

# 2018



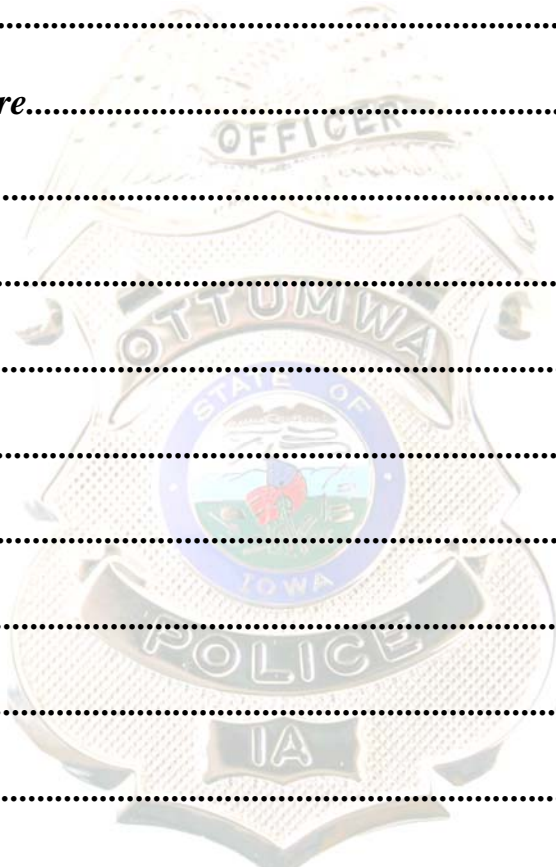
In this family, no one fights alone...



# Ottumwa Police Department Annual Report

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## *CHIEF'S MESSAGE*



Tom McAndrew  
Chief of Police



I am pleased to present the Ottumwa Police Department's 2018 Annual Report. This report details the activities and accomplishments of the dedicated men and women who serve our community.

This was a busy year with our officers responding to over 29,362 calls for service, documenting 4,511 incident reports, and arresting 4,648 suspects. Additionally, our officers issued over 2,251 traffic citations, conducted 165 OWI investigations and responded to 358 traffic accidents.

Like most police departments across the country, our department was challenged in 2018 in developing a pool of qualified applicants for the position of police officer. In September 2017, the Ottumwa City Council voted to increase the number of full-time sworn officer positions by three to forty-two. Three positions have historically been fairly easy to fill; however, we already had several open positions. We conducted three testing cycles in 2018 hiring a total of five new officers.

Officer Sean Emmons, who was hired in April 2018, successfully graduated from the Iowa Law Enforcement Academy and completed the Patrol Officer Training Program. Officer Emmons is currently working in the Patrol Division.

Officer Cody Craycraft, Officer Carson Story and Officer James Avon are currently attending the Iowa Law Enforcement Academy. These officers, upon successful completion of the academy in April 2019, will begin the fifteen week Patrol Officer Training Program. They will begin operating as one man patrol units in August 2019.

Officer Buddy Harsch is an Iowa certified officer who brings ten years of experience from the Bloomfield Police Department. Officer Harsch is currently participating in the PTO program and will be operating as a one man patrol unit in April 2019.

Officer Randy Daniels, who was hired in 2017, is currently deployed with the Iowa National Guard and will be returning to Ottumwa in July. He will begin his training at the Iowa Law Enforcement Academy in August 2019. Daniels, after ILEA and PTO training, will begin serving the community as a one man patrol unit in April 2020. We thank Officer Daniels for his service to our country!

In addition to the five new sworn officers, we hired one additional Communications Specialist this past year. Communications Specialist Jennifer Findley was hired in February 2018 and graduated from the 40 hour Telecommunicator Training at the ILEA. Jennifer fills the last of the eight communications specialist positions on the department.

Many Ottumwa citizens may have recognized a familiar face in an unfamiliar uniform in the downtown business district. In 2018, the City Council approved the hiring of a downtown parking enforcement attendant. Retired Ottumwa Fireman Mike Jones joined the Police Department on September 24th to serve in this position. Officer Jones served the Ottumwa Fire Department for 41 years retiring at the rank of Deputy Chief.

We welcome all of these new members of our department! I am confident they will serve the citizens of Ottumwa with distinction and pride.

I commend our City Council for taking the steps necessary to attract qualified applicants to our department. On November 20, 2018, the Ottumwa City Council authorized a \$3.00 per hour wage adjustment for all sworn personnel. This wage adjustment put the police department in line with our sister cities and will undoubtedly attract more qualified applicants as well as help retain our experienced officers. In addition, at the request of the police officer's union, we will be moving to a 12 hour work schedule in August 2019.

The 8th Annual Citizen's Police Academy sponsored by South Ottumwa Savings Bank, was held during February and March of 2018. Twenty-three citizens attended the eight-week program that provides a glimpse into the workings of the police department. Every year those that attend comment on how interesting the program is and how much knowledge they gain about the department.

Training of our personnel has continued to be a priority of the police department. This past year we placed an emphasis on Crisis Intervention Training (CIT). This five day, forty hour class is an innovative first-responder model of police based training to help persons with mental disorders and/or addictions access medical treatment rather than place them in the criminal justice system due to illness related behaviors. It also promotes officer safety and the safety of the individual in crisis. It is our goal to have every officer on the department complete crisis intervention training by the end of 2020.

On August 3, 2018, the Ottumwa Police Department was involved in an extremely dangerous situation involving the exchange of gun fire near Liberty Elementary School. Due to all the preparation and training officers have received for such a violent event, no citizens or police officers were injured. During the incident I witnessed numerous acts of bravery by our law enforcement officers. I have never been so proud to be a member of the Ottumwa Police Department as I was that day. I am also extremely proud to be a part of the team of brothers and sisters in law enforcement who responded to our call for assistance that day. On the cover of this report is a photo of some of the over two hundred officers who responded.

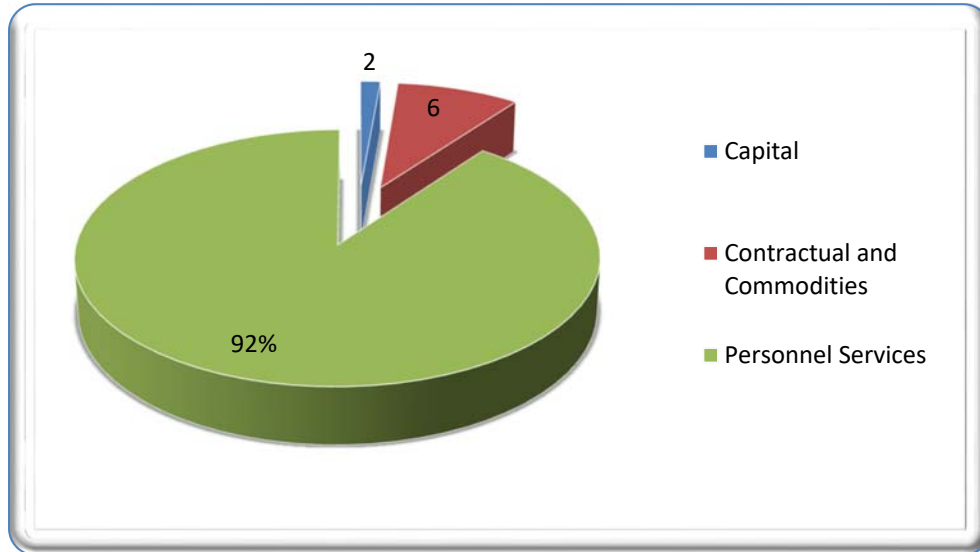
As you will see in the following pages, the dedicated men and women of the Ottumwa Police Department worked hard this past year to provide quality service to our community. As you review this annual report, you can be proud of the accomplishments of your police department.

Sincerely,

*Tom McAndrew*

Tom McAndrew  
Chief of Police

# FY BUDGET 2018-2019



The total budget for the Ottumwa Police Department is \$5,507,426.00. These funds are divided into the following three categories:

### **Personnel Services**

This category is comprised of line items for officer and civilian wages, overtime (including extra duty), and employee benefits, including health insurance, life insurance, retirement, holiday pay, sick leave pay, Medicare and worker’s compensation. The total amount budgeted for Personnel Services is \$5,023,925.00.

### **Capital**

This category includes line items for protective vests, vehicles, etc. Total amount budgeted for Capital is \$106,515.00.

### **Contractual & Commodities**

This category is the remainder of the budget which includes line items for employee physicals, dues, books, training, travel, vehicle maintenance, fuel, equipment repair, utilities, sanitation services, telephone, advertising, printing, rents & leases, recruitment, towing, copying, photos, professional services, janitorial services, tools & small equipment, office supplies, postage & shipping, sustenance supplies, and miscellaneous. The total amount budgeted for Contractual and Commodities is \$376,986.00.



