

# Elmhurst Police Department 2021 Annual Report



*An ILEAP Accredited Agency*



Michael R. Ruth  
Chief of Police



Mr. James Grabowski, City Manager  
City of Elmhurst

March 25, 2022

Dear City Manager Grabowski:

On behalf of the Elmhurst Police Department, I am pleased to present our 2021 Annual Report, which contains current and updated information about the many services we provide to the City of Elmhurst and its residents. We have included a current employee organizational chart and a detailed description of each unit within the department along with information on specialty units and mutual aid participation. The Police Department continues to emphasize our community policing initiatives, and we have included information and photos from the many programs and events that demonstrate that focus. In addition, we have an updated statistical section summarizing important data and emerging trends that have been identified and tracked through continued use of investigative and proactive policing technologies. In 2021, we experienced an 18% decrease in UCR crime rates, which is the lowest reported UCR Crime rate in the last 10 years. Service provided by the police department is measured in calls for service (911 calls) and officer-initiated activity. In 2021, Elmhurst police officers responded to 41,937 calls for service, which is consistent with the 41,777 calls for service in 2020. Thefts have decreased significantly over the past 10 years with reported thefts down 43% in 2021 compared to 2010. Motor vehicle thefts also decreased by 27% in 2021 from 2020.

2021 was a busy year for the police department with a number of new officers being hired and trained. We hired (8) full-time police officers, (1) part-time police officer, and (1) part-time background investigator. Our Field Training Officers were kept busy preparing the next generation of patrol officers to serve our community. In early 2021, Elmhurst officers were proud to help plan and facilitate several COVID-19 vaccination events in partnership with pharmacies and community groups, events that provided an opportunity for numerous members of the community to receive their COVID-19 vaccines. In addition, the Police Department continued to advance the training and skills of our staff with professional growth and development opportunities throughout the year. Several supervisors attended the prestigious Northwestern University Executive Management Program, and Deputy Chief Michael McLean attended the FBI National Academy in the fall. Even with the difficulties faced due to COVID-19, the Elmhurst Police continued to strive for community outreach opportunities and safely held a fall session of our Citizen's Police Academy in addition to outdoor Neighborhood Roll Calls over the summer months. Our Neighborhood Roll Call program saw just under 1,000 residents in attendance last year to observe and participate in a police roll call in their own neighborhood.

The men and women of the Elmhurst Police Department remain committed to service and excellence. I would like to extend my personal appreciation to you, Mayor Scott Levin, the members of the City Council, the employees of the Elmhurst Police Department and, most importantly, our residents for their continued support of the professional services we provide to our community.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael R. Ruth".

Michael R. Ruth  
Chief of Police



## Mission Statement

The primary mission of the Elmhurst Police Department is to provide effective and efficient delivery of law enforcement services to the community. Our motto, **"Providing the Best"** is the guiding principle in our delivery of law enforcement services.

The men and women of the Elmhurst Police are committed to the mission of protecting the citizens of Elmhurst and Providing the Best while enforcing the law.

**We believe** the public must have confidence and trust in the ability of every Elmhurst police officer to reliably and efficiently perform his/her duties.

**We believe** that human resources are the single largest and most important investment of our community, and we are committed to excellence in our profession. We recognize that good interpersonal communication skills are absolutely necessary to the effective performance of our duties.

**We pledge to do our best** to safeguard all people in the City of Elmhurst and ensure a high quality of life for all through the effective and efficient delivery of law enforcement services.

**We will provide the best** by being sensitive to the authority with which we are entrusted and by upholding our responsibility to protect the public through fairness, equality, honesty, integrity, and legality.

**We will provide the best** by our commitment to justice, both for the police department and for the public we serve.



RESPECT \* COMPASSION \* DEDICATION \* INTEGRITY \* COURAGE \* EXCELLENCE



## Executive Summary

In 2021, Elmhurst Police Officers responded to 41,937 calls for service, which was fairly consistent with the 41,777 calls for service in 2020. Part 1 crimes reported in 2021 to the State of Illinois Uniform Crime Report (UCR) indicated an overall decrease compared to what was experienced in 2020. We noted a decrease in burglaries from 2020, which had (59) burglaries reported compared to (39) burglaries reported in 2021. We also observed a 27% decrease in motor vehicle thefts from 2020 to 2021 and a 20% decrease in thefts from 2020 to 2021. Total UCR crime decreased by 18% comparing 2020 to 2021. In 2021, we had (14) sexual assaults reported, which was an increase compared to the (7) in 2020 but was comparable to the (13) reported in 2019. We saw a slight increase in robberies reported in 2021 with (8) compared to (5) in 2020, but totals remained below the (11) reported in 2019.

In 2021, Elmhurst experienced a homicide outside of a business on Spring Road, which was the first homicide in Elmhurst since 2014. The offender in the incident was identified and charged within hours of the offense.

The Chicagoland area and surrounding suburbs experienced increases in crimes by offenders using stolen vehicles in 2021. The Automated License Plate Reader (ALPR) program continued to play an important role in aiding Elmhurst Detectives with investigative leads for interdicting stolen motor vehicles as they enter Elmhurst. Each week, members of the police department intercept stolen vehicles that enter our city, oftentimes locating them before offenses can be committed within the city limits. Several burglary offenders were interdicted, 18 stolen vehicles were located (3 of them in residential neighborhoods), 10 stolen vehicles were recovered and the occupants arrested, and several wanted offenders were stopped and taken into custody.

In 2021, the Elmhurst Police Department instituted the Tactical Patrol Officer (TPO) program, which consists of 9 officers with specialized training to respond during critical incidents. This program also outfitted 4 unique patrol vehicles with medical equipment and gear for quicker response to critical incidents that are actively occurring. Our Tactical Patrol Officers responded within minutes to assist Oak Brook Police with a December, 2021 shooting incident at the Oak Brook Mall.

Finally, we proudly continued to maintain our status as a Tier 1 ILEAP agency in 2021. This prestigious designation, held by only 45 law enforcement agencies in Illinois, is maintained through the demonstration of following best practices related to 67 standards involving the department's administration, operations, personnel and training procedures.





In 2021, the Elmhurst Police Department has continued our commitment to building community partnerships by making engagement with residents a top priority. The past two years have required many adjustments and innovations to achieve this goal in the face of social distancing requirements, mask mandates, and program cancellations. Over the warmer months, outdoor programs like our Neighborhood Roll Call and Summer Mobile Patrol (SMP) were able to run successfully, and we also managed to complete a masked, socially distanced Citizen's Police Academy session in the fall. We continued to offer online video options on sites such as Zoom and YouTube for Crime Prevention presentations.

### ***Department Goals for 2022:***

- *Continue expansion and innovation of our Community-Based Policing model;*
- *Move forward with technological expansion by initiating a Drone Program, Crime Scene Imaging for our Evidence Technicians, and further usage of our very successful Automated License Plate Reader (ALPR) technology;*
- *Implement a Traffic Safety program to focus more enforcement effort on promoting pedestrian and bicycle safety by reducing speeds in residential neighborhoods;*
- *Implement officer wellness and support programs for our officers;*
- *Maintain a high level of professional training and continue to seek out advanced courses for our supervisors, investigators, and officers;*
- *Complete all state mandated training in the following categories: Human Rights Legal Updates, Civil Rights, Constitutional Use of Law Enforcement Authority, Cultural Competency, Procedural Justice, Use of Force, Sexual Assault—Trauma Informed Response, Officer Wellness, Implicit Bias, and Racial/Ethnic Sensitivity Training;*
- *Improve technology and facilities to increase operational efficiency within the police department;*
- *Continue to analyze and respond to crime trends and calls for service to create an action plan that ensures the highest levels of service for the City and its residents.*



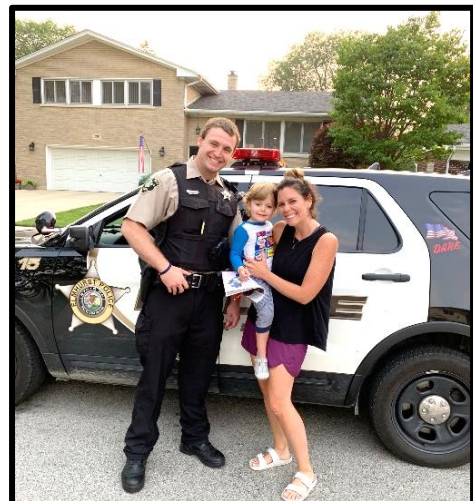


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## Elmhurst Police Officers Serving the Community





# 2021 ORGANIZATIONAL COMPONENT SUMMARIES





## Office of the Chief

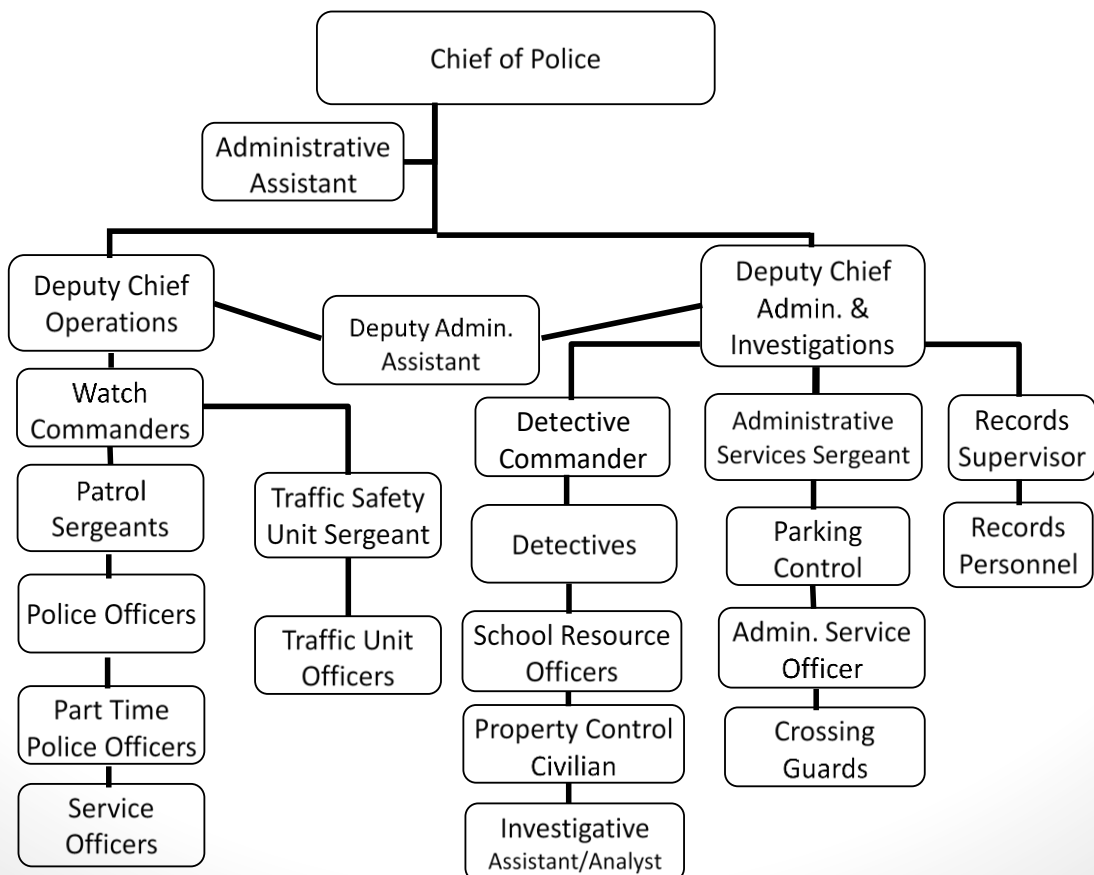
The Elmhurst Police Department is led by **Chief Michael R. Ruth**, who has served as the Elmhurst Police Chief since 2012 and brings 43 years of progressive law enforcement experience to our agency. **Deputy Chief Michael McLean**, who has served Elmhurst since 2000, and **Deputy Chief Brett Kaczorowski**, who has served Elmhurst since 2004, rounded out the Executive Management team in 2021. **Deputy Chief McLean** led the Operations division, and **Deputy Chief Kaczorowski** was in charge of the Investigations & Administration division.



Administrative support services were provided by Jami Carrington as Administrative Assistant to the Chief of Police and Kerri Chambers, Administrative Assistant to the Deputy Chiefs.

Sergeant Steve Mandat was assigned as the Administrative Sergeant until November, at which time Sergeant Matthew Himpelman stepped into the position.

### 2021 Organizational Table





## Police Operations

### Patrol Division

The uniformed Patrol Division is the largest component of the Police Department. Patrol Officers are responsible for protecting life and property while enforcing the Illinois Criminal Code, traffic laws, and city ordinances. Patrol Officers respond to 9-1-1 calls for service from the public—both emergency and non-emergency. In addition, they conduct preliminary investigations of crimes and help maintain order and safety for all. They proactively address community concerns and perform special assignments as needed.

In order to provide continuous 24-hour police service, the Patrol Division is divided into six teams working a 12-hour shift schedule. Patrol Officers are assigned to Day, Night, and Power shifts. Each team operates under the supervision of a Sergeant, who reports to a Watch Commander. Traditional patrol units are supplemented with officers trained to perform specialized functions such as Traffic Unit Officers, Evidence Technicians, Field Training Officers, a K-9 Officer, Part-Time Police Officers, and Community Service Officers.

In 2021, Elmhurst Patrol Officers responded to approximately 42,000 calls for service that included criminal incidents, traffic crashes, burglar alarm activations, public disturbances, and a wide variety of other event types. Continued adjustments were required throughout the year by Patrol Officers as they provided critical services to the community during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. 2021 saw the creation and implementation of a new Tactical Patrol Officer (TPO) program to provide expanded equipment and resources for high-risk incidents.







## Investigations Division

The Investigations Division is made up of five full-time Investigators, two School Resource Officers, one Crime & Intelligence Analyst, two part-time Background Investigators, one Task Force Officer assigned to the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), and an Evidence Custodian. For most of 2021, the Investigations Division was supervised by Detective Commander Leonard Kolpak; after his retirement in November, Sergeant Matt McCollum began supervising Investigations as the Detective Sergeant.

In 2021, Investigators conducted 220 criminal investigations. Cases are assigned according to a particular area of specialty or by on-call status; Investigators are subject to call-in 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Members of the division also work with outside agencies to assist on more serious or complex cases. Detectives Lafin and Kucera are part of the Metropolitan Emergency Response and Investigation Team (MERIT), which investigates homicides in DuPage County by pooling resources for large-scale cases that require additional Investigators. Elmhurst Detectives also assist our Background Investigators in conducting background checks on City of Elmhurst firefighter and police applicants, as well as on applications for liquor licenses, solicitor permits, and charitable game permits.

