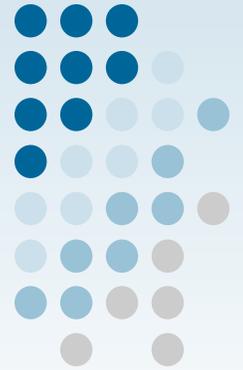


2021 Annual Report



Middleton Police Department

*The mission of the Middleton Police Department is to
“make a positive difference in the quality of life in our
community.”*

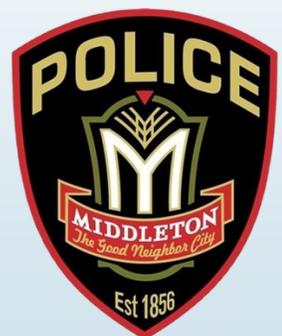


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Message from the Chief

Chief Troy Hellenbrand



Citizens of Middleton, Mayor Brar, Elected Officials, Police Commission Members, Public Safety Committee Members, City Administrator Mike Davis, fellow Department Heads and Police Department Staff,

On behalf of the men and women of the Middleton Police Department, I present you with our 2021 annual report.

Much like 2020, 2021 was an interesting year and one which saw all of us continue to navigate the Covid-19 pandemic and related challenges. Since the emergence of Covid in the spring of 2020, vaccinations are now available to those who wish to receive them and we have also learned a great deal more about the virus compared to just one year ago. In the spring and summer of 2021, the Police Department started to loosen some of our restrictions on access to our facility, planned and were able to participate in some of our wonderful community events such as the National Night Out and Cops and Bobbers, and also started to resume some of our normal activities as we had prior to the start of this worldwide pandemic. As we continue to move past the concerns surrounding Covid-19, the Police Department looks forward to getting back to all of our community programs and continuing to build a strong partnership and relationship with our community.

In the fall of 2021, we saw the return of our local school children to in-person instruction and also saw the return of our two School Resource Officers to our local schools. After demands in 2020 for the removal of our local SROs, the MCPASD completed a comprehensive review of our local program from the summer of 2020 to the spring of 2021. This review showed great community support, from students to parents to staff, for one of our best community policing programs in the department. With the start of the new 2021 school year our SROs returned to the local schools to keep our children safe, to offer support and resources, and to continue to build relationships with students which in many cases last many years beyond the time a student is in one of our local school buildings.

As a city we are at a crossroads and have some tough decisions to make in the next few years if we want to continue to provide the excellent level of services which our citizens have come to expect from all city departments. Based on the tax levy limits imposed on the city from the state government, city departments including the Police Department, have been unable to maintain adequate staffing levels in comparison with the growth of the city and the related demands. The lack of adequate staffing for the Police Department has led to several conversations about what services, which we currently offer, could be cut without sacrificing public safety. This is not a decision which the Police Department takes lightly but one out of necessity so we have sufficient staff available to respond in a timely manner to emergencies throughout the city. Some statistics to show the staffing needs of the Police Department – the department has 1.77 officers for each 1,000 city residents. The national average according to the Federal Bureau of Investigation is 2.4 officers per 1,000 residents. Additionally, based on a 2018 staffing study which was completed by the University of North Texas, by the end of 2023, the Police Department should have six more patrol officers compared to our current authorized staffing level to continue to offer the level of service which we have been providing to the community.

Lastly, if you recall in one of my closing paragraphs in my 2020 message, I made mention to all of the hate and divide in our country and how all of us in the Middleton community had a part to play to change this narrative.

As much as I would like to report that within the past year I have seen a change in behavior in our community and in our nation, in my opinion, things are not trending in a positive direction. Hateful comments towards others in-person or by the use of social media, a complete lack of compassion and understanding for others, and just an overall sense of being angry about every issue has created a society where it is hard to have a conversation with others not knowing what kind of reaction one might receive. I am honestly appalled and disappointed at where we are as a nation and as a community and I am fearful of the direction in which we are heading. As much as I am optimistic our future holds great change, I am starting to wonder if some in our society want us to stay divided as a nation. We all can and must do better to live in a society where everyone feels welcomed and part of our community. I plead with all of you to do your part and make a positive difference for our nation and for our community. Let us get back to our motto of being a “Good Neighbor” which includes being respectful to others, show empathy, doing the little things for others, wave and say hello, and stop being so quick to judge without knowing all of the facts. Read a book, spend time with family and friends, enjoy our beautiful parks and conservancies, and take a break from social media and other negative influences in our lives. As we all come out of our homes after a two-year struggle of uncertainty because of Covid, let us focus on being a better person and making the Middleton community an even greater place for everyone to feel part of.

Thank you for taking the time to read our 2021 Police Department Annual Report and the amazing work of the Middleton Police Department throughout the year. Please do not hesitate to reach out with any questions.

Best Regards,

Troy Hellenbrand
Chief of Police

Mission, Vision & Values

Make a positive difference in the quality of life in our community.

“We will be leaders in our community and among our peers. We will be a model for integrity, service, innovation and excellence.”

As members of the Middleton Police Department, our personal and professional values reflect the core ideology of our organization. These are the deeply held principles to which we are committed and which will not change over time. These values are what our organization lives and breathes, and are reflected in all of our efforts and activities.

Integrity: We recognize the complexity of police work and exercise discretion in ways that are beyond reproach and worthy of public trust. We are honest in words and deeds. We demonstrate self-discipline, particularly when no one is watching or listening.

Respect: We treat everyone in our community and workplace with courtesy and dignity. We are committed to a work environment that is safe and open. We recognize and foster the individual talents and strengths of our fellow employees, and we celebrate their successes.

Diversity: We recognize that respecting the inherent differences in individuals is essential to creating an inclusive organization and community.

Trust: We believe in the reliability, truthfulness, ability and strength of those around us, and we strive to be trustworthy in all of our words and actions.

Synergy: We work together to accomplish more as a team than we can individually.

Leadership: We seek to positively influence others to achieve goals that meet the needs of our organization and community. We accept our responsibility as leaders within the community and strive to be a model among law enforcement agencies.

Professional Development and Growth: We recognize that our employees are our most valuable asset and we are dedicated to their mental and physical well-being. We constantly strive to provide opportunities for all of our employees to enhance their personal growth and job satisfaction. We recognize that this is a shared responsibility and we encourage and support the initiative of all employees to seek out and obtain individual training and education.

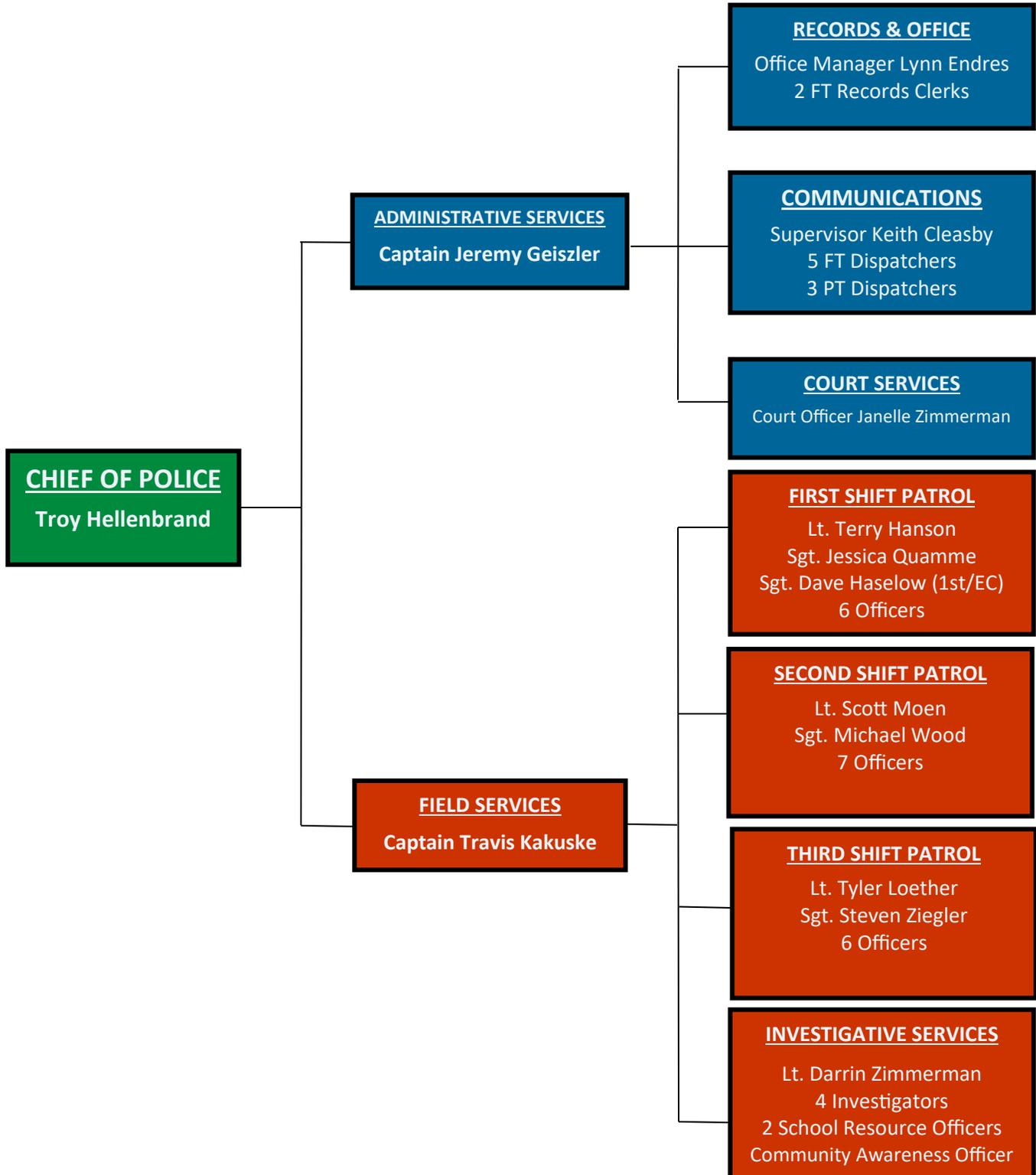
Dependability: We consistently and reliably provide quality service to our community, allied organizations, and fellow employees, as partners in the task of policing.

