

BISMARCK POLICE DEPARTMENT 2017 ANNUAL REPORT



Table of Contents

<u>Chief's Message</u>	2-3
Mission and Vision Statement	4
2017 Department Goals	5-7
Bismarck Police Department Personnel	8
<u>Field Services</u>	9-36
Patrol	9-10
Traffic and Parking Enforcement	11-15
Animal Control	16-19
Criminal Investigations	20-26
Warrants	27
West Dakota SWAT	28-31
Bomb Squad	32-33
K-9 Program	34-36
<u>Support Services</u>	37-55
Administrative Services	37-38
Police Youth Bureau	39-43
Crime Prevention and Community Services	44-49
Records and Reception	50-51
Evidence and Property	52
Facility Maintenance	53
Training	54-55
<u>Special Programs/Reports</u>	56-64
Bismarck Mounted Police	56
Law Enforcement Chaplaincy	57
Fleet Report	58-60
Pursuits	61-64

Chief's Message

On behalf of the Bismarck Police Department, I am proud to present our 2017 Annual Report. This report provides an overview of the efforts and accomplishments of the department this past year. We are very proud of our accomplishments and service to our community. Because of the efforts of our energetic professional staff and our strong partnership with our citizens we continue to be one of the safest cities in the country.

In 2017 the City added 12 new officer FTEs; eight (8) for Patrol and four (4) for the Bismarck Municipal Airport. We continue to maintain six (6) School Resource Officer (SRO) positions on our SRO team. Five (5) are assigned to the Bismarck Public Schools (BPS) and the other one is assigned to the Light of Christ Catholic Schools of Excellence (LOCCSE) and Shiloh. They do a great job collaborating with the schools to educate staff, students and parents, and to keep the schools a safe environment in which to learn.

Our staff continues to be very busy with our thriving and growing community. There are many exciting things happening in our community and we are very fortunate; however, this increasing growth and activity in our area continues to lead to higher and higher demand in calls for police services. The workload continues to place increasing demands on the department's resources and we continually evaluate and strategize the most effective methods available to effectively utilize our resources and deliver police services to the community.

The department continues to effectively communicate with the citizens and visitors of Bismarck through our department's Facebook page: www.facebook.com/bismarckpolice and Twitter account: @BismarckPolice. This continues to be a very productive venture, both for the department and for the community. We are able to keep the public better informed in a timely manner and in turn, the community has been great in assisting us in providing information on crimes that occur in our community. We have posted many pictures and/or videos of crimes and suspects in crimes and the public's response has been nothing short of amazing. Without the assistance of the citizens we serve many of our crimes would remain unsolved. In 2017 we added Instagram and Pinterest to our social media tools.

The Bismarck Police Department continues to not only strive to maintain a high-level of professionalism, but is committed to ensuring the department maintains the Commission on Accreditation of Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA) gold standards of excellence in delivering law enforcement services to the citizens of Bismarck. In November, 2017, the Bismarck Police Department was once again re-accredited with the designation of "Accreditation with Excellence;" that's twice in a row BPD has received this honorable designation. It is the great employees of the Bismarck Police Department that deserve recognition for this astounding achievement.

The staff at the Bismarck Police Department is committed to doing everything in our power to protect

life and property and to preserve Bismarck's exceptional quality of life. Our goal is to do our job, and with the community's help, keep Bismarck as one of the safest cities in America. I am very proud of each member of our BPD team that works hard every day to provide our community with professional, innovative and efficient police services. They are truly compassionate and dedicated to providing professional service to the citizens and visitors of Bismarck. I am confident that working with our committed staff, committed City leadership, with continued support of our public officials, along with the support from community members we can continue to keep Bismarck a safe community that provides a great place to live, work and play. Together we will continue to meet and excel through the challenges that lay ahead.

I hope you find the information in this report to be informative and interesting. The staff of the Bismarck Police Department is proud to serve our community. As I am retiring this summer, this will be the last message I will be writing. I want to sincerely thank you for your continued support for the men and women at the Bismarck Police Department who proudly serve the Bismarck community and thank you for your help in making Bismarck a safe community.

Dan Donlin

Chief of Police



Mission Statement

Mission Statement

The mission of the Bismarck Police Department is to protect life and property, provide professional customer service and foster community partnerships to preserve Bismarck's exceptional quality of life.

Vision Statement

The Bismarck Police Department will be recognized as a premier law enforcement agency which provides exceptional customer service through professional, well trained, caring and innovative employees working in partnership with the community. We will foster an environment of honesty, trust, and mutual respect in which the Department and the community work together to resolve problems and promote public safety.

We will strive to provide progressive leadership at all levels with a dedicated service orientation. We will remain responsive to new ideas and provide opportunities for employees to develop to their highest potential.

We will fully explore and utilize emerging technology in order to maximize efficiency and effectiveness of our operations. We will strategically plan in order to anticipate enforcement challenges and prepare for the growth and expansion of our progressive community.

We will continue to build upon our success through open communications, forward thinking and willingness to embrace change.



A Nationally Accredited Law Enforcement Agency

2018 Department Goals

1. Hiring – Maintain and improve, where possible, the efficiency of the hiring process
 - Review the testing process
2. Recruitment - Improve overall effectiveness of recruitment efforts along with an emphasis on minority groups
 - Continue to analyze current recruitment practices
 - Continue to analyze practical and achievable strategies, to include a direct focused plan on recruitment of members of minority groups
 - Continue recruitment effort towards veterans by increasing recruitment efforts on/at Minot Air Force Base and through ND National Guard by making contact with them
 - Continue to conduct Law Enforcement Exam testing at outside sites, such as various Law Enforcement Training Academies, colleges, universities, etc.
 - Utilize Social Media/Facebook in recruitment efforts
 - Effectively utilize the KAT Productions recruitment video
3. Institute quarterly mini In-Service Training Sessions
 - Attempt to cover the high-liability, low-frequency events:
 - Active Aggressor (Shooter)
 - High-Risk Traffic Stops
 - Building Searches
 - Arrest & Control tactics
 - Search & Seizure
 - Patrol Rifle Familiarization
4. Mobile Field Force Training
 - Research implementation of a Mobile Field Force Team
 - Conduct or send officers to Mobile Field Force Training
5. Improve manpower presence in the field
 - Conduct an analysis of the impact of the new “power shift”
6. Implement a Less-Lethal Program for Patrol Operations
 - Research and choose appropriate, less-lethal firearms/equipment
 - Train staff as necessary in deployment/use of less-lethal munitions
7. Increase Staff – Analyze the need for the following increase in Staff
 - Department Wide
 - Conduct a workload assessment to determine if need exists for additional FTE
 - Full-Time IT Assignment at PD
 - Continue to monitor and maintain documentation for the justification of a full-time IT employee to be assigned to the PD
 - Training Officer

- The need for an additional Training Officer is obvious; request this need through the 2019 budget
 - K-9 Patrol
 - Complete all steps necessary to replace K9 Luna and add the 4th K9 Team
 - Records
 - Research/Analyze completed; There is a need for an additional FTE in Records. Request new FTE through 2019 budget
 - Airport Police
 - Analysis affirms the need for an additional police officer FTE to work the Airport. Shift is currently negatively impacted due to the lack of staffing. Request additional officer FTE for the Airport
8. Refine the Crime Analyst's Analysis Based Policing to more effectively communicate crime trends
- More emphasis during daily report review in identifying important crime trends
 - Utilize that data to create predictive crime patterns and communicate all pertinent information/strategies to Patrol, Investigations and Power Shift in a short, concise readable format to paint a clear picture of what's going on in our community
 - Continue to utilize social media accounts to keep the public informed of crime and safety issues, but balance appropriately with Crime Analyst duties
9. Continue with internal succession planning
- Continue to participate in City leadership development training program
 - Identify positions at risk due to retirement and ensure that persons are prepared to assume the duties of a position vacated by retirement(s)
 - Implement OTJ training of appropriate staff to fill-in in key positions
10. Complete the following projects:
- Implementation of the Space Needs Study
 - Continue requesting through the annual budget process
11. Develop effective "high-ticket" equipment replacement plans
- Coordinate replacement of RMS/CAD with CenCom
12. Improve sergeant's professional development and communications; facilitated by DCs
- Continue with quarterly sergeant's meeting to discuss, network and share issues and resolutions
13. Conduct an analysis of our dictation/transcription process
- Continue to research voice recognition systems as well as 24-hour transcription services. If deemed more efficient, include in 2019 budget request
14. Improve efficiency in coordinating court scheduling between District Court and our officers' schedules

- Research and coordinate with District Court to bring efficiencies in the court scheduling of officers versus always being scheduled for court on their days off or when they are on the night shift
- Research and present a software program to aide in this process

BISMARCK POLICE DEPARTMENT

STAFFING TABLE 2017

128 sworn and 30 civilian positions authorized for 2017

The following table reflects the number of personnel by rank or job title within the various divisions and sections of the Bismarck Police Department.

ADMINISTRATION– 2 Employees

1- Chief of Police (Dan Donlin)

1- Accounting Coordinator (Christie Kaylor)

FIELD SERVICES DIVISION– 113 Employees

The Field Services Division comprises of many different sections of the police department. They are Patrol; Traffic, which includes Parking Enforcement and Animal Control; Investigations, which includes Gaming, Narcotics Unit, and Warrants. Additionally, the Field Services Division includes the following specialized teams: West Dakota SWAT Team/Hostage Negotiations Team, Bomb Squad, and the K-9 Program. One hundred sixteen (116) out of the One hundred twenty-eight (128) sworn officers in the department are assigned to the Field Services Division.

1-Deputy Chief (Randy Ziegler)

<u>PATROL SECTION</u>	<u>INVESTIGATIONS SECTION</u>	<u>TRAFFIC SECTION</u>	<u>ACCREDITATION</u>
3- Lieutenants	1- Lieutenant	1- Lieutenant	2-Police Officers
12- Sergeants	2- Sergeants	1- Sergeant	<u>SPECIAL OPERATIONS</u>
60- Police Officers	15- Investigators	6- Police Officers	1-Lieutenant
1- Office Assistant II	2- Car Markers	4-Airport Officers	
	3- Warrant Officers	3- Animal Wardens	

SUPPORT SERVICES DIVISION– 38 Employees

1 - Deputy Chief (Dave Draovitch)

<u>JUVENILE SERVICES</u>	<u>ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES</u>	<u>SUPPORT SERVICES</u>
1- Lieutenant	1- Lieutenant	1- Lieutenant
6- Officers	1- Officer	2- Sergeants
5- Youth Workers	8-Record Technicians	3- Officers
1- Office Assistant II	1-Records Supervisor	3- Maintenance
1-Youth Worker Supervisor		2- Evidence Technicians
		1- Office Assistant II
		1-Property Coordinator

Patrol Section

The Field Services Division comprises of many different sections of the police department. They are Patrol; Traffic, which includes Parking Enforcement and Animal Control; Investigations, which includes Gaming, Narcotics Unit, and Warrants. Additionally, the Field Services Division includes the following specialized teams: West Dakota SWAT Team/Hostage Negotiations Team, Bomb Squad, and the K-9 Program. One Hundred Nine (109) out of the One Hundred Twenty-Eight (128) sworn officers in the department are assigned to the Field Services Division.

The Field Services Division personnel are among the best trained officers in the State of North Dakota with many officers providing training to other officers throughout the state. The officers continually demonstrate the highest degree of professionalism under difficult circumstances as they serve the community under the department's mission statement.

Patrol operations is comprised of uniformed officers providing coverage for the City of Bismarck 24 hours a day, 365 days of the year. Patrol officers respond to calls for service and engage in proactive enforcement including traffic enforcement and neighborhood patrols. Officers are assigned to either Day Shift or Evening Shift. They are assigned to a specific area or *beat* of the City and are responsible for responding to calls for service and engaging in proactive duties in that area. The top priority for officers on patrol continues to be fighting crime and solving problems, while building relationships within the community.

The Patrol Section is the largest section of the department. The officers working in the Patrol Section are the officers most commonly seen by the public. Patrol officers are the first responders to all emergency and non-emergency calls for service. They patrol approximately 400 + miles of roadways in the City of Bismarck.

The Patrol Section is comprised of two (2) patrol shifts and one (1) Power Shift/Street Crimes Unit. The shifts work a rotating 12-hour shift schedule, rotating between day shift and night shift every two weeks. Power shift officers work a fixed 12-hour schedule from 3 p.m. to 3a.m. The power shift officers provide manpower staffing during the "peak" activity times as well as during shift changeover. This group of officers also encompasses the Street Crimes Unit which deals with problem areas within the City of Bismarck as well as combatting crime within our city. The goal of the Unit is to take a proactive approach to identify and address crimes in an effort to preserve a superior quality of life for today's residents and for future generations.

The Patrol Shift Commanders are: Lt. Mike McMerty, Patrol (22 years' experience), Lt. Luke Gardiner, Patrol (12 years' experience) and Lt. Chad Fetzer Power shift/Street Crimes (11 years' experience.)

In 2017, Patrol officers were involved in 65,039 patrol activities, which is a decrease of 3.80% from the 69,825 patrol activities in 2016. There were 43,327 calls for service in 2017 compared to 40,045 in 2016 which is an 8.20% increase. A call for service is a request from the public for police assistance. These calls for service involve a wide variety of situations ranging from serious emergencies to minor

situations. For example, the Patrol officer may respond to a simple parking complaint one minute and the next call could be for a subject with a gun, or a baby who has stopped breathing. Officers wrote 17,733 citations in 2017 compared to 16,062 in 2016 (10.40% increase), 590 DUI/APC arrests compared to 503 in 2016 (17.30% increase), and 5,757 adult and juvenile arrests during 2017, which resulted in 7,976 charges.

In addition to their regular patrol duties, many officers accept the responsibility of performing specialized functions in other necessary areas throughout the department. In 2017 there were sixteen (16) officers assigned to the West Dakota SWAT Team, five (5) on the Negotiations Unit, six (6) on the Bomb Squad, and two (2) comprised the K-9 Unit. All two K-9 teams have dual purpose dogs and are assigned to Patrol. Many officers take on even more responsibilities and choose to attend specialized training in varying areas to include, but not limited to, becoming instructors in areas such as a Field Training Officer (FTO), Intoxilyzer Operators, Drug Recognition Expert (DRE), and Crisis Intervention Team (CIT).

There are five (5) Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) officers that have advanced knowledge and skills to better respond to calls for service that involve individuals in crisis and/or struggling with varying levels of mental illness. All CIT officers have been working to train and educate their shifts in the CIT principles.

Patrol Lieutenants, in addition to their regular assignments as a Patrol Shift Commander, perform other management assignments such as coordinating special projects or commanding specialized units. The Patrol Lieutenants have the overall responsibility for all police activities occurring during their shifts.



Traffic Section

This is a summary of the Traffic section for 2017. Lt. Jeff Solemsaas is the commander of the Traffic section with Sgt. Tim Bleth the supervisor. At the close of 2017 the section is one officer short of the allocated manpower with an opening in traffic enforcement.

When fully staffed, the Traffic section has four (4) traffic investigators and two (2) traffic enforcement officers. There are three (3) animal control wardens and two (2) car markers. Throughout 2017 some of the Traffic officers have been reassigned to the Patrol section to assist with manpower shortages and to help with the field training of recruit officers. The Traffic officers have also started with a new program in which they are assigned as Field Training Officers (FTOs) for new recruits. As a result of this all the Traffic officers have received training to become Field Training Officers. This was started to assist the recruit officers to gain experience in both traffic collision investigation and traffic enforcement.

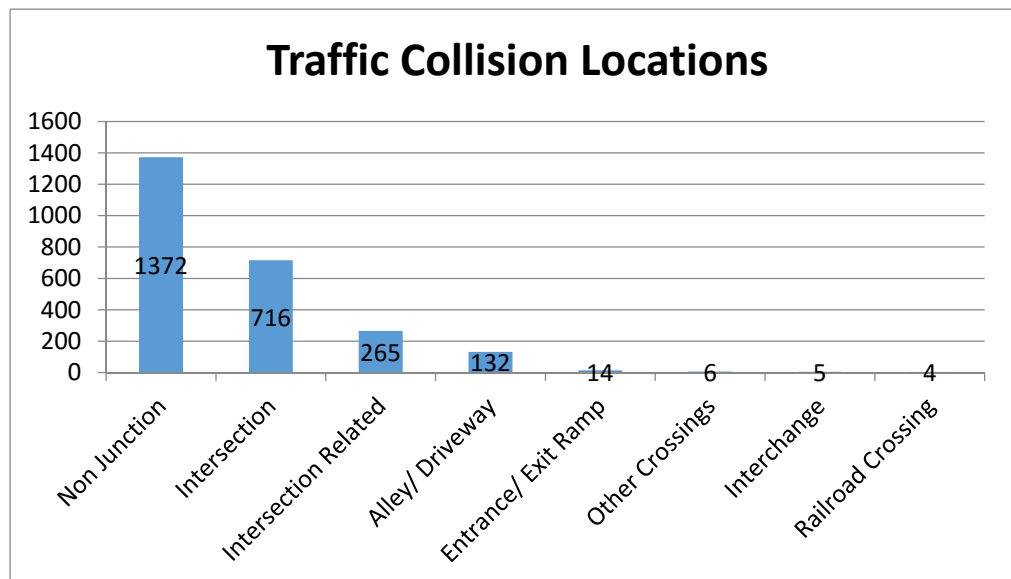
The traffic investigators typically focus on collision investigation and following up on hit and run reports. The traffic enforcement officers are assigned to the low-profile vehicles and concentrate on traffic enforcement, especially in areas that have been reported as having traffic related concerns. In general, the section is responsible for anything “traffic” related.

