



ANNUAL REPORT 2019

St. Francis Police Department

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FROM THE CHIEF:

February 3rd, 2020

Mayor Feldman and City Council Members:

I am pleased to submit the 2019 St Francis Police Department Annual Report to you and the residents of St Francis. The report contains a summary of the events and operations the Police Department was involved with in 2019. Police department staff continues to focus on our mission statement by providing fair and impartial police service to all persons and providing a safer community through partnering with our citizens.

In 2019, police department officers responded to 4,790 calls for service. Proactive policing and theft prevention remains a top priority for patrol staff. Officers continued the practice of alerting residents when their garage doors were found left open during the overnight hours. Officers made contact with 79 residents who left their garage doors open during the overnight hours in an effort to prevent theft opportunities. Officers also continued to distribute theft prevention door hangers at residences when unsecure packages were observed on doorsteps. This effort picks up during the holidays when package deliveries are at their highest and citizens are most vulnerable to theft. These extra efforts by officers are eliminating theft opportunities that would otherwise be there for thieves.

In 2019, the police department continued its initiative of striving to connect with the citizens through community outreach. We believe that having a good relationship with the community is essential to public safety and maintaining a safe and enjoyable community to reside in and visit. The department continued hosting and participating in several events in 2019 including Senior Fraud Seminar, Dog Clinic, Bike Rodeo, Anti-Bullying Day, Car Seat Clinic, Neighborhood Watch and Winning With Cops. The department also implemented a new outreach program in 2019 called Cone with a Cop. This program was very well received and has been a great addition to our community outreach efforts.

In this report, you will see what department staff has been busy with and ways the police department has served the community over the course of the year.

On behalf of all members of the St Francis Police Department, I thank you for your continual support and look forward to servicing you in the upcoming year.

Sincerely,

Todd Schwieger
Chief of Police

PATROL NEWS:

Our Mission:

The St. Francis Police Department is dedicated to provide fair and impartial police service to all persons through education and enforcement. The goal of the St. Francis Police Department is to provide a safer community through partnering with its citizens.



The Patrol Division is the most visible part of the St Francis Police Department. Patrol officers and sergeants respond to many different types of calls including 911 calls, medical calls, suspicious activity calls, vehicle accidents, public assist calls and many other types of calls for service. During 2019, the patrol division responded to 4,790 calls for service.

In 2019, the Patrol Division made 245 arrests for misdemeanor, gross misdemeanor and felony level crimes including warrants arrests. These arrests included DWI, domestic assault, court order violations, controlled substance and other arrest types.

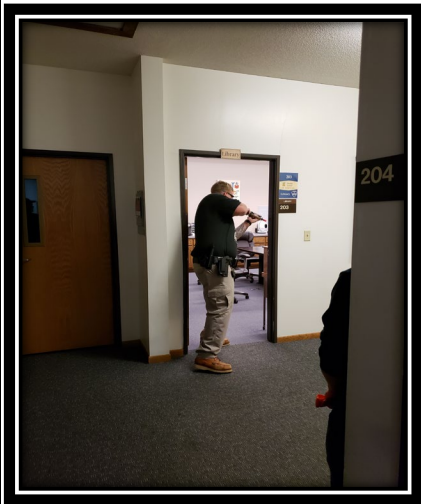
When patrol officers are not involved in a service call, they are serving the public in other proactive ways. Officers are enforcing traffic laws, conducting business and house checks as well as patrolling neighborhoods and parks looking for suspicious activity.

Patrol Division Officers conduct numerous vehicle contacts for traffic violations, vehicle equipment concerns, suspicious activity and criminal violations. Traffic stops are one of the major ways officers interact with the public. Traffic stops can result in traffic warnings, citations, warrant arrests and criminal violations. Traffic stops play an important role in keeping the public safe by enforcing traffic laws and interrupting criminal activity.

