

THE BLUE LINE

2018 AURORA POLICE DEPARTMENT ANNUAL REPORT

18

A YEAR'S REVIEW OF
CRIME, ENGAGEMENT,
TRAINING AND MORE!



Honor Guard Firing Squad

From left to right: Michael Dieser, Aaron Jones, James Zegar, Anthony Piscopo, Laura Kolanowski & Irene Carollo // July 2018



Aurora Police Department

THE BLUE LINE
2018 ANNUAL REPORT

Kristen Ziman
Chief of Police

Keefe Jackson
Deputy Chief

Commander Jack Fichtel
Bureau of Investigations

Commander Mike Doerzaph
Bureau of Support Services

Commander Keith Cross
Bureau of Neighborhood Policing

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Public Information Officer Team
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Aurora, Illinois 60504

CITY OF AURORA
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Aurora, Illinois 60507

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FIRST WORD

A Letter from the Chief

*IT ISN'T ENOUGH TO
HAVE TOOLS AND SKILLS
WITHOUT RELATIONSHIPS.*

Police Chief Kristen Ziman

New Year, New Ambitions

In 2018, the men and women of the Aurora Police Department continued the pursuit of our goals of reducing violent crime and increasing community engagement. I'm happy to report that we continue to see a steady decrease in violent crime in our city.

The overarching goal is to have a community where our citizens, business owners and visitors feel safe. Public safety is the very thing that drives the success of a city. The Aurora Police Department is committed to that goal and we dedicate training and resources to ensure that we have the best technology and operations to combat crime.

In 2018, we added three drones and a team of operators to our fleet to deploy to missing persons, water rescues, search warrants and crime scenes. The drones will save on time and manpower and can go where humans cannot. In addition, we launched a state-of-the-art fusion center. The Critical Incident Intel Center houses two detectives and a crime analyst whose function will be to thwart crime through data-mining and deconfliction. As a department, we are committed to being innovative and progressive in the way we fight crime.

This is why our secondary goal is community engagement. The officers were challenged to

develop relationships in their assigned districts and to build those relationships in times of peace. It has been proven that when a citizen knows the officer patrolling their neighborhood by name, they feel safer and are more likely to report crimes and information. But it's more than that. It's important to me that our officers be given permission to bring their authentic personality to their work. When they are able to tap into their own skills and talents to problem-solve for our citizens, it brings gratification. And we have all come to realize that an officer's greatest strength is applying compassion and empathy — even while enforcing the law. Our community is strong and it's because of our officers, professional staff and our citizens who have joined together to become "One Aurora."

This annual report outlines the progress we've made and guides our journey forward. We had a great year and we will continue to celebrate our successes and confront our challenges so we can become even better. My commitment to the men and women of the Aurora Police Department and to the citizens of Aurora is unwavering and I'm proud to serve all of you.



