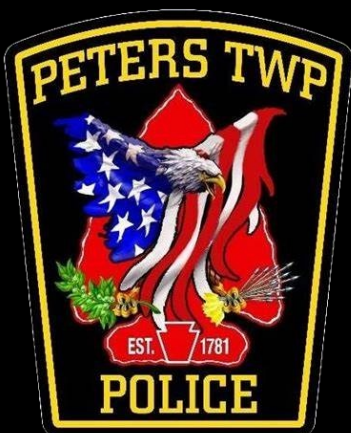




PETERS TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT

2024 Annual Report



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Letter from Chief Joseph Glover

It is my pleasure to present the Peters Township Police Department (PTPD) 2024 Annual Report. This report contains an overview and analysis of the various functions and responsibilities of the men and women of this Department during 2024. The PTPD continues to be accredited by PLEAC, the Pennsylvania Law Enforcement Accreditation Commission, an arm of the Pennsylvania Chiefs of Police. We are 1 of only 177 agencies in Pennsylvania currently accredited. There was a complete rewrite of Department policies during the initial process.

In 2024, our hiring efforts were again successful. New hires included Officer John Weaver, Officer Robert Smolinski, and Officer Charles Allard. Officer Weaver comes to us after 20 years in the Pennsylvania State Police, Officer Smolinski has over 23 years of service with the City of Pittsburgh, and Officer Allard has over 5 years of experience with the City of Pittsburgh. The experience and education these officers bring with them only enhances the already stellar capabilities of the Peters Township Police Department.

We continue to provide a School Resource Officer (SRO) in every Peters Township school. The unit consists of Sergeant Spencer Scott, Officers Matthew Malloy, Patrick Mazzotta, Mallory Jarzynka, Jamie Hughes, and Matthew Brand. Charles Allard is our new SRO at the Intermediate Unit, in what was the old Middle School. We have a new Captain of Administration, Captain Judd Emery. He took over for Captain Jennifer Ford, who took a leadership position with a law enforcement agency at a major University.



Letter from Chief Joseph Glover

Among many duties, Captain Emery serves as our Accreditation Manager. He oversees our policies and procedures and locating the proofs for each standard. Members of the Department, including Captain Emery, 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

As stated in previous yearly reports, we received an influx of federal asset forfeiture money in 2023. This year we used a portion of those funds to purchase several new vehicles. You may have seen one of our Chevrolet Tahoe Police Pursuit Vehicles. They are both more comfortable, and capable of hauling more equipment than the vehicles they replaced. As a bonus, they are some of the sharpest police vehicles on the road! We also upgraded our tactical capabilities with the purchase of new rifles. Body Worn Cameras (BWCs) and In-Car cameras were also updated.

I have now been the Chief of Police for a little over a year, and it has been a great experience! The men and women of this Department are capable, enthusiastic, and dedicated to the protection of the visitors and residents of the Township. This has been the most rewarding and fulfilling year in my nearly 30 years in Law Enforcement. This really is one of the best Police Departments in Pennsylvania!

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 Peters Township Police Department 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. Out of approximately 1,100 police departments in Pennsylvania only 177 have 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 re-accreditation cycle requiring proofs of compliance with each of the standards. We will undergo our second on-site re-accreditation in 2025. 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.



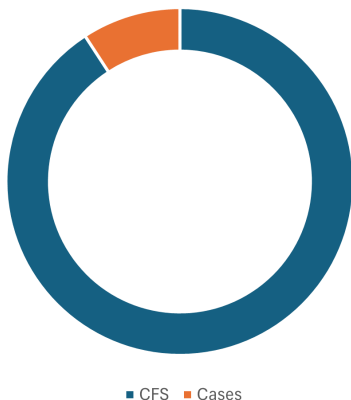
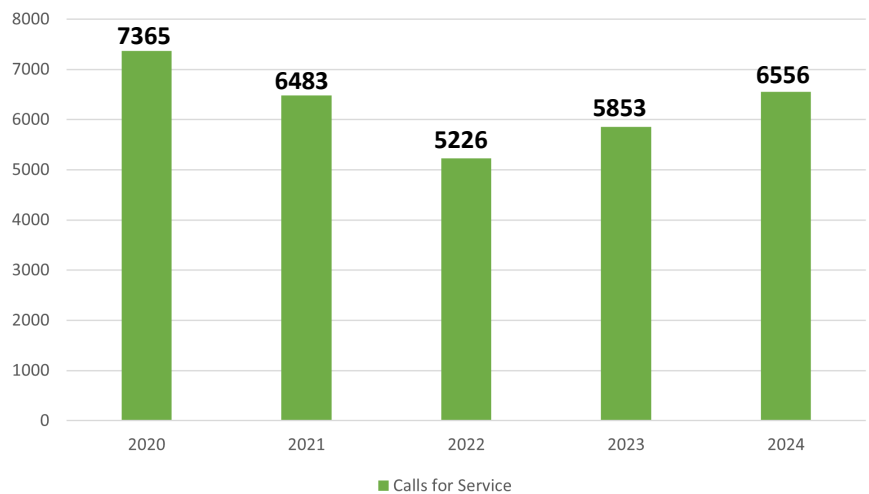
Calls For Service (CFS) Analysis

To better understand the analysis, it is important to clarify where Calls for Service (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 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 2024, PTPD responded to a total of 6556 CFS, which represents a 12% increase from 2023 (5853 CFS in 2023).

