

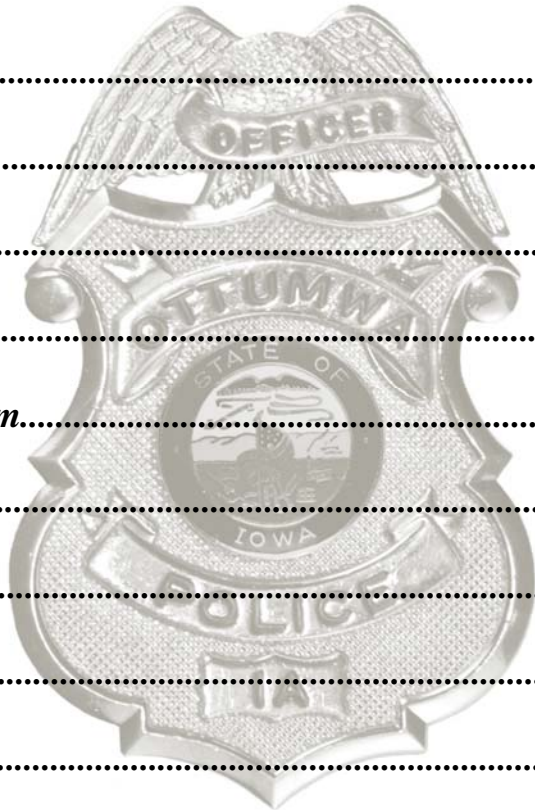
# OTTUMWA POLICE DEPARTMENT

## 2019 ANNUAL REPORT



# TABLE OF CONTENTS

<i>Chief's Letter</i> .....	<i>p.1-2</i>
<i>Budget</i> .....	<i>p.3-7</i>
<i>Organizational Structure</i> .....	<i>p.8-10</i>
<i>Investigations Division</i> .....	<i>p.11-13</i>
<i>Services Division</i> .....	<i>p.14-22</i>
<i>Patrol Division</i> .....	<i>p.23</i>
<i>Emergency Response Team</i> .....	<i>p.24-25</i>
<i>Statistics</i> .....	<i>p.26-32</i>
<i>New Employee</i> .....	<i>p.33</i>
<i>Police Chaplain</i> .....	<i>p.34</i>
<i>Training</i> .....	<i>p.35-38</i>
<i>Education</i> .....	<i>p.39</i>
<i>Citizens Police Academy</i> .....	<i>p.40</i>
<i>Community Policing</i> .....	<i>p.41-43</i>
<i>Community Events</i> .....	<i>p.44-48</i>
<i>Partnerships</i> .....	<i>p.49-51</i>





## ***CHIEF'S MESSAGE***

Tom McAndrew  
Chief of Police



Welcome to the 2019 Ottumwa Police Department Annual Report which highlights the activities and accomplishments of the dedicated men and women who serve the citizens of Ottumwa.

This was a busy year with our officers responding to over 29,378 calls for service, documenting 5,172 incident reports, and arresting 4,846 suspects. Additionally, our officers issued over 2,391 traffic citations, conducted 212 OWI investigations and responded to 389 traffic accidents.

The 9th Annual Citizen's Police Academy, sponsored by South Ottumwa Savings Bank, was held during February and March of 2019. Sixteen citizens attended the eight-week program that provides a glimpse into the workings of the police department. Every year those that attend comment on how interesting the program is and how much knowledge they gain about the department.

Training of our personnel has continued to be a priority of the police department. Over the past two years we have placed an emphasis on Crisis Intervention Training (CIT). This five day, forty-hour class is an innovative first-responder model of police based training to help persons with mental disorders and/or addictions access medical treatment rather than place them in the criminal justice system due to illness related behaviors. It also promotes officer safety and the safety of the individual in crisis. Our goal is to have every officer on the department complete crisis intervention training by the end of 2020. At this time 37 of our 40 officers have received the training.

The Department has joined with Indian Hills Community College in sponsoring numerous training programs for law enforcement. This partnership will provide more training opportunities at a lower cost for our department as well as surrounding law enforcement agencies.

One major project initiated by the Department in 2019 was the total revamping of the police department policy and procedures manual. Through a grant program sponsored by the City's insurance company, Iowa Community Assurance Program (ICAP), the Department contracted with Lexipol to develop a policy and procedure manual. Numerous departments in the state are participating in this program which will align policies and procedures with one another. One goal of the program is to reduce the City's liability by providing up-to-date policies and procedures as well as up-to-date training for our officers.

Another major project completed in 2019 consisted of the Department moving toward paperless incident reporting. Utilizing funds provided by the Wapello County E911 Board, the Department upgraded the Department's CIS software by adding additional modules. This program allows officers to enter incident reports and arrest reports directly into the computer system eliminating records staff from having to manually enter the information. It also allows officers and dispatch personnel to see current calls for service as well as officer locations on a city map. We're continually exploring ways to streamline our operations in order to be more efficient and effective in our mission.

This coming year our department will address several challenges. By now most of our citizens know that the City is facing significant financial issues which will result in a reduction in the number of police officers and firefighters. The police department will be reduced by two officer positions and non-bargaining staff will not receive their 2% raise in 2020. Staff have worked with the City's finance department in making necessary cuts to the City's budget in order to keep the City fiscally sound. This will be an ongoing challenge; however, I am confident that we will be able to continue to provide outstanding public safety services to our community.

Another challenge specific to the police department will be employee retirements, as a number of our employees are approaching retirement age. In July 2020, our DataCom Supervisor Brenda Bennett will be retiring from the department after 34 years of service to our community. Brenda started on the department in 1985 as a part-time Communications Specialist. She became full time in 1986. In 1995, she was promoted to DataCom Supervisor in charge of the communications center and police records. Brenda has also served on the E911 Board for eighteen years. I would like to thank Brenda for her many years of service to the Citizens of Ottumwa and wish her the best in her retirement.

This June I plan to retire as Chief of Police. It has been an honor to have served the Citizens of Ottumwa for the past 32 years. It has been a pleasure working with the men and women of the Ottumwa Police Department and members of the community. I have no doubt the police department will continue to provide outstanding professional service to our community.

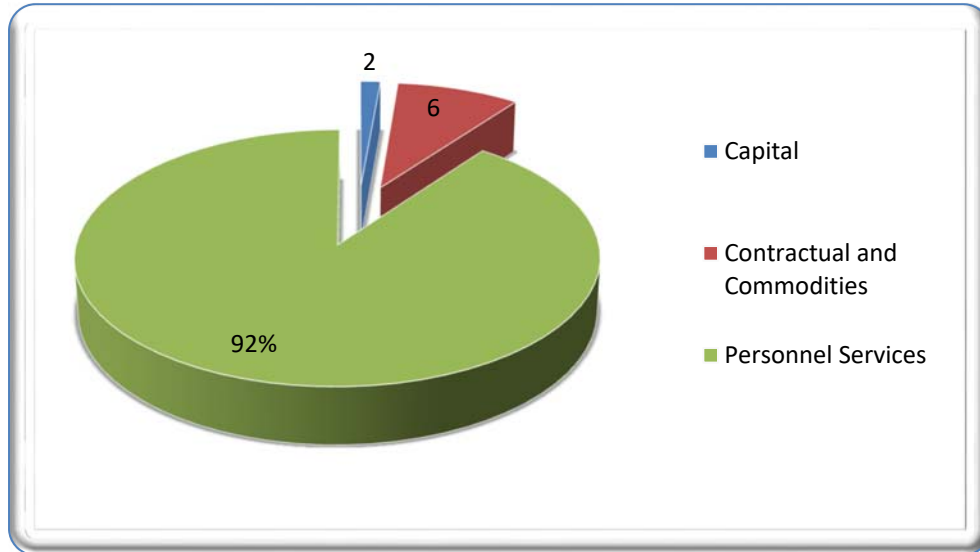
As you will see in the following pages, the members of the Ottumwa Police Department worked hard this past year to provide quality service to our community. As you review this annual report, you can be proud of the accomplishments of your police department.

Sincerely,

*Tom McAndrew*

Tom McAndrew  
Chief of Police

# FY BUDGET 2019-2020



The total budget for the Ottumwa Police Department is **\$5,897,036**. These funds are divided into the following three categories:

### Personnel Services

This category is comprised of line items for officer and civilian wages, overtime (including extra duty), and employee benefits, including health insurance, life insurance, retirement, holiday pay, sick leave pay, Medicare and worker’s compensation. The total amount budgeted for Personnel Services is **\$5,431,499**.

### Capital

This category includes line items for protective vests, vehicles, etc. Total amount budgeted for Capital is **\$71,283**.

