

City of Scottsbluff, Nebraska

Monday, May 1, 2023

Regular Meeting

Item Reports3

Council to receive the annual report from the Police Department.

Staff Contact: Kevin Spencer, Police Chief

2022

Scottsbluff Police Department

1801 Avenue B

e-mail policeinfo@scottsbluff.org

Website www.scottsbluff.org



Annual Report

SCOTTSBLUFF POLICE DEPARTMENT'S VISION AND MISSION STATEMENTS

VISION

To serve our community with **honesty, compassion** and **respect**.

MISSION

The mission of the Scottsbluff Police Department is to enhance **safety, service**, and **trust** with our community.

Keep our community **safe** by preventing citizens from becoming victims of crime or from being injured in traffic collisions. This is our highest priority.

Provide excellent **service** to the numerous requests we receive from the community.

Our principle duty is to serve.

Maintain the **trust** of our community. This trust provides every department member with the foundation required to carry out our duties. Without trust we simply do not have the authority to serve our public.

THE SCOTTSBLUFF POLICE DEPARTMENT'S CORE VALUES

To help in achieving our mission, the Scottsbluff Police Department has outlined the department's **core values**, or characteristics important to being a successful officer:

Integrity: The Scottsbluff Police Department is built upon a foundation of ethical and professional conduct. We are committed to the highest level of moral principles and ethics. All members of the department will adhere to the Law Enforcement Code of Ethics.

Honesty: We will be truthful and trustworthy at all times.

Candor: The freedom from prejudice or malice; fairness. We are committed to equal application of the law to offenders and members of the public as well as the equal application of rules and regulations to all members of the department.

Commitment: The trait of sincere and steadfast fixity on a purpose; the act of binding yourself (intellectually or emotionally) to a course of action. We are dedicated to meeting the demands of our profession and performing all duties to the best of our ability.

Courage: The ability to confront real or perceived fear in the face of pain, danger, uncertainty or intimidation. We are dedicated to meeting all challenges with the courage needed to accomplish our mission.

Competence: Properly or sufficiently qualified, capable, or efficient of performing the task; adequate for the purpose. We are committed to being qualified to handle the tasks which society expects from the police department.

Compassion: We understand our role as community caretakers, and temper our application of the law with compassion and empathy.