Kristen Ziman
Aurora Chief of Police

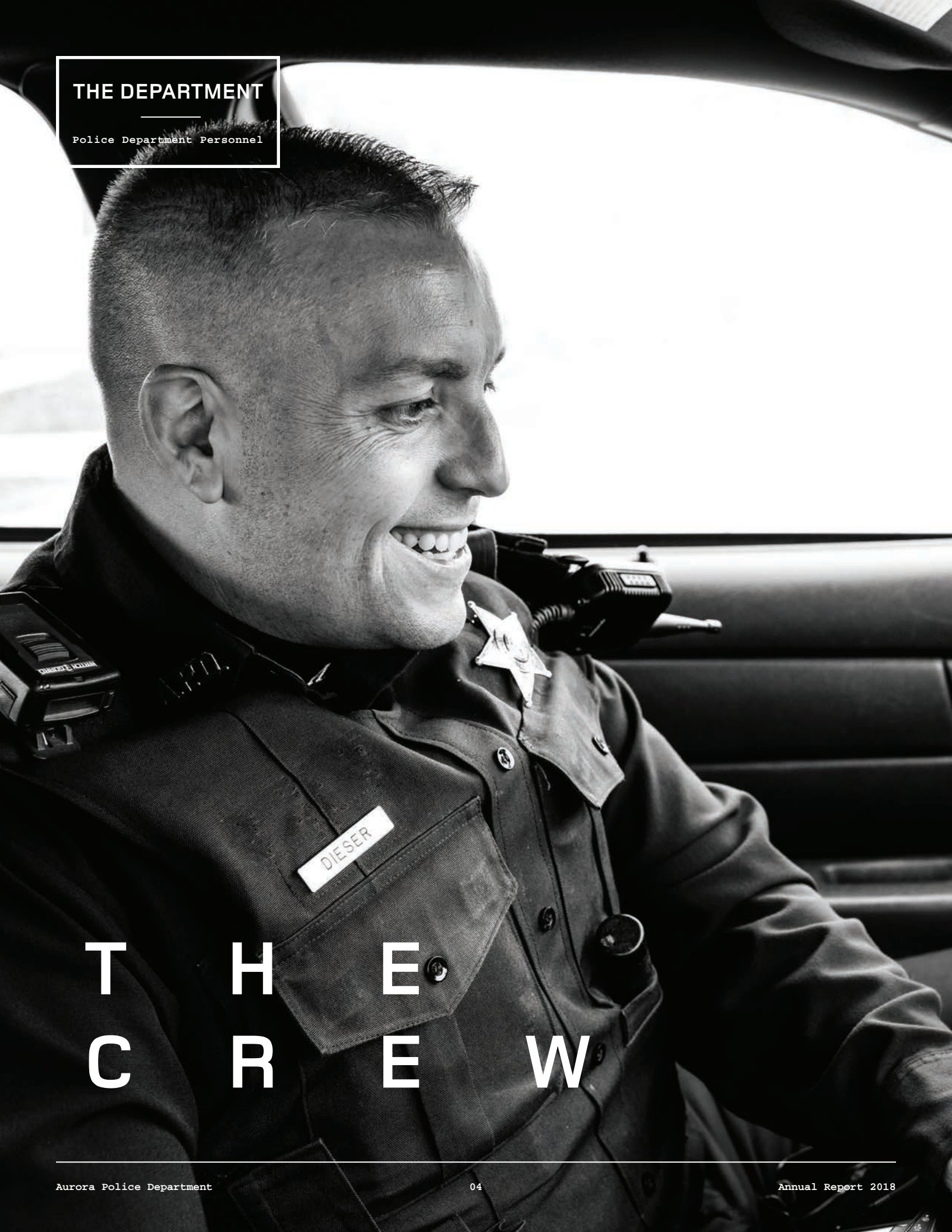


Employee Ceremony

January 2019

THE DEPARTMENT

Police Department Personnel



**T H E
C R E W**

Officer Michael Dieser Typing on His
Car Computer // April 2017

A Look at Our Staff

The leadership philosophy of the Aurora Police Department could be summed up in one word: empowerment. We embrace empowerment within the organization by pushing decision making down to the lowest levels. We encourage our employees to be decision makers by removing the barriers for exploring new and better ways to accomplish our mission. Employees at all levels are solicited to be part of the core team when exploring new equipment, best practices, training and technology. Do you know what a good idea looks like? Well neither do we; however, we know what a good idea sounds like and we hear many of them when employees approach a supervisor with an idea. Those ideas are often vetted and presented to the command staff and barring any operational or financial barriers, implemented for evaluation. We recognize that the future leaders of this agency are imbedded in all divisions and ranks of the department. The time to prepare them for those leadership positions is now.

11 RECORDS PERSONNEL	1 CHIEF
21 911 OPERATORS	1 DEPUTY CHIEF
16 DETENTION PERSONNEL	3 COMMANDERS
21 OTHER PROFESSIONAL STAFF	10 LIEUTENANTS
	39 SERGEANTS
	241 PATROL OFFICERS

KRISTEN ZIMAN
Chief of Police

KEEFE JACKSON
Deputy Chief

Commander Mike Doerzaph
Bureau of Support Services

Lieutenant Scott Brosi
Central Services

Lieutenant Dan Eppard
Office of Professional Standards

Lieutenant Bill Hull
Administrative Services

Civilian Telecom Director
Jacqueline Hobday

Commander Keith Cross
Bureau of Neighborhood Policing

Lieutenant Jeff Wiencek
Day Shift Watch

Lieutenant Steve Stemmet
Night Shift Watch

Lieutenant Matt Thomas
Area 1

Lieutenant Rickey Ahlgren
Area 2

Lieutenant Mike Abbs
Area 3

Commander Jack Fichtel
Bureau of Investigations

Lieutenant Joe Weber
Investigations

Lieutenant Rick Robertson
Special Operations Group

HOW WE ROLL

A Look at Our Vehicles

What Drives Us

Currently we have a total of 163 police vehicles in our inventory; these vehicles include both marked and unmarked cars as well as specialty vehicles (Mobile Command Post, SRT, Training and Traffic Trailers). This number also includes both vehicles used by the Honor Guard (H2 Hummer and 59 Chevy Bel Air)

While the majority of our fleet consists of Ford Explorers (Police Utility's) we still have 32 Ford Crown Victoria's in service. Our goal in the next couple of years is to convert our fleet to all Police Utility Vehicles (SUV's) as well as equipping them uniformly.

