



2022

# 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



“Oh, how proud I am...” I’m pleased to present the 2022 Police Annual Report on behalf of all the police department staff. This report reflects the dedication and hard work of each of us!

I take the lead in providing a community that is free of crime. I believe that every resident wants to be in a community where they feel safe from becoming victims of crime, and I believe in a strong communication channel between the police department and the Odessa community. We provide open dialogue between the agency and others. It is critical that the residents feel that they have a role in protecting their communities.

I ensure that each employee with the department has a complete picture of the City’s expectations. I’ve completed assessments of current police activities, training and standards, equipment care, advances in technology and preparedness for events of critical or mass incidents that must be a routine event. Police officers should possess the skills of attentiveness, reliability, responsiveness, competence, manners and fairness. These represent the cornerstone in developing a solid relationship between the public and police department. In addition, a strong relationship with surrounding jurisdictions is important as a regional approach to crime prevention.

I value all employees within our organization. I value the residents of our community and the relationships we’ve built. I value the cooperative efforts between the department and our elected officials. I feel most accomplished when I see a vibrant, active and social community that is engaging with the local police department. Please follow us on social media and you’ll be able to see many of our accomplishments and community achievements.

During 2022, 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 2022.

I am proud to serve Odessa. I am proud of the police officers and civilians within our organization who have shown resiliency, courage and dedication during a very challenging year. Our department’s 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

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## 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

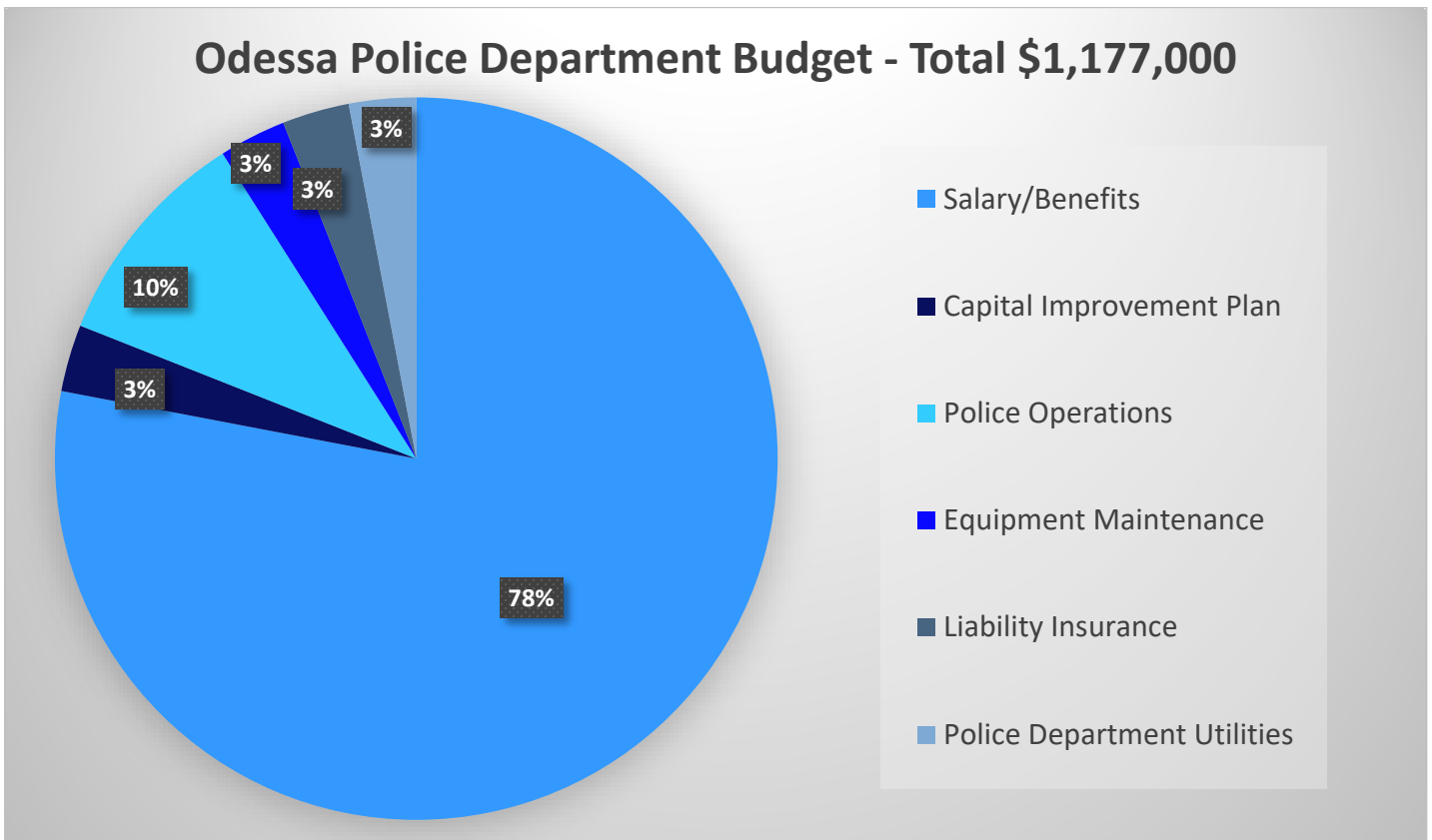
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# Police Department

