Annual Report





2024

Nekoosa Police Department

Service with Character, Professionalism, & Purpose

I am delighted to present to you our annual report for 2024. I'm proud to share the

achievements and progress made by our dedicated team of law enforcement professionals in ensuring the safety and well-being of our community.

Throughout the year, our officers have worked to uphold the values of integrity, professionalism, and service. Together, we have faced various challenges head-on, and I am pleased to report that our efforts have yielded significant results.

At the heart of our mission is a commitment to ensure that every resident feels safe, supported, and empowered to thrive. Throughout the year, we have worked diligently to promote an environment where everyone can enjoy a high quality of life in a fiscally responsible way.



We have prioritized innovation and modernization within our department. By leveraging the latest technologies and implementing best practices in policing, we have enhanced our ability to prevent and respond to crime effectively. We are constantly striving to stay ahead of emerging threats and challenges.

I am also proud to highlight the remarkable dedication and professionalism displayed by our officers in their day-to-day duties. Whether responding to emergencies, conducting investigations, or providing assistance to those in need, our officers consistently demonstrate bravery, compassion, and commitment to serving the public good.

Looking ahead, we remain steadfast in our commitment to excellence and continuous improvement. We recognize that our work is never done, and we are committed to building upon our successes to create an even safer and more resilient community for generations to come.

On behalf of the entire Nekoosa Police Department team, I would like to express my deepest gratitude to the residents, community leaders, and partner organizations who have supported us throughout the year. Your unwavering support and collaboration are essential to our success, and we look forward to continuing our partnership in the years to come.

Thank you for entrusting us with the important responsibility of keeping our community safe. Together, we will continue to make a positive difference and build a brighter future for all.

Sincerely,

Chief Shawn K. Woods

NEKOOSA CITY GOVERNMENT

MAYOR

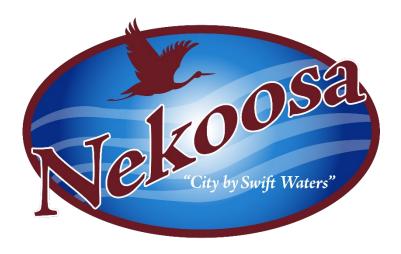
Dan Carlson

NEKOOSA COMMON COUNCIL

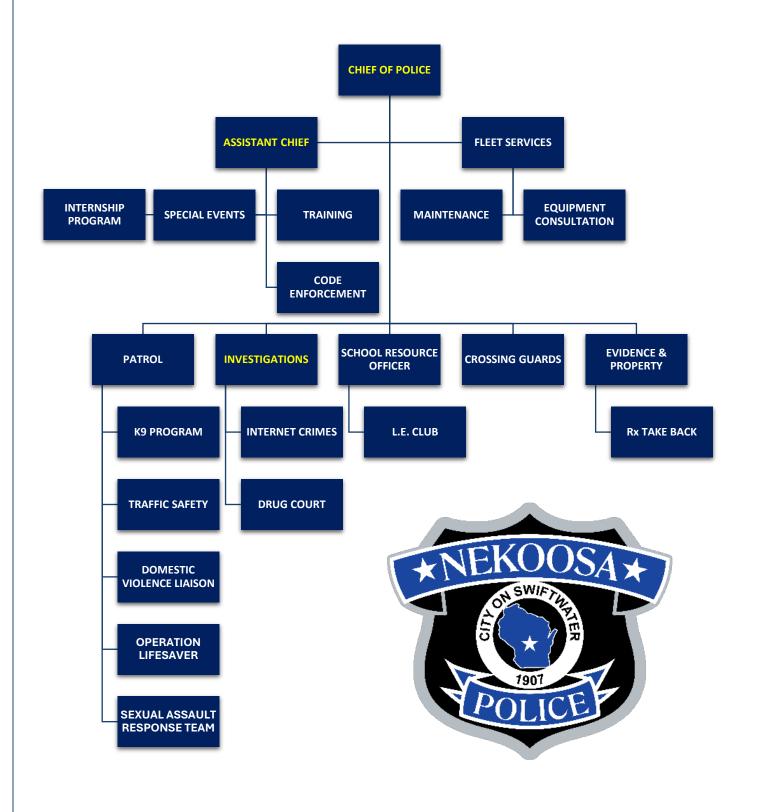
Brian Krubsack, Chairman – Public Safety Committee,
Larry Krubsack, Adam Buehring, Brad Hamilton, Dan Downing,
Garett Kuhn, Tony Carlson, Mike Kumm

