GREAT FALLS POLICE DEPARTMENT

2022 Annual Report





CHIEF OF POLICE JEFF NEWTON



Great Falls Community Members,

On behalf of the Great Falls Police Department, it is my privilege to present the 2022 Annual Report. Throughout 2022, staff members of all bureaus worked diligently with the emphasis to provide excellent service to our community members. As you review the report, please note the "quick facts" that provides additional information that may be of value.

I am proud of the service and dedication the members of the Great Falls Police Department exhibit on a daily basis. Both our sworn and civilian staff have worked tirelessly, despite being short staffed, to improve public safety for our community members. Our staff members have shown tremendous work ethic in their day to day activities demonstrating their commitment to the City of Great Falls.

During 2022, the Great Falls Police Department faced staffing challenges in both the sworn and civilian positions. This is not unique to Great Falls, as public safety agencies across Montana and the Nation are exhibiting the same challenges of hiring qualified applicants. We will continue our efforts to recruit and hire qualified applicants in order to provide service to our community.

The annual report provides statistics and other information that emphasizes the challenges our community is facing. However, through continued partnerships with our Federal, State, Tribal and Local agencies, we will continue to address these issues.

The Great Falls Police Department sincerely appreciates the continued support from our community. The support and collaboration reinforces and highlights our mission statement of Community, Compassion and Courage.

I encourage our community members to visit our department website, greatfalls.net/police and follow us on Facebook, <u>https://www.facebook.com/GFPolice</u> to learn more about the Great Falls Police Department, our different bureaus and programs.

Sincerely,

Jeff Newton Chief of Police

TABLE OF CONTENTS

DEPARTMENT STRUCTURE

Page 4

PATROL BUREAU

-Directed Enforcement Team -Traffic Statistics -Crime View Pages 5-23

INVESTIGATIONS BUREAU

-General Case -Special Victims Unit -Internet Crimes Against Children -Sexual / Violent Offenders -School Resource Officers -Special Task Forces Page 24-33

SUPPORT BUREAU

-Volunteer Program -Animal Control -Training -Personnel & Hiring Statistics -Promotions -Awards & Commendations Page 34-51

COMMUNICATIONS BUREAU

-Calls for Service -Personnel -Training -Employee Recognition Page 52-54

ADMINISTRATIVE BUREAU

-Records Management -Evidence -Services Page 55-58

CRIMES AGAINST PERSONS Page 12-13

PROPERTY CRIMES

Page 14-15

OTHER CALLS FOR SERVICE Page 16-17

ASSAULTS ON OFFICERS Page 18

> USE OF FORCE Page 19-21

BIAS BASED PROFILING REVIEW Page 22-23

> COMPLAINTS Page 50-51

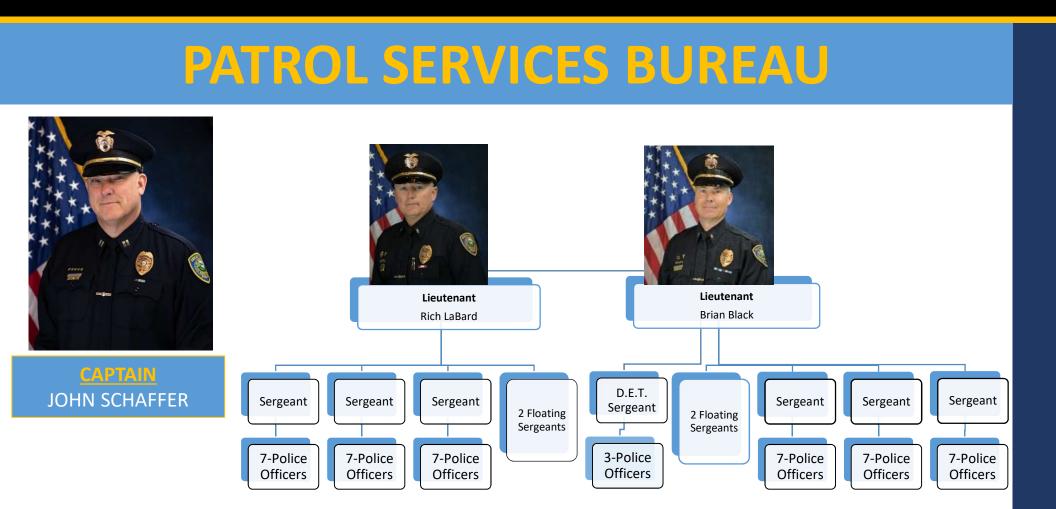
Department Structure

CHIEF OF POLICE JEFF NEWTON

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT SR. DEDE BERGAN

INVESTIGATIONS	ADMINISTRATIVE	PATROL	COMMUNICATIONS	SUPPORT
SERVICES BUREAU	SERVICES BUREAU	SERVICES BUREAU	SERVICES BUREAU	SERVICES BUREAU
CAPTAIN	MANAGER	CAPTAIN	MANAGER	CAPTAIN
ROB MOCCASIN	RACHEL DARLINGTON	JOHN SCHAFFER	KAREN YOUNG	DOUG OTTO
SWORN POSITIONS	CIVILIAN POSITIONS	SWORN POSITIONS	CIVILIAN POSITIONS	SWORN POSITIONS
24-FULL TIME EMPLOYEES	9-FULL TIME EMPLOYEES	56-FULL TIME EMPLOYEES	22-FULL TIME EMPLOYEES	5-FULL TIME EMPLOYEES
CIVILIAN POSITIONS 1-FULL TIME EMPLOYEES		CIVILIAN POSITIONS 3-FULL TIME EMPLOYEES		CIVILIAN POSITIONS 7-FULL TIME EMPLOYEES





-Quick Facts-

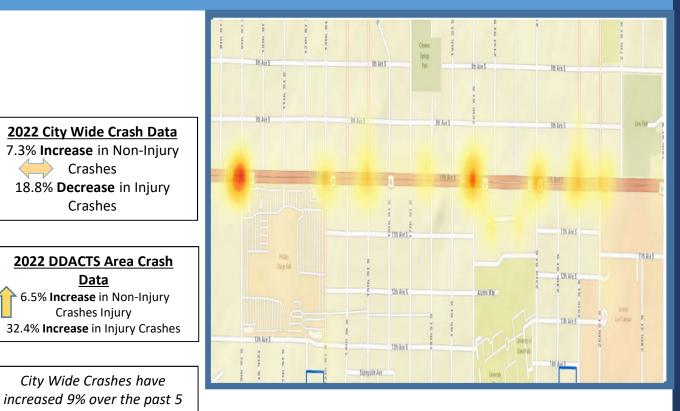
Great Falls Police Officers provide 24/7 patrol coverage throughout the City. There are two patrol teams, each overseen by a Lieutenant. Each team consists of three squads led by a Sergeant. The floating Sergeants are utilized to provide field supervision during the busiest times of the day. We are working toward achieving staffing levels that will allow two Sergeants per squad to ensure proper field supervision across all shifts. Our patrol teams work a 10 hour and 40 minute schedule that allows teams to rotate through days, afternoon, and night shifts and also allows for a training day every fourteen days.

DDACTS

Data Driven Approach to Crime and Traffic Safety (DDACTS) as a philosophy was developed by the National Highway and Traffic Safety Administration and implemented by GFPD in 2012.

DDACTS continues to be utilized by the Patrol Services Bureau although limited in 2022. By utilizing data on crashes and criminal activity, GFPD can more efficiently and effectively deploy its officers to mitigate the effects on our community.

Staffing shortages hampered our efforts in 2022 as the Directed Enforcement Team was not fully staffed. Traffic Enforcement and Crash Reduction will be a primary focus in 2023.



-Quick Facts-

years.

The software program CrimeView, allows GFPD to look at real time crime and crash data. The above image shows the areas along 10th Ave S where the most crashes take place in the form of heat mapping. The intersection with the most crashes in Great Falls is at 9th St S. and 10th Ave S.

Directed Enforcement Team

The Directed Enforcement Team or DET was formed in 2017 in response to specific crime problems that were occurring in our community in addition to supplementing the needs of some of the specialized units within GFPD and other law enforcement partners. The DET focuses in seven main areas:

- 1) Assists other agencies and bureaus
 - a. US Marshals, Investigative and Support Services Bureaus, Russell Country Drug Task Force
- 2) Street Crimes Investigations
 - a. Stolen Autos, Narcotics, Robberies, Thefts, Burglaries
- 3) BRIC (Business, Residential, Involving Community Officer)
- 4) Impaired Driving
- 5) Problem Houses/Businesses
- 6) Mental Health Police Officer
- a) Assigned to MRT and Mental Health Treatment Court 7) Traffic Problems







-Quick Facts-

The DET serves in many capacities but their focus is on crime, traffic and quality of life problems directly affecting the residents of Great Falls.



