

# CITY OF MILTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

## 2015 ANNUAL ACTIVITIES REPORT



Prepared by  
Scott E. Marquardt  
Chief of Police

## **A NOTE FROM THE CHIEF**

I am proud to present to you the 2015 City of Milton Police Department Annual Activities Report. The report is a testament to the work being done by all of our officers and support staff, and represents a compilation of statistical data and crime prevention programs that were a part of our on-going organizational mission of "Keeping Milton Safe" throughout 2015. Those efforts would not be possible without the dedicated support we are fortunate enough to enjoy from elected and appointed government officials, as well as the citizens we are proud to serve.

It is difficult for me to believe that a year has gone by since my arrival at the Milton Police Department. My family and I have felt so welcomed by the community and by the department. However, 2015 was not without its challenges for the police department.

The police department investigated a stabbing in November which eventually led to the death of the victim. As a result of the case, a woman is mourning the loss of her partner and her two sons were charged with the victim's homicide. Despite the tragedy of the call, police department staff did an outstanding job conducting the investigation. The stabbing was precipitated by a domestic violence incident, which was another trend noted in 2015. Twenty-four domestic violence arrests occurred in 2015, compared to 15 arrests in 2014. We will continue to monitor this trend going forward. Finally, we've noted that our use of force by officers has tripled to 16 in 2015, compared to five incidents in 2014. All cases involved resistance by the subjects during the attempt to take them into custody. Thankfully, no one was injured in any of the 16 cases in 2015. However, we remain troubled by the increase and will continue to analyze each use of force very closely.

As in 2014, our officers are assigned to permanent shift teams, with two officers assigned to each of three shifts. This shift organization reflects our philosophy on community policing strategies that emphasize the importance of officers establishing lasting, trusting relationships with the citizens they serve on their respective assigned shifts.

We continue to maintain accreditation from the Wisconsin Law Enforcement Accreditation Group (WILEAG), initially awarded in December of 2014. Accreditation was a lengthy process that required the police department to demonstrate compliance with applicable standards covering all aspects of law enforcement administration and operations. We improved, updated and implemented policies and subsequently proved that we were in compliance with these policy standards with "proofs" for each. An on-site visit by WILEAG assessors in October of 2014 was very detailed and included an examination of our records, physical plant, equipment, vehicles, and ride-alongs with our officers. We passed this examination with flying colors and did all of this with no extra cost to tax payers and without the help of outside paid consultants. Our accreditation manager, Detective Ryan Justice, was instrumental in this process and received the Officer of the Year for 2014 for his efforts. Never having been with an accredited department before, I am extremely impressed and proud of the department for this ongoing achievement.

We added Officer Justin Geske as a full time officer in 2015 to fill a vacancy created when Zack Anaker moved on to the Rock County Sheriff's Department. Officer Geske grew up in Milton and was once an intern and then a part time officer for us before being appointed to the full time position. He is currently assigned to our night shift from 10:30 p.m. to 7 a.m.

The City of Milton remains a very safe place to live, work and play. Our officers respond to an overall average of 1272 documented calls for service a month, or an average of 42 calls for service a day. Fewer than 2% of those calls for service result in a criminal arrest and fewer than 10% result in a citation being issued. These statistics reflect our organizational philosophy that emphasizes solving problems creatively through citizen cooperation. It remains our focus to improve the quality of life in Milton through voluntary compliance, rather than through strict enforcement of the law. Our property crime rate and violent crime rate are well below the State average, and our clearance rate for crimes reported in Milton is nearly double the State of Wisconsin average. It is through our partnership with those we serve that we will be able to continue to keep Milton safe. As we enter 2015, I thank all of you for your support of our agency and ask you to remain an active partner with us in 2015 as we continue to live the mission of "Keeping Milton Safe".

Scott E. Marquardt  
Chief of Police

## DEPARTMENT DESCRIPTION

The Milton Police Department is responsible for providing 24 hour police services and protection in the City of Milton. The department employs eleven full-time and four part-time police officers and one full time support staff member. A second support staff member is the Milton Municipal court clerk, with 85% of scheduled time dedicated to municipal court duties and 15% of scheduled time dedicated to the police department. The police department emphasizes the concept of community policing which is reflected in our organizational structure and enforcement philosophy. We believe in the critical importance of partnering with our community to identify and solve community problems so that we can maintain and enhance the quality of life in Milton. The department consists of three different programming areas, each with specialized positions which are subsequently then divided into three different shift teams. The programming areas include police administration, the patrol division and the support services division.

