

STRONGSVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT



2019 Year End Report and Strategic Plan

Quality Service, Professionalism, Integrity and Compassion

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MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF OF POLICE

I am pleased to present the 2019 Strongsville Police Department Annual Report and Strategic Plan. While it is impossible to recap each significant event or call for service, this report provides a descriptive summary of our activities, special events, day-to-day operations, and various roles our department plays in the community.

One of the highlights of this year is our first-ever Strongsville Citizen Police Academy (CPA). The CPA is an interactive program between you, our citizens, and the police, designed to help citizens become more aware of the police department, its regulations, and the criminal justice system. The program allows participants and police officers to meet and interact in a positive and proactive setting to share ideas and information. The CPA facilitates a better understanding between our citizens and the police through education and a hands-on approach to learning. The experience serves to dispel suspicions and misconceptions citizens may have. It is our sincere hope the academy experience will promote a greater partnership between us to reduce crime. Additionally, we hope this partnership will enable us to formally utilize volunteers within our organization (Volunteers in Police Services “VIPS”) so that our community will have an ongoing shared interest in the Strongsville Police Department.

With tragic reports around the nation involving children left unattended in hot vehicles, it is important to remain alert to children and car safety. The U.S. Department of Transportation has indicated that, outside of car crashes, heatstroke is the number one cause of vehicle-related deaths of children. Some reasons this happens include: being distracted from a busy day, exhausted from lack of sleep, or routines that may have changed.

To build child safety awareness in our community, the Strongsville Police Department developed a “Look Before You Lock” initiative. Officers trained in child safety seat installation will now provide rearview mirror card hangers to those requesting seat installations. The card serves as a reminder to check the back seat when exiting the vehicle. The police department has also approached our local retailers of child safety seats. We requested they display a rearview mirror card rack in the areas where child safety seats are on display. Cards are also available at the police department for anyone who would like to share the initiative with their loved ones. Additionally, we have provided some helpful tips and information for recognizing heatstroke and keeping children safe.

Finally, and most importantly, our employees continue to be our most valuable asset. Please review each page of this report and experience the pride and dedication our team puts into what they do. We enjoy the special bond and relationships that have been built with you, our community.

It is an honor to serve in the city of Strongsville.



Mark Fender, Chief of Police

The Strongsville Police Department

Our Vision:

To develop together as a team who enjoys our work, takes pride in our integrity, professional public image, and commitment to constant excellence in our service.



Our Mission:

In partnership with the community, we pledge to:

- *Protect the lives and property of our fellow citizens*
- *Persist in the pursuit of violators of our laws, while protecting the constitutional rights and freedoms of all*
- *Enhance the quality of life by identifying and solving community problems, preventing crime and extinguishing fear*
- *Preserve a proud reputation of quality service, professionalism, integrity and compassion*

Our Values:

We value our proud reputation of

Quality Service, Professionalism, Integrity and Compassion

Accreditation

At the end of 2016, the department began the process of achieving voluntary compliance with the standards of the newly-created Ohio Collaborative Community Police Advisory Board. Our department is committed to maintaining compliance with current and future standards to ensure we provide the best possible service to our community.



2017 - Achieved compliance and was issued certification in the first round of standards that govern use of force, recruiting, and hiring

2018 - Achieved compliance and was issued certification in newly added standards covering community engagement, telecommunicator training, bias-free policing and investigating employee misconduct

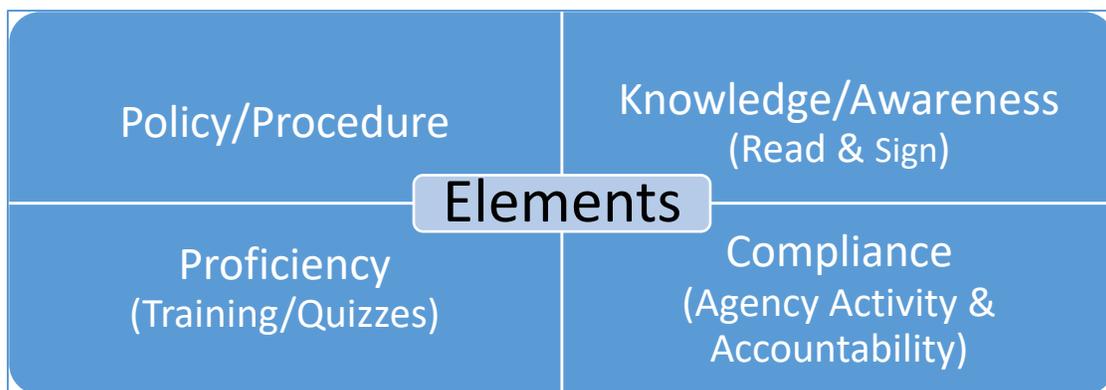
2020 - Will complete our first re-certification on all standards

The Ohio Collaborative Community-Police Advisory standard for Bias Free Policing requires that each time an officer makes a traffic stop, the officer shall report the gender, race, or ethnicity of the driver. The following is a summary of the data collected by the Strongsville Police Department for 2019:

<u>Race (NCIC categories)</u>	<u>Total Citations/Warnings</u>
A – Asian/Pacific Islander	77
B – Black	721
I – American Indian/Alaskan Native	8
U - Unknown	432
W - White	6,017
Gender	
Male	4,365
Female	2,890

*Note: Records for Hispanics are entered with the race code most closely representing the individual.
(NCIC Code Manual as of 9/30/2019)*

The Importance of Standards



Organizational Structure

The Strongsville Police Department is organized into the following three general components:

Executive (Chief of Police)

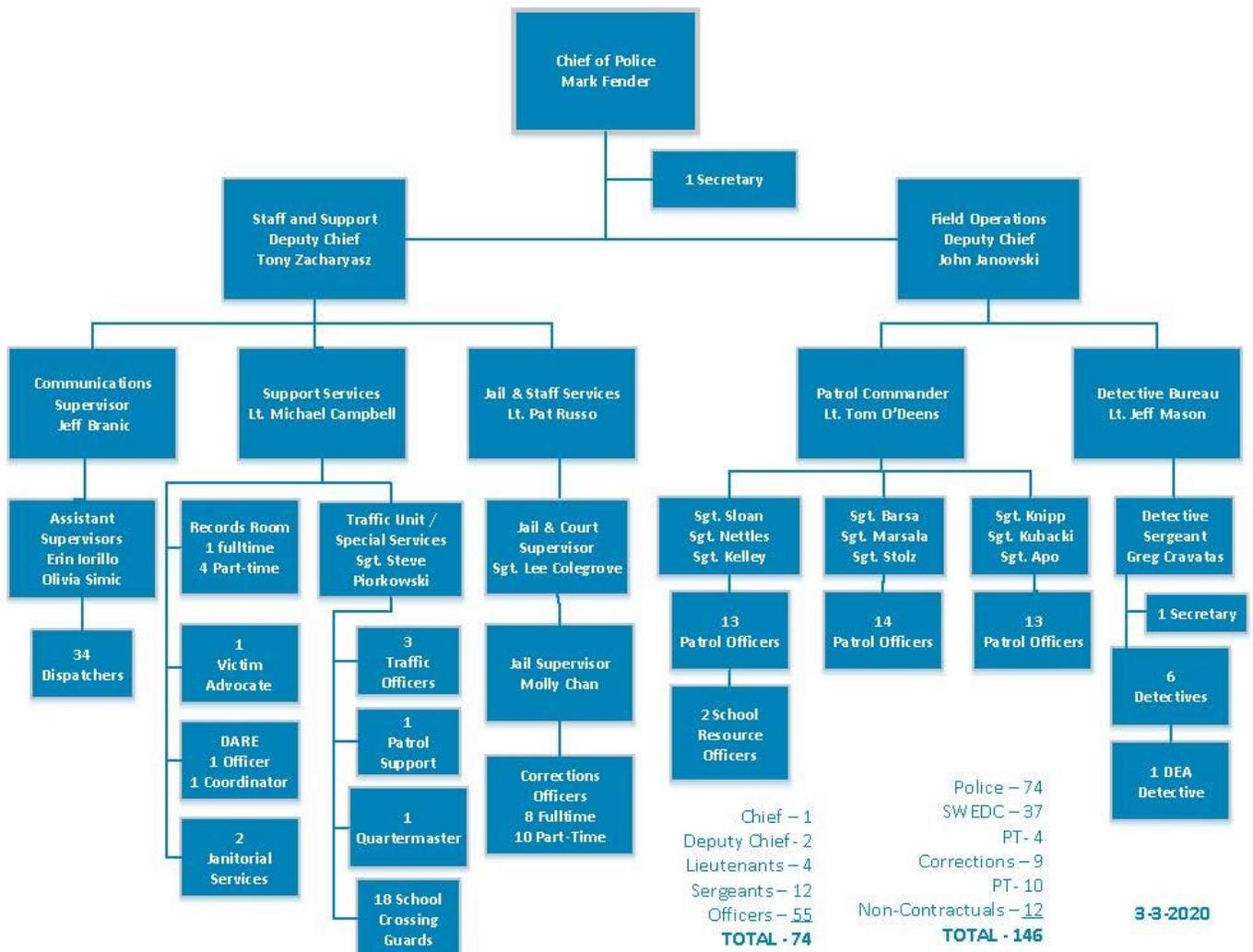
– Provides for the general overall direction of the agency

Field Operations

– The uniformed division responds to calls for service and provides patrol activities on a 24/7 basis, and the investigative division provides secondary and investigation services, crime analysis, property/evidence control, and case preparation.

Staff and Support Services

– The component which provides support and special services for the field operations division, including the traffic bureau, jail functions, D.A.R.E. program, victim/witness advocacy, juvenile diversion programs, volunteers, training, communication/information services, and quartermaster services.



ADMINISTRATION

The Chief of Police is ultimately responsible for the overall performance of the organization. To accomplish the agency's goals and objectives, the department's administrative command staff has been delegated the authority to direct the operation of each work group to perform the duties of their job assignments.