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 12 full-time officers, five reserve officers, one animal control/nuisance compliance officer, and one clerk working out of the building located at 310 S First Street in Odessa.

The 12 commissioned officers include one Chief of Police, one Captain, one Lieutenant, two Detectives, two School Resource Officers, and five Police Officers. The fleet of vehicles includes nine vehicles that are utilized for patrol and traffic enforcement, two specially marked vehicles used by the School Resource Officers, 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.



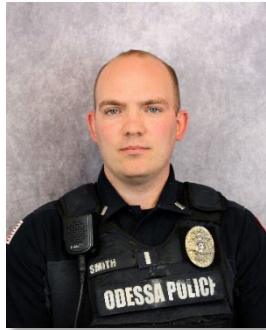
# Department Roster



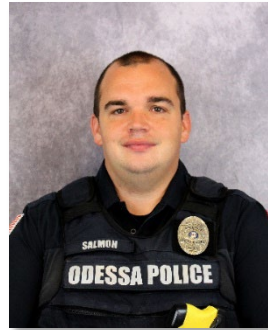
Josh Thompson  
Chief of Police



Leland "Bubba" Liese  
Captain



Cody Smith  
Lieutenant



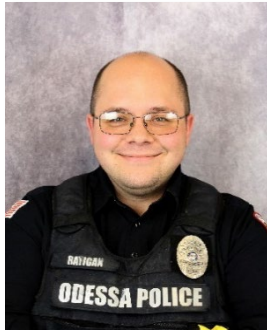
Phillip Salmon  
Detective



Derek Zarda  
Detective



Greg Daniel  
School Resource Officer



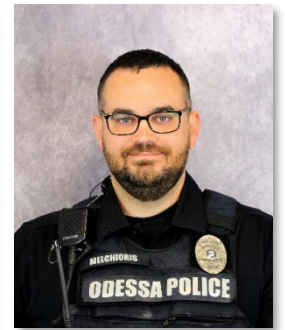
Dyllan Ratigan  
School Resource Officer



