



# Village of Westmont

31 West Quincy Street, Westmont, Illinois 60559

villageboard@westmont.il.gov  
westmont.illinois.gov | 630-981-6200

## PUBLIC NOTICE

### POLICE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

**Thursday, June 26, 2025 - 4:30 PM**

**Westmont Village Hall - 31 W. Quincy Street, Westmont, Illinois 60559**

#### AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Pledge of Allegiance
4. Public Comment
5. Approval of Minutes
  - A. Minutes of the February 6, 2025 regular meeting.
6. Unfinished Business
7. New Business
  - A. Department Awards
  - B. Traffic Details
  - C. Staffing
  - D. Community Events
8. Reports
  - A. Committee Chair
  - B. Department Director
  - C. Division(s) Reports
9. Miscellaneous
  - A. The next meeting of the Police Public Safety Committee is scheduled for September 4, 2025.

## 10. Adjourn

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Note: Any person who has a disability requiring a reasonable accommodation to participate in the meeting should contact the ADA Compliance Officer, 9:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. Monday through Friday, Village of Westmont, Illinois, 60559; or telephone (630) 981-6210 voice, within a reasonable time before the meeting. Listen Everywhere, an assistive listening, mobile app, is now available to visitors attending Board and Commission Meetings held in the Village Hall Board Room.

<https://westmont.illinois.gov/581/ADA-Listen-Everywhere>



**Village of Westmont  
VILLAGE BOARD**

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**Village Board Police Public Safety Committee**

**Westmont Village Hall - 31 West Quincy Street**

**Meeting Minutes - February 6, 2025**

**Draft to be Approved - June 26, 2025**

**I. CALL TO ORDER** - Trustee Barry called the meeting to order at 4:30 pm.

**II. ROLL CALL**

<p><b><u>Committee</u></b> Trustee Barry (Chairman) Mayor Gunter Trustee Liddle Trustee Guzzo (arrived 5:22 pm) Trustee Barker Trustee Nero Trustee Scales Appointed Village Clerk Szynski Deputy Clerk Richards</p> <p><b><u>Visitors</u></b> F&amp;P Commissioner Mulhearn Sgt. Kyle Michalek, Clarendon Hills</p>	<p><b><u>Staff</u></b> Village Manager May Chief Public Safety Officer Gunther Deputy Chief Gruen Deputy Chief Thompson Fire Chief Riley Finance Director Altic Public Works Director Ries Gov't Services Director Mielcarski HR Director Brainerd IT Director Liljeberg Communications Director McIntyre Records Coordinator Michalek Ofc. Eisenbeis Ofc. Vincent Det. Durst Det. Newton Sgt. Rainaldi Asst to Police Chief Olsson</p>
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**III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS** - None

**V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES** - October 17, 2024 Police Public Safety Committee meeting minutes were approved by Motion Trustee Liddle made and seconded by Trustee Barker.

**VI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**A. E-Bikes and E-Scooters Public Safety Update**

Chief Gunther referenced Sgt. Borgardt's e-bike presentation at the October

## **Police Public Safety Committee Meeting**

**February 6, 2025**

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meeting. DC Thompson discussed the flyer (attached) that Sgt. Borgardt created. The flyer summarizes the different classifications of e-bikes and e-scooters and is intended to educate the public on the proper use of the vehicles. DC Thompson added that Hinsdale and Clarendon Hills have active ordinances addressing the use of e-bikes and e-scooters.

Trustee Barker asked if these vehicles are required to have headlights. DC Thompson responded that all types of vehicles on roadways are required to be visible within 100 feet either with headlights or reflectors when used at night. Trustee Barker also raised concerns about unsafe riding practices.

Trustee Barry asked if electric one-wheel or unicycles can be used on roadways. Sgt. Borgardt stated that these types of vehicles are not allowed on the roadways. He added that DUI laws apply to all vehicles on the roadways.

### **VII. NEW BUSINESS**

#### **A. Police Department 2024 Employee of the Year Award**

Chief Gunther presented the Employee of the Year Award to Records Coordinator Natalie Michalek for her outstanding contributions to the department and the Village of Westmont community in 2024.

#### **B. Department Awards**

Chief Gunther recognized the following staff with departmental awards for their outstanding service and accomplishments:

- 1) Ofc. Hunter Vincent received the Felony Arrest Recognition for her response to an incident that occurred on September 8, 2024.
- 2) Det. Jeremy Durst received the Felony Arrest Recognition for his investigations to retail theft incidents that occurred between July and October 2024.
- 3) Ofc. Jakob Eisenbeis received the Felony Arrest Recognition for his response to an incident that occurred on December 5, 2024.

Chief Gunther recognized Sgt. Anthony Rainaldi and Det. David Newton for 25 years of dedicated service in the community and the department.

Chief Gunther announced that the Special Olympics Illinois Flame of Hope trophy was awarded to the Westmont Police Department for raising over \$57,000 of donations in 2024.

#### **C. Officer Wellness**

Since February is Heart Health Awareness month, Chief Gunther discussed the heart scan wellness initiative offered to the officers and department staff.

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### D. 2024 Annual Report

Chief Gunther, DC Gruen, and DC Thompson presented the annual report (attached) highlighting accomplishments, challenges, and events that impacted the department in 2024.

#### 1) Staffing and Financial Impact

Chief Gunther stated that there are currently 6 vacancies with 1 officer in the academy. 22 out of 35 officers have less than 10 years experience in the department. Lateral transfers applications were accepted, however there was only 1 viable candidate out of 14 applicants. Though overall expenses have been consistently under budget, the staffing shortage impacted the overtime expenses since current staff have to fill shifts.

#### 2) Patrol Division and Side Street Patrol Highlights

DC Thompson presented statistical data of the patrol division activity which includes call for service, traffic stops, and citations. Trustee Barry asked if traffic citations are a result of the traffic stops from the report. DC Thompson agreed that traffic stops could generate citations depending on the situation. Side street traffic stops and DUI arrest statistics were also discussed.

#### 3) Drone Program Deployments

DC Thompson stated that the drone program was implemented in 2023 with 4 incidents of deployment. In 2024, drones were deployed for 12 incidents which include community events.

#### 4) Investigations Division Highlights

DC Gruen presented statistical information and activities performed by the investigations division. As previously discussed, the School Resource Officer is part of the investigations division.

Sgt. Padilla discussed notable cases in 2024 which include recovering stolen vehicles using license plate readers (LPR), sex trafficking operations, equipment theft recovery, and burglary and retail theft arrests.

#### 5) Records Division and Crime Statistics

DC Gruen reported on the increase in requests for information to the records division in 2024. The records division responds to FOIAs, background checks, expungements, and other records. There has been an increase of requests for BWC footage, which were primarily requested by YouTubers. Processing BWC FOIA requests take

## Police Public Safety Committee Meeting

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a long time to produce.

Mayor Gunter asked if the department has seen first amendment audits recently. Chief Gunther responded that there were first amendment audits at the police station as well as the library during the elections last year. Chief Gunther stated that all the officers are trained to address first amendment audits.

