

ORO VALLEY POLICE DEPARTMENT

ANNUAL REPORT

2023

Chief of Police

Kara Riley

www.ovalleyaz.gov

About the Town of Oro Valley



Location:

- Oro Valley is located in northern Pima County, approximately three miles north of Tucson city limits.
- Nestled between the Catalina and Tortolita mountain ranges, the Town sits at an elevation of 2,620 feet.
- Covers more than 36 square miles.
- Incorporated in April 1974 and home to more than 47,070 residents.



Future Strategies

Annually, the Oro Valley Police Department meticulously reviews its Strategic Plan to ensure alignment with community expectations, the Town's Strategic Leadership Plan, and the voter-approved General Plan. These three pillars, coupled with extensive resident engagement, serve as our guiding roadmap for conducting business effectively.



Mission Statement

The Oro Valley Police Department is dedicated to courageous and selfless service in preventing crime, building trust, and enhancing quality of life for our community.



OVPD Employees

- 107 Sworn Employees
- 34 Civilian Employees

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Welcome To Our Family

The Message From Our Chief



No accomplishment is more worthy of the feeling of success than the one undertaken with a team of like-minded, talented, and selfless partners. The Oro Valley Police Department (OVPD) is such a team. From our newest recruit to our most tenured member of command, the members of this department are single-mindedly focused on serving to the best of their abilities. It is my privilege to lead men and women who bring such professionalism, dedication, and tenacity to bear for the betterment of this community.

We have reached a unique milestone in the history of our police department. As the Town prepares to celebrate 50 years of incorporation, this department is looking forward to the challenges of tomorrow. Simply striving to be the preeminent police agency is not enough lest we identify ways to grow with our community, respond to the needs of our residents, and look actively for future members to fill our ranks.

The leadership of Oro Valley and the community is steadfast in their support of this police department and its mission. A trusted relationship with the community built upon communication, a cohesive vision, and unparalleled commitment to excellence drives Oro Valley and its police department toward indomitable success for years to come.

In closing, it is important to underscore the level of humility and gratitude I feel to be the Chief of the Oro Valley Police Department. Describing the accomplishments of this organization over the past year is to highlight the selfless efforts of every member of this organization. These accomplishments are theirs. The drive and desire to serve, which lives in each employee of this department, is what makes it great. That is what will take this police department far into the future where success will continue to be realized. I feel pride watching as the mission of the Oro Valley Police Department comes alive within each member whether they wear a badge, answer an emergency 911 call, or process a crime scene. They embody the values inherent to this profession and propel the level of service offered to the community to the high standards that have become our model of success.

Kara Riley
Chief of Police

Our Leadership
Command Staff



Chief Kara Riley



Deputy Chief Curtiss Hicks



Commander Chris Olson
Field Services Division



Commander John Teachout
Support Services Division



Catherine Hendrix

Administrative Services Manager



Lt. Mike Gracie

Executive Officer



Lt. Zach Young

Special Operations Bureau



Lt. Jeff Thomas

Community Services Bureau



Lt. Kevin Peterson

Patrol Bureau



Lt. Carmen Trevizo

Investigative Services Bureau

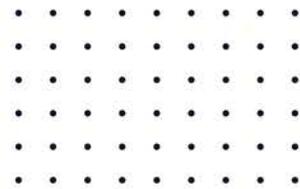


Michelle DeVault

Emergency Communications Manager

Achieving Excellence Together

Agency Accomplishments



Technology Advancements

The department's Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) capability was enhanced with the fielding of new and technically improved platforms. An indoor-capable asset was acquired and has been used in support of our regional partners in SWAT and EOD. Training continues, and regional collaboration is ongoing as this new technology becomes more commonplace in law enforcement.

Staffing for the Future

The agency hired a non-sworn Accreditation, Audits, and Inspections Coordinator to organize and track the department's needs and compliance with our annual accreditation. This vital role lends to the transparency and credibility of our agency and profession. As accreditation is sought in other areas of the agency, including communications, property, and evidence, this coordinator will be essential to the success of those endeavors. It is important to note that this coordinator successfully guided the department through its first year of re-accreditation.

The Property and ID Unit received a new supervisor in early 2023. This position is vital to the unit's operations and is an essential contributor to the team's staffing needs. The supervisor had many dated obstacles to overcome and has done so expertly while integrating well into the agency.

The Support Services Division collaborated closely with Leman School to secure funding and develop the implementation of a new school resource officer (SRO) to be stationed at that campus. The addition of this officer marks the eighth position dedicated to the safety of Oro Valley's children. Leman is a steadfast partner and committed to the success of the new SRO and programs brought to their campus for safety, awareness, and enforcement.

Achieving Excellence Together

Agency Accomplishments Continued

Drug Awareness Day 2023

Drug Awareness Day was hosted on March 24, 2023, and is a staple of the community outreach undertaken yearly by the SRO Unit. Numerous 5th-grade classes from within the region attended to educate students, teachers, and parents about the hazards of drug usage.



Health and Wellness

OVPD's commitment to the wellness of its members was strengthened in 2023 through the implementation and availability of Boulder Crest's "Struggle Well" and Vitanya's "Brain Health" programs. Though voluntary, high levels of interest and participation were recorded in these beneficial programs. The wellness initiative is set to expand and is actively pursuing funding to broaden the scope of wellness offerings to OVPD staff.

New OVPD Canine Additions

The Field Services Division was successful in acquiring two new canines. "Cash" and "Vito" received new handlers and, as a team, they were all successfully trained and certified for use in the field. To date, the K9 officers and their partners have been involved in numerous enforcement activities and apprehensions involving dangerous suspects. Additionally, OVPD has welcomed a new facility canine to its ranks. "Ari" is handled by the agency's Public Information Officer and is an ever-present joy around the main station.

Regional Collaboration

The Oro Valley Police Department (OVPD) continues contributing to the Pima Regional Critical Incident Team. OVPD is prepared to take the lead investigating agency role for critical incidents in neighboring jurisdictions. This is a monumental acknowledgment of the skill, dedication, and capability of our Criminal Investigations Unit. Members participated in 14 PRCIT activations in 2023.

Continuing to partner and contribute regionally in 2023, OVPD has two members of command staff participating in the newly restructured Pima Regional Governing Board. Overseeing technical and tactical responses throughout the county, these board members have a seat at the table for the governance of regional SWAT, K9, air units, and Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) resources.

Notable Cases in 2023



In February 2023, a delivery driver attempted to make a delivery at a local apartment complex and was confrontational with the intended recipient due to poor directions. The recipient began recording the verbal altercation on a cell phone. The delivery driver produced a firearm and took the cell phone from the other party. The victim fled the scene for his safety. The destroyed phone was later located in the nearby desert. The suspect was arrested for aggravated assault and armed robbery.

An Oro Valley resident was identified as the suspect in over 484 graffiti incidents throughout the county and surrounding local jurisdictions totaling over \$36,000 in damage. Oro Valley itself had been a victim of his crimes. Massive collaboration between the state gang taskforce (GIITEM), the Attorney General's Office, and Union Pacific Railroad Police led to analytical guidance for proactive patrols about this activity. Officers contacted the subject before his identity was known but documented it well. Patrol located the subject's social media accounts and connected his whereabouts to the timeframe of new graffiti in the area. This ultimately led to his arrest.

OVPD criminal investigators received a National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMIC) tip regarding a suspect downloading child pornography. Subsequent investigation led to subpoenas and a search warrant being granted. Criminal investigators and members of the Community Action Team contacted the suspect and served the search warrant. He was ultimately arrested for seven felony charges related to sexual exploitation of a minor. This case marks the first use in the region of the Tucson Police Department's electronic storage device detection canine to locate and confirm the electronic devices used for transferring pornography via the internet.

Patrol responded to a local apartment complex about a reported physical domestic dispute. The reporting party indicated they had been assaulted. The suspect produced a knife and attempted to take the victim's vehicle. The suspect was unsuccessful and was contacted by patrol units. He was resistant and fled on foot through the complex but was apprehended before escaping.

