

2020 Annual Report

Indianola Police Department



INDEX

Message from the Chief.....	3
Organizational Chart.....	4
Department Personnel.....	5
Divisions.....	6
Training.....	10
Statistics.....	11
Community.....	12
Highlights.....	15



Integrity

Professionalism

Dedication

Message from the Chief

IPD began the year short three officers but had to scuttle our hiring process due to the pandemic. During the year we lost one more officer to another agency. The pandemic forced us to alter our patrol tactics in order to lessen the amount of exposure between our officers and the public. Our manpower shortage and the pandemic contributed to fewer traffic stops and decreased calls for service. We would be remiss without mentioning the passing of two former longtime IPD employees. Laurola Gibson spent 18 years working in our clerical staff, and former Lt. Pete Berry spent 31 as an officer with the Department.

Despite the pandemic, some of our community policing projects such as Thanksgiving and Christmas meal delivery and Christmas shopping with local children continued. The program and projects are under the coordination of our School Resource Officer who completed a first and successful year working with the school district.

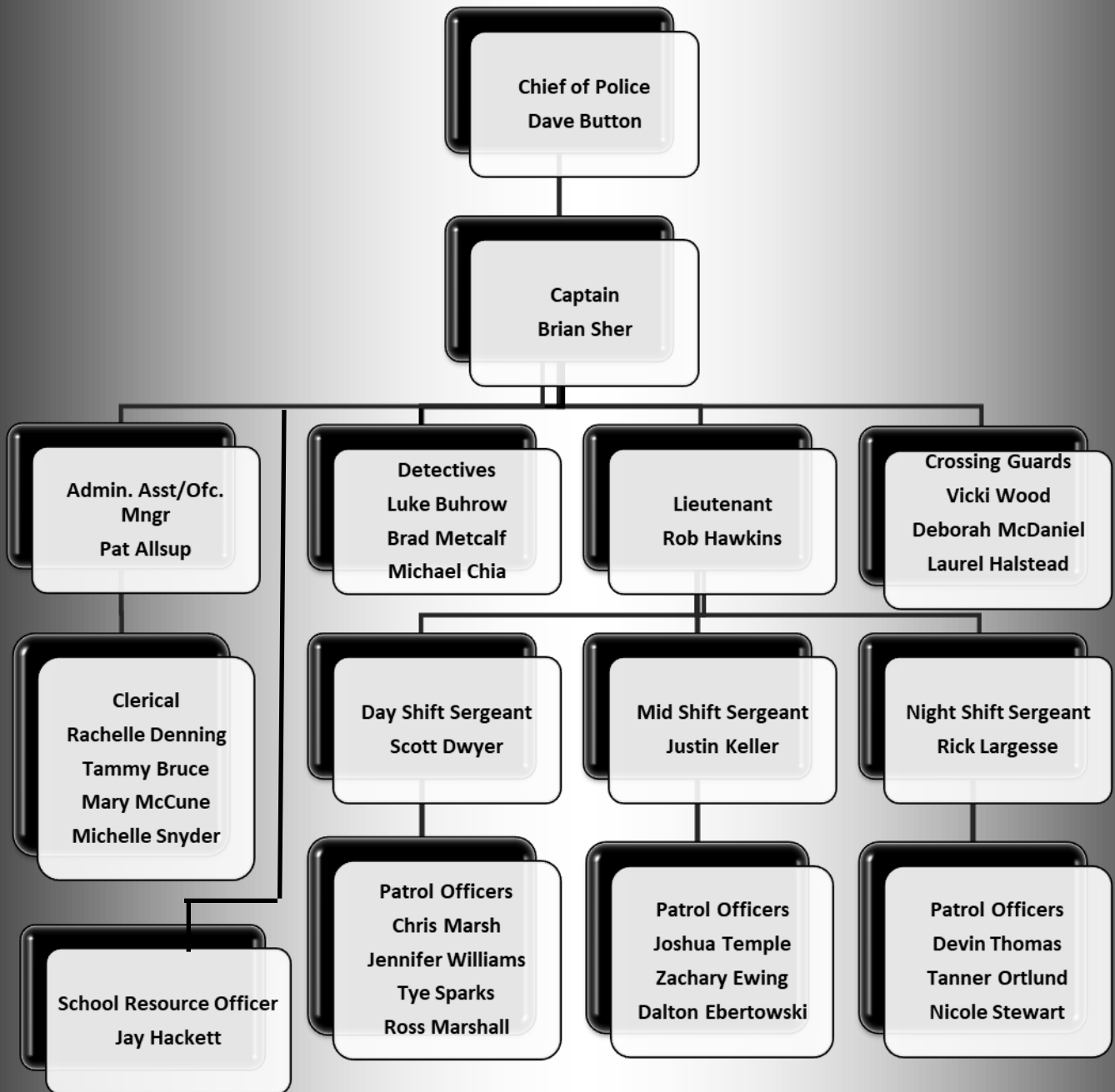
We were prepared to deal with the types of civil uprising we witnessed throughout the country during the year but were fortunate that local protests were peaceful. We trained in de-escalation, implicit bias, and response to resistance to ensure we provide the best service for our community.