### Contractual & Commodities

This category is the remainder of the budget which includes line items for employee physicals, dues, books, training, travel, vehicle maintenance, fuel, equipment repair, utilities, sanitation services, telephone, advertising, printing, rents & leases, recruitment, towing, copying, photos, professional services, janitorial services, tools & small equipment, office supplies, postage & shipping, sustenance supplies, and miscellaneous. The total amount budgeted for Contractual and Commodities is **\$394,254**.



# STAFF FUNDING & GENERATED REVENUE

The Ottumwa Police Department’s authorized strength was forty two (42) sworn officers and they were funded in the following manner:

### *Current Officers and Funding Sources* *(Includes salary and benefits)*

1 School Resource Officer (Evans)	-	66% from OCSD / 34% from general fund
1 School Resource Officer (OHS)	-	66% from OCSD / 34% from general fund
1 School Resource Officer (OHS)	-	66% from OCSD / 34% from general fund
2 Drug Task Force Investigators	-	27% from Byrne grant / 73% from general fund
<u>37 Officers</u>	-	100% from general fund
<b>42 Officers</b>		

From January 1, 2019 through December 31, 2019, the Police Department generated the following revenue:

Reports & Fingerprints	-	\$ 4,973.00
Animal Pickup Fees	-	12,788.75
Witness Fees	-	5.00
Extra Duty Administrative Fees	-	497.15
Alarm Monitoring Fees	-	2,400.00
Arrest Warrant Service Fee	-	5,626.79
Parking Fines (collected)	-	26,030.00
Traffic & Criminal Fines (collected)	-	162,212.68
<u>Grants &amp; Alternative Funding</u>	-	<u>343,918.80</u>
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$ 558,452.17</b>



## ALTERNATIVE FUNDING RESOURCES

In 2019, the Department received over **\$343,918** from various local, state, and federal sources for the purpose of enhancing law enforcement in Ottumwa. These funds assisted the Department with a variety of policing functions, including increased traffic and alcohol enforcement; continuing our substance abuse education program; purchasing equipment; and operation of the Southeast Iowa Inter-Agency Drug Task Force.

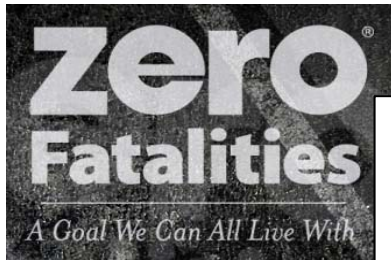
### Local Grants/Funding

The Department received a **\$1,500** donation from South Ottumwa Savings Bank for sponsorship of the 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Citizens Police Academy.

The Department received **\$500** from the Rosenman’s Trust for general law enforcement purposes.

The Department received over **\$197,444** from local funding sources to place officers at the Ottumwa High School and Evans Middle School. Part of the funds were also used to help support the **DARE** Program.

### Governor’s Traffic Safety Bureau



The Department received **\$25,500** from the Governor’s Traffic Safety Bureau to fund our traffic enforcement program. The objective of the program was to increase compliance with OWI, seat belt, and other traffic laws in order to reduce the frequency and severity of personal injury accidents in Ottumwa. The grant funds were used to pay overtime costs for enforcement activities.

### Tobacco Grant



The Department received **\$2,925** from the Alcoholic Beverages Division of the Iowa Department of Commerce. These funds were used to conduct compliance checks of Iowa’s tobacco laws. The goals of the program are for voluntary compliance with the state’s tobacco, alternative nicotine and vapor product laws through education, training and enforcement.



### Byrne / JAG Grant

The Southeast Iowa Inter-Agency Drug Task Force received **\$105,000** in federal grant funds from the Bureau of Justice Assistance through the Edward Byrne Memorial State and Local Law Enforcement Assistance Program. These funds were used primarily for the salary of Ottumwa Police Department personnel who were assigned to the Task Force.

### Bullet Proof Vest Program

The Bullet Proof Vest Partnership (BVP), created by the Bulletproof Vest Partnership Grant Act of 1998 is a unique U.S. Department of Justice initiative designed to provide funding for the purchase of bullet proof vests for local and state law enforcement. Through this program the Ottumwa Police Department receives a 50% reimbursement for the purchase of bulletproof vests for our uniformed officers. Bulletproof vests are replaced every five years. We purchased ten soft



body armor vests in 2019. Over one million vests have been purchased for local and state law enforcement officers the past sixteen years through this program.

### JAG Grant

The Department received **\$11,049** in federal funds from the Justice Assistance Grant Program. These funds were be used towards the cost to upgrade the current 2013 Polaris Ranger EVO to a 2019 Polaris Ranger XP1000 NorthStar utility vehicle. The ATV will allow officers more flexibility for search & rescue, to patrol the trail system and will be used during special events. The Ranger was purchased locally through R&J Performance of Ottumwa.







## 2019-2020 CAPITOL IMPROVEMENT PLANS

On May 7, 2019, the Ottumwa City Council approved the department purchase of equipment to mitigate rifle threats. The department purchased (5) BCM 5.56 Patrol rifles, replacing rifles purchased in 2000. We were able to add Aimpoint 3x magnifiers to all rifles. Also added to the new rifles were Aimpoint red-dot scopes, weapon lights and accessories.

The department also purchased (20) Active Shooter Kits from Armor Express. The kits are provided in all Police vehicles and are designed to be worn by officers at critical incidents. The added armor will enhance ballistic protection and survivability where long guns threats are present.

The total cost of the project was **\$24,446**.

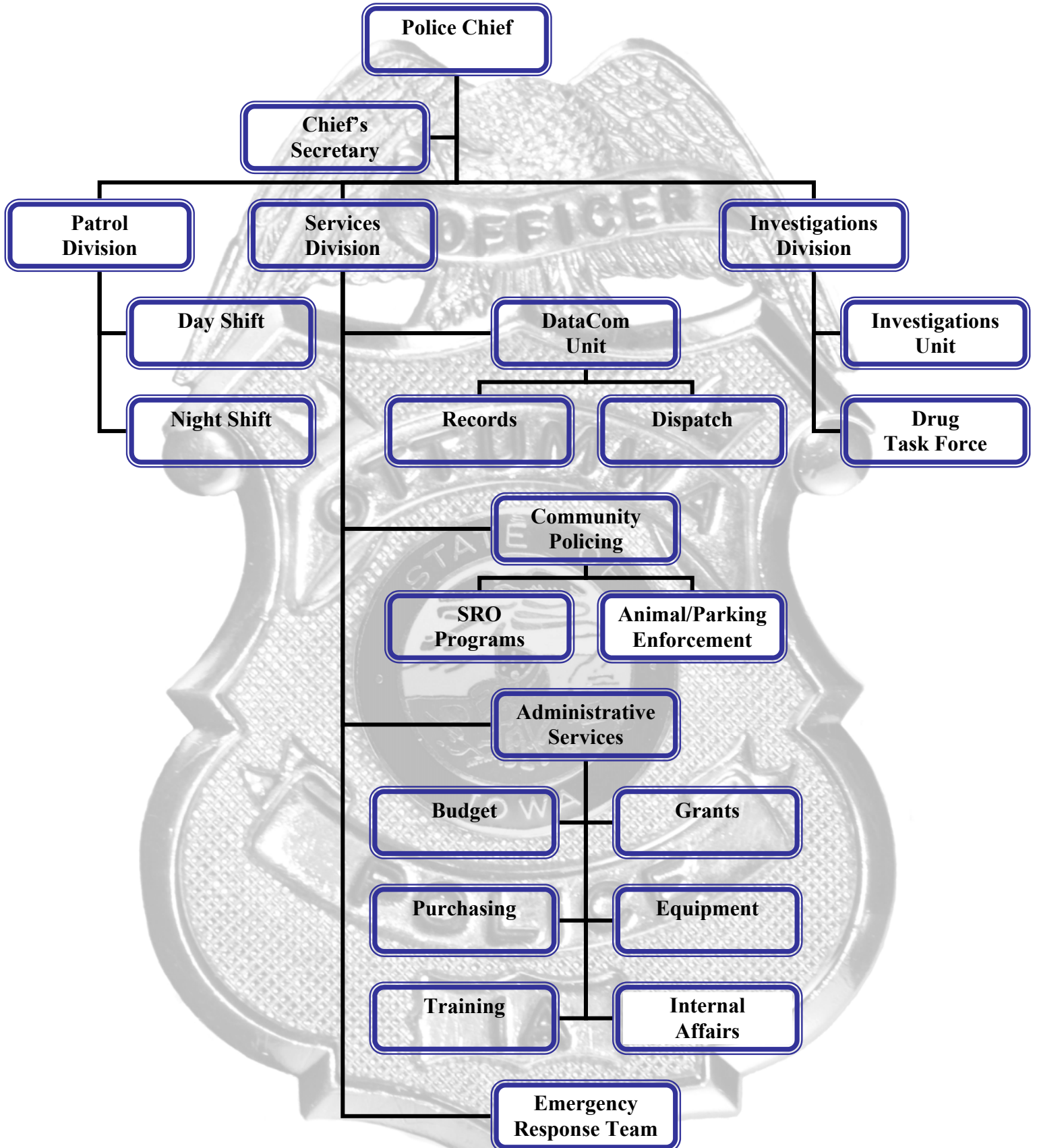
### *BCM 5.56 KMR Carbine*



### *Armor Express Active Shooter Response Kit*



# ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE





## DEPARTMENT LEADERSHIP

The Department is organized into three major components: Investigations Division, Patrol Division and Services Division. Each Division operates under the command of a Lieutenant, also referred to as a Division Commander. Each Lieutenant reports to the Chief of Police.

