



Fremont Police Department

2024 Annual Report



DODGE COUNTY, NEBRASKA

FREMONT is located in Dodge County in the eastern part of the state of Nebraska along the Platte River.

Fremont's population is 27,141 and has a total area of 10.86 square miles according to the 2020 census.

Fremont is the county seat and the home of Midland University.

Fremont City Council



WARD 1

Paul Von Behren
Jeff Peterson

WARD 2

Blair Horner
Dev Sookram

WARD 3

James Vaughan
Mark Jensen

WARD 4

Lori Lathrop
Sally Ganem

MAYOR | JOEY SPELLERBERG



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 **City Administrator** also serves as the Plan Administrator for the City's various pension and deferred compensation plans and negotiates union contracts with union officials.



CITY ADMINISTRATOR | JODY SANDERS

MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF

The Fremont Police Department is growing, expanding and changing. Over the last decade, the police department has followed the developments and challenges around the country relating to law enforcement. We have seen that mental health services needed to go hand in hand with law enforcement efforts, and we have responded by adding a mental health co-responder. We have partnered with Lutheran Family Services to provide a mental health peer responder when a co-responder was not available.

The department has added positions, starting with Community Service Officers that handle city ordinance violations and animal control that has freed up time for patrol officers to concentrate on more serious crimes. We have also added patrol officer positions to assure our ability to staff specialty spots such as the school resource officer.

We have also begun work on a new police facility that will modernize our operations and increase the morale of our officers.

Every year, as law enforcement around the country faces new challenges, we also do and adapt to face each new challenge. We are Committed to Service and Proud to Protect and look forward to each new coming year.



CHIEF | JEFFREY ELLIOTT

FREMONT POLICE DEPARTMENT

725 North Park Avenue
Fremont, Nebraska 68025

Non-Emergency: (402) 727-2677

Chief's Office: (402) 727-2687

Records Department: (402) 727-2685

Investigations: (402) 727-2680

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.

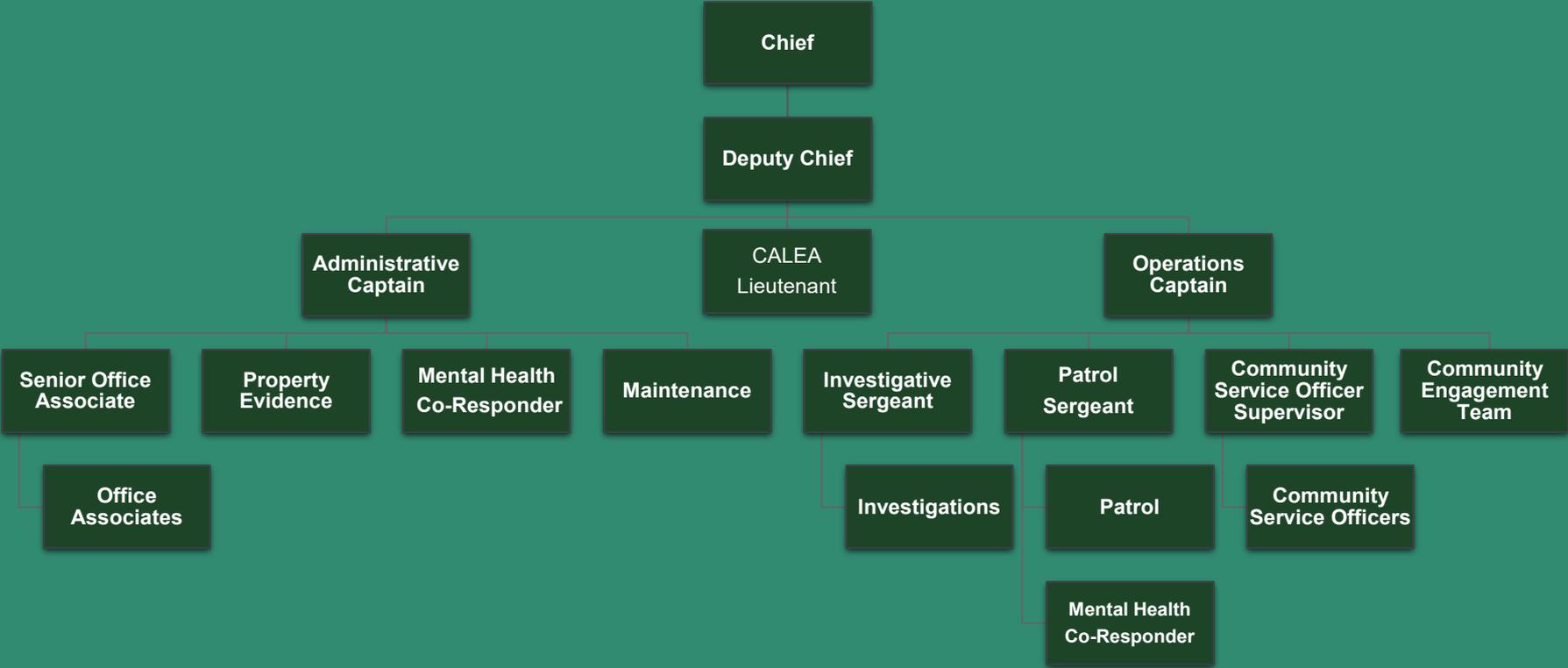
VISION

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.*



ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



The **Fremont Police Department** employs 39 sworn officers who serve a community of more than 27,000 residents spanning an area of over 10 square miles. In addition, the department employs 8 civilians who provide essential services and support.

DEPARTMENTAL PERSONNEL

Committed to Service. Proud to Protect.



JEFFREY ELLIOTT

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 FTO Training Program and served as the coordinator of the program.

DEPARTMENTAL PERSONNEL

Committed to Service. Proud to Protect.



Deputy Chief Jennifer Birkhofer joined the Fremont Police Department in October 2024. Prior to her employment in Fremont, she was employed as a Lieutenant with the Douglas County (Nebraska) Sheriff's Office. Deputy Chief Birkhofer holds a bachelor's degree in psychology from Buena Vista University and a master's degree in public administration from Bellevue University. She has graduated from the Nebraska Law Enforcement Training Academy and from the FBI National Academy.

JENNIFER BIRKHOFFER

DEPUTY CHIEF

CAPTAIN

Committed to Service. Proud to Protect.

Captain Kurt Bottorff joined the Fremont Police Department in 1994 as a Patrol Officer. He was promoted to Sergeant in 1998 and Lieutenant in 1999. Captain Bottorff is currently assigned as the Captain of Operations where he oversees the Patrol and Community Service Officers divisions. Previously, he served as the Administrative Captain where he addressed the media, social media, internal affairs, General Order needs, public relations, training, translator hiring, facility needs and the Internship program. During his tenure, Captain Bottorff was previously instrumental in developing the Field Training and Internship Programs. He has been a Field Training Officer, Field Training Coordinator, Field Training Lieutenant and Property Officer. Captain Bottorff implemented several community policing programs in the past including Adopt-A-Cop, Gotcha, and Twizzler Sizzler summer fun programs. He has served as President of the Police Officer's Association of Nebraska and sat on the Governor's Racial Profiling Advisory Committee. Captain 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, Captain Bottorff was a Deputy Sheriff in Dixon County, Nebraska and a police officer in Ponca, Nebraska.



KURT BOTTORFF

CAPTAIN

LIEUTENANT

Committed to Service. Proud to Protect.



LIEUTENANT
ED WATTS

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. During his tenure, Lt. Watts has been a Field Training Officer, Public Information Officer, Training Coordinator, Internal Affairs Investigator, De-Escalation Instructor, and was a member of the department's bicycle and motorcycle patrol units and Honor Guard. From 2012-2017, Lt. Watts supervised the Detective Bureau. In 2023, Lt. Watts was named the department's CALEA Accreditation Manager. He graduated from the Nebraska Law Enforcement Academy in 1995 and earned an associate's degree in criminal justice from Metro Community College, and a bachelor's degree in criminal justice administration from Bellevue University. Lt. Watts has successfully completed the Leadership Fremont program, the Leadership In Police Organizations program and the Central States Law Enforcement Executive Development Seminar. Lt. Watts is active within the community by conducting presentations for civic organizations and public schools. He serves on the Fremont Family Coalition Board and is a member of the Government Affairs Council and the Spanish Networking Group. He is also a member of the Metro Community College Criminal Justice Advisory Board. His collaboration with Fremont's Hispanic-Latino community earned him the Amigo De La Comunidad (Friend of the Community) award from the Fremont Area Chamber of Commerce in 2024. Prior to his employment with the police department, he worked in private security and asset protection with various businesses in the Omaha Area.

PATROL SERGEANTS

Committed to Service. Proud to Protect.



PATROL SERGEANT
JIM DOCKERTY

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 Datamaster Maintenance Supervisor.

PATROL SERGEANTS

Committed to Service. Proud to Protect.



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. Sergeant Brady served as a Field Training Officer, Bike Patrol Coordinator, Firearms Instructor, and was a member of the Emergency Response Unit. Sergeant 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. Sergeant Brady is very active in our mental health efforts. He works closely with schools, hospitals, and community organizations in these efforts. Sgt. Brady supervises and works closely with our Peer Support Responder to aid those in the community who may be in a mental crisis. The goal and mission is to provide support and resources to those with mental health needs which he has been very successful at.

PATROL SERGEANTS

Committed to Service. Proud to Protect.



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 currently serves as team leader for the Emergency Response Unit (ERU). Sergeant Savio holds a bachelor's degree in criminal justice from Midland University and in April of 2024 he graduated from the Northwestern University School for Public Safety School of Police Staff and Command program. 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

Committed to Service. Proud to Protect.



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. During his tenure with the Fremont Police department, Sgt. Headid has developed a yearly awards program recognizing the officer who arrested the most individuals with outstanding arrest warrants, and he served on the department's Emergency Response Unit. Currently, Sgt. Headid serves as the department's firearms instructor and is skilled in both lethal and less lethal weapons including pistol, rifle, and pepperball.

PATROL OFFICERS

Committed to Service. Proud to Protect.



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. He is a veteran of the US Marine Corps. As a Fremont Police Officer, Officer Butts has served on the Bike Patrol and Emergency Response Unit. For several years he was highly regarded as the department's School Resource Officer, a role in which he was praised for his ability to foster positive relationships with both students and school employees while still performing his law enforcement duties. Officer Butts is currently assigned as a Property and Evidence Technician. Prior to joining the Fremont Police Department, Officer Butts worked for 1 ½ years at Boys and Girls Home in South Sioux City, Nebraska as a case worker.



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.

PATROL OFFICERS

Committed to Service. Proud to Protect.



