

# 2024 Annual Report



**Moorhead Police  
Department**

## 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.

# In Remembrance:

The department was established in 1881. Three of our police officers lost their lives in service to this community. In our effort to never forget their sacrifice, this page is dedicated to them. We also have named our training rooms in our new Law Enforcement Center after them as a reminder to all who enter so we never forget that they gave up all their tomorrows for our todays. We are 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.





## Table of Contents

Message from the Chief .....	6
Honor Guard .....	7
Moorhead Police and Athletics League .....	8
Youth and Family Services .....	9
Citizens Police Academy .....	15
Night to Unite .....	15
Support Services .....	17
Crime Free Multi-Housing .....	19
Volunteer Program .....	19
Wellness Program .....	22
Patrol Division .....	23
Property and Evidence Unit .....	29
Canine Unit .....	31
Crime Analysis .....	33
Field Training Unit .....	34
Cadet Program .....	37
Intensive Comprehensive Peace Officer Education and Training (ICPOET) .....	38
SWAT .....	38
Community Resource Navigator .....	42
Investigations Division .....	42
Crime Statistics .....	54

## Message from the Chief of Police



The members of the Moorhead Police Department continued the great work to reduce repeat calls by working together with our partners to identify gaps in services. To that end, in 2024 we added an embedded social worker that we titled a Community Resource Navigator. This position is not to provide direct services and duplicate what other partners are already working on, but rather use their expertise to identify gaps in services or communications between partners to in the criminal justice system with a focus on mental health and addiction issues and response. This adds to our team along with our crime analyst better respond to our community needs.

The impact of our Community Resource Navigator was observed immediately. Our officers respond to numerous calls from suicidal persons a variety of criminal/nuisance reports stemming from or about people we later find dealing with mental health struggles. Our Community Resource Navigator later researches these calls and often finds either no services in place and assists in getting this accomplished, services that are in place and not being followed, matters ordered by the court that are not being complied with, or other gaps in communications between systems. In one significant example, we saw a community member account for as high as 24 calls in one month that were reduced none in future months by getting services in place from partner agencies.

As the shortage of police officers continues, the Moorhead Police Department was the recipient of a two grant rounds, known as ICPOET (Intensive Comprehensive Police Officer Education and Training), each round for \$250,000 for a total of \$500,000. We have two cohorts of 5 candidates each that will transition from their current degrees to criminal justice related degree making them eligible to become licensed officers in Moorhead. The first five will hit the street in March of 2025 and the next cohort later in the year.

Preparing now for 2025, through the budget process we are adding flock safety cameras to a few key locations in Moorhead along with Fargo and West Fargo. These are license plate reader cameras so when we are looking for suspect vehicles involved in major crimes, we have the assistance of technology in locating where they are headed in effort to locate and apprehend them. We also are seeing some retirements on the horizon to include our Community Policing Coordinator Leann Wallin, Deputy Chief Tory Jacobson and myself. The City of Moorhead is actively seeking replacements now that I am sure will further the mission of the department.



I want to thank the Moorhead community, the Moorhead Business Association, Moorhead Area Public Schools, higher education, and other community partners for the support over these last nearly 7-years as chief and 31-years as a Moorhead Police Officer. We bought a home in Moorhead, as I believe you should live in the community you serve, raised a family where our kids attended public schools and higher ed in town. This was a good life, and it is time to move on and a time for new leadership.

The members of the City of Moorhead Police Department will continue to serve you well in the years to come.



## 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 twice throughout the year. All members without military drill and ceremony experience attend a week-long training at Camp Ripley facilitated by LEMA, the Minnesota Law Enforcement Memorial Association.

Members of the team participated in several events/services in 2024:

- Burnsville Officers Elmstrand and Ruge LODD Funeral
- Law Enforcement Memorial Day presentation at the LEC
- Law Enforcement Memorial Day presentation with other Metro Area Honor Guards
- Minneapolis Officer Mitchell LODD Funeral





## Moorhead Police Athletics and Activities League

2024 was the seventh year of the Moorhead Police Athletics and Activities League. Formed in 2017, and beginning programming in 2018, 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 manage the Police Explorer Post. Over 100 officers from the area volunteered over 765 hours to further our mission this year. The following are ways PAL connected with youth in 2024:

- Cops and Kids Games – 42 kids
- Bikes for Kids – 63 kids
- Shop-with-a-Cop – 70 kids
- Explorer Post – 12 kids
- Giving Tree at Churches United for the Homeless – 11 kids
- Books for Kids – 636 kids
- Safe City Nights – 168 kids
- Cross Fit Mentoring – 12 kids





In addition, PAL sponsored two softball teams and a baseball team. Some were coached by officers that volunteered their time working with youth. In total, 1114 youth were served by PAL. Details on all these events can be found at [www.moorheadpal.org](http://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, Moorhead 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), the Summer Youth Program and Change Starts with YOUth camp in an effort to impact prevention by offering healthy alternatives, and finally to maintain order and deliver police services in the Moorhead School District.*

### 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.

## Personnel

The YFS Unit personnel include two School Resource Officers (SROs) Officer Andrew Werk and Officer Jessica Horn; a full-time SRO/DARE Officer, Officer Beth Jutting; Youth Service Coordinator (YSC) Louis Ochoa; Captain Deric Swenson – Supervision; Lieutenant Mike Detloff – Supervision; Sergeant Scott Kostohryz – Assistant Supervision and Community Policing Coordinator Leann Wallin – Financial and Program Management. In April, SRO Brandon Heide was reassigned to Patrol and Officer Beth Jutting was selected as his replacement.



## Staffing Challenges Affect SRO Program

In August 2023, Moorhead Police made the difficult decision to pull our School Resource Officers and place them on patrol due to confusion surrounding a new state law regarding discipline of students by school officials. That law was clarified in January 2024 and our SRO's returned to the schools. In August 2024, however, we were forced to pull the SRO's again. This time it was due to our patrol division operating at or below acceptable numbers. As we do our best to recruit, hire and train more officers, the SRO's remain on patrol until those vacancies are filled.

## 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 3 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. Due to the previously mentioned staffing issues, DARE was not taught this year.



**Moorhead Police Summer Youth Program (SYP):** Funded through a grant from the Department of Public Safety, Office of Justice Programs, SYP is an 8-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 bus safety, fire safety, internet safety, bike safety, and the dangers of

vaping/nicotine use. We also attended field trips to the Red River Zoo, Marcus Century Theater, Moorhead Youth Hockey Arena, Skate City and Kingpinz Family Entertainment Center.



**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 10 boys spent a total of six days together under the guidance of the SROs and Youth Services Coordinator Louis Ochoa.

The boys took several field trips and participated in many learning opportunities. Sanford Ambulance gave the boys a tour of their ambulance and talked to them about some basic first-aid education. They toured: M-State college and took a personality and life skills test to see what type of schooling they would need based on their test results; the Moorhead Fire Department and learned about the role of a firefighter; the West Central Juvenile Detention Center; and met with a National Army Guard recruiter and completed a physical fitness test. The boys also received presentations from the Moorhead Police Department K9 team and Red River Valley SWAT Bomb Unit. The boys went to a Character Challenge high ropes course in Park Rapids. The course challenged the boys' courage, skills, and ability to work together as well as develop trust with one another. Additionally, they spent time doing fun activities like bowling and playing basketball. The boys received graduation certificates on the last day of the camp.



**Not a Number:** The Not a Number curriculum was completed once in January to a small group of 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade girls. Advocates at Rape & Abuse Crisis Center are certified facilitators through LOVE146 and facilitated the session. Not a Number is an interactive, five module curriculum that

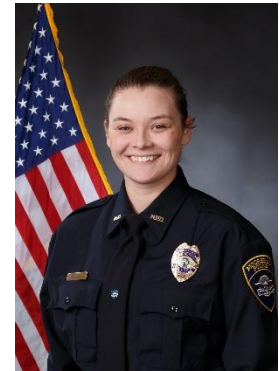


engages youth in conversation and education about human trafficking, exploitation, healthy relationships, and safety planning. The Rape & Abuse Crisis Center teamed up with the Moorhead Police Department to provide this valuable prevention curriculum to the students.

## **Assignments**

### **SRO/DARE Officer Beth Jutting**

Officer Jutting was selected as a School Resource Officer in May 2024. She attended DARE training in summer 2024 and is looking forward to working in the schools, primarily at Horizon Middle School and our elementary schools. She has been an officer with Moorhead Police Department since 2021. In the summer she assisted with the Change Starts with YOUth at-risk camp, Summer Youth Program and filled patrol shifts.



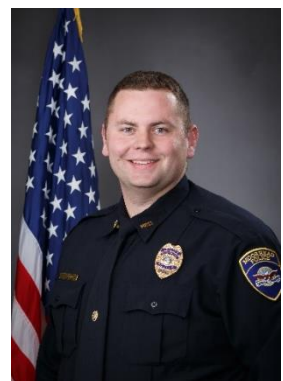
### **SRO Jessica Horn**

Officer Horn 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 5-8. Officer Horn spends time building relationships with students, their families, and school staff. She provides school safety and security and handles police incidents on campus. In the summer she assisted with the Change Starts with YOUth at-risk camp, Summer Youth Program and filled patrol shifts.



### **SRO Andrew Werk**

Officer Werk is the School Resource Officer at the Moorhead High School. 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 Werk teaches the Point of Impact class for the Driver's Ed students at the high school and their parents 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.



### **Youth Services Coordinator Louis Ochoa**

Youth Services Coordinator (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 27<sup>th</sup> 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 Office, 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 the Minnesota 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 his 11<sup>th</sup> year on the board of YIPA. YSC Ochoa has previously served as Vice President and President of the board.

## **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, 48,923 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.

### *2024 Community Service Program Statistics:*

Total hours referred: 844  
Total hours completed: 832  
This is a 99% completion rate for 2024

Referrals are also made to the Community Service Program under the Juvenile Offender Restitution Program. Since 1997, 7,032 hours of restitution performed by area youth has equated to \$47,972. This money is paid back to victims.

