

ANNUAL REPORT

FY - 2023



Bridgeport Township Police Department
Chief Erik Skabardis

Message from Chief Skabardis



4th Quarter, 2023, Bridgeport Township Police Department started with a fresh new look. As of October 10th, being named Chief of Police, I couldn't be more excited to be at the helm.

After settling into my new role, finishing out 2023 on a high note, the department is looking forward to a new start and successful year ahead. A lot of new changes are to come throughout 2024.

To date, current happenings, and focus within Bridgeport Township Police Department:

- Department Policy and Procedures have not been updated since 2012. As these are to be priority, immediate work began in October. Weekly scheduled meetings are taking place with Lexipol, and all new policy and procedures are being created to fit our department specifically. Lexipol is nationally known for the expertise they provide in this area along with a platform for online training, grant assistance training as well as mental health & wellness training. All of these will be utilized in the Bridgeport Township Police Department going forward.
- Grant work will be initiated to apply for funding to help with much needed equipment and training for the officers.
- In 2024 we will begin researching and information gathering on what steps are needed and the process to form a "Citizens Police Academy" for Bridgeport Township
- With the current state of the building, much of our space is outdated and needs attention to make for a more conducive environment. Changes have started to help with some of the aesthetics of the space we are in. The entrance to the department will be getting a new look. Currently, the internal offices are getting a fresh coat of paint, much needed decluttering of old files, furniture and other misc. items are being disposed of that were taking up much needed space. All officers have had updated photos taken and will be displayed proudly upon entering the building. We look forward to sharing the "new look" in the future.
- To become more cognizant and employee moral driven, bi – monthly department meetings will take place through the FY 2024. As the Chief, my officers are my #1 priority. Team togetherness is key. This provides the opportunity to give any needed updates, the direction the department is going in, along with "just having the time together as a team of 1" all in the same room, at the same time.
- 2024, research will begin on how to become "Accredited" as a Police Department through the Michigan Association Chiefs of Police. By doing this, this will lower costs on insurance premiums for the Township² as well as become a department Officers will want to be a part of.

The Officers & Staff of Bridgeport Township Police Department



Lieutenant Jeff Roberts – Jeff became a part of the Bridgeport Township Police Department in December 2000. Prior to joining the department, Jeff worked for Coleman Police Department as well as Muskegon Heights Police Department. Jeff earned his associates degree in Criminal Justice from the Delta College. Jeff has 25 + years experience as an Officer.



Officer Denny Howe – Denny became a part of the Bridgeport Township Police Department in August of 2015. Prior to joining the department, Denny worked for Zilwaukee Police Department, Inkster Police Department and The City of Saginaw Police Department where he retired after 20 years. Denny also worked for the St. Charles Police Department where he served as Acting Police Chief. Denny has 38 + years experience as an Officer.



Officer Dan Hernandez – Dan became a part of the Bridgeport Township Police Department in 2017. Prior to joining the department, Dan worked for the Saginaw County Sheriffs department, Buena Vista Police department along with The City of Saginaw Police Department where her retired after 22 Years. Dan currently is the Bridgeport Township School Resource Officer. Dan graduated from Grand Valley State University with a Bachelors Degree in Criminal Justice as well as an Associates degree in Criminal Justice from Delta College. Dan has 30 + years experience as an Officer.



Officer Larry Biniecki – Larry became part of the Bridgeport Township Police Department in June 2021. Prior to joining the department, Larry served as a Deputy with Saginaw County Sheriff's department for 13 years with 4 years as a Detective. Larry obtained his associates degree in Criminal Justice from Delta College in 2008. Larry has 15 + years experience as an Officer.



Officer Ryan Schlicker – Ryan graduated from Delta College Police Academy in 2021. Upon graduation, Ryan joined the Bridgeport Township Police Department where he currently is a Field Training Officer for the department as well as a taser instructor. Ryan has 2 years experience as an Officer

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Officer Larisa Fuester - Became a part of the Bridgeport Township Police Department in October 2021. Prior to joining the department, Larisa worked for the Flint Police Department, Corrunna Police Department and Saginaw County Sheriffs Police Department. Larisa attended Mott Community College where she received her associates degree in Criminal Justice. Larisa served in the United States Army reserve for 8 years. Larisa has 7 + years experience as an Officer.



Officer Mary Buszek – Became a part of the Bridgeport Township Police Department in August 2021. Prior to joining the department, Mary worked for the City of Flint Police Department for 22 years. Mary received her associates degree in Criminal Justice as well as her Bachelors degree in Criminal justice with a minor in criminal psychology from SNHU. Mary has 25 years experience as an officer.



Office Melonie Turner – Melonie became a part of the Bridgeport Police Department in 2023. Prior to joining the department, Melonie worked for the Village of Birch Run and Buena Vista Police Department. Melonie graduated with her Bachelors degree in Criminal Justice with a minor in Psychology and Philosophy from Saginaw Valley State University. Melonie has 2 years experience as an officer



Officer Tyler Rabideau –Tyler was sponsored by the Bridgeport Township Police Department through the “Bridge the Gap” program where he became a full time Patrol Officer with the department upon his graduation from the Delta College Police Academy in December 2023.

