

2024 ANNUAL REPORT



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CHIEF'S MESSAGE



On behalf of the Bismarck Police Department, I present our 2024 Annual Report. We welcome and encourage constructive feedback so that we can continue to improve this report and give our citizens the information they want to learn about their police department.

As I reviewed the 2024 Annual report, I learned personal crimes overall were down 4.02% and property crimes overall were down 4.92%.

It's nice to see personal crime is down compared to 2023 and it is also below the five-year average. We will be studying this to see what we can do to help this trend continue as well.

It's also nice to see that property crime is down compared to 2023 and that it is the lowest it has been in the last five years. We will be studying this as well to see what we can do to help this trend to continue.

Sir Robert Peel is considered the father of modern policing. Nearly 200 years ago he developed Nine Policing Principles. The nine principles are as important today as they were back then. Whether they realize it or not, the citizens of Bismarck practice principle seven very well. Principle seven states: *To maintain at all times a relationship with the public that gives reality to the historic tradition that the police are the public and that the public are the police, the police being only members of the public who are paid to give full-time attention to duties which are incumbent on every citizen in the interests of community welfare and existence.*

After several years of drug overdoses and overdose deaths nearly doubling before leveling off between 2021-2022, we saw a decrease in both in 2023 and 2024. Although this is good news and I hope this trend continues, we know there are many overdoses that are not reported to us mostly due to availability of Narcan to the public. This is also good but it is also dangerous for overdose victims to not seek treatment after overdosing on any substance.

As always, we are very grateful for the community support we receive. We will continue to work hard to earn your faith and trust.

Respectfully,

Dave Draovitch
Chief of Police



OUR MISSION

The mission of the Bismarck Police Department is to protect life and property, provide professional customer service and foster community partnerships to preserve Bismarck's exceptional quality of life.



OUR VISION

The Bismarck Police Department will be recognized as a premier law enforcement agency which provides exceptional customer service through professional, well trained, caring and innovative employees working in partnership with the community. We will foster an environment of honesty, trust, and mutual respect in which the Department and the community work together to resolve problems and promote public safety.

We will strive to provide progressive leadership at all levels with a dedicated service orientation. We will remain responsive to new ideas and provide opportunities for employees to develop to their highest potential.

We will fully explore and utilize emerging technology in order to maximize efficiency and effectiveness of our operations. We will strategically plan in order to anticipate enforcement challenges and prepare for the growth and expansion of our progressive community.

We will continue to build upon our success through open communications, forward thinking and willingness to embrace change.



2024 GOALS

PEER SUPPORT PROGRAMS

Continue to develop this program by identifying a Clinician, ensuring continual training and applying for grants.

HIRING

Maintain and improve, where possible, the efficiency of the hiring process.

RECRUITMENT

Improve overall effectiveness of recruitment efforts along with an emphasis on minority groups.

QUARTERLY TRAINING

All training will be to Department Standard but may be completed by/through the shifts/sections.

MANPOWER

Conduct an analysis of the impact of the new patrol structure.

INCREASE STAFF

Analysis the need for an increase in staff, specifically a full time IT employee.

ANALYSIS BASED POLICING

Evaluate the effectiveness of moving these positions to the investigations section.

SUCCESSION PLANNING

Seek training programs, identify positions at risk to retirement, implement OTJ training.

SPACE NEEDS STUDY

Continue requesting through the annual budget process.

DRONE PROGRAM

Continue to build the drone program and develop effective equipment.

COURT SCHEDULE EFFICIENCY

Research and coordinate with District Court to bring efficiencies into the scheduling.

POLICE TO CITIZEN (P2C)

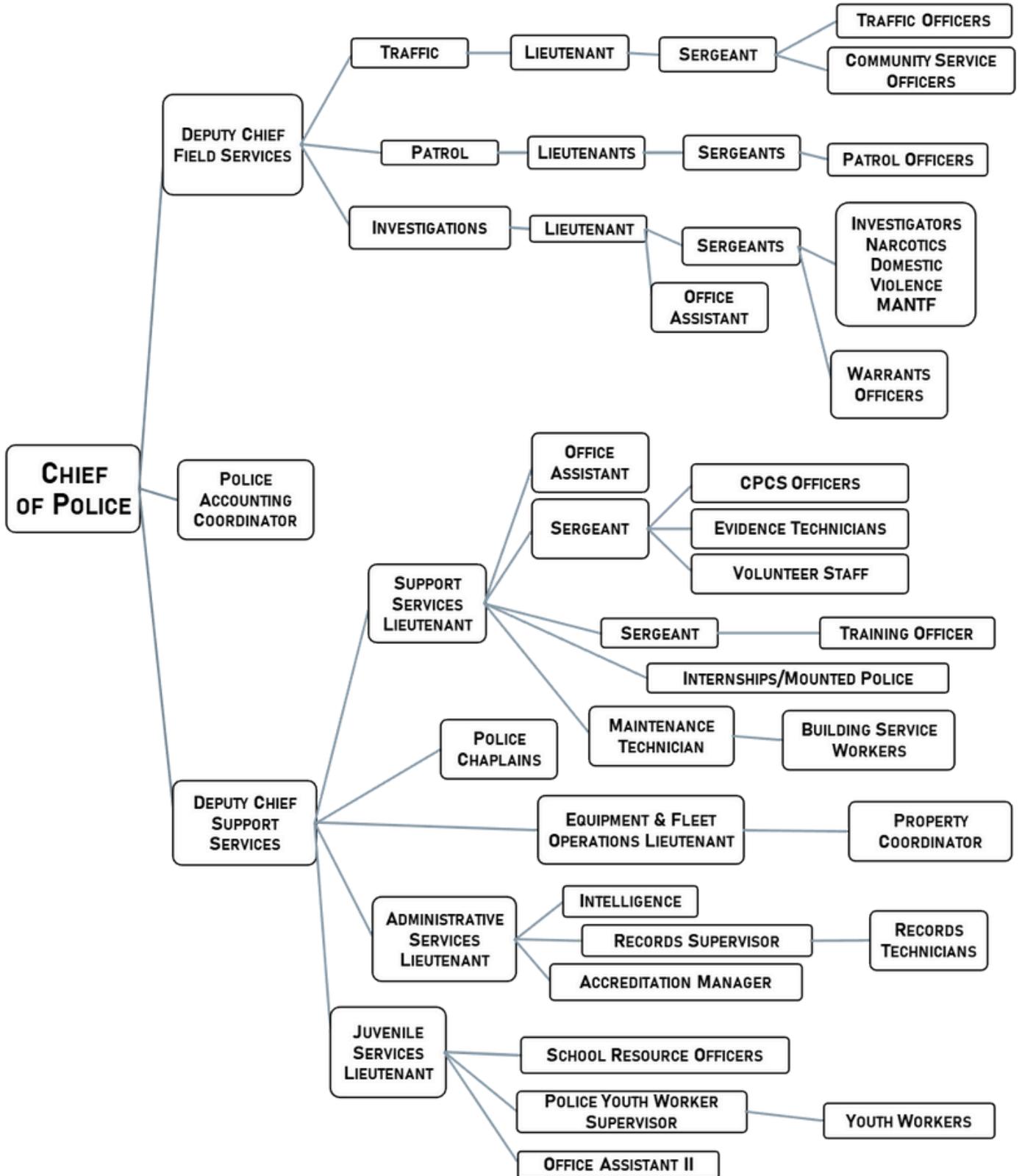
Complete the addition of this program to the RMS system. Identify efficiencies/inefficiencies.

