



Groveport Police Department  
 Mayor Lance Westcamp  
 Chief Casey M. Adams  
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[www.groveport.org](http://www.groveport.org)

## REPORT TO: MAYOR LANCE WESTCAMP AND THE CITY OF GROVEPORT COUNCIL

Training, Officer Activities and basic report information:

MUTUAL AID CALLS			Number	REPORTED OFFENSES		Number
Franklin CO SO			0	Accidents		11
Madison TWP PD			8	Assaults		3
Madison Twp. Fire			8	Burglaries		0
Obetz PD			0	Domestic Disputes		3
CPD/ CFD/Other Agencies			1	Domestic Violence		0
Public Assistance			34	OVI and alcohol issues		2
				Theft Related/ Robberies		19
House Watches			5	Weapon Related Calls		1
Mileage			16,637	Missing Persons/Juveniles		0
				Narcotic Related Offenses		1
Sheriff's Dispatches/Self-Initiated Calls			222 / 301	School Related Dispatched Calls		2
Busiest Day			Friday	Stolen/Unauthorized Use		0
A – Reports Taken –		73 Reports	48%	Parking		4
B – Reports Taken –		66 Reports	43%	Threats		6
C – Reports Taken –		13 Reports	09%	Vandalism		3
Total Reports taken			152	Suicide (attempts)/ DOA		1
Traffic Citations			23	Sex Related Crimes		1
Training Hours			0	Arrests made		13
Referrals (FCCS)			0	Juvenile Complaints		0
Groveport Madison School District Criminal Reports			6	Groveport Madison School District Non-Criminal Reports		2
Speed Trailer				Speed Trailer		
Location	Limit	Date Start	Date End	Total vehicles	Highest Speed	Average
n/a		NA				NA
		NA				NA



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The Month of January was a very busy month for the Groveport Police Department, the police department received (222) Dispatched Calls for the month, initiated (301) Calls to Service, and completed (152) reports which comprised of criminal violations, Mutual Aid requests, Auto Accident Reports, and Non-Criminal Reports that did not meet a criminal element, but was documented in order to advise officers of potential issues in the City of Groveport.

Sgt. John Westhoven and I met with a potential vendor (GETAC) reference In Car Video Systems that will also include additional Body Cameras for our officers to utilize in the field. GETAC is also the same vendor that we are purchasing new In Car Mobile Data Systems from, and we have already put one of the four units in service, with the hopes to have the remainder of the units in service by late March 2022.

When it comes to training for 2022, Sgt. Sam Yockey and I met with an Ohio Peace Officer Training Academy Regional Director reference the mandatory Continuing Professional Training (CPT's) hours that the State of Ohio is putting in place for 2022. Each Peace Officer in the State of Ohio is required to attend 24 hours within the 2022 calendar year. Training consists of specific categories related to *Diversity & Equity, Ethics, Community Trust, Mental Health Calls, and Use of Force* issues. We were advised by the Ohio Attorney General's Office that the Groveport Police Department will be receiving \$13,466.04 to pay for these mandated training sessions, and it is our plan to apply these funds to Robert Meader LLC who will instruct at the police department, and have Robert instruct on 12 of the 24 hours of this CPT mandated training. The officers are receptive to Robert Meader and his instructional training sessions, and it keeps our officers here in Groveport, rather than traveling to different parts of the State of Ohio to meet these required training sessions. We also found that the rest of the training can be conducted via webinar session through the Ohio Peace Officer Training Academy. These webinars will take from 1 hour to 4 hours to complete, but all 24 hours must be completed by December 31<sup>st</sup> in order for our officers to remain valid Peace Officers in the State of Ohio. Sgt. S. Yockey will be coordinating these training sessions and tracking GPD Officers progress to make sure that they are compliant under the CPT Program.

