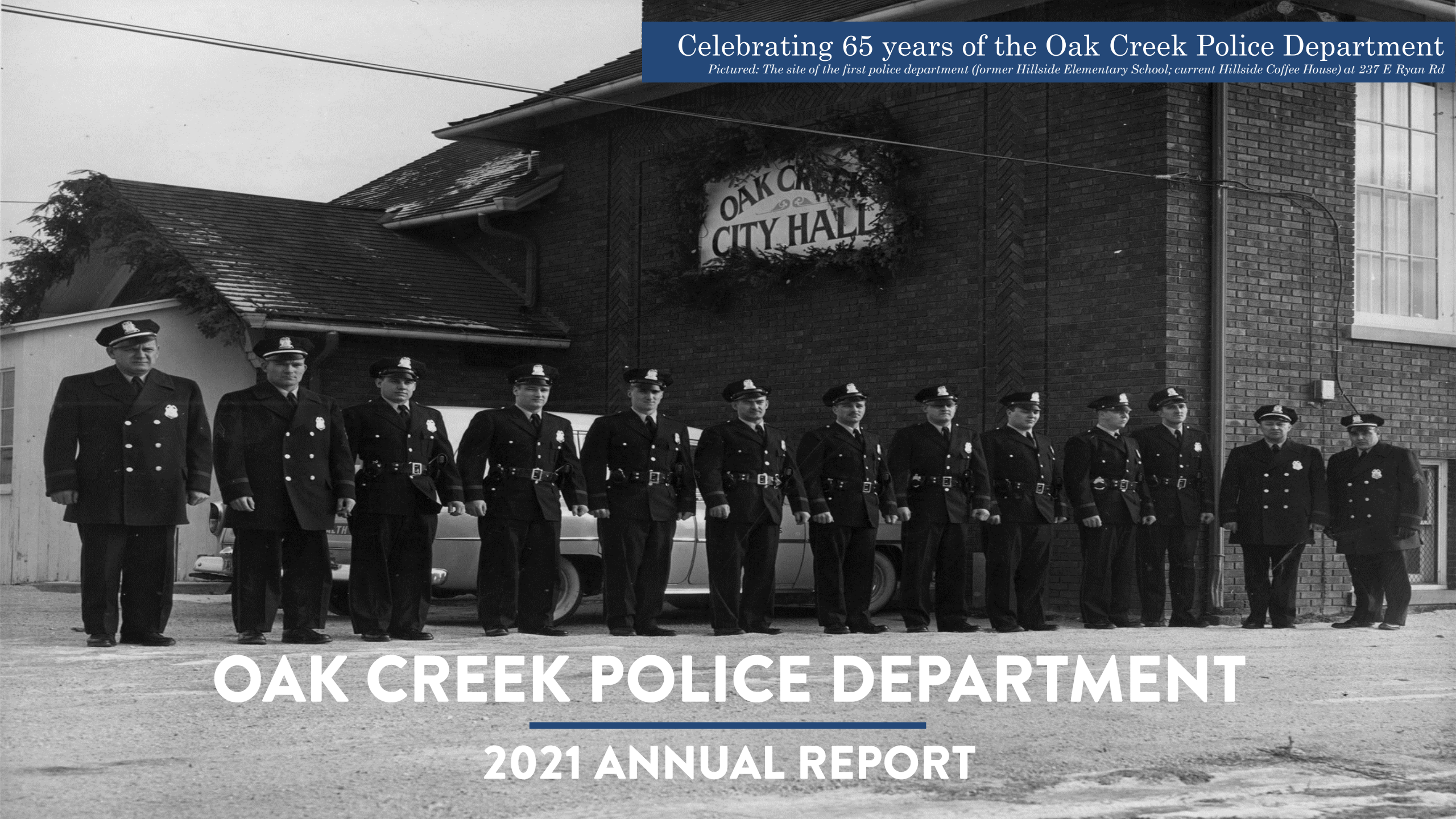


Celebrating 65 years of the Oak Creek Police Department

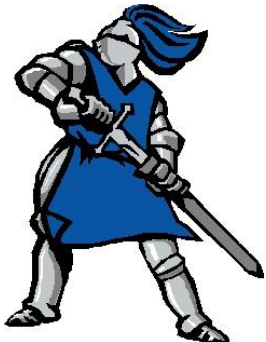
Pictured: The site of the first police department (former Hillside Elementary School; current Hillside Coffee House) at 237 E Ryan Rd



OAK CREEK POLICE DEPARTMENT

2021 ANNUAL REPORT

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Chief's Message

On behalf of the Oak Creek Police Department, I am pleased to present the 2021 Police Department annual report. This was another year of progress for the members of the Department as we continued to move forward with all the issues related to Covid-19 and our abilities to effectively perform our job of protecting the members of the community.

From January through the end of December the staff worked towards returning to normalcy in the day-to-day operations and community engagement. The police department is most effective when we work with the members of the community and in 2021, we set a goal to return to our role in community engagement. As schools resumed in person instruction in early 2021, our school resource officers returned to being in the schools and interacting with the students while making it as safe of an environment as possible. We were there for the community on the 4th of July as the parade and fireworks were held. We continued this objective by holding National Night Out and had a successful event where the public was able to come out and receive safety messages from law enforcement, fire departments, community businesses and organizations, and other city departments. Our National Night Out event was recognized as one of the best in the country for a community our size. We also supported Special Olympics with our "Coffee with Champions" event at two locations in the city. Our citizens were very generous and helped the collection sites be one of the top locations for funds collected in southeast WI. The community responded positively to all these events and attended in large numbers knowing that our officers were there to keep them safe.

In addition to community engagement, our department focused on our commitment to training which is addressed in greater detail in our Bureau by Bureau updates. One key training held during 2021 focused on Racial Intelligence.

Our department collaborated with other Milwaukee County Law Enforcement agencies to bring in the Rite Academy for this training and had members of our department trained as trainers. The sworn personnel received this training in 2021 while the rest of the organization is slated to be trained in 2022. Looking towards the future of the department, we proposed a budgeting plan to the City Council and Mayor requesting the growth of the Department with additional officers and new equipment over the next 5 years. As the city of Oak Creek has grown, the growth of our department has been an important topic so the police department can continue to support the community with the same high standards that our citizens deserve. As we know from past incidents, Oak Creek is not immune to violent crimes. In early September there was an incident in Oak Creek that ended with an officer-involved shooting. Although many departments responded to the event, four members of our organization along with members of Franklin PD and the Milwaukee County Sheriff Department were directly involved in the incident. After a thorough review of the circumstances, the Milwaukee County District Attorney's office did rule the shooting justified by all of those involved.

As we started the new year in 2022, Chief Anderson closed out his 30+ year career with the Oak Creek Police Department. I want to personally thank Chief Anderson for his dedication and honorable service to the citizens of Oak Creek. I am honored and humbled by my appointment to Chief by the Police and Fire Commission, and I will do my best to build upon Chief Anderson's legacy. My duty is to ensure that the City of Oak Creek is safe into the future, have professionally trained Officers and leaders within the organization to keep moving us forward. Thank you.



Chief David Stecker

Mission Statement & Code of Ethics



OAK CREEK POLICE DEPARTMENT

Our Mission:

We are committed to partnering with the community to protect life and property, preserve the peace, enforce the law and make Oak Creek a more desirable place to live and work.

Our Vision:

Our success requires cooperation and mutual respect between law enforcement and the public. By committing to strong leadership, professionalism, self-discipline and employee training and development, we will succeed in providing exceptional service and public trust through impartial and intelligence-led policing.

Our Core Values:

We commit ourselves to these core values that guide our actions.

- Human Life** We value human life above all.
- Equality** We hold that all people must be treated fairly and with dignity.
- Integrity** We believe integrity includes fairness, honesty and loyalty, which are essential for public trust.
- Respect** We respect everyone including ourselves. We strive to treat each other with dignity and compassion while providing cooperation and teamwork.
- Constitution & Law** We believe in both the federal and state constitutions, as well as recognizing and applying federal, state, and local laws.
- Excellence** We strive for excellence in all tasks performed. We believe in the importance of knowledge and continual training to strive for excellence.
- Accountability** We accept responsibility for our actions and are accountable to our community.
- Adaptability** We believe that through a combination of imagination, ingenuity and common sense, we can be effective in our work of identifying and solving problems. We are flexible and innovative, meeting the demands of a dynamic, ever-changing community.

The Law Enforcement Code of Ethics

AS A LAW ENFORCEMENT PROFESSIONAL, my fundamental duty is to serve humanity; to safeguard lives and property; to protect the innocent against deception, the weak against oppression or intimidation, and the peaceful against violence or disorder; and to respect the Constitutional rights of all persons to liberty, equality and justice.

I WILL keep my private life unsullied as an example to all; maintain courageous calm in the face of danger, scorn, or ridicule; develop self restraint; and be constantly mindful of the welfare of others. Honest in thought and deed in both my personal and official life, I will be exemplary in obeying the laws of the land and the regulations of my department. Whatever I see or hear of a confidential nature or that is confided to me in my official capacity will be kept ever secret unless revelation is necessary in the performance of my duty.

I WILL never act officiously or permit personal feelings, prejudices, animosities or friendships to influence my decisions. With no compromise for crime and with relentless prosecution of criminals, I will enforce the law courteously and appropriately without fear or favor, malice or ill will, never employing unnecessary force or violence and never accepting gratuities.

I RECOGNIZE the badge of my office as a symbol of public faith, and I accept it as a public trust to be held so long as I am true to the ethics of the police service. I will constantly strive to achieve these objectives and ideals, dedicating myself to my chosen profession...law enforcement.

A police officer in uniform stands with a K-9 dog at an outdoor community event. The dog is sniffing a black suitcase on the ground. A crowd of people, including children and adults, is gathered behind a metal barricade in the background. The scene is brightly lit, suggesting a sunny day.

COMMUNITY FIRST

Community Awareness Programs

Finding opportunities to spend time with the citizens of our community has always been a priority of the Oak Creek Police Department primarily because of the strong bonds that it creates between police and the community. These bonds were affected in 2020 and for much of 2021 because of the ongoing pandemic and continued restrictions on the department's face to face interactions. In spite of this, our officers and members of our staff were able to find ways to safely interact with the public.

