



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: December 2021

MUTUAL AID CALLS			Number	REPORTED OFFENSES		Number
Franklin CO SO			2	Accidents		21
Madison TWP PD			15	Assaults		3
Madison Twp. Fire			6	Burglaries		1
Obetz PD			2	Domestic Disputes		5
CPD/ CFD/Other Agencies			3	Domestic Violence		4
Public Assistance			1	OVI and alcohol issues		0
				Theft Related/ Robberies		13
House Watches			9	Weapon Related Calls		2
Mileage			209,162	Missing Persons/Juveniles		0
				Narcotic Related Offenses		3
Sheriff's Dispatches/Self-Initiated Calls			212 / 346	School Related Dispatched Calls		2
Busiest Day			Tuesday	Stolen/Unauthorized Use		1
A – Reports Taken – 36%			49	Parking		11
B – Reports Taken – 45%			60	Threats		6
C – Reports Taken – 19%			26	Vandalism		1
Total Reports taken			135	Suicide (attempts)/ DOA		1
Traffic Citations			15	Sex Related Crimes		0
Training Hours			88	Arrests made		15
Referrals (FCCS)			0	Juvenile Complaints		1
Groveport Madison School District Criminal Reports			2	Groveport Madison School District Non-Criminal Reports		
Speed Trailer				Speed Trailer		
Location	Limit	Date Start	Date End	Total vehicles	Highest Speed	Average
		NA				NA
		NA				NA



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The Groveport Police Department had another busy month with two shootings that resulted in two Felony Arrests after completing thorough investigations by the Patrol and Detective Bureaus. During both shooting incidents and investigations, Ptl. Ernie Bell, Ptl. David Fairman, Ptl. Kyle Smith, Detective Josh Gilbert and Detective Delbert Dalton truly exhibited teamwork to make sure that everyone was safe and injury free. The patrol officers and detectives secured the crime scenes and were able to develop leads to successfully make arrests and obtain a Grand Jury Indictments on both suspects who were not from the Groveport area, but coming from the City of Columbus to commit these crimes that could have ended a person(s) life. Both investigations approximately took up to 80 man power hours to complete and submit to the Franklin County Prosecutors Office.

After an extremely busy November 2021 when it came to automobile accidents, the month of December seem to see some stability in comparing December 2021 to December 2020 statistics. For December 2020 the Groveport Police Department completed 21 Automobile Accident Reports, which was the exact figure for December 2021.

For the month of December, the Groveport Police Department completed 88 hours of training which included Incident Command System Training from two of our newest Patrol Sergeants, and the other Patrol Sergeant completed Firearms Range Master Course that now gives another Firearms Range Officer to take the place of Sgt. Lou Chan who retired on January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

Sgt. Lou Chan has officially retired as of January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2022, Sgt. Chan committed himself to the Village and City of Groveport for 25 years, and at this point Sgt. Josh Guiler is now filling Sgt. Chan's shoes when it comes to supervising Mid-Night Shift and taking over Sgt. Chan's responsibility of making sure that our officers complete the mandatory Firearms Range Qualifications and look at different ways to train our officers in Firearms Tactics and Use of Force policy compliance.

Mayor Lance Westcamp, Administrator BJ King and myself interviewed three candidates to fill the opening created by Sgt. Chan's retirement. This individual will be filling a patrol officer's position that will give our city additional street patrol coverage. After sitting down and conducting the interviews, Mayor Westcamp consulted with Admin. King and myself, and Mayor Westcamp has offered a Conditional Offer of Employment to Jason Huston who is currently employed with the Madison Township Police Department, Jason Huston will bring over 10 years of full-time service to our agency after serving the Franklin Township Police Department and Madison Township Police Department. I am excited for Jason due to him being previously a Reserve/Auxiliary Officer with the Groveport Police Department for over a year(2009-2010), I feel that Mayor Westcamp has made an excellent choice with Jason due to my knowledge of Jason's dedication to the "Community Policing Philosophy", and he will be an individual who will fit in with the officers of the Groveport Police Department.