Mobile Response Team (MRT)

Mental Health and its co-occurring conditions such as addiction, continue to be a factor in calls in which officers are responding. GFPD officers responded to 1605 (927 in 2021) Suicidal Persons/Welfare Checks/Mental Health calls, a 73% increase in 2022. The Mobile Response Team was utilized by Officers 317 (266) times. MRT provided follow up for 162 individuals.

MRT began in late 2016 as a collaborative with GFPD and the Center for Mental Health and was originally called the Crisis Response Team. As the team evolved and new healthcare providers emerged, the team moved to Alluvion Health where it remains today. GFPD and Alluvion Health share a care coordinator to improve outcomes for those in mental health crisis.

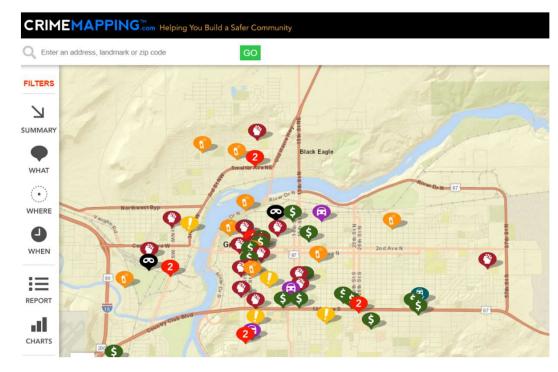
-Quick Facts-

GFPD collaborates with Great Falls Municipal Court, Alluvion Health, Many Rivers Healthcare, The Great Falls City Attorney's Office and the State of Montana Public Defender's Office in the Great Falls Mental Health Treatment Court. This one of a kind court provides those with mental health related problems an opportunity to become well while working through their misdemeanor crimes. This court has found success in providing opportunities to those in need of mental health services in order to prevent additional criminal behaviors.

CRIME VIEW/CRIME MAPPING

GFPD continues to utilize a software program called CrimeView to look at crime and crash data in our community while providing a similar solution available to the public called Crime Mapping.

Crime View provides officers and supervisors real time data on crime and crash trends that blends effectively with the GFPD and the DDACTS philosophy. Crime Mapping provides our community with the same real time data regarding what is happening in their neighborhoods. The program provides alerts whenever activity is taking place that community member wants to know about.

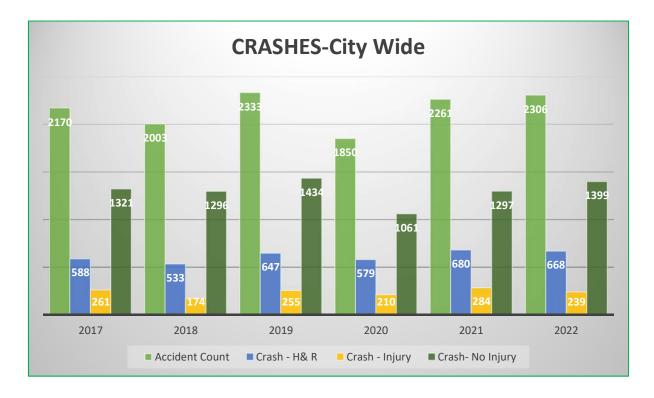


Crime Mapping Link: https://greatfallsmt.net/police/crime-mapping

-Quick Facts-

Crime Mapping is easy to access. It takes seconds to sign up and set the notifications. If something is taking place in your neighborhood, an email is sent notifying you of the activity and the approximate location. Get started at https://www.crimemapping.com/home

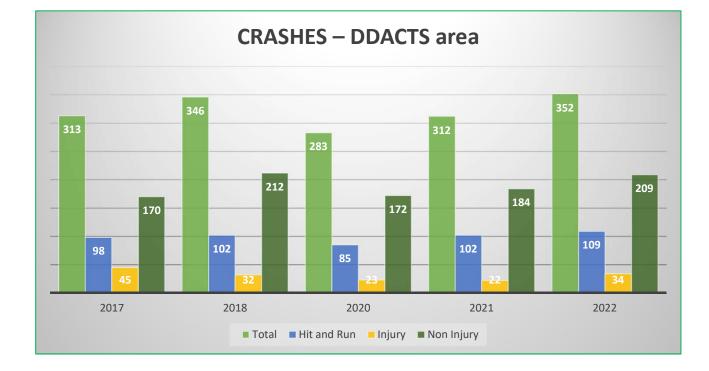
TRAFFIC – CITY WIDE





<u>-Quick Facts-</u> Crashes city wide are up 9%. Hit and Run crashes saw the largest increase over the past 5 years with an increase of 12%.

TRAFFIC – DDACTS



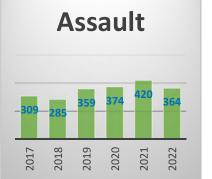


Quick Facts-

Due to staffing changes in the City Mapping department, 2019 DDACTS stats were not available. The addition of the CrimeView software has made gathering this data easily obtainable.

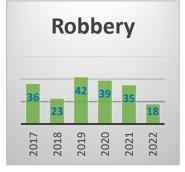
CRIMES AGAINST PERSONS – CITY WIDE







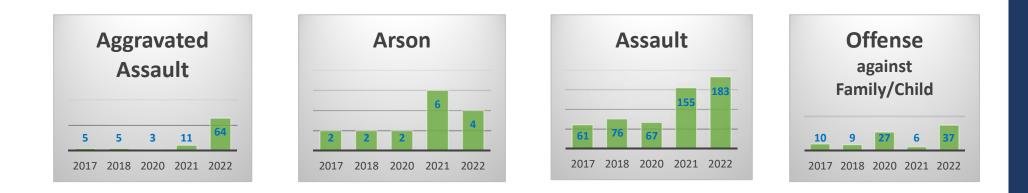




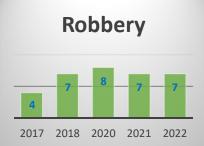




CRIMES AGAINST PERSONS – DDACTS











PROPERTY CRIME – CITY WIDE















PROPERTY CRIME – DDACTS













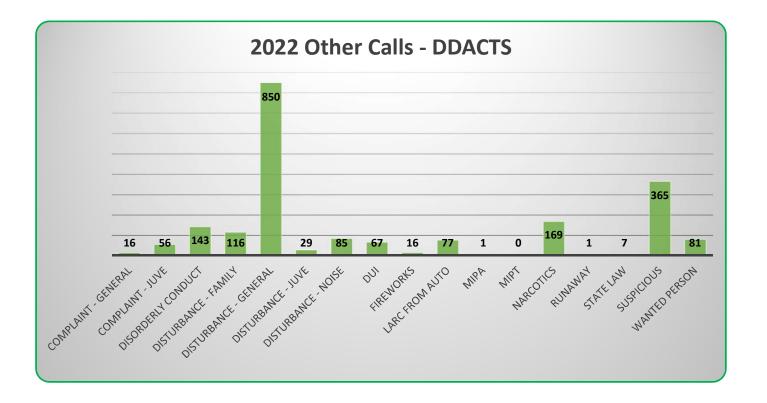


OTHER CALLS – CITY WIDE





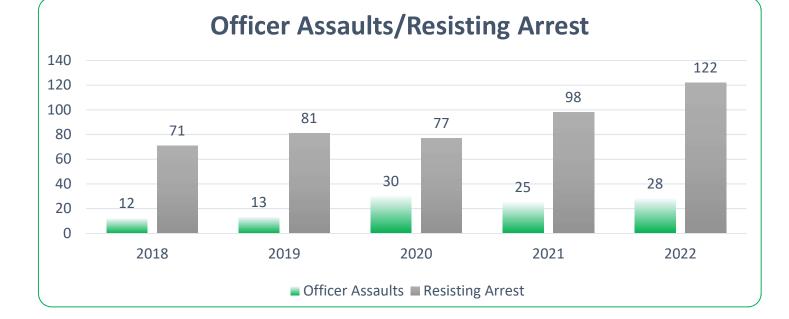
OTHER CALLS – DDACTS





ASSAULTS ON OFFICERS

Assaults on our officers have risen slightly since last year. In addition, persons <u>resisting</u> <u>arrest</u> has <u>increased</u> <u>significantly.</u>



-Quick Facts-

Did you know assaults on Police Officers have increased 133% since 2018 and persons resisting arrest has risen 72%.