On behalf of the Indianola Police Department, we thank our community for the support we received throughout a trying 2020. We will continue to keep the watch, protecting and serving our community with **Integrity, Professionalism, and Dedication.**

Dave Button
Chief of Police

Indianola Police Department Organizational Chart

2020



2020 Indianola Police Department



Chief Dave Button



Captain Brian Sher



Lt. Robert Hawkins



Admin. Asst. Pat Allsup



Sgt. Scott Dwyer



Sgt. Justin Keller



Sgt. Rick Largesse



Detective Luke Buhrow



Detective Brad Metcalf



Detective Michael Chia



SRO Jay Hackett



Officer Chris Marsh



Officer Jennifer Williams



Officer Joshua Temple



Officer Zachary Ewing



Officer Devin Thomas



Officer Tye Sparks



Officer Dalton Ebertowski



Officer Tanner Ortlund



Officer Nicole Stewart



Officer Ross Marshall



Clerical Rachelle Denning



Clerical Tammy Bruce



Clerical Michelle Snyder



Clerical Mary McCune

Patrol Division

The Department's most visible division is the patrol division. The lieutenant oversees the operation of the patrol division. Each of the three patrol sergeants command one of three shifts manned by patrol officers. A minimum of two officers provide a law enforcement presence throughout the community 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

The sergeants and patrol officers are assigned to one of three nine-hour shifts. Each shift overlaps which allows officers an opportunity to exchange information, keeps more officers on the street instead of ending and starting shifts simultaneously, and reduces overtime. The lieutenant works 1 pm – 10 pm Monday through Friday. This ensures that at least one supervisor is available to all three of the patrol shifts during the week, and gives the captain and chief an opportunity to brief the lieutenant on daily matters.

IPD was fortunate to receive grants from Theisen's and the Governor's Traffic Safety Bureau that assisted in our efforts to upgrade vital equipment.

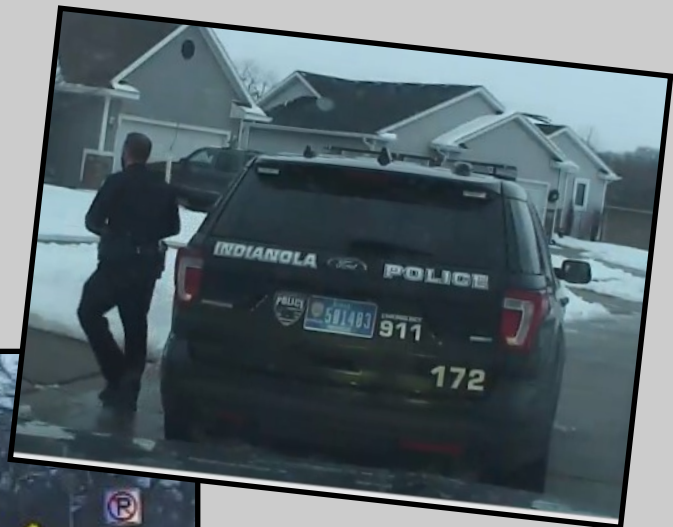
Indianola's day shift patrol officers continue to stop into the elementary schools unannounced throughout the week. Officers walk through the buildings and converse with students and faculty as the opportunities arise. This effort places a marked patrol car in front of the schools at random times, serving as a deterrent to someone contemplating disrupting the school day. IPD partnered with the Indianola Community School District to provide a School Resource Officer. The SRO offices at the high school and splits their time between there and the middle school during normal school days. The SRO attends select school events, and when school is on break resumes patrol duties at IPD.