ADMINISTRATION		
Chief of Police	Mark Fender	Mark.Fender@Strongsville.org
Deputy Chief – Field Operations	John Janowski	John.Janowski@Strongsville.org
Deputy Chief – Staff & Support Services	Anthony Zacharyasz	Anthony.Zacharyasz@Strongsville.org
Patrol Commander	Thomas O'Deens	Thomas.Odeens@Strongsville.org
Detective Bureau Lieutenant	Jeffrey Mason	Jeffrey.Mason@Strongsville.org
Lieutenant – Jail and Staff Services	Patrick Russo	Patrick.Russo@Strongsville.org
Lieutenant – Support Services	Michael Campbell	Michael.Campbell@Strongsville.org
Traffic Unit Sergeant	Steven Piorkowski	Steven.Piorkowski@Strongsville.org

Organizational Integrity

The Strongsville Police Department works hard to maintain organizational integrity through an internal review process. It is an internal system where objectivity, fairness and justice are ensured by intensive and impartial investigation and review of the actions of departmental employees. Its purpose is to clear the innocent, establish guilt of wrongdoers and facilitate prompt, fair and consistent disciplinary action. The Strongsville Police Department will investigate all complaints, alleged or suspected (signed or anonymous) made against the department or its employees. In addition, the following is a summary of the various internal quality control checks completed in 2019:

Citizen Complaints: Sustained: 0; Not Sustained: 2; Unfounded: 0; Exonerated: 5

Use of Force¹: Justified: 21; Not Justified: 0

Pursuits²: Compliant With Policy: 15; Non-Compliant With Policy: 1

Cruiser Accidents: Negligent: 4; Not Negligent: 8

Damage to City Property: Negligent: 0; Not Negligent: 5

¹ Taser deployment on 4 of the 21

² Lexipol Policy 306 - Motor Vehicle Pursuits

FIELD OPERATIONS

Uniformed Patrol

The Uniformed Patrol Division is the largest division in the police department with fifty (50) members, all of whom are full-time uniformed sworn peace officers. These uniformed officers – the most visible representatives of the Strongsville Police Department – are dedicated to patrol duties and are first responders to all emergencies and calls for service in the community.



PATROL DIVISION			
DAY SHIFT			
Officer:	Title:	Assignment:	E-Mail:
Kelley, Shamus	Sergeant	Supervisor	Shamus.Kelley@Strongsville.org
Nettles, Ronald	Sergeant	Supervisor	Ronald.Nettles@Strongsville.org
Sloan, Brian	Sergeant	Supervisor	Brian.Sloan@Strongsville.org
Miller, Brook	Officer	Zone 1	Brook.Miller@Strongsville.org
Hansen, Marianna	Officer	Zone 2	Marianna.Hansen@Strongsville.org
Schubert, Eric	Officer	Zone 3	Eric.Schubert@Strongsville.org
Larotonda, Gerard	Officer	Zone 4	Gerard.Larotonda@Strongsville.org
Kadlec, Bryan	Officer	Zone 5	Bryan.Kadlec@Strongsville.org
Sereda, Victor	Officer	Zone 6	Victor.Sereda@Strongsville.org
Feierabend, Derek	Officer	Zone 7	Derek.Feierabend@Strongsville.org
Fields, Curtiss	Officer	Zone 8	Curtiss.Fields@Strongsville.org
Berry, Matthew	Officer	Zone 9	Matthew.Berry@Strongsville.org
Bobula, Brian	Officer	Zone 9	Brian.Bobula@Strongsville.org
McNeal, Dan	Officer	Rove	Daniel.McNeal@Strongsville.org
Steving, Jeffrey	Officer	Rove	Jeffrey.Steving@Strongsville.org
Vanek, Steven	Officer	Rove	Steven.Vanek@Strongsville.org
Koenig, Christopher	Officer	SRO/Rove	Christopher.Koenig@Strongsville.org
Mendise, Michael	Officer	SRO/Rove	Michael.Mendise@Strongsville.org

AFTERNOON SHIFT

Officer:	Title:	Assignment:	E-Mail:
Barsa, Robert	Sergeant	Supervisor	Robert.Barsa@Strongsville.org
Marsala, Marcello	Sergeant	Supervisor	Marcello.Marsala@Strongsville.org
Stolz, Ronald	Sergeant	Supervisor	Ronald.Stolz@Strongsville.org
Kellar, Nicole	Officer	Zone 1	Nicole.Kellar@Strongsville.org
Grace, Colin	Officer	Zone 2	Colin.Grace@Strongsville.org
Hayes, Jonathan	Officer	Zone 3	Jonathan.Hayes@Strongsville.org
Benedictis, Jeff	Officer	Zone 4	Jeffrey.Benedictis@Strongsville.org
Murphy, John	Officer	Zone 5	John.Murphy@Strongsville.org
O'Sullivan, Patrick	Officer	Zone 6	Patrick.Osullivan@Strongsville.org
Pientka, Frank	Officer	Zone 7	Frank.Pientka@Strongsville.org
Whitney, Ron	Officer	Zone 8	Ronald.Whitney@Strongsville.org
Guminey, Michael	Officer	Zone 9	Michael.Guminey@Strongsville.org
Iorillo, Pete	Officer	Zone 9	Peter.Iorillo@Strongsville.org
Siwik, Philip	Officer	Rove	Philip.Siwik@Strongsville.org
Strong, Howard	Officer	Rove	Howard.Strong@Strongsville.org
Whelan, Dan	Officer	Rove	Daniel.Whelan@Strongsville.org
Young, Ryan	Officer	Rove	Ryan.Young@Strongsville.org



NIGHT SHIFT

Officer:	Title:	Assignment:	E-Mail:
Apo, Derek	Sergeant	Supervisor	Derek.Apo@Strongsville.org
Knipp, Jacob	Sergeant	Supervisor	Jacob.Knipp@Strongsville.org
Kubacki, Ronald	Sergeant	Supervisor	Ronald.Kubacki@Strongsville.org
Weisenberger, Ryan	Officer	Zone 1	Ryan.Weisenberger@Strongsville.org
Mertz, Dan	Officer	Zone 2	Daniel.Mertz@Strongsville.org
Berry, Luke	Officer	Zone 3	Luke.Berry@Strongsville.org
Hazou, Zaki	Officer	Zone 4	Zaki.Hazou@Strongsville.org
Vlna, Brian	Officer	Zone 5	Brian.Vlna@Strongsville.org
McKinney, Matthew	Officer	Zone 6	Matthew.McKinney@Strongsville.org
Galassi, Mike	Officer	Zone 7	Michael.Galassi@Strongsville.org
Plut, Aaron	Officer	Zone 8	Aaron.Plut@Strongsville.org
Cully, Patrick	Officer	Rove	Patrick.Cully@Strongsville.org
Gallagher, David	Officer	Rove	David.Gallagher@Strongsville.org
McLaughlin, Randy	Officer	Rove	Randy.McLaughlin@Strongsville.org
Miller, Jason	Officer	Rove	Jason.Miller@Strongsville.org
Omilion, Matt	Officer	Rove	Matthew.Omilion@Strongsville.org

K-9 Teams

The Strongsville Police Department's K-9 teams are valuable law enforcement tools that improve the operating efficiency and effectiveness of the patrol division. These canines are registered with the Cuyahoga County Auditor's Office and are certified by the Ohio Peace Officer Training Academy as both Police Service Canines and Narcotics Detection Canines.

K9 Chase



K-9 Chase is a 6-year-old German shepherd. He is a dual-purpose police service dog trained in narcotics detection and the patrol areas of obedience, agility, tracking, evidence search, area/building searches and handler protection. K-9 Chase and his handler Officer Bryan Kadlec completed their training in June 2015 and were certified by the Ohio Peace Officer Training Commission on June 23, 2015.

K-9 Team Duties Include:

1. narcotics detection
2. tracking wanted or lost people
3. article searches
4. building searches
5. criminal apprehension
6. lectures/demonstrations for many groups such as civic organizations and school functions.

K-9 Teams Stats - 2019

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 33 drug sniffs • 25 assist other agencies • 16 school visits • 15 demonstrations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 15 tracks • 13 warrant services • 5 building searches • 3 article searches
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K9 Storm



K-9 Storm is a 4½-year-old German shepherd. He and his handler Officer Jason Miller completed their training and were recognized by the Ohio Peace Officer Training Commission on November 4, 2016. Storm is a dual-purpose police service dog and has been trained in narcotics detection, obedience, tracking, article search, handler protection and suspect apprehension.

K9 Tito

Strongsville Police would like to introduce the newest K-9 team to join the department, K-9 Tito and his handler Officer Patrick O'Sullivan. Officer O'Sullivan is a 12-year veteran of the Strongsville Police Department and is very active in criminal patrol. Tito is a 2-year-old German Shepherd born in Slovakia. The team recently completed six weeks of K-9 training to be certified by the state as a dual purpose K-9 team.



Officer O'Sullivan and Tito are trained to sniff out illegal narcotics, track individuals, search for lost people, and of course Tito's favorite, apprehending criminals.

Other Updates

Replacing Aging Tasers

The department completed the three-year process to replace our aging Tasers. In 2019, twenty-two additional Tasers were purchased which allowed us to outfit and train all remaining patrol officers and patrol supervisors with the new X2 model Taser.

Drone Operations

Strongsville Police Department has purchased an industry standard small Unmanned Aircraft System (sUAS) used for search and rescue, criminal apprehension, and other first responder incidents. The department has two officers who are certified by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) as Part 107 commercial sUAS pilots. They are in the process of training two additional officers in sUAS operations to prepare them for the FAA pilot's examination. Since its inception, the department has used the sUAS for several motor vehicle crashes and evidence collection.



A photo taken of the Strongsville Police facility by drone.

Detective Bureau

Uniformed patrol officers investigate reported offenses to the fullest extent practical. However, detectives will conduct secondary investigations when additional time or expertise is required. Each day, the detective supervisor conducts daily electronic reviews of all CAD activities and case reports. Based on case screening and solvability factors (that indicate the offense may be solved with a reasonable amount of investigative effort), he determines which will be assigned for additional follow-up.

- All case reports are reviewed by the detective bureau for completeness and for assignment.
- It is the goal of the detective bureau to investigate all cases reported to the department and use available resources in the most efficient manner.
- In 2019, 531 cases were assigned to detectives based on seriousness of the offense, solvability factors, need for further investigation and/or court preparation.

DETECTIVE BUREAU		
Detective:	Assignment:	E-Mail:
Mason, Jeffrey	Bureau Lieutenant	Jeffrey.Mason@Strongsville.org
Cravatas, Greg	Bureau Sergeant	Gregory.Cravatas@Strongsville.org
Destro, Carrie	Bureau Secretary	Carrie.Edmondson@Strongsville.org
Bartlett, Andy	Juvenile, General Crimes, Property Room	Andrew.Bartlett@Strongsville.org
Bertz, Michael	General Crimes, Property Room	Michael.Bertz@Strongsville.org
Borowske, Steve	Financial Crimes	Steven.Borowske@Strongsville.org
Dzurisin, Steve	Major Crimes	Steve.Dzurisin@Strongsville.org
Glover, Jason	DEA Task Force	Jason.Glover@Strongsville.org
Stroud, Doug	General Crimes, Property Room	Douglas.Stroud@Strongsville.org

How are cases assigned to a Detective?

Cases that may be assigned to a Detective
(based on case screening and solvability factors)

- Additional follow-up needed that would indicate significant reason to believe that the offense may be solved with a reasonable amount of investigative effort.

