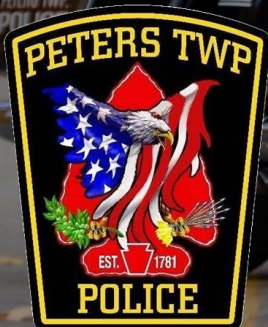




PETERS TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT

2023 Annual Report



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Letter from Chief Joseph Glover

It is my pleasure to present the Peters Township Police Department (PTPD) 2023 Annual Report. This report contains an overview and analysis of the various functions and responsibilities of the men and women of this Department during 2023. One major shift in the Department was Chief Douglas E. Grimes retired on December 11th, 2023. Chief Grimes oversaw the Department for 9 years. The Department has advanced immeasurably during the Chief's tenure. A list of all changes is too numerous to fully catalog, however certain accomplishments need to be recognized. Chief Grimes' lead was instrumental in having the department accredited by PLEAC, the Pennsylvania Law Enforcement Accreditation Commission, an arm of the Pennsylvania Chiefs of Police. We are 1 of only 167 agencies in Pennsylvania currently accredited. There was a complete rewrite of department policies during the initial process. The department implemented Body Worn Cameras (BWCs) and added a less lethal option for officers. Also under Chief Grimes, the department purchased our first motorcycle and replaced it in 2023 with a new Harley-Davidson. Corporal Austin Kline is our new Motor Officer, and recently completed the certification course.

We continue to provide a School Resource Officer (SRO) in every Peters Township school. The unit consists of Sergeant Judd Emery, Officers Matthew Malloy, Patrick Mazzotta, Mallory Jarzynka, Jamie Hughes, and Matthew Brand. We continue to work on all accreditation requirements necessary to maintain our accreditation. Our accreditation manager works hard every day on maintenance of policies and procedures and locating the proofs for each standard. Members of the department ensure our training is both relevant and realistic, there is a benefit/usefulness for the officer, and has an application in the real world. We also continue to develop our officers for future leadership positions.

In 2023, we received an influx of federal asset forfeiture money. This money has afforded us a unique opportunity to assist several of the local law enforcement groups to which we belong. Peters Township Police were able to purchase protective gear for the South Hill Area Council of Governments (SHACOG) Critical Incident Response Team (CIRT) and a Leica scanner to map crash scenes for the SHACOG Crash Team.



Letter from Chief Joseph Glover

In 2023, our hiring efforts were successful. New hires included Officer Zachary Beatty, Officer Matthew Hlasnick, Officer Trevor King, and Officer Christopher Shell. In our most recent cycle, we had more applicants than in any of the last few years. Although we were only seeking to hire one officer, we had over 40 applicants.

As the new Chief of Police, I would like to take this opportunity to tell you a little bit about myself: I am 52, married, and we have 3 adult daughters. My family and I have resided in Peters Township since 2004 and all my daughters are Peters Township High School graduates. My employment at Peters Township Police was first as a part-time patrol officer, from May of 2020 until January of 2022. At that time, I was assigned to the Pennsylvania State Police Auto Theft Task Force and exclusively conducted auto theft-related investigations throughout Western Pennsylvania. Prior to joining the Peters Township Police Department, I was a Pennsylvania State Trooper for 25 years. I worked patrol, criminal investigation, was a Patrol Unit Supervisor, Crime Unit Supervisor, Station Commander, and worked at the State Police Academy. I retired at the rank of Lieutenant assigned as the Patrol Section Commander from Troop D, Butler.

Finally, I would like to thank the residents and businesspeople of this community. I am constantly amazed at the encouragement and acts of kindness shown to the men and women of this department. Please know that this department works hard every day to earn and keep your trust. I believe that I speak for all the men and women of this department when I say that it is an honor to work for the residents of this township.

Joseph Glover

Chief of Police



Mission Statement

“The mission of the Peters Township Police Department is to enhance the quality of life in Peters Township by working in partnership with our community to enforce the law, preserve peace, reduce fear and maintain order. The department is committed to accomplishing this mission through the protection of life and property, for all citizens, by treating every citizen with courtesy, professionalism, and respect while enforcing the laws impartially, fighting crime through deterrence, and the relentless pursuit of criminals.”



Accreditation

The PTPD has maintained accredited status through the Pennsylvania Accreditation Commission (PLEAC) since 2019. This process required us to review and assess all PTPD policies to ensure compliance with the program’s 139 standards and to record proofs of compliance where applicable. This was only possible with the total “buy-in” and assistance of essentially every employee of the PTPD. This accomplishment places PTPD only 1 of 167 out of approximately 1,100 police departments in Pennsylvania as having met this standard of professionalism and performance. The continued accredited status will require on-site inspections every three years, performed by PLEAC assigned assessors to observe compliance proofs for each of the standards outlined in the accreditation standards manual. In 2022, the PTPD underwent the first of re-accreditation cycles requiring proofs of compliance with each of the standards. Moreover, our policies and procedures were analyzed by neutral assessors to ensure we have maintained consistent application with national best practices and PLEAC standards. This continuous process of developing proofs and reviewing policy will be performed on a regular basis by the men and women of the Peters Township Police Department each year. Every employee of the PTPD played a major role in this achievement and should take great pride in maintaining this distinction.



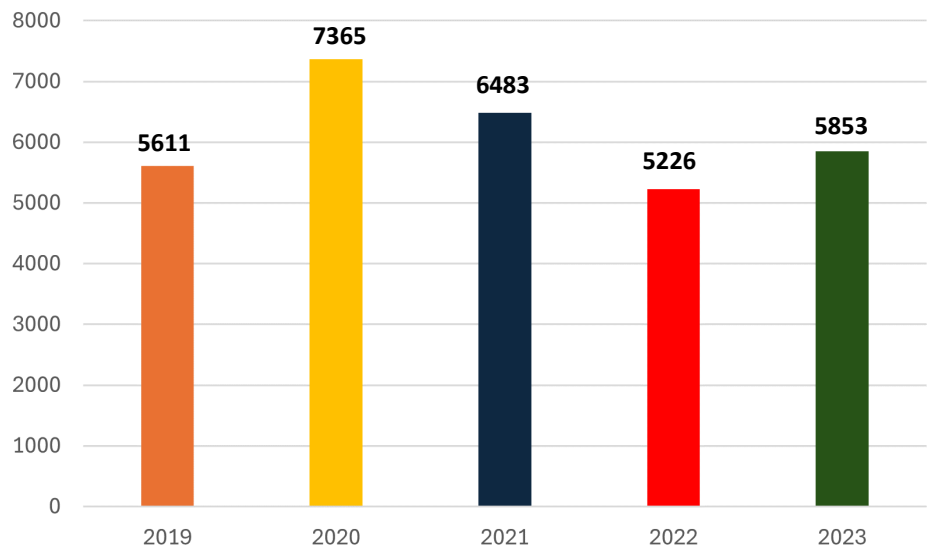
Calls For Service (CFS) Analysis

To better understand the analysis, it is important to clarify where call for services (CFS) numbers are derived from. CFS are a count of the written reports from PTPD officers. A written report can be initiated by several types of contacts; a 911 call, a walk in complaint, phone call report, or officer self-initiated. There's also a wide range of reasons a report is written; from creating a case to documenting that a road hazard was cleared. As the PTPD evolves with our fast growing township, procedures can be adjusted in regards to when a written report is required from officers. For example, in 2020, which generated the highest number of CFS in the past 5 years, officers were required to write daily reports for park checks. Although this is a normal police function that is done daily by officers, they are no longer required to write a report for it. Therefore, an increase or decrease in CFS does not always equate to there being less 911 calls.

CFS by Year

In 2023, PTPD responded to a total of 5853 CFS, which represents a 12% increase from 2022 (5226 CFS in 2022).

