



2022 Annual Report

**City of Powell
Police Department**

Stephen Hrytzik
Chief of Police

Table of Contents

Message from the Chief.....	2
Mission and Values	3
Jurisdiction	4
Organization.....	5
Budget	6
Crime Statistics.....	7
Patrol.....	8
Patrol Statistics	9
Nature of Calls for Service.....	10
Patrol Response Time	11
Traffic Crashes.....	12
2022 Map of Traffic Crashes	14
Investigations	15
Cases Assigned for Investigation.....	16
Notable Cases	17
Training	19
Use of Force	21
Peddler Permits.....	22
Accreditation.....	23
Citizens Police Academy.....	24
Community Oriented Policing.....	25
K9 Axel Retires	29
Clerk Patti Mills Retires	30
New Officer	31
New Clerk.....	32
Promoted to Sergeant.....	33
2022 Awards	34
Goals and Objectives.....	35

Message from the Chief



Welcome to the 2022 Annual Report of the City of Powell Police Department.

This report summarizes the experiences of our police personnel working within the community this past year.

As you move through this report, you will see information related to Patrol, Investigations, and Community Oriented Policing, as well as the agency as a whole. You will see that these men and women are prepared to be ready when called upon.

Even as we put COVID-19 in our rearview mirror, we are moving forward with programs and partnerships that inform and provide tools to keep our

community safe and healthy such as the Citizens Police Academy and self-defense classes.

This report highlights the accomplishments of your police department, from community awards to advanced leadership training. I'm proud of this team and I'm confident that you will be too.

Yours in service,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "S. Hrytzik".

Stephen Hrytzik
Chief of Police



Mission and Values

Mission Statement

It is the mission of the Powell Police Department to safeguard persons and property through preparedness and vigilance. The department holds true to a community policing philosophy. Its members shall continually strive for excellence in service, training, and professional development.

Core Values

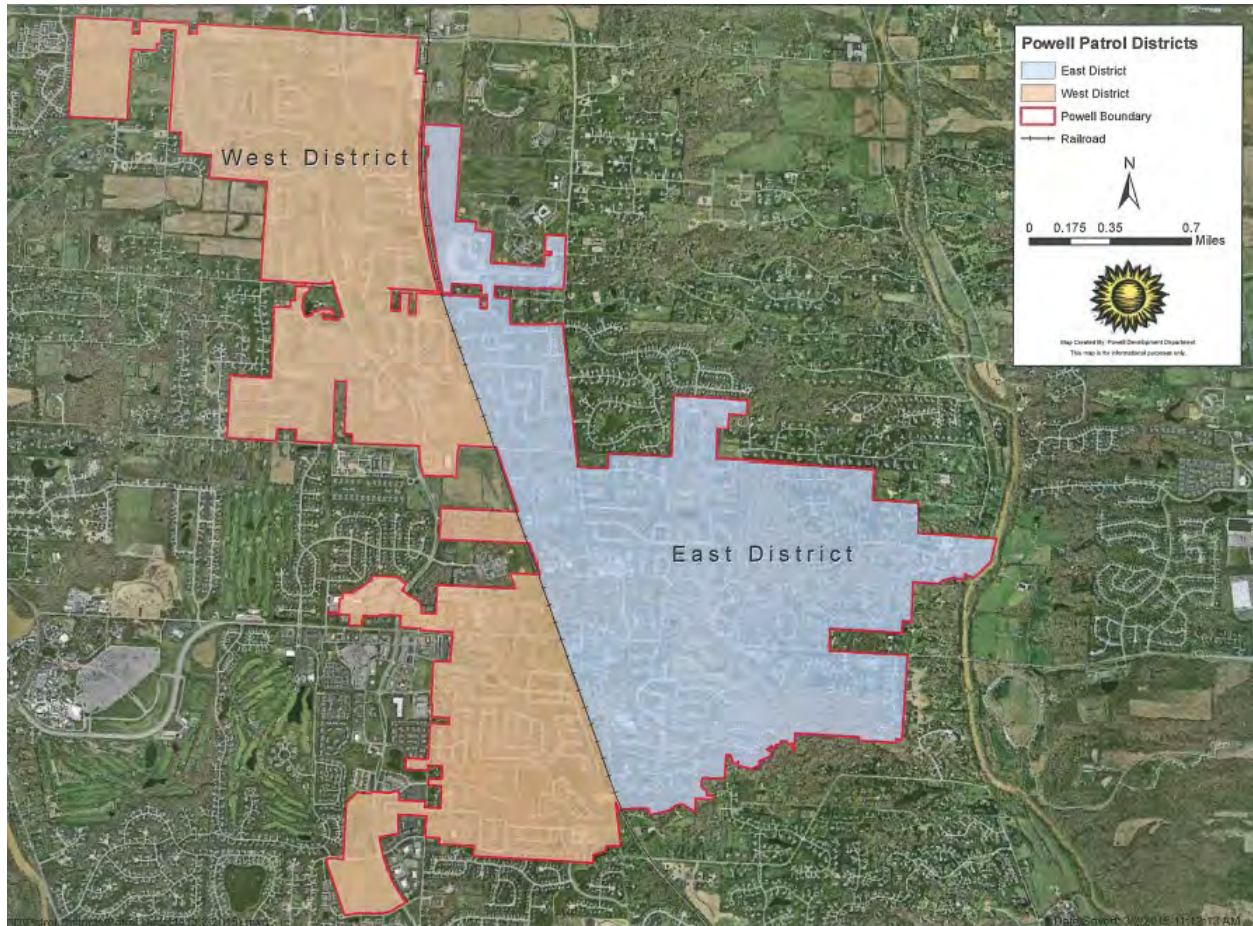
Our core values are honesty, integrity, dependability, service to others before self, and a genuine desire to pursue what is right and good.



Community Oriented Policing Officer Audrey Wilt visited children at the Powell United Methodist Church in May.

Jurisdiction

The population of Powell was **14,286** as of the 2021 US Census population estimate. This represents an increase of 23 percent over ten years ago.