Fraud infographic series - the ongoing threat of fraud especially against seniors prompted our efforts to inform and educate citizens and visitors to our social media sites through our fraud infographic series. The biweekly posts featured information on COVID-related fraud, gift card fraud, porch pirates, romance and veteran-related fraud and tips on safely navigating Black Friday shopping.



Senior Apartment Visits – As many of the residents of our senior living centers are not on the internet, we sought ways to reach our seniors with fraud prevention information. When COVID-19 restrictions began lifting during the warmer months of 2021, we once again began meeting with those residents to offer them fraud prevention strategies and gave them the opportunity to ask questions of our Community Resource Coordinator.

Fraud Alert

Senior Scams

Annual Cost of financial fraud
\$45 billion

20% Americans aged 65+ have been abused financially

80% of telemarketing victims are 60+

<https://www.medicareadvocate.com/articles/how-to-avoid-the-latest-senior-scams/>

Common Scams Especially Targeting Seniors

- IRS impersonators demanding payment of a fine
- Missed Jury Duty Notification demanding personal information
- Lottery/Contest Winner requesting information to claim
- Grandchild in jail or in trouble in another country
- Anti-virus or software scams requesting remote access
- Paypal or delivery link scams requesting information

Scam Prevention

Don't answer calls from unknown numbers
 Don't click on links in unexpected emails
 Don't provide any personal information to unsolicited emailers or callers
 Don't provide remote access to any unsolicited callers

Warning signs that your loved one is being scammed

- Increase in unsolicited phone calls or mail
- Unexplained money shortage
- Frequent cash withdrawals or gift card purchases

If you suspect a fraud, offer your help and contact the OCPD at 414-762-8200

Fraud Alert

#BECYBERSMART

"Phishing"

attacks occur when fraudulent emails are sent allegedly from reputable companies in order to induce users to reveal personal information, such as passwords and credit card numbers.

"Spoofing"

occurs when senders attempt to deceive recipients by using email addresses, phone numbers etc., that are nearly identical to legitimate sources.

Don't get hooked by these tactics:

- Emails, texts or phone calls stating:
 - "There is a problem with your account. Click this link to check the status of your account."
 - "We cannot verify your account. Please click here to update."
 - "You were overcharged - Call this number to receive a refund"

Fraud Prevention Dos

- ✓ Be cautious – do not click on links in unexpected texts or emails even if it is from a source you recognize.
- ✓ When in doubt, contact the company directly using a published number.
- ✓ Protect your personal data and passwords especially online
- ✓ Be cautious of hyperlinks (hover over them before clicking to ensure that URLs begin with "https" that ensures user's information is protected.)

If you suspect cyber fraud, contact the OCPD at 414-762-8200 and the FTC at www.ftc.gov

Community Awareness Programs

Autism Awareness

April was Autism Awareness month and we joined other departments in displaying the Autism Awareness patch on our squads to show support for families living with autism.

We also remind citizens of our Special Needs Alert Program and encourage families to make us aware if we were to have contact with your loved one with special needs.

Click [here](#) for more information about the program.



Domestic Violence Awareness

October was Domestic Violence Awareness Month (DVAM), which was launched nationwide in October 1987 as a way to connect and unite individuals and organizations and raise awareness about domestic violence issues. For over thirty years, much progress has been made to support domestic violence victims and survivors, to hold abusers accountable, and create and update legislation to further those goals. In support of this awareness effort, our squads displayed the DVAM ribbon during the month of October. #DVAM2021

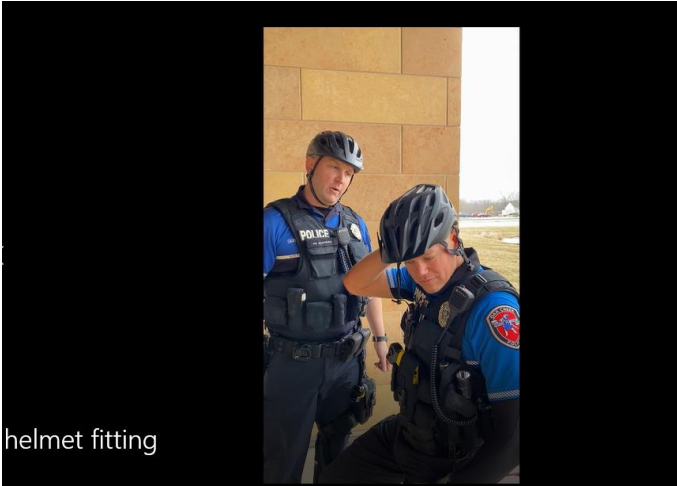


Community Awareness Programs

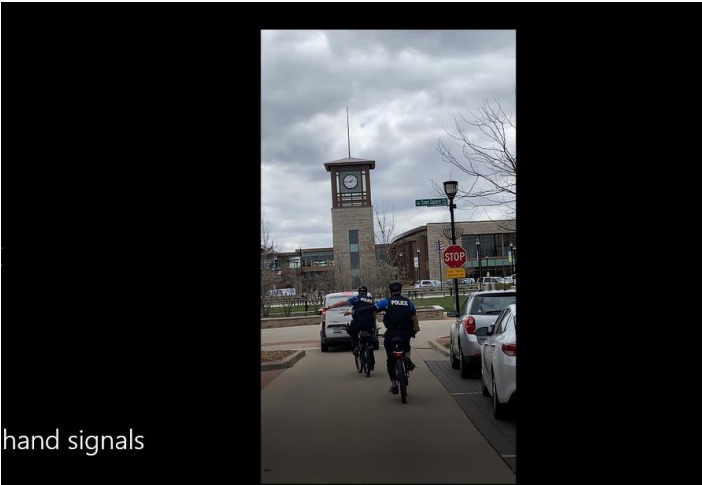
Bike Safety Videos

With the Bike Rodeo cancelled in both 2020 and 2021, our Community Resource Bureau sought to find alternate ways to communicate the importance of bike safety to our residents during the month of May which is traditionally Bike Safety month.

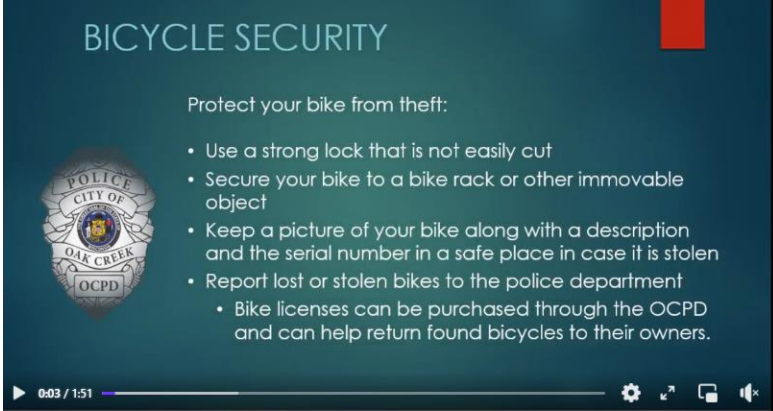
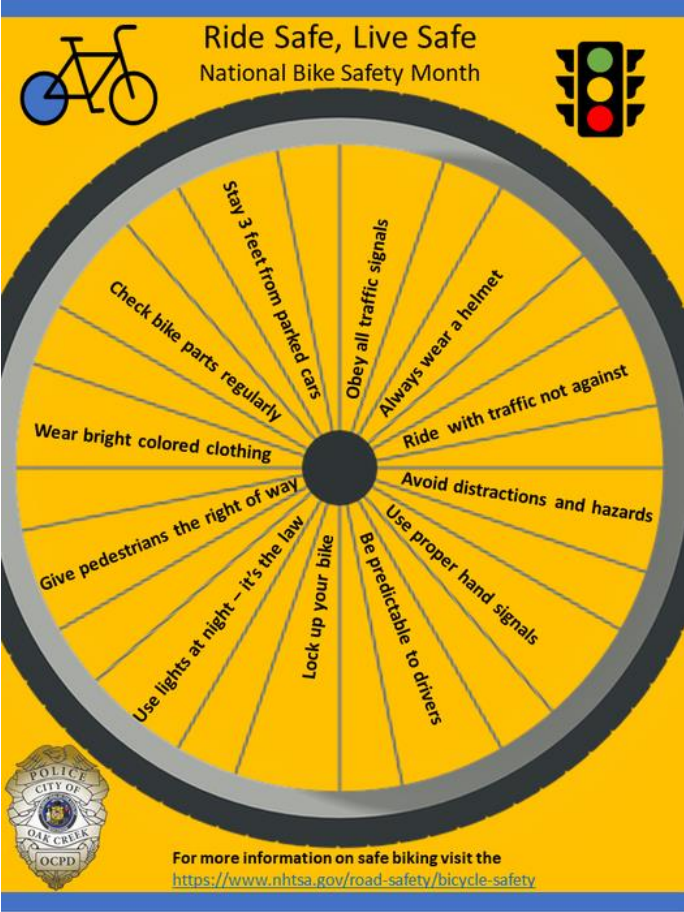
Two of our officers, Officer Sadowski and Officer Zwicke were good sports in helping us to put together a series of bike safety videos that were released on our social media platforms.



helmet fitting



hand signals



Bike Security

2021 Community Events

4th of July Parade

The 4th of July is a much-anticipated event in Oak Creek and we participate in the holiday festivities by driving in the parade but also providing traffic control for both the parade and the fireworks that occur that evening in Lake Vista Park. Our officers enjoy seeing and interacting with all the parade spectators as well as those participating in the parade.

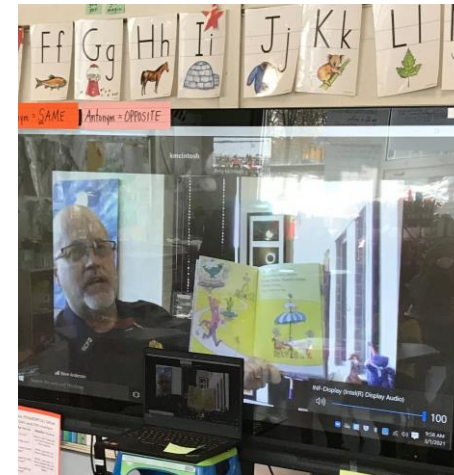


Blood Drives

The Oak Creek community has a long tradition of donating blood both in times of need and to support the ongoing blood supply. With blood drives being cancelled in other locations, the OCPD opened up the municipal courtroom to Versiti to hold blood drives. By helping to promote the drives through our social media posts, we have been able to ensure that our community has access to a close, convenient place to give the gift of life.