USE OF FORCE



Use of Force Incidents by Bureau

Bureau	2020	2021	2022
Patrol	211	277	242
Investigations	3	5	12
Support	0	2	0
Total	214	284	254

Overall, Use of Force Decreased 10.5% from 2021 to 2022.

Physical restraint/strikes and firearm threatened use continues to constitute the majority of force used. The percentage of force used per arrest was 9.5%. GFPD Officers were involved in two officer involved shootings during 2022.

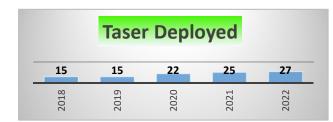
-Quick Facts-

When a police officer uses force it is always in response to a subject's level of resistance.

USE OF FORCE

Phy	ysical F	Restrai	nt/Stri	kes
96	72	94	124	136
2018	2019	2020	2021	2022

	Taser	Threat	tened	
34	13	26	40	19
2018	2019	2020	2021	2022



(00	Sp	ray	,
0	0	0	0	0
2018	2019	2020	2021	2022



	B	ato	n	
0	1	1	2	1
2018	2019	2020	2021	2022

	Fire	earm l	Jse	
1	1	0	0	2
2018	2019	2020	2021	2022

-Quick Facts-Per Montana Code Annotated, suspects and arrestees cannot resist arrest at the time of the arrest even if they feel it is unlawful. The Justice System provides remedies that can be sought at a later time.

USE OF FORCE

Use of Force Incidents by Race of Suspect

Race	2021	Percentage
White	160	63.0%
American Indian	80	31.5%
Black	10	3.9 %
Asian	2	0.79%
Other	0	0%
Hispanic	0	0%
Other	2	0.79%
Totals	254	100%

79% of the time officers used force, they were dispatched/called to the situation as opposed to some type of self-initiated contact.

These response driven contacts resulted in force due to the nature of the incident as listed below in percentage of assaults on officers and resisting arrest. ACCS (Arrest, Control, Combative and Survival) refresher training continues to assist officers with use of force.



-Quick Facts-

All of the Use of Force Reports are reviewed by a Sergeant, a Lieutenant and at least one Captain before being approved.

BIASED-BASED PROFILING REVIEW

This chart utilizes percentages from the 2023 American Community Survey (ACS) completed by the US Census Bureau. The data was utilized for area demographics to compare to the race of those contacted during traffic enforcement activities. The ACS is the largest source of small area statistics for social, economic, housing and demographic characteristics. Local sources, such as Indian Family Health Services, indicate some races such as American Indians and those claiming to be two or more races, could be as much as double the estimated populations at any given time. The 2023 ACS estimates the City of Great Falls' population for redistricting at 61,024.

*Indian Family Health Services (IFHS) advise they serve over 51 various tribes from throughout the nation, many of which appear Hispanic or have relatives representing two or more races. Officers are prohibited from asking drivers their race and have to make their "best observation" when documenting. IFHS indicate they service a wide area in North Central Montana and many American Indians travel to our area for their services. These factors may account for some of the increased contacts with that race. Additionally the percentage of citations vs. warnings are higher for this group due to the type of citations issued (i.e. no insurance, no registration, and no drivers' license). **Malmstrom Air Force Base has a diverse population (4,329) that is not included in the demographics for the City of Great Falls. ACS reports MAFB has 77.34% White, 9.64% African American, 2.61% Hispanic or two or more races and 1.54% American Indian populations. Although African Americans are living and working on base, there is contact with this group within the city through traffic enforcement which is reflected in the overall numbers. These numbers have not changed significantly from 2021 to 2022. With the upcoming missile upgrades in 2023/2024/2025 the population and demographics will change.

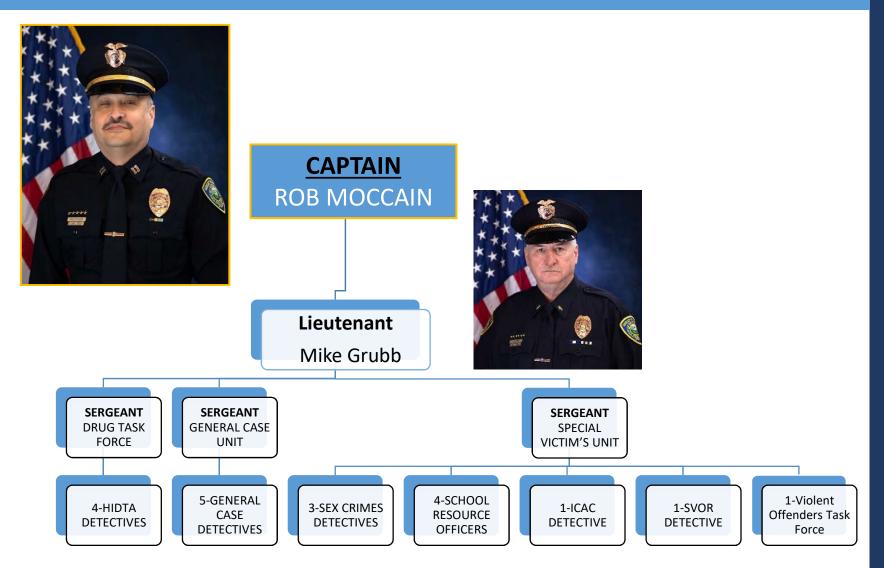
BIASED-BASED PROFILING REVIEW

Traffic Enforcement Compared to Race Demographic

Jan - Dec 2022							Withir Group		
Traffic Stops	Cited	Warned	Sub-Group	Cited/Warned overall % of total #	GF	ACS Population %	Cited	Warned	
White Male	435	1023							
White Female	246	665	2369	87.1%	50,675	86.3%	29%	71%	White
American Indian Male	36	36							
American Indian Female	26	43	141	5.2%	2,885	*4.91%	44%	58%	American Indian
African American Male	16	56							
African American Female	10	21	103	3.8%	661	**1.13%	25%	75%	African American
Hispanic Male	20	36							
Hispanic Female	6	12	74	2.7%	2,974	*5.06%	35%	65%	Hispanic
Asian Male	4	8							
Asian Female	3	9	24	.88%	494	0.84%	29%	71%	Asian
Other Male	3	3							
Other Female	1	1	8	.29%	875	1.67%	20%	80%	Other
Total	806	1,913	2,719	99.97%	58,564	100%	33%	67%	

-Quick Facts-

By considering some of the local conditions and factors that skew the overall percentages of contacts with minorities, it does not appear that disparate contacts through law enforcement is occurring.



The Investigative Services Bureau (ISB) is made up of a total of 24 sworn personnel and one civilian when fully staffed, which is a constant issue as staffing shortages for the department continue. There are 20 personnel assigned as investigators with three Sergeants and one Lieutenant to provide direct supervision and one Captain who manages the ISB.

In 2022, the ISB continued to maintain partnerships with the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), the Department of Homeland Security (HIS), the United States Marshals Service (USMS), and the Montana Department of Criminal Investigation (MDCI).

All hate related crimes as defined by Montana Code Annotated are tracked by the Investigative Services Bureau and a Supervisor reviews each report to ensure proper investigation and notifications to the appropriate prosecutors office for the determination of enhancement as allowed by law. The Investigative Services Bureau also maintains statistics of such crimes along with the Administrative Services Bureau.



<u>-Quick Facts-</u>

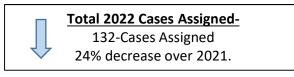
The Investigative Services Bureau provides on-call coverage 24/7, 365. Detectives are specialized in many different investigative techniques and procedures. Our Detectives receive specialized training in up to date equipment and investigative techniques and are often sought out by outside agencies for their professional talents. The Investigative Services Bureau is proud to partner with many and Federal Law Enforcement Agencies to include the Drug Enforcement Agency, United States Marshal's Service, Bureau of Alcohol Tobacco and Firearms, and the Federal Bureau of Investigations.

General Case Investigators

The General Case Unit is comprised of six investigators and one supervisor. One of the investigators was assigned to the Cascade County Violent Crimes Prevention Task Force; however, the position has been vacant since August, 2021 due to promotions and lack of available staffing.

Investigators assigned to the General Case Unit handle a multitude of crimes to include, but not limited to, homicides, suspicious deaths, robberies, aggravated assaults, burglaries, thefts, elder abuse/exploitation cases, frauds and sexual assaults.

Additionally, General Case Investigators assist other units within the Investigative Services Bureau with a large number of complex sexual abuse of children cases, sexual assault investigations and drug related search warrants, while assisting various federal and local law enforcement partners in their investigations. These detectives also work closely with the Great Falls Fire Marshal and their investigators to cooperatively investigate arson related crimes.