### Crime and Intelligence Analyst

The Crime and Intelligence Analyst plays an important role in apprehending criminals and closing cases by obtaining critical intelligence for the department. The Analyst assists the Investigations Division by developing information from a variety of law enforcement sources and using it to help determine potential vulnerabilities to crime in the community. By analyzing crime trends and patterns, the Intelligence Analyst is able to develop statistical probabilities on where and when the next crime in a series may occur. Visual presentations such as crime bulletins, maps, and graphs are created by the Analyst to provide both detectives and patrol officers with crime patterns and suspect information for strategic use in the fight against crime. Information from the Analyst is also shared frequently with outside law enforcement agencies in order to pool crime-fighting resources.

### Task Force Officer

One Elmhurst Task Force Officer is assigned to the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) to assist with the investigation of drug-related offenses throughout the Chicagoland area and the greater Midwest. In 2021, this group was responsible for the recovery of over 4.5 million dollars of illicitly obtained funds and other assets in addition to 352 kilograms of cocaine, 114 kilograms of illegal cannabis, and 1 kilogram of heroin.



### **Evidence Custodian**

The Evidence Custodian is responsible for collecting and maintaining all property submitted into evidence. The evidence room contains a total of more than 16,000 items of evidence. In 2021, there were 4,392 items of property received into the Property Room as evidence or “found property.” In 2021, 373 items of evidence were returned to identifiable owners, 399 items were transferred to the DuPage County or State Police Crime Laboratories for analysis and processing, 2,612 items were appropriately destroyed, 46 items were auctioned in accordance with applicable laws regarding disposal of found or relinquished property, and 32 items were donated to an approved not-for-profit organization. Additionally, over 800 items of digital evidence were copied for the State’s Attorney’s Office, the City Attorney’s Office, and/or as a result of Freedom of Information Act requests.

### **Background Investigators**

The responsibility of the Background Investigator is to complete thorough and detailed background checks on police and fire candidates. They also investigate City applicants for information-sensitive positions, persons, or businesses requesting liquor licenses, businesses providing massage services, applicants for solicitor permits, and organizations requesting raffle permits. In 2021, a total of 44 background investigations were assigned: 20 police backgrounds, 16 liquor license backgrounds, and 8 hours of other background investigations.

### **School Resource Officers**

School Resource Officers (SRO) are police detectives assigned to liaison with local schools and work collaboratively with administrators, educators, staff and parents to maintain a safe, secure learning environment. Elmhurst currently has two plain-clothes detectives assigned as SROs to achieve this goal. School Resource Officers respond to calls for service within the schools and conduct criminal investigations as needed. They document information collected during the course of their duties but are also responsible for planning instruction on current youth-related issues. SROs also conduct regular safety checks at Elmhurst schools to maintain building security. The Elmhurst SROs are in contact with administration from three high schools, three middle schools, and the local elementary schools. By serving in the role of mentor, coach and teacher, a School Resource Officer has the opportunity to significantly impact the lives of students. Elmhurst has had an SRO assigned to York High School for over 40 years.

**2021 Investigations Highlights:**

- In April, 2021, Detectives investigated a homicide that occurred in the 500 block of Spring Road. A dispute between bar patrons carried out into the roadway where a 29 year-old male was stabbed, which ultimately resulted in his death. Detectives immediately began conducting interviews and within approximately six hours, the suspect was located at his residence in Lombard. The suspect made admissions during a subsequent interview at the police station and was placed under arrest. Search warrants were executed at the suspect's residence and he was later charged with first-degree murder.
- In May, Elmhurst Detectives assisted the FBI with an armed bank robbery investigation at the TCF Bank located within the Jewel-Osco store on S. York Street. An extensive canvass of businesses and residences in the area assisted with identifying the suspect's vehicle. Detectives coordinated with Investigators from neighboring law enforcement agencies in order to follow the escape route of the suspect vehicle, which ultimately led to the license plate being obtained from a traffic camera. Elmhurst Evidence Technicians collected a paper cash strap that was discarded in a trash can by the offender as he fled the scene. The cash strap was processed, and latent prints were recovered and analyzed, resulting in the identification of the offender. On June 4, Elmhurst Detectives assisted the FBI with the execution of a search warrant at the offender's residence. He was taken into custody and was charged by the FBI with armed robbery.
- In June, Elmhurst Detectives investigated an aggravated vehicular hijacking that occurred in the area of Crestview Park. The victim had listed a vehicle for sale online and met with two individuals wanting to take the vehicle for a test drive. During the test drive, the suspects produced a semi-automatic handgun and, while holding the victim at gunpoint, stole his wallet, cell phone, and keys. The suspects fled in the victim's vehicle after leaving him on the side of the road. Subsequent investigation by Elmhurst Detectives resulted in the recovery of the stolen vehicle in Lynwood, Illinois, later that evening. The victim identified one of the suspects in a photo line-up. The suspect was further identified by information obtained from the online account used to arrange the vehicle test drive. On June 21, a juvenile arrest warrant was obtained for the suspect on a charge of aggravated vehicular hijacking, and he was taken into custody later that day.
- In September, Elmhurst Detectives investigated an aggravated vehicular hijacking that occurred at a convenience store on S. York. The victim's vehicle was stolen by two juvenile suspects armed with a semi-automatic handgun. The vehicle was recovered unoccupied several hours later in Chicago and was processed for evidence. With video surveillance from the area where the vehicle was recovered and assistance from the



Chicago Police Department, two potential suspects were developed. Fingerprints were recovered from the victim's vehicle that confirmed the identity of one of the juvenile suspects. A juvenile arrest warrant was later obtained on a charge of aggravated vehicular hijacking, and the offender was taken into custody.

- In November, Elmhurst Detectives investigated a report of "shots fired" in the 800 block of Poplar Avenue, and several distinct gunshots could be heard on a residential video surveillance recording. A suspect was developed, and Elmhurst Detectives obtained probable cause for a search warrant on the suspect's residence. With assistance from the Northern Illinois Police Alarm System (NIPAS) Emergency Services Team, the search warrant was executed at the residence the next day—a pistol and ammunition were recovered from the residence. The suspect was charged with Possession of a Firearm without a FOID card and Possession of Ammunition without a FOID card.
- In late November, Elmhurst Detectives investigated a report of a female subject who had been kidnapped in Chicago and was being held against her will in the 1100 block of Eldridge Lane. Detectives interviewed witnesses who related the victim was being held inside her townhome by a possibly armed offender. The Northern Illinois Police Alarm System (NIPAS) Emergency Services Team responded to the scene, while Detectives prepared a search warrant for the residence. The victim was safely rescued from the residence and the suspect was later negotiated into surrendering himself, at which time he was taken into custody. The offender was charged with Kidnapping, Aggravated Domestic Battery, Unlawful Restraint, Misdemeanor Domestic Battery, Interfering with the Reporting of Domestic Violence, and Criminal Trespass to Vehicle.

2021 Investigative Assignments	Number of Assignments
Arson	1
Assault/Battery	15
Auto Theft	15
Burglary	30
Death Investigations	13
Financial Crimes	18
Homicide	1
Missing Persons	3
Sex Crimes	31
Robbery	8
Theft	42
Other	43



## Administrative Services/Records

### 2021 Accomplishments:

- In July of 2021, the State of Illinois implemented a new LEADS 3.0 system to replace a decades- old LEADS 2000 system. The Illinois Law Enforcement Agencies Data System (LEADS) is provided by the Department of State Police and is a statewide, computerized telecommunications system designed to provide services, information, and capabilities to the law enforcement/criminal justice community statewide. LEADS contains confidential criminal justice information including stolen cars, stolen guns, missing persons, etc. It also includes criminal history and other data related to criminals. LEADS 3.0 brought many upgrades to the system to enhance the safety of both officers and the public.
- The Elmhurst Police continue to participate in the DuPage Integrated Justice Information System (DuJIS) project. Included in the project are 17 Fire Protection Districts, 31 municipalities, the Sheriff’s Office, the State’s Attorney’s Office, the Circuit Clerk, Probation and the Forest Preserve District Police of DuPage County. This countywide project has replaced ETSB’s Computer-Aided Dispatch Mobile Client as well as the Field Based Reporting and Record Management Systems of each department. The new systems were rolled out in June 2019, and we continue to work with the County to improve the program capabilities.
- The new records management system is compliant with the National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS), which was developed by the FBI to improve the statistical reporting and analysis capabilities of the law enforcement community. The Elmhurst Police Department currently reports Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) to the State and plans to report NIBRS crime reporting to the FBI by March, 2022.
- We continue the automatic juvenile expungement process of all eligible juvenile records in accordance with Illinois State Statute 705 ILCS 405/5-915 as well as the automatic expungement and sealing of all eligible cannabis records in accordance with Illinois State Statute 20 ILCS 2630/5.2(a)(1)(G-5).
- Records received approval from the Local Records Commission at the Secretary of State to destroy all records in accordance with the Local Records Act (50 ILCS 205/). In order to free up storage space, we destroyed old records and transferred reports onto disk format. In addition, we are transferring our microfilm to disk in order to keep an improved, safer means of backing up files.

### 2021 Elmhurst Police Department service totals:

- |                        |                                   |
|------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| • 41,937 calls handled | • Traffic tickets issued – 6,967  |
| • 5,005 reports taken  | • Warning tickets issued – 4,646  |
| • DUI arrests - 235    | • Parking tickets issued – 11,050 |





## **Police Department Social Worker**

### **Stephen Buhr, LCSW**

### **Hahn & Associates**

The Elmhurst Police Department partners with Hahn and Associates to offer counseling services when needed. Stephen Buhr, a licensed clinical social worker, works part-time for the Police Department in addition to providing counseling and social services to the community.



Stephen helps address problems at their core and is on call for Department needs; he has responded to assist in crisis counseling, death notifications, and various types of domestic trouble. Stephen keeps an office at the Elmhurst Police Station where he is able to offer private one-on-one or family counseling to address issues that are discovered and reported to him by police officers as they respond to calls in the community. In 2021, Stephen provided counseling on domestic violence, child abuse and/or neglect, teenage pregnancy, elder abuse and/or neglect, substance abuse, job loss, depression/anxiety, coping with grief, couples problems, and teenage bullying.

In 2021, Stephen handled 185 cases for the Elmhurst Police Department with a combined total of 285 crisis intervention hours and in-house counseling hours. Stephen also offers his services to employees of the Police Department who might experience a tragedy of some sort, whether on or off-duty, that they would require some help for in processing their emotions in order to make a full recovery. We are proud to partner with Stephen to provide these necessary services in Elmhurst, and we appreciate his contributions to keeping our community healthy.





## Officer Training

### Field Training Program

Field Training is a 20-week program completed by new police recruits following their initial 14-week police academy training.

In 2021, the Elmhurst Field Training Program was run by three Field Training Supervisors, eleven Field Training Officers (FTOs), three Field Training Service Officers, and one Part-Time Officer FTO. Each training officer has received 40-hours of FTO training to prepare them as an effective teacher and mentor for the new recruits. FTOs learn how to properly document performance and assist new recruits during the acclimation process of becoming a police officer. During field training, each recruit works with several different FTOs, allowing them to learn different skills they will need as an Elmhurst patrol officer.

#### **2021 Field Training Supervisors:**

Commander Jim Gandy  
Sergeant Matt McCollum  
Sergeant Steve Mandat

#### **2021 Part-Time Field Training Officer:**

PT Officer Supervisor Al Ortiz

#### **2021 Field Training Service Officers:**

SO Brian Fiorini  
SO Lynncherie Howell  
SO Angela Spanroff

#### **2021 Field Training Officers:**

Ofc. Dan Bishop  
Ofc. Brandt Cappitelli  
Ofc. Dan Djukic  
Ofc. Dave Gryczewski  
Ofc. Mike Hamblin  
Ofc. Carl Hawkins  
Ofc. Dorian Jarrette  
Ofc. Alex Kefaloukos  
Ofc. Alex Krupnik  
Ofc. John Pacewic  
Ofc. Joan Velez  
Ofc. Tom Cronin  
Ofc. Tim Westering

The Field-Training Program is 20 weeks long and includes 14 weeks of shift work rotating through the Day and Night shifts. After the 14<sup>th</sup> week, the recruit enters a "shadow phase" and works independently while the FTO remains at his/her side to assist as needed. Following that is a 2-week "solo phase" in which the recruit works alone, applying all of the cumulative training received up to that point with a uniformed FTO working nearby. The final week of training is an evaluation phase where the FTO assesses the abilities, confidence, and experience gained by the recruit before he/she is released to full solo patrol for the remainder of the required 15-month probationary period.

In 2021, four newly hired, full-time police officers and one part-time officer took part in the Field Training Program; all are expected to graduate to solo patrol in 2022. Also in 2021, Officer Krupnik attended the 40-hour course to become a certified Field Training Officer.



## Training

As of October 18, 2021, members of the Elmhurst Police Department completed approximately 9,141 hours of training. All active sworn members were able to maintain required training mandates set forth by the Illinois Law Enforcement Training and Standards Board, including training related to Law Updates, Use of Force, Civil Rights, Constitutional & Proper Use of Law Enforcement Authority, Cultural Competency, Human Rights, Procedural Justice, Mental Health Awareness and Trauma Informed Response to Sexual Assault. Elmhurst Police Department Investigators are certified in Sexual Assault/Abuse Investigations and Lead Homicide Investigation. Monthly trainings were completed online through the Police Law Institute, which has training certified through the Illinois Law Enforcement Training and Standards Board. These lessons included training covering the following topics:

- Racial Profiling, Implicit Bias
- Reporting Child Abuse and Neglect
- Law Updates related to Illinois and Federal Law
- United States Supreme Court Decisions
- The Lawful Use of Force and Issues of Civil Liability
- Domestic Violence
- Elder Abuse and Neglect
- Investigation of Crimes Related to Hotels
- Recognition, Investigation and Laws on Human Trafficking
- Cannabis Law and Culture

### Training highlights from 2021:

Officer O'Connor completed a 40-hour certification program in Crisis Intervention Training, which is certified through the State of Illinois. The Elmhurst Police currently has 29 officers who have completed this program.

Officer Kamieniarz successfully completed the Suburban Law Enforcement Academy, 560 hour Basic Police Academy.

Sergeants Himpelmann and McCollum completed the 3-week Northwestern University Executive Management Program.

Sergeants Schweik, Bruckner and Cuzzone completed the 10-week Northwestern University School of Police Staff and Command.

Commander Gandy, Sergeant Bruckner, Detective Lafin, Officer Corrigan, Officer Jarrette and Officer Velez attended the 2021 Illinois Crisis Negotiators Association Conference.



School Resource Officer Jorgensen completed the ALICE Instructor certification, joining School Resource Officer Waldenmeyer who was certified in 2020. ALICE is a program taught by School Resource Officers to civilians on what to do during an active threat situation.