In 2017 there were a total of 3,673 collisions, down from 3,789 in 2016. There has been a pattern of a steady decrease in the total amount of collisions each year. As a comparison there were 3,720 collisions in 2015 which was the first time in the previous three years that there had been an increase. The Traffic officers investigated a total of 1,505 collisions of the 3,673 (41% of the department).

As a general rule, the amount of collisions are dependent on the severity of the winter that Bismarck receives. When there a periods of increased snow and ice the collision rate tends to increase with more mild winters showing a slight decrease.

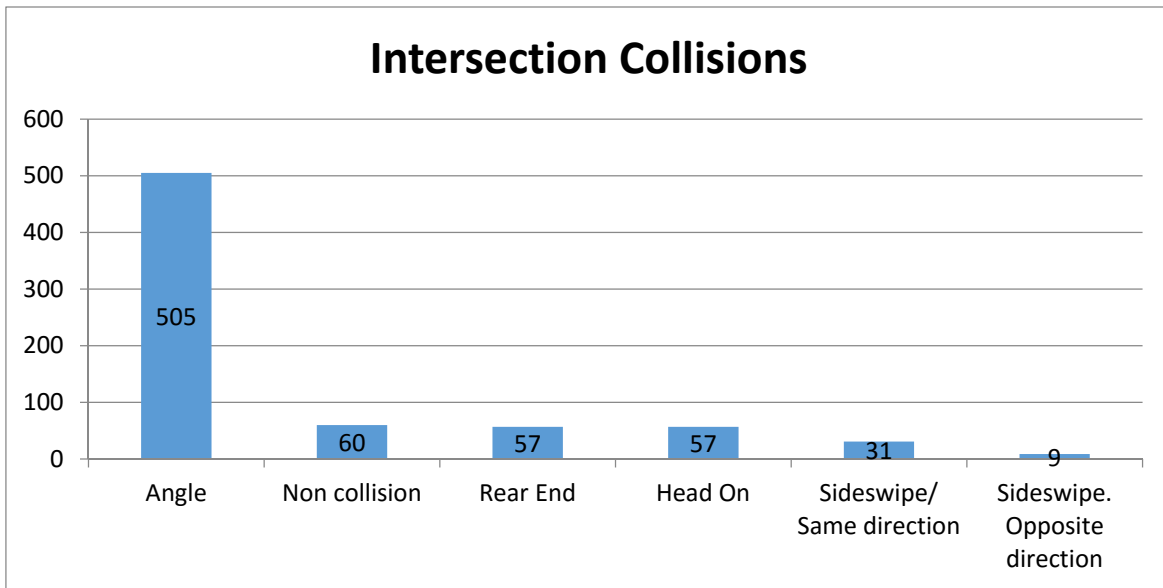
When a collision occurs on a city street it is considered to be a traffic collision. This only applies to streets in which the City of Bismarck has jurisdiction over the traffic control methods as the City of Bismarck has limited control of private property. Of the total number of collisions for 2017, 2,515 were considered “traffic collisions”.

This is 68% of the total collisions reported to the Bismarck Police Department. There were 1,132 collisions that occurred on private property such as parking lots or private roadways. There were also 26 non-reportable collisions which is when the damage is less than \$1,000.

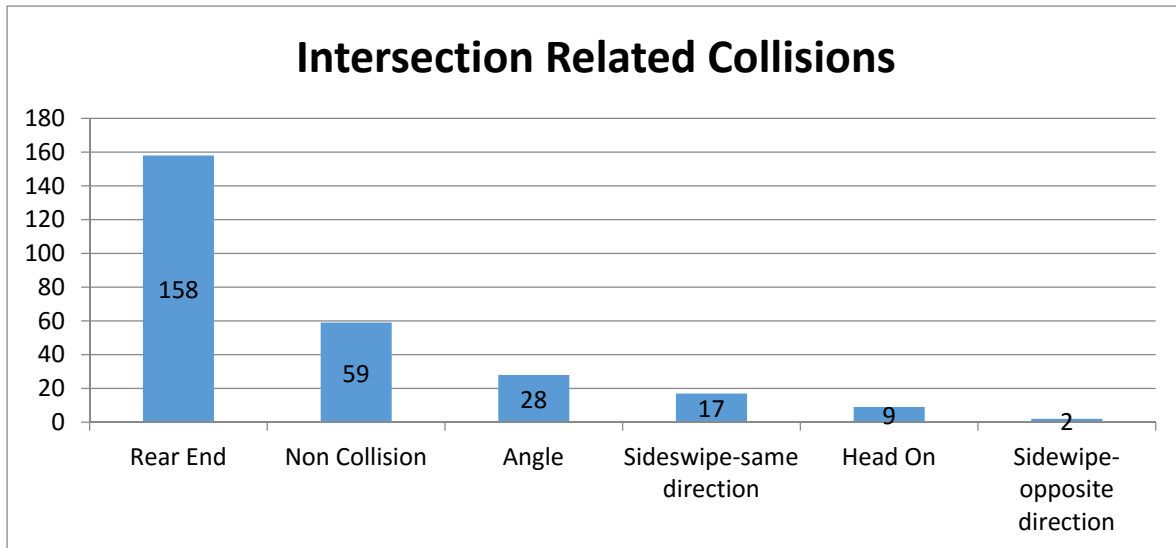


A significant portion of the collisions investigated are considered “non-traffic” This is the description given to collisions that occur off the publicly maintained roads such as private parking lots or mobile home roadways in which the city has no jurisdiction over traffic control measures. There were a total of 1,132 non traffic collisions in 2017 (31% of the total collisions). This also includes collisions that are “non-reportable.”

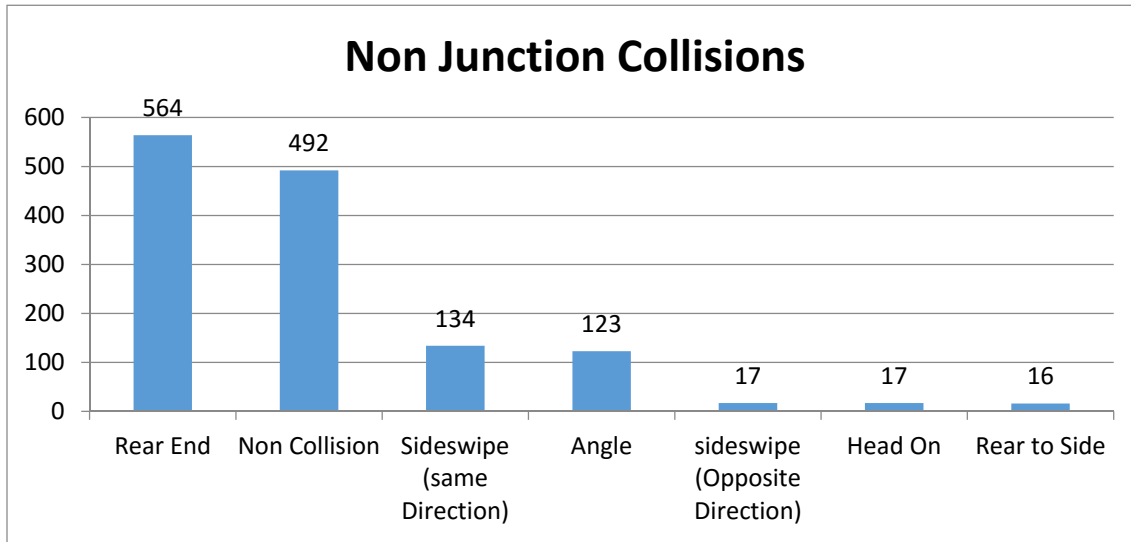
The percentage of traffic versus non-traffic collisions has remained very similar for the last several years. Approximately two-thirds of the collisions are traffic related and the other one-third being non-traffic. Non-traffic collisions are more difficult to deter through enforcement measures in that police normally do not enforce traffic laws on private property and cannot do so unless there is a clear violation. On private property there is generally not a clear violation until the collision has already occurred.



This applies only to collisions that occur within an intersection.



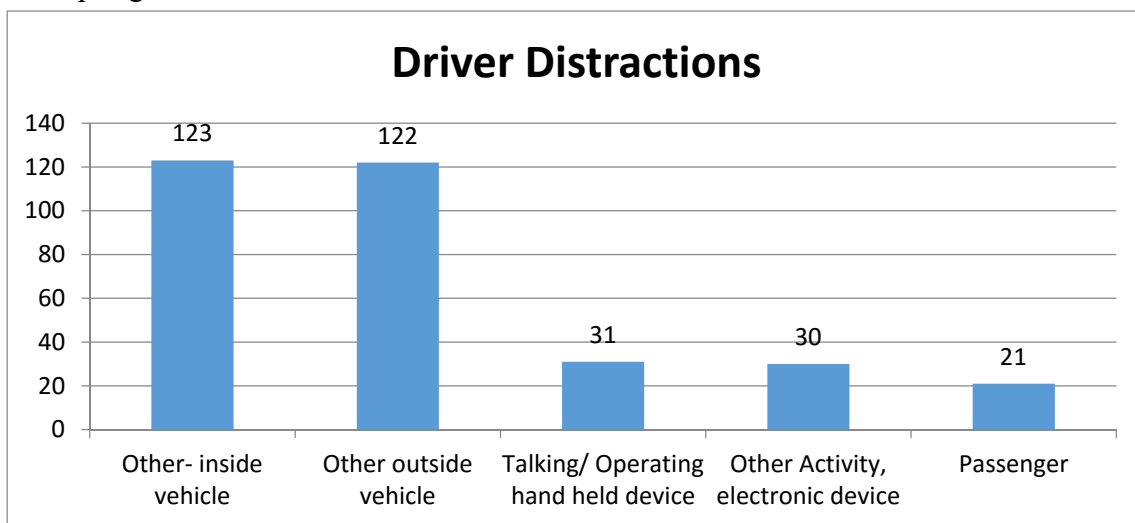
These are collisions that occur when vehicles are approaching intersections but not in the intersection itself and the intersection has a factor in the collision.



A non-collision report occurs when a vehicle in motion strikes a parked vehicle or other object that is not in motion such as a mailbox, light pole, traffic sign, etc.

In the course of the collision investigation, the officers attempt to determine the contributing factors leading to the collision. The following are the top contributing factors for all collisions in 2017:

1. Improper Backing – 927
2. Operate in inattentive/careless/erratic manner – 712
3. Following too Close – 578
4. Failure to Yield - 561
5. Improper Turn - 169
6. Improper Evasive Action - 160
7. Fail to Maintain Lane – 95
8. Ran Red Light - 88
9. Weather - 84
10. Ran Stop Sign - 25



It should be noted that there were 2,214 instances in which an officer noted that the distraction was unknown. This is generally used when an officer feels that a driver may have been distracted by something but has not admitted to any distraction.

The Traffic section also investigates fatality related collisions. In many agencies, the ND Highway Patrol will conduct the re-construction of the collision. We have officers with the training and equipment required to complete the re-construction. The department uses a “total station” in order to “map” the collision scene that is used to assist with the investigation. There were two (2) collisions in which there were fatalities in 2017. The Traffic section conducted the investigation into those fatalities. Bismarck Police is one of the few departments that investigate traffic fatalities with a majority of agencies contacting the Highway Patrol to conduct the investigation.

The first case was a single vehicle collision in which the vehicle left the roadway and the unrestrained driver was ejected from the vehicle. The investigation showed that speed and alcohol consumption were primary factors. The second case was at the intersection of University Dr./ Burleigh Ave. An eastbound vehicle failed to see an approaching northbound vehicle and was struck while crossing the intersection. A passenger in the vehicle that was struck died as a result of her injuries.

Investigation of fatal traffic collisions are very time consuming and require a large amount of training and experience. At this time the department has one officer that is trained in accident re-construction. It is a goal of the section to obtain the necessary training for several more officers to attend this training. There is a possibility of the ND Highway Patrol sponsoring training for officers to become collision reconstructionist certified.

The traffic officers investigated a total of 131 hit and run reports in 2017. The traffic officers are generally assigned a case for follow up if there is any evidence that may be used to identify the striking vehicle in a hit and run. In a large portion of the reported hit and runs there is no available evidence that can be used to indicate a suspect vehicle. 78 of the assigned hit and run reports were successfully closed (60%); this total does not include the reports that are still under investigation. The traffic officers issued a total of 2,981 citations for traffic violations during 2017.

When fully staffed there are two traffic enforcement officers assigned to the traffic section. The primary responsibility of these officers is the enforcement of traffic violations. Officer Swenson was assigned to the Traffic section in mid-2017. These two officers accounted for 1,519 total citations in 2017. The traffic enforcement officers are frequently assigned to areas that the department has received complaints about. These two officers generally operate a low-profile vehicle that has worked well for the enforcement of traffic violations. The Bismarck Police Department issued a total of 18,533 traffic citations for 2017 which includes all the citations issued by the Patrol, Traffic, Investigations and School Resource officers.

In 2017 there were a total of 554 arrests made for driving under the influence of alcohol/ drugs. This is up slightly from 503 arrests in 2016. There were also 41 arrests for refusing to submit to a chemical or breath test requested by an officer to drivers suspected of being under the influence of alcohol or drugs.

The Traffic officers are also responsible for the enforcement of the city’s load restrictions. In past years, we have worked closely with the North Dakota Highway Patrol and the City of Bismarck engineering

department to take measures to protect the city's roadways due to the fact that overweight vehicles cause increased damage to the streets particularly during the spring season when the under-surface is susceptible to damage.

There are two (2) parking enforcement officers who have the responsibility to enforce the parking ordinances in the downtown parking district. They also assist with the enforcement of the 48-hour parking violations which keeps them very busy during the winter months. There were 203 vehicles towed for violation of the 48-hour parking ordinance and 31 vehicles towed for being a traffic hazard. The parking enforcement officers also enforce the handicap parking violations at various locations throughout the city and assist on escorts for oversized/overweight loads being brought through the community. The Bismarck Police Department issued a total of 10,903 parking citations in 2017; with parking enforcement issuing 10,157 (93%) of those parking citations.

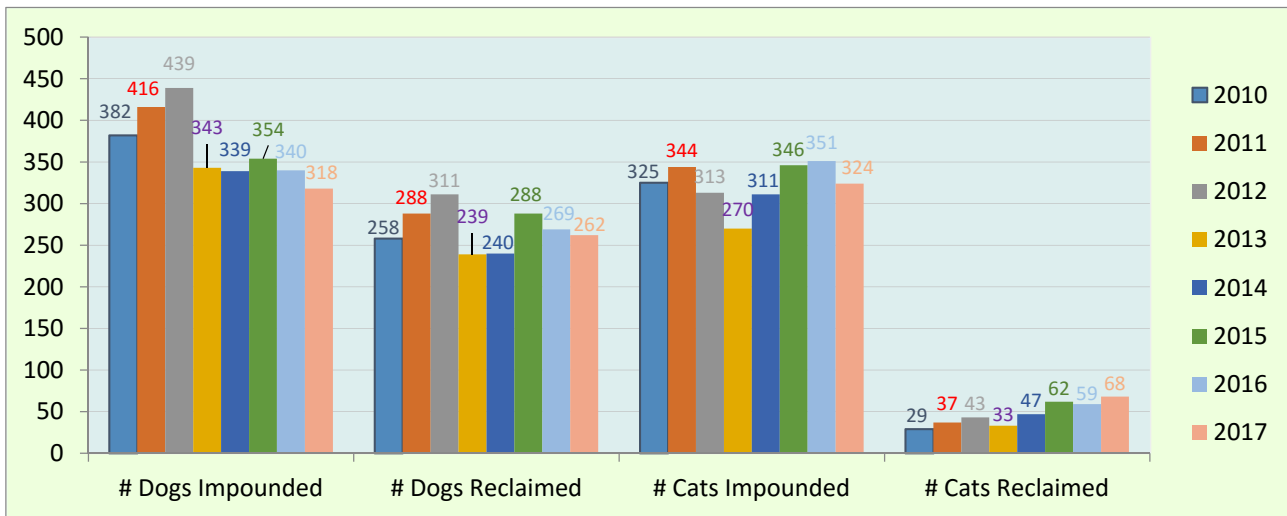
Parking in designated handicap parking spots continues to be an area of concern as the spots are not available for those in need. In 2017 the two parking enforcement officers issued a total of 618 parking citations for violations of this ordinance. In late 2016 the City of Bismarck adopted an ordinance that prohibits parking of campers, boats and trailers in residential areas. There were 86 citations issued for violation of this ordinance.

