

Wausau Police Department



2018 Annual Report

Partnering with the Community

Annual Report Index

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Command Staff



Benjamin Bliven
Chief of Police



Matthew Barnes
Deputy Chief

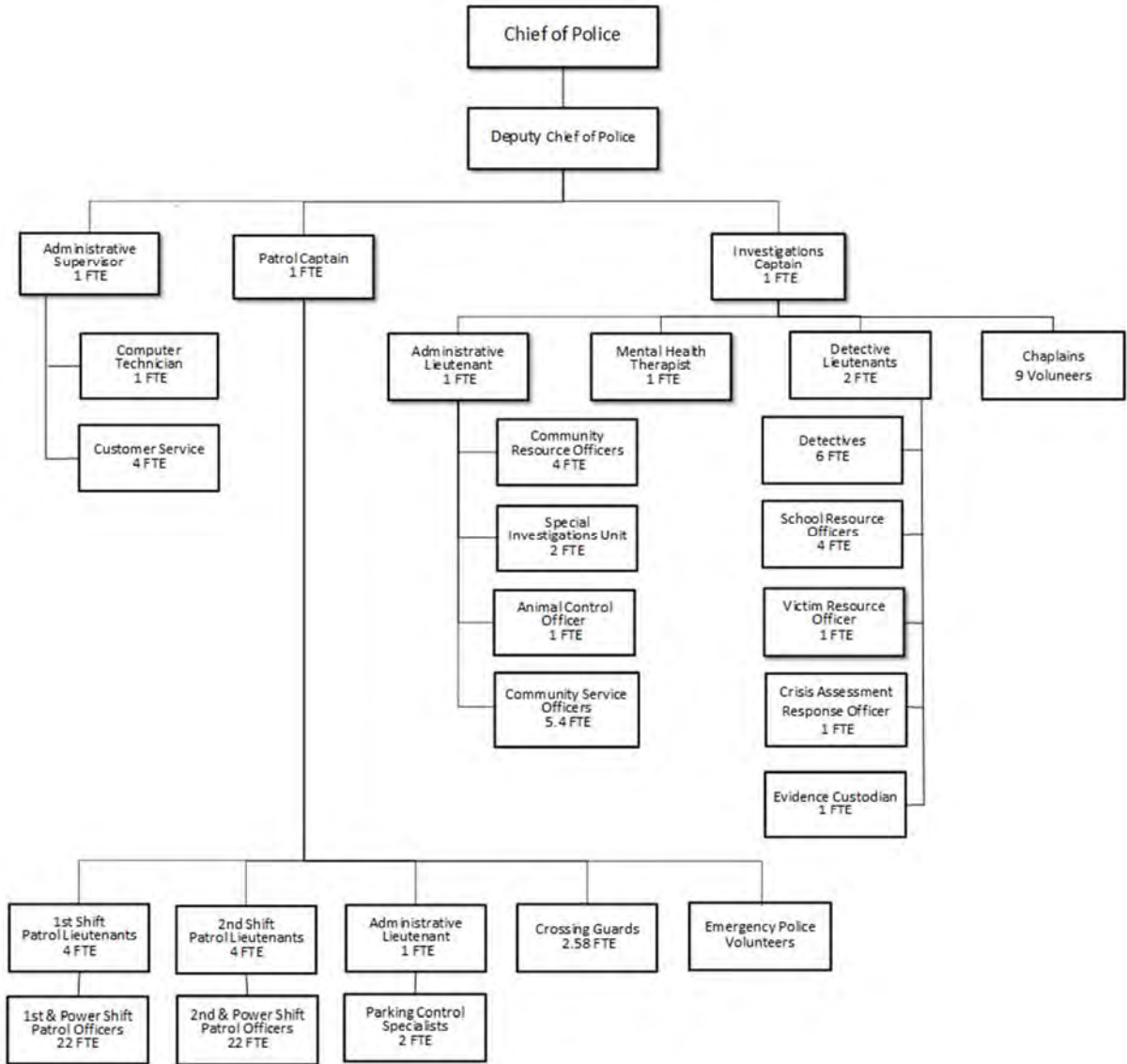


Todd Baeten
Patrol Captain



Benjamin Graham
Investigations Captain

Police Department Organizational Chart



Wausau City Government

Robert Mielke, Mayor

Lisa Rasmussen, City Council President



Robert Mielke
Mayor



Patrick Peckham
First District



Michael Martens
Second District



David Nutting
Third District



Tom Neal
Fourth District



Gary Gisselman
Fifth District



Becky McElhaney
Sixth District



Lisa Rasmussen
Seventh District



Karen Kellbach
Eighth District



Dawn Herbst
Ninth District



Mary Thao
Tenth District



Dennis Smith
Eleventh District

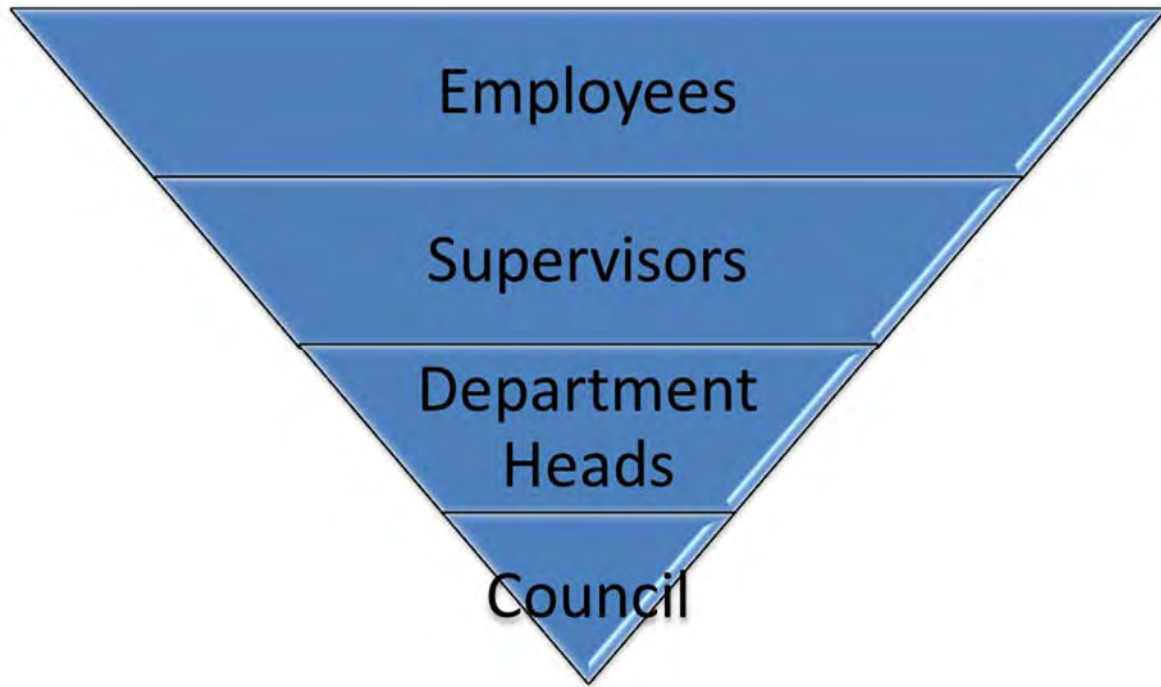
Wausau Police Department—Partnering with the Community

Police & Fire Commissioners

Tony Patterson, Chair



Service to Our Citizens



The graph above shows how the City is organized to carry out the Mission Statement and provide service to our citizens. The Council is the foundation of city government and is responsible for setting policy, creating a positive atmosphere, and enabling the City to move forward. The Council works with and supports the Mayor and the department heads in combined efforts to provide the supervisors and employees with what is needed to ultimately serve the citizens. The City's core values are key to guiding daily operations and employee decisions.



Mission

The Wausau Police Department strives for excellence and partners with our community to enhance the quality of life.

Vision

To be regarded as the standard of excellence in policing

Core Values

Integrity

Professionalism

Accountability

Respect

New Patch Design



In March of 2018, we unveiled our new patch design. Much thought was put into the design of our patch, to be sure it truly represented our department.

Patch Profile - The patch is shaped like a shield. Historically, shields were used for protection. The shape represents our trust offering and commitment to protect our community.

The Yellow Border - The border cautions us that our community's trust cannot be taken for granted. We must treat people with respect and be accountable for our actions.

White Police - The color white represents purity and that the Wausau Police Officers hold themselves to a high level of integrity and professionalism.

The Flag of the United States of America - This symbol represents our pride and commitment to our country, to the US Constitution, and to the Bill of Rights. We recognize

freedom is an inherent right of all of our citizens.

Infinity W - This design represents that we are here to serve the City of Wausau - 24 hour a day, 7 days a week. The infinity W is placed in the center of the patch to express the unity we have with the community. The infinity symbol also reminds us that we must constantly strive to be regarded as the standard of excellence in policing.

The Blue Line - The line flows across the patch, representing the Wisconsin River and our presence, which both run through our community. The blue line represents law enforcement and also pays tribute to those officers who have given the ultimate sacrifice in service to their community. The blue circle demonstrates the unity officers share as fellow professionals and partners in public trust. The inner white circle recognizes our need to work together in the service of others. The outer white circle represents our community, who shares in the responsibility of making Wausau a great place to live, work, and develop.

The State of Wisconsin - The state granted Wausau a city charter in 1872. "Since 1872" recognizes our history, specifically the men and women who have faithfully served the city to enhance the quality of life in our community.

Chief of Police Benjamin Bliven



2018 was another busy year here at the Wausau Police Department. Change is occurring at a very fast rate and we are continuously working to manage our day to day responsibilities while seeking opportunities to prepare ourselves and our community for the future.

We had a number of retirements over the past year which you will be able to see in one section of this annual report. Certainly the retirement of Chief Jeff Hardel who served this community for 38 years is a loss that is not possible to immediately replace. His institutional knowledge, community connections, understanding of the world of policing, and his passion for leadership are missed on a regular basis. Additionally, the retirements of Mark Pankow and Dwayne Dachel from their long-tenured positions as lieutenants impact the leadership of our department.

There are no years in memory in which we have had such an influential group of individuals in leadership positions retire. So 2018 has been a year of transition. Therefore, it has been an exciting time for a new group of people to step into roles where they have worked to continue the standard of leadership set for the Wausau Police Department by those who have walked these halls in years past.

In 2018, we marched forward by continuing the most important initiative at Wausau PD – excellent service to the citizens we serve. There were a number of critical incidents our department responded to including the homicide of Lyle Leith on Kickbusch Street in February, several SWAT standoffs that ended without the use of force, and many high profile felony arrests.

In 2018, we took over conducting our own out of county transports for mental health detentions, mostly to Winnebago Mental Health Institute. We did over 80 transports, most of which were for juveniles. This was a significant change to our protocols and impacted our staffing levels significantly. We look forward to 2020 when North Central Health Care master facility plan will be executed and will significantly reduce the number of out of county mental health placements.

We worked to improve how we deliver services in 2018. Following are some of the significant projects worked on in 2018:

1. We reached an agreement with the Marathon County Sheriff's Office to begin a Digital Forensic Unit in 2019 which will be housed at the Sheriff's Office. This unit will provide the expertise, equipment and training necessary to investigate crimes in today's world.
2. Our CART team, also a joint venture with the Marathon County Sheriff's Office and North Central Health Care, continues to build momentum in delivering better and more consistent services to those in our community with significant mental health needs.

3. Our Victim Resource Unit (VRU) has stabilized with a significant workload. In 2019, the initial grant period for this unit will end and we plan to continue and perhaps expand upon the work currently occurring in this unit.
4. Our therapy dog program doubled in size. We had only Badge with Officer Nick Stetzer at Wausau East High School. But when the 2018/2019 school year started in September, Theo joined Officer Jeff Schremp at Wausau West High School.
5. Another significant event in 2018 was the expansion of our Chaplain program. We went from 1 Chaplain to 8 Chaplains with the hope of positively impacting the wellness of our staff.
6. Our department led the community effort to bring training forward for a Threat Assessment Team to help mitigate the potential for school shooters and other potentially life threatening situations.
7. Wausau PD worked together with the Marathon County Sheriff's Office to create a Field Forces Unit which is a crowd control team that can be mobilized to go anywhere in the state should the need arise.
8. We transitioned with the other 15 law enforcement agencies in Marathon County to a new records management system (Superion) with a "go live" in November, 2018.

So 2018 has certainly been a year of transition. We even created and implemented a new patch! We continue to strive for excellence in policing because our community will be better for those efforts. Our collaborative efforts with so many other public and private organizations have been the key to success. Wausau is a tremendous community with many great people. The future is bright and we will continue to do our best to serve our community well.

Sincerely,



Benjamin K. Bliven

Chief of Police

Deputy Chief Matthew Barnes



2018 at the Wausau Police Department was a busy year with a tremendous amount of change. “Change” seems to be the one constant at the Wausau Police Department these days, and I don’t anticipate that changing anytime soon. With new staff and officers come new ideas and creative solutions to the changing problems in our community.

The vision of the Wausau Police Department is to be regarded as the standard of excellence in policing. This vision is taken seriously and discussed every day. What does the standard of excellence look like?