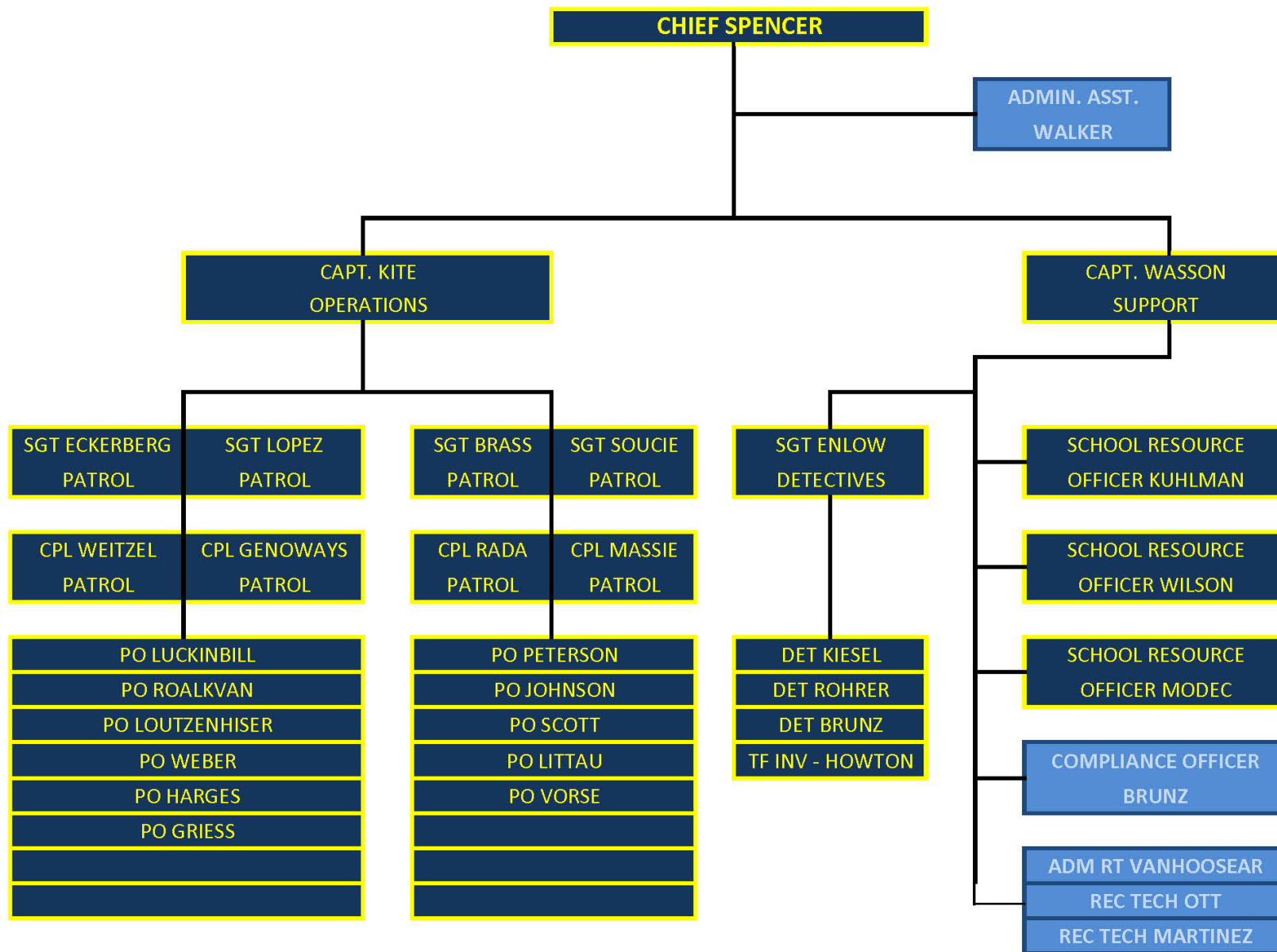
Department Goals

- Continue to evaluate and implement policy and procedural changes that enhance the guidance and accountability of the department.
- Recruit and retain the best possible police officers.
- Provide quality training for all employees.
- Promote police conduct that is responsive and sensitive to the needs of the community.
- Require aggressive crime fighting to improve the utilization of patrol and investigative resources in the identification, arrest, and conviction of individuals committing criminal activity within our jurisdiction.
- Require a professional work ethic and professional work product by officers engaged in routine police duties, and preliminary and follow-up investigations.
- Enhance the role of department personnel in the planning and development process.
- Recognize exceptional work by police employees.
- Stress the responsibility of all employees to be accountable to the department and the community for all his/her actions.

Age and Experience

Average Age of Sworn Personnel	47.3
Average Years of Police Experience/All Sworn Personnel	15.8
Average Years of Police Experience/Command Officers	27.0
Average Years of Police Experience/Sergeants	19.2
Average Years of Police Experience/Corporals	6.3
Average Years of Police Experience/Detectives	16.2
Average Years of Police Experience/Patrol	11.0

Organizational Chart



2022 Revenues

Scottsbluff Police Department provides several services by administrative staff and officers. These services are provided for fees charged by the department to assist in recovering the cost of providing them. The monies earned in this area are then returned to the City's General Fund.

Also shown is the service contract amount with Terrytown for providing all police functions. Not shown is the amount that the department shares with Scottsbluff School District and Western Nebraska Community College for providing crossing guards and school resource officers.

Police Service/Terrytown	\$130,000	Alcohol Tests	\$5,317
Vehicle Impound/Tow	\$19,085	Photo copies	\$4,718
DUI Grants	\$19,484	Alarms	\$3,600
Seat Belt Grants	\$14,286	Firearms Range Use Fees	\$1,380
Speed Grants	\$6,746	Handgun Permits	\$1,363
Drug Impaired Grants	\$5,420	Fingerprinting	\$1,283
U Text U Drive Grants	\$5,000	ATV Permits	\$750
Alcohol Compliance Grants	\$2,236	Witness Fees	\$428
Car Auctions	\$24,358		
WING Task Force	\$30,355	Total:	\$275,809

2022 Department Activity

Operations Division

The Operations Division consists of Patrol, K-9 Program, Fleet Maintenance and Training. These functions are the responsibility of Captain Lance Kite. lkite@scottsbluff.org

The patrol division consists of 4 Patrol Sergeants, 4 Patrol Corporals and 16 Patrol Officers. The patrol division is responsible for handling daily calls for service, proactive traffic enforcement as well as initiating and completing criminal investigations. Patrol Officers assist in alcohol and tobacco compliance checks as well as Click It or Ticket, Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over, U Drive U Text U Pay, Speeding, Drug Impaired Campaign grants.

