

# 2020 ANNUAL REPORT



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Cover Photo Credit:  
*Michael Paulson*

# CHIEF'S MESSAGE



On behalf of the Bismarck Police Department, I present our 2020 Annual Report. Our 2020 Crime and Traffic Analysis report will be released at the same time as this report so the people who want to “crunch” the numbers will have the opportunity through that report. We welcome and encourage constructive feedback so that we can continue to improve this report and give our citizens the information they want to learn about their police department.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, 2020 was a trying year for our community, State, Country and World. Sadly, Bismarck was not immune to the effects of the pandemic. As I reviewed the 2020 Crime and Traffic Analysis report I learned personal crimes overall were up 22.17% and property crimes overall were up 3.29%. Honestly, I thought property crimes were going to be up much higher than they were overall.

Chief of Police

*Dave Draovitch*

It would be easy to blame the pandemic for the rise in crime rate. Very similar rise in crime rate is occurring all over our great nation but I do not believe the pandemic is entirely to blame. Law enforcement in the Bismarck-Mandan area have had many concerns for the last several years about drug and violent crime infiltrating our community from out of state criminals who are not afraid to commit violence to further their criminal enterprises. Many of our narcotic trafficking related investigations, including associated violent crimes and overdose deaths, have a nexus that extend outside the Bismarck-Mandan area. These investigations require us to have highly skilled and trained personnel, adequate resources and latest advances in technology. Our highly dedicated police force is up to the challenge but to eradicate these egregious offenses, we need your continued support.

Please be assured we are diligently working with our local, State and Federal partners to address what we are seeing. As we work through the current identified issues we will keep our citizens as informed as possible as to what is going on and what we are doing to address the issues. As we have known for a long time, we need our citizens to help us to truly keep Bismarck as safe as possible.

The next paragraph ended last year's report. As I reviewed the 2019 report I felt the thought of the paragraph is still very applicable today so I'm including it in this year's message. I hope you don't mind.

We at the police department are truly grateful for the support we receive from our community. Every time we are in need we receive what we need from our community. This support does not occur in all parts of our country. I want you to know we do not and will not take this for granted. We will continue to work as hard and as transparently as possible so that we can continue to earn the trust and support of our citizens.

Respectfully,  
*Chief Dave Draovitch*

# ***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***

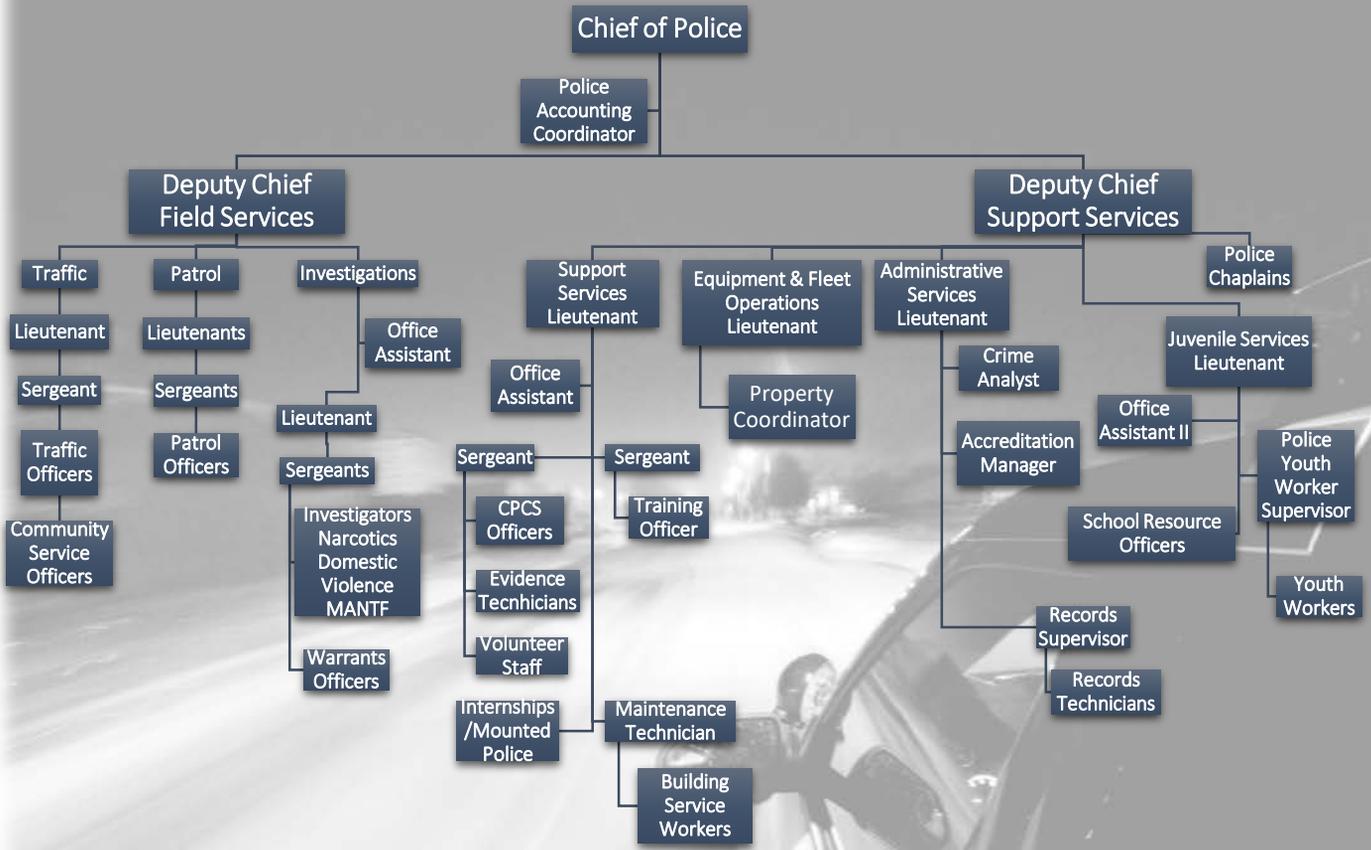
The Bismarck Police Department will be recognized as a premier law enforcement agency which provides exceptional customer service through professional, well trained, caring and innovative employees working in partnership with the community. We will foster an environment of honesty, trust, and mutual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

# ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



# **2021 DEPARTMENT GOALS**

- ✓ **Hiring – Maintain and improve, where possible, the efficiency of the hiring process**
- ✓ **Recruitment - Improve overall effectiveness of recruitment efforts along with an emphasis on minority groups**
- ✓ **Institute Mini In-Service Training Sessions-All training will be to Department Standard but may be completed by/through the shifts/sections.**
- ✓ **Mobile Field Force Training**
- ✓ **Improve manpower presence in the field**
- ✓ **Increase Staff – Analyze the need for the following increase in Staff**
- ✓ **REFINE the Crime Analyst’s Analysis Based Policing to more effectively communicate crime trends**
- ✓ **Continue with internal succession planning**
- ✓ **Develop effective “high-ticket” equipment replacement plans**
- ✓ **Improve efficiency in coordinating court scheduling between District Court and our officers’ schedules**
- ✓ **Complete transition to new records management system**
- ✓ **Implement asset management program**

# QUICK FACTS



- 1 Chief
- 2 Deputy Chiefs
- 9 Lieutenants
- 17 Sergeants
- 100 Officers
- 3 Civilian Supervisors
- 27 Civilian Staff

The Bismarck Police Department is responsible for policing the Capital City in North Dakota. Bismarck Police is responsible for over 31.23 square miles of area and provides services to over 73,112 citizens.

In 2020 the Bismarck Police Department was responsible for patrolling and servicing more than 375 miles of roadway with a fleet of **(77)** vehicles that are assigned to the following sections within the Bismarck Police Department:

Administrative, Airport, Animal Control, ATV's, Car Marker, Crime Prevention, Detectives, Fleet, Maintenance, Patrol, Police Youth Bureau, Special Operations, Traffic, and Training.



Operations	\$1,278,833
Personnel	\$13,672,054
Total Budget	\$14,950,887

# FIELD SERVICES



Deputy Chief

*Randy Fiegler*

The Field Services Division is comprised of many different sections of the police department. One Hundred Ten (110) out of the One Hundred Twenty-Nine (129) sworn officers in the department are assigned to the Field Services Division.



Patrol



Traffic



Animal Control



Parking Enforcement



Investigations



Narcotics Unit



Gaming



Warrants



West Dakota SWAT Team



Crisis Negotiation Team



Bomb Squad



K-9 Program

# SUPPORT SERVICES



Deputy Chief  
*Jason Stugelmeyer*

The Support Services Division plays a very important role in the department and is mostly responsible for what happens behind the scenes at the Bismarck Police Department. All of these duties play a vital role to support and enable effective **policing** operations.