Personally, I am not sure, because every time I think we are doing something great, I ask myself if we could do it better. The answer is always “yes.” When the answer is “yes,” we change. Sometimes it is a little tweak, and sometimes it requires an overhaul of a procedure, or way of thinking.

Some of the “change” we saw in 2018 included the development and implementation of therapy dogs in our schools with our School Resource Officers, the implementation of the CART program to provide a better and more efficient service to those in our community suffering from mental health issues, the expansion of services the Victim Resource Unit delivers, and the expansion of our social media program. Many of these changes would have been unheard of ten years ago, but the expectations and needs of our community regarding police services have changed and we need to change with them. No longer is enforcing traffic laws, investigating traffic crashes, and investigating crimes enough.

Some of the changes needed this year and in the years to come will require creative, “out of the box,” ideas. The problems these changes will address are not new, but the previous way of dealing with them has not produced “excellent” results. When asking ourselves if we could do better, the answer is yes. The following are some of the challenges and areas with expected change.

Wausau is seeing a growing homeless population. Many of these homeless citizens suffer from mental health or addiction issues. Homelessness not only affects those people living on the streets, but also the local business community, investment in our community, and the overall health of Wausau. The creative solution will require community partnership, compassion, treatment, and new ideas. We are committed to continuing to work on this problem until there is excellence in the solution.

Although the CART and Victim Resource Unit teams are changing the way local Law Enforcement delivers services to those people with mental health needs, we will continue to look for new and improved ways of delivering this service.

Most communities in Wisconsin have seen a significant increase in opioid abuse. Wausau is no different. We are very good at arresting drug dealers and users, but we still have the issue. We will continue to partner with other agencies and groups to identify creative ways to reduce the use of opioids in our

community. Wausau Police Officers have recently received training to better understand addiction and the resources available in our community. Our hope is to get people help with their addiction and not have to arrest our way out of the problem. Experience has taught us that doesn't work.

The Wausau Police Department has realized the tremendous benefit of communicating with the community through social media. We will always strive for transparency with the community and are always looking for new ways to share our message and inform the community. The Wausau PD has a team of officers who, in addition to their normal duties, post to social media and work to come up with new ways of sharing information. This too will change, as new technology and platforms become available to us.

The staff of the Wausau Police Department have a very stressful and traumatic job. Dealing with the wellness of our staff is a high priority. Without a staff that is well mentally, physically, spiritually, and financially, we can't expect them to come to work and come up with great new ideas to address all the challenges this community faces. Our staff are seeing change in the way wellness is viewed and the absolute commitment of the Department to make sure they are as well the day they retire as the day they were hired.

Although "change" can be hard, the Wausau Police Department is committed to changing to meet the changing needs of Wausau. It is an honor to serve this department and community and I look forward to another year "striving for excellence".

Sincerely,



Matthew Barnes
Deputy Chief

Patrol Captain Todd Baeten



The patrol bureau of the Wausau Police Department is made up of 40 officers, eight lieutenants and a captain. I have been privileged to serve as that patrol captain for the past two years. It is a great honor to work shoulder to shoulder with such a dedicated group of law enforcement officers. The majority of citizens that have contact with our agency do so through one of our uniformed patrol officers. These men and women are extremely dedicated to public service. They believe in our mission to “partner with our community to enhance the quality of life.” Their work each day reflects that commitment, and this annual report highlights their efforts to ensure Wausau is a safe and enjoyable place to be.

The patrol bureau experienced notable changes in 2018. First of all, we said goodbye to some key members of department through retirements, including a seasoned patrol officer and two of our longest tenured patrol lieutenants. This is always a bittersweet time – we rejoice in their accomplishments and are excited for the new future that awaits them, yet we will miss their experience, steadiness and camaraderie. On the other hand, we made some fantastic additions to our patrol officer ranks, including a United States Air Force veteran, our first native Spanish speaking officer, and even a former professional football player. We have great confidence in them and know they will serve our community with distinction and integrity.

2018 also saw the promotion of two staff members to the rank of patrol lieutenant. We are pleased to report that these promotional processes were difficult undertakings – a result of there being multiple qualified candidates. One of the most important tasks we have is that of succession planning. We prepare all of our staff to be leaders. As we seek to hire the best candidates for our community, provide them with high quality training, and encourage accountability at all levels of our agency, we have developed a large pool of leaders within our department. We have great hopes that future promotional processes will prove to be even more difficult as leadership is developed and displayed by so many!

Successful policing in today’s world requires embracing many different technologies. Our patrol officers’ activities continue to be chronicled through the use of body worn and squad cameras. A rough estimate shows we recorded and archived about 48,000 GB of 720p video during 2018. That is a tremendous amount of data! These recordings help us provide better service to the community through enhanced accuracy in report writing, real-time feedback for officers in training, and increased clarity and transparency when addressing complaints against department staff.

In order to provide the best possible police services to our community, we place great importance on training and leadership. One way our officers demonstrate leadership in our profession is to become an instructor in one of the various topics we train on. During 2018, department staff attended over 11,000 hours of training. Much of that training was specific to patrol operations, and a fair amount was related to the topic of leadership. We have among our staff certified instructors for the Emergency Vehicle Operator Course (EVOC).

Wausau Police Department—Partnering with the Community

Standardized Field Sobriety Testing (SFST), Firearms, Defense and Arrest Tactics (DAAT), Vehicle Contacts, Professional Communications, Field Training, Advanced Roadside Impaired Driving Enforcement (ARIDE), CPR, and more. Having these instructors on hand helps us maintain the high level of proficiency Wausau deserves and has come to expect.

I am proud to serve alongside the men and women of our patrol bureau as we work toward our vision of being “regarded as the standard of excellence in policing.”

Sincerely,

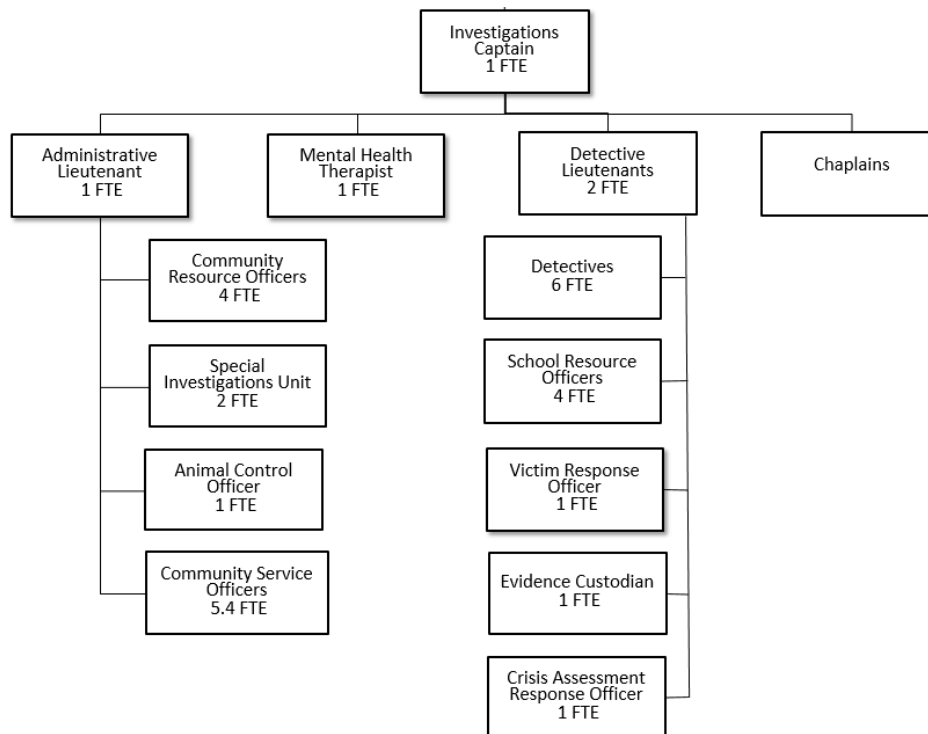
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'T. Baeten', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Todd Baeten
Patrol Captain

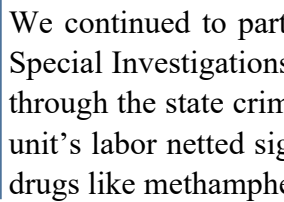
Investigations Captain Benjamin Graham



In 2008, when I joyfully swore the Oath of Office and entered into the noble profession of policing, the Investigations Division of the Wausau Police Department looked quite different than it does today. In fact, the entire department has experienced tremendous change. Half of those employed at the time I was hired have since retired and have been replaced by the next generation of officer. In the annual report for 2008, now retired Investigations Captain Gregory Hagenbucher described the 13-member division as consisting of “six general detectives, three school resource officers, two drug investigators, one lieutenant, and one captain.” A look at 2018 (see chart below) reveals the Investigations Division has doubled in size over the years and broadened its scope of work in an effort to achieve investigative excellence and enhance quality of life for those we serve.



Beneath the Administrative Lieutenant, the Community Resource Unit (CRU) continued in 2018 to provide a targeted and comprehensive community-oriented response to neighborhood problems. Activities included presentations, working with neighborhood groups and landlords, drug interdiction, prostitution/human trafficking stings, and much more. In 2018, the CRU provided 84 community presentations and executed 66 search warrants in efforts to educate and correct underlying conditions that give rise to quality of life concerns.



We continued to partner with the Marathon County Sheriff's Office and maintained two investigators in the Special Investigations Unit (SIU). The focus of SIU is drug investigations and members pursue cases not only through the state criminal justice system, but also through the federal justice system as well. The fruits of this unit's labor netted significant state charges and federal indictments for individuals transporting and delivering drugs like methamphetamine and heroin to our community.

The Victim Resource Unit (VRU), comprised of a Mental Health Therapist and a Victim Resource Officer, entered into its third year of existence. The VRU is funded primarily by grant dollars and provides immediate care and resources to victims of crime. A unit like this is unique not only to Wisconsin but nation-wide, and fills a much needed gap that exists between initial investigation and victim wellness. Resources include free therapy, information on crime victim compensation, emergency legal assistance, victim advocacy, safety planning, assistance with criminal justice proceedings, and referral to community resources. 224 victims were served over the last year with 304 individual counseling sessions and 197 therapy session rendered. Domestic violence, crimes against or involving children, and adult sexual assault encompassed the majority of victimization the VRU addressed.

The Detective Bureau continued in 2018 to investigate and successfully resolve crimes of more complex and serious nature. The types of cases detectives investigate like homicide, robbery, burglary, and fraud come as no surprise. What might be more surprising is that over 40 percent of cases investigated by 6 detectives involved crimes against children. Crime types include offenses like sexual assault of a child, child abuse, child neglect, and child pornography. Because of the large volume of crimes against children, we remain grateful for partnerships with Social Services and the Child Advocacy Center. Through collaboration we are able to refine the investigative process and reduce the degree of trauma a child and family may experience in a complicated criminal justice system.

The Crisis Assessment Response Team (CART) now has a full year of operation under its belt. CART operates out of the Wausau Police Department and consists of an officer, a deputy from the Marathon County Sheriff's Office, and two crisis professionals from North Central Health Care. Mental health remains a significant community concern and the purpose of CART is to reduce the number of individuals taken into custody through emergency detention, to provide community-based mental health stabilization services, to connect individuals with community programs and social support, and to create positive police interactions for individuals living with mental illness. Between Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) trained officers and CART, we have begun to see a decrease in the percentage of crisis calls that result in involuntary commitment.

The Wausau Police Department maintained a strong working relationship with the Wausau School District and shared cost for the School Resource Officer (SRO) program in 2018. There are four Wausau Police Officers

assigned as SROs, with full-time placement at high schools and middle schools during the school year. We have blazed new trail by adding therapy dogs to the SRO program. The response to the therapy dogs has been overwhelmingly positive and story after story could be told about the impact these two dogs play in creating positive interactions and deescalating kids in crisis. A primary goal of the SRO program is to foster a safe learning environment. To that end, a Threat Assessment Team (TAT) was formed to evaluate, assess, and mitigate potential threats posed by any individual or situation.

Law enforcement chaplaincy has existed at the Wausau Police Department for many years and was designed to enhance quality of life by helping department members, their families, and the public bear the emotional, mental, and spiritual burdens of life. Over 2018, we endeavored to improve upon the chaplain services we provide by adding more qualified, competent, and caring individuals to our team. To that end, eight volunteer chaplains were added bringing the total number of police chaplains to nine. Our chaplains have responsibilities to the department and to the community that include, but are not limited to: making death notifications, providing assistance to victims, and providing counsel and support to members of the department and their families. Each chaplain comes with a background and experience that enables them to properly serve, support, and strengthen others, even in the midst of some of life's most significant trials. Our department and community are fortunate to have such a tremendous resource and we thank each of our chaplains for their dedication as volunteer members of the Wausau Police Department.

As we chase after policing excellence in 2019, the Investigations Division will strive to hone its skills and improve, transform, and create means that lead to the enhancement of quality of life. The one thing that makes policing excellence attainable is the excellent quality of each member of the Investigations Division. I am amazed by the passion and dedication our staff have in their service to the community, and believe the future of our agency is bright as we near a new decade of policing.