61% of the CFS in 2024 occurred during daylight shift.



Total Criminal Cases

In 2024 out of 6556 CFS there were 562 criminal cases. Criminal Cases are created if a CFS falls under one of the Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) categories (see page 8). All cases are investigated to the full extent.



Calls For Service (CFS) Analysis

The most reoccurring CFS police matters are alarms, non-reportable accidents, traffic hazards, disabled vehicles, mental health, and check welfare of a person. After a string of burglaries in 2023, residents have become more cautious and alert, resulting in a steady occurrence in calls for suspicious activity.

An accident is considered non-reportable when there are no injuries reported and all vehicles are drivable. An accident is considered reportable when there are injuries reported or any of the vehicles are not drivable.

Officers respond to non-reportable accidents to ensure the involved vehicles are moved to a safe location and to assist with the exchange of information.

2024 CFS by Call Type (Most Reoccurring)		
	Call Type	Total
1	Alarm (False Business)	285
2	Alarm (False Residential)	262
3	Suspicious Activity	260
4	Public Service	252
5	Assist Other Agency	223
6	Non Reportable Accident	212
7	Fire Call	199
8	Alarm Fire (False)	196
9	Traffic Hazard	160
10	Ordinance Violation	148
11	Police Information	136
12	Reportable Accident	131
13	Check Welfare	118
14	Disabled Vehicle	107
15	Mental Health	106
16	Civil Matters	85
17	Hazard	84
18	Parking Complaint	71
19	Harassment	51



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. Sergeant Louis Reda and Detective Evan Caruso compile the UCR statistics for the PTPD. Below is the UCR data for the past five years.

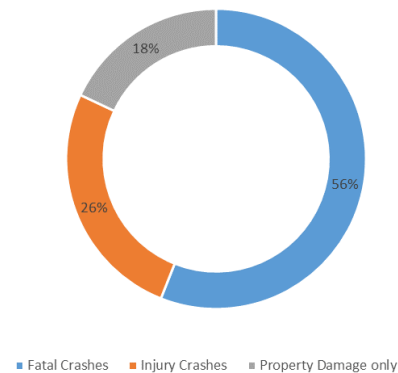
It should be noted, in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania the term Larceny is not used in The Pennsylvania Crimes Code. Instead Pennsylvania uses the term Theft which is synonymous with the term Larceny. Larceny is used in the chart below because UCR data is nationwide and must stay consistent.

Part I Crimes	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Murder	0	0	1	2	0
Rapes	1	1	0	0	1
Robbery	1	0	0	0	0
Assault	82	54	88	68	66
Burglary	5	4	12	11	6
Larceny	153	47	69	63	62
Motor Vehicle Theft	2	5	0	1	4
Arson	1	0	2	0	0
Part II Crimes					
Forgery	2	6	16	7	8
Fraud	83	282	119	54	86
Embezzlement	1	3	4	1	2
Stolen Property	0	0	0	2	3
Vandalism	40	37	28	21	21
Weapons	1	1	4	1	1
Prostitution	0	0	0	0	0
Sex Offenses	21	20	6	11	7
Drugs	44	19	23	14	18
Gambling	0	0	0	0	0
Family Offenses	1	1	0	1	4
DUI	44	42	43	28	34
Liquor	10	7	4	5	3
Drunkenness	9	5	8	4	4
Disorderly	82	76	88	63	60
Vagrancy	0	0	0	0	0
All Others	69	50	112	112	34



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 2022, there were 12,151 fatalities in speed-related crashes, a decrease of 2.8% (12,498) from 2021. Speed-related crashes accounted for 29% of total traffic fatalities in 2022. 35% of male drivers and 19% of female drivers in the 15- to 20-year-old age group involved in fatal traffic crashes in 2022 were speeding, the highest among the age groups. 35% of all motorcycle riders involved in fatal crashes in 2022 were speeding. In 2022, 87% of all speed-related traffic fatalities on American roads occurred on non-interstate roadways.