DC Gruen presented the crime statistics for the past four years. Trustee Barry asked what changed in the motor vehicle thefts since the number of incidents have decreased. DC Gruen responded that the communication between the department and dealerships have improved.

### 6) Mutual Aid

DC Thompson reported that 245 hours were spent on mutual aid activations with MERIT, ILEAS Mobile Field Force, and DuPage Arson Task Force in 2024.

### 7) Training Division

DC Thompson stated that staff attended over 2,400 hours of state mandated training programs both in person and on-line.

### 8) Use of Force and Pursuit Driving

DC Thompson reported 16 use of force incidents, which were later deemed justified. There were 3 vehicle pursuits from traffic stops, 2 of which were found to be in accordance with policy and 1 required corrective action.

### 9) Compliments and Complaints

In 2024, the department received 2 compliments and 8 complaints. All the complaints were investigated and were unfounded, exonerated or not sustained. DC Thompson noted that the portal needed to be more easily accessible on the website.

### 10) ILEAP Accreditation and Community Outreach

Chief Gunther reported that the department was re-accredited by the Illinois Law Enforcement Accreditation Program in 2024. The assessment is performed every 4 years.

Chief Gunther discussed multiple community outreach programs which include Special Olympics Illinois Torch Run, Facebook posts for transparency and education, kids summer camps, National Police Week retiree gathering, Veterans Day gathering, National Night

## Police Public Safety Committee Meeting

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Out at Ty Warner Park; Squad Car Night, Citizens Police Academy and Junior Citizens Police Academy.

11) Chief Public Safety Officer

As the Chief Public Safety Officer, Chief Gunther reported that the training video on confined spaces was completed last year, which was required for OSHA compliance. He recognized the efforts of the Public Works and Fire Departments in facilitating the creation of the video.

12) 2024 Goals Achieved and 2025 Goals

DC Gruen listed all the 2024 goals that were achieved which include eligibility and promotional testing, re-accreditation, completed first floor building improvements, transition fleet from Ford to Dodge, and transition from fiscal to calendar budget cycles. Ongoing goals include increasing staff to sustainable levels, additional training on standardized crime scene processing, and interdepartmental training with Public Works and Fire Departments. The department intends to assign an officer to DuMeg and MERIT Drone team once staffing is at an appropriate level.

DC Thompson discussed the 2025 goals. The ongoing goals from 2024 are carried over to 2025. Additional goals of the department include planning a smooth transition of the command staff in preparation for an upcoming retirement, expansion of the LPR program, and the implementation of a merit-based evaluation system.

Manager May asked about the equipment shaped like a candy cane that Sgt. Borgardt had in his vest. Chief Gunther explained that it was used to prop doors open. There are other devices used for the same purpose. Manager May commented on LPRs being widely used by neighboring towns. Trustee Barry cited an incident where a subject was tracked to their house using LPRs.

13) Fire and Police Commission Annual Report

Chief Gunther discussed the Fire and Police Commission's annual report (attached). He summarized the commission's activities in 2024 which include officer testing, compiled the initial eligibility list, interviews, and tested for the sergeant eligibility list. Chief Gunther recognized the commission's tremendous efforts in hiring police officers.

Trustee Barry thanked the department for all its efforts and dedication to keep the community safe.

**Police Public Safety Committee Meeting**

**February 6, 2025**

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**VIII. REPORTS**

**A. Committee Chair**

Chair Barry - no report

**B. Department Director**

Chief Gunther - no additional report

**C. Division Reports**

- 1) Administration - no report
- 2) Patrol - no report
- 3) Investigations - no report

**IX. MISCELLANEOUS - None**

- X. ADJOURN** - Approved by Motion Trustee Nero made and seconded by Trustee Liddle at 5:48 p.m. (next meeting was scheduled to June 26, 2025)

# FAQ's

## Q. Do I need a helmet?

A. No, there are no helmet laws in Illinois.

## Q. Can I ride my electric scooter if it is able to go faster than 10mph but I only go 10mph?

A. No, the scooter's speed must be limited to 10mph.

## Q. Can I ride my electric bike/scooter on the sidewalk?

A. No, the sidewalk is prohibited to ride on.

## Q. Can I ride an electric One-wheel/unicycle?

A. No, vehicles are all required to have a minimum of two wheels.

## Q. Do I need lights on my bike/scooter?

A. Yes, all vehicles on the roadway must have the proper lighting equipment at night.

**All bikes/scooters must obey the Rules of The Road**

# Westmont Police Department



What Classification Is My Bike?

Can I Ride It Legally?

	Class	Needs Working Pedals	Minimum Age	Max Assisted Speed	Max Power	Drivers License Required	Plates, and Insurance Required
	Bicycle	YES	N/A	N/A	N/A	NO	NO
	Gas Powered Bicycle	YES	16	20 MPH	<1HP	NO	NO
	<b>E-bike Class 1</b> Must be pedalled for motor to work	YES	N/A	20 MPH	<750 Watts	NO	NO
	<b>E-bike Class 2</b> Motor can operate without pedalling	YES	N/A	20 MPH	<750 Watts	NO	NO
	<b>E-bike Class 3</b> Must be pedalled for motor to work	YES	16	28 MPH	<750 Watts	NO	NO
	Electric Scooter	NO	18	10 MPH	N/A	NO	NO
	Moped, Dirtbike	NO	16	30 MPH	49cc	YES Class D	YES
	Motor Driven Cycle	NO	16	No Max	149cc	Yes Class L	YES

# 2024 Annual Report



## MISSION STATEMENT OF THE WESTMONT POLICE DEPARTMENT



*We, the members of the Westmont Police Department, are dedicated to providing high quality service through problem solving strategies, innovation, creativity, and adaptability to a changing diverse community. We are committed to nurturing a partnership with the community, through the utilization of community policing strategies, to improve the quality of life and promote a safe, secure environment in which to live and work.*

*We accomplish our goals with **PROFESSIONALISM, COMMITMENT, AND LOYALTY** to our community. We, as integral members of the team, strive for excellence with **FIDELITY, HONOR and SERVICE** to our community.*

# A Message from the Chief...



**As the Chief Public Safety Officer, I am honored and humbled to serve alongside the men and women of the Westmont Police Department. We have a dedicated group of sworn officers, civilian employees and volunteers committed to safeguarding the lives and property of the Westmont community. Their passion for providing world class community policing to the citizens that live, work and visit our village has continually resulted in Westmont being one of Illinois' safest communities.**

**Our Police Department, in partnership with the citizens of Westmont, recognizes the changing needs of our community and law enforcement's role in addressing those needs. With the many challenges that face law enforcement today, I am extremely proud of our ability to adapt and remain steadfast in our commitment to providing the best possible police services to our village.**

# 2024 Employee of the Year

## Natalie Michalek

"I am nominating Natalie for all the work she has done with the upgrade to the Records section and all the extras she has taken on."

"She is extremely knowledgeable and is always willing to assist where needed."

