

COLUMBUS POLICE DEPARTMENT



2023 Annual Report

Columbus Police Department
123 Washington Street
Columbus, IN 47203

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From the Chief

As we come to the end of another year, I am honored to reflect on the progress and accomplishments of the Columbus Police Department. It is with great pride that I present our Year-End Report, summarizing the dedicated efforts of our officers, staff, and the unwavering support from the Columbus community.

Throughout the past year, our department has remained committed to its core values of integrity, professionalism, and community partnership. Together, we have tackled challenges, celebrated successes, and worked tirelessly to ensure the safety and well-being of our community.

As we move forward into the upcoming year, the Columbus Police Department remains committed to fostering a safe and secure environment through collaboration, transparency, and community involvement. We appreciate the ongoing support from the residents of Columbus and look forward to building upon the successes of the past year.

Thank you for entrusting us with the responsibility of serving and protecting our community. Together, we will continue to make Columbus a place we are all proud to call home.

Respectfully,

Michael D. Richardson

Chief of Police



Mission

To Protect and Serve: Our goal is to continue building the community's confidence and trust in our department and ensure that we are always providing the professional public safety services the citizens and visitors of Columbus expect and deserve.

Vision

We strive to ensure the safety and well-being of our community by evaluating and improving our services through ongoing quality performance reviews that gauge our current practices to strategies that adhere to the internationally recognized best practices for law enforcement. We practice fair and impartial enforcement of the law that is responsive to citizen needs and are committed to providing professional service that protects lives, property and personal liberties, while developing community partnerships and welcoming the diversity of our citizens.

Core Values

We Have:

- ***Integrity*** – We are honest and have strong moral principles
- ***Duty*** – We have obligations beyond our moral and legal responsibilities
- ***Honor*** – We are fair and uphold the responsibilities of the position in which we are entrusted

We Are:

- ***Loyal*** – We are faithful to and fulfill our commitments, obligations and duties
- ***Responsible*** – We are accountable for that which is in our power, control, and management
- ***Service Oriented*** – We are helpful

We Do All This With:

- ***Excellence*** – We surpass ordinary standards
- ***Respect*** – We treat all people with high regard
- ***Equality*** – We treat all people the same



Knowing that professionalism and transparency in law enforcement activities is at the forefront of the citizens we serve, we worked hard, making a conscious effort, to demonstrate to our community that we operate according to our Mission, Vision and Core Values.

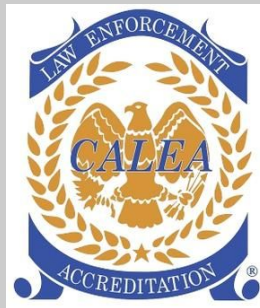
Major Activities

International and State Accreditation

The **Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA)** establishes internationally recognized best practices for all areas of law enforcement and provides impartial and objective third party oversight to ensure law enforcement agencies both establish and practice those standards. The standards are developed in collaboration with the International Association of Chiefs of Police, the National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives, the National Sheriff's Association, and the Police Executive Research Forum.

The Columbus Police Department received initial accreditation from CALEA in November 2014. We have maintained this designation since then. In 2024, we will be taking steps to renew our accreditation for the fourth consecutive time.

Columbus Police Department Accreditation Public Portal



<https://cimrs2.calea.org/630>

The purpose of this public portal is to receive comments regarding the Columbus Police Departments compliance with CALEA standards, engagement in the service community, delivery of public safety services, and overall candidacy for accredited status. These comments can be in the form of commendations or concerns. The overall intent of the accreditation process is to provide the participating agency with information to support continuous improvement, as well as foster the pursuit of professional excellence.

IMPORTANT:

CALEA is not an investigatory body and subsequently the public portal should not be used to submit information for such purposes. Additionally, there will be no response other than acknowledgement to submissions; however, the information will be considered in context to its relevancy to compliance with standards and the tenets of CALEA® Accreditation.

CPD has also been accredited at the state level since 2015 by the Indiana Law Enforcement Accreditation commission (ILEAC).

Community Police Review Board

The desire of the Community Police Review Board, which has been in existence since 1992, is to foster transparency in policing, gain community trust and respond to the needs of all residents, while reflecting our community's racial, ethnic and religious diversities. This board serves as a third-party oversight of formal complaints against the department which ensures that the police department is appropriately handling citizen complaints.

The formal complaint process was highly publicized and promoted throughout the year. In 2023, the police department responded to 64,096 calls for service and received only eight formal complaints.

Body-Worn Camera Program

The Columbus Police Department has outfitted all uniformed officers with body-worn cameras since 2015.

The data research on this technology shows that use of body-worn cameras promotes transparency, reduces citizen complaints and incidents of resistance, and is also valuable for evidentiary purposes as well as an impartial eyewitness.

CPD's third generation body cameras (far right camera in photo below) were distributed to patrol officers in 2023. The new cameras (Axon Body 3) feature high-definition video and improved audio recording capabilities.



