

# FREMONT POLICE DEPARTMENT



2021 ANNUAL REPORT



# CITY GOVERNMENT

## Fremont City Council

### WARD 1

Mark Legband  
Vern Gibson

### WARD 2

Glen Ellis  
Dev Sookram

### WARD 3

James Vaughan  
Mark Jensen

### WARD 4

Brad Yerger  
Sally Ganem



Mayor Joey Spellerberg



# CITY GOVERNMENT



City Administrator  
Brian Newton

The City Administrator's Office is responsible for the overall coordination of activities among the governmental departments. These departments include Police, Fire, Parks & Recreation, Library, Public Works, and City Clerk. This office also prepares the government portion of the City's annual operating budget.

The City Administrator reports to the City's elected officials including the Mayor and Fremont's eight member City Council and works closely with the Greater Fremont Development Corporation on economic development projects. The Administrator also serves as the Plan Administrator for the City's various pension and deferred compensation plans and negotiates union contracts with union officials.



# MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF



Chief Jeffrey Elliott

*The year 2021 has been a defining year for the Fremont Police Department. We have reorganized our command structure, implemented new positions and added services all while dealing with some of the most difficult situations that have faced our police department in the last fifty years.*

*In 2021, we changed our command structure by taking two of our lieutenant positions and turning them into captains, splitting the administration of the department between Operations and Administration. This has allowed for a more streamlined management and increased the number of officers available for road duty.*

*In 2021, we saw the implementation of a set of Community Service Officer (CSO) positions that took over city ordinance violation enforcement and animal control. These CSO's freed up police officers by handling minor violations of law while allowing police officers to address more serious crimes.*

*In 2021, we created the position of Mental Health Co-Responder. After decades or rising incidents of individuals with mental health issues, the Fremont Police Department was aware of the need for assistance in addressing these situations. A plan was developed to hire a mental health professional to assist street officers in these situations. During this time, Fremont Officers were involved in a shooting with a person in a mental health crisis, the murder of an infant in its crib and dozens of other situations with persons hallucinating or threatening harm as the result of mental health issues. This new Mental Health Co-Responder will help Fremont Police in an attempt to address situations before they become dangerous.*

*The Fremont Police Department is constantly evolving and changing to meet the needs of our ever evolving and changing community. The new command structure, the CSO's, and the Mental Health Co-Responder are only a few of the examples of what we at the Fremont Police Department are doing to show that we are **"Committed to Service, Proud to Protect"**.*

# ALL ABOUT US

## MOTTO

*“Committed to Service. Proud to Protect.”*

## MISSION

*Our mission is to protect lives and property, reduce fear, ensure public safety and order, defend human and constitutional rights, promote mutual respect and to serve the citizens of this community.*

## VISION

*We, the men and women of the Fremont Police Department, are committed to:*

- Protecting the citizens of our community by bravely and unselfishly placing our lives in harm’s way to champion and shield the victims of crime from those that would deprive them of their health, wellbeing, rights or property.*
- Working with the community by creating relationships with citizens, elected officials and city departments to ensure safe homes, neighborhoods, workplaces and streets.*
- Utilizing these community relationships as a foundation to enhance the quality of life, work toward solutions to community problems and foster a sense of peace and security for all the members of our community.*
- Bravery, honor, integrity, open communication, accessibility, teamwork and responsiveness by all members of the Fremont Police Department.*
- Leadership in a problem-solving approach to policing.*
- Working toward the goal of a safe and positive work environment and community.*

## FREMONT POLICE DEPARTMENT

725 North Park Avenue  
Fremont, Nebraska 68025  
Non-Emergency 402-727-2677  
Chief’s Office 402-727-2687  
Records 402-727-2685  
Investigations 402-727-2680

# Organizational Chart



In 2021, the Fremont Police Department restructured the department. Two previous lieutenant positions were eliminated to allow creating two captain positions – Administrative Captain and Operations Captain. A Community Service Officer (CSO) unit was created and also a Mental Health Co-Responder position was created.

The Fremont Police Department employs 39 sworn officers who serve a community of more than 26,000 residents spanning an area of over 8 square miles. In addition, the department employs 6 civilians who provide essential services and support.

# DEPARTMENT PERSONNEL

## Chief of Police



**Police Chief Jeffrey “Jeff” Elliott** was hired as a Fremont Police Officer in September 1989 and was assigned to the Patrol Division following his graduation from the Nebraska Law Enforcement Training Academy. Since then, Chief Elliott has ascended through the ranks of Corporal, Sergeant, Lieutenant, Deputy Chief, and was promoted to Chief of Police in 2012 following the retirement of former Police Chief Mullen. Chief Elliott holds a bachelor’s degree in Criminal Justice from Bellevue University in Nebraska and is a graduate of the FBI National Academy. During his tenure in Fremont, Chief Elliott has served as a member of the Emergency Response Unit, Emergency Response Unit Commander, Firearms Instructor, and Intoxilyzer Maintenance Officer. Chief Elliott coordinated the implementation of the current police database and records management system. Chief Elliott was instrumental in organizing the current Field Training Program and served as the coordinator of the program.



**Lieutenant Shane Wimer** joined the Fremont Police Department in 2001 and was assigned to the III Corps Drug Task Force until 2003, when he joined the Patrol Division as an officer. Lt. Wimer was then promoted to Detective in 2004. In 2006, he was promoted to Sergeant where he again took over the III Corps Drug Task Force and eventually moved to Patrol Sergeant. In 2010, Lt. Wimer was promoted to Lieutenant and put in charge of the Investigative Division. In 2012, Lt. Wimer was assigned to the Patrol Division. Lt. Wimer is currently assigned to the position of Administrative Lieutenant. Lt. Wimer served on the Fremont Police Department Emergency Response Unit for 12 years where he rose to the rank of Team Commander. He is also a member of the Honor Guard. His duties also include overseeing the Field Training Program for new officers. Lt. Wimer holds a bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice and a master's degree in Public Administration from UNO. He graduated from the FBI National Academy in Quantico, Virginia in 2008. He currently is an Adjunct Professor at Midland University in Fremont. Prior to his employment with Fremont, Lt. Wimer was a Correctional Officer and Deputy Sheriff for Dodge County, Nebraska. He served as a Deputy for 11 years. He also served honorably as a United States Marine from 1984 to 1988.



**Lieutenant Kurt Bottorff** joined the Fremont Police Department in 1994 as a Patrol Officer. He was promoted to Sergeant in 1998 and Lieutenant in 1999. Lt. Bottorff is currently assigned to the Patrol Division. Previously, he served as the Professional Standards Lieutenant where he addressed the media, social media, internal affairs, General Order needs, public relations, training, translator hiring and the Internship program. During his tenure, Lieutenant Bottorff has been instrumental in developing the Field Training Program, Internship Program and our department's General Orders. He has been a Field Training Officer, Field Training Coordinator, Field Training Lieutenant and Property Officer. Lt. Bottorff implemented several community policing programs, attends community events, provides tours of our agency, gives public presentations and is very active in the community. He produces a weekly "Crimes of the Week" public service announcement and attends Neighborhood Watch meetings when requested. He has served as President of the Police Officer's Association of Nebraska and currently sits on the Governor's Racial Profiling Advisory Committee. Lt. Bottorff graduated from the Nebraska Law Enforcement Training Academy, holds an associate's degree in Criminal Justice from NTCC, and a bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice from Wayne State College. He has received the Noon Optimist Club "Outstanding Officer" award, the MADD Hero Award for outstanding leadership and two lifesaving awards. Prior to his employment in Fremont, Lt. Bottorff was a Deputy Sheriff in Dixon County, Nebraska and a police officer in Ponca, Nebraska.

# PATROL LIEUTENANT



**Lieutenant Edward “Ed” Watts** joined the Fremont Police Department in 1995 as a Patrol Officer. He was promoted to Sergeant in 1999 and Lieutenant in 2010. Lt. Watts is currently the Professional Standards Lieutenant. Lt. Watts graduated from the Nebraska Law Enforcement Academy, holds an associate’s degree in Criminal Justice from Metro Community College, and a bachelor’s degree in Criminal Justice Administration from Bellevue University. Prior to his employment with Fremont, he worked in security and loss prevention. Lt. Watts is currently assigned to Professional Standards.

PATROL LIEUTENANT  
Ed Watts

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# PATROL SERGEANTS



**Sergeant James (Jim) Dockerty** joined the Fremont Police Department in July 1995 as a Patrol Officer and was promoted to Sergeant in May 2015. Prior to service in Fremont, he was employed for three years as a police officer in Wayne, Nebraska and was an MP in the US Marine Corps obtaining the rank of Corporal. Sgt. Dockerty holds an associate’s degree in Criminal Justice from Metropolitan Community College. During his tenure with the Fremont Police Department, Sgt. Dockerty has been a member of the Emergency Response Unit, Bike Patrol, and a Field Training Officer for the department and is currently the Intoxilyzer Maintenance Supervisor.

PATROL SERGEANT  
Jim Dockerty

# PATROL SERGEANTS



PATROL SERGEANT  
John Gieselman

**Sergeant John Gieselman** first joined the Fremont Police Department in 1996 as a reserve communications officer, then became a full time communications officer. At the same time, Sgt. Gieselman was a reserve police officer with the Hooper/Scribner Police department. In 1998, Sgt. Gieselman changed his status with Fremont Police to reserve dispatcher and accepted a full time police officer position with Hooper/Scribner police. In 2000 Sgt. Gieselman was hired as a Patrol Officer with Fremont Police and was promoted to Sergeant in October 2015. Sgt. Gieselman graduated from the Nebraska Law Enforcement Training Academy while serving Hooper/Scribner Police. Sgt. Gieselman has served as a Field Training Officer, part time animal control officer and was a member of the Adopt a Cop program at Howard Elementary School. Sgt. Gieselman is currently the supervisor of the Fremont Police K9 Program, has completed the “Leadership in Police Organizations Program”, and is working to complete his bachelor’s degree. Sgt. Gieselman is also a member of the Fremont Police Hostage Negotiators team. Sgt. Gieselman is a life long resident of Fremont.



PATROL SERGEANT  
John Brady

**Sergeant John Brady** joined the Fremont Police Department in 2010 as a Patrol Officer and was promoted to Sergeant in October 2015. Sgt. Brady served as a Field Training Officer, Bike Patrol Coordinator, Firearms Instructor, and is a member of the Emergency Response Unit. Sgt. Brady holds a bachelor’s degree in Criminal Justice and Emergency Management from Wayne State College in Wayne, Nebraska and graduated from the Nebraska Law Enforcement Training Academy. Prior to joining the Fremont Police Department, Officer Brady worked in Campus Security at Wayne State College.

# PATROL SERGEANTS



**PATROL SERGEANT**  
Dominic Savio

**Sergeant Dominic Savio** joined the Fremont Police Department in March 2014 and was promoted to Sergeant in January of 2020. Sergeant Savio graduated from the Nebraska Law Enforcement Training Academy in July 2014. In January 2017, Sergeant Savio was assigned as the K9 handler for the Patrol Division and was certified with K9 Apollo as a Narcotics Detection K9 Officer. Sergeant Savio also served as a Field Training Officer for the Patrol Division. He was temporarily assigned to the III Corps Drug Task Force in October 2018. Sergeant Savio holds a bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice from Midland University. Prior to employment with the City of Fremont, Sergeant Savio worked for a juvenile group home facility in Fremont.



**PATROL SERGEANT**  
Adam Macpherson

**Sergeant Adam Macpherson** first joined the Fremont Police Department in July 2013 and was promoted to Sergeant in October 2021. Sergeant Macpherson graduated from the Nebraska Law Enforcement Training Academy on February 21, 2014 and was assigned to the Patrol Division. Sergeant Macpherson holds a bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice from the University of Nebraska at Kearney. Prior to Sergeant Macpherson's hire, he was employed by a private company that offers GPS tracking services for parole and probation offenders.

# PATROL SERGEANTS

FPD



PATROL SERGEANT  
Jesse Headid

**Sergeant Jesse Headid** joined the Fremont Police Department in December 2015 and was assigned to the Patrol Division. Sergeant Headid was promoted to Sergeant in October 2021. He graduated from the Nebraska Law Enforcement Training Academy in December 2012. Prior to employment with the Fremont Police Department, Sergeant Headid worked at the Butler County Sheriff's Office as a Deputy and Firearms Instructor for three years. Sergeant Headid holds a bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice from Bellevue University.