# STAFF FUNDING & GENERATED REVENUE

The Ottumwa Police Department’s authorized strength was forty two (42) sworn officers and they were funded in the following manner:

### *Current Officers and Funding Sources* *(Includes salary and benefits)*

1 School Resource Officer (Evans)	-	100% from Ottumwa Community School District
1 School Resource Officer (OHS)	-	45% from OCSD / 55% from general fund
1 School Resource Officer (OHS)	-	100% salary OCSD / benefits from general fund
2 Drug Task Force Investigators	-	27% from Byrne grant / 73% from general fund
<u>37 Officers</u>	-	100% from general fund
<b>42 Officers</b>		

From January 1, 2018 through December 31, 2018, the Police Department generated the following revenue:

Reports & Fingerprints	-	\$ 5,776.00
Animal Pickup Fees	-	3,556.21
Witness Fees	-	66.00
Extra Duty Administrative Fees	-	1,994.49
Alarm Monitoring Fees	-	1,875.00
Arrest Warrant Service Fee	-	5,747.48
Parking Fines (collected)	-	29,441.76
Traffic & Criminal Fines (collected)	-	119,799.49
<u>Grants &amp; Alternative Funding</u>	-	<u>340,927.65</u>
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$ 509,178.08</b>



## ALTERNATIVE FUNDING RESOURCES

In 2018, the Department received over \$340,927.65 from various local, state, and federal sources for the purpose of enhancing law enforcement in Ottumwa. These funds assisted the Department with a variety of policing functions, including increased traffic and alcohol enforcement; continuing our substance abuse education program; purchasing equipment; and operation of the Southeast Iowa Inter-Agency Drug Task Force.

### Local Grants/Funding

The Department received a \$1,500 donation from South Ottumwa Savings Bank for sponsorship of the 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Citizens Police Academy.

The Department received \$500 from the Rosenman's Trust for general law enforcement purposes.

The Department received over \$196,695.65 from local funding sources to place officers at the Ottumwa High School and Evans Middle School. Part of the funds were also used to help support the **DARE** Program.

### Governor's Traffic Safety Bureau

The Department received \$25,500 from the Governor's Traffic Safety Bureau to fund our traffic enforcement program. The objective of the program was to increase compliance with OWI, seat belt, and other traffic laws in order to reduce the frequency and severity of personal injury accidents in Ottumwa. The grant funds were used to pay overtime costs for enforcement activities.

### Tobacco Grant

The Department received \$2,475 from the Alcoholic Beverages Division of the Iowa Department of Commerce. These funds were used to conduct compliance checks of Iowa's tobacco laws.



### Byrne / JAG Grant

The Southeast Iowa Inter-Agency Drug Task Force received \$105,450 in federal grant funds from the Bureau of Justice Assistance through the Edward Byrne Memorial State and Local Law Enforcement Assistance Program. These funds were used primarily for the salary and benefits of Ottumwa Police Department personnel who were assigned to the Task Force.

### Bullet Proof Vest Program

The Bullet Proof Vest Partnership (BVP), created by the Bulletproof Vest Partnership Grant Act of 1998 is a unique U.S. Department of Justice initiative designed to provide funding for the purchase of bullet proof vests for local and state law enforcement. Through this program the Ottumwa Police Department receives a 50% reimbursement for the purchase of bulletproof vests for our uniformed officers. Bulletproof vests are replaced every five years. We purchased twelve



soft body armor vests in 2018. Over one million vests have been purchased for local and state law enforcement officers the past sixteen years through this program.

### JAG Grant

The Department received \$8,807 in federal funds from the Justice Assistance Grant Program. These funds will be used to purchase equipment for law enforcement use to include a Pepper Ball non-lethal system and accessories. This equipment will allow Officers to use non-lethal force at a safer distance during confrontations.







## 2018-2019 CAPITOL IMPROVEMENT PLANS

*\*UPDATE: The 2017-2018 Capital Improvements Plan consists of the purchase of 10 Toughbook Mobile Data Terminals and 30 less lethal Taser X26Ps. The department has purchased the Toughbook Mobile Data Terminals and 15 less lethal Taser X26Ps. The department will complete the purchase of the remaining Taser X26Ps in 2019.*

The mobile data terminals are computers that are located in each patrol vehicle. Officers use the terminals to access the state computer system, which allows officers access to driver's license and vehicle license plate information. In addition, alerts such as AMBER Alerts are sent and received using these terminals. The current terminals are six years old and require frequent repairs. The I.T. department was able to obtain favorable pricing for the replacements allowing us to purchase 15 Toughbooks.

Tasers offer a less than lethal option to officers during violent encounters. The police department currently utilizes the X26 model taser which is no longer supported by Taser Corporation. The X26 models will be replaced with the X26P model tasers which will also require the purchase of new holsters. As the old X26 Tasers malfunction they will be replaced with the new model X26P. The total purchase price of 30 X26P Tasers and holsters will be approximately \$31,000.



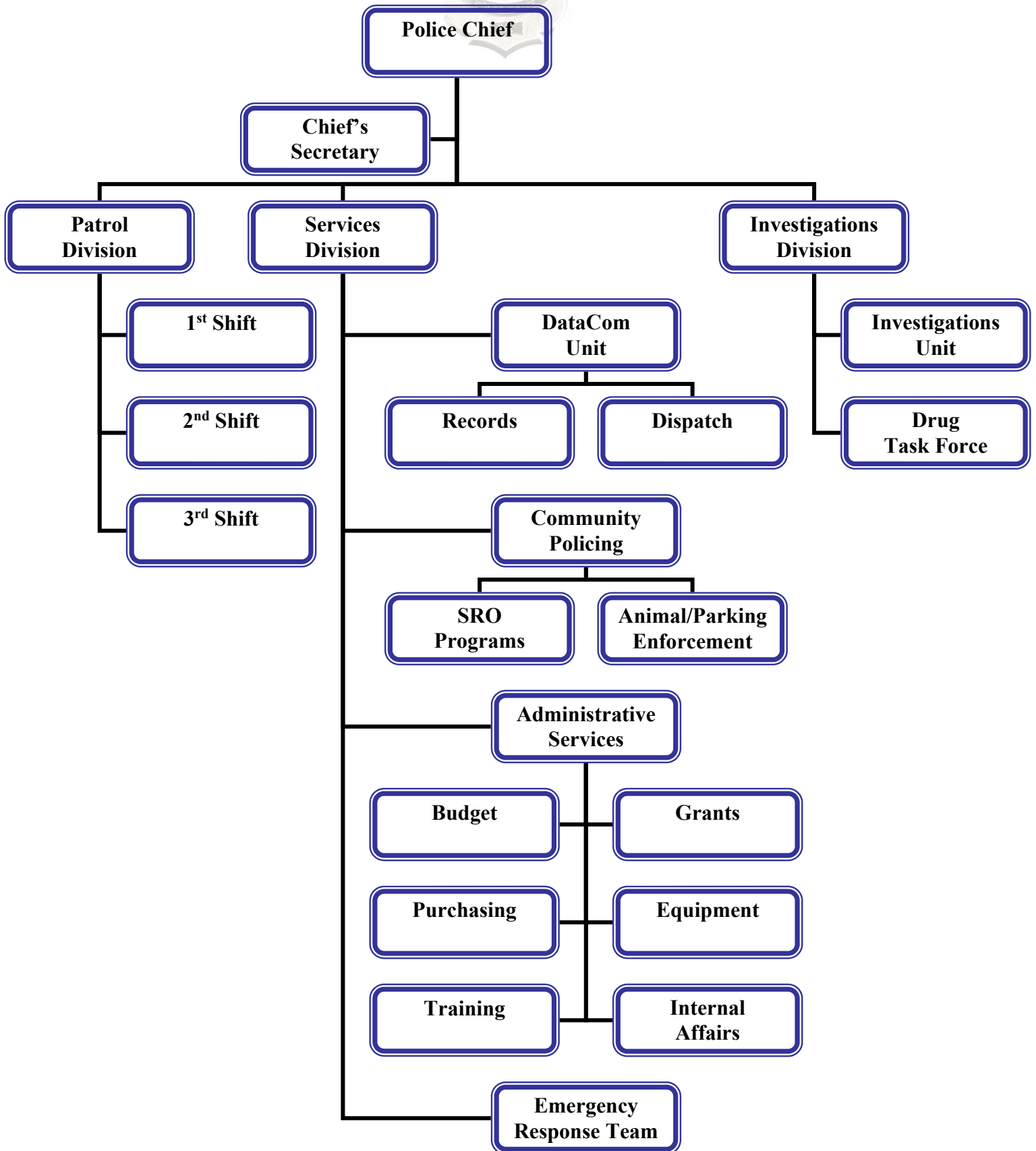
Top: X26 Model Taser

Bottom: X26P Taser



Mobile Data Terminal

# ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE





## DEPARTMENT LEADERSHIP

The Department is organized into three major components: Investigations Division, Patrol Division and Services Division. Each Division operates under the command of a Lieutenant, also referred to as a Division Commander. Each Lieutenant reports to the Chief of Police.

### **Lt. Mickey Hucks** **Services Division Commander**

The Services Division is divided into three groups, DataCom, Community Policing and Administrative Services.

The Division is responsible for Budget/Fiscal Management, Grant Administration, Policy Formulation, Internal Affairs, Training, Entry Level Testing, Department Equipment, Property/Evidence, D.A.R.E. /G.R.E.A.T. Program, School Resource Officers, Traffic Safety, and Community Service Officers assigned to Parking and Animal Control Enforcement. Additionally, the Division is responsible for the Records and Communications functions within the Department.

Lt. Hucks has a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Criminal Justice Administration from Mt. Mercy College in Cedar Rapids. He was hired in 1996 and promoted to the rank of Sergeant in 2004. In 2011, he was promoted to Lieutenant. Lt. Hucks has served as Housing Authority Officer, Investigations Unit Supervisor, Department Training Officer, as well as Commander of the department's Emergency Response Team.