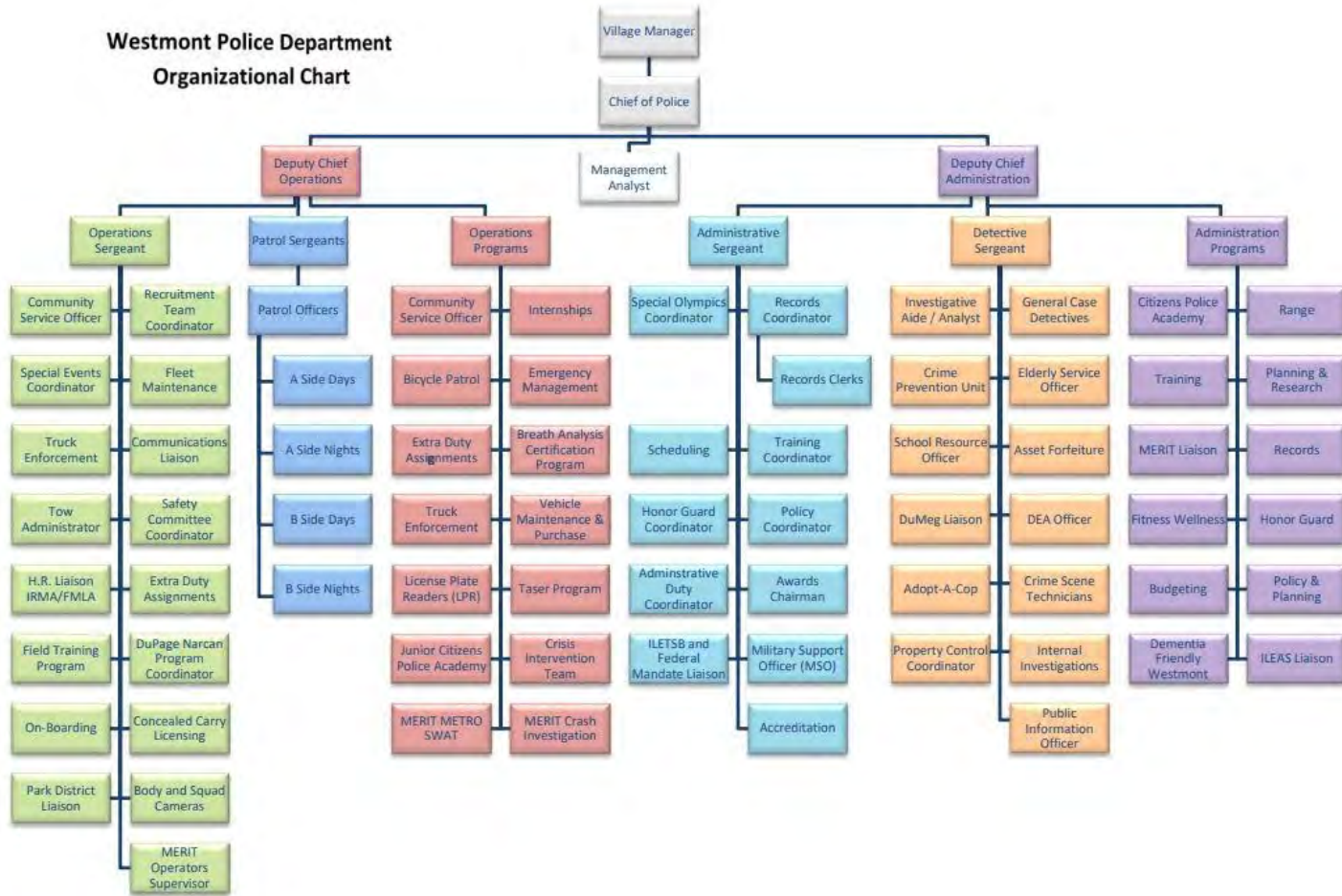


"I would like to nominate Natalie Michalek. Natalie wears many hats as the Records Coordinator. Natalie volunteers to work for special events (Squad Car night, Cop on RoofTop, and National Night Out to name a few) and Special Olympics events."

"Natalie always has a positive attitude when I have had contact with her. Natalie gets along with everyone here at the Police Department and is always willing to lend a helping hand."

"She assisted in the ILEAP Accreditation, the Records room restoration, and helped out with Recruitment of Police Officers as just a few examples of her willingness to assist others. Natalie also sets a good example for newly hired Edita as well as Veteran Records employee Tari."

**Westmont Police Department  
Organizational Chart**



Revised and Effective: January 2024

**Budgeted Strength**  
**41 - Full-Time Sworn**  
**6 - Full-Time Civilian**

# Staff By Tenure

## 25 + Years of Service

1997 - Jim Gunther, Chief Public Safety Officer  
1998 - Thomas Kozielski, Patrol Officer  
1998 - Timothy Radtke, Sergeant

## 20 - 24 Years of Service

2000 - Anthony Rainaldi, Sergeant  
2000 - David Newton, Detective  
2001 - Brian Gruen, Deputy Chief  
2001 - Michael Weibler, Sergeant  
2002 - Sean Ryan, Sergeant  
2002 - Stephen Thompson, Deputy Chief  
2004 - Jeffrey Borgardt, Sergeant

## 15 - 19 Years of Service

2005 - Douglas Mantooth, Sergeant  
2005 - Scott Bukovic, Sergeant  
2008 - Rolando Padilla, Sergeant  
2009 - Kristina Dominguez, Sergeant

