

SIDNEY POLICE DEPARTMENT

2023 Annual Report



Our Commitment to the Sidney Community

Guarding - Guiding - Serving

PROFESSIONALISM – INTEGRITY – COURAGE – COMPASSION



(Firefighter Henry Ruhenkamp (I) serves with his sister, Police Officer Grace Ruhenkamp, as respective members of the Sidney Department of Fire & Emergency Services and the Sidney Police Department)

SIDNEY POLICE DEPARTMENT
2023 YEAR IN REVIEW

April 1, 2024

TO: Andrew Bowsher-City Manager
Michael Barhorst-Mayor
Steve Wagner-Vice Mayor
Sidney City Council members

SUBJ: Police Department 2023 Annual Report

Your Honor, Vice Mayor, Mr. Bowsher, and members of Sidney City Council,

It is my honor to present to you our agency's 2023 Annual Report.

This report provides a unique, "inside view" of the Sidney Police Department and of our greatest resource-the men and women who strive daily to provide excellent service to our community. It is through their dedication, sacrifice and exemplary efforts that you'll soon realize while reviewing the contents of this report, that we have something special here within the Sidney Police Department.

During 2023, the Police Department, like all City departments, was challenged in many ways. Most notably the agency observed changes in leadership, personnel promotions, critical incidents investigated, and new personnel added to our ranks. Throughout the year our members embraced opportunities to provide our community with superior police services.

This Annual Report provides a "snapshot" of the accomplishments of this agency during 2023. We continued to focus on areas of increased training for personnel, worked with community residents and businesses to resolve neighborhood issues, and addressed many safety and security concerns within our community. Working with City Departments, federal, state and local government, we were able to provide those services the community deemed important.

Our momentum to move forward as an organization was not curtailed. We updated needed equipment, revised policies and procedures in accordance with federal and state law and in accordance with the Ohio Collaborative Community-Police Advisory Board standards, and trained on tactics to operate more efficiently and effectively. In 2023, the agency received additional certifications by the Ohio Collaborative Community-Police Advisory Board, for maintaining current policies, standards, and training that met or exceeded best practices among Ohio's law enforcement agencies.

Our greatest resource, our officers and civilian staff members, will continue to be provided the best leadership, training, and equipment to prepare our agency for the future. We will continue to adhere to our Mission Statement and Core Values by making the City of Sidney a safe place to live, work, and play.

Respectfully,

Mark E. McDonough

Mark E. McDonough, CLEE
Chief of Police

Sidney Police Department Core Values
Professionalism – Integrity – Courage – Compassion

Table of Contents

TOPIC	PAGE
Agency Mission Statement & Core Values	4
AGENCY PERSONNEL SECTION	
Police Command Staff	5-7
Patrol Section	8
Detective Section	9
Dispatch Section	10
Police Records Office	11
Police Administrative Assistant	11
Police Evidence Coordinator	11
Tactical Response Team (TRT)	12-13
Honor Guard	14
Kg Unit	15-16
Park Ranger	17
Ranger/Code Enforcement Officers	18
Sidney-Shelby County Drug Task Force	19
Sidney Addict Assistance Team (SAAT)	19-20
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT SECTION	
College Internship Program	21
Medication Return Box	22
Community Resource Officer (CRO)	22-23
Citizen's Police Academy	23
Teen Academy	23-25
Safety Town	25-26
National Night Out®	27
Active Shooter Safety Presentations	27-28
Scams and Identity Fraud Presentations	29
Public Safety Cadet Program	30
Community Engagement Events	31-32
Pink Badges in October	33
CERTIFICATIONS, STATISTICAL INFORMATION, PERSONNEL ACHIEVEMENTS	
Lexipol Gold Standard Award	34
Ohio Collaborative Community-Police Advisory Board Reports	34-57
General Calls for Service Statistics	58-61
Traffic Crash Information	62-63
Continuing Professional Education	63-65
2023 Retirements, Promotions, and New Employees	66-68
2023 Agency Awards	69-70
2024 Department Goals	71-72
Agency Contact Information	73

The Sidney Police Department

The Sidney Police Department is a full-service, professional law enforcement agency that subscribes to a community-policing philosophy. Working in partnership with local law enforcement professionals, residents and businesses, our goal is to provide the services our community deems important.



Our Mission Statement defines our commitment to the community:

Sidney Police Department Mission Statement

In order to preserve life, protect property and prevent and detect crime, we will provide service with fairness and understanding, provide response with compassion, and provide performance with integrity.

We will proactively work in cooperation with our community to address identified areas of needed improvement, and continually provide the level of service and safety owed to our community and do so with the courage and the professionalism they deserve.

We are committed to elevated standards of trust, responsibility, and discipline while promoting justice in a fair and impartial manner.



Professionalism – Integrity – Courage – Compassion

Our Core Values describe who we are, what we do, guide our behavior, how we are managed, and how we relate to our community. They represent our highest standards as we serve one another and the public. Our goals and objectives, along with our policies and procedures, reflect these Core Values.

Police Command Staff



Chief Mark E. McDonough, CLEE:

Chief Mark McDonough was appointed Chief of Police for the Sidney Ohio Police Department on January 23, 2023. Prior to his current role, Chief McDonough served the Whitehouse, Ohio community as Chief of Police beginning in May 2012. Chief McDonough also served 22 years with the Bowling Green, Ohio Police Division before his tenure at Whitehouse P.D. Chief McDonough has obtained and administered grants, special projects, community-policing programs, and continues to develop the department's policies and procedures. He is responsible for 52 department employees and manages a budget of approximately 6 million dollars. He also oversees the agency's certification through the Ohio Collaborative Community-Police Advisory Board for meeting or exceeding best police practices and policy implementation.

Chief McDonough graduated from Mountain State University with a bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice Administration, and Tiffin University with a master's degree in Criminal Justice Administration. He is also a graduate of the FBI National Academy (#243), the Northwestern University's School of Police Staff and Command, the Police Executive Leadership College, and the Certified Law Enforcement Executive Course. Chief McDonough is a member of the Ohio Association of Chiefs of Police (OACP), the National Association of Chiefs of Police, and the International Association of Chiefs of Police. He serves as a member of the OACP Publications Committee.





Deputy Police Chief Aaron R. Rode, CLEE

Deputy Chief Rode was appointed as the agency's first Deputy Police Chief on July 31, 2024. Deputy Chief Rode comes to the Sidney Police Department after serving 13+ years with the Lima Police Department. Deputy Chief Rode began his law enforcement career in 2009 with the Bluffton (Ohio) Police Department, serving as a patrolman. During his tenure with the Lima P.D. he served as a Patrolman, Patrol Sergeant, and Lieutenant assigned as the second-shift Patrol Commander. His duties included Bike Patrol, Community-Oriented Police Officer, Traffic Crash Investigator, SWAT member and Team Commander, and Department Social Media Team Supervisor. He recently served as the Police Academy Commander at Apollo Career Center.

Deputy Chief Rode is a graduate of Franklin University, with a Bachelor of Science degree in Public Safety Management & Leadership, and holds an Associate of Applied Science degree in Public Service from James A. Rhodes State College. He is a graduate of the Ohio Law Enforcement Foundation/Ohio Association of Chiefs of Police Supervisor Training & Education Program (STEP), the Police Executive Leadership College (PELC), and the Certified Law Enforcement Executive (CLEE) course.

Deputy Chief Rode oversees the Operations, Investigations, and Administrative Sections, and the Park Ranger/Code Enforcement Officers.





Captain Jerry Tangeman (Investigations):

Captain Jerry Tangeman has been serving with the Sidney Police Department for 31 years, currently in charge of the Investigation Section for the past 17 years. He formerly served for five years as a patrol officer and two years as a detective. He spent six years as a Sergeant (two as a patrol Sergeant and four as a detective Sergeant). He spent five years as a Lieutenant (when that was an active position at the department). He served as a Field Training Officer, a FTO supervisor, Honor Guard member, and Hostage Negotiator commander. He currently serves as a detective, a Forensic Interviewer, and an Evidence Technician. Captain Tangeman is a graduate of the Ohio Association of Chiefs of Police/Law Enforcement Foundation's Police Executive Leadership College (PELC). In 1996, he was honored as the Sidney Police Department Officer of the Year, and in 2019 earned the Department of Fire & Emergency Services Life Saver Award.



Public Safety Superintendent Robert Jameson (Administrative):

PSS Robert Jameson has served with the Sidney Police Department for over 25 years, retiring as a Police Captain in 2023. PSS Jameson is a graduate of the Ohio Association of Chiefs of Police/Law Enforcement Foundation's Police Executive Leadership College (PELC). He holds an Associate's Degree in Criminal Justice from Edison State Community College. He currently oversees the Administrative Section (includes Dispatch, Records, Building Maintenance, and Evidence & Property Room). He served 15 years as a sergeant, 13 of those years as the Detective Sergeant in Investigations. He also served as our agency's first School Resource Officer, a previous member of the Tactical Response team (TRT), Traffic Crash Reconstructionist, Honor Guard, and Computer and Cellphone Forensic Examiner. He received the agency's Life Saving Award in 2004.

Patrol Section



The Patrol Section consists of three shifts: first shift (0700-1500 hours), second shift (1500-2300 hours), and third shift (2300-0700 hours). Each shift is assigned one (1) Lieutenant and one (1) sergeant who supervise four (4) to six (6) patrol officers. The Patrol Section is the “backbone” of the agency, providing direct law enforcement and referral services to the community. Lieutenants, sergeants and officers work together with City government, City departments, area law enforcement partners, the courts, social service agencies and community members to enhance the quality of life in Sidney.

Sidney Police Department Patrol Section

First Shift: Lieutenant Jeremy Lorenzo
Sergeant Ethan Brown
Officer Scott White
Officer Aaron Wesbecher
Officer Matthew Dembski
Officer Grace Ruhenkamp

Second Shift: Sergeant Robert Hurd
Officer Joseph Kennedy (K-9 Jett)
Officer Hayden Bronne
Officer Kiarra Kennedy
Officer Jordan Fox
Officer Caleb Lammers

Third Shift: Lieutenant Kevin Macke
Sergeant Cody Nelson
Officer Brad Anderson
Officer Aaron Swiger
Officer Trevor Robbins
Officer Gabriel Shroyer

Field Training (As of 4/1/24)
Officer Rodney Robbins
Officer Noah Curl

Detective Section

The Detective Section consists of three sections: the Sidney Shelby Drug Task Force, the general case detective, and the juvenile detective. The Detective Section is supervised by Captain Jerry Tangeman.

Detective Section Statistics	2023	2022
Total General Cases Investigated	151	157
Total Drug Cases Investigated	176	99
Forensic Interviews Conducted	34	32
Grand Jury Indictments- General Case	80 (110 charges)	110
Grand Jury indictments- Drug Violation	99 (225 charges)	89
Search Warrants (Business/Residence)	16	26

Sidney Police Department Detective Section

Detective Mark Brunson – Narcotics Investigator **Detective Bobby Benshoff** – Narcotics Investigator

General Case Investigator-Open as of April 1, 2024 Juvenile Investigator-Open as of March 25, 2024



Captain Jerry Tangeman (right), Investigations Captain, providing instruction to participants at a mock crime scene processing exercise during the Sidney P.D. Teen Academy.

Administrative Section –Dispatch

Dispatch Telecommunicators assisted in handling and dispatching a total of 25,141 police calls in 2023, in addition to assisting the community through other contacts. The Telecommunicator is the first person that callers reach when they call our department for assistance. They are the calming force and asset coordination during emergencies and other critical incidents. They coordinate officer and fire dispatches and check up on them to make sure they are safe. We greatly appreciate their hard work and dedication in keeping our police officers, firefighters, and community safe. Telecommunicators are the un-sung heroes in our community and we could not provide the services our community members expect without their assistance.



-Sidney Police Department Dispatch Section-



Mayor Mardie Milligan (center) reads a Proclamation to honor Sidney Public Safety Telecommunicators during National Telecommunication Technician Week, during the April 10, 2023, City Council Meeting. Mayor Milligan is joined by Telecommunicator Renee McDowell (I) and Chief Mark McDonough.

Sidney Police Department Telecommunicators

*Pam Goins
Melissa Lange
Renee McDowell
Pae Cathcart
Stephanie Wise*

*Nikki Brown
Whitney Gonzales-Varela
Kelci Wiley
Victoria Butterfield
Meghan Bell
Samantha Lockard*

Administrative Section - Police Records Office

The Records Office consists of two full time employees: Angela Kitzmiller and Amy Jennings. Both Angela and Amy have been with the records department for 24 years. Their duties include processing public records requests (including local records checks), assisting with departmental records keeping, working with the courts, handling finances, processing internal records requests, and assisting agency members with administrative duties.



The Business Office window of the Police Records Department.

The Police Records Department is open

Monday – Friday, 800am – 4:30pm.

Records requests may be made in-person, by email, or by calling our

Records Department at 937-498-2351

For additional information, visit our website:

<https://www.sidneyoh.com/204/Records>

Administrative Section - Police Admin. Assistant

Police Administrative Assistant Tim Kennedy joined our ranks in 2023. Tim assists the Administrative and Investigations Section with Victim's Reporting processes, new employee background investigations, crime scene processing, and other administrative duties as assigned. A recent retired Sidney police sergeant, Tim brings a wealth of knowledge and expertise to our agency, and assists PSS Jameson with many routine and extra duty assignments.

Administrative Section – Evidence Coordinator

Darrell Shoemaker serves as our agency's Property & Evidence Coordinator. Darrell assists PSS Jameson with securing both evidence and property within the Evidence and Property Room. They are both responsible for all evidence and property that is submitted by officers and staff members, and ensure they meet Federal, state and local laws and policy standards associated with the reception and care of property and evidence within the police department's control.

Tactical Response Team (TRT)



The TRT logo was created by TRT Team Leader Lieutenant Macke's daughter, for the team.

Our TRT team is a joint operation with Piqua P.D. which allows both departments to share resources, not only in manning but also in equipment. Among other things, the Piqua TRT team brings an armored vehicle. The Sidney TRT team brings hostage negotiation equipment, including a rescue box from which phone calls can be recorded, muted, and a throw phone can be attached. The Sidney team is led by Lieutenant Macke who is the TRT Commander and Officer Dembski who is the Team Leader. In 2022 Officer Bobby Benshoff was added to the team.

