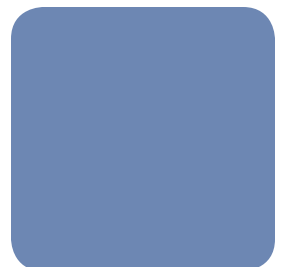
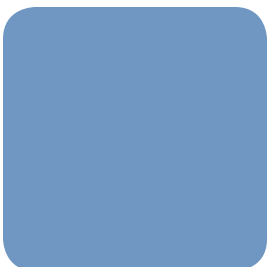
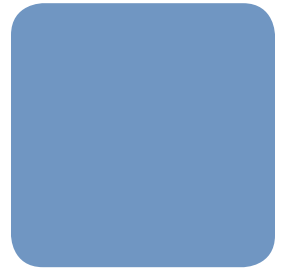


2016 ANNUAL REPORT

SCHERERVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT





Welcome from Chief David Dowling,

Thank you for taking a few moments to read through our 2016 annual report.

It is an honor to serve as Chief Executive Officer for the Schererville Police Department. I have the privilege of working with the finest law enforcement professionals in the State of Indiana. I would like to thank my administrative staff, Deputy Chief Dennis Zagrocki, Patrol Commander Brian Neyhart and Detective Commander Michael Vode for their hard work and dedication.

I would like to take this opportunity to recognize Community Relations Officer Corporal Timothy Arvanitis, and the Administrative staff for their efforts in organizing and publishing this report.

Sincerely,

David A. Dowling



David Dowling
Chief of Police

The members of the Schererville Police Department are committed to being responsive to our community in the delivery of quality service and to our profession by continuously seeking excellence.

By partnering with the community, we will strive to efficiently improve the quality of life by providing a safe and secure environment for all.

DEDICATION

We value dedication and a strong commitment in providing quality service to our community. Individuals are encouraged to set goals for self-improvement. We value professionalism and being accountable to the highest standards of law enforcement

INNOVATION

We value our employees as our greatest asset. We believe in empowering individuals who reflect our organization's values through greater autonomy and control within their scope of responsibility. We encourage an atmosphere of creative problem solving and providing the equipment and technology necessary to accomplish our mission.

INTEGRITY

We value truthfulness and honesty, and consider them vital to our organization. We are committed to ethical conduct by all members of our department, and the highest standards of moral character in serving our community. We are committed to justice and fairness and will abide by the Law Enforcement Code of Ethics.

Schererville Town Manager

Robert Volkmann

Schererville Town Council Members

Mike Troxell	Ward	5
Thomas Schmitt	Ward	4
Robert Guetzloff	Ward	3
Kevin Connelly	Ward	2
Jerry Tippy	Ward	1

Schererville Board of Safety Members

Rodney Langel	Chairman
Werner Zacharias	Secretary
	(Retired in June of 2016)
Eric Graf	Vice Chairman
Thomas Ruzga	Member / Secretary
Eric Kundich	Member
Richard Pietrzak	Member

Police Officers Prayer

Lord I ask for courage

Courage to face and conquer my own fears...

Courage to take me where others will not go...

I ask for strength

Strength of body to protect others and strength of spirit to

lead others...

I ask for dedication

Dedication to my job, to do it well. Dedication to my

community, to keep it safe...

Give me Lord, concern

for others who trust me.

And compassion for those who need me...

And please Lord

Through it all be at my side...



David A. Dowling
Chief of Police



Dennis Zagrocki
Deputy Chief



Brian Neyhart
Patrol Commander



Michael Vode
Detective Commander

The Schererville Police Department’s Administrative Leadership Team is structured with a Chief of Police, a Deputy Chief, Patrol and Detective Commanders.

The Chief of Police has multiple responsibilities and they include administrative duties, planning a yearly budget, directing and controlling all divisions within the police department and research and future planning for the department. He keeps apprised of the community’s attitude and needs, shaping the department to provide the services required. Chief David A. Dowling is the Commanding Officer or Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the entire Schererville Police Department.

The Deputy Chief performs supervisory and technical duties in research, planning, and directing assigned divisions within the police department. Deputy Chief Dennis Zagrocki ensures that personnel adhere to the rules, regulations, and policies of the Schererville Police Department, and assists with the preparation of the annual department budget. He is directly responsible for the supervision of the Detective division, officers assigned as School Resource Officers and officers assigned to the Lake County HIDTA Unit. He will also assume the role of Police Chief in the absence of Chief Dowling.



The Patrol and Detective Commanders’, responsibilities include implementing and overseeing all enforcement policies and practices.

