

Village of Pewaukee Police

2024 ANNUAL REPORT



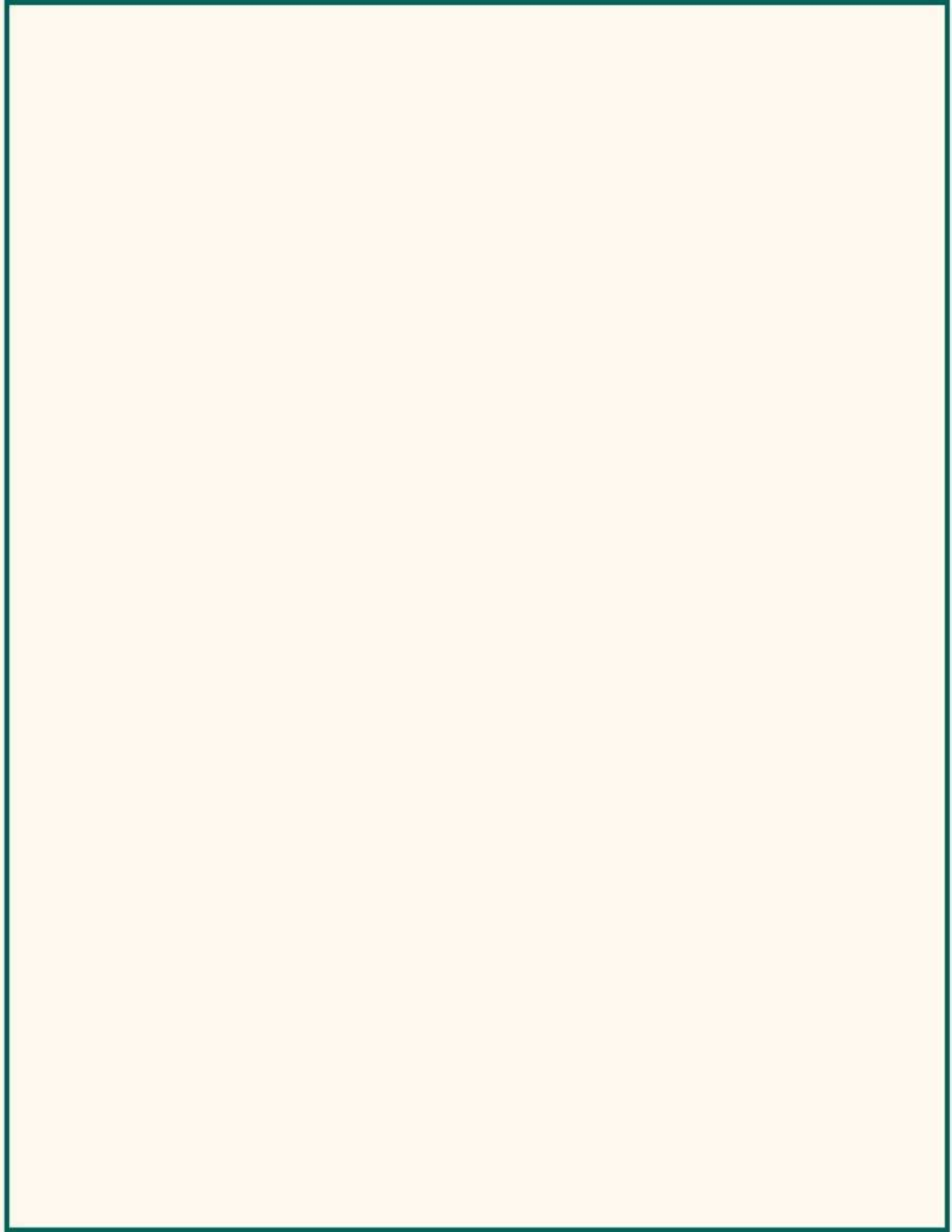


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Chiefs Welcome



TIMOTHY HEIER
CHIEF OF POLICE



POLICE DEPARTMENT
235 Hickory Street
Pewaukee, WI 53072
Telephone 262-691-5678
Fax 262-691-5675

Honorable Police Commissioners, Members of the Village Board, and Residents of the Village of Pewaukee;

As we reflect on the past year, I want to extend my sincere gratitude to each of you for your continued trust and support in our efforts to maintain a safe, secure, and vibrant community. Our department is committed to upholding the highest standards of law enforcement, and we believe that collaboration with the residents we serve is essential in achieving this goal.

It is with great pleasure that I welcome you to the 2024 Annual Report of the Village of Pewaukee Police Department. This report provides an overview of the department's accomplishments, challenges, and the strategies we have employed to continue fulfilling our mission to protect and serve the community with integrity, professionalism, and respect.

In the past year, we have worked diligently to enhance our community outreach, increase transparency, and build stronger relationships with neighbors, schools, and local businesses. We have been focused on ensuring the safety and well-being of everyone who calls this community home. With the continued support of our residents, we are able to make a meaningful difference in ensuring that our neighborhoods are not only safe but also places where trust and mutual respect can thrive.

As we look ahead, we remain committed to improving our services through the use of new technology, ongoing training for our officers, and listening closely to the concerns and needs of the community. Together, we will continue to strengthen our efforts to protect and serve with integrity and respect.

Thank you for your continued partnership. We are proud to serve you and work hand in hand to keep our community a great place to live, work, and raise families.

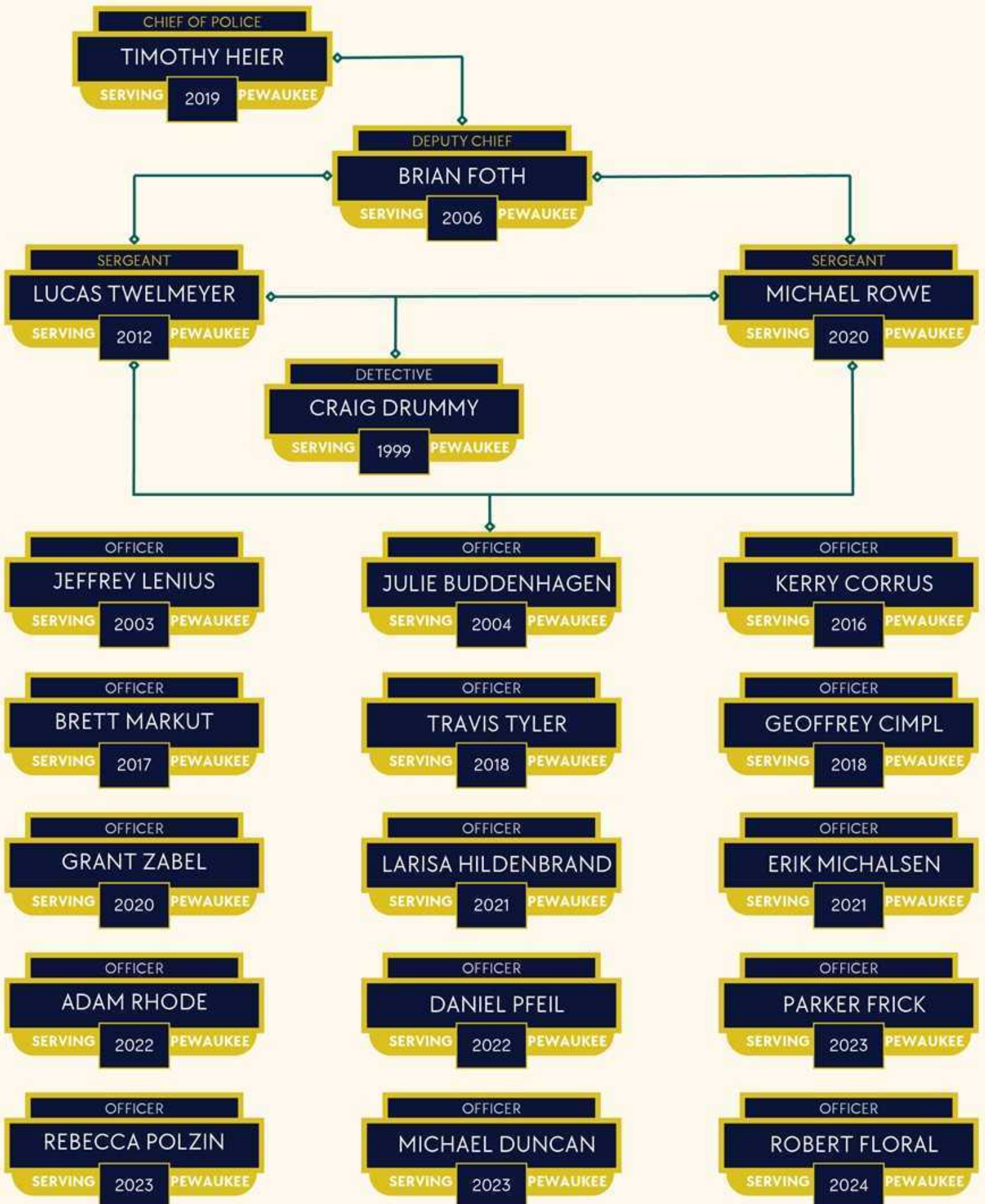
Sincerely,

Chief Timothy Heier

An Accredited Law Enforcement Agency
www.villageofpewaukee.com



Department Roster



Command Staff and Support Staff



Chief Timothy Heier



Deputy Chief Brian Foth



Sergeant Lucas Twelmeyer



Sergeant Michael Rowe



**Administrative Assistant
Angela Prochniewski**



**Clerk of Courts
Julie Forrest**

Day Shift



Detective Craig Drummy



Officer Jeffrey Lenius



Officer Julie Buddenhagen



Officer Brett Markut



Officer Grant Zabel



Officer Larisa Hildenbrand



Officer Kerry Corrus



Officer Geoffrey Cimpl



Officer Travis Tyler



Officer Adam Rhode



Officer Erik Michalsen



Officer Parker Frick

Third Shift



Officer Daniel Pfeil



Officer Michael Duncan



Officer Robert Floral



Officer Rebecca Polzin

Village Board Members

Term Expiration



President Jeff Knutson

04/14/2025



Trustee Heather Gergen

04/14/2025



Trustee Bob Rohde

04/14/2025



Trustee Chris Krasovich

04/14/2025



Trustee Kelli Belt

04/20/2026



Trustee Jim Grabowski

04/20/2026



Trustee Kristen Kreuser

04/20/2026

Police Commission Members

	Term Expiration
President David Spakowicz	04/30/2029
Member Jeffrey Bublitz	04/30/2029
Member William Gehrking	04/30/2025
Member Jodie Borckmann	04/30/2026
Member Peter Rohde	04/30/2025

Headlines

Milwaukee man, woman accused, stealing thousands from man with dementia

By FOX6 News Digital Team | Updated: March 27, 2024 10:15pm CDT | Crime and Public Safety | FOX6 News Milwaukee | [↗](#)

Three people injured as two boats collide on Pewaukee Lake

 **Cathy Kozlowicz**
Milwaukee Journal Sentinel

Published 2:24 p.m. CT Aug. 24, 2024 | Updated 2:28 p.m. CT Aug. 24, 2024

Village of Pewaukee McDonald's theft; suspect sought

By FOX6 News Digital Team | Published: January 17, 2024 9:38am CDT | Crime and Public Safety | FOX6 News Milwaukee | [↗](#)

Grafton man sent to prison after online sex sting

By Brian Huber - Freeman Staff | Updated Jun 28, 2024

Pewaukee Subway employee accused of stealing thousands of dollars

By Svet Leshova | Published: September 9, 2024 6:13pm CDT | Crime and Public Safety | FOX6 News Milwaukee | [↗](#)

Marine groups partner with Pewaukee to distribute over 200 life jackets to beachgoers

Freeman Staff | Updated Jun 25, 2024

Former Pewaukee man enters plea in bestiality case

By Brian Huber - Freeman Staff | Updated May 24, 2024



Village of Pewaukee officers solve disturbing crime; honored for action

By Svet Leshova and FOX6 News Digital Team | Published: April 18, 2024 5:21pm CDT | Crime and Public Safety | FOX6 News Milwaukee | [↗](#)

We Rock the Spectrum, Pewaukee police partner for autism awareness

By Aaron Mayton and FOX6 News Digital Team | Updated: April 6, 2024 6:15pm CDT | Pewaukee | FOX6 News Milwaukee | [↗](#)

Pewaukee police cite two minors for vandalizing 'Love is Love' sign

A Pewaukee family found the sign ripped up, along with a hate letter, on Monday

Share    Updated: 12:53 PM CDT May 31, 2024

Pewaukee man pleads no contest in threats at Walmart case

Freeman Staff | Updated Jan 23, 2024

Driver faces 7 charges after allegedly killing 2 in 'serious crash' in Pewaukee

By RACHEL RYAN, KELLY MILAN AND ALY PROUTY | WISCONSIN
UPDATED 5:03 PM ET JUN. 27, 2024 | PUBLISHED 1:07 PM ET JUN. 26, 2024

Apartment fire in Pewaukee

Freeman Staff | Mar 6, 2024 Updated Mar 8, 2024



Headlines

Former Pewaukee Planet Fitness employee accused of sex assault

By Brett Lomrose and FOX6 News Digital Team | Published August 14, 2024 4:52pm CDT | Crime and Public Safety | FOX6 News Milwaukee | [↗](#)

One injured in Highway 16 rollover accident in Pewaukee

Freeman Staff | Jan 9, 2024 10:00am Jan 9, 2024

Pewaukee Police Department holds training exercises at Horizon Elementary

Freeman Staff | Aug 13, 2024

One of two suspects in ID theft case deported

Allegedly part of international fraud ring
By Brian Miller, Freeman Staff | Dec 4, 2019 10:00am Dec 4, 2019



83-year-old man charged with hitting two people with his car

Freeman Staff | Nov 23, 2024 10:00am Nov 23, 2024

Pewaukee PD to be assessed by WILEAG June 25-27; department invites public comment