Austin Summitt  
Officer



Andrew Lockhart  
Officer



Daniel Melchioris  
Officer



Ty Bell  
Officer



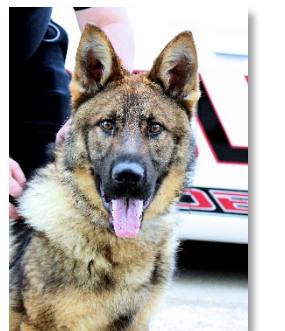
Mat Osborn  
Officer



Kim Wood  
Animal Control/Codes



Jenny Riedl  
Police Clerk



Hawkeye  
K9 Officer

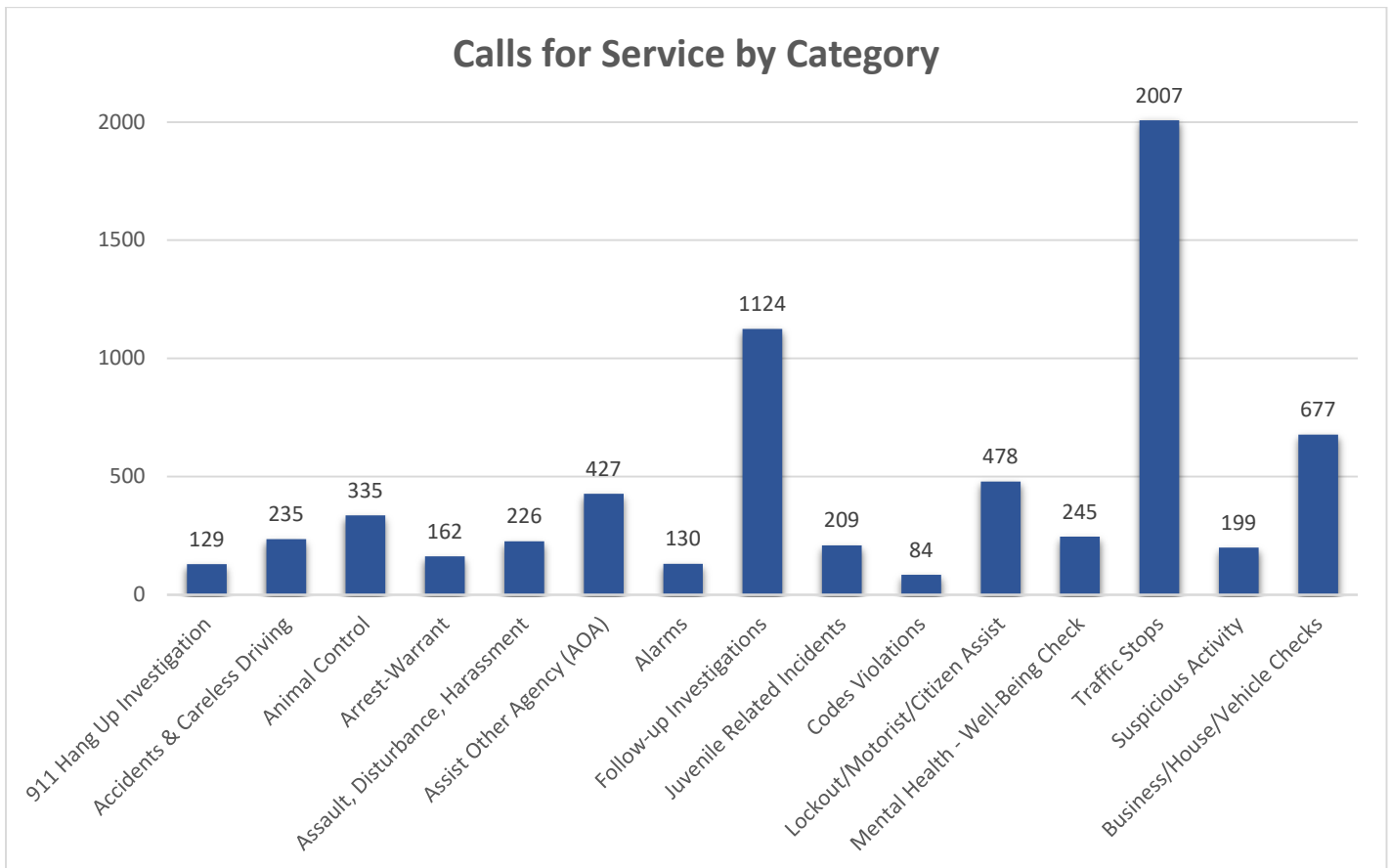
# Calls for Service

**7,939**  
**CALLS FOR SERVICE**