64% of the CFS in 2023 occurred during daylight shift.



Total Criminal Cases

In 2023 out of 5423 CFS there were 538 criminal cases. Criminal Cases are created if a CFS falls under one of the UCR categories (see page 8). All cases are investigated to the full extent.



Calls For Service (CFS) Analysis

Of the 5853 CFS in 2023, the most reoccurring call type is ambulance calls. Reminder, CFS are generated by written reports by officers. Officers assist Peters Township Ambulance Service on numerous calls throughout the year. The calls that officers do not directly aid with, they monitor the radio in case back up is requested. The next most reoccurring call type in 2023 is suspicious activity calls. After a string of burglaries in 2023, residents were more cautious and on alert resulting in an increase in calls for suspicious activity. The significant decrease in school checks is due to the changes in the SRO program in 2023. Now that every school in Peters Township has a School Resource Officer, patrol is no longer required to perform daily school checks. The most reoccurring CFS police matters are alarms, traffic hazards, disabled vehicles, and check welfare of a person.

2023 CFS by Call Type (Most Reoccurring)		
	Call Type	Total
1	Ambulance Call	648
2	Suspicious Activity	315
3	Alarm (False Residential)	281
4	Assist Other Agency	243
5	Public Service	243
6	Alarm (False Business)	236
7	Fire Call	236
8	Non Reportable Accident	177
9	Alarm (Fire False)	151
10	Ordinance Violation	134
11	Police Information	132
12	Traffic Hazard	132
13	Check Welfare (Person)	122
14	Disabled Vehicle	107
15	Civil Matter	100
16	Reportable Accidents	94
17	Hazard	65
18	Parking Complaints	60
19	Harassment	53
20	School Checks	12



UCR Data

In 1930, the Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI) created a system to compile data to track nationwide reported crimes called Uniform Crime Reports (UCR) Program. UCR data generates reliable statistics for use in law enforcement. It also provides information for students of criminal justice, researchers, the media, and the public. Sgt. Lou Reda and Detective Evan Caruso compile the UCR statistics for the PTPD. Below is the UCR data for the past five years.

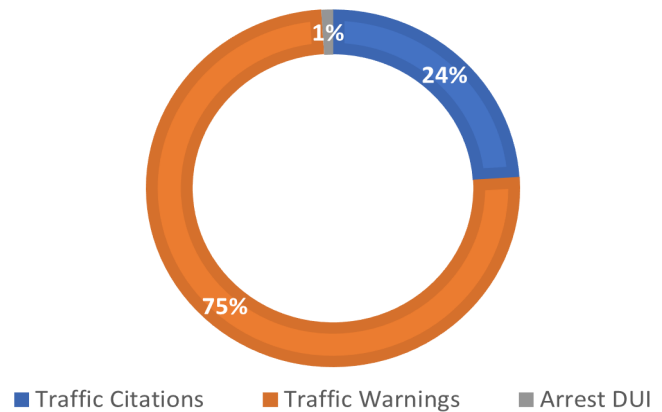
It should be noted, in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania the term Larceny is not used in The Pennsylvania Crimes Code. Instead Pennsylvania uses the term Theft which is synonymous for the term Larceny. Larceny is used in the chart below because UCR data is nationwide and must stay consistent.

Part I Crimes	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Murder	0	0	0	1	2
Rapes	1	1	1	0	0
Robbery	0	1	0	0	0
Assault	90	82	54	88	68
Burglary	16	5	4	12	11
Larceny	103	53	47	69	63
Motor Vehicle Theft	0	2	5	0	1
Arson	1	1	0	2	0
Part II Crimes					
Forgery	8	2	6	16	7
Fraud	103	83	282	119	54
Embezzlement	2	1	3	4	1
Stolen Property	0	0	0	0	2
Vandalism	39	40	37	28	21
Weapons	1	1	1	4	1
Prostitution	0	0	0	0	0
Sex Offenses	24	21	20	6	11
Drugs	33	44	19	23	14
Gambling	0	0	0	0	0
Family Offenses	5	1	1	0	1
DUI	58	44	42	43	28
Liquor	11	10	7	4	5
Drunkenness	28	9	5	8	4
Disorderly	106	82	76	88	63
Vagrancy	0	0	0	0	0
All Others	75	69	50	112	70



Traffic Enforcement

The primary responsibilities of the Peters Township Traffic Enforcement Program include responding to citizen traffic complaints and proactively patrolling the township while enforcing the statutes contained in the Pennsylvania Vehicle Code, Pennsylvania Crimes Code, and Peters Township Ordinances. The top priority of the traffic enforcement program is to reduce vehicle accidents and ensure the roadways are safe for all drivers, passengers, and pedestrians traveling in and through our township. This is achieved through the use of targeted enforcement areas, the utilization of traffic calming technology, and highly visible proactive police patrols. In a study conducted by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) in 2021, there were 12,330 crash fatalities where speeding was the primary factor in the crashes. This was an 8% increase from the previous year's statistics. Furthermore, 28% of all fatal crashes, 13% of injury crashes, and 9% of property-damage-only crashes were speeding-related.



Proactive Response to Citizen Complaints

In 2021, Sgt. Spencer Scott and Cpl. Conor Wohlfarth took responsibility of overseeing the traffic enforcement program. Our efforts included responding to citizen traffic complaints, determining targeted enforcement areas, and updating the speed calming technology available to the township. In 2023, the department purchased two new portable traffic radar signs in order to assist with responding to speeding complaints throughout the township. The radar signs allow the department to collect speed-related data at several different locations throughout the township.

When a speeding complaint is received from a resident, the department will deploy these signs to collect data and determine whether the complaint is credible. If it is determined that there is a speed-related issue, officers will then conduct targeted enforcement in that area. The officers will then document each and every traffic post in a monthly traffic enforcement report.



Traffic Enforcement

Utilization of Traffic Calming Technology

Technology has also played a vital role in reducing traffic related complaints and vehicle crashes. The department utilizes several different types of technology to deter traffic related violations. Currently, the department possesses 12 permanently affixed, solar-powered traffic radar signs and two portable traffic radar signs. The signs are placed at locations which are highly traveled roadways or where speeding was determined to be problematic. The department also responds to several other traffic related complaints such as violations involving school buses, stop sign violations, and school zone speeding violations. In response to all traffic complaints, officers will devise a plan to ensure all traffic related laws are being followed and to deter future violations. The department also utilizes speed enforcement lines to enforce traffic laws in our township. The two sets of lines are placed onto a roadway at a specific distance from each other. Once a vehicle travels through the set of speed lines, officers can determine the average speed the vehicle was traveling using a certified stopwatch or a device called a TRACKER which is permanently installed inside the patrol vehicles. The department has installed speed lines at several different locations through the township.