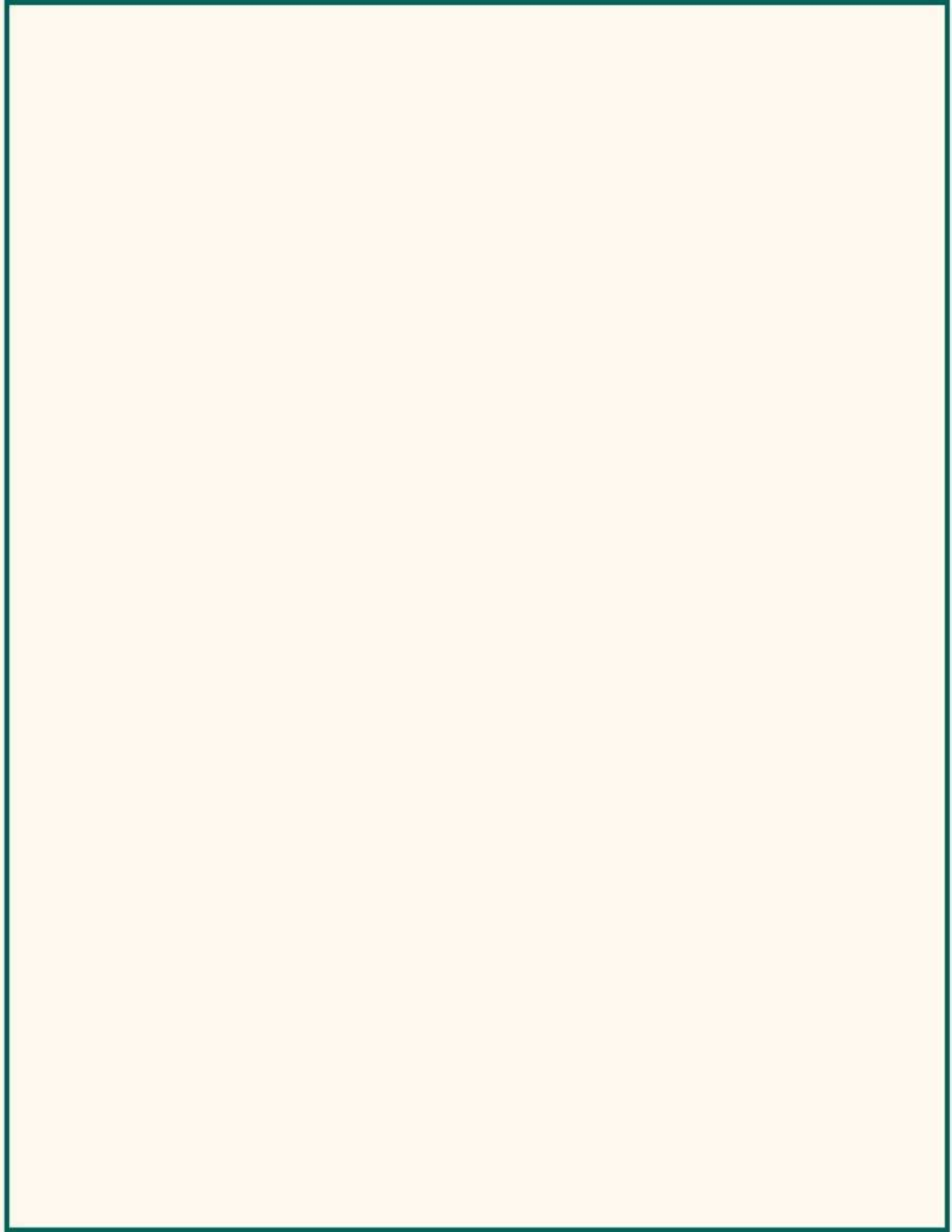
Freeman Staff | Updated May 21, 2024



Positively Pewaukee, police personnel recognized for community impact

Freeman Staff | Updated Mar 14, 2024

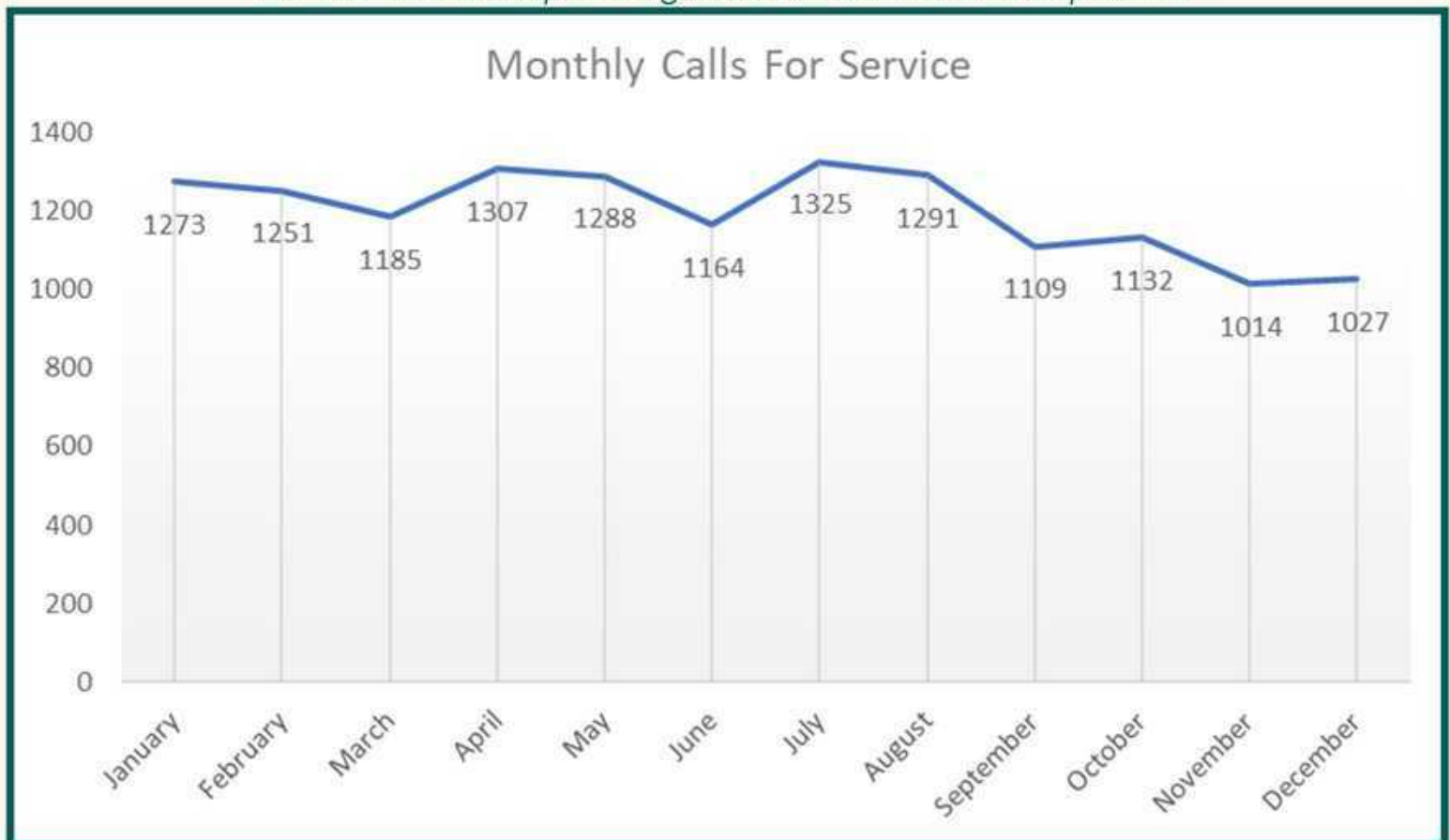




Annual Activity

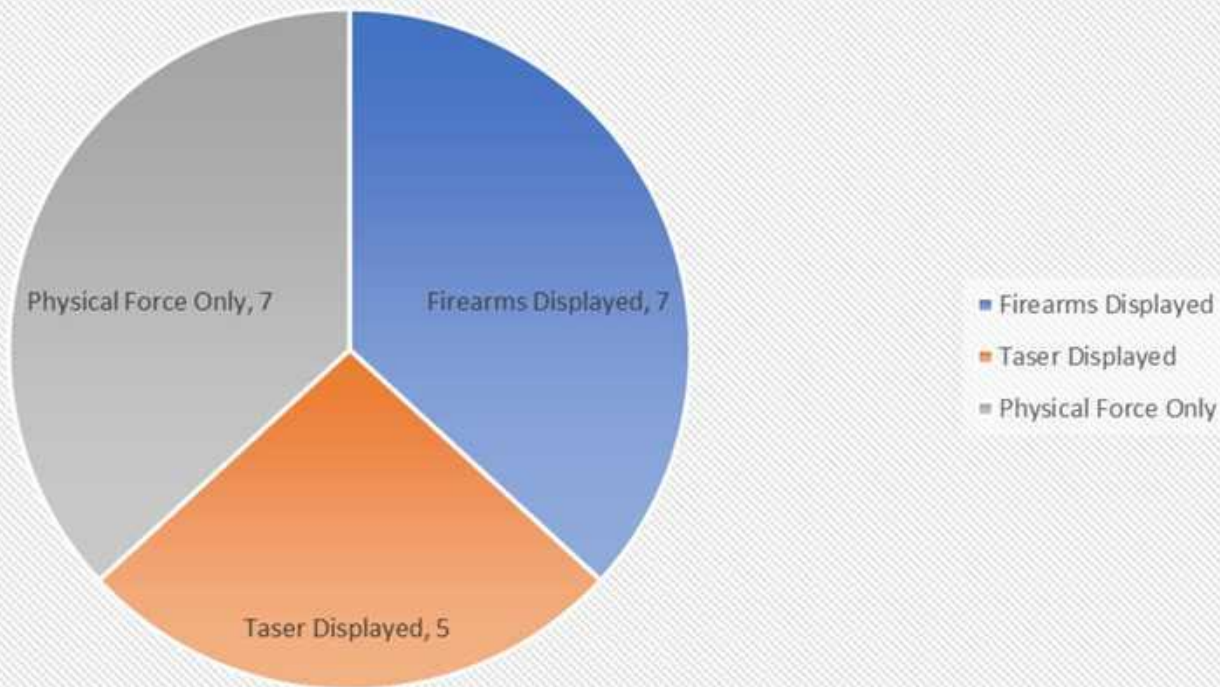


calls for service reflect calls in which a case number was assigned and does not include all calls that officers handled. Phone messages and follow up requests often do not receive a case number but can require a significant amount of time to process



Annual Activity

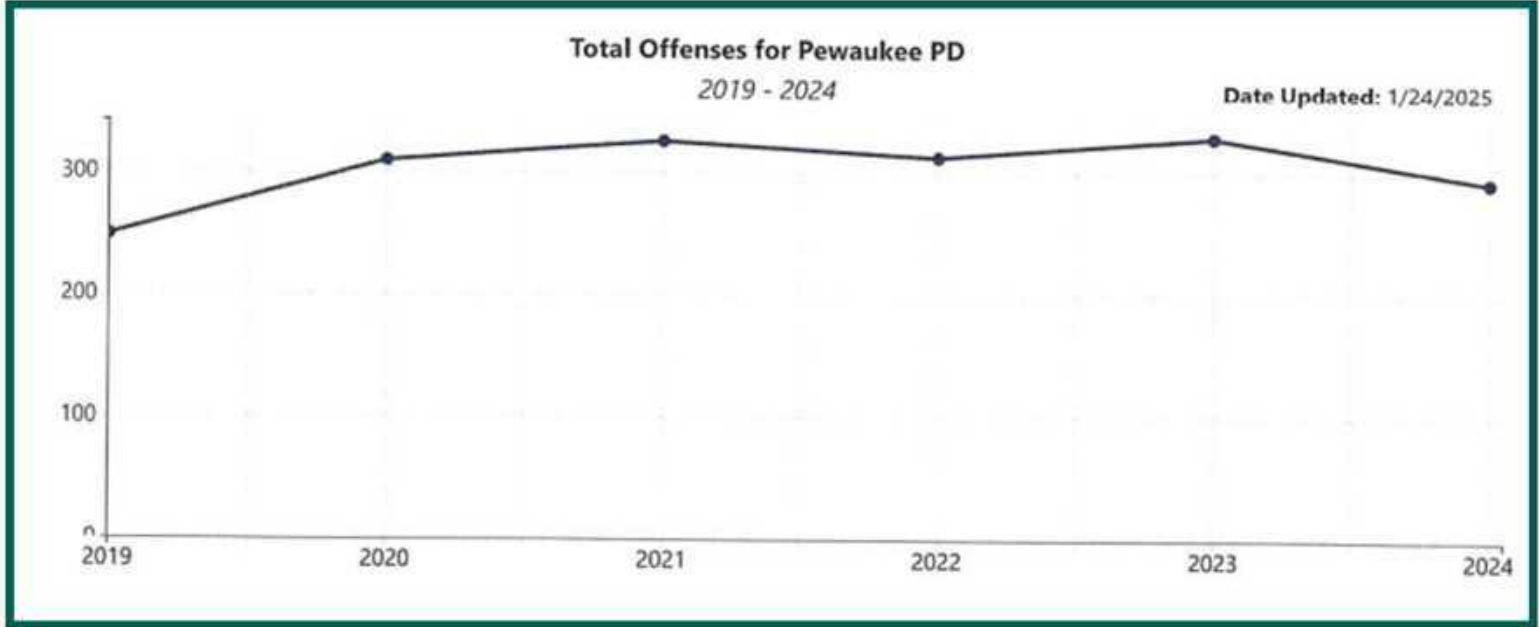
Use of Force Incidents



Use of force incidents are represented by the highest level of force used. Additional, lesser levels of force, may have been used in conjunction with the higher level of force listed.