## 10 - 14 Years of Service

**2011 - Rosanne Terry, Comm Service Ofc.**  
**2013 - Ruth Olsson, Assistant to the Chief**

2024 - 6 Vacancies

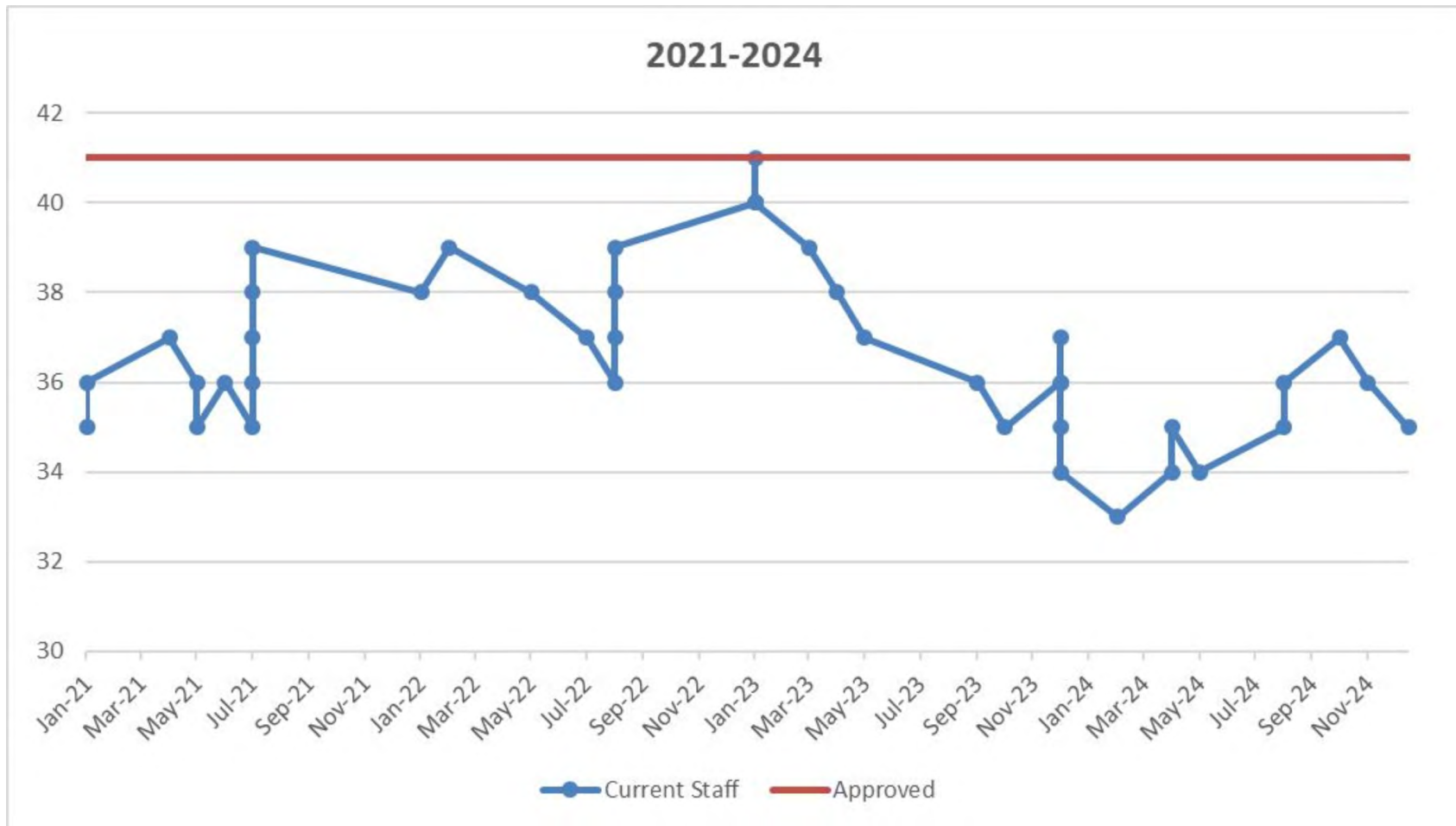
## 5 - 9 Years of Service

2015 - Alexander Bennett, Patrol Officer  
**2015 - Tari Bregman, Records Clerk**  
2015 - Tyler Sage, Detective  
2015 - Kamil Broda, Patrol Officer  
2016 - Jonathan Longini, Patrol Officer  
2016 - Hugo Pacheco, Detective  
2017 - Samuel Salvato, Patrol Officer  
2018 - Jeremy Durst, Detective  
2018 - Robert Arndt, Patrol Officer  
2018 - Timothy Collins, Detective  
**2019 - Natalie Michalek, Records Coordinator**

## 0 - 4 Years of Service

2021 - Thomas Swoboda, Patrol Officer  
2021 - Hunter Vincent, Patrol Officer  
2021 - Eric Vinyard, Patrol Officer  
2022 - Lorrainea Riley, Patrol Officer  
2022 - Alissa Mendez, Patrol Officer  
2023 - Jakob Eisenbeis, Patrol Officer  
2023 - Bret Boyle, Patrol Officer  
2024 - Thomas Caruso, Patrol Officer  
2024 - Bartlomiej Broda, Patrol Officer  
**2024 - Katie Scears, Investigative Aide/Analyst**  
2024 - Leslie Miranda, Patrol Officer  
2024 - Frank Byndum, Patrol Officer  
**2024 - Edita Slomic, Records Clerk**  
2024 - Hayley Zoiss, Patrol Officer

