



Appleton Police Department 2020 Year In Review

Excellence in Police Service

Compassion * Integrity * Courage

2020 Highlights:

- ◆ COVID-19— continued operations to provide excellence in police service
- ◆ Upheld highest standards and looked for ways to improve during social/political unrest
- ◆ Created Chief's Community Advisory Board
- ◆ Implemented Lexipol to ensure policies were at highest standards

Thank you for reviewing our 2020 annual report. This has been a year where our community and Appleton Police Department Officers faced unprecedented challenges, including the COVID-19 pandemic, political and civil unrest. Our police officers and staff held strong and steadfast in providing excellent police services while ensuring our core values of Compassion, Integrity and Courage were part of every one of our efforts.

Our staff was stretched to its limits in 2020 and I could not be prouder of the outstanding service they provided to our community. Through it all, they held up the traditions and high standards of the Appleton Police Department. I appreciate you reading about their fine work as outlined in this report.

Todd L. Thomas
Chief of Police





Appleton Police Department Chief's Community Advisory Board

The Police Chief's Community Advisory Board was established in 2020 to act as a resource for the Chief of Police in the Chief's formation of strategies, development of community policing concepts and programs, and to help increase public awareness about the activities of the agency.

The Chief's Advisory Board is not a review board of specific police actions, whether internal or external. It is a resource for the Chief to receive input and leverage the experiences of our citizens to benefit the department and the community. The primary purpose of the Chief's Advisory Board is to provide a forum for discussions with community members regarding law enforcement practices within the community.

This Advisory Board is currently made up of 24 individuals, selected by Mayor Woodford based on their experiences, both lived and professional, as well as their commitment to the City of Appleton. Efforts were made to select members from diverse backgrounds, including business, education, non-profit, public relations, faith community, government and more. We were grateful the application process resulted in a broad interest from individuals throughout the City.



Operations

The majority of Appleton’s sworn police officers are assigned to the Operations Unit and they serve as the department’s most visible component...the uniformed patrol officer. For the most effective and efficient delivery of police services, the Operations Unit consists of three geographic patrol districts. Under the direction of a supervisory team, each district group is tasked with developing strategies and practices primarily designed to:



- Respond to, investigate, and prevent crime.
- Address public safety problems brought to their attention like traffic safety issues and entertainment district order maintenance.
- Prevent and deter quality of life problems through collaboration with other government departments, human service agencies, schools, and advocacy groups.

Nearly all incidents and investigations in which the APD is involved begin with the uniformed police officer. We are proud of our uniformed officers’ versatile skills which are the hallmark of our agency.



Use of Force Incidents: In 2020, all use of force incidents were determined to be within policy guidelines.

Technique Used	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Passive Countermeasures	67	53	44	42	39	53	58	73
Focused Strikes	21	20	9	10	16	18	17	18
ECD Activations	18	22	14	15	14	18	14	12
Vertical Stun	10	4	3	3	7	3	3	2
OC Spray	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Baton	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Deadly Force	0	1	0	0	1	1	1	0

Investigative Partnership

The Appleton Police Department’s Special Investigations Unit (SIU) is a partnership between Appleton Police Department and the Outagamie County Sheriff’s Department. The statistics below summarize some of SIU’s 2020 accomplishments:

- In Fall of 2020, SIU member became Task Force Officers with the U.S. Marshals’ Great Lakes Regional Task Force.
- 67 probable cause arrests or assists with taking into custody
- 91 warrant apprehensions
- 49 drug-related tips assigned for investigation
- Conducted or assisted with the service of 19 search warrants or Act 79 searches
- Conducted 21 administrative search warrants on items such as phones, computers, vehicles, Facebook accounts
- Investigated 58 felony and misdemeanor cases, including investigations involving: armed robbery, homicide (assisting

- Investigative Services), drug trafficking/possession arrests (Heroin, Meth, MDMA, Marijuana, Psilocybin)
- Investigated 8 sex crime cases
- Investigated 12 overdose cases and worked with Investigative Services Unit (ISU) in overdose cases that resulted in death
- Responded to assist patrol officers on 11 incidents patrol was actively working
- Increased collaborations with Investigative Services Unit, the Lake Winnebago MEG unit, Department of Criminal Investigations
- 16 presentations related to current trends, heroin abuse, threat assessment presentations, and safety/security assessments

High Standards

The Appleton Police Department holds the highest standards for hiring, training, and retraining its personnel. We are grateful for in-house expertise and for a facility that accommodates training. The Department actively seeks to recruit quality candidates to maintain authorized staffing levels of 113 sworn officers and 27 civilians.