### **Lt. Mickey Hucks Services Division Commander**

The Services Division is divided into three groups, DataCom, Community Policing and Administrative Services.

The Division is responsible for Budget/Fiscal Management, Grant Administration, Policy Formulation, Internal Affairs, Training, Entry Level Testing, Department Equipment, Property/Evidence, D.A.R.E. /G.R.E.A.T. Program, School Resource Officers, Traffic Safety, and Community Service Officers assigned to Parking and Animal Control Enforcement. Additionally, the Division is responsible for the Records and Communications functions within the Department.

Lt. Hucks has a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Criminal Justice Administration from Mt. Mercy College in Cedar Rapids. He was hired in 1996 and promoted to the rank of Sergeant in 2004. In 2011, he was promoted to Lieutenant. Lt. Hucks has served as Housing Authority Officer, Investigations Unit Supervisor, Department Training Officer, as well as Commander of the department's Emergency Response Team.



**Lt. Chad Farrington**  
**Patrol Division Commander**

The Patrol Division is made up of eight sergeants and 19 patrol officers divided into two patrol shifts.

Activities include answering calls for service, responding to emergencies, traffic law enforcement, preliminary criminal and follow-up investigations, detection of violations of the law, and apprehension of violators of the law.

Lt. Farrington has a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Political Science and Criminal Justice. He was hired in 1998 and promoted to the rank of Sergeant in 2005. In 2013, he was promoted to Lieutenant. Lt. Farrington has served as a Patrol Training Officer, Department Training Officer, Investigator, and Team Leader of the department's Emergency Response Team. Lt. Farrington is a Taser Instructor, Lead Firearms Instructor and serves as the Department Armorer.



**Lt. Jason Bell**  
**Investigations Division Commander**

The Investigations Division is divided into two units, Investigations and the Drug Task Force.

The Investigations Unit is responsible for major case investigations, special investigations and intelligence gathering and dissemination. The Drug Task Force is responsible for investigating, apprehending, and prosecuting drug and drug-related criminal offenders in a four county area in Southeast Iowa

Lt. Bell attended Indian Hills Community College. He was hired in 1996 and was promoted to the rank of Sergeant in 2005. In 2013, he was promoted to Lieutenant. Lt. Bell has served as a Patrol Training Officer, Drug Task Force Investigator, Emergency Response Team member and Drug Task Force Supervisor.





## INVESTIGATION DIVISION

### Investigations Unit

The Investigations Unit is a component of the Investigations Division. Under the supervision of the Investigations Commander, an Investigator has the responsibility to investigate a variety of criminal and non-criminal incidents involving crimes against persons, crimes against property, and general investigations; recover stolen property; apprehend offenders; and perform crime scene processing. In 2019, Investigators conducted a total of 107 criminal investigations including, 1 Attempted Murder, 1 Murder, 44 Sex Abuses, 4 Sexual Exploitations, 4 Assaults, 5 Child Endangerments, 1 Prostitution, 5 Robberies, 2 Dissemination of Obscene Material, 2 Possession with the Intent to Deliver, 1 Felon in Possession of a Firearm, 11 Death Investigations.

Job specifications for Police Officer/Investigator includes;

- Knowledge of the fundamentals of police work;
- Knowledge of investigative techniques;
- Knowledge of the rules of evidence, laws of arrest, search and seizures and court procedures;
- Ability to gather, analyze and evaluate facts and evidence and to draw sound conclusions;
- Ability to prepare clear and concise reports;
- Possess interview and interrogations skills;
- Knowledge of photography techniques and equipment;



*Investigator Mike Sieren*



*Investigator Scott Adams*



*Investigator Jeremy Tosh*

# CRIME SCENE DO NOT CROSS



The picture to the left shows Investigators rummaging through mounds of garbage in order to find an important piece of evidence in a case.

The picture to the right shows officers surrounding a house with a barricaded subject inside during less than ideal temperatures and weather conditions. The subject eventually surrendered after several hours.





## SOUTHEAST IOWA INTER-AGENCY DRUG TASK FORCE

In an effort to facilitate multi-jurisdictional drug investigations, area cities and counties banded together to form the Southeast Iowa Inter-Agency Drug Task Force in 1990. The overall mission of the Task Force is to identify, investigate, apprehend and prosecute drug and drug related criminal offenders in its four county area. The Task Force targets drug manufacturers and traffickers through shared investigatory and prosecutorial resources. Our expected outcome is to reduce the availability and demand for controlled substances through the use of the multi-jurisdictional task force in conjunction with its member agencies.



Key activities of the Drug Task Force include the purchase of drugs utilizing confidential informants and undercover officers; investigation of methamphetamine manufacturers through surveillance, informants and information supplied by local businesses who sell precursors; case preparation and court testimony; prosecution of drug cases by the DTF Prosecutor; intelligence gathering and dissemination and coordination of drug investigations with member agencies.

In 2019, the Southeast Iowa Inter-Agency Drug Task Force participated in the execution of 51 search warrants and seized 3 clandestine methamphetamine labs.

The following is a list of controlled substances and firearms the Task Force confiscated in 2019 as the result of search warrants, undercover purchases and controlled purchases.

Methamphetamine	3402.8 grams
THC Oil/Concentrate	413.7 grams
Marijuana	13.3 pounds
Marijuana Commercial Plant seized	183 plants
Pharmaceuticals	240.75 dosages
Pharmaceuticals Drop Box	270 pounds
Ecstasy	168 dosages
Heroin	20.7 grams
Firearms	25



The Task Force initiated 21 distribution cases, 2 manufacture investigations, and 11 possession cases. Investigators made 2 case referrals involving an individual to the U. S. Attorney's Office for federal prosecution. Investigators filed a total of 98 charges against 47 individuals.

# SERVICES DIVISION

## School Resource Officer Program

The Police Department partners with the Ottumwa Community School District through the School Resource Officer Program. An officer has been assigned full-time at the Ottumwa High School since 1994 while an officer has been assigned full-time at Evans Middle School since 1996. In 2008, a second officer was assigned full-time at the High School. The presence of the officers reduces the potential for crime-related problems and helps to provide a safer environment at each school. An additional benefit is the increased interaction between students and police officers due to the officers' accessibility. The Ottumwa Community School District pays 66% of the salary and benefits of the SRO assigned to the Evans Middle School, and two SROs at the Ottumwa High School.



*Officer Brandon Gravett*



*Officer Scott Carlson*

### ***DARE*** Program

The Ottumwa Police Department has partnered with the Ottumwa Community School District to instruct the Drug Abuse Resistance Education Program, commonly referred to as ***DARE***, in the elementary schools. The ***DARE*** Program is an integral part of the Department's community policing initiative as well as the School District's substance abuse prevention curriculum. The curriculum consists of ten weeks of instruction that focuses on a variety of substance abuse prevention and self-esteem topics, including drugs and their effects, violence, decision making, consequences, social pressures and their sources, and respect. The Ottumwa Community School District contributes \$10,000 annually towards the cost of the elementary program.



*Officer Katlyn Overturf*



*Officer Chase Johnson*



# Walmart Sponsors D.A.R.E. Bicycle Awards

The Ottumwa Police Department is involved in teaching the D.A.R.E. program to the fifth graders

in the Ottumwa Community School District. After the students complete the ten week D.A.R.E. program the police department has a pizza party and graduation ceremony for the kids. As part of this graduation awards are given out and there are drawings for bicycles for a boy and girl from the D.A.R.E. classes at each school.

Walmart has been a regular sponsor of the Ottumwa Police Department's D.A.R.E. program and has done so again. A grant request to Walmart for D.A.R.E. was applied for in December 2019. Walmart approved it and donated \$2,250.00 dollars which will be used to purchase the bicycles for the students that win them. The students don't just win a bicycle, but go to Walmart with D.A.R.E. Officer Katlyn Overturf to pick out the bicycle they want. The Ottumwa Police Department is very appreciative in Walmart assisting us in making a special D.A.R.E. memory in these children's lives.





*Chief Tom McAndrew, Walmart Manager, Joseph Connell, Sgt Noah Aljets*

### **Community Service Officer**



*Officer Jeff Williams*

The Community Service Officer (CSO) is responsible for the enforcement of animal control ordinances within the city, parking ordinances, and other police-related tasks. In 2019, the Ottumwa Police Department impounded 345 animals and issued 201 animal citations for violation of city ordinance.



