Town of DeWitt Police Department

Annual Report

2022

Table of Contents

Police Commission	3	Town of DeWitt Trainings List	16
Chief's Message	4	Employee Assistance Program (EAP)	17
Mission Statement	5	Criminal Investigation Division (CID)	18 - 19
Overview & History	6	School Resource Officer (SRO)	20
Organizational Chart	7	Retirements / Promotions / New Hires	21
Command Staff	8	Those Who Served	22
Department Personnel	9	Clerical Staff	23
Patrol Division	10	Accreditation	24
Notable Incidents	11	Uniform Crime Reports	25 - 26
Bicycle Unit / Evidence / Property Unit	12	Number of Calls by Hour / % of Calls by Shift	27
Traffic Unit / AIT Unit	13	Use of Force Review / Pursuit Review	28
Lexipol / Honor Guard	14	Police Benevolent Association (PBA)	29
Training Unit / Firearms / EVOC / DT	15	Recruitment / Photographs / Contact Info	30 - 33

The Town of DeWitt, New York
Government Leadership



Supervisor Edward Michalenko

Town Board Members:

Joseph Chiarenza
Karen Doctor
Jack Dooling
Kerry Mannion
Sarah Klee Hood
Max Ruckdeshel

The Town of DeWitt, New York
Government Leadership Continued

The Police Commission is comprised of a board of Police Commissioners who are appointed by the Town Board in accordance with Article 10, Section 150 of Town Law. The Commission has the authority to exercise all the powers relative to police matters conferred upon the Town Board pursuant to Article 10 of Town Law.

The Commission has three members who are elected officials to the Town Board, one serving as the Chairperson. The remaining Commissioners hold the status of non-voting and are members of the DeWitt community. A meeting is held each month in which the Chief of Police reports to the Commission on all matters pertaining to the management and operation of the Department.

2022 Police Commission

Karen Docter/Chair & Board member
Jack Dooling/Board member
Sarah Klee Hood/Board member
John Duncan
Paul Gottfried
David Newman
Bernard Alex
Rohin Mehta
Laura Fiorenza
Ernestine Cooper
Larene Dadey
Susan DeMari
Daniel Malay

Chief's Message:

On behalf of the members of the Town of DeWitt Police Department, I am pleased to present you with our annual report. We are a New York State and CALEA (Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies) Accredited Agency, continually striving to meet professionally recognized criteria for excellence in management and service delivery.

The members of DeWitt Police Department take great pride in providing you, our residents, with the highest level of police services possible. We are dedicated to making your community a safe place to live, work, and visit!

Chase L. Bilodeau

Chief of Police



Mission Statement

OUR MISSION

To effectively respond to the safety needs of citizens, always seeking the best resolutions to the situations we encounter, whether big or small and to actively seek out ways to fight crime, while holding ourselves to the highest ethical standards and finding ways to positively reach the members of our community.

OUR VISION

To strive to be viewed by the citizens we serve as the most professional police organization, continuously improving in order to meet the ever changing public safety needs and expectations of society.

OUR VALUES

We, the members of the DeWitt Police Department, are committed to providing quality service to the community of DeWitt. We believe that each one of us makes the difference between a good organization and an excellent one. These are our organizational values.

- *Integrity* - Quality of being honest and having strong moral principles. Always attempting to make the right decisions, admitting and learning from our mistakes, not attempting to hide or downplay them.
- *Accountability* - Being accountable at both the individual and organizational levels, holding ourselves responsible along with those around us. The key to growth is being honest with ourselves identifying weakness and mistakes in order to strengthen and correct them.
- *Determination* - Not giving up when faced with adversity or difficult challenges, doing what it takes and making personal sacrifices to get the job done.
- *Dedication* - Giving constant and consistent effort, a commitment to police work, those we serve and the greater good of society, above ourselves.
- *Teamwork* - Working together to be more effective and efficient to better serve the community and to ease the burden of any one member, bearing equal weight to those working alongside us.

Overview and History of the Department

The DeWitt Police Department is a CALEA and New York State accredited, full-service police agency serving the Town of DeWitt, New York.



The Town of DeWitt is located in Central New York, in eastern Onondaga County, bordering the city of Syracuse. The Town consists of approximately 37 square miles of land and .05 square miles of water. DeWitt has a population of 28,000 permanent residents and a transient population of over 100,000. The community has over 30 hotels, 3 major highways, 11 schools, 1 college, major retail districts, industries, and a wide range of residential areas spread throughout the Town.

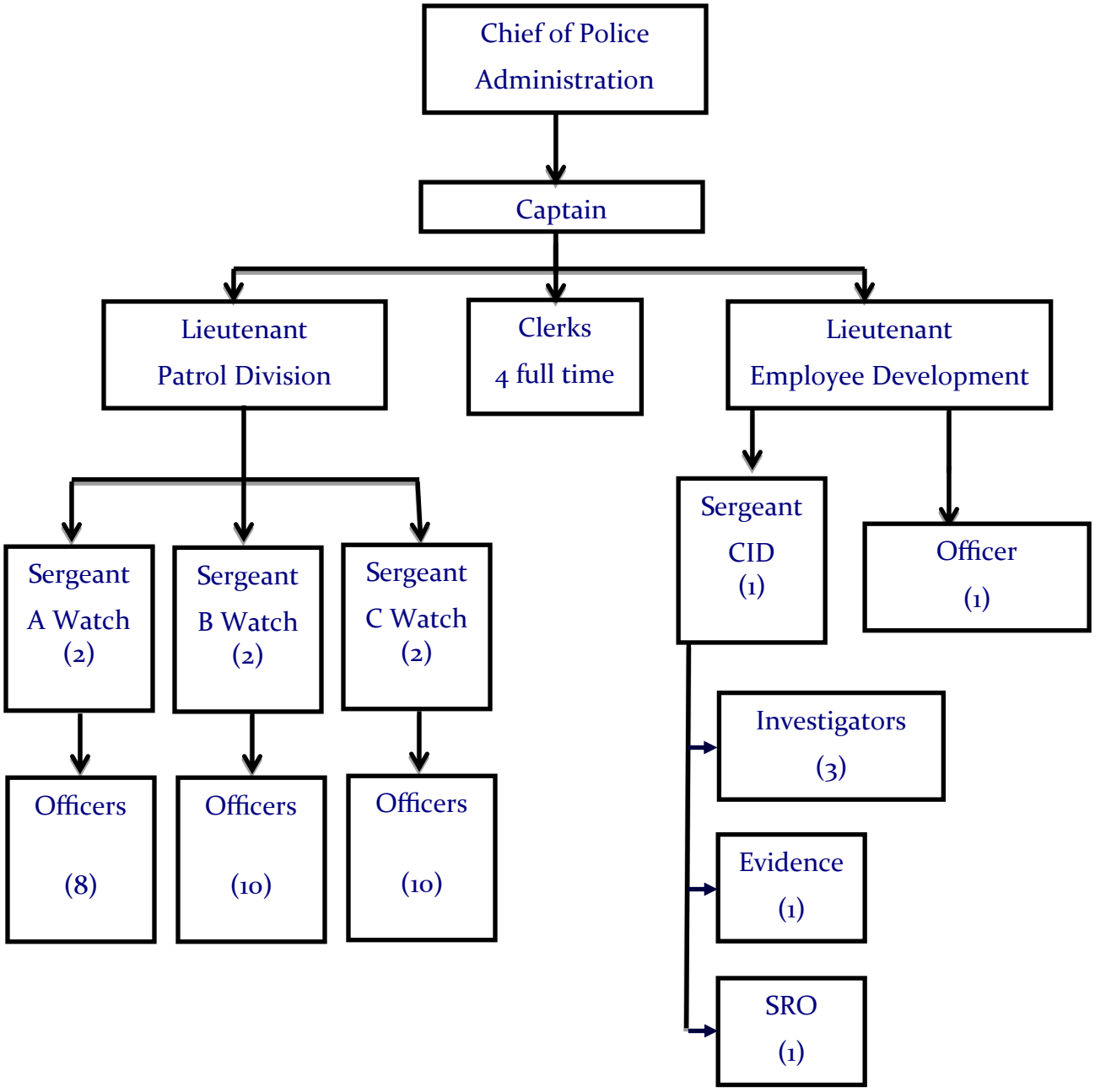
The DeWitt Police Department was founded in April of 1959 as the Volunteer DeWitt Police Unit which consisted of four, all volunteer special police officers. It wasn't until 1963 that the first full time paid employee was hired and the name was changed to the Town of DeWitt Police Department.

