of Michigan, and the United States.

The Department of Public Safety is committed to improving the reliability and validity of our crime reporting data. We are attempting to achieve this goal by study and analysis of major crime indexes and understanding the impact of classification revisions mandated by the State. As a result, some offense categories have decreased, while others have increased. Our efforts are to provide a reporting system that will be more accurate, valid, reliable, and compatible with State and Federal standards.

DEPARTMENT PERSONNEL

Director of Public Safety

John G. Kosanke

Police Commissioner

Bruce Smith

Chaplain

Matthew Swiatek

Lieutenants

David Gardzella

James Lefurgey

Keith Waszak

Sergeants

Brian Conigliaro

Darrell Fisher

Walter Galat

Matthew Muzia

Joseph Provost, Jr.

Brian Urban

Public Safety Officers

Miles Adams

Mark Agnetti

James Arthur

David Empson

Gerald Genna

Eugene Gunnery

Sean Gunnery

Joseph Hazuka

Anthony Hojnacki

Neal Kapoor

Timothy Livingston

Jeffry Martel

Martin Mitchell

Scott Nota

Kyle Seidel

Jarod Smith

Dennis Walker

Detectives

Kevin Bonk

Anthony Chalut

Detective/Traffic Safety Officer

Ryan Schroerlucke

Clerk Dispatchers

Agnes Burcar

Patricia Czech

Heather Hernadi

Erin Leggett

Christopher McEveney

Gwendolyn Mitchell

Gregory Tourville

Code Enforcement

Debbie Reed

Parking Enforcement

Debra Fox

Carolyn Schefke

Confidential Administrative Assistant

Claudette Darga

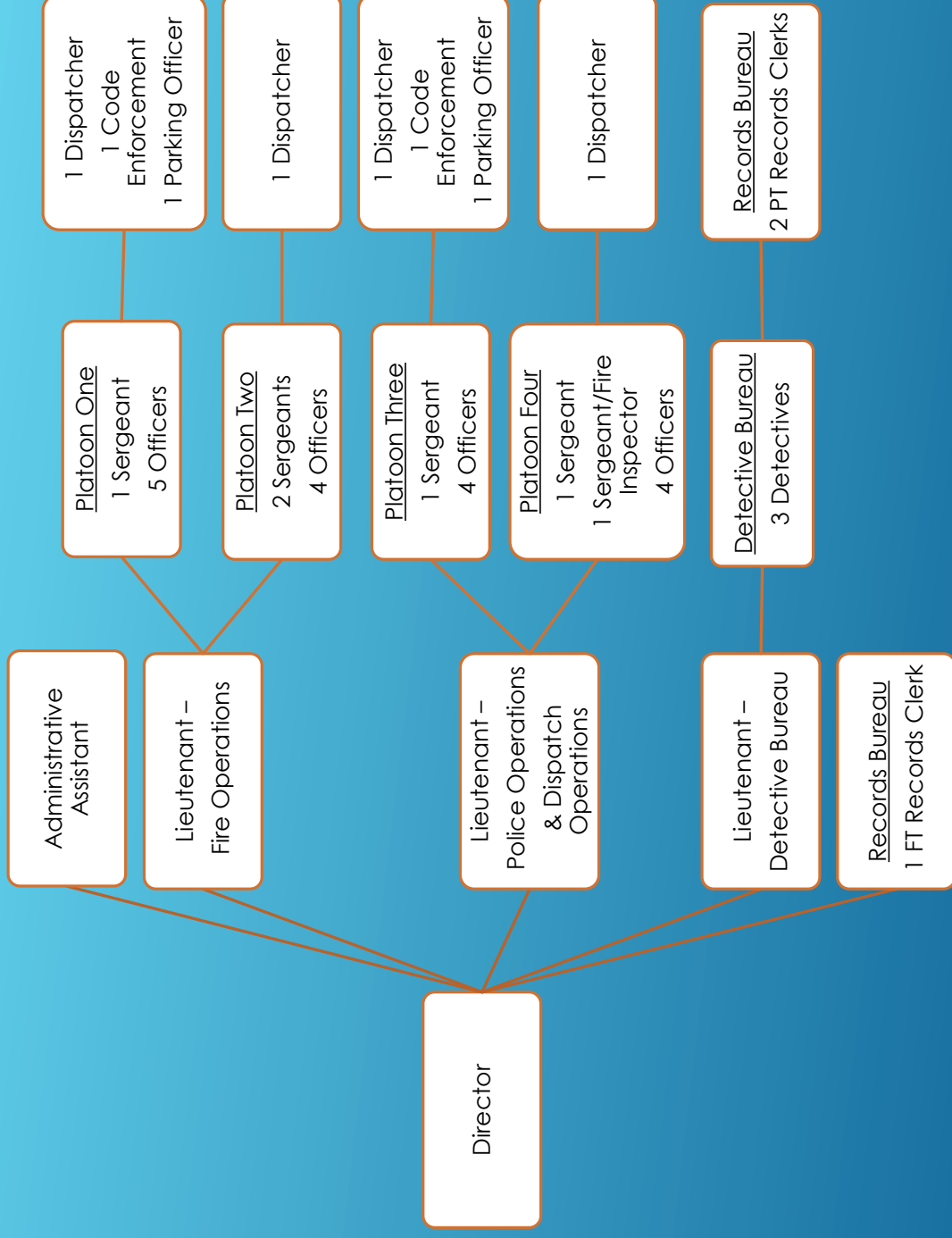
Records Department Clerks

