



Moorhead Police Department



2021 Annual Report

MISSION STATEMENT

“Our mission is to maintain peace and order through the provision of police services that are of the highest quality and responsive to the needs of the community. We will contribute to the safety and security of the community by apprehending those who commit criminal acts, by developing partnerships to prevent, reduce or eliminate neighborhood problems, and by providing police services that are fair, unbiased, judicious, and respectful of the dignity of all individuals.”

Shannon Monroe
Chief of Police



VISION STATEMENT

We, the members of the Moorhead Police Department, are committed to working together in a problem-solving partnership *with the community* to prevent crime and improve the quality of life for all.

VALUE STATEMENTS

Safety - The protection of human life is our biggest priority.

Cooperation - We are committed to working cooperatively with the community and each other by encouraging open communication and active participation to achieve our mutual goals.

Fairness - We strive to resolve conflict through impartial enforcement of law. Everyone shall be treated equitably and compassionately.

Crime Prevention - We will work in a partnership with the community through positive role-modeling and education.

Diversity - We appreciate one another's differences and recognize that our unique skills, knowledge, abilities and backgrounds bring strength and caring to our community.

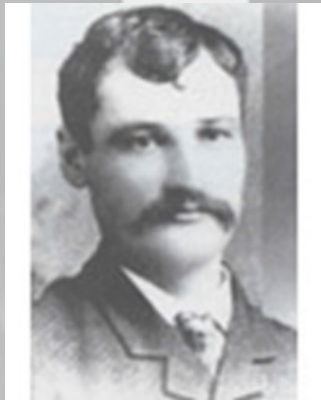
Professionalism - Our success depends on the trust and confidence of the community. We shall always engage in respectful behavior that reflects the honesty and integrity of police professionals.

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In Remembrance:

The department was established in 1881. Three of our police officers lost their lives in service to this community. In our efforts to honor their service and sacrifice to our community, we have dedicated our training rooms in the Law Enforcement Center to them, in remembrance. May we never forget that they gave up all their tomorrows for our todays. We are eternally grateful.



1888 – Officer Peter Poull, Jr.

Shot and killed by a murder suspect while assisting two other officers taken hostage at gunpoint at 8 Street and Center Avenue, where Wells Fargo now stands. The suspect was convicted and executed on September 20, 1889.



1899 – Officer Alexander "Sandy" McClean

Struck by falling debris while clearing people away from a house fire in what is now Viking Ship Park north of the Hjemkomst Center.



1930 – Officer Roy Larson

Shot and killed by Ray Liggett, a bank robber who fled from Fargo Police. Larson cornered the suspect near the coal shed of the Interior Lumber Company after several shoot outs with other officers. The suspect was arrested and sentenced to life.

Message from the Chief of Police

We have come through another year under the COVID-19 pandemic and though some staff members contracted it, everyone is doing well. From the beginning of COVID-19 when we knew very little about it and vaccines were not available yet, our officers and civilian staff were on the front lines serving our public professionally as they historically always have for over 140 years.

We now have had a full season of our Police Cadet Program as a foundation that we hope to build upon and create a pathway to policing for more women and minorities. We employed four cadets that performed work on non-emergency calls for service where we mutually learned from each other. As an agency, we learned to broaden perspectives and for the cadets they learned about patrolling our community while preparing for a career as a police officer.

2021 also marks our first year with a Crime Analyst on-board that helps the department in many ways including helping us to work smarter and not harder through more effective deployment of our resources into areas where we can have the most significant impact. Also, the added expertise in analytics has assisted our detectives in the use of technology to locate wanted persons and safely apprehend them.

Crime nationally has been on the rise and we have seen this locally as well. At the same time, many young people are not entering into this profession and some existing officers have left it. We are in a time where we need good people more than ever. We need to build stronger relationships with neighborhoods, citizens, and business owners as making our community safe is everyone's job. We also must have responsible legislation that improves policing and doesn't drive away would-be candidates.

The City of Moorhead has taken efforts to retain officers and be competitive in the hiring market which is changing rapidly. As Chief, I am so often impressed with the great work that our staff does to make our community safe. Our training staff takes good people and turns them into great officers. They are human and they make mistakes like anyone else, but we have a high standard and we strive to improve and be better every day.

I am soon entering my 31st year in law enforcement and 29th at the Moorhead Police Department. I am not originally from Moorhead, but made it my home where I have raised my family because it is a great community. The Moorhead Police Department has served the city since 1881, and stands ready to continue to evolve to serve you the best we can. Thank you for the privilege of serving you.



2021 Honor Guard Unit

The Moorhead Police Honor Guard Unit is comprised of ten officers that show a desire to display respect to this profession and represent this department in public appearances. The Honor Guard Unit is scheduled to train several times throughout the year but they were cancelled due to COVID-19 precautions. All members attend a week-long training at Camp Ripley presented by LEMA, The Minnesota Law Enforcement Memorial Association.

Our unit participated in several events in 2021. We attended the Law Enforcement Memorial Day program with other metro agencies in Fargo. Members took sole responsibility for the door-guard duty at West Fargo Lt. Adam Gustafson's wake. All available members attended the Gustafson funeral and performed a variety of duties. Members attended the funeral for Red Lake Police Officer Ryan Bialke. Additional events included presenting colors (flags) at the Greater Moorhead Day parade, the Moorhead Homecoming parade and football game.

Members Jensen and Schenck stepped down from the team this year. We appreciate their work and dedication to the team when they were involved. The team currently has two vacancies that will be filled in 2022. Equipment updates for 2021 included new boots for every member.





Moorhead Police Athletics and Activities League

2021 was the fourth year of the Moorhead Police Athletics and Activities League (PAL). Formed in 2017, the Moorhead PAL chapter has a continuing goal to reduce juvenile crime through establishing positive police contacts with area youth. The focus of the program is at-risk and disadvantaged youth. We run several events throughout the year and also manage the Police Explorer Post. Over 95 officers from the area volunteered over 400 hours to further our mission this year. The following are ways PAL connected with youth in 2021:

- Cops and Kids Hockey Games – 30 kids
- Bikes for Kids – 17 kids
- Shop-with-a-Cop sponsored by Target – 75 kids
- Explorer Post – 6 kids
- Giving Tree at Churches United for the Homeless – 40 kids
- Pitch, Hit, Run – 38 kids
- Books for Kids – 750 kids

In addition, PAL sponsored two baseball teams that were coached by officers that volunteered their time working with youth. Several officers coached other teams in other sports as well. Details on all these events can be found at www.moorheadpal.org and on our Facebook page. Moorhead PAL is a registered 501c3 and is governed by a board of directors that includes members of Moorhead education institutions, parks and recreation and citizens that help identify needs in the community.



Youth and Family Services Unit

The mission of the Youth and Family Service (YFS) Unit is to serve as youth mentors through constant presence and communication with youth to establish and build rapport, to educate through such courses as Drug Abuse Resistance Education (DARE) and the Summer Youth Program, and Change Starts with YOUth camp, in effort to impact prevention by offering healthy alternatives and finally to maintain order and deliver police services in the Moorhead School District.

Personnel



The YFS Unit personnel include two School Resource Officers (SROs) Officer Brian Dahl; Officer Jordan Werk; a full-time SRO/DARE Officer, Officer Ethan Meehan; Youth Service Coordinator Louis Ochoa; Captain Deric Swenson – Supervision; Sgt. Scott Kostohryz – Asst. Supervision, and Community Policing Coordinator Leann Wallin – Financial and Program Management. In August of 2021, SRO Brian Dahl retired after 27 years with the Moorhead Police Department, of which 18 of those years he spent as an SRO. Officer Brandon Heide transferred from the Patrol Division to the YFS Unit and became the SRO at Horizon Middle School. SRO Werk became the SRO/DARE Officer and SRO Meehan transferred to the High School.

Officer and SRO Meehan transferred to the High School.

History

The Moorhead Police Department began assigning officers to schools in 1999, through the assistance of grants to fund the positions. Prior to 1999, officers responded after an incident with an officer that did not know the involved children or the school officials and could only respond with enforcement action. Since 1999, the SROs have been accepted by the students and have established positive relationships with students. This relationship has made the officers more approachable and has led to tips and reports that have allowed the SROs and schools to intervene in numerous instances and head-off larger problems.

Programs

Drug Abuse Resistance Education (DARE): Founded in Los Angeles in 1983, and started in Moorhead in 1990. It is a police officer led curriculum that facilitates a discussion with children on how to resist peer pressure and live healthy, productive drug and violence free lives through making healthy choices and being bully free. The program has been ranked among the top three most cost-effective preventive programs by a study by Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA.) The study found that the cost benefit of \$28 in benefits for every \$1 spent. DARE is taught in the 5th grade in Moorhead and this year 467 students graduated from the program.



Moorhead Police Summer Youth Program (SYP): Funded through a grant from the Department of Public Safety, Office of Justice Programs, SYP is an eight week summer program for up to 200, 8-12 year-olds offering youth a healthy and educational summer alternative where the curriculum is mixed with fun and interesting activities. This year participants were provided a number of educational topics including safety and first-aid, bus safety, fire safety, fitness and wellness, and bike safety. Presentations were also given by the Moorhead Police Department K9 Units, Nature of the North, and the Red River Zoo. This year's program included several science experiments and art projects such as homemade slime and tie-dye shirts. We also attended two field trips to the Red River Zoo and Thunder Road Amusement Park.

Change Starts with YOUTH at-risk summer camp: This is a program designed for officers to work with a small group of at-risk youth, ages 12-15, which focuses on building positive relationships with law enforcement while learning about positive choices for a successful future. Participants are youth referred by school staff, social services, mental health professionals, probation officers and law enforcement officers. This summer ten boys spent a total of six days together under the guidance of SROs Dahl, Meehan and Werk and Youth Services Coordinator Louis Ochoa. Participants received education about Native American culture, tobacco use prevention, and bike safety. They also received presentations from the Moorhead Fire Department, Red River Valley SWAT Bomb Unit, and Minnesota State Community and Technical College. The students also participated in projects including community service work and documenting tobacco effects in their surrounding community. The boys enjoyed a team building exercise by completing an Escape Room.



Assignments

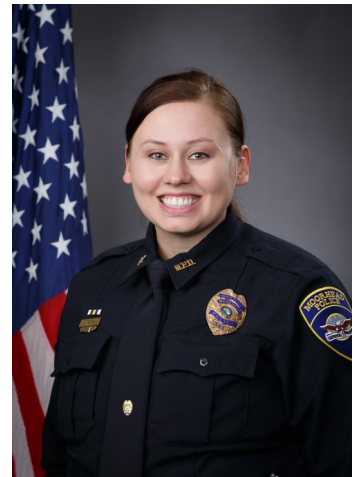
SRO Ethan Meehan

Officer Meehan is the School Resource Officer at the Moorhead High School. He is also a DARE instructor. He mentors students with various problems, handles police incidents and patrols on and around the school property. He gets into the classroom as much as he can to provide education on various topics. SRO Meehan teaches The Point of Impact class for the Driver's Education students at the high school and their parents in an attempt to make student drivers and their parents more aware of the responsibilities of being a prepared driver. In the summer, he assisted with the Change Starts with YOUTH at-risk camp, Summer Youth Program and filled patrol shifts.



SRO/DARE Officer Jordan Werk

Officer Werk served as a School Resource Officer in the elementary and middle schools providing law enforcement services. In addition, she taught 19 DARE classes in 2021. In the summer, she also assisted with coordinating the Change Starts with YOUTH at risk-camp, Summer Youth Program and filled patrol shifts.



SRO Brandon Heide

Officer Heide is assigned as the School Resource Officer for Horizon Middle School East Campus and Horizon Middle School West Campus. Horizon houses over 2,000 students between the two campuses with grades fifth through eighth. Officer Heide joined the YFS Unit just prior to the start of school. He spent time getting to know the students and administration and getting a feel for his new role as a SRO.



Youth Services Coordinator Louis Ochoa



YSC Ochoa is a non-sworn or civilian employee that during the school year works and teaches at the new Moorhead High School Career Academy and Moorhead Alternative Learning Center located at 2800 27th Avenue South in Moorhead. He works with youth that have disorderly/behavioral issues, truancy problems, and serves as a youth mentor. YSC Ochoa is involved with a program called “Seeking Educational Equity and Diversity” (SEED). SEED is about understanding our diverse population of students and families in our schools. It teaches about the different cultures in our community and how we can work with and understand our community. YSC Ochoa’s role is to work with families and students and mentor them by understanding their culture, their background, and beliefs. YSC Ochoa is also a part of the Building Emergency Response Team at the new Career Academy. During the summer, he assisted with the Change Starts with YOUTH at-risk camp, the Summer Youth Program, and conducted the juvenile Community Service Program.



Partnerships

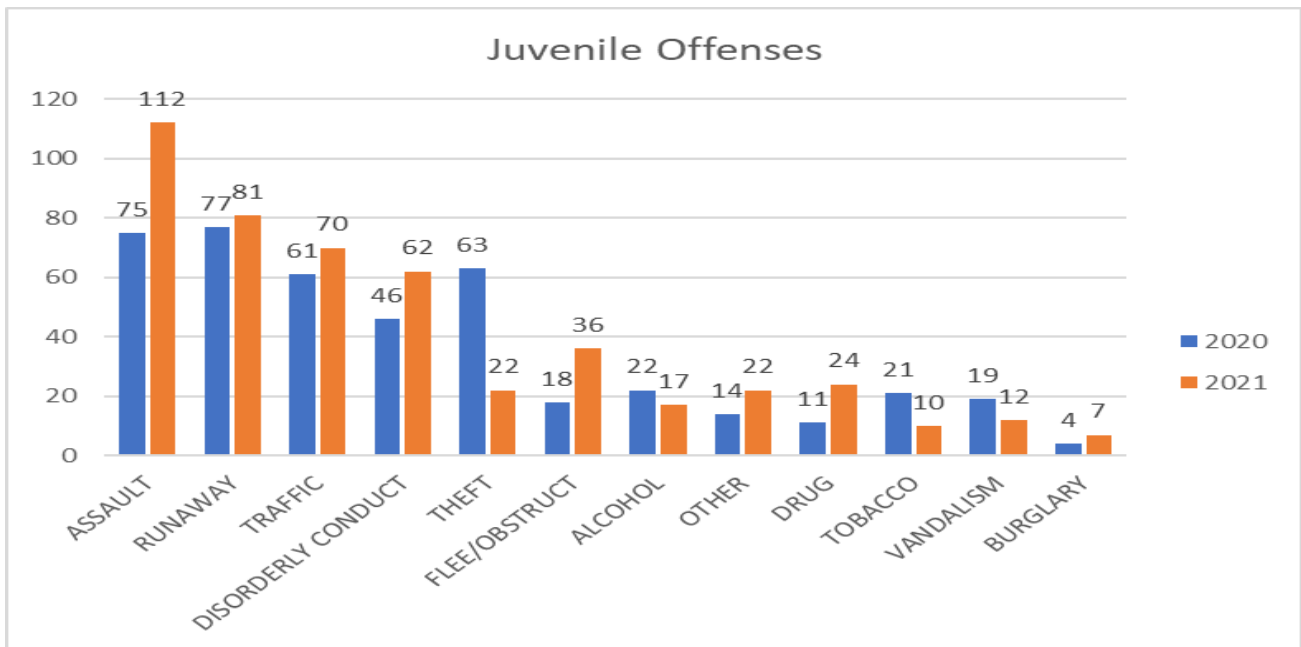
Our YFS team works collaboratively with Clay County Social Services, Moorhead Public Schools, Minnesota Department of Corrections, truancy intervention family advocates, Clay County Re-entry services, Clay County Attorney’s office, Clay County Restorative Justice, Clay County Sheriff’s Department, Lakeland Mental Health and Solutions. In addition to working with these agencies throughout the year, these agencies also provide staff to serve as volunteer mentors for our Summer Youth Program.