Annual Activity



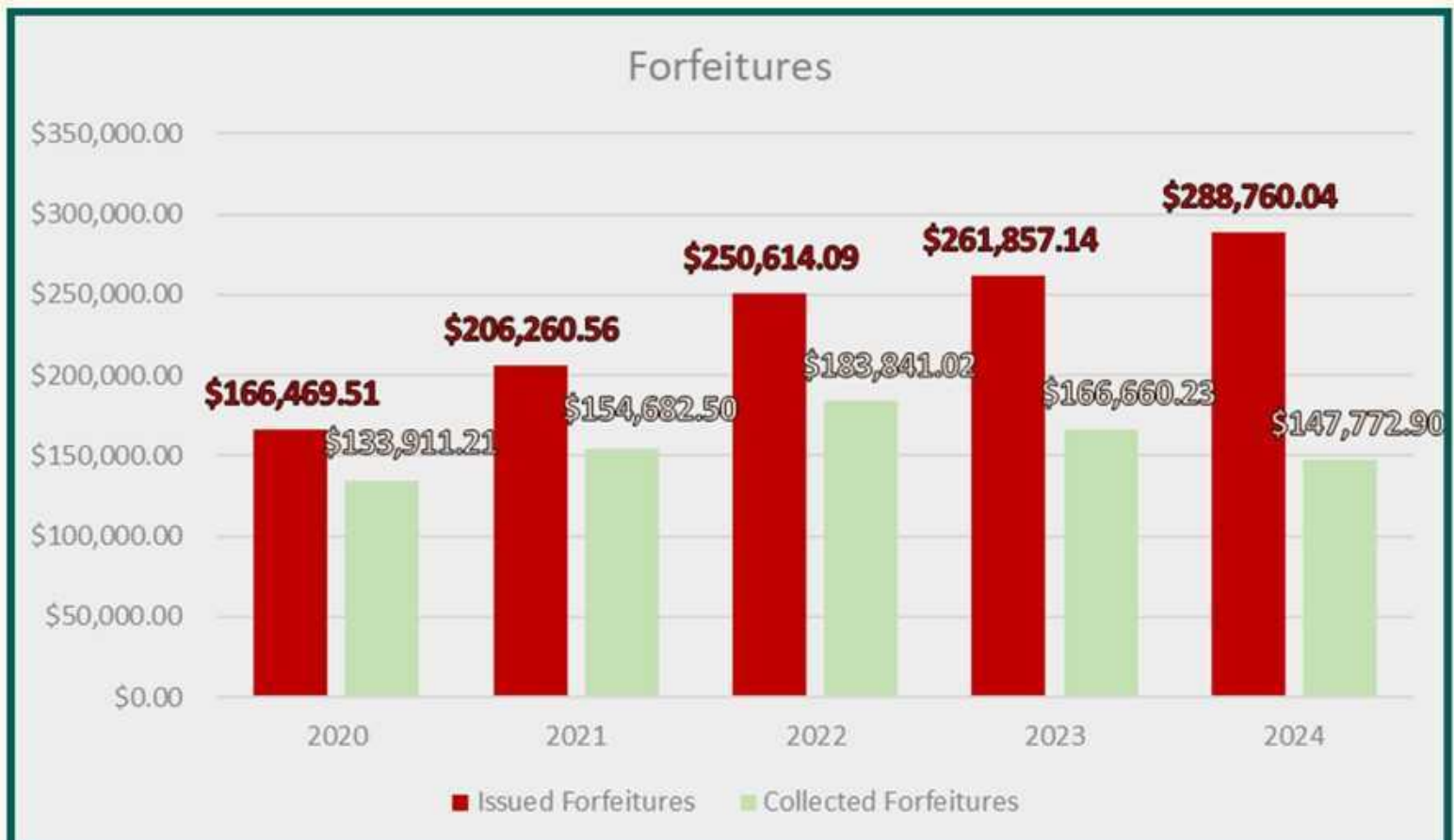
Total Offenses by Subcategory
2019 - 2024
Date Updated: 1/24/2025

Offense	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Total	249	310	326	313	329	293
► Crimes Against Persons	35	28	30	18	24	25
► Crimes Against Property	135	207	233	213	218	204
► Crimes Against Society	79	75	63	82	87	64

Municipal Court

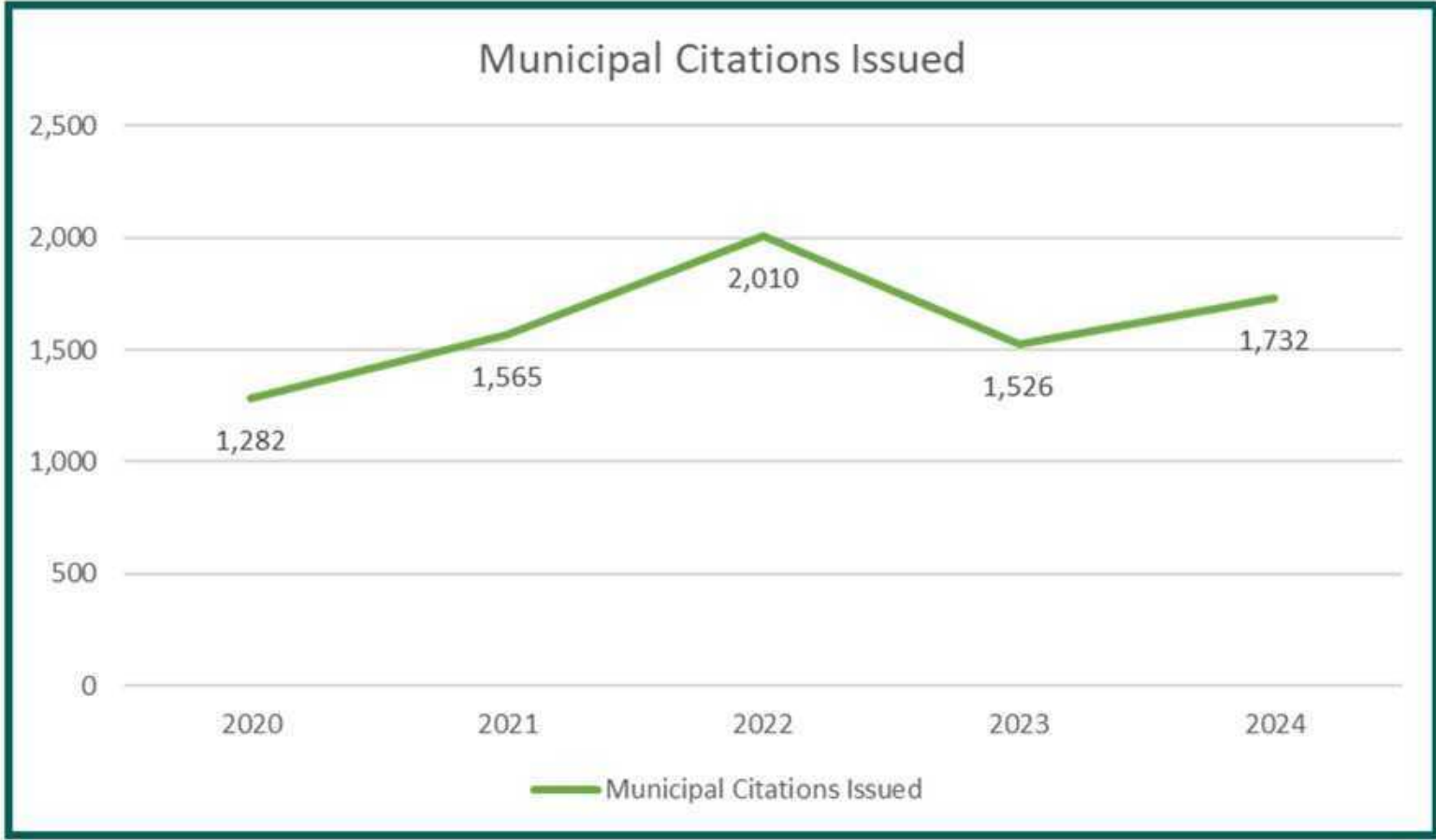
The Village of Pewaukee Municipal Court represents the judicial branch of government, handling all citations issued by the Village of Pewaukee Police Department and Pewaukee Lake Patrol. The primary function of the court is to administer justice and hold individuals accountable for their actions when found guilty of these ordinance violations.

The dollar amount of forfeitures for the citations written in 2024 totaled \$288,760.04. The total payments collected for citations in 2024 was \$147,772.90. The court aggressively pursues collection of unpaid fines through various means at its disposal. Violators can incur suspension of their driving privileges for up to one year, a warrant may be issued for their arrest, their taxes may be intercepted through "State of Wisconsin Tax Refund Intercept Program", or their debt may be referred to the "State Debt Collection" (SDC). The amount collected through the Tax Intercept Program in 2024 was \$3,078.83. The number of debts collected through SDC in 2024 was \$28,246.85. Court staff consists of Judge Melissa Murray, Village Attorney Lori Fabian (Pretrials), Village Attorney Matthew Gralinski (Trials), and Clerk of Court Julie Forrest. It is the joint goal of the team to be courteous and respectful to the citizens they serve when adjudicating municipal violations. While receiving a citation and going to court may not be an enjoyable experience, the team strives to make the process as stress-free as possible.



Municipal Court

<u>Violation Type</u>	<u>Number of Cases</u>
Traffic	1,316
OWI	28
Boat Patrol	30
Overweight Trucks	18
Adult Non-Traffic	288
Juvenile Non-Traffic	52



Investigations

The Pewaukee Police Department staff and officers have worked together year after year to combat criminal activity to make our community a safe place to live, work and raise a family. Here are a few of the larger cases worked by our team in 2024 and updates on pending cases:

*On 11/26/23 and 01/17/24 Pewaukee Police worked to ID a male involved in a Midwest Crime Spree stretching into the states of IL, IA, KY, MS, and WI. \$50,712.95 of Roku streaming devices were stolen. A 28-year-old Plano, IL man was found guilty on 07/18/24 on Felony Retail Theft charges. Issued probation in state of Illinois and full restitution for the two Pewaukee cases.

*On 11/28/23 Theft of \$2,000.00 Check/ID Theft from a retirement home. A 43-yr old female from Milwaukee was charged with Felony Forgery/Uttering. Defendant failed to show for court. Warrant issued 11/25/24.

*02/29/24 Fraud Investigation at Aldi. Pewaukee PD ID a 49-yr old male with from Nanuet, NY who has Fond du Lac, WI ties had been involved in \$11,000.00 in return fraud scams at Aldi's in IL, IA and WI. Arrest warrant signed 06/27/24, \$1,000.00 bail requested. Subject at large.

*03/06/24 Erie PD in PA, assisted Pewaukee PD with an initial arrest of a 30-yr old male suspect. The male had been stalking his ex-girlfriend who resided in Pewaukee. Full Extradition arrest warrant for \$100,060.00 still active. He has failed to show for court in Erie, PA and another warrant issued there as well.

*03/07/24 Fire Investigation at 400-block of Concord Rd. Three units with damage; one a total loss. A cigarette was improperly discarded and fire was accelerated by high winds.

*03/21/24 Bank Fraud against the elderly, at risk patient. \$60,000.00 loss. Twenty-seven counts of Unauthorized use of a person's personal info have been charged. A 36-yr old male and 28-yr old female both from Milwaukee taken into custody. During high-risk traffic stop, \$81,345.02 in cash was recovered.

*03/24/24 Fire Investigation, a semi-truck started on fire over night at Penske Truck Sales on Hickory St. Fire started in engine compartment. Pewaukee Fire Department assisted on the call.

*04/11/24 Theft of money investigation from Subway inside Pewaukee Walmart. A 36-yr old male employee had embezzled cash from Subway stores in Hartford, South Milwaukee and Pewaukee totaling \$8,000.00; \$3,100.00 was taken from the Pewaukee store. Charges filed. Review Hearing scheduled 03/10/25.

Investigations

*04/26/24 Stalking Case investigated. We had 3 separate complainants involving the same suspect who threatened to physically harm the complainants. The 38-yr old male from Milwaukee was taken into custody at the Waukesha County Court House and resisted arrest. He is still in custody on \$80,000.00 cash bail. Court pending.

*07/23/24 Update to Criminal Damage To Property at Liberty Park from 09/16/18 investigation. Damage costs: \$18,383.38 The WI State Crime Lab advises of new fingerprint evidence leading to the ID of a male suspect involved. A now 22-yr old male's fingerprints match the fingerprints lifted off the spray paint cans left at the scene. New charges filed.

*07/30/24 ID Theft Investigation from Planet Fitness. A 49-yr old male and 40-yr old female Romanian crew involved in breaking into lockers had been ID and arrested. This crew was involved in over \$250,000.00 in ID thefts throughout Midwest. US Homeland Security advises these are leaders of an International European Crime Group. Dane Co. Sheriff's Department assisted in locating the suspects who had \$51,509.00 of high value items inside their vehicle. Asset Forfeiture paperwork filed. The female has been deported to Romania and the male has a Plea-Sentencing hearing scheduled 01/15/25.

*08/01/24 Check Fraud / Forgery-Uttering case. A downtown Pewaukee restaurant had a \$11,000.00 check stolen after being deposited into a US Mail Box in West Allis. A 32-yr old female and 25-yr old male, both from Milwaukee have been identified as codefendants in the case. Court scheduled for 01/17/25.

*08/29/24 Felony Retail Theft Investigation. A 36-yr old male and a 40-yr old female from Menomonee Falls have been identified and charged in the two Pewaukee cases. Subjects were stealing copper at the Pewaukee Menards and other locations in Germantown, Menomonee Falls and West Milwaukee. Loss was over \$5,000.00



Items recovered during a traffic stop

Investigations

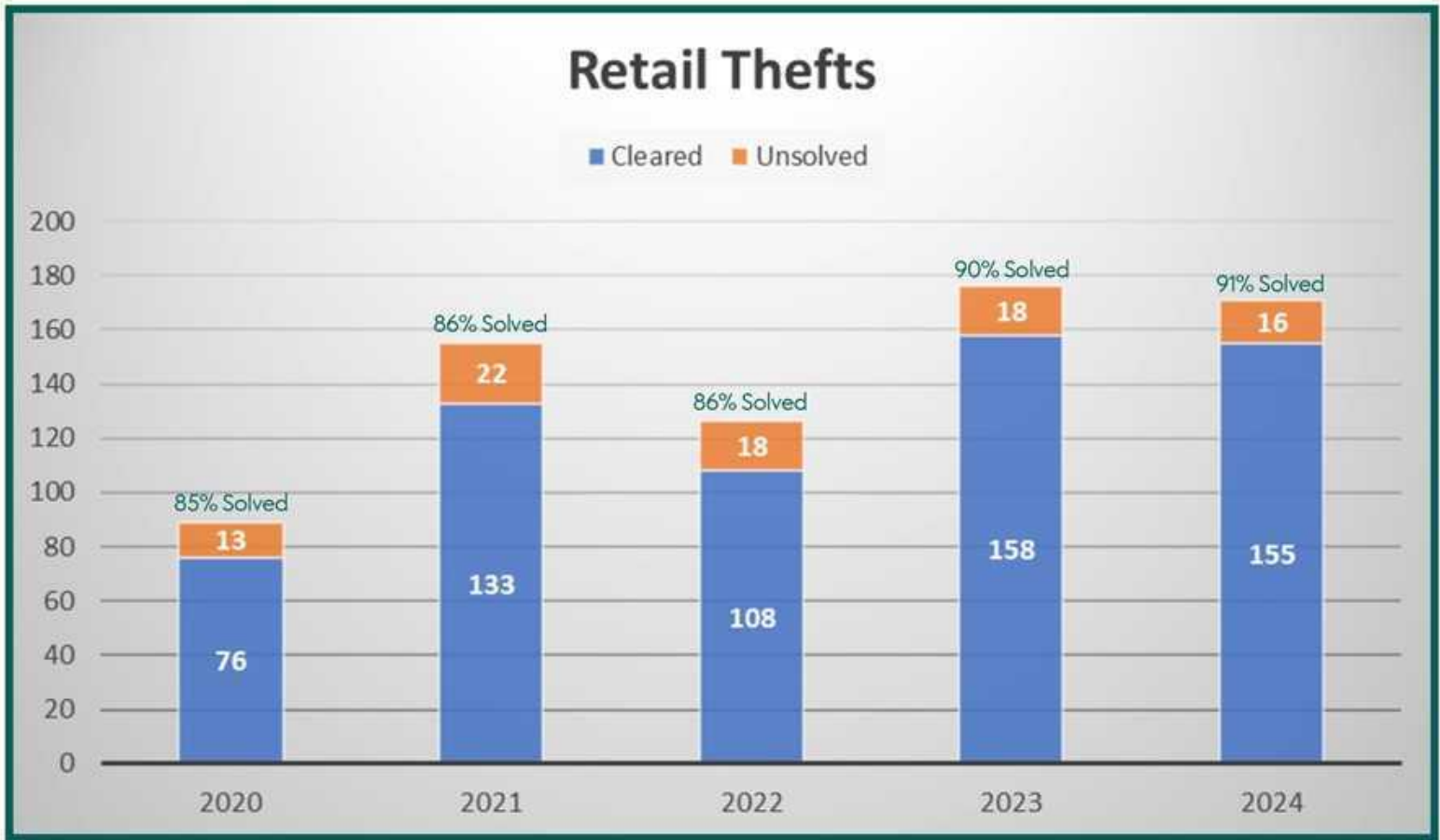
***11/29/24 Entry to locker/ Felony ID Theft at Planet Fitness. Pewaukee PD worked with Greenfield PD to ID a 47-yr old male who was involved in breaking into Planet Fitness member's lockers and then using their credit cards w/o authorization. The male was taken into custody in Greenfield on 12/29/24. We were able to track his criminal activity from Arizona to S/E Wisconsin using an alias name. He has been linked to matching crimes in Tempe, Scottsdale, Mesa, Chandler, AZ, Greenfield, Pewaukee, Madison and Racine. Currently held at Milwaukee Co. Jail and has our active warrant on the system with a requested cash bail of \$30,000.00 and to include a full extradition warrant from Maricopa Co. AZ.**