**Officer Joe Bauer** joined the Fremont Police Department in 1999 as a Patrol Officer and graduated from the Nebraska Law Enforcement Academy. Prior to that, Officer Bauer worked part-time as a Dispatcher, Reserve Officer and Animal Control Officer for Fremont. Officer Bauer holds a bachelor's degree in Sociology with concentration in Criminal Justice from Midland University in Fremont. During his employment in Fremont, he has been a K-9 Officer, Bike Patrol Officer, and Field Training Officer. Officer Bauer is currently a Firearms Instructor including rifle certification.



**Officer James (Jim) Butts** joined the Fremont Police Department in December 1999. He is a graduate of the Nebraska Law Enforcement Academy and has an associate's degree in Criminal Justice from Western Iowa Technical School in Sioux City. Prior to joining the Fremont Police force, Officer Butts worked for 1 ½ years at Boys and Girls Home in South Sioux City, Nebraska as a case worker. He is a veteran of the US Marine Corps. As a Fremont Police Officer, Butts has served on the Bike Patrol and Emergency Response Unit. Officer Butts is a Weapons Officer and is currently assigned as a School Resource Officer.



**Officer Tyler Hancock** joined the Fremont Police Department in 2001. Prior to employment with the department, Officer Hancock was a Deputy Sheriff with Dodge County, Nebraska for three years. He is a graduate of the Nebraska Law Enforcement Training Academy and holds a bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice from Wayne State College in Nebraska. During his tenure with Fremont, Officer Hancock has been a member of the Emergency Response Unit and is a Firearms Instructor. Officer Hancock is a United States Army Reserve veteran.



**Officer Steven Behring** joined the Fremont Police Department in March 2008 and is assigned to the Patrol Division. Prior to Fremont, Officer Behring worked over six years as a Deputy Sheriff in Thayer and Merrick counties in Nebraska as well as over six years at the Nebraska State Penitentiary as a case worker and correctional officer. Officer Behring holds a bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice from University of Nebraska Kearney and is a graduate of the Nebraska Law Enforcement Academy. Officer Behring also served for six years in the Nebraska Army Reserves.



**Officer Anthony "Tony" Gartner** joined the Fremont Police Department in 2009 and was assigned to the Patrol Division. Officer Gartner is a 2001 graduate of the Nebraska Law Enforcement Training Academy. During his employment with Fremont, Officer Gartner has performed duties as a Field Training Officer. Prior to his employment in Fremont, Officer Gartner worked as a police officer for two years in Osmond, Nebraska, as a Deputy Sheriff in Antelope County, Nebraska, and as a police officer in Schuyler, Nebraska. During his tenure in Fremont, Officer Gartner has served as a member of the Emergency Response Unit and as a Bike Patrol Officer.



**Officer Chad Smith** joined the Fremont Police Department in 2013 and was assigned to the Patrol Division. In 2014 he was assigned to the III Corps Drug Task Force. Officer Smith is a graduate of the Nebraska Law Enforcement Training Academy and has been an officer with other Nebraska law enforcement agencies since 1994. During those years, Officer Smith has served as a Criminal Detective, Field Training Officer, PPCT Instructor, Narcotics Investigator, and Clandestine Lab team member.



**Officer Andrew Dixson** re-joined the Fremont Police Department in December 2014 and was assigned to the Patrol Division. He worked as a Deputy Sheriff in Lake Charles, Louisiana from March 2014 until returning to the Fremont Police Department in December 2014. Officer Dixson holds an associate's degree from Metropolitan Community College and a bachelor's degree from Bellevue University. Officer Dixson worked from 2006-2009 for the West Point Police Department and served as a patrol officer from 2009-2014 for the Fremont Police Department.



**Officer Steven Zaroban** joined the Fremont Police Department in December 2014 and was assigned to the Patrol Division. During his employment, he has attended Accident Investigation courses and is part of Fremont's Accident Investigation Team. He graduated from the University of Phoenix with a bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice Administration.



**Officer Brianna Ryan** joined the Fremont Police Department in February of 2016. She was assigned to the Patrol Division. Officer Ryan graduated from the Nebraska Law Enforcement Training Academy in July 2016. She started serving as a patrol officer with the department after finishing the FTO program in October 2016. As of October 2018 Officer Ryan was assigned as the K9 Handler for the Patrol division and was certified with K9 Apollo as a Narcotics Detection K9 Officer. Officer Ryan graduated from Midland University in 2014 with a bachelor's degree. Prior to employment with the City of Fremont she worked for a juvenile group home facility in Fremont.



**Officer Nickalaus Heidlage** joined the Fremont Police Department in March 2017. He was assigned to the Patrol Division. Officer Heidlage graduated from the Nebraska Law Enforcement Training Academy in December 2017. Officer Heidlage graduated from Midland University in May 2016 with a Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice and Sociology. Previously, Officer Heidlage has worked as a Correctional Officer at the Nebraska State Penitentiary and Saunders County Jail. Officer Heidlage currently serves as a defensive tactics instructor for the Fremont Police Department.



**Officer Seth Howard** joined the Fremont Police Department in March 2017. He graduated from the Nebraska Law Enforcement Training Academy and was assigned to the Patrol Division. Officer Howard graduated from Fremont High School and received an associate's degree in Criminal Justice from Northeast Community College in Norfolk in 2013. After attending Northeast Community College, he graduated from the University of Nebraska at Omaha with a bachelor's degree in Criminal Law in 2015.



**Officer Kodi Classen** joined the Fremont Police Department in October 2017. Officer Classen graduated from the Nebraska Law Enforcement Training Academy in April 2018 and was assigned to the Patrol Division. Officer Classen holds a bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice. Prior to employment with the City of Fremont, Officer Classen worked for Omaha Public Schools as a Security Guard.

# PATROL OFFICERS

FPD



**Officer Justin Beranek** joined the Fremont Police Department in February 2018 and was assigned to the Patrol Division. Prior to working for the Fremont Police Department, Officer Beranek worked for four years as a police officer with the Norfolk Police Division. Officer Beranek serves as a Field Training Officer and is also on the Accident Investigation Team. Officer Beranek graduated from Wayne State College with a bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice.



**Officer Courtney Ertl** joined the Fremont Police Department in February 2018. She graduated from the Nebraska Law Enforcement Training Center in August of 2018 and was assigned to the Patrol Division after completing three months of field training. Officer Ertl majored in Psychology and Criminal Justice at Iowa State University and graduated in December 2015 with her Bachelor of Arts Degree. Prior to working for the Fremont Police Department, Officer Ertl worked as a Corporate Security Specialist for First National Bank of Omaha for approximately 1.5 years.



**Officer Payton Boston** joined the Fremont Police Department in February 2018 and graduated from the Nebraska Law Enforcement Training Center. He was assigned to the Patrol Division. Officer Boston has an associate's degree in criminal justice from ITT Tech. Prior to the Fremont Police Department, Officer Boston worked for The Nebraska Department of Correctional Services. Officer Boston served three years Active Army and is currently a member of the Iowa Army National Guard.



**Officer Derick Leaman** joined the Fremont Police Department in April 2019 and graduated from the Nebraska Law Enforcement Training Center the same year. Officer Leaman graduated from Hasting College in 2018 with a bachelor's degree where he majored in Sociology with an emphasis in Criminology and minored in Communication. Prior to working for the Fremont Police Department, Officer Leaman worked for a security company in Omaha, Nebraska.



**Officer Garrett Jensen** joined the Fremont Police Department in October 2019 and was assigned to the Patrol Division. Prior to joining the Fremont Police Department, Officer Jensen worked in the commercial and residential heating and air-conditioning industry as a sales representative as well as in the security industry as a Security Officer. Officer Jensen holds a bachelor's degree in Business Administration from the University of Nebraska – Lincoln.



**Officer Jackson Radloff** joined the Fremont Police Department in November 2019 and was assigned to the Patrol Division. Prior to working for the Fremont Police Department, Officer Radloff worked for the University Of Nebraska Omaha Department Of Public Safety as a Campus Security Officer. Officer Radloff holds an associate's degree in Criminal Justice from Metropolitan Community College and is also Crisis Intervention Team certified.



**Officer Ryan Christensen** joined the Fremont Police Department in July of 2020. He attended the Nebraska Law Enforcement Training Center and graduated in December of 2020. He was assigned to the Patrol Division. Officer Christensen holds a bachelor's degree from Peru State College and is currently working on his Masters in Public Administration with the University of Nebraska-Omaha.



**Officer Hunter McKenzie** joined the Fremont Police Department in July of 2020. He graduated from the Nebraska Law Enforcement Training Center in December of 2020. He was assigned to the Patrol Division. Officer McKenzie is excited to be a part of the Fremont Police Department and a member of the City of Fremont.



**Officer Christopher Williamson** joined the Fremont Police Department in November of 2020 and graduated from the Nebraska Law Enforcement Training Center in April of 2021. Officer Williamson graduated from Bellevue University with a bachelor's degree in Sports Management along with a Master's degree in Organizational Leadership. Prior to joining the Fremont Police Department, Officer Williamson worked as an assistant baseball coach for Bellevue University and also helped organizations in the Omaha area teaching youth how to play the game of baseball.



**Officer Jackson Shepherd** joined the Fremont Police Department in November of 2020. He graduated from the Nebraska Law Enforcement Training Center in April of 2021. He was assigned to the Patrol Division. Officer Shepherd graduated from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln with a bachelor's degree, majoring in Criminology with a minor in History. Prior to working for the Fremont Police Department, Officer Shepherd worked for 88 Tactical Group in Omaha, Nebraska.



**Officer Melanie Martinez** joined the Fremont Police Department in June 2021. She graduated from the Nebraska Law Enforcement Training Center in December 2021 and was assigned to the Patrol Division. Prior to working for the Fremont Police Department, Officer Martinez worked as a correctional officer at the Nebraska State Penitentiary. Officer Martinez is continuing her studies at Metro Community College.



**Reserve Officer Kent Grisham** joined the Fremont Police Department in 1999 and received a Reserve Certification from the Nebraska Law Enforcement Training Academy. As a Reserve Officer, he has served with the Bike Patrol and as an Adopt-a-Cop at Milliken Elementary School in Fremont. Reserve Officer Grisham holds a bachelor's degree in Management and a master's degree in Organizational Leadership from Bellevue University. Prior to his service with Fremont, he was an EMT for the Sedgwick County (Kansas) Emergency Medical Service and was affiliated with Clark International Guard Force in Omaha.



**Reserve Officer Ron Giesselmann** has been a member of the Fremont Police Department since 1983. He was hired as a full time officer in 1983 and reached the rank of Patrol Sergeant before taking full-time employment as Administrator of the Masonic Home for Children. During his tenure as an officer, he served as a member of the Entry Team, Motorcycle Patrol, Field Training Officer, Property and Evidence Supervisor, and started the School Resource Officer program. Reserve Officer Giesselmann graduated from the Nebraska Law Enforcement Training Academy, holds a bachelor's degree in Law Enforcement Administration, and is a graduate of the FBI National Academy in Quantico, Virginia. Reserve Officer Giesselmann has received specialized training with the US Air Force.

# COMMUNITY SERVICE OFFICERS

FPD



**Officer Kelli Brown** joined the Fremont Police Department in 2021 as a Community Service Officer Supervisor, assisting the department with forming new animal protection and control services as well as other code enforcement services. Prior to joining the Fremont Police Department, Officer Brown served as the Director of Field Operations with the Nebraska Humane Society where she led animal cruelty investigations and supervised a large team of Animal Control Officers. Officer Brown is a Master Level certified animal cruelty investigator and has led numerous large-scale investigations involving dog fighting, cock fighting, and cases involving exotic animals.



**Officer Melissa Ball** joined the Fremont Police Department as a Code Enforcement Officer in 2019. In 2021, she was promoted to the role of a Community Service Officer. Prior to this, Officer Ball handled code enforcement duties for the City of Fremont since 2009. Officer Ball previously served as a supervisor on the Fremont Dinner Train. Officer Ball studied at Metro Tech and is currently completing her certification in animal cruelty investigations.