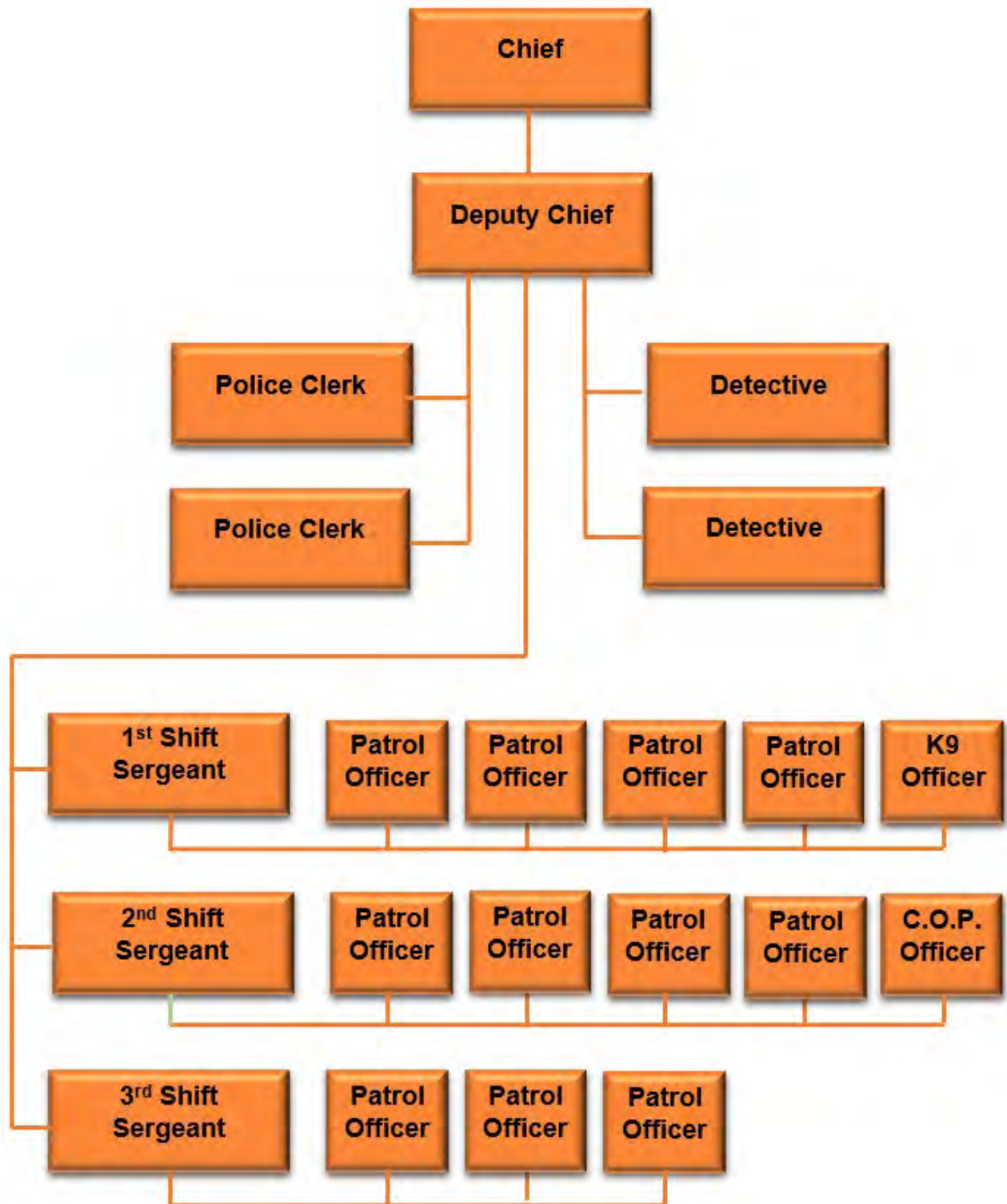


The City of Powell is divided into two patrol districts, East and West, separated by the railroad tracks.

PATROL DISTRICT	SQUARE MILES	POPULATION
WEST	3.22	9,167
EAST	2.59	5,556
TOTAL	5.81	14,723

Estimates by Delaware County GIS Department based on households.

Organization



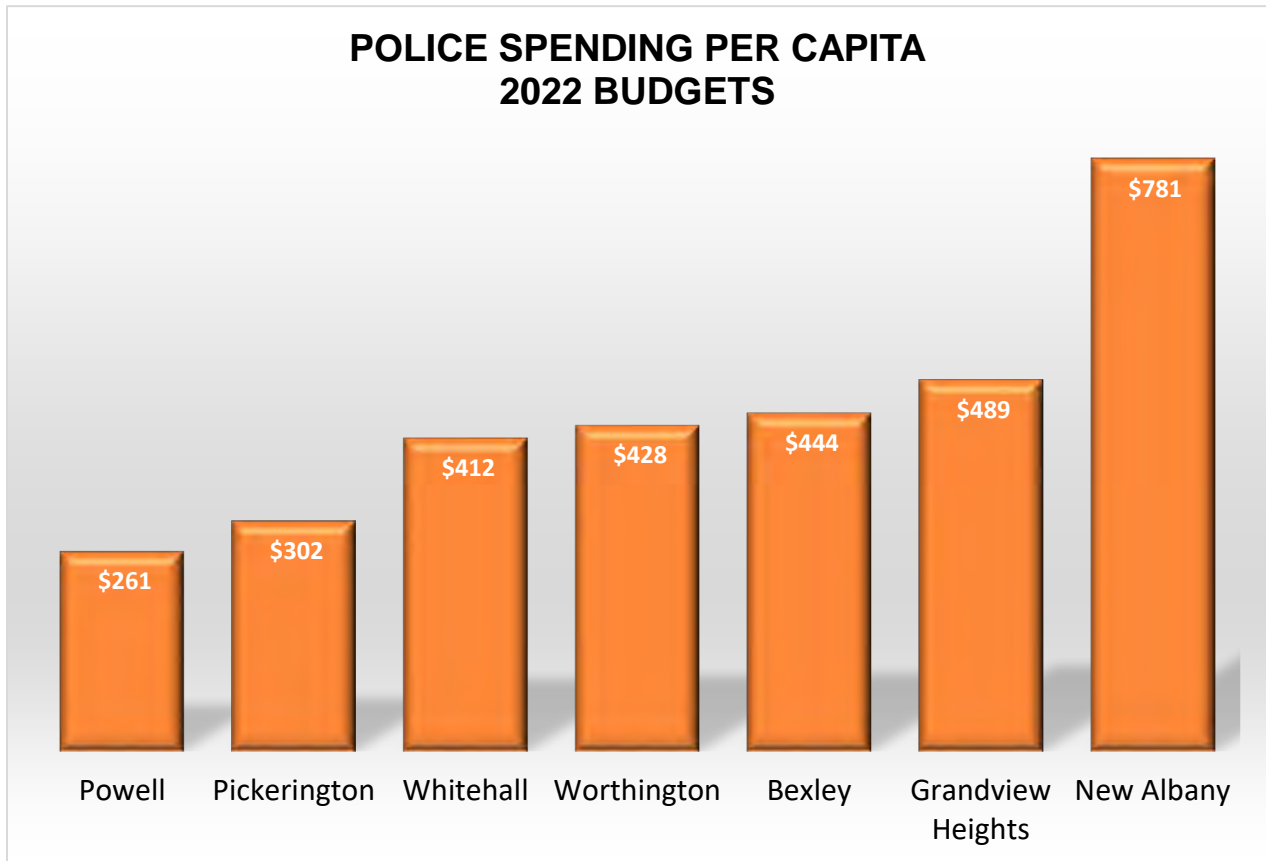
Budget

The 2022 budget for the City of Powell Police Department was **\$3,734,500**. This represents an increase of six percent from 2021. Police spending per resident was \$261.

Personnel Costs include salaries and benefits.

Operating Expenses include gasoline, uniforms and gear, training, rents, cruiser maintenance, equipment maintenance, cell phones, accreditation, office supplies and miscellaneous. This category includes a number of software licenses.

Capital includes cruisers and miscellaneous equipment.