Crime Prevention & Community Engagement



CALEA  
(Commission on Accredited Law Enforcement Agencies)



Records and Reception



Department's Annual Budget



Grants and Activities



Intelligence Led Policing



Administrative and Professional Services



Evidence



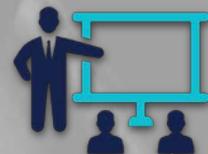
Facilities



Recruitment



Youth Services  
(Police Youth Bureau)



Training



Media and Public Information

# PATROL SECTION

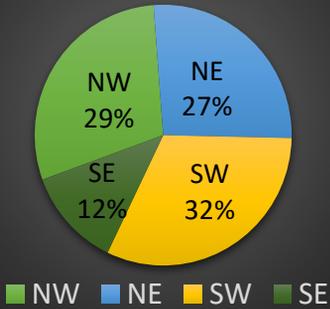


Lieutenant  
*Chad Fetzer*



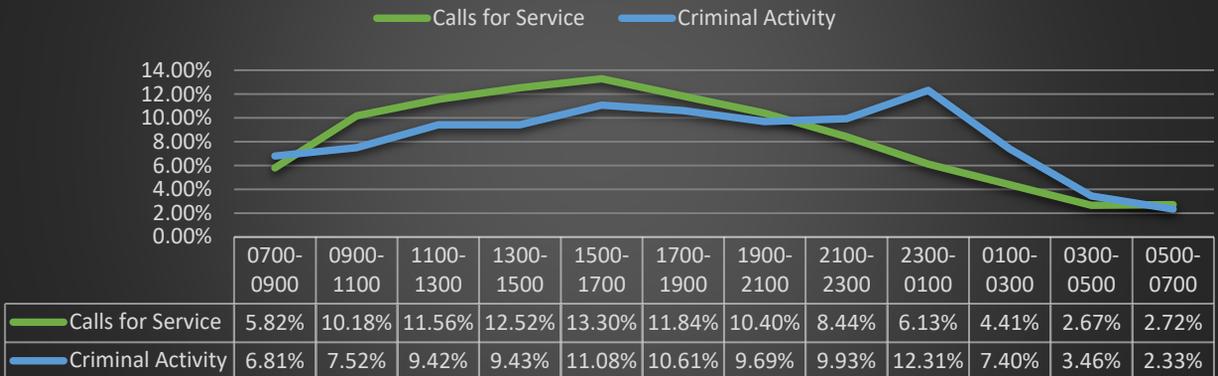
Lieutenant  
*Steve Scheuer*

## Calls for Service by Beat Area 2020



The Bismarck Police Department's Patrol Section, reporting to the deputy chief of the field division, is divided into two patrol shifts. Each patrol shift is led by a lieutenant. In addition to the lieutenants, each shift is assigned six sergeants and approximately thirty police officers. Our Patrol Section is responsible for initial police response, proactive criminal and traffic enforcement, with a focus on fighting crime, collaborative problem solving, community policing initiatives, building relationships within our community, and response to significant or emerging issues. The collaborative efforts between our patrol officers, and the other sections within the Department, as well as with our outside law enforcement, and community partners, have resulted in some excellent police work.

## Total Calls for Service and Criminal Activity by Hour Block 2020



# INVESTIGATIONS SECTION



Lieutenant

*Gary Malo*

The Criminal Investigation Section falls within the Field Services Division of the Bismarck Police Department. At full strength, there are twenty-two people assigned to Investigations. The section is comprised of the following: 1-Lieutenant, 2-Sergeants, 1-Office Assistant, 15-Investigators & 3-Officers. There are seven rotational detective assignments and the others are non-rotational.

The detectives/officers assigned to the Investigation Section are responsible for conducting thorough investigations by interviewing victims, witnesses, suspects and processing crime scenes, preserving evidence, and completing case files for prosecution. Detectives are on call 24 hours a day. The Investigation Section includes Personal Crimes, Property Crimes, Narcotic Crimes and the Warrants Division.



### 5-Property Crime Investigators

The section investigated approximately 275 property crimes in 2020. The property crimes range from Vandalism to Burglaries. Also included in property crimes are financial crimes & fraud cases.

### 5-Personal Crimes Investigators

417 personal crimes were investigated by the section in 2020. Personal crimes can range from simple assault to homicide. Also included in personal crimes are domestics, sex assaults, terrorizing, kidnapping etc.

### 5-Narcotic Crimes Investigators

Two of the Five narcotic investigators are assigned to a local Drug Task Force (MANTF). Approximately 77 drug related cases were investigated by the section.

### 3-Warrants Officers

Two of the warrants officers' duties are court security, serving municipal warrants and subpoenas. They also assist the U.S. Marshals Task Force apprehending subjects with felony warrants. The third warrants officer's main duties are sex offender compliance.