Notable Cases Continued

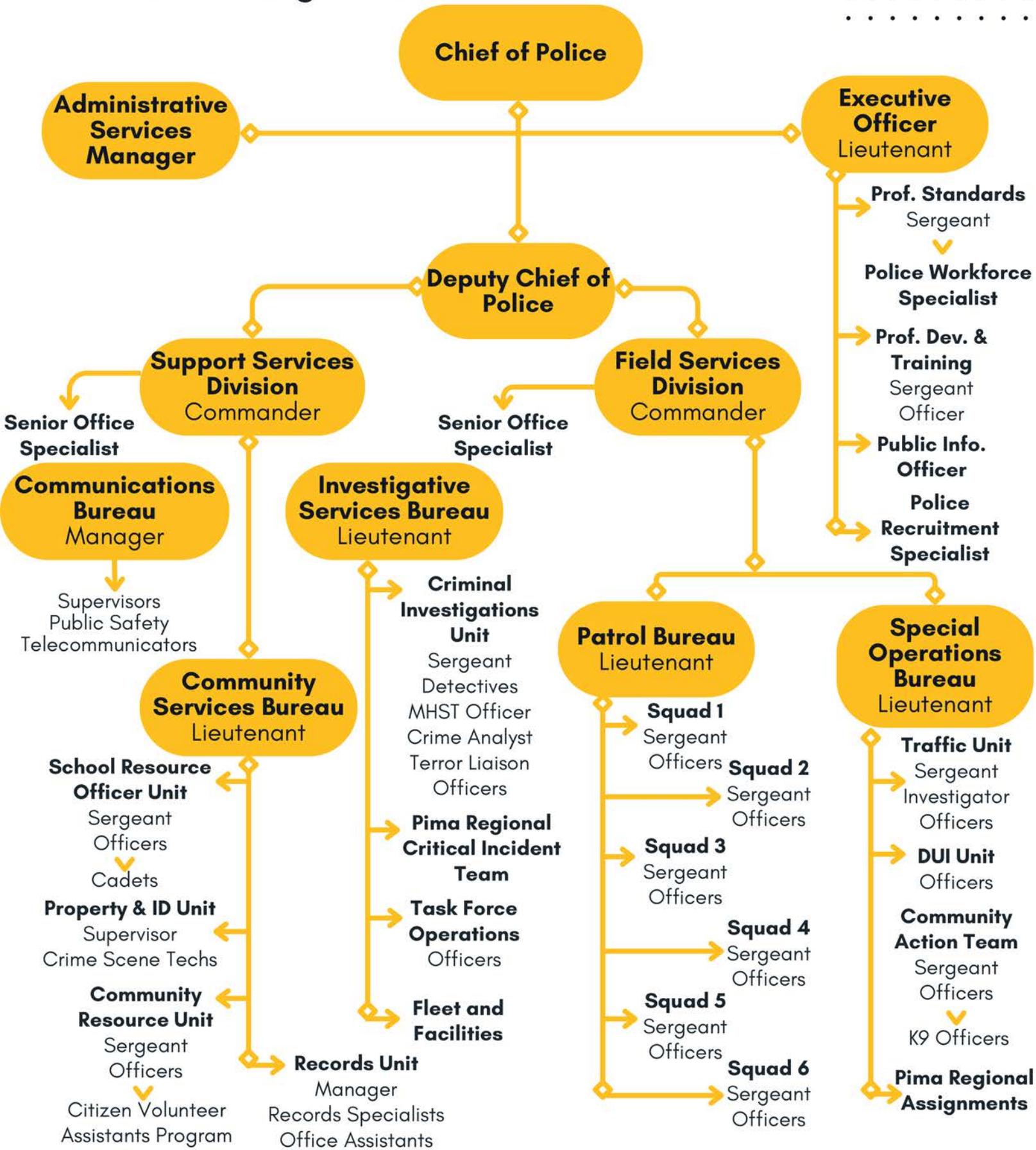
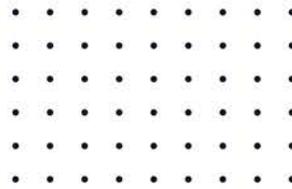
Patrol conducted a traffic stop, and an investigation resulted in the driver being arrested for the possession of over 3,200 fentanyl pills. Before being booked into jail, the subject fled from the hospital and was not located. OVPD Community Action Team conducted a more in-depth analysis of the suspect, who was located at a known address. An arrest warrant was issued, the location was surveilled, evidence of ongoing narcotic activity was observed, and the suspect was arrested.

On June 28, 2023, patrol responded to the Marshalls department store in reference to shoplifting. Two suspects were seen walking to a vehicle. Attempts were made to block the suspect vehicle to prevent them from fleeing the scene. One suspect violently rammed numerous patrol vehicles in the parking lot and escaped. The second suspect fled on foot and was apprehended on Northern Avenue. Interviews with this suspect revealed the identity of the other party. Various investigative units from within OVPD and the Tucson Police Department coordinated to apprehend the outstanding subject the following day. He was arrested for multiple charges of aggravated assault on a peace officer.

In October 2023, officers attempted to contact a stolen vehicle at a local grocery store. The Community Action Team and Canine Unit tried to pin the car in place, but it rammed the patrol vehicles and fled. A brief pursuit was initiated but later terminated due to the felon's vehicle's speed. Investigations revealed the suspect had a lengthy criminal history, multiple felony warrants, and numerous weapons violations. He was located in Tucson by the US Marshal's Service, wherein he tried to resist but was ultimately arrested.

For nearly 10 months in 2023, 17 separate incidents of property crimes, including burglary, criminal damage, and theft, occurred at the same residence in the La Cholla Airpark. Investigation revealed that this location had been widely advertised throughout the criminal population as easily targeted due to the owner being out of town. To date, timely patrol response has led to 10 arrests. Activity at this location has since ceased.

OVPD Organizational Chart





ADMINISTRATION



ORO VALLEY
POLICE
DEPARTMENT



Upholding Integrity: Holding Ourselves Accountable

Office of Professional Standards

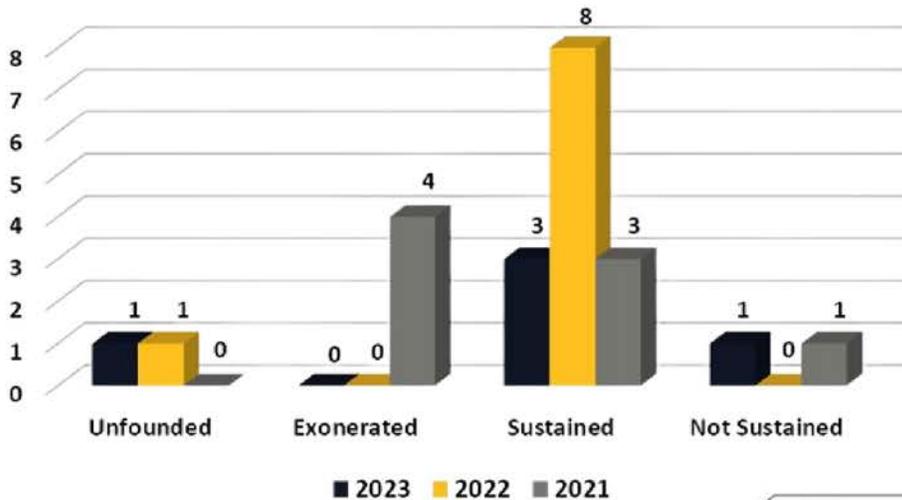
Mission Statement

It is the mission of the Oro Valley Police Department's Office of Professional Standards (OOPS) to utilize thorough and impartial internal investigations to ensure the integrity of the Department and to ensure its members are serving the community at the highest standards of professional conduct while also protecting members from frivolous or false accusations.

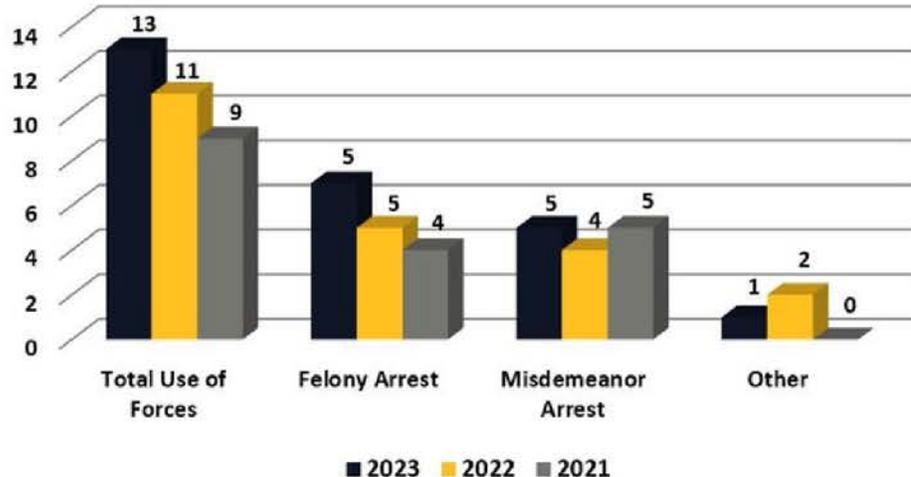
The OOPS is supervised by a sergeant who oversees and investigates citizen complaints and internally ordered inspections. OOPS also maintains records of use-of-force incidents, vehicle pursuits, and policy revisions.

OOPS conducts the hiring process and background investigations for interested police department applicants for commissioned and civilian positions.

Internal Investigations



OVPD Use of Force Stats



Elevating Skills, Empowering Futures

Professional Development & Training

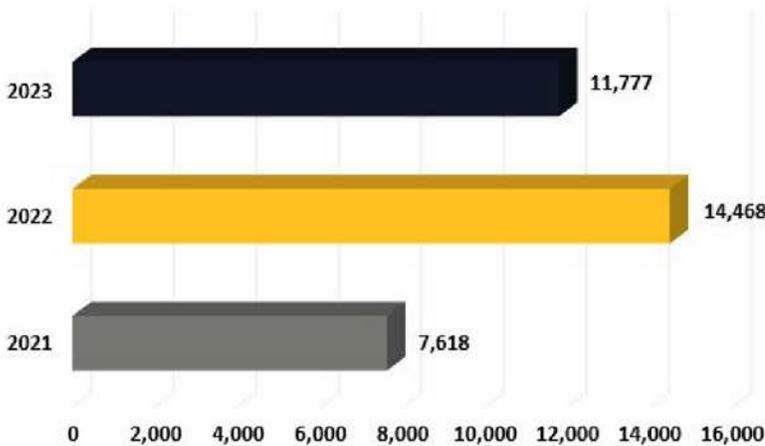


Mission Statement

Providing officers with relevant and timely training to ensure readiness for duty and enabling career excellence while maintaining officer health and wellness.

In support of the community policing philosophy, training ensures OVPD staff provides the most efficient and effective public safety service. Staff is trained to deliver a high level of service that exceeds the community's expectations and allows our staff to maintain professional certifications. Training focuses on developing the skills, abilities, knowledge, and talents to maintain professional and expert service.

TRAINING HOURS



Onboarding New Staff

This unit is also responsible for new officer orientation and field training. This program is provided to prepare new officers for the stresses of attending a police academy and to orient them to Oro Valley.