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. Every summer since 2004, Ofc. Smith has traveled to Sturgis, SD where he provides law enforcement services, alongside other law enforcement agency members from around the country, at the annual Sturgis Motorcycle Rally. Officer Smith serves as the department’s firearms instructor and is skilled in the use of both lethal and less lethal weapons including pistol, rifle and pepper spray.



Officer Andrew Dixon 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 Dixon holds an associate’s degree from Metropolitan Community College and a bachelor’s degree from Bellevue University. Officer Dixon worked from 2006-2009 for the West Point Police Department and served as a patrol officer from 2009-2014 for the Fremont Police Department.

PATROL OFFICERS

Committed to Service. Proud to Protect.



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. In 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. K9 Apollo retired in April 2023. 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 was assigned to the III Corps Drug Task Force. 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 is a Field Training Officer, a certified Drug Recognition Expert and a member of the Fremont Police/Dodge County Sheriff Office Emergency Response Unit. 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

Committed to Service. Proud to Protect.



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 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 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.

PATROL OFFICERS

Committed to Service. Proud to Protect.



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 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 Cody Kruse joined the Fremont Police Department in August of 2022. Prior to joining the department, Officer Kruse worked as a Deputy Sheriff for the Butler County Sheriff's Department for 3.5 years. Prior to working for Butler County, he worked for 5 years in corrections, with 3.5 years at the Nebraska Department of Correctional Services and 1.5 years with the Sarpy County Sheriff's Office. During his time in corrections, Officer Kruse was also assigned as a K-9 handler and is a certified Crisis Intervention Team member.



Officer Gabriel Steele joined the Fremont Police Department in July of 2023 and is assigned to the Patrol Division. He completed basic training in December 2023 at the Nebraska Law Enforcement Training Center in Grand Island, NE. Officer Steele graduated from Fremont High School in 2020. He received an associate's degree in criminal justice from Metropolitan Community College in August of 2022. Prior to joining the department, Officer Steele worked for Dodge County as a Corrections Officer in the Dodge County Jail.

PATROL OFFICERS

Committed to Service. Proud to Protect.



Officer Miles Morgan joined the Fremont Police Department in December of 2023. He completed basic training in April 2024 at the Nebraska Law Enforcement Training Center in Grand Island, NE. Officer Morgan graduated from Mitchell High School in Mitchell, SD. He received an associate's degree in law enforcement science from Southeast Technical College. Prior to joining the department, Officer Morgan worked as a security officer.

COMMUNITY SERVICE OFFICERS

Committed to Service. Proud to Protect.



Community Service Supervisor Kelli Stuehmer joined the Fremont Police Department in November of 2022. CSO Supervisor Stuehmer has been a Licensed Veterinary Technician, graduated from Nebraska College of Technical Agriculture with an associates degree in veterinary technology. She has also completed Animal Control Officer Training, including Animal Cruelty Investigations. Prior to joining the Fremont Police Department, CSO Stuehmer worked as a Licensed Veterinary Technician in Equine, small animal, mixed animal and exotic animal practices. She has also worked in animal shelter settings for the past 6 years.



Community Service Officer Christopher (Chris) Bales joined the Fremont Police Department in August of 2024. Prior to joining the Fremont Police Department, Officer Bales was an Asset Protection Manager for Walmart, from where he retired after 22 years of service. Officer Bales has successfully completed Essential Animal Services Training (EAST).



Community Service Supervisor Kelli Stuehmer joined the Fremont Police Department in November of 2022. CSO Supervisor Stuehmer has been a Licensed Veterinary Technician, graduated from Nebraska College of Technical Agriculture with an associates degree in veterinary technology. She has also completed Animal Control Officer Training, including Animal Cruelty Investigations. Prior to joining the Fremont Police Department, CSO Stuehmer worked as a Licensed Veterinary Technician in Equine, small animal, mixed animal and exotic animal practices. She has also worked in animal shelter settings for the past 6 years.

INVESTIGATIONS

Committed to Service. Proud to Protect.



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 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 received a bachelor's degree in criminal justice from Wayne State College and 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 the Commander 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, provides administrative support for the Chief, Command Staff, and other departmental personnel as needed. She 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, 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 inquiries as well as purchasing and budget duties for the department.



Office Associate Jenni Erickson joined the Fremont Police Department Records Division in February of 2022. Prior to her employment with the department, she worked in Loan Operations at First State Bank in Fremont. Jenni has previous experience as a Legal Assistant. In addition, she has held positions in Human Resources, Benefits Administration, and Accounting. Jenni performs various clerical duties, transcribes officers' reports for the County Attorney's Office, handles gun permit applications, and assists with other public inquiries.

PROPERTY & EVIDENCE



Property/Evidence Technician Chantelle White joined the Fremont Police Department in May of 2024. Chantelle obtained her bachelor's degree in criminal justice and emergency management from Wayne State College in May of 2020. Chantelle is an active member of the International Association for Property and Evidence (IAPE). Chantelle's job duties consist of managing all property and evidence collected by FPD officers and investigators, maintaining a detailed record of the chain of custody, and ensure that all evidence is properly packaged and labeled to prevent contamination while maintaining integrity when in police custody. Chantelle is also an administrator for the department's body and cruiser camera systems.

OFFICER COURTNEY ERTL
RECIPIENT OF THE
MADD HERO AWARD



MADD's Campaign to Eliminate Drunk Driving depends on the work of our heroes. Law Enforcement, Probation, Prosecution, and Community Supporters are all essential in the fight. We would never achieve the goal of No More Victims without the incredible team working across the state. Every person involved in the process is an important part of creating a future with no more impaired driving and no more victims. **That is why each year we come together to honor them for the work they do and thank them for their dedicated efforts.**



CALEA PROGRAM



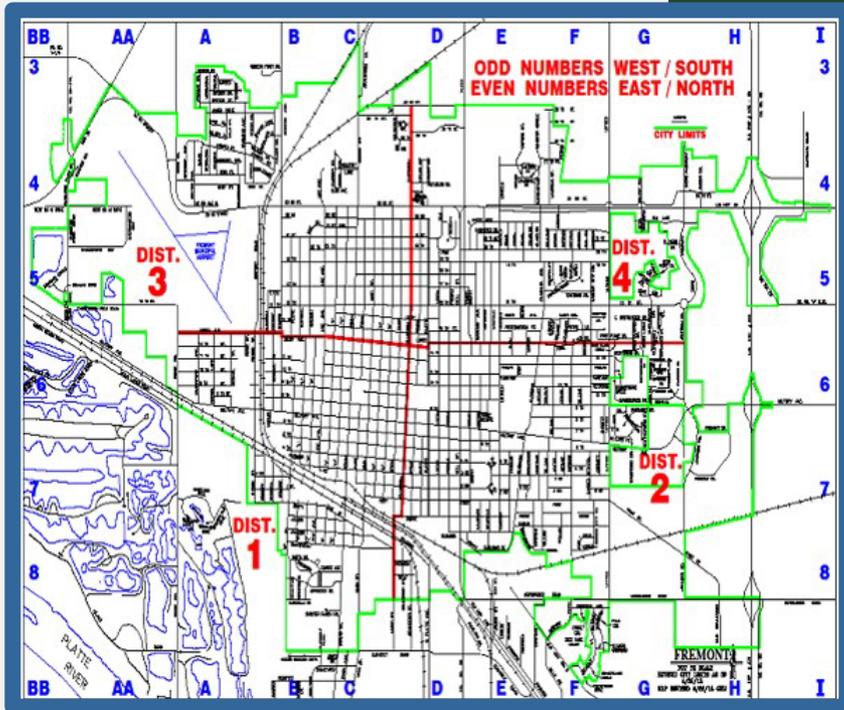
On September 1st, 2023, the Fremont Police Department contracted with the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA), to review its current policies and procedures to ensure the department is adhering to best practices in areas including policy and procedure, administration, operations and support services. **Lieutenant Ed Watts** has been named the CALEA Accreditation Manager and over the next 2.5 years will be overseeing the department's efforts to come into compliance with 184 CALEA standards. There are currently only 9 Nebraska police agencies that have achieved CALEA accreditation with 4 agencies, including the Fremont Police Department, currently in the assessment process.

Lieutenant Ed Watts



ider
otography

POLICE JURISDICTION MAP



DISTRICT 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.

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 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

Captain Kurt Bottorff directs the training program for the Fremont Police Department. Proper training of law enforcement officers continues to be a vital responsibility of police agencies across the country. The state of Nebraska requires 32 hours of training on mandated topics. These training requirements are meant to best prepare officers who face serious daily issues involving social, criminal and mental health issues. Training is conducted virtually or in the classroom, utilizing outside instructors or instructors from within the agency. The end goal is to have the officers professionally prepared for their safety and to provide the service expected.

The agency provides mandatory, optional and officer-requested training to all certified officers. Training from instructors within the 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.

of Hours Per Type of Training



TRAINING & EDUCATION

2024 TRAINING



FIREARM TRAINING



SERGEANT
JESSE HEADID

In 2024, the Fremont Police Department held numerous 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 and Rifle Instructor. In addition to firearms range sessions, Officers were trained on the use of Less-Lethal Shotguns. Officers must complete an annual range qualification on the Less Lethal Shotgun as well. Additionally, each patrol sergeant and several officers were trained in the use of PepperBall Launchers.

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 the department.



Carsen Meier



Trevor Timm

FLEET

The overall control and operation of the Fremont Police Department's fleet is conducted by the City of Fremont Fleet Manager Ryon Palmer. Fremont Police Administration and Palmer worked together in 2024 replacing outdated equipment including older fleet to ensure it was kept reliable. This year also saw a new camera system installed in each unit. The fleet currently consists of thirteen marked patrol units, two CSO units, 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 emergency response-type situations and when certain crises occur. Each of these vehicles are assigned to members of our agency based upon their needs.. A special thanks goes out to the personnel at the City of Fremont Street Department who work hard to ensure all fleet vehicles are properly maintained and safe on the roads.



FIELD TRAINING PROGRAM | 2024



SERGEANT

JOHN BRADY

The Fremont Police Department Field Training Program is based off a program designed by the San Jose Police Department. After graduation from the Nebraska Law Enforcement Training Center, officers will go through 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 the Officer must have two years of patrol experience with the Fremont Police Department, they have to submit a letter of intent and show good leadership qualities.

Field Training Officers:

- Chad Smith
- Brianna Ryan
- Andrew Dixson
- Nickalaus Heidlage
- Seth Howard
- Garrett Jensen
- Justin Beranek
- Courtney Ertl
- Kodi Classen



FTO Coordinator Sgt. Brady
Officer Miles Morgan



FTO Coordinator Sgt. Brady
Officer Gabriel Steele

In **2024**, four new officers completed the Field Training Program.

Two officers completed a modified re-entry FTO Program.