There are three (3) animal control wardens assigned to the Traffic section. The animal control wardens have the main responsibility to enforce the animal ordinances in the City of Bismarck. They are also responsible to maintain and administer the animal impound facility. They assist the department's patrol section by delivering mail and retrieving abandoned bicycles and entering them into evidence. The animal control wardens also administer the city's archery program that attempts to reduce the deer and turkey population on city owned property.

Animal Control

2017 brought changes to animal laws and new challenges on the street. With the steady influx of people from other states we find ourselves dealing with a number of homeless people with pets and also a variety of unique and unusual animals. Bismarck has also developed an Animal Welfare Board to assist with issues relating to laws pertaining to animals, developing educational programs for the public and researching issues pertaining to animals.

The following graph shows the comparisons for Bismarck from 2010 through 2017:



In summary, in 2016 there were 340 dogs and 351 cats impounded for a total of 691; compared to 2017 where 318 dogs, 324 cats were impounded for a total of 642, forty-nine less animals than the year before. The percentages of reclaimed dogs increased to 82% in 2017 (up from 79% in 2016) and reclaimed cats increased to 21% (up from 16% in 2016). We are slowly seeing a positive trend of people willing to reclaim their cats.

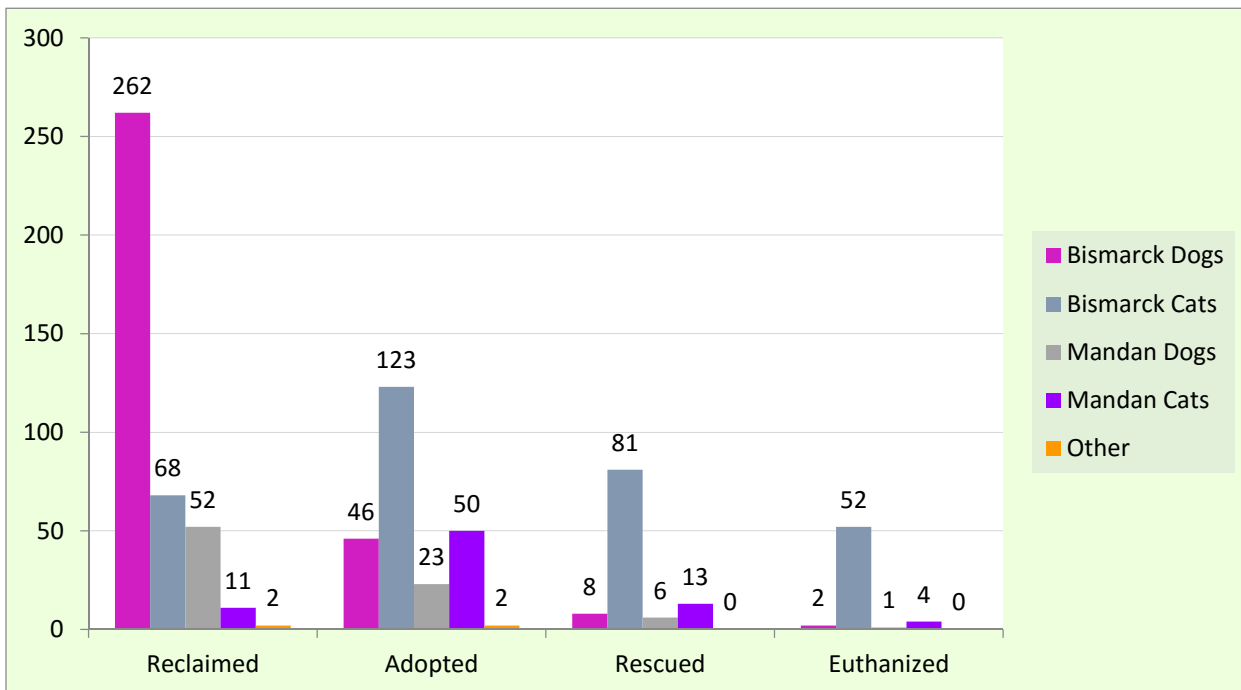
The total number of animals impounded in Bismarck



In 2017, the 693 dogs, cats and others impounded animals were down by 108 from the highest number of impound pets since records have been kept! “Other animals” can include domestic rats, ferrets, rabbits, hamsters, guinea pigs, domestic birds and reptiles. With the growth of the city infringing on the natural habitat of wildlife, we have seen a steady increase of calls to handle these animals which have included, raccoons, badgers, porcupines, skunks, muskrats, squirrels to bats and snakes, wild turkeys to mountain lions and deer and coyotes. With the assistance of the Dakota Zoo, we have been able to correctly identify, handle and tranquilize these animals.

We continue to see moose traveling through the city limits. Some are less interested in what the city has to offer and move on and some seem to enjoy walking through downtown. As the city continues to grow, we are receiving more calls related to wildlife in back yards and in neighborhoods. The public’s fascination with these animals and other wildlife, cause concern for the welfare of not only the wildlife but the people who gather to watch and try to interact with them. Animal Control and the police are tasked with the job of keeping the public safe and allowing these animals to move about freely and hopefully find their way out of town. Another public concern is the increase of rodents in vacant fields. Colonies of ground squirrels, gophers and muskrats have been showing up, along with a steady increase in the turkey population within the city.

With the help of volunteers, Animal Control Officers take care of impounded animals which are housed in the Bismarck-Mandan Animal Impound Facility. There was approximately 898 hours spent cleaning and caring for the animals and for adoption open hours. Unclaimed pets are evaluated for adoption and many are placed with rescue groups such as CDHS, Prairie Paws, 4 the Luv of Dogs, Kitty City, Bismarck Animal and Furry Friends and others around the states and Canada. Also, with the generous donations of food, treats, blankets, and toys, etc. from local merchants, the city was able to save \$9,145 in food and supplies.

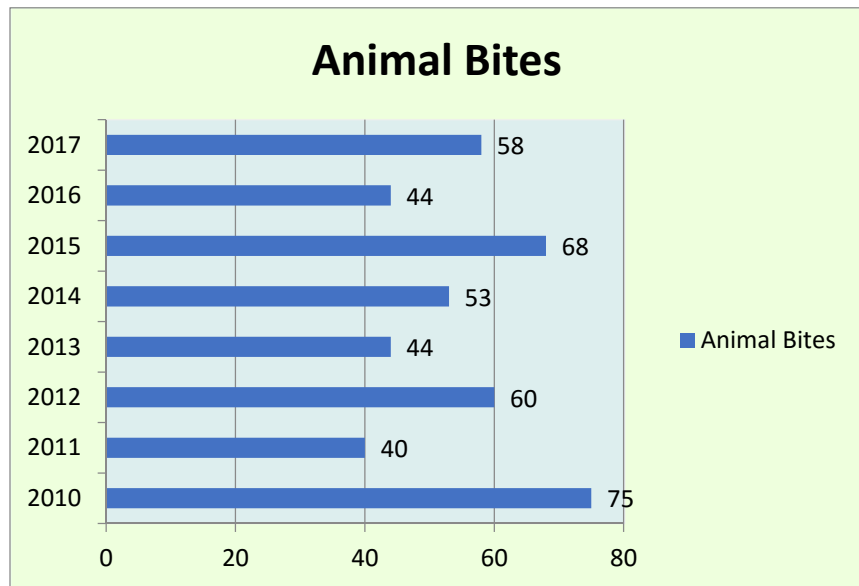


In 2017 a total of 108 dogs, cats and other animals went to rescue groups and humane societies; 70 dogs were adopted to homes, of which 23 were from Mandan’s unclaimed dogs, another 173 cats were adopted to homes and farms, of which 50 were from Mandan’s unclaimed cats. All totaled, the Bismarck-Mandan Animal Control Facility placed 353 unclaimed pets in 2017. We are able to utilize the City website to post pictures of animals, allowing the public to see what animals have been impounded and are also up for adoption.

Officers responded to 2,027 calls related to animals, resulting in 676 reports filed with the city. Animal Control Officers continue to work with pet owners for compliance of the city’s animal ordinances including barking dog complaints, cats and dogs defecating on people’s property, running at large, and license compliance. The Animal Control officers also follow up with cruelty complaints ranging from physical abuse to neglect and too many pets. With proper education, most complaints are resolved, but when appropriate, complaints are sent to the City Attorney for prosecution. Licenses are undervalued by pet owners that do not realize that licenses are the best tool officers have of finding owners and getting pets home quickly, often with no fees. But if impounded, a reduction of fees is assessed when a pet is wearing a license.

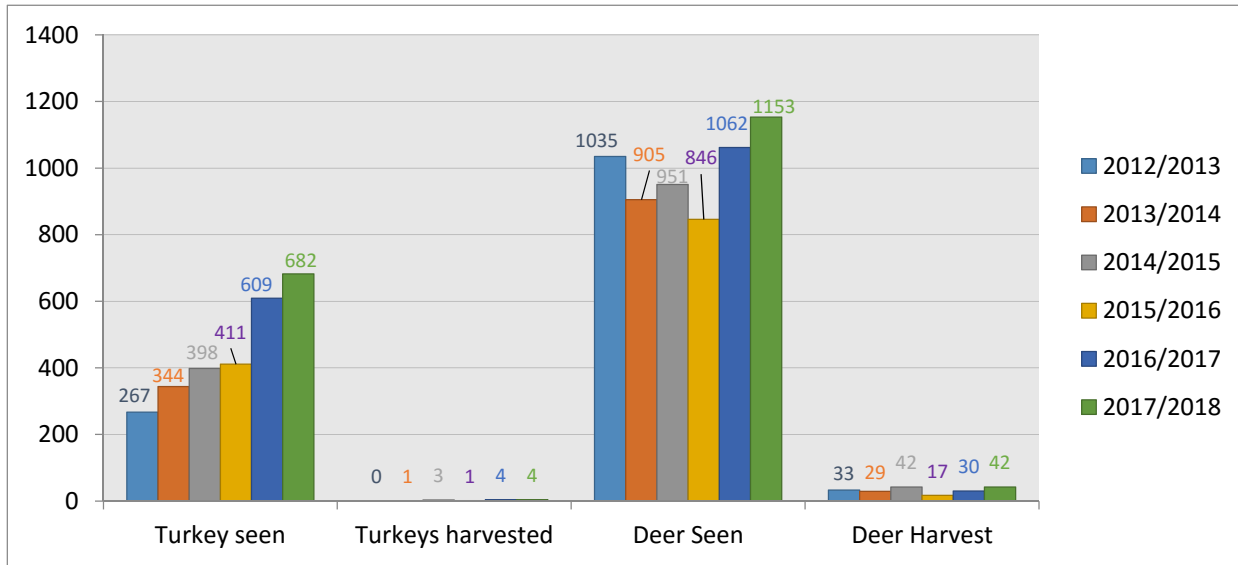
Also included in duties are following up with animal bites to humans. There were 107 calls related to animal bites, with 58 reports taken, this has increased from 44 in 2016:

Animal Wardens ensure that the offending pets are current with rabies vaccinations, examined by a veterinarian and quarantined, then re-examined to ensure they are healthy. Victims of animal bites are informed of the status of the pet.



Animal wardens also respond to found bike calls, resulting in 178 bikes impounded and secured into evidence.

The 2017/2018 In-City Bow Hunting program continues to be a big success, helping to keep the deer population stable and reduce vehicle/deer collisions. This is the 30th year for the program and the seventh year of the turkey hunt. This year the number of permits remained at 25 to alleviate crowding in the hunting area and were issued within hours of them being available. With the hunting zones being marked by GPS positioning, it has given the hunters a more accurate view of the borders and also has simplified the tagging of the zones.



Through the returned questionnaires, there were 42 deer harvested and four turkeys. Hunters reported sighting 1153 deer and 682 turkeys during the season. It is unknown the exact number of the deer and turkeys in the area since the same animal might be observed by multiple hunters. This season we opened Riverwood Golf Course to hunting, due to the overwhelming number of deer residing on the course. It was a success and will hopefully continue in the years to come. We are also exploring different avenues to reduce the turkey population in the residential area adjacent to the hunting area. Some of the concerns noted were several chained trail cams being stolen, hunters reported problems with pedestrians running dogs off leash in the fields, and an increase of coyote sightings. They appreciated that fewer hunters were in the area which allowed for more deer being harvested. Over all, hunters were pleased and also encouraged the continuation of the program and many expressed appreciation for the opportunity.

Criminal Investigations

The following material is provided as an overview of the Investigations Section of the Bismarck Police Department for the year 2017. The Section is responsible for the investigation of most felony and non-traffic criminal cases requiring lengthy follow-up occurring within the City of Bismarck.

The Criminal Investigations section falls within the Field Services Division of the Bismarck Police Department. Lieutenant Gary Malo is the Investigation Section Commander and he reports directly to the Field Services Deputy Chief. When at full strength, there are twenty-two (22) people assigned to Investigations; one (1) Lieutenant, one (1) Office Assistant, two (2) Sergeants, and fifteen (15) Investigators and three (3) warrant officers. Each of the two sergeants has a group of investigators under their supervision. When fully staffed, Sgt. Gaddis has eight investigators assigned to him and Sgt. Bolme has seven investigators, plus three Warrants Officers assigned to him. Each of the investigators are assigned cases according to their portfolio. Three investigators are assigned to work Personal Crimes; three investigators are assigned to work Property Crimes; two investigators are assigned to work Domestic Violence cases; one investigator is assigned to work Financial/Auto Thefts and one investigator is assigned to work Gaming Investigations. Also one warrant officer is also assigned to conduct sex offender registration compliance. A property crimes investigator and a personal crimes investigator are also trained and actively investigate Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC). Five investigators are assigned to work Narcotic Investigations, with three of the investigators assigned to work out of the Bismarck Police Department and two investigators assigned to work out of the Metro Area Narcotic Task Force. The Metro Area Narcotic Task Force is a multi-jurisdictional task force consisting of officers from local, state and federal law enforcement agencies within this region.

There is a considerable amount of equipment under the Investigation section's control. This includes equipment for crime scene processing, numerous types of cameras to include, video, and digital. The section also maintains surveillance cameras and recording equipment to include night vision scopes and both audio and video recorders. Miniature video cameras, which are easily hidden, are used to record criminal activity as it occurs. Numerous employees suspected of stealing from legalized gaming organizations and other businesses have been caught and held accountable as a result of this equipment. The section also has a number of listening devices used primarily in narcotics investigations. In addition, all of the investigative interview rooms have the capability to record both video and audio. The Investigations section also maintains specialized alarm equipment and motion-detector alarms.

TECHNOLOGY

All personnel within the Investigations Section have a computer that allows access to department files/reports, state programs, CJIS data files, MOCIC data files, and various other programs including

the Internet. The Section also has access to one investigation search tool. This tool is called Clear. Clear can assist investigators in locating people, assets, businesses, affiliations, and make connections among individuals, incidents, activities, and locations.

The section is increasingly utilizing digital equipment and technology as it becomes available. The section also has additional computers and software that were obtained through a grant by the Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) to investigate Internet Crimes Against Children cases (ICAC) & Human Trafficking cases.

CASE MANAGEMENT AND MANPOWER ALLOCATION

In order to develop an area of expertise, investigators are assigned a certain portfolio (personal or property related crimes) of cases. This allows them to become knowledgeable of the investigative techniques required for specific types of crimes. All investigators are, at times, assigned to investigate crimes outside of their portfolio due to being on-call, high caseloads and staffing shortages.

Most often the investigator on-call will retain the cases they investigate because they have obtained first-hand knowledge of the facts and circumstances. This allows the officers to investigate in a more effective and efficient manner.

New and inexperienced investigators are not assigned as the primary investigator of a serious case until after they have been in the section six months to a year.

Support Services and Field Services representatives route cases to Investigations on a daily basis. When a case comes into the investigations section, it has already been assigned to a specific investigator. All investigative time spent on a case is tracked through by computer and this data is available for statistical purposes and for use in manpower allocation determinations.

There were approximately 1227 cases sent to the section to be investigated in 2015, and 1140 cases in 2016. In 2017 there were 955 cases sent to the section. The 955 cases sent to the Investigations section required 12,160 employee investigative hours. In addition, the section had 3538 hours of contacts, 3249 hours of phone calls, and 3,100 hours were spent in court activities for a total of 22,047 hours. This equated to an average of 23 investigative hours per case. There are 251 active cases out of the 955 cases sent to the section during the year 2017. Out of these 955 cases, 304 were cleared by arrest, 271 were exceptionally cleared and 61 were closed unfounded. The section had a clearance rate of 66% for the year of 2017 and 52% in 2016.

