



# Moorhead Police Department



**2022 Annual Report**

# MISSION STATEMENT

*“Our mission is to maintain peace and order through the provision of police services that are of the highest quality and responsive to the needs of the community. We will contribute to the safety and security of the community by apprehending those who commit criminal acts, by developing partnerships to prevent, reduce or eliminate neighborhood problems, and by providing police services that are fair, unbiased, judicious, and respectful of the dignity of all individuals.”*

**Shannon Monroe**  
*Chief of Police*



# VISION STATEMENT

*We*, the members of the Moorhead Police Department, are committed to working together in a problem-solving partnership *with the community* to prevent crime and improve the quality of life for all.

# VALUE STATEMENTS

*Safety* - The protection of human life is our biggest priority.

*Cooperation* - We are committed to working cooperatively with the community and each other by encouraging open communication and active participation to achieve our mutual goals.

*Fairness* - We strive to resolve conflict through impartial enforcement of law. Everyone shall be treated equitably and compassionately.

*Crime Prevention* - We will work in a partnership with the community through positive role-modeling and education.

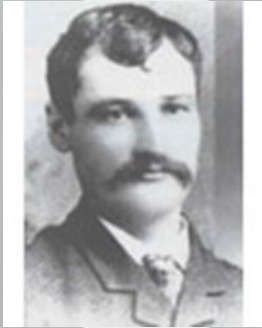
*Diversity* - We appreciate one another's differences and recognize that our unique skills, knowledge, abilities and backgrounds bring strength and caring to our community.

*Professionalism* - Our success depends on the trust and confidence of the community. We shall always engage in respectful behavior that reflects the honesty and integrity of police professionals.



# In Remembrance:

The department was established in 1881. Three of our police officers lost their lives in service to this community. In our effort to never forget their sacrifice, this page is dedicated to them. We also have named our training rooms in our new Law Enforcement Center after them as a reminder to all who enter so we never forget that they gave up all their tomorrows for our todays. We are grateful.



**1888 – Officer Peter Poull, Jr.**

Shot and killed by a murder suspect while assisting two other officers taken hostage at gunpoint at 8 Street and Center Avenue, where Wells Fargo now stands. The suspect was convicted and executed on September 20, 1889.



**1899 – Officer Alexander "Sandy" McClean**

Struck by falling debris while clearing people away from a house fire in what is now Viking Ship Park north of the Hjemkomst Center.



**1930 – Officer Roy Larson**

Shot and killed by Ray Liggett, a bank robber who fled from Fargo Police. Larson cornered the suspect near the coal shed of the Interior Lumber Company after several shoot outs with other officers. The suspect was arrested and sentenced to life.

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## Message from the Chief of Police

The Moorhead Police Department remains committed to Community Oriented Policing and working with community members and partners to solve neighborhood livability issues. In 2022, the area along 30 Avenue South from 17 Street to 20 Street South, also known as the Griffin Court area, had experienced a significant increase in crime, including violent crime. The City of Moorhead responded to this problem, spearheaded by the Police Department, an effort in this area to impact improvement in safety.



Working together with Neighborhood Services and the Fire Department, we held a meeting with landlords, property managers, and owners of apartment complexes in this neighborhood. It was both a positive and engaging exchange while we formed a team to identify issues and priorities. The management of these buildings began with significant clean-up efforts of their properties to remove graffiti and other blight. City inspectors had not been able to complete inspections during the COVID-19 pandemic and were trying to catch-up and made Griffin Court a priority.

We held a greater neighborhood meeting to listen to concerns of the surrounding neighborhoods where landlords/owners again engaged. A large portion of the buildings were purchased by new owners that we had partnered with on a previous property and saw vast improvements. Over the summer, we partnered with the Moorhead Police Athletics and Activities League (PAL), Boys and Girls Club, and Moorhead Parks and Recreation to host fun and games with pizza and ice cream in Queens Park, which is in the Griffin Court area. Several nights of Hot Spot Policing with partners from the Clay County Sheriff's Office, Minnesota State Patrol, and the Metro Street Crimes Unit focused on the complaints we had received from residents in the area.

As with any community policing approach, it is common to see call numbers increase at first due to the focus and attention of the residents acting and calling in neighborhood complaints for us to address. I am happy to report a significant drop in serious crime in this neighborhood. Our work is not done, and our partnerships remain strong. We will host another greater neighborhood meeting to share our progress thus far in early 2023, and we continue to meet and work with landlords, property managers, and owners to work together on continued community safety while looking to the next project.

I am thankful for our city council support and to the members of the City of Moorhead Police Department for their commitment to keep Moorhead safe so we can continue to grow as a city and all our residents can live free from fear of crime.

## Honor Guard Unit

The Moorhead Police Honor Guard Unit is comprised of ten officers that show a desire to display respect to this profession and represent this department in public appearances. The Honor Guard Unit is scheduled to train twice throughout the year but one was cancelled due to member availability. All members without military drill and ceremony experience attend a week-long training at Camp Ripley presented by LEMA, the Minnesota Law Enforcement Memorial Association.

Our unit participated in several events in 2022. We attended the Law Enforcement Memorial Day program with other metro agencies in Fargo. Several members posted colors for a re-dedication of the gravestone for fallen Moorhead Officer Peter Poull, Jr., in May. All available members participated in retired Sheriff Bergquist's funeral in August. Members worked in the capacity of Color Guard (Flag Detail) along with the Clay County Sheriff's Office, and the Minnesota State Patrol. Sergeant Nick Leinen assumed the role of Honor Guard Commander for the event. Additional events included presenting colors at the Greater Moorhead Days parade and the Moorhead homecoming parade and football game.

Member Hermes stepped down from the team this year. We appreciate her work and dedication to the team. We posted for our three openings in November; M. Hanson, Collins, and Larson were selected to join the team. They will be fitted and supplied with uniforms in 2023.







## Moorhead Police Athletics and Activities League

2022 was the fifth year of the Moorhead Police Athletics and Activities League (PAL). Formed in 2017, the Moorhead PAL chapter has a continuing goal to reduce juvenile crime through establishing positive police contacts with area youth. The focus of the program is at-risk and disadvantaged youth. We run several events throughout the year and also manage the Police Explorer Post. Over 100 officers from the area volunteered over 460 hours to further our mission this year. The following are ways PAL connected with youth in 2022:

- Cops and Kids Games – 47 kids
- Bikes for Kids – 27 kids
- Shop-with-a-Cop sponsored by Target – 40 kids
- Explorer Post – 12 kids
- Giving Tree at Churches United for the Homeless – 31 kids
- Pitch, Hit, Run – 60 kids
- Safe City Nights (formerly Police in the Parks) – 160 kids

In addition, PAL sponsored two baseball teams that were coached by officers that volunteered their time working with youth. In total, 413 youth were served by PAL. Several officers coached other teams in other sports as well. Details on all these events can be found at [www.moorheadpal.org](http://www.moorheadpal.org) and on our Facebook page. Moorhead PAL is a registered 501c3 and is governed by a board of directors that includes members of Moorhead education institutions, Moorhead Parks and Recreation, and citizens that help identify needs in the community.







## Youth and Family Services Unit

*The mission of the Youth and Family Service (YFS) Unit is to serve as youth mentors through constant presence and communication with youth to establish and build rapport, to educate through such courses as Drug Abuse Resistance Education (DARE), the Summer Youth Program and Change Starts with YOUth camp in an effort to impact prevention by offering healthy alternatives, and finally to maintain order and deliver police services in the Moorhead School District.*

### Personnel

The YFS Unit personnel include two School Resource Officers (SROs) Officer Jordan Werk; Officer Andrew Werk; a full-time SRO/DARE Officer, Officer Brandon Heide; Youth Service Coordinator (YSC) Louis Ochoa; Captain Deric Swenson – Supervision; Lieutenant Brad Penas – Supervision; Sergeant Scott Kostohryz – Assistant Supervision and Community Policing Coordinator Leann Wallin – Financial and Program Management. In April of 2022, Officer Andrew Werk transferred from the Patrol Division to the YFS Unit and became the SRO at Moorhead High School.



### History

The Moorhead Police Department began assigning officers to schools in 1999 through the assistance of grants to fund the positions. Prior to 1999, officers responded after an incident with an officer that did not know the involved children or the school officials and could only respond with enforcement action. Since 1999, the SROs have been accepted by the students and have established positive relationships with students. This relationship has made the officers more approachable and has led to tips and reports that have allowed the SROs and schools to intervene in numerous instances and head-off larger problems.

## Programs

**Drug Abuse Resistance Education (DARE):** Founded in Los Angeles in 1983, and started in Moorhead in 1990. It is a police officer led curriculum that facilitates a discussion with children on how to resist peer pressure and live healthy, productive drug and violence free lives through making healthy choices and being bully free. The program has been ranked among the top 3 most cost-effective preventive programs by a study by Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA.) The study found that the cost benefit of \$28 in benefits for every \$1 spent. DARE is taught in the 5<sup>th</sup> grade in Moorhead and this year approximately 550 students graduated from the program.



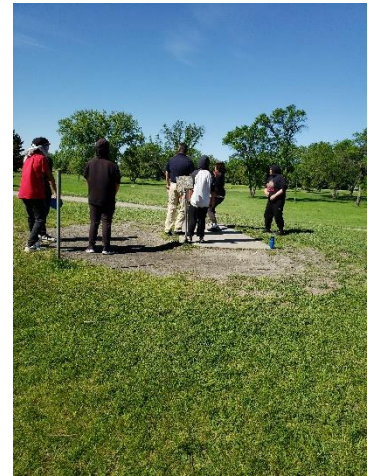
**Moorhead Police Summer Youth Program (SYP):** Funded through a grant from the Department of Public Safety, Office of Justice Programs, SYP is an 8-week summer program for up to 200, 8-12-year-olds offering youth a healthy and educational summer alternative where the curriculum is mixed with fun and interesting activities. This year participants were provided a number of educational topics including mental health and wellness, bus safety, fire safety, and bike safety. Presentations were also given by the Moorhead Police Department K9 teams, Nature of the North, and the Red River Zoo. We also attended five field trips to the Red River Zoo, Marcus Century Theater, Courts Plus, Skate City, and Thunder Road Amusement Park.







**Change Starts with YOUth at-risk summer camp:** This is a program designed for officers to work with a small group of at-risk youth, ages 12-15, which focuses on building positive relationships with law enforcement while learning about positive choices for a successful future. Participants are youth referred by school staff, social services, mental health professionals, probation officers, and law enforcement officers. This summer nine boys spent a total of six days together under the guidance of the SROs and Youth Services Coordinator Louis Ochoa. Participants received education about Native American culture and tobacco use prevention. They went on a tour of the West Central Juvenile Detention Center. The boys also received presentations from the Moorhead Fire Department, Minnesota National Guard, Red River Valley SWAT Bomb Unit, Sanford Ambulance, and Minnesota State Community and Technical College. Something new this year was teaching the boys some basic automotive maintenance skills at the Career Academy. Additionally, they spent time doing fun activities like bowling, basketball, kickball and frisbee golf.





**Not a Number:** This program was facilitated by Juvenile Detective, Katie Schultz, as a pilot program. As a former patrol officer, school resource officer and now investigator working crimes against children, Detective Schultz has connected with youth during many stages of their lives. Some of these have been during positive times and others when the youth is struggling. A need was recognized by many who work with youth to start the conversation at the middle school level of how to make good choices and recognize those who could be trying to exploit youth or take advantage of their vulnerabilities. Not a Number is an interactive curriculum which engages youth and educates about human trafficking and exploitation. Advocates from the Rape and Abuse Crisis Center who are trained to teach Not a Number teamed up with Horizon Middle School East Campus and the Moorhead Police Department to bring this curriculum to students.

On five separate days, six students attending Horizon Middle School East Campus, met with the advocates and completed each module while having lunch. The students were very open and engaged with the curriculum. Some feedback the students gave in the post-program surveys were that they “put me first now” and “learned what I could have done better in my past.” This program was deemed a success by all involved and we look forward to continuing the program and expanding to reach more youth in the future.

### **Assignments**

#### **SRO/DARE Officer Brandon Heide**

Officer Heide served as a School Resource Officer in the elementary and middle schools providing law enforcement services. In addition, he taught nineteen DARE classes in 2022 to approximately 550 students. In the summer, he also assisted with coordinating the Change Starts with YOUth at risk-camp, Summer Youth Program and filled patrol shifts.



#### **SRO Officer Jordan Werk**

Officer Werk is assigned as the School Resource Officer for Horizon Middle School East Campus and Horizon Middle School West Campus. Horizon houses over 2,000 students between the two campuses with grades 5-8. Officer Werk spends time building relationships with students, their families, and school staff. She provides school safety and security and is an ALICE (Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter, Evacuate) certified instructor. She teaches the ALICE and active shooter concepts to school staff members and local businesses. She also coordinated the youth summer programs.



### **SRO Andrew Werk**

Officer Werk is the School Resource Officer at the Moorhead High School. He mentors students with various problems, handles police incidents and patrols on and around the school property. He gets into the classroom as much as he can to provide education on various topics. SRO Werk teaches the Point of Impact class for the Driver's Ed students at the high school and their parents in an attempt to make student drivers and their parents more aware of the responsibilities of being a prepared driver. In the summer he assisted with the Change Starts with YOUTH at-risk camp, Summer Youth Program and filled patrol shifts.



### **Youth Services Coordinator Louis Ochoa**

YSC Ochoa is a non-sworn civilian employee that during the school year works and teaches at the new Moorhead High School Career Academy and Moorhead Alternative Learning Center located at 2800 27<sup>th</sup> Avenue South in Moorhead. He works with youth that have disorderly/behavioral issues, truancy problems and serves as a youth mentor. YSC Ochoa is involved with a program called "Seeking Educational Equity and Diversity" (SEED). SEED is about understanding our diverse population of students and families in our schools. It teaches about the different cultures in our community and how we can work with and understand our community. YSC Ochoa's role is to work with families and students and mentor them by understanding their culture, their background and beliefs. YSC Ochoa is also a part of the Building Emergency Response Team at the new Career Academy. During the summer, he assisted with the Change Starts with YOUTH at-risk camp, the Summer Youth Program, and conducted the juvenile community service program.