Diana Cormier

Darlene Jepson

Tina Verbeke

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY ORGANIZATION CHART 2018



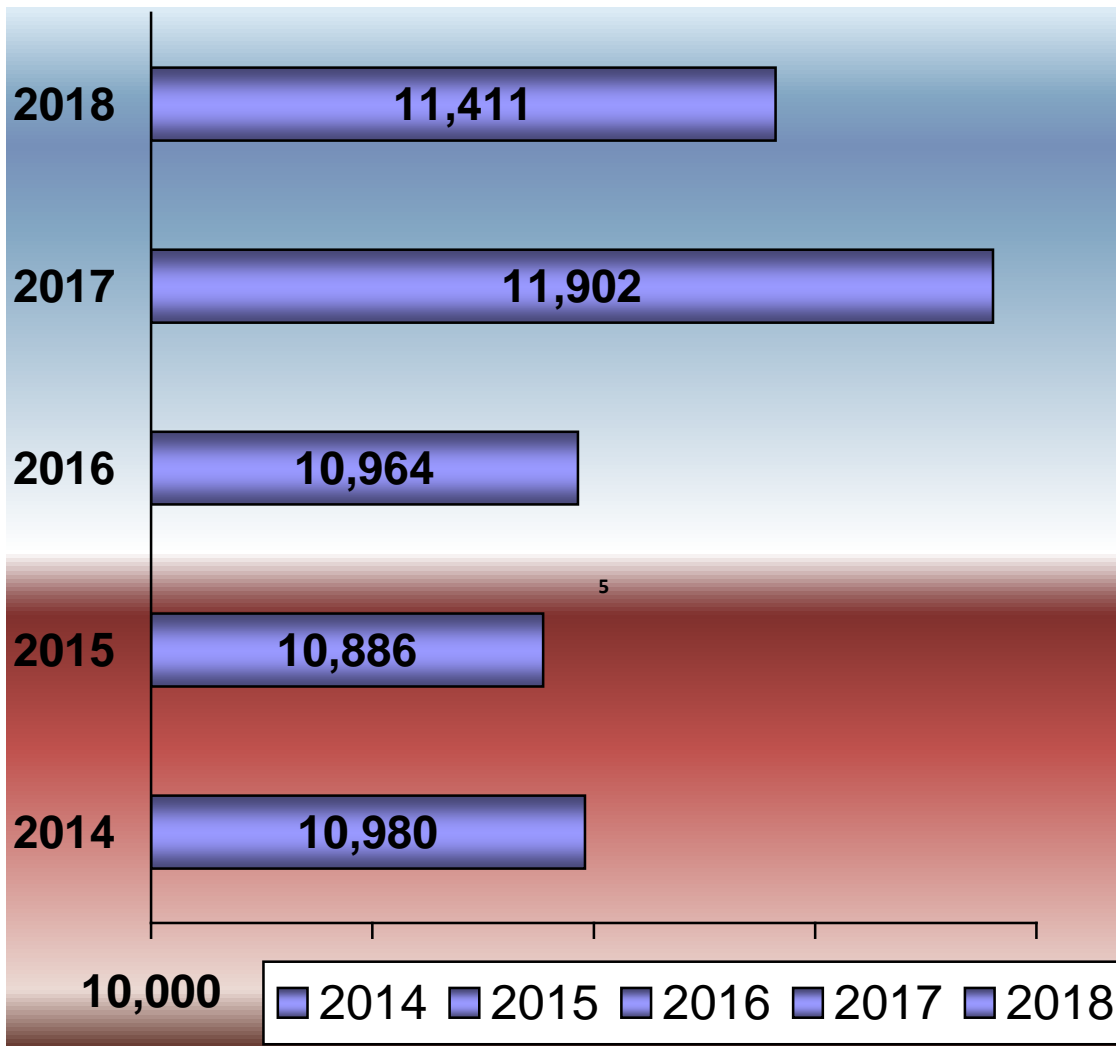
Department Personnel: 1 Director, 1 Confidential Administrative Assistant, 3 Lieutenants, 6 Sergeants, 17 Officers, 3 Detectives, 2 FT Dispatchers, 4 PT Dispatchers, 1 Code Enforcement Officer, 2 PT Parking Enforcement Officers, 1 FT Records Clerk, 2 PT Records Clerks

TOTAL INCIDENTS 2014 - 2018

Since the utilization of CLEMIS, the department has been able to successfully capture a wide magnitude of crime statistics. This valuable resource continues to enhance department operations with its ease of use and impressive capabilities.

The department responded to 11,411 calls for service in 2018.

The five-year average is 11,229 calls for service.



INDEX CRIMES BREAKDOWN

The National Crime Index is composed of selected offenses used to gauge fluctuations in the overall volume and rate of crime reported to law enforcement. Index Crimes are considered to be the most serious of all crimes reported.

These include the violent crimes of:

- **Aggravated Assault**
- **Arson**
- **Auto Theft**
- **Burglary**
- **Criminal Homicide**
- **Criminal Sexual Conduct**
- **Larceny - Theft**
- **Robbery**

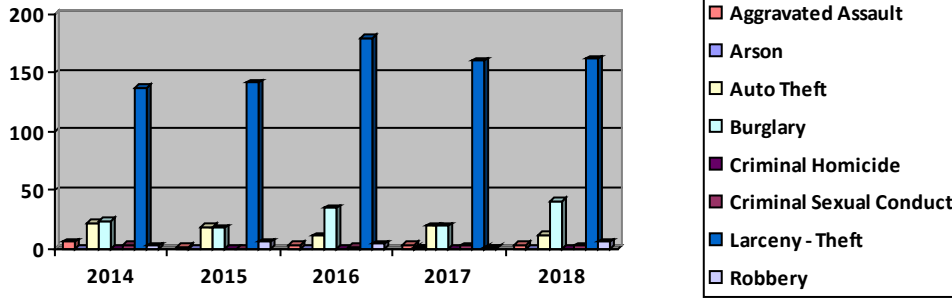
NON-INDEX CRIMES BREAKDOWN

Non-Index offenses encompass all other reportable classifications outside those defined as Index Offenses. Only arrest data involving the Non-Index offenses are reported to the FBI.

