

2019

ANNUAL REPORT



Chief Annette M. Mecklenburg

CLEVELAND HEIGHTS POLICE DEPARTMENT

3/16/2020

## Goals & Priorities

- 1) Reduce crime and the fear of crime.
- 2) Strengthen the police-community relationship.
- 3) Develop strategies to recruit/retain a qualified and diverse workforce.
- 4) Training and employee development.
- 5) Explore opportunities for inter-municipal resource sharing.
- 6) Update the Police Department's Policies and Procedures Manual.
- 7) Identify alternative funding sources for Police Department resources and programs.

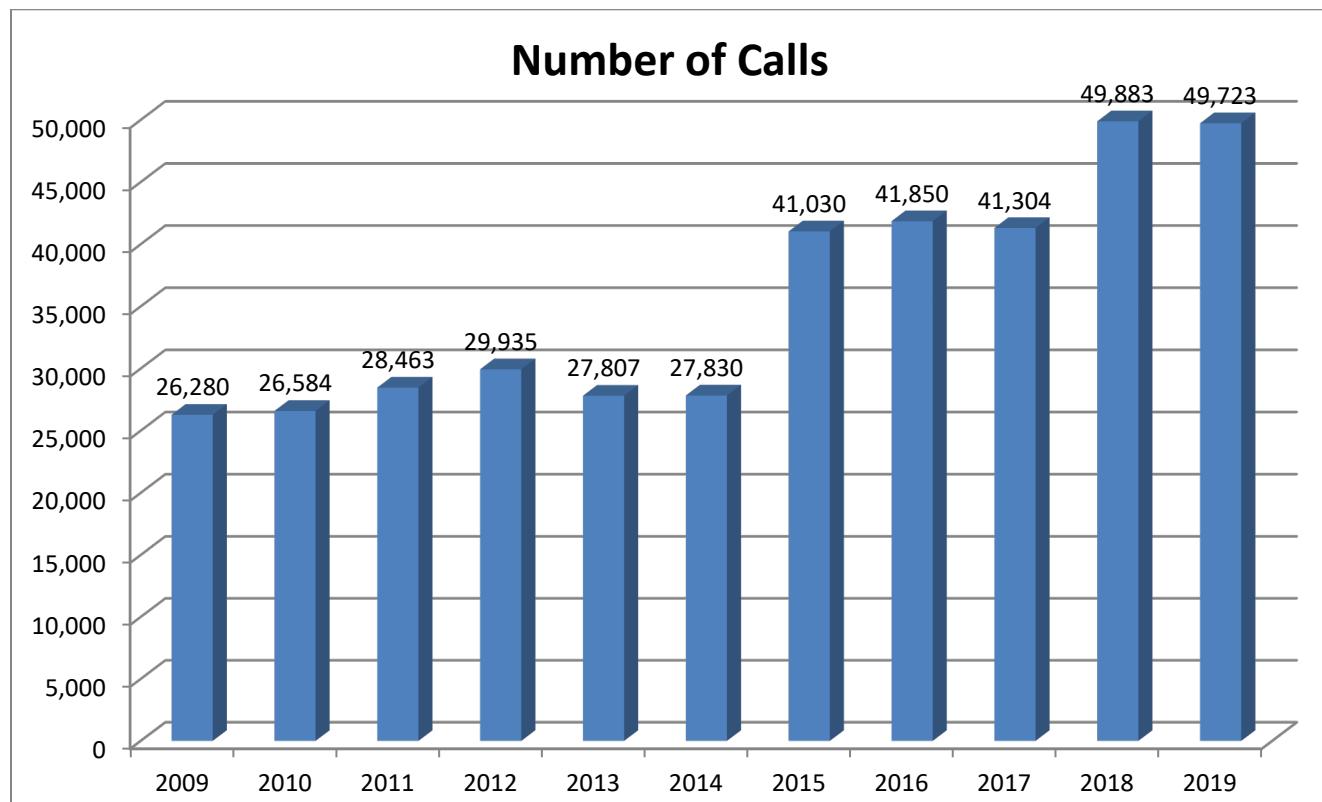
The following divisions, bureaus and specialized units of the Cleveland Heights Police Department are outlined as to their function and contribution to the fulfillment of the above long term goals during 2019.

# UNIFORM PATROL DIVISION

The Uniformed Patrol Division of the Cleveland Heights Police Department is composed of 4 platoons operating on a 12 hour schedule. This Division is the largest in the Department. Each platoon consists of 1 Lieutenant (Office in Charge), 1 Sergeant (Road Supervisor), and 9 Patrol Officers. This Division, commonly referred to as "Basic Patrol", is tasked with providing police services 24 hours/day, 7 days per week. Calls for service, while many being routine, are essential in providing an enjoyable, safe living environment.

For deployment of Uniform Division personnel, the City is divided into 13 "blocks." These blocks, commonly referred to as zones, correspond to census tracts. All personnel are intimately familiar with these areas and as such can be assigned into different zones over different time periods. Zones are also used in the Departments crime analysis function, Command Central. Command Central imports all call data from our CAD daily, placing each call for service in the appropriate zone. These calls for service can be "drilled" down to specific crimes or calls for service within specific zones which allows for proper deployment of personnel and strategies.

In 2019, Cleveland Heights Police were tasked with answering 49,723 calls for service which was slightly lower than in 2018. Beginning in 2015, a new policy was implemented that more accurately recorded these calls. Calls for service such as subpoena services, house watch checks, traffic stops, follow up investigations, assisting disabled motorists, traffic control, and civil complaints, in addition to others, are now recorded in Records Management as a call for service. Time spent on these service calls by police personnel is substantial and must be recorded accurately.



**Calls for Service**  
**01/01/2019 through 12/31/2019**



911	494	CARRYING CONCEALED WEAPON	1
ABANDONED VEHICLE	85	CHILD ABUSE-REPORTED	3
AGGRAVATED ROBBERY	1	CHILD ENDANGERMENT	5
AIU CALLOUT	1	CIVIL MATTER	205
ALARM DROP	3131	COMPLAINTS-BUSINESS	1
ALARM DROP - BANK ALARM	3	COMPLAINTS-FIREWORKS	67
ALARM DROP – STORM	1	COMPLAINTS-GENERAL	99
ANIMAL – BITE	13	COMPLAINTS-JUVENILE	565
ANIMAL – DEER	82	COMPLAINTS-SOLICITOR	58
ANIMAL – FOUND	157	COPPS	2
ANIMAL WARDEN DISPATCHED	2	COUNCIL MAIL – DELIVERED	78
ANIMAL- MISC.	1171	COUNTERFEITING	3
AREA CHECK	242	COURT	14
ARREST THROUGH TELECOMMS	1	COURT ARREST	5
ARSON	1	CRIMINAL DAMAGE	41
ASSAULT	105	CRIMINAL HISTORY CHECK	160
ASSAULT IN PROGRESS	4	CRIMINAL MISCHIEF	41
ASSIST-GENERAL	444	CROSSING GUARD DETAIL	218
ASSIST-OTHER DEPT	170	CURFEW	7
ATTEMPT TO LOCATE	4	CUSTODY DISPUTE	29
ATTEMPTED BURGLARY	1	DAMAGE TO PROPERTY	256
AUTO TOWED	150	DAMAGE TO PROPERTY CITY	1
BAR CHECK	71	DAMAGE TO VEHICLE	144
BARKING DOG	76	DEBRIS ON STREET	66
BIKE – THEFT	30	DEER KILL	7
BIKE CHECK	6	DEPARTMENTAL INFORMATION	645
BOLO	105	DETAIL	440
BOND PICK UP	3	DISABLED MOTOR VEHICLE	509
BREAK & ENTER - IN PROGRES	13	DISORDERLY	73
BREAKING AND ENTERING	63	DISORDERLY CONDUCT	1
BROADCAST	4	DISPUTE	137
BUILDING DEPART COMPLAINT	1	DISTURBANCE	1608
BURGLARY	55	DOA AND BODY FOUND	40
BURGLARY IN PROGRESS	6	DOMESTIC	101
BUSINESS CHECKS	384	DOMESTIC IN PROGRESS	27
BUSINESS COMPLAINTS	1	DRUG ARREST	1
BUSINESS WALK THRU	37	DRUG INVESTIGATION	6
CALL BOX CALL	35	EQUIPMENT FAILURE/MALFUNCT	43
CANCELLED	99	ERRANDS	15