**Officer Jennifer Palik** joined the Fremont Police Department in 2021 as a Community Service Officer. Officer Palik joined this new unit which began handling code enforcement, animal protection and control, and other low priority calls for service. Prior to joining the Fremont Police Department, Officer Palik served as an Animal Control Officer for the Nebraska Humane Society for three years. Officer Palik is currently studying Criminal Justice through the Southern New Hampshire University, and is also completing her certification in animal cruelty investigations.



**Sergeant Kurt Pafford** joined the Fremont Police Department in 1997 as a Patrol Officer and was promoted to Sergeant in September 2014. He graduated from the Nebraska Law Enforcement Training Academy and also holds an associate's degree in Criminal Justice from Metropolitan Community College in Omaha. Sgt. Pafford has served as a Field Training Officer, a Property Officer and served in the III Corps Drug Task Force as an agent until the time he was promoted to Sergeant.

INVESTIGATIONS  
SERGEANT  
Kurt Pafford



**Detective Matt Hultquist** joined the Fremont Police Department in 1996 as a Patrol Officer and graduated from the Nebraska Law Enforcement Training Center. He was promoted to Detective in 2000. Detective Hultquist has served the department as a Property Officer, a member of the Emergency Response Unit, and as an agent of the III Corps Drug Task Force. He currently works with the Drug Unit and is DEA and Drug Lab certified. Detective Hultquist is taking classes at University of Nebraska Omaha towards a bachelor's degree.



**Detective Aaron Howe** joined the Fremont Police Department in 2000 as a Patrol Officer and graduated from the Nebraska Law Enforcement Academy. He was promoted to Detective in 2008, the position he currently holds. Detective Howe has an associate's degree in Business from Iowa Western Community College. Prior to joining the Fremont Police Department, Detective Howe was a licensed private investigator. While at the Fremont Police Department, Detective Howe has been a Field Training Officer, Bike Patrol Coordinator, a Property Officer, a member of the Emergency Response Unit, and is the current Crime Stoppers Coordinator.



**Detective Brandon Lorenson** joined the Fremont Police Department in June 2001 and was assigned to the Patrol Division after graduating from the Nebraska Law Enforcement Academy. He was promoted to Detective in 2009, his current position. Detective Lorenson holds a bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice from the University of Nebraska Omaha. While in the Patrol Division, Lorenson was a member of the Bike Patrol, a Property Officer, Field Training Officer, and Field Training Coordinator. Detective Lorenson currently is a member of the Emergency Response Team and is a Taser Instructor.



**Officer Kelly Drake** joined the Fremont Police Department in December 2014 and was assigned to the Patrol Division. She was promoted to Detective in August 2020. Detective Drake has a bachelor's degree from the University of Nebraska at Omaha in Criminal Justice and is a graduate of the Nebraska Law Enforcement Training Center. Prior to her employment with Fremont, Detective Drake worked for the Bellevue Police Department for ten years and was assigned to several different units. She was also a dispatcher for Sarpy County Communications Dispatch Center for almost two years.



**Senior Office Associate Alesia Hajek** joined the Fremont Police Department Records Division in 2001. She was promoted to Senior Office Associate in 2011. Alesia supervises the Records Division and maintains police records, performs various secretarial and administrative tasks for the Chief and Command Staff, is the coordinator of the police computerized Records Management System, and was involved in its implementation at the department.



**Office Associate Christine Taylor** joined the Fremont Police Department Records Division in October 2016. Prior to employment with the department, she worked 18 years for CHI Health in the Psychiatric Department working with the Medical Director of Behavioral Health Services. She has also held part-time positions as a Home Health Care provider as well as provided care in local facilities since 1992. Christine performs various clerical duties, transcribes officers' reports for the County Attorney's Office, payroll record keeping, handles gun permit applications and further public inquiries.



**Office Associate Dayme Moller** joined Fremont Police Department Records Division in March of 2021. Prior to her employment with the department she worked for 7 years at Nebraska Orthopaedic Physical Therapy, P.C. as the Billing Specialist. She also held other positions at different medical clinics in Fremont. Dayme performs various clerical duties, transcribes officers' reports for the County Attorney's Office, assists with public inquires and purchasing and budget duties for the department.

# ACCOUNTING



**Senior Office Associate Sheri McArdle** joined the City of Fremont Police Department in April of 1987 as a Clerk Typist II and worked her way up to her current position. Sheri previously worked in a law office for seven years as the main secretary and typing of wills, legal documents, and forms for court. Prior to her work in the attorney’s office, Sheri worked as an underwriter for a major insurance company in Lincoln, Nebraska. Sheri is responsible for performing a variety of secretarial and administrative tasks in support of the Office of the Chief of Police including phone calls, appointments, purchase orders, training records and general day to day office tasks. She transcribes detectives’ reports and interviews. Her major responsibility for the department is working with the Chief of Police regarding the department’s budget.

# PROPERTY AND EVIDENCE

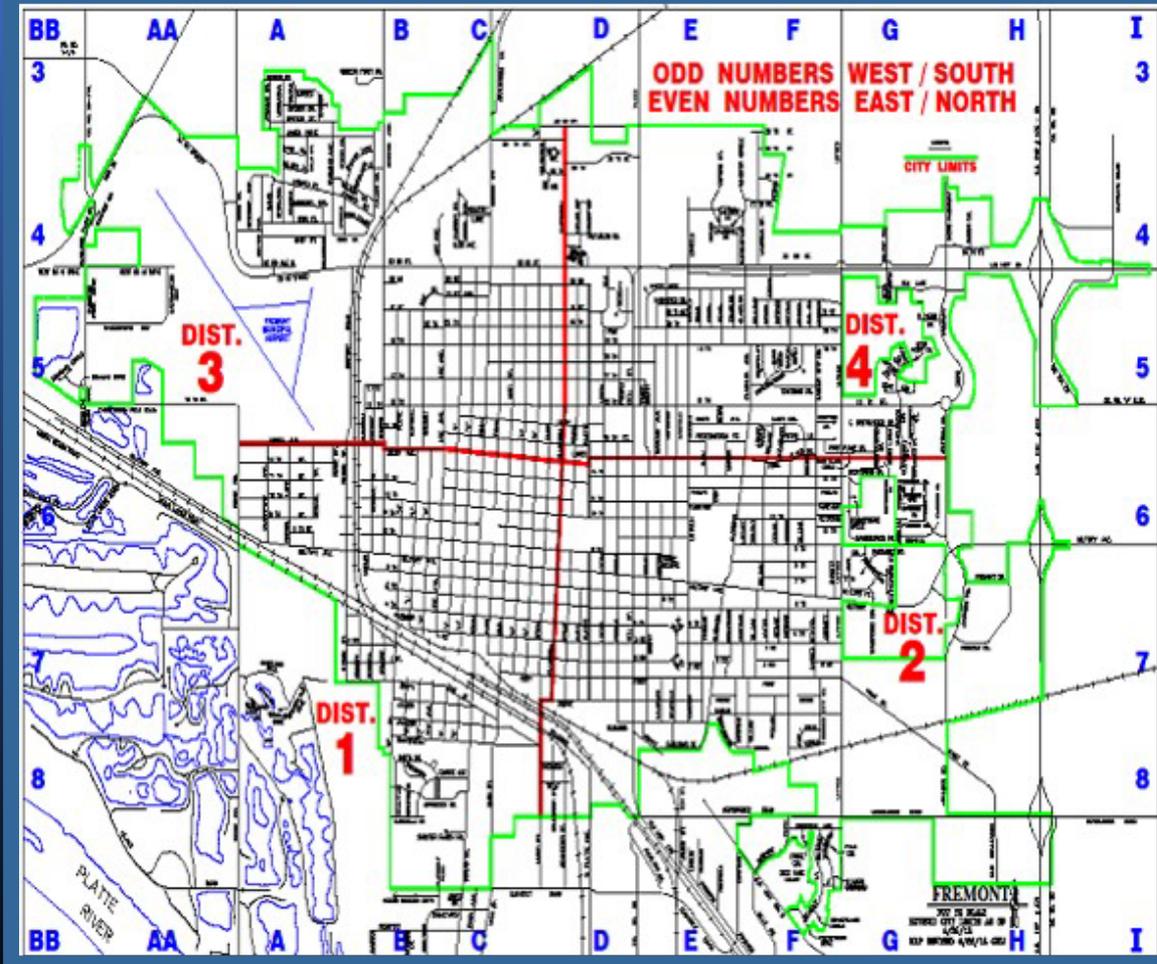


**Property/Evidence Technician Laura Luttig** joined the Fremont Police Department in October 2016. Laura holds a bachelor’s degree in Criminal Justice from the University of Nebraska Omaha. Laura is an active member of the International Association for Property and Evidence (IAPE) and the Nebraska Association for Property and Evidence (NAPE). Laura assists in processing and maintaining property and evidence collected by officers and investigators. Laura also maintains the WatchGuard camera systems as well as other equipment used by the department.

# POLICE JURISDICTION MAP

THE CITY OF FREMONT IS DIVIDED INTO GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRICTS WITH SERGEANTS AND OFFICERS ASSIGNED TO EACH AREA WHILE ON PATROL. OFFICERS AND SERGEANTS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR TAKING REPORTS AND CALLS FOR SERVICE IN THE DISTRICT TO WHICH THEY ARE ASSIGNED.

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**Lieutenant Ed Watts** manages the day-to-day operations and staff of the Patrol Division. The Patrol Division consists of 30 sworn officers including 5 sergeants and 23 officers when fully staffed. Some officers from this division are assigned specific roles such as K-9, SRO or to other divisions on a temporary basis. Officers utilize marked patrol cars, unmarked cars, bicycles, and foot patrol to perform their duties.

# TRAINING / EDUCATION

**Captain Kurt Bottorff** directs the training program for the Fremont Police Department. Proper training of law enforcement officers has become an even more vital part of police agencies across the country. Officers are facing more serious issues than ever before and their survival depends on being properly trained. Our agency provides mandatory, optional and officer-requested training to all certified officers. Training from instructors within our agency is utilized as much as possible to keep costs down so that more training can be offered. The end result is that each officer is better prepared to face those serious issues both professionally and safely.



# FIREARMS TRAINING

In 2021, the Fremont Police Department held five different firearms range training sessions. The training sessions focused primarily on officers' proficiency with their department issued handgun(s) and rifle. All certified personnel are required to pass an annual qualification to retain their law enforcement certification. Sergeant Jesse Headid is the lead Firearms Instructor with the Fremont Police Department, and holds certifications in both Handgun and Rifle Instructorship. Officer Chad Smith is also an instructor and is a certified Handgun Instructor.

In addition to firearms range sessions, officers were required to attend an Annual Simulations Training. This training allows for officers to face realistic situations that may include deadly force scenarios while equipped with less-lethal handguns. Sergeant Savio and Sergeant Headid are both Emergency Response Unit members that assisted in the Simunition Training scenarios and instruction.



# INTERN PROGRAM

The Fremont Police Department's Internship Program remains under the direction of Captain Bottorff. The program is aimed at college students interested in criminal justice in particular law enforcement. The student applies for the Internship and spends approximately 165 hours within the agency if accepted. This program has resulted in the participants getting a better understanding of the law enforcement profession and some of the participants have even become employed with us.



INTERNSHIPS

# FLEET

The overall control and operation of the Fremont Police Department's fleet is overseen by Captain Bottorff. His responsibilities include replacing outdated equipment and older fleet vehicles with new in order to keep the fleet reliable and ready for use. The agency's fleet has changed throughout the years as technology has advanced and to accommodate the types of calls officers respond to. The fleet currently consists of twelve marked patrol units, one CSO unit, an animal control truck, and thirteen unmarked vehicles. The Fremont Police Department also has an MRAP (Mine-Resistant Ambush Protected) vehicle that has been utilized during the floods and emergency response-type situations. Each of these vehicles are assigned to members of our agency based upon their needs. Captain Bottorff is assisted by Property Technician Laura Luttig. A special thanks goes out to the personnel at the Fremont Street Department who work hard to ensure all fleet vehicles are properly maintained and safe on the roads.



