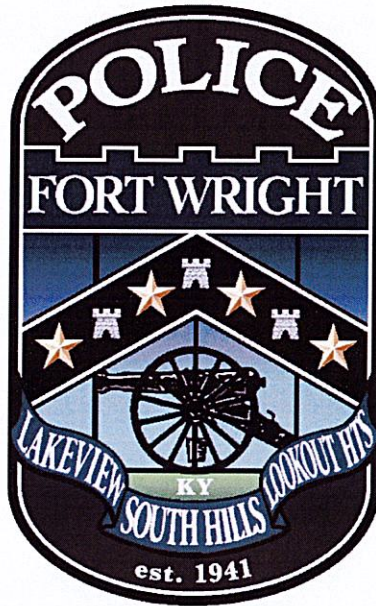


# **FORT WRIGHT POLICE DEPARTMENT**

**2024**

## **YEAR END REPORT**



**YOUR ACCREDITED  
LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY**



## Welcome Letter to the 2024 Year-End Report

It is with great pride that I present the 2024 Year-End Report for the Fort Wright Police Department. I hope the information compiled in this report provides you with valuable insight into the operations, achievements, and progress of the department over the past year.

Throughout 2024, the department has made significant strides in updating equipment and enhancing our ability to serve and protect the community. This year, we replaced our aging tasers with the new TASER 10 models, providing safer and more effective less-lethal options. Additionally, we introduced less-lethal shotguns to expand the tools available for non-lethal situations. The department also updated its patrol rifles, trading in 15-year-old models for new ones, acquired at a discounted price. Furthermore, we have transitioned to outer vest carriers for our officers, improving comfort, functionality and efficiency while on duty. These upgrades ensure that our officers are equipped with the best resources to perform their duties safely and effectively.

Personnel changes have also marked 2024. We bid farewell to two valued members of our team, Taylor Bellau and Ed Butler, with Taylor pursuing a career with the FBI. We thank them both for their dedication and service to our community. In their absence, we promoted three team members internally and welcomed two highly qualified officers: Tyler Wallace, who brings over a decade of experience in law enforcement in Eastern Kentucky, and Nick Metzger, who joins us from the Lakeside Park / Crestview Hills Police Department. Their skills and commitment will undoubtedly strengthen our team. We also were able to create a Detective Position within the department. This position was filled internally through a rigorous interview process. The detective position will assist the Police Department with not only investigations, but also will act as the Community Liaison Officer to assist with working closer with our local businesses and schools.

In addition to patrolling the streets and answering calls, the Fort Wright Police Department has been active in community engagement. We had the privilege of participating in numerous events, including:

- Kindercare Daycare First Responder Day
- Trunk or Treat at Fort Wright Elementary
- Cram a Cruiser events to benefit the children of Fort Wright Elementary and the Northern Kentucky Children's Home
- Supporting disaster relief efforts for North Carolina following the tragic devastation caused by tornadoes and flooding

Connecting with and serving the children of our community remains one of our most meaningful and impactful duties. We cherish these opportunities to build trust, offer support, and strengthen the bonds between our officers and the community.

The men and women of the Fort Wright Police Department are honored to serve this wonderful community. We remain dedicated to ensuring the safety, security, and well-being of every resident. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me directly at 859-426-3108 or by email at [jcolwell@fortwrightky.gov](mailto:jcolwell@fortwrightky.gov).

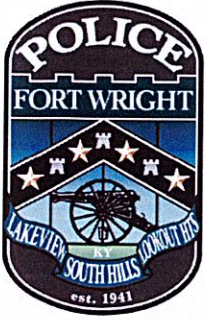
**Thank you for your continued support.**

Sincerely,



**Jonathan Colwell**  
Chief of Police





# Fort Wright Police Department

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## MISSION STATEMENT

The Mission of the Fort Wright Police Department is to form a partnership with the community, and work within that partnership to maintain the public peace and creating a safe community to improve the quality of life by providing fair and impartial police services in a professional manner. Through passion and commitment, we will maintain a high standard of professional accountability and will reduce the fear of crime.

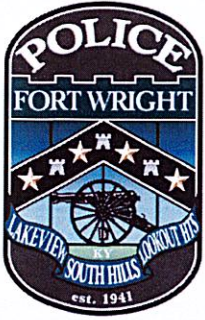
This mission will be accomplished by building unity between the Fort Wright Police Department and the community. We will join our high standards of excellence with our vision for a safer community.

Everyone will employ effective community policing strategies and problem-solving techniques.