2022 Major General Case Investigations-
12-Suspicious Deaths / Suicides
30-Fraud Investigations
5-Arson Investigations
15-Elder Abuse/Exploitations
1-Fatal / Major Injury Crashes
14-Aggravated Assault/Assault with a
weapon



2022 Homicide Investigations-

8-Homicide Investigations 50% Increase over 2021

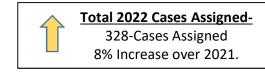
-Quick Facts-

General Case Detectives are frequently requested at all times day or night to respond to all major crimes that occur when specialized investigative equipment and techniques are needed and cannot be properly addressed by the Patrol Services Bureau. Detectives also work with community/government organizations to provide any needed training/assistance such as Drug Treatment Court, DPHHS and Victim Witness Assistance Services.

Special Victims Unit (SVU)

The Special Victims Unit (SVU) is responsible for working primarily with children and adults who are victimized by sexual and/or domestic violence. The unit is comprised of several specialized positions—three sex related crimes Investigators, one Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) Investigator, one Sexual and Violent Offender Registry (SVOR) and Drug Endangered Children (DEC) Investigator. One supervisor oversees this unit.

These Investigators work closely with adult and child advocates, the Department of Public Health and Human Services (DPHHS) and local health care facilities to investigate and assist victims. All Investigators are required to receive specialized training in proper investigative techniques to properly respond to these abhorrent crimes against our community's children and adult victims of sexual and physical abuse.



Notable Decreases from 2021-56% Decrease in SVOR Cases 52% Decrease in Adult Sex Offenses

2022 SVU Case Types 13-Adult Sex Offenses 97-Child Sex Offenses 32-Child Abuse Investigations 29-Agency Assists 7-SVOR Violations 8-DEC Cases 61-ICAC / Human Trafficking Cases

<u>-Quick Facts-</u>

The GFPD Special Victims Unit works tirelessly to investigate sexual related crime and are very knowledgeable regarding the available victim services that can assist long after the justice process is finished. Many child offenses are initially reported through DPHHS/Professional Counseling/School District to name a few and each agency works closely to protect our most vulnerable population.

Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC)

The ICAC Task Force is part of a nationwide initiative under the US Department of Justice Office of Juvenile Justice Delinquency Prevention. The goal of the program is to educate the public, investigate cases and arrest those who use computers to prey upon and exploit children. This is done through collaboration of state, local and federal law enforcement agencies who in turn work with the appropriate prosecutors to ensure that those responsible for these crimes are held accountable.

The assigned ICAC investigator works with other task force members across the Nation, State and even internationally. In the past year, cases involved suspects from Australia, South Africa and the Philippines. Many of these cases were triggered by Cybertips, direct reports, or other means of reporting.



-Quick Facts-

The investigator assigned to the ICAC Task Force is a part of a statewide group that investigates crimes against children The ICAC investigator receives cases from the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC) in the form of Cyber-Tips to include direct reports from citizens. This type of investigation requires a large amount of technical training and support from outside organizations such as the most commonly known Tech Companies. The ICAC investigator also provides local training to students regarding the dangers they could face online. For more information about the Montana Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force please visit https://mticac.org/

Sexual or Violent Offender Registration / Drug Endangered Children (DEC)

The SVOR Act is designed to protect the public from sexual or violent offenders by requiring offenders to register with local law enforcement agencies in the jurisdiction where they reside. The information gathered about these offenders is then provided to the public. The public can access this information for Great Falls by visiting the State of Montana SVOR web address at https://dojmt.gov/sexual-or-violent-offender-registry/.

The assigned SVOR/DEC Investigator continued to make progress in maintaining and building these two programs. The current registrants total 210 sex offenders, 487 violent offenders, and 15 with both designations within the city limits of Great Falls.

DEC cases continue to increase. With continued training and availability, this program allows for knowledge and services to be provided for drug cases affecting the youth of our community. Impacting and limiting exposure of drugs to children in our community is important to our agency, while working closely with local prosecutors.

-Quick Facts-

All Drug Endangered Children cases are investigated by the Special Victims Unit. These types of case referrals are made from citizens complaints, officer reports, HIDTA and state agencies. The SVOR/DEC detective constantly ensures that all Sexual and Violent Offenders are following the rules set by state law which also requires that the address of these offenders is up to date. If the requirements are not met the offender is referred to the Cascade County Attorney's Office for appropriate charges. Drug Endangered Children investigations are shared by all members of SVU and when appropriate are referred to the Cascade County Attorney's Office for prosecution.

School Resource Officer Program

The SRO program has been operational for 25 years. The objectives of the program are to provide safety and security for students and staff, investigate incidents that occur around or in relation to the school setting, provide mentoring to students, provide specific safety education to students and staff as requested, and various other duties as they arise. SROs investigated incidents to include, but not limited to, assault, disorderly conduct, theft, vandalism, narcotics, runaway violations, truancy, minor in possession (alcohol/tobacco), trespassing and weapons complaints.

The SROs continue to utilize the diversion program instituting school consequences when applicable in order to keep youth from entering into the criminal justice system. SROs also provide mentoring to students that seek advice or assistance. This mentoring is an important component in assisting students from entering the juvenile justice system.

During 2022 SROs worked closely with the school district to address students that were causing a large amount of disruption to the learning environment. Of particular note during the year, "threats" of both small and large scale have plagued GFPS. GFPS and the GFPD remain diligent in the investigation of each individual incident. Both agencies continued working together on public messaging to keep the public informed as these incidents occurred, allowing for a clearer understanding in regards to the involved threat.





Detective Kristi Kinsey

Detective Aaron McAdam



Detective Clint Houston



Detective Jesse Rosteck

-Quick Facts-

In 2022 our SRO's continued to utilize the diversion program to keep youth from entering into the criminal justice system. Mentoring is an important part of the SRO Program and promotes opportunity to assist our youth with any problems that they may be experiencing so they can be successful.

Montana Violent Offenders Task Force (MVOTF)

One investigator is assigned to the MVOTF which is an additional method GFPD is collaborating with our federal partners to provide a more comprehensive approach to addressing violent crime in our community. The partnership has been in place for several years and has resulted in large number of persons being captured and adjudicated.

The Violent Offenders Task Force is comprised of the United States Marshals Service, a Customs and Border Protection Agent, a Montana Probation and Parole Officer, and a Great Falls Police Investigator. The task force actively seeks out persons wanted for serious crimes, persons under supervision and those that are wanted for crimes which present a threat to the safety of the community.

The decision to assign a fulltime officer to the USMS Montana Violent Offender Task Force was a response to the rise in violent crime in Great Falls over the previous years. During 2022, the local task force cleared 431 cases (by arrest) keeping violent offenders from victimizing citizens of Great Falls.



-Quick Facts-

The GFPD officer assigned to the USMS Violent Offenders Task Force is sworn in as Special Deputy with the United States Marshals Service (USMS). The USMS provides pay for all overtime, an un-marked police vehicle, training, and required equipment for the individual officer. This partnership is a vital part of an overall strategy by the Great Falls Police Department in keeping violent suspects from continuing to victimize members of our community.

Russell Country Drug Task Force

During 2022, the Russell Country Drug Task Force (RCDTF) saw a 11% decrease in felony narcotics related arrests and a 18% increase in felony warrant requests. The task force has continued its partnerships with local and federal agencies.

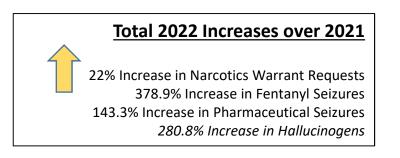
The DEA (Drug Enforcement Agency), FBI (Federal Bureau of Investigations), USMS (United States Marshall Services), HIS (Homeland Security Investigations), MDCI (Montana Department of Criminal Investigations), MTNG (Montana National Guard), and the CCSO (Cascade County Sherriff Office) are members of the RCDTF. RCDTF did not investigate any working methamphetamine labs in 2022. Methamphetamine lab investigations continue to be non-existent due to cheap and plentiful methamphetamine sources originating from super labs in Mexico and flooding the market in the United States.

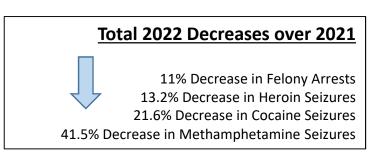


Russell Country Drug Task Force

This task force is instrumental in combating the influx of Fentanyl that is plaguing our community and every community in America. In 2022 there was 127 suspected overdoses in Cascade County with a large majority occurring within the City of Great Falls. Tragically 19 of our citizens died as a result of suspected overdose. These tragedies know no boundaries and affect all members of our community.