*2024 Juvenile Offender Restitution Program Statistics:*

Total hours referred: 153  
Total hours completed: 153  
This is a 100% completion rate for 2024

**Juvenile Crime Statistics:** Below is a comparison of years involving juvenile offenders:

Offense Type	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Alcohol	20	10	13	19	31
Arson	1	1	0	0	0
Assault	60	102	86	77	76
Burglary	4	7	9	8	2
Disorderly Conduct	46	61	59	41	41
Driving Under the Influence	2	7	4	3	5
Drug	11	24	14	6	0
Flee/Obstruct	18	33	16	32	21
Fraud	1	3	0	1	1
Homicide	0	0	0	1	0
Other	5	5	4	9	9
Pornography/Obscene Material	4	4	1	6	4
Robbery	2	1	3	1	5
Runaway	79	81	90	78	115
Sexual Assault	17	15	14	7	5
Theft	57	18	21	54	73
Tobacco	21	10	2	0	14
Traffic	49	72	97	88	81
Trespass	5	3	5	7	14
Vandalism	19	13	15	31	23
Weapon Law Violation	1	7	3	7	6



<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>422</b>	<b>477</b>	<b>456</b>	<b>476</b>	<b>526</b>
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Community Policing Coordinator Leann Wallin presents Operation Lifesaver's rail safety program to students and adults throughout the Moorhead-Fargo-West Fargo metro. She completed 3 presentations to Moorhead High School driver's education classes reaching a total of 73 students. She also presented to 267 pre-kindergartners at Safety Town.



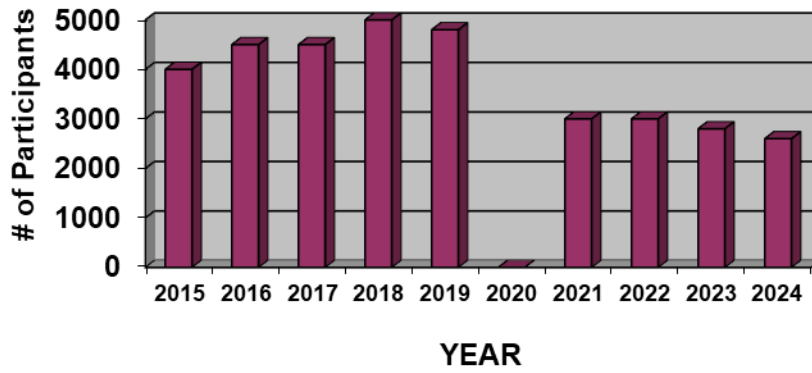
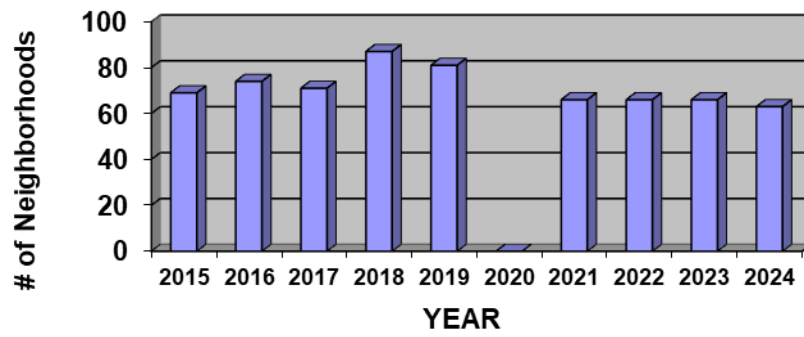
## Citizens Police Academy

The Moorhead Police Department was unable to host its 28<sup>th</sup> Citizens Police Academy (CPA) this fall due to critical staffing shortages. In addition to multiple open positions, we had officers out on Family Medical Leave Act (FMLA) during this time period. While the Citizens Police Academy is an important and valuable program to this department, we simply didn't have the resources available to facilitate a successful academy. The department has every intention on hosting an academy in the fall of 2025.

## Night to Unite

This year's event involved approximately 2,600 Moorhead residents in 63 different neighborhoods. Eleven neighborhoods joined in the fun this year by hosting their first parties! This year we faced a staffing shortage that affected this night. Typically, each party gets a visit from a police officer and our neighborhoods look forward to the opportunity to visit with an officer. This year we simply didn't have the staffing to be able to accommodate this. Despite this, our goal was for every party to get a visit from someone in public safety. We coordinated with the Moorhead Fire Department and made sure they could visit as many parties as possible. We had our Cadets and Police Volunteers go out visiting parties as well to ensure we met our goal. It was a beautiful evening and a great night 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, 5 full-time Records Specialists, 1 part-time Office Specialist, 1 full-time Evidence Technician, 3 full-time Power Typists, 2 part-time Power Typists, and 2 Community Service Officers.

Danielle Bellon joined the Records Division on 02-05-2024 as a full-time Records Specialist so that Laura Hilgers could dedicate her time to evidence duties. Elaine Beitelspacher transitioned from a part-time typist to a full-time typist on 08-05-2024 after the retirement of Linda Strain.

Records staff received over 16,563 phone calls in 2024, averaging 64 calls per day, 8 calls per hour.

They processed over 5,455 incident reports.

4,489 requests were made by the City and County Attorney's Offices for squad videos, photos, audios, and other items.

1,134 incidents were referred to the City and County Attorney's Offices for prosecution.

Dictation: 4,988 audio files, squad videos, and officer dictated reports were transcribed; over 5,439 hours of staff time was dedicated to transcribing these items. There was 825 hours of officer dictation.

264 impounded vehicles were processed and released.

Intake of 2,737 pieces of evidence and 52 Cellebrite cell phone exams.

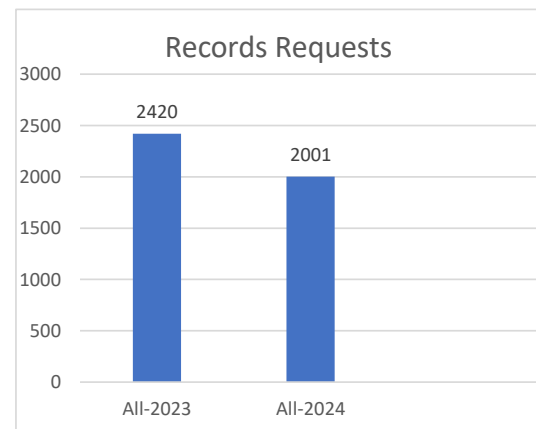
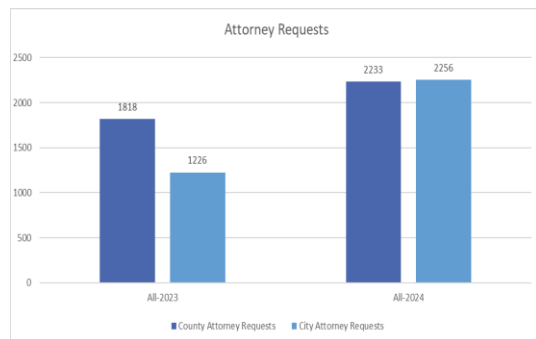
1,303 predatory offender updates.

344 handgun permit requests were received and backgrounded.

2,001 requests for information were made from the public, military, Social Services, Department of Corrections, and other agencies.

5,936 parking tickets were issued by CSOs and Police Volunteers. Records staff takes payment for these tickets, issues overdue and collection letters, as well as processes appeals.

498 dog licenses and 145 cat licenses were sold and issued to pet owners.





## Community Service Officers

Community Service Officers consist of two full-time positions; Harvey Moos and Greg Schmidt, who started with us in July. Jay Siebles resigned his position in May. CSOs spend their workdays 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, and evidence for the department.

In 2024, the Community Service Officers responded to a combined total of 1,005 calls for service to include:

- 121 vehicle unlocks.
- 443 animal complaints; the department received 1,422 calls for service related to animal complaints.
- 385 animals were impounded by the police department.
- 137 calls for release of impounded vehicles and personal property were completed by CSOs.





## Crime Free Multi-Housing Program

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, 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 77% of the letters; followed by drug offenses at 12% and disorderly conduct/disturbances at 7%.

Two Minnesota Crime Free Multi-Housing Program trainings to landlords and property managers were conducted in 2024. The spring session was held over the course of two evenings, March 5 and March 12, 2024, and had 33 attendees. The fall session was a full day course held on October 29, 2024, and had 26 attendees.

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 from Legal Services of Northwest Minnesota and Legal Services of North Dakota presented on "Landlord and Tenant Rights and Responsibilities" on February 15, 2024
- An Independent Living Advocate and Accessibility Specialist with Freedom Resource Center for Independent Living presented on the topic of "emotional support animals and service animals related to housing" on November 13, 2024

Community Policing Coordinator Leann Wallin attended the annual Minnesota Crime Prevention Association's conference in Walker, October 7-8, 2024, for continuing education credits in this field.



## Volunteer Program

Measurable outcomes for the Police Volunteer Program are as follows:

- 4,854 tickets written in 2024, valued at \$129,425.

- 2,090 volunteer hours contributed in 2024, for a total contributed value of \$75,888 calculated using the nationally recognized hourly rate for Minnesota
- 79 vacation residence checks were requested and performed numerous times each by volunteers while the homeowner was temporarily away
- 17 house checks on registered vacant properties performed numerous times per house until they are either occupied or demolished
- 3 new volunteers joined the department, and 1 volunteer left the program
- 4 volunteers have been here for 5-9 years
- 6 volunteers have been here for 10 years or more

### **Special Projects in 2024:**

Volunteers worked four Saturdays around the holidays selling pet licenses at local stores during the 13th annual pet licensing campaign. Volunteers sold a total of 41 dog and cat licenses. Each week we promoted this service on our department's Facebook page.

Volunteers conducted traffic control at five parades, two marathons, one bike race, Kidsfest at Bluestem and Moorhead High School hockey games.

Volunteers served as youth mentors in the Moorhead Police Summer Youth Program, assisted with the spring and fall city auctions, Night to Unite, Polar Plunge for the Special Olympics, and rang the bell for the Salvation Army Red Kettle Campaign.

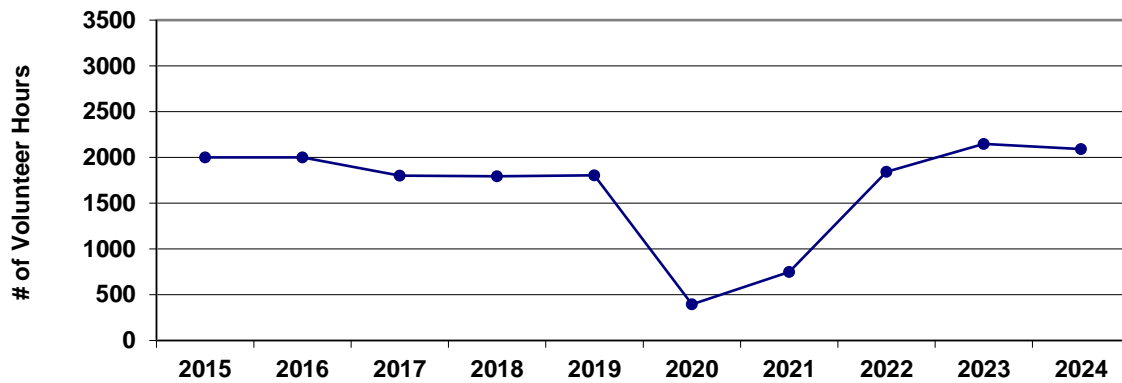
Volunteers conducted child fingerprinting at Kidsfest at the Moorhead Public Library and at all three of the Safe City Nights events.