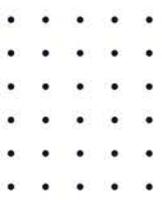
During 2023, OVPD hired ten full-time officers to fill attrition vacancies and one new position.

Keeping the Community Informed

Public Information Officer

Mission Statement

The Public Information Officer (PIO) is dedicated to transparency and increasing public awareness of the Oro Valley community using internal and external communications, press releases, marketing, advertisements, and social media while building and ensuring a solid and consistent brand to strengthen community relationships and partnerships.



	2023 Followers	2022 Followers
Facebook	19,549	18,111
Twitter (now X)	8,101	7,585
Instagram	2,514	2,280



The PIO works closely with the media and constituents to ensure police-specific information is managed and disseminated promptly and accurately. Areas of responsibility of the PIO include:

- Managing social media presence. Informing and engaging the community to ensure an open and transparent level of communication.
 - Facebook
 - Twitter
 - Instagram
 - NextDoor
 - Ring Neighbors
- Respond to daily inquiries from the media and community members.
- Coordinate external messaging through appropriate channels during significant incidents.
 - Press releases
 - Social media posts
 - Interviews
- Work cooperatively with local and regional partners during major or cross-jurisdictional incidents.
 - PIO partners with the Pima Regional Critical Incident Team (PRCIT) to respond to officer-involved critical incidents.

Promoting Wellness: Supporting Our Heroes

OVPD Wellness K-9

Mission Statement

The Wellness K-9 program is dedicated to the overall wellness of department employees, first responders, and crime victims by applying a trained dog that is available for comfort and stress reduction.

Purpose:

A high priority has been placed on the overall wellness of department employees. One way to accomplish this is through the implementation of a wellness K-9 program. This program has been in the planning stage for some time, and the planning and preparation have led to the deployment of Ari, a three-year-old yellow lab.

The Wellness K-9 program intends to reduce the stress employees face daily. Studies have shown that petting a dog reduces stress and increases serotonin levels, which helps regulate moods.

The Wellness K-9 could also be deployed in situations where there is significant emotional trauma, such as fatalities or violent crimes. Having a dog available after such an event can help responders and dispatchers deal with the emotional impacts of these calls.

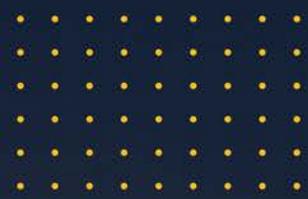
There are rare occasions when a victim of a violent crime needs to be interviewed. Having the K-9 available for them to pet during the interview can significantly help both the victim and the case.



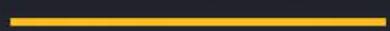
Meet Ari:

Ari comes to OVPD from Washington state, where she was in training to be a narcotic detection K-9. Ari washed out of the program due to her propensity to go to people in any room she was searching instead of looking for the narcotics. This desire to be with people led to her being trained in a new career as a Therapy/Wellness K-9.

Ari has been in training since her arrival in July 2023 and is doing very well. She has become a department favorite, and employees brighten up every time she comes around for a visit. She is in and around the department 40 hours a week with her handler. She has also been to several community events and has become a community celebrity.



SUPPORT SERVICES DIVISION



ORO VALLEY
POLICE
DEPARTMENT



Records Unit

Mission Statement

The Oro Valley Records Unit's mission is dedicated to maintaining and ensuring the integrity of criminal record data generated by the Oro Valley Police Department. The Unit strives to provide prompt and efficient services to the public, law enforcement, and government agencies.

	2023	2022	2021
Impounds	130	126	184
Records Requests Processed	2,049	1,952	2,122
Cases/Misc. Incidents/Warnings	13,114	13,179	12,848



The Records Unit is responsible for processing, distributing, and maintaining all public law enforcement records generated by the Oro Valley Police Department. The Records Unit scans all documents into our records management system and follows our state approved records retention schedule for destroying records. The Records Unit adheres to the release policy mandated by state law. The Unit is also responsible for the handling of vehicle impound releases, verifying the required documentation through the Motor Vehicle Division, preparing the proper paperwork, and collecting the necessary fees. The Unit also reviews and redacts AXON video for release to the public and media when requested.

Help in an Instant: Our Lifeline to Safety Emergency Communications Bureau



Mission Statement

The Communications Bureau provides a vital link between the public and emergency services. We accomplish our mission by assisting all customers by dispatching appropriate responses to their concerns, demonstrating compassion and empathy in our delivery of service, being proactive in providing a safe and secure community for all those who live in and visit Oro Valley, protecting those in harm's way by providing resources to assist them, and working as a team within our department, within our town and with other agencies.

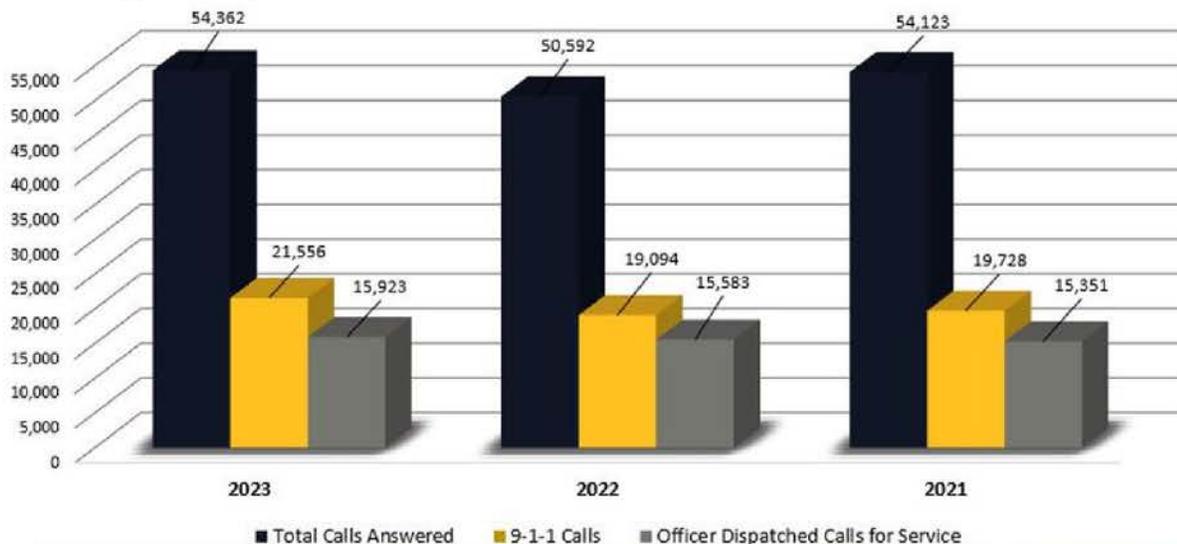
Radio log entries

206,760

is the number of radio log entries OVPD public safety telecommunicators made in 2023. Radio log entries are made to document vital information being transmitted over the radio

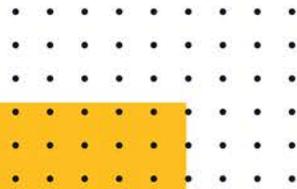
Answering the Call

The Communications Bureau is the answering point for all 9-1-1 calls in Oro Valley. The Bureau operates 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. The emergency communications center is staffed with highly skilled full-time public safety telecommunicators who answer 9-1-1 emergency and non-emergency telephone calls, while managing radio communications for the department. Public safety telecommunicators determine the nature and urgency of calls, initiate police or other public safety personnel action, and maintain close contact with field units to monitor response and needed support requirements.



Bridging Community, Ensuring Safety

Community Resources Unit



Mission Statement

The Oro Valley Community Resources Unit's (CRU) mission seeks to engage and educate our community on public safety, personal safety, and crime prevention.

CRU offers a wide range of presentations and programs that provide relevant and current information to the public. CRU also partners with the Town of Oro Valley and outside vendors to coordinate, assist, and plan special events. This includes identifying public safety needs and filling the staffing requirements to allow these events to safely occur.

Citizen Volunteer Assistants Program (CVAP)

CVAP is an essential part of the daily operations of OVPD. They assist the officers and community in several ways: fingerprinting, traffic control during special events and significant crashes, Darkhouse checks, Dispose-A-Med events, National Night Out, Community Information Resource Program (CIRP), and so much more! The time donated by our CVAP participants allows the police officers to focus on more complex community concerns and law enforcement emergencies. Our CVAPs bring an assortment of skills and training from their backgrounds. Currently, there are 68 active CVAP members.



Darkhouse Program

If you will be gone and your home left unoccupied for at least seven days, the Oro Valley Police Department can provide a home check. Checks will be done as frequently as staffing allows. The Oro Valley Police Department and our Citizen Volunteer Assistants Program (CVAP) members will check your home's exterior for security. If a problem is found, you or your contact person will be notified.

You can fill out a Darkhouse application on the OVPD website under the "Request a Free Darkhouse/Home Check" tab.

Bridging Community, Ensuring Safety

Community Resources Unit Continued



Neighborhood Watch Program

Neighborhood Watch consists of a cohesive body of concerned residents addressing issues that affect their neighborhood. OVPD has one officer who organizes, trains, and provides consistent information to these local neighborhood watch programs.

As part of the department's ongoing goals of outreach to the community to prevent crime through education, numerous Neighborhood Watch events took place including attendance at block parties, HOA meetings, and special presentations. CRU provides the fraud school upon request.

Dispose-A-Med

The OVPD, in partnership with the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), SOBER Project, Meth Free Alliance, Oro Valley Optimist Club, Golder Ranch Fire District, and Pima County Wastewater invite Oro Valley residents, businesses, churches, and schools to join us and share information regarding drug awareness in our community. Together we can explore possible solutions and preventative measures to make our community safe, healthy and drug free.