Part of the Patrol Division is the School Resource Officer. The School Resource Officer spends a majority of their day in various St Francis Area Schools. This officer performs patrol functions primarily on school grounds while school is in session. The School Resource Officer also interacts and works closely with school staff and students to assure their safety each and every day

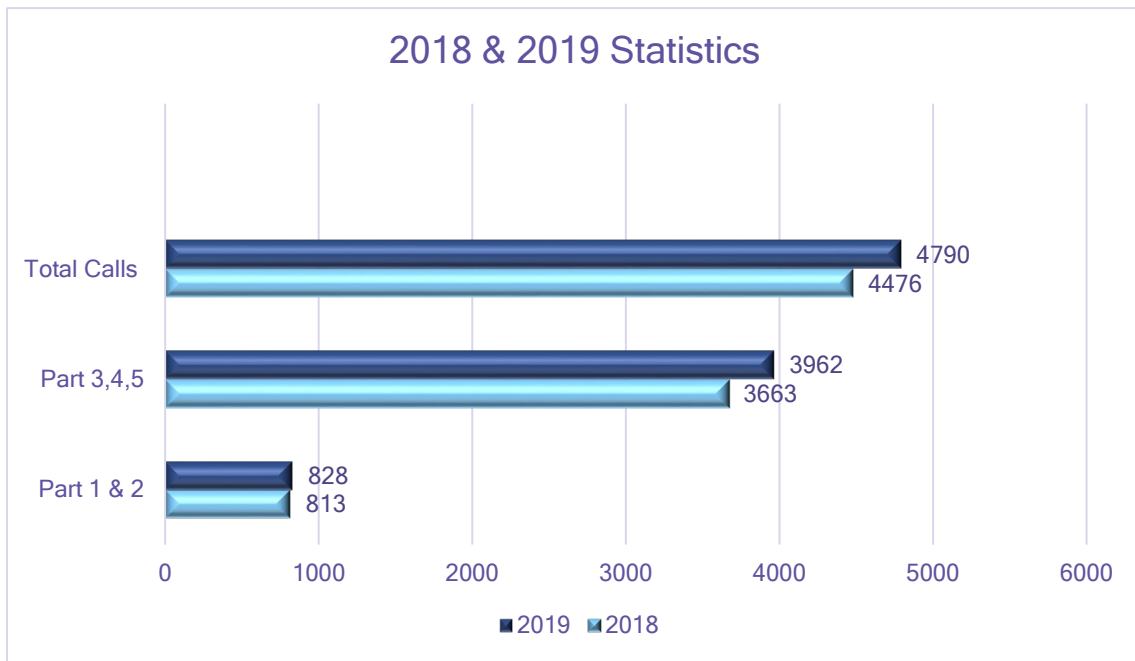
The Patrol Division accumulates numerous training hours throughout each year. Officers are required to complete a certain amount of continuing education training hours to maintain their peace officer license. Some trainings are made mandatory by the MN Peace Officer Standards and Training Board (POST) and the department head. Education for Minnesota Peace Officers in areas of Conflict Management, Crisis Intervention and Implicit Bias became POST Board mandated beginning in 2018. Several St Francis officers have completed training in these areas. Other trainings are suggested but not mandatory. There are many other training courses officers request to attend to increase their knowledge and understanding in certain areas. Officers have attended a combined total of 665 hours of POST mandated training and other continuing education courses in 2019.

ACTIVE SHOOTER TRAINING:



2018 & 2019 YEARLY CRIMINAL STATISTICS:

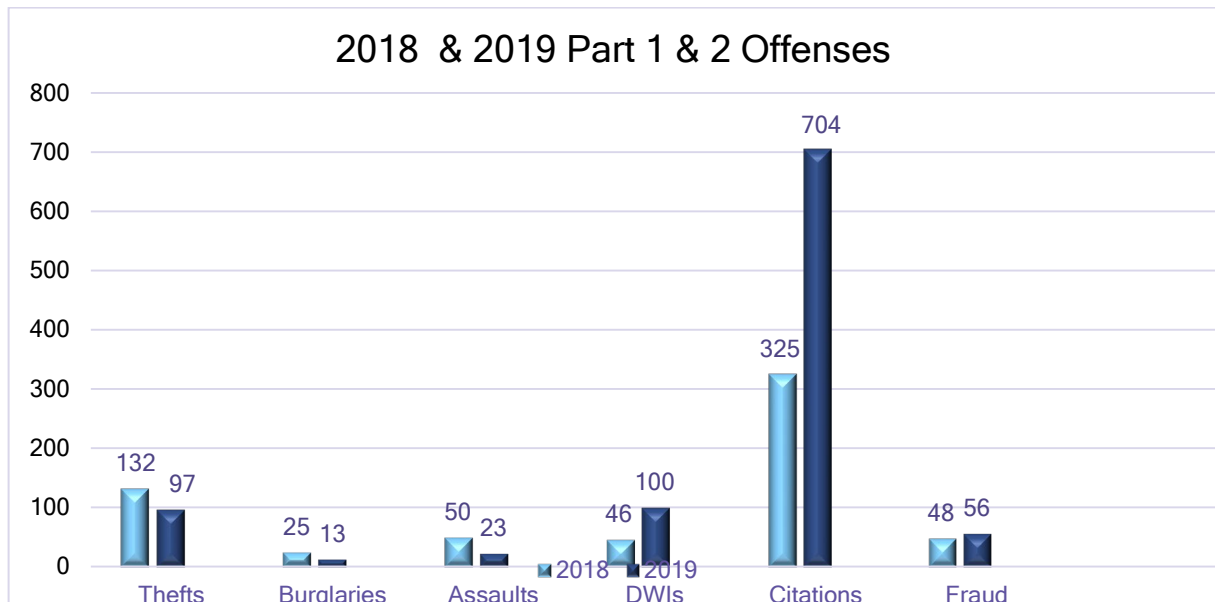
Offense Type	Description Examples	2018	2019
Part 1 and 2	Theft, Fraud, Damage to Property, Burglary, DWI, Assaults,	813	828
Part 3,4,5	Suspicious persons/activity, Vehicle lock outs, Animal complaints, Check welfare, Accidents, Alarms, Medical, Parking complaints, MV Complaints, Warrant arrests, Neighborhood Disputes, Extra Patrol requests.	3,663	3,962
Total Calls For Service		4,476	4,790