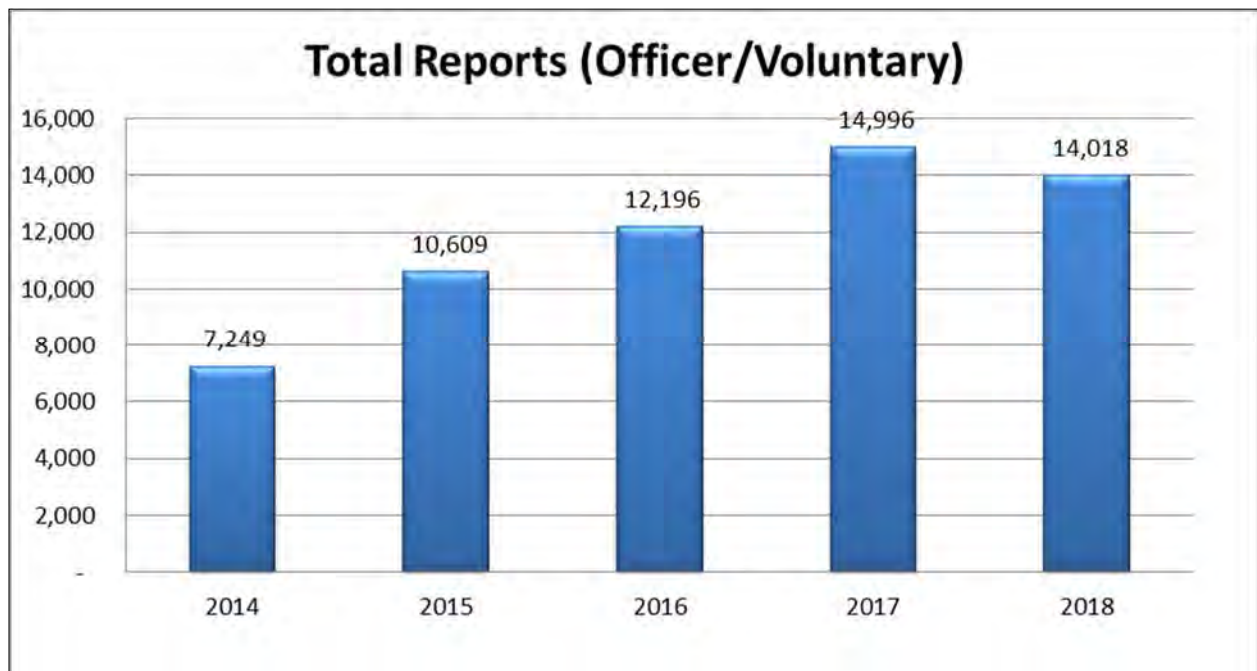
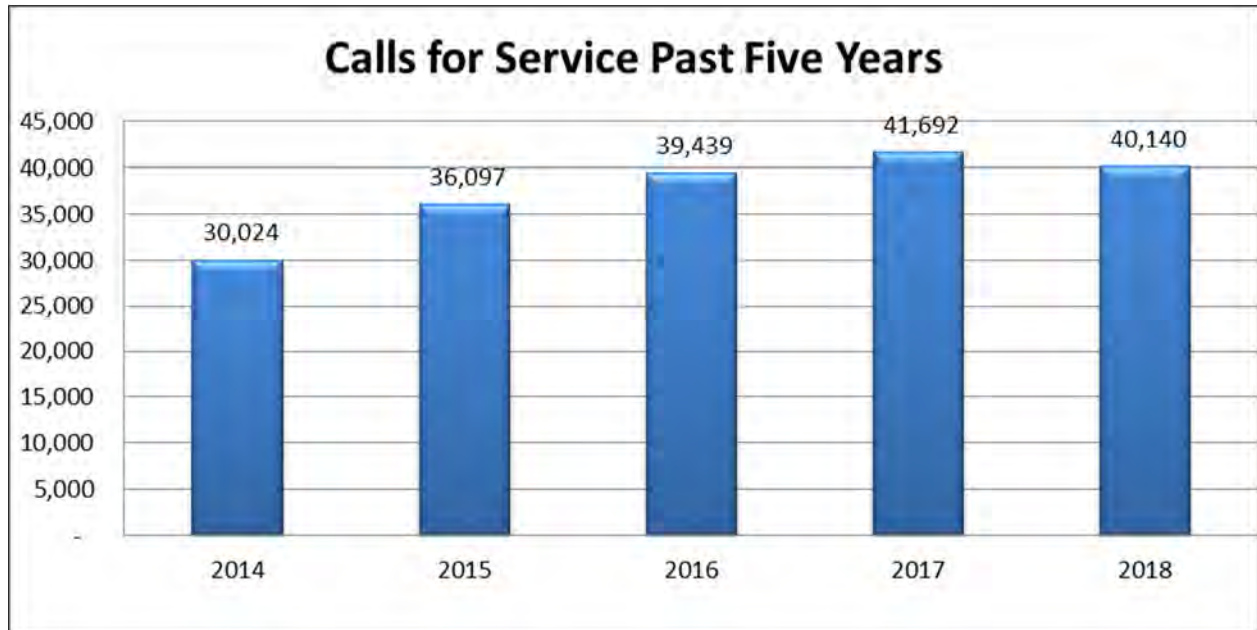
Sincerely,



Benjamin Graham
Investigations Captain

Calls for Service

The Call for Service number is obtained through the Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) call type. Multiple officers may respond to the call, but the call is only counted once.



Calls for Service

2017	Types of Calls for Service	2018
9799	Traffic Stop-SI	8385
3089	Criminal Misc.	2906
2389	Service Misc.	2324
1788	Extra Patrol	2102
766	911 Hang up	2030
1711	Suspicious Activity	1499
1416	Welfare Check	1388
1207	Traffic Crash PDO	1065
929	Medical Emergency	1060
996	Follow-up Investigation	926
682	Mental Subject	880
966	Animal Complaint	862
198	Process Service	855
919	Parking Misc.	801
909	Civil Complaint	777
871	Vehicle Lock Out	759
872	Lost & Found	749
881	Family Disturbance	700
876	Probation/Parole	582
607	Alarms	558
608	Traffic Misc.	546
161	Information	538
666	Disabled Vehicle	513
424	Vehicle ATL	500
436	Warrant Service	498
540	Field Interview Stop	399
459	Noise Call	399
307	Community Relations	388
640	Criminal Theft	375
336	Juvenile ATL	342
411	Traffic Hazard	301
117	Utility Fire Call	280
1043	Telephone Message	279

Calls for Service

94	Fire Alarm	272
175	Special Investigations Info	238
242	Juvenile Disturbance	227
197	Fight	222
295	Hit & Run Crash	222
323	Criminal Damage/Property	221
251	Fraud	208
257	Gas Skip	198
102	Funeral Escort	164
122	Prisoner Transport	157
172	Bar Check	114
105	Traffic Crash-Inj	109
15	Repossessed Vehicle	108
27	Crossing Guard Duty	107
140	Theft from Vehicle	98
70	Overnight Parking	87
94	Burglary	84
69	Fireworks Complaint	81
146	Sexual Assault	80
141	ATL-Non Specific	76
83	Battery	54
60	Structure Fire	46
52	Dead Animal	44
9	CO Alarm	41
27	Business Security Check	35
43	Stolen Vehicle	35
51	Threat w/Weapon	33
14	Open Door	32
20	Juvenile Alcohol	26
52	Vacant Home Check	25
17	DNR Violation	22
16	Fire Assist	20
11	Foot or Vehicle Pursuit	11
8	Traffic Escort	10

Calls for Service

4	Tower check	9
4	Car/Deer Voluntary	7
2	Juvenile Transport	7
27	Powerline down (not on road)	6
14	Robbery	6
14	Tree down no traffic hazard	5
	Vehicle Fire	5
1	Chimney Fire	3
3	Grass Fire	3
0	HAZMAT	3
0	Officer Safety	3
0	Explosive Event	2
	fireworks Permit	2
1	Nuisance Property	2
2	Arson	1
4	EMS Assist	1
3	Escort	1
3	Weather Info	1
9	Drug Overdose	0
1	Fingerprints	0
3	Non-Criminal ATL	0
0	Traffic Weight Violation	0
31	Investigation	
1	School Walk Through	
2	Subject Stop	
44	Warrant Self-Initiated	

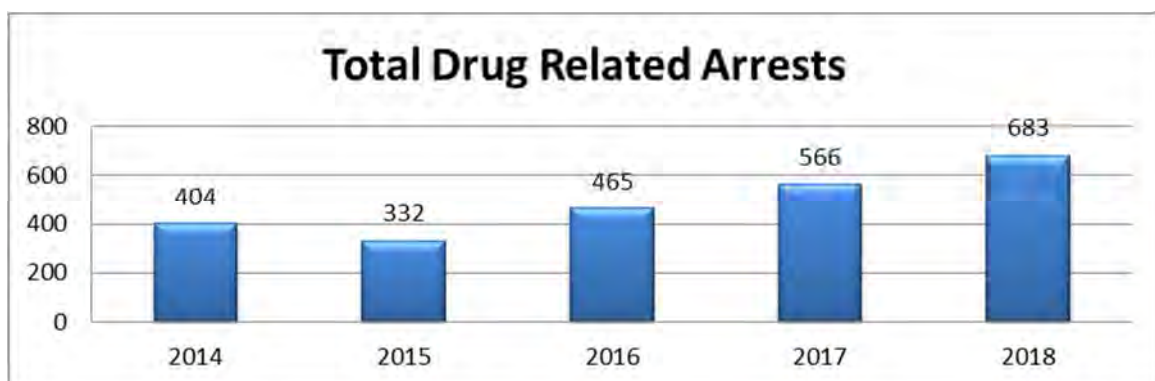
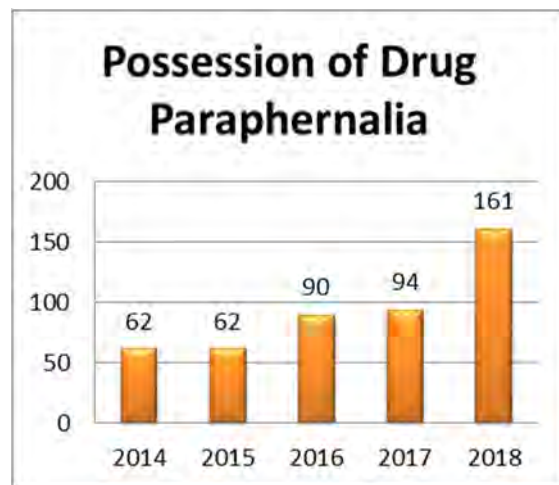
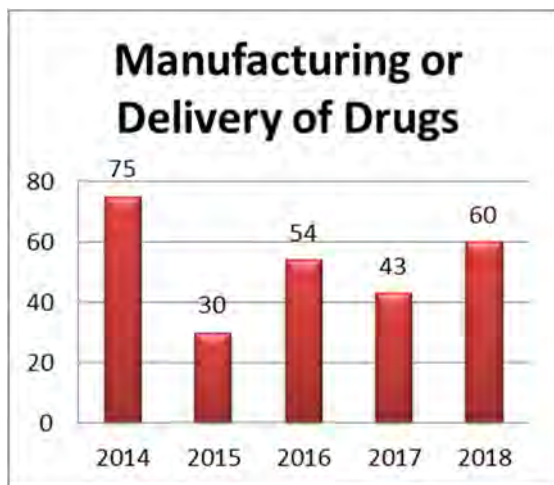
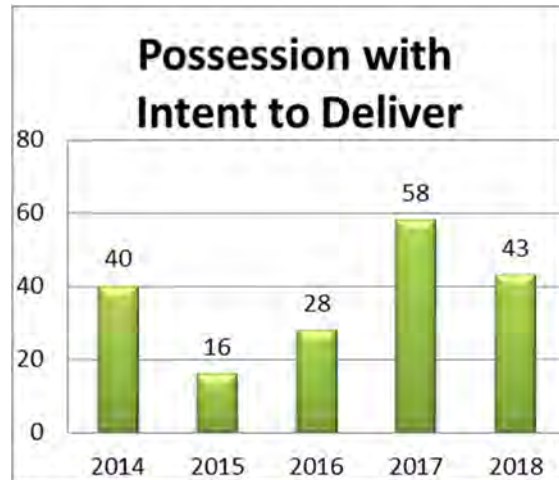
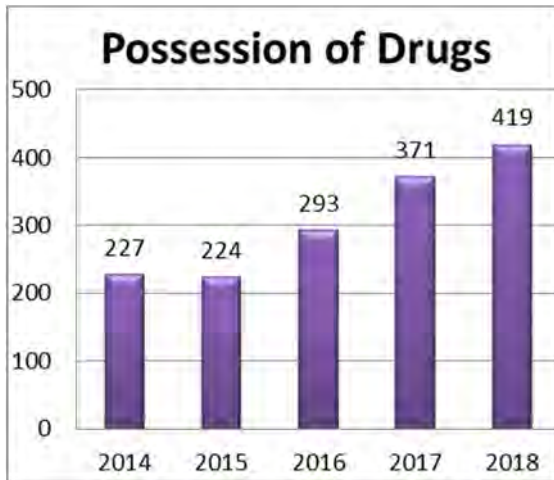
41,692