**Lt. Chad Farrington**  
**Patrol Division Commander**

The Patrol Division is made up of six sergeants and 16 officers divided into three patrol shifts.

Activities include answering calls for service, responding to emergencies, traffic law enforcement, preliminary criminal and follow-up investigations, detection of violations of the law, and apprehension of violators of the law.

Lt. Farrington has a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Political Science and Criminal Justice. He was hired in 1998 and promoted to the rank of Sergeant in 2005. In 2013, he was promoted to Lieutenant. Lt. Farrington has served as a Patrol Training Officer, Department Training Officer, Investigator, and Team Leader of the department's Emergency Response Team. Lt. Farrington is a Taser Instructor, Lead Firearms Instructor and serves as the Department Armorer.



**Lt. Jason Bell**  
**Investigations Division Commander**

The Investigations Division is divided into two units, Investigations and the Drug Task Force.

The Investigations Unit is responsible for major case investigations, special investigations and intelligence gathering and dissemination. The Drug Task Force is responsible for investigating, apprehending, and prosecuting drug and drug-related criminal offenders in a four county area in Southeast Iowa

Lt. Bell attended Indian Hills Community College. He was hired in 1996 and was promoted to the rank of Sergeant in 2005. In 2013, he was promoted to Lieutenant. Lt. Bell has served as a Patrol Training Officer, Drug Task Force Investigator, Emergency Response Team member and Drug Task Force Supervisor.





# INVESTIGATION DIVISION

## Investigations Unit



*Investigator Mike Sieren*

The Investigations Unit is a component of the Investigations Division. Under the supervision of the Investigations Commander, an Investigator has the responsibility to investigate a variety of criminal and non-criminal incidents involving crimes against persons, crimes against property, and general investigations; recover stolen property; apprehend offenders; and perform crime scene processing. In 2018, Investigators conducted a total of 105 criminal investigations including, 5 Attempted Murder, 2 Murders, 44 Sexual Assaults, 5 Burglaries, 3 Child Abuse, 3 Assaults, 3 Robberies, 6 Death Investigations, and 5 Sexual Exploitation investigations.



Job specifications for Police Officer/Investigator includes;

- Knowledge of the fundamentals of police work;
- Knowledge of investigative techniques;
- Knowledge of the rules of evidence, laws of arrest, search and seizures and court procedures;
- Ability to gather, analyze and evaluate facts and evidence and to draw sound conclusions;
- Ability to prepare clear and concise reports;
- Possess interview and interrogations skills;
- Knowledge of photography techniques and equipment;



*Investigator Scott Adams*



*Investigator Kyle DeRonde*



## SOUTHEAST IOWA INTER-AGENCY DRUG TASK FORCE

In an effort to facilitate multi-jurisdictional drug investigations, area cities and counties banded together to form the Southeast Iowa Inter-Agency Drug Task Force in 1990. The overall mission of the Task Force is to identify, investigate, apprehend and prosecute drug and drug related criminal offenders in its four county area. The Task Force targets drug manufacturers and traffickers through shared investigatory and prosecutorial resources. Our expected outcome is to reduce the availability and demand for controlled substances through the use of the multi-jurisdictional task force in conjunction with its member agencies.

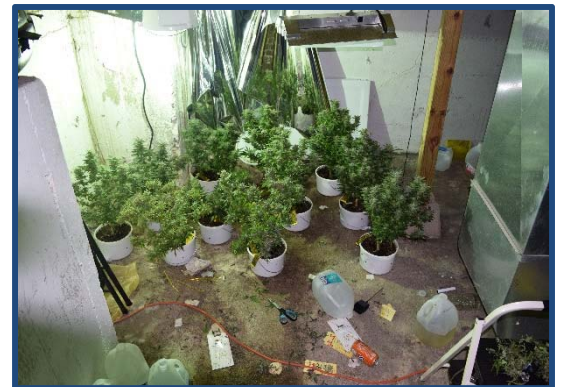


Key activities of the Drug Task Force include the purchase of drugs utilizing confidential informants and undercover officers; investigation of methamphetamine manufacturers through surveillance, informants and information supplied by local businesses who sell precursors; case preparation and court testimony; prosecution of drug cases by the DTF Prosecutor; intelligence gathering and dissemination and coordination of drug investigations with member agencies.

In 2018, the Southeast Iowa Inter-Agency Drug Task Force participated in the execution of 36 search warrants and seized 3 clandestine methamphetamine labs.

The following is a list of controlled substances and firearms the Task Force confiscated in 2018 as the result of search warrants, undercover purchases and controlled purchases.

Methamphetamine	1527.87 grams
THC Oil/Concentrate	273.7 grams
Marijuana	10.6 pounds
Marijuana Commercial Plant seized	23 plants
Pharmaceuticals	353 dosages
Pharmaceuticals Drop Box	134 pounds
Ecstasy	25 dosages
Bath Salts	272 grams
Oral & Injectable Steroids	2201 ml/dosage units
Firearms	16



The Task Force initiated 37 distribution cases, 5 manufacture investigations, and 16 possession cases. Investigators made 6 case referrals involving an individual to the U. S. Attorney's Office for federal prosecution. Investigators filed a total of 112 charges against 60 individuals.

# SERVICES DIVISION

## School Resource Officer Program



The Police Department partners with the Ottumwa Community School District through the School Resource Officer Program. An officer has been assigned full-time at the Ottumwa High School since 1994 while an officer has been assigned full-time at Evans Middle School since 1996. In 2008, a second officer was assigned full-time at the High School. The presence of the

officers reduces the potential for crime-related problems and helps to provide a safer environment at each school. An additional benefit is the increased interaction between students and police officers due to the officers' accessibility. The Ottumwa Community School District pays 100% of the salary and benefits of the SRO assigned to the Middle School, approximately 45% of the salary and benefits of the 1<sup>st</sup> officer assigned to the High School, and 100% of the salary of the 2<sup>nd</sup> officer assigned to the High School.



*Officer Brandon Gravett*



*Officer Chase Johnson*

### ***DARE Program***

The Ottumwa Police Department has partnered with the Ottumwa Community School District to instruct the Drug Abuse Resistance Education Program, commonly referred to as ***DARE***, in the elementary schools. The ***DARE*** Program is an integral part of the Department's community policing initiative as well as the School District's substance abuse prevention curriculum. The curriculum consists of seventeen weeks of instruction that focuses on a variety of substance abuse prevention and self-esteem topics, including drugs and their effects, violence, decision making, consequences, social pressures and their sources, and respect. The Ottumwa Community School District contributes \$10,000 annually towards the cost of the elementary program.



*Officer Katlyn Overturf*



*Officer Jeremy Tosh*



## Community Service Officer

*Officer Jeff Williams*

The Community Service Officer (CSO) is responsible for the enforcement of animal control ordinances within the city, parking ordinances, and other police-related tasks. In 2018, the Ottumwa Police Department impounded 139 animals and issued 53 animal citations for violation of city ordinance.

Officer Jeremy Tosh in his DARE classroom.







## RECORDS UNIT

The Records Unit is a component of the Services Division and maintains records of all incident reports, traffic citations, arrests, personal injury and property damage accidents, tow sheets, and other documents generated by the Department.

The Records Unit utilizes a computerized records system, which interfaces with the computer aided dispatch system used in the Communications Center. The Records Clerk is responsible for entering data from each report into the computer system so that personnel can prepare required statistical and analytical reports.



*Lynn Diveley*

The Records Clerk also provides copies of reports to the City and County Attorney, the court system, officers, insurance companies, media, and other persons or entities that need or request copies of Department reports. Criminal History checks of Department arrest records are also frequently conducted for military recruiters and employers. Release of Department records is governed by various local, state, and federal laws and guidelines. The Records Unit is staffed by one full-time Communications Specialist, who is supervised by the Datacom Supervisor.



### MILO Training

The MILO training system consists of computer generated scenarios that requires officers to make use of force decisions. Officers involved in this training are equipped with the same type of equipment and tools they carry on their belt every day at work. It allows for the application of force through verbal commands, OC defense spray, Taser and lethal weapons. The training system is designed to aid the officers in making critical decisions involving the use of force in a controlled environment. Officers can work through scenarios, make decisions and have constructive debriefings about the decisions. Officers train in the MILO room consistently throughout the year.

*Lt. Chad Farrington*

# COMMUNICATIONS UNIT



The Communications Unit is a component of the Services Division and is responsible for meeting the informational and communication needs of the Department in the course of its normal daily activities and during emergency situations. A Communication Specialist has a long list of job duties. They receive reports from the public of crimes, disturbances, fires, and medical or police emergencies and relay information to law enforcement, fire departments and emergency medical personnel. A Communication Specialist



questions callers to determine their locations and the nature of their problems to determine the type of response needed. They must give full attention to what other people are saying, taking time to understand the points being made, asking questions as appropriate, and not interrupting at inappropriate times. A Communication Specialist must be able to talk to others to convey information effectively. They also must be able to adjust actions in relation to others' actions. They must be capable of using sound logic and reasoning to identify the strengths and weaknesses of alternative solutions, conclusions or approaches to problems. They also must actively look for ways to help people.