# FIELD TRAINING PROGRAM



## FIELD TRAINING PROGRAM 2021

The Fremont Police Department Field Training Program is based on a program designed by the San Jose, California Police Department. After graduation from the Nebraska Law Enforcement Training Center, officers must complete a 16-week Field Training Program. The program consists of three rotations where the officer is codependent on the Training Officer and will work to become independent without assistance of their Training Officer.

To become a Field Training Officer, an officer must have two years of patrol experience with the Fremont Police Department, submit a letter of intent and show good leadership qualities.

The program is overseen by:  
Lieutenant Ed Watts

The Field Training Coordinator is:  
Sergeant John Brady

Field Training Officers:

- Chad Smith
- Nickalaus Heidlage
- Seth Howard
- Justin Beranek
- Courtney Ertl



# SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER

The Fremont Police Department SRO is responsible for all 13 Fremont Public Schools in the district. The SRO is responsible to handle calls for service to all the schools and is also responsible for doing public relations within each school. Public relations would be giving talks in classrooms, speaking to staff, walking through the schools and mingling with all the students, eating lunch with the students and answering questions the students may have. The SRO keeps monthly records of all calls and all public relations done at the different schools. Calls are broken down into 11 different categories:

They include Assaults, Sexual Assaults, Assist Other Agencies, Drug/Alcohol Violations, General Assists, Calls for Service, Threat to Self, Threat to Others, Lunch and Hallway Interactions, and Public Relations/Community Policing. The SRO was on medical leave from January 1<sup>st</sup> until school started in May of 2021. The calls that the patrol division answered while the SRO was on medical leave are included in this report. In the year 2021, there were 428 calls and/or positive interactions in which the SRO was involved.

The SRO works closely with the Probation Office, the County Attorney's Office, the Juvenile Diversion Program and with the School Social Workers. The ultimate goal of the SRO Program is not to arrest or write students citations. It is designed to try and help the students and to assist the student into making good/better choices for their future. The SRO is there to be another positive mentor for the students and to break down that barrier between students and law enforcement.



**SRO  
Officer  
Jim Butts**



# EMERGENCY RESPONSE UNIT (ERU)



The Emergency Response Unit (ERU) is comprised of 16 deployable members from the Fremont Police Department, Dodge County Sheriff's Office and the Fremont Fire Department. Team composition includes a team commander and two assistant team leaders, sharpshooters, negotiators, less-lethal personnel, and shield/entry personnel. All team members are assigned to various police shifts and specialized units who are on call 24/7 and are activated for call-outs, when needed.

As has been the practice since the team's inception, members still cross-train at all positions. Training includes firearms, tactical planning and execution, building entries and searches, hostage negotiations/rescue, warrant, and raid planning. Changes in ERU tactics over the years have come as a direct result of improved equipment and technology. Equipment like ballistic shields, better optics, and less-lethal options have all played a role in the way the ERU can approach different situations.

Call-outs include high risk search warrants and barricaded or armed suspects. The ERU team is also used for special details and are on standby during major events.

# K-9 PROGRAM

**Officer Ryan** and her partner, **K-9 Officer Apollo**, graduated from K-9 School at the Nebraska Law Enforcement Training Center in Grand Island, NE. Apollo has been trained as a drug recognition dog to alert for the presence of drugs. The team of Officer Ryan and Apollo have shown results with drugs being located on traffic stops. The K-9 Program is overseen by Sergeant Gieselman. (pictured top right)

The K-9 Team would not be possible without the efforts of our Fremont Crimestoppers Board who provided necessary funds to obtain Apollo. The Fremont Police Department has also been blessed by other businesses and community leaders who support our partnership as well.



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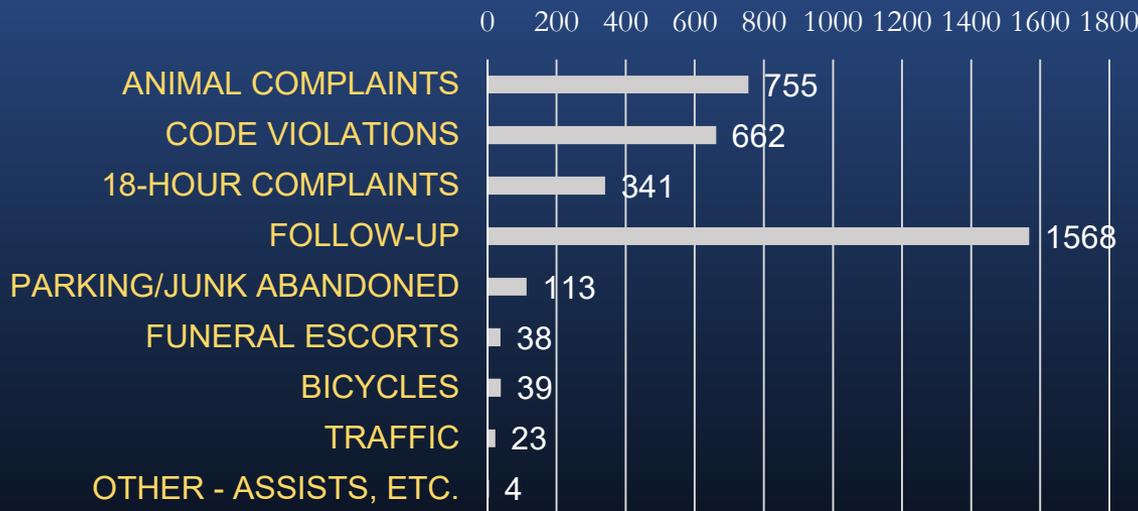
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# COMMUNITY SERVICE OFFICERS

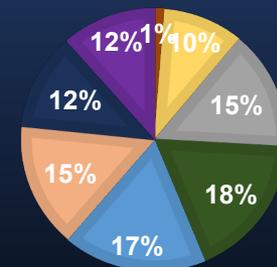
After reviewing some of the practices at other first-class cities across the state, the Fremont Police Department formed the Community Service Division in April. A Community Service Officer supervisor was hired in April with over 20 years of experience handling animal complaints. She is an animal investigator at two separate Police Academy schools. The Community Service Officer Division consists of the supervisor and two other community service officers.

The City founded the Community Service Division for several reasons. First, CSOs can handle a wide variety of calls that do NOT require a police officer. Second, the City can proactively handle many more calls like code violations, 18-hour parking complaints, abandoned vehicles, citizen mediations, Evidence technician tasks, fingerprinting, and animal complaints. Third, the City wanted the Police Department to handle animal control issues, or in other words a uniformed CSO to answer animal calls who are equipped with a police cruiser and a body camera to record the incident.



## TOTAL CALLS BY MONTH

- MAY
- JUNE
- JULY
- AUGUST
- SEPTEMBER
- OCTOBER
- NOVEMBER
- DECEMBER



# Co-Responder Program

In November 2021, **Rachel Wesely** MS, LMHP, LPC was hired as a full-time co-responder for the Fremont Police Department.

This model pairs a licensed mental health clinician with law enforcement to jointly respond to calls where mental health challenges may exist. They work together as a team to assess a mentally ill individual, provide appropriate crisis intervention, and connection to outpatient care and community-based services. These referrals help individuals to avoid incarceration, involuntary holds, or other dangerous situations.



## BENEFITS

- Reducing costs for the city and local LE while improving partnerships with mental health community services
- Improved systems collaboration. Collaboration creates positive ongoing community relationships between systems
  - Members from hospital systems, county attorneys and command work through system barriers through a collaborative process
  - Involves all parties to effectively communicate concerns to better understand an issue at hand and develop a process to follow
  - Allows for additional training for both the PD and hospital staff to improve interactions and streamline help for those who need that immediate assistance
- Additional data collection opportunities
  - Service engagement
  - Admittance and diversion from jail and hospitalization
    - Diversion efforts
      - Tracking the number of selected disposition code
  - Improved officer safety and consumer safety
    - Review use of force incidents that involved a MH-component
  - Reducing 911 calls from the same individuals with a mental health issue
    - Working with Dispatch and FPD to determine most frequented addresses responded to citywide.
    - Co-Responder efforts regarding outreach, connection and resource provision have increased in response to these addresses