ALL TRAFFIC SOLUTIONS



Start: 2023-11-17
End: 2023-11-30
Times: 0:00:00-23:59:59

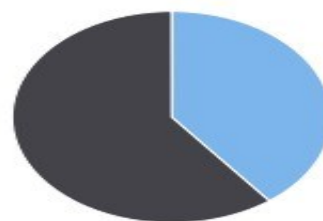
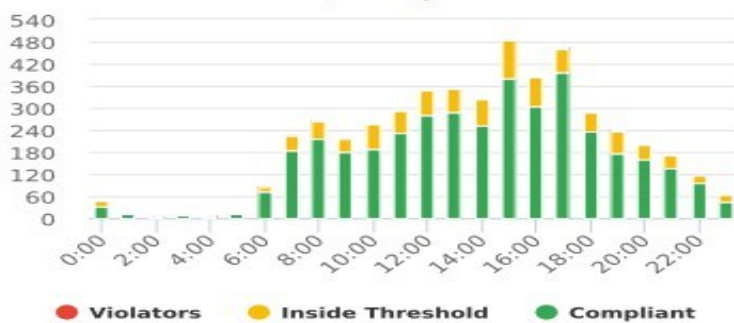
Overall Summary

Total Days of Data: 14
Speed Limit: 25
Average Speed: 21.2
50th Percentile Speed: 21.33
85th Percentile Speed: 25.85
Pace Speed Range: 17-27

Extended Speed Summary 303 Bunker Hill Dr, NB

Violation Threshold: Speed Limit + 10
Speed Range: 1 to 150

Minimum Speed: 10
Maximum Speed: 43
Display Mode: Speed Display
Average Volume per Day: 349.8
Total Volume: 4897



● Vehicles Slowed
● Other

Targeted Traffic Enforcement

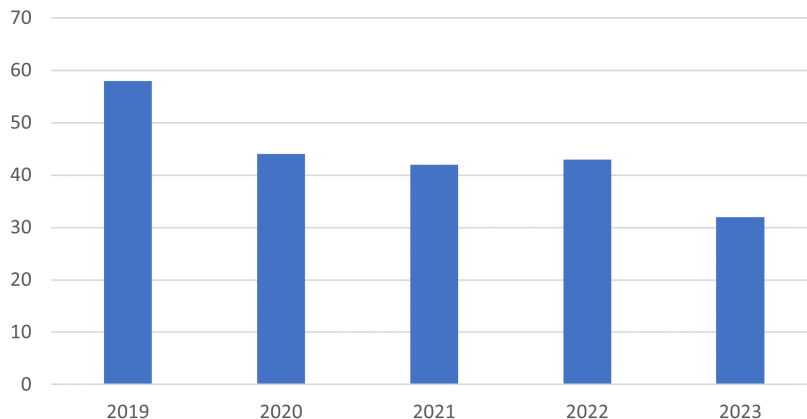
In 2023, the department received and responded to over 80 traffic related complaints. These complaints consisted of speeding complaints, reports of reckless drivers, stop sign violations, and school bus violations. In response to the traffic complaints, the police department conducted a total of 321 individual traffic posts while issuing 443 warnings and 90 citations for violations of the Pennsylvania Vehicle Code.



Traffic Enforcement

DUI Enforcement

According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), about 32 people are killed everyday from drunk driving crashes. In 2022, there were 11, 654 alcohol-impaired driving deaths. All of these deaths were preventable. PTPD officers are dedicated to keeping our roadways safe and free of drivers who are under the influence.



In 2023, PTPD officers arrested 32 individuals for driving under the influence of drugs or alcohol (DUI). The previous years, officers made 43 arrests related to DUI. Of the past five (5) years, the year with the most DUI arrest was made by PTPD officer was 2019. The past three (3) years have been consistent with how many DUI arrest are made by PTPD officers.

Below is a chart of all reportable accidents in comparison to the total DUI related accidents that occurred in Peters Township in 2023.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
All Reportable	5	2	2	6	9	10	6	8	10	14	14	10	96
DUI related	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	1	1	5

Parking Complaints

Parking complaints are the most reoccurring call for service (CFS) in 2022. In 2023 there was a decrease in parking complainants with a 81% decrease in parking citations issued. Below are the total number of township parking tags that were issued by year.

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Total issued	99	112	181	268	49



Traffic Enforcement

Moving Forward to 2024

The Peters Township Police Department's top priority will always be the safety of our citizens. In 2024, the department will be adding two additional portable radar signs which will further our goal of reducing traffic related accidents while ensuring the safety of drivers, passengers, and pedestrians traveling on our roadways. The department takes great pride on the partnerships that we have established with our citizens and look forward to building new relationships in an effort to create a safer community.



PennDot District 12 completed their roundabout project at Bebout Rd and Valley Brook Rd in November 2023.



Significant Investigations

Retail Theft

On January 11, 2023, the Peters Township Police Department (PTPD) became aware that the TJ Maxx had been victim of retail theft carried out by two female suspects. The females removed winter jackets, dresses, and suitcases for a total of \$1,520.00.

The PTPD reviewed video surveillance of the TJ Maxx parking lot and was able to identify a female pulling a suitcase from the area of TJ Maxx. This female walked to a dark colored sport utility vehicle; later identified as a Ford Explorer. The female was met by a second female at the vehicle. The vehicle was observed to travel to the nearby Get Go where the suspects purchased gasoline.

The PTPD received surveillance recordings and were able to identify the suspect vehicle as a 2014 Ford Explorer displaying California registration.

The PTPD was able to positively identify the suspects as Teresa Villalobos Cervantes and Pamela Tamayo Gil. Gil is to be a Mexican National and Cervantes a resident of California. Charges were filed against both actors for Retail Theft, Criminal Conspiracy, and Receiving Stolen Property

JAN

Attempted Homicide

On July 8, 2023, PTPD responded to a residence on Thompsonville Road for a report of a severely injured female. The female was the victim of an obvious assault. The PTPD became aware that the victim had been dating an individual for approximately 3 years and had recently broken up with him. The two had lived in an apartment complex in Bethel Park.

FEB

The PTPD went to the boyfriend's apartment in Bethel Park. The boyfriend greeted the PTPD at the lobby doors and advised "I'm the one you're looking for". The boyfriend, now actor, made statements relative to the incident involving the victim.

The actor advised he took an Uber over to the victim's residence, uninvited. The actor then advised that he entered the residence through a garage man door, and ultimately entered the victim's locked residence. Once inside, he proceeded to the victim's bedroom where he woke her up out of a sleep. The two went outside and a verbal altercation occurred which escalated into a physical assault. The actor admitted to striking the victim in the back and head area with a hammer. He also admitted to kicking her as she was on the ground. After the assault, he fled the scene with the victim's cell phone.

MAR

The actor was arrested and charged with Attempted Criminal Homicide, Aggravated Assault, Burglary, Recklessly Endangering, Simple Assault, and Tampering With Evidence.

APR



Significant Investigations

Drug Delivery Resulting in Death

On August 28, 2023, at approximately 1830 hours, the Peters Township Police Department (PTPD) was dispatched to an address on Windermere Court along with the Peters Township Ambulance (medics) for a report of a 21-year-old male unconscious and not breathing.

Upon PTPD's arrival, the medics stated that the male individual was deceased. The PTPD observed numerous empty "stamp" bags of heroin labeled "Avatar The Way Of Water" in the bathroom area where the victim was found. Also discovered and seized from the scene was the victim's cellular telephone.

The PTPD briefly analyzed the contents of the victim's cellular telephone. A text message string was discovered between the victim's cellular telephone number and a cellular telephone later discovered to belong to William Hockett of Braddock, PA. The communication contained information on how much drugs were to be purchased and the price. It was discovered that the victim had purchased what he believed to be 10 bags of heroin from Hockett in Braddock Hills. It was later discovered by analysis from the Pennsylvania State Police Laboratory that the "heroin" bags did not contain heroin, rather Xylazine and Fentanyl.

Xylazine, also known as "Tranq", is a powerful sedative that has been approved for veterinary use and is a Schedule III narcotic. Fentanyl is a synthetic opioid that is up to 50 times stronger than heroin and 100 times stronger than morphine.

MAY

After numerous search warrants, the PTPD was able to positively identify Hockett, identify the method of payment used to purchase the narcotics, and the location of the transaction. The PTPD obtained an arrest warrant for Hockett charging him with Drug Delivery Resulting In Death; several Controlled Substance, Drug, Device and Cosmetic Act violations; and Criminal Use Of Communication Facility.

JUNE

On November 4, 2023, the PTPD was notified that the Pitcairn Police Department had taken William Hockett into custody on the Peters Township arrest warrant. Hockett was in possession of a stolen handgun at the time of his arrest.