A Communication Specialist receives incoming telephone or alarm system calls regarding emergency and non-emergency police and fire service, emergency ambulance service, information and after hour's calls for departments within a city. They also record details of calls, dispatches, and messages into a Computer Aided Dispatch system. A Communication Specialist enters, updates, and retrieves information from teletype networks and computerized data systems regarding such things as wanted persons, stolen property, vehicle registration, and stolen vehicles. The Communication Specialist maintains access to, and security of, highly sensitive materials.



The Communications Unit documented 64,338 activities in 2018 which included 29,362 calls-for-service. The Unit also received 12,957 emergency 911 telephone calls, averaging 35.5 emergency calls per day. These calls included police, fire and medical emergencies. The Communications Unit also answered 67,147 administrative calls. The Unit has five 911 emergency lines (2 wireless and 3 landline), and 4 administrative lines. Our Communications Unit is budgeted for eight full-time Communications Specialists (dispatchers), who report to the Datacom Supervisor.



## Text to 911



The State of Iowa in all but 2 of the 99 counties have the capability of receiving text messages on 911. It is always preferred that you call 911, but if you can't, text. Text 911 only if you are hearing-impaired or if speaking could cause you harm.

The age of your cell phone and your carrier may have an effect on your ability to text to 911.

# OTTUMWA ANIMAL CONTROL

Community Service Officer Jeff Williams partnered with the Heartland Humane Society to administer the Facebook page of the **Ottumwa Animal Control Ottumwa Police Dept.** to assist community members



in finding their lost pets. When the Ottumwa Police Department finds a stray animal, they catch it and transport it to Heartland Humane Society in Ottumwa. Heartland Humane staff posts a photograph and description of the animal on the Facebook page along with instructions on how to claim the animal. This effort has proven very effective in reuniting owners with their pets as well as sparking interest in the adoption of unclaimed pets.

Heartland Humane boards found animals for seven days per city code. If the animal is not claimed within the first five days, it becomes available for adoption on the sixth and seventh day. If the animal does not get adopted, it may be euthanized; however, most of the animals that have not been claimed after seven days go to a local animal shelter or rescue to be placed for adoption.

The Ottumwa Police Department encourages all pet owners to be responsible stewards of the animals they keep. Dog licensing is the best insurance for getting your dog returned to you in case he or she becomes lost. It also lets our officers know if the dog is currently vaccinated against rabies. We encourage spaying and neutering as the best solution to controlling the pet over-population. Dog licenses can be purchased at the Ottumwa Police Department, City Hall or at most local veterinarian offices for \$5 in January. Starting February 1 it is \$10 for spayed or neutered animals and \$15 if the dog is not spayed or neutered. Local Vet Clinics charge \$7 or \$17 if the dog is not spayed or neutered.



In 2018, a total of 139 animals were impounded by the Ottumwa Police Department. 94.5 % of these animals were claimed or adopted.

## Chickens & Rabbits



In June of 2015 the Ottumwa City Council adopted changes to the Municipal Code to allow residents to legally keep rabbits and chickens within the city limits of Ottumwa under a permit to be issued by the Ottumwa Police Department.

Persons wishing to keep chickens and rabbits must meet certain requirements in order to receive a permit. A maximum of six chickens and/or rabbits may be kept per premises. No roosters are allowed. The animals must be kept in a coop or pen, and are not allowed to run at large. Coops or pens must be in a rear yard area and at least ten feet away from the property line. They must be at least fifty feet away from any adjacent residential dwelling, building, church, school or place of business. Coops and pens are subject to inspection to ensure adequate space for each animal and proper sanitation of the enclosure. The initial permit fee is \$60 and is valid for three years.

Persons who would like to keep chickens or rabbits within the city limits must contact Officer Jeff Williams at the Ottumwa Police Department at 641-683-0648 to begin the permit application process.



The City's Urban Chicken and Rabbit Policy can be reviewed online at [cityofottumwa.com](http://cityofottumwa.com)





## PATROL DIVISION

The Patrol Unit is a component of the Patrol Division, under the direction of the Patrol Division Commander. A Patrolman's function to the community cannot be overestimated. Patrol is the mainstay of police work whether measured in terms of police patrol personnel, the portion of the budget allocated to patrol operations, or the fact that the uniformed police officer is the most visible component of the Department. The manner in which patrol officers discharge their responsibilities affects not only the quality of justice, but also citizens' perceptions of the Department and law enforcement in general.

The functions and major responsibilities of the Patrol Unit include, but are not limited to:

- Responding to routine and emergency calls-for-service 24 hours per day, every day of the year
- Arresting criminal offenders
- The investigation of incidents, offenses, and criminal acts
- Traffic enforcement
- Traffic direction and control
- Accident investigation
- Crime prevention
- Preventative patrol directed towards the prevention of criminal acts and traffic violations, the maintenance of public order, and the discovery of hazardous situations
- Parking enforcement
- Animal enforcement
- Inspectional services to determine compliance with various statutes including liquor and gambling laws
- Community relations
- The sharing of information with other divisions of the Department and with outside agencies

The Patrol Division consists of the Patrol Division Commander, 6 Patrol Supervisors and 16 Patrol Officers.





## Emergency Response Team

The Emergency Response Team (ERT) was formed in 1991 to handle high-risk calls and warrant services. Since then, the Ottumwa Police Department and the Wapello County Sheriff's Office joined together to form a joint Emergency Response Team. The ERT trains monthly in the use of special weapons and tactics, and trains to respond to a wide variety of emergency situations in the city and county.

The team consists of thirteen members, all of whom are sworn law enforcement officers with either the Police or Sheriff's Department. Each team member is assigned to other areas of their respective Department on a full-time basis and participation on the team is in addition to their regular duties. Members volunteer to serve on the team and all officers are eligible to apply for positions as they become available. Upon appointment to the team, personnel are required to maintain satisfactory performance during both regular duty assignments and ERT activities.

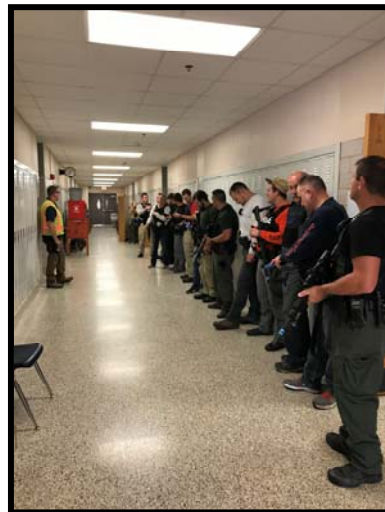
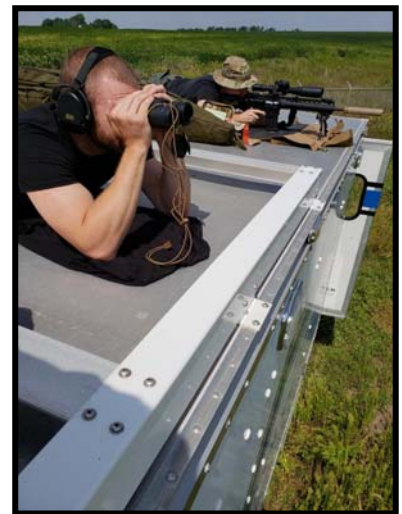


The Emergency Response Team can be deployed for any situation that requires a police response that likely could result in serious injury and/or death to citizens, officers, or suspects. The ERT team was deployed a total two times in 2018.

Lt. Mickey Hucks is the Emergency Response Team Commander. Under the direction of the Chief, the Team Commander is responsible for the overall operation, direction, and administration of the Emergency Response Team. When the ERT is deployed, he is the liaison between the Chief of Police and the Team, and carries out all orders of the Chief. Sergeant Noah Aljets is the Team Leader. Under the direction of the Team Commander, he is responsible for the training and immediate supervision of the team, and for its deployment at the scene of a critical incident.

While we can never be completely prepared for all eventualities, we must constantly strive to expand our resources and capabilities to ensure the highest likelihood for success while ensuring the highest possible degree of safety in all of our enforcement activities.

The Emergency Response Team regularly conducts active shooter training at local schools and businesses.







## PART I INDEX CRIMES

Part 1 Index Crimes are divided into two categories – property crime and violent crime. Property crimes are burglary, theft, motor vehicle theft, and arson. Violent crimes consist of murder, rape, robbery, and aggravated assault.

### PART 1 Index Crimes by Year

#### \*LOCAL

	Homicide	Rape	Robbery	Aggravated Assault	Burglary	Theft	Motor Vehicle Theft	Arson
2018	3	55	14	266	270	748	82	7
2017	0	55	14	260	288	811	82	19
2016	1	41	8	181	221	628	71	4
2015	1	45	6	212	223	638	65	8
2014	1	48	8	233	177	966	53	13
2013	0	54	5	208	288	991	63	5
2012	1	36	31	162	241	874	37	20

#### \*\*UCR

	Homicide	Rape	Robbery	Aggravated Assault	Burglary	Theft	Motor Vehicle Theft	Arson
***2018	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2017	0	23	13	107	287	918	89	n/a
2016	1	20	8	79	241	767	91	n/a
2015	1	15	8	52	237	633	76	n/a
2014	1	14	6	51	190	821	64	n/a
2013	0	19	5	50	284	835	69	n/a
2012	1	7	17	45	263	662	35	n/a

\*Part 1 Index Crime Statistics that meet local and state law definitions.