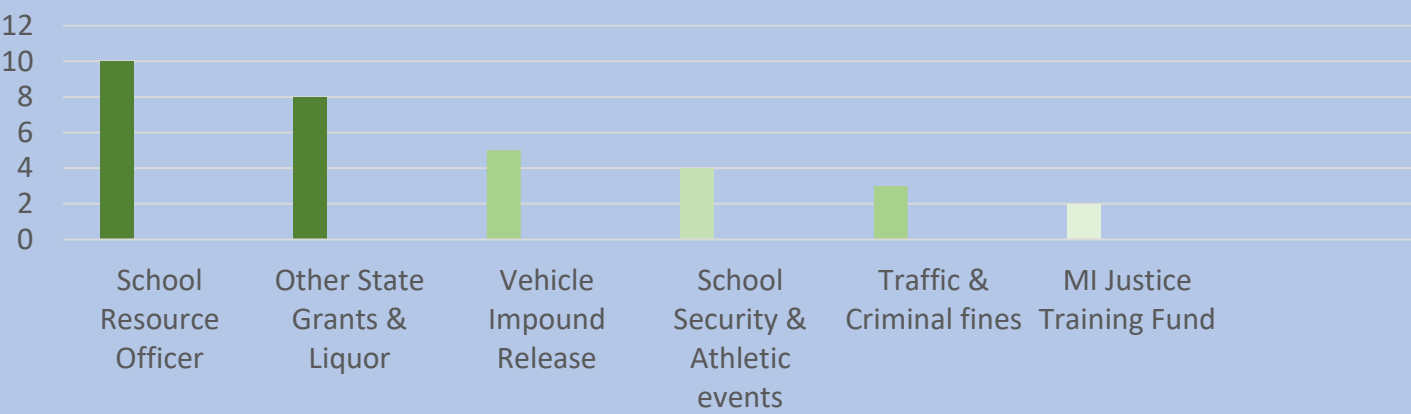


Lisa Shaw – Lisa joined the Bridgeport Township Police Department as the Administrative Assistant in September 2023. Prior to working for the Bridgeport Township Police Department, Lisa worked for the Bridgeport Township Government Offices for 13 years.

Bridgeport Township Police Department

FY – 2023 Stats

Generated Revenue



School Resource Officer = \$82,130.00
Other State Grants & Liquor = \$29,539.00
Vehicle Impound Release = \$9,210.00
Traffic & Criminal Fines = \$7,405.00
School Security & Athletic Events = \$6,374.00
MI Justice Training Fund = \$3,168.00

Police Reports : 1,427
Traffic Citations: 209
Accidents: 202

Department Training:

- Emergency Vehicle Operations
- Taser Instructor School
- Field Training Officer School
- ARIDE
- Sexual Harassment & Implicit Bias Training

Saginaw County 911 Police CAD Events for Bridgeport Township Police:

Saginaw 911 recorded 8640 CAD 911 events during 2023. The majority of calls were for general assistance such as assist to the Fire Department, family troubles, neighbor disputes, barking/loose dogs, and assisting other police agencies.

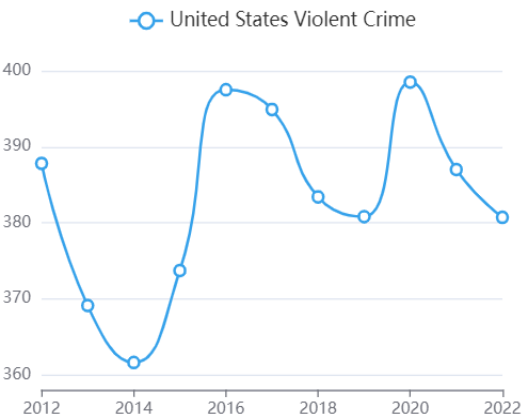


Uniform Crime Report:

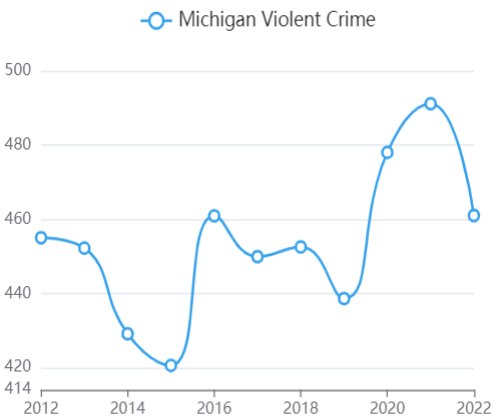
The Uniform Crime Report numbers are released in October of each year for the previous year. The graphs below reflect the year 2022.

From the graphs it shows a downward trend for violent crimes across the US to include Michigan and Bridgeport. Property Crimes have started to go up gradually Across Michigan and Bridgeport.