Accountability: We are each responsible for the quality of our performance and for the reputation and morale of the department. We are committed to conducting ourselves in accordance with our Oath of Honor.

Competence: We are prudent stewards of the public’s grant of authority and resources. We are knowledgeable and proficient in the use of police strategies and skills and we meet or exceed contemporary professional standards for service and performance.

Courage: We accept our moral responsibility to take action against injustice and wrong-doing. We will exercise fortitude in the face of danger and stand resolute against actions which compromise our values.

Organizational Chart



Department Awards

Captain Travis Kakuske



In 2021, the Middleton Police Department awards process continued to look a lot different due to COVID-19. We were once again unable to host an awards banquet to recognize members of our department, but we still acknowledged our employees' accomplishments last year by presenting them with awards at our shift briefings over the summer. Each year, our department's Awards Committee meets to review award nominations and the following employees were recognized in 2021.

LIFE SAVING AWARDS

Officer Jacob Ungerer

On August 26, 2020, the Middleton Police Department received a mutual aid request from the Dane County Sheriff's Department to assist them with an ambulance call at a residence on Airport Road. The request was made due to the patient not breathing or having a pulse. Officer Ungerer immediately responded to assist. When he arrived on scene, he assisted Middleton EMS by providing CPR to the patient and helping them with other emergency medical procedures. The patient was shocked several times by an AED at the scene. He was eventually transported to the hospital by paramedics. The patient later recovered and returned home to his family.



Officer Daniel Withee

On the morning of February 5, 2021, Officer Dan Withee was dispatched to a business on Pleasant View Road for a fall in the parking lot where the victim was in and out of consciousness. Before Officer Withee arrived, dispatch advised that the person was now not breathing and did not have a pulse. Officer Withee arrived on scene first and immediately began chest compressions, which continued for over 7 minutes as EMS simultaneously treated him and provided shocks via an AED. Eventually the patient was transported by EMS to the hospital. During a follow-up inquiry one month later, we learned that the patient was doing better and "making good progress," according to his co-workers.



LIFE SAVING – NARCAN AWARDS

Officer Gerald Kapinos

On July 29, 2020 at 12:08 AM, Officer Kapinos was dispatched to an address on Elmwood Avenue for an EMS call where a 23-year-old was reportedly "breathing weirdly" after taking an unknown pill. Officer Kapinos arrived on scene and observed the victim on the floor experiencing a drug overdose. He was unconscious with pinpoint pupils and ineffective breathing. EMS quickly arrived on scene and Officer Kapinos assisted by delivering a dose of nasal Narcan. Soon after a second dose was given, the patient regained consciousness and made a full recovery. It was discovered that the patient had likely consumed Oxycodone, which triggered the overdose.



Officer Tim Francis



On December 16, 2020 at 6:41 AM, Middleton officers were dispatched to a possible heroin overdose at an address on Fortune Dr. The caller reported that the victim's lips were turning purple and they could hear agonal breathing. Officer Francis was the first to arrive on scene and noticed drug paraphernalia consistent with heroin use present. Officer Francis immediately administered Narcan and soon after, the victim regained consciousness and began talking. He admitted to injecting heroin shortly before the overdose occurred. Middleton Paramedics transported the subject to the hospital where he made a full recovery.

SIGNIFICANT ANNIVERSARIES

The following Middleton PD employees recently celebrated a significant employment anniversary and were recognized 2021:

Dispatcher Tom Adler – 35 years
Captain Travis Kakuske – 15 years



Dispatcher Adler receiving an award for his 35 years of service.

GOOD NEIGHBOR AWARDS



Nicholas Boulas was presented with a Good Neighbor Award for his assistance to our department with numerous calls for service at the Staybridge Suites in Middleton where he is employed. Due to Nicholas' keen observations skills, he was able to notice criminal activity occurring on the property on multiple occasions and reported it to our department.

Patrick Rogalla was presented with a Good Neighbor Award for his assistance in the investigation of a vehicle theft ring that was operating in the Dane County area, and also in other nearby states. Patrick facilitated the use of a number of key resources from his employer, Schoepp Motors in Middleton, which ultimately helped lead to an arrest in the case.



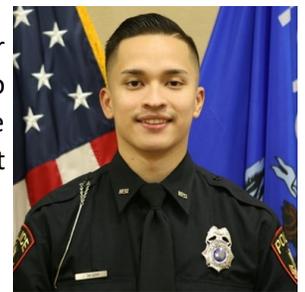
Staff Changes

In 2021, there were a number of staffing changes in our police department as we welcomed several new police officers. We also experienced several other staff changes as well, they are outlined below.



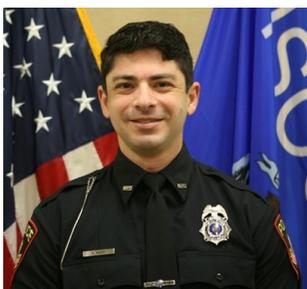
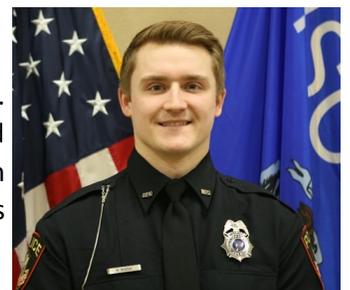
NEW HIRES

On July 26, 2021, **Javier Salazar** was hired as a police officer with our department. Javier was employed as a full-time officer with the Maple Bluff Police Department prior to coming to Middleton, and he is also a former intern of ours. Javier holds an Associate Degree in Criminal Justice from Madison College and is currently assigned to 2nd shift patrol.



On November 1, 2021, **Kevin Thompson** was hired as a police officer with our department. Kevin previously worked as an officer with the Oregon Police Department for four years. He also has prior experience in the U.S. Navy. Kevin holds an Associate Degree in Criminal Justice from Chippewa Valley Technical College. He recently completed field training and is currently assigned to 3rd shift.

On June 1, 2021, **Nicholas Miazga** was hired as a police officer with our department. Nicholas was previously employed with the City of Middleton Parks Department, and is also a former police department intern of ours. He holds a Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice and Sociology from UW-Eau Claire. Nicholas recently completed his field training and is currently assigned to 2nd shift.



On June 1, 2021, **Nabih Maady** was hired as a police officer with our department. Prior to coming to Middleton, Nabih worked in the private sector and also has experience in the U.S. Army. He holds an Associate Degree in Criminal Justice. Nabih recently finished field training and is currently assigned to 3rd shift.



On November 23, 2021, the department announced the promotion of **Keith Cleasby** to Communications Center Supervisor. He replaced Wendy McKnight, who resigned in October after 24 years with the department to take a job in the private sector. Keith started with our department in 2008 as a dispatcher and has prior experience as a dispatch supervisor at the Rock County 911 Communications Center.

Significant Incidents

Fire – 2122 Allen Blvd

On January 29, 2021, Middleton police and fire departments were sent to an apartment fire at 2122 Allen Boulevard. The first arriving fire units were able to quickly extinguish the fire before it could spread throughout the building, but the common areas suffered smoke damage. After an investigation, evidence was uncovered at the scene which indicated that the fire was caused by the tenant's carelessness. The resident was charged with negligent handling of burning materials.



Squad Accident – North Gammon Road at Fiskdale Circle



On February 21, 2021, at around 1:30 AM, two Middleton officers were conducting an OWI traffic stop investigation on North Gammon Road when they were rear-ended by a different drunk driver. One squad was rear-ended and was then pushed into a second squad parked directly in front of it. Fortunately, neither squad was occupied and no police officers were injured. The driver of the vehicle was arrested for OWI and child neglect charges by



the Madison Police Department, as he had a 10-year-old child in the car with him.

Residential Burglary – 5400 Heather Road

On March 2, 2021, at 12:00 AM, Middleton officers were dispatched to the 5400 block of Heather Road for the report of a burglary in progress. When the homeowner returned home and entered the residence he confronted the suspect inside, who then fled on foot. Officers quickly arrived on scene, established a perimeter, and located the suspect nearby - still with items from the burglary on his person. **Stephen J. Mixer** was arrested and jailed for the charge of burglary.



Weapon Violation – Hody Bar & Grill

During the early morning hours of May 3, 2021, a fight broke out between two males inside the Hody Bar & Grill on Aurora Street. The fight eventually spilled outside where a single gunshot rang out and one of the subjects was struck in the abdomen. The victim was treated at the hospital for non-life threatening injuries. Middleton officers and Detectives collected physical evidence from the scene, spoke to witnesses in the days that followed, and were eventually able to identify the second individual that was involved and had fled the scene. Detectives could not determine who fired the shot, but charges for disorderly conduct and substantial battery were referred to the District Attorney's Office to one party for his involvement in the fight leading up to the gunshot.

Child Sexual Assault – 3300 High Rd

In August 2021, our department assisted the Milwaukee Police Department in locating a missing 13-year-old juvenile runaway who was believed to be staying in Middleton. Officers attempted contact at an address on High Road and were eventually able to make contact with the teen, who had been staying with 23-year-old Andrew Stoltz. After follow-up by Detectives, the girl admitted that Stoltz had sexually assaulted her after taking her to Middleton without consent. Stoltz now faces charges of repeated sexual assault of a child, attempted child sexual exploitation, kidnapping, intimidating a victim, causing a child to view sexual activity, and 18 counts of bail jumping.