All policies are reviewed routinely, addressing evolving technology and legislative changes.

In 2020, training included:

- Defense & Arrest Tactics
- Emergency Vehicle Operation
- Bi-annual firearms proficiency
- Monthly open gun range time
- Mandatory State of Wisconsin handgun qualification course
- SWAT training
- Legal update
- Vehicle contacts
- Rescue Task Force Training
- Report Writing
- Peer Support
- Tactical Emergency Combat Care
- Advanced Law Enforcement Rapid Response Training (ALERRT)
- ALICE Training (Alert, lockdown, inform, counter, evacuate)
- Less lethal training
- Active shooter training
- Narcan training
- Fair and Impartial Policing training

IN-HOUSE EXPERTISE: The Appleton Police Department places a high priority on training. State certified, in-house experts teach Firearms, DAAT, Simunitions, Rifle, Taser, Less Lethal, Vehicle Contacts, EVOC, Bike Patrol, Cultural Competence, Tactical Response, Report Writing, AED Recertification, Policing Strategies, Professional Communications and numerous technologies.

Right: Chief Thomas presented every member of the Appleton Police Department with a 2020 “Steadfast and Strong” Commendation Coin, for remaining steadfast in the mission – resolute, firm and unwavering as resiliency was tested beyond measure in the past year.



Treasured Volunteers

The Appleton Police Department is blessed with over 50 incredibly giving, active volunteers. In 2020, prior to the pandemic, the APD volunteers were busy providing tours, making McGruff appearances, digitalizing police reports, handling clerical assignments, shredding paper, readying prescription drugs for destruction, filing, creating spreadsheets, inventorying/ordering office supplies, documenting Department’s history and many other assignments. In the last three quarters of 2020, the volunteer program operated on a much smaller scale. We applaud their fine efforts throughout the year and look forward to resuming the volunteer program to its full strength in the near future!



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.



In late February investigators worked on the North Kensington Dr. homicide of 3 year old Zyana Corbin and the brutal attack on her pregnant mother. The case resulted in the arrest of Demetrius L. Williams.

Major Incidents

2020 saw a dramatic increase in the number of overdose related deaths investigated. There were 23 overdose deaths in 2020. In comparison, there were 9 overdose deaths in all of 2019. Several of these cases have been cleared by arrest, some remain under investigation.

On 4/17/20 the Boost Mobile store at 619 W. Wisconsin was robbed by two armed suspects. Investigators worked to identify and arrest both individuals for armed robbery. Neither were residents of Appleton.

During the summer investigators worked to identify suspect(s) involved in a rash of catalytic converter thefts. One individual was arrested and also linked to several other catalytic converter thefts by evidence collected at the scene of additional cases.

There were several instances of organized groups that traveled through Appleton from other states in order to commit high dollar frauds. Investigators worked quickly on several of these, in conjunction with other area agencies and private organizations, to identify and arrest those involved before they could move on to another community and victimize additional individuals.

#pinkforZyana



ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

“Blue Justice”

The Department’s therapy dog, “Blue Justice”, is a favorite in the halls of the Appleton Police Department and beyond.



The APD Records Unit processes thousands of police field reports, such as incident reports, traffic citations, ordinance tickets, warnings, accident reports and warrants. They also field numerous inquiries from the public and process open records requests.



The Appleton Police Department Front Desk:

In 2020, the Police Communications Specialists fielded 49,800 incoming phone calls, issued 3,631 animal licenses, in addition to their many additional work duties. They handle all walk in traffic into the lobby and answer the non-emergency phone lines. The position is staffed Sunday-Thursday from 6 AM to 3 AM, Friday and Saturday from 6 AM to 4 AM.



