

GRINNELL POLICE DEPARTMENT

2019 ANNUAL REPORT



16th Annual Grinnell Shop with a Cop



MISSION

To protect and serve the community of Grinnell, providing a peaceful and safe existence, free from fear and with democratic values applied equally to all.

Dennis M. Reilly
Chief of Police
GRINNELL POLICE DEPARTMENT
CITY OF GRINNELL, IOWA

FROM: Dennis Reilly, Chief of Police

DATE: January 29, 2020

TO: Honorable Mayor Dan Agnew
Honorable City Council
Russell L. Behrens, City Manager
Mrs. Ann Wingerter, City Clerk
Citizens of the City of Grinnell
Members of the Grinnell Police Department

SUBJECT: Grinnell Police Department 2019 Annual Report

It is an extreme honor and privilege that I present to the citizens of Grinnell, the Grinnell governing body and members of the Grinnell Police Department our annual report. While reviewing this report, please keep in mind that the professional activities performed by this department would not be possible without the continued efforts and dedication of its members.

This report details the numerous activities of the department, and includes materials such as crime statistics and initiatives that we utilize to deal with criminal activity. This report also provides an opportunity for the public to see the various roles that the Police Department plays, and what activities we are engaging in, to protect the public while continually striving to maintain an open and professional relationship with the people who we serve.

This report will provide the reader with a summary of the following aspects and activities of the Grinnell Police Department: Current staffing levels and duties; Calls for Service and Investigations; Traffic Safety; Training; Crime Prevention; School Based Activities and a look at 2020.

STAFFING:

The Grinnell Police Department is currently staffed with 15 full-time members (13 sworn police officers and 2 civilian staff members). In 2019 we experienced the retirement of Capt. Theresa Petersen, who provided 31 years of dedicated service to Grinnell, and Ofc. Michael Dickenson. In September Captain Sittig was promoted to the rank of Captain while Ofc. Kies and Ofc. Criswell were hired to fill these retirement vacancies. We also saw the resignation of Sgt. Ben Gray to become Chief of Police in Marengo. We are working to fill the vacancy created by Sgt. Gray's departure and would hope to have it filled by spring. We will also be conducting testing in February for the vacant sergeant position.

Of the 13 sworn members, staffing consists of: one (1) Chief of Police; one (1) Captain; two (2) Sergeants; eight (8) Patrol Officers; one (1) Narcotics Investigator.

The following is an overview of our staffing assignments:

Chief – Chief Executive of the Grinnell Police Department who serves as the final department authority in all matters of policy, operations and discipline.

Captain- Represents the second highest level of command within the Police Department and falls under the immediate command and direction of the Chief of Police. The Captain is responsible for the administration and/or oversight of department operations, Internal Affairs, Public Information Officer, Quartermaster, training, scheduling, jail administration, Property & Evidence operations, and Special Events.

Sergeant (2)

- (Vacant) Dayshift
- (2) Nightshift – In addition to our two night shift sergeants being responsible for first line supervision of officers assigned to the night tour, their collateral duties include: Department training, to include field training program coordination; Criminal investigation; Traffic Safety function; tobacco and alcoholic beverage compliance.

Patrol Officers- Eight (8) assigned to 12-hour patrol shifts

- In addition to their primary responsibility of patrol operations, all patrol officers have collateral duties that include, but are not limited to: firearms & training; defensive tactics; vehicle maintenance; vehicle nuisance abatement; Crime Prevention, community activities and school based programs, bike patrol and animal control coordination.

Criminal Investigator

- In addition to their responsibilities as a dayshift patrol officer, our criminal investigator is responsible for the investigation of criminal activity and the processing of crime scenes.

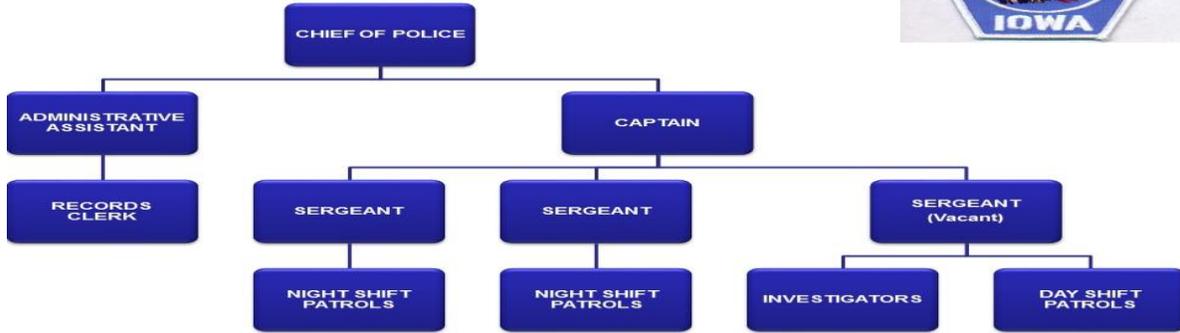
Narcotics Investigator

- Our narcotics investigator is assigned to the Mid-Iowa Narcotics Enforcement (M.I.N.E.) and is responsible for the investigation of narcotic activities, as well as other vice related activity.

Civilians (2)

- Administrative Assistant – Responsible for assisting department administration with numerous office management tasks, to include: accounts payable and receivables; payroll; time accrual tracking and correspondence. The Administrative Assistant is also responsible for: management of the Property & Evidence function; management of in-car and body worn camera video; public record requests; liaison with Poweshiek County courts and County Attorney office.
- Dictation Clerk – Responsible for various records assignments as well as computer data entry. The Dictation Clerk is also responsible for: management and submission of our Uniform Crime Report; Grinnell Safety Committee representation; coordination of annual city safety training for the department; Parking citation processing.

GRINNELL POLICE DEPARTMENT



CALLS FOR SERVICE AND INVESTIGATIONS:

In 2019 we continued to experience criminal activity that requires a great deal of attention and expertise on the part of our officers. The statistical portion of this report was generated from our records management system. This system provides officers with access to department records while on patrol. This access includes the ability to: perform name and address history inquiries, complete reports and review calls for service, store statistical data for reporting. This system has also provided the department with the opportunity to go paperless as it relates to reports and documents associated with investigations.