A manpower allocation analysis was completed for the year of 2016 which indicated that there should be 18 investigators assigned to the section. There are currently 15 investigators (this includes the two

sergeants assigned to the section). It should also be noted that two of the 15 investigators assigned to the investigation section are narcotic investigators that are assigned to the Metro Area Task Force (the cases they investigate are not included with any of the section's stats). Because there are two investigators assigned to the task force only 13 full time investigators currently remain within the investigation section to investigate cases. The two sergeant positions combine supervision, administrative duties, along with a smaller investigative case load. There were fewer cases assigned to the section in 2017 than there were in the previous two years. One of the reasons this occurred is because of the Dakota Access Pipeline protest activity occurring over an 8-month period (5 months in 2016) and (3 months in 2017). More cases were assigned back to the initial patrol officer for follow-up because many from the section were working the protests periodically throughout the three-month period.

MAJOR CASES

From February through April 2017 an adult male was suspected of committing more than 13 separate crimes, ranging from several motor vehicle thefts, fleeing in a motor vehicle, credit card fraud, theft from motor vehicles and two burglaries. Investigators were eventually able to arrest the male suspect for 13 separate crimes. The majority of cases involved are still pending awaiting trial.

In August of 2017 officers responded to a report of a stabbing. Once on scene, officers identified an adult male with a stab wound to his neck. According to the victim, he and his wife had stepped outside of their residence to have a cigarette around 4:00 am when they noticed an adult stranger inside of their shed. The victim confronted the suspect and the suspect attacked him. As the victim was fighting with the suspect, the victim's wife tried to help him. The suspect struck the victim's wife in the face causing her lip to split. Shortly after, the victim's neighbor tried to get the suspect off of the victim and the suspect attacked the neighbor with a knife and started slashing the knife at him. The neighbor sustained some scratch wounds to his stomach and his pants were cut from the knife. Luckily, officers happened to be in the area on another call when someone called 911. Officers responded and discovered the male victim suffered a stab wound to his neck. Officers found a cell phone and a ball cap lying in the area. They were able to identify the cell phone belonging to the suspect. The officers with a K-9 tracked the suspect to his residence but he would not answer the door. The SWAT team was activated and eventually forced their way inside of the residence and located the suspect. The case is pending awaiting trial.

In December of 2017 officers responded to an apartment fire. According to the two tenants that lived in the apartment one of the tenants woke up to smoke. One of the tenants woke up his roommate and they both exited the apartment and called 911. Officers responded and evacuated the building. Bismarck Fire responded and extinguished the fire. It was later determined that the fire was set intentionally by one of the tenants. The suspect tenant was mad at his roommate so he started a fire while his roommate slept and then left the residence. The suspect wanted to kill his roommate. The suspect said after a while he felt guilty so he went back and woke up his roommate.

The case is pending awaiting trial.

In April of 2017 narcotic officers received a tip from a confidential informant that a certain individual was dealing in large amounts of methamphetamine. Initially, the narcotic officers were able to identify one of the suspects and conducted a traffic stop on his vehicle.

During a search of the vehicle, officers confiscated over 14 ounces of methamphetamine. Through the investigation the officers were able to prove one of the drug dealers sold over 100 pounds of methamphetamine and identified his connections in the Bismarck/Mandan area. Fourteen (14) people were federally indicted in the case. Some defendants are cooperating and will be pleading and some are still awaiting trial.

INTERNET CRIMES AGAINST CHILDREN (ICAC)

As of 2013, we had two Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) investigators. They had both received additional training periodically from 2013 to the present. Since having two investigators working ICAC cases, we have received up to date equipment in order to help fight ICAC cases. Due to the ongoing training and the additional equipment received over the years, the Bismarck Police Department is capable of performing their own forensics on computer/electronic equipment. Both investigators personally worked 36 cases and assisted other investigators and patrol officers with their cases throughout 2017. These cases are primarily Luring Minors by Computer type cases where the suspect is attempting to meet someone under the age of eighteen to have sexual contact with. The majority of the time the suspect is actually communicating with one of the investigators who are posing as a person under the age of 18.

BISMARCK POLICE DEPARTMENT NARCOTICS UNIT

The Bismarck Police Department Narcotics Unit consists of three (3) investigators. They are supervised by a sergeant and commanded by a lieutenant who oversee the day-to-day operations for the unit and also assist on cases as needed.

The general objectives of the Bismarck Police Department Narcotics Unit are as follows: reduction of narcotic crimes through aggressive enforcement of existing laws, the disruption and dismemberment of Drug Trafficking Organizations, assisting patrol, signing narcotic complaints for court, continuing to work with businesses and citizens of the area to form a community based relationship through education and presentations, and to assist other agencies in multijurisdictional cases.

During the year 2017, the Bismarck Police Department did not respond to any clandestine Methamphetamine labs. That isn't to say that they do not exist just that since passage of legislation controlling access to the pre-cursors, among other reasons, the number of labs has gone down

dramatically. Most of our supply of methamphetamine in Bismarck originates from super-labs in Mexico that produce high volumes of relatively inexpensive methamphetamine to the United States. The drug unit has worked multiple cases which confirm Mexican origins for methamphetamine.

The Narcotics Unit was assigned approximately 144 reports for follow up during the 2017 calendar year. This number is down slightly from 2016 in part because the unit worked short-handed for much of the year. Another reason was that, as a group, the unit has made a determined effort to target organizations as opposed to small time dealers. This has resulted in multiple different large complex narcotics trafficking organizations being targeted and prosecuted at the Federal level.

Over half of those cases involve multiple defendants who may also have been arrested and charged. The narcotic unit also responded to dozens of requests to assist other agencies; only 10 times did it necessitate a case report. Literally dozens of times any one or more of the Narcotic Investigators have been called by patrol to assist or take over a case initiated by patrol. These are not reflected in any statistic for assisting and many times the report may not be assigned to them either. The Narcotics Unit signed up eight (8) separate Confidential Informants (CI) who were mainly used for information in targeting drug trafficking organizations.

During 2017, the Bismarck Police Department seized and requested forfeiture of nine vehicles, approximately \$215,038 in cash and numerous pieces of other property such as cell phones, gaming systems, electronics and jewelry etc. The narcotics unit seized thirteen firearms from drug traffickers in 2017.

The following drug measurements can't be used for historical comparison and may not reflect the past year's drug seizures due to the fact that tracking did not begin by the evidence section until March. The following drug quantities were seized by the department beginning in March of 2017:

Marijuana-5,468 grams (12 lbs.).

Methamphetamine-4320.68 grams (9.5 lbs.)

Cocaine-117.8 grams (.25 lbs.)

Heroin-93.42 grams (.20 lbs.)

Those numbers are not reflective of the impact of taking down large scale drug trafficking organizations. Much of the casework involved is dedicated towards working those groups historically, and the quantities attributed to those organizations are always much greater than the actual seizures.

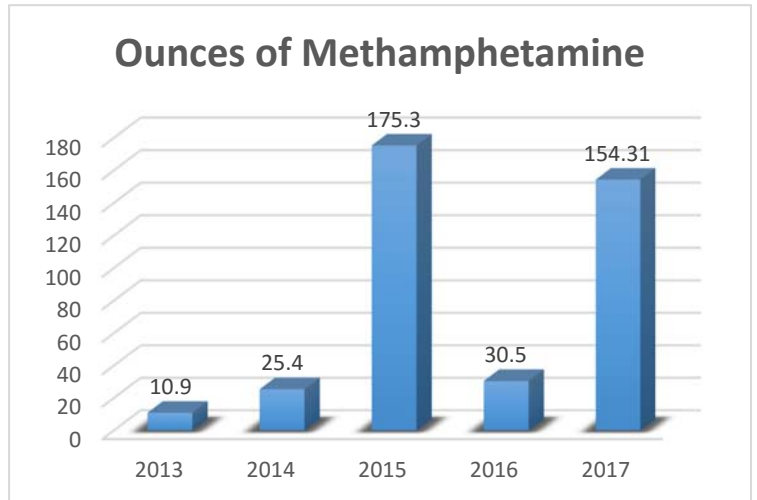
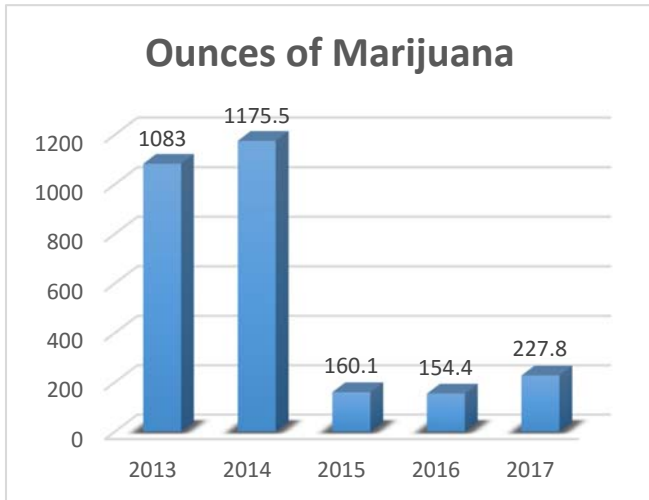
Arrests for the use, sale and possession of Synthetic Cannabinoids in 2017 again is almost non-existent at this time. Synthetic Cannabinoids are still available over the internet but the availability from local sources is almost nonexistent.

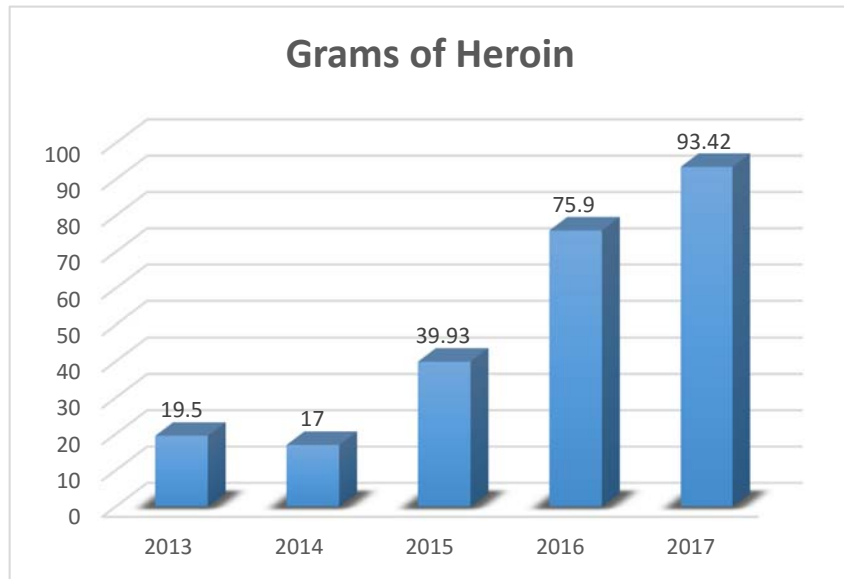
Investigations, during 2017, confirmed that most of the opioid/heroin traffickers were coming from major cities to the east of ND (Chicago/Detroit/Minneapolis). That pipeline not only shipped the opioids/heroin, but brought multiple members of inner city organized gangs to the Bismarck/Mandan area. Those inner city gang members have brought with them an inherent violence which wasn't normally seen in our area in the past. Multiple investigations into drug related shootings and other violence were conducted throughout the year. Opioid overdoses continued to increase, although tracking remains difficult despite gains made in that area.

Opioids and heroin remain a major focus for the unit as every shipment seized stopped it from hitting the streets and saved the lives of potential overdose victims.

Methamphetamine trafficking also remains a constant focus for the narcotics unit and several major methamphetamine organizations were prosecuted in federal court. The quantities of methamphetamine in our area have not diminished, despite the leveling off of the oil boom in ND.

It remains to be seen what the effects of the new Medical Marijuana bill will be for the area. Marijuana continues to be a major drug of choice for the area, and particularly young people. The amount of marijuana seized for 2017 is not reflective of the current trends towards availability, but it is a reflection on where law enforcement is focusing their efforts.





The following is a breakdown of activities for the Warrants Division for 2017:

WARRANTS 2017

On File 12/31/2017: 1,488

On File 12/30/2016: 1,259

Warrants Issued: 4,626

Warrants Served: 2,354

Warrants Returned: 1,741

COURT DUTIES 2017

Complaints Signed: 2,416

Subpoenas Served: 503

Prisoners Seen: 1,586

Prisoner Transports: 48

Fingerprints: 5

WARRANTS 2016

On File 12/30/2016: 1,259

On File 12/23/2015: 1,397

Warrants Issued: 3,520

Warrants Served: 1,865

Warrants Returned: 1,239

COURT DUTIES 2016

Complaints Signed: 2,037

Subpoenas Served: 281

Prisoners Seen: 1,470

Prisoner Transports: 59

Fingerprints: 73

All numbers are approximate

West Dakota SWAT Team

The West Dakota SWAT (WDSWAT) team is a Tactical and Crisis Negotiation Team made up of officers from the Bismarck and Mandan Police Departments and Deputies from the Burleigh and Morton County Sheriff Departments. The Team is trained and equipped to handle high risk situations that are beyond the scope of that which can be safely handled by the standard patrol response. These situations include barricaded subjects, hostage situations, the execution of high risk search warrants, and other law enforcement situations requiring special weapons and tactics.

The WDSWAT Team is comprised of forty-three members (43), thirty-two (32) are assigned to the Tactical team and eleven (11) are assigned to the Crisis Negotiation team. The West Dakota Swat team is a collateral duty team and all members have other primary assignments within their respective departments. Officers volunteer for service on the team and must pass a selection process and maintain an above average level of firearms proficiency and physical fitness as well as successfully fulfilling their duties to remain on the team. The team is deployed on an “on-call” basis.

ACTIVATIONS

The West Dakota SWAT Team was activated in 2017 for the following situations:

- The Team assisted Morton County through the first two months of 2017 in the area of the Cannonball Ranch with protest activity. Deployments included clearing the Last Child Camp and the mani Oceti Sakowin Camp. After the Oceti Sakowin Camp was cleared in February, the team was able to demobilize.
- The Team was activated for a search and arrested warrant for a male subject in Bismarck who had an extensive criminal history and was barricaded in his residence with a firearm.
- The Team was activated for an attempted homicide incident in Bismarck where a male subject had stabbed a victim in the neck and a Highway Patrol bloodhound tracked the subject to a trailer in the area.
- The Team was activated for a dignitary protection detail in Mandan. The detail included assisting with security of President Trump while he was traveling from the Bismarck Airport and speaking at the Mandan Refinery.
- Activation was requested by the Mandan Police Department for a four operator element to standby during the 4th of July Parade.
- The team was activated for a suicidal subject in Bismarck that had shot himself and requested EMS. The male barricaded himself in a bathroom in the basement of the residence, secured the door with a rope from the inside of the bathroom and wrote words on the door indicating that if the bathroom door was opened, an explosion may occur.
- The team was activated by the Bismarck Narcotics officers to assist with a subject who had ran upstairs to the attic of a detached garage during a narcotics search warrant in Burleigh County. The male subject had an active federal fugitive from justice warrant with a long history of violence.
- The team was activated to assist the Mandan Police Department with a warrant for a residence in Bismarck where they believed an attempted homicide suspect that had used a firearm was hiding.

- The team was activated by the MANTF for a search warrant in Morton County for weapons and controlled substance.

All missions involving these activations were successfully completed. Activations involving suspects were handled with the appropriate level of force.

TRAINING

SWAT training was conducted for the team from March through December during 2017. The training days in 2017 consisted of 10 hour days.

The content of training is based on an analysis of the types of incidents the WDSWAT Team is most likely to encounter. This analysis is based on past activations of the team as well as an analysis of potential situations that may occur. As a result, training is focused on building entry skills (dynamic and tactical), firearms training and proficiency, and surround and callout tactics. Members of the team were qualified on firearms used in their assignments and they were also qualified on chemical agents and distraction devices.

Training in 2017 included an Advanced SWAT Tactics course, Hostage Rescue course and a Sniper basic course. The new members of the Team attended a combined SWAT Basic Course that was developed through a collaboration of the regional swat teams.

Several members of the Team attend the NTOA National Conference in Phoenix, Arizona and other members of the team attended TAC Ops East in Washington, DC.

Several members of the team also attended Special Operation Tactical Association Conference held in St Cloud, Minnesota.

Three Negotiators attended the NTOA National CNT Conference in Phoenix, Arizona and other Negotiators attended training in Grand Forks for advanced negotiations tactics.

CNT and SWAT team leaders also attended and hosted the Special Operations Committee quarterly meetings for networking and training with other regional teams.

