

2025 ANNUAL REPORT



POLICE
CITY OF TOPEKA



TOPEKA POLICE
DEPARTMENT

Message from the Chief of Police

As we close 2025, I am proud of the measurable progress we achieved together. This year, both violent crime and property crime declined significantly compared to the five-year average — a strong indicator that our strategies are producing sustained results and that our neighborhoods are becoming safer.

These outcomes reflect focused enforcement, data-informed deployment, strengthened investigative practices, and close collaboration with our community and partner agencies. When I began my tenure as Chief, I committed that we would lead with data, build with trust, and serve with vision. In 2025, that commitment translated into disciplined execution, responsible stewardship of public resources, and measurable improvement.

To the men and women of the Topeka Police Department — thank you. You answered thousands of calls for service, supported victims during difficult moments, addressed complex challenges with professionalism, and demonstrated resilience under pressure. Your commitment to training, accountability, and continuous improvement — while upholding constitutional principles and the highest standards of integrity — directly contributed to the reductions we realized this year.

To our community — your partnership is essential. Through sustained engagement, youth outreach, Citizens Academy programming, and transparent communication during critical incidents, we strengthened trust while working together to enhance safety and quality of life. Public safety is most effective when it is shared.

As we look toward 2026, our direction remains clear. We will continue reducing crime, strengthening trust, investing in our people, and modernizing our operations. The Topeka Police Department is an agency on the move — advancing a model of modern policing that is data-informed, community-centered, and relentlessly focused on delivering measurable results. Together, we are building a department prepared not only for today's challenges, but for the future of public safety. It is an honor to serve this community and to lead this department forward.

Warm regards,
Chris Vallejo
Chief of Police

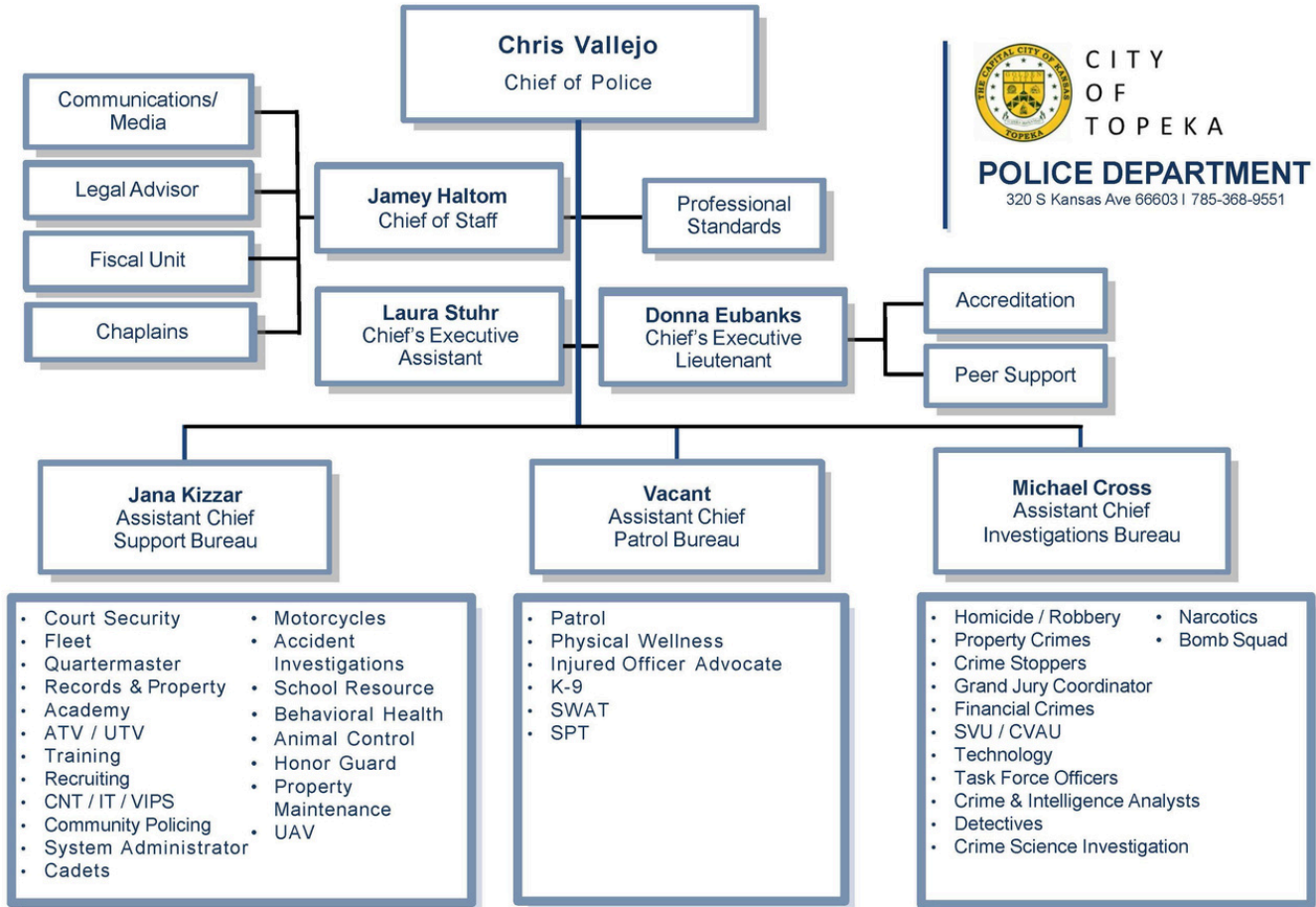


Topeka Police Department Command Staff





TOPEKA POLICE DEPARTMENT



THE TOPEKA POLICE DEPARTMENT

The Topeka Police Department is committed to providing a safe environment for citizens who live, work and play in our capital city. We will constantly evaluate and improve our efforts to partner with our community with the goal of improving the quality of life in Topeka, Kansas.

www.topeka.gov/police

TOPEKA POLICE DEPARTMENT – SUPPORT BUREAU

FIELD TRAINING PROGRAM

Newly appointed officers begin their careers with a 23-week training program at the Topeka Police Department Satellite Academy. This Academy operates as a Kansas Law Enforcement Training Center (KLETC) satellite program, authorized and monitored by KLETC to ensure statewide standards are met. Recruits receive a blend of classroom instruction and hands-on skills training designed to prepare them for the responsibilities of modern policing. After graduating from the Academy, officers continue their development through a 22-week Field Training and Evaluation Program.

The Field Training and Evaluation Program (FTEP) is a critical step in ensuring new officers are fully prepared to serve the Topeka community with professionalism and integrity. During this phase, officers are paired with experienced Field Training Officers who provide close guidance, practical instruction, and ongoing feedback. This structured approach helps new officers apply what they learned in the Academy while building sound judgment, communication skills, and respect for community expectations.

The goal of the Field Training Officer (FTO) program is to bridge the gap between classroom learning and day-to-day police work. Through real-world experience and mentorship, officers learn how to interact positively with the public, make safe and lawful decisions, and uphold departmental values. Emphasis is placed on critical skills such as clear communication, report writing, tactical awareness, ethical decision-making, and community engagement—all essential to building public trust and providing effective service.

In 2025, the Topeka Police Department continued its commitment to transparency, consistency, and accountability by implementing Lexipol policies and software. To support this effort, the Field Training and Evaluation Program transitioned to Lexipol's Law Enforcement Field Training Application (LEFTA). LEFTA is a digital platform designed specifically for law enforcement field training and is based on the nationally recognized San Jose Field Training Model.

Key benefits of the LEFTA program include:

- Enhanced accountability and consistency: Evaluations are standardized and clearly documented, helping ensure fair and objective assessments.
- Alignment with national best practices: The program supports legal standards and nationally recognized accreditation requirements.
- Improved communication and documentation: Digital evaluations streamline the process and promote timely, accurate feedback.
- Early identification of training needs: Supervisors can quickly identify strengths, address concerns, and provide additional support when needed.
- Support for quality instruction: The system tracks FTO performance, helping ensure the Department maintains a strong and effective training team.
- Flexible, adult-learning approach: Training can be tailored to individual learning styles while maintaining consistent expectations.

Together, these efforts reflect the Topeka Police Department's ongoing commitment to preparing well-trained officers who are ready to serve the community safely, fairly, and professionally.

TOPEKA POLICE DEPARTMENT – SUPPORT BUREAU TRAINING UNIT

The Training Unit experienced a year of meaningful progress and innovation in 2025, with a focus on modernizing instruction, strengthening accountability, improving officer preparedness, and enhancing transparency with both department members and the community. These efforts were designed to better prepare officers for the complex demands of modern policing while reinforcing public trust and professional standards.

One of the most significant improvements in 2025 was the advancement of department-wide training methodologies. The department certified four instructors in the Integrating Communications, Assessment, and Tactics (ICAT) program, allowing for sustainable, agency-wide



integration of this nationally recognized model. ICAT training emphasizes sound decision-making, communication, and de-escalation strategies, ensuring officers are equipped with practical skills to safely manage critical incidents. This investment strengthens consistency in training and aligns the department with best practices in contemporary law enforcement.

In addition to instructional improvements, the Training Unit prioritized officer safety and learning environments. During 2025, TPD transitioned to RedDot sights on Glock handguns. This upgrade improves shooting accuracy and performance under stress, reflecting current standards across the law enforcement profession. The Training Unit also modernized classroom spaces by purchasing and installing three 98-inch flat screen smart TVs. These upgrades will significantly enhance the instructional experience in 2026 by supporting interactive presentations, visual learning, and a variety of adult learning styles.



Another key initiative introduced in 2025 was the creation of an Training Advisory Council composed of three community members. This committee was established to review training curriculum for both the police academy and in-service training, and to provide community-informed feedback on instructional methods and content. The committee is designed to offer recommendations focused on improving adult learning approaches, instructional delivery, and curriculum relevance. This initiative represents an important step toward transparency, collaboration, and continuous improvement, while ensuring training reflects both professional standards and community expectations.

The Training Unit not only focuses on internal employee education and development, but also emphasizes working with external partners. During 2025, the Training Unit hosted a total of twelve external training courses in which instructors from all across the country were brought in to provide a variety of training to both TPD employees as well as other agencies, and even cross disciplines.

TOPEKA POLICE DEPARTMENT – SUPPORT BUREAU TRAINING UNIT

Courses such as “99 Signs of Danger – Officer Safety & Threat Recognition” by Homefront Protective Group, “FBI Law Enforcement Executive Development Association - Command Leadership Institute”, and “Search and Seizure Workshop” by Blue to Gold, were just a few of the outside training courses that were hosted at the TPD Training Facility.

New programs were also introduced to improve recruit readiness and long-term success. The Training Unit launched the Academy Success Program, an evening session held approximately one month prior to the start of each academy. This program provided recruits and their families with a realistic overview of what to expect during the academy, including physical fitness standards, daily expectations, and overall structure. Recruits completed baseline fitness assessments and received guidance on how to improve their conditioning prior to employment. By involving families and setting expectations early, the program helped reduce uncertainty and improve recruit preparedness.



Community engagement was further emphasized during the second academy of 2025 through a Recruit Meet and Greet event held at Westridge Mall. TPD notified the public and local media and encouraged community members to attend. This event allowed residents to meet and speak directly with the recruits who will soon serve their neighborhoods, fostering early relationships and reinforcing transparency and trust between the department and the community.

Each academy concluded with a Chief’s Run, a symbolic event that brought together recruits, training staff, senior command staff, and the Chief of Police. Participants ran together from the Law Enforcement Center to the State Law Enforcement Officers Memorial, a distance of nearly 1.3-miles. This event demonstrated unity between leadership and new officers, reinforced shared values, and provided recruits with a powerful reminder of the profession’s purpose and sacrifice by honoring fallen law enforcement officers.



Overall, the Training Unit’s 2025 accomplishments reflect a commitment to progress, professionalism, and community partnership. Through modernized training, enhanced accountability, innovative recruit support programs, and meaningful engagement with the public, the unit continues to build a strong foundation for the department’s future while preparing officers to serve with competence, integrity, and purpose.

TOPEKA POLICE DEPARTMENT – SUPPORT BUREAU COMMUNITY POLICE UNIT

The Community Policing Unit (CPU) operates within the Topeka Police Department's Support Bureau. The CPU is staffed by six officers and two sergeants, each assigned to defined areas of the city and the neighborhoods within them. The officers generally work a Monday through Friday schedule, while also supporting evening and weekend events to ensure they remain accessible and engaged when community members are most available.

Services provided by the Community Policing Officers (CPOs) include security assessments, safety presentations, and practical crime-prevention strategies tailored to residents, businesses, and community groups. By maintaining a visible and approachable presence, CPOs strengthen partnerships, encourage open communication, and promote shared responsibility for public safety.



CPOs organize and participate in numerous events throughout the year, including National Night Out Against Crime, the City's Trunk or Treat event, Pizza Day at local schools, and Kansas Special Olympics activities. They also attend business functions, school programs, church gatherings, and neighborhood meetings, reinforcing trust and building lasting relationships.

When not engaged in events, CPOs work proactively to identify and address crime trends and quality-of-life concerns. This includes close collaboration with Code Enforcement and the use of the SeeClickFix program to resolve neighborhood issues and support long-term problem solving.

Through consistent engagement, problem solving, and partnership building, the Community Policing Unit continues to have a meaningful and positive impact across Topeka's neighborhoods.



CPU Sergeant Wilson poses with a participant during the Polar Plunge event benefiting Kansas Special Olympics.



Community Policing Officers participate in the Cops and Donuts fundraiser at Dunkin' in support of Kansas Special Olympics.

TOPEKA POLICE DEPARTMENT – SUPPORT BUREAU COMMUNITY POLICE UNIT

TOPEKA POLICE DEPARTMENT
Community Policing

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TOPEKA POLICE DEPARTMENT – SUPPORT BUREAU COMMUNITY POLICE UNIT



CPO Long was recognized by the Greater Topeka Partnership for his contributions to Downtown Topeka safety.



CPO Friedrichs and Stricklin join a Kansas Highway Patrol Trooper for a Gratitude Lunch at Scott Elementary School.



CPOs Stricklin, Friedrichs, and Belt pose for photos with community members during National Night Out Against Crime.



CPU Sergeant Wilson and CPO Stricklin hand out candy and talk with children about safe trick-or-treating at a community Trunk or Treat event.



CPO Hill routinely visits students at Lowman Hill Elementary School as part of the Lunch Buddies program, spending time with students and building positive relationships.

TOPEKA POLICE DEPARTMENT – SUPPORT BUREAU

SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER UNIT

The goal of the Topeka Police Department School Resource Officer (SRO) Unit is to provide a safe and secure learning environment while supporting the academic and personal success of students. The Unit strives to prevent crime and violence through proactive presence, early intervention, and collaboration with school staff and community partners. By balancing enforcement, education, and mentorship, SROs work to address safety concerns, promote positive behavior, and build trusting relationships with students and staff to enhance overall school safety and well-being.



The SRO Unit continues to play a vital role in maintaining school safety while fostering positive relationships with students and staff. During the August-December 2025 reporting period, vaping has emerged as a significant issue across all schools, including the increased presence of THC vape devices. SROs are actively addressing this concern by issuing citations for nicotine vape violations and forwarding reports to the District Attorney’s Office for cases involving THC vapes.

To further address vaping through education and prevention, the Unit coordinated with Shelley Ramos of the Shawnee County Health Department to provide specialized training for the SRO Unit in March 2026. The training will focus on the court process for vaping-related cases through the District Attorney’s Office, as well as prevention strategies and available community resources.