\*\* Part 1 Index Crime Statistics that meet Uniform Crime Report definitions.

\*\*\*2018 Uniform Crime Report statistics will not be available until September of 2019.

## **Ottumwa Police Department Reported Crimes vs. FBI Uniform Crime Reported Crimes**

Why don't they match?

The definition of specific crimes often times vary from state to state. For example, the definition of aggravated assault in Iowa may not be the same as the definition for aggravated assault in California or Kentucky. With this in mind the FBI attempts to ensure data is uniformly reported to the FBI by providing reporting agencies a guideline handbook that explains how to classify and score offenses, and provides uniform crime definitions. The FBI cautions reporting agencies to report offenses (crimes) not according to local or state law but according to those guidelines provided by the FBI. Aggravated Assaults reported account for the largest discrepancy between local and federal (UCR) crime reporting.

The FBI Uniform Crime Report (UCR) defines an aggravated assault in part as: An unlawful attack by one person upon another for the purpose of inflicting severe or aggravated bodily injury. This type of assault usually is accompanied by the use of a weapon and/or by means likely to produce death or great bodily harm (broken bones, internal injuries, stitches). All assaults upon a person with the intent to kill, maim, or inflict severe bodily injury with the use of any dangerous weapon are classified as aggravated assault.

The Code of Iowa states in part: A person who commits an assault with the intent to inflict a serious injury upon another, is guilty of an aggravated misdemeanor. A person who commits an assault and uses or displays a dangerous weapon in connection with the assault, is guilty of an aggravated misdemeanor.

The State of Iowa definition has a lower threshold (intent to inflict serious injury) than the Uniform Crime Report threshold (broken bones, internal Injuries, stitches). Therefore the number of aggravated assault reports documented by the Ottumwa Police Department is much greater than aggravated assault incidents reported by the Uniform Crime Report. Those assaults reported to the Ottumwa Police Department that do not meet the UCR definition of aggravated assault are classified by the UCR as simple assaults which are not Part 1 Index Crimes.

In 2017, the Ottumwa Police Department reported 260 aggravated assaults meeting the State of Iowa code definition of aggravated assault. However, only 107 of those assaults met the UCR definition of aggravated assault. There are numerous other crimes reported that are documented in this same manner.

### **Should comparisons be made between cities using the Uniform Crime Report?**

Figures used in the UCR are submitted "in good faith" by more than 18,000 agencies. However, because of computer problems, changes in records management systems, personnel shortages, or a number of other reasons, some agencies do not provide any/or accurate data to the FBI. For these reasons the FBI cautions against drawing conclusions by making direct comparisons between cities. Comparisons lead to simplistic and/or incomplete analyses that often create misleading perceptions adversely affecting communities and their residents.



# ANNUAL STATISTICS

<b>Year</b>	<b>Annual Budget</b>	<b>Alternative Funding</b>	<b>Activities</b>	<b>Calls for Service</b>	<b>Incidents</b>	<b>Arrests</b>	<b>Traffic Citations</b>	<b>OWI's</b>	<b>Personal Injury Accidents</b>	<b>Property Damage Accidents</b>	<b>Fatalities</b>	<b>Animals Impounded</b>
2008	\$3,132,238.00	\$320,550.84	61,140	31,479	4,559	4,110	4,710	206	154	353	0	448
2009	\$3,462,270.00	\$530,404.94	58,038	29,298	4,098	3,780	5,179	162	156	265	1	430
2010	\$3,628,290.00	\$675,091.41	57,691	29,197	4,084	3,925	4,168	180	130	274	2	355
2011	\$3,953,135.00	\$817,277.08	58,825	27,329	3,980	3,987	4,042	146	121	227	1	400
2012	\$4,336,770.00	\$483,794.31	63,505	29,111	3,893	3,775	4,554	120	119	190	0	337
2013	\$4,520,419.00	\$437,685.00	63,503	29,614	4,164	3,899	3,041	118	110	255	0	343
2014	\$4,548,624.00	\$377,620.00	63,163	31,199	3,944	3,599	3,010	95	118	257	0	365
2015	\$4,771,665.00	\$407,581.00	60,727	29,234	3,589	3,414	3,057	102	96	233	2	257
2016	\$4,691,056.00	\$401,292.00	62,800	25,542	3,731	3,554	2,772	113	111	223	1	246
2017	\$4,978,393.00	\$330,547.55	65,777	28,136	4,807	4,662	2,105	125	115	213	1	204
2018	\$5,507,426.00	\$340,927.65	64,338	29,362	4,511	4,648	2,251	165	128	230	1	139



# ARREST AND TRAFFIC CITATIONS BY RACE AND GENDER

Ottumwa enjoys a very diverse population. In an effort to support our diversity, the Police Department has implemented a program to collect statistical data on the race and gender of each person arrested or issued a traffic citation. The data is then reviewed in order to ensure that officers are not engaged in racial profiling and that laws are enforced without regard to race, gender, or ethnicity.

## Arrests

Gender	White	Black	Hispanic	Other	Total	Percentage
Male	2,547	364	257	43	<b>3211</b>	<b>68.9%</b>
Female	1241	122	75	13	<b>1451</b>	<b>31.1%</b>
Total	<b>3788</b>	<b>486</b>	<b>332</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>4662</b>	
Percentage	<b>81.3%</b>	<b>10.4%</b>	<b>7.1%</b>	<b>1.2%</b>		

## Traffic Citations

Gender	White	Black	Hispanic	Other	Total	Percentage
Male	1072	135	126	27	<b>1360</b>	<b>64.6%</b>
Female	677	28	30	10	<b>745</b>	<b>35.4%</b>
Total	<b>1749</b>	<b>163</b>	<b>156</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>2105</b>	
Percentage	<b>83.1%</b>	<b>7.7%</b>	<b>7.4%</b>	<b>1.8%</b>		





# OPERATING WHILE INTOXICATED

In 2018, the Ottumwa Police Department arrested 165 persons for drunk driving. The following is a summary of the drivers arrested for OWI (Operating While Intoxicated) in 2018:

- The average age of the drivers was 35.
- 80 % (132) of the drivers were male.
- 20 % (33) of the drivers were female.
- The average blood alcohol content of the drivers was .134. (As of July 2003, a person with blood alcohol content of .08 or above is considered legally intoxicated in Iowa).
- 68 persons refused to provide a breath sample in order to determine the level of alcohol in their system. (Failure to provide a sample for testing results in a person having their driver's license revoked for a minimum of one year).
- 6.4 % of accidents are alcohol related in Ottumwa.
- 35.7 % of Ottumwa's accidents resulted in personal injury or death.



## GTSB Year End Report

The Ottumwa Police Department received a total of \$25,500 from the GTSB which was used for directed overtime enforcement and equipment. In partnership with GTSB, the Department set a goal of using 310 hours of overtime for high-visibility traffic enforcement in Ottumwa. From October 1, 2017 through September 30, 2018, we used 313.50 hours of overtime, which exceeded our original goal. Listed below are some additional goals and results reported to the GTSB;

- Alcohol related offense - OWI, drugged, .02, public intoxication, PULA, open container - Result 299 Arrests
- Occupant Restraint – day/night seatbelt & child restraint - Result 27 Citations
- Moving/Speed Violations – speed, stop sign/traffic light citations - Result 305.



## 2018 CALLS FOR SERVICE

Listed below are the Police Department's calls for service. Calls for service are defined as when a citizen calls in for some type of service. This is not an all-inclusive list.

911 Hang UP	613	Dist by Auto	138	Personal Injury Accident	91
Fight	99	Domestic Disturbance	372	Fingerprints	279
Armed Weapon	32	Fireworks	316	Found Property	344
Building Check	188	Fire	47	Robbery	14
Assist Motorist	446	Harassment	531	Reckless Driving	455
OWI	65	Hit and Run	258	Shooting/stabbing	28
Intoxicated person	125	Illegally Parked Car	1441	Shoplifting	167
Mental	354	Juvenile	701	Suspicious Person	2417
Assault	367	Keep the Peace	568	See Subject	2392
Alarm	884	Loud music	305	Suspicious Vehicle	1184
Animal Complaint	1541	Medical	205	Theft	54
Assist Other Agency	414	Missing Person	321	Traffic Problem	432
Burglary	367	Open Building	67	Trespass	129
Criminal Mischief	383	Other	734	Traffic Stop	3959
				Violation Restraining	
Disturbance	1435	Phone call	5959	Order	181
		Property Damage			
Dead Animal	34	Accident	625	Welfare Check	604

## OFFICER INITIATED ACTIVITIES

Building Check	188	Investigation	3789
Park and Walk	2645	Serve warrant	956
Drive Through	96	Traffic Stop	3959
		School Walk Through	20

\*Listed above are officer initiated activities. This is not an all-inclusive list.



## USE OF FORCE

The Ottumwa Police Department Policy and Procedure Manual requires officers who take any action which results in (or is alleged to have resulted in) the injury or death of another person and/or applies force through the use of chemical agents, empty hand hard techniques, striking weapons, less-lethal weapons, or employs deadly force to complete a Use of Force Report.

