



APPLETON POLICE DEPARTMENT 2021

NOTE FROM CHIEF TODD THOMAS

Thank you for your interest in the Appleton Police Department's Annual Report. 2021 was filled with unique challenges that led to new collaborations within the community and creative ways to keep our community safe.

The citizens of Appleton can remain proud of the high degree of compassion, integrity and courage demonstrated by our staff every day. Your Appleton Police Department staff continues to work hard, in challenging conditions, to serve you at the highest standards. The City of Appleton remains one of the safest Cities in the State of Wisconsin. We are grateful for the many partners in our community who help us in our efforts. I appreciate you reading about the Appleton Police Department team members' hard work as outlined in this report.

Todd L. Thomas
Chief of Police

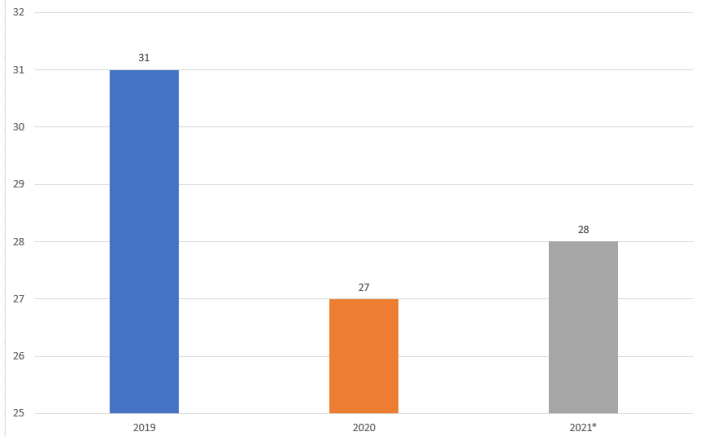


Highlights from 2021:

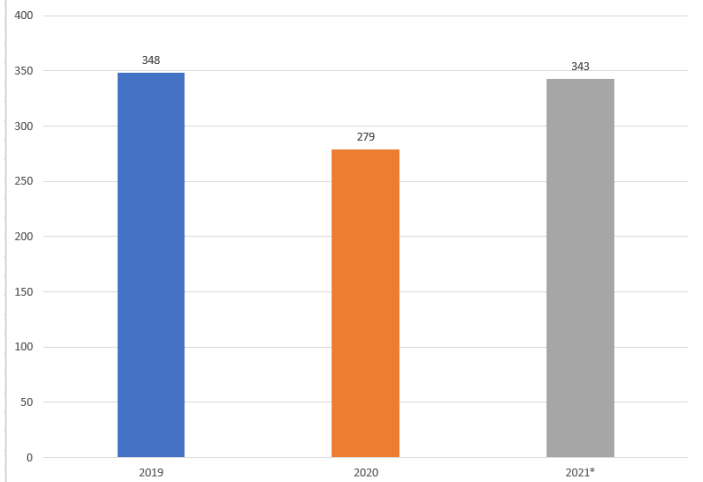
- ◇ Upon the retirement of Assistant Chief Larry Potter, Polly Olson was promoted to Assistant Chief.
- ◇ Edison, our first Facility K9, joined the department, assigned to K9 Handler and Victim Services Officer Sgt. Duven.
- ◇ First full year with the Chief's Community Advisory Board sharing creative ideas and new ways of looking at how we do business.
- ◇ A Crime Analyst position was created within the Investigative Services Unit.
- ◇ Community events such as the Appleton Christmas Parade resumed.

Statistics

Based on Spillman Citations from 2019-2021 Drug Related OWI by Year Prepared by S. Gallagher 1/7/2022



Based on Spillman Citations from 2019-2021 Alcohol Related OWIs by Year Prepared by S. Gallagher 1/7/2022



Excellence in Police Service

	2019	2020	2021
Calls for Service	46,956	46,175	54,942

	2019	2020	2021
Mental Health Circumstance Calls	407	456	786
Emergency Committals	133	97	120

	2019	2020	2021
Traffic Stops	9,471	7,658	10,920
Citations Issued (Including Non-Traffic Ordinance Violations)	6,243	5,585	7,211
Warnings Issued (Including Non-Traffic Ordinance Violations)	8,931	6,689	8,687



OPERATIONS

DISTRICT POLICING

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 police 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.



Appleton Police Department's K9 Unit:

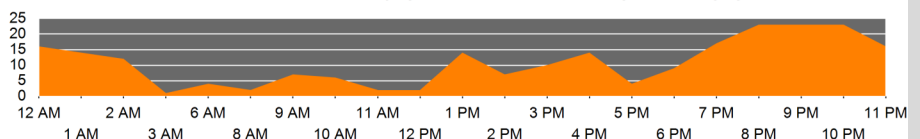
- ◇ K9 Faro (Narcotics Detection and Patrol) and K9 Handler Sgt. Rohm
- ◇ K9 Ion (Explosive Detection and Patrol) and K9 Handler Sgt. Schneider
- ◇ K9 Zuul (Narcotics Detection and Patrol) and K9 Handler Sgt. Zieman
- ◇ We were saddened at the loss of K9 Waskos in June, 2021

2021 K9 Unit Overall Deployment Statistics

Narcotics	165
Patrol	20
Area Search	3
Track	3
Explosives Detection	35

Analysis of Overall Activity by Hour

This chart shows the overall amount of K-9 Deployments for all hours of the day where a deployment occurred.