The Town of DeWitt Police Department provides full-time, professional law enforcement services to its residents and visitors. From a staffing of 4 volunteers in 1959, to an authorized staffing of 51 employees today to include 44 sworn, 4 civilian staff, and 2 consultants. The Department is comprised of a Chief of Police, 1 Captain, 2 Lieutenants, 7 Sergeants, 4 Investigators, 1 School Resource Officer, 1 Evidence Officer, and 29 Patrol Officers on three shifts.



In 2022, The Town of DeWitt Police Department responded to **27,928** calls for service.

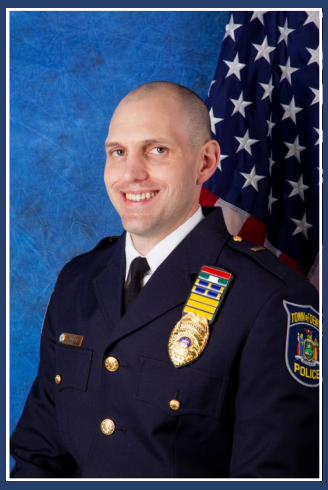
DeWitt Police Department Organizational Chart



Police Command Staff



Captain
Brenton White
Police Operations



Lieutenant
Christopher Fuller
Employee Development



Lieutenant
Jerry Pace
Patrol Commander

2022 Department Personnel

Chief of Police:
Chase Bilodeau

Captain:
Brenton White

Lieutenants:
Christopher Fuller
Jerry Pace

Sergeants:
Michael Kurgan
Andrew Fusco
Jarod Petrie
Zachary Morgan
Shane Spencer
Paul Pelton
Lucas Byron
Matthew Menard
James Dean

Investigators:
Chad Frederick
Loriann Maerz
Justin Baum
Jeffrey Conrad

School Resource Officer:
Michael Norton

Evidence Officer:
Shawn Chapa

Clerical Staff:
Laura Pulaski
Alyssa Armstrong
James Emm
Michel Wittwer

Patrol Officers:

Edward Mason
Donald Baumann
Jeffrey MacDonald
Denis Mower
Michael Ellis
Stacey Wickes
Brittany Mangano
Mark Stanard
Ludmilla Ammann
Kevin Skibinski
Corey Buyck
Alexander Fratini
James Toomey
Anthony Grizanti
Jonathan Christian
Rebecca Bishop
Katherine Davies
Rory Spain
Katrina Kilmer
Tyler Smith
Susan Schoff
Damian Parker
Enes Hujdur
Andrew Miller
Joseph Dillabough
Jace Janczewski
Jade Shimer
Christopher Armstrong

Patrol Division

The DeWitt Police Patrol Division consists of one lieutenant, six sergeants and 28 patrol officers. These officers are deployed throughout four patrol zones (north, central, south, and Village of East Syracuse), 24 hours per day.

Officers assigned to the Patrol Division work one of three shifts:

- A Watch 11:00 pm—7:00 am
- B Watch 7:00 am—3:00 pm
- C Watch 3:00 pm— 11:00 pm

Nineteen marked vehicles are assigned for use by the Patrol Division. Members of the Patrol Division duties include, but are not limited to:

- Response to calls for service
- Proactive police patrol & crime prevention
- Enforcement of appropriate Federal, State, and local laws
- Crash investigation
- Reporting and preliminary investigation of criminal complaints
- Response to non-criminal complaints



Additionally, members of the Patrol Division are at the forefront of the community policing initiative. Patrol officers are familiar with the individuals and businesses they serve.

The concept of Community Oriented Policing is at the core of DeWitt Police Department's mission. Our officers provide a wide range of services: Community Patrol Program, Crime Alert Program, Neighborhood Watch, community presentations, foot patrol, and bicycle patrol.

These officers actively participate in many highway safety programs including Buckle Up New York and Stop DWI. Both programs focus on reducing injuries and eliminating fatalities on our roadways through aggressive enforcement activities.

In 2022, members of the Patrol Division stopped 6445 vehicles, and issued 3066 tickets.

In 2022 Town of DeWitt police officers secured 14 firearms; 22 handguns and 4 long guns, related to criminal cases and safe-keeping purposes.

A few notable incidents:

March 18th – Traffic Stop resulting in Gun Charges. – Thompson Rd.

An Officer conducted a traffic stop of a vehicle on Thompson Rd. The vehicle had switched plates and several other traffic infractions were observed. Upon further investigation, the driver was found to have a suspended driver's license as well. Upon conducting a vehicle inventory of the suspect vehicle, a loaded Beretta .380 caliber handgun was located in a bag inside the passenger compartment. The suspect was charged with Criminal Possession of a Weapon 2nd and 3rd, Criminal Possession of a Firearm, along with several traffic violations.

March 21st – Shooting with Injuries – Caton Drive

Officers were dispatched to Caton Drive for a Shooting with Injuries. Upon arrival, it was learned that the victim had received transportation to the hospital by personal vehicle, where he was later released. Patrol secured the scene, interviewed the victim, interviewed witnesses, collected CCTV footage, and conducted evidence collection. The Criminal Investigations Division was contacted and responded to assist in the investigation. Patrol and CID located the suspect approximately four hours later, and was taken into custody without incident. The suspect was charged with Assault 1st, Criminal Use of a Firearm 1st and Criminal Possession of a Weapon 2nd.