Group A Offenses	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	%Change 2019-2020	
Murder	2	0	2	0	0	*N/C	
Manslaughter	0	0	0	0	1	*N/C	
Forcible Rape	39	46	45	64	58	-9.38%	
Forcible Fondling	82	53	103	58	90	15.38%	
Forcible Sodomy		77		8			1
Incest		0		2			2
Statutory Rape		18		18			18
Aggravated Assault		142		158			128
Simple Assault	781	785	718	717	868	22.09%	
Intimidation	920	915	894	869	1061		
Stalking <sup>1</sup>	25	17	28	21	28		
Kidnapping <sup>2</sup>	13	11	16	19	19	0.00%	
Human Trafficking <sup>3</sup>		2	3	3	6	100.00%	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,198</b>	<b>1,209</b>	<b>1,191</b>	<b>1,150</b>	<b>1,405</b>	<b>22.17%</b>	

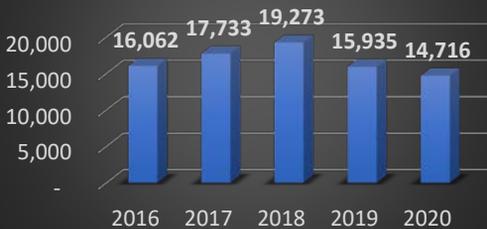
# TRAFFIC SECTION

The Traffic section is primarily responsible for the investigation of traffic collisions and hit and run follow up investigations. We are also responsible for the enforcement of traffic related issues throughout the community. The Traffic section also works closely with other city departments to improve traffic safety throughout Bismarck. When fully staffed the section has one Lieutenant, one Sergeant and 6 Traffic officers who receive advanced training in collision investigation and other traffic related areas.



Lieutenant  
*Jeff Solemsaas*

## Traffic Citations Issued 2016-2020



Bismarck Police Department Motor Vehicle Traffic Crashes by Crash Severity, CY2017-2020*				
Crash Severity	2017	2018	2019	2020
Fatal	2	1	2	2
Incapacitating Injury	24	24	21	27
Non-incapacitating injury	141	123	147	147
Possible Injury	312	290	276	211
Property Damage Only	2036	1884	1895	1220
<b>Total</b>	<b>2515</b>	<b>2322</b>	<b>2341</b>	<b>1607</b>



**Bismarck Police  
Officers made 16,468  
Traffic Stops in 2020**

Type of Crash	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	% Change 2019-2020
Animal Report	0	0	0	0	0	*NC
Non-Reportable	28	10	8	13	18	38.46%
Non-Traffic	1,270	1,139	1,171	1,218	1,831	50.33%
Traffic	2,491	2,531	2,358	2,462	857	-65.19%
<b>Totals</b>	<b>3,789</b>	<b>3,680</b>	<b>3,537</b>	<b>3,693</b>	<b>2,706</b>	<b>-26.73%</b>

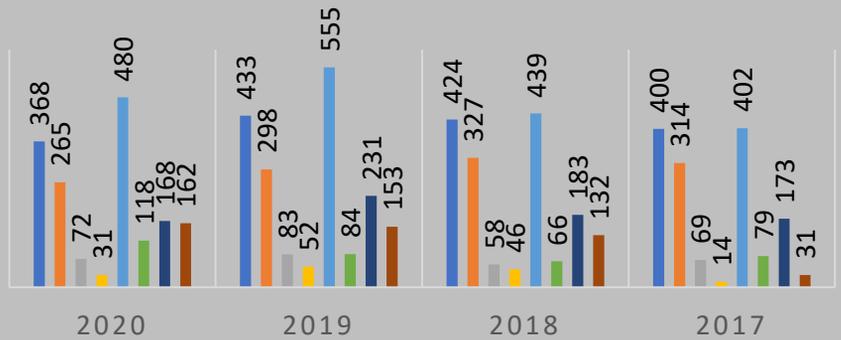


# COMMUNITY SERVICE OFFICERS



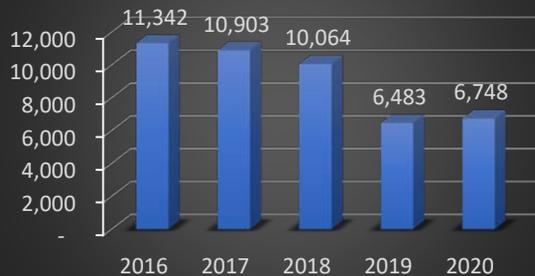
## 2020 ANIMAL STATISTICS

- # Dogs Impounded
- # Dogs Reclaimed
- # Dogs Adopted
- # Dogs Rescued
- # Cats Impounded
- # Cats Reclaimed
- # Cats Adopted
- # Cats Rescued



Community Service Officers have two primary responsibilities. There are three CSO's that focus on animal control and there are two the focus on parking enforcement. The two positions were combined in 2019 to allow for more flexibility in scheduling. All of the CSO's will become cross trained in order to perform both areas of concentration.

