



WEST FARGO POLICE DEPARTMENT 2019 ANNUAL REPORT

IN MEMORIAM

We dedicate this annual report in remembrance of Landon Solberg, Grantley Johnson and Myles Allen who courageously battled cancer and lost their fight to this horrible disease. All three are an inspiration to our police department. God bless Landon, Grantley, and Myles.



TABLE OF CONTENTS

- 4 Introduction by Chief Janke
- 5 Crime Statistics
- 6 Mission and Values
- 7 Command Staff
- 8 Promotions, New Positions & New Hires
- 9 Service Milestones
- 10 Award Recipients
- 12 Volunteers
- 13 Budget
- 14 Community Programs
 - 15 Pink Patch Project
 - 16 Night to Unite
 - 17 West Fargo United & Around the World
 - 18 Cops & Kids Shopping Event
 - 19 Police Explorers Post #281
 - 20 Citizens Police Academy
 - 22 Youth Engagement
 - 23 More Community Programs
- 24 Patrol Division
- 26 K9 Division
- 28 Traffic and Patrol Statistics & CSO
- 29 Bomb Squad & SWAT Team
- 30 Investigations Division
 - 31 Special Programs
 - 32 Metro Area Street Crime Unit Statistics
 - 33 Drug & Evidence Processing Statistics
 - 34 Top Cases of 2019
- 36 School Resource Officers
- 37 Cultural Liaison Officer
- 38 Administrative Division
 - 39 Internal Affairs & Injuries & Training
- 40 Thank you



INTRODUCTION BY CHIEF JANKE



I am proud to release the 2019 West Fargo Police Department's Annual Report. While our community continues to grow, we witnessed another year of our overall crime rate decreasing. I am happy to report that West Fargo was named the safest city in North Dakota for the second straight year. It is not normal for a city with the exponential growth that West Fargo has seen to have crime rates decreasing. This is a testament to the continued partnership between our residents and our police department.

Our police officers continue to focus on building relationships with our community members so we can work together to stop and prevent crime. Our department also continues use the data at our fingertips to be proactive and work smarter in preventing and stopping crime.

In 2019, we added a cultural liaison officer whose main focus is to build relationships and assist our New American population. CLO Ryan Feltman also organized many community events to bring our entire community together and educate each other on different cultures. These events included an Around the World Night where everyone could learn about cultures, and West Fargo United focused on bringing our youth out for a night of dancing and getting to know our officers. Lastly, CLO Feltman hosted four forums at our middle and high schools to deliver a message of respect and eliminating bullying in our schools.

This single position made a huge difference in educating and bringing our community together. In turn, our department now has relationships with thousands of community members that may not have trusted the department to call in a time of need. This position is just one example of our police department continuing to evolve to better serve our entire community.

Our department of 63 sworn police officers and 13 civilian employees make me extremely proud every single day. Their sole mission is to honorably protect and serve the citizens of West Fargo at all times. Let's continue to partner together as one community and continue to make West Fargo the best city to live, work and play.



Personal Crimes	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Homicide	3	1	0	2	0
Sex Crimes	29	33	43	54	39
Kidnapping	6	4	9	5	5
Pornography	6	9	20	8	12
Robbery	5	7	6	3	5
Aggravated Assault	39	35	36	56	41
Simple Assault	274	275	249	260	236
Stalking	5	7	5	2	3
Weapon Law Violations	25	38	30	27	29
Missing Person/Runaway	96	126	133	100	111
Suicide (Attempted, Completed)	35	42	47	59	43
Suicide Threat	55	57	56	85	49
Unattended Death	23	13	20	17	26
Other Personal Crimes	1073	1156	947	800	798
Personal Crimes Per 100,000 people	4464.00	4808.00	4269.33	3941.33	3725.33
SUBTOTAL	1674	1803	1601	1478	1397

Property Crimes	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Burglary/Theft From Building	154	146	90	122	121
Shoplifting	44	55	70	93	158
Motor Vehicle Theft	39	51	45	35	54
All Other Theft	337	341	396	423	373
Counterfeiting	118	115	113	128	143
Identity Theft	70	48	54	42	38
Vandalism	179	141	135	124	119
Other Property Crimes	296	358	316	361	397
Property Crimes Per 100,000 People	3298.67	3346.67	3250.67	3541.33	3741.33
SUBTOTAL	1237	1255	1219	1328	1403

Drug Crimes	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Drug/Narcotic Violations	221	329	355	354	369
Drug Equipment Violations	221	313	351	338	317
Liquor Law Violations	112	109	77	94	75
Drug Crimes Per 100,000 People	1477.33	2002.67	2088.00	2096.00	2029.33
SUBTOTAL	554	751	783	786	761

Crime Total	3465	3809	3603	3592	3561
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MISSION STATEMENT

The West Fargo Police Department has the responsibility to protect life and safeguard property in a highly effective and efficient manner and to engage the community in a collaborative crime prevention program.