Training requirements for Nebraska law enforcement officers has evolved in the past several years and remains a priority within the department.



GET A RIDE.
A DUI costs more
than you think.

Support Services Division

The Support Services Division consists of Investigative Services, Records, School Resource Officer (SRO) and College Resource Officer (CRO) Programs, Code Compliance & Animal Control, Special Weapons and Tactics (S.W.A.T.), and Explosives Ordinance Disposal (E.O.D.). These functions are the responsibility of Captain Brian Wasson bwasson@scottsbluff.org

The primary focus of the Support Services Division in 2022 has continued with the acquisition and implementation of technology. Work has continued with the Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) and law enforcement Records Management System (RMS) to report crime statistics to the state and federal government. This has brought technology into the police patrol vehicle as well and has enhanced the cooperation and interoperability between all public safety agencies within Scotts Bluff County. This project has yet to fully implement eCitation and work continues to complete. This process remains in development between the RMS Vendor and the Nebraska Crime Commission. We are hopeful this will become enabled in 2023. The department secured funding in 2022 and are working to create an Automated License Plate Recognition (ALPR) Program within the department to assist in crime prevention.





- In 2021 the City of Scottsbluff Police Department began the process of becoming an Accredited Law Enforcement Agency through the Nebraska Crime Commission.
- The process mandated twenty-nine policies that law enforcement agencies implement in order to receive accreditation.
- Agencies not accredited would be ineligible to receive loans, grants, funds, or donations administered by the Nebraska Commission on Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice.
- SPD updated or composed thirteen policies to meet standards.
- Chief of Police, Kevin Spencer, approved and issued these policies which were created by department staff to assist in this process.
- The department earned Accreditation on October 1st, 2022.

2022 Accreditation

Scottsbluff Police Department K9 Team



- K9 Handler: Officer Tyler Weber
- K9: DUKE



2022 K9 Duke

K-9 Team Statistics

- 27 Narcotic Deployments
- 10 Patrol Deployments
- Numerous narcotic paraphernalia items located and confiscated
- 50 grams of methamphetamine located
- Multiple discoveries of cocaine and marijuana
- “Sniffs” conducted at schools.
- Multiple deployments to assist Adult Probation with client searches.
- Officer Weber and Duke have maintained a consistent 16 hours of training per month.

2022 K9 Duke

The School Resource Officer Program began in 2002 with funding from the United States Department of Justice COPS in Schools grant program. Through the years and with diminishing grant funds, partnerships were expanded with the Scottsbluff Public School District to maintain and enhance the program. In 2014 this partnership grew with the addition of a second School Resource Officer within the district. The program was enhanced again in 2019 with the addition of a third School Resource Officer position within the department. This third officer serves on the campus of the Western Nebraska Community College, Scottsbluff Campus. This position had been occupied by Officer Matthew Broderick in 2020 and with him leaving the department a replacement will be selected to begin the fall 2021 session.



Officer Bobbi Kuhlman
WNCC Scottsbluff Campus



Officer Ron Wilson
Scottsbluff Senior High School



Officer Mike Modec
Bluffs Middle School

School Resource Officer Program

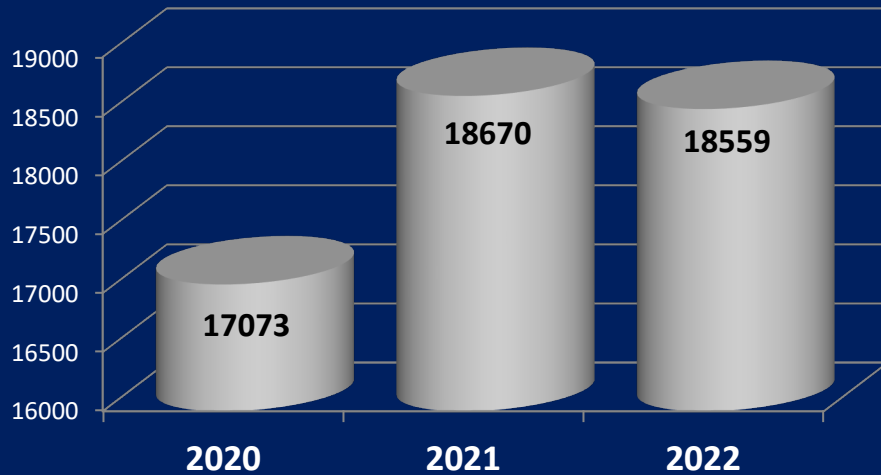
The Scottsbluff Police Department had three interns in 2022. Interns experience a full immersion into the workings of the Scottsbluff Police Department. Interns work in records, administration, investigations, and patrol.