In addition to enforcement and prevention initiatives, the Unit completed four threat assessments and responded to multiple incidents involving battery and student altercations. Throughout these situations, officers remained committed to student and staff safety, emphasizing early intervention, accountability, and the continued development of strong, trust-based relationships within the school community.

TOPEKA POLICE DEPARTMENT

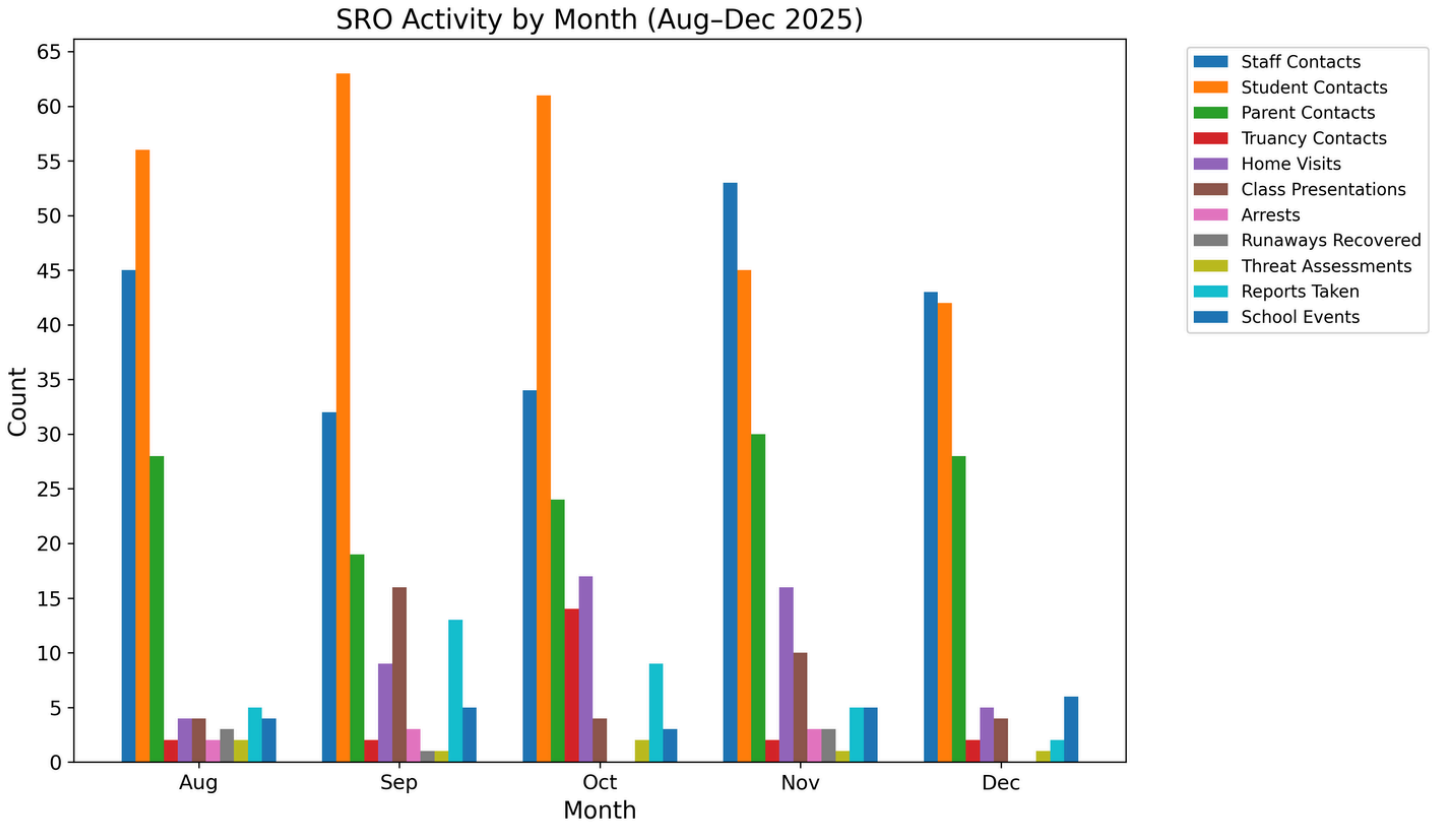
School Resource Officers

| | |
|---|--|
|  Officer Chris Hamilton Chase Middle School |  Officer Tim Bell Eisenhower Middle School |
|  Officer Darren Campbell French Middle School |  Officer Chris Keil Jardine Middle School |
|  Officer Ashlee Schulz Landon Middle School |  Officer Jared Rowley Robinson Middle School |
|  Officer Pam Reeder Topeka Center for Advanced Learning & Careers (TCALC) |  Sergeant Gene Dixon SRO Unit Supervisor |

TOPEKA POLICE DEPARTMENT – SUPPORT BUREAU

SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER UNIT

On November 12, 2025, Topeka Police Department and Community Policing Officers hosted a pizza party for second-grade students at Ross Elementary School, reinforcing positive relationships and supporting youth engagement within the school community.



The SRO unit continues to prioritize prevention, education, and proactive outreach initiatives. In March 2026, members will participate in Youth Tobacco and Vaping Prevention Training in coordination with the Shawnee County Health Department. The unit also plans to launch a mentorship initiative during the second semester.

TOPEKA POLICE DEPARTMENT – SUPPORT BUREAU SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER UNIT

For the 2025–2026 school year at the Topeka Center for Advanced Learning and Careers (TCALC), the first semester focused on Introduction to Law Enforcement and Forensics I and II. Students gained foundational knowledge of law enforcement duties, with forensic science serving as the primary area of study. Throughout the semester, students explored fingerprint analysis, DNA, toxicology, firearms, psychology, and the various methods of evidence collection associated with crime scene investigations. Instruction included a comprehensive overview of the investigative process—from the initial officer response at a crime scene through detective follow-up and evidence processing conducted by Crime Scene Investigators.

Students also engaged directly with scientists from the Kansas Bureau of Investigation (KBI), who provided specialized instruction on toxicology and firearms analysis. TPD Detectives delivered presentations on interviews and interrogations, financial and cybercrimes, and cold case investigations. In addition, students toured the KBI facility and participated in a simulation experience at the Topeka Police Academy's MILO Range, allowing them to better understand how rapidly critical incidents can escalate and the decision-making challenges faced by law enforcement officers.

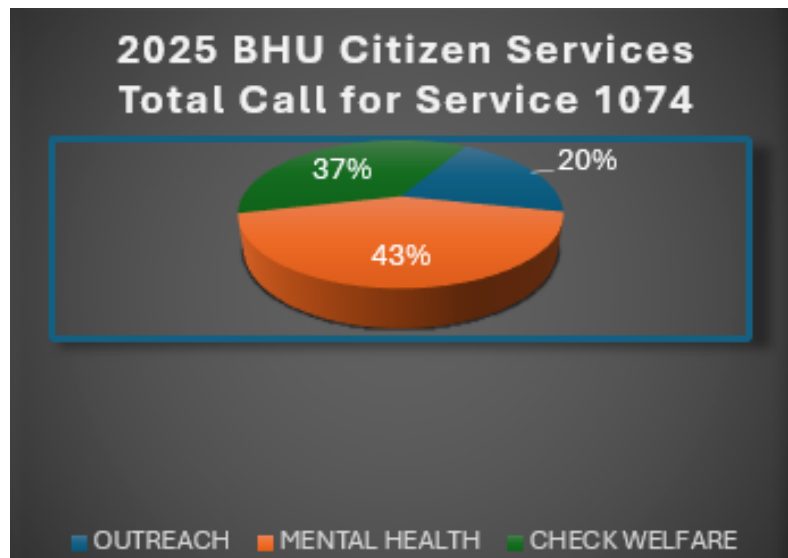


TOPEKA POLICE DEPARTMENT – SUPPORT BUREAU BEHAVIORAL HEALTH UNIT

The Behavioral Health Unit (BHU) of the Topeka Police Department is a collaborative program focused on addressing mental health crises within law enforcement settings, a model that is implemented in numerous cities across the United States. This initiative, commonly referred to as Crisis Intervention Training (CIT), is designed to enhance interactions between law enforcement officials and individuals living with mental health conditions.

The BHU is dedicated to assisting individuals who are experiencing behavioral health challenges, including but not limited to mental illness, cognitive disabilities, or substance use disorders. The unit aims to provide support during behavioral health crises by facilitating access to available services. This is achieved through comprehensive collaboration with Astra Mental Health and the surrounding community, along with specialized training and responsive interventions tailored to the needs of these individuals.

The collaboration enhances the community of Topeka by reducing the incidence of arrests among individuals with mental illness and by improving law enforcement officers' understanding and attitudes towards mental health issues. Furthermore, there is a heightened likelihood that individuals will gain access to necessary mental health services. At the same time, police officers will be equipped with additional resources to perform their duties safely and effectively.



The primary objectives of the BHU are to minimize injuries to law enforcement staff and individuals with mental health concerns during interactions, while also appropriately redirecting these individuals from the judicial system to essential services and support that facilitate stabilization and decrease police engagement. Through early intervention services, the unit can assess, evaluate, and refer individuals to a diverse array of community programs, including emergency assistance, psychiatric care, therapy, housing support, and outreach initiatives. Moreover, additional programs may offer resources for substance use treatment and recovery, alongside a comprehensive community support service.

TOPEKA POLICE DEPARTMENT – SUPPORT BUREAU BEHAVIORAL HEALTH UNIT

The BHU operates within a co-responder program, structured into three teams that function for 13 hours a day, five days a week. Additionally, the unit provides weekend services for eight hours each day. The Behavioral Health Unit consists of a day-shift crisis team comprising one behavioral crisis officer and one Licensed Master Social Worker (LMSW). There is also a second shift crisis team composed of one behavioral crisis officer and one Licensed Master Social Worker.

Furthermore, the unit employs one day-shift outreach officer, one street outreach advocate, and a LSMW who is available during second-shift weekend hours.



BHU Team Members (left to right): Crisis Supervisor Lacy Hoobler; LMSW Crisis Co-Responder Tabitha Winkle; LMSW Crisis Co-Responder Kristi Hill; Homeless Outreach Co-Responder (HOC) OFC Rob Razo; HOC SOA Daniel Dobson; BHU OFC Edgar Montoya; BHU OFC Michelle Mackey

The BHU Co-Responder program is designed to enhance the safety and well-being of individuals experiencing mental and emotional health crises by providing immediate, short-term intervention services as a viable alternative to hospitalization or incarceration. The program's objective is to de-escalate potentially volatile situations, improve the quality of interpersonal interactions, facilitate access to appropriate care, and promote overall safety. This community-based initiative prioritizes both officer safety and the safety of individuals in crisis, while also offering pathways for diversion from the criminal justice system to mental and emotional health services. The program is founded on robust partnerships among the Topeka Police Department, Astra Mental Health & Recovery, Stormont Vail Health Center, KU Medical Center-St Francis Campus, as well as individuals and families impacted by mental illness.

The Co-Responder program has completed its twelfth year since its inception in 2013, reflecting notable achievements. However, in response to the continually evolving landscape of behavioral health, the Unit has adapted its services to meet emerging demands. The partnering organizations collaborating with the BHU are implementing significant and exciting changes to enhance the quality of services provided to the residents of Topeka. These developments will necessitate considerable adjustments for both the BHU and the department as a whole. Although this analysis will present only the 2025 year-end statistics for the BHU, a more comprehensive comparison will be available in the 2026 Year-End Statistics, which will reflect the innovations introduced by the partnering organizations to better serve the consumers of Topeka and Shawnee County.

TOPEKA POLICE DEPARTMENT – SUPPORT BUREAU BEHAVIORAL HEALTH UNIT

The First Shift team of the TPD/Astra Behavioral Health Unit is currently manned only by BHU Officer Mackey. Astra Mental Health and Recovery is in the process of interviewing for an LMSW Crisis Co-Responder. BHU Officer Mackey does answer calls for service; however, while out in the community, she develops opportunities to build partnerships and educate the community on the services the partnering organizations offer.



The Second Shift team from TPD/Astra Behavioral Health Unit aided an elderly individual who expressed feelings of insecurity due to mental health symptoms. The team successfully established contact, conducted a thorough assessment of her mental health conditions, and engaged in problem-solving regarding her safety. It was determined that she would benefit from a short-term admission to the Astra Mental Health inpatient facility.



The vision of the Homeless Outreach Co-Responder (HOC) Program is to facilitate connections for the most vulnerable citizens of Topeka with essential resources, enabling them to become fully functional members of our community. BHU Officer Rob Razo and Street Outreach Advocate Daniel Dobson make up the Homeless Outreach Team.

Lieutenant Mathew Rose and Chief Executive Officer La Manda Cunningham of the Rescue Mission analyzed the need to establish a co-responding program for homeless outreach. This initiative aims to connect with the homeless population in remote areas of Topeka and Shawnee County. The program would address active service requests relayed through Shawnee County Emergency Consolidated Communications and facilitate access to resources from various governmental, private, and nonprofit organizations.



TOPEKA POLICE DEPARTMENT – SUPPORT BUREAU

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH UNIT



The HOC Team is tasked not only with providing in-field outreach but also plays an integral role in the City of Topeka's Alternative Sentencing Court, which is presided over by Judge Karan Thadani. This court represents a distinctive initiative within the City of Topeka Municipal Court, aimed at offering individuals who face mental health or substance abuse challenges an opportunity to seek rehabilitation rather than serve time in prison. Launched in 2015, this program strives to provide supportive alternatives that prioritize treatment over incarceration.

The HOC Team is involved in the City of Topeka Personal Identification Card (PIC) Program, which is designed to bridge the gap for the unsheltered or those who otherwise wouldn't be able to afford or have the proper documentation to apply for a Kansas State-issued ID. PICs are free and available to anyone in need. The cards include the person's legal name, photo, signature, date of birth, personal demographics, address or last known location, and, if applicable, a Kansas State identification card number.

To qualify, individuals must go through the Topeka Police Department for this process. People need to understand that PICs are free, but they do not come with the same rights as a Kansas State-issued ID, driver's license, or passport. You must be 18 years of age to be eligible for a City of Topeka ID Card.

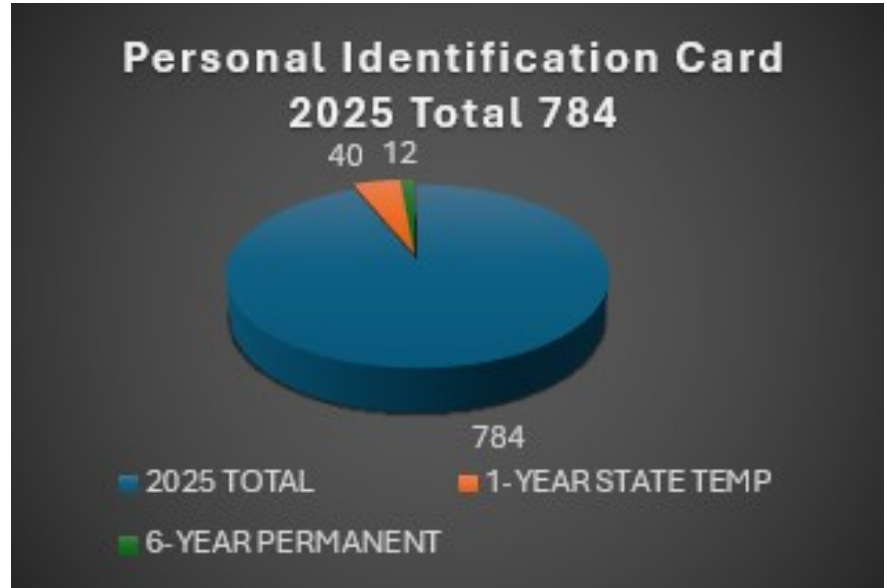
The City's PIC Program has recently formed a partnership with the Take Me Program, which facilitates the ordering of a Personal Identification Card with a Hidden Disability Marking, including a QR Code containing all relevant information. Officers are equipped to scan the QR Code using their mobile devices. The PIC Program Coordinator has collaborated with the State Coordinator to use information gathered through the program to obtain a state-endorsed equivalent marker. Initially, the State only recognized cognitive disabilities for this marker; however, after extensive discussions with the State Coordinator, they have expanded their recognition to include intellectual disabilities.