ASSET MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

Implement program and adjust processes as necessary.



ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



FIELD SERVICES



DEPUTY CHIEF
Jason Stugelmeyer

- PATROL
- TRAFFIC
- ANIMAL CONTROL
- PARKING
- INVESTIGATIONS
- NARCOTICS
- GAMING
- SPECIAL OPERATIONS
- K-9 PROGRAM
- WARRANTS

The Field Services Division is comprised of many different sections of the police department. One Hundred Seventeen (117) out of the One Hundred Thirty-Six (136) sworn officers in the department are assigned to the Field Services Division.

SUPPORT SERVICES

DEPUTY CHIEF
Randy Ziegler



- RECORDS AND RECEPTION
- BUDGET
- ADMINISTRATIVE AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES
- GRANTS AND ACTIVITIES
- INTELLIGENCE LED POLICING
- TRAINING
- CRIME PREVENTION
- ACCREDITATION
- FACILITIES
- RECRUITMENT
- YOUTH SERVICES
- EVIDENCE
- MEDIA AND PUBLIC INFORMATION

The Support Services Division plays a very important role in the department and is mostly responsible for what happens behind the scenes at the Bismarck Police Department. All of these duties play a vital role to support and enable effective policing operations.

GROUP A CRIMES

Crimes Against Persons	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	%Change 2023-2024
Murder	0	2	6	2	1	-50.00%
Manslaughter	1	0	0	0	0	N/C
Sex Offenses	148	151	135	157	168	7.01%
Aggravated Assault	170	122	191	133	113	-15.04%
Simple Assault	868	792	736	735	696	-5.31%
Intimidation	165	40	112	151	141	-6.62%
Stalking ¹	28	22	11	10	21	110.00%
Kidnapping ²	19	3	1	3	2	-33.33%
Human Trafficking ³	6	3	0	2	3	50.00%
TOTAL	1,405	1,135	1,192	1,193	1,145	-4.02%

Group A offenses consist of the serious crimes against persons, generally felonies by statute; some crimes of vice include gambling, prostitution and drug offenses; and larcenies which also include fraud. The NIBRS reporting requirements for these offenses are much more extensive than for the offenses classified in Group B and Group C.

Crimes Against Property	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	%Change 2023-2024
Arson	12	4	1	3	4	33.33%
Burglary	334	302	294	170	190	11.76%
Counterfeit/Forgery	127	97	107	88	63	-28.41%
Fraud	315	328	287	266	189	-28.95%
Destruction/Damage/Vandalism	742	656	580	582	504	-13.40%
Possession of Stolen Property	73	52	55	46	34	-26.09%
Robbery	28	26	25	30	34	13.33%
Motor Vehicle Theft	192	83	204	201	144	-28.36%
Shoplifting	776	742	460	693	631	-8.95%
Theft	1194	1389	1173	1121	1161	3.57%
Drug/Narcotic Violation	776	1029	847	638	671	5.17%
Drug Paraphernalia/Equip	801	1014	564	673	664	-1.34%
Embezzlement	36	18	14	15	8	-46.67%
Pornography/Obscenity	39	53	32	23	26	13.04%
Prostitution	12	7	10	10	7	-30.00%
Weapon Law Violations	71	85	60	57	59	3.51%
TOTAL	5,528	5,885	4,713	4,616	4,389	-4.92%



GROUP B/C CRIMES

In the NIBRS coding, Group B offenses are generally misdemeanor offenses that usually become reported to the police when an arrest is made. The reporting requirements are considerably less stringent than those for Group A offenses, however, any arrests must be reported.

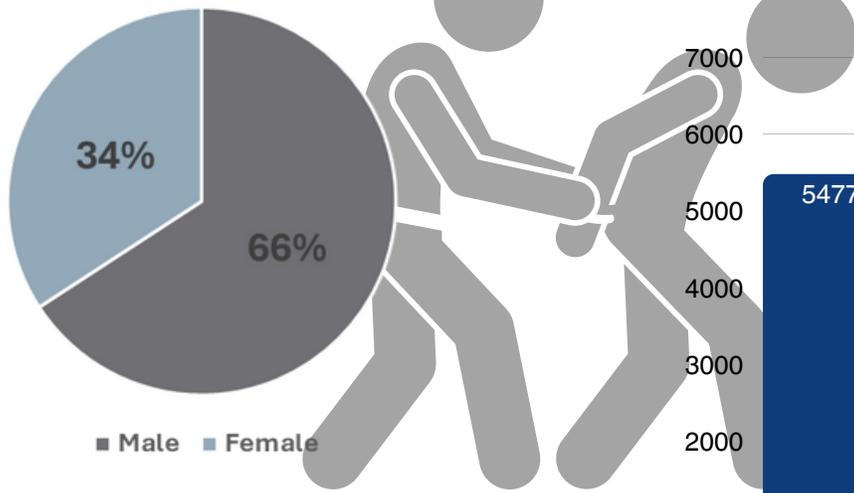
Group B Offenses	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	%Change 2023-2024
Bad Checks	5	5	0	2	2	0.00%
Family Non-Violent	139	44	186	151	137	-9.27%
DUI	335	354	414	363	369	1.65%
Liquor Laws	237	111	83	252	184	-26.98%
Drunkness (Detox)	208	152	170	132	149	12.88%
Disorderly Conduct	473	432	408	442	354	-19.91%
Peeping Tom	3	4	2	2	1	-50.00%
Trespassing	427	443	444	546	398	-27.11%
TOTAL	1,827	1,545	1,707	1,890	1,594	-15.66%

NIBRS uses the Group C category to collect those offenses in which Society may be the victim. These include offenses against the public order, health code violations and animal type situations.