## **Partnerships**

Our YFS team works collaboratively with Clay County Social Services, Moorhead Public Schools, Minnesota Department of Corrections, truancy intervention family advocates, Clay County Re-entry Services, Clay County Attorney's Office, Clay County Restorative Justice, Clay County Sheriff's Office, Lakeland Mental Health, and Solutions. In addition to working with these agencies throughout the year, these agencies also provide staff to serve as volunteer mentors for our Summer Youth Program.

Another organization we partner with is the Minnesota Youth Intervention Programs Association (YIPA). MPD is a member of this non-profit association, made up of member organizations, who provide trainings for youth workers and provides advocacy to raise awareness, gain support and secure funding for youth intervention programs. YSC Ochoa served the second year of his three-year term as the President of the YIPA Board of Directors.

**Juvenile Crime Statistics:** Below is a comparison of the last three years involving juvenile offenders:

Offense Type	2020	2021	2022
Alcohol	20	10	13
Arson	1	1	0
Assault	60	102	86
Burglary	4	7	9
Disorderly Conduct	46	61	59
Driving Under the Influence	2	7	4
Drug	11	24	14
Flee/Obstruct	18	33	16
Fraud	1	3	0
Other	5	5	4
Pornography/Obscene Material	4	4	1
Robbery	2	1	3
Runaway	77	81	90
Sexual Assault	17	15	14
Theft	50	16	14
Tobacco	21	10	2
Traffic	52	77	102
Trespass	5	3	5
Vandalism	26	15	22
Weapon Law Violation	1	7	3
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>423</b>	<b>482</b>	<b>461</b>



## Community Service Referrals

### *Historical Data:*

YSC Ochoa works with a partnership between the police, probation, social services, shelter care and schools with youth at risk by taking on juvenile court community service referrals where he takes kids out to work sites to complete community service sentences. Since 1997, 47,148 hours of community service work have been completed by youth. The community service work completed in Moorhead consists of tasks that benefit the city

such as graffiti removal, transient camp clean-up, parks, ditches and public spaces cleaning, mowing, shoveling snow around fire hydrants, painting buildings, set-up and tear down for city events, inventory found and stolen bikes, and the like which may have otherwise been completed by city personnel.

*2022 Community Service Program Statistics:*

Total hours referred: 755

Total hours completed: 755

This is a 100% completion rate for 2022

Referrals are also made to the Community Service Program under the Juvenile Offender Restitution Program.

Since 1997, 6,658 hours of restitution performed by area youth has equated to \$44,232. This money is paid back to victims.

*2022 Juvenile Offender Restitution Program Statistics:*

Total hours referred: 210

Total hours completed: 210

This is a 100% completion rate for 2022



Community Policing Coordinator Leann Wallin presents Operation Lifesaver's rail safety program to students and adults throughout the Moorhead-Fargo-West Fargo metro. She completed 14 presentations to Moorhead High School driver's education classes and Let's Get Rolling Driving School, reaching a total of 391 students. She gave a bus driver curriculum presentation to 70 Moorhead School District bus drivers. She also presented to 142 pre-kindergartners at Safety Town.



During National Rail Safety week, September 19-25, two Moorhead High School youth assisted Louis Ochoa and Leann Wallin with a stencil project to raise awareness of rail safety for pedestrians. They used spray chalk paint to stencil the "See Tracks? Think Train" logo on the sidewalks at several railroad crossings in downtown Moorhead.





## Citizens Police Academy

The Moorhead Police Department hosted its 26th Citizens Police Academy (CPA) from September 15 to November 17, 2022, to a class of 24 students. This free program is open to all members of the community and is designed to help the public understand the policies, procedures and protocol of the police department as well as learn what it is like to be the men and women sworn to protect and serve this community. It is an opportunity for the Moorhead Police Department to hear directly about the concerns and needs of the citizens they serve. Several CPA graduates have gone on to become Moorhead Police Volunteers. In fact, four graduates from this year's CPA became Police Volunteers. The Citizens Police Academy Alumni Association was established as a way for participants to stay connected to the department.

Evaluations are given to students after each week; as well as a final, comprehensive evaluation at the end of the program. Here are just a few of the participants' comments:

*"This has been such an experience. The way you are involved in the schools and community is amazing! The family, teamwork, comraderies is also amazing. It's wonderful to see support for each officer, no matter what rank. Thank you for this program, it has opened my eyes. This opportunity has been life changing."*

*"I tell everyone about this amazing program! Transparency, community involvement, and good people. I am eager to stay connected to MPD!"*

*"Seriously – this was one of the best experiences! I have grown up with a huge respect for all first responders, but there was so much I didn't know. What a service you provide and by doing the Citizens Police Academy, it is just one more way that you all honorably serve this community with dedication!"*

*"What an incredible experience this has been for me. I have gained so much knowledge about our police force and the workings and facilities of the department. I can see the family that we have in Moorhead and it is heartwarming. The cooperation and respect each department have for each other is evident."*

*"I have thoroughly enjoyed the CPA program. Every week brought new opportunities to learn about our police department."*

*"I was delighted to be part of the CPA. I was impressed and grateful that MPD shared as honestly and openly as you did. Very transparent. I mostly appreciated getting to know some of our officers."*

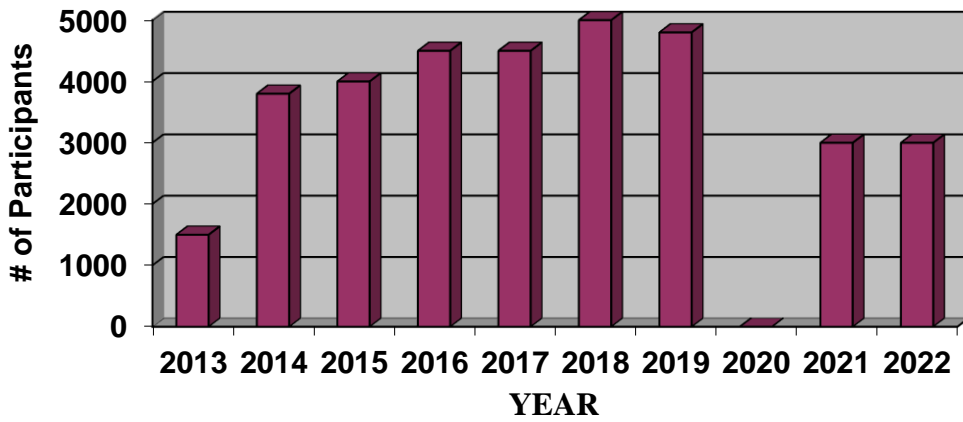
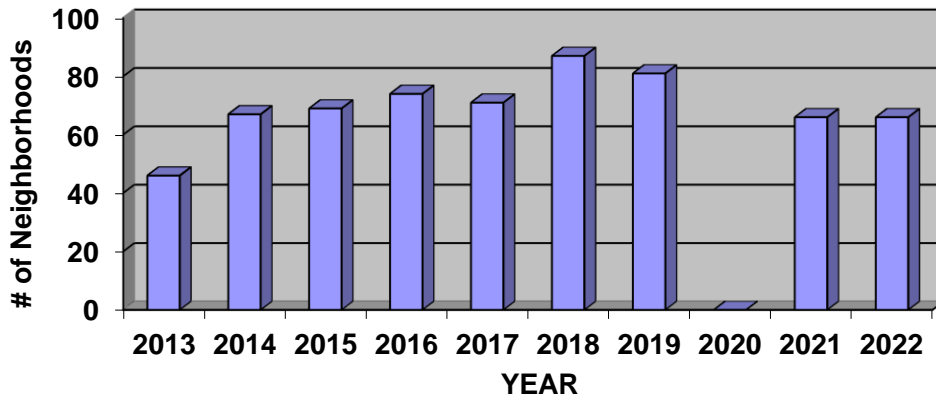


Citizens Police Academy Class of 2022

The Moorhead Police Department hosted a refresher night for the Citizens Police Academy Alumni Association on September 8. We had 25 participants, and they received a department update and stats by Chief Monroe and Crime Analyst Cameron Jenson. Deputy Chief Jacobson gave a presentation on the evolution of law enforcement climate based on his 31 years of experience. Alumni learned about the latest technology updates including body worn cameras, mobile field force and other less lethal options. Wellness Coordinator, Dr. Aaron Suomala Folkerds spoke on MPD's wellness and mental health initiative for our officers and staff. We ended the night with a building tour for those that had not had one yet. It was a great night of reconnecting with our alumni!

## Night to Unite

This year's event involved approximately 3,000 Moorhead residents in 66 different neighborhoods. Four neighborhoods joined in the fun this year by hosting their first parties! Hopefully they will continue participating and make it a tradition like so many neighborhoods have. The weather was warm and humid, but rain stayed away making it a perfect evening of neighbors connecting and uniting in their commitment to safe, crime-free neighborhoods.



## Support Services

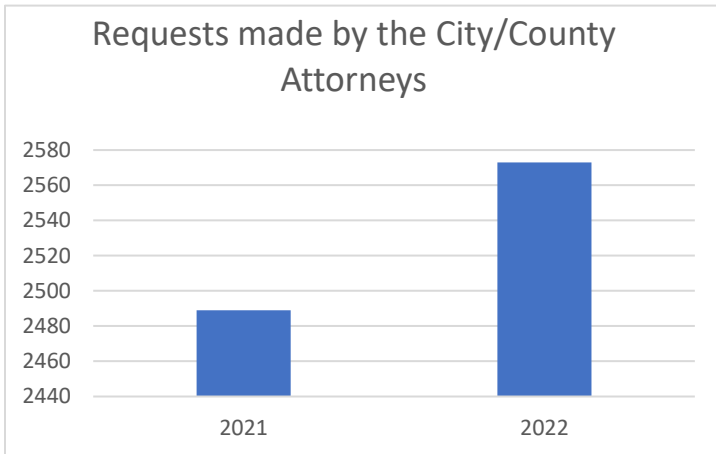
The Support Services Division consists of an Office Manager, 2 Support Services Supervisors, 4 full-time Records Specialists, 1 part-time Office Specialist, 1 full-time Evidence Technician/TAC, 2 full-time Power Typists, 4 part-time Power Typists, and 2 Community Service Officers.

Diva Westbrook joined the Records Division on 08-15-2022, and Hanna Dufault joined the Records Division on 10-17-2022, both as full-time Records Specialists.

Records staff received over 21,550 phone calls in 2022, averaging 86 calls per day, 10 calls per hour.

They processed over 6,441 incident reports.

2,573 requests were made by the City and County Attorney’s Offices for squad videos, photos, audios, and other items.



1,050 incidents were referred to the City and County Attorney’s Offices for prosecution.

Dictation: 5,613 audio files, squad videos, and officer dictated reports were transcribed; over 4,719 hours of staff time was dedicated to transcribing these items. There was 917 hours of officer dictation.

405 impounded vehicles were processed and released.

Intake of 2,047 pieces of evidence and 49 Cellebrite cell phone exams.

1,243 predatory offender updates.

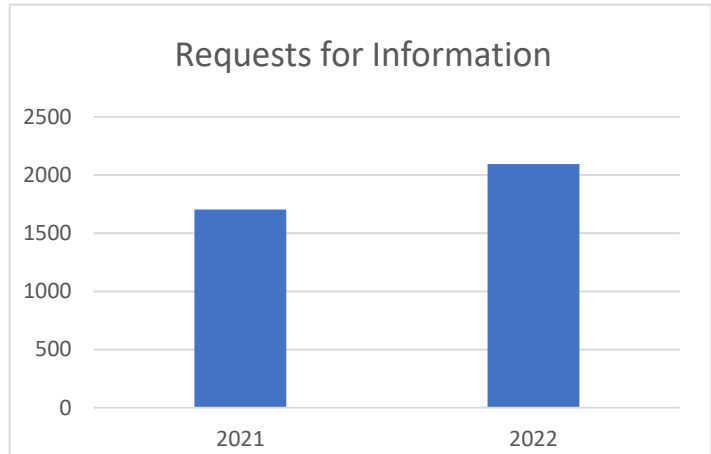
387 handgun permit requests were received and backgrounded.



2,094 requests for information were made from the public, military, social services, Department of Corrections and other agencies.

7,521 parking tickets were issued by CSOs, PEOs, and Police Volunteers. Records staff takes payment for these tickets, issues overdue and collection letters, as well as processes appeals.

647 dog licenses and 151 cat licenses were sold and issued to pet owners.



### Community Service Officers

Community Service Officers consist of two full-time positions. Harvey Moos and Jay Siebels spend their workdays responding to animal complaints, vehicle unlocks, found/stolen bikes, parking complaints, parking enforcement, impound releases, found property, keeping patrol squads maintained; and delivering or transporting mail, supplies, equipment or evidence for the department.

In 2022, the Community Service Officers responded to a combined total of 1,990 calls for service to include:

- 267 vehicle unlocks.
- 656 animal complaints; the department received 1,571 calls for service related to animal complaints.
- 174 dogs and 211 cats were impounded by the police department.
- 315 calls for release of impounded vehicles and personal property were completed by the CSOs.





## **Crime Free Multi-Housing Program and Conduct on Registered Premises Ordinance 9-7-12**

The Crime Free Multi-Housing Program and the city's Conduct on Registered Premises Ordinance are key components to ensuring safe, desirable rental properties while maintaining the integrity of their surrounding neighborhoods.