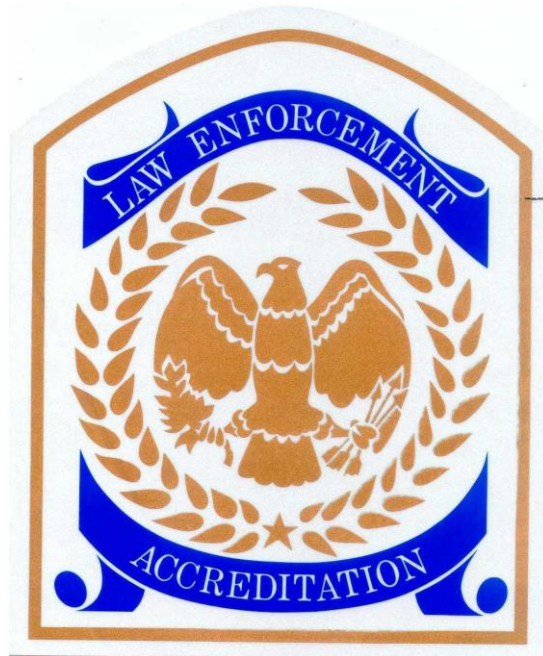


Organizational Chart

On July 30th 2011, the Schererville Police Department became fully accredited through the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies. This marked the official start of the three-year self-assessment phase of the accreditation process.

The self-assessment phase has the agency taking a closer look at general orders. It is through these general orders the department conducts daily business as a police agency. Numerous general orders have been researched, analyzed, reworked and implemented thus far.

Without introspection, department's ability to stay current with modern and acceptable policing practices are at a disadvantage. A police department can stay contemporary through accreditation. Accreditation is a proven method of guiding growth and change for organizations.



The Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc., (CALEA) was created in 1979 as a credentialing authority through the joint efforts of law enforcement's major executive associations:

- International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP);
- National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives (NOBLE);
- National Sheriffs' Association (NSA); and the
- Police Executive Research Forum (PERF)

The CALEA Accreditation Process is a proven modern management model; once implemented, it presents the Chief of Police, on a continuing basis, with a blueprint that promotes the efficient use of resources and improves service delivery – regardless of the size, geographic location, or functional responsibilities of the agency.

Agencies can realize the following rewards for CALEA Accreditation:

Comprehensive, well thought-out written directives, reports, and analyses to make informed management decisions, a preparedness program in place, improved relationship with the community, strengthen agency's accountability, limit liability and risk exposure, and assists in agency's pursuit of excellence.

With the help of all members of this department, this process moves forward efficiently. Input from the newest officer to our most seasoned veteran is what makes the process work. With everyone's help, this process will help this agency succeed at the goal of accreditation and beyond.



Timothy Arvanitis
Accreditation Manager



The Schererville Police Department is proactive, progressive and dedicated to being the area's leading department in all aspects of law enforcement and community safety. In order to provide the best police protection for our community, the department continues to accomplish many goals on a regular basis. The following is a list of some accomplishments attained by the department in 2016.

- Implementation of the Crime Reduction Enforcement Unit (CREU)
- Reduction in vehicle crashes overall 5.5% and personal injury crashes by 19%
- Created a heroin initiative as we partner with local and federal agencies to combat the heroin opioid epidemic





We Remember



The Schererville Police Department implemented a Community Relations Divisions. This division focuses on improving communications and expanding relationships with our citizens. Numerous programs are coordinated through the Community Relations division. This division expresses the importance Chief Dowling and Department members place on community involvement and community policing. The Community Relations Division consists of numerous officers within the department that have taken an interest in a particular program or event.



Cpl. Timothy Arvanitis
Community Relations Supervisor

The following programs are coordinated through the Community Relation Division.

Citizens Police Academy

Department's Facebook Page

Coffee with a Cop Program

Volunteers in Police Service (VIPS)

Morning Call Program

Prescription Drug Drop Off Program

Cop Camp

Department Annual Report

E-mail Notification System

Community Survey Program

Neighborhood Watch Program



Citizen's Police Academy

The Citizen's Police Academy (CPA) was formed in the spring of 1993. In the academy, citizens learn about Schererville Police Department's operations. Participants in the program interact with officers during the nine-week program. Positive community relationships are built during the course. Classes are held once a week in the evening.



Cop Camp

Our Cop Camp is designed for kids ranging from ages 10 to 14 with an interest in law enforcement. Our goal is to create a program that bridges the gap between police officers and young people. While the program may not produce a single law enforcement officer, the Cop Camp does graduate tomorrow's citizens with a better understanding of the law enforcers role in society.