To become a team member, officers must apply to be a team member, complete a thorough physical fitness and firearm qualification, and rigorous interview process. All TRT members must meet certain qualifications on the physical fitness testing and firearms range qualifications annually to remain on the team. The Hostage Negotiation Team (HNT) is currently comprised of three (3) Sidney members and Piqua has two (2) and adding one (1) member in 2023 when training becomes available. The HNT reports directly to the TRT commander but is their own unit.

The TRT team trains on a monthly basis. Additional training in 2023 (and years prior) included Lt. Macke and Sgt. Hurd attending the Advanced SWAT training course. Two (2) team members also attended the Ohio Tactical Officer's Association (OTOA) annual conference, where they received various updated tactical-related training. Officer Dembski and Detective Brunson attended the Advanced SWAT training course, with the remainder of the team attending this course in 2024.

The TRT also implemented the Tactical Emergency Medical Service (TEMS) program with members of the Sidney Fire Department. TEMS is a method to ensure appropriate medical care can be rendered at the scene of tactical incidents in an expeditious manner to save lives. Reserve Officer Woody Goffinett and Jordan Stemen are our TRT's TEMS personnel. 2023 Missions: The TRT was activated for ten (10) missions during 2023. Nine (9) were for the execution of search warrants, and one (1) overwatch security for a downtown concert. There were no injuries to officers or suspects during these callouts.

-2023 Sidney Police Tactical Response Team-

LT. Kevin Macke-Team Commander
Officer Matt Dembski-Team Leader
Sgt. Ethan Brown
Sgt. Robert Hurd
Detective Mark Brunson
Officer Hayden Bronne
Officer Jordan Fox
Officer Aaron Swiger
Jordan Stemen (Sidney Fire/TEMS)
Officer Woody Goffinett (TEMS)

Crisis Negotiators
Sgt. Cody Nelson
Officer Scott White



Sidney-Piqua Police TRT member repelling from the side of a building during a training exercise.



Police Honor Guard

The Sidney Police Department Honor Guard is a ceremonial unit comprised of sworn members of the agency who are highly motivated and maintain exceptionally high standards of appearance, conduct and who show aptitude for ceremonial duty.

Our Honor Guard team also serves as “Guardian of the Colors” by displaying and escorting our national flag during ceremonial occasions.

The Honor Guard members are trained in protocol and upkeep of equipment and uniforms. The Honor Guard team is called to duty for parades, funerals, and ceremonial events. They have been invited to as the Color Guard (2 flag bearers flanked by rifle bearers) as opening ceremonies for the Dayton Dragons games. These officers take pride in their duties to serve when necessary.

This past year they participated in the Ohio Peace Officer Memorial Service in London, Ohio at the Ohio Peace Officer Training Academy. This ceremony honors all Ohio police officers that gave the ultimate sacrifice to their respective communities within the last year. Our Honor Guard has been given the honor of participating in that ceremony for over 25 years. Lieutenant Kevin Macke was honored for his service as an Honor Guard member and Commander after stepping down from the position in 2023. Sgt. Cody Nelson now leads the SPD Honor Guard.

-2023 Sidney Police Department Honor Guard Members-

Sgt. Cody Nelson-Team Leader
Sgt. Robert Hurd
Officer Andy Shappie
Officer Matthew Dembski
Detective Bobby Benshoff

Officer Sean Martin
Officer Bryce Stewart
Officer Aarron Swiger
Detective Mark Brunson



-Sidney Police Department Honor Guard-

K9 Unit:

Officer James Jennings retired in 2023 along with K9 “Kilo”. Officer Jennings had been a Canine Handler and trainer with our agency for many years. Officer Jennings set the bar for our agency’s Canine program, and was instrumental in selecting, training, and caring for our police canines. He provided inspiration for our next generation of police canine handlers, and the legacy he leaves will still resonate in our department for years to come. We wish Officer Jennings and K9 Kilo a long and happy retirement!

Officer James Jennings with K9 Kilo



What About Our K9 Program?

Our K9’s are trained for drug alerts, tracking, and apprehensions. They are trained in what’s called a ‘passive alert.’ This means that they sit to alert instead of biting a person or a scratching a vehicle to indicate they’ve detected drugs. The K9’s are trained utilizing a reward system. When alerted they are gifted with their toy. The best police K9’s have a high play drive and thus are motivated to play the “game” with their handler. Our K9’s and handlers attend training bi-monthly to ensure they attain their skills, for department and court documentation, and to ensure a return on investment to the Sidney community.

WELCOME CANINE HANDLER OFFICER JOSEPH KENNEDY AND K9 JETT!

Our agency has been blessed with a great police canine program. Our canines have not only been utilized for drug interdiction and enforcement purposes, they have been an asset for tracking lost and missing children and adults, and are an integral part of our community engagement process. Our Police Canines have provided demonstrations for groups and individuals showcasing their capabilities. Their skills and abilities make them a unique and gifted law enforcement partner.

For this current process, we had two (2) officers that applied for the position. Before Officer Joseph Kennedy’s selection, he had to successfully pass an oral interview process with our former K9 Officer and command staff, and we completed a

thorough review of his personnel record and performance for his suitability for this position. We wanted to ensure we selected an officer with the right knowledge, enthusiasm, and temperament for the position. Officer Kennedy is that officer, and we are more than happy with his selection.

Officer Kennedy and K9 Jett received their initial training through Von der haus Gill Police Canine Academy in Wapakoneta, Ohio. They will take the lessons they've learned and improve upon their performance, becoming an awesome crime-fighting duo for our city and surrounding communities. We look forward to observing their performance in the field in keeping our community safe while focusing on both enforcement and education efforts.

Officer Kennedy was appointed to our agency on October 22, 2018. He is assigned to second shift Patrol Operations (3:00pm-11:00pm) where he and K9 Jett will do well for our agency and Sidney community.



*Officer Joseph Kennedy, our agency's Canine Handler,
Introducing K9 "Jett" to City Council members and the public.*

Park Ranger

The Sidney Police are assisted by Park Ranger Aselage. He is a sworn peace officer in the state of Ohio having attended the police academy and received state certification. Ranger Aselage spends most of his time in Sidney parks, patrolling for issues such as vandalism, traffic complaints, and animal concerns. He works full time in the summer and when the parks close for the season he works for the Parks Department.



Park Ranger Justin Aselage



Park Ranger Aselage instructing children during Safety Town.

Ranger/Code Enforcement Officers

In 2023, the City of Sidney added the addition of two (2) additional sworn personnel to the Police Department. Arthur Franklin and Derek Harmon were selected to attend the Ohio Peace Officer Training Academy to obtain their police officer state certifications. Their primary duties are code enforcement, city parks patrol, and assist the police department on calls for service (as needed). They will work directly with the Community Development Department, Parks Department, and the Police Department.



Ranger/Code Enforcement Officer Arthur Franklin (l), Park Ranger Justin Aselage (center), and Ranger/Code Enforcement Officer Derek Harmon. Both Officer Franklin and Officer Harmon recently graduated from their respective police academies. Their primary duties will be code enforcement while assisting the Parks Department and Police Department as needed.

Sidney-Shelby County Drug Task Force (DTF)

Sidney Police Chief Mark McDonough and Shelby County Sheriff James Frye collaborated on creating a county-wide drug task force, to address the issues of narcotics trafficking in the City of Sidney and Shelby County. In August of 2023, a Memorandum of Understanding was signed between both agencies to create the Sidney-Shelby County Drug Task Force.

Narcotics detectives from both the Sidney Police Department and Shelby County Sheriff's Office combined to collaborate on joint investigations of illegal narcotics trade in both jurisdictions. The combined force work directly to investigate, arrest, charge, and prosecute drug traffickers and related criminals. Working closely with patrol officers, deputies, and other individuals and agencies, the DTF is working to address illegal narcotics trafficking in our area and to decrease the victimization and assist those addicted to illegal narcotics.

Sidney Addict Assistance Team (SAAT)



*Julie Clay, the Sidney Police Department's
Sidney Addict Assistance Team (SAAT) Coordinator.*

The Sidney Addict Assistant Team (SAAT) through the Sidney Police Department works to help addicts in the area that are working through recovery or would like to begin their recovery journey.

The SAAT was started in 2016 when the opiate pandemic started to get out of control in Ohio. The team's goal is to help addicts in the area find resources to help them throughout their recovery. SAAT Coordinator Julie Clay recently started as the program coordinator, but has been involved since its inception through her work with the Shelby County Counselors.

Clay reaches out to organizations in the area such as New Vision and the Mercy Mission House to build relationships with those organizations to let them and the people they help know that the SAAT program is there to help connect them with other resources for detox and recovery in Sidney. Clay also reaches out to addicts who have overdosed, typically within the week, simply to let them know that she is there if they should want her help.

“Anytime somebody overdoses in the county or the city limits, we try to get out and see them within 24 hours or a week, depending on if we are able to catch up to them, and just reach out to them to let them know that somebody’s there and that somebody cares and try to engage them in services and try to get them into recovery. From that point, we follow up with them as well, it’s about building rapport, building connections with them and letting them know that they’re not the only ones, they’re not alone and that there’s resources out there,” said Clay.

Not only does Clay initially reach out to these individuals at the beginning, she continues to check in on them as often as they would like, even if it is just with a text message letting them know she is thinking of them and is there for them.

While the team has multiple ways of reaching out to the community, Clay wants to ensure that the community knows that they can reach out to her. Those in active addiction or even loved ones of someone struggling with addiction can call Clay at 937-498-8781 for help finding recovery resources in the area.

“If they know anybody or maybe if they have someone that they’re concerned about and they just want us to go talk to, I’ve done that as well. Sometimes family members just need somebody to talk to as well because they’re struggling to understand and to know what is the right thing to do. So we try to encourage them and give them resources as well so that they don’t feel like they’re alone in the battle either,” said Clay.

(Courtesy of *The Sidney Daily News*, 30 December 2022: [SAAT extends a helping hand - Sidney Daily News](#)).

2023 SAAT Annual Statistical Information:

2023 Sidney Police Department Drug-Related and SAAT Assistance Information	
# of calls that involved overdoses	48
# of reports that we have taken involving a drug code (excluding overdose)	234
# of adults that we have charged with a drug violation(s)	24
# of juveniles that we have charged with a drug violation(s)	0
# of individuals taken to Grand Jury for a drug violation(s)	60
# of drug charges presented to the Grand Jury	155
# of times naloxone has been used by SPD	3
# of overdose deaths *use coroner data-SPD count may change depending on coroner findings	*12
# of drug presentations completed	20
# of individuals that we attempted to make contact with (ref treatment)	244
# of individuals that we made contact with (ref treatment)	236
# of individuals that contact the PD seeking assistance for self or family member	9
# of hours that the SAAT member completed callouts	143.7

SAAT Community Engagement: Beginning in November 2022, Julie Clay, SAAT Coordinator, partnered with Mercy Mission House Emergency Shelter to instruct a 6-week course on basic life-skills, recovery education and relapse prevention education to both men’s and women’s groups.

Community Engagement

COLLEGE INTERNSHIP PROGRAM



The Sidney Police Department partners with area colleges and state universities to provide an internship program for those aspiring to enter a career in criminal justice. Interns assist with department programs and projects, complete patrol ride-alongs to observe officers during calls for service, observe our Telecommunicators in Dispatch, and work closely with our Detective Section. During 2023, the SPD presented this opportunity to two (2) college students. Since 2017, the department has offered the internship program to 22 area college students.

Bryce Metz, a student at Bowling Green State University completed a summer internship program from May 8, 2023 through July 22, 2023.

Gabrielle Wilson, a student at the University of Dayton, completed a summer internship from May 8, 2023 through August 4, 2023.

Our agency college internship program provides real-world experience for our college students. Many come from area colleges and universities including Bowling Green State University, Tiffin University, and community colleges to include Edison State, Rhodes State, and Sinclair State Community College. Our positive relationship with these entities has afforded our agency with great candidates for law enforcement and other related fields of employment. We often have several students on a waiting list for the upcoming semester who wish to intern with our department.

Medication Return Box



In cooperation with the U.S. Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA), the Sidney community participated in the bi-annual Drug Drop Off program in 2022. Residents had the opportunity to drop off expired or unused over-the-counter or prescription medications to be disposed of safely and properly. Sidney Police personnel along with our SAAT Coordinator, Julie Clay participated in these events. The medications collected were delivered to the DEA Dayton Office for proper disposal. Both Drug Drop Off days were successful in obtaining and properly disposing of unused medications, lessening the opportunities for abuse and for a positive environmental impact.

Sidney P.D. Drug Return Box Totals

January 2, 2023	79-lbs.
May 15, 2023:	89-lbs.
2023 Totals:	168-lbs.
2022 Totals:	180-lbs.

Medication Return Box

The Sidney Police Department provides an additional drug drop off location in Shelby County. Citizens can drop off their unused medications 24-hours a day, making the drop off box convenient to Sidney residents. The Police Department can only accept capsules and pills/tablets, no liquids, syringes, patches, etc., for placement inside the drop box.

Community Resource Officer



Officer Bryce Stewart, Community Resource Officer, having a conversation with the youth of our community.

The Sidney Police Department has a full-time officer devoted to community outreach. Officer Stewart is currently serving as the “CRO” (Community resource officer). Officer Stewart is instrumental in coordinating our community engagement activities.

Citizen’s Police Academy:

The Citizen’s Police Academy (CPA) provides the participant a unique, inside view of the police department. The program allows adult members from our community to experience what it is like to police in modern society. They may participate in patrol ride-alongs or spend time with our Telecommunicators in the Dispatch Section. The 10-week program is normally offered during the winter months, with a graduation ceremony in April.

SIDNEY POLICE DEPARTMENT
Citizens Police Academy

Enhancing communication between the residents of Sidney and the police who serve them.

**This program is designed to give the Citizens of Sidney an overview of how the department operates and an in-depth view of what it takes to become a Police Officer.*

INTERESTED IN JOINING THE CITIZENS POLICE ACADEMY?

APPLICATIONS CAN BE PICKED UP AT THE SIDNEY POLICE DEPARTMENT.