Several volunteers served as role players multiple times for the MPD Police Explorers Program. Volunteers assisted with Standard Field Sobriety Test (SFST) training for new officers and a Drug Recognition Expert (DRE) training.

Volunteers participated in the Feed My Starving Children meal packing event at the Fargodome; conducted "No Parking" sign inventory throughout the city; and assisted Investigations with monitoring jail phone calls.

Many volunteers assisted the Police Athletics and Activities League (PAL) with the Safe City Nights community outreach events at Robert Asp Elementary, Ellen Hopkins Elementary and Queens Park; and wrapped gifts for Shop-with-a-Cop.





YEAR	HOURS
2015	2,002
2016	2,002
2017	1,800
2018	1,794
2019	1,804
2020	395*
2021	748*
2022	1,844
2023	2,148
2024	2,090

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

### 20 Volunteers:

Ruthie Johnson	Tiffany Footitt	Dennis Nelson	Greta Myers
Eileen Hastad	Myron Bowar	Braden Ashworth	Kim Schlotfeldt
Linda Laske	Judy Hoganson	Deb Ludwig	Brett Oertli
Annette Fischer	Luis Coca, Jr.	Kylie Ashworth	Bev Henning
Susan Spooner	Janice Coca	Cheryl Sivertson	Georgia Dufault
Tammy Ehresman	Dave Roe	Amber Solum	Scott Curfman



## Wellness Program



2024 marks Dr. Aaron Suomala Folkerds fourth year working as the part-time wellness coordinator for the Moorhead Police Department. This year he continued to work with the New Officer Academy to teach about police officer wellness and responding to mental health calls in the community. In addition, he is available to meet to offer mental health and spiritual support to civilian and sworn staff which also includes leading Critical Incident Stress Debriefings. The last four years have been busy with celebrating major life milestones; he has now done 8 weddings and 3 baptisms within the department. Dr. Folkerds continues to keep regular office hours each week and complete check-ins with both civilian and sworn staff. He also periodically assists with on-scene care for families when needed. In the next year, he will continue to highlight the Cordico Wellness App and work to organize a Wellness Appreciation Dinner for the Department.

## Patrol Division

The Patrol Division seeks to maintain social order and the quality of life through the enforcement of laws, timely response to calls for service, investigation of criminal offenses, apprehension of offenders, traffic law enforcement, and the deterrence of crime through 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. Staffing shortages continued to impact operations within the Patrol Division due to 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.

### **Specialty Positions in Patrol:**

- 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 shifts are designed around a “Team” concept. Each officer works with the same group of officers and sergeant for a 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 workdays where both Team A and Team B are working at the same time. For the Day shift, it’s every other Wednesday and Friday.

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](http://www.moorheadpolice.com) outlining how the 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**

There are six sergeants assigned to the Patrol Division in the following positions:

Days Shift Sergeant	= 2
Evening Shift Sergeant	= 2
Midnight Shift Sergeant	= 2

## **Staffing Departures**

During 2024, we had eleven officers leave the department:

Officer Chase Reed was hired on August 21, 2023, and resigned during the training program on January 1, 2024.

Officer Michael McCombs was hired on August 21, 2023, and resigned during the training program on January 23, 2024.

Officer Anthony St. Clair was hired on May 8, 2023, and resigned to take a position with the Minnesota State Patrol on January 30, 2024.

Officer Matt Hanson was hired on November 26, 2018, and resigned to take a position with the Veteran's Affairs Police on January 30, 2024.

Officer Carter DuBord was hired on June 12, 2023, and resigned during the training program on March 4, 2024.

Detective Shaun Van Dyke was hired on May 22, 2017, and resigned to take a position with the Ottertail County Sheriff's Office on April 12, 2024.

Officer Matthew Lambert was hired on April 2, 2012, and resigned to take a position with the Clay County Sheriff's Office on July 26, 2024.

Detective Seth Saarinen was hired on February 28, 2005, and resigned to take a position with the Clay County Sheriff's Office on September 9, 2024.

Officer Mackenzie Schultz was hired on April 1, 2019, and resigned to take a position with the Clay County Sheriff's Office on September 18, 2024.

Detective Jeffrey Larson was hired on January 1, 1999, and retired from MPD on December 2, 2024.

Officer Kiara Grady was hired on August 19, 2024, and resigned during the training program on December 22, 2024.

## **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 Investigative Division 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 to perform the essential duties of a police officer and to enhance the professionalism of patrol work through continuous quality improvement.

The year 2024, was a very active training year for the Moorhead Police Department, which has become normal with the police staffing crisis in our country. During 2024, we hired seven officers.

Hired applications in 2024 were:

Officer Anastacia Hermes

Officer Dalton Knapper

Officer Lance Oelrich III

Officer Kane Turney

Officer Adam Kusske

Officer Kiara Grady – resigned before completing training.

Officer Hayden Spilles

## **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 nontraditional police officer applicants of various backgrounds.

The Moorhead Police Department implement a lateral officer hiring process in 2024. This allows the department to hire an eligible applicant anytime during the year.

### **Potential Candidates**

Each finalist for employment as a Moorhead Police Officer is subject to a thorough pre-employment screening and background investigation, which is supervised by the Investigations Commander, Lt. Mike Detloff. Due to recent staffing shortages, our background investigations have been outsourced to a private company. At the conclusion of this investigation, a report is completed and provided to our administration. 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 incurs a significant monetary and resource expenditure to hire and train new employees.

Uniforms and equipment are provided for a new officer and totals around \$10,000 per officer. 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 an in-house 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 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. Lateral applicants participate in an expedited in-house academy prior to starting field training.

### **Uniformed Field Training**

After New Officer Academy, new police officers are assigned to our formal Field Training Program. We use the Field Training Associates method of field training, which is a coach-based theory. This training program is generally fourteen 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.

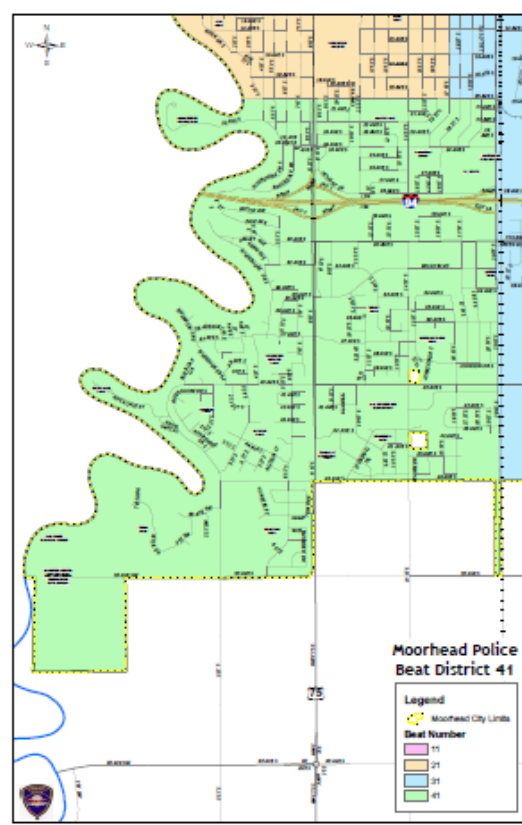
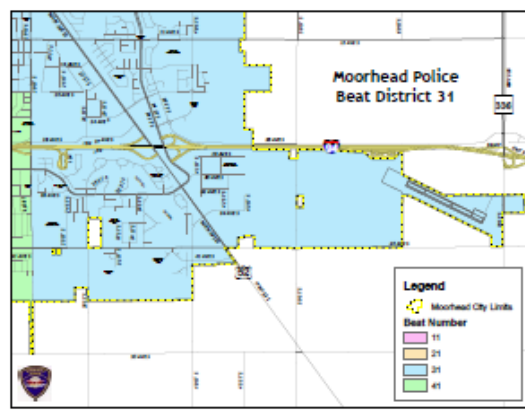
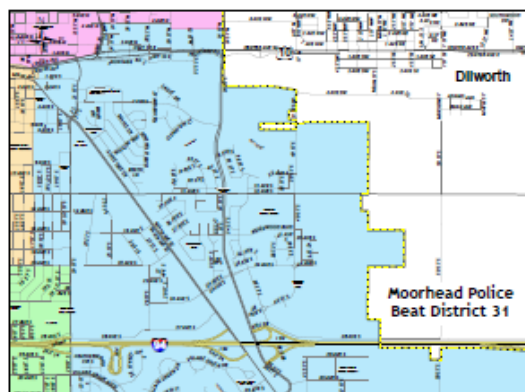
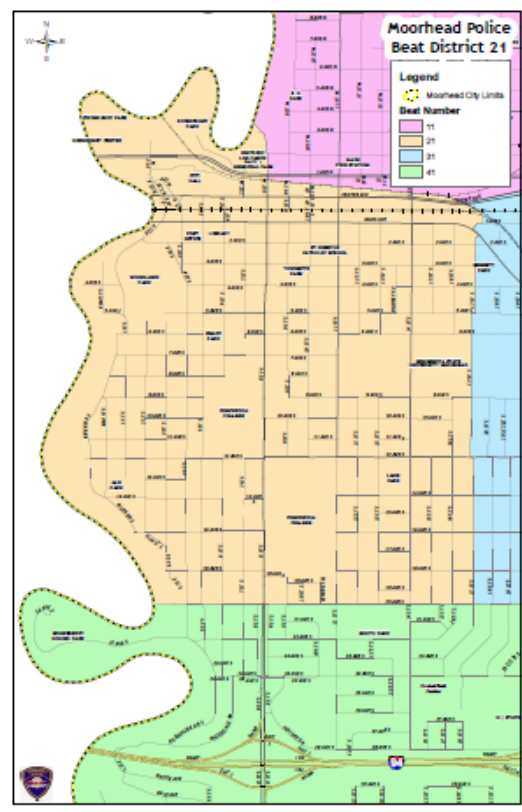
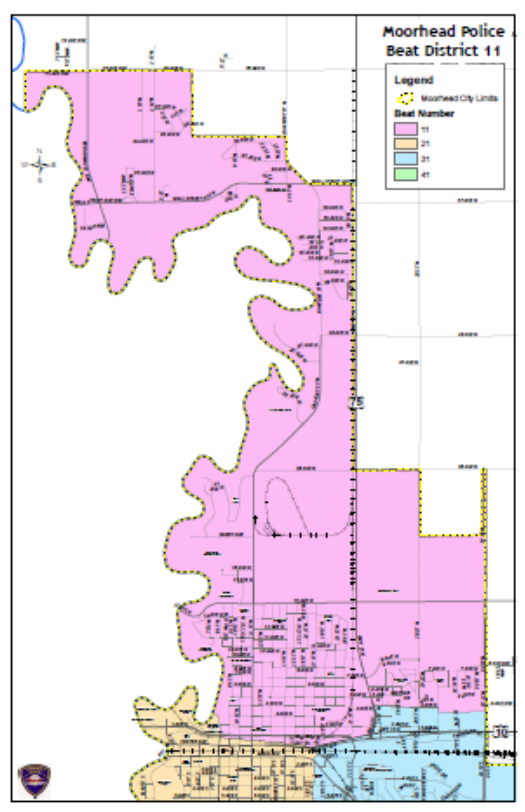
### **Field Training Officers**

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. They help instill strong organizational culture to new hires. Our Field Training Unit is supervised by Captain Deric Swenson, Sergeant Nick Leinen and Sergeant Joe Brannan.