Fatal Traffic Accident – 7700 Terrace Ave

On the afternoon of December 2, 2021, our department investigated a fatal traffic accident that occurred in a parking lot in the 7700 block of Terrace Avenue. During the course of an argument with another individual, a 77-year-old woman was struck by a vehicle and knocked to the pavement where she violently hit her head. She later died at a local hospital. Detectives and officers conducted a detailed investigation at the scene, collected evidence, and interviewed multiple witnesses. Charges were subsequently referred to the District Attorney's Office related to the incident.

K9 Program

Lieutenant Scott Moen



The K9 unit continued to be affected by the global pandemic in 2021, however, we were able to safely organize a few in-person outdoor demonstrations for various groups. K9 Szeci loved being able to meet with his friends and supporters again. The team is hopeful that we can return to more routine demonstrations and face-to-face



meetings in the near future. In order to continue to connect with the public during times of limited face-to-face interactions, K9 Szeci and Officer Statz were able to create a video series on all things K9. The videos can be found on the [Middleton Police K9 Facebook page](#) by searching #MIPDBeyondTheBadge.



Officer Statz and K9 Szeci saw a slight decrease in deployments in 2021. Of the 40 deployments the unit logged in 2021, K9 Szeci had some great success. K9 Szeci had several successful tracks, including one significant track in the winter of 2021. K9 Szeci was called to assist the Dane County Sheriff's office, in the Town of Perry, for a missing 3-year-old child. The child had been missing for approximately 2 hours in rapidly lowering temperatures. K9 Szeci and Officer Statz arrived to the rural home surrounded by dense woods and open fields. K9 Szeci went right to work tracking through woods and fields. Within approximately 15 minutes, K9 Szeci led a

team of first responder's right to the missing child who was stuck in a bramble bush. The child was cold, but otherwise uninjured. K9 Szeci got a lot of playtime after this great track!

K9 Szeci was also utilized several times to assist the department's Special Response Team with various calls and trainings. K9 Szeci loves working and is a big hit with all of his coworkers. K9 Szeci was particularly helpful in elevating the overall mood around the Police Department. He loves showing off his new trick of jumping through the dispatch window to say hi to friends in the Communications Center. The team looks forward to a very productive 2022.



Neighborhood Officers

Sergeant Dave Haselow



The Middleton Police Department's long-standing philosophy of community policing can best be found in the partnerships we form with the community. Those partnerships are the foundation on which a problem solving dialog can occur as concerns arise. While our officers are constantly problem-solving and working with community members, a more formal Neighborhood Program exists.

Some of the more common concerns that neighborhood officers work to resolve include ongoing noise complaints, neighbor disputes, animal complaints, drug activity, neighborhoods with high call-for-service volume, and traffic concerns such as congestion, frequent crashes or violations.

The city of Middleton is broken down into 12 neighborhoods, with one police officer assigned to each neighborhood. This officer works daily in that neighborhood and becomes familiar with the community and stakeholders so he/she can respond quickly with appropriate resources.

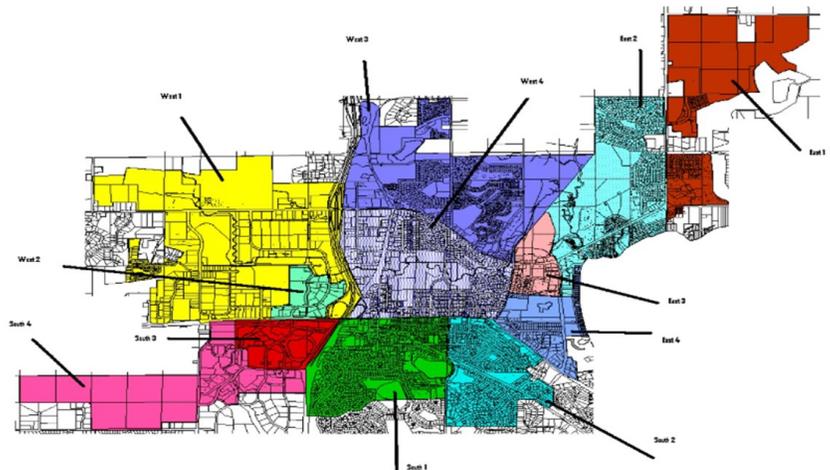
In recent years, Middleton's population growth has come from the development of many multi-family residential buildings, causing a higher concentration of residents in a small area. This tends to create a higher volume of calls for police service and can negatively impact the quality of life for those living in apartment buildings. In 2021, an officer was assigned to apartment complexes with a high population density and/or high volume of calls for police services. These officers connected with management and residents to improve our response to their needs. This will continue in 2022 with the following apartment complex neighborhood officer assignments:

Arbor Lakes
Forest Harbor
Meadow Ridge & The Aviary (Lisa Lane)
Spring Tree

Officer Cesar Salinas
Officer Costin Turtureanu
Officer Jesse Sellek
Officer Nick Stroik

Officers who work third-shift (11pm to 7am) are also involved in our Community-Policing effort as each of them is assigned a tavern as part of their neighborhood. These officers routinely conduct bar-checks and stay familiar with the owners and employees. This allows the police department to quickly identify any concerns at taverns and work with community members, bar owners, and employees to address issues at our establishments in Middleton.

Our neighborhood district map can be found on our website at www.middletonpd.com under Programs & Outreach, Neighborhood Districts. If you have any questions for me, please contact me at dhaselow@cityofmiddleton.us or at 608-824-7321.



Crisis Intervention Team

Sergeant Dave Haselow



The Middleton Police Department continues to improve our response to people struggling with mental health challenges just as society as a whole has become much more empathetic and compassionate toward our neighbors with mental illness.

The Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) was originally created to train officers to help our mental health consumers who were in the midst of a mental health crisis and needed immediate, professional help to prevent them from injuring themselves or others. Officers on our CIT have received specialized training to develop positive relationships and confidence with mental health consumers, improve our referral and treatment of people with mental illness, avoid unnecessary use of force, and improve overall safety.

Our Crisis Intervention Team consists of the following 21 officers:

Officer Matt Jacobs	Officer Kim Wood	Officer Gerald Kapinos	Officer Tom Wilson
Officer Costin Turtureanu	Officer David Schultz	Officer Cesar Salinas	Officer Slobodan Rozic
Officer Julie Carbon	Officer Dan Withee	Officer Aleesha Kozar	Officer Howard Statz
Officer Jake Ungerer	Officer Nick Stroik	Officer Dustin Hodgson	Detective Jill Tutaj
Detective Mark Anderson	Sergeant Jessica Quamme	Sergeant Mike Wood	Sergeant Dave Haselow
Captain Travis Kakuske			

Our officers often see individuals struggling with mental health and having frequent contact with the police. When an at-risk mental health consumer is identified, an officer from our CIT is assigned to work with him/her. That Crisis Intervention-trained officer then works with the mental health consumer to link them in to appropriate, effective services and resources. This can be a long-term, ongoing relationship that helps keep community members safe and able to function in society.

In 2021, our mental health team worked with 25 mental health consumers and/or their family members to help them navigate the mental health system. In most cases, our officers were able to assist each individual in crisis to a positive resolution using appropriate resources.

If you have any questions about Middleton Police Department's Crisis Intervention Team, please contact me at dhaselow@cityofmiddleton.us or 608-824-7321.

School Resource Officer

Officer Kenneth Chung, Middleton High School



It was a wonderful feeling to return to the school. I returned with a renewed sense of optimism and energy to perform my role as a School Resource Officer. My focus this year was to find ways to help students navigate this period of uncertainty and to assist the Middleton High School's efforts in providing a safe and comfortable learning environment.

I continued to speak in various classes. This is a great way to connect with students in a positive way and among the more rewarding experiences of this assignment. MHS Band Director Doug Brown and I started our Jiu Jitsu (grappling) pilot program for the Hip Hop cohort in the fall semester of 2021. It was exciting to see so many students interested in learning how to build confidence and resiliency through the art of Jiu Jitsu. We are currently in the process of turning this pilot program into an intramural sport open to all MHS students.

We also started the Criminal Justice Program, a club that our Chief was very enthusiastic to start. We recently elected officers for the club. They are planning a list of guest speakers for spring semester and activities they would like to participate in. The club was fortunate enough to have Lt. Moen (former SRO and Team Leader of MIPD's Special Response Team) speak about his experiences as a law enforcement officer.

In addition to guest teaching in various classes, teaching Jiu Jitsu, and supervising a club, I invited Dane County Human Service's GRIT program (gang prevention) to offer their services to Middleton High School. GRIT brings a lot of experience and expertise to the building with an unwavering passion and commitment to support our students navigate these crucial years before they enter adulthood.

I've made many wonderful memories and strong relationships with numerous students and faculty at MHS. I will continue putting my heart and soul into this assignment until my time at MHS comes to an end. We have a wonderful administrative team at the high school and at the police department that support the SRO position and the positive impact the role can have on our students and the community.



School Resource Officer

Officer Cesar Salinas, Kromrey Middle School



I stepped in as the substitute Community Resource Officer (CRO) at Kromrey in September of 2021, as Officer Julie Carbon was on maternity leave. Due to the many challenges the school district faced with Covid-19, the CRO office was given to the school nurse, as the nurse's office was turned into a quarantine area for students. Because of this change, I spent more time at the three elementary schools and assisted at the high school when needed.

Building positive relationships and connections with students remained my primary goal. Having served as the CRO at Kromrey (2015-2018), I know how important it is for students to learn that police officers are part of the community, trusted adults, and there to keep them safe. I prioritized spending equal time at Kromrey, Sauk Trail, Elm Lawn, and Northside. I would attend lunch times, recess, morning drop-off, and dismissal time.