# Sworn Officer Headcount



# Retirement



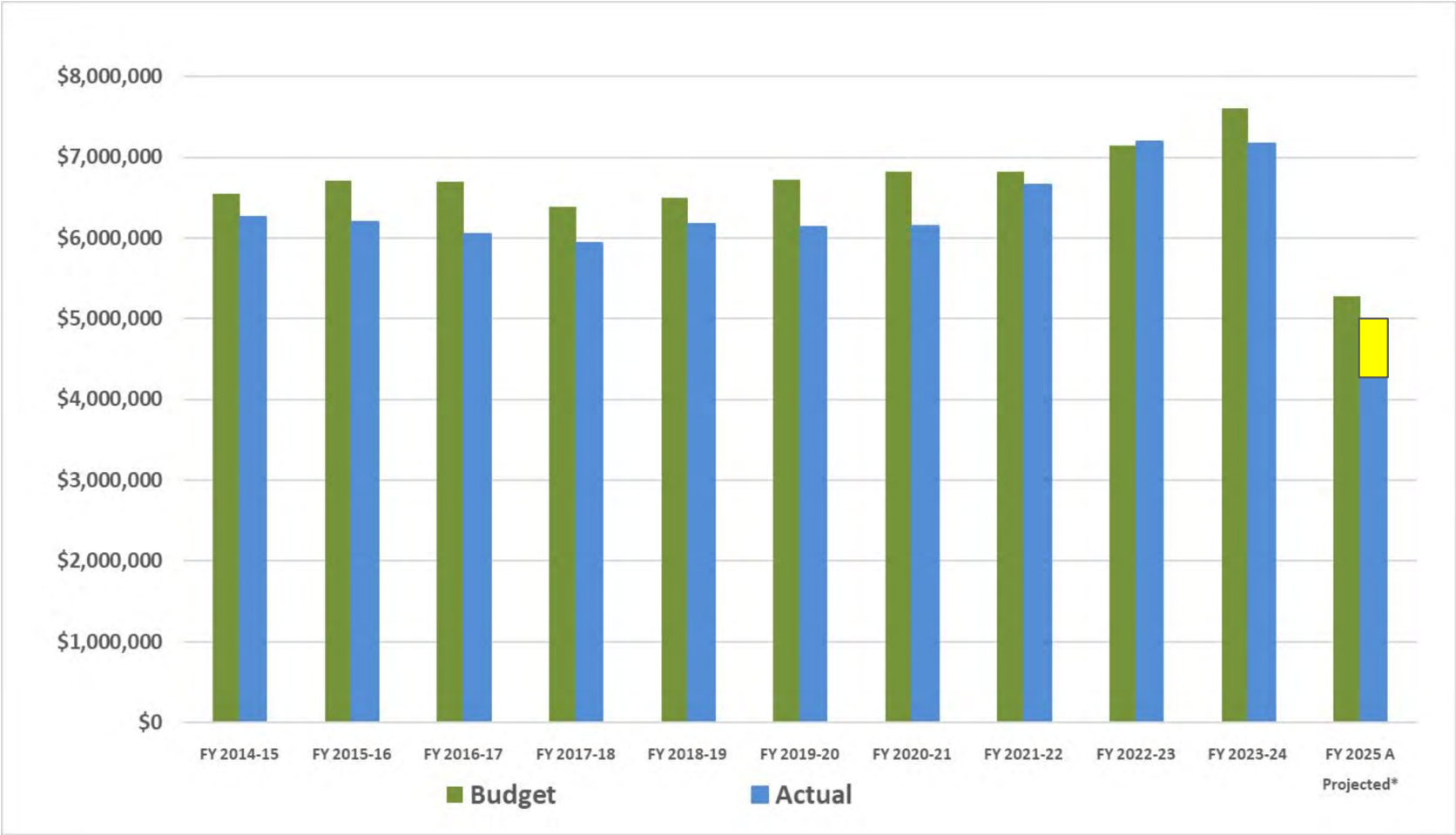
# New Staff



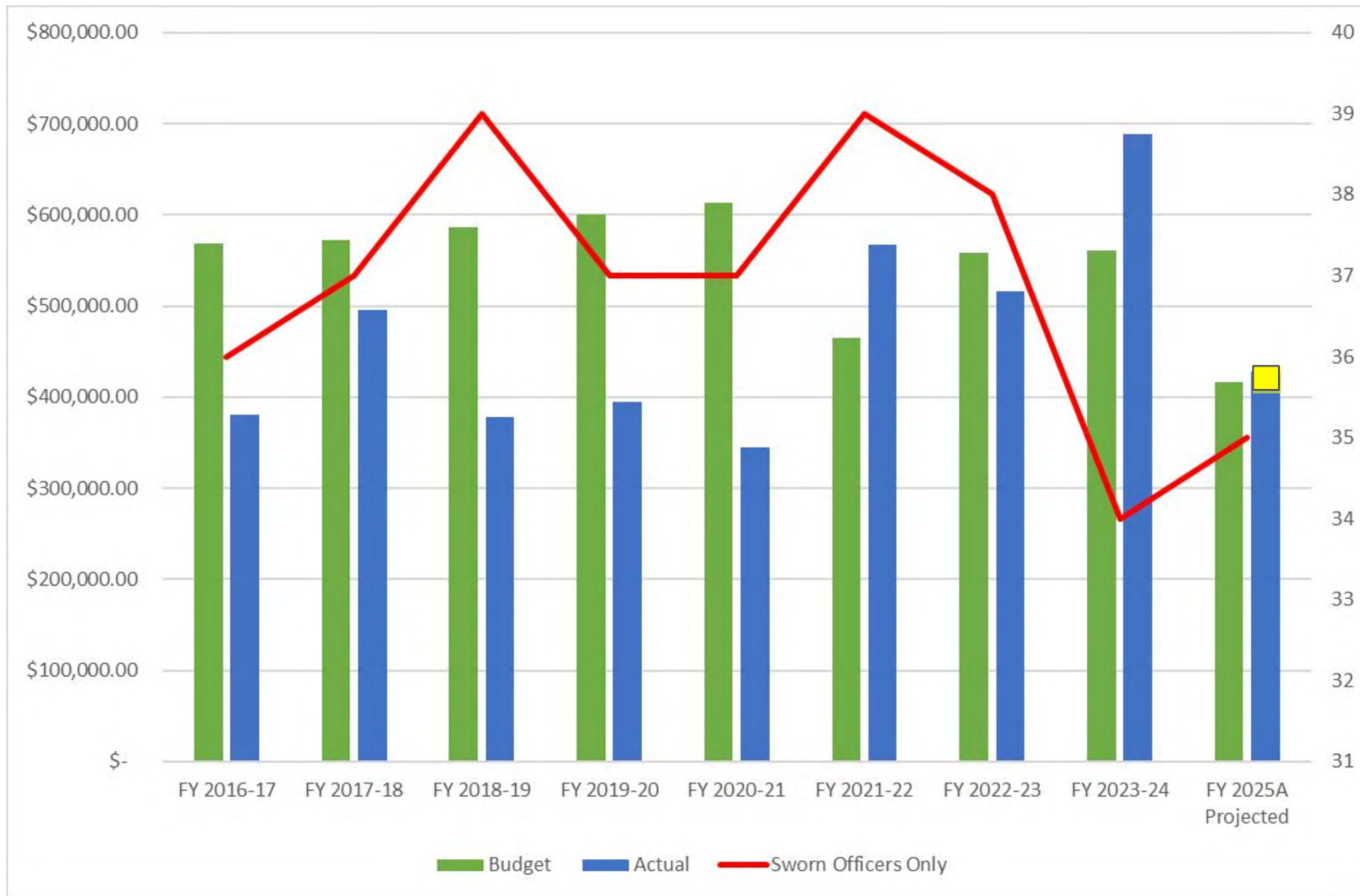
**Not Pictured:**

- Katie Scears, Investigative Aide/Analyst**
- Edita Slomic, Records Clerk**
- Hayley Zoiss, Patrol Officer**

# Operating Budget vs. Actual



# Overtime Expenses & Sworn Officers



# Patrol Division

The Patrol Division is the largest component of the Department and provides the community with professional police service 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year. Patrol Officers are first responders who provide proactive patrol, enforce state and local statutes, conduct the enforcement of traffic laws, and take reports for a variety of reasons. In addition, Patrol Officers deter and investigate criminal activity and solve problems in a collaborative effort with the community.

## Patrol Statistics - Highlights

	2024	2023	2022	2021
Call for Service	19,694	22,330	23,514	21,574
Report Generating	1,596	1,868	1,918	1,699
Parking Citations	1,561	3,079	2,847	2,585
Traffic Stops	5,026	8,123	8,456	7,494
Traffic Citations	2,646	3,656	3,384	2,820
Accident Reports	814	734	769	553
Arrest	437	558	520	497



# Side Street Patrol

The Police Department puts an emphasis on conducting extensive patrols of side streets. These patrols ensure the safety of our citizens and their property in residential areas. Specifically, a number of complaints are received regarding traffic enforcement in these areas, and as a result, we compile statistical data in order to answer them.

- **451 - Traffic Stops** (721 in 2023)
  - 382 Traffic Stops for Speed or Stop Sign Violations
  - 43% Resident vs 57% Non-Resident
- **169 - Violators** Ticketed (243 in 2023)
  - 37% of Violators Ticketed
    - 40% Resident vs 60% Non-Resident
  - 38 Speeding
  - 91 Disobeying a Stop Sign

## Driving Under the Influence (DUI)

The Police Department also puts an emphasis on DUI enforcement. Getting impaired drivers off the road is imperative to keeping our community roadways safe.

- 52 total DUI arrests in 2024
  - **11 involved a traffic accident** (6 in 2023)
  - 41 total DUI arrests in 2023
  - 73 total DUI arrests in 2022
  - 68 total DUI arrests in 2021

# Drone Program

Five total drones in the fleet, All DJI products, consisting of:



2023 - 4 Incident Deployments  
2024 - 12 Incident Deployments

Used as overwatch at all community events

Maintenance / Flight Logs



<https://app.airdata.com/u/vwvpd>

## Investigations Division

Assigned Cases: 147

Closed Cases: 79 (32 closed with arrest/warrant)

Arrests: 60

Search Warrants: 20

Cell Phone: 6

Residence: 1

Other (Vehicles, Property, Docs, DNA): 13



The Investigations Division is tasked with a variety of responsibilities; the primary function being to provide investigative support into criminal activity to the Patrol Division. Reported incidents were carefully screened by Detective Sergeant Rolando Padilla to determine those cases that require additional follow-up which would typically over-task the Patrol Division's resources. Case assignments to detectives often include cases requiring multiple interviews, out-of-town follow-ups, crime scene work, surveillance activities, obtaining search warrants, serving subpoenas, and assisting outside law enforcement agencies to name a few of the duties.