Patrol Vehicle Cameras



CPD patrol vehicles have been video and audio equipped since the mid 1990's. Officers previously utilized VHS tapes to record their activities while on patrol. Now, officers on the beat utilize the newest digital technology including high definition in-vehicle cameras, as well as a camera in the back seat of the vehicle to document the actions of arrestees. In 2023, CPD patrol vehicles were upgraded with Axon Fleet 3 Patrol Vehicle cameras featuring license plate reading technology

Less Lethal Launchers and Ballistic Shields

In 2023, CPD supervisors were issued ballistic shields that allow additional protection for our officers responding to dangerous calls where weapons are involved. All patrol officers were issued new less lethal launchers which provides CPD officers with a more accurate less lethal option than they were previously using.

The new less lethal weapon system has already been used to help subdue a man who was armed with a knife.



Officer Recruitment & Retention



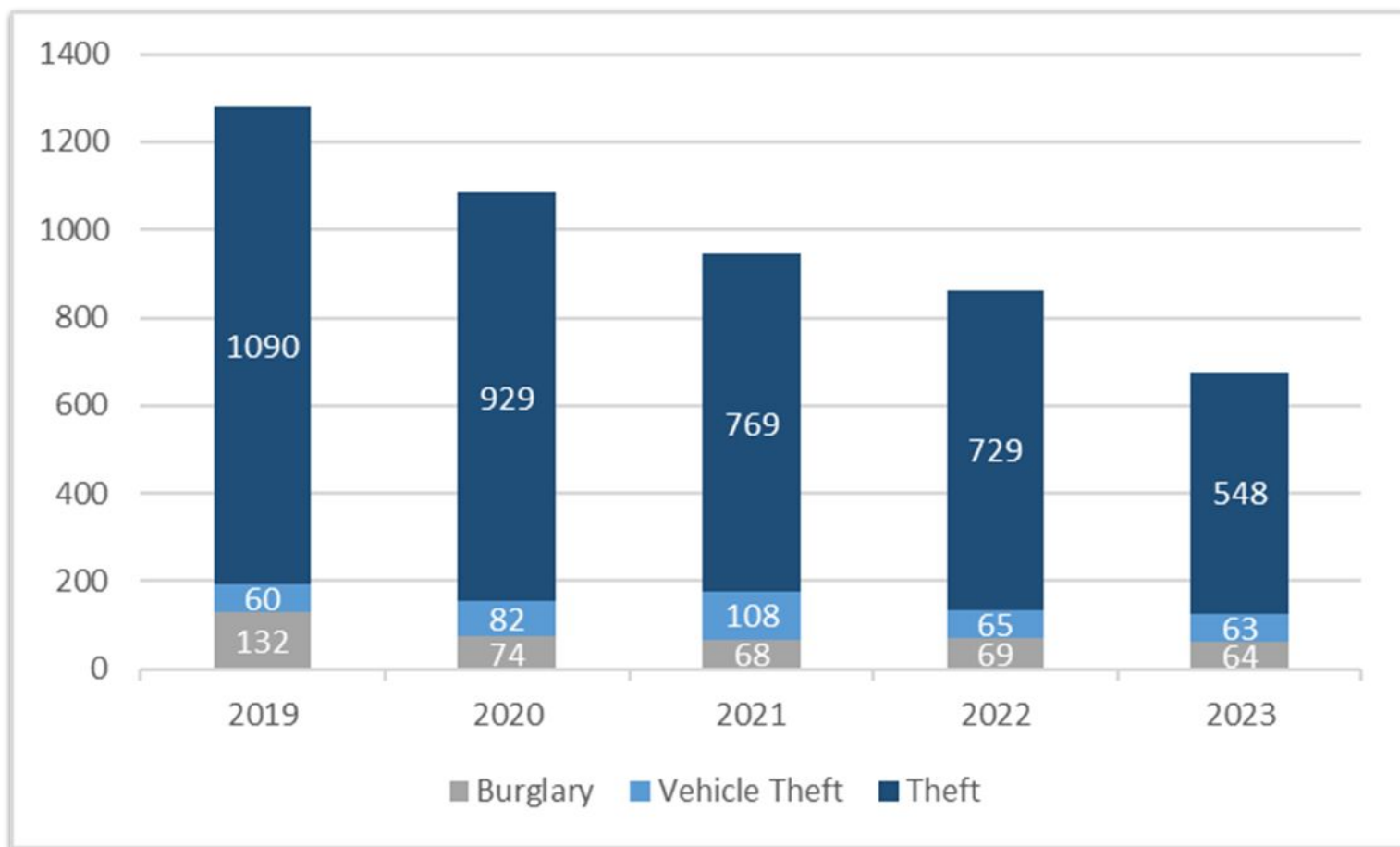
We recognize that the quality of law enforcement personnel is crucial to public safety services and it is necessary for our police department to attract and retain the best and brightest law enforcement talent. Law enforcement executives nationally list the most challenging issue facing their respective agencies as being recruiting and retaining sworn personnel, and our agency is no exception.

Law enforcement recruiting and retention continued to be a challenge in 2023. CPD held two testing processes during the year to find the best candidates possible to be police officers. It is our hope that continued recruiting efforts along with an increase in police salaries will help us attract additional officers to our ranks to help fill vacancies.

