

# Aberdeen Police Department 2023 Annual Report



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Honorable Mayor Douglas Orr,

It is my honor and privilege to present the 2023 Annual Report for the Aberdeen Police Department. This report is our opportunity to showcase the outstanding work the men and women of the Aberdeen Police Department completed in their relentless service to our community. In 2022, we had nine officers retire. In 2023, we had four more retirements. Those four represented over 120 years of law enforcement experience in Grays Harbor and those retirements were very well deserved. With the thirteen retirements in such a short period of time, that opened several opportunities for advancement. Deputy Chief Andy Snodgrass, Commander Steve Timmons, Lieutenants Jeff Weiss and Dave Cox, and Sergeants Cody Blodget, Jesus Martinez, Jason Capps and Loren Neil were all promoted in 2023. Sergeant Gary Sexton was selected for Detective Sergeant. Of the eleven leadership positions throughout our agency, nine were freshly promoted in 2023. These men lead by example and continue to create an environment where officers can thrive. We were able to hire three police officers to replace the retirees and continue hiring into 2024. With the turnover and promotions, many officers were able to attain specialist assignments to include the creation of our drone program with seven FAA certified pilots.

With the legislative and financial support of our city council, we were able to complete some much-needed repairs to our police station. The largest of which include the tear-off and replacement of our aged roof. Working with our Public Works Department, we began the plan to replace the Lake Aberdeen Firing Range with the new range in South Aberdeen.

As 2023 came to an end, Executive Assistant Becky Ellis continued to lead our efforts as we started to prepare for re-accreditation with the Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs. We are focused on hiring additional police officers to fill vacancies to get to full staffing.

I want to thank you again, Mr. Mayor, for the support you provide to our people as we continue to fulfill our mission to achieving trusted problem-solving partnerships with our community. I also want to thank our City Administrator, Ruth Clemens, and our City Council for their ongoing support. When we are working together, we are a formidable team, and our community reaps the rewards of us all providing excellent public safety.

Respectfully submitted,



Dale Green, Chief of Police



The Aberdeen Police Department, located in Grays Harbor Washington, serves a population of 17,196 covering 10.65 sq miles

The Police Department has:  
52 Employees  
38 Budgeted Officers  
5 Vacant Positions

**OUR MISSION: AS GUARDIANS OF OUR COMMUNITY,  
WE ARE COMMITTED TO ACHIEVING TRUSTED PROBLEM  
SOLVING PARTNERSHIPS ALWAYS READY TO SERVE  
WITH PRIDE AND EXCELLENCE.**