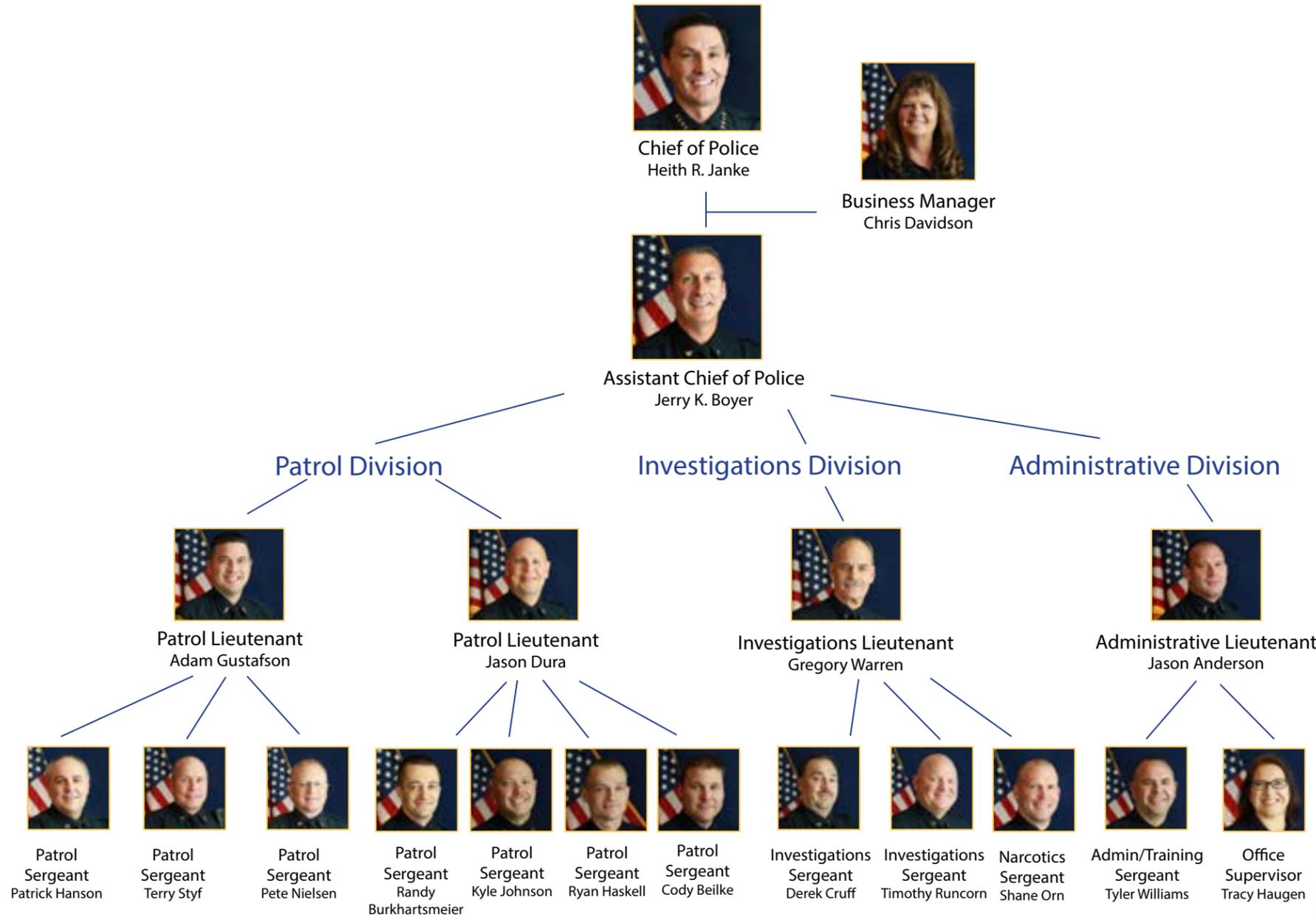
VISION STATEMENT

The West Fargo Police Department strives to be a highly trusted public service agency that all levels of the criminal justice system may use as a standard of law enforcement performance as a result of having developed and maintained a strong core of visionary leaders and exceptionally trained and motivated personnel.



Integrity
 Honesty
 Trust
 Competence
 Teamwork
 Respect
 Service
 Balance

2019 COMMAND STAFF



PROMOTIONS

SERVICE MILESTONES

63
SWORN OFFICERS



Kyle Johnson
Patrol Sergeant



Ryan Haskell
Patrol Sergeant



Cody Beilke
Patrol Sergeant



Gary Bommersbach
35 Years of Service



Terry Styf
30 Years of Service



Rhonda Jorgensen
20 Years of Service



Pete Nielsen
20 Years of Service



Adam Gustafson
10 Years of Service

NEW POSITIONS



Ryan Feltman
Cultural Liaison Officer



Ryan Birney
5 Years of Service



Ryan Feltman
5 Years of Service



Ryan Haskell
5 Years of Service



Kyle Johnson
5 Years of Service

NEW HIRES



Abby Dusek
Patrol Officer



Jared Johnson
Patrol Officer



Brittany Malafa
Patrol Officer



Michael Kane
5 Years of Service



Ben Orr
5 Years of Service



Eric Sorenson
5 Years of Service



Derek Werner
5 Years of Service

3
NEW OFFICERS

EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR



Matt Oldham
Patrol Officer

EMPLOYEES OF THE QUARTER



Margy Larson
Quarter 1



Matt Oldham
Quarter 2



James Ellefson
Quarter 3

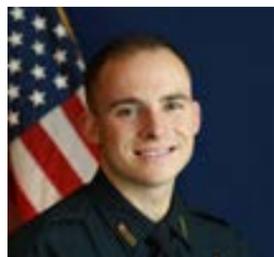


David Todd
Quarter 4

MEDAL OF VALOR



Brock Ackerman
Patrol Officer



David Todd
Patrol Officer

CHIEF'S MEDAL



Ben Nechiporenko
Patrol Officer



Greg Warren
Investigations Lieutenant

PURPLE HEART

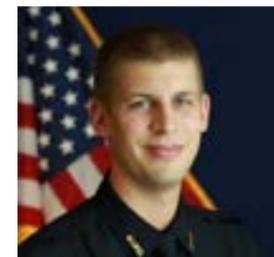


Dora Roll
School Resource Officer

2019 LUTHER FAMILY FORD SALUTE TO LAW ENFORCEMENT RECIPIENTS



David Todd
April 2019



James Ellefson
September 2019

BEYOND THE TRAFFIC STOP



Joe Solberg
Patrol Officer



Kyle Johnson
Patrol Sergeant

OUTSTANDING SAFETY INSTRUCTOR



Jason Balvik
School Resource Officer

GANG OFFICER OF THE YEAR



Ben Nechiporenko
Patrol Officer

FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE MEMBER OF THE YEAR



Rhonda Jorgensen
School Resource Officer

VOLUNTEERS



Vern Baardson
Chaplain



Casey Baardson
Chaplain



Michael O'Berg
Chaplain

In 2019, West Fargo Police Department volunteers donated 1,006 hours of their time.

Vern Baardson and Casey Baardson serve as chaplains for the department. Mike O'Berg is chaplain for the West Fargo Fire Department, but assists the department as well. These three individuals help with a wide range of tasks, from death notifications to the overall well-being of the department. In 2019, the chaplains donated 487 hours.