Dispose-A-Med events are held throughout the year to provide a means to safely dispose of medications that residents no longer need or have expired. In 2023, CRU hosted six Dispose-A-Med events. During those six events, 983.3 pounds of prescription drugs were collected and turned over to the DEA for disposal via incineration.

OV Safe Return

The OV Safe Return program is a community resource service for members of the vulnerable population community who work, live, go to school, or receive treatment within the Town of Oro Valley. This would include, but is not limited to, children or adults who may have a diagnosis of:

- Autism
- Down's Syndrome
- Dementia
- Alzheimer's

This program will provide parents and caretakers with a mechanism to share crucial information with police officers responding to calls for service involving these individuals. Information on the vulnerable person, their parent(s), responsible caretaker, and an additional safe contact person will be collected through registration. A current photograph of the registered individual is asked to help find the registered person if they are ever missing.

Bridging Community, Ensuring Safety

Community Resources Unit Continued



Community Education & Presentations

CRU staff creates public safety-related educational presentations and presents them to various groups within the greater Oro Valley area community. These presentations run a gamut of topics, including fraud, personal safety, home safety, child safety, human trafficking, and general public safety education.

Citizen's Academy

Citizen's Academy provides the public with information on the Oro Valley Police Department. It consists of 12 free classes held once a week from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. A different topic is covered each week, requiring a weekly commitment. Instruction is provided by sworn police personnel and civilian staff who work in those particular areas of the department.

The slogan of the Citizen's Academy is "Understanding Through Education." The goal is to provide citizens with information to dispel suspicions and misconceptions. The citizens, in turn, provide officers and civilian staff feedback on their feelings and concerns. This dynamic helps to build rapport between residents and department personnel. The students can also meet and talk with officers and civilian staff in the Department.

We hope the graduates will return their knowledge to the community and educate others when the opportunity arises. They will have heightened awareness and better information when making decisions that affect the Town and Police Department.



Unraveling Truth, Pursuing Justice

Criminal Investigations Unit



Mission Statement

In a fair and impartial manner, the Oro Valley Criminal Investigations Unit (CIU) works with victims of crime to investigate, find truth, and provide resolution to enhance the quality of life in our community.

CIU is the primary investigative arm of the Oro Valley Police Department and investigates any crime requiring further investigation. The Crimes Against Persons squad is staffed with a detective sergeant, four detectives, a digital forensics detective, and a Mental Health Support Team investigator. The Property Crimes squad has a detective sergeant, four detectives, and a crime analyst. Detectives work with victims of crime to investigate, find truth, and provide resolution. The CIU also works closely with our Community Action Team and networks with other task force groups outside Oro Valley to enhance the service to our community.

CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS UNIT					
Case Assignments and Clearances	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019
Assigned Cases	557	541	646	638	593
Total Cases Cleared*	509	507	678	686	578
Total Percentage Cleared	91.38%	93.72%	104.95%	107.52%	97.47 %
Cases Cleared by Arrest	179	186	268	207	157
Clearance Percentage Closed by Arrest	35.17%	36.69%	39.53%	30.17%	27.16%

*Includes cases carried over from the previous year

Preserving Evidence, Safeguarding Justice Property & Identification Unit

Mission Statement

The Oro Valley Property and Identification (ID) Unit's mission is to provide the highest quality forensic support to the members of the Oro Valley Police Department and to ensure the integrity and security of all items of property and evidence that we are entrusted with.



The Unit is staffed 24 hours a day, seven days a week for forensic crime scene response and consists of three Crime Scene Technicians and one Crime Scene Technician Supervisor. Property & ID performs crime scene photography, processing and collecting latent fingerprints, and processing and collecting forensic evidence (blood, semen, hairs, fibers, DNA, etc.). The Unit is trained and equipped to respond to various cases, from recovered stolen vehicles to complex death investigations.

The Unit also maintains the department's property and evidence warehouse. All submitted evidence is carefully logged and tracked with barcoding. Property & ID personnel are the liaisons between officers, courts, and prosecutors to track property and evidence for release, disposal, and destruction.

YEAR	# of Items put into evidence	Property Items Disposed	Call Outs	# Axon Videos Uploaded	DNA Swabs Collected	Latent Print Cards Collected	Scenes Photographed
2023	3,815	518	240	30,506	181	255	168
2022	3,705	900	251	28,372	220	480	165
2021	4,634	1,883	213	31,401	170	270	158

DNA Hits:

6

This is when a person was matched with a DNA sample that was submitted.

Latent Print Hits:

19

When a person is identified/matched to a latent print collected at a scene, the print could be a victim, suspect, or someone whose connection is unknown.

Latent Prints Suitable for Comparison:

77

When latent prints are of sufficient quality for comparison, but no hit is received. These can be compared later to a suspect's inked prints to identify if a match exists.

Nurturing Safety, Empowering Education

School Resource Officers Unit



Mission Statement

The Oro Valley School Resource Officers Unit's mission is to provide a safe environment, have positive interactions, and build partnerships with the school community as law enforcement officers, teachers, and informal counselors.

The unit consists of seven officers and one sergeant. Officers are located at Canyon Del Oro High School, Ironwood Ridge High School, Copper Creek Elementary, Wilson K-8, Innovation Academy, Painted Sky Elementary, and Leman Academy. They also serve as liaisons to Basis Schools, Pusch Ridge Christian Academy, Immaculate Heart Schools, and Casas Christian School.

School Resource Officers (SROs) serve as mentors, counselors, and teachers. This “triad” concept works in concert with the students, staff, and faculty to bridge gaps between law enforcement and the community. Various programs and classes have been developed or adopted to meet individual school needs.

2023 Program Topics:

- Bullying prevention: Acceptance, Inclusion, and Kindness
- Teen Driver Safety
- Teen Maze
- Active shooter training for school staff (4 weeks)
- Peer pressure
- Brain development
- Addiction
- Tobacco and E-Cigarette
- Marijuana and over the counter medications
- TikTok posting covering resources for mental health
- Fentanyl
- Drug Awareness Day
- Proper use of 911
- Run. Hide. Fight.
- Stranger danger
- Sportsmanship
- Leadership
- Mandatory reporting
- Hanging with Officer Greg informational videos (topics include: holiday safety, 5th Amendment, appropriate use of social media, etc.)

Forging Futures, Shaping Tomorrow's Guardians

OV Cadet Program 6873



Mission Statement

The Oro Valley Cadet Program's mission is to mentor young adults to serve their communities by providing knowledge, skills, and practical experiences through education and training that build character, physical fitness, and respect for the rule of law.

In 2023, Cadets worked 1481.5 hours of community service while learning about:

- Police Procedures
- First-Aid
- Self-Defense
- Crime Lab Operations
- Aspects of Law Enforcement
- Major Crimes
- Narcotics Law
- Juvenile Law
- CPR
- Traffic & Crowd Control
- Dispatch



Public Safety Cadets is open to young men and women ages 14 through 20 years old with an interest in learning about the public safety field and leadership. The Cadet Program provides educational training programs for young adults for the purpose, mission, and objectives of public safety. The program provides career orientation experiences, leadership opportunities, and community service activities. The primary goals of the program are to guide young adults for a career in public safety (law enforcement, EMS, and fire rescue). This program challenges them to become responsible residents and leaders of their community.

Police officers are the Cadet Mentors and assist in weekly instruction and training. Cadets dedicate themselves to community service and assist with special events through the Town of Oro Valley and nonprofit organizations such as the Oro Valley Theater Company. Additionally, they provide campus patrols during football games and assist with traffic control during graduations. They are presented with many methods of crime detection from fingerprinting to utilizing canine units and they experience the legal process first-hand. They also put their skills to the test while attending competitions such as the Chandler Tactical Event and Law Enforcement Explorer Post Advisors Association of Colorado. It gives Cadets an opportunity to "walk a mile in an officer's shoes."

Uniting Strengths, Securing Communities

Task Force Operations & Regional Partnerships



OVPD is proud to have professional associations with a variety of multi-agency regional teams. The value of the law enforcement regionalization assets is the ability to enhance local response, increase professional networking and capitalize on the training and experiences from a variety of local agencies. In a time of need, the regional approach as a "force multiplier" provides trained personnel and more resources to our community.



Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) - has numerous multi-jurisdictional task force groups that include federal agents, prosecuting agencies, state and local law enforcement agencies. Each task force group addresses a different segment of the drug epidemic including production, trafficking, and the use of illegal drugs.



Gang and Immigration Intelligence Team Enforcement Mission (GIITEM) - is a multi-jurisdictional task force that focuses on street gang, US border, and immigration crimes. GIITEM strives to accomplish its mission through a task force concept involving personnel from tribal, federal, state, county, and municipal law enforcement agencies.



Pima Regional Critical Incident Team (PRCIT) - is a multi-agency regional team tasked with investigating officer involved shootings and critical incidents that occur in Pima County. Legislation has been approved that mandates agencies cannot investigate their own critical incidents. PRCIT was developed to conduct impartial investigations, increase transparency, and enhance public trust when a critical incident occurs.

OVPD is a founding member of the following:

- Pima Regional Critical Incident Team
- Pima Regional SWAT
- Pima Regional Crisis Negotiations
- Pima Regional Bomb Squad
- Pima Regional Motor Academy
- Animal Cruelty Taskforce of Southern Arizona
- Internet Crimes Against Children
- Mobile Field Force



FIELD SERVICES DIVISION



ORO VALLEY
POLICE
DEPARTMENT



Guardians of the Community: Patrolling with Purpose

Patrol Bureau

The Patrol Bureau is the primary provider of police services to the community and is considered to be the backbone of OVPD. Every incident, from the simplest of issues to the most complex of criminal investigations, begins with a patrol officer's response.