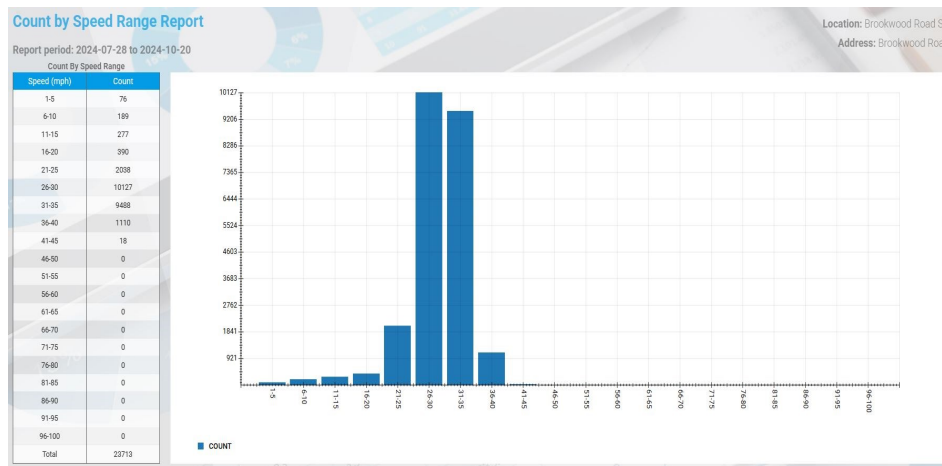


Proactive Response to Citizen Complaints

In 2021, Sergeant Spencer Scott and Corporal 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. Corporal Wohlfarth is also a member of the Township's Traffic Calming Committee and regularly meets with the committee to assist the Township with responding to traffic related complaints. In 2024, the Department purchased four new permanent 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. The Department also has four portable speed signs that can be deployed throughout the Township to assist in collecting traffic related data as well as traffic calming.



Traffic Enforcement



Traffic study conducted on Brookwood Road

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 an annual traffic enforcement report.

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 18 permanently affixed, solar-powered traffic radar signs and four 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.

Targeted Traffic Enforcement

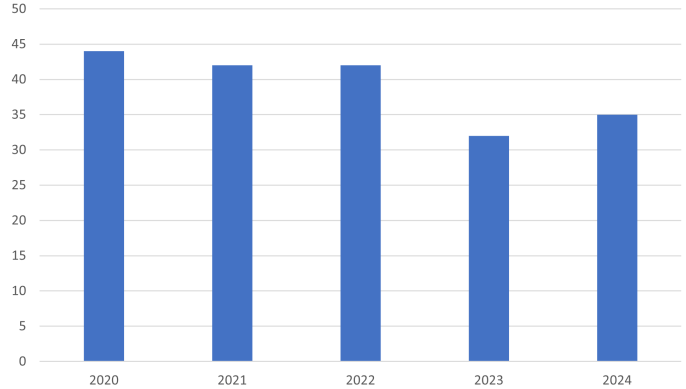
In 2024, the Department received and responded to over 100 traffic related complaints. These complaints consisted of speeding complaints, reports of reckless drivers, stop sign violations, and school bus violations. In response to the traffic complaints, the police department conducted over 200 individual traffic posts while issuing over 250 warnings and over 100 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 every day 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 2024, PTPD officers arrested 35 individuals for driving under the influence of drugs or alcohol (DUI). The previous year, officers made 32 arrests related to DUI. Of the past five (5) years, the year with the most DUI arrest made by PTPD officers was 2022. The past three (3) years have been consistent in our DUI enforcement efforts.

Below is a chart of all reportable accidents in comparison to the total DUI related accidents that occurred in Peters Township in 2024.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
All Reportable	10	8	12	10	9	10	14	15	8	16	9	16	137
DUI related	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	4
Fatalities	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	3
Fatalities DUI	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0



Traffic Enforcement

Moving Forward to 2025

The Peters Township Police Department's top priority will always be the safety of our citizens. In 2025, the Department will be adding two additional permanent 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 in the partnerships that we have established with our citizens and look forward to building new relationships in an effort to create a safer community.



Significant Investigations

Terroristic Threats

On April 6, 2024, the Peters Township Police Department (PTPD) received information through a Safe2Say report involving a school-shooting threat made over TikTok, a popular social media app. Through Emergency Disclosures and Search Warrants the user was identified as an 18-year-old female from Wilkinsburg. An additional Search Warrant and assistance from Wilkinsburg PD resulted in contact with the suspect and seizure of her cell phone. A data extraction was performed on the cell phone and evidence of the criminal activity was preserved.

The female suspect was charged with Terroristic Threats and Harassment. The shooting threat was deemed spurious.

Fraud

On April 19, 2024, the PTPD became aware that a Peters Township resident was a victim of a fraud. The fraud involved eight (8) separate transactions involving the victim's debit card. An actor was identified as an Xfinity/Comcast employee from South Hills Village Mall, where the victim had an account and recently used the debit card. The PTPD authored two search warrants which further implicated the actor. Prior to charges being filed, the actor confessed to using the victim's debit card for fraudulent purchases. This case is pending court.

JAN

Check Fraud/Forgery

On May 13, 2024, the PTPD responded to Community Bank on information that actors were attempting to cash fraudulent checks. One male suspect and one female suspect were located on scene. Both were attempting to pass counterfeit checks with forged signatures. Investigation disclosed that these two were being shuttled around by a larger, organized group who had earlier intercepted checks from the mail system to counterfeit checks with the stolen details.

Both actors were charged with Forgery and Access Device Fraud, as well as engaging in a Criminal Conspiracy. Both accepted pleas involved 12 months of Probation.

