ST. FRANCIS POLICE DEPARTMENT





4058 ST. FRANCIS BLVD. NW ST. FRANCIS, MINNESOTA 55070

763-753-1264 STFRANCISMN.GOV

F LIKE US ON FACEBOOK (OVER 5.2K FOLLOWERS) SAINT FRANCIS - MN POLICE DEPARTMENT

Join us on Facebook where we post weekly crime statistics, upcoming events, missing/found animals and road closures. Our posts reach over 2,500 of our followers daily. In 2024, we have reached over 5,200 followers. Over 1,000 of those followers are in our local community! Please spread the word and follow us then like, comment and share us on Facebook!

ST. FRANCIS

POLICE & PUBLIC WORKS

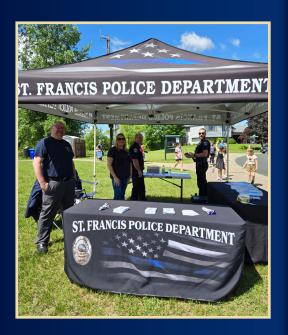






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OUR MISSION

THE ST. FRANCIS POLICE DEPARTMENT IS DEDICATED TO PROVIDING FAIR AND IMPARTIAL POLICE SERVICE TO ALL PERSONS THROUGH EDUCATION AND ENFORCEMENT.

THE GOAL OF THE ST. FRANCIS POLICE DEPARTMENT IS TO PROVIDE A SAFE COMMUNITY THROUGH PARTNERING WITH ITS CITIZENS.



~ CORE VALUES ~

We pledge to uphold the core principals in the Police Officer's Code of Ethics. We utilize this code as our moral compass guiding us to make proper choices.

~ INTEGRITY ~

We will act with integrity, which means always doing the right thing legally, ethically and morally.

~ RESPECT ~

We respect all people without personal prejudice, bias or favoritism.

~ COURAGE ~

We have moral courage, and we do what is right even if the personal cost is high.

~ TRUST ~

We will work to be trusted in the community, we will set a standard for always being truthful and fair.





Message from Chief Schwieger

I am pleased to present the 2024 St. Francis Police Department Annual Report. The report summarizes the police department operations including accomplishments and daily law enforcement activities. The report also displays the departments dedication to partnering with the community through engagement efforts.

The police department has a dedicated, professional staff of 12 sworn officers, six reserve officers, and two administrative clerical staff, all who are committed to providing superior public safety services to the 8,300 residents of the City of St. Francis. The department also welcomed Officer Humann in January of 2024 who has proven to be a great addition to the department.

The mission of the police department focuses on providing a fair and impartial service to all persons and maintaining a safe community through partnering with its citizens. A safe community takes all of us and by having a good relationship with members of the community, we can assure that St. Francis remains a great place to live, work, and visit.

The St. Francis Community can remain confident that their police department will be there in time of need and will serve with integrity, respect, courage, and trust. I am very proud and honored to work with the outstanding men and women that make up the St. Francis Police Department.

Thank you for your support and we look forward to another year of providing quality public safety services to the St. Francis Community.

Chief Todd Schwieger

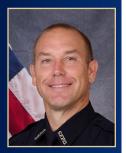
STAFF DIRECTORY





Sergeant Larson has been with the department since 2006. In 2017, he was promoted to sergeant with the department. He oversees the departments AED program, predatory offenders, officer training, and has been a firearm instructor for the department since 2014. He has a passion for specialized training involving active shooter response and tactical training. His day-to-day responsibilities include; supervising the officers, patrolling, reviewing, and approving reports, viewing body camera footage, and handling many other tasks. Sergeant Larson enjoys hunting, fishing, and spending time with his family in his spare time.

Sergeant Stemme has been with the St. Francis Police Department since 2005. Sergeant Stemme has a strong passion for traffic safety and has run the department's Toward Zero Deaths (TZD) program since 2007. Sergeant Stemme has several roles within the department. He oversees the department Reserve program, manages inventory, does scheduling for patrol, conducts monthly log and report audits, and is the sergeant's union steward. In his free time, Sergeant Stemme enjoys spending time with his family and watching his kids play sports. Sergeant Stemme is into health and fitness and enjoys spending time in the gym.



Officer Schwieger joined the St. Francis Police Department in 2008 as a patrol officer and in 2015 he took the role as the department's investigator and evidence manager. He has since returned to the patrol division. Officer Schwieger is also the department's Less Lethal Munition Instructor. Officer Schwieger is passionate about health and fitness. He enjoys spending time with his family, vacationing, fishing, hunting, boating, all things outdoors.



Officer Bulera has been with the police department for over eight years. Officer Bulera was also a reserve officer for our department from 2009 to his hire date in 2016. He worked for Braham Police Department as a part time officer from 2015 – 2020. Officer Bulera serves as one of our Field Training Officers as well as a member of the North Command Mobile Field Force Unit. He also serves as one of the department's UAV operators. Officer Bulera enjoys camping and spending time with his family.



Officer Dzuris was hired with the department in September 2016. Officer Dzuris has a community connection like none other. Her hard work and dedication toward community events (Bike Rodeo, Cone with Cop, National Night Out and Santa) has proven success year after year. In 2023, Officer Dzuris became certified as one of the departments UAV operators. Officer Dzuris also initiated our police department with the Pink Patch Project in 2024 with profited funds going to the Susan G. Komen Foundation. In her spare time Officer Dzuris enjoys golfing, reading, and camping in BWCA with her husband and beloved dogs, Ollie and Raven.