In 2019 our officers responded to, or initiated, 14,858 calls for service. This is a 10% increase from 2018 and 6% increase from 2017. These calls for service include, but are not limited to: reports of criminal activity; motor vehicle crashes; traffic enforcement; assists to other agencies; medical and fire emergencies; alarm activation responses, business and property checks, and other service related functions. It should be noted that the rise in calls for service after 2015 is directly related to the robust records management system that we invested in, providing officers and the department with a more efficient method in documenting our activities.



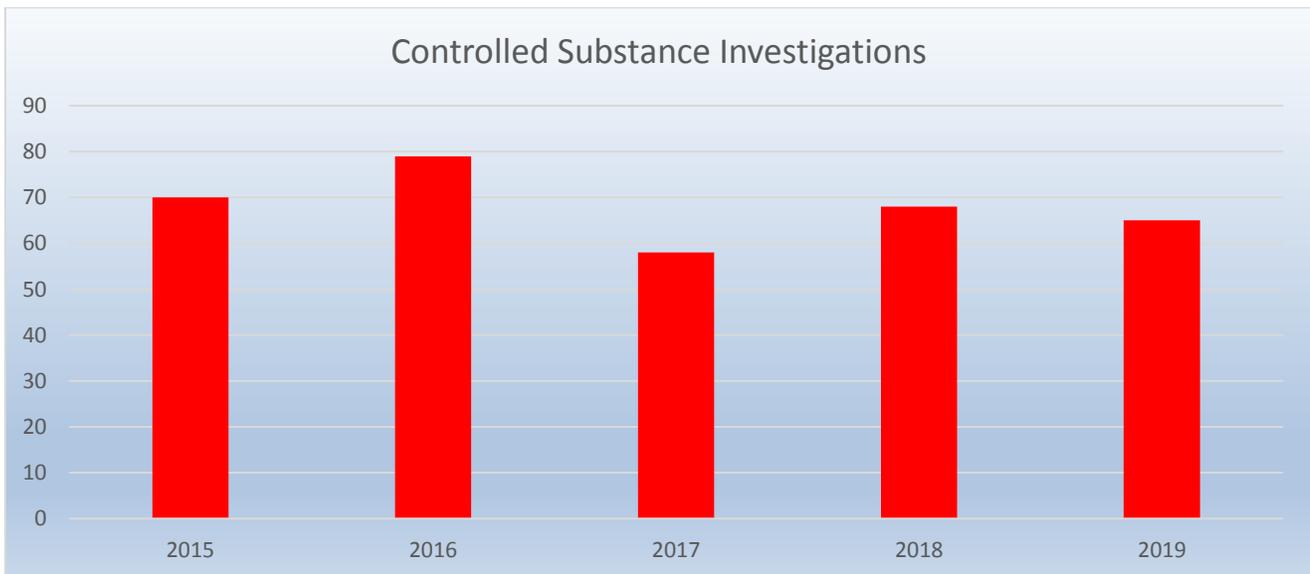


Of the 14,858 calls for service in 2019, 1,323 of those resulted in case reports being filed and investigated. This is an increase of .5% from 2018 and 2.4% from 2017. The 10 year average for cases handled by Grinnell officers is 1,200. Unlike our previous records management system, the current system automatically creates a case based on certain call for service types, in particular allegations of crimes against persons and property crimes.



In 2019 the Grinnell Police Department handled 65 narcotics related investigations, which is a 4% decrease from 2018. Of those 65 cases, 61 individuals were arrested for drug related offenses. In the spring of 2016 we assigned an officer back to the M.I.N.E Task Force, without any additional funding from outside sources, in order to resume a more focused effort to address narcotic activity, and in particular the distribution of narcotics.

In 2019 the M.I.N.E. officer investigated 16 criminal cases, which resulted in 10 individuals being arrested for narcotic distribution related activities. A criminal case for narcotics distribution is often difficult to pursue, with the investigating officer being reliant upon a number of dynamic variables. While our efforts at addressing this type of activity have been positive, there continues to be more work for us to do. We encourage residents, who have direct knowledge of narcotics activity, to contact Inv. Nate Anderson.

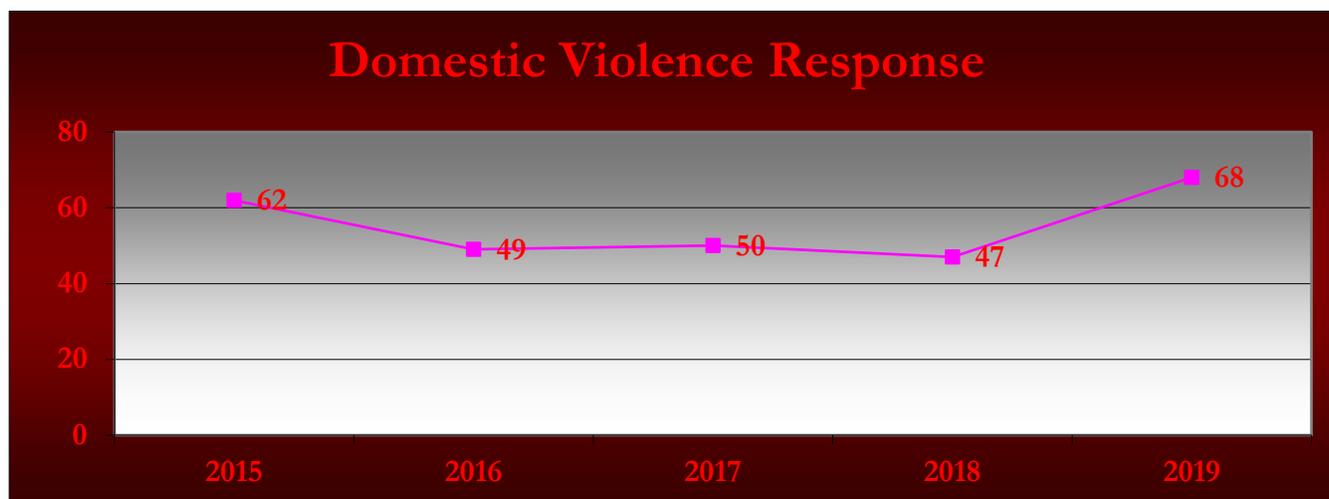


In 2019 the Grinnell Police Department continued to take steps in addressing prescription drug abuse and opioid addiction by maintaining a prescription drug box that is located in the lobby of the Public Safety Building, and which is available during regular office hours. Across our country overdose deaths

from heroin has reached epidemic proportions, with Iowa unfortunately not being immune from this. The use of Heroin, which is often cut with fentanyl or carfentanyl (potent opioids), is creating deadly consequences and affecting a wide range of population segments. Why a prescription drug box to address heroin overdoses? Often time's heroin users are abusers of prescription pain killers such as oxycodone or hydrocodone. For those who have valid prescription drugs in their homes, but no longer use them, the drop box provides an alternative to leaving the drugs in the home and risking the abuse of them by someone else.