TOPEKA POLICE DEPARTMENT – SUPPORT BUREAU

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH UNIT

Despite the high volume of City IDs produced by the HOC Team, the Program Coordinator has implemented several controls to ensure that the PIC is converted into a Temporary State ID Card and ultimately transitioned into a Permanent State ID. As a result, the overall number of PICs has decreased; however, this coincided with a one percent increase in the total number of Temporary and Permanent State IDs issued. The program coordinator has been able to work with a few organizations that will use the PIC for Identification until the applicant can obtain the State Identification Card.



In 2026, the BHU will undergo operational changes to increase community-based problem-solving by endorsing problem-solving from Topeka's community organizations and by responding more as a facilitator rather than a problem solver. For example, the HOC team program coordinator will be working with the Kansas State Legislature to pass legislation that, for a fee exemption, allows a certified copy of the birth certificate to be issued based on an affidavit of homeless or unaccompanied youth status. The affidavit may be executed by an individual representing a homeless service provider.

This may include, but is not limited to, a governmental or nonprofit agency, a licensed attorney, a local education agency liaison, a school worker or counselor, a human services provider, or a public social services provider, as well as a law enforcement officer. Engaging with the perspective of a crisis facilitator will enable the Community of Topeka and the organizations that we support to serve our community by implementing preventive measures while still operating reactively. This approach aims to address mental health crises and chronic homelessness effectively, without resorting to incarceration as a solution.



TOPEKA POLICE DEPARTMENT – SUPPORT BUREAU

ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION UNIT

The Accident Investigation Unit is responsible for investigating serious non-fatal traffic collisions that require follow-up beyond the initial patrol response. These investigations include injury crashes, officer-involved collisions, and injury hit-and-run cases. The Unit provides objective investigative findings to support criminal prosecution, civil proceedings, and traffic safety efforts.



During calendar year 2025, the Unit investigated:

- 3,388 Total Accidents
- 345 Hit-and-Run Cases
- 68 Total Cases Cleared

Despite increased traffic volume and after-hours call demands, the Unit maintained consistent clearance rates and timely case completion. The unit also reviews all hand-written citations and DUI reports for the entire department. During this reporting period, 5,812 citations were reviewed, and 97 DUI reports were processed.

Review of serious non-fatal traffic collisions identified the following common contributing factors:

- Speed-related driving
- Impaired driving (alcohol and/or drugs)
- Failure to yield or obey traffic control devices
- Distracted driving



The Accident Investigation Unit remains a critical support function inside the Topeka Police Department's traffic safety and enforcement framework. Continued attention to staffing levels, training, and efficient case management will support timely investigations and improved outcomes in serious non-fatal traffic collisions.

TOPEKA POLICE DEPARTMENT – SUPPORT BUREAU

RECORDS UNIT

The Records Unit serves as the administrative backbone of the Topeka Police Department, providing critical data management, warrant processing, licensing, and public records services. The unit ensures timely, accurate documentation and compliance with state and federal reporting requirements while supporting patrol operations, investigations, and public access to records.

The Unit is staffed by civilian personnel responsible for document processing, warrant management, records dissemination, background investigations, and licensing functions. Their work directly supports operational readiness, officer safety, and legal compliance across all divisions.

During calendar year 2025, the Records Unit processed an exceptionally high volume of data, documentation, and regulatory actions:

| | |
|--|--------|
| • Documents Processed | 84,846 |
| • NCIC Entries – Missing Persons | 468 |
| • NCIC Entries – Stolen Vehicles | 387 |
| • Warrants Entered | 5,298 |
| • Warrants Cleared | 8,756 |
| • Background Checks Completed | 1,745 |
| • Records Requests Completed | 3,354 |
| • Animal Licenses Issued | 4,867 |
| • Animal Cases Initiated | 312 |
| • Alarm Company Licenses Issued | 39 |
| • Alarm Agent Licenses Issued | 131 |
| • Alarm Calls Reviewed for Billing | 4,843 |
| • Private Security Company Licenses Issued | 29 |
| • Private Security Guard Licenses Issued | 36 |



The Records Unit plays a critical role in:

- Maintaining accurate warrant databases to ensure officer and public safety.
- Managing NCIC entries for missing persons and stolen vehicles.
- Providing legally compliant records access to the public and justice partners.
- Processing licensing and regulatory functions for alarm systems, animal control, and private security services.
- Supporting investigative and patrol operations through timely documentation and data entry.

TOPEKA POLICE DEPARTMENT – SUPPORT BUREAU RECORDS UNIT

The high volume of cleared warrants demonstrates the Unit's direct impact on case resolution and offender accountability. The Unit continues to function as one of the highest-volume operational Support Bureau units within the Topeka Police Department. Their efficiency, accuracy, and regulatory compliance directly support field operations, officer safety, and public trust while maintaining the integrity of departmental data and documentation systems.

In 2026, the Unit will evaluate workflow automation opportunities to reduce processing times and improve overall efficiency. Efforts will include exploring staffing or technology enhancements to address rising demand, improving turnaround times for public records requests, and continuing training to ensure regulatory and NCIC compliance. The Unit will also prioritize strengthening quality control measures and audit readiness to support accountability and operational excellence.

Despite increasing workload demands and regulatory responsibilities, the Unit continues to deliver reliable, efficient, and compliant service to the department and the community. Through a commitment to process improvement, accountability, and operational excellence, the team remains focused on enhancing efficiency while maintaining high standards of accuracy and professionalism. As demand continues to grow, the Records Unit is well-positioned to adapt through strategic planning, technology integration, and ongoing training to support the evolving needs of the Topeka Police Department and the citizens it serves.



TOPEKA POLICE DEPARTMENT – SUPPORT BUREAU

PROPERTY AND EVIDENCE UNIT

The Property and Evidence Unit manages the secure intake, cataloging, storage, disposition, and destruction of all evidentiary and safekeeping property related to criminal investigations and police operations. The Unit safeguards chain of custody, supports successful prosecutions, protects citizen property rights, and ensures compliance with statutory retention and disposal requirements while minimizing liability and long-term storage costs for the City.

The Unit experienced significant growth in workload and output in 2025 while continuing to maintain strict compliance with evidentiary handling and chain-of-custody standards.

During the year, the Unit received 15,869 new items into secure storage and destroyed 24,176 items – a 20% increase in destruction output over 2024. The destruction volume exceeding intake reflects the Unit's aggressive backlog reduction strategy and measurable improvements in operational efficiency.

By processing nearly 16,000 new items while eliminating more than 24,000 legacy items, the Unit significantly reduced storage burden, liability exposure, and long-term evidence management costs to the City. This sustained operational tempo demonstrates proactive backlog elimination, improved compliance with statutory retention requirements, reduced risk of storage saturation, increased facility safety and organization, and enhanced audit readiness consistent with CALEA standards.

Through public auction and resale efforts via GovDeals.com, the Unit generated \$33,223.53 in direct revenue returned to the City in 2025. Additionally, the lawful disposition of 213 firearms to properly licensed Federal Firearms License (FFL) holders ensured all transfers were conducted in strict accordance with federal and state regulations, further strengthening public safety safeguards and departmental liability protection.

The 20% increase in destruction output reflects improved scheduling of destruction committees, enhanced pre-screening and sorting workflows, more efficient utilization of personnel during destruction cycles, and increased collaboration between the Unit and investigative divisions. These process improvements have reduced evidence room congestion and improved turnaround times for final case dispositions.

In 2026, the Unit will focus on maintaining elevated destruction output to continue reducing historical backlog and preserving storage capacity. The Unit plans to incorporate a Volunteers in Police Service (VIPS) member into the unit to increase processing efficiency and expand administrative support capacity. Additionally, the Unit will continue maximizing revenue recovery through GovDeals property disposition efforts to ensure fiscally responsible asset management.

The Property and Evidence Unit remains one of the department's most fiscally responsible and operationally impactful support units. In 2025, the unit kept pace with rising intake demands, exceeded prior years in destruction output, generated more than \$33,223 in recovered revenue, and improved storage efficiency – all while maintaining strict chain-of-custody and compliance standards. These efforts directly strengthen investigative effectiveness and advance the department's public safety mission.

TOPEKA POLICE DEPARTMENT – SUPPORT BUREAU

PUBLIC SAFETY SYSTEMS ADMINISTRATOR

In 2025, the Public Safety Systems Administrator led several major initiatives that improved reporting efficiency, strengthened compliance standards, enhanced training delivery, and modernized internal systems infrastructure.

The launch of the Coplogic online reporting solution in January marked a significant advancement in operational efficiency. For the first time, major reporting partners – including large retail businesses, financial institutions, and state agencies – were able to submit reports directly online. Citizens were also given the ability to file certain theft, vandalism, and supplemental reports electronically. In 2025, the department received 1,136 reports online, reducing the need for officer response to routine report calls and improving service delivery. Plans are underway to expand the platform in 2026 to include private property crash reporting.

The department successfully completed the Kansas Highway Patrol triennial on-site audit of NCIC and KCJIS operations, passing the evaluation and remaining in full compliance until the next scheduled review. Additionally, 9,083 crime reports were reviewed and submitted to the KBI NIBRS database within a five-week period – a significant efficiency improvement compared to the prior year’s longer submission cycle.

Training initiatives included hands-on NCIC, New World Mobile, and Field Reporting instruction conducted in a controlled test environment. Personnel received supervised exposure to NCIC returns and customized procedural training, strengthening system proficiency and compliance.

Significant progress was also made in modernizing internal infrastructure. Development began on a newly redesigned department SharePoint site leveraging Microsoft 365 tools. The updated platform will feature layered organizational charts, a chain-of-command finder, centralized shift and investigative recaps, booking lists, and expanded procedural resources. Microsoft Lists and workflow automation tools will enhance data management, notifications, and retention practices. In conjunction with this effort, a fully revamped department staff directory was developed and is scheduled for release in 2026.

Collectively, these initiatives improved reporting efficiency, strengthened regulatory compliance, enhanced training standards, and modernized the department’s internal communication and data management systems – reinforcing the technological foundation supporting the Topeka Police Department’s operational mission.

TOPEKA POLICE DEPARTMENT – SUPPORT BUREAU

CRISIS NEGOTIATION TEAM

The Crisis Negotiation Team (CNT) provides specialized communication and de-escalation support during critical incidents involving barricaded subjects, suicidal individuals, hostage situations, and persons experiencing emotional or behavioral crises. CNT negotiators focus on achieving peaceful resolutions, reducing the need for force, and safeguarding lives through strategic, communication-based intervention.

The team consists of ten members and one lieutenant. All members have completed both basic and advanced crisis negotiator training, attend an annual professional conference, and complete a minimum of 40 hours of specialized training each year to maintain and enhance their skills.

In 2025, the CNT responded to 16 critical incidents, including barricaded individuals, hostage and crisis-entry operations, emotionally disturbed persons, and high-risk warrant and tactical situations. Of those incidents, four were successfully resolved by on-duty negotiators without requiring a full team call-out, resulting in a 25% no-call-out resolution rate.

These outcomes reflect the team's growing ability to resolve volatile situations quickly and effectively using on-duty personnel. This approach reduces response times, limits overtime costs, minimizes team fatigue, and increases operational efficiency. While several incidents were resolved peacefully through negotiation alone, others required coordinated tactical intervention and rescue operations. In each case, CNT remained focused on communication-based strategies designed to reduce the need for force and protect life.

The CNT demonstrated exceptional efficiency and professionalism in 2025. Successfully resolving one quarter of all crisis negotiation incidents without a full-team activation represents a measurable improvement in response effectiveness, fiscal responsibility,



and life-preservation outcomes. The team's continued focus on training, innovation, and strategic response ensures its readiness to meet the complex challenges of crisis intervention while prioritizing the safety of both the public and responding personnel.

In 2026, the Crisis Negotiation Team will focus on strengthening operational capabilities and enhancing response effectiveness. Key objectives include improving technological resources within the unit, expanding early-engagement negotiation strategies, and reducing average page-out-to-contact times. The team will also continue working to decrease the frequency of full-team call-outs through effective use of on-duty negotiators when appropriate.

TOPEKA POLICE DEPARTMENT – SUPPORT BUREAU UNMANNED AERIAL VEHICLE UNIT

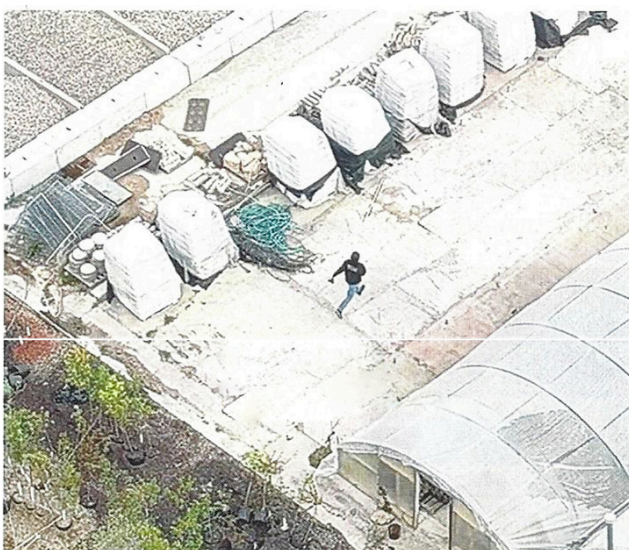
The Topeka Police Department's Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) Unit provides rapid aerial support for patrol operations, critical incidents, search and rescue missions, crime scene documentation, and pre-planned enforcement activities. The integration of UAV technology enhances officer safety, improves real-time situational awareness, reduces response times, and increases overall operational efficiency while minimizing risk to personnel and the public.

As of the end of 2025, the UAV Unit includes 31 certified and department-authorized pilots operating three Skydio X10 unmanned aircraft platforms. The unit operates under the supervision and oversight of the department's Special Operations framework.

In March 2025, the unit completed a significant expansion initiative, training and certifying nine new UAV pilots. This expansion substantially increased coverage across all shifts and improved the unit's ability to support spontaneous deployments and critical incidents citywide.



In 2025, the UAV Unit conducted 873 total flights, accounting for 182.6 flight hours. This equates to an average of 2.4 flights per day, with an average flight duration of 12.6 minutes. On average, each certified pilot logged approximately 5.9 flight hours during the year. This sustained operational tempo demonstrates consistent and effective utilization of UAV resources in both planned operations and emergent field responses.



UAV activity remained steady throughout the year, with notable increases in March 2025, reflecting new-pilot training and operational onboarding, and again in October 2025, corresponding with heightened field deployment and event-driven operational demands. These trends highlight the unit's adaptability to training cycles, seasonal activity levels, and community event support requirements.

