

Ross Township Police Department

Annual Report

2024



Meet your Ross Township Police Dept. Command Staff:

Chief Rob Gerhardt



Chief Rob Gerhardt is a 29-year law enforcement veteran who began his career in 1995 at the Butler County Sheriff's Office Basic Peace Officer Academy. He then served as a Corrections Officer and Special Deputy before joining the Reading (Ohio) Police Department. In 2002, he transitioned to the Blue Ash Police Department, where he held various leadership roles, including Captain-Deputy Chief of the Support Services Bureau. He also served on the HCPA SWAT Team and the Sycamore Schools Safety Team.

Chief Gerhardt holds a bachelor's degree in public safety management and a master's in Criminal Justice with concentrations in Justice Administration and Criminal Behavior. He is a graduate of the Police Executive Leadership College (PELC), has earned the FBI-LEEDA Leadership Trilogy Award, and is a Certified Law Enforcement Executive (CLEE).

Recognized for excellence in service, he has received Ohio's MADD Top Cop and Award of Excellence, the Excellence in Police Service Award, and the Distinguished Valor Award. His leadership and dedication continue to make a lasting impact in law enforcement.

Lieutenant Bryan Rogers



Lieutenant Bryan Rogers has built a distinguished career through dedication, leadership, and excellence across multiple fields. Before law enforcement, he spent 20 years as an Athletic Trainer, working with Division I collegiate programs and professional hockey. Holding a bachelor's in Kinesiology and a master's in Biomechanics from the University of Tennessee, he specialized in human performance and injury prevention. In 2016, he transitioned to law enforcement, joining the Ross Township Police Department after serving with Grandview Police in Montgomery County.

Lt. Rogers quickly rose through the ranks, earning promotion to Sergeant in 2020 and Lieutenant in 2024. A dedicated member of the Butler County SWAT Team, he currently serves as a Sniper, demonstrating expertise in high-risk operations and precision marksmanship. He also spent a year as a School Resource Officer, enhancing school safety and community engagement.

Recognized for outstanding service, Lt. Rogers has received two life-saving awards. He is a graduate of the Police Executive Leadership College (PELC) and the Certified Law Enforcement Executive (CLEE) program, preparing him for executive leadership. His background in both tactical law enforcement and elite athletics gives him a unique perspective on leadership, teamwork, and performance under pressure. Committed to the success of the Ross Township Police Department, he continues to mentor officers, lead tactical operations, and strengthen community relationships.

Sergeant David Liddil



Sergeant David Liddil has dedicated his career to public service, beginning as a Firefighter/EMT in Warren County in 2002, a position he continues to hold today. In 2005, he transitioned into law enforcement, attending the Great Oaks Police Academy. After graduating, he served with the Village of Maineville Police Department until 2008, then moved to the Village of Harveysburg, where he served as a Patrol Sergeant before joining the Ross Township Police Department in Butler County in 2016.

At Ross Township, Sgt. Liddil has served as both a Patrol Officer and a School Resource Officer, playing a key role in building relationships between law enforcement and the community. In recognition of his dedication and leadership, he was promoted to Patrol Sergeant in November 2024. As the department's Community Relations Coordinator, he has spearheaded multiple successful outreach programs, including Fish with a Cop, Shop with a Cop, Cops, Cones & Cars, and Drug Take Back Day, strengthening connections between officers and residents.

Beyond his community engagement efforts, Sgt. Liddil holds several specialized roles within the department. He serves as a DARE Officer, Field Training Officer, Evidence Technician, Taser Instructor, Fleet Manager, and in-house Detective. His well-rounded expertise and commitment to mentorship and public safety have made him an invaluable asset to the Ross Township Police Department, where he continues to lead with dedication and professionalism.

Ross Township Police Department 2024 Annual Report

2024 was a year of transformation and growth for the Ross Township Police Department. We are proud to highlight the significant changes, promotions, and initiatives that have strengthened our team and enhanced our service to the community.