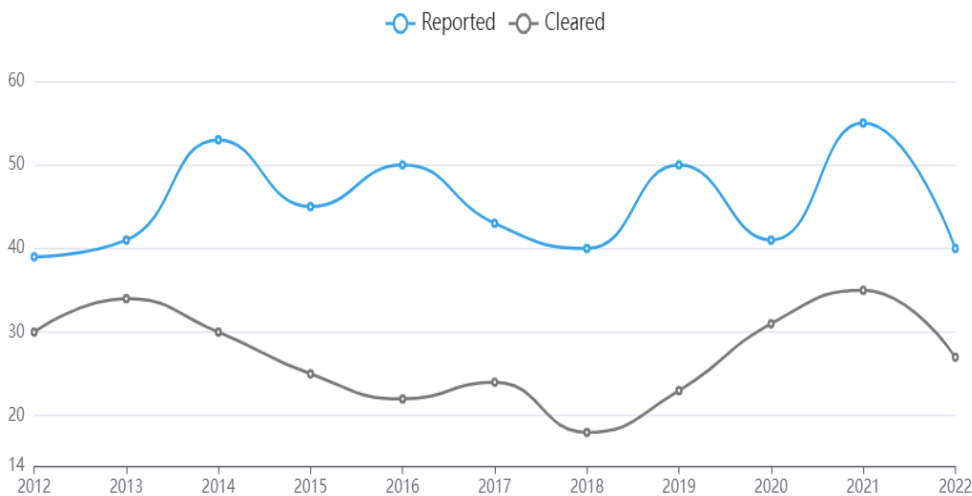
United States 2012 - 2022



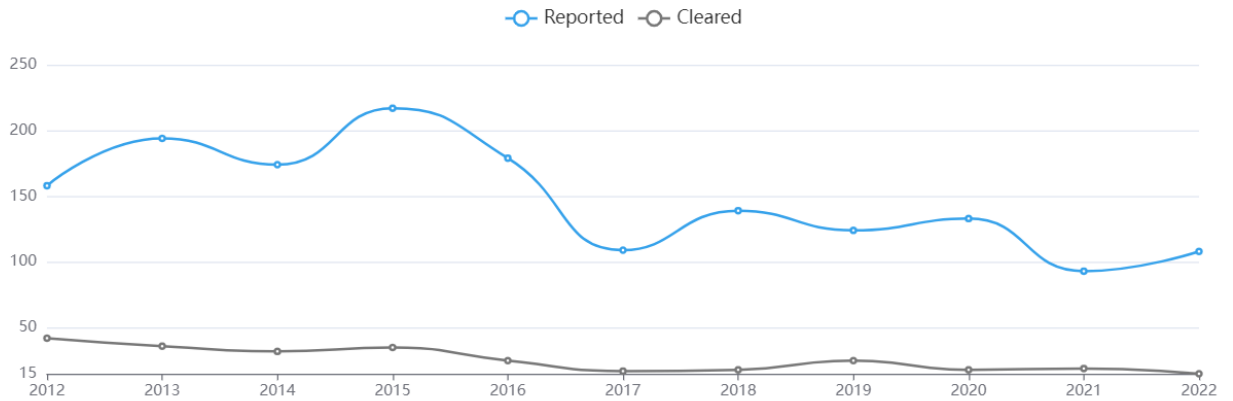
Michigan 2012 - 2022



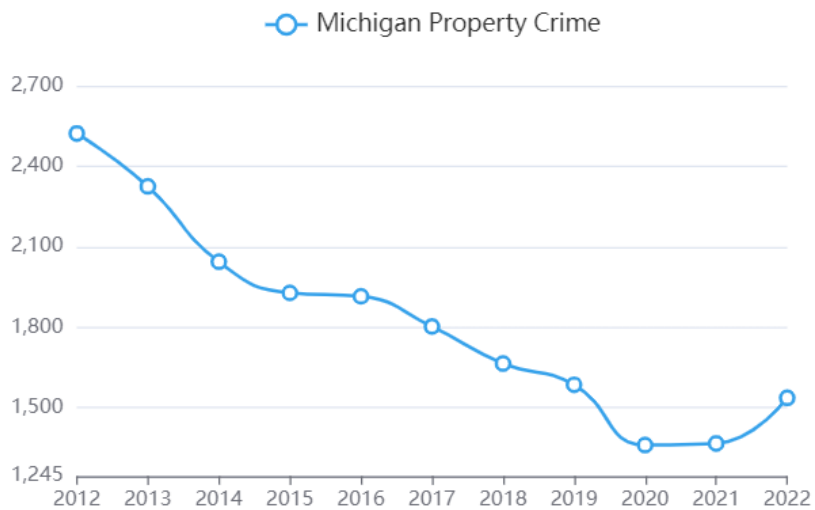
Summary Crime Reported by the Bridgeport Township Police Department 2012-2022



Summary Crime Reported by the Bridgeport Township Police Department 2012-2022



Michigan 2012 - 2022



Closing:

Within our department, including myself, we have 10 officers that bring over 170 + years of combined experience to this community. I am proud, confident and certain they keep our community safe.

The department is on a path that is to be different from the past. Change is always good. The response from the community in the past 6 months has been positive.

This upcoming year, I look forward to getting more involved with the community, finding ways to be more “forward thinking” and being the change, our township and community will see.

Sincerely,

Erik Skabardis
Chief of Police
Bridgeport Township Police Department
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