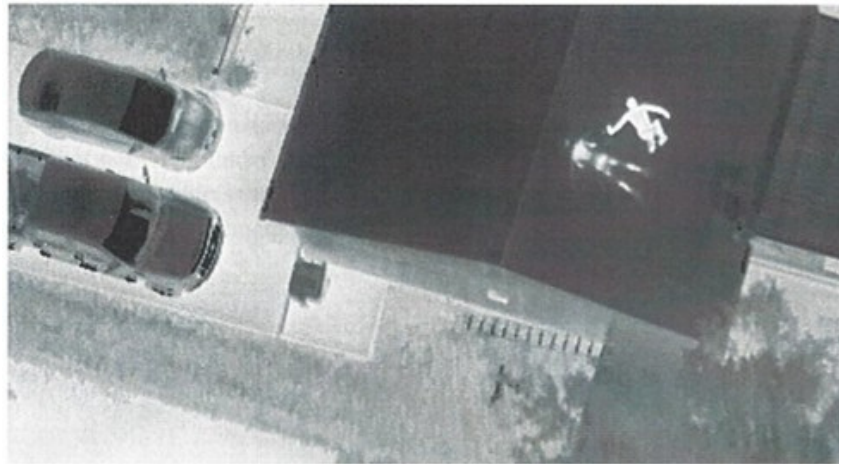
TOPEKA POLICE DEPARTMENT – SUPPORT BUREAU

UNMANNED AERIAL VEHICLE UNIT

In 2025, the UAV Unit provided aerial support across a wide range of operational needs, including perimeter overwatch during high-risk calls, search and rescue missions, crime scene documentation and mapping, tactical overwatch for warrant services and barricaded subjects, event security and crowd management, and evidence documentation and collision reconstruction support.

The use of UAV technology significantly reduced the need for manual searches in hazardous environments and enhanced officer safety by providing aerial reconnaissance prior to officer entry. This capability improves decision-making, increases situational awareness, and reduces risk to both personnel and the public.

The Unit operates Skydio X10 unmanned aircraft systems equipped with advanced autonomous navigation and obstacle avoidance technology. These platforms allow for rapid deployment, high-definition visual and infrared imaging, and secure, law-enforcement-grade data management. The integration of this technology ensures reliable performance in complex urban environments while maintaining evidentiary integrity and operational security.



In 2026, the UAV Unit will focus on expanding fleet capacity to align with pilot availability and operational demand. The department will pursue state and federal grant opportunities to support UAV expansion efforts. Additional priorities include increasing night-operations training and maximizing thermal-imaging capabilities. The Unit also plans to partner with the Topeka Zoo to conduct night UAV detection flights and animal-tracking exercises in preparation for potential escaped animal incidents. Continued expansion of UAV support for search and rescue operations, critical incident response, pre-planned deployments, and further integration into patrol and specialty units remain key strategic objectives.

The UAV Unit continues to demonstrate high utilization, measurable operational impact, and growing demand within field operations. With expanded pilot staffing, sustained deployment frequency, and broadening mission responsibilities, the UAV Unit remains a critical force multiplier that enhances officer safety, operational efficiency, and public safety throughout the community.

TOPEKA POLICE DEPARTMENT – SUPPORT BUREAU

VOLUNTEERS IN PUBLIC SERVICE

The Volunteers in Police Service (VIPS) program strengthens the Topeka Police Department by providing trained volunteer support that expands operational capacity, enhances customer service, and allows sworn and civilian personnel to remain focused on core public safety responsibilities. VIPS members contribute meaningful service hours that generate measurable value for the City while improving efficiency across multiple divisions.

During calendar year 2025, VIPS personnel contributed 8,659 volunteer hours, generating an estimated \$301,246.61 in service value based on the established hourly valuation formula.

Compared to 2024, total volunteer hours increased from 6,202 to 8,659 – an increase of 2,457 hours, or 39.6%. The estimated service value rose from \$207,704.98 in 2024 to \$301,246.61 in 2025, representing an increase of \$93,541.63, or 45.0%. This significant year-over-year growth reflects expanded engagement, increased deployment opportunities, and continued commitment from the department's volunteer workforce.



In 2025, VIPS support was strategically distributed across key service areas. Administrative functions accounted for 5,125.50 hours, followed by 2,051.71 hours supporting Citizens Academy Administrative operations, 1,361.79 hours assisting Patrol, and 120.00 hours contributed by Chaplains, totaling 8,659.00 volunteer hours. This distribution highlights the program's strongest impact within administrative and operational support functions—areas that directly reduce workload demands on full-time personnel and improve overall departmental efficiency.

Volunteer activity remained consistent throughout the year, demonstrating strong engagement and reliable scheduling. Notable peaks occurred in October, with 1,082.50 hours contributed, and in December, with 814.50 hours logged. This sustained level of participation reflects positive program health, dependable volunteer commitment, and effective coordination of resources to meet operational needs.

TOPEKA POLICE DEPARTMENT – SUPPORT BUREAU VOLUNTEERS IN PUBLIC SERVICE

The VIPS program delivers measurable organizational value in several key areas. First, volunteers enhance operational efficiency by absorbing labor-intensive support tasks, improving turnaround times, and strengthening customer service delivery. Second, the 8,659 volunteer hours contributed in 2025 represent meaningful cost avoidance, equating to significant staffing equivalency while reducing pressure on overtime and backfill requirements. Finally, the program offers scalability allowing volunteers to be strategically assigned to high-impact areas such as Property and Evidence support, records-adjacent administrative functions, and event operations. This flexibility increases overall throughput and productivity without adding full-time equivalent positions.



In 2026, the VIPS program will focus on maintaining strong volunteer retention and ensuring consistent scheduling to sustain operational reliability. Efforts will include expanding volunteer utilization in high-throughput support areas such as administrative processing, special events, and operational assistance. The program will continue building capacity for unit-level placement where volunteers can generate measurable efficiency gains, including expanded support within the property room as identified in other unit objectives. Additionally, quarterly value metrics will be tracked and reported to reinforce program outcomes, transparency, and long-term sustainability.



TOPEKA POLICE DEPARTMENT – SUPPORT BUREAU AMBASSADORS ACADEMY

The Ambassador Academy unites graduates of the Topeka Police Department’s Citizens Academy to strengthen relationships between the community and law enforcement while providing volunteer support to the department as requested and approved by the Board of Directors.

Graduates of the Citizens Academy who submit a completed application and agree to uphold the organization’s objectives are eligible for active voting membership in the Citizens Academy Ambassadors. Members contribute through a variety of volunteer activities, including hosting events and organizing fundraising initiatives. Proceeds from these efforts directly benefit the Topeka Police Department, supporting programs, equipment, and community engagement initiatives.



TOPEKA POLICE DEPARTMENT – SUPPORT BUREAU MOTORCYCLE UNIT

The Topeka Police Department's Motorcycle Unit is the department's primary traffic enforcement unit and plays an essential role in roadway safety across the City of Topeka. Through high-visibility enforcement and proactive patrols, motorcycle officers address hazardous driving behaviors, respond to community concerns, and support public safety operations citywide.



Motorcycle Unit officers supporting a large-scale escorted operation during a 2025 event.

In 2025, the Motorcycle Unit consisted of six officers and one sergeant. The addition of one officer in August improved staffing stability and operational capacity.

Unit officers maintain specialized training in police motorcycle operations, LIDAR and RADAR speed enforcement, Standardized Field Sobriety Testing (SFST), and escort operations. The unit includes two certified police motorcycle instructors and one RADAR/LIDAR instructor.



Motorcycle Unit officers participating in advanced riding and skills training to maintain operational readiness.

TOPEKA POLICE DEPARTMENT – SUPPORT BUREAU MOTORCYCLE UNIT

During 2025, officers initiated 9,811 self-initiated activities, conducted 2,330 traffic stops, and completed 4,129 enforcement actions. These efforts focused on addressing hazardous violations while promoting compliance through education and warnings when appropriate.

School zone enforcement was conducted for approximately nine and a half months during the school year. Officers dedicated more than 164 hours to school zone enforcement, conducted 451 vehicle stops, and issued 799 citations.

Motorcycle Unit officer conducting traffic enforcement during roadway operations in 2025.



Officers dedicated over 568 hours responding to traffic-related service requests originating from citizen complaints, City leadership, and internal department referrals. 93% of service requests were reviewed within 72 hours.

In 2026, the Motorcycle Unit will continue focusing on traffic enforcement and roadway safety while supporting major regional operations, including FIFA World Cup-related activities in the Kansas City metropolitan area. These efforts will involve close coordination with partner agencies to help ensure safe and efficient travel for residents, visitors, and event participants.

The unit will continue responding to traffic concerns raised by the community, supporting special events across the city, and working to maintain adequate staffing and training levels. Through these efforts, the Motorcycle Unit remains committed to providing visible, professional traffic enforcement and supporting public safety needs throughout Topeka.



Motorcycle Unit officers providing traffic control and public safety support during a community parade in 2025.

TOPEKA POLICE DEPARTMENT – SUPPORT BUREAU PROPERTY MAINTENANCE UNIT

The Topeka Property Maintenance Unit (PMU), operating within the Support Bureau, is responsible for protecting public health, safety, and neighborhood stability by enforcing the City's property maintenance codes fairly and consistently. PMU's mission is to ensure that residential and commercial properties are maintained to prevent hazardous conditions, reduce blight, and preserve residents' quality of life across all neighborhoods.

PMU plays a critical role in identifying and addressing conditions that pose risks to occupants, neighbors, and first responders, including unsafe structures, unsanitary living conditions, vacant and abandoned properties, and properties affected by fire, neglect, or prolonged disinvestment. By enforcing adopted codes and ordinances, PMU helps prevent deterioration that can lead to increased crime, fire hazards, and declining property values.



In addition to enforcement, PMU emphasizes education, voluntary compliance, and community engagement. Inspectors routinely work with property owners, tenants, landlords, and community partners to achieve compliance whenever possible, reserving enforcement actions, abatements, and demolitions for situations where health and safety risks persist, or due process has been exhausted. This balanced approach promotes accountability while supporting responsible property ownership and neighborhood reinvestment.

Through proactive inspections, coordinated abatements, strategic demolitions, and partnerships with internal City departments and external agencies, PMU serves as a stabilizing force in Topeka's neighborhoods—addressing immediate hazards while supporting long-term community resilience and redevelopment.

2025 was a highly productive year for the City of Topeka and its Property Maintenance Division, marked by continued progress in code enforcement, neighborhood revitalization, and quality-of-life improvements. With staff support and exceptional direction from the TPD command staff, PMU's reach was expanded citywide—leading abatements, enforcing sanitation, illegal parking, and housing codes, and aligning partners to restore safety, dignity, and investment in neighborhoods.

PMU adopted the 2024 City's Property Maintenance Code (IPMC), refined SOPs, modernized notices, created and distributed educational pamphlets, and shaped city council presentations that connected technical standards with real community impact. PMU developed staff capacity through training, recognition, and outreach events, fostering collaboration, professional growth, and a stronger public-service culture within the unit.

TOPEKA POLICE DEPARTMENT – SUPPORT BUREAU PROPERTY MAINTENANCE UNIT

Within the PMU, each field inspector is assigned a designated geographic area and is responsible for enforcing the City's Property Maintenance Code (IPMC). Inspectors report directly to the Field Supervisors and must accurately identify the property location, determine the nature of any violations, and apply the appropriate enforcement measures necessary to achieve compliance. Inspectors are encouraged to meet with property owners, discuss the deficiency related to the property, and support the property owner by providing guidance and resources to make corrections. In 2025, Cristian Marino was promoted to the rank of Field Supervisor.



PMU's approach in 2025 reflects a continued shift from reactive enforcement to proactive public safety services. Inspectors prioritized education, early intervention, and voluntary compliance—using courtesy inspections, extended timelines when appropriate, and direct engagement with property owners to resolve violations before escalation. When compliance could not be achieved, enforcement actions were taken strategically and lawfully to eliminate hazards that posed immediate risks to health, safety, and neighborhood stability.

The removal of more than 815 tons of debris, abandoned vehicles, and dangerous structures directly reduced fire risk, criminal activity, pest infestations, and environmental harm, while improving overall neighborhood conditions. This balanced approach reinforces PMU's commitment to fairness, transparency, and accountability, ensuring that enforcement is not punitive but purpose-driven and centered on community well-being.

During 2025, PMU conducted 26 courtesy inspections, 8,901 initial inspections, and 9,731 re-inspections. Unit staff initiated 808 housing violations, 1,171 vehicle violations, 3,031 sanitation violations, 2,882 vegetation violations, processed 145 condemnations, and engaged in 85 special structure inspections.

TOPEKA POLICE DEPARTMENT – SUPPORT BUREAU

PROPERTY MAINTENANCE UNIT

Despite exhausting all reasonable efforts to achieve voluntary compliance—working directly with property owners and extending compliance timelines when warranted—PMU staff were ultimately required to execute 470 administrative search warrants. As a result of these enforcement actions, staff removed 815.7 tons of trash and rubbish and 807 tires, towed 153 vehicles, eliminated graffiti at 41 locations, facilitated the mowing of 684 properties, and demolished ten unsafe structures.

Total Number of Inspections

| Years | Courtesy Inspections | Initial Inspections | Re-Inspections | All Total |
|-------|----------------------|---------------------|----------------|-----------|
| 2023 | 2 | 9628 | 8519 | 18147 |
| 2024 | 42 | 9230 | 10030 | 19260 |
| 2025 | 26 | 8901 | 9731 | 18632 |

Total Number of Cases by Type

| Year | Graffiti | Weeds | Sanitation | Vehicle | Housing | Housing Condemnation | Unsafe Structure / Emergency | Vacant Registry | Total Cases | Total Addresses |
|------|----------|-------|------------|---------|---------|----------------------|------------------------------|-----------------|-------------|-----------------|
| 2023 | 101 | 1675 | 2503 | 799 | 970 | 198 | 177 / 3 | 209 | 6636 | 3919 |
| 2024 | 147 | 3006 | 3037 | 1047 | 983 | 279 | 122 / 0 | 201 | 8822 | 5136 |
| 2025 | 168 | 2882 | 3031 | 1171 | 808 | 145 | 85 / 4 | 239 | 8433 | 5063 |

Average Days to Meet Compliance

| Year/ Average | Graffiti | Weeds | Sanitation | Vehicle | Housing | Housing Condemnation | Unsafe Structure |
|------------------|----------|-------|------------|---------|---------|----------------------|------------------|
| 2023 | 17 | 70 | 57 | 39 | 209 | 246 | 185 |
| 2024 | 21 | 56 | 54 | 34 | 168 | 148 | 181 |
| 2025 | 21 | 42 | 44 | 38 | 83 | 68 | 76 |

Homeless encampments underscore the critical importance of the City's Change of Culture initiative and the enforcement of the IPMC. These cases involve serious public health and safety risks but also demand lawful, compassionate responses that go beyond traditional code enforcement. The IPMC provides modern tools to address hazards, including fire risks, sanitation issues, and unsafe conditions.

At the same time, the Change of Culture ensures balanced enforcement with emphasis on outreach, due process, and interdepartmental coordination. Together, they allow the City to protect neighborhoods, safeguard vulnerable populations, and reduce long-term impacts on staff and resources.

TOPEKA POLICE DEPARTMENT – SUPPORT BUREAU

PROPERTY MAINTENANCE UNIT

In 2025, the PMU worked collaboratively with the Topeka Police Department (TPD), Water Pollution Control (WPC), and participating community partners to address the complex needs of individuals experiencing homelessness. Before any cleanup activity, occupants were provided access to outreach services, resources, and referrals intended to help them transition away from encampments and toward safe, stable housing with ongoing support. Despite these efforts, encampments often leave behind significant amounts of trash, waste, and hazardous debris, creating unsafe and unsanitary conditions. Through this coordinated and compassionate approach, the City removed more than 554 tons of trash, waste, and rubbish from 65 encampment sites throughout 2025 to protect public health, safety, and the surrounding environment.