### CONTACT INFORMATION

#### EMERGENCY HELP

9-1-1

#### NON-EMERGENCY DISPATCH

(360) 533-8765

#### MAIN STATION FRONT DESK

(360) 533-3180



### SERVICE CALLS 2023

#### CALLS PER YEAR

**32,607**

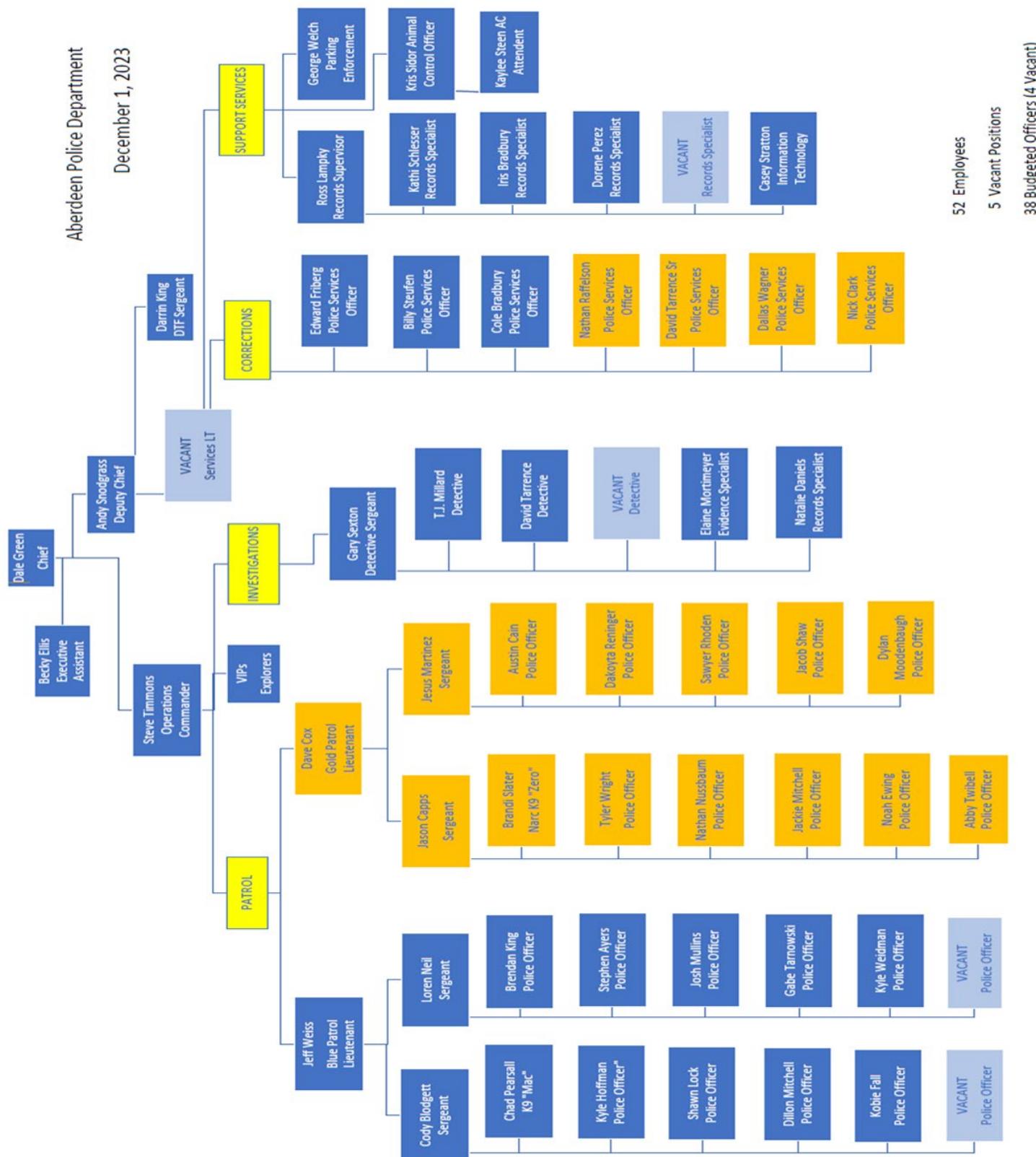
#### CALLS PER MONTH

**2712**

#### CALLS PER DAY

**90**

## COMMAND STRUCTURE



### NEW HIRES, TRANSFERS, RETIREMENTS, and PROMOTIONS

#### Promoted to Sergeant

Detective Cody Blodgett

Officer Jason Capps

Officer Jesus Martinez

Officer Loren Neil



#### Promoted to Deputy Chief

Lt. John Andrew Snodgrass

#### Promoted to Commander

Lt. Steve Timmons



#### Promoted to Patrol Lieutenant

Detective Sergeant David Cox

#### Transfers to Patrol

Support Specialist Abby Twibell

PSO Dylan Moodenbaugh



#### Transfers to Investigations

Sergeant Gary Sexton

Ofc David Tarrence

#### Retirements

Deputy Chief Jay Staten

Sergeant Art Laur

Officer Ron Bradbury



#### New Hires

Kyle Wiedman (Patrol)

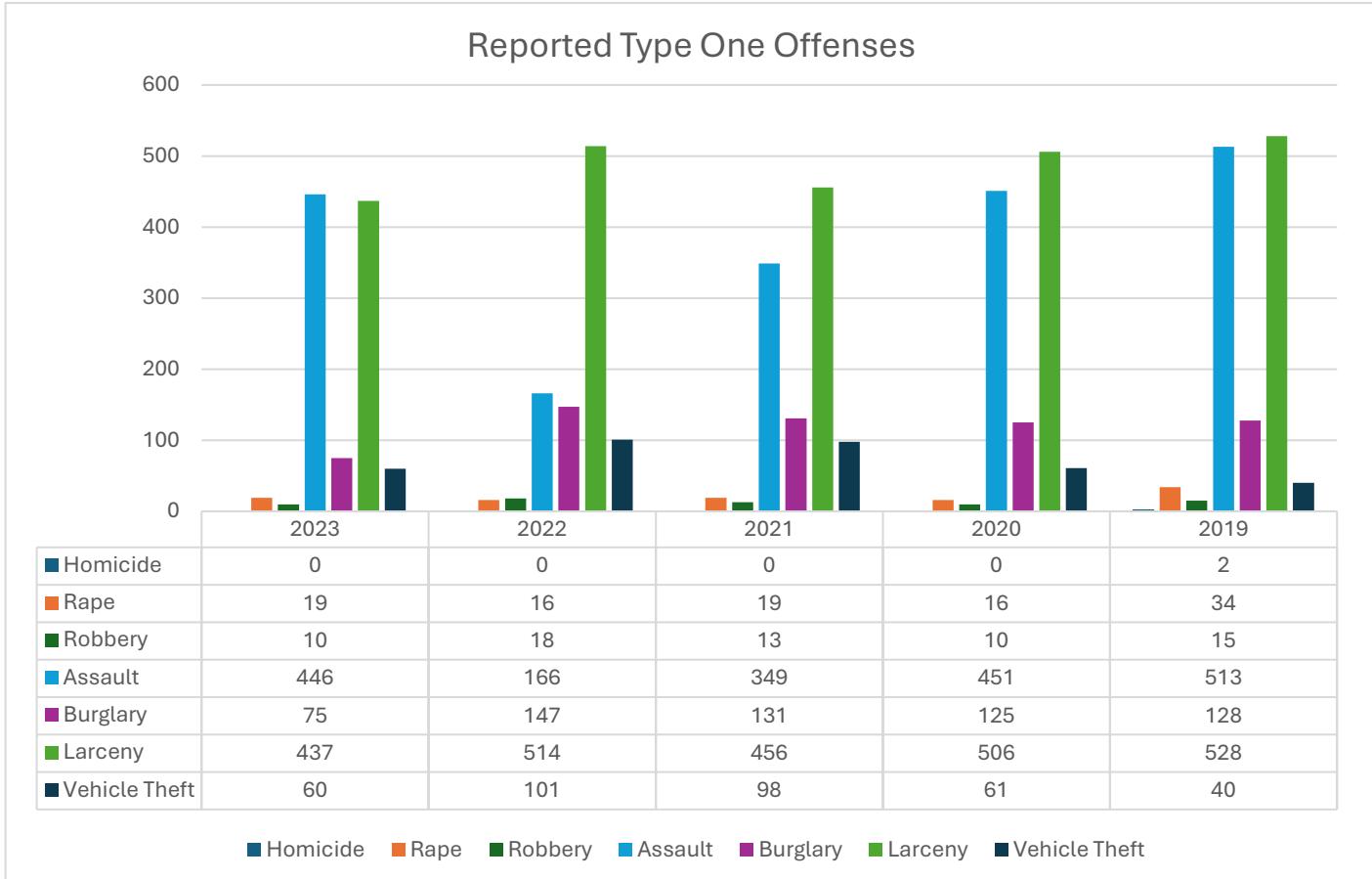
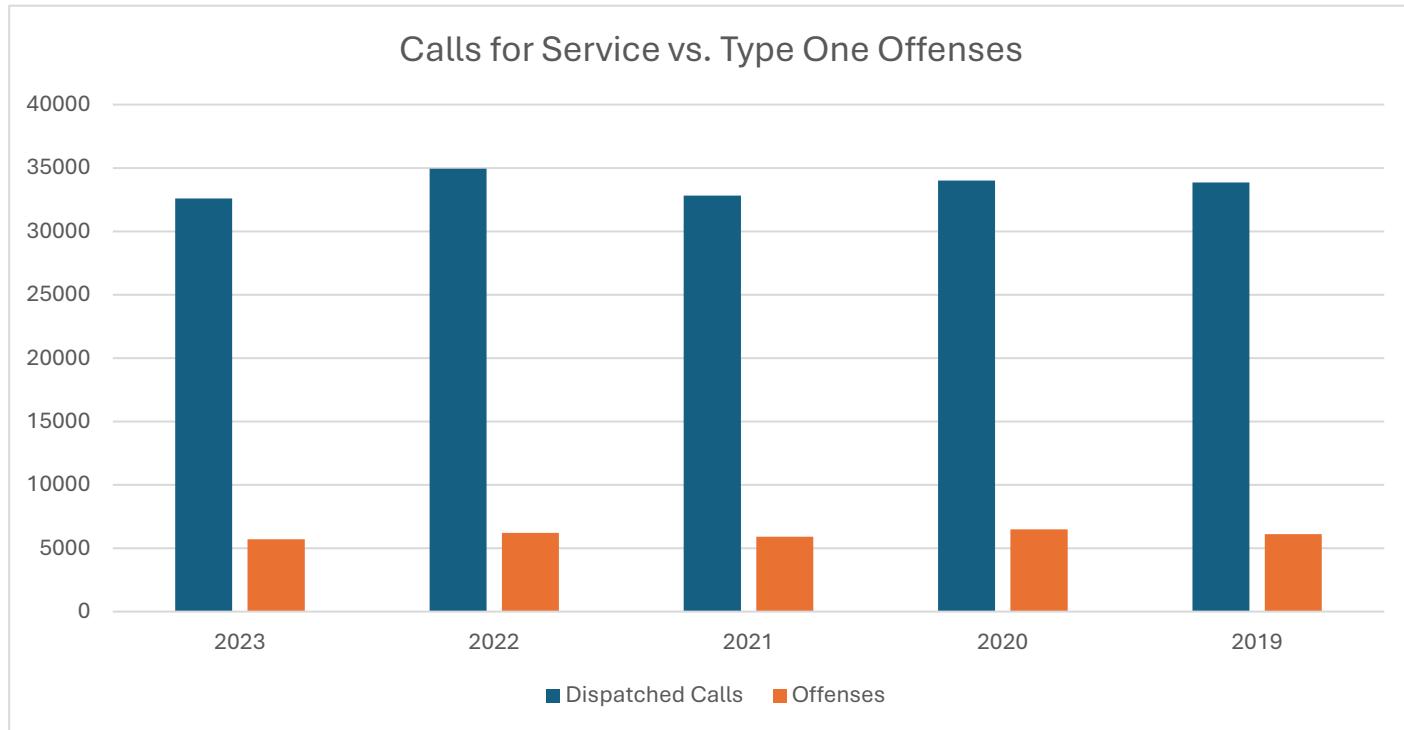
Nick Clark (PSO)