Source: City Finance Directors and the 2021 Census Estimates

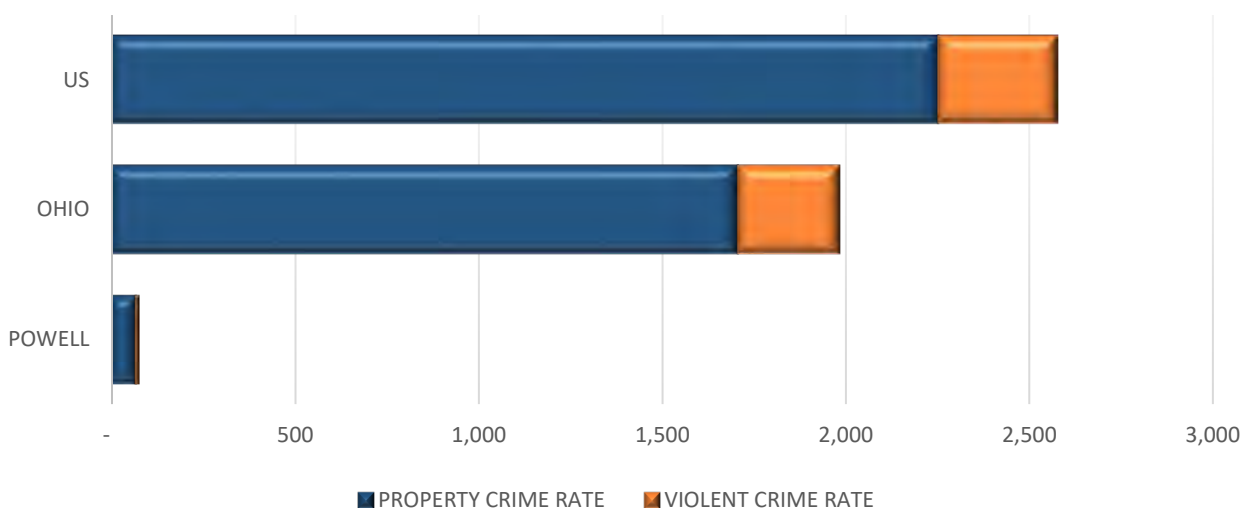
Crime Statistics

Powell boasts low rates of both violent and property crime. In fact, Safewise.com placed Powell in the top ten safest cities in Ohio for 2022.

Description	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018
Murder	0	0	0	0	0
Forcible Rape	2	2	0	2	3
Robbery	1	1	0	0	2
Aggravated Assault	5	6	0	0	1
Total Violent Crime	8	9	0	2	6
Burglary/B&E	5	7	18	8	15
Larceny Theft	89	87	67	80	101
Motor Vehicle Theft	3	6	6	2	3
Total Property Crime	97	96	92	90	121

Source: Ohio Incident-Based Reporting System (OIBRS)

COMPARISON OF 2021 CRIME RATES



Patrol



Patrol officers are first responders to all police-related calls for service. They must have the skills, knowledge and ability to handle virtually every aspect of police work, including emergency and routine calls for

service, traffic crashes, and criminal investigations. They are tasked with enforcing state and local laws and making contact with the public. They solve problems, write reports, testify in court, and actively promote crime prevention and reduction strategies.

The Patrol Division consists of three shifts, each supervised by a sergeant who oversees day-to-day operations and implements the goals and objectives of the Powell Police Department as a whole, as well as the duties assigned to their particular shifts.

For first shift, Sergeant Andy Lucas, this most often means traffic enforcement, business and house checks, and administrative duties.

Second shift officers also perform traffic enforcement and business and house checks. They reported to Sergeant Scott Roach in 2022.

Third shift reported to Sergeant Travis Dennison and was the driving force behind our agency's **Preventative Patrol Program**, checking for open garage doors, unlocked businesses and other behaviors that raise the risk of crime. Together, the three shifts provided a seamless approach to community policing.

Patrol issued **2,076** Preventative Patrol Notices in 2022.

Patrol Statistics

	Description	2022	2021	Change
a	Calls for Service	23,698	22,700	4.4%
b	Dispatched Calls	5,252	5,346	-1.8%
c	Reports	706	890	-20.7%
d	Adult Arrests	92	82	12.2%
e	Juvenile Arrests	5	15	-66.7%
f	Traffic Stops	1,479	1,681	-12.0%
g	Traffic Citations	146	130	12.3%
h	Traffic Crashes	161	143	12.6%
i	False Alarms	444	379	17.2%
j	House Watches	375	296	26.7%
k	Preventative Patrols	2,076	2,176	-4.6%
l	Stacked Calls	174	259	-32.8%
m	Peddler Permits	13	28	-53.6%

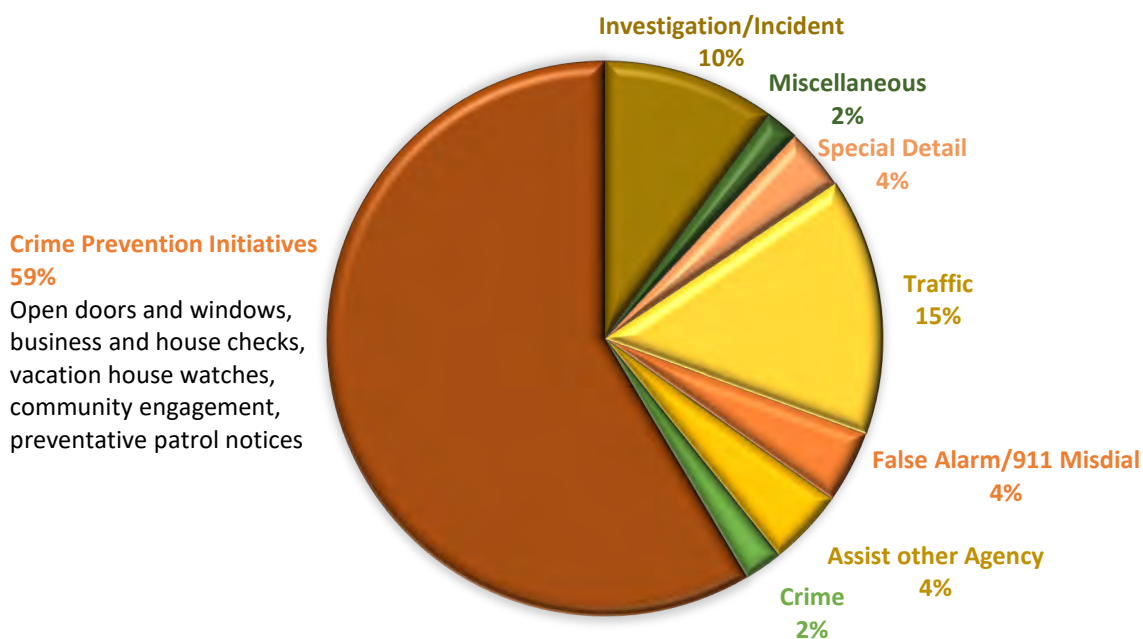
Source: Tyler New World records management system