POLICE COMMITTEE

Ken Hilgers, John Reimer Sr., George Carlson



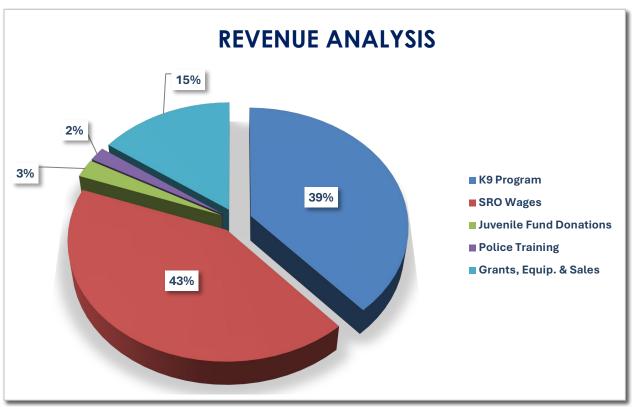
ORGANIZATIONAL CHART

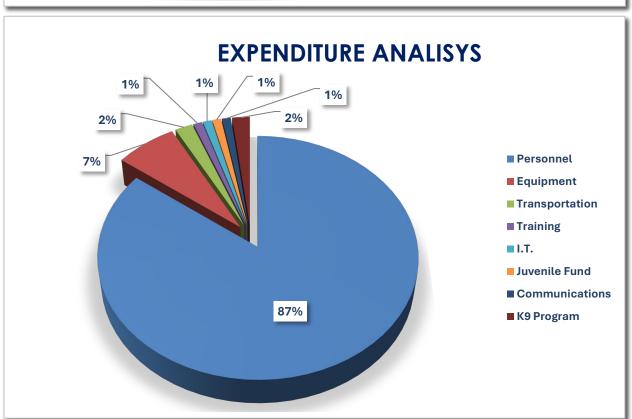


DEPARTMENT ROSTER

FULL-TIME STAFF	<u>POSITION</u>
Shawn Woods	Chief of Police
Josh Kolo	Assistant Chief, School Resource Officer
Brian Machon	Detective
Chris Meyer	Patrol Officer, Evidence Technician, Field Training Officer
Andrew Berg	Patrol Officer, K9 Officer, Field Training Officer
Tim Resheske	Patrol Officer, Traffic Safety Officer Field Training Officer, Domestic Abuse Liaison
Luke Maher (resigned in 2024)	Patrol Officer
Kolton Kessler	Patrol Officer
Logan Otto	Patrol Officer
K9 Ivo	Police K9

FINANCIAL ANALYSIS





PROPERTY & EVIDENCE

Property and Evidence is a central element of the operations of the Nekoosa Police Department. Officer Chris Meyer, as department evidence technician, stays current and accurate with the collection, processing and storage of all items taken into evidence. Officer Meyer's attention to this critical function is vital to prosecution of crimes and custody of property.

In 2024, 200 items were collected and processed into our evidence storage

facilities. Most items are stored in our secure police department facility and large items such as bicycles, vehicles and furniture are stored off-site. Currently there are 345 pieces of property stored by the Nekoosa Police Department.

2024 PROPERTY ACTIVITY	FREQUENCY
Items Collected	200
Sent to Crime Lab	30
Items Returned to Owner	19
Items Destroyed	389
Items Retained for Dept. Use	0
Items Transferred to Other Agency	8

In an effort to combat prescription drug abuse, the department continues to provide the drug-drop box in the city office lobby. We also participate in biannual DEA sponsored prescription drug "take back" events. In 2024, over 100 pounds of unused prescription drugs and medications were collected by the Nekoosa Police Department through the drop box and events to reduce abuse and harmful environmental impact on our groundwater.