JULY

AUG



Significant Investigations

Theft of a Vehicle

On September 4, 2023, the PTPD received a report of a stolen trailer from a business on Venetia Road. The trailer was valued at \$3,500.00. The trailer contained approximately \$25,000.00 worth of various tools.

A check of the traffic camera system found the trailer visible on September 3, 2023, on McClelland Road, North Strabane Township. The towing vehicle was obscured by the trailer. The North Strabane Township Police provided additional traffic video from that same time and location and identified the vehicle as a white Ford truck bearing Ohio registration. This vehicle was registered to the eventual actor, who was discovered to live in Canton, Ohio.

The PTPD, along with Pennsylvania State Police Auto Theft Unit, received information that the actor was staying in a hotel located in Uniontown, Ohio. Officers proceeded to the hotel, Motel 8, and they were met by Ohio Highway Patrol (OHP) Troopers.

The OHP aviation unit did a flyover of several addresses associated with the actor, to include a residence on Sherrick Road SE. They observed a trailer near the residence but were unsure if it was the correct one. Officers then proceeded to the area of the Sherrick Road address and upon arrival, officers observed the stolen trailer. The address is an abandoned property, with a driveway but no structure. The Canton Police Department was contacted and responded. A check of the interior of the trailer showed that all contents with the exception of a set of sawhorses had been removed from the trailer. The trailer was recovered and transported back to Peters Township where it was given back to the owner.

The PTPD filed Burglary, Theft, Receiving Stolen Property, and Trespass charges against the actor.

MAY



Actual Photo

JUNE

JULY

AUG

Cruelty to Animals

On October 1, 2023, the PTPD was dispatched to a residence on Sandpiper Lane to check on the welfare of the female resident. 911 advised a complainant reported that the resident was acting erratically and was allegedly keeping a dead dog inside the residence.

Upon PTPD arrival, officers knocked on the front door of the Sandpiper Lane residence and began speaking with the resident. The resident stated she found an old dog in the backyard of her town home approximately two weeks ago and brought the dog inside her residence. The resident stated she sometimes calls the dog "Zeus" but has recently been referring to the dog as "Twister".

The resident explained the dog was dying and she was taking care of it until the dog passed away. Officers observed a dog crate covered with blankets inside the living room area. The resident lifted the blankets off the crate and the PTPD observed a smaller black dog inside.



Significant Investigations

The dog appeared to be severely emaciated and was not moving inside the crate. The dog was covered in feces and urine and there was also feces scattered inside the crate as well. The dog was still barely breathing.

It took several minutes before the dog moved and briefly lifted its head. The resident/actor stated she had not fed or given the dog water in over a week. The PTPD transported the dog to Medvet Animal Hospital for emergency care. The hospital staff eventually determined the dog was in critical condition. The hospital staff advised that due to the dog's current condition, the dog would be required to be euthanized.

The PTPD charged the actor with Aggravated Cruelty To Animals, Cruelty To Animals, and Neglect Of Animal

Burglary

On November 26, 2023, the Peters Township Police Department (PTPD) became aware that the Dunkin Donuts in Peters Township had been burglarized.

Once on scene at Dunkin, the PTPD learned that when the Dunkin employees arrived at approximately 0430 hours, they noticed that the cash drawers were on the floor and that the safe had been cut through by some sort of grinder or saw.

The PTPD reviewed security camera footage and it showed that two individuals, dressed in all black with masks and gloves on, had entered through the drive through window by prying the window open. The two individuals then left the Dunkin on foot. The PTPD learned that approximately \$1,400.00 was stolen from the safe.

SEPT

After the November 26, 2023 burglary, the PTPD discovered that several other Dunkin's had been burglarized with currency being stolen.

These Dunkin's were in Bethel Park (2), Baldwin, Canonsburg, and Upper St. Clair.

On December 4, 2023, the PTPD was notified that the Dunkin' Donuts in Canonsburg had just been burglarized – with the actor (s) successfully fleeing prior to apprehension. PTPD quickly responded to the Dunkin' Donuts in Peters Township. At approximately 0402 hours, the PTPD arrived at the location and discovered an individual inside burglarizing the business.

OCT

The actor was taken into custody. The actor then attempted to flee while handcuffed. The actor dove through the drive through window and was recaptured after a brief struggle.

Officers were able to locate the actor's vehicle. A search warrant on the vehicle led to the recovery of the currency stolen from the Dunkin in Canonsburg earlier in the evening. The PTPD later learned that the actor is wanted for questioning in Dunkin burglaries in three other states.

NOV

The actor was arrested for Burglary, Criminal Trespass, Escape, Theft By Unlawful Taking, Possessing Instrument of Crime, Resisting Arrest or Other Law Enforcement, and Criminal Mischief.

DEC



Significant Investigations

Case Updates:

Aggravated Indecent Assault

On October 24, 2021, the PTPD began an investigation involving child sex assault and child pornography. As a result, one actor was arrested in October of 2021 for Aggravated Indecent Assault, Statutory Sexual Assault, Sexual Abuse of Children, Indecent Assault, and Criminal Use Of Communication Facility.

This initial investigation led to a larger investigation involving three additional individuals from three different states.

In April of 2022, the PTPD accompanied department of Homeland Security Investigation (HSI) Agents to an address in Minot, North Dakota. Once there, a search warrant was executed on an apartment and a known actor was taken into custody. The actor was interviewed by PTPD and HSI and admitted to his involvement in the Peters Township investigation.

Further, the actor admitted to receiving child pornography from young females throughout the country and Canada. A search warrant was executed on the actor's cellular telephone and the results identified at least 20 additional child pornography victims. The actor is awaiting court proceedings.

In July of 2023, another identified actor in the Peters Township investigation, who resides in Florida, pled guilty in United States District Court Middle District of Florida to Production of Child Pornography and Distribution of Child Pornography. In October of 2023, the actor was sentenced to 40 years of imprisonment.

The remaining actor, who resides in Fresno, California, was arrested in California. The actor was recently extradited to Pennsylvania to face prosecution in the Western District of Pennsylvania.

Burglary

In December of 2022, the PTPD became aware of a burglary that occurred at a residence on Maid Marion Drive. Through investigation, the PTPD discovered the suspect(s) made entry through a rear main floor window that enters the kitchen. The suspect(s) stole numerous items from the interior of the residence and caused thousands of dollars in damage.

The PTPD executed numerous search warrants to include search warrants for locations of electronic devices. A single electronic device was identified as a result. Several bank search warrants later, a single actor was identified. The actor was identified as a Foreign National illegally in the United States. The PTPD obtained an arrest warrant for the actor charging Burglary, Criminal Trespass, Theft By Unlawful Taking, Criminal Use Of Communication Facility, and Criminal Mischief.

The actor is not in custody and currently has an active arrest warrant.

School Resource Officers (SROs)

School Resource Officer (SRO) program was initiated at the beginning of the 2013 school year as a cooperative effort between the township and school district to enhance policing primarily at the high school level. The positive effects of this program have now extended to all the schools within the district. Officer Patrick Mazzotta is still assigned to The Peters Township Middle School and in 2022, four new SROs were added to our school district. Officer Matthew Malloy is assigned to The Peters Township High School, Officer James Hughes is assigned to McMurray Elementary School, Officer Matthew Brand is assigned to Pleasant Valley Elementary School and Officer Malory Jaryznka is assigned to Bower Hill Elementary School. In addition to three new officers, a new sergeant position was created to be a district supervisor of the School Resource Officers. Sergeant Judd Emery will supervise the resource officers and act as the department liaison with the Peters Township School District. Captain Jennifer Ford will continue to oversee the entire program.