**234 W Court St.
Sidney, OH 45365**

**Application deadline January 23, 2023*

FREE 10 WEEK COURSE

Wednesdays from 6:30pm to 9:00pm
Starting February 22nd till April 26, 2023
at Sidney Police Department

TOPICS COVERED:

- Department Operations
- Facility Tour
- Drug Investigations & Enforcement
- Cyber Crime, Identity Theft, Fraud, and Scams
- Law Enforcement Technology
- Real life of police work
- Domestic Violence
- Search & Seizure
- Traffic Stops
- Contemporary Policing Issues
- Use of Force
- Police K9's
- Active Shooter
- Police Simulator
- Investigations & Crime Scene Management

**This list is subject to additions and substitutions*

For more information, contact
Officer Bryce Stewart at: bstewart@sidneyoh.com

Teen Academy:

Like the adult academy, this course focuses on teaching our youth about policing. Students receive classroom presentations and “hands-on” exercises which are police-related. The highlight of the course is when our students take what they’ve learned and participate in a 3-hour mock murder scene. Students are tasked with processing the crime scene, interviewing witnesses, and solving the crime.



2023 Sidney Police Department Teen Police Academy Graduates



Chief McDonough (top left) instructs the 2023 Teen Academy about Sidney Police Department structure on their first day.



Officer Matt Dembski (middle left) and Officer Bryce Stewart (right) provide a tour of the Police Department and patrol vehicles during the 2023 Teen Police Academy.



SAAT Coordinator Julie Clay (top left) and Detective Mark Brunson (top right) provide instruction to the 2023 Teen Academy students.

Safety Town:

Safety town is for young children to learn about the police department and how to be safe. It is a great opportunity for positive interaction and engagement between young children and police officers, firefighters, and various community members. Our Safety Town program is offered during the summer months.



Sgt. Cody Nelson (top middle) and Police Intern Bryce Metz (center) interact with the 2023 Safety Town students.



Shelby Co. Dog Warden Chastity Crowder shows one of the shelter dogs to a Safety Town student.



Shelby County Emergency Management Specialist Rikki Gerodimos (l) and Shelby County EMA Director Kristy Fryman (r) with the 2023 graduating class of the Sidney Police Department's Safety Town!

National Night Out®:

During National Night Out® the community celebrates the work that first responders and area agencies do for their community. The Sidney Police and Sidney Department of Fire & Emergency Services take this opportunity to foster positive interactions and engagement with community members and safety services personnel. The National Night Out® was held on August 1, 2023 at the Shelby County Courthouse grounds.



Community Resources Officer Bryce Stewart interacts with participants at the National Night Out® event held at the grounds of the Shelby County Courthouse. Organizations within Shelby County, along with the Sidney Police Department and Sidney Department of Fire & Emergency Services participated in this event.

What is National Night Out®?

National Night Out is an annual community-building campaign that promotes police-community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie to make our neighborhoods safer, more caring places to live. National Night Out enhances the relationship between neighbors and law enforcement while bringing back a true sense of community. Furthermore, it provides a great opportunity to bring police and neighbors together under positive circumstances.

Millions of neighbors take part in National Night Out across thousands of communities from all fifty states, U.S. territories and military bases worldwide on the first Tuesday in August (Texas and select areas celebrate on the first Tuesday in October). Neighborhoods host block parties, festivals, parades, cookouts and various other community events with safety demonstrations, seminars, youth events, visits from emergency personnel, exhibits and much, much more.

Active Shooter and Safety Awareness Presentations:

Our agency provides instruction on how to respond to an active shooter, and how to stay safe should this situation arise. Our agency personnel often schedule full-scale active shooter exercise at schools, business, and houses of worship. Multiple first-responder agencies also participated in these exercises. During 2023, the Sidney Police Department hosted the Ohio Crime Prevention Association's *House of Worship Security Training and Risk Management* for law enforcement and our area faith community members. The training covered topics to educate members, staff, leadership, and clergy on how to protect people and property; preventing accidents, injury, and neglect, safeguarding against loss from crime and theft of

funds, protecting members and staff from abuse, liability, false claims, and lawsuits. Protection of those entrusted to your care is a key element of a House of Worship.

According to the OCPA website, the House of Worship Security & Risk Management training course is designed to inform and educate those responsible for maintaining a safe environment for the people and property associated with churches, chapels, synagogues, temples, mosques, or any other place of worship we reverently call a House of Worship. This course will assist in helping House of Worship leaders to learn how to prevent, avoid, and control various risks associated with the members, staff, guests, and buildings that make up your House of Worship.



The Sidney Police Department hosted the Ohio Crime Prevention Association's (OCPA) House of Worship and Risk Management training during 2023. OCPA Vice President, John DiPietro, was our guest instructor for the training. Area law enforcement and faith community members took advantage of the training, the first time offered at Sidney P.D. (Photo courtesy of the Ohio Crime Prevention Association).

Scams and Identity Fraud Presentation:

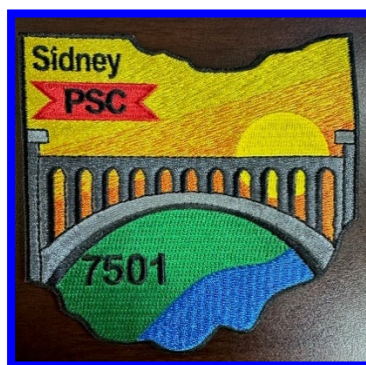
These presentations provided to our community with information on the latest fraud and scams. The instructions includes information on what to do if you're a victim of identity fraud, and how our agency, the Ohio Attorney General's Office and other organizations can assist you in protecting yourself against scams and fraud, and what to do if you become a victim of identity fraud. The Ohio Attorney General's Office provides information and resources to assist victims of fraud. Victims of identity fraud can access the Attorney General's website to report a fraud or scam at: <https://www.ohioattorneygeneral.gov/About-AG/Contact/Report-A-Scam>.



Sgt. Cody Nelson (standing) providing an Identity Fraud presentation.

Public Safety Cadet Program:

The Public Safety Cadet Program (Unit 7501) for area youth aged 14-20, offers a unique experience on what it is like to be a law enforcement officer. This program consists of classroom and hands-on activities focusing on law enforcement techniques. Our cadets take the law enforcement skills they've learned to compete with other cadet programs throughout the state. We actively recruit new members for the cadet program who are interested in a career in law enforcement. Lt. Christopher Burmeister (retired) was instrumental in leading this program for many years. Our current contact for the Public Safety Cadet Program is Officer Bryce Stewart (bstewart@sidneyoh.com).



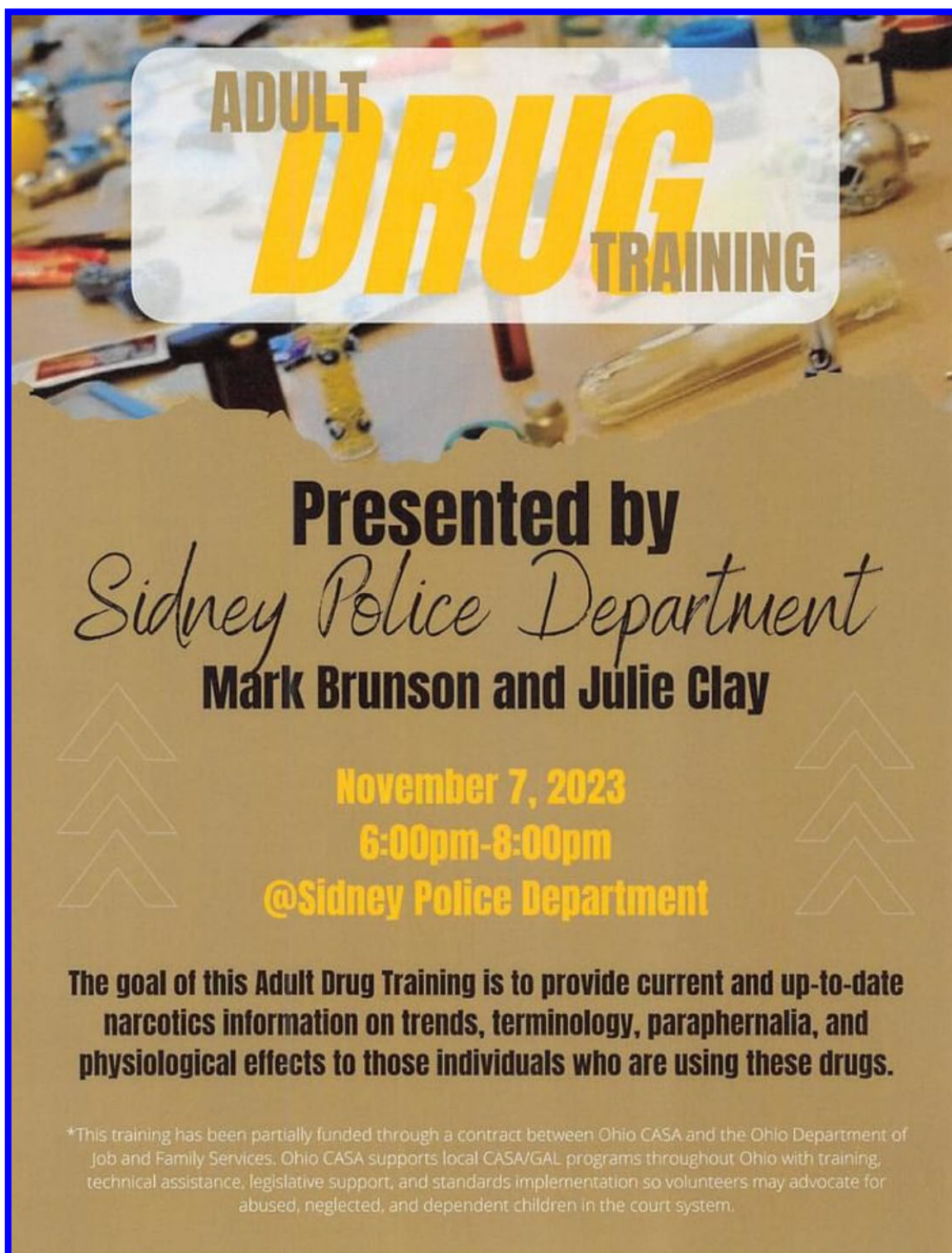


Sidney Police Department Cadet Program members (with Toledo Police Department cadets) during the Law Enforcement Skills Competition in Toledo, Ohio, in April 2022.



Sidney Police Cadets learning how to develop and lift fingerprints from a patrol vehicle from Officer Stewart.

Community Engagement Events

A poster for an "Adult Drug Training" event. The top half features a background image of various drug paraphernalia like pipes, syringes, and pills, with a white rounded rectangle overlaid containing the text "ADULT DRUG TRAINING" in bold yellow and grey letters. The bottom half has a tan background with black and yellow text. The event is presented by the Sidney Police Department, specifically Mark Brunson and Julie Clay. The date and time are November 7, 2023, from 6:00pm to 8:00pm, at the Sidney Police Department. A paragraph explains the goal of the training, and a small asterisked note at the bottom provides funding information.

ADULT DRUG TRAINING

Presented by
Sidney Police Department
Mark Brunson and Julie Clay

November 7, 2023
6:00pm-8:00pm
@Sidney Police Department

The goal of this Adult Drug Training is to provide current and up-to-date narcotics information on trends, terminology, paraphernalia, and physiological effects to those individuals who are using these drugs.

*This training has been partially funded through a contract between Ohio CASA and the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services. Ohio CASA supports local CASA/GAL programs throughout Ohio with training, technical assistance, legislative support, and standards implementation so volunteers may advocate for abused, neglected, and dependent children in the court system.

Sidney P.D. Detective Mark Brunson and SAAT Coordinator Julie Clay provided this public safety program for residents.

National

COFFEE WITH A COP DAY



JOIN US!

**Wednesday, Oct. 4th
8:30am - 10:00am**



**Sidney McDonald's
2215 Michigan St.
Sidney, OH 45365**



**Come connect with the
Sidney Police Department
and enjoy a fresh cup of
McCafe Coffee!**



Sidney Police Department, Shelby County Sheriff's Office and the Ohio State Highway Patrol were invited to participate in the National Coffee with a Cop day, held at the Sidney McDonald's. Many thanks to Sidney McDonald's for hosting this event (Advertisement courtesy of the Scott Family-Sidney McDonald's).

Why Do We Wear Pink Badges in October?



Sidney Police Officers wear the Pink Badge in the month of October to support and honor those who are fighting, have fought, or have succumbed to breast cancer during National Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

During the month of October, Sidney police officers wear pink badges to show our support for National Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

Breast Cancer Awareness Month, held in October every year, aims to promote screening and prevention of the disease, which affects one in eight women in the United States every year and 2.3 million women worldwide. Known best for its pink theme color, the month features a number of campaigns and programs – conducted by groups ranging from breast cancer advocacy organizations to local community organizations to major retailers – aimed at: supporting people diagnosed with breast cancer, including metastatic breast cancer educating people about breast cancer risk factors stressing the importance of regular screening.

Our organization is not immune from this disease. We have member's spouses who battled this disease and are survivors of breast cancer. Wearing pink badges during the month of October is our way of showing support those who are fighting, have fought, or have succumbed to breast cancer.

Certifications and Statistical Information



Sidney Police Receive Lexipol® Connect Gold Standard Award

For over 20 years, Lexipol has been helping public safety agencies address the critical needs for up-to-date policies and online training to better protect their communities. Over the years, Lexipol has identified key metrics that contribute to effective policy and training management. The Lexipol Connect Recognition Program is designed to provide agencies insight into these metrics and recognize those organizations who achieve policy and training management excellence. The Sidney Police Department has received the Lexipol Connect Gold Standard Award every year since 2020. Our agency utilizes the Lexipol policy and procedure program to ensure we meet or exceed standards and best practices in policing.

SIDNEY POLICE DEPARTMENT RECEIVES CERTIFICATION FROM THE OHIO COLLABORATIVE COMMUNITY-POLICE ADVISORY BOARD



In December 2014, Gov. John R. Kasich signed Executive Order 2014-06K, announcing the Ohio Task Force on Community-Police Relations after a series of incidents in Ohio and around the nation highlighted the challenges between the community and police. The task force included 24 members representing the governor, legislature, attorney general, the Supreme Court of Ohio, local law enforcement, organized labor, local community leaders, the faith-based community, business, municipalities, and prosecuting attorneys.

On April 29, 2015, after a series of public forums held around the state, the task force delivered its final report to the Governor, who in turn established the Ohio Collaborative Community-Police Advisory Board (OCCPAB) to oversee implementation of recommendations from the Ohio Task Force on Community-Police Relations.