In accordance with City Ordinance 9-7-12, letters were sent out to landlords/property managers notifying them of disorderly conduct on their premises. The top three offenses were noise ordinance violations; including loud noise/parties accounting for 44% of the letters, followed by drug offenses at 42%, and disorderly conduct/disturbances at 8%.

Two Minnesota Crime Free Multi-Housing Program trainings to landlords and property managers were conducted in 2022. The spring session was held over the course of two evenings, March 1 and March 8, 2022, and had 23 attendees. The fall session was a full day course held on October 25, 2022, and had 18 attendees.

The Successful Outcomes for Tenants and Landlords (SOFTL) committee, which Community Policing Coordinator Leann Wallin serves on, hosted three virtual training for landlords, property managers, tenants, housing case managers, and service providers:

- A panel of presenters discussed what the Landlord Risk Mitigation Fund is, how to access it and how it will benefit landlords on January 18, 2022.
- An attorney with Legal Services of Northwest Minnesota presented on the Violence Against Women Act and what it means for tenants and landlords on May 18, 2022.
- The Outreach Director with FirstLink presented on effective communication and de-escalation strategies to help improve landlord/tenant relations on October 11, 2022. He also shared resources available in our community to assist tenants with basic life necessities.

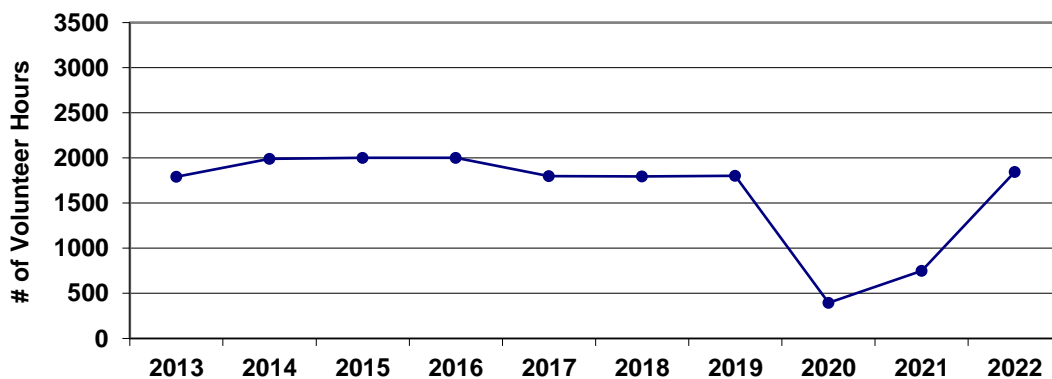
Community Policing Coordinator Leann Wallin attended the annual Minnesota Crime Prevention Association's conference in Brainerd, October 3-4, 2022, for continuing education credits in this field.



## Volunteer Program

### 2022 Volunteers:

Ruthie Johnson	Annette Graves	Tammy Ehresman	Janice Coca
Eileen Hastad	Arlene Morey	Tiffany Footitt	Dave Roe
Linda Laske	John Graves	Myron Bowar	Dennis Nelson
Beverly Olson	Russ Hanson	Judy Hoganson	Braden Ashworth
Doug Morey	Susan Spooner	Luis Coca Jr.	Deb Ludwig



YEAR	HOURS
2013	1,791
2014	1,991
2015	2,002
2016	2,002
2017	1,800
2018	1,794
2019	1,804
2020	395*
2021	748*
2022	1,844

*\*The Moorhead Police Volunteer Program was suspended effective 3/19/20 due to the COVID-19 global pandemic and remained suspended through April of 2021.*

Measurable outcomes for the Police Volunteer Program are as follows:

- 4,452 tickets written in 2022, valued at \$118,290
- 1,844 volunteer hours contributed in 2022, for a total contributed value of \$37,336 calculated using the nationally recognized hourly rate for Minnesota
- 61 vacation residence checks were requested and performed numerous times each by volunteers while the homeowner was temporarily away
- 22 house checks on registered vacant properties performed numerous times per house until they are either occupied or demolished
- 3 new volunteers joined the department and 3 volunteers left the program
- 3 volunteers have been here for 5-9 years
- 9 volunteers have been here for 10 years or more

### **Special Projects in 2022:**

Volunteers worked four Saturdays from Thanksgiving to Christmas selling pet licenses at local stores during the eleventh annual pet licensing campaign. Volunteers sold a total of 69 dog and cat licenses. Each week we promoted this service on our department's Facebook page.

Volunteers conducted traffic control at five parades, one marathon, one bike race, Celtic Festival, four weeks of River Arts, 4<sup>th</sup> of July fireworks, Kidsfest at Bluestem, Pangea, and Moorhead High School hockey games.

Construction on the north side of the Moorhead High School caused many parking issues around the high school and adjacent neighborhood. A couple of our volunteers spent countless hours patrolling the area in the evenings and enforced fire lane parking violations, and parking too close to driveways and intersections.

Volunteers served as youth mentors in the Moorhead Police Summer Youth Program, assisted with the spring and fall city auctions, assisted with the MPD Safety Fair and Bike Rodeo, Night to Unite, track meet for the Special Olympics, and rang the bell for the Salvation Army Red Kettle Campaign.

Volunteers assisted with the 20<sup>th</sup> Street underpass opening celebration and provided traffic and parking assistance for retired Sheriff Bill Bergquist's funeral service.

One of our volunteers assisted the Detective Bureau with a catalytic converter project. The volunteer contacted all the victims of catalytic converter thefts and offered them a free catalytic converter marking kit.



Many volunteers assisted the Police Athletics and Activities League with their events including the Pitch, Hit & Run event; Cops and Kids baseball game; Queens Park and Romkey Park community outreach; and wrapped gifts for Shop-with-a-Cop.

## Moorhead Police Volunteers Established 1999

							
Ruthie Johnson Volunteer since 1999	Eileen Hastad Volunteer since 1999	Linda Laske Volunteer since 2003	Bev Olson Volunteer since 2006	Doug Morey Volunteer since 2008	Annette Graves Volunteer since 2009	Arlene Morey Volunteer since 2009	John Graves Volunteer since 2012
							
Russ Hanson Volunteer since 2012	Jen Johnson Volunteer since 2014	Susan Spooner Volunteer since 2014	Tammy Ehresman Volunteer since 2014	Tiffany Footitt Volunteer since 2014	Myron Bowar Volunteer since 2018	Judy Hoganson Volunteer since 2019	Luis Coca Volunteer since 2019
							
		Nolan Maier Volunteer since 2020	Jan Coca Volunteer since 2021	Leah Burney Volunteer since 2021			

The Moorhead Police Department recognizes and greatly appreciates the time and talents donated by these individuals to our department and the City of Moorhead.

## Cadet Program

In 2021, Police Chief Shannon Monroe re-organized positions within the department making room in the budget to create the Police Cadet Program to provide a new opportunity with emphasis towards hiring women and individuals with diverse backgrounds. Cadet applicants must be pursuing a criminal justice related degree qualifying them to be future police officer candidates. The police department works with our local colleges to match students that are in law enforcement related programs with our cadet positions. The three cadet positions are currently filled by students from MState, Concordia, and NDSU.

Cadets patrol parks and trails and gain experience through low-level calls for service such as animal complaints, vehicle unlocks, parking enforcement, and traffic control at vehicle accidents and parades. They work flexible evening and weekend hours allowing for assistance with both patrol and investigations staff. Through their employment, relationships are built both internally and within our community targeting a desire to further serve the citizen of Moorhead as future police officers.

The Moorhead Police Department requires all new police cadets to complete training with Community Service Officers. This equates to almost 80 hours of training that is demanding on both the cadets who are being trained and those who are trainers.

### Current Cadets:



Colin Conteh #23

Colin grew up in Harwood, ND, and attends Concordia College. He is majoring in Sociology and minoring in Business. He is on the football and track teams. His hobbies include hunting, fishing, church, spending time with family, and anything fitness or football. Colin hopes to gain law enforcement experience and serve the community and the department while working at Moorhead PD.



Isis Lopez #24

Isis grew up in Chicago, IL, before moving to Minnesota 11 years ago. She attends MState and will be graduating with her Criminal Justice degree in May 2023. She enjoys spending time with friends and family, traveling, thrifting, and shopping. "I hope to gain experience and better my understanding of a police department for my future career."



Cole Winter #25

Cole grew up in Ellendale, ND, and attends NDSU. He is majoring in Criminal Justice with minor in Emergency Management. His hobbies include reading, Campus Ministry, blacksmithing, and metal work. Cole is “hoping to acquire the knowledge and skills necessary to become a law enforcement officer.”

**Former Cadets:**



Alli Garding #330

Nathan Wambach #334

Alli and Nathan were in the first group of four cadets that were hired by the department in June 2021. After graduating from college, they completed their final law enforcement training in Alexandria in July 2022. On August 15, 2022, they started as patrol officers with the department. Both performed well in the training program and moved to solo patrol in February 2023.

## Moorhead Police Department Wellness Program

Dr. Aaron Suomala Folkerds serves as the Wellness Coordinator for the Moorhead Police Department. He is a Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist (LMFT), Lutheran Pastor, and Professor of Counseling at Minnesota State University-Moorhead. He began his affiliation with the Moorhead Police Department as a volunteer chaplain in 2016.



2022 marks his third year working as the part-time wellness coordinator for the Moorhead Police Department. One of the biggest happenings this year was that we received approval for our Peer Assistance Response Team (PART) to be officially recognized by the Minnesota Department of Public Safety. This recognition involves submitting a 30 hour training curriculum to be approved and completing that curriculum. The PART team already completed the first half of the training (16 hours) which was led by trainer Brian Casey. There was a special focus on developing and implementing a peer assistance team. The second half of the training will be completed in May and will emphasize Critical Incident Stress Debriefings (CISD).

In addition to Brian Casey visiting the MPD to train the PART team, we will also host Kent Williams from Breach Point Consulting in February 2023, to train the whole department in issues of wellness and living a healthy life. This will be the second time that he will have provided training for the department. In addition, Sergeant J. Laddie Bata completed the VALOR instructor training sponsored by the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP). VALOR is an IACP initiative in cooperation with The University of Pennsylvania to teach the power of resilience



within policing. Sergeant Bata has already started to train the department and will complete that training within the next year. Dr. Suomala Folkerds continued to teach new officers in the New Officer Academy about police officer wellness and responding to mental health calls in the community. He is also available to support officers and to help lead CISDs. Lastly, He and Captain Deric Swenson led a training at the Village for Employee Assistance Program (EAP) counselors on working with police officers. Dr. Suomala Folkerds looks forward to the new year and continuing to grow the department's wellness program.

## **Patrol Division**

The Patrol Division seeks to maintain social order and the quality of life through the enforcement of laws, the timely response to calls for service, the investigation of criminal offenses, the apprehension of offenders, the enforcement of traffic laws, and the furtherance of crime deterrence through the maintenance of a visible presence and collaboration with the community. The Patrol Division is often the first and only contact many citizens have with our police department. In 2022, the Patrol Division experienced several shortages due to retirement, attrition, injuries, and medical conditions.

The Patrol Division has a team of officers responsible for responding to all calls for police services 24 hours per day, located within the City of Moorhead. In addition, police officers assigned to our Patrol Division provide routine patrol to deter and detect both traffic and criminal violations of law. They also conduct criminal investigations and actively employ community-oriented policing strategies to solve community problems. Police officers assigned to the Patrol Division are also assigned to specialty positions.

### **Specialty Positions in Patrol:**

- Field Training Officers
- Canine Handlers
- SWAT Team Members
- Use of Force Instructors
- Firearms Instructors
- Emergency Vehicle Operation Course (EVOC) Instructors
- Tactical Medical Instructors
- Bike Patrol Officers
- Law Enforcement Explorer Post Advisors

The Police Officers assigned to our Patrol Division currently work the following shifts:

Day Shift	8:00 am – 6:00 pm
Evening Shift	4:00 pm – 2:00 am
Midnight Shift	10:00 pm – 8:00 am

The Patrol Division works with the “Team” concept. Each officer works with the same group of officers and sergeant for the entire six-month period. Each shift is divided into Team A and Team B. Generally, when one team is working, the other team is off. For the Evening and Midnight

shifts, every other Tuesday and Thursday are considered all workdays where both Team A and Team B are working at the same time. For the Day shift, it's every other Wednesday and Friday. The rotation for Team A is 5 on, 4 off, 5 on, 4 off, 6 on, 4 off, and then it repeats every 28 days. The rotation for Team B is 4 off, 5 on, 4 off, 6 on, 4 off, 5 on, and repeats every 28 days also.

All sergeants and officers assigned to the Patrol Division rotate shifts every six months. The shift periods and rotation dates are:

March 1 through August 31  
September 1 through February 28

## **Complaint Process**

The Moorhead Police Department takes allegations of misconduct on the part of its members seriously, and at the same time actively solicits feedback on any officer conduct. Anyone wishing to file a complaint is provided with a bilingual handout which outlines the complaint process and contains our complaint form. This information is also posted on [www.moorheadpolice.com](http://www.moorheadpolice.com) and a complaint can be filed electronically as well. All complaints alleging misconduct by a member of the Moorhead Police Department are thoroughly investigated and recommendations are forwarded to the Chief of Police. The same system can be used to report exemplary service provided by members of the Moorhead Police Department.

## **Promotions**

There are eight sergeants in the following positions:

Investigations Sergeant = 1  
Administrative Sergeant = 1  
Days Shift Sergeant = 2  
Evening Shift Sergeant = 2  
Midnight Shift Sergeant = 2

## **Staffing Departures**

During 2022, we had six officers leave the department:

Officer Ethan Meehan was hired on June 9, 2014, and resigned to go work for the Duluth Police Department on March 26, 2022.

Officer Nick Bjorndahl was hired on April 1, 2019, and resigned to go to the private sector on April 3, 2022. We were able to hire him back on June 28, 2022. He resigned on December 20, 2022, to go work for the Hubbard County Sheriff's Office.