### **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 are referred to as "Beats". A patrol sergeant is assigned to each of these Beats as well to identify and address issues in these areas 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 on the following page.



## Supervisors and Patrol Officers Assigned to the Patrol Division (End of Year 2023):

### **Supervisors:**

Lieutenant John Laddie Bata  
Sergeant Scott Kostohryz  
Sergeant Nick Schultz  
Sergeant Clint Stephenson  
Sergeant Robb Matheson  
Sergeant Michelle Voeltz  
Sergeant Nick Leinen  
Sergeant Nick Wiedenmeyer

### **Police Officers Assigned to the Patrol Division:**

Officer Shawn Griego	Officer Rob Reller
Officer Kaden Oldham	Officer Ethan Halvorson
Officer Jonathan Hanson	Officer Ben Bauer
Officer Sydne Mark	Officer Joe Secord
Officer Brett Musich (K9)	Officer Cuyler Johnson
Officer Lance Oelrich III	Officer Anthony Larson
Officer Kyle Huewe	Officer Michaela Bolgrean
Officer Jack Anderson	Officer Alli Garding
Officer Muhamad Abdi	Officer Eric Moore
Officer Nathan Wambach	Officer Adam Koep
Officer Bailey Wallace	Officer James Eggert
Officer Jessica Horn (SRO)	Officer Dalton Knapper
Officer Beth Jutting (SRO)	Officer Andy Werk (SRO)
Officer Kane Turney	Officer Adam Kusske
Officer Hayden Spilles	Officer Anastacia Hermes
Officer Brandon Heide	

## **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 are 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.

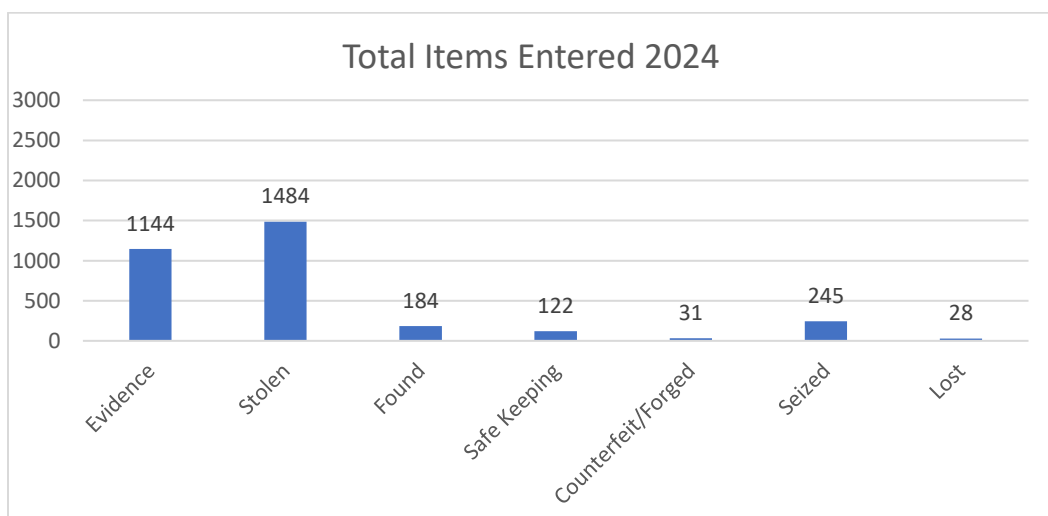
## Property and Evidence 2024 in Review

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 have access to these items rather than at an in-person 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 \$7,295.58 This revenue goes directly into the city's general fund.

1,726 items were entered into Property and Evidence in 2024. This includes 1,484 additional items that were listed as stolen items.

The number for seized property decreased. 2024: 245; 2023: 305.



The start of year balance of the Property and Evidence account was \$110,830.74.

\$60,834.00 in cash deposits were made into the Property and Evidence account for storage until disposition of the criminal cases.

\$40,799.67 was withdrawn from this account in 2024. \$4,402.00 was returned to the owner or victim after the criminal case was resolved. \$73,726.30 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. In this case the following agencies received the following amounts:

- State of Minnesota                      \$7,383.20
- Clay County Attorney's Office        \$14,660.70



- Moorhead Police Department           \$26,503.40
- Clay County Sheriff's Office           \$14,626.16
- Cass County Drug Task Force           \$8,739.14
- Minneapolis/St. Paul. Airport Police   \$1,813.70

\$1,266.30 accrued interest in 2024.

The year-end balance of the account is \$139,165.07.

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.

## Canine Unit

After the loss of canine Zeke to an acute medical condition and departure of canine Kash, we began searching for a replacement partner for Officer Musich. In March, Officer Musich was assigned to his new partner, Dex, a Belgian Malinois/German Shepherd cross, imported from Slovakia.

Officer Musich and Dex attended 10 weeks of basic patrol and narcotics training through Performance Kennels Inc. in the Twin Cities metro area. Officer Musich and Dex graduated in May and returned to Moorhead where they continue to work as our only canine team.

Annually, our canine teams must show a continued proficiency in narcotic detection and patrol work. Each team must obtain at least 16 hours of training per month and certify annually with the National Police Canine Association (NPCA). Dex is trained to alert to the presence of Methamphetamine, Cocaine, Heroin, powder fentanyl and counterfeit fentanyl pills, and MDMA. He is also trained in numerous patrol functions such as tracking, building searches, area searches, evidence recovery and physical apprehension.

Officer Musich and canine Dex routinely participate in community engagement events such as demonstrations, to showcase their training and value to the community. They also participate in other initiatives such as Night to Unite, Safe City Nights and the Summer Youth Program.



### **Significant Deployments:**

On 06/13/2024 Officer Musich and K9 Dex were requested to assist the Dilworth Police and Clay County Sheriff's Office in locating and arresting a male with a felony warrant. The male's warrant was for violating his probation with the original offense being aggravated assault with a firearm. Officers arrived on scene and located the male outside the location he was staying. The male was immediately uncooperative and made several threats that he was going to assault officers and initially refused to surrender. Officer Musich removed and utilized Dex to bark and show aggression towards the male while utilizing distance and cover, which usually deters the subject from exhibiting further violence and will assist in their apprehension. The male then surrendered and was arrested by officers without further incident.

On 07/17/2024 Officer Musich and K9 Dex were requested to assist with a motor vehicle sniff in the City of West Fargo. Dex was deployed on a search of the exterior of the vehicle where he alerted to the presence of narcotics. Officers established probable cause due to the K9 alert and located approximately 1,000 counterfeit fentanyl pills in a package in the back seat of the vehicle. Two occupants of the vehicle were arrested for drug related charges by the West Fargo Police Department.

On 10/27/2024 Moorhead Officers responded to a closed business for a possible burglary in progress. Once a perimeter was established, Officer Musich and K9 Dex moved up to the front door and began giving K9 announcements. K9 announcements are typically given before any patrol related deployment and are a warning to any outstanding subjects to surrender or a police dog will be used to locate and apprehend them. Shortly after announcements were given, a male advised he was inside and surrendered without incident. The male was arrested for burglary.

On 11/04/2024 Moorhead Officers responded to the area of 30 Ave and 8 St S for an occupied stolen vehicle. As officers arrived on scene, three occupants fled on foot. Officers were able to detain one occupant a short distance away and lost sight of another to the south in the 3100 blk of 5 St S. Officer Musich and K9 Dex responded to assist in locating the outstanding occupants. Officer Musich and Dex began searching the individual stairwell entries at 508 32 Ave S. While doing so, Dex began going down the stairs to check the crawl space underneath. Just as Dex was about to enter, a male advised officers he was hiding underneath the stairs and verbally surrendered. Dex was recalled back to Officer Musich where verbal commands were given for the suspect to exit, which he did. The male was arrested on outstanding felony warrants and fleeing charges from the initial call.

On 12/12/2024 Officer Musich and K9 Dex were requested to conduct a motor vehicle sniff in the City of Moorhead. K9 Dex was deployed on a search of the exterior of the vehicle where he alerted to the presence of the narcotics. Officers ultimately located 17.6 grams of methamphetamine and 15 counterfeit fentanyl pills. The driver was arrested for narcotic related charges and the passenger was arrested on outstanding warrants.

## Crime Analysis

Cameron Jenson has served as the Moorhead Police Department's Crime Analyst since 2021. In his role, Jenson provides reports, analysis, and investigative support to the department's administration, detectives, and patrol officers. He combines information gathered from a variety of sources with data collected by the department to identify crime patterns, trends, and repeat offenders occurring in the community.

During 2024, Jenson participated in the Cass Clay Threat Management Threat Assessment team along with other MPD investigative staff which aimed at interrupting individuals who are potentially on the pathway to violence. This new initiative consists of a multidisciplinary team including law enforcement from local, state, and federal agencies, prosecutors, parole and probation officers, and area mental health service providers. The formation of this team included training from the Department of Homeland Security in Threat Evaluation and Reporting.

In October, Jenson had the opportunity to attend the 2024 Midwest Investigations & Analysis conference through his membership in the Midwest Association of Crime & Intelligence Analysts. The conference provided training on a variety of topics such as Cellular Record Analysis, Cell Phone Forensics, Financial Crimes, and other investigative case studies. It also offered the opportunity to meet and network with analysts and investigators from Minnesota and surrounding states.



The Moorhead Police Department continued its Data Analyst Intern position which has been held by Connor Ackerson since 2023. Ackerson, a Senior mathematics student at North Dakota State University, assisted with regular mapping of call for service data utilizing Geographic Information Systems (GIS), tracking of alarm ordinance violations, and worked on a variety of analysis projects on topics to include drug overdoses, pursuits, and other statistical reports. The analyst internship provides value to the department by increasing its analytical capabilities and allows the intern to utilize their skills and education in an exciting field and possibly consider it as a career path.

