

FRANKLIN PARK POLICE DEPARTMENT



Year in Review 2024



**Michael Witz
Director of Police**

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MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Franklin Park Police Department:

- Is to provide professional, knowledgeable, and thorough law enforcement service to ensure the safety and well-being of all people, with constant awareness of the diverse needs of individuals and the community.
- Our officers will work in partnership with its citizens to achieve a spirit of cooperation and mutual respect for the betterment of the community.
- We will embrace a foundation of integrity and a code of ethics to provide the highest standard of quality of life.



From the Desk of the Director of Police...

On behalf of the men and women of the Franklin Park Police Department I am pleased to present the 2024 Year in Review.

The primary purpose in publishing this report is to provide our community with an awareness of the challenges that law enforcement faces and how we utilize our resources to meet those challenges. This report summarizes crime and accident trends along with police programs within the police department so as to familiarize our community and those interested in our community with our law enforcement agency.

On The Cover – Police departments K9’s Voodoo and Vili.

In 2024 the department received \$54,144.43 in grants from various sources.

Bulletproof Vest Partnership Program - \$5,333.23

The Bulletproof Vest Partnership initiative provides critical resources to state, local, and tribal jurisdictions for the sole purpose of purchasing body armor for sworn law enforcement officers.

Tobacco Enforcement Program - \$3,048.00

Through this appropriation, grants are awarded to communities to conduct retail education and enforcement programs. Each year, \$1 million is appropriated to enabling the Commission to support community-based efforts through the distribution of 10,000 tobacco retailer kits and the completion of 17,000 compliance checks. In 2024, Franklin Park was allocated \$3,048.00 to conduct compliance checks throughout the Village.

Sustained Traffic Enforcement Program (STEP) \$45,763.20

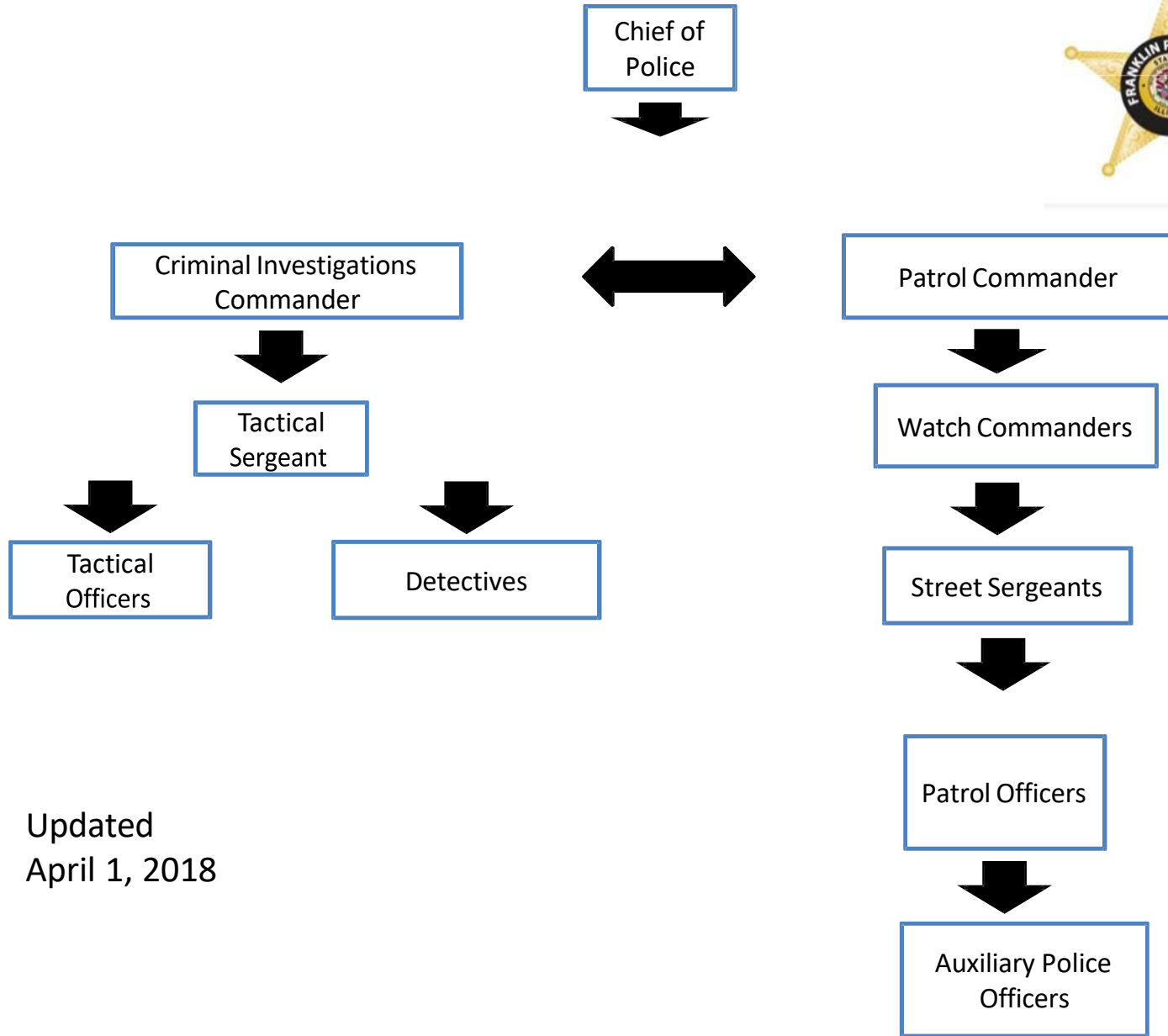
The Sustained Traffic Enforcement Program (STEP) allows for increased traffic enforcement and funds for purchase of equipment.