Looking Into the Future of our Fleet

Starting in 2019, Ford is changing the body material to all aluminum. While there is an increase in price for the all-aluminum body, we hope to see a cost savings in fuel consumption; given the lighter vehicle weight.

Looking at 2020, we are looking to add Ford F-150 Police Responder pickup trucks to our fleet. These trucks would be utilized for specialized usage since they have the ability to carry heavier payloads and are set up to tow equipment transport trailers.

We currently utilize two Segway, SE 3 Patrollers that we use for special events. We are in the process of purchasing two additional Segway, SE 3 Patrollers by spring of 2019. Additionally, we plan on purchasing two Kubota Utility Vehicles for special events.

13
ADMINISTRATIVE
VEHICLES

11
COP
VEHICLES

21
INVESTIGATIVE
VEHICLES

3
EVIDENCE
VEHICLES

11
SOG
VEHICLES

3
SRT
VEHICLES

7
TRAFFIC
VEHICLES

2
CADET
CARS

63
PATROL
CARS

7
TRANSPORT
VANS

5
K-9
CARS

15
SUPERVISOR
CARS

2
HONOR GUARD
VEHICLES



Lieutenant Matthew Thomas (on Segway)
& Police Chief Kristen Ziman // July 2018

ON THE MOVE

A Look at Our Pursuits

V E H I C L E P U R S U I T S

The Aurora Police Department policy regulating vehicle pursuits (Policy 307) was crafted to guide officers in balancing the safety of the public and themselves against law enforcement's duty to apprehend violators of the law. Our policy is continually reviewed in response to legislation, case law, and evolving best practices. Daily, scenario-based trainings (Daily Training Bulletins) are provided to give our officers context and bring policy to "life".

Deciding whether to pursue a motor vehicle is a critical decision that must be made quickly and under difficult and unpredictable circumstances. Our officers must quickly weigh myriad factors, balancing the importance of protecting the public against the known or reasonably suspected offense and the apparent need for immediate capture against the risks to officer, innocent motorists and others.

Officers rarely engage in vehicle pursuits when compared to the total number of traffic stops initiated. Of the 23,650 traffic stops made in 2018, only 53 resulted in a vehicle pursuit.

On the Way Home

K9 Officer Mark Carey with K9 Beny // January 2018

53
VEHICLE
PURSUITS

79%
NO OFFICER
INJURIES

2%
NO ENTRY
PURSUITS

27%
OTHER
PURSUITS

2%
SUSPECTED
DUI PURSUITS

76
OFFICERS
INVOLVED

64%
NO CITIZEN
INJURIES

62%
MINOR TRAFFIC
VIOLATIONS

2%
RECKLESS DRIVING
PURSUITS

6%
STOLEN VEHICLE
PURSUITS

CALL STATS

Telecommunications Log

9-1-1, how may I help you?

The Telecommunications Division has an authorized staffing of 33 telecommunications operators, 3 supervisors and a manager across three shifts. The Telecommunications Center is a multi-discipline (911/police/fire/EMS) environment, providing emergency and non-emergency communications for the City of Aurora Police Department, the City of Aurora Fire Department and the Village of North Aurora Police Department.

The Telecommunications Center provides services to a population of over 220,000 within the jurisdictions we serve, and our personnel handle over 260,000 emergency and non-emergency phone calls per year; an average of 210,000 police and fire incidents annually.

The Telecommunications Division receives calls from those in need of assistance from police, fire or EMS responders. Once information is obtained from the caller, telecommunicators send the proper assistance to the location of the call. Additionally, telecommunicators are certified Emergency Medical Dispatchers (EMD). Using preapproved medical protocols, the telecommunicator can give medical assistance to a caller.

Telecommunicators use a Computer Aided Dispatch system (CAD) and an interoperable, modern radio system. The CAD system provides entry, tracking and the recording of calls for services. The radio system provides a reliable means of communicating between emergency services. Both aid in selecting the closest emergency vehicle in the vicinity to the emergency.