INVESTIGATIONS

We are grateful that the City Council continues to be supportive of the very valuable resource of "detective". While our patrol officers are proficient in investigating crimes and handle many cases, having a detective in a small-sized police department is essential for many reasons:

Specialized Skills and Expertise: A detective brings specialized skills in criminal investigations that general patrol officers may not have. Detectives are trained to handle complex cases such as homicides, fraud, sexual assaults, and other serious crimes. Their investigative experience allows for more efficient and effective case resolutions.

Case Efficiency: While patrol officers often respond to initial calls and handle routine duties, a detective focuses on gathering evidence, interviewing witnesses, and piecing together information over time. This reduces the burden on patrol officers and ensures that cases are handled properly and in a timely manner.

Continuity in Investigations: Detectives provide continuity in investigations, which is crucial for resolving cases. They are responsible for following up on leads, preparing reports, and interacting with the legal system to move cases forward. This long-term approach can result in higher case closure rates.

Resource Management: A detective can help allocate resources more effectively by identifying which cases require deeper investigation and which can be resolved with less time and effort. This improves the overall efficiency of the department and ensures that high-priority cases are given the necessary attention.

Building Trust in the Community: The presence of a detective signals to the community that serious crimes are taken seriously. It helps build trust and confidence among residents, knowing that there are dedicated resources to investigate crimes thoroughly. This can lead to greater cooperation from the public in providing information and solving cases.

Support for Patrol Officers: Detectives assist patrol officers by providing expertise in the investigative process. They can advise patrol officers on crime scenes, forensic evidence, and interview techniques. By working together, they can solve cases more effectively, and patrol officers can focus on their primary duties.

Proactive Crime Prevention: Detectives not only investigate crimes but also analyze trends, patterns, and emerging threats. By identifying patterns in criminal

INVESTIGATIONS (cont.)

activity, detectives can help develop proactive strategies for crime prevention, benefiting the overall safety of the community.

Legal and Court Expertise: Detectives are often key witnesses in court, offering testimony based on their investigation and evidence gathered. Their expertise ensures that cases

hold up in court and that justice is served. Having a detective ensures that the department has the ability to support the legal process and increase the likelihood of successful prosecutions.

Crisis Management: In small departments, officers may need to handle a variety of situations, and having a detective with specialized training can be invaluable during critical situations like investigations of violent crime, missing persons, or high-profile cases. Their experience helps maintain calm and ensures that procedures are followed correctly.

Detective Brian Machon continues to provide the specialized knowledge, experience, and passion needed to provide the community with confidence that the police department can manage nearly any investigation that may present in the City.



PATROL DIVISION

Nekoosa Police Department has a robust patrol division with four regular patrol officers and one relief patrol officer. Officers patrol 24/7 with modern equipment, technology, and fleet. It is our goal to provide an effective response to calls for service and proactive mindset for crime prevention and safety.

Officers Meyer, Berg, and Resheske continue to be assets to the police department and community with their dedication to their law enforcement careers.

Officer Kessler began his law enforcement career with Nekoosa Police Department and completed his first year in 2024. He is an excellent addition to the department, and we are glad he is a part of our team.



Officer Luke Maher resigned in good standing in 2024 due to his family moving to the Green Bay area. Luke did an excellent job for the police department. We miss him but wish him and his family all the best.

Officer Logan Otto was hired at the tail-end of 2024 while still in the Mid-State Law Enforcement Academy. We are fortunate that Logan found Nekoosa Police Department a good fit, we think he is a good fit as well. We are also glad he is a part of our team.

In 2024, the part-time officer program at Nekoosa Police Department was terminated. For many years, the police department relied on these positions to fill open shifts. As the law enforcement employee market declined, the desire to accept part-time positions also declined. Due to unreliability and increased overtime costs to fill open shifts, the decision was made to hire an additional full-time officer with the purpose to primarily cover open shifts. Additionally, this position will provide extra patrol coverage during hours likely to produce higher calls for service.

Our patrol officers are high character, highly trained, dedicated policemen that work for the citizens of Nekoosa.

K9 PROGRAM

K9 Ivo recorded 160 hours of training and recertifications in 2024.

Recertified for Jessiffany Kennels, American Police Canine Association (APCA) and the Wisconsin Law Enforcement Canine Handlers Association (WLECHA)

K9 Ivo took 1st place in recertification out of over 50 K9 teams in Narcotics Vehicle Search and 3rd place in Narcotics Building Search.