In 2019 we collected approximately 274 pounds of prescription drugs. The surrendered drugs were taken to a facility for incineration. In 2020, as a result of the destruction facility now charging for these destruction services, we will be looking at alternate destruction sites and funding sources to offset our destruction costs. Additional information on prescription drug abuse/opioid abuse and properly disposing of unused medication can be found at [tps://odcp.iowa.gov/rxotc](https://odcp.iowa.gov/rxotc).

Domestic Violence continues to be a national problem, where it is estimated that, on average, nearly 20 people per minute are physically abused by an intimate partner. Grinnell continues to be not immune to this wave of violence, and the members of this department take an aggressive approach to this behavior, while working within the limits of the Iowa Domestic Abuse statute. In 2019 the Grinnell Police Department responded to approximately 68 reports of Domestic Abuse, which is a 31% increase from 2018, and 33 reports of a No Contact Order violation, which is a 32% decrease from 2018. The Grinnell Police Department has averaged 67 responses to reported domestic violence incidents over the last 10 years. These investigations resulted in 43 arrests for domestic abuse and/or contact order violations.

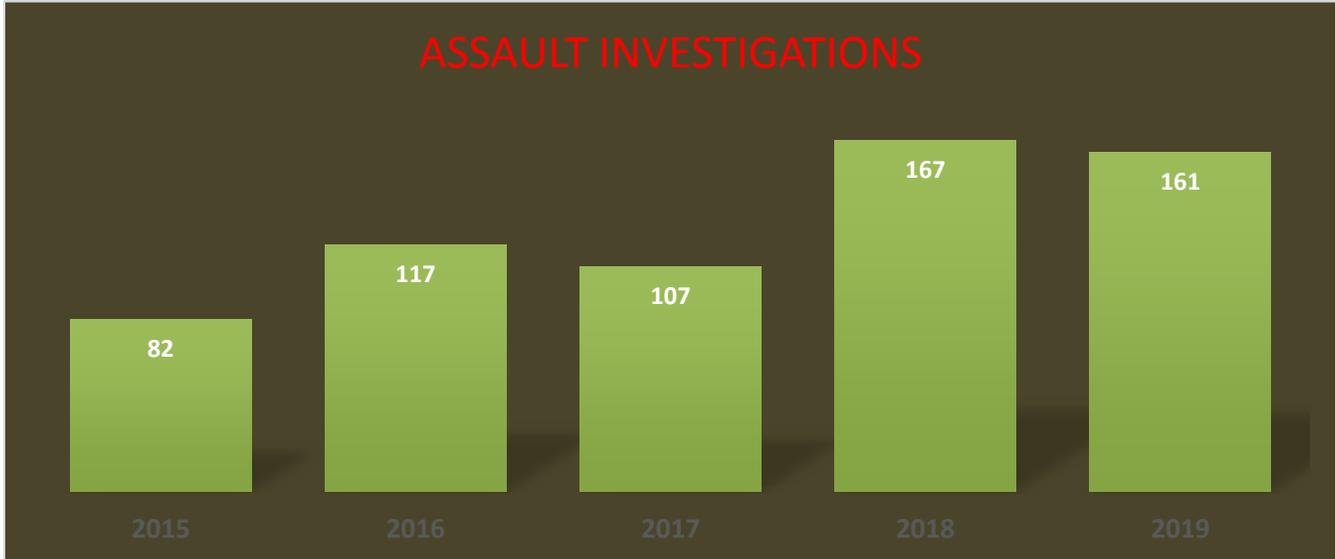
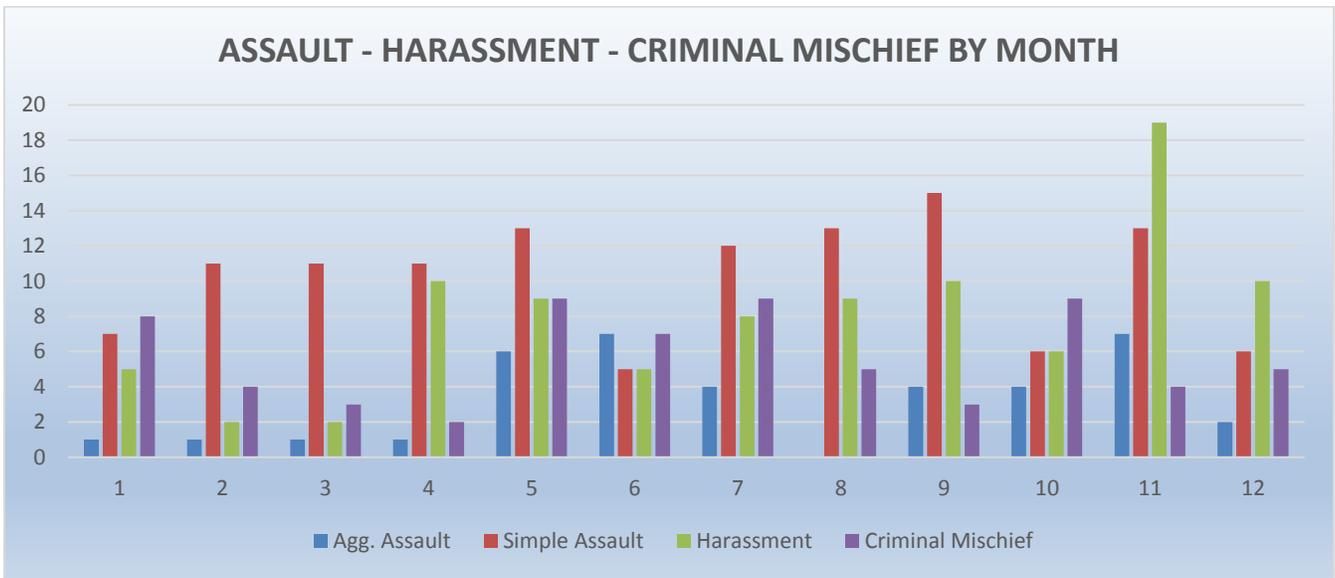


For those who need further assistance with a domestic abuse situation, the Iowa Coalition Against Domestic Violence (<http://www.icadv.org/>) is a tremendous resource. For those experiencing domestic abuse within the city of Grinnell, our officers are here 24/7 to render assistance and provide victims with resource information.