## VALUES STATEMENT

- We value human life and personal dignity.
- We value personal and professional integrity as the basis for community trust.
- We value fair and impartial enforcement of all laws. We value professional excellence.
- We value all members of the Fort Wright Police Department, both sworn and non-sworn.





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## FORT WRIGHT POLICE DEPARTMENT



**Chief of Police**  
**Colonel Jonathan Colwell**

**Captain Robert Griffin**

**Sergeant Jason Millay**

**Sergeant Nick Von Handorf**

**Specialist Ben Wiesnter**

**Officer Brad Keller**

**Desiree Getz**

**Officer Aaron Arnsperger**

**Officer Matt Betustak**

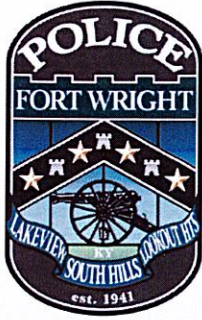
**Detective Mike Gross**

**Officer Emily Horseman**

**Officer Nick Metzger**

**Officer Tyler Wallace**





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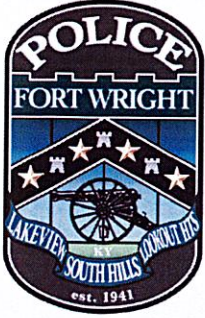


## NEW HIRES / PROMOTIONS

- Chief of Police Colonel Jonathan Colwell
- Captain Robert Griffin
- Sergeant Nick VonHandorf
- Officer Mike Gross – Detective Mike Gross
- August 2024 – Officer Nick Metzger
- August 2024 – Officer Tyler Wallace







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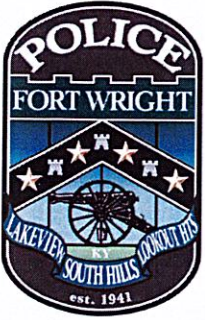


## COMMUNITY EVENTS

- Kinder Care First Responder Day
- St. Agnes Safety Drill(s)
- Trunk or Treat Fort Wright Elementary
- Old Fort North Carolina Relief Drive
- Fort Wright Elementary "Trunk or Treat"
- Fort Wright Elementary "Cram a Cruiser"
- NKY Childerns Home "Cram a Cruiser"