Cases that will be assigned to a Detective
(regardless of solvability factors)

- Homicides
- Rape and associated sexual crimes
- Kidnapping/abduction
- Felonious/aggravated assault
- Extortion
- Arson
- Any other complaints the Chief of Police assigns

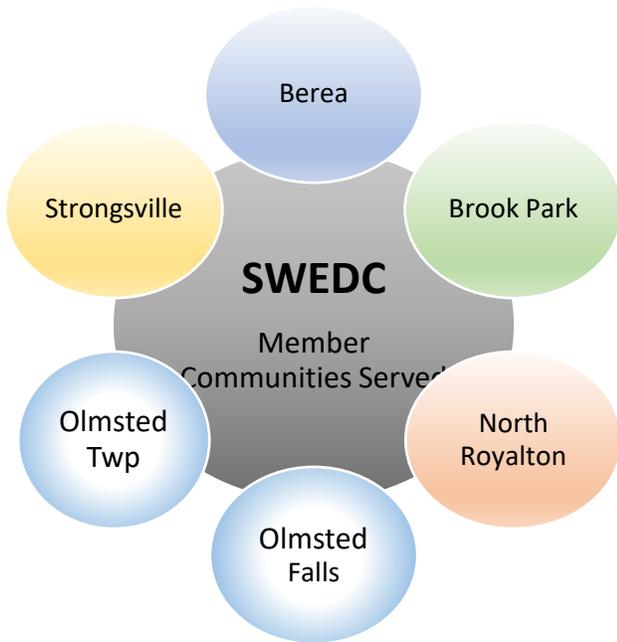
STAFF AND SUPPORT SERVICES

Communications

The Southwest Emergency Dispatch Center (SWEDC) serves the communities of Berea, Brook Park, North Royalton, Olmsted Falls, Olmsted Township, and Strongsville as a primary public safety answering point (PSAP).



In 2019 SWEDC implemented a Tactical Telecommunicator to work with the Southwest Enforcement Bureau (SEB). SWEDC tactical telecommunicators have become a valuable asset to the SEB unit and fire departments where their specific skill set would aid to the success of managing a large incident.



Primary Duties of a Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP)	<u>Answering</u> 9-1-1 calls for Fire, EMS and Police agencies and administrative phone calls
	<u>Dispatching</u> services for Fire, EMS and Police agencies
	<u>Emergency Medical Dispatching (EMD)</u> which is providing pre-arrival medical instructions to the caller.
	<u>Warrant entry</u>



Did you know ...

Southwest General Health Center generously provides our telecommunicators with access to monthly online training modules produced by the Association of Public-Safety Communications Officials (APCO)?

Strongsville Police Calls for Service – 2019	
<i>The SWEDC CAD (Computer Aided Dispatch) System logged 35,884 calls for service for Strongsville Police in 2019.</i>	
Top 5 most frequent call types:	
• <i>Traffic-related calls:</i>	<i>13,236, including 1,686 motor vehicle crashes</i>
• <i>Alarms</i>	<i>1,992</i>
• <i>Suspicious persons/situations:</i>	<i>1,407</i>
• <i>Assistance*</i>	<i>1,283</i>
• <i>Property crimes:</i>	<i>1,159, including 509 shopliftings</i>
<i>*General assistance, EMD/Fire assistance, assist other departments/agencies</i>	

TOTAL OF ALL PHONE CALLS PROCESSED BY SWEDC: 205,034

Total Administrative Calls Answered

142,603

Average Call Length Administrative Calls

1 minute 58 secs

Average Answer Time for Administrative Calls

4.3 seconds

97.8% of all administrative calls were answered in 10 seconds or less.

TOTAL OF 9-1-1 CALLS PROCESSED BY SWEDC:

23,793

Average 9-1-1 Call Duration

2 minutes 25 secs

Average Answer Time for 9-1-1 Calls

3.8 seconds

Text to 9-1-1 Calls Received

9

99.15% of all 9-1-1 calls were answered in 10 seconds or less.



Traffic-related calls continue to represent more than 1/3 of all police calls for service.

Jail

The Strongsville jail houses prisoners from not only the City of Strongsville but also assists seventeen (17) neighboring agencies with housing their prisoners due to no jail staff and no room for prisoner housing.

The housing agreement with these other communities provides a more cost-effective way to balance the need to house prisoners with the costs and liabilities associated with housing. We keep our costs to a minimum by utilizing the jail's own food service and laundering our own linens and prisoner clothing.

Strongsville Jail Housing Contracts

Berea Brecksville Broadview Heights Brook Park Cuyahoga Community College Cuyahoga Heights Linndale Metroparks Middleburg Heights	Newburgh Heights North Royalton ODPS (Ohio Investigative Unit) Olmsted Falls Olmsted Township Parma Heights Seven Hills Southwest General Health Center
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Prisoner Count: Highest Month

- All prisoners: August (161)
- Male prisoners: January (102)
- Female prisoners: August (64)



Prisoner Count: Lowest Month

- All prisoners: June (111)
- Male prisoners: October (75)
- Female prisoners: May (32)

**Prisoner
Gender
2019**

- Male: 1,061 (68%)
- Female: 501 (32%)

Records

What does it cost to feed prisoners?

<u>MONTHS 2019:</u>	<u>TOTAL MEALS</u>	<u>COST</u>
January	844	\$1,874.24
February	710	\$1,575.74
March	494	\$1,107.19
April	727	\$1,653.97
May	660	\$1,461.47
June	695	\$1,561.69
July	695	\$1,539.08
August	760	\$1,655.73
September	557	\$1,197.41
October	502	\$1,097.40
November	517	\$1,174.15
<u>December</u>	<u>506</u>	<u>\$1,118.76</u>
TOTAL:	7,667	\$17,016.83

DID YOU KNOW ...

Corrections Officers' Major Responsibilities Include:

- Monitoring prisoners to ensure safety, health and well-being while in custody
- Conducting safety and security checks of the jail facility
- Conducting searches to maintain safety and security of prisoners, facility and staff
- Verifying legal commitment, holds and bond papers.
- Conducting video arraignments / completing court paperwork
- Transporting prisoners to/from other facilities and court
- Processing / releasing prisoners: fingerprinting, photographs, DNA collection, medication procedures, etc.

The Records Room is staffed and available to the public Monday through Friday, 7 a.m. until 5 p.m.

Primary Records Room Duties:

- Greeting the public at the window
- Answering non-emergency phone calls
- Maintaining all public records
- Fulfilling public records requests
- Completing court ordered expungements
- Processing parking citations
- Receiving and processing bonds
- Ensuring all court paperwork is prepared and forwarded to the proper court
- Data entry



Victim/Witness Advocate

Victim advocates are professionals trained to support victims of crime. For more than 19 years, the residents of Strongsville have benefited from the services of Cindy Vanderwyst, our Victim/Witness Advocate. Ms. Vanderwyst works very closely with victims and witnesses of crime, offering information, guidance, referrals and other assistance to get them through their often-traumatic experiences. She guides victims through the sometimes-confusing process of the criminal justice system. She also accompanies them to every court date, providing moral support and acting as a liaison between them and the City Prosecutor.



A victim advocate:

- Provides information on victimization
- Provides information on victims' legal rights and protections
- Provides information on the criminal justice process
- Provides emotional support to victims
- Helps victims with safety planning
- Helps victims with victim compensation applications
- Helps victims submit comments to courts and parole boards
- Helps victims find shelter and transportation
- Provides referrals for other services for victims
- Notifies victims of inmates' release or escape

Community Diversion

Juveniles charged with first-time misdemeanor crimes or status offenses may be eligible for this program, which utilizes community resources to address problems brought to the attention of Cuyahoga County Juvenile Court. Diversion allows a juvenile to avoid formal court action and address the charge at a diversion hearing.

Families who choose to have their child's case handled through diversion are required to attend a hearing with a magistrate.



Community Diversion Program		
Cindy Vanderwyst	Program Coordinator	Cindy.Vanderwyst@Strongsville.org
Marie McManus	Case Manager	Marie.McManus@Strongsville.org

The design of this program is to give juveniles the opportunity to successfully complete a program, specifically tailored to each individual's crime and/or circumstances surrounding the crime. In 2019, 50 cases were heard by the volunteer magistrates, with 49 of those completing the program successfully.

Traffic Bureau

The primary function of the Traffic Bureau is to address traffic concerns before they become dangerous problems.

Target enforcement is generated through citizen complaints, crash analysis review and data review.

- When a traffic complaint is received:**
- officers are assigned to monitor the area
 - may conduct speed enforcement
 - may deploy the speed trailer
 - may initiate traffic volume/speed surveys

All activity conducted in these areas is documented and officers follow up to identify and address any recurring issues.

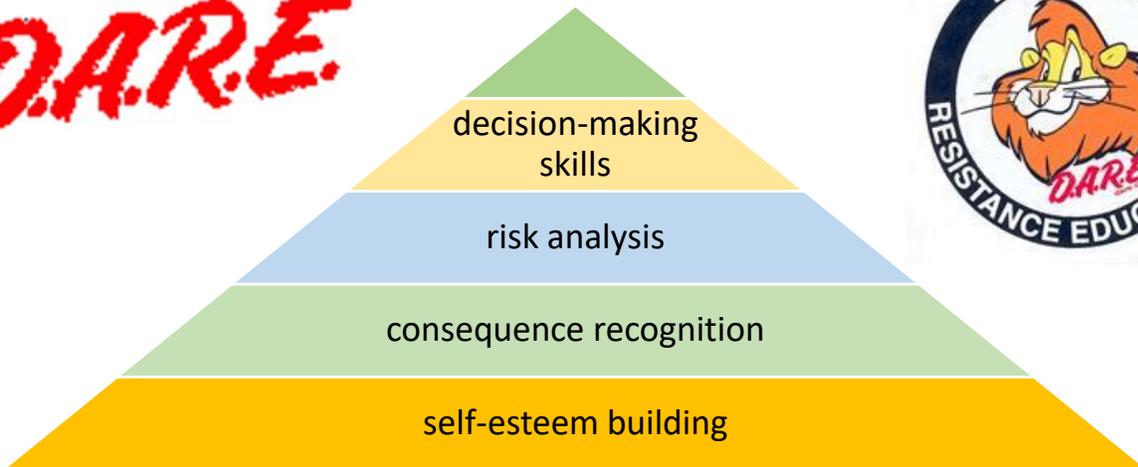


TRAFFIC BUREAU TOOLS	
Minimum Marked Cars	
	All weather availability, additional equipment
Motorcycles	
	Highly maneuverable, ideal for enforcement, community events
Radar, Lidar	
	Speed measuring
Speed display signs	
	Digital speed display for awareness
Speed Trailer	
	Digital speed display, data collection
TraxPro Traffic Data System	
	Traffic data collection and analysis

- Other major responsibilities of the traffic bureau include:
- Meeting with community business owners, residents and others to identify and address community traffic issues.
 - Providing technical assistance relating to traffic crash investigations or reconstruction
 - Coordinating, deploying and maintaining traffic enforcement trailers and speed survey devices; gathering data and providing reports.
 - Providing escorts and directing traffic at special events, parades, funerals, football games, etc.
 - Working with the Building and Engineering Departments in an effort to minimize traffic congestion and to correct hazardous situations, such as those that occur during road construction.