I've taught internet safety to 8th graders at Kromrey, held informal question and answer sessions, and even presided over a mouse wedding, which is an annual tradition at Kromrey. I organized "Books and Cops," in which officers read age-appropriate books to elementary students, followed by question and answer sessions. I served lunch at various schools when needed due to staffing shortages. To say the least, I enjoyed my time as the CRO, mainly because of the great partnership the Middleton Police Department has with the Middleton Cross Plains Area School District.

Traffic Safety

Sergeant Jessica Quamme



Traffic safety continues to be one of our main concerns at the Middleton Police Department. We handled 548 traffic complaints by phone this year, along with 28 more complaints through our complaint form online. Most of these complaints are for aggressive driving behavior which has increased since the Coronavirus Pandemic. Each of these complaints are examined and the necessary follow-up completed to address each concern.

Most of the complaints the department received this year were speeding complaints. The department has the option of either deploying the speed awareness trailer or placing speed data collection boxes. The speed awareness trailer was deployed around the city on numerous occasions this year. The speed awareness trailer gathers data on speeds and notifies drivers of their speed in an educational effort to reduce speeding. The speed data collection boxes are devices that are placed where we have received a speeding complaint. The speed data collection boxes collect data for one week on speeds in a specific area. The speed data collection boxes provide the department with data to determine whether or not speeding is a concern in that area before putting limited resources out to enforce the speed limit.

In 2021, our department was part of a county wide seatbelt enforcement grant. Our department received \$16,247 in federal funds to place more officers on the road and enforce the mandatory seatbelt law. As part of this grant, we adopted a zero-tolerance policy for unrestrained drivers and occupants during all motor vehicle stops. Our Seatbelt Grant ran from December 2020 – September 2021. Officers working the grant issued 99 citations for seatbelt violations.

The Middleton Police Department also started an Operating While Intoxicated (OWI) enforcement grant in 2021. Our department teamed up with the Shorewood Hills Police Department and the Waunakee Police Department to create an OWI task force. Our officers were assigned traffic assignments between 6:00pm and 4:00am to keep drunk or drugged drivers off the roads. Our OWI grant provided our departments with \$8,376 and worked from June – September 2021. Our officers made an additional 148 traffic stops, making one OWI arrest, issuing 89 citations, and 91 warnings.

Our department also participated in the Special Enforcement Periods of “Drive Sober,” “Click it or Ticket,” and “Booze and Belts.” Participation in these enforcement periods allows our department to be entered in a drawing to win grants to purchase equipment needed for traffic safety.

There were 396 reportable crashes in 2021 (including one fatal crash), compared to 324 in 2020, a 22% increase. This is still a 19% decrease from 2019, prior to the Coronavirus Pandemic. More people are still working from home and less cars are on the roadways.

In total, officers conducted 4,041 traffic stops issuing 2,171 traffic citations, and 3,127 warnings in 2021. This included 190 Operating While Intoxicated arrests, six of which were for Operating with a Detectable Amount of Restricted Controlled Substances, one violation of Absolute Sobriety, and 29 citations for Consuming or Transporting Open Intoxicants in a Motor Vehicle.

Community Awareness Programs

Officer Tom Wilson



My name is Tom Wilson and I am currently the Community Awareness Officer for the City of Middleton Police Department. I have been with the Middleton Police Department for 19 years, with the majority of this time assigned as a patrol officer, but I also previously served as the Kromrey Middle School Resource Officer.

2021 was again another difficult year for everyone. Covid numbers were up and down, many gatherings were limited capacity, mask mandates, and general uncertainty again made it difficult to provide all of our regular services and community events. Even with all of this, we were still able to hold some of our events, which again received high praise and positive feedback.

The **Middleton Community Police Partnership, MiCoPP**, is a local Non-Profit organization that is compiled of Middleton citizens, business owners and employees, as well as one member of the Middleton Police Department; the Community Awareness Officer. The main goals of this organization are to not only form community partnerships to lessen the burdens of government through volunteer activities, but also to combat community deterioration through community awareness programs, events and activities.



It is through this organization that we are able to organize and sponsor many of our special events throughout the year. 2021 was no different, just that some of our events were provided a little different than years past.

National Night Out



2021 saw the return of our biggest and most popular event, our National Night Out. Held again at Lakeview Park, this is a free event where the community gets to come out and meet with officers from the Middleton Police Department and other law enforcement and public safety partners. Free food and drink were provided, as well as chances to win door prizes, opportunities to meet many

different community groups, and enjoy some free entertainment. Thankfully, we had nice weather for the event, and it was attended by nearly 1,000 people.



Stuff the Squad for M.O.M.

In May, we did a Stuff the Squad food drive for the Middleton Outreach Ministry at Pick n Save. We again had tremendous community support and were able to collect a large amount of food, supplies, and monetary donations. All of these donations were then given to M.O.M.



Battle of the Badges

In August, we again participated in our annual Battle of the Badges charity event with a 5k run and softball game against the Middleton Fire Department. We also sponsored a Battle of the Badges blood drive the night before. All proceeds from this year's event went to the family of Ella, a young girl who is battling rhabdomyosarcoma, a rare form of cancer.



Cops and Bobbers

Held in September, we once again partnered with the Middleton Optimist Club for our Cops and Bobbers event. Kids were provided free fishing poles and got to fish with officers and enjoy some food and refreshments.



Shop With a Cop

In December, we again participated in our annual Shop with a Cop event. Unfortunately, we were again not able to take the kids shopping in person, but we were still able to obtain their Christmas lists and shop for five deserving kids and their families. After shopping, we wrapped the gifts at the police department, then personally delivered the gifts to the families. This event is made possible by funds donated to the Community Awareness Fund and to Shop with a Cop – Dane County.



Besides the listed events, we participated in many others throughout the course of the year. Some of these included the Middleton Parks and Recreation Halloween event and Santa Claus parade, along with numerous other school and community events. In 2022, we hope to bring back our Citizen's Academy along with all of our regular events and be out and involved much more in the community!

Communications Center

Supervisor Keith Cleasby



2021 saw a change in the command staff of the Police Department's 9-1-1 Communications Center. After 24-years of service to the City of Middleton, Communications Center Supervisor Wendy McKnight resigned her position in October to take employment in the private sector. Wendy was the first civilian supervisor of the Middleton Police Department Communications Center and she served the community, her dispatch team and first responders with honor and pride.

Long-time Public Safety Dispatcher Keith Cleasby was promoted to Communications Center Supervisor in November. Keith has over 27-years of public safety dispatching experience, including the last 13-years for the City of Middleton. Keith previously worked as a Communications Center Supervisor for the Rock County Communications Center for 5-years and also previously served as a Dispatcher, Communications Training Officer and Accreditation Manager for the Rock County Communications Center, Green County Sheriff's Office and Brodhead Police Department. Keith has also been the police department social media manager and website administrator since 2010.

While everyone thought the pandemic would be over by 2021, it carried on throughout the entire year. With such a small work unit of just nine people, the communications center was impacted significantly by this for the second straight year. While this was difficult for the dispatchers to deal with, everyone was able to work through it, remaining healthy and continuing to take care of business with minimal interruptions. The entire communications center team is to be commended for their resiliency as they adapted along the way to keep our center fully operational.

Communications Center staff continued to exceed the national standard for 911 call answer times. The [standard set by the National Emergency Number Association \(NENA\)](#) is that 90% of 911 calls shall be answered within 15 seconds and 95% of 911 calls shall be answered within 20 seconds. Our staff answered 98.5% of 911 calls within 15 seconds and 99% of calls within 20 seconds. As shown below, dispatchers handled over 30,000 emergency and non-emergency calls and text messages with the busiest day of the week on average being Tuesday and the busiest hours of the day on average being from 11am to 2pm.

Communications Center Phone Stats - 2021	
Total Calls Handled	30,319
Incoming Non-emergency	23,748
Incoming 911 & Wireless 911	2,414
Non-Emergency Text Messages	4,137
Text-to-911	20
Busiest Day of the Week	Tuesday
Busiest Hours of the Day	11:00am - 2:00pm