PMU staff received ongoing formal training throughout the year, both traditional and non-traditional, to support our enforcement and strengthen our strategies. Training included, but was not limited to, the following topics:

- Courtroom Testimony and Case Preparation (Prosecution & our MC Judge)
- Records Retention Review Process (In-House)
- Target Solutions Overview Training (In-House)
- Community Resources Refresher (In-House)
- Abandoned vehicle enforcement & citation writing (TPD)
- Solution-Oriented Code Enforcement (KACE)
- Useful Resources Commonly Overlooked by Code Enforcement (KACE)
- Strategic Approaches to Effective Code Enforcement (KACE)
- 10 Best Non-Verbal Communication Skills for Code Enforcement (KACE)
- Recognizing and Identifying the critical needs of our occupants (KACE)
- Employee Safety and Personal Awareness (KACE)
- Doing Code Enforcement Strategically (KACE)

In addition to the above-listed topics, John Schardine, PMU Director, provided six hours of formal training to the TPD staff, covering PMU's role with the City, enforcement limitations, and the critical importance of collaboration in achieving our goals.

TOPEKA POLICE DEPARTMENT – SUPPORT BUREAU PROPERTY MAINTENANCE UNIT

Community engagement transforms property maintenance from a reactive enforcement function into a proactive public-safety service. These efforts improve voluntary compliance, reduce conflict, lower enforcement costs, and strengthen neighborhoods—while reinforcing the City's commitment to transparency, fairness, and public trust. The PMU regularly participates in monthly neighborhood improvement association (NIA) meetings, council meetings, and a variety of community- and City-sponsored events.

One such initiative, launched in 2025, was Coffee with Code, a community-focused forum that brings residents and PMU staff to the same table. This event provides an open, informal setting for community members to share concerns, ask questions, and have meaningful dialogue with enforcement staff. Engagement initiatives like Coffee with Code are a valuable investment in community trust, compliance, and neighborhood health. They help shift the perception of code enforcement from reactive to collaborative, aligning with the City's broader mission of service, accountability, and community partnership. In 2025, PMU hosted three Coffee with Code events, in partnership with the City's Office of Inclusive Communities, the Topeka Fire Department, and City's Executive Administration.



In 2026, PMU will focus on strengthening operational capacity, enforcement efficiency, and staff development. Key priorities include establishing a process for inspectors to access NCIC to verify VINs and license plates when addressing abandoned or inoperable vehicles, and finalizing procedures and training to assume responsibility for abandoned vehicles on City streets currently handled by the TPD VIPS unit. PMU will prioritize maintaining full staffing levels while expanding professional development through additional training opportunities and cross-training with other City

departments. The Unit will also implement a structured training schedule to support the transition to the new Tyler software system and create pathways for inspectors to obtain International Code Council (ICC) certifications, ensuring consistent, defensible, and modern code enforcement practices.

TOPEKA POLICE DEPARTMENT – PATROL BUREAU

PATROL DIVISION

Patrol remains the backbone of any law enforcement agency. In 2025, the Topeka Police Department reaffirmed this commitment by restoring the traditional name Patrol Bureau, formerly known as the Field Operations Bureau.

In addition to this name rebranding, the Patrol Bureau introduced a refreshed and modernized fleet appearance, transitioning from the traditional black-and-white color scheme to an all-black design that is both contemporary and cost-effective.



Patrol officers were responsible for handling the majority of the department's 101,284 calls for service throughout 2025, highlighting the Bureau's critical role in day-to-day operations.

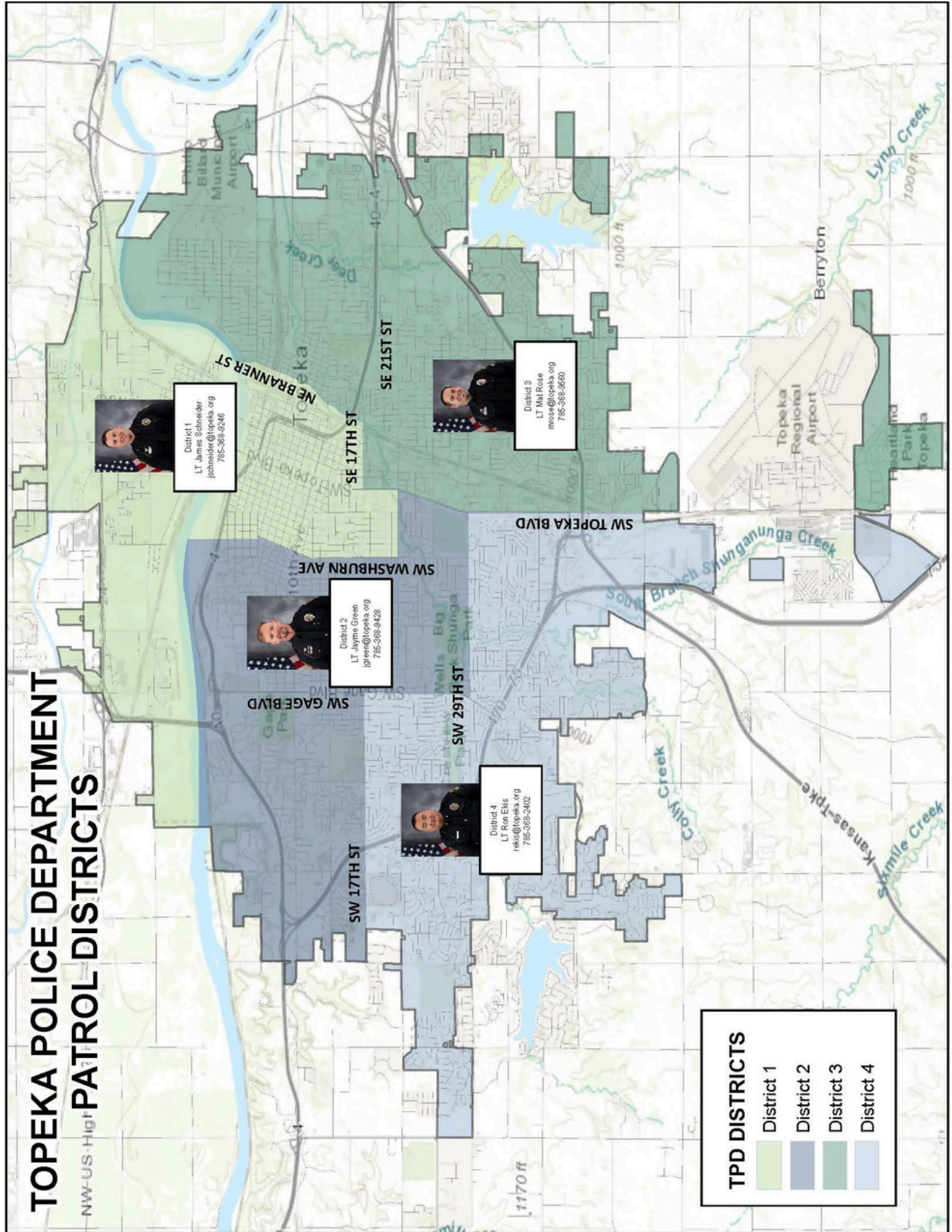
To enhance accountability and leadership, the Patrol Bureau implemented a district-based command structure, assigning leadership responsibilities as follows:

- Bureau Commander: Commander Jones
- District 1: Lieutenant Schneider
- District 2: Lieutenant Green
- District 3: Lieutenant (Vacant)
- District 4: Lieutenant Ekis
- Special Projects: Lieutenant Trimble and Lieutenant Hren



TOPEKA POLICE DEPARTMENT – PATROL BUREAU

PATROL DIVISION



TOPEKA POLICE DEPARTMENT – PATROL BUREAU

K-9 UNIT

The Topeka Police Department K-9 Unit experienced a significant operational increase in 2025, demonstrating both the growing demand for K-9 services and the continued effectiveness of the unit in supporting patrol operations and community safety.

During calendar year 2025, the K-9 Unit conducted 691 deployments, representing a 61% increase from 2024. K-9 teams were directly involved in 199 arrests, assisted on 4,428 calls for service, and generated 937 self-initiated activities. These numbers reflect an active, proactive unit that continues to play a critical role in offender apprehension, search operations, and officer safety.



TOPEKA POLICE DEPARTMENT – PATROL BUREAU

EXPLORER PROGRAM

Established in 1968, the Topeka Explorer Program is one of the longest-running law enforcement youth programs in the nation. Its mission is to provide hands-on, real-world experiences that offer young individuals a deeper understanding of the many facets of modern policing.

Through scenario-based training, interactive instruction, and guided activities, cadets gain invaluable insight and practical knowledge not typically available through traditional education or other extracurricular programs. The program currently consists of 18 cadets and eight dedicated police advisors.



In 2025, the program proudly hosted the 16th Annual Topeka Capital Challenge Competition, welcoming 14 teams from across the country. Beyond training and competition—which takes place every Monday evening—cadets regularly engage in community service. The Explorers also contributed to a wide range of events, including the Topeka Police Department’s Trunk or Treat, Shop with a Cop gift wrapping drive, numerous local parades, and various other civic initiatives.

TOPEKA POLICE DEPARTMENT – PATROL BUREAU

SWAT PROGRAM

In 2025, the Topeka Police Department's SWAT Team dedicated hundreds of hours to advanced training and participated in over 60 tactical operations. Among these numerous incidents, two stood out as exemplary demonstrations of the team's professionalism, dedication, and selflessness.

On February 25, 2025, patrol officers responded to a domestic violence incident involving a man with an extensive criminal history holding his wife hostage at gunpoint. As tensions escalated, an emergency reaction team was assembled. SWAT officers on the scene heard the victim screaming for her life, prompting the initiation of a hostage rescue operation.

Upon making entry, patrol officers discovered the suspect was unarmed at that moment and safely took him into custody without discharging their firearms. The victim was immediately relocated to a secure area and was unharmed during the rescue. A shotgun was recovered from within the room, confirming the initial threat assessment.



On November 16, 2025, patrol officers responded to a domestic violence call involving a suspect who retreated into his apartment while armed with a handgun. A critical concern during the incident was the presence of the suspect's three-year-old daughter inside the residence. The SWAT Team and Crisis Negotiators were deployed, initiating a high-risk operation.

For several hours, negotiators attempted to de-escalate the situation. Utilizing a Unitree Tactical Robot Dog, the team gathered intelligence that enabled command staff to order a hostage rescue. The operation was executed successfully as the suspect was apprehended without incident, and the child was rescued unharmed. A handgun was recovered from inside the residence.

TOPEKA POLICE DEPARTMENT – PATROL BUREAU

SECURITY PRESERVATION TEAM

Throughout 2025, the Security Preservation Team (SPT) supported numerous operations in collaboration with the Narcotics Unit and the SWAT Team. SPT played a key role in monitoring multiple protests at the Kansas Capitol and Downtown Topeka area. To help maintain peaceful demonstrations, SPT members were strategically stationed at key locations and coordinated with organizers in advance of the events.

SPT recently acquired several VKS PepperBall launchers, significantly enhancing the team's precision capabilities. These advanced launchers offer greater accuracy less-lethal munitions with reduced risk to bystanders. The VKS launchers will be deployed during routine patrols, providing officers with an additional less-lethal option during field operations.



TOPEKA POLICE DEPARTMENT – INVESTIGATIONS BUREAU SPECIAL VICTIMS UNIT

The Special Victims Unit (SVU) is responsible for the investigation and oversight of sensitive person-crime cases involving vulnerable victims, including child abuse, sexual abuse of children, and other special victim investigations. Operating within the Investigations Bureau, the SVU utilizes sound investigative procedures and intelligence-led policing practices to ensure thorough, victim-centered, and legally sound investigations while enhancing public safety.

The Unit consists of seven detectives and one sergeant. The Unit staff work closely with community partners that include the Kansas Department for Children and Families (DCF), LifeHouse Child Advocacy Center, KVC Kansas, Stormont Vail Forensic Nursing Team, Pathway Family Services, and Family Service and Guidance Center.

SVU maintains strong collaborative partnerships with DCF caseworkers and the LifeHouse Child Advocacy Center and regularly participates in joint investigations involving suspected child abuse and sexual abuse of children. Through effective investigation the Unit works to protect vulnerable populations, support victims and families, and hold offenders accountable.

TOPEKA POLICE DEPARTMENT – INVESTIGATIONS BUREAU HOMICIDE UNIT

The Homicide Unit is responsible for the investigation and oversight of the department's most serious and complex criminal offenses, including homicides, cold case homicides, robberies, and other major person-crime investigations. The Homicide Unit is staffed by seven detectives and one sergeant.

Operating within the Investigations Bureau, the Unit utilizes sound investigative procedures and intelligence-led policing practices to enhance public safety and ensure thorough, legally sound investigations. Cold case homicide investigations are periodically reviewed and assigned when new information or investigative opportunities arise. The Unit also maintains accurate department-wide tracking of homicides, shootings, and robberies, and is responsible for required monthly, quarterly, semi-annual, and annual statistical reporting.



TOPEKA POLICE DEPARTMENT – INVESTIGATIONS BUREAU

FINANCIAL CRIMES UNIT

The Financial Crimes Unit is in the Property Crimes Division of the Investigations Bureau and is staffed by three detectives and one sergeant.

In 2025, the Financial Crimes Unit focused on investigating prolific offenders and educating our community on preventive measures to combat online schemes and predatory methods used to commit fraud, forgery, and cybercrime.

Detectives integrate forensic accounting, digital forensics, and intelligence analysis to trace illicit currency flows and disrupt spree crimes. Cyber-enabled offenses, including ransomware, email compromise, and cryptocurrency abuse, demand rapid attribution and evidence preservation.

In July 2025, detectives thwarted a scammer's effort to illicit tens of thousands of dollars from an elderly couple, directing them to make payments via a cryptocurrency ATM machine. The detectives' rapid response and immediate actions to preserve cryptocurrency payments led to the successful recovery of all funds. One of our detectives continues to serve on the federal Cyber Fraud Task Force and remains involved with Operation Shamrock.



Financial Crimes Unit (left to right): Detective Child, Detective Kinnett, and Sergeant Shorb. Not pictured: Detective Caviness



Sergeant Shorb delivers a presentation on financial crimes to students at the Topeka Center for Advanced Learning & Careers (TCALC).

TOPEKA POLICE DEPARTMENT – INVESTIGATIONS BUREAU PROPERTY CRIMES UNIT

The Property Crimes Unit is in the Property Crimes Division of the Investigations Bureau and is staffed by six detectives and one sergeant.

In 2025, the Property Crimes Unit continued hosting the monthly meetings of the Topeka Retail Association (TRA), welcoming several new businesses into the partnership. Detectives collaborated closely with retailers and loss-prevention professionals along the Wanamaker Corridor, conducting two focused operations aimed at reducing retail crime and strengthening information sharing among the partners.

These efforts resulted in multiple arrests, the dismantling of an organized retail crime fencing network, and the recovery of approximately \$100,000 in stolen merchandise. Building on this success, TRA membership continues to grow, and Property Crimes detectives are working with retailers throughout the region to assist with suspect identification and to monitor the evolving methods used by organized retail crime groups.

In February and March 2025, Property Crimes detectives investigated a series of commercial burglaries that resulted in significant financial losses for local businesses. A local news station featured the community's support of one of the victims (<https://www.ksnt.com/news/crime/bobos-drive-in-receives-outpouring-of-support-from-topeka-community-after-break-in/>), illustrating the impact of these crimes. Through diligent investigative work, detectives developed a positive identification of the suspect, leading to an arrest and helping bring accountability while reinforcing the department's commitment to protecting local businesses.