- Macy Goodschmidt - Gering High School
- Kellen Hayes - Scottsbluff High School
- Haylee Knox - Scottsbluff High School

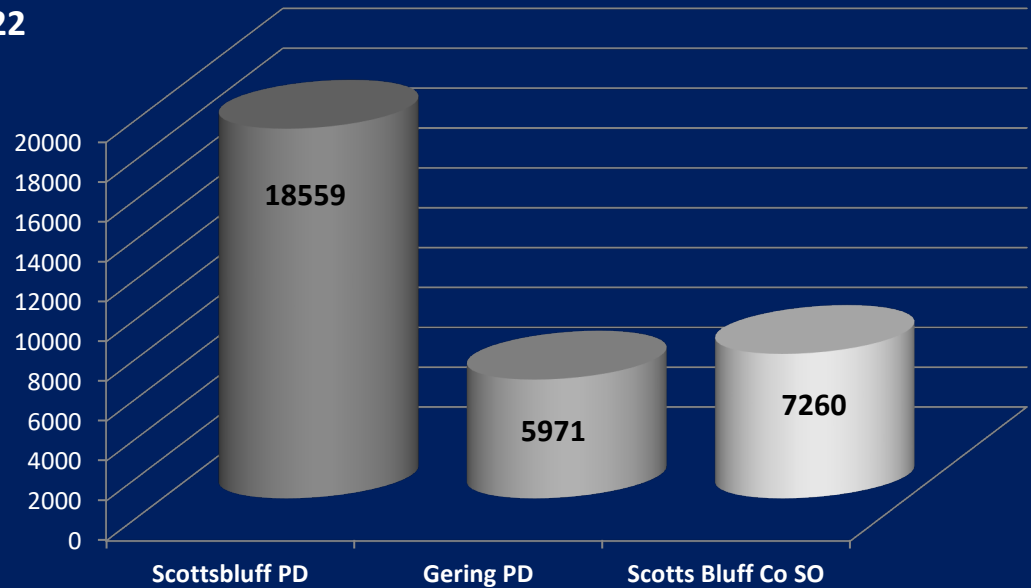


2022 Internship Program

3-year Calls for Service Comparison

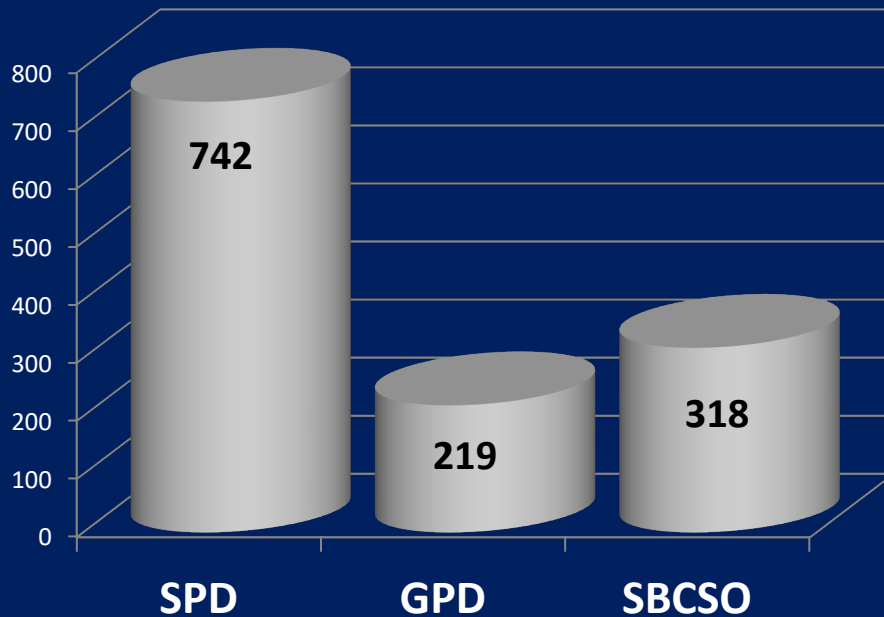


2022 Local Agency Total Call Comparison



2020 Activity Summary

2022 Total Arrest – Local Agency Comparison



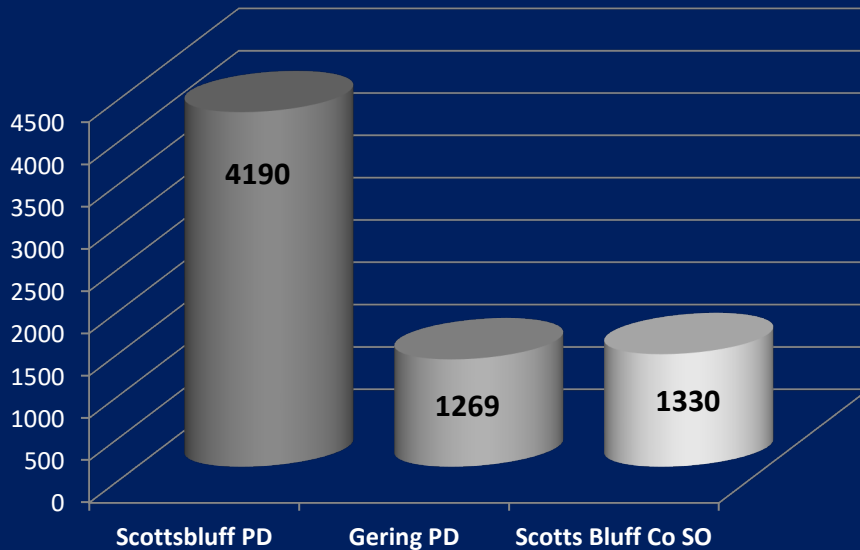
This graph compares the three larger agencies arrest statistics in Scotts Bluff County.

Of the total arrests for Scottsbluff Police Department in 2022, the below arrests were made for serious crimes.

- 0 Homicide Arrests
- 1 Robbery Arrests
- 3 Arson Arrests
- 13 Aggravated Assault Arrests
- 17 Assault on Officer Arrests (1 with bodily fluids)

2022 Activity Summary

2020 Written Report Agency Comparison



Written reports are completed to document investigative efforts as well as document evidence collected during investigations. Not all calls for service (CFS) require a written report. Of the total calls for services received, this reflects 24.5% of those calls required written reports.

The total number of reports written by Scottsbluff Police officers in 2020 reflects an average of 144 written reports per officer. Some reports take minimal time while others take several hours and even shifts to complete.

A sample of a Police Report form. The form is titled "POLICE REPORT" in large, bold, black letters. Below the title, there are fields for "Case No.", "Date", "Reporting Officer", and "Prepared By". The "Incident:" field is followed by several blank lines for text entry. The form is divided into sections: "Detail of Event:", "Actions Taken:", and "Summary:". Each section has a heading and several lines of text, some of which are repeated as placeholders.

