



2021

ANNUAL REPORT

Courage • Integrity • Compassion

ODESSA POLICE DEPARTMENT

**310 S First Street
Odessa, MO 64076**



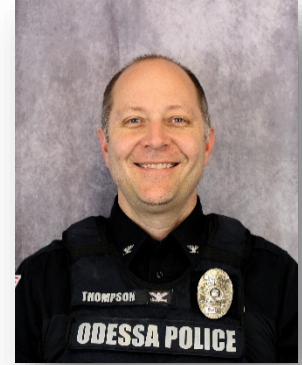
Odessa Police Department

310 S First Street • Odessa, MO 64076

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A message from the

Chief



The overall narrative surrounding law enforcement in Odessa has been very positive. Our community recognizes the type of policing that we represent and continues to support our work. I consider our police department the “cream-of-the-crop” within our region. While we are not perfect – I often remind my staff that we are human and as such we make mistakes – I would put our policing efforts up against any other police department in the nation.

It is truly satisfying when I see a vibrant, active and social community that is engaging with the local police department. I try to use social media to share the department accomplishments with the city as it is a great tool to share positive messages with the public. With so many achievements in 2021, it was difficult for me narrow them down to just a few, but if you go to our social media page you will see a historical account of our most notable successes.

2021 was a year with many challenges including the continuing pandemic, social unrest, and legal changes involving law enforcement. Yet, through all of 2021, the police officers and civilian employees with the Odessa Police Department continued their pledge to bring the Odessa community “Service with Integrity.” We are dependable, loyal public servants. It is important to us that the public we serve sees us as professional, honest, empathetic and compassionate humans trying to make a difference in our community.

This comprehensive report will reflect upon the many activities and assignments the Odessa Police Department accomplished in 2021.

I am proud of the police officers and civilians within our organization who have shown resiliency, courage and dedication during a very challenging year. And our entire department is proud to serve Odessa. Our success is directly tied to community involvement. By establishing partnerships with each other, we can understand one another, identify problems, and provide meaningful solutions.

Respectfully,

Josh Thompson, Chief of Police

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Odessa Police Department is to work in partnership with the community, to protect human life, safeguard property, respect and preserve the rights of all individuals equally, and endeavor to enhance the quality of life for all who live in Odessa.

Dedication

to the community, this department, and one another

Respect

for our residents, each other, and ourselves

Integrity

in which our actions will reflect our honesty

Accountability

to answer for our actions and decisions

Courage

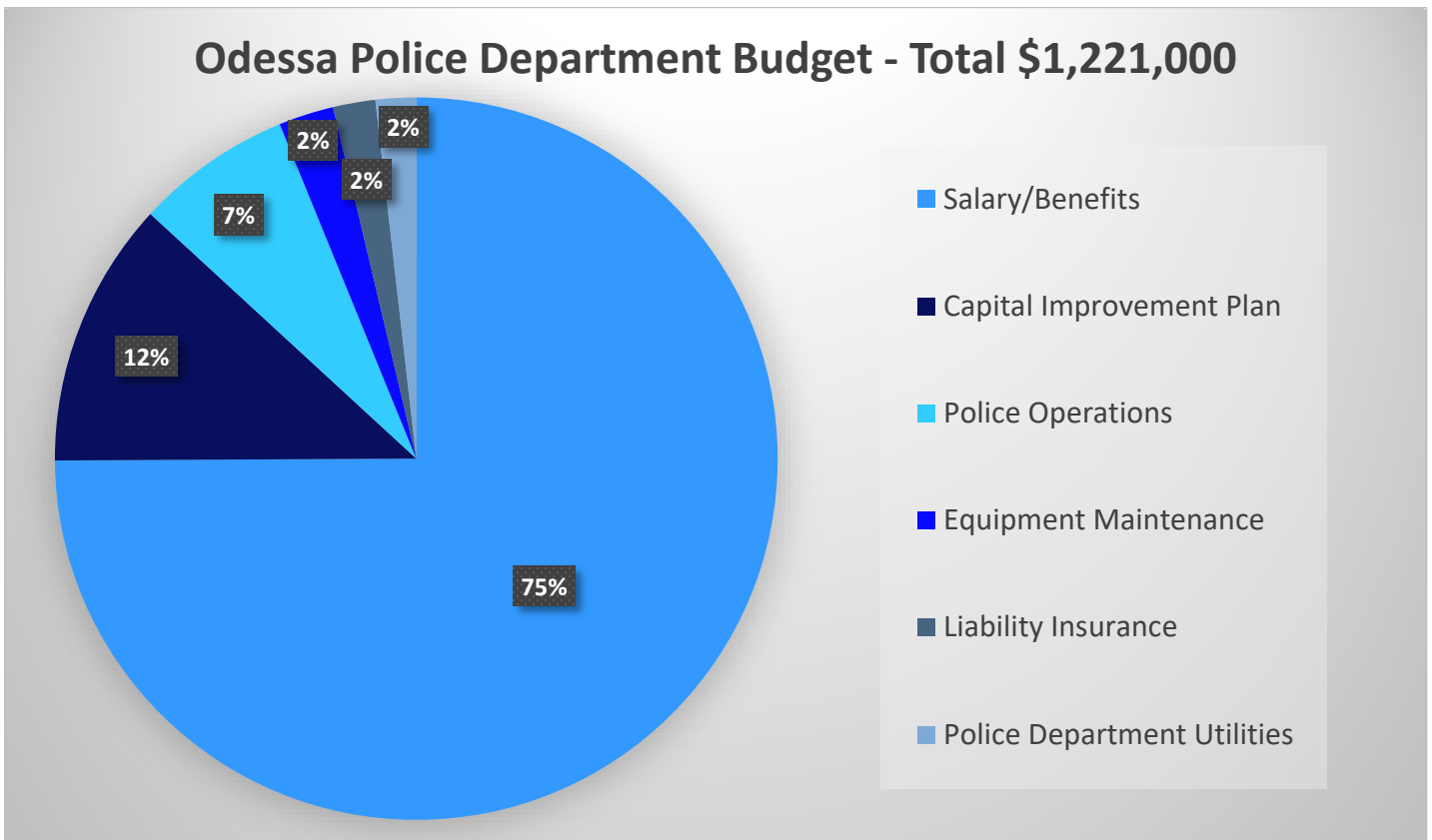
to be steadfast in the face of challenges