Field Training Officers trained new officers for a total of 1,832 hours

The program is overseen by:
Captain Kurt Bortorff

The Field Training
Coordinator:
Sergeant John Brady

INVESTIGATIONS

Disposition of Investigations



**SERGEANT
KURT PAFFORD**

The Investigations Division is supervised by **Sergeant Kurt Pafford**. 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.

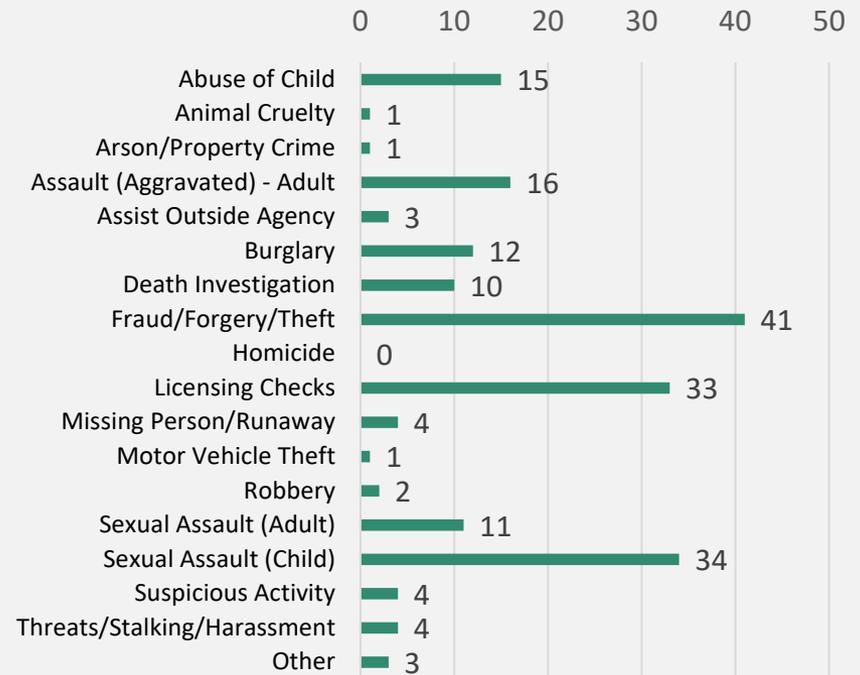
9 UNFOUNDED: An investigation was conducted and there was no evidence a crime was committed.

96 CLEARED: An arrest was made, or a citation was issued.

53 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.)

31 ACTIVE: The investigation is ongoing, and the detective is still working the case.

6 CLOSED BY OTHER ACTION



2024 | Total Investigations By Case Type

SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER

The overall control and operation of the Fremont Police Department's fleet is conducted by city Fleet Manager Ryon Palmer. Fremont Police Administration and Palmer worked together in 2024 replacing outdated equipment including older fleet to ensure it was kept reliable. This year also saw a new camera system installed in each unit. The fleet currently consists of thirteen marked patrol units, two CSO units, 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 emergency response-type situations and when certain crisis occur. Each of these vehicles are assigned to members of our agency based upon their needs.. 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.

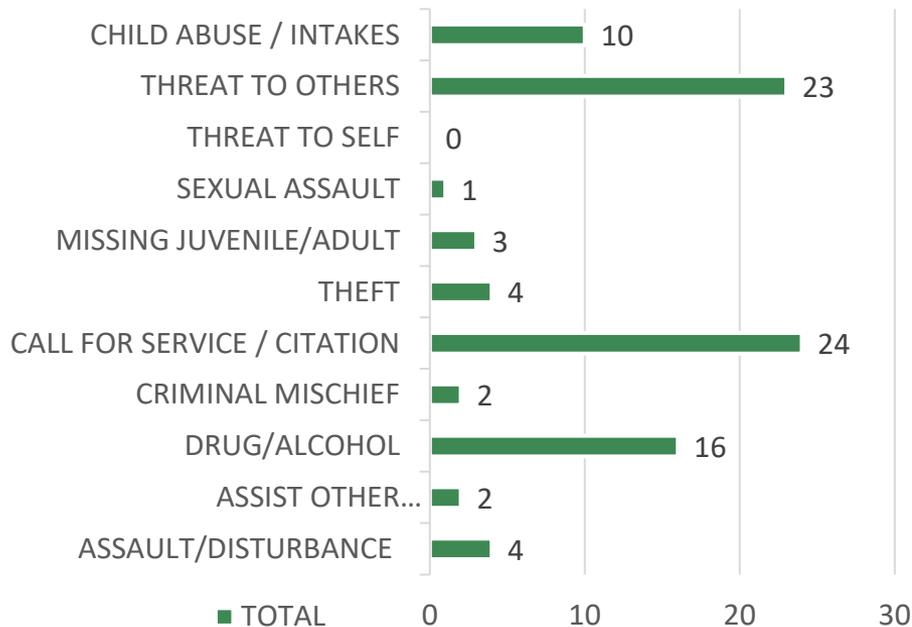


SRO OFFICER

HUNTER MCKENZIE

*Fremont High School
Fremont Middle School
Johnson Crossing Academic Center
Bell Field Elementary School
Clarmar Elementary School
Grant Elementary School
Howard Elementary School
Linden Elementary School
Milliken Park Elementary School
Washington Elementary School
Davenport School
Fremont Learning Center*

FALL SEMESTER 08/19-12/19/24



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 always to arrest or write students citations. It is designed to try and help the students and teach them to make good/better choices for their future. The SRO is there to be another positive mentor for the students. The SRO Program is designed to help break down the barrier between students and the police, so they are not afraid of us.

Reports	70
Citations Issued	21
Physical Arrests	1
Other/ Log Entries	11

Co-Responder Program



Among our department, increasing education and awareness about mental health-related issues remains an area of focus. In 2024, officers received mental health and wellness training facilitated by the First Responders Foundation. Resiliency and stress reduction were among the topics addressed. Officers attended annual in-service training to review current statutes and resources available for mental health in Region 6. Officers also completed online training regarding de-escalation. Several Officers were sent through the weeklong Crisis Intervention Training.

Annual Training

The Fremont Police Department strives to implement best practices when engaging with people experiencing behavioral health issues. Law enforcement agencies across the country are seeing an increase in mental health-related calls. The co-responder model has allowed our first responders to rethink how to respond to the needs of those safely, effectively, and efficiently in crisis. Despite some challenges, embracing this paradigm shift toward deflection has been invaluable for the members of our department, both sworn and nonsworn.

Overseen by Sgt. John Brady, the Fremont Police Department’s Mental Health Co-Responder Program has contracted with Lutheran Family Services (LFS) to provide a Peer Support Specialist to respond with officers to mental health calls. The Co-Responder serves as an advocate for individual cases as well as on a systemic level. Direct 911 response as a team is essential, drawing on the combined expertise of the co-responder and law enforcement officer to provide crisis intervention and de-escalation guidance on scene. When requested by officers, the Co-Responder conducts follow-up and proactive outreach activities with consumers who had police contact because of a mental and/or behavioral health crisis. While research is expanding, there is a growing body of evidence regarding the benefits of co-responder teams, including reduced use of force, decreased arrests, decreased emergency room visits, and reduced time on-scene. It has helped create non-arrest pathways to treatment and services, ultimately alleviating pressure on our criminal justice system and officers to focus on criminal matters, while improving community law enforcement relations. For our own department and community, this program is an asset.

Co-Responder Program



Jon Thomsen Lutheran Family Services Mobile Crisis Response Team Fremont Police Mental Health Co-Responder

Jon has been a Certified Peer Support Specialist since 2015 and is currently a Crisis Coordinator with the Lutheran Family Services Crisis Response Team and is the Mental Health Co-Responder with the Fremont Police Department. Jon is involved in the training of peer support specialists in the state of Nebraska as well as Crisis Intervention Training for Law Enforcement. Jon is a member of the Region Six Consumer Advisory Team and former member of the Nebraska Peer Advisory Board. His primary goals are to support individuals who struggle with their personal wellbeing, to share the knowledge he has gained in his own journey, and to walk with people while they explore their authentic self and find their own path in recovery.

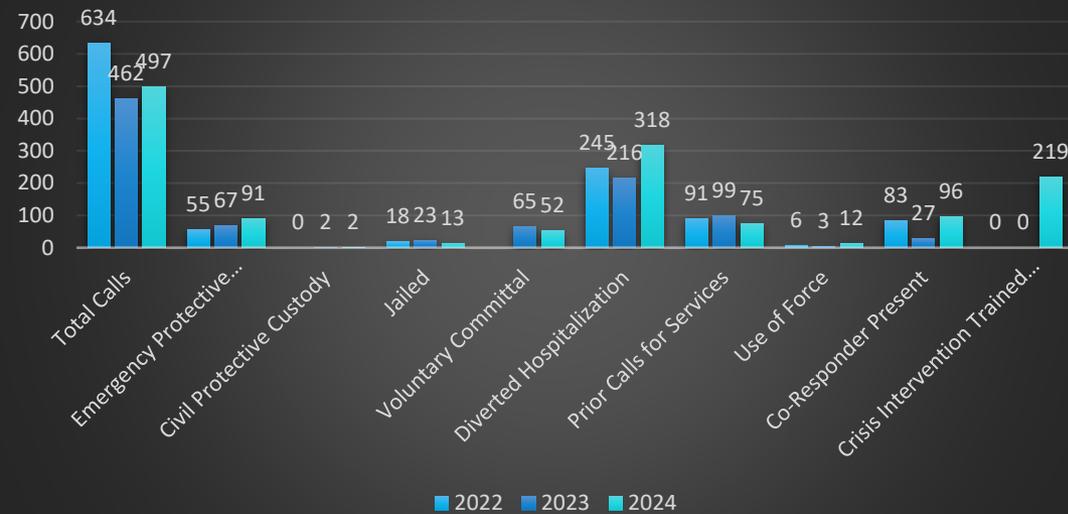
Jon maintains his personal wellness by exercising regularly, spending time with family, being active in his community, and fostering his own authenticity through music, books, and communion with others.

Co-Responder Program 2024

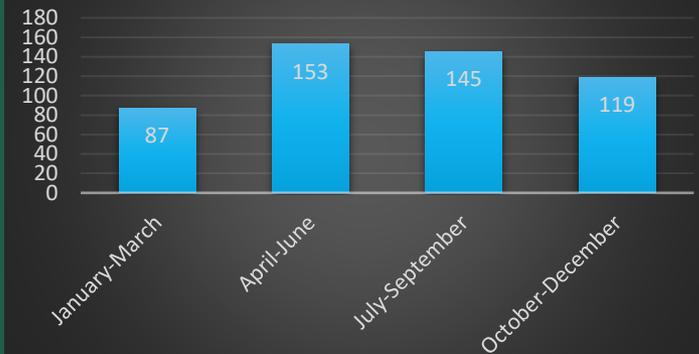
This year the department saw an increase in mental health related calls. As a result, the number of involuntary hospitalizations increased. Our agency saw a 43% reduction in consumers being jailed who were in a mental health crisis. Increased training through Crisis Intervention and the utilization of a Co-Responder helped reduce individuals being jailed and allowed for other services be implemented. Of those jailed the co-responder was not on scene. Having CIT officers and a co-responder on scene helped divert consumers from utilizing emergency room services during a crisis where other services were utilized to help the consumer.