2018 & 2019 SERVICE CALLS:

Calls for service breakdown: Part 1 & 2 offenses

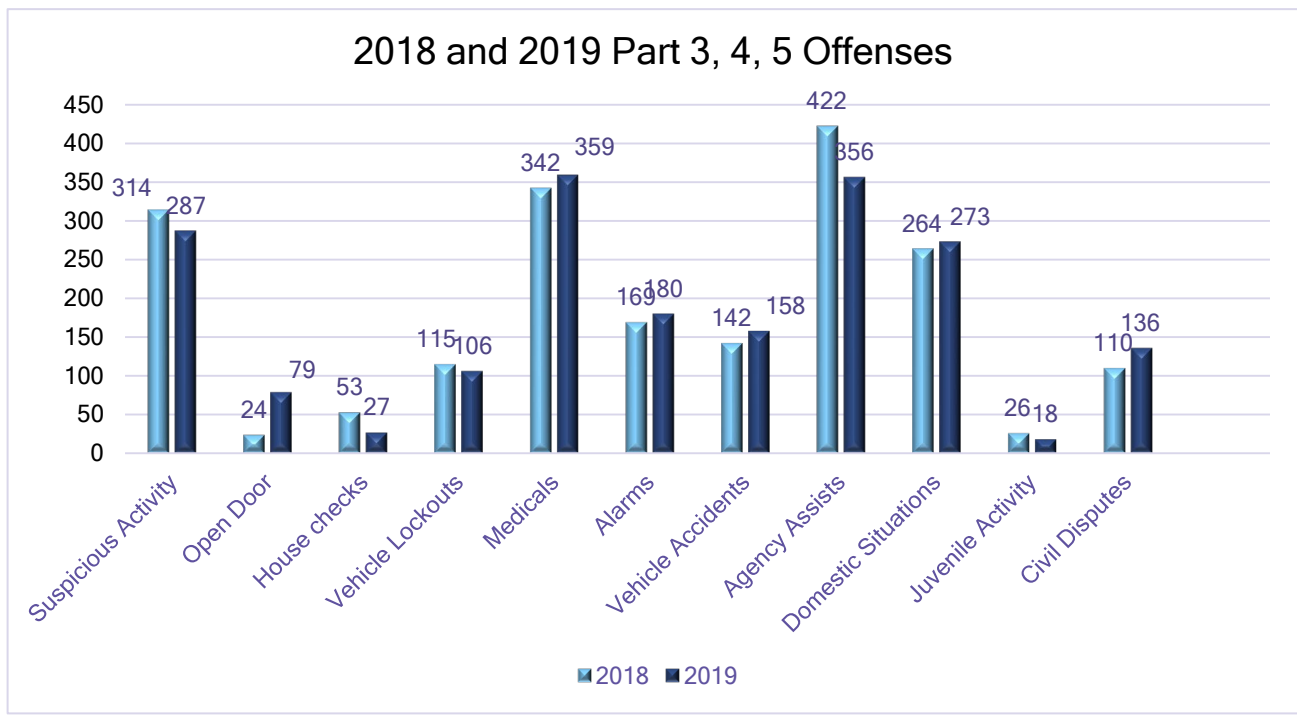
	2018	2019
Thefts	132	97
Burglaries	25	13
Assaults	50	23
DWIs	46	100
Citations	325	704
Fraud	48	56