School Resource Officers Jorgensen and Waldenmeyer attended the 2021 Illinois School Resource Officers Association Conference.



School Resource Officer Jorgensen and Officer Velez attended the 2021 Virtual Conference on Sexual Assault, Domestic Violence, Trauma & Resilience.



Members of the Evidence Unit completed training related to crime scenes, evidence recovery, proper collection of fingerprints/footwear and traffic investigations. New Evidence Technician Officers Ostrega and Valdez completed their initial 40-hour Evidence Technician Program. Officer Schmidt attended an 80-hour Homicide Training sponsored by the Southern Police Institute.

Department members attended training related to DUI Enforcement, Domestic Violence, Internet Crimes, Mental Health Awareness, Child Abuse Investigations, Proper Interviewing Techniques, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, De-escalation, Officer Wellness and Sexual Assault Investigations.

### In-Service Training

Multiple In-Service training events were held for all sworn members and service officers over the course of the year on a variety of topics:

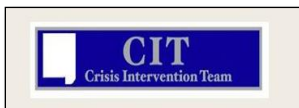
- First Aid / CPR
- Narcan and Epi Pen Use
- OSHA training
- New law updates
- Officer Wellness
- Proper Vehicle Stop techniques





To accommodate officers from all shifts, three sessions of officer In-Service Training were held at Superior Ambulance in 2021. Topics included CPR, AED use, First-Aid, Narcan, and EpiPens in addition to several policy reviews and updates.

Elmhurst Police Department training goals for 2022 include plans to partner with Elmhurst University for active threat training; to continue first aid training; to increase the number of Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) training officers; to utilize scenario-based use of force training; and to meet all requirements set forth by the Illinois Law Enforcement Training and Standards Board.



### DuPage Crisis Intervention Team (CIT)

Mental and behavioral health crises sometimes result in 911 calls for assistance. Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) Officers have received additional, focused training on mental health and behavioral health issues specifically as they pertain to law enforcement officers—including de-escalation techniques. Officers learn firsthand from behavioral health specialists as well as individuals with mental illnesses and their family members. Though training cannot prevent all crisis situations from escalating, CIT officers are available as a resource on calls involving persons in a mental health crisis to provide immediate aid in potentially dangerous situations.

The Elmhurst Police Department’s (Crisis Intervention Team) continued to be part of the DuPage CIT Officers Association. The association’s mission is to hold training for DuPage County CIT Officers, to provide legal updates and best practice solutions, and to promote relationships between CIT Officers and provide a forum for them to share experiences and receive input from other involved agencies (the State’s Attorney’s Office, NAMI, the Health Department, hospitals, etc.).





## Firearms Training

The Elmhurst Police Department Firearms Training program takes great pride in a long history of providing high quality firearms training to our officers. The Firearms Training Unit consists of a supervisor and five firearms instructors. Our training program is distinguished among law enforcement agencies in that our officers train on a monthly basis with their duty pistols in order to maintain a high level of proficiency. The range staff develops an annual training plan that focuses on three main goals: Marksmanship, Tactics, and Use of Force decision-making.

Elmhurst Police Officers are also trained in the use of patrol rifles to effectively address armed offenders if necessary. Rifle training is primarily conducted at the St. Charles Rifle Range, an outdoor facility that affords officers the opportunity to engage targets at distances up to 100 yards. Officers also conduct additional rifle training at the police department range utilizing .22 caliber rifles that simulate the standard-issue patrol rifles.

### Range Supervisor

Sergeant Matthew Himpelmann

### Firearms Instructors

Officer Dan Bishop

Officer Tom Cronin

Officer Dontae Hickenbottom

Officer Marcin Scislowicz

Officer Alex Krupnik



In addition to Range training duties, Elmhurst Firearms Instructors are also certified armorers who perform scheduled maintenance on all department firearms. This allows for a significant cost savings to the City of Elmhurst and keeps department firearm maintenance and repairs on schedule. This year, Officer Krupnik was selected to become our newest firearms instructor, and he successfully completed the basic firearms instructor course. He will continue to attend training in 2022, with the ultimate goal of becoming a master firearms instructor. Currently Sergeant Himpelmann and Officer Bishop have completed the master firearms instructor program through the University of Illinois Police Training Institute.



## Internal Affairs

To maintain the highest level of public confidence, the Elmhurst Police Department investigates all complaints thoroughly and impartially. Internal Affairs investigations also address instances of employee behavior that could discredit the Department or violate Department policy or procedure. Complaints are presented to the Office of the Chief of Police for a fair review and appropriate action and/or sanction, with consideration given to the complainant, the Department, the individual employee and the public trust.

**Source of Complaints:** Citizen Complaints or Police Agency Complaints

### Disposition of Complaints:

Unfounded — The allegation is not factual and/or did not happen as reported.

Exonerated — The act of the officer or the department was consistent with agency procedures.

Sustained — The allegation is supported by sufficient evidence.

Not Sustained — The evidence is insufficient to prove or disprove the allegation.



- EXCELLENCE
- INTEGRITY
- RESPECT
- COMPASSION
- DEDICATION
- COURAGE

In 2021, the Elmhurst Police Department conducted 52 administrative Internal Affairs investigations of which 47 were initiated internally and 5 externally. The internal investigations consisted of Use of Force, Vehicle Pursuits and policy infractions such as squad or equipment damage. All infractions were reviewed and handled with appropriate action ranging from corrective conference to written reprimand or, in some cases, suspension. The external investigations involved 5 citizen complaints against members of the department, and, after a review of these complaints, 5 were determined to be Not Sustained.

Elmhurst officers handled approximately 42,000 incidents last year involving citizen contacts, traffic violations, and criminal activity. Of those incidents, only .0001% of contacts resulted in a citizen complaint. Officers needed to use force to effect an arrest only .0003% of the time, and each of the 13 Use of Force incidents was found to be within department policy. Elmhurst Officers also conducted approximately 7,100 traffic stops with only 8 reported incidents of vehicle pursuit in cases where a traffic violator refused to stop and fled from the officer.





# Specialty Units

## ***Tactical Patrol Officers (TPOs)***

In 2021 the Emergency Response Team (ERT) transitioned into the new Tactical Patrol Officer (TPO) program. Tactical Patrol Officers are designated law enforcement officers that are specifically trained and equipped to respond to in-progress critical incidents that are hazardous, complex, or unusual and might exceed the capabilities of first responders or investigative units. These incidents include, but are not limited to, active shooter response, armed offender search, barricaded suspects, terrorist acts and other high-risk incidents.

Tactical Patrol Officers have two primary duties:

- To maintain the individual skills and equipment necessary to successfully respond to critical incidents, and
- To provide monthly training to fellow police officers to enhance their tactical skill level.

Training is a key component of the TPO program. This year the TPOs created an annual training plan and began training fellow officers in the last three months of the year. This annual training plan consists of topics related to building searches, hostage rescue, barricaded subjects, rapid response, officer survival, first aid, and the use of emergency equipment. The TPOs are looking forward to their first full year of operation in 2022.





## ***Crisis Negotiators***

The Elmhurst Police Crisis Negotiator Team is made up of seven department members who have been specially trained in specific communication skills designed to increase the probability of a peaceful resolution to any type of critical incident. Team members trained in the crisis intervention have been instrumental in resolving incidents both on-duty and in call-out situations.

The Elmhurst Crisis Negotiators once again attended the annual Illinois Crisis Negotiator Association conference, which was held in East Moline in October of 2021. During the conference, the team was able to put their skills to work on an intense training scenario. Presentations at the conference included high profile events from across the country that required crisis negotiations.

In 2021, several officers assigned to the unit utilized their training and skills in diffusing intense situations by effectively communicating with subjects in mental crisis. In addition, the entire team was activated in March of 2021 for a suicidal subject who was refusing to exit his home and was threatening to harm himself. Negotiators were able to establish communication with the subject, and a successful negotiation took place with the subject eventually agreeing to exit the house. In November of 2021, a kidnapping victim was located in Elmhurst, with the offender still inside the residence. Negotiations were conducted by Elmhurst Negotiators, ultimately leading to the safe rescue of the victim and the arrest of the offender.

Sergeant Cuzzone and Officer Corrigan, assigned to MERIT as negotiators, were called out for numerous DuPage County incidents where negotiators were needed.



### **Crisis Negotiator Supervisor**

Commander Jim Gandy

### **Crisis Negotiators**

Sergeant Bruckner  
Sergeant Cuzzone  
Detective Lafin  
Officer Corrigan  
Officer Jarrette  
Officer Velez



## Evidence Unit

Evidence Technicians are officers who are specially trained to document, photograph, and collect evidence left behind at a crime scene. The Elmhurst Police Evidence Unit is comprised of thirteen evidence technicians—including two new ETs trained in 2021—plus an evidence custodian who are supervised by a Commander and Sergeant. Elmhurst Evidence Technicians (ETs) are assigned to all shifts to provide 24/7 coverage for the department.

### 2021 Highlights from the Evidence Unit:

- Commercial Burglary investigation—Offender broke a window to gain entry to the building. ET Schmidt located and recovered a footwear pattern left behind when the offender walked over the broken glass.
- Bank Robbery investigation—ET O'Connor recovered a paper money strap on scene that the offender had removed from a stack of cash. ET O'Connor chemically processed the money strap, and a fingerprint later developed that positively identified the offender and placed him at the robbery. The Elmhurst Police and the FBI obtained a search warrant on the offender's residence, and he was charged with Bank Robbery.
- ETs O'Connor & McNeeley were dispatched to a call of an armed vehicular hijacking. The victim was showing his car to a prospective buyer, who had contacted him on social media. During a purported test drive, the suspect's companion brandished a semiautomatic pistol and demanded the victim's wallet, cellphone, and keys before leaving the victim on the side of the road and fleeing in the vehicle. The vehicle was later located and processed by ETs for evidence. Latent prints were recovered from vehicle surfaces and submitted for analysis, which resulted in a suspect being identified and ultimately apprehended.
- ETs teamed up to process another vehicle from an Aggravated Vehicular Hijacking involving multiple suspects where the victim's car was stolen at gunpoint at a 7-Eleven. The vehicle was recovered later that day and processed by ETs Westering & Hamblin. Detectives developed suspects in the case, and latent prints recovered by ETs from the vehicle were used to identify the suspects associated with the crime scene.

### 2021 Evidence Unit Training Highlights:

- Ofcs. Valdez and Ostrega were added to the Evidence Unit and attended basic ET training.
- ET Westering attended the International Association for Identification (I.A.I.) 2021 Educational Conference at Northern Illinois University. This 3-day conference, designed for forensic and investigative professionals, addressed bloodstain evidence, homicide crime scene investigation, DNA, bullet trajectory and ricochet analysis, and other related topics.
- Members of the unit participated in an 8-hour training taught by ET Supervisors, Cmdr. Gandy and Sgt. Schweik. This training involved classroom and practical exercises on documenting crime scenes with sketches, diagrams, and computerized diagramming techniques. Manual and digital measuring devices were utilized.



## K-9 Unit

2021 was another busy year for the Elmhurst Police K-9 Unit, comprised of Officer Cappitelli and K-9 Ozy. K-9 Ozy performed numerous deployments for tracking missing or wanted subjects, locating articles of evidence, and detecting narcotics. The K-9 Unit had a very successful year with 6 burglary suspects located and seizure of the following controlled substances:

- 6.11 kilograms of Fentanyl
- 4.14 kilograms of Methamphetamine
- 29.48 grams of Cocaine
- 5.31 grams of Heroin
- 4.10 grams Crack Cocaine



K-9 Ozy was also used in the seizure of \$15,431 of US currency that came from narcotics trafficking.

The K-9 unit was also able to resume community outreach programs this year as some of the COVID restrictions were lifted. Ozy was able to demonstrate his expertise for the Citizen's Police Academy class in addition to several other groups. Ozy also successfully completed the State of Illinois Canine Team Drug Detection Test (IL Detector Dog Certification) and re-certification as a Dual Purpose K9, meaning he is certified in both tracking and detecting the presence of drugs.







## ***Honor Guard***

The Police Department Honor Guard is a noble symbol demonstrating respect for the culture of service valued by members of our agency. The Honor Guard shows respect for officers who have fallen in the line of service and proudly represents the Police Department at City of Elmhurst events and functions.

In 2021, the Elmhurst Police Honor Guard Unit was proud to assist at the funeral of a former Elmhurst Police Officer, Ray Markham. The Honor Guard also participated in the annual Elmhurst 9/11 Ceremony and Veterans Day Ceremony.



Last year, the Elmhurst Police Honor Guard combined with the Elmhurst Fire Department Honor Guard to present the colors at the Chicago Bears vs. Detroit Lions game on October 3, 2021.

### **Elmhurst Police Honor Guard**

Sergeant Matt Himpelmann  
 Detective Victor Almaguer  
 Officer Mike Hamblin  
 Officer Chris Horner  
 Officer Dontae Hickenbottom

Officer Tim Jorgensen  
 Officer Jason Litton  
 Officer Victor Valdez  
 Officer Joan Velez  
 Officer Tim Westering



## ***Part-Time Police Unit***

The Elmhurst Part-Time Police Unit began as an auxiliary unit in 1953. It was later changed to a fully-sworn Part-Time Police Unit. Many of our part-time officers are full-time officers with other agencies, which allows Elmhurst to benefit from their experience and training. Part-time officers in Elmhurst are required to attend an Illinois-certified police academy.



Eight part-time officers provided assistance at most of the special events offered in Elmhurst throughout the year including: the Memorial Day Convoy, vaccine clinics, park district events, drug take back days, film details, and the Dan Gibbons Turkey Trot. Part-time officers also assisted with many organized walks, runs and biking events hosted by the City as well as home football games for York and I.C., and help with graduation day traffic control for both high schools and Elmhurst University. In addition to their roles in special events, part-time officers assist the patrol division with: arrests, traffic crashes, transporting prisoners, special watches, and patrolling our parks, the City Centre, and parking decks, especially in the summer months.

Part-time officers are permitted to work up to 999 hours per year, usually on the afternoon shift from 6:00 to 11:00 p.m. on weekdays and from 6:00 p.m. to 2:30 a.m. on weekends. Part-time officers also work the day shift when full-time staffing is at minimum levels. In 2021, we had 8 part-time officers serving Elmhurst, and began training a ninth part-time officer in December.







## Summer Mobile Patrol

The Summer Mobile Patrol is comprised of the Bicycle Unit and the electric Side-by-Side Vehicle patrol. During the winter months of 2021, each of the five active police bicycles were professionally tuned at a local bicycle shop. This unit is active when weather allows from May through October and provides access to areas less accessible by squad car such as the City Centre, parks, parking garages, and the Illinois Prairie Path.