A Property Crimes investigation into a series of vehicle thefts led to the identification and arrest of a violent offender. The suspect was ultimately sentenced to 11 years in prison for multiple auto thefts, residential burglaries, and firearm-related offenses.



Property Crimes Unit (left to right): Detective Goodman, Detective Schwinn, Detective Grady, Detective Widener, Detective Dunderdale, Sergeant Burger, and Detective Wall

TOPEKA POLICE DEPARTMENT – INVESTIGATIONS BUREAU DOMESTIC VIOLENCE UNIT

The Domestic Violence Unit operates within the Property Crimes Division of the Investigations Bureau and is staffed by two detectives.

In 2025, the unit strengthened partnerships with the Mayor’s Taskforce on Domestic Violence, the YWCA, the City Attorney’s Office, and Crime Victim Advocacy. Detectives delivered presentations and public service messaging to educate the community about domestic violence awareness, available resources, and prevention strategies.

Throughout their investigations, detectives prioritized identifying repeat offenders and recognizing escalating risk factors. This approach supports early intervention, connects victims with services, and helps mitigate the potential for future violence.



Domestic Violence Unit (left to right)
Detective Sensel and Detective Iams

TOPEKA POLICE DEPARTMENT - INVESTIGATIONS BUREAU GENERAL CASE UNIT (2ND SHIFT)

The General Case Unit operates within the Property Crimes Division of the Investigations Bureau and is staffed by detectives assigned to 2nd shift.

In 2025, the detectives assigned to this unit played a critical role in managing case assignments and responding to active investigations. Their prompt involvement at evolving scenes contributed to stronger cases and supported successful prosecutions.

Beyond immediate response, the unit detectives demonstrated a sustained commitment to thorough follow-up. Responsibilities included conducting interviews, coordinating with patrol officers and crime scene personnel, preparing detailed investigative documentation, and maintaining communication with victims and witnesses.

The dedication of the 2nd Shift unit reflects a strong work ethic and unwavering commitment to public safety. Their efforts improved investigative efficiency, enhanced case resolution, and reinforced trust within the community. The consistent, high-quality work performed by these detectives provides significant value to both the department and the citizens it serves.

TOPEKA POLICE DEPARTMENT – INVESTIGATIONS BUREAU

CRIME VICTIMS ASSISTANCE UNIT

The mission of the Topeka Police Department’s Crime Victims Assistance Unit (CVAU) is to provide crime victims with timely advocacy, accurate information, and referrals to services needed as a result of their victimization.

CVAU offers comprehensive support throughout the criminal justice process, including case status updates and explanations of court procedures. Advocates provide court accompaniment, assist with information and applications related to restraining orders, and help victims navigate the Kansas Crime Victims Compensation Board process. The unit also connects victims with appropriate community resources and assists with registration in the Kansas VINE notification system to ensure ongoing case updates and safety awareness.

From January 1 through December 31, 2025, CVAU assisted 510 victims of crime, including individuals impacted by domestic violence, child abuse, sexual abuse (adult and child), human trafficking, violent physical assaults such as shootings and stabbings, and homicide.

Services provided during the year included completing 26 U-Visa certifications for immigrant victims, assisting a theft victim from another jurisdiction in securing transportation to return home, distributing emergency cell phones to four victims, completing 145 law enforcement verification forms for the Kansas Crime Victims Compensation Board, and registering 98 victims with the VINE notification system.

Through advocacy, resource coordination, and direct assistance, CVAU continues to play a critical role in supporting victims during some of the most difficult moments of their lives.

TOPEKA POLICE DEPARTMENT – INVESTIGATIONS BUREAU

CRIME & INTELLIGENCE ANALYSTS

Crime and Intelligence Analysts serve as force multipliers and are an integral component of the Topeka Police Department’s public safety strategy. By transforming raw data into actionable intelligence, analysts provide a critical “bird’s-eye view” of crime patterns, emerging threats, and operational opportunities.

Analysts deliver timely intelligence and analytical products to address both short-term crime problems and long-term trends. They provide immediate support during critical incidents – including homicides, shootings, robberies, and crisis negotiations – ensuring sworn personnel have relevant intelligence in real time. Whether analyzing a short-term business burglary series, identifying patterns in overnight vehicle burglaries in north Topeka, or supporting an active violent crime investigation, analysts are prepared to pivot quickly to meet operational demands.

Beyond incident response, the Unit researches and tracks long-term crime patterns, providing spatial, temporal, and modus operandi analysis to guide patrol and investigative strategies. Examples include targeting seasonal increases in vehicle burglaries, supporting catalytic converter theft reduction initiatives through vehicle and time-pattern analysis, and evaluating National Integrated Ballistic Information Network (NIBIN) leads and social networks to assess the risk of retaliatory shootings.

The Unit also supports executive-level decision-making by producing analytical reports and data-driven recommendations. Analysts generate use-of-force statistical summaries for media preparation, analyze call load and demographic data to inform district boundary considerations, and produce intelligence workups on individuals, vehicles, addresses, and case linkages. Visual analytical tools – including link charts, timelines, maps, and case workups – enhance situational awareness and investigative clarity.

Through data analysis, strategic intelligence development, and rapid operational support, Crime and Intelligence Analysts directly enhance officer effectiveness, investigative outcomes, and informed command decision-making across the department.

TOPEKA POLICE DEPARTMENT – INVESTIGATIONS BUREAU

BOMB SQUAD

The Bomb Squad is staffed by four certified Public Safety Bomb Technicians (PSBTs), including two officers and two sergeants. The team is accredited through the Federal Bureau of Investigation Hazardous Devices School, and the department is authorized to maintain five PSBT positions. The fifth position was previously filled by a deputy from the Shawnee County Sheriff's Office under a memorandum of understanding between the agencies. That agreement was dissolved in March 2025, and the position is currently vacant.

Bomb Squad service is a part-time assignment in addition to each technician's full-time duties within the department. To maintain certification, members complete a minimum of 24 hours of training every month. Technicians must also recertify every three years by attending a 40-hour recertification course at the FBI Hazardous Devices School in Huntsville, Alabama.

The Bomb Squad serves as a regional asset, providing mutual aid across 16 counties in Northeast Kansas as well as the Kansas City, Missouri metropolitan area. The team responds to suspicious packages and potential hazardous device incidents, using specialized tools and technology to evaluate items and determine the level of threat. When a device or material is confirmed to be hazardous, technicians take the necessary steps to render it safe.

The Bomb Squad also responds to Homemade Explosive Material (HME) laboratories. PSBTs are trained to identify, document, and properly dispose of precursor chemicals and energetic materials encountered during these operations. In addition, the Bomb Squad investigates post-blast scenes and works in coordination with Topeka Fire Department and the Kansas State Fire Marshal's Office to support origin-and-cause investigations.

The Bomb Squad is responsible for the recovery and disposal of energetic items encountered by officers throughout the region. These items include military ordnance, fireworks, improvised energetic devices, and large quantities of ammunition. Depending on the condition and stability of the material, technicians either conduct an immediate emergency disposal or secure the items for safe storage and destruction at a later date.

Technicians also conduct protective sweeps and provide standby support for large public gatherings, including parades, dignitary visits, and major sporting events. In addition, the team participates in public demonstrations each year in support of department community-outreach initiatives.

In 2025, the Bomb Squad began formal collaboration with the TPD Response Team. Members completed multiple joint training exercises and deployed the Bomb Squad robot during incidents involving barricaded subjects. The long-term objective of this partnership is to enhance the Response Team's capabilities through explosive breaching operations. To support that goal, the department plans to send two to four Bomb Squad members to explosive breacher training in 2026.



TOPEKA POLICE DEPARTMENT – INVESTIGATIONS BUREAU POLICE AND COMMUNITY TOGETHER / NARCOTICS UNIT

Since its start on July 19, 2025, the Police and Community Together (PACT) / Narcotics Unit has quietly become one of the most impactful teams within the department. Made up of just three PACT Officers, two Narcotics Officers, and one Sergeant, the Unit has taken on a workload that would challenge a group twice its size. Yet what stands out most is not just what they do, but how they do it, consistently, professionally, and with the community at the center of their mission.

In a relatively short period of time, the Unit has managed numerous complex investigations, including several high-risk operations, all concluded safely. These efforts removed dangerous individuals, illegal weapons, and narcotics from the streets, helping restore stability in neighborhoods impacted by violent crime. The Unit's work also proved instrumental in resolving multiple serious cases, providing reassurance to residents and a sense of closure to affected families and the broader community.

But the true measure of the Unit's success goes beyond the cases themselves. Their steady presence, willingness to take on difficult investigations, and ability to work respectfully within neighborhoods have strengthened relationships with community members who often see the effects of crime firsthand. The trust they've built with residents, as well as with partner agencies like the U.S. Marshals, ATF, DEA, FBI, and the Shawnee County Sheriff's Office, has been essential to safely carrying out joint operations and addressing violent offenders.

In a short period of time, the PACT/Narcotics Unit has made a measurable difference. Their work has improved safety, strengthened partnerships, and demonstrated what a small, dedicated team can accomplish through integrity, cooperation, and a commitment to the people they serve.



TOPEKA POLICE DEPARTMENT – INVESTIGATIONS BUREAU CRIME GUN INTELLIGENCE CENTER / INTEL UNIT

Since its creation, the Crime Gun Intelligence Center (CGIC), has become a key tool in reducing gun violence and violent crime. Built on intelligence-led policing, advanced forensics, and interagency collaboration, the CGIC helps the department identify offenders, disrupt criminal activity, and strengthen community trust.

The Unit collects, analyzes, and disseminates information related to firearms used in crimes. Using NIBIN, ballistics analysis, and intelligence work, the CGIC quickly links recovered firearms to incidents and offenders. This rapid analysis transforms investigations, turning previously unrelated cases into actionable leads. For example, a handgun seized during a routine stop might be connected to multiple shootings, allowing investigators to identify and apprehend repeat offenders quickly, removing dangerous individuals from the streets before further violence occurs.



Beyond solving cases, the CGIC helps prevent cycles of retaliatory gun violence. By identifying key offenders early, the Unit allows the department to take proactive measures that improve clearance rates and overall community safety. Its work extends beyond law enforcement; careful attention to constitutional rights, evidence preservation, and operational confidentiality ensures investigations are both effective and respectful of the community.

The CGIC has also strengthened public trust. By collaborating with community members, partner agencies, and prosecutors, the Unit demonstrates transparency, professionalism, and a commitment to fairness. Residents see tangible results, fewer shootings, faster arrests, and more coordinated enforcement, reinforcing confidence in the department's ability to keep neighborhoods safe.

Through the integration of technology, intelligence, and collaboration, the Crime Gun Intelligence Center has proven that even a small, focused unit can make a significant impact. By identifying violent offenders, reducing gun crime, and fostering stronger community relationships, the CGIC has become a cornerstone of the Topeka Police Department's public safety strategy.

TOPEKA POLICE DEPARTMENT – INVESTIGATIONS BUREAU

CRIME SCENE INVESTIGATIONS UNIT

The Crime Scene Investigation (CSI) Unit operates within the Investigations Bureau and consists of six officers and two Sergeants. In 2025, the unit responded to over 1,000 activities.

The CSI Unit is responsible for responding to all major cases and unattended deaths to photograph, document, collect, and process all evidence from the crime scenes. The unit also responds as needed to less significant cases where additional expertise is required to process evidence at scenes.

The CSI Unit also performs Alternative Light Source (ALS) photography to document injuries on victims that may not be visible to the naked eye with traditional light sources. CSI performs all evidence transfers to the Kansas Bureau of Investigation lab for additional forensic examinations.

The Unit is responsible for all National Integrated Ballistic Information Network (NIBIN) entries related to Topeka Police Department cases. NIBIN technology uses specialized imaging equipment to capture and compare the unique markings left on shell casings, helping analysts link evidence to the specific firearm involved.

The department partners with the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF), which maintains the national NIBIN database. Responsibilities include entering shell casings recovered from shooting scenes, as well as test-firing and submitting ballistic evidence from every firearm collected and submitted into TPD property.



TOPEKA POLICE DEPARTMENT CHAPLAIN PROGRAM

For nearly 40 years, the Topeka Police Department Chaplain Program has provided support and care to both department personnel and the community. The program is made up of twelve volunteer chaplains who generously give their time and services to assist officers, employees, and families during both routine and critical moments.

Each chaplain serves a rotating duty week and is available to provide a wide range of support services. Chaplains assist officers with unattended death notifications, conduct hospital visits, provide reading and spiritual materials, perform memorial and wedding services when requested, and offer counseling to employees and their spouses. When individuals require additional or long-term support, chaplains also help connect them with appropriate referral resources.



Chaplaincy within the Topeka Police Department is not simply an assignment – it is a calling.

Chaplains strive to serve as a “ministry of presence,” offering calmness, compassion, and steady support during moments that are often difficult, emotional, or chaotic. By listening first and responding with care and understanding, chaplains provide comfort not only in the immediate moment but throughout the journey that follows.

The chaplain team remains committed to maintaining situational awareness, supporting officers in the field, and following departmental protocols while providing compassionate service. Above all, the chaplains recognize the dedication and sacrifice of the men and women of the Topeka Police Department who work every day to keep the community safe.

On behalf of the entire chaplain team, we extend our sincere gratitude for the opportunity to serve the department and the community.