June 9th—Arson Arrest—Springfield Garden Apartments

On June 6th, 8th and 9th Officers were dispatched to Springfield Garden Apartments for three separate arson investigations. Through the Officer's investigation a suspect was identified and subsequently located in the City of Syracuse. The suspect was arrested on three counts of Arson in the Second Degree (B-Felony) and arraigned.

October 6, 2022 – Traffic Stop resulting in Drug Arrest – Old Collamer Rd. South

Ofc. Schoff conducted a traffic stop of a vehicle for loud exhaust. Upon further investigation, the passenger was found to be in possession of 6.6 grams of heroin. He was charged with Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance 3rd, 4th & 7th.

December 26, 2022 – Recovered Ghost Gun / Arrest - Walmart

Officers were dispatched to Walmart, regarding a gun located behind a filing cabinet in the Loss Prevention Office. Officers responded and took custody of the gun, identifying the weapon as a Polymer 80 Ghost Gun. CCTV footage was reviewed, and it was observed that a few days prior, during a theft investigation, a male suspect who was detained for stealing from Walmart, hid the gun behind the cabinet prior to police arrival. Officers learned that the male was on probation and coordinated with Onondaga County Probation to have the male show up to a probation meeting and would be arrested then. On December 27th, Officers arrested the male once he arrived at Onondaga County Probation. The male was charged with CPW 2nd, CPW 3rd, CPW 4th & Criminal Disposal of a Weapon.

In 2022 Town of DeWitt Police Officers made 1107 arrest which consisted of 140 Felonies, 945 Misdemeanors, and 16 Violations.

In Addition to this the Officers made 243 warrant arrests.

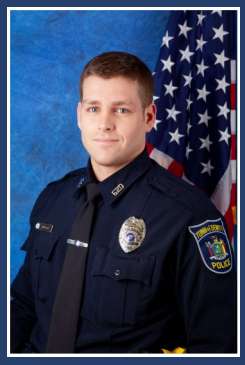
Bicycle Patrol

The Bicycle Patrol Unit gives the Police Department more latitude in patrolling the various parts of the Town and to provide more options in keeping with our Community Policing initiatives.

Throughout the late spring, summer and early fall, the bicycles were deployed to everyday patrol, directed patrol activity and to many community services events.


Sgt. A. Fusco


Sgt. Petrie


Ofc. C. Buyck


Ofc. A. Fratini


Ofc. R. Spain

Evidence/Property Unit



The Evidence Officer is responsible for many tasks such as crime scene processing, lab work, and property/evidence management. This officer is one of 14 certified Evidence Technicians and has advanced training in the fields of forensics and crime scene analysis. The Evidence/Property Unit is also responsible for long term and short term storage of evidence.



Ofc. S. Chapa
Evidence and Property Officer
C/Oneida: June 2003 - July 2015
T/DeWitt: July 2015 - Present

Assigned in April 2022 to the Evidence and Property Officer position.

Property and Evidence Room Manager

2022 items of evidence received:
1,711



Traffic Unit

The Town of DeWitt Police Traffic Unit consists of officers that are dedicated and passionate about enforcing traffic laws to ensure the safety of motorists on the road, with the intent of preventing motor vehicle collisions from occurring

Accidents 2022

Total Crashes:	1,321
Crashes w/ Pedestrians:	19
Crashes w/ Injuries	199
Crashes w/ Leaving the Scene	184
Total Crashes Reconstructed	1



Ofc. K. Skibinski

Drug Recognition Expert
Commercial Vehicle Enforcement

Since August 2022, Officer Skibinski has been working toward becoming certified in Commercial Vehicle Enforcement. Ofc. Skibinski has been working with the NYS Department of Transportation's Motor Carrier Division to provide periodic safety inspections on commercial vehicles that travel within the Town of DeWitt.

These safety inspections are designed to ensure that commercial vehicles that travel on our roads are in compliance with all safety standards and possess the necessary safety equipment. These safety inspections ensure that the commercial vehicles are safe to travel on the roadways; the same roadways that are shared with pedestrians and passenger vehicles in our community.

Accident Investigation Technician (AIT)

The AIT Unit provides the Department with specially trained individuals who can thoroughly document and investigate fatal and serious physical injury accidents within the Town of DeWitt. The officers assigned to this unit must complete four weeks of training which consists of the basic, intermediate, advanced and technician levels. In addition to this, the unit members can receive additional training to become a reconstructionist and various alternative areas related to motor vehicle accidents.

The officers assigned to this unit also assist the Manlius Police Department when requested.

The AIT Unit members also receive specialized training on the FARO Scanner, which is an instrument that accurately scans accident scenes. The FARO scanner was purchased with the assistance of STOP DWI money.



Sgt. P. Pelton



Ofc. K. Skibinski

Reconstructionist



Inv. L. Maerz

Lexipol

The challenges facing public safety and local government agencies are constantly evolving. Success requires leaders who can adapt quickly while ensuring a solid operational foundation.

In 2022 the Town of DeWitt Police Department partnered with Lexipol to make an investment in the safety and security of our personnel, our agency, and our community.

Lexipol is our partner in preparation for today's challenges, helping us mitigate risk, bring our personnel home safely at the end of each shift, and save lives within our communities.

Lexipol does this with a team of dedicated individuals with experience in constitutional law, civil rights, ADA and discrimination, mental health, psychology, labor negotiations, Internal Affairs, use of force, hazmat and a whole lot more.

Policies create the foundation for all operations in public safety agencies and local government.

Lexipol provides fully developed, state-specific policies researched and written by subject matter experts and vetted by attorneys. Lexipol's policies are based on nationwide standards and best practices while also incorporating state and federal laws and regulations where appropriate.

Best of all, this partnership will keep your policies updated, saving us time and money.

This is just the beginning, and it is estimated to be a year-long project.

Honor Guard


Sgt. M. Kurgan


Sgt. A. Fusco


Sgt. J. Petrie

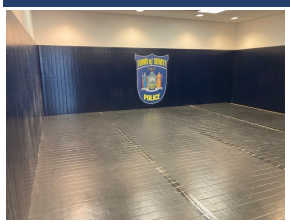

Sgt. M. Menard


Ofc. E. Mason


Ofc. B. Mangano

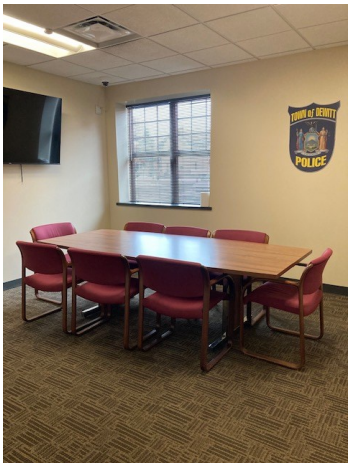
The DeWitt Police Department Honor Guard is a trained unit that professionally represents the Department at official functions such as funerals, parades and other special events. The DeWitt Police Honor Guard is comprised of six department members led by Sgt. Kurgan.