Dr. Seuss Reading Event



Chief Anderson and Capt. Stecker took part in a virtual Dr. Seuss Reading event for Oak Creek school children.

2021 Community Events

OC Farmers Market

The open-air farmers market which is held every Saturday morning from June through October in Drexel Town Square provides a great opportunity for our officers to spend time chatting with visitors to the market. At one such visit in September, we passed out bike safety lights and talked with parents about the importance of completing the child identification cards.



Grace Early Childhood Center Visit

Officer Owens stopped by Grace Early Childhood Center to teach the kids about what officers do every day and how to stay safe in our community during their community helpers' week.

2021 Community Events

Halloween Events

Grace Lutheran Church – On October 22nd, OCPD took part in a Trunk or Treat Event at Grace Lutheran Church, handing out candy and Halloween safety books to all the kids who attended the event.

Oak Creek Community Center (OCCC) – On October 24th, OCPD participated in the OCCC’s Trunk or Treat Event. In spite of the cold, rainy day, we enjoyed passing out Halloween safety information and candy to the large number of kids who came to see us.



Halloween Safe Site – After a one-year hiatus, OCPD once again attended the Halloween Safe Site event at the Oak Creek Historical Society. This event provides local area children with a safe place to trick or treat while also allowing visitors access to the various buildings preserved from Oak Creek’s early days.

Salvation Army Visit – Officer Musa and Stanley visited the camp kids at the Salvation Army in July to teach them a little bit about police work and introduce them to Stanley.

Tree Lighting Ceremony – Officer Owens took part in the city’s ‘Light the Square’ Holiday Celebration on December 1, 2021. Oak Creek citizens kicked off the holiday season in Drexel Town Square with the official holiday tree lighting and a visit from Santa and Mrs. Claus!



2021 Community Events

National Night Out

After the cancellation of National Night Out in 2020, the entire department was eagerly awaiting early August 2021 as we prepared to host National Night Out and the community did not disappoint. Our citizens showed up and made this one of our best years ever. The exposure on our local news gave us even more to reason to celebrate a successful event.



 FOX6's Kasey Chronis  4 August · 

Across the nation and in southeast Wisconsin, local police departments are hosting [National Night Out](#).

It aims to strengthen ties between police officers and community members. The [Oak Creek Police Department](#) hosted their event Tuesday night at [American Legion Post 434 - Oak Creek, WI!](#)

[#NationalNightOut](#) [#NNO](#)



FOX6NOW.COM
Oak Creek National Night Out returns after year off due to COVID



2021 Community Events

Coffee with Champions – In partnership with Dunkin’ Donuts and Special Olympics WI, the Oak Creek Police Department participated in the Coffee with Champions event to raise money for Special Olympics WI. With two Dunkin’ Donut locations in Oak Creek, the OCPD was able to engage with many members in our community encouraging them through our social media posts to stop by and make a donation. The community of Oak Creek helped to raise nearly \$2,470 which accounted for the highest donations in our region and the second highest totals in the state of Wisconsin.



Shop with a Cop - Although COVID restrictions prevented our officers from shopping with children again this year, our local Oak Creek Meijer welcomed our officers to do some shopping for several deserving kids this year. Using wish lists created by the kids, our officers had fun playing Santa and several of the kids were able to receive their gifts directly from an officer when they stopped by the station.



**65TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE
OAK CREEK POLICE DEPARTMENT**

A LOOK BACK OVER THE LAST 65 YEARS...

The 65th anniversary of the Oak Creek Police Department was officially recognized on September 11, 2021. In December of 1955, the Town of Oak Creek was incorporated as a city as the results of a new Wisconsin statute known as the “Oak Creek Law”. Following that designation, in July of 1956, the City of Oak Creek established its first Police & Fire Commission which named John Dahlem as the first Chief of Police and established the Police Department on September 11, 1956. Chief Dahlem, a resident of Oak Creek had spent several years patrolling the streets of Oak Creek with the Milwaukee County Sheriff’s Department as they were the agency responsible for Oak Creek prior to the establishment of the OCPD. The MCSD would continue these duties until the city’s police force was fully operational. The first public hiring notice was posted on September 24, 1956 and the first Oak Creek Police Department officers were sworn in on December 10th and 17th of 1956. These original members of the first Oak Creek Police Department would begin full-time operation on January 2, 1957.

In the sixty-five years since its inception, Oak Creek has experienced significant growth and development which has been reflected in the growth of the police department. There have been seven Police Chiefs including Chief Steve Anderson who retired in the beginning of 2022 and newly appointed Chief David Stecker, and the department has grown to employ 63 sworn officers as well as 16 dispatchers and numerous support staff including clerical, maintenance, administrative support and community resource.

Included are some historical photos and articles that show the changes over the past 65 years.



Visitors watch Sgt. Thomas Bauer answer a call at the police station's dispatching center.



A VIDEO CAMERA was donated to the Oak Creek Police Department by the Oak Creek Lions Club. At the presentation were (from left) Ron Lundel, Lions Club president; Erwin Semaki, past president; Police Detective John Siarkewicz and Police Chief Edmund Siarkewicz.
(Staff photo by Jack Plale)

OFFICIAL NOTICE City of Oak Creek

BOARD OF POLICE & FIRE
COMMISSION
237 E. RYAN ROAD
MILWAUKEE 7, WISCONSIN

THE CITY OF OAK CREEK BOARD
OF POLICE & FIRE COMMISSION AN-
NOUNCES ORIGINAL ENTRANCE EX-
AMINATION FOR THE POSITION OF
PATROLMAN (and) PATROL
SERGEANT (MALE)

Range of Compensation: For 1956 —
\$380.00 to \$430.00 Per Mo. (40 hr. wk.)
— Patrolman

\$450.00 Per Mo. (40 hr. wk.) — Patrol
Sergeant

Subject to annual adjustment for
changes in the cost of living.

Applicants with five years police ex-
perience may qualify for a police serge-
ant rating after completion of original
examination.

The Examination will be held at a
time and place to be set by the Com-
mission, and is open to qualified male
residents of the City of Oak Creek who
are over 24 and under 32 years of age
on October 15, 1956, with the exception
of honorably discharged veterans of
any of the wars of the United States,
and who are at least 5 feet 8 inches in
height and weigh 155 pounds or over.
A rigid physical test will be required,
therefore those who have any physical
or organic trouble, compete in such test
at their own risk.

Applications may be obtained at the
office of the City Clerk, and must be
on file, completely filled in, on or be-
fore 5:00 P.M. Monday, October 15,
1956, in the office of the City Clerk,
2205 W. Ryan Road, Milwaukee 7, Wis-
consin.

NOTE: The fact that you left your
name and address on file at the office
of the City Clerk to be notified of the
date of the examination does not entitle
you to enter the examination. Upon re-
ceipt of this notice you must call in
person at his office and file a Formal
Application Blank.

DUTIES: Under general supervision,
to perform motorcycle or squad car
patrol duty; to receive and to investigate
calls or complaints and to make proper
reports relative thereto; to apprehend
and to arrest violators of the law and
to gather evidence and to testify in the
prosecution of such persons in court; to
serve criminal processes; to safeguard
and to supervise prisoners and to main-
tain discipline and to enforce the rules
and regulations in the city jail; to pre-
serve peace and order in the court; to
make criminal or civil investigations;

to keep records and to make reports of
accidents and other important incidents;
and to perform such other duties as may
be assigned.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:
(Note: Admittance to the examina-
tion will be restricted to applicants
who, in accordance with the rules of
the Commission, meet preliminary re-
quirements with regard to strength,
agility, and physical fitness.)

CITIZEN: Must be a Citizen of the
United States and able to speak the En-
glish language understandably.

RESIDENCE: Must be a Resident of
the State of Wisconsin for One Year,
prior to October 15, 1956.

EDUCATION: Graduation from high
school preferred; some college or uni-
versity training desirable.

EXPERIENCE: Demonstrated suc-
cessful experience as a civil or military
law-enforcement officer preferred.

SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGES: Knowl-
edge of the laws and ordinances re-
lating to crimes, traffic control, etc.;
familiarity with laws of the road and
the geography of the City.

PERSONAL ATTRIBUTES: Excellent
condition; strength and agility; mental
alertness; courage; firmness; depend-
ability; courtesy; tact; honesty; initia-
tive; good judgment; resourcefulness;
emotional stability; good memory; so-
briety; good powers of observation; in-
dustry and willingness to perform any
assigned task; freedom from bias and
prejudice; ability to work effectively
and harmoniously with others.

OTHER: Such additional qualifica-
tions as may be prescribed by the City
of Oak Creek Board of Police & Fire
Commission.

SUBJECTS AND WEIGHTS OF EX-
AMINATION:

- The written examination 5
- The oral interview 3
- The strength and agility tests 2
- Appointment subject to six months' probationary period.

In the event two or more eligibles
receive the same final grade in the
examination, priority of filing applica-
tion determines their respective places
on the eligible register and right to cer-
tification.

Discharge papers must be presented
at time of filing application.

Applicants will be subject to pension
under the benefits of the Wisconsin
Retirement Fund.

By order of the Board of Police &
Fire Commission of the City of Oak Creek,
Milwaukee County, Wisconsin.

September 24, 1956.
ALPHONSE GASSENHUBER,
Secretary 9-27-1

Police, Fire Commission Set Up, Members Named

A police and fire commission
was established in Oak Creek
last week by the city council.
The ordinance was passed and
members of the five-man com-
mission appointed at a special
meeting last Wednesday even-
ing.

Heading the new body will
be Dr. Harry F. Seymer, Sr.,
a local veterinarian. Others
appointed were: John Getzin,
Sr., vice-president; Alphonse
Gassenhuber, secretary; Nor-
man Lampe and Lester Scher-
barth. Terms will be five
years, with staggered terms
being applied during the first
five years in order to set up
a rotation whereby one term
will expire each year.