The Ohio Collaborative, a 12-person panel of law enforcement experts and community leaders from throughout the state, established state standards – for the first time in Ohio’s history – on August 28, 2015, for use of force including use of deadly force and agency employee recruitment and hiring that can help guide law

enforcement agencies in Ohio. These new standards will hold everyone accountable and instill a greater confidence with the public. The Collaborative works closely with partners, including the community and law enforcement agencies, to implement the new standards. All law enforcement agencies are expected to meet or exceed these new standards as they develop policies and procedures to meet these new expectations. The Ohio Office of Criminal Justice Services (OCJS), a division of the Ohio Department of Public Safety, communicated those new standards to Ohio's nearly 960 law enforcement agencies. The Ohio Collaborative also provided model policies as a resource for agencies, and OCJS serves as a contact and is available to assist agencies with implementation.

The Sidney Police Department meets or exceeds the Ohio Collaborative standards, was awarded initial certification in 2016, and received certifications/agency recertification in 2019, 2020, 2021, and 2023 in the following areas:

Use of Force/Deadly Force	Community Engagement
Investigation of Employee Misconduct	Positive Youth Interactions
Recruiting and Hiring	Vehicle Pursuits
Body-worn Cameras	Bias Free Policing
Agency Wellness	Telecommunicator Training
Law Enforcement Response to Mass Demonstrations and Protests	
Crisis Intervention	

The following information serves as our agency's annual reporting of Ohio Collaborative standards:

2023 ANNUAL REPORT – USE OF FORCE (UOF)/DEADLY FORCE

OCCPAB Standard 8.2015.1

April 1, 2024

PREPARED BY: Chief Mark E. McDonough, CLEE

TOTAL UOF INCIDENTS: 7

TOTAL USE OF DEADLY FORCE INCIDENTS: 0

TOTAL UOF REPORTS: 7

In 2023, there were seven (7) UOF incidents involving department personnel. All were reviewed by police department leadership and found to be within policy compliance. During 2023, Department sworn personnel received annual in-service training related to UOF/Deadly Force as required by OPOTC and the Ohio Collaborative.

SYNOPSIS:

In 2023, officers were involved in seven (7) UOF incidents (in 2022 =11). In 2023 we had minor injuries to officers involved in these UOF incidents. All UOF incidents are thoroughly documented and reviewed by first-line, middle management, the Deputy Chief and Police Chief to ensure officers involved used proper tactics within policy guidelines. The Police Chief completes an annual review of all UOF incidents. The annual findings are provided below:

2024 DIRECTIVES: The following directives apply to all sworn personnel of the Sidney Police Department:

1. Continue annual UOF policy/procedure instruction and testing for each sworn employee. Training will include UOF policy review and hands-on training including firearms qualifications, handcuffing techniques, use of less-

lethal weapons, de-escalation techniques, providing medical care of the injured, and duty to intervene. This will be the responsibility of the department Firearms and UOF instructors to instruct and complete all training requirements and documentation. During calendar year 2024, UOF policy training, lesson plans and tests will be completed using Lexipol's Local Government University® training software program.

2. The UOF Instructors will be responsible for scheduling hands-on, UOF training sessions at least quarterly during the 2024 calendar year. The use of Guardian Tracking® software will be used for documentation of training. Documentation of course completion will be placed in the individual officer's Guardian Tracking file. Lexipol® Daily Training Bulletins (DBTs) will incorporate as part of UOF training for agency personnel. As part of the OPOTC mandate for Continuing Professional Training (CPT) credits, each sworn member will receive 2-hours of CPT credit for UOF policy training in accordance with the Ohio Collaborative standard for UOF/Use of Deadly Force.
3. The Firearms Instructors will be responsible for scheduling familiarization and state-certification training of duty weapons and police patrol rifles for all sworn personnel in 2024. This will ensure training requirements are accomplished per OPOTC mandates, Ohio Collaborative reporting, and department policy. Additional quarterly firearms training will be scheduled and conducted by firearms instructors as time permits.
4. Incorporate updates to UOF policy/procedure into the Lexipol® policy and procedure manual as provided by the Ohio Collaborative Community-Police Advisory Board, Ohio Office of Criminal Justice Services/Ohio Association of Chiefs of Police, and the Ohio Attorney General's Office/Ohio Peace Officer Training Council. Complete all agency self-certification processes as directed by the above-listed entities. Provide additional training to individual or agency members as needed. The Deputy Police Chief will oversee this process.
5. As part of the Ohio Collaborative Community-Police Advisory Board (OCCPAB) recommendations and best practices, the Police Department requires supervisory reviews of all UOF Report to include a first-line supervisory review of all incidents prior to submission to command staff. This mandates the supervisor to review all reports, body worn camera (BWC) and/or in-car camera videos for policy compliance, auditing, personnel policy compliance, and for training purposes. The supervisors and Deputy Chief complete and document monthly reviews of officer Body Worn Camera (BWC) and in-car camera videos to ensure supervisory oversight, training purposes, attend to disciplinary issues as necessary, and provide a copy of their reviews to the Chief of Police for further review/action. The Chief of Police will review all UOF Reports annually to ensure Federal, state law, and Department policy compliance. The Chief will also complete an annual review of all UOF Reports with recommendations and directives related to UOF policy, procedure, training, Federal and State laws/mandates.
6. Complete Ohio Collaborative re-certification processes in the Use of Force/Use of Deadly Force standard.

NOTE: During 2020, the Department received certification showing compliance and best practices in UOF policies and procedures, as well as certification and compliance with Presidential Executive Order 13929 "Safe Policing for Safe Communities" from OCCPAB.

**2023 ANNUAL ANALYSIS – MOBLE/AUDIO VIDEO RECORDING
& BODY WORN CAMERA REVIEW
OCCPAB Standard 12.2016.4
April 1, 2024**

Prepared by: Chief Mark E. McDonough, CLEE

In accordance with Department Policy, and Ohio Collaborative Standard 12.2016.4/E, The Sidney Police Department conducts monthly documented reviews of BWC captured data. First-line supervisors conduct random reviews of Mobile Audio Video Recording (MAVR; In-car camera systems) and BWC video of officers assigned to their respective shifts and the respective Shift Lieutenants complete this process for each of the first-line supervisors.

POLICY COMPLIANCE: During 2023, there were no instances of policy violations resulting from the reviews of Department MAVR/BWC videos. However, supervisors did observe issues that required addressing with individual officers. These included: 1) camera positioning; 2) proper use of turning on/off the MAVR/BWC; 3) equipment failure (i.e., battery issues); and 4) Safety concerns. All these issues were properly documented, with supervisors providing officers remedial training and documentation in these areas.

RECORDS RETENTION: All MAVR/BWC documented review records are completed in the agency's Guardian Tracking® software program. The documented reviews are kept in accordance with Ohio Records Retention law (minimum of 2 years). There were 47 non-criminal justice agency requests for MAVR/BWC copies in 2023 (individual, media, etc.).

CHAIN OF CUSTODY-EVIDENCE: The Public Safety Superintendent (PSS) ensures that a chain of custody is completed when a MAVR/BWC request for video is made through the Prosecutor's Office and/or public (via FOIA). The PSS ensures the contents of all MAVR/BWC videos are provided to the Prosecutor's Office or to the public in accordance with Federal and state law, and agency policy.

TRAINING: All Police Department personnel receive initial and annual training and testing of MAVR/BWC policy and procedure. The First-Line Supervisors were responsible for the dissemination of all policy and testing materials. Employees were responsible for acknowledging their receipt of the policy, their responsibility for knowing and understanding its contents, and for completing all training and testing procedures. All Police personnel successfully completed the training and testing process for 2023.

Recertification: The agency had an on-site audit completed by the Ohio Collaborative in March 2024. Re-certification will be completed in 2024.

2023 ANNUAL REPORT - INVESTIGATING EMPLOYEE MISCONDUCT

OCCPAB Standard 3.2018.7

April 1, 2024

Prepared By: Chief Mark E. McDonough, CLEE

The Sidney Police Department takes seriously all complaints regarding the service provided by the agency and the conduct of its members.

The agency will accept and address all complaints of misconduct in accordance with this policy and applicable federal, state, and local law, municipal and county rules and any requirements set forth in the City of Sidney Personnel Policy and Procedures Manual and collective bargaining agreements related to employee discipline. Access to the complaint process and forms are available on the Police Department's website (<https://www.sidneyoh.com/192/Police>) as well as at the Police Department Records Section.

It is also the policy of this agency to ensure that the community can report misconduct without concern for reprisal or retaliation.

WHAT ABOUT MY COMPLAINT AGAINST A POLICE OFFICER?

Presented as a public service by the Sidney Police Department

The police officer in every community is an unmistakable symbol, not only of the law, but of the entire community. Because of this, he/she is the obvious target for grievances against any shortcomings of our system of government. The police officer can work toward solving the complex problems of a community only when working in concert with the entire community.

Police officers can and must, however, recognize their responsibility to serve all members of the public to the best of their ability. Fair and impartial law enforcement, which respects the individual dignity and rights of all is essential, and must be accomplished with tact and diplomacy, whenever possible.

As police officers, we must professionally and objectively investigate all citizen complaints as expeditiously and thoroughly as possible. This enables us to arrive at all the facts which will either quickly substantiate the complaint or clear the officer's name, whichever is appropriate.

The following information addresses some common questions regarding the Whitehouse Police department policy related to the employee complaint process.

Does that mean the Police Department wants to receive complaints?

Of course not. A complaint means that someone may not have done a good enough job. We do, however, want to know when our service needs to improve or corrected.

Will you listen to my complaint?

Yes. Either an investigator assigned by the Chief/Deputy Chief of Police, or the officer's supervisor will investigate a complaint against an officer/civilian employee.

Who should I go to first?

You should take a complaint about an officer/employee to his/her supervisor. If a supervisor is not immediately available, the Senior Officer on shift will obtain your contact information, and forward it to the next available supervisor for review. The supervisor will contact you upon their return to duty. If the complaint is against a supervisor, contact the Deputy Police Chief as described above.

I want to take this all the way to the top. Will the Chief of Police be notified?

They will. The Chief of Police receives copies of all complaints against officers/employees. The officer involved is notified as well, as part of the investigation.

Do I have to make my complaint in person?

No, but normally a complaint must be from a known source to be investigated. A phone call or email can be used in the reporting process. The investigator may need additional information to further investigate your complaint, so complainant contact information is helpful.

Will I have to write out my complaint?

Yes. Normally, for a complaint to be investigated, the complaint must be in writing, signed and dated by the complaining person.

I am under 18. Do I have a right to complain?

Yes. Just bring a parent/guardian with you.

How thoroughly will you really investigate?

All reports of alleged misconduct by any Department employee are thoroughly investigated. As a police department, we need the trust of the community to do our job. We want to find out if/where we made our mistake. If the conduct was lawful and proper, then we want to explain that to the complainant. If it was not, we will address it with the officer through the progressive disciplinary process per the City of Sidney/Police Department policy, any collective bargaining agreements, and/or legal action. Additionally, if a person intentionally makes a FALSE complaint, we investigate further and take appropriate legal action.

Could I get in trouble for complaining?

Not if you're telling the truth. We are only interested in prosecuting those who make malicious, false allegations about our agency personnel. We would not (and could not) bring charges against a person who has acted in good faith.

What will happen to the officer/employee?

That will depend on what he/she did. If the officer's or employee's actions were criminal, he/she will be dealt with like any other citizen. If the actions were improper but not criminal, he/she will be disciplined.

Will I be told how the complaint is resolved?

Yes. For formal complaints, you will receive a letter from the Chief of Police telling you the disposition of our investigation. Oftentimes a supervisor will be able to provide the disposition of the complaint.

What about a lie detector?

In certain cases, where we can't determine the truth any other way, you may be asked to take a polygraph examination. The same is true of our officers.

What if I'm not satisfied with the results of this investigation?

We sincerely hope that would never happen. If it does, you may contact the City manager, or in some cases, the City Law Director or County Prosecutor's Office.

Our goal is that you will never need to use the information listed here. We don't want to fail in our efforts to provide you the best possible police service.

Note: Information on the complaint process is available on the Police Department website, and pamphlets are also available by mail or for pick up/review at the Police Department.

2023 Statistics:

Informal Complaints against Police Department Employees:	11	Disposition: Addressed by immediate supervisor
Formal Complaints against Police Department Employees:	1	Disposition: Unfounded
Total Complaints against Police Department Employees:	12	

The Department utilizes the Lexipol policy software to create and update all agency policies. Lexipol provides continuous updates to critical and non-critical Ohio specific law enforcement policies. These updates include current state and federal court cases, state-specific requirements, and Ohio Collaborative standards. Lexipol also utilizes a program called "Daily Training Bulletins" (DTBs) where the officers are provided daily training regarding our policies. This information is tracked through Lexipol software, which affords first-line supervisors and command staff the ability to track which employees have completed and acknowledged the DTB process.

In 2023, the agency received one (1) **formal** complaint against an employee (unfounded). Most formal complaints are investigated by the immediate supervisor and more serious cases are forwarded Internal Affairs (Detective) Section for investigation.

In 2023, the agency received 11 **informal** complaints against agency employees. These incidents were investigated by first-line supervisors and reviewed by the Deputy Police Chief. The Deputy Police Chief/Patrol Lieutenant/Shift Sergeant interviewed the complainants and identified involved employee(s). The results of those investigations were found to be unfounded and/or exonerated our employees. The Patrol Lieutenants/Shift Sergeants were able to mitigate the incident which resulted in the satisfaction of the complainant and the officer involved. These incidents were documented and reports secured according to agency policy, City Records Retention Schedule, and Ohio Collaborative requirements.

Policy Training:

The agency first-line supervisors and command staff provided policy training and testing for every Department employee including in-service and new hires. All Department employees who were employed during calendar year 2023 received and successfully completed all training and testing requirements related to this policy.