***12/02/24 Check Fraud / Uttering investigation from Summit Credit Union. A 44-yr old homeless male from New York passed fake checks to obtain currency. The male was using fake US Passports as ID during the transactions. The male was taken into initial custody with the assistance of Elmhurst PD (IL) and the State of Illinois Department of Diplomatic Security Services. A warrant has been issued for his arrest. Agencies with similar cases in WI are Mount Pleasant, Franklin, Kenosha, Wauwatosa and Waukesha.**

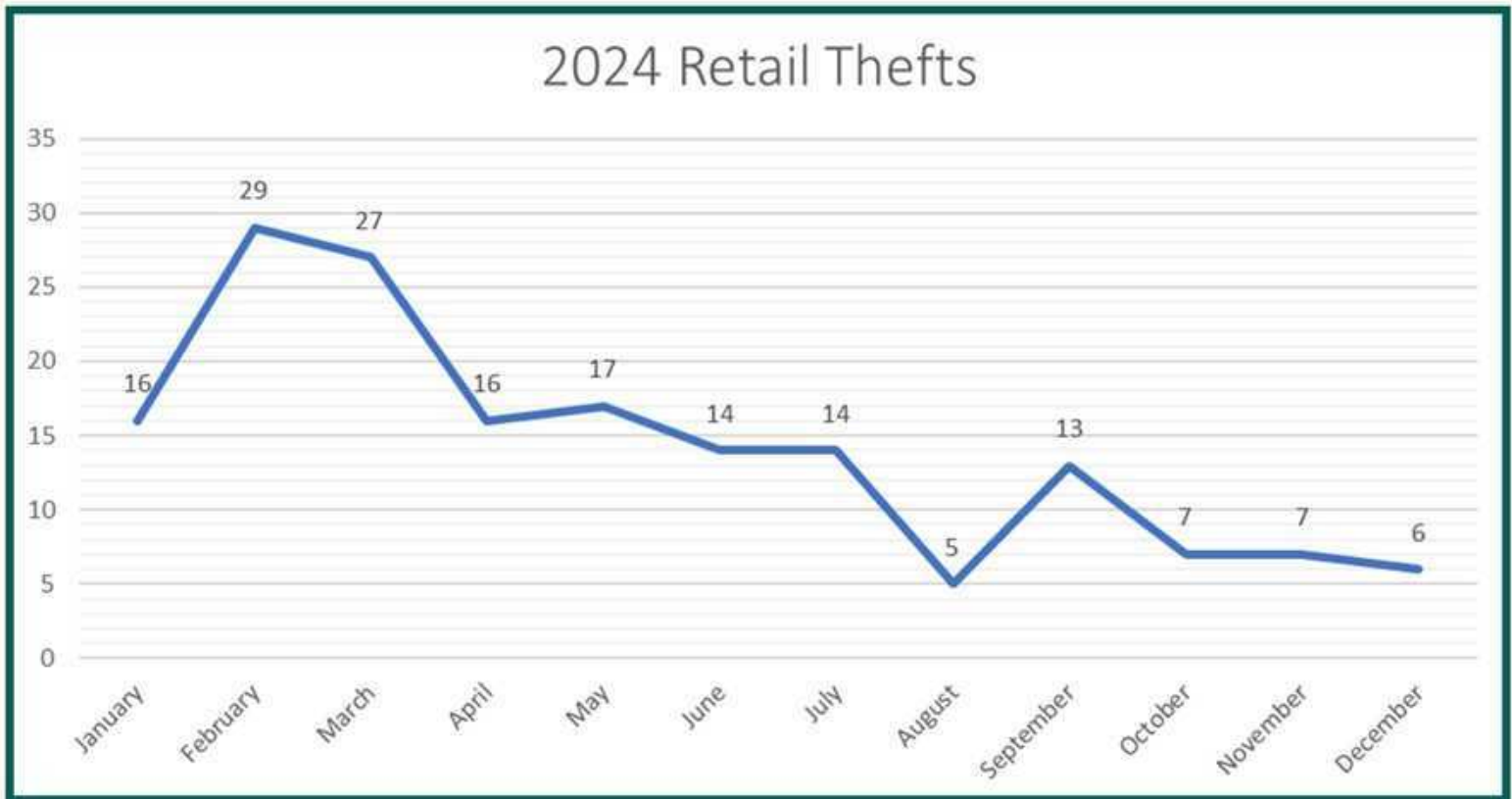


Over \$80,000 recovered during fraud investigation on 03/21/24

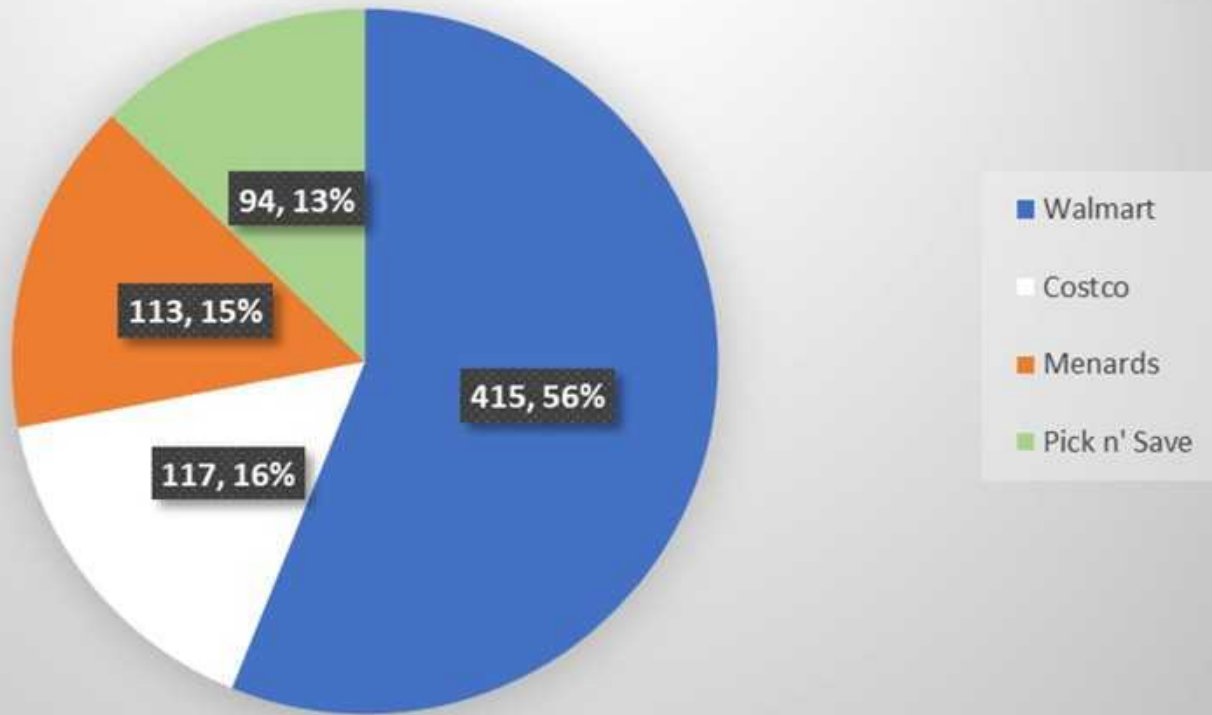
Investigations



Cases can be cleared after an arrest, a warrant request, or when a citation is issued



Retailer Calls For Service



Call can include retail thefts, crashes, vehicle lockouts etc.



Wisconsin Organized Retail Crime Association

2024 Law Enforcement Partnership Award

Village of Pewaukee Police Department

Chief Heier and the Village of Pewaukee Police Department have been one of the strongest law enforcement partners since WIORCA was founded. Chief Heier has consistently prioritized retail theft cases within the village of Pewaukee leading to a clearance rate of over 90% in 2023, an increase over 2022 and 2021.

In February, Pewaukee officer Cimprl was called to a retail theft. Upon the arrest, officer Cimprl completed an interview of the booster who had just stolen several cans of baby formula. The interview consisted of a booster question guide designed to gather as much information from the booster as possible to help identify where the product is being fenced. The booster told Officer Cimprl she steals baby formula because it is the most profitable, and identified a specific storefront where she sells the stolen product. She indicated she has done so hundreds of times. The information obtained in the interview has been instrumental in building an ongoing fencing investigation.

In the fall of 2023, Chief Heier and Detective Craig Drummy met with WIORCA and discussed potential retail theft enforcement operations. Upon coordinating with April from the Waukesha County District Attorney's office, 151 warrants for felony retail theft were identified as outstanding. Chief Heier coordinated law enforcement interests from multiple departments to organize a warrant round-up effort. 44 potential defendants were identified to round up creating WIORCA's Most Wanted. Multiple organized retail crime investigators, from multiple retailers completed open-source investigations to provide intelligence and assist in locating the target subjects, and law enforcement coordinated by Chief Heier & Pewaukee Police Department began round-up efforts in April.

Chief Heier & Village of Pewaukee Police Department, thank you for your incredible partnership and support of WIORCA!

Sincerely,

Telly Knetter
President, WIORCA



Chief Heier, Telly Knetter,
Detective Drummy

Major Investigations Unit

The Lake Country Area Major Investigations Unit (MIU) consists of members from several local agencies that assist each other on large scale investigations and search warrants. Each agency has a team leader and members that have specialty training to assist during call outs. The Pewaukee PD team leader and Commander of the unit is Detective Craig Drummy. Chief Timothy Heier is the MIU President. The members from Pewaukee PD are:

Deputy Chief Brian Foth-- investigator

Detective Craig Drummy-- evidence technician and investigator

Officer Julie Buddenhagen-- investigator, evidence technician, sensitive crimes and Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC)

Officer Kerry Corrus-- photographer and evidence technician

Officer Adam Rhode-- photographer and evidence technician

***1/24/2024 6:30am Village of Hartland Search Warrant for Child Sexual Abuse Material (CSAM)**

CSAM search warrant executed on 1/24 in the Village of Hartland. SCIT assisted in clearing the residence. Computer Forensics Lab previewed items to avoid taking any unnecessary items from the residence. In total, two laptops were seized and one cell phone, all belonging to a 16-yr old in the residence. CSAM was located and charges are pending in juvenile court. Two laptops and one cellphone were seized.

***3/6/2024 Village of Elm Grove Search Warrant for CSAM**

ICAC search warrant for one image that was downloaded by someone in the residence. SCIT, which consisted of operators, Technology Resource Group, Tactical EMS and negotiators assisted with the perimeter making initial contact with the residents in the home. Once the residence was secured, it was searched by members of MIU. Multiple devices related to images were identified and taken into property inventory. Suspect was arrested and transported to Elm Grove PD for booking. Charges were forwarded to the District Attorney's office.

***6/21-22/2024 City of Delafield for Overdose Death Investigation**

Female subject found her boyfriend deceased from an overdose and was unable to be revived due to the overdose occurring the day prior. Significant amounts of drugs and paraphernalia were in plain view and consent was given to search the apartment. MIU was paged out to assist in collecting and documenting evidence.

Major Investigations Unit

***7/31/24 Village of Pewaukee for Felony ID Theft**

MIU assisted in investigating a felony ID Theft of \$30,000 across three different victims in Pewaukee and up to \$250,000 from victims across the Midwest. Victims credit cards were used at Costco, Best Buy, Mayfair Mall and Lululemon. The items purchased frequently were shipped to a Romanian high end pawn store in Manhattan NY.

***8/4/24 Village of Hartland for Burglary**

The Village of Hartland responded to the Phoenix for an early morning burglary. Officers observed no forced entry but did observe damage to the cash registers. Only keys were taken during this incident and it was determined the suspect(s) wore gloves. After video surveillance was reviewed it was determined there would be no need for evidence collection.

***8/24/24 Village of Hartland for Burglary**

MIU assisted in locating rare comic books that were stolen from a storage unit in Hartland. The renter of the storage unit observed his comic books listed on Facebook Marketplace and the person listing the comic books was the individual he rented the storage unit from. The suspect was located at a residence in the City of Milwaukee and a search warrant was conducted. A total of 25 comic books were recovered with a value of \$14,400.

***9/16-17/2024 Village of Pewaukee for Drug Overdose**

The Village of Pewaukee responded to an apartment for a well-being check after a vehicle repair company was unable to get ahold of one of their customers. Further investigation concluded that the female in question had made suicidal statements in the past with an attempt earlier in the year. Entry was made into the apartment and the female was located deceased in her bedroom with drug paraphernalia and pills located in plain view. A search warrant was obtained for a storage unit, live ping warrant and a trap and trace warrant to locate the victims cell phone.

Internet Crimes Against Children

The Village of Pewaukee Police Department recognizes that protecting our community's children is one of the most important tasks we are entrusted with. Our department's commitment to safeguarding the innocence of children is demonstrated with our active involvement with Wisconsin's Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) Task Force. Our department prides itself in being an affiliate of this task force, which is nationally recognized and respected for being a leader in fighting crimes against children.