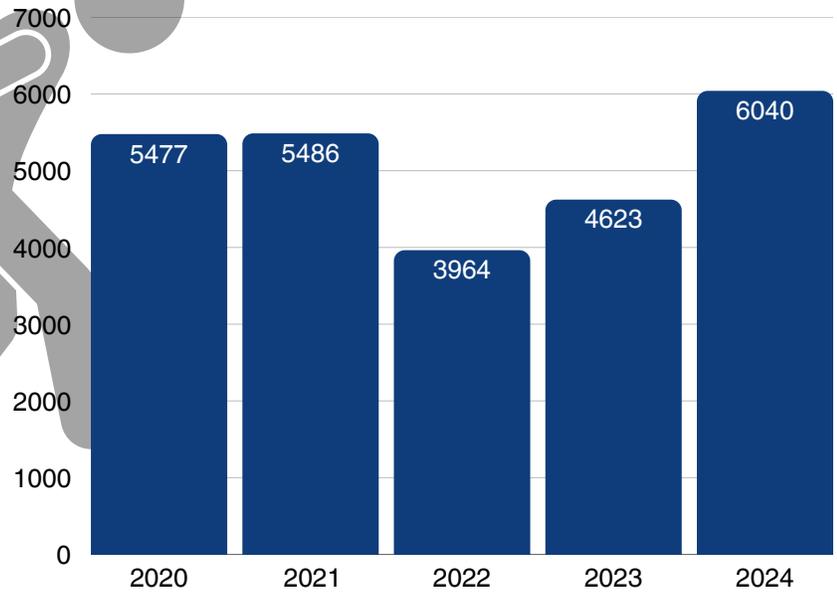
Group C Offenses	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	% Change 2023-2024
Missing Persons	78	73	70	76	67	-11.84%
Alarm Calls	2	3	4	4	3	-25.00%
Fire Calls	25	28	22	29	31	6.90%
Suicide	72	43	36	30	35	16.67%
Unattended Deaths	83	74	92	79	86	8.86%
Ambulance Requests	174	168	102	75	60	-20.00%
Overdoses	74	134	138	104	71	-31.73%
Mental Cases	73	73	49	43	20	-53.49%
Domestic Disputes	235	192	186	151	137	-9.27%
Animal Bites	33	36	50	62	70	12.90%
Animal Cruelty		12	16	7	3	-57.14%
Animal Call, Other	643	640	643	519	494	-4.82%
Other Warrant Reports	682	1106	1007	759	416	-45.19%
Other Public Peace	181	231	235	288	196	-31.94%
Vehicle Impounds	467	250	478	470	274	-41.70%
Civil Process/Notice to Quit	73	75	64	55	44	-20.00%
TOTAL	2895	3138	3192	2751	2007	-27.04%



ARRESTS



TOTAL ARRESTS



Offenses	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	% Change 2023-2024	% Change from 5-year Average
Aggravated Assault	86	95	75	74	59	-20.27%	-4.88%
Arson	3	-	0	1	3	200.00%	-28.57%
Burglary	37	32	40	52	26	-50.00%	39.04%
Counterfeit - Forgery	20	42	26	16	11	-31.25%	-30.43%
Criminal Mischief	81	104	79	76	72	-5.26%	-7.77%
Disorderly Conduct	136	190	135	149	113	-24.16%	3.04%
Drug Equip Violation	488	669	457	611	622	1.80%	7.31%
Drug Violation	546	760	507	670	741	10.60%	3.91%
DUI/APC	335	325	395	374	365	-2.41%	4.24%
Embezzlement	15	8	5	3	1	-66.67%	-53.13%
Sex Offenses	8	14	12	11	13	18.18%	-5.17%
Fraud	59	47	42	51	43	-15.69%	5.37%
Human Trafficking	-	-	0	0	0	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!
Intimidation	67	104	82	80	74	-7.50%	-1.72%
Kidnapping/Abduction	12	11	7	5	0	-100.00%	-28.57%
Liquor Law Violations	216	119	91	142	139	-2.11%	0.42%
Loud Party	2	2	1	1	0	-100.00%	-16.67%
Motor Vehicle Theft	34	28	17	16	21	31.25%	-31.03%
Murder/Non-Neg M/S	-	2	2	1	1	0.00%	-16.67%
Other Traffic	2,046	2,097	1,622	1,457	1,926	32.19%	-20.37%
Peeping Tom	1	-	0	1	0	-100.00%	150.00%
Porno/Obscene Materials	4	-	4	1	3	200.00%	-58.33%
Prostitution	3	1	1	1	0	-100.00%	-16.67%
Robbery	10	13	9	10	8	-20.00%	0.00%
Shoplifting	441	472	472	434	424	-2.30%	-3.25%
Simple Assault	349	361	254	239	213	-10.88%	-15.61%
Stalking	2	2	3	1	1	0.00%	-44.44%
Stolen Property	36	49	31	27	22	-18.52%	-18.18%
Theft Offenses	109	125	125	151	125	-17.22%	18.90%
Trespass	272	253	263	316	356	12.66%	8.22%
Weapon Laws	38	46	36	38	21	-44.74%	6.15%
Total Arrest Charges for Year	5,456	5,971	4,793	5,009	5,403	7.87%	1.80%



PATROL SECTION

The Bismarck Police Department's Patrol Section is committed to providing efficient and effective police services. We also strive to ensure open two-way communications between our Police Department and those we have sworn to Protect and to Serve. Our ability to maintain the public's trust and cooperation is the cornerstone of our success.



The uniformed members of the Patrol Section actively patrol and respond to calls for service throughout the city. The officers are responsible for proactive criminal and traffic enforcement, investigation of crimes, collaborative problem solving, and are primarily responsible for the majority of all arrests. Officers are geographically deployed during their shifts to specific areas of town, for a designated amount of time.

The Patrol Section is comprised of two shifts. Each shift is led by a Lieutenant, and the day to day supervision is conducted by Sergeants. The Patrol Section reports to the Deputy Chief of the Field Services Division.