Officer Hunter Churness was hired on June 29, 2020, and resigned to go work with the North Pole Police Department in Alaska on August 11, 2022.

Officer Anastacia Hermes was hired on September 11, 2017, and resigned to go work with the

Otter Tail County Sheriff's Office on August 25, 2022.

Officer Brett Kvam was hired on September 30, 2019, and resigned to go work with the Maple Grove Police Department on November 18, 2022.

Officer Dalton Yagow was hired on November 26, 2018, and resigned to go work with the Plymouth Police Department on November 22, 2022.

### **Field Training Unit**

Our department maintains a Field Training Unit as part of our Patrol Division. It is the responsibility of this unit to partner with the Investigative Division to conduct pre-employment background investigations on police officer candidates and to provide the initial training to our new police officers.

**Mission Statement:** The Moorhead Police Department, in keeping with community expectations for professional police service, has established the Field Training Officer (FTO) Program. The mission of the Moorhead Police Department Field Training Officer Program is to prepare Officers in Training (OITs) to perform the essential duties of a police officer and to enhance the professionalism of patrol work through continuous quality improvement.

The year 2022, was a very active training year for the Moorhead Police Department, which has become normal with the police staffing crisis in our country. Approximately half of our current officers assisted with the formal training of ten new officers in 2022. The FTO training team delivered four New Officer Academies for applicants.

Hired applicants in 2022 were:

Anthony Larson #303: Hired on March 7, 2022. Officer Larson had prior experience with the New Hope Police Department. Officer Larson performed very well during the training program and graduated July 10, 2022. He has been assigned to the Patrol Division.

Megan Jorgenson #307: Hired on March 7, 2022. Officer Jorgenson resigned from employment on March 24, 2022, while in the training program.

Amanda Mohs #321: Rehired on June 1, 2022. Officer Mohs was previously employed with the Moorhead Police Department for 3½ years as a patrol officer before moving out of state. She is currently assigned to our Patrol Division.

Jack Anderson #307: Hired on June 6, 2022. Officer Anderson performed well during the training program and graduated on November 18, 2022. He has been assigned to the Patrol Division.

Nick Bjorndahl #349: Rehired on June 29, 2022. Officer Bjorndahl was previously a patrol officer with our department for 3 years (2019-2022) before deciding to return. In November 2022, he resigned his position.

Nathan Wambach #331: Hired on August 15, 2022. Officer Wambach performed well during the training program and graduated in February 2023. He has been assigned to the Patrol Division.



Eric Moore #334: Hired on August 15, 2022. Officer Moore performed well during the training program and graduated on January 19, 2023. He has been assigned to the Patrol Division.

Alli Garding #330: Hired on August 15, 2022. Officer Garding performed well during the training program and graduated in February 2023. She has been assigned to the Patrol Division.

Muhamad Abdi #313: Hired on November 14, 2022. Officer Abdi is currently in our Field Training Program.

Nick Atkinson #340: Hired on November 14, 2022. Officer Atkinson resigned from employment on December 19, 2022, while in the Field Training Program.



Larson



Mohs



Anderson



Bjorndahl



Wambach



Moore



Garding



Abdi

## Pre-Employment

Applicants for full-time peace officer positions in Minnesota (MN) must be eligible for licensing as a peace officer before they can be hired. Eligible for licensing in Minnesota means that the person has completed a MN POST (Peace Officer Standards and Training) Board approved education program, passed a MN law enforcement skills training program, and passed a written test administered by the MN POST Board. The education programs are either two or four year programs and they are available at numerous colleges located throughout Minnesota.

The Moorhead Police Department extensively recruits new police officer candidates by attending various law enforcement career fairs held throughout the state. We actively try to recruit police officer applicants of diverse backgrounds and female police officer applicants.

### **Potential Candidates**

Each finalist for employment as a Moorhead Police Officer is subject to a thorough pre-employment background investigation, which is supervised by Lt. Brad Penas. Our Investigators and/or Field Training Officers (FTOs) spend approximately 50 hours conducting each background investigation. Much of this investigation is done in person and thus it requires travel to many locations. At the conclusion of this investigation a report is completed. Our Deputy Chief and Chief then review these reports and determine if the candidate passed the investigation.

Once a candidate passes our pre-employment background investigation, they must pass a medical examination and a comprehensive psychological examination. Once a new officer is hired, we do everything we can to help that officer successfully complete their field training.

### **New Hire – Probationary Officer**

The hiring, equipping, and training of a new police officer is very expensive. From the start of the hiring process through when officers complete their training, and are working on their own, the department invests over \$100,000. These costs include approximately \$18,000 to establish a hiring list made up of advertising the openings, giving a written test, conducting the pre-employment background investigations, medical testing, and a psychological exam. Uniforms and equipment for a new officer is about \$12,000 per officer. Our Field Training Program cost is approximately \$11,000 for each group of new officers we hire. The remainder of the cost is the salaries of the involved employees. Our department tries very hard to retain our officers because of the investment we have placed in hiring, equipping, and training them.

### **New Officer Academy**

The Field Training Program starts with a 150 hour New Officer Academy in which the new hires will receive classroom training on department expectations, computers, report writing, crime scene processing, patrol procedures, domestic abuse investigations, standardized field testing (DUI), emergency vehicle operations, ARMER radio, peer advisory crisis teams, and the Moorhead Chaplains Program. The New Officer Academy includes intense training and qualifications in handgun, patrol rifle, Taser, and defensive tactics. The New Officer Academy finishes with 40 hours of scenario-based training to include traffic stops, building searches, felony stops, and force on force scenarios.

One purpose of our academy is to train our new officers in the skills that are required before they start working in uniform as a Moorhead Police Officer. Many of these skills are use of force related. Our academy also provides an introduction to many of the skills that they will need to master before they graduate from our formal Field Training Program. These skills include topics like report writing, conflict resolution, street level investigations, and learning our various computer systems.

## **Uniformed Field Training**

After New Officer Academy, new police officers are assigned to our formal Field Training Program. We use the Sokolove/Field Training Associates method of field training, which is a coach-based theory. This training program is generally 14 work weeks in length. It can be modified to be slightly shorter, or longer, in length to meet the training needs of individual new police officers. During this program new police officers are always working with a Field Training Officer (FTO). They are assigned to each



officer for generally four work weeks. Our new police officer's performance is evaluated daily. The purpose of this evaluation is to provide constructive feedback to increase the new officer's learning. Our Field Training Program also includes a comprehensive training manual. Each week our new officers are taught the topics that are required for them to succeed as a Moorhead Police Officer.

## **Field Training Officers**

Our Field Training Officers (FTOs) are selected by our Chief of Police from the members of our Patrol Division. When we have an opening for a Field Training Officer, we post the opening and any interested officers apply for this assignment. They are appointed by the Chief of Police after he considers input from their supervisors, our existing Field Training Officers, and our Community Policing Coordinator. New Field Training Officers attend a 24 hour long training course which certifies them as Field Training Officers.

Field Training Officers are the backbone to the success of the training program. They are historically strong performers and leaders within the Patrol Division.

The following officers (listed by department seniority) were active Field Training Officers during 2022:

Officer Matt Lambert #319

Officer Jonathan Hanson #339

Officer Andy Werk #316 (reassigned to a School Resource Officer in 2022)

Officer Joe Secord #337 (resigned from FTO in 2022)

Officer Eric Zimmel #325 (reassigned to Investigations in 2022)

Officer Jessica Horn #344 (joined FTO team in 2022)

Officer Kyle Huewe #306 (resigned from FTO in 2022)

Officer Dalton Yagow #347 (left the department in 2022)

Officer Matt Hanson (joined FTO team in 2022)

Officer Brett Kvam (left the department in 2022)

Officer Mac Schultz #315

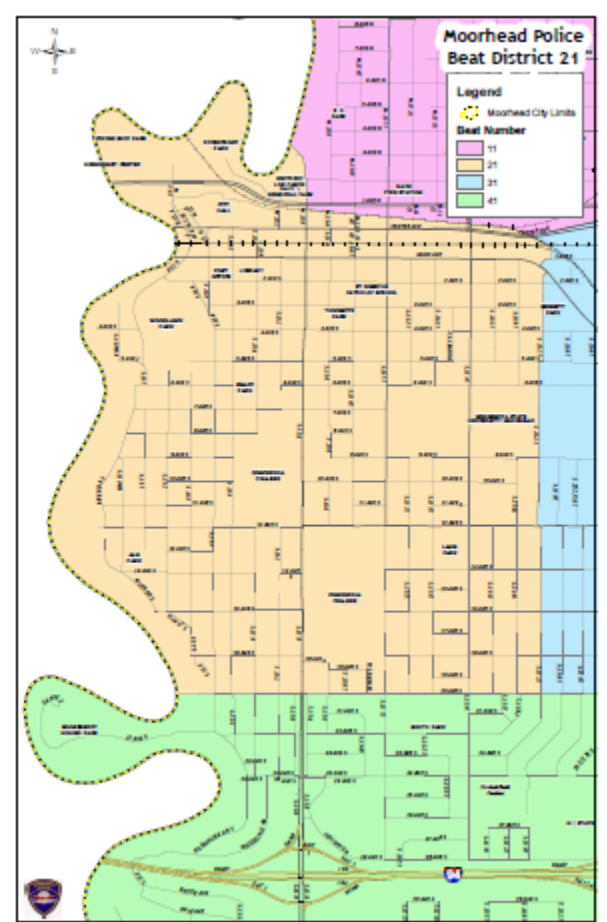
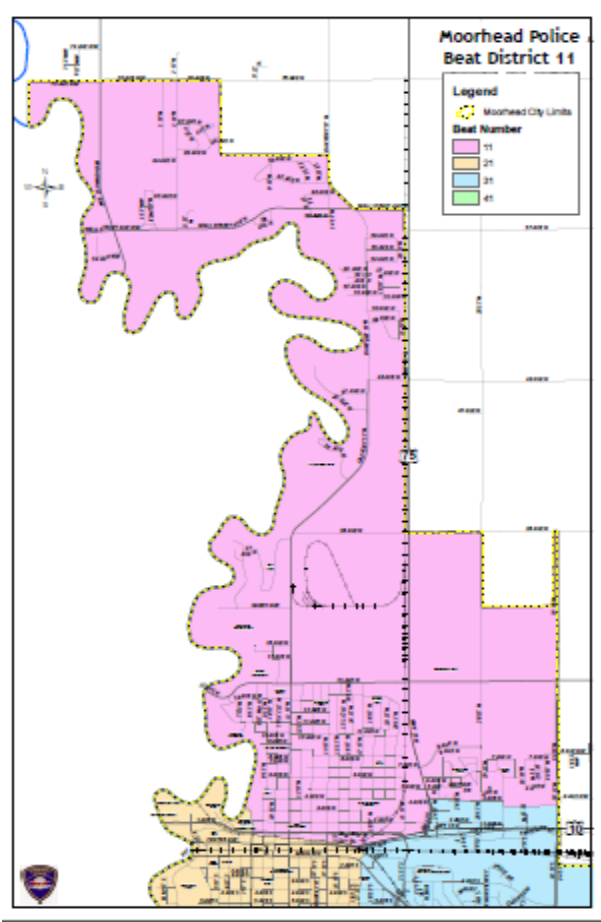
Officer Cuyler Johnson #348

Officer Michelle Voeltz #342  
Officer Luke Lindell (Joined FTO team in 2022)

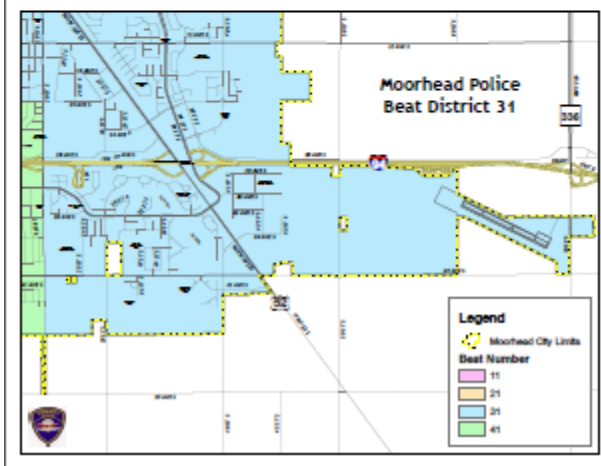
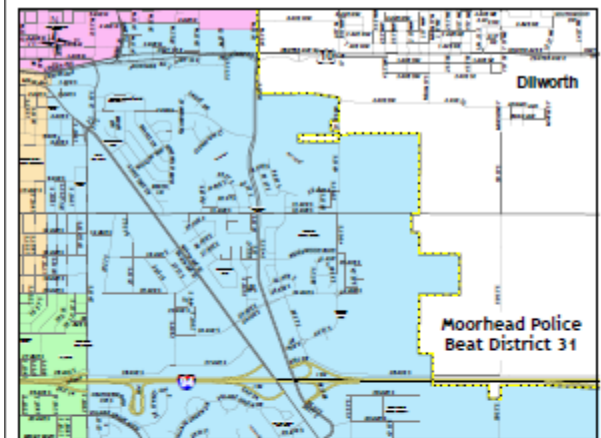
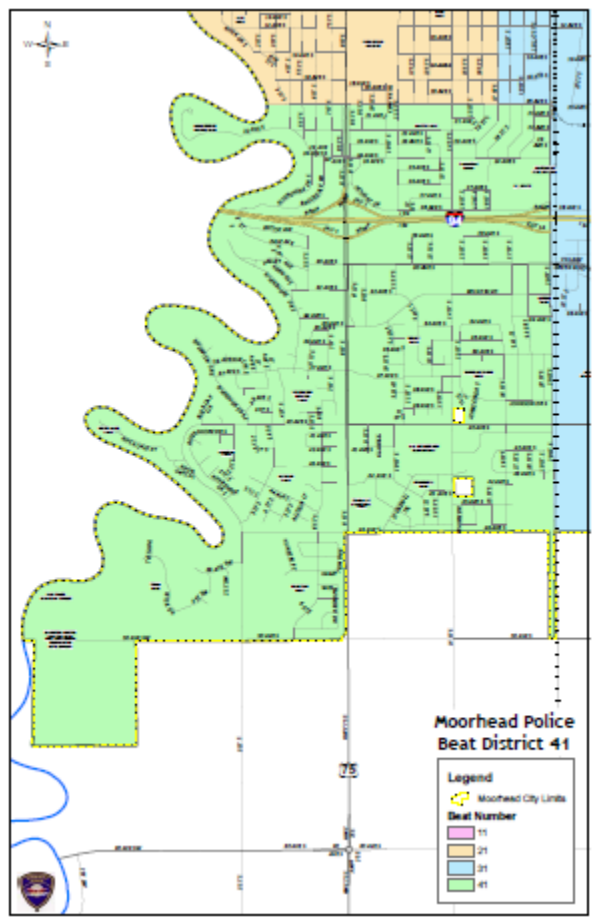
Our Field Training Unit is supervised by Captain Deric Swenson and Sergeant Chris Martin.