In 2021, the Bicycle Unit included 17 officers. When manpower permitted, bicycle officers were utilized in conjunction with daily patrol assignments. The Bicycle Unit provides officers in areas of the community with high levels of pedestrian and bicycle traffic, allowing for more personal interaction with citizens. In addition to neighborhood patrols, the unit also covers special events and bicycle safety events over the summer months.



A special detail of the Summer Mobile Patrol, designed for both community outreach and crime prevention purposes, was conducted via high visibility patrols in the City Centre, parks, prairie path, and other areas as needed. Bicycle officers, in conjunction with an additional four officers who operate the Side-by-Side Police Utility Vehicle, patrolled these areas, met with citizens, and provided promotional items to the general public. This detail logged over 170 hours of patrol time between June and October.



## Traffic Safety Unit

The Elmhurst Police Department is committed to the importance of traffic safety, which is an area of frequent concern throughout the community. Elmhurst Officers are assigned specific areas of concern on a daily basis to address violations and educate the public.



### STEP Grant

In addition, the Elmhurst Police Department continued to participate in the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) STEP Grant program in 2021. STEP is a traffic enforcement grant from the IDOT Division of Traffic Safety. The grant provides funds for officers to work overtime details to enforce laws related to dangerous behaviors on the roadways. Enforcing seatbelt usage in addition to impaired driver and distracted driving enforcement is the most effective way to reduce traffic fatalities and injuries on our roadways. Extra enforcement details are conducted throughout the year, with a focus on holiday periods. Total arrests and citations from the grant-funded patrols were as follows:

- 15 DUI arrests
- 391 Seatbelt citations
- 118 Distracted Driving citations
- 27 Custodial arrests
- 165 Speeding citations

## Drug Recognition Experts (DREs)

Every year impaired drivers cause thousands of traffic deaths and injuries. While great strides have been made in combatting alcohol-impaired drivers, there is more work to be done in apprehending and prosecuting drug-impaired drivers.

A Drug Recognition Expert (DRE) is an officer who has received special training and certification to administer a Drug Influence Evaluation. This evaluation is a 12-step process with a standardized, systematic method of examining a driver suspected of Driving Under the Influence of Drugs to determine the following: (1) Is the suspect impaired? (2) Is any impairment due to drug use or possibly a medical condition? and (3) What category(ies) of drugs is/are likely the cause of impairment? The Elmhurst Police Department has three active DREs who serve the Elmhurst Community and assist other Chicagoland communities. One of the three DREs is also a Drug Recognition Expert Instructor responsible for training officers to become DREs themselves.

In 2021, the three Elmhurst DREs conducted a total of 33 Drug Influence Evaluations—more than any other department in the State of Illinois. As individuals, the Elmhurst DREs held three of the top four spots for the most Evaluations conducted in the state. Elmhurst Police DREs have a 96% accuracy rate in determining what category(ies) of drug(s) caused impairment.



## ***Mutual Aid Assignments***

The Elmhurst Police Department participates in the following mutual aid groups:

### **Illinois Law Enforcement Alarm System (ILEAS)**

The Elmhurst Police Department is a member of the Illinois Law Enforcement Alarm System (ILEAS). This group is based in Urbana, Illinois, and is the largest mutual aid organization in the United States. ILEAS is responsible for coordinating statewide mutual aid responses when needed.



In 2021, the Elmhurst Police Department, like many areas of the United States, saw several large-scale demonstrations. The Elmhurst Police utilized ILEAS assistance during these times to assist in traffic control and direction.

### **THE ILEAS MISSION**

***We strive to meet the needs of law enforcement throughout the State of Illinois in matters of mutual aid, emergency response and the combining of resources for public safety.***

***"STRENGTH THROUGH COOPERATION"***

### **DuPage IMAT**

The DuPage Incident Management Assistance Team (IMAT) consists of highly trained supervisors from various police departments throughout DuPage County; Commander Jim Gandy is the Elmhurst representative on the team. The purpose of the team is to complete or enhance the incident command system for large scale events, emergencies, or disasters that would require numerous police and other first responder units.

### **DuPage Public Safety Communications (DuComm)**

DuComm is the consolidated emergency call-center and dispatch service for Elmhurst which serves 44 police and fire agencies throughout DuPage County. DuComm answers 9-1-1 calls and dispatches Police, Fire, and Emergency Medical Services. The Elmhurst Police have used DuComm as the primary 9-1-1 call center and dispatch service since 1975 for an average of approximately 50,000 incidents per year.





## Metropolitan Emergency Response & Investigations Team (MERIT)

In August of 2019, DuPage County unveiled a new county-wide Law Enforcement Major Crimes Taskforce to consolidate efforts and resources for the mutual benefit of every community in DuPage County. MERIT was created to provide a single, highly-skilled, collaborative response to major crimes and incidents. The former DuPage County Major Crimes Task Force (MCTF) and Felony Investigative Assistance Team (FIAT) were merged to form the MERIT organization.

Throughout 2021, the Elmhurst Police Department continued our involvement in MERIT with our department’s Crisis Negotiators—Officer Corrigan and Sergeant Cuzzone—assigned to the Crisis Negotiations Team (CNT), Officer Hamblin assigned to SWAT, Detectives Lafin and Kucera assigned to the Public Integrity/Major Crimes Investigative Unit, Officer Westering and Officer Kefaloukos (DRE) assigned to the Major Crash Reconstructions Team (MCRT), Officer Cappitelli and K9 Ozy assigned to the K9 Response Team, and Commander Gandy assigned to the Incident Management Team (IMAT).



MERIT’s METRO SWAT is comprised of SWAT operators and Crisis Negotiators from 36 DuPage County Law Enforcement agencies. The team responds to high-risk critical incidents, assisting local agencies with various in-progress crimes and crisis response calls (barricaded subjects, hostage situations, high-risk warrants, etc.). These incidents require specialized techniques and equipment that teams train with on a monthly basis.



**2021 Training:** Officer Hamblin attended a three-day Casualty Combat Care class. Sgt. Cuzzone and Officer Hamblin attended the Illinois Tactical Officers Association Conference. Ofc. Corrigan and Commander Gandy attended the Illinois Crisis Negotiators Association Conference, and METRO SWAT held three (3) combined SWAT/CNT scenario training days. Officer Corrigan and Sgt. Cuzzone also assisted FBI Negotiators in training scenarios for the FBI’s 40-hour Crisis Negotiator training course.





### Highlights from MERIT efforts in 2021 include:

- CNT – a substantial increase in call-outs, from 18 in 2020 to **29** in 2021.
- SWAT/CNT – assistance to Villa Park for an armed subject barricaded with a hostage that came to a peaceful conclusion.
- SWAT/CNT/Major Crimes – assistance to Bloomingdale for homicide / shooting at Indian Lakes.
- SWAT/CNT – assistance to Darien for an armed subject barricaded with a hostage, with a peaceful conclusion.
- CNT – numerous phone and face-to-face negotiations with subjects involved in mental health crises and/or barricaded/suicidal status.
- Major Crimes – assistance to multiple agencies for homicide and sexual assault investigations.



- MCRT assistance to Bensenville for a fatal crash on Irving Park Rd.
- SWAT/CNT/Major Crimes/K9 assistance to Oak Brook for a reported active shooter at the Oak Brook Shopping Mall. Subsequent investigation led to assistance on the execution of multiple search/arrest warrants for the same incident.
- K9 – multi-jurisdictional assistance to O'Hare Airport Security/Chicago Police for search purposes.
- CNT – a new NOC (Negotiations Operations Center) vehicle was purchased for MERIT, which is shared between CNT and the Digital Forensics Unit.

Since August 2019, MERIT has been activated more than 550 times to achieve tangible results in protecting lives and property while ensuring offenders in serious criminal acts are brought to justice.





## Northern Illinois Police Alarm System (NIPAS)



The Northern Illinois Police Alarm System (NIPAS) covers over 90 communities and offers two units—a special tactical squad known as the **Emergency Services Team (EST)** and a crowd-control team known as the **Mobile Field Force (MFF)**. Elmhurst Patrol Officer Marcin Scislowicz serves on the NIPAS EST team, and Officer John Marino served on the NIPAS MFF in 2021.

### NIPAS Emergency Services Team (EST)

NIPAS EST is a full-service SWAT team with capabilities to handle both small and large-scale incidents. These incidents include high risk search/arrest warrants, hostage rescues, armed barricaded/mental subjects, area searches and fugitive apprehension in addition to dignitary protection. The team fields four armored vehicles, an equipment truck, and three rapid response pickups—each of which has the capability to sustain approximately 8 SWAT operators over the course of an incident. The team also has a Command Post and a WMD Air truck offering WMD/Chemical threat capability, allowing officers to respond to incidents involving industrial chemicals, WMD, and Meth labs in fully encapsulated chemical-resistant suits SCBA.

NIPAS EST also provides security and intelligence support to the NIPAS Mobile Field Force during incidents, responds to special events like the Chicago Marathon, and assists statewide with natural disasters like the flooding in Southern Illinois.

#### 2021 EST operational highlights include:

- Two Presidential Security deployments providing assistance to the U.S. Secret Service on Chicago area visits in both McHenry County and Elk Grove Village last year.
- One vehicular hostage rescue stemming from a murder/kidnapping; assisted NORTAF Homicide Taskforce.
- Two residential hostage rescues, one in Elmhurst and one in Hoffman Estates
- ILEAS assistance to the Chicago Police Department for the Chicago Marathon.

The team also responded for numerous high risk search warrants, barricaded subjects and criminal barricades that were resolved successfully.



### NIPAS Mobile Field Force (MFF)

The NIPAS Mobile Field Force was conceived to effectively deal with events and conflicts by providing a rapid, organized, disciplined response to civil disorder, crowd control, and other tactical situations that can arise from civil unrest. Identical to the Emergency Services Team, the Mobile Field Force follows the original principles of NIPAS agencies: Pooling resources to provide the best service possible for member communities, retaining local control, and offering cost savings by sharing specialized equipment. Member agencies participate in the Mobile Field Force voluntarily, and agencies that choose not to supply members to the team may not request services from the MFF.

The NIPAS Mobile Field Force provides its member agencies with a planned, organized, and rapid response to:

- Control unruly crowds (either hostile or passive);
- Seal off problem areas, regardless of size;
- Rescue citizens or officers from crowds;
- Clear an area of hostile individuals by use of proactive tactics; and
- Apprehend multiple offenders if required.

Officer Marino was assigned as the Elmhurst Police Department MFF representative in 2021.







## Department Programs

In 2021, the Elmhurst Police Department was able to participate in and help plan numerous events throughout the city, while keeping in mind the continued presence of COVID-19.

- In March and April, Police Department members planned and helped facilitate a public/private partnership between pharmacies, other governmental agencies, private businesses and schools that allowed numerous members of the public to receive their COVID-19 vaccines.
- In May, the Police Department helped facilitate the Memorial Day Convoy as an alternative to the traditional Memorial Day Parade due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Police personnel helped get the convoy of vehicles safely around every ward of the city.
- In June, the Police Department partnered with the Elmhurst Park District for Adventure Days in Eldridge Park and held our annual Cops and Bobbers fishing derby in the lagoon.
- In July, the Police Department assisted with traffic control for the annual 4 on the 4<sup>th</sup> Run.
- In August, the Police Department assisted with traffic and site security for two film shoots in the Elmhurst quarry. The first was a new Amazon television series called "Lightyears" that will begin in 2022. The second was an episode of the NBC series Chicago PD, which filmed part of an episode for the current season at the quarry.
- During October, in addition to participating in Halloween events throughout the community (Fall Fest at the Maywood Sportsman's Club and the Elmhurst Park District as well as Boo-tiful Saturday in the Elmhurst City Centre) the Police Department partnered with Special Olympics Illinois, York High School and the Kiwanis Club of Elmhurst for the annual Special Olympics Volleyball Tournament. Approximately 110 athletes participated in the competition, and members of the police department were on site to present awards.



- In November, the Police Department managed traffic and security for the Dan Gibbons Turkey Trot, which took place through the downtown area on Thanksgiving morning.
- In December, the Police Department assisted with Special Kids Day.





## Alive at 25



Alive at 25 is a National Safety Council Traffic Safety/Defensive driving course taught by Commander Gandy, Sergeant McCollum, and Officer Westering. The goal of the class is to help residents in the 16 to 24-year-old age bracket learn better decision-making skills for driving. By providing participants with a better understanding of certain traffic laws and the reason behind them, we hope to encourage compliance with those laws, making the roads safer for everyone. The Alive at 25 Program is utilized by the City Prosecutor as a diversionary program for young traffic violators in an effort to educate them to be safer drivers. In 2021, the Elmhurst Police held 5 sessions with 59 total students attending.



## Basset

BASSET is a State of Illinois training program run by the Illinois Liquor Commission for servers and/or sellers of alcoholic beverages. The program is intended to teach participants responsible service and selling of alcoholic beverages, how to identify signs of intoxication, and how to properly check IDs to help prevent underage alcohol consumption in our community. Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) has teamed up with the BASSET program to share their stories with participants and give them a personal awareness of the consequences of over-serving. In 2021, The Elmhurst Police conducted 8 BASSET classes for a total of 151 participants.

## Peer Jury



The Elmhurst Peer Jury program began back in 2005 and is currently coordinated by Juvenile Officer Hawkins and School Resource Officer Jorgensen. This program provides juvenile offenders with the option of having their misdemeanor or status cases heard by a jury of their peers instead of going through the juvenile court system. The offenders are "sentenced" by the Peer Jury to various forms of restitution depending on the type of offense. Sentences might include making repairs to damaged property, writing apology letters, performing community service hours and/or discussing their actions publicly with their parents at the hearings. This process helps offenders accept responsibility for their actions and understand the consequences of them.

In 2021, there were 10 Peer Jurors who participated in the program, which welcomed a new adult volunteer coordinator, Marcia Basciano. The Peer Jury heard 22 new cases and 21 returned cases. Looking forward, the Peer Jury program plans to hold a training class for all of the Peer Jurors in addition to training new jurors. We also plan to have a guest speaker for the jurors on the criminal justice system. The program will continue to seek juvenile cases to build upon the restorative justice model.



## Administrative Hearing Program

The Administrative Hearing program operates as an alternative to going through the circuit court process for the adjudication of minor ordinance violations. The Police Department, in partnership with the City Clerk's Office, the Finance Department, and the City Attorney, has expanded the Administrative Hearing program to adjudicate ordinance violations of the Elmhurst Municipal Code in addition to Administrative Tow cases. The adjudication process benefits both the City and the offender by eliminating the need to appear in court for minor offenses. An independent Hearing Officer decides each case based on evidence presented by the City Attorney.