These include the crimes of:

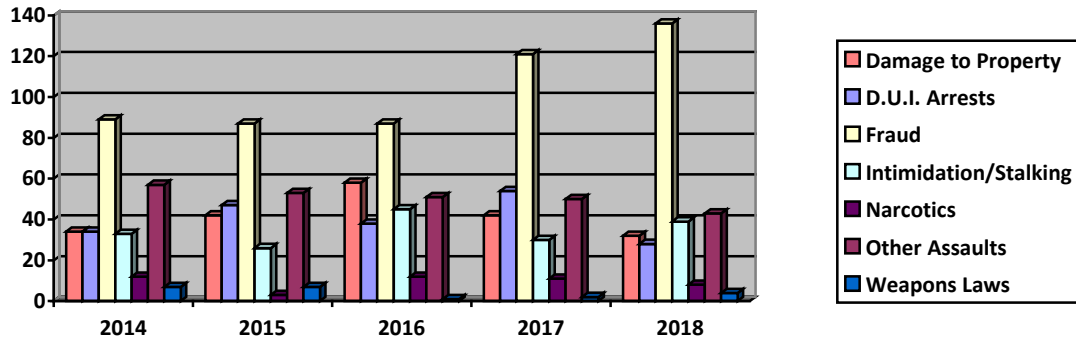
- **Curfew and Loitering Laws (persons under 18)**
- **Damage to Property**
- **Disorderly Conduct**
- **Driving Under the Influence of Alcohol**
- **Drug Abuse Violations**
- **Drunkenness**
- **Embezzlement**
- **Forgery and Counterfeiting**
- **Fraud**
- **Gambling**
- **Liquor Laws**
- **Offenses Against the Family and Children**
- **Other Assaults**
- **Prostitution and Commercialized Vice**
- **Runaways (persons under 18)**
- **Sex Offenses**
- **Stolen Property: Buying, Receiving, Possessing**
- **Weapons: Carrying, Possessing, etc...**
- **All Other Offenses**

INDEX CRIMES TOTALS



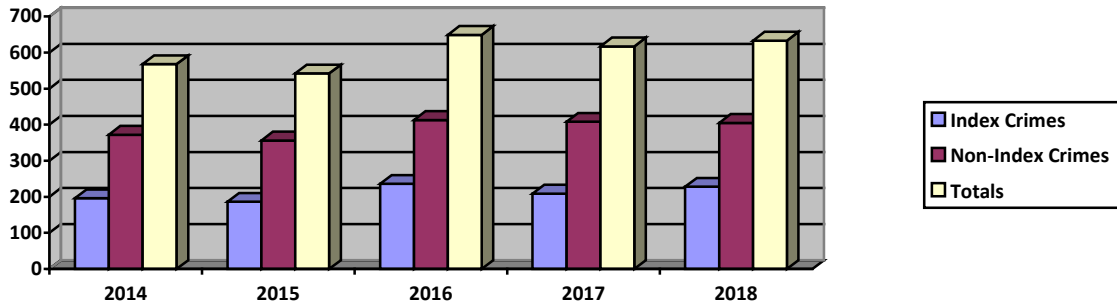
	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Aggravated Assault.	6	2	4	4	4
Arson	0	0	0	1	0
Auto Theft	22	19	11	20	12
Burglary	24	18	35	20	41
Criminal Homicide	0	0	0	0	0
Criminal Sexual Conduct	4	0	2	3	3
Larceny - Theft	137	141	179	160	162
Robbery	3	6	5	1	6

NON - INDEX CRIMES TOTALS



	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Damage to Property	34	42	58	42	32
D.U.I. Arrests	34	47	38	54	28
Fraud	89	87	87	121	136
Intimidation/Stalking	33	26	45	30	39
Narcotics	12	3	12	11	8
Other Assaults	57	53	51	50	43
Weapons Laws	7	7	1	2	4

CRIME TOTALS



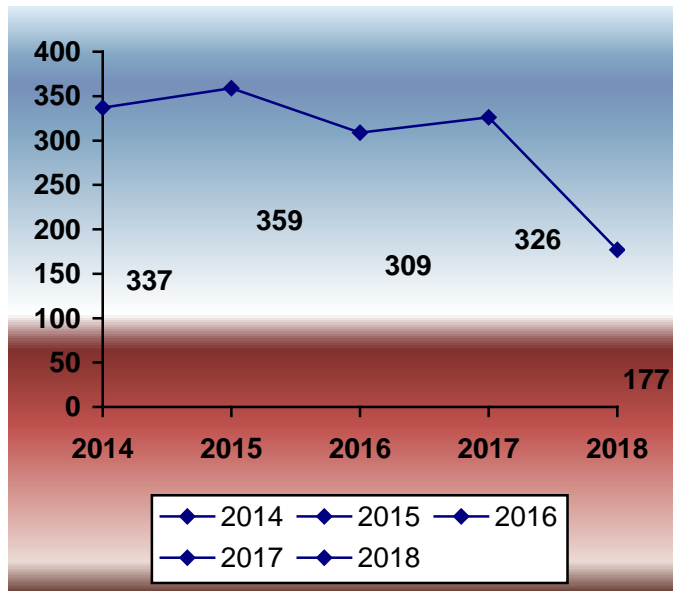
	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Index Crimes	196	186	236	209	228
Non-Index Crimes	372	356	413	408	405
Totals	568	542	649	617	633

The 633 Index and Non-Index crimes reported this year represents a 2.6 percent increase from last year. The five-year average is 602 Index and Non-Index crimes.