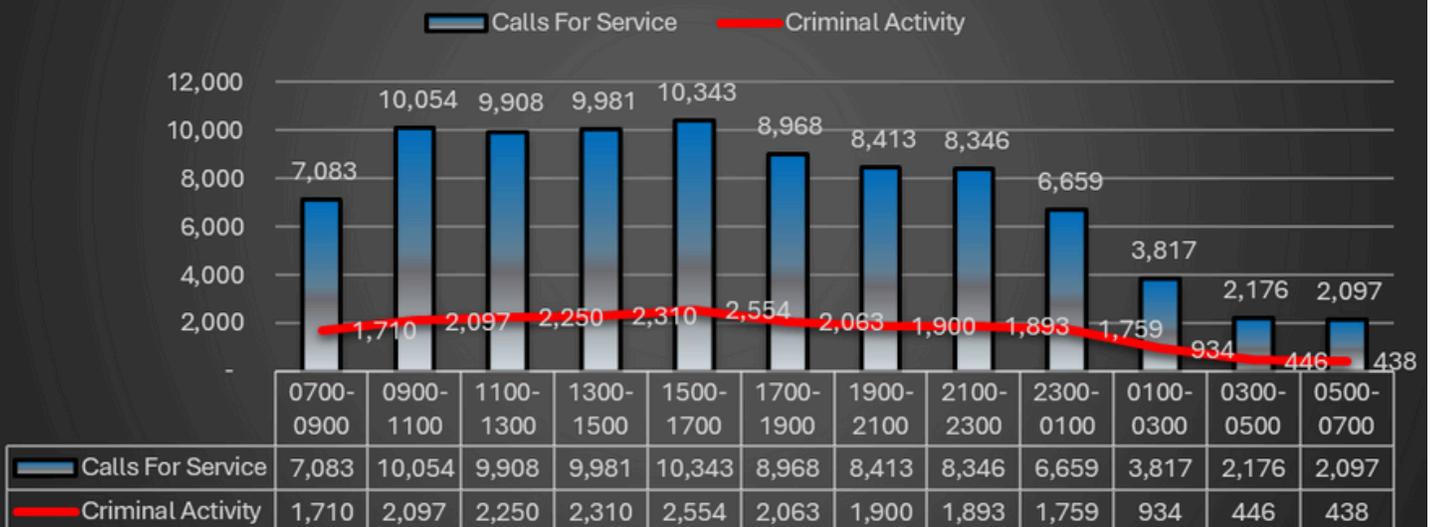


LT. LUKE GARDINER

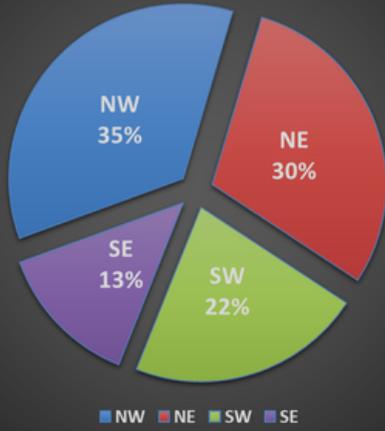


LT. CHAD FETZER

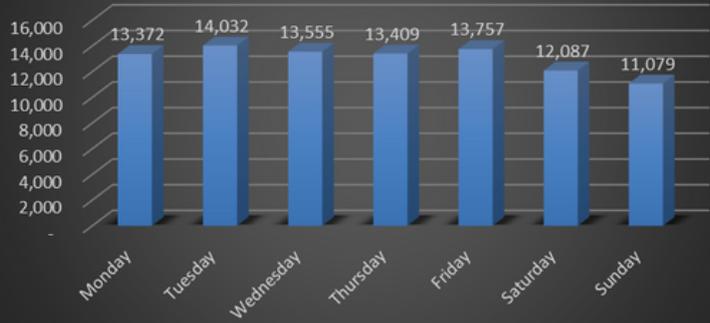
Total Calls for Service and Criminal Activity by Hour Block 2024



Calls for Service by Beat Area 2024



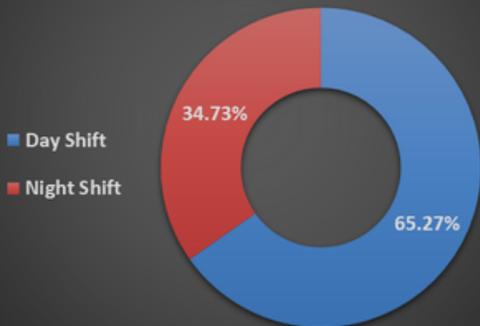
2024 Calls for Service by Day of Week



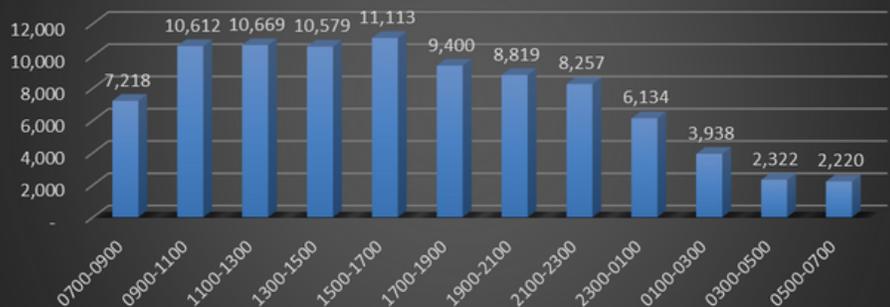
The Bismarck Police Department's Patrol Section, reporting to the deputy chief of the field Services division, is divided into two patrol shifts. Each patrol shift is led by a lieutenant. In addition to the lieutenants, each shift is assigned six sergeants and approximately thirty police officers. Our Patrol Section is responsible for initial police response, proactive criminal and traffic enforcement, with a focus on fighting crime, collaborative problem solving, community policing initiatives, building relationships within our community, and response to significant or emerging issues. The collaborative efforts between our patrol officers, and the other sections within the Department, as well as with our outside law enforcement, and community partners, have resulted in some excellent police work.



Criminal Activity Day vs. Night Shift 2024



2024 Calls for Service by Hour Block



TRAFFIC SECTION

LIEUTENANT
Jeff Solemsaas



The Traffic section has the primary responsibility of roadway safety and enforcement. The Traffic officers receive advanced training in collision investigation. They use the latest technology to assist in the investigation of traffic incidents including drones and GPS surveying equipment. There are three officers that are classified as accident reconstruction experts. The officers also conduct special enforcement in areas that we receive complaints about from the public. The section works closely with State and local departments to improve roadway safety.