D.A.R.E.

D.A.R.E.

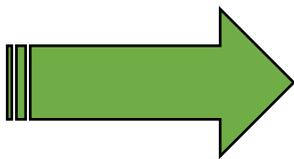


D.A.R.E. – A life skills based prevention effort

Officer Don Poney taught the *Keepin' it REAL* curriculum to our 5th, 6th & 8th grade D.A.R.E. students at Strongsville Schools and Saints Joseph & John.

2019 D.A.R.E. Events

- Annual DARE Celebration Dances: Approximately 1055 students
- Annual DARE Halloween Party: Approximately 1200 students
- Collected 2000 boxes of food items that were donated by our DARE students for the Strongsville Food Bank
- Ice Skating Party: Attended by approximately 600 students



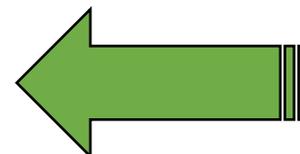
DID YOU KNOW ... Over 150 High School Role Models (11th & 12th graders) assisted at events and a D.A.R.E. lesson by going into the classroom with the D.A.R.E. Officer?

Safety Town

Safety Town is a fun, enlightening program that helps children about to enter kindergarten learn many safety lessons and rules while also participating in fun field trips to places like the fire and police stations. Seven different classes (AM & PM) try to accommodate different schedules.



DID YOU KNOW ... Over 175 student volunteers not only help us work with the younger kids, but also they gain a sense of accomplishment while helping relate to the little ones?



Safety Town Activities

		
<p>Visit to the Fire Station:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • kids interact with actual firefighters • help put out simulated fires in a very fun, interactive event. 	<p>Visit to the Police Station:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • meet and talk to actual police officers, tour the building • learn how and when to call 9-1-1 • “Stranger Danger” talk 	<p>At Safety Town:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • learn bicycle safety using our fun miniature city • experience “ball in the street” training to learn how to STOP and LOOK both ways



Officer Greg Drlik at the Safety Town graduation.



Officer Damore at Surrarer Elementary School.

3rd Grade Safety Belt Program

<p>30-Minute lesson, taught by a uniformed officer - a positive interaction</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • students learn about safety belts and their importance through discussion, activities and demonstrations.
<p>Safety Belt Deputy Pledge</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • pledge to always wear their safety belts and to encourage others to do the same.
<p>Receive special materials and additional information</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • information to take home to their parents
<p><i>This program is meant to create a good buckle-up habit for life!</i></p>

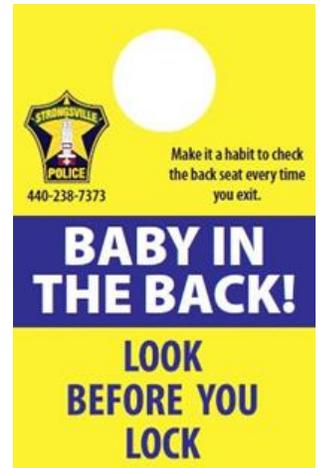
418 third grade students attended the 3rd Grade Safety Belt Program in 2019

“Look Before You Lock” Initiative

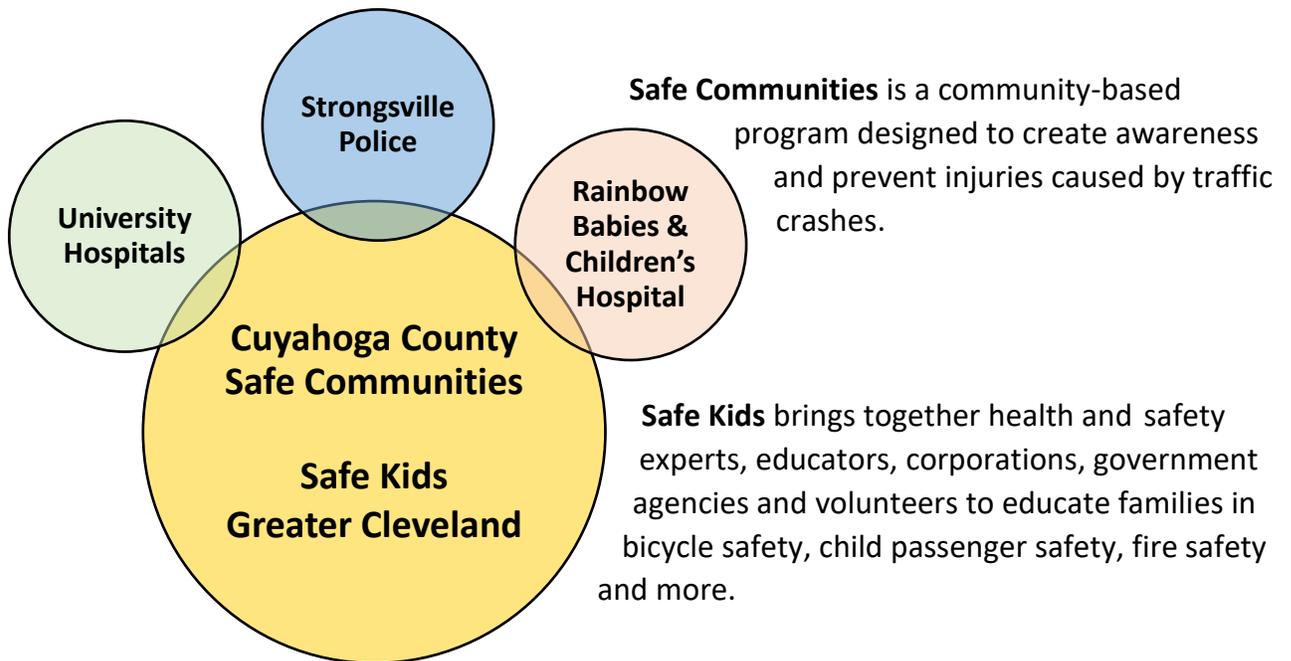
With tragic reports around the nation involving children left unattended in hot vehicles, it is important to remain alert to children and car safety. There are many reasons why these events happen, such as being distracted from a busy day or exhausted from lack of sleep and/or routines that may have changed.

Did you know ...

- A child’s body heats up three to five times faster than an adult’s body.
- More than half of heatstroke deaths occurred when a distracted caregiver forgot a quiet child was in the vehicle.
- Creating reminders and habits is an effective way to ensure that a child is not forgotten in the vehicle.



Safe Communities and Safe Kids



Strongsville’s 2019 'Safe Communities' Education

- **Distracted Driver Simulator:** Students try to drive while using a simulated cell phone, taking calls and texting while they try to keep the car on the road
- **Roll Over Convincer:** Crash test dummies are inside a large car simulator that actually rolls over!
- **Click It or Ticket:** Officer hand out “good” tickets to those actually wearing their seat belts!
- **Teen Driver ROADeo:** Teen drivers and their parents travel to 7 different stations to learn: how to change a tire, how to jump a battery, talking with law enforcement and more.

Community Opioid Outreach Program (CO-OP)

The Strongsville Police Department operates the Community Opioid Outreach Program or CO-OP. This program was developed to help combat the opioid epidemic that has made headlines across the country and in northeast Ohio.

Safe Passages

The Strongsville Police Department participates with other departments in the area with a program named Safe Passages. This program is aimed at helping people suffering from addiction, instead of placing them in handcuffs.

- Any resident who enters the police department and voluntarily asks for help with their addiction to opiates will be placed into the appropriate treatment.
- We have established relationships with treatment centers to ensure those with an addiction get the treatment they deserve.
- Officers facilitate entry into treatment and act as a necessary support system for both the patient and their family.
- In 2019, 10 people entered the Safe Passages program through the City of Strongsville.



DEA National Drug Takeback Day

In 2019 our department participated in the DEA Drug Takeback Day on April 27th and October 26th. In April we collected about 100 lbs. of pills, 2 gallons of liquid medications, 3 boxes of syringes and epi-pens, and 6 lawn and garden bags of medicine containers to recycle. In October we collected a total of 114 pounds of pills. The goal of the Drug Takeback Day is to provide an opportunity for Americans to prevent drug addiction and overdose deaths.



DISPOSE OF UNWANTED MEDICATIONS

This program takes place twice a year:

- Drop off unwanted medications at the police department.
- The police department gives these medications to the DEA, which facilitates destruction.
- This program helps reduce the amount of medications available for abuse.

Drug Drop Box

A drug drop box is available in our police lobby.

- Drop off unwanted pills at the police department.
- No need to wait for the DEA Drug Takeback Day.
- The drug drop box is for pills only.
- Needles and liquids cannot be disposed of through the drop box.



DID YOU KNOW ...

For both days last year, we collected approximately 214 lbs. of pills/capsules, and several boxes of syringes, epi pens and lancets?



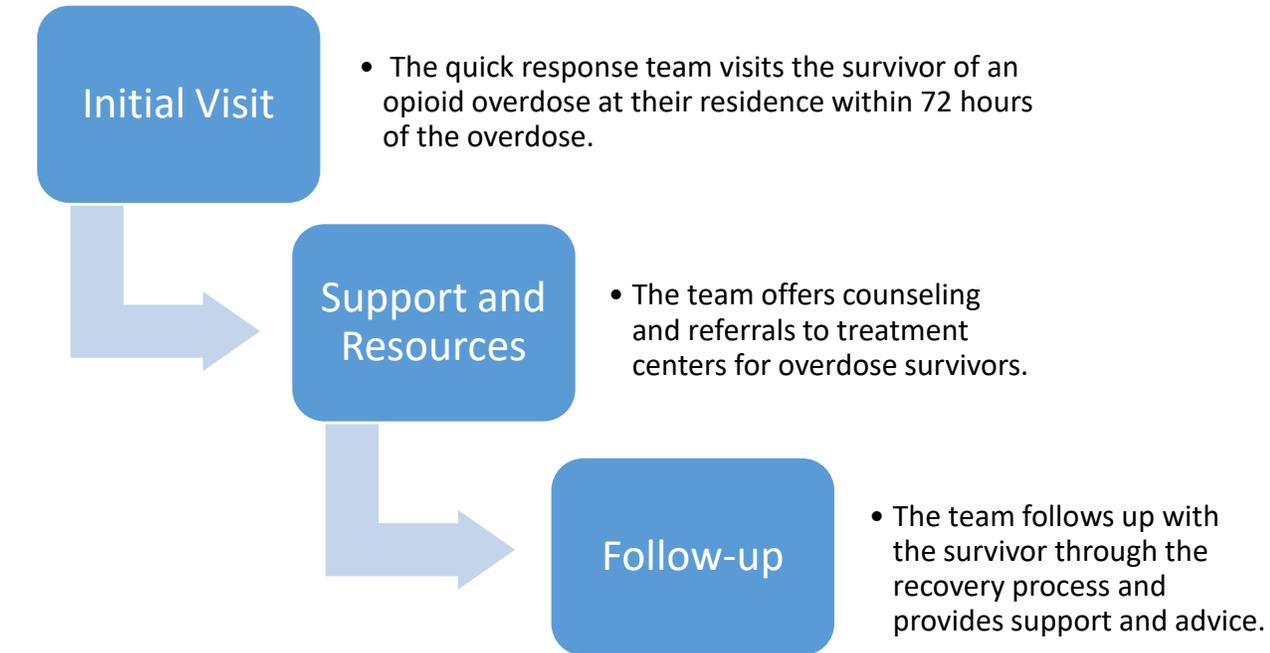
Quick Response Team (QRT)

In 2019, the City of Strongsville was awarded a one-year grant from the Ohio Attorney General in the amount of \$50,000 to combat the opioid epidemic. This funding was an increase from the prior grant that awarded the city \$73,100 over a two-year period. The grant will fund a quick response team made up of a police officer, a fire medic, and a counselor.