### Community Policing

Moorhead Police Officers are committed to building and maintaining problem solving partnerships within the community. Our officers are committed to providing police services that are fair, impartial, and professional. Our Patrol Division is dedicated to Moorhead Police Department’s philosophy of community-oriented policing. As part of this philosophy, officers are assigned to work permanent areas of the community, which we call “Beats.” We also assigned a patrol sergeant to identify and address issues in their Beats with their team members from all the shifts. By focusing on problem areas, they were able to recognize solutions to reduce repeat calls in the longer term. The City of Moorhead is divided into four specific Beats. Our Beats are displayed below:







Supervisors and Patrol Officers Assigned to the Patrol Division (End of Year 2022):

**Supervisors:**

- Lieutenant Mike Detloff
- Sergeant Scott Kostohryz
- Sergeant Joe Brannan
- Sergeant Clint Stephenson
- Sergeant Robb Matheson
- Sergeant John “Laddie” Bata
- Sergeant Nick Leinen

**Police Officers Assigned to the Patrol Division:**

- |                         |                         |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| Officer Shawn Griego    | Officer Michelle Voeltz |
| Officer Adam Breth      | Officer Rob Reller      |
| Officer Matt Lambert    | Officer Kaden Oldham    |
| Officer Jesse Myers     | Officer Ethan Halvorson |
| Officer Jonathan Hanson | Officer Ben Bauer       |

Officer Zach Johnson (K9)  
Officer Andy Werk (SRO)  
Officer Joe Secord  
Officer Brett Musich (K9)  
Officer Jessica Horn  
Officer Jordan Werk (SRO)  
Officer Kyle Huewe  
Officer Michaela Bolgrean  
Officer Matt Hanson  
Officer Mackenzie Schultz  
Officer Cuyler Johnson  
Officer Brandon Heide (SRO)

Officer Sydne Mark  
Officer Luke Lindell  
Officer Jesse Collins  
Officer Logan Waldvogel  
Officer Beth Meier  
Officer Anthony Larson  
Officer Amanda Mohs  
Officer Jack Anderson  
Officer Nathan Wambach (Training)  
Officer Eric Moore (Training)  
Officer Allie Garding (Training)  
Officer Muhumad Abdi (Training)



## Crime Analysis

Cameron Jenson has served as the Moorhead Police Department's Crime Analyst since March 2021. In his position, which was new for the department, Jenson provides reports, analysis, and investigative support to the department's administration, detectives, and patrol officers. He combines information gathered from a variety of sources with data collected by the department to identify crime patterns occurring in the community.



In August, Jenson attended the International Association of Crime Analysts Annual Conference in Chicago, IL, which was a great opportunity to learn from a variety of experienced speakers on topics such as Intelligence Analysis, Critical Incident Response, and software programs that can benefit law enforcement and crime analysis. He was also able to meet and network with several other law enforcement analysts from throughout the region, state, and country.

Jenson also attended a variety of trainings throughout the year including the FBI CAST Basic course which provided an understanding of communication services, technologies, and the use of cellular records analysis to enhance criminal investigations. This training became useful in multiple cases including the investigation of a homicide that occurred on 12/1/2022.

Before hiring a full-time analyst, Moorhead Police had a data analyst intern position. Because of the positive impact of crime analysis on community policing, the department brought back this role in 2022, by adding Lucas Clark Burnette, a senior at Minnesota State University Moorhead. The analyst internship program provides value to the department by increasing its analytical capabilities and allows the intern to utilize their skills and education in an exciting field and possibly consider it as a career path. During his time as intern, Lucas worked on a variety of topics including drug overdoses, vehicle pursuits, and regular statistical reports.



## Moorhead Police Department - 2022 Crime Statistics (NIBRS)

Group A Offenses			Group B Arrests		
Crimes Against Persons - UCR Offense	'21 Offenses	'22 Offenses	UCR Offense	'21 Offenses	'22 Offenses
Murder & Non-negligent Manslaughter	2	1	Bad Checks (Decommissioned January 2022)	0	0
Negligent Manslaughter	0	0	Curfew/Loitering/Vagrancy Violations	0	0
Kidnapping/Abduction	4	6	Disorderly Conduct	71	66
Rape	23	26	Driving Under the Influence	99	103
Sodomy	3	1	Drunkenness (Decommissioned January 2022)	6	0
Sexual Assault With An Object	2	0	Family Offenses, Nonviolent	1	2
Fondling	31	27	Liquor Law Violations	7	6
Aggravated Assault	183	142	Peeping Tom (Decommissioned January 2022)	0	0
Simple Assault	252	199	Runaway	0	0
Intimidation	64	48	Trespass of Real Property	41	39
Incest	0	0	All Other Offenses	146	165
Statutory Rape	0	0	<b>Total Group B Arrests</b>	<b>371</b>	<b>381</b>
Human Trafficking, Commercial Sex Acts	0	0			
Human Trafficking, Involuntary Servitude	0	0			
<b>Subtotal - Crimes Against Persons</b>	<b>564</b>	<b>450</b>			
Crimes Against Property - UCR Offense	'21 Offenses	'22 Offenses			
Robbery	21	16			
Arson	8	9			
Extortion/Blackmail	0	3			
Burglary/Breaking & Entering	277	194			
Pocket-picking	6	0			
Purse-snatching	3	2			
Shoplifting	196	190			
Theft From Building	42	16			
Theft From Coin-Operated Machine or Device	2	0			
Theft From Motor Vehicle	233	137			
Theft of Motor Vehicle Parts or Accessories	82	36			
All Other Larceny	363	279			
Motor Vehicle Theft	158	172			
Counterfeiting/Forgery	48	43			
False Pretenses/Swindle/Confidence Game	67	35			
Credit Card/Automated Teller Machine Fraud	47	40			
Impersonation	77	76			
Welfare Fraud	2	0			
Wire Fraud	10	2			
Identity Theft	12	6			
Hacking/Computer Invasion	0	0			
Embezzlement	2	1			
Stolen Property Offenses	107	122			
Destruction/Damage/Vandalism of Property	387	324			
Bribery	0	0			
<b>Subtotal - Crimes Against Property</b>	<b>2150</b>	<b>1703</b>			
Crimes Against Society - UCR Offense	'21 Offenses	'22 Offenses			
Drug/Narcotic Violations	171	129			
Drug Equipment Violations	50	40			
Pornography/Obscene Material	16	15			
Betting/Wagering	0	0			
Operating/Promoting/Assisting Gambling	0	0			
Gambling Equipment Violation	0	0			
Sports Tampering	0	0			
Prostitution	1	0			
Assisting or Promoting Prostitution	0	0			
Purchasing Prostitution	0	0			
Weapon Law Violations	37	45			
Animal Cruelty	2	1			
<b>Subtotal - Crimes Against Society</b>	<b>277</b>	<b>230</b>			
<b>Total Group A Offenses</b>	<b>2991</b>	<b>2383</b>			



## Moorhead Police Department - Historical Crime Statistics (Summary Reporting System)

Part I Offense	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Murder/Manslaughter	0	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	3
Rape	16	3	20	22	20	26	9	22	44
Robbery	5	6	12	8	14	11	10	12	16
Aggravated Assault	43	28	37	45	33	52	42	27	106
Arson	16	6	7	1	1	0	2	3	5
Burglary	145	158	127	144	169	130	131	112	290
Larceny	688	645	643	744	712	655	815	421	883
Auto Theft	32	44	57	90	91	104	78	76	130
Human Trafficking				1	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Part I Total</b>	<b>945</b>	<b>891</b>	<b>904</b>	<b>1056</b>	<b>1041</b>	<b>979</b>	<b>1087</b>	<b>673</b>	<b>1477</b>
Part II Offense	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Assault (Simple)	266	270	347	327	307	271	285	225	279
Forgery	9	35	21	77	24	45	55	39	36
Fraud	128	104	156	124	133	106	122	72	147
Vandalism	275	235	266	325	274	259	278	128	263
Drug Abuse Violations	129	134	169	128	156	135	177	86	95
Sex Offenses/Prostitution	39	41	29	51	39	16	25	18	25
Family/Children	13	42	20	16	8	7	9	15	4
Liquor Laws	204	117	112	112	71	54	53	21	15
Weapons	8	10	11	6	15	15	16	14	23
Disorderly Conduct	322	300	308	379	298	263	282	162	129
D.U.I.	289	225	168	203	221	164	204	89	75
Stolen Property	8	3	16	29	36	27	25	21	59
Gambling	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Other Offenses	281	333	351	487	447	458	545	298	317
<b>Part II Total</b>	<b>1971</b>	<b>1849</b>	<b>1974</b>	<b>2264</b>	<b>2029</b>	<b>1820</b>	<b>2077</b>	<b>1188</b>	<b>1467</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>2916</b>	<b>2740</b>	<b>2878</b>	<b>3320</b>	<b>3070</b>	<b>2799</b>	<b>3164</b>	<b>1861</b>	<b>2944</b>

As of 2021, Minnesota law enforcement agencies switched to the Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS) which was implemented to improve the overall quality of crime data collected. NIBRS provides more robust incident-level data by capturing separate offenses within the same incident as well as other details. The previous UCR Summary Reporting System (SRS) used a hierarchy rule which only counted the most serious offense for crime incidents where multiple offenses occur.

The Moorhead Police Department's 2021 NIBRS data cannot be compared to previous years of Summary Reporting System data due to the disparate methods of reporting including counting offenses and the hierarchy rule. Future annual crime statistics will be presented in the NIBRS format which will allow for year-to-year comparison. Moorhead Police Department's 2021 data is also available on the MN BCA's online interactive Crime Data Explorer which can be found at <https://cde.state.mn.us/>.

## K9 Unit

As another year passes, our K9 Unit has remained busy with training and deployments. Together, both teams logged over 300 additional hours of training on top of their assigned patrol shifts. Officer Johnson and Officer Musich collectively deployed Kash and Zeke a total of 165 times in 2022. Of these deployments, approximately half were regarding narcotic-related activity.

Annually, our K9 teams must show continued proficiency in narcotic detection and patrol work. Each team must obtain at least 16 hours of training each month and certify annually with the National Police Canine Association (NPCA). Kash and Zeke are accredited in and will alert the presence of several narcotics including Methamphetamine, Cocaine, and Heroin. They are also skilled in building searches, area searches, article searches, and physical apprehensions.

In the police world, K9s are an unmatched asset to the department and offer skills that cannot be compared to the human officers working the street. Canine noses are immeasurably powerful and aid in detecting illegal narcotics and locating articles holding human scent. The simple presence of a K9 at a scene can assist in de-escalating situations where violent offenders are willing to fight with human officers; however, do not want to have contact with police canines. Kash and Zeke continually show how big of an asset they are to the Moorhead Police Department and the greater metro area.

<b>Methamphetamine</b>	<b>2 ¼ Pounds Seized</b>
<b>Fentanyl</b>	<b>727 Pills Seized</b>
<b>Firearms</b>	<b>7 Firearms Seized</b>
<b>U.S. Currency</b>	<b>\$33,110 Seized</b>
<b>Patrol Deployments</b>	<b>165 Deployments</b>



## Significant Deployments from 2022:

On January 16, 2022, the Fargo Police Department observed a freshly stolen vehicle in their city that had been stolen from Moorhead. Fargo officers followed the vehicle eastbound towards Moorhead, where it ultimately fled at high speed away from them. Officers from Moorhead located the vehicle as it entered the city limits. The vehicle ran again before officers were able to get behind it. The vehicle was last seen entering a parking lot. Officers converged on the vehicle in the lot and observed it stuck in a snowbank. The driver immediately fled from the vehicle. Officer Johnson and K9 Kash were in the area to assist and observed the male running across the roadway. Police orders were given, and the male refused to stop. Kash was deployed from the vehicle and physically apprehended the male until officers safely took him into custody. The male had numerous outstanding warrants for his arrest.

On April 12, 2022, Moorhead Narcotic Detectives requested the assistance of Officer Musich and his canine partner Zeke to conduct a sniff on a vehicle concerning an ongoing investigation. The vehicle had been stopped on Interstate 94 by other officers. Officer Musich deployed Zeke to the vehicle and began a search. During the sniff, Officer Musich observed Zeke alert to the odor of illegal narcotics. Following a vehicle search, officers located approximately two pounds of methamphetamine and 222 fentanyl-laced pills.

On May 23, 2022, Officer Johnson was contacted by the Narcotic Detectives concerning an ongoing investigation. Officer Johnson and K9 Kash assisted by conducting a sniff on an apartment. Kash was alerted to the odor of illegal narcotics at the target apartment, and a search warrant was later executed. During the search warrant, officers seized 501 fentanyl-laced pills, a firearm, and \$20,189 U.S. Currency.