Volunteers in Police Service

From the CPA Program, another group emerged as volunteers for our department. The Volunteers in Police Service (VIPS) are made up of a group of former Citizen's Academy Alumni. This group is very active throughout the department and in various community related events. On average, VIPS accumulated over 1000 hours per year. In 2016, the VIPS participated in National Night Out, Schererville Fest, Corn Roast, and the department's yearly inspection during National Police Week.



Neighborhood Watch Program

Through crime watch programs, lines of communications with police will be opened. Through these lines of communication, community members will help police by reporting suspicious incidents in their neighborhoods. When community members get involved and take ownership in their neighborhood, crime is reduced.



In 2016, the Schererville Police Department added several new neighborhoods to the Neighborhood Watch Program. If your neighborhood is interested in joining the Neighborhood Watch Program, contact Crime Watch Coordinator Timothy Arvanitis at 322-5000 ext. 2324 or tarvanitis@schererville.org

Prescription Drug Drop Off Program

In late 2010, the department initiated a Prescription Drug Drop Off Program. Partnering with the DEA and the Lake County Substance Abuse Council, the Schererville Police Department installed a drop off box at the Schererville Police Department for community members to dispose of prescription drugs 24 hours a day/seven days a week. All types of medication can be disposed of in the lobby at the police department.

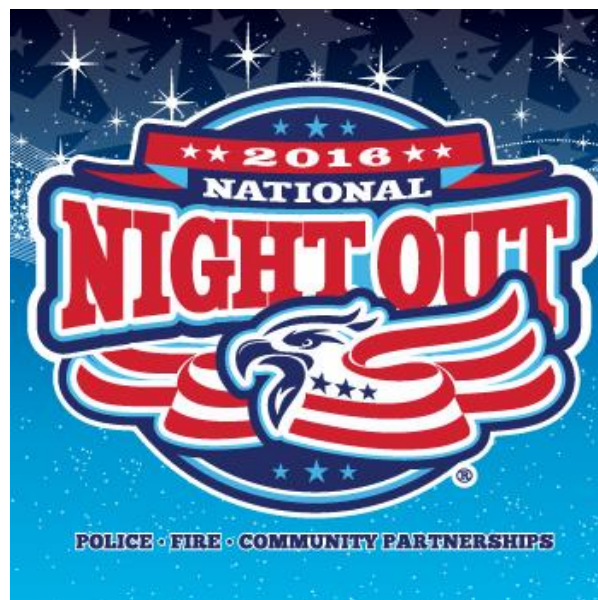
In 2016 an estimated of 1300 pounds of prescription drugs were collected and destroyed by the department through the program.



National Night Out

In 2016, the department participated in the 31st annual National Night Out. This was the departments eleventh year of participating in the national program. Both Officers Otano and Zemburski have done a tremendous job organizing this event during that time and it seems to draw a larger crowd every year. National Night Out is designed to bring neighborhoods together on the first Tuesday in August to show support against neighborhood crime. Neighborhoods throughout the town plan special events on that night.

This year 31 officers from the K-9 Unit, Bicycle and ATV units, Detective Bureau, Administration, Patrol Division and the Records Division participated in the program. The night was a huge success!



Crime Tip Hotline

The department received three anonymous tips in 2016. We encourage anyone who has information on a crime or criminal activity to contact us discreetly at 219-865-4646. The information goes to our Chief of Police and Detective Commander immediately. The tip will be assigned to one of our investigators for follow up. This is a great way to get involved and help us keep Schererville the safest community in the region.





Brian Neyhart
Patrol Commander

The Patrol Division has 33 officers who are assigned to patrol duties. The division operates with four crews each assigned to rotating twelve hour schedules. Each crew consists of two shift supervisors and six patrol officers. The Patrol Division is supervised by Commander Brian Neyhart. This division is the largest within the police department.

During regularly scheduled patrol shift, most officers work during the hours of 6:00 to 6:00. Two crews alternate the morning to evening shift (a.m. to p.m.), and the other two crews alternate the evening to morning shift (p.m. to a.m.). The jurisdiction of our town is broken up into four zones, in which patrol officers are assigned on a daily basis. These zones are labeled zones 1, 2, 3, 4. Each shift begins with a roll call, where officers are briefed about pertinent law enforcement information, details of earlier incidents and are assigned their zones.

The zoned coverage of the town helps provide a quickened response time to any area of the town, which in turn supplies the community with emergency coverage they can count on. Each officer in this division utilizes an issued squad car during their patrol duties. The officer is responsible for the upkeep and operation of the vehicle, as well as, scheduling maintenance when needed.