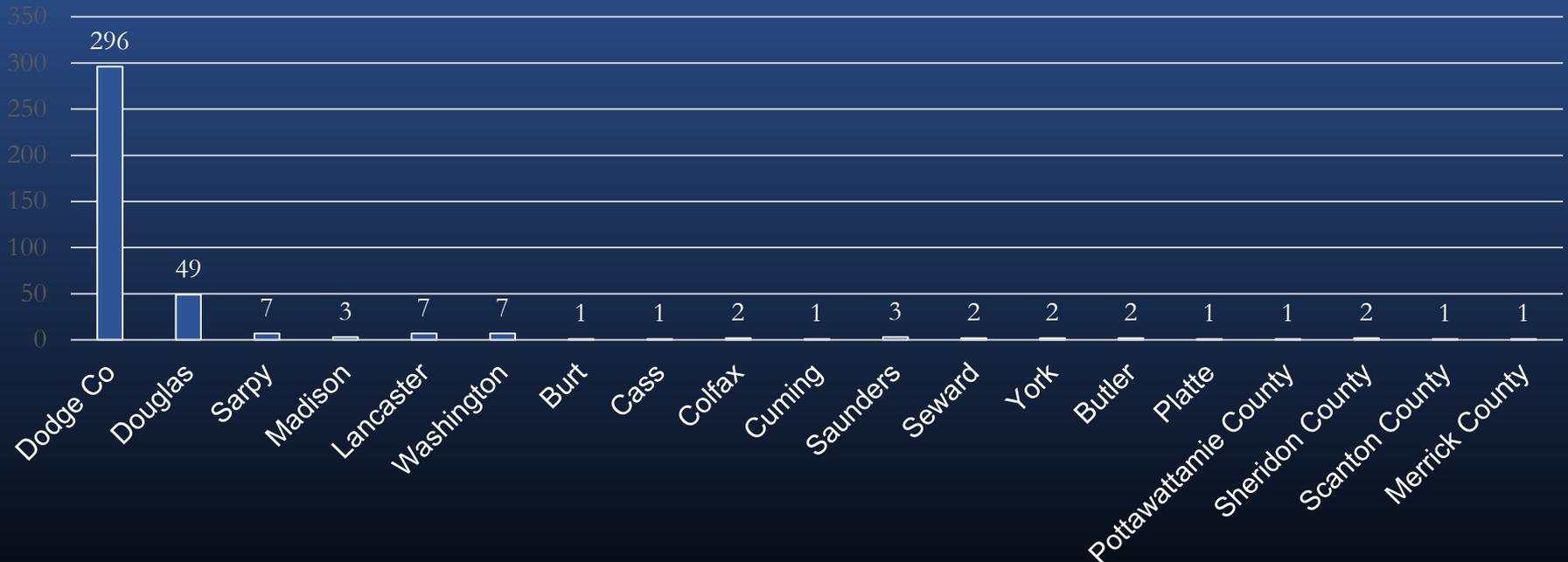
# WARRANTS SERVED



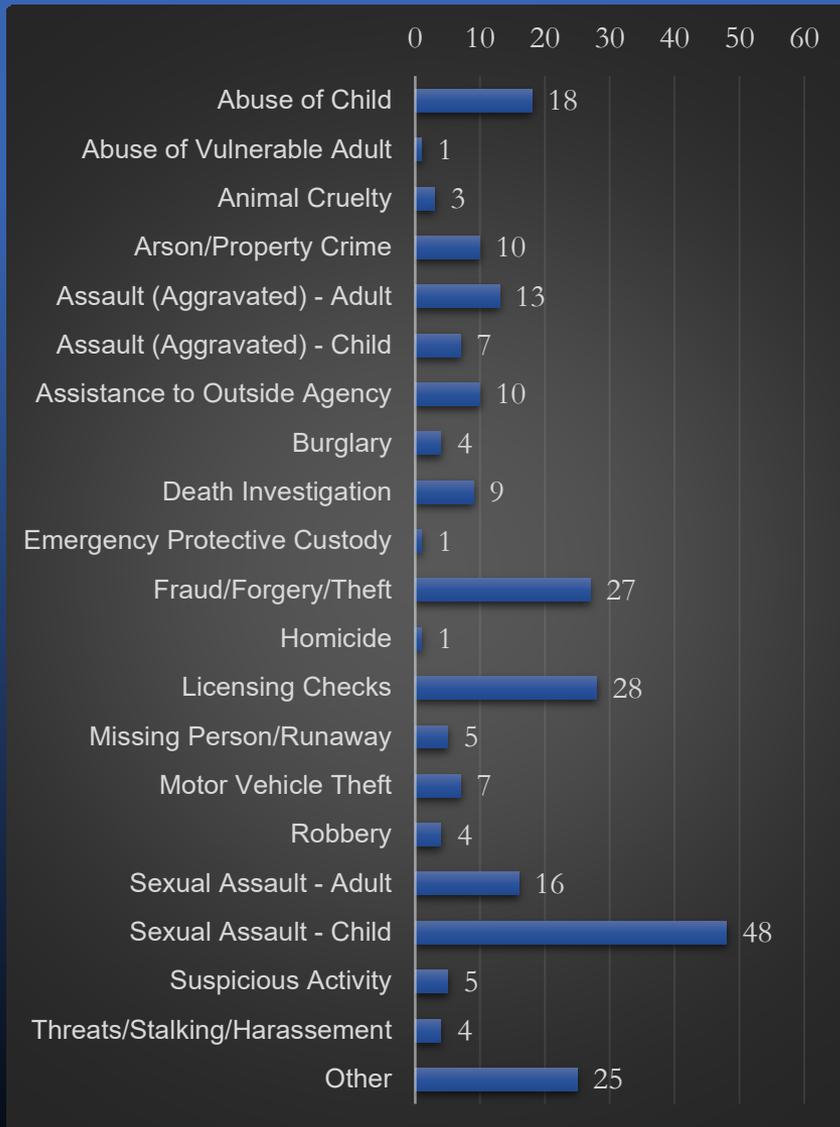
**Officer Payton Boston** was the Warrant Officer of the Year for 2021. Officer Boston had 90 captures and 109 warrants cleared.

In total, the Fremont Police Department cleared 389 warrants in 2021. Of the 389 warrants cleared, our agency arrested individuals on warrants from Nebraska, Iowa, Kansas

2021 WARRANT OFFICER  
OF THE YEAR  
**OFFICER PAYTON BOSTON**



# INVESTIGATIONS



## DISPOSITIONS OF THE INVESTIGATIONS

**15 UNFOUNDED:** An investigation was conducted and there was no evidence a crime was committed.

**61 CLEARED:** An arrest was made or a citation was issued.

**96 INACTIVE:** The investigation is exhausted with little/no hope of solving the case or the nature of the case is such that the case couldn't reach a status such as cleared. (For example: A welfare check.)

**14 ACTIVE:** The investigation is ongoing and the detective is still working the case.

### 60 CLOSED BY OTHER ACTION

The Investigations Division is supervised by **Sergeant Kurt Pafford** under the direction of **Captain Shane Wimer**. The division is responsible for the investigation of significant cases involving a special subject matter, jurisdictional implications and cases that are more complicated and often more time consuming. The Investigations Unit is also responsible for the collection and preservation of evidence. Normally, the detectives will become involved with an investigation after the initial response of the Uniformed Patrol Division. They are also responsible for conducting background investigations for any person applying for a solicitation permit or liquor license within the boundaries of Fremont.

Examples of significant cases involving a special subject matter include, but are not limited to:

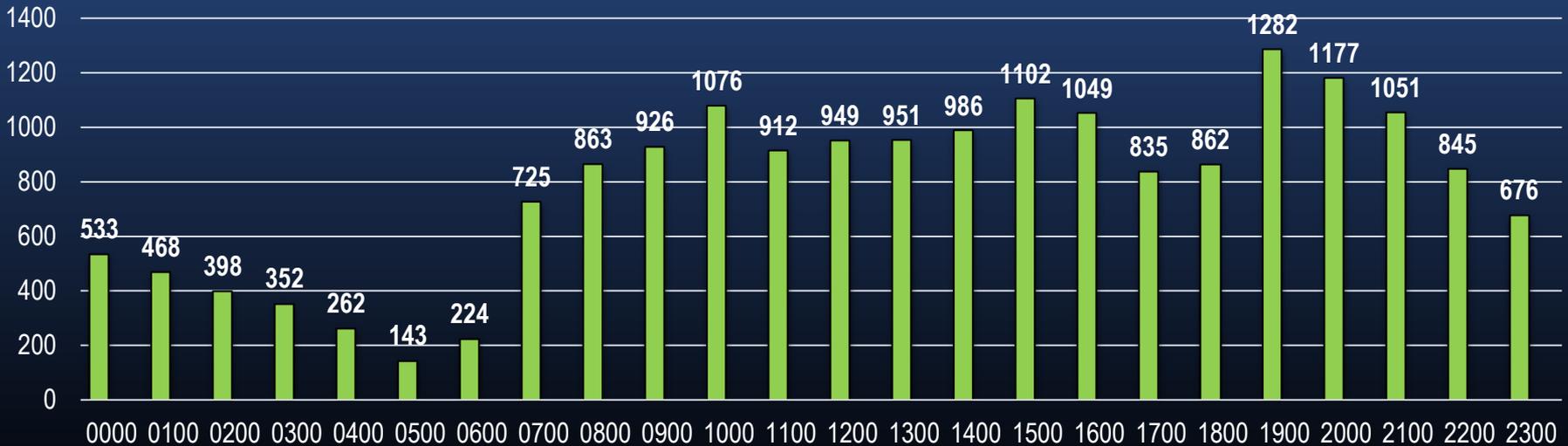
- property crimes such as burglary, fraud and forgeries,
- physical and sexual assault, child abuse and neglect,
- death investigations with unusual or suspicious circumstances.

# 2021 CALLS FOR SERVICE – 18,647 INCIDENT REPORTS GENERATED - 5,704

## 2021 CALLS BY MONTH

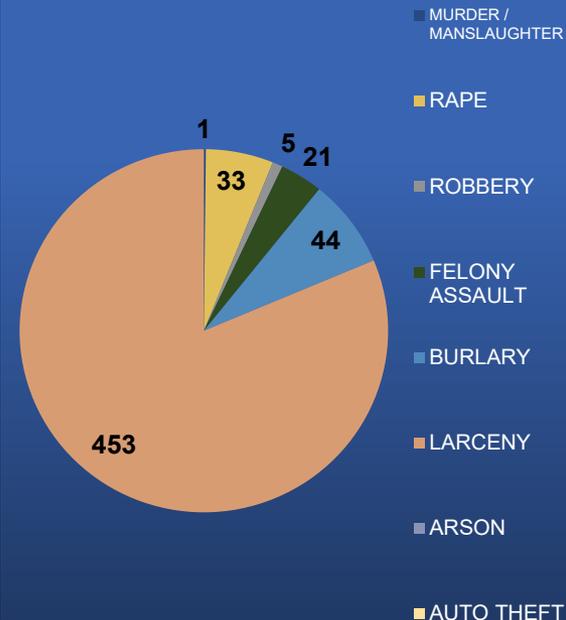


## CALLS BY TIME OF DAY

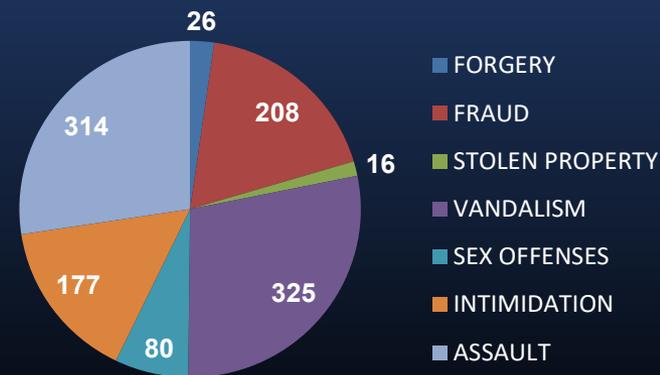


# 2021 CRIME STATISTICS

OFFENSES	2019	2020	DIFFERENCE FROM PREVIOUS YEAR	2021	DIFFERENCE FROM PREVIOUS YEAR
<b>PART 1 OFFENSES</b>					
MURDER/MANSLAUGHTER	0	0	0.0%	1	100.0%
RAPE	25	22	-12.0%	33	50.0%
ROBBERY	8	7	-12.5%	5	-28.6%
FELONY ASSAULT	23	26	13.0%	21	-19.2%
BURLARY	101	73	-27.7%	44	-39.7%
LARCENY	2019	2020	2021		
	442	476	7.7%	453	-4.8%
Larceny/Pocket Picking	1	1		1	
Larceny/Purse Snatching	0	1		0	
Larceny/Shoplifting	73	94		66	
Larceny/From Building	60	36		71	
Larceny/From Coin Op. Machine	1	0		0	
Larceny/From Motor Vehicle	96	119		88	
Larceny/Motor Vehicle Parts/Acc.	14	15		37	
Larceny/Unlawful Taking	197	210		190	
ARSON	4	3	-25.0%	3	0.0%
AUTO THEFT	54	68	25.9%	54	-20.6%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>657</b>	<b>675</b>	<b>2.7%</b>	<b>614</b>	<b>-9.0%</b>

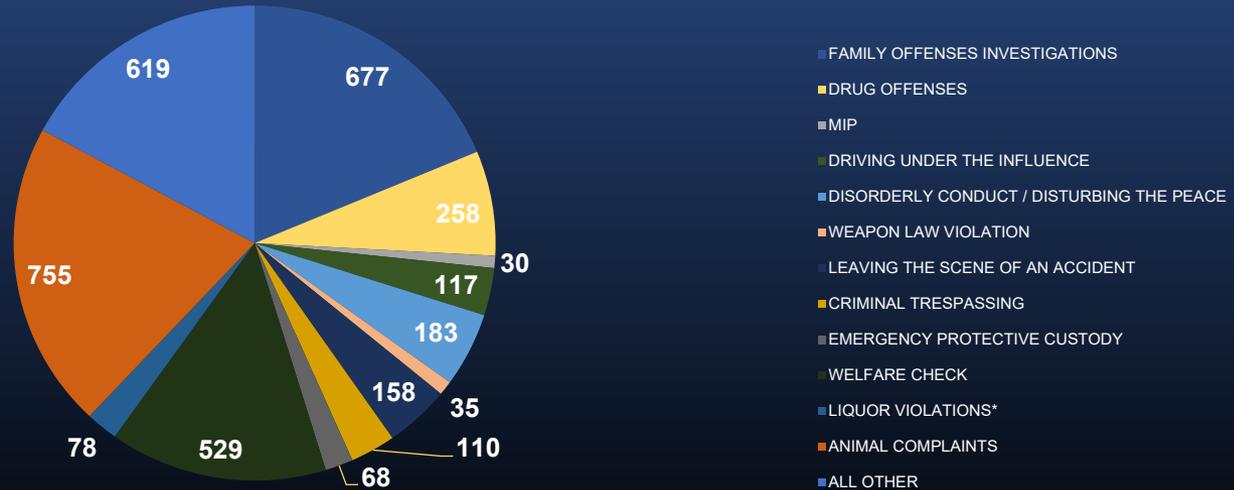


PART II OFFENSES	2019	2020	DIFFERENCE FROM PREVIOUS YEAR	2021	DIFFERENCE FROM PREVIOUS YEAR
FORGERY	61	31	-49.2%	26	-16.1%
FRAUD	149	104	-30.2%	208	100.0%
STOLEN PROPERTY	25	6	-76.0%	16	166.7%
VANDALISM	292	336	15.1%	325	-3.3%
SEX OFFENSES	46	48	4.3%	80	66.7%
INTIMIDATION	0	0		177	
ASSAULT	423	484	14.4%	314	-35.1%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>996</b>	<b>1,009</b>	<b>1.3%</b>	<b>1,146</b>	<b>13.6%</b>