# **School Resource Officer (SRO)**

The Investigations Division includes Detective Jeremy Durst who serves as the police department liaison to Westmont Community School District 201 and Maercker School District 60 and Holy Trinity Catholic School.

## **School Safety Plan**

Detective Jeremy Durst has served as the School Resource Officer and Juvenile Detective for the past three years. Detective Durst is responsible for the school safety plan which is essentially the phases of emergency management. The safety plans are for all the school districts in Westmont. At the beginning of each school year, a walk-thru with the schools and the Fire department is conducted to evaluate and assess school safety procedures. Recommendations from the DuPage Regional Board of Education/Safety Committee are discussed with District 201 Safety Board semi annually. The emergency response plan has been standardized throughout DuPage County schools with standardized language for schools and standardized response to different threat scenarios.. Mandatory safety drills are performed throughout the year which are supervised by law enforcement with the Fire department having mapping programs of the schools on their phones. Law enforcement conducts mandatory full scale active threat scenario based training with fire departments, Emergency Management Systems, and the school districts which have been beneficial for communication between the different agencies. In addition, there are mutual aid agreements with Illinois Law Enforcement Alarm System (ILEAS) and MERIT to assist with emergency response situations. Components of the recovery plan were identified.

# Notable Cases



# Westmont Man Charged with Aggravated UUW

April 12, 2024

DuPage County State's Attorney Robert Berlin and Westmont Chief of Police James Gunther announced that a pre-trial release was denied for a Westmont man accused of being in possession of a loaded gun that had been altered to allow it to fire in a fully automatic mode. Canutie Collins, male, age 20 of 0-100 block of W. Oakley Drive North was taken into custody after officers responded to the 0-100 block of Oakley Drive North after being alerted to a stolen vehicle hit from a license plate reader. Collins was found to be in possession of two handguns. One had been altered to allow it to fire in a fully automatic mode. He was charged with two Class X felonies-Unlawful Use of a Weapon, two Class X felonies-Armed Violence, two Class 2 felonies-aggravated Unlawful Use of a Weapon, and one Class 2 Felony-possession of a stolen motor vehicle. A stolen vehicle was also recovered.

## IL - EA42884 Stolen Vehicle

Event Time: 14:26:50 04/11/2024

Source: NCIC

Vehicle Model: RGE

Vehicle Make: NISS

Vehicle Color: BLU

Camera: #02 - Inbound - Oakley Dr S

Network: Oak Brook Heights IL

[Open in Browser](#)



# Westmont Police Net 14 Arrests During Operation to Combat Sex Trafficking

August 15, 2024

The Westmont Police in conjunction with other agencies conducted a pre-planned operation to combat sex trafficking. Using open source intelligence gathering, officers posed as illegal sex workers and illegal sex buyers. During the operation officers arrested 14 individuals accused of the unlawful solicitation of a sex act, a Class A misdemeanor. All individuals were released on their own recognizance.

## Franklin Park Man Charged with Theft of Construction Equipment

September 18, 2024

The Westmont Police took a report of a piece of construction equipment valued at over \$30,000, that was stolen and listed for sale on Facebook Marketplace. Officers were able to identify the subject and track the location of the stolen construction equipment using various investigative means. While conducting surveillance on the location of the equipment, a traffic stop was conducted as the equipment was being moved. Alexander Colunga, male, age 29 of the 2600 block of Calwagner Street, Franklin Park was taken into custody for theft. He was charged with a Class 2 felony-Theft Over \$10,000. He was transported to the DuPage County Sheriff's Office. The construction equipment was recovered and returned to the business.

## Joliet Man Charged with Burglary and Retail Theft

October 2, 2024

While conducting live surveillance on a subject believed to have been involved in a string of retail thefts where thousands of dollars of alcohol was taken, officers observed Jovan Smith, male, age 30 of the 1800 block of East Washington Street, Joliet, commit a retail theft of alcohol from a Jewel food store in Aurora, IL. Smith was taken into custody after he attempted to flee. Smith was also wanted by several agencies for prior retail theft crimes including a retail theft that occurred at the Westmont Jewel located on East Ogden Avenue. He was charged with two Class 2 felonies-Retail Theft, three Class 3 felonies-Burglary, and three Class 3 felonies-Retail Theft. He was transported to the DuPage County Sheriff's Office to await a pre-trial detention hearing.

# Records Division

The Records Division is responsible for a multitude of duties performed on a daily basis. They ensure the safekeeping of police documents, perform quality checks on police reports and complete data entry in a timely and accurate fashion for thousands of accidents and tickets each year. Additionally, the Records Division submits all required crime statistics and reports to the Illinois Department of Corrections (IDOC), the Illinois State Police (ISP), the DuPage County State's Attorney Office and other agencies. Records Clerks are responsible for responding to the majority of Department Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests. They complete background check requests from the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS), the Military and other individuals submitting requests. The division facilitates the completion of all expungement and seal orders sent to the police department, as well as all automatic expungements required by statute.

- 92 - DCFS requests
- 370 - Local records checks
- 371 - Freedom of Information requests (47 of the 371 were for BWC)
- 639 - Closed cases submitted to DuPage County via TechShare
- 37 - Misdemeanor DUI cases transmitted to a local prosecutor
- Out of the 47 FOIA requested BWC, 34 of them came from third parties/YouTubers (72%).

# Crime Statistics

Beginning January 2023, we report all IUCR required Crime Statistics to NIBRS (National Incident Reporting System) on a monthly basis, in accordance with Illinois Uniform Crime Reporting (I-UCR), Chapter 20 of the Illinois Compiled Statutes, 2630/8, consistent with national regulations governed by the FBI. Group A (Crimes against persons/property) Offenses are used to report all incidents committed within a law enforcement agency's jurisdiction to the NIBRS, whereas Group B (Arrest Only Data) Offenses are used only to report arrest data. **The numbers reported are from the initial report and do not reflect the results of the complete investigative process.**

	2021	2022	2023	2024
Criminal Homicide	0	0	0	0
Rape	13	11	8	4
Robbery	7	5	7	0
Aggravated Assault	18	11	10	9
Burglary	20	32	41	56
Theft	360	270	195	189
Motor Vehicle Theft	27	27	30	18
Arson	2	1	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>452</b>	<b>326</b>	<b>285</b>	<b>276</b>

# Mutual Aid

The Westmont Police Department firmly believes assistance between law enforcement agencies is crucial to maintaining the high level of service we provide to our citizens. As members of the Metropolitan Emergency Response and Investigative Team (MERIT), we participate in a county-wide task force charged with leading investigations into serious crimes, critical incidents, and other law enforcement functions. Several members of the department contribute to the task force on different components, namely SWAT, IMAT, Major Crimes Unit (MCU), Public Integrity Team (PIT), and Major Crash Reconstruction Team (MCRT). The department also has members on the DuPage County Arson Task and the ILEAS Mobile Field Force (MFF).