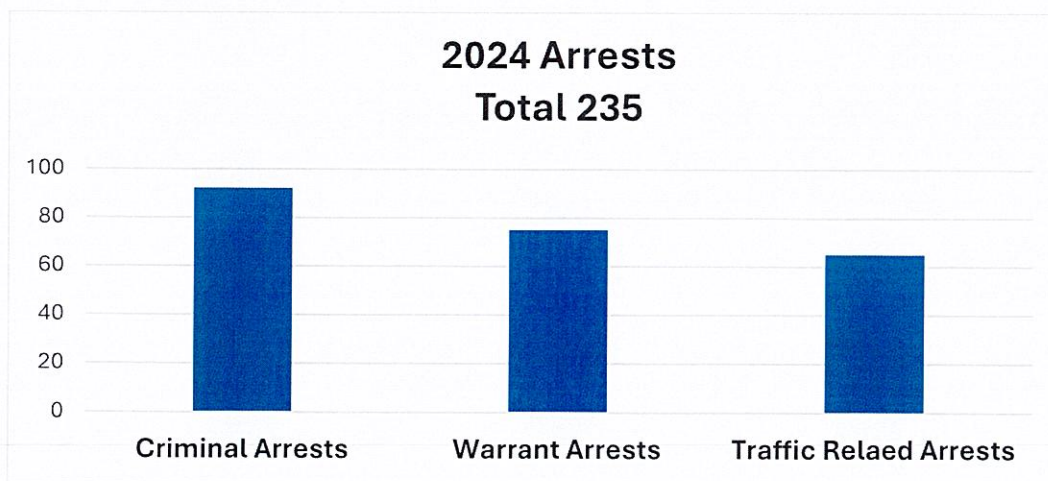
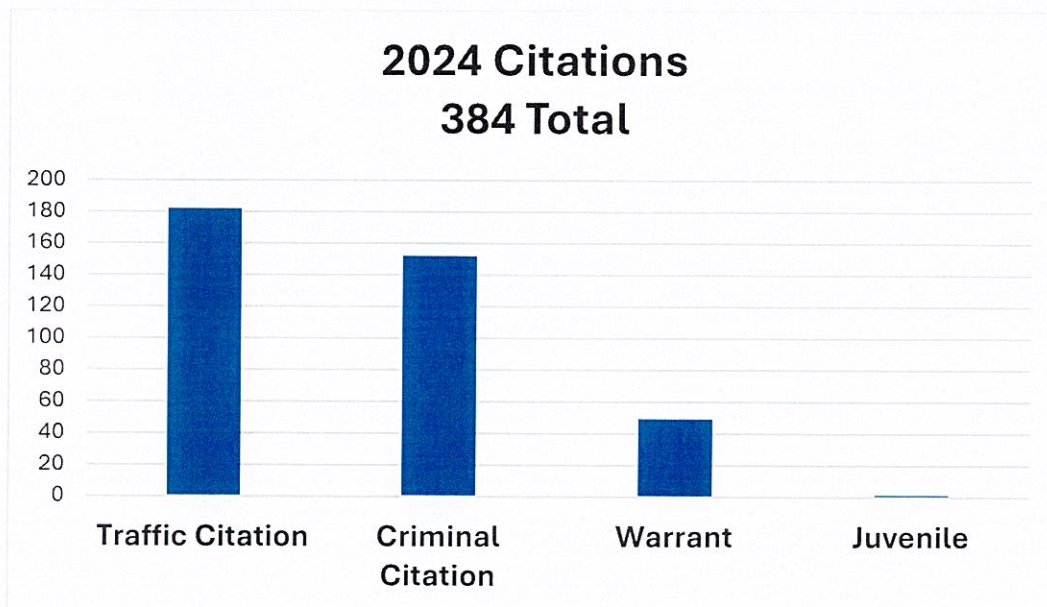
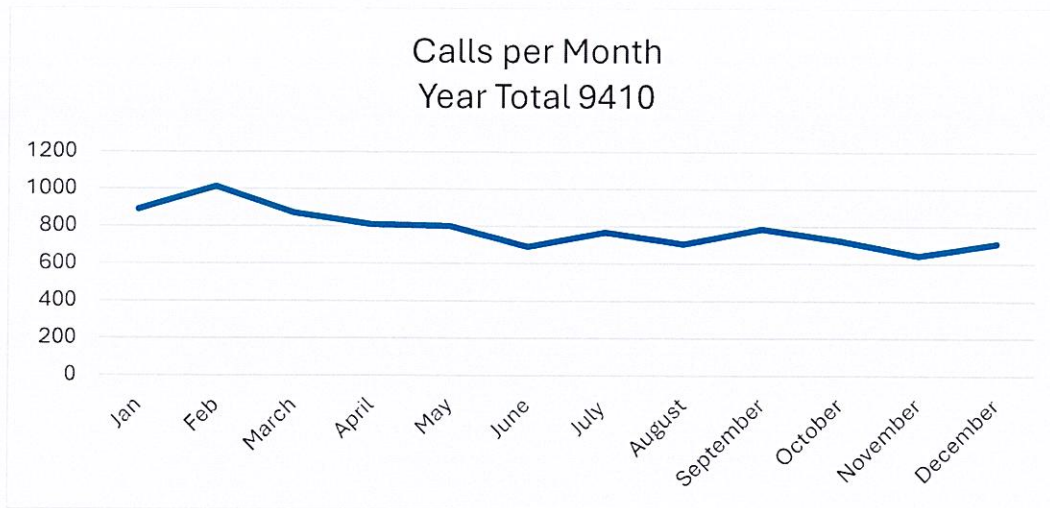