FEB

Fraud

In May of 2024, an elderly male became the victim of an online scam. His computer was locked, and he received a message to contact "Microsoft" to resolve it. The victim contacted the provided phone number and spoke to an unknown individual. This individual instructed the victim to remove money from his bank account and have it "transferred". The victim removed \$10,000.00 from his bank account and then provided that money to a courier, who had a code word, for safe keeping. Two days later, the same scenario played out, this time with a \$14,000.00 withdrawal. This money was also provided to a courier. A third attempt two days later was made to obtain money from the victim, and he removed \$14,000.00 in cash from his bank.

MAR

APR



Significant Investigations

Prior to the courier appearing at his residence for the third visit, the victim contacted his daughter who immediately determined her father was being scammed and brought him to the PTPD to report the incident. The following day, a money pick up was initiated by the suspects. The PTPD formulated an operation to lure the courier to the home to obtain the money. Envelopes were prepared with monetary amounts and bill sized paper inside. A PTPD officer surreptitiously entered the residence while other officers established surveillance nearby. A suspect arrived and was met at the door by the victim, who gave the suspect the envelopes. The PTPD Officer inside the residence appeared and immediately arrested the suspect. The suspect was positively identified as the same individual who picked up the money the previous days.

The PTPD filed charges against the suspect. The PTPD applied for and was granted search warrants for the suspect's vehicle and his cellular telephone. The searches of the suspect's vehicle and cellular telephone provided evidence of a large-scale fraud operation with evidence that the suspect had conducted this scam all over the United States. The PTPD was able to supply crucial information to multiple police investigators as far away as Alaska, to include federal investigators, to assist in identifying the suspect and victims in the respective jurisdictions. The victims were all individuals in advanced age. As part of the suspect's criminal case, the PTPD was able to negotiate full restitution (\$24,000.00) to the victim.

MAY

Burglary/Theft

On June 29, 2024, the PTPD became aware of possible criminal activity at a residence under construction on Fife Farm Lane. When officers arrived, a suspect vehicle sped away from the area. Officers pursued, but the suspect ignored emergency lights and sirens as it also disregarded traffic control devices. Through the use of Automated License Plate Reader (ALPR) equipment, the suspect vehicle was identified. ALPR data also connected the same vehicle to two previous burglary / theft incidents at the same Fife Farm Lane location. With assistance from the City of Washington Police, a Search Warrant was conducted at the suspect's City of Washington residence.

The male suspect was eventually charged with multiple counts of Burglary, Theft, Fleeing or Attempting to Elude Police Officers, and associated crimes. The defendant is due for Plea Court in the near future.

JUNE

JULY

AUG



Significant Investigations

Contractor Fraud

On July 3, 2024, the PTPD received information from a resident regarding a contractor that was defrauding her. The victim made agreements with the contractor for the renovation of a kitchen, upgrades to the electrical and lighting systems, and the purchase of materials and appliances. After several months and payments of more than \$20,000.00, the work was left unfinished, and the home was in disarray. It was later learned that the contractor failed to apply funds paid by the victim to the purchase of key materials such as flooring and cabinets. It was further discovered that the contractor acted the same way with a second victim in Peters Township as well as another victim in North Strabane. The male suspect was charged with sections of the Home Improvement Fraud statute, Deceptive Business Practices, and Criminal Mischief. This case is still pending in the court system.

Organized Retail Theft

On July 28, 2024, employees of CVS discovered a retail theft incident that occurred the day before. Surveillance of the store showed two Hispanic males enter the store after arriving in a white Jeep Gladiator. The two actors proceeded to fill bags with cosmetics and similar items totaling over \$5,500.00. The actors left without paying and traveled across the street to Walgreens. The actors continued with a similar scheme before being interrupted by a store employee, leaving empty-handed.

MAY

A nationwide alert was put out for the suspect vehicle, which was stopped a few days later in Virginia. Based on the identification of the driver and the details of the suspect (rental) vehicle, this incident was attributed to an Organized Retail Theft ring. Several other incidents in Pennsylvania, Florida, and Georgia were connected to the same group. Through a joint investigation, numerous members of this Organized Retail Theft ring were identified, to include the two suspects in the Peters Township incident.

JUNE

Charges of Felony Retail Theft were filed against the two suspects with Arrest Warrants issued.

Wire Tap

On April 30, 2024, the PTPD became aware of an assault which occurred at the Giant Eagle. It was discovered that a suspect was harassing a customer/victim by touching him on his head and antagonizing him. As the suspect was doing this, an individual known to the suspect was filming the encounter. The suspect uploaded the video of the incident to YouTube. The suspect was arrested for harassment. On August 30, 2024, the PTPD became aware of two suspects (one of the suspects same as the April 30, 2024, incident) knocking on a resident's door and acting as lawn maintenance workers. The suspects let on that they were spraying the victim's lawn with vegetation killer.

JULY

AUG



Significant Investigations

While this was occurring, a third suspect was filming the act. The suspects fled the area with their license plate covered.