In our efforts to maintain a safe and secure environment for our schools, we continue to work closely with the school district to build upon safety initiatives and develop progressive plans to assess and improve school safety. An analysis of police records in most areas indicate an increase in the number of police related incidents in public schools. This, combined with a review of the buildings, grounds and number of students, generally supports the need for additional SROs to adequately provide security for our schools. Further analysis suggests the structure and assignment of the personnel should include full time SROs in our schools. In this structure, full time SRO positions provide, law enforcement and investigative services, development of crime prevention programs, train school personnel, mentor students, conflict resolution, act as a positive role model, facilitate drug and alcohol awareness programs, driver's education classes, teach social media responsibility, support teacher in law and justice classes, and instruct D.A.R.E. courses.



Bower Hill Elementary SRO Malory Jaryznka



Pleasant Valley Elementary SRO Matthew Brand



McMurray Elementary SRO James Hughes

School Resource Officers (SROs)

Bower Hill Elementary / 709 students – SRO Mallory Jarzynka

Research has shown that when students feel unsafe at school, this also has a significant impact on educational achievements. Officer Jarzynka and Officer Brand teamed up with their respective elementary schools to emphasize school safety.

Officer Jarzynka has and will be teaching multiple classes school wide throughout the 2023-2024 school year. The classes include, Safety Lessons; What is an Emergency and Calling 911, Situation Awareness and Strangers, Feelings and How To Cope, and What To Do When You Hear and See Hurtful Behaviors. Officer Jarzynka will continue to teach these classes throughout the school year.



Officer Matthew Brand at Pleasant Valley

Pleasant Valley Elementary / 496 students – SRO Matthew Brand

Officer Brand has and will be teaching multiple classes school wide throughout the 2023-2024 school year. These classes include, Safety Safe in Our Schools, Safety Lesson 1 What is an Emergency and Calling 911, and Tattling vs. Reporting. Officer Brand not only directed, but also starred in a “Playground Safety Video” as well.



Officer Mallory Jarzynka at Bower Hill



Officer James Hughes at McMurray

School Resource Officers (SROs)

Peters Township Middle School / 923 students –

SRO Patrick Mazzotta

Officer Mazzotta completed a total of 10 lessons pertaining to the dangers / facts of alcohol for the 7th grade Health Classes.

The lessons are about alcohol and the way it effects the brain, body, and central nervous system. An example shows how reaction time changes with alcohol present in the body. The rest of the class time is spent having the students doing activities with the Fatal Vision Goggles. They get the opportunity to experience impairment, while the brain is fully functioning.

Officer Mazzotta proposed further lessons about the dangers of Vaping and Sexting pertaining to Health Classes. The dangers of Vaping and Sexting classes are scheduled to begin for the first time in 2024.

Officer Mazzotta was featured during the afternoon video announcements twice this school year. The first video was a Q&A about Officer Mazzotta and school safety. In the second video a Guidance Counselor, Health Teacher, and Officer Mazzotta were interviewed about the dangers of Vaping and the consequences involved.

Officer Mazzotta has been involved with the 6th grade classes “AIM” Achieving in Middle School. “AIM” is a 30-day rotation class for all sixth-grade students. The class is designed to help students transition from an elementary to secondary building. Students learn the staff and layout of the Middle School while also focusing on a growth mindset, goal setting, and study skills. Officer Mazzotta explained to the students what his responsibilities are and how we have an extensive camera system. Officer Mazzotta allowed the students to look at the cameras as a reminder there are eyes and ears everywhere. The students often came prepared with questions about what Officer Mazzotta does for the Middle School.

Magistrate Ron Arnoni will complete a 7th grade school assembly about internet/social media safety. This assembly will be presented to the students in February of 2024.



Peters Township Middle School SRO Patrick Mazzotta



School Resource Officers (SROs)

Peters Township High School / 1228 students– Officer Matthew Malloy

Mock Crash 2024:

Officer Malloy is directly working with the school to create the Mock Crash. The Mock Crash occurs before the school district's Prom. The Mock Crash impacts students by having them view the incident and observe their fellow classmates as being involved. Vehicle crashes are the leading cause of death among teens in the United States.

Survival 101:

This class is presented to the Driver's Theory class twice a school year by Officer Mazzotta. The Driver's Theory class is made up of mostly sophomores and juniors.

"A Student's Guide to Staying Alive: is a police-driven curriculum designed to encourage appropriate decision making among high school students. Developed by the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation's Buckle Up PA Project. This class is presented to the Driver's Theory class twice a school year.



Peters Township High School SRO Matthew Malloy



School Resource Officers (SROs)

Drug Abuse Resistance Education (D.A.R.E) Program

McMurray Elementary / D.A.R.E. Program / 619 students – SRO Jamie Hughes

Launched in 1983, D.A.R.E. is a comprehensive K-12 education program taught in thousands of schools in America and 52 other countries. D.A.R.E. curricula addresses drugs, violence, bullying, internet safety, and other high-risk circumstances that today are too often a part of students' lives. [D.A.R.E. America, (2017, January 24). Retrieved from <http://www.dare.com>.] The D.A.R.E program has been taught in the Peters Township School District since 1989.

The fifth-grade lessons presented to each classroom are designed to prevent drug use. This is done by developing basic or core skills needed for safe and responsible choices. These skills extend beyond drugs to health and mature choices in life.



5th grade D.A.R.E

For the 2023-2024 school year, the total number of students taking part in the program were as follows:

5th grade - 341 students along with 7 D.A.R.E Graduations

The curriculum is based on the Socio-Emotional Learning Theory and identifies fundamental, basic skills and developmental processes needed for healthy development. These include, self-awareness and management, responsible decision making, understanding others, relationship and communication skills and handling responsibilities and challenges. There are ten (10) lessons including the graduations.

In the fifth-grade program, all students must write an essay about what they have learned during the program. The best essay is chosen from each class and that student who wrote the essay is awarded a D.A.R.E Lion. A second student is chosen as the Good Citizen winner in each class. This goes to the student who best participates in the lessons and are helpful to others in the school. They do what is asked the first time and follow the rules of the school.



School Resource Officers (SROs)

PASRO Conference

In July 2023, all six (6) of the School Resource Officers (SROs) attended the Pennsylvania School Resource Officer (PASRO) Conference in Harrisburg, PA. There they joined approximately 100 other School Resource Officers from across Pennsylvania.



Attendees of the 2023 PASRO Conference, Harrisburg, PA

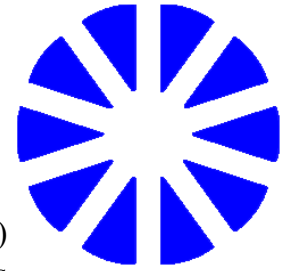
Youth Commission

The Commission is designed to provide an alternate method of adjudicating youth offenders. In 2023, one (1) new case was presented and accepted to the Peter’s Township Youth Commission. There were no cases carried over from 2022. There were no accepted cases referred back to the Peters Township Police Department. A brief summary is as follows:

#	Month Initiated w/PTYC	Age	Gender	Offense	Hours and Location of Community Service	Length of Contract	Completed?
1	09/2023	15	M	Use of Tobacco in School	20 Hours – Horses With Hope	8 weeks	Yes

0 cases required restitution





Incorporated in 1973, the South Hills Area Council of Governments (SHACOG) is a Pennsylvania non-profit corporation composed of member municipalities who voluntarily collaborate to pursue and address areas of mutual interest and concern. Within that framework, it undertakes projects and implements programs for the benefit of its members while taking advantage of the economy of scale afforded by its size. There are 22 member police departments, including PTPD. In the wake of the tragic events of September 11, 2001, the Board of Directors looked to the committee to provide some direction in case of a major event in the SHACOG area. Thus, resulting in the multiple specialized teams including the Critical Incident Response Team, Cooperative Investigative Team, Accident Reconstructions Team, Mobile Field Force and Honor Guard.



SHACOG Honor Guard presented colors at Jefferson Hills Police Department during a ceremony honoring fallen Jefferson Hills Officer Dale Provins.