## Parking Tickets Issued 2016-2020

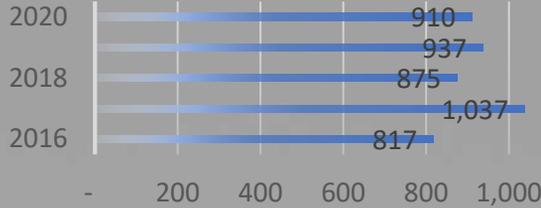


# POLICE YOUTH BUREAU

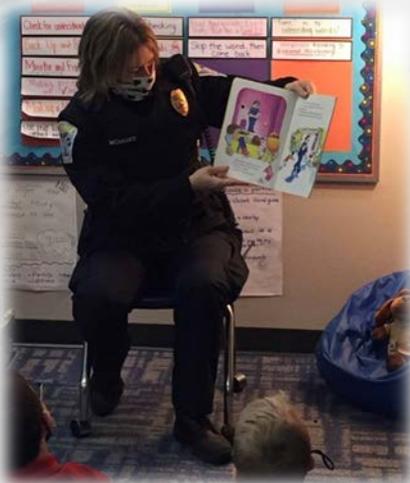


Lieutenant  
*Luke Gardiner*

## 2020 JUVENILE CITATIONS ISSUED



Supervisor  
*Luke McKay*



Bismarck Police Youth Bureau is an entity within Bismarck Police Department responsible for prevention, crisis intervention, and diversion of youth in and around the city of Bismarck. The section is commanded by Lt. Luke Gardiner, and supervised by Youth Worker Supervisor Luke McKay. Assigned to the section are 5 youth workers, who specialize in prevention of criminal behavior in youth, and diverting youth from the Juvenile Justice System. Additionally, the section has 6 School Resource Officers assigned to the Secondary Schools in collaboration with the Bismarck Public School System. This is a very unique section for any police department, and has existed since 1975. We are proud of the accomplishments of PYB!



# CRIME PREVENTION-COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



Lieutenant  
*Mike McMerty*



The Crime Prevention and Community Engagement Section is staffed by Officer Clint Fuller and Officer Caitlin Horne. It is supervised by Sgt. John Brocker and overseen by Lt. Mike McMerty.

The focus of our Community Engagement endeavors is fostering a positive relationship, and connecting us with, all members of the Community. We work to build trust and partnerships with the community by ensuring integrity and transparency in all we do. Our programs, such as Neighborhood Crime Watch, the Citizen Police Academy and Coffee with a Cop, are meant to provide education and understanding of our roles and responsibilities in and as members of the community. They provide a conduit for the community to learn about us while we, at the same time, learn about the needs and perceptions of the public we serve. The program was added to the City's Strategic Plan in 2019.



Crime Prevention provides a number of services. Presentations are available to the public, and organizations, on a wide variety of topics. They address community safety and crime prevention issues for our schools, homes, places of worship and workplaces. Examples of these presentations are Bicycle Safety, Stranger Danger, Personal Safety, Workplace Violence/Active Shooter Awareness and Scams. Our audiences range from pre-school to adults. The Crime Prevention section also administers the Business Watch program. We provide Public Service Announcements on various seasonal and recurring topics such as Vehicle Theft prevention, Halloween Safety and Winter driving tips. The section also provides security surveys for businesses, churches and homeowners. These surveys are conducted by trained officers who will assess homes or workplaces for safety and security deficiencies. They will provide suggestions on how to improve safety and security on your properties and for those who work or live there.



# TRAINING

The section is supervised by Sgt. Wardzinski and overseen by Lt. McMerty. Officer Burkhartsmeier is the training officer and he and Sgt. Wardzinski are responsible for the training and professional development of the officers. They are committed to providing the officers with the very best training opportunities available in order to perform their duties in the safest and efficient manner while providing the very best service to the public.

The training ranged from basic recruit training topics to advanced topics such as death investigation, active attack integrated response.

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. The Bismarck Police Department's officers averaged approximately 84 hours training each for 2020 alone. The total number of training hours received by our officers in 2020 was over 11,791 hours. Our department's civilian staff averaged approximately 9 hours of training each for 2020. The total number of training hours received by our civilian staff in 2020 was 269 hours.

The department's Training Section was also responsible for the training of ten 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.