EMERGENCY STATS

87,188

TOTAL
911 CALLS

160,301

TOTAL
CISCO CALLS

187,093

TOTAL
CAD CALLS

NON-EMERGENCY STATS

41

TOTAL
AVAILABLE
LINES

147,491

TOTAL CALL
DURATION
IN MINUTES

498

AVERAGE
CALL DURATION
IN SECONDS

A Dispatcher at Her Work
Station // February 2017

TRAINING

How We Improve Your Safety

Bettering Ourselves

The Aurora Police Department has a strong commitment to ensuring officers are properly trained to protect the citizens of Aurora and themselves. We believe that proper and frequent training leads to a safer community, better decision making and reduced liability.

The Aurora Police Department conducts at least six mandatory training sessions per year for all officers. The topics generally include legal updates, use of force issues, tactical training, civil rights and constitutional issues and other current issues in law enforcement.

On top of those sessions, officers attend quarterly firearms training to include yearly qualifications in both handguns and rifles.



Officer Training in Riot Gear // February 2017

MPS Net Dispatcher

Provided training on the new Computer Aided Dispatch system.

Civil Rights-Risk Management

A legal expert taught officers about recent court decisions, including search and seizure as well as use of force issues.

Rescue Task Force & CPR

Officers updated their CPR certifications with the Aurora Fire Department. They then received training in working with the Fire Department in response to active shooter situations.

Response to Active Shooter

Officers attended a presentation by a renowned professor on actual active shooter situations.

Rescue Task Force "Part 2"

Officers participated in scenario training with the Fire Department to reinforce concepts that were taught at previous sessions throughout the year.

Defensive Tactics-Choke Awareness

Officers were trained in the use of chokes in deadly force situations and how to defend against them.

SOCIAL MEDIA

How We All Stay Connected

22% INCREASE IN LIKES

JANUARY 1, 2018: 33,423
DECEMBER 31, 2018: 40,610

24,457,312 TOTAL IMPRESSIONS

THE NUMBER OF TIMES OUR PAGE'S POSTS ENTERED A PERSON'S SCREEN. POSTS INCLUDE STATUSES, PHOTOS, LINKS, VIDEOS AND MORE.

9,458,500 PAGE REACH

THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE WHO HAD ANY CONTENT FROM OUR PAGE OR ABOUT OUR PAGE ENTER THEIR SCREEN. THIS INCLUDES POSTS, CHECK-INS AND SOCIAL INFORMATION FROM PEOPLE WHO INTERACTED WITH OUR PAGE.

2,094,525 ENGAGED USERS

THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE WHO ENGAGED WITH OUR PAGE'S POSTS THROUGH CLICKS, COMMENTS OR LIKES.

Connecting directly with the community has never been more important for police departments. In today's social media world, Aurora families are getting information about things happening in their neighborhoods through a variety of different social media platforms and quicker than ever before. In 2018, the Aurora Police Department placed a significant emphasis on social media and created a robust and interactive outreach on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Nextdoor, and on the Neighbors app. The use of a variety of different platforms allows us to communicate information to the citizens of Aurora on the platforms that they use most, and most importantly, interact with them.