On September 7, 2022, Fargo Police were dispatched to a shooting in their city. The suspects fled in a vehicle and were last seen eastbound on the Interstate. A Moorhead officer located the vehicle at a high rate of speed on the interstate and attempted to catch up with the vehicle. The vehicle exited the interstate and lost control, becoming disabled in the ditch. All four occupants fled on foot. Officers set up a perimeter in the last known area, and Officer Musich and Zeke gave K9 announcements. Officer Musich and Zeke attempted to track the suspects. Zeke pulled towards a tall brush line. Zeke located a backpack that contained a firearm and narcotics in it. They continued to check this brush pile, discovering three firearms and a ski mask. They continued to track, and Zeke pulled towards a culvert and located the four individuals inside. Two fled on foot and were caught a short time after. Two remained and were taken into custody without further incident.



## Investigative Division

The division is made up of a Division Commander, Investigative Sergeant, Support Services Supervisor, and nine full-time Investigators. Two investigators are assigned to General, two in Juvenile, four in Narcotics, and one to the Metro Street Crimes Unit. General Investigators investigate cases such as crimes against persons (adult), property crimes, and computer forensics investigations. Juvenile Investigators investigate crimes against children such as physical abuse, sexual abuse, and neglect. Narcotics Investigators investigate local drug trafficking cases and historical drug conspiracy cases. Our investigator assigned to the Metro Street Crimes Unit focuses on gang related activity, fugitive apprehension, and high crime areas.

In January, Support Services Supervisor Lisa Johnk was reassigned from the Records Division to the Investigative Division switching assignments with Support Services Supervisor Jami Diederich.

In March, Officer Eric Zimmel was selected as the new Narcotics Investigator and was reassigned to the Investigative Division.

In 2022, we participated in three Task Forces. One of our Narcotics Investigators is attached to the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) Drug Task Force in Fargo, ND. We are members of the Internet Crimes against Children Task Force (ICAC) assisting us with child pornography investigations. Our Metro Street Crimes Investigator is also part of the U.S. Marshals Service North Star Fugitive Task Force. The participation in these Task Forces allows for additional funding to offset the cost associated with overtime, training, equipment, and fuel. This funding comes from grants and federal agencies.

The Investigative Division maintains local predatory offender files by tracking and ensuring compliance of approximately 160 offenders in the City of Moorhead. The Moorhead Police Department had 1,276 offender contacts in 2022. These included 46 investigations into Failure to Register cases, 22 initial/new registrations, 311 changes of information, 453 homeless weekly check-ins, and 444 quarterly compliance checks.

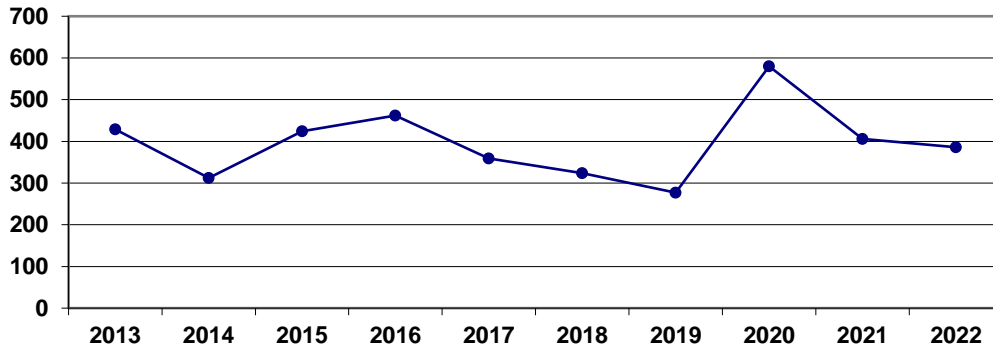
Offenders are assessed a risk level, by the Department of Corrections, prior to their end of confinement if they were incarcerated in a state prison. Those that were not confined in state prison are given an unassigned risk level. Information on Level I and Unassigned offenders can be shared with other law enforcement agencies and the offender's crime victims/witnesses. Level II offender information may also be disclosed to law enforcement agencies as well as groups the offender is likely to encounter such as educational institutions and childcare establishments. Risk Level III is the highest level assigned and can also be disclosed to other members of the community. The Moorhead Police Department provides notification on Level III offenders through the media, community meetings, and the City of Moorhead website. There were approximately 6 Level III offenders residing in Moorhead at various times in 2022.

The division is also responsible for conducting background investigations for most city licenses and permits including liquor, pawn, massage, tobacco sales, secondhand dealers, and used car dealers. We also conduct background checks and issue permits for citizens wishing to purchase handguns and semiautomatic military-style assault weapons. For several years we saw the numbers somewhat fluctuate but saw a large increase in 2020, when we processed 580 applications. In 2022,



we processed 386 applications showing a reduction in both 2021 and 2022. This was more consistent with the number of applications we processed prior to 2020.

### **Handgun and Semiautomatic Military-Style Assault Weapon Permits**



### **High Profile Case Activity**

In 2000, the Investigative Division conducted a sexual assault investigation charging 46-year-old Curtis Lee Brovold with 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree Criminal Sexual Conduct for sexually assaulting a 14-year-old girl he met online. Brovold resided out of state and flew to Moorhead where he met the girl at a hotel. He was arrested, posted bail, and believed to have fled to Mexico. Brovold made the FBI's most wanted list for Unlawful Flight to Avoid Prosecution. After years of searching and following leads, he was arrested on January 12, 2022, in Cancun, Mexico. Brovold was subsequently brought to the Clay County Correctional Facility to face charges. The 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree Criminal Sexual Conduct charge was dropped. He pled guilty to Failure to Appear, was sentenced to time served, and was released from custody on January 9, 2023. He also faced a charge for bribery which was also dismissed.

On December 1, 2022, officers responded to a report of an unconscious female inside of her residence. The victim was pronounced dead when officers arrived and was later found to have died from sharp force injuries. Family, who had located the victim, believed her son James Kollie was the suspect in her death. James was arrested from the same residence four days prior for making threats toward his mother. James fled the area in his mother's vehicle and was located and apprehended in Wahpeton, ND, on December 2, 2022. James was charged with the murder of his mother and extradited back to Clay County.

### **Other Significant Investigations**

On January 1, 2022, a juvenile female victim presented herself to the hospital with an arterial bleed stab wound to her leg. The investigation determined the adult male boyfriend was responsible for the assault and arrested. He was found guilty after a jury trial in April of 2022, and sentenced to 86 months in prison.

On January 10, 2022, a 92-year-old man was found attempting to send \$10,000 to a scammer. The package was intercepted, and the money was returned to his family.

On February 6, 2022, a domestic dispute resulted in a female victim being stabbed by an adult male. The subject was convicted and sent to prison.

On April 17, 2022, an adult male broke into his ex-wife's apartment, hid inside until she returned home, and stabbed her. She survived and he is in custody awaiting trial.

On August 2, 2022, two adult male subjects observed a person at a convenience store that they were having a dispute with and approached the victim. The victim fled the parking lot in his vehicle with one subject jumping onto the hood of the car while the other subject fired a handgun at the victim. No one was injured. Both subjects identified, arrested and charged.

On August 28, 2022, investigators were called to an apartment fire. The investigation revealed the tenant had intentionally set fire to his apartment. He was charged with 1<sup>st</sup> Degree Arson.

## **Narcotics**

Grant funding allows us to collaborate with the local DEA Drug Task Force. This relationship allows investigators to start a case with a local user and follow them all the way up to the source of supply that may be established in another state. This type of investigation will often result in federal charges through the United States Attorney's Office and prosecution of drug traffickers responsible for bringing large quantities of narcotics to the Red River Valley. Cases such as these take an enormous amount of time and resources from local agencies; however, the benefit derived from their involvement has great payback as the sources of supply were arrested and convicted as well as the entire distribution network. The distribution network is primarily made up of local drug dealers, which have a daily impact on the standard of living in our community. The Moorhead Police Department had one of our Narcotics Investigators assigned to this Task Force. In 2022, our DEA Task Force Officer had 13 federal investigations open with the most active investigations resulting in 38 subjects indicted in federal court. Below is an excellent example of an investigation beginning with local narcotics investigators and moving to the federal system.

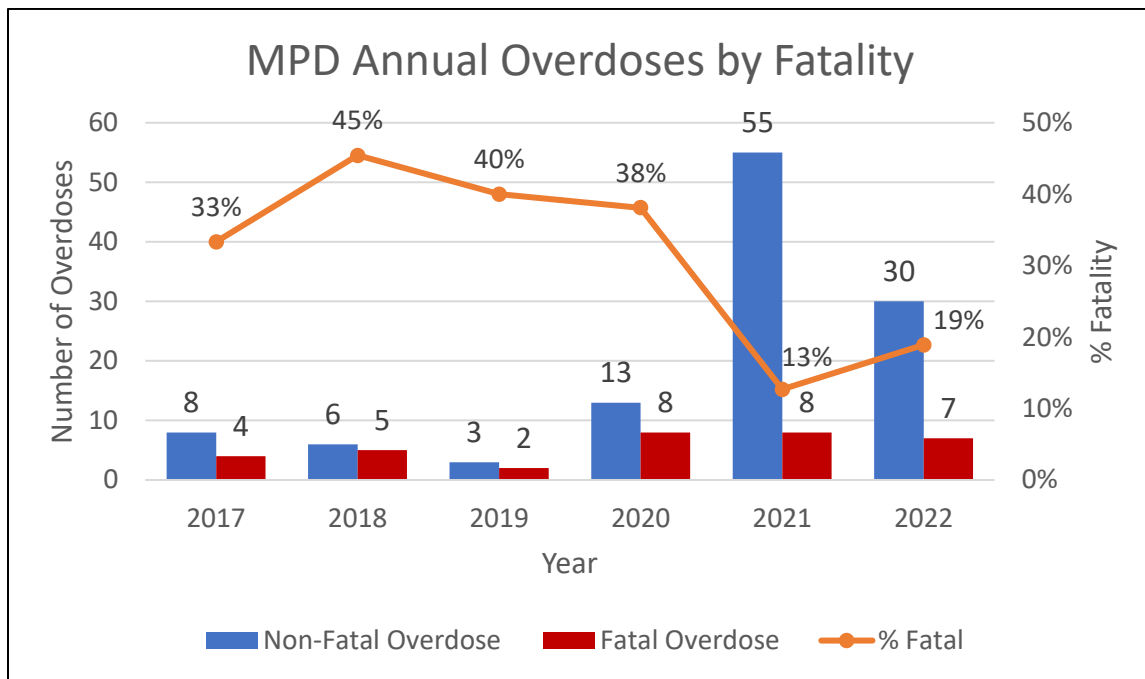
Local narcotics investigators collaborated and discovered that many of the suppliers they were targeting, in the metro area, were being supplied by a single source. After meeting and realizing the scale of the organization, the DEA Task Force adopted the case and was able to utilize many of the federal entities and logistical resources available to successfully dismantle this Drug Trafficking Organization (DTO).

On August 5, the Fargo DEA Task Force initiated a T-III investigation out of the District of North Dakota named "Operation: Rough Riders." Over a seven-week span, numerous co-conspirators were intercepted, surveilled and identified. In just under two months, more than (18) pounds of methamphetamine, approximately 2,000 fentanyl-laced pills, 6 firearms, including two silencers, and explosives were seized in North Dakota, Montana, and Idaho. Additionally, the investigation uncovered and prevented a murder-for-hire plot and was instrumental in preventing numerous planned acts of violence in North Dakota and Minnesota, including one incident where gun shots were heard on the active line.

On September 21, DEA, in coordination with numerous states, local and federal law enforcement agencies conducted 11 simultaneous search warrants and arrested 15 individuals in Idaho, western Minnesota, and North Dakota. The main target was taken into custody in rural Bismarck after a brief armed stand-off. The search warrants resulted in the seizure of 11 firearms, body armor, and suspected bomb making material at one location on the Turtle Mountain Indian Reservation. On October 5, 20 subjects were federally indicted in the District of North Dakota, with numerous additional indictments anticipated. This was a multi-agency operation consisting of over one hundred investigators from local, state, and federal agencies.

The abuse of prescription medication led to the implementation of a safe and secure prescription medication drop off location at the Moorhead Police Department several years ago. This program along with our partnership with the DEA, through National Take Back events, removed approximately 554 pounds of medications that were incinerated in 2022.