In 2022, there were 1,103 overdoses and 160 deaths in the State of Montana. Nationally, there were 470,244 suspected overdoses and 28,994 deaths.

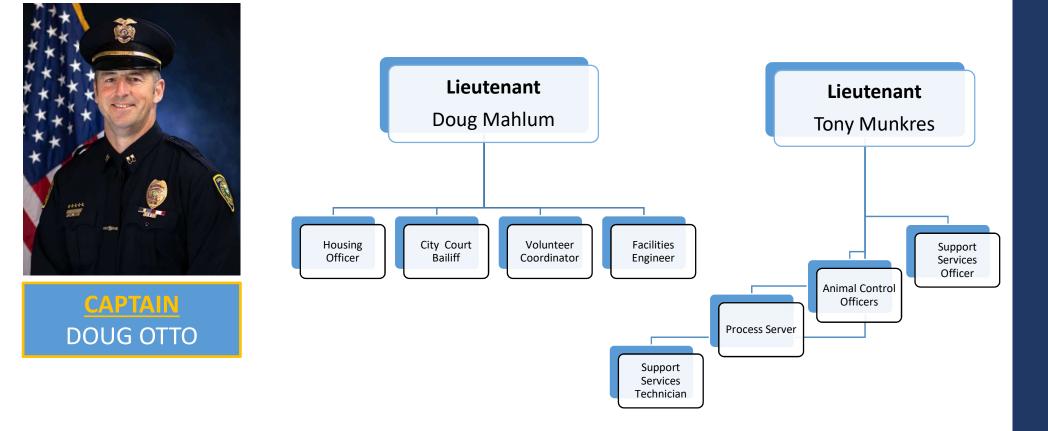




-Quick Facts-

In 2022 RCDTF seized 969 grams of Heroin, 226 grams of Cocaine, 10,995 grams of Bulk Marijuana, 1827 grams of Marijuana/Hash oil, 11,673 grams of Methamphetamine, 135 grams of Hallucinogens, 623 Pharmaceuticals, 160 grams of Fentanyl powder and 1479 grams of Fentanyl Pills.

SUPPORT SERVICES BUREAU



-Quick Facts-

The Great Falls Police Department utilizes a federal program through the Defense Re-utilization and Marketing Office (DRMO) to supplement equipment needs within the agency. Over the past several years, GFPD has received vehicles, office equipment, and individual personnel equipment that would not normally be able to be purchased through our budget. These items are on loan through the federal government and the only cost to GFPD is the shipping to get them to our location.

SUPPORT SERVICES BUREAU



LIEUTENANT DOUG MAHLUM



LIEUTENANT TONY MUNKRES

Support Services Lieutenant

A Lieutenant in Support Services is assigned to manage all hiring of Sworn Officers and Public Safety Communications Officers/Dispatchers. The Lieutenant handles all parts of the hiring process for these positions. This Lieutenant is directly responsible for writing and proctoring promotional examinations and interviews. Additionally, this Lieutenant handles all promotional ceremonies and our annual awards ceremony. This position supervises the Volunteer Coordinator and ultimately the Volunteer Program, along with day to day supervision of the Great Falls Housing Authority Officer.

Training Coordinator / Public Information Officer

A Lieutenant is assigned as the department training coordinator and Public Information Officer. This position is responsible for overseeing the planning, development, and coordination of all training for both civilian and sworn employees. Additionally, the Lieutenant is tasked as the range master for the department outdoor shooting range. One other major duty for the position is handling all media/public information duties and working closely with the media to ensure accurate information is released on incidents that have or are occurring within the community.

-Quick Facts-

Preparing a new officer for duty is an extensive process. An entry level officer requires at a minimum, 29 weeks of training before they are on their own handling calls. In addition to the training, the new officer is outfitted with all of the equipment necessary to do their job. With training and equipment, the total cost for a new hire officer is approximately \$13,500.00.

SUPPORT SERVICES BUREAU

The Support Services Bureau (SSB) is responsible for the "behind the scenes" work within the GFPD. The Support Services Bureau handles the logistical readiness for the department which includes oversight of the vehicle fleet, building maintenance and upkeep, training, hiring/retention, media relations, volunteer program, animal control, equipment accountability and many other areas. handles policy SSB and procedure The review/updates, personnel files, promotional testing process, and federal grant management.

The bureau is unique in its make-up, having both civilian and sworn employees assigned. The SSB has 13 total employees; 7 of which are civilian staff and 6 sworn police officers. The Support Bureau has the fewest number of employees department wide, but they handle a broad range of duties to keep the department logistic needs functioning.



-Quick Facts-

Quality vehicles are essential to ensuring the GFPD staff can meet the needs of the community. GFPD has 71 vehicles assigned to the fleet all of which are maintained by the Central Garage located at the Public Works facility. Patrol and detective vehicles are on a replacement rotation in order to ensure they are reliable for use.

SUPPORT SERVICES BUREAU

Process Server

The Process Server (civilian position) handles the delivery of all subpoenas generated through Municipal Court. Additionally, the process server is responsible for the entry and verification of all warrants into the Criminal Justice Information Network (CJIN) that are generated through Municipal Court.

Municipal Court Bailiff

Under Montana law, the GFPD is required to provide a sworn officer for bailiff duties in the Municipal Court. The bailiff provides court security and prisoner transports for the Municipal Court.

Support Services Technician

The Support Services Technician (civilian position) is responsible for many different tasks and programs including but not limited to working directly with the GFPD's contracted tow company on vehicle impounds and abatements, handles all travel related requests, conducts civilian employee background investigations, and assists with data entry on warrants and training related information.

Housing Authority Officer

The Great Falls Housing Authority (GFHA) contracts one officer to provide law enforcement efforts for seven GFHA areas within the City of Great Falls.

The assigned officer addresses problems, citizen concerns and all criminal/traffic/drug complaints in these areas. The officer attends meetings with GFHA staff and residents as needed.



Special Projects Office

The Special Projects Office currently has one sworn officer assigned. The officer is responsible for facilitating the department's Citizen Academy, equipment issue to newly hired officers, background investigations, and presentations to groups within the community. Traditionally, the Special Projects Office had three officers assigned, but a shift was made toward having more officers on the street. Two positions were moved to the Patrol Service Bureau from the Support Services Bureau to address this need.

VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

Our Volunteers in Policing Service program is led by Volunteer Coordinator, Adrienne Ehrke. Ehrkes's primary responsibilities involve recruiting, training, scheduling, connecting with, and evaluating citizen volunteers to reinforce our services to our community. She also serves as our Social Media Manager and continually strives to keep our social media platform relevant and up to date.



The Great Falls Police Department relies upon citizens volunteering their time to our Volunteers in Policing Program. Our volunteers and the volunteer program are invaluable to the success of the Great Falls Police Department. GFPD Volunteers are engaged in projects such as:

- enforcing abandoned and recreational vehicle ordinances
- lending support for the Citizens Academy and Master Citizens Academy
- · lending support to criminal investigations
- assisting with records retention and evidence processing
- · aiding with community events
- performing crime deterrence patrols
- lending support to officer trainings



Details	2021	2022
Active Volunteers	33	22
Total Hours	3052	3343
Total Abandoned Vehicles Resolved	1282	1853
Abandoned Vehicles	1282	1301
Rec/Large Vehicle Ordinance*	NA	552
Vehicles Towed	106	110
Facebook Followers	26707	29401

-Quick Facts-

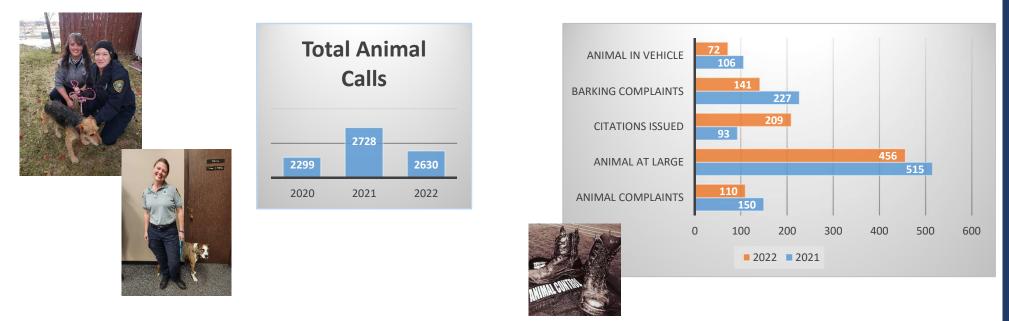
March 15, 2022 a new ordinance outlining the parking of recreational and large vehicles went info effect. In the months leading up to March 15. 2022, Ehrke worked tirelessly with several volunteers to create a plan to execute the ordinance. Ehrke created the parking stickers, report forms, and enforcement guidelines. There was an initial barrage of reports that increased the overall number of abandoned vehicle investigations by 552 or 45%.