ERRATIC DRIVER	220	MVA – DEER	8
ESCORT	348	MVA - HIT SKIP	226
FAMILY TROUBLE	159	MVA-PEDESTRIAN	9
FIGHT WITH WEAPONS	1	MVA-PRIVATE PROPERTY	157
FIGHT- DISTURBANCE	98	MVA-SELF REPORTED	4
FLEEING	1	NEIGHBOR TROUBLE	125
FOLLOW UP INVESTIGATION	1461	NOISE COMPLAINT	944
FOOT PATROL	2	NOTIFICATION	66
FOUND PROPERTY	161	OFF DUTY DETAIL	44
FRAUD	200	OFFICER BREAKS/LUNCH	2
FRAUD/TELECOMMUNICATION	1	OFFICER ENGAGEMENT	38
FUEL	2	ON THE AIR	1
FUNERAL DETAIL	2	OPEN BURNING	2
GYM DETAIL	1	OPEN CONTAINER	20
HARASSING-COMMUNICATION	119	OPEN DOOR	149
HARASSMENT-GENERAL	34	OVI-OPERATE VEH UNDER INFL	4
HIT CONFIRMATION	1614	PARK DETAIL	46
HIT CONFIRMATION WELFARE CHE	1	PARKING COMPLAINT	919
HOUSE WATCH	914	PARKING PERMISSION	77
IDENTITY THEFT	13	PARKING VIOLATION	375
ILLEGAL DUMPING	13	PHONE MESSAGE	128
INJURY TO OFFICER	11	PORTABLE	18
INJURY TO PERSON	2	POWER OUTAGE	3
JAIL	10	PREMISE CHECK	1032
JUVENILE-RUNAWAY	21	PRISONER CARE	73
K9-CALL OUT	37	PRISONER PICK UP	71
LASER	1	PRISONER RELEASE	449
LOCK-OUT HOUSE	6	PRISONER TRANSPORT	240
LOCK-OUT VEHICLE	972	PROBATE ORDER	8
LOST-MISSING PROPERTY	2	PROPERTY – FOUND	67
MENTAL SUBJECT	55	PROPERTY – LOST	175
MFF CALL OUT	4	PROPERTY – RELEASE	8
MISSING JUVENILE	127	PROT ORDER VIOL - IN PROGR	6
MISSING PERSON	40	PROTECTION ORDER VIOLATION	24
MISSING PROPERTY	2	PUBLIC ASSIST	49
MUTUAL AID, GIVEN	37	PURSUIT	5
MUTUAL AID, REQUESTED	37	RAPE	1
MVA	880	RECEIVE STOLEN PROPERTY	6
MVA MVA-PEDESTRIAN	1	RECORD CHECKS	6
RED PROPERTY	49	THEFT-FROM MAIL	1
REGISTRATION CHECK	54	THREATS	100
REPORT WRITING	27	TIME SERVER	12
REPOSSESSION	368	TOW – RELEASE	6
ROAD CLOSED	71	TOW-AUTO TOW	123

ROAD HAZARD	128	TRAFFIC ALTERCATION	26
ROBBERY	28	TRAFFIC ARREST / INVEST	12
ROLL CALL	23	TRAFFIC COMPLAINT	252
SALT CREW NOTIFICATIONS	13	TRAFFIC CONTROL DEVICES	205
SCHOOL BUS-LOAD/DISCHARGE	1	TRAFFIC DETAIL	82
SCHOOL DETAIL	102	TRAFFIC DETAIL/RADAR	12
SEARCH WARRANT	6	TRAFFIC DETAILS/COMPLAINTS	11
SERVICE DEPARTMENT	52	TRAFFIC SAFETY ENFORCEMENT	247
SERVING CITATION	1	TRAFFIC STOP	13100
SEX OFFENSE	32	TRAINING	9
SEX OFFENSE - IN PROGRESS	1	TRAINING-RANGE	1
SHIFT CALL IN	717	TRASH COMPLAINT	19
SHOPLIFTING	93	TREE DOWN	121
SHOPLIFTING IN PROGRESS	37	TRESPASSING	113
SHOTS FIRED	155	UNAUTHORIZED USE	58
SICK CALL	54	UNRULY JUVENILE	57
SNOW/ICE COMPLAINTS	5	UNWANTED GUEST	348
SOLICITING	79	UTILITIES-PUBLIC	446
SPECIAL ATTENTION	811	VANDALISM	20
STOLEN VEHICLE	89	VEHICLE MAINTENANCE/WASH	27
SUBPOENA SERVED	109	VEHICLE TRESPASS	1
SUICIDE/SUICIDAL	101	WALK AND TALK	2
SUSPICION	1506	WARRANT SERVICE-ARREST	291
SUSPICIOUS DEVICE/PACKAGE	13	WEAPONS OFFENSE	29
SUSPICIOUS PERSON	665	WELFARE CHECK	1062
SUSPICIOUS VEHICLE	634		
SWAT CALL OUT	10	<b><u>TOTAL</u></b>	<b><u>49723</u></b>
TECH TEAM CALLOUT	8		
THEFT (MAJOR) IN PROGRESS	6		
THEFT (PETTY) IN PROGRESS	79		
THEFT FROM AUTO/UNLOCKED	6		
THEFT FROM MAIL	2		
THEFT-FREE TEXT	626		



**Cleveland Heights Police**  
**Animal Calls for Service 01/01/2019 through 12/31/2019**

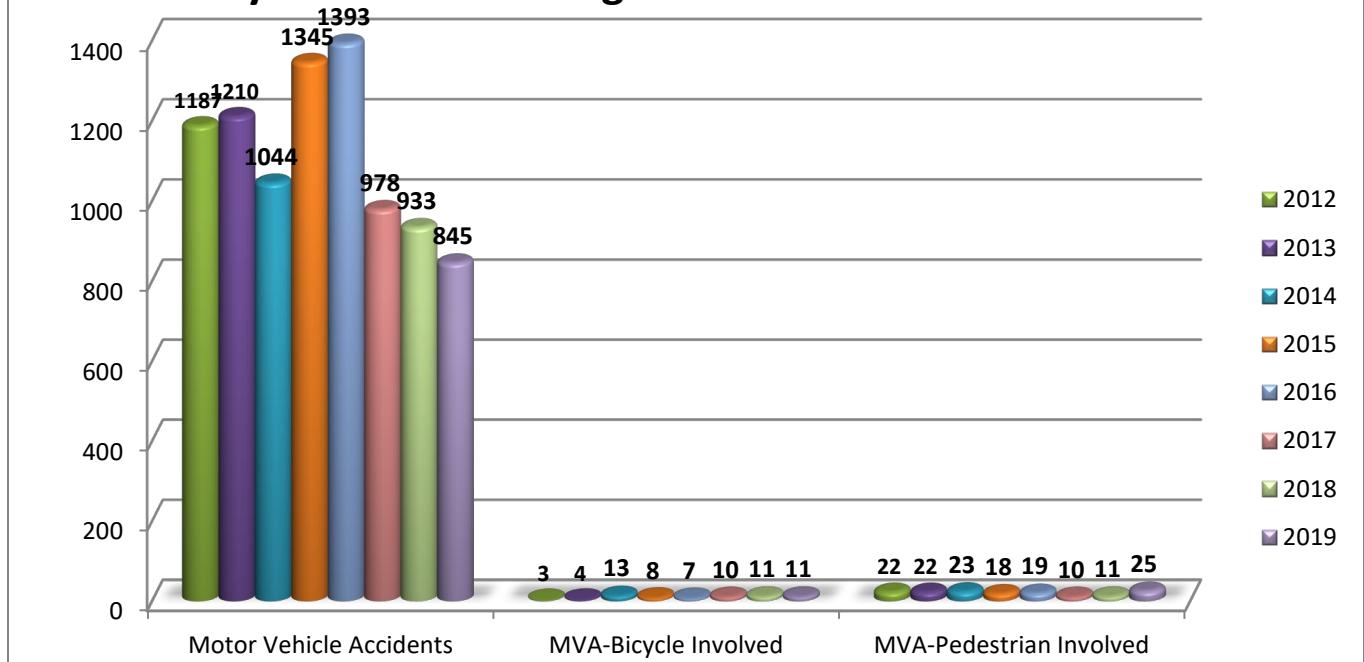
ANIMAL - FOUND	157
ANIMAL BITES	13
ANIMAL- MISC.	1171
ANIMAL- DEER	82
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b><u>1423</u></b>

## **TRAFFIC SAFETY BUREAU**

In 2019, the supervisor of the Day Shift Traffic Safety Bureau was Sgt. Benedict Osowski. Traffic Safety personnel are assigned to either 7:00 am – 3:00 pm , 9:00 am – 5:00 pm, . or 10:00 am – 6:00 pm, seven days a week. Currently 1 Police Officer and 10 Basic Patrol Officers are assigned to the Traffic Bureau. The Officers assigned to this Bureau perform a variety of duties including motorized patrol, foot patrols, A.L.I.C.E. training and participation in area school programs. Foot Patrol “beats” includes Cedar/Fairmount, Coventry, Lee Rd (Cedar south to Dellwood) and the Taylor Rd. /Noble Rd. districts. All foot patrol officers are assigned police vehicles which are conspicuously parked in the districts while the officer is on foot patrol.