Traffic Crashes by Severity	
Fatal	7
Incapacitiing Injury	25
Non-Incapaciting Injury	185
Possible Injury	214
Property Damage Only	2343
TOTAL	2774

Averages Per Day

53
Traffic Stops

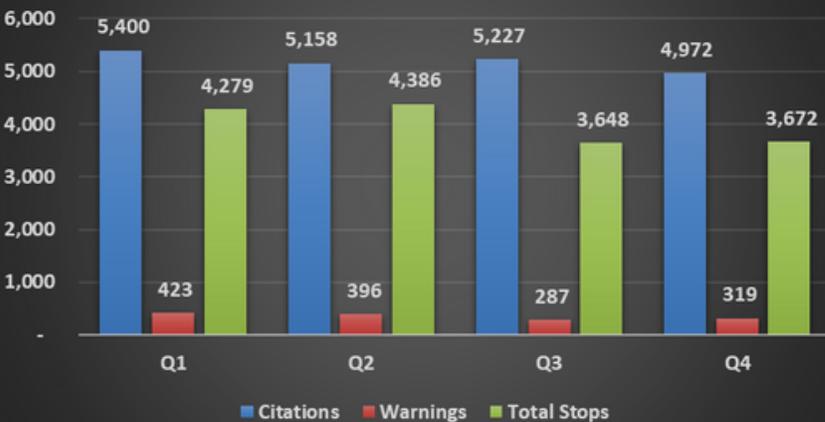


57
Citations Issued

4
Warnings Issued

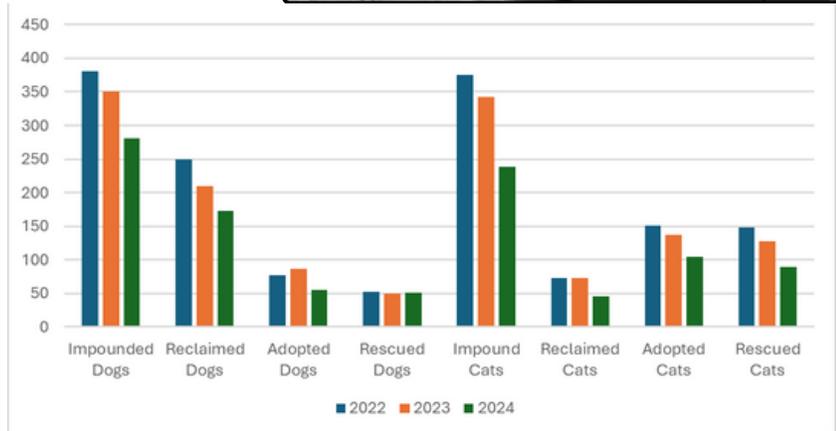
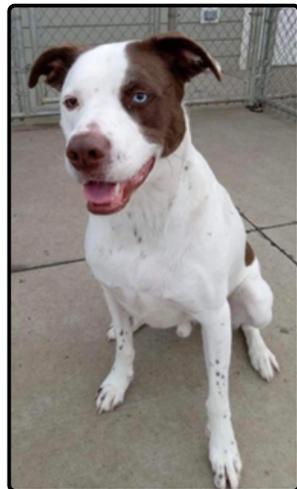


2024 Traffic Activity by Quarter



ANIMAL CONTROL/CSO

The Community Service officers have two primary functions: parking enforcement and animal control. The parking enforcement officers enforce parking regulations throughout the community and assist with traffic control. They also assist with the removal of abandoned vehicles. The animal control officers enforce the animal control ordinances and investigate animal neglect/ abuse complaints assisting the Investigations section with their experience and training. They are also responsible for the care and custody of impounded animals with the goal of returning them to the owners or locating either adoption possibilities.



INVESTIGATIONS

LIEUTENANT
Glen Ternes



The Criminal Investigation Section falls within the Field Services Division of the Bismarck Police Department. The section is comprised of the following: 1-Lieutenant, 3-Sergeants, 1-Office Assistant, 10-Investigators, 7- Narcotic Investigators, 1 Forensic Electronic Investigator/Sex Offender Compliance, 2- Warrants Officers, 1-Intel Analyst and 1-Intel Officer.

The detectives/officers assigned to the Investigation Section are responsible for conducting thorough investigations by interviewing victims, witnesses, suspects and processing crime scenes, preserving evidence, and completing case files for prosecution. The Investigation Section includes Personal Crimes, Property Crimes, Narcotic Crimes and the Warrants Division.

SEIZED



MARIJUANA
241 LBS



METHAMPHETAMINE
79.41 LBS



HEROIN
34 GRAMS



FENTANYL
64,507 PILLS



FIREARMS
43

10-Property/Personal Crime Investigators

- The section investigated approximately 110 property crimes in 2024. The property crimes range from Vandalism to Burglaries. Also included in property crimes are financial crimes & fraud cases.
- 441 personal crimes were investigated by the section in 2024. Personal crimes can range from simple assault to homicide. Also included in personal crimes are domestics, sex assaults, terrorizing, kidnapping, etc.

7-Narcotic Crimes Investigators

- The narcotic investigators are assigned to a local Drug Task Force (MANTF). There were approximately 111 drug related cases investigated by the section. This number does not reflect the cases investigated by MANTF or the numerous cases that investigators assist patrol with.

2-Warrants Officers

- The warrants officers' duties are court security, serving municipal warrants and subpoenas. They also assist the U.S. Marshals Task Force apprehending subjects with felony warrants. Our officers were involved in arresting 180 wanted individuals in 2024.

1-Forensic Electronic Investigator/Sex Offender Compliance

- Acts as a backup to the Warrants officers



POLICE YOUTH BUREAU

Established in 1975, the Bismarck Police Youth Bureau (PYB) has been a cornerstone of the community for nearly five decades. Its mission is to educate, support, and divert at-risk youth aged 10-17 from the juvenile justice system through referrals from schools, parents, law enforcement, and community partners. PYB emphasizes prevention, accountability, and skill development, helping youth make positive choices and fostering responsibility for their actions.

The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, the International Association of Chiefs of Police, and the Internal Law Enforcement Accreditation recognize PYB nationally as an Exemplary Police/Youth Program. PYB offers innovative services, including evidence-based education, individualized interventions, summer mentoring programs, and proactive community events like the Cops N Kids Fishing Derby.