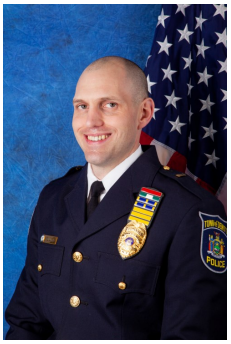
Professional Development and Training Unit



The Town of DeWitt Police Department created, and staffed a new Employee Development/Training Division dedicated to the review and analyzing of body worn camera footage and training. In addition to our regularly scheduled in-service trainings, which consist of Legal Updates, Emergency Vehicle Operations Course, Firearms, Role Based Training/Scenarios, Defensive Tactics, First Aide, Biased Based Police, etc., members are brought in to review every use of force that they are involved in, critical incident, or complaint for training purposes. This provides the officers with significantly more training, continual improvement and significantly more repetitions in order to strengthen their foundation.

The Town of DeWitt Police Department is committed to providing our officers with the best, most up to date training possible so that the officers are better equipped to serve our community.

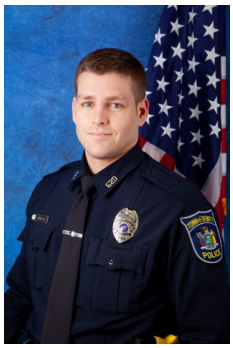




Lt. C. Fuller

Training Coordinator

DT Instructor

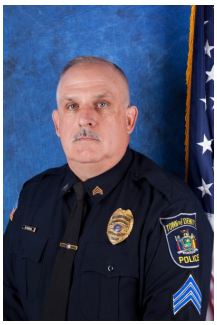


Ofc. C. Buyck

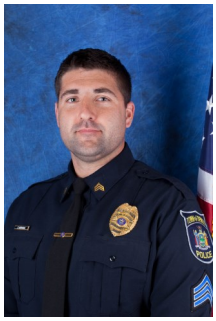
Training Officer

DT Instructor

Firearms Trainers/Unit



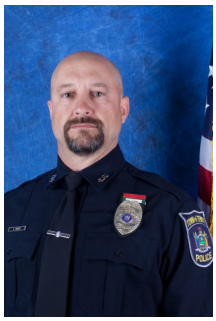
Sgt. M. Kurgan



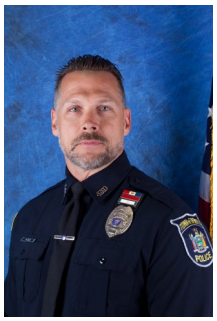
Sgt. Z. Morgan



Sgt. L. Byron



Ofc. D. Mower

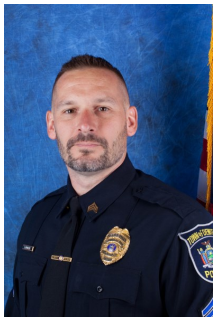


Ofc. M. Ellis



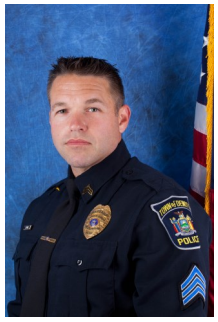
Ofc. J. Conrad

Defensive Tactics / Reality Based Trainers



Sgt. S. Spencer

DT / RBT



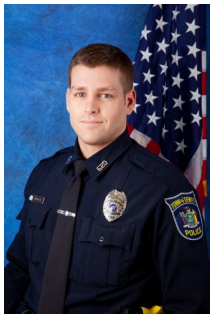
Sgt. L. Byron

RBT



Sgt. M. Menard

DT/RBT



Ofc. C. Buyck

DT

EVOC Trainers



Sgt. A. Fusco



Ofc. J. Conrad

2022 Town of DeWitt Trainings

Every Member of the Town of DeWitt Police Department completed the following training throughout the year 2022

Implicit Bias Training

Manual Order Updates

In-service Training which consisted of the following

- Defensive Tactics
- EVOC
- Firearms (Handgun) - Daylight
- Reality Based Training
- AED/CPR
- Mental Health/Crisis Communication
- SFST Refresher
- Legal Updates
- Firearms (Handgun, Rifle, Less Lethal Shotgun) - Night

In addition to the above listed in-house training, members of the Town of DeWitt Police Department completed the following training in 2022.

Police Supervision (Requirement for newly promoted Sergeants)
Leadership Training
Assisting Individuals in Crisis (EAP)
Group Crisis Intervention Training
Interpersonal Skills for Law Enforcement
Using BWC Data to Improve Your Agency
Pedestrian and Bicycle Crash Course
Motorcycle Crash Course
Force Science Certification Course
Force Science—Realistic De-Escalation Instructor Course
Hostage Negotiator Annual Conference
Interview and Interrogation Training
Disability Awareness Training
NY/NJ HIDTA Vehicle Interdiction Concealment Course
Crisis Negotiator Training
NYS Case Law That All Cops Need to Know Course
Field Training Officer (FTO) Course
DWI and SFST Instructor Refresher Course
DWI and SFTS Refresher Couse
FARO Laser Course
Echelon Front Training Course
ACFE Training Conference
Basic and Advanced School Resource Officer Course
Homicide Seminar
ERPO Training
BAO Instructor Course

Employee Assistance Program (EAP)

An Employee Assistance Program (EAP) is a voluntary, work-based program that offers free and confidential assessments, short-term counseling, referrals, and follow-up services to employees who have personal and/or work-related problems. EAPs address a broad and complex body of issues affecting mental and emotional well-being, such as alcohol and other substance abuse, stress, grief, family problems, and psychological disorders. EAP counselors also work in a consultative role with managers and supervisors to address employee and organizational challenges and needs. Many EAPs are active in helping organizations prevent and cope with workplace violence, trauma and other emergency response situations.

In 2020, the DeWitt Police Department elected six department members to serve as Peer Support Leaders in conjunction with the Employee Assistance Program. These Peer Support Leaders are dedicated, compassionate and formally trained in providing support to co-workers who may be in crisis or in need of assistance. In 2020, the elected Peer Support Leaders attended the "Assisting Individuals in Crisis" Certification Training, in Amherst, NY, provided by the Western New York Law Enforcement Helpline. In 2021 we expanded and grew this program by adding two additional officers, and providing the members advanced training.

In May of 2021, the six original Peer Support Leaders continued their training and attended the "Group Crisis Intervention Training" in Amherst, NY. This training certified the six original Peer Support Leaders as a Critical Incident Stress Management Team (CISM).

In the fall of 2021, Officer Mower and Officer Wickes were added as Peer Support Leaders. In September of 2021, Officer Mower and Officer Wickes attended the "Assisting Individuals in Crisis Training" in Cheektowaga, NY. In October of 2021, Officer Wickes attended the "Group Crisis Intervention Training" in Cheektowaga, NY, certifying her as a member of the department's CISM team. In March of 2022, Officer Mower did attend the "Group Crisis Intervention Training" in Cheektowaga, NY, certifying him as a member of the department's CISM team at that time.