Updates

The West Dakota SWAT team was successful in attaining a grant for helmet mounted night vision. The team also purchased six (6) carbine rifles to replace rifles that were obtained through surplus government property.

CURRENT CAPABILITIES

The West Dakota SWAT Team continues to train for the following:

- 1) Barricaded subject
- 2) Hostage situation
- 3) VIP/Witness Protection and Escort
- 5) High Risk Search Warrants
- 6) Dangerous suspect apprehension
- 7) Civil Disturbance

The WDSWAT team may also assist in other situations in which officers that possess above average tactical or weapons skills are required.

The WDSWAT team maintains a supply of chemical agents and distraction devices. We have two certified instructors in these areas and team members are qualified in the use of the items. The team also has obtained and trained with various less-lethal munitions such as "bean-bag" and rubber sponge rounds.

The WDSWAT team also has special weapons available to include .308 bolt-action rifles equipped for precision marksmen. Specific qualification courses are established for the various weapons along with minimum qualification requirements. WDSWAT team members are currently qualified on these firearms based on their assignments.

All WDSWAT team members are required to maintain a qualification average of 90% or more on Special Operations Firearms qualification courses. Qualification courses are fired at different times throughout the year consisting of several advanced level courses. If a member does not qualify with their hand gun he is not considered for any team activations until he is qualified. If he is unable to maintain this qualification, this would be reason for dismissal from the team. Courses are conducted in a variety of weather and light conditions and are in full gear, to include gas masks on occasion.

As with firearms training, members of the team are required to pass the team's physical fitness test, which is held once a year. This test consists of strength exercises, an obstacle course and a tool carry shuttle run. During the tests the team members are required to wear their basic uniform to include their tactical vest and helmet. Team members are also required to wear their gas mask in addition to their standard uniform equipment during the shuttle run. All prospective applicants must pass this physical fitness test before advancing to the interview process.

2018 GOALS

- Continue monthly training with an emphasis on training for those situations the WDSWAT is most likely to encounter.
- Train with the Minneapolis SWAT team instructors on swat/negotiation tactics involving aircraft
- Train with the team at Camp Grafton utilizing ranges, MOUT sites and confidence courses.
- Complete SWAT Handbook to include requirements for successful completion of SWAT officer's probationary year.
- Acquire a facility the team can train and where all SWAT equipment and gear can be stored to decrease response time and increase readiness for the West Dakota SWAT team.

West Dakota SWAT has been allocated for 32 tactical members and 11 CNT members. The Tactical team presently has four openings and the CNT has three openings.

Bomb Squad

The Bismarck Police Department Bomb Squad is one of only four (4) FBI Certified Bomb Squads in the state of North Dakota. The Bomb Squad has a manpower allocation of six (6) members and is under the command of Det. Jeremy Curtis. Det. Jeremy Curtis, Det. Lane Masters, Officer Kendal Vetter and Officer Michael Renton are FBI certified bomb technicians and Det. Naill and Officer Nathan Peltier and are in the process of receiving the appropriate training to attend HDS. The primary responsibilities of the Bomb Squad include:

1. Responding to bomb threat emergencies.
2. Coordinating area searches for explosive devices.
3. Examination and disposal of suspicious packages or mail.
4. Recovery and render safe procedures of improvised explosive devices (IED).
5. Responding to incidents involving explosive, chemical, biological, and nuclear threats, and all other weapons of mass destruction.
6. Recovery and disposal of commercial explosives, military ordinances, and dangerous chemicals.
7. Post blast investigation to include evidence collection, processing and analysis; and interviewing victims, witnesses and suspects.
8. Support the West Dakota SWAT team with tactical events utilizing the robots and explosive breaching.

The members of the Bomb Squad have additional responsibilities within the department and are assigned to patrol, warrants, narcotics task force and investigations sections and serve on the Bomb Squad in addition to their other duties. Each member is on call at all times and is required to respond at a moments' notice. As a result of the FBI certification standards the members of the Bomb Squad are required to complete a minimum of 192 hours of training annually, including a minimum of 40 hours of hands on explosives work. To fulfill these requirements the Bomb Squad members attend an average of 12 hours of in-service training each month, training conferences and ATFE & FBI training courses. Among the benefits of being an FBI certified Bomb Squad is the equipment the FBI issues to each squad, as well as the training that is offered to technicians at no cost to the department. In addition, in 2017, the Bomb Squad also continued to show its support for the North Dakota Special Operations Committee by attending training meetings in Fargo, Grand Forks and Minot.

Det. Naill and Officer Peltier are the newest members of the bomb team and were selected to be on the team in 2017 due to vacancies from Officer James Anderson and the retirement of Det. Dean Clarkson. Naill and Peltier have attended a prerequisite course in Anniston Alabama and are scheduled to attend another prerequisite training also in Anniston Alabama at the Center for Domestic Preparedness Center. Officer Vetter has been very active with the SOC as he has taken on a leadership role as the President of

the SOC. Officer Vetter has been very active in the planning of a conference scheduled for the fall of 2018, which is a first conference ever hosted in North Dakota for special teams.

Officer Renton attended the HDS Recert Course at the Redstone Arsenal, Huntsville, Alabama.

The Bismarck Police Department Bomb Squad not only serves the Bismarck area, but is also the regional response team for any jurisdiction in the southwestern part of the state which includes 19 counties that are comprised of approximately 57 separate law enforcement agencies. This requires the Bomb Squad to respond to other jurisdictions whenever a request is received. In addition, we provide security to the State Capital complex several times each year during high profile governmental functions.

In 2017 the members of the Bomb Squad provided training to each new officer hired by Bismarck Police Department, the Citizen Police Academy, as well as to other agencies and civic groups.

In 2017 the Bomb Squad responded to 18 calls involving explosives or bomb threats both in Bismarck as well as assisting other jurisdictions. We also responded to 8 SWAT calls assisting them with the robot. The Bomb Squad has an excellent safety record and each of these responses was completed without any injury to the officers or the public.

In 2017, the Bomb Squad received approximately \$11,000 in Homeland Security grant money to send one team member to the Hazardous Devices School Basic Course and also money to purchase new batteries and shock tube initiators. The Bomb Squad's equipment is aging and is in need of funds for repairs. The Bomb Squad had an adequate budget at one point that covered expenses to repair and maintain equipment but that funding was taken away and now lacks a clear budget to operate with. The Bomb Squad hopes to find funding for this problem.

K-9 Program

Lieutenant Chad Fetzer and his K-9 partner Luna

Luna was an 8-year-old Dutch Shepherd that was trained in patrol duties and Narcotic Detection. Luna passed away unexpectedly in December of 2017. In 2017 Luna and Lt. Fetzer performed the following functions:

- Patrol Activities
- 16 - Demos
- 13 - Tracking
- 26 - Vehicle Searches (Narcotics)
- 9 - Building Searches (Narcotics)
- 5 - Controlled Substance/Paraphernalia Finds

Sergeant Tim Sass and his K-9 partner Oscar

Oscar was a 9-year old Belgian Malinois that was trained in patrol duties and Narcotic Detection. Sgt. Sass and Oscar were assigned to Lt. Ternes' shift but Oscar was retired due to health issues in February of 2017. In 2017 Oscar and Sgt. Sass performed the following functions:

- Patrol Activities
- 5 - Vehicle Searches (Narcotics)
- 5 - Building Searches (Narcotics)
- 7 - Controlled Substances/Paraphernalia Finds

Sergeant Dan Salander and his K-9 partner Bala

Bala is a 4-year Belgian Malinois that is trained in patrol duties and Narcotic Detection. Sgt. Salander and Bala are assigned to Lt. Gardiner's shift. In 2017 Bala and Sgt. Salander performed the following functions:

- Patrol Activities
- 5 - Building Searches (Patrol)
- 5 - Demos
- 3 - Deterrence/Apprehension
- 9 - Tracking
- 70 - Vehicle Searches (Narcotics)
- 9 - Building Searches (Narcotics)
- 45 - Controlled Substances/Paraphernalia Find

Bala and Sergeant Salander Specific Cases:

- On 8/27/2017 officers were dispatched to the area of Valley Drive for a suicidal subject. The caller's son had threatened suicide and was caught with a belt around his neck. He was confronted by his father and he then fled the home on foot into the ravine northwest of Valley Drive. The son had stated that he was going to kill himself. The father did not know if he had any weapons when he fled. The father followed his son to the base of the hill and stopped after losing sight of his son in the ravine. Lt. Gardiner was on scene and requested a K9 track of the subject. It was a 90-degree day, with little to no wind.

There was a perimeter set above the ravine and officers had a good overall view of the ravine from where they were posted. Sgt. Salander gave K9 announcements at the base of the ravine and began to track.

The brush was very thick and dense with areas of thicket that were 5 feet high and extremely hard to navigate through. Bala worked her way northwest into the ravine. It was hard to see what was coming because the ravine was so dense. As Bala worked the track she kept as low to the ground as she could to avoid the thorn bushes and would occasionally jump up when the areas close to the ground were too hard to navigate.

Bala worked her way through the brush and Sgt. Salander occasionally had to lift her over obstacles she couldn't get through. Bala would continue the track, clearly on human odor. As she was digging in more and more they came through an area of very heavy brush and Sgt. Salander looked ahead of Bala and saw a cliff that led into a deeper part of the ravine. Bala was heading for that cliff so Sgt. Salander "downed" her and reeled the leash in as he did. Bala downed on the cliff's edge and stared down and to the west in the ravine. Bala was very rigid. Sgt. Salander followed her gaze and saw the subject sitting on the creek bed under overhanging brush.

Sgt. Salander gave the subject commands. The subject complied, showed his hands, lifted his shirt and emptied his sweatpants pockets. The subject could not get out of the deeper ravine, so Officer Zabel used a 30 ft. leash and he pulled the subject out of the ravine. The subject was escorted out of the ravine and eventually committed to the psych ward.

- On 9/5/2017 Sgt. Salander responded to a south Bismarck address to assist officers already on scene of a burglary. A contractor who was on scene painting the exterior of the trailer heard people inside and contacted the home owner who was out of town for several weeks. The homeowner called 911 and advised no one should be inside. Officers were called to the scene at 1733 hrs.

A perimeter was set up and several announcements were made. Officers could hear movement from within the trailer. Sgt. Salander heard the call on his way into work and offered his assistance. He arrived on scene at 1810 hrs. and set up with the entry team on the front door. K9 announcements were made with no response. Officers breached the mudroom door and Sgt. Salander gave more K9 announcements and K9 Bala began barking. A female exited the back door of the trailer and was taken into custody. She informed officers there was another person inside. Sgt. Salander gave more announcements, at which time the second suspect exited the back door of the trailer and was taken into custody without incident.

Sgt. Salander gave more commands and sent Bala inside to clear the trailer. Bala gave no alerts and was called back to her handler. Officers then entered and cleared the home. A brief interview with the suspects revealed that they had no plans to exit the trailer until they heard Bala bark.

- In March Sgt. Salander conducted a vehicle sniff for Det. Seeklander on a vehicle parked on the 2400 block of Vermont Ave. When Bala alerted on the pickup, Det. Seeklander impounded it and later conducted a search warrant on the truck. All that was located in the pickup was a couple of baggies, pay owe notebook, some ammunition, a holster for a handgun detectives were looking for, and receipts. Subject was indicted by the Grand Jury in Bismarck. Information from the pay/owe book and receipts was used to connect his down lines and were able to indict four more people out of Bismarck. This information along with the information from a search on subject's other vehicle which was already impounded, assisted the Wahpeton Task Force in getting a search warrant for a residence in which approximately 13 pounds of meth and numerous firearms were located. Subject is connected to the cartel out of Mexico. On this case alone, we have been able to indict 7 individuals.

Officer Joseph Benke and his K-9 partner Mesa

Mesa is a 2-year old German Shepherd/Belgian Malinois cross that is trained in patrol and Narcotics detection. Officer Benke and Mesa are assigned to Lt. Fetzer and the Street Crimes Unit. In 2017 Officer Benke and Mesa performed the following functions:

Patrol Activities:

4 –Demos

56 – Vehicle searches (narcotics)

4- Building searches (narcotics)

26 – Controlled substance finds

As was stated earlier in this report, K9 Oscar retired and no replacement for him was budgeted for. A grant was received to purchase a new K9. A handler was selected and Mesa was purchased. Officer Benke and Mesa were trained locally. They were narcotic certified in July and then patrol trained in November. Officer Benke has been very visible with K9 Mesa to include walking the airport for TSA.

The following agencies were assisted by the K9's of the Bismarck Police Department:

- Metro Area Narcotics Task Force
- Burleigh County Sheriff's Department
- Mandan Police Department
- N.D. Parole and Probation
- Homeland Security
- TSA

Administrative Services

To the Citizens of Bismarck:

The Bismarck Police Department has the responsibility to provide quality law enforcement services to the citizens of the City of Bismarck and its visitors. We are tasked with meeting the public safety needs of a growing community and responding to a relatively high volume of calls for service. Our department routinely makes arrests, enforces traffic laws, mediates conflict, and in doing so, participates in confrontational and emotionally charged situations.

During the course of the year we receive complaints from citizens regarding our employees and their actions. We take these complaints seriously and make a point to investigate them thoroughly. When we are wrong, we admit it, and we take measures to improve our ability to provide quality service to our community. Additionally, our supervisory staff is required to report any perceived wrongdoing on the part of employees of the department. In this fashion, no allegation will be overlooked with or without a citizen complaint. Such measures include policy or procedure changes, employee training or re-training, and when appropriate, employee discipline.

The following is a summary of Internal Affairs investigations in 2017 in comparison to 2016, as well as any disciplinary actions taken as a result of the investigations conducted during 2017.

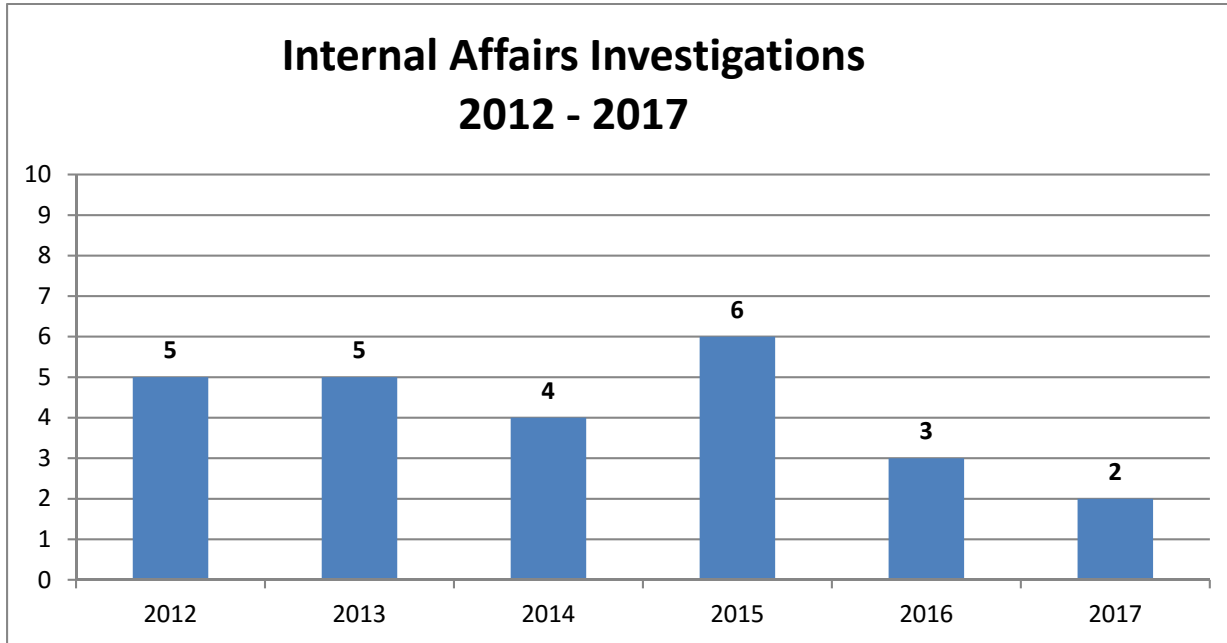
ANNUAL REPORT FROM The Office of Administrative Services

2017 Summary:

According to Internal Affairs Investigation Statistics, during 2017 there were two cases investigated. Of the two cases, one was externally generated by citizen complaint and one was internally generated. A total of three department employees (all sworn officers) were identified in the two investigations. All Internal Affairs investigations for incidents reported in 2017 were concluded at the writing of this report.

In 2017, the total number of Internal Investigations decreased by one from three in 2016 to two in 2017. The previous five years indicate a relatively low and stable number of Internal Affairs investigations conducted.

The chart below provides a comparison between 2017 and the previous five calendar years.



2017 Case Dispositions

Sustained:	1
Exonerated:	1
Not Sustained:	0

Sustained complaints dropped to one in 2017 from two in 2016.
 Exonerated complaints remained the same at one in 2016 and 2017.
 A case disposition of Not Sustained was not seen in 2017 or 2016.