The duties of an officer working in the Patrol Division consists of traffic enforcement, responding to calls for service, criminal investigations, arrests, as well as, crash investigations and the completion of reports. Many reports are not criminal in nature. There are many other areas of this division where an officer can participate in other functions such as, training, community relations and SWAT. The Patrol division is the most visible to the Schererville residents. We are striving to always be professional and courteous while serving and protecting our citizens.

Patrol Shift 1



Lt. D. Smith



Cpl. David Hunter



Ofc. V. Bertossi



Ofc. B. Daniels



Ofc. Adam Biella



Ofc. H. Mendez



Ofc. Quasney



Justin Juarez

Patrol Shift 2



Sgt. L. Mysliwicz



Cpl. R. Lea



Ofc. J. Zukley



Ofc. J. Ahrens



Ofc. D. J. Parker



Ofc. J. Janson



Ofc. J. Knight



Ofc. R. Staley

Patrol Shift 3



Sgt. P. Calderaro



Cp. S. McNamara



Ofc. A. Stack



Ofc. S. Burton



Ofc. A. Boese



Ofc. M. Bork



Ofc. D. Drexler



Ofc. D. Alvarez

Patrol Shift 4



Sgt. M. Handley



Cpl. W. Bednar



Ofc. H. Weaver



Ofc. J. Myszak



Ofc. C. Lopez



Ofc. D. Murks



Ofc. I. Segovia



Ofc. P. Sormaz

CRUE Supervisor



Sgt. J. Gasiorek

Dare Officer



Ofc. J. Zemburski

IT Supervisor



Cpl. J. Uzubell

Evidence Manager



Ofc. R. Otano

CRUE Officers



Ofc. M. Djukic

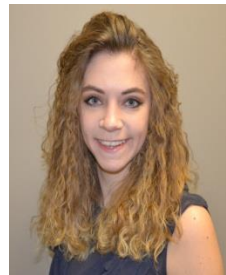


Ofc. A. Buonadonna

Animal Control



Angela Malinowski



Erica Nelson

Code Enforcement



Sam DeCero

Police Explorers



The Schererville Police Explorer Post 9-1-1 is made up of men and women between the ages of 16 and 21 years of age from all over Lake County, Indiana. Currently there are 16 members in the program.

Explorers join because of their shared interest in law enforcement and their desire to learn how police services are delivered.

The program is geared towards educating career-oriented teens and young adults who are interested in law enforcement about the day-to-day operations of police work.

During scheduled meetings and activities, Explorers have the opportunity to learn about police work and how police departments operate by participating in training and hands-on activities.

In addition, Explorers accumulate training hours, which provide them with the opportunity to participate in the ride-a-long program. Explorers can then ride and interact with on duty officers as they respond to calls for service and patrol the community.

The Explorers also participate in local special events and festivals. They work side by side with the police officers while assisting with traffic and crowd control while helping to maintain order.

All of these opportunities give these young men and women the opportunity to see for themselves if law enforcement is truly the career for them.

Our Newest Officer in 2016

Justin Juarez



On April 4th, 2016 we hired our newest police officer, Justin Juarez. Officer Juarez began his law enforcement career in East Chicago, Indiana. He served for approx. 18 months with that agency before coming to Schererville.

During his police academy training, Officer Juarez was honored with several academic and tactical awards making him the highest qualifying officer in those areas upon his academy graduation.

We are truly honored to have added Officer Juarez to our staff and he is a testimony to Chief Dowling's tireless effort in finding the most qualified applicants to serve the town of Schererville and its citizens.

The Investigative Division is dedicated to excellence and Integrity during criminal investigations with innovative use of resources. We are committed to achieving justice and preventing losses. We will bring offenders to justice by diligently seeking the truth, and promote healing for all victims of crime.

The Schererville Police Department's Investigations Division is comprised of five detectives, with patrol officers periodically assigned to this division. Investigators are assigned to a wide variety of duties.

Any criminal case that requires further follow-up is directed to this division for assignment to a detective. Each case will be analyzed and either assigned to an investigator or closed, depending on that case's solvability factor. If certain basic facts are known, such as, a suspect's name or nickname, suspect's vehicle information, the individual's associates, or valuable pieces of evidence, this will assist investigators to help resolve the case. Without a distinct degree of "lead" information, these cases have almost no potential for resolution.

Detectives may investigate cases such as theft, fraud, burglary, armed robbery, criminal mischief and homicide. A detective is available to respond to crime scenes or conduct interviews twenty-four hours a day seven days a week.