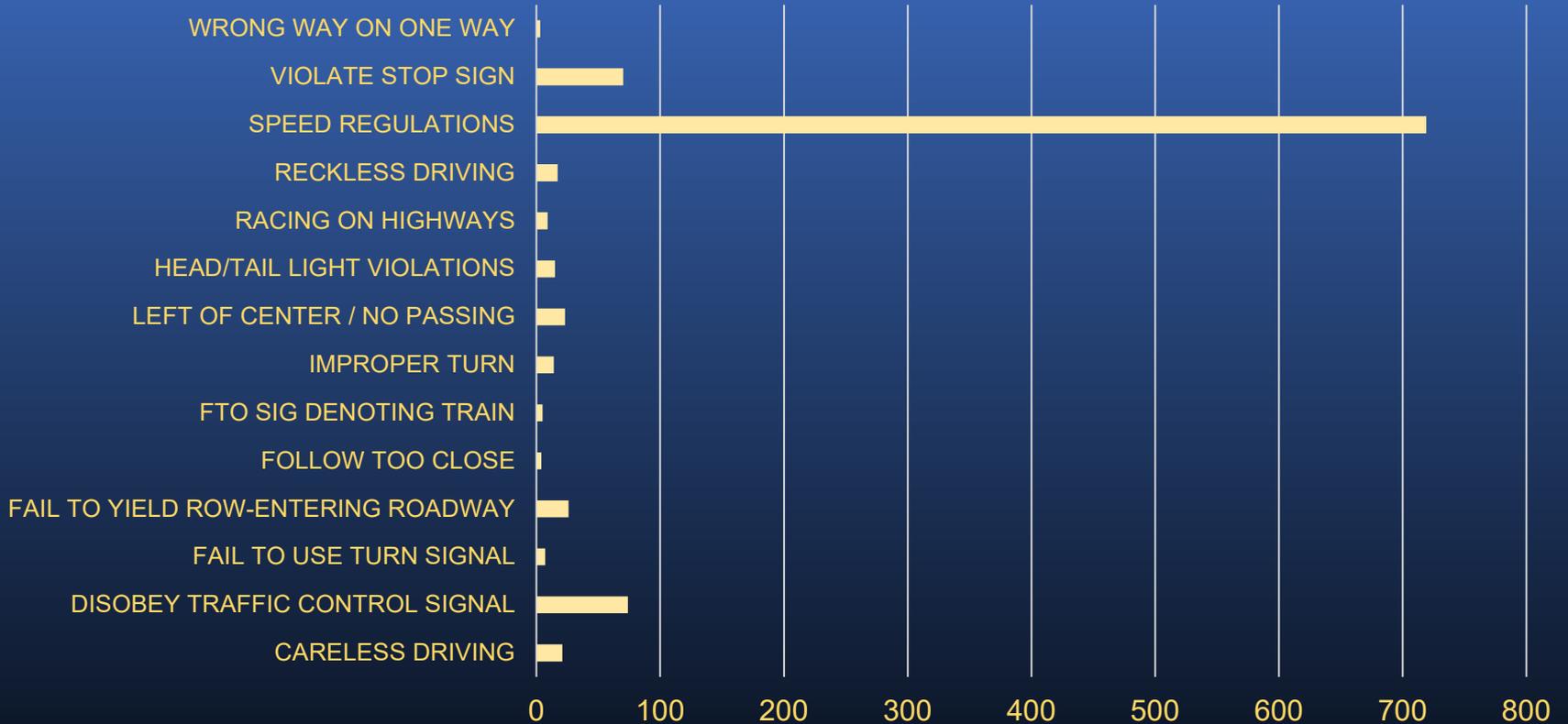
# 2021 CRIME STATISTICS

OTHER SELECTED OFFENSES/INCIDENTS	2019	2020	DIFFERENCE FROM PREVIOUS YEAR	2021	DIFFERENCE FROM PREVIOUS YEAR
FAMILY OFFENSES INVESTIGATIONS	782	676	-13.6%	677	0.1%
DRUG OFFENSES	319	235	-26.3%	258	9.8%
MIP	20	32	60.0%	30	-6.3%
DRIVING UNDER THE INFLUENCE	73	97	32.9%	117	20.6%
DISORDERLY CONDUCT / DISTURBING THE PEACE	198	199	0.5%	183	-8.0%
WEAPON LAW VIOLATION	22	12	-45.5%	35	191.7%
LEAVING THE SCENE OF AN ACCIDENT	164	168	2.4%	158	-6.0%
CRIMINAL TRESPASSING	64	73	14.1%	110	50.7%
EMERGENCY PROTECTIVE CUSTODY	72	91	26.4%	68	-25.3%
WELFARE CHECK	401	521	29.9%	529	1.5%
LIQUOR VIOLATIONS*	31	26	-16.1%	78	200.0%
ANIMAL COMPLAINTS	107	112	4.7%	755	574.1%
ALL OTHER	778	1,009	29.7%	619	-38.7%
	3,031	3,251	7.3%	3,617	11.3%



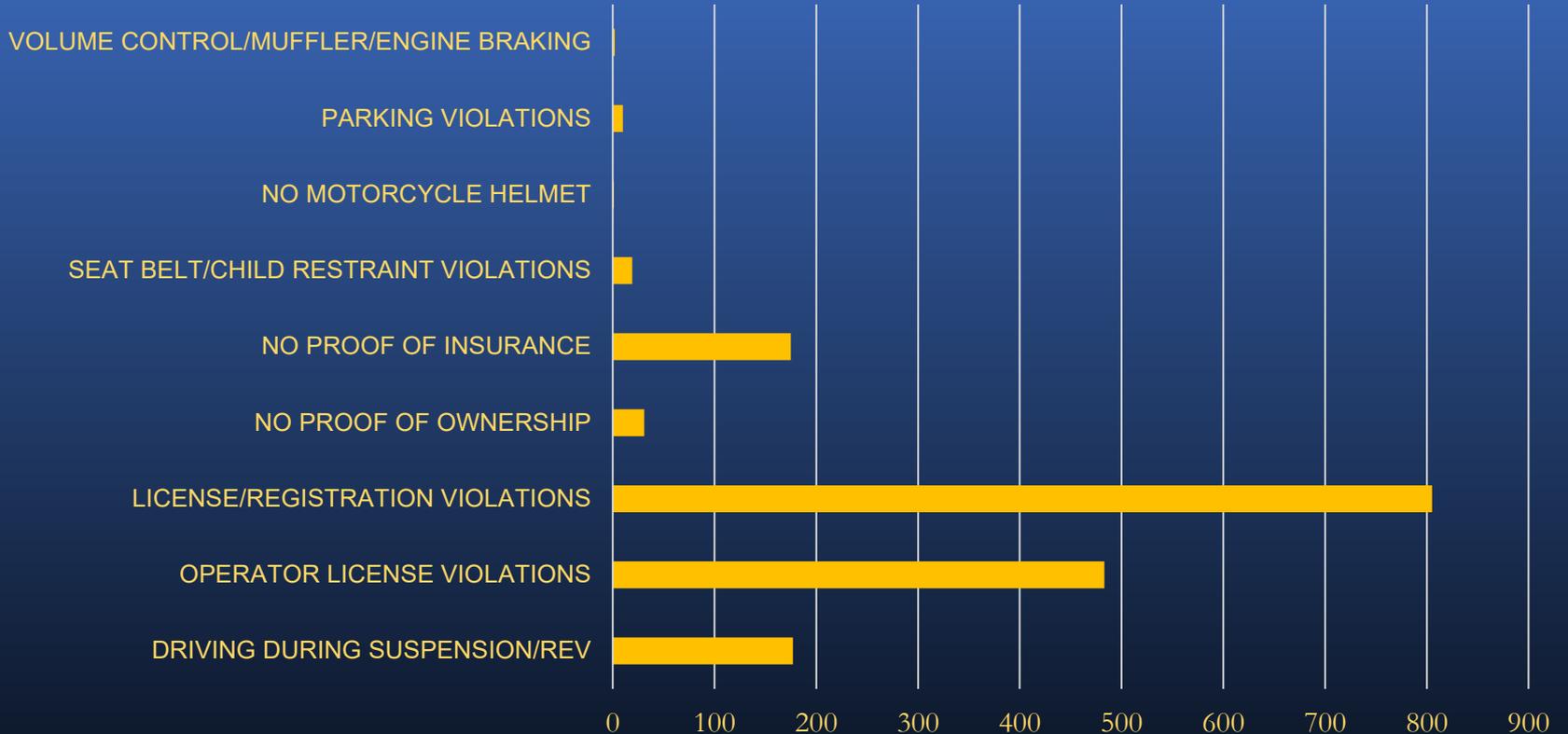
# CITATIONS

## HAZARDOUS CITATIONS/VIOLATIONS = 1,007



# CITATIONS

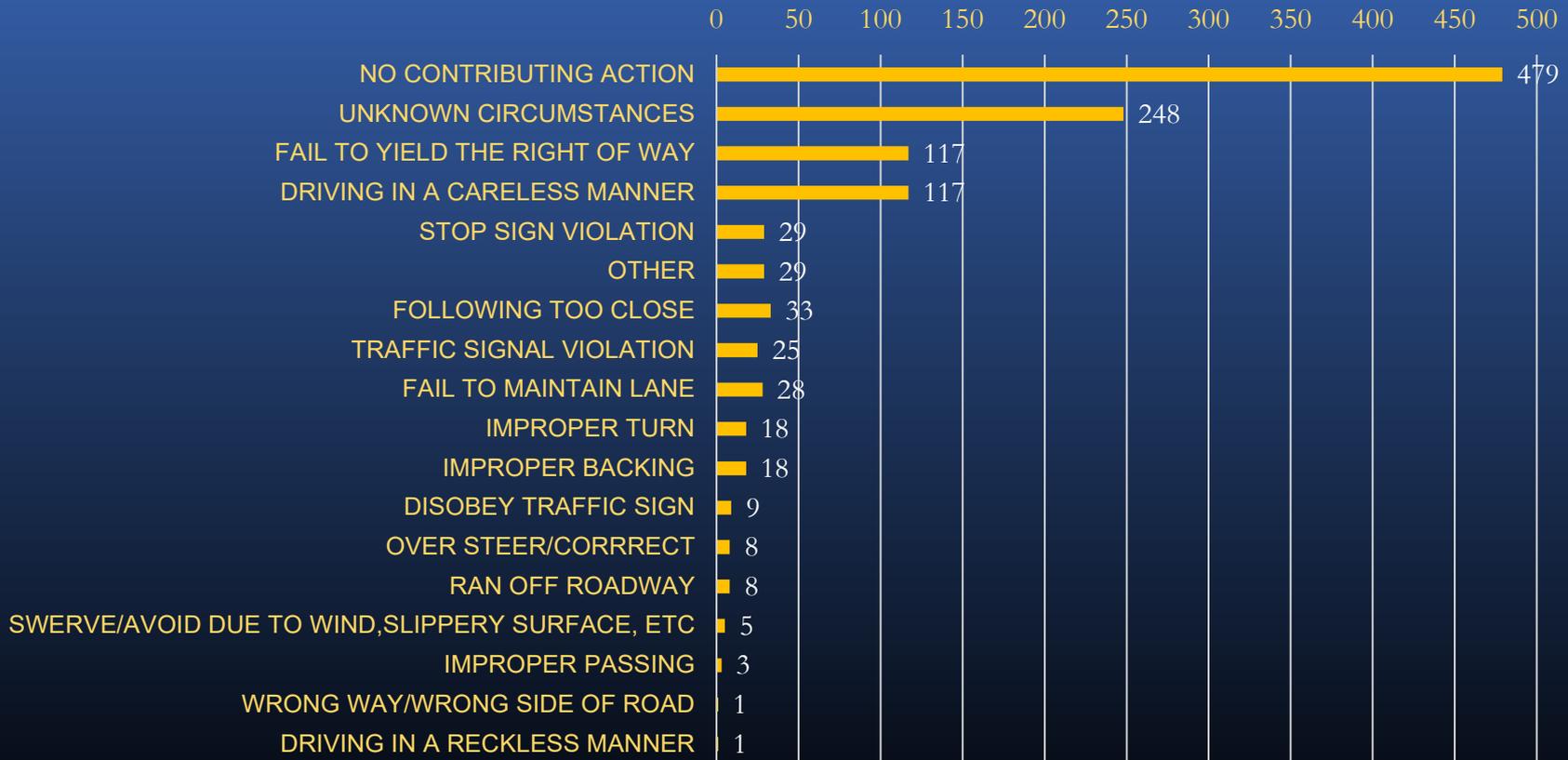
## NON-HAZARDOUS CITATIONS/VIOLATIONS = 1,703