Although the investigation of traffic accidents falls to the Uniform Division personnel, the Traffic Bureau plays an important role in the reduction of traffic crashes. Traffic Officers have as their main responsibility traffic law enforcement while working under the principal of “selective enforcement”. Police officers cannot enforce all traffic violations within their jurisdiction. Under the selective enforcement principal, personnel and equipment are placed into an area based on a study of the kinds of violations and road conditions that contribute to collisions. By reducing these selective violations, collision numbers should follow. In addition, Officers assigned to this unit are responsible for addressing resident complaints such as speeding and stop sign violations. The chart blow shows the number of collisions reported to police over the previous eight year period.

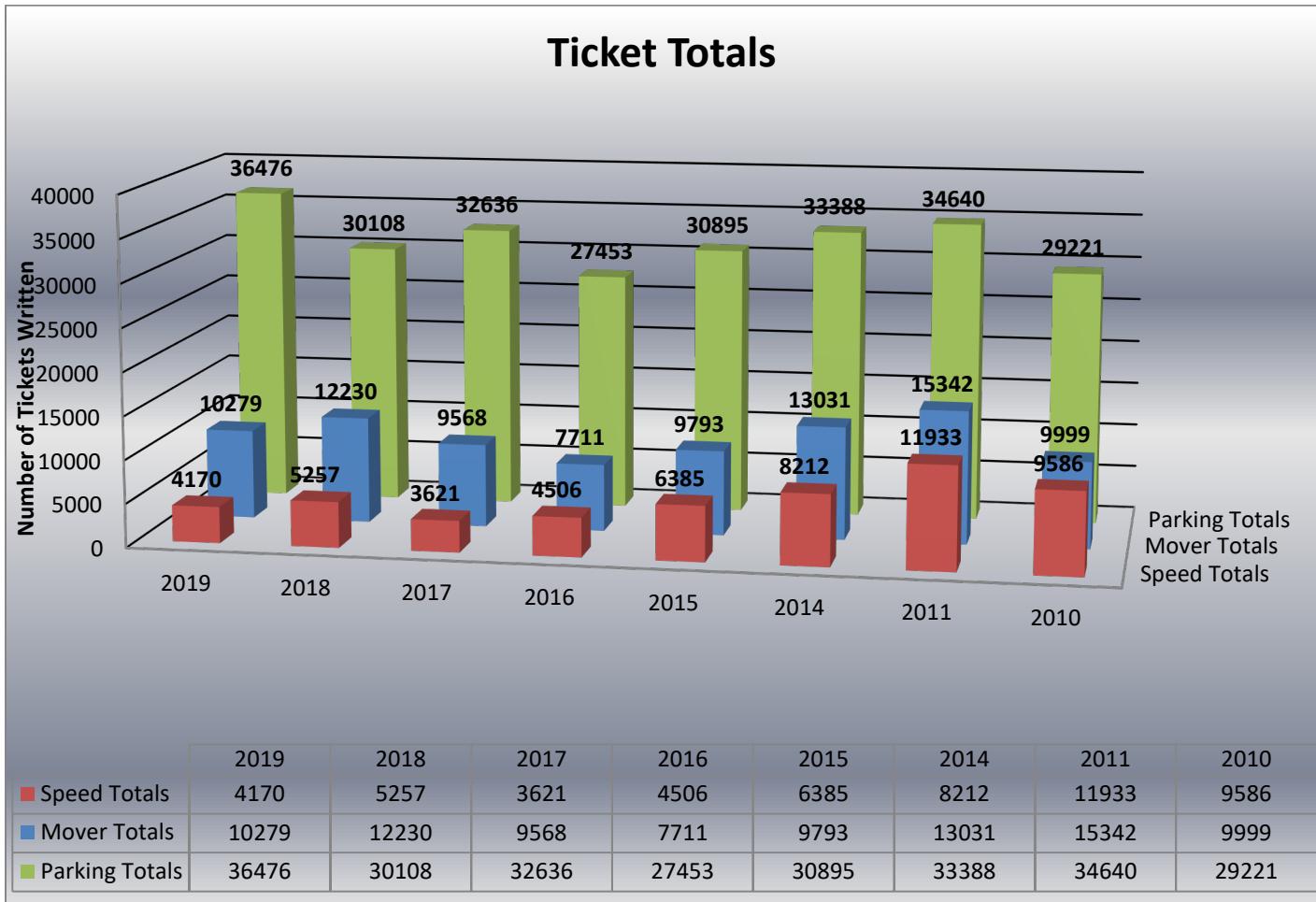
## City of Cleveland Heights Motor Vehicle Accidents



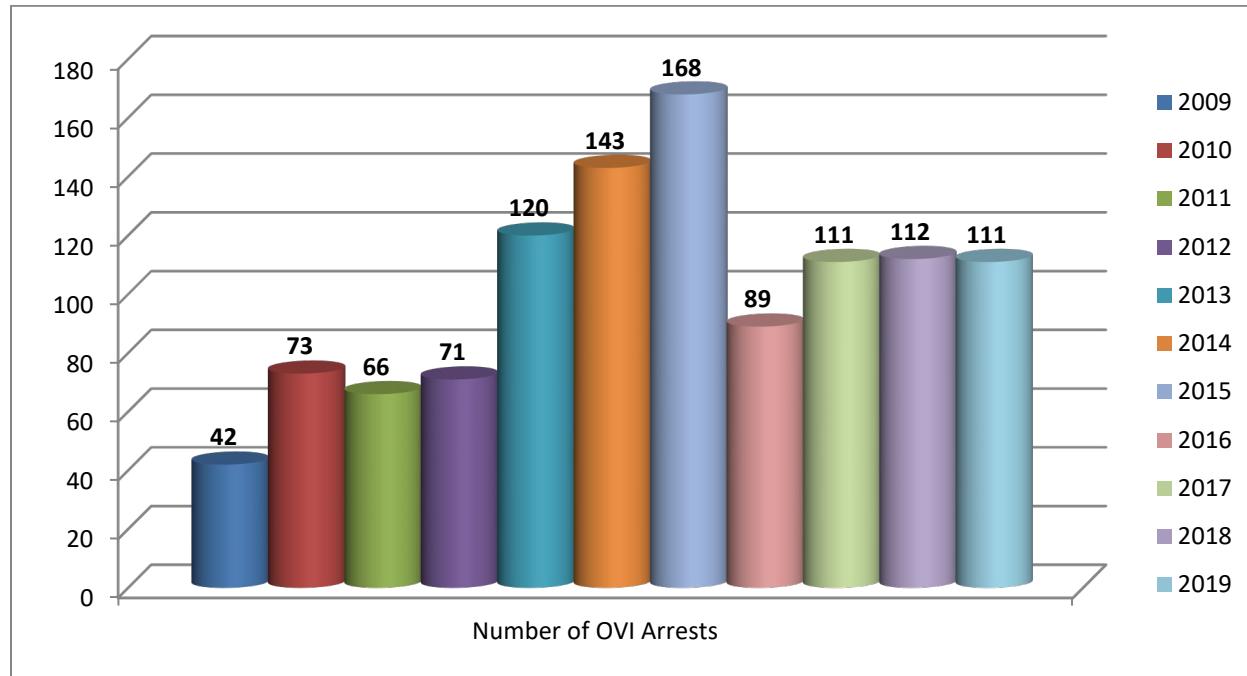
Year	<u>Motor Vehicle Accidents</u>	<u>MVA-Bicycle Involved</u>	<u>MVA- Pedestrian</u>
2012	1187	3	22
2013	1210	4	22
2014	1044	13	23
2015	1345	8	18
2016	1393	7	19
2017	978	10	10
2018	933	11	11
2019	845	11	25

Other assignments for these officers include citizen complaints (speed/stop sign violators), school zone speed enforcement, parking violations (meter enforcement, abandoned vehicles etc...), impaired driving enforcement and the impoundment of unsafe vehicles to name a few.