Another organization we partner with is Youth Intervention Programs Association (YIPA). MPD is a member of this non-profit association, made up of member organizations, who provide trainings for youth workers and provides advocacy to raise awareness, gain support, and secure funding for youth intervention programs. YSC Ochoa served the first year of his three-year term as the President on the board of the Minnesota Youth Intervention Programs Association (YIPA).

Juvenile Statistics

Following are the last two years worth of stats for the most common categories:

Offense Type	2020	2021
Assault	75	112
Runaway	77	81
Traffic	61	70
Disorderly conduct	46	62
Theft	63	22
Flee/obstruct	18	36
Alcohol	22	17
Other	14	22
Drug	11	24
Tobacco	21	10
Vandalism	19	12
Burglary	4	7
Grand Total	431	475



Community Service Referrals

Historical Data:

YSC Ochoa works with a partnership between the police, probation, social services, shelter care, and schools with youth at-risk by taking on juvenile court community service referrals where he takes kids out to work sites to complete community service sentences. Since 1997, 46,393 hours of community service work have been completed by youth. The community service work completed in Moorhead consists of tasks that benefit the City such as graffiti removal, transient camp clean-up, parks, ditches and public spaces cleaning, mowing, shoveling snow around fire hydrants, painting buildings, set-up and tear down for city events, inventory found and stolen bikes and the like which may have otherwise been completed by city personnel.

The Community Service Program was suspended in mid-March of 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The program did not resume until mid-May of 2021.

2021 Community Service Program Statistics: *Quarter 2-4 statistics

Total hours referred: 563

Total hours completed: 524

This is a 93% completion rate for 2021

Referrals are also made to the Community Service Program under the Juvenile Offender Restitution Program. Since 1997, 6,448 hours of restitution performed by area youth has equated to \$42,137. This money is paid back to victims.

2021 Juvenile Offender Restitution Program Statistics:

Total hours referred: 35

Total hours completed: 35

This is a 100% completion rate for 2021



Community Policing Coordinator Leann Wallin presents Operation Lifesaver's rail safety program to students and adults throughout the Moorhead-Fargo-West Fargo metro. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, in-person presentations were mostly suspended for 2021. She did complete five presentations to Moorhead High School Driver's Education classes, reaching a total of 150 students.

During National Rail Safety week, September 20-26, two Moorhead High School youth assisted Louis Ochoa and Leann Wallin with a stencil project to raise awareness of rail safety for pedestrians. They used spray chalk paint to stencil the "See Tracks? Think Train" logo on the sidewalks at several railroad crossings in downtown Moorhead.





Citizens Police Academy

The Moorhead Police Department hosted its 25th Citizens Police Academy (CPA) from September 9 to November 18, 2021, to a class of 24 students. This free program is open to all members of the community and is designed to help the public understand the policies, procedures and protocol of the police department as well as learn what it is like to be the men and women sworn to protect and serve this community. It is an opportunity for the Moorhead Police Department to hear directly about the concerns and needs of the citizens they serve. Several CPA graduates have gone on to become Moorhead Police Volunteers. The Citizens Police Academy Alumni Association was established as a way for participants to stay connected to the department.

Evaluations are given to students after each week, as well as a final, comprehensive evaluation at the end of the program. Here are just a few of the participant's comments:

"This experience far exceeded my expectations. I feel well armed with information about how the MPD works having viewed it from an inside look. I have always had a tremendous respect for law enforcement officers, but this up close and personal contact has elevated how I view officers. I will never again see just a uniform, but will always see the whole person – the highly trained, dedicated officer and the vulnerable human being. I will never take for granted the extremely valuable asset to our City in its police officers."

"Taking this class was an eye opener. It was very informative and changed how I view police."

"I'd like to thank you for providing this class, for your focus on working with the community, for working continually to improve MPD, and for risking your lives to serve the community. This class was very informative and has deepened my understanding."

"The entire experience has been beyond anything I expected – wonderful program!"

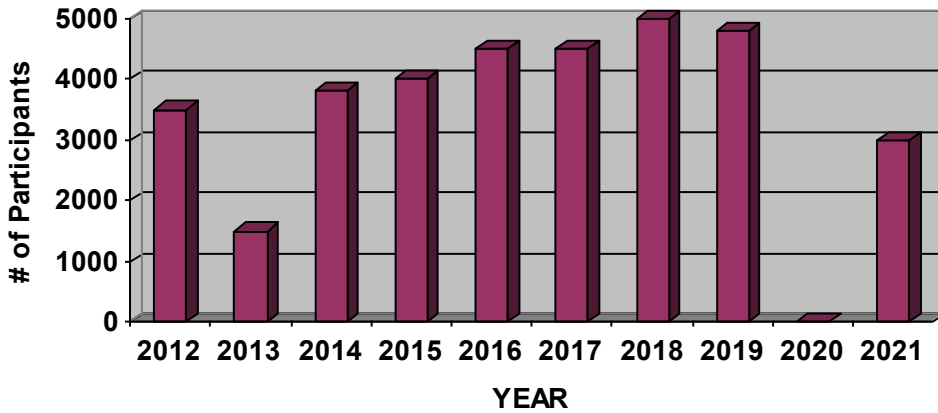
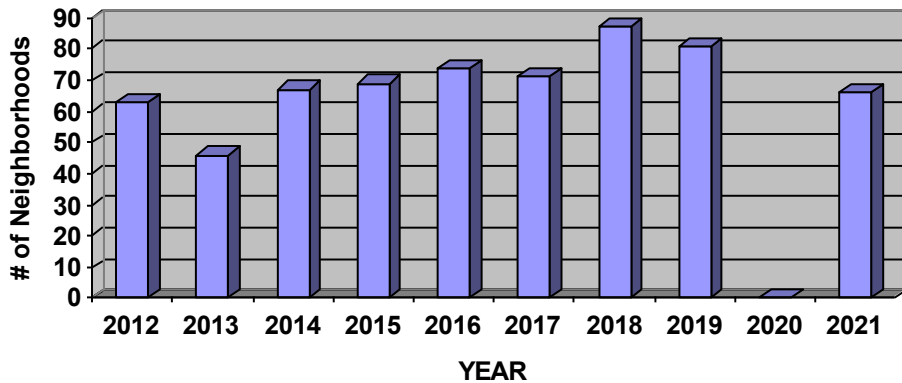
"This was a priceless experience. We take our calm, safe environment pretty much for granted."



Night To Unite



After not having Night to Unite in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic, many neighborhoods were anxious to gather together and celebrate this great night out in Moorhead. This year's event involved approximately 3,000 Moorhead residents in 66 different neighborhoods. Five neighborhoods joined in the fun this year by hosting their first parties! Hopefully they will continue participating and make it a tradition like so many neighborhoods have. The weather was beautiful and it was a perfect evening of neighbors connecting and uniting in their commitment to safe, crime-free neighborhoods.



Support Services

The Support Services Division consists of an Office Manager, 2 Support Services Supervisors, 4 full-time Records Specialists, 1 part-time Office Specialist, 1 full-time Evidence Technician/TAC, 2 full-time Power Typists, 3 part-time Power Typists, and 2 Community Service Officers (CSO).

Abby Frink and Chelsie Wertman joined the Records Division on 6/21/21 as full-time Records Specialists.

Records staff received over 22,532 phone calls in 2021, averaging 92 calls per day, 11 calls per hour.

They processed over 5,881 incident reports.

2,489 requests were made by the City and County Attorney's for squad videos, photos, audios, and other items.

1,279 incidents were referred to the City and County Attorney's Offices for prosecution.

Dictation: 6,051 audio files, squad videos and officer dictated reports were transcribed; over 4,666 hours of staff time was dedicated to transcribing these items. There was 993 hours of officer dictation.

394 impounded vehicles were processed and released.

Intake of 2,318 pieces of evidence and 83 Cellebrite cell phone exams.

1,072 predatory offender updates.

423 handgun permit requests were received and backgrounded.

1,705 requests for information were made from the public, military, social services, Department of Corrections, and other agencies.

4,519 parking tickets were issued by CSOs, PEOs and Police Volunteers. Records staff takes payment for these tickets, issues overdue and collection letters, as well as processes appeals.

692 Dog licenses and 159 cat licenses were sold and issued to pet owners.

Community Service Officers

Community Service Officers consist of two full-time positions. Harvey Moos and Jay Siebels spend their work days responding to animal complaints, vehicle unlocks, found/stolen bikes, parking complaints, parking enforcement, impound releases, found property, keeping patrol squads maintained, and delivering or transporting mail, supplies, equipment or evidence for the department.

In 2021, the Community Service Officers responded to a combined total of 1,943 calls for service to include:

- 308 vehicle unlock calls for service.
- 646 animal complaints; the department received 1,644 calls for service related to animal complaints.
- 150 dogs and 159 cats were impounded by the police department.
- 339 calls for release of impounded vehicles and personal property were completed by CSOs.





Crime Free Multi-Housing Program and Conduct on Registered Premises Ordinance 9-7-12

The Crime Free Multi-Housing Program and the city's Conduct on Registered Premises Ordinance are key components to ensuring safe, desirable rental properties while maintaining the integrity of their surrounding neighborhoods.

In accordance with City Ordinance 9-7-12, 142 letters were sent out to landlords/property managers notifying them of disorderly conduct on their premises. The top three offenses were noise ordinance violations, including loud parties, accounting for 64% of the letters; followed by drug offenses at 17%, and disorderly conduct/disturbances at 12%.

The spring Minnesota Crime Free Multi-Housing Program training to landlords and property managers was conducted virtually due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The spring session was held over the course of two evenings, 3/2 and 3/9, and had 42 attendees. Eight of the attendees were from outside the FM area who were able to take advantage of this training being held virtually. The fall training was conducted in-person on 10/26 and had 35 attendees. Ten attendees traveled from the Twin Cities Metro to attend as MPD was the only agency in Minnesota hosting a training.

The Successful Outcomes for Tenants and Landlords (SOFTL) committee, which Community Policing Coordinator Leann Wallin serves on, hosted two virtual training for landlords, property managers, tenants, and service providers:

- Attorneys with Legal Services of NW Minnesota and Legal Services of North Dakota presented on landlord and tenancy issues in the time of COVID on 2/18
- The Minnesota Department of Human Rights presented on service animals and emotional support animals under federal and state civil rights laws on 6/17

HOME Line, a Minnesota non-profit that provides free and low-cost legal, organizing, education, and advocacy services for tenants, hosted free weekly COVID-19 related webinars beginning in April of 2020 and continued through 2021. These webinars were a great way for tenants, landlords, property managers, and service providers to stay on top of matters pertaining to the Governor's Peace Time Emergency Orders specific to the moratorium on evictions, the RentHelpMN program, and the moratorium phaseout.

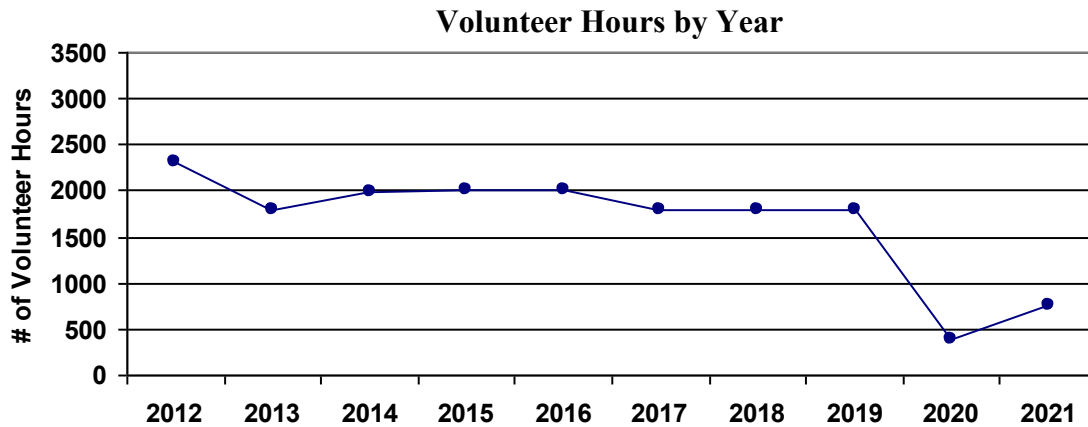
Community Policing Coordinator Leann Wallin attended the annual Minnesota Crime Prevention Association's conference in Mankato, 10/4–10/5, for continuing education credits in this field.



Volunteer Program

2021 Volunteers:

Ruthie Johnson	Annette Graves	Susan Spooner	Luis Coca Jr.
Eileen Hastad	Arlene Morey	Tammy Ehresman	Nolan Maier
Linda Laske	John Graves	Tiffany Footitt	Janice Coca
Beverly Olson	Russ Hanson	Myron Bowar	Leah Burney
Doug Morey	Jennifer Johnson	Judy Hoganson	



YEAR	HOUR
2012	2301
2013	1791
2014	1991
2015	2002
2016	2002
2017	1800
2018	1794
2019	1804
2020	395*
2021	748*

*The Moorhead Police Volunteer Program was suspended effective 3/19/20 due to the COVID-19 pandemic and remained suspended through April of 2021.