2025 CRIME STATISTICS TREND

✓ ALL CRIME CATEGORIES ON A **DOWNWARD TREND** SINCE 2023
AND **WELL BELOW** THE 5-YEAR AVERAGE ↓

VIOLENT CRIMES
— DOWN ↓

-4.4%

**OVERALL
CRIME RATES
DOWN**

-9.40%

PROPERTY CRIME
— DOWN ↓

-10.5%

All crime down 9.4% below 5-year average since 2023

2025 CRIME STATISTICS TRENDS

↓ All Crime Categories on a **Downward Trend**
✓ All Categories Well **Below 5-Year Average**

VIOLENT CRIMES

2025 Total **Below 5-Yr Low & Avg**



Criminal Homicides

- Lowest Total Since 2022
- **Below 5-Yr Avg**



Rapes

- Well **Below 5-Yr Avg**
- Close to 5-Yr Low



Robbery

- Well **Below 5-Yr Avg**



Agg Assault / Agg Battery

- Well **Below 5-Yr Avg**
- Close to 5-Yr Low
- **Downward Trend Since 2022** →



Violent Crime Total: Below 5-Yr Avg & Low ✓

2025 CRIME STATISTICS TRENDS

↓ All Crime Categories on a **Downward Trend** Since 2023
✓ All Categories Well **Below 5-Year Average**

PROPERTY CRIMES

2025 Total **Below 5-Year Average**



Burglary

- Well **Below 5-Yr Avg**



Auto Theft

- Well **Below 5-Yr Low**



Theft (Grand & Shoplifting)

- Well **Below 5-Yr Avg**
- **Downward Trend Since 2022** →



Property Crime Total: Below 5-Yr Avg ✓

2020-2025 Crime Statistics Z Scores

| Crime | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 | 5 yr Usual Range | 5 yr Avg | 5 yr Wtd. Avg. | Change 24-25 | Change fm. Avg. | Change fm. WA | St. Dev. | Z-Score |
|---------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|------------------|----------|----------------|--------------|-----------------|---------------|----------|---------|
| | Jan 1-Dec 31 | Jan 1-Dec 31 | Jan 1-Dec 31 | Jan 1-Dec 31 | Jan 1-Dec 31 | Jan 1-Dec 31 | | | | | | | | |
| HOMICIDE | 20 | 14 | 16 | 30 | 23 | 20 | 15 - 26 | 21 | 22 | -13% | -3% | -9% | 6 | -0.11 |
| RAPE | 76 | 88 | 69 | 88 | 64 | 60 | 67 - 87 | 77 | 75 | -6% | -22% | -20% | 10 | -1.74 |
| ROBBERY Commercial | 23 | 26 | 15 | 28 | 17 | 19 | 17 - 27 | 22 | 21 | 12% | -13% | -10% | 5 | -0.56 |
| ROBBERY Individual | 136 | 102 | 107 | 101 | 91 | 86 | 92 - 123 | 107 | 101 | -5% | -20% | -15% | 15 | -1.41 |
| ROBBERY TOTAL | 159 | 128 | 122 | 129 | 108 | 105 | 113 - 146 | 129 | 122 | -3% | -19% | -14% | 17 | -1.45 |
| AGG. BATTERY/AGG. ASSAULT | 834 | 730 | 805 | 784 | 744 | 713 | 741 - 818 | 779 | 771 | -4% | -9% | -8% | 38 | -1.73 |
| BURGLARY Commercial | 250 | 193 | 146 | 169 | 166 | 136 | 149 - 221 | 185 | 172 | -18% | -26% | -21% | 36 | -1.36 |
| BURGLARY Residence | 578 | 533 | 420 | 416 | 409 | 375 | 401 - 542 | 471 | 441 | -8% | -20% | -15% | 70 | -1.37 |
| BURGLARY TOTAL | 828 | 726 | 566 | 585 | 575 | 511 | 552 - 760 | 656 | 613 | -11% | -22% | -17% | 104 | -1.39 |
| AUTO THEFT | 907 | 800 | 695 | 785 | 636 | 430 | 672 - 858 | 765 | 727 | -32% | -44% | -41% | 93 | -3.59 |
| THEFT Veh Break Ins | 1479 | 1043 | 1012 | 860 | 745 | 645 | 778 - 1278 | 1028 | 918 | -13% | -37% | -30% | 250 | -1.53 |
| THEFT | 718 | 546 | 576 | 620 | 462 | 474 | 500 - 669 | 584 | 555 | 3% | -19% | -15% | 84 | -1.31 |
| THEFT Other | 1519 | 1200 | 888 | 875 | 731 | 623 | 759 - 1326 | 1043 | 916 | -15% | -40% | -32% | 283 | -1.48 |
| THEFT Shoplifting | 950 | 705 | 731 | 819 | 975 | 1012 | 726 - 946 | 836 | 847 | 4% | 21% | 19% | 110 | 1.60 |
| THEFT TOTAL | 4666 | 3494 | 3207 | 3174 | 2913 | 2754 | 2875 - 4107 | 3491 | 3236 | -5% | -21% | -15% | 616 | -1.20 |
| ARSON | 7 | 12 | 15 | 10 | 22 | 14 | 8 - 18 | 13 | 15 | -36% | 6% | -7% | 5 | 0.16 |
| TOTAL | 7497 | 5992 | 5495 | 5585 | 5085 | 4607 | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | 24-25 DIFF | | | | | | | -9.40% |

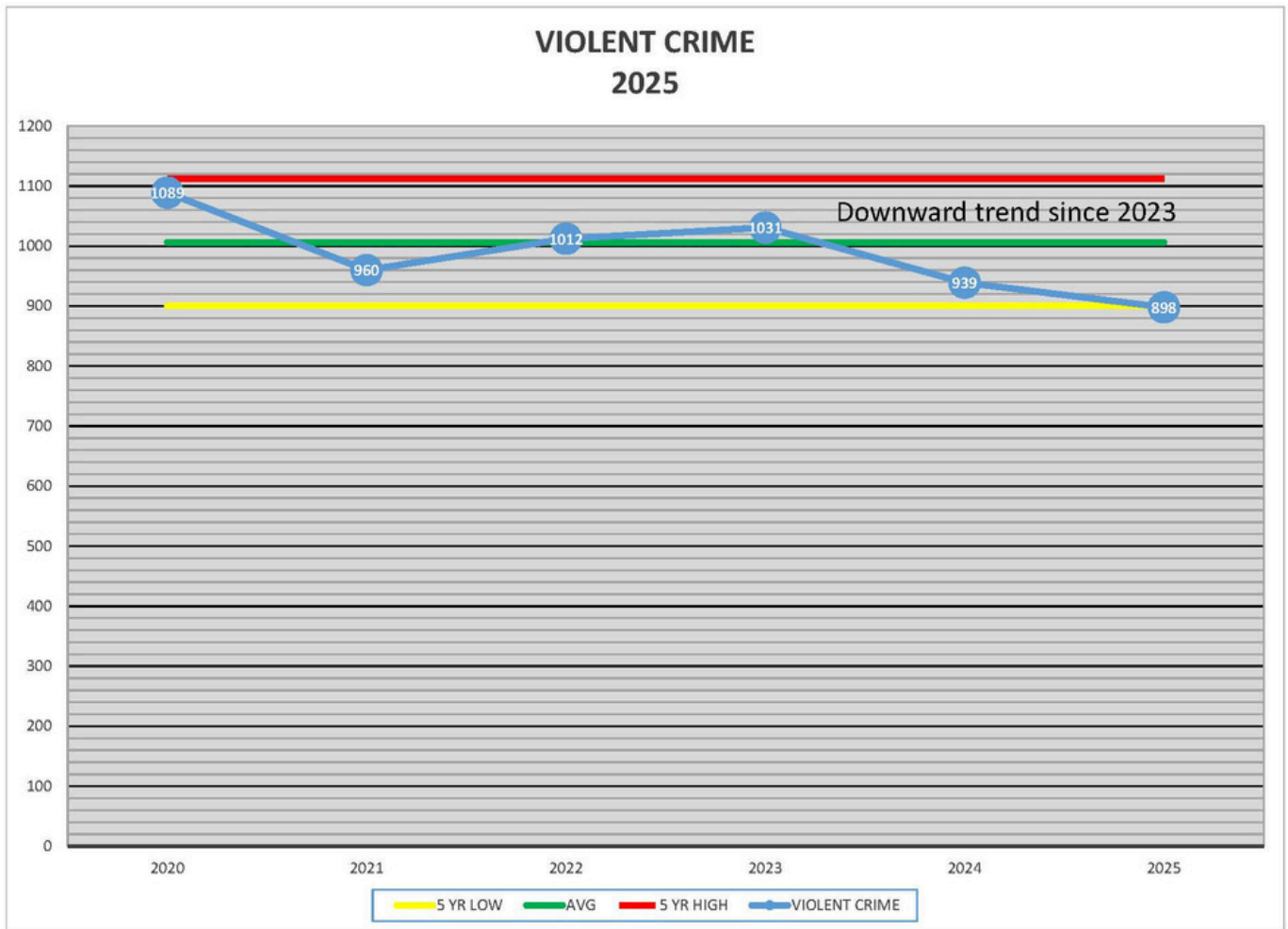
What Is a Z-Score?

A Z-score shows how far a crime total is from the 5-year average, measured in standard deviations.

- 0 = Exactly at the 5-year average
- Positive (+) = Above the 5-year average
- Negative (-) = Below the 5-year average
- ±2 or greater = Statistically significant difference (unusually high or low)

Z-scores allow different crime categories to be compared on the same scale, helping identify meaningful trends beyond normal year-to-year variation.

For 2025, the majority of crime categories show negative Z-scores, indicating totals below historical averages and reinforcing the overall downward trend.

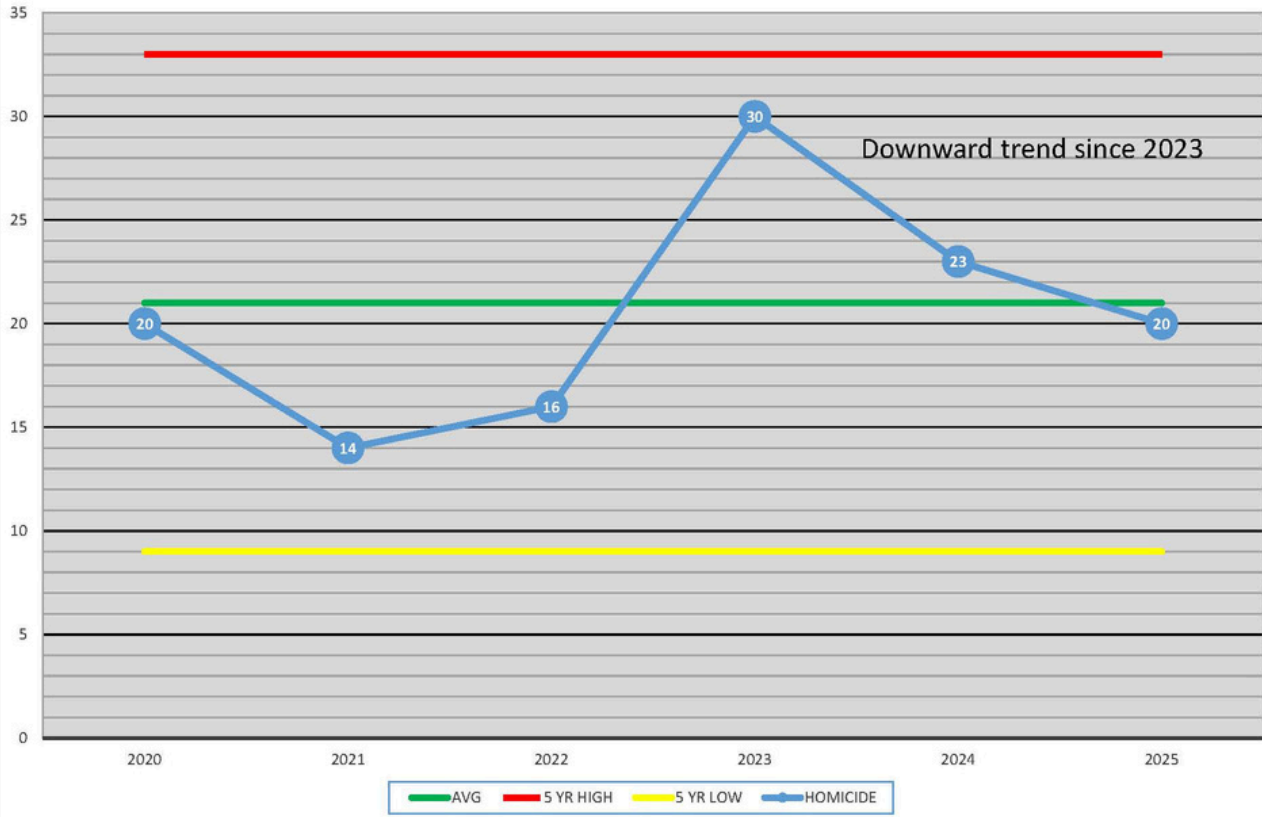


Violent Crime Graph includes statistics for:

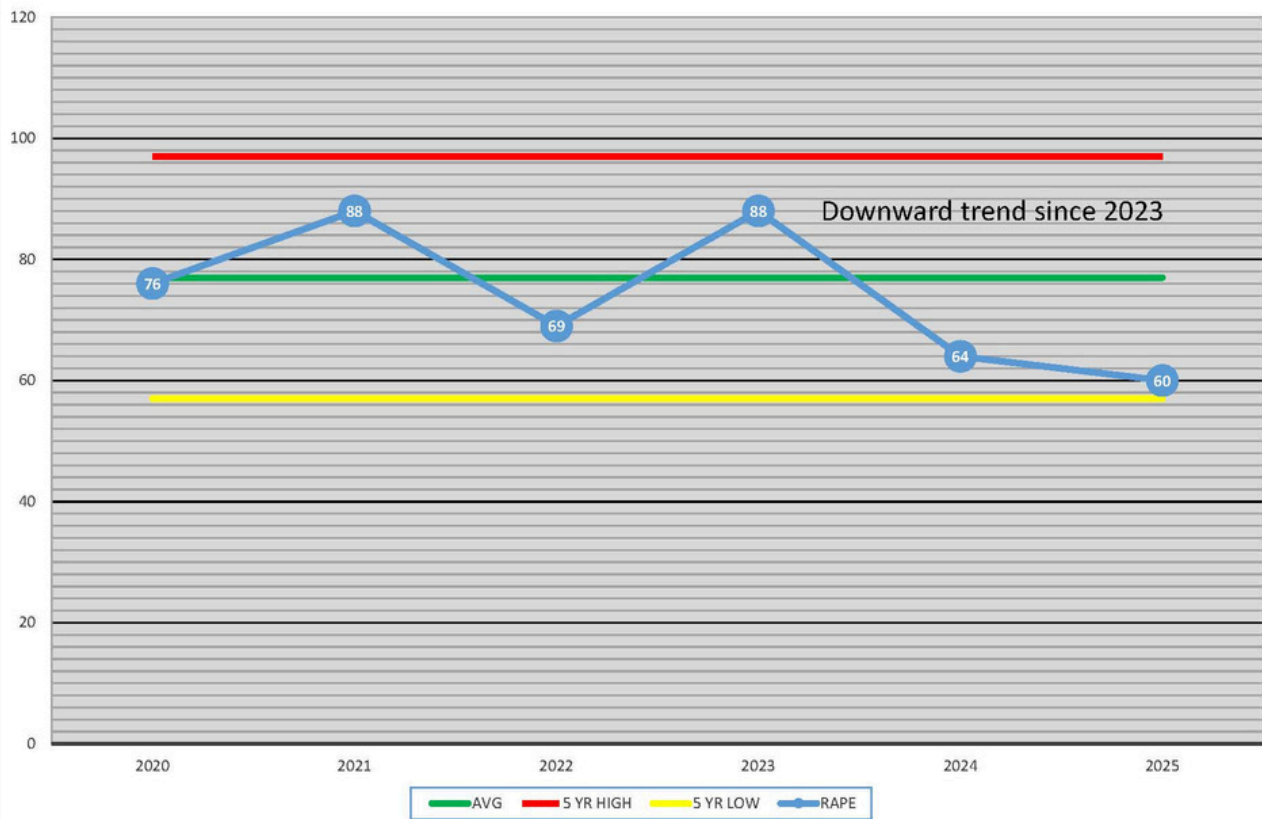
- Homicide (*Plus two additional “justified” homicides)
- Rape
- Aggravated Assault/Aggravated Battery
- Robbery