ARREST TOTALS 2014 - 2018

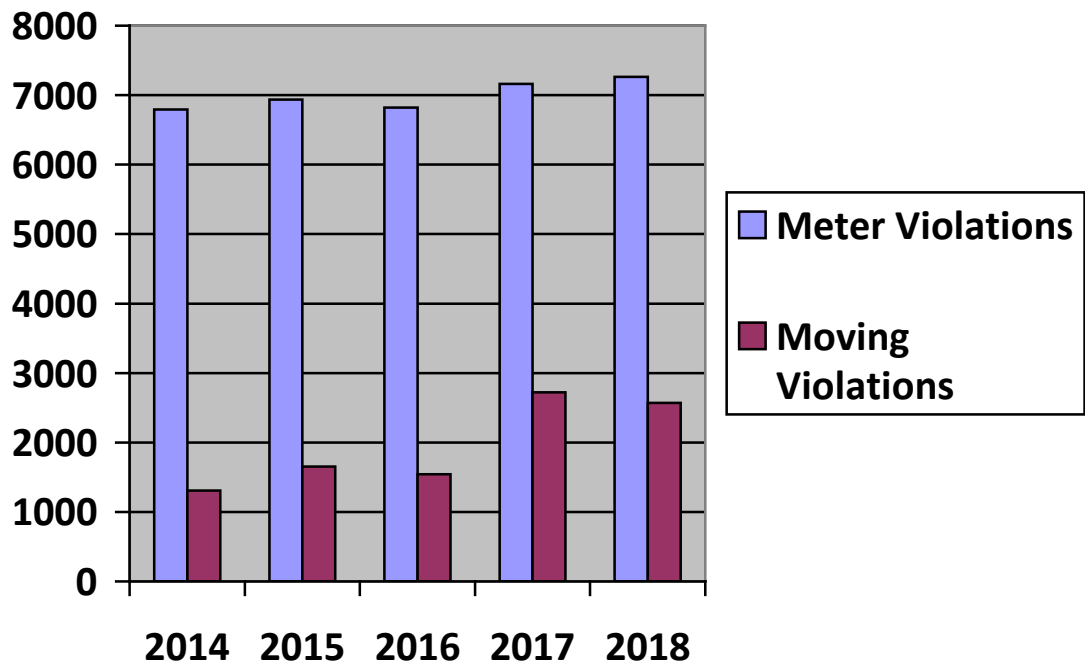
The five-year average is 302 arrests per year.

Arrests decreased from last year by 46 percent.



MOVING AND METER VIOLATIONS

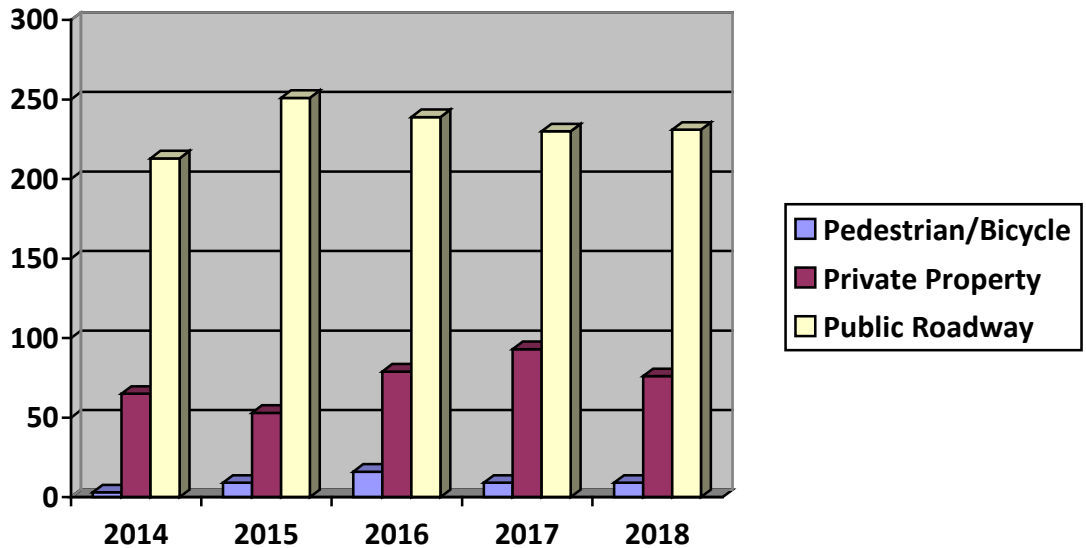
Using computers, updated radars, preliminary breath instruments, and mobile fingerprint readers in the patrol vehicles, the Public Safety Department continues to enforce traffic violations in the most effective manner possible.



	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Meter Violations	6793	6938	6821	7164	7263
Moving Violations	1306	1652	1541	2724	2569

TRAFFIC AND PEDESTRIAN ACCIDENTS

The statistics below include figures for private property accidents. The State of Michigan, for reporting purposes, does not include or record private property accidents. These types of accident reports are taken as a courtesy to citizens.