Social Media

The Appleton Police Department uses technology to further the Department’s philosophy of transparency and inclusion of the community through:

- Media Releases
- Instagram: 2,151 followers
- Facebook: 48,600 followers
- Twitter: 8,192 followers
- Appleton Police Department website
- You Tube: 97 subscribers
- Ring by Neighbors
- Nextdoor
- Snapchat: 131 followers
- You Get It First: 33 alerts sent; 1m484 followers (increases and decreases after each issued alert)



Sara Derks and Officer Meghan Cash with National Night Out Award

School Resource Officers

The School Resource Officer Unit is possible through a cooperative agreement with the Appleton Area School District. The partnership between the AASD and the APD has been in place for more than forty years. We currently have twelve officers providing services to over 16,000 AASD students. The SRO Unit also provides services for the private schools in the City of Appleton on an as-needed basis. The officers working with the schools investigate criminal issues but more importantly are there as a resource to students, families, and staff. In 2020 the SRO unit and AASD were put in the unique position of working with students and their families during a pandemic. Even with the AASD moving to remote learning, the SRO unit continued their work to ensure the welfare and safety of the students we serve.

National Police Week—Memorial Boot Display:

The Department collected 146 pairs of boots, one for each law enforcement officer who died in the line of duty in 2019. The boots were on display at the Appleton Police Department during National Police Week—each boot with a flag showing the name of the fallen officer, along with their photo. It was a beautiful and somber memorial to these fallen heroes who gave the ultimate sacrifice.

Vanderloop Shoes donated 90 of the pairs of boots, which have since been donated to those in need.

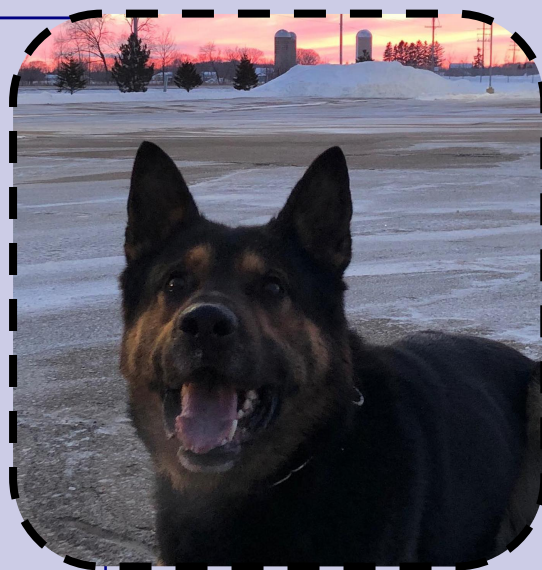


APD K9 Unit's Teams:

- K9 Waskos (Narcotics Detection and Patrol) and handler Sgt. Rohm
- K9 Ion (Explosive Detection and Patrol) and handler Sgt. Schneider
- K9 Zuul (Narcotics Detection and Patrol) and handler Officer Zieman

2020 Statistics:

- 291 operational deployments
- 11 fugitive tracks
- 53 patrol deployments (building clears and arrest assist)
- 22 explosive ordinance sniffs
- 203 narcotics sniffs
- 432 K9 training reports



2020 Community Survey Results:

- 97% of citizens feel safe in their neighborhood during the day; 96% at night
- 96% of citizens believe we are meeting the needs of the community
- 94% of citizens feel we are good or excellent at demonstrating Integrity and Respect
- 95% of households who had contact with the APD in the past 12 months were satisfied or very satisfied with our service
- 93% of citizens surveyed trust the Appleton Police Department
- The top issues identified by the community were: drug abuse, inattentive/distracted driving, speeding and reckless driving, operating while under the influence,; domestic violence.



Beginning early in the pandemic, citizens signed up for the “APD Good Neighbor Program” to have an officer stop for porch visits or welfare checks.



Promotions in 2020



October 5, 2020



November 2, 2020



November 2, 2020

Domestic Violence Intervention



In 2020, Sgt. Lori Duven was the department's Domestic Violence Liaison Officer. She works closely with victims, our domestic violence service providers, the District Attorney's Offices, and our officers to assist with cases. Our officers are also trained to utilize a Lethality Assessment Program with intimate partner and domestic violence cases. This protocol assists with identifying those at high risk of being killed by their intimate partner with a goal of connecting the victim to a domestic violence service provider while the officer is still with the victim.

While the number of arrests are more than we would like to see, we will continue our efforts to prevent domestic violence, keep victims safe, and educate on the dangers associated with intimate partner and domestic violence, with the ultimate goal of eradicating intimate partner and domestic violence.