Sergeant  
*Mitch Wardzinski*

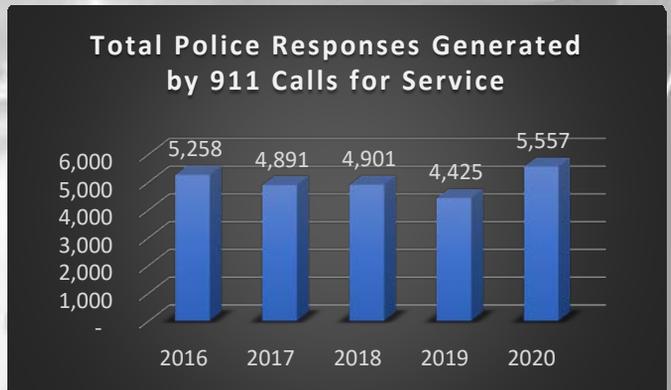


# RECORDS AND RECEPTION



Supervisor  
*Sarah Van Berkum*

The records section serves as the central repository for all incidents, accidents and all other associated documents generated by Bismarck Police Department officers. It is comprised of a civilian supervisor and seven records/reception staff. Reception deals with all incoming calls, walk in traffic and all other requests. These records allow department employees and other governmental agencies access to critical information for investigators, officers, administrators, prosecutors and the public. 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.



Case Numbers Assigned 2016-2020	
2016	23,733
2017	25,046
2018	26,601
2019	24,059
2020	23,042



# ACCREDITATION



Officer

*Amanda Gallagher*



The Bismarck Police Department participates in a national accreditation process through the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA), which is thought to be the Gold Standard in Public Safety. Accreditation embodies the precepts of community-oriented policing. It creates a forum in which law enforcement agencies and citizens work together to prevent and control challenges confronting law enforcement and provides clear direction about community expectations.

BPD has been accredited since 1991 and is currently in its 10<sup>th</sup> accreditation cycle and currently participating in the Advanced Law Enforcement Accreditation process.



# EVIDENCE SECTION



Technician

*Donna Blauvelt*



Technician

*Nick Metzger*

**POLICE LINE DO NOT CROSS POLICE LINE DO NOT CROSS POLICE LINE DO NOT CROSS**

The Evidence Section processes and maintains the integrity of all evidence for possible lab analysis or court proceedings. In addition to managing evidence, the section is also responsible for storing found property turned into the department and facilitating the release of property to the rightful owner. The section is comprised of Evidence Technicians Nicholas Metzger and Donna Blauvelt and section supervisor Sgt. John Brocker. It is overseen by Lt. Mike McMerty

In 2020, the Evidence Section received into its custody:

- 12,324 Total Items with consisted of:
- 10,388 General Evidence Items
- 1,651 Drug Items
- 132 Firearms
- 153 cash items consisting of \$167,083



# FACILITIES AND MAINTENANCE



Supervisor  
*Jeremy Kjos*

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, and two Building Service Workers. The staff is responsible for the preventive maintenance, minor construction projects, reorganization and general cleaning/upkeep of the six (6) Bismarck Police Department Facilities.

In addition to their day-to-day functions, the Facility Maintenance Section worked on the completion of a weapons cleaning room, assisted with the installation of the new evidence locker system and worked on the remodel of the Traffic section, which included making a larger traffic officer office, a traffic storage room and construction of new walls to make a Community Service Officer(s) office.

This year in particular, Maintenance was also tasked with more responsibility of the general cleaning and sanitizing of the multiple buildings due to Covid-19.



# FLEET



Lieutenant  
*Cody Trom*



Property  
Coordinator  
*Shannon Henke*

In 2020 the Bismarck Police Department was responsible for patrolling and servicing more than 375 miles of roadway with a fleet of **(77)** vehicles that are assigned to the following sections within the Bismarck Police Department: Administrative, Airport, Animal Control, ATV's, Car Marker, Crime Prevention, Detectives, Fleet, Maintenance, Patrol, Police Youth Bureau, Special Operations, Traffic, and Training. Through the 2020 changeover process Patrol replaced (6) marked patrol vehicles with AWD (all-wheel drive) Ford Interceptor Utilities. 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.

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
<b>Vehicles</b>	64	75	73	76	77
<b>Mileage</b>	886,918	914,860	859,318	905,022	909,086
<b>Fuel(gallons)</b>	70,200	83,212	77,567	68,550	68,956
<b>Fuel Cost</b>	\$148,178	\$157,936	\$189,742	\$151,841	\$112,791
<b>Maintenance</b>	\$212,152	\$99,908	\$122,127	\$134,217	\$129,204
<b>Total Cost</b>	\$360,330	\$257,845	\$311,869	\$286,058	\$241,995



# SPECIAL OPERATIONS - SWAT



Lieutenant  
*Glen Ternes*

The mission of the West Dakota SWAT Team is to support public safety entities with a technically and tactically proficient special operations team. A team capable of responding to critical incidents and community problems that are best resolved by the application of advanced tactical methods. The ultimate goal is to resolve these critical incidents with no loss of life or injury to officers, innocent persons, and suspects.