The commission started work
immediately, discussing the
group's initial tasks. It was
agreed that the immediate
need was for study of the best
means of organizing a police
department for Oak Creek. It
was noted that the fire de-
partment and ambulance service
were already operating effi-
ciently in the city.

Following the swearing in
of the commission members
Wednesday, City Attorney An-
thony X. Basile explained the
ordinance and state laws per-
taining to police and fire com-
missions. He outlined the re-
sponsibilities of the body, em-
phasizing the commission's
independent powers in mat-
ters relating to the police and
fire department.

Dr. Seymer observed "there
is a great deal of work to be
done and I am happy to have
so fine a group of men with
whom to work." Appointments
were made by Mayor Arthur
Abendschein.

State statutes require that
cities provide police protec-
tion. Oak Creek is presently
dependent upon the sheriff's
department for law enforce-
ment. The statutes do not
specify how soon a new city
must assume this obligation
following incorporation.

WANT ADS
THE MARKET PLACE
OF MILLIONS

Linwood-Husher Budget Approved

The tax levy, voted at the
annual meeting of the Lin-
wood-Husher school district
was \$14,500. It was also de-
cided to provide bus transpor-
tation for students attending
the two schools.

Mrs. Mary Jacobs was re-
elected as school clerk for a
term of three years and Harry
Erb was elected director for
a term of three years.

Teaching contracts have been
signed with Mrs. Lydia Tho-
mas who will teach the upper
grades at Husher school and
Miss Regina Nickowski
who will instruct the lower
grades in the Linwood school.



REMEMBER WHEN? The above photo is presented to readers this week as a doubtful means of cooling off during these hot summer days. The photo was taken last March when the temperature was somewhat lower and local scenery white rather than green. The John Hallbach farm, 6665 S. Howell ave., is shown.

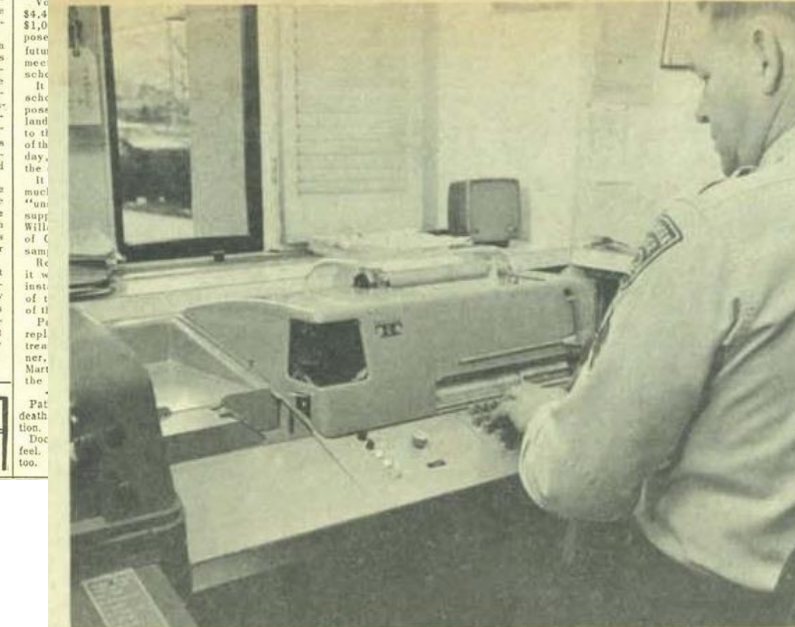
City's Future Is Council Topic

Immediate and long-range
planning occupied city offi-

well project in that area. Bids
will be opened next week on
sanitary and storm sewers for
the same area.

It's as close as your tele-
phone! Receive The Pictorial

"These eggs are very small,"
complained the young housewife as
she stood in front of the egg case
at the grocery store. "They're
straight from the farm this morn-
ing, madam," said the grocer.
"That's the trouble, with these



NEW TELETYPE EQUIPMENT installed at the Oak Creek police de-
partment gives officers immediate computerized information from the
National Crime Information center in Washington, D.C., the Crime In-
vestigation Bureau and the state Department of Transportation at
Madison. Sgt. Edward Cychosz operated the new machine which is
leased for \$1,500 a year. (Staff photo)

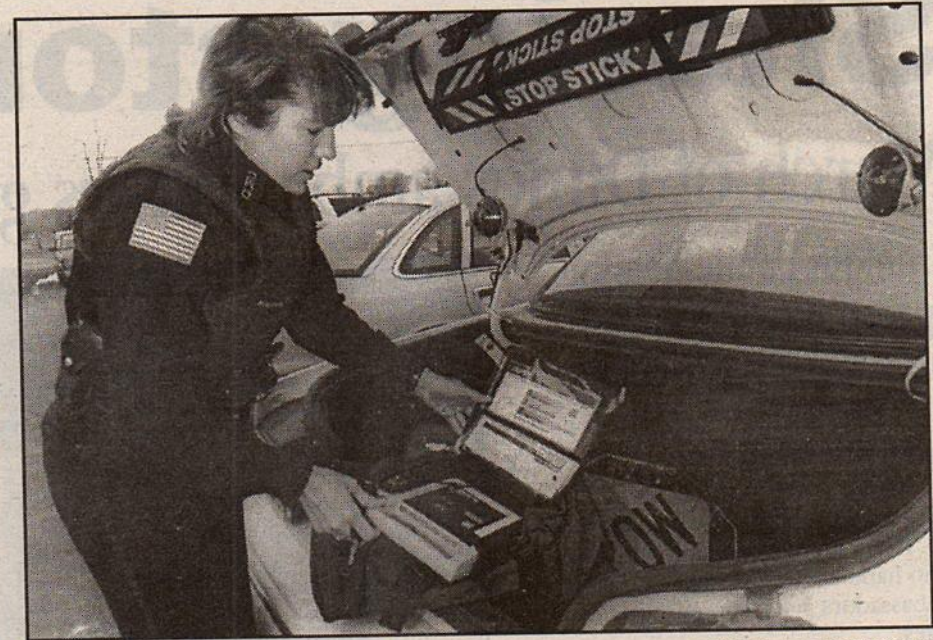
A DAY IN THE LIFE



Officer Mike Bolender talks to Genny Borzych (left), 14, and her brother Carl, 10, on a Monday evening in Oak Creek during his walk through the neighborhood.

(CNI photos by Chad Hug)

MARCH - 2000



CNI PHOTO BY C.T. KRUGER

Police officer Ann Golombowski opens the emergency kit in a squad car containing a new automatic defibrillator. This is one of nine self-contained units police now have to help people in cardiac arrest.



DEPARTMENT UPDATES

Year In Review

EMPLOYEE UPDATES

New Faces at the Oak Creek Police Department:

On January 4, 2021: Ethan Kennedy, former OCPD Police Aide (#155), Kyle Owens (#156), & Carly Burns (#157) were sworn in as officers. Michael Plutte also joined the department as an Emergency Services Dispatch (*Plutte later resigned on March 13, 2021*).



On January 11, 2021: Michael Muschinski transferred to the Police Department from the Oak Creek Water Department to serve as the full-time Mechanic.

On January 31, 2021: Dispatcher Kim Arendt joined the Clerical Unit as Clerk

On April 7, 2021: Patrick Hammernik, a retired Oak Creek Sergeant, returned to the department as the Property Clerk.

On April 19, 2021: Wendy Bauer joined the department as a new Emergency Services Dispatcher (*Bauer later resigned on May 31, 2021*).

On May 26, 2021: Emmy Hakes started her first shift as a part-time Police Aide.

On August 5th & 31st: Samantha Rengstorf and Stephanie Radtke joined the department as new Emergency Services Dispatchers.

In 2021, we said goodbye and good luck to the following employees:

- Clerk Mary Young retired on January 4, 2021 after 20 years of service with the Oak Creek Police Department
- Officer Richard Prince resigned on September 3, 2021
- Court Liaison Jane Marcowka resigned on October 14, 2021
- Squad Cleaner Alex Savaglia resigned on December 30, 2021



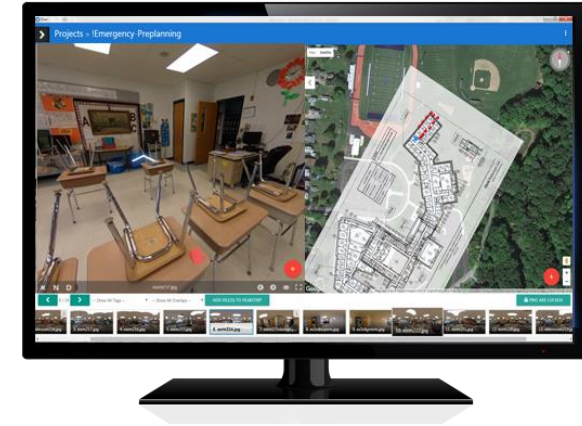
EQUIPMENT UPDATES

EQUIPMENT UPDATES

The Police Department was able to make some important purchases through the City of Oak Creek's Capital Improvement / Equipment Program.

L-TRON OSCR 360 Evidence Camera – The camera allows officers, detectives, and evidence technicians to capture full 360-degree photos of crime scenes in seconds which is invaluable in court proceedings. The PD plans on using this camera to create 'virtual tours' of critical infrastructure such as schools and government buildings that would provide invaluable information in the event of a critical incident.

ERU Shields – OCPD was able to replace four ballistic shields for the Emergency Response Unit (ERU) and will use the old shields for training purposes in order to reduce the amount of wear and tear on the new units.



Like many others in the nation, the PD was no stranger to supply chain issues and experienced shortages and delays. The purchase of critical supplies was addressed through alternate purchasing and rationing.

PPE Supplies - The need for properly fitting protective equipment is essential for our officers, and the shortage of approved N95 masks has resulted in rationing and alternate options being utilized. Additionally, the Nitrile/Latex Gloves critical in protecting our first responders were rationed through PD vendors and the price increased 211% at the height of the pandemic.

Ammunition - while at adequate levels, the ammunition backorder requires a more conservative monitoring of supplies and a search for alternate suppliers.