Selective enforcement strategies implemented and enforced by only those assigned to this bureau would not be sufficient in reducing the number of collisions. All Uniformed Cleveland Heights Police Officers are actively involved in traffic enforcement. See chart below.



OVI enforcement totals for the previous eleven years.



In 2019 CHPD was the recipient of Community Traffic Safety Platinum Award presented by AAA. This is the third year in a row that the Police Department has received this prestigious award. The Platinum Award, AAA's highest honor, is given to "Commendable Leaders" for their safety efforts and enforcement activities geared towards making communities safer. Cleveland Heights was among the sixteen Northeast Ohio Police Departments to be honored with the Platinum Award for outstanding efforts in making the City's roadways safer for motorists, bicyclists and pedestrians.



## **DETECTIVE BUREAU**

In 2019 the Detective Bureau was under the command of Captain Christopher Britton and Sgt. David Speece. The Bureau is divided into two platoons with four general duty detectives assigned to each. In addition, three detectives are assigned to Federal Task Forces. Detectives work an eight hour schedule, Monday – Friday with two Detectives “on call” during weekend and holiday hours. Platoons rotate as a unit each month and are assigned either the 0800-1600 or the 1600-0000 shift.

The Detective Bureau investigates felony and serious misdemeanor cases primarily forwarded to them from the Uniform Division. In 2019 the Bureau investigated a total of 505 felony and misdemeanor cases and 42.6% of those cases were closed with an arrest or some type of criminal prosecution.

Detective Falisa Berry is assigned to investigate criminal cases involving juveniles. She is responsible for the filing of the paperwork with the Juvenile Court and to coordinate the Cleveland Heights Police Department’s diversion program. Six juveniles successfully completed Diversion in 2019. Twelve are currently participating in the program and 22 other juveniles were offered diversion but have not entered the program yet.

Chart 1 shows the number of UCR – Part 1 crimes reported from 2011 through 2019. Chart 2 shows the clearance rates of CHPD for the years 2011 through 2019. Charts 3 – 10 show the clearance rates of Cleveland Heights versus the national average of department in our size classification.

There is a small upturn in the Murder rate this year, but all other violent crimes are down from last year. From 2018 to 2019 we have experienced a -24.5 % change in violent crimes. Property crimes have remained almost static since last year dropping only 2.4%.

The Detective Bureau handled 505 cases last year. Each detective averages 63 cases per year and, on average, clears 42.6 % of those cases with an arrest or some type of criminal prosecution. The detective bureau has a combined 298.5 years of experience between its 15 members. Chart #15 (part 1 and 2) shows the number of cases assigned throughout the past five years and individual detective clearance rates. Also included is a total clearance and total case load.

The detective bureau is also assigned background investigations for new hires. 26 background checks were completed by our seven certified background investigators. These investigators certify that all prospective employees meet or exceed the department’s code of conduct and minimum qualifications. These detectives complete home visits, neighbor canvasses, social media investigations and voice stress tests to insure the we are hiring the best qualified people for the job of police officer.

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## 2011 – 2019 Uniform Crime Reporting Data

	MURDER	RAPE	ROBBERY	AGG. ASSAULT	BURGLARY	THEFT	AUTO THEFT	ARSON
2011	1	7	102	33	318	1051	100	0
2012	0	14	113	50	320	1359	83	7
2013	2	6	97	42	255	1236	78	4
2014	2	10	55	37	187	923	116	2
2015	3	8	53	33	128	826	90	1
2016	3	9	83	55	117	783	98	4
2017	2	16	79	34	125	659	99	1
2018	3	12	48	31	63	552	95	4
2019	4	6	38	23	109	519	67	2

Chart #1

Violent crimes encompass Murder, Rape, Robbery and Aggravated Assaults.

Total number of violent crimes in 2018 = 94

Total number of violent crimes in 2019 = 71

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{Percent change from 2018 to 2019} &= \frac{\text{Violent Crime}_2 - \text{Violent Crime}_1}{\text{Violent Crime}_1} \times 100 \\
 &= \frac{71 - 94}{94} \times 100 \\
 &= \underline{\underline{-24.5\%}}
 \end{aligned}$$

Property crimes encompass Burglary, Theft, Auto Theft, and Arson.

Total number of property crimes in 2018 = 714

Total number of property crimes in 2019 = 697

Percent change from 2018 to 2019

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= \frac{\text{Property Crime}_2 - \text{Property Crime}_1}{\text{Property Crime}_1} \times 100 \\
 &= \frac{697 - 714}{714} \times 100 \\
 &= \underline{-2.4\%}
 \end{aligned}$$

### 2011 - 2019 Uniform Crime Clearance<sup>1</sup> Rates for Cleveland Heights

	MURDER	RAPE	ROBBERY	AGG. ASSAULT	BURGLARY	THEFT	AUTO THEFT	ARSON
2011	100%	71.4%	55.8%	60.1%	21%	27.6%	12%	66%
2012	-	85.7%	56.6%	94%	25.6%	24.5%	12.0%	57.1%
2013	100%	100%	54.6%	97.6%	30.1%	24.8%	23%	75%
2014	100%	100%	52.7%	89.1%	31.5%	23.1%	23.2%	100%
2015	100%	100%	47.1%	90.9%	31.2%	19.7%	11.1%	100%
2016	67%	100%	53.5%	81.4%	22.2%	16.9%	16.3%	25%
2017	100%	81.2%	31.6%	82.3%	22%	17.4%	7%	0%
2018	66.7%	58.3%	52.1%	87.1%	12.7%	14.5%	11.6%	25.0%
2019	100%	66.7%	36.8%	69.6%	12.8%	20.2%	13.4%	0%

Chart #2

### 2012 Uniform Crime Clearance Rates for C.H.P.D. Versus Similar Sized Reporting Agencies<sup>2</sup>

	MURDER	RAPE	ROBBERY	AGG. ASSAULT	BURGLARY	THEFT	AUTO THEFT	ARSON
C.H.P.D.	-	85.7%	56.6%	94%	25.6%	24.6%	12.0%	57.1%
Other Agencies <sup>2</sup>	67.6%	35.2%	33.2%	59.3%	13.6%	26.8%	14.2%	22.3%

Chart #3

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## 2013 Uniform Crime Clearance Rates for C.H.P.D. Versus Similar Sized Reporting Agencies<sup>2</sup>

	MURDER	RAPE	ROBBERY	AGG. ASSAULT	BURGLARY	THEFT	AUTO THEFT	ARSON
C.H.P.D.	100%	100%	54.6%	97.6%	30.1%	24.8%	23%	75%
Other Agencies <sup>2</sup>	65.2%	37.2%	33.4%	59.8%	14.3%	27.3%	15.4%	23.7%

CHART #4

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## 2014 Uniform Crime Clearance Rates for C.H.P.D. Versus Similar Sized Reporting Agencies<sup>2</sup>

	MURDER	RAPE	ROBBERY	AGG. ASSAULT	BURGLARY	THEFT	AUTO THEFT	ARSON
C.H.P.D.	100%	100%	52.7%	86.5%	31.6%	23.1%	23.3%	100%
Other Agencies <sup>2</sup>	67.7%	40.8%	34.4%	58.8%	14.1%	27.9%	15.5%	25.2%

CHART #5

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## 2015 Uniform Crime Clearance Rates for C.H.P.D. Versus Similar Sized Reporting Agencies<sup>2</sup>

	MURDER	RAPE	ROBBERY	AGG. ASSAULT	BURGLARY	THEFT	AUTO THEFT	ARSON
C.H.P.D.	100%	100%	47.2%	87.9%	29.7%	19.7%	10.0%	100%
Other Agencies <sup>2</sup>	64.4%	34.9%	33.2%	56.9%	13.6%	27%	14.8%	23.3%