Measurable outcomes for the Police Volunteer Program are as follows: (Note: the Police Volunteer Program did not resume until May of 2021 and services were gradually brought back.)

- 1,268 tickets written in 2021, valued at \$32,575
- 748 volunteer hours contributed in 2021, for a total contributed value of \$15,142 calculated using the nationally recognized hourly rate for Minnesota
- 18 vacation residence checks were requested and performed numerous times each by volunteers while the homeowners were temporarily away
- 17 house checks on registered vacant properties performed numerous times per house until they are either occupied or demolished
- 2 new volunteers joined the department and 6 volunteers left the program
- 6 volunteers have been here for 5-9 years
- 7 volunteers have been here for 10 years or more

Special Projects in 2021

Volunteers worked four Saturdays from Thanksgiving to Christmas selling pet licenses at local stores during the tenth annual pet licensing campaign. Volunteers sold a total of 56 dog and cat licenses. Each week we promoted this service on our department’s Facebook page. Many residents thanked the volunteers for bringing this service back after not doing it in 2020, due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Volunteers conducted traffic control at four parades, one marathon, one bike race, four weeks of River Arts, 4th of July fireworks, Kidsfest at Bluestem, and Moorhead High School hockey games.

Volunteers served as youth mentors in the Moorhead Police Summer Youth Program, assisted the Police Athletics and Activities League with three of their events (Pitch, Run & Hit event; Cops and Kids baseball game; and wrapped gifts for Shop-with-a-Cop), and assisted with Night to Unite. Eight volunteers took on a special project where they drove around the city and documented “stop” and “yield” signs that were being blocked by low hanging tree branches. They also identified 142 “no parking” signs that were either extremely faded, bent, twisted, leaning, or were missing altogether.



Cadet Program

In 2021, Police Chief Shannon Monroe re-organized positions within the department making room in the budget to create the Police Cadet Program to provide a new opportunity with emphasis toward women and diversity. Cadet applicants must be pursuing a criminal justice related degree qualifying them to be future police officer candidates. The police department works with our local colleges to match students that are in their law enforcement related programs with our cadet positions. The four cadet positions are currently filled by students from MState, MSUM, and NDSU.

Cadets patrol parks and trails and gain experience through low-level calls for service such as animal complaints, vehicle unlocks, parking enforcement, and traffic control at vehicle accidents or parades. They work flexible evening and weekend hours allowing for assistance with both patrol and investigations staff. Through their employment, relationships are built both internally and within our community, targeting a desire to further serve the citizens of Moorhead as future police officers.

The Moorhead Police Department requires all new police cadets to complete training with community service officers. This equates to almost 80 hours of training that is demanding on both the cadets who are being trained and those who are trainers.

Current Cadets

Alexandra “Alli” Garding #22

Alli grew up in Becker, MN, and is in her final year at NDSU (Criminal Justice). She will be attending Alexandria’s Skills Program in the summer of 2022. She is hoping to gain further insight into law enforcement through her cadet position.



Nathan Wambach #23

Nathan grew up in Moorhead and is completing his final year at MState (Criminal Justice). He will be attending Alexandria’s Skills Program in the summer of 2022. Nathan hopes to gain experience and become a police officer with Moorhead PD.

Sam Mukanya Mukengeshayi #24

Sam grew up in Lubumbashi in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. He attended MState and graduated with his Criminal Justice degree in December 2021. Prior to moving to the United States, he graduated from the Durban Center of Photography in South Africa and worked as a photographer. He is hoping to learn more about our police department and the community.



Suham Ali #25

Suham grew up in Fargo, ND, and is attending MSUM (Criminal Justice) and previously graduated from MState in 2021. She will be attending the Fargo Police Department’s academy in the summer of 2022. She is “hoping to gain skills that will be helpful for a career in law enforcement” through her involvement with the Cadet Program.

Wellness Program

Dr. Aaron Suomala Folkerds serves as the Wellness Coordinator for the Moorhead Police Department. He is a Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist (LMFT), Lutheran Pastor, and Professor of Counseling at Minnesota State University-Moorhead. For the last six years, he has been affiliated with the Moorhead Police Department as a volunteer chaplain. After getting approval from the Moorhead City Council in spring of 2020, he officially took on the new position as an Embedded Mental Health Professional/Wellness Coordinator in April of 2020.



In this role he leads mental health and wellness related trainings for our officers. In the past two years, Dr. Folkerds has presented at numerous new officer academies. These trainings have focused on the importance of self-care and how to psychologically handle difficult calls that include severe trauma. He also talks about the importance of making use of debriefings after experiencing a traumatic call.

In addition to training Officers, Dr. Folkerds is available to talk to officers or staff about the personal and professional challenges that they face. He also serves with the Peer Assistance Response Team (PART) and helps with Critical Incident Stress Debriefing (CISD). Dr. Folkerds does not offer long-term counseling, but works as a bridge between the police department and counseling agencies in the community. If an officer needs additional assistance, he works to refer them to counselors or other mental health professionals in the community.

This program has received a lot of press in the news over the last two years. We have been in the Fargo Forum, on the news including WDAY and KVLV and we were interviewed by MN Public Radio. The work of a police officer is incredibly challenging and this program works to make sure that they have the tools and resources they need to take care of themselves. We look forward to this program continuing, to watch it evolve, and see how it can work to support the amazing work that Moorhead Police Officers and staff do for the community.

Patrol Division Annual Updates

The Patrol Division seeks to maintain social order and the quality of life through the enforcement of laws, the timely response to calls for service, the investigation of criminal offenses, the apprehension of offenders, the enforcement of traffic laws, and the furtherance of crime deterrence through the maintenance of a visible presence and collaboration with the community. The Patrol Division is often the first and only contact many citizens have with our police department. In 2021, the Patrol Division experienced several shortages due to retirement, attrition, injuries, and medical conditions.

The Patrol Division has a team of officers responsible for responding to all calls for police services 24 hours per day, located within the City of Moorhead. In addition, police officers assigned to our Patrol Division provide routine patrol to deter and detect both traffic and criminal violations of law. They also conduct criminal investigations and actively employ community oriented policing strategies to solve community problems. Police officers assigned to the Patrol Division are also assigned to specialty positions which include:

- Field Training Officers
- Canine Handlers
- SWAT Team Members
- Use of Force Instructors
- Firearms Instructors
- Emergency Vehicle Operation Course (EVOC) Instructors
- Tactical Medical Instructors
- Bike Patrol Officers
- Law Enforcement Explorer Post Advisors

The police officers assigned to our Patrol Division currently work the following shifts:

Day Shift	8:00 am – 6:00 pm
Evening Shift	4:00 pm – 2:00 am
Midnight Shift	10:00 pm – 8:00 am

The Patrol Division works with the “Team” concept. Each officer works with the same group of officers and sergeant for the entire six month period. Each shift is divided into Team A and Team B. Generally when one team is working, the other team is off. For the Evening and Midnight shifts, every other Tuesday and Thursday are considered all work days where both Team A and Team B are working at the same time. For the Day shift, it’s every other Wednesday and Friday. The rotation for Team A is 5 on, 4 off, 5 on, 4 off, 6 on, 4 off, and then it repeats every 28 days. The rotation for Team B is 4 off, 5 on, 4 off, 6 on, 4 off, 5 on, and repeats every 28 days also.

All sergeants and officers assigned to the Patrol Division rotate shifts every six months. The shift periods and rotation dates are:

- March 1 through August 31
- September 1 through February 28

Complaint Process

The Moorhead Police Department takes allegations of misconduct on the part of its members seriously, and at the same time actively solicits feedback on any officer conduct. Anyone wishing to file a complaint is provided with a bilingual handout which outlines the complaint process and contains our complaint form. This information is also posted on www.moorheadpolice.com and a complaint can be filed electronically as well. All complaints alleging misconduct by a member of the Moorhead Police Department are thoroughly investigated and recommendations are forwarded to the Chief of Police. The same system can be used to report exemplary service provided by members of the Moorhead Police Department.

Promotions

When Sergeant Joel Voxland left to become the Chief of Police for Barnesville, Detective Laddie Bata was promoted to sergeant on July 19, 2021. There are eight sergeants in the following positions:

- Investigations Sergeant = 1
- Administrative Sergeant = 1
- Days Shift Sergeant = 2
- Evening Shift Sergeant = 2
- Midnight Shift Sergeant = 2

Retirement

School Resource Officer Brian Dahl retired after 27 years of service with the Moorhead Police Department. He also worked as an officer with the Twin Valley Police Department and the Prince George County Police Department in Maryland. Officer Dahl had a passion to work with children and created many positive interactions with the youth in the Moorhead School District and our Summer Youth Program.



Staff Departures

During 2021, we had eight officers leave the department:

Officer Adam Jensen, was hired February 12, 2018, and resigned to go to the Stearns County Sheriff's Office on February 7, 2021.

Officer Brad Schenck, was hired February 28, 2005, and left on a medical disability on June 24, 2021.

Officer Mike Fildes, was hired on January 4, 2010, and resigned to go work with the Clay County Sheriff's Office on April 13, 2021.

Sergeant Joel Voxland was hired on April 14, 2003, and resigned to become the Barnesville Police Chief on June 17, 2021.

School Resource Officer Brian Dahl was hired on February 16, 1993, and retired on August 20, 2021.

Officer Amanda Mohs was hired on May 7, 2018, and resigned to move with her family on September 9, 2021.

Officer Maria Bischoff was hired on December 2, 2019, and resigned to go work with the Plymouth Police Department on September 27, 2021.

Officer Dylan Watt was hired on November 16, 2020, and resigned on January 15, 2021.

Field Training Unit

Our department maintains a Field Training Unit as part of our Patrol Division. It is the responsibility of this unit to partner with the Investigations Unit to conduct pre-employment background investigations on police officer candidates and to provide the initial training to our new police officers.

Mission Statement: The Moorhead Police Department, in keeping with community expectations for professional police service, has established the Field Training Officer (FTO) Program. The mission of the Moorhead Police Department Field Training Officer Program is to prepare Officers in Training (OITs) to perform the essential duties of a police officer and to enhance the professionalism of patrol work through continuous quality improvement.

The year 2021, was a very active training year for the Moorhead Police Department, which has become normal with the police staffing crisis in our country. There were 29 officers (approximately 1/2 of the entire department) that had been a part of the formal training program in 2021, and the FTO training team delivered three New Officer Academies for applicants.

2021 Hired Applicants

Brandon Johnson #310: Hired on March 1, 2021. Officer Johnson resigned on March 23, 2021, while in the training program.

Ben Bauer #317: Hired on March 1, 2021. Officer Bauer performed well during the training program and graduated August 7, 2021. He has been assigned to the Patrol Division. Officer Bauer passed probation on March 1, 2022.

Sydney Mark #326: Hired on March 1, 2021. Officer Mark performed well during the training program and graduated on August 12, 2021. She has been assigned to the Patrol Division. Officer Mark passed probation on March 1, 2022.

Luke Lindell #338: Hired on March 1, 2021. Officer Lindell performed well during the training program and graduated on August 8, 2021. He has been assigned to the Patrol Division. Officer Lindell passed probation on March 1, 2022.

Manny Reyes #303: Hired on June 14, 2021. Officer Reyes resigned from employment on October 26, 2021, while in the training program.

Jesse Collins #308: Hired on June 14, 2021. Officer Collins performed well during the training program and graduated on January 18, 2022. He has been assigned to the Patrol Division.

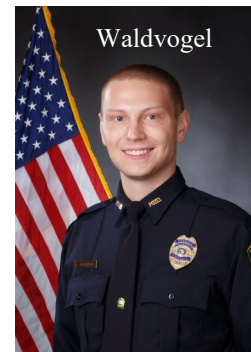
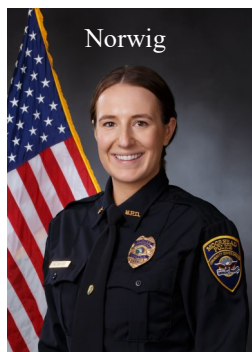
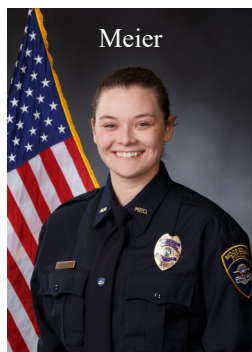
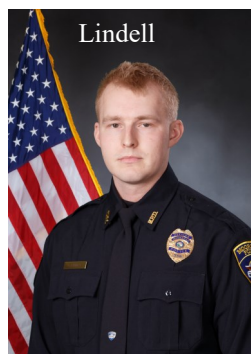
Logan Waldvogel #310: Hired on June 14, 2021. Officer Waldvogel performed well during the training program and graduated on November 19, 2021. He has been assigned to the patrol Division.

Martin Hayes #330: Hired on October 4, 2021. Officer Hayes resigned from employment on January 31, 2022, while in the training program.

Elizabeth Meier #332: Hired on October 4, 2021. Officer Meier performed well during the training program and graduated on March 6, 2022. She has been assigned to the Patrol Division.

Melissa Norwig #334: Hired on October 4, 2021. Officer Norwig resigned from employment on April 1, 2022, while in the training program.

Leif Johnson #345: Hired on October 4, 2021. Officer Johnson resigned from employment on April 1, 2022, while in the training program.



2020 Hires Graduating or Resigning from FTO in 2021

Hunter Churness #313: Hired on June 29, 2020. Officer Churness graduated from the FTO program on January 29, 2021. He was assigned to the Patrol Division and performed well during his probationary period. Officer Churness passed probation on June 29, 2021.

Ethan Halvorson #336: Hired on June 29, 2020. Officer Halvorson graduated from the FTO program on February 6, 2021. He was assigned to the Patrol Division and performed well during his probationary period. Officer Halvorson passed probation on June 29, 2021.

Dylan Watt #303: Hired on November 16, 2020. Officer Watt resigned from employment on January 14, 2021, while in the training program.

Pre-Employment

Applicants for full time peace officer positions in Minnesota (MN) must be eligible for licensing as a peace officer before they can be hired. Eligible for licensing in Minnesota means that the person has: completed a MN POST (Peace Officer Standards and Training) Board approved education program, passed a MN law enforcement skills training program, and passed a written test administered by the MN POST Board. The education programs are either two or four year programs and they are available at numerous colleges located throughout Minnesota.