HOMICIDE 2025

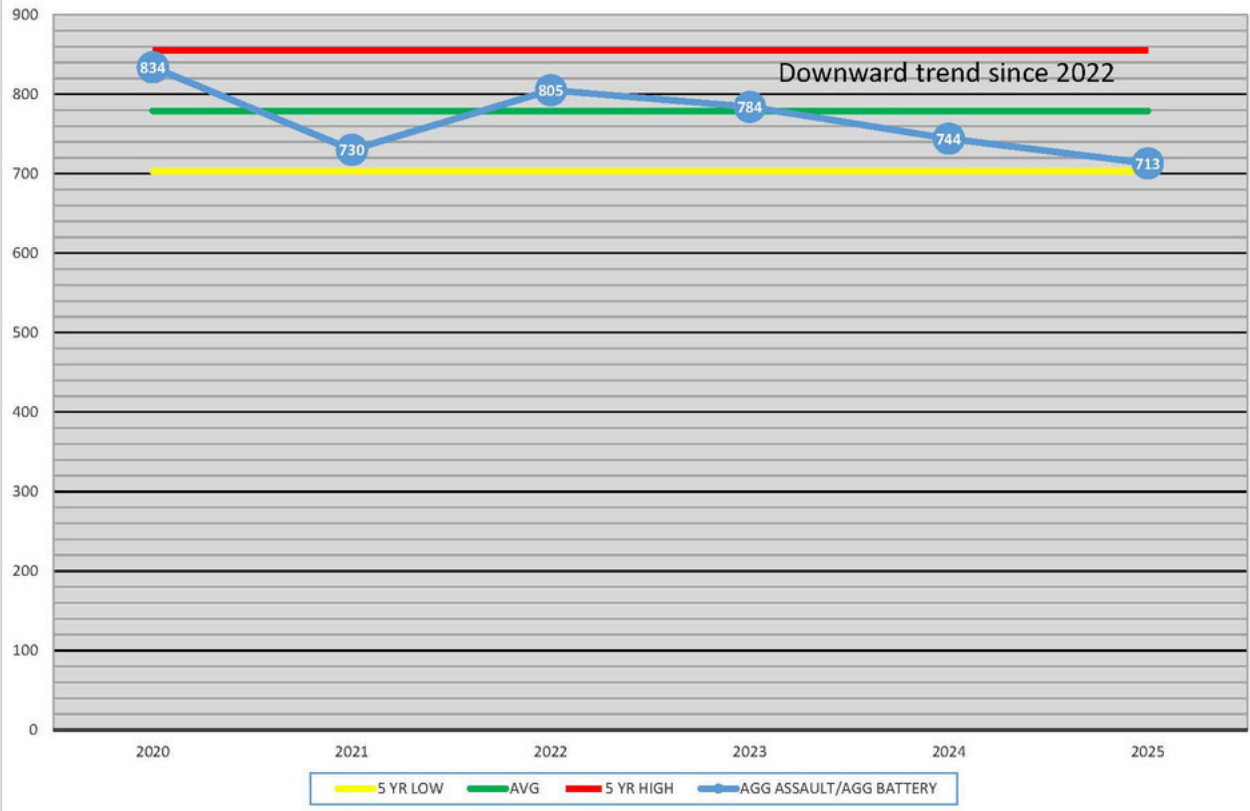
*Plus two additional "justified" homicides



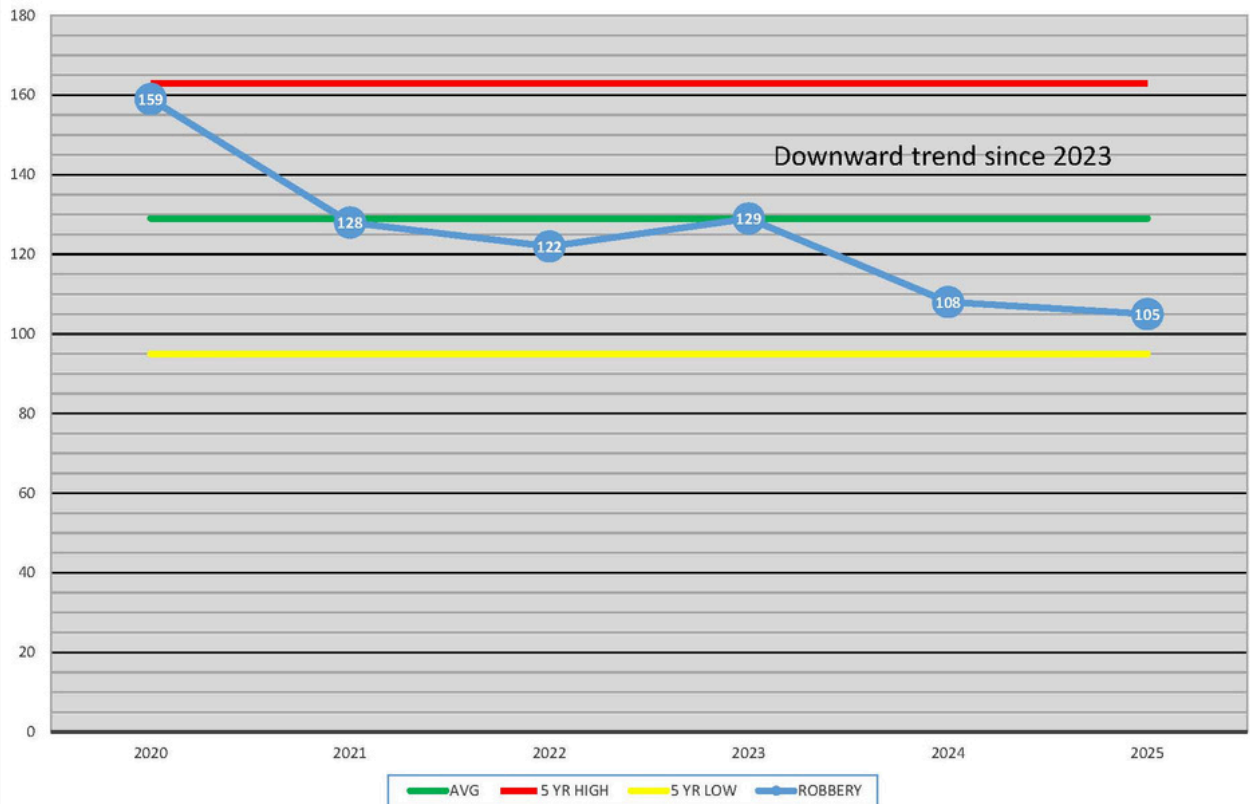
RAPE 2025



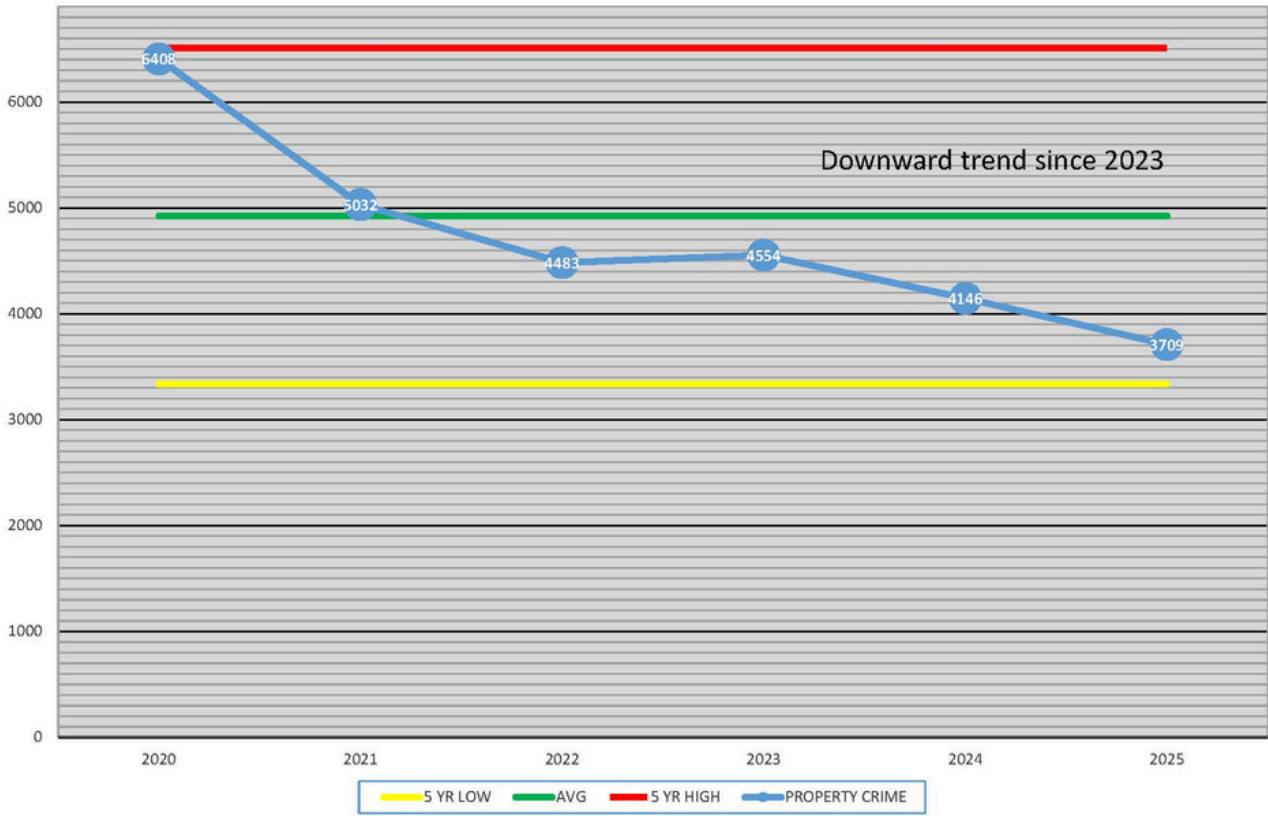
AGG ASSAULT/AGG BATTERY 2025



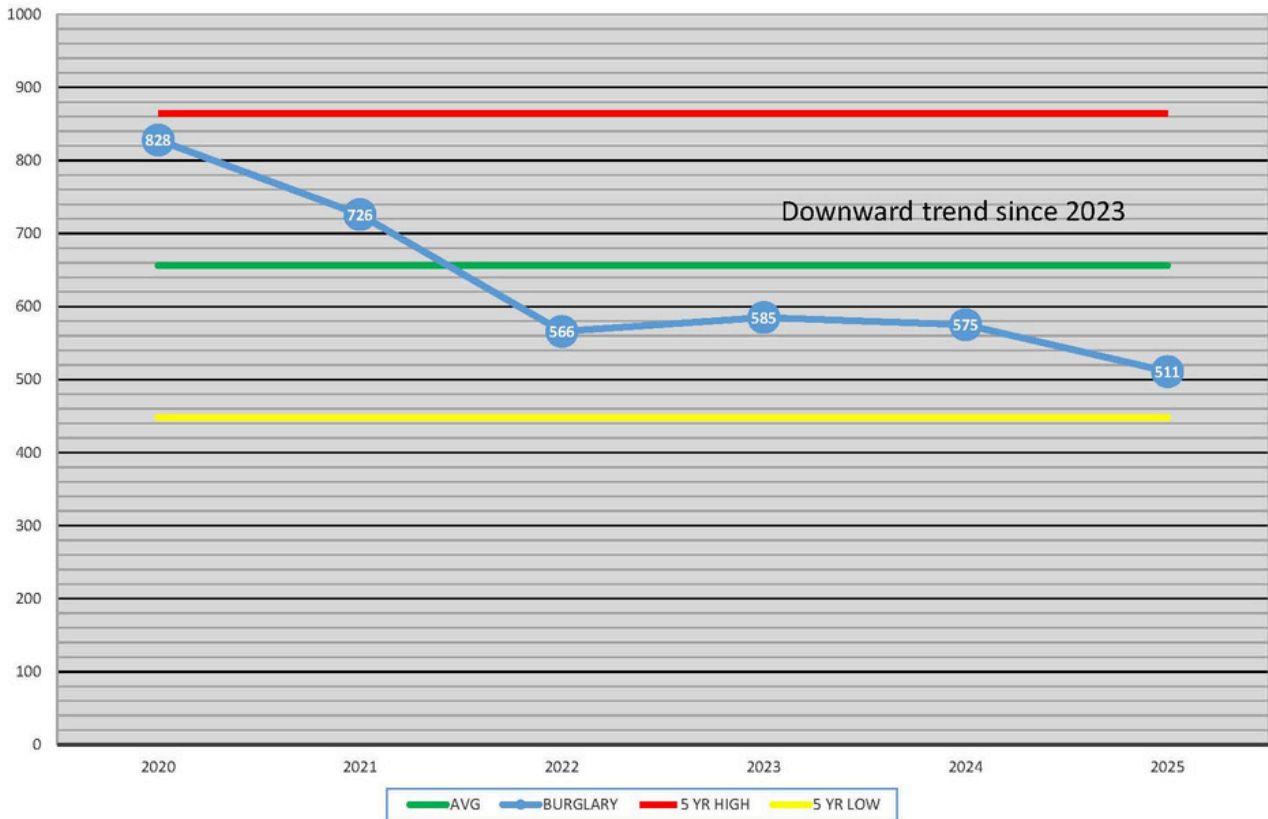
ROBBERY 2025



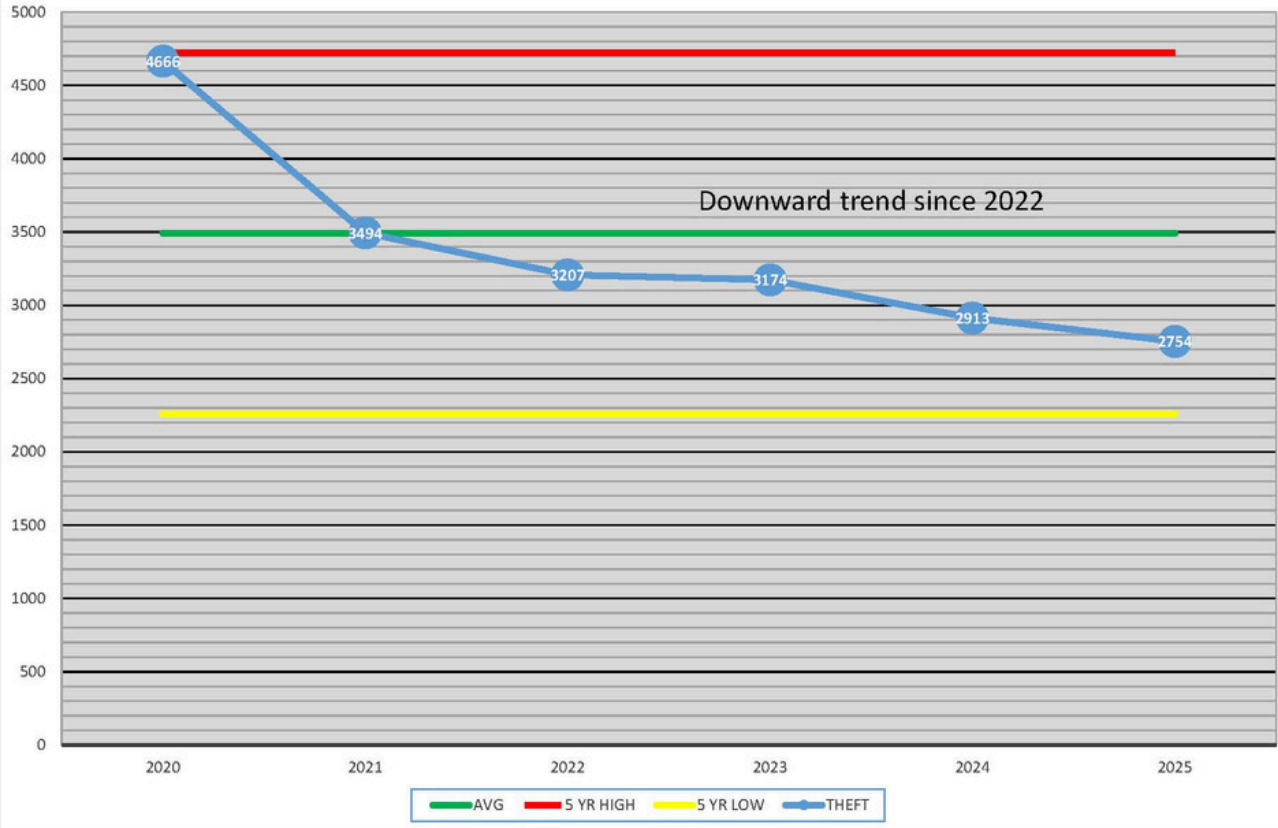
PROPERTY CRIME 2025



BURGLARY 2025



THEFT 2025



AUTO THEFT 2025