Police Department Staff

Director Michael Witz 41 Years of Service
Officer Rob Emmett 25 Years of Service
Sgt. Vito Busse 24 Years of Service
Officer Nicholas Yracheta 21 Years of Service
Commander Tom Ferris 20 Years of Service
Officer Don Giuliano 17 Years of Service
Detective Dan Velazquez 17 Years of Service
Tactical Sergeant Todd Morin 17 Years of Service
Officer Dan Vega 13 Years of Service
Officer Matt Bowes 11 Years of Service
Officer Richard Adamski 11 Years of Service
Officer Michael Iagulli 9 Years of Service
Officer Matthew Tomaso 9 Years of Service
Officer Nicholas Pellikan 7 Years of Service
Detective Nicholas Padilla 7 Years of Service
Tactical Officer Ivan Robles 5 years of service
Officer Alfredo Quinones 4 Years of Service
Officer Elizabeth Szymonik 3 Years of Service
K9 Officer Emanuele Bucaro 3 Years of Service
Officer Daniel Delapaz 3 Years of Service
Officer Marek Gorzkowicz 2 Years of Service
Officer Melissa Figueroa 1 Year of Service
Officer Kimberly Benitez Hired April 26, 2024
Officer Jake Galanis Hired September 26, 2024
Administrative Assistant Lucy Benigno 9 Years of Service
Evidence Sergeant Fred Dede (Retired) 30 Years of Service

Sergeant Steve Witnik 22 Years of Service
Officer Brian Dziewinski 25 Years of Service
Sergeant Dan Morys 24 Years of Service
Sergeant Russ Klug 21 Years of Service
Officer Melissa Jones 19 Years of Service
Sergeant Tomas Klos 17 Years of Service
Sergeant Carlos Lazcano 17 Years of Service
Officer Joe Gulino 17 Years of Service
Detective Nicolas Tomaso 11 Years of Service
Sergeant Rose Rutkowski 11 Years of Service
K9 Officer Michael Leone 11 Years of Service
Officer Zachary Romano 9 Years of Service
Officer James McCroary 8 Years of Service
Tactical Officer Manuel Quinones 7 Years of Service
Officer Brandon Bieze 6 Years of Service
Tactical Officer Samuel Hernandez 5 years of service
Officer Christopher De Lara 4 Years of Service
Officer Timothy Geller 3 Years of Service
Officer Alex Gountanis 3 Years of Service
Officer Benji Cuyugan 2 Year of Service
Officer Rayhan Shaikat 1 Year of Service
Officer Alen Salkic Hired April 26, 2024
Officer Melih Ismailov Hired April 26, 2024

Franklin Park Police Department Organizational Chart



Updated
April 1, 2018

Auxiliary Police

Auxiliary Officer Means part-time, at will, volunteer employees of the Department, regardless of title, however, are not members of the regular department (65 ILCS 5/3 1-30-20).

(a) Auxiliary officers may be assigned the following duties within the department:

1. Aiding or directing traffic.
2. Aiding in control of natural or manmade disasters.
3. Aiding in case of civil disorders as directed by the Chief of Police or his/her designee.
4. Normal and regular police duties only when assigned by the Chief of Police or his/her designee when it is impractical for regular sworn members of the department to perform such duties.

(b) Auxiliary officers will not supplement regular sworn members of the police department in the performance of their assigned duties, except as provided for in the Illinois Compiled Statutes.

(c) Auxiliary officers do not have conservator of the peace powers as recognized by statute as such powers are withheld by the Village of Franklin Park Code of Ordinances, Title 5, and Section 213.

Conservators of the Peace Powers '" The statutory authority granting auxiliary officers the authority to arrest or cause to be arrested, with or without process, all persons who break the peace and are found violating any municipal ordinance or any criminal law of the state.

Auxiliary officers are appointed annually by the village mayor. Newly appointed auxiliary officers must complete and attend a state certified 40 hour firearms training class, handcuffing, baton, OC spray training, and a 40 hour modified field training program with a state certified field training officer.

Auxiliary Police Staff

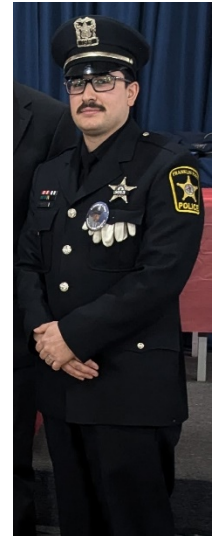
Reserve Officer Charles Jedlink 30 Years of Service
Reserve Officer Jorge Higareda 11 Years of Service
Reserve Officer Ezequiel Valdovinos 11 Years of Service
Reserve Officer Francisco Correa 6 Years of Service
Reserve Officer Oscar Giron 4 Years of Service
Reserve Officer Anthony Brown 2 Years of Service
Reserve Officer Brittney Mioduszewski 1 Year of Service
Reserve Officer Rosio Barajas 1 year of Service
Reserve Officer Brenda Rodriguez 1 Year of Service

Reserve Officer Jose Cabral 26 Years of Service
Reserve Officer James Flak 11 Years of Service
Reserve Officer Matthew Uliveri 7 Years of Service
Reserve Officer Luisa Perez-Gomez 5 Years of Service Reserve
Reserve Officer Pawel Zachwieja 2 Years of Service
Reserve Officer Luis Pliego 2 Years of Service
Reserve Officer Anthony Salgado 1 Year of Service
Reserve Officer Yulissa Becerra 1 Year of Service

2024 OFFICER OF THE YEAR

In 2024 the police department recognized Officer Nicholas Pelikan as this year's Officer of the Year.

Officer Pelikan has been with the police department for 7 years and currently serves as a tactical officer in the Criminal Investigations Division.



Life Saving Award

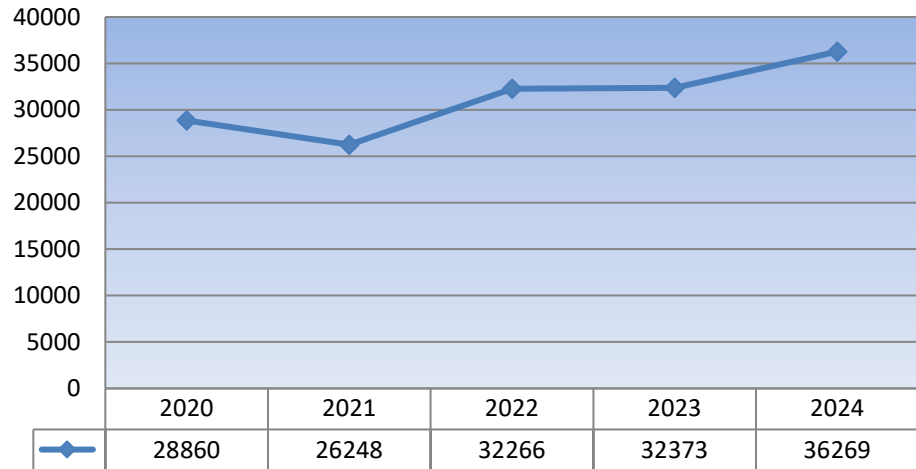
On February 13, 2024, our officers responded to the Mannheim bridge for a multi-vehicle accident, where the two cars ignited into flames. Upon arrival officers discovered that a six-year-old child was a passenger in one of the vehicles and that the individuals in the photo joined by Mayor Pedersen were able to aid in removing the child from the car, saving him from the fire.

At the village board meeting Omar Ocampo, Joseph Saenger and Justin Richter received the Police Chiefs award for their heroism.