On August 31, 2024, the PTPD was notified of another instance involving the three suspects (same two from the previous incident). On this date, the two suspects approached the front door of an elderly resident and told her they were spraying her bushes in order to kill them. The resident became upset and the suspects then offered to reverse the process if she paid several thousand dollars. The resident asked for assistance from one of her neighbors. When the neighbor became involved, the suspects fled the scene. The PTPD was able to identify a suspect through the use of license plate readers (LPRs). The suspect was requested to come to the PTPD in order to be interviewed. One suspect arrived and after acting disorderly, he was arrested. While arresting the suspect, the PTPD discovered a hidden microphone recorder taped to his body. The PTPD seized the suspect's cellular telephone and vehicle. Search warrants were executed on both. By way of the search warrants, the PTPD was able to identify an additional suspect and assist two other police departments in their investigations of similar cases. It was discovered that the two suspects were secretly audio and visually recording the encounters for their prank You Tube channel. Both suspects were arrested for felony Wire Tap violations.

SEPT

Rape

On November 1, 2024, the PTPD responded to a rape in progress. Upon arrival, the suspect was apprehended and placed in custody. It was learned the suspect and victim knew each other and were drinking alcohol at a residence. The victim passed out due to intoxication. At this time, the suspect undressed the victim and raped her. The PTPD filed numerous sex assault charges, to include rape, against the suspect.

OCT

The PTPD discovered that on September 21, 2024, the same suspect was identified as an individual involved in another sexual assault. The victim advised she was friends with the suspect and had been drinking alcohol with him at a residence. The victim stated she became severely intoxicated and eventually fell unconscious. The victim woke to the suspect raping her. The victim in this investigation described the events that occurred to her that almost exactly matched what the victim in the November 1, 2024, incident stated happened to her. The PTPD filed numerous sex assault charges, to include rape, against the suspect.

NOV

DEC



Significant Investigations

Case Updates: Aggravated Indecent Assault

On October 24, 2021, the Peters Township Police Department (PTPD) became aware of a sexual assault involving a 6-year-old female. The 13-year-old female actor, who is the victim's half-sister, was arrested. During this investigation, it was learned that the 13-year-old female actor had been victimized by online sexual predators. These predators persuaded the 13-year-old female into performing sexual acts on her 6-year-old half-sister and also recording herself nude and sending these recordings over the internet. The investigation lasted approximately one year and during that time, the PTPD conducted ten electronic device downloads, interviewed nine individuals, issued three subpoena/search warrants – one search warrant was executed in Minot, North Dakota, and made four arrests. The 13-year-old female actor/victim was sentenced to 18 months of confinement in a juvenile facility. One actor resided in Florida and was sentenced to 40 years in prison. The second actor from California received a sentence of 60 months (5 years) in Federal prison. The third actor from North Dakota was sentenced to 50 years in prison.

On January 25, 2024, the PTPD became aware of another child exploitation case involving the same female victim, now 15 years of age. The child exploitation involved actors talking the victim into sending nude photographs of herself to them over the internet. Over the course of this currently ongoing investigation, the PTPD downloaded two electronic devices and executed seventeen search warrants. As a result, four arrests have been made and are pending in court.

It was discovered that one of the arrested individuals is a charter bus driver in Greenville, PA. A second defendant is a ride operator at Cedar Point Amusement Park in Ohio. The third defendant is currently a suspended middle school teacher from Arrowhead, California. The fourth defendant resides in Florida and is awaiting extradition.

Homeland Security Investigations, Pittsburgh, assisted in these investigations.

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 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 Officer Chuck Allard will be assigned to The Intermediate Unit at the beginning of 2025. Sergeant Spencer Scott will supervise the resource officers and act as the department liaison with the Peters Township School District. Captain Judd Emery 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 area 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 Mallory Jarzynka



Pleasant Valley Elementary SRO Matthew Brand



McMurray Elementary SRO James Hughes

School Resource Officers (SROs)

Bower Hill Elementary / 701 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 respected elementary schools to emphasize school safety.

Officer Jarzynka taught 31 lessons entitled “What’s an emergency and using 911” SRO Lesson 1 during the beginning of the 2024-2025 school year.

This lesson teaches students of all grade levels what an emergency is and guides them on calling and speaking with 911 personnel. The students also discuss personal electronic devices such as smart watches, cell phones and tablets and how to activate 911 on them. During the kindergarten lessons students are introduced to their School Resource Officer. Students learn what SROs do with a fun book entitled “Police in our School” by Deputy Becky Cole.

At the beginning of the school year the second grade classes started a monthly coloring contest, “Cookies with a Cop”. Winners each month get to spend the last period of a dedicated day to hang out, talk, and eat cookies with Officer Jarzynka.

Officer Jarzynka will continue to teach lessons as the school year continues. The lessons will include topics on situational awareness, stranger danger and staying safe with devices, technology and online.



Officer Mallory Jarzynka at Bower Hill



Officer Mallory Jarzynka at Bower Hill

Pleasant Valley Elementary / 497 students –

SRO Matthew Brand

Officer Brand taught 24 “Intro to ALICE and Staying Safe in our School” lessons in conjunction with the Guidance Office. ALICE training is a program that teaches students how to respond to violent critical incidents. ALICE is an acronym for the five steps one can take to survive a violent encounter; alert, lock-down, inform, counter, evacuate. This lesson is taught the first few weeks of school. At the end of the lesson, students participate in an interactive roleplaying scenario which reinforces the principles of ALICE.