As a result of Oro Valley's "call a cop, get a cop" community policing philosophy, patrol officers respond to a myriad of calls for service. They must be versatile as their roles can vary from protector, investigator, social worker, mediator, or anything in between. They must be physically and mentally prepared to make split-second decisions that may be ethically and legally complex or may call for advanced tactics and coordination.

Additionally, patrol officers maintain a highly visible presence within the community. They work to prevent crime through proactive activities such as traffic enforcement, business checks, field interviews, and patrolling residential areas and apartment complexes.



Blending In, Standing Up for Justice

Community Action Team

Mission Statement

The Oro Valley Community Action Team (CAT) is the department's proactive, intelligence-based, community impact unit focused on habitual offenders, current crime trends, and problem areas. CAT strives to ensure that issues impacting our residents are addressed efficiently, enhancing safety and the quality of life of the community we serve.

CAT focuses on habitual offenders, current crime trends, and problem areas utilizing intelligence derived from proactive investigative techniques, crime analysis, and regional networking. CAT routinely works with our local, state, and federal partners to gather and share intelligence and work on complex investigations and criminal syndicates. CAT is commonly tasked with locating and apprehending criminals who have victimized our community.

Recently, CAT experienced a change in staff. During this phase, CAT continued to adhere to the mission. CAT works closely with our businesses and community partners to identify and arrest subjects victimizing our citizens. The members of CAT work closely with the OVPD's Patrol Bureau, School Resource Officers, and Criminal Investigations Unit to ensure issues impacting our residents are addressed efficiently to enhance the safety and quality of life of the community we serve. Community education is a crucial component to strengthening the protection of our residents. CAT members educate the public about the police department's crime prevention model.

CAT SQUAD ACTIVITY	
Felony Charges	127
Misdemeanor Charges	43
K-9 Deployments	15
Felony Warrants	13
Misdemeanor Warrants	26
Search Warrants	6
Guns	3
Cash	\$1,420
Stolen Vehicle Recoveries	5
Blues (pills)	3,811
Xanax (pills)	7
Meth (grams)	87.2
Heroin (grams)	2.7
Cocaine (grams)	2.4
LPR Hit Related	3
CIU Assist	11
Patrol Assist	27

Protecting and Serving Together Canine Unit

Mission Statement

The mission of the Canine Unit is to enhance the level of service we provide by utilizing canine assets to help identify crimes, locate lost or fleeing individuals, and to promote trusting partnerships within our community.

OVPD has two K-9 teams that service the Town. The canine teams participate with and assist the Drug Enforcement Administration, Counter Narcotics Alliance, United States Customs/Border Patrol as well as all of our regional partners. The teams are "dual purpose" and are trained in two specific areas: patrol/handler protection and narcotics detection. Our canines are a Belgian Malinois (Vito) and a German Shepard/Malinois (Cash) and they train on a regular basis to keep their high level of expertise. Combined, they completed over 1,372 hours of training.

The patrol teams are nationally certified each year. The patrol teams work in a supportive role for uniformed patrol bureau as well as CAT. These K-9 teams are trained specifically to search for drugs, suspects, crime scene evidence, and to protect their handlers. Additionally, the teams interact with both children and adults of this community at public events where they demonstrate the K-9's unique skills and abilities.



Ofc. Smith & K-9 Vito

Ofc Smith has been a police officer since 2014 and a handler for a year. Canine Vito joined OVPD in January of 2023. Vito is trained and nationally certified in patrol tactics and narcotics detection.



Ofc. Birch & K-9 Cash

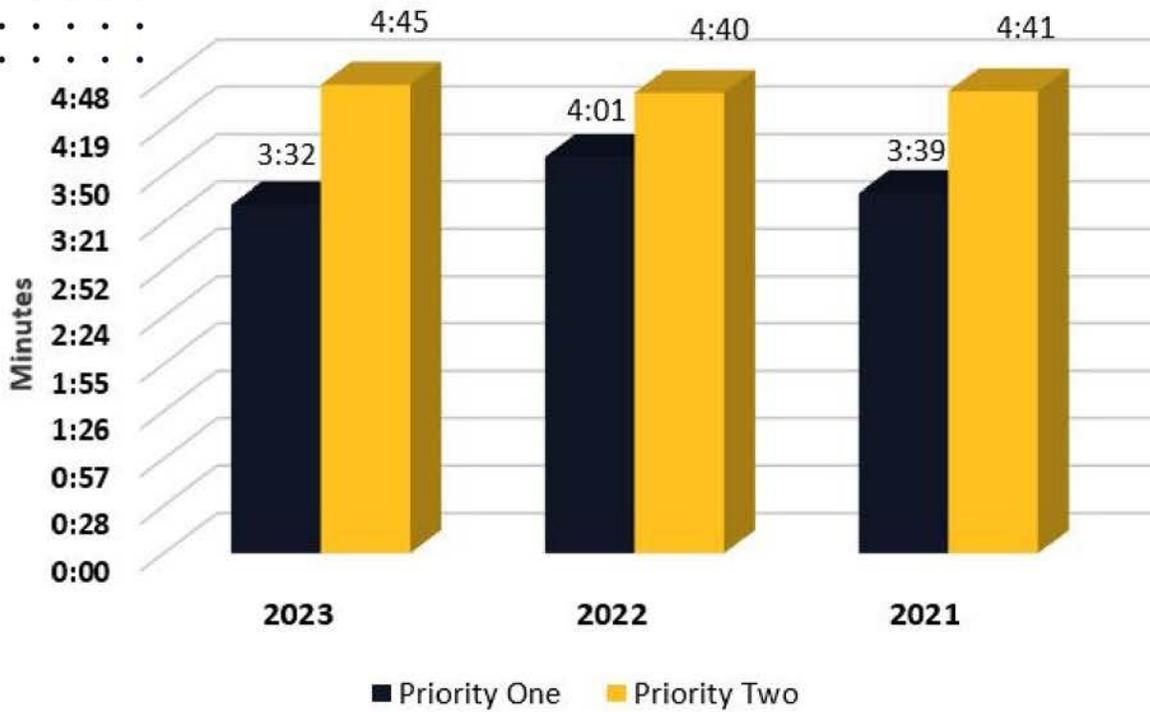
Ofc Birch has been a police officer since 2018 and a handler for a year. Canine Cash joined OVPD in January of 2023. Cash is trained and nationally certified in patrol tactics and narcotics detection.

Canine Unit Seizures	
Meth (grams)	69
Heroin (grams)	1
Cocaine (grams)	10.4
Fentanyl (pills)	1,285
Xanax (pills)	17
Crack Cocaine (grams)	1.4
Cash Seized	\$1,112
Firearms Seized	2
Stolen Vehicles Recovery	3
Total Patrol Assists (Arrests, Apprehensions)	64 (30, 1)
Felony Arrests	18
Misdemeanor Arrests	32
Total Narcotics Deployments (Alerts)	41 (13)
Other Agency Assists	105

Swift Response and Reliable Protection

Patrol Response Times

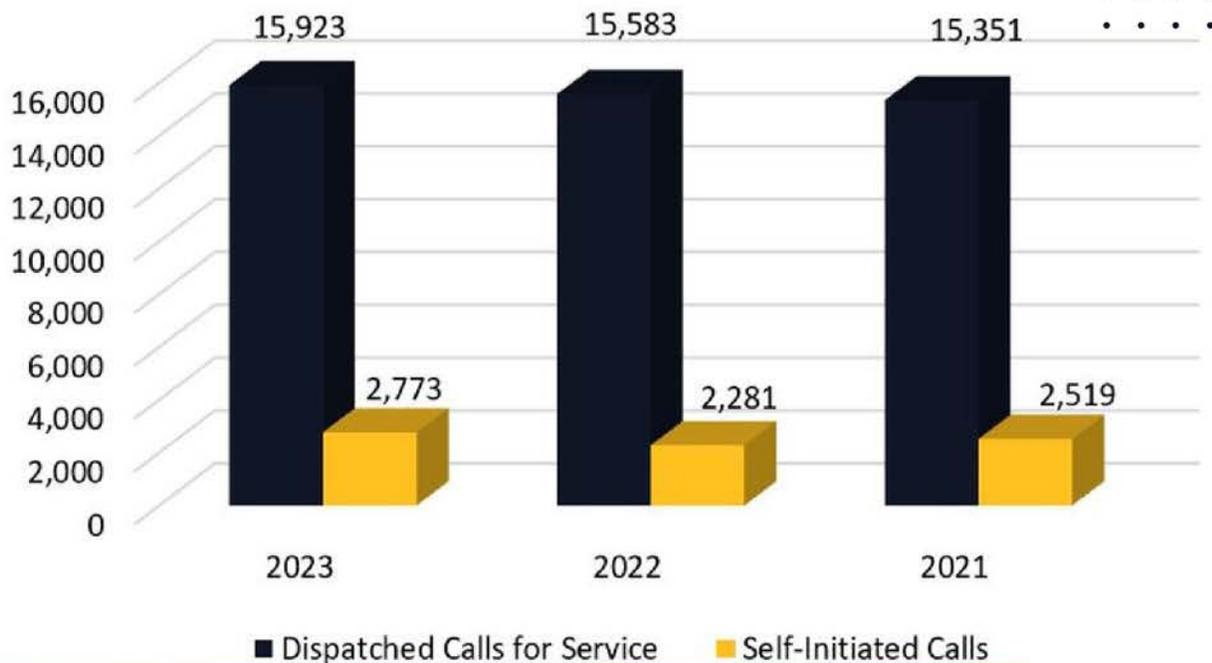
Average Response Times



Priority one call examples: are armed robbery, physical domestic violence, car jacking, etc.