The Groveport Police Department has purchased, and received (2) new 2021 Chevy Malibu's to be utilized by the Detective Bureau. These vehicles replaced 3 older vehicles that we were utilizing for several years that either had high mileage, served the police department for around a decade and were starting to develop expensive maintenance issues with steering mechanisms, traction control issues, and undependability to go outside the city for business related calls and follow-ups. It is my expectation that these new vehicles will stay in service for around 8 years before the need of being replaced. The three older vehicles that were traded in on the two new vehicles received a \$9,000 trade-in value. It is my goal that when we purchase a vehicle, then a vehicle will be taken out of service from the police department's fleet.



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When it comes to the police administrative staff, Captain Kurt Blevins is wrapping up the completion of our Groveport Police Department Policy and Procedure Manual that is developed from LEXIPOL LLC.. LEXIPOL is a well-known policy and procedure developer, and they keep up to date on any legislation and court decisions that may affect our current policies, and then adapts any inconsistency in a policy to be compliant with the Ohio Collaborative, State Legislation, and/or State/Federal Court decisions. Captain Blevins, Lt. Josh Short and myself have been working on Ohio Collaborative Group Compliance categories. These categories ensure our policies are up to date, and have required aspects to a policy that meets the State of Ohio Standards. It is my hope to have all 5 Group Categories completed by late Summer to Early Fall 2022.

I have participated in two security camera companies' presentations, these presentations were requested by Elmont Addition who is looking at ways to better monitor their neighborhood, and assist the Groveport Police Department during any type of investigation where video would assist our investigative process. So far Elmont Place has spoken to FLOCK and Motorola Solutions. Administrator B.J. King, City Engineer Steve Farst, and Public Service Director Brian Strayer have all attended these sessions to see how these camera systems would affect our city services. Elmont Addition is ready to move forward with the project at their expense, but at this time the city is looking at all issues that may hinder city services.

Finally the police department has not been immune from the new variant of Covid for the month of January, at one point we had 5 officers out on sick leave with positive tests. I feel we were fortunate to only have 5 officers off, compared to other organizations who were hit harder with Covid, our organization has kept the exposure to a minimum within the police department walls. Our staffing level has also fluctuated with other factors such as: Extended Sick Leave for a surgical procedure for Detective Del Dalton, and Ptl. Adam Greter's daughter being born in late January.



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### **Administrative Lieutenant Bary Murphy-**

In January 2022 nine new criminal cases were assigned for further follow up. One case was transmitted to the Franklin County Prosecutor's office for consideration. Sixteen subpoenas or search warrants were prepared and presented to Judges for signatures and service. Our three detectives are currently at 24 open cases between them.

### **Patrol Lieutenant Josh Short-**

#### **Sergeant's Progress**

Sgt Westhoven is now on 1<sup>st</sup> shift, Sgt Yockey on 2<sup>nd</sup> shift, and Sgt Guiler on 3<sup>rd</sup> shift. They have now spent time on all shifts and will be on this schedule until April. They have now spent time in their probationary year on every shift.

#### **New Officer's Progress**

All three of our lateral hires have passed field training and have started their probationary year. Chavez is on 2<sup>nd</sup> shift while Smith and Greter are on 3<sup>rd</sup> shift.

Shellie Rimmer, while not a new officer, has completed her re-acclimation period with Javier Herrera and starts her regular patrol shift on 2<sup>nd</sup> shift. She is a great fit and an asset to this city and we are so glad to have her back with us.

#### **Patrol Issues**

Patrol continues to monitor and address traffic concerns in the city proper, specifically on Main and in the vicinity of the Main St schools. Patrol has also assisted the detective bureau in target observation in the warehousing district in an attempt to apprehend some regular thieves that are targeting parked vehicles at the warehouses.

#### **Training**

Sgt Yockey and Lt Short have begun to implement new Agency 360 software that will assist in tracking our field training program. Officer Danny Amabile will use this new software when he coaches new lateral officer Jason Huston when he starts with us on February 3.