Ron Babb
Department Volunteer



Carl Glander
Department Volunteer



Richard Logan
Department Volunteer

Ron Babb, Carl Glander and Richard Logan serve the West Fargo Police Department in a number of ways. These three men take turns doing everything from washing and bringing cars to the mechanic to running paperwork. In 2019, these three volunteers donated 339 hours to the department.

Chad Rice and Shawn O'Donnell serve as volunteer advisers for the West Fargo Police Explorers Post #281. Rice and O'Donnell help organize meetings and take photos at events. They also assist in planning and chaperoning the Explorers' annual trip to Rochester, Minnesota, for their competition. In 2019, these volunteer advisers donated 180 hours to the Explorers.



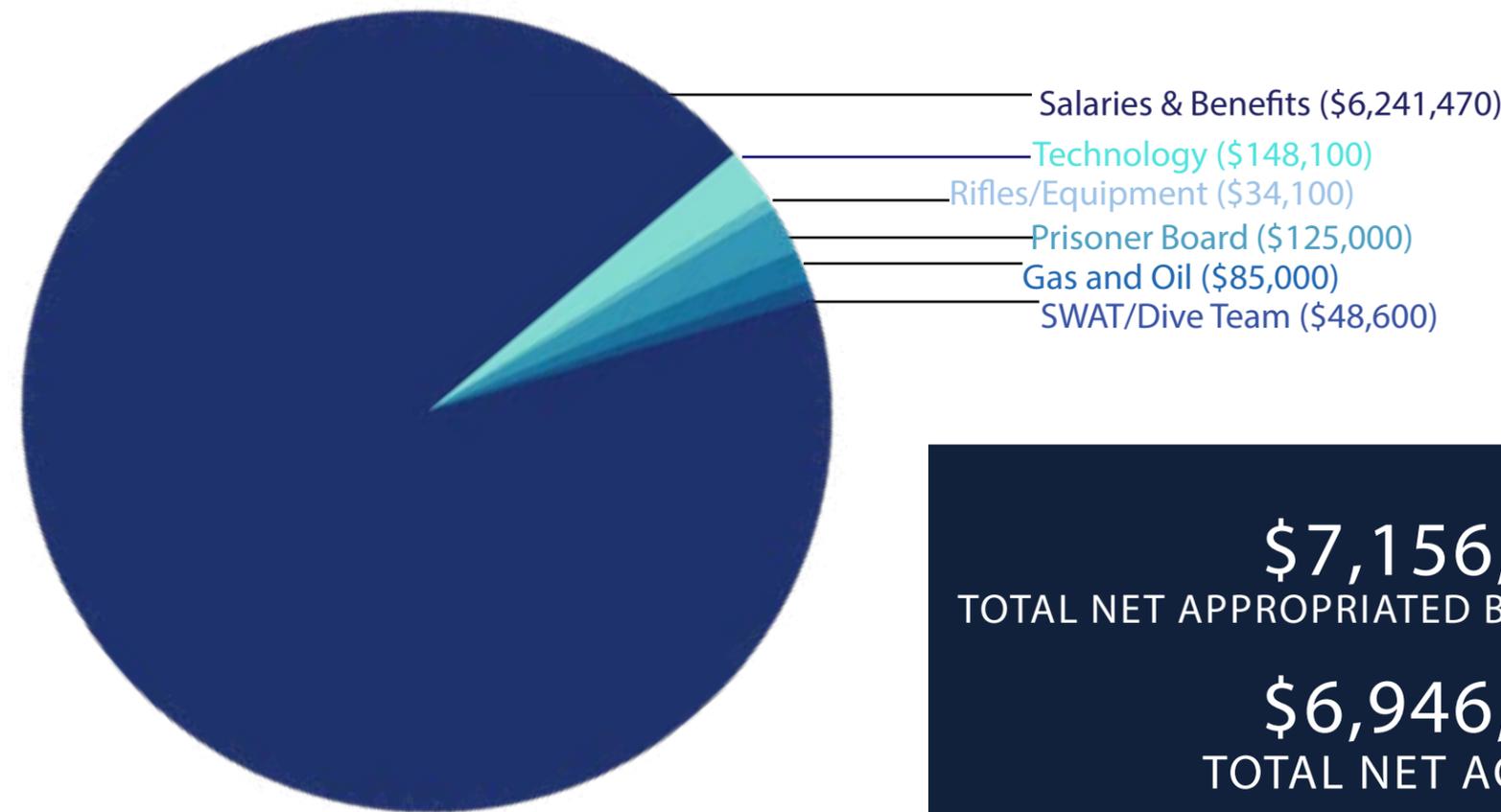
Chad Rice
Volunteer Police
Explorers Adviser



Shawn O'Donnell
Volunteer Police
Explorers Adviser

1,006
TOTAL VOLUNTEER HOURS

2019 BUDGET



\$7,156,870
TOTAL NET APPROPRIATED BUDGET

\$6,946,540
TOTAL NET ACTUAL

\$210,330
NET (OVER)/UNDER BUDGET

COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

The West Fargo Police Department prides itself on the variety of community programs officers participate in and offer to the community:

- Bicycle Helmet Awareness
- Cass County TRIAD
- Citizens Police Academy
- Classroom Visits
- Coffee with a Cop
- Cops & Kids Shopping Event
- David Lemi Logulomo Scholarship
- Department Tours
- Dose of Reality
- K9 Demonstrations
- Neighborhood Watch Program
- Night to Unite
- No Shave November
- Pink Patch Project
- Special Olympics Polar Plunge
- Police Explorers Post #281
- Project Lifesaver
- Salvation Army Bell Ringing
- CLO Swimming Lessons
- Summer Intern Program
- Special Olympics Tip-A-Cop
- Vacation House Watch
- Community Events
- Ride-A-Longs



In October, the department presented the Pink Patch Project. All officers sported pink patches throughout the month, sold commemorative pink patches to the public and held an auction of signed patches to raise money for breast cancer research, prevention, treatment and awareness.