### **Police Administration:**

Police Administration consists of Chief of Police Scott Marquardt and two lieutenants. Each lieutenant is responsible for supervision of a fixed shift or “team” of officers. The chief is generally responsible for the following:

- Departmental control and direction
- Maintaining personnel and other resources of the department
- Budget development and maintenance
- Under the provisions of Wisconsin State law, specific authority in matters of operations and discipline
- The development and implementation of department rules and regulations, policy and procedures.
- Direct supervisor for the clerical support team.

Administrative Lieutenant Mike Chesmore is generally responsible for the following:

- Coordinating the day to day operations schedule
- Training and development of all police officers in the department
- Assisting in budget maintenance
- Managing the maintenance of the vehicle fleet and officer equipment
- Court liaison officer to municipal court
- Direct supervision of the day team shift of officers, detective, and school resource officers

Operations Lieutenant Kevin Arneson is generally responsible for the following:

- Oversight of policy and procedure development and maintenance for the organization in coordination with the chief of police
- Court liaison officer to municipal court
- Supervision of the entire field training program for new officers, including supervision and policy development
- Oversight of the college internship program

- Assisting in budget maintenance
- Management of the evidence and property function, to include managing the evidence storage facility and processes
- Direct supervisor of the afternoon and night shift team of officers

**Patrol Division:**

The patrol division is made up of a three teams of officer deployment. Officers are deployed in permanent shifts which make up the day team, the afternoon team and the night team. The day shift team has two patrol officers and two sworn specialty positions. Both afternoon and night shifts each have two patrol officers. Patrol coverage is also supplemented by the two lieutenants. Each shift has officers with specialized training designed to enhance the service of the police department to our residents. A breakdown of each shift team and specialized training is provided below:

***Day Shift Team (4 Full-Time Sworn Officers)***

- Detective Ryan Justice is responsible for follow-up on all criminal investigations reported to the patrol division from all 3 shifts. The position also serves as our agency accreditation manager and Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) task force representative.
- Patrol Officer Jim Schumacher serves as a day shift patrol officer. His additional duties include salvage inspections upon behalf of the department and also serves as our agency firearms instructor. He also serves as a field training officer and is a part time school resource officer for the Milton Middle School.
- School Resource Officer (SRO) Jim Martin serves as the direct liaison between the Milton School District and the City of Milton Police Department. The Milton School District serves a student population of over 3,600 students and 400 staff members. This sworn assignment is responsible for investigating incidents involving juveniles that take place on school property, follow-up with incidents taking place involving youth from the school, as well as providing proactive programming and presence during the school day and security for co-curricular events. The SRO is a cost-shared position with personnel expenses paid by the Milton School District when the officer is acting in an SRO capacity.
- Patrol Officer Kyle Johnson serves as a day shift patrol officer. Officer Johnson is also a field training officer. Officer Johnson is coordinator the department's participation in state wide traffic safety initiatives, such as Click It or Ticket and Booze and Belts. Officer Johnson's work has resulted in equipment grant awards totaling \$16,000 over the past three years. He also serves as an evidence technician.

***Afternoon Shift Team (2 Full-Time Sworn Officers)***

- Patrol Officer Ryan Spangler serves as an evening shift patrol officer. He is also a trained evidence technician and a part time Rock County Special Investigations Unit (SIU) member.
- Patrol Officer Joe Fox serves as an evening shift patrol officer and is responsible for responding to calls for service on the afternoon shift of officers.

***Night Shift Team (2 Full-Time Sworn Officers)***

- Patrol Officer Zach Anacker served as a night shift patrol officer. Officer Anacker resigned in November 2015 to become a full time deputy with the Rock County Sheriff’s Department. Officer Justin Geske moved from the part time officer list to the full time position created by Officer Anacker’s departure.
- Patrol Officer Ryan Schneider serves as a night shift patrol officer. He is also an evidence technician and assists Lieutenant Arneson in the property and evidence control function for the department.

***Part Time Officers***

- To assist with meeting minimum staffing needs on patrol, the police department also employs part time officers. The part time officers are fully sworn police officers who have completed the same hiring and training requirements as full time officers.
- In calendar year 2015, the part time officers were: Jim Berlin, Blaine Larson, Chris Hughes, Mike Rufer and Justin Geske (until his promotion to a full time position in November 2015.)