- |                    |                           |
|--------------------|---------------------------|
| → MERIT MCU        | → MERIT MCRT              |
| ◆ 3 Activations    | ◆ 0 Activations           |
| ◆ 25.5 Total Hours | ◆ 0 Total Hours           |
| → MERIT FIU        | → MFF - ILEAS Region 4N   |
| ◆ 4 Activations    | ◆ 1 Activations           |
| ◆ 33 Total Hours   | ◆ 90 Total Hours          |
| → MERIT SWAT       | → DuPage Arson Task Force |
| ◆ 11 Activations   | ◆ 0 Activation            |
| ◆ 96.5 Total Hours | ◆ 0 Total Hours           |

**Total Mutual Aid Hours: 245**



# Training Division

Our Police Department strives to provide Officers with the highest level of training. The department continues to implement new in-house training programs to ensure our Officers are up to date on all tactical skills, and also utilizes internal and online resources to maintain all necessary certifications in order to stay current on law updates. Below are some of the areas in which Officers undergo extensive training.

- Crime Scene Processing
- Field Training
- Defensive Tactics including Gracie Jiu-Jitsu
- DUI Detection and Investigation
- Firearms Proficiency
- Mental Health Awareness / Crisis Intervention
- Rapid Deployment
- Active Shooter
- Supervisor Leadership
- Traffic Crash Investigation
- Use Of Force
- State Mandates

**Staff attended over 2,400 hours of training (online and in-person) in 2024**

# Use of Force and Pursuit Driving

Use of Force and Pursuit Driving are tracked through Frontline. The command staff is able to create an incident using the software, upload any reports and video, and offer a recommendation through the chain of command workflow. The program allows the department to run specific inquiries on these incidents in an effort to access information quickly and flag any possible issues.

Sixteen (16) Use of Force Incidents:

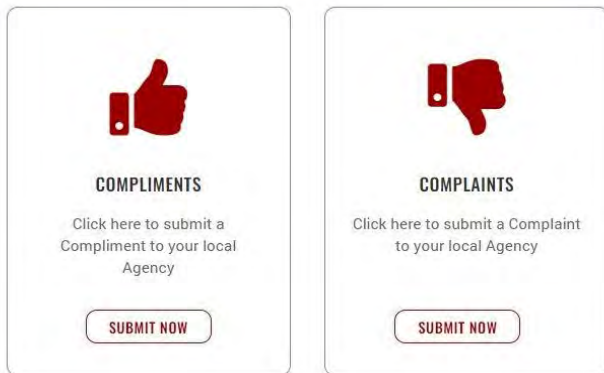
- Eight (8) weaponless hand-to-hand control techniques that have little or no chance of producing injuries
- One (1) display of Taser
- Eight (8) display of firearm
- Three (3) minor injuries
- All investigated and found to be justified by policy
- Policy review on required on four (4) incidents - High Risk Vehicle Stops & Body Worn Camera

Three (3) Vehicle Pursuits:

- Three (3) vehicles fled from traffic stops
- Two (2) terminated voluntarily by officer
- One (1) terminated after officer lost sight of vehicle
- Two (2) found to be in accordance with policy
- One (1) required corrective action

# Compliments and Complaints

WESTMONT POLICE DEPARTMENT



[Compliments and Complaints](#)

Compliments and complaints are tracked through Frontline. This feature not only gives the police department command staff the ability to record and track compliments and complaints, but also allows the public the ability to submit either one online. All complaints and compliments are recorded in one cloud-based database as opposed to several different files.

Last year, the department received 2 compliments and 8 complaints from external sources. The complaints were investigated and were unfounded, exonerated or not sustained.

# Compliments

"super nice and professional"

Wanted to let us know the officer seemed genuinely concerned for her safety and wellbeing.



The Westmont Police Department participated in the ILEAP Tier II program, which is their most rigorous and challenging assessment. The assessment included policy review, department tours, vehicle inspections, ride-a-longs with staff, interviews, and community feedback. The accreditation is valid for four years providing that the Department prepares an annual report to ILEAP.

ILEAP Accreditation is the ongoing process whereby agencies evaluate policy and procedure against established criteria, and have compliance with those criteria verified by the Illinois Law Enforcement Accreditation Council. The criteria, or standards, are policy development guidelines that represent a level of quality service delivery. The standards are divided into four general subject areas: Administration, Operations, Personnel, and Training.

# Community Outreach

The Law Enforcement Torch Run is the largest year-round fundraising initiative benefiting Special Olympics Illinois. The Torch Run has two goals – to raise money and gain awareness for the athletes participating in Special Olympics Illinois.

## 2024 Total \$57,114.26





January 2019 - 676

Followers

December 2024 - 4.9K



Most "liked" posts of 2024



# Summer Camp 2024



# National Police Week



# Veterans Day 2024



# National Night Out

The Westmont Police Department hosted our annual National Night Out on August 6, 2024. This years event was held at TY Park. Several hundred guests enjoyed food provided by the Westmont Lions Club, information from over 20 various community groups and vendors, drone demonstrations and had access to activities like the bounce house and face

painting.



# Squad Car Night

Squad Car Night was hosted on June 20, 2024 in conjunction with Westmont Cruisin Nights. Over 100 officers and 75 squad cars and emergency vehicles participated which culminated in a lights and sirens parade to end the festivities.



# Citizens' Police Academy

The Citizens' Police Academy (CPA) provides an opportunity for citizens who live or work in the Village of Westmont to become acquainted with how the police department operates on a day-to-day basis. At the end of the program, participants will have a better understanding of police procedures, equipment, responsibilities, demands, and the laws governing the actions of police officers.

In 2024, the CPA had 12 participants. Participants had the opportunity to meet and interact with the Chief of Public Safety, Command Staff, Police Officers and Civilian Personnel. There was lecture, open discussions, multimedia, practical demonstrations, real life scenarios and hands-on learning experiences which included the following topics:

- Tour of police facility
- Basic police equipment
- Special Weapons & Tactics (SWAT)
- Traffic stops (mock)
- Traffic laws
- Investigations
- Crime Scene Investigation
- Patrol / daily tasks
- Firearms
- Crime Prevention
- Community Policing



# Junior Citizens' Police Academy

The Junior Citizens' Police Academy (JCPA) is a free, educational, informative and fun program, where young adults can meet police officers and learn about their job. The mission of the program is to increase community interaction, understanding and communication between the Westmont Police Department and our young citizens of the community.