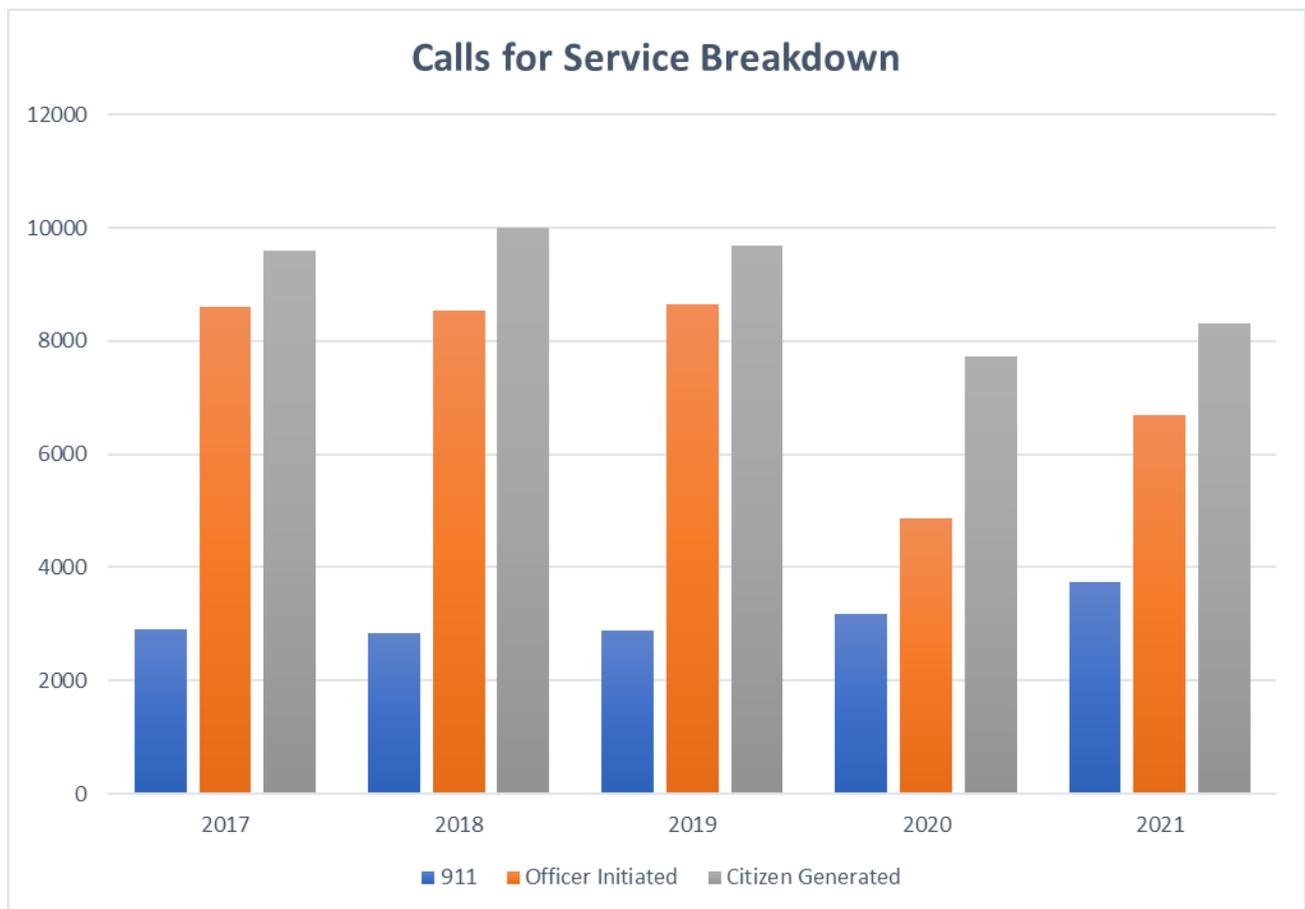
Department Statistics



Captain Jeremy Geizler

Although the numbers are not quite back to the same level as the days before the pandemic began, calls for service did increase significantly over the last year. The graph below shows a breakdown of the three types of calls for service that we classify. As you can see, calls generated by 911, officers, and citizens all increased over the last year. The most significant was the officer-initiated calls. This increase is not surprising given the reduction in COVID restrictions throughout 2021 which led to more and more businesses opening and people being out.

With the full transition to National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS) in 2021, comparing statistics from prior years becomes a bit more difficult. This was a substantial change from the Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) that had taken place since 1930. In Middleton, the NIBRS reporting started in the fall of 2020 and has continued since. If you would like to find more information about NIBRS, please follow this [link](https://www.fbi.gov/services/cjis/ucr/nibrs) [https://www.fbi.gov/services/cjis/ucr/nibrs].



The following charts show the top five locations of calls for service initiated by both citizens and 911 calls. While none of these numbers may seem incredibly high, this chart shows that some addresses in the City require a greater amount of police services. When problematic trends are identified, our neighborhood officers are assigned to address those issues by meeting with the involved parties and working to identify solutions.

The heat maps below provide a visual representation of the distribution of calls for service in Middleton. These maps help show that there are geographic areas that tend to be more active with calls. The heat maps are also separated by citizen and 911 generated calls for service.

Top Locations of Citizen Generated Calls for Service - 2021		
Middleton High School	2100 Bristol Street	99 calls
Meadow Ridge Apartments	7625 Lisa Lane	87 calls
Costco	2150 Deming Way	80 calls
Oak Ridge Apartments	7635 Lisa Lane	42 calls
Kwik Trip	7508 Century Avenue	40 calls

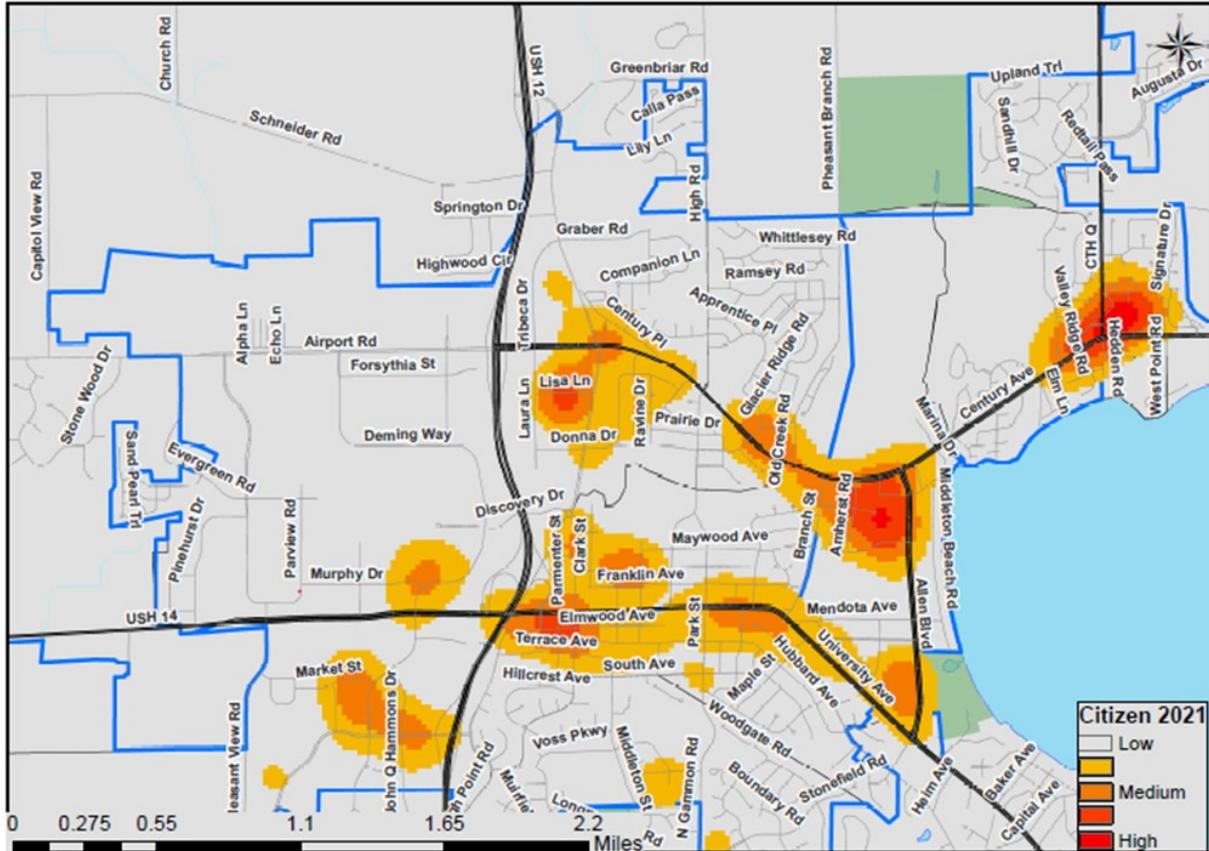
Top Locations of 911 Generated Calls for Service - 2021		
Villa at Middleton Village	6201 Elmwood Avenue	88 calls
Middleton High School	2100 Bristol Street	56 calls
Costco	2150 Deming Way	52 calls
Voss Haus	6710 Elmwood Avenue	39 calls
Meadow Ridge Apartments	7625 Lisa Lane	38 calls

Calls for Service

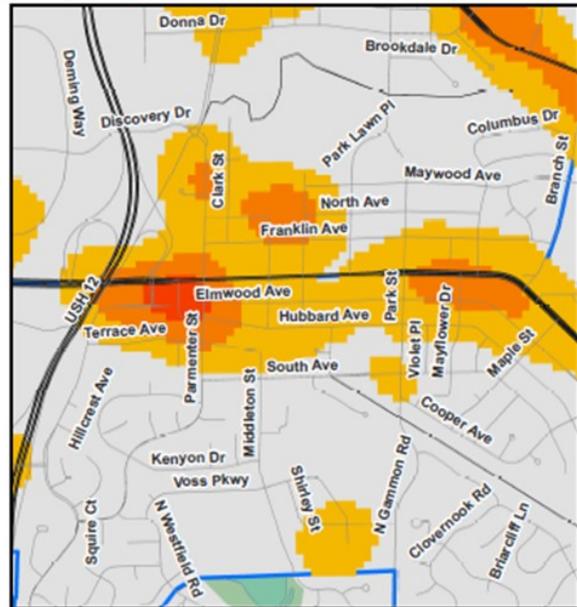
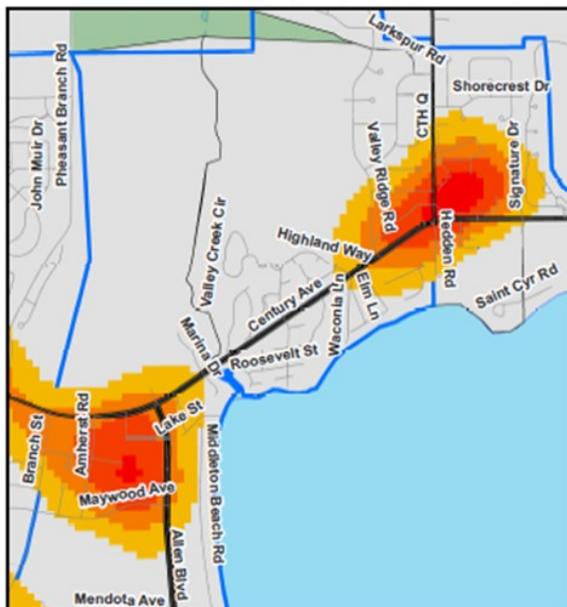
Citizen Generated