Officer Hearn began his career with the St. Francis Police Department in 2017 after departing from Breckenridge Police Department. Officer Hearn is one of the departments Field Training Officers and a Use of Force Instructor. Officer Hearn dedicates many hours to community outreach and has implemented Winning with Cops, Citizen's Academy, and Safe at Home annual events. In 2025, Officer Hearn will be moving into the investigator position as well as the evidence technician. Officer Hearn enjoys traveling with his family, extended family and friends as well as staying physically fit.

STAFF DIRECTORY



Officer Hedges has been with St. Francis Police Department since 2019. He served as a reserve officer from 2011 to 2012 and is currently serving as our reserve coordinator which facilitates hiring and scheduling events for the reserve officers. Officer Hedges is a UAV operator for the department. Officer Hedges has a passion for photography/videography. He has used his talent to provide photos to our department. Off the clock he is working at building his photography/videography business, traveling with his girlfriend and spending time with his family and friends.



Officer Barck began his career in St. Francis in 2021 after serving as a reserve officer for three years. Officer Barck is one of the UAV operators for the department. He has completed over 40 hours of firearms training to become a firearms instructor and is an armorer for our department. Officer Barck graduated from St. Francis High School and proudly serves the community he grew up in. In his down time, he enjoys golfing, hockey and spending time with his girlfriend and family. His fun personality brings a lot of smiles to the department.



Officer Chanthapanya came to our department in 2022 after working for Anoka Police Department as a community service officer. Officer Chanthapanya is active in the North Command Mobile Field Force Unit and is an armorer for the department. He serves as an overnight patrol officer with our department. In his spare time, he works on his project car and also enjoys cooking as well as spending time with his family.



Officer Bolte joined the St. Francis Police Department in February 2023. Prior to joining our department, he worked as a deputy for the Wright County Sheriff's Office. Officer Bolte graduated from St. Francis High School and has a passion for this city that he serves. He has been a wonderful addition to our department as he brings a positive attitude to the team. Officer Bolte is an avid hunter and fisherman and enjoys spending time with his wife and their dog, Willow.



Officer Humann began his career with St. Francis in January of 2024. He graduated high school from St. Francis and proudly serves the community he grew up in. Officer Humann has honed in on traffic enforcement and strives for safety on our roadways. He attended our Citizen's Academy in 2022 before finishing his degree at Alexandria Technical Community College the following year. In his off time, he enjoys writing music as well as playing the guitar and working on cars.



Administrative Assistant Sandy Hom started in 2013 as our Police Records Clerk and as of 2024 she was promoted to Administrative Assistant. Sandy gained a lot of her knowledge and experience during her time at the Isanti County Sheriff's Office prior to joining the St. Francis PD. The love and positivity Sandy brings to the department is awe-inspiring. She has a passion for helping the community and can be found at every community event. Outside of work, Sandy loves to spend time with her family especially the grandchildren. If she is not spending time with her family, she is outside, she enjoys gardening in the spring and summer and snowmobiling in the winter! We are very excited to watch her grow and succeed in her new role.



Police Records Clerk Chasity Ecklund joined the police department in Septmber 2024 as our full time records clerk. She has been a great addition to our department in such a short time. Her upbeat, fun personality has been uplifting with our staff. Chasity currently is maintaining all police records/cases, conducting background checks on firearm applications, and front desk phone/window along with several other assigned office duties. Chasity has an expert eye for organization and her transition into her new role here has been effortless. In her down time, Chasity enjoys spending time with her husband, one and a half year old son, Beck, as well as traveling and collecting all things Disney!

RESERVE OFFICERS

Reserve Captain Johnson has been with the reserve program for over 15 years. As the captain of the reserve program, he supervises the reserve officers, attends community events, meetings, and more. Reserve Captain Johnson has been in the woodworking industry for over 35 years with his own company. In his free time, he enjoys fishing, hunting, and adores spending time with his wife, kids and grandkids.



Reserve Officer Sieber is a Field Training Officer. He has been with the reserve program for over six years. Reserve Officer Sieber plays a vital role with the reserve program by compiling reserve statistics and provides data to the police chief. He served in the military for over 25 years and currently is employed with the Department of Corrections. In his free time, he enjoys being outdoors, riding horseback, and traveling with his wife and children.



Reserve Officer Peterson is a Field Training Officer and has been with the reserve program for over nine years. As a field training officer for the reserve program, he plays a role in helping new reserve officers learn the reserve officer curriculum so that they can be successful. Reserve Officer Peterson has been in the construction industry for over 20 years but in his free time, he enjoys being outdoors, specifically to fish and hunt. He also takes pleasure in spending time with his family.



Reserve Officer Schwieger has been with the reserve program for over four years, and he is responsible for training in the new reserves. Reserve Officer Schwieger is a licensed pilot and aspiring to work for the airlines. He is currently a flight instructor and teaches other hopeful pilots how to fly. In his free time, he enjoys hunting and fishing.



Reserve Officer Schwieger has been with the reserve program for two years. He is in school to become a law enforcement officer and will graduate by summer 2025. Officer Schwieger attends Hennepin Technical College. He currently works for the City of Anoka as a community service officer. In his free time, he enjoys golfing, hunting, and fishing.