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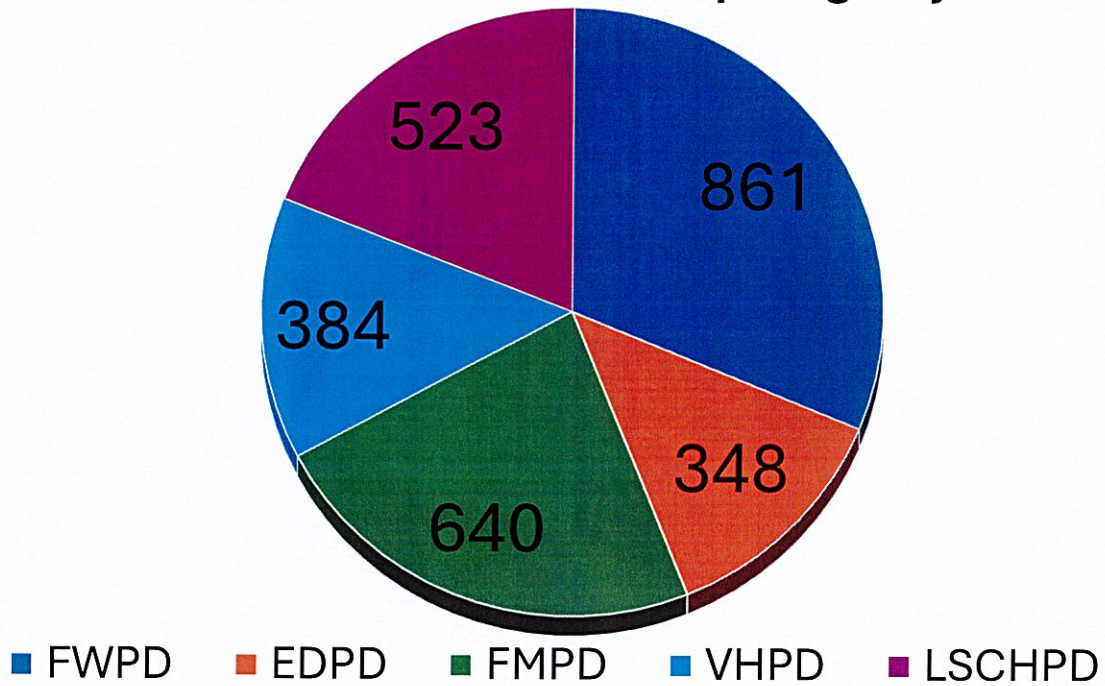
## 2024 Training