Year:	2022	2023	2024	
Total Calls	634	462	497	+7.5%
Emergency Protective Custody	55	67	91	+35%
Civil Protective Custody	0	2	2	0%
Jailed	18	23	13	-43%
Voluntary Committal		65	52	-20%
Diverted Hospitalization	245	216	318	+47%
Prior Calls for Services	91	99	75	-24%
Use of Force	6	3	12	+90%
Co-Responder Present	83	27	96	+69%
Crisis Intervention Trained Officer On Scene	NOT TRACKED	NOT TRACKED	219	

Annual Impact



Quarterly Calls



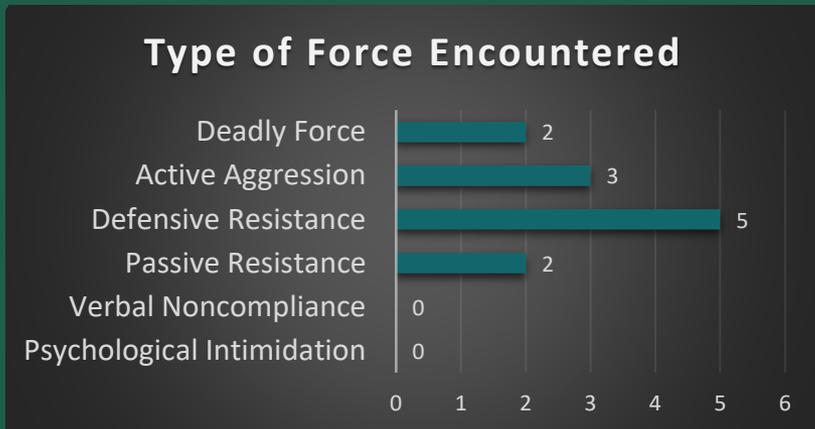
Use Of Force Incidents

Our agency saw use of force incidents regarding mental health increase by 90% compared to last year. It was reported 11 of the 12 consumers were under the influence of alcohol or drugs. Two incidents involved officers being assaulted one physical assault and one with bodily fluids. The Co-Responder was not on scene for any of the incidents. A Crisis Intervention Trained (CIT) Officer was present for two of the incidents.

Deadly force encounters:

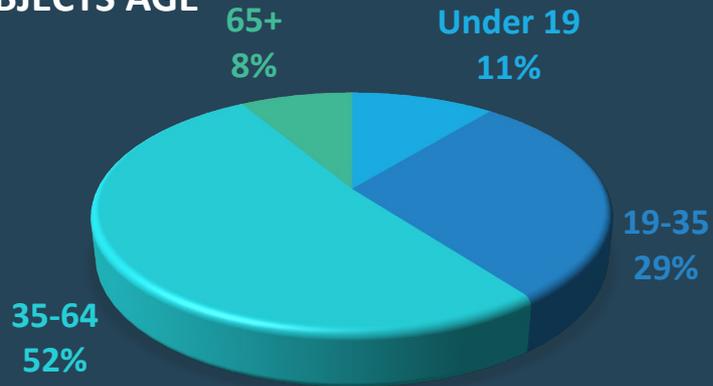
- Consumer was reported to be armed with a knife. Officers used verbal commands while having lethal and nonlethal cover to get the individual to comply with commands and be taken into custody.
- Consumer claimed they had a handgun and was lying face down with their hands not visible. Consumer demanded officers shoot them. After the consumer failed to follow verbal commands, officers deployed a ballistics shield and took control of the individual. No weapon was located, and consumer was taken into custody.

Many of the incidents involved soft empty hand techniques which are the least likely to cause an injury, due to consumers not wanting to be placed into restraints or be escorted by officers.