Police Department

The Odessa Police Department is responsible for police services to the City of Odessa, twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week. This is accomplished with a staff of 11 full-time officers, six reserve officers, one animal control/nuisance compliance officer, and one clerk working out of the police building located at 310 S First Street in Odessa.

The 11 commissioned officers include one Chief of Police, one Captain, one Lieutenant, one Sergeant, two Detectives, one School Resource Officer, and four Police Officers. The fleet of vehicles include twelve vehicles that are utilized for patrol and traffic enforcement, one specially marked vehicle used by the School Resource Officer, one Police K9 vehicle, and one truck used by an animal control/nuisance compliance officer.

Officer duties are varied. They are expected to investigate crime scenes, participate in community outreach programs and conduct traffic enforcement. They are responsible for patrolling neighborhoods and responding to a variety of calls for service ranging from noise complaints to family violence. The basic nature of an officer's job is both the most exciting and most dangerous because they never know what the next dispatched call or encounter will be. They must be alert at all times for their safety and the safety of the community they serve, while at the same time being an approachable servant to the citizens of Odessa.



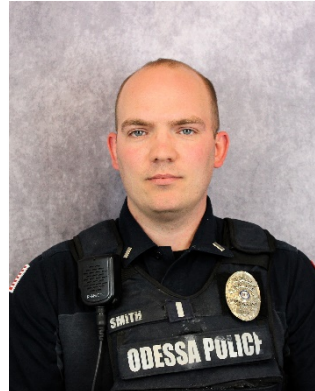
Department Roster



Josh Thompson
Chief



Leland "Bubba" Liese
Captain



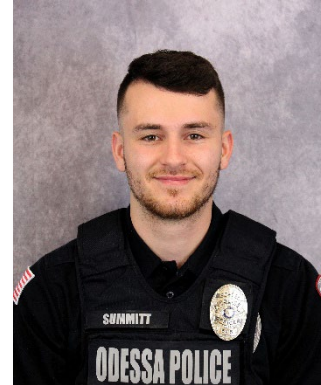
Cody Smith
Lieutenant



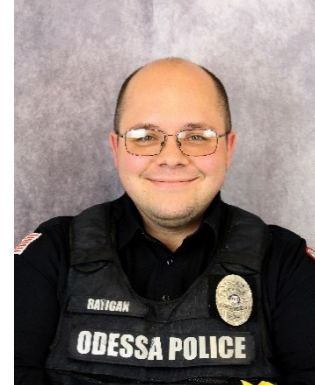
Phillip Salmon
Detective



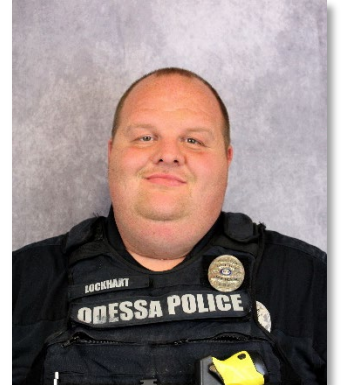
Greg Daniel
School Resource Officer



Austin Summitt
Officer



Dyllan Ratigan
Officer



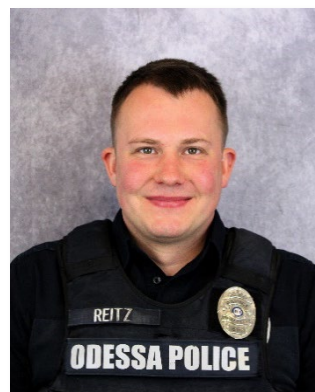
Andrew Lockhart
Officer



Derek Zarda
K9 Officer



Daniel Melchioris
Officer



Dallas Reitz
Sergeant



Jenny Riedl
Police Clerk

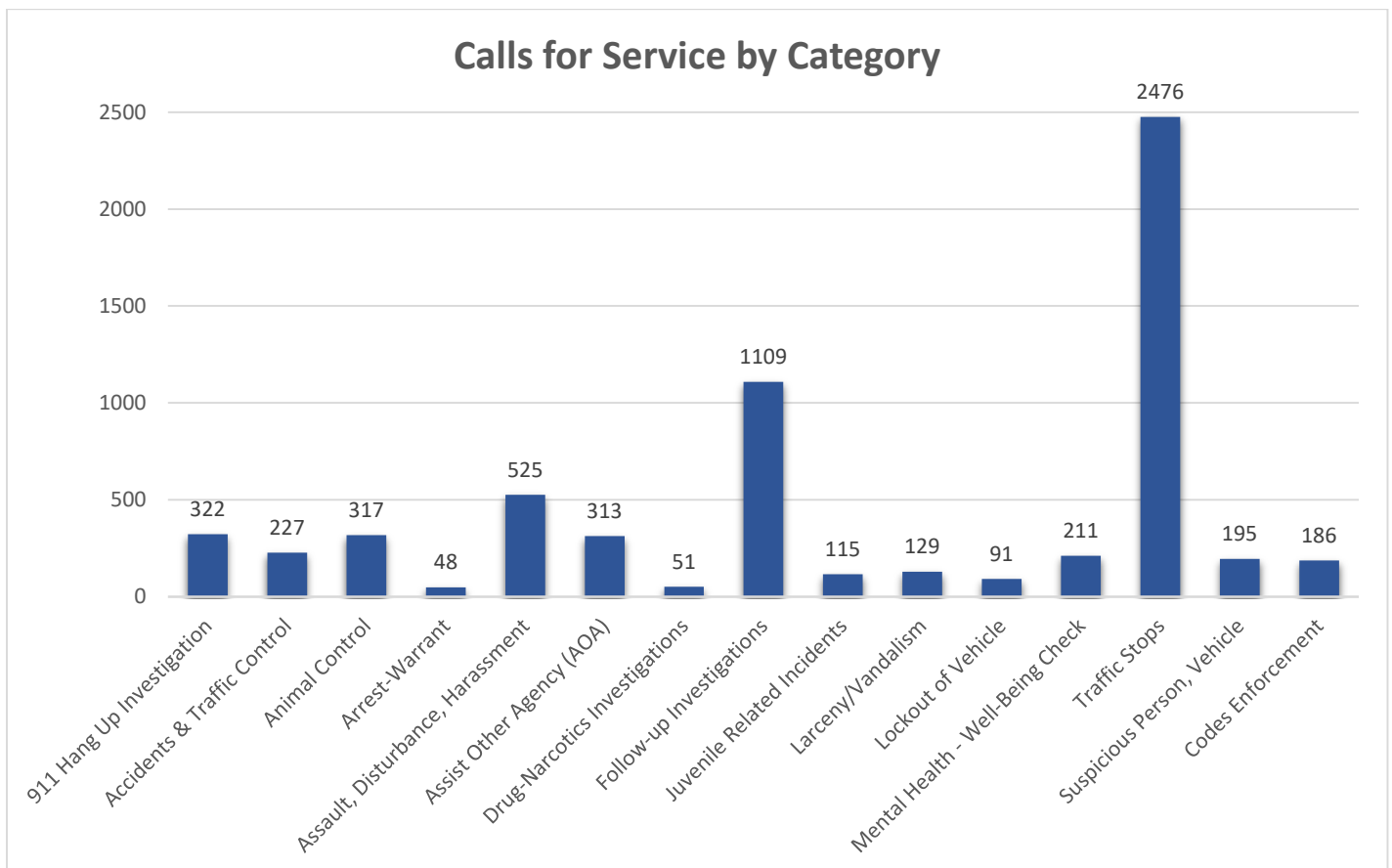
Calls for Service

9,377
CALLS FOR SERVICE

5 MIN
AVERAGE RESPONSE TIME

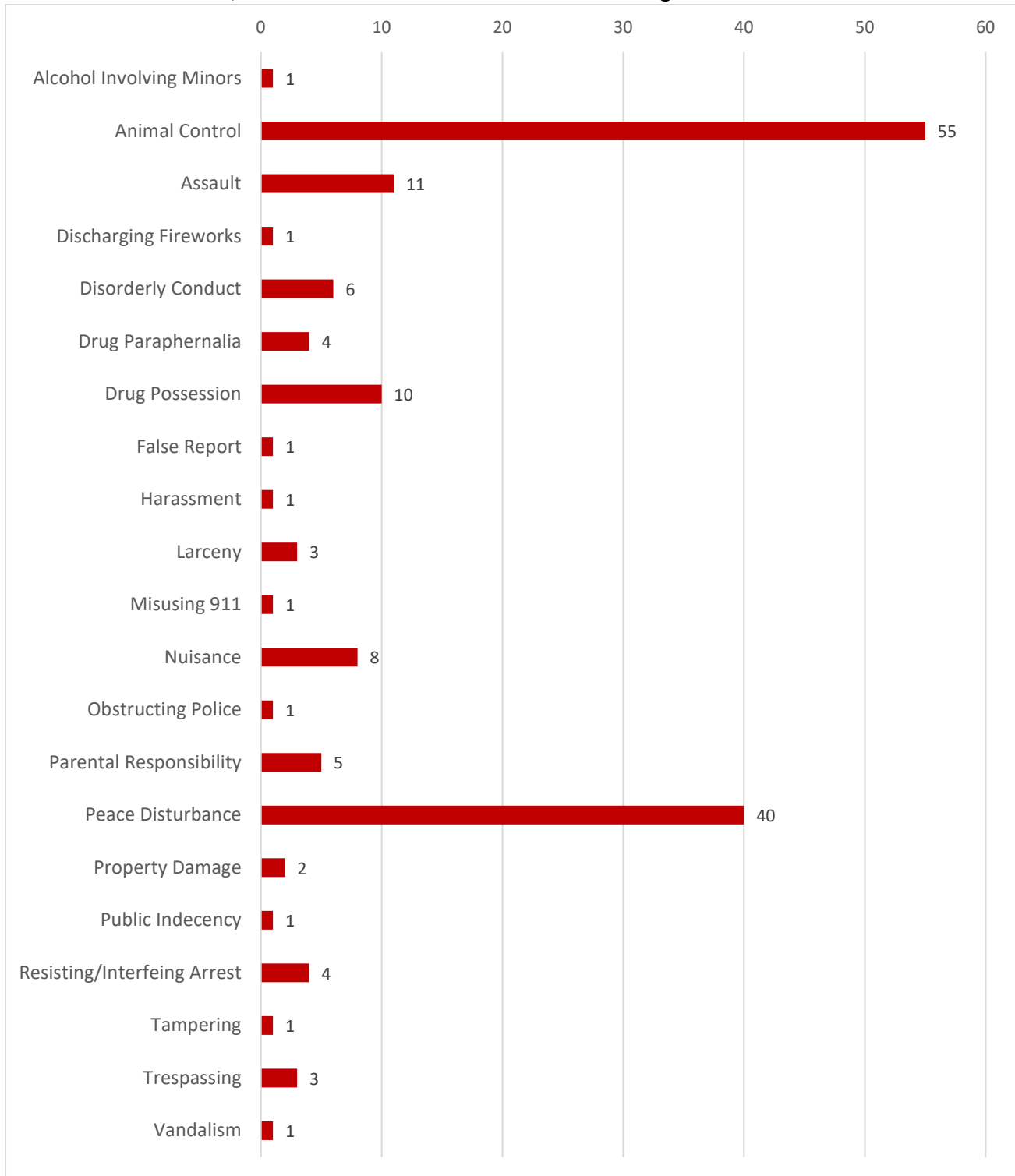
29 MIN
AVERAGE TIME ON SCENE

In 2021, the Odessa Police Department received 9,377 calls for service, compared to 7,558 calls for service in 2020. The average response time was 5 minutes with an average of 29 minutes spent on scene. Our officers receive a wide variety of calls ranging from simple ordinance violations, to business checks, to assaults. The chart below doesn't show every category of calls received but rather some of the more frequent and/or notable.