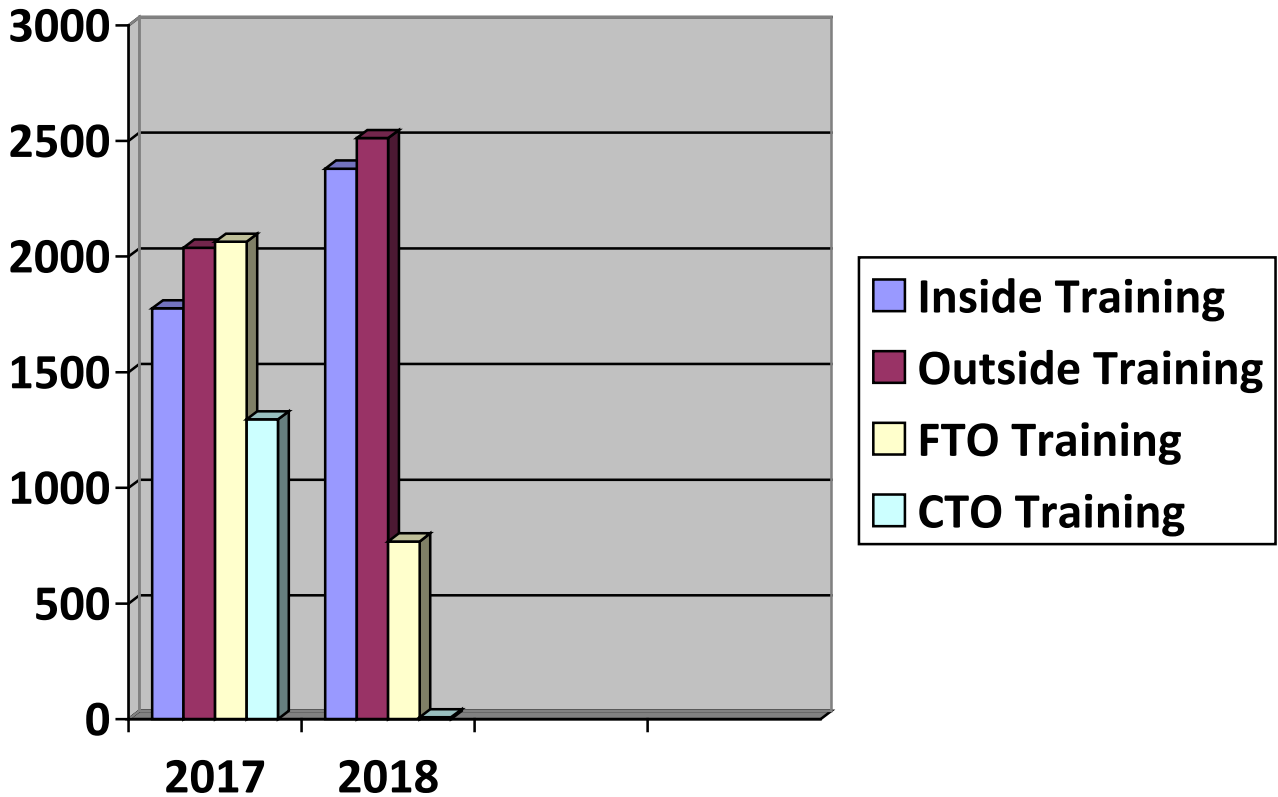
	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Pedestrian/Bicycle	3	9	16	9	9
Private Property	65	53	79	93	76
Public Roadway	213	251	239	230	231

There was one fatality in 2018.

DEPARTMENT TRAINING

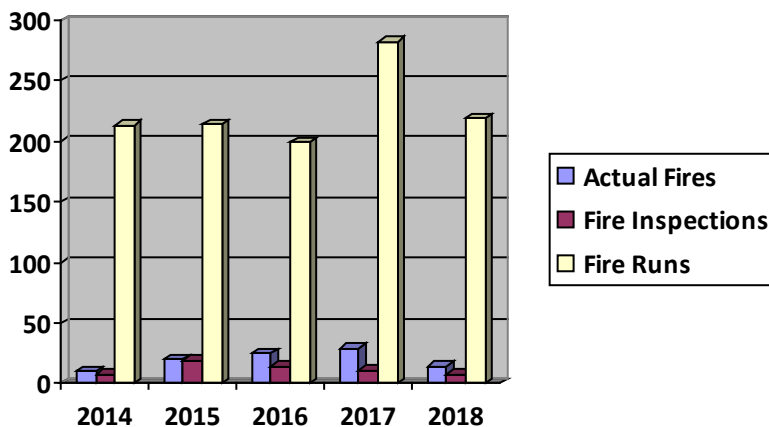
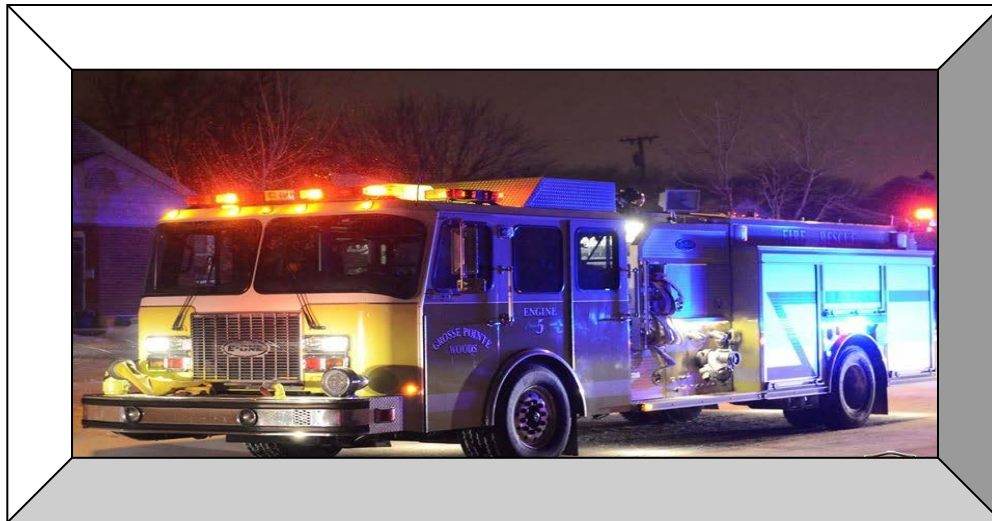
Members of the department work diligently with specialized rescue tools and fire equipment to train in preparation of any impending emergency. Members of the department attended 2,512 hours of Police and Fire training courses at local colleges and other training facilities in 2018 and participated in 2,380 hours of in-house training. The department received a total of 4,892 hours of training in 2018, a 28 percent increase from the 3,814 hours of training received in 2017, a 40 percent increase from the 3,503 hours in 2016, and a 114 percent increase from the 2,286 hours in 2015.

In addition, 768 hours were spent training new officers (Field Training Officer training known as FTO training) and 8 hours were spent training new dispatchers (Communications Training Officer training known as CTO training). The grand total of all department training in 2018 was 5,668 hours.



FIRE OPERATIONS

Our officers perform dual duties involving both police and fire and are quick to respond in either type of emergency situation. In addition to two residential dwelling fires and three commercial building fires in Grosse Pointe Woods, our firemen also responded to two dumpster fires and fifty-eight electrical related/power lines down incidents in 2018. There were no vehicle fires within the city in 2018. We also provided mutual aid assistance for a home explosion in Harper Woods, nine fires in Harper Woods, one fire in Grosse Pointe Shores and one fire in Grosse Pointe City. The reduction of fire inspections, which began in 2014, continued in 2018 due to the continued assignment to road patrol of the Sergeant who also serves as our Fire Inspector, allowing minimal time for inspections.