## **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 2024 was a very active training year for the Moorhead Police Department, which has become normal with the police staffing crisis in our country.

### **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 nontraditional police officer applicants of various backgrounds.

The Moorhead Police Department implement a lateral officer hiring process in 2024. This allows the department to hire an eligible applicant anytime during the year.



### **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. Mike Detloff. 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 incurs a significant monetary and resource expenditure to hire and train new employees.

Uniforms and equipment are provided for a new officer and totals around \$10,000 per officer. 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 an in-house 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 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. Lateral applicants participate in an expedited in-house academy prior to starting field training.

### **Uniformed Field Training**

After New Officer Academy, new police officers are assigned to our formal Field Training Program. We use the Field Training Associates method of field training, which is a coach-based theory. This training program is generally fourteen 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. They help instill strong organizational culture to new hires.

The department Field Training Officers are:

- Officer Jonathan Hanson #339
- Officer Cuyler Johnson #348
- Officer Jessica Horn #344
- Officer Andy Werk #316
- Officer Ben Bauer #317
- Officer Anthony Larson #303
- Officer Ethan Halvorson #336
- Officer Kyle Huewe #306
- Officer Rob Reller #311
- Officer Kaden Oldham #305
- Officer Eric Moore #334
- Officer Anastacia Hermes #321
- Officer Sydne Mark #326
- Officer James Eggert #301
- Officer Beth Jutting #332

Our Field Training Unit is supervised by Captain Deric Swenson, Sergeant Nick Leinen and Sergeant Joe Brannan.

## Cadet Program

The cadet program is an essential law enforcement hiring pipeline for the City of Moorhead. Since its inception in 2021 it has continued to evolve. The program emphasizes identifying nontraditional candidates and those with diverse backgrounds. The cadet program integrates the Pathway to Policing grant through the State of Minnesota. The program is a unique opportunity for the department to be able to identify a local candidate and provide them an opportunity to develop their skills in a public service setting, while working to hire them as a sworn officer when they obtain their required education and training.

A cadet is subject to a formal hiring process to include an interview, background check and employment offer from the City of Moorhead. 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.

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 citizen of Moorhead as future Police Officers.

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 law enforcement related programs with our cadet positions.

In 2024 the department saw 3 cadets be hired as full-time officers with the department, Adam Kusske, Kiara Grady and Hayden Spilles. All indicated that their time as a cadet helped familiarize them with city geography, radio procedures, interacting with the public and building relationships with current officers.

The department currently has 5 cadets that attend area colleges.

Binyad Brifki:	Minnesota State Community and Technical College
Emaline Bozovsky:	North Dakota State University
Samuel Larson:	Alexandria Community and Technical College
Michael Tol:	Minnesota State Community and Technical College
Kaivon Edwards:	Minnesota State Community and Technical College

## **Intensive Comprehensive Peace Officer Education and Training (ICPOET)**

The Intensive Comprehensive Peace Officer Education and Training (ICPOET) program provides grant funding to assist Minnesota law enforcement agencies with hiring. The Minnesota Legislature created the program to help agencies experiencing staffing shortfalls due to officers retiring and fewer people choosing to enter the profession. Selected candidates attend an intensive, comprehensive training program at Alexandria Technical & Community College (ATC). During this time, candidates go through the same training that a traditional peace officer student completes.

Agencies were required to submit a request for proposal to show the need for grant funded positions. The department requested and received five grant funded positions for the fall cohort at ATC. The grant provides up to \$50,000 per candidate to offset training and education to become eligible for hire based on standards set by the Minnesota Peace Standards and Training Board. This program allows the department to train and hire those looking to transition into law enforcement and broaden our applicant pool from the traditional means.

Candidates were required to apply for the position. If they met the minimum requirements, they completed an oral interview. Top candidates were then subjected to a background investigation, psychological, medical and fitness testing and an interview with the Chief of Police. After completing these steps, the candidate was hired as a Police Cadet for the duration of the training and education at ATC.

Upon graduation the candidates are then hired as full-time law enforcement officers with the City of Moorhead Police Department.

The fall cohort students are:

Erika Broer

Lexa Olson

James Hammarsten

Meshach Adablah

Jacoby Diederich



## **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, Sanford 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 Incident Commander to coordinate and carry out the safest response possible.

The SWAT team takes pride in being a part of our community and strives to always be transparent in their role. The SWAT team participated in several local events to include the Holiday Lights Parade, St Patty's Day Parade, Fargo Marathon 5K Run and 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 30 SWAT members; many of which are assigned to specialized roles including snipers, breachers, Rook operators, tech, and less lethal/gas deployment.

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

Lieutenant J. Laddie Bata	Tactical Operator
Officer Cuyler Johnson	Tactical Operator
Officer Ethan Halvorson	Tactical Operator

The following members resigned from the Tactical Unit in 2024:

Officer Kyle Huewe	Tactical Operator
Officer Matt Lambert	Tactical Operator

The Tactical Unit was called out 35 times in 2024 for a variety of different situations. This is a record high number of call outs in a one-year period for the tactical team.

The Tactical Unit prides itself on training hard and staying proficient in their tactics and firearms skills. The Tactical Unit has two regular training days a month. New operators in the Tactical Unit are selected in October each year and begin training with the team until they attend 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 to become fully operational. The SWAT team completed 22 days of regularly scheduled training with 4 additional days of training at Camp Ripley, MN. In total, the team completed approximately 218 hours of training.

## **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 Jonathan Hanson - Assistant Team Leader  
Officer Michaela Bolgrean

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.

Throughout the year, the Negotiations Unit was deployed 24 times to provide support to the Tactical Unit and other metro law enforcement agencies during high-risk and critical incidents. Beyond deployments, members of the Red River Valley SWAT Negotiations Unit showcased their expertise by presenting a case study at the First Annual Minnesota Crisis Negotiations Conference. They also represented the team at various community engagement events in the metro area and conducted presentations for community members, shedding light on the roles and responsibilities of the Negotiations Unit. The dedicated efforts of the Negotiations Unit underscore their commitment to public safety and effective crisis resolution.

## **Bomb Unit**

The Red River Valley Regional Bomb Squad is a highly specialized and trained unit that is tasked with assisting the community and local law enforcement agencies in the education, identification, and disposal of all energetic materials. The Bomb Squad falls under the umbrella of the Red River Valley S.W.A.T. team. The Bomb Squad deploys several different types of technology that can assist in remotely assessing potentially dangerous items to include x-ray machines, robots, and containment vessels. There are currently eight members on the team: 1 Commander; 1 Assistant Commander; 3 Certified Bomb Technicians; and 3 Technicians in Training .

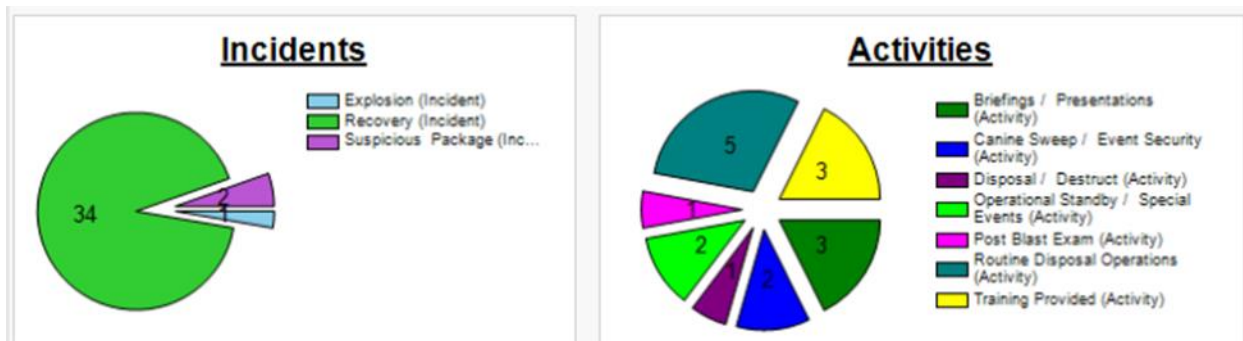


The Red River Regional Bomb Squad is a regional team comprised of members from Fargo PD, West Fargo PD, Cass County SO, Moorhead PD and Clay County SO. A selection process was held in 2024 to fill a vacancy from NDSU PD which was open to all participating agencies. After the process was completed, Jeffrey Boyer from WFPD was selected for the team. We currently have three members in training. Two of these members will attend Hazardous Devices School (Basic Certification) in March of 2026. The third is beginning the application process.

Our team underwent the re-accreditation process this year. This process involves a capabilities assessment from the National Counter-IED Capabilities Analysis Database (NCCAD) and a basic equipment verification by our regional FBI Special Agent Bomb Technician (SABT). The team trains for one full week in addition to twice monthly to maintain team/individual technician accreditation.

In 2024 we saw an increase in calls, specifically recoveries of explosives and ammunition. Suspicious package calls fell in 2024. Our team had a total of 54 responses in 2024.

### Summary of Responses:



## Community Resource Navigator



Megan Lundborg, LGSW, joined the Moorhead Police Department June 2024 in the position of Community Resource Navigator. Megan is an active Licensed Graduate Social Worker, obtaining her Master of Social Work from the University of Denver with a concentration on mental health and trauma. Megan started this position with nearly 10 years of experience in social work in various capacities including direct service, education and training, technical assistance, crisis intervention and management, and program development. The overall objective of the Community Resource Navigator position is to reduce calls for service related to mental health via connecting services for individuals.

This is accomplished through establishing meaningful partnerships with agencies for collaboration and coordination. Data is reviewed to identify needs, as well as mental health trends and patterns. Partnerships have been established with social services, housing providers, city and county attorneys, community service providers, hospitals, law enforcement partners, correctional facilities, and mental health providers. Interventions that have been introduced include updated crisis line lists, reviewing individual care plans, placing alerts for individuals, response meetings with various providers working with an individual, collaboration and information sharing, and civil commitments.

In the first 6 months of the position, 17 individuals were identified as top contacts in calls for service related to mental health. Totaling the highest call month for each of the individuals equates to 165 calls for service. The total of the lowest call month for each individual equates to 25 calls for service, resulting in a 140-call difference, or an 87% reduction. Interventions were implemented for many additional individuals exhibiting mental health concerns as well.