City of Middleton Police Department Calls for Service



Excludes all calls for service that were duplicates, cancelled, officer initiated, 311, invalid GPS, or at the police department. SJH 3/9/2022 100:1000

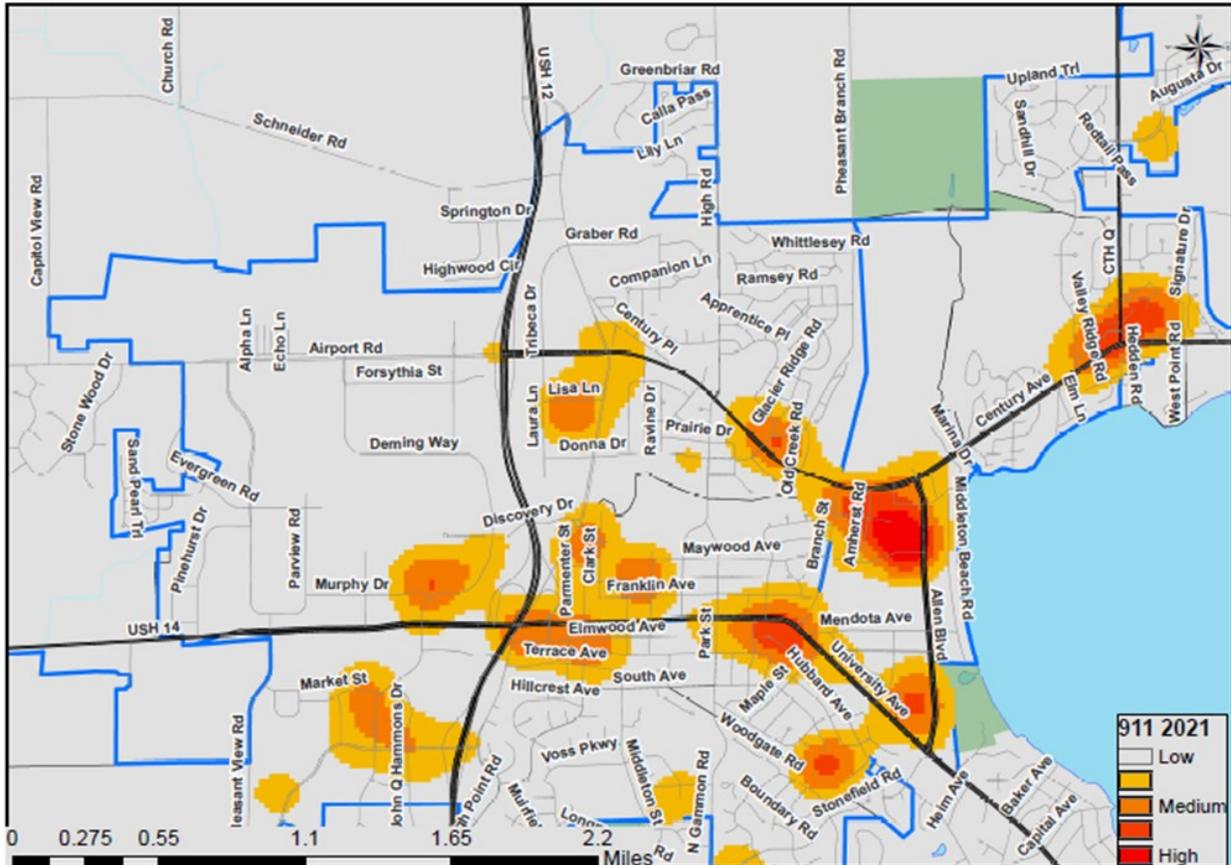


Calls for Service

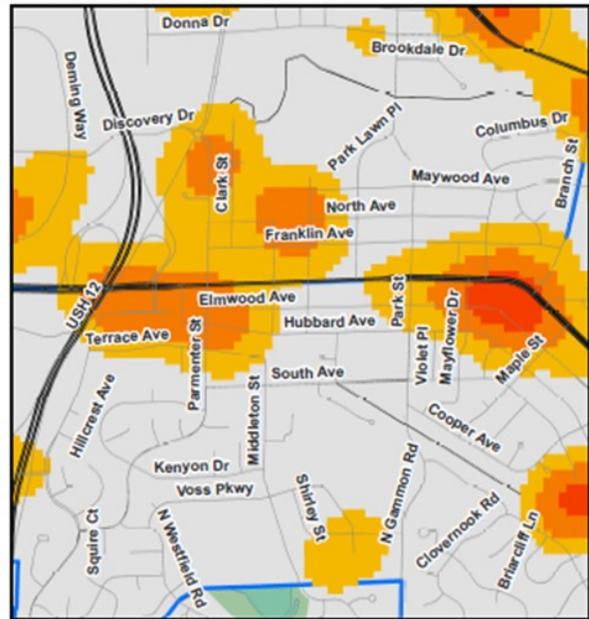
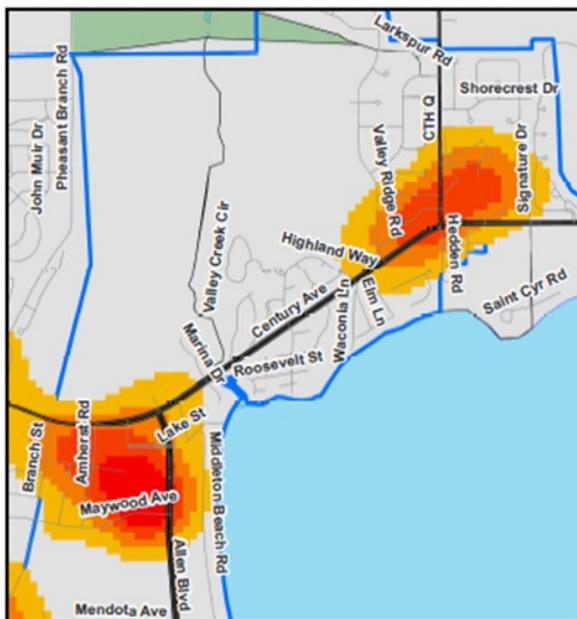
911 Calls



City of Middleton Police Department Calls for Service

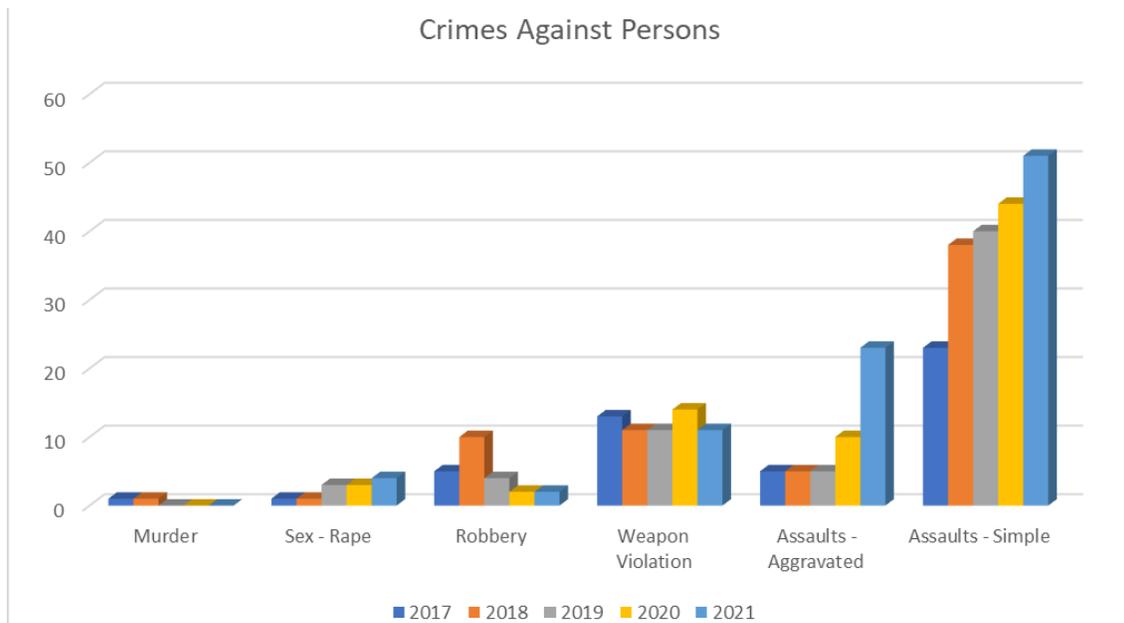


Excludes all calls for service that were duplicates, cancelled, officer initiated, citizen generated, invalid GPS, or at the police department. SJH 3/9/2022 100:1000



Crimes Against Persons

When looking at crime statistics, they are usually broken down into two categories which are crimes against persons and property crimes. Crimes against persons saw an increase in assaults in 2021. This is at least partially due to the switch in how these crimes are being documented with NIBRS which is now capturing more of these incidents when compared to the prior UCR statistics. After an uncharacteristic increase in weapons offenses in 2020, these have decreased to pre-pandemic levels.

