



Groveport Police Department
 Mayor Lance Westcamp
 Chief Ralph Portier
 chief@groveport.org
www.groveport.org

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

October - 2020 – Training, Officer Activities and basic report information:

MUTUAL AID CALLS		Number	REPORTED OFFENSES	Number		
Franklin CO SO		2	Accidents	27		
Madison TWP PD		17	Assaults	1		
Madison Twp. Fire		3	Burglaries	2		
Obetz PD		4	Domestic Disputes	4		
CPD/ CFD/Other Agencies		3	Domestic Violence	1		
Public Assistance		17	OVI and alcohol issues	0		
			Theft Related/ Robberies	12/1		
House Watches		3	Weapon Related Calls	2		
Mileage		16,593	Missing Persons/Juveniles	0		
			Narcotic Related Offenses	2		
Sheriff's Dispatches & Self-Initiated Calls to Service		242 345	School Related Incidents	0		
Busiest Day Monday		21%	Stolen/Unauthorized Use	1		
Friday		18%				
Thursday		18%				
A – Reports Taken – 36.3%		65	Parking	6		
B – Reports Taken – 51.5%		92	Threats	6		
C – Reports Taken – 12.2%		22	Vandalism	2		
Total Reports taken		179	Suicide (attempts)/ DOA	2 / 3		
Traffic Citations		48	Sex Related Crimes	0		
Training Hours		16	Arrests made	12		
Referrals (FCCS)		0	Juvenile Complaints	0		
Speed Trailer			Speed Trailer			
Location	Limit	Date Start	Date End	Total vehicles	Highest Speed	Average
Directors Blvd	25	Sept. 24 th	October 15 th	8,802	60 mph	25 mph
■	■	■				■



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The Groveport Police Department has had a busy October 2020; we started out the month with the Support the First Responders Demonstration March that took place on October 3rd, and the march lasted approximately one hour with the demonstrators utilizing the city's sidewalks along Main Street.

On October 10th we provided traffic control along Wirt Road (Road-Closure) during the Apple Butter Day product pick-up @ Heritage Park, and again there were no issues or delays in city services.

On October 16th Chief Ralph Portier received the STAR award for his Selfless Teamwork Accountability and Respect to the City of Groveport and the policing community as a whole here in the State of Ohio. The award was sponsored by the Franklin County Sheriff's Department and presented by Sheriff Dallas Baldwin.

October 19th thru October 28th the City of Groveport experienced a sudden and with little notice detour of traffic from North bound Alum Creek Drive @ Bixby Road that caused long periods of traffic congestion in the mornings and afternoons. With the steady and heavy traffic congestion, officers were tied up with a total of 3-reported non-injury auto accidents and 6-injury auto accidents causing further delays to people traveling thru the city. We observed both East and West bound lanes of Groveport Road in gridlock from 3pm to 7pm during this time, SR 317 would be backed up from US 33 to Rohr Road at times in the North bound lanes of travel on SR 317. Officers had to spread out and attempt to avoid the traffic congestion in order to handle call loads during the peak time of rush-hour traffic.

October 27th and October 30th the Groveport Elementary teachers and students continued a time honored tradition of walking the Halloween Costume Parade on Main Street in the area around the Townhall. We discovered that utilizing a South route from Main Street was just as effective and allowed parents and onlookers to park and watch from the municipal parking lot and Kids Space Lot as the children utilized the sidewalk along Wirt Road. This also allowed traffic on Main Street to open up quicker than in years past, and I feel that this route is safer for the children due to avoiding heavy vehicle traffic on Main Street.



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We also had two separate incidents that shows Groveport is not immune to serious criminal acts involving weapons. On October 19th in the area of College Street and Cherry Street a verbal confrontation between two individuals lead to one individual firing his handgun multiple times, striking a home as he drove away. No injuries occurred, our detective bureau investigated the incident, and forward the case to the Franklin County Prosecutor's Office which will present the case to the Grand Jury in the near future. On October 23rd another individual attempted to use force to steal two vehicles, and even displayed a knife to one of the victims at the carwash on Green Pointe Drive North in order to steal their vehicle. Ultimately the suspect fled the area on foot, was later captured the following day in another suburb. The individual was arrested after an investigation was conducted by our detective bureau and day shift officers, and we just received word that the individual was indicted by the Franklin County Grand Jury on two counts of Aggravated Robbery.

Neither suspect from either case was from the Groveport area, but they just wandered into our city and committed a violent criminal act that could have harmed a citizen of Groveport. Due to the great teamwork between the Patrol Bureau and Detective Bureau, we were able to discover who the suspects were and put together criminal cases that the Franklin County Prosecutor's Office can present to the Grand Jury, and hopefully get indictments on in the near future.

I would like to also thank Administrator B.J. King, Finance Director Jason Carr and Facilities Director Tom Byrnes on finding a solution to our police department's ongoing issues with the Groveport Police Radio Channel. The collaboration between department heads allowed for me to look at different sites and determine the Groveport Townhall would give us needed elevation for the radio antenna signal, be able to utilize existing funds in the 2020 Police Maintenance Budget, and provide a location on the Northwest corner of the Townhall that will allow for better signal strength and yet not take away from the historical character of the building.

Finally, as we all know, Halloween was delayed from Thursday, October 29th to Saturday, October 31st due to the continuous rainy weather conditions on Thursday. The alternate date of Saturday ended up being ideal weather for the children wanting a sense of normalcy in today's Covid-19 world. My observations driving around the different parts of the city were that we still saw significant less participants during the Saturday date, but ultimately it was successful by watching children having fun trick-or-treating and nobody getting hurt or lost/missing during the event.