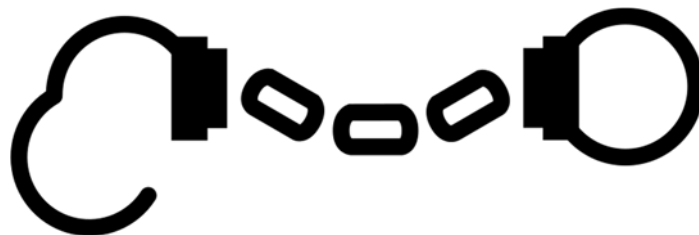
The on duty supervisor investigates the circumstances surrounding the incident and submits a report to the Division Commander who then reviews the incident. The Division Commander forwards his findings to the Chief of Police.

In 2018 the Ottumwa Police Department documented thirty (30) Use of Force Reports. Of those thirty (30) reports, eleven (11) were required in order to comply with OPD policy.

Those incidents that by policy required a Use of Force Report included the following:

- Empty Hand Hard Techniques – 3
- Taser Deployment - 5
- Chemical Agents – OC Pepper Spray - 2
- Deadly Force – Firearm 1

The remaining Use of Force reports did not meet the criteria requiring a Use of Force Report; however, Use of Force Reports were completed as a matter of practice. These reports included incidents such as empty hand soft techniques, incidents where persons were handcuffed for short amounts of time but not arrested and incidents involving officers physically restraining persons in the hospital emergency room while medical staff administered sedatives to patients.





The goal of the Below 100 Initiative is to reduce police line-of-duty deaths (LODDs) to fewer than 100 per year.

The last time LODDs were below 100 was 1944. For the last 50 years, the average has been well over 150 and the

last decade over 160. 2010 and 2011 both had 174 line-of-duty deaths. The first complete year after Below 100 began was 2012 and we saw a 50 year low in line-of-duty deaths with 120. According to the Officer Down Memorial Page, in 2018, there were 150 Line of Duty Deaths.

The Five Tenants of Below 100 are:

### 1. Wear Your Belt

It might sound simple to you, even unnecessary, but the truth is too many agencies don't mandate belt wear. And even among those that do, many officers ignore policy because the culture doesn't value it. *The truth:* Seatbelts save lives.

### 2. Wear Your Vest

We know vests save lives. We know that bullets can fly when we least expect it. Add to that the fact that body armor can improve your likelihood of surviving a car accident or other traumatic event and you quickly see why you must wear it. Always. Period.

### 3. Watch Your Speed

Why do cops drive fast? Because they can, right? Well, driving faster than what conditions warrant is a sure way to get in trouble. Of course there are times when getting on scene quickly is critical. But these times are rare. Too often, officers are speeding—just because they can. In the process, they are putting themselves and the public at perilous risk *for no good reason*.

### 4. WIN—What's Important Now?

It's a simple question that can elicit profound results. It's a question that will lead to deliberate action, not reaction. If you are constantly prioritizing what's most important, you won't have time for the distractions that can get you in trouble, hurt or killed.

### 5. Remember: Complacency Kills!

Chief Jeff Chudwin perhaps said it best: "Complacency is among the most dangerous and insidious threats we face because it lays us open to all others." Complacency is why police officers think they can go without vest and seatbelts. It's why they think they can speed and allow themselves to be distracted. To quote Chief Chudwin again: "Complacency will kill you."





# PROFESSIONALISM THROUGH TRAINING

The Police Department has an obligation to provide a professional standard of law enforcement service to the community. In fulfilling that responsibility, it is essential to properly train all employees. The Iowa Legislature also recognizes the need to properly train law enforcement personnel and, as a result, has mandated specific training for both sworn and civilian employees.

## *Academy Training*



Iowa Administrative Code (IAC) Chapter 501-3.1(1) requires that any person hired as a police officer must become certified through the Iowa Law Enforcement Academy within one year from the date of hire. The Iowa Law Enforcement Academy is located at Camp Dodge in Johnston, Iowa. Currently, the police academy is fourteen (14) weeks in duration and its curriculum includes training in patrol techniques, traffic law and enforcement, officer survival skills, investigation of specific crimes, criminal and constitutional law, court procedures, and human behavior. The Police Department hired 4 new recruits in 2017. The cost of the academy was approximately \$7,000 per officer.

## *PTO Training*

Following academy certification and a return to the Department, a recruit officer is placed in the Police Training Officer Program (PTO). The PTO Program is a minimum of fifteen (15) weeks in duration and is the process by which an individual recruit officer receives formal job instruction. Each recruit is placed with a Patrol Training Officer and receives consistent, systematic, and documented training while in the program. The recruit is evaluated weekly by his PTO and the shift supervisor. Additionally, each recruit is evaluated midway through the training with a comprehensive evaluation at the end of the training period. Following successful completion of the program, each recruit officer functions as a single-officer unit and is evaluated by his supervisor on a monthly basis through the remainder of the probationary period. Although state law does not require implementing a PTO Program, agencies that fail to do so have been found to be negligent by federal courts in civil lawsuits.

## *Dispatcher Training*

IAC Chapter 501-13.2(1) requires that any person hired as a police dispatcher must successfully complete a 40-hour basic telecommunicator training course within one year from the date of hire. Currently, only the Iowa Law Enforcement Academy offers the course. Its curriculum includes human relations and communications skills, basic dispatch/broadcast techniques, multiple tasking and prioritization, liability and legal issues, and stress management and awareness. The Iowa Administrative Code also requires each dispatcher to receive a minimum of 8 hours of in-service training annually. In addition to training requirements, dispatchers must be certified every two years to operate the NCIC/state computer system. This is the system that is used to query motor vehicle registrations, driver licenses, wanted or missing persons, and stolen property.

## *Training Administration*

The Sergeant assigned to the Services Division is responsible for the training function. This person spends approximately half his time performing training duties while the other half is spent supervising Services Division personnel and performing administrative duties.

## NEW EMPLOYEES

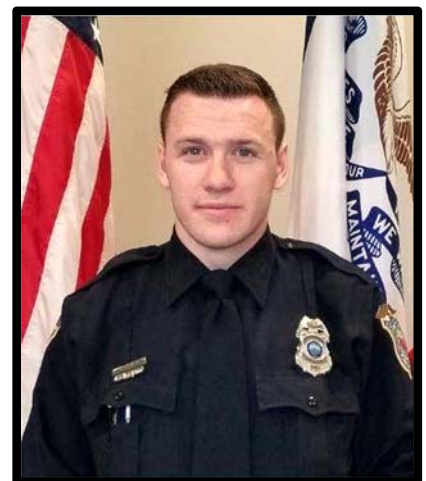


**Jennifer Findley**  
**Communication Specialist**

Communications Specialist Jennifer Findley was hired on February 4, 2018. Many in the Ottumwa Community know Jennifer from her volunteer work with Make Ottumwa Shine, Oktoberfest and RAGBRAI. She became certified on the IOWA system by attending Basic Iowa System Training in April of 2018. Jennifer graduated from the 40 hour Telecommunicator Training at ILEA in November of 2018 and has been assigned to the Services Division.

**Sean Emmons**  
**Patrol Division**

Officer Sean Emmons was sworn in as an Ottumwa Police Officer on April 23, 2018. Officer Emmons attended Indian Hills Community College and Evangel University. Officer Emmons graduated from the Iowa Law Enforcement Academy in 2018. While at the academy Officer Emmons became a member of the 300 Point Club for achievement in physical fitness. He was released from the Patrol Officer Training Program in December 2018 and is currently assigned to the Patrol Division.





**Officer Buddy Harsch  
Patrol Division**

Officer Buddy Harsch was sworn in as an Ottumwa Police Officer on December 18, 2018. Officer Harsch received his law enforcement certificate from Hawkeye Community College on October 31, 2008 and served the community of Bloomfield Iowa for ten years. Officer Harsch has an Associate of Arts degree from Indian Hill Community College. He is a middle school football coach and assistant high school track coach. Officer Harsch is currently participating in the 15 week Patrol Training Officer Program after which he will be assigned to the Patrol Division.

**Officer Carson Story  
Patrol Division**

Officer Carson Story was sworn in as an Ottumwa Police Officer on December 18, 2018. He has a BA degree in Psychology from the University of Iowa. Officer Story is currently attending the Iowa Law Enforcement Academy. After graduation, Officer Story will participate in the 15 week Patrol Training Officer Program before being assigned to the Patrol Division.



The Police Department is staffed with 42 sworn officers, 11 full time and 1 part time civilians. All positions within the Police Department are civil service positions and subject to Chapter 400 of the Iowa Code. Officers and Communications Specialists are represented by the Ottumwa Police Union, Teamster's Local # 238.



**Officer Cody Craycraft  
Patrol Division**

Officer Cody Craycraft, a lifelong resident of Ottumwa, was sworn in as an Ottumwa Police Officer on December 18, 2018. He attended Indian Hills Community College obtaining an EMT certificate and is a member of the Wapello County Rural Fire Department. Officer Craycraft is currently attending the Iowa Law Enforcement Academy. After graduation, Officer Craycraft will participate in the 15 week Patrol Training Officer Program before being assigned to the Patrol Division.