Crime Reduction Efforts

Property Crime

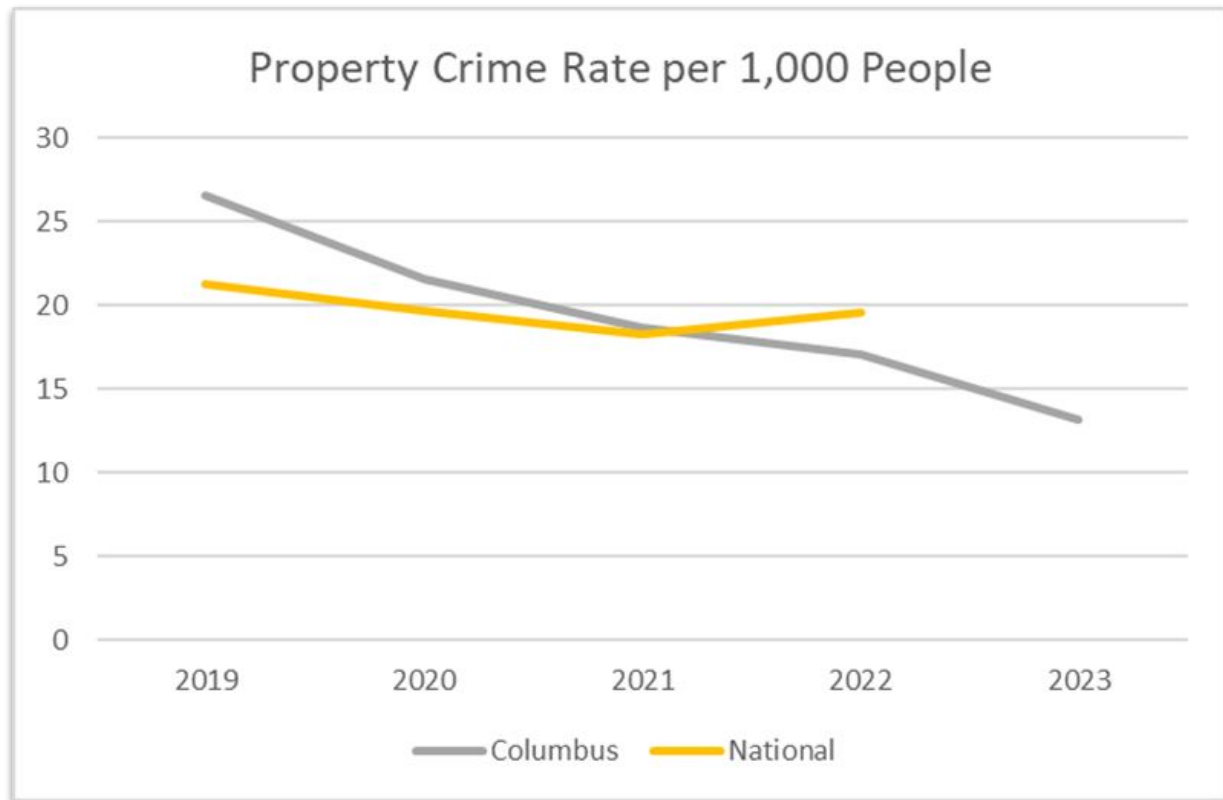
Columbus is one of the safest communities in the State of Indiana. However, for many years, property crime was one of the biggest challenges our officers faced. Proactive efforts, including the implementation of an Intelligence Led Policing Unit, has led to a dramatic reduction in property crime.



Over the past five years, we have noted a 50% reduction in property crime.

By working in conjunction with the community, the property crime in Columbus continues to drop and is below the national average.

(National crime statistics for 2023 are not yet available)



Interventions

EDUCATION

With the majority of our thefts from vehicles being from unlocked vehicles, we routinely educate the public in several easy practices that every citizen can do to help us in our goal to reduce the number of thefts from vehicles that we have each year.

Immediately report suspicious activity.

Help us identify property, if it is stolen, by registering items with serial numbers and pictures on the free and secure inventory system that our department uses:

<https://reportit.leadsonline.com/>

PARTNERSHIPS

Key to our crime reduction efforts is maintaining and building partnerships throughout the community. Here is a brief overview of some of our partnerships, a few of which will be expanded on later in this report.

Joint Narcotics Enforcement Team (JNET)

This team is made up of officers from the Columbus Police Department, deputies from the Bartholomew County Sheriff's Office and a Bartholomew County Deputy Prosecutor. Their purpose is to unite local efforts to aggressively pursue drug dealers in our community and combine local investigative and prosecution efforts as it relates to drug crimes. This relationship has led to additional partnerships with other state and federal agencies to collectively attack the supply of drugs in our community. These additional partners include:

- The Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA);
- The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI);
- The Bureau of Alcohol Tobacco and Firearms (ATF);
- The U.S. Marshalls;
- The Department of Homeland Security; and
- The U.S. Postal Service Inspectors

Heroin Overdose Response Initiative

This is a partnership between the Columbus Police Department and Bartholomew County Sheriff's Office to maximize interagency cooperation by establishing consistent investigation protocols and facilitating intelligence gathering and sharing between the agencies for heroin overdoses.