CHART #6

## 2016 Uniform Crime Clearance Rates for C.H.P.D. Versus Similar Sized Reporting Agencies<sup>2</sup>

	MURDER	RAPE	ROBBERY	AGG. ASSAULT	BURGLARY	THEFT	AUTO THEFT	ARSON
C.H.P.D.	67%	100%	53.5%	81.4%	22.2%	16.9%	16.3%	25%
Other Agencies <sup>2</sup>	61.7%	32.1%	33.9%	55.3%	13.6%	25.7%	14.9%	24.1%

CHART #7

## 2017 Uniform Crime Clearance Rates for C.H.P.D. Versus Similar Sized Reporting Agencies<sup>2</sup>

	MURDER	RAPE	ROBBERY	AGG. ASSAULT	BURGLARY	THEFT	AUTO THEFT	ARSON
C.H.P.D.	100%	81.2%	31.6%	82.3%	22%	17.4%	7.1%	0%
Other Agencies <sup>2</sup>	63.5%	32.0%	34.1%	56.0%	14.5%	24.5%	15.4%	23.9%

Chart #8

## 2018 Uniform Crime Clearance Rates for C.H.P.D. Versus Similar Sized Reporting Agencies<sup>2</sup>

	MURDER	RAPE	ROBBERY	AGG. ASSAULT	BURGLARY	THEFT	AUTO THEFT	ARSON
C.H.P.D.	66.6%	58.3%	52.1%	87.1%	12.7%	14.5%	11.6%	25%
Other Agencies <sup>2</sup>	66.7%	31.7%	34.7%	57.9%	15.1%	25.0%	15.6%	26.2%

Chart #9

## 2019 Uniform Crime Clearance Rates for C.H.P.D. Versus Similar Sized Reporting Agencies<sup>2</sup>

	MURDER	RAPE	ROBBERY	AGG. ASSAULT	BURGLARY	THEFT	AUTO THEFT	ARSON
C.H.P.D.	100%	66.7%	36.8%	69.6%	12.8%	20.2%	13.4%	0%
Other Agencies <sup>2</sup>	N/A <sup>3</sup>							

Chart #10

- **UCR Closure Criteria** - Law enforcement agencies can clear, or “close,” offenses in one of two ways, either by arrest or by exceptional means. To clear an offense within the UCR Program’s guidelines, the agency must adhere to specific criteria.
- **Cleared by Arrest** - In the UCR Program, a law enforcement agency reports that an offense is cleared by arrest, or solved for crime reporting purposes, when three specific conditions have been met. The three conditions are that at least one person has been (i) arrested; (ii) charged with the commission of the offense; and (iii) turned over to the court for prosecution.
- **Cleared by Exceptional Means** - In certain situations, elements beyond law enforcement’s control prevent the agency from arresting and formally charging the offender. When this occurs, the agency can clear the offense exceptionally. Law enforcement agencies must meet the following four conditions in order to clear an offense by exceptional means. The agency must have (i) identified the offender; (ii) gathered enough evidence to support an arrest, charge, and prosecution; (iii) identified the offender’s location; and (iv) encountered a circumstance outside the control of law enforcement that prohibits the agency from arresting, charging, and prosecuting the offender. One example would be the death of the offender, such as a murder-suicide, where the offender was known to have committed a murder and subsequently committed suicide before being charged and prosecuted.

## **² Similar Sized Reporting Agencies** - Agencies with total population of 25,000 - 49,999.

<https://www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis/ucr-statistics-their-proper-use>

<sup>³</sup> As of 1/24/2020, the 2018 FBI UCR Data Report is unpublished. Preliminary data is available but clearance rates are not published.

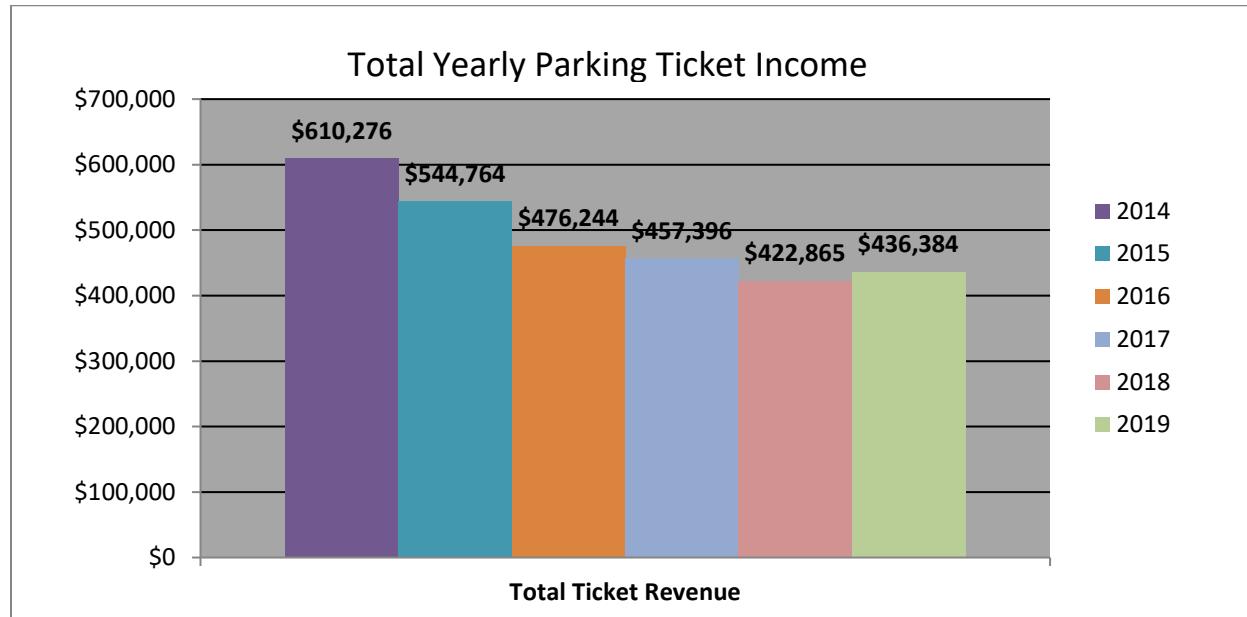
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**Please Note: Beginning in 2021, the FBI will be transitioning from the Summary Reporting System collection of the UCR Program to focus on the data collected through NIBRS – National Incident Based Reporting System. This will help to improve the nation’s crime data through greater specificity of offenses. In addition to eliminating the Summary Reporting System Hierarchy Rule which collects only the most serious offense in an incident, NIBRS captures up to 10 offenses per incident and specifies more offense categories than SRS. In order to fully prepare to make this transition, the Police Department began the process of transitioning to the NIBRS based reporting in 2019. One of the most noticeable changes that can be seen in the 2019 crime stats involves the category of Burglary. Prior to 2019, this category only included the actual crime of burglary. However, beginning in 2019 and in all future years, the category of Burglary will also include the crime of Breaking & Entering. As a result of adding B & E to this category, there is a noticeable increase in the crime rate for this category. If each crime was examined separately and to put things in perspective, we had 51 Breakings & Enterings and 58 Burglaries, for a total of 109 crimes in the Burglary category in 2019. Compared to 2018, in which 63 burglaries were reported, we did experience a slight decrease in the sole crime of burglary in 2019.**

# Auxiliary Services Bureau

In 2019, the Auxiliary Services Bureau was under the command of Captain Jeremy Young. In this position, Captain Young supervises Animal Control, Records/Data Entry personnel, and the Terminal Agency Coordinator. In addition, Captain Young oversees the Fleet Maintenance Unit (in conjunction with Public Works). Captain Young also acts as the liaison between the Police Department and the Heights Hillcrest Communication Center.

The Records/Data Entry Unit is staffed by three full time personnel and one permanent part time person. Personnel in this unit are responsible for the processing of all police reports, approximately 8,500 annually, requests for public records and parking violation data input. In 2019, approximately 33,000 parking tickets were issued. Income totaled \$436,384. Personnel further coordinate with the Municipal Court in processing delinquent parking tickets and also establish the monthly delinquent tow list. By ordinance, those vehicles with three or more outstanding parking citations, can be towed if found within the Municipality.