## RECORDS UNIT

The Records Unit is a component of the Services Division and maintains records of all incident reports, traffic citations, arrests, personal injury and property damage accidents, tow sheets, and other documents generated by the Department.

The Records Unit utilizes a computerized records system, which interfaces with the computer aided dispatch system used in the Communications Center. The Records Clerk is responsible for managing data from each report into the computer system so that personnel can prepare required statistical and analytical reports. In 2019, the Records Department processed 5,172 incident reports, 4,846 arrest reports, 2,391 traffic citations, 212 OWI's, 389 accident and 345 animal impounds.



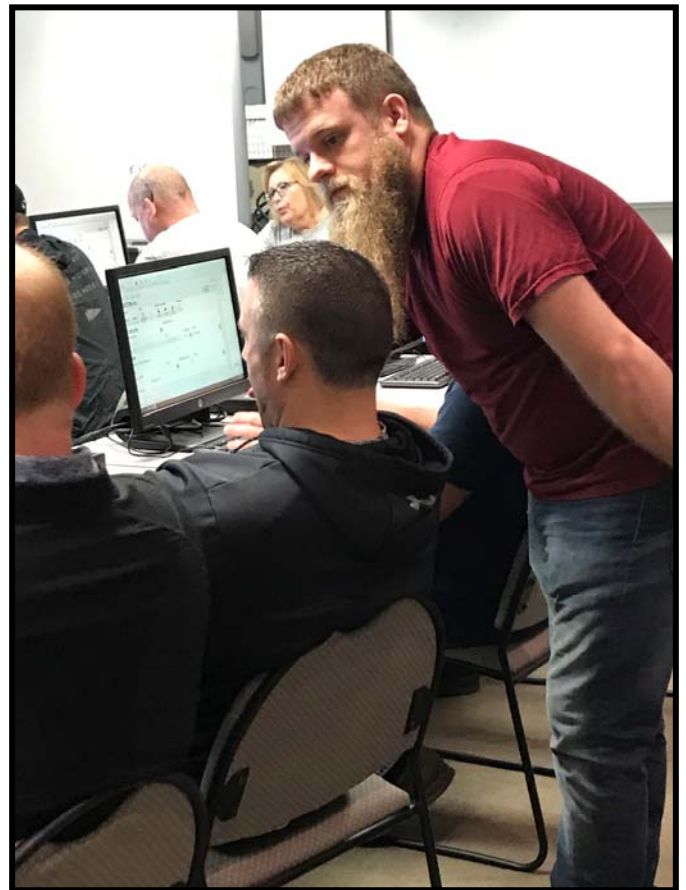
*Lynn Diveley*

The Records Clerk also provides copies of reports to the City and County Attorney, the court system, officers, insurance companies, media, and other persons or entities that need or request copies of Department reports. Criminal History checks of Department arrest records are also frequently conducted for military recruiters and employers. Release of Department records is governed by various local, state, and federal laws and guidelines. The Records Unit is staffed by one full-time Communications Specialist, who is supervised by the Datacom Supervisor.

### **MOBILE FIELD REPORTING**

In 2019, the Ottumwa Police Department Records Unit received financial assistance from the Wapello County 911 Board to obtain a new module to their in-house computer system (CIS) known as Mobile Field Reporting. The mobile client allows the officers to input their own incident and arrest reports, import State/NCIC inquiries, create narratives, upload scanned files and photos as well as many more options. Information from the actual Call for Service is automatically written into the data fields, eliminating duplicate and redundant data entry and increasing accuracy of reports. Another great addition is the CAD Mapping Module. This allows anyone in the department, Officers in squad cars, the Communications Center, and Administration to see the officer's locations and calls for service on a map of the City of Ottumwa in real time. This map also plots the 911/emergency calls directly onto the map. This assists Communications with dispatching the closest car as well as officers knowing where the emergency is located.

Implementation and training for the Mobile Field Reporting began in February 2019 when Supv. Brenda Bennett, Records Clerk, Lynn Diveley, Communication Specialist, T.J. Millikin and Sgt Justin Rice attended a 3 day Management training in Skokie, Illinois. In May of 2019 onsite training was held. Officers split into 3 groups and attended an 8 hour day of Mobile Field training. The program went live within a few days and the department jumped right into an entire new way of doing business. This new software has increased the overall efficiency of the police department greatly. It has been a much welcomed enhancement.



# COMMUNICATIONS UNIT



The Communications Unit is a component of the Services Division and is responsible for meeting the informational and communication needs of the Department in the course of its normal daily activities and during emergency situations. A Communication Specialist has a long list of job duties. They receive reports from the public of crimes, disturbances, fires, and medical or police emergencies and relay information to law enforcement, fire departments and emergency medical personnel. A Communication Specialist



questions callers to determine their locations and the nature of their problems to determine the type of response needed. They must give full attention to what other people are saying, taking time to understand the points being made, asking questions as appropriate, and not interrupting at inappropriate times. A Communication Specialist must be able to talk to others to convey information effectively. They also must be able to adjust actions in relation to others' actions. They must be capable of using sound logic and reasoning to identify the strengths and weaknesses of alternative solutions, conclusions or approaches to problems. They also must actively look for ways to help people.

A Communication Specialist receives incoming telephone or alarm system calls regarding emergency and non-emergency police and fire service, emergency ambulance service, information and after hour's calls for departments within a city. They also record details of calls, dispatches, and messages into a Computer Aided Dispatch system. A Communication Specialist enters, updates, and retrieves information from teletype networks and computerized data systems regarding such things as wanted persons, stolen property, vehicle registration, and stolen vehicles. The Communication Specialist maintains access to, and security of, highly sensitive materials.



The Communications Unit documented 55,422 activities in 2019 which included 29,378 calls-for-service. The Unit also received 11,834 emergency 911 telephone calls, averaging 32.4 emergency calls per day. These calls included police, fire and medical emergencies. The Communications Unit also answered 58,746 administrative calls. The Unit has five 911 emergency lines (2 wireless and 3 landline), and 4 administrative lines. Our Communications Unit is budgeted for eight full-time Communications Specialists (dispatchers), who report to the Datacom Supervisor.

In May of 2019, the Ottumwa Police Department Telecommunicators were recognized by their peers across the State of Iowa by receiving the APCO Team of the Year Award. This ceremony was held at the annual APCO/NENA Conference in Altoona, Iowa. The team comprised of T.J. Millikin, Jennifer Findley, Amber Paull, Supv. Brenda Bennett, Alexa Jones and Tia Walker accepted this award which stemmed from a 4 hour standoff on August 3, 2018. The team earning this well-deserved honor is pictured below with Chief Tom McAndrew, Sgt. Noah Aljets and Lt. Mickey Hucks.



*Iowa Telecommunications Team of the Year*

# OTTUMWA ANIMAL CONTROL

Community Service Officer Jeff Williams partnered with the Heartland Humane Society to administer the Facebook page of the **Ottumwa Animal Control Ottumwa Police Dept.** to assist community members



in finding their lost pets. When the Ottumwa Police Department finds a stray animal, they catch it and transport it to Heartland Humane Society in Ottumwa. Heartland Humane staff posts a photograph and description of the animal on the Facebook page along with instructions on how to claim the animal. This effort has proven very effective in reuniting owners with their pets as well as sparking interest in the adoption of unclaimed pets.

Heartland Humane boards found animals for five days unless we know who the owner is, then it is seven days per city code. If the animal does not get adopted, it may be euthanized; however, most of the animals that have not been claimed after five days go to Heartland Humane or a state licensed rescue to be placed for adoption.

The Ottumwa Police Department encourages all pet owners to be responsible stewards of the animals they keep. Dog licensing is the best insurance for getting your dog returned to you in case he or she becomes lost. It also lets our officers know if the dog is currently vaccinated against rabies. We encourage spaying and neutering as the best solution to controlling the pet over-population. Dog licenses can be purchased at the Ottumwa Police Department, City Hall or at most local veterinarian offices for \$10 in January if spayed or neutered, \$20 if not spayed or neutered. Starting February 1<sup>st</sup>, a \$5 late fee is applied. A dog license will then be \$15 for spayed or neutered animals and \$25 if not. \$5 of the dog license fees will be given to Heartland Humane Society to assist with funding. A city dog license must be renewed in January of every year.



In 2019, a total of 345 animals were impounded by the Ottumwa Police Department.

## Chickens & Rabbits



In June of 2015 the Ottumwa City Council adopted changes to the Municipal Code to allow residents to legally keep rabbits and chickens within the city limits of Ottumwa under a permit to be issued by the Ottumwa Police Department.