Administrative Tow cases involve drivers who are arrested for serious criminal or traffic offenses requiring impoundment of their vehicles. Common offenses that require vehicle impoundment include DUI, Driving with License Suspended/Revoked, and most Felony or Class A Misdemeanor crimes. Additional cases that are now being adjudicated by Administrative Hearing include parking violations, vehicle equipment violations, and other minor ordinance violations including curfew and loud noise complaints. In 2021, there were 442 administrative tows scheduled for administrative hearing, 1,220 compliance citations issued, and 10,591 parking tickets issued under the Administrative Hearing process.

## Prescription Drug Take-Back

The Elmhurst Police Department, in cooperation with the Drug Enforcement Agency, is committed to preventing the abuse of dangerous prescription drugs that could lead to accidental poisoning, misuse or overdose. Residents are encouraged to check their cabinets for unused prescription drugs that could be dangerous to others in their household. Since 2013, the Police Department has collected over 5,134 lbs. of prescription drugs from both our drug drop-box in the lobby and our annual collection events.



In 2021, we held 2 prescription drug collection events, which took in a combined total of 255 lbs. of prescription drugs. Residents also had access to the collection box in the lobby, which is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week and took in 587 lbs. of unwanted prescription drugs last year. The collection total for 2021 was 842 lbs. of prescription drugs that were safely destroyed.

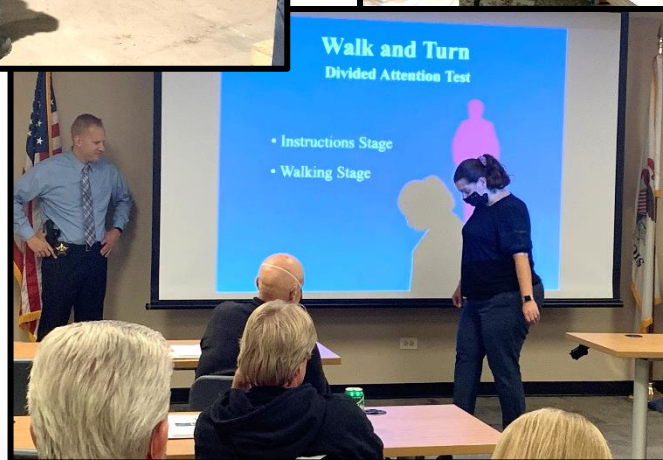


## Citizen's Police Academy

We were pleased to welcome a fall class for our Citizen's Police Academy (CPA) program after a year and a half hiatus due to COVID-19. Mask mandates were still in effect, but the class dove into the material and was able to finish out the full session complete with "graduation" at City Hall the week before Thanksgiving.



The CPA program allows residents to learn more about a number of law enforcement topics in addition to the workings of their police department. The CPA curriculum includes classes on Crime Prevention, Investigations, Evidence Processing, Drug Awareness, the K-9 Unit, and a Law Review. The program provides plenty of hands-on experience in addition to opportunities for role-play scenarios that give students a better understanding of emergency response and the challenges involved in making split-second decisions. The Elmhurst Police Department has run a total of 28 sessions of this popular 12-week program.







## Police Explorers

The Police Explorers is a youth leadership program that provides an opportunity for young people between the ages of 14 to 21 who have an interest in Law Enforcement and/or Criminal Justice to explore those interests as a possible career option. The Explorers place an emphasis on responsibility, and post members can apply for and earn leadership positions such as Captain, Lieutenant, Sergeant, and Corporal within the post. Youth are tasked with planning and coordinating events, which teaches them fundamental leadership skills and responsibility. In 2021, the post welcomed 2 new members for a total of 14 active members. We are proud that current and former Elmhurst Police Explorers have been hired by various Law Enforcement agencies throughout the country.

In 2021, the Elmhurst Police Explorers learned about traffic stops, evidence work, crisis negotiations, SWAT, domestic disturbances, trained on the Firearms Training Simulator (FATS) machine, and much more. They helped the City and Police Department by volunteering their time assisting at the 4 on the 4<sup>th</sup> Run and the Dan Gibbons Turkey Trot, and serving as role-players for in-service vehicle stops training for Elmhurst patrol officers. The Explorers also attended team building events throughout the year.



The Elmhurst Police Explorers program continues to excel each year. Please visit our website: [www.ElmhurstPoliceExplorers.com](http://www.ElmhurstPoliceExplorers.com) for more information on the Elmhurst Police Explorers.







## Neighborhood Roll Call

The Elmhurst Neighborhood Roll Call program was a huge success once again, with 948 residents attending one of the 29 outdoor rolls calls in 2021. Neighborhood Roll Call events provided an excellent opportunity for residents to meet face to face with the police officers who patrol their neighborhoods. These events gave residents a chance to address concerns while also learning about crime prevention and crime trends in the area.



The Neighborhood Roll Call program strengthens relationships between police officers and residents through communication and better understanding; in addition, it provides officers with an opportunity to share information on programs that assist not only with crime prevention but also with solving open cases: Lock It or Lose It, Code Red, Smart 911, Video Sharing Partnership, and Elmhurst Connect. Since the inception of the program in 2014, nearly 6,000 residents have attended a Neighborhood Roll Call.



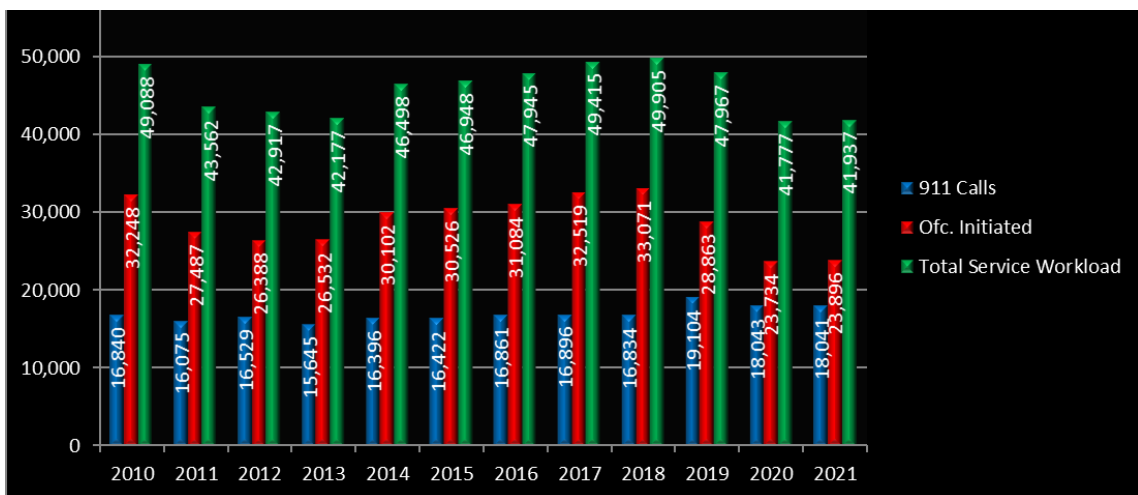


# 2021 Statistical Summary

## CRIMINAL INCIDENTS

<i><b>FBI Defined Uniform Crime Report Summary</b></i>										
<b>Criminal Incidents</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>2012</b>
Homicide	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0
Rape	14	7	13	5	2	1	3	8	2	5
Robbery	8	5	11	9	9	9	4	6	4	17
Aggravated Assault/Battery	25	24	12	8	22	16	6	3	6	10
Burglary	39	59	71	63	56	68	64	63	57	113
Theft	311	388	390	368	473	452	412	438	474	452
Theft of Motor Vehicle	22	30	17	10	23	16	10	5	22	24
Arson	1	3	3	0	1	0	1	3	1	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>421</b>	<b>515</b>	<b>517</b>	<b>463</b>	<b>586</b>	<b>562</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>529</b>	<b>566</b>	<b>623</b>

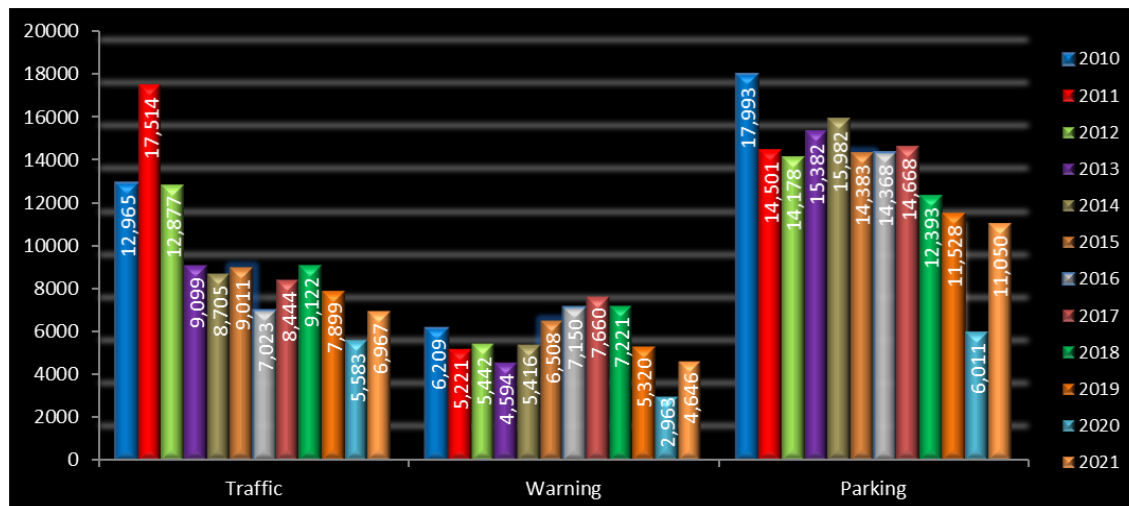
## SERVICE WORKLOAD



2021 shows a .38 % increase in total service workload compared to 2020. There was a decrease of two (2) 9-1-1 calls and an increase of 162 self-initiated calls in 2021 compared to 2020.

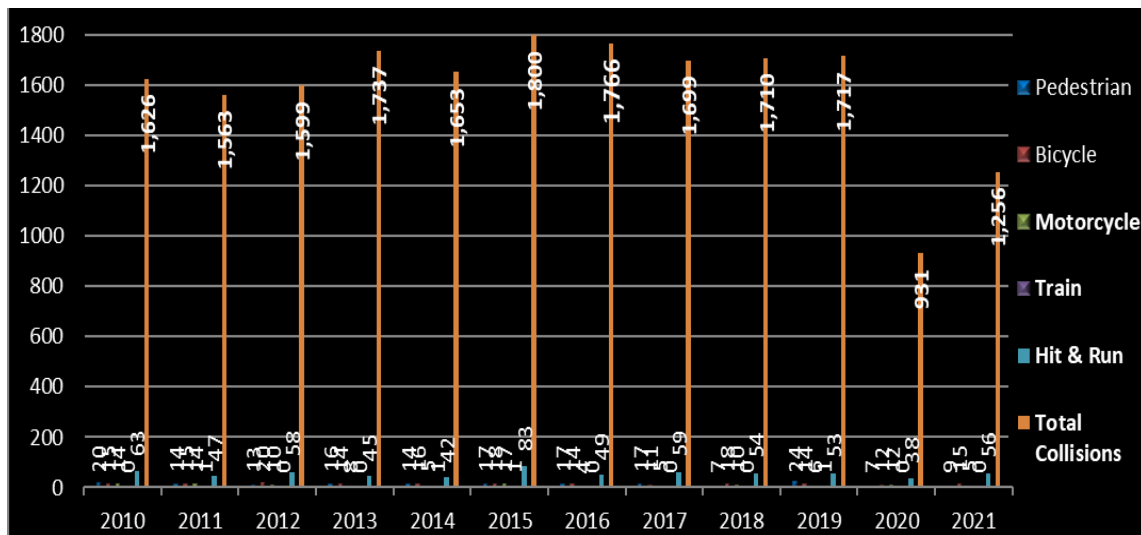


## CITATIONS



In 2021, the number of traffic citations issued increased 24.79 % compared to 2020. The number of warning tickets issued increased 66.93 % and the number of parking tickets issued increased 83.83 % compared to 2020.

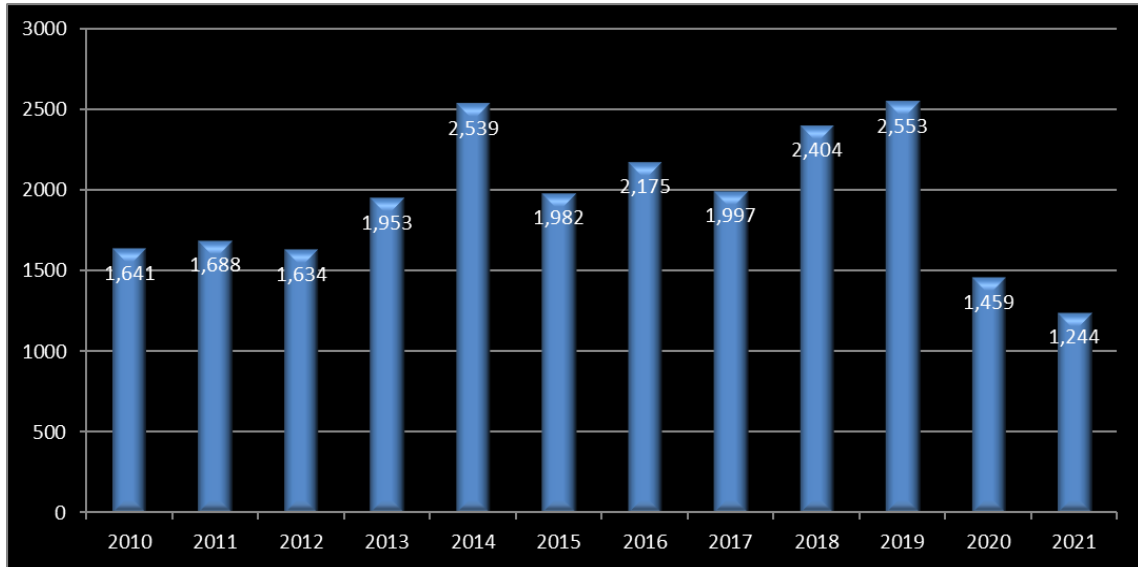
## TRAFFIC COLLISIONS



In 2021, the number of pedestrians involved in motor vehicle crashes increased to 9 from 7 in 2020. The number of bicycles involved in motor vehicle crashes increased from 12 to 15, while crashes involving motorcycles decreased from 12 to 5 in 2021. No traffic accidents involving a train were reported in 2021, but the number of hit and run crashes increased by 47.37 % compared to 2020. The total number of traffic collisions in 2021 increased by 325 crashes from 2020 but was still 461 crashes below the 2019 total.