The investigations Division is dedicated to proactive investigative initiatives that provide a safe community. The Detectives are very dedicated to their jobs and at times devote long hours to thoroughly investigate all assignments. The citizens of Schererville can be proud of their case solvability rate.



Michael Vode
Detective Commander



Det. Cpl. Jeff Cook



Det. Kevin Wagner



Det. Dave Nangle



Det. Tim Mele



Det. Chris Goldasich

Schererville / Southcom Communications Division



Kelly Wynkoop



Patrick Rosado



Stephanie Bottinger



Keith Henrikson



Cindy Hollandsworth



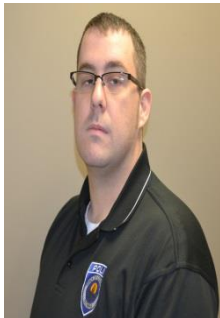
Jacob Cueller



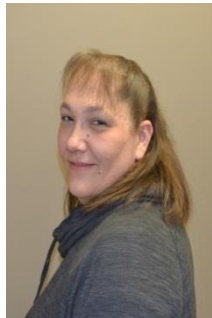
Kara Maddox



Cynthia Davitt



Shannon McNeisch



Sheri Potts



Beth Luketic



Deborah Day



Tracy Anderson



Rachel Peters

Congratulations on your retirement

Richard Massey



Officer Richard Massey started his employment with the town of Schererville as a radio operator. A native of Highland Indiana, Officer Massey was officially sworn in as a police officer on April 16th, 1984.

Since his employment, Officer Massey was a Field Training Officer and he trained countless newer officers as they started their careers. He also served in the detective bureau and as a patrol supervisor.

Officer Massey enjoys scuba diving and riding his motorcycle. He will enjoy his retirement with his wife and children. Thank you Officer Massey for a job well done.

William Lawrence



Officer Lawrence started his law enforcement career on June 1st, 1989.

A native of Merrillville Indiana, Officer Lawrence served in patrol during his entire time with our agency.

Officer Lawrence was one of our certified firearm instructors and has taught several officers in the proficient use of those weapons. He was also one of our ATV instructors and operators. Officer Lawrence was very efficient in the use of the ATV.

Officer Lawrence is an avid Motorcycle rider and loves scuba diving and traveling. We wish to thank Officer Lawrence on a job well done.

Volunteers in Police Service Program (VIPs)



Gerry Pannarralla



Ron Murphy



Steve Peterson



Erik Weathersby



Laura Grolla



Ramona Fissinger



Don Stopper



Ron Szikora



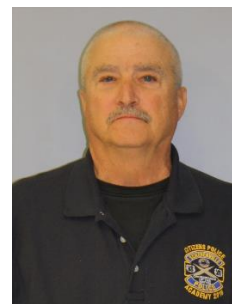
Gary Ault



Michele Verduzco



James Vode



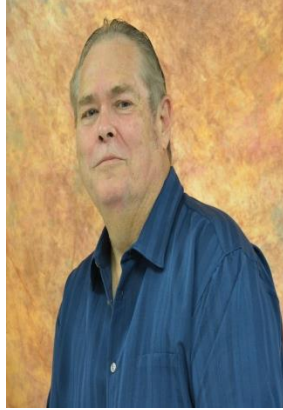
Robert Phelps

Not Pictured: Martin Idzik, Sherry Helton

Morning Call Program



Monday
Eva Garcia



Tuesday
Pete Feikema



Wednesday
Arlene Brownd



Thursday
Christine Wilcox



Friday
Nancy Jovanovich



The Schererville Police K-9 Unit in 2016 included two multi-purpose service dogs. Clark, is a 12 year-old German Shepherd handled by Officer Anthony Buonadonna. Baron, is a 9 year-old German Shepherd handled by Officer Matthew Djukic. Due to age and health issues, both dogs retired at the end of 2016, Clark with 9 ½ years of service and Baron with 6. Two new dogs will be added to the unit during the first few months of 2017.

In a typical year, the K9 unit is involved in approximately 150 deployments consisting of narcotics searches (building & vehicle), area searches, article searches, tracking for suspects and missing persons, as well as, handler protection. In 2016, both dogs and their handlers were assigned to the department's Crime Reduction & Enforcement Unit focusing on traffic enforcement and narcotics trafficking/dealing.

Other responsibilities of the K9 unit include assisting local and federal agencies upon request, conducting demonstrations for the public and civic organizations, while also participating in fundraisers sponsored by local businesses. The K9 teams are required to train 16 hours per month and re-certify once per year.