K9 Ivo was deployed 27 times in 2024. Being utilized not only in the City of Nekoosa but proven to be an asset in the surrounding communities as well. He was requested by the Port Edwards Police Department, Wood County Sherrif's Department, Wisconsin Rapids Police Department, and the Grand Rapids Police Department.





K9 Ivo was used in school district searches including Nekoosa, Port Edwards and Wisconsin Rapids schools.

K9 Ivo was used as a community resource tool during the 2024 Pumpkinfest celebration as well as K9 demonstrations and community engagements in the Nekoosa School District.

We are extremely proud of our K9 team!



SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER

Assistant Chief Kolo continues to serve the department and school district as School Resource Officer. His support to the district administrative team is quite unique. Most SRO's do not engage in day-to-day operations like Josh does. His connection with students is such a valuable asset as he fills roles as officer, teacher, counselor, coach, and friend.

School safety initiatives continue to be a top priority as Josh works with the school safety director and district safety team. They continually analyze safety protocols, conduct safety drills, and vigilantly monitor building and school district grounds for potential safety concerns. State mandated safety protocols are maintained and also periodically reported to the school board.

The following are safety topics that SRO Kolo teaches throughout the school year: Internet Safety, Bike Safety, Stranger Danger, Alcohol/Drug awareness, Crosswalk Safety, and ALICE (intruder safety practices).

SRO Kolo also continues to stay current with school-related matters through annual training and attending conferences.

We are fortunate to be able to provide such a valuable resource to the school district. Josh continues to do a great job!



POLICE CHAPLAIN

The role of a police chaplain is significant in supporting law enforcement officers and the broader community. A police chaplain can offer emotional support for officers and citizens who experience traumatic situations. They also may be involved in critical incidents and offer immediate emotional and spiritual care to both victims and their families, as well as officers who may be affected by the event.

Having a chaplain available to the department can improve overall morale. The chaplain's role in fostering a sense of community, offering encouragement, and providing a supportive presence can enhance the well-being of officers, helping to reduce burnout and fatigue.

Police chaplains serve as vital support personnel who help maintain the mental health, well-being, and resilience of police officers, which in turn helps them serve their communities more effectively.

Nekoosa Police Department Chaplain Paul Liebherr has been voluntarily serving our department and community since 2018. Paul periodically connects with officers through ride-a-longs and office check-ins. Paul is on-call and available to assist with traumatic events and has provided support for grieving persons dealing with loss. Paul is certified through the International Conference of Police Chaplains and has attended regional training events.

Additionally, as the Family-School-Community Outreach Liaison for the Nekoosa School District, Paul often sees overlap with families and police related matters, offering valuable resources when



appropriate. Paul spearheaded a county-wide program titled "Handle with Care", which alerts school staff that certain students may be dealing with emotional or traumatic issues. This very discreet program has been widely accepted by law enforcement agencies and school districts throughout the county in supporting students. We are grateful to have Paul on our team!

CODE ENFORCEMENT

Assistant Chief Kolo continues to do the primary work for City code enforcement largely during spring break and summer. There is an increased focus on city beautification. Ordinance enforcement primarily includes junk, unlicensed and/or unregistered vehicles and recreation equipment, long weeds and grass and dilapidated structures.

In 2024, the following issues were remedied to enhance quality of living in our city:

Junk or Unlicensed Vehicles: 41

Junk: 18

Recreational Vehicles: 3

Grass notices issued: 71 - City Mowed: 17

Dilapidated Buildings: 9, 4 became compliant and the remaining 5 have

deadlines out beyond the end of 2024.

Three municipal citations were issued for non-compliance.

After a lengthy legal process, one residential structure with out-buildings was demolished and the property cleaned up. This had been a long-standing issue of storage of junk, junk vehicles, and a home that was un-fit for human occupation or restoration.



TRAINING

Training is one of the most important components of law enforcement operations. The Wisconsin Law Enforcement Training and Standards Board mandate that officers receive a minimum of 24 hours of training each year to remain a certified law enforcement officer. Staying current with trends, law and tactics greatly lessens the risk of liability and keeps officers and those they come in contact with safer.