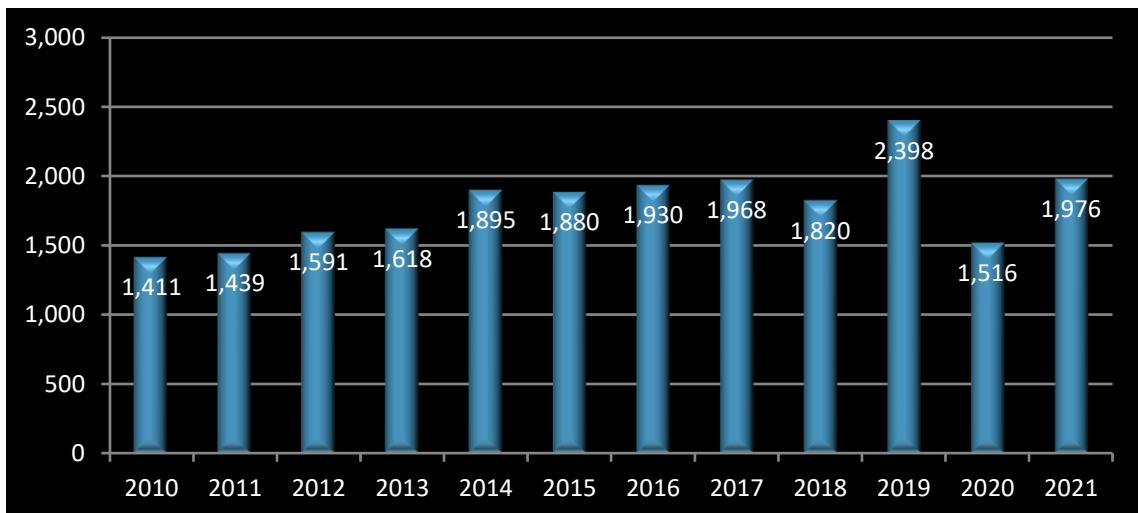


### **ASSIST OTHER AGENCIES**



In 2021, there was a decrease of 215 calls to assist (14.62 %) compared to 2020 totals.

### **ALARM CALLS**



In 2021, there was an increase of 460 (30.34 %) Burglar and Hold-Up alarm calls compared to 2020.





## 8 Year Comparison Study

	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>
	<u>Offenses</u>	<u>Offenses</u>	<u>Offenses</u>	<u>Offenses</u>	<u>Offenses</u>	<u>Offenses</u>	<u>Offenses</u>	<u>Offenses</u>
<b><u>Deaths</u></b>								
Homicide	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
Attempt Homicide	0	1	1	0	1	1	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>
<b><u>Sex Offenses</u></b>								
Predatory Criminal Sexual Assault	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
Criminal Sexual Assault	12	6	9	3	8	3	4	8
Aggravated Criminal Sexual Assault	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Attempted Sexual Assault	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0
Prostitution	0	1	0	2	1	7	12	3
Public Indecency	1	4	5	3	1	0	2	2
All Other Sex Offenses	0	4	0	1	1	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>13</b>
<b><u>Robbery</u></b>								
Armed Robbery - Bank	2	0	0	1	1	1	1	1
Armed Robbery - Other	2	2	3	2	3	2	2	4
Robbery - Bank	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	1
Robbery - Other	3	3	5	5	1	2	2	0
Attempted Robbery	1	0	0	0	4	2	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>
<b><u>Simple Assault - Battery</u></b>								
Assault	11	5	2	3	1	3	6	14
Battery	51	50	40	63	74	70	58	59
Domestic	110	121	99	124	106	93	72	68
<b>Total</b>	<b>172</b>	<b>176</b>	<b>141</b>	<b>190</b>	<b>181</b>	<b>166</b>	<b>136</b>	<b>141</b>
<b><u>Aggravated Assault - Battery</u></b>								
Aggravated Battery	19	18	5	7	8	3	1	2
Aggravated Assault	6	6	5	4	13	10	5	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>3</b>
<b><u>Burglary</u></b>								
Burglary Residential	14	28	26	19	35	38	38	48
Burglary Other	20	24	24	29	14	20	10	9
Attempted Burglary	4	8	9	8	7	11	16	6
<b>Total</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>63</b>
<b><u>Burglary/Theft from Motor Vehicle</u></b>								
Burglary/Theft from Motor Vehicle	44	153	100	108	144	142	55	89
Burglary/Theft of Motor Veh								
Parts/Accessories	70	39	12	14	23	20	23	34
Attempted Buglary/Theft from MV	4	5	4	3	8	2	3	4
<b>Total</b>	<b>118</b>	<b>197</b>	<b>116</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>175</b>	<b>164</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>127</b>
<b><u>Thefts</u></b>								
Theft Over	57	52	42	49	56	70	83	82
Theft Under	84	86	85	119	100	108	116	93
Retail Theft	63	89	126	109	165	120	123	128
Attempted Theft	7	5	4	9	12	11	8	7
<b>Total</b>	<b>211</b>	<b>232</b>	<b>257</b>	<b>286</b>	<b>333</b>	<b>309</b>	<b>330</b>	<b>310</b>



	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>
	<u>Offenses</u>	<u>Offenses</u>	<u>Offenses</u>	<u>Offenses</u>	<u>Offenses</u>	<u>Offenses</u>	<u>Offenses</u>	<u>Offenses</u>
<b><u>Motor Vehicle Theft</u></b>								
Theft of Motor Vehicle	21	30	14	10	22	17	10	5
Attempted Theft of Motor Vehicle	3	1	1	0	1	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>5</b>
<b><u>Deception</u></b>								
Forgery/Deceptive Practice/Fraud	97	101	98	86	71	119	92	29
Credit Card Fraud	19	16	14	17	17	34	21	14
Identity Theft	447	600	112	100	127	125	140	56
Possession of Stolen Property	5	4	1	6	8	9	4	2
Theft of Lost Property	10	11	9	17	16	25	16	26
<b>Total</b>	<b>578</b>	<b>732</b>	<b>234</b>	<b>226</b>	<b>239</b>	<b>312</b>	<b>273</b>	<b>127</b>
<b><u>Criminal Damage To Property</u></b>								
Vehicle	29	34	31	47	43	33	35	45
Property Damage	78	50	69	51	64	75	44	75
Attempted Criminal Damage	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>107</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>107</b>	<b>108</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>121</b>
<b><u>Trespass</u></b>								
Criminal Trespass to Property/Residence	17	18	21	19	25	23	37	24
Criminal Trespass to State Supported Land	0	0	2	0	1	2	0	1
Criminal Trespass to MV	12	17	4	9	10	1	6	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>26</b>
<b><u>Arson</u></b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>
<b><u>Deadly Weapons</u></b>								
Unlawful Use of Weapon	13	11	17	7	15	9	7	6
Unlawful Use or Possession of Weapon by								
Felon	1	3	4	1	2	2	2	0
No Foid Card	3	3	1	0	3	1	1	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>7</b>
<b><u>Truancy</u></b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>5</b>
<b><u>Hate Crimes</u></b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b><u>Drug Offenses</u></b>								
Possession Cannabis under 10 gm	291	179	258	270	314	0	0	0
Possession Cannabis 10 gm & over	2	3	10	17	25	0	0	0
* Possession Cannabis 30 gm & under	0	0	0	0	0	276	280	230
* Possession Cannabis over 30 gm	0	0	0	0	0	6	2	2
Delivery Cannabis 30 gm & under	0	1	4	1	2	10	13	17
Delivery Cannabis over 30 gm	0	1	2	2	1	2	4	4
Cannabis Plant	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0
Possession of Methamphetamine	3	0	0	1	1	0	0	0
Manufacture & Delivery Cont'l Substance	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	4
Possession Controlled Substance	81	75	96	84	93	75	88	79
Delivery or Possession w/Intent to Deliver	0	1	2	2	4	5	2	5
Sale or Possession Hypo Syringes/Needles	2	10	14	10	8	7	13	8
Possession Drug Equipment	44	43	144	183	236	196	225	213
<b>Total</b>	<b>423</b>	<b>313</b>	<b>530</b>	<b>570</b>	<b>686</b>	<b>578</b>	<b>628</b>	<b>562</b>
* Pre-Cannabis Act Update								

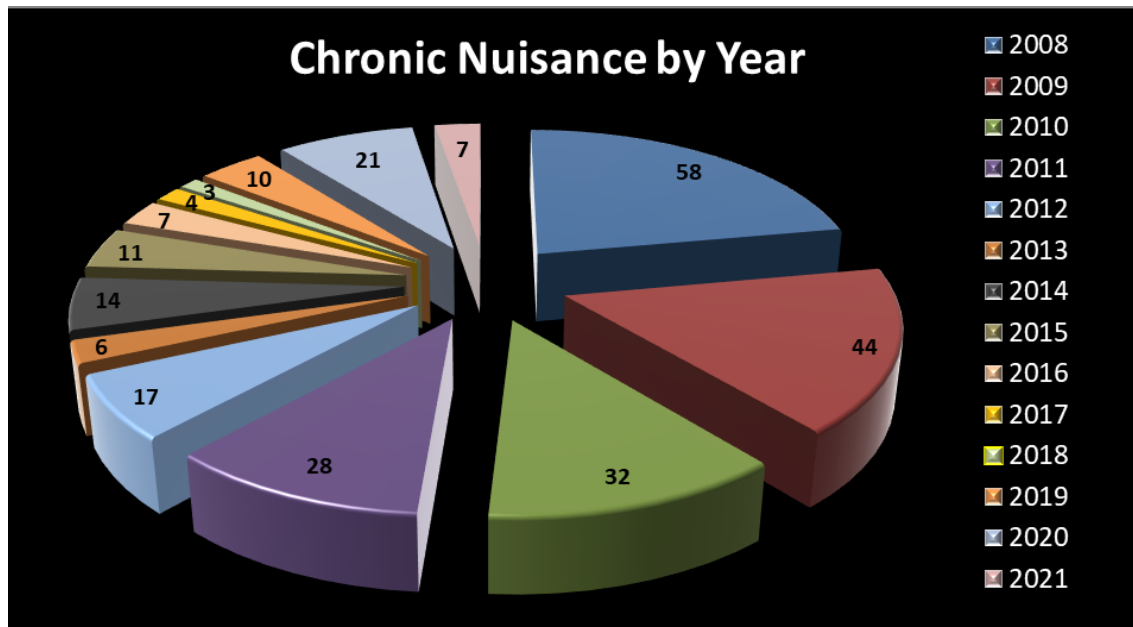


### **Chronic Nuisance Program**

Chronic Nuisance Ordinance—The Police Department administered 7 Chronic Nuisance cases in 2021. A total of 262 cases have been successfully resolved since the inception of the program in 2008. Since that time, only 26 chronic nuisance cases re-offended within 180 days, and only 5 went to a third violation. This program continues to be successful in improving quality of life issues for residents and businesses. The chart below shows the success of the program.

The Police Department continues to work with the Building Department to enforce quality of life concerns such as:

- After hours construction
- Excessive mud/debris left on streets due to construction traffic
- Construction vehicle parking



**A total of 262 Chronic Nuisance cases have been handled since 2008.**



## 2021 DEPARTMENT RECOGNITION

In 2021, a total of 72 departmental awards were presented including 1 Life-Saving Award, 5 Official Commendations, 8 Letters of Recognition, and 11 Unit Citations honoring a total of 59 individual officers for excellence in police work.

Three Elmhurst Police supervisors completed the Northwestern University Police Staff & Command class this year, Sergeant Guy Schweik in January, and Sergeants Brendan Bruckner and Anthony Cuzzone in May. This intensive 10-week training course offered by the Northwestern Center for Public Safety prepares law enforcement managers for advanced responsibilities by combining academic principles with practical police applications.



In June, Sergeants Matthew Himpelmann and Matthew McCollum graduated from the 3-week Executive Management Program offered by the Northwestern University Center for Public Safety. This is the third of three upper level supervisory training courses in the program totaling 15 weeks of training altogether. The EMP program was hosted by the Elmhurst Police Department and was attended by police supervisors from agencies throughout the U.S.

On December 16<sup>th</sup>, Deputy Chief Michael McLean proudly graduated from the prestigious FBI National Academy for law enforcement executives in Quantico, VA. Deputy Chief McLean rose to the rigorous challenges, both academic and physical, presented by the 11-week program and received his yellow brick commemorating his achievement in the "Yellow Brick Road" that participants run at the end of the program.







## 2021 Service Anniversaries

### 35 Years



Ofc Kazarian



SO Miklas



Det Lafin

### 20 Years



Cmdr Kolpak



Ofc Timmons



SO Fiorini

### 15 Years



Sgt McCollum



Ofc Scislowicz

### 10 Years



Ofc McNeeley

### 5 Years

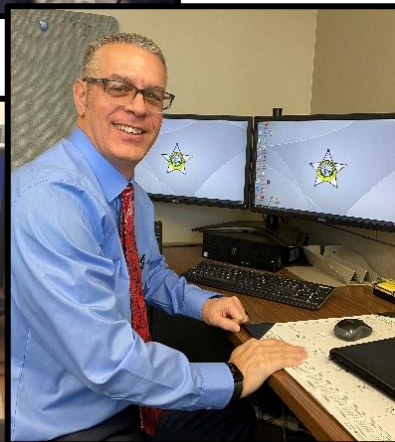
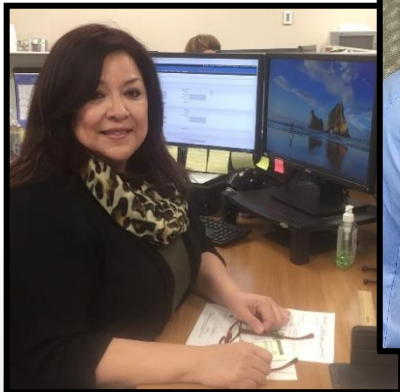


