Excellence in Police Service

Impacting the Future

2016 was a year of extreme highs and lows...a tough year for the Appleton Police Department and policing in general.

This past year, law enforcement nationwide has been under attack. This has created additional issues to address. We have been participants in various community forums addressing everything from building relationships to immigration to education. We’re working hard on maintaining and building trust. We’re driven by our core values and embracing them more than ever: Integrity, Courage and Compassion.

Heartwarming opportunities have arisen for us this year: We’ve been able to partner with Make A Wish to engage Jacob Frerking as an “Officer”. Radio Station Q90 selected our officers to distribute their thousands of dollars of Lights of Christmas “blessing bags”. The Appleton Police Department Volunteer Program was selected to receive the International Association of Chiefs of Police Outstanding Achievement in Volunteer Programs award.

This has been a year of inward reflection and one where we have come out strong. Inspired by Officer Wiener’s amazing recovery and attitude—driven by what made us police officers in the first place—a love for mankind and a desire to impact lives, a desire to serve and protect.

Todd L. Thomas
Chief of Police
Operations

Operations consists of three Districts in which supervisors and officers are assigned with the priority of addressing criminal activity and recurring problems within their assigned areas.

Officers focus on fighting crime and solving problems, while building relationships within the community. They not only answer calls for service, they also invest time in the unique needs within each District. Focus areas include: extra patrol and visibility in parks, ramps and around schools; added patrol in areas where crimes have become a pattern, and walk through’s of areas where damage or crimes have occurred. Patrol officers are sending a strong message the criminal activity is not welcome in the City of Appleton by tirelessly tracking down criminals, drugs and other illegal behaviors. In 2016, they responded to 49,854 calls for service.

Collaborative Efforts to Fight Street Crimes

The City of Appleton’s Citizens’ Public Safety Academy is an excellent way for several citizens to learn more about the Police and Fire Departments. If you are interested in participating in the 2017 Academy, which will start in fall, please email Sergeant Dave Lund at 832-5509 or david.lund@appleton.org.

The collaborative efforts between officers in patrol and the other units within the Department, as well as with officers in other agencies and in surrounding communities, have resulted in some excellent police work.

Use of Force Incidents

In 2016, all use of force incidents were determined to be within policy guidelines.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Technique Used</th>
<th>2012</th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>2015</th>
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<td>21</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>10</td>
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<tr>
<td>ECD Activations</td>
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<td>18</td>
<td>22</td>
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<td>15</td>
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<td>3</td>
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<td>Deadly Force</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Appleton Police Department’s Community Resources Unit (CRU) continued the partnership with Outagamie County Sheriff’s Department, combining forces to better fight crime and solve problems throughout the County. To say this collaborative effort was a success would be an understatement. In 2016, the Community Resources Unit’s statistics are as follows:

- Led or assisted in 47 criminal search warrants
- Conducted 58 administrative search warrants on items such as phones, computers, vehicles, Facebook accounts
- Worked 78 felony cases, 57 misdemeanor cases, including investigations involving: drive by shooting; armed robberies; homicide (assisting Investigative Services); Human Trafficking/Prostitution Stings; Drug Related Deaths; Large Scale Marijuana Manufacturing; Methamphetamine Manufacturing; Drug Trafficking/Possession Arrests (Heroin, Meth, MDMA, Marijuana, Psilocybin).
- 20 public presentations to heighten public awareness
- Increased collaborations with Investigative Services Unit, the MEG unit and Department of Criminal Investigations
- Worked with community stakeholders to provide support for victims, awareness training for johns and aggressive prosecution of traffickers (5 Stones/Christ the Rock Church—AIM program)
- CRU targets and arrests those seeking or providing sexual services for money. (Outagamie Co. Sex Trafficking Task Force)
- The partnership with Outagamie County Deputies has had far reaching successful effects in investigations
Computer Forensics

Sergeant Chad Probst had extensive training in computer forensics in 2016. The first two weeks of training was mostly academic, providing background and theory for computer forensics. Then they worked with tools they provided and open source tools. The APD was given some software programs, Guidance Software’s EnCase and Magnet Forensics Internet Evidence Finder, and licensing for three years. They also provided our Department with the hardware to conduct computer and phone examinations.

2016 Major Incidents

- Chong Lee convicted of 1st Degree Intentional Homicide for the death of Joshua Richards
- Tina Hafeman convicted of 1st Degree Reckless Homicide in death of Chad Hafeman
- Suspects identified in Shooting Homicide of Jose Gil-Leon
- Justin Posey convicted for numerous robberies
- Ben Stoveken convicted of Armed Robbery at Gunderson’s
- Kurt Windus confined in robbery of Horicon Bank
- Investigation of brutal assault and rape in 500 block of East Winnebago
- Kevin Gillespie arrested for Armed Robbery of Cartridge World
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2016: Dedicated Appleton Police Department volunteers invested 3,226 hours.