QRT STATISTICS - 2019	
34	Drug overdoses in Strongsville
20	Drug overdoses in Strongsville involving Strongsville residents
12	Individuals that overdosed at least once before since the origination of this program in September of 2017
3	Overdose deaths

In 2019, the team made 166 follow-up calls and visits with individuals who had overdosed.

Quick Response Team Process:



GOAL: GET THE SURVIVOR INTO TREATMENT FOR THEIR ADDICTION.



"Our objective is to eradicate the (opiate) problem locally – to get people clean, and to keep our community safe and thriving."

Mayor Tom Perciak

DID YOU KNOW ... ?



Strongsville police officers have been issued nasal Naloxone since 2015.

Drug Recognition Expert

A Drug Recognition Expert (DRE) or drug recognition evaluator (DRE) is a law enforcement officer highly trained to recognize impairment in drivers under the influence of drugs other than, or in addition to, alcohol. The DRE focuses on the detection, apprehension and adjudication of drug-impaired drivers.

The Strongsville Police Department has one DRE, Officer Jeff Steving. Due to the difficulty to obtain and maintain the status of a Drug Recognition Expert, Officer Steving is one of the few DREs in the area; therefore, his skills are shared outside the City of Strongsville as needed by other police departments.

Locally, Officer Steving's activities in 2019 included:

- Conducted 4 evaluations, 2 for SPD, and 2 for the State Highway Patrol. All four arrestees had impairment due to opiates (with other drugs as well)
- Conducted Standardized Field Sobriety Testing Refresher courses, updating 28 officers from our department and other neighboring agencies in how to conduct proper SFSTs
- Conducted roll call training regarding the upcoming medical marijuana issues in Ohio
- Led our department in both alcohol and drug impaired driving arrests
- As part of the Cuyahoga County OVI task force, arrested 10 impaired drivers during various saturation patrol details
- Instructed OVI enforcement instruction at the Citizens Police Academy
- Assisted officers throughout the year in processing drunk drivers and the paperwork involved

Chaplain Program

In 2014, the Strongsville Police Department welcomed Fr. Joe Mamich, who has volunteered to be our Safety Forces Chaplain. Father Joe is pastor at St. Joseph Catholic Church and a native of Strongsville.

Safety Forces Chaplain

- Recognized by the International Conference of Police Chaplains
- May serve a significant role in line-of-duty deaths
- Assists with survivor notifications
- Assists the survivors and departmental members
- Assists department members with counseling or emotional support, as requested and appropriate



“It has been a pleasure to be of service to the department. We truly are blessed with very caring and hardworking police officers!”

- Father Joe Mamich

Father Joe has been readily available to all of our employees. In 2019, Father Joe volunteered 77 hours to the police department.

RECOGNITION

Greater Cleveland Safe Kids/Safe Communities Awards

Teen Traffic Safety

- Strongsville Police Department

Promoting Safety Belt Awareness

- Officer Derek Apo

Arresting Impaired Drivers

- Officer Jeff Steving

The Strongsville Police Department is committed to the safety of teen drivers. At the greater Cleveland Safe Kids/Safe Communities Coalition Annual Member Recognition Luncheon, the department was recognized for our efforts in Teen Traffic Safety in 2019. This award would not be possible without our high school SRO Chris Koenig, our Traffic Bureau, and especially our Youth Program Coordinator Marie McManus. In 2020, we plan on conducting a mock crash at the high school before prom to raise student awareness about making smart choices on the roads.



Strongsville Police Department recognized at the Greater Cleveland Safe Kids/Safe Communities Coalition Annual Member Recognition Luncheon



Officer Derek Apo



Officer Jeff Steving

Departmental Awards

Strongsville Police Awards Committee

In January of each year, an Awards Committee reviews all citizen and departmental commendations received during the previous calendar year in order to identify actions or performance commensurate with a departmental award.

Departmental awards may be presented for outstanding performance in the following areas:

- **Professionalism**; awarded for outstanding effort or performance resulting in the advancement of our agency's professional image
- **Problem Solving**; awarded for recognizing and establishing a long-term solution for a particular or collective community problem or complaint
- **Compassion**; awarded for an employee's outstanding and special display of empathy
- **Quality Service**; awarded for an employee's dedication, thoroughness and persistence (going the extra mile) in furthering the department's mission and values
- **Blue Collar**; awarded for a police officer's outstanding efforts in making, or assisting in, a criminal apprehension. Police officers are recognized for their perseverance and ingenuity in arrest situations.
- **Citizen Award**; will be presented to a citizen who provides the Strongsville Police Department with valuable assistance in fulfilling our mission. The Citizen Award will consist of a distinctive plaque.

2018 Award Recipients – Awarded in 2019

Compassion Award: Officer Eric Schubert

Officer Schubert recognized for his successful efforts to assist a suicidal combat veteran who saw action in Operation Desert Storm that left him with undisclosed physical and psychological trauma. Officer Schubert took the man to breakfast and they had a long conversation. The man indicated that it was the officer's caring and attentive demeanor that dissuaded him from acting on the idea. The man agreed to be taken the hospital for a mental health evaluation.



Professionalism Award: Corrections Officer Brigitte Fossett-Williams

CO Fossett-Williams was recognized for her job knowledge, positive attitude, and work ethic that reflected the values, mission and vision of the Strongsville Police Department. Her demeanor with the inmates facilitates cooperation in completing the necessary tasks. She earns respect of both male and female inmates through her calm, collected and soothing demeanor.



Blue Collar Award: Officer Jeffrey Benedictis



Officer Benedictis was recognized for his actions that led to the arrests of two individuals in connection with numerous thefts and incidents of breaking and entering in Medina County. Officer Benedictis recognized a vehicle from an informational color-photo bulletin published by the Medina County Sheriff's Office, and successfully detained and identified both occupants, then worked with the Medina County Sheriff's Office to link them to the crimes that occurred there.

Quality Service Award: Officer Patrick O'Sullivan / Officer Ryan Young



Officers Patrick O'Sullivan and Ryan Young were recognized for going above and beyond what was expected of them when delivering a death notification to a Strongsville resident. The request came from the Pennsylvania State Police Department. Upon their arrival, the officers learned the decedent had left behind a young wife and two children. They further discovered the widow did not have any

family in America. The officers comforted the widow and her children, and completed other tasks involved with coordinating the proper arrangements to have the decedent's body returned to Ohio and his family.

Quality Service Award: Officer Colin Grace



Officer Grace was recognized for his actions to assist elderly residents during flooding as from a storm which brought severe down-pouring rain. Officer Grace responded to the home and assessed the situation, then took it upon himself to secure sandbags and made a makeshift dam to prevent the water from entering the senior citizen's residence.

In addition, Officer Grace spent time in the pouring rain digging a trench that diverted the water away from the residence. Due to his quick thinking and dedication, the interior of the residence stayed dry.

Citizens Award: Amie Brock, R.N.

Nurse Amie Brock earns this award on the same incident that occurred on May 2nd, 2018 that Officer Benedictis earned his Blue Collar Award.

Amie was following vehicle that was swerving in its lane. The vehicle stopped for a red light and did not move for two traffic-signal cycles. Amie exited her vehicle and approached, where she found two people inside unconscious. Amie placed the vehicle into “park” and began to render life-saving aid until units from police, fire and emergency services arrived. In the process, she sustained a torn calf muscle. Amie’s quick thinking and experience in emergency medicine was a valuable asset in securing this scene.



Prosecutor Joseph A. Gambino Award: Detective Steve Borowske

Detective Steve Borowske was recognized for his dedication and thoroughness in handling 72 cases of financial fraud and identity theft in 2018, some involving amounts in the tens of thousands of dollars.

Detective Borowske has built up an impressive network of bank investigators contacts, Secret Service agents, IRS agents and other financial crime investigators that allow him to navigate through his cases with efficiency and professionalism. Detective Borowske has become our resident expert in investigating bank fraud, credit card fraud, and identity theft type cases, and is recognized as a resource by many departments in our area who call upon for his financial crime expertise.

Dispatcher of the Year, awarded by the Knights of Columbus

Dispatcher Ashley Flynn

Ashley Flynn has been recognized by the St. Francis of Assisi Council of the Knights of Columbus as the Dispatcher of the Year in 2019. Ashley was presented the award due to her unflinching demonstration of professionalism in her approach to her duties. In addition, Ashley took the initiative to put together a fire reference book to assist dispatchers with understanding and navigating through new fire protocols.



Police Officer of the Year, awarded by the Knights of Columbus

Traffic Officer Ryan Damore



Traffic Officer Ryan Damore was recognized by the Knights of Columbus as a leading example of what the Strongsville community looks for in a police officer. He is one of the department's most proactive officers, is very adept at using proper discretion, especially during traffic contacts, and remains composed no matter how stressful or uncooperative the circumstances of the situation.

Officer Damore has been assigned to the Traffic Bureau for over 15 years and has previously been awarded the department's Professionalism award. He has exhibited exceptional skills as a motorcycle officer and has helped others in the unit to develop and maintain their skills as a motorcycle officer.

COMMUNITY

Citizen Police Academy

In the fall of 2019, we completed our first-ever Strongsville Citizen Police Academy (CPA). The CPA is an interactive program between you, our citizens, and the police, designed to help citizens become more aware of your police department, regulations, and the Criminal Justice system. The program allowed participants and police officers to meet and interact in a positive and proactive setting to share ideas and information.



Officer Apo explains the use of laser technology to enforce traffic laws.

The Citizen Police Academy facilitates a better understanding through education and a hands-on approach in learning, between our citizens and police. The experience serves to dispel suspicions and misconceptions citizens may have. It is our sincere hope the academy experience will promote a greater partnership to reduce crime. Additionally, we hope this partnership will enable us to formally utilize volunteers within our organization (Volunteers in Police Service "VIPS") so that our community will have an ongoing shared interest in the Strongsville Police Department.

