

THE BLUE LINE

19
//20

2019 // 2020 AURORA POLICE DEPARTMENT ANNUAL REPORT

A TWO-YEAR REVIEW OF CRIME,
ENGAGEMENT, TRAINING, AND MORE.





A Most Somber Day
 Commander Jack Fichtel relaying information during the tragic shooting at Henry Pratt on February 15, 2019.



Aurora Police Department

THE BLUE LINE

2019 // 2020 ANNUAL REPORT

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FIRST WORD

A LETTER FROM THE CHIEF

This is our patch. There are many like it, but this one is ours.

That saying was borrowed from the Rifleman's Creed and was spoken in jest over the years referring to our uniform patch. "There are many like it" was a poke at its generic design that was adopted by police and security agencies across the nation. It became a running joke about how many different agencies had the same design. But it was ours.

The consensus over the years was that APD needed an upgrade. In 2006, the command staff at the time started contemplating changing the patch. When I was promoted to lieutenant in 2008, a committee was formed to seek input and design a new patch. We gathered feedback from officers and quickly learned that people wanted different things in their patch. Some wanted buildings to reflect our downtown. Others wanted patriotic flags and bald eagles. Some wanted skulls and crossbones (that didn't make the cut!). It seemed that every human had a different idea of what it should be.

So, we mocked up as many elements as we could and presented it to the 7-person command staff. I recall laying out the designs and taking a step back as they studied the patches. Their discussion turned into dissent as they voted on their favorite. That morphed into suggestions of different designs they wanted to see incorporated with no one agreeing on the same ideas. I walked out of that room thinking the chief was going to have a tough time sifting through all the opinions and settling on the winning patch.

I never heard another word about it.

That taught me a few very important lessons. First and foremost, a patch is in essence, art. The beauty of art is in the eye of the beholder and all of us are drawn to diverse interpretations of beauty. It also taught me a leadership lesson that is applicable to every decision made in an organization: someone will invariably be unhappy. That's why so many leaders stay with the status quo. It's easier to keep things as they are so as not to incur conflict.

But APD doesn't do easy. It was important to our command staff that we honor our past, so we sought out to research the APD patch that was used prior to 1969 where the first pictures of our current patch surfaced. The patch from 50 years ago was a simple design with a gray background and a maroon border and a maroon 5-point star. It simply said, "Aurora Police Dept" and that patch became the inspiration for the new design. We decided to steer clear of buildings or landmarks in Aurora because once again, those are opinion-based elements. We opted instead to place the official City of Aurora seal in the center of the patch because it hasn't changed since 1857. We wanted to honor our past but give it a modern and clean look with our values: Honor, Service, and Integrity. The result is our new patch adopted in 2019.

This is a change I do not take lightly. And as much as I wanted to upgrade the design, the first time I put on the uniform with the new patches, I was flooded with emotion. My dad wore that patch for his career, and it was part of my childhood. It was symbolic of APD. I have worn our patch since 1994 when I became a police officer. Officers who have left this earth have worn it. Our beloved retired officers have worn it. Our current officers wear it and it is a part of all of us. It will always be our patch and it will remain in our legacy. Tradition is a fragile thing in a culture built entirely on memories and there can be no creation without tradition; my hope is that the new patch is a reflection of our past.

Our police department is not the same as it was in 1969. It is exactly 50 years later, and we respect and honor our past, but we evolve and grow into our present. Our police officers and civilian staff are bold, innovative and progressive. Our new patch is symbolic of these characteristics and we wear it proudly because it is our patch. There are many like it, but this one will become ours.



Kristen Ziman
Aurora Chief of Police

Guardians of the Colors

The Aurora Honor Guard proudly standing in formation after escorting and displaying our national, state and local flags.

PERSONNEL

OUR ORGANIZATION CHART

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.

- 1 CHIEF
- 1 DEPUTY CHIEF
- 3 COMMANDERS
- 10 LIETENANTS
- 42 SERGEANTS
- 250 PATROL OFFICERS
- 13 RECORDS PERSONNEL
- 38 911 OPERATORS & TELECOM STAFF
- 16 DETENTION PERSONNEL
- 10 PROFESSIONAL STAFF



Those Who Lead Us
 (L-R) Cmdr. Jack Fichtel, Cmdr. Michael Doerzaph, Chief Kristen Ziman,
 Cmdr. Richard Robertson, and Deputy Chief Keith Cross

VEHICLES

A LOOK AT OUR FLEET

This is how we roll.