Since the inception of the department's Peer Support Team, numerous Officers have been provided assistance and resources, by Peer Support Leaders, to handle various challenges that they have experienced both personally and professionally. Additionally, the Peer Support Leaders have conducted Group Debriefs following Critical Incidents that department members have been involved in.



Lt. J. Pace



Sgt. M. Menard



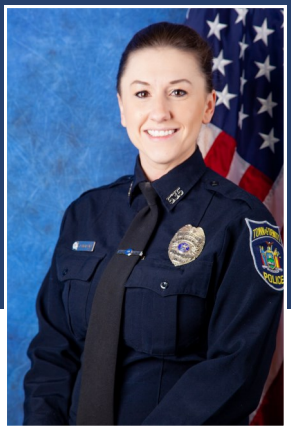
Ofc. E. Mason



Ofc. D. Baumann



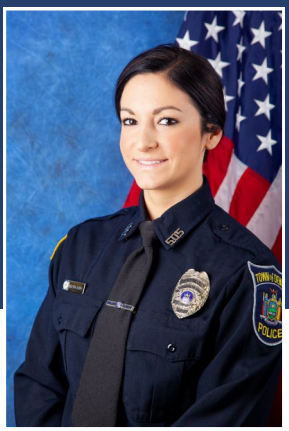
Inv. J. Conrad



Ofc. L. Ammann



Ofc. S. Wickes



Ofc. B. Mangano

Criminal Investigative Division



The Criminal Investigations Division is responsible for investigating felony crimes committed within the Town of DeWitt. To meet the needs and demands of investigating various crime types, the Town of DeWitt Police Department Investigators have many areas of specialties that they focus on.

In 2022, the Criminal Investigation Division received 279 cases and closed out 92 cases by arrests, while making a total of 133 arrests (109 Fel, 23 Misd, 1 Violation).



Sgt. Shane Spencer

City of Oswego PD:
2009 - 2012

DeWitt:
2012 - Present
Promoted to Sgt in 2018

Assigned to CID in 2022

The Investigations Division is responsible for cases involving crimes against persons and property. This unit includes but is not limited to assault, robbery, burglary, homicide and other penal law statutes. The CID Unit is a specially trained group of individuals who conduct investigations into complex incidents. These cases usually require in-depth examinations in order to find motive and cause that will lead to an arrest.



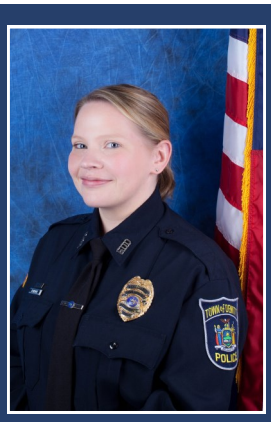
Inv. Chad Frederick

DeWitt:
2009 - 2012

Watertown PD
2012 - 2014

DeWitt:
2014 - Present

Assigned to CID in 2018



Inv. Loriann Maerz

Cooperstown PD:
2006 - 2008

Norwich PD:
2008 - 2016
Promoted to Sgt: 2014

DeWitt:
2015 - Present

Assigned to CID in 2019



Inv. Justin Baum

Military
2009 - 2013

Cornell PD:
2013 - 2018
Assigned to CID: 2014
Promoted to Sgt: 2016

DeWitt:
2018 - Present

Assigned to CID in 2021



Inv. Jeffrey Conrad

East Syracuse PD
2008 - 2011

DeWitt:
2011 - Present

Assigned to CID in 2022

2022 Town of DeWitt Notable CID Cases

Domestic Incident

In February 2022, Investigator Baum was contacted by the Hamilton Township Police Department of Hamilton, New Jersey and advised a credit card theft was reported that had actually occurred in Dewitt, NY. Investigator Baum then opened an investigation into the incident and began communications with the victim.

It was alleged the victim, who lived in New Jersey, had his credit card information used illegally by his brother-in-law, who was living in Dewitt at the time. The victim and victim's family further advised a potentially dangerous domestic situation may be ongoing between the suspect and his wife (sister of initial victim), involving ongoing mental, physical and emotional abuse being suffered by the female victim.

It was further explained the suspect had moved his wife and their family abruptly from New Jersey to his parents' home in Dewitt, NY. Allegations involved the female being forced to live in the basement without use of bathroom facilities, having her cell phone and prescribed medications held under lock and key, having her outgoing communications monitored, and the husband illegally cashing out the work pension of the female for his personal use and benefit.

After a lengthy investigation, Investigator Baum and other Dewitt Police personnel executed a search warrant on the home in question. Police were able to remove the female from the residence and make safe arrangements for her and her children. During the search warrant multiple evidentiary items were collected to support the initial allegations made. The female victim was assisted by domestic violence advocates from Liberty Resources and Vera House and eventually was able to provide a lengthy account of the conditions she had been living in, in the past months since moving to Dewitt. Several crimes were reported in said account.

The suspect was subsequently charged with five felony and eight misdemeanor charges and transported to the Onondaga County Justice Center.

Child Pornography/Unlawful Surveillance

On May 24th members of CID conducted a search warrant of a residence in regard to an unlawful surveillance incident where a landlord had installed spy cameras in his tenant's bathrooms. Inv. Conrad arrested the suspect and through said search warrant located suspected child pornography on a USB collected from the scene. Onondaga County Computer Crimes unit was notified and is handling the investigation into the potential child pornography case. Suspect was charged with two felonies.

Bank Robbery

In July 2022 Inv. Frederick with assistance from other investigators located and arrested the suspect from the M & T Bank Robbery on 3401 Erie Blvd E that occurred on 06/27/2022. Inv. Frederick, through his due diligence was able to locate the suspect on CCTV in Party City prior to the Robbery when the suspect stole the mask he was seen wearing at M & T Bank. After an extensive canvas for CCTV footage in Marshalls Plaza, Inv. Frederick was able to locate a suspicious vehicle that was circling the parking lot before the incident and left a high rate of speed after the incident. Inv. Frederick was able to determine the make and model of the vehicle and determined there were only 12 such vehicles registered within the county. After locating all 12 vehicles he determined that one vehicle in particular had the same front-end damage and stickers attached to the windows. After conducting surveillance on the vehicle, the suspect exited his residence and based on his visual observations it was confirmed that in fact the subject was the suspect of the bank robbery. A person known to the suspect then identified him as the suspect based off CCTV. The suspect was taken into custody at 1240 hours on 7/5/2022 without incident.

Mail Theft Ring

On December 22nd members of CID worked with US Postal Inspectors Service and SPD arresting two subjects responsible for numerous mail thefts throughout Onondaga County. The suspects had been stealing checks from mailboxes since the beginning of December and had been cashing "washed" checks causing thousands of dollars in loss to numerous victims. Inv. Baum was able to locate the rental vehicle in the City of Syracuse and surveillance was conducted on the vehicle. The vehicle was then surveilled throughout the City of Syracuse and into the Village of East Syracuse. Inv. Frederick and Sgt. Spencer followed the suspect vehicle onto W Second street in the Village of East Syracuse and later observed the suspects attempt to steal out of a mailbox on Old Bridge Street and W Second Street. A traffic stop was conducted, and the suspects attempted to elude police, driving down an embankment and fleeing police on foot. The suspects were taken into custody and stolen checks from Phelps Street were located inside the suspect vehicle along with a word processor used for making fraudulent checks. Both suspects were charged with numerous felonies under three separate cases investigated by Inv. Frederick, Inv. Maerz and Inv. Baum. The suspects were later charged by the NYSP from an incident in Town of Cicero and are suspects in open cases in Camillus, Manlius and Oswego County.