In an effort to enhance our training experience, officers of the department have been trained to be instructors in the major mandatory areas of recertification training. Various officers have been certified by the Wisconsin Law Enforcement Training & Standards to provide instruction in Firearms, Defensive Tactics, Emergency Vehicle Operations, Vehicle Contacts, Physical Readiness, and Scenario Instructor. Additionally, Taser and A.L.I.C.E. instructor.

We believe that having in-house instructors and training will increase the frequency of training and save the city money for tuition and travel expenses.

Tactical skills such as firearms include ongoing training with handgun, shotgun and patrol rifle. This training is generally done at the Nekoosa PD shooting range or MSTC. Emergency Vehicle Operations and Vehicle Contacts involves driving skill and tactics. Defensive Tactics teaches officer safety and arrest tactics. As part of all these tactical skills, use of force law and procedure is always a part of the training. Additionally, officers are trained in Crisis Intervention to aid in the response to mental health calls for service.



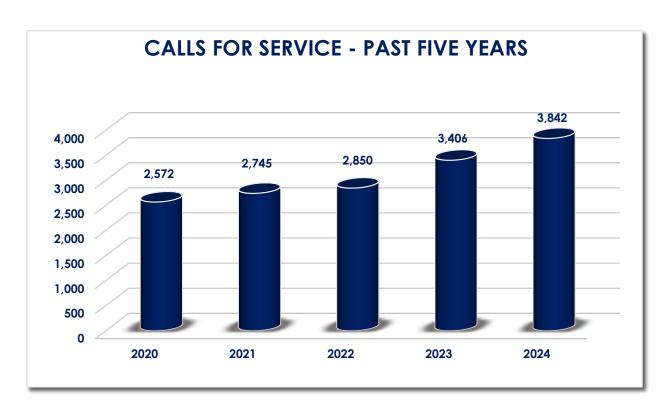
CALLS OF SERVICE

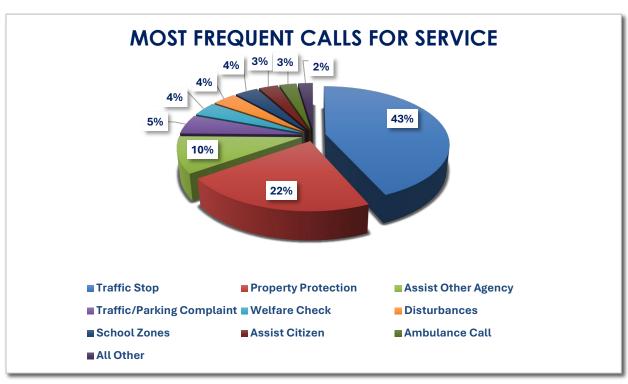
Abandoned Vehicle	1
Alarms	16
All Other	74
Ambulance Call	86
Animal Complaint	65
Assist Citizen	97
Assist Motorist	34
Assist Other Agency	324
Attempt To Locate	2
Battery/Assault	1
Burglary	1
Civil Matter	20
Computer Crimes	8
Court	7
Criminal Damage	24
Death/Suicide	2
Destroy Animal	1
Disturbances	118
Domestic Problem	1
Drugs-Sale/Mnfc/Poss	24
Escort	46
Extra Patrol	6
Fire Call	20
Follow Up	72
Liquor/Tobacco Violation	5
Lost & Found	26
Lost Or Found Animals	9
Mental/Alcohol Problem	2
Missing Person	6
Motor Vehicle Theft	3
Off-Road Vehicle Complaint	1
Ordinance Violation	9

CALLS FOR SERVICE (cont.)

Project Lifesaver Check	7
Property Protection	695
Prowler/Suspicious Person/Vehicle	31
Repo Documentation	8
School Zones	114
Sexual Offense	10
Special Detail	41
Telephone Abuse	10
Theft	36
Traffic Accident	31
Traffic Accident - Deer	15
Traffic Accident - Hit & Run	6
Traffic Accident - Injury	6
Traffic/Parking Complaint	172
Traffic Direction	1
Traffic Inquiry	7
Traffic Stop	1,371
Trespassing	3
Utility Problems	15
Walking The Beat	5
Wanted Person Check	2
Warrant Pick-Up	18
Weapons Investigation	1
Welfare Check	125
Total Calls for Service	3,842

CALLS FOR SERVICE (cont.)