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Officers have been active during the Holiday Season by participating in City and School Events to help promote the Holiday Season. Events that were attended by Groveport Police Department Personnel ranged from the Christmas Book Reading at the Townhall, to attempting to capture the Grinch at the Groveport Elementary, and the "Who Stole the Gingerbread Cookies" mystery investigation at Glendening Elementary. Officers also assisted in the city tree lighting by escorting Santa to Heritage Park. This was a wonderful way to bring Ptl. Shellie Rimmer back to Groveport after her military deployment. Ptl. Rimmer enjoyed taking part in the Christmas Story Book Readings (along with several other GPD Personnel) at the Townhall, and as she told me, it was a way to have a sense of normalcy in her life after being gone for such a long time.

Finally, the Groveport Police Department has been struck by the Covid Outbreak. Currently we have four officers out on sick leave with Positive Tests and Symptoms for Covid 19. We are anticipating 3 of the four returning in the next week (After following the CDC Guidelines), I have taken steps to separate all of our employees into different sections of our police building to limit the officers being in close contact with each other, and making sure that they wear mask not only in the city buildings, but also out in the public buildings while they are on duty.



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Sgt. Josh Guiler Report-

### **Third Shift Patrol December Report 2021**

Duty Hours = 587

Miles = 4,055

Dispatches = 74

Pick-up's = 40 (This includes 19 traffic stops)

Calls to Service = 4

Incident Reports = 11

Crash Reports = 3

Injury Crash = 1

Citations/Parking Tickets = 1

Third shift focuses on neighborhoods along with new construction sites to deter thefts that seem to occur when the sun goes down. We are still getting occasional catalytic converter thefts within our warehouse districts and thefts from new warehouse construction sites.

On 12/17/21 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> shift officers were involved in a domestic violence situation where a shot was fired on the lot of the rec center. Ptl. Amabile was able to locate the suspect driving within our city and did attempt to make a traffic stop. The suspect did not comply and ended up leading our officers on a lower speed pursuit where he subsequently crashed and then fled on foot. A firearm was recovered and so was the suspect. Our officers did an excellent job during this tense situation. I commend them all on a job well done.



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Sgt. John Westhoven-

During the month of December, Second Shift responded to two different shooting calls.

The first was on Whispering Falls Dr. where a suspect shot several times into the home knowing at least three people were inside. One shot also struck a neighboring home and entered an upstairs bedroom. No injuries resulted from this incident and a warrant was filled for the suspect.

The second occurred at the city recreation center. A male was harassing and following his girlfriend from the golf course to the rec. center. While in the parking lot of the rec. center, the female heard a gunshot and left the area calling 911. Officers located the suspect vehicle and attempted to make a traffic stop. The suspect fled from officers for several miles into the city of Columbus. The suspect was involved in a traffic crash but was still able to exit his vehicle and flee on foot. After a short time, the Ohio State Highway Patrol Helicopter was able to locate the suspect lying down and hiding. He was taken into custody without further incident.

December was also the last month for all Probationary Officers to be with their Field Training Officers.



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Sgt. Sam Yockey-

The month of December had a lower call volume than normal. First shift Officers and Lt. Short took advantage of this and had extra time to spend doing Christmas activities with local school children. Officers went to two local elementary schools and chased the Grinch around the school which the children seemed to greatly enjoy. Officers also read multiple Christmas books to children at Groveport Town Hall.

One notable incident from the month was a call to a local church that a woman was outside breaking the window with an object trying to get in. A detective and officers were able to arrive on scene in time to prevent the woman from entering the church or causing harm to the worker who was inside. While placing the woman under arrest she did kick an Officer however luckily he was not injured. The woman was charged accordingly however the charges were not pursued by Franklin County Courts because of her culpable mental state.

Officers have spent time monitoring traffic in the school zones while school was still in session. Officer Herrera has been assigned to helping Officer Rimmer get acclimated to the job after her return from military leave. Officer Herrera is a great mentor to Officer Rimmer and she is doing very well. Officer Ripson was Officer Chavez's FTO for the month and reports that he is doing very well. Officer Ripson is a great Field Training Officer for the department.



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Lt. Josh Short-

### **Sergeant's Progress**

The sergeants are progressing as expected. Earlier this month Sgt Guiler switched to third shift and Sgt Yockey switched to first shift. Their transition was seamless and they are meshing well with the shift officers. All Sergeants will be moving to new shifts on January 6<sup>th</sup> for continuance of their probationary period.

Sgt Yockey completed his firearms instructor course and will be able to assist our current range officers with firearms training.

Sgt Westhoven and Sgt Guiler both attended and completed some advanced Emergency Management training this month that will allow them to better assist us in management in event of a serious incident or community crisis.