LIEUTENANT
Steve Scheuer



SUPERVISOR
Luke McKay



Presentations: 227 with 10,916 attendees

Crisis Intervention Calls: 308

Juvenile Citations: 683

Juvenile Referrals: 153

Staffed by a dedicated team—including a Police Lieutenant serving as Director, a Youth Worker Supervisor, five Youth Workers, eight School Resource Officers (SROs), and an Office Assistant—PYB ensures a comprehensive approach to juvenile matters. Established in 2001, the SRO program is vital in building positive relationships with students, educators, and parents while maintaining a safe learning environment.

Through its evidence-based programs, certified by the National Curriculum and Training Institute, PYB has proven effective in reducing recidivism and fostering prosocial behaviors. The bureau also operates a 24/7 crisis intervention service to assist law enforcement with juvenile matters, offering immediate support and guidance.

Whether through early intervention, school presentations, parent referrals, or diversion programs, PYB remains committed to preventing juvenile involvement in the justice system and ensuring that youth receive the support and opportunities they need to thrive.



CRIME PREVENTION/ COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The Crime Prevention and Community Engagement Section in 2024 was staffed by Officer Clint Fuller and Officer Caitlin Horne. It is supervised by Sgt. Dustin Miller and overseen by Lt. Mike McMerty.

The Crime Prevention Section provides a number of services free to the public. Safety and Awareness presentations are available on a wide variety of topics. The presentations address community safety and crime prevention issues for our schools, homes, places of worship and workplaces with audiences ranging from pre-school to adults. Examples of these presentations are Bicycle Safety, Stranger Danger, Personal Safety, Workplace Violence/Active Shooter Awareness and Scams. The Crime Prevention section also administers the Business Watch program to provide a connection allowing information sharing between local businesses alerting them to current crime trends in the area that could affect them. We provide Public Service Announcements on various seasonal and recurring topics such as Vehicle Theft prevention, Halloween Safety and Winter driving tips. The section also provides security surveys for businesses, churches, and homeowners. These surveys are conducted by trained officers who will assess homes or workplaces for safety and security deficiencies. They will provide suggestions on how to improve safety and security on your properties and for those who work or live there.



The focus of our Community Engagement endeavors is fostering a positive relationship and connecting us with all members of the community. We work to build trust and partnerships with the community by ensuring integrity and transparency in all we do. Our programs, such as the Citizen Police Academy, the Community Picnic, Bike with the Blue, and Coffee with a Cop, are meant to provide education and understanding of our roles and responsibilities in and as members of the community. We also partner with multiple organizations in events such as Brave the Shave for Childhood Cancer, Vitalant for the local blood drive, Sky Zone for Hop with a Cop, Bismarck Public Schools Summer Lunch Program, and Holiday Trunk or Treats and Santa at the Station events. These provide a conduit for the community to learn about us while we, at the same time, learn about the needs and perceptions of the public we serve.



ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

LIEUTENANT
Roger Marks III



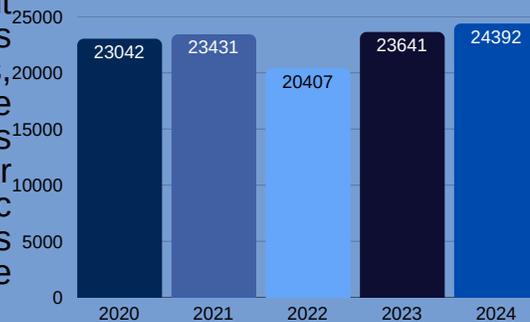
Lt. Marks III oversees various essential administrative functions of the Bismarck Police Department including Records and Reception, Accreditation and Recruiting.

RECORDS AND RECEPTION

ADMINISTRATOR
Sarah VanBerkum



Case Numbers Assigned
2020-2024



The records section serves as the central repository for all incidents, accidents and all other associated documents generated by Bismarck Police Department officers. It is comprised of a civilian supervisor and seven records/reception staff. Reception deals with all incoming calls, walk in traffic and all other requests. These records allow department employees and other governmental agencies access to critical information for investigators, officers, administrators, prosecutors and the public. The records section completes background checks for gaming, taxi, and door to door permits, liquor licenses, and the public or other agencies. This section also updates the sex offender information when the offender comes in to register.

MANAGER
Amanda Gallagher



ACCREDITATION

The Bismarck Police Department participates in a national accreditation process through the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA), which is thought to be the Gold Standard in Public Safety. Accreditation embodies the precepts of community-oriented policing. It creates a forum in which law enforcement agencies and citizens work together to prevent and control challenges confronting law enforcement and provides clear direction about community expectations.

BPD has been accredited since 1991 and we are currently in our 11th accreditation cycle and participating in the advanced law enforcement accreditation process.

CALEA reviews standards annually and we currently have a portal available for concerns that are also reviewed.

The next on-site process will occur in June 2025





FLEET & EQUIPMENT

LIEUTENANT
Cody Trom



The Bismarck Police Department fleet vehicles are assigned and categorized into the following seven sections; Patrol, Traffic, Investigations, Police Youth Bureau (PYB), Administration, Airport, and Special Operations. The following is a detailed breakdown of the fleet assignments within the Bismarck Police Department:

Patrol - 29 marked patrol vehicles

Traffic – Nine vehicles consisting of five marked patrol vehicles, two Parking Enforcement vehicles, and two Animal Control vehicles.

Investigations - 20 vehicles, eight of which are assigned to the Metro Area Narcotics Task force

Airport – One marked vehicle. All maintenance and equipment needs are funded by the Bismarck Airport

Police Youth Bureau (PYB)/School Resource Officer (SRO) – 11 vehicles consisting of eight marked patrol vehicles, one unmarked administrative vehicle, and two vans

Administration – Eight vehicles assigned to Administration, Crime Prevention, Maintenance, Fleet, and Training.

Special Operations – Nine specialized vehicles allocated to the Special Operations Divisions of the West Dakota SWAT Team, Bomb Squad, and Hostage Negotiation Team.

ATV's (All Terrain Vehicles) - Two 2011 Polaris Rangers.

Decommissioned: In 2023 there were (17) vehicles decommissioned through the auction process, transferred to other departments, lease returns, or replaced due to motor vehicle crash loss. All funds generated from the sale of police vehicles, unless originally purchased from the Drug Asset Forfeiture Fund, goes to the city general fund.

