



Groveport Police Department
 Mayor Lance Westcamp
 Chief Casey M. Adams
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REPORT TO: MAYOR LANCE WESTCAMP AND THE CITY OF GROVEPORT COUNCIL

Training, Officer Activities and basic report information: **February 2022**

MUTUAL AID CALLS			Number	REPORTED OFFENSES	Number	
Franklin CO SO			1	Accidents	14	
Madison TWP PD			7	Assaults	2	
Madison Twp. Fire			5	Burglaries	2	
Obetz PD			1	Domestic Disputes	5	
CPD/ CFD/Other Agencies			1	Domestic Violence	3	
Public Assistance			8	OVI and alcohol issues	2	
				Theft Related/ Robberies	13	
House Watches			4	Weapon Related Calls		
Mileage			15,488	Missing Persons/Juveniles	1	
				Narcotic Related Offenses	1	
Sheriff's Dispatches/Self-Initiated Calls			185 / 295	School Related Dispatched Calls		
Busiest Day		28 Reports	Tuesday	Stolen/Unauthorized Use	1	
A – Reports Taken –		51 Reports	39%	Parking	2	
B – Reports Taken –		61 Reports	47%	Threats	5	
C – Reports Taken –		18 Reports	14%	Vandalism	0	
Total Reports taken			130 Reports	Suicide (attempts)/ DOA	1	
Traffic Citations			37 Offenses	Sex Related Crimes	1	
Training Hours				Arrests/Criminal Complaints Filed	18	
Referrals (FCCS)			0	Juvenile Complaints	8	
Groveport Madison School District Criminal Reports			10	Groveport Madison School District Non-Criminal Reports	6	
Speed Trailer				Speed Trailer		
Location	Limit	Date Start	Date End	Total vehicles	Highest Speed	Average
Not Operational		NA				NA
Not Operational		NA				NA



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February was an eventful month for the Groveport Police Department's Patrol and Detective Bureaus. With true team work between both bureaus, we were able to apprehend two suspects after an Alarm Call @ the Birch Tavern on February 10th. The apprehension of these suspects was due to the observation skills of our "C-Company" (Mid-Night) Shift Officers making a simple traffic stop on a vehicle matching the description of a suspect vehicle from the Groveport Municipal Golf Course Breaking & Entering that took place on February 8th. The suspects' vehicle was stopped within a mile of the Birch Tavern, they were taken into custody where a confession was given by one suspects, and further evidence was collected to connect the individuals to the Groveport Municipal Golf Course Breaking and Entering two days earlier. Both individuals were from the West side of Columbus, neither individual had any type of ties to our community, nor is it believed that these individuals had a belief that their criminal act would lead to any type of apprehension by the police. Det. Mike Sturgill was able to collect sufficient physical and circumstantial evidence in order to get a True-Bill Indictment from the Franklin County Grand Jury for the Birch Tavern incident, Det. Sturgill is awaiting DNA Evidence from the golf course incident in hopes of tying one if not both individuals to the golf course Breaking & Entering, and get a True-Bill Indictment from the Grand Jury once the results come back from BCI & I Crime Lab on the physical evidence collected at the scene.

In other criminal investigative notes, Det. Josh Gilbert was able to locate and receive confessions from multiple suspects on vehicle break-in thefts that had taken place since the beginning of the year. Again, we were able to develop leads through cooperation of our business sector and police department working to solve these cases of individuals coming into our community from other parts of the Central Ohio area with a belief that our community was an easy mark to strike and commit theft offenses without consequences. Again, our officers have put an emphasis on thoroughly investigating these offenses occurring in our community, but also looking at ways to make sure we develop leads to identify these individuals and hold them accountable for the criminal actions.

The GPD Detective Bureau has continued to investigate, and research the Catalytic Converter crimes plaguing our community in the past year. Det. Josh Gilbert, in cooperation of the Franklin County Sheriff's Department and Franklin County Prosecutor's Office has executed another Search Warrant on the Southside of Columbus to discover and apprehend the suspects committing this large scale theft ring of Catalytic Converters (Approx. over \$1 million in financial lost from this criminal operation & over \$500k of proceeds paid out to the suspects taking these stolen items to scrap yards). The Franklin County Grand Jury to date has issued a True-Bill of 32 Felony Counts of theft and weapon related charges on a Tommy Cox, Mr. Cox as of Monday, March 7th received a \$4 million dollar bond at his initial arraignment, and has yet to be released back into our society. Det. Gilbert detailed case investigation has brought a lot of attention to our Detective Bureau and police department from the other communities in the Central Ohio area who are looking to solve their Catalytic Converter Thefts. This investigation has not concluded yet, but it is our Detective Bureau's hope that more individuals will be held accountable for their criminal actions in our city, and we will be able to take them into custody in the coming weeks after the Franklin County Jury hears the case summary presented in the Grand Jury Hearing(s).