Reserve Officer Hearn has been with the reserve program for almost one year and is in the process of completing the Field Training Program. He is currently in school to become a law enforcement officer at St. Cloud State University. In his free time, he enjoys playing baseball and traveling.

POLICE RESERVE UNIT

The St. Francis Police Reserve Unit is a volunteer unit that has been in existence for approximately 40 years. The reserve volunteer unit provides support to the licensed officers and support to the department. The types of tasks and duties that the reserve unit assists the department are things such as animal complaints, vehicle lockouts, motorist aids, park checks, business checks, extra patrols of neighborhoods and businesses, found property, motor vehicle accidents, and jail transports. The reserve unit also assists licensed officers in other various calls for service such as personal injury and property damage accidents by assisting with traffic control and even medical attention to accident victims if needed. The reserve officer field training program includes use of force and medical training, they complete a minimum of eight hours per month.

The reserve unit is also an integral part of the departments community outreach efforts and assist at all events. In 2024, the reserve officers contributed 119 volunteer patrol hours to the St. Francis community and countless other hours during community events.



CHAPLAIN PROGRAM

The role of our Chaplain is to be a support system for all the members of the St. Francis Police Department and the community. Chaplains' ought to be involved in both proactive and reactive care. This involves serving with the police department in many different facets as well as in the community. Responding to requests to accompany an officer in a particular duty, engaging with officers to encourage, counsel, and support the team as they serve and provide practical assistance to members of our community during difficult times.



Pastor Steve has been the senior pastor at First Baptist Church since April of 2008. He has served as a Chaplain for our department for over eight years. Pastor Steve and his wife Heather share four children who have all completed high school. They have volunteered with our Bike Rodeo for several years now and are a significant part of making that event such a success. Steve enjoys sports, reading, and connecting with people.



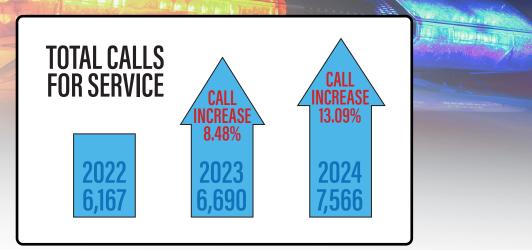
Pastor Timothy Vaughn has been the senior pastor at Trinity Lutheran Church and School since 2009. Timothy came to St. Francis after 17 years of servicing congregations in west central Minnesota and North Dakota. Timothy and his wife, Robin, have two adult children and grandchildren. Tim enjoys golf, fishing, gardening, and spending time with family.

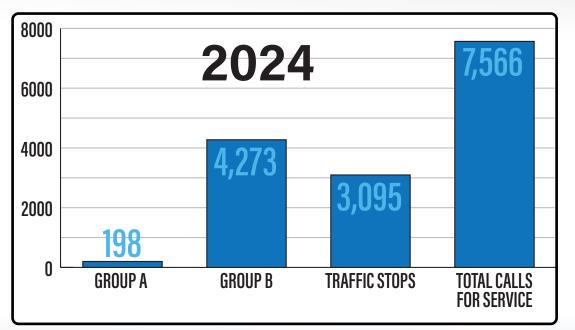
Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called children of God.

10

– Matthew 5:9

ANNUAL ACTIVITY





AVERAGE RESPONSE TIMES

2024

4:28 High Priority Call Type 5:10 Low Priority Call Type

2023

5:11 High Priority Call Type 6:17 Low Priority Call Type

2022

5:94 High Priority Call Type 5:41 Low Priority Call Type

CRIME STATISTICS

National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS)

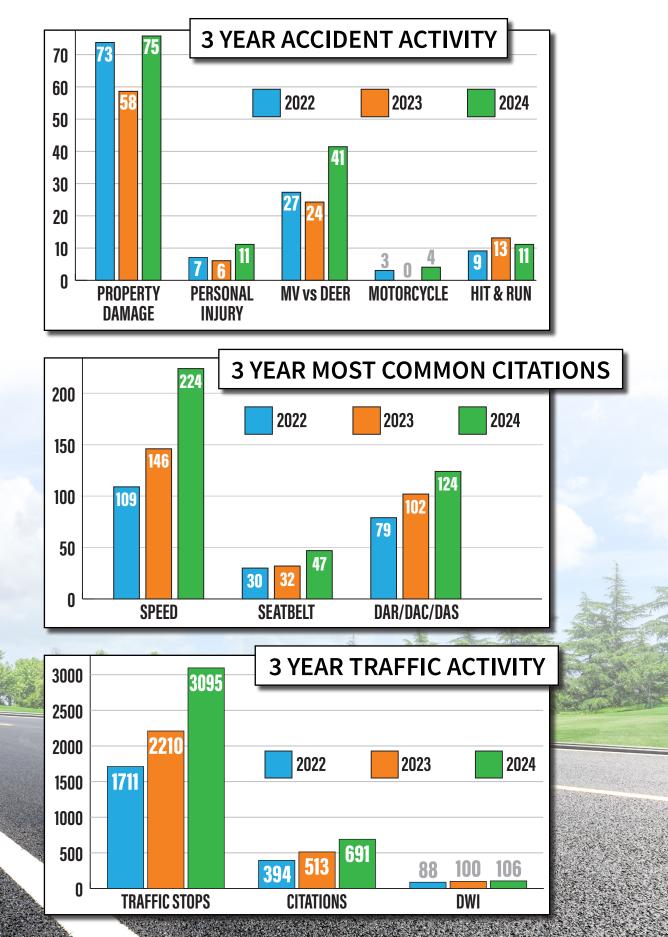
NIBRS data is divided by Group A and Group B Crimes. Data is collected on 52 crimes for incidents involving multiple criminal acts, all crimes are reported. Data includes crimes against people, property and society. Detailed victim, offender and relationship information is collected.