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

Our new officers continue to perform well and are expected to pass their training and start their probationary time on their shift assignments on January 6<sup>th</sup>. So far we have been very fortunate that we have been able to positively add to our manpower through the lateral hire program.

### **Patrol Issues**

There are no significant patrol issues at this time. With the departmental shift change taking place on January 6 the sergeants have been instructed to identify areas of concern and regular patrol needs/tasks for each shift and to develop a check list to aid officers in addressing these issues throughout their work day. Each shift has unique requirements and we want to ensure that we maintain the high expectations our community places upon us.

### **Special Duty**

We completed the special duty assignments with Radial and Gap with no incidents. The companies were invoiced and the officers that worked Radial have already received their checks. Gap's Security Director states that he should have checks sent out to our officer next week.

### **Speed Trailer**

Mr. Strayer has communicated with TrafficLogix and has gotten the necessary parts to repair the trailer. There are still a few issues but we are making good progress to get everything resolved within the next couple of weeks.

### **Training**

There was no scheduled training for December. However, Sgt Yockey has assumed the role of training coordinator and has been researching the State's mandatory training criteria for 2022. Sgt Yockey is working to define exactly what training is required and where we might find acceptable instruction.





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### **Other**

Lt. Short conducted an Active Shooter training refresher at Madison Christian School on 12/8. This was to touch base with staff that have had this training previously and to bring new staff up to speed on the schools procedures. Patrolman Fairman has been attending these trainings with Lt Short so that he can eventually assist with these types of trainings and conduct them on his own.

Throughout the weeks of December 6-17 officer were happy to participate in the elementary school reading program at town hall. Our officers really enjoyed reading Christmas books to the children and were happy to be invited.

On 12/17 officers visited Groveport Elementary and Glendening with a HS staff member (Krena Hubner) dressed as the Grinch. Officers chased the Grinch around the building as she caused mischief. They kids and staff had a great time and we had a lot of positive feedback.







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### SCHOOL ACTIVITY OF NOTE:

*italicized print = patrol response*

12/1

- SRO transported a Middle School student to Central after he had shown up at the HS with the morning transport

12/2

- SRO dealt with parents/students over a possibly stolen phone issue.
- SRO assisted security/staff in breaking up fight amongst students X 2
- *Patrol took report from parent of student that had been assaulted at the HS. SRO filed assault charges thru juvenile court.*
- *Patrol officer spoke with Principal at Glendenning and trespassed a mother of a student that had gained entry to the school and caused problems with staff.*

12/3

- *Patrol took report from Principal who had found marijuana edibles on student. Edibles were impounded and student was transported to Children's Services and a file was initiated due to custodial issue with absent parents*
- SRO assisted security/staff in breaking up fight amongst students X 2

12/6

- SRO met with parents of student reference a possible assault

12/7

- *Patrol took report from parent of HS student over stolen cellphone*
- *Patrol took report about social media threat to HS. Detective Bureau and C co officers were able to develop and interview suspect. Suspect was suspended from school and Felony 2 Inducing Panic Charges were filed through juvenile court.*
- SRO met with parent of student on "bullying" issues.
- SRO fielded phone call from parent concerned about students carrying airsoft guns

12/8

- SRO fielded multiple calls from parents and officers from other agencies reference the social media threat from 12/7

12/9

- SRO helped a group of female students resolve some neighborhood issues that had turned into a verbal dispute before it could develop into a fight



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- SRO observed what he thought may be a drug deal in a student bathroom. No drugs were found and students were referred to school admin
- SRO was called to principal's office to stand-by for student who was being disrespectful and non-compliant with staff

12/13 – Online only for HS. K-8 still in person.

- SRO spent morning hours at HS while limited # of students were present for in-person testing. After about 11am SRO then spent time in the Main St and Glendening school.

12/21

- *Lt Short received nighttime phone call from HS cheer coach and a HS principal reference a female student that had sent emails to school staff intimating self harm. It was determined that student lived in Madison Township and principal was advised to phone the Sheriff's officer to have an officer respond to the home. A subsequent follow-up from Short to the coach found that officers determined that the student was not suicidal and mother stated she was going to get the student into counseling.*

On 12/3 SRO Boso and Madison Township SRO Mallory, with the help of Jessy Woodworth, Communications Specialist with Madison Township, created a video on Social Media safety. This video will be used at the HS to help educate the students on safer social media and cellphone app usage.