The Moorhead Police Department extensively recruits new police officer candidates by attending various law enforcement career fairs held throughout the state. We actively try to recruit police officer applicants of diverse backgrounds and female police officer applicants.

Potential Candidates

Each finalist for employment as a Moorhead Police Officer is subject to a thorough pre-employment background investigation, which is supervised by Lt. Brad Penas. Our Investigators and/or Field Training Officers (FTO) spend approximately fifty hours conducting each background investigation. Much of this investigation is done in person and thus it requires travel to many locations. At the conclusion of this investigation a report is completed. Our Deputy Chief and Chief then review these reports and determine if the candidate passed the investigation. Once a candidate passes our pre-employment background investigation they must pass a medical examination and a comprehensive psychological examination. Once a new officer is hired we do everything we can to help that officer successfully complete their field training.

New Hire – Probationary Officer

The hiring, equipping, and training of a new police officer is very expensive. From the start of the hiring process through when officers complete their training and are working on their own, the department invests over \$100,000. These costs include approximately \$18,000 to establish a hiring list made up of advertising the openings, giving a written test, conducting the pre-employment background investigations, medical testing, and a psychological exam. Uniforms and equipment for a new officer is about \$12,000 per

officer. Our Field Training Program cost is approximately \$11,000 for each group of new officers we hire. The remainder of the cost is the salaries of the involved employees. Our department tries very hard to retain our officers because of the investment we have placed in hiring, equipping, and training them.

New Officer Academy

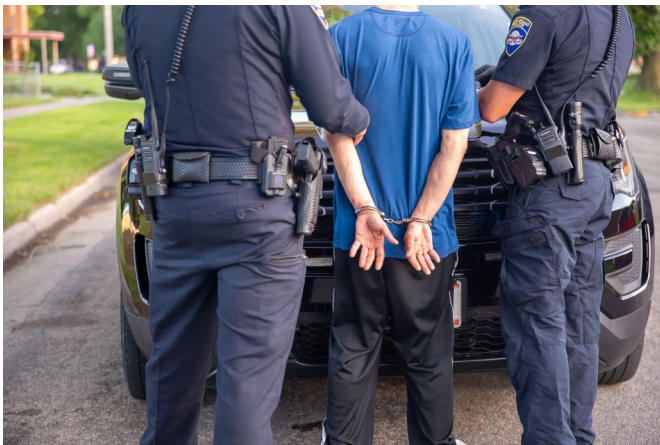


The field training program starts with a 150 hour New Officer Academy in which the new hires will receive classroom training on department expectations, computers, report writing, crime scene processing, patrol procedures, domestic abuse investigations, standardized field testing (DUI), emergency vehicle operations, ARMER radio, peer advisory crisis teams and the Moorhead chaplains program. The New Officer Academy includes intense training and

qualifications in handgun, patrol rifle, Taser and defensive tactics. The New Officer Academy finishes with 40 hours of scenario based training to include: traffic stops, building searches, felony stops and force on force scenarios. One purpose of our academy is to train our new officers in the skills that are required before they start working in uniform as a Moorhead Police Officer. Many of these skills are use of force related. Our academy also provides an introduction to many of the skills that they will need to master before they graduate from our formal Field Training Program. These skills include topics like report writing, conflict resolution, street level investigations and learning our various computer systems.

Uniformed Field Training

After New Officer Academy, new police officers are assigned to our formal Field Training Program. We use the Sokolove/Field Training Associates method of field training, which is a coach based theory. This training program is generally sixteen work weeks in length. It can be modified to be slightly shorter, or longer, in length to meet the training needs of individual new police officers. During this program new police officers are always working with a Field Training Officer (FTO). They are assigned to each officer for generally four work weeks. Our new police officers' performance is evaluated daily. The purpose of this evaluation is to provide constructive feedback to increase the new officer's learning. Our Field Training Program also includes a comprehensive training manual. Each week our new officers are taught the topics that are required for them to succeed as a Moorhead Police Officer.



Field Training Officers

Our Field Training Officers are selected by our Chief of Police from the members of our Patrol Division. When we have an opening for a Field Training Officer we post the opening and any interested officers apply for this assignment. They are appointed by the Chief of Police after he considers input from their supervisors, our existing Field Training Officers, and our Community Policing Coordinator. New Field Training Officers attend a 24 hour long training course which certifies them as Field Training Officers.

Field Training Officers are the backbone to the success of the training program. They are historically strong performers and leaders within the Patrol Division.

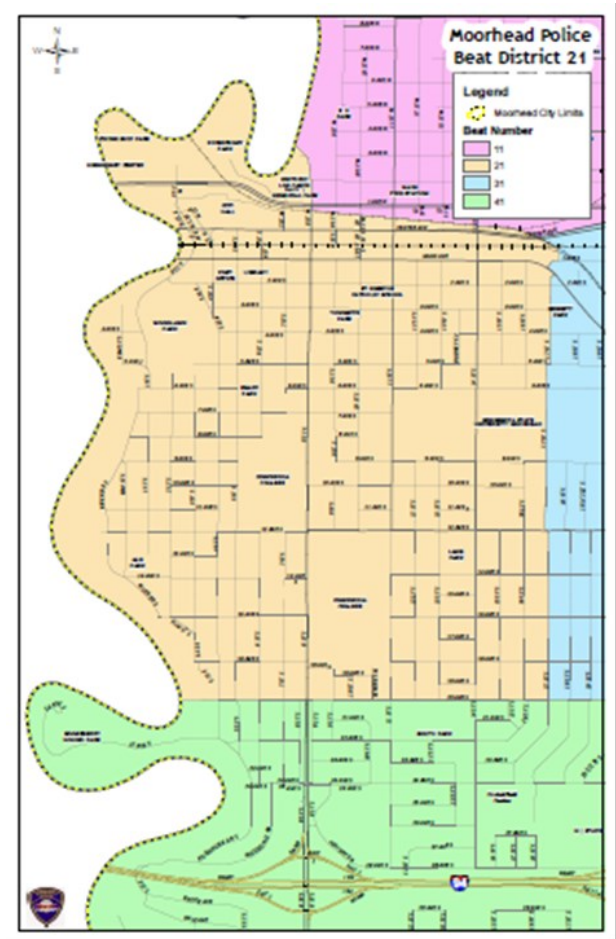
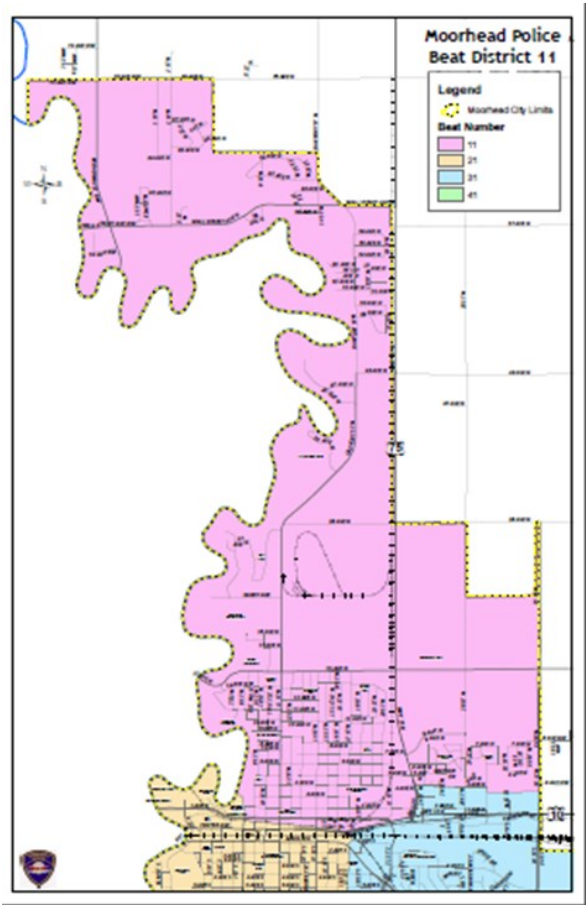
The following officers (listed by department seniority) were active Field Training Officers during 2021:

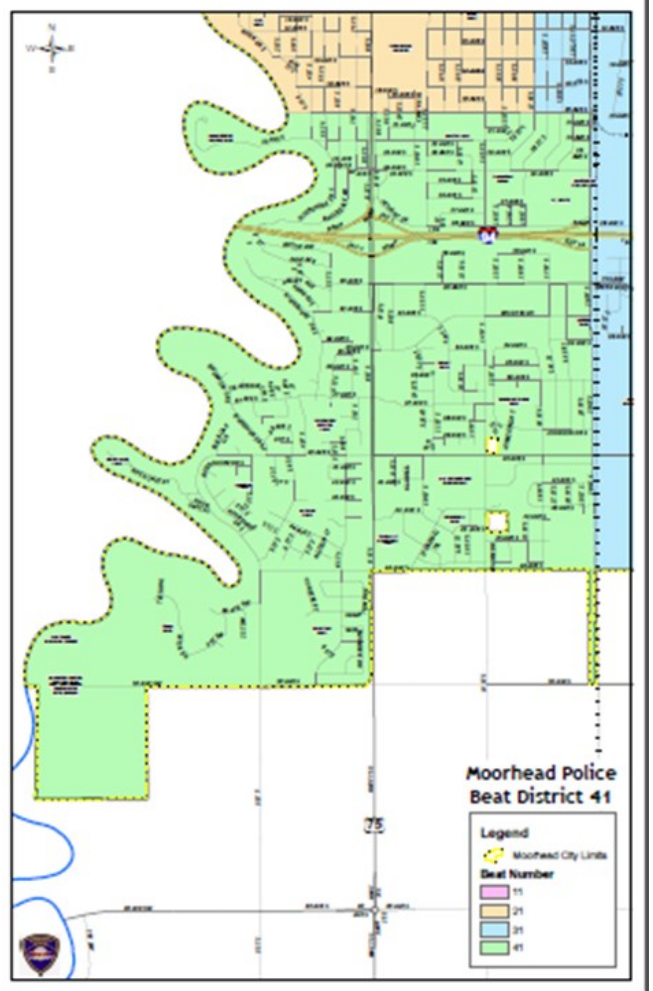
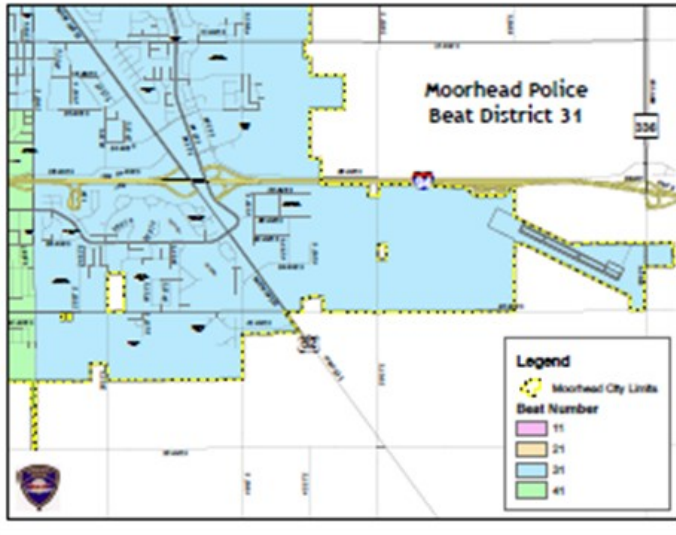
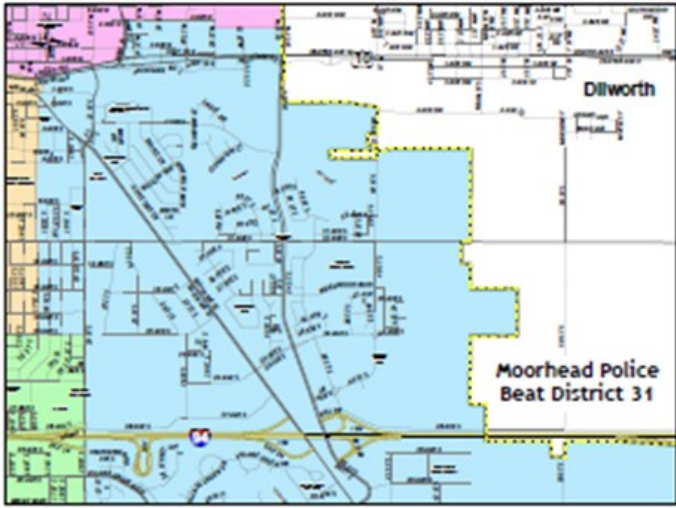
- Officer Matt Lambert #319
- Officer Jonathan Hanson #339
- Michael Fildes #330 (Started with Clay County in March 2021)
- Officer Zach Johnson (K9) #320 (resigned from FTO position in 2021)
- Officer Andy Werk #316
- Officer Joe Secord #337
- Officer Shaun Van Dyke #346 (assigned to Investigations in 2021)
- Officer Jordan Werk #343
- Officer Adam Jensen #308 (Started with Sterns County in February 2021)
- Officer Kyle Huewe #306 (Joined FTO Team in 2020)
- Officer Dalton Yagow #347 (Joined FTO Team in 2021)
- Officer Cuyler Johnson #348 (Joined FTO Team in 2021)
- Officer Michelle Voeltz #342 (Joined FTO Team in 2021)
- Officer Mac Schultz #315 (Joined FTO Team in 2021)

Our Field Training Unit is supervised by Captain Deric Swenson and Sergeant Chris Martin.

