



York Police Department Annual Report

2024

Mission:

The York Police Department exists to serve and protect the citizens of York professionally and without prejudice and strives to be reflective of and responsive to the values of the community.

Values:

Integrity: Being honest, trustworthy and doing the right thing in a reliable way. A personality trait we admire, since it means a person doesn't waver regardless of the circumstances.

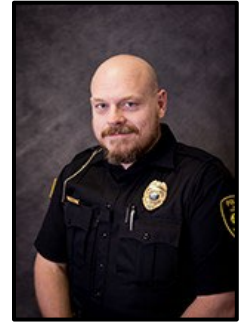
Courage: The moral and mental strength to do what is right, with confidence and resolution, even in the face of temptation or adversity to meet the demands of our profession.

Respect: To demonstrate regard to our community and co-workers. Esteem towards another individual and their skills, opinions, beliefs, ideas and culture.

Message from the Chief:

January, 2025

Mayor, Council Members, and Citizens of York:



I am proud to once again present to you the York Police Department's annual report. 2024 was another positive and busy year for YPD; we saw another increase in our overall calls for service (9% this year), increased our pro-active community contacts and enforcement, and completed more than 2,700 hours of training/education.

The department has seen steady increases in motor vehicle accidents in recent years, with 2024 accidents rising 11 percent to 291 total. In response to these increases, we have challenged officers and sergeants to increase awareness with more traffic contacts/stops. In 2024 the York Police Department made 2,638 traffic stops while patrolling the city's 6 square miles. These numbers may seem high for a community our size, but bear in mind that on an average day, nearly 9,000 vehicles exit from Interstate 80 into York, and at least another 4,000 from other arterials such as Highway 34 (*NE DOT Traffic figures ADT Counts Map).

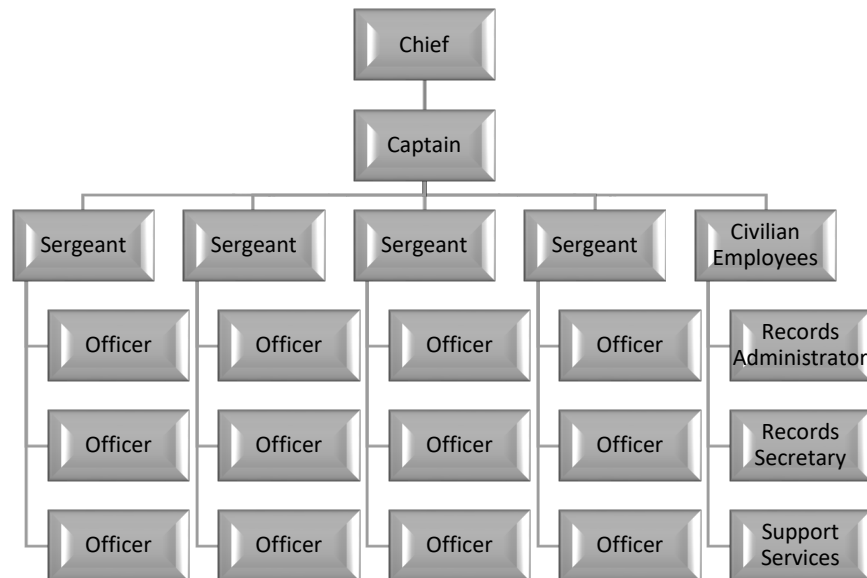
Staffing is a prominent challenge in law enforcement nationwide, and we are proud to say that YPD is fully staffed. We currently have two recruits attending the Nebraska Law Enforcement Training Center who are expected to complete that training and their YPD field training and be on the road by next Fall. I also want to offer a big congratulations shout-out to Officer Todd Kelly who retired this year after more than 35 years of service to the department. His calm demeanor and vast knowledge are sorely missed.

I also want to take a minute to direct your attention to the achievement's page at the end of this report. Captain Russ Coffey and Records Manager Deb Hansen put together a nice overview of the things we're doing beyond calls for service.

The men and women of the York Police Department work hard each and every day to protect, serve, and embrace our community. I am proud of the changes we've made and our accomplishments, and cannot think of a team I'd rather work with.

Edward Tjaden
Chief of Police

Organizational Chart:



Chief Ed Tjaden

Captain Russ Coffey

Sergeants

Brit Koch

Ben Rodenborg

Jeff Brown

Nick Shumway

Officers

Riley Friesen

Brandon Mount

Bricen Bates

Stephanie Schroeder

Brandon Koch

Dallas Bruning

Taylor Keller

Justin Pachner

Kyle Mostrom

Sam Bowman

David Wobken-Recruit

Maria Geesaman-Recruit

Civilian

Deb Hansen-Records Admin.

Christi Payne- Records Secretary

Jackie Weber-Support Services

Calls for Service:

Calls for service refer to the requests made to the police department by the public for assistance with various issues, requests or emergencies. This information helps with understanding and visualizing the demands for police service and how our agency responds. 2022 represented a 9% increase, 2023 denoted a 6% increase, and 2024 had a 9% increase. We are seeing a trend in the rise of the request for police services.

Calls for Service-CFS:			
	2022	2023	2024
Totals	8330	8808	9636

The following data gives us a better understanding/overview of the various types of calls officers respond to throughout the course of their work.