* Recreational and large vehicles were combined with standard vehicles prior to March 15, 2022.

ANIMAL CONTROL

Animal Control is normally staffed with three Animal Control Officers. In 2022, we had a two month period where we had only two ACO's, but hired a third to bring to full staff. Call numbers were down slightly, but the ACO staff focused their efforts on enforcement for violations of animal ordinances. The chart below shows that our citation numbers increased, which directly impacted a decrease in the number of repeated violations.

Our Animal Control Officers work closely with the City County Health Department and the Great Falls Animal Shelter. Animal Control Officers (ACO's) are responsible for the enforcement of city ordinances and state laws relating to the control of domestic animals. They respond to animal complaints related to animals at large, noise/excessive barking, animal cruelty investigations, animal license enforcement, animal quarantines, and any ordinance compliance related to domestic animals within city limits.



-Quick Facts-

Our Animal Control Officers are Sworn Officers able to charge suspects with City Ordinance Violations and State Law Violations, specific to animals. When a new ACO is hired, they go through an eight week training/evaluation program, which is structured very similar to our sworn police officer field training program.

TRAINING

In 2022, there were 10 days set aside for patrol training, which is standard for the current patrol schedule. Highlights for 2022 were a Joint Rescue Task Force exercise with the Great Falls Fire Rescue and Great Falls Emergency Services. Our patrol teams also focused on realistic de-escalation training tactics which were instructed by certified GFPD Force Science Institute instructors.



Multi Agency Officers involved in school safety exercises

GFPD In-House Training (Patrol Training Days)

Total Individual Training Hours – 2347 Outside training courses for GFPD personnel

110 individuals attended 32 different trainings and conferences during 2022. Some individuals attended more than one training or conference and because of this, they are accounted for multiple times. These individuals were both civilian and sworn personnel. The trainings and conferences were in-person attendance.





High Risk Unit (HRU) Training Day

POST Certified Training Hours

2,352 hours of certified training through Montana Public Safety Officer Standards & Training were accomplished in 2022 by current GFPD officers. In addition to this, 4 entry level officers attended 14 weeks of training at the Montana Law Enforcement Academy. 6 lateral officers and the 4 MLEA graduates were trained by a Field Training Officer. In addition to field training, all 10 officers received additional orientation training. The total hours of training for these 10 new officers was 8349.

-Quick Facts-

We continue to look for financially responsible ways to get our staff the most training possible. By hosting training at GFPD, we save on lodging, fuel, and per diem costs and receive free seats in the classes for being the host. In 2022, GFPD hosted 10 training courses that were attended by 53 GFPD staff members. The cost savings to GFPD for hosting training was in excess of \$42,000.00.

PERSONNEL STATISTICS



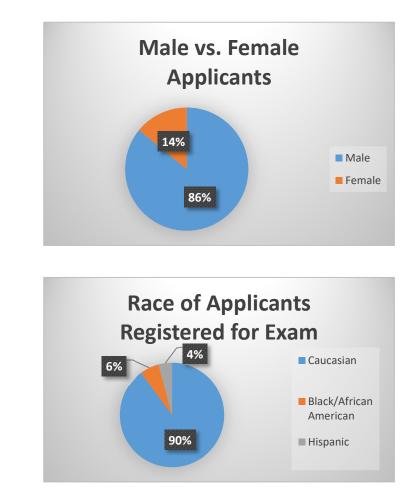
In 2022 we saw seven officers separate from the GFPD. Two of those were officers who had served more than 20 years with the GFPD, earning a traditional retirement. Four of the officers had served more than 14 years. One officer resigned their employment while in Training Status.

Our Captains at the GFPD average just over 27 years of experience while our Lieutenants average nearly 23 years of experience. Our Sergeants average 15 years of experience. The years of experience are commensurate with rank and time with the organization.

<u>-Quick Facts-</u>

The GFPD utilize a four part written exam during the initial testing/hiring process. Although the exam allows a minimum passing score of 70% on each exam, the GFPD requires a combined average score of 85% to move forward in our hiring process. The GFPD has traditionally held high standards for the hiring process and will continue to do so.

RECRUITING & TESTING STATISTICS



Like most law enforcement agencies across the country the GFPD is seeing a decline in overall applicants for Sworn Officer positions.

The GFPD tests three times per year, January, May, and September, aligning with the Montana Law Enforcement Academy start dates.

Compounding the low applicant numbers in 2022, 50% of those who applied did not participate in the testing process. Historically, there has been a 25% fail rate on the written and physical test which is expected. However, the large "no-show" percentage is problematic in a low volume applicant pool.

-Quick Facts-

In recent years, the GFPD has hired Lateral Police Officers from several different states, to include, New York, Oregon, Texas, and Indiana. These Lateral Officers complete a full Field Training Program to be immersed in the culture of our agency and to better understand our community.

HIRING STATISTICS



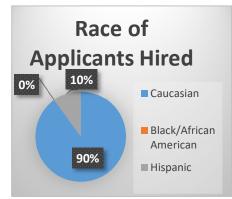


GFPD Swearing In Ceremony-Dakota Lugo and Zachary Hattan September, 2022



GFPD Swearing In Ceremony-Shane Klippenes January, 2022







GFPD Swearing In Ceremony-Daniel Lawson October, 2022

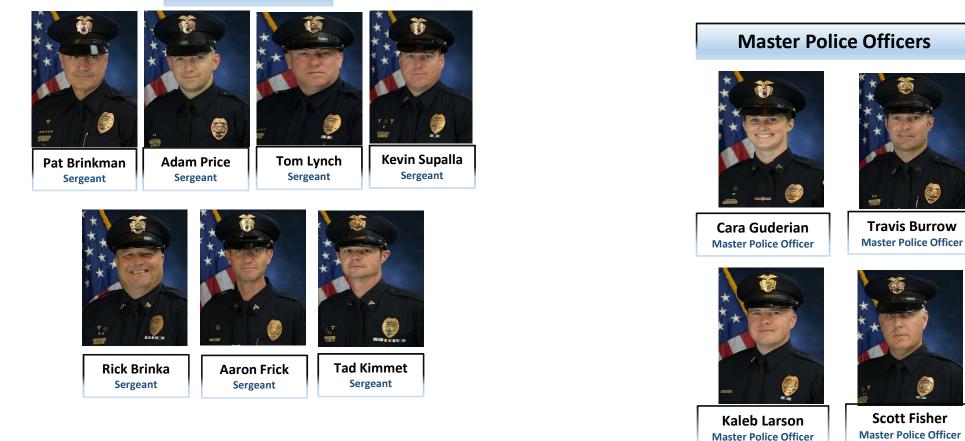
%	Officers hired
30%	Have a Bachelors Degree
40%	Have Veteran Status
60%	Hired From Montana
40%	Hired From out of Montana

-Quick Facts-

After completing initial testing and interviews, applicants that are moved forward are subject to an extensive background investigation to include Psychological and Medical screening. Before being hired, they also go before the Police Commission for final approval. The Police Commission is a statutory component to ensure the GFPD is following the law in our hiring procedures and that applicants meet all State of Montana requirements to become a police officer.

PROMOTIONS

Sergeants



-Quick Facts-

GFPD Policy 321. PROMOTION-The GFPD seeks to promote employees who have the knowledge and skills required to perform at a higher level, and to assume greater responsibility. The promotional process shall be fair, jobrelated, and non-discriminatory. The Support Services Bureau will administer the promotional process for the department. The Chief has the final authority over selection of personnel for promotion.

Lifesaving Award

Is hereby recognized with the Great Falls Police Department's Lifesaving Award for outstanding performance and prolonging another human being's life



Sergeant Jeff Beecroft



Sergeant Tad Kimmet



Sergeant Tom Halloran



Senior Police Officer Kevin Kelsey



Sergeant Katie Cunningham



Senior Police Officer Frank Torres



Senior Police Officer Zaine O'Meara



45

-Quick Facts-

Every year during National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial week, the Great Falls Police Department holds an awards banquet, recognizing the major efforts of our officers in our community. The banquet is a spectacular event reminding us of the sacrifices and outstanding service our officers provide, encompassing our Mission Statement; We are the Community and they are us. We will show Compassion for those we serve. We will have the Courage to do what is necessary and right.

Award of Commendation

Awarded for exceptional performance in a specific situation. May also be given in conjunction with a letter of appreciation directed to an officer by a private citizen, or upon recommendation by any other Great Falls Police Department member.