Community Policing

Moorhead Police Officers are committed to building and maintaining problem solving partnerships within the community. Our officers are committed to providing police services that are fair, impartial, and professional. Our Patrol Division is dedicated to Moorhead Police Department's philosophy of community oriented policing. As part of this philosophy, officers are assigned to work permanent areas of the community, which we call beats. We also assigned a patrol sergeant to identify and address issues in their beats with their team members from all the shifts. By focusing on problem areas, they were able to recognize solutions to reduce repeat calls in the longer term. The City of Moorhead is divided into four specific beats. Our beats are displayed below:





Supervisors and Patrol Officers Assigned to the Patrol Division (End of Year 2021)

Supervisors:

Lieutenant Mike Detloff
Sergeant Scott Kostohryz
Sergeant Joe Brannan
Sergeant Clint Stephenson
Sergeant Robb Matheson
Sergeant John "Laddie" Bata (Promoted 7/19/2021)
Sergeant Nick Leinen

Police Officers Assigned to the Patrol Division:

Officer Shawn Griego	Officer Mackenzie Schultz
Officer Adam Breth	Officer Cuyler Johnson
Officer Matt Lambert	Officer Nick Bjorndahl
Officer Jesse Myers	Officer Brett Kvam
Officer Jonathan Hanson	Officer Brandon Heide (SRO)
Officer Ethan Meehan (SRO)	Officer Michelle Voeltz
Officer Zach Johnson	Officer Rob Reller
Officer Andy Werk	Officer Kaden Oldham
Officer Joe Secord	Officer Hunter Churness
Officer Brett Musich	Officer Ethan Halvorson
Officer Eric Zimmer	Officer Ben Bauer
Officer Jessica Horn	Officer Sydne Mark
Officer Jordan Werk (SRO)	Officer Luke Lindell
Officer Anastacia Hermes	Officer Jesse Collins
Officer Kyle Huewe	Officer Logan Waldvogel
Officer Michaela Bolgrean	Officer Martin Hayes (FTO Program)
Officer Dalton Yagow	Officer Beth Meier (FTO Program)
Officer Matt Hanson	Officer Melissa Norwig (FTO Program)
	Officer Leif Johnson (FTO Program)



Moorhead Police Use Crime Analysis to Aid Intelligence-Led Policing

As the metro population grows, it is increasingly vital for the Moorhead Police Department to be efficient with its resources. In order to better understand and respond to crime trends in the community, the department added its first Crime Analyst, Cameron Jenson, in March 2021. “This position has been a goal of mine for the department since becoming Chief as I believe intelligence-led policing is critical to utilizing our resources efficiently and effectively” Monroe said.

As Crime Analyst Jenson provides reports, analysis, and investigative support to the department’s administration, detectives, and patrol officers. He combines information gathered from briefings with data collected by the department to identify crime patterns occurring in the community. Jenson also uses mapping software to visualize where specific crime types occur throughout the city.



While larger police agencies might have multiple analysts with specialized roles, Jenson’s time is split among numerous departmental projects. “My role has evolved over the course of the last year as I have received training to develop skills and techniques within the field, as well as implement new software to leverage during investigations and regular analysis” Jenson said. He added that building from the ground up in a new position has been challenging but rewarding. “We’re learning something new every day. Crime analysis will continue to benefit the community in ways we may not even have imagined yet.”

Moorhead Police Department - 2021 Crime Statistics (NIBRS)

Group A Offenses		Group B Arrests	
Crimes Against Persons	Offense Counts	Offense	Offense Counts
Murder & Non-negligent Manslaughter	2	Bad Checks (Decommissioned January 2022)	0
Negligent Manslaughter	0	Curfew/Loitering/Vagrancy Violations	0
Kidnapping/Abduction	4	Disorderly Conduct	71
Rape	23	Driving Under the Influence	99
Sodomy	3	Drunkenness (Decommissioned January 2022)	6
Sexual Assault With An Object	2	Family Offenses, Nonviolent	1
Fondling	31	Liquor Law Violations	7
Aggravated Assault	183	Peeping Tom (Decommissioned January 2022)	0
Simple Assault	252	Runaway	0
Intimidation	64	Trespass of Real Property	41
Incest	0	All Other Offenses	146
Statutory Rape	0	Total Group B Arrests	371
Human Trafficking, Commercial Sex Acts	0		
Human Trafficking, Involuntary Servitude	0		
Subtotal - Crimes Against Persons	564		
Crimes Against Property	Offense Counts	2021 Crime Summary	
Robbery	21	2021 Population Estimate	44,488
Arson	8	Offense Total (Group A)	2,988
Extortion/Blackmail	0	Number Cleared	863
Burglary/Breaking & Entering	277	Percent Cleared	28.9%
Pocket-picking	6	Group A Crime Rate (per 100,000 people)	6,716
Purse-snatching	3		
Shoplifting	196	Total Arrests	1,057
Theft From Building	42	Adult Arrests	961
Theft From Coin-Operated Machine or Device	2	Juvenile Arrests	96
Theft From Motor Vehicle	233		
Theft of Motor Vehicle Parts or Accessories	82		
All Other Larceny	363		
Motor Vehicle Theft	158		
Counterfeiting/Forgery	48		
False Pretenses/Swindle/Confidence Game	67		
Credit Card/Automated Teller Machine Fraud	47		
Impersonation	77		
Welfare Fraud	2		
Wire Fraud	10		
Identity Theft	12		
Hacking/Computer Invasion	0		
Embezzlement	2		
Stolen Property Offenses	107		
Destruction/Damage/Vandalism of Property	387		
Bribery	0		
Subtotal - Crimes Against Property	2150		
Crimes Against Society	Offense Counts		
Drug/Narcotic Violations	171		
Drug Equipment Violations	50		
Pornography/Obscene Material	16		
Betting/Wagering	0		
Operating/Promoting/Assisting Gambling	0		
Gambling Equipment Violation	0		
Sports Tampering	0		
Prostitution	1		
Assisting or Promoting Prostitution	0		
Purchasing Prostitution	0		
Weapon Law Violations	37		
Animal Cruelty	2		
Subtotal - Crimes Against Society	277		
Total Group A Offenses	2991		

Moorhead Police Department - Historical Crime Statistics (Summary Reporting System)

Part I Offense	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	% Change from 2020
Murder/ Manslaughter	0	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	3	2	-33%
Rape	16	3	20	22	20	26	9	22	44	28	-36%
Robbery	5	6	12	8	14	11	10	12	16	20	25%
Aggravated Assault	43	28	37	45	33	52	42	27	106	158	49%
Arson	16	6	7	1	1	0	2	3	5	8	60%
Burglary	145	158	127	144	169	130	131	112	290	270	-7%
Larceny	688	645	643	744	712	655	815	421	883	911	3%
Auto Theft	32	44	57	90	91	104	78	76	130	143	10%
Human Trafficking				1	0	0	0	0	0	0	N/A
Part I Total	945	891	904	1056	1041	979	1087	673	1477	1540	4%
Part II Offense	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	% Change from 2020
Assault (Simple)	266	270	347	327	307	271	285	225	279	194	-30%
Forgery	9	35	21	77	24	45	55	39	36	47	31%
Fraud	128	104	156	124	133	106	122	72	147	187	27%
Vandalism	275	235	266	325	274	259	278	128	263	276	5%
Drug Abuse Viola- tions	129	134	169	128	156	135	177	86	95	123	29%
Sex Offenses/ Prostitution	39	41	29	51	39	16	25	18	25	23	-8%
Family/Children	13	42	20	16	8	7	9	15	4	2	-50%
Liquor Laws	204	117	112	112	71	54	53	21	15	8	-47%
Weapons	8	10	11	6	15	15	16	14	23	24	4%
Disorderly Conduct	322	300	308	379	298	263	282	162	129	95	-26%
D.U.I.	289	225	168	203	221	164	204	89	75	104	39%
Stolen Property	8	3	16	29	36	27	25	21	59	89	51%
Gambling	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	N/A
Other Offenses	281	333	351	487	447	458	545	298	317	206	-35%
Part II Total	1971	1849	1974	2264	2029	1820	2077	1188	1467	1378	-6%
Grand Total	2916	2740	2878	3320	3070	2799	3164	1861	2944	2918	-1%

As of 2021, Minnesota law enforcement agencies switched to the Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS) which was implemented to improve the overall quality of crime data collected. NIBRS provides more robust incident-level data by capturing separate offenses within the same incident as well as other details. The previous UCR Summary Reporting System (SRS) used a hierarchy rule which only counted the most serious offense for crime incidents where multiple offenses occur.

The Moorhead Police Department's 2021 NIBRS data cannot be compared to previous years of Summary Reporting System data due to the disparate methods of reporting including counting offenses and the hierarchy rule. Future annual crime statistics will be presented in the NIBRS format which will allow for year-to-year comparison. Moorhead Police Department's 2021 data is also available on the MN BCA's online interactive Crime Data Explorer which can be found at <https://cde.state.mn.us/>.

K-9 Unit

With K9 Argo retiring from the Moorhead Police Department on December 31st, 2020; we welcomed K9 Zeke to the patrol division. K9 Zeke came to us from Phoenix, Arizona and is currently assigned to Patrol Officer Musich. Zeke is a German Shepherd who was born in Arizona. Officer Musich and K9 Zeke went through a rigorous 12-week training academy before returning to Moorhead in the Spring of 2021.

Each year, our K9 teams are required to show continued proficiency in both narcotic detection and patrol work. This is achieved by maintaining at least 16 hours of training each month as well as certifying annually with the National Police Canine Association (NPCA). Kash and Zeke are certified in and will alert to the presence of a number of narcotics to include Methamphetamine, Cocaine, and Heroin. They are also skilled in building searches, area searches, article searches, and physical apprehensions.

In the police world, K9s are an unmatched asset to the department and offer skills that simply cannot be compared to the human officers working the street. Canines noses are immeasurably powerful and aid them in detecting illegal narcotics as well as locating articles holding human scent. The simple presence of a K9 at a scene can assist in de-escalating situations where violent offenders are willing to fight with human officers, however, do not want to have contact with police canines. Kash and Zeke continually show how big of an asset they are to the Moorhead Police Department as well as the greater Cass and Clay Counties.



Significant Deployments from 2021:

On 01/07/2021, Officers were dispatched to the report of a residential burglary. The caller observed three people enter his residence via security camera and that they had not left since. Upon arrival, K9 Kash was deployed with officers to the door the individuals were last seen entering. K9 warnings were given and after a short period of time, a male gave up and came up from the basement. A second K9 warning was given after the male was taken into custody due to him stating a female was still inside. A short time later, a female came up from the basement and gave up. The male had numerous warrants through an outside agency.

On 01/20/2021, Officer Johnson attempted to stop a vehicle for no registration. The vehicle immediately fled and a pursuit was started. The vehicle fled into a park and became stuck in the snow. The driver fled on foot through the park and K9 warnings were given to the male. The male became confrontational and immediately began coming at Officer Johnson. K9 Kash was deployed from the vehicle and the male was physically apprehended. K9 Kash maintained control of the suspect until Officers were able to safely take the male into custody.

Significant Deployments continued:

On 02/16/2021, Officers were called to North Moorhead to locate a male who had absconded from a work release program in Hubbard County, Minnesota. As officers were attempting to contact the tenants of the apartment, the male jumped off the balcony and fled on foot into a nearby apartment building. The male made entry into an unknown male's apartment and barricaded himself inside. K9 Kash was requested to assist in attempting to locate the male inside. K9 Kash was sent into the apartment where he began checking doors inside the unit. Kash alerted to the bathroom door and the male yelled that he was giving up. The male was taken into custody without incident.

On 04/22/2021, Officer Musich was requested to assist officers on a traffic stop with his K9 partner, Zeke. Officer Musich directed Zeke to begin searching for illegal narcotics on the vehicle. Officer Musich observed several behavior changes during the sniff. K9 Zeke alerted to the odor of illegal narcotics on a duffle bag in the back seat as well as the trunk seam. During the search of the vehicle, 13.6 grams of suspected methamphetamine and other drug paraphernalia were located.

On 07/03/2021, Officer Johnson and his K9 partner Kash were requested by the Clay County Sheriff's Office to assist with locating two individuals that had fled from a rural property after stealing several catalytic converters off of vehicles. The vehicle fled from the deputies and was located after it had crashed into a fence on another rural property. K9 Kash was directed to begin tracking from the vehicle. Kash began leading officers along the fence line where a backpack was located. As we got closer to the tree line, a male came out of the woods and gave up after seeing Kash pulling towards him. Kash continued tracking along the fence line and pulled through the fence away from where the other male was located. Kash began pulling harder and a T-shirt was located on the ground. Another male was located approximately 500 yards from where the shirt was located. Both males were taken into custody without incident.

On 07/23/2021, Officer Musich was requested to assist on a vehicle sniff with K9 Zeke. Zeke was deployed to begin searching for the odor of illegal narcotics around the exterior of the vehicle. During the search, Zeke alerted to the odor of illegal narcotics and a subsequent search of the vehicle yielded 19.6 grams of methamphetamine and 2.3 grams of black tar heroin.

On 11/11/2021, Officer Johnson was attempting to locate a male with numerous felony warrants. Officer Johnson observed the male exit an apartment and when the male saw Officer Johnson, he immediately fled back inside. K9 Kash was deployed to the apartment door after giving numerous K9 announcements. Kash was sent into the apartment and began alerting on a closet in the bathroom. Officers attempted to order the male out of the closet, however, he refused. Kash was sent into the closet where he physically apprehended the male who was hiding under many items. The male taken into custody at that time.

On 11/17/2021, Officer Johnson and K9 Kash were requested by the narcotics detectives to assist on a sniff of a vehicle. K9 Kash was deployed on the vehicle and directed to search for illegal narcotics. Kash showed several changes in behavior and a search of the vehicle yielded approximately 350 illegal fentanyl laced pills.

On 11/28/2021, Officer Johnson located an occupied stolen vehicle. Upon seeing Officer Johnson, the female driver fled at a high rate of speed. A pursuit was initiated and was ultimately terminated a short time later. Officer Johnson located the vehicle again and was directed to a garage where the female broke into to as an attempt to hide from officers. Officer Musich and K9 Zeke were requested to assist in locating the female inside the garage. Numerous K9 warnings were given to the female inside, however, she refused to come out. K9 Zeke was sent into the garage where he ultimately located and physically apprehended the female. K9 Zeke was able maintain control of the female until officers were able to safely take her into custody.

