



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:

Department Wide Legal Update Training with Robert Meader LLC. (4 Hours for each officer @ GPD)

Social Media and Public Record Laws (Via Zoom)- Lt. Josh Short (4 hours)

Advanced Crisis Intervention Team (At Columbus Police Academy)- Ptl. Kurt Boso & Ptl. Kristin Didyk ( 8 hours each)

MUTUAL AID CALLS			Number	REPORTED OFFENSES		Number
Franklin CO SO			0	Accidents		20
Madison TWP PD			6	Assaults		4
Madison Twp. Fire			6	Burglaries		0
Obetz PD			1	Domestic Disputes		3
CPD/ CFD/Other Agencies			1	Domestic Violence		5
Public Assistance			2	OVI and alcohol issues		0
				Theft Related/ Robberies		21
House Watches			5	Weapon Related Calls		1
Mileage			17124	Missing Persons/Juveniles		1
				Narcotic Related Offenses		1
Sheriff's Dispatches/Self-Initiated Calls			268/323	School Related Dispatched Calls		
Busiest Day			Friday	Stolen/Unauthorized Use		1
A – Reports Taken – 54 reports			36.7%	Parking		1
B – Reports Taken – 70 reports			47.7%	Threats		2
C – Reports Taken – 23 reports			15.6%	Vandalism		2
Total Reports taken			147	Suicide (attempts)/ DOA		1
Traffic Citations			11	Sex Related Crimes		2
Training Hours			112 hours	Arrests made		10
Referrals (FCCS)			1	Juvenile Complaints		1
Groveport Madison School District Criminal Reports			13	Groveport Madison School District Non-Criminal Reports		
Patrol Hours Groveport Madison High School			144	Patrol Hours Groveport Madison Middle School South		12-16
Patrol Hours Groveport Madison Middle School Central			12-16	Patrol Hours Groveport Elementary		12-16
Patrol Hours Glendening Elementary			12-16	Patrol Hours Other School		
Speed Trailer				Speed Trailer		
Location	Limit	Date Start	Date End	Total vehicles	Highest Speed	Average
		NA				NA
		NA				NA



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### **GROVEPORT MADISON SCHOOLS RESOURCE OFFICER ACTIVITY**

9/1/21-9/30/21

SRO Boso, per recent agreement between the City and school district, spent all of September at the High School and did not leave to visit the other GM buildings. Patrol officers continue to provide traffic and foot patrol at the two elementary and two middle schools spending 3-4 hours per week at those schools. Patrol officers responded to Middle School South and recovered a student listed as a missing juvenile and released him to his father after conferring with Columbus PD. Officers responded to a call of a suicidal student there and upon speaking with the child found that he had been abused at home by a male family member. Our officers assisted Madison Township in arresting the family member and released the student to Franklin County CID. Our officers also responded there on the report of an assault on a student by another student which resulted in the issuing of a summons for assault into juvenile court. Officer responded to Glendening Elementary on report of a student who had brought a toy gun to school and had made threats to another student. This was handled within the school. Officers responded to Middle school Central on a custody issue in which one parent was issued a criminal summons for interference of custody by the other parent. The children in question were students.

#### **SRO ACTIVITY OF NOTE:**

9/3 – assisted administrator w/ a student that had walked out  
9/7 – assisted school security in breaking up a brewing fight  
9/8 – SRO, Lt Short, and Chief Adams met with MTPD and school officials to discuss SRO contract  
9/9 – assisted Admin w/ an upset student and talked with a parent about a bullying situation  
9/10 – assisted in dealing with a student that had pills. Pills ended up being ibuprofen  
9/15 – assisted security in breaking up a fight  
9/16 – mediated a dispute over property between two students  
9/20 – spoke to a parent concerned with her student's safety  
9/21 – assisted with an ill student that was transported out by medic  
9/22 – spoke with mother of student having trouble with social media posts  
9/29 – called to assist with a suicidal student. Released student to Franklin County CID

#### **SRO Reports:**

Theft (x2)  
DOC/Resisting Arrest (charges filed)  
Assault (charges filed)  
Felony Assault on Teacher(charges filed)  
Suicidal Student x 2 (transported by CID)  
Report of Student w/ Knife (unfounded)  
Report of Student w/ Gun (unfounded)  
Robbery Warrant Arrest on Student x 2 (released to OSU PD)  
Menacing Threats on Social Media (unfounded)  
Marijuana found on student (impounded for destruction. School discipline)

**Prepared By: Lt. Josh Short**



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The Groveport Police Department conducted mandated training on September 22<sup>nd</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup>, 2021 at the Groveport Police Department Roll Call Room. Each officer received 4 hours of Legal Updates from the Robert Meader LLC., this training was based on local and federal court decisions, our policies in the LEXIPOL Policy and Procedure Manual, and legal trends that all law enforcement agencies will face when dealing with Search and Seizure and Use of Force Procedures when interacting with the public. After evaluating the evaluations that Groveport Police Department Personnel completed, it was the overwhelming feeling by the officers that this type of In-House Training is beneficial to the officers of our police department, and the instructor Robert Meader kept us engaged by bringing in scenario based training on situations we may encounter on the street.