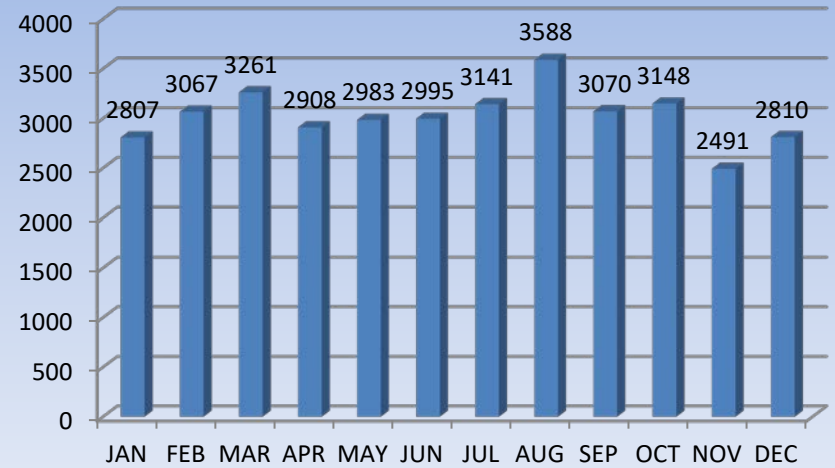


Calls for Service

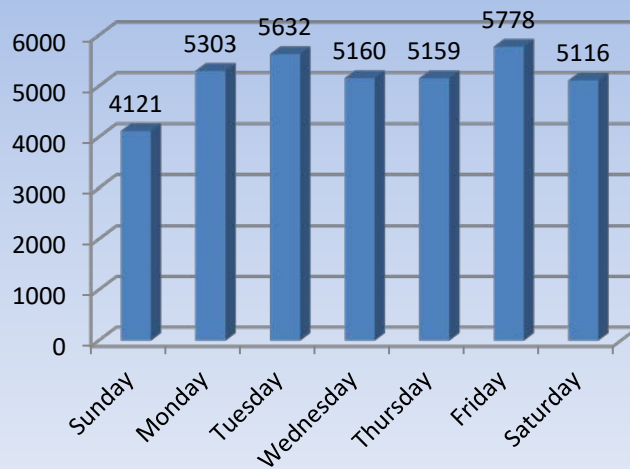
Total Calls for Service



Calls for Service by Month

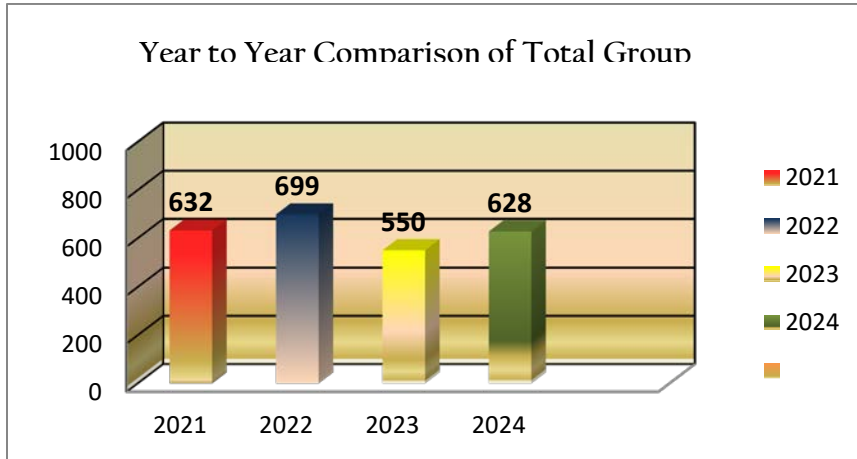


Calls for Service by Day of Week

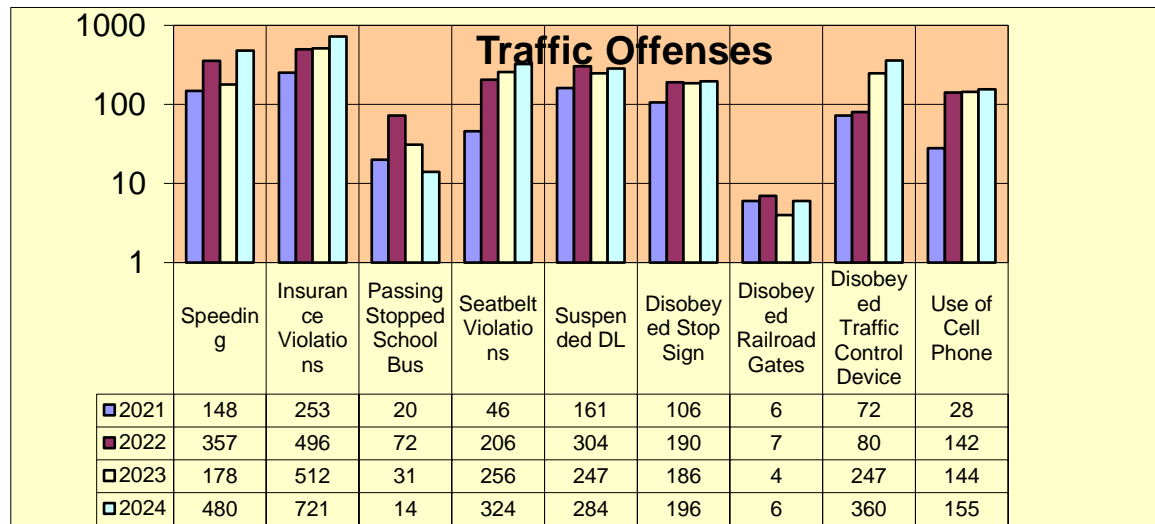


Incident-Based Crime Report Statistics

Since the 1930s, law enforcement agencies have reported monthly aggregate counts of crime and arrests to the FBI's Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Summary Program. The Franklin Park Police Department has historically submitted this data to the FBI through the Illinois State Police I-UCR program. Effective January 1st, 2021, the FBI transitioned to a National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS) and the Franklin Park Police Department successfully converted to NIBRS for data submission to the Illinois State Police and the FBI. In comparison to the traditional UCR program, NIBRS produces more detailed, accurate, and meaningful data.