| Name          | Class                                |
|---------------|--------------------------------------|
| ○ Wiesner     | Below 100 (Minimizing Police Deaths) |
| ○ Keller      | Resiliency in Law Enforcement        |
| ○ Gross       | Resiliency in Law Enforcement        |
| ○ Wiesner     | Operations and Procedures            |
| ○ Von Handorf | Firearms Instructor                  |
| ○ Griffin     | Axon Certification Course            |
| ○ Getz        | Sexual Assault Investigations        |
| ○ Millay      | Enhanced Handgun                     |
| ○ Griffin     | Fitness for Law Enforcement          |
| ○ Horseman    | Narcotics Investigations             |
| ○ Colwell     | KACP Conference                      |
| ○ Griffin     | FBINAA Leadership                    |
| ○ Betustak    | Personal Crimes                      |
| ○ Colwell     | Police Executive Command             |
| ○ Arnsperger  | Effective Patrol Techniques          |
| ○ Getz        | Investigations Basic Course          |

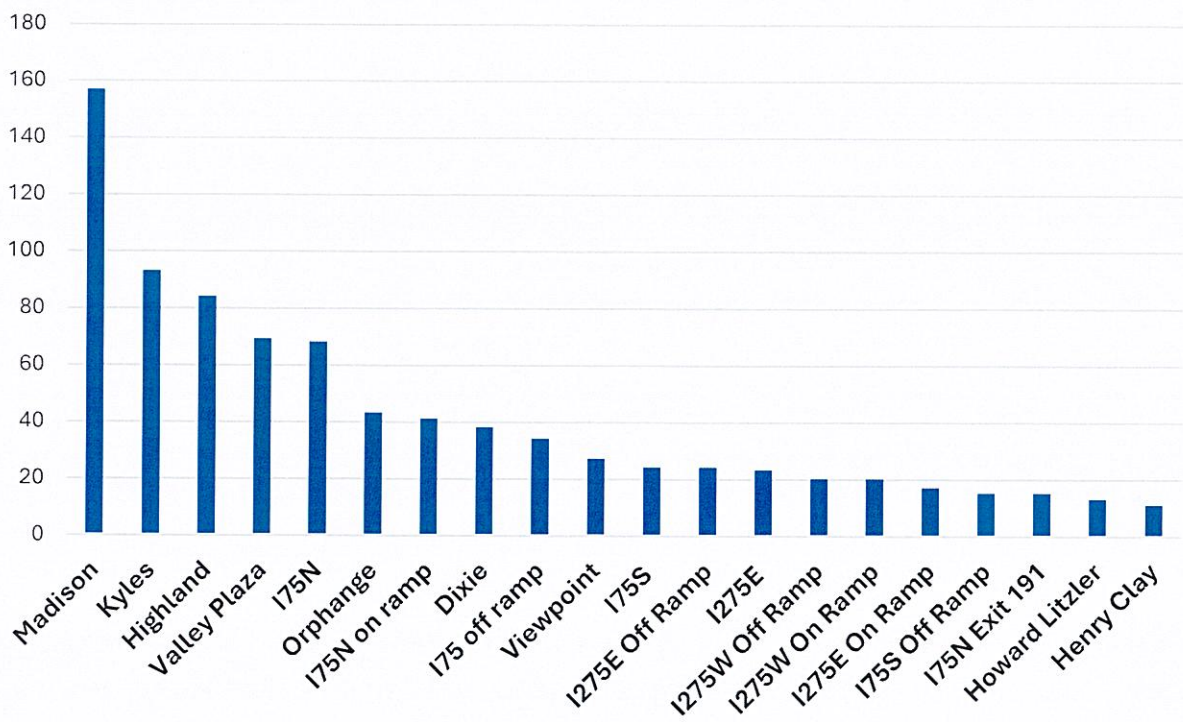




## 2024 Vehicle Collisions per Agency



## 2024 Collisions 861 Total





## FWPD 2024 Total Calls 9,410

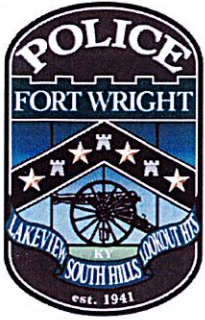
| Incident Type            | Number of Incidents |
|--------------------------|---------------------|
| 911 Disconnect           | 83                  |
| 911 Open Line            | 18                  |
| 911 Open Line Trouble    | 2                   |
| Abandoned Vehicle-OTP    | 49                  |
| Abdominal/Stomach Pain   | 6                   |
| Accident-Hit Skip        | 113                 |
| Accident-No Injuries     | 585                 |
| Accident-w/Injuries      | 163                 |
| Administrative           | 43                  |
| Alarm-Audible            | 10                  |
| Alarm-Hold Up            | 23                  |
| Alarm-Intrusion          | 286                 |
| Alarm-Medical Emergency  | 3                   |
| Alarm-Panic              | 47                  |
| Allergies/Sting Reaction | 2                   |
| Animal AC Call           | 5                   |
| Animal-Bite/Attack       | 6                   |
| Animal-Complaint         | 35                  |
| Arm/Hand Injury          | 6                   |
| Assault                  | 13                  |
| Assault-w/injuries       | 13                  |
| Assist-Fire              | 395                 |
| Assist-Other Agency      | 8                   |
| Assist-Police            | 1                   |
| ATL                      | 110                 |
| Back Pain/Injury         | 3                   |
| Bomb Threat              | 1                   |
| Broken/Fractured Bone    | 11                  |
| Burglary                 | 27                  |
| Chest Injury/Pains       | 19                  |
| Child Found              | 6                   |
| Criminal Mischief        | 38                  |
| Diabetic Reaction        | 3                   |
| Difficulty Breathing     | 20                  |
| Dispute-Active           | 60                  |
| Dispute-Inactive         | 8                   |
| Dizzy                    | 8                   |
| Domestic Trouble         | 168                 |
| Drug Activity            | 17                  |
| Drunk Driver/DUI         | 264                 |
| Elevator/Trapped People  | 1                   |
| Emotional Crisis         | 83                  |
| EPO Service              | 4                   |



|                            |     |
|----------------------------|-----|
| Eviction Service           | 1   |
| Eye Injury                 | 1   |
| Fall                       | 30  |
| Fight                      | 25  |
| Fire-Alarm                 | 19  |
| Fire-Brush                 | 7   |
| Fire-Gas Spill/Leak        | 1   |
| Fire-Investigation         | 6   |
| Fire-Odor/Chemical         | 1   |
| Fire-Pump Basement         | 2   |
| Fire-Structure Fire        | 4   |
| Fireworks Complaint        | 2   |
| Foot Patrol                | 41  |
| Fraud                      | 25  |
| General Relay              | 80  |
| Gun-Subject w/             | 25  |
| Harassment/Stalking        | 33  |
| Head Injury                | 4   |
| Headache/ill               | 1   |
| Heat Emergency/Problem     | 2   |
| House Check                | 2   |
| ill/Non-Specific           | 36  |
| Incident Report            | 16  |
| Indecent Exposure          | 6   |
| Intoxicated Person         | 43  |
| Investigation/Follow-Up    | 156 |
| Lockout Veh/Res            | 142 |
| Loud Music/Noise Complaint | 19  |
| Loud/Disorderly Subjects   | 7   |
| Missing Person/Runaway     | 18  |
| Motorist Assist            | 502 |
| New Call                   | 1   |
| Non-Responsive Person      | 125 |
| Not Breathing              | 17  |
| Notification               | 5   |
| Open Door/Window           | 14  |
| Overdose/Medication        | 1   |
| Panhandling                | 40  |
| Paper Process              | 2   |
| Parking Complaint          | 88  |
| Property-Lost/Found/Assist | 36  |
| Prowler                    | 4   |
| Public Contact/Complaint   | 147 |
| Pursuit                    | 8   |
| Rape/Sexual Assault        | 5   |
| Repo/PP Tow                | 30  |
| Robbery                    | 1   |
| Seizure                    | 7   |
| Shooting/Gunshot Wound     | 1   |