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Potential Equipment Upgrades and Needs: Sgt. John Westhoven and I have been in several discussions with public safety vehicle vendors, we have learned that the police vehicle purchasing process will be lengthy and limited in choice of vehicle options, and that some police agencies have gone out of state to locate police vehicles. Here are the common themes to the vehicle vendor discussions:

- **Ford Police Utility V-6 Model** has a 32 to 40 week delivery estimate.
 - Order Process most likely closing in March 2022
- **Chevrolet Tahoe PPV** order process closed in early February 2022.
- **Dodge Durango and Charger Police Model** no State of Ohio Bid Process.
 - Dodge expected to exit Police Vehicle Sales in 2024
- Emergency Vehicle Equipment Pricing has increased twice (5% to 10 % each increase) in the past 6 months due to limited inventory and high demand. Vendors will not hold pricing due to the uncertainty of demand and pricing.

Path Master Inc. met with myself, Public Service Director Brian Strayer, and City Engineer Steve Farst reference the Groveport Police Department utilizing the GPS Preemption Traffic Light System to change the traffic signal sequence when emergency equipment is responding to a scene. During the discussion several items were discussed and evaluated during our meeting on March 3rd:

- No local police departments are utilizing this GPS Preemption System
- The City of Groveport only has 4 traffic lights in the city limits with the necessary equipment to change the traffic light sequence during emergency response.
 - SR 317 @ Higgins Blvd
 - SR 317 @ Firehouse Lane
 - Main Street @ College Street
 - Main Street @ Front Street
- The City of Groveport has 5 traffic lights that would still need the necessary equipment to change the traffic light sequence during emergency response.
 - SR 317 @ Bixby Road
 - SR 317 Groveport Road
 - Groveport Road @ Green Pointe Drive
 - Main Street in front of Groveport Plaza
 - Main Street @ Hendron Road
- Cost of the GPS Preemption System is \$5,350 per vehicle with a 10 year life cycle
 - 14 vehicles (x) \$5,350= \$74,900



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Upgrades to current CAD and Reporting Systems: Over the past 18 months the Franklin County Sheriff's Department has informed us that they will be upgrading and transitioning to a new Computer Aided Dispatching System (CAD), and it looks like that these upgrades will be implemented by the end of this year. As part of this upgrade to the new CAD System, they are offering all agencies who are contracted with the Franklin County Sheriff's Department Communication Center a share of the cost to the Matrix Reporting Software. The cost to the Groveport Police Department will be the upfront installation of the software management system and training of how to utilize the new reporting system. This new reporting system will have a Cloud Based Storage and Computer Licensing that will be paid for by the Franklin County Sheriff's Department as part of the dispatching costs that the Groveport Police Department currently pays monthly. Currently we utilize the CMI Reporting Systems that is housed on our internal server storage, we currently pay around \$13,000 a year for CMI Reporting, and CMI Reporting is currently going through a lot of transition with personnel and service needs when it comes to the law enforcement section of their company. Also, Madison Township Police Department and Obetz Police Department has been in contact with me reference the shared cost of training between the three agencies in order to cut down on costs to implement the new Matrix Reporting System. During our discussions in regards to transitioning from CMI to the Matrix Reporting System, we were advised of the potential of informational sharing between all agencies utilizing the Franklin County Sheriff's Department Cad and Matrix Reporting System, and this would be a great benefit to finding

Contractual Proposals for GPD: The first contract proposal was from the Groveport Madison School District, this contract is for the 2022-2023 school year @ the Groveport Madison High School, and I have turned the contract over to Administrator BJ King and Law Director Kevin Shannon to make sure that the language of the contract is consistent with previous school contracts we have entered into with the school district. The second contract is for internal Continuing Professional Training provided by Robert Meader LLC. This internal training will give all Groveport Police Officers 12 hours of "Use of Force", "Use of Deadly Force", and "Legal Update" training that is required by the State of Ohio Peace Officer Training Commission. The police department has utilized Robert Meader LLC. for training needs when it comes to legal update training. His training is recognized and utilized by several law enforcement agencies in the Central Ohio area, and his training incorporates our Policy and Procedure Manual to give us a better understanding of the Student Performance Objectives.