**2 MIN**  
**AVERAGE RESPONSE TIME**

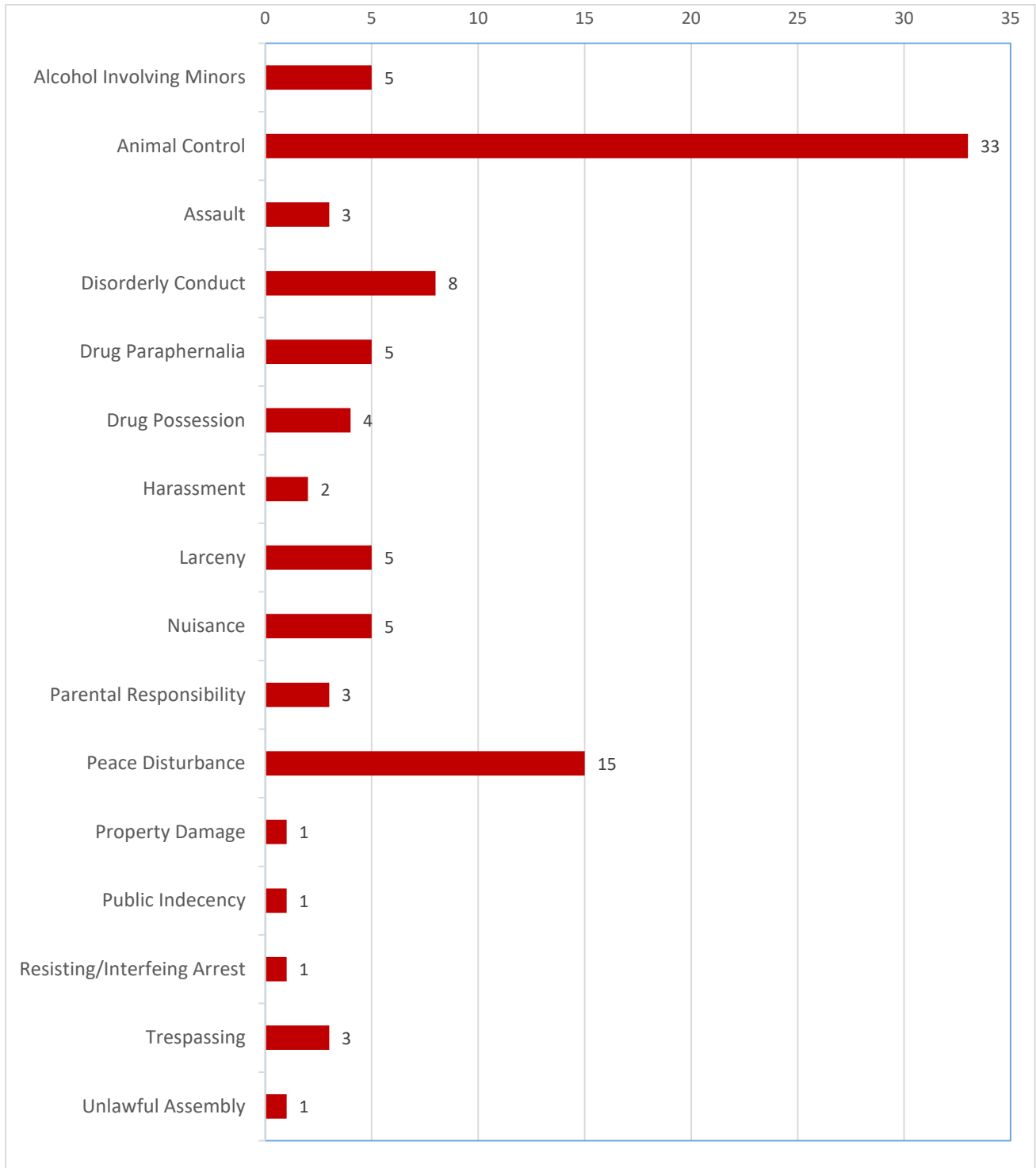
**39 MIN**  
**AVERAGE TIME ON SCENE**

In 2022, the Odessa Police Department received 7,939 calls for service, compared to 9,377 calls for service in 2021. The average response time was 2 minutes with an average of 39 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 ones.