Cole Bradbury (PSO)

Kobie Fall (Patrol)

	2023	2022	% Change
Arson	5	8	-37%
Assault Offenses			
Aggravated Assault	27	38	-28%
Simple	219	248	-11%
Burglary Offenses			
Residential	28	19	47%
Commercial	47	128	-63%
Counterfeit / Forgery	8	9	-10%
Malicious Mischief	139	217	-36%
Drugs / Narcotics	63	45	40%
Embezzlement	0	1	
Fraud	0	1	
Homicide	0	0	
Kidnapping/Abduction	1	1	
Larceny / Theft	450	512	-12%
Motor Vehicle Theft	63	101	-37%
Prostitute	0	1	
Robbery	10	17	-40%
Sex Offense (forcible)	19	16	18%
Sex Offense (Non-Forcible)	30	27	11%
Disorderly Conduct	74	58	27%
Driving under the influence	210	186	13%
Family Offenses DV	187	170	10%
Alcohol Offenses	11	20	-45%
Trespassing	29	57	-49%
911 hangup / Open lines	800	810	-2%
Civil Disputes	571	569	
TOTAL REPORTABLE OFFENSES 2023/2022	5700	6207	-8%

The chart below shows the last five years of service calls handled by members of the police department compared to Type One Offenses for the same period.