Access to Information-Reporting Employee Misconduct/Procedures/Timelines

OCCPAB Standard 7 – Bullet 3.2018.7/B; Bullet 3.2018.7/C; Bullet 3.2018.7/D; Bullet 3.2018.7/F

The Department website lists the information and procedures for the general public to make an informal/formal complaint against a department employee. The Department also written forms and information regarding the complaint process located at the Police Department Records Section. The information (website and printed) also lists the timelines for agency personnel to complete an investigation, as well as providing complainants with a summary of findings, access to the Police Chief and/or investigators, and updates throughout the investigation process. All complaints against employees of the Police Department shall be completely investigated within a reasonable period of time, and generally within sixty (60) days from the date of the filing of the complaint. The Chief of Police may, on a case-by-case basis, grant an extension of this time limit at their discretion, up to one (1) year of the date of filing, based upon extenuating circumstances. Complainants are further advised, in written format, that they may be criminally charged if they knowingly make false statements against agency employees. The Police Department believes and adheres to transparency and community service principles regarding these types of investigations.

Employees Rights and Safeguards

OCCPAB Standard 7 – Bullet 3.2018.7/D

Our agency policy lists employee rights and safeguards against false accusations, progressive disciplinary process, rights under City Human Resource Department and agency policies, as well as processes for administrative and criminal investigations against Department employees. The policy also lists admonishments for complainants who purposely claim false accusations against employees and cautions complainants against this type of behavior.

Annual Reporting

Bullet 3.2018.7/F

In 2020, the Department received Final Certification from the OCCPAB in meeting/exceeding all OCCPAB standards for this policy. IAW OCCAPB Standard 7, Bullet 3.2018.7/F, the Chief of Police (or designee) will complete an annual report regarding this policy and all investigations (informal and formal) against Department employees. This report serves as the 2023 compliance reporting for this OCCPAB standard.

Re-certification The agency is in the re-certification process for adhering to Collaborative standards and best practices in accordance with this policy. Re-certification by the Ohio Collaborative is scheduled to take place in April 2024.

2023 ANNUAL REPORT: RECRUITMENT AND HIRING STRATEGIC PLAN

Prepared by: Chief Mark E. McDonough, CLEE

Ohio Collaborative Standard 8.2015.2/F

April 1, 2024

Prepared By: Chief Mark E. McDonough, CLEE

Current Status: As of April 1, 2024, The Sidney Police Department currently has 9 vacancies for police officers. This is due to employee retirements and resignations in good standing during late 2022 through the first quarter of 2024. The agency anticipates the retirement of a long-standing employee at the end of 2024. We are in the process of recruiting, selecting and hiring both entry-level and lateral-entry police officers to ensure we reach our authorized strength of 37 sworn officers selected and hired by the end of 2024.

STEP 1: Update our Current Recruitment Materials and Documents.

PLAN: The agency will be responsible for updating all materials used in the recruiting process. This will include pictures on static displays, documents and brochures, videos, announcements, etc.

TARGET DATE: July 2024.

STEP 2: Attend Recruitment Job Fairs and Seminars

PLAN: Agency recruiters will continue to attend job fairs and recruitment seminars throughout the Ohio region. This will include those scheduled at community colleges, universities, and other locations. Our agency will also host recruitment days for potential candidates. Recruitment efforts will coincide with Ohio Collaborative standards, City Human Resources and Department policies.

TARGET DATE: Ongoing

STEP 3: Recruit, Select and Hire Fulltime Police Officers

PLAN: The P.D. will actively recruit additional officers to fill voids in our ranks. Changes in recruitment, selection, and hiring of personnel at all levels will be observed in 2024. This will include changes in advertising vacancies, recruitment practices, on-going recruitment training, and selection of key police employees to serve as police recruiters.

TARGET DATE: Ongoing.

STEP 4: Recruitment Officers to Receive Annual Training

PLAN: Our agency will provide continuing education for our Recruitment officers as in accordance with Civil Service Commission and Ohio Collaborative requirements, and City Human Resources and Department policies and procedures.

TARGET DATE: Ongoing.

STEP 5: Foster Positive Working Relationships with City Civil Service Commission

PLAN: The P.D. will continue to provide recommendations to the Civil Service Commission regarding recruiting, selecting, and hiring of entry-level personnel.

TARGET DATE: Ongoing.

STEP 6: Achieve Re-certification by the Ohio Collaborative in Best Policies and Practices.

TARGET DATE: April 2024.

2023 AGENCY WELLNESS REVIEW
Ohio Collaborative Standard 5.2021.10/D
April 1, 2024

Prepared by: Chief Mark E. McDonough, CLEE

Review: The Sidney Police Department command staff created Agency Wellness Policy utilizing Lexipol® software. SPD Procedure 1003 (Employee Assistance Program Procedure) and Procedure 1008 (Fitness and Wellness Program Procedure) outline the Ohio Collaborative Agency Wellness policy in support off the Ohio Collaborative guiding principles.

Education and Training: Police employees received training in both SPD Procedures 1003 and 1008 (as listed above) during calendar year 2023. The training provided employees with access information to City Employee Assistance Programs, employee wellness initiatives (physical, mental, spiritual), and services specific to first responders and family members.

Access to Services: Employees were provided access information for all wellness programs, to include employee assistance programs (24/7 access via telephone) and other first responder mental health programs. Access to these programs is also offered to employee family members. On a bi-annual basis, all police employees meet with a mental health professional to complete Mental Wellness Check-ins. This is an opportunity for the employee to discuss personal issues. The mental health professional does not disclose any information related to the employee sessions to police command or city staff, in order to increase trust between the employee and mental health professional. This is another opportunity for our agency to invest in our employees as it relates to overall wellness.

Summary: The Agency Wellness standards as outlined by the Ohio Collaborative have been streamlined for easier access for police employees and family members. Employees have received training in the types of wellness services provided, how to access these services, and how command and first-line supervisors can assist employees with accessing available services for their overall wellness.

Action Plan: The agency will continue to provide Agency Wellness in-service training for all employees. Access to wellness services will be made available through bulletin board notifications, departmental email, and individualized access as needed. Changes and updates received via Ohio Collaborative standards for this section will be provided to all employees. Command staff reviews annually all Agency Wellness policies and ensures all procedures are completed are required, with adjustments made based upon practitioner/employee feedback and/or other outcomes related to employee wellness. The agency has been audited and will receive Re-certification from the Ohio Collaborative in best policies and practices related to Agency Wellness in 2024.

2023 ANNUAL REPORT - BIAS FREE POLICING

OCCPAB STANDARD 3.2017.6

April 1, 2024

Prepared By: Chief Mark E. McDonough, CLEE

Guiding Principles

Every law enforcement agency must be committed to its community by providing services with due regard for the cultural, racial, or other differences that make up the community. It is the policy of the Sidney Police Department to provide services and enforcement fairly and without discrimination toward any individual or group of people. Race, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, religion, nationality, ethnicity, cultural affiliation, age, disability, economic status, or affiliation with any other similar identifiable group shall not be used as the basis for providing law enforcement services or the enforcement of laws. The Sidney Police Department, an Ohio Collaborative Community-Police Advisory Board (OCCPAB) certified agency, adheres to the standards of the OCCPAB to include this policy. Members of this agency are committed to adhering to these standards and guiding principles.

Racial or Biased-Based Profiling Prohibited

Criminal profiling can be a useful tool to assist law enforcement officers in carrying out their duties. Officers of this agency shall not consider race/ethnicity to establish reasonable suspicion or probable cause, except those officers may consider the reported race/ethnicity of a potential suspect(s) based on trustworthy, locally relevant information that links a person of a specific race/ethnicity to a particular unlawful incident(s).

Bias Free Policing

The lack of inappropriate reliance on factors such as race, gender, gender identity, ethnicity, national origin, religion, sexual orientation, economic status, age, cultural group, disability, or affiliation with any other similar identifiable group as a factor in deciding whether to take law enforcement action or to provide service.

Training

Officers of this agency receive training at the time of hire and in-service annually, and receive copies of the agency Bias Free Policing policy. Officers are required to acknowledge they have read and understand this policy. Furthermore, officers are required to complete proficiency training and testing on this policy. In 2023, all employees completed annual policy training and have successfully completed all testing requirements.

Corrective Actions

Supervisors and command staff of this agency review department reports daily, and body camera and in-car camera footage monthly. Supervisors/command staff is ensuring employees are adhering to this policy. Supervisory personnel are required to review and document in-car and body-worn cameras of personnel monthly, and address training issues and provide disciplinary action(s) for those officers who violate this policy, based upon the Sidney Human Resources policy, collective bargaining disciplinary process steps, and agency policy. There were no instances of violations of this policy observed during 2023.

Compliance Documentation

The Sidney Police Department collects data, in accordance with OCCPAB standards, regarding self-initiated traffic contacts (to include traffic citations and written traffic warnings). The data collected from officer self-initiated traffic contacts includes the race/ethnicity and gender of the driver. This documentation is maintained by Sidney Police Department Records Department personnel, who compiles the data in an annual report, and forwards this data to the Chief of Police for an annual review.

Annual Review

The Chief of Police completes a documented administrative annual review of agency practices, data collected, and citizen's concerns. The following information comprises the 2023 annual review in accordance with the provisions of this policy:

Citizen concerns regarding Sidney Police Department Biased Free Policing policy:

In 2023, the Sidney Police Department did not receive any citizen complaints (formal or informal) regarding potential violations of this policy. The agency has a process for citizens to make formal/informal complaints against an employee in accordance with Departmental policy. The agency provides this information on their website and in printed form which addresses the complaint process available at the Police Department.

Agency Practices

Training & Testing: The Sidney Police Department has provided Bias Free Policing training and testing annually for all personnel (sworn and civilian).

Statistical Information: In 2023, in accordance with OCCPAB data collection requirements, the department compiled statistical data of gender and race/ethnicity of the driver of all officer self-initiated traffic contacts. In accordance with OCCPAB standards, the Sidney Police Department is required to publicize this information beginning in 2020.

Re-certification: The Sidney Police Department was audited by the Ohio Collaborative for re-certification in best policies and practices in March 2024. Re-certification will be completed during calendar year 2024.

Note: The following information provides the latest gender, race/ethnicity statistical information of our agency and the City of Sidney (All data collected is IAW OCCPAB Standard 6.2017.6):

RACE/ETHNICITY STATISTICS

Reported per OCCPAB Standards 3.2017.6 and 8.2015.2/F

SIDNEY, OHIO POPULATION							
RACE/ETHNICITY		2024 City of Sidney Population by Race/ Ethnicity					
White	89.4%						
Black	4.3%						
Native American	0.3%						
Asian	1.3%						
Hispanic/Latino	2.9%						
Two or more Races	4.6%						
TOTAL POPULATION	20,421						
Information provided by the U.S. Census Bureau (2021)							
U.S. Census Bureau QuickFacts: Sidney city, Ohio							
2024 GENDER & RACE MEMBERSHIP DISTRIBUTION-SIDNEY POLICE DEPARTMENT (4/1/24)							
RANK	TOTAL #	M / F	WHITE	BLACK	HISPANIC	NATIVE AMERICAN	ASIAN
CHIEF OF POLICE	1	MALE	1	0	0	0	0
DEPUTY POLICE CHIEF	1	MALE	1	0	0	0	0
POLICE CAPTAIN	3	MALE	3	0	0	0	0
PUBLIC SAFETY SUP	1	MALE	1	0	0	0	0
POLICE LIEUTENANT	2	MALE	2	0	0	0	0
POLICE SERGEANT	3	MALE	2	0	1	0	0
POLICE OFFICER	17	MALE	17	0	0	0	0
POLICE OFFICER	2	FEMALE	1	0	1	0	0
OFFICE SUPERVISOR	1	FEMALE	1	0	0	0	0
RECORDS CLERK	1	FEMALE	1	0	0	0	0
TELECOMMUNICATOR	11	FEMALE	11	0	0	0	0
POLIC ADMIN ASST	1	MALE	1	0	0	0	0
SAAT COORDINATOR	1	FEMALE	1	0	0	0	0
PARK RANGER/CEO	3	MALE	2	1	0	0	0
RESERVE OFFICER	1	MALE	1	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	49		46	1	2	0	0

2023 SIDNEY POLICE DEPARTMENT TRAFFIC CITATIONS		
GENDER	RACE/ETHNICITY	TRAFFIC CITATIONS
MALE	WHITE/CAUCASIAN	380
FEMALE	WHITE/CAUCASIAN	255
MALE	BLACK	46
FEMALE	BLACK	17
MALE	HISPANIC	2
FEMALE	HISPANIC	0
MALE	NATIVE AMERICAN	0
FEMALE	NATIVE AMERICAN	0
MALE	ASIAN	0
FEMALE	ASIAN	1
MALE	NATIVE HAWAIIAN OR OTHER PACIFIC ISLANDER	3
FEMALE	NATIVE HAWAIIAN OR OTHER PACIFIC ISLANDER	1
MALE	UNK	20
FEMALE	UNK	1
TOTAL TRAFFIC CITATIONS		726

NOTE: In accordance with this OCCPAB standard, the 2023 analysis and collating of the gender and race/ethnicity statistics for traffic citations and traffic warnings issued, as well as field contacts initiated by the Sidney Police Department. This list does not separate City of Sidney residents from non-residents.

2023 SIDNEY POLICE TRAFFIC WARNINGS		
GENDER	RACE/ETHNICITY	TRAFFIC WARNINGS
MALE	WHITE/CAUCASIAN	514
FEMALE	WHITE/CAUCASIAN	468
MALE	BLACK	119
FEMALE	BLACK	64
MALE	HISPANIC	16
FEMALE	HISPANIC	2
UNK	HISPANIC	0
MALE	NATIVE AMERICAN	1
FEMALE	NATIVE AMERICAN	1
MALE	ASIAN/PACIFIC	6
FEMALE	ASIAN/PACIFIC	2
MALE	MIDDLE EASTERN	3
FEMALE	MIDDLE EASTERN	0
MALE	UNK	285
FEMALE	UNK	202
UNK	UNK	99
2023 TOTAL TRAFFIC WARNINGS		1782

NOTE: In accordance with this OCCPAB standard, the 2023 analysis and collating of the gender and race/ethnicity statistics for traffic citations and traffic warnings issued, as well as field contacts initiated by the Sidney Police Department. This list does not separate City of Sidney residents from non-residents.