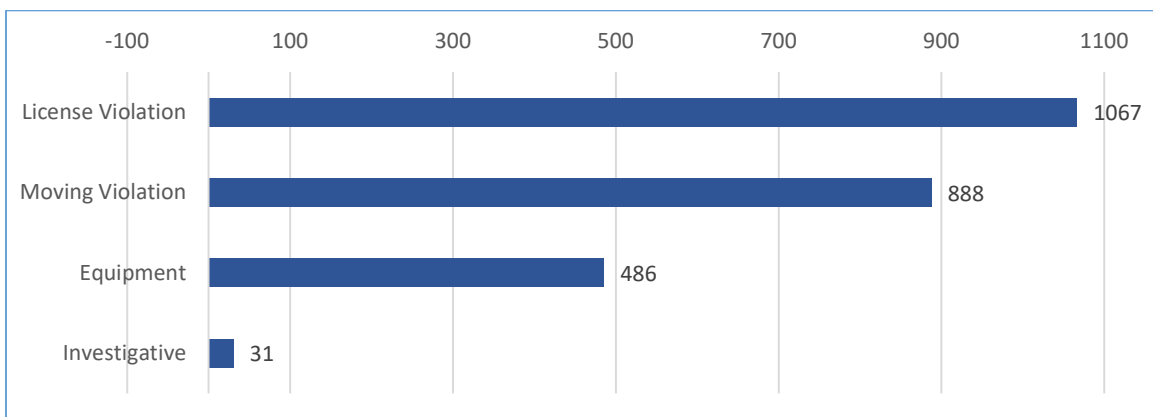
Non-Traffic Citations Issued

The chart below shows the types of citations issued in 2021 that were not traffic related. Please note that many incidents investigated by the Odessa Police Department are not issued city tickets but rather sent to the State Prosecutor's Office. In 2021, 192 cases were State submitted and charged.



Traffic Analysis

Our officers conducted 2,472 traffic stops in 2021, compared to 1,834 in 2020. Of those stops, approximately 1 out of 5 were given citations. In addition, the majority of those stops were drivers that lived outside of Odessa city limits, with only 34% living within our jurisdiction. License violations (ie, expired plates) were the primary reason for stops, followed by moving violations (ie, speeding, stop sign violation, etc), equipment (ie, brake light out), and investigative.



Property & Evidence

The Odessa Police Department's Property and Evidence staff is charged with maintaining the integrity of all items taken into custody in accordance with department policies as well as state and federal laws. Each piece of property must be checked in, entered into a records management computer system, packaged into the proper storage container, put away in its correct and secure location, and then maintained as long as needed for the case.