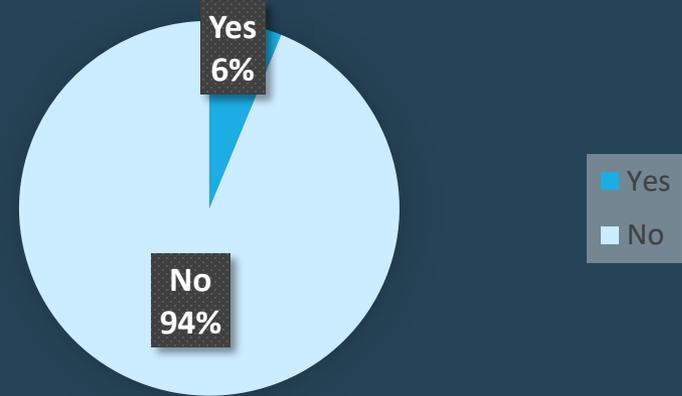


Co-Responder Program

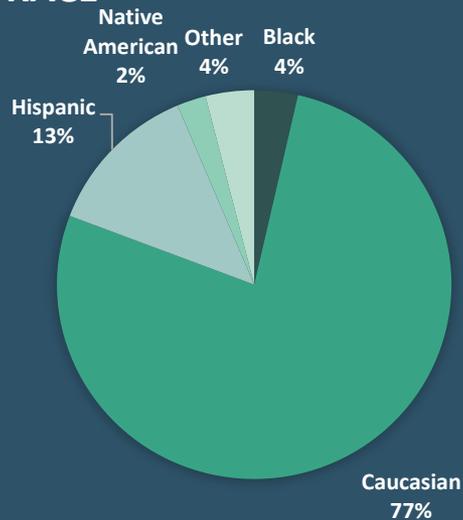
SUBJECTS AGE



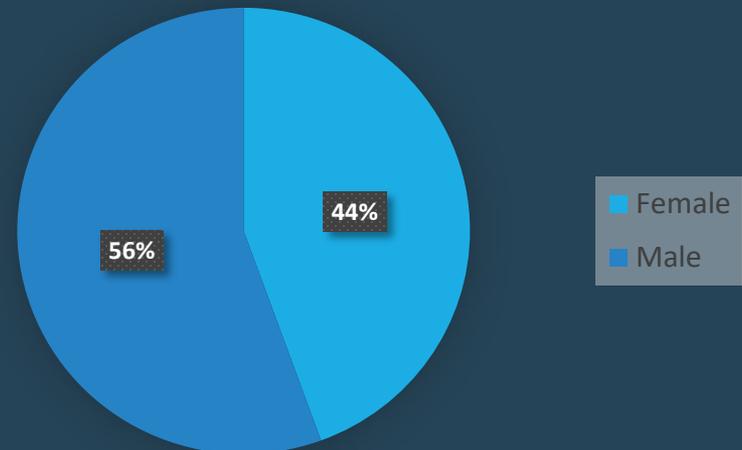
Veteran Status



SUBJECTS RACE



Subjects Sex

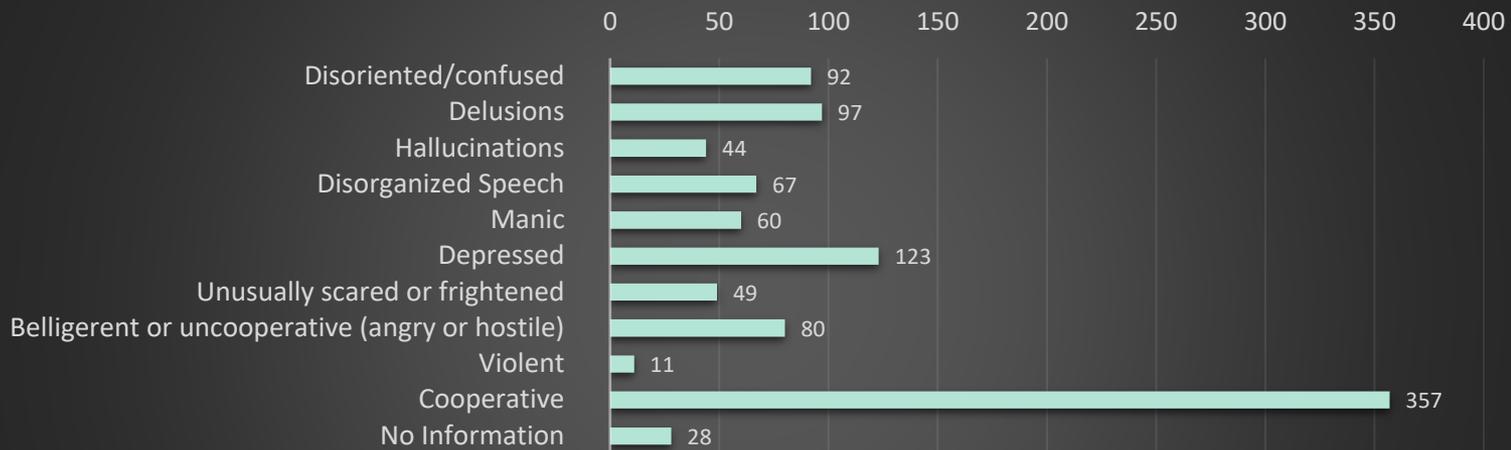


Nature of Incident

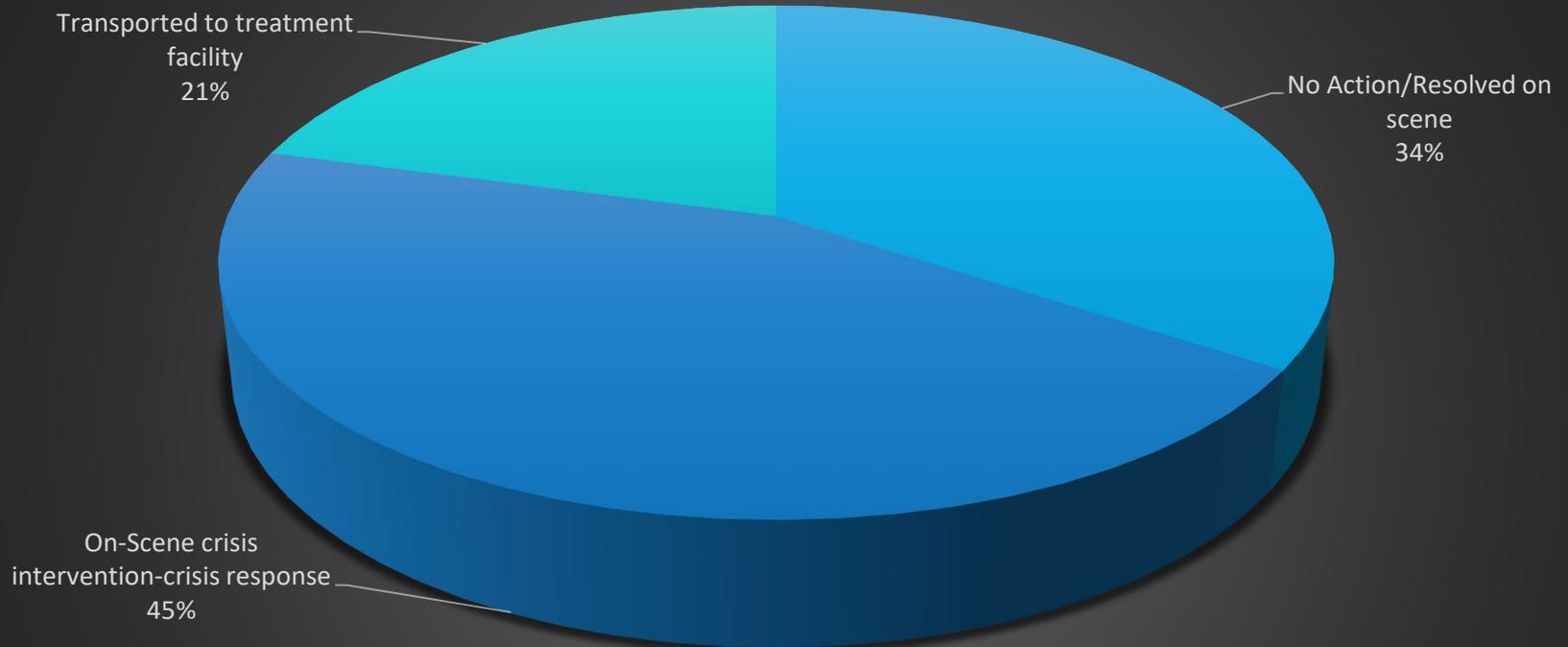
Co-Responder Program



Behaviors Present



Disposition of Call for Service



■ No Action/Resolved on scene

■ On-Scene crisis intervention-crisis response

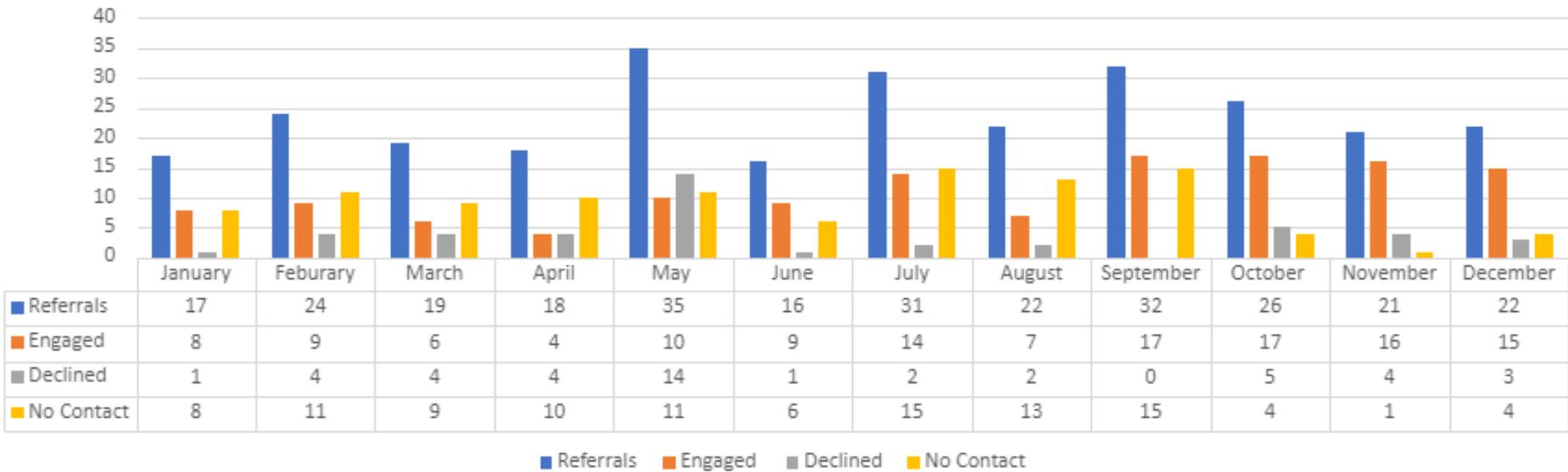
■ Transported to treatment facility

Co-Responder Program

- 47% Consumers Engaged in Services
- 16% Consumers Declined Services
- 37% No Contact with Consumer

Co-Responder Data

2024 Co-Responder Outcomes



Co-Responder Program

Success Stories

- Consumer suffered from a traumatic brain injury and drug addiction. Consumer had a high rate of recidivism where they would be arrested for misdemeanor crimes such as trespassing, disturbing the peace and disorderly conduct. It was found the consumer was not compliant with taking their medications which caused the consumer to become delusional and hallucinate. The consumer was determined to be a danger to their self and others. The consumer was put under the care of the Board of Mental Health. Jon Thomsen, the Peer Support Specialist with Lutheran Family Services, was connected with the consumer. The consumer was placed in a secured treatment facility where they were able to get stabilized. Co-Responder Thomsen worked with the consumer and their care team to help get them back to Fremont where they were able to get housing within a group home that provides day services and medication management. The consumer is no longer living a symptom driven life and is no longer involved in the criminal justice system.
- Consumer suffered from alcoholism and other medical issues. Consumer was in a domestic violence driven relationship. Over several months the consumer called 911 multiple times utilizing Fremont Police and Fremont Fire due to their level of intoxication. Many of the calls would result in the consumer needing to go to the Emergency Department due to the level of intoxication as it was unsafe for the consumer to be left alone and due to their other untreated medical conditions. The consumer attempted to enter treatment multiple times but failed to complete or maintain sobriety. Peer Support Specialist Jon Thomsen was referred to the consumer. Co-Responder Thomsen was able to provide support through his own life experience with his sobriety. Co-Responder Thomsen connected the consumer with a care team. The consumer has since entered treatment and is working on their sobriety. The consumer is no longer in a domestic violence relationship and is no longer over utilizing emergency services. The consumer is still in contact with Co-Responder Thomsen to help provide support and encouragement.
- Officers and Co-Responder Thomsen responded to a domestic disturbance. Investigation showed a consumer on scene had threatened their spouse. The consumer was a military veteran who suffered from PTSD and alcoholism. The consumer was arrested regarding the threats made. The consumer would later engage in services provided through Co-Responder Thomsen. The consumer was referred to Care Corps Life House after they were released from jail. Care Corps Life House helped find permanent housing and arranged for the Furniture Project of Omaha to help furnish the apartment. The consumer received services through Military Veterans Services within Lutheran Family Services. The consumer is no longer living a symptom driven life and is maintaining sobriety.

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.

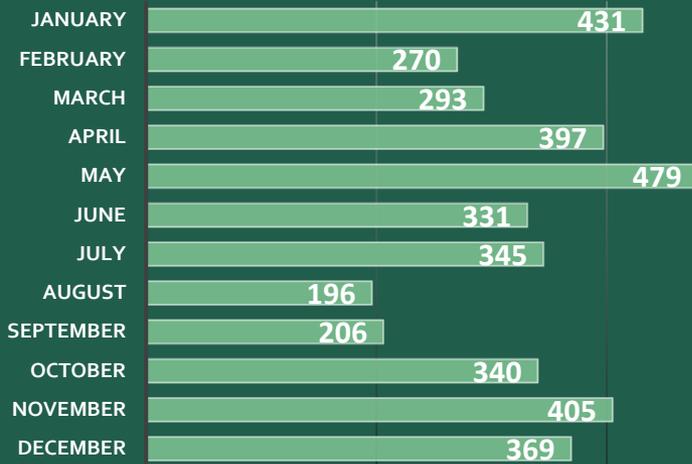
COMMUNITY SERVICE OFFICER PROGRAM

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 of 2021. The Community Service Officer Division consists of the Community Service Supervisor and two Community Service Officers. In 2025, a third Community Service Officer position will be filled.

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 uniformed Community Service Officers to answer animal calls, who are equipped with a police cruiser and a body camera, to record the incident.