Ofc Wierzgac



## New Employees

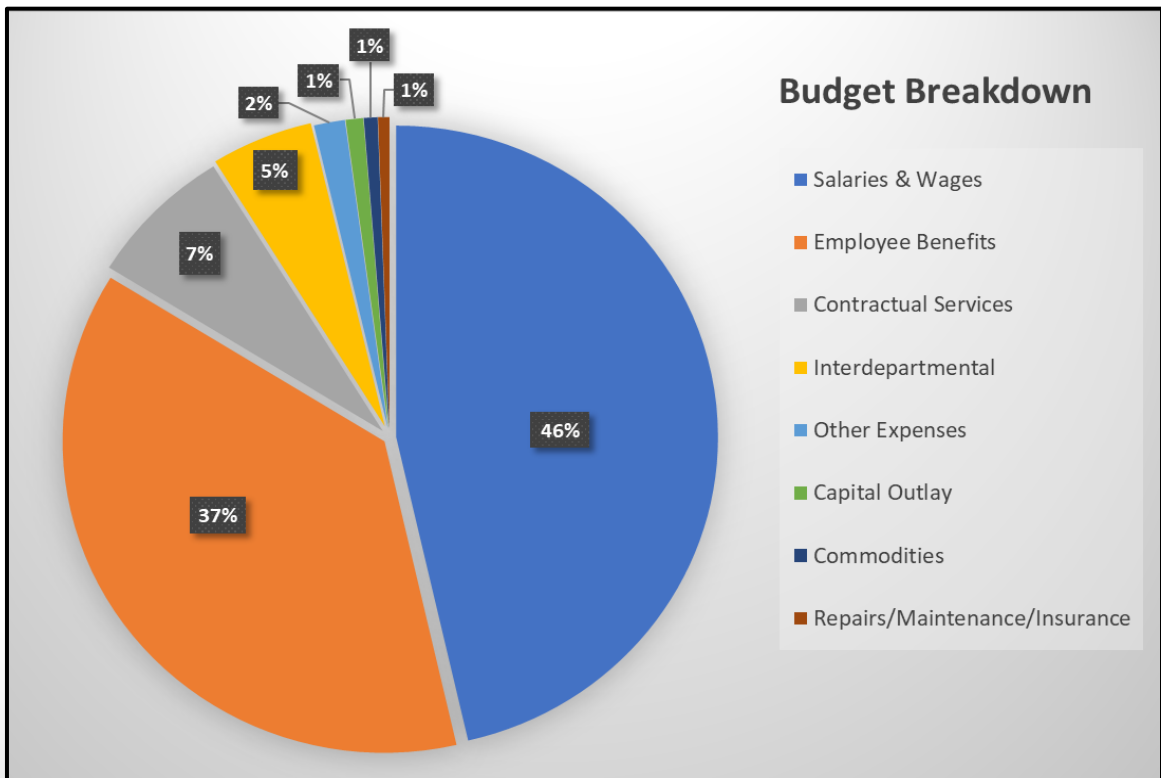
2021 saw nine (9) new full-time officers sworn in—Rachel Mayer, Artur Kamieniarz, Jason Giesel, Ilya Krutoyarskiy, Jacob Wiegeler, James Pavlik, Richard Nieves, Heather Schulze, and former Elmhurst Community Service Officer Anthony Aponte. In addition, we were joined in civilian positions by Kimberly Perez in Records, Nick Olsen as a part-time background investigator, and Mike Zuber as our newest part-time police officer.





# 2021 Budget Analysis

BUDGET CATEGORY	BUDGET AMOUNT
Salaries & Wages	\$9,840,200
Employee Benefits	\$7,929,790
Contractual Services	\$1,562,600
Interdepartmental	\$1,087,900
Other Expenses	\$329,350
Capital Outlay	\$187,000
Commodities	\$145,500
Repairs / Maintenance / Insurance	\$121,700
<b>TOTAL BUDGET:</b>	<b>\$21,204,040</b>







## 2021— Month by Month

### January

The first week of January, socially-distanced station tours were kicked off with a squad car tour and talk about internet safety given to Elmhurst Scout Pack #78 on a very chilly January afternoon!



On January 4<sup>th</sup>, the police department bid farewell to veteran officer Ed Coughlin at his final roll call. Ofc. Coughlin's almost 31-year career at Elmhurst included time as a patrol officer, a detective, a DARE officer, and a member of the Emergency Response and former COPP teams.

On January 18<sup>th</sup>, Elmhurst Police were interviewed by Channel 5 News following an attempted car jacking. The Chicagoland area saw significant increases in car jacking incidents over the past year, and the Elmhurst Police utilized the time on-camera to provide safety tips and remind community members to lock their doors, keep key fobs with them, and always be aware of surroundings.



The Elmhurst Police Department received certification in January from the Illinois Association of Chiefs of Police that our agency meets the federal Use of Force requirements set by the U.S. Department of Justice. Pursuant to an

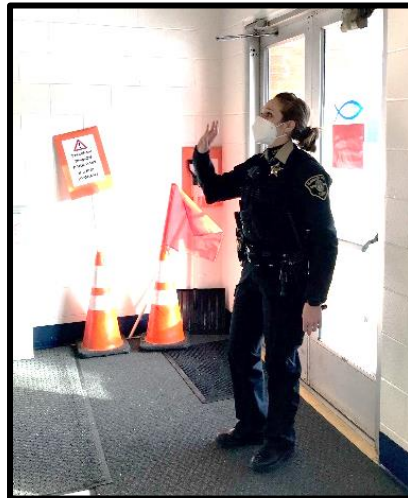
Executive Order on Safe Policing for Safe Communities, the Department of Justice offered discretionary grant funding available only to state, local and college law enforcement agencies that obtained credentials certifying that they met the required standards on use of force. This 3-year certification will run through January of 2024.





## February

The first week in February, Officer Bruketta made a visit to Mrs. Prine’s Kindergarten class at Immanuel Lutheran School for their lesson on superheroes in real life!



Mid-February brought snow storms throughout the Chicago area that kept patrol officers busy assisting with an increased number of motor vehicle crashes and disabled motorists due to the poor weather conditions.

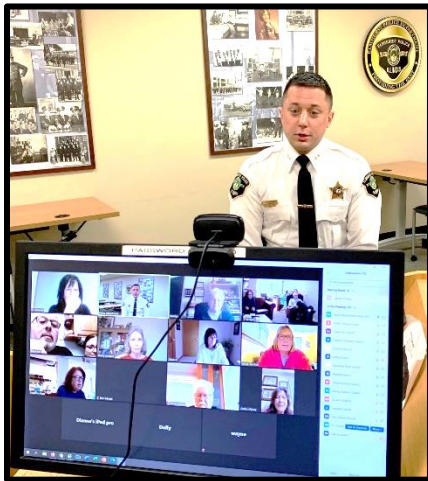
On February 24<sup>th</sup>, officers stopped in at Crestview Park for a Pop-up Party hosted by the Elmhurst Park District. The party was planned for kids of all ages to get outside and enjoy the snow before it melted—there were old fashioned games, snowman building, and even some snowballs thrown on a beautiful, sunny afternoon!





## March

On March 7<sup>th</sup>, Officer Lazic, who emigrated to the U.S. from Serbia in 2011, was interviewed by Serbian News USA for a segment they were doing on Serbian immigrants who have been successful in America. Ofc. Lazic, who joined the Elmhurst Police in March of 2019, represented the police department well as she shared her story of education, academy training, and police service in Elmhurst.



On March 18<sup>th</sup>, Deputy Chiefs McLean and Kaczorowski hosted a Citizen's Police Academy Alumni Association meeting on Zoom to discuss current crime trends, the City Automated License Plate Reader (ALPR) program, and the Lock It or Lose It crime prevention program.

On March 25<sup>th</sup>, the Elmhurst School District 205 Bilingual Liaison joined Officer Velez in recording a crime prevention video in Spanish to serve the Latinx community. The presentation focused on educating residents on common fraud scams and aligned with our inclusive community policing efforts.



Members of the Police Department assisted with two COVID-19 vaccine distribution events at the Ray Graham Association in March. Over 900 people from our community in the over-65 age group received their first and second doses of the vaccine at the site on March 5<sup>th</sup> and March 26<sup>th</sup>, respectively.





On Saturday, March 27<sup>th</sup>, at 11 a.m., officers provided crowd control and traffic safety services during a planned peaceful protest on the 100 block of Addison Ave. An incident command structure was established, and all officers were briefed with event instructions. Approximately 60 demonstrators and 10 counter-demonstrators assembled on the west side of Addison Ave. Officers formed a safety corridor between the opposing groups as they exercised their constitutional rights of assembly and free speech. After approximately an hour, the event concluded and the groups departed peacefully. No arrests were made.



## April

On Wednesday, April 7<sup>th</sup>, officers met with a Daisy Scout group at Washington Park for a discussion about respecting authority. Topics included identifying and speaking to a police officer, railroad safety, and general safety tips.



On April 21<sup>st</sup>, Officer Kefaloukos presented a socially-distanced, voluntary after-school program on making good life decisions to 42 fifth-graders at Lincoln School. The program was requested by the school PTA group and administrators.





On Saturday, April 24<sup>th</sup>, the Police Department hosted the first Drug Take-Back Day of 2021, allowing community members to drop off unneeded prescription drugs for safe disposal. A total of 193 lbs. of unwanted medication was collected, keeping it out of our water supply and out of the hands of those who might be tempted to misuse leftover medications in the medicine cabinet.



## May

On Wednesday evening, May 19<sup>th</sup>, Officer Webb met with members of the Elmhurst Bicycle Club at the police station just prior to their Ride of Silence, a memorial procession to honor cyclists killed or injured while riding. The organization honors cyclists lost worldwide on the third Wednesday in May with participation last year in 458 locations in 47 U.S. states and 17 countries on 6 continents.



Memorial Day was observed in Elmhurst with a parade convoy through the streets to honor those who paid the ultimate price in service to our country. The convoy culminated in a ceremony at Wilder Park served by a combined Police and Fire Department Honor Guard.





## June

The 2021 Neighborhood Roll Call program kicked off on Tuesday, June 1<sup>st</sup>, with a total of 71 residents turning out in the first week to enjoy beautiful summer weather, visit with neighbors, and meet their Elmhurst patrol officers. Carol Stream Police also sent representatives to observe Thursday's gathering with a goal of starting their own Neighborhood Roll Call program!



On Sunday, June 6<sup>th</sup>, the Elmhurst Police sponsored the "Cops-n-Bobbers" kids fishing derby at Eldridge Park in cooperation with Elmhurst Park District. Fishing was open to all, but only kids under 14 were eligible for prizes. Police volunteers were on hand to assist the 65 children who registered for the derby.







Starting in June and continuing through the summer months, Elmhurst officers gave multiple presentations at the Elmhurst Park District Safety Town program. Topics included bicycle and traffic safety in addition to teaching kids how to recognize a police officer in the community.



## July

On Friday, July 2<sup>nd</sup>, officers conducted a station tour for kids in the Elmhurst YMCA summer camp. This type of personal interaction between officers and children helps kids to understand that police officers are members of the community who can be trusted to help them when needed.



Another part of the Police Department's commitment to community engagement has officers stopping to meet and talk to residents in parks, the City Centre, or while on patrol in residential neighborhoods; this might include enjoying a glass of cold lemonade on a 90+ degree summer day from some young entrepreneurs!



## August

On Saturday, August 14<sup>th</sup>, the Elmhurst Police held the written test at York High School to qualify individuals who are interested in Law Enforcement careers. The Elmhurst K-9 Unit was in attendance to answer questions from potential officer candidates.



On Sunday, August 15<sup>th</sup>, officers volunteered to participate in the Law Enforcement Torch Run, an annual fundraiser for Special Olympics, Illinois. The officers and several family members ran the torch from York & Vallette up to City Hall.







"Coffee for Champions" (the former "Cop on Top") resumed this year on Friday, August 20<sup>th</sup>, celebrating the 18<sup>th</sup> year of this statewide event. In Elmhurst, this fundraiser was held at the Dunkin' Donuts location on North York from 5am-12pm. The event was staffed by volunteers from both the Police Department and our Citizen's Police Academy Alumni Assoc. Our volunteers raised a total of \$7,019.62 in donations for Special Olympics Illinois!

Officers braved the August heat at the end of the month to assist at events around town—the Elmhurst Park District Park-a-Palooza at Berens Park and the Elmhurst Farmers' Market.



In late August, the Police Department sent a donation of 35 older ballistic safety vests to the Vests 4 Life organization, which collects discarded body armor for smaller, often rural, police departments in the U.S. that are not able to supply this potentially life-saving equipment for their officers.







## September

On Thursday, September 2<sup>nd</sup>, officers helped out on the set of a Chicago PD episode that filmed at the Elmhurst quarry. Actor Jason Beghe, who plays Sgt. Hank Voight in the show, took a moment for a photo op with the Elmhurst officers on site.



On Saturday, September 11<sup>th</sup>, members of the Elmhurst Police Honor Guard partnered with the Elmhurst Fire Honor Guard for the 9-1-1 Ceremony at Elmhurst Fire Station 2. Sergeant Matthew Himpelmann, a U.S. Army veteran, spoke to those assembled.





On Friday, September 24<sup>th</sup>, Officer Kamieniarz graduated from the Suburban Law Enforcement Academy. He then began his field training program with the Elmhurst Field Training Officers to move toward solo patrol duties.



## October

A combined Elmhurst Police/Fire Honor Guard presented the colors at the start of the Chicago Bears vs. Detroit Lions game on Sunday, October 3rd. The Bears prevailed, making it a great day for Bears fans!



In the early morning hours of Monday, October 11<sup>th</sup>, Night Shift officers responded for a Theft in Progress at a business on North York. Officers observed a vehicle leaving the scene and, after making a traffic stop, learned the offenders had stolen tires from the business vehicles. Both offenders were charged with felony theft of motor vehicle parts.





The annual Boo-ti-ful Saturday event was held in the City Centre on Saturday, October 23<sup>rd</sup>, and Elmhurst officers were on hand to keep the festivities in order and take advantage of community engagement opportunities. The many youngsters in attendance were enjoying the chance to start trick-or-treating a week early at City Centre businesses!

On Halloween Sunday the following weekend, officers were busy patrolling neighborhoods to keep would-be tricksters at bay and to pass out treats to the kids.



## November

On November 1<sup>st</sup>, Detective Commander Len Kolpak retired after 20 years with the Elmhurst Police Department. Cmdr Kolpak is a U.S. Army veteran and served as a Field Training Officer, a Hostage Negotiator, a Traffic Officer, a School Resource Officer, an Honor Guard member, and a CPA Coordinator during his tenure with Elmhurst.

In early November, the Elmhurst Police conducted scenario-based training for School District 205 staff and administration using a decision-making simulator that is normally used for officer training. The school administrators role-played through various school-related scenarios using verbal de-escalation techniques. At the conclusion of the session, participating District 205 personnel debriefed with the Elmhurst Police on-staff counselor, Stephen Buhr, who provided additional information and tips on conflict mediation.



On a Saturday morning in mid-November, Elmhurst officers responded to a townhome community for the report of a female subject being held against her will by a possibly armed offender, who had kidnapped her in Chicago. Elmhurst Police, in cooperation with ILEAS and NIPAS, were able to successfully bring about the safe rescue of the victim and later negotiate with the offender to turn himself in. The offender was charged with Kidnapping, Aggravated Domestic Battery, Unlawful Restraint, (2) counts of misdemeanor Domestic Battery, Interfering with a 911 call, and Criminal Trespass to a Vehicle.