Community Policing

School Resource Officer

The SRO's law enforcement function is a part of relationship-building with the student body and community and fosters educational programs and activities that increase the student knowledge of and respect for the law and the function of law enforcement agencies. The SRO works cooperatively with teachers to assist in developing specialty programs specific to areas of study including court procedures, citizenship and forensic science. The SRO conducts criminal investigations with the goals of promoting safety for the school community and establishing a deterrent to delinquent student behavior and promoting and ensuring the safety of the students, faculty and administration of the school district. The SRO also teaches classes that promote both student wellness and safety as well as healthy relationships between the students and police.

SPO Norton retired from the Sheriff's Department in January 2021 after serving for 30 years. SPO Norton started his career with OCSO in 1990 working as a Road Patrol Deputy on the afternoon shift. This was followed by Detective assignments in the Abused Persons, Major Crimes, and Warrants Investigations Units of the Criminal Investigations Division (CID). SPO Norton was then promoted and served as the supervisor to the Computer Crimes and Jail Intelligence Units, followed by the Abused Persons Unit and the Warrants Investigations Unit. Over his career SPO Norton served as a Field Training Officer, Field Training Sergeant, and Academy Instructor, as well as a member of the agency's Selection and Hiring Boards. SPO Norton holds certifications in Accident Investigation, Forensic Interviewing, Arson Investigation, and Crisis Negotiations. SPO Norton was a prior member of the Ordinance Disposal Team (Bomb Squad), a Federal Task Force Officer, Supervisor of the County Fire Investigations Unit for ten years, and Commander of the Crisis Negotiations Team for 15 years. SPO Norton previously served on the Vera House Board of Directors for six years and has provided professional development to numerous high schools and colleges over the years.



SPO. Michael Norton

School Resource Officer

Onondaga County Sheriff's Department

Oct 1990 - Jan. 2021

Promoted to Sergeant in August 1991

Assigned to the SPO position on Sept. 2021

RED RAMS



Retirements



Ofc. J. MacDonald



Sgt. M. Kurgan

Promotions



Sgt. M. Menard



Sgt. J. Dean

New Officers



Ofc. J. Shimer



Ofc. C. Armstrong

Those Who Served In The Military



Ofc. E. Mason
Army Reserve/Army National Guard
1992—2003
Sergeant
Op Noble Eagle



Ofc. J. MacDonald
US Army
1983 - 2003
1st Sergeant
Op Desert Shield
Op Desert Storm



Ofc. M. Ellis
US Army/Army National Guard
1993 - 2019
1st Sergeant
Op Enduring Freedom
Guantanamo Bay



Ofc. M. Stanard
Army Reserve/US Army
2001 - 2009
Captain
Op Enduring Freedom



Sgt. M. Menard
USMC
1999 - 2008
Op. Iraqi Freedom
4 Deployments



Inv. J. Baum
US Army
2009 - 2013
Captain
Op Enduring Freedom



Ofc. D. Parker
Army National Guard
Specialist
2018 - Present



Ofc. A. Miller
US Army
Army National Guard
2007 - Present
Major
Op Enduring Freedom
Op Inherent Resolve



Ofc. J. Dillabough
Air National Guard
2017 - Present
Staff Sergeant
Op Raven Dew
Op Deep Freeze



Ofc. J. Shimer
NY Army National Guard
2022—Present

Clerical Staff



Administrative Clerk
L. Pulaski
20 years of service
2002—Present



Clerk A. Armstrong
7 years of service
2015—Present



Clerk J. Emm
6 years of service
2016—Present



Michel Wittwer
1 year of service
2021—Present

Accreditation

New York State Accreditation

The Administration of the Police Department is responsible for ensuring that all department policies and procedures are in compliance with the standards set by New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services. The accreditation program has long been recognized as a means of maintaining the highest standards of training and professionalism. The Town of DeWitt Police Department was originally accredited by New York State in 1998 and reaccredited in 2003, 2008, 2013 and 2018.

CALEA Accreditation

The purpose of CALEA's Accreditation Program is to improve the delivery of public safety services, primarily by: maintaining a body of standards, developed by public safety practitioners, covering a wide range of up-to-date public safety initiatives; establishing and administering an accreditation process; and recognizing professional excellence.

CALEA's goals are:

1. Strengthen crime prevention and control capabilities
2. Formalize essential management procedures
3. Establish fair and nondiscriminatory personnel practices
4. Improve service delivery
5. Solidify interagency cooperation and coordination
6. Increase community and staff confidence in the agency

On April 2, 2016 DeWitt Police Department was awarded the highest level of law enforcement accreditation, both nationally and internationally, through the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA). We are among only twelve (12) law enforcement agencies out of 514 in New York State to achieve this status of excellence. Since achieving accreditation in 2016, the DeWitt Police have participated in remote assessments yearly and an on-site assessment in November of 2019. Each of these assessments have found the agency in compliance with all standards and the department was re-accredited at the annual CALEA conference in Orlando, Florida in March of 2020.

2022 Calls For Service as reported by the 911 Center

Ambulance Calls—647	Juvenile Problem—81
Burglary Alarms—835	Larceny—960
Other Alarms—131	Lewdness—19
Animal Complaint—236	Lock Out—70
Assault—29	Noise Complaint—181
Motor Vehicle Collision Injury—172	Person in Crisis—249
Motor Vehicle Collision Damage—1074	Missing Person—63
Motor Vehicle Collision Fatal—1	Murder—0
Bomb Threat—1	Open Door—41
Burglary—127	Overdose—49
Call for Police—374	Property Check—7391
Child Abuse—72	Rape—1
Criminal Mischief—119	Sex Offense—16
Controlled Substance—35	Robbery—24
Dispute—745	Shots Fired—38
Disturbance—122	Stabbing—2
Death—32	Suicide—176
Domestic Disturbance—733	Citizen Status Check—340
Driving While Intoxicated—4	Suspicious Person with a Weapon—44
Fight in Progress—77	Suspicious Person—462
Fire—173	Suspicious Vehicle—386
Forgery / Identity Theft—83	Traffic Problem—1332
Fireworks—19	Trespassing—75
Harassment— 333	Vehicle Parking Violation—408
Police Information—242	Stolen Vehicle—87
Intoxicated Person—67	Vehicle & Traffic Stops—6445
Disabled Vehicle—596	Wires Down—83