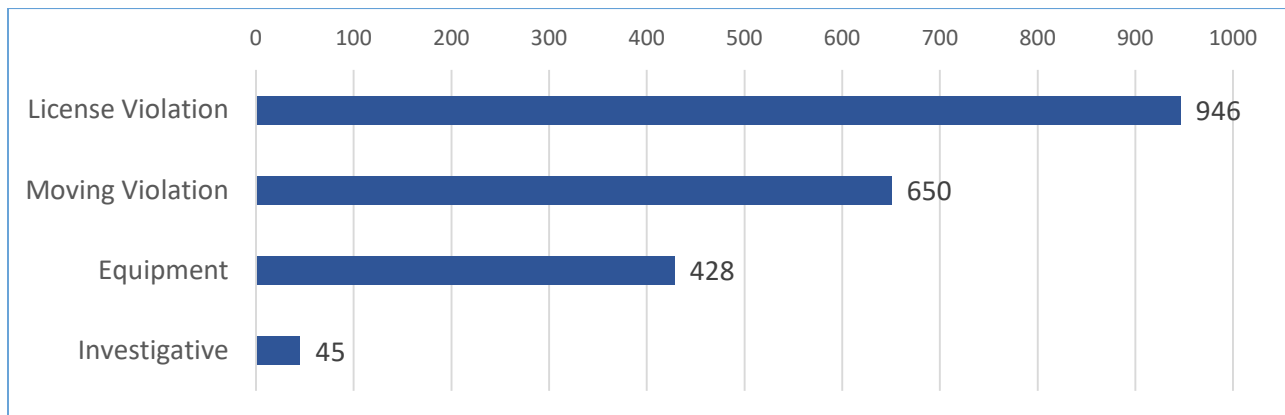
# Non-Traffic Citations Issued

The chart below shows the types of citations issued in 2022 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 2022, 104 cases were State submitted and charged.



# Traffic Analysis

Our officers conducted 2,069 traffic stops in 2022, compared to 2,472 in 2021, and 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.

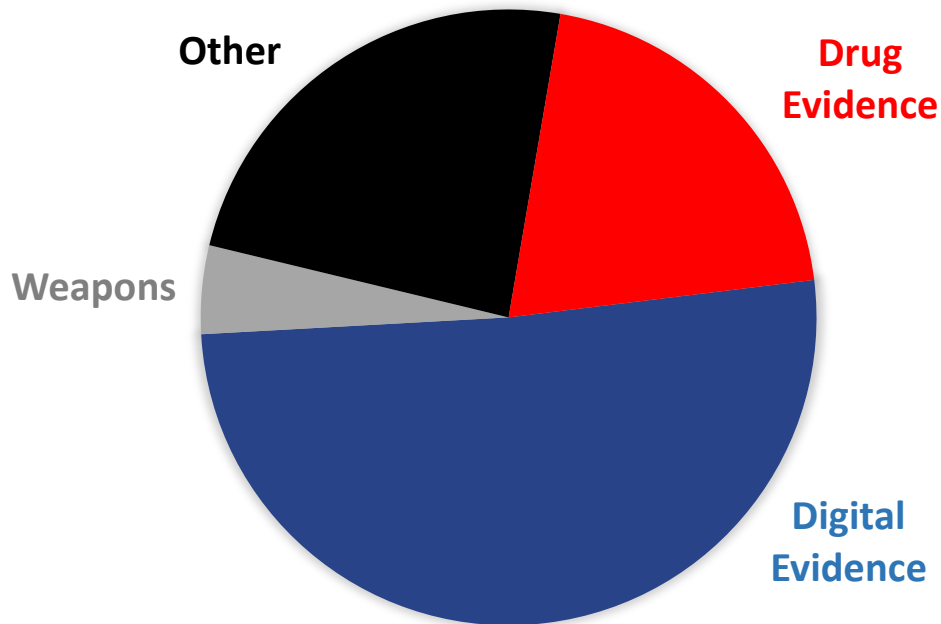
Detailed records of transactions involving items of evidence are maintained in order to preserve the "chain of custody" – the documentation of the continuous custody of items submitted as evidence. All items entered into our system are given a barcode for tracking and to maintain detailed records needed 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 manage the department's successful prescription drug disposal program twice a year.

**24 PIECES**  
OF EVIDENCE SENT  
TO MSHP CRIME LAB

**3,800+**  
TOTAL PIECES OF EVIDENCE  
AND PROPERTY SECURED

**OVER 60**  
POUNDS OF PRESCRIPTION  
DRUGS COLLECTED &  
SAFELY DISPOSED

## 280 PIECES OF EVIDENCE RECEIVED IN 2022



# 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 2022 included:

- CPR recertification
- Taser recertification
- Firearms Training/Qualifications Twice a Year
- Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) Training
- Interview and Interrogations Training
- Terrorism Liaison Officer Training
- PepperBall® Weapon Training
- Missouri Sunshine Law Training
- Rural Interdiction Course for Rural Law Enforcement
- FEMA Incident Command Training
- FEMA Community Emergency Response Team Training
- National Tactical Officers Association Conference
- Midwest Rural Major Case Squad Certification Training
- Missouri Police Canine Association Workshop
- Missouri Animal Control Association Conference
- Federal Critical Infrastructure Security Agency Active Shooter School Preparedness Training
- Midwest Public Risk Law Enforcement Liability Advisory Committee Meetings