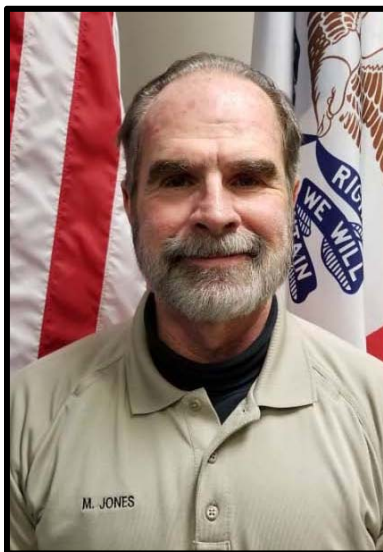
**Officer James Avon  
Patrol Division**

Officer James Avon was sworn in as an Ottumwa Police Office on December 18, 2018. Officer Avon is currently attending the Iowa Law Enforcement Academy. After graduation, Officer Avon will participate in the 15 week Patrol Training Officer Program before being assigned to the Patrol Division.



**Mike Jones  
Parking Enforcement**

Parking Enforcement Officer Mike Jones joined the police department on September 24, 2018. He is a lifelong resident of Ottumwa having served on the Ottumwa Fire Department for 41 years. Mike retired from the Fire Department in 2012 at the rank of Deputy Chief.



## Police Chaplains



In November of 2015, the Ottumwa Police Department initiated its Chaplain Program. Police Chaplains Jim Shrimplin and Rick Bick on a voluntary basis provide personal services to officers and their families in times of stress and difficulty; provide exceptional services to the community in times of personal or city-wide crisis; assists officers in addressing community issues; and promote community policing ideals. The Chaplains attend police training sessions and meetings; ride along with patrol officers and observe in the Communications Center on a regular basis. Chaplains Bick and Shrimplin rode along with patrol officers over 400 hours in 2018.



Jim Shrimplin is a pastor in the United Methodist Church and has served Wesley United Methodist in Ottumwa since July 2012. Before moving to Ottumwa, Jim attended the University of Dubuque Theological Seminary from 2008-2012 graduating with a Masters of Divinity degree. He earned his bachelor's degree from Southwestern Assemblies of God University. He is married to his wife of 22 years Rebekkah Shrimplin who also pastors in Bussey.

In June of 2019 Pastor Shrimplin will be moving from Ottumwa. The Ottumwa Police Department would like to thank Jim for his service to the police department, its members and the citizens of Ottumwa.

Rick Bick is the Pastor of NewLife Center in Ottumwa. Next year he will celebrate 42 years in ministry. He and his wife came to Ottumwa eight years ago with a vision to work with other area churches serving the community. He was drawn to Ottumwa by the city's slogan, City of Bridges, River of Opportunity. He sees the Chaplain program as an opportunity to partner with local law enforcement in making a difference in Ottumwa.





## HIGHER EDUCATION IS IMPORTANT FOR TODAY'S CRIMINAL JUSTICE PRACTITIONERS

For the past several decades, there have been efforts to increase the education requirements for law enforcement officers across the country. Newspaper, magazine, and journal articles cite numerous studies whose findings support the notion that better educated police officers are better performers. Increasingly, departments are requiring applicants to have completed a certain number of college credit hours or even earned two or four-year college degrees.

Researchers, practitioners, commissions, and even police agencies themselves have been calling for increased education requirements for police officers for many reasons. Some point out that police work has become increasingly complex and, as a result, education requirements for police officers should be increased. Others suggest that better educated police officers will be "more rounded thinkers and exhibit a greater humanistic approach to the profession." Still others believe that college educated officers were less likely to break the rules and, consequently, needed less discipline. Most agree that college educated officers have better communications skills, both oral and written.

Although the minimum educational requirement to be an Ottumwa Police Officer is graduation from high school or possession of a GED, we have been fortunate to develop a close relationship with the Criminal Justice Program at Indian Hills Community College as well as similar programs at colleges across Iowa. As a result, we have a high percentage of our employees with advanced college degrees. The following is a breakdown of the higher education possessed by our sworn officers and civilian employees:

- 24 employees 45% Bachelor Degree
- 14 employees 27% Associate Degree
- 10 employees 19% Some College
- 5 employees 9% No College Credits
- **53 employees 100%**



### Employee Averages

Interesting facts about Ottumwa Police Department personnel:

- Average age of an Ottumwa Police Officer is 36.5 years.
- Average age of a patrol officer is 34.5 years.
- Average years on the department of all sworn is 9 years
- Average years on the department for patrol officers is 7 years.
- Average years at the rank of Sergeant is 6 years
- Average years at the rank of Lieutenant is 6.5.



# COMMUNITY POLICING

## Shop with A Sheriff

The Ottumwa Police Department partnered with the Wapello County Sheriff's Reserve for their "Shop with a Sheriff" program. Every year the officers volunteer to go with children to buy Christmas presents for their families. This program helped about 29 families in 2018.



## Ride-Along Program

The Police Department believes a Ride-Along Program promotes a better understanding of the challenges, risks, and rewards of the police officer's role in the community. Therefore, the Department allows citizen police academy attendees and students considering a career in law enforcement to ride as passenger observers with patrol officers. All participants in the Ride-Along Program must be at least 18 years of age and must sign a liability waiver.

## Ottumwa Police Department Internship Program

The Ottumwa Police Department Internship Program is a cooperative effort between the Police Department and participating area colleges and universities with Criminal Justice Programs. Students interested in law enforcement related careers gain valuable experience and knowledge by working with officers while they perform their law enforcement duties. Upon successful completion, an intern receives academic credit for participating in the program. Interns may be assigned to the Patrol Unit, Records Unit, Communications Center, Investigations Unit, or School Resource Officer Program.

## Ottumwa Police visit Liberty School

In August of 2018, the Ottumwa Police Department responded to a report of a shooting where 3 suspects fled the area on foot and were confronted on the property of Liberty Elementary School. It was discovered there were several children inside attending a summer day care program. Officers surrounded the school and engaged in active gunfire while in the school parking lot. The school was placed on lockdown. The children were evacuated from the school as soon as the scene was safe and transported to another secure area to meet their parents. The department realized the children went through a very traumatic event. Several officers greeted the children the following Monday morning with stickers and smiles.





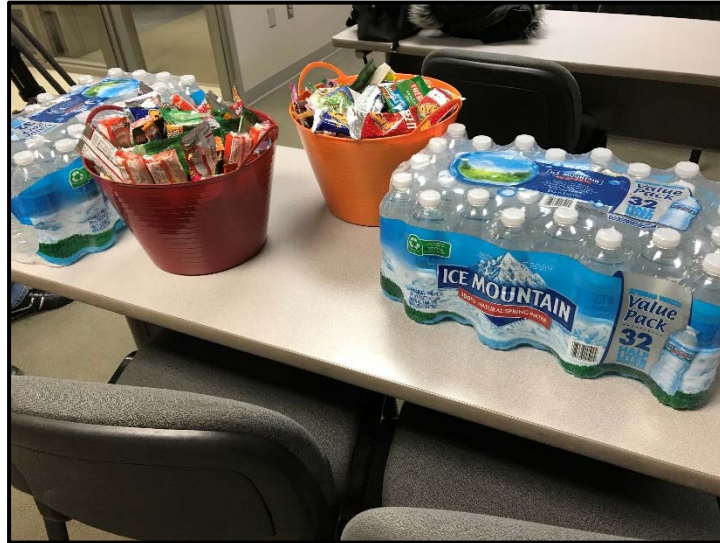


# Celebrating Police Week

## Sylvan Woods



# OTTUMWA CHRISTIAN SCHOOL



## 8<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL CITIZEN'S POLICE ACADEMY

In 2011, the Ottumwa Police Department implemented a new program called the Citizens Police Academy. As part of our community policing effort, the purpose of the Academy is to provide an educational opportunity for citizens to learn first-hand about local police operations and to gain a deeper understanding of today's law enforcement functions. It is our belief that a clearer understanding of a police officer's duties, how the officer carries out those duties, and the end result of the officer's actions will help develop a better relationship between the police department and the community.

The Citizen Police Academy is an eight-week program, with each session lasting three hours. Sessions were held from 6:00 – 9:00 PM on each Monday in February and March. The course curriculum included: Department Overview & Orientation, Administration, Operations Division, Services Division, Drug Task Force, Gang Suppression, Animal Control, Parking Enforcement, Immigration, Communications (Dispatch), and Records.



Participants also had the opportunity to schedule time on the Department's new state-of-the-art use-of-force simulator and test his/her judgment in reacting to potentially volatile situations. Participants also had the option of going to the Department's firearms range during the summer and shooting a variety of weapons.