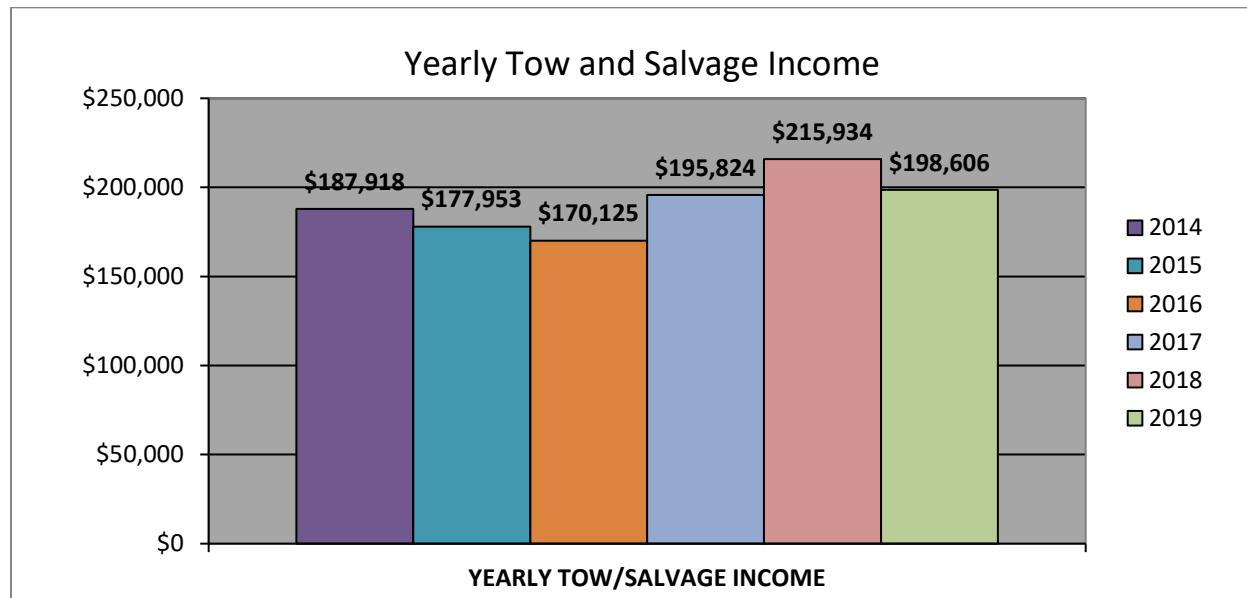
Animal Control is staffed with one Basic Patrol Officer. In 2019 animal complaints included 157 Found Animals, 1171 Miscellaneous Animal Complaints (includes Barking Dogs), 82 Animal Complaints involving Deer and 13 Animal Bites for a total of 1423 calls for service. Uniform Division personnel handle the majority of these cases with the officer assigned to this unit handling the more serious incidents, along with follow up investigation, such as dog bites and animal cruelty cases. In addition to his duties, this officer also assists M.I.S. personnel in the development and maintenance of the Departments CAD/RMS and the in-car computers (MDTs).

The Terminal Agency Coordinator position was held by Basic Patrol Officer Diana Taylor, a 27 year veteran of the force. The TAC Officer is responsible for assuring compliance with LEADS standards in the operation of LEADS approved equipment. LEADS, or the Law Enforcement Automated Data System, is the computer network housing all information that law enforcement officers have access to while completing their official duties.

Overall security of the LEADS system falls to the Ohio Highway Patrol. The TAC is directly responsible to the agency administrator for the operation and security of the LEADS system. The TAC is also responsible for training and certification of all police personnel having access to LEADS.

Under her direction, CHPD received outstanding results from the LEADS annual audit and also the technical audit performed by the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

The Police Department also works closely with Public Works regarding the impounding of motor vehicles. Vehicles are impounded for a variety of reasons including, but not limited to, parking violations, arrests, accidents, and unpaid parking tickets. Motor vehicles that are not claimed after a specified length of time despite proper notification are then salvaged. Below is a chart showing the income generated as a result of vehicles impounded and salvaged.



## **SPECIALIZED UNITS**



Safety Forces Night Out August 6, 2019.

## **Community Response Team (CRT)**

The Community Response Team as a whole are two units each comprised of a Sergeant and uniformed officers. Six of these officers comprise the Cleveland Heights Police Department Bike Patrol. The Sergeants in Charge of the CRT report directly to the Chief of Police for assignments and to report progress on the unit's current initiatives. In early 2019, the Community Response Team added several additional officers to the unit to continue to expand its outreach to the community.

The following are activities that the CRT provides directly to Cleveland Heights Residents:

- Provide services and support to the youth of Cleveland Heights through participation in school programs such as assemblies, school classroom visits, Safety Town activities, bicycle safety programs and other activities associated with the schools and other organizations.

- Utilize the resources of the CHPD such as Bike Patrol Officers, K-9 units and other units in order to accomplish their current assignment.
- Communication with neighborhood association leaders in the city.
- Participation in neighborhood meetings.
- Provide a direct person contact within the Police Department for these associations.
- Participation in weekly “Meet Your Police” meetings.
- Responsible for the completion of all Citizen/Police Interaction forms (#2174)
- Provide a direct contact person in the Police Department for business owners/representatives within the City. One officer assigned as Business Liaison Officer-Currently Investigator Tyler Allen.
- Meet with Special Improvement District (SIDS) representatives.
- Responsible for other community centered initiatives assigned by the Chief of Police.



**Boulevard Blast**

2019 was another successful year for the Community Response Team. Over the course of the year, the CRT was able to increase the spectrum of our diverse community policing initiatives. We were able to strengthen our relationships with Cleveland Heights Residents through the continuation of some very popular CRT programs, such as Safety Town, the Bicycle Patrol Officers, Coffee with a Cop, We are Noble, Shop with a Cop, Safety Forces Night Out, Citizens Police Academy and ALICE Training. We were also able to build new relationships and services to the Community through the creation of new programs and services including Dog Walker Watch, Pizza with the Police, Cupcakes with the Cops and Fill the Cruiser.

In 2019 the Community Response Team continued providing our popular and successful Community Policing Initiatives. Six Officers were assigned to the CRT from the CHPD's Bicycle Patrol. The Bike Unit officers had another very successful year, patrolling on bikes from May 1<sup>st</sup> until the Sep 30<sup>th</sup>. The main areas of patrol are the city parks, business districts, and residential side streets. The Bike Officers also attend and perform community outreach at Bike Rodeos, Summer Camp programs, block parties, street fairs, block watch meetings, instruct at Safety Town, and advise residents on Crime Prevention and Awareness tips. Bike officers are responsible for citing and arresting offenders committing offenses in our city parks, pools and green spaces. Bike Officers also provide additional security at Cain Park for Arts Festivals, Concerts, Coventry Peace Park Movie nights, and have a presence at each of the Special Investment Districts Street Fairs.

CRT Officers also conduct monthly seminars at the senior citizens center, and attend Block Association meetings to advise residents on crime trends in Cleveland Heights. CRT Officers had an activity filled year. ALICE Training continued throughout the CH/UH school year. An acronym, standing for Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter, and Evacuate, is a training program designed to prepare individuals to handle the threat of an active shooter. Several Officers assigned to the CRT are qualified as ALICE instructors, and training programs were conducted at various schools, businesses and Houses of Worship throughout the City of Cleveland Heights.

Started in 2011, CRT officers continued to chair all weekly "Meet Your Police" meetings. Meetings are held each Thursday in the lower level of City Hall from 6:00-8:00 pm. Since February of 2014, the first meeting of each month is held at the Police Academy located at 2595 Noble Rd. Issues discussed include juvenile complaints, drug activity, traffic safety, housing violations, roadway conditions, animal complaints and current events to name a few. All issues addressed at the meetings are documented and forwarded to the Chief of Police who directs the complaint to the proper City Department for action. Residents are notified of the final disposition.

The CRT participated for the ninth year in the Shop with a Cop program, sponsoring families to buy presents at Christmas. In 2019 we were able to purchase gifts for five children over the Holiday season.

Below are some highlights of the many community events the CHPD participated in throughout 2019:



Heights High Boys Varsity Basketball Team vs. the Officers  
Of the Cleveland Heights Police Department



Inv. Allen collecting donations for Fill the Cruiser.  
Thanks to the generosity of our residents, the CHPD  
collected 803 pounds of non-perishable food items  
for the Heights Emergency Food Center.



CHPD Officers at Shop with a Cop in 2019.



Cupcakes with the Cops at Bouji Bakery



Dog Walker Watch Howl-O-Ween Celebration



CHPD Officers at the Coventry Candy Crawl



Coffee with the Cops at Starbucks



Newest Officers to join the Bicycle Unit



CHPD Officers participating in the Law Enforcement Torch Run to raise awareness and funds for the Special Olympics.