	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Homicide	0	0	0	1	0
Criminal Sexual Assault	13	13	6	9	9
Robbery	9	8	8	3	8
Aggravated Assault/Battery	22	12	21	12	15
Burglary	62	26	38	23	95
Theft	123	162	155	146	110
Motor Vehicle Theft	15	37	48	40	39
Arson	0	1	3	4	1



TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT

The tables above depict the number of citations issued for each respective offense:

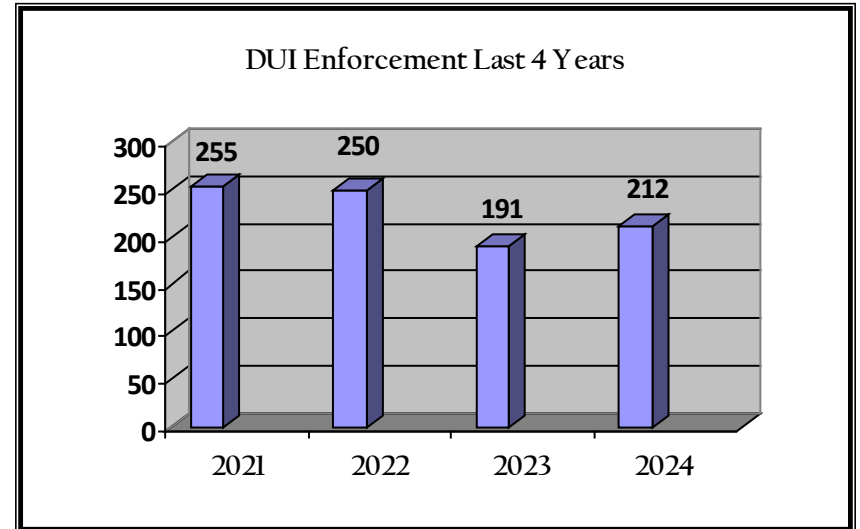
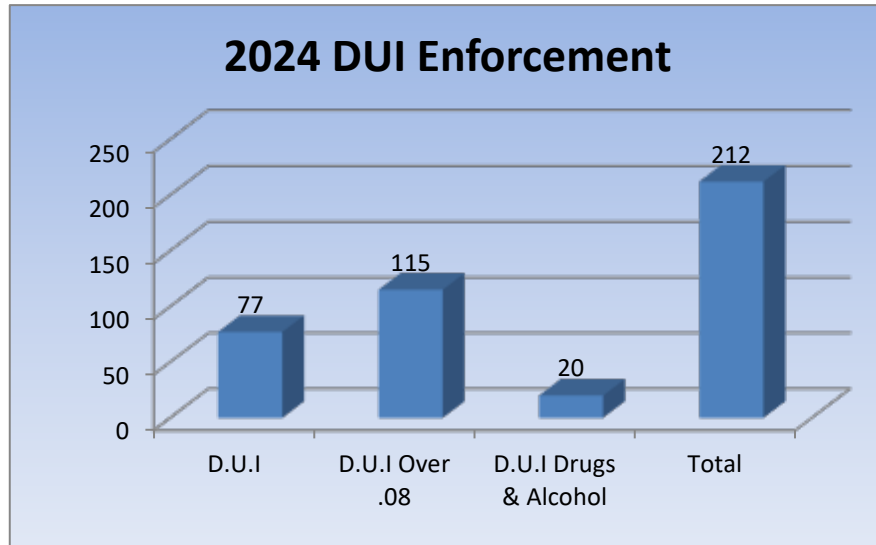
The above table depicts the most commonly issued citations known as “moving violations”. These citations are issued when an officer makes a self-initiated traffic stop, an investigatory stop or during an accident investigation. Unless a complainant or witness wishes to sign a traffic citation, officers have the discretion when to issue a traffic citation.

Motorists who are issued a citation are given two options to resolve the citation:

- A Diversion option which could be issued for minor violations. This type of citation allows the violator to pay the ticket in advance of the court date and receive supervision.
- A mandatory court appearance where the violator must appear in court before a judge and have their case heard.

Monies generated from tickets are dispersed between state, county and local funds.

DRIVING UNDER THE INFLUENCE ENFORCEMENT



DUI Enforcement Last 4 Years

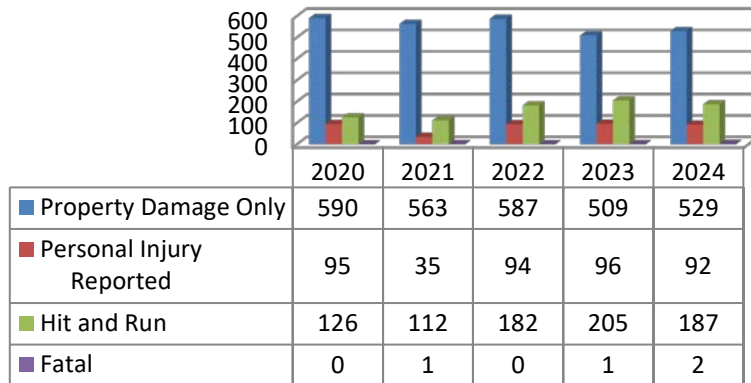
2021	2022	2023	2024
255	250	191	212

DUI Offenses	2024
DUI	77
DUI - Over .08	115
DUI Drugs & Alcohol	20
Zero Tolerance	0
Totals	212

Impaired driving, which means driving while your ability is affected by alcohol or drugs, is a crime under the Illinois Vehicle Code. Driving while intoxicated is dangerous and drivers with high blood alcohol content are at greatly increased risk of car accidents, highway injuries, and vehicular deaths. There has been a public outcry for aggressive enforcement of drunken driving laws. Unfortunately, in spite of great progress, DUI remain a serious national and local concern.

The Franklin Park Police Department has remained committed to the enforcement of drunken driving laws. Taking a proactive approach, the department participates in the Sustained Traffic Enforcement Program (STEP). STEP is designed to reduce the incident of motor vehicle crashes and their resulting injuries and fatalities through increased enforcement of safety belt restraint and impaired driving laws. Such enforcement has proven very successful resulting in numerous DUI, drug and traffic violations. Franklin Park ranked 16th in the entire state in DUI arrests in 2023 according to a survey conducted by AAIM (Alliance Against Intoxicated Motorist)

Vehicle Accidents 2024

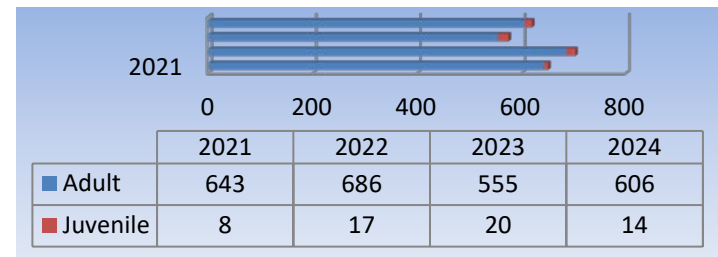


TOTAL ARRESTS

The above table depicts the total number of adult and juvenile arrests our officers made during the year.