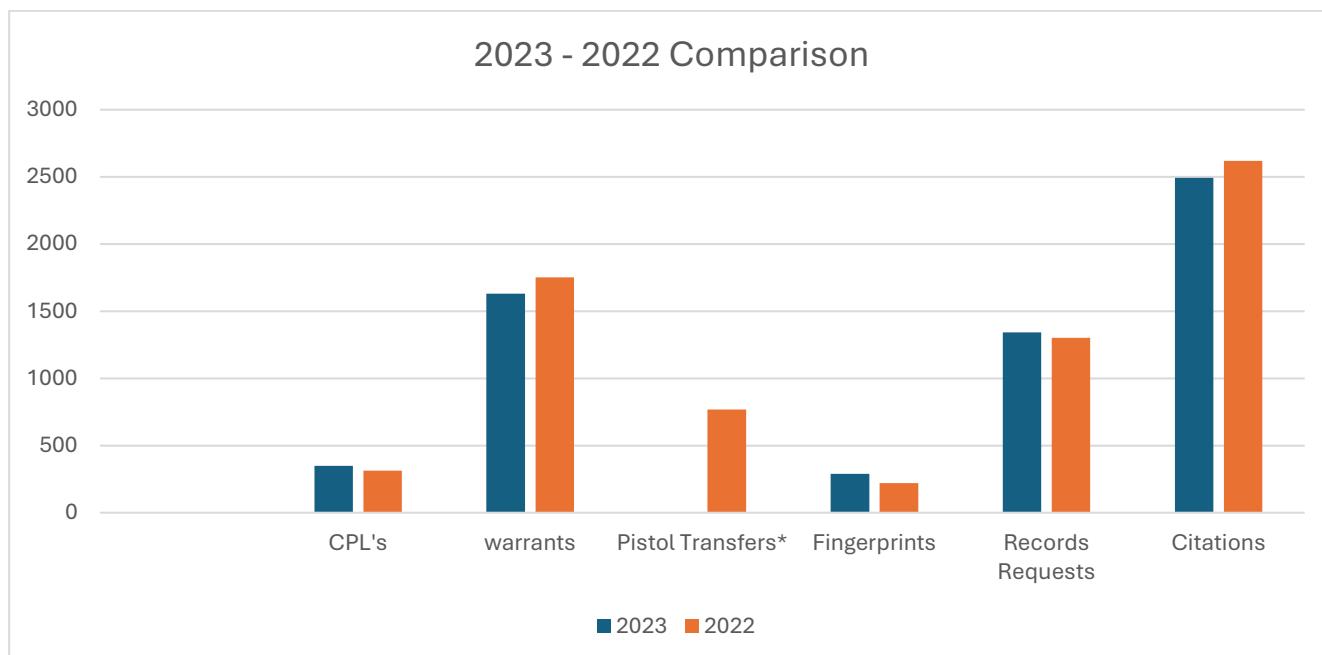
Records Support Specialists are responsible for processing the daily intake of reports, in custodies, records requests, entry and removal of warrants and protection orders, processing applications for concealed pistol licenses, fingerprints, retention and destruction of records to name but a few of the daily tasks.

The Records Department is staffed with 5 specialists. Records specialist processed over 4400 reports, citations, accident reports, infractions and records in addition to warrant and orders issued by the courts.

The Records Department continued processing the historical records for Sex Crimes, Homicides and other long term records, transferring then to the state archives when required.

CPL's 348      Pistol Transfers 372      Fingerprints 290

Warrants 1630      Records Requests 1343      Citations 2493



The Aberdeen Police Department's Volunteer in Police Services (VIPS) program completed its 4<sup>th</sup> year after its reinstatement in 2019. The VIPS program ended 2023 with 18 committed volunteers who provided an invaluable service to the Aberdeen Police Department and our community.

The VIPs are uniformed volunteers who serve as an extra set of eyes and ears for the officers during patrols. In addition, the VIPS conduct neighborhood watch and vacation checks. The volunteers participate in various events throughout the year such as the Downtown Trick-or-Treat, the Giving Tree, Drug Take back, Founder's Day parade, Shop-with-a-cop, Winterfest, the Badges and Brews event at Starbucks, as well as assist with other community events when requested. In addition, the VIPS help internally with administrative work such as filing and other projects within the department. VIPS Carol Winter and Julie Swor also contacted over 100 businesses updating contact information.

In January of 2023, the "Lock Box Project" kicked off after an idea from volunteer Doug Zimmer. Doug wrote and received grant funding from the Grays Harbor Community Foundation allowing the police department to purchase 200 lock boxes. This project, in participation with the Aberdeen Fire Department, was designed to save time and reduce property damage by providing first responders a safer way to assist someone in need. The project is designed to assist older or disable Aberdeen residents, particularly those who live alone. So far, the VIPS have installed over 120 lock boxes to local residents.

In 2023, the Aberdeen VIPs volunteered 2327.75 total volunteer hours or about 194 hours a month.



## PATROL

The Aberdeen Police Patrol Section is the largest section within the Aberdeen Police Department and falls within the Operations Division.

The Patrol Section is divided into two patrol teams: Gold and Blue.

The patrol teams work a four days on, four days off schedule with 11 hour shifts. The Gold and Blue Teams each have two patrol sergeants to supervise the patrol officers on their teams.

There are a total of 24 patrol officers and Supervisors assigned to provide around the clock police coverage. The Aberdeen Police Department responded to 32607 calls for service in 2023. The average day had between 8 and 10 patrol officers working their staggered 11-hour shifts.

The patrol section is also responsible for bicycle patrol, traffic enforcement, collision investigation, Drug Detection and apprehension K9 along with several other specialties.

Aberdeen Police Officers issued 1648 citations and infractions in 2023 and forwarded 719 criminal cases for review and charging decisions.



## BICYCLE PATROL

The department's bicycle officers continued to patrol the downtown area on RadRover electric bicycles donated in prior years from the Downtown Aberdeen



Association. They are used to patrol the downtown business core, festivals, and local events, and for general patrol duties. The new power bicycles allow officers to cover larger distances than traditional pedal bicycles, while being quieter than patrol vehicles.



The many benefits of having a visible officer on the street that is approachable and focused on the downtown business area helps reduce crime while increasing citizen officer contact. The Downtown Aberdeen Association also made an additional donation of winter riding gear so that bicycle patrols could continue into the wet fall and winter months experienced in Aberdeen.

The Aberdeen Police Department Investigations Division is responsible for conducting follow-up investigations on felony crimes and missing persons/runaways that occur within the City of Aberdeen. The Investigations Division works closely with neighboring agencies and provides assistance to outside agencies when requested. The Detectives investigate a wide range of crimes to include sex crimes, arsons, homicides, financial crimes, assaults, robberies, and thefts. Detectives are on call 24 hours a day, 7-days a week, and respond to all serious crimes within the city limits of Aberdeen.

In 2023, the division was comprised of three investigators, including two Detectives, the Detective Sergeant, and a Records Specialist. The division had one unfilled Detective position throughout the year due to staffing.