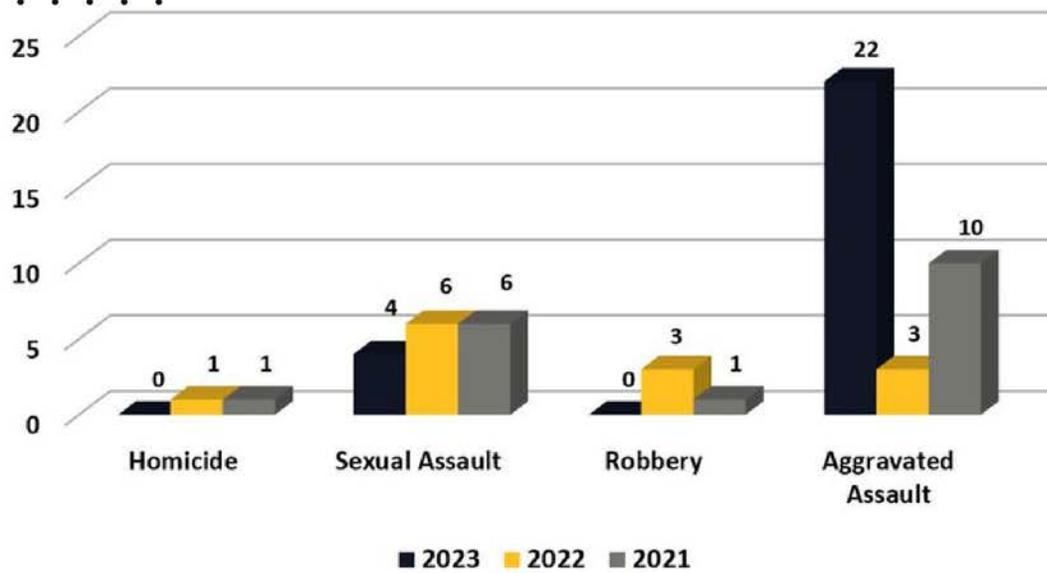
Priority two call examples: burglary in progress, collisions with injury, missing children, etc.

Patrol Activity



Transparency in Safety Crime Statistics

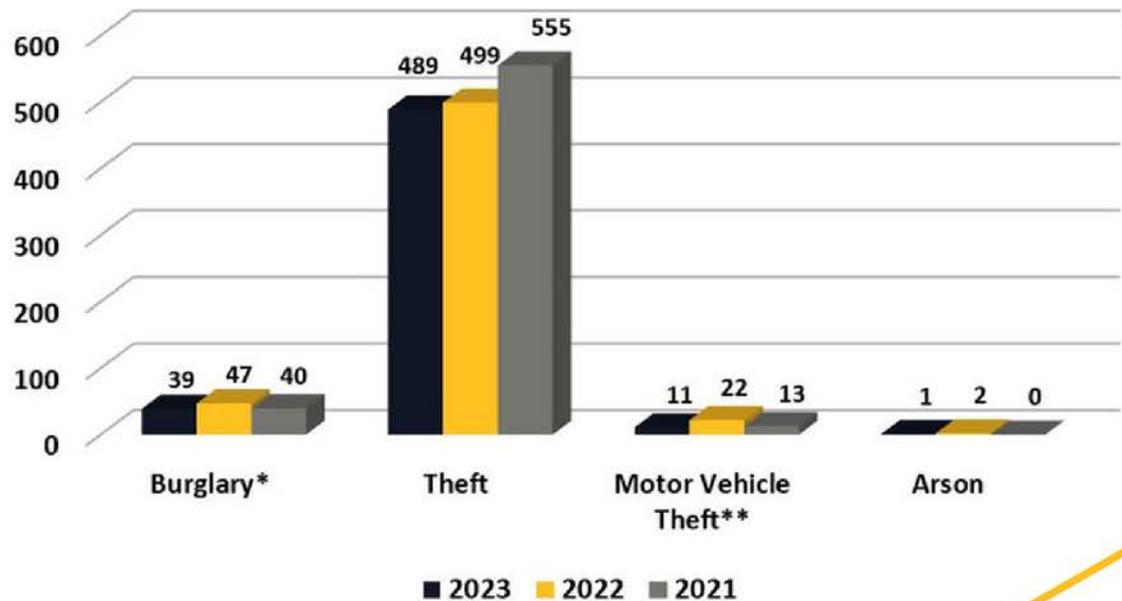
Part One Crime: Violent Crime



Unified Crime Reports (UCR) Part One Crime is reported to the FBI and consists of eight crimes divided into two categories; Violent Crime and Property Crime. "The program's founders chose these offenses because they are serious crimes, they occur with regularity in all areas of the country, and they are likely to be reported to police."

(www2.fbi.gov/ucr/cius2009/about/offense_definitions.html)

Part One Crime: Property Crime



*Includes burglary attempts
**Includes attempts (not other agency recovered stolen vehicles)

These numbers are case counts

Transparency in Safety
Crime Statistics Continued

UCR Part Two Crime includes all other reportable crime categories, but only arrest data is reported to the FBI rather than crime counts.

Part 2 Crimes			
Offense	2023	2022	2021
Arrest for Other Jurisdiction	64	36	61
Disorderly Conduct	191	200	229
Drug Abuse Violations	152	154	141
DUI	357	328	404
Embezzlement	0	2	1
Forgery/Counterfeiting	14	8	4
Juvenile Offenses: curfew, loitering, etc.	15	13	16
Liquor Laws	18	6	10
Offense Against the Family	21	18	14
Public Intoxication	1	0	2
Runaways	12	12	28
Sex offenses (Except Rape)	49	37	38
Simple Assault	117	98	95
Stolen Property: Buy, Receive, Posses, Sell	0	5	3
Vandalism (Includes Domestic Violence - Criminal Damage)	162	161	197
Weapons Violation	10	4	13

Traffic Unit



Mission Statement

The mission of the Traffic Unit is to enhance the safety of the motoring public to gain voluntary compliance with traffic laws utilizing the principle of the three E's:

- Education
- Enforcement
- Engineering

Special Programs & Details:

- Conducting multiple High Visibility Enforcement and selective targeted enforcement deployments throughout the Town to reduce the number of collisions and dangerous speed violations within the Town.
- Providing escorts and traffic control at special events such as the Run for the Fallen, Missing in America Project, and numerous unfortunate public safety memorials and funerals to honor fallen heroes.
- Trained eight new officers in the use of LIDAR and RADAR.

Traffic officers prioritize their enforcement time to locations where crashes can be prevented and where the community has reported traffic safety concerns. We believe that high-visibility traffic enforcement is critical in deterring criminal behavior and improving the safety of pedestrians, bicyclists, and motorists.

The members of the Traffic Unit investigate and follow up on all traffic related crimes that occur within Oro Valley or are initiated by OVPD personnel. A specialized traffic investigator position is staffed to meet the criminal traffic case management needs of the Department and the Town. The traffic investigator and other members of the Traffic Unit have special training in collision investigation, crash reconstruction, scene mapping, and impaired driver investigations. Members of the Traffic Unit also frequently supplement the patrol functions of our agency.

Educate, Enforce, Ensure Safety

High Visibility Enforcement - "HiVE"



The OVPD High Visibility Enforcement (HiVE) program is a data-driven approach to preventing injury collisions in intersections with high collision rates. The program places traffic officers in and around high collision intersections during peak travel times. The deployments are three hours in length.

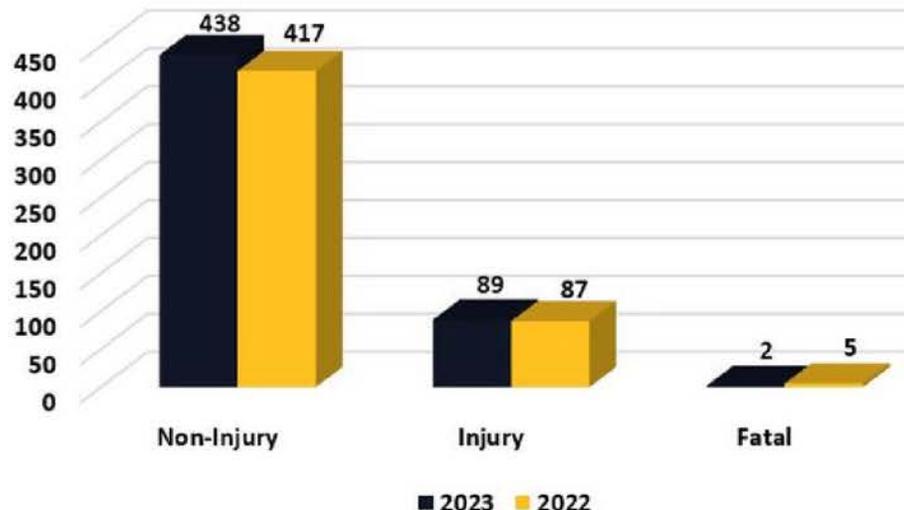
All deployments are advertised in advance through print, radio, and TV so motorists are aware of the elevated police activity. This is a critical component of HiVE since the goal is to increase awareness and safety. The program is not designed to be a "ticket writing" campaign; most traffic stops result in warnings. This educational approach instills trust between the public and the police department.

The officers are instructed to be visible during all aspects of deployment, ideally flooding the area to gain the attention of traveling motorists. The goal of the HiVE is to foster a lasting reduction in crashes involving injuries and property loss.

Citizen Traffic Complaints:

The OVPD Traffic Unit continues to respond to citizen complaints of traffic issues. We do this by maintaining an ongoing traffic log of complaints received through online submittals and messages left on our Traffic Hotline and having traffic officers work those areas to address the reported problems. The Traffic Unit also utilizes traffic radar trailers to make Oro Valley drivers aware of how fast they travel. We also use JAMAR radar traffic monitoring devices to conduct speed studies in areas where we have received complaints to determine the extent of the problem and adequately allocate our resources to address the issues.