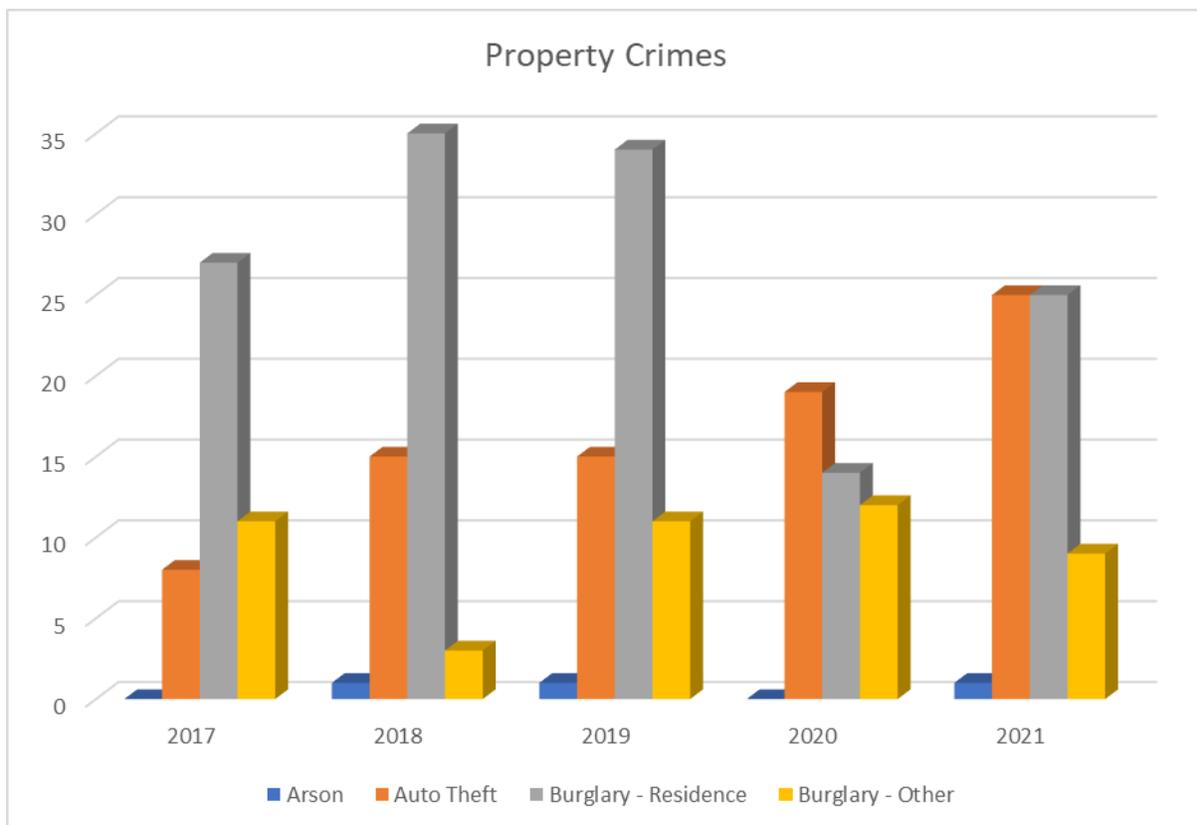


	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Murder	1	1*	0	0	0
Sex - Rape	1	1	3	3	4
Robbery	5	10	4	2	2
Weapon Violation	13	11	11	14	11
Assaults - Aggravated	5	5	5	10	23
Assaults - Simple	23	38	40	44	51

* The homicide in 2018 was a result of the officer involved shooting at Paradigm

Property Crimes

The most noticeable trend in the property crime section is the increase in motor vehicle thefts. As you can see, there has been an increase for most of the last five years straight. This is a trend that has been seen throughout the county and the region. There was also an increase in the number of residential burglaries; however, that number is still significantly lower when compared to those from before the pandemic.



	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Arson	0	1	1	0	1
Auto Theft	8	15	15	19	25
Burglary - Residence	27	35	34	14	25
Burglary - Other	11	3	11	12	9

Use of Force

Captain Jeremy Geiszler



In 2021 the Middleton Police Department responded to 18,109 calls for service. Of those incidents, Middleton officers utilized some level of force 47 times. This means that force was applied in 0.26% of all incidents that officers responded to. This is a decrease in the number of incidents involving force when compared to 2020 where we saw 51 despite an increase of more than 2,300 calls for service in 2021.

The numbers below are deserving of some explanation as there is no standard way to calculate use of force in law enforcement. While there were 47 incidents, some of them involve multiple officers and/or subjects on scene. Furthermore, officers who utilize force often apply more than one type of force as they progress through their options.

Specifically, when applying physical force, this generally starts at a low level such as an escort hold and may lead up to a decentralization or physical strikes. Each of those individual uses of force for each officer against each subject is counted as an application of force.

For 2021, there was a total of 142 applications of force against 45 individuals and 5 animals. A breakdown of the demographics of each of those subjects can be found below. The most common application of force was a decentralization which occurred 39 times and was applied against 19 individuals. Escort holds occurred 37 times against 22 people, and compliance holds were applied 24 times against 18 individuals. Officers pointed Tasers and firearms multiple times, but neither were ever fired.

Newly implemented this year was a quarterly review of use of force

incidents. This information was shared with the four Lieutenants, the Operations Captain, and the Chief and was discussed at quarterly meetings with the Lieutenants. This was done to provide more frequent analysis than the annual requirement to fulfill WILEAG accreditation standards. The goal was to be able to more quickly identify any possible patterns of behavior from individual officers or combinations of officers.

At the Middleton Police Department, each use of force above a compliance hold initiates a detailed multi-step review of the incident. In addition to a narrative report, each officer involved in any use of force is required to complete a critical incident report. This report goes to the supervisor who starts the review process. That review may involve an interview of the officers involved as well as a review of the narrative report and any relevant body or squad camera video. The purpose of this review is to ensure all uses of force were within policy, that the policy was sufficient, and that training and equipment provided to officers was adequate.

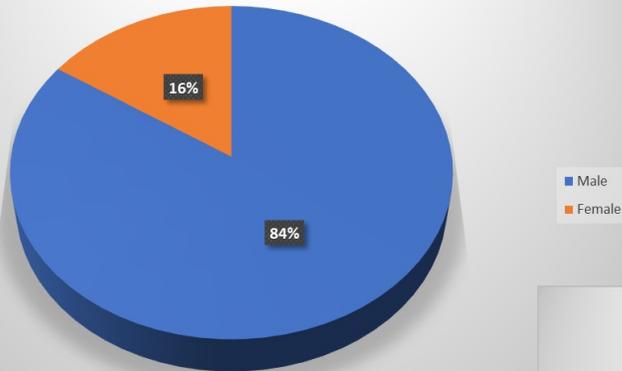
**One incident in the "other" category involved a subject being stabilized against the wall and the other was an application of a Brazilian Jiu Jitsu resembling a leg lock.*

2021 Use of Force Statistics		
Number of Applications of Force	142	
Calls For Service	18,109	
Number of Incidents Involving Force	47	
Percent of Incidents Involving Force	0.26%	
Type of Force Used	Number of Times Reported	Number of Subjects
Animal Dispatched	5	5
Taser Pointed at Suspect	9	9
Taser Fired at Suspect	0	0
Less Lethal Shotgun Pointed at Suspect	0	0
Decentralized	39	19
Escort Hold	37	22
Compliance Hold	24	18
Strikes / Blows	2	2
Firearm Pointed at Suspect	23	15
Firearm Discharged at Suspect	0	0
Canine Deployed - Bite	0	0
Canine Deployed - No Bite	1	1
Other*	2	2

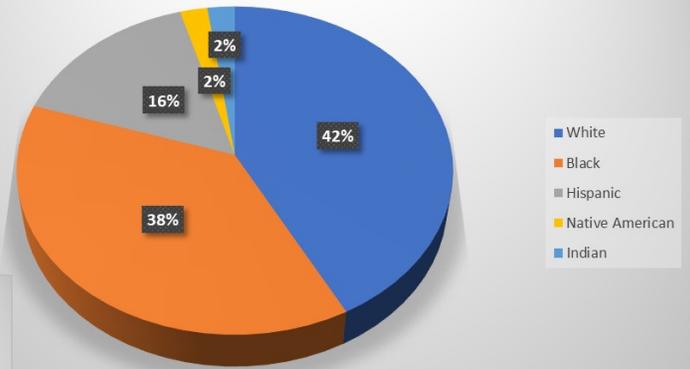
After the supervisor reviews the incident, the report is forwarded to the Administrative Captain for a second review. The Captain reviews the same information and determines whether a Critical Incident Review Board (CIRB) will meet for a third review. If certain criteria are met, a CIRB is required by policy, but it can also be requested by a supervisor or the reviewing Captain. The CIRB involves three to five officers who review the incident for the same purpose as the supervisor and Captain. The CIRB met to review six use of force incidents in 2021. Each of these reviews determined the officers were within policy. Several of these were referred to the supervisor to review the incidents with the officer(s) involved to discuss possible areas of improvement.

Below you will find a breakdown of the uses of force for the year along with several graphs showing the demographics of the subjects force was applied to. Also included is a graph showing use of force over the past three years.