In 2023, the Investigations Division received 624 cases. Of those referred cases, 277 were submitted to the Grays Harbor County Prosecutor's Office for charging. The remaining cases were also investigated; however, they were found to be unfounded, referred to other agencies, pending lab results, or investigated without charges being filed. During 2023, the Investigations Division was called out after hours on four occasions to include: two deaths (one adult / one infant), a felony assault (stabbing), and a felony threats case involving a gun.

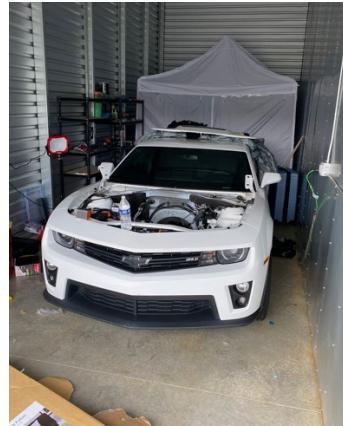
With the promotion of the previous Investigations Division Supervisor, Detective Sergeant Dave Cox, to a Lieutenant in the Patrol Division, Sergeant Gary Sexton was assigned as the Detective Sergeant on February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023. With the promotion of Detective Cody Blodgett to Sergeant in the Patrol Division, Officer David Tarrence was assigned to the Investigations Division to serve as a Detective. Detective Timothy Millard continued to serve as Detective, specializing in Digital Forensics.

In addition to follow-up investigations, the current members of the Investigations Division are also assigned to other specialties within the department to include: SRT (Special Response Team), FTU (Force Training Unit), EVOC (Emergency Vehicle Operations Course Instruction), and Drone Team

Most notably in 2023, was an investigation lasting several months into a serial identity thief, which originated from a simple shoplift call. Multiple search warrants were served, recovering hundreds of people's personal information, blank identification cards for printing fake identifications, check printing materials, a stolen vehicle, and more. The suspect pleaded guilty and was sentenced to 84 months in prison because of the tireless work of Detective Tarrence.

In December, Detective Millard was formally Deputized as a U.S. Secret Service Task Force Officer with the Cyber Fraud Task Force, giving him the ability to refer cases to the U.S. Federal Court System.

With two of three positions within the division changing, 2023 served as a year of learning and training for the members, who spent many hours in various courses to develop their skills needed for the position.



## DRONES

Thanks to a grant from the Paige Hounsley and the Abel Weatherwax Foundation and the Grays Harbor Community Foundation, the Aberdeen Police Department has purchased its first drone and added several more to better serve the citizens of Aberdeen. The drones will be instrumental in expanding our investigative methods, assisting with search and rescue operations, crime scene photography/mapping, and providing real-time and onsite information to responding officers of critical incidents, which will greatly reduce the uncertainties inherent in many response situations.

The Aberdeen Police Department has appointed nine of its police officers and have since received the required training to meet the Federal Aviation Administration certification requirements. We want to thank the Grays Harbor Community Foundation for the grant allowing us to purchase these valuable tools that will help us best serve the citizens in our community.

Aberdeen Police Department, drone operators have responded to a total of 93 deployments around Grays Harbor County during 2023. Drone operators conducted 66 training sessions throughout the year along with 27 missions. The total hours of flight time were approximately 30 hours. Drone operators have assisted the Grays Harbor County Sheriff's Office, Hoquiam Police Department, Washington State Patrol, and other agencies within Grays Harbor County.

Due to the ability to use drones, Aberdeen Police Department was able to assist the Grays Harbor County Sheriff's Office in locating a missing person in a remote forest area in Ocean Shores. The male had wondered off and lost his way. Officers and deputies were later provided with updated information that the missing person had a developmental disability.

Aberdeen Police Department officers were able to locate a heat signature using the Matrice 30t deep in the wooded area and were subsequently able to determine it was the missing person. Officers were able to drop a "pin" using the drones mapping capabilities where the missing persons heat signature was last observed. Officers were able to crawl through the thick brush and swampy wooded area and located the missing person. The Aberdeen Police Department drone team has achieved several successful deployments in locating missing persons and suspects wanted for specific crimes.



The Aberdeen Regional Crisis Response Unit (CRU) is led by the CRU Commander, Steve Timmons. The three CRU elements that consist of the Tactical Response Team (TRT), Sniper/Marksman, and the Crisis Negotiations Team (CNT) are led by Lieutenant Rich Ramirez (GHSO), Sgt. Jason Capps (APD), and Sgt. Darrin King (APD). In 2023, the Aberdeen Regional CRU Tactical Response Team conducted 2,331 total training hours. The Sniper/Marksman team conducted 653 total team training hours and the Crisis Negotiations Team logged 551 total training hours. The combined total of training hours for all elements was **3,535** training hours.

The Aberdeen Regional CRU Tactical Response Team is led by Team Leader Lt. Richard Ramirez. The TRT started the year with a total of 14 members from the Aberdeen Police Department, Hoquiam Police Department, Montesano Police Department, and the Grays Harbor County Sheriff's office. With the resignation of one TRT member from the Grays Harbor Sheriff's Department, the team ended the year with 13 members. The TRT team conducts internal training instructed by other team members in their areas of expertise. In addition, outside training is received from classes attended or by bringing in outside instructors. In November of 2023, the CRU attended 5-days of training at Camp Rilea in Warrenton, Oregon. The training curriculum covered several areas such as building searches, team movement, vehicle take downs, combat first aid training, officer-down drills, etc. All the areas of instruction were incorporated into scenario-based training with all CRU elements involved.

The Sniper/marksman team is led by Team Leader Sgt. Jason Capps. The team is composed of two sniper/observer teams; three personnel are from the Aberdeen Police Department and the fourth is from the Grays Harbor County Sheriff's Office. The sniper team is designed to provide observation and support for the Crisis Support Unit. The team utilizes authorized .308 caliber rifles with variable power scopes, while the observer-spotters utilize authorized .223 caliber rifles attached with reflex sights. The sniper/marksman team trains in all weather conditions and at various temperatures throughout the year. Sniper/Marksman Detective David Tarrence Jr. and Detective TJ Rogich attended and completed the Sniper Basic course in May of 2023.