Disciplinary actions as a result of the 2017 complaints resulted in:

- One letter of caution from the Deputy Chief.

This information will be posted on the BPD website for public and employees viewing as per policy and CALEA Standard 26.2.5. If need be, please see Lt. Roger Marks III for more specific information pertaining to individual cases.

Police Youth Bureau

The Bismarck Police Youth Bureau (PYB) has served the community's youth; families and law enforcement for 42 years with the goal of helping our youth avoid behavior that brings them in contact with the juvenile justice system. PYB is one of the nation's longest running youth programs dealing with juveniles and law enforcement issues. A director, who is a police lieutenant, five youth workers, a youth worker supervisor, six school resource officers and an office assistant II currently staff PYB.

PYB focuses on **prevention, education and diversion** to accomplish our goal. **Prevention** is accomplished through activity based interventions, which are mixed with short-term counseling efforts from the staff. These activities allow for role modeling and positive relationships. Area youth were provided the opportunity to interact with PYB and police officers in an informal, fun environment during the 30th Annual Cops 'n Kids Fishing Derby, Teen Tour, Red Ribbon Carnival, Teen Maze, and one-on-one mentoring for at-risk youth.

The school resource officers coordinate with schools to help deter criminal activity in and around the schools. The goal of the officers and the schools is to provide students with a safe learning environment so students can focus on their studies rather than worrying about being the victim of crime. This program has proven to be very effective, as we have had a trend of decreasing crime related to youth when comparing statistics over a 5-year period.

PYB and school personnel have established protocols when dealing with and preventing incidents that could harm our youth in the school setting. If a threat is identified, a threat assessment team is assembled. Professionals with a varying degree of training and experience assess the threat and make recommendations. This ensures proper protocols are followed and that the safety of students remains a priority.

Education involves ongoing training and presentations in the schools, as well as to youth and adults in the community. PYB conducted 285 presentations. While most of their presentations are to students in the schools, they also present on a variety of topics to the general public. PYB and the school resource officers also presented at the Citizen's Police Academy.

In a partnership with Bismarck Public Schools (BPS), PYB helped facilitate parent forums on sexting issues. This was a three session forum that helped parents understand and solve problems with youth using social media and cell phones inappropriately. PYB also partnered with BPS on the issues regarding bullying. A task force was created with the intention of having a series of three parent forums that are scheduled for 2018.

PYB continues to use evidence-based interventions which were started in 2014. Two of the six youth workers are focused on education through evidence-based interventions. This requires the instructors to have special skills and education. The youth that are referred to the program are usually alleged

delinquents but the classes can also be used to prevent destructive behavior for non-cited behavior as well.

The classes have gone well, with excellent feedback from both the kids and professionals in the community. Part of the program has been made possible by grant funding from the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention.

PYB is continually looking for ways to improve school safety. Due to the ongoing threats in our nation's schools we participate in drills to enhance the safety of the schools. We also teach staff and students on what to do if they are faced with an active aggressor in a school setting. These life skills can be utilized in any situation a student faces and can also be used as a life skill into adulthood.

Diversion is a formal process that “diverts” juveniles out of the Juvenile Court system into an informal setting that is administered by PYB. These youth, are not adjudicated and have the opportunity of avoiding this process by their involvement at PYB. Juveniles who have committed felony offenses or are ongoing repetitive offenders are not eligible for diversion. During diversion, PYB works with the juvenile and the family and makes referrals for additional services as necessary. The goal is to hold the juvenile accountable for the offense and to prevent recidivism.

In 2017, there were a total of 1,148 juvenile citations issued. Of those cases, 168 were referred to PYB for diversion. The total citations represent a 9% increase over those issued in 2016; and is a 12% decrease from the five-year average.

In 2017, youth workers dealt with 327 crisis calls. Early intervention in these crisis situations is an important function provided by PYB, as it helps to keep the situations from escalating into a more serious incident. It also helps free up officers to return to other duties.

To aid in being more effective, PYB has recently created a “referral” program. This is used for low level, non-violent; first, second, or third offenders that don't need to be cited and “officially” referred to the juvenile justice system. In 2017, we have had 53 youth enter the referral program. Instead of being referred to court, they are referred to the Youth Bureau by an officer. The intentions are to work more one-on-one with youth without the stigma of having a “record” in juvenile court. They work on cognitive restructuring to prevent future unacceptable behaviors. There have been many articles published by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention that promote the policies and efforts we have put into place.

The SRO's have recently tested a screening tool that is used to help determine how to proceed with school based offenses. The screening tool was developed using community partner input on what is best for kids in a school setting. School Resource Officers use the tool to help determine if the offense should be cited to juvenile court or referred to PYB. The students past behavior problems, accountability, and cooperation are all taken into consideration. We have received positive feedback on this and are looking at options to make it permanent for 2018.

Offense	2016	2017	% Increase/Decrease
Assault	62	69	11.29%
Attempted Forcible Entry	0	1	N/C
Auto Theft	3	2	-33.33%
Breaking into a MV	2	1	-50.00%
Burglary	3	6	100.00%
Carrying Concealed Weapon	3	3	0.00%
Criminal Attempt	0	1	N/C
Criminal Conspiracy	0	2	N/C
Criminal Mischief	34	32	-5.88%
Criminal Trespass	5	9	80.00%
Curfew	26	28	7.69%
Delivery of Controlled Drug	1	6	500.00%
Discharging Firearm in City	1	0	-100.00%
Disobedience of a Judicial Order	1	0	-100.00%
Disorderly Conduct	60	64	6.67%
Disturbance of a Public School	0	1	N/C
Driving Under Suspension	22	12	-45.45%
DUI/APC	7	2	-71.43%
Escape	1	0	-100.00%
False Alarm	0	2	N/C
False Information	12	12	0.00%
Fireworks	2	0	-100.00%
Fleeing from Officer	8	11	37.50%
Forgery	3	1	-66.67%
Fraud	2	2	0.00%
Harassment	5	3	-40.00%
Hindering Law Enforcement	8	0	-100.00%
Indecent Exposure	1	1	0%
Ingestion/Consumption of Marijuana	62	62	0%
Leaving the Scene of an Accident	1	2	100.00%
Menacing	2	3	50.00%
Minor in Possession/Consumption	86	110	27.91%
No Liability Insurance	1	0	-100.00%
Other Criminal Offense	14	0	-100
Other Traffic Offense	5	5	0.00%
Poss. of Drug Paraphernalia	73	82	12.33%
Poss. Of Imitation Drug	0	1	N/C
Poss. of Meth	4	3	-25.00%
Poss. of Meth Paraphernalia	2	0	-100.00%
Possession of Marijuana	73	71	-2.74%
Possession of Other Drug	6	16	166.67%
Possession of Stolen Property	7	2	-71.43%
Reckless Driving	3	0	-100.00%
Reckless Endangerment	0	4	N/C
Resisting Arrest	7	7	0.00%
Robbery	0	1	N/C
Runaway	148	166	13.70%
Sex Offense	0	5	N/C
Sexual Assault/GSI	3	4	33.33%
Shoplifting	76	122	60.53%

Sampling of Juvenile Trends 2017

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	5 Yr. Avg	2017	2016 v 2017	2017 v 5 Yr. Avg
Total Citations	1534	1256	1219	1451	1057	1303.4	1148	9%	-12%
MIP/MIC	195	146	124	122	86	134.6	110	28%	-18%
Possession of Marijuana	57	72	90	103	73	79	71	-3%	-10%
Possession of Drug Paraphernalia	94	62	100	99	73	85.6	82	12%	-4%
Delivery/Possession of Other Drugs	22	6	7	19	11	13	26	136%	100%
Smoking	14	8	2	14	5	8.6	14	180%	63%
Driving Under the Influence/APC	12	6	10	6	7	8.2	2	-71%	-76%
Assault	86	58	45	95	62	69.2	69	11%	0%
Disorderly Conduct	123	103	80	145	60	102.2	64	7%	-37%
Terrorizing	5	7	4	11	5	6.4	8	60%	25%
Carrying a Concealed Weapon	0	0	3	1	3	1.4	3	-100%	114%
Harassment	3	50	6	1	5	13	3	-40%	-77%
Runaway	178	135	139	192	148	158.4	166	12%	5%
Unruly	166	140	96	119	113	126.8	77	-32%	-39%
Curfew	70	35	49	48	26	45.6	28	8%	-39%
Truancy	54	38	39	86	26	48.6	42	62%	-14%
Shoplifting	129	82	85	92	76	92.8	122	61%	31%
Theft of Property	40	27	59	48	37	42.2	16	-57%	-62%
Vandalism/Criminal Mischief	46	34	39	40	35	38.8	36	3%	-7%
Possession of Stolen Property	8	7	4	3	7	5.8	2	-71%	-66%
Trespassing	38	28	7	17	8	19.6	27	238%	38%
Burglary	2	5	5	3	3	3.6	6	100%	67%

CITATIONS ISSUED BY SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS

Juvenile citations issued by School Resource Officers 292

OUT-REACH PROGRAMS

Cops 'N Kids Fishing Derby 44
 Teen Tour 10

COMMUNITY SERVICE/PYB WORK CREW HOURS

Community Service 79
 PYB Work Crew Hours 188
 Urban Harvest 37.5

PRESENTATIONS

Youth Workers/SROs	285
Attendees	15,518

CRISIS CALLS

Youth workers	327
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EVIDENCE-BASED CLASSES

Student referrals	70
Programs facilitated	5

SRO REFERRALS

SRO Referrals	53
SRO Referrals that became cites	4

SRO FOLLOW UP REPORTS

SRO Follow up Reports	199
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JUVENILE CITATIONS BY AGENCY

Bismarck Police Department	984
Burleigh County Sheriff's Department	131
Lincoln Police Department	22
Highway Patrol/MCSD/MPD	11

Crime Prevention Section

There are three (3) officers assigned to the Bismarck Police Department's Crime Prevention section.

Officer Pat Renz is the coordinator of the bike patrol program, is the lead Intoxilyzer operator, works with the reports from the online-reporting system, coordinates the false alarm billing and false alarm reduction efforts, and is the primary Neighborhood Crime Watch officer.

Officer Clint Fuller works with the business community, does the weekly landlord reports, works with residents and neighborhood groups, serves on a number of community coalitions, and does public presentations, security surveys and tours.

The supervisor is Sgt. Mark Buschena. He is the supervisor of the evidence section, the Bismarck Area Crime Stoppers Coordinator, Volunteer Program Coordinator, and is the Department's Public Information Officer.

During 2017, we had direct contact with 13,068 people through presentations, tours and fingerprinting. Not included in this total are individuals who call or stop in with specific questions or requests.

The following is a breakdown of the major categories:

PRESENTATIONS: We gave 140 presentations in 2017. The number of people reached by these presentations was 12,562. The presentations were on a variety of law enforcement topics. The most requested topics were: Officer Friendly (33), Stranger Safety (26), Careers in Law Enforcement (11), Personal Protection (7), 911/Gun Safety (7), Bicycle/Safety (6), Work Place Violence/Active Shooter (5), and Robbery Training (5). Some of the other presentations we offer are listed at <http://www.bismarck.org/index.aspx?NID=398>. To request a speaker for your next event, call the Crime Prevention section at 223-1212.

TOURS: In 2017, we gave 20 tours to 191 children and 110 adults, for a total of 301. We gave tours to Cub Scouts, Girl Scouts, several daycares, several school and church groups, as well as other groups.

FINGERPRINTING: We fingerprinted 199 adults, primarily court ordered.

CITIZEN SURVEY: The Crime Prevention/Community Services Section is responsible for conducting a biennial survey of citizens' attitudes toward, and opinions of, the Bismarck Police Department. Results of the survey are useful in department planning and in training Bismarck Police Officers. Many law enforcement services and citizen's needs are established as a direct result of the data received. The Bismarck Police Department conducted the biennial survey

online from September 20th through November 3rd. Ten people requested and completed paper surveys which were included in the results for a total of 760 surveys completed.

VOLUNTEER PROGRAM: The past year, volunteers were used at the Bismarck Animal Impound Facility and in Records/Reception. In 2017, volunteers worked 1,258.75 hours at a cost savings of \$31,632.39. Since we began the program in 2006, volunteers have worked 16,825.25 hours, at a cost savings of \$422,818.53. When we have volunteer openings, the job descriptions and applications are available at: www.bismarck.org/policevolunteer.

DAKOTA MEDIA ACCESS: We continued our collaboration with Dakota Media Access. We produce videos that are posted to our city webpage, as well as shared with Dakota Media Access for broadcast on their channel. Video presentations this year included [Texting and Driving Secret Plan 1](#), [Texting and Driving Secret Plan 2](#), [Texting and Driving Secret Plan 3](#), [Texting and Driving Secret Plan 4](#), [Preventing Theft From Gym Lockers](#), [Door to Door Sales](#), [Mayors' Gold Star Committee Take Back Program](#), [United Tribes Pow Wow](#), [McQuade Tournament Traffic](#), and [Motorcycle Awareness](#), Other video presentations include [Christmas Burglary Prevention](#), [New Year's Drinking and Driving](#), [What is Suspicious? Bullying Prevention](#), [Personal Safety for Women](#), [rental housing scams](#), [summer safety](#), [senior citizen crime prevention](#), [bicycle safety](#), [preventing bike theft](#), [preventing sexual assault](#) and [safety of children in and around cars](#). A list of all the presentations is available at <http://www.bismarck.org/index.aspx?NID=1311>.

JUSTICE NETWORK: In March of 2016, we entered into an agreement with The Justice Network, which is aired on local TV channel 17.2. They air wanted posters for Crime Stoppers programs. As coordinator for Bismarck Area Crime Stoppers, which includes Bismarck PD, Mandan PD, Burleigh SO and Morton SO, Sgt. Buschena acts as the liaison between the respective departments and The Justice Network, forwarding the posters to the network and notifying them when the person has been apprehended.

FACEBOOK: Although our section is no longer responsible for the maintenance of the Department's Facebook page, we are involved in much of what is posted to it. We are able to post crime prevention tips, news releases, wanted individuals and requests asking the public's help in identifying and locating suspects and missing people. Follow us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/bismarckpolice?fref=nf>



TWITTER: We continue to expand our social media outreach through the use of our Twitter account, launching our account on October 2, 2015. Since then, our Tweets have been seen over 960,000 times. We look forward to continuing to interact with our community by providing up to date information and emergency announcements related to the Police Department. Follow us at www.twitter.com/BismarckPolice.

FACEBOOK LIVE: Facebook Live is a social marketing tool we use to broadcast live events

to followers on the web via their smart phones or computers. It also allows us to post the video to our Facebook page to be viewed indefinitely. Last year we went live 23 times. Some of the live broadcasts included: [canine program](#), [officer involved shooting update](#), [First Nations Day Inauguration](#), [Coffee With A Cop](#), [President Trump's motorcade](#), [Special Olympics North American Softball Championship Opening Ceremony](#), [National Night Out](#), and [Law Enforcement / Military Appreciation Rally](#),

MEDIA: Our section worked closely with the media. We sent out news releases on motorcycle safety, basketball tournament traffic, rummage sale signs, fireworks prohibited, Super Bowl drinking and driving, St. Patrick's Day drinking and driving, officer involved shooting, Villalobos arrested in Brookings, S.D. Coffee With A Cop, Band Night parade parking, CBD products tested, Department Awards Ceremony, complaint signed in surreptitious intrusion case, door to door sales information, McQuade softball traffic, armed robbery at Heritage Pharmacy, UTTC Powwow traffic, BHS lockdown, and many others.

PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER: Sgt. Buschena is the Public Information Officer for the Department. He is responsible for conducting the daily news briefing with the news media, fielding questions from the media that arise during the day and responding to media inquiries concerning story ideas and on-air interviews.

ALARMS: The annual alarm report is attached. In 2012, there were 797 false alarms. In 2013, there were 877 false alarms. In 2014, there were 801 false alarms. In 2015, there were 728 false alarms. In 2016, there were 763 false alarms. In 2017 there were 723 false alarms.

ON-LINE REPORTING SYSTEM: Section personnel check the reports submitted on-line every day, and will follow up with the reporting party via email or telephone if additional information is needed. The reports are then routed through normal channels. In 2017, there were 193 reports submitted online. To file a report with the Bismarck Police Department go to <http://www.bismarck.org/index.aspx?nid=364>.

LEAD INTOXILYZER OPERATOR: Office Renz is the lead Intoxilyzer operator for the Department. His duties include maintaining and running monthly tests on the Intoxilyzer 8000, doing monthly calibrations of the on-site screening devices (Alco Sensor FST), and testifying in court when required.