2022 Activity Summary

2022 Scottsbluff Police Department drug related activity

- In 2022 the WING Task Force and Scottsbluff Police Department experienced a significant increase in the number of opiates seized and possessed by offenders within their areas of operation. This included the seizure of numerous counterfeit prescription pills containing fentanyl. These drugs are very dangerous to users as they are most often created in clandestine labs without any control or oversight. The department also investigated several deaths caused by fentanyl poisoning in 2022.

2022 Drug Seizure Amounts

- 910 grams (32.2 ounces or 2.01 lbs.) of Methamphetamine seized
- 23 grams of Heroin seized (.81 ounce)
- 2,179 Pills containing suspected and confirmed fentanyl
- 4,268 grams (151 ounces or 9.4 lbs) of Marijuana seized
 - This amount does not include edibles containing THC



*Some arrests were released on citations and the subjects were not jailed

2022 Activity Summary

2022 Scottsbluff Police Department drug related activity

- 16 were arrested for Distribution of Controlled Substances
 - Other cases of drug distribution were made and are awaiting prosecution.
- 224 subjects were arrested for Possession of Controlled Subs. (includes marijuana)
- 234 subjects arrested for possession of Drug Paraphernalia
- The Scottsbluff Police Department provides an investigator to the WING / HIDTA Drug Task Force. This task force focuses on the investigation of mid to upper level drug distributors throughout the 13 counties of the Nebraska Panhandle. Other agencies throughout the panhandle also provide investigators for this effort.