40,140

**In November 2018 Marathon County, and all law enforcement/ emergency service agencies within the county, changed to a new computer software system. This resulted in differing results in reporting statistics between the old and new systems. **

Drug Enforcement

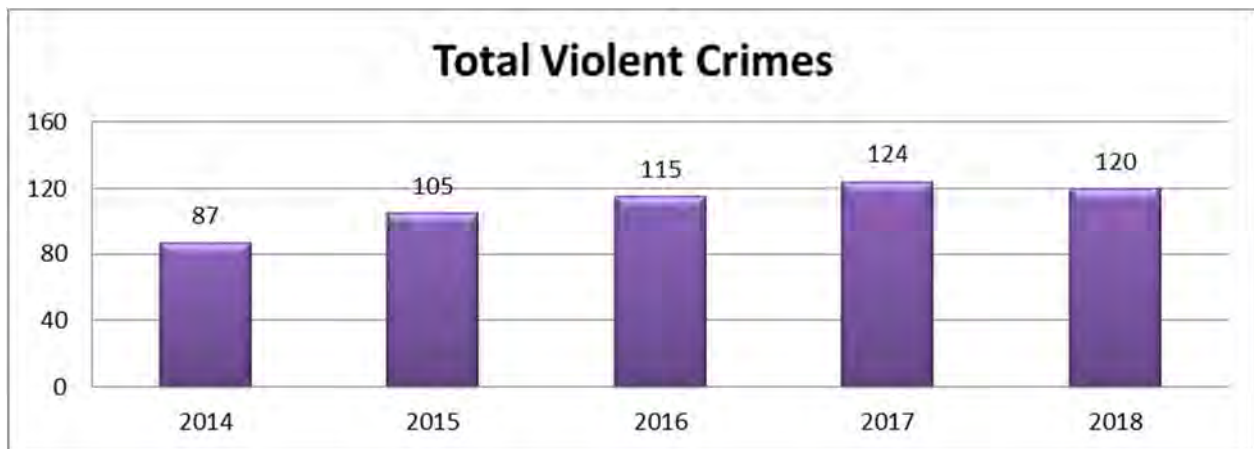
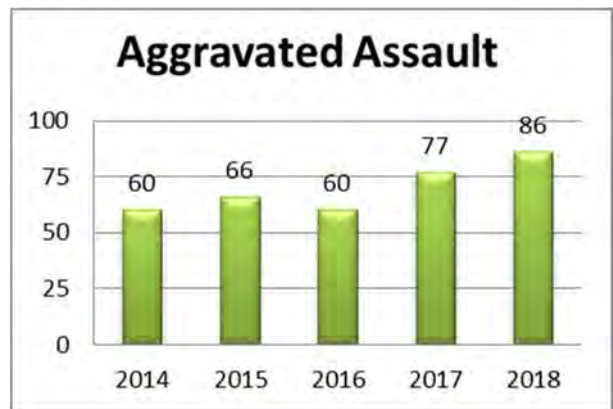
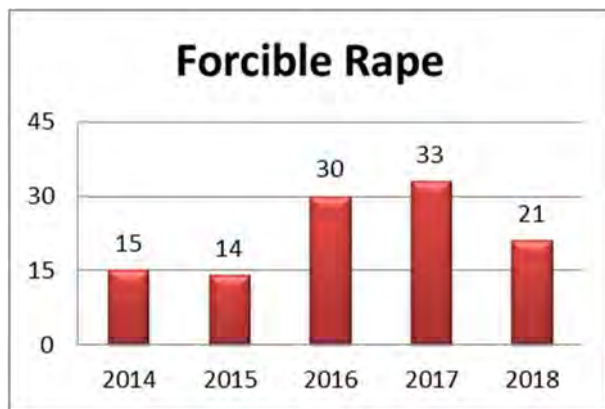
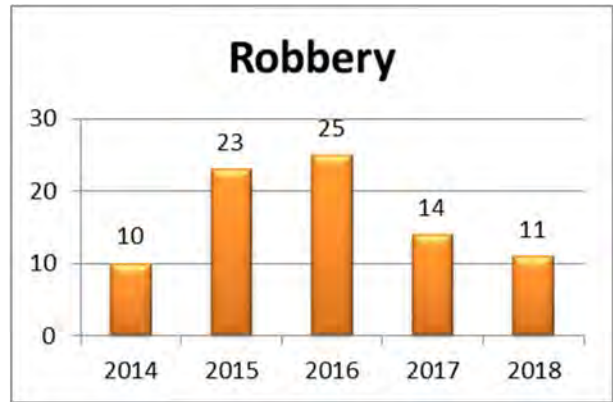
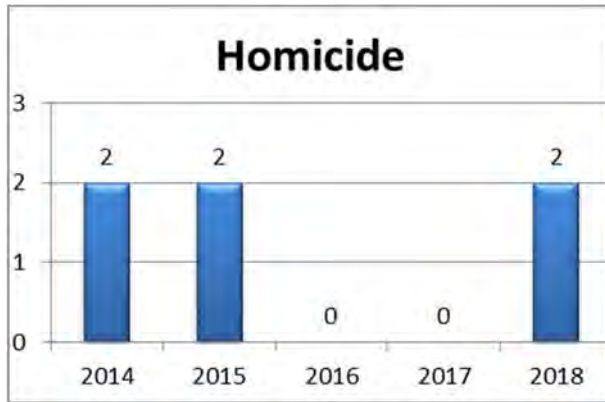
Drug use and abuse continues to drive crime in the City of Wausau. Wausau Police Department continues to dedicate significant resources to combat drug use and drug related crimes. The numbers listed below are total drug arrests within the city limits of Wausau. This does not include arrests made by the Marathon County Special Investigations Unit (which includes two Wausau Officers).



Wausau Police Department—Partnering with the Community

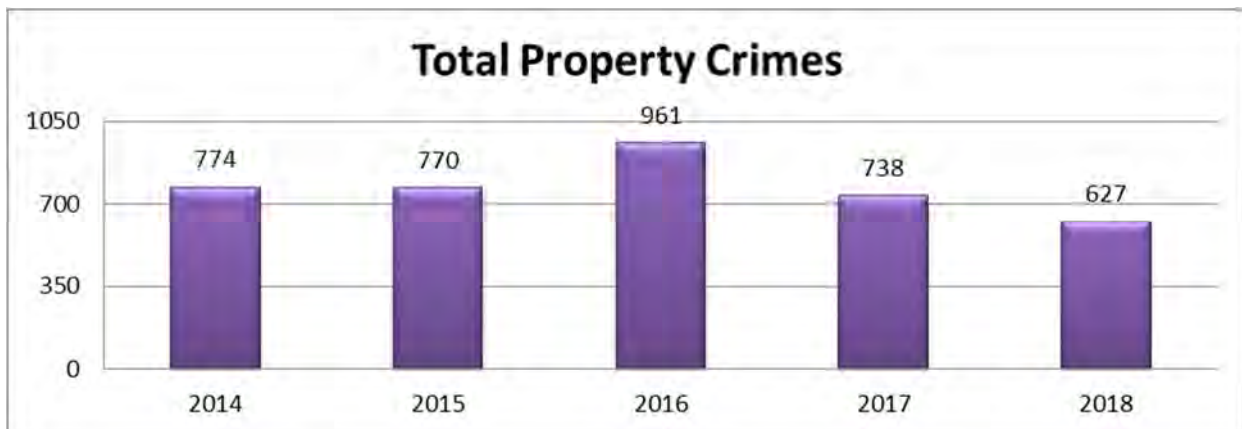
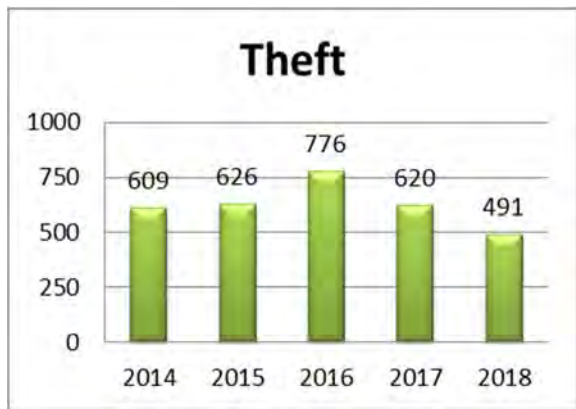
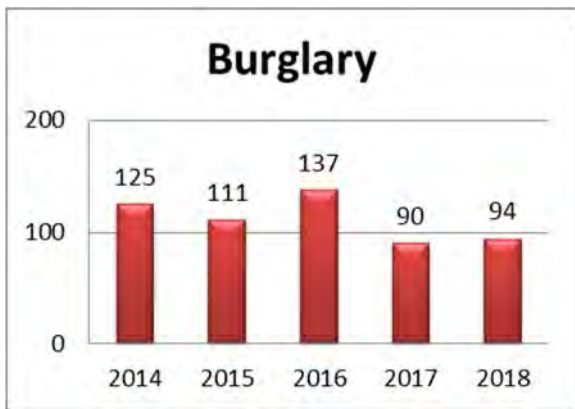
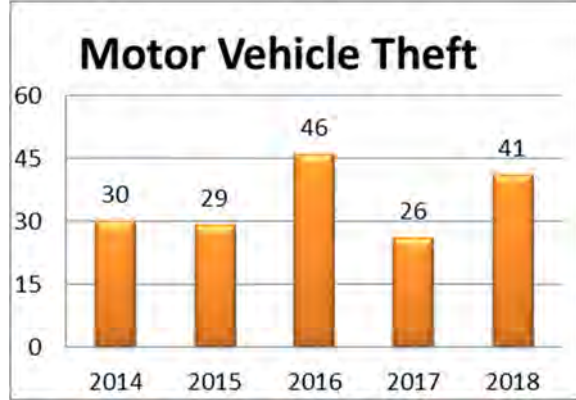
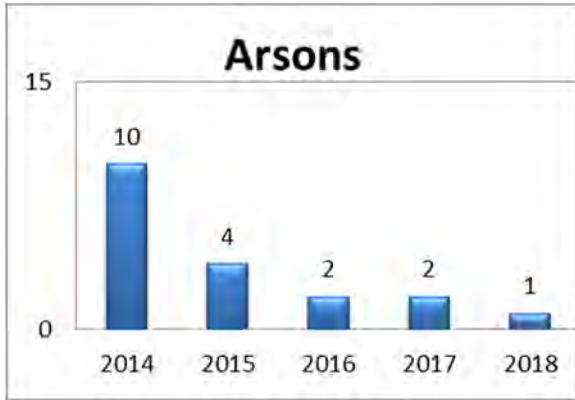
Violent Crime Index

A violent crime is a crime in which the offender uses or threatens to use violent force upon the victim. This entails both crimes in which the violent act is the objective, such as homicide, as well as crimes in which violence is the means to an end such as robbery.

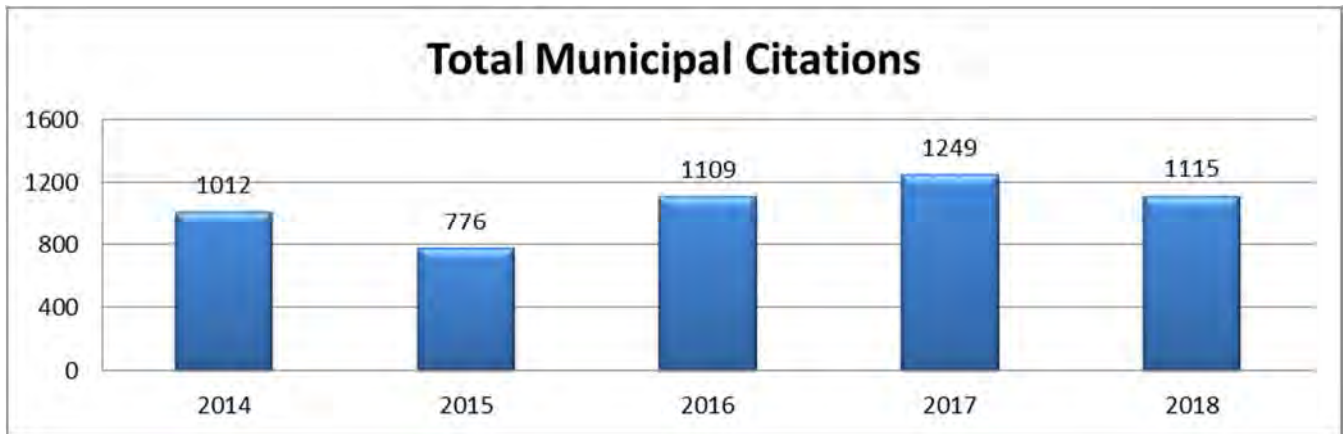
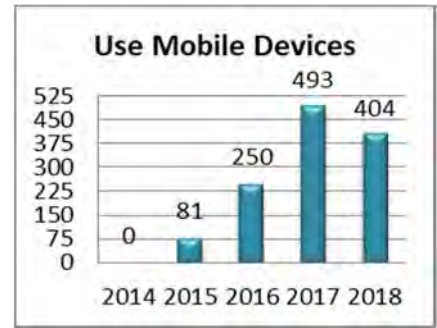
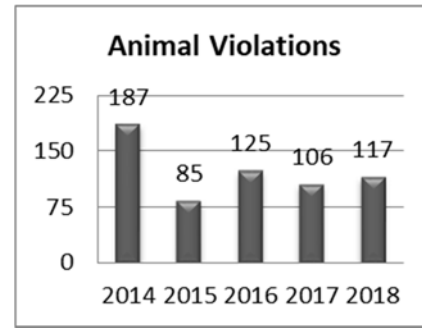
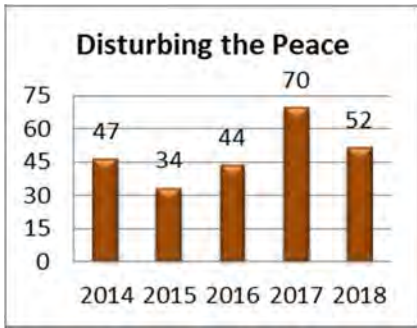
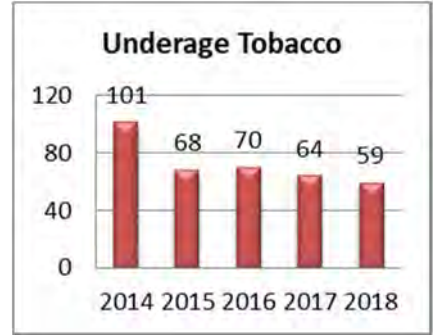
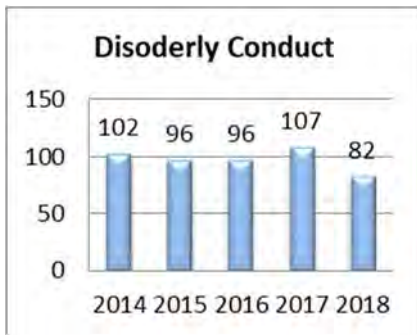
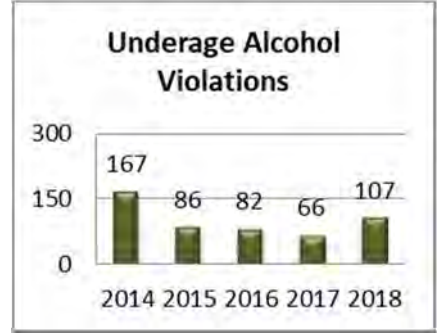
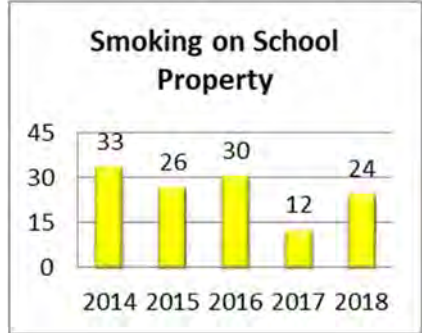
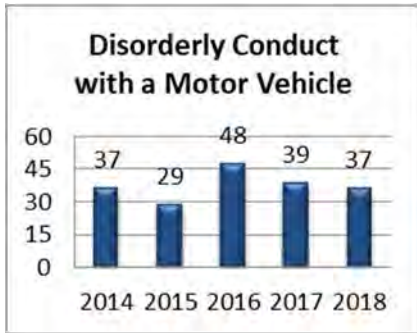


Property Crime Index

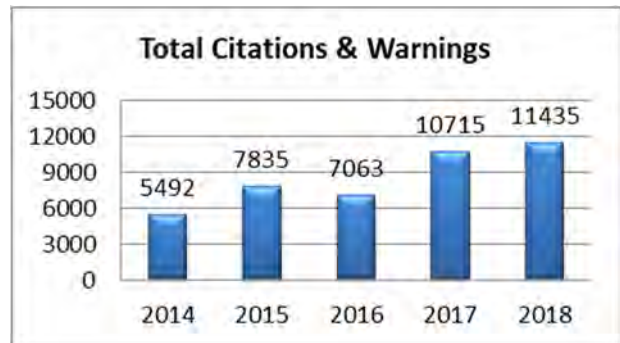
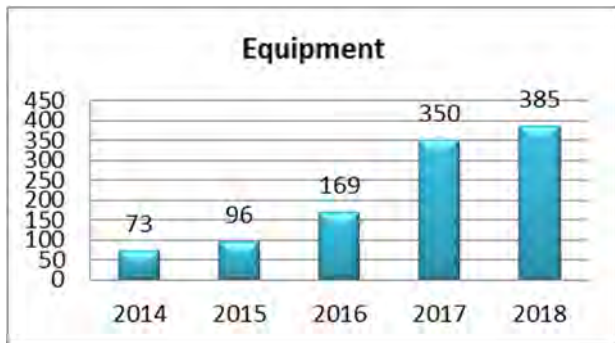
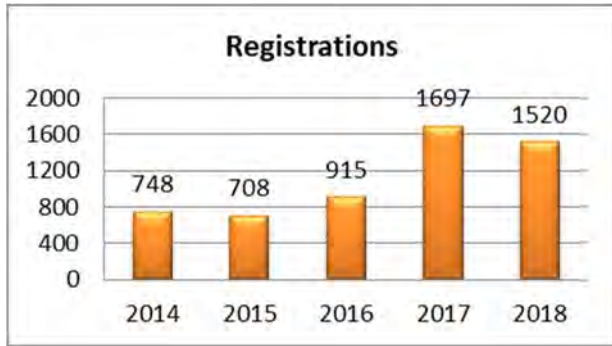
Property crime is a category of crime that includes, among other crimes, arsons, motor vehicle theft, burglary, and larceny/theft. Property crimes only involve the taking of money or property and does not involve force or threat of force against a victim.



Municipal Citations & Warnings



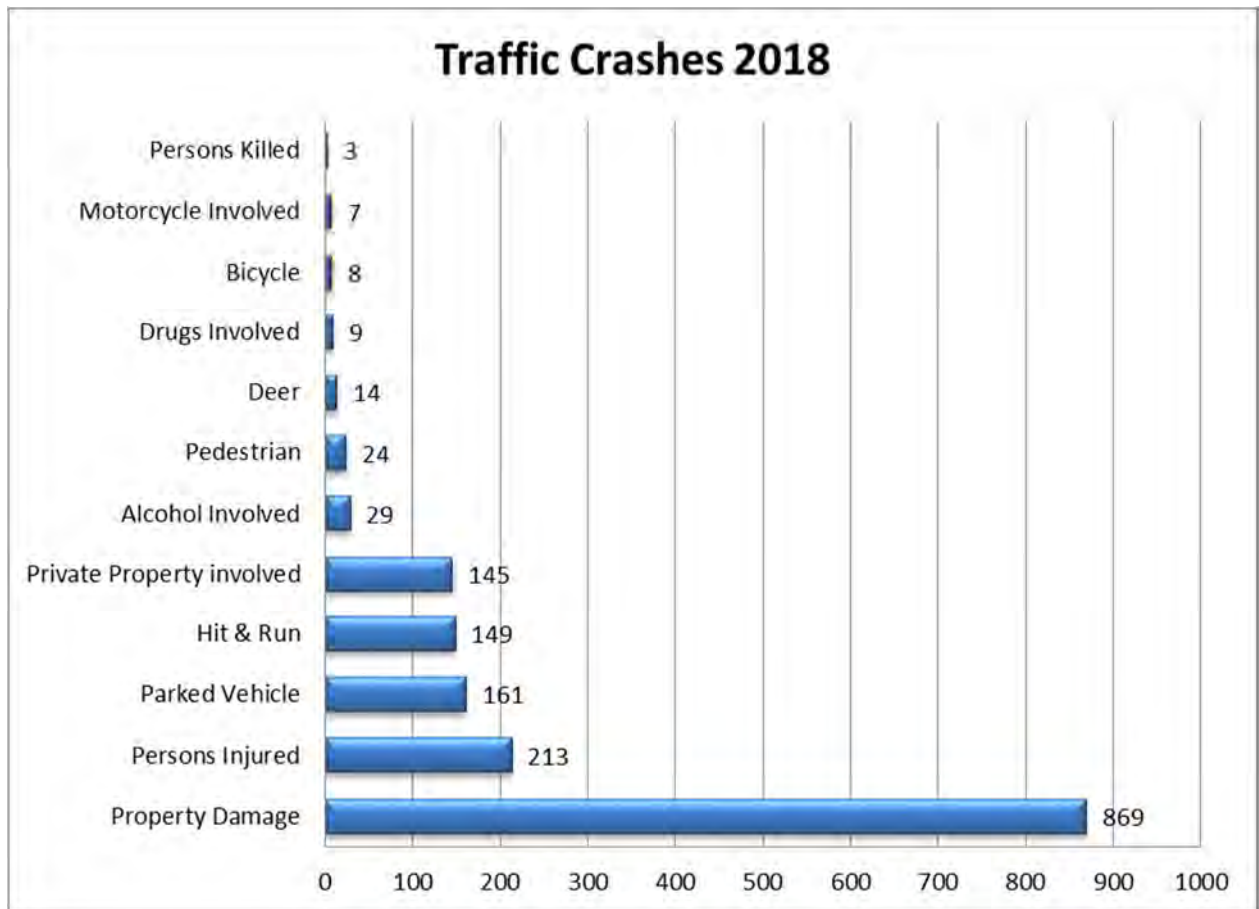
Traffic Citations & Warnings



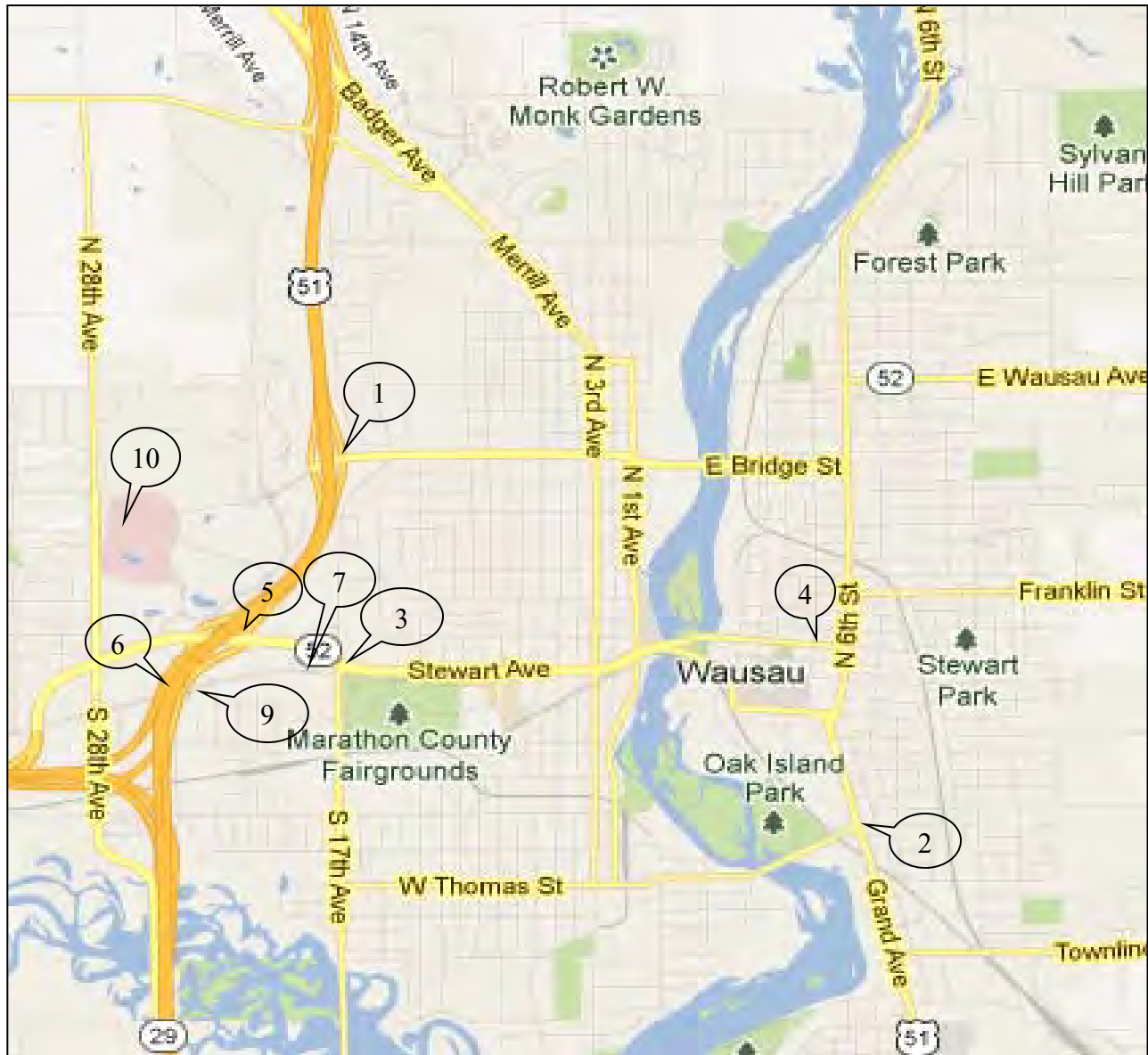
Traffic Crashes

Reportable Accident vs. Non-Reportable Accident—the difference between the two types of accidents is the estimated cost to repair damage sustained by a vehicle in the accident and whether a person is injured. An accident is considered reportable if the damage sustained by one vehicle is greater than \$1000, a person is injured, or if damage to government property occurs with a value over \$200.

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Non-Reportable Accident	204	156	140	118	107
Reportable Accident	1124	1055	1098	1052	978
Total Accidents	1328	1211	1238	1170	1085



Most Frequent Crash Locations

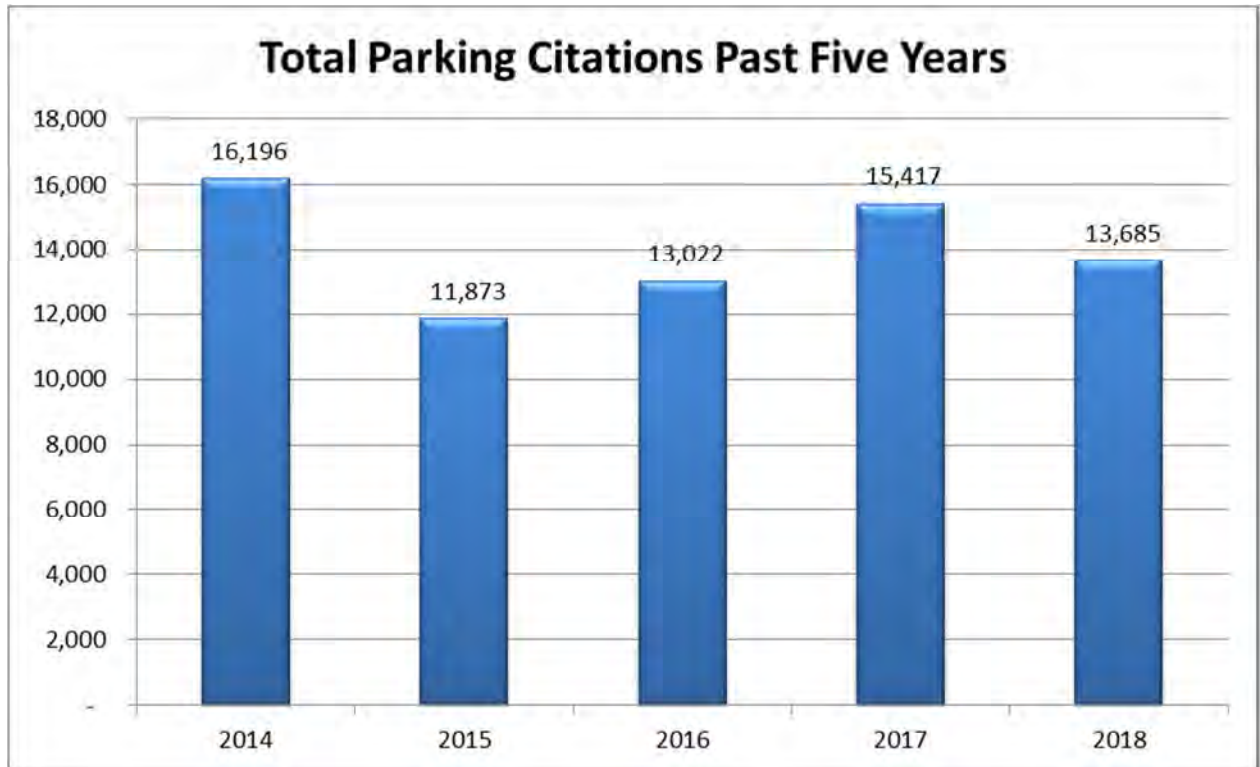


- | | |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1) W Bridge St/US 51 | 6) Stewart Ave/US 51 |
| 2) Grand Ave/Thomas St | 7) S 18th Ave/Stewart Ave |
| 3) S 17th Ave/Stewart Ave | 8) S 72nd Ave/State Rd 29 |
| 4) N 5th St/Scott St | 9) S 24th Ave/Stewart Ave |
| 5) Highway 52 Pkwy/US 51 | 10) 333 Pine Ridge Blvd |

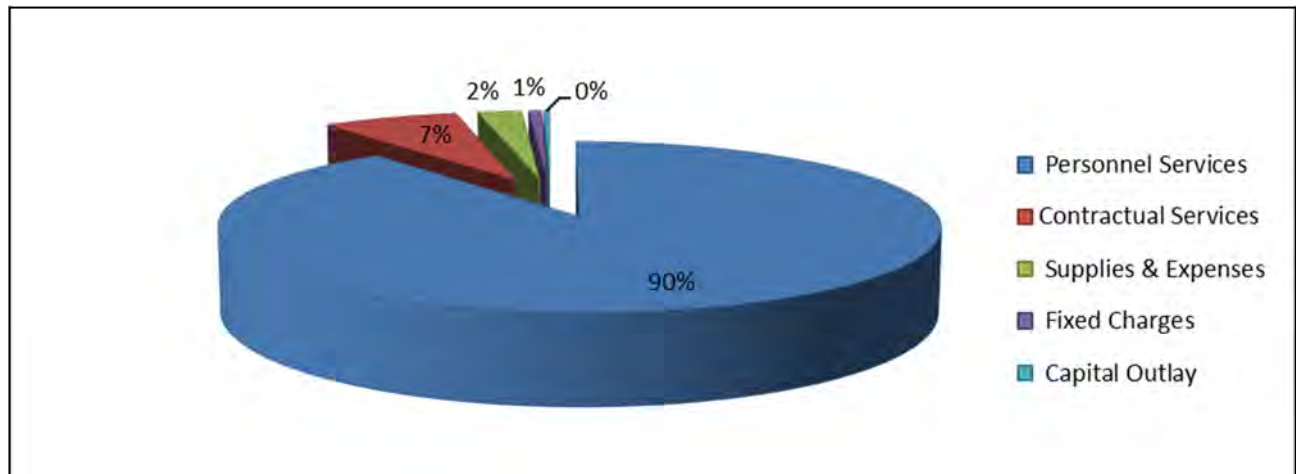
Wausau Police Department—Partnering with the Community

Parking Citations Issued

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Expired Meter	7,526	4,767	3,398	4,177	3,875
Overtime Parking	2,215	2,325	3,468	4,217	3,875
Parked 2:30-6 AM	3,186	2,292	3,335	3,148	2,400
No Permit on City Property	1,041	657	449	379	617
Parked in No Parking Area	450	414	277	234	266
Parked on Private Property	228	102	197	519	575
Handicapped Parking	285	168	322	579	363
Abandoned Vehicle	40	32	58	90	81
All other Violation	1,225	1,116	1,518	1,894	1,633
Total Parking Citations Issued	16,196	11,873	13,022	15,417	13,685



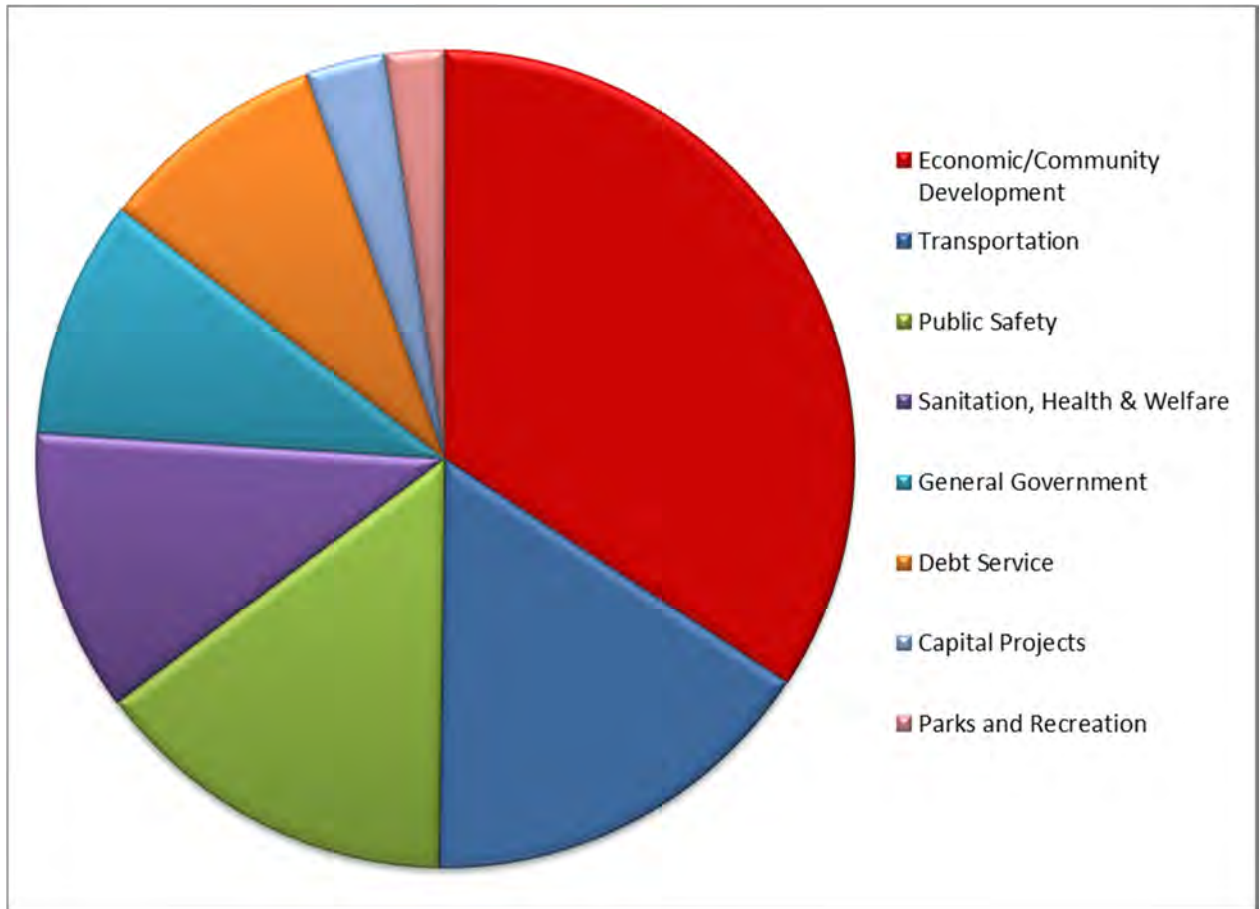
2018 Police Budget Summary



	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Personnel Services	7,474,660	7,863,866	7,867,467	8,153,990	8,366,088
Contractual Services	586,619	601,631	583,298	653,222	620,783
Supplies & Expenses	115,868	138,500	163,267	209,768	165,120
Fixed Charges	71,921	59,823	60,049	60,651	65,400
Capital Outlay	44,478	24,959	37,514	27,951	34,649
Total Expenses	8,293,546	8,688,779	8,711,595	9,105,582	9,252,040
Intergovernmental Grants /Aids	186,598	121,441	7,262	32,538	30,000
Public Charges	33,146	24,868	24,008	24,968	20,870
Intergovernmental Charges	309,014	333,097	102,658	189,216	269,863
Miscellaneous	126,996	99,491	20,209	29,424	12,200
Other Financing Sources	-	-	-	10,572	10,000
Total Revenues	655,754	578,897	154,137	286,718	342,933

Wausau Police Department—Partnering with the Community

2018 City of Wausau Expenditures



Economic/Community Development	\$	39,476,752
Transportation		18,419,490
Public Safety		16,811,563
Sanitation, Health & Welfare		12,910,750
General Government		10,875,060
Debt Service		10,452,877
Capital Projects		3,636,990
Parks and Recreation		2,706,633
Total Expenditures	\$	115,290,115

Retirements

Lietutenant Mark Pankow
Badge # 921
June 1992 to January 2018



Chief Jeff Hardel
Badge # 805
July 1980 to February 2018

Lieutenant Dwayne Dachel
Badge # 891
March 1989 to December 2018



Promotions & Assignments

Nate Pauls
Promoted to Lieutenant
February 2018



Max LaPorte
Promoted to Detective
February 2018

Ben Bliven
Promoted to Chief
February 2018



Promotions & Assignments



Matt Barnes
Promoted to Deputy Chief
February 2018

John Phillips
Promoted to Lieutenant
February 2018



Ben Graham
Promoted to Captain
Febraury 2018

Promotions & Assignments

Jill Kurtzhals
Promoted to Lietenant
November 2018



Nate Stetzer
Promoted to Detective
December 2018

Third Annual Awards Banquet

On March 12, 2018 the Wausau Police Department held its third Awards Banquet to honor our staff and community partners that help us to accomplish our mission and achieve our goals. Acts of heroism, service that goes above and beyond what is normally expected, and acts that positively impact our citizens were highlighted during our ceremony.



A big THANK YOU to our sponsors:
Wausau Smiles Dental, Eagles Nest Family Restaurant and Dave & Kathy Bliven.