The 2024 JCPA had 13 participants. The participants had the opportunity to participate in the following activities:

- Department Tour
- Traffic Stop Night
- SWAT Demonstration
- 911 System
- Drug Awareness
- Crime Scene Investigation
- Internet Safety



# Chief Public Safety Officer



# 2024 Goals

- Increase staffing to a sustainable level for effective operations \*Perpetual
- Conduct Eligibility and Promotional testing Completed
- Achieve ILEAP re-accreditation for 2024-2028 Completed
- Building Improvements including 1st floor break room and evidence room floor Completed
- Complete the transition from Ford to Dodge fleet Completed
- Standardize crime scene processing through additional training Ongoing
- Enhance opportunities by assigning an officer to DuMeg & MERIT Drone Team when manpower permits Waiting on manpower to increase
- Transition from fiscal to calendar budget cycles Completed
- Interdepartmental training with fire and public works departments including the National Incident Management System (NIMS) Ongoing, training in fall 2025

# 2025 Goals

- Increase staffing to a sustainable level for effective operations
- Building Improvements
- Standardize crime scene processing through additional training
- Enhance opportunities by assigning an officer to DuMeg & MERIT Drone Team when manpower permits
- Interdepartmental training with fire and public works departments including the National Incident Management System (NIMS)
- Smooth transition of command staff as we prepare for upcoming retirement(s)
- Explore expansion of LPR system
- Implement new merit-based evaluation system to all non-union employees



**Village of Westmont**  
**BOARD OF FIRE AND POLICE COMMISSIONERS**

500 North Cass Avenue, Westmont, Illinois 60559

fpc@westmont.il.gov | 630-981-6308  
westmont.illinois.gov | 630-981-6200

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Commissioners: Stella Qualizza, Chairman - Thomas Mulhearn, Secretary/ Commissioner - Brian Baldwin, Commissioner

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## **WESTMONT BOARD OF FIRE & POLICE COMMISSIONERS**

### **2024 ANNUAL REPORT**

**Commission Composition:** The Commission is composed of Chair Person Stella Qualizza, Secretary Thomas Mulhearn and Commissioner Brian Baldwin.

- All Commissioner terms of service are good for three (3) years.
- Each Commissioner is appointed by the Mayor.
- The Commission Chair is elected in May of each year by the active commissioners.
- This year former Chair Robert Kovanda retired after 25 years of service.
- Mayor Gunter appointed a new commissioner, Brian Baldwin, an active firefighter in a local community.
  - Commissioner Baldwin is a Battalion Chief and at times Acting Fire Chief for his community. Brian, like all commissioners, resides in Westmont with his family

**Testing Process:** All hiring candidates follow the testing process listed below. At the end of each phase, the commission reviews the candidate's performance and overall concerns. The commission then votes on whether the candidate should or should not proceed onto the next phase of the testing process. Candidates are notified if they do not meet the commission's high standards.

- Candidates must complete/submit an application with various required attachments.
- The Commission employs Industrial Organizational Solutions Inc. (I/O Solutions) to offer, collect, review and authorize all written applications.
- I/O Solutions conducts a written exam of all candidates and creates a numerical list.
  - The list is used in the order of candidate ranking to determine when the candidate(s) are called for an oral interview with the Commission.
  - Oral interviews follow a brief written exercise which is reviewed by the commission.
- Oral interviews are completed by each individual candidate. Formal and informal questions are posed, in person by the commission.
- Following each interview, the board reviews the candidate's performance and votes to move the candidate onto the next phase of testing or to receive a letter from the board indicating they did not meet the high standards that the board sets for a candidate.
- After passing a phase of the testing process, the candidate is sent on to the next step:
  - Conrad Polygraph in Hinsdale, IL administers the polygraph test and the commission receives a report on each candidate and will meet to review.
  - The Westmont Police Department Detective Division conducts an in-depth background investigation of each candidate. A report is sent to the Commission and the Chief of Police. The commission then reviews the investigation results

- and determines/votes on each individual candidate.
- I/O Solutions performs the psychological testing. Each candidate is individually tested, a final report is forwarded onto the Commission for review.
- The next phase is a physical exam provided by Premier Medical in Bolingbrook, IL. This is a pass/fail exam and the candidate's status is determined by the examining doctor.
- Finally, a candidate who has passed all of the previous testing phases must attend and pass a physical exertion test called the POWER test.
  - This is offered by the police academy where the candidate will receive their formal law enforcement training.
  - This test is posted, created and updated by the State of Illinois.
  - This again is a pass fail test. Each candidate gets two(2) opportunities to pass this exam.
  - If they do not pass, they are eliminated/disqualified from the testing process and cannot attend the academy.
- All candidates that pass each phase will attend the law enforcement academy as selected by the Chief of Police.
  - Currently the department has been using the Cook County Sheriff's Law Enforcement Academy associated with Triton College in River Grove, IL.

**Lateral Transfer Candidates:** Lateral Transfer Candidates are those who have or currently are in law enforcement. They must complete the written, oral interview, polygraph, detective review, psychological and physical tests. They do not participate in the POWER test nor attend a police academy. Once they have successfully passed the testing phase they are turned over to the Chief of Police, hired and begin the training process with the police department.

**Commission Meetings:** Commission meetings are monthly on the third Tuesday of the month. Special meetings are held as needed to review items, such as candidate testing results. In 2024 the commission held ***twenty-four(24)*** special meetings in addition to our regular monthly meetings for a total of **36 meetings**.

**Candidate Testing:** This year the Commission is testing 76 non-lateral candidates from our eligibility list. So far, of those:

- We are at candidate number 39 out of 76 listed candidates.
- These candidates have completed the written exam and are listed in order. Of those, five(5) chose not to move forward with our testing process for various reasons.
- Five (5) candidates failed to show up for their scheduled oral interview.
- Sixteen (16) passed the oral interview test and moved onto the polygraph phase.
- Eight (8) passed the polygraph and moved onto the detective background phase.
- Five (5) passed the background phase and moved onto the psychological review.
- Three (3) passed the psychological review and moved onto the physical review.
- As of today's date, only one candidate out of thirty (39) candidates has passed our testing process and moved onto the Cook County Sheriff's Academy.

The commission is pleased with the number of eligible candidates. We along with other Commissions have seen a sharp decline in the number of candidates interested in working in the law enforcement field. Having 76 interested candidates is impressive.

**Lateral Eligibility List:** A lateral testing process was completed in mid-2024, with two candidates passed through to the police department for hiring and training. The department currently employs both candidates. A follow up testing for Lateral Hires was conducted in December of 2024 and continues into 2025.

**Sergeants Promotional Testing:** As required by law the commission created a new sergeants promotional eligibility list. This list remains in effect for three (3) years or until all names are used. The current eligibility list is:

- **Jeremy Durst**                      **93.95**
- **Kamil Broda**                      **84.52**
- **Johnathan Longini**              **81.47**
- **Allisa Mendez**                    **81.21**

The testing process includes a written exam, assessment center exercises, oral interviews by commission and an awarding of Chief's points (points determined by the chief of police based on the candidates work performance), then a list is created by individual scores.

**Commission's Liaison and FOIA Officer:** The Commission has appointed Patricia Mielcarski as our Commission's Liaison and Natalie Michalek as the Commission's FOIA Officer.

**Outside Inquiries:** The Commission responds to inquiries from outside agencies on candidates who may have taken our tests but are now testing with other agencies.

**Associations:** The Commission currently has a membership in the Illinois Board of Fire and Police Commissioner's Association. Commissioners attend various training and sessions offered by this association.

The Westmont Fire and Police Commission will continue to work tirelessly to support the Village of Westmont. Each of us takes great pride in our positions and are always available to members of the Village.

*Stella Qualizza*  
Chairperson

*Thomas Mulhearn*  
Secretary

*Brian Baldwin*  
Commissioner