	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Actual Fires	10	20	25	29	14
Fire Inspections	8	19	14	11	8
Fire Loss	\$232,700	\$388,500	\$330,787	\$45,500	\$827,500
Fire Runs	213	214	199	282	219

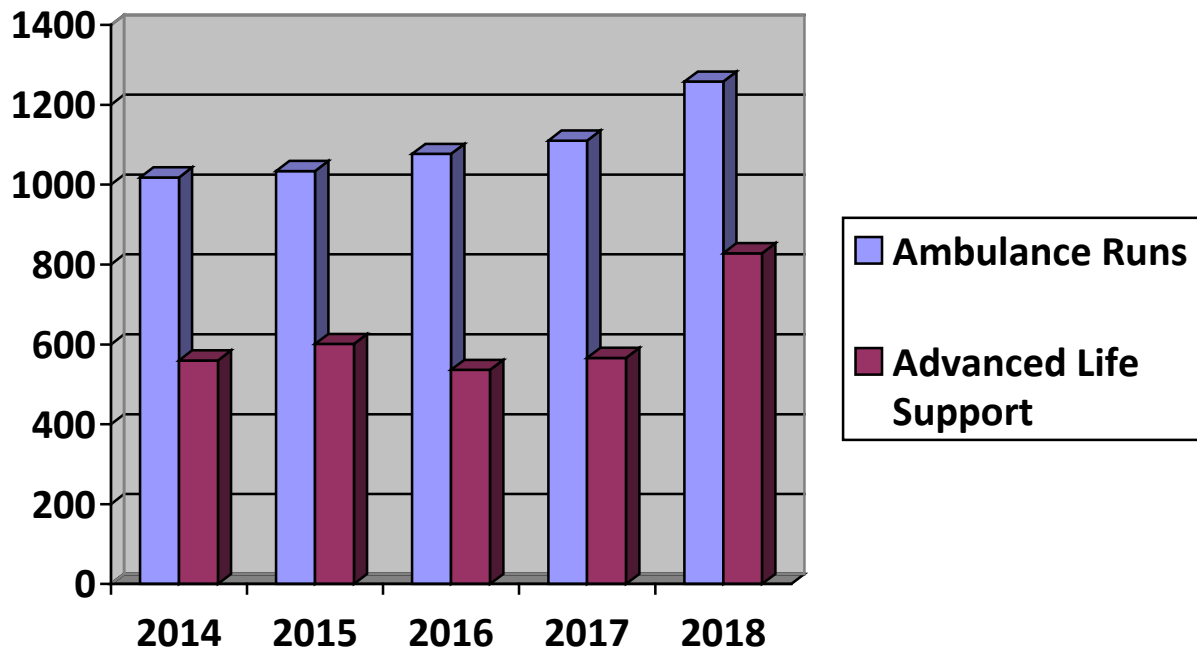
There were no fatalities or serious injuries resulting from the 14 actual fires in 2018.

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

In the spring of 2014, the City contracted with Medstar Ambulance to provide dedicated emergency ambulance service. In addition, a public safety officer responds to every ambulance run. All of our patrol vehicles are equipped with Automatic External Defibrillators (AED's). The switch to a privatized ambulance service was designed to save the city money without sacrificing the quality of service or patient care for our residents.

With enhanced technology and equipment, the paramedics from Medstar can begin advanced lifesaving procedures and transmit reports to area hospitals before the patient arrives.

The 1,258 ambulance runs in 2018 represents a 13% increase from the 1,110 runs in 2017 and the 828 runs involving advanced life support represents a 46% increase from the 566 advanced life support runs in 2017.



	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Ambulance Runs	1018	1034	1077	1110	1258
Adv. Life Support	560	601	536	566	828
% Adv. Life Support	55%	58%	50%	51%	66%

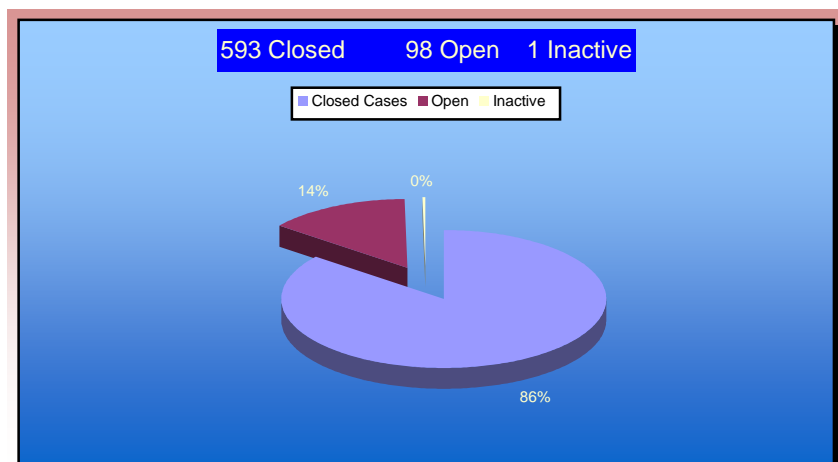
DETECTIVE BUREAU

The Detective Bureau is the Criminal Investigation Unit for the Department. The detectives assigned to this unit are responsible for investigating all crimes committed against persons or property in the community. They are on-call 24-hours a day to respond to a crime scene. All detectives receive specialized training to develop and enhance their investigative skills including attending legal update training and meetings with detective bureaus from neighboring jurisdictions. The Detective Bureau is also responsible for monitoring businesses that possess a Michigan liquor license to ensure compliance with Michigan liquor laws.