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### Other

Lt. Short conducted an Active Shooter training refresher with all staff at Eastland Career Center on 1/12. Short and patrol then followed up with Career Center staff and students on an active shooter/rapid response drill on 1/18.

Patrol has been assisting the High School SRO monitor and enforce zero tolerance policy on fire lane violations. Recently, emergency vehicles were unable to gain close/direct access to the front of the school due to vehicles stopped/parked in the fire lane. SRO and officer have been addressing violators and issuing citations. We have noticed a massive decline in the number of violations there over the past week. (See School Activity Report for more info on this)

Officer Kurt Boso is the School Resource Officer.

### SCHOOL ACTIVITY OF NOTE:

*italicized print = patrol response*

1/3 - SRO assisted HS security staff in breaking up/diffusing two separate fights during the school day. Prosecution declined/school discipline only.

1/5 - SRO spoke with, in presence of a high school counselor, a female student who claimed a sexual assault from a suspect near her home. Incident occurred in Columbus and was referred to CPD.

1/7 - Both HS SROs met with female student and principal after female student claimed she was assaulted by her mother at home. The residence is in Madison Township and was handled by their SRO.

1/10 - *Patrol officers took a report at Middle School South over some vague cellphone threats. Threats were not credible and it was more of an annoyance issue. Report only.*

1/12 - *Patrol officers took a report at Middle School Central over a menacing issue between two male students. Prosecution was declined/school discipline only.*

1/19 - *Patrol officer took report at Middle School South over an assault incident where a student was poked with pencils by another student. Prosecution was decline/school discipline only.*

1/21 - SRO assisted HS security breaking up fight between several students in the school rotunda. Prosecution declined/school discipline only.

1/21 - SRO spoke with HS student that felt that he was going to be prompted to fight with other students later in the day. SRO later observed and intervened when other students were attempting to get this student to fight. Prosecution declined/school discipline only.

1/24 - SRO aided HS security as the took taser off of female student who had been displaying the device in classroom and alarming other students and staff. Student was charged with disorderly conduct.

1/25 - SRO aided HS security in breaking up several fights throughout the day. Prosecution declined/school discipline only. Did follow up interviews with the taser incident. Addressed multiple fire lane violations.



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1/26 - SRO drove a male student home, to a Groveport residence, who was disrupting regular school activities. Prosecution declined/school discipline only.

1/26 - Both SROs assisted HS security breaking up a fight between two male students who became disorderly and was arrested and then resisted arrest. The SROs called for assistance from patrol units which caused a large number of Groveport and Madison TWP patrol officers to respond to the HS. Student was charged with DOC and resisting arrest. Later charged with assault on the other student by parent.

1/27 - SRO spoke with same disruptive student from previous day who was being disruptive again. SRO called for patrol assistance. Officers were able to diffuse students aggressive behavior and transport him to children's services without incident.

- Patrol units were called twice more to the school to help quell potential fights and riotous activity

1/28 - *Patrol officers were present during morning arrival and afternoon exit to assist SROs. The school also hired to officers for special duty security to monitor the lunch periods from 10a-2p on this date.*

1/31 - SRO assisted HS staff in incident where male student assaulted another male student and stole his cellphone, resulting in a robbery. Phone was recovered from suspect at his residence in Madison Township and he will be charged with robber and felonious assault.

After the incidents in the last week of January we, along with the HS admin team, decided to step up enforcement of the fire lane due to emergency response being hindered by parent's stopped/parked cars. Cones were set into the fire lane with "no parking" signs attached. SRO and patrol increased regular patrols of the area for the remainder of the week addressing violators and issuing three citations. We will continue zero tolerance enforcement during all school hours.