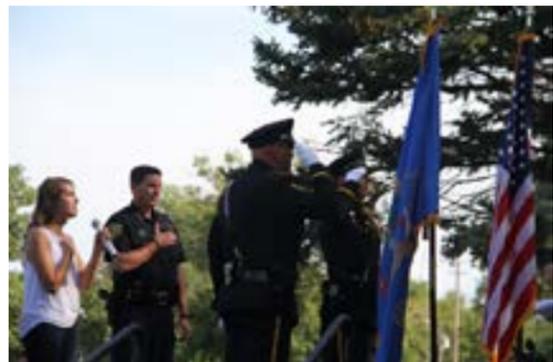
PINK PATCH PROJECT

NIGHT TO UNITE

5 - 8 P.M. TUESDAY, AUG. 6
ELMWOOD PARK, WEST FARGO



Every August, the West Fargo Police Department hosts Night to Unite at Elmwood Park. This event strengthens neighborhood and community partnerships through free activities, interactive demonstrations, public safety education and delicious food from local food trucks. Thousands of West Fargo residents attend each year.



Night to Unite

WEST FARGO UNITED

5:30 - 8 P.M. SEPT. 6
A FREE OUTDOOR COMMUNITY PARTY



West Fargo United was an outdoor community party with free food, games, music and fun for all ages. The event was hosted at L.E. Berger Elementary school and even included a helicopter dropping candy from the sky.

West Fargo United

**AROUND THE WORLD:
A CELEBRATION OF CULTURES**
5:30 - 8 p.m.
Tuesday, June 11, 2019
PONTIAC Plaza - 444 Shyenne Street, West Fargo

FOOD
MUSIC
ENTERTAINMENT
FUN FOR ALL AGES
EVERYONE IS INVITED

Sponsored by
Microsoft



In June, the department sponsored the first Around The World event. The event aimed to showcase diverse cultures in West Fargo. Representatives from countries like Germany, Philippines, Somalia, Liberia, the United Kingdom and more were present.



Around the World: A Celebration of Cultures



In December, the West Fargo Police Department participated in the annual Cops & Kids shopping event. Law enforcement personnel from the Red River Valley region come together to provide a holiday shopping experience to area low-income children. Each child is matched with an officer and given \$200 to spend.



Through West Fargo Police Explorers Post #281, students age 14 - 21 learn about a career in law enforcement through hands-on training, competition, community engagement at special events, volunteer work and more. Students gain experience in many facets of law enforcement while also gaining leadership, problem-solving and effective communication skills, as well as lifelong friendships.



The West Fargo Police Explorer Post #281 has completed its fifth year in 2019 with a full roster of 18 students.

The explorers also helped with various summer events, including four West Fargo Cruise Nights, Night to Unite, the West Fest Parade, Big Iron, and the Scheel's Arena Hometown Heroes event.

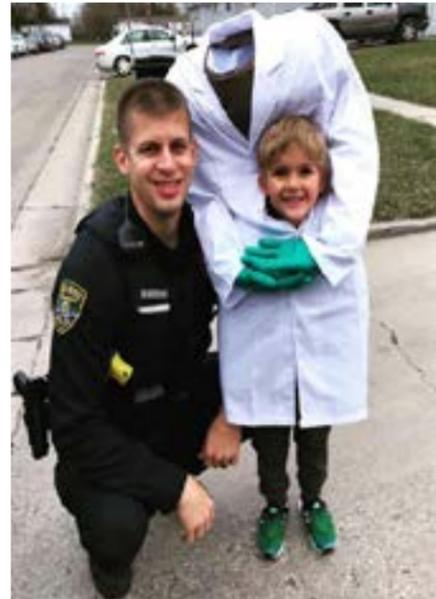




Each year, residents are able to participate in the Citizens Police Academy. This ten-week program is designed to increase the understanding between citizens and police through hands-on training. In addition to specialized classroom training, citizens are exposed to a wide range of real-world scenarios.

Participants are not actually trained for police work. Participants do, however, have a better understanding of the West Fargo Police Department operations and the responsibilities and duties with which officers are tasked.

CITIZENS POLICE ACADEMY



One fun role of West Fargo police officers is engagement with area youth. The department interacts with young residents through classroom visits, special events, department tours, fundraisers and a variety of special programs to encourage youth safety.



PATROL DIVISION



The patrol officers respond to major and minor crimes and assist on medical calls. Calls for service range from a vehicle unlock to responding to major incidents that can result in serious injury or death.

Within the Patrol Division, the officers take on extra responsibilities other than basic patrol duties. These responsibilities include:

- Alcohol Compliance Checks
- Bike Patrol
- Bomb Squad
- Citizens Police Academy
- Coffee/Cocoa with a Cop
- Defensive Tactics
- Drug Recognition
- Emergency Vehicle Operations Course Instruction
- Explorers Post #281
- Field Training
- Honor Guard
- Internet Safety
- Internship Program
- Negotiations
- Peer Assistance Crisis Team (PACT)
- Ride-A-Long Program
- Social Media
- SWAT Team



507,768
TOTAL MILES DRIVEN



41,347
TOTAL GALLONS OF GAS

The Patrol Division saw several changes again in 2019. The department hired five new patrol officers, bringing the force to 38 officers including the two lieutenants and seven patrol sergeants. The Patrol Division also includes one truck regulatory officer and a civilian community service officer.