School Resource Officers (SROs)

This is a partnership between the Columbus Police Department, Bartholomew County Sheriff's Department and the Bartholomew Consolidated School Corporation to place police officers in our schools. This program currently has four CPD officers and one officer from the Bartholomew County Sheriff's Department assigned.

Alliance for Substance Abuse Prevention (ASAP)

As much of law enforcement's responsibility is to combat the drug supply, ASAP was designed to reduce drug demand. The police department is an active participant in ASAP's progress and believes that this is a major component to crime reduction as well as producing many other collateral community benefits.

Evidence Based Decision Making (EBDM)

This is a partnership with local law enforcement, judges, the prosecutor, probation department, community corrections, defense attorneys and treatment providers. Its purpose is to revamp the criminal justice system to reduce the likelihood that a person who has committed a crime will reoffend. The results of this partnership have made our community a leader in the state and the country in several criminal justice change targets.

Juvenile Detention Alternative Initiative (JDAI)

This is a partnership with the state and all local stakeholders in the juvenile justice system with the purpose of changing delinquent youth behavior so that youth in the criminal justice system can be transformed to ultimately become productive citizens as adults.

Adult Drug Court

The police department has designated two liaison officers that participate in the adult drug court, which is intended to rehabilitate low-level and high-risk drug offenders.

Veteran's Court

The police department has designated a liaison officer that participates with this court, which helps rehabilitate veterans who have committed a crime.

Safe Place

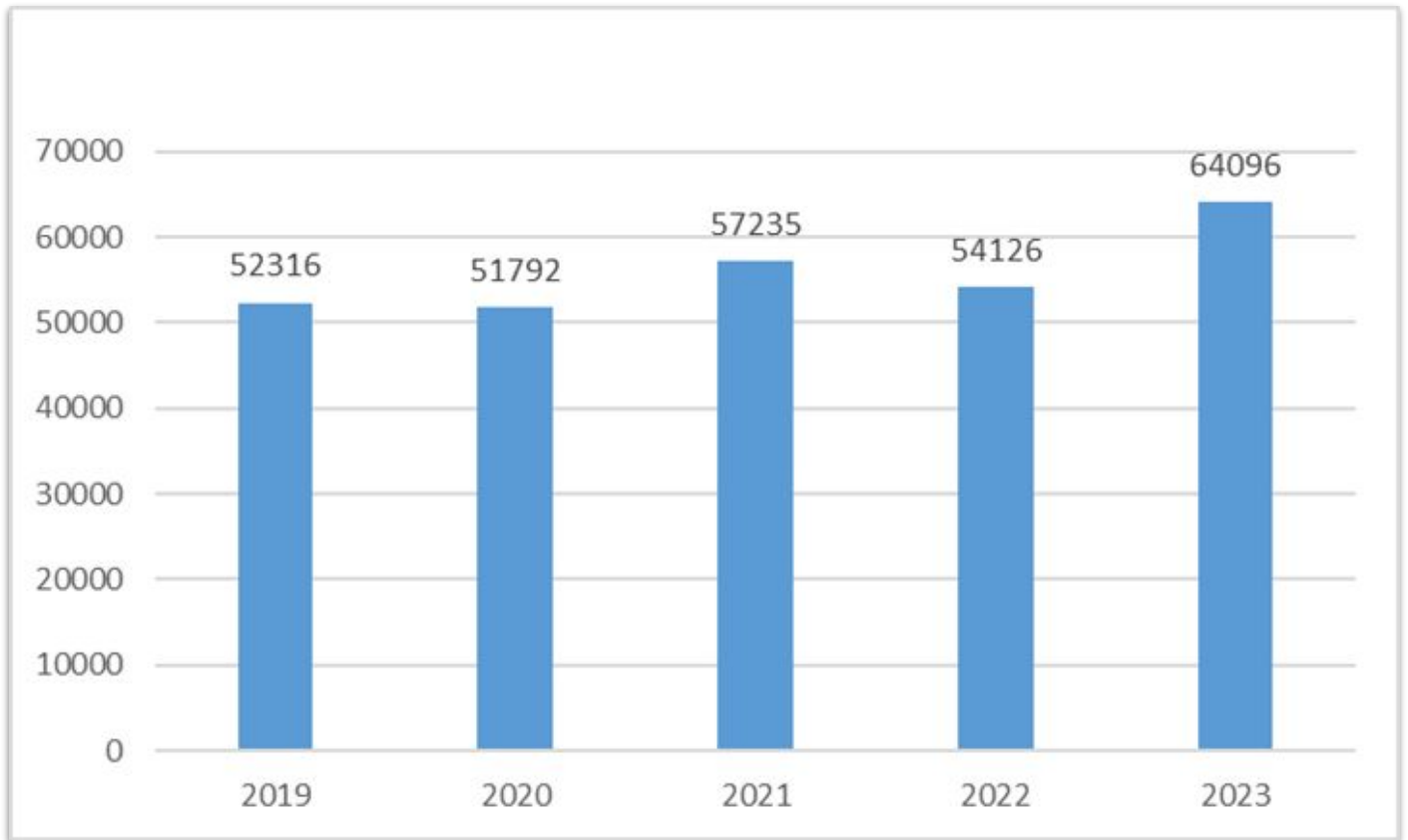
The police department partners with the Foundation for Youth, the Bartholomew County Youth Services Center, Columbus Fire Department and Bartholomew County Sheriff's Office. This program provides youth a safe place to go to receive assistance when they are in a time of need.