Honor Guard

The SHACOG Honor Guard was established in 2019. The honor guard is a ceremonial unit comprised of sworn members. Duties include providing funeral honors for officers who have been killed in the line of duty, as well as for police officers who have honorably retired from the department. In 2023 the Honor Guard assisted with 4 funerals and 2 ceremonies. The Honor Guard Unit meets bi-monthly for training. PTPD Officer Mallory Jarzynka is a member of the SHACOG Honor Guard. She attended both ceremonies and attended 4 bi-monthly trainings.



Critical Incident Response Team (CIRT)

The primary responsibilities of SHACOG CIRT is to respond to calls for service of high-risk search and arrest warrants, incidents involving barricaded suspects, hostage rescues, active shooters, crowd control, and other situations requiring resources beyond the capacity of a department's patrol division.

In the year 2023 SHACOG CIRT responded to 20 activations and 5 warrants services/preplanned events. Sgt. Spencer Scott of PTPD whom is assigned to CIRT, responded to 5 of these request. In addition to the calls for service, SHACOG CIRT conducts year-round trainings to assure capabilities, problem-solving skills, and communication. In 2023, there were 6 trainings which Sgt. Scott attended.



Accident Reconstruction Team (Crash Team)

During 2023, the Peters Township Police Department did not have an officer officially assigned to the Crash Team, as our team member left the department. One officer did respond to several crashes as a learning experience prior to completing reconstruction training. The Crash Team responded to 21 full call outs and an additional 8 partial or post-crash investigations. Using Equitable Share program funds, The Peters Township Police Department purchased a Leica RTC360 3D Laser Scanner used for scene documentation and evidence gathering to be used by the Crash Team. This is a state-of-the-art instrument and will greatly benefit the team in prosecutions.

Motor Carrier Safety Assistance Program

The Peters Township Police Department participates in the Motor Carrier Safety Assistance Program. The Motor Carrier Safety Assistance Program (MCSAP) is a federal grant program that provides financial assistance to states to reduce the number and severity of accidents and hazardous material incidents involving commercial motor vehicles. The goal is to reduce accidents, fatalities and injuries involving commercial motor vehicles. Within Pennsylvania there are approximately 300 MCSAP certified municipal police officers. Our department currently has one certified officer who participates in this program.

In addition to the participation in the MCSAP program, our officer is certified to conduct weights and measures enforcement. The certified officer utilizes portable and platform scales to enforce the laws. This is important to ensure safe and effective operation of vehicles as they travel through the township and also to maintain the infrastructure of township roads.

The Peters Township Police MCSAP officer regularly works with officers from numerous south hills jurisdictions when conducting truck inspections, both within and outside of Peters Township. As a unit, these officers conducted 61 inspections within Peters Township, located 132 violations and wrote 50 citations. In addition, they placed 17 vehicles or drivers out of service and located 3 vehicles that were over-weight. Individually, our officer conducted 86 inspections, located 96 violations and wrote 28 citations. He placed 9 vehicles or drivers out of service.



FDA Task Force

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Task Force is comprised of FDA Special Agents, Homeland Security Investigations Special Agents and the PTPD. The FDA Task Force focuses their investigations on individuals who sell non-approved drugs and narcotics through the internet. One such investigation culminated in the sentencing of the accused individual and the seizure of a large number of unapproved drugs and proceeds.

The accused individual, Joshua Fulton, is a resident of North Carolina who owned and operated several businesses which marketed its products online and sold them in interstate commerce. Two of the businesses sold selective androgen receptor modulators, often referred to as SARMs. SARMs are synthetic chemicals designed to mimic the effects of testosterone and other steroids. Fulton's three other businesses sold kratom. When consumed, kratom has effects similar to opioids and carries similar risks of abuse, addiction, and dependency.

From approximately September 2016 through November 5, 2020, Fulton, through his businesses and their associated websites, sold SARMs, kratom, and nootropics purportedly for research purposes, aromatherapy, or other lawful purposes. Fulton knew that the vast majority of his customers purchased those products from his businesses for individual consumption.

On websites associated with his businesses, Fulton advertised health benefits, like building muscle, lowering cholesterol, reducing anxiety, relieving pain, or improving memory, that would purportedly result from consumption of SARMs, kratom, and nootropics. Fulton maintained a laboratory and office facility with a packaging area and makeshift laboratory where his products were manufactured, packaged, and processed. In November 2020, the FDA Task Force executed a search warrant at Fulton's laboratory and office facility in North Carolina and simultaneously executed seizure warrants for financial accounts associated with Fulton's businesses. There were 18,000 pounds of SARMs and kratom seized from the location. Approximately \$10,777,416.72 was seized and ultimately forfeited from accounts associated with Fulton's business operations. In August 2021, Fulton pled guilty to one (1) count of conspiracy to defraud the United States and was subsequently sentenced in March 2022.

Update

In January of 2023, the PTPD received \$3.7 million as part of the asset seizure from this investigation. These funds will be used to provide additional funding to the police department for equipment and investigative tools as well as installing and/or updating surveillance cameras throughout the township.

Western Regional Auto Theft Task Force

The Western Regional Auto Task Force was organized by the Pennsylvania State Police which includes members of municipal, county and state police officers. The focus of this task force is to investigate organized theft rings of heavy equipment, passenger vehicles, and other motorized machinery.

PTPD Officer (Chief) Joseph Glover was assigned to the Western Regional Auto Theft Task Force. In 2023, members attended the International Association of Auto Theft Investigator (IAATI) Training in Virginia Beach. Classes attended included a Heavy Equipment Identification and Investigation refresher, Stolen Vehicle Trends and a hands on demonstration of using a diagnostic tool to start and steal high end Chrysler products. Members also attended Vehicle Identification Training in Washington, DC.

Investigations

January 2023 – The ATTF began an investigation into the theft of over 150 vehicles from Avis / Budget at the Monroeville Avis franchises. An employee has been arrested and nearly all vehicles have been recovered. Value of recoveries was over 4 million dollars across the ATTF.

March 2023 – Began a multi-state investigation into the theft of Jeep Trackhawks and Dodge Durango SRT vehicles. Over 25 Trackhawks and Durango's have been stolen up to this point. These thefts included one from a dealers in Washington, PA, Penn Township, Murrysville, The Pittsburgh Airport, and several from a dealers in McCandless and Butler. Value of thefts at this point was over 2.5 Million.

May 2023 – Conducted an investigation into a fraudulently stolen Mercedes Benz S600 Maybach from a dealer in McCandless. Vehicle recovered in Buffalo, NY

August 2023 – ATTF Members set up a controlled delivery of a stolen mini skid steer and arrested an actor from Detroit, recovering the mini skid steer and several others, breaking a multi-state theft ring.

September 2023 – Began investigation into a stolen trailer from Peters Township. Trailer was tracked to Canton, Ohio where this officer and members of the WRATTF recovered it. Charges filed against the actor and warrant obtained.

September 2023 – Responded to Henry Clay Township, Fayette County for an auto dealer burglary where actors broke into the building and stole keys to 6 vehicles, ultimately removing all 6 from the dealership.

October 2023 – Based on an NICB hit, recovered a 2023 Nissan pickup truck stolen from Pittsburgh City.

TOTAL NUMBER OF RECOVERIES: 35

TOTAL VALUE OF RECOVERIES: \$1,261,499!



Deer Management

In 2007 the Peters Township Environmental Quality Board authorized the development of a deer management program. The primary goal was to utilize managed archery hunting as a means to reduce deer-related vehicle accidents while also addressing resident complaints of property damage due to over-browsing. Following the inception of the program, deer-related vehicle accidents declined to an eventual low of 40 in 2012. However, the downward trend was short lived, and we have seen a steady increase since that low in 2012.