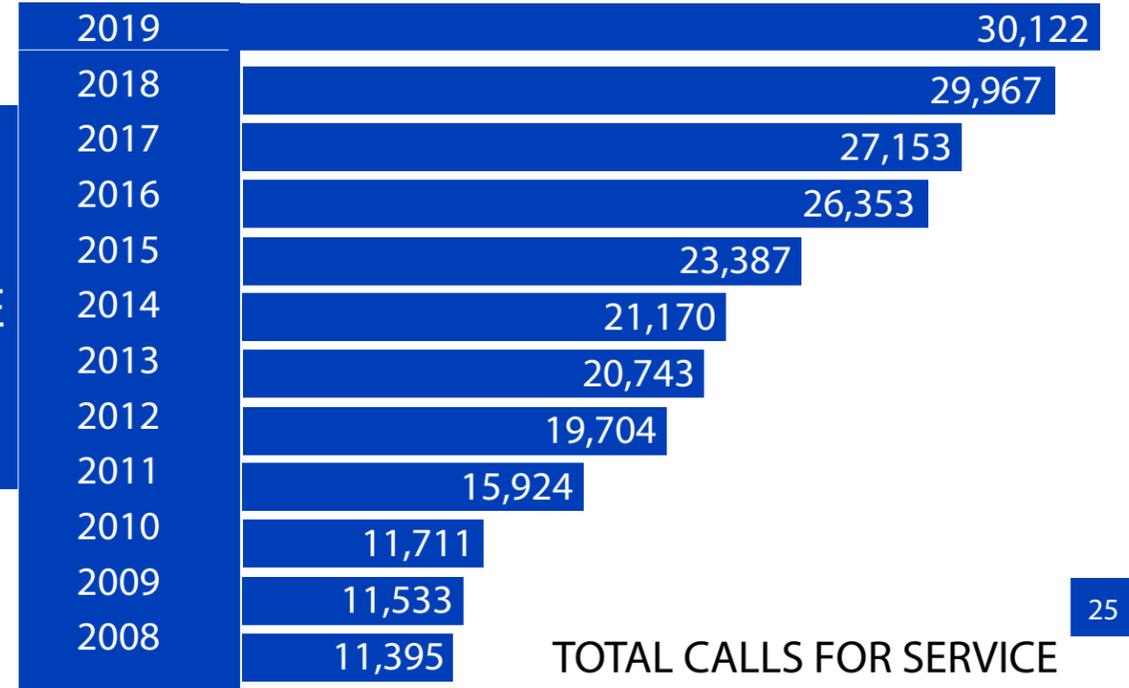
Once again, the department had a record number of calls for service in 2019. With 30,122 calls, the patrol staff was very busy. Patrol staff also responded to 1,122 vehicle collisions.

The department honored two patrol officers in 2019 with the Medal of Valor award. Officers David Todd and Brock Ackerman were honored after pulling a victim out of a burning building. Officer Dora Roll received the Purple Heart award after being injured during a confrontation with a suspect.



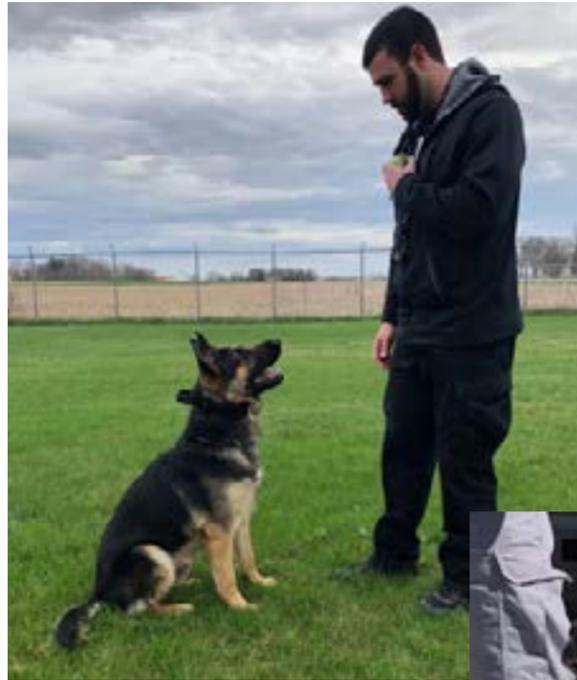
Lieutenant Jason Dura Lieutenant Adam Gustafson

30,122
TOTAL CALLS FOR SERVICE
IN 2019



TOTAL CALLS FOR SERVICE

K9 DIVISION



319
TOTAL K9 DEPLOYMENTS

Between Tosti, Macho and Brewtus, the K9 unit was deployed a total of 319 times in 2019, several of which were assisting other regional agencies

K9 DIVISION



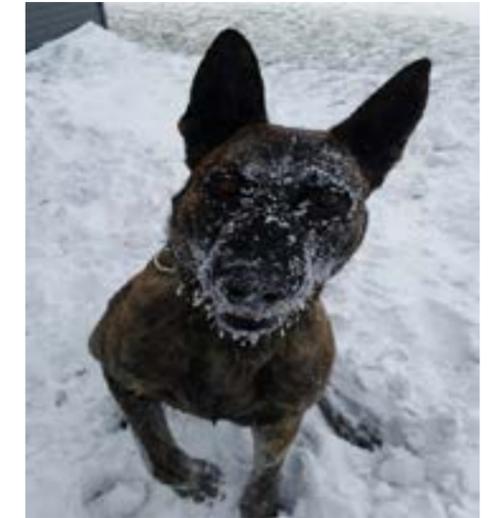
Name: Brewtus

Handler: Officer Brock Ackerman
Breed: German Shepherd
Age: 2 years, 3 months
Weight: 65lbs



Name: Macho

Handler: Sergeant Pete Nielsen
Breed: German Shepherd
Age: 2 years, 10 months
Weight: 75lbs



Name: ToSti

Handler: Officer Ben Orr
Breed: Dutch Shepherd
Age: 6 years
Weight: 95lbs



TRAFFIC & PATROL STATS



Traffic Stats	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
DUI	174	187	160	240	163
DUI REFUSAL	36	36	46	46	36
DRIVING UNDER SUSPENSION	334	424	538	754	517
Total	544	647	744	1040	716

Patrol Stats	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Citations Issued	5560	5880	5459	6966	4570
Arrests	1577	1883	1920	1960	1648
Accidents	811	963	930	986	1122

COMMUNITY SERVICE OFFICER



28 CSO Annie Burthold

Annie Burthold serves as community service officer for the West Fargo Police Department. She responds to calls for vehicle unlocks, animals calls and parking complaints. She also coordinates vehicle maintenance and delivers paperwork to various government agencies.

This position has evolved over time. Beyond the duties listed above, Burthold also completes investigations and reports on animal neglect and provides assistance to other city departments, such as code enforcement, to help make residents aware of and enforce city ordinances.