**Support Division:**

***Code Enforcement Officer***

Officer Blaine Larson serves as the code enforcement officer for the City of Milton responsible for addressing code violations. Officer Larson responded to over 219 code enforcement calls for service in 2015, a 15% increase in calls over 2014. On average, every call requires a number of follow-up visits or phone calls to make sure that the issue has been remediated. He also coordinates with regional public and private partners in documenting, classifying and disposing of items dropped off at our prescription drug drop box. In 2015, a total of 579 pounds of material placed into the drop box were properly disposed of.

***Clerical Support***

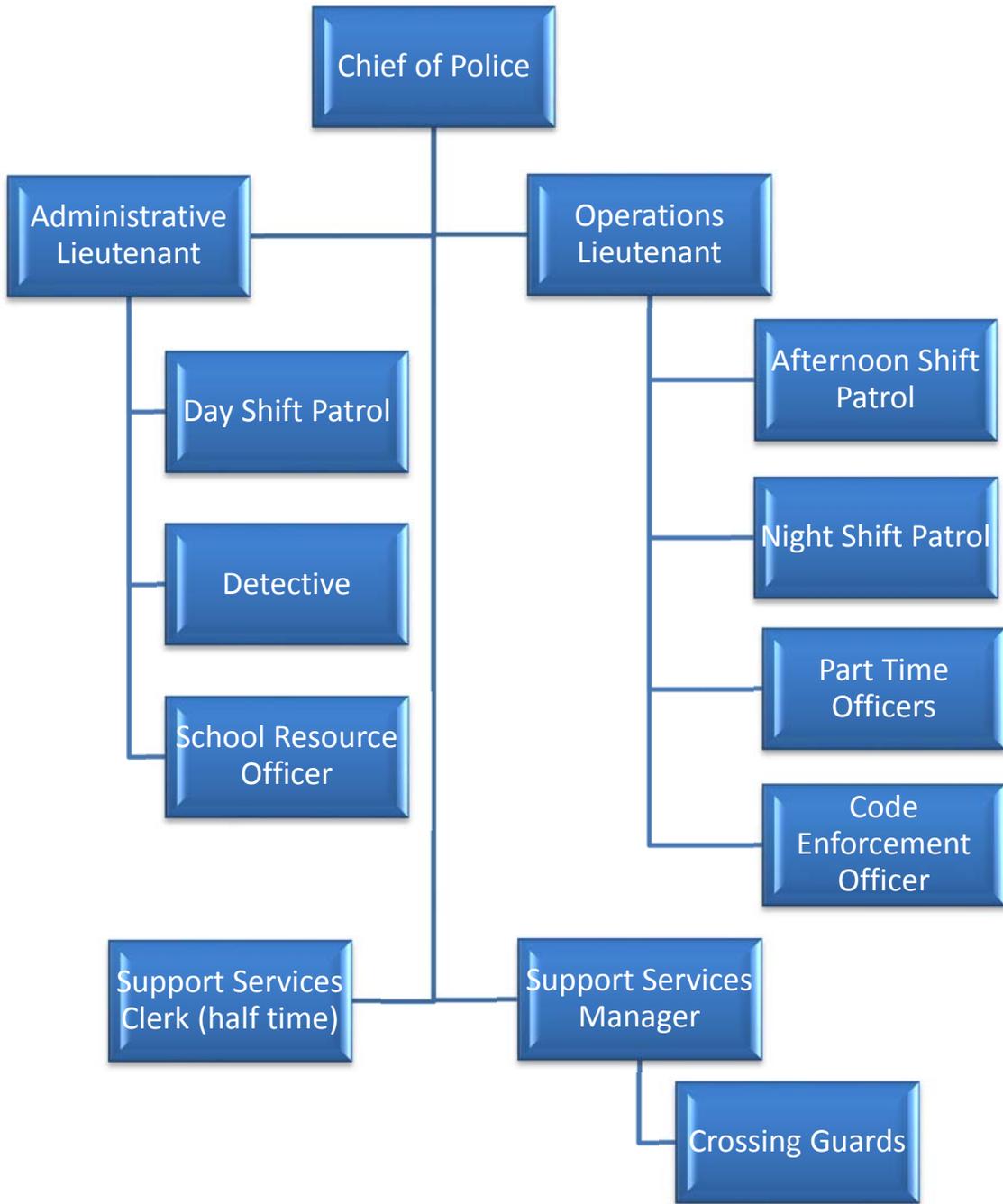
Support Services Manager Becky Sexe is generally responsible for the following:

- Coordinating records management at the police department
- Routing numerous documents to various agencies requiring them such as the district attorney’s office, health and human service departments and outside agency requests