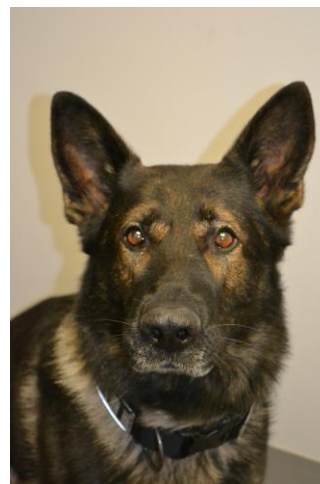
Officer Buonadonna



Officer Djukic



K-9 Clark



K-9 Baron

Breakdown by type of crime/incident investigated by the Detective Bureau in 2016

Crime /Incident	Number of Cases
Missing Person (Adult)	20
Runaway (Juvenile)	39
Arson / Fire	0
Assault / Battery	56
Assist Other Agency / Medical	831
Auto Theft	32
Burglary	27
Burglary Attempt	11
Child Abuse	15
Fraud / Forgery	187/0
Harassment / Threats	155/108
Homicide	1
Rape / Sex Offense	2/17
Robbery	14
Suicide/ Attempts	1/21
Theft	595
Vandalism	132
TOTALS	2264

<u>CHARGES FILED BY INVESTIGATORS IN 2016</u>	
Total Detective Case Filed	352
Total Felony Cases Filed	246
Total Misdemeanor Case Filed	186
Total Local Ordinance Cases Filed	1



Records Bureau



The mission of the Records Division is to provide support service to the Schererville Police Department, other public agencies, private agencies and the public at large. We are dedicated to providing quality service in a timely fashion with care, compassion and excellence.

All individuals walking into and calling the police department are first greeted by a member of the Records Division. The Records Division is responsible for securing all incidents and crash reports taken by officers. All inquiries for reports by the general public and other outside agencies are handled by the Records Division. This department processes thousands of requests yearly.

All employees of the Records Division are civilian employees. Our full-time record clerks are Kelly Wynkoop and Stephanie Bottiger. There are two administrative assistants, Shirley Miller and Tracy Anderson. Catherine Hardiman is the secretary to the Chief of Police and Mrs. Kelly Wynkoop is our Records / Dispatch Manager.



Kelly Wynkoop
Records / Dispatch
Manager



Stephanie Bottiger
Records Clerk



Shirley Miller
Records Clerk



Tracy Anderson
Records Clerk



Catherine Hardiman
Chief's Secretary

2016 Officer of the Year



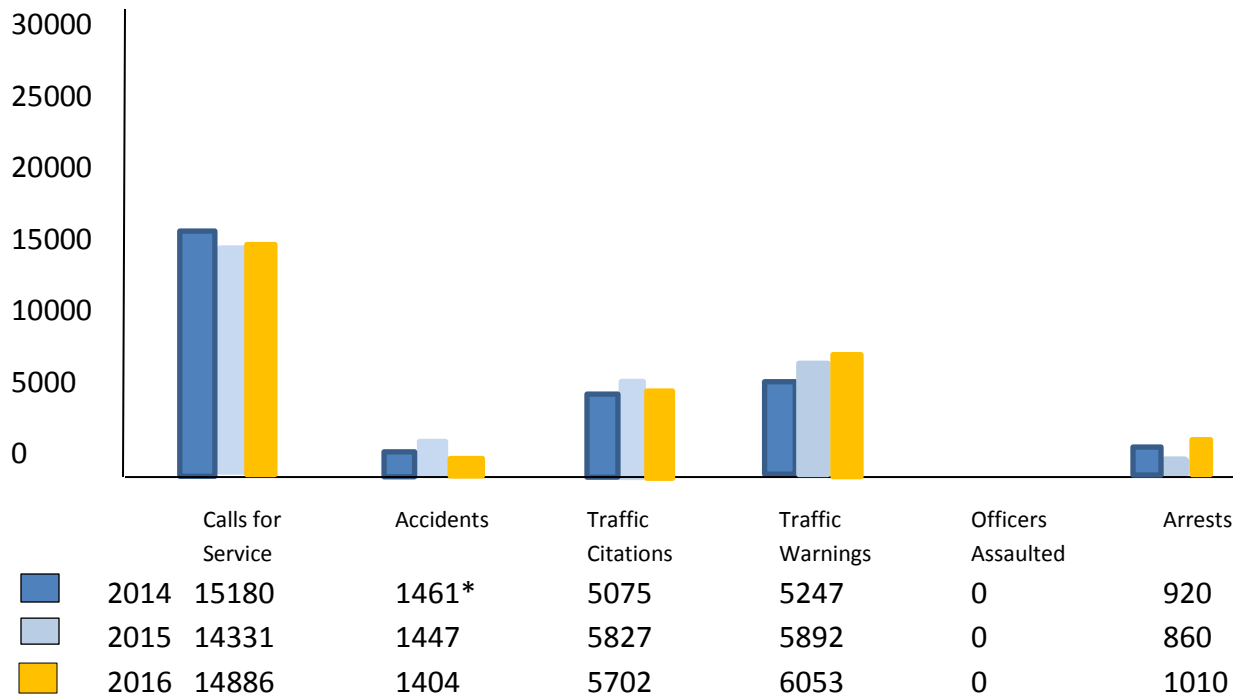
Officer Hiland "Buc" Weaver has been selected "Officer of the Year" for 2016.