Fiscal Resources



Fiscal Resources oversees the \$18.7 million budget for the Department and manages grants that are awarded by federal, state and local agencies. In 2020 the department received a \$65,000 COVID-19 Emergency Personal Protective Equipment grant through the Department of Justice to purchase supplies and equipment in preparation and in response to the coronavirus. Additionally, the department received \$205,000 in grants for various task force enforcements, bulletproof vests, e-referral program, vehicle management systems and other specialized equipment.

Behavioral Health Officer—Fox Cities Future 15



Sgt. Ignacio Enriquez was named one of Fox Cities Chamber's Future 15 young professionals from across the Fox Cities region. The 2020 Future 15 recipients were chosen based on their professional dedication, strong sense of vision for the future of the Fox Cities and personal commitment to philanthropy in the community they call home.

Sgt. Enriquez is the Behavioral Health Officer at the Appleton Police Department. This role encompasses: Identifying and connecting consumers to MH/AODA treatment; expediting treatment to consumers; exploring diversion opportunities; disseminating information internally; and following up with officer referrals.



Sgt. Ignacio Enriquez
Behavioral Health Officer

Police & Fire Commission

Appointed by the Mayor:
Harvey Samson, (1983);
Barbara Luedtke, (1993);
Pamela DeLeest, (2013);
Rudy Nyman (2019)
Ernesto Gonzales, Jr.
(2020).

APD Honor Assembly—Awards

Officers of the Year: Sgt. Chris Biese & Officer Paul Christensen

Police Star Medal: Sgt. Chris Biese, Officer Paul Christensen, Retired Lt. Jay Steinke

Distinguished Service: Officer Anthony Jenkins, Officer Blake Herbert

Life Saving Award: Sgt. John Ostermeier, Sgt. Aaron Pynenberg, Sgt. Matt Ollwerther, Sgt. Matt McQuaid, Officer Casey Spencer, Officer John Kowalski, Lt. Jack Taschner, Officer Tom Ziemann, Officer Dominic Hall

Meritorious Service Awards: Officer Dane Coonen, Sgt. Brad Lehman, Officer Leah Becher, Sgt. Lori Duven

Team Awards: Sgt. Adam Nagel, Officer Joanna Kolosso, Officer Turner Botz

Civilian Employees of the Year: Sue Ann Teer & Tiffany Driessen

Volunteer of the Year: Ryan Young

Civilian Community Service: Robyn VanBogart



2020 Retirements and New Hires

Lieutenant Jeff Miller and Sergeant David Lund retired in 2020.

Officers hired in 2020: Derek Lahti, Jeremy Norris, Lukas Buteyn

Forensic Evidence Specialists hired in 2020: Kourtney Rowe, Falyne Gerisch

Community Service Officers hired in 2020: John Riesterer, Jon Graminske, Weston Waters, Nicole Bellerud, Yeeleng Thor