2019 Calls for Service			
Arrest	0	Reckless Driving	1
Accident-Property	3	Stolen Vehicle	1
Animal Calls	271	Suspicious Activity	3
Bicycle Found	41	Theft	1
Burglary	5	Ticket	57
Community Policing	6	Traffic Complaint	22
Disturbance	2	Traffic Stop	3
Field Contact	1	Vehicle Unlock	102
Fingerprints	10	Welfare Check	1
Found Property	32		
Health - Safety	4		
Impaired Person	1		
Impound	58		
Parking Complaint	604		
Public Assist	32		

1278
TOTAL ACTIONS

BOMB & SWAT



Red River Valley SWAT Team

The Red River Valley SWAT team is comprised of members from various local agencies. The department currently has three members on the team, with two of the three being team leaders. In 2019, the Red River Valley SWAT team was deployed 14 times. These deployments ranged from assisting with high-risk search warrants to providing dignitary protection for President Donald Trump and Vice President Mike Pence. The team spends many hours each year training for these and other situations, such as barricaded suspects and terrorist attacks.

Red River Regional Bomb Squad

The Red River Regional Bomb Squad is a multi-jurisdiction team that assists local law enforcement agencies in the education, location, and disposal of all energetic materials. The bomb unit is often utilized with the tactical unit and negotiations unit on large-scale events where there could be a potential for dangerous materials or explosives. The bomb unit has different types of technology that can assist the other units, such as bomb robots, which are capable of sending real time video and audio to the rest of the team.

Bomb Squad Summary of Calls	2019
Hoax/Suspicious Packages	9
Ammunition Pickup/Disposal	6
Explosive Devices	10
SWAT Assists	9
Total Bomb Squad Responses	34



INVESTIGATIONS



Lieutenant Greg Warren

In 2019, Lieutenant Greg Warren led the West Fargo Police Department Investigations Division. The division consisted of three sergeants, five detectives, one intelligence detective, a crime-free multi-housing coordinator and an evidence technician. In total, the division was assigned 854 cases with 2,118 pieces of evidence processed.

West Fargo investigation officers also worked as members of the Cass County Drug Task Force, the Metro Area Street Crimes Unit and the Drug Enforcement Administration Task Force. Officers in these task forces focused on narcotics trafficking and gangs in the metro area.

The Investigations Division also houses seven West Fargo School District school resources officers and manages a number of special programs such as offender registration and the crime free multi-housing program.

SOCIAL MEDIA TOOLS:

2019 TIP TUESDAY:

- 24 ID'D OUT OF 34
- 70.5% SUCCESS RATE

2019 WARRANT WEDNESDAY:

- 11 ARRESTED OUT OF 34
- 32% SUCCESS RATE

854
TOTAL INVESTIGATIONS
CASES ASSIGNED

SPECIAL PROGRAMS

Crime Free Multi-Housing Program

The West Fargo Crime Free Multi-Housing Program offers training for West Fargo rental property management and staff. After the training, the Crime Free Multi-Housing coordinator notifies the trained management when tenants or visitors commit certain offenses on the property. The offenses can include noise complaints, indecent exposure and assault, minors possessing or consuming alcohol, possession of controlled substances, conduct related to the need for protection services, delinquency of a minor, criminal damage to property or robbery. Through this program, the department also assists rental property management with background checks.

The West Fargo Police Department is happy to provide this service to the community knowing it results in a stable, more satisfied tenant base, increased property values, improved personal safety for tenants, landlords, and managers, and peace of mind for spending more time on routine management and less time on crisis control.

In 2019, 30,112 calls for service were reviewed and 1,211 housing incident reports were sent to trained rental management.

Offender Registration Program

There are currently 49 offenders registered with the West Fargo Police Department. Registered offenders include those who have been convicted of serious sexual crimes or violent offenders that are required to register by North Dakota state offender statutes. Since 2009, each department officer has at least one registered offender assigned

to them to monitor their compliance. Assigned officers are required to provide monthly updates. The police support specialists communicate with the state offender registration unit in Bismarck for updates to each offender's file and to make sure all information is sent in a timely manner.

Internet Crimes Against Children

In 2019, the West Fargo Police Department received 3 Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) cyber tips. From these tips, the department went on to

produce three workable cases. Cyber tips include possession or distribution of child pornography or luring a minor by computer.

146
TOTAL CRIME FREE
MULTI-HOUSING
BACKGROUND
CHECKS CONDUCTED

49
TOTAL REGISTERED
OFFENDERS

3
TOTAL ICAC TIPS
RECEIVED

METRO AREA STREET CRIMES UNIT

METRO AREA STREET CRIMES UNIT STATISTICS

	Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Gang Arrests	9	3	2	3	2	3	7	7	3	6	12	1	58
Non-Gang Arrests	17	15	21	17	6	15	16	19	13	8	13	19	179
Assist Arrests	0	0	2	0	0	3	2	3	3	1	2	25	41
Written Search Warrants	7	7	7	10	10	9	9	10	4	12	3	10	90
Assist Other Agency	6	5	6	9	9	7	10	7	4	2	3	1	61
THC (grams)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	46	1	47
Meth Seizures (grams)	13.7	0.7	1200.8	2.5	29.5	0	14	12.3	23	4	0	13.2	1,313.7
Marijuana Seizures (grams)	107.7	514	19.1	477.5	0	47.8	0	0	96.8	352.8	107	18.1	1,740.8
Cocaine Seizures (grams)	0	15.5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	15.5
Pill Seizures	798	0	25	18	0	0	43	0	0	1	1	0	886
Heroin Seizures (grams)	0	12	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	13	28	0	53
Hard Drug Paraphernalia Seizures	34	26	2	6	0	0	3	8	2	2	9	26	118
Misdemeanor Paraphernalia Seizures	21	5	0	2	0	0	10	0	0	4	1	4	47
Cash Seizures	\$577	\$2,530	\$9,625	\$1,521	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,500	\$904	\$0	\$15,136
Dangerous Weapon Seizures	4	2	0	1	1	1	2	1	1	0	1	3	17
Vehicle Seizures	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Gang Education Presentation Hours	0	0	1	0	0	0	2.5	0	1	0	0	3	7.5
Crime Reduction Details Hours	0	0	80	0	0	0	40	25	0	0	0	0	145
Training Hours	126	3	27	14	200	33	15	88	236	66.5	39	10	857.5
Unconfirmed Gang Classification	3	3	3	3	1	1	7	9	9	0	4	0	43
Gang Members Confirmed/Identified	6	3	7	7	47	4	1	2	6	1	5	2	91