Listed in the adjacent charts are all the NIBRS crimes reporting since 2022.

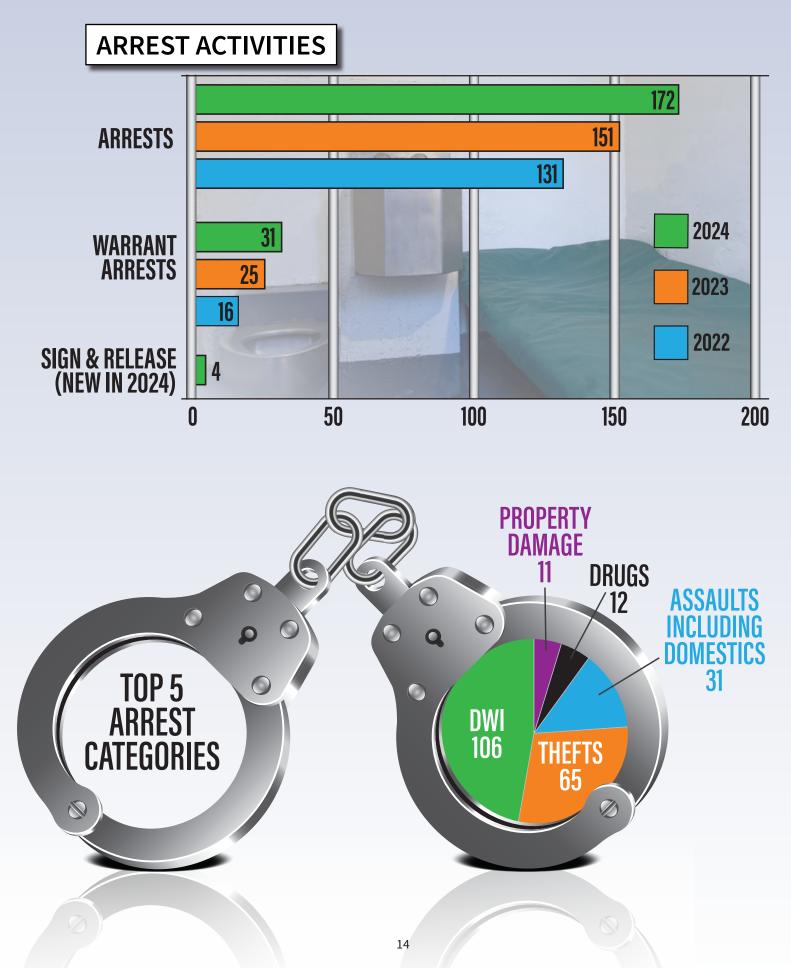
GROUP A OFFENSES	2022	2023	2024
Arson	0	0	0
Assault Offenses	35	40	31
Bribery	0	0	0
Burglary	9	3	12
Counterfeiting/Forgery	8	6	11
Destruction/Damage/ Vandalism	22	7	11
Drug/Narcotic Violations	31	23	12
Drug Equipment/Violations	0	0	0
Embezzlement	0	0	1
Extortion/Blackmail	0	0	0
Fraud Offenses	39	42	44
Gambling Offenses	0	0	0
Homicide Offenses	0	0	0
Human Trafficking Offenses	0	0	1
Kidnapping/Abduction	0	0	0
Larceny/Theft Offenses	27	57	65
Motor Vehicle Theft	9	4	4
Pornography/ Obscene Material	0	2	0
Prostitution Offenses	0	0	0
Robbery	0	0	0
Sex Offenses	3	2	2
Sex Offenses, Non-forcible	6	7	2
Stolen Property Offenses	3	0	1
Weapon Law Violations	1	0	1
Animal Cruelty	0	1	0

GROUP B OFFENSES	2022	2023	2024
Bad Checks	0	0	0
Curfew/Loitering/Vagrancy Violations	4	4	3
Disorderly Conduct	63	41	54
Driving Under the Influence	88	100	106
Drunkenness	0	0	0
Family Offenses	0	0	0
Liquor Law Violations	1	3	1
Peeping Tom	0	0	0
Runaway	17	9	19
Trespass of Property	2	3	3
All Other Offenses	4008	4093	4087