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This is an email sent by the High School Principal. The officers working those days and involved in these situations was:

Boso, Herrera, Ripson, Amabile, and Rimmer

On Tue, Feb 1, 2022 at 6:53 AM Paul Smathers <[paul.smathers@gocruisers.org](mailto:paul.smathers@gocruisers.org)> wrote:  
Hello Everyone,

The High School had a few challenging days last Wednesday, Thursday and Friday and I'd like to express my admiration and appreciation for the outstanding response, cooperation, and follow through with the Groveport Police Department. Several officers were helping and I'm sorry I don't have everyone's name, but everyone was a tremendous help.

We had a mentally challenged special needs student that became extremely violent towards a student and staff members last Wednesday, which resulted in us placing the school in a Stay Put Lock Down. The Groveport Police Officers handle that situation with care, respect and a calming presence. They were able to calm the student, escort him to the office, and work with him and his mother through the process. Thanks to their great work, we were able to cancel the lock down and dismiss in a timely manner.

Last Thursday, we had an emotionally disturbed special needs student that was in crisis and extremely upset and emotional. He threatened a staff member and was out of control. His mother has asked for the Groveport Police to transport him to Franklin County Children Services. The student did not want to go and especially didn't want to go with the police. The Groveport Police Officers, with Lieutenant Short, worked closely with me and we were able to build trust, calm him down, and they transported him without incident. They were really great and kept that situation from being more than it was.

Also, last Thursday, we had 10 male students get into connected but separate fights during the last two hours of school. Officer Boso requested a few more officers to come to the school to help keep students safe. We had Lieutenant Short and other officers arrive and help the admin team handle the fighters, process the situation and work with the families. They also helped us with calming our students and dismissing them without additional incidents.

Last Friday, I asked Lieutenant Short for additional support and help before school, during lunches, and at dismissal and he redirected Groveport Officers without hesitation. We had handled the fights, but we wanted to demonstrate to our students, staff and families that school safety is our highest priority. I also asked for two Special Duty Officers during our lunches and at the last minute Lieutenant Short was able to get me two volunteers (That was impressive). Last Friday, we had a few female fights, not connected to Thursday's male fights. The Groveport Police Officers spent a lot of time in our school Friday, interacting with our students, and they were great without kids. Both our staff and students have expressed how much they appreciated their help and how they felt safe with them being in our school.



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I just want to express my deepest expression of appreciation and respect for the skills, talents, and professionalism the Groveport Police Officers have as they genuinely care about this community.

THANK YOU!!!

--

**Paul Smathers**  
**Principal**  
**Groveport Madison High School**  
**4475 South Hamilton Road**  
**Groveport, OH 43125**  
**(614) 836-4964**

I would like to echo Mr. Smather's comments. We are so grateful for the support from the city and the police department. We are better together, and could not do it without you. The department is responsive, very quick to communicate, and does so much for us. There is not a day I am out at schools where I do not see some type of positive GPD presence on our school grounds.

Thank you again.

Garilee Speer Ogden  
Superintendent, Groveport Madison Local School District  
4400 Marketing Place, Suite B  
Groveport, OH 43125  
(614) 492-2520  
[www.gocruisers.org](http://www.gocruisers.org)  
"Every Student, Every Lesson, Every Day."





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### **Day Shift Patrol Sergeant John Westhoven-**

For the month of January 2022, Day shift handled two calls involving a firearm.

Groveport Police was dispatched to an accident, East bound on US 33 just past Hamilton Rd. Two vehicles were in a road rage incident that started just north of the city. During this road rage incident one driver pointed a gun at the other. The second vehicle started to record the driver pointing a gun at them. As they entered the section of 33 in Groveport, they were involved in an accident between just the two of them. Neither party was hurt but the driver was arrested for aggravated menacing and the firearm taken as evidence.

A female who resides on Wirt Rd. became depressed and upset thinking she hurt her husband's feelings. The female went up to their bedroom and fired off a single round into the wall which exited the residence towards Wirt Rd. The husband found her in the bedroom with the gun and was able to calm her down and take control of the gun before calling police. The female was taken to the hospital on an emergency admission and will face charges for discharging a firearm in the city limits. Officers checked the outside of the residence and surrounding areas and were unable to locate another contact point where the bullet may have gone.