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 numerous 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.



- 13 ADMINISTRATIVE VEHICLES
- 10 COP VEHICLES
- 25 INVESTIGATIVE VEHICLES
- 3 EVIDENCE VEHICLES
- 11 SOG VEHICLES
- 3 SRT VEHICLES
- 3 TRAFFIC VEHICLES
- 2 CADET CARS
- 65 PATROL CARS
- 7 TRANSPORT VANS
- 5 K-9 CARS
- 13 SUPERVISOR CARS
- 2 HONOR GUARD VEHICLES



PURSUIITS

THOSE ON THE MOVE

How we pursue motor vehicles.

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.

55 // 79
VEHICLE
PURSUITS

119 // 140
OFFICERS
INVOLVED

62 // 72
NO OFFICER
INJURIES

30 // 39
NO CITIZEN
INJURIES

1 // 0
NO ENTRY
PURSUITS

34 // 47
MINOR TRAFFIC
VIOLATIONS

11 // 17
OTHER
PURSUITS

2 // 9
RECKLESS DRIVING
PURSUITS

1 // 0
SUSPECTED DUI
PURSUITS

6 // 6
SUSPECTED STOLEN
VEHICLE PURSUITS

TRAINING

IMPROVING YOUR SERVICE

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.

2019 TRAINING

Decision Door / Squad Equipment

Officers attended a presentation on both squad equipment, and decision making, shoot-don't shoot situations and how to deal with a potential suicide bomber. After the presentation officers applied learned information in practical drills and/or scenarios.

Rescue Task Force (RTF)

Officers participated in continual scenario based training which began in 2018 on the Rescue Task Force (RTF) technics. This training was conducted with multiple police and fire agencies throughout the Chicagoland area.

Crisis Intervention Team (CIT)

Autism / New APD Drones / Pension Update

Officers attend a presentation updating them on current laws and trends within law enforcement in regards to dealing with people in crisis and those who fall within the Autistic Spectrum. Officers also received a law update and overall review on our current pension systems, along with an introduction to our new drone program.

Sex Offender Registration (SOR), Sexual Assault, and Elderly Abuse Updates

Presentations including legal updates along with policy review for several topics, Sex Offender Registration, Sexual Assault and Elderly Abuse.

Defensive Tactics (M.A.C.H) / Force on Force

Officers went through practical training and review on defensive tactics (M.A.C.H.) and participated in a realistic, "shoot out/fire fight" scenario utilizing simmunition firearms and training. This put officers in a scenario where movement, cover and concealment, ammo management, firearm manipulation and self-aid and buddy-aid all came together during a live training scenario.

Records Management System (RMS)

Provide training on the new report writing and record system (RMS).

2020 TRAINING*

Implicit Bias

Presentation included evidence-based programs for law enforcement professionals that promote fairness, equity and respect. This training introduced a series of tools and practices designed to enhance law enforcement professional capacity to reduce the impact of unconscious biases. During the workshop, participants deepen their understanding of relevant key terms and concepts; unpack assumptions, perceptions, and perspectives related to identity, culture, stereotyping and discrimination and identified how these concepts intersect with their policing practices.

EVOC Pursuit Training

Officers participated in an emergency vehicle operation course (EVOC) along with practical training in vehicle pursuits and stop stick deployments.

Crowd Control / Less Lethal / Baton training

During this training Officers participate in continual scenario based training in crowd control techniques. Officers were also certified in the use/ deployment of the 40mm less lethal launcher and trained in current baton techniques.

** Three other scheduled yearly trainings were cancelled due to Covid-19.*



PUBLIC INFO

STAYING IN THE LOOP

1
LEAD PUBLIC
INFO OFFICER
(NON-SWORN)

6
PUBLIC INFO
TEAM MEMBERS
(SWORN)

In 2019, the Aurora Police Department launched a new robust Public Information strategic plan that focuses on internal communication, community outreach, crisis communications, and working with our community to keep them better informed and engaged. The PIO Team is lead by a non-sworn Public Information Officer and is supported by six sworn members of the department from different divisions across APD.