|                                  |             |
|----------------------------------|-------------|
| Shoplifting                      | 20          |
| Shots Fired                      | 15          |
| Special Area Check               | 837         |
| Special Detail                   | 19          |
| Speeding/Reckless Vehicle        | 558         |
| Stabbing                         | 1           |
| Stroke                           | 9           |
| Suspicious Person/Vehicle        | 394         |
| Theft                            | 61          |
| Theft-From a Motor Vehicle       | 15          |
| Theft-Motor Vehicle              | 18          |
| Traffic Complaint/ Investigation | 176         |
| Traffic Stop                     | 546         |
| Transport                        | 1           |
| Trespass                         | 21          |
| Trouble-Employee/Customer        | 61          |
| Trouble-Juvenile                 | 39          |
| Trouble-Landlord/Tenant          | 2           |
| Trouble-Neighbors                | 7           |
| Trouble-Refusing to Leave        | 38          |
| TX                               | 502         |
| TXAC                             | 1           |
| TXSO                             | 1           |
| Vacation/Business Check          | 1264        |
| Vehicle Fire                     | 21          |
| Vehicle Service                  | 13          |
| Warrant-Arrest                   | 32          |
| Warrant-Search                   | 2           |
| Weapon-Subject w/                | 6           |
| Well Being Check                 | 162         |
| Wires Down                       | 13          |
| <b>Total:</b>                    | <b>9410</b> |



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## Detective Position

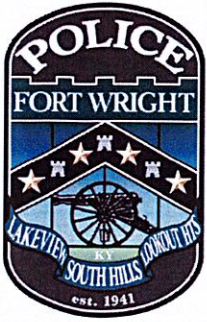
In 2024, the Fort Wright Police Department added the position of Police Detective. This means “Improved Customer Service” to the citizens of Fort Wright. This position was filled internally with an existing officer and has a minor to no budgetary impact to the city. Officer Mike Gross was ultimately selected for the Detective position. Since he has taken on this challenging role, he has worked numerous cases and assisted other officers with their cases. Detective Gross has also taken on the responsibility of Community Liaison Officer. He works directly with the local schools, childcare centers and businesses by visiting with the children, conducting emergency threat training and assisting them when a need arises.

Prior to this addition, the Fort Wright Police Department’s structure consisted of Police Chief, Police Captain, two Sergeants and nine Patrol Officers. This change in the department structure changed the Patrol Division from nine to eight and created the Detective position.

Police patrol is the backbone of any police department, but criminal investigations are a vital support service to any police department. There are numerous issues that police departments deal with daily that require dedicated resources to have a realistic chance at identifying and holding offenders accountable. The addition of a Detective has improved the operations of the department and, in turn, improved the service to our citizens.

The Detective position is important so that the Police Department can properly address the criminal issues that affect our residents, our businesses, and our visitors. This position will also assist the Police Department internally with retention and hiring. The current officers at the Fort Wright Police Department will now have another opportunity to grow and develop their skills with lateral movement from within the department. Having professional opportunities outside of Patrol will positively impact on our ability to recruit quality personnel when vacancies occur.





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### New Equipment

#### Axon Body Camera upgrade to Axon 4



Our service agreement with Axon provides us with an upgrade of the equipment after 2.5 years of use. Our Body Worn Cameras (BWC) were upgraded from Axon 3 to Axon 4 Cameras. This allows us to keep the most up to date equipment for our agency and officers. BWC's offer transparency and accountability for both the people we encounter and the officers.



## Taser 10



Today, we know that ineffective TASER deployments can result in an escalation to lethal force and that over 80% of officer-involved shootings occur within a 40-foot range. TASER 10 provides almost double the range of our previous energy weapons, with a maximum distance to reach a subject of 45 feet (13.7 meters), providing more time and space to de-escalate and resolve conflicts.