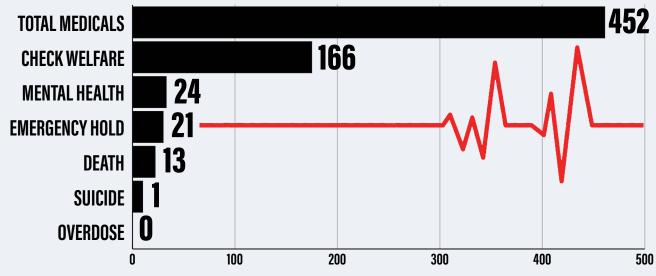
2024 TRAFFIC RELATED ACTIVITY



2024 ARRESTS



MEDICAL RELATED CALLS

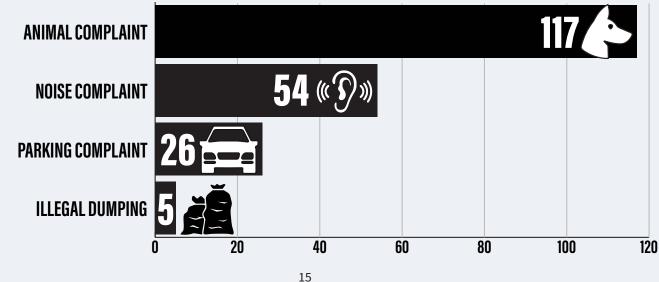


LIFE SAVING MEDICAL EQUIPMENT: AED

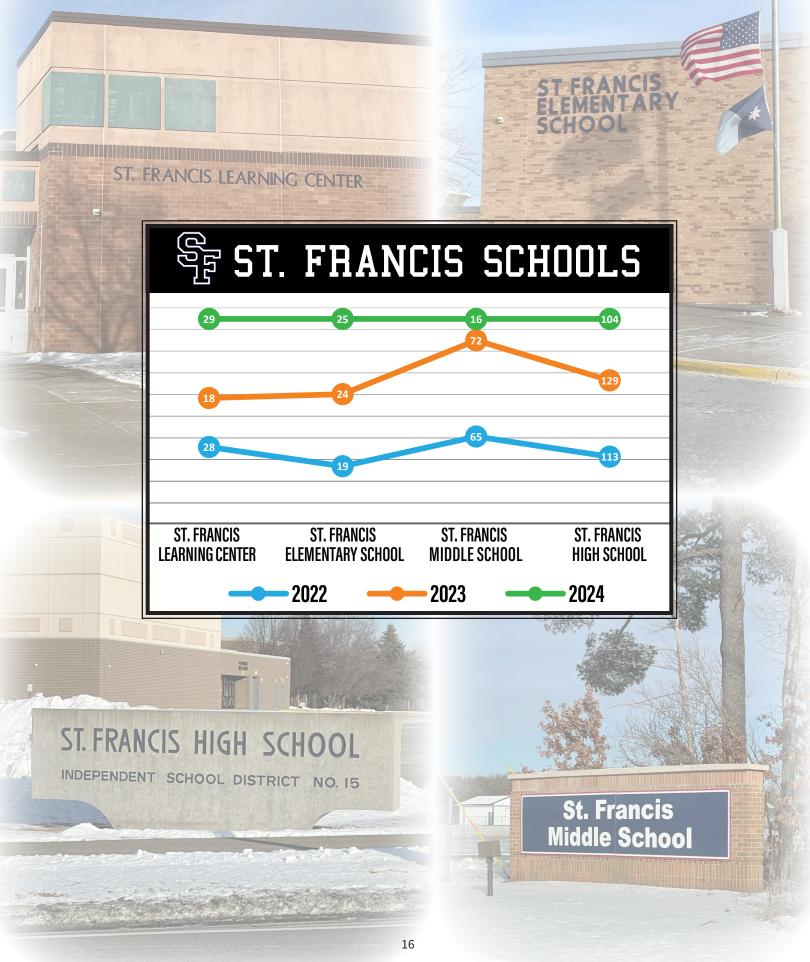


The St. Francis Police Department joined the University of Minnesota Center for Resuscitation and Medicine AED grant project in 2021. With the grant the department was provided with nine brand new Stryker Lifepak CR2 AEDs. These AEDs are simple to use with voice activation prompts and are a great lifesaving tool. This year there have been nine activations of the AED in lifesaving incidents. After every activation, the department is sent useful information and stats such as the rate of compressions performed.

COMPLAINT RELATED CALLS

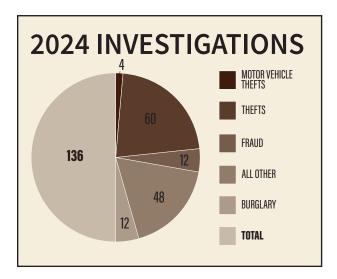


SCHOOL RELATED INCIDENTS



INVESTIGATIONS

The investigations unit is a continued resource for the citizens of St. Francis. The investigations unit reviews and investigates reports that are submitted by officers. The unit also receives all Anoka County Child Protection reports as well as Adult Protection reports. Other duties include conducting surveillance, preparing, and serving search warrants, assisting other agencies, conducting employment background checks for all new hires, handles all forfeiture and forfeiture auctions along with managing the evidence room which includes adding and disposing of evidence.



2024 cases investigated included felony fraud, felony damage to property, felony burglary, theft, forgery, gross misdemeanor alcohol violation, receiving stolen property, misdemeanor theft, and assault along with multiple other cases with some still under investigation. The investigations unit also worked with multiple agencies from around the state to aggregate charges or to gain and share information of criminal activity. The investigations unit also will respond to crime scenes to process and gather evidence such as fingerprints, photos and DNA. These crimes include burglaries, vehicle thefts, thefts, damage to property and many others.