K-9 Kash's Year End Statistics

Incident Activity Summary

MOORHEAD POLICE DEPARTMENT

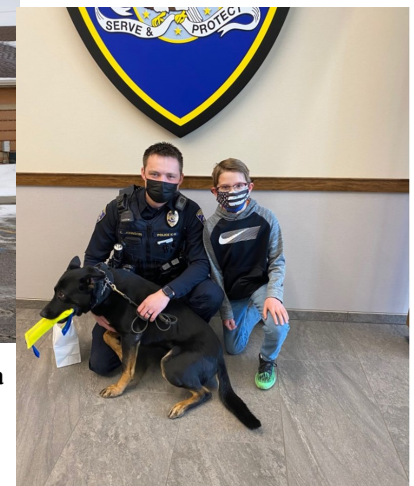
2021-01-01 to 2021-12-31



Incident Activity	Unit Count	Units	# of Events
K9: Kash			
Alert	14.00	Each	12
Apartment Sniff	9.00	Each	9
Area Search	4.00	Search(es)	4
Building Search Commercial	1.00	Search(es)	1
Building Search Residential	5.00	Search(es)	5
Cocaine Amount	16.40	Gram(s)	1
Criminal Apprehension	17.00	Arrest(s)	13
Demo	1.00	Demo	1
Drug Para	6.00	Each	6
Felony Stop Deployment	1.00		1
Fentanyl	343.00	Each	1
Fentanyl	1.20	Gram(s)	1
Heroin Amount	17.10	Gram(s)	2
Methamphetamine Amount	8.80	Gram(s)	3
No Alert	17.00	Each	13
Track Successful	2.00	Track(s)	2
Track Unsuccessful	6.00	Track(s)	6
Vehicle Sniff	19.00	Each	15
Totals:	488.50		96



K9 Unit receiving a generous donation from Mike Sojka



K9 Goodie Bags donated by Aiden Detloff

K-9 Zeke's Year End Statistics

Incident Activity Summary

MOORHEAD POLICE DEPARTMENT

2021-01-01 to 2021-12-31



Incident Activity	Unit Count	Units	# of Events
K9: Zeke			
Alert	18.00	Each	17
Apartment Sniff	3.00	Each	3
Area Search	1.00	Search(es)	1
Building Search Commercial	1.00	Building(s)	1
Building Search Commercial	1.00	Each	1
Building Search Commercial	3.00	Search(es)	3
Building Search Residential	3.00	Search(es)	3
Criminal Apprehension	3.00	Arrest(s)	3
Criminal Apprehension	1.00	Bite	1
Criminal Apprehension	1.00	Person(s)	1
Demo	3.00	Demo	3
Drug Para	11.00	Each	7
Felony Stop Deployment	1.00		1
Felony Stop Deployment	2.00	Each	2
Firearm	1.00	Firearm(s)	1
Heroin Amount	2.30	Gram(s)	1
Hotel Sniff	1.00	Each	1
Methamphetamine Amount	45.46	Gram(s)	8
No Alert	7.00	Each	7
Outside Agency Deployment	1.00	Each	1
Track Unsuccessful	7.00	Track(s)	7
Vehicle Sniff	16.00	Each	16
Vehicle Sniff	2.00	Sniff	1
Totals:	134.76		90



**New K9 Bite Suit donated from funds raised by
Krabbenhof Realty**



Investigative Division

The division is made up of a Division Commander, Investigative Sergeant, Support Services Supervisor, and nine full-time Investigators. Two investigators are assigned to General, two in Juvenile, four in Narcotics, and one to the Metro Street Crimes Unit. General Investigators investigate cases such as crimes against persons (adult), property crimes, and computer forensics investigations. Juvenile Investigators investigate crimes against children such as physical abuse, sexual abuse, and neglect. Narcotics Investigators investigate local drug trafficking cases, gang related cases, and historical drug conspiracy cases. Our investigator assigned to the Metro Street Crimes Unit focuses on gang related activity, fugitive apprehension, and high crime areas.

Detective John “Laddie” Bata was assigned to the Investigative Division in February 2019, working in the role as a Narcotics Investigator. In July 2021, he was promoted to the rank of sergeant and reassigned to the Patrol Division. Officer Eric Zimmel was selected as the new Narcotics Investigator and will be reassigned to the Investigative Division in March 2022.

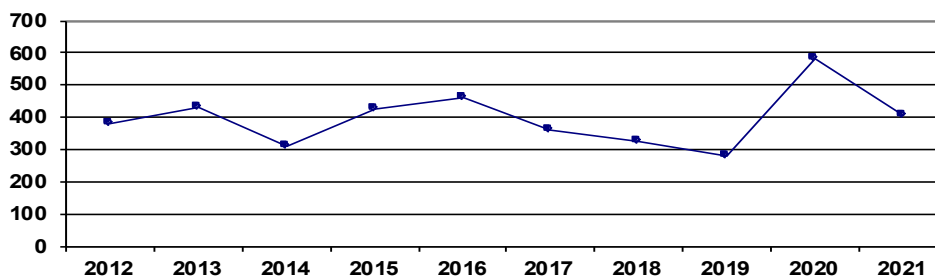
In 2021, we participated in four different Task Forces. All four Narcotics Investigators were assigned to the Lakes to River Drug & Violent Crimes Task Force for the first six months of the year with grant funding ending on June 30, 2021. Two of our Narcotics Investigators were also attached to the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) Drug Task Force in Fargo, ND. One of the positions is full-time and the investigator was a member of the DEA Task Force the entire year. Detective Brad Stuvland was assigned to this Task Force on a part-time basis from 2008 through June of 2021. When this assignment ended in 2021, he began working full-time on local narcotics investigations. We are members of the Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force (ICAC) assisting us with child pornography investigations. Our Metro Street Crimes Investigator is also part of the U.S. Marshals Service North Star Fugitive Task Force. The participation in these Task Forces allows for additional funding to offset the cost of salaries, overtime, training, fuel, and equipment. This funding comes from grant money and federal agencies.

The Investigative Division maintains local predatory offender files by tracking and ensuring compliance of approximately 180 offenders in the City of Moorhead. The Moorhead Police Department had 1,081 offender contacts in 2021. These included 22 investigations into failure to register cases, 17 initial registrations, 202 changes of information, 439 homeless weekly check-ins, and 401 quarterly compliance checks.

Offenders are assessed a risk level, by the Department of Corrections, prior to their end of confinement if they were incarcerated in a state prison. Those that were not confined in state prison are given an unassigned risk level. Information on Level I and unassigned offenders can be shared with other law enforcement agencies and the offender’s crime victims/witnesses. Level II offender information may also be disclosed to law enforcement agencies as well as groups the offender is likely to encounter such as educational institutions and daycare establishments. Risk Level III is the highest level assigned and can also be disclosed to other members of the community. The Moorhead Police Department provides notification on Level III offenders through the media, community meetings, and the City of Moorhead website. There were approximately seven Level III offenders residing in Moorhead at various times in 2021.

The division is also responsible for conducting background investigations for most city licenses and permits including liquor, pawn, massage, tobacco sales, second hand dealers, and used car dealers. We also conduct background checks and issue permits for citizens wishing to purchase handguns and semiautomatic military-style assault weapons. For several years we saw the numbers somewhat fluctuate but saw a large increase in 2020, when we processed 580 applications. In 2021, we processed 406 applications showing a pretty significant reduction from the previous year.

Handgun and Semiautomatic Military-Style Assault Weapon Permits



High Profile Case Activity

On March 21, 2021, several young children were left home alone unsupervised and a 6-year-old boy was fatally shot with a handgun that another child had found inside the home. Phillip Neal Jones, a tenant of the apartment and owner of the firearm was charged. He accepted a federal plea deal for Possession of Firearm by Convicted Felon and is awaiting sentencing; however, a deal for 57 months incarceration was agreed upon.

On April 25, 2021, officers were dispatched to Moorhead-Fargo Islamic Center Mosque on a report of vandalism to the building. Officers found hate messages towards the Islamic faith and their followers spray painted on several areas of the building's exterior. Through investigation and tips from the public, Benjamin Stewart Enderle was identified and arrested two days later. He was charged with Felony Harassment and Felony 2nd Degree Criminal Damage to Property. Enderle later plead guilty to the harassment charge.

On May 5, 2021, officers were dispatched to a single vehicle crash in south Moorhead regarding a vehicle that left the roadway. A male taxi cab driver was located in the vehicle and it was determined that he had been shot and killed during a robbery. Wille Sparkman was arrested for the murder along with a 17-year-old female accomplice that was arrested for aiding and abetting.

On September 10, 2021, at approximately 8:00 pm, offices responded to a report of gunshots in south Moorhead. When officers arrived, they found a bystander treating an adult male victim near 30th Ave. S. Officers learned that an adult male subject chased the victim through an apartment complex courtyard shooting him multiple times, execution style, resulting in the victim's death. The subject, identified as Idris Haji-Mohamed, fled and was later apprehended in Rochester, MN. Two accomplices, Ibrahim Isaac and Abdi Abukar, were also identified and appropriate charges relating to the shooting will be determined by the County Attorney.

On December 18, 2021, officers responded to south Moorhead on a report of seven individuals deceased inside a home. All of the victims resided in the home and ranged in age from 5 to 37. After a lengthy investigation, autopsies and blood specimens determined that the deaths were the result of carbon monoxide poisoning with a likely source being the furnace.

Other Significant Investigations

On January 12, 2021, Juan Pablo Brown stabbed a female victim five times that he was in a relationship with. She was stabbed in the back and suffered double collapsed lungs, punctured spleen, and a punctured kidney. The victim fled her apartment with Brown chasing her. She was thankfully able to find shelter in another apartment and lock the door until officers arrived. Brown was charged with Attempted 1st Degree Murder, 1st Degree Assault, and 3rd Degree Criminal Sexual Conduct. He is awaiting trial at this time.

On February 26, 2021, an 18-year-old male victim was shot in the abdomen. The subject of the shooting fled the scene prior to officer's arrival, the victim survived and reported the shooting to be accidental.

On July 7, 2021, a female victim encountered an unknown male in her driveway during the early morning hours while she was letting her dogs outside. The subject requested entry which was not allowed. After she returned inside he fired three shots into the house with one of the rounds nearly striking her. The subject fled the scene. No arrest has been made as of this time.

On September 1, 2021, several rounds were fired by a subject at a group of people during a dispute between two parties. One victim was shot in the foot. The subject was identified and charged.

On December 25, 2021, officers responded to a disturbance involving a firearm at an apartment in south Moorhead. It was determined the victim was shot at and a spent shell casing was recovered. The victim was not struck. The suspect was identified and charged.

On December 27, 2021, officers responded to a report of a man down in the street. Officer located an adult male victim who had sustained multiple gunshot wounds but survived. The investigation determined that the person that had been shot, was armed with a handgun and broke into an apartment. One of the occupants of the apartment was also armed and fired several rounds at the intruder striking him multiple times. Dustin Lee Miller, the person that broke into the residence and was shot, was charged with 1st Degree Burglary.

Narcotics

For the past several years, the Moorhead Police Department, acting as the fiscal agent, has successfully applied for and obtained grant funding to help combat drug and violent crimes. The Lakes to River Drug & Violent Crimes Task Force was funded through June 2021. This partnership included the Moorhead Police Department, Clay County Sheriff's Office, Wilkin County Sheriff's Office, and the Breckenridge Police Department. Personnel consisted of 4 Narcotics Investigators from the Moorhead Police Department including our Team Leader, 2 Narcotics Investigators from the Clay County Sheriff's Office, Commander Brad Penas and our Support Services Supervisor.

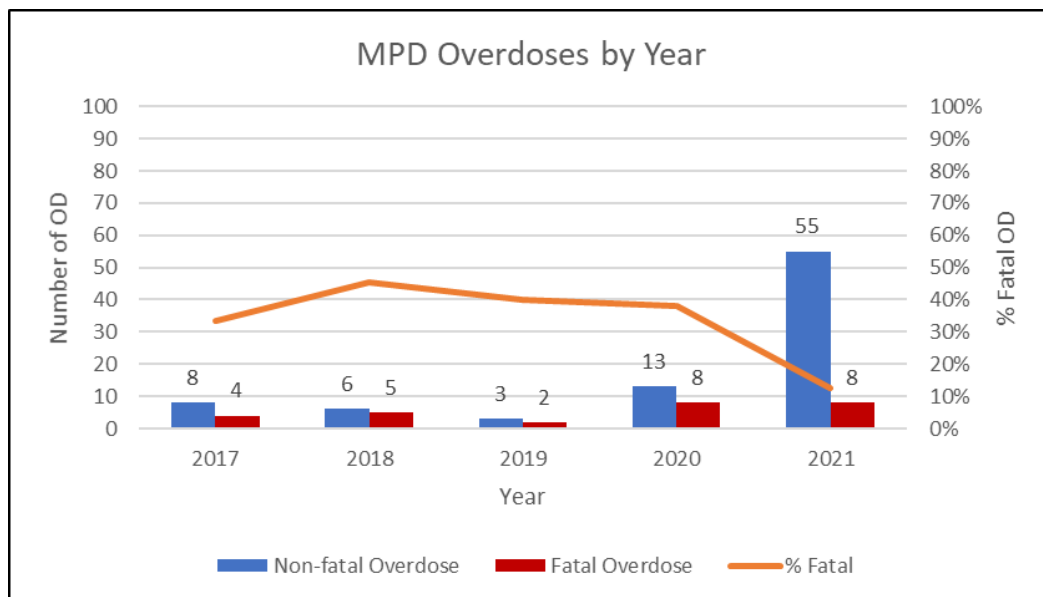
Grant funding also allows us to collaborate with the local DEA Drug Task Force. This relationship allows investigators to start a case with a local user and follow them all the way up to the source of supply that may be established in another state. This type of investigation will often result in federal charges through

the United States Attorney’s Office and prosecution of drug traffickers responsible for bringing large quantities of narcotics to the Red River Valley. Cases such as these take an enormous amount of time and resources from local agencies; however, the benefit derived from their involvement has great payback as the sources of supply were arrested and convicted as well as the entire distribution network. The distribution network is primarily made up of local drug dealers, which have a daily impact on the standard of living in our community. The Moorhead Police Department had two of our Narcotics Investigators assigned to this Task Force. One was assigned for the first six months only on a part-time basis and the second was assigned all of 2021. In 2021, they had 16 federal investigations open with the most active investigations resulting in 13 subjects indicted in federal court. Below is an investigation starting as a local case moving to the federal system:

Moorhead Police Narcotics Investigators, assigned to the DEA Task Force, initiated an Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force (OCDETF) investigation. The case involved the distribution of large amounts of methamphetamine and fentanyl. This group was responsible for numerous overdoses which were handled by the Patrol Division. To date, DEA TFO’s indicted six individuals in this case, including four local traffickers, making an immediate local impact on narcotics trafficking. Both traffickers from California who were importing the fentanyl to the area for distribution were indicted, which shut down this Drug Trafficking Organization (DTO) from causing any further overdose incidents.

The abuse of prescription medication led to the implementation of a safe and secure prescription medication drop off location at the Moorhead Police Department several years ago. This program along with our partnership with the DEA, through National Take Back events, removed approximately 550 pounds of medications that were incinerated in 2021.