Addressing quality of life issues is of particular focus for the police department in order to maintain what we enjoy here in Grinnell. Included in those quality of life issues are reports of disturbances (Fights; Neighbor disputes; Juvenile problems; Noise Complaints; Trespassing; Fireworks) and alcohol related events. In 2019 we responded to 797 disturbance and alcohol related calls for service, an 11% increase from 2018.



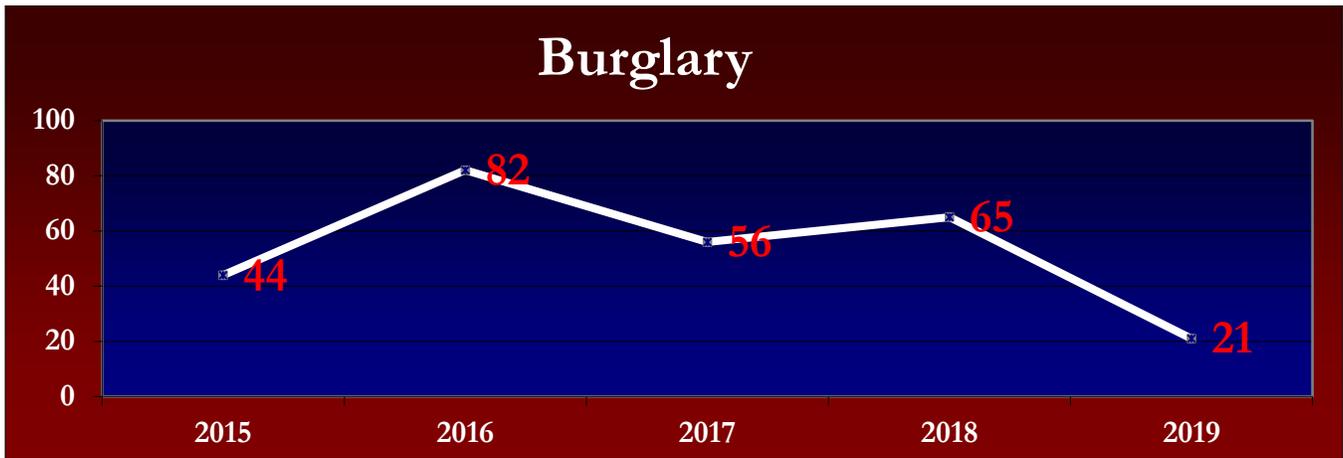
Often times the root cause of a disturbance is alcohol consumption or controlled substance use, so a prompt response is necessary to minimize the potential for these incidents to mushroom into something more serious, such as assaults, criminal mischief and harassment. In 2019 the Grinnell Police Department investigated 161 instances of assault, 95 harassment complaints and 68 criminal mischief incidents. The Grinnell Police Department filed 181 criminal charges based off of these 324 incidents.



In 2019 the Grinnell Police Department responded to 172 reported thefts, a 29% decrease from 2018, while fraud investigations also decreased by 68% to 13. Often times the reporting party of a fraud is referred to another agency since the offense did not take place in Grinnell. As it relates to thefts, more often than not thieves are nothing more than opportunists. While the likelihood of eliminating theft is doubtful, the public can certainly minimize the risk of becoming a victim of theft by securing their homes and vehicles when not occupied, while also not leaving valuables out in plain view for all to see and remove. Instances of identity theft and deception schemes often take place by persons who are not in the United States, which makes investigation difficult. What is important for our residents to remember, especially our elderly who are often times targeted, is that if it sounds too good to be true, it probably isn't true. Likewise, when an entity makes phone contact demanding financial payment, further research is required. We are also working with our retail partners to help prevent, or aggressively pursue, acts of retail theft.



In 2019 the Grinnell Police Department investigated 21 cases involving an accusation of burglary, which is a 68% decrease from 2018. While not the sole factor, this decrease can be principally associated with the decrease in vehicle burglaries that we experienced in 2019 vs. 2018. Historically speaking these burglaries are generally more attributed to vehicle and commercial properties. The highest number of reported burglaries was 99 in 2000. As with most property crimes, burglary suspects are often times opportunists. The vast majority of burglary suspects are not looking for confrontation, but instead looking to slip in and out without detection. They look for indicators of an unoccupied residence, unlocked vehicles and valuables left in plain sight, or vulnerabilities with a business such as no lights on during the evening hours, newspapers or mail not being taken in, cash being left in business registers, poor exterior lighting and possibly the lack of any video monitoring or alarm system. The burglar will also look for homes with overgrown bushes or poor lighting near entry points, which provides concealment. Leaving a residence, or vehicle, unlocked while unoccupied also does not help matters. The public plays an incredible role in property crime prevention and identification. When a resident or business owner observes something that looks out of the ordinary, they are encouraged to contact the police department. The members of the Grinnell Police Department would much rather investigate a suspicious person or vehicle, and determine that no criminal activity was taking place, instead of determining after the fact that someone had observed suspicious activity that turned out to be the suspect of a burglary or theft.