Non-DUI Related Collisions



Defending Against Impaired Driving

D.U.I Enforcement

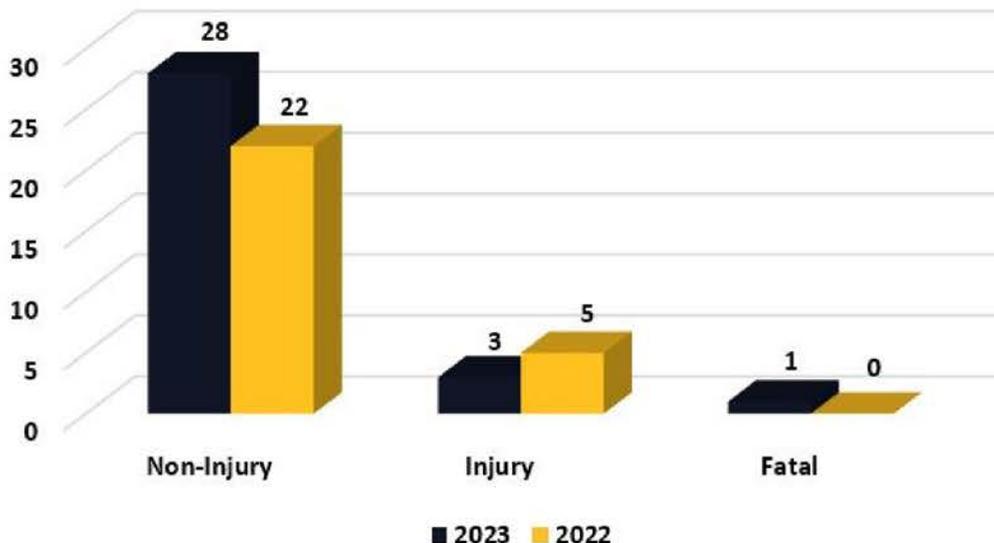
OVPD's DUI Enforcement is committed to removing impaired drivers from our roadways. DUI Enforcement also conducts special saturation deployments and task force operations in partnership with the Southern Arizona DUI Task Force during special events and holidays.

The officers assigned to DUI Enforcement have been specially trained to identify not just those impaired by alcohol but also those impaired by illegal and prescription drugs. OVPD currently has two officers certified as Drug Recognition Experts (DRE). Twelve OVPD officers are qualified to conduct blood draws on those arrested for DUI. In addition to those assigned to DUI Enforcement, dozens of Oro Valley patrol officers have completed advanced DUI investigation training and are certified in Horizontal Gaze Nystagmus (HGN).

The Oro Valley Police Department has a long-standing relationship with the Governor's Office of Highway Safety (GOHS). Because of this strong partnership, OVPD has received hundreds of thousands of dollars in grant funding. In 2023, this grant funding paid for new Fox Fury Nomad 360 LED Scene lights for nighttime collision investigations, along with financing for DUI investigative supplies, the Selective Traffic Enforcement Program (STEP), and funding to pay overtime costs for DUI enforcement.



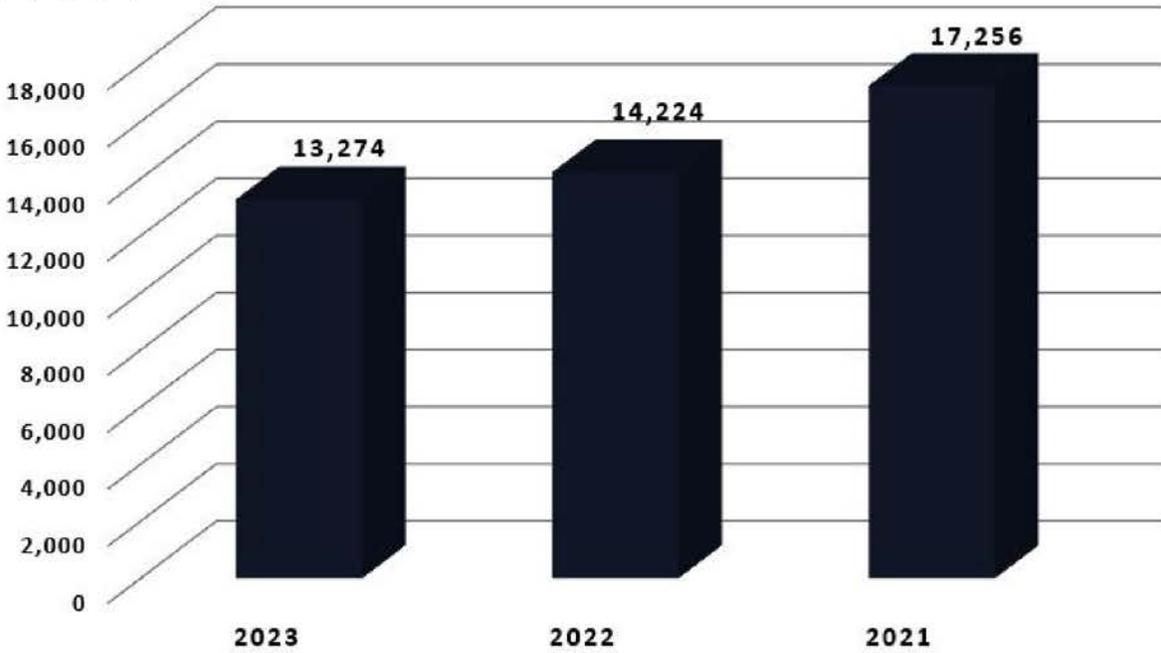
DUI Related Collisions



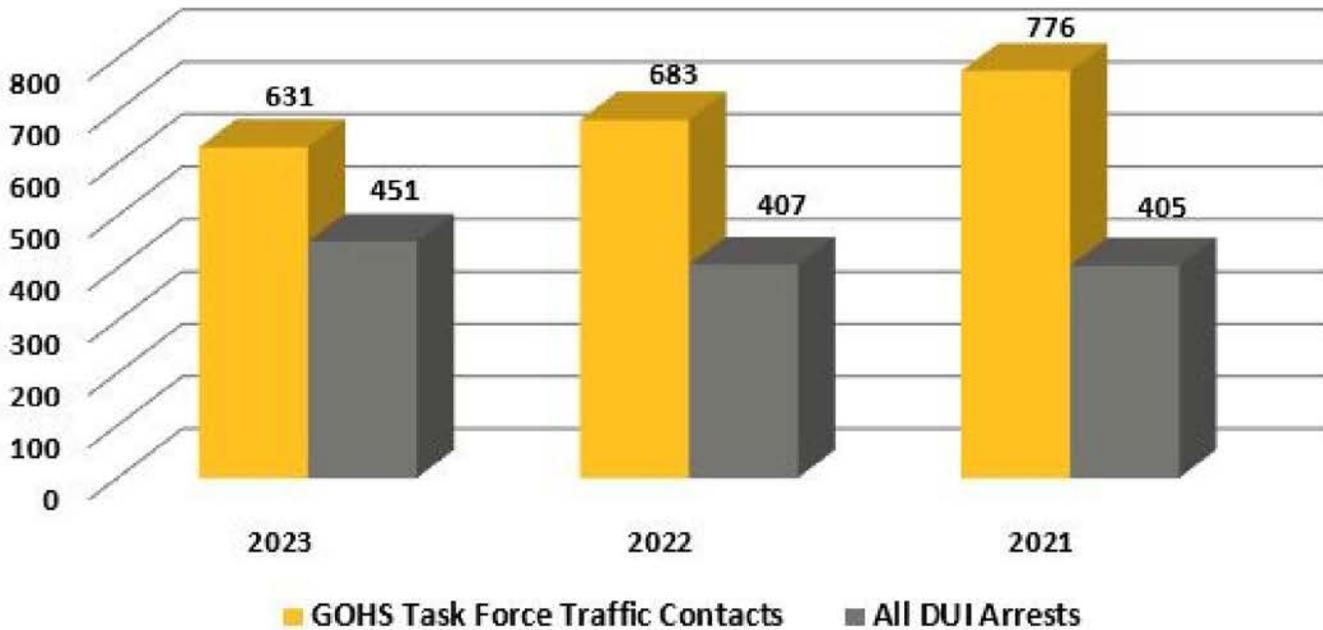
Transparency and Accountability in Enforcement

Agency Traffic Stops, Task Force, and D.U.I. Enforcement Statistics

Agency Total Traffic Stops



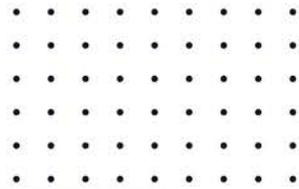
Task Force and DUI Enforcement



Celebrating our Dedicated Team

Employee Recognition

Commendations

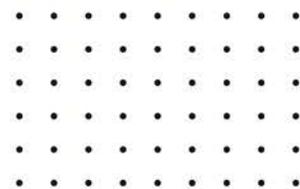


Officer David Pacino - While traveling to conduct follow-up on a serious collision victim, Officer Pacino and Officer Honomichl traveled through the intersection of Oracle Road and Suffolk Drive. Officer Honomichl was hit by another vehicle, causing him serious physical injuries. This collision happened right before Officer Pacino, who immediately assessed the scene, called out the officer-involved collision and began utilizing his EMT training to stabilize Officer Honomichl. Officer Pacino quickly calmed Officer Honomichl and kept him involved with self-assessments as he assessed Officer Honomichl's injuries. Officer Pacino continued to advise responding officers of immediate traffic needs while maintaining medical stabilization on Officer Honomichl until paramedics arrived. Officer Pacino followed the ambulance to Banner Medical Center, supporting the Honomichl family and assisting them as needed. Officer Honomichl advised that Officer Pacino never panicked and knew what needed to be done to stabilize the scene and Officer Honomichl, both physically and mentally.