Neighborhood Watch

We meet regularly with established neighborhood watch groups and welcome opportunities to meet with and assist others in establishing new watch groups or join existing groups.

Uniform Division

When a person within the city requests law enforcement assistance for any reason, the Uniform Division is the police department's first response. In 2023, our officers received 64,096 calls for service, an 18% increase over the previous year.



Specialty Units

SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS (SROs)

Since 2014, CPD School Resource Officers have been assigned full-time to the Bartholomew Consolidated School Corporation. The program currently has five officers. We have four officers from Columbus Police Department and one from the Bartholomew County Sheriff's assigned to work as a SRO. These officers provide safety within our schools and multiply the opportunity for officers to build relationships with our youth. These officers spend a majority of their time engaging with students in a positive manner, while still maintaining a safe environment for students, school personnel and visitors using school facilities.



K-9 OFFICERS

The Columbus Police Department has four K-9 units. All of our police canines are multipurpose dogs that detect narcotics, as well as track and apprehend.

Throughout the year our police service dogs were involved with 63 apprehensions/drug arrests, conducted 11 tracks, 85 narcotic seizures, were called out 18 times, and conducted 14 building searches. They also assisted with several demonstrations at schools and other public events.

BIKE PATROL OFFICERS

The goal of the CPD Bike Patrol Unit is to find a balance between public relations and enforcement of laws.

Using the bicycle is a great tool to interact with the community in a positive manner, but is also very effective in crime reduction. The Bike Patrol Unit is used in parades, high crime areas, routine patrols, bike rodeos and bike safety education.



Detective Division

Our department utilizes a Detective Division to investigate crimes that cannot be resolved by the Uniform Division due to the time commitment of the investigation, complexity of the investigation or other qualifying circumstances.

Every report submitted by the Uniform Division is reviewed to determine if it will be assigned to a detective for additional investigation. In 2023, CPD detectives were assigned 431 cases. Detectives are also called to the scenes of major crimes to coordinate on-scene investigations, and are well trained to handle a broad spectrum of cases such as:

- Property crimes, such as theft, burglary, financial crimes, and arson.
- Personal crimes, such as battery and robbery.
- Sex crimes, such as rape, child molestation and voyeurism.
- Death investigations, including homicide, suicide and accidental deaths.
- Pharmaceutical diversion crimes, dealing with prescription fraud, doctor-shopping and related offenses.
- Domestic violence crimes, such as battery, confinement and violation of protection orders.

In addition to investigating crimes, we have established relationships throughout the community to provide a point of contact to key groups in the community to help deter crimes from happening and to have established partnerships that allow for more efficient investigations for crimes that do occur. We currently maintain the following relationships:

- A retail theft liaison who partners with asset protection personnel from Columbus area retail merchants;
- A fraud liaison who partners with representatives of financial institutions in Columbus;
- A diversion crime liaison partners with local health care facility administrators; and
- A domestic violence liaison who works directly with Turning Point.

Intelligence Led Policing (ILP)

The City of Columbus has seen a reduction in property crime after fully implementing an **intelligence led policing program**. This innovative style of policing has had a direct result in our reduction of property crime and drug related offenses and will continue to reduce crime in our community. The Intelligence Led Policing Unit includes three Columbus police officers, one Bartholomew County deputy and one civilian criminal intelligence analyst. This centralized unit in the department collects and stores all information, analyzes the information and produces actionable direction for our law enforcement activities.

2023 RECAP

- Over 2500 leads and tips were submitted to the ILP unit.
- ILP Unit completed fourteen 72-hour holds.
 - *This allows time for the unit to ensure the Bartholomew County Prosecutor's Office receives the strongest cases possible to get formal charges filed. Generally, the holds are placed on repeat offenders or those offenders committing identified priority crime types.*
- Eighteen wanted posters were shared to social media throughout the year and led to 69 custodial arrests.
 - *The posters hold a variety of types of offenders each month. The unit places every repeat offender with any warrant on the poster, offenders with high-level felony charges, or offenders requested by detectives or other agencies. We learned the poster is pushing offenders out of our county or causing them to turn themselves into authorities.*
- Our weekly regional intelligence meetings continued throughout 2023.
 - *The goal of the meetings is to talk about repeat offenders crossing jurisdictional boundaries committing priority crimes. Some of the agencies that attend the meeting are the Jennings County Sheriff's Office , North Vernon Police, Johnson County Sheriff's Office, Shelby County Sheriff's Office, Brown County Sheriff's Office, Greensburg Police, Edinburgh Police, Seymour Police, Indianapolis Metro Police, Franklin Police, Columbus Regional Hospital Police, Indiana Department of Corrections, National Insurance Crime Bureau, and the FBI.*
- The ILP Unit made 29 criminal arrests and assisted with 66 criminal arrests.
- The unit also assisted several other area law enforcement agencies including the Jennings Co. Sheriff's Office where our officers assisted on an investigation of theft construction equipment. Law enforcement officers eventually made two arrests on this case and recovered stolen firearms, narcotics as well as a stolen car.