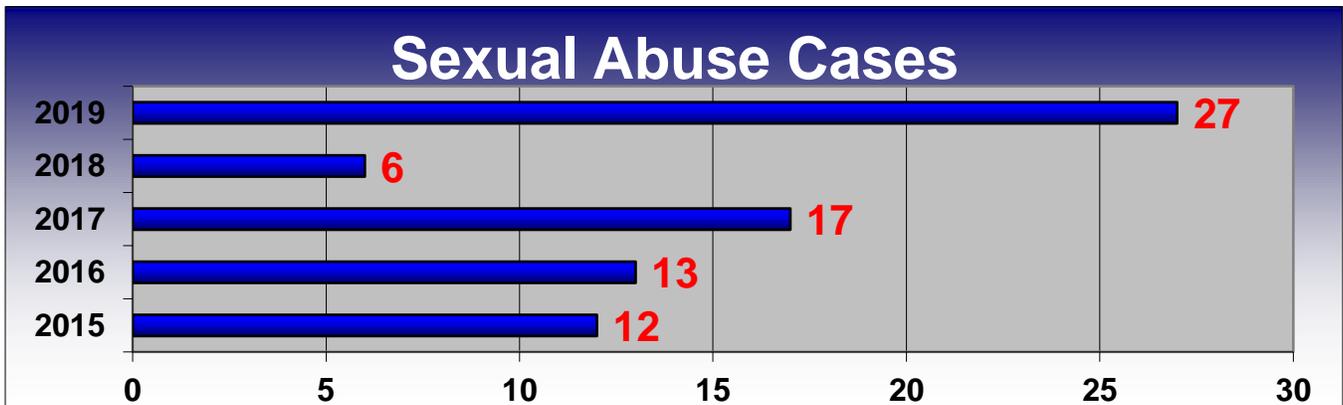


Aside from murder, which we were fortunate not to encounter in 2019, sexual abuse cases are probably the most significant crime against person that an officer can be assigned to. In most instances these crimes, with 2019 being no exception, are committed by suspects who are known by the victim. In 2019 the Grinnell Police Department investigated 27 cases of alleged sexual abuse, which is a significant increase from 6 in 2018. A breakdown of the 27 investigation dispositions is as follows:

- Arrest – 7
- Inactive - 6
- Unfounded - 2
- Exceptionally Cleared – 10
- Active - 2

Of these 27 cases, we encountered a number of instances where the victim was a juvenile and engaged in consensual intercourse. In these instances the otherwise consensual act is considered sexual abuse because the victim has not reached the age of consent, which is generally 16, and the offending party is four or more years older than the “Victim”. The Grinnell Police Department encourages parents and guardians to have conversations with their children and educate them on such matters as age of consent. The Police Department is also working with the school district for information such as this to be included within appropriate curriculum.

While it is difficult to determine a root cause for acts of sexual assault, the Center for Disease Control (CDC) has identified a number of risk factors that lead to sexual assault. These factors include risks associated with the individuals involved, relationship factors, as well as community and societal factors. Those interested in learning more about these risk factors can visit the CDC article online at <http://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/sexualviolence/riskprotectivefactors.html>.



In 2019 Sgt. Johnson was in charge of investigations, with Ofc. Moore assigned as our criminal investigator. Our criminal investigators handled 48 investigations, in addition to those cases assigned to the investigator as part of their daily patrol function. This is an increase of 71% from 2018. Of the 48 criminal investigations, 32 of those cases were cleared (67% clearance rate). An additional 14 cases were classified as open-inactive, meaning that there were no further avenues of investigation available to either identify a suspect or gather enough evidence that rose to the level of probable cause to make an arrest. This does not prevent the investigator from re-opening an investigation if information becomes available to identify a suspect and/or file charges. A vast majority of these open-inactive cases are related to property crimes. There are 3 cases that are still active and have been carried over into 2020.

In 2017 we began exploring the use of a case screening process, where weighted solvability factors are used to determine whether or not an investigation is followed up by an investigator. Since my arrival in Grinnell it has been a desire of mine to transition our part-time investigator role in to a full-time function. This would enable the department to take more of a pro-active approach to criminal activity while relieving officers assigned to patrol from prolonged investigations.

There were 381 arrests in 2019, an increase of 15% from 2018. Of those arrested in 2019, 34 were juvenile referrals to the Juvenile Court Officer, which is an increase from 21 in 2018. Among the charges levied against juveniles were alcohol possession violations, possession of a controlled substance and drug paraphernalia, assault and theft.

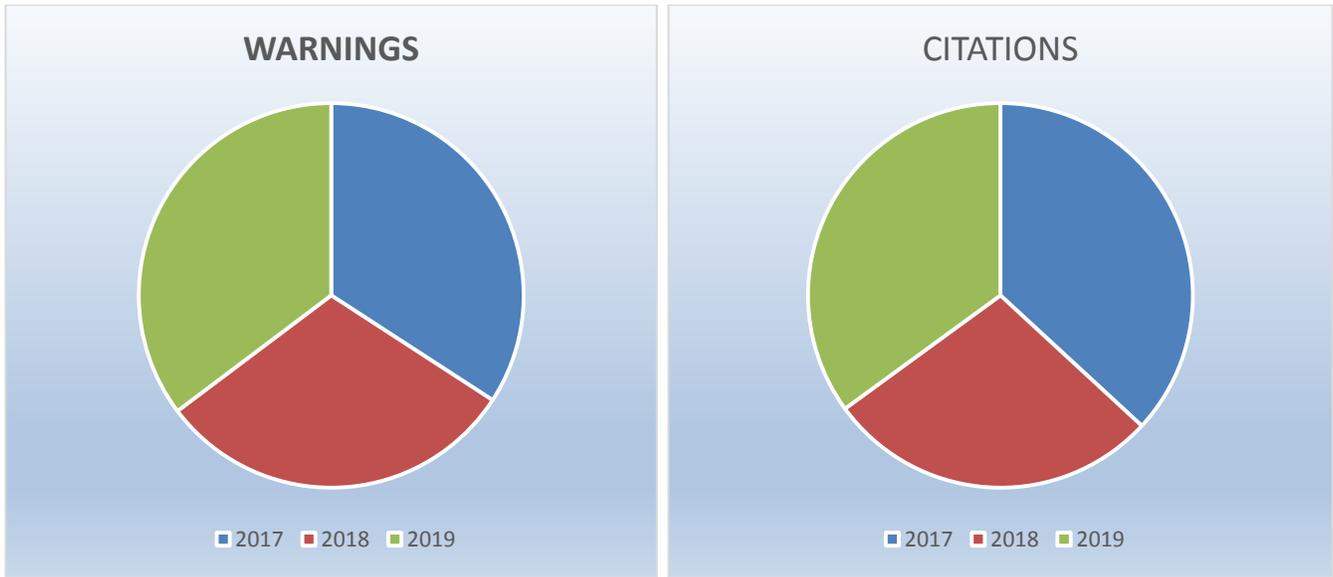


In order to effectively deal with the more serious criminal conduct within our community, we make an effort to deal with the smaller problems before they become bigger ones. Methods such as community policing and intelligence led policing, coupled with proactive enforcement efforts, are effective means of keeping the crime rate low. We also continue to reach out to the community to reinforce our need for their assistance in reducing crime.

TRAFFIC SAFETY:

In 2019, officers issued 667 citations (24.5% increase from 2018) and 1632 warnings (15% increase from 2018). The three E's of Traffic Safety are: Enforcement; Education; Engineering. By using a combination of citations and warnings, officers are educating motorists on matters of traffic safety while taking enforcement action by stopping the motorist and providing them an opportunity to take their own corrective action.