24 children participated in the 2016 “Take Your Child to Work” Day!
In May of 2016, Officer Stephanie Wiener was making contact with a shoplifting suspect when she was violently attacked. During the attack, two citizens, Andrew Maltbey and Nicholas Maltbey, heroically came to her aid. The suspect then viciously shot Officer Wiener and the citizen hero, Andrew Maltbey. Another officer arrived on scene and the suspect shot and killed himself. Miraculously, both Officer Wiener and Andrew Maltbey survived their gunshot wounds and are on the road to recovery.

The outpouring of love and support from the community (and beyond) for Officer Wiener and for Andrew and Nicholas Maltbey was overwhelming. We are forever grateful.

Investigative Services

The Investigative Services Unit is comprised of investigators with specialized training and years of experience working complex cases. They investigate major felonies, such as homicides, sexual assaults, burglaries and robberies. Investigators work closely with patrol officers to identify witnesses, preserve crime scenes, gather critical information and develop leads.

Rapidly changing technology has increased the burden to provide and maintain certain types of evidence. Some investigators specialize in computer forensics, pulling evidence from computers and cell phones. We also have collaborated with the Grand Chute Police Department, giving us additional access to another crime scene van.

Cold Case

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Tragedy Strikes the APD, Rallying Around One of Our Own

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Cold Case

Investigators remain determined to make an arrest in this cold case:

On November 14, 2006, Connie Boelter was found murdered in her home in the City of Appleton. Officers continue to follow up on tips received in this case. Connie’s homicide was featured on America’s Most Wanted. A reward is available for any tip leading to the arrest of the person responsible. Please contact the Appleton Police Department with any information.

Cold Case

Chief Todd Thomas awarded Andrew Maltbey and Nicholas Maltbey with the Appleton Police Department’s Civilian Medals of Gallantry for their heroic actions which saved the life of Officer Stephanie Wiener. Their courage, swift actions and selflessness were worthy of this highest honor.

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Summer of Service
In August, we partnered with the Boys & Girls Club on an initiative to provide a group of students an opportunity to contribute in meaningful ways to the community through volunteer service at non-profit agencies. This team-based service instilled positive attitudes towards education while empowering youth to acquire valuable life skills.

The APD Records Unit processes thousands of police field reports, such as incident reports, traffic citations, ordinance tickets, citizens contacts (warnings), accident reports, parking tickets and warrants. They also field numerous inquiries from the public. The unit began cross training efforts to process records more efficiently. They are also in the process of selecting and implementing a new Records Management System.

Social Media
2016 was a year that helped further the Department’s philosophy of transparency and inclusion of the community through use of technology:

- 86 official media releases disseminated to all known media outlets
- 668 media contacts (phone calls, texts, emails, interviews)
- Appleton Police Department’s Facebook account had 24,176 followers at the end of the year. This is the 4th largest following in Wisconsin Law Enforcement
- 490 Facebook posts (one with a potential audience of over 700,000 potential viewers)
- 1,169 Tweets to over 4,724 viewers (up 39% in 2016)
- Appleton Police Department’s main web page had over 19,960 hits (the “Announcements” and the “Most Wanted Pages” were most frequently visited)
- TipSoft had 912 subscribers
- Appleton Police Department’s You Tube channel has 16 videos on it and 3,574 total views of the videos
The School Resource Officers' Unit is possible through a cooperative agreement with the schools. Thirteen officers are assigned to provide services to 15,000 students, utilizing a wide spectrum of intervention options while addressing issues. An approach called the Threat Assessment Team brings all interested parties (schools, law enforcement, etc.) together to discuss concerning behaviors of particular students. It has been working well. The schools have added security access to all officers' fobs to make entry possible in case of an emergency.

Officer Jacob Frerking

The Make A Wish Foundation introduced us to Jacob Frerking, sharing his wish to be a Police Officer. On September 9th, 2016, the Appleton Police Department planned a day to make Jacob's wish come true. Jacob was sworn in as a Make A Wish/Appleton Police Department Officer. He attended a Roll Call briefing, ran radar and successfully cited a speeding motorist, caught a criminal on the run, thoroughly enjoying his time with his partner, Officer Blaine VanderWielen. Jacob has continued to come into the Appleton Police Department on a regular basis to ride along with various officers. He has touched all of our hearts with his presence!