K-9 RESPONSE

PATROL DOG DEPLOYMENTS

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 cover all three patrol shifts, and respond to routine calls for service as well as formal requests for deployments. 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 train 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. 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 2019 and 2020. 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, Healthy Pet and the Aurora Citizen Police Academy Alumni Association. 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 2021.



2019 // 2020

385 // 291

TOTAL
DEPLOYMENTS

93 // 42

TOTAL
ARRESTS

271 // 199

NARCOTICS
DEPLOYMENTS

66 // 34

NARCOTICS
ARRESTS

31 // 26

ARTICLE SEARCH
DEPLOYMENTS

4 // 9

ARTICLES
LOCATED

15 // 17

BUILDING SEARCH
DEPLOYMENTS

8 // 5

PERSONS LOCATED
IN BUILDING SEARCH

72 // 58

TRACK SEARCH
DEPLOYMENTS

14 // 13

PERSONS LOCATED
IN TRACK SEARCH

11 // 8

NON-SEARCH
DEPLOYMENTS

0 // 1

APPREHENSIONS
WITH A BITE

CRIME STATS

A LOOK AT OFFENSES

Year End Report Statistics

Prisoner Confinement	2019	2020	% Change	Part I Index Offenses	2019	2020	% Change
Adult	5,752	3,726	-35.2%	Murder	12	11	-8.3%
Juvenile	585	298	-49.1%	Criminal Sexual Assault	59	68	15.3%
Total	6,337	4,024	-36.5%	Robbery	89	78	-12.4%
Meals Served	3,407	1,898	-44.3%	Aggravated Assault/Battery	356	502	41.0%
				Burglary	232	225	-3.0%
				Theft	1,638	1,884	15.0%
				Motor Vehicle Theft	144	171	18.8%
				Arson	17	32	88.2%
				Violent Part I Crimes	516	659	27.7%
				Property Part I Crimes	2,031	2,312	13.8%
				Total Part I Crimes Reported	2,547	2,971	16.6%
Type of Crash	2019	2020	% Change	Type of Enforcement	2019	2020	% Change
Total Crashes	5,532	4,104	-25.8%	Traffic Stops	21,604	9,867	-54.3%
Crash Related Fatalities	9	11	22.2%	Pedestrian Stops*	33	8	-75.8%
Hit & Run Crashes	1,229	912	-25.8%	Warning Tickets	3,011	1,017	-66.2%
				ICC Tickets	16,893	9,601	-43.2%
				Total IVC Traffic Tickets	19,904	10,618	-46.7%
Weapons Activity	2019	2020	% Change				
Reported Shootings	110	154	40.0%				
UUW Arrests	119	107	-10.1%				
Total Firearms Taken In	252	297	17.9%				
Types of Firearms Taken In							
Handgun	185	151	-18.4%				
Rifle	35	29	-17.1%				
Shotgun	16	3	-18.8%				
Military	-	1	N/C				
Firearm - Other	16	103	543.8%				
Property Status of Firearms Taken In							
Confiscated	9	5	-44.4%				
Forfeited	-	2	N/C				
Found Property	1	2	100.0%				
Recovered	169	241	42.6%				
Safekeeping	60	46	-23.3%				
Stolen/Recovered	9	-	-100.0%				
Other	4	1	-75.0%				

*2020 pedestrian stop totals indicate the number of stops made, not necessarily the number of persons contacted, unlike the 2019 totals which represent persons contacted.

USE OF FORCE

TALLY OF FORCEFUL ACTIONS

2019 // 2020

110 // 93

TOTAL USE OF FORCE INCIDENTS

118 // 107

NUMBER OF OFFICERS INVOLVED

96 // 84

CITIZENS ARRESTED IN CONJUNCTION WITH USE OF FORCE

204 // 169

CHARGES RELATED TO USE OF FORCE INCIDENTS

139 // 118

INCIDENTS OF CITIZEN RESISTANCE

26 // 21

NUMBER OF OFFICERS INJURED

30 // 34

NUMBER OF CITIZENS INJURED

The Aurora Police Department's Use of Force policy provides guidelines on the reasonable use of force used by our officers while they are protecting the City of Aurora.