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One final note when it comes from my office, we are currently shuffling officers around when it comes to scheduling and staffing levels. Ptl. Javier Herrera has been re-assigned to the Detective Bureau on a Temporary Assignment in order to assist the detectives currently assigned to the Detective Bureau. Ptl. Herrera will be filling in while Det. Delbert Dalton is on an extended medical leave after having surgery in February, and it is Det. Dalton's hope to return back to full duty sometime in the next 8 weeks. Ptl. Shellie Rimmer has been re-assigned to the office on Light Duty after she sustained a significant knee injury during a Foot Chase at Groveport Madison Middle School South. Ptl. Rimmer is expected to be off the street patrol assignment for the next year as she recovers from this injury, and we are currently waiting to see when her surgery will take place in the upcoming months. On a positive note when it comes to staffing, Ptl. Jason Huston has finished his first month of Field Training, and he has moved to another shift to continue his Field Training Program. We are looking to see Ptl. Huston finish his training in early May, and hopefully assigned to his new permanent shift by Mid-May.



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Sgt. Josh Guiler-

Third Shift Patrol February Report 2022

Duty Hours = 584.25	Miles = 3653	Dispatches = 98
Calls to Service = 11	Pick-ups = 49	Traffic Stops = 24
Citations/Parking Tickets = 6	Injury Crash = 0	Incident Reports = 7
Mutual Aid(s) = 5	Building Alarms = 35	Open Buildings = 8
Suspicious Person(s) = 12	Suspicious Vehicles = 10	Business/House Checks = 726

Third shift patrol has developed a better way to assist public works when it comes to street light outages. Ofc. Chad Rosser has assigned all of our third shift patrol a specific area that they are required once a month to locate and list the exact location of the outages. We are also submitting these community policing reports with pictures when necessary to help better locate. This month we have reported a total of 13 lights out.

Third shift patrol also started enforcement on inoperable motor vehicles that are violating the city ordinances. Ofc. Kyle Smith has assigned third shift officers to areas throughout the city and they will be responsible to complete a monthly report. Ofc. David Fairman assisted with this by developing an explanation of ordinance form which will first be given to the owner stating the violation. This will give them time to rectify the violation without putting a sticker on the vehicle. Progressive enforcement will continue until the issues are resolved.

On 02/10/2021 in the early morning hours we received an alarm from the Birch Tavern. On the way there a vehicle was observed on Tallman St. that matched the description of the vehicle that also broke into the Links. By Ofc. Ryan Ripson obtaining a picture of the suspect vehicle the day before, a traffic stop was made on the suspected vehicle. Ofc. David Fairman and Ofc. Kyle Smith did a great job securing the scene, detaining the suspects and collecting evidence needed for the case. Detective Mike Sturgill utilized his interview skills on the suspects and it was determined that they will be linked to both breaking and entering. The case will be sent to the Grand Jury for indictment.

Sgt. John Westhoven-

During the month of February, First Shift did not have any major incidents.

New Hire, Officer Huston completed his day watch FTO and has moved to second watch.

Officers checked several area watches throughout the city and made 28 traffic stops.

Officers also handled over a dozen building alarms.



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Sgt. Sam Yockey-

February
2022
Second Shift

The month of February for second shift has seen normal call volume for this time of the year. On second shift Officers receive a wide range of calls but the most common ones for this month were still accidents, domestic issues and thefts. However unfortunately second shift did have a call where a Groveport Resident committed suicide this month. Officers also had an incident where a suspect with multiple active warrants resisted Officers as he was being placed under arrest. No Officers were injured during this incident.

Unfortunately an officer on second shift was injured during a call this month but is now working light duty while going through recovery. This officer has been a great help during this time with many various task throughout the department.

Second shift is still continuing enforcing traffic laws in various parts of the city and the most common violation is speed. The majority of the violations have been on SR 317.

The Ohio Attorney General Office is requiring Officers to complete twenty four hours of Continuing Professional Training this year. Second shift along with the whole department have completed around seventy hours of this training this month.



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Lt. Josh Short-

Sergeant's Progress

All of the sergeants are doing a great job addressing the needs of their shifts and have aggressively tackled the administrative tasks assigned to them.

New Officer

Lateral hire Patrol Officer Jason Huston began field training with Ofc Danny Amabile on first shift at the beginning of the month. He will train with Danny for February and is scheduled to switch to second shift in early March. Ofc. Amabile has been utilizing the new Agency360 software for Huston's FTO documentation.