Calls for Service-CFS:			
	2022	2023	2024
Welfare Checks/Mental Health	302	314	293
Animal Calls	565	590	582
Enumerations (Health)	268	192	203
Special Services	283	333	560
School Checks	61	132	115
Alarms	184	221	170
HHS/APS Intakes/Invest.	277	215	270
Assaults	65	57	61
Larceny/Thefts	188	317	299
Vandalism -Criminal Mischief	63	107	69



Criminal Enforcement:

In managing public safety and maintain public order the police department apprehends and detains individuals suspected of criminal offenses. This is an overview of the types of crimes where the police officers took an individual into custody.

Law enforcement also has the authority to take a person who is mentally ill and dangerous into protective custody until mental health board proceedings occur. In addressing mental health; we continue to partner with counseling resources TASC (Targeted Adult Service Coordination) with the goal of intervention prior to placing them into emergency protective custody.

Offenses of Arrests/Detentions:			
	2022	2023	2024
Assaults	33	40	25
Terroristic Threats	12	9	9
Child Abuse Neglect	2	17	8
Larceny - Thefts	10	17	21
Driving under Influence (alcohol-drugs)	26	27	25
Illegal Substances etc.	134	41	35
Warrants	56	59	53
Disorderly – Disturbing the Peace	6	5	10
Weapon Violations	28	15	16
Vandalism/Criminal Mischief	9	8	8
Traffic Offenses/Other	42	51	36
Offenses Against Law Enforcement Officers		28	28
Homicide	0	1	0
Emerg. Protective Custody	14	21	13



Traffic Enforcement:

2024 is the first full operational year of e-citations. Staffing remained consistent which helps distribute the calls for service workload and creates time for officers to complete proactive enforcement efforts. Additionally, the police department participated in 2 selective enforcement campaigns, “Make it Click” and “Drive Sober Or Get Pulled Over”, which contributed to an overall increase in traffic enforcement.

Traffic Enforcement:			
	2022	2023	2024
Verbal Warnings	1618	1727	1843
Defects/Written Warnings	146	499	435
Citations	145	259	360
Totals:	1909	2485	2638

Accidents:

We continue to see a small increase in motor vehicle accidents. One consideration is our public is becoming more aware of the change in our response practice in 2023, when we were able to return to responding to collisions on private property.

Accidents:			
	2022	2023	2024
Property Damage	150	173	203
Hit & Run	43	70	64
Personal Injury	35	19	24
Fatalities	0	0	0
Totals:	228	262	291

Juvenile Contacts/Interactions:

Police contact with youth consists of any in person interaction between a youth and a law enforcement officer(s). Below is information about our interaction with juveniles.

Juvenile engagement and forming partnerships with youth is an essential aspect of community policing. A challenge in releasing data about interactions with youth is that community engagement is often unrelated to a call for service, a crime, or some other type of interaction therefore it is often not tracked within police information systems. We participate in multiple outreach events; Transportation Exploration, kindergarten safety demonstrations, Halloween safety presentations, therefore the exact number of youths we engage with is unknown and an approximate.

Juvenile Contacts:			
	2022	2023	2024
Abuse/neg/Assaults/sex abuse/welfare check/HHS intakes	245	254	274
Missing Person/Runaway	37	50	49
Uncontrollable/disorder conduct Curfew/truancy	80	72	62
Larceny/Thefts/Burglary	13	15	25
Vandalism/Criminal Mischief Property Damage	9	6	21
Alcohol /Illegal Substances	28	26	22
All related Traffic/tickets	131	162	176
Other	92	70	119
Totals:	635	655	748



Sgt.
Rodenborg



Ofc. Bruning

Achievements:

The police department was awarded a grant from the Patrick Leahy Bulletproof Vest Partnership Program to help with the purchase of ballistic vests.

School Resource Officer was implemented into York Public Schools. Officer Riley Friesen began his assignment as SRO in August 2024. Officer Friesen has handled over 100 calls from August – December 2024 at the schools.

After 35 years of service Ofc. Todd Kelly retired in October. His career started with the police dept. in 1990 and he remained dedicated to the community and agency until his retirement.

Employees remain focused & dedicated to training and completed over 2753 hours of training and education. Ofc. Mostrom & Ofc. Bowman graduated BASIC in April 2024. We also expanded our training / education opportunities as we partnered with the U.S. Dept. of Justice & hosted a national de-escalation training at the Holthus Convention Center. Additionally, Chief Tjaden spoke at IACP in Boston, MA regarding leading cultural change in small organizations.

The sergeants completed a course in supervision from the Univ. of Northwestern Center of Public Safety. This is a nationally recognized course that teaches strong foundational supervisory skills and instructs first-line supervisors in handling contemporary leadership challenges. The course focuses on understanding human behavior and day-to-day work relationships with subordinates, superiors, and the public.

The pride in our efforts and working with our community members remains evident. 3 officers were honored by Department of Homeland Security for their diligent work in a torture and abuse investigation. Additionally, the following officers volunteer in our community: Jeff Brown: TeamMates mentor; Bricen Bates: Special Olympics coach; Dallas Bruning: York Public Schools wrestling coach; Ben Rodenborg: Uprise Judo coach; Russ Coffey: 4-H Shooting coach.

Employee health & wellness continued to be a focus. In 2023 employees logged over 433 hours of working out in the gym. In 2024, wellness remained important as they logged 757 hours of working out. This illustrates the continued appreciation the employees have of this donation as well as the dedication to their health/wellness.