# 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 February of 2022, we were awarded the Local Law Enforcement Block Grant. The award was in the amount of **\$9,975** to purchase new updated emergency light bars and emergency siren boxes for our police vehicles. We are currently using equipment that is 8-10 years old. While the older equipment is still functional, replacing the units with updated technology will provide our police vehicles with necessary safety well into future years. This grant is paid at 100%.



In June of 2022, we received a Destination Safe Grant to purchase radar enforcement signs in the amount of **\$9,978**. This grant is administered by the MoDOT and the Mid-American Regional Council. By combining this grant and the awarded \$2,500 MFA Foundation Grant from 2021, we were able to purchase three radar enforcement signs.

In July of 2022, the Bureau of Justice Assistance Northern and Middle States Rural Law Enforcement Training and Technical Assistance Grant Program awarded our department **\$5,750** for a license plate reader (LPR) system. The grant will fund 100% of the LPR and will greatly assist our department's ability to investigate criminal activity within the City.

In August of 2022, we were awarded **\$44,605.53** from the State Homeland Security Program Grant submitted to the Regional Homeland Security Oversight Committee to upgrade our police communications equipment.

In December, we were awarded a **\$250** grant from Aftermath, Inc. for Hawkeye and the Odessa K9 program. The Odessa community helped in the online voting process which allowed us to qualify for this grant to be used for K9 training supplies.

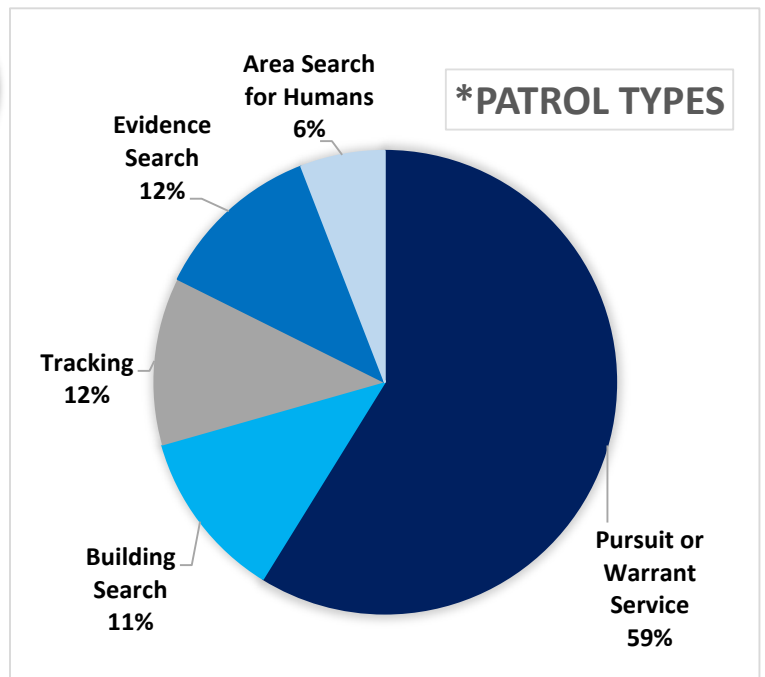


# K9 Unit

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 2022. Below are some of the many achievements made by this dynamic duo.



Drugs found during K9 alert searches in 2022 resulted in the confiscation of two grams of methamphetamine, 11 Xanax pills, and three paraphernalia items.



# School Resource Officers

The Odessa R-VII School District encompasses over 333,000 square feet of school facilities including McQuerry Elementary School, Upper Elementary, Middle School, High School, Ag Building, and the Childcare Center. With such a large area to cover, it was determined that another School Resource Officer (SRO) would be highly beneficial. Beginning October 31, 2022, Odessa Police Officer Dyllan Ratigan became the second SRO, working alongside the current SRO Greg Daniel. This new SRO position was made possible through a partnership between the Odessa R-VII School District and the Odessa Police Department and is partially funded by a grant award from the Lafayette County Children Services Fund grant program.