New Squads – In accordance with the department's squad replacement schedule that alternates Ford Explorers with Chevy Tahoes, the OCPD ordered 2021 Chevy Tahoes to be delivered in January 2021. COVID-related issues delayed the delivery of these vehicles for a minimum of a year, resulting in the department pivoting and ordering 2021 Ford Explorers in May 2021 with a 14-week turnaround. The department is scheduled to receive the previously ordered Tahoes in 2022.

EQUIPMENT UPDATES – Body Cameras

As early as 1995, the Oak Creek Police Department has had some level of video capabilities on their squads, with full coverage in place on the entire marked squad fleet since 2007. As technology advanced, the department began researching body worn camera options in 2015, but by 2021, with much of the squad video equipment due to expire, the City of Oak Creek made the decision to financially commit to the purchase of body worn cameras.

Following the testing of multiple body camera systems by members of the PD, the choice was made to retain the use of Panasonic, our current squad video equipment provider which eased the learning curve for new equipment and allowed the department to remain on the same user platform.

The City's IT department was closely involved in the integration of the new equipment to address issues related to data storage, annual licensing, and maintenance of the equipment. The cost of data storage servers and other IT components account for 20% of the overall project expenditures.

The importance of this equipment in the performance of our duties is paramount. While effective in providing investigative evidence and response to citizen concerns, the body camera equipment will allow us to effectively capture the performance of our duties and our interactions with the public.



OCPD Body Cameras are small rectangular units about the size of a cell phone mounted to the chest of each officer who is regularly interacting with the public.

A photograph of a crime scene investigation on a city street. The scene is cordoned off with yellow caution tape that reads "DO NOT CROSS". A group of police officers and other personnel are gathered in the middle of the street, examining a vehicle. The background shows trees, a traffic light, and a street sign. The overall scene is dimly lit, suggesting an overcast day or a filter applied to the image.

IMPORTANT CASES

IMPORTANT CASES

On January 16, 2021, the Oak Creek Police Department responded with investigators to the City of Cudahy as part of the Milwaukee Area Investigative Team (MAIT). The Oak Creek Police Department was the lead agency investigating the officer-involved shooting of a suspect in a mental health crisis who was armed and threatening harm.

On August 29, 2021, the Oak Creek Police Department responded to a report of two vehicles which were on fire on south 13th street. It was determined that a southbound motorcycle had struck the rear of an SUV and both vehicles ignited in flames. The incident, unfortunately resulted in one fatality and one serious injury.

On August 30, 2021, the Oak Creek Police Department received multiple calls of gunshots on Oakwood Ave near Shepard Avenue. Upon investigation, a victim was located with non-life-threatening injuries who was also robbed in the incident. Investigation by the Oak Creek Police Department led to the apprehension of a suspect in a neighborhood close to scene of the initial incident.

On the morning of September 3, 2021, a suspect kidnapped a male victim at gunpoint in Milwaukee and proceeded to drive him to multiple locations in Milwaukee County including Milwaukee, Oak Creek and Franklin. Officers from Oak Creek, Franklin and the Milwaukee County Sheriff's Office pursued the suspect who abandoned the initial vehicle and stole a second vehicle driving south on I-94 before exiting and continuing northbound on 27th Street where he crashed a second time and stole a third vehicle at gunpoint. Armed and fleeing northbound, the suspect crashed on 27th and Sycamore and emerged from the vehicle armed with a firearm and was fatally shot in the confrontation. The West Allis Police Department as a member of the MAIT, were the lead investigator on this incident.

On October 31, 2021, the OCPD responded to a call of a person not breathing at the motel. Persons of interest were identified who had stolen the victim's van which was involved in pursuits in both Indiana and Kentucky and were eventually apprehended in Kentucky and taken into custody.

On November 21, 2021, OCPD responded to a domestic violence/battery stabbing call. Upon arrival, they found one victim with multiple stab wounds and another victim who was deceased.

CRIME STATISTICS – 2021 vs. 2020

Assault
-4%

2021	2020	#Diff	%Diff
190	198	-8	-4%

Sexual Assault
+16%

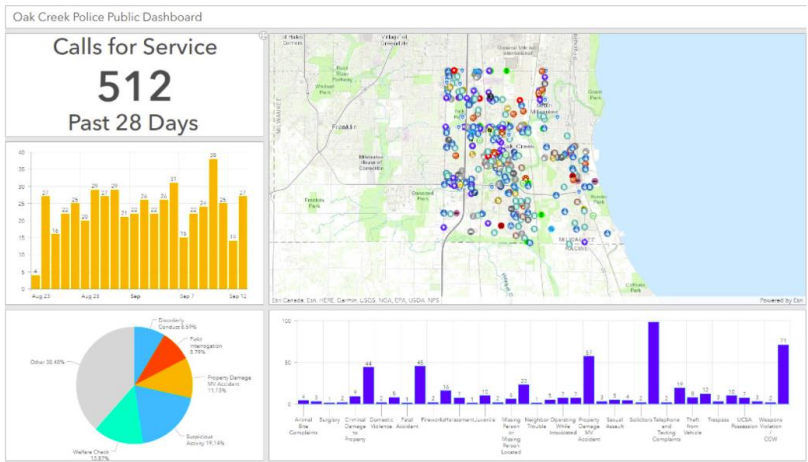
2021	2020	#Diff	%Diff
29	25	+4	+16%

Fraud
-24%

2021	2020	#Diff	%Diff
123	163	-40	-24%

As we continue with our commitment to transparency, we have developed a Public Dashboard available on the Police Department website. This dashboard updates daily to include the past 28 days of selected activity in the City. The Dashboard is interactive and allows the user to select: individual days, call for service type(s) and click on the call for service icon on the desktop to see the call type, incident number and date/time information.

Click on the map below to open the Oak Creek Police Public Dashboard.



Drug Violations
-3%

2021	2020	#Diff	%Diff
563	584	-21	-3%

Vandalism
-11%

2021	2020	#Diff	%Diff
119	134	-15	-11%

Prostitution
+48%

2021	2020	#Diff	%Diff
70	47	+23	+48%

DWI/OWI
+9%

2021	2020	#Diff	%Diff
159	145	+14	+9%

PDO*
+23%

2021	2020	#Diff	%Diff
949	766	+183	+23%

Traffic Stops
+14%

2021	2020	#Diff	%Diff
5462	4763	+699	+14%

* Property Damage Only (Motor Vehicle Accidents)



2021 PD EVENTS

2021 Events

Awards Ceremony

The OCPD Awards Ceremony took place on Wednesday, October 13, 2021 during National Police Week.

Employees recognized for exemplary work throughout the year included:

Lt. Knitter, Lt. Thorne, Sgt. York, Sgt. Loontjens, Sgt. Ahearn, Sgt. Wettengel,
PO Hermann, PO Mahon, PO Curran, PO Schuerman, Disp. Marks, Disp. Sayeg,
Disp. Wenzel, Disp. Nelson, Disp. Uljanec – **Attendance Award**

Exec. Admin. Asst. Taylor Parry - **Outstanding Police Administrative Service**

Dispatcher Brenda Wells - **Excellence in Training**

Capt. Michael Bolender - **Award of Excellence**

Capt. David Stecker - **Award of Excellence**

Sgt. Steve York - **Award of Excellence**

Retired OCFD Fire Fighter Michael Wargolet - **Award of Excellence**

Officer Tim Zwicke - **Meritorious Arrest**

Dispatcher Janelle Williams - **Telecommunications Lifesaving Award**

Officer Brian Zangl – **Lifesaving Award**

Officer Chris Schuerman – **Lifesaving Award**

Officer Matt Bublitz- **Lifesaving Award**

Officer Michael Musa - **Exemplary Officer**

Dispatcher Brenda Wells - **Chief's Award**

Lisa Wytrykus Kleppek - **Chief's Award**



2021 Events

In addition to the official Awards Ceremony, on March 26, 2021, Sg. Georgina Wettengel was awarded the **Mary Rita Ostrander Leadership Award** from Wisconsin Association of Women Police.

Sgt. Wettengel has been a role model for females at the Oak Creek PD, as well as many others in Law Enforcement. Her leadership is seen from her supervisor duties on patrol, being an assistant team-leader on our Emergency Response Unit, in physical fitness, and by mentoring new officers and being involved in other department activities. She continues this same dedication outside of Law Enforcement with coaching and mentoring many young women.

Who is Mary Rita Ostrander?

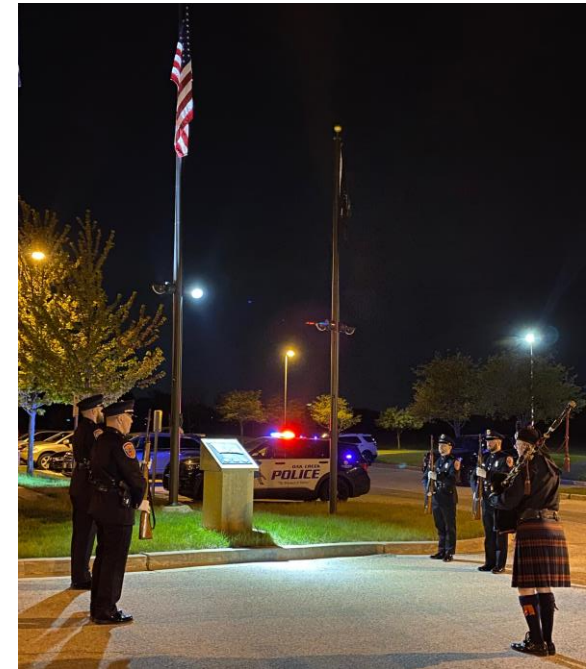
She joined the Madison PD in 1958 and in 1967 she respectfully requested to take the promotional exam for Detective. She was denied because women could not become Detectives on the PD. They could also not make arrests, carry guns or handcuffs, and could not go through training. They were also paid less for the same work, despite having a college degree (which was only required for the men, not the women).

Before she retired in 1983, she had taken on the status quo in the PD on several occasions, winning back pay for female officers, training, the right to carry weapons, equal pay and eventually - Detective status. She retired as a Senior Detective Supervisor and is a founding member of WAWP.



First Responder of the Year Award - Representative Jessie Rodriguez presented this award to Detective Joel Bateman in Madison, WI on October 26, 2021 for serving the City of Oak Creek with honor and distinction for 26 years.