Officer Weaver was chosen for his tremendous work ethic and his rapport with the community. He continues year after year to be one of the most active and productive officers in the department.

Officer Weaver is an instructor at the Northwest Indiana Law Enforcement Academy, works as a Domestic Highway Enforcement (DHE) officer, and operates a vehicle equipped with a License Plate Recognition (LPR) system.

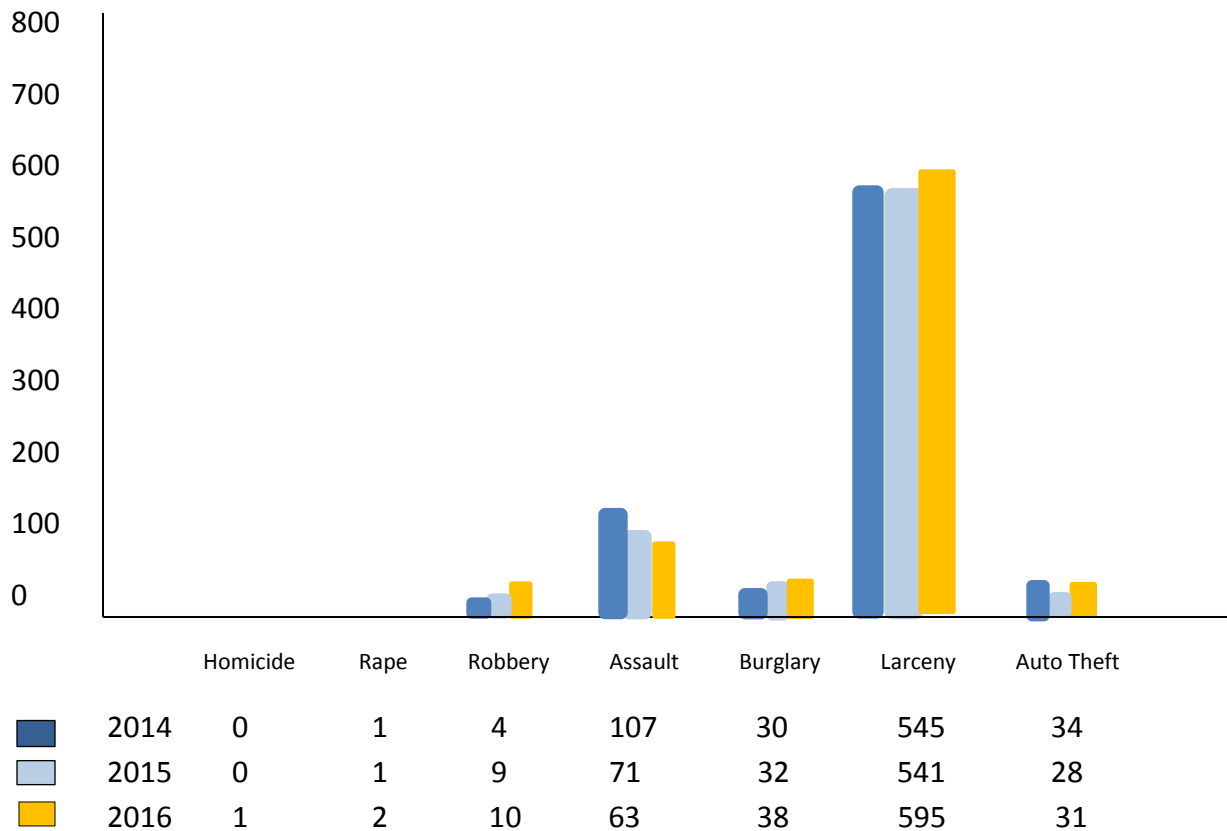
We are very proud Officer Weaver and we ask that you join us in congratulating Officer Weaver for a job well done.

Calls for Service



* 2014 includes one of the worst winters in quite some time.