ARRESTS/CITATIONS/WARNINGS

10.05(7) Dilapidated Building	2
10.06(3) Storage Of Inoperable Motor Vehicle	2
10.06(5) Storage Of Junk & Refuse	2
118.15 Habitual School Truancy	1
118.15(1) Habitual School Truancy	1
12.02(14) Underage-Possess Or Consume Alcohol Viol	6
12.09(1) Elections - Violation	1
12.09(2) Unlicensed Dog	1
12.09(7)(C) Permitting Dog/Cat To Run Loose	4
12.09Nkpd Dog/Cat Licensing Regulation	1
125.07(4)(A)1 Underage Drinking-Procures	4
125.07(4)(B) Underage Drinking-Possess/Consume	2
14.02(1) Failure To Obtain Building Permit	2
222.03 Disorderly Conduct W/Motor Vehicle	1
23.33 ATV Violation	2
23.33(4C)(A)1 Operate ATV Or UTV While Intoxicated	2
23.33(4C)(A)2 Operate ATV Or UTV W/ Pac	1
23.33(5)(B)1 Operate ATV W/Out Valid Safety Certificate	1
254.92(2) Minor Possesses Or Purchases Tobacco	3
341.03(1) Operate After Rev/Susp Of Registration	2
341.04(1) Non-Registration Of Vehicle, Etc	33
341.15(1) Fail/Display Vehicle License Plates	1
341.15(3)(A) Improper Display Of License Plate/Tag/Decal	8
341.62 Display False Vehicle Registration Plate	4
342.15(5) Failure To Transfer Vehicle Title	2
343.05(3)(A) Operate Without Valid License	46
343.05(3)(B) Operate Motorcycle W/O Valid License	1
343.07(4)(B)2 Permittee Operate Motorcycle During Darkness	2
343.085(2M)(A)1 Operating Motor Vehicle By Probationary Licensee	1
343.43(1)(D) Violate Driving License Restrictions	3
343.44(1)(A) Operating While Suspended	86
343.44(1)(B) Operating While Revoked	35
343.45 Permit Unauthorized Person To Drive	1
344.62(1) Operating A Motor Vehicle W/O Insurance	50
344.62(2) Operating Motor Vehicle W/O Proof Of Insurance	60

ARRESTS/CITATIONS/WARNINGS (cont.)

346.04(1) Fail/Obey Traffic Officer Signal/Order	3
346.04(2) Failure To Obey Traffic Officer/Signal	2
346.04(3) Vehicle Operator Flee/Elude Officer	12
346.05(1) Operating Left Of Center Line	5
346.08 Unsafe Passing On Right	5
346.14(1M) Automobile Following Too Closely	2
346.34(1) Fail/Signal Turn/Unsafe Turn	2
346.35 Improper Signal For Stop/Turn	1
346.46(1) Fail/Stop At Stop Sign	17
346.46(2M) Fail/Obey School Crossing Guard	2
346.57(2) Unreasonable And Imprudent Speed	15
346.57(4)(E) Speeding On City Highway	113
346.57(4)(F) Speeding In Outlying District	76
346.62(2) Reckless Driving-Endanger Safety	6
346.62(4) Reckless Driving-Cause Great Bodily Harm	2
346.63(1)(A) Operating While Under The Influence	27
346.63(1)(Am) Operate With Restricted Controlled Substance	7
346.63(1)(B) Operating With Prohibited Alcohol Concentration	16
346.63(2)(A)1 Cause Injury/Operate While Und. Influence	2
346.63(2)(A)1. Cause Injury/Operating While Intoxicated	1
346.63(2)(A)2 Cause Injury While Operating With PAC	1
346.67(1) Hit And Run	11
346.68 Hit And Run-Unattended Vehicle	2
346.69 Hit And Run-Property Adjacent To Highway	8
346.70(1) Failure To Notify Police Of Accident	5
346.70(2) Duty/Report Accident	1
346.87 Unsafe Backing Of Vehicle	2
346.89(1) Inattentive Driving	6
346.935(2) Possess Open Intoxicants In MV	8
346.94(2) Racing On Highway	4
347.09(1)(A) Operate Motor Vehicle W/O 2 Headlights	4
347.13(1) No Tail Lamp/Defective Tail Lamp-Night	4
347.413(1) Ignition Interlock Device Tampering/Failure To Install	15
347.48(2M)(B) Vehicle Operator Fail/Wear Seat Belt	2
347.48(2M)(C) Operator Fail/Have Passenger/Seat belted	2
347 48(4)(Am) Violation Of Child Safety Restraint Requirements	2

ARRESTS/CITATIONS/WARNINGS (cont.)