Citizen Police Academy Classes Include:

- Introduction & Welcome
- Laws of Arrest, Search & Seizure
- Detective Bureau, Criminal Investigations
- Traffic Stops, Accident Investigation
- Operating a Vehicle Under The Influence
- Community Opioid Outreach Program (CO-OP)
- Use of Force
- Pursuits
- K9
- Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT)
- Introduction to Volunteers in Policing (VIP)
- Graduation Ceremony



Officer Eric Schubert instructing a Use of Force class in the Citizen Police Academy.

What have Citizen Police Academy graduates said?

"The presenters for each session were excellent. They gave us insight into each aspect of their job." - *Bernice B.*

"I never expected presentations by patrolmen — let alone such depth of knowledge and presentation skills. The openness, professionalism and dedication shined." - *Dennis W.*

"It accomplished its goal of providing insight as to how much really goes on behind the scenes in the daily lives of the police officers that preserve and protect our city." - *Larry B.*

"The residents of Strongsville are indeed fortunate and blessed to have such fine and dedicated police officers." - *Norm B.*

"I feel very fortunate to live in Strongsville - a community kept safe by our dedicated officers. Thank You!" - *Duke E.*

"What impressed me was their professionalism and eagerness to share their knowledge and experiences with us." - *Bryan G.*



An active shooter is an individual actively engaged in killing or attempting to kill people in a populated area, and recent active shooter incidents have underscored the need for a coordinated response by law enforcement and others to save lives. To that end, the Strongsville Police Department provides operational, behaviorally-based threat assessment and threat management services to help detect and prevent acts of targeted violence in the community, as well as how to respond if a violent incident occurs.

Overview of Active Threat Response Options Training		
1.	RUN	(Evacuate)
2.	HIDE	(Shelter in Place)
3.	FIGHT	(Take Action)

Initial Training Classes conducted in 2019	
•	<i>2 at Strongsville City Schools/private schools with 40 attendees</i>
•	<i>9 at local businesses with 300 attendees</i>
•	<i>2 at local churches with 40 people attendees</i>
Refresher Training Classes conducted in 2019	
•	<i>7 at the Strongsville schools with 347 attendees</i>
•	<i>1 at a local business with 25 attendees</i>

Interested in Active Threat training? There is no cost and family members are welcome to attend, although children under the age of 12 are prohibited due to the sensitive nature of the training. Juveniles ages 13-17 must be accompanied by a parent.

Contact Sgt. Lee Colegrove at 440-580-3240 or Lee.Colegrove@strongsville.org to arrange a training session.

Safety

Keeping children safe was the theme of the 15th annual **Child Safe Community Day Fair** on April 14th. The event, which is held every year at the Ehrnfelt Recreation Center, gives children and their parents an opportunity to gain valuable information about safety.

Strongsville police officers and various public service agencies shared information concerning the protection and safety of our children. Important topics included safety in the home, stranger danger and crimes against children.



Officer Don Poney greets children at the safety fair.

Back to School Safety Event



Strongsville officers interact with residents at the Back to School Touch the Trucks Safety Event.

Food Bank Drive



Strongsville Police join radio station Q104 personalities at SouthPark Mall in support of the radio station's quest to provide 40,000 meals in 40 days for the Greater Cleveland Food Bank.

Kids Fest and Duck Race

The annual Kids Fest and Duck Race provides pony rides, inflatables, face painting, touch a truck, food and more (as well as the exciting rubber duck river race).



Camp Imagine

Strongsville police officers who are members of the Southwest Enforcement Bureau (SEB) Tactical Team visited Camp Imagine in Avon Lake on July 11th. This is their 9th annual visit and it allows the campers to be “heroes” for the day as they go through static displays and go for a ride in the armored vehicle. Some children who participated in this event otherwise never interact socially!



WHAT IS SEB?

The Southwest Enforcement Bureau (SEB) is a council of governments made up of eighteen cities that share resources and manpower, enabling its members to field SWAT, Bomb Squad, Crisis Negotiations and Tactical EMS for situations beyond the capabilities of individual police agencies.



Memorial Day



Strongsville police officers honoring veterans who died serving in the U.S. military.

Homecoming



Chief Mark Fender enjoying time with Strongsville residents at the annual Homecoming festival.

Schools

SCHOOL BUS

“One of my most important jobs as a school superintendent is to make sure the almost 6,000 people who are in my care each and every day – from students to staff to school visitors – go home safely every day. Chief (Mark) Fender and I meet constantly and debrief and then look at how we can improve our policies and procedures.”

Superintendent Cameron Ryba 5/11/2019



Officer Kellar spends time with wonderful kids in the schools.



DID YOU KNOW ...

Strongsville police officers visit schools as part of their daily patrol duties?

Left: Officer Galassi visiting kids at Muraski School on Valentine's Day.

Pups for Police - Students raise money to comfort other kids

Surrarrer Elementary School kindergarten and first grade students took on a project to show their appreciation for the police officers in Strongsville.

During the week of Valentine's Day, they raised money with the goal of purchasing stuffed toy police dogs. The stuffed animals were presented to Police Chief Mark Fender and Officer Jeff Benedictis as a surprise on Wednesday, Feb. 27.

To make the project possible, the students were asked to earn \$1 each by doing something helpful for their family, friends or neighbors. When the money was combined, they brought in nearly \$100 and purchased 48 stuffed animals.

"The purpose of these stuffed animals is for the officers to keep a few of them in their cars to give to any young child they encounter along the way who may need a little extra comfort," said Jodi Thome, first-grade teacher.

As a thank-you to the officers, they used their extra money to buy trays of cookies to share with the rest of the department. For an added personal touch, the students made booklets describing how they made the money to accomplish the project.

Strongsville police spend a lot of time in the schools, and students around the district have been finding their own unique ways to say thank you and give back to the department.



Faith Community

About two dozen emergency personnel including police officers, firefighters and dispatchers from Strongsville, Maple Heights, Independence, North Olmsted and Stow attended the fifth annual Prayer Service for Safety Forces and First Responders on Sept. 18 at St. Joseph Parish.



Fr. Joe Mamich recalled the hundreds of emergency personnel who lost their lives on September 11, 2001 trying to help others during the prayer service.

DEPARTMENTAL TRAINING

Single Officer Response to Active Threats (SORAT)



The primary objective of law enforcement in an active shooter or active threat situation is locate the subject and stop the threat as quickly as possible.

Strongsville police officers are trained to respond individually and as teams so they can maximize their response without any delay.

Left: A Strongsville police officer participates in high-stress, dynamic SORAT training. After the initial classroom training, officers practice individual and team response techniques. A SORAT instructor provides feedback on critical decision-making, target identification, etc.

Other Departmental Training

Sworn Officers	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Leadership Interview and Interrogation Internet Investigations Criminal Drug Interdiction Public Records Cellular Technology Investigations Background Investigations AMBER Alerts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evidence Technician Advanced Firearms Instructor Field Training Officer Tactical Operations Instructional Skills Active Threat Response Rescue Task Force
Telecommunicators	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stress Management Call Handling Conflict Resolution Law Enforcement and Fire Communications 	

<u>All Police Officers, Corrections Officers, and Dispatchers</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> First Aid/CPR/AED Narcan HAZMAT Response
<u>All Police Officers</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jail Cell Extraction Traffic Incident Management Electrical Hazard Incidents Encountering Persons with Autism Single Officer Response to Active Threats (SORAT)
<u>All Corrections Officers</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Suicide prevention Medical screening

Requalification

All officers were re-qualified on carried weapons such as handgun, shotgun, rifle, less lethal bean bag, and Taser. In addition to qualification, officers participated in advanced training on all firearms. Training and qualification with firearms was conducted on our own indoor range.

Volunteers in Police Service (VIPS)

The Volunteers in Police Service Program, designed to address the increasing demands on state and local law enforcement agencies in the aftermath of the terrorist attacks of September 11, is a locally-driven program that enables community members to offer their time and talents to their local law enforcement agency. The Strongsville PD initiated its VIPS program in 2005.

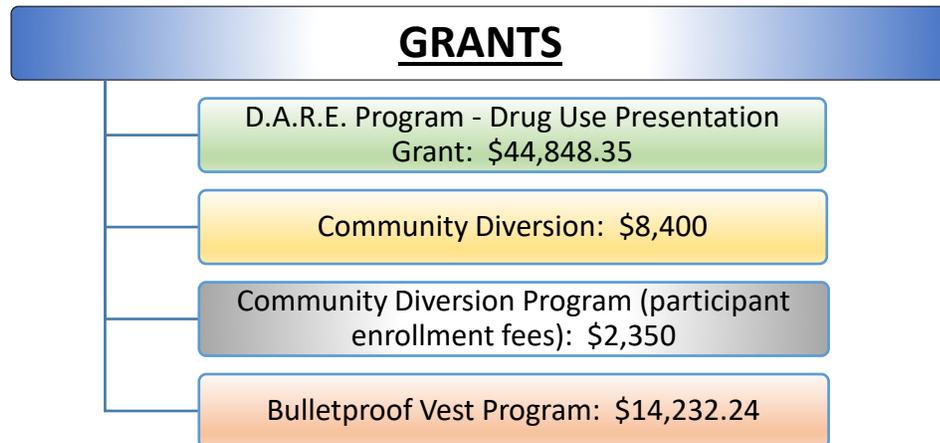


The volunteer unit regularly assists police officers in providing security for Mayor's Court and City Council meetings. Through the end of 2019, the unit helped screen over 35,000 people into the Court and City Council meetings since 2008.

In conjunction with the newly created Citizens Police Academy, the unit is in the process of adding 12 new members. Although it is very early in the process, the unit is looking forward to bringing a new level of service to the police department and the community.



Officer Drlik and VIPS Rand Lennox



New Police Officers

The Strongsville Police Department welcomed three new hires in 2019:

- Luke Berry 6/10/2019
- Marisa Pawlowski 11/11/2019
- Randy McLaughlin 12/09/2019



Randy McLaughlin is sworn-in as a Strongsville police officer.

The City of Strongsville is an Equal Opportunity Employer

Strategic Plan

In order to maintain the delivery of first-rate police services to our community, it is important to take an organized approach in adapting to changing conditions and meeting new challenges. Therefore, the command staff of our agency solicits input, conducts research and meets to review and update our Strategic Plan – a process that began in 2011. Objectives in this plan have strategies that may continue in subsequent years. We continue to add and remove objectives to this multiyear plan to enable our agency to stay current with the changing trends nationwide and locally within our community.

Strategic Planning, as used for our purposes, is the comprehensive formulation of a broad-based plan designed to guide the activities of all members of the police department toward the accomplishment of a set of goals. These goals are realized through the implementation of specific objectives and strategies assigned to appropriate individuals with the necessary talent/skills, authority and resources to ensure success.