After a 1 ½ year hiatus due to COVID-19 concerns, the 28<sup>th</sup> session of the Elmhurst Citizen's Police Academy closed with a "Graduation" event at City Hall on Wednesday, November 17<sup>th</sup>.







On Thanksgiving morning, members of the police department were busy assisting with the annual Dan Gibbons Turkey Trot, which raises money for local food pantries. Officers were stationed along to race route to help manage the crowd of nearly 8,000 participants while volunteers from the department, including friends, family members, and members of the Citizen's Police Academy Alumni Association, staffed the EPBAA "Watering Hole" handing out water to runners as they passed by.



## December

On the evening of Thursday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>, the Police Department helped kick off the holiday season at the Wilder Park Tree Lighting. Officers in a brightly lit squad car led the procession that brought Santa and Mrs. Claus to the event!





On Saturday, December 11<sup>th</sup>, Elmhurst officers were standing in as Santa's elves all over town! Officer Kazarian was stationed on board the Holly Trolley reading holiday stories to children while other officers were helping out at the holiday event hosted by the Spring Road Business Association. Another group worked behind the scenes this year on Operation Secret Santa, which replaced our annual Shop with a Cop event for families in need. After individual officers stepped up to sponsor a child and provide gifts, the gifts were wrapped and hand-delivered by Officers Velez and Lazic, bringing holiday smiles to everyone involved.







## We Get Mail!

**Ofc Westering**—Dear Ofc Westering, Thank you so very much for coming to my assistance on Tuesday. I cannot tell you how grateful I am for your help! You were my hero that day. Thank you to all of the EPD for being our heroes each and every day in protecting our city. I am so grateful.

**Ofcs Ostrega and Schmidt**—I would like to extend my appreciation for your department's assistance in conducting a welfare check on family members who reside in your city. My aunt and uncle are elderly and homebound, and I was unable to contact them by phone. Ofcs Ostrega and Schmidt were dispatched to the home and made contact with my relatives. My aunt later advised me that the officers were very caring, professional and courteous throughout the encounter. In today's world, law enforcement officers are too often seen in a negative light. It is unfortunate that the news media focuses on the negative rather than the great things officers do every day. No one calls the police department to share good news; it is only when someone is in crisis that the police are summoned. My thanks and appreciation for a job well done!

**Cmdr Rivkin, Ofcs Southworth, Litton and Schmidt**—A complimentary phone call regarding their care and compassion in handling a death investigation at Liberty Village. Our officers were commended for their kindness, caring, and compassion while tending to the investigation and the distressed family, who were extremely grateful to them.

**Ofc Kuper**—Thank you for patrolling my block and stopping to make sure my house and garage doors were secured. I truly appreciate that you were thorough and called to make sure we were okay. Your service is very much appreciated, and I wanted you to know! Keep keeping Elmhurst safe.

**Ofc Kazarian**—"Thank you for the time you spent with me concerning the compromise of my credit card this week. I appreciated your expertise in the matter, and I went home more confident that it wasn't my fault and that nothing more would happen. Elmhurst is blessed to have a capable Police Department committed to serving us. I pray you all stay safe and well."

**Sgt Bruckner**—Compliments to Sgt Bruckner for help in reporting a road hazard. This officer was very professional and courteous, and he even followed me back to the area where I observed the hazard, near North Ave. & I-290. Thank you!







**Det Lafin**—Dear Chief Ruth, It is my honor to congratulate you on Det. Ken Lafin's wonderful discussion about fraud and scams with seniors at Lexington Square Senior Living Community. He was very engaging and informative, and he represented your department professionally and expertly. Thank you for the fine service you and your officers provide to keep Elmhurst safe.

**Ofcs Litton, Lazic, and Jaffe**—"The other night I was having a rough time and these officers helped me in a big way. I would appreciate it if you could pass along a thank you to them. I owe them that. They are great officers and somebody should know that. Thanks and be safe."

**Commander Gandy**—I had the honor of connecting with three Elmhurst Police officers in January. I ventured out in a winter weather advisory to take my son back to Elmhurst University as classes were resuming the next day. After dropping him at his apartment, I circled back to return home when I felt my car start to slide. Another vehicle was crossing my path, and I veered right to avoid it. I slid, hit a snowbank, and landed next to a pole with my airbag deployed. Shakily, I exited the vehicle. A passerby called 911 while I was on hold with my insurance company. Within minutes, **Officers Djukic, Elizalde, and Service Officer Raga** arrived and assessed the situation and the safety of those present. I was seated in a vehicle to stay warm while a tow truck was called. I was then taken to my son's apartment. I was soothed and calmed and not made to feel like an idiot for the accident—they acknowledged that the roads were treacherous. I have been in other accidents where assistance was perfunctory, but here I was helped. I was given the address where my car was towed, the business card of the driver, the report number, and contact information for the reporting officer, most of which I was too rattled to think about at the time. SO Raga called in for permission to drive me home to Lombard when I mentioned calling an Uber. As a newer resident with limited family in the area, I was touched by her generous offer. When I called today to speak to the Watch Commander, I was immediately put through and left you a voice mail, not expecting a return call. But, you took time to return my call and listen to me. You knew of my case and recalled cars being dispatched to help. You made this statement, saying it was how you trained them: **"Treat the person in the accident like you'd treat your mother."** Your community represented itself well that day, and you trained them well. Thank you.



#### **To the Elmhurst Police:**

Thank you for all you do to keep us safe. We believe in you and appreciate you!"

We wanted to show our appreciation for your dedication and hard work in keeping our community safe. Thanks to all!



**Ofcs Bishop & Velez, SO Fiorini**—I am writing to provide an unsolicited note of commendation to Officers Bishop, Velez, and Service Officer Fiorini for their thoughtful service toward my 10-year-old daughter, who has a heightened interest in calling 911. We visited the police station, and these officers graciously and seriously answered her questions and explained the implications of calling 911 unnecessarily. I am grateful for their time and patience!

**Ofc Jarrette & SO Aponte**—Dear Chief Ruth, I would like you to know what a terrific police officer you have. Officer Jarrette responded to a frantic call by my wife to 911; we had a squirrel in the basement, fighting to get out! Ofc Jarrette arrived promptly and took control of the situation with assistance from Service Officer Aponte. I was born in Elmhurst 83 years ago and have known many fine EPD officers, but these were two of the best! You can be proud of these two for sure.

**Elmhurst Police Officers:** "Thank you for all you do every day. Stay safe & healthy!"

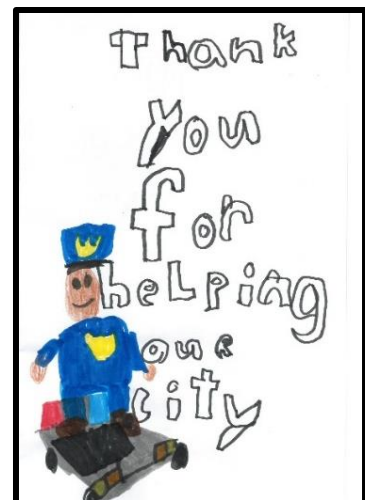
"My brother lives in your town and had a terrible altercation with two men over the weekend in a car-jacking. As terrible as it was, it could have been a lot worse. He mentioned to me how quick the response was after 911 was called. I am grateful for that. Thank you again, and thank you all in Law Enforcement for all that you do!"

"I wanted to let you know that the Police of Elmhurst did a magnificent job Saturday during the peaceful protest. Our team at Fruitful Yield, along with our customers, felt safe and secure. Thank you from the Fruitful Yield team."

"Last week I called the Elmhurst Police about someone who was clearly very drunk and screaming at the top of their lungs at 2am on Spring Road across from my apartment. Literally 6 minutes later, the police were there. I am incredibly impressed with the response time. Police officers often get a bad rap, which I believe is based upon a very small number of officers. I have always had positive experiences with the Elmhurst Police. Once again, thank you!"

"Elmhurst PD, Thank you fall the help and support you gave me. It really helped to know so many people admired my husband and thought of him as a wonderful friend. I will always remember your kindness."

On a pizza delivery to the officers: "Thank you very much for your service. I am glad I live in Elmhurst because the municipal service is excellent and you care about the people."





## Letters from other Agencies/Organizations

**Det Kucera**—For DuPage Metropolitan Emergency Response and investigations Team (MERIT) assistance: *In the early morning hours of May 16, the Wood Dale Police responded to an ambulance call that resulted in a deceased victim. Our officers determined there were indications of foul play and, based upon the initial investigation, it became apparent the case was going to be complex and would require additional resources. The MERIT Major Crimes & Forensic units were activated and provided valuable support to our investigation, which led to a First-Degree Murder charge against the offender. Please extend my personal thanks to Det. Kucera for his invaluable assistance in this investigation. The teamwork and cooperation shared between DuPage County agencies is second to none.*

Greg Vesta, Wood Dale Police Chief

**Ofc Westering**—*I would like to extend my sincere appreciation to Officer Westering for assistance to our agency. He conducted a traffic stop and became aware that the driver was a person of interest for our agency in an Identity Theft investigation. While there was no active warrant, Ofc. Westering was able to obtain helpful information about the suspect including a current address. He subsequently contacted our agency and shared the new information, allowing Winnetka Detectives to successfully locate and take the suspect into custody the next day on charges of Aggravated Identity Theft.*

Marc Hornstein, Winnetka Police Chief

**Sgt Cuzzone**—For his crisis negotiation assistance with barricaded subject: *Bartlett officers responded to a despondent subject suffering from a mental health episode who was barricaded in his residence. Sgt. Cuzzone responded as part of the MERIT Crisis Negotiation Team and did an excellent job deescalating the subject. The team provided assistance for several hours, attempting to persuade the individual to come out of the home. On behalf of the Village of Bartlett and the Bartlett Police Department, thank you for allowing Sgt. Cuzzone to assist with this call for service. Please extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to him for the professionalism, dedication, and cooperation he provided throughout the event.*

Patrick Ullrich, Bartlett Police Chief

**Ofc Southworth**—For assistance on a burglary in progress: *On behalf of the Downers Grove Police Department, I would like to thank Officer Southworth for assistance to our agency with a burglary in an industrial park at 3:20 a.m. Upon arrival, our officers determined this was a burglary in progress. After locating and detaining one suspect, our officers were faced with the daunting challenge of searching and securing the 100,000-plus sq. ft. facility. Your department provided invaluable assistance as a result of our ILEAS mutual aid request to provide perimeter control and building search support. We would not have been able to safely clear such a large scene without the assistance and teamwork of our law enforcement partners. Please express our gratitude to Officer Southworth.*

Shanon Gillette, Downers Grove Police Chief





**Det. Kucera and Lafin**—*I want to recognize and praise Detectives Kucera and Lafin for their professionalism and expertise in the performance of their duties. They assisted in a MERIT follow-up investigation of a shooting incident at Indian Lakes Hotel where six people were shot, and one died from his wounds. The hard work and dedication exhibited by these officers was evident throughout the investigation. We are very grateful for their valuable assistance.*

Frank Giammarese, Bloomingdale Director of Public Safety

**Ofc Kefaloukos**—*After a 3 vehicle crash with injuries, we requested a Drug Recognition Expert (DRE) to determine if one of the drivers was under the influence of drugs. Officer Kefaloukos responded to our station and spent a considerable amount of time thoroughly evaluating the driver, assisting booking officers, and writing a detailed DRE report. Ofc Kefaloukos' hard work and willingness to share his expertise was crucial to this crash investigation.*

James Kruger, Jr, Oak Brook Police Chief

**Ofcs Pacewic, Litton and Marino**—*I would like to extend my sincere appreciation to your officers who recently provided assistance at a pro-Palestinian rally at the Village of Addison campus. We are thankful for your officers and appreciate the support they provided. Please know that we stand ready to return the courtesy.*

Sean Gilhooley, Addison Deputy Police Chief

**Ofcs Scislowicz and Marino**—*For assistance through NIPAS on a mutual aid request for the Presidential visit to McHenry County College: We are thankful for your officers' assistance, professionalism and teamwork. Please extend our gratitude to them for their assistance.*

James Black, Crystal Lake Police Chief

**Dear Chief Ruth:** *On behalf of the Niles Police Department, I would like to express my most heartfelt thanks and appreciation to your agency for being there for us during an exceptionally difficult time. The recent death of our officers left us feeling immobilized with grief. In our profession this is something that happens, and we know that we can count on our brothers and sisters in law enforcement. Your support and thoughtfulness through these challenging times gave us the much-needed strength to forge ahead and continue to proudly serve and protect the Niles community. Please convey our thanks to your personnel for their assistance and professionalism during a very difficult and stressful time for our department.*

Luis C. Tigera, Niles Police Chief



*Additional thanks to Department members from outside agencies:*

- **Dets Torza, Kucera and Lafin** for their assistance through the DuPage County Metropolitan Emergency Response and Investigations Team (M.E.R.I.T.) to the Hanover Park Police with a homicide investigation.
- **Ofcs Cappitelli, Beyer and K-9 Ozy** for their assistance in setting up a perimeter after a liquor store robbery in Glen Ellyn.
- **Ofc Scislowicz** for his assistance as a NIPAS Emergency Service Team member with crisis incidents in Arlington Heights, Berwyn, Crystal Lake, Hanover Park, Hoffman Estates, Fox Lake, Schaumburg, Morton Grove, and Winnetka.
- **Ofc Marino** for his assistance as a NIPAS Mobile Field Force member with activations in Park Ridge and Vernon Hills.
- **Ofcs Gryczewski, Hoyer and Kefaloukos** for exceptional DUI Enforcement from the Alliance Against Intoxicated Motorists.
- **Ofcs Cappitelli, Wierzgac, Lazic, Kukla, Pacewic, and Gryczewski** for assistance with protests in Villa Park and Northlake.







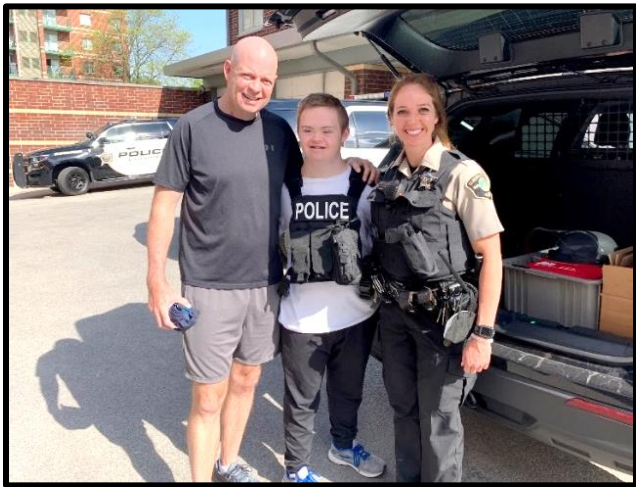
Looking back . . .













Ozy says, "Lock It Or Lose It!"