These arrests range from village ordinance offenses such as possession of marijuana to felony charges such as possession of a firearm.

Total Arrests



Code Enforcement

- In 2020** the police department responded to 226 complaints, issued 143 warning notices and 65 complaints for failing to comply.
- In 2021** the police department responded to 159 complaints, issued 44 warning notices and 40 complaints for failing to comply.
- In 2022** the police department responded to 73 complaints, issued 42 warning notices and 36 complaints for failing to comply.
- In 2023** the police department responded to 200 complaints, issued 162 warning notices and 55 complaints for failing to comply.
- In 2024** the police department responded to 230 complaints, issued 32 warning notices and 35 complaints for failing to comply.

NO SHAVE NOVEMBER

For several years our officers have participated in what is known as No Shave November, where our officers are permitted to grow beards during the month of November and donate money to cancer research charities they choose. Our officers have raised over \$5,000 since we began this fund raiser.



Police Department Wins Pumpkin Decorating Competition

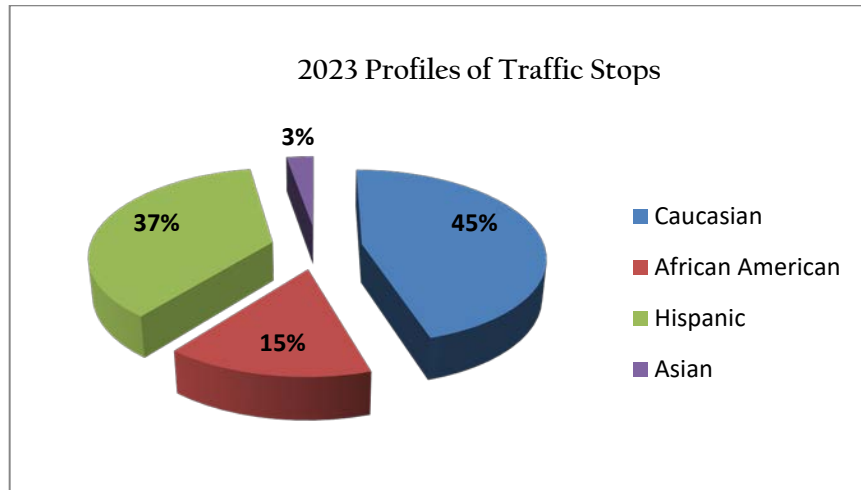
This year the village held its first annual pumpkin decorating competition within the village's different departments which was won by the police department, thanks to the help of Records assistant Margaret Garza and Police Chiefs Administrative Assistant Lucy Benigno.



TRAFFIC STOP DATA AND COLLECTION ANALYSIS

On July 18, 2003, Senate Bill 30 was signed into law to establish a four-year statewide study of data from traffic stops to identify racial bias. The study began on January 1, 2004 and was originally scheduled to end December 31, 2007. However, the legislature extended the data collection several times, and also expanded the study to include data on pedestrian stops. Public Act 101-0024, which took effect on June 21, 2019, eliminated the study's scheduled end date of July 1, 2019 and extended the data collection.

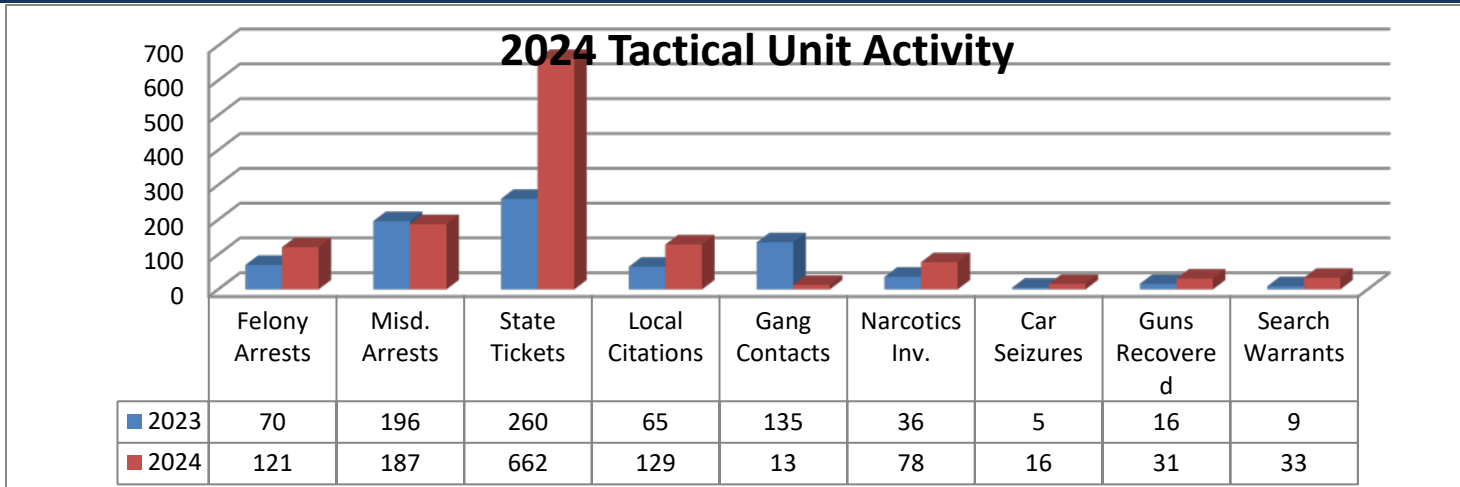
Below are the results of this study for the Franklin Park Police Department for the years 2019 to 2023, 2024 data will not be available until July.



<u>Year</u>	<u>Total Number of Stops</u>	<u>Caucasian Driver</u>	<u>Minority Driver</u>
2019	4,437	2,731 (61.6%)	1,706 (38.4%)
2020	3,579	1,592 (44.5%)	1,987 (55.5%)
2021	2,903	1,296 (44.7%)	1,607 (55.3%)
2022	5,194	2,481 (47.8%)	2,713 (52.2%)
2023	4,995	2,252 (45.1%)	2,743 (54.9%)

<u>Reason for Stop:</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>
Moving Violation	2,833	2,403	2,050	3,477	3,098
Equipment Violation	1,280	892	636	845	850
License / Registration Violation	324	284	213	872	1,047

<u>Outcome of Stop:</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>
Citation	1,462	763	668	1,343	1,510
Verbal Warning	2,967	2,806	2,228	3,843	3,479
Number of Consent Vehicle Searches	91	91	58	205	199