Our School Resource Officers maintain an open and interactive relationship with students and strive to provide a positive image of law enforcement and prevent crime from occurring on school property. They also instruct the D.A.R.E. program to 5th-grade students every year and work security after-hours at various school events.



D.A.R.E. graduation took place today at the Odessa Upper Elementary. All of the children were asked to write an essay about the D.A.R.E. program and what they learned. The essay winners for 2022 were Isabella Brentlinger, Ainsley Cox, Addilynn Hammond, Brooks LaBoube, and Gabriella Williams with Karlea Begemann as the top winner. The winners received a 10-day pool pass for the Odessa Aquatic Center with the top winner receiving a season pass. Congratulations to the fifth grade class on their graduation from the D.A.R.E. program!

# Winning D.A.R.E. Essay

First off, I would like to thank Officer Daniel for teaching all about DARE. I've enjoyed DARE so much.

To start off with, what is DARE? DARE teaches you a lot you might not have known. It also puts other people in a situation and you have to choose something to do and it may be hard but just go with your gut. It teaches you a lot about drugs and smoking as well as several more things along that line. As you read my paragraphs I hope you learn a little more about DARE and how important it is to say no to bad things.

During DARE I also learned that drugs, vaping, and smoking is very dangerous for your lungs and body. In addition to that I've also learnt that meth is very bad for you and could turn you into something that looks very old. I wouldn't recommend doing it or consider doing it. There are several kinds of bullying for example cyberbullying is where you are bullying someone online. Physical bullying is where people are punching people or hitting them, or basically hurting them physically. Verbal is where you're calling someone names. There are also more types of bullying such as emotional and social bullying. Bullying is where someone does it over and over to isolate, harm, and or control someone.

Next, I've used the DARE decision making model and I plan on using it. I've

- helped my mom clean the house
- helped my brother clean the basement
- helped carry in groceries
- I help Mrs. Armstrong around the room
- I made risky decisions
- I try to be helpful, nice and kind to everyone around me

I plan to use what I've learned to make safe and responsible choices throughout my life. In addition, I also plan to use it when I'm put in a dangerous or not good spot. I'll never bully people on how they look or act. I always promise to not use crystal meth or any harmful drugs to me and my body. DARE is a great thing I believe everyone should experience because it's leading you in a good path to succeed and not get harmed by harmful substances.

In conclusion, I believe that DARE is a great helpful thing that I've loved to experience. I hope you enjoyed reading a few things I've learned, how I've used the DARE decision making model, and how I plan to use it in the future. Officer Daniel is such an amazing person coming every week to teach us more about DARE. Again thank you for reading. BYE!

Karlea Ande Begemann

# Lafayette County Law Enforcement Day

D.A.R.E. students from all over Lafayette County celebrated their graduation with festivities on Law Enforcement Day at Fairground Park in Higginsville. They watched SWAT presentations, K9 demonstrations, interacted with the Missouri State Highway Patrol, learned about the role of Missouri Conservation Officers, and watched while the fire department responded to a car on fire, first dousing the car and then dousing the kids. Everyone had a great time!



# National Night Out

National Night Out takes place annually on the first Tuesday in August as a fun way 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, making our neighborhoods safer, more caring places to live.

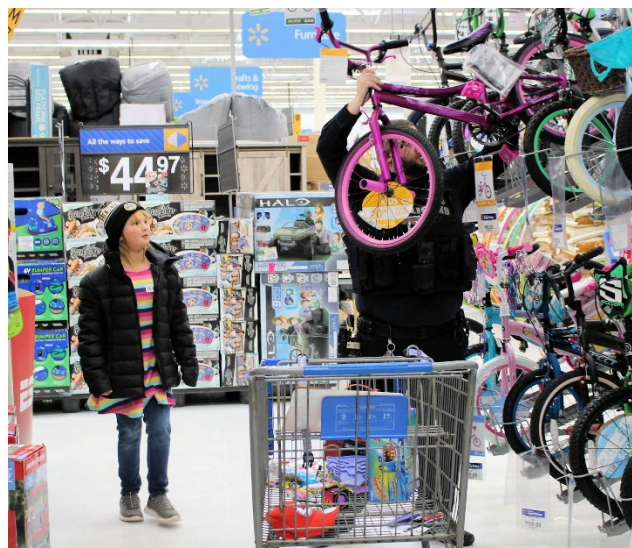


We truly appreciate everyone that came out to Dyer Park and braved the heat to join us at this fun event. In addition to our department, the Lafayette County Sheriff's Office, the Missouri State Highway Patrol, the Odessa Fire & Rescue Protection District, the Missouri Department of Conservation, the Lafayette County Prosecutor's Office, and Odessa City Utilities were in attendance. Everyone was able to meet their local first responders and enjoy an evening of free swimming.