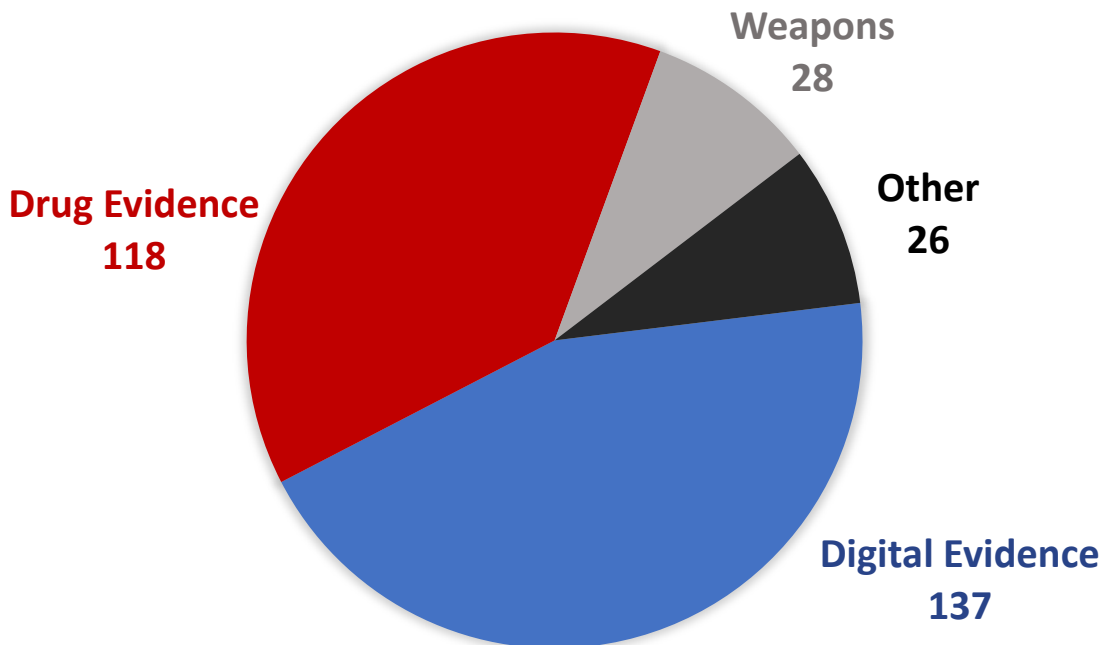
Detailed records of transactions involving items of evidence are maintained in order to preserve the "chain of custody" – the documentation of the continuous custody of items submitted as evidence. All items entered into our system are given a barcode for tracking and to maintain detailed records needed in order to present evidence in court. Security measures are also in place to ensure restricted access to property and evidence. In addition, property and evidence staff manages the department's successful prescription drug disposal program twice a year.

68 PIECES
OF EVIDENCE SENT
TO MSHP CRIME LAB

3,500+
TOTAL PIECES OF EVIDENCE
AND PROPERTY SECURED

OVER 75
POUNDS OF PRESCRIPTION
DRUGS COLLECTED &
SAFELY DISPOSED

309 PIECES OF EVIDENCE RECEIVED IN 2021



Training

The City of Odessa Police Department takes an active role in ensuring all of its employees receive professional, proficient and quality training. The Peace Officer Standards and Training Program (POST) requires sworn officers to complete a minimum of 24 hours of Continuing Law Enforcement Education (CLEE) every year. This training includes legal studies, technical studies, racial profiling, interpersonal perspectives, skill development, and firearms. In most cases, Odessa officers average 40-50 hours of continuing education every year. Some of the training completed in 2021 included:

- CPR recertification
- Taser recertification
- Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) Training
- Crime Scene Investigation Training
- Officer Involved Critical Incidents Training
- Missouri Juvenile Justice Association Training
- Missouri Tactical Officers Association conference
- Firearms Training/Qualifications twice a year
- Missouri Investigators Association conference
- Missouri Police Canine Association Training
- Midwest Public Risk (MPR) Law Enforcement Liability Committee meetings
- Midwest Counterdrug Training Center K9 Drug Detection Enhancement



Department Grants

Annually, the Odessa Police Department applies for law enforcement grants to assist our department. The applications are submitted to sponsoring agencies for approval and issuance.

In May of 2021, we were awarded **\$3,190** through the Destination Safe grant managed by the Missouri Department of Transportation to purchase new radar speed enforcement units for two of our patrol vehicles.



In October of 2021, we were awarded **\$2,500** from the MFA Incorporated Charitable Foundation to put towards a new radar enforcement sign.

In November of 2021, we were awarded **\$4,718.61** through the Officer Safety and Technology grant to purchase new medical trauma kits, raincoats, prisoner restraints, and traffic safety vests for all police officers.

Also in November, we were awarded **\$11,100** from the Enhancing Cyber Security Local Preparedness grant administered by the Missouri Department of Homeland Security and State Emergency Management Agency. These funds will be used to enhance and update our cyber security system.



K9 Unit

The Odessa Police Department K9 Unit was established in the summer of 2019 thanks to the generous donations of our community. K9 Officer Derek Zarda and Hawkeye had a busy year in 2021. Below are some of the many achievements made by this dynamic duo.



Six alerts resulted in no finds, however, most of those alerts had information supporting the alert such as the person admitting to recently using drugs inside the vehicle.