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Officer Brand led the annual Halloween parade festivities in his patrol vehicle around the school building.

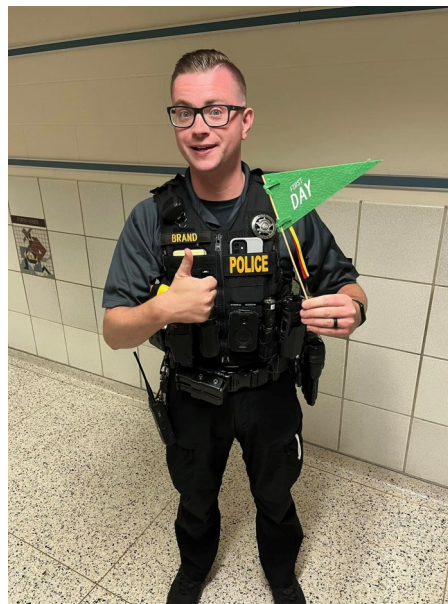
Officer Brand has begun to teach SRO lesson 2 “Situational Awareness and what to do if approached by a Stanger”. 12 lessons have been completed thus far for the 2024-2025 school year.

This lesson teaches students about road/traffic signs, being a safe pedestrian, and common situations that occur while walking and playing outside of the classroom. Students then discuss who are safe trusted adults they can go to in time of need and what to do if approached by a stranger.

Later this school year, Elementary SROs will begin teaching SRO lesson 3, staying safe with devices, technology and online.



Officer Matthew Brand at Pleasant Valley



Officer Matthew Brand at Pleasant Valley

School Resource Officers (SROs)

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

McMurray Elementary / D.A.R.E. Program / 613 students – SRO James 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. [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.

For the 2023-2024 school year, the total number of 5th grade students taking part in the program were as follows: 285 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 were twelve (12) 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 the 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 award 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.



5th grade D.A.R.E essay winners

School Resource Officers (SROs)

Peters Township Middle School / 955 students –

SRO Patrick Mazzotta

Officer Mazzotta completed a total of 9 lessons pertaining to the dangers / facts of alcohol for the 7th grade Health Classes.

The lessons are about alcohol and the way it affects 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 completed a total of 9 lessons pertaining to the dangers / facts of vaping for the 7th grade Health Classes.

The lessons are about vaping and the way it affects the brain and body. The lesson emphasizes that even though vaping may seem harmless, it can seriously harm your body and make you addicted to nicotine. The students watched videos pertaining to actual students who vaped and either got in trouble or damaged their bodies.

Officer Mazzotta completed 2 lessons pertaining to the dangers / facts of sexting.

The lessons are about sexting and the legal consequences that come with it. The lesson highlights that sending explicit photos or messages can be harmful which can lead to potential bullying, public humiliation, legal issues, and lasting emotional stress. This is a new lesson Officer Mazzotta proposed last year and is now being used during 7th grade Health Classes.

The Pennsylvania State Police completed a 7th grade school assembly about internet/social media safety. There was a Q&A session at the end of the assembly for the students.

Officer Mazzotta was featured during the afternoon video announcements this school year. This video was a Q&A about Halloween Safety.

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 allowed them 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.



Peters Township Middle School SRO Patrick Mazzotta

School Resource Officers (SROs)

Peters Township High School / 1263 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 Peters Township Middle School Resource 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. The Driver's Theory class is made up of mostly sophomores and juniors.



Peters Township High School SRO Matthew Malloy

School Resource Officers (SROs)

PASRO Conference

In July 2024 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 2024 PASRO Conference, Harrisburg, PA

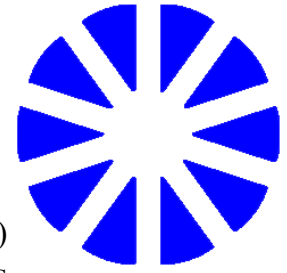
Youth Commission

The Commission is designed to provide an alternate method of adjudicating youth offenders. In 2024, seven (7) new cases were presented and accepted to the Peter’s Township Youth Commission. There were no cases carried over from 2023. 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	1/4/24	16	M	Harassment through Mutual Combat	None	9 weeks	Yes
2	1/4/24	15	M	Harassment through Mutual Combat	25 Hours – Horses With Hope	17 weeks	Yes
3	3/7/24	13	M	Transmission of Sexually Explicit Images	20 Hours – Horses With Hope	9 weeks	Yes
4	9/5/24	16	M	Use of Tobacco Product in School Via Vape Pipe	20 Hours – Horses With Hope	9 weeks	Yes
5	9/5/24	16	M	Use of Tobacco Product in School Via Vape Pipe	20 Hours – Horses With Hope	9 weeks	Yes
6	10/17/24	15	M	Harassment	20 Hours -Horses With Hope	9 Weeks	Yes
7	11/13/24	17	M	Use of Tobacco	N/A	N/A	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 23 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, 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 2024 the Honor Guard assisted with 3 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.