2023 ANNUAL ANALYSIS
POLICE VEHICLE PURSUITS
OHIO COLLABORATIVE STANDARD 4.2020.1D (Vehicular Pursuit)
April 1, 2024

Prepared by: Chief Mark E. McDonough, CLEE

Number of Agency Pursuits in 2023: 2

- Annual Analysis & Policy Review:** As part of the Ohio Collaborative Community-Police Advisory Board standard 4.2020.1/D; I have reviewed SPD Policy 307 (Vehicle Pursuit Policy) in its entirety. In 2021, our agency received Provisional Certification from the Ohio Collaborative, showing this agency is following all applicable Ohio Collaborative standards associated with this policy.
- Reporting Procedures:** An annual review of all pursuits is completed by the Chief of Police. There were 2 vehicle pursuits involving members of the Sidney Police Department during 2023. A review of all pursuits observed officers' actions to be within policy compliance. Remedial training for supervisors and officers involved was completed and documented in areas of process and safety concerns.
- Policy & Practical Training:** All sworn members of the SPD received policy training, Vehicle Pursuit Reporting training, and testing, including hands-on practical exercise training on the use of Vehicle Pursuit Termination Tactics (Use of StopSticks® tire deflation device) in 2023. Documentation of training /testing completion was placed in each employee's Guardian Tracking® file.
- Recommendations:**
- 1). Continue in-service policy and reporting procedures training annually and for all new sworn hires. This includes training (both classroom and practical exercise) on the use of StopSticks® controlled tire deflation device.
 - 2) After-action reviews with all Department personnel involved in all pursuits; to acknowledge the areas that were completed within policy compliance, areas for improvement, review of MAVR/BWC video for training purposes, observe and address additional training/disciplinary actions, and acknowledge and document actions observed by personnel that were exemplary.
 - 3). Create updated policies, training, etc. that conform to federal and state statutes and Ohio Collaborative Pursuit policy standards and best practices as required.
 - 4). Complete OCCPAB re-certification in this policy standard during 2024.

2023 ANNUAL REPORT REVIEW
OHIO COLLABORATIVE STANDARD 4.2021.9D
LAW ENFORCEMENT RESPONSE TO MASS PROTESTS/DEMONSTRATIONS

April 1, 2024

Prepared by: Chief Mark E. McDonough, CLEE

Annual Analysis & Policy Review:	As part of the Ohio Collaborative Community-Police Advisory Board standard 4.2020.1/D (Response to Mass Protests/Demonstrations, I have reviewed SPD Policy 427 (First Amendment Assemblies) in its entirety. In 2022, our agency received Provisional Certification from the Ohio Collaborative, showing this agency is following all applicable Ohio Collaborative standards associated with this policy.
Reporting Procedures:	During calendar year 2023, the Sidney Police Department did not respond to any mass protests/demonstrations within the corporate limits of the City of Sidney. There were no mutual aid requests for our agency to assist with a law enforcement response to mass protests/demonstrations during the same period.
Policy & Practical Training:	In 2023, all sworn members of the SPD received policy training and testing regrading Response to Mass Protests/Demonstrations. Documentation of training /testing completion was placed in each employee's Guardian Tracking® file.
Recommendations:	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1). Continue in-service policy training annually and for all new sworn hires. This includes training (both classroom and practical exercise) in response to demonstrations and protests.2). Complete after-action reviews with all Department personnel involved in response to protests and demonstrations; to acknowledge the areas that were completed within policy compliance, areas for improvement, review of MAVR/BWC video for training purposes, observe and address additional training/disciplinary actions, and acknowledge and document actions observed by personnel that were exemplary.3). Create updated policies, training, etc. that conform to federal and state statutes and Ohio Collaborative Pursuit policy standards as required.4). Complete OCCPAB re-certification in this policy standard during 2024.

2023 ANNUAL REPORT – POSITIVE YOUTH INTERACTIONS

OCCPAB Standard 5.2022.11/F

December 2023

PREPARED BY: Chief Mark E. McDonough, CLEE

In 2023, there were juvenile incidents involving department personnel. Department personnel received in-service training related to positive youth interactions and Lexipol® departmental policy in accordance with the Ohio Collaborative.

SYNOPSIS: From 1/1/23 to 12/31/2023, the Sidney Police Department processed 171 juvenile cases through the Shelby County Juvenile Court (see statistics below).

2024 DIRECTIVES: The following directives apply to all sworn personnel of the Sidney Police Department:

1. Continue annual training and testing for each sworn employee. Training will include agency policy, referrals to juvenile social services agencies and court programs, issuing Miranda warnings to juveniles in a developmentally appropriate, trauma-informed, and equitable manner, and alternatives to juvenile arrest. This will be the responsibility of the department training instructors to ensure all training requirements and documentation is completed during calendar year 2024.
2. Incorporate updates to juvenile policy/procedure into the Lexipol® policy and procedure manual as provided by the Ohio Collaborative Community-Police Advisory Board, Ohio Office of Criminal Justice Services/Ohio Association of Chiefs of Police, and the Ohio Attorney General's Office/Ohio Peace Officer Training Council. Complete all agency self-certification processes as directed by the above-listed entities. Provide additional training to individual or agency members as needed. The Deputy Police Chief will oversee this process.
3. As part of the Ohio Collaborative Community-Police Advisory Board (OCCPAB) recommendations and best practices, the Police Department Records Section will compile data of youth arrests by charge, age, race/ethnicity, and any use of force involving juveniles. This data will be provided to the Chief of Police for administrative annual review and publishing per the Ohio Collaborative Community-Police Advisory Board and the Ohio Office of Criminal Justice Services.
4. The police department engages our community youth members through several community engagement activities. These include: 1) Public Safety Cadet Program; 2) Teen Academy; 3) Safety Town; 4) R.A.D. training; 5) National Night Out® activities; and 6) Sidney Alive activities geared towards our youthful population. Our focus is to foster positive relationships and increase trust between agency members and the Sidney youth population.
5. Complete OCCPAB re-certification in this policy standard during 2024.

2023 DATA COLLECTION – POSITIVE YOUTH INTERACTIONS – OCCPAB STANDARD 5.2022.11/F

ARRESTS BY CHARGE	AGE	GENDER	RACE	USE OF FORCE INVOLVED IN ARREST
Criminal Trespass	17	Male	White	N/A
Criminal Damaging	16	Female	White	N/A
Unruly Juvenile	16	Female	White	N/A
Unruly Juvenile	13	Male	White	N/A
Criminal Damaging	14	Male	White	N/A
Unruly Juvenile	14	Male	White	N/A

Assault	11	Female	White	N/A
Unruly Juvenile	11	Male	White	N/A
Unruly Juvenile	13	Male	White	N/A
Delinquent Juvenile	13	Male	Black	N/A
Unruly Juvenile	13	Male	Black	N/A
Unruly Juvenile	12	Female	White	N/A
Domestic Violence	16	Male	White	N/A
Unruly Juvenile	13	Female	White	N/A
Aggravated Menacing	13	Male	UNK	N/A
Unruly Juvenile	14	Male	UNK	N/A
Curfew Violation	13	Female	White	N/A
Delinquent Juvenile	11	Male	White	N/A
Unruly Juvenile	13	Male	White	N/A
Theft	17	Male	Black	N/A
Theft	17	Male	White	N/A
Theft	17	Male	White	N/A
Riot	14	Female	Black	N/A
Riot	13	Male	Black	N/A
Riot	17	Female	Black	N/A
Riot	15	Female	Black	N/A
Riot	13	Female	Black	N/A
Riot	14	Female	Black	N/A
Criminal Damaging	14	Female	White	N/A
Criminal Damaging	15	Female	White	N/A
Criminal Damaging	14	Female	White	N/A
Alcohol-Underage Offense	15	Female	White	N/A
Delinquent Juvenile	14	Female	White	N/A
Domestic Violence	16	Male	White	N/A
Domestic Violence	16	Male	Black	N/A
Delinquent Juvenile	10	Male	Black	N/A
Delinquent Juvenile	11	Male	Black	N/A
Unruly Juvenile	13	Male	UNK	N/A
Delinquent Juvenile	14	Male	UNK	N/A
Unruly Juvenile	16	Male	White	N/A
Unruly Juvenile	12	Female	Black	N/A
Alcohol-Underage Offense	17	Male	White	N/A
Delinquent Juvenile	15	Male	Black	N/A
Obstructing Official Business	15	Male	White	N/A
Unruly Juvenile	15	Female	White	N/A
Delinquent Juvenile	13	Female	White	N/A
Unruly Juvenile	14	Female	White	N/A
Assault	13	Male	White	N/A
Felonious Assault	14	Male	UNK	N/A
Theft	17	Male	White	N/A
Criminal Mischief	17	Male	White	N/A
Theft	17	Female	UNK	N/A
Delinquent Juvenile	17	Male	White	N/A
Unruly Juvenile	15	Male	White	N/A
Domestic Violence	16	Male	Black	N/A
Unruly Juvenile	15	Male	Black	N/A
Domestic Violence	12	Female	Black	N/A
Unruly Juvenile	14	Female	White	N/A
Domestic Violence	14	Female	White	N/A
Unruly Juvenile	12	Female	White	N/A
Unruly Juvenile	13	Female	UNK	N/A

Theft	16	Female	Black	N/A
Delinquent Juvenile	11	Male	White	N/A
Unruly Juvenile	12	Male	White	N/A
Warrant Service	17	Male	White	N/A
Unruly Juvenile	16	Male	White	N/A
Unruly Juvenile	15	Male	Black	N/A
Unruly Juvenile	13	Male	Black	N/A
Unruly Juvenile	16	Male	White	N/A
Criminal Mischief	17	Male	White	N/A
Criminal Mischief	15	Male	Black	N/A
Unruly Juvenile	12	Female	White	N/A
Unruly Juvenile	16	Male	UNK	N/A
Unruly Juvenile	17	Male	White	N/A
Complicity	17	Female	White	N/A
Discharging Firearms	11	Male	White	N/A
Criminal Damaging	17	Male	White	N/A
Unruly Juvenile	13	Male	Black	N/A
Domestic Violence	12	Male	White	N/A
Unruly Juvenile	14	Female	UNK	N/A
Unruly Juvenile	15	Male	White	N/A
Breaking & Entering	16	Male	Black	N/A
Unruly Juvenile	13	Female	White	N/A
Domestic Violence	16	Male	White	N/A
Delinquent Juvenile	15	Female	White	N/A
Curfew Violation	15	Male	White	N/A
Delinquent Juvenile	14	Female	White	N/A
Delinquent Juvenile	16	Male	White	N/A
Unruly Juvenile	12	Male	Black	N/A
Unruly Juvenile	16	Male	Black	N/A
Aggravated Menacing	11	Male	White	N/A
Unruly Juvenile	14	Male	White	N/A
Unruly Juvenile	16	Male	White	N/A
Disorderly Conduct	17	Female	White	N/A
Delinquent Juvenile	16	Female	White	N/A
Disorderly Conduct	17	Male	White	N/A
Theft	16	Male	Black	N/A
Delinquent Juvenile	14	Female	White	N/A
Unruly Juvenile	17	Male	White	N/A
Unruly Juvenile	11	Male	White	N/A
Strangulation	14	Male	Hispanic	N/A
Unruly Juvenile	16	Female	UNK	N/A
Unruly Juvenile	12	Female	White	N/A
Delinquent Juvenile	15	Female	UNK	N/A
Unruly Juvenile	13	Male	Black	N/A
Warrant Service	16	Male	Black	N/A
Unruly Juvenile	13	Male	Black	N/A
Domestic Violence	13	Female	Black	N/A
Criminal Mischief	13	Male	Black	N/A
Unruly Juvenile	14	Male	White	N/A
Unruly Juvenile	14	Male	White	N/A
Unruly Juvenile	12	Female	White	N/A
Aggravated Menacing	12	Male	Black	N/A
Unruly Juvenile	12	Female	White	N/A
Unruly Juvenile	14	Female	White	N/A
Unruly Juvenile	13	Female	White	N/A

Domestic Violence	14	Male	White	N/A
Criminal Damaging	15	Male	White	N/A
Weapons Possession	16	Male	Black	N/A
Criminal Trespass	13	Female	Black	N/A
Criminal Trespass	13	Female	UNK	N/A
Criminal Trespass	14	Female	Black	N/A
Unruly Juvenile	13	Female	White	N/A
Unruly Juvenile	16	Female	White	N/A
Unruly Juvenile	15	Female	White	N/A
Unruly Juvenile	13	Female	White	N/A
Unruly Juvenile	13	Female	White	N/A
Disorderly Conduct	14	Female	Black	N/A
Domestic Violence	16	Female	White	N/A
Criminal Trespass	12	Male	White	N/A
Unruly Juvenile	14	Male	White	N/A
Criminal Trespass	13	Male	White	N/A
Unruly Juvenile	14	Male	White	N/A
Curfew Violation	13	Male	White	N/A
Curfew Violation	13	Male	Black	N/A
Unruly Juvenile	15	Male	White	N/A
Unruly Juvenile	15	Male	White	N/A
Unruly Juvenile	15	Male	Hispanic	N/A
Delinquent Juvenile	14	Female	White	N/A
Criminal Trespass	13	Female	White	N/A
Obstructing Official Business	15	Male	White	N/A
Unruly Juvenile	16	Female	White	N/A
Unruly Juvenile	14	Male	White	N/A
Domestic Violence	14	Male	White	N/A
Unruly Juvenile	14	Male	White	N/A
Assault	12	Male	White	N/A
Delinquent Juvenile	12	Male	White	N/A
Domestic Violence	12	Male	White	N/A
Unruly Juvenile	16	Female	White	N/A
Unruly Juvenile	15	Male	White	N/A
Delinquent Juvenile	12	Male	Black	N/A
Unruly Juvenile	17	Female	Black	N/A
Domestic Violence	15	Male	Hispanic	N/A
Delinquent Juvenile	16	Male	White	N/A
Unruly Juvenile	16	Female	White	N/A
Unruly Juvenile	17	Female	White	N/A
Criminal Damaging	12	Male	White	N/A
Unruly Juvenile	15	Male	White	N/A
Unruly Juvenile	14	Male	White	N/A
Unruly Juvenile	12	Male	Black	N/A
Domestic Violence	15	Male	White	N/A
Assault	16	Male	White	N/A
Assault	12	Male	White	N/A
Unruly Juvenile	16	Female	White	N/A
Unruly Juvenile	16	Female	Hispanic	N/A
Theft	11	Male	White	N/A
Theft	11	Male	White	N/A
Theft	12	Male	White	N/A
Domestic Violence	13	Female	White	N/A
Unruly Juvenile	16	Female	White	N/A
Unruly Juvenile	16	Female	Hispanic	N/A

2023 JUVENILE ARREST STATISTICS		
GENDER	RACE/ETHNICITY	ARRESTS
MALE	WHITE/CAUCASIAN	70
FEMALE	WHITE/CAUCASIAN	44
MALE	BLACK	27
FEMALE	BLACK	13
MALE	HISPANIC	3
FEMALE	HISPANIC	2
MALE	NATIVE AMERICAN	0
FEMALE	NATIVE AMERICAN	0
MALE	ASIAN/PACIFIC	0
FEMALE	ASIAN/PACIFIC	0
MALE	MIDDLE EASTERN	0
FEMALE	MIDDLE EASTERN	0
MALE	UNKNOWN	6
FEMALE	UNKNOWN	6
2023 TOTAL JUVENILE ARRESTS		171

2023 ANNUAL REPORT REVIEW
OHIO COLLABORATIVE STANDARD 2.2023.12
CRISIS INTERVENTION
April 1, 2024

PREPARED BY: Chief Mark E. McDonough, CLEE

In 2023, the Sidney Police Department assisted persons in crisis. Department personnel received in-service training related to crisis intervention and Lexipol® departmental policy in accordance with the Ohio Collaborative.