Joint Narcotics Enforcement Team (JNET)

The Joint Narcotics Enforcement Team is a collaborative effort between the Columbus Police Department, Bartholomew County Sheriff's Office and the Bartholomew County Prosecutor's Office that primarily investigates crimes involving narcotics.

2023 RECAP

JNET investigated 115 drug related cases during the year.

- The team was responsible for capturing approximately 60% of the total methamphetamine seized in 2023.
- They also seized over five times the amount of fentanyl compared to 2022.
- Marijuana and cocaine seizures also increased, but not as significantly.
- JNET observed an increase in counterfeit oxycodone 30mg pills that contain fentanyl and seized almost 700 of the pills through the course of 2023.

Breakdown of total cases investigated by JNET in 2023:

- Dealing in Methamphetamine cases (45)
- Dealing in a Narcotic Drug (fentanyl) cases (18)
- Dealing in Cocaine cases (2)
- Serious Violent Felon in possession of a handgun cases (1)
- Dealing Resulting in Death Cases (1)
- Search Warrants- DNA/Residence/Cellphone (91)

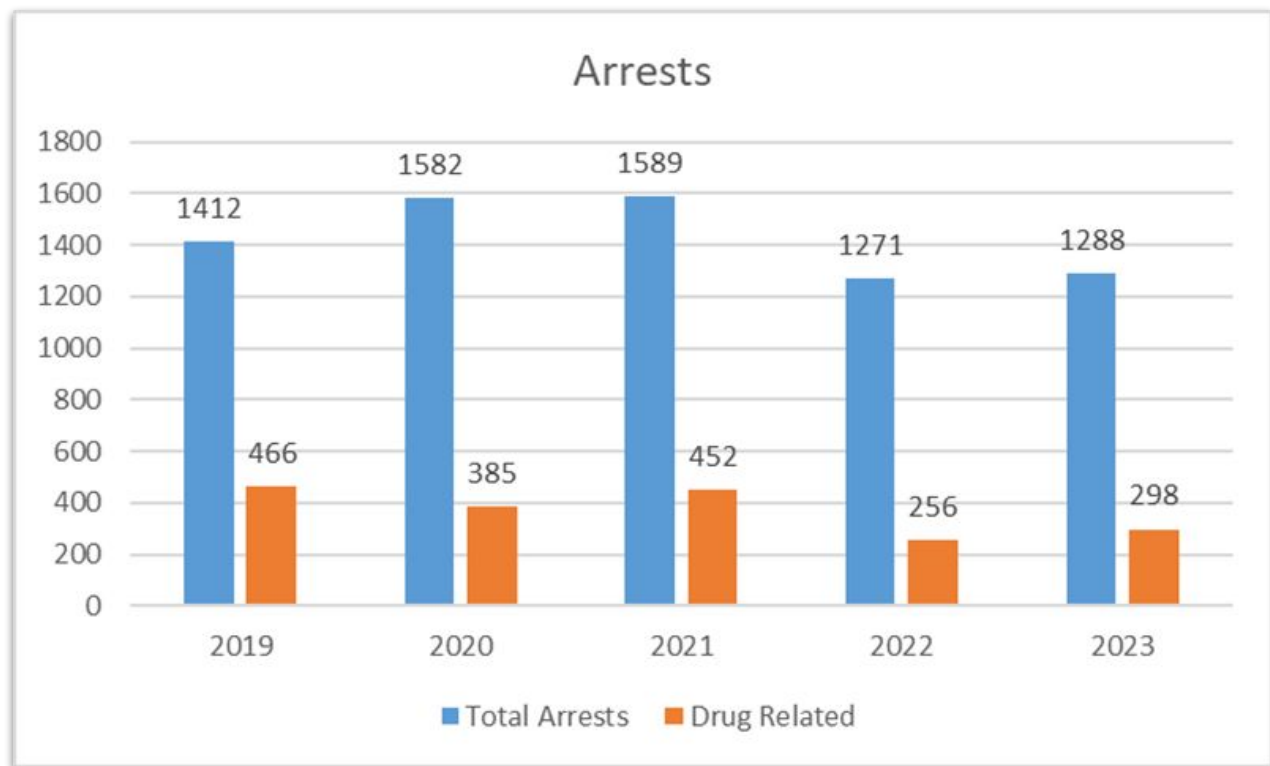
In the past year, JNET wrote almost double the amount of search warrants than in the previous year.