Adam Stergionis



Master Police Officer **Keith Perkins**



Master Police Officer **Travis Burrow**



Senior Police Officer Samantha Gondeiro



Senior Police Officer



Dispatcher **Dustie Lassila**



Dispatcher **Renee Rabe**



Dispatcher **Rebecca Schultz**

-Quick Facts-

In recognizing our staff in our Annual Awards Banquet we establish a Commendation Review board made up of GFPD Staff. The Commendation Review Board reviews all nominations and makes recommendations on which Awards or Commendations the Officers or Civilians are to receive. This keeps our awards worthy of recognition as not all recommendations receive awards

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE

Awarded for acts of major significance. These may be actions involving some risk to the officer involved. Such action must be of a nature warranting major commendatory action.



Great Falls Police Department



Senior Police Officer Adam Olson



Senior Police Officer Clay Bott



Senior Police Officer Sam Wavra

-Quick Facts-

The Award of Distinguished Service is the second highest individual award a GFPD Officer can receive, second only to the Award of Valor. The Award of Distinguished Service has only been awarded twenty times in the History of the GFPD.



Sergeant Tom Lynch

HONORABLE SERVICE

This award may be given to an employee (sworn, non-swon) only once during their career. It is given to an employee that develops creative partnerships, serving as a positive role model in a significant manner within the community, by volunteering their own time outside the department.



Great Falls Police Department

-Quick Facts-

GFPD Policy notes- Any employee may recommend any other employee, peace officer from another agency, or citizen for consideration of award, by submitting a written nomination to the Commendation Review Board chairman. The nomination will cite police reports, witness names, statements, evidence, or other information to assist the Commendation Review Board in reviewing each of the nominations

FACILITIES / EQUIPMENT

The Support Services Bureau is responsible for facilities maintenance and upkeep. In 2022, projects were continued from 2021. The men's and women's locker room upgrades were completed, allowing for much needed space for our officers. This upgrade along with additional personal protective equipment was paid for through one of the department grants. The total for this was just over \$48,000. An area of struggle for completion was the interview room recording system upgrade. Challenges with installation and obtaining components has slowed the completion of this project. The project will be completed by summer of 2023.

Supply chain issues were a struggle in 2022 for department equipment. New hire officer equipment was a challenge to obtain, but by working with different vendors, we were able to receive the necessary equipment. Through our Quartermaster program, we continue to research new products on the market and update equipment as needed.

Costs continued to increase for services and equipment. A budget increase occurred in 2022, which assisted in maintaining these areas. Even with the budget increase, it was imperative for continued fiscal responsibility during the year. The GFPD received financial support from the Great Falls Community Police Foundation to fund equipment that we could not normally purchase with the current budget. In 2022, the foundation donated funding to purchase needed equipment for our School Resource Officers and High Risk Unit. The total of this funding was just over \$46,000.





-Quick Facts-

The Great Falls Police Department building was built in 1929, originally housing a Chevrolet dealership. The building is part of the Railroad Historic District in Great Falls. Over the years, changes and upgrades have occurred within the building, but the exterior appearance is maintained per historical building requirements. With added staffing, equipment, & increasing evidences storage, we are outgrowing the building space. Planning and development for an evidence storage addition started mid-year 2022 and will continue in 2023. This expansion project is a combined effort between GFPD staff, City Planning, and BSpark Architecture.

DEPARTMENT COMPLAINTS

Complaint Investigation Process

Complaint Filed with the Department

- Any supervisor can accept a complaint and will complete a preliminary complaint form. The complaint will be forwarded to named employee's immediate supervisor.
- Regardless of the severity of the complaint, the applicable bureau head will be notified of the complaint. Depending on the level of severity and rank involved, the appropriate level supervisor will be assigned the investigation.
- Outside law enforcement is regularly requested to investigate certain complaints. Complaints of criminal nature are referred to the County Attorney for review after the investigation has been completed.

Complaint Investigation Completed

- Upon completion, the complaint and disposition will be forwarded in writing to the bureau Captain.
- If disciplinary action is recommended beyond the authority of the bureau Captain, it will be forwarded to the Chief of Police for review and disposition.

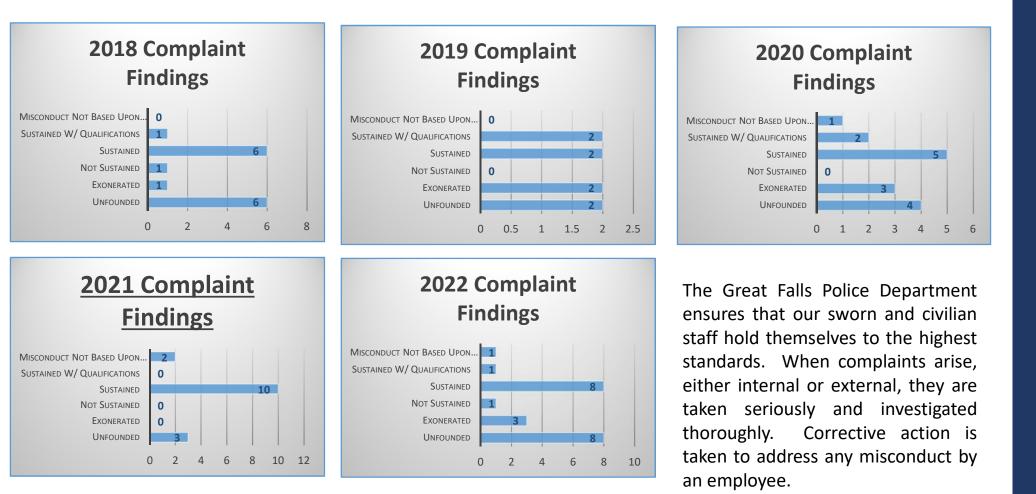
Complaint Review Committee

 To ensure integrity of the department, a yearly Complaint Review Committee is convened. The panel consists of two citizens at large, Deputy County Attorney, Deputy City Attorney, and Deputy City Manager. The Support Services Captain coordinates the meeting and a summary of the yearly disciplinary data is provided for review. Recommendations for changing procedures, training, or regulations are provided from this review.

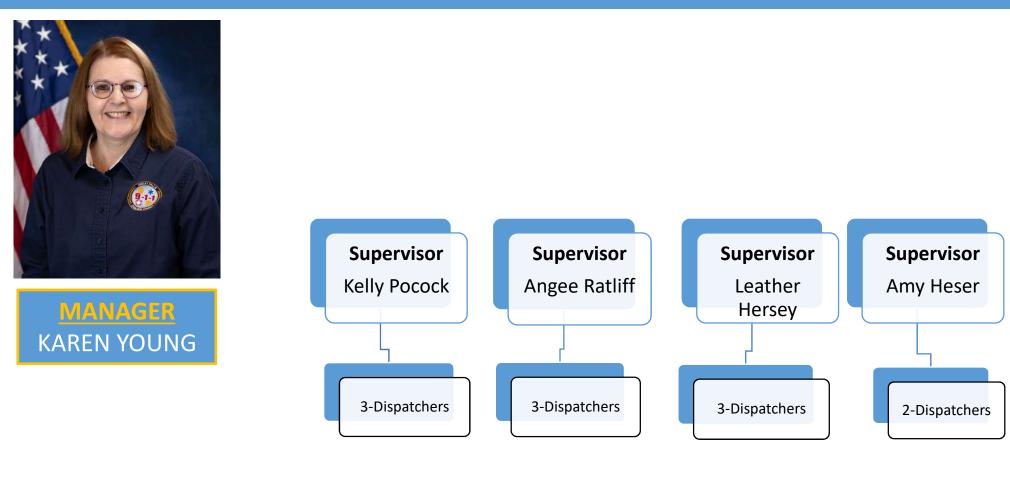


This chart shows the five year overview of department complaints. Once complaint investigations are complete, they are reviewed by the sworn members of the command staff to ensure the investigation was accurate and complete.

DEPARTMENT COMPLAINTS



COMMUNICATIONS SERVICES BUREAU



COMMUNICATIONS SERVICES BUREAU

At the conclusion of 2022, the Communication Services Bureau had seven vacancies. Recruitment and retention of qualified applicants continues to be an emphasis. However, the significant reduction of qualified applicants has become a concern, which translates into lengthy delays in order to fill the vacancies. The Communications Services Bureau is often competing with the private sector for the skill sets required of applicants.

The center completed its first year using the Panama work schedule comprising of 12 hour shifts. The schedule change maximized the available staffing levels for effective 24 hour coverage, demonstrated a reduction in sick and comp time use, and provided a better balance between work and personal time.