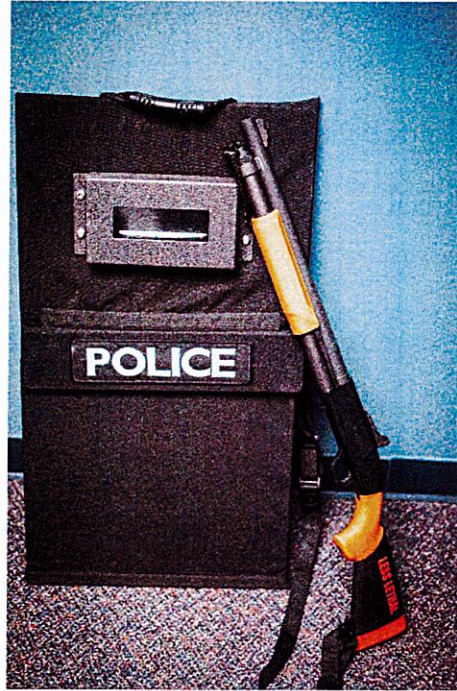
The TASER 10 provides more opportunities than other less-lethal options to immediately stop a threat without needing to reload. The TASER 10 is a two-probe-connect energy weapon. The first trigger pull discharges a single probe without electrical output and the second trigger pull discharges a second probe to create neuromuscular incapacitation (NMI). The device provides additional opportunities to obtain effective NMI, with the subsequent trigger pulls if the previous probes did not have proper attainment.

Leveraging smart technology, TASER 10 avoids delivering more charge than necessary. Regardless of how many probes make a connection, the device will only deliver current to the best four connections. Additionally, the TASER 10 has a reduced voltage of approximately 1,000 volts, compared with the previous 50,000 volts with the TASER 7.

- **New de-escalation features**, including a 1,000-lumen pulsing light, loud audible alerts and LASER painting to warn a subject to comply before having to deploy probes.
- A longer range of up to **45 feet**, compared with only 25 feet previously, creating more time and space for decision-making and reducing risk for everyone involved.
- The ability to deploy up to **10 probes** compared with four probes previously, which only provided one or two opportunities to be effective. The device also has a differing tone when a good connection is made, alerting the officer.
- **Individually targeted probes** enabling the user to create their own spread, compared with the previous need to deploy two probes simultaneously at a predefined angle. This drastically improves accuracy and effectiveness, expanding the scenarios in which it can be used.



## Less Lethal Shotguns and Ballistic Shield



The Fort Wright Police Department utilized a trade in program to trade in our Benelli Semi-Auto shotguns that were well over 20 years old and not being used for brand new Mossberg 500 Magnum Pump shotguns. The new shotguns were then outfitted with an orange stock and fore end for “Less Lethal” use only. Each officer was issued one for quick deployment. This Less Lethal option is a great tool for the officers to have and gives them more options when confronted with dangerous situations. We have sent two officers to training for Less-Lethal Instructor Certification.

In order to provide officers with all of the necessary equipment needed to be able to respond to any situation quickly without hesitation, we purchased 4 foldable ballistic shields. These shields are rated to stop pistol and rifle threats. They are made to be able to fold similar to the size of a suitcase and when deployed can provide enough cover for officers to respond without hesitation. Each Supervisor is issued a shield and one is staged at the Police Department for officer use.



## New Patrol Rifles



The Fort Wright Police Department utilized a trade in program to trade in our aging/ obsolete patrol rifles for other equipment and money for the purchase of new patrol rifles. The new patrol rifles were manufactured in Mt. Orab Ohio by HM Defense. These new rifles provide the officers with reliable equipment and an effective tool for dangerous situations.



## Breaching Kits



Each officer is issued a Breaching Kit. These kits are designed to offer options to gain entry into different types of doorways or points of egress. The kit includes large bolt cutters, sledge hammer and a halligan tool. With each officer having their own Breaching kit there is no hesitation when responding to a crisis. They will not have to wait for proper equipment in order to gain entry.