As evidenced by this data, officers of the Grinnell Police Department seek to educate motorists when possible by issuing warnings where appropriate. In addition to identifying the traffic violations that lead to a motor vehicle stop, officers will identify more serious violations after the traffic stop takes place. These more serious traffic violations include driver's operating a motor vehicle with a suspended, revoked or barred driving privilege. In 2019 approximately 251 drivers were identified as being suspended, revoked or barred. An additional 345 instances of a vehicle being operated without proof of financial liability (No Insurance) took place as the result of a traffic stop.



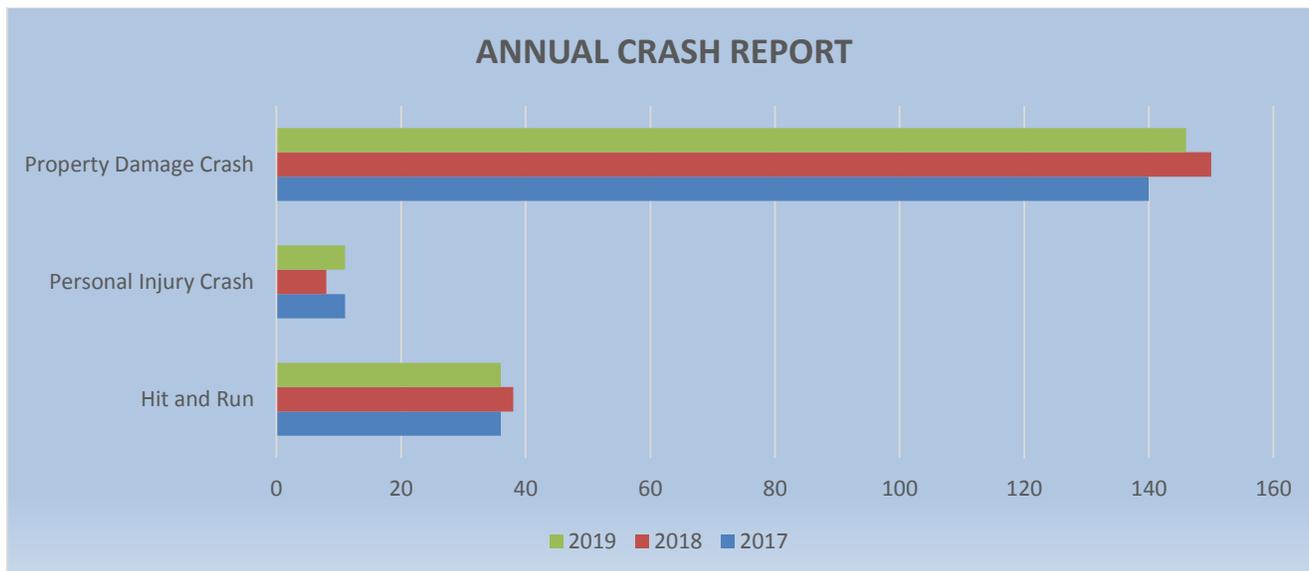
In 2018 the department began deploying a speed sign throughout the city, which not only alerts motorists to their speeds but also aids our traffic safety function in identifying speed issues in neighborhoods while also providing traffic counts where needed. Sgt. Chris Wray is in charge of the traffic safety function and can be contacted for traffic safety related concerns.



Based on traffic studies conducted, coupled with areas identified by our officer's for being prone to moving violations, our officer's will conduct stationary radar and special enforcement activities to address these moving violations. In 2019 Grinnell officer's conducted approximately 798 stationary radar details and 336 special enforcement details.



There was an 8% decrease in property damage crashes in 2019, with 146 occurring. Despite this decrease we experienced an increase (37%) in personal injury accidents with 11 taking place. We also experienced 36 hit and run crashes in 2019, which is a 12% decrease from 2018.

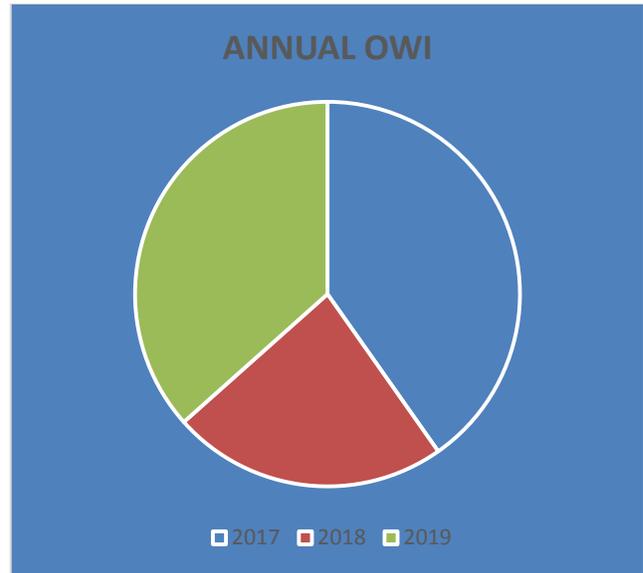


In an effort to address impaired and distracted driving, in 2019 we continued to receive grant funding from the Governor’s Highway Traffic Safety Bureau, Iowa Department of Public Safety. This special Traffic Enforcement Program (s.T.E.P.) grant has been awarded to us for a number of years. It is used for overtime during traffic enforcement projects around the holidays and other events where there is the likelihood of violations. It also provides for the purchase of equipment such as radar units or in-car video systems.

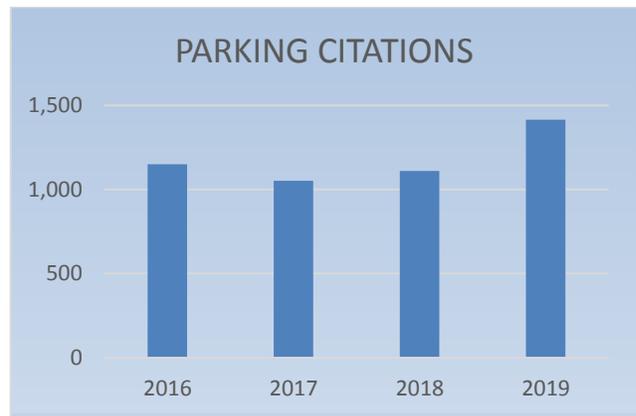
According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), it is estimated that 29 people per day die in alcohol-impaired driving crashes nationally. NHTSA also reports that, while traffic deaths related to impaired driving has fallen by one third in the last 30 years, 10,000 people a year are killed in drunk-driving crashes. The Center for Disease Control (CDC) also reports that marijuana use is increasing and 13% of those drivers operating a vehicle at night, or on the weekend, have marijuana in their system.