Persons wishing to keep chickens and rabbits must meet certain requirements in order to receive a permit. A maximum of six chickens and/or rabbits may be kept per premise. No roosters are allowed. The animals must be kept in a coop or pen, and are not allowed to run at large. Coops or pens must be in a rear yard area and at least ten feet away from the property line. They must be at least fifty feet away from any adjacent residential dwelling, building, church, school or place of business. Coops and pens are subject to inspection to ensure adequate space for each animal and proper sanitation of the enclosure. The initial permit fee is \$60 and is valid for three years.

Persons who would like to keep chickens or rabbits within the city limits must contact Officer Jeff Williams at the Ottumwa Police Department at 641-683-0648 to begin the permit application process.



The City's Urban Chicken and Rabbit Policy can be reviewed online at [cityofottumwa.com](http://cityofottumwa.com)







## PATROL DIVISION

The Patrol Unit is a component of the Patrol Division, under the direction of the Patrol Division Commander. A Patrolman's function to the community cannot be overestimated. Patrol is the mainstay of police work whether measured in terms of police patrol personnel, the portion of the budget allocated to patrol operations, or the fact that the uniformed police officer is the most visible component of the Department. Patrol Officers work 12 hour shifts comprised of a Day Squad from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. and a Night Squad from 6 p.m. to 6 a.m. The manner in which patrol officers discharge their responsibilities affects not only the quality of justice, but also citizens' perceptions of the Department and law enforcement in general.

The functions and major responsibilities of the Patrol Unit include, but are not limited to:

- Responding to routine and emergency calls-for-service 24 hours per day, every day of the year
- Arresting criminal offenders
- The investigation of incidents, offenses, and criminal acts
- Traffic enforcement
- Traffic direction and control
- Accident investigation
- Crime prevention
- Preventative patrol directed towards the prevention of criminal acts and traffic violations, the maintenance of public order, and the discovery of hazardous situations
- Parking enforcement
- Animal enforcement
- Inspectional services to determine compliance with various statutes including liquor and gambling laws
- Community relations
- The sharing of information with other divisions of the Department and with outside agencies

The Patrol Division consists of the Patrol Division Commander, 8 Patrol Supervisors and 19 Patrol Officers.





## Emergency Response Team

The Emergency Response Team (ERT) was formed in 1991 to handle high-risk calls and warrant services. Since then, the Ottumwa Police Department and the Wapello County Sheriff's Office joined together to form a joint Emergency Response Team. The ERT trains monthly in the use of special weapons and tactics, and trains to respond to a wide variety of emergency situations in the city and county.

The team consists of thirteen members, all of whom are sworn law enforcement officers with either the Police or Sheriff's Department. Each team member is assigned to other areas of their respective Department on a full-time basis and participation on the team is in addition to their regular duties. Members volunteer to serve on the team and all officers are eligible to apply for positions as they become available. Upon appointment to the team, personnel are required to maintain satisfactory performance during both regular duty assignments and ERT activities.

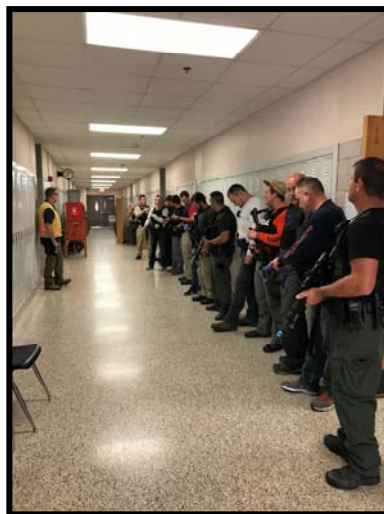
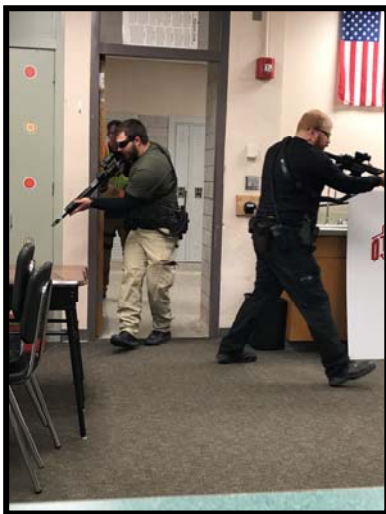


The Emergency Response Team can be deployed for any situation that requires a police response that likely could result in serious injury and/or death to citizens, officers, or suspects. The ERT team was deployed a total of two times in 2019.

Lt. Mickey Hucks is the Emergency Response Team Commander. Under the direction of the Chief, the Team Commander is responsible for the overall operation, direction, and administration of the Emergency Response Team. When the ERT is deployed, he is the liaison between the Chief of Police and the Team, and carries out all orders of the Chief. Sergeant Noah Aljets is the Team Leader. Under the direction of the Team Commander, he is responsible for the training and immediate supervision of the team, and for its deployment at the scene of a critical incident.

While we can never be completely prepared for all eventualities, we must constantly strive to expand our resources and capabilities to ensure the highest likelihood for success while ensuring the highest possible degree of safety in all of our enforcement activities.

The Emergency Response Team regularly conducts active shooter training at local schools and businesses.



# PART I INDEX CRIMES



Part 1 Index Crimes are divided into two categories – property crime and violent crime. Property crimes are burglary, theft, motor vehicle theft, and arson. Violent crimes consist of murder, rape, robbery, and aggravated assault.

## PART 1 Index Crimes by Year

### \*LOCAL

	Homicide	Rape	Robbery	Aggravated Assault	Burglary	Theft	Motor Vehicle Theft	Arson
2019	1	55	13	295	217	697	69	8
2018	3	55	14	266	270	748	82	7
2017	0	55	14	260	288	811	82	19
2016	1	41	8	181	221	628	71	4
2015	1	45	6	212	223	638	65	8
2014	1	48	8	233	177	966	53	13
2013	0	54	5	208	288	991	63	5
2012	1	36	31	162	241	874	37	20

### \*\*UCR

	Homicide	Rape	Robbery	Aggravated Assault	Burglary	Theft	Motor Vehicle Theft	Arson
***2019								
2018	1	20	8	72	230	753	91	9
2017	0	23	13	107	287	918	89	n/a
2016	1	20	8	79	241	767	91	n/a
2015	1	15	8	52	237	633	76	n/a
2014	1	14	6	51	190	821	64	n/a
2013	0	19	5	50	284	835	69	n/a
2012	1	7	17	45	263	662	35	n/a

\*Part 1 Index Crime Statistics that meet local and state law definitions.

\*\* Part 1 Index Crime Statistics that meet Uniform Crime Report definitions.

\*\*\*2019 Uniform Crime Report statistics will not be available until September of 2020.

## **Ottumwa Police Department Reported Crimes vs. FBI Uniform Crime Reported Crimes**

### **Why don't they match?**

The definition of specific crimes often times vary from state to state. For example, the definition of aggravated assault in Iowa may not be the same as the definition for aggravated assault in California or Kentucky. With this in mind the FBI attempts to ensure data is uniformly reported to the FBI by providing reporting agencies a guideline handbook that explains how to classify and score offenses, and provides uniform crime definitions. The FBI cautions reporting agencies to report offenses (crimes) not according to local or state law but according to those guidelines provided by the FBI. Aggravated Assaults reported account for the largest discrepancy between local and federal (UCR) crime reporting.

The FBI Uniform Crime Report (UCR) defines an aggravated assault in part as: An unlawful attack by one person upon another for the purpose of inflicting severe or aggravated bodily injury. This type of assault usually is accompanied by the use of a weapon and/or by means likely to produce death or great bodily harm (broken bones, internal injuries, stitches). All assaults upon a person with the intent to kill, maim, or inflict severe bodily injury with the use of any dangerous weapon are classified as aggravated assault.

The Code of Iowa states in part: A person who commits an assault with the intent to inflict a serious injury upon another, is guilty of an aggravated misdemeanor. A person who commits an assault and uses or displays a dangerous weapon in connection with the assault, is guilty of an aggravated misdemeanor.

The State of Iowa definition has a lower threshold (intent to inflict serious injury) than the Uniform Crime Report threshold (broken bones, internal Injuries, stitches). Therefore the number of aggravated assault reports documented by the Ottumwa Police Department is much greater than aggravated assault incidents reported by the Uniform Crime Report. Those assaults reported to the Ottumwa Police Department that do not meet the UCR definition of aggravated assault are classified by the UCR as simple assaults which are not Part 1 Index Crimes.

In 2018, the Ottumwa Police Department reported 266 aggravated assaults meeting the State of Iowa code definition of aggravated assault. However, only 72 of those assaults met the UCR definition of aggravated assault. There are numerous other crimes reported that are documented in this same manner.