NOTES

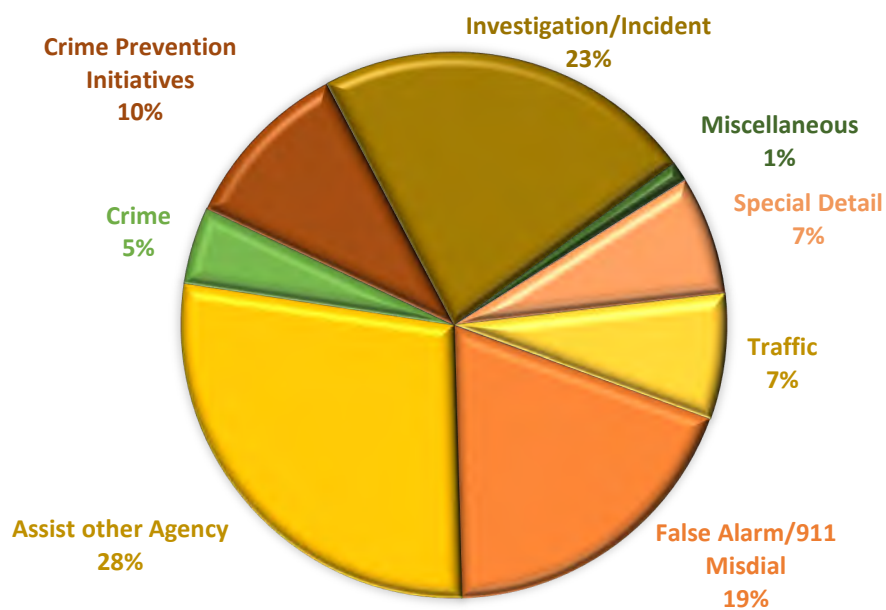
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- a: All activity generated by officers as well as all citizen requests for police response.
 - b: Excludes officer-initiated calls.
 - g: Includes citations written after traffic stops and traffic crashes.
 - h: Includes public and private property crashes.
 - l: The caller must wait for an officer to finish another call.

Nature of Calls for Service

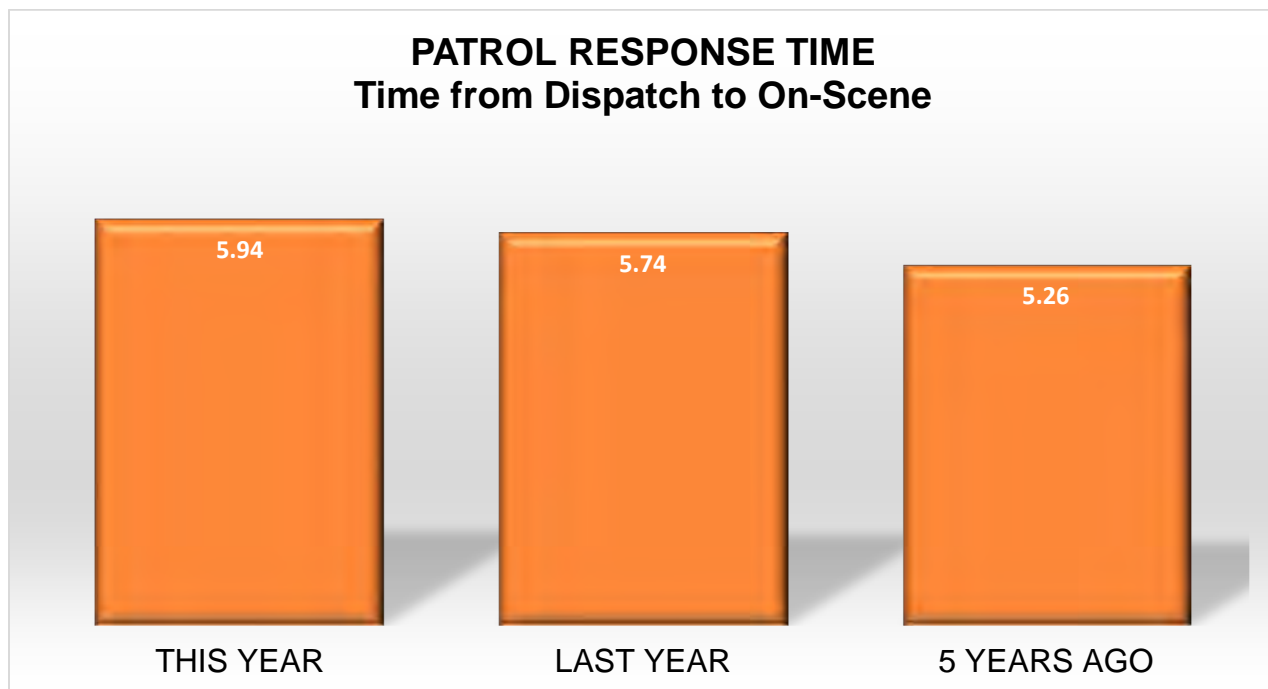
CALLS FOR SERVICE BY NATURE



TIME ON CALLS FOR SERVICE



Patrol Response Time



*All dispatched calls. Does not include the time from call to dispatch.
Calculation method was different five years ago.*

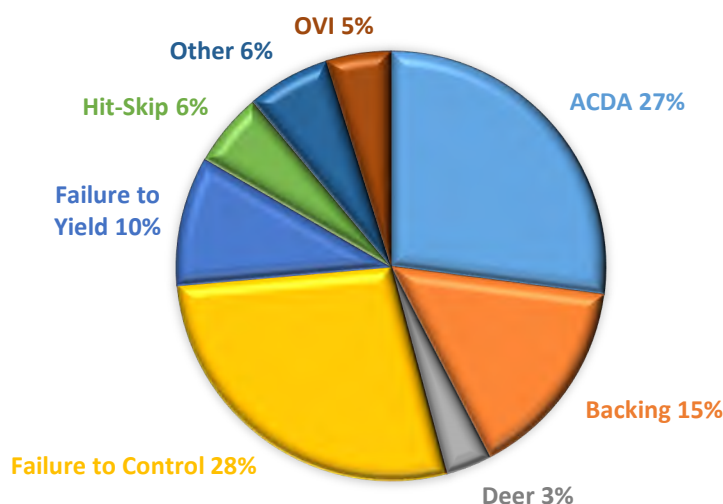


Traffic Crashes

The Powell Police Department took **161** traffic crash reports in 2022, an increase of 12% from 2021. 74% were on public property. There were 25 injury crashes, down from 30 in 2021.



CAUSES OF 2022 CRASHES

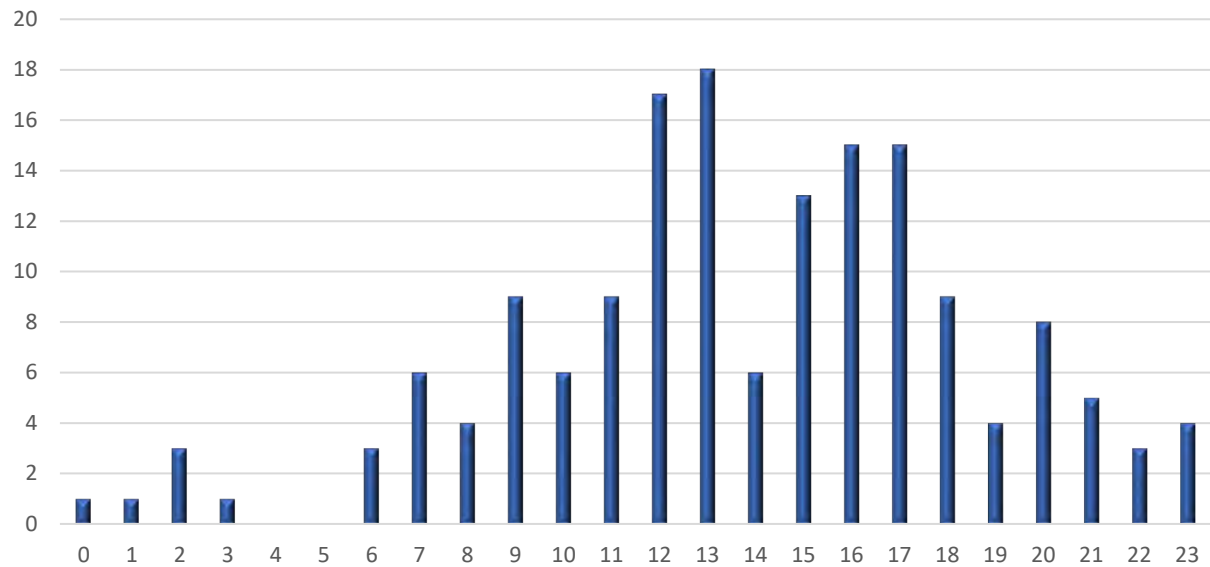


A common cause of preventable crashes is **Assured Clear Distance Ahead (ACDA)** - vehicles following too closely and thus not having enough time to stop once traffic begins to slow on these main routes.