Accident Reconstruction Team (Crash Team)

During the first eight months of 2024, the Peters Township Police Department did not have an officer officially assigned to the Crash Team, as our team member left the department. Beginning in August Officer John Weaver joined the team, and in September Officer Weaver became the Team Co-Leader for squad 2. While with the crash team, Officer Weaver responded to 5 crashes including one within Peters Township. The Crash Team responded to multiple call outs during 2024, to include the suicide at the Boone Reservoir. Several members of the team attended Pedestrian and Bicycle collision investigation which was hosted by Peters Township Police. Additionally, members attended the Pennsylvania State Police Collision and Reconstruction Seminar held in Pocono Mountain, Pennsylvania. The combination of these two trainings resulted in accredited members receiving 52 continuing education credits.

Additionally, the team responded to Peters Township to aid in the investigation of a fatal pedestrian crash which occurred on the evening of December 25, 2024. In this collision an 80 year old female was killed while attempting to cross state route 19 /Washington Road near Simmons Farm market. The female was with her daughter and the pair were crossing diagonal to the travel lanes.



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 scales to enforce the laws. These scales were purchased by the Township. 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, Officer Bonczek 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 71 inspections within Peters Township, located 81 violations and wrote 17 citations and issued 64 warnings. In addition, they placed 9 vehicles or drivers out of service and located 3 vehicles that were over-weight. Individually, our officer conducted 84 inspections, located 88 violations and wrote 30 citations. He placed 8 vehicles or drivers out of service.



Mobile Data Extractions

The Peters Township Police Department has the equipment and training to conduct data extractions from cell phones and tablets.

In 2024, nearly 150 mobile data extractions were performed.

In addition to conducting investigations for the PTPD, assistance is provided to law enforcement agencies at the local, state, and Federal level in order to obtain valuable evidence from these sources.



Western Regional Auto Theft Task Force

The Western Regional Auto Theft 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.

Detective Joseph Doris is the PTPD member assigned to the Task Force.

Detective Doris attended vehicle identification training in Washington DC in February. Detective Doris also assisted with an Auto Theft training class held at the Pennsylvania State Police Academy at Hershey, Pa. in August. The class is a block of instruction specific to auto theft techniques and patterns, as well as instruction aimed at recognizing stolen vehicles. The training was presented to new Pennsylvania State Police cadets. Detective Doris attended a heavy equipment training seminar in Chambersburg, Pa. in October.

Investigations

Detective Doris conducted 35 auto theft related investigations during the 2024 calendar year, resulting in the recovery of 38 vehicles. The total combined value of recovered property as a result of those investigations was \$1,009,297.

In addition, Detective Doris took part in 44 criminal investigations in support of other Auto Theft Task Force officers and/or outside police departments that resulted in the recovery of 44 additional vehicles. The total combined value of the property recovered in those investigations was \$1,175,306.

As a result of investigative efforts 23 actors were charged by Detective Doris or investigators assisted by Detective Doris.

Of the aforementioned investigations nine of the theft investigations originated in Washington County. Three of the investigations resulted in the arrest of the actor(s). Additionally, two of the investigations originated in Peters Township, one of which resulted in the recovery of the vehicle where the victim refused to prosecute and one investigation was cleared as “unfounded” when it was determined that the victim had parked the vehicle in a location, and then forgot where the vehicle was parked. A third vehicle theft investigation originated in Peters Township and the vehicle was subsequently recovered in nearby North Strabane Township.

Additionally four investigations were ‘exceptionally cleared’ where prosecution was declined by the victim, and one investigation was determined to be ‘unfounded’ when at the conclusion of the investigation it was learned no crime had taken place.

During the 2024 calendar year Detective Doris deployed the portable License Plate Reader on the Peters Township Task Force vehicle for approximately 160 combined hours, capturing over 190,000 registration plates. 17 stolen vehicles were recovered as a result of these investigative efforts.

TOTAL NUMBER OF RECOVERIES: 38

TOTAL VALUE OF RECOVERIES: \$1,009,297!



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. During the second year of the sharpshooting program 250 deer were removed from the community.



Circle Drive



Peterswood Park

Deer Management

Sharpshooter Program

During the 2024 Sharpshooting Program, the PTPD safely removed 250 deer from the township. Sharpshooting was conducted by Peters Township Police Officer James Stevick, Corporal Austin Kline and Captain Jason Brunetti over the course of 9 shifts. This equates to a combined effort of 28 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 2023 – 2024 archery season 35 program hunters safely removed 70 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 2024 the PTPD responded to 84 deer-related vehicle accidents.

In 2024 the Peters Township Deer Management Program through a collaborative effort with Hunters Sharing the Harvest (HSH) donated approximately 11,200 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.



PTPD Fire, Cpl Zach Beatty and Sgt John Bruce at The Poch Pitt

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 the church's 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 2024- 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 2024 – 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 2024- Church Liaison Incidents - 7 incident reports were generated involving church liaison activity ranging from meeting with church elders, church safety, and public relations type activity.