Total Amount of Cash Seized = \$9,228.00 USC
 Street Value of Narcotics Seized = \$19,673.08 USC
 Marijuana = 3074.2 grams
 Cocaine = 93.8 grams
 Firearms = 9

K-9 Activity Report 2024

- February 2024** – Canine Voodoo assisted Melrose Park PD on a search warrant recovering \$5,607.00 USC along with a quantity of cocaine and pills.
- March 2024** – Canine Voodoo assisted the Tactical Unit by performing a controlled narcotics sniff on a large amount of USC that had been recovered during a traffic stop. Canine Voodoo indicated to the presence of narcotics on the \$22,180.00 USC.
- May 2024** – Canine Voodoo assisted the Tactical Unit on a search warrant recovering 36.5 grams of Cocaine, 345.5 grams of Cannabis, \$36,379.00 USC, and a handgun.
- July 2024** – Canine Voodoo assisted the Tactical Unit by performing a controlled narcotics sniff on a large amount of USC that had been recovered during a narcotics investigation. Canine Voodoo indicated to the presence of narcotics on the \$9,040.00 USC.
- September 2024** – Canine Voodoo assisted the Tactical Unit on search warrant recovering 6,319 pills containing Methamphetamine, 1,876 grams of Cannabis, 27 grams of Psilocybin Mushrooms, and \$2,390.00 USC.
- September 2024** – Canine Voodoo performed a free air sniff and alerted on a vehicle that had been stopped by the Tactical Unit. Officers recovered 21 grams of Fentanyl, 67 grams of Cocaine, 34 grams of Cannabis, and \$225.00 USC.
- September 2024** – Canine Voodoo performed a narcotics sniff and alerted on a vehicle that had been stopped by the Tactical Unit. Officers recovered a handgun with a large capacity magazine that was concealed in the vehicle along with a small amount of Cannabis.

September 2024 – Canine Voodoo performed a free air sniff and alerted on a vehicle that had been stopped by the Tactical Unit. Officers recovered 2,317.4 grams of Cannabis and \$9,519.00 USC.

October 2024 – Canine Voodoo performed a free air sniff and alerted on a vehicle that had been stopped by the Tactical Unit. Officers recovered 168 grams of Cannabis and \$760.00 USC.

Total Amount of Cash Seized = \$92,593.50 USC

Street Value of Narcotics Seized = \$141,084.64 USC

Marijuana = 5482.4 grams

Cocaine = 153.85 grams

Heroin = 2271.70 grams

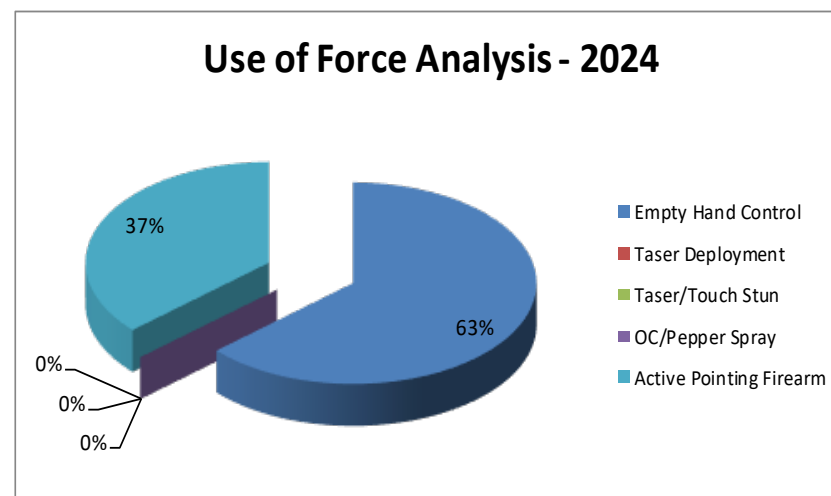
Methamphetamine = 66.5 grams

Firearms = 4

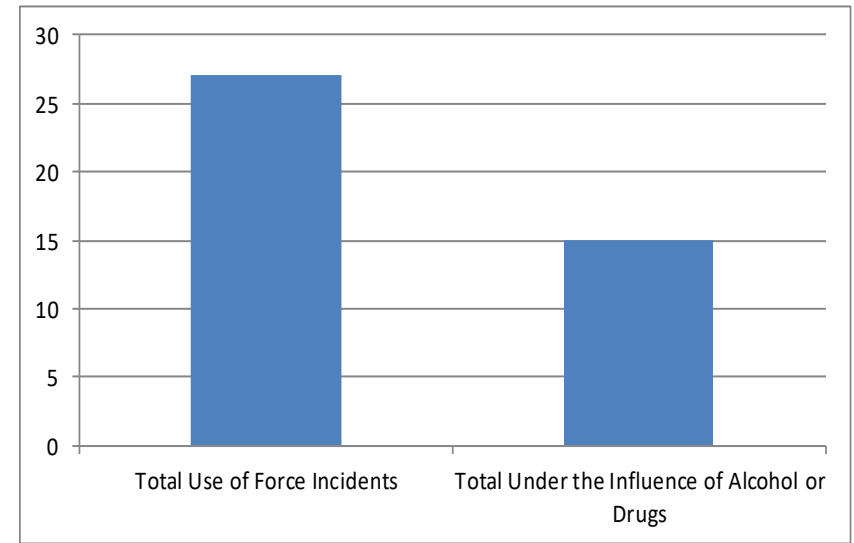
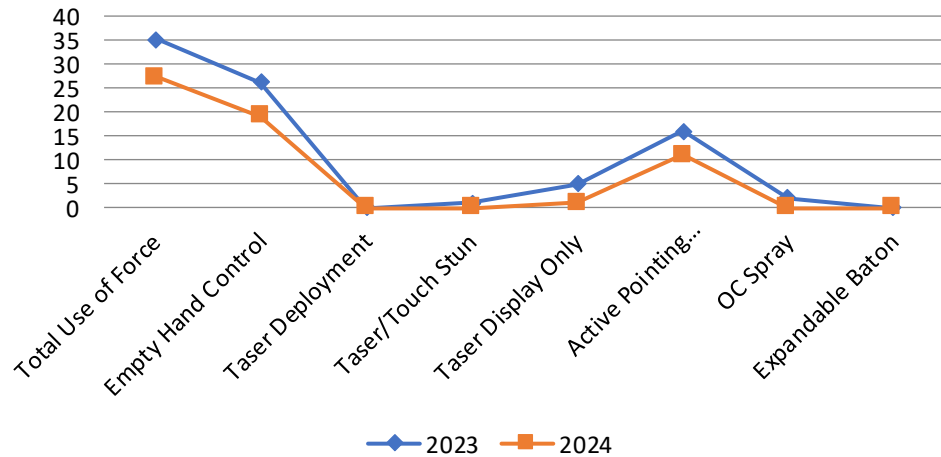
Use of Force Analysis – 2024

The Franklin Park Police Department recognizes and respects the value and special integrity of each human life, without prejudice to anyone. The use of force by law enforcement personnel is a matter of critical concern, both to the public and to the law enforcement community. It is the policy of this department that police officers shall use only that force which is reasonably necessary to effectively bring an incident under control, while protecting the lives of the officer and/or another. Vesting police officers with the lawful authority to use force to protect the public welfare requires monitoring, evaluation and a careful balancing of all human interests. It is in the interest of complete transparency that every event involving any use-of-force, no matter how seemingly inconsequential, be documented and accounted for; and, all of those police personnel involved are evaluated and objectively critiqued as to both the appropriateness of the deployment of force as well as their decision-making process. Per Policy 300.9 I am submitting the 2024 Use of Force Analysis for review.