### **Should comparisons be made between cities using the Uniform Crime Report?**

Figures used in the UCR are submitted "in good faith" by more than 18,000 agencies. However, because of computer problems, changes in records management systems, personnel shortages, or a number of other reasons, some agencies do not provide any/or accurate data to the FBI. For these reasons the FBI cautions against drawing conclusions by making direct comparisons between cities. Comparisons lead to simplistic and/or incomplete analyses that often create misleading perceptions adversely affecting communities and their residents.

+



# ANNUAL STATISTICS

Year	Annual Budget	Alternative Funding	Activities	Calls for Service	Incidents	Arrests	Traffic Citations	OWI's	Personal Injury Accidents	Property Damage Accidents	Fatalities	Animals Impounded
2009	\$3,462,270.00	\$530,404.94	58,038	29,298	4,098	3,780	5,179	162	156	265	1	430
2010	\$3,628,290.00	\$675,091.41	57,691	29,197	4,084	3,925	4,168	180	130	274	2	355
2011	\$3,953,135.00	\$817,277.08	58,825	27,329	3,980	3,987	4,042	146	121	227	1	400
2012	\$4,336,770.00	\$483,794.31	63,505	29,111	3,893	3,775	4,554	120	119	190	0	337
2013	\$4,520,419.00	\$437,685.00	63,503	29,614	4,164	3,899	3,041	118	110	255	0	343
2014	\$4,548,624.00	\$377,620.00	63,163	31,199	3,944	3,599	3,010	95	118	257	0	365
2015	\$4,771,665.00	\$407,581.00	60,727	29,234	3,589	3,414	3,057	102	96	233	2	257
2016	\$4,691,056.00	\$401,292.00	62,800	25,542	3,731	3,554	2,772	113	111	223	1	246
2017	\$4,978,393.00	\$330,547.55	65,777	28,136	4,807	4,662	2,105	125	115	213	1	204
2018	\$5,507,426.00	\$340,927.65	64,338	29,362	4,511	4,648	2,251	165	128	230	1	219
2019	\$5,897,036.00	\$343,918.80	55,422	29,378	5,172	4,846	2,391	212	123	264	2	345



# OPERATING WHILE INTOXICATED

In 2019, the Ottumwa Police Department arrested 212 persons for drunk driving. The following is a summary of the drivers arrested for OWI (Operating While Intoxicated) in 2019:

- The average age of the drivers was 26.
- 73.6 % (156) of the drivers were male.
- 26.4 % (56) of the drivers were female.
- The average blood alcohol content of the drivers was .174. (As of July 2003, a person with blood alcohol content of .08 or above is considered legally intoxicated in Iowa).
- 51 persons refused to provide a breath sample in order to determine the level of alcohol in their system. (Failure to provide a sample for testing results in a person having their driver's license revoked for a minimum of one year).
- 6.5 % of accidents are alcohol related in Ottumwa.
- 48.3 % of Ottumwa's accidents resulted in personal injury or death.



## GTSB Year End Report

The Ottumwa Police Department received a total of \$25,500 from the GTSB which was used for directed overtime enforcement and equipment. In partnership with GTSB, the Department set a goal of using 310 hours of overtime for high-visibility traffic enforcement in Ottumwa. From October 1, 2018 through September 30, 2019, we used 312.75 hours of overtime, which exceeded our original goal. Listed below are some additional goals and results reported to the GTSB;

- Alcohol related offense - OWI, drugged, .02, public intoxication, PULA, open container - Result 610 Arrests
- Occupant Restraint – day/night seatbelt & child restraint - Result 31 Citations
- Moving/Speed Violations – speed, stop sign/traffic light citations - Result 344.



# ARREST AND TRAFFIC CITATIONS BY RACE AND GENDER

Ottumwa enjoys a very diverse population. In an effort to support our diversity, the Police Department has implemented a program to collect statistical data on the race and gender of each person arrested or issued a traffic citation. The data is then reviewed in order to ensure that officers are not engaged in racial profiling and that laws are enforced without regard to race, gender, or ethnicity.

## Arrests

Gender	White	Black	Hispanic	Other	Total	Percentage
Male	2710	349	250	100	3409	70.3%
Female	1285	57	79	17	1438	29.7%
Total	3995	406	329	117	4847	
Percentage	82.4%	8.4%	6.8%	2.4%		

## Traffic Citations

Gender	White	Black	Hispanic	Other	Total	Percentage
Male	1147	154	167	47	1515	63.4
Female	763	39	61	13	876	36.6
Total	1910	193	228	60	2391	
Percentage	79.9%	8.1%	9.5%	2.5%		







## 2019 CALLS FOR SERVICE

Listed below are the Police Department's calls for service. Calls for service are defined as when a citizen calls in for some type of service. This is not an all-inclusive list.

911 Hang UP	811	Dist by Auto	120	Personal Injury Accident	95
Fight	99	Domestic Disturbance	298	Fingerprints	245
Armed Weapon	19	Fireworks	216	Found Property	423
Building Check	195	Fire	64	Robbery	12
Assist Motorist	529	Harassment	519	Reckless Driving	469
OWI	86	Hit and Run	256	Shooting/stabbing	16
Intoxicated person	159	Illegally Parked Car	1746	Shoplifting	141
Mental	409	Juvenile	566	Suspicious Person	2534
Assault	340	Keep the Peace	475	See Subject	2282
Alarm	865	Loud music	295	Suspicious Vehicle	1215
Animal Complaint	1958	Medical	228	Theft	1351
Assist Other Agency	394	Missing Person	305	Traffic Problem	442
Burglary	374	Open Building	77	Trespass	139
Criminal Mischief	347	Other	792	Violation Restraining	
Disturbance	1554	Phone call	5139	Order	173
Dead Animal	42	Property Damage			
		Accident	638	Welfare Check	720

## OFFICER INITIATED ACTIVITIES

Building Check	77	Investigation	3900
Park and Walk	2258	Serve warrant	996
Drive Through	111	Traffic Stop	3959
		School Walk Through	31

\*Listed above are officer initiated activities. This is not an all-inclusive list.



The Ottumwa Police Department Policy and Procedure Manual requires officers who take any action which results in (or is alleged to have resulted in) the injury or death of another person and/or applies force through the use of chemical agents, empty hand hard techniques, striking weapons, less-lethal weapons, or employs deadly force to complete a Use of Force Report.

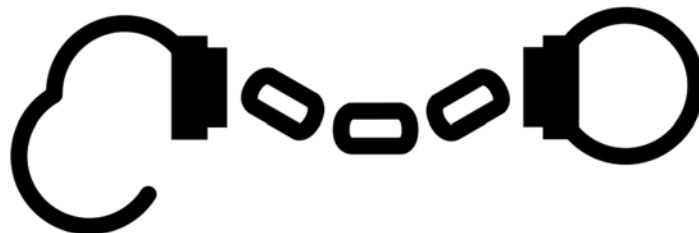
The on duty supervisor investigates the circumstances surrounding the incident and submits a report to the Division Commander who then reviews the incident. The Division Commander forwards his findings to the Chief of Police.

In 2019, the Ottumwa Police Department documented fifty-two (52) Use of Force Reports. Of those fifty-two (52) reports, twenty-four (24) were required in order to comply with OPD policy.

Those incidents that by policy required a Use of Force Report included the following:

- Empty Hand Hard Techniques – 7
- Taser Deployment – 12
- Chemical Agents – OC Pepper Spray - 5
- Deadly Force – Firearm 1

The remaining Use of Force reports did not meet the criteria requiring a Use of Force Report; however, Use of Force Reports were completed as a matter of practice. These reports included incidents such as empty hand soft techniques, incidents where persons were handcuffed for short amounts of time but not arrested and incidents involving officers physically restraining persons in the hospital emergency room while medical staff administered sedatives to patients.



## NEW EMPLOYEE



**Jordan Woodward**  
**Patrol Division**

Officer Jordan Woodward was sworn in as an Ottumwa Police Officer on August 19, 2019. Officer Woodward graduated from Lisbon High School in 2015 where he was a two time state wrestler, golfer and was 2<sup>nd</sup> team all-district football. Woodward attended the Iowa Law Enforcement Academy 288<sup>th</sup> Basic Level I training class graduating December 13, 2019. Woodward is currently completing the Patrol Officer Training Program and is currently assigned to the Patrol Division.

The Police Department is staffed with 42 sworn officers, 11 full time and 1 part time civilians. All positions within the Police Department are civil service positions and subject to Chapter 400 of the Iowa Code. Officers and Communications Specialists are represented by the Ottumwa Police Union, Teamster's Local # 238.



## Police Chaplain



Rick Bick is the Pastor of NewLife Center in Ottumwa. Next year he will celebrate 43 years in ministry. He and his wife came to Ottumwa nine years ago with a vision to work with other area churches serving the community. He was drawn to Ottumwa by the city's slogan, City of Bridges, River of Opportunity. He sees the Chaplain program as an opportunity to partner with local law enforcement in making a difference in Ottumwa.