- Many of these cases involved investigations alongside federal law enforcement agencies.
- One of these investigations, named "Operation Double-Trouble" led to the Columbus-Bartholomew County SWAT team serving federal search warrants at four residences in Bartholomew County.
 - *This investigation netted six arrests and several pounds of methamphetamine and fentanyl being seized through the course of the year-long investigation. There were over ten firearms seized as well.*

Drug Crimes

SUPPLY AND DEMAND

This basic concept is the easiest way to describe the drug problem in our community. While the police department constantly works to arrest drug dealers to thwart the supply of drugs, working with community partners to reduce or eliminate the demand is just as important. If we can reduce or eliminate the demand, this will collaterally reduce the drug supply. Conversely, if we do nothing to address the demand, the supply of drugs will continue to flow to try to meet the demand. This concept reinforces the reason why our community partnerships are vital to reducing crime.



Data collected from Bartholomew County in 2023:

- Dispatch fielded approximately 160 calls of overdoses in Bartholomew County ranging from over the counter medications, to illegal narcotics.
 - CPD and BCSO administered narcan on approximately 90 of the reported overdoses in Bartholomew County.
 - CPD and BCSO report that approximately 65 of the reported overdoses were the result of heroin/fentanyl.
- There were 25 overdose deaths
 - This is down from 39 in 2022 and the lowest number since 2019 (24).

Training Division

In 2023, Columbus police officers completed over **11,778 hours** of training. This averages out to approximately **140 hours per officer** which is well above Indiana's minimum requirement of 24 training hours. Some of the training topics covered by our officers included:

- Emergency vehicle operations
- Firearm training
- Physical tactics
- De-escalation
- Hazmat
- CPR
- Mental health
- Anti-bias
- Hate crime training
- Ethics
- Weapons recertification

CPD also hosted several training courses in 2023 and were able to include other law enforcement agencies. Some of the topics included:

- Cyber Investigations
- Child Abduction Response Team
- Active Shooter
- Violent Sexual Predators
- Crisis Intervention Team



Police & Community Relations

SOCIAL MEDIA

Regular and efficient communication is vital to maintaining a strong partnership with our community. We regularly communicate through Facebook, X (formerly Twitter) and Instagram. Our Facebook page has over 44,000 followers which allows us to share police news and information with a large number of people.



Columbus Police Department (Indiana)



columbus_in_police



@Columbus_Police

WEBSITE

Please visit us on our website, where you will find information on all our upcoming events:

<http://www.columbus.in.gov/police/>



Adult Programs

FIREARMS SAFETY CLASS

We host full day firearms training courses that feature time in the classroom as well as on our firing range with our firearms instructors.



NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH GROUPS

We meet regularly with established neighborhood watch groups and welcome opportunities to meet with and assist others in establishing new watch groups or join existing groups.

PUBLIC SAFETY ACADEMY

This is our most comprehensive program that requires a significant time commitment from the participants. This 11 week program educates adults on every aspect of public safety by giving them an inside look at the job of a police officer. In the course, we provide such an in depth look at our operations, participants must pass a background check.



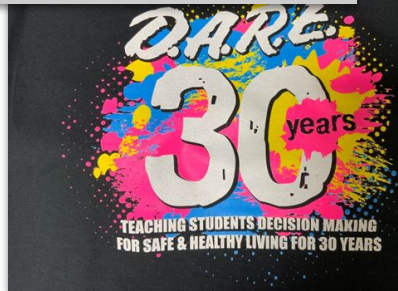
SELF-DEFENSE CLASS

Our defensive tactics instructors and other officers instruct women's self-defense classes each year.

Youth Programs

D.A.R.E.

We have nine D.A.R.E. officers that teach this popular anti-drug program to sixth graders at eight elementary schools in Columbus. This program not only teaches youth the negative effects of drugs, alcohol and tobacco, but also provides an opportunity for our officers to build a positive relationship with them. We are proud to have taught this program in our local schools for over 30 years.



Police & Fire Youth Academy

This program is similar to the adult Public Safety Academy, except it is designed for students. During this program the children receive a small taste of what it would be like to attend a police academy and learn about different aspects of law enforcement and public safety. The academies provide opportunities to engage local youth from ages 6-12.





Homework with an Officer

Our homework with an officer program occurs after school every Monday and Tuesday while school is in session. During each session officers work with the youth on their homework and spend time doing fun activities to help build positive relationships.

Hooked on Fishing

Officers spent the day fishing with youth in our community.

Thanks to our generous sponsors this event is held at no charge to the participants.



School Visits

We enjoy engaging our youth and ensuring they have positive interactions with law enforcement. Visiting schools is another way this is accomplished.



Shop with a Cop

In preparation for Christmas, we partner with the Fraternal Order of Police (FOP) and many other law enforcement agencies to provide necessities and toys to children in need. Officers volunteer their time during this event.



Scouts in Government Days

These days give us an opportunity to have students shadow us for a day to see what it's like to be a police officer.

Teen Specific Programs

Precision Driving Course

Our department offers this course three times a year to give young drivers hands-on experience on a closed track with our police driving instructors. These teens are instructed in critical accident avoidance areas such as evasive maneuvers, threshold braking, skid control, weaving, backing, and off-road recovery.

We would like to thank our CPD driving instructors for assisting with teaching this valuable class.



Cadet Program

The cadet program is designed for high-school age youth, who are mentored by and provided law enforcement training from our officers. With the help of several community partners, we have incorporated this program into our long-term recruitment plan, and seek to use this recruitment plan to increase the diversity on our department.