# Shop with a Cop

The Odessa Police Department held their first Shop with a Cop event. We were so excited to participate in this program and had a great time spending time with 15 Odessa children and helping make their Christmas wishes come true. Everyone headed out that morning to the Oak Grove Walmart where each child was able to spend up to \$300 on gifts for themselves and their families. Walmart also donated a holiday meal to each family. After shopping, we all returned to the Odessa Community Building to wrap presents and eat pizza and cupcakes. And then the kids were treated to a special visit from Santa himself! We truly appreciate all of the local businesses and volunteers who made this event possible with their generous donations and services – we couldn't have done it without you. It was such a great day with lots of smiles and holiday cheer!



# Accomplishments/Recognitions



Detective Phillip Salmon was recognized as the 2022 Odessa Police Department's Bob Kinder Police Employee of the Year Award. All full-time police department employees provide nominations of a co-worker for this award. Submissions are evaluated on the employee's service to the department, service to the City of Odessa organization, and service to the Odessa community.

Detective Salmon's exemplary support within our organization is worth more than he knows. He is a skilled investigator and has made many positive influences in

the Odessa community. Everyone at the Odessa Police Department appreciates all of the work Detective Salmon does to make this organization excel and those within our organization shine! Here are just a few comments received from his co-workers, "He is one of the most dedicated Odessa officers I've worked with", "Phil did a great job with the shop with a cop", "When officers ask Phillip for his help he always stops what he is doing and helps them with whatever we need help with", and "I've watched him time after time slam dunk cases through his investigations".

We had a promotion within the department in 2022. Derek Zarda was promoted to the rank of Detective. Detective Zarda has been with the Odessa Police Department as an Officer since the department was re-established on June 1, 2018, and became Odessa's K9 Officer in June of 2019.

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 2022, we had an intake of 61 dogs resulting in two euthanized, three transfers to a rescue group, five adoptions, and the remaining 51 dogs reunited with their owners.



# 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. In addition to some of our larger events such as Law Enforcement Day, National Night Out, and Shop with a Cop, we had numerous positive interactions with the residents of Odessa throughout 2022.

In March, Officer Austin Summitt “volunteered” to be the Odessa Police Department representative at the Odessa Project Grad Donkey Basketball fundraiser.



In April, the Odessa Police Department participated along with the Odessa R-VII School District, Odessa Fire & Rescue Protection District, Lafayette County Sheriff's Office, Missouri State Highway Patrol, and Walker Tire Truck & Tow, in a car accident docudrama for high school students. The goal was to educate young drivers about the severe consequences of impaired/distracted driving.



In June, Detective Phillip Salmon and SRO Greg Daniel participated in the “Touch-a-Truck” event at Bright Beginnings Academy. The children are always excited to see the officers and get the opportunity to sit in a police car and activate the lights and sirens.



Captain Liese conducted his annual security discussion and training at Central Bank in June. Items discussed were indicators to look for to identify potential thieves and how to respond in the event of a robbery.



About 50 second-grade students visited the Odessa Police Department on a field trip to tour our facility and see a variety of the equipment we use.

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 2022.

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 a K9 demonstrations for everyone to enjoy.



Chief Thompson delivered the remaining COVID testing kits we had to the Senior Center of Odessa. These kits were originally provided by the Health Care Collaborative (HCC) in Lexington.



The Downtown Trick-or-Treating event always brings a big crowd and 2022 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.







# ODESSA

## POLICE DEPARTMENT

### City of Odessa Police Department

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[www.cityofodessamo.com](http://www.cityofodessamo.com)

[www.facebook.com/odessamopolice](https://www.facebook.com/odessamopolice)

***Dial 911 in an Emergency***