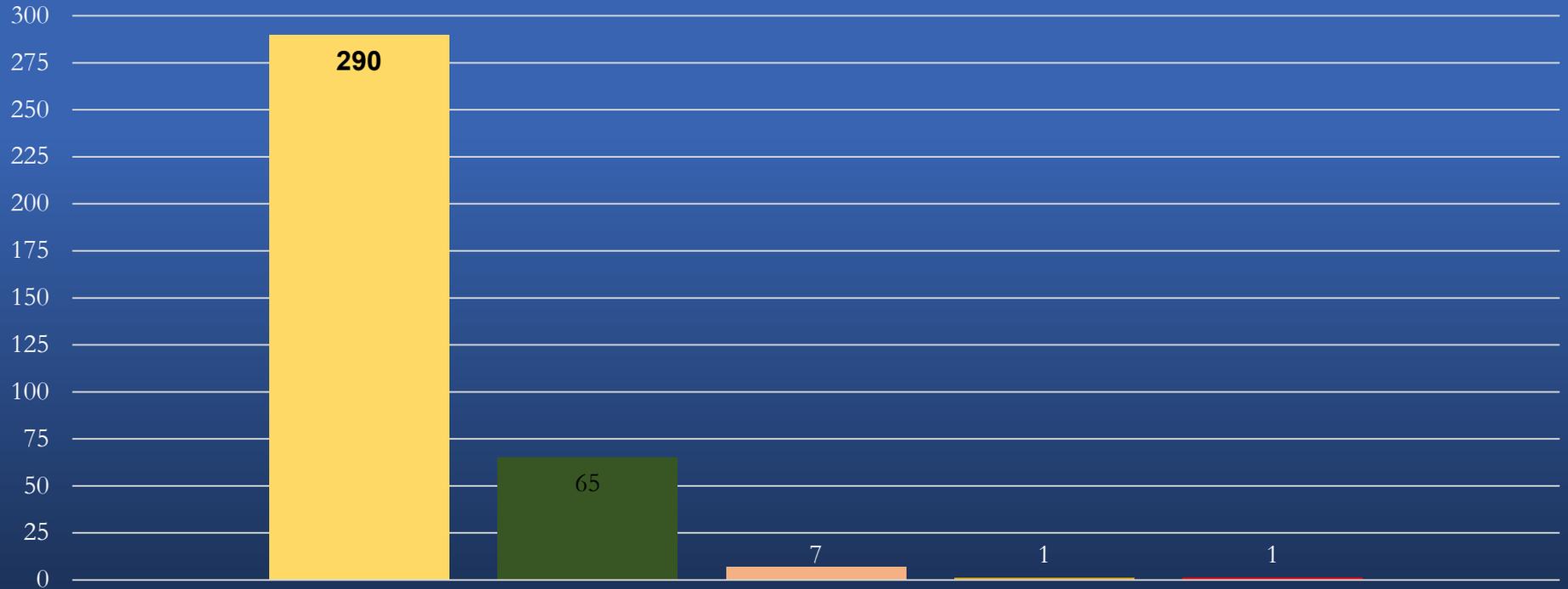
# TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS

TOTAL ACCIDENTS 2021: 597  
TOTAL NUMBER OF VEHICLES INVOLVED: 1,156  
NUMBER OF INJURIES REPORTED: 298  
FATAL ACCIDENTS: 1  
HIT AND RUN ACCIDENTS: 137

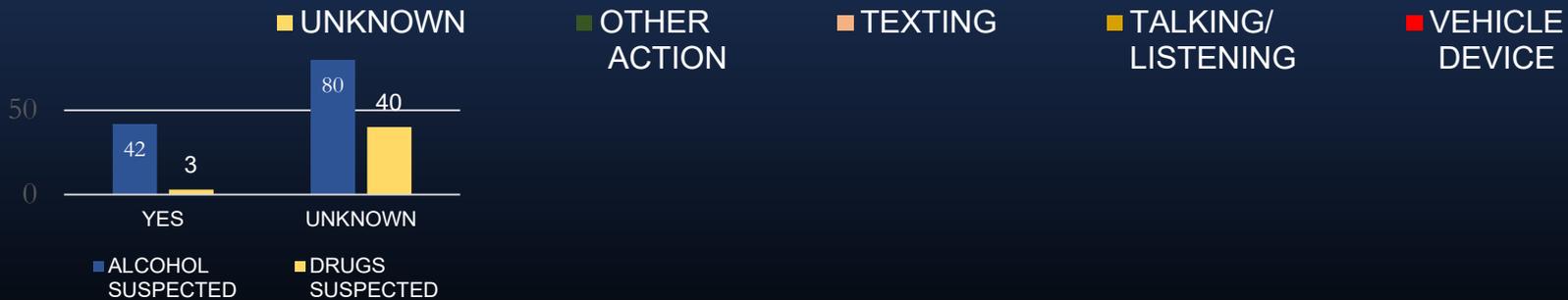
## CONTRIBUTING ACTIONS OF DRIVERS (SOME CARS HAVE MORE THAN ONE ACTION)



# TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS



## DISTRACTED DRIVING



COMMITTED TO SERVICE. PROUD TO PROTECT.

# TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS

## TOP 15 INTERSECTIONS INVOLVING ACCIDENTS:

1.	23 <sup>RD</sup> ST & CLARKSON ST	28
2.	23 <sup>RD</sup> ST & YAGER RD	21
3.	23 <sup>RD</sup> ST & LUTHER RD	16
4.	23 <sup>RD</sup> ST & BELL ST	15
5.	23 <sup>RD</sup> ST & LINCOLN AVE	12
6.	23 <sup>RD</sup> ST & DIERS PKWY	12
7.	MILITARY AVE & BELL ST	10
8.	MILITARY AVE & BROAD ST	10
9.	1 <sup>ST</sup> ST & BELL ST	10
10.	16 <sup>TH</sup> ST & LINCOLN AVE	10
11.	23 <sup>RD</sup> ST & BROAD ST	9
12.	16 <sup>TH</sup> ST & BELL ST	9
13.	LINDEN AVE & MAIN ST	9
14.	MILITARY AVE & CLARMAR AV	7
15.	BROAD ST & SCHUSTER RANCH	6



# III CORPS DRUG TASK FORCE

III CORPS Drug Task Force is a multi-jurisdictional task force comprised of law enforcement agencies from Cuming, Dodge and Saunders counties, the cities of Fremont, Blair, Wahoo, and Yutan. III CORPS' inception was in October of 1997. The geographic area covered by the task force represents approximately 1,900 square miles, with a population of approximately 75,000 people including the 26,397 living in Fremont, Nebraska.

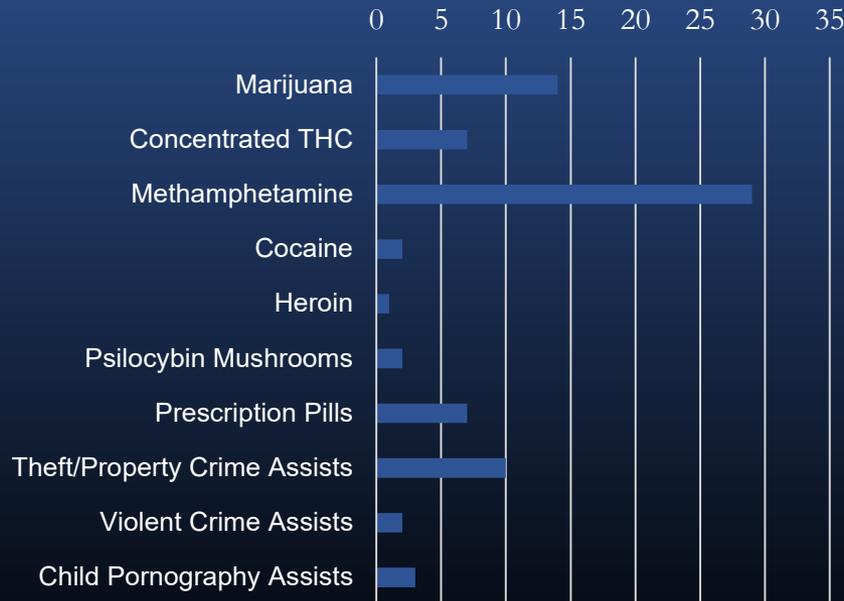
The Task Force currently has three agents assigned to work cases in our geographic area. The Task Force is headquartered in Fremont, Nebraska.

The Fremont Police Department provides two agents. The agents report directly to the III CORPS board of directors consisting of the department heads from six of the agencies located within the area of operation.

The Task Force is funded through the participating agencies. The individual agencies allocate whatever funds and resources available to support the Task Force's operations. The pooling of inter-departmental assets, the unanimous dedication to our community and the timely infusion of federal funds has kept the III CORPS Drug Task Force in operation

DRUG	QUANTITY SEIZED
Marijuana	194,818.4g
Methamphetamine	1536.07g
Prescription Pills	282 dosage units
Concentrated Cannabis	14.2g
Cocaine	1.1g
Psilocybin Mushrooms	1502.4g
Heroin	6.6g

## Number of Cases Involving:



Through a grant obtained by III CORPS, the Fremont Police Department currently offers a NADDI (National Association of Drug Diversion Investigators) drop box allowing the public a safe and secure way to dispose of prescription drugs and helping to keep these drugs off the streets.

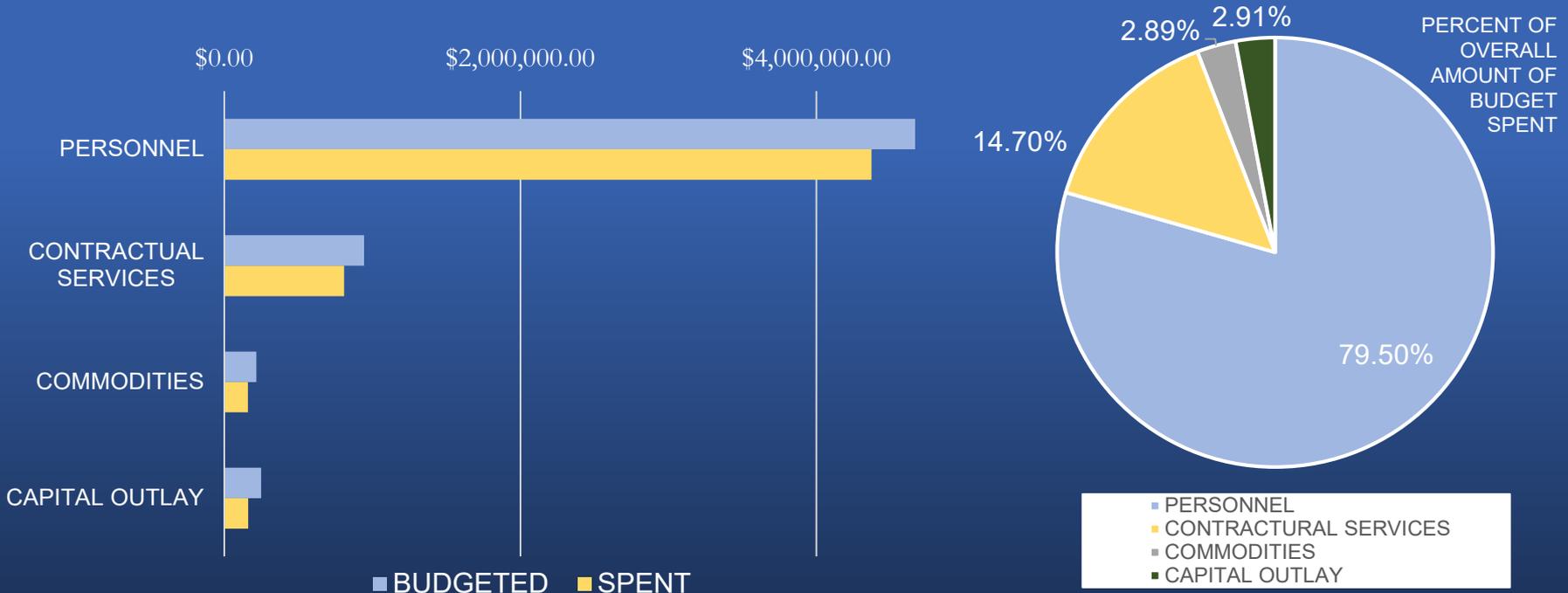
The **Rx Drug Drop Box** is located in the lobby of the Fremont Police Department located at 725 N. Park Ave., where prescription pills can be discarded. **The drop box is available from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. Officers also will take pills at other times.**

2021

Number of cases: 130  
 Number of arrests: 61  
 Firearms: 16  
 Search Warrants: 22

COMMITTED TO SERVICE. PROUD TO PROTECT.