Trinity United Methodist Church

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.

During their quarterly check-in, officers remind each church about the various programs we offer (safety checks, Youth Group Presentations, etc.).



Public Relations

Daycare Liaison Program

The PTPD is committed to providing efficient services to our community which include a proactive approach to community organizations. In 2024 PTPD started a daycare liaison program. An officer is assigned 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 take the time to visit the center to meet with the children.

There are currently 8 participating daycare centers in the program.

Citizen's Police Academy

In the fall of 2024, 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 subject. There were a total of 8 participants in the fall 2024 Citizen Police Academy and the spring session was cancelled.



Sgt Gary Orosz teaching during CPA



Sgt Andrew Greene teaching during CPA

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 Patrick Mazzotta during Drug Take

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.

Sixteen (16) classes were taught in 2024.



Officer Jarzynka teaching a Women’s self-defense class

Public Relations

Christmas Card Contest

Peters Township Police Department worked with McMurray Art Teacher Kelly Rutkowski for our annual holiday card design contest. Of the nearly 200 submitted entries, 5th grader Helen Youschak from Mrs. Skrok's homeroom was announced as the winner! In addition to having her artwork on the Police Department card, she received a framed copy of her artwork, a \$25 gift card and her homeroom received a pizza party!



Officer Hughes, Sgt. Scott, Captain Emery, Captain Brunetti, and Chief Glover with winner Helen Youschak

Community



Officer Stevick and Sgt Scott participated in neighborhood lemonade stand for charity



Public Relations

Law Enforcement Torch Run (LETR) for Special Olympics



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 annual Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics Pittsburgh Polar Plunge.

Public Relations

Station Tours



Officer Matthew Brand ,Officer James Hughes and Chief Joseph Glover 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.



Officer Mallory Jarzynka visited the Little Gym

Public Relations

Super Hero Night



Officer Jamie Hughes at Super Hero Night at the Peters Township Rec Center.

Community Day



Officer Patrick Mazzotta, Officer Mallory Jarzynka, Officer James Hughes and Cpl Kline at Community Day located at Rolling Hills Park.

Public Relations

Holiday Events



Officer Patrick Mazzotta and Sgt Spencer Scott participated in Trunk-or-Treat at Peterswood Park.



Officer John Weaver participated in a neighborhood Trick or Treat.



Officer Mazzotta participated in a neighborhood caroling event.

Staffing

In 2024 there were 732 shifts to staff. Of the 732 shifts a total of 621 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 2024 Number of Shifts Staffed with Three or More Officers

Shifts	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Average
6PM 6AM	44 of 52	42 of 53	42 of 53	41 of 52	39 of 52	41 of 52	44 of 52	80%
6AM 6PM	44 of 52	50 of 53	50 of 53	49 of 52	48 of 52	49 of 52	38 of 52	89%
Aver.	85%	87%	87%	87%	84%	87%	79%	85%

A total of 455.5 shifts were taken off and an additional 199 training days were scheduled for a grand total 654.5 of shifts. Listed below is a breakdown of that time off.

- 96 Sick Days.
- 337.5 Comp, Holidays, Personal, and Vacation Days.
- 15 Emergency days (Bereavement and Paternity.)
- 7 Injured on Duty Days
- 199 training days were scheduled to enhance the knowledge and professional development of our officers.



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 2024, the PTPD conducted eleven (10) such investigations. The investigations from 2024 can be broken down into two (2) basic categories as follows:

Citizen Complaints - 6

Internal Reviews - 4



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 2024 and were eligible for recertification by MPOETC.

In 2024, 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 2024, 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

FBI LEEDA-4

Instructor Development Training

Fire Emergency Service Instructor-1



Training and Education

Instructor Development Training (continued)

Firearms Instructor Course-2

Rifle Instructor Course-2

Standardized Field Sobriety Testing Instructor-2

Career Development Training

Accreditation Manager Training Course-1

Active Shooter Response Training-2

Ballistic Shield Operator Course-1

Critical Incident Response-2

Driver's Training-2

Field Training Officer (FTO) Training-2

GLOCK Armorer's Course-1

IACP Conference-3

LEO Takedown Seminar-1

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

Police Motorcycle Annual In-Service Training-1

Police Mountain Bike Annual In-Service Training-4

PA School Resource Officer Annual Conference-6

SHACOG Ceremonial Unit Training-1

SHACOG Crash Team Training-1

SHACOG Support Team Training-4

Solo Officer Rapid Deployment-2

Understanding Cognitive Interviewing For Use of Force-1

Training and Education

In-house Training (All officers attended the below mandatory in-house training in 2024.)

1st Quarter Training

Annual Firearms Qualification
Use of Force/Deadly Force Policy Review

2nd Quarter Training

Active Shooter Response
Virtual Reality Simulator Exercises

3rd Quarter Training

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

4th Quarter Training

Low Light Shooting Drills
Night Qualifications
Off Duty Shooting
Shooting with Speed



Training and Education

On-line training

In 2024, 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.