The West Dakota Swat Team/Crisis Negotiations Team is a multi-agency regional Team that includes the Bismarck Police Department, Mandan Police Department, Burleigh County Sheriff's Department and the Morton County Sheriff's Office. The response area for the team is located in the south central region of North Dakota and includes Burleigh, Morton, Grant, Emmons, McIntosh, Logan, Kidder, McLean, Wells and Sheridan counties.

The West Dakota Swat Team operates under the control of and reports to an Executive Board, which is comprised of the department head from the four participating agencies. The Executive Board meets semi-annually to review activations, training, personnel, equipment, and budget items.



The Team is comprised of thirty-one tactical officers, a tactical medic, and eleven negotiators. The rank structure of the Team consists of a Commander, Assistant Commander, Team Leaders, Assistant Team Leaders, Tactical Operators, Negotiators, and Marksman. The West Dakota Swat Team is a collateral duty team, which means all members have other primary assignments within their respective agencies.

A high percentage of incidences for which the West Dakota is activated involve armed barricaded subjects who have committed a serious criminal offense. The Team also responds to hostage rescue situations, high risk warrant service, high risk suspect apprehension, dignitary protection, and terrorism response.

The West Dakota Swat Team responded to five incidents in 2020 with four of the incidents involving armed barricaded suspects. The Team also responded to a high risk warrant service in a support role for Drug Enforcement Administration's Tactical Team.



# BOMB SQUAD



Officer  
*Kendall Vetter*



Bismarck PD Bomb Squad is a regional response team that responds to the southwestern part of North Dakota which includes coordination with 18 different counties involving 37 separate law enforcement agencies.

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

In 2020 the Bomb Squad responded at 16 calls for service involving bomb threats, pipe bombs, home made explosives, fireworks, suspicious packages, and found military ordnance. The bomb squad assisted West Dakota SWAT with 3 callouts assisting with our robots. We continue to conduct joint training with state and local agencies to assist them in responding to bomb threats and suspicious packages.

The Bomb Squad has an excellent safety record and each of these responses was completed without any injury to the Officers or the public.



# K9 TEAM



Sergeant  
*Lyle Sinclair*



The K-9 Unit consists of four dual-purpose K-9's, and their respective handlers. The four K-9's are Patrol, and Narcotics certified. The K-9 teams are utilized throughout the city as a force multiplier in assisting officers with various tasks. The K9's are routinely used for deployments related to drug detection, tracking suspects, searching buildings, locating evidence, and suspect apprehension. In 2020, the K-9 unit had 527 deployments. The unit also values public demonstrations and working with the departments School Resource Officers to assist with school searches to aid in deterring drug usage within the schools. The Bismarck Police Department K-9 program started in 1976.



**Officer Joseph Benke  
and K-9 Mesa**

148 total deployments

- o 9 apprehension assist
- o 6 building searches
- o 4 area searches
- o 130 vehicle sniffs
- o 3 tracks



**Sergeant Dan Salander  
and K-9 Bala**

168 total deployments

- o 8 perimeter assistance
- o 5 apprehension assist
- o 1 demo
- o 6 evidence recovery
- o 22 building searches
- o 4 area searches
- o 117 vehicle sniffs
- o 5 tracks



**Sergeant Garner Jones  
and K-9 Titan**

104 total deployments

- o 2 deterrent
- o 3 apprehension assist
- o 5 demo
- o 11 building searches
- o 81 vehicle sniffs
- o 2 tracks



**Officer Chris Zabel  
and K-9 Echo**

107 total deployments

- o 15 perimeter assistance
- o 4 apprehension assist
- o 8 demo
- o 65 narcotic deployments
- o 33 building searches
- o 6 tracks



# RECRUITMENT



Lieutenant  
*Roger Marks III*

Minimum requirements are:

- Must be 18 years of age with a valid driver's license
- Us citizen or proper documentation to work in the US
- 60 semester credits OR 4 years full time Military/ National Guard OR 3 years full time sworn law enforcement experience OR combination of education and relevant work experience.

Benefits:

- Starting salary range \$50,409.53 (will pay for experience)
- Pay range \$50,409.63 to \$75,614.30
- Fully paid family or single plan health insurance
- Excellent pension plan
- Paid sick, annual and holiday pay
- Education assistance & much more!