Several factors are believed to have contributed to the continued increase of deer-related incidents. Most notably, Peters Township has continued to experience steady development of both residential and commercial properties, thereby reducing the natural deer habitat, creating fewer viable hunting locations, and causing an increase in vehicular traffic. The impact of decreased habitat combined with breeding norms of the whitetail deer has resulted in an increase in the deer population with smaller spaces in which to live. This combination inevitably results in a steady increase of deer-related incidents. This impact of these changing variables is made clear when you consider the historic high of 94 deer-related vehicle accidents in 2021.

In our efforts to mitigate the increase in deer-related incidents, the Peters Township Police Department (PTPD) proposed an expansion of the deer management program to include a controlled sharpshooting program for 2022. Following the completion of all Pennsylvania Game Commission requirements and certifications for the institution of such a program, the formal proposal was presented to the Peters Township Council for consideration. On December 20, 2021, Peters Township Council granted authorization for the PTPD to initiate the sharpshooting program beginning on February 1, 2022. It is significant to note that the program was established in accordance with all Pennsylvania Game Commission Guidelines. During the initial year of the sharpshooting program 125 deer were safely removed from the community.



Circle Drive



Peterswood Park

Deer Management

During the 2023 Sharpshooting Program, the PTPD safely removed 250 deer from the township during the 2023 sharpshooting program. Sharpshooting was conducted by Peters Township Police Officer James Stevick, Corporal Austin Kline and Captain Jason Brunetti over the course of 10 shifts. This equates to a combined effort of 25 deer per shift.

In addition to sharpshooting the PTPD continued management of an archery hunt. Authorized hunters are assigned designated hunting areas throughout the municipality. The managed archery hunt is conducted on both township owned and privately owned properties. Township owned properties include Peters Lake Park, Peterswood Park, Elm Grove Park, Rolling Hills Park, and Rees Park. Residents interested in donating their property for use during the program do so by contacting the PTPD. Each hunting location is assessed for feasibility by members of the PTPD prior to being used for the program. During the 2022 – 2023 archery season 33 program hunters safely removed 53 deer from the community.

The PTPD continues to track deer-related vehicle accidents in an effort to evaluate the success of the program and guide future decisions regarding the deer management program, In 2023 the PTPD responded to 94 deer-related vehicle accidents.

In 2023 the Peters Township Deer Management Program through a collaborative effort with Hunters Sharing the Harvest (HSH) donated approximately 10,270 pounds of venison to location food banks including the Greater Washington County Food Bank Allenport Food Pantry, and Donora Food Pantry.



Public Relations

The entire community working together is essential for public safety. We believe that the more our residents engage with our officers, the safer our community will be. In addition to their daily routine and positive interaction with our residents, the PTPD conducted or participated in numerous community events including; police station tours, township events, school district events, parades, meet and greet sessions, our Church Liaison Program and many more.



Church Liaison Program

The PTPD is committed to providing efficient services to our community which include a proactive approach to community organizations. Officers are assigned to one of the township’s jurisdictional houses of worship to act as a point of contact or liaison for each organization. The goal is for officers to be able to ascertain any community problems that our police department can assist in mitigating. At the same time, it will provide safety, security, and community wellness. In addition, officers patrol each church during their time of worship on Sundays.

There are a total of 11 churches in Peters Township. There are 6 churches in district 1, and 5 churches in district 2.

January – December 2023- Church Walk Through District 1 – 52 incident reports were generated for the weekly walk through (multiple churches are being checked on each incident number).

January – December 2023 – Church Walk Through District 2 – 47 incident reports were generated for the weekly walk through (multiple churches are being checked on each incident number).

January-December 2023- Church Liaison Incidents - 21 incident reports were generated involving church liaison activity ranging from meeting with church elders, church safety, and public relations type activity. This particular statistic titled, “Church Liaison Program” has been documented by patrol since

September of 2021. The quarterly contact for each church can be completed in person, by phone, or by email.



Trinity United Methodist Church

Officers remind each church during their monthly contact about the programs we officer (Child Identikit, safety checks, Youth Group Presentations, etc.) The churches did not appear to be interested in these activities at this time. Due to the churches not needing any assistance, we believe a quarterly check-in may be better for the churches.

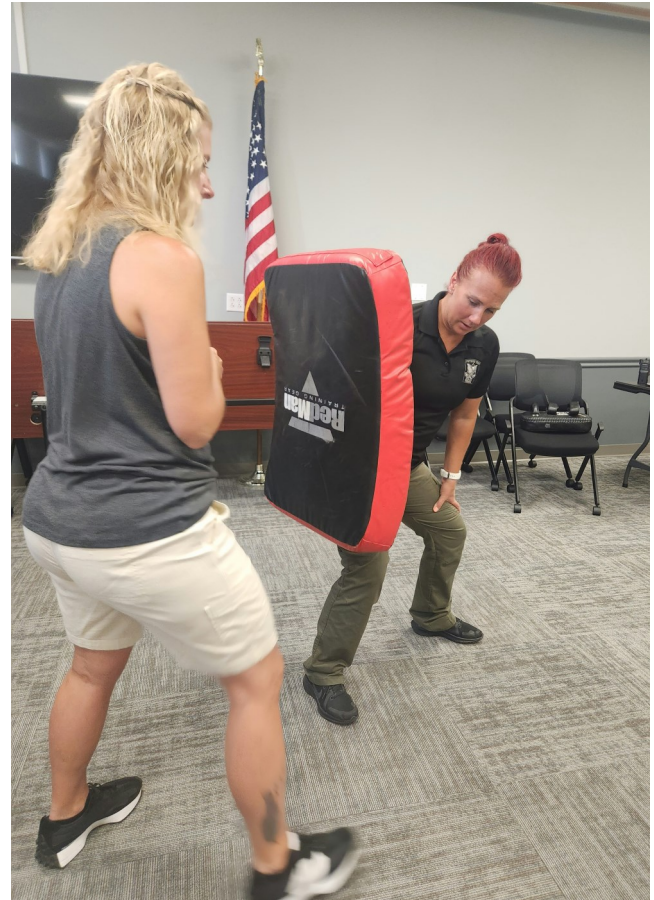


Public Relations

Women's Self Defense Class

In July of 2023 the department implemented a Women's Self Defense Class offered to the residents of Peters Township. The class which is 2 hours, is designed to teach situational awareness, basic self-defense skills and tactics, and empower women during emergency and potential life-threatening situations.

Seven (7) classes were taught from July 2023 until November 2023.



Officer Jarzynka teaching a Women's self-defense class



Sgt Andrew Greene teaching during CPA



Sgt Gary Orosz teaching during CPA

Citizen's Police Academy

In the spring of 2023, the PTPD hosted the Citizen's Police Academy. The program is designed to expand the citizen's knowledge and understanding of the law and explore police procedures. Participants are also taught the basics of criminal law with emphasis on the crimes code and vehicle code. The program includes patrol tactics, the processing of crimes scenes, interview and interrogation and many other subjects. There were a total of 22 participants between both 2023 Citizen Police Academies.

Public Relations

National Prescription Drug Take Back Day

The National Prescription Drug Take Back Day is in partnership with the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) and aims to provide safe, convenient, and responsible means of disposing of prescription drugs, while also educating the general public about the potential for abuse of medications. The DEA schedules two Drug Take Back Days a year, one in April and another in October. The PTPD participates in both. PTPD officers set up drop off locations in Peters Township at Giant Eagle, The County Store, Rite Aid, and Heisler's Market.



Officer Joe Doris during Drug Take Back Day at The Country Store

Christmas Card Contest

The PTPD worked with the art teachers at Peters Township elementary schools on a new holiday card design contest. More than 900 interested students from Peters Township elementary schools submitted entries. The winner was McMurray Elementary, 5th grader Everett Gang who was presented a plaque and received a pizza party for his entire class.