	Years of Service	# of Employees
0-5	Years of Service	6
6-10	Years of Service	1
11-15	Years of Service	2
16-20	Years of Service	6
21-25	Years of Service	0
25+	Years of Service	1

Employee Recognition

April 10-16, 2022 was designated as the National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week to recognize the dedicated telecommunicators who serve their communities. The Cascade County 911 Public Safety Communications Officers (Telecommunicators) received the following awards which occurred at the Emergency Communications Center.



Communications Officer	Award	
Ayers, Robert	Life Saving	
Lewis, Logan	Life Saving	
Lugo, Dakota	Life Saving x 2	
Schultz, Rebecca	Life Saving	
Wreford, Doug	Life Saving	
Yancey, Thalia	Life Saving	
Skogen, Brandon	Special Recognition	

-Quick Facts-

Have you ever wondered why Dispatchers ask so many questions? They are using this information to create an accurate picture of what you are requesting or reporting. This information helps the first responders (Law Enforcement, Fire and/or Medical) prepare to meet your needs.

COMMUNICATIONS SERVICES BUREAU

At the close of 2022, there was a 19.5% decrease in the number of 9-1-1 calls and a 12.4% decrease in the number of non-emergency calls received compared to 2021.

Telephone Calls	2020	2021	2022
9-1-1	47,033	44,652	41,610
Non-Emergency	96,252	110,699	94,194
Total Calls	143,285	155,351	135,804

A review of the call volume on a weekly basis shows that during 2022 the low call volume days remained, Saturday (13.19%) and Sunday (11.36%) and the highest call volume day was Thursday (15.42%).

A review of the 2022 data indicates the daily call volume began increasing at 7:00 a.m. and started to decrease at 11:00 p.m. which has been consistent for several years. The daily call volume contributes to staffing considerations for the Communication Services Bureau.

Training

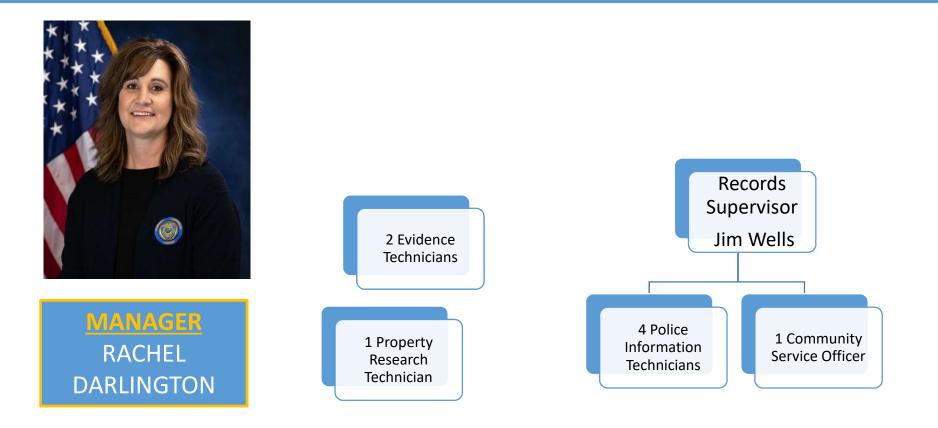
The State of Montana mandates 40 hours of continuing education every two years. Although the 911 Center faced challenges with staffing we were able to host training opportunities, on-line and departmental training contributed to adhering to the 40 hour mandates. 2022 data indicated a 1.28% decrease in the number of calls for service compared to 2021. Law enforcement experienced a 3.70% decrease, Great Falls Fire Rescue & Rural Fire experienced an 8.57% decrease, Medical services experienced a 17.70% increase and other agencies experienced a 3.61% decrease.

Calls for Service	2021	2022
Law Enforcement	63,431	61,166
Fire	9,407	8,664
Medical	9,270	11,264
Other Agencies	1,317	1,271
Total Calls	83,425	82,365



2022	Training Overview
3420.00 Hours	Total Training Hours
308.00 Hours	Training Hours for Supervisors
502.00 Hours	Training Hours for Public Safety Communication Officers
2610.00 Hours	Training Hours for New Hires

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES BUREAU



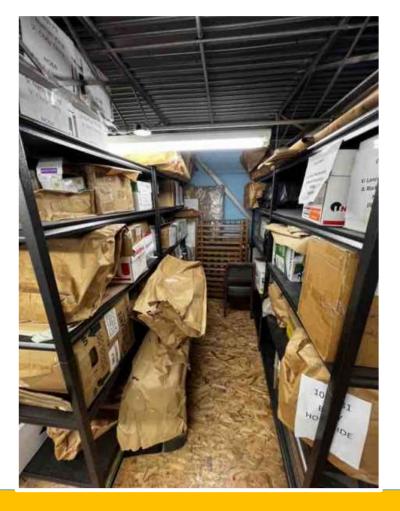
-Quick Facts-

Records and Evidence staff perform duties which provide many of the checks and balances within the GFPD. Most of our data and property needs to meet requirements set forth from the State of Montana and/or the FBI. The Records Bureau works closely with officers to ensure the department's compliance.

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES BUREAU

The Records Bureau had an exceptionally busy year in 2022. We were not fully staffed much of the year and it has been a challenge to fill open positions. Nonetheless, the bureau has continued working toward long-term goals. One of the big projects discussed and planned through much of the year was an evidence storage addition to the current facility. With the assistance of City Engineering, City Finance, BSpark Architecture and input from the Commission, we are poised for a successful execution of this venture. This project will be funded through ARPA funding and many of the initial steps in this process are behind us. The planning and discussion will continue throughout 2023. Another exciting process is that of volunteers scanning our paper records files. They have now completed 2008 and 2009 case files and have started on 2010. This contributes to our long term goal of cutting costs and reducing paper storage so areas of the building can be repurposed. This is much needed as we continue to grow and our needs change.

Records staff (Police Information Technicians) have been the most impacted by staffing shortages. A 30 year employee retired in September and another member of the Records staff was promoted to an Evidence Research Technician, leaving only two Police Information Technicians. As a result, we have had to reduce fingerprinting services to the public. In addition, response times on some record functions were delayed.



<u>-Quick Facts-</u>

The Community Service Officer (CSO) that mans the lobby window is also responsible for taking citizens report via the GFPD online reporting system. The CSO took nearly 1,300 reports in 2022, many of which included shoplift reports from retailers around Great Falls. Many types of crimes can be reported via our online reporting system. To learn more, go to https://greatfallsmt.net/police/line-reporting.

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES BUREAU





Evidence staff have continued to audit property locations and adjust to changes such as the legalization of marijuana. The Cascade County Attorney's Office has purchased a document sharing program. This has reduced our costs as we no longer need to purchase the same volume of disks, thumb drives, etc. to share information with them. Evidence staff also completed a large research project where 151 sexual assault kits were reviewed and submitted for initial or additional testing as a result of the Sexual Assault Kit Initiative (SAKI).

The amount of evidence coming in versus the amount be released, auctioned or destroyed continues to be an issue, hence the need for additional storage space. If the evidence addition project continues to go forward and be fully approved, the new space could be available in 2025.

EVIDENCE / RECORDS

Records		2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Report Taken		1083	1198	1330	1131	1382
Interviews Transcr	bed	29	24	14	9	6
Background Checks	i	1761	1545	1065	1025	478
Revenue Generate	d from Background Checks	\$22,800.00	\$19,515.00	\$12,750.00	\$11,310.00	\$7,170.00
Evidence		2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Pieces In		10094	10177	12726	15086	12877
Pieces Out		3865	6245	9120	10048	8132
Revenue Generate	d from Auction	\$3,83613	\$1,996.55	\$2,377.16	\$2,167.39	\$2,298.22
Discovery		2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Number of Reques	ts	1093	911	958	1008	1028
Number of CD/DVI) Copied	3811	4832	4755	3701	815
Revenue Generate	d from Discovery	\$1,020.00	\$1,035.00	\$1,080.00	\$1,530.00	\$60.00
Fingerprinting		2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
General Public Requ	ests	168	159	197	244	129
SVOR Required		93	49	46	125	46
Revenue Generated	from Fingerprinting	\$3,670.00	\$3,610.00	\$4,090.00	\$5,210.00	\$3,085.00
		\$31,326.03	\$26,156.55	\$20,297.16	\$20,217.39	\$12,613.22

-Quick Facts-

Jotting down serial numbers and taking photographs of your valuables greatly increases the chance of identifying and returning your lost or stolen property if recovered. GFPD maintains a searchable database where staff can quickly search 1,000s of entries in very little time. The more information we have on file, the greater chance we'll find a match if the item is in our possession.