Wausau Police Department—Partnering with the Community

Third Annual Awards Banquet

2018 Award Recipients

Community Partner Awards

Wausau Police Department Special Service Award.....Marathon Savings Bank
 City Employee/Department of the Year Award.....Department of Public Works
 Dispatcher of the Year Award.....Ryan Hillman
 Community Caretaker Award.....Chuck Kerstell
 Stakeholder Service Award.....Gary Yeast
 Journalistic Excellence Award.....Emily Davies, WSAW
 Community Partner Award.....Wausau Metro Strong
 Community Volunteer Award.....Big Brothers Big Sisters—Bigs in Blue
 The Educator Award.....Cale Bushman, Assistant Principal, Wausau West HS
 Civilian Service Award.....Brady Duke
 Public Official Partnership Award.....Attorney General Brad Schimel

Badges Awards

Badges AwardDepartment of Justice, Division of Criminal Investigation (DCI), Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI), Department of Justice, Attorney General’s Office – Devra Ayala, Dick Dufours, Wisconsin Professional Police Association, Law Enforcement Death Response Team (LEDR), DCE School District-Kristine Gilmore, Department of Justice, Office of Crime Victim Services, Christine Nolan, Hannah Wrobel, Kristen Speigel-Berg, Pam Steffan-Karls, Kristen Seidler, Brittany Koplitz, River Valley Bank, Marathon Savings Bank
 The Star Award.....Nathan Pauls, Nathan Porath
 Awesome! Award.....“Be Amazing”
 Inspiration Award.....Kara Weiland, Anna Weiland, Ella Weiland

Department Awards

Emergency Police Volunteer of the Year Award.....Dawn Herbst
 Police Support Staff Member of the Year (Non-Sworn).....Jennifer Friday
 Supervisor of the Year Award.....Nathan Pekarske
 Bridge Builder Award.....Nathan Cihlar
 Leadership Award.....Melinda Pauls
 Training Officer Award.....Max LaPorte
 Core Values Award.....Shawn Meyer
 Youth Mentorship Award.....Koua Thao
 Community Policing Project of the Year-Sir Robert Peel Award.....Victim Resource Unit
 Distinguished Service Award (20+).....Paul Piskoty
 Lifetime Achievement Award.....Jeff Hardel
 Bullseye Award.....Jacob Albee
 The Star Award.....Nathan Pauls, Jeffrey Strobach
 Outstanding Team Award.....Brent Olson, Garrett Carr, Jacob Chittum, Luis Lopes-Serrao, David Bertram, Peter Fish, Xai Vang, Jason Pacey, Bill Taylor, Nathan Pekarske
 Problem-Solving Officer.....Nathaniel Stetzer
 Medal of Merit Award.....Dwayne Dachel
 Lifesaving Awards.....David Bertram, Garrett Carr, William Kolb, Ross Austin, Benjamin Price
 Excellence in Policing Award.....Jennifer Holz
 Back-Up Officer Award.....Brent Olson
 Rookie of the Year Award.....Xai Vang
 Law Enforcement Officer of the Year Award.....Luis Lopes-Serrao

Wausau Police Department—Partnering with the Community

Awards



Officer Houa Lee

**Wausau Noon Optimists
Respect for the Law Award**

May 2018

Detective Jon Kindlarski

**Wisconsin Woodchucks
Hometown Hero Award**

June 2018



Officer Jordan Gaiche

**Legislative Citation from
Representative John Spiros**

July 2018



Wausau Police Department—Partnering with the Community

Awards

CART Team: Ofc David Bertram, Deputy Megan Sowinski, Chuck Kerstell and Stacy Rozelle

Community Corner Clubhouse 2018 Partnership Award

October 2018



Deputy Chief Matt Barnes, Officer Koua Thao and Officer Nick Stetzer

Wausau School District Friends of Education Award

November 2018

Officer Sarah D'Acquisto

Wausau School District Friend of Education Award

November 2018



Wausau Police Department—Partnering with the Community

Welcome New Hires!



Officer Aaron Karlen

April 2018

Officers Erick Guzman, Kylie Abel and Bradley Weeks

August 2018



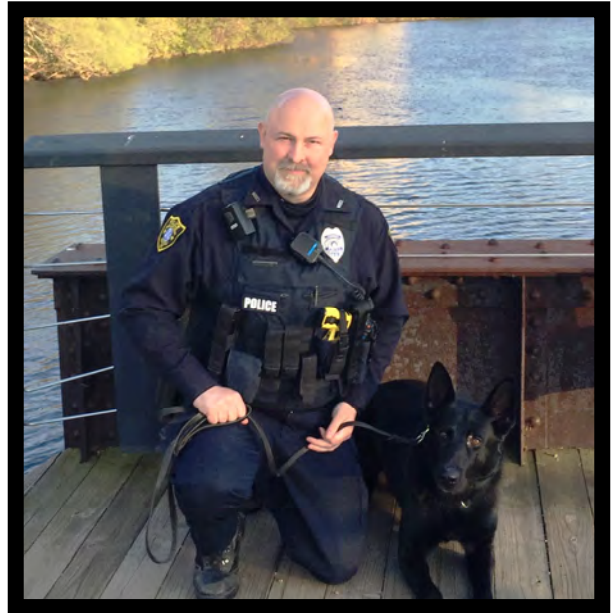
Wausau Police Department—Partnering with the Community

K9 Units

Officer Shawn Fritsch & K9 Zanto

Officer Shawn Fritsch & K9 Zanto became partners in May 2013. Zanto is a 7 year old German Shepherd.

In 2018, Zanto completed 318 searches and 4 demonstrations.



Officer Mark Jaeger & K9 Layla

Officer Mark Jaeger & K9 Layla became partners in May 2015. Layla is a 8 year old Belgian Malinois. Prior to joining the police department, she worked by protecting our military base in Afghanistan.

In 2018, Layla completed 118 searches and 3 demonstrations.

Officer Luis Lopes-Serrao & K9 Zander

Officer Luis Lopes-Serrao joined the Wausau Police Department on August 1, 2015 with his partner Zander. Zander is a 8 year old German Shepard.

In 2018, Zander completed 327 searches and 2 demonstrations.



K9 Units



Officer Mark Kurtzhals & K9 Rio

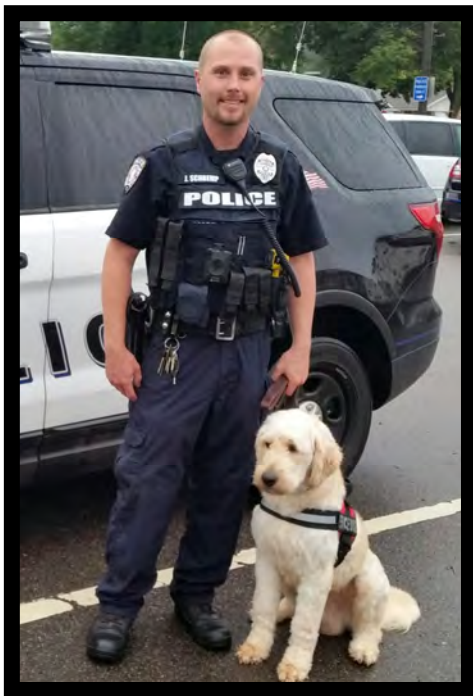
Officer Mark Kurtzhals & K9 Rio became partners in May 2017. Rio is a 3 year old Chocolate Labrador.

In 2018, Rio completed 210 searches and 18 demonstrations.

Officer Nick Stetzer & Therapy K9 Badge

Officer Nick Stetzer completed Therapy Dog training, with his dog Badge, in October 2017. K9 Badge now accompanies Officer Stetzer to Wausau East High School daily and is incredibly helpful when students need calming. This pilot program was so successful that the department raised the funds for another Therapy K9.

Badge is a 4 year old Flat Coated Retriever.



Officer Jeff Schremp & Therapy K9 Theo

Officer Schremp is our newest officer to acquire a K9 partner. Their primary duty is at Wausau West High School, but they will make other stops. Theo has made the rounds at Benedictine Living Community, as well as taking two road trips to Barron County School District to provide comfort to the classmates of Jayme Closs.

Theo is a 2 year old Labradoodle.

School Resource Officers

The Wausau Police Department is pleased to partner with and assist the Wausau School District in providing a safe and welcoming learning environment in which to achieve the District’s educational goals.

There are four Wausau Police Officers assigned as School Resource Officers (SRO,) with full-time placement at the high schools and middle schools during the school year. The Wausau Police Department and the Wausau School District continue to share the cost of this service.



The SROs employ a community policing philosophy within their school communities, seeking to build trust and relationships with students and staff, to partner with them to enhance the quality of life and scholastic growth in the schools. They serve as part of the school administrative team within their respective buildings, and take ownership in the safety and success of their school community. The SRO role is challenging, as in addition to law enforcement duties, the SRO also serves as an educator, an informal counselor, safety and security consultant, and legal resource person for students and school staff. Parents attending athletic events and other school functions will often see SROs engaged there also.

We are proud to have an SRO team with a combined 50 years of law enforcement experience and dedicated service to the City of Wausau:

In the winter/spring semester, our Middle School SROs also visit the elementary schools and teach the HOPE curriculum to 5th graders. The program focuses on the importance of making positive choices, internet safety, and addresses the dangers of alcohol, drugs, and tobacco.

To see more, check out the SRO’s Facebook page, “Wausau Police Resource Officers”, or click [here!](#)



Ofc Jeffrey Schremp
Wausau West HS



Ofc Nick Stetzer
Wausau East HS



Ofc Koua Thao
Horace Mann MS



Ofc Kevin Cornell
John Muir MS

Wausau Police Department—Partnering with the Community

SWAT



Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) team is comprised of a variety of members from various Marathon County Law Enforcement agencies. The Wausau Police Department has five members on the team:

Lieutenant Nathan Pauls
Officer Nathan Porath
Officer Koua Thao
Officer Jacob Albee
Officer John Phillips

SWAT team with Air Force One

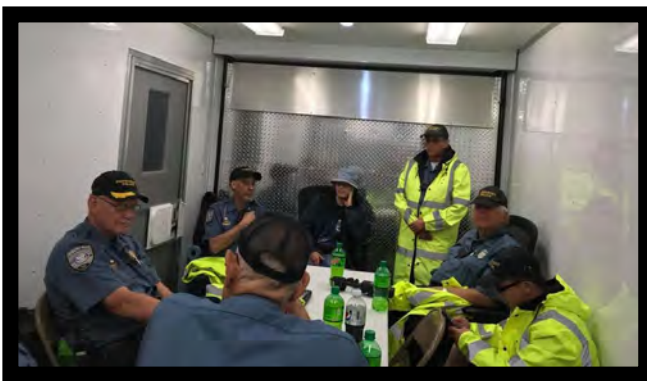


Wausau Police Department—Partnering with the Community

Emergency Police

The Emergency Police Unit of the Wausau Police Department was formed in 1951 to assist the department with traffic and crowd control. There are two squads and 25 officers. Last year, the unit volunteered 3,764.75 hours of service. The director is Larry W. Jaeger and his executive officer is Major Frank Schuelke. The unit assists with all of the major events that bring large groups of people to the area, requiring extra hands to keep the events organized and flowing. The unit also comes in on an emergency basis such as storm assistance and scene security. This assistance helps to free up officers to handle other calls that need attention.

Wausau Emergency Police have training at various times during the year and work hard to be ready. In February, the unit conducted their annual uniform inspection. As in any volunteer organization, we are always looking for new recruits. This year we welcomed five new officers: Kaitlyn Adams, Kevin Rasmussen, Hunter Stark, Brandon Uttech and Jesse Werner. A candidate must be at least 18 years of age, pass a background check and an interview to become a member. Our members range in age from 18 to 70 plus, both male and female. The unit provides the uniform, except pants and shoes. Meetings are generally held on the first Wednesday of the month from February to November, and the Executive Board meets in December and January.. If you are interested, please contact the police department.



Wausau Police Department—Partnering with the Community

Explorer Post

Wausau Police Department Explorer Post #0442

The Wausau Police Explorer Post #0442 partners police officers with youth between the ages of 14-21 who have an interest in law enforcement. The program teaches those youth what a career in law enforcement is actually like. These students also have opportunities to volunteer in the community through various events.

In 2018 our police cadets' dedication to community service was outstanding! The cadets constantly look for ways they can give back to the community. This includes volunteering at several Paws & Protect events, the Balloon & Glow Rally, traffic control / assistance at numerous local 5K events, the Kronenwetter Run for the Fallen event, several Special Olympic events, the Wausau PD Community Thank You picnic and more. We can't thank these cadets enough for their generosity.

Our cadets meet twice a month and are given lessons in numerous topics related to law enforcement. This could include classes on arrest & search, statutory law, first aid, traffic enforcement, firearms safety and use, evidence recovery, crime scene searches, interview skills, and the list goes on. We also had opportunities to cross-train with the Wausau Fire Explorer Post on things such as crash response and officer down response.

This program is funded through membership fees, community donations and fundraising events. The program is run by a dedicated group of police officers and a civilian, called Advisors, who love teaching youth.

We look forward to another great year. The Explorer Program operates year-round and is always recruiting. If you are interested in learning more about the program, you can visit our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/PoliceExplorer or contact Lead Advisor Officer Koua Thao #113 at (715) 261-7841 or by e-mail at koua.thao@ci.wausau.wi.us.