Ofc. Buddenhagen, Deputy Chief Foth and Ofc. Hildenbrand regularly receive specialized training in the field of computer crimes against children, as the methods of crime in the cyber-world are continually changing on a daily basis.

The Village of Pewaukee Police Department is committed to educating the community regarding the risks which the internet poses to children. Our team is happy to speak with anyone having questions. These officers have given numerous presentations in the community in an attempt to share their knowledge and experience. Speaking in local schools, presenting to church groups or neighborhood watch organizations, or simply answering questions over the phone for concerned parents are things these officers do regularly.

In 2024, the department received 6 Cybertips and did not conduct any residential search warrants.

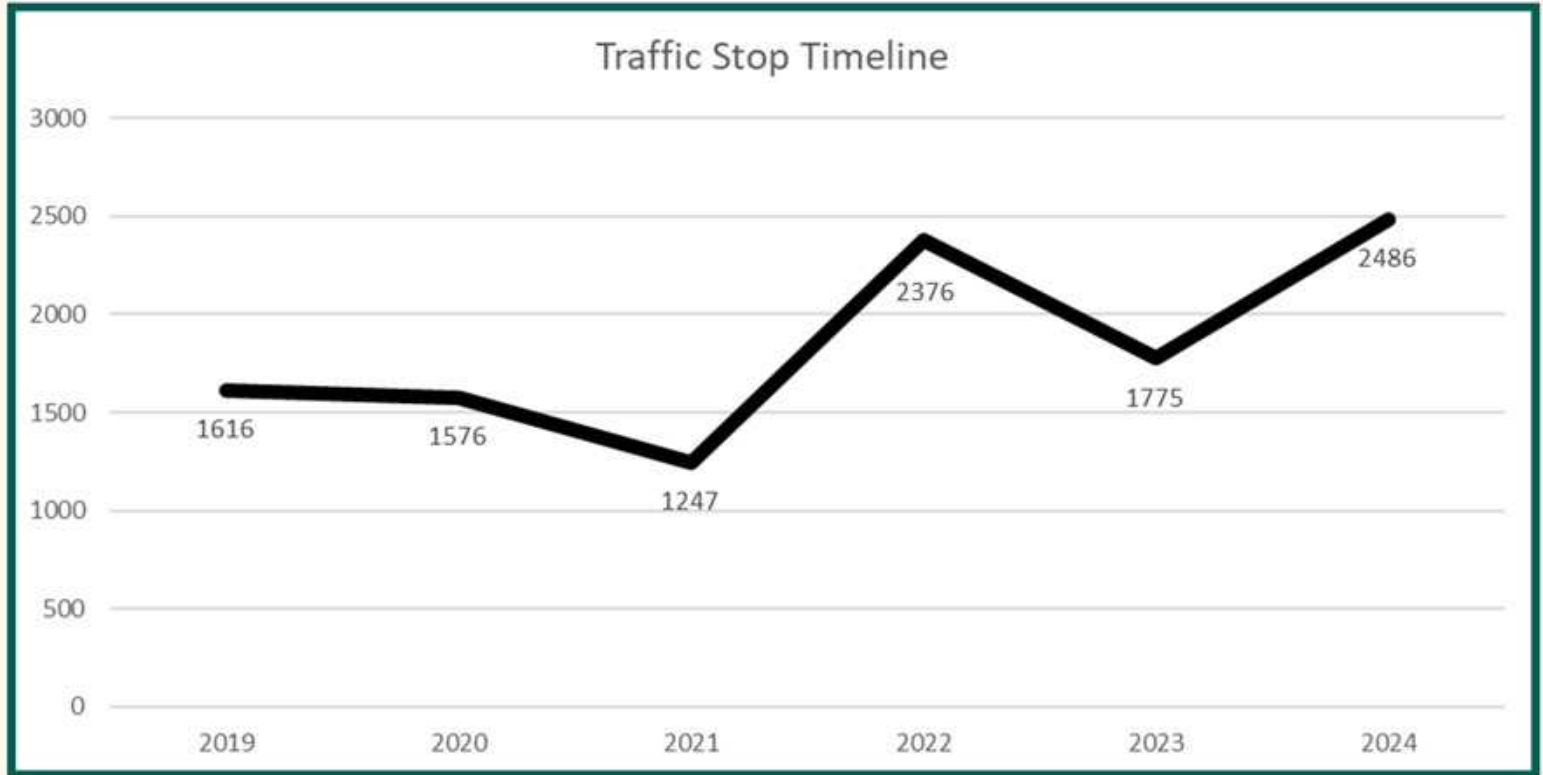
In April of 2024, Officers Buddenhagen and Hildenbrand were recognized for their work on an ICAC investigation and received the "2023 ICAC Case of the Year" award from the Department of Justice (DOJ). Ofc. Buddenhagen and Ofc. Hildenbrand were recognized with this prestigious award for their work on an ICAC investigation which uncovered a nationwide child sexual exploitation ring. As a direct result of their diligent work, several predators from Wisconsin, Tennessee and Texas were identified, arrested, and convicted for a multitude of felonies.



Chief Timothy Heier, Officer Julie Buddenhagen, and Officer Hildenbrand received the 2023 ICAC case of the year award in Appleton on 04/17/2024

Traffic Enforcement

In 2024 officers conducted an average of nearly 7 traffic stops a day. 2024 was the six year high for number of traffic stops by officers with 2,486 stops.



These numbers reflect the dispositions of traffic stops and not the number of citations written.

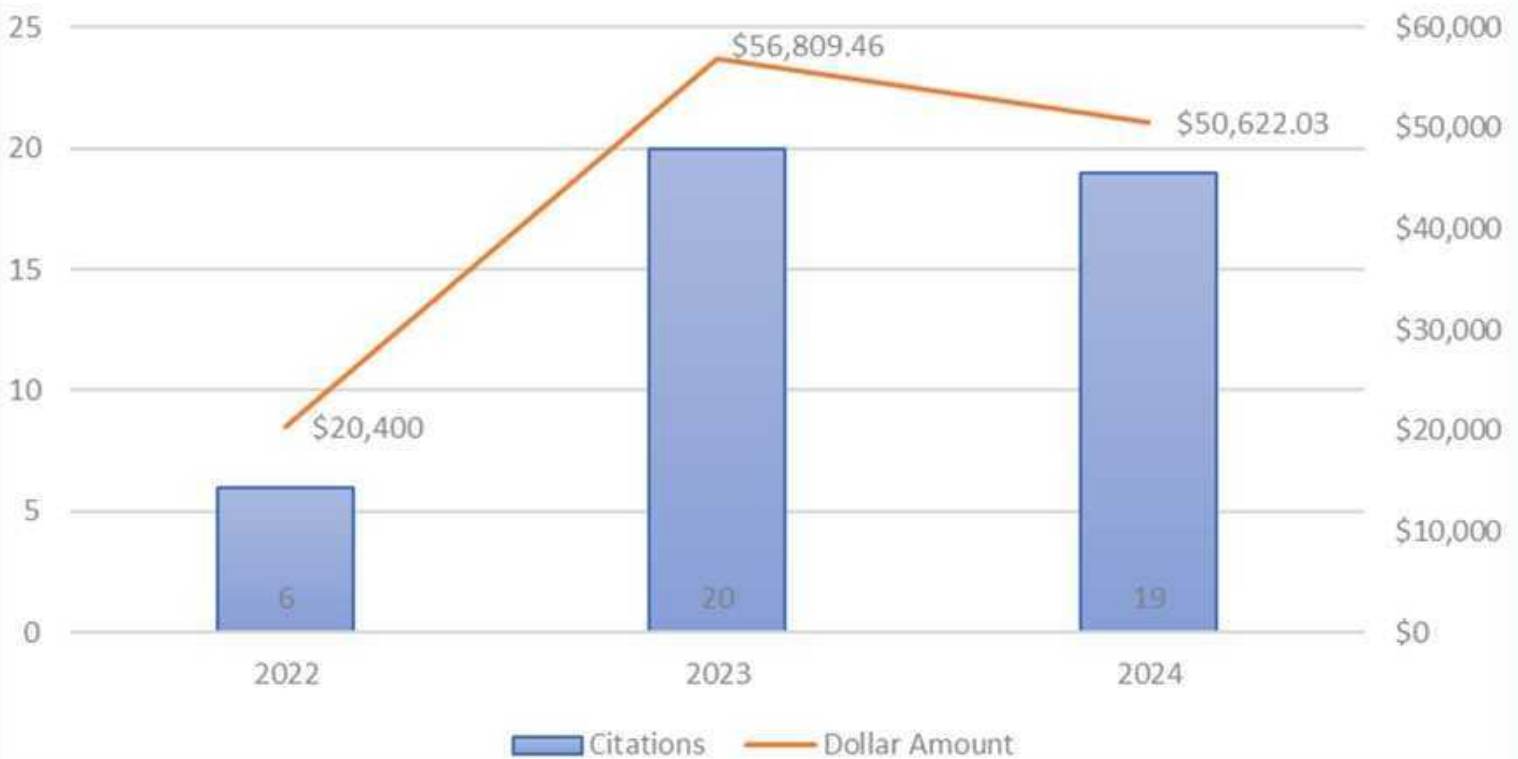
Traffic Enforcement

2024 Traffic Citations



Not all traffic citations are represented in this chart

Overweight Truck Enforcement



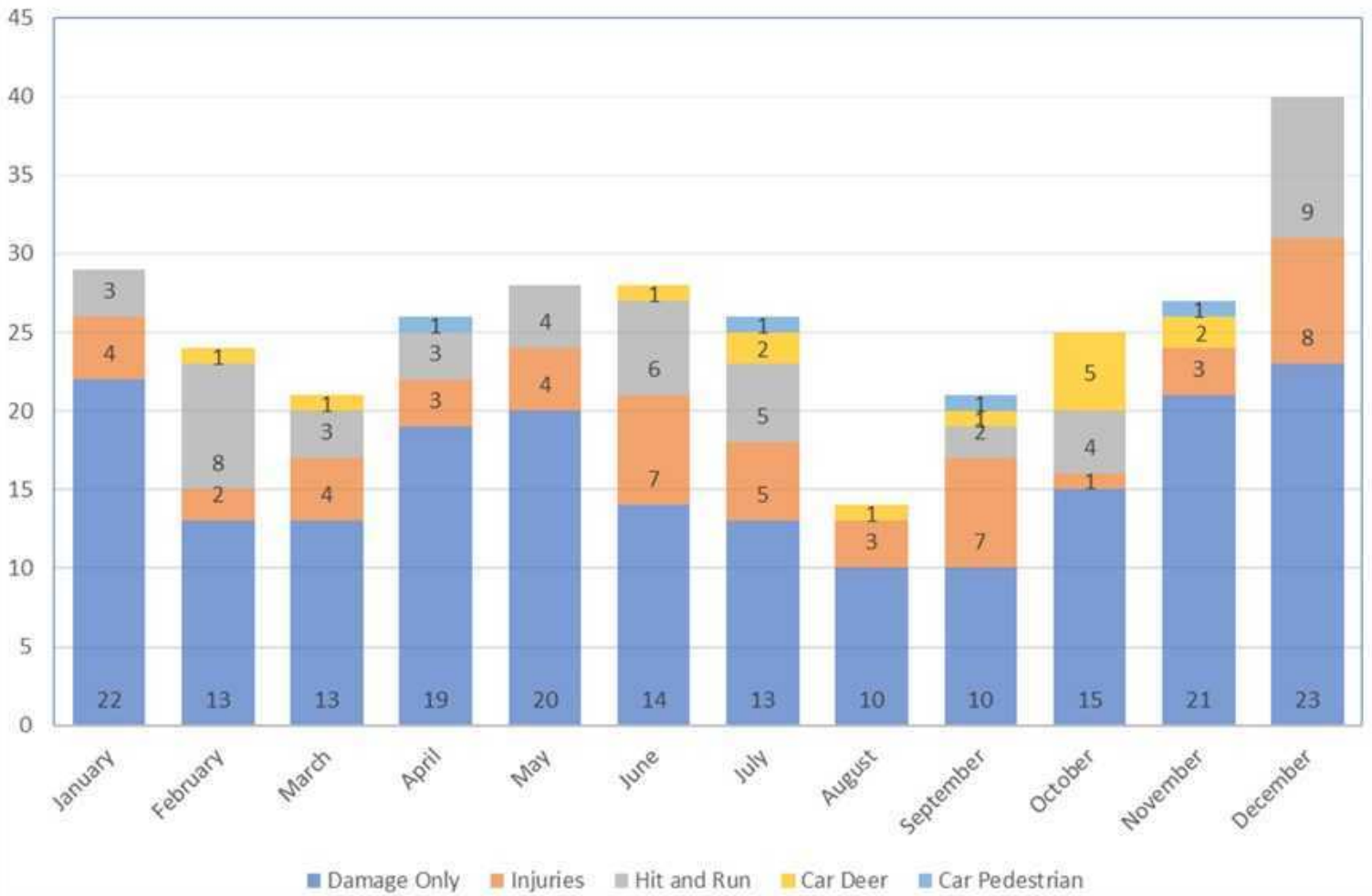
Traffic Crashes

One of the many duties Village of Pewaukee Police Officers have is responding to scenes of car crashes. Upon arrival, officers are to assess injuries, conduct traffic control, obtain statements as to what happened using involved parties and third-party witnesses, take photographs, call for tow trucks, and of course, complete crash reports. These are just a few examples of officers' job duties on scenes of crashes. What exactly officers do on scene is situationally dependent, as car crashes can range from a simple fender-bender in a parking lot to a roll-over crash with injuries.