In 2024, the Franklin Park Police Department reported thirty-five (35) use-of-force incidents by its personnel. A total of thirty-six (36) different Officers were identified as having applied some measure of force during the course of their duties. The White Watch (2200-0600 hours) reported nine (9) use-of-force incidents while the Red Watch (1400-2200 hours) reported nineteen (19) and the Blue Watch (0600-1400 hours) reported three (3). A TASER device was displayed in six (6) of the instances where force was necessary. Out of these six (6) events, a TASER cartridge was deployed one (1) time. All six (6) events involving a TASER were reviewed and determined to be judicious and appropriate.



2023 and 2024 Comparison of UOF



Many of these use-of-force events involve individuals taking flight upon either being approached, or during an interaction with police personnel, and they were ultimately taken into custody. These events are still documented as use-of-force incidents, while not necessarily being dynamic events between members of the public and our officers. It should also be noted, that of the thirty-five (35) reported use-of-force incidents, fifteen (15) of the individuals involved were either under or suspected of being under the influence of alcohol or drugs.

The Franklin Park Police Department reported a total of 575 arrests made during the 2023 calendar year. Having thirty-five (35) reported instances of use-of-force during this same time period indicates that over 93% of the total arrests made by Officers in 2023 were done without the use-of-force.

The Franklin Park Police Department holds its personnel to the standards set forth in 720 ILCS 5/7-5 titled Peace Officer's use of force in making arrest and Policy 300 titled Use of Force. It is this objective standard against which all instances of the use-of-force are gauged to determine the reasonableness of force.

Every reported use-of-force incident is reviewed both by the Shift Supervisor and by a Division Commander. These reviews are conducted to make certain the application of force was done within the strictest and most reasonable parameters of law, administrative rule, and department standard operating procedures. Of the thirty-five (35) incidents Officers applied force to effect an arrest and/or bring an incident under control during the 2022 calendar year, all were deemed an appropriate and judicious use-of-force.

CRIME SCENE EVIDENCE TECHNICIANS

A crime scene evidence technician collects, identifies, and processes crime scene evidence. Evidence Technicians are employees who specialize in collecting and analyzing physical evidence from crime scenes.

They work alongside investigators to uncover telling evidence at the scenes of accidents and crimes, such as fingerprints, blood spatter, weapons, and footprints.

Evidence tech follows careful protocols to collect and transport physical items back to the police department where they can scrutinize the evidence to look for clues.

Evidence is also sent to the State Crime Lab for further examination and processing. If a criminal trial is held, the technician may be called upon as an expert witness to explain the importance of the findings.

The Crime Scene Evidence Technician is responsible for the following at a crime scene:

Photograph the scene

Collect Physical Evidence

Process Fingerprints

Take Measurements

During each patrol shift there is at least one certified evidence technician who is assigned to utilize a specially equipped vehicle that is equipped with cameras, tools and chemicals needed to process a crime scene.

All department crime-scene evidence technicians receive basic evidence training through a state certified course.

WEST SUBURBAN TASK FORCE

Several years ago, a major Crimes Task Force was created by surrounding communities to assist those agencies in the event of a major crime, such as murder, kidnapping, aggravated battery to name a few. Currently that task force is made up of our police department and 21 other local agencies, the cook county sheriff's police and the Illinois State police.

Each participating agency assigns officers to the unit and responds to a scene upon request from a predetermined protocol.

The task force is divided into three units:

Investigators
Forensics
Traffic Crash



NIPAS / EMERGENCY SERVICES TEAM / MOBILE FIELD FORCE

The Northern Illinois Police Alarm System (NIPAS) was created in 1983 and currently has 93 different cities, villages and towns from 5 different counties supporting the unit with personnel and funding. NIPAS is divided into two specialized units:

Emergency Services Team – this team responds to hostage situations, barricaded subjects, high warrants and other request that require a special tactical squad.

Mobile Field Force – this unit’s primary responsibility is crowd control.

Activating the System

Whether faced with a natural disaster of the unexpected or the unexpected results of a special event, a member agency may request assistance for any situation its command staff believes the agency cannot handle with its own resources.

The requesting agency contacts the designated dispatch center and determines the level of response needed. Each level brings to the requesting agency five units from outside participating agency, through a predetermined alarm plan.



On-The-Job Training (OJT) Program offers veterans or current members of the guard or reserve an alternative way to use your VA (GI Bill) education and training benefits.

Veterans or reservists can receive monthly training benefits from the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) in addition to your regular salary when being trained for a new job. In our case, veterans or reservists hired by the police department will receive benefits while attending the training academy and while completing the FTO program.

In Illinois, the VA pays veteran GI Bill participants on a scale depending on the amount of time they are enrolled in the program. For example the program pays 75% of the full time college rate per month for the first six months of OJT training, 55% of the full time rate for the second six months of training and 33 % of the full time rate for the remainder of training program.

TOBACCO COMPLIANCE

Illinois' tobacco laws regulate the distribution, sale and taxation of tobacco products and include penalties for violations. Within these laws are provisions prohibiting the sale and purchase of tobacco products, tobacco accessories and smoking herbs to persons under the age of eighteen.

In addition to state laws, many municipal governments, including Franklin Park, have also established similar laws or ordinances including licensure, display of signs and include penalties as well.

Beginning in fiscal year 2001, the Illinois General Assembly began making yearly appropriations from the Tobacco Settlement Fund to the Commission's Tobacco Enforcement Program (TEP). Through this appropriation, grants are awarded to communities to conduct retail education enforcement programs. Each year, the \$1 million appropriation has enabled the Commission to support community-based efforts through the distribution of 10,000 tobacco retailer kits and the completion of 17,000 compliance checks.