29

MARKED PATROL
VEHICLES



9

SPECIAL OPERATIONS
VEHICLES



20

INVESTIGATION
VEHICLES



EVIDENCE



Under the supervision of Lt. Mike McMerty and Sgt. Dustin Miller, Evidence Technicians Amber Hanohano and Brittney Rambousek are tasked with maintaining the evidentiary chain of custody and integrity of evidence and property. Evidence Technician duties routinely include receiving, recording, accounting for, storing, and releasing of evidence, as well as found and abandoned property. Additional responsibilities entail the Annual Auction, Citizen Academy presentation, and bulk drug disposal preparation.

The total Intake for 2024 was 7,793.

Notable items include:

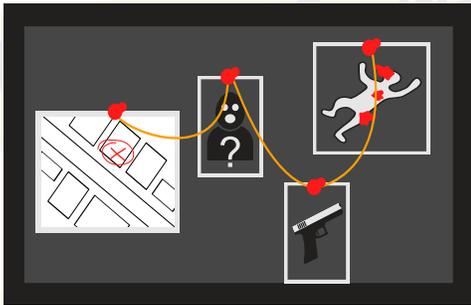
Firearms 163

Drugs 1,325

Drug Paraphernalia 2,144

Vehicles 54

Safekeeping Bag/Luggage/Backpack 360



MAINTENANCE/FACILITES

The Facility Maintenance Section is under the Support Services Division of the Bismarck Police Department. The Maintenance staff is comprised of one Police Maintenance Supervisor, and two Building Service Workers. The staff is responsible for the preventive maintenance, minor construction projects, reorganization, snow and lawn care, and general cleaning/upkeep of the six (6) Bismarck Police Department Facilities.



SPECIAL OPERATIONS

West Dakota SWAT

The West Dakota SWAT Team (WDST) is a multi-agency team comprised of law enforcement officers from the Bismarck Police Department, Mandan Police Department, Burleigh County Sheriff's Department and Morton County Sheriff's Office.

All members of the WDST have primary assignments within their respective agencies and are on-call 365 days a year. The WDST responds to critical incidents within the south-central area of the State including Burleigh, Morton, Grant, Emmons, McIntosh, Logan, Kidder, McLean, Wells and Sheridan counties. The WDST utilizes a variety of specialized vehicles, technology, equipment, and tactics with the ultimate goal of resolving all critical incidents with no loss of life or injury to victims, suspects, or officers.

The WDST operates under the control of and reports to an executive board which is comprised of Police Chiefs and Sheriff's from each participating agency. The executive board meets semi-annually to review team activations, training, personnel, equipment, and budget items.

With 32 tactical operators, a tactical medic and 11 negotiators, the WDST is capable of responding to and resolving a variety of critical incidents to include hostage rescue, barricaded subjects, high risk warrant services, high risk suspect apprehensions, dignitary protection and terrorism incidents.

The WDST consists of a Commander, Assistant Commanders, Team Leaders, Assistant Team Leaders, Tactical Operators, Negotiators, Medics, and Marksman. In addition, the WDST is supported by the Bismarck Police Department Bomb Squad, Bismarck Police Department Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) Team and K9 officers who provide additional specialized skill sets and capabilities.



LIEUTENANT
Noah Lindelow



Bomb Team



The Bismarck Police Department Bomb Team is comprised of officers from the Bismarck Police Department who have received specialized training through the Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI). The team is fully accredited and recognized by the FBI as an explosive ordinance team that can respond to statewide incidents that require the neutralization, detection or disposal of explosive devices. The team consists of a Commander and five technicians who utilize specialized vehicles, technology and equipment to fulfill their mission.

Mobile Field Forces

The Bismarck Police Department Mobile Field Force Team (MFF) is comprised of officers from the Bismarck Police Department who have received specialized training in civil disturbance response and crowd control. The MFF Team is comprised of a Commander and 30 officers who utilize a variety of crowd control tactics, equipment and technology to promote the safe resolution of civil disturbances.



Airport Officers

The Bismarck Police Department has partnered with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and Transportation Security Administration (TSA) to provide 24-hour on-site law enforcement support at the Bismarck Airport Terminal. Bismarck Police Department officers provide specialized law enforcement capabilities and assist airline carriers, airport administration, on-site security officers and TSA personnel in providing a safe and secure airport terminal to all community members and travelers.



UAS Team



The Bismarck Police Department Unmanned Aircraft Systems Team is comprised of officers from the Bismarck Police Department who have received specialized training to pilot unmanned aircraft systems (drones). The UAS Team assists all sections of the Bismarck Police Department (patrol, traffic, investigative, etc.) and deploys with specialized teams (WDST, CNT, Bomb) during critical incidents. The team is comprised of a Commander and six pilots who utilize a variety of drones and supporting technology to fulfill their mission.



K9 PROGRAM

OFFICER BENKE & K9 MESA



- 170 Deployments
- Narcotics Certifications
 - USPCA
 - NPCA
- Patrol Certifications
 - NPCA



OFFICER ZABEL & K9 ECHO



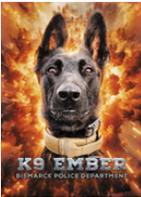
- 125 Deployments
- Narcotics Certifications
 - USPCA
 - NPCA
- Patrol Certifications
 - NPCA



OFFICER NORDICK & K9 EMER



- 125 Deployments
- Narcotics Certifications
 - USPCA
 - NPCA
- Patrol Certifications
 - NPCA



SERGEANT JONES & K9 TITAN



- 97 Deployments
- Narcotics Certifications
 - USPCA
 - NPCA
- Patrol Certifications
 - NPCA



SERGEANT SALANDER & K9 DRAX

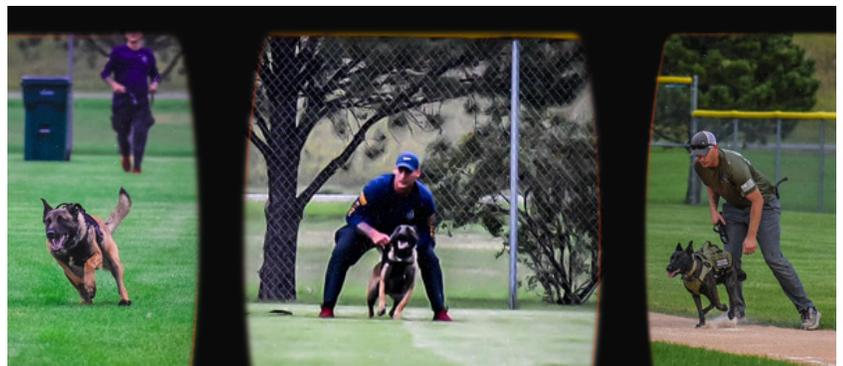


- 56 Deployments
- Narcotics Certifications
 - NPCA
- Patrol Certifications
 - NPCA



The K9 Unit consists of five dual-purpose K9s, and their respective handlers. The five K9s are Patrol, and Narcotics certified. The K9 teams are utilized throughout the city as a force multiplier in assisting officers with various tasks. The K9s are routinely used for deployments related to drug detection, tracking suspects, searching buildings, locating evidence, and suspect apprehension.