### 2022 Overdose Statistics

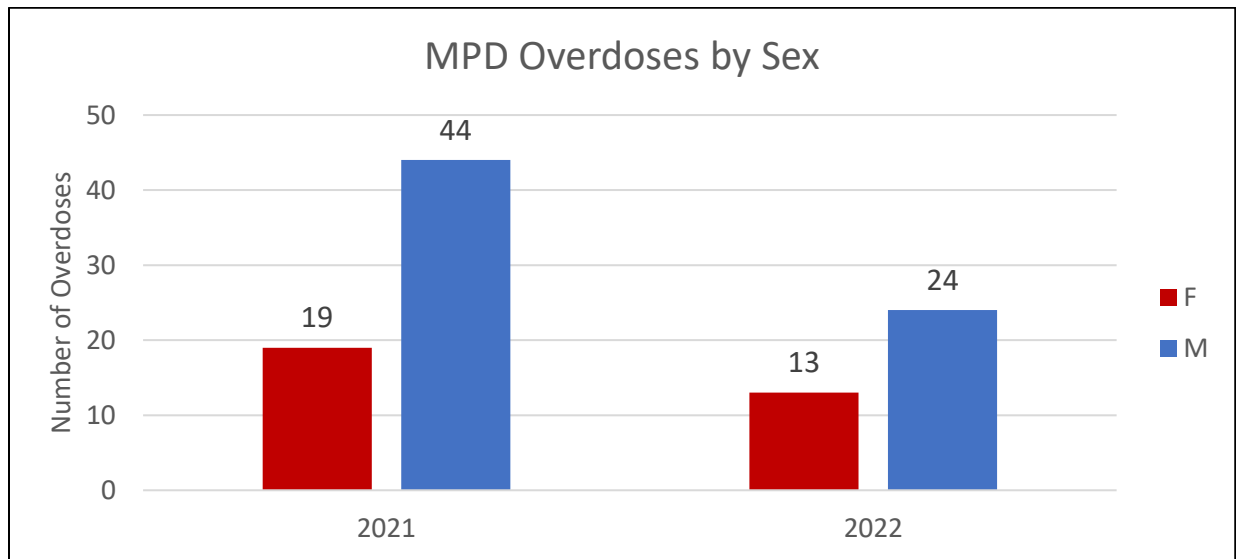
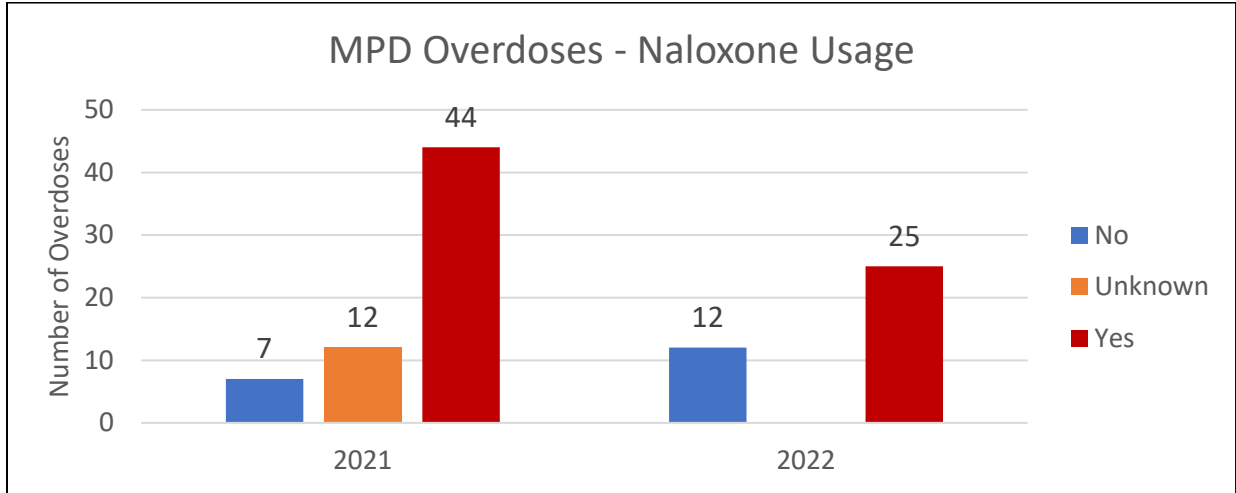


The orange line represents the percentage of fatal overdoses, the blue bars correspond to the total number of non-fatal overdoses, and the red bars represent the total number of fatal overdoses for that year. (Disclaimer: The data only reflects overdoses reported to the Moorhead Police Department. It is estimated that a portion of non-fatal overdoses go unreported.)

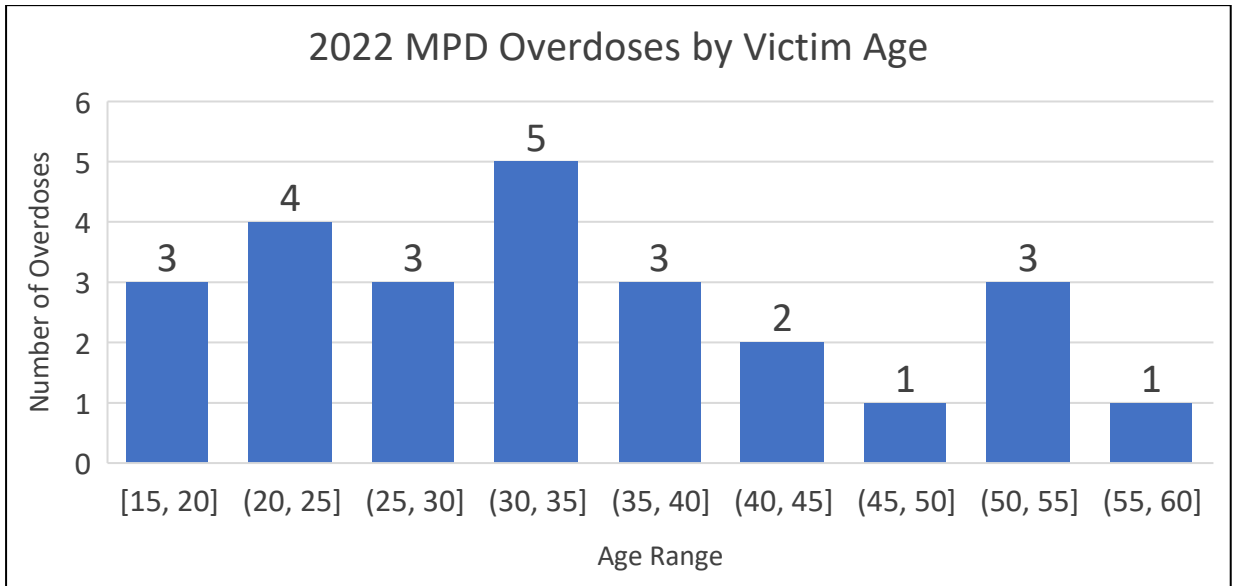
### 2022 Summary

- There were 41% fewer reported overdoses in 2022 compared to 2021 (2021: 63, 2022: 37).
- Non-fatal overdoses decreased 45% compared to 2021 (25 fewer reported) and fatal overdoses decreased 12% (1 fewer reported).
- Naloxone was reportedly used in 83% of known non-fatal overdoses and 0% of fatal overdoses in 2022. There was a 0% fatality rate in instances where Naloxone was used.

- 46% of reported overdoses in 2022 were attributed to fentanyl use.
- Methamphetamine toxicity was found to be the cause of death in 4 out of the 7 fatal overdoses. The remaining 3 were attributed to fentanyl toxicity or mixed/combined drug toxicity, which included fentanyl.







### Local Narcotics Investigations

In May 2022, Moorhead Narcotics Investigators utilized a Confidential Informant to make multiple controlled purchases of methamphetamine from a subject in Moorhead. A total of a quarter-pound of methamphetamine was purchased from the subject. In June 2022, it was discovered that a package had been mailed from Arizona to the subject’s Moorhead address in the name of his brother. The package was opened via search warrant and found to contain approximately 3 pounds of methamphetamine and approximately 2,000 counterfeit M-30 pills containing fentanyl. A controlled delivery occurred at the Moorhead Post Office, and the original subject’s brother and his brother’s wife were arrested. It was discovered that two additional packages containing drugs had been mailed to an address in West Fargo. The seized drugs from the one intercepted package and the controlled purchases have a street value of approximately \$75,000. This investigation was charged out as a drug conspiracy. Assistance on the investigation was provided by Fargo DEA, Fargo US Postal Inspector’s Service, Clay County Sheriff’s Office, and the Metro Street Crimes Unit.



Methamphetamine & M30  
Fentanyl Pills



M30 Fentanyl Pills

In September 2022, Moorhead Narcotic Investigators, assisted by the Clay County Sheriff's Office, executed a search warrant in Moorhead in regard to an ongoing drug investigation. Drugs seized during the search warrant included over 35 pounds of marijuana and marijuana-related products, psilocybin mushrooms, cocaine, and prescription pills. Additionally, 5 long-guns, 6 handguns, and over 1,100 rounds of ammunition were seized. Drug proceeds were also seized from the home totaling \$162,378 U.S. Currency and 1,014 grams of silver bars and coins. As the investigation continued, the source of supply for the drugs was identified as a subject living in Otsego, MN. In December, Moorhead Narcotics Detectives worked with the Wright County, MN, Sheriff's Office to execute an operation in Albertville, MN, which led to the arrest of the source of supply. A follow-up search warrant was then executed at the source of supply's residence in Otsego, MN. As a result of these operations in Wright County, MN, additional drugs were seized to include 25 pounds of marijuana, 401 THC cartridges, THC edible products, Promethazine/Codeine Syrup, and prescription pills. The source of supply was a felon, and found to be in possession of 3 handguns, which were also seized. Assets seized from the source of supply relating to this investigation included a 2017 Chevrolet Silverado, \$840 U.S. Currency, and fine jewelry with an estimated value of \$155,000.



## Drug Seizures

Seizures	2020	2021	2022
M30 Fentanyl Pills	0	422	9011
Meth (grams)	7682	31,771	5859
Heroin (grams)	209	145	32
U.S. Currency	\$693,372	\$151,036	\$278,648

## Juvenile

We have two Juvenile Investigators that primarily work physical/sexual abuse and neglect cases. These investigators receive specialized training on child forensic interviewing techniques. This training is specific to this position so investigators working as a team with social services, medical staff, and counseling services, can effectively receive non-leading information from child victims for court purposes and limit redundancy that leads to further exposing the victim to trauma. This collaboration works together as a team with members of the Red River Children's Advocacy Center to accomplish these efforts. The center was created to help accommodate victims and their families through the process.

Division supervisors and our Juvenile/General Investigators are also members of the Red River Child Abduction Response Team (CART). A Child Abduction Response Team is a group of individuals from various local, state, and federal agencies who are trained and prepared to respond to a missing/endangered or abducted child. CART pulls together resources to aid in the search and rescue effort and to assist the agency of jurisdiction in its investigation. Our team is certified through the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs. To maintain certification our team participates in tabletop and mock exercises to be prepared in case of a real event.

## Juvenile Investigations

In January 2022, Detective Saarinen interviewed a 14-year-old female victim at the Red River Children's Advocacy Center (RRCAC) after she disclosed to her step-father that she was sexually assaulted while staying at her sister's apartment. The victim's 18-year-old sister met 19-year-old Nicholas Foss on Tinder and he traveled to Moorhead to meet with her. The victim was at her sister's apartment for the weekend and awoke to Foss groping her breasts and vagina while in bed. Detective Saarinen located Foss in Sebeka, Minnesota, and obtained a confession. He plead guilty to 4<sup>th</sup> Degree Criminal Sexual Conduct in December of 2022, and was sentenced to a stayed 18 month prison sentence and 90 days served in the Clay County Jail. Foss will also be required to register as a predatory offender.

In February 2022, a 13-year-old female victim was interviewed at the Red River Children's Advocacy Center (RRCAC) and disclosed being sexually abused by her 60-year-old step-grandfather, Dennis Gomez. The abuse occurred when the victim was 8 or 9 years old and

consisted of Gomez rubbing and digitally penetrating her vagina. In June 2022, a 5-year-old female victim (cousin of victim #1) was interviewed at the RRCAC and also disclosed being sexually abused by her grandfather, Dennis Gomez. She described Gomez rubbing and digitally penetrating her vagina. She also disclosed being forced to perform oral sex. Gomez was arrested in July of 2022, for 1<sup>st</sup> Degree Criminal Sexual Conduct and is awaiting trial.

In October 2022, Detective Katie Schultz interviewed a 12-year-old female at the Red River Children’s Advocacy Center who disclosed her mother’s boyfriend had been sexually assaulting her while at her home. Her mother’s boyfriend, Cody John O’Hara, is a registered sex offender on supervised release for receipt and possession of material involving minors. He was arrested on new offenses and once incarcerated, the victim was able to come forward and disclose. O’Hara is currently awaiting federal charges.

### **Juvenile Victims**

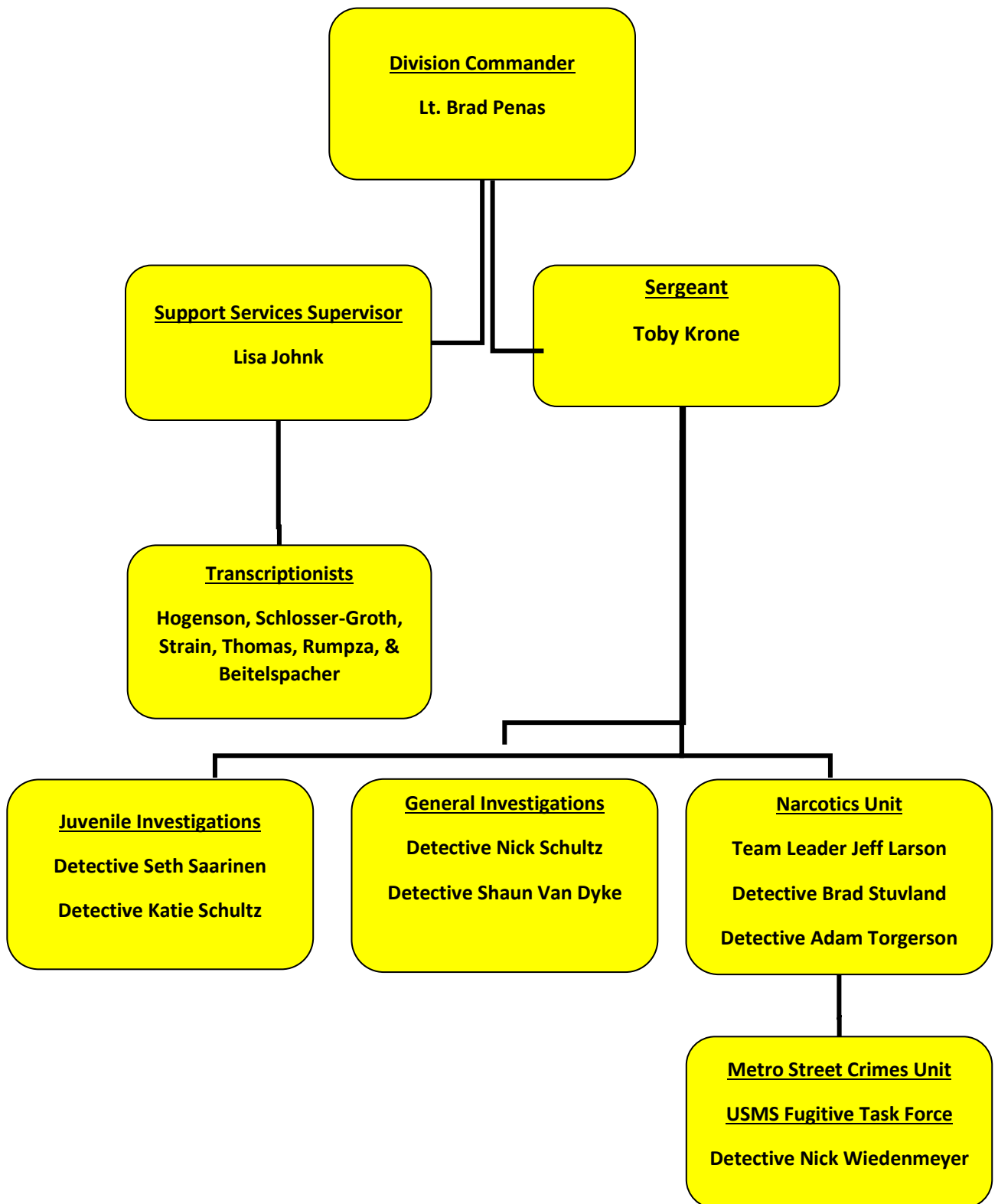
<b>Case Types</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>
<b>Criminal Sexual Assault</b>	66	76	72
<b>Physical Abuse/Neglect</b>	199	217	176