Case Type Statistics (Uniform Crime Report)



Intersections

US 30 & US 41	58
US 30 & Cline ave.	43
US 30 & Burr St.	29
US 41 & 77 th ave	32
US 41 & Main St.	18

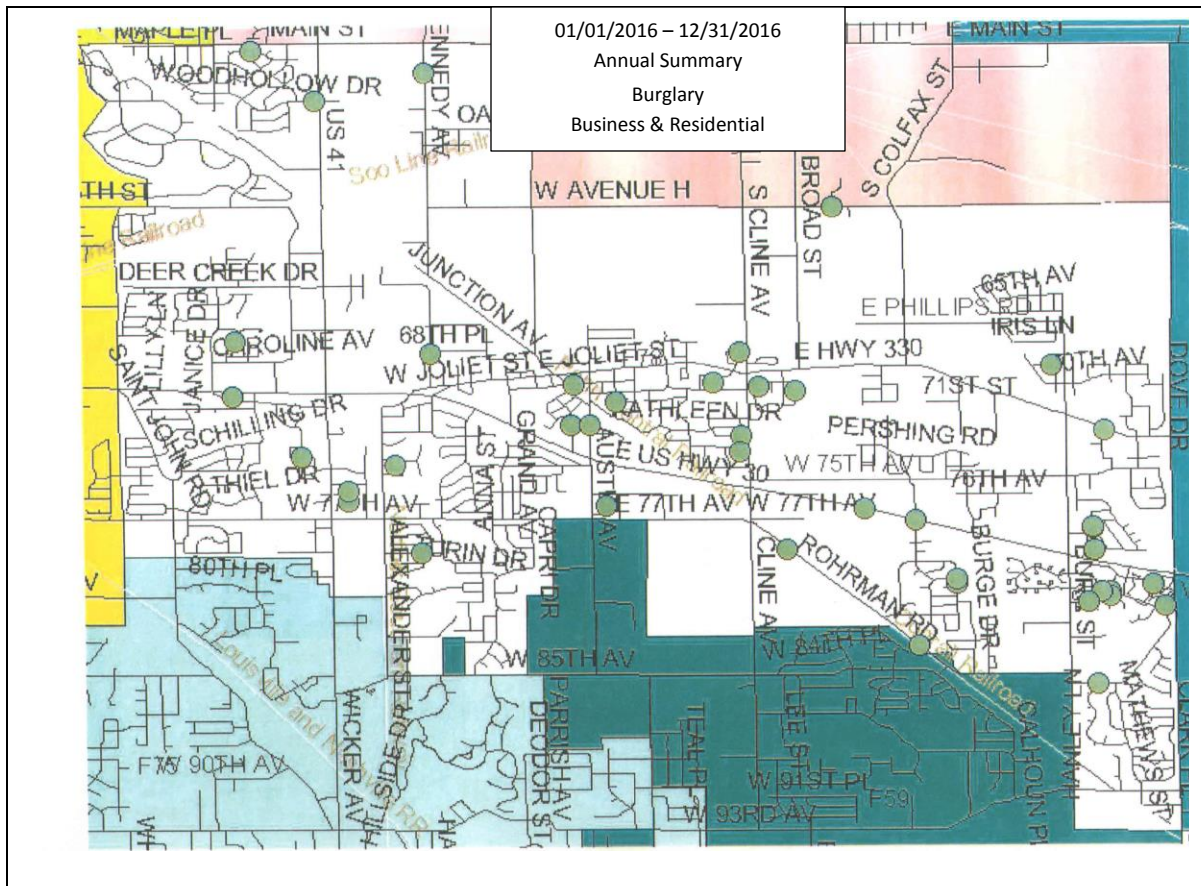
Street

Main St.	39
Kennedy Ave.	43
Cline Ave.	88
Burr St.	70

Totals

1404 – Total crashes
1192 – Property damage accidents
212 – Injury crashes
1 – Fatals





In 2010 the Schererville Police Department began using a new mapping system to map crimes that occur within the town. The new mapping program can be used to help police better utilize manpower and obtain a better overall view of where particular crimes are occurring. Data entered into the mapping system is collected through the Records Division.

Each crime is coded and then appears on the map as a particular colored dot. A time period can be entered and a town map will be generated with the locations of the crimes. Officers can then determine extra patrols in a particular area due to the crimes occurring in that area. Police can use the mapping system to determine crime trends in the town.

In 2016, the Detective Bureau, used the mapping system weekly to assist them with assigning officers to extra patrols to help deter particular crimes. This was especially helpful when targeting particular neighborhoods that were experiencing criminal incidents.

SCHERERVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT
25 East Joliet Street, Schererville, Indiana 46375
219-322-5000