STAYING IN THE Loop

K-9 STATS

K-9 Deployments

591

TOTAL K-9 DEPLOYMENTS

84

NUMBER OF ARRESTS

430

NARCOTICS DETECTION DEPLOYMENTS

187

NUMBER OF ALERTS

37

ARTICLE SEARCH DEPLOYMENT

3

TIMES ARTICLES WERE LOCATED

28

BUILDING SEARCH DEPLOYMENTS

5

TIMES A PERSON WAS LOCATED

88

TRACKS SEARCH DEPLOYMENT

13

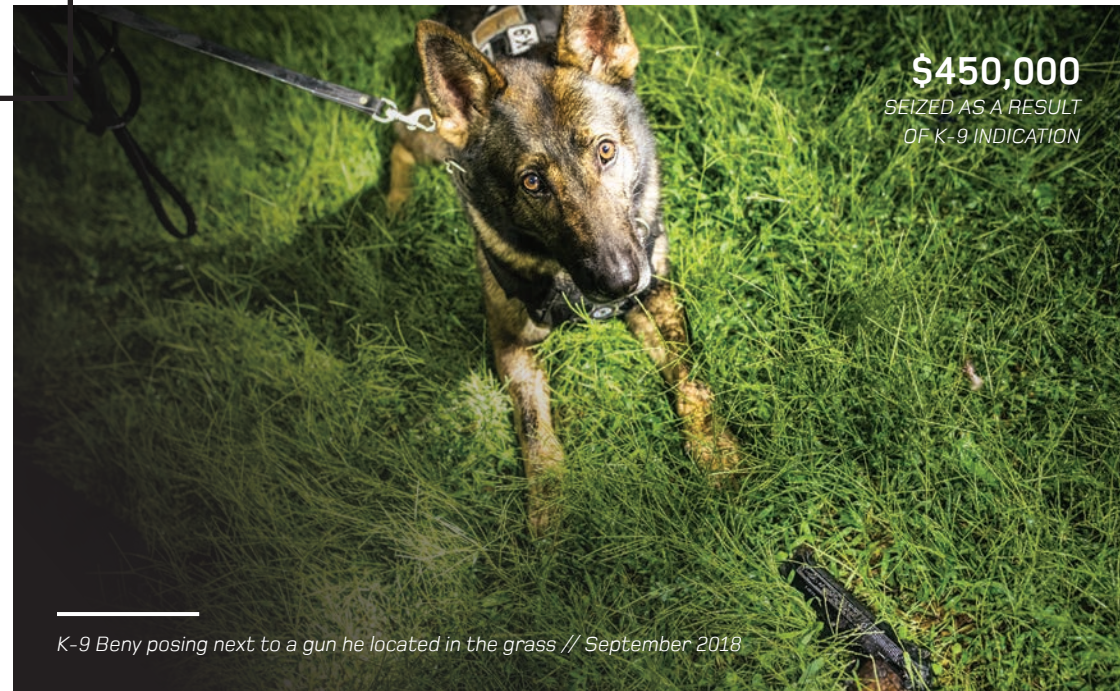
TIMES A PERSON WAS LOCATED

6

NONSEARCH DEPLOYMENTS

1

K9 APPREHENSION



K-9 Beny posing next to a gun he located in the grass // September 2018

Taking a Bite Out of Crime

The Aurora Police Department K-9 Unit is made up of 4 dual-purpose patrol dogs and their respective handlers. They are responsible for covering all three patrol shifts. The handlers respond to routine calls for service as well as formal requests for deployments. There were nearly 600 requests for deployments in 2018. These requests came from not only fellow Aurora Police Officers, but our local, state and federal partners as well. The dogs were routinely used for deployments related to drug detection, tracking suspects and missing persons, searching buildings, locating evidence and suspect apprehension.

The teams trained at least two days a month as a group and several times a week on their own. The Illinois Law Enforcement Training and Standards Boards requires narcotic recertification once a year.

The Aurora Police Department K-9 Unit participated in two narcotic recertification courses in 2018. Our teams certified with the ILETSB MTU as well as the Chicago Police Department's K-9 Training Unit.

Our teams also made a major contribution to the community in 2018. They completed approximately 40 K-9 handling demonstrations for local community groups, educational institutions and religious organizations. At the request of school administrators, the APD's K-9 Unit partnered with neighboring K-9 law enforcement teams to conduct proactive narcotic and firearm detection for safety, prevention and a general deterrent. These coordinated searches were conducted at various schools in Districts 129, 131, and 204, as well as Aurora area parochial schools.

The APD's K-9 unit appreciates the continued support it receives from local businesses and nonprofit organizations such as Healthy Pet and the Aurora Citizen Police Academy Alumni Association respectively. Healthy Pet and the CPAAA generously donated food, supplies and training equipment for drug detection and suspect apprehension.

Our patrol dogs love to work and look forward to the challenges ahead in 2019.