2021 Events



Greater Milwaukee Law Enforcement Memorial Ceremony – On May 5, 2021, Chief Anderson and a few members of our honor guard unit were a part of the ceremony taking place at MacArthur Square in the City of Milwaukee to honor the memory of those officers who gave their lives in the line of duty.

Police Week – This annual event which occurred May 9-15th saw a number of community organizations donating food and other items to PD employees to show their appreciation for the work they do in the community. The OCPD would like to thank the many community businesses and private citizens who have shown their appreciation both during Police Week and throughout the year.

Midnight Piper – On May 14, 2021, the Oak Creek Police Department was chosen as one of the local sites for Midnight Piper, a tradition which began in Washington D.C. over twenty years ago and carried out throughout the country during Police Week. Just before midnight on May 14th, the Pipers from the Greater Milwaukee Fire and Police Pipes and Drums played memorial music by candlelight and concluded at Midnight exactly by playing “Amazing Grace” to honor our fallen officers.

2021 Events



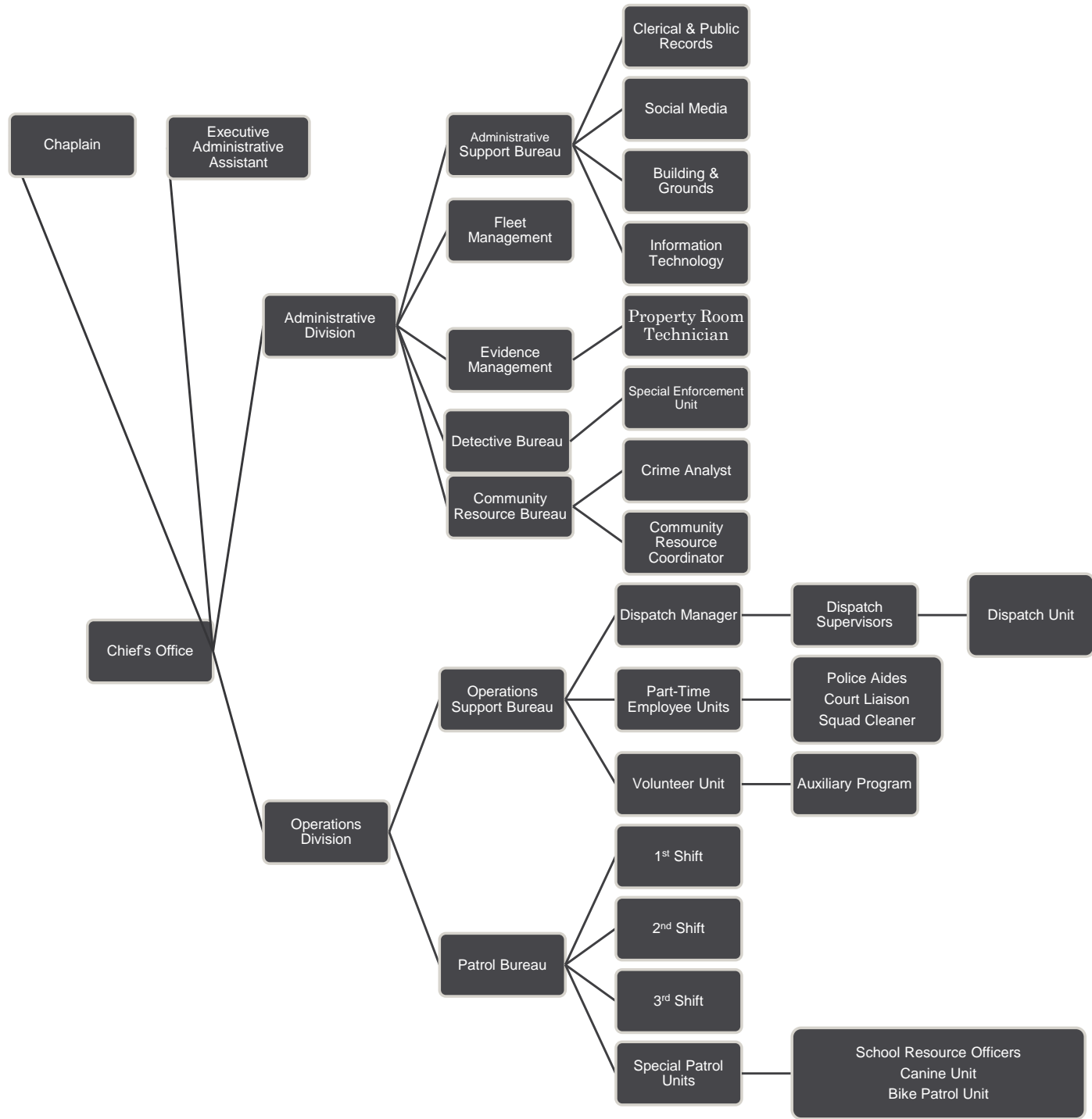
Bike Blessing – On May 2, 2021, thousands of riders and their friends and families attended the 36th Annual Original Bike Blessing, hosted by the Road Runners Motorcycle Club, at the American Legion Post in Oak Creek. OCPD provided traffic control at this fundraising which donates a portion of the proceeds to Children’s Hospital of Wisconsin.

Vice Presidential Visit – On May 4, 2021, Vice President Kamala Harris visited the Milwaukee area to visit the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee Clean Energy Labs. OCPD along with other agencies located near the airport provided traffic control.

Annual Meeting – The department’s annual meeting is traditionally held on the first Friday in December. In addition to reviewing the events of the previous year, the Chief addresses hiring and retirements as well as other mentionable events. The meeting ends with a lottery of items donated to the department. Because of the ongoing pandemic, the department did not share its usual potluck meal but did enjoy coffee, donuts and bagels provided by the department.



ORGANIZATIONAL CHART





BUREAU UPDATES

Office of the Chief

Each of the functioning areas of the Police Department experienced change in 2021 either through changes in personnel, new procedures or training to inform and improve. The focus on training has long been the hallmark of the OCPD and the changes in 2021 provided an opportunity for training of both new and seasoned employees.

On January 3, 2022, after 30+ years of dedicated service to the City of Oak Creek, Chief Steven J. Anderson retired.

Chief Anderson joined the department on July 22, 1991, and since that time, there isn't one specific area, unit, shift or bureau in the Oak Creek Police Department that has not been positively affected by his guidance and leadership.

Chief Anderson served on the Emergency Response Unit from 1996-2001 and 2005-2010. Chief Anderson served as the Property Room Officer and Supervisor for over 20 years. He developed, created and maintained a process to ensure evidence is properly maintained and tracked. Chief Anderson was one of the Department's early Arson Investigators as well as an Evidence Tech before we had an Evidence Unit. He brought his outstanding work ethic and tenacious attitude to do the job the "right way" as if his family members were depending on its outcome. Chief Anderson taught new officers how to be a law enforcement officer as a Field Training Officer and Patrol Sergeant and was the 2nd Shift Lieutenant on one of the Department's busiest shifts. Chief Anderson also held the position of Detective and Lieutenant of Detectives. While in the Detective Bureau, he handled all the normal bureau cases and was involved in several special cases including officer-involved shootings and homicides including a complex double homicide.



On December 3, 2021, the Police and Fire Commission appointed Administrative Captain, David R. Stecker to the position of Police Chief following the retirement of Chief Anderson.

Chief Stecker has been with the Oak Creek Police Department for 22 years. He began his career with the Oak Creek Police Department as a Police Aide in May of 1999, then became a sworn Officer in April of 2001. He progressed through the ranks to Sergeant, Lieutenant, and then promoted to Administrative Captain in January of 2017.



ADMINISTRATIVE BUREAU



20.4 years

average years of experience

Detective Bureau

The Oak Creek Detective Bureau, led by Lt. Thorne, is a group of 6 full-time detectives which serves the department and the community by providing comprehensive investigations into a variety of criminal cases that have occurred within the community.

As part of an ongoing training effort, Detective Lockwood attended a weeklong fire investigations training. Arson convictions are often difficult to achieve because of the destruction of evidence that results from the fire, so it is important for our detectives to receive extensive training on learning fire patterns that can help them determine the source of the fire. Detective Lockwood is one of three detectives in the OCPD who have received extensive fire training.



Community Resource Bureau

The Community Resource Bureau consists of two part-time positions: Community Resource Coordinator, Lisa Wytrykus Kleppek and Crime Analyst, Dan Carranco

In late 2020, Community Resource Coordinator Lisa Wytrykus Kleppek attended training focused on risk assessment and security design to help businesses better secure their property. Site Survey Assessments are available by contacting the Community Resource Bureau. In 2021, she attended the WCPA conference and participated in additional training regarding social media, CPTED training and community-based policing programs. Crime Analyst Dan Carranco attended the WILEAN conference which focused on the use of Crime Analysts by departments in the state. In addition, he attend an online training on the prevention of catalytic convertor theft put on by CARFAX.

ADMINISTRATIVE BUREAU – Support Services

Vehicle Maintenance Mechanic – With the hiring of Michael Muschinski, the OCPD transitioned from employing two part-time mechanics to one full-time mechanic. This change was especially helpful for repairs when the delay in acquiring new vehicles in the past year forced some squads into longer than normal use.



The Clerical Unit currently employs 3 full time Police clerks and one full time Public Records clerk. The clerks are responsible for transcribing the reports of the officers into written reports, verifying Incident Based Reporting (IBR) data and attending to the public who come to the department. One dedicated public records clerk prepares records for the public as they are requested.

The National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS) is an incident-based reporting system used by law enforcement agencies in the United States for collecting and reporting data on crimes. This system requires officers to utilize standardized NIBRS codes (that correspond to offenses) in their reports. The OCPD Clerical Department reviews and confirms the proper code utilization prior to transcribing the reports and attended a 3-day NIBRS training session to ensure that proper utilization of the coding system.



The Property and Evidence Clerk is a civilian employee who maintains the chain of custody for materials that have been entered into evidence for ongoing cases. The property room is additionally maintained by one officer and a supervising sergeant. Retired Oak Creek Sgt. Patrick Hammernik was hired as the new property clerk and received on-the-job training to get him up to speed on the responsibilities of the position.