Officer Hughes, Sgt Emery, Captain Brunetti, Captain Ford and Chief Glover with winner Everett Gang

Public Relations

Law Enforcement Torch Run (LETR) for Special Olympics



Sgt Andrew Greene and Officer Mallory Jarzynka participated in the annual Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics that travels 155 miles from PNC Park to Beaver Stadium at Penn State.



Officer Mallory Jarzynka participated in the Chicago Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics while attending the National Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics Conference.



Officers participated in various Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympic events, including Spring Games at Carnegie Mellon University and Unified Games at Top Golf.

Public Relations



Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympic events.



Officer Mallory Jarzynka visited Bennett Park located on Valley Brook Road which is an activity center for non profit organization Always B Smiling.

Public Relations

Station Tours



Officer Nicole Merrick with Girl Scouts who visited the station for a tour.



Officer Matthew Hlasnick and Sgt Spencer Scott with PTPD youth cheerleaders who stopped by to show their appreciation and get a tour.

Library and Daycare Visits



Officer Mallory Jarzynka reading to a group at the Peters Township Public Library.



Cpl Austin Kline at Goddard School talking about his role as a motorcycle officer.

Public Relations

Community Day



Officer Matthew Brand, Officer Mallory Jarzynka and Officer James Hughes at Community Day located at Rolling Hills Park.

Touch-a-Truck



Officer Matthew Brand at Touch a Truck located at Peterswood Park.

Public Relations

Halloween Events



Officer Patrick Mazzotta and Officer James Hughes participated in Trunk-or-Treat at Peterswood Park.

Super Hero Night



Officer Mallory Jarzynka at Super Hero Night at the Peters Township Rec Center.

Staffing

In 2023 there were 730 shifts to staff. Of the 730 shifts a total of 523 were staffed with three or more officers. This chart provides a daily view of the number of shifts by day of the week that were staffed with three or more officers.

In 2023 Number of Shifts Staffed with Three or More Officers

Shifts	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Average
6PM 6AM	34 of 53	34 of 52	39 of 52	38 of 52	34 of 52	31 of 52	33 of 52	66.5%
6AM 6PM	34 of 53	41 of 52	46 of 52	40 of 52	41 of 52	44 of 52	34 of 52	77%
Aver.	64%	72%	82%	75%	72%	72%	64%	72%

A total of 348.5 shifts were taken off and an additional 307 training days were scheduled for a grand total 655.5 of shifts. Listed below is a breakdown of that time off.

- 50.5 Sick Days.
- 281 Comp, Holidays, Personal, and Vacation Days.
- 13 Emergency days (Bereavement, Covid-19, and Paternity.)
- 307 training days were scheduled to enhance the knowledge and professional development of our officers. The quantity of training days reflects an increase of 5 days from 2022.



Internal Investigations

The PTPD recognizes the need to thoroughly investigate all Citizen Complaints regarding officer performance and to conduct internal reviews of performance issues such as police pursuits, department vehicle accidents, and Use of Force incidents. During 2023, the PTPD conducted eleven (11) such investigations. The investigations from 2023 can be broken down into two (2) basic categories as follows:

Citizen Complaints - 6

Internal Reviews - 5

Further analysis of the Internal Investigations in 2023 reveals that of the six (6) citizen complaints, two (2) were considered sustained with corrective measures taken, three (3) were considered not sustained, and one (1) resulted in the officer being exonerated. Of the five (5) internal reviews, two (2) were considered sustained with corrective measures taken and three (3) resulted in the officer being exonerated.



Training and Education

Training is more important today than perhaps ever before in the history of law enforcement. The Act of June 18, 1974, P.L. 359, No.120, as amended, created the Municipal Police Officers' Education and Training Commission (MPOETC) and the requirement that all Municipal Police Officers attend a minimum of 12 hours of in-service/continuing education training each year. To that end, MPOETC developed a three (3) hour course on Legal Updates and a three (3) hour course on Tactical Communication, which were considered mandatory; however, the remaining six (6) credit hours may be obtained via various approved MPOETC courses. In 2023, those courses were available via the Pennsylvania Virtual Training Network (on-line), or via an accredited course of instruction as listed on the MPOETC website. All Peters Township Police Officers earned four (4) credit hours by completing a monthly, online case law updates course. This training is necessary to obtain the biannual certification of officers. All Peters Township Police Officers completed their mandatory training in 2023 and were eligible for recertification by MPOETC.

In 2023, we were able to make great strides in the area of training and education. Training and education is critical to the continued success and development of the Peters Township Police Department. In 2023, we utilized five (5) types of training to include: (1) Leadership Development, (2) Instructor Development, (3) Career Development, (4) In-House, and (5) On-line training. Utilizing various training methods and sources enabled us to develop a well-trained and qualified police department in the most expeditious and efficient way. The courses attended by our officers varied by training provider, host, and subject matter. In every case, our officers completed each course of instruction as required and obtained the subsequent attendance certificate, full certification, or instructor certification upon completion. It is significant to note the instructor certification enables our trained officers to instruct and certify other officers during our own in-house training, making us even more efficient and effective.

Below is a comprehensive list of the courses attended by our officers and the number of officers who attended each course:

Leadership Training

Pennsylvania State Police Leadership Development-1

Instructor Development Training

Axon Taser Instructor Course-3

Defensive Tactics Instructor Course-3

Instructor Development Course-1

Krav Maga Instructor Course-1



Training and Education

Instructor Development Training (continued)

Less Lethal Shotgun Instructor Course-2

Physical Fitness Coordinator-2

Sexual Harassment/Assault and Rape Prevention Instructor Course-1

Career Development Training

Active Shooter Response Training-7

Constitutional Encounters Training-3

Active Shooter Response Training-7

Constitutional Encounters Training-3

Crisis Intervention Team Training-3

Driver's Training-5

Emotional Survival for the Female Officer Training-2

FBINAA National Annual Training Conference-3

Field Training Officer (FTO) Training-1

First Contact Training-1

GLOCK Armorer's Course-1

Mexican Drug Cartel Investigations Training-1

North American Standard Driver/Vehicle Inspection Training (Updates)-1

Open Source Intelligence Training-1

PA Chiefs Annual Conference-1

Police Motorcycle Training-1

Police Mountain Bike Initial Training-2

Police Mountain Bike Annual In-service Training-4

PA School Resource Officer Annual Conference-6

Search and Seizure Training-3

SHACOG Ceremonial Unit Training-1

SHACOG Critical Incident Response Team-1

SHACOG Crash Team Training-1

SHACOG Support Team Training-1



Training and Education

In-house Training (All officers attended the below mandatory in-house training in 2023.)

1st Quarter Training

Active Bystandership for Law Enforcement (ABLE)
CPR-First Aid

2nd Quarter Training

Annual Firearms Qualification
Use of Force/Deadly Force Policy Review

3rd Quarter Training

Arrest Tactics
Baton/OC Spray/Taser Recertification
Control Hold Review
De-escalation Policy
Defensive Tactics
Duty to Intervene Policy
Empty Hand Control
MPOETC Control Tactics Course
Taser Policy

4th Quarter Training

Active Bystandership for Law Enforcement (ABLE) Refresher
Intersection and Community Camera Systems Review
Patrol Rifle Maintenance Review
Search and Seizure Case Law Review
Virtual Reality Simulator Exercises



Training and Education

On-line training

In 2023, Peters Township Police Officers completed an online, monthly review of current case laws, legal updates, and court rulings that impact how they operate on the street. The case law is drawn from Pennsylvania (state law cases), the Third Circuit Court (federal cases) and the United States Supreme Court (federal cases). These courses also count towards the State-mandated in-service training requirements.



Thank you for taking the time to read and review the Peters Township Police Department Annual Report.