Nationally we are seeing an increase in the amount of fatalities where the driver has a controlled substance in their system. Data from 2016 suggests that 43% of fatally injured drivers had drugs present in their system, which is a 56% increase from 2006. Of these fatally injured drivers, 41% were positive for marijuana. Studies have indicated how marijuana impairs motor skills, lane tracking and cognitive functions while also having a negative impact on a driver’s ability to multitask.

In 2019 336 fatalities took place on Iowa roads, which is up from 319 in 2018. While comparison statistics for 2019 have yet to be completed, we do know that of the 319 fatalities that took place in 2018, 73 involved an alcohol impaired driver. Another 80 fatalities involved drivers impaired by drugs. In order to try and minimize these tragedies from occurring in Grinnell and the surrounding area, our officers are trained in the detection and apprehension of impaired drivers. In 2019 our officers made 30 Operating While Intoxicated (OWI) arrests, which is up from 19 in 2018. The OWI offender is another example of a more serious offense being discovered off of that traffic contact for a moving or equipment violation.



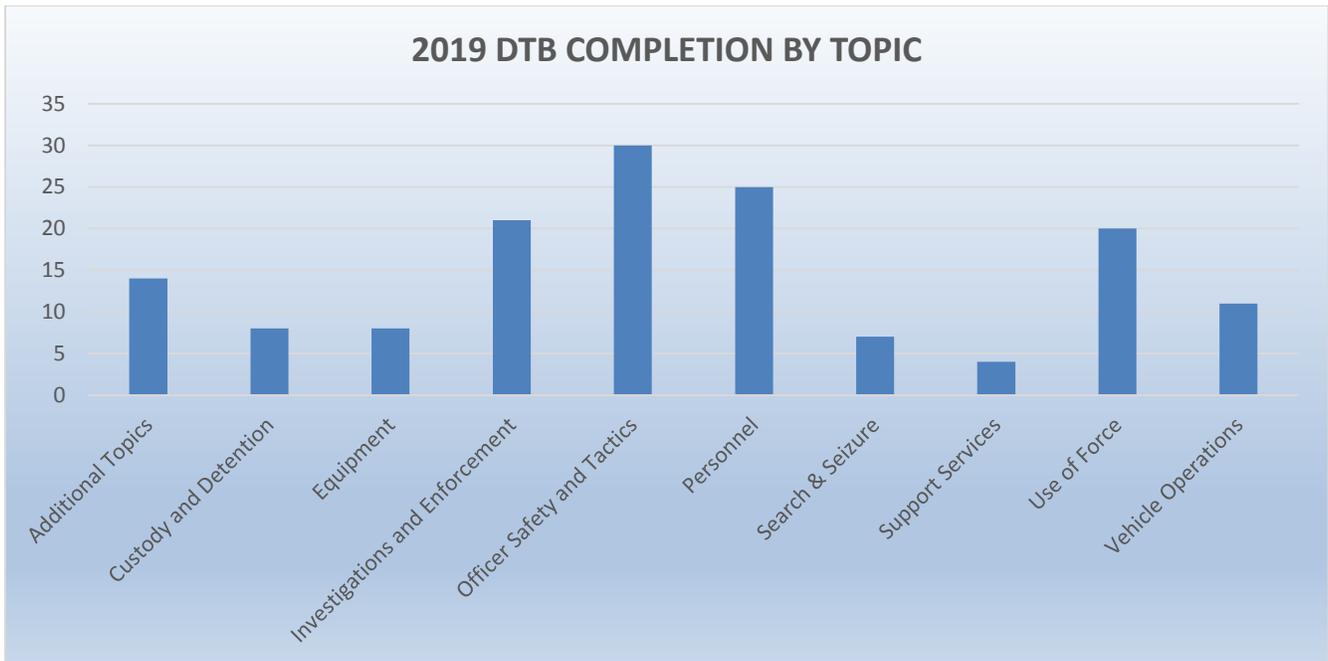
There were 1,414 parking citations issued in 2019, up from 1110 in 2018. Parking violations can cause vision obstructions, jeopardize pedestrian safety (especially near schools, college campus and the downtown area) while also hampering snow removal efforts. Residents and visitors are encouraged to sign up for city notifications, such as when snow emergencies are declared.



TRAINING:

Training our staff remains a priority for the police department. There are mandatory training requirements put in place by the Iowa Law Enforcement Academy in order to obtain, and maintain, police officer and instructor certifications. We continue to exceed those requirements. We conduct both in-house training, utilizing our own instructors and local expertise, as well as sending officers and civilian staff to training at remote sites. Since 2013 we have expanded our firearms training. Officers engage in both live fire and simulated exercises, which focus not only on their firearms proficiency but also tactical skills as it relates to tactical entry and building searches. We also incorporate monthly internet based training, covering topics such as: mental health; sexual abuse; fair and impartial policing; de-escalation; Iowa law updates; workplace safety. Our in-service and internet based training accounted for approximately 1,211 hours of training for staff in 2019.

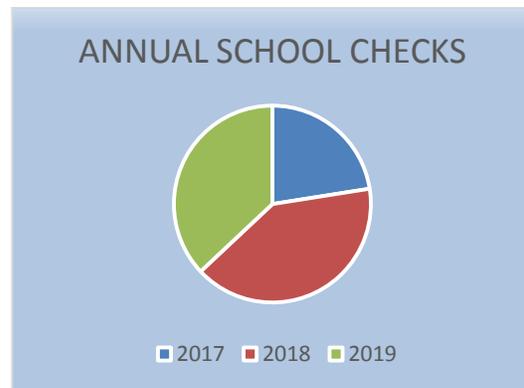
This training time does not include policy based training, which was started in 2018. In the winter of 2017 the Grinnell Police Department completed a yearlong policy manual revision. The web-based policy manual currently used by the Grinnell Police Department, which is based on state and federal law along with industry best practices, incorporates Daily Training Bulletins (DTB) that officers are required to complete. Each DTB presents a scenario with a related policy question, followed by applicable policy review for the scenario and then a test question. In 2019 each officer reviewed approximately 148 DTB's, covering a variety of policy content topics.