Drug Take Back Events - In addition to regular collection of medication dropped off in the lobby in our secure drop box, OCPD holds special events at one of Oak Creek's local Pick 'n Save stores.

On April 24th the Drug Take Back event collected 107 lbs. prescription and OTC medications.

On October 23rd, the OCPD collected 116 lbs. of prescription and OTC meds. This collection was added to other medications collected and seized over the previous 6 months and 445 lbs. was turned over to the DEA.

OPERATIONS BUREAU - Patrol

10.5 years

Patrol *average years of experience*

Selected training attended by our Patrol Division included:

Sexual Assault Trauma Informed Investigation Training - Members of 2nd shift attended this specialized training during which they learned valuable information about interviewing and speaking to victims in a manner that helps the victim feel supported while still getting important details about the incident.

Calm is Courageous, Calm is Contagious – Members of the patrol staff were trained on the importance of maintaining calm in a crisis and impact that it can have on the situation. The training stresses the importance of treating each member of the community with respect and the likelihood that their respectful interaction will positively impact the interaction and influence that person’s potential next interaction with law enforcement.

Elder Abuse Training – Two patrol officers were selected as primary contacts in cases of suspected elder abuse and attended training that taught them to identify signs of neglect or abuse among the elderly population and the value that Adult Protective Services can be in helping the elderly population.



Intoximeter Training - New officers attended intoxicimeter training learning the proper use of the intoxicimeter tools as well as reviewed studies and learned the ‘science’ behind BAC (Blood Alcohol Concentration).

Ready Responder Training – Patrol officers received training on improving and maintaining officer wellness including fitness, mental health, and heart health.

OPERATIONS BUREAU - Patrol

CIT Training (Crisis Intervention Training): Recognizing the inadequate availability of mental health crisis services across the U.S., the Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) program is an innovative approach to improving the outcomes when often, officers are the first responders in most crisis situations. CIT training offers more tools to handle these crises and is associated with improved officer attitude and knowledge about mental illness. The training uses interactive real-life training and addresses suicide prevention, mental illness, developmental disability, drug dependency, or alcoholism, veteran awareness, and human trafficking.

Media & Public Relations and Master Public Information Officer Training: Two supervisors attended two FBI-hosted intensive courses on media and public relations. Recognizing that Police Departments cannot succeed without the support of the community that they serve, this training is designed to help improve communication. Participating in this training supported our ongoing goals to be more transparent and keep the community involved in the department's activities.



RITE Training (Racial Intelligence Training and Engagement)

In addition to Chief Anderson and Captain Stecker, three members of our Training Unit attended the RITE Academy two-day train-the-trainer class on Racial Intelligence. Our ongoing commitment to performance improvement placed this training at a high priority and following their training, our instructors brought this information back to the department and incorporated the RITE training into an full day training session for Patrol (all other staff will be trained in 2022). Specific instruction for patrol focused on racial equity and bias-free policing, de-escalation with emotional and social intelligence, PTSD, career resiliency, mental health awareness, and implicit bias.

OPERATIONS BUREAU – Support Services

Court Liaison

The OCPD court liaison is a part time employee responsible for taking cases prepared by officers for state offenses to the district attorney’s office for review. In 2021, the Court Liaison was also directly involved in the department’s transition to e-filing of cases. In late 2021, the court liaison position was temporarily filled by a light duty officer as our previous liaison left the department.

Squad Cleaner

Another part time position, the squad cleaner is responsible for keeping the fleet clean and doing other minor maintenance tasks.

Police Aides

The police aide program has long been an important development program for those working towards a career in law enforcement. Following the transition of recent Oak Creek Police Department Aides to full time positions in the department and elsewhere, the department focused on recruiting new members to its police aide program.

Auxiliary Unit

With the retirement of many of the members of the Auxiliary Unit, the Oak Creek Police Department recruited new members for 2021.



OPERATIONS BUREAU - Dispatch

6.8 years
average years of experience



The Dispatch Unit is staffed by 18 dispatchers (which includes 2 working dispatch supervisors) and one dispatch manager. The Dispatch Unit answers both police and fire 9-1-1 (and non-emergency calls) 24/7 for the cities of Oak Creek and St. Francis (since March 2015).

Several members of the dispatch group including supervisors attended the annual Wisconsin Public Safety Communications (WIPSCOM) Conference in May. In addition to networking with fellow telecommunicators from Wisconsin and surrounding states they interacted with professional companies that provide technology and support for dispatch centers. They attended specialized training classes on topics such as domestic violence, veterans with PTSD, hostage negotiations and dispatch center improvement. Inspirational speakers also addressed the assembled group reminding dispatchers to find purpose in their careers and maintaining resilience in a very tough job.



Fun Fact: 911 – Did you know your old phone can still call 911? Many people give old phones to young children to play with but even a deactivated phone can still dial 911! If your child plays with an old phone or you use one for emergencies and accidentally dial 911, please stay on the line and let the dispatchers know that everything is OK. Also, while an old phone can dial 911, having no service means that the location service doesn't work. If you use an old phone for emergencies and need to use it to call for help, stay on the line and provide the dispatcher with your location!

OPERATIONS BUREAU – Dispatch

National Telecommunicators Week (April 11-17)



St. Francis Police Clerk Kristy Czerniakowski and Police Chief Kevin Hunter showing their appreciation for the Dispatch Unit.



Our 3rd shift dispatchers received a VIP visit from K9 Revi, who donned a headset and helped them celebrate "wear your pajamas to work" day in honor of National Telecommunicator's Week.

Dispatchers are the unseen first-responders that provide a critical link between the public and emergency personnel -- a calm and knowledgeable voice on the line during someone else's worst possible day. National Telecommunicators Week gave the department an opportunity to celebrate our amazing dispatchers.

Our very own Oak Creek dispatchers have successfully delivered babies over the phone, coached callers through providing CPR, and have also given critical prearrival instructions for things like uncontrolled bleeding, seizures, and what to do to stay safe in a variety of emergency situations. In the past two years alone, a total of 348 calls received by the center required the dispatcher on the call to provide the caller with emergency medical instructions, and 3 of our Oak Creek dispatchers have received Telecommunications Life Saving Awards for their heroic actions.

A photograph of two men in a control room. The man on the left is wearing a light-colored shirt and a headset. The man on the right is wearing a dark uniform and a headset. They are sitting at a desk with a console that has a 'TELEPHONE' sign on it. The background is a whiteboard and a window. The text 'SPECIALTY UNIT UPDATES' is overlaid in the center of the image.

SPECIALTY UNIT UPDATES

Many of the officers and some of the non-sworn personnel at the Oak Creek Police Department take on additional responsibilities by becoming members of **specialty units** within the department. The requirements, duties and training of these units dictate the selection process and it is those who possess the best of these attributes who are chosen to participate. These specialty units are described on the following pages.



Bike Patrol

OCPD's Bicycle Unit serves as an alternate and highly visible means of patrol staffing, to assist in areas that are difficult to reach by squad car or on foot, high pedestrian count events, and other special events.

In lieu of the annual Bike Rodeo, which was cancelled because of the ongoing pandemic, the Community Resource Coordinator filmed several educational videos on the importance of bike maintenance, safety equipment and obeying bike traffic laws. The Bike Patrol was able to patrol events during the warmer months including the July 4th holiday celebrations and the farmers markets.

Awards Committee

The Awards Committee has the authority to review most recommendations, determine appropriate award classifications, and oversee the issuance of most Department awards, with the exception of shift acknowledgements, the Chief's Award, the Chaplain Father B. Doan Memorial Trust Award, the Career Achievement Award and the Exemplary Officer Award. These awards are typically determined by the Administrative supervisors.

The committee plans and runs the annual awards ceremony.

The committee consists of 2 supervisors, 1 officer per shift, 1 detective, and 1 clerk and rotates members through 2-year terms with the Chairperson's term set at 3 years.





Emergency Response Unit (ERU)

The ERU, specifically designed to respond to situations that fall outside of normal operational control, welcomed 5 new members this year.

The new members, including Police Department Officers “Operators”, Matthew Bublitz, William Eisenhardt, and Tanner Wolff and Fire Department “Tactical Emergency Medical Support (TEMS) members, Michael Rainy and Aaron Ritchie, attended training at Fort McCoy.

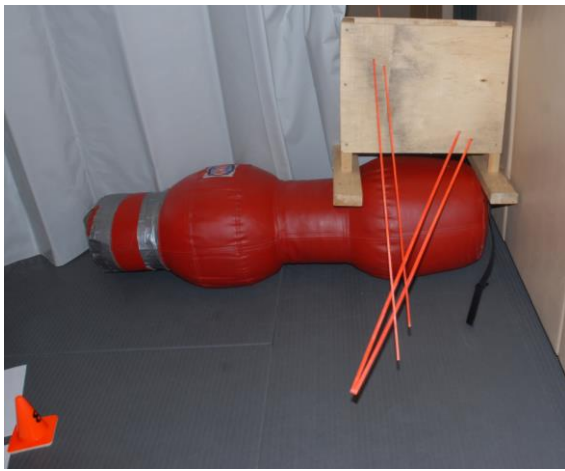
To maintain peak preparedness, the ERU conducts regular training sessions often jointly with the Crisis Negotiation Unit.

Crisis Negotiation Unit (CNU)

The Crisis Negotiation Unit (CNU) is used in an attempt to diffuse potentially life-threatening situations through the use of proven verbal crisis management techniques. Incidents involving barricaded subjects, hostage takers, or persons threatening suicide are especially trying and stressful for law enforcement personnel who respond to them.

In order to be prepared for potential events, the CNU holds in-house training every other month. In this scenario-based training, instructors and participants role-play different scenarios based on either past events or current local/world events.





Evidence Unit

The Evidence Technician Unit is responsible for the documentation, collection and processing of evidence on an as-needed basis.

New members to the evidence unit attended 'Evidence Technician Basic Training'. This two-week intensive course is provided to all new members of the evidence unit followed by monthly in-house training. Once members complete this training they are allowed to process larger, more complicated scenes.

Intensive training includes a focus on photography, fingerprints, case law, chain of custody, types of DNA, blood stain patterns, tool mark evidence, sexual assault evidence, crash investigations, and death investigations.