SYNOPSIS: See statistics below.

2024 DIRECTIVES: The following directives apply to all sworn personnel of the Sidney Police Department:

1. Continue annual training and testing for each sworn employee. Training will include agency policy, recognitions of persons in crisis, responding to persons in crisis, and accessing community behavioral health resources. This will be the responsibility of the department training instructors to ensure all training requirements and documentation is completed during calendar year 2024.
2. Incorporate updates to crisis intervention policies into the Lexipol® policy manual as provided by the Ohio Collaborative Community-Police Advisory Board, Ohio Office of Criminal Justice Services/Ohio Association of Chiefs of Police, and the Ohio Attorney General's Office/Ohio Peace Officer Training Council. Complete all agency self-certification processes as directed by the above-listed entities. Provide additional training to individual or agency members as needed. The Deputy Police Chief will oversee this process.
3. The Sidney Addict Assistance Team, Tri-County Board of Recovery and mental Health Services, Shelby County Veteran's Services, and The Link, will assist agency personnel with mental health referrals, compiling data of agency incidents related to mental health issues, and offer assistance to those requesting mental health assistance.
4. Re-certification. The agency received an on-site audit from the Ohio Collaborative for re-certification in this standard. Re-certification will be completed during calendar year 2024.

As part of the Ohio Collaborative Community-Police Advisory Board (OCCPAB) recommendations and best practices, the Police Department Records Section will compile data of agency response to persons in crisis. This data will be provided to the Chief of Police for administrative annual review and publishing per the Ohio Collaborative Community-Police Advisory Board and the Ohio Office of Criminal Justice Services (see next page for statistical data for this standard).

2023 Documentation of Agency Contact with Persons in Crisis

Number of Incidents:	231
Number of Referrals to Behavioral Health Agencies:	26
Hospital Referrals:	12
Mental Health Facilities:	13
Primary Care Physician:	1
Number of Involuntary Admissions to Mental Health Facilities:	14
Number of Voluntary Admissions to Mental Health Facilities:	26
Behavioral Health Access:	Tri County Board of Recovery & Mental Health Services Miami/Darke/Shelby Counties 1280 N. County Road 25-A., Ste. #1 Troy, Ohio 45373 937-761-2443 24/7 Crisis Hotline: 800-352-7347
Military Veteran's Access:	Shelby County Veteran Services 133 S. Ohio Ave. Sidney, Ohio 45365 937-498-7282 Crisis Hotline: 800-273-8255 (Press "1") Text: 838 255
Juvenile Behavioral Health Access:	The LINK 1000 Milligan Ct., Ste. #102 Sidney, Ohio 45365 937-658-6661
Addiction and Mental Health Assistance:	Julie Clay Sidney Addict Assistance Team 234 W. Court St. Sidney, OH 45365 937-498-8781 jclay@sidneyoh.com

General Calls for Service Statistics

2023 Calls for Service

	2023	2022
Total Police Department Calls for Service:	25,141*	26,162
**Total 911 Calls:	9,000	7,922
Traffic Tickets Issued:	726	1,206
Traffic Warnings Issued:	1,782	1,975
Parking Tickets Issued:	313	452
Adult Criminal Arrests/Citations Issued:	588	591
Search Warrants Executed:	16	26
Juvenile Arrests:	171	110
Vacation House Checks:	155	173

Calls for Service Breakdown:	2023	2022
911 Hang-Up	1172	955
Abductions	7	1
Accident (Hit Skip)	153	165
Accident (Private Property)	176	199
Accident (Injury)	103	107
Accident (No Injuries)	396	401
Accident (Unknown Injuries)	33	31
Administrative CFS	119	138
Alarm	561	598
Animal	719	633
Animal Bite	22	17
Arson	3	0
Assault-Aggravated	22	44
Assault-Simple	302	112
Assist Fire Dept.	363	401
Assist Motorist	182	269
Assist Other Agency	261	225
Bad Checks	3	5
Bomb Threat	2	2
Burglary/Breaking & Entering	49	124
Check Welfare	883	825
Child Abuse Investigations	27	33
Child Custody Disputes	208	213
Civil Issue	412	494
Community Policing	166	284
Contributing to Delinquency	3	0
Counterfeit/Forgery Investigation	19	10
Court	15	21
Crime Stoppers	14	8
Criminal Mischief	37	59

Damaging Property/Vandalism	244	235
Death/D.O.A Investigations	16	19
Deliver Message	103	126
Disorderly Conduct	35	28
Disturbance (Residence/Business)	379	396
Domestic In-Progress	528	537
Domestic Past Occurrence	103	205
Drug Offense	176	138
Endangering Children	7	12
Escort-Funeral	143	175
Escort-Bank Run	3	7
Extortion/Blackmail	1	0
Extra Patrols Requested	264	383
Field Interviews	121	150
Fight in Progress	102	81
Flagged Over (Citizen-initiated)	60	99
Follow-up Investigations	1254	1282
Forgery	5	0
Found Property	322	318
Fraud	119	121
Gambling	1	0
Harassment	394	430
Hostage/Barricaded Subject (non-TRT)	0	1
Human Trafficking	0	0
Identifying Subject	183	67
Identity Theft	15	6
Intoxicated Driver	57	65
Intoxicated Subject	28	30
Juvenile Problem	286	289
Littering	8	9
Lost Property	35	56
Menacing	9	4
Mental Health Crisis	236	109
Miscellaneous	2346	2326
Missing Adult	26	34
Missing Juvenile	92	55
Murder/Manslaughter	2	0
Neighbor Dispute	8	10
Noise Complaint	347	449
Open Container-Alcoholic Beverage	2	3
Open Door/Window (Unsecured Property)	37	56
Overdose	30	40
Parking Complaint	513	649
Prowler	0	2
Public Indecency	9	17
Recovered Stolen Vehicle/Property	19	13
Remove Subject	275	330
Repossession Property/Vehicle	83	127
Robbery	1	5

Scam	121	98
Search Warrants Executed	16	26
Sex Offense Investigations	91	112
Shots Heard/Fired	60	44
Solicitors	32	34
Special Detail	499	417
Standby-Keep the Peace	364	404
Stolen Vehicle	43	50
Subject with a Gun	19	19
Suicidal Subject	149	141
Suicide/Suicide Attempts	3	12
Summons Service	53	21
Suspicious Subject/Vehicle	720	660
Theft	392	487
Threats	307	264
Traffic Complaint (Citizen Call-In)	686	739
Traffic Stops	2433	2992
Trespassing	94	116
Unknown Problem	108	112
Unruly Juvenile	310	250
Vacation House Checks	155	173
Violation of Protection Order	97	39
Warrant Service	337	292
Weapons Violations	9	0

NOTE: The calls for service statistics include all reported incidents initially called in to Dispatch. Call descriptions may change once an officer arrives on scene and assesses the incident.

*The 2023 Total Calls for Service (CFS) listed in our Records Management System is 31,236. This includes both committed and non-committed (non-law enforcement related) time CFS. The non-committed time CFS includes administrative functions such as training, meal breaks, out-of-service, etc.

**The 2023 Total 911 calls includes Police and Fire/EMS calls, 911-hang-up calls, 911-dropped calls, and roll-over calls from neighboring jurisdictions.

Synopsis:

In 2023, the Police Department responded to approximately calls for service. These statistics reflect how dispatch classifies each call received by the public. Officers often change the call report type once they arrive on scene based upon what they observe and investigate, and when completing written reports. During 2023 our department responded to **25,141*** calls for service. Our Records Management System (RMS) requires a report be made for almost every call our officers investigate and complete, which assists in bringing more efficiency and consistency in our investigations, information sharing, and records keeping.

In 2023, officers conducted proactive police work to help keep our community safe. There were many calls that were both called in by citizens as well as generated by officers' observations. These included parking complaints, motorists' assists, warrants and summons checks, vacation checks, and proactive traffic education and enforcement.

Patrol officers and the Community Resource Officer worked together to complete 166 community policing calls. These can vary between assisting with our Citizen's Police Academy, patrol officers stopping to speak with citizens and juveniles, and other related community policing activities. Officers also participated in 121 consensual

Field Interviews and completed 155 vacation house checks (a free program in which officers provide extra patrols of homes while the owners are away for extended periods of time. Officers will check to ensure the home remains secure and there are no issues associated with the property while the resident is away). Officers and detectives also served 16 search warrants during 2023.

Our agency investigated two (2) murders within our jurisdiction in 2023. Both are currently being adjudicated through the Shelby County Court of Common Pleas as of this publication.

Miscellaneous calls are calls in which there did not appear to be any criminal activity and can include situations such as: parents requesting officers counsel their disobedient children, neighbor issues, questions regarding gun laws, etc.

Our patrol officers, the Sidney-Shelby Drug Task Force (DTF) detectives, SAAT Coordinator, area law enforcement partners, the courts and social service agencies are taking a proactive approach to drug offenses and overdoses. Our DTF and SAAT (Sidney Addict Assistance Team) are working with several law enforcement and community entities to receive and share vital information in order to address drug abuse and addiction in the City of Sidney. It truly does “take a village” to take on these social issues in order to enhance the quality of life we want in our community.

The fentanyl/opioid crisis continues to be a focal point of not only enforcement but addiction treatment/assistance as well. Our agency is committed to doing everything possible to reduce those addicted to all types of illegal and prescription drugs. We continued to actively investigate all reports of drug abuse and prosecute those selling/possessing illegal drugs. Our agency, the DTF and/or SAAT coordinator made contact with 236 individuals to assist them in seeking treatment. The SAAT coordinator works with our community members to educate, prevent, and treat those afflicted by drug addiction.

Assisting those in mental health crisis is another service we provide our community. In 2023, our agency members assisted in 236 Mental Health Crisis calls for service. Our officers are trained in de-escalation techniques, and the majority of our officers have received 40-hours of in-classroom Crisis Intervention Training (CIT). Law enforcement officers are often first on the scene for mental health crises and other situations that might traditionally call for a trained social worker or mental health professional. That’s one of many reasons CIT programs can be successful for officers in the field. CIT explains how a scene can escalate with the presence of a police officer—and provides tools for officers to use to manage subject triggers for better interactions, even in moments of crisis.

Our agency members also assisted other City Departments, most notably the Sidney Fire Department at active fire and EMS scenes (363 calls for assistance); other agencies (261 calls for assistance); and stranded motorists (182 calls for assistance).

Traffic Crash Information



Photo courtesy of Luke Gronneberg / Sidney Daily News (4/4/2024)

Officers investigated a total of traffic crashes and issued citations resulting from traffic crashes occurring in our community. The following is a synopsis of our traffic crash statistical information ([Data Source-ODPS Electronic Crash System](#)):

<u>2023 Total Crashes by Month:</u>		<u>2022 Total Crashes by Month:</u>		<u>2023 Crash Variables:</u>	
January:	42	January:	43	Alcohol-Related:	16
February:	37	February:	34	Bicycle-Related:	3
March:	27	March:	38	Commercial-Related:	22
April:	37	April:	33	Deer-Related:	22
May:	49	May:	42	Distracted-Related:	13
June:	44	June:	37	Drug-Related:	3
July:	31	July:	43	Failure to Yield-Related:	79
August:	47	August:	29	Mature-Related:	155
September:	37	September:	27	Motorcycle-Related:	13
October:	37	October:	37	OVI-Related:	17
November:	43	November:	52	Pedestrian-Related:	2
December:	53	December:	60	Red Light/Stop Sign:	26
2023 Total Crashes:	484	2022 Total Crashes:	475	School Bus-Related:	3
				Speed-Related:	30
				Teen-Related:	76
				Non-Seatbelt Use:	75
				Work Zone-Related:	0
				Youth-Related:	149
				Total by Crash Variables:	484

(2023 Crash Reporting Variables and information provided from Sidney Police Department's Ohio Traffic Crash Reporting Forms [OH-1] as reported to the Ohio Department of Public Safety)

2023 Crashes by Severity:

Serious Injury Suspected:	4
Minor Injury Suspected:	34
Injury Possible:	32
Property Damage Only:	414
2023 Total Crashes by Severity:	484

2023 Crashes by Day:

Sunday:	58
Monday:	68
Tuesday:	66
Wednesday:	79
Thursday:	72
Friday:	79
Saturday:	62
TOTAL:	484

2023 Top Crash Routes (Shelby County):

State Route 47:	120
State Route 29:	83
County Road 25:	18
Interstate 75:	13

City of Sidney Crash Statistics provided courtesy of the Ohio State Highway Patrol/Ohio Department of Public Safety. If interested in researching other years or other counties please visit <https://statepatrol.ohio.gov/ostats.aspx>

2023 Continuing Professional Training

Continuing professional education remains a priority with the Sidney Police Department, as personnel completed over 3,400 hours of training. Training includes a broad range of topics such as defensive tactics, advanced weapons training, legal updates, driving, firearms, officer wellness, multiple instructor courses, leadership development, advanced patrol tactics, and officer survival training.

In **2023**, The Ohio Police Officer Training Council (OPOTC) mandated all police officers, sheriff's deputies and state troopers receive 24 hours of Continuing Professional Training (CPT). All Sidney Police Department officers exceeded the state minimum CPT requirement, receiving additional training courses as stated above. In 2023, the mandatory CPT courses hours included:

- School Threat & Safety Training (3-hours)

- Legal Updates (3-hours)

- Arrest, Search & Seizure (2-hours)

The remaining 16-hours included all Ohio Collaborative Policy Training lessons.