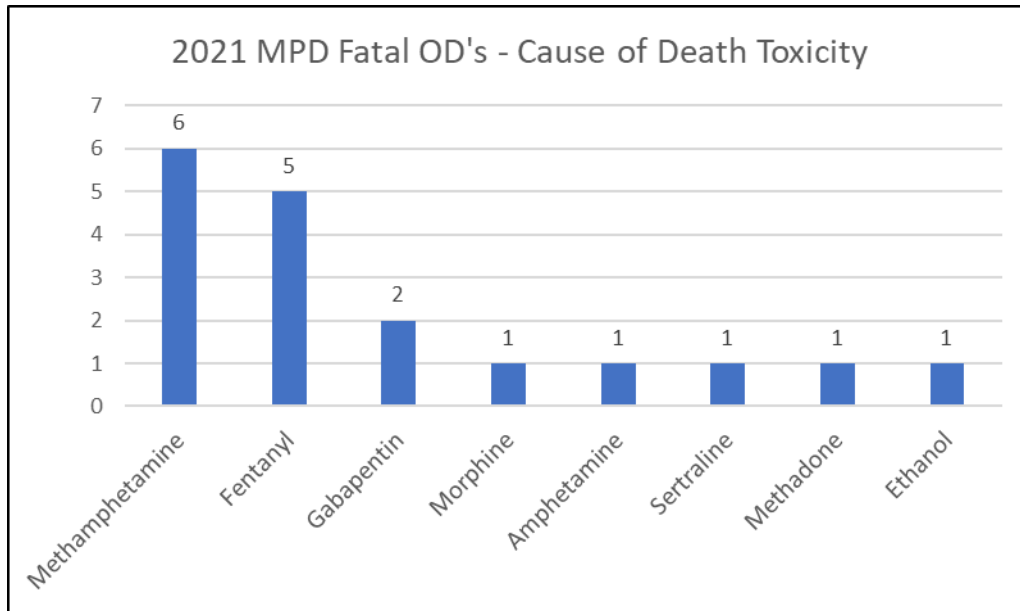
In 2020, we began to see accidental drug overdoses having a much larger impact on our community than the previous year.



The orange line represents the percentage of fatal overdoses, the blue bars correspond to the total number of non-fatal overdoses, and the red bars represent the total number of fatal overdoses for that year.

Key Takeaways:

1. The total number of overdoses in 2021, was an all-time high (63) and nearly three times as many as 2020.
2. The fatality rate in 2021, decreased to 13% although this is attributed to the drastic increase in non-fatal overdoses. 2020 and 2021 each had eight fatal overdoses.
3. Cases where Narcan was reportedly used had a fatality rate of 0%.



Top keywords for cause of death toxicity. Most autopsies concluded "mixed drug" with multiple drugs present.

Without the availability and use of naloxone, the number of deaths would have been even greater. We also started seeing that most of the overdoses resulting in deaths involved a mixed drug toxicity with a common substance being methamphetamine. This has changed over recent years when most overdoses resulting in death were linked primarily to heroin or other opioids.

Local Narcotics Investigations

In late 2020, investigators teamed up to target a local narcotics dealer who was supplying the area with pounds of methamphetamine. A Moorhead Narcotics Investigator ran a Confidential Informant for over a year to target the group. The investigation led to a search warrant being executed in the Fargo-Moorhead area that resulted in the seizure of ten pounds of methamphetamine. The source was identified in the Twin Cities area resulting in his arrest and the seizure of another pound of methamphetamine. The investigation identified an additional source from Arizona that was also arrested resulting in an additional 17 pounds of methamphetamine seized. The investigation has been adopted federally with several people being charged in federal court.





In November, Narcotics Investigators learned that two Moorhead men were transporting drugs from Minneapolis to Moorhead. The subjects were stopped in Clay County on Interstate 94 where 343 M30 fentanyl pills were found and seized. These types of counterfeit labeled pills have been responsible for numerous overdoses in the Fargo-Moorhead area. Brady Allen Swanson and Matthew Brian Katz were arrested and charged with 1st Degree Felony Distribution of a Controlled Substance.

On December 8, 2021, Narcotics Investigators had an open narcotics investigation with a subject trafficking narcotics from Minneapolis to Moorhead. Investigators stopped the subject on Interstate 94 in Clay County where they located 74 grams of powder believed to be a cocaine fentanyl mixture, 4.6 grams of methamphetamine, and another unidentified powder. Charles Fraction was arrested on two counts of 1st Degree Controlled Substance charges.



Task Force Seizures

Seizures (in grams)	2019	2020	2021
Marijuana	24,330	31,534	4895
Methamphetamine	12,744	7682	31,771
Heroin	269	209	145
Cash	\$28,150	\$693,372	\$151,036

Juvenile Cases

We have two Juvenile Investigators that primarily work physical/sexual abuse and neglect cases. These investigators receive specialized training on child forensic interviewing techniques. This training is specific to this position so investigators working as a team with social services, medical staff, and counseling services, can effectively receive non-leading information from child victims for court purposes and limit redundancy that leads to further exposing the victim to trauma. This collaboration works together as a team with members of the Red River Child Advocacy Center to accomplish these efforts. The center was created to help accommodate victims and their families through the process.

Division supervisors and our Juvenile/General Investigators are also members of the Red River Child Abduction Response Team (CART). A Child Abduction Response Team is a group of individuals from various local, state, and federal agencies who are trained and prepared to respond to a missing/ endangered or abducted child. CART pulls together resources to aid in the search and rescue effort and to assist the agency of jurisdiction in its investigation. Our team is certified through the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs. To maintain certification our team participates in tabletop and mock exercises to be prepared in case of a real event.

Juvenile Investigations

Joshua Miller (30 years of age), was reported to have sexually abused multiple juvenile female family members over the past decade. A forensic interview was conducted at the Red River Children's Advocacy Center with a 15-year-old victim who disclosed multiple acts of abuse since the age of five. Detective Seth Saarinen interviewed Miller in January of 2021, and obtained a confession. Miller was charged in three different jurisdictions with 1st Degree Criminal Sexual Conduct, 2nd Degree Criminal Sexual Conduct, and 5th Degree Criminal Sexual Conduct. A plea deal of 111 months incarceration was reached.

In September of 2021, a 16-year-old female was brought to the Law Enforcement Center by her work supervisor after she disclosed physical and sexual abuse occurring from her father, James Bessette (55 years of age). Detective Seth Saarinen completed a forensic interview with the victim and also obtained a confession from Bessette. After learning of his pending criminal charges, Bessette committed suicide at his home, which was investigated by Detective Katie Schultz.

In August 2021, a foster parent reported a kidnapping of children from her care, ages one and five. The foster parent is a cousin to the biological father, Arlow Johnson, and allowed him to visit the children against conditions of the placement. The foster parent was concerned about comments Johnson was making while in her home, prior to taking the children. Dakota County Social Services who made the placement also had significant concerns regarding the children in Johnson's care. Detective Katie Schultz contacted Johnson through text message who said he would return the girls but stopped answering messages after being told alerts to find the missing children were going to be submitted to the public. A phone ping was completed showing Johnson in Minneapolis. The Minneapolis Police Department was contacted and subsequently found the juvenile females in the area of the phone ping. They were placed in the custody of Hennepin County Protective Services and did not return to the foster home in Moorhead.

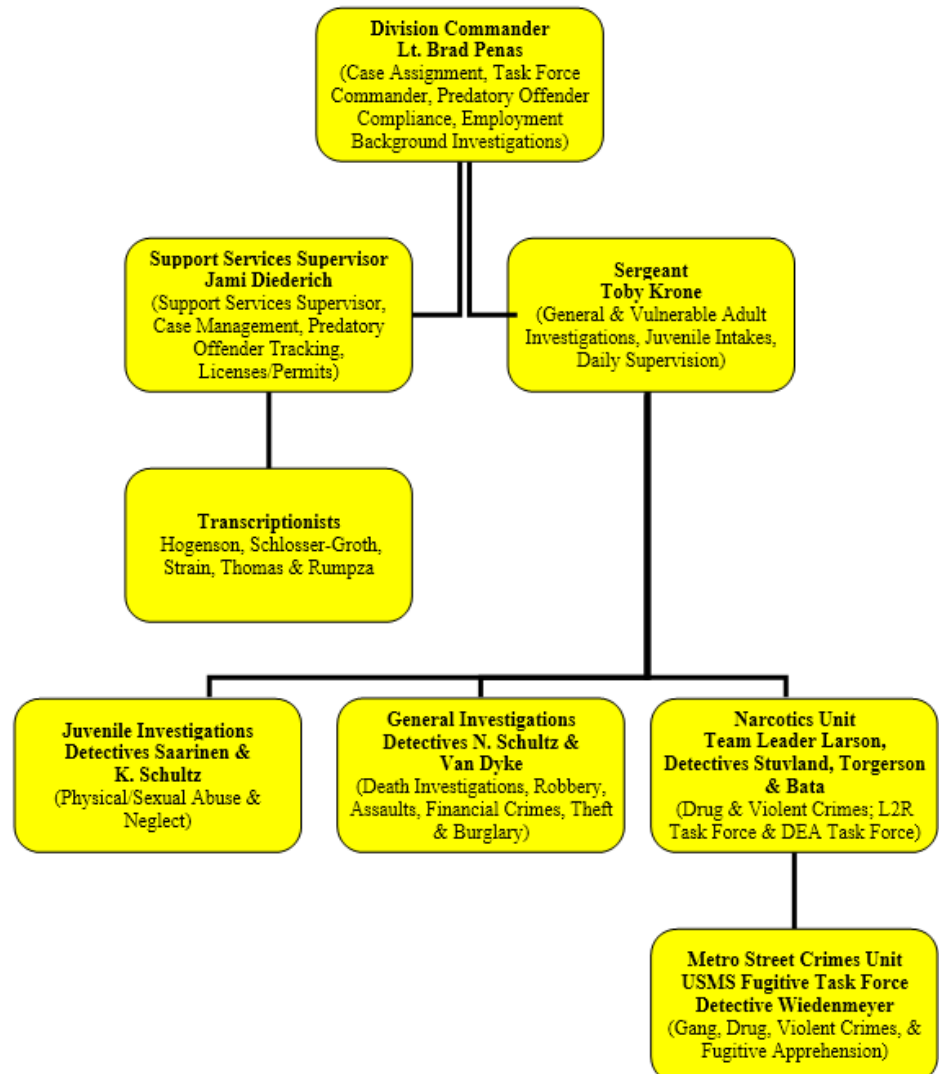
Juvenile Victims

<u>Case Types</u>	2019	2020	2021
Criminal Sexual Assault	73	66	76
Physical Abuse/Neglect	254	199	217

Division Statistics

CASE TYPE NAME	TOTAL
ADMIN	4
ARSON	3
ASSAULT	54
ASSIST	70
BURGLARY	13
CHILD PORNOGRAPHY	23
CRIMINAL SEXUAL CONDUCT	106
DEATH	33
HUMAN TRAFFICKING	4
MISSING PERSON	5
NARCOTICS	78
NEGLECT	191
PERMITS	41
ROBBERY	12
THEFT	28
SCREENED OUT BY SOCIAL SERVICES	842
OTHER ACTIVITY	14
VULNERABLE ADULT	31
TOTAL	1552

Division Organization Chart & Primary Duties



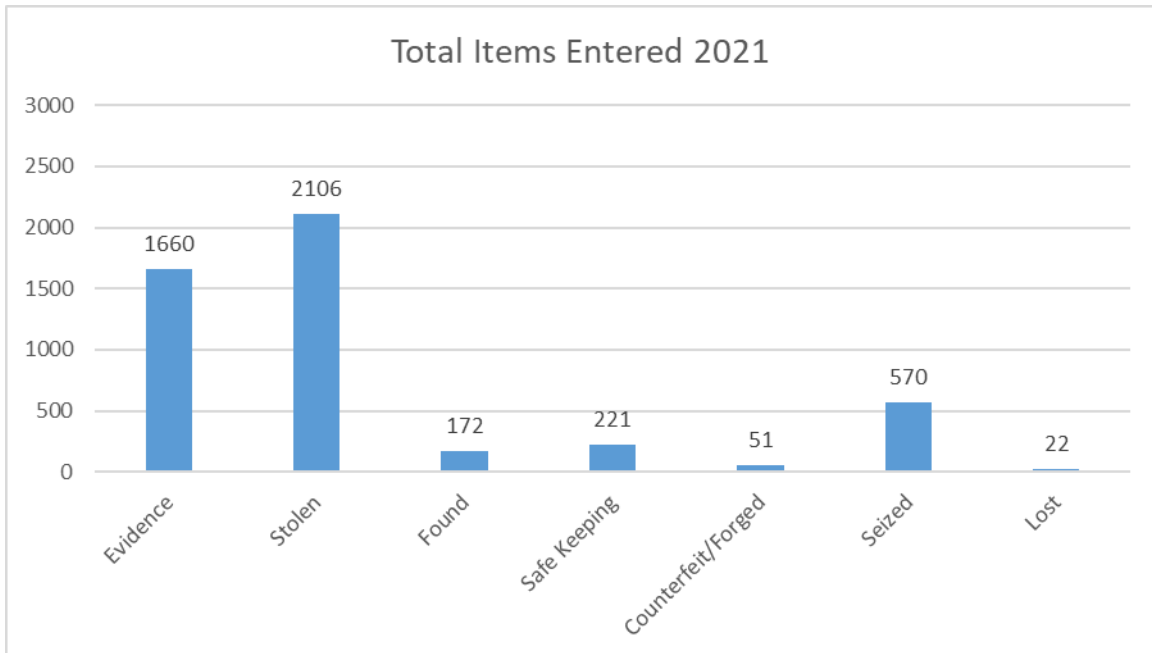
Property and Evidence Unit

The Moorhead Police Department Property Unit is an entity of our agency that very few people have the opportunity to see. The Property Unit is charged with the safekeeping of all property obtained through criminal investigations, as well as found or confiscated property. It is the policy of this department to ensure that property in its custody is properly secured, packaged, labeled and stored, is readily retrievable, and that any changes in its custody are properly and fully documented.

The property and evidence room is supervised by Sergeant Robb Matheson. Laura Hilgers is the department's main Evidence Technician. All evidence technicians and evidence room supervisors have been trained through the International Association of Property & Evidence (IAPE) and are current members in this organization.