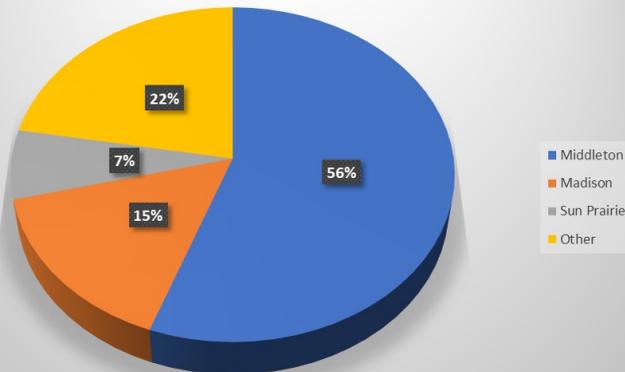
2021 Use of Force by Gender



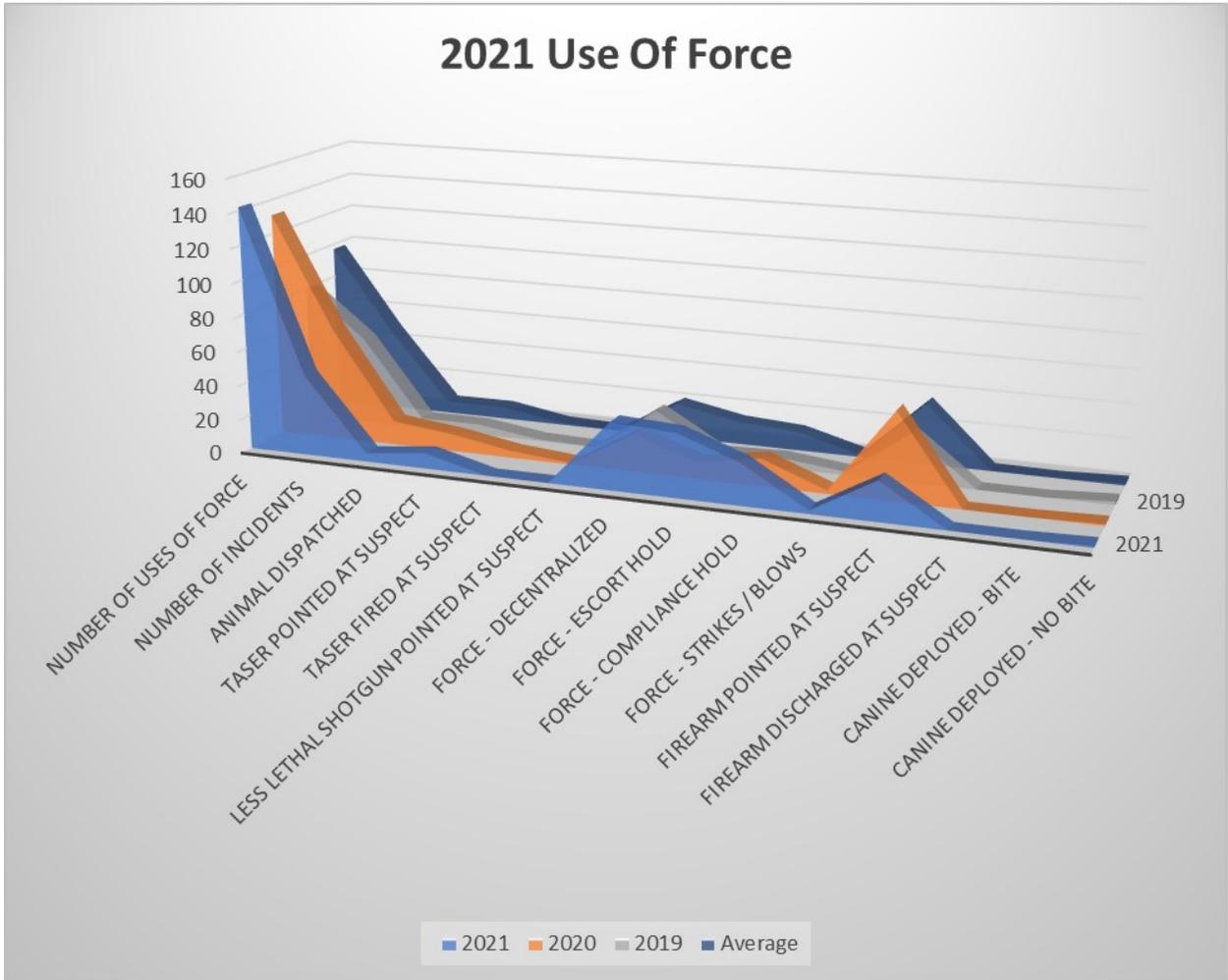
2021 Use of Force By Race



2021 Use Of Force By Address Of Subject



2021 Use Of Force



Citizen Complaints



Captain Travis Kakuske

The Middleton Police Department takes any allegations against our employees seriously and thoroughly investigates all complaints. In 2021, our department responded to 18,109 calls for service and there were 29 complaints filed against our employees. This means that, of all the incidents we responded to last year, complaints were filed only 0.16% of the time.

Most employee complaints are assigned to a Lieutenant to investigate, or in the case of a civilian employee, their direct supervisor. More serious allegations, or those made against a Lieutenant, are assigned to the Operations Captain for investigation. Each investigation involves interviews of the complainant and involved employee(s), witnesses, as well as a review of relevant reports, body camera video, and/or squad video. When the investigation is complete, it is forwarded to the Operations Captain for review and the original complainant is notified of the findings. The city's Public Safety Committee also reviews the synopsis and finding of each complaint.

Looking at previous years, in 2020 there were 22 complaints filed, and in 2019 there were 21. See the chart at right for details on trends regarding complaints dating back to 2014.

When received, complaints are grouped into one of the following categories:

Use of Force – Excessive or inappropriate use of force.

Property – Money, property, evidence or other valued items have been damaged, or taken and not properly accounted for, receipted, or placed in property/ evidence.

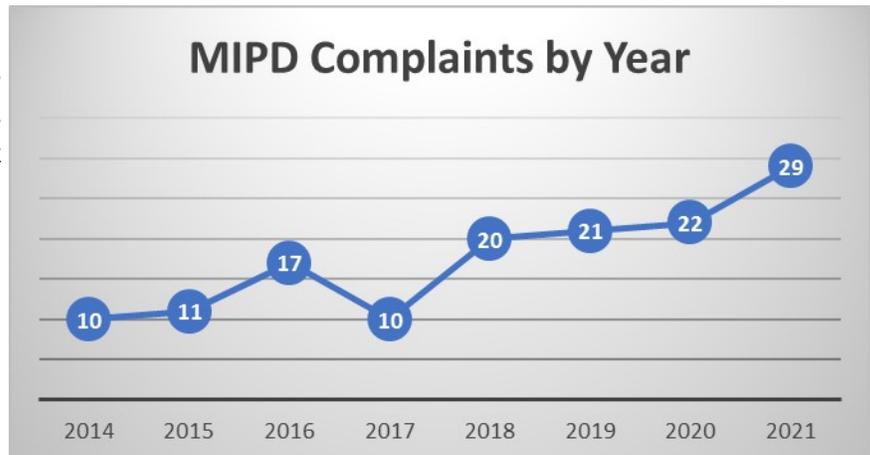
Conduct – Misconduct, other than those more specifically defined by another category, which tends to bring reproach or discredit upon the department.

Disparate Treatment – Treatment of an individual that is different from that of another because of race, sex, age, origin, orientation, status, beliefs, appearance, or handicap.

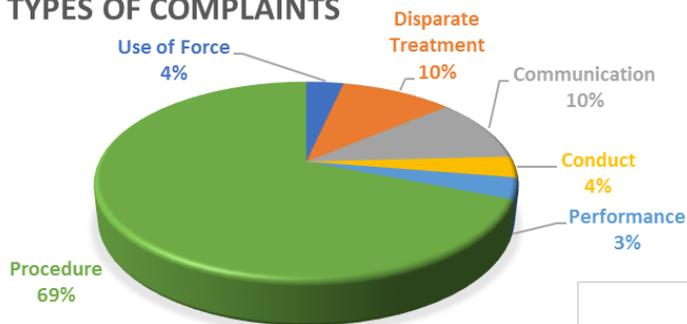
Communication – Attitude, rude conduct, or verbally abusive conduct other than those addressed in the disparate treatment category.

Performance – Work performance which fails to meet or conform to department standards or requirements of an administrative nature such as lateness, misuse of sick time, etc.

Procedure – Conduct which violates policy, procedures, rules, standards of conduct, or order of a superior officer and which are not more specifically addressed in the performance category.



2021 TYPES OF COMPLAINTS



In 2021, the following types of complaints were investigated. The below data also breaks down the race and gender of the complainants, as well as complaint dispositions.

Complaint dispositions are broken down into the following categories:

Unfounded - The investigation has produced sufficient evidence to prove that the act or acts alleged did not occur. This finding shall also apply when individual personnel named in the complaint were not involved in an act that did occur.

Exonerated - The act alleged did occur, but the employee's actions were justified, legal and proper.

Undetermined/No Finding - There is insufficient evidence to either prove or disprove the allegation.

Unintentional Error – The act (or omission) did occur and it is deemed improper, but was the result of an employee's mistake made in good faith.

Sustained - The investigation disclosed enough evidence to prove the allegation.

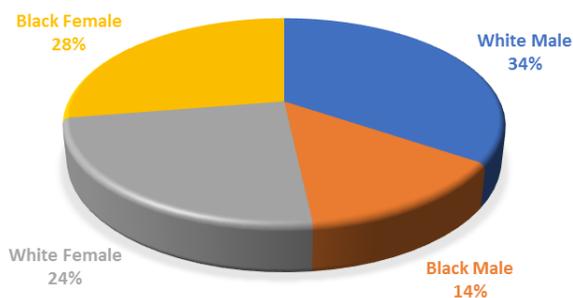
Misconduct Not Based on Complaint - Investigation in to the complaint reveals other actions that would be a violation of policy, operating procedure, rules, standards of conduct, or law, but these actions were not a part of the original complaint.

Policy Failure - The employee's actions were in accordance with policy, procedure, or rules, but there is some flaw in the policy that permitted the actions, or there is no applicable policy to address the situation and/or the employee's actions.

Withdrawn - The complainant has withdrawn the complaint, and no further investigation or action is warranted.

Time Limits – The complaint has been filed more than 90 days after the alleged incident, no law violations are alleged, and the complainant cannot show good cause for the delayed reporting.

2021 COMPLAINTS BY SEX & RACE



In 2021, the complaint dispositions were broken down as follows:

