

Groveport Police Department



*City Council Report
Mayor Lance Westcamp
Groveport City Council*

Casey M. Adams, Chief of Police
cadams@groveport.org

Training, Officer Activities and monthly report information: **March 2024**

Calls to Service & Incident Reports	Number	Calls to Service & Incident Reports	Number
Franklin CO SO Mutual Aid	0	Accidents	11
Madison TWP PD Mutual Aid	1	House Watches	4
Madison Twp. Fire Mutual Aid	0	Public Assist	19
Obetz PD Mutual Aid	2	Domestic Violence/Dispute	3
CPD/ CFD/Other Agencies Mutual Aid	2	Burglary Related Call(s)	1
911 Hang Up	5	OVI Arrest	1
Residential/Business Alarm Response	59	Larceny/Robbery	8
Animal Complaints	2	Weapon Related Calls (Gun/Knife/ETC)	1
Mileage	19,610	Missing Persons/Juveniles	1
Call Party by Phone	7	Disabled Vehicle/Stranded Motorists	3
Sheriff's Dispatches/Self-Initiated Calls	205 / 357	School Related Dispatched Calls	15
Follow-Up on Previous Call to Service	8	Stolen/Unauthorized Use	2
Day Shift % of Calls to Service	21%	Suspicious Peron(s)/Vehicle(s)	18
Afternoon Shift % of Calls to Service	44%	Threats/Harassment Calls to Service	3
Mid-Night Shift % of Calls to Service	36%	Vandalism	2
Investigate Unknown Complaint	9	Suicide (attempts)/ DOA/Mental Health Call/Overdose Related Calls to Service	3
Traffic Citations/Traffic Stops	26/98	Sex Related Crimes	1
Training Hours	160	Arrests made	5
Referrals (FCCS)	1	Juvenile Complaints	1
Drunk/Disorderly Conduct Related	2	Assault	7
Neighborhood Complaint	3	Open Door/Building Call to Service	4
Calls to Service/Incident Reports	419 / 79	Other:	3

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Groveport Patrol Operations Liaison Report

Prepared By: Ptl. Javier Herrera

Month: March 2024

Liaison Monthly Activities		
Court Activity Related Time	8 Hours Court Duties	
School Activity Related Time	3 Hours School Related Activities	
Community Relations Activity Related Time	4 Hours on Community Relations Activity	
School Visits by Liaison	Number of Visits	Total Time
Groveport Madison High School	5	2.5 Hours
Groveport Madison Middle School Central	9	3 Hours
Groveport Madison Middle School South	5	2 Hours
Groveport Elementary	4	1 Hour
Glendening Elementary	6	2 Hours
Cruiser Academy	2	½ Hours
Eastland Career Center	3	1.5 Hours
Madison Christian High/Middle School	3	¾ Hour
Madison Christian Elementary School	3	¾ Hour
Imagine Schools Middle School	2	½ Hour
Imagine Schools Elementary	2	½ Hou
Other	3	1.5 hours

Liaison Comments & Notable Events for Monthly Report:

- Assist with delivering food to the kids in school with Lt. Josh Short
- ATV Patrol
- Assist with Retired Sgt. Gary McDonald's Funeral Detail

Groveport Madison High School Resource Officer Report- Ptl. Kurt Boso

Nothing to Report for the Month of March



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Shift Activity for March-

Day shift conducted 31 traffic stop, 6 citations, 14 incident reports and 1 criminal arrest. The criminal incident involved a male subject entering the Eastland Career Center during the evening adult class session, going into the Nurse's Station and falling asleep overnight, where school staff found him the following morning. It is believed that the individual was homeless, he refused to leave upon school staff members request, and was placed under arrest.

Afternoon shift conducted 85 traffic stops, 15 citations, 39 incident reports and 2 criminal arrests. The shift encountered a robbery that took place inside Madison Township off of Front Street, the suspects who were juveniles fled back into our jurisdiction where they hid off of Grove Street, and the individual who was robbed pulled out a 9mm carbine rifle and fired several shots at the juveniles who robbed him. Fortunately, no one was struck by the gunfire, the adult shooter was found and arrested on felony charges.

Night shift conducted 142 traffic stops, 26 citations, 32 incident reports and 4 criminal arrests. The shift during one incident encountered a stolen vehicle which fled from Obetz Police Officers. As the vehicle stopped for the officers, one suspect fled from the scene, another suspect was arrested on the scene for outstanding warrants, and a female was later arrested at the hospital for outstanding warrants and turned over to Fairfield County Sheriff's Office. The suspect who fled was found possibly overdosing on fentanyl, transported to the hospital, and felony warrants were filed for his arrest, reference the stolen vehicle. A total of 10 dosages of Narcan were administer between the front passenger and driver of the stolen vehicle.

Training for March-

When it comes to training, a congratulations goes out to Sgt. Josh Guiler for successfully completing the Police Executive Leadership College (PELC) program that is organized and hosted by the Law Enforcement Foundation/Ohio Association Chiefs of Police. This course is meant for mid-level police supervisors who need to be prepared for the next step in their career when it comes to the administrative functions of a police department. The course was three weeks in length over a three-month period.

Sgt. Josh Gilbert has begun the Supervisor Training & Education Program (STEP). Like the PELC program, this supervisory course is for new supervisors in law enforcement, the entire course will take three weeks to complete over a three-month period. This course will discuss issues on case law, liability issues, labor law, generational difference in officer's response to supervisors, and critical thinking exercises. Sgt. Gilbert should be finishing this course in May.

Grant Funding-

The Office of Criminal Justice Services which administers grant funding from the Ohio Department of Public Safety has officially approver over \$38,000 in funds from the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice 2023 JAG Grant. This funding will be utilized to purchase equipment for first responders who need critical incident



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equipment like, First Aid Supplies, Protective Gear, and Communications devices. It is my hope to have all expenditures and equipment in place by May.

2024 Capital Projects-

With your support last year in the 2024 Budget Process, the Groveport Police Department has submitted an order for (2) 2024 Dodge Durango police vehicles in late March. These two vehicles are in addition to the (2) 2024 Dodge Durango's already ordered in September 2023, and will be replacing 3 current patrol vehicles that are in service, and (1) patrol vehicle that was totaled in February. We have already received notice that one of the new vehicles will be delivered in early April from Greve Chrysler, and two other Dodge Durango's could be delivered around the same time from National Auto Fleet Services. Sgt. John Westhoven has already begun to order vehicle emergency equipment and schedule the new vehicle installation of this equipment, and it is my hope to have at least two of the three vehicles in service by the 4th of July. The fourth Dodge Durango should be arriving by late Summer to early Fall 2024, and in service by the years end.

New Hire Update-

Ptl. Robert Ross has completed his first month with the Groveport Police Department. He has been well received by the officers and public, and it is my hope to finally bring him into a City Council Meeting on April 22nd for a proper introduction. Ptl. Forrest Benner who has been coaching him in the Field Training Program has only positive remarks on Ptl. Ross, and feels he will be a great addition to this organization and city.

Intel Oversize Shipments-

We are more than a month into this oversized transport shipments for the new Intel Plant, and we have not experienced any long delays or complaints from the community. A change in the route has occurred after the first shipment passed through Groveport, the haulers are no longer stopping and parking on Old Bixby Road on Saturday, and then leaving Sunday morning. They are now passing the original stop location for Saturday, and proceeding to Pickerington, which means they go from Rickenbacker, through Groveport, and stop in Pickerington during this new one-day route. We expect changes like this during the next year.

Appreciation for Mayor's Court Clerk-

I would like to acknowledge Groveport Mayor's Court Clerk Rachel Ricker, she has been a tremendous addition and help to the City of Groveport. I have found that she embraces challenges and more responsibility in her office. Rachel has streamlined our court packet process, where she creates our court packets for Law Director Kevin Shannon and Prosecutor Martin Nobile, and this creates less paperwork for our office, along with not having to rush to turnover these court packets to Rachel's office. I have also been requesting monthly and yearly statistics when it comes to our officers' work product in the courts, and



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Rachel has those statistics to me within moments. I really do appreciate her efforts to make my job a bit easier.

Captain Kurt Blevins March Report-

POLICY REPORT:

Updates to policy 1002 - Special Assignments and Promotions was completed. The Ohio Police Officer Training Academy is currently exploring the idea of giving training credit for completed Daily Training Bulletins. (Continued Professional Training of 1 hour).

Two new policies were introduced this past month;

- 1015 - Commendations and Awards
- 1033 - Wellness Program Policy

In reference to the Wellness Policy; it has significant implications for various policies outlined in our manual. It has been a complex and time-consuming process, as it required the establishment of other policies to support its effective implementation. For your reference I have provided the Groveport Police Wellness Mission Statement to provide some clarity and context.

Groveport Police Wellness Mission Statement

At our core, we recognize that the well-being of our officers is paramount to their ability to serve and protect our communities effectively. Our mission is to foster a culture of wellness that transcends rank and status, ensuring that every member of our force has access to resources and support for their physical, mental, and emotional health.

Our Commitments:

- 1. Self-Care First: We believe that self-care is not a luxury but a necessity. We encourage officers to prioritize their well-being, recognizing that a healthy Officer is better equipped to serve and make sound decisions.*
- 2. Inclusivity: Our wellness initiatives are designed for everyone—regardless of rank, role, or tenure. Whether you're a seasoned officer, a new Officer, or a civilian staff member, our programs are accessible to all.*
- 3. Education and Awareness: We are committed to providing ongoing education about wellness topics. From stress management to nutrition, we empower our Officers with knowledge to make informed choices.*
- 4. Peer Support Networks: We recognize the power of peer connections. Through training and support, we encourage Officers to be there for each other—to listen, empathize, and help when needed.*



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5. *Research-Driven Practices: We continuously explore evidence-based practices to enhance wellness. By staying informed, we can adapt and improve our programs to meet the evolving needs of our force.*
6. *Breaking Stigma: We actively combat the stigma around seeking help. Mental health matters, and seeking support is a sign of strength, not weakness. We encourage open conversations and normalize self-care.*
7. *Access to Services: We collaborate with mental health professionals who understand the unique challenges faced by law enforcement. Our goal is to create a network of accessible services for all officers.*
8. *Training and Tracking: Regular wellness training is essential. We endeavor to provide ongoing opportunities for officers to learn, grow, and develop resilience. Tracking progress ensures accountability and continuous improvement.*

Together, we build a resilient force—one that thrives on wellness, compassion, and collective support

The following Policy Sections were reviewed and distributed by my office for required department wide scenario based daily training, called Daily Training Bulletins for March 2024:

- Policy 414 - Aircraft Accidents / *414.3 Arrival at Scene*
- Policy 300 - Use of Force / *300.4.1 Moving Vehicles*
- Policy 336 - Child and Adult Dependent Adult Safety / *336.4 Dependent Welfare Services*
- Policy 304 - Conducted Energy Devices / *304.5.2 Special Deployment Considerations*
- Policy 303 - Control Devices and Techniques / *303.11 Reporting Use of Control Devices and Techniques*
- Policy 800 - Crime Analysis / *800.2 - Data Sources*
- Policy 302 - Handcuffing and Restraints / *302.3.1 Restraint of Detainees*
- Policy 318 - Hate or Prejudice Crimes / *318.4 Procedure for Investigating Hate or Prejudice Crimes*
- Policy 315 - Missing Persons / *315.4 Acceptance of Reports*
- Policy 421 - Portable Audio/Video Recorders / *421.6 Activation of The Audio/Video Recorder*
- Policy 500 - Traffic Function and Responsibility / *500.5.1 Required Use*
- Policy 422 - Public Recording of Law Enforcement Activity / *422.3 Recording Law Enforcement Activity*
- Policy 335 - Public Safety Video Surveillance System / *335.3.2 Camera Markings*



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- Policy 410 - Rapid Response and Deployment / *410.5 Planning*
- Policy 407 - Response to Bomb Calls / *407.3 Receipt of Bomb Threat*
- Policy 404 - Ride-Along / *404.7.1 Off-Duty Participation*
- Policy 310 - Search and Seizure / *310.3 Searches*
- Policy 1004 - Anti-Retaliation / *1004.4 Complaints of Retaliation*
- Policy 310 - Search and Seizure / *310.4 Search Protocol*
- Policy 319 - Standards of Conduct / *319.5 Causes for Discipline*
- Policy 311 - Temporary Custody of Juveniles / *311.8 Temporary Custody Requirements*
- Policy 310 - Search and Seizure / *310.3 Searches*
- Policy 300 - Use of Force / *300.2.1 Duty to Intercede and Report*
- Policy 702 - Vehicle Maintenance / *702.2.2 Severe Use Inspection*
- Policy 301 - Use of Force Review Boards / *301.3 Removal from Line Duty Assignment*
- Policy 307 - Vehicle Pursuits / *307.3 Officers Responsibilities*

Curious or Questions about a particular policy? Feel free to contact me with your concern or question

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OBJECTIVES:

- **Fourth of July** - The fourth of July planning is still underway. I am encouraged by the progress and the innovative approaches by Sergeants John Westhoven, Josh Gilbert and Lieutenant Josh Short.
- **Building on Wellness - (Enhancing Employee Well-Being in Law Enforcement)**

In a profession where the rates of suicide and failed family relationships exceed the national average, safeguarding our employees becomes paramount. The cumulative stress experienced by law enforcement officers often leads to negative behaviors, affecting not only their well-being but also their families and colleagues.

As Chief Adams and I share a common goal—to foster a more enriching experience for our personnel within the Police Department — we recognize the critical importance of addressing unmanaged stress. Over the next few months, I will actively collaborate with the Peer Support Team, and other resources, to explore a proactive and holistic approach that will focus on areas that may include physical fitness, mental health, and overall wellness.

Together, we aim to create a resilient and supportive environment that empowers our officers to thrive both personally and professionally.

Feel free to adjust any part of this revised message to align with your specific context and preferences. If you have any question, don't hesitate to ask.



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Lt. Josh Short March Report-

Officer Rob Ross is progressing well in his training and has been on 2nd shift with Ofc Lee Benner. Benner is giving him very high praise and said he immediately fit in with our officers.

On the 4th I met with Madison Township Fire Asst Chief Adams and Training Chief Ruetsch to discuss medical response to our less lethal munitions. As you may know you have provided us with funding for less lethal weapons/munitions (plastic bullets and pepper balls) and most of our officers have received training/certification in their use. I wanted to make sure the fire department was familiar with our new tools in case they needed to respond and treat a person who had been the target of one of our less lethal rounds.

On the 5th Sgt Yockey and I conducted a 2-hour Women's Defensive Tactics class at the Rec Center. We had 25 participants in this class and they all did a great job. As always, we appreciate our partnership with the Rec Center and Senior Center for allowing us to use their space for these trainings.

On the 13th SRO Boso worked security for the regular GM School board meeting. Mr. Smathers has requested a special duty officer at the board meetings for the remainder of the school year. Ofc Boso will most likely cover all of those details.

On the 14th Chief Adams, SRO Boso, Ofc Herrera and I attended the GM Schools State of the Schools event at the high school. That event is always a great opportunity to meet and talk with people from the community and district staff.

On the 27th Ofc Herrera and I once again assisted Feed the Kids Columbus to deliver over 1500 sack lunches to 7 of the Groveport Schools for students to take home prior to spring break. As always, we thank Bob Dowler and the Senior Center for allowing us to use the transport van to pack full of boxes for this delivery.

Also, on the 27th I attended the Groveport District Safety Committee meeting at the district service center. This topic of this meeting was safety issues at the districts 3 middle schools.



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NON-HIGH SCHOOL ACTIVITY OF NOTE:

3/8 Officers responded to Middle School Central on report of an assault where a male substitute teacher had grabbed the sweatshirt hood of a student who was trying to walk away. The force of grabbing and pulling the hood allegedly caused pain to the neck/throat area of the student. The mother of the student filed an assault charge against the teacher.

3/15 Officers responded to the career center on report of a suspicious person trespassing. Upon arrival officers spoke with school security who stated a teacher had arrived to school and found a black male adult sleeping in one of the nursing beds in the nursing lab. Officers secured the suspect in patrol car during further investigation. It was discovered that he had found an open door during the night, entered the school and walked around for a bit, and then undressed and went to sleep. Suspect was initially uncooperative with officers and was arrested for obstructing official business. Ofc Rimmer was eventually able to get him to say who he was and he was found to have criminal warrants through Delaware County. He was transported up to US 23 North and turned over to the county and we also filed summons for trespassing and criminal damaging.

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Detective Bureau

Monthly Case Statistics

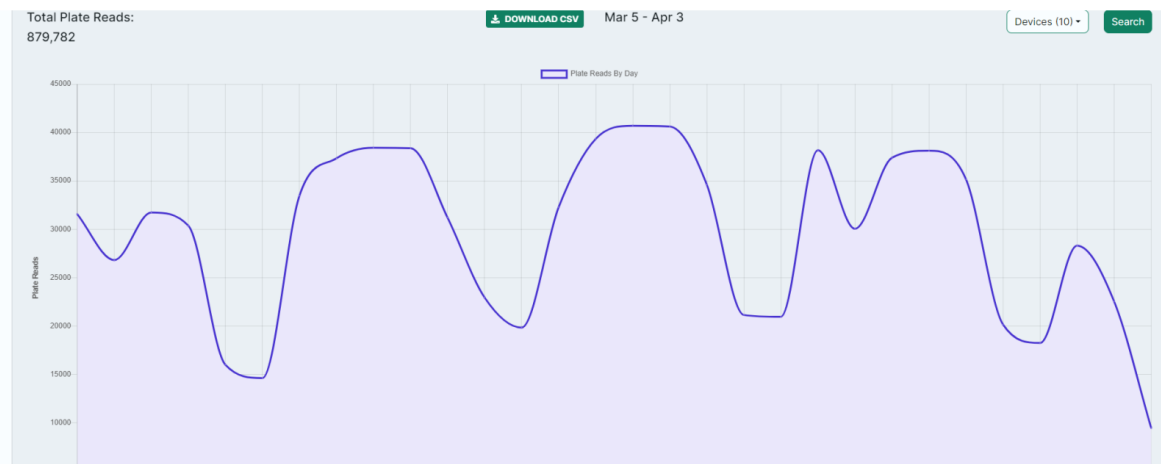
March 2024



Total Cases Assigned to the Bureau in March, 2024:

9 - Cases

Flock Cameras



Flock License Plate Reads:

Total license plate reads for March - 879,739

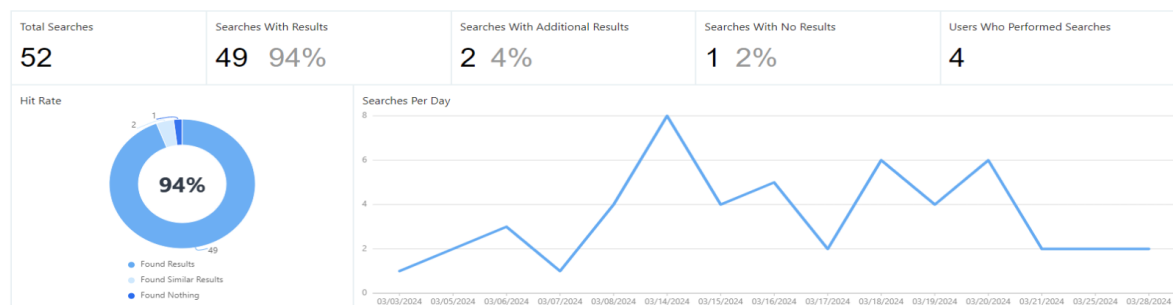
Flock License Plate Alerts:

Total plate alerts in March - 219 alerts

The City of Groveport owns 10-Flock cameras currently, but as a part of Flock we currently have access to 4,713 cameras nationwide.

Clearview Facial Recognition

Clearview Facial Recognition Scans - 52 -searches in March, 2024 with 94% identifying rate.





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The Groveport Detective Bureau processes countless search warrants and subpoenas each month to complete our cases. With these court orders being needed for nearly every investigation, it would be very difficult to keep an exact number processed each month.

Notable Cases:

- On 3/11/2024, detectives assisted patrol officers in a robbery case that also resulted in one male shooting at multiple others. The robbery took place on Madison Township Police jurisdiction and the victim was robbed for narcotics and a gun. Soon after, the victim retrieved another weapon from their vehicle and fired shots at the males who robbed him, now in the area of Grove St at Walnut St. Detectives assisted in processing the crime scene, suspects and locating evidence. Detectives read the indictment to the Franklin County grand jury and the 22-yr old Columbus adult in the incident was indicted on 4-counts of felony felonious assault. Franklin County Sheriff's Office charged 3-juveniles with robbery.
- On 3/15/2024, patrol officers stopped a stolen vehicle, in which the driver fled on foot. After being apprehended and refusing to identify himself, detectives used Clearview facial recognition software to identify the male. Criminal charges were filed as warrants on the 49-year old Columbus male.
- On 3/25/2024, detectives responded to Children's Hospital on a report of a 13-yr old girl who had been sexually assaulted. The suspect was identified as a 32-year old Groveport male. A cell phone GPS warrant was written and executed to help locate the suspect. The suspect was located at the Hampton Inn, connected to Scioto Downs Casino and taken into custody without incident. The male was slated into the Franklin County Jail. Detectives read the case to the Franklin County grand jury and the male was indicted on 4-counts of rape and 5-counts of Gross Sexual Imposition.

Training

Detective Amabile completed one week of training in Birmingham, Alabama at the Secret Service's National Forensic Institute for cryptocurrency investigations. Cryptocurrency investigations are becoming more prevalent and are very complex investigations.

Detective Fairman completed one week of training in Birmingham, Alabama at the Secret Service's National Forensic Institute for cybercrimes. All training at the National Forensic Institute is paid for by the Secret Service.



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Shift Assignment: 6am to 2pm March Report

Nothing to report by Sgt. John Westhoven

Shift Assignment: 2pm to 10 pm March Report

Monthly Highlights:

- ***Arrested four people with multiple active misdemeanor warrants***
- ***Arrested a suspect for a Felony Warrant***
- ***Domestic Violence arrest***
- ***We had a sexual assault case which resulted in a quick arrest of the suspect due to the Detective Bureau and great team work.***
- ***We had a shooting where luckily nobody was injured but multiple shots were fired at multiple people. Officers on scene were able to arrest the suspect who fired the shots and two other suspects from a related robbery (outside our jurisdiction) within a few minutes of being on scene. The Detectives responded quickly and were very helpful during the incident.***

Sgt. S. Yockey # S4

Shift Assignment: Relief Shift

Nothing to report by Sgt. Josh Guiler



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Shift Assignment: 10pm to 6am March Report

Shift Activity for the Month	Shift Results for the Month
Offense Reports	12
Mutual Aid Calls	5
Traffic Accident Reports	2
Criminal Arrests & Warrant Arrests	7
Traffic Violation Stops	91
Traffic Violation Citations	29
Training Hours	4
Bicycle Patrol Hours	0
Foot Patrols	82

Incidents:

On March 14, 2024 Obetz Police reported a stolen vehicle on Rohr Road and then lost sight of it. Officers Dillard and Martin caught up with it on State Route 317 and Hendron Road. Driver ran from the vehicle into the ravine. One male in the backseat was apprehended. The female passenger in the front seat was overdosing. She was issued 2 doses of Narcan at the scene. The driver was eventually found overdosing in the ravine and was given several doses of Narcan to bring him around. Female had warrants out of Fairfield County and was turned over to them. Back seat Male had warrants out of Franklin County and was slated. Driver was charged with Receiving stolen property and Obstruction through warrants as he was admitted to the hospital.

Sgt . Ernest Bell





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Our new Officer Robert Ross, who started on February 29th



Sgt. Josh Guiler's PELC Graduation March 22nd



Return of the Easter Bunny March 23rd