In 2024, the investigation unit investigated a felony check forgery case where a check for \$26,500 was fraudulently deposited into a bank account in the city of St. Paul. The investigations unit ultimately obtained a search warrant and learned the identity of the suspect which led to felony forgery charges in Ramsey County.

The investigations unit also conducts tobacco and alcohol compliance checks within the city to assure business are following laws. In 2024, all establishments were compliant, and no tobacco products were sold. The alcohol compliance checks rendered one violation for serving alcohol to a person under the age of 21.

The investigations unit also handles all evidence that is taken in by all officers of the St. Francis Police Department. The evidence is recorded and placed into the proper secured holding area, if needed the investigations unit will bring evidence to the Midwest Regional Forensic Laboratory for processing. Some of that evidence may include DNA swabs, known DNA samples, blood kits, narcotics, electronics, and multiple other items.

The Investigations Unit is an important and valued piece of the police department. It utilizes its special training and capabilities to provide justice through compassionate communication with our victims and by conducting thorough criminal investigations.

Investigations

TOWARD ZERO 20 YEARS OF SAVING LIVES DEATHS

Mission

Our mission is to create a culture for which traffic fatalities and serious injuries are no longer acceptable through the integrated application of education, engineering, enforcement, and emergency medical and trauma services. These efforts will be driven by data, best practices, and research. 471 Fatalities in the state15 Fatalities in Anoka County28,432 Statewide DUI's

St. Francis PD

106 DUI charges
224 Speeding Citations
47 Seatbelt
81 Use of Wireless Device
257 TZD Hours work

TOWARD ZERO DEATHS SAFETY CORRIDOR City of St Francis

TRAINING



Over the past year officers put in 636 hours of training and continuing education. The officers need 48 hours of continuing education training every three years to renew their peace officer license. Much of the training attended by the officers is mandated by the state which includes use of force, firearms, first aid, Emergency Vehicle Operation Course (EVOC), crisis response, conflict management, cultural diversity, and autism.

SERGEAN 108

Other courses officers attended in 2024 include forensic training in areas of evidence collection and processing, wellness training including mindset, nutrition, and movement, active shooter training, less lethal munitions, duty to intercede, de-escalation, emergency medical responder amongst others.

Officers Barck and Chanthapanya attended a firearms armorer's course in 2024 and are now certified to oversee the maintenance of the departments handguns to assure all handguns are operating at peak performance.

Officer Bulera attended mobile field force training in January 2024 and became a member of the North Command Mobile Field Force unit alongside Officer Chanthapanya. This unit is comprised of officers from all Anoka County agencies. Officers train quarterly and specialize in restoring and maintaining public order by safeguarding public safety, property, and the constitutional rights of all.

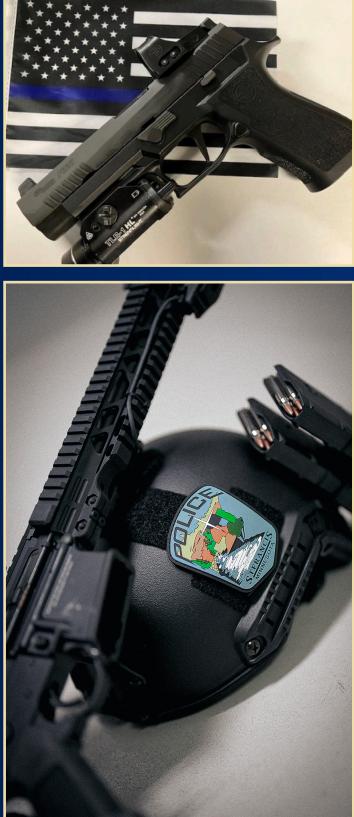


EQUIPMENT

This past year the department, purchased new patrol rifles and handguns. The previous rifles were leased from the U.S. Government and were over 30 years old. The patrol rifles are positioned in every squad car and both weapons are outfitted with red dot sights and tactical weapon flashlights.

With addition of red dot sights, officers shooting performance has greatly improved. In 2024, Officer Barck was certified as a red dot instructor to help transition the officers into the use of the new weapons. State funding was also used for supplying officers with new body armor and ballistic helmets to keep them safe while serving the community.

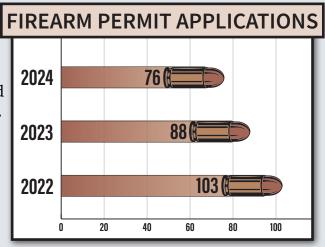




ST. FRANCIS POLICE SERVICES

FIREARM PERMITS

Firearm Permit applications are available for residents around the clock. Monday through Friday 6:00 am to 4:30 pm you can pick up an application from the front desk receptionist and/or on our website. After hours and on weekends, applications are available in the vestibule. Once the application has been filled out completely, it can be returned to the police department and placed into the secure lockbox located in the vestibule at any time or in person. This year the St. Francis Police Department processed 76 firearm permits. There were 73 firearm permits approved and three denied.





DOG LICENSE

Dog licenses are required for every dog who live within the city of St. Francis. There are two types of dog licenses. These types are based off the rabies vaccination. Type one is a one-year license which expires when the rabies vaccination is due for renewal. Type two is a three-year license which expires when the rabies vaccination is due. Dog licenses cost between 10 and 15 dollars per dog. However, once a year we offer a free dog license with proof of current rabies vaccine which is held on the first Saturday in May.