Vehicle & Traffic Tickets

2022

3,066

Custodial Arrests

Adults/Juveniles

2022

1,344/14

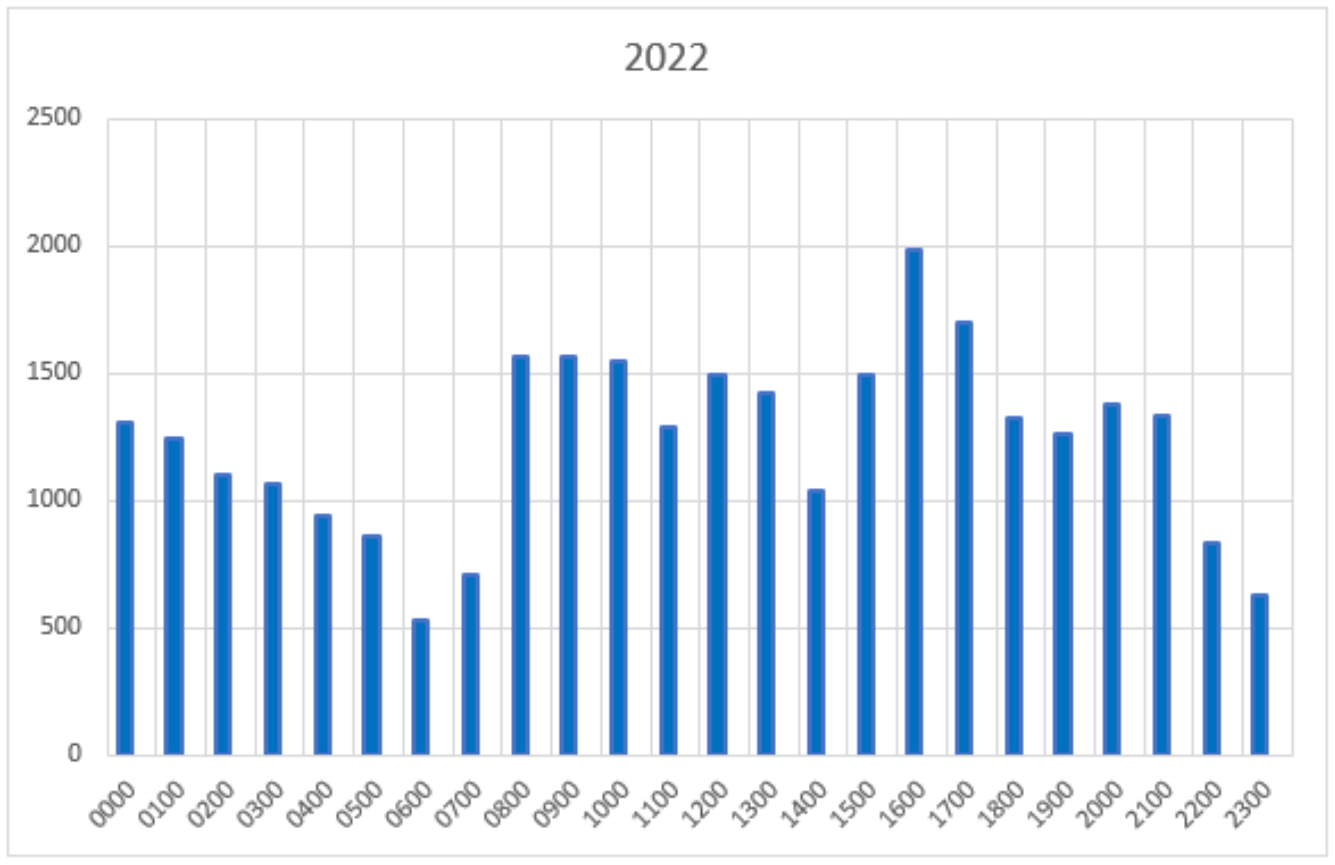
Uniform Crime Report (UCR) Part 1 Offenses

Year	2022
Murder	0
Rape	4
Robbery	20
Assault	26
Burglary	90
Larceny	601
Vehicle Thefts	49
Totals	**790**

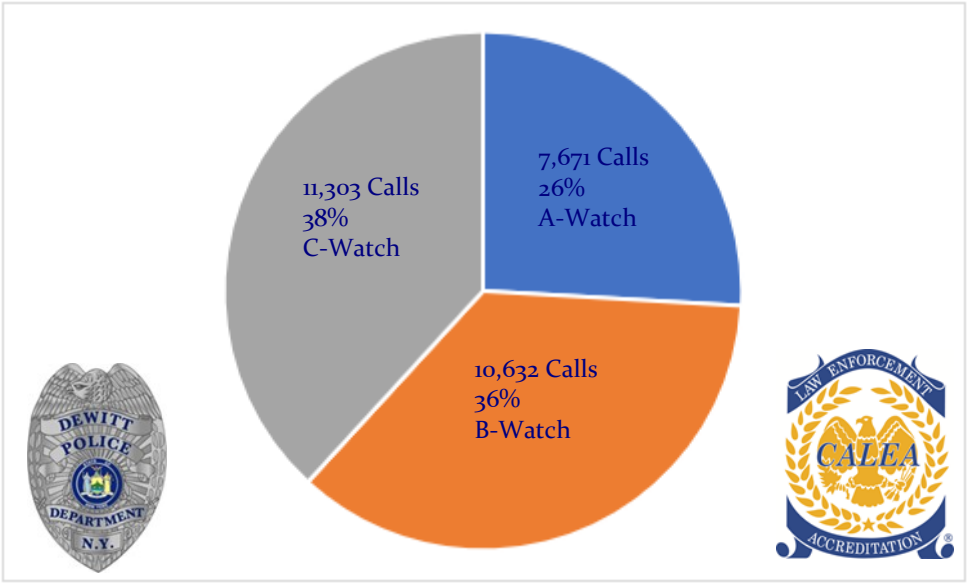
Uniform Crime Report (UCR) Part 2 Offenses

Year	2022
Arson	0
Kidnapping	6
Controlled Substances	22
Dangerous Weapons	9
Sex Offenses	5
Extortion	3
Forgery/Counterfeiting	7
Stolen Property	7
Prostitution & Vice	0
Coercion	0
Criminal Mischief	127
Fraud	28
Gambling	0
Offenses against Public Order	0
Embezzlement	0
Simple Assault	133
Offenses Against Family	1
Driving Under Influence	40
Unauthorized Use of Vehicle	1
Possession of Burglar Tools	0
Liquor Law Violations	0
Disorderly Conduct	3
Loitering	0
All Other Offenses	49
Totals	**441**

Number of Calls By Hour of the Day



Percentage of Calls By Shift



Use of Force Review

The objective of this review was to examine our use of force for the year 2021 to identify patterns relating to:

- Date and time of incidents
- Types of encounters resulting in use of force
- Race, age and gender of subjects force was used on
- Injury to subjects or officers
- Needs for policy updates, equipment and training

Date and Time of Incident

In total, the Town of DeWitt Police Department had 69 separate cases with a total of 69 subjects where force was utilized on, with a total of 119 uses of force reports completed.