*Holly Berg  
Larry Blumer  
Mike Craff  
Dwight Dohlman  
Linda Durflinger  
Rebecca Ellingson  
John Greer  
Earl Hanes  
John Hunolt  
Frank Lawrence  
Barb McWhorter  
Tony Miller*

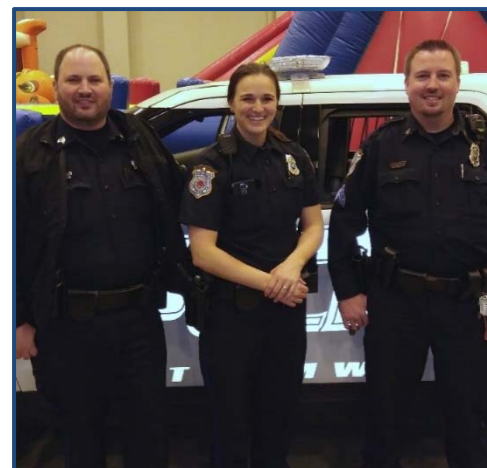
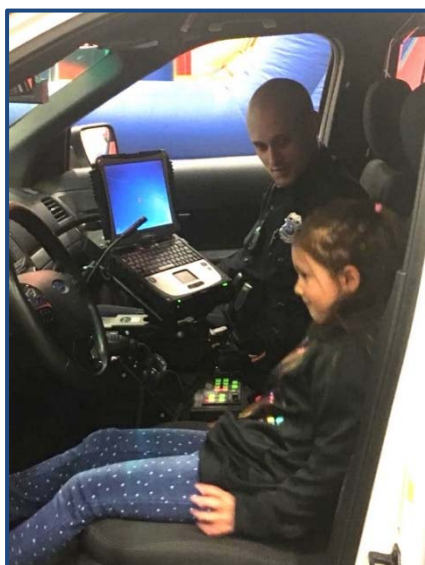
*Tresa Miller  
Brent Moughler  
Brett Phippen  
Sally Phippen  
Dana Pierson  
Tina Rea  
Julie Richardson  
Tim Richmond  
Garrett Ross  
Patricia Sincox  
Tim Youngman*

**The Police Department would like to thank *South Ottumwa Savings Bank* for their ongoing sponsorship of the Citizens Police Academy**



# FAMILY FEST!

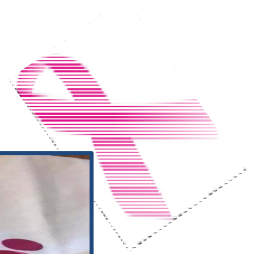
On March 10, 2018, the Ottumwa Police Department participated in “Family Fest” held at the Bridge View Center in Ottumwa. Family Fest is sponsored by the Bridge View Center and offers an opportunity for members of the community to participate in numerous family activities. The Police Department in “Safety City” allowed citizens, with an emphasis on children, to tour police vehicles including squad cars and the Emergency response vehicle. The children especially enjoyed sitting in the squad car and operating the lights and siren.





## Race for the Cure

In May, members of the Ottumwa Police Department took part in the 2018 Komen Ottumwa Race for the Cure. The team increased the difficulty of the course by running in full gear to show their continued support for cancer survivors.



## Walk to end Alzheimer's



## Fly Iowa



The Ottumwa Police Department participated in the Fly Iowa event held in Ottumwa on August 24 -26, 2018. Officers assisted with emergency planning, parking and security. The Air Show was filled with amazing aerobatics and death-defying stunts!



## No Shave November



Several officers and a dispatcher participated in No Shave November to help raise money for cancer. Seen below is Officer Ritz with Jennifer Stromgren, mother of Trevor Stromgren age 9 who passed away in 2018 of pediatric cancer. The department raised \$380 for the Team Trevor Foundation. The Stromgren family continues to raise donations for families in our community impacted by childhood cancer.



# ALICE TRAINING



In 2018, the Ottumwa Police Department presented 6 ALiCE training seminars and 3 site walk throughs to local school faculty, government organizations and businesses. The purpose of ALiCE training is to prepare individuals to handle the threat of an Active Shooter. ALiCE teaches individuals to participate in their own survival, while leading others to safety. Though no one can guarantee success in this type of situation, this new set of skills will greatly increase the odds of survival should anyone face this form of disaster.

ALiCE is an acronym for Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter and Evacuate. These are five strategies available to protect oneself during an active shooter incident:



- **ALERT** is to notify as many people as possible within the danger zone that a potentially life threatening risk exists.
- 
- **LOCKDOWN** is to secure in place, and prepare to EVACUATE or COUNTER, if needed.
- **INFORM** is to continue to communicate the intruder's location in real time.
- **COUNTER** is to interrupt the intruder and make it difficult or impossible to aim. This is a strategy of last resort.
- **EVACUATE** is to remove yourself from the danger zone when it is safe to do so.

The term, "active shooter" is used by law enforcement to describe a situation in which a shooting is in progress and an aspect of the crime may affect the protocols used in responding to and reacting at the scene of the incident.

Unlike defined crime, such as a murder or mass killing, the active aspect inherently implies that both law enforcement personnel and citizens have the potential to affect the outcome of the event based upon their responses.





# OTTUMWA POLICE PARTNERSHIPS

## Ottumwa Police and JBS Corporation



**(Pictured left to right) Kyle Sorenson - Plant Manager, Lt. Jason Bell, Chief McAndrew, Troy Mulgrew –General Manager, Lt. Chad Farrington, Jay Alvarez –HR Director**

## Wapello County Sheriff's Office and Ottumwa Police Department Partners with State Drug Control Office To Expand Medication Drop Off Locations



In May of 2016, the Ottumwa Police Department and Wapello County Sheriff's Office announced the placement of a permanent Medication Drop box located in the lobby of the Wapello County Law Enforcement Center, 330 West 2<sup>nd</sup> Street. The drop box is made possible through a small grant from the Governor's Office of Drug Control Policy to address the increasing problem of prescription drug abuse. The drop box is accessible to the public during normal business hours.

Prescription drug abuse is Iowa's fastest-growing form of substance abuse, and addiction to powerful pain relievers is also fueling more heroin use. Prescription pain pills and heroin are both opioid drugs. The combination is contributing to an increase in opioid-related overdose deaths in Iowa and the U.S.

Citizens wishing to utilize the medication drop box are asked to place all medications in sealed non-breakable containers and are requested to not include any "sharps" (syringes or lancets) or any other item that could cause injury to the Department staff servicing the drop box.

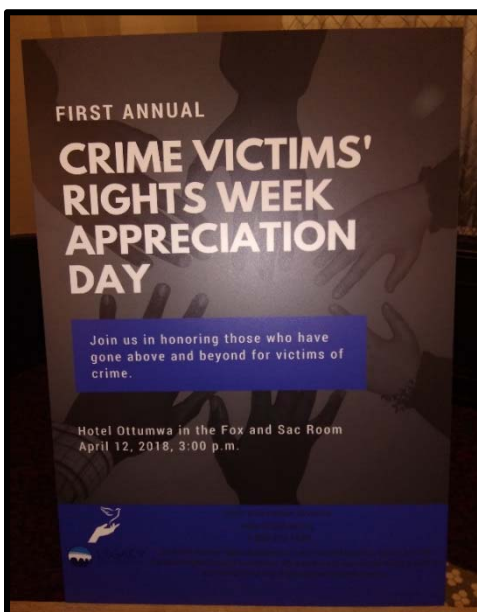
## Department Tours

Officer Brandon Gravett, School Resource Officer gave several tours to various groups and organizations.



## Crime Victims' Service Award

Investigator Steve Harris was presented with the Crime Victims' Service Award during the 1st annual Crime Victims' Rights Week Appreciation Day banquet. This event was sponsored by Crisis Intervention Services. Investigator Harris was recognized for going above and beyond assisting victims and helping them through their criminal cases.





## SERVICE AWARDS

### Chief's Medal of Meritorious Service

On April 17, 2018, Investigator Steve Harris was awarded the Chief's Medal of Meritorious Service. This award is presented by the Chief of Police to employees in recognition of outstanding performance or accomplishments which bring credit upon themselves and the department. This award may be given for initiated programs, exemplary service to the community, or for meritorious actions/accomplishments in a single event or spanning several years.



Chief McAndrew presented this award to Investigator Harris for his years of outstanding performance and accomplishments as an investigator for the Ottumwa Police Department. Steve began his assignment as an investigator in May of 2010. Since that time he has served as lead investigator on a multitude of serious criminal investigations including murder, attempted murder, robberies and sexual assaults. For eight years, if a major crime was committed in Ottumwa, Investigator Harris played a major role in the investigation and prosecution of the case.



*Investigator Harris and his wife, Danielle*



*Chief McAndrew and Inv. Harris*



## SHERIFF MARK MILLER

90-51

The Ottumwa Police Department would like to recognize Wapello County Sheriff Mark Miller's dedication and service to the citizens of Wapello County.

Sheriff Mark Miller was born and raised in Ottumwa and graduated from Ottumwa High School in 1979. After high school he enlisted in the United States Marine Corps and served as a Military Policeman. He was honorably discharged in 1984. Sheriff Miller then attended Indian Hills Community College in Ottumwa and graduated with an Associates of Applied Science Degree in Criminal Justice in 1988.

Sheriff Miller was hired as a Deputy Sheriff in 1988 and worked as a road deputy and firearms instructor. In 1999, Miller was assigned to the Southeast Iowa Inter-Agency Drug Task Force where he worked narcotics investigations in an undercover capacity and was a member of the meth lab team which dismantled methamphetamine laboratories throughout Southeast Iowa. He also served several years on the Southeast Iowa Inter-Agency Drug Task Force Executive Board as Chairman and Vice Chairman.

Sheriff Miller was appointed by Sheriff Don Kirkendall as Chief Deputy in 2001. He served in that capacity until being appointed Interim Sheriff. Sheriff Miller was then elected as Wapello County Sheriff in 2012. He went on to be re-elected for one more term until his retirement on December 31, 2018.

Sheriff Miller was a huge proponent of law enforcement agencies working together to provide professional law enforcement services to the community and played a major role in developing the outstanding working relationship between the Sheriff's Office and the Ottumwa Police Department.

The Ottumwa Police Department wishes Sheriff Miller a Happy Retirement!