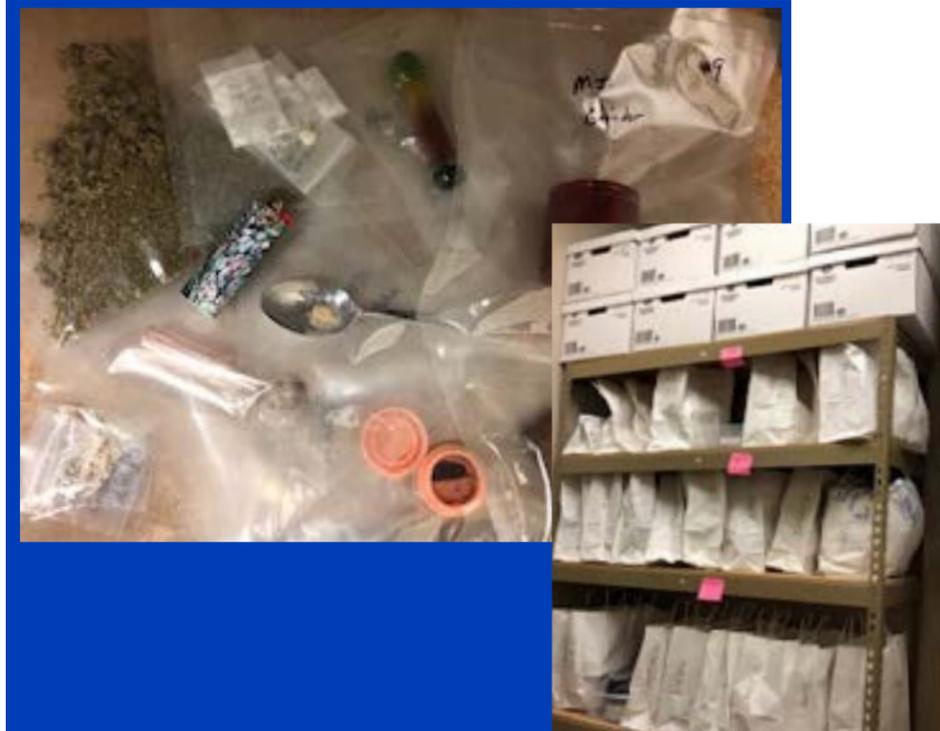
95
TOTAL GANG ARRESTS

The West Fargo Police Department participates in the Fargo-Moorhead Metro Area Street Crimes Unit. This unit is comprised of officers and deputies from Cass County Sheriff's Office, Clay County Sheriff's Office, West Fargo Police Department, Fargo Police Department and Moorhead Police Department. This unit works to identify, track and apprehend gang members and their associates. In 2019, the unit made 237 arrests. Ninety-five of those arrests were confirmed gang members or known associates. The unit also seized thousands of grams of street drugs, ranging from amphetamines to marijuana. In 2019 the unit conducted 90 search warrants for vehicle GPS tracking, residential buildings, DNA, phones, and for persons of interest.

DRUG STATS

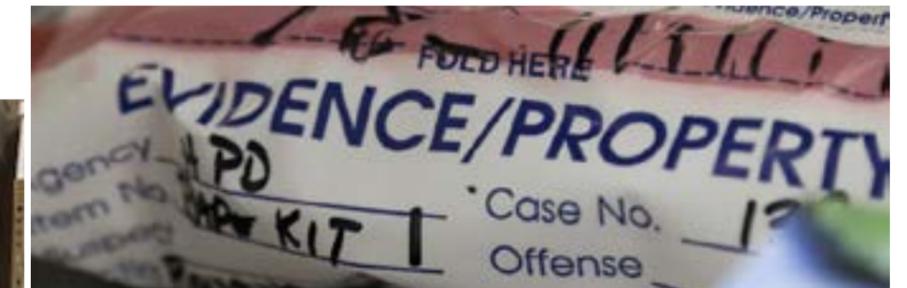
Cass County Drug Task Force Statistics

	Seizures
Meth	2,244 grams
Heroin	13 grams
Marijuana	582 grams
Fentanyl	28 grams
Mushrooms	64 grams
Currency	\$17,380



EVIDENCE PROCESSING

The evidence processing department took in 2,118 pieces of evidence in 2019 and it was the second year using new tracker software. With this software the department is able to track evidence more precisely, save time by having a better work flow and keep a more detailed chain of custody for each item of evidence. Sari Supler continued as the part-time evidence technician to free up investigators for their other duties. Under this role, Supler conducts, audits, maintains the flow of evidence, ensures the proper handling of items and processes evidence. Supler continues to work on improving the evidence room with a goal of earning accreditation.



2,118
TOTAL PIECES OF EVIDENCE
TOOK IN BY THE EVIDENCE
PROCESSING DEPARTMENT

Operation Homeless

This has been an ongoing case in the metro area for several years. Total loss of dollars in the metro is around \$120,000.00. The department, along with local and federal partners, have been involved in the ongoing investigation. A large number of suspects have been identified for prosecution. The homeless are not arrested.

Robbery

A male victim was in his apartment when two males forced their way into the victim's bedroom and they proceeded to take numerous items and physically assaulted the victim. The robbery was all captured on video in the victim's bedroom. Both males then proceeded to take other items in the residence. Both pleaded to numerous charges stemming from the robbery.

Fraud

A West Fargo company was contacted via email from what looked like one of their client's email addresses. The email requested that the business change the bank account they were making payments to. Without contacting and confirming the client via phone, the business changed accounts and started making deposits into this account, totaling over \$150,000. After a few months, the client contacted the business and asked why they were not getting paid. The investigation is ongoing with assistance of federal law enforcement partners.