Traffic Crashes

2024 CRASH TYPES



These numbers reflect the type of crashes as they were initially reported. Some crashes are reported with injuries but are ultimately property damage only. Many hit and run crashes are a result of the driver noticing damage in a parking lot, which is frequently unfounded or did not occur in Pewaukee

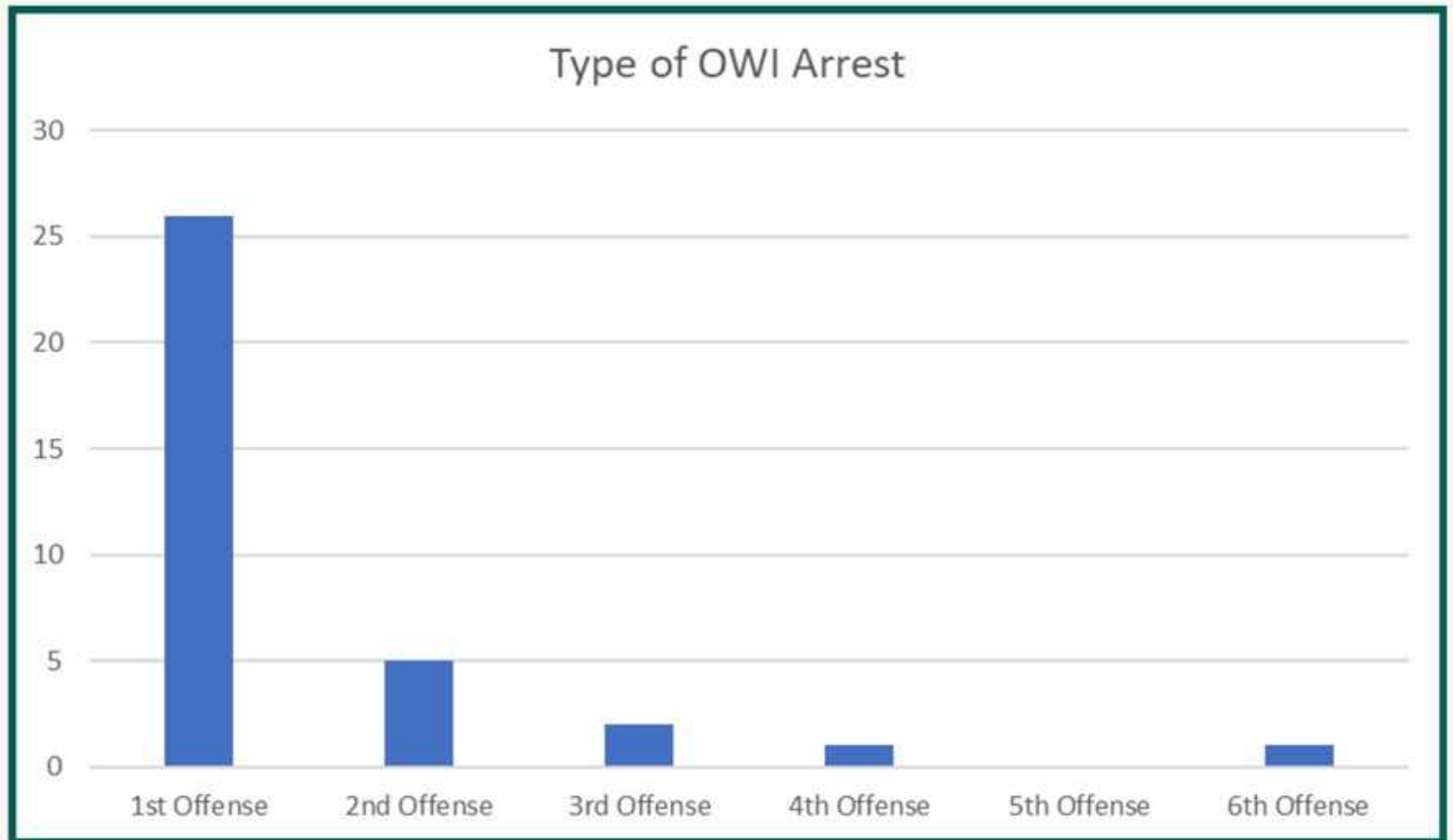
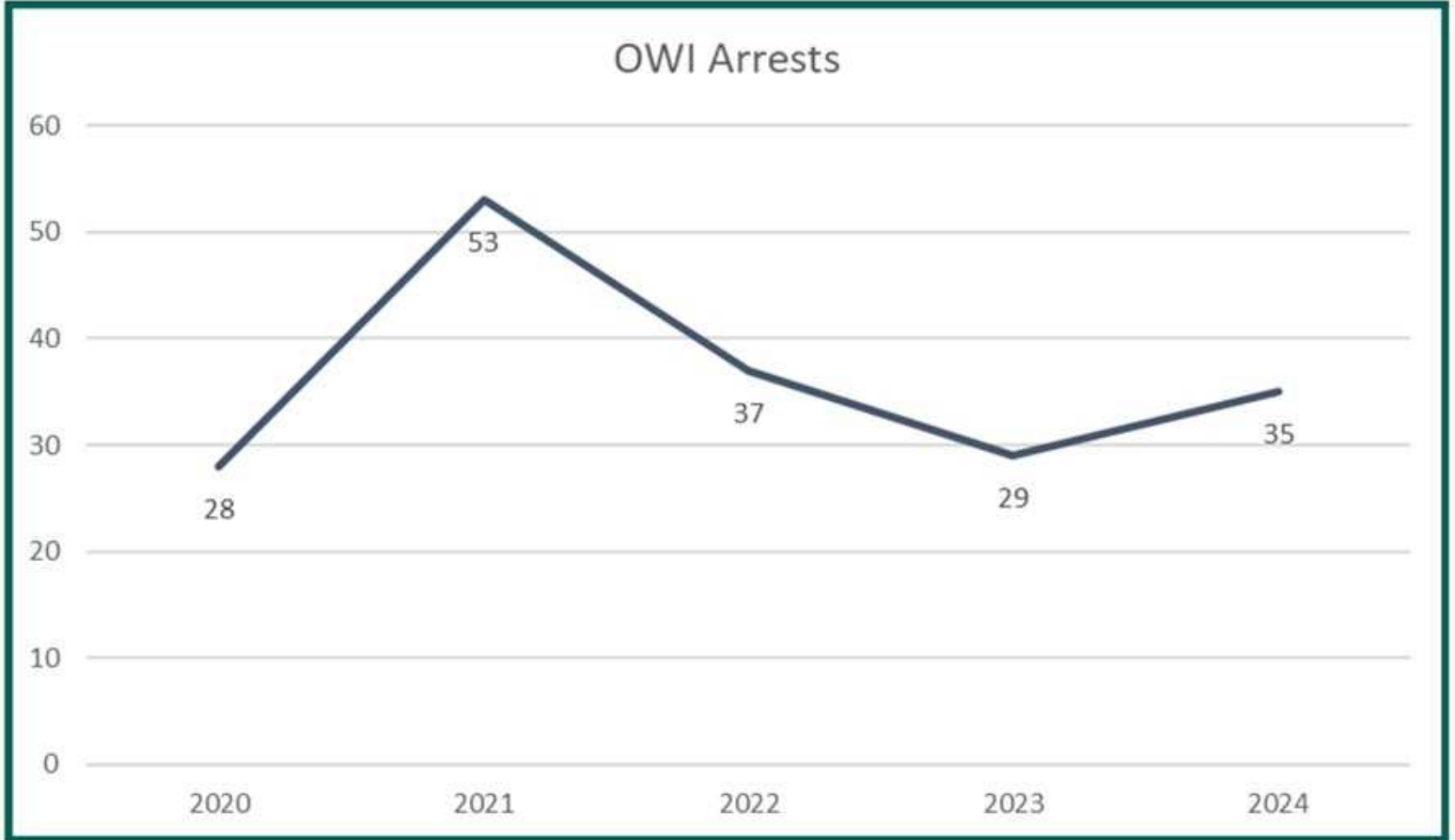


Driving Under the Influence

In 2024, the Village of Pewaukee Police Department took a very proactive approach to impaired driving enforcement which resulted in an increased number of Operating While Intoxicated (OWI) arrests this year. With increased staffing, our agency was able to spend more time focusing on traffic enforcement which normally leads to more OWI investigations and arrests. Most of these arrests occur during the later hours of the day between the hours of 6 PM to 6 AM. Our department saw a 20% increase in OWI arrests this year compared to 2023's arrests. In total, 35 people were arrested for operating while under the influence while only 29 were arrested last year. This number includes first offense, misdemeanor and felony OWI violations. It also includes arrests related to operating while under a restricted controlled substance. Again, this increase in arrests is attributed to increased PVPD staffing as well as proactive policing and assistance from the community. Each year, our Officers do their best to intercept impaired drivers and arrest them accordingly. Due to the inherent and obvious dangers with drinking and driving, we strongly encourage the public to report drivers who display poor driving behavior or any other signs of impaired driving. The crashes pictured below occurred in our Village and were the result of impaired driving due to alcohol. If you see signs of impaired driving, please report it.



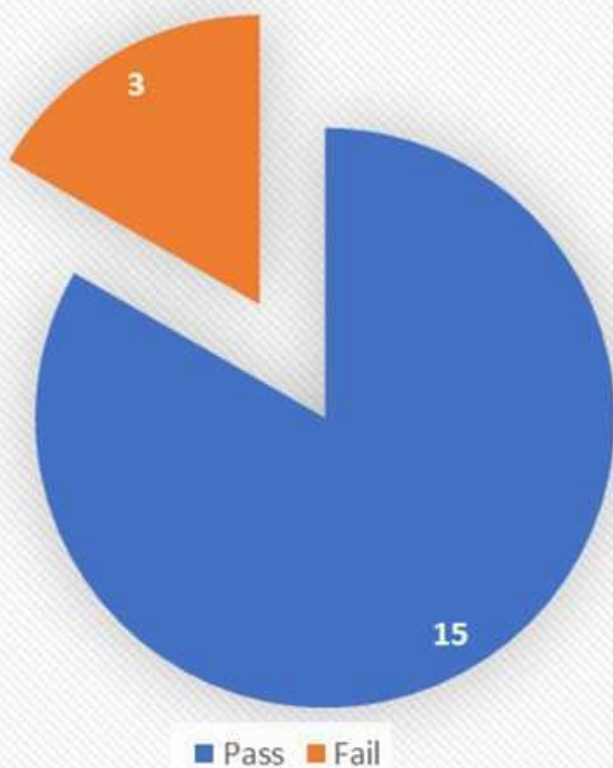
Driving Under the Influence



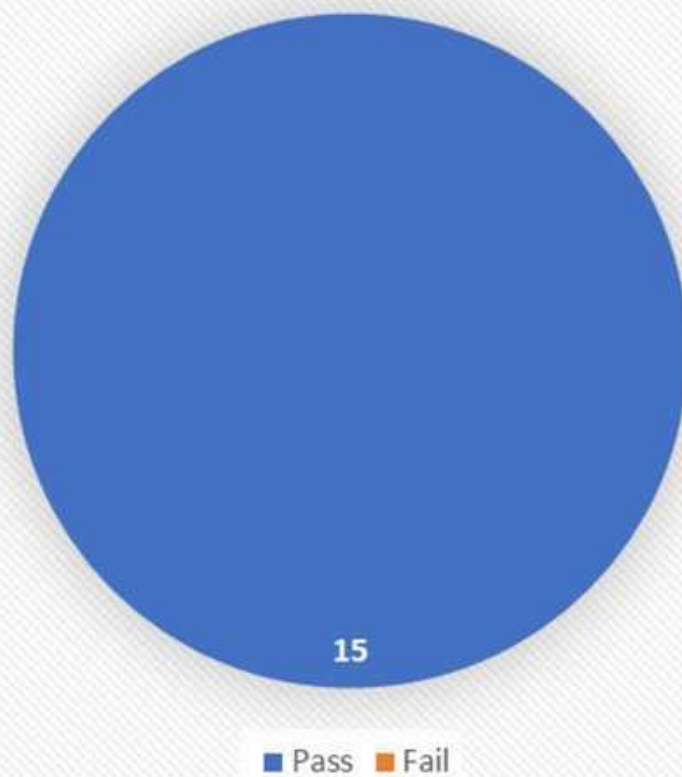
Alcohol & Tobacco Compliance

The Village of Pewaukee has established a robust program for ensuring voluntary compliance with alcohol and tobacco municipal and state laws. Licensee training and compliance checks are conducted at businesses annually. During these checks, a young adult between 18-20 years old is accompanied by an officer. The underaged person will attempt to purchase alcohol or tobacco without showing ID. Businesses are notified that checks will be conducted so they can ensure their staff is following best practice. The goal is to ensure compliance with laws, not to trick business into breaking the law. If alcohol or tobacco is sold to the underaged person a citation is issued to the bartender, cashier, etc. If a business does not sell alcohol to the underaged person they receive a letter in the mail informing them of their success.

Alcohol Compliance



Tobacco Compliance



Waukesha County Drug Task Force

The Village of Pewaukee Police Department continues its long-time partnership with the Waukesha County Drug Task Force (WCDF). PVPD contributes one officer to WCDF on a part time basis. This officer becomes a dually sworn officer (PVPD and Waukesha County Sheriff Department) and works as a Detective for the Unit. While assigned to the WCDF, the Detective investigates drug crimes, not only in the Village of Pewaukee, but also throughout Waukesha County. Part of the assignment is to work in a plain clothes (undercover) capacity. While assigned to the WCDF, PVPD officers assist in search warrants, overdose investigations, investigating of Drug Trafficking Organizations (DTO's), as well as other investigations that might develop. Officers assigned to the WCDF develop skills and relationships that are brought back to PVPD. The WCDF officer also runs the DEA Drug Take Back program in the spring and fall. This program alone has been responsible for removing thousands of tons of unused prescription drugs from circulation in the State of Wisconsin.

PVPD sees benefits of this partnership, not only for the officer's experience, but also in the investigative resources PVPD gains access to from being a member of the Unit. As one of its longest serving partner agencies, we expect our relationship to only strengthen as we look towards the future.



Civil Disturbance Unit

The civil disturbance unit is a multi-jurisdictional team that acts as a fast response force for civil unrest such as riots. The unit also provides additional security for large civil events.

The unit was activated three times in 2024 for additional security at political events. In 2024, the team was not requested for any incidents of civil unrest but did partake in quarterly training.



Suburban Critical Incident Team

The Suburban Critical Incident Team (SCIT) is comprised of nine local law enforcement agencies. The nine agencies include: City of Brookfield, City of Delafield, City of Muskego, City of New Berlin, Village of Chenequa, Village of Elm Grove, Village of Hartland, Village of Mukwonago and the Village of Pewaukee. These nine agencies work as a team to provide tactical services to their communities and, when requested, to assist other agencies under mutual aid agreement. In addition to these nine law enforcement agencies, the City of Brookfield and Lake Country Fire Departments provide paramedics to provide tactical emergency medical services to the team. SCIT consists of Command, Tactical Operators, Crisis Negotiations Team (CNT), Tactical Emergency Medics (TEMS), and the Technology Resource Group (TRG).

The Village of Pewaukee Police Department employs five of its members who are assigned onto SCIT in various roles. Officer Brett Markut and Officer Travis Tyler are assigned as Tactical Operators. Officer Adam Rhode is assigned as a Drone Operator with TRG. This year Sergeant Mike Rowe and Officer Rebecca Polzin were assigned onto this team as Negotiators with CNT. These officers receive training throughout the year to advance their skills and provide advanced knowledge in these areas to the police department.