- Coordinates and supervises the crossing guard program
- Coordinates equipment purchases and payroll
- Assisting in budget maintenance
- Typing of dictated officer reports
- Answering non-emergency telephone calls during business hours
- Processing walk in complaints
- Processing fine payments

Municipal Court Clerk Kris Klubertanz is generally responsible for the following:

- Typing of dictated officer reports
- Answering non-emergency telephone calls during business hours
- Processing walk in complaints
- Processing fine payments
- Records processing and management
- Direct liaison between the Milton Police Department and the Milton Municipal Court
- Managing Milton Municipal Court duties



## ACTIVITY REPORT

### **Total Calls for Service in 2015:**

According to data provided by Rock County's shared records management system, the Milton Police Department responded to a total of 15,260 documented calls for service in 2015. This is an increase of 4.3% over the 14,619 calls documented in 2014. These incidents include not only calls for service but officer self-initiated activity. The call volume for the police department represents an overall average of approximately 1272 calls for service a month, or an approximate average of 42 documented calls for service in a 24 hour day.

### **Major Case Investigations:**

Detective Ryan Justice is the full time investigator for the Milton Police Department. Detective Justice investigated 34 felony cases in 2015, compared to 35 felony cases in 2014. We had 40 felony cases investigated in 2013. The 2015 cases assigned to Detective Justice included a 1<sup>st</sup> Degree Intentional Homicide, 11 Burglaries, 2 Sexual Assaults, 7 Fraud/Forgeries, 7 Identity Thefts, 5 Child Physical Abuse/Neglect, 8 Sexual Assault to a Child, 1 Possession of Child Pornography, and 1 Causing Child to View Harmful Material. In addition to these cases assigned to a detective, many cases were investigated and solved by the officers that took the initial complaint. As a result, Detective Justice does not participate in every investigation. Our property crime clearance rate is 26% and the violent crime clearance rate is 76%. These clearance rates are well above state averages.

### **Domestic Abuse:**

In 2015, 62 Family Problems and 30 Domestic Disturbances were investigated by responding officers resulting in 24 arrests for domestic abuse. In 2014, 15 calls for service were documented as domestic abuse arrests, in 2013 there were 20 domestic abuse arrests. We investigated 40 incidents of harassment in 2014 compared to 41 in 2013. Some of these harassment cases were domestic related, others not. Pursuant to the State of Wisconsin mandatory arrest law, many of these domestic abuse incidents resulted in criminal arrests, which account for many of our criminal incident referrals to Rock County Circuit Court. In an effort to prevent future domestic violence incidents within our community, officers actively communicate regional resource availability, such as the YWCA of Rock County, to all victims of domestic violence. We also educate victims on the availability of obtaining temporary restraining orders.

### **Underage Drinking:**

A total of 17 underage alcohol citations were issued in 2015. Only 3 underage alcohol citations were issued in 2014 and 16 in 2013. In addition, we issued 1 citation for an adult knowingly permitting underage consumption of alcohol. We continue to actively enforce the underage drinking laws, encourage parents to monitor their children closely and counsel families when we can about reducing harm caused by underage drinking.

### **Traffic Enforcement:**

One of our primary objectives at the Milton Police Department is to keep our streets safe for pedestrian, bicycle and vehicular travel. This objective is accomplished through

proactive patrol and traffic enforcement. Here is a numeric breakdown of some of the work officers addressed as part of their traffic enforcement responsibilities in 2015:

Motor Vehicle Accidents (reportable).....	103 (88 in 2014, 120 in 2013)
Accident with Injury.....	7 (5 in 2014, 18 in 2013)
Hit and Run Accidents.....	54 (34 in 2014, 34 in 2013)
Traffic Complaints.....	109 (99 in 2014, 119 in 2013)
Traffic Stops.....	793 (1069 in 2014, 1567 in 2013)

The most 3 most frequently issued traffic citation citations in 2015 were for speeding (92), prohibited parking (194), and no insurance or no proof of insurance (154).

The most 3 most frequently issued types of non-traffic related ordinance citations in 2015 were for truancy (54), disorderly conduct (30) and underage drinking (17).