Appleton Police Department

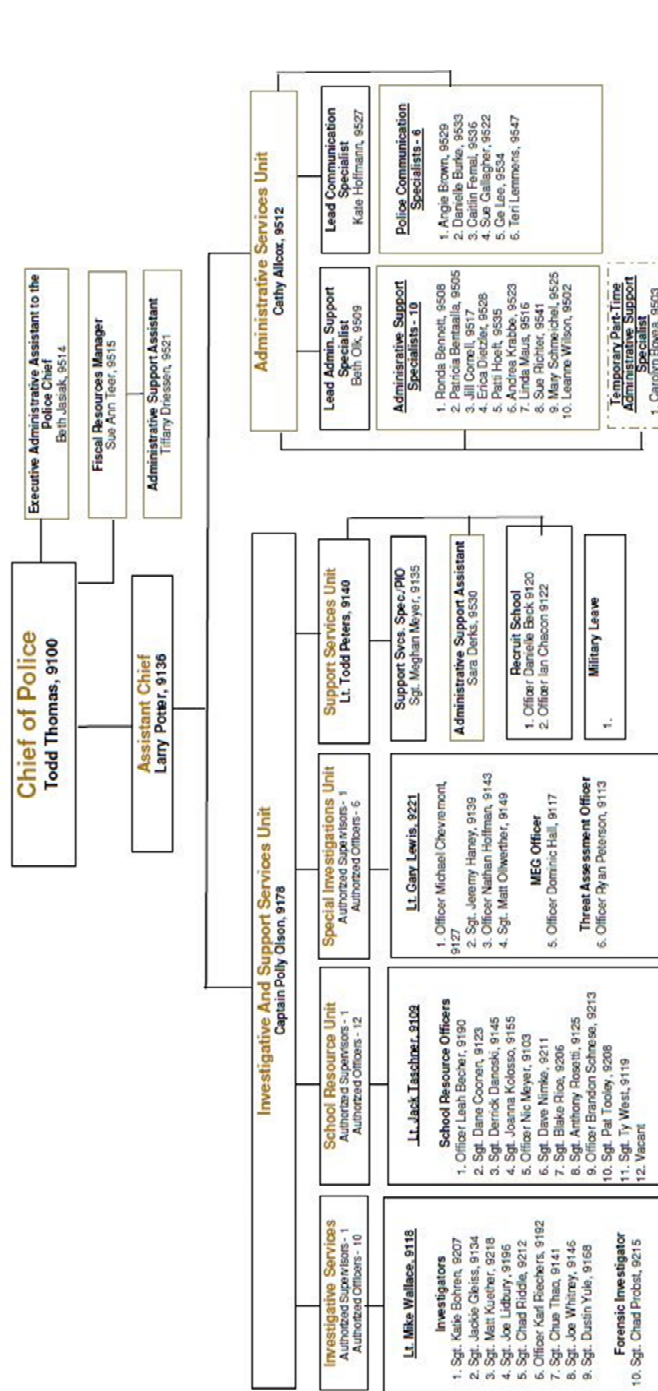


Mission

Excellence in Police Service

Core Values

- Compassion
- Integrity
- Courage



APD AUTHORIZED STAFFING

Sworn Staffing Levels Authorized - 113 Authorized Overhires -
Actual Sworn Officers - 93 Actual Sworn Administration - 20 Sworn Vacancies - 0
Civilian FT Staffing - 27
PT Civilian Staff - 14
FT Civilian Vacancies - 0



Table of Organization

Chief of Police
Todd Thomas, 9100

Assistant Chief
Larry Potter, 9136

Downtown District Command and OPS Coordination
Captain Mike Frisch, 9170

Southern/Northern District Command
Captain Todd Freeman, 9154

Operations
Lt. Bill Kreg (Primary)
Lt. Chad Allaback

Operations Specialist
Sgt. Mark Robinson, 9171

Lead CSO
Matthew Fillebrown, 9563

- Community Service Officers**
- Nicole Bolland, 9558
 - Williams Berens, 9551
 - Parker Bob, 9559
 - Jon Gramme, 9560
 - Dalton Lehner, 9565
 - Noah Manser, 9552
 - Reine Pullen, 9567
 - Dalicia Raatz, 9551
 - John Resner, 9557
 - Yeeling Thor, 9552
 - Weston Walkers, 9554

BLUE TEAM

Lieutenants
Lt. Carlos del Plaine, 9155
Lt. Bill Kreg, 9220
Lt. Bill McCormick, 9116
Lt. Adam Nagel, 9191
Lt. Ryan Nelf, 9204
Lt. Adam Van Zealand, 9184

- Officer Phillip Akins, 9128
- Officer Derek Anderson, 9105
- Officer Alyssa Blackerhup, 9166
- Officer Turner Boz, 9199
- Sgt. Tony Iversen, 9110
- Officer Taylor Justice, 9129
- Sgt. Adam Kunkle, 9197
- Officer John Kowalski, 9167
- Officer Austin Lawrence, 9138
- Officer Kong Lee, 9152
- Officer Brad Lehman, 9169
- Officer Cody Leum, 9150
- Officer Andrew Lindemann, 9106
- Officer Mitchell Martinez, 9159
- Officer Ryan McCard, 9188
- Sgt. Matt McQuaid, 9131
- Sgt. John Oelmeier, 9209
- Sgt. Matt Peeters, 9185
- Sgt. Aaron Pymenberg, 9108
- Sgt. Craig Rohm, 9184 (D)
- Officer Anthony Shuman, 9173
- Officer Amanda Sincove, 9147
- Officer Casey Spencer, 9176
- Sgt. Kale Vander Heiden, 9148
- Sgt. Greg Vander Heiden, 9107
- Officer Taus Vang, 9175
- Officer Taylor Warmber, 9157
- Officer Jordan W oelief, 9179