# DEPARTMENT BUDGET



2020/2021 BUDGET YEAR	PERSONNEL	CONTRACTUAL SERVICES	COMMODITIES	CAPITAL OUTLAY	OVERALL TOTAL
<b>BUDGETED</b>	\$4,666,393.00	\$944,142.00	\$216,800.00	\$248,389.00	\$6,075,724.00
<b>SPENT</b>	\$4,372,793.55	\$808,592.88	\$158,916.18	\$160,116.29	\$5,500,418.90
<b>PERCENTAGE SPENT</b>	<b>94%</b>	<b>86%</b>	<b>73%</b>	<b>65%</b>	<b>91%</b>

# 2021 NOTABLE EVENTS

**Community Service Officer Additions:** With City Council approval, Chief Elliott added to the Fremont Police Department. Three new Community Service Officers were added, taking on the duties of Code Enforcement, Animal Control and Evidence Handling. Welcome CSO's Kelli Brown, Melissa Ball and Jennifer Palik. The new positions have proven to be a great asset to the City and the department. These positions have taken some of the call load off of the Uniformed Patrol Division so they can handle more criminal calls for service. The Chief and Patrol Officers believe the CSO's have been well worth the investment.



**Mental Health Co-Responder Addition:** The City Council also approved the Chief's request to add its first Mental Health Co-Responder Rachel Wesely. The Co-Responder assists officers with individuals they come into contact with on the streets with mental health issues. Rachel has been a welcome asset to the department and the community by helping deal with those situations where a higher level of understanding concerning mental health issues are needed.



**Department Restructure:** Chief Elliott restructured the Fremont Police Department Rank and File. Chief Elliott promoted two Lieutenants to Captain and added an additional Sergeant. The two Captains promoted were Captain Wimer and Captain Bottorff. Their duties are split. Captain Wimer oversees the Operations Division. He leads the Patrol Division, Detective Bureau and Community Service Officers. Captain Bottorff oversees the Administrative Division. He leads and is in charge of Administrative Assistants, Building Maintenance, Fleet Management, Co-Responder Program, Property/Evidence Technician, and the Intern Program. A Sergeant was moved to oversee the Detective Bureau and III Corps. This was Sergeant Pafford. Sergeant Pafford leads the day-to-day operations of the Detective Bureau and III Corps Investigators.

**Sergeant Promotions:** After two previous Sergeants left the department, two new Sergeants were promoted from the rank and file. Congratulations to Sergeant Adam Macpherson who started with the Department in 2013 and Sergeant Jesse Headid who started in 2015. Both Sergeants work the night shift and are definitely making an impact in leading the officers on their shifts.



**First Hispanic Female Officer:** The Fremont Police Department added its first Hispanic female officer to its ranks in June. Welcome aboard Officer Melanie Martinez. She has been a great asset and has a bright future here at FPD. The department has been working hard to recruit great officers like Officer Martinez to help bridge the gap and reach out to our diversified community. (Picture to left: Officer Martinez being sworn in by Mayor Spellerberg)

COMMITTED TO SERVICE. PROUD TO PROTECT.

# 2021 NOTABLE EVENTS

**Halloween Battle of the Badge:** The Fremont Police Department challenged the Dodge County Sheriff's Department to their annual Halloween Battle of the Badge Candy Grab. Thanks to several anonymous donors, the Fremont Police Department gave out over 500 bags of candy to kids, beating the DCSO for a second straight year.

**Christmas Gifts:** For the eighth straight Christmas, an anonymous donor donated \$5,000.00 to be given away on traffic stops in \$100.00 increments. The officers always appreciate giving this special gift at Christmas time.



**Pink Patch Program:** The FOP (Fraternal Order of Police) members were highly successful raising funds for the Pink Patch Program to help support cancer victims. This is the first year of participation.



**Shop With a Cop:** The FOP (Fraternal Order of Police) had another great year with Shop With a Cop program for Christmas. This program has been in existence for over 20 years. The FOP, with help from Fremont Public Schools, select approximately 50 at need children along with their families and help them purchase Christmas gifts. This is truly a great program and is funded by donations.



# 2021 NOTABLE CRIMINAL CASES

## January 2021

**Murder of a Child:** Fremont Police Officers were called to the 1300 block of Missouri Avenue in reference to a four-month-old baby who had been stabbed multiple times while she was in her crib. An officer on scene grabbed up the baby and ran with her a block away to the paramedics that had arrived on scene. The baby girl succumbed to her injuries causing her death. Officers made an immediate arrest at the scene. The suspect was a 19-year-old male who was a relative of the baby girl. He was charged with First Degree Murder. Officers of the Fremont Police Department send their heart felt condolences to the family.

## May 2021

**Officer-Involved Shooting:** In May 2021, officers of the Fremont Police Department were involved in the shooting of a suicidal male with a gun threatening to kill himself in the 200 block of Clarmar Avenue. Six officers were called to the scene, in which a male threatened officers, pointing a gun at them. The officers were forced to act to protect themselves and the lives of their fellow officers. The male was shot multiple times and unfortunately succumbed to his injuries at the scene. After months of investigation by the Nebraska State Patrol, a Grand Jury found no wrong doing. The officers were cleared and the shooting was found to be justified. This was the first officer-involved shooting where a suspect was killed in over 50 years by Fremont Police. A true tragedy for the family of the suspect and the officers.

## August 2021

**Abuse of Vulnerable Adult:** The III Corps Drug Task Force and Fremont Detective Bureau became aware of a “Grandparents Scam” which had been sweeping the nation and made its way to Fremont. Suspects were calling the elderly and convincing them to wire or physically hand over thousands of dollars to scammers who convinced the victims that their loved ones were in jail and needed bond money. Investigators learned over 43K dollars had already been stolen from local residents, with another 31K being attempted to be taken. Investigators were able to work with citizens of Fremont and Dodge County to attempt sting operations. These suspects were so bold that they would arrive in person to residences to collect cash. Through investigative efforts and working with additional Federal Agencies including the IRS and FBI, investigators were able to provide additional details and information leading to the arrest and indictment of multiple parties in other states.

# 2021 NOTABLE CRIMINAL CASES

## September 2021

**Maya the Dog:** Fremont Police and Community Service Officers were called to 2600 Laverna Street in reference to possible animal cruelty. Officers contacted the reporting party and through their investigation came across a one-year-old black Lab mix, severely malnourished. Maya weighed only 15lbs and should normally weigh 40lbs for her age. Maya, grasping to life, needed immediate medical attention. CSO Kelli Brown said this was one of the worst cases of animal neglect she had seen in the 18 years of service in the field. Due to the cost of care and months of recovery for Maya, she was taken by the Nebraska Humane Society where her medical bills soared. Due to the generosity of a Go-Fund-Me page, the bills were paid with some to spare. Maya made a full recovery and was adopted. The owner was convicted of Animal Cruelty and received 18 months Probation and can still have pets.

## September 2021

**Sexual Assault of a Child:** Detectives of the Fremont Police Department investigated a child sexual assault that had continued for over two years. The step-father was interviewed where he initially denied the allegations. The child was then pressured by her mother to recant her statements in fear that she would lose the financial support of the step-father if he went to jail. A second interview was conducted where the step-father admitted to sexually assaulting his step-daughter for over two years. He was arrested and sentenced to 40-50 years in prison. The bio mother also pled guilty to a lesser charge and was sentenced to 12 months Probation.

## September 2021

**Shots Fired:** Officers responded to a shots fired call, concerning a road rage incident where the driver of a Ford F150 pickup, shot at a motorist over a minor traffic accident. The suspect fled the scene, but was later apprehended in a nearby town. Great detective and patrol work identified the suspect as the shooter who was a multi time convicted felon. He was charged with Possession of a Deadly Weapon by a Prohibited Person, Terroristic Threats, Use of a Deadly Weapon to Commit a Felony, Attempt of a Class III Felony, and Leaving the Scene of an Accident. The suspect later pled guilty to a lesser charge receiving a 15-year sentence.

# COMMUNITY POLICING



**TWIZZLER  
GIVEAWAY**

# COMMUNITY POLICING



# COMMUNITY POLICING



# COMMUNITY POLICING



# COMMUNITY POLICING



TRICK OR TREAT

# COMMUNITY POLICING



**SANTA MONEY  
GIVEAWAY**

**COMMITTED TO SERVICE. PROUD TO PROTECT.**

# COMMUNITY POLICING



IN THE ACT



NATIONAL NIGHT OUT



BIG TRUCK DAY AT LIBRARY

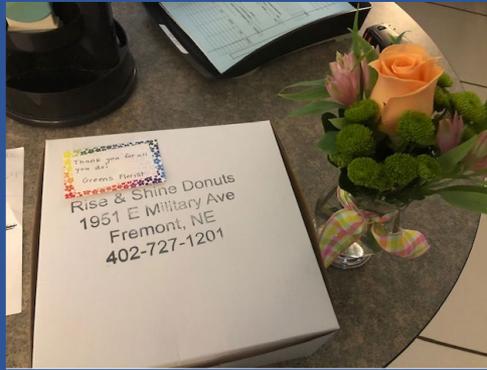
# COMMUNITY SUPPORT



◆ THANKS!

THANKS!

# COMMUNITY SUPPORT



Thanks!



Thank you!

# COMMUNITY SUPPORT



# COMMUNITY SUPPORT



# DEPARTMENT PHOTOS



	DATE OF HIRE		DATE OF HIRE		DATE OF HIRE
<b>Chief of Police</b>		<b>Patrol Officers</b>		<b>Patrol Officers</b>	
Jeffrey Elliott	09-01-1989	Joe Bauer	08-15-1999	Jackson Shepherd	11-30-2020
<b>Captains</b>		Jim Butts (SRO)	12-20-1999	Melanie Martinez	07-20-2021
Kurt Bottorff	03-21-1994	Tyler Hancock	06-11-2001	<b>Reserve Officers</b>	
Shane Wimer	06-11-2001	Steven Behring	03-31-2008	Kent Grisham	03-30-1999
<b>Lieutenant</b>		Anthony Gartner	01-26-2009	Ron Giesselmann	09-10-2000
Ed Watts	08-08-1995	Chad Smith	04-02-2013	<b>Community Service Officers</b>	
<b>Sergeants</b>		Steve Zaroban	12-01-2014	Supervisor Kelli Brown	04-19-2021
Jim Dockerty	07-19-1995	Andrew Dixon	12-01-2014	Melissa Ball	08-12-2019
Kurt Pafford	06-09-1997	Brianna Ryan (K9)	02-15-2016	Jennifer Palik	05-26-2021
John Gieselman	08-29-2000	Nicholas Heidlage	03-13-2017	<b>Senior Office Associate</b>	
John Brady	04-13-2010	Seth Howard	03-13-2017	Sheri Mcardle	04-27-1987
Adam Macpherson	07-22-2013	Kodi Classen	10-30-2017	Alesia Hajek	06-04-2001
Dominic Savio	03-31-2014	Justin Beranek	02-12-2018	<b>Office Associates</b>	
Jesse Headid	12-28-2015	Courtney Ertl	02-12-2018	Christine Taylor	10-03-2016
<b>Detectives</b>		Payton Boston	02-19-2018	Dayme Moller	03-01-2021
Matt Hultquist	03-18-1996	Derick Leaman	04-29-2019	<b>Property/Evidence Technician</b>	
Aaron Howe	06-05-2000	Garrett Jensen	10-28-2019	Laura Luttig	10-10-2016
Brandon Lorenson	06-11-2001	Ryan Christensen	07-20-2020		
Kelly Drake	12-01-2014	Hunter McKenzie	07-20-2020		
		Christopher Williamson	11-30-2020		