Personnel Updates

New Hires

- **Officer Chanda Stilts:** Joined the department in **January 2024**.
- **Officer Morgan Spencer:** Started in **March 2024** after graduating from the Greene County Career Center.
- **Officer Shawn Stamper:** Began in **March 2024**, alongside Officer Spencer, after completing training at the Greene County Career Center.
- **Officer Max Vonderhaar:** Hired as an auxiliary officer in **November 2024**. Promoted to part-time status on **January 2, 2025**, and began the Field Training Program, which is expected to last approximately 12 weeks.
- **Ricky Phillips:** Joined the department as an auxiliary training officer in **November 2024**.

Promotions

- **Lieutenant Bryan Rogers:** Promoted from Sergeant to Lieutenant in **May 2024**.
- **Sergeant David Liddil** was promoted from School Resource Officer in **November 2024**. He now serves as the 2nd shift road supervisor and oversees Officer Stoeppel as she transitions into the School Resource Officer role.

Retirements and Leadership Changes

- **Chief Burton Roberts:** Retired in **July 2024** after years of dedicated service.
- **Chief Robert Gerhardt III:** Appointed as the new Police Chief in **September 2024**.

Administrative Enhancements

- **Macayla Liddil:** Transitioned to a full-time Administrative Assistant role in **October 2024** to streamline department operations and enable supervisors to spend more time on patrol.
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Departmental Initiatives

- **Commitment to Professional Development:** In 2024, each officer completed 40 hours of continuing professional training to refine their skills and ensure operational excellence.
- **Leadership Advancement:** Lieutenant Rogers participated in the Certified Law Enforcement Executive (CLEE) program; an esteemed leadership course offered by the Ohio

Law Enforcement Foundation. This program is designed for police executives or those aspiring to executive roles, with rigorous admission criteria based on career experience, education, and professional service.

- **Specialized Training Opportunities:** Sergeant David Liddil successfully completed both Evidence Technician training and High Threat Patrol Officer training. Additionally, every officer took part in select N.O.R.S.E. Tactical training sessions to enhance tactical readiness.
- **School Resource Officer:** Officer Madison Stoeppel assumed the role of School Resource Officer in **November 2024**, focusing on the safety and well-being of the school community under the guidance of Sergeant Liddil.
- **Structured Training Programs:** The department continued its commitment to skill enhancement by onboarding Officer Vonderhaar and facilitating his participation in a comprehensive Field Training Program.

Community Events

2024 was a vibrant year for community engagement, as the Ross Township Police Department participated in several events to strengthen relationships with residents. Through these efforts, we successfully reached close to 10,000 individuals, fostering connections and enhancing trust within our community.

- **Fish with a Cop:** A program aimed at encouraging kids to enjoy the outdoors while engaging with law enforcement in a positive environment. This event is also part of the department's drug prevention outreach for youth.
- **Cops, Cones, and Cars:** A fun and informal event where community members could enjoy ice cream, admire various types of cars, and engage in friendly conversation with local police officers. This event was an opportunity to build rapport, answer questions, and foster positive interactions between the department and the community.
- **Coffee with a Cop:** A casual event designed to bring officers and community members together over a cup of coffee. Residents had the opportunity to ask questions, share concerns, and get to know their local law enforcement in a relaxed setting.
- **National Night Out:** Hosted a successful event to foster police-community partnerships and promote neighborhood camaraderie.
- **Holiday Outreach:** Organized "Operation Santa Sleigh," a program where officers delivered gifts and holiday cheer to families in need, fostering goodwill and community connections during the holiday season.
- **Cram-a-Cruiser:** On the day before Thanksgiving, the department hosted a donation drive for **Ross and Morgan Ministries**, collecting items to support families in need. We successfully filled three cruisers with donations and received over \$850 in cash.

contributions. The generosity of our community members helped make a significant impact on those in need during the holiday season.