2018 & 2019 SERVICE CALLS:

Calls for service breakdown: Part 3, 4, 5 offenses

	2018	2019
Suspicious Activity	314	287
Open Door	24	79
House Checks Requests	53	27
Vehicle lockouts	115	106
Medicals	342	359
Alarms	169	180
Vehicle Accidents	142	158
Agency Assists	422	356
Domestic situations	264	273
Juvenile Activity	26	18
Civil disputes/Landlord-tenant/Child Custody	110	136



INVESTIGATIONS:

The investigations unit continues to be a resource for the citizens of St Francis. The investigations unit reviews reports that are submitted by officers and also receives and reviews all Anoka County Child Protection reports and Adult Protection reports. Other duties include conducting surveillance, preparing and serving search warrants, assisting other agencies, conducting employment background checks for all new hires, forfeiture processing and forfeiture auctions and managing the evidence room which includes annual audits.

In 2019, 153 cases were investigated by the department investigator including felony fraud, felony damage to property, felony solicitation of a child, felony burglary, trespassing, felony theft, tobacco violation, felony receiving stolen property, misdemeanor theft, felony assault involving a firearm, misdemeanor assault and multiple other cases with some still under investigation. The investigations unit also worked with multiple agency's from around the state to aggregate charges or to gain and share information of criminal activity.

In 2019 the investigations unit teamed up with the Anoka/Hennepin DTF and officers from the St Francis Police Dept. to conduct a search warrant where over \$100,000 worth of stolen items were located and returned to their rightful owners. The stolen items that were returned came from multiple jurisdictions inside and outside of the metro area. There are still thousands of dollars of unclaimed items from that search warrant.

The investigations unit also responds to scenes of crimes including burglaries, vehicle thefts, thefts, damage to property and many others. The purpose of the response is to gather evidence such as DNA swabs and photos if necessary.

The investigations unit also conducts tobacco and alcohol compliance checks at local businesses and establishments with the assistance of volunteer underage buyers. In 2019 all St Francis establishments were compliant and no tobacco or alcohol products were sold to the underage buyers during the compliance checks.

The investigations unit also handles all evidence that is taken in by all officers of the St Francis Police Dept. The evidence is recorded and placed into the proper secured holding area. If needed, the investigations unit will bring evidence to the Tri County lab for processing. Some of that evidence may include DNA swabs, Known DNA samples, Blood kits, Narcotics, Cellular phones and multiple other items.

COMMUNITY RESOURCE OFFICER:

Officer Hearn started as the new Community Resource Officer position (CRO) the beginning of September. Since that time, he has been focusing on City Ordinance Chapter 10-16-15 (Outdoor Storage), Pushing Snow across the Street 7-2-2-E1, and other violations as needed. During this time, Officer Hearn has identified 35 ordinance violations and has been able to resolve 21 violations with an officer correction rate of 60%.

Officer Hearn has attended the St Francis Fire Department Waffle Breakfast, Participated in a Senior Fraud Awareness presentation put on in conjunction by Edward Jones at the St. Francis Police Department. He has also made a school visit to the St. Francis Christian School, interacting with the students and staff.

Officer Hearn has also taken on more of a role in communicating to the public on the St Francis Facebook page. He will also continue to monitor daily reports for possible ordinance/rental violations, and take the necessary steps as needed.

Officer Hearn continues to conduct traffic stops in the Highway 47 corridor focusing on school zone times and assisting officer's on calls when needed. He has cited 49 traffic offenses with 13 of them being related to speed and has assisted, handled or taken part in over 154 calls for service with 35 being ordinance violations.

In December, Officer Hearn held another Winning with Cops dinner and bowling event at the Patriot Lanes. There was a good turnout by staff and citizens with Mayor Feldman also attending. There will be another Winning with Cops event in the very near future.



For future note:

On February 11 the St Francis Police Department along with the city Code Enforcement will be hosting Rental Code Enforcement Q and A. Property Managers and Property Owners will be invited to attend the event where Law Enforcement (CRO) and Code Enforcement will explain the new ordinance, as it pertains to Rental Housing, and the process's that go with it.

In May, Officer Hearn and the St Francis Police department will be hosting a tour of the facility for the senior members of the St Francis First Baptist Church.