Investigations



On September 9, 2020, an Odessa Police Department Officer stopped a vehicle for traffic violations. During the stop, the Officer became suspicious of other criminal activity due to the behavior of the driver. The officer asked her for consent to search the vehicle but she refused. Eventually she admitted to having marijuana in the vehicle, which she handed to the officer. This gave the officer probable cause to search the vehicle and when the officer asked her to step out of the car for the search, her behavior led the officer to frisk her. The officer located approximately 255 grams of methamphetamine in her jacket pocket. Additional methamphetamine was located in the vehicle and two more baggies were found on her by jailers when she was brought to the Lafayette County Jail. When she was interviewed following her arrest, she admitted to law enforcement officers that she was an “independent drug dealer” who worked on her own and sold methamphetamine to support her habit and to make a living, as she did not have any other employment. She indicated she bought this particular methamphetamine for \$4,000 and when she sold it, she would double her money. From the investigation, it appears she was selling to people she knew in Lafayette County.



The State was represented by Lafayette County Prosecuting Attorney, Kristen Ellis Hilbrenner, at both the plea and sentencing hearing. Prosecutor Hilbrenner argued that the defendant clearly had no interest in using the education or skills she possessed for a legitimate purpose and would rather deal methamphetamine to people she knew would become addicted to the drug as well. The prosecutor also pointed out that the defendant is a persistent felony offender with at least fourteen prior convictions which include burglary, stealing, manufacturing methamphetamine, forgery, delivery or possession of a controlled substance in a jail, and possession of a controlled substance. Prosecutor Hilbrenner asked the judge to remove Graff from society as she refuses to conform to the laws of the State of Missouri and is a danger to our community as evidenced by her dealing drugs in Lafayette County.

Following the prosecutor’s arguments, Judge Dennis Rolf followed the recommendation of the State and sentenced Heather Graff, 45, of Kansas City, Missouri, to twenty-five years in the Missouri Department of Corrections on June 21, 2021. The sentencing followed her guilty plea to Trafficking in the First Degree.



In December of 2019, the Odessa Police Department was contacted by a resident stating that a family member had found child pornography on a home computer belonging to Andrew Manking. Numerous hard drives, computer towers, CD/DVDs, and flash drive media were collected. All of the computer items collected were taken to the Heart of America Regional Computer Forensics Laboratory in Kansas City, Missouri, for processing by specialized and skilled investigators. Items of young girls' clothing were also located throughout Manking's office and hidden around the house.

In May of 2020, we were notified by the Heart of America Regional Computer Forensics Laboratory that criminal evidence had been located and received the completed report in June of 2020. Within the report it was cited that over 1,119 images and over 22 videos of suspected child pornography were located. Several items that had been submitted had been encrypted and were unable to be opened. Images and videos ranged from the year 2005 through 2019 with the majority of them from 2012 to 2019. On June 25, 2020, the images and videos were submitted to the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children for analysis.

Andrew Manking was charged with 11 counts of child pornography possession and one count of promoting child pornography. The court denied bond while Manking awaited arraignment at the Lafayette County Jail.



In September of 2021 Andrew Manking plead guilty to six counts of felony possession of child pornography in the second degree. In December of 2021, Lafayette County Judge Dennis Rolf handed down a sentence of 30 years in prison with a 15-year sentence on each count. The first three counts will be served concurrently but separate from the final three counts (which will be served concurrently).

School Resource Officer

School Resource Officer Greg Daniel patrols over 333,000 square feet of school facilities including McQuerry Elementary School, Upper Elementary, Middle School, High School, Ag Building, and the Childcare Center. He also instructs the D.A.R.E. program to 5th grade students every year and works security after-hours at various school events. SRO Daniel maintains an open, interactive relationship with students, with the goal to provide a positive image of law enforcement and prevent crime from occurring on school property.

With COVID-19, our D.A.R.E. program looked a little different than years past including virtual learning and limited gatherings. But the message presented by SRO Greg Daniel was still the same and just as important as always – to teach young people how to say no to drugs. All of the children were asked to write an essay about the program and what they learned. The essay winners for 2021 are Carlie Cox, Emery LaBoube, Brooke McGrath, Jaxon Shull, Karson Smothers, Makaila Swerngin (not pictured), and Brooklyn Williams. The top winner is Makenna Bass. Congratulations to the fifth grade class on their graduation from the D.A.R.E. program!



Winning D.A.R.E. Essay

Have you ever been stuck in a situation where you have to do one thing or the other, and not know what to do? Well I know how to help you know what to say and do. There is a program called DARE. It stands for Drug Abuse Resistance Education. It is presented by Officer Daniel, and gives you reasons why you shouldn't do drugs, what is in cigarettes, what to do in a bad situation, and more! Officer Daniel also answers any questions you might have. You take the class once every week, starting in January, and it lasts 10 weeks.

During DARE, I learned more about drugs that can harm your body like alcohol, vapes, and cigarettes. I also learned more about bullying, how to communicate better with others, signs of stress, and how to control it. In Lesson 2, we learned that there are more than 400,000 tobacco related deaths. In Lesson 8, we learned about bullying and different forms of bullying. I learned some things that I didn't know before, and throughout our 10 weeks of DARE Officer Daniel answered a bunch of questions.