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### **Afternoon Shift Patrol Sergeant Sam Yockey-**

January  
2022

The month of January for second shift has seen normal call volume for this time of the year. However we did have an increase in OVI related traffic accidents. There have been three OVI arrest and two of those were after the drivers were involved in single vehicle accidents.

There have been an increase in traffic enforcement from officers in various parts of the city. The most common violations have been speed, suspended operator's licenses and fictitious plates.

Officer Kevin Chavez successfully completed and passed his field training program at the beginning of the month and moved to second shift from first shift. Officer Chavez has been doing well on his first month without the supervision of a field training officer.

Officer Forrest Benner moved to second shift from third shift after the beginning of the year shift bid and is adjusting well.



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### **Mid-Night Shift Patrol Sergeant Josh Guiler-**

Duty Hours = 800	Miles = 4,539	Dispatches = 104
Calls to Service = 31	Pick-ups = 48	Traffic Stops = 21
Citations/Parking Tickets = 2	Injury Crash = 1	Incident Reports = 2
Mutual Aid(s) = 5	Building Alarms = 43	Open Buildings = 5
Suspicious Person(s) = 21	Suspicious Vehicles = 13	Business/House Checks = 848

On 01/17/2022 at 1:35am Ofc. Adam Greter was on patrol in the Grove Pointe housing development when he noticed a suspicious vehicle running and sitting by an enclosed trailer on Birch Grove Dr. @ Cypress Grove Dr. Ofc. Greter determined that the vehicle did not come back to a residence in the area and then made contact with two male occupants inside. The passenger withheld his identification and lied to Ofc. Greter. After several minutes and with the help of Ofc. Kyle Smith they were able to establish the passenger's identity. It was determined that the passenger had a previous rape conviction and had a felony first degree warrant out of Franklin County for failure to register his residence. The offender was arrested without further incident and booked into Franklin County Jail. Both officers did a great job!

On 01/28/2022 at 11:32pm Ofc. Chad Rosser was approached by a concerned citizen in the rec center parking lot who reported a male walking down the middle of Groveport Road west bound heading into the City of Groveport. Due to the extreme cold conditions and for the safety of the male, third shift officers attempted to locate him. Ofc. David Fairman located the male in front of a residence on Groveport Road at Lithopolis Road. Ofc. Fairman along with Ofc. Kyle Smith made contact with the male. After asking the male for his identification the male stated that he had a warrant for a parole violation and also had a gun on his person. Both officers were then able to retrieve a small handgun from his coat pocket without incident. After speaking with the male he stated that he came from Canal Winchester where he left his vehicle. Ofc. Smith then patrolled towards Canal Winchester due to his story not adding up looking for his vehicle. Ofc. Smith made contact with deputy sheriffs from Fairfield County who were investigating a robbery that just occurred in Walmart and also were looking for a suspect. Ofc. Smith was able to identify their robbery suspect as the male that GPD currently had in custody. The suspect was eventually turned over to Madison Twp. PD / Fairfield County. All officers did a great job by investigating a simple concern and taking another bad guy off the street before he even entered the City of Groveport!

Even with the cold weather we have seen an increase of activity. We have also started doing a monthly report to public works in reference to street lights. This month we have documented and reported seventeen lights that are currently not illuminating during the night throughout the city. We will continue to concentrate our patrols on residential streets and in businesses to deter those wishing to commit crimes in the City of Groveport.



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**Our newest Patrol Officer Jason Huston being sworn in on February 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2022 by Law Director Kevin Shannon.**





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Patrol Kevin Chavez accepts some food gift to the Groveport Police Department, the gift is a way the public shows their support to our organization, and this type of appreciation to our officers happens several times a month.





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