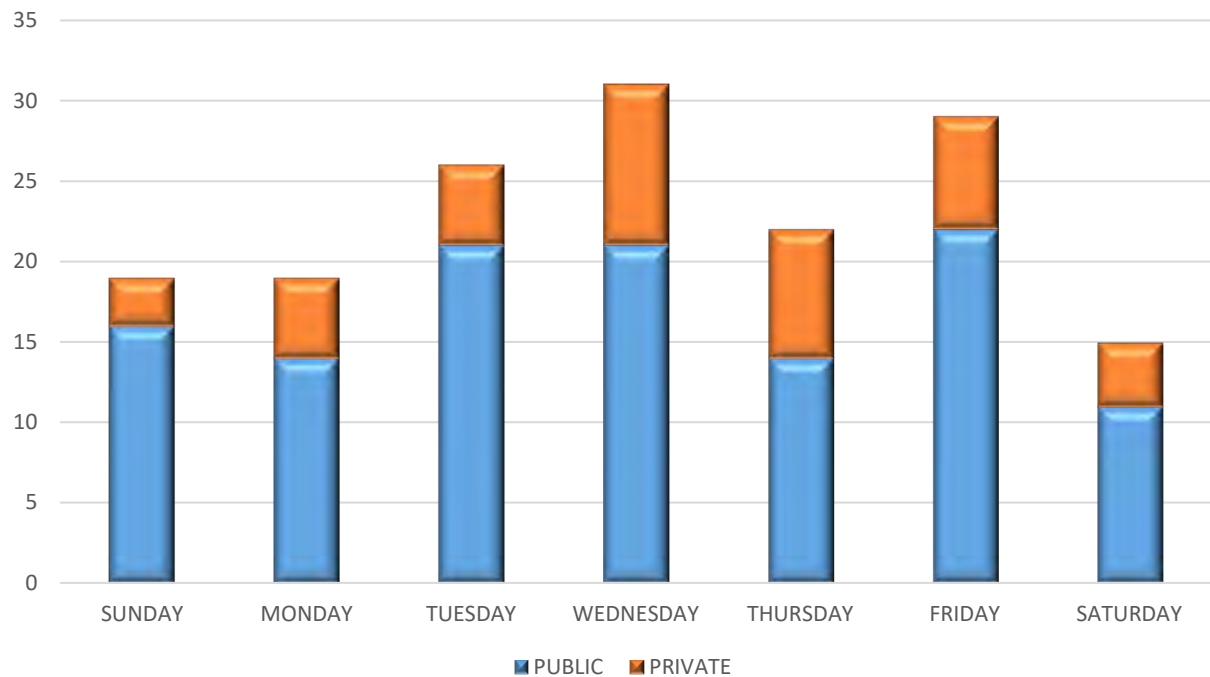
Reducing traffic crashes in the City of Powell continues to be one of the top priorities of the Powell Police Department.

Afternoon remains the most accident-prone time of day in Powell.

2022 CRASHES BY HOUR OF THE DAY

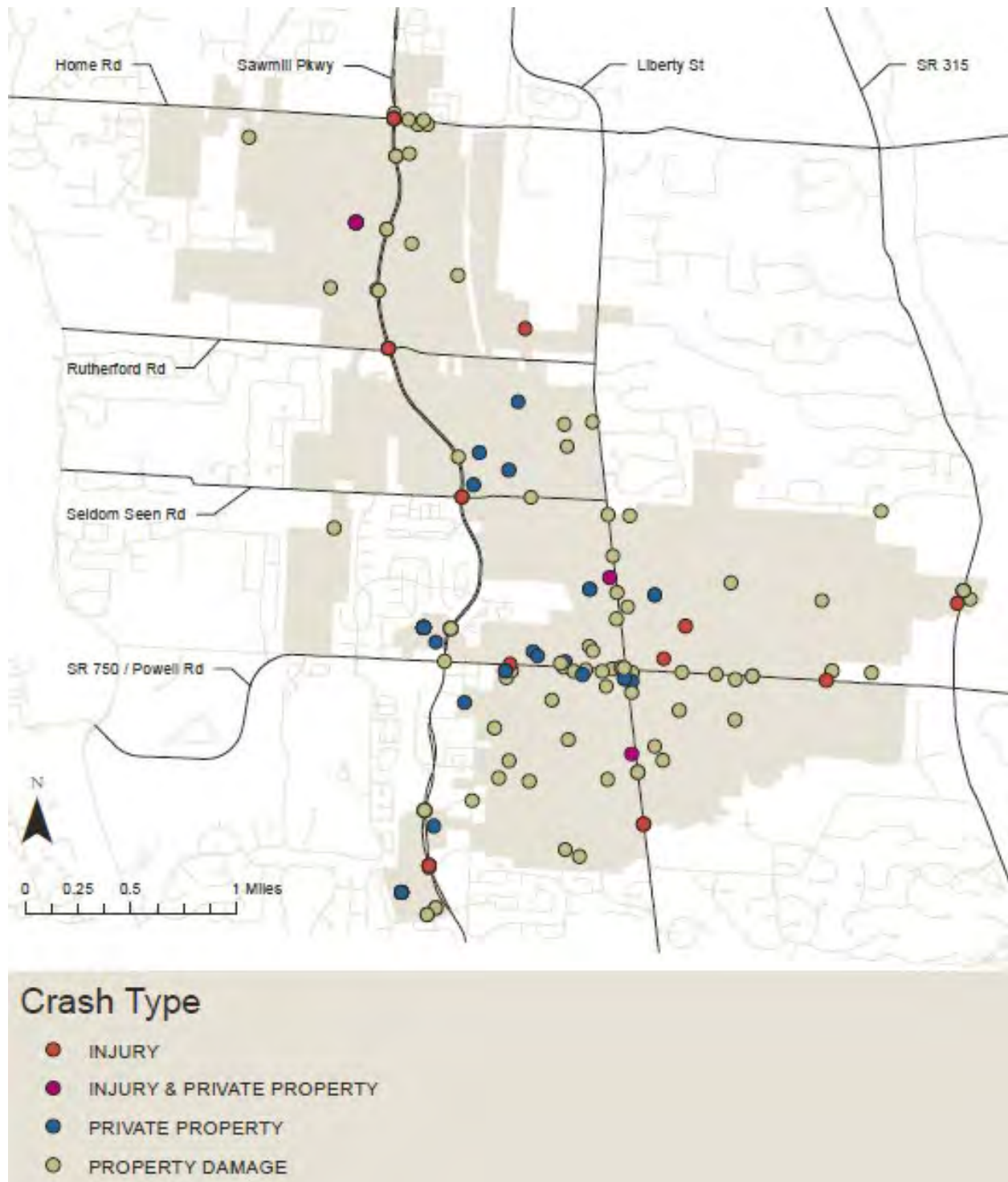


2022 CRASHES BY DAY OF THE WEEK



The most accident-prone roadways were also our busiest roadways: Sawmill Parkway, State Route 750, and Liberty Street. Officers watch for vehicles in these high-crash zones that are following too closely, speeding, or otherwise driving recklessly.