I also learned about the DARE Decision Making Model. I have used the DDMM in some tough situations. I have had to define the situation or problem. (What was the problem, challenge, or opportunity?) Then, assess the situation. (What could you do?) Next, I respond to the situation. (What did I do?) Finally, I evaluate the situation. (Did I make the right decision?) I used the DDMM last week. My friends wanted to play basketball during recess, but I wanted to do something else for a change. My problem was that I wanted to do one thing, but my friends wanted to do something else. I could've played basketball or do something alone. I decided that I didn't want to do something alone, so I played basketball with them instead. In the end I made the right decision, because we had a lot of fun.

I plan to use what I have learned to think about what I will do later on, and before I do it, I will think about the consequences of my actions. That consequence could either be good or bad. It would all depend on what I chose to do. In our last week of DARE, we learned about meth, and I was one of the readers. While I was reading the poem I got scared and nervous, because there are so many consequences to doing the drug. The story was written by an Indian girl who was in prison for overdosing. When she got out of jail, she continued to do the drug. In the end of the poem, she still had a tube in her arm, had too much meth, and passed away. This really opened up my eyes to reality, and how harsh the real world really is.

I think YOU should do DARE because you can learn about new things you might not have known, and it is fun to participate in. By doing DARE, it's like giving you a look on life. I hope this gave you a good look on DARE and how it impacted me. I also hope you use the DDMM in some of your unsure situations. I am glad that Officer Daniel chose to do this for us. He was a great presenter and knew exactly what to say and do. I really enjoyed DARE and I'm not gonna lie, this essay was pretty fun to write. If you are reading this and you are in DARE, you made the right choice to be in the program.

Makenna Bass

In years past, all of the 5th grade students in Lafayette County that graduated from the DARE program would get to celebrate with festivities on Law Enforcement Day at Higginsville Park. Unfortunately, due to restrictions with COVID-19, Law Enforcement Day was cancelled. So our School Resource Officer, Greg Daniel, decided to put together a smaller version for the Odessa 5th graders.

Several different departments gave demonstrations including the Lafayette County Sheriff's Office Narcotics Unit as well as their CSI Team, the Missouri State Highway Patrol, the Odessa K9 team, and the Odessa Electric Department. We also received a very generous donation from Sunrise Market of hot dogs, buns, chips, cookies, and bottled water so everyone involved could enjoy lunch. We appreciate all who participated – the kids really enjoyed it!



Crisis Intervention Team (CIT)



Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) training is a specialized police curriculum that aims to reduce the risk of serious injury or death during an emergency interaction between persons with mental illness and police officers. CIT has been implemented widely both nationally and internationally.

Police are often the first to be called for a crisis situation involving persons with a mental illness. These crisis situations can and have involved officer and citizen injury or deaths. CIT training significantly decreases injuries, death, and community dissent. In turn, persons with a mental illness are diverted to the mental health system and treatment rather than to jail or to returned to the streets.

Citizens become more confident in reporting crisis situations

and police officers are better prepared to respond safely to those situations.

In 2021, 85% of our officers were CIT certified with the goal of 100% by the end of 2022. We received 211 calls for service in 2021 involving mental health issues and welfare checks. One of those incidents occurred on August 12 in which Lieutenant Cody Smith and Officer Dyllan Ratigan responded to a person threatening to jump from a bridge into dangerous highway traffic below. As Officer Ratigan spoke to the person, distracting him from jumping, Lieutenant Smith approached the subject from a concealed position. They both physically pulled the person from the edge of the bridge putting themselves in a hazardous position. The person was detained and a mental health evaluation was completed resulting in the subject being transferred to a medical facility for further assessment.

Effective crisis intervention resulted directly in saving the life of this person, and Lieutenant Smith and Officer Ratigan received Life Saving Award Commendations.

In addition, Lieutenant Smith was awarded CIT Officer of the Year by the Missouri River Valley CIT Council in 2021.



Community Involvement

The Odessa Police Department strives to bring quality of life to the community and citizens we serve, which includes giving back to the community and those in need. It is important for us to engage with the residents of Odessa proactively rather than only in a reactionary way. Community policing is a collaborative effort that seeks to unite police officers with the community to address issues together.

Our department participated in “Family Fun Day” at Dyer Park to help raise money and collect toys for House of Hope. Officer Zarda and Detective Reitz gave out free gun locks child fingerprint cards to parents.

Chief Thompson coordinated the administration of COVID-19 vaccines to four Odessa residents that are indigent and had no transportation to a vaccine site. Working with the Lafayette County Health Department and the Odessa Fire and Rescue Protection District ambulance personnel, the vaccines were brought to Odessa, administered, and paperwork returned to the health department.

Captain Liese conducted his annual security discussion and training at Central Bank. Items discussed were indicators to look for to identify potential thieves and how to respond in the event of a robbery. He also provided active shooter training to the employees at Ritchie Brothers.



School Resource Officer Daniel and Detective Salmon brought their cars to the Bright Beginnings Academy event for “Touch-a-Truck”. Not trucks, we know, but the children were able to turn on the lights and sirens and talk on the loud speaker.



The National Prescription Drug Take Back Day is held twice a year, and the Odessa Police Department participated in both events as a drop off site for residents to dispose of their unwanted and unused prescription drugs. Studies show that a majority of abused prescription drugs were obtained from family and friends, often from the home medicine cabinet. The DEA’s Take Back Day events provide an opportunity for Americans to prevent drug addiction and overdose deaths. We collected over 75 pounds of medication to destroy in 2021.