Sexual Assault Case

A sexual assault was reported. Due to available video backtracking the victim's location, a suspect was identified, and a search warrant was obtained. Clothing from the victim was located during the search warrant. This case is being prosecuted by the Cass County State's Attorney's Office.

Embezzlement

In August an embezzlement was reported to the West Fargo Police Department. A video of the crime was obtained and through investigation a positive identification was made. A search warrant was obtained and half of the stolen money was recovered. A confession was made and the suspect has been charged with the theft of more than \$5,000.

Sexual Assault Case

A juvenile reported being sexually assaulted on multiple occasions to the West Fargo Police Department. The suspect was identified and interviewed by West Fargo Detectives and was subsequently arrested at the conclusion of the interview. Suspect pled guilty and was sentenced to 10 years in prison.

Robbery

In November a home invasion robbery was reported. Four suspects forced their way into a residence, reportedly assaulted, threatened and then stole numerous items from the residence. Two suspects were identified and arrested the next day by the Metro Street Crimes Unit. Some of the stolen items were recovered. One conviction has already occurred and the court process is still ongoing for others.



SERVING AND PROTECTING THE CITY OF WEST FARGO SINCE 1973



SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS

CULTURAL LIAISON OFFICER



SRO Statistics: Total Incidents by School

	2016	2017	2018	2019
Early Childhood Center	16	14	6	-
Aurora Elementary	24	29	21	23
Brooks Harbor Elementary	-	5	7	7
Deer Creek Elementary	-	-	-	-
Eastwood Elementary	14	27	57	64
Freedom Elementary	15	14	37	26
Harwood Elementary	3	7	1	4
Horace Elementary	4	6	6	7
Independence Elementary	14	28	17	12
L.E. Berger Elementary	23	38	29	27
Legacy Elementary	16	13	19	20
Osgood Elementary	4	12	19	21
South Elementary	27	19	26	33
Westside Elementary	24	21	27	38
Willow Park Elementary	-	-	4	14
Cheney Middle School	48	64	244	204
Liberty Middle School	45	56	329	267
West Fargo High School	143	149	288	314
Sheyenne High School	78	105	182	181
West Fargo Community High	2	46	10	28



Seven School Resource Officers, 20 Schools

- Sergeant Derek Cruff - SRO Supervisor, Willow Park Elementary School
- Officer Jason Balvik - West Fargo High School, Community High School
- Officer Rhonda Jorgensen - Liberty Middle School
- Officer Mark Morris - Sheyenne High School
- Officer Todd Pearson - Northside Elementary Schools
- Officer Dora Roll - Southside Elementary Schools
- Officer Trent Stanton - Cheney Middle School



It has been a great first year for the Cultural Liaison Program. The program made several partners within our schools and community, and established a working relationship with the Fargo Police Department community engagement team. The most important part of the position that has been accomplished is creating, establishing, and building relationships between our New American community and the City/West Fargo Police Department.



ADMINISTRATIVE



Lieutenant Jason Anderson

Lieutenant Anderson is in charge of the department's fleet, equipment and building issues. Lieutenant Anderson also is head of the training division and head of internal affairs, which handles all complaints both externally and internally.

The Administrative Division includes a number of civilian employees who perform various essential tasks for the department. These civilian employees include two transcription specialists, four police support specialists, two police record specialists, a business manager and an office supervisor.

Business Manager

The business manager performs accounting, administrative and clerical operations to include department purchases and is the quartermaster for the police department. This position is responsible for the collection of information for budget request, tracking of purchases, and reporting status of budget items. The business manager also serves as the administrative assistant to the Chief of Police.

Office Supervisor

The office supervisor is responsible for approving task guidelines, schedules, staff reviews and the supervision and training of support specialists. The office supervisor serves as the National Crime Information Center (NCIC) validation officer who is responsible for verifying the accuracy of police records in NCIC.

Transcription Specialists

The two transcription specialists work to transcribe digital reports and interviews. They prepare correspondence, proofread, edit, file and input data.

Police Support Specialists

Police support specialists are entrusted with customer service for the department. These four individuals assist the public on the phone and in person with bike licensing, pet licensing, ticket payments, fingerprinting, vacation house watch requests, CodeRED messaging, offender registrations, State Teletype System updates and more during open lobby hours.

Police Records

The two police records specialists are tasked with conducting criminal background checks, routing reports to various agencies and responding to various open records requests. These individuals determine what information can be released from records in accordance with North Dakota Open Records Law.

2187
TOTAL FINGERPRINTS
RECORDED

INTERNAL AFFAIRS

Internal Affairs

Total Complaints	Exonerated	Sustained	Unfounded	Total
External Complaints	1	1	4	6
Internal Complaints	0	3	0	3
Total Complaints	1	4	4	9

2019 was another great year of training for the department. Sworn staff racked up 5068 hours of P.O.S.T. accredited training.

The department hosted several nationally accredited trainings including interview and interrogation training through the CTK Group. During these trainings, officers are taught best practices for roadside interviews and investigation interrogations.

Crisis intervention training was held twice in 2019. The crisis intervention class teaches officers verbal deescalation tactics in dealing with those with mental illnesses.

In May, the department had Germaine Galloway teach his nationally known "High in Plain Sight" class to sworn staff and area high school teaching staff. In Galloway's class, participants were taught the current drug trends and things to look for in a school setting when it comes to drug use.

This year the department transitioned to the 9mm handgun round. This transition offers great improvement in accuracy. In January, when using the .40 caliber round, the average qualification score was 91.63%. When the department retested in July with the new 9mm rounds, the score was 94.16%. The state standard is 70%.

INJURIES

The West Fargo Police Department recorded 27 incidents where officers were injured in the performance of their duties in 2019. Eight officers were injured while taking individuals into custody. Four officers were injured during training. Fifteen other miscellaneous injuries were recorded, such as slipping on ice. All officers have returned to full duty.

TRAINING



5068
TOTAL TRAINING HOURS

THANK YOU

Thank you for taking the time to review our highlights from 2019. We look forward to many more great years serving and engaging with the West Fargo community.

Connect with us!

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www.westfargopolice.com

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Tweets & replies
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