Apply with the Bismarck Police Department at [www.bismarcknd.gov/jobs](http://www.bismarcknd.gov/jobs). For more information contact Lt. Roger Marks III (701-223-1212) [rmarks@bismarcknd.gov](mailto:rmarks@bismarcknd.gov)

# CRISIS CARE CHAPLAINCY



The Crisis Care Chaplaincy currently has fourteen volunteer chaplains and one full time chaplain who provide services for 12 agencies including Bismarck Police Department. All of the chaplains are crossed trained so that they can cover calls for all agencies when the assigned chaplain is not available. There are currently 3 volunteer chaplains assigned to the Bismarck Police Department. They are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

The chaplaincy program is directly involved in and responsible for the critical incident stress management protocols that are used in the Bismarck Police Department. The chaplains will provide a Critical Incident Stress Debriefing or Defusing when called upon by the BPD. This is a valuable tool for the department that ensures the emotional, mental and spiritual health of the members of BPD so they may maintain optimal functionality.

Our chaplains also assist BPD with unattended deaths and death notifications. It is important to have a chaplain on scene during unattended deaths to help with the survivors, who maybe suffering from the shock of the death. They may say they do not need a chaplain however, in their state of mind, may not see the need while in reality; the chaplain can bring help and hope for the officers and the survivors.

During 2020 the fourteen volunteer chaplains have contributed 181 hours of work to our law enforcement officers resulting in 1150 contacts with officers. We have also given 107 hours assisting with unattended deaths and death notifications. Our paid chaplain has had 156 hours of contact with LEO's and 128 hours in assisting with unattended deaths and death notifications. The chaplaincy is also responsible for the Lights and Sirens initiative, which reminds people to say a prayer for first responders and victims when they see emergency lights and hear sirens.



# MOUNTED POLICE



Captain  
*Clarissa Goldsack*

The Bismarck Mounted Police serve as an auxiliary component of the Bismarck Police Department. They and their horses are trained in Equine Scenting Search and Rescue and can be activated to assist when needed by any Law Enforcement Agency in the State. The Mounted Police and their horses participate in several events throughout the State to help promote the positive image of North Dakota Law Enforcement and community involvement.

In 2020, the Mounted Police were not able to meet as normal due to the COVID-19 Pandemic. Participation and number of events was very limited. The Mounted Police participated in the Law Enforcement Day at Grandpa Al's Hayrides and Pumpkin Patch. Captain Goldsack and her horse Echo, who dressed as a Unicorn, represented the Mounted Police at the Lincoln PTO Halloween Trunk or Treat Event on Halloween. The Unit is hoping that they can resume normal practices and meetings in 2021.

Current active membership for 2020 was six active members, two inactive members and six 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.



# PUBLIC INFORMATION - SOCIAL MEDIA



# DEPARTMENT AWARDS

## Citizen Awards

Letter of Recognition

Dana Todd

Scott Ahman

Richard Keith

Certificate of Appreciation

Toby Neigum

Meritorious Citizen Award

Cody Bossman

## Department Awards

Letter of Recognition

Off. Mark Muscha

Off. Joseph Parsons

Life Saving Award

Off. George Huff

Distinguished Service Award

Dierdra Horner

Off. Lane Masters

Hostile Engagement Award

Det. Jeremy Curtis

Det. Brandon Rask

Off. Casey Bosch

Off. Tom Grosz

Meritorious Service Award

Sgt. Dustin Miller

Det. Lance Allerdings

Off. Mark Muscha

Off. Sheldon Welch

Off. George Huff

Sgt. Garner Jones

Off. Tyler Mahowald

Civilian Employee of the Year Nominees

Sarah Van Berkum

Dierdra Horner

Civilian Employee of the Year

Sarah Van Berkum

Sworn Employee of the Year Nominees

Off. Trevor Schmidt

Off. Brett Anderson

Off. Joseph Benke

Off. Zach Hayden

Sworn Employee of the Year

Off. Trevor Schmidt

I choose to believe. I believe in the power of a calling. I believe in honor and sacrifice, in courage through the danger and strength through the struggle. I believe in hope. I believe in the power of will, in justice, in a new day, and in making a difference. I will never stop believing no matter what comes my way. Some may hate, while others turn a blind eye. There will be burdens and risks. Loss of brothers and sisters and the challenge to keep going. No matter what confronts me, no matter the danger, I will keep my faith, my hope, and my courage.

I am a defender and a peacekeeper.



I AM A SHEEPDOG.  
Blue Line Life

# CONTACT

## Bismarck Police Department

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