*Some arrests were released on citations and the subjects were not jailed

2022 Activity Summary

2022 Scottsbluff Police Department alcohol related activity

- 59 subjects were arrested or cited for Driving Under the Influence (DUI)
 - 13 of these were also charged with Refusal of a Chemical Test or PBT
- 33 subjects were arrested/cited for Minor In Possession (MIP)
- 50 Open Container violations
- Of the 108 Liquor License Checks conducted within the City of Scottsbluff in 2022, there were 8 compliance failures including the sale of alcohol to a minor.



2022 Activity Summary

2022 Scottsbluff Police Department Code Compliance & Animal Control

CODE ENFORCEMENT

- 155 Code Compliance Calls
- 94 Letters of Abatement were sent
- 16 Snow & Ice removal notices
- 40 Nuisance warnings issued



ANIMAL CONTROL

- 434 Animal Complaints
- 17 Animal Bites
- 2 Citations for Cruelty
 - 1 Warning
- 9 Citations for Leash Law
 - 19 Warnings
- 5 Citations for No Rabies



2022 Activity Summary

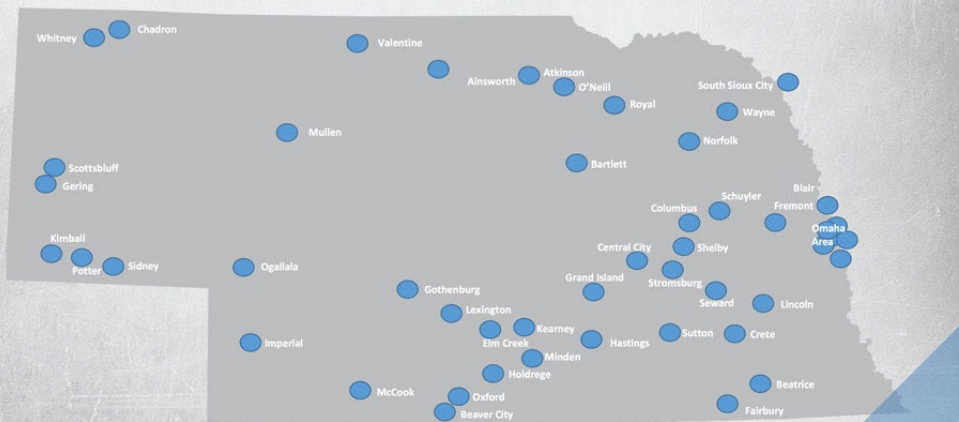


Nebraska Human Trafficking TASK FORCE

In 2015 the Nebraska Attorney General's Office created the Nebraska Human Trafficking Task Force (NHTTF). The task force focused the state's response to sex and labor trafficking occurring throughout the state as well as in Scottsbluff. Scottsbluff Chief of Police, Kevin Spencer was charged with bringing the panhandle partners together in this effort which began in 2016.

Trafficking Risk

This Nebraska map illustrates the location of reports of human trafficking since 2016.*



*All reports are reviewed and investigated but not all are prosecuted.

The task force is comprised of law enforcement, prosecutors, service providers, advocates and comm. partners. This group meets quarterly to develop and build this partnership as well as work to identify human trafficking, stop the traffickers and recognize each victim.

Initiatives

2022 Motor Vehicle Accident Summary / Traffic Enforcement

Traffic enforcement is important in reducing the number of motor vehicle accidents and increasing public safety. Below is the number of traffic accidents investigated within the city in 2022. The totals of violations listed below are some of the most common violations contributing to motor vehicle accidents. Scottsbluff police officers conducted 2,564 traffic stops in 2022. 684 of these traffic contacts occurred from grant activity. Of these, 1615 citations and 1,837 warning citations were issued.