2022 Map of Traffic Crashes



Map by Powell Development Department

Investigations

The Detective Bureau is comprised of two detectives supervised by Deputy Chief Ron Sallows. Detectives Darren Smith and Ryan Pentz process crime scenes, interview witnesses, contact outside jurisdictions, write reports, work closely with prosecutors' offices, and testify in courts in Delaware and Franklin counties. They are the liaison with the Grand Jury.

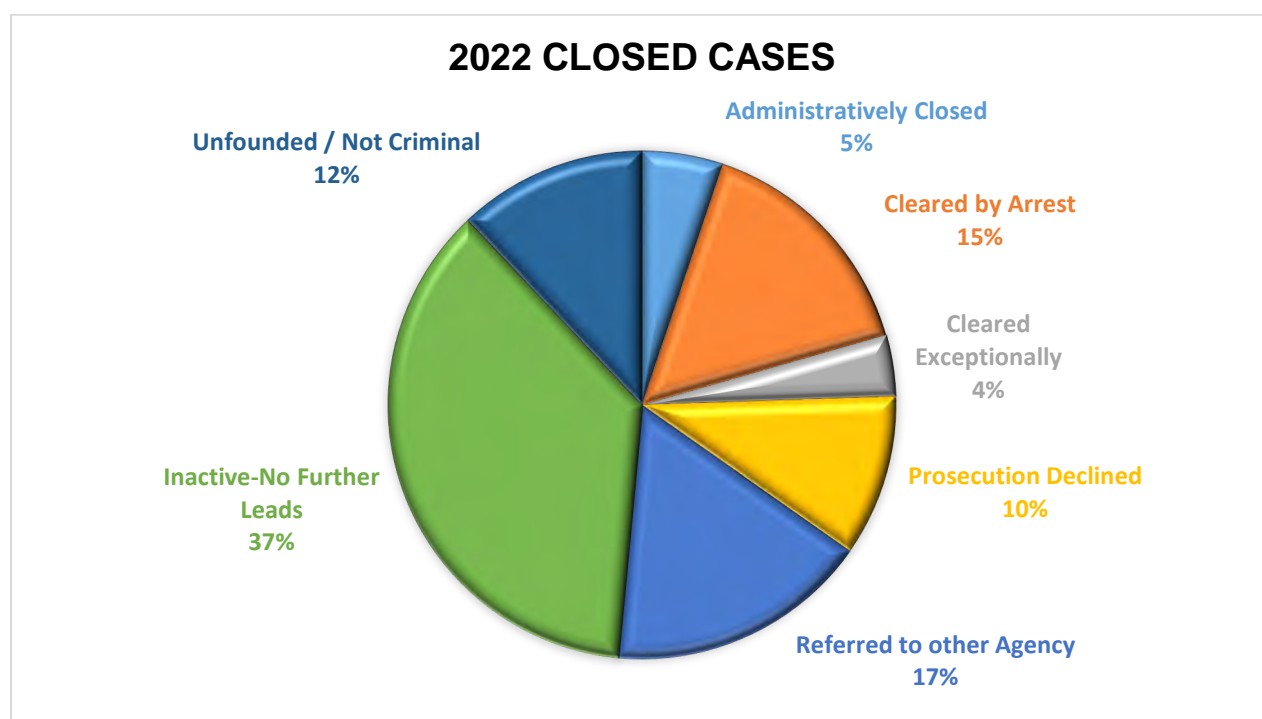
Detective Smith is assigned to the Cyber Crimes Task Force that includes members from the Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI) and other surrounding agencies. Detective Pentz is assigned to the Human Trafficking Task Force. Both detectives are also part of the Central Ohio Investigative Network (COIN).

The bureau manages criminal intelligence information, conducts employee backgrounds, processes crime scenes, and stores collected evidence and photographs. Detectives investigate both violent and property crimes. Investigations are reviewed and assigned a priority based on the seriousness of the offense and/or the solvability of the crime. Some crimes may take months, even years, to fully investigate and prosecute. Detectives assigned to investigate these crimes have developed an advanced level of expertise by attending specialized training and from years of experience working complex cases.



Cases Assigned for Investigation

Cases open at the beginning of 2022	95
Plus new cases assigned in 2022	181
Minus cases closed in 2022	233
Cases open at the end of 2022	43



In 2022, the agency standardized the clearance status and disposition of cases in the Records Management System in order to track solvability and clearance rates.

Notable Cases

Rape | In January, Detectives were called to a hospital to interview an autistic victim of sexual assault. Based on her information, a suspect was quickly identified as a temporary worker at the facility where the victim worked. After processing the physical evidence and interviewing the suspect and witnesses, Detective Smith secured an indictment from Grand Jury, and SWAT arrested the suspect at his residence. The defendant was found not competent to stand trial and sent to a mental health facility until competency can be restored.

Vandalism | Staff discovered a broken window and muddy footprints in the Parks & Rec building in February. Detective Smith and officers reviewed surveillance video and collected physical evidence. A similar incident occurred at Scioto Ridge Elementary in the Sheriff's jurisdiction. The suspect was identified from the video, and it was learned that he was being held at a juvenile facility in Youngstown. The parents paid restitution, and no charges were filed.





Breaking & Entering | In April, an employee of a self-storage facility reviewed overnight video footage and discovered two men cutting locks off storage units. One of the men was a customer, so he was easily identified. Detective Smith secured a search warrant for the suspect's and accomplice's homes and recovered much of the stolen property. The case was submitted to the prosecutor for presentation to the Grand Jury.

Bank Fraud | In a case that began in 2021, a local bank reported a loss over \$20,000 from the ATM and the vault. The suspect made a written admission to the bank when he was terminated, but further investigation revealed that he had committed similar crimes at several other banks. Detective Smith brought in the Secret Service, and the case was taken to

Federal court. The suspect pled guilty to bank fraud.

Child Endangerment | Several preschool children were found wandering on or near Sawmill Parkway. A driver stopped and moved them out of the roadway. The teacher who was supervising the children has been charged with child endangering, and her case will be heard in March.



Training

The department completed **2,584** hours of training in 2022. The training included 611.5 hours of in-service training, 1,914.75 hours of outside training, and 90.75 hours of legal update training..

All staff are required to attend certain key training classes throughout the year to keep their skills sharp and up to date. For officers, these include DT (Defensive Tactics), Firearms Re-qualifications, CPR and First Aid Certification, Active Shooter, All Hazard Training, Ethics, and Legal Updates. The administrative and command staff studied important developments in public records law. In addition to their mandated training, department employees are encouraged to seek additional specialized training which benefits their job functions.