CITIZEN POLICE ACADEMY: Officer Renz is the coordinator. The most recent Citizen Police Academy was held September 7th through November 16th, 2017. The purpose of the Citizen Police Academy is to allow the public to experience the many aspects of police work first hand. The Academy consists of a series of classes taught by members of the Bismarck Police Department. In addition, students receive hands on training as well. The Bismarck Police Department hopes that by offering a Citizen Police Academy the participants will better understand the operational responsibilities that all members of the Police Department undertake on a daily basis. The Academy is eleven weeks long. Classes are scheduled to run for two and a half hours each night. The application for the next Citizen Police Academy is available at <http://www.bismarck.org/DocumentCenter/View/2812>.

BISMARCK AREA CRIME STOPPERS: We continue to serve as the coordinator for the program. The annual report for that program is attached. To anonymously report information about criminal activity call Crime Stoppers at 224-TIPS (224-8477). Or report online: <http://www.bismarcknd.gov/forms.aspx?FID=175> . You may be eligible for a cash reward if your information leads to an arrest.

Since its inception in January, 1987, tips to Bismarck Area Crime Stoppers have resulted in 324 cases being solved, and the recovery of over \$300,000 worth of stolen property and illegal narcotics. Out of 223 defendants, 219 either pled or were found guilty.

BISMARCK-MANDAN SAFETY COUNCIL: We represent the Department at their monthly meetings. We are also involved with the planning and conducting of their annual bike rodeo and helmet distribution. Officer Fuller is the current President.

SECURITY SURVEYS: Upon request, a specially trained officer will come to your home or business and make an assessment of your physical security. The officer will then make recommendations, if needed, on areas that can be improved to lower your risk of being a crime victim. Areas addressed include doors, locks, windows, lighting, fences, landscaping, alarms and more, depending on whether the location is residential or commercial. In 2017, we conducted six security surveys.

SAFE RENTAL HOUSING PROGRAM: We continue to notify landlords of police responses to property they manage. The object is to reduce crime at apartment complexes, mobile home parks, and storage units, and reduce the amount of time police spend responding to these calls. We currently run 148 of these weekly reports, dictate letters and mail/fax them to the respective property managers to notify them of police response to burglaries, loud parties or other disturbances of which they may not otherwise be aware.

To enroll in the program go to:

<http://www.bismarck.org/DocumentCenter/Home/View/2554>.

There were a number of other projects and activities we were involved in during the year, such as Battle of the Badges Blood Drive, city auction, Safety Village, and Real World Exercise.

There are numerous boards and committees on which we serve. We represent the Department on the Crime Stoppers Board, Bismarck-Mandan Safety Council, West Central Vulnerable Adult Coalition, Missouri Valley Homeless Coalition, Region VII Housing Committee, Jump Start Coalition and Chaplain's Committee.

This is where we've been. More important is where we go in the future as we continue building relationships with community stakeholders and educating the public to reduce crime, to continue keeping Bismarck one of the safest places in the country to live, work or visit.

	CUSTOMER ERROR	TRUE ALARM	UNKNOWN	EQUIP	MISC	TOTAL
JANUARY	28	0	47	4	3	82
FEBRUARY	23	1	36	0	0	60
MARCH	22	0	21	4	0	47
APRIL	27	0	18	1	2	48
MAY	30	1	36	5	3	75
JUNE	22	0	54	2	2	80
JULY	25	0	35	2	3	65
AUGUST	22	0	22	1	1	46
SEPTEMBER	29	0	23	4	3	59
OCTOBER	19	0	32	5	3	59
NOVEMBER	20	1	28	5	0	54
DECEMBER	22	0	24	5	0	51
TOTALS	289	3	376	38	20	726

% OF TOTAL	39.80%	0.04%	51.80%	5.20%	2.80%	100%
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BISMARCK AREA CRIME STOPPERS
ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2017
(Thirtieth Year of Operation)

Number of code numbers:	236
Number of phone calls received:	251
Number of cases solved:	2
Number of defendants tried/convicted:	2/2

Records and Reception

Overview

The Bismarck Police Department Records and Reception section held one hiring process during the year to fill a vacancy. The new employee made a relatively seamless transition as they had experience with law enforcement. We are currently fully staffed by eight Records Technicians. For ease of identification, there are two groups informally called Records and Reception, identified by their specific duties. Records and Reception both play a part in data entry, receiving requests, copying, and distributing copies of reports. All of the staff members in the section are now titled Records Technicians. One of these groups is comprised of five employees and their duties are primarily focused on records; performing data entry, modifying/correcting records and scanning. The other group is comprised of three employees and their duties are focused on front desk duties, formerly known as reception duties.

Reception

The front desk area is staffed by three Records Technicians. The same three were in place for all of 2017; Deb Kenner, Tanika Johnson and Kristine Kostuck. These three are the first line of customer service for the Bismarck Police Department. They are the first faces to be seen when a customer comes into the building and they also receive many of the phone calls that come in to the Police Department. The Receptionists try to assist the citizens as much as they can and direct them to other appropriate departmental personnel or external agencies when necessary. They assist the public and Department with services such as animal impounds and licensing, vehicle impounds, gaming, taxi, raffle and special permits and other services. In addition, they are also responsible for many other duties that include but are not limited to transcribing the police officer's reports, filing and maintaining files for trespass orders, protection orders, orders prohibiting contact, and restraining orders, as well as other office tasks.

Records

This group is responsible for the accuracy and retention of Police records. The employees also determine what information is releasable to the public, courts, other law enforcement agencies and insurance companies. We conducted one hiring process in 2017 to fill a vacancy created with the resignation of Tara White who left for another city department. After the hiring process was conducted, Sarah VanBerkum came out on top. She made a seamless transition into records as she had previous experience with law enforcement. Staffing consists of five Records Technicians and the Records Supervisor. The employees are: DeeAnn Anderson, Clarissa Goldsack, Laura Germain, Robyn Benedict and Sarah VanBerkum. A key duty of the Records staff is maintaining the integrity of the documents by ensuring accurate data entry, easy access to stored documents and maintaining the preservation, retention and destruction of all Police

records. The data provided to this section comes from a variety of sources including officers' reports and other departmental documents. These records allow department employees and other governmental agencies access to critical information for investigators, officers, administrators, prosecutors and the public. The records section also handles many inquiries as to the status of cases or if someone has questions about a particular case. The records section completes background checks for gaming, taxi, and door to door permits, liquor licenses, and the public or other agencies. This section also updates the sex offender information when the offender comes in to register. The records section serves as a backup for reception with helping citizens at the window and answering phone calls.

Evidence and Property

The Evidence and Property Section falls under the Support Services Division of the Department. The section was staffed by two Evidence Technicians; Nick Metzger and Donna Blauvelt is our second Evidence Technician. Both Nick and Donna are certified through the International Association for Property and Evidence (IAPE).

The Evidence Technicians are responsible for the following: receiving, storing, logging, and maintaining proper chain of custody of all property and evidence submitted by Bismarck PD Officers to the Bismarck Police Department evidence/property storage facilities. They also maintain security, custody and control over all property and evidence seized until a disposition through the criminal justice system has been reached and identified owners established. In 2017 Evidence Technicians completed transitioning all property from HTE into the Tracker system. This will allow for improved tracking of evidence quantities and chain of custody.

The Bismarck Police Department maintains three internal evidence and property storage locations within its main headquarters building. In addition, the department maintains an off-site vehicle impound lot, and long term storage facility.

In addition to working with Bismarck Department employees, our Evidence Section works closely with other local partners. For example, they maintain a working relationship with the North Dakota Crime Lab, Metro Area Narcotics Task Force, Bismarck Municipal Court, and the Burleigh County States Attorney's office to name a few.

The integrity and accountability of evidence and property warehoused within the department's facilities is of the utmost importance. Twice each year, the Support Services Lieutenant conducts a review of the Evidence Section procedures. In addition, an annual audit of one-hundred percent of all firearms, narcotics, and monies, along with an audit of one-hundred one general evidence/property items, is conducted by a member of the department who is outside of the Evidence Section's chain-of-command. Furthermore, the Chief of Police conducts his own yearly inspection of the Evidence/Property personnel, facilities, and practices. The inspections conducted are meant to ensure the Evidence Technicians are conducting their duties in accordance with State law, municipal ordinances, department policies, along with best industry standards.

In addition to their evidence/property facility duties, the Evidence Technicians assist with performing fingerprinting duties for court orders. They also fingerprint and obtain DNA samples for those who are required to register as sex offenders.

Facility Maintenance

The Facility Maintenance Section is under the Support Services Division of the Bismarck Police Department. The maintenance staff is comprised of one Police Maintenance Technician, Jeremy Kjos, and two Building Service Workers, Allen Helfrich and Rodney Hill. The staff is responsible for the maintenance and upkeep of five Bismarck Police Department Facilities: the headquarters building at 700 S. 9th St., the animal impound facility, the Department's off-site equipment storage facility, the Department's off-site evidence storage facility and vehicle impound lot, and the Department's substation office & support vehicle garage space, located at Bismarck Fire Department's Fire Station 5.

In addition to their day-to-day function within the department, the Facility Maintenance Section oversaw the construction of the Department's new off-site storage facility, the re-siding of the animal impound facility, re-location & remodeling of a new evidence office, the remodeling of the Department's Intoxilyzer & field sobriety test room, the re-location and remodeling of the patrol shift briefing room and Department's workout rooms, remodeling & construction of an offender registration area, the construction of the security fence around the parking area for Department owned vehicles at PD headquarters and new office area for records. The Maintenance Section also worked through issues with the headquarter building's chiller unit, originally installed in 2015, and set to be replaced again in 2018. Finally, the re-landscaping around the headquarters building, which began in 2013, will continue into 2018.

Training Section

Reporting to the Deputy Chief of Support Services, the Bismarck Police Department Training Section is overseen by one Lieutenant, and staffed with one Sergeant, one Police Officer, and one Property Equipment Coordinator.

Under the direction of Sergeant Mitch Wardzinski, the Training Section has the primary task of coordinating training for Department personnel, both sworn officers and civilian staff. In addition to the training function, Sergeant Wardzinski and Training Officer Burkhartsmeier conduct planning, research and analysis on the effectiveness of equipment, policing methods, techniques and general operating methods and procedures.

The Property Equipment Coordinator, Scott Brand, assists Sergeant Wardzinski and Officer Burkhartsmeier in the research and analysis of police equipment. His primary responsibilities include budgeting and accounting for all Bismarck Police Department uniforms and equipment. He also oversees and manages the Department's vehicle fleet (budgeting, purchasing, replacing, and maintenance of all Bismarck PD owned vehicles). Two additional projects that Mr. Brand is assisting with is the acquisition of a new Department issued handgun, and the transition in uniform styles from the sky blue color uniform shirt to the darker midnight blue uniform shirt.

The state of North Dakota requires that each sworn officer must receive a minimum of 60 hours of training every three years in order to maintain law enforcement certification. Our Department's officers averaged approximately 113 hours training each for 2017 alone. The total number of training hours received by our officers in 2017 was over 14,727 hours. Our Department's civilian staff averaged approximately 7 hours of training each for 2017. The total number of training hours received by our civilian staff in 2017 was over 222 hours.

This year, the Training Section was tasked with developing testing procedures for a new Department issued sidearm. Extensive testing involving several members of the Department along with research was done to determine the best fit for a new firearm. The Department also transitioned from the semi-automatic Remington 11-87 shotgun to the pump action Remington 870. Familiarization training was conducted to allow officers to become comfortable using the different style shotgun.

Additionally, the Department's training program includes basic recruit training, advanced and specialized in-service training, refresher courses, weapon proficiency, weapon certification, and other subject areas designed to broaden the knowledge and capabilities of Department personnel.

In addition to those assigned to the Training Section, the Department utilizes the expertise, and knowledge of the Bismarck Police Department staff to assist in the training of personnel. The Department has a total of sixty-one North Dakota Peace Officer Standards and Training (ND POST) certified instructors. Training is conducted within the Department by our own certified

instructors as well as having personnel attend specialized training provided by nationally certified instructors. In 2017, our officers and civilian staff have provided over 1,495 hours of instruction.

The Department's Training Section was also responsible for the training of seventeen new recruit officers. Additionally, it was responsible for the provision of promotional training, the coordination of specialized training for departmental personnel, and for ensuring that all sworn personnel met ND POST, Bismarck Police Department, and CALEA annual in-service training requirements.

Bismarck Mounted Police

Chartered in 1966, the Bismarck Mounted Police and its members, serves as an auxiliary component of the Bismarck Police Department. The unit is comprised of volunteer members from the Bismarck/Mandan area. The Mounted Police represents the Bismarck Police Department, and ride horses in parades, ceremonies and a variety of other events throughout the State of North Dakota in which they represent the unit and the Bismarck Police Department. They have a well-deserved reputation as skilled riders and performers. To develop and maintain their skills, the Mounted Police normally hold horsemanship practice sessions bi-weekly at various locations in the Bismarck/Mandan area.

Bismarck Mounted Police members and their horses have been trained in equine search techniques. This particular training is invaluable when the unit is called upon to assist in the search for missing and endangered individuals; especially in terrain that is inaccessible by vehicle and difficult to navigate on foot.

Current active membership for 2017 was nine active members, with two inactive members, and five honorary members. The Mounted Police unit is always looking to grow their membership to create an even stronger organization. Their goal is to create a stronger membership base, to better support their ability to participate in parades and other performance requests and to increase their search and rescue capabilities.

Bismarck Mounted Police Officers for 2017 were: Captain – Clarissa Goldsack, 1st Lt. - Alen Fitterer, 2nd Lt. - Barbara Zins-Burrer, Warrant Officer - Jeanette Hoffman and Drill Sergeant – Alaina Moser.

Bismarck Law Enforcement Chaplaincy

Since 1979, the Crisis Care Chaplaincy continues to serve the public by providing emotional and spiritual care for personnel in the *Bismarck Police Department, Burleigh County Sheriff's Office, Bismarck Fire Department, Bismarck Rural Fire, ND Bureau of Criminal Investigation, Mandan Police Department, Burleigh/Morton County Jail, Central Communications and the North Dakota Highway Patrol* through crisis intervention and care, suicide intervention, building relationships, and assistance with death notifications.

Thirteen volunteer chaplains carry out the ministry of Crisis Care Chaplaincy under the guidance of two administrative chaplains. We continue to be on call 24/7 to assist emergency services in their time of need.

Besides serving the first responders, our chaplains also work with the inmates at the Burleigh/Morton Jail, help survivors of dwelling fires, give care to those who have had unattended deaths in their families, assist Law Enforcement Officers with death notifications, we participate in suicide prevention and we assist the families of suicide victims by caring for them during a very difficult time. We also provide training for chaplains, officers, and first responders as well as critical incident stress management for first responders and officers.

Chaplain Greg Carr is the lead chaplain for the Bismarck Police Department and oversees three shift chaplains and an overflow chaplain.

In 2017, the Crisis Care Chaplains put in 1431 hours of volunteer service to all of our agencies.

Fleet Report

In 2017 the Bismarck Police Department fleet consisted of 75 vehicles that are tracked and categorized in the Computerized Fleet Maintenance System as Administrative, ATV's, Decommissioned, Detectives, Patrol, Police Youth Bureau, Special Operations, and Traffic. A more detailed breakdown of each category will be addressed later in the report. In May, the process of adding and decommissioning cars began with the arrival of sixteen (16) new vehicles. All sixteen vehicles were AWD (all-wheel drive) Ford Interceptor Utilities or Sedans. This was an increase of eight (8) patrol vehicles due to the creation of the Power Shift. The other eight vehicles were replacements for existing vehicles. One (1) Humvee was added to Special Operations

The strategic purchasing of AWD vehicles to the Patrol Division for fleet standardization continued for the purpose of tactical and safety enhancement, as well as overall functionality of the fleet. We continued full coverage insurance for all marked patrol vehicles, which makes a positive impact on the Police Department's fiscal responsibility.

As with 2016, most maintenance was performed by Public Works and Dakota Communications. This year we requested informal bids for purchase of equipment and installation of equipment. This process decreased our purchase and installation costs considerably as vendors became more competitive locally. Installation of equipment was contracted with Dakota Communication, Bismarck and Code 4 Services at Pelican Rapids, MN. Warranty repair work is generally performed locally at the appropriate dealership for the make of vehicle needing repairs. In the event Public Works could not perform the needed repairs, the work was contracted out to a local authorized repair facility. Other than specialty maintenance and repairs performed by Dakota Communications and Code 4 Services, billing is centrally processed through the Public Works Fleet Department. Repairs and installation of specialty equipment such as computers, emergency equipment, and vehicle striping is performed by other authorized contractors or businesses such as Dakota Communications, Electronic Communication and Code 4 Services.

As mentioned above, the Bismarck Police Department fleet is categorized in to eight (8) divisions; **Patrol, Traffic, Detectives, Police Youth Bureau (PYB), Administration, Special Operations, ATV's, and Decommissioned**. The following is a detailed breakdown of each division:

Patrol: Twenty (28) marked patrol vehicles currently assigned to the Patrol Division.