Our Use of Force policy is based off federal and state case law and best practices of law enforcement agencies across the nation. Each day, officers are involved in numerous and varied interactions with the community. We train each one of our police officers to have an understanding of, and true appreciation for, their authority and limitations. This is especially true with respect to overcoming resistance while engaged in the performance of law enforcement duties.

APD recognizes and respects the value of all human life and dignity without prejudice.

ANNUAL 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!

CITE
CRISIS INTERVENTION TEAM ENHANCED

Policing and Mental Health

The Crisis Intervention Team Enhanced was launched as a pilot program in January of 2020 with the goal of addressing the increasing need for immediate access to mental health services on location of police calls. Aurora Police Department in partnership with Family Service Association developed the program to provide co-response crisis intervention services and post-crisis case management. THE CITE program works within the community and in partnership

with other providers and systems to provide a joint response to issues and addressing the needs of the citizens of the city of Aurora. The pilot year was focused on the development of a program that pushed both mental health services and law enforcement to a new level of operating collaboratively that together increased the effectiveness of contact with an individual in a mental health crisis.



793
INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES SERVED

61%
OF THOSE SERVED WERE BETWEEN 10-30 YEARS OLD

47%
OF THOSE SERVED WERE FEMALE

53%
OF THOSE SERVED WERE MALE

75%
OF THOSE SERVED LIVE IN KANE COUNTY

57%
OF THOSE SERVED SUCCESSFULLY SCHEDULED AND ATTENDED A POST CRISIS-CASE MANAGEMENT APPOINTMENT.

HENRY PRATT

FEBRUARY 19, 2019



The following copy is from Chief Ziman's Facebook message to the community dated February 19, 2019.

A most somber day.

It's been roughly 96 hours since a disgruntled employee who was being terminated killed 5 people and shot 5 police officers at the Henry Pratt factory. I said his name one time for the media, and I will never let it cross my lips again.

It's been 96 hours since those family members have had to endure the reality that their loved ones are never coming home.

It's been 96 hours since I heard the call go out over our radios and listened to the incident unfold. I was on my way to the scene when I listened to the first officer advise he'd been shot. And then the next one. And then everything went dark around the edges.

Every time an officer was hit, another went in. No one retreated. They forged ahead with shields and weapons as true warriors do and no one backed down until the threat was eliminated. We learned right away that there were casualties and I can't tell you how hard it was to hear that we were too late to save them. Every officer will carry that heaviness with them. It becomes a part of them now.

Every on-duty Aurora police officer showed up at the scene ready to go in and fight. Off-duty officers came to battle. As we were coordinating operations, I looked around and saw hundreds of uniforms from all over the state standing at the ready. I lost count of how many agency heads walked up to me and said, "We have a team here. Tell us what you need."

This is a familiar feeling to me. The law enforcement family has strong bonds, and it was no surprise to me that they all showed up. But I was still overwhelmed by it.

Our Special Response Team leaders coordinated SWAT teams from other agencies. Our brothers and sisters from the Aurora Fire Department staged their medics and swooped in as needed. Ambulances from other jurisdictions waited in line to do the same.

As the shooter was still at large in the building, teams were sent in for dual missions: to locate and stop the shooter and to find and rescue victims. Our Rescue Task Force (RTF) training with APD and AFD in the months earlier prepared the team of medics and police officers



who forged into the building. Our tactical officers were well equipped to cover vast space within the structure. It was like a giant game of hide and seek – except for the person hiding was trying to kill them.

When they finally found him in the rear of the building, shots rang out again, and those of us on the outside held our breaths until we would hear confirmation that the shooter was down.

This wasn't supposed to happen in our city. That evil soul shouldn't have taken others down because he was angry. He shouldn't have even had a weapon. Lives shouldn't have been stolen.

But it did. 96 hours ago, it happened. Our officers are going to pull through. A few of them

have a long road to recovery, but they are going to live. Some have emotional wounds but they are strong and resilient, and they will prevail.