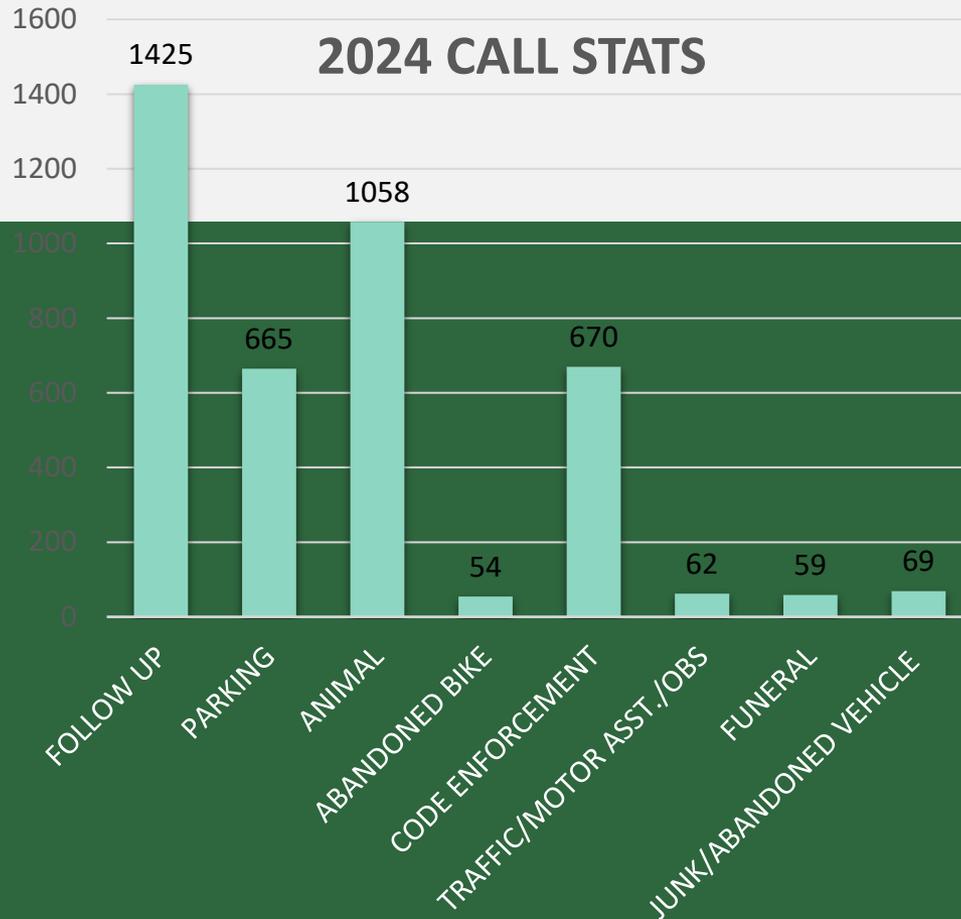
2024 CALLS FOR SERVICE BY MONTH



ANIMAL IMPOUND RECORDS



COMMUNITY SERVICE OFFICER PROGRAM



2024 | TRAFFIC STATISTICS

Total Property Damage Crashes: **705**

Total Injury Crashes Reported: **202**

Total Crashes Reported : **907**

Crash Reports Taken: **595**



Crash Location Statistics – Reported Injury Crashes

23rd St and (Intersection Below)		Broad St and (Intersection Below)		Bell St and (Intersection Below)		Military Ave and (Intersection Below)	
Lincoln Ave	2	Military Ave	4	16 th St	4	Hwy 275	4
Luther Rd	4	12 th St	1	1 st St	1	Clarkson St	3
Broad St	5	6 th St	1	11 th St	2	Ridge Rd	2
Diers Parkway	1	23 rd Ave	5	23 rd	2	Nye Ave	2
Main St	2	11 th St	1	19th St *	6	C St	3
C St	1	Jefferson/Empire	3	2 nd St	1	Broad St	4
Bell St	2	20 th St	1	Military Ave	2	Johnson Rd	1
Milton Rd	1	8 th St	1	400 S Broad (Viaduct)	1	Main St	1
Yaeger Rd	1	15 th St	1	*Most PI Crashes for intersection		Clarmar Ave	1
H St	1	Shuster Ranch d	2			Bell St	3
Clarkson St	1	4 th St	1			Lincoln Ave	1
Hwy 275	3	30 th St	1			Somers Ave	1
Nye Ave	1						
Somers Ave	1						

WARRANTS SERVED

Warrant Officer of the Year for 2024

Officer Jackson Shepherd with 35 captures | 51 clears | 25 assists



Officer Jackson Shepherd
Coordinator

The Fremont Police Department encountered and apprehended individuals from 14 other Nebraska jurisdictions as well as 6 out-of-state warrants and 1 U.S. Marshals Service Federal warrant. The total amount of arrests for the year was 259 total captures with 317 total warrant clears.



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 27,141 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.

2024

Number of Cases:	123
Number of Arrests:	54
Firearms:	28
Search Warrants:	17

DRUG	QTY SEIZED
Marijuana	17831.1g
Concentrated TCH	791.9g
Methamphetamine	20,678.6g
Cocaine	998.0g
Psilocybin Mushroom	702.1g
Prescription Pills	225DU

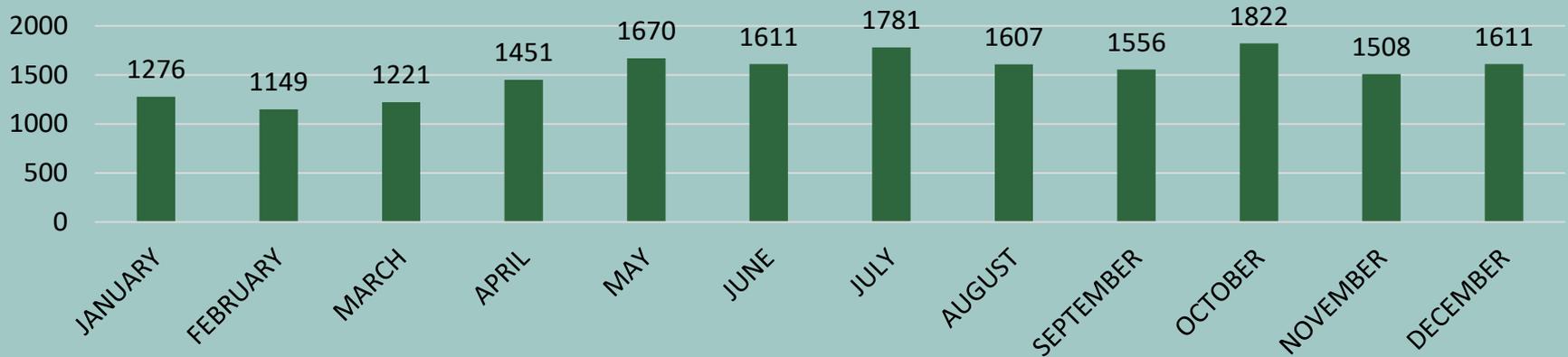
CASES INVOLVING:

Marijuana:	10
Concentrated THC:	7
Methamphetamine:	31
Cocaine:	1
Psilocybin Mushrooms:	6
Prescription Pills:	12
Theft/Property Crime	10
Violent Crime	2
Rx Fraud	1
Drug Activity/Overdose	51

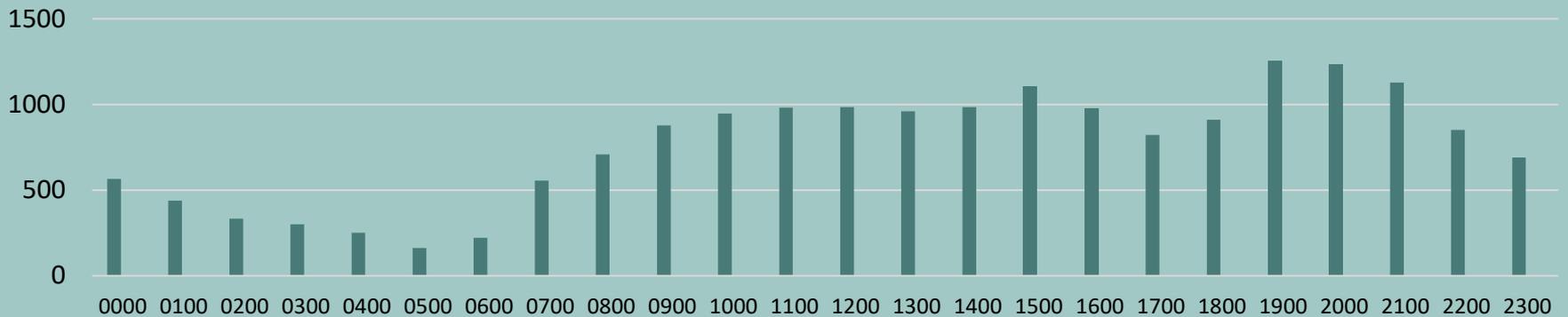
2024 | CALLS FOR SERVICE

2024 CALLS FOR SERVICE – 18,263
INCIDENT REPORTS GENERATED – 5,119

CALLS BY MONTH

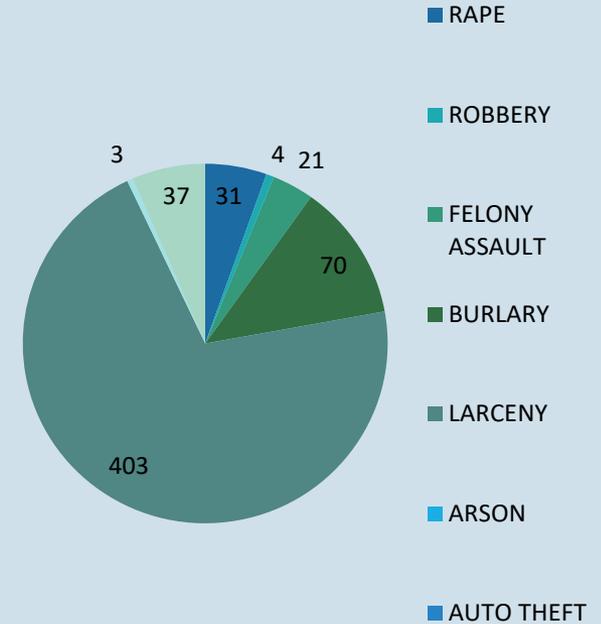


CALLS BY TIME OF DAY

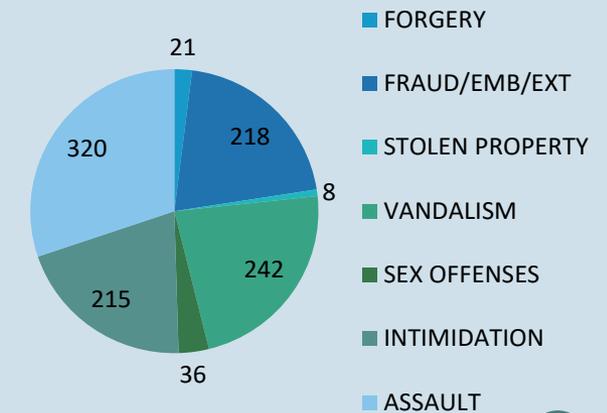


2024 | STATISTICS

OFFENSES	2022	2023	DIFFERENCE FROM PREVIOUS YEAR	2024	DIFFERENCE FROM PREVIOUS YEAR
PART 1 OFFENSES					
MURDER/MANSLAUGHTER	0	0	#DIV/0!	0	0.0%
RAPE	24	38	58.3%	31	-18.4%
ROBBERY	5	4	-20.0%	4	0.0%
FELONY ASSAULT	25	27	8.0%	21	-22.2%
BURGLARY	39	32	-17.9%	70	118.8%
LARCENY	391	466	19.2%	403	-13.5%
Larceny/Pocket Picking	0	0		0	
Larceny/Purse Snatching	0	0		1	
Larceny/Shoplifting	93	133		88	
Larceny/From Building	53	79		86	
Larceny/From Coin Op. Machine	0	1		1	
Larceny/From Motor Vehicle	69	63		64	
Larceny/Motor Vehicle Parts/Acc.	26	17		23	
Larceny/Unlawful Taking	150	173		140	
ARSON	7	4	-42.9%	3	-25.0%
AUTO THEFT	45	39	-13.3%	37	-5.1%
TOTAL	536	610	13.8%	569	-6.7%