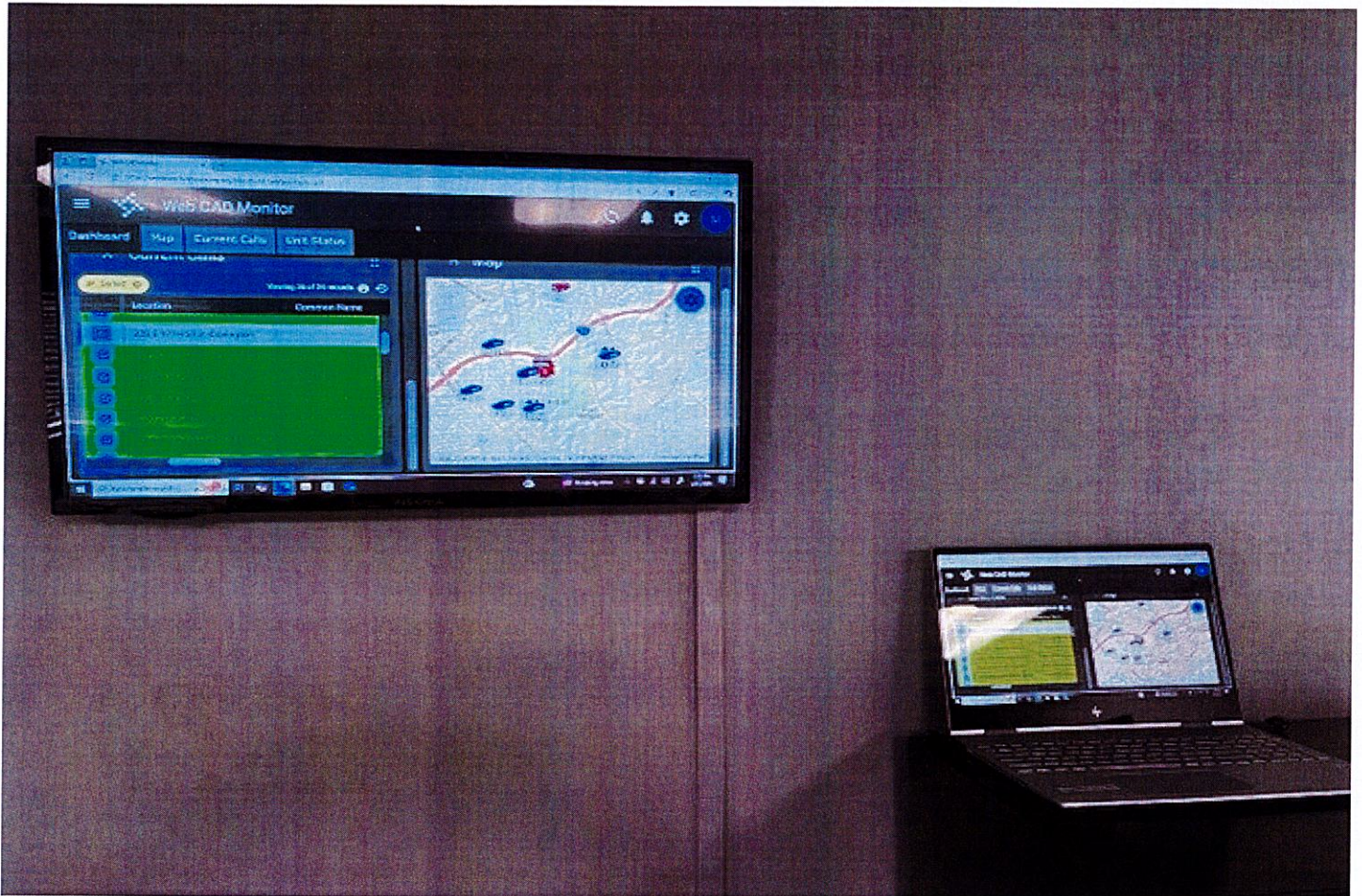
## Outer Vest Carriers



Officers were issued new outer vest carriers. These are designed to take weight off an officer's duty belt and distribute it throughout the vest. These have proven to assist with preventing back injuries from having to wear a heavy duty belt around the waist. Officers have the option to wear the outer vest carrier or to wear their ballistic vest under their uniform.



## Officer CAD/ Dispatch Portal in Patrol Room



We added a dispatch portal set up for the officers in the Patrol Room. When officers are dispatched to Calls for Service, there are important notes and information sent to their in car computer. If an officer is inside of the Patrol Room doing paperwork, they would have to leave the office and go to their cruiser to see the details of the call. With this addition, they are now able to use the same CAD system in their cruiser inside of the office. They can now add notes to a call, see where other officers are on the local map via their in car GPS and get important information about the call quicker.



## Speed Sign and Trailer



With the addition of the permanent speed sign and a mobile speed trailer, it has allowed the Fort Wright Police to better monitor traffic trends and collect valuable data for enforcement planning. Both the sign and the trailer are powered by solar energy and can be accessed remotely to obtain the data collected. The speed sign was strategically placed on Dixie Highway to monitor the Northbound traffic as it approaches a dense school zone. The Trailer is moved throughout the city on a regular basis with the traffic complaints sent into the city as the main reason for locations that are chosen.