CRIME STATS

A Look at Offenses



AFD Medics

Sergeant George Lill (left) & Sergeant Scott "Scooter" Carter (center-near) // March 2018

TYPE OF CRASH	2017	2018	% CHANGE
Property Damage	5,039	4,824	(4.3%)
Personal Injury	1,229	1,137	(7.5%)
Fatal	4	10	150.0%
Total Crashes	6,272	5,971	(4.8%)
Crash Related Fatalities	4	10	150.0%
Hit & Run Crashes	1,267	1,311	(5.5%)
DUI Crash	149	145	(2.7%)

TYPE OF ENFORCEMENT	2017	2018	% CHANGE
Traffic Stops	21,974	23,649	7.6%
Pedestrian Stops	115	67	(41.7%)
Warning Tickets	5,032	4,333	(13.9%)
ICC Tickets	15,221	15,642	2.8%
Total IVC Traffic Tickets	20,253	19,975	(1.4%)
Hazardous IVC	11,759	11,823	0.5%
Non-Hazardous IVC	8,494	8,149	(4.1%)
DUI Arrests (Non-Crash)	177	309	74.6%

PART I INDEX OFFENSES	2017	2018	% CHANGE
Murder	6	4	(33.3%)
Criminal Sexual Assault	57	68	19.3%
Robbery	108	94	(13.0%)
Aggravated Assault/Battery	350	372	6.3%
Burglary	366	319	(12.8%)
Theft	2,123	1,860	(12.4%)
Motor Vehicle Theft	76	122	(30.7%)
Arson	20	9	(55.0%)
Violent Part I Crimes	521	538	3.3%
Property Part I Crimes	2,685	2,310	(14.0%)
Total Part I Crimes Reported	3,206	2,848	(11.2%)

WEAPONS ACTIVITY	2017	2018	% CHANGE
Reported Shootings	147	119	(19.0%)
UUW Arrests	132	114	(13.6%)
Total Firearms Taken In	253	267	5.5%
Types of Firearms Taken In			
Handgun	183	205	12.0%
Rifle	27	37	37.0%
Shotgun	32	19	(40.6%)
Military	-	-	N/C
Firearm-Other	11	6	(45.5%)
Property Status of Firearms Taken In			
Confiscated	10	19	90.0%
Forfeited	-	-	N/C
Found Property	2	4	100.0%
Recovered	176	176	0.0%
Safekeeping	53	66	24.5%
Stolen/Recovered	4	2	(50.0%)
Other	8	-	(100.0%)

PRISONER CONFINEMENT	2017	2018	% CHANGE
Adult	5,850	6,108	4.4%
Juvenile	673	584	(13.2%)
Total	6,523	6,692	2.6%
Meals Served	5,754	3,937	(31.6%)

USE OF FORCE

Tally of Forceful Actions

111

TOTAL USE OF
FORCE INCIDENTS

58

INDIVIDUALS CHARGED
WITH RESISTING ARREST

179

CHARGES RELATED
TO USE OF FORCE
INCIDENTS

147

NUMBER OF OFFICERS
USING FORCE IN
128 INCIDENTS OF
RESISTANCE

128

INCIDENTS OF CITIZEN
RESISTANCE; 101 OF
WHICH RESULTED
IN AN ARREST

35

NUMBER OF CITIZENS
INJURED DURING USE
OF FORCE INCIDENTS

32

NUMBER OF OFFICERS
INJURED DURING USE
OF FORCE INCIDENTS

29

AVERAGE AGE OF
CITIZEN INVOLVED IN USE
OF FORCE INCIDENTS

Van Officer Mark Baluyut searching an
arrestee before placing him in the prison van while
Raimondi and Walden standby. // July 2018

0

USE OF FORCE
COMPLAINTS FROM
THE PUBLIC

GOALS

Where We Focus Our Efforts

Engagement & Reduction

If it isn't broke, don't fix it. This phrase applies to the two overarching goals implemented by Chief Ziman since her appointment in January of 2016. Those goals are Community Engagement and the Reduction of Violent Crime. These goals were born out of a realization that community members, citizens as well as businesses, are essential partners in maintaining public safety. Our officers have been given the mandate to get out of the squad car, make non-enforcement contact and interact with the community on a personal level. These interactions not only humanizes the officers but also builds and strengthens relationships which make problem solving a community effort. Within the department there exist a concerted and consistent effort to increase communication through all divisions. The traditional Compstat model which solicited feedback mainly from senior leaders within the department has been abandoned in favor of a Problem Oriented Policing Model which involves gathering input from personnel at all levels. Our approach to problem solving is focusing our resources on those who are causing problems right now!



Left to Right (kneeling): Aaron Spooner, Roberto "Crash" Carrillo, birthday boy, Kevin "Sergeant Major" Driscoll, Mark "Last Samurai" Baluyut, Eric Rappa.

Back Row standing: Lt. Rick Robertson, Todd Coleman, Tyler Reeder, Mike "Deez Nutz" Diesel, Ben Grabowski, Matt Adam.