346.10(3)(A) rail/secure Loads if lowing A Iralier	2
450.11(7)(H) Possess/Illegally Obtained Prescription	2
7.07(2) Parking During Certain Hours Violations	1
7.10 Disorderly Conduct/Motor Vehicle	8
9.08(2) Open Containers Intoxicants On Public Property	1
9.08Nkpd Open Containers Of Intoxicants	1
9.19(4) Minor Possess/Buying Tobacco Prohibited	15
9.22(2)(A) Possession Of THC, Synthetic Cannabinoid	20
9.22(2)(B) Possession Of Drug Paraphernalia	9
9.943.20 Theft	1
9.946.41 Resist/Obstructing	8
9.947.01 Disorderly Conduct	3
9.948.45 Contributing To Truancy	2
940.19(1) Battery	3
940.20(4) Battery To Public Officers	1
940.203(1)(C) Threat To Law Enforcement Officer	1
940.225(3M) 4Th Degree Sexual Assault	1
940.32(2) Stalking	1
940.34(2)(A) Person Duty To Aid/Report Crime	2
940.45(3) "Intimidate Victim/Threaten Force, Etc."	1
941.23(2) Carry Concealed Weapon	3
941.29(1M) Possession Of Firearm By Felon	2
941.295(1M) Possession Of Electric Weapon	2
941.30(1) 1St-Degree Recklessly Endangering Safety	1
941.30(2) 2Nd-Degree Recklessly Endangering Safety	1
943.01(1) Criminal Damage To Property	7
943.012(3) "Criminal Damage To School Property, Etc."	1
943.20(1)(A) Theft-Movable Property	6
943.50(1M)(B) Retail Theft-Intentionally Take	2
944.06 Incest	1
946.41(1) Resisting Or Obstructing An Officer	11
946.46 Encouraging Parole/Probation Violation	1
946.49(1)(A) Bail Jumping-Misdemeanor	3
946.49(1)(B) Bail Jumping-Felony	10
947.01 Disorderly Conduct	2
947.01(1) Disorderly Conduct	19

ARRESTS/CITATIONS/WARNINGS (cont.)

947.012(2)(B) Unlawful Phone Use-Harassment	1
948.02(1)(E) 1St Degree Child Sex Assault -w/ Under Age 13	1
948.02(2) 2Nd Degree Sexual Assault Of Child	1
948.03(2)(B) Child Abuse-Intentionally Cause Harm	3
948.21(2)(G) Neglecting A Child (Exposure Drug Abuse)	4
948.31 Interference With Custody By A Parent	1
948.45(1) Contributing To Truancy	1
961.41(1)(H)1 Manufacture/Deliver THC (<=200G)	2
961.41(1M)(E)4. Possess W/Intent-Amphetamine	3
961.41(3G)(Am) Possession Of Narcotic Drugs	5
961.41(3G)(C) Possession Of Cocaine/Coca	3
961.41(3G)(D) Possess Amphetamine/LSD/Psilocin	1
961.41(3G)(E) Possession Of THC	28
961.41(3G)(G) Possession Of Methamphetamine	12
961.42 Maintain Drug Trafficking Vehicle	2
961.42(1) Maintain Drug Trafficking Place	2
961.495 Possess Sh. I,II Drugs-Certain Places	1
961.573(1) Possess Drug Paraphernalia	30
961.573(2) Possess Drug Paraphernalia-Under 17	1
968.075 Domestic Abuse Incident	1
968.075(1)(A) Domestic Abuse Incident	2
Tr305.16(2) Fail/Properly Maintain Tail Lamps	1
Tr305.32(5)(B) Rear Window Excessive Tinting	2
Tr305.34(6)(C) Windshields-Tinting-Critical Area	2
Total	1 032

ARRESTS/CITATIONS/WARNING (cont.)