Traffic: Eight (8) vehicles in this division consisting of four (4) marked patrol vehicles, two (2) Parking Enforcement vehicles, and two (2) Animal Control vehicles.

Detectives: Seventeen (17) vehicles assigned to the Police Detectives of which two (2) are located at the Metro Area Narcotics Task Force which is leased under contract by the Federal

Government.

Police Youth Bureau (PYB)/School Resource Officer (SRO): Nine (9) vehicles assigned consisting of two (2) marked & five (5) unmarked SRO vehicles, two (2) for Police Youth Bureau.

Administration: Five (5) vehicles assigned to Admin, Crime Prevention, Maintenance, & Training.

Special Operations: Six (6) specialized vehicles allocated to the Special Operations Divisions of the West Dakota SWAT Team, Bomb Squad, and Hostage Negotiation Team.

ATV's (All Terrain Vehicles): Two (2) 2011 Polaris Rangers which were purchased during the 2011 flood and are periodically utilized for special events and specialized park enforcement.

Decommissioned: In 2017 there were six (6) vehicles decommissioned or transferred to Public Works. One vehicle was held back for use at the airport and five (5) of the decommissioned cars were transferred to Public Works. All funds generated from the sale of police vehicles, unless originally purchased from the Drug Asset Forfeiture Fund, goes to the city general fund.

*Note: The process of replacing vehicles is usually determined by mileage and maintenance costs. Generally, cars with higher mileage tend to produce more maintenance costs over time. According to national fleet data, the mileage and use on police vehicle engines can be twice that of the actual odometer reading due to idling time. For example, a vehicle that has 100,000 odometer miles actually has 200,000 miles on the engine.

Cost Summary

Fuel Costs: According to the data extracted from the Public Works Fleet Maintenance Program, the Bismarck Police Department consumed **83,212** gallons of fuel (+11%) at a cost of **\$157,937** (+17%). Gallons consumed for 2017 increased by 9,414 gallons from the previous year. As you will see our mileage listed below has no correlation with the increased use of fuel.

Mileage: The sum of miles driven by all department vehicles for 2017 was **914,860** miles which is an increase of 27,942 miles (+3%) from 2016. A majority of the miles driven originated from the Patrol and Traffic divisions (also includes Parking Enforcement and Animal Control).

Maintenance Costs: As previously mentioned, Public Works and Dakota Communications perform a majority of maintenance and repairs, unless warranty related, on Police Department vehicles. The maintenance cost in 2016 for all Police Department vehicles totaled approximately **\$162,829.68** which was a decrease of \$49,322.67 from 2015. In 2017 our maintenance cost was **\$99,908.88**. This was an additional decrease of \$62,920.80 from 2016. Over the last 2 years we have reduced our maintenance costs by **\$112,243.47**. Public Works and our agency contributes this to better oversight at Public Works and Ford Motors maintenance agreements that come with their Law Enforcement Fleet.

2017 Total Operating Cost (fuel + Maintenance) = \$257,845.81(-16% decrease).

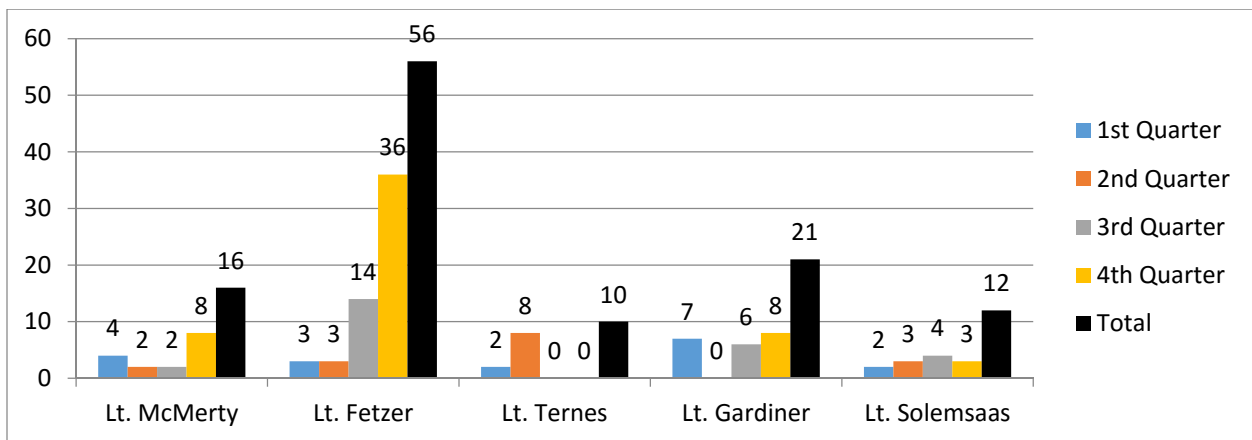
Five Year Comparison

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Vehicles	56	59	64	64	75
Mileage	780,485	608,459	787,868	886,918	914,860
Fuel(gallons)	71,615.10	64,078.43	70,200	72,798	83,212
Fuel Cost	\$229,446.92	\$199,077.87	\$148,178.51	\$130,450.90	\$157,936.93
Maintenance	\$136,795.85	\$106,896.13	\$212,152.35	\$162,829.68	\$99,908.88
Total Cost	\$366,242.77	\$305,974	\$360,330.86	\$293,280.58	\$257,845.81

Pursuits

In 2017 there were a total of 115 reported instances of a vehicle pursuit/attempting to elude, which is up from 71 in 2016. 2016 previously had the largest number of incidents and the trend has continued with 2017 having a 62% increase from the previous year. This data is used to attempt to identify trends or patterns that may exist and also to suggest any possible changes to the current department policy governing pursuits/attempting to elude incidents. The Bismarck PD has a limited pursuit policy that restricts officers from engaging in pursuits unless certain parameters are met. There is a misconception that the department has a “no pursuit” policy but it is, in fact, a limited pursuit policy which is similar to what a large number of law enforcement agencies are using at the present time.

The following is the breakdown by shift for pursuits/attempts to elude occasions for 2017 by quarter:



	1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th	Total
Lt. McMerty	4	2	5	8	16
Lt. Fetzer	3	3	14	36	56
Lt. Ternes	2	8	0	0	10
Lt. Gardiner	7	0	6	8	21
Lt. Solemsaas	2	3	4	3	12

It should be noted that in late summer of 2017 the department re-organized the patrol shifts with a “power shift” under Lt. Fetzer being placed into action. The goal of this unit is to address some of the ongoing issues that patrol often is unable to dedicate the time to focus on. This shift uses a high number of traffic stops to flood an area of concern with the philosophy that the higher visibility of enforcement action will have an effect on the reported complaints in that area.

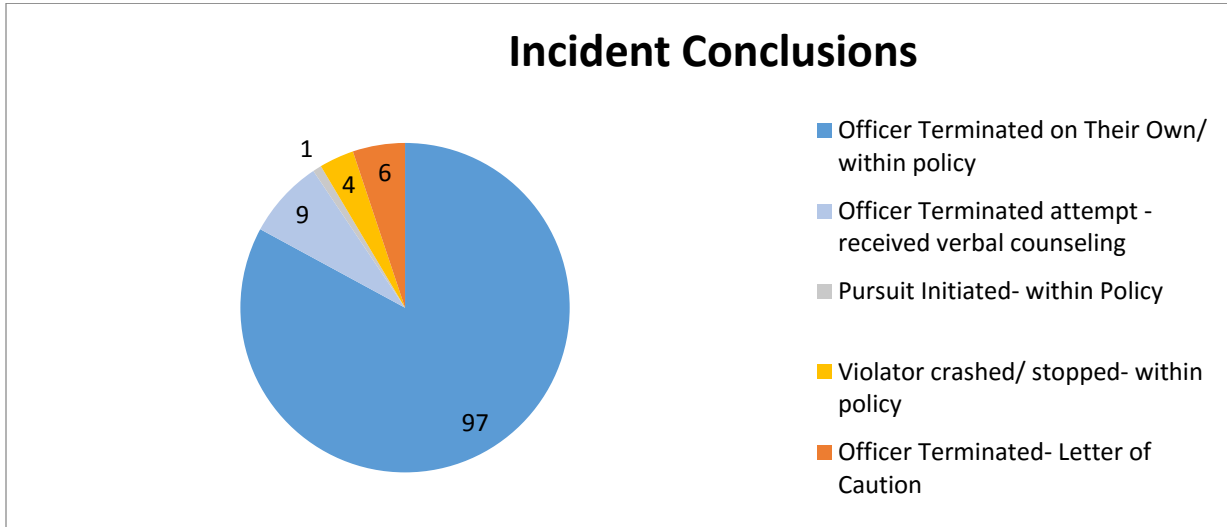
Because of the emphasis that this unit places on traffic stops, it would be entirely reasonable to expect that they would also experience a higher number of vehicles that will flee/ attempt to elude the officers attempt to conduct the traffic stop. This unit has often times seen the same vehicles and drivers continue with their behavior of fleeing knowing that the department has a limited policy regarding vehicle pursuits. Recently, there has been an increased effort by this unit to work with the States Attorney's office to impound the vehicles of the repeat offenders. It is too early to see if these efforts will have an effect on the overall number of fleeing vehicles.

In 2017, the historical pattern returned with a majority of the pursuits/ attempting to elude incidents occurring during the nighttime hours. There were 72 instances during the night shift leaving 43 during the daytime hours. Several years ago there had been a trend showing an even split between day and night shifts. For the purpose of this, the shift schedule time was used so that any incident between 0700 hours and 1900 hours is considered as daytime, 1900 hours to 0700 hours is considered nighttime.

When officers are presented with the decision to pursue or to not pursue, in the majority of circumstances, they are making the correct decision to follow the department policy. As noted previously, there were a total of 115 incidents involving the use of a vehicle to flee from an attempt to stop that vehicle. In 107 of those instances (93%), the officer involved terminated the attempt to stop on their own without the direction of a supervisor/commander. There were three (3) incidents in which the violator crashed his/her vehicle (3%) and four instances (4%) in which the violator stopped on their own. There was one (1) instance in which the field supervisor ordered the termination of the pursuit.

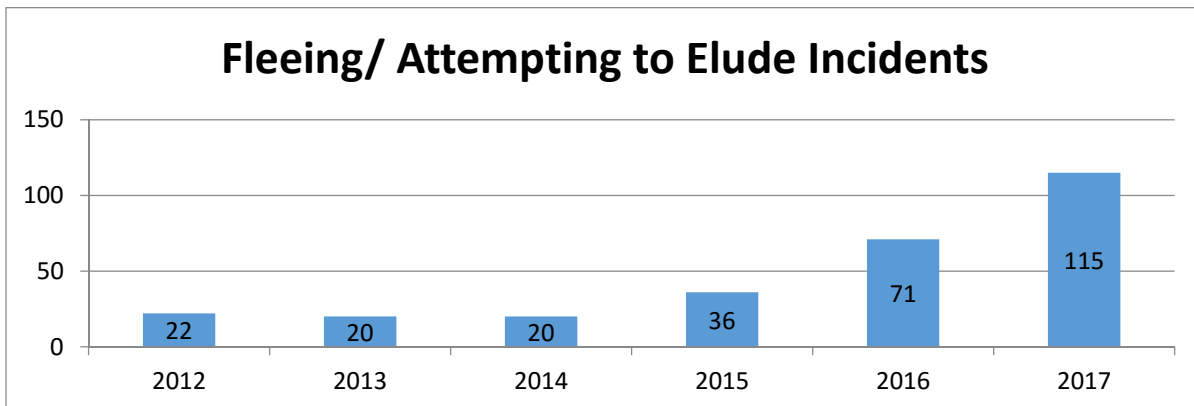
Of the 115 instances in which an officer was presented with the decision to pursue or to not pursue, there were three (3) cases in which a pursuit was initiated. Of those three cases, one was considered to be authorized by the current policy. The other two were considered to be outside policy. In both of those cases the officer briefly began a vehicle pursuit but did terminate the effort on their own without an order from a field supervisor or commander. Both officers in those instances received verbal counseling. There were 13 other cases in which officer received either verbal counseling or letters of caution at the shift level for continuing the attempt to stop longer than should have occurred. In all of those instances the officer did terminate the attempt to stop on their own.

As noted previously, there was one (1) instance in which a pursuit was initiated and later was determined to be within policy. This involved an intoxicated driver that had struck several vehicles and was continuing to drive with heavy vehicle damage. The driver was stopped and arrested for driving under the influence and other driving charges.



There were four (4) cases in which the fleeing vehicle caused property damage. In three (3) of the cases the fleeing vehicle struck another object such as a parked car or curb causing damage to the fleeing vehicle. As noted earlier, there was one case in which an intoxicated driver had struck several parked cars and was heavily damaged. The driver of this vehicle also failed to stop for the officer’s attempts to stop them continuing at low speeds. Officers did continue the pursuit until the vehicle became disabled due to the damage.

Under the current Bismarck Police Department policy, roadblocks are only to be used in cases of emergency in order to capture persons wanted for criminal violations. In 2017 there were no cases of a roadblock being used. There were also no instances in which the spike strips were used to bring an end to a vehicle pursuit. The likelihood of using the spike strips in a pursuit situation are somewhat limited in that the department has very few vehicle pursuits and when they do occur there is limited time given to properly utilize the spike strips.



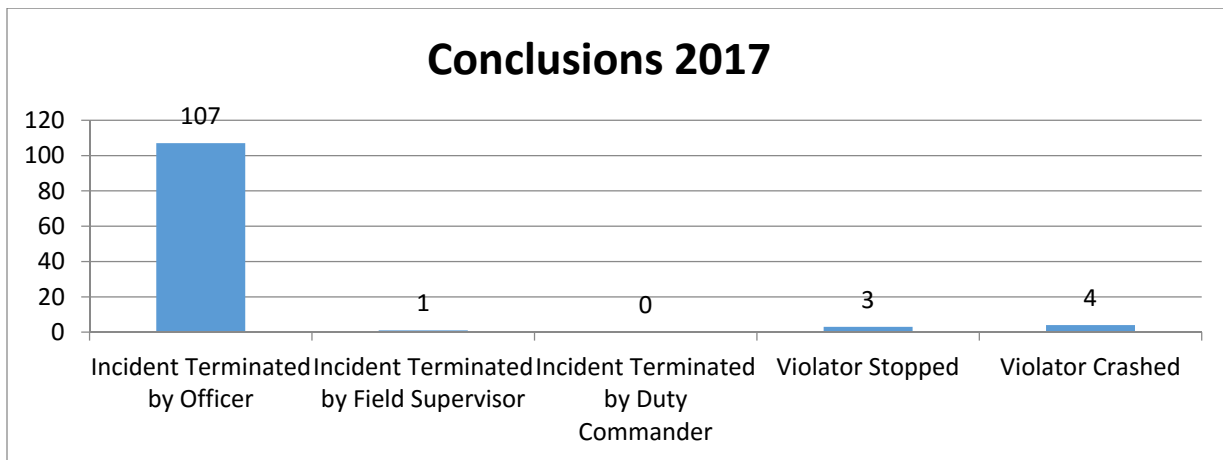
It should be noted that there were a total of 21,670 traffic stops by the Bismarck PD. The 115 instances in which the drivers of vehicles either fled or attempted to elude officers’ attempted stop amounts to 0.53% of the total number of stops.

The policy of having commanders review and discuss the incidents with the officers has reinforced the importance that the department has placed on adherence to the policy. Even when officers have violations of the policy, the commanders are able to openly discuss why the policy is such a critical element in the safety of the officers and the community.

It is good to see that officers are more likely to report a vehicle that fled from them as this indicates that officers are not feeling that the department is trying to find some fault in what they did. The frequent reinforcement of the dangers presented in pursuit incidents and the importance of following policy seems to have resulted in greater compliance with the current policy.

The following lists the conclusions of the instances in 2017:

Incident Terminated by Officer	107
Incident Terminated by Field Supervisor	1
Incident Terminated by Duty Commander	0
Violator Stopped	3
Violator Crashed	4



With the large increase in the number of drivers that are fleeing/attempting to elude officers, it would be prudent to look at some possible strategies that would help lower the occurrences. As noted previously, some officers are working with the States Attorney’s office to impound vehicles that are frequently involved in fleeing instances. Another possible goal would be to increase the penalties to the drivers of vehicles that flee officer’s attempts to conduct traffic stops. This would require a bill to be placed at the state legislature which will also mean that the new penalties will not be in place for approximately a year.

There are no significant trends that would warrant a change in the current policy regarding vehicle pursuits. It appears that the training of the officers has been successful which is reflected in the high voluntary compliance with the expectation of self-termination when the officers are faced with a “pursue/don’t pursue” situation.

Bismarck Police Department

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