CHPD Officers at Canterbury Elementary School's All Geared Up Bike Event

In 2019, CHPD participated for the sixth straight year in the community event “Safety Forces Night Out.” Again we were joined by the Cleveland Heights Fire Department. Despite the rain, the event was even more successful and the turnout was incredible.



The Community Response Team will continue to strive to provide excellence in community policing, and looks forward to serving our residents in 2020.

## **K9 Unit**

In 2019, two additional K9's were added to the Unit. K9 Dodo, with his handler Inv. Brian Ondercin, and K9 Rambo, with his handler Officer Justin Weir, completed six weeks of training at Shallow Creek in Sharpsville, Pennsylvania, and successfully obtained their certification for the State of Ohio. Both K9s are dual purpose, certified in both narcotic's detection and tracking. Dodo and Rambo join K9, Jax, and his handler is Inv. Thomas Harris. Throughout the year, the K9s attended many community events including visits to schools and Safety Forces Night Out. Due to the success of our K9 Unit, the Police Department will be adding an additional K9 in 2020.



K9 Dodo and K9 Rambo at their swearing-in ceremony with City Council.

## **CRIME SUPPRESSION TEAM (CST)**

The Crime Suppression Team is a flexible unit responsible for responding to criminal activity within the City, based on crime pattern information and crime trends as identified by C.H.P.D. analysis. As an example, CST investigations have been focused on residential burglaries. Undercover details, arrests and relentless follow up investigations have resulted in a decrease in overall crime. Officers assigned to CST work in “plain clothes” utilizing non-descript undercover vehicles.

The Crime Suppression Team is staffed by Sergeant Christopher Skok, three detectives and one Basic Patrol Officer. Since the establishment of the Crime Suppression Team in January 2012, the team has executed over 208 search warrants, seized over \$2.4 million in currency, numerous weapons to include assault rifles and large amounts of illegal narcotics. The 78 arrests made in 2019 were primarily felony arrests involving illegal narcotics, weapons and crimes of violence. Members work closely with the FBI Violent Crimes Task Force, Drug Enforcement Administration, Cleveland Police Department and other surrounding local police departments.

# 2019 Statistics

CRIME SUPPRESSION TEAM	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
SEARCH WARRANTS EXECUTED	32	24	27	21	22	17	28
ARRESTS BY CST	59	108	85	76	85	72	78
HANDGUNS SEIZED	15	11	10	9	18	21	20
SHOTGUNS SEIZED	2	1	0	2	0	0	1
ASSAULT RIFLES SEIZED	3	3	0	2	0	0	1
VEHICLES SEIZED	1	2	4	0	1	2	1
CURRENCY SEIZED	\$332,679	\$71,306	\$58,354	\$161,171	\$67,346	\$75,971	\$1,710,437
JEWLERY SEIZED				\$500,000			
MARIJUANA	11.8 lbs	19.8 lbs	84.5 lbs	74.0 lbs	58.8 lbs	6.3 lbs	34.6 lbs
THC DISTILLATE							9954 gm
THC VAPE PENS							1014
THC WAX/DABS							56 gm
COCAINE	3205.6g	316 gm	212 gm	204 gm	399.4 gm	369 gm	20,135
HEROIN	182 gm	37 gm	52 gm	2 gm	282.7 gm	12 gm	2,617 gm
HEROIN BINDLES				76 Bndls	0	0	
FENTANYL-Powder				2.2 lb	11 gm	6 gm	2107 gm
CARFENTANIL							174 gm
METHAMPHETAMINE							1,820 gm
FENTANYL-Pill				969 pill	0	0	
A total of 208 Search Warrants have been executed since the establishment of the Crime Suppression Team, January 1, 2012							

## **EASTSIDE DEPARTMENTS GROUP ENFORCEMENT(EDGE)**

The Eastside Departments Group Enforcement (EDGE) consists of six communities: Cleveland Heights, Shaker Heights, Beachwood, Euclid, South Euclid, and University Heights.

### **SPECIAL WEAPONS AND TACTICE (SWAT)**

All SWAT members have successfully completed a Basic SWAT school through the Ohio Tactical Officers Association (OTOA) or through the Ohio Peace Officer Training Academy (OPOTA). Ongoing training occurs twice per month for all members. Currently there 63 Officers on the EDGE SWAT team. The SWAT team is comprised of not only SWAT officers, but also SWAT medics, K9 officers, negotiators and Bomb Squad Members. In 2019 there were 26 SWAT deployments throughout the six municipalities. Of those 26 deployments, 19 involved the execution of narcotics search warrants, 4 involved barricaded subjects, and 3 involved arrest warrants.

### **MOBILE FIELD FORCE (MFF)**

In 2016 CHPD joined several other eastside Police Departments to form a regional Mobile Field Force Unit. The MFF is comprised of 40 officers from the six departments, seven of which are from Cleveland Heights. With one member retiring in 2020 and another member resigning from the group, we will be adding to additional members. Members are required to train one a month as a unit. The unit received its initial training through FEMA in Anniston, Alabama. Since their formation, the unit continues to train one day per month.

In 2019 the MFF had four deployments to the EDGE communities and no mutual aid deployments. Three of the deployments occurred in University Heights and one in Shaker Heights. All four of the deployments resulted in use of force incidents.

### **ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION UNIT (AIU)**

The AIU was established in mid-January 2018 and is comprised of nine members, two of which are from Cleveland Heights. The unit trains once per month. In 2018, the AIU responded to six accident scenes: three times for fatal accidents and three times for non-fatalities scenes to assist in taking measurements and diagramming the scene. In 2019 AIU responded to scene of 13 accidents; six of which were fatal accidents and seven with serious injuries. One of the biggest benefits of these unit is cost savings, both in personnel and equipment costs associated with investigating serious accidents and fatalities.

# **Juvenile Diversion**

On January 21, 2014, the establishment of the Juvenile Diversion/ Mentoring Program was authorized by Cleveland Heights City Council. It was hereby declared to be an emergency measure immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and security of the inhabitants of the City of Cleveland Heights, such emergency being the need to establish this program so that juveniles may be assisted without undue delay.

## **Mission Statement**

*Our mission, in conjunction with the Cuyahoga County Court of Common Pleas- Juvenile Division is to provide an effective comprehensive alternative to status / unruly and first-time offenders. The program will provide an opportunity for the child along with his/her family to correct self-defeating, life altering behaviors in lieu of an official referral to the juvenile court system*

## **Objectives**

- ▶ To re-direct juvenile offenders from delinquent or anti-social behavior
- ▶ To reduce the recidivism rates of juvenile offenders within the City of Cleveland Heights and surrounding suburbs
- ▶ To decrease the risk factors associated with delinquent behaviors
- ▶ Strengthen and support families through increased parental involvement

## **Criteria**

- ▶ Cleveland Heights arrest or referral from CCJCD
- ▶ Offense committed within the city limits of Cleveland Heights and/or resident within the city limits of Cleveland Heights
- ▶ First time offender
- ▶ Non-violent offender
- ▶ Must take full responsibility for offense
- ▶ Parent/ Guardian participation
- ▶ Signed consent form

## How Community Diversion Works

### City of Cleveland Heights



### Cuyahoga County



The Cuyahoga County Juvenile Court refers eligible candidates for diversion to an appropriate diversion program. In cases where community diversion is deemed appropriate, eligible candidates will be referred to the community diversion program either where they reside or where the offense occurred.

Once the court has referred a child to a community diversion program, the program will contact the parents and child, either by mail or by telephone to inform them that their child is eligible to participate in the community's diversion program, as an alternative to official court action.

The Community Diversion Program is a twelve-month program. Participation commences with a hearing before the community diversion program's volunteer magistrate during which appropriate sanctions or services are determined. Participants must complete the sanctions and follow through with services determined at the hearing. In addition, children must not re-offend within the twelve months following the hearing. Failure to complete sanctions and other program requirements or to abide by program rules will result in termination from the program. Termination from the program may include an official referral to the Cuyahoga County Juvenile Court for the original offense.

Participation in any community diversion program is voluntary. No child will be permitted to participate without parental or guardian consent. Parents are required to participate; at least one parent must attend the diversion hearing with the child.

The contract between Juvenile Court and the City of Cleveland Heights to develop and implement the program commenced on March 1, 2014. The program is

funded by Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Court, Juvenile Division. The City receives \$700/month for program activities.