The mission of the SCIT is to respond when requested by member agencies, or other law enforcement entities, to potentially life-threatening situations and/or incidents requiring specialized skills, tactics and/or equipment. SCIT covers the majority of population of Waukesha County. SCIT was used in some of the area's most significant and high-profile incidents during 2024 and was activated 27 times. Some of these incidents include search warrants, barricaded suspects, dignitary protection, ICAC operations, and security for local events. This year SCIT deployed to Milwaukee to support the Milwaukee Police Department and Federal agencies for the duration of the Republican National Convention.



Technology Resource Group

2024 was a particularly busy year for the Technology Resource Group (TRG) of SCIT. Our department is part of "TRG Team North" which is comprised of Chenequa, Delafield, Brookfield, and Hartland. The drones used by the "North Team" consist of interior DJI Mini 2's, DJI Mini 3's drones, and a DJI M30T which is equipped with a speaker spotlight combination, and thermal imaging camera. These drones are primarily housed in both Pewaukee and Hartland and can be requested for SCIT related call outs. Currently Officer Rhode is assigned to this unit and has been a member of TRG since its founding in 2023.

In 2024 the unit participated in 5 Internet Crimes against Children (ICAC) search warrants, 2 search and rescue operations including the search for Elijah Vue in Two Rivers WI, and dignitary protection for Vice President Harris during a campaign speech in Brookfield.



Crisis Negotiations Team

On September 11th, 2024, Sergeant Michael Rowe was appointed to the position of Negotiator with the Crisis Negotiations Team (CNT) for the Suburban Critical Incident Team (SCIT). The primary goal of CNT is to make contact with the target during a critical incident, and ultimately negotiate his/her safe surrender. The team is comprised of 18 members from 9 different agencies. Each individual assigned to the team has gone through an interview process and attended a 40-hour FBI Negotiator course. The team trains 5 times a year (2 full team trainings included). These trainings can include other jurisdictions to develop relationships and cohesiveness.

During the 2024 year, there have been 27 activations. During these incidents, each Negotiator plays a critical role to achieve the most positive outcome.

Sergeant Rowe will be attending the 40-hour FBI Negotiator course in the spring of 2025.



Honor Guard

2024 marks the ninth year that the Pewaukee Police Department has proudly served with the Waukesha County Honor Guard unit. Our current members of this distinguished unit are Deputy Chief Brian Foth, Sergeant Lucas Twelmeyer, and Officer Daniel Pfeil.

The Honor Guard Unit serves in a wide range of events, year-round. The Honor Guard unit can be recognized when leading parades, including the 4th of July parade and the Memorial Day parade. The Honor Guard Unit will also present and post the colors at law enforcement graduation ceremonies and swearing-in ceremonies. While the general public may recognize the Honor Guard Unit during these duties and community-oriented events, the unit also participates in funerals for fallen officers, processions, ceremonies and also the final salute. The Honor Guard Unit trains several times per year for all of the above occasions, and more, as strengthening and maintaining an officer's discipline and skills are paramount for various presentations.

Members of the unit participate in regular trainings on a bi-monthly basis, training alongside the Waukesha County Sheriff's Department and the Muskego Police Department. The trainings consist of strenuous practice and mock-events, which include but are not limited to various marches, formations, and drills. These trainings and practices strengthen and maintain an officer's discipline in casket guard, parade formations, presenting and posting the colors, the final salute, and much more. Members are held to very high standards during events, and these trainings are crucial to help officers perfect their movements when called upon for different ceremonies.

Throughout this year, the community has been served by the Honor Guard Unit on memorable family events, ceremonies, and funerals. Department members are committed to serving as one of the most highly-regarded and respected units in the county.



Field Training Program

Officers that are hired at the Pewaukee Police Department undergo three phases of on-the-job training, each of which being one month in length. New officers are paired with a training officer during their time on a certain phase. During these three months, trainees work with different training officers, learning individual styles of policing and finding their strengths and areas of improvement as they begin their journey in the new career field. New officers experience and handle calls under their field training officer, where they will be able to build their knowledge of how to handle calls, begin to learn some of the resources that are available to officers, and interact with the community. Officers will be exposed to different types of calls for service on each of the shifts that they train on, providing them with more exposure and experience to a wide variety of calls in the village.

New officers are evaluated with daily reviews completed by their field training officer, as well as weekly reviews and regular meetings with supervisors to assess the officer, identify their strengths and areas of improvement, and also answer any questions which a trainee may have relative to the program. At the conclusion of field training, officers are released to solo patrol.

Newly hired officers at the Pewaukee Police Department quickly become attracted to the type of work that they do, while beginning their journey in the policing career field. Officers admire interacting with the public beyond general calls for service, such as participating in parades, shop with a cop, national night out, and Pewaukee's beachfront community events. Officers also interact with law enforcement officers employed with neighboring agencies through mutual aid requests and larger calls for service which may require more resources and manpower. The ultimate goal during the field training process is to equip officers with resources, knowledge, and the confidence to carry out duties as a law enforcement officer in a career where each day at work presents different challenges.



New Hire Perspective

Officer Robert Floral

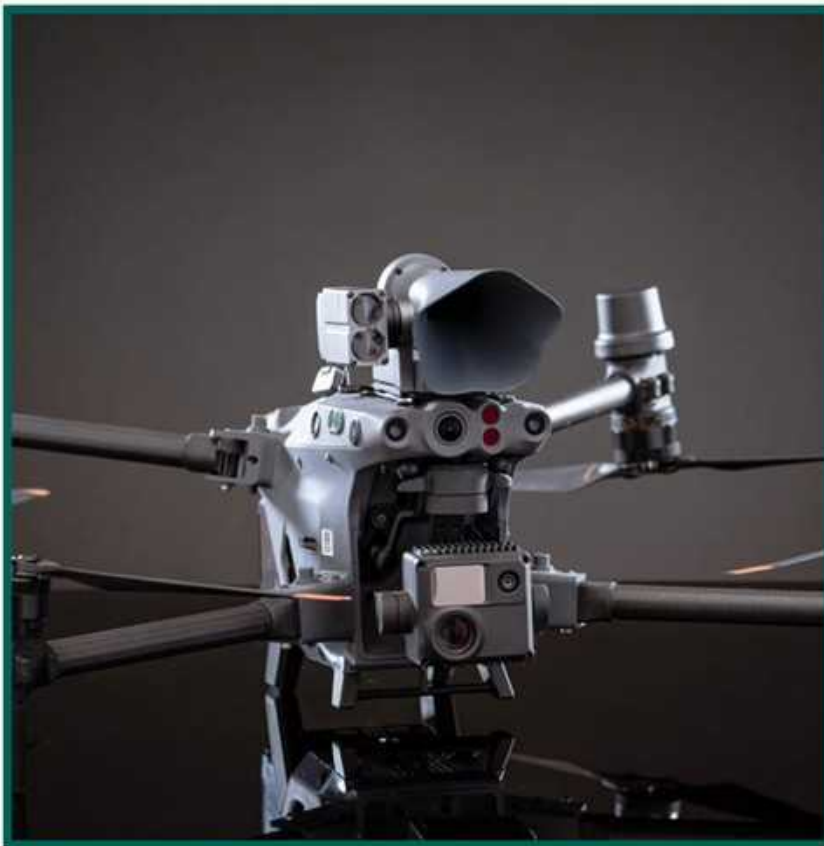
I started my law enforcement career in Milwaukee County as a Sheriff's Deputy in 2022. I spent just under two years in Milwaukee County with most of my time working in the courts, as well as the airport and patrol. After the birth of my son, I wanted the opportunity to spend more time with my family, so I decided to start looking at other departments and made the decision to apply and transfer to the Village of Pewaukee Police Department. Since being in Pewaukee, I have learned so much and have enjoyed coming to work every day. I am from Illinois, and since being in the Lake Country area, the community and the department have accepted me with open arms and made me and my family feel welcomed. Since being with the department, I have been lucky enough to be assigned to first shift patrol, and in the new year I will be going back to third shift patrol. My family and I appreciate the warm welcome and I look forward to serving the residents of Pewaukee, and visitors of the community, for the foreseeable future.



Technology Updates

Throughout 2024, Flock cameras more and more integrated into our investigations. The cameras are now a critical step in the investigative process. These cameras are placed in strategic locations throughout the village. The Village of Pewaukee Flock cameras are apart of a larger network of cameras nationwide, with nearly 2,000 cameras in south east Wisconsin alone. Flock cameras read license plates and run them through multiple data bases to determine if the vehicle is wanted in an investigation. Still photos of passing vehicles are retained and can be reviewed by officers to locate vehicles of interest. If a wanted vehicle passes a camera Officers are typically notified within ten seconds.

These cameras have directly led to the arrest of several individuals with outstanding warrants, with some warrants being active for several months. Flock has become a vital tool in solving retail theft crimes, some have been solved in a matter of minutes, which has saved officers a considerable amount of time and effort. Flock cameras have also provided critical insight in death investigations and drug cases.



Training

Officers attend quarterly firearms training with the Lake Area Firearms Training Group. This group consists of firearms instructors from Pewaukee, Hartland, Delafield, Chenequa and Butler. Training with this group gives our department opportunities to train with other officers that we work with on a regular basis while on patrol. Trainings consist of firearms fundamentals, advanced tactical movements and scenarios. Firearm instructors are certified by the Law Enforcement Standards Board (LESB). Officer Travis Tyler and Officer Brett Markut are the departments current firearm instructors. Officer Tyler is tasked with the maintenance and upkeep of the department's firearms, as well as the inventory of these firearms and their ammunition.

Marked squads are outfitted with Bravo Company carbines with suppressors. The purpose of a suppressor is to dampen the sound of the firearm and ultimately help protect the hearing of bystanders and officers. Patrol officers are currently issued Sig Sauer sidearms with a Red Dot Sight (RDS) optic. Our department continues to hold a high standard on all trainings as well as invest in quality equipment so officers can be prepared for any call they face.



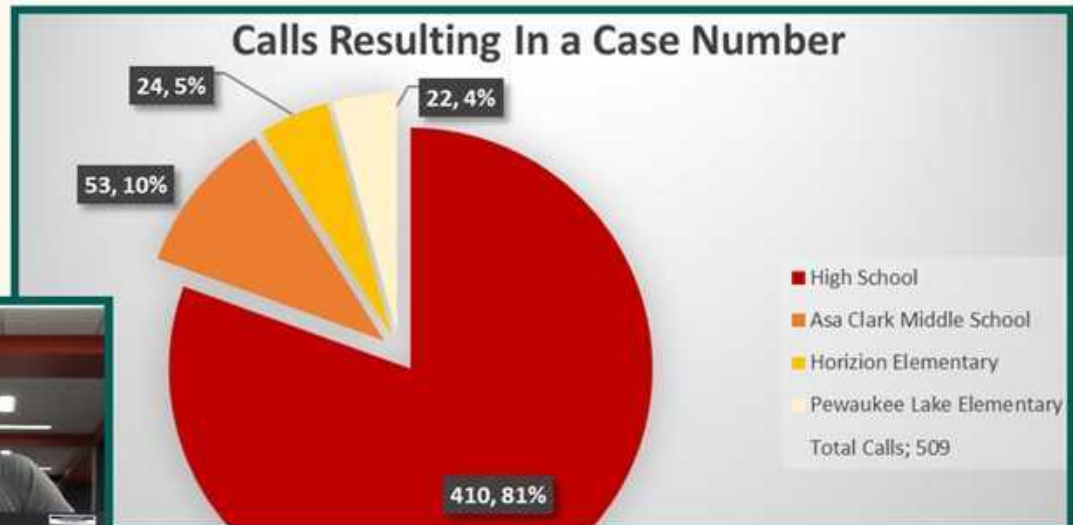
School Resource Officers

The Village of Pewaukee Police Department has two liaison officers assigned to the Pewaukee School District. These officers work together to promote campus safety. Officer Julie Buddenhagen was the liaison at Pewaukee High School and Horizon Elementary school in 2024. Officer Kerry Corrus was the liaison officer at Pewaukee Lake Elementary School and Asa Clark Middle School from January-July 2024. Officer Larisa Hildenbrand took over for Officer Corrus from July 2024-December 2024.

These officers are assigned to the Pewaukee School District, Monday through Friday, during the school year and are contracted for a portion of the Summer months. They respond to many calls for service on Campus (EMS calls, Safety Concerns, Juvenile Problems, Suspicious, Parking Complaints, Ordinance Violations, etc). They also proactively work with the Safety Committee and the Security Director to enhance School Safety. In addition, the Village of Pewaukee Police Department assigns officers to after school events, such as sporting events, school dances, musicals, and graduation.

Officer Corrus, Hildenbrand and Buddenhagen work to build relationships with staff and students by reading in classrooms, giving presentations, volunteering for Career Day and the Realty Store, and keeping an open-door policy where all are welcome to visit and ask questions.

In Spring 2024, the Village of Pewaukee Police Department hosted Rescue Task Force Training for Lake Country Area Police Departments at Horizon Elementary School. This training enhances officer response to potential mass casualty events as well as implements tactics to triage, treat, and evacuate patients with area Fire Departments.



WCTC Officer

The Village of Pewaukee Police Department has been proudly providing security at the Waukesha County Technical College (WCTC) campus in Pewaukee for 44 years. WCTC is the only technical college in the State of Wisconsin to have a full-time police presence on campus. The WCTC Security Coordinator is Peter Latona, a retired officer from the Village of Pewaukee Police Department.

WCTC police service is provided under contract from 7am-11pm, Monday through Friday. In 2024, Officer Jeff Lenius served as the dayshift (7am-3pm) WCTC liaison officer and Officers Rebecca Polzin, Geoff Cimpl and Larisa Mayek served as the second shift (3pm-11pm) WCTC liaison officers.

In 2024, there were 1,658 calls for service on campus, compared to 846 in 2023. Common calls for service included vehicle accidents, vehicle lockouts, EMS rescue calls, and recovered property. In addition, WCTC liaison officers helped coordinate the 2024 spring and fall graduation ceremonies. Officers managed traffic control and interior security during the events.



Lake Patrol



The Pewaukee Lake Patrol, was established through an intergovernmental agreement with the Village of Pewaukee, City of Pewaukee and the Town of Delafield. The Water Patrol is staffed by 11 highly trained and experienced part time officers. Combined, our officers have approximately 243 years of service, derived from a diverse and unique individual skill set.

Our primary focus is safety and generating voluntary compliance through community engagement. We accomplish our mission by hosting boaters' education classes, life jacket give away events, and issuing an ordinance booklet at every citizen contact. This summer, the unit completed 41 safety inspections, assisted 18 vessels, and participated in 17 citizen assists. Moreover, the unit issued 23 citations and 69 written warnings.