On August 3, we hosted our first National Night Out, an event to increase neighborhood spirit and improve police-community partnerships. The goal is to enhance the relationship between residents and law enforcement while bringing back a true sense of community, make our neighborhoods safe, more caring places to live.



It was a wonderful cooperative effort by several area law enforcement departments having common interactions within the Odessa community. We truly appreciate everyone that came out and joined us including McGruff the Crime Dog, the Lafayette County Sheriff's Office, the Missouri State Highway Patrol, the Odessa Fire & Rescue Protection District, the Missouri Department of Conservation, and Odessa City Utilities. And thank you to the Odessa Creamery and Sonic for their generous donation of treat tokens, and the Odessa Aquatic Center for the free swimming. National Night Out takes place annually on the first Tuesday in August so we hope to make next year's event even better.

Odessa's annual summer fair, Puddle Jumper Days, took place the first weekend of August. We had a command post booth setup and made sure we were out and about socializing with all of the fairgoers. Officer Zarda and Hawkeye also put on two K9 demonstrations for everyone to enjoy.



The Downtown Trick-or-Treating event always brings a big crowd and 2021 was no exception. We shut down the streets in the business district to allow all of the children to trick-or-treat at the merchants' businesses safely. And McGruff the Crime dog was there to greet everyone and give "high-fives" to all of the kids.



Accomplishments/Recognitions

Lieutenant Cody Smith and Officer Dyllan Ratigan received Life Saving Award Commendations for their actions on August 12, 2021. Around 1:30 am, they responded to the area of 40 Hwy and Johnson drive overpass to Interstate 70 for a person well-being check. They encountered a mentally compromised person threatening to jump from the bridge into dangerous highway traffic below. As Officer Ratigan spoke to the person, distracting him from jumping, Lieutenant Smith approached the subject from a concealed position. They both physically pulled the person from the edge of the bridge putting themselves in a hazardous position. The person was detained and a mental health evaluation was completed resulting in the subject being transferred to a medical facility for further assessment. Lieutenant Smith's and Officer Ratigan's quick response, recognition of the severity of the medical emergency, immediate actions and effective crisis intervention resulted directly in saving the life of this person.



Officer Derek Zarda and Officer Andrew Lockhart received Life Saving Award Commendations for their actions on November 29, 2021. At approximately 8:15 pm, they responded to a medical call on Mason to assist local ambulance services. They encountered an unresponsive person who was blue to the face and not breathing. They quickly used their training in first aid and started CPR. The officers maintained CPR for many minutes until the ambulance personnel were on scene to take over. The unresponsive patient was revived and then transported to a medical facility for further care. Officer Zarda's and Officer

Lockhart's quick response, recognition of the severity of the medical emergency, immediate actions and effective CPR resulted directly in saving the life of this person.

Odessa was recognized as the 14th safest city in the state of Missouri for 2021. This award was published by SafeWise, a residential safety consulting group that publishes the top 20 safest cities in each state every year. The ranking is based on data reported monthly to the Missouri State Highway Patrol and the FBI through the Uniform Crime Reporting system.



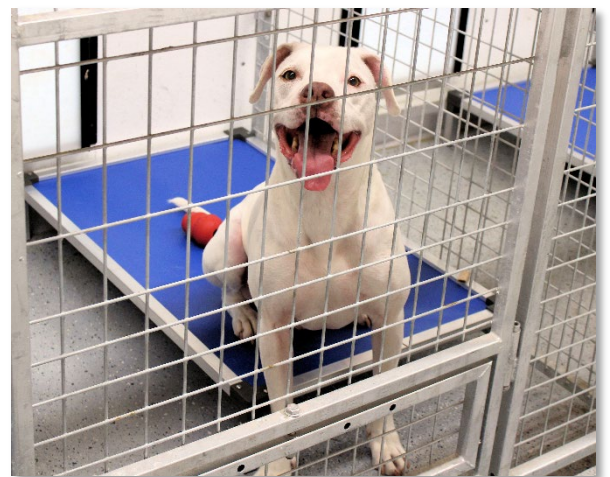
We had two promotions within the department in 2021. Cody Smith was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant. Lieutenant Smith has been with the Odessa Police Department as a Sergeant since the department was re-established on June 1, 2018. Also, Dallas Reitz was promoted to Sergeant. Sergeant Reitz has been with the Odessa Police Department as a Detective since February of 2020.



Police Clerk, Jenny Riedl, was recognized as the 2021 Bob Kinder Police Employee of the Year. All full-time police department employees provide nominations of a co-worker for this award. Submissions are evaluated by the employee's service to the department, service to the City of Odessa organization and service to the Odessa community. Jenny's dedication to her work is exemplary, managing hundreds of report submissions and requests, law enforcement database reports and property room management. She has excellent organizational skills and the ability to not only

multitask her own work load, but a lot of times taking on extra tasks assigned to her. Everyone at the Odessa Police Department appreciates all of the work Jenny does behind the scenes to make this organization excel and those within our organization shine.

The Odessa Police Department renewed our annual Animal Care Facility license with the Missouri Department of Agriculture. This license is necessary to operate our City Dog Pound. In 2021, we had an intake of 69 dogs resulting in one euthanized (court ordered), one transfer to a rescue group, seven adoptions, and the remaining 60 dogs reunited with their owners.







ODESSA

POLICE DEPARTMENT

City of Odessa Police Department

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Dial 911 in an Emergency