- **Drug Take Back Day:** Held in partnership with local organizations, this event occurs twice a year providing residents with a safe, convenient, and responsible way to dispose of unused or expired medications. By encouraging proper disposal, the department helped prevent drug misuse and ensured a safer community.
- **Veterans Day Ceremony:** The Honor Guard collaborated with Elda Elementary to host a heartfelt ceremony in honor of Veterans Day, paying tribute to those who have served our country.
- **Memorial Day Parade:** The Honor Guard proudly posted for the Memorial Day Parade, reflecting the department's deep respect for the sacrifices made by service members and their families.
- **Fourth of July Bike Parade:** Officers led the festive bike parade, bringing patriotic spirit to the community and creating a fun and memorable event for children and families.

These initiatives reflect our commitment to creating a safe, supportive, and connected community.



**Drug Take Back
Day
2024**



Fish with a Cop 2024



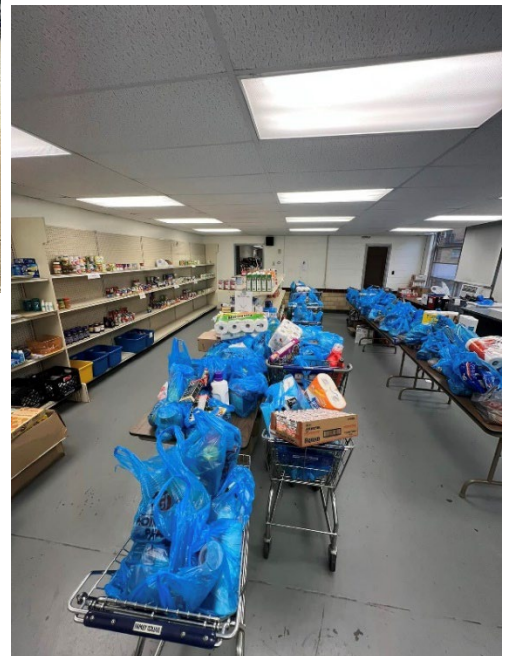
Cones, Cops & Cars 2024



National Night Out 2024



Cram-A-Cruiser 2024





Honor Guard



Coffee with a Cop 2024



4th of July Bike Parade

Calls for Service Analysis (2020-2024)

Overview

In 2024, the department experienced a notable increase in calls for service, reflecting our ongoing commitment to proactive community engagement and public safety. This upward trend underscores the effectiveness of our strategic initiatives and the growing trust between the department and the community we serve.

Traffic Enforcement Summary:

- Total traffic stops: 1,264
- Traffic charges issued: 812
- Warnings issued: 465

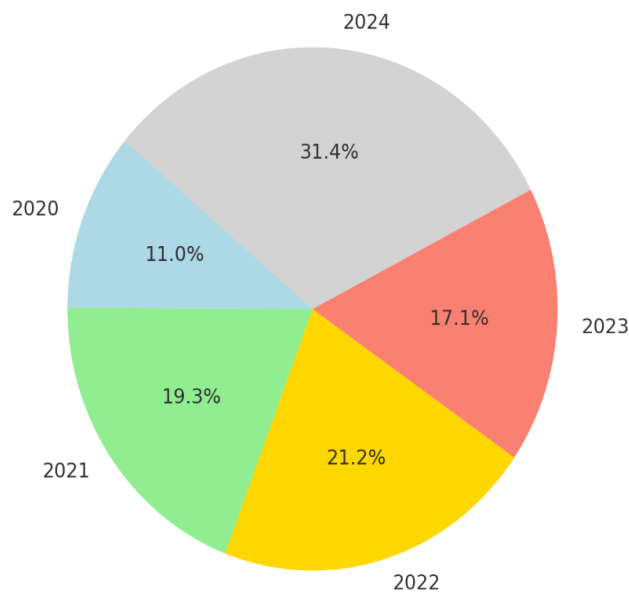
Arrest and Charge Statistics:

- Total charges within arrests: 211, including:
 - OVI (Operating a Vehicle Impaired) charges: 22
 - Warrant arrest charges: 55
 - Drug-related arrests:23

Community-Driven and Proactive Policing

A significant portion of this increase is attributed to self-initiated activities performed in direct response to community requests. These proactive efforts, including business checks, vacation checks, extra patrols, and traffic stops, were conducted to enhance safety and security for local businesses, homeowners, and neighborhoods. Although categorized as self-initiated, these activities are vital in addressing community concerns and fostering a safer environment.