The Police Chaplain provides personal services to officers and their families in times of stress and difficulty, provides services to the community in times of personal or city-wide crisis, assists officers in addressing community issues and promotes community policing ideals.

The Chaplain acts as a volunteer and supports official functions of the Department. The Chaplain attends regular training sessions and meetings and rides along with patrol officers on a regular basis.

Visitation with sick or injured officers and their family members is a part of the Chaplain's responsibility. The Chaplain engages in confidential discussions, provides guidance as appropriate and may be directed to act as the special representative of the Chief of Police under whatever circumstances might indicate or require extensive counseling. The Chaplain is also responsible for carrying out the following duties:

- Assist in funeral arrangements as requested for current and former Department members.
- Provide invocations and benedictions at ceremonies and other official Department functions.
- Provide moral and emotional support to police officers and the community as may be needed following a major incident.
- Assist officers with death notifications and provide emotional support for family member(s) until their clergy person or other assisting person can arrive on scene.
- Act as liaison between family members and the Department as requested, helping the victims of a criminal act understand the role of law enforcement.
- Provide assistance and direction to victims seeking counseling and advice.



The goal of the Below 100 Initiative is to reduce police line-of-duty deaths (LODDs) to fewer than 100 per year.

The last time LODDs were below 100 was 1944. For the last 50 years, the average has been well over 150 and the

last decade over 160. 2010 and 2011 both had 174 line-of-duty deaths. The first complete year after Below 100 began was 2012 and we saw a 50 year low in line-of-duty deaths with 120. According to the Officer Down Memorial Page, in 2019, there were 134 Line of Duty Deaths.

The Five Tenants of Below 100 are:

### 1. Wear Your Belt

It might sound simple to you, even unnecessary, but the truth is too many agencies don't mandate belt wear. And even among those that do, many officers ignore policy because the culture doesn't value it. *The truth:* Seatbelts save lives.

### 2. Wear Your Vest

We know vests save lives. We know that bullets can fly when we least expect it. Add to that the fact that body armor can improve your likelihood of surviving a car accident or other traumatic event and you quickly see why you must wear it. Always. Period.

### 3. Watch Your Speed

Why do cops drive fast? Because they can, right? Well, driving faster than what conditions warrant is a sure way to get in trouble. Of course there are times when getting on scene quickly is critical. But these times are rare. Too often, officers are speeding—just because they can. In the process, they are putting themselves and the public at perilous risk *for no good reason*.

### 4. WIN—What's Important Now?

It's a simple question that can elicit profound results. It's a question that will lead to deliberate action, not reaction. If you are constantly prioritizing what's most important, you won't have time for the distractions that can get you in trouble, hurt or killed.

### 5. Remember: Complacency Kills!

Chief Jeff Chudwin perhaps said it best: "Complacency is among the most dangerous and insidious threats we face because it lays us open to all others." Complacency is why police officers think they can go without vest and seatbelts. It's why they think they can speed and allow themselves to be distracted. To quote Chief Chudwin again: "Complacency will kill you."

# PROFESSIONALISM THROUGH TRAINING



The Police Department has an obligation to provide a professional standard of law enforcement service to the community. In fulfilling that responsibility, it is essential to properly train all employees. The Iowa Legislature also recognizes the need to properly train law enforcement personnel and, as a result, has mandated specific training for both sworn and civilian employees.

## *Academy Training*



Iowa Administrative Code (IAC) Chapter 501-3.1(1) requires that any person hired as a police officer must become certified through the Iowa Law Enforcement Academy within one year from the date of hire. The Iowa Law Enforcement Academy is located at Camp Dodge in Johnston, Iowa. Currently, the police academy is fourteen (15) weeks in duration and its curriculum includes training in patrol techniques, traffic law and enforcement, officer survival skills, investigation of specific crimes, criminal and constitutional law, court procedures, and human behavior. The Police Department sent 5 new recruits to the academy in 2019. The cost of the academy was approximately \$8,000 per officer.

## *PTO Training*

Following academy certification and a return to the Department, a recruit officer is placed in the Police Training Officer Program (PTO). The PTO Program is a minimum of fifteen (15) weeks in duration and is the process by which an individual recruit officer receives formal job instruction. Each recruit is placed with a Patrol Training Officer and receives consistent, systematic, and documented training while in the program. The recruit is evaluated weekly by his PTO and the shift supervisor. Additionally, each recruit is evaluated midway through the training with a comprehensive evaluation at the end of the training period. Following successful completion of the program, each recruit officer functions as a single-officer unit and is evaluated by his supervisor on a monthly basis through the remainder of the probationary period. Although state law does not require implementing a PTO Program, agencies that fail to do so have been found to be negligent by federal courts in civil lawsuits.

## *Dispatcher Training*

IAC Chapter 501-13.2(1) requires that any person hired as a police dispatcher must successfully complete a 40-hour basic telecommunicator training course within one year from the date of hire. Currently, only the Iowa Law Enforcement Academy offers the course. Its curriculum includes human relations and communications skills, basic dispatch/broadcast techniques, multiple tasking and prioritization, liability and legal issues, and stress management and awareness. The Iowa Administrative Code also requires each dispatcher to receive a minimum of 8 hours of in-service training annually. In addition to training requirements, dispatchers must be certified every two years to operate the NCIC/state computer system. This is the system that is used to query motor vehicle registrations, driver licenses, wanted or missing persons, and stolen property.

## *Training Administration*

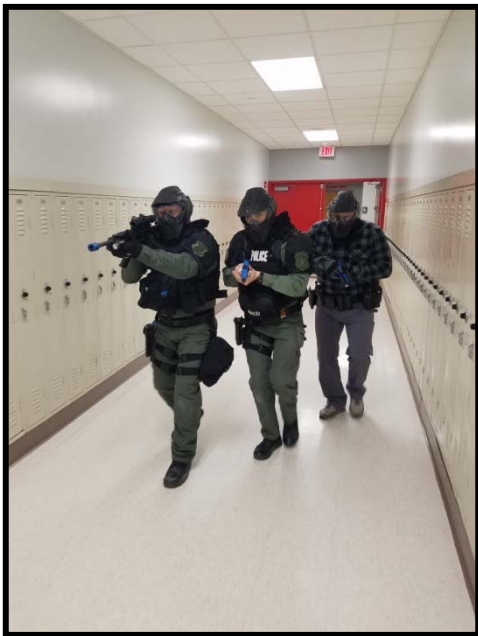
The Sergeant assigned to the Services Division is responsible for the training function. This person spends approximately half his time performing training duties while the other half is spent supervising Services Division personnel and performing administrative duties.

# ALICE TRAINING



In 2019, the Ottumwa Police Department presented 3 ALiCE training seminars and 3 site walk throughs to local school faculty, medical facilities and religious organizations. The purpose of ALiCE training is to prepare individuals to handle the threat of an Active Shooter. ALiCE teaches individuals to participate in their own survival, while leading others to safety.

ALiCE is an acronym for Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter and Evacuate. These are five strategies available to protect oneself during an active shooter incident:



- **ALERT** is to notify as many people as possible within the danger zone that a potentially life threatening risk exists.
- **LOCKDOWN** is to secure in place, and prepare to EVACUATE or COUNTER, if needed.
- **INFORM** is to continue to communicate the intruder's location in real time.
- **COUNTER** is to interrupt the intruder and make it difficult or impossible to aim. This is a strategy of last resort.
- **EVACUATE** is to remove yourself from the danger zone when it is safe to do so.

The term, "active shooter" is used by law enforcement to describe a situation in which a shooting is in progress and an aspect of the crime may affect the protocols used in responding to and reacting at the scene of the incident.

Unlike defined crime, such as a murder or mass killing, the active aspect inherently implies that both law enforcement personnel and citizens have the potential to affect the outcome of the event based upon their responses.

The year 2019 marked the final year that the Ottumwa Police Department will be teaching the A.L.i.C.E. program. Starting in 2020 the police department will be presenting "Active Shooter Training for Citizens". The Department remains committed to providing this type of training and site walkthroughs for the community.



In 2019, the Ottumwa Police Department participated in the Active Attack Integrated Response Course. The Active Attack Integrated Response Course (AAIR) is a 16 hour performance level direct delivery course designed to improve integration between law enforcement, fire, telecommunicator and emergency medical services (EMS) in active attack / shooter events. The course provides law enforcement officers with key medical skills based on tactical emergency casualty care (TECC) guidelines, which can be used at the point of injury (POI) to increase survivability of victims. The course also provides a model framework for law enforcement, fire, and EMS to integrate responses during an active attack / shooter event through the rescue task force concept. This course has been designed to improve the safety and survivability of victims of active attack / shooter events and increase the effectiveness, coordination, and resource integration between law enforcement, fire, tele-communications and EMS when responding to these events.