Members of the EU also attend the Wisconsin Association for Identification (WAI) Yearly Conference whose mission is to provide educational seminars, training and information on all of the disciplines of the forensic sciences. Important information about what can and cannot be processed was shared and will ensure no delays in evidence processing.

Field Training Officers (FTO) Program

All newly hired Oak Creek Police Department probationary officers will first be assigned to two weeks of in-house training. This in-house training includes firearm use, defense and arrest tactics. Probationary officers will then be assigned to a twelve-week field training program. During the twelve-week field training process, the probationary officer will be assigned to various officers and supervisors on all three shifts.



Three new FTOs (Kevin Polster, Adam Mahon, Daniel Gitzlaff) participated in a 3-day 'FTO Basic Training' intensive training that prepared them to begin their roles as FTOs. The training focused on assessing personality profiles, identifying different personality types, learning styles based on personality types and instructing to meet different personality types and learning styles.

2021 Honor Guard Training Unit



Waupaca County Sheriff's Office
4 October at 19:37 · 🌐

Last week two of our deputies had the privilege of attending a training event hosted by the [Oak Creek Police Department](#) and taught by the [Washington Metropolitan Police Dept.](#) Ceremonial Honor Guard unit. This highly sought after week long class prepares our Honor Guard team for the duties incumbent upon them, such as funeral services and acting as "guardians of the colors" by escorting and presenting the national and state flag at ceremonial events.

The 2021 class had 50 officers from around the State of Wisconsin representing 22 different law enforcement agencies.



Winnebago County, Wisconsin Sheriff's Office
1 October at 14:52 · 🌐

This week, members of our Honor Guard were humbled to participate in this training hosted at the [Oak Creek Police Department](#). Taught by members of the [Washington Metropolitan Police Dept.](#) Honor Guard, this highly sought after class is top notch!



The role of Honor Guard in Law Enforcement special events has very important meaning for all involved so it is imperative that Honor Guard members receive specialized training. Beginning on September 27th, the OCPD hosted a 5-day Honor Guard Training conducted by the Washington D.C. Metropolitan Policy Ceremonial Honor Guard Unit. Attendees from 22 honor guard units from around the state received instruction on: drill and ceremony, color teams, casket/urn watch, casket movement, ceremonial flag folding, rifle drill, and attending funerals for line of duty deaths.

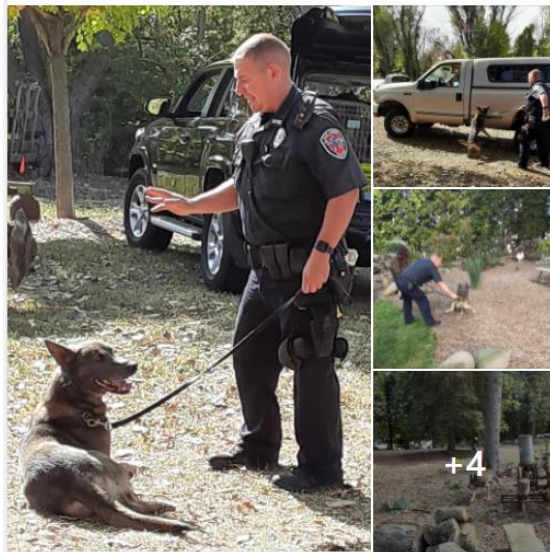
K9 Unit

Oak Creek Police Departments employs dual purpose K9s on all three shifts and several changes occurred in our K9 unit in 2021.

Our K9 officers and supervisors attended a K9 legal update training that reviewed current case law related to all K9 applications and ensures that every effort is made to use our K9s effectively, but more importantly, correctly and legally.



In July, Wisconsin Vest-A-Dog generously donated a protective vest and medical kit for K9 Revi (3rd Shift – Officer Nicole Raffini). The goal of the Vest-A-Dog program is to provide a bullet & stab proof vest and First Aid Kit for ever police dog in Wisconsin.



Officer Michael Musa and his K9 partner, Stanley (1st Shift) pictured here doing a evidence and drug search demo.



After 9 years of service, K9 Nox was retired on 6/25/21.

Officer Dawn Hanizeski was then selected as the next K9 handler for the department in the vacancy caused by K9 Nox’s retirement.

Officer Hanizeski attended Southern Police Canine’s training in North Carolina in October with her new K9 Partner, Kuiper (2nd Shift).



School Resource Officers assigned at the beginning of the 2020/21 school year were able to return to school full time during the second semester of the school year.



On April 19th, in cooperation with the Drexel Town Square Chick-fil-A, the OCPD SROs performed a routine seatbelt check at the Oak Creek High School campus, and rewarded those students “caught” wearing their seatbelts with Chick-fil-A chicken sandwiches.



On June 17th and 18th, the OCPD SROs attended a virtual conference whose theme was "Protecting Our Children Through Prevention and Response".

Conference highlights included addressing school violence and youth victimization by using relevant case studies to identify crime prevention and response strategies. Additionally, they address current teen trends in social media and alcohol and substance abuse and successful prevention and intervention program models.



PO Zach Case
High School



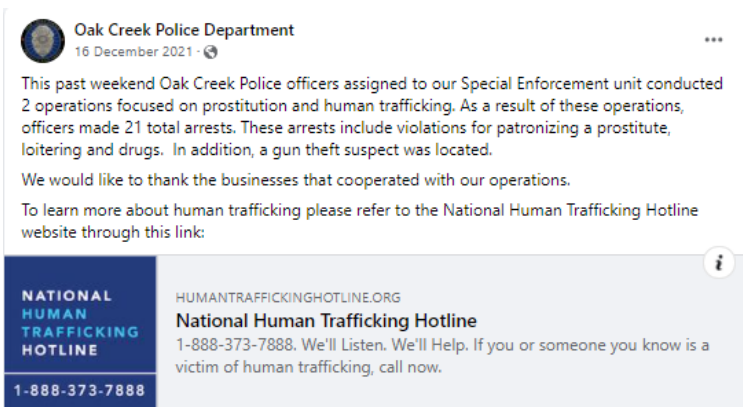
PO Ashley Chapman
East Middle School



PO Shawn Lentz
West Middle School

Special Enforcement Unit (SEU)

Oak Creek Police officers assigned to our Special Enforcement Unit conducted several operations focused on prostitution and human trafficking in July & December. As a result of these operations, officers made 53 total arrests. These arrests include 41 municipal citations, 7 state charges and 5 warrant arrests. An ongoing investigation into human trafficking continues as a result of this operation. Two illegal firearms were recovered, including one rifle in the possession of a felon.



Oak Creek Police Department
16 December 2021 · 🌐

This past weekend Oak Creek Police officers assigned to our Special Enforcement unit conducted 2 operations focused on prostitution and human trafficking. As a result of these operations, officers made 21 total arrests. These arrests include violations for patronizing a prostitute, loitering and drugs. In addition, a gun theft suspect was located.

We would like to thank the businesses that cooperated with our operations.

To learn more about human trafficking please refer to the National Human Trafficking Hotline website through this link:

NATIONAL HUMAN TRAFFICKING HOTLINE
HUMANTRAFFICKINGHOTLINE.ORG
National Human Trafficking Hotline
1-888-373-7888. We'll Listen. We'll Help. If you or someone you know is a victim of human trafficking, call now.
1-888-373-7888

In support of the work done by our Special Enforcement Unit, PO Chapman attended training entitled “Child Sex Trafficking – From Suspicion to Disclosure”, which used real life scenarios to teach officers how to identify a child being trafficked including what signs to look for and how to talk to a child suspected of being a victim.

Officer Chapman and Acting Detective Schneider also attended a course on Human Trafficking.

Training Unit

Training Officer Romel attended a two-week handgun/firearms instructor school and is now certified to teach and qualify individuals in firearms. This instruction provided additional versatility to the training unit as it allows Officer Romel to instruct during training sessions that she is responsible for coordinating and attending.



Police Officer Support Team CONFIDENTIAL PEER SUPPORT



Police Officer Support Team (POST)

As members of the Police Officer Support Team unit (POST), POs Narrai and Chapman and Lt. Ashenhurst attend 'Trauma, Mental Health and Our Front-Line Responders Training'. In this training, the POST members had the opportunity to discuss PTSD and learn about coping skills for officers. The training also provided resources for handling stress internally and how to decompress after a high stress situation.

Additional POST training included Cops Journey with Mental Health which was attended by Lts. Thorne and Ashenhurst and Training Officer Romel. The training offered them information on resources to assist officers with mental health issues and information about the psychological and physiological changes that impact officers due to repeated exposure to stressful situations over the course of their career.

Career Survival

Chief Anderson's attendance at the IACP Officer Safety and Wellness Symposium allowed access to resources available from the event. The Career Survival unit watched the symposia presentations and will be using the resources provided to promote employee wellness.



Officers can experience upward of 200-300 seriously traumatic events, whereas the average person may experience 2-3.



Oak Creek Police
Department

Following

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SOCIAL MEDIA

Intro

For more about the Oak Creek Police Department visit www.oakcreekwi.gov/government/departments/police

Page · Police station

301 W Ryan Rd, Oak Creek, WI, United States, Wisconsin

Posts

Filters



Oak Creek Police Department

11 December at 08:30 · 🌐

We are currently accepting applications for a part-time Court Liaison (civilian - non-sworn). Click on the link below for more information and to apply, applications are due by 1/7/2022.

AGENCY.GOVERNMENTJOBS.COM

Court Liaison - Part Time

Social Media

Social media has become a critical part of law enforcement as it provides an immediate outlet for disseminating important information to citizens and media. Follow us a *@oakcreekpolice* on Facebook and Instagram and *#oakcreekpolice* on Twitter.

The OCPD uses Social Media to post press releases and information regarding current situations, provide information about upcoming activities and events, retirements and promotions and post job openings. Social media also provided us with an outlet to share law enforcement details and crime prevention tips especially during the pandemic when our direct contact with the public was restricted to only the most necessary. While a majority of our posts were serious in a nature, we occasionally had the opportunity to share a lighthearted picture or a shout-out to a local business who made us smile with their amazing generosity!



Often our most popular posts are about dogs brought into our department to be reunited with their owners. Officer Zwicke had an unusual loose animal this year, catching and reuniting this friendly goat with its owners.