Each year Franklin Park and approximately 300 communities, representing over 70 percent of the state's population participate in this program. Since 2005, participating communities have consistently achieved non-compliance rates below 10 percent. In past years Franklin Park has issued citations to businesses that did not comply with village ordinances. Franklin Park will continue to participate in this program to ensure that all businesses comply with state laws and village ordinances.

LIQUOR COMPLIANCE

Each year the police department conducts a joint operation with the Illinois State Police and checks local establishments that hold state and local liquor licenses. Violators are issued a state criminal complaint for contributing to a minor and the establishment issued a village complaint and mandatory appearance before the village liquor commissioner.

TOYS FOR TOTS

This year the police department participated in a local toy for tot's program run by the Leyden Township.

The mission of the Police Departments participating in this program is to collect new, unwrapped toys during November and December and distribute those toys as Christmas gifts to needy children in communities in and around Franklin Park.

For additional information contact the Franklin Park Police Department at 847-6718200 Monday thru Friday 6 a.m. to 5 p.m.

(Pictured our representative of Ex-Cell Kiser a local company along with members of the police department and Director of Police Witz)



COP on a ROOF

Our agency supported the COP on a ROOF event sponsored by Dunkin Donuts. All monies raised are donated to the Illinois Special Olympics.

Thanks to the generosity of our community, we took in over \$4,398.88 in donations.



DEPARTMENT TRAINING

The policy of the Franklin Park Police Department is to develop, support and advance the skills, knowledge and abilities of all employees during training. The department acknowledges the importance of a well-developed and efficient training support system for both new employees and in-service employees. The ultimate goal of training is to equip employees with the tools necessary to act decisively and correctly over a wide range of situations to create a more productive and efficient employee. Training plays an important role in career development, advancement and employee morale. Undoubtedly, a well-equipped and well-trained officer provides a much higher quality of service to our community.



The department currently ensures each year that all officers annually receive training in:

Use of Force	Firearms	Handcuffing	OC Spray	Baton
Taser	Blood Borne Pathogens		Sexual Harassment	Hazardous Material
Bias Enforcement	CPR		Excited Delirium Training	Incident Command
D.U.I. Training	Child Safety Seat		Autism Training	Crisis Intervention
Stop The Bleed				

Most training of personnel is hosted through Northeast Multi Regional Training Institute. However, the department also utilizes the Cook County Sheriffs Police Academy, Northwestern University, Suburban Law Enforcement Academy, Department of Homeland Security, the Federal Bureau of Investigations and the Illinois State Training Board for Law Enforcement.

In order to reduce training cost the department has sent many officers to become state certified trainers.

The Illinois Law Enforcement Training and Standards Board dictates the curriculum and hours required for law enforcement training. The following positions at the police department require specialized officer training.

Field Training Officers	Firearms Instructors	Crime Scene Evidence Technicians	Certified Breath Operators
Juvenile Officers	Detectives	Taser Instructors	Rapid Deployment
OC Instructors	Handcuffing / Baton	Motorcycle Instructor	Homicide Investigator

SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER

The School Resource Officer (SRO) serves as a liaison between the Franklin Park Police Department, relevant school officials such as Dean of Students, Principal and their associated assistants, along with the student-faculty population at East Leyden.



Issues most typically range from juvenile delinquency to truancy. Interaction with patrol and investigations stem from routine incidents such as missing/runaway juveniles, truant minors, electronic/cyber harassment and thefts, either on, off or adjacent to school property, to critical matters, such as assault and battery, gang activity, domestic violence and sexual assaults. Interaction may also involve other police agencies, D.C.F.S. and the Assistant States Attorney's Office.

Depending upon the incident, a SRO will tactfully yet impartially, inform students and their guardians/parents of their legal rights, responsibilities and legal procedure pursuant to state and local law, while maintaining confidentiality when feasible-especially when involving school social workers and counselors. Participation in Parent-Student-Dean-Social Services and Counselor meetings help maintain and improve the image between the Franklin Park Police Department, Leyden School District administrators and the citizens who, when taken together, collectively makeup and reside within the Leyden Township community.

Additionally, the SRO may be invited to participate in campus activities, from classroom visits and presentations to student organizations and clubs. Through participation, you provoke dialogue and promote trust in a non-policing capacity. Other times, providing resources to assist the school administrators in addressing issues of concern on campus is also the added responsibility of the SRO. The SRO will keep statistics on thefts, trancies and similarly related incidents throughout the school year and present such information to the Dean of Students Office upon the official end of the school year.

Lastly, a SRO must be prepared to respond in a controlled yet professional fashion to any type of school threat. A crisis in a school can result in hysterical students and staff, panicked and frightened parents and, depending upon the incident, a media hoard wanting explanations and answers.

It is imperative that local agencies adjacent to East Leyden prevent, prepare, and respond efficiently to all types of emergencies and crisis situations.

From practicing effective perimeter control strategies, staging response plans for Fire, Paramedic and assisting PD's, evacuation protocol, to minor details, such as traffic diversion, media relations and crowd control...all are in an effort to expedite first response-bypassing safe areas initially and moving quickly to where there is an indication of trouble. The mission is to anticipate and keep people from fumbling or becoming confused under stress. Tactics need to be rehearsed thoroughly and regularly before they're required for reality.

In 2021 a New School Resource Officer Law went into effect requiring all School Resource Officers in Illinois to become certified. Officer Matt Bowes was certified and assigned to the High School beginning in January 2022.

SCHOOL CROSSING GUARDS

The police department provides crossing guard staffing at 9 different locations.

Grand and Calwagner
CP Railroad and Calwagner
Edgington and Chestnut
Atlantic and Chestnut
Gage Scott and Fullerton

Franklin and Calwagner
Pacific and Calwagner
Rose and Chestnut
Rose and



Crossing guards are utilized by the department to cross students safely at pre-designated locations in our community. These locations were determined by both the school districts and the police department.

Crossing guards receive annual training at the beginning of each school year.

Crossing Guards are governed by Illinois Law and a failure to obey a crossing guard is a violation of the law which could result in a large fine.

NORCOMM PUBLIC SAFETY COMMUNICATIONS

Since 1998 NORCOMM has provided the Village of Franklin Park with both police and fire dispatch services and in 2009 obtained NORCOMM to provide personnel for the Records Division to reduce cost. The dispatch center is a 24/7 operation responsible for monitoring 15 radio frequencies, answer emergency and non-emergency phone calls, communicate with public works and monitor all statewide emergency communications.

NORCOMM currently serves 7 different police agencies and 8 different fire agencies

Director Witz has been the chairperson of this authority since its inception.