Our police department and our city have been inundated with support by way of food, flowers, letters, and well wishes. On behalf of the men and women of the Aurora Police Department, we are grateful to those of you who have gently placed your hands on our backs. We feel it. The officers who were shot that day put their own lives at risk to save others. They are what it means to be a warrior. Those who were in the gunfight and those who stood ready to battle are just as worthy of the term "hero." I have never been prouder to serve the men and women of APD as I was on that Friday afternoon. Warriors only pick up their swords to protect those they love from harm. The love

our officers have for this community has never been more apparent.

When I looked into the faces of the victim's family members yesterday, I felt the pain of their profound losses. I told them our officers tried to save their loved ones. I know they know that, but I also know it's not good enough. It wouldn't be for me either.

Our city will never be whole again. We've lost human beings, and the void they leave can never be filled. But we are the people of Aurora, and we have always been survivors. Every single one of us will wrap our loving arms around the families of Clayton, Trevor, Russell, Vicente, and Josh and we hold on tight.

We are Aurora Strong.

IN MEMORY OF

Our hearts mourn for those individuals who lost their lives on that tragic in February 2019. We send our thoughts and prayers to their families and loved ones.



Russell Beyer



Vicente Juarez



Clayton Parks



Josh Pinkard



Trevor Wehner

TELECOM

CALLS FOR SERVICE

911, 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 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, all telecommunicators are certified Emergency Medical Dispatchers (EMD). Using preapproved medical protocols, the telecommunicator can give medical assistance to a caller.



2019 STATS

87,188

911 CALLS

160,301

NON-EMERGENCY CALLS

180,082

CALLS FOR SERVICE

162,802

DISPATCHED

2020 STATS

80,171

911 CALLS

125,536

NON-EMERGENCY CALLS

149,794

CALLS FOR SERVICE

142,290

DISPATCHED

RECORDS & EVIDENCE

INVESTIGATING EVIDENCE



Records & Evidence

The Aurora Police Department's Evidence Unit is staffed by eight sworn officers and five non-sworn professional staff employees who are responsible for a multitude of investigative and support role actions.

The sworn evidence technicians respond to and process hundreds of major crime scenes every year and they forensically investigate thousands of pieces of evidence obtained from those crime scenes. Evidence technicians provide around the clock support for the Aurora Police Department while investigating all types of criminal activity under all types of conditions. More than 20,000 new pieces of evidence were taken in during 2019 with items.

The civilian staff manages a property room that houses in excess of a quarter of a million items of evidence, while responding to more than 3,300 duplication requests from the Kane County Court System, the DuPage County Court System, the Will County Court System, and the Kendall County Court System. These duplications include court orders, legal requests, subpoena requests, Freedom of Information Act requests, and investigative requests.

The members of the Evidence Unit also investigated and properly handled the disposition of thousands of items of evidence in 2019. This disposition of evidence included returning property to the rightful owners, contributing to local charities, incinerating cleared drug evidence, supporting drug take back efforts, and destroying illegal items.

CORONAVIRUS

POLICING AMONG COVID-19

Policing during a pandemic.

When the calendar page turned to 2020, I felt a sense of relief that we were moving out of the most difficult year in the history of our department. The officers wounded during our mass shooting in 2019 were beginning to heal and we welcomed a new year and a new beginning.

And then we entered into a nationwide pandemic. Information from the Center for Disease Control was changing by the minute and as the rest of the world shut down, our officers were still on the front lines because 9-1-1 calls don't stop during a public health crisis. We altered our operations by placing officers on 12-hour shifts and built in extended time off so they could quarantine if necessary. The fact that we had never policed in such an environment meant that officers were constantly adapting to new challenges. We scrambled to get PPE and we shut the police department down and moved to virtual training in-services to pass along information. Our Telecom Operators operated out of two different locations so we could ensure social distancing. With the support of other city department heads, we were able to provide officers and professional staff with the necessary equipment to work remotely where possible.

Our sworn officers continued to protect the city of Aurora and our citizens despite putting themselves (and their families) in harm of exposure to the virus. They did so with professionalism at risk to their own safety. The resilience displayed by our first responders was commendable and their dedication to the citizens of Aurora was on full display.



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