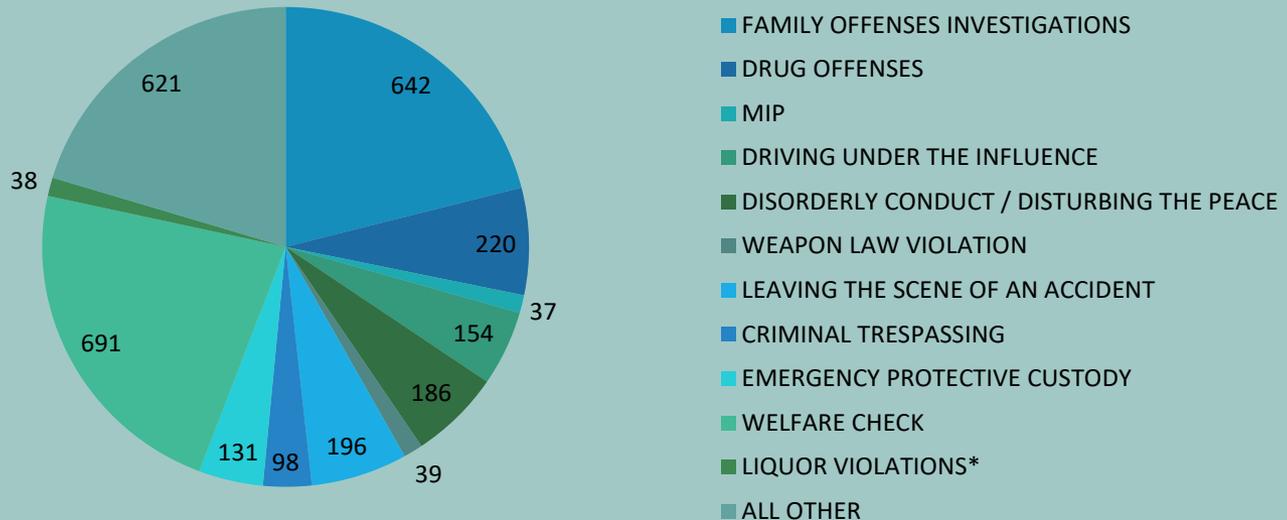
PART II OFFENSES	2022	2023	2024	DIFFERENCE FROM PREVIOUS YEAR
FORGERY	44	38	21	-44.7%
FRAUD/EMB/EXT	191	241	218	-9.5%
STOLEN PROPERTY	10	12	8	-33.3%
VANDALISM	267	248	242	-2.4%
SEX OFFENSES	45	42	36	-14.3%
INTIMIDATION	202	184	215	16.8%
ASSAULT	343	303	320	5.6%
TOTAL	1,102	1,068	1,060	-0.7%



2024 | STATISTICS

OTHER SELECTED OFFENSES/INCIDENTS	2022	2023		2024	
FAMILY OFFENSES INVESTIGATIONS	650	855	31.5%	642	-24.9%
DRUG OFFENSES	266	288	8.3%	220	-23.6%
MIP	40	39	-2.5%	37	-5.1%
DRIVING UNDER THE INFLUENCE	128	161	25.8%	154	-4.3%
DISORDERLY CONDUCT / DISTURBING THE PEACE	234	225	-3.8%	186	-17.3%
WEAPON LAW VIOLATION	35	57	62.9%	39	-31.6%
LEAVING THE SCENE OF AN ACCIDENT	184	190	3.3%	196	3.2%
CRIMINAL TRESPASSING	93	92	-1.1%	98	6.5%
EMERGENCY PROTECTIVE CUSTODY	117	81	-30.8%	131	61.7%
WELFARE CHECK	719	666	-7.4%	691	3.8%
LIQUOR VIOLATIONS*	71	43	-39.4%	38	-11.6%
ALL OTHER	680	673	-1.0%	621	-7.7%
	3,217	3,370	4.8%	3,053	-9.4%

OTHER SELECTED OFFENSES

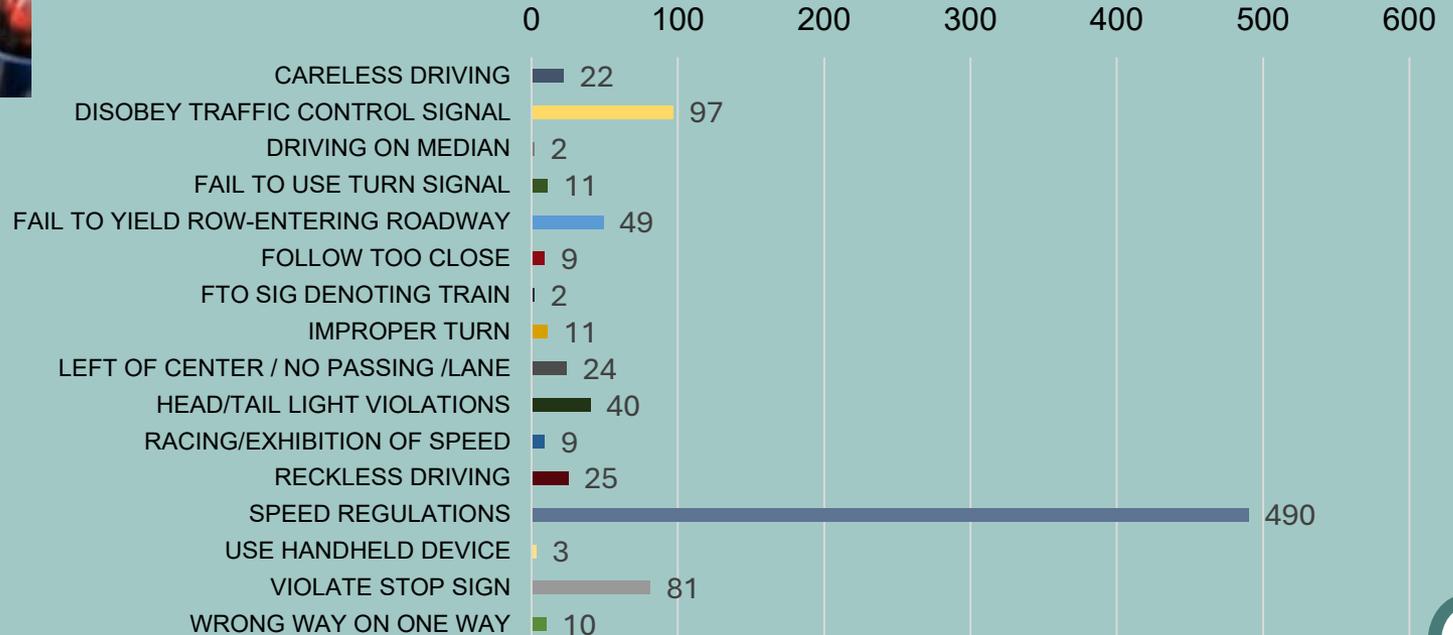


2024 | CITATIONS

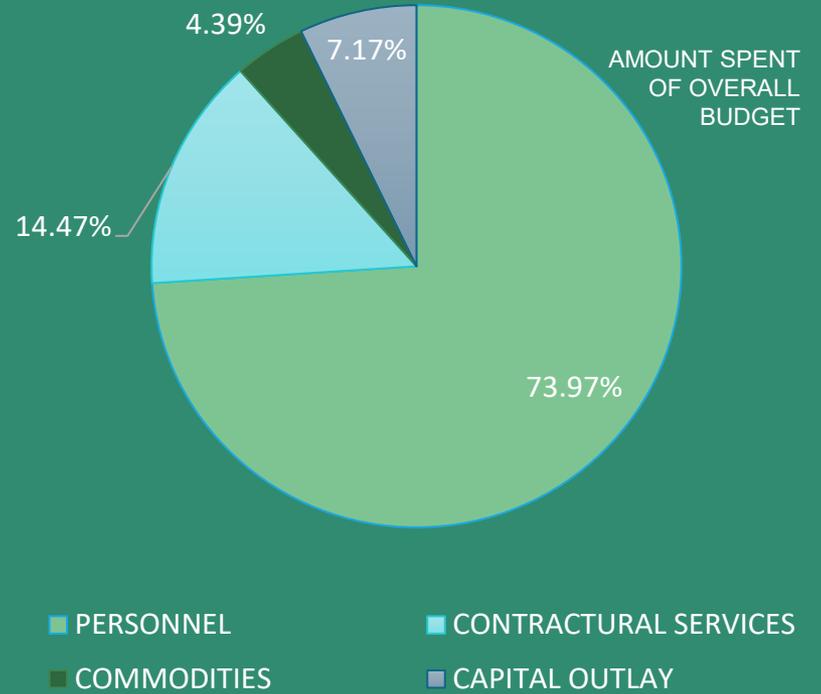
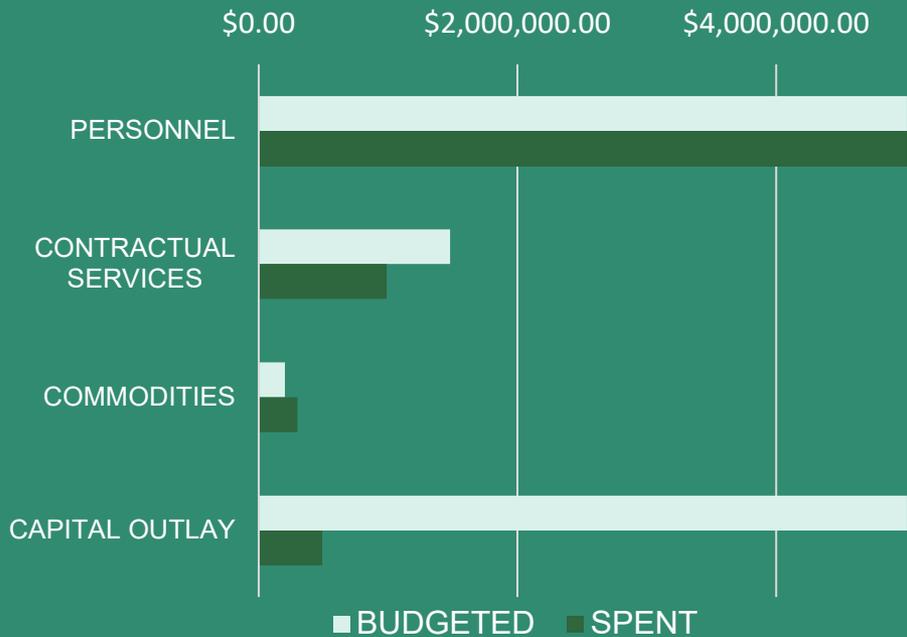
NON-HAZARDOUS CITATIONS/VIOLATIONS = 1,689



HAZARDOUS CITATIONS/VIOLATIONS = 885



DEPARTMENT BUDGET



2023/2024 BUDGET	Personnel	Contractual Services	Commodities	Capital Outlay	OVERALL TOTAL
BUDGETED	\$5,361,106.00	\$1,479,538.00	\$ 202,700.00	\$5,406,563.00	\$12,449,907.00
SPENT	\$5,057,303.75	\$ 989,292.72	\$ 299,829.31	\$ 490,519.24	\$ 6,836,945.02
PERCENTAGE SPENT	94%	67%	148%	9%	55%

NOTABLE EVENTS

New Deputy Chief of Police Jennifer Birkhofer

In 2024, the Fremont Police Department reevaluated the rank structure after the departure of longtime employee Shane Wimer and decided that a new rank structure would be beneficial. It was decided that the position of Deputy Chief, which had been vacant since 2012, would be reinstated. Potential candidates were interviewed in July and August and in September, Jennifer Birkhofer, a 19-year veteran of the Douglas County Sheriff's Office was hired as Deputy Chief.