A Watch	B Watch	C Watch	CID	Total
18	27	24	0	69

Types of Encounters

The only type of encounter that appeared to have a number significant enough to categorize as a trend or pattern was domestic incidents which represented 12 of the incidents,

Race, Age and Gender

White	Black	Hispanic	Other	Males	Females
29	34	4	2	54	15

Teens	20's	30's	40's	50's	60's +
5	22	24	6	9	3

Injury to Subjects and/or Officers

Only ten subjects listed injuries resulting from the use of force, of these most were complaints of pain or minor cuts/abrasions. There were zero injuries sustained to officers.

Needs for Policy Updates, Equipment, or Training

Overall force was used on 69 individuals. The Department had a total of 27,928 calls for service, When I subtract Property Checks 7,404 we end up with a total of 20,524 calls which likely had some community interaction. This equates to using force on about .33% of calls for service. A Law Enforcement Today article published in November 2022 reports Police using or threatening the use of force in 2% of all Police Interactions based on USDOJ statistics.

Vehicle Pursuit Review

In 2022, the Town of DeWitt Police Department engaged in five vehicle pursuits which consisted of the following:

1. **Feb 12th** - An attempted stop of a stolen vehicle. The pursuit was terminated, and the vehicle was subsequently located, abandoned in the City of Syracuse.
2. **April 5th** - Assisted Syracuse Police Department in a pursuit of a stolen vehicle. The vehicle continued the pursuit into Manlius at which point it crashed in the parking lot of Kohls. The two occupants were arrested after a foot pursuit.
3. **June 8th** - A vehicle stop in which it was learned that the vehicle was stolen. The driver resisted arrest, and drove off. The suspect vehicle was located a short time later, unoccupied.
4. **July 22nd** - Assisted Onondaga County Sheriff's Office during a pursuit of the stolen Syracuse Fire Dept. truck. The occupant was arrested after crashing the vehicle.
5. **Sept. 21st** - A pursuit of a drunk driver who was running other drivers off the road, and collided into two other vehicles. The operator was arrested and charged for having a 0.20% BAC.

Town of DeWitt Police Benevolent Association

History

The DeWitt PBA was formed in 1967 as a result of DeWitt Police Officers being paid a salary as low as $5,200.00 a year and working in a dangerously understaffed department. At that time it was reported that a skilled worker was earning a salary ranging from $11,000.00 to $12,000.00 and a college educated individual was earning a salary of as much as $20,000.00 a year. The first contract was signed with the Town of DeWitt and the DeWitt PBA in 1969.

About

Throughout the years the DeWitt PBA has changed and conformed to meet the needs of its members, but the overall mission has remained the same: ***To promote the welfare of its members by fostering and encouraging it through fraternal cooperation and fellowship. To act as a charitable organization for the good and welfare of the community in which its members serve.*** Today, the DeWitt PBA is comprised of active uniformed members of the DeWitt Police Department from the rank of Police Officer through the rank of Sergeant.

The DeWitt PBA is a strong organization that relies heavily on the support of its members and is as active now as in the past as it is the primary bargaining unit of its officers and sergeants involving terms and conditions of employment.

The DeWitt PBA is affiliated with the New York State Union of Police Associations, Inc. (NYSUPA). NYSUPA is a not-for-profit organization that fights for the rights and welfare of public safety officers and they provide the DeWitt PBA with expertise in negotiating collective bargaining agreements, enforcing employee contractual rights, defending their members in disciplinary proceedings, and litigating terms and conditions of employment during interest arbitration proceedings before the Public Employment Relations Board. NYSUPA, Inc. advises the DeWitt PBA Executive Board and membership on how to best protect employee rights and improve the lives of the DeWitt PBA membership.

The DeWitt PBA is very active within the community and maintains a deep involvement with various stakeholders and charitable groups.

The following are just a few of the programs that the DeWitt PBA volunteers with or has recently donated to:

Toy Express
Shop with a Cop
Make-A-Wish of CNY
Special Olympics
Police Officer Thomas M. Lindsey Foundation
Police Officer Kevin "BING" Crossley Foundation
Joseph's Experience, Inc.
Police Unity Tour, Chapter 37 NY
DeWitt Rotary Club
Vietnam Veterans Association of CNY
Vera House (Shelter and support for victims of domestic violence)
Emma's Hope (Helps parents of children diagnosed with life-threatening illnesses)
Cystic Fibrosis Foundation "Extreme Hike"
Stephen Siller Tunnel to Towers Foundation
Jowonio School
Detective William "Bomber" Lashomb Fund
American Legion

Community Based Objectives:

To support activities which serve to enhance the quality of life of the citizens of the Town of DeWitt, and to support other institutions and organizations with similar goals.

To promote a high degree of professionalism and pride within the membership and the department, and promote and enhance the relationships between the membership and the citizens of the Town of DeWitt.

The DeWitt PBA Executive Board along with all of the members would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to all who have and continue to support our organization!

Recruitment

Police Officer Benefits Package

All Town of DeWitt Police Department positions are civil service positions and are subject to the rules and regulations established through the New York State Civil Service Department and the Onondaga County Department of Personnel. The Town of DeWitt Police Department is an equal opportunity employer.

Employment may be pursued by the following methods

1. Civil Service Test:
   Onondaga County Dept of Personnel
   421 Montgomery St. 13th Floor
   Syracuse, NY 13214
2. Lateral Transfers; Resume may be forwarded to:
   Captain Brenton White
   Town of DeWitt Police Department
   5400 Butternut Drive
   East Syracuse, NY 13057
   bwhite@townofdewitt.com

The Town of DeWitt Police Department is currently seeking lateral transfers for the position of Police Officer. Candidates must have a New York State Police Officer's certification issued by D.C.J.S. Increased pay and benefits are commensurate with training and experience. Please forward resumes to Captain Brenton White at bwhite@townofdewitt.com

Police Officers employed within the State of New York or Onondaga County must be certified and must be employed (full time status) as a police officer and have passed a civil service exam to be considered for a transfer. Onondaga County will not allow direct transfers from out of state police agencies.

** Certified Police Officers from other agencies interested in employment with DeWitt Police Department will be considered for increased starting salary and vacation benefits depending on experience.

Department Photos









Department Photos













2022 Points of Contact

CHIEF OF POLICE

Department Head, Research & Planning, Budget, Risk Management
Chief Chase Bilodeau
cbilodeau@townofdewitt.com
(315) 449-3640 ext. 203

CAPTAIN

Police Operations, Human Resources, Accreditation, IT Administrator
Captain Brenton White
bwhite@townofdewitt.com
(315) 449-3640 ext. 107

LIEUTENANT

CID Commander, Employee Development
Lieutenant Christopher Fuller
cfuller@townofdewitt.com
(315) 449-3640 ext. 108

LIEUTENANT

Patrol Commander, Community Policing
Lieutenant Jerry Pace
jpace@townofdewitt.com
(315) 449-3640 ext. 219