In 2022, the State of Ohio mandated 22 hours of **Continuing Professional Training** (CPT) per officer. This was achieved in Powell. Topics included Domestic Violence, Community Diversity & Procedural Justice, Responding to Sexual Assault, and Use of Force

In the spring, Sergeant Scott Roach completed the ten-week **FBI National Academy** in Quantico, Virginia. The course was a great experience including networking with officers from all over the country and the world. The instructors were top-notch experts on national security, forensics, leadership, hostage negotiation and criminal behavior.

Powell is exceptional in the number of alumni from FBINA. Chief, Deputy Chief and two Sergeants have completed the prestigious course.

Chief Stephen Hrytzik currently serves as the Section IV Representative to the FBI National Academy Associates (FBINAA).



Section IV includes Ohio, West Virginia, Pennsylvania, New England, Eastern Canada and Eastern Europe.



Use of Force

The police department carefully tracks all uses of force by the agency. There were four use-of-force incidents in 2022 involving four individuals. Each report, known as *Response to Resistance or Aggression*, was reviewed by the Sergeants, Deputy Chief and Chief. All were found to be reasonable. Officers are trained in de-escalation and the duty to intervene.

Most use-of-force incidents involve a person in an altered mental state. Medics are used to transport such people to the hospital. This reduces the occasions when officers must use force to restrain a subject.

GENDER	USE OF FORCE
Male	2
Female	2

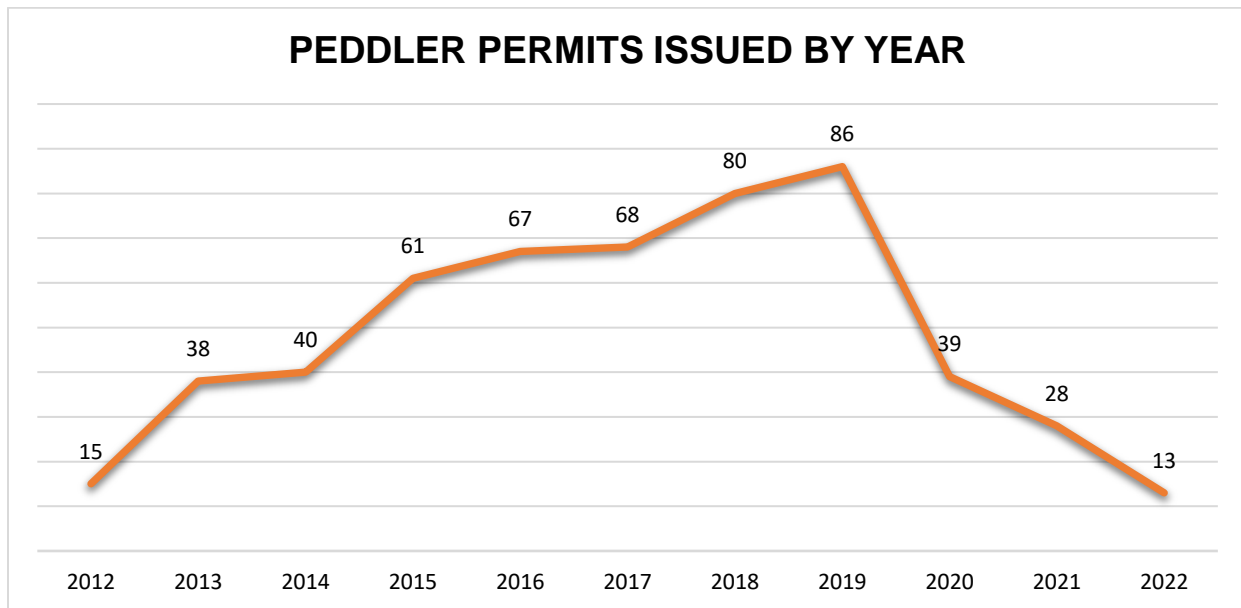
AGE	USE OF FORCE
Juvenile (under 18)	3
Adult (18-65)	1
Senior (65+)	0
Unknown	0

RACE	USE OF FORCE
White	4
Black	0
Asian	0
American Indian	0
Pacific Islander	0
Other	0

TYPE OF FORCE	INCIDENTS
Hands-on	4
Taser	0
Display of Taser	0
Baton	0
OC (spray)	0
Display of Firearm	0
Discharge of Firearm	0

Peddler Permits

Anyone wishing to work as a peddler/solicitor within the City limits must apply and pay a one-time fee of \$75. We conduct a background check before a permit is issued.



The City prohibits soliciting between the hours of 8 p.m. and 9 a.m., and on Sundays and holidays. It is a misdemeanor to solicit at residences where a 'No Soliciting' sign has been posted. 'No Soliciting' window clings are available free from the police department or the City reception desk.



Accreditation



Since 2002, the Powell Police Department has been accredited through the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA).

In 2022, the agency successfully completed the first Compliance Service Inspection of the reporting cycle.

Sergeant Scott Roach and C.O.P. Officer Audrey Wilt joined the Accreditation Team in 2022. All officers and civilians contribute to the accreditation effort under the leadership of this team.



The CALEA team from left to right: Officer Scott Sanford, Sergeant Scott Roach and Officer Audrey Wilt.

Citizens Police Academy

The Powell Citizens Police Academy graduated **22** students from its 13th class in 2022, making over 200 graduates to date. This program, which is free and open to all, aims to educate the public about the role of law enforcement in our community. Classes meet once a week for two hours, and at least one four-hour ride-along with a police officer is encouraged.

The program includes introduction to traffic stops, crime prevention, criminal law, firearms, CPR, and crime scene investigation. The instructors are drawn from Powell's patrol officers, sergeants, and detectives.

At the conclusion of the program, graduates receive a certificate of completion and an invitation to join the Powell Citizens Police Academy Alumni Association (PCPAAA). The 25 members of the association volunteer with various police department projects and activities.



Community Oriented Policing

Officer Audrey Wilt continued to expand the Community Oriented Policing position that was created in 2020. Some of her accomplishments include:

Programming

- ❖ Citizens Police Academy
- ❖ Safety Camp
- ❖ radKIDS
- ❖ RAD Women
- ❖ Bike Rodeo
- ❖ Basketball Camp

Events

- ❖ Civics Day
- ❖ Memorial Day Parade
- ❖ First Responder Night
- ❖ Community Bonfire
- ❖ Candy by the Carload
- ❖ Veterans Day
- ❖ Holidays in Powell
- ❖ Heroes and Helpers
- ❖ Third Fridays
- ❖ Touch-a-Truck Events
- ❖ Beautify Powell
- ❖ National Night Out
- ❖ Lollipop Concerts

Education/Outreach

- ❖ Crime Prevention Presentations
- ❖ Cruiser Displays
- ❖ Bike/Foot Patrol
- ❖ Homeowners Association Meetings
- ❖ Scout/School Tours & Presentations
- ❖ CIT/Special Needs/Medical
- ❖ Work with Sexual Assault Victims

Services

- ❖ Car Seat Installations
- ❖ Security Assessments
- ❖ Golf Cart Inspections
- ❖ Bicycle Registrations
- ❖ Business Updates
- ❖ CarFit





Community Oriented Policing Officer Audrey Wilt was awarded '**CIT Officer of the Year**' by the Delaware-Morrow Mental Health & Recovery Services Board.