I am looking forward to working with Robert Meader LLC. in 2022 when it comes to the mandated 24 hours of Continuing Professional Training from the Ohio Peace Officer Training Academy. The 24 hours or 6 training courses will be based on Use of Force matters, Human Relations when dealing with the public, and Legal Updates when it comes to our job responsibilities when encountering de-escalation techniques in stressful situations in society. These training hours will be refundable up to 50% of officer salary or cost of the course according to the legislation, and after researching the price of what it will cost the entire police department, I have a rough cost estimate of \$21,000 to provide this mandated training. It is my hope to conduct a majority of these training ours in house and/or via electronically while officers are on duty to limit time away from the city.

For the remainder of 2021, I have scheduled our new Patrol Sergeants with training hours on Supervisor Liability when dealing with police department personnel and the public, they have also been scheduled training when it comes to Incident Command Structure during critical incidents and special city events that will require our supervisors to evaluate and deploy resources during these types of events. I have also registered several officers looking to further their knowledge base on criminal investigations, we are also looking for our next generation of firearms instructors to help with future vacancies in the Firearms Bureau which will be facing multiple vacancies in the next couple of years. Finally, I have Lt. Josh Short working on filling openings at the Columbus Police Department Crisis Intervention Team Training Program (CIT), this training has already been applied out in the field as officers' deal with individuals experiencing mental health and chemical dependency crisis situations. Our now certified CIT trained officers have come to me and Lt. Short stating their strong belief that all GPD Personnel should attend and be certified as CIT Officers in order to deal with the publics need to better understand and deal with individuals in stressful situations.



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As you know, the Groveport Imagine Schools traffic congestion has caused many complaints about traffic backups which has caused a domino effect to the businesses surrounding the school buildings. The businesses along Venture Place have experienced delays and/or cancellations in their shipments (in/out of their business), which have caused complications to their operations. I have met with our City Administration Team including Administrator B.J. King, Law Director Kevin Shannon and City Engineer Steve Farst, there is a consensus that this traffic congestion is unacceptable to the drivers operating on State Route 317 and Venture Place daily, and maneuvering through the traffic delays caused by the amount of cars navigating in and out of Venture Place has already and can lead to more traffic accidents. It is the observation of the Groveport Police Department and Madison Township Fire Department Fire Marshall Scott Hite that the congestion is due to a higher than normal vehicle traffic pattern on Venture Place, and that the vehicles are strictly using the roadway without entering the Groveport Imagine Charter Schools property. I have spoken to one of Imagine Schools Vice President's in charge of facilities, their explanation to this problem is not having enough busing for their students, and that a traffic light on State Route 317 at Venture Place would alleviate a lot of this congestion.

During an evaluation discussion with businesses along Venture Place, I discovered a consistent concern and frustration of this traffic congestion that would normally lasted a week or two at the beginning of the school year. This year we are 4 to 6 weeks into Groveport Imagine Schools traffic causing delays and unsafe traffic patterns in and around the Venture Place and State Route 317 corridor. Owners and managers of the businesses advised traffic congestion starts around 6:45 am to 8 am in the mornings, then again at 1:15 pm to 3:30 pm in the afternoons (parking on the roadway which hinders the movement of vehicle traffic), and that the congestion brings concerns of just not only delays in their business operations, but also safety concerns of delayed police or fire/medical services needed for their establishments. The roadway is meant for two lanes of travel, but we have observed school buses, construction equipment and semi-trucks creating a third lane down the middle to maneuver around stopped traffic. The congestion also causes delays of employees showing up for work on time, if employees are stopped in traffic and show up late, the businesses face unplanned overtime costs and cancelled orders coming from their deliveries to customers expecting product at designated times.

Groveport Imagine Schools Administrative Team met with myself, Law Director Kevin Shannon, and Madison Township Fire Marshall Scott Hite on Tuesday, September 28<sup>th</sup>, 2021 via Zoom Conference Call. They expressed their frustration with the situation that continues, and they even cancelled classes on this date in order to problem solve the situation. They expressed their wishes to work with the City of Groveport, Madison Township Fire Department, the State of Ohio Department of Transportation, and the Groveport Madison School District to hopefully find a short term and long term solution to this problem. They presented a couple plans to divert their school traffic onto their properties at 4085 Venture Place and 4485 S. Hamilton Road, they are also trying to work with the school districts that would normally provide busing services to their schools, and find ways to get back to providing normal



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busing for their students (normally they would have 20 buses, currently they only have 9 buses delivering students).