BHO/CLOVSO and Programs
Lt. Chad Allaback (Primary)
Lt. Bill Kreg

CLO Officer
Sgt. Chris Blase, 9144

BHO Officer
Sgt. Ignacio Enriquez, 9205

VSO Officer
Sgt. Lori Duven, 9185

- Officers in Field Training**
Lt. Adam Van Zealand, 9184
- Officer Derek Lahti, 9185
 - Officer Jeremy Norris, 9162
 - Officer Lukas Buevyn, 9174
 - Officer Samuel Guell, 9142
 - Officer Kenneth Lowe, 9181

RED TEAM

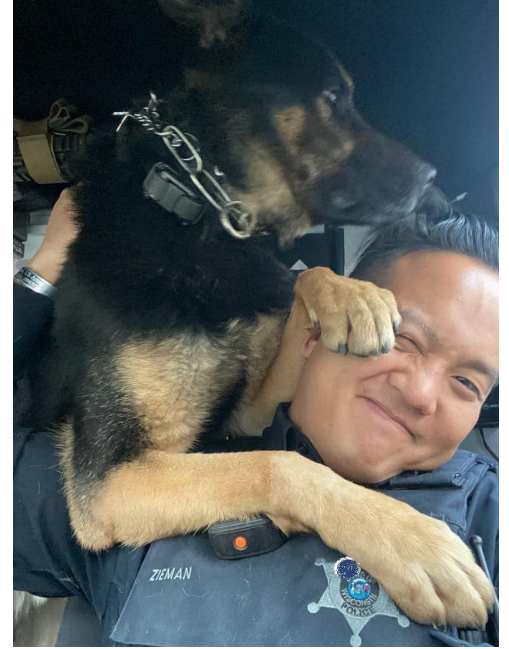
Lieutenants
Lt. Chad Allaback, 9153
Lt. John Berkey, 9130
Lt. Kelly Gady, 9133
Lt. Ryan Juliette, 9137
Lt. Eric Holdorf, 9202
Lt. Blaine VanderWiel, 9198

- Officer Christopher Allen, 9203
- Officer Paul Christensen, 9101
- Officer Styler Corbett, 9132
- Sgt. Brandon Edwards, 9216
- Sgt. Leon Fischer, 9201
- Officer Ben Goodin, 9182
- Officer Blake Herbert, 9172
- Officer Payne Hughes, 9160
- Officer Anthony Jenkins, 9214
- Officer Cole Kanner, 9121
- Sgt. Dale Kraatz, 9124
- Officer Calvin Manuel, 9177
- Sgt. Mika Medina, 9126
- Sgt. Andrew Miles, 9114
- Officer Sam Palak, 9158
- Sgt. Carrie Peters, 9161
- Sgt. Greg Pieper, 9217
- Officer Bryce Ruckelshock, 9189
- Sgt. Greg Ryan, 9210
- Officer Jason Schmitz, 9115
- Sgt. Dave Schneider, 9165 (D)
- Sgt. Ryan Schroeder, 9163
- Officer Ben Wassink, 9102
- Officer Frank Wychgram, 9183
- Officer Tom Zeman, 9112 (N)
- Vacant
- Vacant





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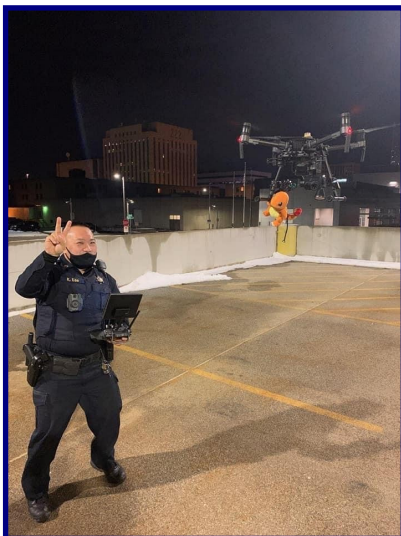
Appleton Police Department

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www.appleton.org/police



Drone Program

In 2020, the Drone Program added two new pilots to have near 24-hour coverage with a pilot working. The program also made the purchase of a FLIR (Forward Looking Infrared) system that allows for nighttime deployment. In year 2020, the drone program was deployed 38 times in support of area law enforcement, search & rescue, and SWAT operations.

The photo on the left shows Officer Kong Lee flying the DJI M210 drone.