In roughly a 2-month span, one individual was the subject of 57 calls for service. The Community Resource Navigator Position allowed for the opportunity to coordinate amongst various professions the information and documentation of how much contact this individual was having with law enforcement. Collaboration was done with multiple law enforcement agencies, both local county correctional facilities, social services, the hospital, service providers, and the county attorney to facilitate the appropriate intervention for the individual for the safety of themselves as well as the community. This individual was ultimately civilly committed as a result of the collection and communication of collateral information.

## 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 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 Shawn VanDyke resigned on April 12 after working for the Moorhead Police Department for nearly 7 years. He was assigned as a General Detective and played a major role in several homicide investigations while he was a detective. He moved to the Otter Tail County Sheriff's Office and is working as a patrol deputy.

Detective Seth Saarinen resigned on September 7 after working for the Moorhead Police Department for nearly 20 years. He spent most of that time as one of our Juvenile Detectives and was known for his ability to get the suspect to confess with his nonthreatening demeanor. He was very successful listening to the victims, building a great case, interviewing his suspect, and testifying against them in court which turned his victims into survivors. He moved over to the Clay County Sheriff's office in their warrants and transport division.

Detective Jeff Larson retired on December 6 after 25 years of service with our department. He was assigned to the DEA Task Force and was the Narcotics Team Lead. His followed the connections to our local drug cases across the country and was one of the seasoned veterans in the DEA Office who mentored the newer agents as they began taking on larger cases.

Detective Nick Wiedenmeyer was promoted to Sergeant on June 17 and remained working as a member of the Metro Street Crimes Unit until December 30 when he took over in a patrol sergeant role. He had been one of the founding members of the Metro Street Crimes unit for our agency and had worked in that capacity for the last 10 years.

Detective Jonathan Hanson joined our division as a General/Juvenile Detective on December 30. He had been in our patrol division 10 years and served as a Use of Force instructor, Taser Instructor, EVOC Instructor, Field Training Officer, and a Crisis Negotiator for the Red River Valley SWAT Team.

In 2024, we participated in three Task Forces. One of our narcotics investigators was attached to the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) Drug Task Force in Fargo, ND. We are members of the Internet Crimes against Children Task Force (ICAC) assisting us with child pornography investigations. Last year, our investigators worked on several cyber tips from the National Center for Missing and Exploited Kids. 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 associated with overtime, training, equipment, and fuel. This funding comes from grants and federal agencies.

The Investigative Division maintains local Predatory Offender files by tracking and ensuring compliance of approximately (185) offenders in the City of Moorhead. The Moorhead Police Department had (1304) offender contacts in 2024. These included (12) investigations into Failure

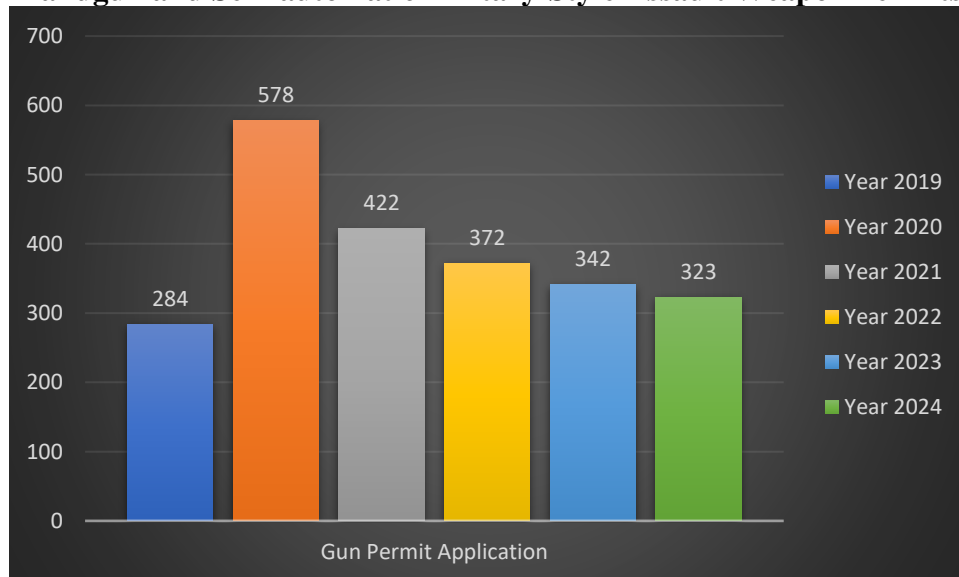
to Register cases, (12) initial/new registrations, (382) changes of information, (455) homeless weekly check-ins, and (418) quarterly compliance checks.

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 childcare 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 (5) Level III Offenders residing in Moorhead at various times in 2024.

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.

The division is also responsible for conducting background investigations for most city licenses and permits including liquor, pawn, massage, tobacco sales, secondhand 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 2024, we processed (323) applications showing a continued reduction in both 2021 through 2024. This was more consistent with the number of applications we processed prior to 2020.

**Handgun and Semiautomatic Military-Style Assault Weapon Permits**



### **High Profile Case Activity**

- On March 18, 2024, Officers were sent to an apartment building in the 1500 block of Belsly Boulevard for an unresponsive juvenile. Eastyn Deronjic (3) passed away from multiple medical complications due to an assault from his caregivers. Rosa Garza and Shiann Erickson are currently awaiting trial on this case.
- On July 24, 2024, Officers were sent to an apartment building in the 900 block of 18<sup>th</sup> St S for a report of gunshots. Franky Torres (37) was shot and transported to the hospital where he later died. The Red River Valley SWAT team assisted in arresting the suspect, Jamal Ahmed, in a nearby apartment. He is currently in custody waiting for his trial on this case.
- On August 4, 2024, Officers were sent to the 1000 block of 2 Ave N for a medical assist. The victim, Willard DeGroat (48) died on the way to the hospital after being stabbed. His girlfriend, Connie Frank (48) was arrested and is currently awaiting trial for his death.
- On August 7, 2024, Officers were sent to the 1000 block of 14<sup>th</sup> St S for a report of shots fired. Detectives determined there was a family dispute that ended with both parties firing shots at each other. Fortunately, nobody was hit by the gunfire. Tamorris Dempsey (46) and his son, Markees Dempsey (25), were arrested and are awaiting trial.
- On August 16, 2024, Officers were sent to the 1800 block of 20<sup>th</sup> St S for a stabbing. The victim was cut across his throat but was able to survive. His girlfriend, Mary Hjelseth (36) was arrested and is awaiting trial for attempted murder.
- On August 20, 2024, Officers were looking for a missing juvenile, Jaelyn Walker (15). Her body was discovered in the river in the 600 block of Elm St. Her ex-boyfriend, Isaac Arndt (18), was arrested for her murder and is currently in custody awaiting trial for 1<sup>st</sup> Degree Murder.
- On October 19, 2024, Officers were sent to the 3600 block of 39<sup>th</sup> St S for a report of shots fired. The investigation determined a relative had fired a single shot through the window to kill his brother. Francis Ochiti (28) was arrested and is currently awaiting trial for attempted murder.

### **Other Significant Investigations**

- On November 8, 2024, Officers were sent to First International Bank & Trust in south Moorhead for a bank robbery. During the investigation, we located Eric Flynn, in the hallway of a nearby hotel. Further investigation led to a search warrant where we located the money in his room. He was arrested and is in jail waiting for his trial. (24027918)

### **Narcotics**

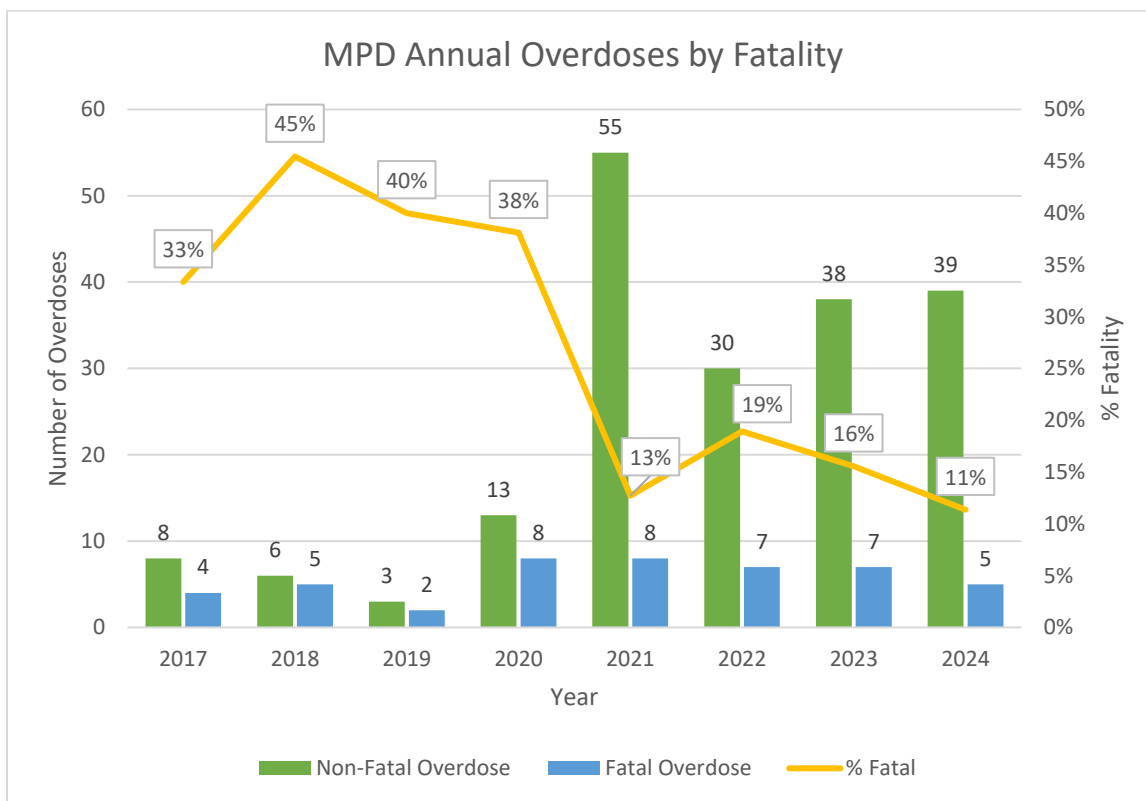
Grant funding allows us to collaborate with the local DEA Drug Task Force. This relationship allows investigators to start a case with a local user and follow them all the way up to the source of supply that may be established in another state. This type of investigation will often result in federal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

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 (360) pounds of medications that were incinerated in 2024.

Many of our Narcotic Investigations start with a tip from a citizen who is concerned about an increase in traffic at a residence where people stop by for short periods of time and leave right away. Our detectives check into each of these to determine if more information can be gathered and run with what they have. The public plays an important role in keeping our city safe and we need them as one of our vital partners.