Law Director Kevin Shannon and I will work with Administrator B.J. King and City Engineer Steve Farst to evaluate some of the solutions Groveport Imagine Schools presented in regards to traffic flow in and around Venture Place for the short term and long term safety of all travelers to the area. For the time being, Groveport Imagine Schools established new traffic flow protocols to parents and staff on Wednesday, September 29<sup>th</sup>, 2021; the solution to move all school traffic on their properties has alleviated a large portion of the congestion, and decreased wait time in and out of Venture Place. I will go back to the neighboring businesses over the next few weeks to see how the new traffic pattern has affected their operation (positive or negative outcome), and see if there are any other solutions to streamline the traffic flow.



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Finally, I was asked to nominate one of our officer's for the Franklin County STAR Award for 2021. As you may remember, Chief Ralph Portier received the STAR Award for 2020 for his dedication to our agency and agencies across the State of Ohio. For 2021 I nominated Ptl. Ryan Ripson for his quick actions on January 21<sup>st</sup>, 2021. This nomination has not only lead to Ptl. Ripson receiving the STAR Award from the Franklin County Sheriff Dallas Baldwin (October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2021), but I have received word from the Central Ohio Crime Stoppers that they are also presenting Ptl. Ryan Ripson with an award after reading about Ptl. Ryan Ripson's actions during this injury traffic accident in Blacklick Creek under State Route 317. Ptl Ripson will be receiving both awards in October before other law enforcement officials and agencies, and I am extremely proud of Ptl Ryan Ripson for his dedication to the City of Groveport and the individuals who live and work in our city that Ptl. Ripson has sworn to protect and serve.

I have attached a copy of the nomination that was sent to the Franklin County Sheriff's Office and Central Ohio Crime Stoppers.

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On January 21<sup>st</sup>, 2021 @ 7am; Ptl. Ryan Ripson was dispatched to S. Hamilton Road in the City of Groveport on a reported injury auto accident where the vehicle left the roadway. Upon arrival Groveport Police Officers discovered that the driver lost control between two bridges, which lead the vehicle down a 3 story drop into Blacklick Creek, and the vehicle was in at least 3 foot deep water approximately 30 yards from the shore line. On that day, the outside temperature was in the mid to high 20 degree Fahrenheit range, and the water temperature was likely around freezing, if not colder. As Ptl. Ripson arrived to the scene, he could only see the vehicle's roof top due to the rest of the vehicle being submerged under water, he observed the female driver struggling to exit the vehicle's driver side window in order to get out of the frigid water, and the vehicle was still sinking in the muddy bottom of the creek.

Ptl. Ryan Ripson could see that the driver was struggling in the cold weather and frigid water temperature, and attempts to throwing a life jacket to the driver were unsuccessful. Without hesitation Ptl. Ripson decided the best course of action was to enter the frigid water himself, and go to the stranded female in order to check on her well-being to make sure she had not sustain serious injuries. According to Ptl. Ripson "the water was so cold, it took my breath away, and the footing of the creek was muddy and difficult, so I assisted her wading back to the creek bank after reaching the vehicle and checking on the female driver." Ptl. Ripson's actions were risky due to the temperature of the water, but as Chief Ralph Portier stated " Ptl. Ripson did not have a second thought about going into help, it's a decision he made from the heart, and it's something that cannot be trained."

After this incident ended and the scene was secured, Ptl. Ryan Ripson as usual did not want recognition for his actions, he just want to go home, take a shower, put a clean uniform on, and go back to work..

Respectfully,

Chief Casey M. Adams  
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**Groveport Imagine Schools**

4485 S. Hamilton Road and 4085 Venture Place

**TRAFFIC CONGESTION NEAR  
GROVEPORT COMMUNITY SCHOOL**

**PRESENTATION TO CHIEF ADAMS**

**September 28, 2021**

Presented by:  
Arthur L. (Tim) Clements, III  
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## Source of the Congestion

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2020 20 yellow buses

2021 9 yellow buses

Parents fear of COVID



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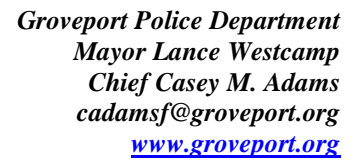




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Parents begin arriving at 6:15

Traffic backed up to the Dr's office: 6:45

Traffic backed up to Hamilton Rd 7:10

Traffic wanting to turn left at Hamilton causes a back-up for exiting traffic which is





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