The Department's speed monitoring trailer is stationed throughout the city to remind drivers not to exceed the designated limit. Patrol officers are responsible for positioning the trailer each morning at a predetermined location and retrieving the trailer each evening.

Each officer's activity, either self-initiated or through being dispatched to a call, is a call for service. The patrol shift had 11,937 calls for service in 2020, a decrease of 8.2% from 2019. Traffic enforcement in the form of citations and warnings decreased 13% from 2019, but overall traffic enforcement increased over 11%.

Patrol officers are often the first officers on scene at reported crimes, disturbances, and medical emergencies. Patrol officers assess each situation, identify involved parties, secure evidence if available, gather information, assess patients and render first aid, and make arrests as each situation dictates. They also handle complaints from citizens who either phone or walk in to the department wishing to speak with an officer. Most situations necessitate a written report that each patrol officer is responsible for completing. The cases that need further attention are either forwarded to the detective division or are followed up with by the patrol officer.



Detective Division

The detectives assigned to the detective division are overseen by the Captain. The division was expanded to three detectives in 2020 with the new detective working primarily mid-shift hours and focusing on narcotics cases. Cases worked by the division decreased 13% in 2020 which is a reflection of a pandemic driven reduction in law enforcement cases nationwide.

Detective duties include following up on cases generated by patrol officers, coordinating with prosecutors, warrant preparation and execution, and performing as the lead officers on major crimes including sexual assaults, robberies, burglaries, financial crimes, and narcotics investigations. Detectives are trained and are responsible for crime scene processing, interview and interrogation, and death investigations. Detectives also consult with patrol officers regarding their investigations, and assist with preparation and execution of warrants on cases that are not assigned to the detective division. The detectives are also responsible for the control of evidence and the evidence room.

One detective is certified as a forensic examiner to investigate Internet Crimes against Children. This designation allows IPD to continue conducting ICAC cases as we have been for years with other ICAC certified personnel. IPD detectives utilize a Cellebrite device that allows them to conduct forensic exams on cellular phones. IPD detectives utilized the Cellebrite in 72 cases in 2020. Twenty-four of those phone exams were related to ICAC investigations. IPD's detectives utilized the Cellebrite to perform cell phone examinations for nine other law enforcement agencies.



School Resource Officer

The SRO has done a good job establishing relationships with faculty, staff, and students at the high school and middle school. His presence has also alleviated the need for patrol officers to respond to the district's buildings to handle complaints and investigations, leaving those officers to focus on their primary patrol duties.

Although not a complete list, the SRO duties include:

- office at the high school and is primarily responsible for performing duties at the high school and middle school.

- being supervised by the IPD Captain.

- being evaluated at least annually by the Captain in consultation with ICSD personnel.

- being assigned those hours that the schools are in regular session and being on campus 30 minutes prior to school start time until 30 minutes after classes are dismissed for the day.

- maybe being reassigned temporarily by IPD during school breaks or during police emergencies.

- taking vacation time in excess of 5 consecutive days only when school is on break such as Summer, Winter, or Spring break. Vacation or comp time leave less than 5 consecutive days must have approval of IPD.

- being in summer or winter uniform unless approved by IPD for specific events.

The city and school have a 28E that spells out more of the duties and responsibilities of the position, as well as the funding split between governmental bodies. The SRO responded to a total of 378 calls for service at the respective schools during 2020 with a majority of those calls split between the middle and high schools.



Training

The Iowa Law Enforcement Academy has established mandatory training requirements for all law enforcement officers in the state. The Indianola Police Department far exceeds those requirements. As a Department, officers received 791 hours of training in 2020. Due to the pandemic, much of our training was conducted virtually. Multiple practical firearms training days were held while social distancing.