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.



SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS

The Special Investigations Unit is a partnership between the Appleton Police Department and the Outagamie County Sheriff's Department. Some of the statistics from their 2021 accomplishments are:

- ◇ 6 SIU and 2 members of Outagamie Co. Sheriff's Office worked as Special Duty Marshals (Task Force officers) and attended a 40+ hour High Risk Fugitive Apprehension training course
- ◇ 18 Threat Assessments/Presentations
- ◇ 55 Felony Probable Cause Arrests
- ◇ 30 Search Warrants / Act 79 Searches/ USMS Searches
- ◇ 122 Felony Arrest Warrants
- ◇ 23 Firearms Seized
- ◇ 2 Sex Crimes / Prostitution Cases

SIU Investigators worked closely with APD ISU, Lake Winnebago MEG Unit, DCI, ATF and US Marshal Service. In the course of our investigations, dozens of administrative warrants were completed.

Major Cases in 2021:

01/03/21 Shooting incident at the Brau Haus: Two individuals had been shot while inside of the bar. Fortunately both victims recovered from their injuries. Investigators identified a 23 year old suspect from Madison, who was responsible for the shooting. The suspect is awaiting trial on multiple felony charges.

03/18/21 Two victims were stabbed by a male who had entered their motel room in the 2600 Block of N. Richmond St. The male then fled the scene on foot. A 30 year old male was arrested within hours of the incident. The suspect is awaiting trial on multiple felony charges that include two counts of attempted first degree intentional homicide.

06/20/21 Shooting in 2800 Block of E. Newberry St.: A 38 year old male had broken into a residence and was subsequently shot by the homeowner after forcing entry to the bedroom that the residents had been sheltering in while they were on the phone with 911. The male died from his injuries. The investigation has been completed and was found to be a justifiable homicide. No charges have been recommended as a result of the investigation.

09/17/21 A fatal crash that took place at the intersection of Calumet and Oneida St.: A 50 year old female died as result of the crash. The investigation into this crash resulted in the arrest of a 19 year old female for charges of first degree reckless homicide. The suspect in that crash is awaiting trial.



annual report

SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS

The School Resource Officers 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. Students transitioned from remote learning back to in-school learning. The SRO Unit was flexible in their continued work to ensure the welfare and safety of the students we serve.

2021 Police & Fire Commission Members

Pamela DeLeest, President

Barbara Luedtke

Rudy Nyman

Ernesto Gonzales

Christine Bruen (appointment began in March 2022)

PFC Member Harvey Samson

Our longtime Police & Fire Commissioner, Attorney Harvey Samson, passed away on October 9th. He had been on the Appleton Police and Fire Commission for 38 years, and during that time he played a role in hiring six Appleton Police Chiefs, as well as all of the police officers who were on the Department at the time of his death. Harvey was very active in the community, as a founding member of Appleton Downtown Inc, (ADI), on the Board of Directors for the Appleton Senior Center; a Troop Committee Chair for Boy Scout Troop 9, and a volunteer with ADI, Mile of Music and Octoberfest. He was on the Appleton Parade Committee for 41 years. Harvey left his mark on his department and throughout the City, and will be greatly missed.



SUPPORT SERVICES

The Appleton Police Department holds the highest standards for hiring, training, and retraining its personnel. We are grateful for the ability to accommodate in-house training. The Department actively seeks to recruit quality candidates to maintain authorized staffing levels of 113 sworn officers and 27 civilians. In 2021, eight police officers and four civilians were hired. All policies are in Lexipol, and are routinely reviewed, addressing ever-evolving technology and legislative changes.

Appleton Police Department
is now
Hiring

Apply online at www.appleton.org

Applicants must:

- be a U.S. citizen
- be at least 18 years of age
- possess a valid driver's license
- have a minimum of 60 credits of post-secondary education at an approved college, university, or technical school
- not have any felony or domestic violence convictions

Great Lateral Opportunities!

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

Records Unit: 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.

Front Desk: In 2021, the Police Communications Specialists fielded 43,378 incoming phone calls, issued 2,808 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.



FISCAL RESOURCES

Fiscal Resources oversees the \$19 million budget with 95% allocated to personnel. Over \$186,000 was received through federal and state grants to support initiatives for traffic and drug enforcement, bulletproof vests and specialized equipment. Also, donations to the K9 Program supported the purchase/training of K9 Faro and the travel/equipment to welcome Canine Companion Edison. We also received a generous grant from the Bud and Gene Phyllis Prentice Fund of the Community Foundation.



VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

Over 50 volunteers give their time as part of the Appleton Police Department's volunteer program, handling tasks from digitalizing police reports, clerical assignments, shredding paper, filing, documenting the Department's history to assisting with community events or donning the McGruff costume. Their involvement at the Department allows us to accomplish more than we otherwise could, adds creativity and enthusiasm to our projects and joy to our days. We are most grateful for all they bring to us!





AWARDS

Officer of the Year: Sgt. Chue Thao

Medal of Valor: Lt. Tyrell West

Distinguished Service: Lt. Eric Holdorf, Lt. Blaine Vander Wielen, Sgt. Andy Miles, Sgt. Brandon Edwards, Sgt. Dale Knauer, Sgt. Leon Fischer, Officer Cody Lerum, Officer Paul Christensen, Officer Christopher Allen, Officer Payne Hughes, Officer Sam Patek, Officer Jeremy Norris, Officer Tom Ziemann, Officer Ben Wassink

Life Saving: Officer Turner Botz, Lt. Eric Holdorf, Officer Tom Ziemann

Meritorious Service: Lt. Ryan Guilette, Sgt. Greg Pieper, Officer Alyssa Blankenship, PCS Caitlin Christensen, Officer Payne Hughes, Officer Sam Patek, Sgt. Derrick Danoski, Lt. William Krieg

Team Award: Lead CSO Matt Fillebrown, Sgt. John Ostermeier, Sgt. Matt Ollwerther, Sgt. Matt Peeters

Humanitarian: Sgt. Brandon Edwards

Civilian Employee of the Year: Brooke Blatz

Volunteer of the Year: Mary Jo Mohr and Randy Thomas

Civilian Community Service: Andy Vanderloop, Vanderloop Shoes, Inc.



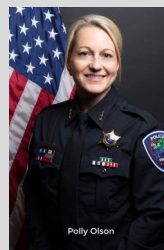
OFFICER OF THE YEAR

During 2020, Sgt. Thao played critical roles in numerous high profile and significant investigations. Aside from his continual work on the Boelter Homicide, he has handed numerous gas station burglaries, a robbery to a mobile phone store, and the Zyana Corbin homicide. Furthermore, he has worked on at least 10 other death investigations that were the result of anything from suicide to homicide. He has done all this work to the highest level. He treats every person that he encounters from victims to suspects with the ultimate dignity and respect. In addition to his high-level capabilities as an investigator, he is highly respected within the Hmong Community and his strong relationship within the Hmong Community is extremely valuable to the department. All this work is done while being an tremendously modest, humble and positive person.

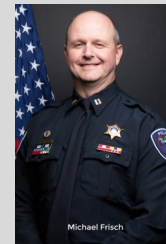
Sergeant Chue Thao

Promotions:

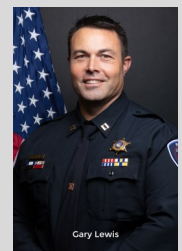
- ◇ Assistant Chief Polly Olson
- ◇ Captain Mike Frisch
- ◇ Captain Gary Lewis
- ◇ Lt. Tyrell West
- ◇ Lt. Meghan Cash
- ◇ Lt. Joanna Kolosso
- ◇ Lt. Andrew Lindemann



Polly Olson



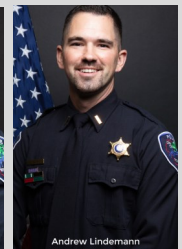
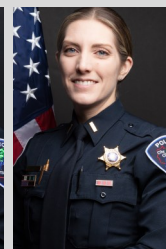
Michael Frisch



Gary Lewis



Meghan Cash



Andrew Lindemann

New Hires & Retirements



Community Outreach

The Appleton Police Department uses technology and community outreach to meet our community where they are. This work furthers our mission of providing transparency and inclusion to all members of our community.

- Facebook: 51,327 followers
- Instagram 2,473 followers
- Twitter 8,205
- YouTube 162 subscribers
- Appleton Police Department Website
- Community Resource Unit
- Liaison programs with several community organizations
- Refugee Liaison Officer
- Embedded Clinical Therapist

Retirements in 2021:

- Captain Daniel Weiske
- Sgt. John Schira
- Linda Maus
- Assistant Chief Larry Potter
- Sgt. Andrew Miles
- Beth Olk
- Lt. Chad Allaback
- Lt. Kelly Gady
- Sgt. Jackie Gleiss

Hired in 2021:

- Officer Samuel Gueli
- Officer Kenneth Lowe
- Officer Danielle Beck
- Officer Brandon Berg
- Officer Jack Doemel
- Officer Dylan Grier-Welch
- Officer Jacob Matwiejczyk
- Officer Dalton Lehrer
- CSO Tobias Timm
- Admin. Support Specialist Stacey Klug
- Forensic Evidence Specialist Nicole del Plaine
- CSO Jackson Reader



2021 Annual Report Created
by Beth Jasiak