### **School Resource Officer Program:**

Officer Jim Martin, the Milton Police Department School Resource Officer (SRO), is assigned to the schools (primarily the high school) on a full time basis except during the summer. Officer Martin has been very effective at student outreach and education that has made the environment at the schools better by his presence. In the 2014-2015 school year he made 35 class presentations, attended 44 school events in uniform, attended 35 school staff meetings, and had 597 conferences with students. Conferences with students are an effective way to counsel students and redirect inappropriate behavior. Beyond preventive education and counseling, the Officer Martin has filed 99 incident reports, made 84 arrests, and wrote 52 traffic/parking tickets. The arrests were made for a variety of offenses including truancy, disorderly conduct, fighting, possession of a dangerous weapon, possession of drugs, theft, receiving stolen property, unlawful use of a computer, battery, harassment and tobacco possession.

### **Proactive Programming:**

***Improved Communication through Technology:*** The department continues expand its community outreach through the use of Facebook. The department has 2915 “friends” that follow our Facebook page. This is an increase of 627 followers from 2014. We have used Facebook to provide information to the community on a wide variety of topics, from emergency preparedness to crime alerts.

Links to officer e-mail accounts are available via the City of Milton’s website so that citizens may contact officers via e-mail to receive updates on cases or reports. Citizens can also submit a crime tip to the Janesville Area Crime Stoppers (of which Milton is a part of) on our website. We also host an internet based “Bully Alert” reporting system and work collaboratively with the Milton School District on following up with reports of bullying within our community. We are fortunate to have a strong relationship with our community’s newspaper, the

Milton Courier, which helps us communicate trends or noted areas of public safety concern.

**Crime Prevention:** The Milton Police Department doesn't only focus on taking crime reports, but includes crime prevention as part of its mission. The department is committed to the development and fostering of community based crime prevention efforts. Specific crime prevention efforts include: Operation I.D., Crime Stoppers, National Night Out, Lunch with a Cop at Northside Intermediate School, and numerous safety and education presentations on a wide variety of topics.

### **Employee Training:**

All of our officers received and qualified in state regulated and mandated firearms training which is held quarterly. All officers also received specialized training of their choosing so that they could enhance their skills as officers. This training included how to properly approach vehicles, interviewing, drug trends, implicit bias and gang training. All officers also attended active shooter training to give us practical experience in dealing with that type of scenario should it occur at a school or public venue in the City of Milton.

### **Department Awards:**

Officer Ryan Schneider was selected as Officer of the Year for 2015. Officer Schneider played an integral role in organizing and modernizing the department's evidence storage and processes, going above and beyond all expectations with his improvements.

### **Accountability to Our Citizens:**

**Internal Affairs Investigations:** The Milton Police Department had no internal affairs investigations in 2015.

**Use of Force:** The Milton Police Department had sixteen documented use of force incidents in 2015 involving nine juveniles and seven adults. This is notable as it is a 320% increase from the five documented incidents in 2014.

Thirteen of the sixteen incidents involved subjects that were being arrested and refused to comply with officers. In each of these thirteen incidents, officers attempted to get verbal compliance, which was unsuccessful. Officers then tried to gain physical control of the subjects by applying escort holds, which still did not result in compliance. Officers then transitioned to a decentralization technique. Decentralization of a subject involves physically moving the subject to the ground where they are under control and handcuffed. This tactic was successful in twelve of these thirteen incidents. One incident continued to escalate. In that incident, at the conclusion of a foot pursuit, the defendant continued to resist while on the ground. The officer delivered a knee strike to the

abdomen and the officer deployed his electronic control device (Taser) to gain compliance. The suspect then complied and was handcuffed.

The other three use of force incidents did not result in an arrest. Two out of these three incidents resulted in the officer using only a compliance hold to establish control of the subject. One incident resulted in the officers using a decentralization technique to secure a subject who was in imminent risk of hurting themselves and was resisting the officer.

All sixteen subjects were unhurt during the use of force incidents. The most serious use of force was the Taser deployment described above. That suspect was asked if he sustained any injuries both at the scene and at the jail. Both times he reported that he was not injured.

All use of force incidents were reviewed by a Lieutenant and then the Chief of Police to make sure that they were in compliance with proper techniques, department policy, and state and federal laws. All sixteen incidents were in compliance with accepted techniques and no injuries were sustained by the subjects being arrested or the officers involved.

**Budget:**

The Milton Police Department budget was \$1,058,147 in 2015. The department expenditures were \$10,091, or 0.95%, less than the budgeted amount with the remaining balance returned to the general fund. The department budget is used primarily for personnel expenses with 91.6% of the budget devoted to payroll and benefits for our employees. The remaining dollars are used to purchase supplies, services, vehicle maintenance, fuel and training.

If you have any questions about the content of this annual report, please contact Scott Marquardt, Chief of Police.