FINGERPRINT SERVICES

Fingerprinting is available to the public for a small fee of \$15 per fingerprint card. Please keep in mind we fingerprint for employment purposes, not for criminal purposes. The best time to come for fingerprinting is Tuesday through Thursday 7:00am to 3:30pm.







ST. FRANCIS POLICE SERVICES

EMERGENCY

AN OCCUPANT MAY BE

IABETIC

TO VERBAL COMMANDS

ED BY THE ST EPANCIS POLIC

RESPONDERS



EMERGENCY DOOR DECALS

The Emergency Decal Program is to assist police, fire and paramedics in responding to certain calls for service. These decals alert responding personnel to correct treatment and proper care. These are free to the public and located in our lobby.



AN OCCUPANT MAY HAVE

DEMENTIA

OR

CAMERA REGISTRATION

The St. Francis Police Department would like to partner with residents and business owners who have video surveillance on the exterior of their homes or business. You might have a multi-camera system or a simple doorbell camera at your front door. No matter your level of surveillance, your participation in this program will help the police department in the event of a crime in your area.

If you choose to participate, start by registering your camera system with the police department. Participation is voluntary and you can end your participation at any time. Your information will be kept confidential, secure, and only accessible to police personnel. If a crime occurs in your area, officers and/or detectives may contact you to ask if you have footage of the incident. The St. Francis Police Department will not have a direct link or connection to any private alarm or camera system.



SOCIAL CONNECTION

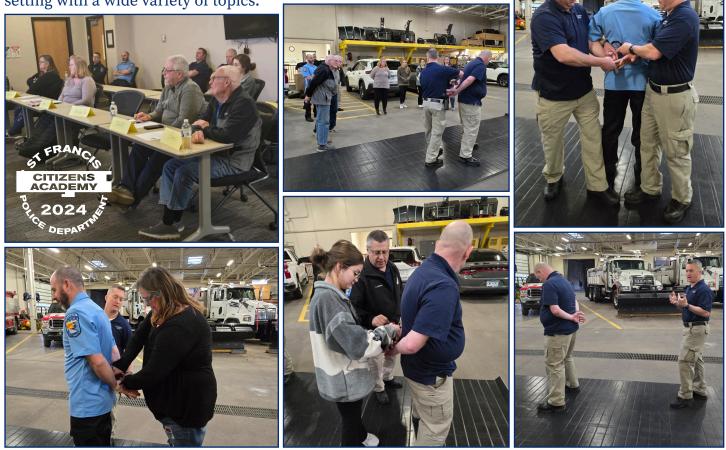
Winning With Cops

Winning with Cops is a program designed for law enforcement to have positive interactions with children and young adults with special needs, creating a positive relationship before a medical or mental health interaction. In 2024, we had record attendance at Tasty's Pizza Bar and Bowl for the annual bowling event.



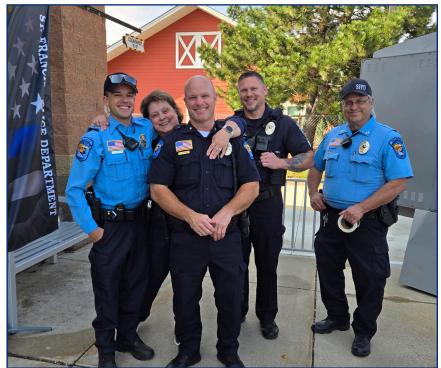
Citizen's Academy

Citizen's Academy event continues to bring in more participants each year. This six-week class offers local citizens a unique insight into everyday law enforcement. The program is a classroom and hands-on setting with a wide variety of topics.



Cone with a Cop

Cone with a Cop is another favorite summer event for kids to share a Dairy Queen with St. Francis Officers and staff.







Safe at Home

Safe at Home is a class designed to teach kids about staying safe at home and accident prevention for children ages 9–12.





Bike Rodeo

The 8th Annual Bike Rodeo is a fun and educational event to teach safe bicycle riding. The specifically designed bike course teaches awareness and control of one's bicycle. The 2024 event was the most participants to date. We raffled off six bicycles along with t-shirts, served hot dogs and chips to all parents and children. A very special thank you to all our volunteers for their hard work at making this event successful year after year.













National Night Out

St. Francis Police Department participates annually in the National Night Out event. The focus of this family fun event is crime prevention and has developed into a popular night for community bonding. The event is located at the Community Park where we set up a dunk tank, inflatables, a petting zoo, and several food trucks. This event is also made successful with the St. Francis Fire Department, St. Francis Public Works, St. Francis Bottle Shop, St. Francis City Hall, Lions, and the Ambassadors.



FRANCIS POLICE DEPARTMENT

steet And Serve

TRICK OR TREAT

St. Francis Chamber of Commerce annually asks businesses to participate in the Halloween Trick or Treat event. St. Francis reserve officers graciously pass out candy here at the police department and throughout the community on Halloween.



Santa is Coming to Town

Santa's stop at the police department this year was spectacular! The police departments officer's and staff worked countless hours in preparation for his arrival. Thank you to all residents who donated to the Toys for Joy Foundation again this year!