Many of the objectives listed in the plan do not directly relate to calls for service. Rather, they will target our activities during non-directed time. We consider success achieved during this time to be the greatest measure of our efforts. Such success must be measured by defined outcomes.

Some of the goals and objectives will have a concrete beginning and end. Others may have a definitive beginning, but by their nature will be ongoing practices seeking continued improvement without the need for a definitive end point. Additionally, the objectives should not be looked upon as “fixed” efforts, but rather as flexible attempts that can be modified or expanded upon as necessary in the future.

The goals outlined in this plan are ambitious. Failure to attain every goal or every objective should not be seen as the department somehow falling short of the plan’s intentions. Some of the goals or objectives may be re-prioritized due to the changing demands of society. Others may be found to be too resource-intensive, offering a diminishing return for the effort invested. When this happens, new more realistic objectives will be substituted with an eye toward the effective accomplishment of our stated goals.

Throughout the implementation of the Strategic Plan, it was important that we stayed true to our department’s Mission and Vision statements as well as our Core Values which can be found on the previous pages. Most importantly, while our strategic plan is a changing document, our Values, Mission, and Vision statements are not! We believe that as you review the plan you will agree that we were successful on this goal.

The Seven Overriding Strategic Goals of the Plan are:

- 1 Reduce Crime
- 2 Improve Traffic Safety
- 3 Reduce Distribution of Illegal Drugs and the Impact of Illegal Drugs in our Community
- 4 Strengthen Response Capabilities to Critical Incidents and Large Scale Disasters
- 5 Strengthen Partnerships with the Schools and Community
- 6 Improve Efficiency of Resource Management and Use of Technology
- 7 Manage Risk / Improve Officer Safety and Wellness

It is the intention of this plan to work toward the achievement of our goals through the implementation of the outlined objectives and strategies which can be defined as follows:

GOALS – The overall needs or shortfall to be addressed. Not specific in nature, rather, they identify a serious issue which objectives and strategies will be designed to correct.

OBJECTIVES – Specific targets or programs designed to meet the needs which were identified through the development of the goals.

STRATEGIES – Specific actions calculated to achieve objectives. The strategies identify personnel responsibility as well as the necessary steps to achieve objectives.

STRATEGIC GOAL #1: REDUCE CRIME

The reduction of crime through a variety of control strategies will always be a principle goal of our agency. We will target criminal activities that threaten the quality of life within our community and those that live, travel or establish businesses here. This can be done not only through professional response, investigation and prosecution for crimes already committed, but also through crime prevention and control strategies. Our plan prioritizes self-initiated patrol intervention based on focused intelligence information and strategies.

Objective 1.1 – Reduce Criminal Activity through Effective Preventive Patrol

Strategy:

- 1.1.1 Complete self-initiated, intelligence-based, checks of special attentions and directed patrol assignments
- 1.1.2 Complete self-initiated, intelligence-based, surveillances which lead to criminal arrest
- 1.1.3 Complete self-initiated citizen contacts with Field Information (FI) of suspicious persons or circumstances for crime-related activity
- 1.1.4 Complete self-initiated on-view criminal arrests for violations that detract from public order and quality of life, including disorderly conduct, public intoxication, curfew, noise disturbance, littering, soliciting and street vending.
- 1.1.5 Complete self-initiated identification and resolution of community problems as documented through CAD
- 1.1.6 Complete self-initiated crime-prevention efforts as documented through CAD
- 1.1.7 Conduct bicycle and foot patrol in crime “hot-spot” areas

- 1.1.8 Develop handouts for specific kinds of crime-prevention tips (e.g., car burglary), distribute them through apartment managers, neighborhood watches, associations and other means.
- 1.1.9 Complete self-initiated traffic enforcement as a way to increase visibility and reduce crime
Assigned to: Patrol Division: Lt. O’Deens, DC. Janowski, Traffic Bureau: Sgt. Piorkowski, Lt. Campbell, DC Zacharyasz

Objective 1.2 - Reduce Criminal Activity through Thorough Preliminary Criminal Investigations

Strategy:

- 1.2.1 Conduct preliminary criminal investigations within first 24 hours
- 1.2.2 Complete field arrest of offenders in cases that dictate immediate arrest
- 1.2.3 Obtain and execute search warrants in all necessary cases stemming from uniformed operations
Assigned to: Patrol Division: Lt. O’Deens, DC Janowski, Detective Bureau: Sgt. Cravatas, Lt. Mason

Objective 1.3 - Impact Crime through the Development of Intelligence and Other Investigatory Crime Control Methods

Strategy:

- 1.3.1 Initiate confidential local investigations and joint regional cases
- 1.3.2 Initiate local surveillances, compliance inspections and plain-clothes patrol details
- 1.3.3 Obtain and execute search warrants in all necessary cases stemming from secondary investigations
- 1.3.4 Develop, document and share local intelligence information from a variety of sources
Assigned to: Detective Bureau: Sgt. Cravatas, Lt. Mason, DC Janowski

Objective 1.4 - Impact Crime through Case Investigation and Prosecution

Strategy:

- 1.4.1 Assign, investigate and, when possible, prosecute all non-part 1 crimes that contain solvability factors
Assigned to: Detective Bureau: Sgt. Cravatas, Lt. Mason, DC Janowski
- 1.4.2 Conduct probable cause hearings, when necessary, with Berea Municipal Court.
- 1.4.3 Conduct video arraignments, when necessary, with Berea Municipal Court
Assigned to: Sgt. Colegrove, Lt. Mason, DC Janowski

Objective 1.5 – Reduce Criminal Activity through Warrant Service

Strategy:

- 1.5.1 Use a proactive approach to serving Strongsville warrants and seeking wanted subjects.
- 1.5.2 Verify and serve active local arrest warrants.
- 1.5.3 Utilize social media to post wanted subjects
Assigned To: Lt. O’Deens, Lt. Campbell, DC Janowski, DC Zacharyasz

Objective 1.6 – Reduce Neighborhood Vandalism and Thefts from Autos Through Effective Patrol Techniques

Strategy:

- 1.6.1 Conduct night time surveillances, foot patrols, bike patrols, and other non-traditional patrol techniques.
- 1.6.2 Interact with homeowners associations to discuss strategies.
- 1.6.3 Use curfew enforcement as a neighborhood strategy for controlling night time crime.
Assigned to: Patrol Division: Lt. O’Deens, DC Janowski

Objective 1.7 – Reduce Crime through Preventative Efforts

Strategy:

- 1.7.1 Disseminate crime prevention handouts.
- 1.7.2 Offer premise risk analysis to businesses and residences.
- 1.7.3 Disseminate crime prevention tips via social media.

Assigned to: Patrol Division: Lt. O’Deens, Crime Prevention Officer Sgt. Colegrove, Lt. Campbell, DC Janowski, DC Zacharyasz

STRATEGIC GOAL #2: IMPROVE TRAFFIC SAFETY

Given the high volume and dynamics of the traffic which travels through our community, improving traffic safety is a clear mandate for our agency. While enforcement of traffic laws will remain a principle controlling strategy, our plan also includes education and engineering components. Patrol officers are expected to dedicate a portion of their non-directed time to enforcement efforts in high accident or complaint areas.

Objective 2.1 – Reduce Traffic Crashes through Enforcement Action

Strategy:

- 2.1.1 Conduct self-initiated traffic enforcement during non-directed patrol time at high accident locations, areas of citizen’s complaints and for city-wide violations of hazardous offenses

Assigned to: Patrol Division: Lt. O’Deens, DC Janowski

- 2.1.2 Participate in regional traffic safety enforcement programs
- 2.1.3 Review motor vehicle crash data and citizen complaints to compile “hot-spot” enforcement action reports.

Assigned to: Traffic Bureau: Sgt. Piorkowski, Lt. Campbell, DC Zacharyasz

Objective 2.2 – Improve Traffic Safety through Non-Enforcement Traffic Control

Strategy:

- 2.2.1 Deploy the speed trailer at “hot-spot” areas of speed-related or citizen complaint locations.
- 2.2.2 Work with school authorities to review, develop, publish and distribute an annual “best-route” School Pedestrian Plan as outlined in the Ohio Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices.
- 2.2.3 Deploy and oversee civilian crossing guards at critical intersection locations as identified in the “best-route” School Pedestrian Plan.
- 2.2.4 Utilize social media to promote traffic safety awareness and education

Assigned to: Traffic Bureau: Sgt. Piorkowski, Lt. Campbell, DC Zacharyasz

Objective 2.3 – Improve Traffic Safety through Public Education

Strategy:

- 2.3.1 Conduct safety seat inspections by public request and one annual event.
- 2.3.2 Instruct the Third Grade Safety Belt Program city-wide.

Assigned to: Traffic Bureau: Sgt. Piorkowski, Lt. Campbell, DC Zacharyasz

STRATEGIC GOAL #3: REDUCE DISTRIBUTION OF ILLEGAL DRUGS AND THE IMPACT OF ILLEGAL DRUGS IN OUR COMMUNITY

Because illegal drugs are related to such a large percentage of other crimes and they have such a destructive effect, all law enforcement agencies must join forces to fight the problem. Our use of K-9 teams, intelligence efforts and participation in undercover and regional strike teams will help us do our part. In addition, we will work with the community to develop alternatives for those struggling with addiction.

Objective 3.1 – Develop Intelligence to Identify Drug Distribution Channels and Offenders

Strategy:

3.1.1 Produce intelligence reports from regional information sharing and suspect interviews

Assigned to: Detective Bureau: Sgt. Cravatas, Lt. Mason, DC Janowski

Objective 3.2 – Conduct Field Enforcement of Drug Possession and Sales

Strategy:

3.2.1 Use patrol K-9 Teams to conduct field interdiction, seizures of contraband and make arrests

Assigned to: Patrol Division: Lt. O’Deens, DC Janowski

3.2.2 Initiate undercover investigations based on intelligence information

3.2.3 Share intelligence and collaborate with regional and federal narcotics task forces

Assigned to: Detective Bureau: Sgt. Cravatas, Lt. Mason, DC Janowski

Objective 3.3 – Develop Alternatives for Those Struggling with Addiction

Strategy:

3.3.1 Maintain a resource network with the courts, non-profit organizations, government-funded agencies, churches and others to provide services for those struggling with addiction.

Assigned to: Detective Bureau: Sgt. Cravatas, Lt. Mason, DC Janowski

3.3.2 Utilize a Quick Response Team (QRT) to respond to the residence of overdose survivors who are residents of our city within 72 hours to offer assistance to the survivor and their families to get the survivor treatment.

Assigned to: Lt. Campbell, DC Zacharyasz

STRATEGIC GOAL #4: STRENGTHEN RESPONSE CAPABILITIES TO CRITICAL INCIDENTS AND LARGE-SCALE DISASTERS

We live in a changing world with evolving threats. The responsibility to respond to potential disasters lies first and foremost with local authorities. For that reason, we pledge to continue to improve our ability to respond to such threats. This can be done through training, practice, equipment readiness and intelligence dissemination.