Property and Evidence 2021 in Review

- The department uses an electronic format versus the live auction to sell property eligible for release. We have found this method increases the value of the property as more people are interested in the items than they would at an auction. The Moorhead Police Department posts items online through electronic auctions on K-Bid.com.
- Total revenue generated from the sale of eligible property was \$2,945.87. This revenue goes directly into the city's general fund.
- 2,674 items were entered into Property and Evidence in 2021. This includes 2,106 additional items that were listed as stolen items. These are not items that were stolen and recovered, only those items that were mentioned as stolen in a police report.



- 2,674 items were taken into the custody of Property and Evidence in 2021.
- The number for Seized property went up from 174 last year to 570 this year in 2021, as due to FBI standards, MPD started reporting to the state using IBR based reporting. In IBR based reporting, drug evidence is required to be listed as “Seized” as opposed to “Evidence.”
- The start of year balance of the Property and Evidence Account was \$121,642.90.
- \$22,885.86 in cash deposits were made into the Property and Evidence Account for storage until disposition of the criminal case.
- \$121,070.38 was withdrawn from this account in 2021. \$14,320.34 was returned to the owner or victim after the criminal case was resolved. \$82,002.00 was deposited into the City’s Drug Seizure Account after the criminal case was resolved. Any drug seizure money is split with the State of Minnesota, the Clay County Attorney’s Office and any other agency that assists with the investigation. L2RTF stands for Lakes to River Task Force. In this case the following agencies received the following amounts:
 - State of MN \$13,745.80
 - Clay County Attorney’s Office \$19,600.00
 - West Fargo Police Department \$1,032.61
 - Cass County Sheriff’s Office \$4,355.52
 - Cass County Drug Task Force \$451.50
 - L2RTF \$67,370.80
 - Fargo Police Department \$12,720.87
 - Moorhead Police Department \$9,432.50
 - Ottertail County Sheriff’s Office \$7,891.60
 - Hawley Police Department \$665.00
 - Dilworth Police Department \$191.80
- \$10.80 accrued interest in 2021.
- The year-end balance of the account is \$12,587.23
- All transactions with the Property and Evidence Unit are documented with the City of Moorhead’s Accounting Division.
- The Drug Safe Program available to Moorhead residents was extended to collaborate with the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA). The DEA will destroy the prescribed narcotics and other prescriptions.

The Moorhead Police Department stores audio/video/photographic evidence electronically. Most evidence from minor case files (petty misdemeanors) is photographed and destroyed. Retention of electronic versus hard evidence increases efficiency, and decreases the volume of hard evidentiary items retained by the Property Unit.



Red River Valley Special Weapons and Tactics (S.W.A.T.)

The Red River Valley SWAT (Special Weapons and Tactics) Team is a highly trained, multi-agency team composed of law enforcement officers who are available to respond to high-risk incidents in our region. The Team is made up of a Tactical Unit (including Medics), a Negotiations Unit, and a Bomb Unit. The Team includes officers, deputies, and medics from the Fargo Police Department, Moorhead Police Department, West Fargo Police Department, Cass County Sheriff's Office, Clay County Sheriff's Office, NDSU Police Department, FM Ambulance, and Sanford AirMed.

The Red River Valley SWAT Team is a part-time team. The SWAT position is a specialty assignment within each agency. Each member has a full-time function within their home agency (patrol officer, detective, paramedic, etc.) with SWAT being an added responsibility.

The SWAT Team is led by a Team Commander and Assistant Team Commander who oversee all units. During a high-risk incident, SWAT Command works closely with the local jurisdiction's Scene Commander to coordinate and carry out the safest response possible.

The SWAT Team takes pride in being a part of our community and wants to be transparent in their role within law enforcement. The SWAT team participated in a number of local events to include the Holiday Lights Parade the annual Polar Plunge Special Olympics fundraiser.

Tactical Unit

The Tactical Unit is utilized for high-risk search warrant service, barricaded individuals that pose a high risk to the public or law enforcement, hostage rescue situations, and many other situations which are viewed as extremely dangerous in nature. The Tactical Unit is composed of 27 SWAT members; many of which are assigned to specialized roles including snipers, breachers, and less lethal/gas deployment.

Members of the Moorhead Police Department assigned to the Tactical Unit include:

Officer Matthew Lambert	Tactical Operator
Sergeant Laddie Bata	Tactical Operator
Detective Shaun Van Dyke	Tactical Operator
Officer Dalton Yagow	Tactical Operator
Officer Brett Kvam	Tactical Operator

The Tactical Unit was called on 15 times in 2021, for a variety of different situations.

The Tactical Unit prides itself on training hard and staying proficient in their tactics and firearms skills. The Tactical Unit has regular trainings, twice each month. New operators in the Tactical Unit are selected in April each year and begin training with the Team after successfully completing a week long Basic SWAT training course in May. In addition, the Tactical Unit trains at Camp Ripley, MN, for a week each year in September. The Team takes advantage of this opportunity by training between 14 and 16 hours a day and utilizes many of the training facilities and ranges that are available. This training also serves as the final test for new operators in order to become fully operational.

In March 2021, the Minnesota legislature passed a significant change to the state's use of deadly force statute. Due to this change being significantly different from the North Dakota use of deadly force statute, mutual aid agreements between Minnesota and North Dakota agencies in our area were suspended in all capacities. This left the Minnesota agencies with only seven total trained SWAT Team members.

In order to maintain the capabilities of the Tactical Unit, a selection process was developed with the intent of creating a 12-person team to augment the seven currently trained MN SWAT operators. After completing the rigorous selection process, 14 officers and deputies were selected as members of the newly formed Special Response Team. After successfully completing the newly created SRT Basic Course, the Team became officially operational and gained the unofficial nickname as the "CLAYMOOR SRT".

Negotiations Unit

The mission of the Negotiations Team is to reach successful resolution of critical incidents through professional and calm dialogue with those involved. The Negotiation Team often responds with SWAT's Tactical Unit during a critical incident. When deployed with all SWAT elements, each Team works together towards the common overall goal.

The Negotiations Unit is comprised of ten Negotiators. This includes one Team Leader and two Assistant Team Leaders. The Moorhead Police Department currently has two members allocated to the Negotiations Unit: Officer Adam Jensen and Sergeant Joel Voxland both resigned in 2021, and Officers Ethan Meehan and Jonathan Hanson were selected to fill the roles.

The Negotiations Team trains one day per month and attends several trainings with all SWAT elements throughout the year. New negotiators must attend a 40-hour course covering contemporary negotiation concepts. A new member must also act as the primary negotiator during a prolonged training scenario before becoming a fully operational member of the Team.

The Negotiations Team was utilized six times in 2021. These callouts included barricaded subjects and high-risk search warrants.

Bomb Unit

The Bomb Unit is utilized in assisting the community and local law enforcement agencies in the education, identification and disposal of all energetic materials. The Bomb Unit is often utilized with the Tactical Unit and Negotiations Unit on large scale events where there could be a potential for dangerous materials or explosives. The Bomb Unit also has different types of technology that can assist the other units to include x-ray machines and bomb robots capable of sending real time video and audio to the rest of the Team. There are eight members on the Team.

Bomb Unit Continued

- 1 Commander
- 1 Assistant Commander
- 6 Certified Bomb Technicians
- 2 Training (One overfill)

The Red River Regional Bomb Squad is a regional team comprised of technicians from Fargo PD, West Fargo PD, Cass County SO, NDSU PD, Moorhead PD and Clay County SO. Our Team is accredited by the FBI and trains twice monthly to maintain accreditation. We currently have two members in training. These members are training in preparation to attend Hazardous Devices School (Basic Certification) in 2022 or 2023. In 2021, there were no call-outs in Moorhead. Several quantities of ammunition were turned into the department which were destroyed by the Team. The Moorhead representative of the Team responded to two notable calls:

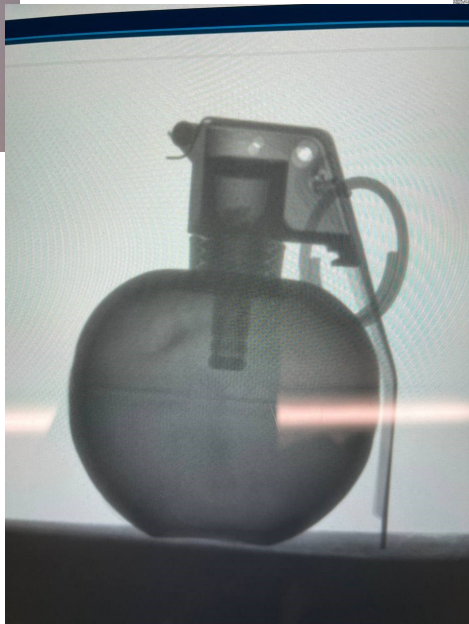
- 4/8/21: The Team responded to Wahpeton to assist the Narcotic Task Force with a search warrant. The initial search was completed and task force members located several items appearing to be pipe-bombs. With the assistance of our digital x-ray equipment we were able to determine that they were hoax devices ensuring the safety of the residents.
- 12/7/21: The Team responded to Fargo to assist the Street Crimes Unit with a search warrant. During the initial search several grenades were found. The Team used their training and experience to determine that the grenades were inert and were not a threat to the officers or residents in the building.



Summary of calls:

IED - 1
Chemical Calls – 2
Suspicious Packages – 4
Explosive Recovery – 7
Ammunition Recovery – 6
Other – 1

Total Responses: 21



Department Awards

Officer Dalton Yagow—Distinguished Service Award



On January 2, 2021, shortly after 4:00 pm, dispatch received a call that a male had pointed a gun at occupants in another vehicle in south Moorhead. As detailed suspect and vehicle information was broadcasted by officers on scene, Officer Dalton Yagow began searching the area in an attempt to locate. Officer Yagow discovered the suspect vehicle traveling south in a parking lot and was able to follow it while backup officers were positioning to assist. When the vehicle turned into another parking lot, Officer Yagow attempted to initiate a felony traffic stop by activating his overhead emergency lights. While the vehicle continued moving slowly, the passenger's door abruptly opened with a male getting out. The male had a long item in his hands that was determined to be a sawed off shotgun and proceeded to point it in Officer Yagow's direction. Officer Yagow immediately put his car in park and exited his door. He simultaneously yelled

for the suspect to drop his gun while he was un-holstering and drawing his own firearm. The suspect threw the shotgun on the ground and began to run on foot toward the apartment building entrance. Knowing there was another occupant in the vehicle, Officer Yagow provided this information over his radio to assisting officers. The female driver was taken into custody without incident and the suspect male was later located inside the apartment building subsequent to a search.

This dynamic incident was captured on Officer Yagow's police car video camera and demonstrates outstanding decision-making and officer safety awareness in a very dangerous situation. His ability to remain calm, multi-task, and respond to a life-threatening situation one moment and self-de-escalate is a testament to his high level of training and focus.

Officer Eric Zimmel—Life Saving Award

On the afternoon of February 19, 2021, Officer Zimmel responded to a south Moorhead apartment for a report of a female possibly not breathing and turning purple. When Officer Zimmel arrived on the scene, he found the victim was not breathing and did not have a pulse. Officer Zimmel immediately began administering CPR. A short time later, the victim regained a pulse and was breathing. Members of the Moorhead Fire Department and F-M Ambulance arrived on the scene and took over care. It was later determined the female had ingested heroin before the medical issues started.

Officer Zimmel had a substantial role during the call for service by taking crucial steps in resuscitating the victim. For his quick response and immediate actions, Chief Monroe has awarded Officer Zimmel the Moorhead Police Department's Life Saving Award.





Officer Zach Johnson—Life Saving Award

On February 15, 2021, at approximately 12:15 pm, first responders were dispatched to north Moorhead on a report of a male who was not conscious and not breathing. Officer Zach Johnson overheard the call for service and immediately responded to the location and was the first to arrive at the scene. Officer Johnson quickly evaluated the situation, noting the patient did not have a pulse and was not adequately breathing. Officer Johnson immediately started chest compressions. While performing resuscitation techniques, Officer Johnson stated the victim would open his eyes at times. The victim remained pulseless and not breathing. Officer Johnson continued to do chest compressions as personnel from the Moorhead Fire Department and paramedics from FM Ambulance arrived. The team of first responders delivered shocks from a defibrillator and soon the victim regained a pulse. The patient was transported to a local hospital for continued care. Officer Johnson's efforts were vital in restoring the patient's pulse. Being able to arrive early during the incident and immediately perform resuscitation, the victim could continue providing oxygen to their vital organs until further care could convert the victim out of the cardiac arrhythmia. Chief Shannon Monroe has presented Officer Johnson the Moorhead Police Department's Life Saving Award for his actions.

Officer Brett Kvam—Life Saving Award

On July 8, 2021, officers were dispatched to a medical emergency for a female in cardiac arrest inside her south Moorhead apartment. Officer Brett Kvam was first to arrive on the scene. The female victim was unresponsive, lying on a couch. Officer Kvam immediately recognized the victim did not have a pulse and not breathing adequately. Officer Kvam quickly moved the victim to the floor and began CPR. As other responders arrived, the victim regained her pulse. The Moorhead Fire Department and Sanford Ambulance arrived and took over patient care. Immediate proper medical intervention is a critical link in making a chain toward recovery. Chief Monroe has awarded Officer Kvam the Moorhead Police Department's Lifesaving Award for his quick response and immediate actions that significantly impacted the victim's survival.



Officer Eric Zimmel—Medal of Valor

On August 29, 2021, at approximately 7:30 pm, officers were dispatched to a disturbance call with multiple individuals reportedly attempting to push their way into an apartment while possessing a handgun. Upon arrival, Officer Zimmel witnessed a male holding a black firearm that he placed in his front waistband. Officer Zimmel attempted to get the suspect to comply with verbal commands; however, he disobeyed and turned to conceal the removal of his firearm from his waistband. Without hesitation, Officer Zimmel went hands-on by grabbing the male's left arm and pushing him into the wall to disrupt his ability to gain access to the firearm. The male resisted physically and pulled out his gun but lost control, dropping it onto the ground. Officer Zimmel took the male to the floor in a direction away from the firearm and transmitted information out on his portable radio allowing responding officers to understand the gravity of the situation. The male continued to physically fight and reach for his front waistband in search of the gun. A taser was utilized to assist with being able to get this male into custody. Chief Monroe has awarded Officer Eric Zimmel the Medal of Valor for his actions that displayed unusual thoroughness, conscientiousness, determination, and initiative involving a substantial risk to his own life.