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. The sergeants have created some innovative methods for addressing and documenting enforcement issues.

Training

Ofc. Kyle Smith attended training for BAC Datamaster which certifies him to operate our alcohol breath testing machine.

Det. Josh Gilbert attended Property Room Maintenance training.

Other

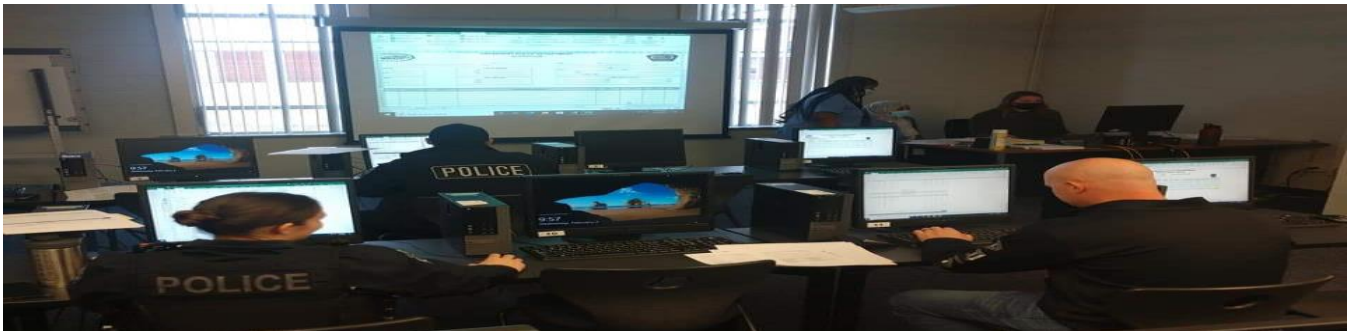
On 2/2 Lt. Short arranged for Eastland Career Center students to teach several of our officers the basics on Excel programming for computers. We went to the career center and used one of their computer labs for this training. This was a neat opportunity for our officers to learn/enhance their computer skills and gave the career center students the opportunity to share what they are learning.

On 2/25 Lt. Short taught Redman to the Criminal Justice students at Fairfield Career Center. Redman is an important module that helps the students understand and utilize their self-defense and subject control techniques.



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School Resource Officer Info; LT. Josh Short-

SCHOOL ACTIVITY OF NOTE:

italicized print = patrol response

2/1 – SRO helped HS security and staff break up several fights in the morning before the start of the school day. Charges declined, school discipline only.

-SRO conducted follow-up to a previous assault/robbery and interviewed a witness

-SRO impounded marijuana found on a student by a school principal for destruction. Charges declined, school discipline only.

2/7 -SRO spoke to a HS student and counselor after the student indicated self-harm. Student was transported to Children's Hospital by county CID officer.

-SRO spoke with female HS student who stated she had been sexually assaulted in the school by her boyfriend on multiple occasions. Criminal charges referred to juvenile court.

-patrol officers investigated a social media threat between students at Middle School Central and found it to be unsubstantiated. Handled at school level.

2/8 -SRO received call from Columbus officer requesting well-being check on a HS student. Student advised SRO that everything was ok but did want to talk with a school counselor.

-SRO spoke with a HS student who had become ill from eating a "snack" (marijuana infused food product). Student was taken by medic.

-patrol investigate a report of sexual imposition on a female teacher by a student at Middle School Central. Criminal charges were filed with juvenile court.

2/9 -SRO confiscated "snack" from student. Snack was impounded for destruction and school discipline levied.

-patrol officers were called to Middle School South on report of a male student present who was entered as a runaway and was refusing to go home. Student ran out of building from officers but was later apprehended with aid from Madison Twp PD. Student was transported to Children Services who refused to take him. Student was then transported home and released to his step-father. Officer Shellie Rimmer sustained a serious knee injury while trying to catch the student.



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2/14 -SRO was approached by a HS student's parent before the start of the school day about her daughter who was not coming home from school. The family lived in Madison TWP and were referred to Madison TWP SRO Mallory.

Lt. Bary Murphy –

February was a busy month for the bureau starting with two business burglaries early in the month and ending with a death investigation. 15 new criminal cases were assigned for further follow up including two sex related crimes and a weapons violation. Seven cases were transmitted to the Franklin County Prosecutor's office for consideration. Six subpoenas or search warrants were prepared and presented to Judges for signatures and service.



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New Trailer Purchased from OVI Enforcement Funds, it will be utilized for special events as a make shift command post and display prop.



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