Increase in Community Service Officer Coverage

In 2024, the police budget allowed for the hiring of one additional Community Service Officer (CSO). The department at that time had 3 Community Service Officers that covered the hours of 9 am to 8 pm, Monday through Saturday. With the addition one CSO position, this allowed the police department to increase CSO coverage to 7am to 9pm, Monday through Sunday, significantly increasing the availability of CSO services.

New Police Building

In 2024, after years of studies and discussions about the need for a new police station, a site was chosen and purchased with the intention of building a new police facility. An architectural firm out of Kansas City Missouri designed a facility that would provide a state-of-the-art building for the Fremont Police and in late 2024, a construction management firm was hired to oversee the construction of the building. A tentative schedule for the project showed that ground would be broken in March of 2025 with a possible completion date as early as September of 2026. This building will provide tremendous benefit to the Fremont Police Department and is welcomed by all of the police officers.

May 2024 Street Flooding

In May of 2024 after a series of major thunderstorms, Fremont Police were sent to rescue dozens of stranded motorists in and around the city. Cars had become stuck on water filled streets and had become inoperable. The Fremont Police used their MRAP to rescue these motorists and bring them to dry areas.



NOTABLE EVENTS

Peer Support Program

In 2024, the Fremont Police Mental Health Peer Support program took off. The peer support program was similar to the mental health co-responder program but instead used an employee of Lutheran Family Services to fill the position. This person was actually brought into the department in November of 2023, but the program did not get up and running until 2024. The program has great success by providing citizens with assistance in finding mental health and substance dependency help.

Joint Active Shooter Training

In July of 2024, the Fremont Police Department participated with multiple other law enforcement agencies in simulation active shooter training held inside Logan View High School. This opportunity gave officers the chance to practice responding to an active shooter situation in a school using simulation rounds and actually seeing if some of the techniques that officers learn during training for active shooter situations, work in that environment. This training occurred over multiple days and involved police, fire, and rescue units from multiple jurisdictions.



NOTABLE EVENTS

Body and Cruiser Camera Conversion

In October of 2024, the Fremont Police Department converted all of their police cruiser cameras and body cameras to a new system. The old system run by a company called WatchGuard, had sold to a company called Motorola and the old equipment were no longer supported. This change had been anticipated and was budgeted. Every police cruiser camera and every police body camera was changed out and upgraded to provide state-of-the-art video coverage of all actions a police officer takes when interacting with the public.



Sergeant Savio Northwest Staff and Command School

In 2024, Sergeant Dominic Savio graduated from the Northwestern School of Police Staff and Command. This school is a prestigious school that is known worldwide for its excellence in training law enforcement leaders. Sergeant Dominic Savio is the third member of the Fremont Police Department to graduate from this course, following Sergeant John Gieselman and Sergeant John Brady.

Changes to Police Uniform Policy

In late 2023 and early 2024, several significant changes to the Fremont Police Department Uniform Policy were made. The most significant was the allowance of facial hair in the form of a beard. For decades, beards had not been allowed in most police departments, but to keep up with current practices, the policy was changed, and some officers began to wear beards in 2024. Additionally, the uniform pants of police officers changed from the old military dress style pant with a stripe, to a more modern BDU pant giving the officers more flexibility and durability in the clothing.

CALEA

2024 was the first entire year that the Fremont Police Department dedicated an officer to working toward the goal of accreditation. In 2023, the department began the process of becoming compliant with the Commission on Accreditation of Law Enforcement Agencies. If the Fremont Police Department is successful, we will be one of only a handful of agencies in the State of Nebraska that possess such an accreditation. The process is three years long and the hope is that the department will receive accreditation in 2026.

NOTABLE EVENTS

December 2024 Christmas Cash Card Giveaway

The Fremont Police department surprised motorists with Christmas gifts instead of tickets before holidays.



December 2024 Fatal Fire

At approximately 07:42 am, our agency responded with Fremont Fire to a residential fire in the 700 block of East Military Avenue. It was determined that there was a fatality involved and the Fremont Police Detectives, Douglas County Crime Unit, Dodge County Sheriff's Department and the Nebraska State Fire Marshal responded to the scene. Andrew L. Steinmeyer, 39 years of age, of Fremont, has been identified as the individual fatality involved in the fire.

November 2024 Lieutenant Watts Award

The Fremont Area Chamber of Commerce awarded the Amigo de la Comunidad (Friend of the Community) Award to Lieutenant Ed Watts of the Fremont Police Department. The Chamber highlighted Lieutenant Watts' dedication to advocacy, cultural sensitivity, and fostering collaboration. His efforts highlight the importance of building connections and strengthening relationships within our community.

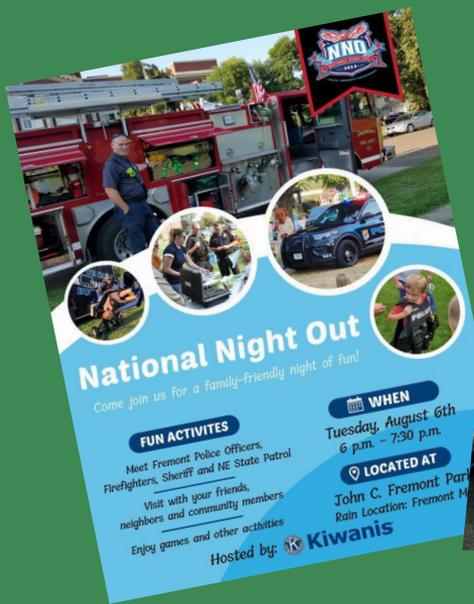


September 2024 Chief Elliott Years of Service Award

Mayor Spellerberg presented Chief Elliott with a Service Award for 35 Years of Service to our department and community.

NOTABLE EVENTS

August 2024 National Night Out



Drugs Arrest: August 2024 at approximately 12:13 pm, officers assisted another agency by conducting a traffic stop at 11th Street and Broad Street. Drugs were found in the vehicle resulting in the arrest of Severo Valencia Mendoza, age 46 of Los Angeles, California. During his arrest, 20 grams of methamphetamine were located on his person. Valencia Mendoza was charged with Possession of a Controlled Substance with Intent to Deliver. The West Point Police Department, Dodge County Sheriff's Office and Ill Corps Drug Task Force assisted in the investigation.

Grant: August 2024 "The Fremont Police Department participated in the NDOT High Safety Speeding Protection Traffic Enforcement Grant during July 12th to July 31st focusing on speeding enforcement with an effort to reduce traffic crash injuries and fatalities. Seven members of the Fremont Police Department completed 131 hours of specific traffic speed enforcement during the time frame. In that time officers issued 114 speeding citations with a total of 122 of total citations issued and completed a total of 152 traffic contacts.

NOTABLE EVENTS

June 2024 Fatality Accident

On June 4, 2024, at approximately 1:35 PM, our agency investigated a fatality accident in the area of South Broad Street & Schuster Ranch Road. The investigation determined the accident involved a semi tractor and trailer and a black colored SUV resulting in one fatality. Our agency would like to thank Fremont Fire and Rescue, City of Fremont Street Department, Nebraska State Patrol, Dodge County Sheriff's Office, and the Douglas County Sheriff's Office for their assistance.

Stabbing: February 2024

Fremont police investigated a stabbing that occurred shortly after midnight on Sunday, February 11, 2024. Officers were dispatched at about 12:46 a.m. to a business in the 1200 block of East 23rd Street. On the way to the scene, officers were told the victim had left the premises and was at Methodist Fremont Health. This resulted in a disturbance at the hospital. The victim of the stabbing was transported to the University of Nebraska Medical Center in Omaha. The suspect was subsequently arrested following an investigation.



COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT



COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT



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Our agency was once again honored to participate in a heartwarming tradition - a **Secret Santa Cash Giveaway** made possible by an incredibly generous anonymous donor. This remarkable program has been ongoing for several years, and we're truly grateful for the continued support and kindness behind it.

Thanks to this donor's \$5,000 contribution, officers were able to distribute fifty \$100 cards during law enforcement contacts with members of the public. Each card was given with no strings attached - just a simple gesture of goodwill and compassion. The reactions from the recipients have been nothing short of priceless. Whether it was relief, joy, or gratitude, every encounter was a reminder of the power of kindness and connection in our community.

To the anonymous donor: thank you for helping us build bridges and make a positive difference – one card at a time.





FREMONT POLICE
DEPARTMENT

COMMUNITY SUPPORT



COMMUNITY SUPPORT

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ANNUAL REPORT

COMMUNITY SUPPORT



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CITY OF
FREMONT
NEBRASKA PATHFINDERS





YEARS OF SERVICE

Committed to Service. Proud to Protect.



DATE OF
HIRE

DATE OF HIRE

DATE OF HIRE

Chief of Police

Jeffrey Elliott 09-01-1989

Deputy Chief

Jennifer Birkhofer 10-28-2024

Captains

Kurt Bottorff 03-21-1994

Lieutenant

Ed Watts 08-08-1995

Sergeants

Jim Dockerty 07-19-1995

Kurt Pafford 06-09-1997

John Gieselman 08-29-2000

John Brady 04-13-2010

Adam Macpherson 07-22-2013

Dominic Savio 03-31-2014

Jesse Headid 12-28-2015

Detectives

Aaron Howe 06-05-2000

Brandon Lorenson 06-11-2001

Kelly Drake 12-01-2014

Patrol Officers

Joe Bauer 08-15-1999

Jim Butts (SRO) 12-20-1999

Tyler Hancock 06-11-2001

Steven Behring 03-31-2008

Anthony Gartner 01-26-2009

Chad Smith 04-02-2013

Andrew Dixson 12-01-2014

Brianna Ryan 02-15-2016

Nicholas Heidlage 03-13-2017

Seth Howard 03-13-2017

Kodi Classen 10-30-2017

Justin Beranek 02-12-2018

Courtney Ertl 02-12-2018

Garrett Jensen 10-28-2019

Ryan Christensen 07-20-2020

Hunter McKenzie 07-20-2020

Jackson Shepherd 11-30-2020

Cody Kruse 08-15-2022

Gabriel Steele 07-31-2023

Miles Morgan 12-11-2023

Patrol Officers

Christopher Williamson 03-28-2024

Brandon Ramirez 06-14-2024

Part Time Officers

Jason Reed 04-18-2024

Derick Leaman 09-23-2024

Community Service Officers

Kelli Stuehmer 11-21-2022

Chris Bales 08-26-2024

Margret Gemar 08-27-2024

Senior Office Associate

Alesia Hajek 06-04-2001

Office Associates

Christine Taylor 10-03-2016

Dayme Moller 03-01-2021

Jenni Erickson 02-14-2022

Property/Evidence Technician

Chantelle White 05-09-2024