OVPD Emergency Communications and Officer Kristofer Brandstrom - The Communications Bureau received a call from a detective with the Lawton City Police Department in Utah. They asked for assistance in a child abduction investigation where an adult male lured a 13-year-old boy. The suspect was associated with an address in Oro Valley, his mother's residence. Officer Kristofer Brandstrom contacted his mother. During the investigation, officers discovered that the suspect used several aliases. Communications personnel queried the aliases for any registered vehicles, one of which returned with credible vehicle information. This information was relayed to Officer Brandstrom, who, in turn, notified the agency in Utah. The Amber Alert was updated, and approximately five hours later, a Nebraska police department located the vehicle. The suspect was arrested, and the boy was found safe. A Lawton City detective commended the crucial investigative work.

Public Safety Telecommunicator Paige Rice - OVPD Communications received a call from Oro Valley Hospital regarding a Safe Haven baby that was dropped off in critical condition. The infant was brought to the hospital by a female subject claiming to be the child's grandmother. The subject refused to provide any identifying information to hospital staff. When this call came in, Public Safety Telecommunicator (PST) Paige Rice recalled a previous report made on April 9, 2023, concerning a child born at a home without medical attention. PST Rice recognized that the time frame matched and immediately passed this information on to officers. Because of her swift recollection of a month-old case, officers were able to put the pieces together quickly and identify the parties involved. The mother had a long history with law enforcement and through investigations, found evidence of the grandmother participating in the malnourishment of this infant. A toddler was also found to be in danger.

Celebrating our Dedicated Team Employee Recognition Continued



Commendations Continued

Officer Roger Reynolds - While patrolling the north side of Kohl's building, Officer Reynolds observed a Hispanic male walking out of the emergency exit to the rear of the building. Officer Reynolds saw that the subject had multiple articles of clothing, including hangers, in his hand. Officer Reynolds exited his car and followed the subject onto Northern Avenue, where he gave commands for the subject to stop. The subject refused to stop, cursing at Officer Reynolds and running south in an attempt to evade capture. Officer Reynolds called for backup as he started to chase and ultimately caught the suspect. Officer Reynolds called for paramedics because the subject claimed to have swallowed five fentanyl pills. Officer Reynolds recovered a firearm and a knife from the subject once he was detained. The subject, identified as Carlos Lopez, had previously served prison time for aggravated assault and burglary, making him a prohibited possessor of the firearm. Fentanyl was also located on the subject. In addition, the firearm was returned stolen out of the Tucson jurisdiction. The investigation concluded with Carlos being booked on several felony charges, including his felony warrant out of Pima County.

Senior Office Specialist Mandi Roth - Mandi Roth was tasked with the leadership role of orchestrating the 2023 "Guns and Hoses" charity kickball tournament supporting "Project Grad." This whole community event served as a fundraiser to ensure graduating seniors have a safe place to celebrate on graduation night. From planning to execution, Mrs. Roth assumed complete responsibility for the event. Mrs. Roth hosted online and in-person meetings with many diverse stakeholders, including Amphitheater school officials, public safety partners from law enforcement and fire services, and community members. The meetings were well organized, principled, and purposeful, recognizing the end goal of serving as the primary funding source for this significant event. Mrs. Roth was responsible for selecting the venue, staffing volunteers, appropriating necessary equipment, seeking donations, creating fliers and advertising, and purchasing shirts, food, and trophies, to name a few. The event had 12 teams from seven different agencies and almost 100 players. This well-choreographed event came to fruition on March 25, 2023, yielding more than \$8,000 raised for this highly successful event.



MADD 2023 DUI Enforcement Officer of Year *Officer Vanessa Molina*

During 2023, Officer Molina conducted over 450 traffic contacts resulting in 38 individuals being arrested for impaired driver related crimes. These individuals were removed from the streets and an untold number of lives were saved due to her efforts.

Celebrating our Dedicated Team

Employee Recognition Continued



2023 Officer of the Year

While this award is often focused on the work done in the year, Officer Brown has made a measurable difference in the number of arrests made in protecting our community during his recent tenure in the DUI Unit.

These arrests deserve extra attention due to the nature of what removing an impaired driver off the road means. Little of what police officers do gets to prevent a tragedy, more often we respond after something life changing occurs. Though we can never know how many, multiple lives have been saved by Officer Brown in his efforts to make the roadways in and around our community

safer. These cases also come with hours and hours of additional work after the arrest. With court hearings, attorney interviews, additional training, all which take place outside the regular working hours of the DUI Unit. Officer Brown signs up for nearly all taskforce nights, rarely takes days off, and works diligently throughout his entire shift.

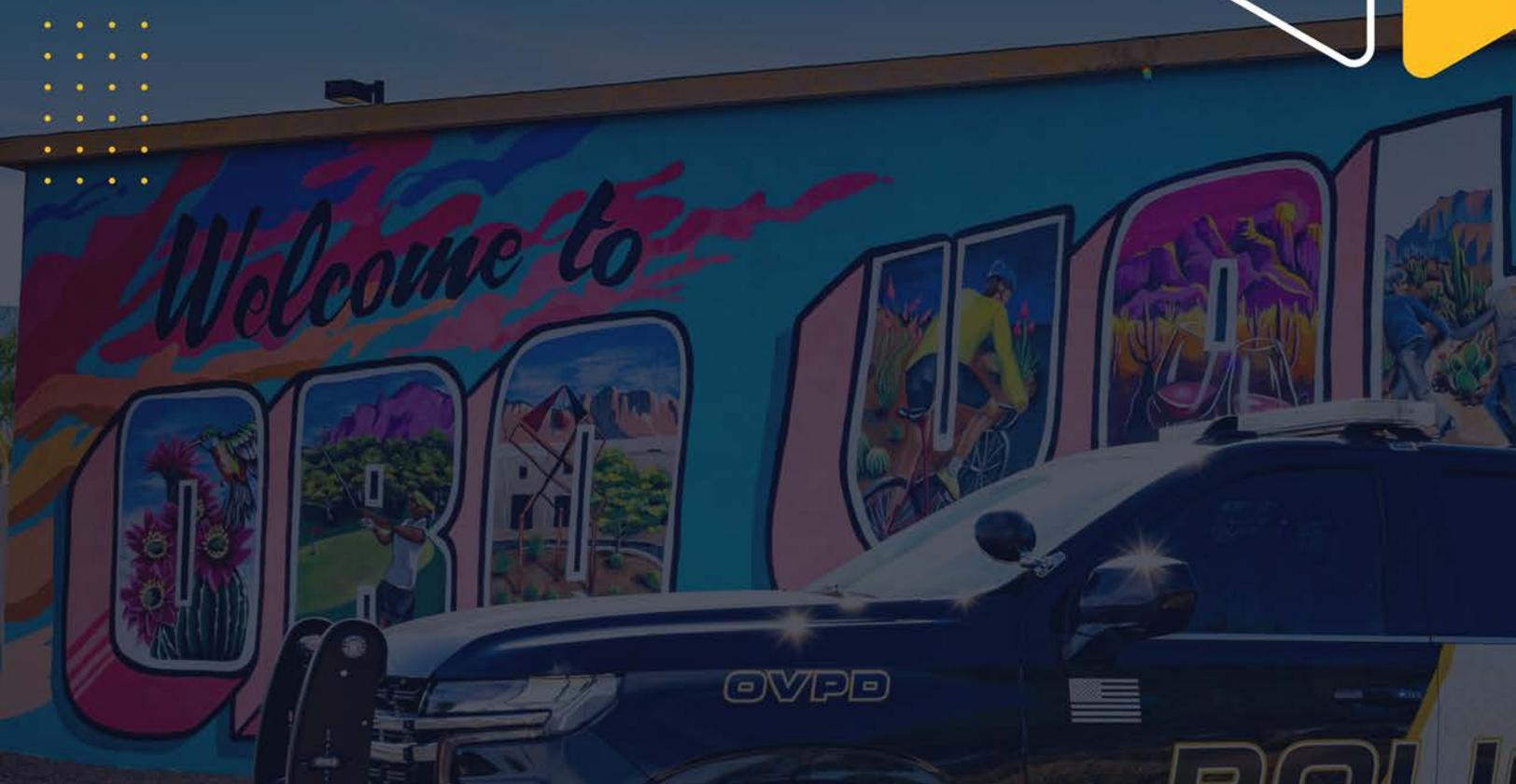
Countless times Officer Brown has either come in early or stayed late to assist in a DUI investigation. He is always willing to drop whatever he is doing and respond to check out at another officer's stop and take over the DUI investigations. This, along with his high performance has percolated to officers around him. Many new officers see his dedication and proactive policing and in turn do their best to emulate it in their own ways. They share in the excitement of finding and removing an impaired driver from the road. Officer Brown may not have stopped every one of his arrests but because of his infectious work ethic he created an environment where nearly all officers working a shift with him take an active role in keeping Oro Valley roads and the citizens safer.

2023 Promotions

Kevin Peterson - Lieutenant
Mike Duran - Sergeant
Mike Gracie - Commander

2023 Retirements

Deputy Chief Jason Larter 09/21/1987 - 01/26/2023	Officer Vivian Lopez 07/24/2005 - 05/29/2023
Officer Greg Chmara 07/10/2017 - 07/31/2023	Lieutenant Aaron LeSuer 03/11/1990 - 09/28/2023



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