The CRU Crisis Negotiation Team (CNT) is comprised of officers from the Aberdeen Police Department, Hoquiam Police Department, Montesano Police Department, the Grays Harbor Sheriff's Office, and a mental health dedicated crisis responder (DCR) professional. The team had a total of 10 members in 2023. With the rise in mental health issues in society, combined with drug abuse, officers receive calls for service daily and oftentimes several times a day involving people in some state of crisis. The CNT members, most of whom are assigned to patrol shifts, are often called upon to help de-escalate situations. The CNT was relied upon in fourteen documented situations in 2023.

To keep their negotiation skills honed, the CNT trains monthly often with other teams/elements and covers a variety of training topics, sometimes including outside speakers. Some members were able to attend the annual Western States Hostage Negotiators Associations (WSHNA) Conference in Sparks, Nevada. The CNT practices the motto, *"When others are at their worst, we must be at our best."*

The CRU Team had five activations in 2023 throughout Grays Harbor County while assisting on a non-activation assist with the Drug Task Force. Of the five activations, one was a Drug Task Force (DTF) warrant service, the remaining four were for emergent activations in Aberdeen, Hoquiam, and Grays Harbor County.



In January of 2023, The Aberdeen Police Department acquired a new apprehension K9 with the early retirement of K9 Ronin. Mac was purchased from Blue Line K9 in Rochester WA with the help of Our Community Credit Union. OCCU donated \$10,000 to help with the purchase and costs associated with the K9 program. Mac was 13 months old when purchased and was assigned to Ofc. Pearsall.

In January Mac and Ofc. Pearsall began training in Thurston County. Mac was trained in tracking, building searches, area searches, evidence searches, and handler protection. Mac and Ofc. Pearsall completed 400 hours of training to become a state certified K9 team with the Washington State Criminal Justice Training Commission. Mac completed his training in April and started working alongside Ofc. Pearsall. Ofc. Pearsall and Mac trained an additional 130 hours after his certification in April.

In April Mac received a ballistic patrol vest donated by Keeping K9's in Kevlar. Mac is also sponsored by Nulo Pet food who donates food monthly to help offset the cost to the Police Department. Mac served the citizens of Aberdeen on a routine basis. However, he also was called to assist the Hoquiam Police Department, McCleary Police Department, and the Grays Harbor County Sheriff's Office. Mac is also a member of the Aberdeen Special Response Team (SRT) and assisted the team on multiple high risk warrant services.



### K-9 (Apprehension)

K-9 Calls:	22
K-9 Tracks	7
K-9 Building searches	9
K-9 Article searches	3
K-9 presence (de-escalation)	4
K-9 successful applications	16
K-9 Captures	4

### Drug Detection K-9 ZERO

ZERO and Ofc Slater, completed 24 deployments during 2023. As a result of positive alerts, 6 vehicles were seized and warrants were applied for. In all six vehicles illicit drugs and or paraphernalia and firearms were located. Those include methamphetamine, cocaine, fentanyl pills and powder.

Zero attended events at the high school, "Coffee with a Cop," and other venues to educate students and others about the K-9 program.

Donations included Nulo pet food, a k-9 treadmill and bullet proof vest to help support the program in 2023.



DART The Domestic Violence Response Team is comprised of six police officers and one part time civilian position. The program works in conjunction with the City of Aberdeen Prosecutor's Office to provide follow-up to victims of domestic violence. The DART Team works with other community partners such as Beyond Survival and the Domestic Violence Center to help victims and is partially funded by a STOP Grant. There were 235 Calls for Service with 129 Victims of DV Assisted and 44 Temporary Protections Orders Requested.

## MEDICATIONS for OPIOD USE DISORDER in JAILS (MOUD)

PA Patrick Paulson is the jail medical provider. He has seen about 100 people this year in jail and has managed very simple medical, dental and psychiatric issues all the way up to catastrophic medical emergencies.

The MOUD program started seeing patients on December 24 of 2022 and we have seen 152 patients. 98% of those patients started on buprenorphine and then continued on Suboxone. 71 in Aberdeen jail and 81 in the Hoquiam jail. All the patients we see for the MOUD program are given emergency medication dispensers of naloxone, to take with them when they are released from jail.

The majority of the MOUD patients are referred to treatment and other needs such as housing by the SUD (substance use disorder) navigator. None of this would be possible without the consistent supervision and compassionate care given by the corrections officers in the Aberdeen and Hoquiam Jail.



Explorers develop an awareness of the purpose, mission and objectives of law enforcement agencies through their involvement in the program conducted by Officers: Jeff Weiss; Dillion Mitchell; Brendan King; and Stephen Ayers. The support of the Chief, along with a dedicated cadre of law enforcement professionals and adult volunteers who provide adult leadership, is essential to the success of the Aberdeen Police Department's Explorer Post 13.

The Post has up to 20 members at full staffing. The program objectives are to provide a program of training that educates young adults on the purpose, mission, and objectives of law enforcement agencies. To provide an opportunity for service, practical experiences, competition, and recreation and to help prepare Explorers to become better citizens and community members through character development, physical fitness, good citizenship, and patriotism.

Police Explorer responsibilities and activities are always conducted under the supervision of law enforcement officers and serve to demonstrate that Explorers can be beneficial to our agency and the community. They include traffic/crowd control during special events, assist the community at public festivals, events, etc. and ride along with Police Officers. In 2023 they had approximately 1451 hours of training, 474 hours assisting with events and 1067 hours of ride along.

The Explorer post assisted and participated in the following events during 2023: CRU Training, Shop with a Cop, Montesano Festival Of Lights, National Night Out, Grays Harbor Expo, Badges and Brews and Splash to name a few.