S.A.F.E. (Situational, Awareness For Everyday) Course

Our officers teach this crime-victim prevention program to high school seniors throughout the county. The program includes both classroom education as well as hands-on self-defense instruction. This nationally recognized program has a dual purpose:

- *To prevent crimes of sexual violence in our communities through programs of education and training; and*
- *To educate women about realistic options that will help them avoid, escape and survive assaults if they do occur.*

Course was offered to male students for the first time in 2019.



Community Engagement

Coffee with a Cop

This program provides opportunities for local residents to meet with Columbus police officers in an informal setting and gives us the opportunity to have face-to-face interaction with community members so that we can better understand and address their public safety needs.



College Internships

We offer internship programs to college students and can adjust the program to accommodate their academic requirements.

Department Tours

We have guided dozens of tours within the police department and continue to do so upon request.



Community Events

Throughout the year, we are at a variety of community events, including our Public Safety Day, where any member of the public can see and touch much of the equipment that we utilize in our daily activities and in our department specialties such as the Bomb Team, SWAT, Dive Team, Crisis Negotiators, etc. These events provide an excellent opportunity for members of the public to interact with our officers.

Guest Speaking

As a service to our community, our officers are available to speak at most engagements. Some of the popular topics requested include active threats, domestic violence, drug trends, K-9 demonstrations and prescription drug diversion.



Emergency Preparedness

The Columbus Police Department has numerous specialty units that are prepared to respond to any type of event or disaster that may affect the Columbus area. The officers that serve on these specialties do so in addition to their regular assigned duties.

Accident Reconstruction Unit

The Accident Reconstruction Unit is called on to investigate and properly document crashes that involve serious bodily injury or death. Accident reconstruction involves analyzing a large amount of data from a crash scene. Although every police officer investigates motor vehicle crashes, these investigators specialize in the gathering of all available data to best determine what occurred before, during and after the crash.



Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT)



The SWAT team is prepared to handle highly volatile situations including high-risk search warrants, armed suicidal persons, barricaded persons, hostage situations and many other high-risk scenarios. The SWAT team is comprised of Columbus Police Department officers and Bartholomew County Sheriff deputies who train together regularly.

Crime Scene Investigators (CSI)

Our crime scene investigators are trained in the collection and processing of delicate evidence found at major crime scenes. The investigators are trained in a wide range of forensic disciplines such as DNA, fingerprints, bloodstain pattern analysis, ballistics, photography, etc. These investigators are typically called to scenes where a person has suffered significant bodily injury or death.

Bomb Technicians

The Columbus Police Department Hazardous Devices Unit, or bomb squad members, are certified through the Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI) as bomb technicians. The certified bomb technicians are trained to identify and neutralize explosive devices.



Civil Unrest Response Team (CURT)

In 2017, this emergency response team was trained and equipped to work together to respond to civil unrest incidents. The CURT team is comprised of Columbus Police Department officers and Bartholomew County sheriff deputies.

Dive Team

The Dive Team is prepared for emergency deployment in water rescue situations where victims have dropped below the surface of water. In addition, they are utilized to recover evidence submerged in local lakes and rivers.

Honor Guard

The Columbus Police Department Honor Guard represents the police department at public events, memorial services and funerals.



Firearms Training Simulator (FATS)

This training equipment is available 24/7 for officers to further refine their verbal de-escalation skills and their split second use of force decision making.

Crisis Negotiation Team

The Crisis Negotiation Team members possess the unique ability to communicate with persons under intense and often unpredictable conditions. The team is activated in conjunction with our SWAT team and assists with the same types of high-risk situations. This unit takes pride in defusing critical situations while focusing on the overall mission of peaceful crisis resolution.

Crisis Intervention Team

This group of specially trained officers is called on to assist persons dealing with mental health crisis. In total, 35 CPD officers have voluntarily completed this week long training course.



A Special Thanks

The Columbus Police Department would like to acknowledge Mayor Jim Lienhoop for his eight years of service to our community as Mayor of Columbus. We appreciate his support of our law enforcement officers and wish him the best as he and his wife, Pam, get to spend more time with family.



2023 Year in Pictures



Columbus police officers solve burglary and return stolen tricycle back to owner.

CPD officers attend the funeral of Tell City Sgt. Heather Glenn who was killed in the line of duty in July.



Visiting middle school students from our sister city in Mioshi, Japan stopped by City Hall and the police department.



Arrest made in November homicide at Columbus mobile home park.

Kentucky man arrested after pipe bomb located inside vehicle in Columbus neighborhood.



Large crowds packed downtown Columbus for this year's Mill Race Marathon and post-race events.



Columbus and Bartholomew County School Resource officers celebrate first day of school.

A few new officers joined the ranks of CPD in 2023 including Alec McCullough (#293) who was sworn in April.



CPD officers were able to meet with the community during this year's Bartholomew County Fair.



Two people were arrested after four people were shot and wounded at a Columbus park in May.



CPD celebrated 31 years of the D.A.R.E. program in our community schools this year.