ACCIDENTS

Non-Injury Accidents
652
Injury Accidents
115
Fatal Accidents
1

TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT

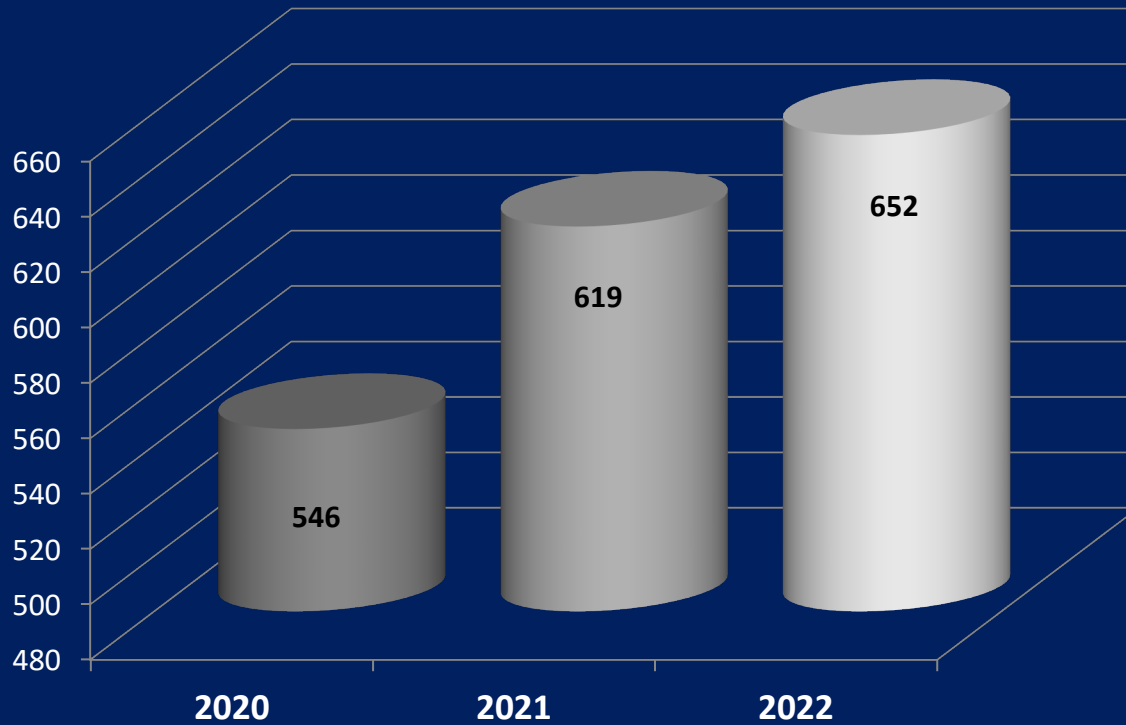
(WARNINGS)

Driving Under Suspension	150	
Stop Sign Violations	56	(29)
Speeding Violations	161	(416)
Failure to Yield	21	(20)
Following too Closely	15	(1)
Negligent / Reckless Driving	33	(3)

* Violations addressed with both written citations and warnings

2022 Activity Summary

2022 Motor Vehicle Accident Summary / Traffic Enforcement



2022 Activity Summary

2022 Crimes Summary

Many crimes that occur fall within designations of Crimes Against Property and Crimes Against Persons. Below is a snapshot of some of these crime types that were investigated by the department in 2022. The department continues to see significant increases in fraud related crimes targeting vulnerable groups within the community. These crimes can result in significant monetary losses and pose significant challenges to investigate.

<u>Property</u>		<u>Persons</u>	
Bad Check	8	Animal Bites	49
Burglary	61	Assaults <small>(includes domestic)</small>	236
Forgery	39	Agg. Assault <small>(includes domestic)</small>	47
Fraud	65	Disorderly Conduct	49
Thefts	513	Homicide	0
Theft – Vehicle	52	Lewd & Lascivious	1
Trespassing	285	Protection Order Viol.	36
Vandalism	222	Robbery	3
		Sex Offenses	53
Total:	1123	Total:	474

2022 Activity Summary

Ask a cop



Each week, Scottsbluff Police Sgt. Krisa Brass will answer questions submitted by Star-Herald readers.

The Police Department has worked to enhance community engagement through various outreach activities. The police department looks forward to these events and activities.

- National Night Out
- Coffee with a Cop
- Shop with a Cop
- Adopt a School Participation



2022 Community Outreach



National Police Week became a designated observance under President John F. Kennedy's administration in 1962, with the designation of May 15 as Peace Officers Memorial Day.



2022 Law Enforcement Memorial Ceremony