In 2024, the K9 unit had 574 deployments. The unit also values public demonstrations and working with the department's School Resource Officers to assist with school searches to aid in deterring drug usage within the schools.



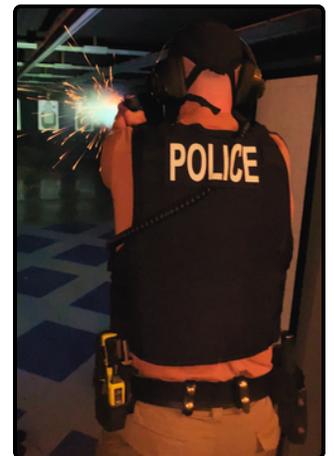
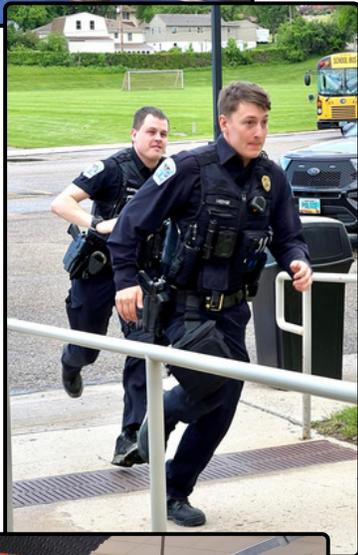
TRAINING

The section is supervised by Sgt. Wardzinski and overseen by Lt. McMerty. Officer Dave Johnson is the training officer and he and Sgt. Wardzinski are responsible for the training and professional development of the officers. They are committed to providing the officers with the very best training opportunities available in order they can perform their duties in the safest and efficient manner while providing the very best service to the public.

The training ranged from basic recruit training topics to advanced topics such as, Finding Missing Children, Child Homicide, Body Farm, Emergency Vehicle Operations, FBI National Academy, Investigation of Motorcycle Crashes, Criminal & Advanced Interview & Interrogation, and Law Enforcement Administrative Support.

The State of North Dakota requires that each sworn officer must receive a minimum of 60 hours of training every three years to maintain their law enforcement certification. The Bismarck Police Department's officers averaged approximately 98 hours training each for 2024 alone. The total number of training hours received by our officers in 2024 was over 13,086 hours. Our department's civilian staff averaged approximately 11 hours of training each for 2024. The total number of training hours received by our civilian staff in 2024 was over 347 hours.

The department's Training Section was also responsible for the training of sixteen new recruit officers. Additionally, it was responsible for the coordination of specialized training for departmental personnel and for ensuring that all sworn personnel met ND POST, Bismarck Police Department, and CALEA annual in-service training requirements.



2024 AWARDS

CITIZEN AWARDS

Meritorious Citizen Award
Marco Parada

Certificate of Appreciation
Jason Thornton

DEPARTMENT AWARDS

LIFE SAVING AWARD

Officer Tyler Mahowald
Officer Richard Jensen
Officer Dustin Moore
Officer Alex Weiland
Officer Jazmine Hayden
Officer Tom Grosz

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

Sergeant Dustin Miller
Detective Ryan Guggenberger
Detective Taylor Roman
Officer Andrea Benitez

MERITORIOUS SERVICE AWARD

Officer Lane Burghart

RED RIBBON AWARD

Officer Tristan Tokach

SWORN EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR NOMINEES

Detective Ryan Guggenberger
Officer Bryce Klein
Officer Michael Paulson
Officer Justin Antonovich
Officer Chris Zabel
Officer Tyler Mahoney

CIVILIAN EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR NOMINEES

Travis Rau

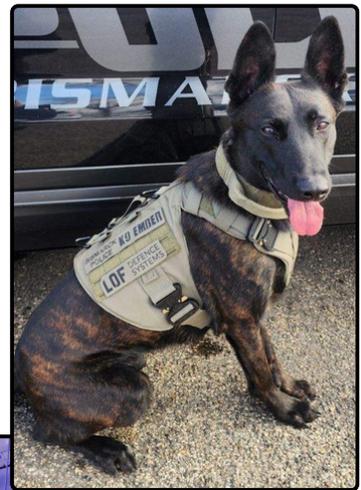
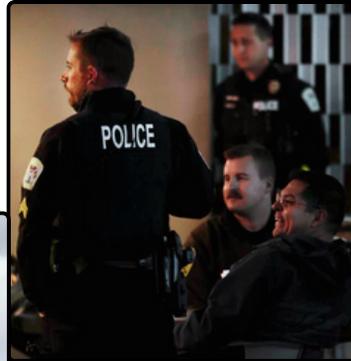


Sworn Employee of the Year
Det. Ryan Guggenberger



Civilian Employee of the Year
Travis Rau

2024 SNAPSHOTS



RECRUITMENT



CHOOSE A CAREER THAT MAKES A DIFFERENCE

SALARY RANGE: \$61,284.31-\$96,580.24

Minimum Qualifications:

1. 18 years of age
2. Valid driver's license
3. You have either:
 - An Associate Degree or 60 credit hours OR
 - Minimum of four years Full Time Active Duty or four years Full Time National Guard OR
 - Three years of full-time sworn law enforcement experience
4. Possess a background suitable for law enforcement
5. Possess good verbal and written skills
6. Possess good personal interaction skills
7. Must be a citizen of the United States or in resident alien status

BENEFITS

- **FULLY PAID SINGLE/FAMILY MEDICAL INSURANCE**
- PAID VACATION, SICK LEAVE AND HOLIDAY PAY
- STRONG PENSION PLAN
- UNIFORMS AND EQUIPMENT PROVIDED
- SPECIALITY AND ROTATIONAL ASSIGNMENTS
- OVERTIME OPPORTUNITIES
- TUITION ASSISTANCE
- YEAR ROUND TRAINING PROVIDED
- **AND MANY MORE!**

Contact: Lt. Roger Marks III
(701) 223-1212 x1865
rmarks@bismarcknd.gov

NOW HIRING

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