CRIME PREVENTION:

The Grinnell Police Department continues to work with the community in crime prevention programs and methods. It is critical to our operation that we foster and maintain relationships with our community and businesses. In 2019 Officer’s Bryce Doane and Ben Smith managed the crime prevention duties. As part of our continuing effort to work closely with the various groups and entities of the Grinnell community, we are involved in many coalitions and committees, such as: Grinnell College Parking Committee; Poweshiek County Healthy Choices; Poweshiek County DVA/SAC Coalition; Poweshiek County Sexual Assault Team; Grinnell Chamber of Commerce. The programs provided by the Grinnell Police Department included, but are not limited to: Citizen Police Academy, National Night Out, A.L.I.C.E. training, Camp 911, Coffee with a Cop. In 2019 the Grinnell Police Department provided approximately 75 hours of presentations to approximately 1,575 participants.

Officers also strive to have a presence in the schools as part of their patrol activities. Officers will regularly visit Grinnell schools, depending on call and investigation volume, in order to interact with students and staff. In 2019 patrol officers spent approximately 148 hours in the schools.



The Grinnell Police Department has a number of officers certified as A.L.I.C.E. (Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter, Evacuate) instructors. A.L.I.C.E. training was developed following the examination of school environment shootings, such as Columbine High School in 1999. This training provides students and educators in the school environment, as well as workers in an office environment, with options during an active shooter incident. Those interested in A.L.I.C.E training should contact Sgt. Chris Wray. Class duration is flexible, from 2-4+ hours depending on scenarios.

ADDITIONAL HIGHLIGHTS AND PROGRAMS

- Hosted Grinnell's 17th Annual National Night Out (NNO) program with the Grinnell Optimist Club. This year's event was again particularly successful due to the efforts of Officer Doane and Ofc. Smith, with Central Park being used for the event. NNO is a police and community partnership that is designed to:
 - Heighten crime and drug prevention awareness
 - Generate support for, and participation in, anti-crime programs
 - Strengthen neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships
 - Send a message to criminals, letting them know that neighborhoods are organized and fighting back
- Camp 911 was conducted in August, with community youth being presented with the various aspects of first responder services in Grinnell. This year we worked with the Davis School Summer program. Instead of one day of activities, we spread the program out over 7 weeks with one hour per week being dedicated to a different public safety topic. We greatly appreciate the partnership with the Davis program staff and look forward to summer 2020.
- Held the 16th annual Shop with a Cop program with many businesses, community members, and the Grinnell Chamber of Commerce as sponsors. This program helps deserving children enjoy their holidays, while also providing our officers with an opportunity to spend time with children of the community, which ultimately fosters improved relationships.
- Coordinated the 11th Citizen's Police Academy. This program provides community members with an opportunity to learn the many facets of law enforcement, and includes a ride-a-long with a Grinnell officer. Since 2012 we have increased our efforts to include the Grinnell College students as participants.
- Conducted periodic foot patrol operations in the downtown area, residential neighborhoods and at Grinnell College, promoting community interaction and deterring crime through high visibility.
- The nuisance animal enforcement effort continues to raise owner awareness with the goal of voluntary compliance of city animal laws. In 2019 the Grinnell Police Department responded to approximately 184 animal related calls for service. This assignment was coordinated by Ofc. Fred Foreman. Enforcing the animal license requirement on a consistent basis keeps animals accounted for and encourages owners to be more responsible. We work closely with the Jasper County Animal Rescue League (JCARL), who provides certified Animal Control Officers to assist with investigations while also responding to pick up stray dogs. In 2019 JCARL responded to approximately 25 of our animal related calls for service. In the fall of 2014 we adjusted our response to stray cats by only picking up those cats that are sick or injured.
- The Grinnell Police Department is also responsible for the enforcement of the city's ordinance on nuisance vehicles. In 2019 30 vehicles were investigated for violation of the nuisance vehicle ordinance. Chapter 51 of the municipal code defines what a "Junk Vehicle" is. First time offenders are issued a warning, while repeat offenders are generally cited for each subsequent violation. As with our other enforcement efforts, the police department seeks voluntary compliance from our residents on the storage of vehicles.
- Facilitated many tours of the police and fire departments to various groups and individuals.

MOVING FORWARD IN 2020:

In 2020, as in previous years, we will continue to work on improving upon the services provided by the Grinnell Police Department. Some of initiatives that we are working on for 2020 include:

- Grinnell is not unlike many other cities across this country, dealing with mental health and substance abuse related problems. These problems, when coupled with access to weapons, are often the root cause for response from specially trained officers. For a number of years the Grinnell Police Department has relied upon mutual aid assistance from the Iowa State Patrol for responding to high risk tactical operations. In 2019 discussions began with the Pella Police Department and Jasper County Sheriff's Office, for whom we are already partners with as part of the MINE Task Force, for the formation of a joint tactical team. In the fall of 2019 we entered into a 28E agreement with these agencies for the formation of the Central Iowa Regional Tactical Team. Three Grinnell Police Department officers have been selected to be members of this team and will begin monthly training in January.
- Throughout the course of an officers career, they will be tasked with investigations that ultimately take a toll, to at least some degree, on their psyche. In 2017 the Grinnell Police Department instituted a Peer Support program, where selected officers received training in individual and group peer support. These specially trained officers provide our members, and those from other neighboring public safety agencies, with access to emotional and tangible peer support. In 2020 the Grinnell Police Department will be adding on to this program, while also attempting to address the immediate needs of the public during times of crisis, by instituting a Chaplain program. The purpose of the Chaplain program will be to provide counseling or emotional support to members of the Grinnell Police Department, their families and members of the public.
- Throughout the years of interaction with the public through programs such as the Citizen Police Academy, we have heard of a desire to assist the department with non-enforcement related tasks. In 2020 the department hopes to embark upon a Volunteers in Police Service (VIPS) program where citizens have an opportunity to volunteer their time in augmenting department personnel with various non-enforcement related tasks. Those who may find this program of interest can go to <https://www.theiacp.org/projects/volunteers-in-police-service-vips> for additional background information on such programs.
- Based on a growing presence of homeless parties within the city, in 2019 a group of community members assembled a "Housing Coalition" working group to review the issue. Capt. Sittig is the department's coalition representative and we look forward to taking positive steps in 2020 with this coalition to provide alternatives and services to these community members who find themselves without housing.

Respectfully Submitted,



Dennis Reilly
Chief of Police