Detective Falisa Berry of the Cleveland Heights Police Department continues to serve as the program coordinator. Detective Berry was previously assigned to the patrol division. She serves as the group facilitator for the participants of the Cleveland Heights community 'Diversion Program.'

The Diversion Program has continued to invite guests and mentors with whom participants can readily identify through ethnicity, race, plight or other circumstances. The exposure to these elite individuals increases the focus and attention during the weekly discussions.

## 2019 Statistics

Mailed Letters returned	Cases returned to Juv. Ct.	Expected for 1st quarter of 2020	Currently in the program	Complete
4	7	15	12	11

The Diversion Program continues to partner with the following agencies as we move forward in meeting our goals:

Bellfaire JCB

Lake Erie Ink



# Police Academy

The Cleveland Heights Police Academy, commissioned by the Ohio Attorney General in 1973, completed its 46th year of operation in 2019. Captain Geoffrey Barnard is the Commander of the Police Academy. Over 3,000 police officers from more than 130 police departments have graduated from the Academy during this period. The Academy has continually ranked with one of the highest State test scores of any academy in the state.

In addition to training police officers, the Police Department also conducts a Citizens Police Academy. Due to the lack of enrolment, the Academy class scheduled for 2019 was canceled. However, based on the success it has received in the past a sixth Citizens Police Academy is planned for 2020. Residents who attend the Citizens Police Academy are exposed to a wide variety of specialized police skill areas including:

Ohio criminal law	Civil liability	Laws of arrest
Search and seizure	Search warrants	Criminal investigation
Drug investigations	Self-defense techniques	Patrol techniques
Traffic enforcement	Domestic violence	OVI
SWAT tactics	K-9 handling	Forensic analysis

The Cleveland Heights Police Academy continued to be an excellent example of community policing with its students continuing to be a positive, energetic influence in the Noble neighborhood. Additionally in 2019, the Academy continued to host Noble Neighborhood association meetings, Meet Your Police Meetings and is now the meeting place for the Citizens Police Academy Alumni Association.

In addition to his duties as Academy Commander, Captain Barnard is currently the Jail Administrator. Built in 1986, the Cleveland Heights Jail is a twelve day holding facility. A total of 2362 persons were booked into the jail in 2019. All adults arrested and processed are held until they post bond, are sentenced or are transferred to a longer term facility. The jail has the capacity to hold 12 adult inmates and consists of two female cells, eight male cells, two holding cells and one detox cell. Juvenile offenders are not held in the jail facility and are required to be separate from adult inmates in both sight and sound. As such, all juveniles brought into CHPD custody are held in the Roll Call Room under direct supervision by the arresting officer.

In 2018, the first Cleveland Heights Police Youth Academy was held in August. There were 15 youth who participated and ranged in age from 12-16. In 2019 the Youth Academy was held in June and approximately six kids participated in the week long event. The kids were instructed by several officers from the PD and were instructed in such topics as Bike Patrol, Evidence Processing, Laws of Arrest, Search and Seizure and SWAT/Bomb Squad/K9. The feedback from both the kids that participated and their parents was very positive and many expressed interest in sending their kids to next year's youth academy.

There was no cost for the kids to attend the academy and they were provided lunch everyday which gave them the opportunity to get to know many of the officers on the Police Department. The program was open to all kids that reside in Cleveland Heights or attend one of the schools located within the City.

## **Continued Professional Training**

In 2019 the State of Ohio did not require any mandatory Continued Professional Training for Police Officers. However, CHPD will continue to train its Police Officers above and beyond what is required by exploring and implementing training programs for our Police Officers. In addition, all members of the Police Department completed eight hours of Active Threat Training, which included both classroom and scenario-based training. All training aids, including simunition guns, ammunition, face masks and gloves were provided at no cost by the State of Ohio.

Members of the Department received extensive training in many different fields of study. The following is a list of topics studied by CHPD personnel in recent years:

- Procedural Justice and Police Legitimacy
- Interacting with & De-escalating Special Needs Population
- Computer Data Recovery
- Active Shooter Preparation
- Search Warrant Preparation and Execution
- Patrol Drug Operations
- Conducting Background Investigations
- Reid Technique for Interviewing
- Mid-level Management
- Hazmat & WMD Awareness for the First Responder
- Combat Marksmanship
- Great Lakes Leadership Seminar
- Internal Investigations
- Evidence Technician
- Less lethal munitions
- Crisis Intervention Team Training
- Police Training Officer (train the trainer)
- Basic Crime Scene
- Special Needs Population and LE
- Critical Survival Skills for LE
- Firearms Instructor
- Traffic Collision – Vehicle Dynamics
- Internet Investigations
- Latent Print development
- Sexual Assault Investigations.
- Cross Culture Communications
- Counter Ambush Tactics for Law Enforcement
- Internet Investigations
- Bias Crimes Investigations
- Fraudulent Documentation Investigation
- Drug ID and Field Testing
- BAC Data Master Senior Operator (Alcohol Testing Equipment – OVI cases)
- Arrest – Search and Seizure
- Physical Fitness Specialist
- Radar/Lidar Instructor
- Warrant Service/Tactical Team Training
- Police Executive & Administrative Leadership School
- Palm Print Comparisons
- Advanced SWAT Training
- Human Relations
- Core Criminal Investigation
- Heroin Epidemic
- Hostage Negotiations – Advanced
- Procedural Justice
- Domestic Terrorism
- Interacting with the Muslim Population
- Survival Spanish
- Suicide Intervention
- Patrol Drug Operations

# **CHPD Bomb Squad**

Members of the Bomb Squad are assigned to the unit as a secondary assignment. Sgt. Michael Meilstrup of the Uniform Division is the Bomb Squad Commander. Det. Michael Mathis of the Detective Bureau is also a member of the unit. Both Officers are also classified as Certified Bomb Technicians. In 2018, the Police Department assed three new Officers who are classified as Bomb Technician Assistants: Robert McKeown, Matthew Gerstenfeld, and Michael Hill. The bomb tech assistants perform many important tasks such as operating the x ray equipment, equipment maintenance, and providing assistance to the technicians during bomb callouts.

The unit is fully equipped with all equipment necessary equipment including a bomb robot, bomb disposal equipment and a bomb squad truck. In 2019 the Department continued the relationship with other EDGE communities and began training with the SWAT team on occasion. In addition, a third bomb technician from the City of Beachwood was added to the unit. A fourth bomb technician has been approved for 2020.

All bomb technicians are required to train 16 hours per month and the bomb assistants train with the technicians 8 hours per month. In addition, members of the Bomb Squad attend yearly training courses and participate in exercises with other bomb units in the area.



# **CHPD HONOR GUARD**

*“Honor-Respect-Service”*

The Cleveland Heights Honor Guard unit is comprised of volunteer members of the Police Department and is headed by Inv. Michael Mathis, Corporal of the Guard. The unit is activated for memorial events, funerals, parades and other formal occasions. Other Cleveland Heights Police Officers who comprise the Honor Guard include: Sgt.. Matthew Lasker; Det. Thomas Rini; Officer Sean Hinkle; and Officer Dallas Guyton. Two additional Officers have been approved to join the Honor Guard in 2020 and they include Officer Tyler Freeman and Officer Gina Iacco.



# **2019 HIGHLIGHTS**

- 6th annual Community Safety Forces Night Out in conjunction with National Night Out in August 2019
- 2nd Annual Youth Police Academy
- 9th year participation with “Shop With a Cop” event.
- CHPD Facebook page reaches over 8600 followers
- Upgrades to business district camera program continues.
- Continued “ALICE” training in public and private schools, businesses and churches
- Participation in numerous block parties, neighborhood meetings, school programs
- Continued extensive training for all Departmental personnel, including entire department trained in Active Threat Response
- Participation in Coffee with the Cops, Cupcakes with the Cops and Pizza with the Police
- Participation in “We Are Noble” Noblefest.
- Recipient of AAA’s highest honor, Platinum Award, for third year in a row.
- Continued Regionalization with Dispatch Center – HHCC, EDGE SWAT, EDGE MFF, EDGE AIU, and Bomb Squad
- Implementation of Dog Walker Watch Program
- Added two new K9s to the Unit
- Participated in “Fill the Cruiser” event to benefit Heights Emergency Food Pantry
- Continued participation in the Law Enforcement Torch run to benefit Special Olympics
- Participation in Candy Crawls in business districts
- Participated in basketball game against Heights High Varsity Team