Outagamie County District Attorney's Award Recipients:
Career Service Award: Ret. Lt. Mike Gostisha
Outstanding Patrol Officer: Lt. Jay Steinke
Outstanding Teamwork: Sgt. Jackie Gleiss, Sgt. Joe Whitney; Grand Chute PD Katie Keuler, Joe Teigen, Tyler Dolan; Fox Valley Metro PD Jeff Nett
Outstanding Victim Advocate Award: Ret. Lt. Steve Diedrich
Outstanding Community Service/Education Award: Officer Sean Kuether

APD's K9 Unit

In 2016, K9 Handlers Haney, Rohm and Schneider along with their dogs Jico, Waskos and Eon, were deployed on 310 narcotics incidents, 40 patrol incidents, 28 tracking incidents, 37 explosives detection, along with other searches. They had many successful finds, including:
- 126 marijuana
- 81 drug paraphernalia
- 3 cocaine
- 20 methamphetamine
- 8 heroin
- 3 people
- 5 money
- 1 other evidence
- 5 crystal meth

Special Events in the City:
Operations Coordination coordinated well over 115 special events in 2016 (including 23 new events). Special events cost the department $63,945 in overtime costs. They also assisted with all of the Farmers' Markets, the ADI Summer Concert Series and major events at the Performing Arts Center—all of which require Community Service Officers to provide traffic control.
The highly trained APD SWAT Team was deployed in its entirety on one occasion in 2016.


**Crime Statistics**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Crime Category</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>Increase/Decrease</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Group A Crimes</td>
<td>4,363</td>
<td>4,156</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group B Crimes</td>
<td>5,163</td>
<td>5,742</td>
<td>-10.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forcible Rape</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>-3.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robbery</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>57.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aggravated Assault</td>
<td>136</td>
<td>133</td>
<td>2.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burglary / Breaking and Entering</td>
<td>135</td>
<td>174</td>
<td>-22.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All Other Larceny</td>
<td>309</td>
<td>258</td>
<td>19.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Destructive/ Damage/ Vandalism to Property</td>
<td>573</td>
<td>521</td>
<td>10.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disorderly Conduct</td>
<td>884</td>
<td>969</td>
<td>-8.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Driving Under the Influence</td>
<td>350</td>
<td>333</td>
<td>5.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liquor Law Violations</td>
<td>207</td>
<td>207</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**APD Honor Assembly—Awards**

Officer of the Year: Sgt. Neal Rabas
Life Saving Medals: Officer Tom Zieman, Officer Brandon Edwards
Meritorious Service Awards: Lt. Polly Olson, Officer Sean Kuether, Sgt. Mark Moderson, Lt. Chad Leve
Team Awards: Lt. Steve Elliott, Sgt. Matt McQuaid, Sgt. John Ostermeier, Sgt. Chad Probst (2), Officer Ryan Guillette, Officer Mike Medina, Deputy Jon Drews, Deputy Jim Wall, Sgt. Neal Rabas, Sgt. Dan Tauber, Officer Brandon Edwards, Officer Craig Rohm, Officer Ryan Schroeder, Officer Adam Van Zeeland
Career Achievement Award: Lt. Mike Gostisha, Sgt. Gerry Flunker
Civilian Employee of the Year: Sara Derks
Humanitarian Award: Lt. Gary Lewis
Volunteer of the Year: Randy Thomas
Civilian Medals of Gallantry: Bruce and Julie Dudek, William Beyer
Civilian Community Service Awards: Ryan Peterson, Haley Mackey, Andy Maier

**Comings & Goings**

Officers hired in 2016: Frank Wychgram, Jordan Woelfel, Leah Becher, Ryan McCord, Toua Vang
Community Service Officers hired in 2016: Payne Hughes, JeanPierre Contreras, Micah Woelfel, Bradley Anderson
Police Communications Technician (PCT) hired in 2016: Caitlin Femal
Fiscal Resources oversees the $16.6 million budget for the Department. 88% of that amount is allocated to personnel services. It was necessary to formulate a plan to mitigate the impacts and burdens of unanticipated expenses. New grants, in excess of $185,000, were received to support initiatives such as street crime officers, seatbelt safety, Neighborhood Watch Program, bicycle helmets for children, fingerprint scanner and the Crossing Guard program.
2016 brought many Presidential campaign visits to the City of Appleton.

Several “Coffees with a Cop” were held during the year. A great opportunity!

Officers downtown with citizens enjoying the snow.

Lead CSO Fillebrown and Sgt. Bredael with a youngster at the Police Week Brat Fry.

Get connected with us:

Find us on Twitter: @AppletonPD_WI
Facebook: www.facebook.com “Appleton Police Department”
Online: www.appleton.org/police

Text-A-Tip:

Text your anonymous tip to CRIMES (274-637) with the keyword APDTIPS at the start of your message.