The Grosse Pointe Woods Detective Bureau, which operates under the supervision of Lieutenant Keith Waszak, consists of Detective Kevin Bonk, Detective Anthony Chalut, and Detective Ryan Schroerlucke. The detectives are responsible for investigating crimes, collecting and preserving evidence, identifying perpetrators, interviewing witnesses, interrogating suspects, and preparing cases for successful prosecution.

In addition to criminal investigations, Detective Ryan Schroerlucke also serves as the department's Youth Officer by overseeing crimes and violations by persons under the age of 17. Detective Schroerlucke is a direct liaison with school administrators, teachers, and students and maintains an additional office in Grosse Pointe North High School.

Detective Schroerlucke is also responsible for the Community Crime Prevention Program and Traffic Safety, overseeing crossing guards, conducting traffic and speed studies, and investigating traffic-related incidents.



86% of the 692 Criminal Cases assigned to the Detective Bureau in 2018 are closed.

SPECIAL RESPONSE TEAM (SRT)



The Special Response Team (SRT) is a specially trained law enforcement team comprised of 13 members of the five Grosse Pointe area departments and Harper Woods, which responds to potentially dangerous situations. The SRT executes search and arrest warrants, intervenes in hostage situations, works on counter-terrorism missions, provides perimeter security for high-profile events, and provides assistance in other high-risk situations.

In 2018, SRT members participated in excess of 200 hours of training outside of their normal departmental training to keep their tactical skills at a high level. SRT members received monthly sniper qualifications, and training in the areas of firearms, building entry tactics, hostage rescue tactics, search tactics, tactical medical aid, and K-9 integration. An annual week-long training session is held at a military training facility located near Grayling, Michigan. The facility includes a mock city, multiple firearm ranges and a 360-degree shoot house. The two Grosse Pointe Woods officers who are members of the SRT have the ability to pass on the valuable techniques they learn through their extensive training to other members of the department.

In stark contrast to the two times the SRT was activated in 2017, they were called to duty eleven times in 2018.

A life was saved in March 2018 when an armed suicidal suspect surrendered to the SRT after several hours of negotiations. One month later, a suspect making terrorist threats was taken into custody safely. Another suspect wanted in connection to larcenies and B&E of garages was also taken into custody after he was found hiding in an attic under a pile of insulation.

The month of May 2018 ended with the SRT removing a suspect in an attempted Harper Woods murder/shooting incident from a home in Detroit by positioning an armored vehicle on the front lawn and calling the suspect out via a loud speaker.

Three SRT activations took place in September, one of which involved five subjects who were turned over to the St. Clair Shores police narcotics unit.

The year ended with four incidents in November, one of which was fabricated. In the first of the other three incidents, the team was activated in a mutual aid capacity by the Detroit Police Department to assist in a search warrant regarding a homicide/quadruple shooting. Upon arrival, the SRT was informed that multiple shooters had fled in all directions. The SRT was assigned to one address in Detroit while the Michigan State Police, the FBI, and the Detroit Police took care of the rest. The SRT was successful in removing three occupants from the home and turning them over to the Detroit Police Department.

Later that month, the SRT located a suspect wanted for a counterfeit money incident walking down a sidewalk several blocks away from the Detroit residence for which they had a search warrant. At the end of November, three suspects and stolen property were removed from a residence in Detroit for a home invasion search activated by Grosse Pointe City.

The hard work and efforts of the SRT team continues to make a tremendous impact on the safety and well-being of our community. We wish them safety in their future endeavors.

AUXILIARY UNIT

The Police Auxiliary Unit is a vital resource for the department. Not only do they assist officers at community events such as the Public Safety Open House, but they also provide assistance at fire scenes, perform fire hose testing protocols, and perform other essential duties. The role of an auxiliary officer is to assist and supplement our officers in the prevention of crime, protection of life and property, disaster operations, suppression of criminal activity, and preservation of peace. The auxiliary officers provide their services at no cost to the city. They are an indispensable part of our community and their help is greatly appreciated.

The Auxiliary Unit underwent 142 hours of training and devoted 413 hours of service to the City of Grosse Pointe Woods in 2018.

Our current Police Auxiliary Unit includes Captain David Podeszwik, Squad Leaders Jerome Haraburda and Charles Thomas, and Auxiliary Officers Even Allemon, Ryan Allemon, Thomas Angellotti, Patrick Berns, Jose Carrion, Angelo Gritsas, Allen Herfi, Mark Higgins, Keith Kurtz, John Mowatt, and John Sabol. Detective Kevin Bonk has been the department liaison for the past five years.

CROSSING GUARDS

The parents of our community depend upon our Crossing Guard team for the safety of their children when walking or riding a bicycle on their route to school or home. No matter what the weather is, our team of dedicated guards is ready to guide and protect our children. We are deeply appreciative of their efforts.



Our crossing guard team operates under the guidance and supervision of Detective Ryan Schroerlucke. The crossing guard team consists of: Amy Biange, Maureen Carter, Theodore Colborn, Frank and Renee Dicristofaro, Patrick Forton, Kathleen Guertin, Sharon Harden-Bullock, Karen Kaled, Debra Miller, Charlotte Monaghan, Alonzo Moore, Mary Moore, Jean Segodnia, Marjorie Warhurst, and William Westwood.

PROMOTIONS

The department experienced one promotion to the rank of Lieutenant and one promotion to the rank of Sergeant in 2018.



Lieutenant David Gardzella



Sergeant Darrell Fisher

The department experienced two promotions in November, 2018. Sergeant David Gardzella earned a well-deserved promotion to the rank of Lieutenant after having led the department as a Sergeant for nearly eight years. A 24-year veteran of the department, Lieutenant Gardzella has been instrumental in the areas of computer technology and the supervision of the Dispatch department.

Officer Darrell Fisher, who also holds the title of instructor at the Macomb Police Academy, was promoted to the rank of Sergeant after having served the department for eleven years.

The department is looking forward to the improvements and leadership that these two command officers will bring.