The statewide TZD program was launched in 2003 by the Minnesota Departments of Public Safety, Transportation, and Health as a deliberate, interdisciplinary approach to traffic safety. The members of the TZD program team realized that moving toward a goal of zero deaths would require cooperation among state agencies as well as a way to build connections between state agencies and local organizations.

The TZD program team works in partnership with community and corridor groups to improve the traffic safety of a designated area. Toward Zero Deaths provides technical assistance, materials, and guidance to local groups that are committed to reducing crashes and the fatalities and severe injuries that result from them.

Even with all of the TZD initiatives and efforts, law enforcement continues to see a high number of DUI arrests and traffic fatalities throughout the state. In 2019 there were 27,975 statewide DUI arrests and 364 traffic fatalities compared to 381 in 2018. Contributing factors to the traffic fatalities included:

102- Impaired driving related

72- No seatbelt use

71- Speed related

27- Distracted driving

50- Pedestrian related

44- Motorcycle related

RESERVE UNIT:



The St. Francis Police Department Reserve program consists of 10 men and women volunteers who assist sworn officers by performing various community service tasks and non-criminal functions. Some of these individuals are pursuing a career in law enforcement and others wish to give back to their community. Some of the tasks Reserve Officers perform are patrolling parks and assisting with traffic control at accidents, transporting suspects to jail, and riding with licensed officers. Reserves play a pivotal role during the Pioneer Days festival by directing traffic during the parade and assisting with security at various locations in the city. The St. Francis Police Department is proud to have these members

who are willing to give countless hours of their time to help our community. Many former Reserves have moved on to a career in law enforcement, some remaining with St. Francis PD and some being hired by other agencies.

2019 Events Reserve Officers participated in:

- Cone with a Cop
- Night to Unite
- Winning With Cops
- Bike Rodeo
- Law Enforcement Appreciation Day
- Patriot Ride
- 5k run
- St Francis High School Graduation
- St Francis High School Football Games
- Anoka County Fair
- Anoka Halloween Parade
- Dog Clinic
- Recycling Day



Applications for the St Francis Police Reserve Unit are being accepted and can be found at <https://www.stfrancismn.org/police/page/resources>.



2019 COMMENDATION AWARDS

In January of 2020 the Police Department held its 2nd awards ceremony for officers and staff members. Commendation awards were implemented in 2017 to recognize staff members and citizens for their outstanding service and superior dedication to the City of St Francis. Staff members and citizens can be nominated for an award by any staff member of the police department. The nomination is then reviewed by the awards committee who then approves,



denies or suggests a different type of award. The different awards staff members and citizens can be nominated for are The Medal of Honor, Medal of Valor, Award of Commendation, Life Saving Award and The Citizens Award. During the ceremony, four department officers were recognized for their exceptional performance and service in 2019. Officer Chris Bulera

received the Award of Commendation for his outstanding service during a cardiac arrest situation in January of 2019. Officer Bulera went above and beyond in providing assistance to the victim's wife and family during and after the incident.

Officer Nate Schwieger received the Award of Commendation for his work on an investigation which led to a search warrant at a local residence and the recovery of over \$100,000 in recovered stolen property.



Officer Brandon Stemme received the Award of Commendation for his dedication to DWI and traffic enforcement. Officer Stemme has been a department leader in traffic enforcement since 2005 and made 55 DWI arrests in 2019.

Reserve Officer Richard Sieber received the Award of Commendation for his exceptional service and dedication to the St Francis Community by donating hundreds of volunteer hours as a reserve officer in 2019.



2019 COMMENDATION AWARDS

Three citizens were also recognized during a January 2019 City Council meeting for coming to the aid of two individuals who were struck by a vehicle on Highway 47 in November 2018. Adam Klinkner, Alycia Simons and Samantha Stewart were recognized for their efforts and received the St Francis Police Department Citizens Award.



NEW ST. FRANCIS POLICE OFFICERS



The St Francis Police Department welcomed two new officers in January of 2019. Officer Brandon Boe comes to us from the Glyndon Police Department and brings with him years of law enforcement experience. Officer Chase Hedges is a former St Francis Reserve Officer and we're happy to have him back on our team. Both officers have been great additions to the department.



PRESCRIPTION DRUG TAKE BACK

St. Francis is one of many sites that unused prescription drugs can be dropped off as part of the "Prescription Drug Take Back Program". This gives the community members an opportunity to bring unwanted or expired prescription medications to be disposed of in a way that is safer for the environment. Between our prescription drop box and National Drug Take Back Day, the police department collected **261 pounds** of prescription drugs in 2019.