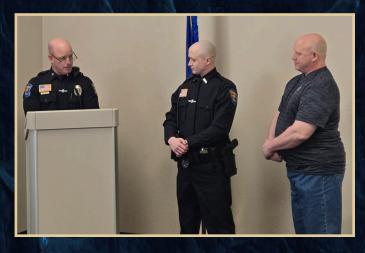




YEAR IN REVIEW

HIRING OFFICER HUMANN

Officer Humann joined the St. Francis Police Department in January 2024. St. Francis is Officer Humann's hometown, as he has lived here all his life and graduated from St. Francis High School. He graduated Dunwoody college in 2018 and then went on to graduate from Alexandria Technical College in 2023. Officer Humann's hobbies include writing music some performing along with restoring vintage vehicles. We are pleased Officer Humann has joined our police force, as he has been a great addition.



HIRING OF RECORDS CLERK CHASITY ECKLUND On September 23, 2024, we welcomed Chasity to the police department, Records Unit. Chasity graduated college in 2023 with a BS in Criminal Justice and a minor in Sociology from the University of North Dakota. She worked at the Anoka County Sheriff's Office, Warrants Division where her law enforcement experience undoubtedly made a smooth transition. Chasity grew up in the Cambridge area and currently lives in Princeton with her husband and one and half year old son. We are excited that Chasity has joined our department, and we know she will be a great addition to our team!

Parewell RETIREMENT OF LORI ROBERTS

October 1, 2024, Lori Roberts retired from the police department after 16 years of dedicated service. Lori is excited for this new chapter in her life and to spend more time with her family.



AWARDS CEREMONY

In April 2024, the police department held its annual awards ceremony where several officers and civilian staff members received awards for actions taken in 2023.

Seven officers received Life Saving Awards for actions taken that saved a human life. Two officers received Commendation Awards for their dedication to traffic and DWI enforcement in efforts to make our roadways a safer place for our families and friends.

Two officers and one civilian staff member received Commendation Awards for their community engagement efforts to help form relationships with the community. It was a great ceremony to highlight outstanding performance and superior dedication to the City of St. Francis.



Officer Bulera and Officer Barck with the Lifesaving Award for their actions taken during a medical situation on November 14, 2023, which saved a human life.



Officer Barck and Sergeant Stemme with an Award of Commendation for their dedication to traffic and DWI enforcement.



Officer Chanthapanya, Officer Bolte, and Sergeant Stemme with the Lifesaving Award for their actions taken during an overdose situation on October 18, 2023, which saved a human life.



Officer Dzuris, Officer Hearn and Administrative Assistant Roberts with an Award of Commendation for their dedication to community engagement.



Officer Hedges and Officer Bolte with the Lifesaving Award for their actions taken during an overdose situation on July 28, 2023, which saved a human life.



Congratulations to Sergeant Stemme for his hard work on DWI Enforcement and being a recipient of the 2024 DWI Enforcer All-Star Honorable Mention. Since beginning his career with the St. Francis Police Department in 2005, Sergeant Stemme has been a leader in the area of traffic enforcement. Year in and year out he continues to lead the departments traffic safety and DWI enforcement efforts. Sergeant Stemme is passionate about targeting and stopping these dangerous drivers before they're able to make it through our community and no longer endanger our families and friends.

Pink Patch Project In May of this year, the St. Francis Police Department became members of the Pink Patch Project. During the month of October, which is Breast Cancer Awareness month, officers wore pink patches on their uniforms to show support for those affected by breast cancer. Throughout the year, the St. Francis Police Department sold pink merchandise to raise funds for the Susan G. Komen Foundation. Once the profited funds are donated to the foundation, the funds are dispersed to people and their families to help provide some financial relief for everyday burdens like mortgage/rent, groceries, unexpected medical bills, etc. Funds donated to the Susan G. Koman Foundation are also dispersed toward breast cancer research to help bring an end to the horrible disease.



NATE SCHWIEGER Since August of 2015, Investigator Schwieger served in the role of the department investigator before returning to patrol in 2025. In that time Investigator Schwieger investigated over 1,000 cases and brought accountability to criminals and justice to victims. Cases investigated included theft, fraud, identity theft, forgery, exploitation of a vulnerable adult, damage to property, assault, assault with a firearm, child solicitation, burglary amongst others.

In 2019, Investigator Schwieger investigated a theft case where over \$100,000 worth of stolen property was recovered and returned to its owners.

In 2023, Investigator Schwieger investigated a home burglary where the suspect left evidence at the scene. The suspect was



eventually located who would ultimately serve several years in prison for the offense and would bring some closure to the victims.

These are just a few examples of the outstanding work Investigator Schwieger did during his time as the department investigator and his dedication to the St. Francis community.

Acknowledgements

Mayor, Joe Muehlbauer

City Council Members Sarah Udvig, Kevin Robinson, Crystal Kreklow and Mark Vogel City Administrator, Kate Thunstrom

Thank you

1st Baptist Church of St. Francis • Blazin' Trails Coffee Chops, Inc. • Dairy Queen • Egg Roll Queen Grannies Mini Donuts • King's County Market
Kwik Trip • N6 Ventures LLC • North Memorial Air Care Open Box Buys • Ramsey Cycle • Rocky on the Road Tasty Pizza Bar & Bowl

ST. FRANCIS POLICE DEPARTMENT SERVING WITH INTEGRITY, TRUST, AND COMPASSION