### 2024 Overdose Statistics

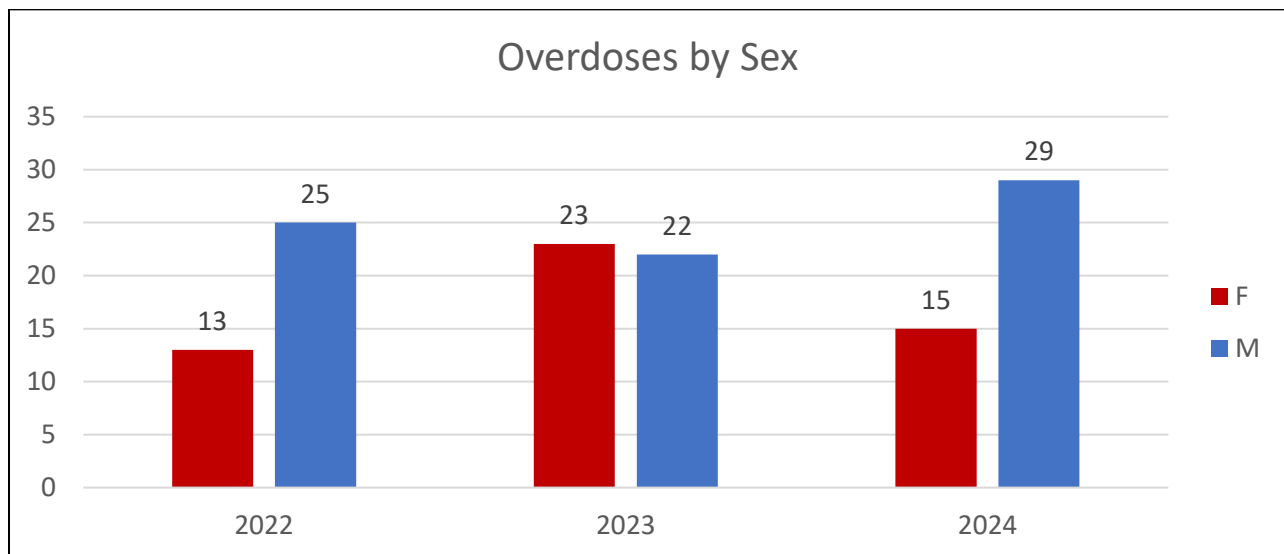
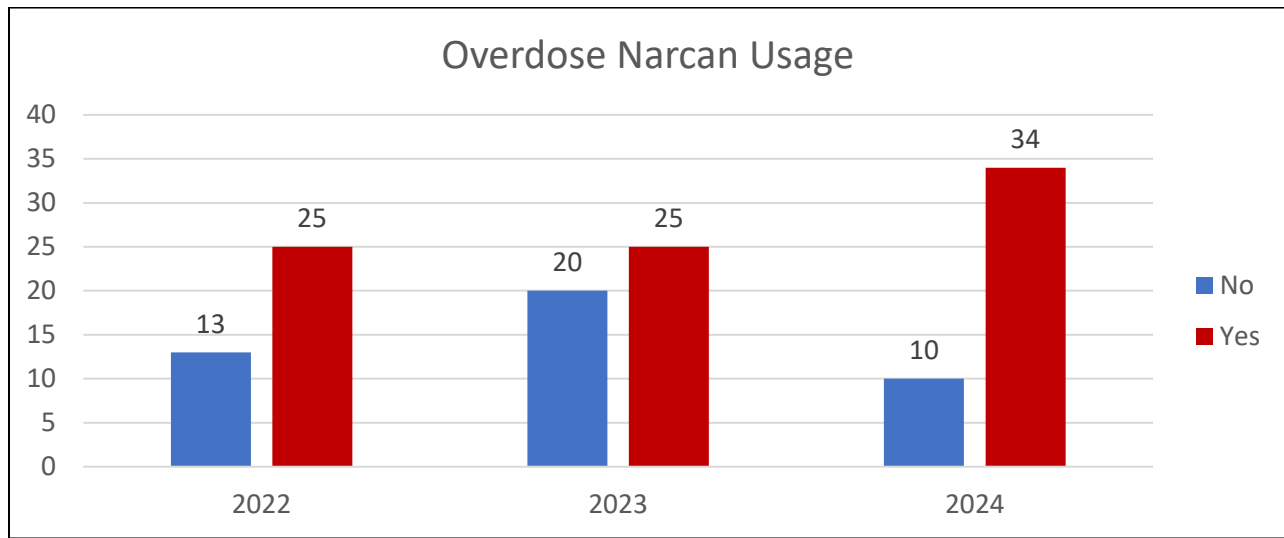


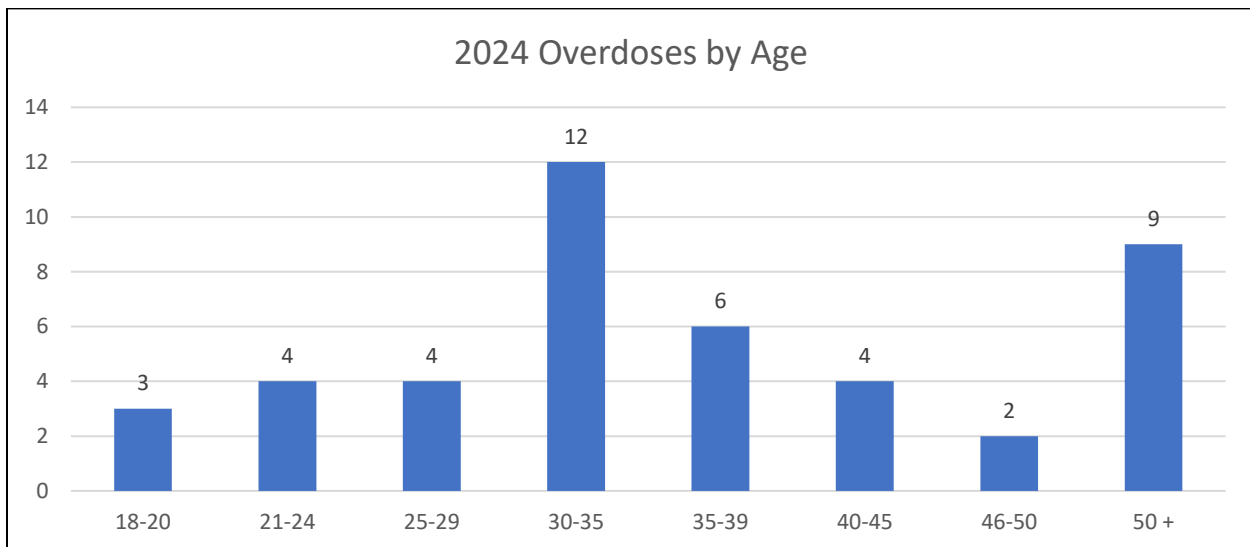
The orange line represents the percentage of fatal overdoses, the green bars correspond to the total number of non-fatal overdoses, and the blue bars represent the total number of fatal overdoses for that year. (Disclaimer: The data only reflects overdoses reported to the Moorhead Police Department. It is estimated that a portion of non-fatal overdoses go unreported)



## 2024 Summary

- There were 44 reported overdoses in 2024 compared to 45 in 2023.
- Non-fatal overdoses decreased by 2 with 5 reported in 2024 compared to 7 in 2023.
- Naloxone was reportedly used in 87% of known non-fatal overdoses in 2024. It was used in 68% of all overdoses in 2023.
- Males were almost twice as likely to overdose compared to Females in 2024.
- The most common age range to overdose in 2024 was 30-35.





### Local Narcotics Investigations

- In January of 2024, a Becker County Detective reached out about having a Confidential Informant (CI) purchase drugs from a dealer in Moorhead. Arrangements were made and 30 grams of methamphetamine were purchased. The suspect was stopped later on the Interstate and an additional 228 grams of methamphetamine was seized along with 8 M30 (fentanyl) pills. Joseph Bradsteen was arrested and held in the Clay County Jail.
- On February 7, 2024, Detectives were executing a search warrant on a suspect who may have been in possession of Child Sexual Assault Material (CSAM). Once entry was made and the individuals were secured, they discovered a very large Mushroom grow operation inside the residence as well as a personal use Marijuana grow in the basement. A new search warrant was written to expand the scope of the search to include searching for drugs and other materials involved in a drug operation. Approximately 13.2 pounds of mushrooms were seized. Kaiulani and Adam Paulus both face Aggravated 1<sup>st</sup> Degree Controlled Substance charges.





- After a lengthy investigation, a search warrant was conducted in South Moorhead involving a group of individuals who came up from Chicago to sell drugs through the person living at this apartment. During the search, \$11,638.00, 20 grams of heroin, 29 grams of methamphetamine, and 3.8 grams of powder fentanyl powder were seized. Sunnie Darville was arrested and taken to jail for 1<sup>st</sup> Degree Sale of a Controlled Substance-Heroin, 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree Possession of a Controlled Substance-Methamphetamine, and 5<sup>th</sup> Degree Possession of a Controlled Substance-Fentanyl Powder.



- Detective learned of a suspicious package of 1 kilogram of cocaine being delivered by FedEx to an apartment in Moorhead. Detectives assisted with the delivery and followed it up with a search warrant. Detectives located 3.82 pounds of marijuana and the 116 grams of cocaine in the package that had been delivered. They also seized a Mossberg 12-gauge



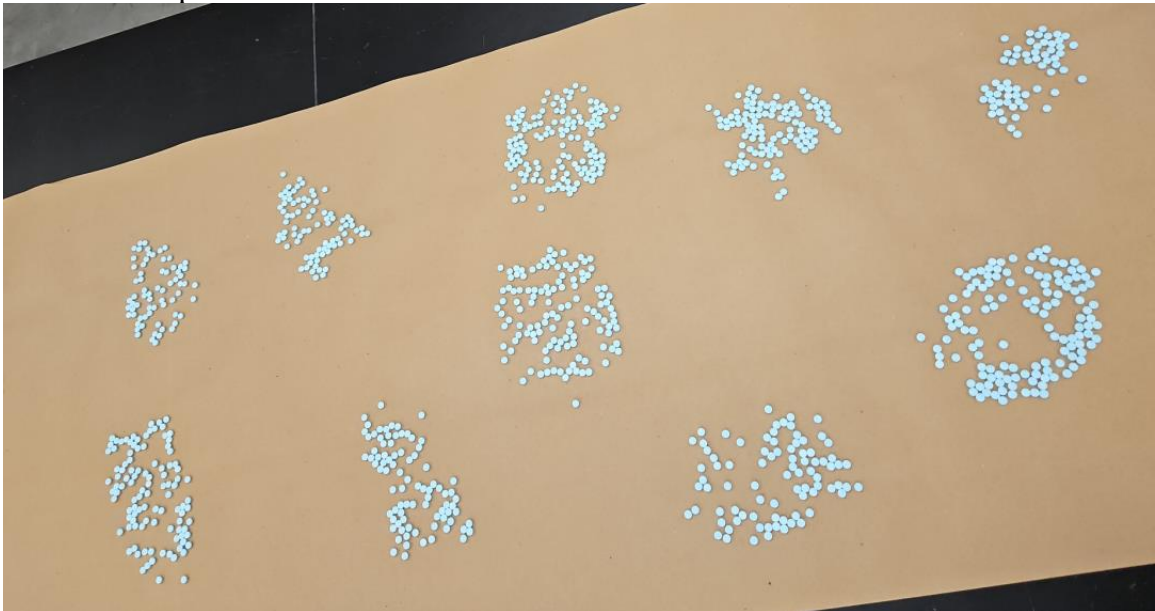
shotgun. This investigation is ongoing as detectives work up the line to identify the source of these drugs.