Officer Wilt processed 65 CIT (Crisis Intervention Team) calls in Powell in the last ten months and assisted officers in interactions with persons in an altered mental state.

As a crisis negotiator for the Delaware Tactical Unit, her de-escalation and mediation skills benefit all Delaware county residents as well.

Safety Camp | Ninety children attended Safety Camp in July which included a cruiser display and tours of the jail. Each child had a fingerprint taken and learned about the role of fingerprints in law enforcement.



Memorial Bricks were dedicated at the Memorial Day and Veterans Day ceremonies.



Candy by the Carload



Girl Scout Bike Rodeo



Police and Fire Night

Dar-Tech donates to Helpers and Heroes





**Girl Scout
Department Tour**

**Holidays
in
Powell**



K9 Axel Retires

K9 Axel was born in Slovakia on July 17, 2012. Officer Jason Latiolais began training with Axel on July 29, 2013 at Excel K9 in Hiram, Ohio.

Their first night on the street was September 10, 2013, and on that night, Axel assisted officers in locating a missing resident.

Throughout his career, Axel assisted officers in the location of both felony and misdemeanor narcotics as well as evidence of crimes. Axel contributed to the safe apprehension of felony suspects in and around the City of Powell. Axel helped children and even adults feel more at ease while speaking to a police officer.

Axel served the city over nine years as the first and only police K9 for the City of Powell. Axel's official retirement date was December 31, 2022. He will reside with his handler, Officer Jason Latiolais.



Clerk Patti Mills Retires



Police Clerk Patti Mills retired on February 16, 2022, 17 years after beginning to work with the City of Powell Police Department.

Always a champion of our local veterans, Patti coordinated the Memorial Day Parade and Veterans Day celebrations in their honor.

She helped Chief Vest (Retired) organize the annual Community Bonfire with the Liberty Township Fire Department. She enjoyed this chance to give back to the community.



New Officer



Officer Jillian Elliott was sworn in as our newest patrol officer on January 24, 2022.

Officer Elliott served 17 years in the Maumee Police Division where she was a patrol officer, D.A.R.E. officer, detective, and community service officer.

A native of Toledo, Ohio, Officer Elliott, graduated from the University of Toledo with her Bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice and then went into the police academy.

Officer Elliott heard from fellow police academy recruit and former Powell Sergeant, Benjamin Boruchowitz, that Powell was hiring. She had

always heard that Powell was a great community and that the police department was greatly supported by its citizens. She loves the community policing aspect and the idea of getting to know Powell residents and business owners during her patrols.

Officer Elliott is married to Timothy and has two sons, Ethan and Tyler, and two stepdaughters, Kayle and Jenna. She enjoys family time and also traveling the world.

New Clerk



Amy Wolfe became our newest Police Clerk on May 16, 2022.

Clerk Wolfe served as a dispatcher for the Ohio State University Police Department for 12 years. She later worked as a clerk in the Franklin County Courthouse before coming to the Powell PD. She is passionate about the criminal justice field because she enjoys helping law enforcement officers and the community they serve.

A native of Kansas City, Kansas, Amy moved to central Ohio in 2002 to be closer to family.

While interviewing to be a police clerk, Amy felt most comfortable with the people from the Powell Police Department. "I felt I could be myself here," she said.

Amy is the proud mother of a teenage girl and twin six-year old girls. She enjoys true crime stories and creating art at paint-and-sip events.



Promoted to Sergeant



Travis Dennison is a 19-year veteran of law enforcement and has served with the Powell Police Department since June 2007. Prior to his employment with the city, he worked as a Deputy Sheriff at the Knox County Sheriff's Office. He graduated from Central Ohio Technical College in 2003 with an Associate of Applied Science Degree in Criminal Justice.

"Sgt. Dennison is an integral part of the Police Department and has proven himself as a leader," said Chief Stephen Hrytzik. "He truly embodies the core values of our agency – honesty, dependability and integrity. His imprint can be seen throughout the agency, as evidenced through his hard work

in progressing the image of the police department on a daily basis."

He has served the agency as an Officer-In-Charge (since 2009), Field Training Officer (since 2010), Evidence Technician, Crisis Intervention Team (C.I.T.) Officer, Citizen Police Academy Instructor, Bicycle Patrol Officer, Uniform Committee Member and Vehicle Maintenance Officer.

Sgt. Dennison is a two-time recipient of Officer of the Year (2008 and 2012). In November 2012, he was recognized as the American Red Cross Hero of Delaware County, and he received a lifesaving award after he successfully performed life saving measures on an unconscious and unresponsive subject who had a heart attack.

Dennison's promotion became effective on January 2, 2022.

2022 Awards



Officer of the Year was awarded to **Officer Fred Hart** for his outstanding work as an Officer-in-Charge and Field Training Officer. He keeps our aging fleet running and navigated the complex process of ordering new cruisers. We rely on Fred for crash reconstruction and analysis as well as guiding crash reports through the records system. He troubleshoots our WatchGuard equipment, maintains our AEDs and coordinates the inspection of our fire extinguishers. This award reflects our gratitude for his hard work and achievements.

Years of Service Awards: 25 Years – Detective Darren Smith; 15 Years – Sergeant Travis Dennison; 10 Years – Officer Josh Waymire; 5 Years – Officer Brandon Phenix.

Safe Driver Awards: 25 Years – Detective Darren Smith; 15 Years – Detective Ryan Pentz, Sergeant Travis Dennison, and Officer Jared Wilt; 10 Years – Officer Josh Waymire.

Certificates of Merit were awarded to Detectives Pentz and Smith and Officers Wilt and Hart for their assistance to the Delaware County Sheriff's Office responding to a stabbing in October 2022.



Goals and Objectives

2022 GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

1. **Planning** – The five-year plan was updated. Succession planning will be finalized with the new Human Resources Manager.
2. **Accreditation** – The Year One accreditation audit was successfully completed in the first quarter.
3. **Records Management System (RMS)** – Tyler New World continues to present challenges to the users, especially the crash module.
4. **Patrol** – Purchased two new lasers, a second StealthStat, and upgraded the in-car radars.
5. **Retirements** – Police Clerk Patti Mills retired in February and was replaced by Amy Wolfe in May. K9 Axel retired at the end of the year.
6. **Working with City Government** – Roles and responsibilities adjusted to changes in staffing.
7. **Wellbeing** – Mental health check-ups were scheduled for members of the Delaware Tactical Unit and the Crisis Negotiation Team.

2023 GOALS AND OBJECTIVES



Planning

We will update the five-year plan and work with consultants on the staffing assessment. We will study the feasibility of changing the evaluation system and explore possible alternative schedules.



Accreditation

We will complete the Year Two accreditation audit in the first quarter of 2023.



Records Management System

We will continue working with other county agencies to troubleshoot the new Tyler Technologies system and improve our work flow around the CAD/Mobile/RMS systems.



Patrol

We will begin a policy of requiring contractors and utilities to notify the city and get approval for work that could impede traffic. We will deploy a new speed trailer/message board. We will begin collecting demographics on traffic stops.



Retirements

We will prepare for the retirement of Officer Sanford in April.



Working with City Government

The Recruitment Team will work with HR on a new master recruitment plan, including the possibility of lateral hiring.



Wellbeing

We will provide updated training on the Employee Assistance program and schedule mental health check-ins for each employee of the department.