In **2024**, OPOTC mandated 24-hours of CPT to include: 2-hours of Legal Updates, 2-hours of Responding to Mental Health Issues, 2-hours of De-escalation, 1-hour of Marcy's Law/Victim's Rights, and 1-hour of National Integrated Ballistic Information Network (NIBIN) training, with the remaining 16-hours as approved by OPOTC and the agency CEO (Police Chief, Sheriff, OSP Superintendent). The agency continues to offer training for our personnel, to increase employee job knowledge and satisfaction and to better serve our community. The majority of the 16-hours of general law enforcement training will consist of our annual Ohio Collaborative Community-Police Advisory Board policy training, which was OPOTC-approved for CPT credit.

Leadership Development



Supervisor Training and Education Training (STEP)

Sgt. Ethan Brown (l) and Sgt Robert Hurd (r) graduated from the Ohio Association of Chiefs of Police/Law Enforcement Foundation's Supervisor Training and Education Program (STEP) in March 2023.



Certified Law Enforcement Executive Course (CLEE)

Deputy Chief Aaron Rode (center) graduated from the Ohio Association of Chiefs of Police/Law Enforcement Foundations' Certified Law Enforcement Executive (CLEE) program. OACP President John Wenzlick, Ottawa Hills Police Department (l), and CLEE Program Chairperson Chief Adam Moore (r), Delaware Police Department, present Deputy Chief Rode his CLEE certificate at the CLEE Graduation Ceremony at the Ohio State Highway Patrol Academy in February 2024.



Supervisor Training and Education Training (STEP)

Sgt. Cody Nelson(r), graduated from the Ohio Association of Chiefs of Police/Law Enforcement Foundation's Supervisor Training and Education Program (STEP) in November 2023.

OACP/LEF Supervisor Training and Education (STEP) Program

STEP was designed to develop newly promoted officers, or about to be promoted officers, into highly effective first line supervisors with the competency skills necessary to lead and supervise in a high performance organization. The current STEP curriculum is comprised of twenty-one modules including: transition to supervisor, leadership strategies, creating an ethical environment, developing subordinates, mentoring, dealing with problematic employees, effective listening and speaking, improved written communication, administrative skills, performance management, conflict management, critical

incident management through table top exercise, supervisory response to line of duty shooting and patrol operations, supervisory response to vehicle and foot pursuits, supervisory response to domestic violence calls, media relations, risk management, officer wellness, capstone case studies, team presentations, panel presentations on contemporary issues, and a First Line Supervisor 360 assessment. The modules are presented over a course of three one-week sessions held in the spring and fall. Sgt. Ethan Brown and Sgt. Robert Hurd graduated from STEP in March 2023, and Sgt. Cody Nelson graduated in November 2023.

OACP/LEF Certified Law Enforcement Executive (CLEE) Course

The Certified Law Enforcement Executive (CLEE) is a formal program of leadership training presented by the Ohio Law Enforcement Foundation for police officers (sergeant and higher rank) who are at the executive level or who wish to progress to executive levels in their agency. Preparation includes self-study and a day of “in-residence study” with a highly qualified instructor for each of the nine modules. Study materials include required readings from books and articles, chapter exercises, and case studies. Participants will be evaluated on the different learning modules through written tests or case studies over a 14-month period, and through an oral presentation at the conclusion of the course. Participants will be evaluated on the ten different learning modules through written tests or case studies over a 14-month period, and through an oral presentation at the conclusion of the course. Graduate credit can be arranged through Tiffin University, and Franklin University, Columbus. Deputy Chief Rode graduated from CLEE course XXVIII in February 2024.

The agency is hosting the following 2024 training and/or OPOTC CPT-approved courses:

Citizen’s Police Academy

February 21-April 24, 2024

Narco 101 Training (Drug Detectives)

April 22, 2024

The Mess of On the Job Stress and Trauma for the Toughest and the Finest A Seminar for Law Enforcement Officers

April 25, 2024

Police Mountain Bike School

May 13-17, 2024

Dark Web/Online Undercover Investigations

May 20-22, 2024

Public Information Officer and Community Engagement

June 27-28, 2024

Mastering Narcotics Training

July 12, 2024

Patrol Fundamentals/Legal Updates

August 23, 2024

Legally Confident-Tactically Confident

October 25, 2024

Retirements, Promotions, and New Employees

Notable Retirements



Captain Robert Jameson
Administrative Captain

Dates of Service: June 17, 1996 – June 2, 2023



Lieutenant Christopher Burmeister

Dates of Service: November 12, 1996 – January 13, 2024

Notable Retirements



Officer James Jennings

Patrol Officer – K9 Handler

Dates of Service: June 12, 1998 – June 23, 2023



Officer Valerie Leigeber

Patrol Officer

Dates of Service: June 12, 1998 – June 23, 2023

2023 Police Promotions

Congratulations to our Employees!



Lieutenant Promotion Ceremony – May 8, 2023

City Manager Andrew Bowsher (far right) administered the Oath of Office to our newest Police Lieutenants at the City Council Meeting on May 8, 2023. Pictured (l-r) LT Kevin Macke, LT Sean Martin, Chief Mark McDonough, LT Jeremy Lorenzo, and LT Christopher Burmeister.

NAME	DATE OF PROMOTION	ASSIGNMENT
Lieutenant Jeremy Lorenzo	5/8/2023	First Shift Watch Commander
Lieutenant Christopher Burmeister*	5/8/2023	Second Shift Watch Commander
Lieutenant Kevin Macke	5/8/2023	Third Shift Watch Commander
Lieutenant Sean Martin	5/8/2023	Investigations Lieutenant
Sergeant Cody Nelson	1/1/2023	Third Shift Sergeant

Our Newest Employees Welcome to Sidney Police Department!

Patrol Section

NAME	DATE OF HIRE	ASSIGNMENT
Officer Grace Ruhenkamp	1/17/2023	Patrol First Shift
Officer Alex Helton	1/17/2023	Patrol First Shift (Resigned)
Officer Trevor Robbins	7/5/2023	Patrol Midnight Shift
Officer Gabriel Shroyer	7/5/2023	Patrol Midnight Shift
Officer Caleb Lammers	7/5/2023	Patrol Afternoon Shift

Telecommunicators

NAME	DATE OF HIRE	ASSIGNMENT
Kelci Wiley	2/3/2023	Second Shift Dispatcher
Victoria Butterfield	6/1/2023	Second Shift Dispatcher
Meghan Bell	6/20/2023	Second Shift Dispatcher

**Retired 1/13/2024*

Police Department Awards

2023 Police Officer of the Year



Officer Matthew Dembski–2023 Sidney P.D. Officer of the Year

On April 26, 2023, members of the Police Department’s Officer of the Year Selection Committee unanimously selected **Officer Matthew Dembski** as our agency’s Officer of the Year.

Officer Dembski was nominated by Telecommunicator Whitney Gonzales-Varela. Her nomination stated:

“...He is an officer that consistently goes to calls with a good attitude and does his job at the calls, not rushing so he can get done. He seems to genuinely care for victims and making sure he does right by them. He seems to know his job well and makes sure to follow the steps and procedures. He always has a great attitude and someone everybody loves to work with, and he’s remembered well by civilians and stays in good standing” with our agency and community.

The group also cited his dedication to the agency and the City of Sidney through his volunteerism and assignment as a member of the agency’s Tactical Response Team, Bike Patrol, Drone Pilot, Honor Guard, Field Training Officer, and Firearms Range Officer. He adheres to the agency’s Mission Statement and emulates our Agency Core Values of *Professionalism, Integrity, Courage and Compassion*.

Officer Dembski’s willingness to go above and beyond for his supervisors, peers, and the general public make him well-deserving of this honor, and reflect great credit upon himself and the Sidney Police Department.

Life Saving Awards

On Thursday, July 13, 2023, at approximately 11:44pm, dispatchers radioed officers of a residential structure fire in the 1600-blk. of Holly Place. Upon officers' arrival, the residence was fully engulfed with an elderly resident still inside. OFFICER AARRON SWIGER was first to arrive and located the elderly resident in the locked garage. Officer Swiger used his baton to break a window on the garage door to speak with the resident and ascertain if others were in the home. OFFICER VIRGINA HELTON and OFFICER GRACE RUHINKAMP were next arriving officers on the scene. The officers began the difficult task of lifting the garage door to help the resident escape. Officer Swiger used his baton to pry the garage door up, and with the assistance of several Good Samaritans, the officers moved quickly to attempt to lift the garage door high enough to assist the elderly resident out and away from the flames. During this, Officer Helton was able to take control of the resident's small dog, safely passing the canine to others outside the garage.

OFFICER JAMES LUANA acted quickly by crawling under the garage door and over the broken glass to pull the garage door handle so it could be lifted high enough for the elderly resident to escape the flames, and just as the fire entered the garage space. Officer Helton and Officer Ruhenkamp then led the resident away from the home and to awaiting Sidney Fire and Rescue Department medics, just as the flames entered the garage area. Officers Luana and Swiger then began evacuating neighboring residences as the fire quickly spread from the home.

Our officers showed remarkable courage and quick thinking while under great duress to assist a community member in a dire circumstance. The actions undertaken by Officers Luana, Helton, Swiger and Ruhenkamp on the night of July 13, 2023, are deserving of each receiving the National Association of Chiefs of Police/The American Police Hall of Fame Life Saving Award, and the Sidney Police Department Life-Saving Award, which reflects great credit upon themselves and the Sidney Police Department.



Chief Mark McDonough presents the [National Association of Chiefs of Police and The American Police Hall of Fame Life-Saving Awards](#) to (clockwise from top left) Officer Virginia Helton, Officer James Luana, Officer Aaron Swiger, and Officer Grace Ruhenkamp for their actions on Holly Lane, on the night of July 13, 2023. Their quick actions saved the life of the elderly resident living at that residence.

Department Goals for 2024

During 2023, the Sidney Police Department observed several changes within the command structure and delineation of work duties and responsibilities. The Agency created a Deputy Chief's position, eliminate the Captain's positions (through reassignment/attrition), reinstate the Lieutenant's positions, civilianize the Administrative Captain's position (by creating a Public Safety Superintendent position) to oversee the Telecommunications, Records, and the Evidence and Property Sections, and create a Special Administrative Assistant's position to assist with overseeing the victim's services and special investigations for the agency. Our department continues to struggle with recruitment and retention of police officers, as does most law enforcement agencies in our country today. Our focus for 2024 and beyond is listed in our Goals for this year:

SIDNEY POLICE DEPARTMENT GOALS FOR 2024

Ensure a safe community

- Deploy law enforcement resources in the most efficient and effective manner to best serve our community.
- Continue to develop and utilize Problem Oriented Policing Strategies to increase the quality of life within the Sidney community.
- Prevent and solve crimes and prosecute offenders.
- Participate with other local, state and federal agencies to address public safety issues within the City of Sidney and our partners in Shelby County.
- Increase the perception of safety within our community.

Recruit and retain a diverse, highly skilled and motivated law enforcement work force

- Promote a positive work environment–collaborate with employees at all levels within the agency.
- Reinvest resources in recruitment, selection and appointment of police department employees, and increase retention efforts of current staff.
- Recruit, select, and hire qualified candidates to fill all police officer vacancies.
- Create a learning culture within our organization. Create highly-training, well-equipped personnel to provide the services our community deems important.
- Enhance our current health and wellness programs to service all SPD employees.

Develop and improve internal systems which assure high quality service to our stakeholders while increasing the department's efficiency

- Empower police employees to improve systems and bring about positive change through a commitment to the law enforcement profession and the community we serve.

- Educate and solicit community groups to assist in supporting the goals and objectives of the Sidney Police Department.
- Foster improved relationships with our law enforcement partners, courts, social service organizations, and community to work together to solve individual and community issues.
- Participate in and become one of the 10 selected law enforcement agencies in Ohio to become state accredited in best practices in Law Enforcement by the Ohio Department of Public Safety/Ohio Office of Criminal Justice Services during calendar year 2024.

Be an active partner in quality education for our citizens

- Maintain open communication with our schools, both private and public in the City of Sidney.
- Provide crime prevention and other educational programs and opportunities for our community.

Continue to Engage the Community through Outreach Programs to Create Positive Relationships

- Promote and encourage mutual cooperation between city departments, our law enforcement partners, our community and other public and private agencies.
- Increase our presence in the community through bike patrols, foot patrols, and other community policing efforts.

The Sidney Police Department will continue to enhance its efficiency and effectiveness as our plan moving forward, while adhering to our Mission Statement, Core Values, Vision and goals and objectives. Our focus will be to assist our citizens, our business community and visitors by providing superior police services. We will continue to subscribe to a community-policing philosophy by providing fair and impartial service the public demands from its police department. We will also focus on our greatest resource-our sworn and civilian team members to be the best trained, equipped, and prepared to keep this community safe and protected. We will find innovative ways to enhance our capabilities to ensure the City of Sidney is a safe place to live, work, and play, and the Sidney Police Department as it becomes a “Premier Law Enforcement Agency” for our size in our area of Ohio.



Professionalism – Integrity – Courage – Compassion

Contact Information

Thank you for your interest in our department and the city we serve. Should you have any questions or concerns you may contact the **Sidney Police Department** by utilizing the following information:

Agency website: <https://www.sidneyoh.com/192/Police>

Physical and Mailing Address:

Sidney Police Department
234 W. Court St.
Sidney, OH 45365

Phone Contact:

Emergency: 911
Non-Emergency Dispatch and Records:
Phone: 937-498-2351
Fax: 937-498-8129

Business Hours for Records Office:

Monday-Friday
8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Command Staff Members:

Chief Mark E. McDonough, CLEE
Phone: 937-498-2351
Email: mmcdonough@sidneyoh.com

Deputy Chief Aaron Rode, CLEE
Phone: 937-498-8122
Email: arode@sidneyoh.com

Captain Jerry Tangeman
Investigations Section
Phone: 937-498-8126
Email: jtangeman@sidneyoh.com

Public Safety Superintendent Robert Jameson
Administration Section (Dispatch/Records/Public Safety Assistant)
Phone: 937-498-2351
Email: rjameson@sidneyoh.com