The Aberdeen Police Department's Corrections Section falls within our Support Division.

Like their Patrol Section partners, the seven Police Service Officers (formerly known as Corrections Officers) are divided into two teams, and they work synonymously with the respective Blue and Gold patrol teams.

Our Police Services Officers work a four on / four off schedule, with 12-hour shifts.

Deputy Chief Snodgrass took over as the Jail Commander and was the jail supervisor upon his promotion in February of 2023. The current primary functions of our PSOs in the jail is the care and custody of our confined persons.

Their duties include but are not limited to conducting bookings/releases of subjects arrested or serving court commitment time; preparing and serving meals; medication distribution; and transporting inmates to the various courts, medical and/or mental health appointments, or other law enforcement agencies.

In 2023, we continued to partner with the Grays Harbor Health Department in participating with the MOUD which focuses on helping inmates or people booked into the jail with substance abuse issues. The program is ever evolving, and we now have Navigator Moore (grant funded) and our in-house PA Patrick Paulsen assisting with the implementation of the program. At the end of 2023, it appears we have the program running efficiently. Throughout 2023, we have continued our in-house medical contract with PA Patrick Paulsen, who is a PA with the Harbor Regional Health Community Hospital. PA Paulsen is available 7 days a week, to provide medical services as needed in our jail. This has been an invaluable resource to our PSOs with ensuring medical needs are accurately addressed, without unnecessary time spent in the emergency room of the hospital.

In 2023 the Aberdeen City Jail had 916 bookings. The average daily population was 16.81 inmates. The jail's average daily stay was 10.51 days. We have an 18-bed facility and predominately book only inmates for the City of Aberdeen.

At the end of 2023 our corrections (PSO) staff was completely staffed for the first time in several years. We are excited for the opportunity to explore the opportunities to make our staffing more efficient and effective for our jail, the community and the City of Aberdeen.



During the 2023 year, approximately 1662 property and evidence items were received and processed.

This amount includes firearms received and related ammunition.

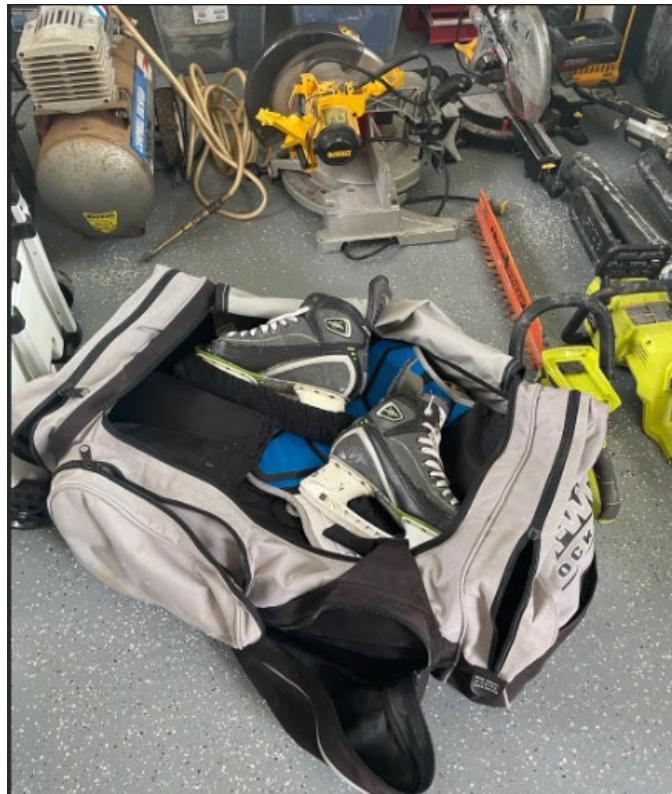
The above total of 1662 includes 364 packages of controlled substances, primarily methamphetamine, heroin, marijuana, and fentanyl.

The Aberdeen Police Department Evidence Room receives evidence generated by Drug Task Force cases within our city limits. The figures above include their 20 cases from 2023, which totaled 98 packages. The Evidence Room also stored \$12,263 seized cash from the DTF.

Hundreds of Aberdeen and Drug Task Force items were processed and packaged for the various state crime labs. The Evidence section works with the APD Investigation section and prosecutor's office on these felony cases.

Our ongoing purging process continued with notifications from the Superior and Municipal Courts and the Grays Harbor County Prosecutor's Offices. In addition, past felony and misdemeanor cases were reviewed and items purged. This includes hazardous and illegal items destroyed.

In 2023, we continued to collaborate with other police agencies purging auction items, using Johnny's Auction. This auction house streamlines the auction process for many police departments statewide.



## PARKING ENFORCEMENT

628 parking complaints were handled during 2023, the majority by Parking Officer George Welch. An additional 155 abandoned vehicle complaints involving cars, motorhomes and hulks were dispatched or referred to Officer Welch. 160 Citations and Infractions were issued by Ofc Welch in 2023

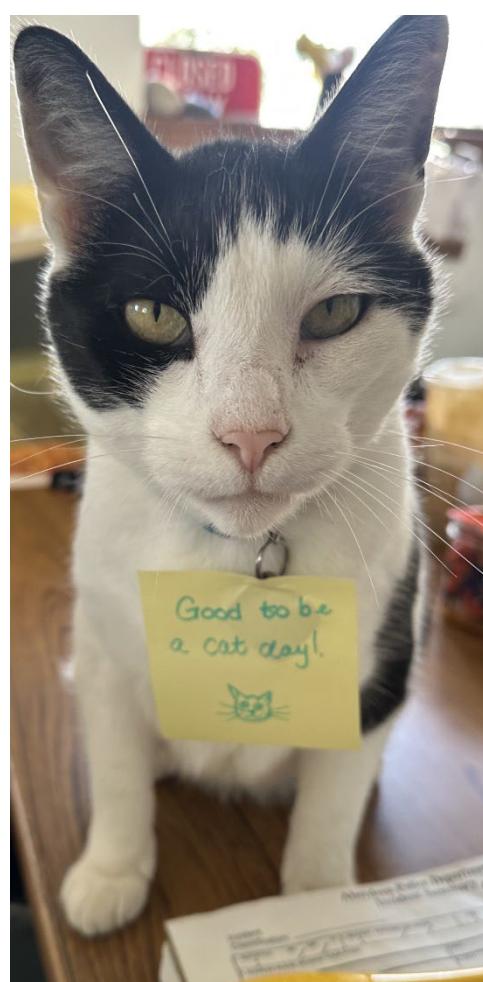
Of those, 114 were impounded locally or in the case of abandoned motorhomes, impounded and processed out of the area.