In 2020, Department officers either attended instruction or provided instruction in the following areas: de-escalation and communication, anti-bias policing, use of force, search and seizure, active shooter, Glock armorer, firearms simulation at WDMPD, NIMS, Taser instructor, SIM instructor, advanced vehicle contraband and concealment, defensive tactics instruction, standardized field sobriety testing instructor, and fair and impartial policing instructor. Three rookie officers received additional training in ASP baton, firearms, taser, and OC spray.



Statistics

Type of Call	2018	2019	2020	% Diff
Calls for Service	12856	13001	11937	-8.2%
Incident Reports	1857	1797	1676	-6.7%
Traffic Enforcement	4912	3993	4460	11.7%
Vehicle Accident Responses	401	426	328	-23%
Arrests	601	675	584	-13.5%
Controlled Substance Cases	163	179	169	-5.6%
Assault	87	85	69	-18.8%
Burglary	NA	91	81	-22%
Burglary alarms	NA	192	175	-8.9%
Sex Abuse	34	36	24	-33.3%
Theft	307	309	298	-3.6%
Domestic Disturbance	221	186	192	3.1%
Criminal Mischief	141	124	109	-12.1%
Arson/Fire	1	0	2	200%
Robbery	1	2	0	-100%
Fraud/Forgery	148	140	104	-25.6%
Trespass	NA	152	147	-3.3%
<u>Traffic Enforcement</u>				
Citations/Warnings	4137	3238	2816	-13%
OWI	55	50	28	-44%
Parking Tickets	774	705	852	20.1%
<u>Motor Vehicle Accidents</u>				
Property Damage	313	323	251	-22.3%
Personal Injury	16	19	21	10.5%
Hit and Run	49	67	44	-34.3%
Unknown Injury	8	6	2	-66.6%
Car vs. Deer	15	11	9	-22.2%
Fatality	0	0	1	100%
<u>Detective Cases</u>				
Detective Investigated	207	147	128	-12.9%
ICAC	15	16	24	50%
<u>SRO</u>				
Calls for Service	478	396	378	-4.5%

Community Involvement

The Department is actively involved in the community as we build on the trust we've built, and we strive to provide a safe environment for our citizens and visitors. We work to strengthen our current partnerships and look to build collaborative new partnerships with local groups and individuals.

The Department's visibility in the community is vital to our success. Due to the pandemic, for the first time we discouraged our officers from getting out of the squad cars and into various businesses, or to briefly stop by community events. We did manage to still hold our annual Elves in Blue Christmas shopping event with about a dozen youth in town at Wal-Mart. We also still provided Thanksgiving dinners and Christmas dinners to a dozen families through each event. We started a new event this year, our "We're Hair to Help" no shave November initiative. Male officers each paid to grow facial hair for the month.



Female officers and clerical staff paid to dye their hair. Proceeds were then given to the Heal House, Indianola's new homeless shelter.

Communication between the Department and administration at Indianola schools and Simpson College continues to be positive. IPD continues a successful partnership with Simpson College to provide internship opportunities to criminal justice students, and we look forward to resuming those once the pandemic clears.

The Chief read a book on-line for children to view through the Indianola library. IPD participated in local charities by donating training in firearms and patrol officer duties for silent auctions.

The drug drop box in our lobby receives a tremendous amount of use. Citizens place outdated and unwanted prescription medication in the box which is then safely destroyed without harm to the environment.

Two parking spots on the south side of the Department are designated for safe exchange zone parking. The parking stalls are monitored by surveillance video 24/7 and are to be used by people conducting on-line transactions such as E Bay or other online purchases as well as by parents making child custody exchanges.



Officers and staff helped prepare and serve breakfast to community members and veterans at the American Legion.





Highlights

Personnel changes:

Officer Nicole Stewart hired

Officer Tanner Ortlund hired

Officer Ross Marshall hired

Officer Devan Wicks resigned (Des Moines PD)

Clerical staff Christine Crawford employment discontinued