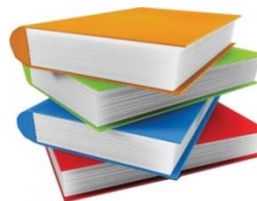
## HIGHER EDUCATION IS IMPORTANT FOR TODAY'S CRIMINAL JUSTICE PRACTITIONERS

For the past several decades, there have been efforts to increase the education requirements for law enforcement officers across the country. Newspaper, magazine, and journal articles cite numerous studies whose findings support the notion that better educated police officers are better performers. Increasingly, departments are requiring applicants to have completed a certain number of college credit hours or even earned two or four-year college degrees.

Researchers, practitioners, commissions, and even police agencies themselves have been calling for increased education requirements for police officers for many reasons. Some point out that police work has become increasingly complex and, as a result, education requirements for police officers should be increased. Others suggest that better educated police officers will be "more rounded thinkers and exhibit a greater humanistic approach to the profession." Still others believe that college educated officers were less likely to break the rules and, consequently, needed less discipline. Most agree that college educated officers have better communications skills, both oral and written.

Although the minimum educational requirement to be an Ottumwa Police Officer is graduation from high school or possession of a GED, we have been fortunate to develop a close relationship with the Criminal Justice Program at Indian Hills Community College as well as similar programs at colleges across Iowa. As a result, we have a high percentage of our employees with advanced college degrees. The following is a breakdown of the higher education possessed by our sworn officers and civilian employees:

- 25 employees 47% Bachelor Degree
- 12 employees 25% Associate Degree
- 9 employees 18% Some College
- 5 employees 10% No College Credits
- **51 employees 100%**



### Employee Averages

Interesting facts about Ottumwa Police Department personnel:

- Average age of an Ottumwa Police Officer is 37.2 years.
- Average age of a patrol officer is 34.2 years.
- Average years on the department of all sworn is 12.2 years
- Average years on the department for patrol officers is 9.7 years.
- Average years at the rank of Sergeant is 5.7 years
- Average years at the rank of Lieutenant is 7.6.

## 9<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL CITIZEN'S POLICE ACADEMY

In 2011, the Ottumwa Police Department implemented a new program called the Citizens Police Academy. As part of our community policing effort, the purpose of the Academy is to provide an educational opportunity for citizens to learn first-hand about local police operations and to gain a deeper understanding of today's law enforcement functions. It is our belief that a clearer understanding of a police officer's duties, how the officer carries out those duties, and the end result of the officer's actions will help develop a better relationship between the police department and the community.

The Citizens Police Academy is an eight-week program, with each session lasting three hours. Sessions were held from 6:00 – 9:00 PM on each Monday in February and March. The course curriculum included: Department Overview & Orientation, Administration, Operations Division, Services Division, Drug Task Force, Gang Suppression, Animal Control, Parking Enforcement, Immigration, Communications (Dispatch), and Records.

Participants also had the opportunity to schedule time on the Department's new state-of-the-art use-of-force simulator and test his/her judgment in reacting to potentially volatile situations. Participants also had the option of going to the Department's firearms range during the summer and shooting a variety of weapons.



**Lindsey Cale  
Aleigha De Leon  
Taren Ferguson  
Suzanne Gulbranson  
Michael Hodoly  
P. Jane Hodoly  
Mindy Kirkpatrick  
Ramona Parrish**

**Kristi Ridgway  
Anna Riley  
Beth Riley  
Aaron Ruff  
Jennifer Spurgeon  
Scott Van Haveren  
Dwayne Van Ness  
Tim Walker**

**The Police Department would like to thank *South Ottumwa Savings Bank* for their ongoing sponsorship of the Citizens Police Academy**



# COMMUNITY POLICING

## Shop with A Sheriff

The Ottumwa Police Department partnered with the Wapello County Sheriff's Reserve for their "Shop with a Sheriff" program. Every year the officers volunteer to go with children to buy Christmas presents for their families. This program helped about 50 families in 2019.



## Ride-Along Program

The Police Department believes a Ride-Along Program promotes a better understanding of the challenges, risks, and rewards of the police officer's role in the community. Therefore, the Department allows citizen police academy attendees and students considering a career in law enforcement to ride as passenger observers with patrol officers. All participants in the Ride-Along Program must be at least 18 years of age and must sign a liability waiver.

## Ottumwa Police Department Internship Program

The Ottumwa Police Department Internship Program is a cooperative effort between the Police Department and participating area colleges and universities with Criminal Justice Programs. Students interested in law enforcement related careers gain valuable experience and knowledge by working with officers while they perform their law enforcement duties. Upon successful completion, an intern receives academic credit for participating in the program. Interns may be assigned to the Patrol Unit, Records Unit, Communications Center, Investigations Unit, or School Resource Officer Program.

**Celebrating Police Week**  
**OTTUMWA CHRISTIAN SCHOOL**



## Crisis Intervention Training



Members of the Ottumwa Police Department and Ottumwa Fire Department participated in Crisis Intervention Training sponsored by the South Central Behavioral Health Region (Appanoose, Davis, Mahaska and Wapello Counties).

This five day, forty hour class is an innovative first-responder model of police based training to help persons with mental disorders and/or addictions access medical treatment rather than place them in the criminal justice system due to illness related behaviors. It also promotes officer safety and the safety of the individual in crisis.

Thirty-seven police officers from the Ottumwa Police Department have attended this training.



Ottumwa Police officers assisting persons in crisis.



## FAMILY FEST!

In March 2019, the Ottumwa Police Department participated in “Family Fest” held at the Bridge View Center in Ottumwa. Family Fest is sponsored by the Bridge View Center and offers an opportunity for members of the community to participate in numerous family activities. The Police Department in “Safety City” allowed citizens, with an emphasis on children, to tour police vehicles including squad cars and the Emergency response vehicle. The children especially enjoyed sitting in the squad car and operating the lights and siren.





## Race for the Cure

In May, members of the Ottumwa Police Department took part in the 2019 Komen Ottumwa Race for the Cure.



## Tours of the Police Department



Several children through the year participate in coming to the police department for a tour. The kids get to see the inside of a patrol vehicle and hear the sirens. They also get to explore the inside of the Law Enforcement Center and even get to try on a heavy bullet proof vest.



## Summer Camp for Kids

On August 7<sup>th</sup>, 2019, the Ottumwa Police Department hosted a group of children who were participating in “Detectives 101 Day Camp” through the Iowa State University Extension Office. During the presentation, investigators spoke about crime scene processing, fingerprints, photography, and other daily police activities.





## A Night to Shine



In February of 2019, The Bridge Church hosted an event sponsored by the Tim Tebow Foundation called A Night to Shine. Several Ottumwa Police Officers and Firefighters attended the night in support of people with special needs so they could have an unforgettable prom night experience.







# OTTUMWA POLICE PARTNERSHIPS

## Oktoberfest Kids BBQ

In 2019, the Ottumwa Police Department partnered with the Oktoberfest Committee by assisting in judging the first annual Oktoberfest Kids BBQ. Officer Katlyn Overturf had the pleasure of tasting numerous grilled treats from several area children. It was a hard decision to pick just one winner.



## Wapello County Sheriff's Office and Ottumwa Police Department Partners with State Drug Control Office To Expand Medication Drop Off Locations



In May of 2016, the Ottumwa Police Department and Wapello County Sheriff's Office announced the placement of a permanent Medication Drop box located in the lobby of the Wapello County Law Enforcement Center, 330 West 2<sup>nd</sup> Street. The drop box is made possible through a small grant from the Governor's Office of Drug Control Policy to address the increasing problem of prescription drug abuse. The drop box is accessible to the public during normal business hours.

Prescription drug abuse is Iowa's fastest-growing form of substance abuse, and addiction to powerful pain relievers is also fueling more heroin use. Prescription pain pills and heroin are both opioid drugs. The combination is contributing to an increase in opioid-related overdose deaths in Iowa and the U.S.

Citizens wishing to utilize the medication drop box are asked to place all medications in sealed non-breakable containers and are requested to not include any "sharps" (syringes or lancets) or any other item that could cause injury to the Department staff servicing the drop box.

### Partnering with Local Law Enforcement to Raise Funds for Whatsoever You Do

On Saturday, September 14th, 2019, members of local law enforcement participated in a great fundraiser for Whatsoever You Do. The Wapello County Rural Fire Department, Iowa State Highway Patrol, ORMICS, Wapello County Sheriff's Office and Ottumwa Police Department all took part in the fundraiser for the local outreach. Emergency Services Personnel decorated their aprons which they wore while serving food at the event. The aprons were auctioned later in the evening.



## Coffee with a Cop

The Ottumwa Chamber of Commerce held Coffee with a Cop in 2019. Coffee with a Cop goal is to improve trust and build relationships between citizens and law enforcement. Coffee with a Cop was held at various locations in 2019.