OFFICER & SUPERVISOR OF THE YEAR

The recipients of the 2018 Officer of the Year Award and Supervisor of the Year Awards are Officer David Empson and Sergeant Darrell Fisher, for their efforts in quickly rescuing a man from a burning residence on the afternoon of New Year's Eve. The man trapped inside the burning building had just arrived from Florida a few days prior to the incident to manage contractors during renovation of the house while the homeowner was away. As smoke billowed from the window that the man was leaning out of, Sergeant Fisher and Officer Empson worked diligently to raise and scale a ladder and assist the man safely out and to the ground. The third alarm fire was extinguished with the assist of Lieutenant David Gardzella and members of the Grosse Pointe Farms and Grosse Pointe Shores departments. The occupant of the home was hospitalized and treated for smoke inhalation.

OFFICER OF THE YEAR – GROUP AWARD

The Detective Bureau, consisting of Lieutenant Detective Keith Waszak, and Detectives Kevin Bonk, Anthony Chalut, and Ryan Schroerlucke have been selected to receive a group award for "Officer of the Year" for the endless hours of hard work involved in a case which resulted in the arrest and conviction of a man who was sentenced to a minimum of 72 years in the Michigan Department of Corrections for several serious crimes. The similarities in a home invasion in a neighboring city in April 2017 and another incident which took place in Grosse Pointe Woods were first noticed by Detective Anthony Chalut who had been called to the scene to assist other detectives at a Grosse Pointe City address.

Although the criminal was apprehended in April 2017 after a search which lasted several hours and exhaustive DNA testing by Michigan State Police scientists, the voluminous amount of work done by the detectives on this case lasted throughout 2018. The crimes committed in Grosse Pointe Woods by the man who is now incarcerated included Criminal Sexual Conduct (1st and 2nd degree), Home Invasion, Assault With Intent to Rob While Armed, and Weapons Offenses. Crimes of similar nature had also been committed in Detroit, Grosse Pointe Farms and Grosse Pointe City. The sentencing includes 50 to 70 years in the Michigan Department of Corrections for the Grosse Pointe Woods case and an additional 20 to 40 years for a domestic violence case in Detroit.

The detectives in our department worked alongside the Michigan State Police, the Wayne County Sheriff's Office, and other area departments in bringing an end to the crime spree which has traumatized the lives of the victims involved. The daily efforts put forth by our detectives in the intensive work on this case in addition to their other duties is to be commended. We are appreciative and proud of the team efforts of our Detective Bureau.

HONORS & AWARDS

Five members of the department were recognized for their outstanding efforts at the 36th annual Respect for Law Program sponsored by the Lakeshore Optimist Club. The event, which was attended by law enforcement officials from surrounding communities, was held on May 2, 2018 at the Lochmoor Club in Grosse Pointe Woods.

Lieutenant David Gardzella, a 24-year veteran of the department, was presented with an award for the sharp observational skills he utilized in October 2017 when he connected an armed individual with a St. Clair Shores drugstore robbery. The resulting arrest closed nine armed robbery cases in seven neighboring jurisdictions.

Sergeant Darrell Fisher was recognized for a traffic stop in March 2017 which resulted in the recovery of thousands of dollars of freshly stolen merchandise. Items had been stolen from at least nine residential vehicles as well as from those of other communities.

Officer Neal Kapoor was presented with an award for his role in preventing a suicide in January 2017. He was in control of a dangerous situation when a homeowner was found sitting on his garage floor with a loaded gun pointed at his head.

Going above and beyond his duties in February 2017 gained recognition for Officer Kyle Seidel who had conducted his own investigation on a known larceny from auto suspect who was thought to be working the area and surrounding cities. Officer Seidel's investigation led him to the suspect's residence and vehicle where he issued a traffic stop for outstanding warrants. The resulting arrest closed multiple local cases.

Also recognized at the event was 20-year veteran Detective Anthony Chalut whose investigative skills in April 2017 culminated in the arrest of an individual with successful Wayne County charges in multiple incidents of criminal sexual assault, home invasions, and various other crimes.



Lieutenant David Gardzella and Officers Neal Kapoor and Kyle Seidel are pictured above from left to right with their awards at the Lakeshore Optimist Club's Respect for Law ceremony on May 2, 2018. Not present at the event were Sergeant Darrell Fisher and Detective Anthony Chalut.

PUBLIC SAFETY OPEN HOUSE



The Public Safety Open House held on October 7, 2018 proved to be a popular event once again. Children and adults had the opportunity to interact with Police, Fire, and EMS personnel. The attendees learned how to escape from a burning house, how to extinguish fires from personal clothing, and tips on electrical safety.

The presentation made by the K9 team of Grosse Pointe Farms Officer Tim Harris and his partner Duke, pictured below, proved to be one of the most popular events at the Open House once again.

Other special guests included members of the United States Coast Guard.

Several Department members along with our three members of our Auxiliary team and their Captain, David Podeszwik, were invaluable in making this a memorable community event.



PUBLIC SAFETY OPEN HOUSE

Parents attending the annual event had the opportunity to have a free CD-ROM made with their child's digital photo, fingerprints, height, weight, and other information, which can be used to bring home a missing child. The children's fingerprinting service was provided once again by retired Monroe Police Department Sergeant Tom Jenkins who represents the non-profit group Law Enforcement Education Program, known as LEEP. Car seat safety inspections given by Officer Scott Nota were also offered for the third time at the event.



POLICE OFFICER'S PRAYER

The lives of far too many law enforcement officers have been cut short in recent times. We would like to take a moment to pray that such violence will never touch the members of our department.



*Lord I ask for courage -
Courage to face and conquer my own fears...
Courage to take me where others will not go...*

*I ask for strength –
Strength of body to protect others,
And strength of spirit to lead others...*

*I ask for dedication –
Dedication to my job, to do it well,
Dedication to my community, to keep it safe...
Give me, Lord, concern for those who trust me,
And compassion for those who need me...
And please, Lord, through it all,
Be at my side...*

Author Unknown