The Lake Patrol also has collateral responsibilities and inter-agency programs. This summer the Lake Patrol assisted the Park and Recreation Department with deploying the new swim area buoys. The new rope chain buoys are much safer and aesthetically fit into the landscape better.

The lake Patrol is also responsible for rigging, placing, and monitoring 180 navigation markers. We accomplish this task by leasing a barge from the Pewaukee Lake Sanitary district barge. This ensures all taxpayer money stays within the community. The district is able to reapply those funds to capitol improvements. Another example of our cooperation and focus on a safe and sustainable community.



Lake Patrol Roster

CHIEF OF POLICE
TIMOTHY HEIER
SERVING 2019 PEWAUKEE

SERGEANT
LUCAS TWELMEYER
SERVING 2012 PEWAUKEE

Sergeant
Melissa Schmackle
SERVING 2002 PEWAUKEE

OFFICER
Mark Rooney
SERVING 2018 PEWAUKEE

OFFICER
Joe Volz
SERVING 2018 PEWAUKEE

OFFICER
Jeffrey Griffin
SERVING 2018 PEWAUKEE

OFFICER
John Horter
SERVING 2019 PEWAUKEE

OFFICER
William Spankowski
SERVING 2020 PEWAUKEE

OFFICER
Kelsey Michalsen
SERVING 2022 PEWAUKEE

OFFICER
Kelly Zielinski
SERVING 2023 PEWAUKEE

OFFICER
Ed Ciano
SERVING 2023 PEWAUKEE

OFFICER
Jennifer Feather
SERVING 2023 PEWAUKEE

OFFICER
Tim Patterson
SERVING 2024 PEWAUKEE

WILEAG

The Wisconsin Law Enforcement Accreditation Group (WILEAG) is the leading accreditation authority for law enforcement agencies across Wisconsin. Established to enhance the professionalism, efficiency, and accountability of law enforcement organizations, WILEAG provides a structured framework for agencies to achieve and maintain high-performance standards.

The Pewaukee Police Department is proud to participate actively in the WILEAG accreditation process since 2015. This voluntary program recognizes agencies that adhere to best practices and rigorous standards in policy development, operations, personnel management, and community relations. Achieving and maintaining WILEAG accreditation highlights our department's commitment to excellence, transparency, and continuous improvement in service to the Pewaukee community.

In 2024, the Pewaukee Police Department underwent a comprehensive three-day assessment to verify compliance with 262 standards, including 655 dimensions (substandards). This thorough review showcased our dedication to maintaining the highest levels of professionalism and accountability. In January 2025, the WILEAG governing board officially approved and reaffirmed our accreditation status. These standards reflect our ongoing commitment to building public trust, fostering a culture of integrity, and ensuring our officers are fully equipped to meet the community's evolving needs.

As we look to the future, the Pewaukee Police Department remains steadfast in its commitment to upholding the values of WILEAG accreditation. With assessments occurring every three years, this continual process reinforces our mission to serve and protect the Village of Pewaukee with integrity, professionalism, and transparency.



Social Media



Village of Pewaukee Police Department

Aug 10, 2024 · 🌐

Several hundred people flocked to Walmart earlier this week for a chance to meet [Hulk Hogan](#). We were happy to assist with crowd control and security. Hulk showed his appreciation by snapping this photo with Chief Heier, Sgt. Rowe, Detective Drummy and PO Markut.



👍❤️ 228

19 comments 6 shares



Like



Comment



Send



Share

Our most viewed Facebook post of 2024, a photo of retired World Wrestling Federation professional Hulk Hogan. Terry Bollea, better known as Hulk Hogan, appeared at our Walmart for a promotional tour on August 6, 2024. Our post about Hulk Hogan reached almost 14,000 Facebook users and was our most viewed post of 2024!

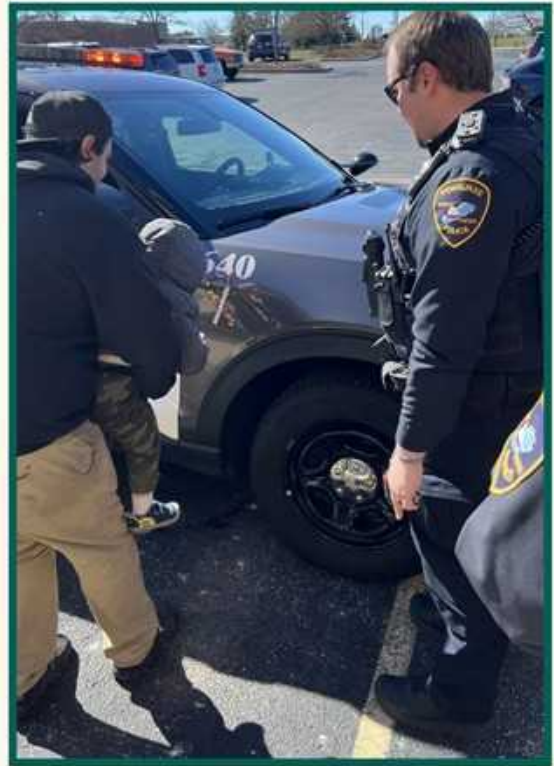
In addition to Facebook, our department also uses social media such as the "Neighbors" app on the RING Doorbell platform to reach different audiences.

As the world of social media changes on a daily basis, we understand the importance of keeping up to date in order to meet our goal of communicating with citizens in the most effective way possible. We look forward to growing our presence and increasing our outreach through our various social media platforms in 2025.



Community Events

Our department aims to be a positive force and contribute to the community in many ways. In 2024, the Village of Pewaukee Police Department was involved in over 38 community events. Some of our favorites included the annual National Night Out, our Youth Academy, the Waukesha County Trunk or Treat, Lake Country Shop with a Cop, the Autism Awareness Event, and the Lake Country Citizens Academy. This year's National Night Out was our biggest event yet! It was all about strengthening our ties with the community and creating a friendly atmosphere between our department and attendees. Local businesses teamed up with us to make this event happen. One of the coolest parts was the visit from both Flight for Life and a US Army Helicopter. The following images are from just a few of the events we participated in this year.



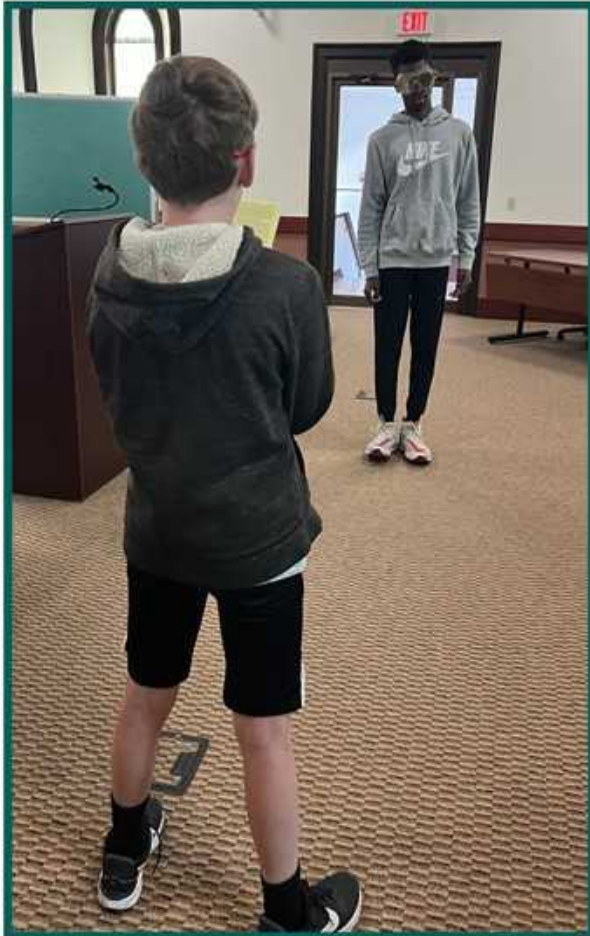


Youth Academy

Each year in the Spring, our department hosts the Village of Pewaukee Youth Academy. This program is organized with the help of Pewaukee School District staff who market the program to students ages 14-18 in the district as well as neighboring school districts.

The program is designed to teach students about a career in law enforcement. With demonstrations and hands on activities such as OWI investigations, Crime Scene investigations, Drug investigations, K9 demonstrations, mock traffic stops, equipment tutorials/tours and more, our department aims to spark interest in the law enforcement career or to just answer questions about the roles and duties of law enforcement.

We hope to continue to grow the program as enrollment rises and aim to introduce new topics and activities each year.



2024

Youth Academy



Meeting Details

<p>235 Hickory St. Pewaukee WI 53072</p>	<p>April 13 April 27 May 11 May 25</p>	<p>10:00 AM TO 1:00 PM</p>
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<p>Learn About a Career in Law Enforcement</p> <p>For Ages 14-18</p> <p>No Cost</p> <p>Applications due by April 1st</p>	<p>Topics Covered</p> <p>K-9 Demonstration</p> <p>Mock Traffic Stops</p> <p>Crime Scene Investigations</p> <p>Drug Investigations</p> <p>Equipment Demonstrations</p>
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PLEASE CONTACT ADRIANA PLACH FOR ADDITIONAL DETAILS

Continual Improvement Coordinator

placadr@pewaukeeschools.org



National Night Out

This year marked our department's largest and most successful National Night Out to date. Working in collaboration with the Pewaukee School District, we were able to utilize a larger area and reach a larger audience. It also helps that we also had special appearances from a Black Hawk Helicopter and a Flight for Life helicopter.

This event is possible largely due to our community businesses and organizations that donate their time, money and resources to attend and sponsor our event, as well as to keep it free for all of those attending. Without them, an event like this would not be as successful as it has been since its conception. A special thank you to all of our sponsors. This event truly demonstrates a partnership between the community and our Police Department, and will hopefully only get bigger and better in the following years!



Shop with Cops

The Village of Pewaukee, Village of Hartland, City of Delafield, and Village of Chenequa Police Departments hosted our 18th annual Holiday Shop with Cops Event on Saturday, December 3, 2024. We were joined by officers from Hartland, Chenequa, Delafield, North Prairie, Menomonee Falls, New Berlin, Muskego and Dodge County Sheriffs Dept. Volunteers from Waukesha County Communications, the Pewaukee Area Arts Council, the Woman's Club of Pewaukee, as well as a number of local families, helped to make the event a success.

Our 2024 Shop with Cops event was held at Horizon Elementary School and Walmart in the Village of Pewaukee. Go Riteway Bus Company assisted us by transporting officers and children between these venues. Thanks to fundraising efforts and our generous donors, we were able to support 36 children and their families.

We would like to thank our community for their generous donations that help make this event a success. It would not be possible without the donations or volunteers who give their time to help this event run flawlessly.



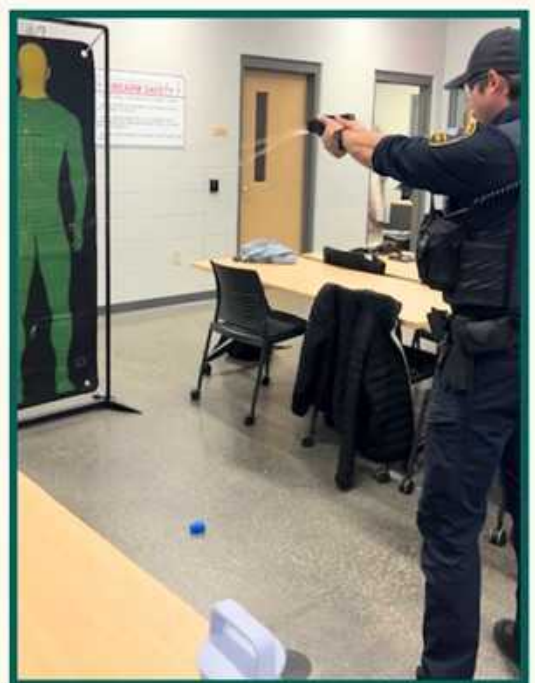
Photo of the Year



Our favorite season of the year-- construction season; except this year, it felt like it never ended. From February to November, Capitol Dr was under construction, and for the majority of that time was down to one lane on each side. Not only did this make it difficult for commuters to traverse, but it also made it difficult to respond to calls in an emergent fashion when it was required. Officers responded to 37 traffic accidents that happened on Capitol Dr throughout the duration of it being under construction. Nevertheless, we prevailed, and Capitol Dr has never looked better.









Officer of the Year

Grant Zabel



During our awards ceremony, our department voted to declare Officer Grant Zabel as the '2024 Officer of the Year'. Grant Zabel has been a police officer for the Village of Pewaukee since 2020. Since his employment began, he has taken on many roles for our police department such as; Community Liaison Officer, Field Training Officer, and most recently assigned to the Metro Drug Task Force. He is a great coworker and always has a great attitude. Officer Zabel is always willing to help somebody out and is someone that many of his coworkers will come to for advice and questions about the job. His contributions to our agency are invaluable and appreciated every day.

Officer Awards

On March 6, 2024 our department hosted a '2024 Merit Awards Ceremony' to recognize officers and community members for their commendable actions and contributions demonstrated by going above and beyond throughout the year. The following is a list of awards that were received:

- Letter of Commendation-- Elizabeth Unruh, Positively Pewaukee
- Letter of Commendation-- Kyle Kreuser, AWORK LLC
- Letter of Commendation-- Thomas Opie, AWORK LLC
- Letter of Commendation-- Lindsay Wallace, AWORK LLC
- Letter of Commendation-- David Retherford, AWORK LLC

- Community Partnership Award-- Mike Cady, Pewaukee School District
- Community Partnership Award-- Richard Barnhouse, Waukesha County Technical College

- Outstanding Service Award-- David Meyer

- Military Recognition-- Officer Michael Duncan

- Perfect Attendance Recognition for 2023-- Deputy Chief Foth, Sergeant Twelmeyer, Officer Markut, Officer Tyler, Officer Rhode, Officer Pfeil

- Chief's Superior Leadership-- Chief Mark W. Garry, II

- Life Saving Awards-- Sergeant Lucas Twelmeyer:
 - *March 31, 2022-- Pulseless Non-breather, CPR & AED on Laureate Dr.*
 - *November 13, 2022-- Choking Incident, Heimlich Maneuver at Autumn Bay*
 - *December 25, 2022-- Pulseless Non-breather, CPR & AED on W. Wisconsin Ave*

- Unit Service Award-- Officers Julie Buddenhagen & Larisa Hildenbrand, ICAC Case

- Excellence in Police Service Award-- Officer Julie Buddenhagen & Detective Paula Hoffa (Hartland PD), *Holiday Shop with Cops Program*