## Division Statistics

CASE TYPE NAME	TOTAL
ADMIN	0
ARSON	6
ASSAULT	56
ASSIST	36
BURGLARY	13
CHILD PORNOGRAPHY	14
CRIMINAL SEXUAL CONDUCT	101
DEATH	22
HOMICIDE	1
HUMAN TRAFFICKING	4
KIDNAPPING	1
MISSING PERSON	6
NARCOTICS	52
NEGLECT	176
PERMITS	109
ROBBERY	6
THEFT	28
SCREENED OUT BY SOCIAL SERVICES	829
OTHER ACTIVITY	17
VULNERABLE ADULT	35
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1512</b>

# Moorhead Police Department Investigative Division



## **Property and Evidence Unit**

The Moorhead Police Department Property Unit is an entity of our agency that very few people have the opportunity to see. The Property Unit is charged with the safekeeping of all property obtained through criminal investigations, as well as found or confiscated property. It is the policy of this department to ensure that property in its custody is properly secured, packaged, labeled and stored, is readily retrievable, and that any changes in its custody are properly and fully documented.

The property and evidence room is supervised by Sergeant Robb Matheson. Laura Hilgers is the department's main Evidence Technician. All evidence technicians and evidence room supervisors have been trained through the International Association of Property & Evidence (IAPE) and are current members in this organization.

### **Property and Evidence 2022 in Review**

The department uses an electronic format versus the live auction to sell property eligible for release. We have found this method increases the value of the property as more people are interested in the items than they would be at an auction. The Moorhead Police Department posts items online through electronic auctions on K-Bid.com.

The State of Minnesota recently began mandating that all property relating to Criminal Sexual Conduct investigations shall be retained on a permanent basis. As a result of this change, all evidence relating to these cases was reorganized to a centralized storage location in the property room, the same area that all other evidence for permanent case files is stored. This additional evidence storage requirement does create a potential for storage space related issues in the property room in the future.

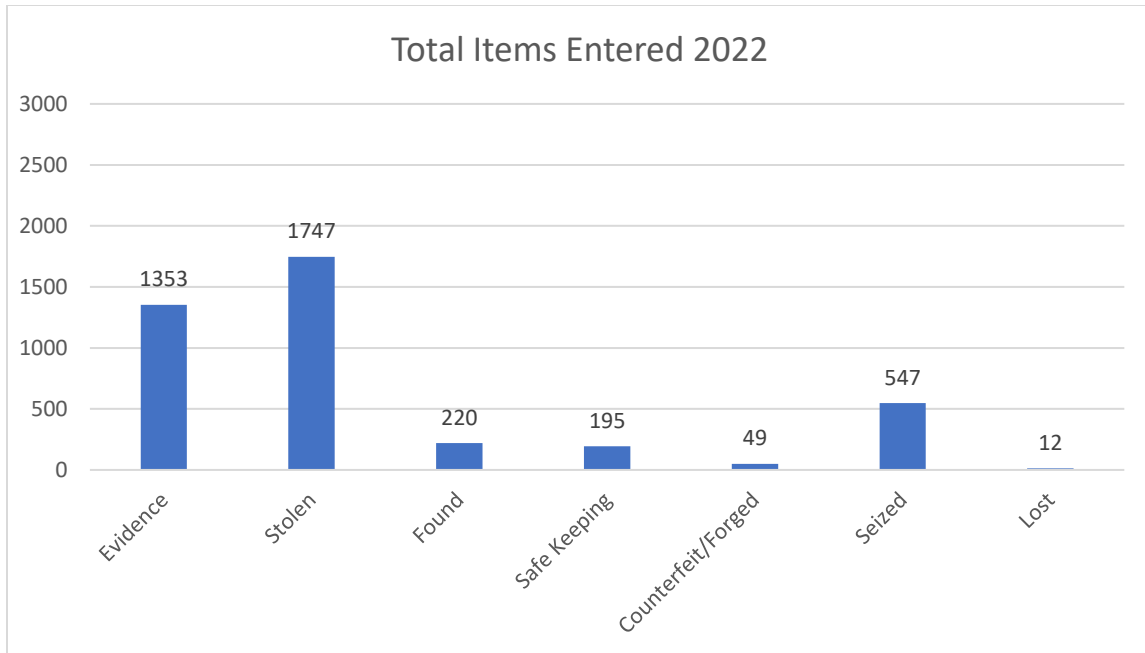
In 2022, all untested Sexual Assault Nurse Examination (SANE) kits being stored in-house have been sent to the Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension for testing or storage. The Property and Evidence Unit no longer retain any untested SANE kits.

Total revenue generated from the sale of eligible property was \$1,909.45. This revenue goes directly into the city's general fund.

2,364 items were entered into Property and Evidence in 2022. This includes 1,747 additional items that were listed as stolen items. These are not items that were stolen and recovered, only those items that were mentioned as stolen in a police report.

2,364 items were taken into the custody of the Property and Evidence Unit in 2022.

Seized property went down from 570 last year to 547 this year in 2022.



The start of year balance for the Property and Evidence account was \$12,587.23.

\$269,075.00 in cash deposits were made into the Property and Evidence account for storage until disposition of the criminal cases.

\$66,215 was withdrawn from this account in 2022. \$778.00 was returned to the owner or victim after the criminal case was resolved. \$103,584.00 was deposited into the city’s Drug Seizure account after the criminal case was resolved. Any drug seizure money is split with the State of Minnesota, the Clay County Attorney’s Office, and any other agency that assists with the investigation. L2RTF stands for Lakes to River Task Force. The following agencies received the following amounts:

- State of Minnesota \$10,348.40
- Clay County Attorney’s Office \$20,696.80
- Cass County Sheriff’s Office \$722.40
- L2RTF \$18,130.00
- Fargo Police Department \$722.40
- Moorhead Police Department \$40,091.57
- Clay County Sheriff’s Office \$4,002.95
- West Central Drug Task Force \$7066.15
- Grand Forks Drug Task Force \$851.67
- Pine to Prairie Drug Task Force \$851.66

\$393.32 accrued interest in 2022.

The year-end balance of the account is \$215,840.55.

All transactions with the Property and Evidence Unit are documented with the City of Moorhead’s



Finance Department.

The Drug Safe Program available to Moorhead residents was extended to collaborate with the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA). The DEA will destroy the prescribed narcotics and other prescriptions.

The Moorhead Police Department stores audio/video/photographic evidence electronically. Most evidence from minor case files (petty misdemeanors) is photographed and destroyed. Retention of electronic versus hard evidence increases efficiency and decreases the volume of hard evidentiary items retained by the Property Unit.



## **Red River Valley Special Weapons and Tactics (S.W.A.T)**

The Red River Valley SWAT (Special Weapons and Tactics) team is a highly trained, multi-agency team composed of law enforcement officers who are available to respond to high-risk incidents in our region. The team is made up of a Tactical Unit (including medics), a Negotiations Unit, and a Bomb Unit. The team includes officers, deputies, and medics from the Fargo Police Department, Moorhead Police Department, West Fargo Police Department, Cass County Sheriff's Office, Clay County Sheriff's Office, NDSU Police Department, Sanford Ambulance, and Sanford AirMed.

The Red River Valley SWAT team is a part-time team. The SWAT position is a specialty assignment within each agency. Each member has a full-time function within their home agency (patrol officer, detective, paramedic, etc.) with SWAT being an added responsibility.

The SWAT team is led by a Team Commander and Assistant Team Commander who oversee all units. During a high-risk incident, SWAT Command works closely with the local jurisdiction's Scene Commander to coordinate and carry out the safest response possible.

The SWAT team takes pride in being a part of our community and wants to be transparent in their role within Law Enforcement. The SWAT team participated in several local events to include the Holiday Lights Parade, St Patty's Day Parade, Fargo Marathon 5K Run and the annual Polar Plunge Special Olympics fundraiser.

### **Tactical Unit**

The Tactical Unit is utilized for high-risk search warrant service, barricaded individuals that pose a high risk to the public or law enforcement, hostage rescue situations, and many other situations which are viewed as extremely dangerous in nature. The Tactical Unit is composed of 27 SWAT members; many of which are assigned to specialized roles including snipers, breachers, Rook operators, tech and less lethal/gas deployment.

Members of the Moorhead Police Department assigned to the Tactical Unit include:

Sergeant J. Laddie Bata	Tactical Operator
Officer Matthew Lambert	Tactical Operator
Detective Shaun Van Dyke	Tactical Operator
Officer Kyle Huewe	Tactical Operator

The Tactical Unit was called on 26 times in 2022 for a variety of different situations.

The Tactical Unit prides itself on training hard and staying proficient in their tactics and firearms skills. The Tactical Unit has regular trainings, twice each month. New operators in the Tactical Unit are selected in April each year and begin training with the team after successfully completing a week-long Basic SWAT training course in May. In addition, The Tactical Unit trains at Camp Ripley, MN, for a week each year in September. The team takes advantage of this opportunity by training between 14 and 16 hours a day and utilizes many of the training facilities and ranges that are available. This training also serves as the final test for new operators in order to become fully operational. The SWAT team completed 22 days of regularly scheduled training with 4 additional days of training at Camp Ripley, MN. In total, the team completed approximately 169 hours of training.

In March 2021, the Minnesota legislature passed a significant change to the state's use of deadly force statute. Due to this change, mutual aid agreements between Minnesota and North Dakota agencies in our area were suspended in all capacities. This forced the creation of the CLAYMOOR Special Response Team (SRT) in order to fill the role of a high-risk response team in Moorhead and the Clay County area.

In early 2022, the Minnesota use of deadly force statute was modified to the point that mutual aid was able to be re-established between Minnesota and North Dakota agencies. On May 19, 2022, the Red River Valley SWAT officially reformed and resumed operations in both states.

The CLAYMOOR SRT was deactivated as a response team for high-risk situations based on the RRV SWAT resuming operations. The concept for the SRT has been modified and is now utilized in support of regular low-risk search warrants and various other operations in support of Moorhead and Clay County investigations.

## **Negotiations Unit**

The mission of the Negotiations team is to reach successful resolution of critical incidents through professional and calm dialogue with those involved. The Negotiation team often responds with SWAT's Tactical Unit during a critical incident. When deployed with all SWAT elements, each team works together towards the common overall goal.

The Negotiations Unit is comprised of ten negotiators. This includes one Team Leader and two Assistant Team Leaders. The Moorhead Police Department currently has two members allocated to the Negotiations Unit:

Officer Jonathan Hanson

Officer Michaella Bolgrean

The Negotiations team trains one day per month and attends several trainings with all SWAT elements throughout the year. New negotiators must attend a 40 hour course covering contemporary negotiation concepts. A new member must also act as the primary negotiator during a prolonged training scenario before becoming a fully operational member of the team.

The Negotiations team was utilized six times in 2022. These callouts included barricaded subjects and high-risk search warrants.

### Bomb Unit

In 2022, the members of the Red River Valley Regional Bomb Squad responded to a variety of different calls for service. The categories of calls and a total list can be found below. While compiling the data for this report, a trend worth noting was identified. Over the past year our team responded to three Improvised Explosive Devices or IEDs, and we didn't respond to any in 2021. These were all over-pressure devices using some type of a container to pressurize an explosive powder mixture. While these were unrelated in composition and construction it re-enforces the presence of these devices in our metro area and the need to continue identifying these items as hazardous in the future.

The team experienced some personnel changes in 2022. Member Alice Thielges, Fargo PD, joined the team this year. Commander Tim Runcorn, West Fargo PD, announced his retirement from the squad after 20 years of service. Technician Ryan Huber, NDSU PD, stepped down from the team after 13 years of service. Member Sasha Cook, Cass County SO, stepped down from the team after 6 months of service. We appreciate their years of dedicated service to the squad and the citizens of our response area.



<b>Incidents</b>		29
	Recovery/IED	3
	Recovery/All Other	20
	Suspicious	5
	Explosion/Post Blast	1
<b>Activities</b>		29
	Bimonthly Training	24
	SWAT Assists	3
	Joint Scenario Training	2