- On February 22, 2024, Detectives assisted the Clay County Sheriff's Office and the United States Postal Inspection Task Force with a controlled delivery of what was 9 pounds and 6 ounces of methamphetamine. Several individuals, Jamie White, Elizabeth Brinkman, and Albert St. Martin Lopez, ended up getting arrested on this case and will be prosecuted Federally.
- Detectives assisted the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) Task Force with the arrest and execution of several search warrants involving Shawn and Elizabeth Williams. They seized 17 guns, 1600 grams of Cocaine, and \$4,100 in us currency. This case is being prosecuted by the DEA.
- On March 28, 2024, Detectives worked with the Minneapolis/St. Paul Airport Police Department after they intercepted a couple of packages containing 900 THC vape cartridges. They executed a search warrant and seized 1886 grams of marijuana concentrates, 1 gram of Methamphetamines, 421 grams of mushrooms, 2 guns, and \$10,364.00 in US Currency. Kaleb Jossart was arrested and taken to jail. Peleg Ben-Noon was not arrested in order to care for a 1-year-old child at the residence.





- Detectives assisted the DEA with the execution of a search warrant on April 2, 2024. They seized 1816 grams of marijuana, 85 grams of cocaine, and \$22,000 in US Currency. The suspect will be prosecuted federally.
- On April 3, 2024, Detectives assisted the DEA task force with the execution of a search warrant in the 1200 block of 28<sup>th</sup> Ave S. They seized 1816 grams of marijuana and 85 grams of cocaine along with \$22,000 and a vehicle. This case is being handled by the DEA.
- On April 17, 2024, a source in a previous investigation reached out to an undercover account and stated he was headed to Moorhead. Detectives intercepted him on I-94 and seized 452 grams of methamphetamine and 107 M-30 pills. Russell Beier (37) was convicted and sentenced to 92 months in prison for 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree Drugs.
- On June 11, 2024, with the assistance of the Red River Valley SWAT team, detectives raided an AirBNB in the area of MSUM and arrested Vincent Taylor (46) for selling narcotics. Detectives seized 292 M-30 pills and over \$38,000 in US Currency. He was convicted of 1<sup>st</sup> Degree Drugs and sentenced to 85 months in prison.
- On June 12, 2024, detectives learned of a large delivery of methamphetamine headed to the 200 block of 16<sup>th</sup> St S. Detectives seized 4,712 grams of methamphetamine. The suspect was arrested and awaiting prosecution.
- On June 21, 2024, detectives assisted the DEA taskforce after intercepting two 1 pound packages of methamphetamine being delivered to an address in the 1100 block of 18 ½ St S. Further investigation showed the suspect had an address in Fargo. A probation search was conducted and 908 grams of methamphetamine and \$1,100 was seized. This case is being prosecuted by the DEA.
- On July 2, 2024, detectives worked with the Cass County Drug Taskforce and stopped Antonio Johnson on his way back to Moorhead. They seized a total of 1084 M-30 pills and 12.9 grams of cocaine. He was convicted of Drugs-1<sup>st</sup> Degree Sale and sentenced to 98 months in prison.



- On October 22, 2024, detectives executed a search warrant after several undercover buys were completed. They seized 245 grams of methamphetamine, 292 M-30 pills, just under 27 grams of fentanyl and \$1,057. David White, Martin White, and Mark Watson were all arrested. David White was sentenced to 78 months in prison, Martin White and Mark Watson are awaiting trial.
- On November 5, 2024, Tyler Kania was stopped on his way back to Moorhead. During a search of his rented vehicle, 101 grams of marijuana, 458 grams of methamphetamine, and 12 M-30 pills were seized. He is currently awaiting trial for these charges.

### **Drug Seizures**

<b>Seizures</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2024</b>
M30 Fentanyl Pills	0	422	9,011	7,501	6,616
Meth (grams)	7,682	31,771	5,859	1,155	14,922
Heroin (grams)	209	145	32	0	20
Cash	\$693,372	\$151,036	\$278,648	\$86,507	\$102,691

### **Juvenile**

We have historically had two Juvenile Investigators that primarily work physical/sexual abuse and neglect cases. This year for the most part we had one Juvenile Investigator and one General Investigator due to staffing shortages. I have started to cross train the Juvenile/General Investigators to try to vary their cases in the hope of reducing burn out from dealing with trauma associated with just juvenile 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**

- Detective Saarinen resigned from the Moorhead Police Department on September 7, 2024.
- On August 9, 2024, an investigation began as a child maltreatment report where a juvenile female disclosed inappropriate behavior by an adult when learning about body safety.

During the interview, multiple victims were discovered. John Stock (53) was arrested on August 15 for six different charges to include 1<sup>st</sup> Degree Criminal Sexual Conduct, Use of a Minor in a Sexual Performance, Interfere with Privacy, and Possess Pornographic work. He was released on bail on the 19<sup>th</sup>. He is currently awaiting trial.

### Juvenile Victims

Case Types	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Criminal Sexual Assault	66	76	72	72	74
Physical Abuse/Neglect	199	217	176	128	55

### Division Statistics

CASE TYPE NAME	TOTAL
ADMIN	0
ARSON	2
ASSAULT	22
ASSIST	43
BURGLARY	7
CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE MATERIALS	18
CRIMINAL SEXUAL CONDUCT	74
DEATH	39
HOMICIDE	5
HUMAN TRAFFICKING	0
KIDNAPPING	1
MISSING PERSON	7
NARCOTICS	44
NEGLECT	49
PERMITS	298
ROBBERY	2
THEFT	17
SCREENED OUT BY SOCIAL SERVICES	774
OTHER ACTIVITY	11
VULNERABLE ADULT	310
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1723</b>

### Personnel – Investigative Division

Division Commander – Lt. Mike Detloff

Division Sergeant – Toby Krone

General/Juvenile Investigators – Katie Schultz, Jordan Werk, Jonathan Hanson

Narcotics Unit – Brad Stuvland, Adam Torgerson, Eric Zimmer

Metro Street Crimes Unit/USMS Fugitive Task Force – Sgt. Nick Wiedenmeyer

Support Services Supervisor – Lisa Johnk

## Moorhead Police Department - Crime Statistics (NIBRS)

Group A Offenses				Group B Arrests			
Crimes Against Persons - UCR Offense	2022	2023	2024	UCR Offense	2022	2023	2024
Negligent Manslaughter	0	1	0	Curfew/Loitering/Vagrancy Violations	0	0	0
Kidnapping/Abduction	6	7	7	Disorderly Conduct	66	62	63
Rape	26	19	25	Driving Under the Influence	103	83	77
Sexual Assault With An Object	0	0	1	Family Offenses, Nonviolent	2	3	0
Fondling	27	18	21	Liquor Law Violations	6	20	18
Simple Assault	199	240	231	Runaway	0	0	0
Intimidation	48	38	37	Trespass of Real Property	39	38	69
Incest	0	0	0	All Other Offenses	165	129	137
Statutory Rape	0	0	0	<b>Total Group B Arrests</b>	<b>381</b>	<b>335</b>	<b>364</b>
Human Trafficking, Commercial Sex Acts	0	0	0				
Human Trafficking, Involuntary Servitude	0	0	0				
<b>Subtotal - Crimes Against Persons</b>	<b>450</b>	<b>528</b>	<b>450</b>				
Crimes Against Property - UCR Offense	2022	2023	2024				
Robbery	16	8	12				
Arson	9	10	7				
Extortion/Blackmail	3	1	1				
Burglary/Breaking & Entering	194	129	127				
Pocket-picking	0	0	2				
Purse-snatching	2	0	0				
Shoplifting	190	218	159				
Theft From Building	16	2	4				
Theft From Coin-Operated Machine or Device	0	0	0				
Theft From Motor Vehicle	137	88	98				
Theft of Motor Vehicle Parts or Accessories	36	18	9				
All Other Larceny	279	248	264				
Motor Vehicle Theft	172	123	104				
Counterfeiting/Forgery	43	35	26				
False Pretenses/Swindle/Confidence Game	35	60	26				
Credit Card/Automated Teller Machine Fraud	40	44	30				
Impersonation	76	62	56				
Welfare Fraud	0	0	0				
Wire Fraud	2	0	1				
Identity Theft	6	7	8				
Hacking/Computer Invasion	0	0	0				
Embezzlement	1	1	1				
Stolen Property Offenses	122	60	67				
Destruction/Damage/Vandalism of Property	324	261	276				
Bribery	0	0	0				
<b>Subtotal - Crimes Against Property</b>	<b>1703</b>	<b>1375</b>	<b>1278</b>				
Crimes Against Society - UCR Offense	2022	2023	2024				
Drug/Narcotic Violations	129	82	93				
Drug Equipment Violations	40	11	0				
Pornography/Obscene Material	15	16	15				
Betting/Wagering	0	0	0				
Operating/Promoting/Assisting Gambling	0	0	0				
Gambling Equipment Violation	0	0	0				
Sports Tampering	0	0	0				
Prostitution	0	0	0				
Assisting or Promoting Prostitution	0	0	0				
Purchasing Prostitution	0	0	0				
Weapon Law Violations	45	27	25				
Animal Cruelty	1	1	4				
<b>Subtotal - Crimes Against Society</b>	<b>230</b>	<b>137</b>	<b>137</b>				
<b>Total Group A Offenses</b>	<b>2383</b>	<b>2040</b>	<b>1865</b>				

In 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 NIBRS data for years 2021 and later 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. Moorhead Police Department's crime data is also available on the MN BCA's online interactive Crime Data Explorer which can be found at <https://cde.state.mn.us/>.