Wausau Police Department—Partnering with the Community

Citizens Police Academy

The Wausau Police Department embraces a style of policing that involves a close working relationship with our community. In an effort to strengthen and enhance this relationship, our agency offers a creative venture to develop an increased partnership with our citizens.

Our department designed an eight week police course for citizens of Wausau, and the surrounding communities, called “Citizen’s Police Academy.” Our Citizen’s Police Academy has three goals:

- Provide citizens with a better understanding and knowledge of the Wausau Police Department’s operations, practices, and functions
- Strengthen the community’s support and involvement
- Create better communication and working relationships between the citizens and Wausau Police Department.

Citizens learn about drug identification/investigations, OWI investigations, and interview/statement analysis. Citizens have an opportunity to participate in simulated firearms training and a demonstration of the Taser X26 (electronic control weapon). Citizens also tour the Wausau Police Department, Marathon County Jail, and Marathon County Dispatch Center.



Citizen’s Academy Class Fall 2018

Community Events



In March, our department participated in the Wausau Fire Department's Chili Cook-Off. Administrative Supervisor Susan Lang, and Administrative Assistants Amy Lund and Jean Frankel cooked up a huge pot of chili. While they didn't win, they had a bunch of fun participating!

Chief Ben Bliven and Sheriff Scott Parks did a dance off at the Dream Big 2056 Event. They were given dance instructions and traditional Hmong costumes, and then the attendees donated to the 2056 scholarship fund to be able to vote for the better dancer.



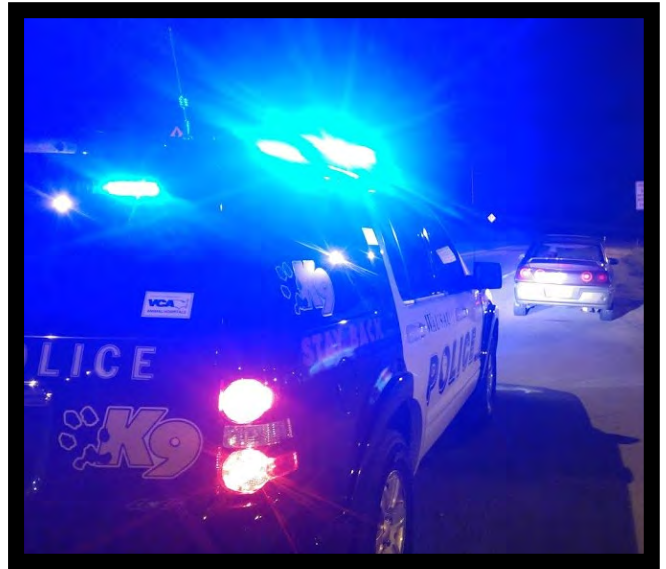
In May, Officer Sarah D'Acquisto and the Women's Community hosted a presentation on the Myths and Truths of Human Trafficking in Central Wisconsin. There was an amazing turnout for this event.



Wausau Police Department—Partnering with the Community

Community Events

Several times a year, we host a Tweet Along with one of our shifts. This opportunity provides the public with a real time glimpse of what goes on during that shift and what kind of cases get handled. Watch our social media outlets for the next one to be announced.



Special Olympics is near and dear to our hearts here at the PD. The Special Olympics Torch Run was in June and, as usual, attended by many of our staff.



July saw the repeat of the annual Police vs. Fire/EMS charity softball game. This year, the recipient of the fundraising was the Jason Weiland Memorial Fund. After a win by the Police, the team cooled off on the fan deck for the Local Heroes Day at the Woodchuck Game.



Wausau Police Department—Partnering with the Community

Community Events



One of our very special details that officers perform is attending law enforcement funerals. As we were comforted by the influx of attendees for the funeral of Detective Jason Weiland, so we try to honor our fallen brothers and sisters by attending theirs. This picture was Detective Anthony Reince and Officer Kyle Buchkoski at the funeral of Milwaukee Officer Michalski in August.

We also like to support local causes by attending charity golf tournaments. Here the command staff are taking vacation to participate in the Camp Hope event. On another day, the chief and a couple of our records staff participated in the Aspirus Golf Classic.



As another supporting event for Special Olympics, local officers have Cop On A Rooftop, a partnership with Dunkin' Donuts. This day finds our officers in the drive thru and on top of the building to draw attention to the cause.

Wausau Police Department—Partnering with the Community

Community Events

Once again, the police department hosted a Thank You picnic on the 400 Block in August. Attendees got a free lunch, could learn about not being scammed, visit with some of our K9's and meet our SWAT Team. Watch for it again next summer!



In September, the 5th Annual Battle of the Badges Softball Tournament was held at Sunnyvale Park. Wausau PD beat out nine other teams to take the championship.



In November, the Wausau Police Benefit Association continued their annual tradition of donating turkeys to the Neighbor's Place. 104 turkeys were donated for families in need.



Wausau Police Department—Partnering with the Community

Community Events



Our department believes strongly in giving back to the community, and this extends from the bottom of the ladder, all the way to the top. Chief Bliven volunteered nearly every day between Thanksgiving and Christmas at a different organization. On many of the occasions, other officers and staff joined him. Some of the organizations included: Meals on Wheels, Mount View Care Center, Faith In Action, The Neighbor's Place, The Women's Community, Habitat for Humanity, Catholic Charities Warming Center, AIDS Resource Center of WI, Leigh Yawkey Woodson Art Museum, Evergreen Elementary School, Adaptive Communities, and the Salvation Army.



Wausau Police Department—Partnering with the Community

2018 Department Photos



Chief Ben Bliven 001



Deputy Chief Matt Barnes 005



Captain Todd Baeten 022



Captain Ben Graham 084



Lt Dwayne Dachel



Lt William Kolb 931



Lt Nathan Pekarske 061



Lt Michael Felder 934



Lt Melinda Pauls 024



Lt Bill Taylor 023



Lt Nathan Cihlar 054



Lt Matt Van Lieshout 074



Lt Andrew Hartwig 071



Lt Cord Buckner 974



Lt Nathan Pauls 991



Lt John Phillips 091



Det Jeff Strobach 913



Det Jennifer Holz 012



Det Jon Kindlarski 081



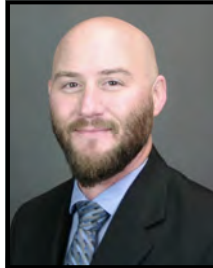
Det Jillian Kurtzhals 043

Wausau Police Department—Partnering with the Community

2018 Department Photos



Det Anthony Reince 047



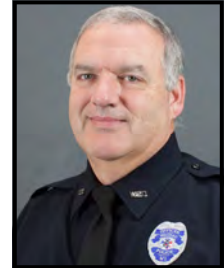
Det Max LaPorte 042



Ofc Lisa Rennie 911



Ofc Mark Jaeger 924



Ofc Paul Piskoty 935



Ofc Kevin Cornell 936



Ofc Dean Talg 941



Ofc Mark Kurtzhals 961



Ofc John Jurasin 011



Ofc Dale Zander 041



Ofc Sandra Hunt 044



Ofc Shawn Fritsch 051



Ofc Brent Olson 053



Ofc Jeff Schremp 072



Ofc Shawn Pierschalla 075



Ofc Jacob Albee 076



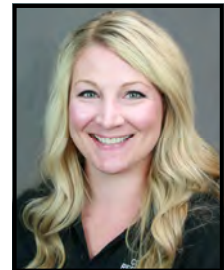
Ofc Houa Lee 082



Ofc Kyle Buchkoski 083



Ofc Eric Lemirand 093



Ofc Sarah D'Acquisto 111

Wausau Police Department—Partnering with the Community

2018 Department Photos



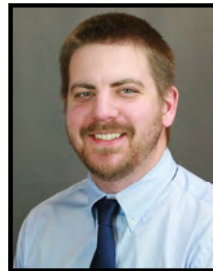
Ofc Koua Thao 113



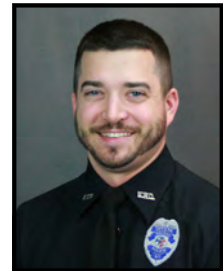
Ofc Nate Stetzer 121



Ofc Nick Stetzer 123



Ofc Jacob Chittum 131



Ofc Garrett Carr 141



Ofc Brian Burkhardt 143



Ofc Dennis Peterson 151



Ofc James Martin 153



Ofc Jena Zinkowich 154



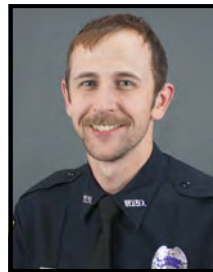
Ofc Luis Lopes-Serrao 155



Ofc Brady Copas 157



Ofc Peter Fish 158



Ofc Ross Austin 159



Ofc Shawn Meyer 150



Ofc Nick Walters 161



Ofc Benjamin Price 162



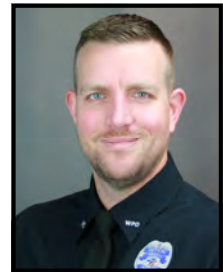
Ofc Snow Thao 163



Ofc Xai Vang 165



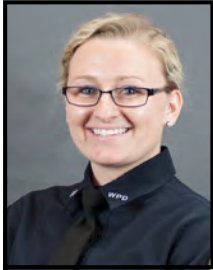
Ofc Jason Pacey 166



Ofc Matt Grover 167

Wausau Police Department—Partnering with the Community

2018 Department Photos



Ofc Mallori Buchkoski 169



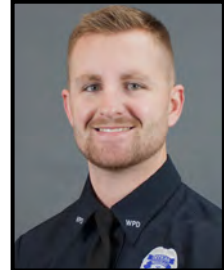
Ofc Jordan Gaiche 171



Ofc Michael Horejs 173



Ofc Ben Slemptes 174



Ofc Ty Woodward 175



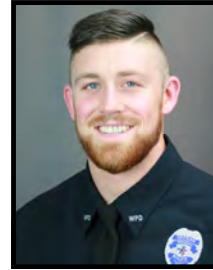
Ofc Corinne Zimmerman 177



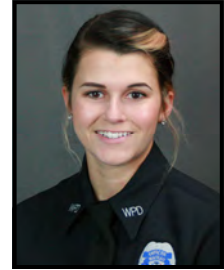
Ofc Joshua Bigger 178



Ofc Benjamin Thumann 179



Ofc Aaron Karlen 181



Ofc Kylie Abel 182



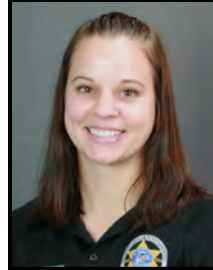
Ofc Erick Guzman 183



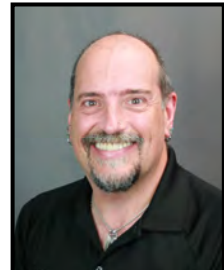
Ofc Bradley Weeks 184



CART Ofc Dave Bertram 156



CART Dep Megan Sowinsky



CART Chuck Kerstell



CART Stacey Rozelle



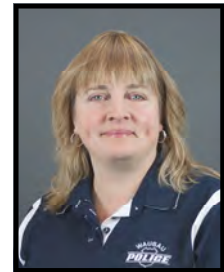
Susan Lang
Admin Supervisor



Cheryl Stieve
Computer Tech



Mary Jordan
Admin



Jennifer Friday
Admin

Wausau Police Department—Partnering with the Community

2018 Department Photos



Teri Daigle
Admin



Amy Lund
Admin



Jean Frankel
Admin



Jade Marten
Evidence Tech



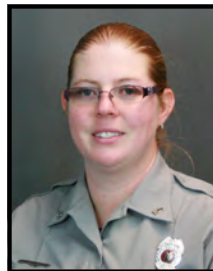
Kristen Seidler
Therapist



Jim Hellrood
Parking Control



Ken Block
Parking Control



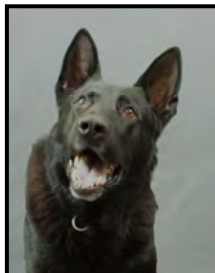
Ashlee Bishop
Humane Officer



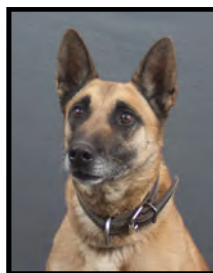
Kristen Spiegel-Berg
Victim-Witness Coord



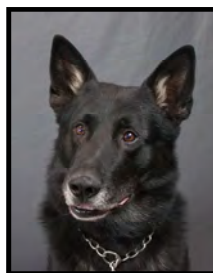
Sue Barr
Volunteer



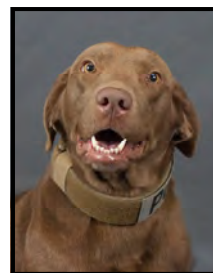
K9 Zanto



K9 Layla



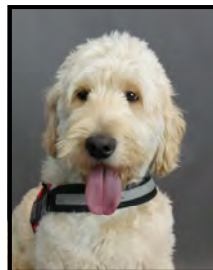
K9 Zander



K9 Rio



K9 Badge



K9 Theo

Wausau Police Department—Partnering with the Community