Objective 4.1 – Disseminate Intelligence Information to Patrol Forces and Critical Infrastructure Stakeholders

Strategy:

4.1.1 Monitor, Solicit, collate and forward intelligence information from the FBIJTTF, Northeast Ohio Regional Fusion Center, The U.S. Attorney’s Northern Ohio District Anti- Terrorism Council and the Cuyahoga County Emergency Management Advisory Committee.

Assigned to: Chief Fender

Objective 4.2 – Improve Competence and Readiness to Respond to Critical Incidents through Training, Drills and Inspections

Strategy:

- 4.2.1 Conduct Monthly readiness inspection of all critical equipment
Assigned to: Quartermaster Graziani, Lt. Campbell, DC Zacharyasz
- 4.2.2 Oversee ongoing active threat safety drills at all schools and preschools in compliance with HB-178 (Section 3737.73D of the ORC)
Assigned to: DC Zacharyasz
- 4.2.3 Participate in large scale critical incident drills at strategic locations within the city
Assigned to: Ptl. Mendise, DC Janowski
- 4.2.4 Maintain National Incident Management System (NIMS) compliance for all sworn and City first responder personnel.
Assigned to: Lt. Russo, DC Zacharyasz
- 4.2.5 Participate as a member of the eighteen – community Southwest Enforcement Bureau Regional SWAT and Bomb Disposal Team for hostage situations, barricade subjects, high risk warrants, crowd control, search and rescue and bomb disposal
Assigned to: Chief Fender
- 4.2.6 Conduct Active Threat Training and drills for police, fire and EMS First Responders
- 4.2.7 Conduct Active Threat Training and drills for churches and businesses
Assigned to: Sgt. Colegrove, Lt. O’Deens, DC Zacharyasz
- 4.2.8 Develop city-wide faith-based organization emergency preparedness
- 4.2.9 Utilize the Volunteers in Police Service (V.I.P.S.)
Assigned to: Lt. Russo, DC Zacharyasz

STRATEGIC GOAL #5: STRENGTHEN PARTNERSHIPS WITH SCHOOLS AND COMMUNITY

A hallmark component of the community-policing philosophy is the partnership between the police department and citizens, business owners, community-based organizations and the school system. These partnerships have an exponential effect on our successes. Therefore, we will pursue and encourage both traditional and innovative ways to foster these relationships.

Objective 5.1 – Improve Communication and Release of Information to the Public

Strategy:

- 5.1.1 Update Police Department Information on the City web page and social media
Assigned to: Lt. Campbell, DC Zacharyasz
- 5.1.2 Showcase effective police efforts through press releases to the media
- 5.1.3 Interact with community business stakeholders at economic development breakfasts and Chamber of Commerce luncheons
Assigned to: Chief Fender
- 5.1.4 Accommodate all public record requests and manage retention of records in compliance with the Ohio Public Records Law
Assigned to: Lt. Campbell, DC Zacharyasz
- 5.1.5 Increase community involvement in preventing and reporting crime through homeowner association meetings.
Assigned to: Patrol Division: Lt. O’Deens, DC Janowski, Crime Prevention Unit: Sgt. Colegrove

Objective 5.2 – Participate In Joint Juvenile Education and Justice Efforts

Strategy:

- 5.2.1 Conduct 6th grade and middle school D.A.R.E. programs
- 5.2.2 Conduct Safety Town Program
- 5.2.3 Participate in the Cuyahoga County Juvenile Court Diversion Program
- 5.2.4 Conduct safety and community relations events

Assigned to: Sgt. Piorkowski, Lt. Campbell, DC Zacharyasz

Objective 5.3 – Foster Community-Oriented Policing Activities

Strategy:

- 5.3.1 Network with the Building Department to ensure crime prevention through Environmental Design (CPTED) principals are followed when designing or developing new neighborhoods, commercial or retail space.

Assigned to: Crime Prevention Unit: Sgt. Colegrove, DC Janowski

- 5.3.2 Conduct foot and bicycle patrols to promote interaction with the public
- 5.3.3 Conduct “walk-throughs” by uniformed officers of all middle schools, elementary schools, preschools and day care centers that welcome such visits.

Assigned to: Patrol Division: Lt. O’Deens, DC Janowski

- 5.3.4 Conduct Active Threat Response Options Training for school teachers and staff
- 5.3.5 Conduct Active Threat Response Options Training for our businesses and community

Assigned to: Sgt. Colegrove, Lt. Russo, DC Zacharyasz

- 5.3.6 Develop and conduct a Citizen Police Academy
- 5.3.7 Provide city-wide emergency preparedness training to faith-based organizations
- 5.3.8 Revitalize the Volunteers in Police Service (V.I.P.S.) program

Assigned to: Lt. Russo, DC Zacharyasz

STRATEGIC GOAL #6: IMPROVE EFFICIENCY OF RESOURCE MANAGEMENT AND USE OF TECHNOLOGY

Fiscal responsibility must be incorporated into every facet of our operation. This means not only a conservative approach and attention to detail in budget issues, but also a commitment to work “smarter.” Using technological advancements to deliver intelligence information will allow greater results with fewer resources. Attaining many of the goals and objectives contained elsewhere in this report will depend on our ability to manage resources and use technology effectively.

Objective 6.1 – Budget Management and Control

Strategy:

- 6.1.1 Monitor overtime utilization and other potential cost reductions and report monthly with recommendations

Assigned to: DC Janowski, DC Zacharyasz

- 6.1.2 Conduct staffing analysis study and forecast, and report annually with efficiency recommendations

Assigned to: Chief Fender

- 6.1.3 Conduct annual vehicle fleet analysis and make recommendations for consolidation, replacement and sale of obsolete vehicles.

Assigned to: Quartermaster Graziani, Sgt. Piorkowski, Lt. Campbell, DC Zacharyasz

- 6.1.4 Review all K-9 team operations, drug investigations and OVI cases to maximize asset forfeiture and use of funds to offset operating costs
Assigned to: DC Janowski
- 6.1.5 Review internet announcements and websites associated with grant announcements to develop information on outside funding opportunities.
Assigned to: DC Janowski
- 6.1.6 Network with hospital care providers for cost reduction options
Assigned to: Corrections Coordinator Chan, Sgt. Colegrove, Lt. Russo, DC Zacharyasz

Objective 6.2 – Monitor Functionality of Technology in all Marked Patrol Vehicles

Strategy:

- 6.2.1 Maintain 100% operational reliability of mobile computers and video equipment through prompt reporting of needed repairs by all operators
- 6.2.2 Maintain 100% operational reliability of GPS based AVL (Automatic Vehicle Location) technology through prompt reporting of needed repairs by all operators
Assigned to: Patrol Division: Lt. O’Deens, DC Janowski, Traffic Bureau: Sgt. Piorkowski, Lt. Campbell, DC Zacharyasz

STRATEGIC GOAL #7: MANAGE RISK / IMPROVE OFFICER SAFETY AND WELLNESS

Because the safety of our officers has always been paramount, we have established, and will continue, a tradition of frequent training, sound policy, and the acquisition of state-of-the-art equipment. Additionally, we have a responsibility to manage risk and reduce unnecessary exposure. Therefore, our goal will be to promote safety and reduce risk.

Objective 7.1 – Improve Officer Safety and Reduce Risk through Core-Category In-Service Training

Strategy:

- 7.1.1 Complete training for each category and job classification.
- 7.1.2 Prepare an annual training plan based on the Career Development Plans prepared by departmental supervisors.
- 7.1.3 Complete “Continued Professional Training” as mandated by the Ohio Peace Officer Training Commission.
Assigned to: Training Coordinator: Lt. Russo, DC Zacharyasz

Objective 7.2 – Improve Officer Safety and Reduce Risk through Effective Policy Formulation and Review

Strategy:

- 7.2.1 Maintain reviews of all applicable policies mandated by the Ohio Collaborative
- 7.2.2 Collect 100% of compliance proofs for all operating policies
- 7.2.3 Ensure all department policies, procedures, and practices are in compliance with Ohio Collaborative standards.
Assigned to: Lt. Russo, DC Zacharyasz

Objective 7.3 – Review High Risk Events to Ensure Compliance with Policy and Professional Standards

Strategy:

- 7.3.1 Review all after-action Use Of Force and Pursuit reports
- 7.3.2 Review and assign for investigation all citizen complaints
Assigned to: DC Zacharyasz, DC Janowski, Chief Fender

Objective 7.4 – Maintain Internal Communications

Strategy:

7.4.1 Conduct Labor/Management Meetings

Assigned to: Chief Fender

7.4.2 Conduct monthly first line supervisory staff meetings

7.4.3 Conduct timely reviews of staff meeting notes with personnel in all work units.

Assigned to: DC. Zacharyasz, DC Janowski, Lt. O’Deens, Lt. Campbell, Lt. Russo, Lt. Mason

Objective 7.5 – Reduce Risk within the Jail Facility

Strategy:

7.5.1 Achieve 100% compliance with all standards identified by the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction.

7.5.2 Complete in-service use of force and defensive tactics training for all correction officers

Assigned to: Corrections Coordinator Chan, Sgt. Colegrove, Lt. Russo, DC Zacharyasz

Objective 7.6 – Ensure Reliability of Critical Personal Safety Equipment

Strategy:

7.6.1 Complete line inspections as required by policy.

Assigned to: Patrol Division: Lt. O’Deens, DC Janowski, Traffic Bureau: Sgt. Piorkowski, Lt. Campbell, DC Zacharyasz

7.6.2 Replace all personal body armor that has been in service for more than five years

Assigned to: DC Zacharyasz

Objective 7.7 – Property Room Inventory Management

Strategy:

7.7.1 Operate the property room with 100% inventory integrity, efficient processing of property and evidence, and the prompt release, disposal, auction, or conversion of property associated with completed cases

Assigned to: Lt. Mason, DC Janowski

Objective 7.8 – Improve Employee Health and Fitness through City Sponsored Wellness Programs

Strategy:

7.8.1 Provide an on-duty exercise program.

7.8.2 Encourage participation in the city’s wellness program.

7.8.3 Achieve 100% compliance with biometric screenings.

Assigned to: Lt. Russo, DC Zacharyasz

STRONGSVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

Resources on the Web

The Strongsville Police Department has resources available on our website and our Facebook page. Visitors to these online resources can access motor vehicle crash reports, learn about the organization and operation of the police department, access news, view crime prevention tips and access drug addiction resources. There is also information about our popular D.A.R.E. and Safety Town programs, child safety seat inspections, and an option to send an anonymous tip about criminal activity.

<http://www.strongsville.org/departments/police>

Follow or visit us on Twitter and Facebook:



@StrongsvillePD



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