Comparison of Calls for Service from 2020 to 2024



Year	Calls for Service
2020	4,101
2021	7,154
2022	7,868
2023	6,366
2024	11,643

2024 Calls for Service Summary

This section provides a comprehensive summary of the total calls for service received in 2024, categorized by the nature of the incident. These figures reflect the department's ongoing commitment to public safety and community engagement.

Emergency and Alarm Responses

- **911 Hang-Ups:** 251 calls responding to disconnected emergency calls to ensure public safety.
- **Alarm - Business/Commercial:** 67 responses to security alarms triggered at commercial properties.
- **Alarm - Residential:** 79 responses to residential security alarms.

Animal-Related Incidents

- **Animal at Large:** 70 reports of loose or stray animals requiring intervention.
- **Animal Welfare Checks:** 24 welfare checks conducted for animals possibly in distress.

Assistance and Public Support

- **Assist Law Enforcement Agencies:** 33 instances of providing support to other law enforcement entities.
- **Assist Public:** 208 calls assisting community members with various needs.
- **Assist Fire/EMS:** 533 responses supporting fire and emergency medical services.
- **Lock Outs:** 65 incidents of assisting individuals locked out of vehicles or properties.
- **Stand By Assists:** 45 instances of officer presence to ensure safety during sensitive situations.

Community Engagement

- **Community Policing:** 17 proactive initiatives aimed at strengthening community relationships.

Traffic and Vehicle Incidents

- **Accident Reports:** 196 investigations into vehicular accidents.
- **Detail General:** 141 instances of traffic control and special patrols.
- **Disabled Motor Vehicle:** 98 calls assisting motorists with disabled vehicles.
- **Reckless Operator:** 79 reports of hazardous driving behavior.

Criminal Activity and Investigations

- **Domestic/Disputes:** 114 responses to domestic conflicts and disputes.
- **Felonious Assault:** 1 investigation of severe assault incidents.
- **Fraud:** 35 reports of fraudulent activities and financial crimes.
- **Harassment:** 45 complaints involving threatening or unwanted behavior.
- **Juvenile Complaint Issues:** 58 incidents involving minors and youth-related concerns.
- **Shots Fired:** 13 investigations into reports of gunfire.
- **Suspicious Activity:** 219 calls regarding unusual or potentially criminal activity.
- **Theft:** 65 reports of property theft.
- **Trespassing:** 19 incidents of unauthorized property entry.
- **Unwanted Person:** 20 interventions to remove individuals from premises upon request.
- **Vandalism:** 33 reports of property damage.

Welfare and Safety Checks

- **Follow Ups:** 180 follow-up visits and investigations related to prior incidents.
- **Mental/EDP:** 20 responses involving individuals experiencing mental health crises.
- **Noise Complaints:** 31 reports of excessive noise disturbances.
- **Welfare Checks:** 109 checks on individuals' well-being following community concerns.
- **Deaths:** 9 responses to reported fatalities.

This data highlights the department's multifaceted role in ensuring public safety, supporting community welfare, and addressing diverse emergency and non-emergency situations throughout the year.

Looking Ahead

As we move into 2025, the Ross Township Police Department remains steadfast in its mission to build a safer and more connected community. Through ongoing professional development, strategic leadership, and an emphasis on community-focused initiatives, we are confident in our ability to address the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead.

We extend our gratitude to our officers, staff, and community members for their unwavering support and partnership in making Ross Township a safe and welcoming place to live and work.