## ANIMAL CONTROL

Animal Control Officer Kris Sidor, and Shelter Custodian Kaylee Steen handle the animal complaints, custody, adoption, vaccination and care of the shelter animals. The shelter received and responded to 2342 phone calls, 432 dispatched animal complaints. 16 infractions and 97 written warnings were issued in 2023.

Of the 299 animals impounded, 111 were returned to owners, 163 were released either through adoption or transfer to other animal welfare organizations.

Donations to the shelter for the local community from The Tractor Supply and Pet Sense help feed and assist many of the released animals.



Incidents resulting in police use of force are relatively rare, but it is this very infrequency that intensifies their significance. It is a sign of a civil and civilized society that all use of police force prompts strong reaction and opinion. It is important though that these opinions be tempered with and understanding of how, why and when force is used by police.

The Aberdeen Police Department includes use of force by Officers and PSO's in the jail in our end of year report. Out of 32607 calls for service, including traffic stops, proactive contacts, and coverage in the jail 24 hours a day seven days a week. Force was used 110 times in 2023.

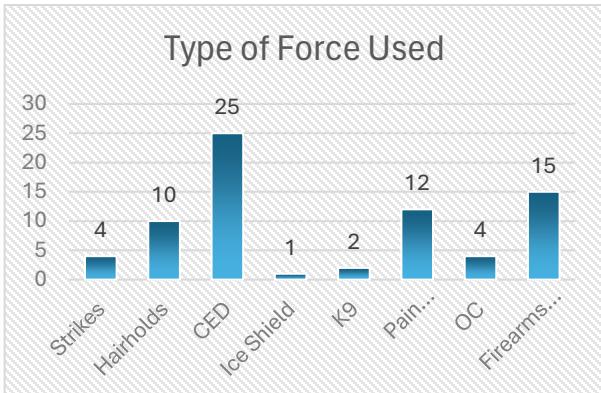
Aberdeen Officers receive training in the use of force, defensive tactics, de-escalation, mental health, legal updates, and hands on training "Full Force" simulations. This training is ongoing and utilizes live actors and realistic situations to test a variety of circumstances and conditions that the police officers face.

The introduction of more less lethal options, and de-escalation techniques provide officers more tools to subdue violent or combative subjects with fewer injuries to the subjects and the officers. Officers must react to what the threat appears to be at the time, and police actions are based on the initial actions of the offender. In most of the reported incidents officers responded with a lower level of force. Aberdeen Officers have less lethal options including FN 303's, 12 Gauge Less Lethal Drag Stabilized Bean Bag rounds, ECD's commonly known as Tasers, batons and OC Spray/Vapor, however most of the use of forces in Aberdeen are resolved by using "hands" or control holds to subdue the suspect.

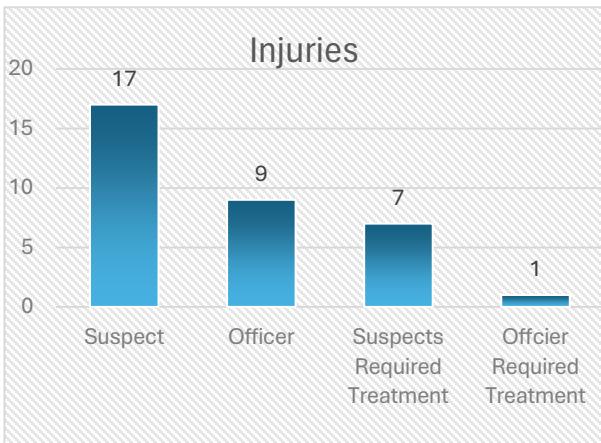
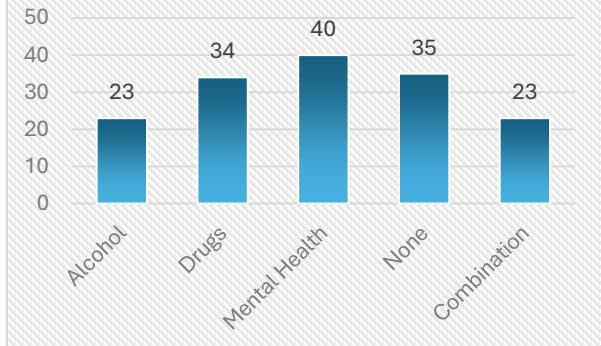
There are many contributing factors in Use of Force incidents, to include mental health, alcohol, drugs or a combination. There were 110 reported incidents of Force used during 2023, an increase of 9 incidents from 2022 again between both the Jail and Patrol.

Aberdeen Police Department Officers and PSO's pride themselves on using the least amount of force necessary and using force only when needed.

### WHY DO POLICE USE FORCE?



### Contributing Factors



## Employee of the Quarter

Kathi Schlesser  
Noah Ewing  
Steve Timmons  
Gary Sexton



## Employee of the year

Steve Timmons

Candidates are nominated by their peers for recognition of achievements, and or contributions the nominee has made that make the City of Aberdeen and the Police Department a better place to be and work. The nominations are open for all employees of the department.

The Employee of the year is chosen from the candidates selected each quarter and elected by their peers.

