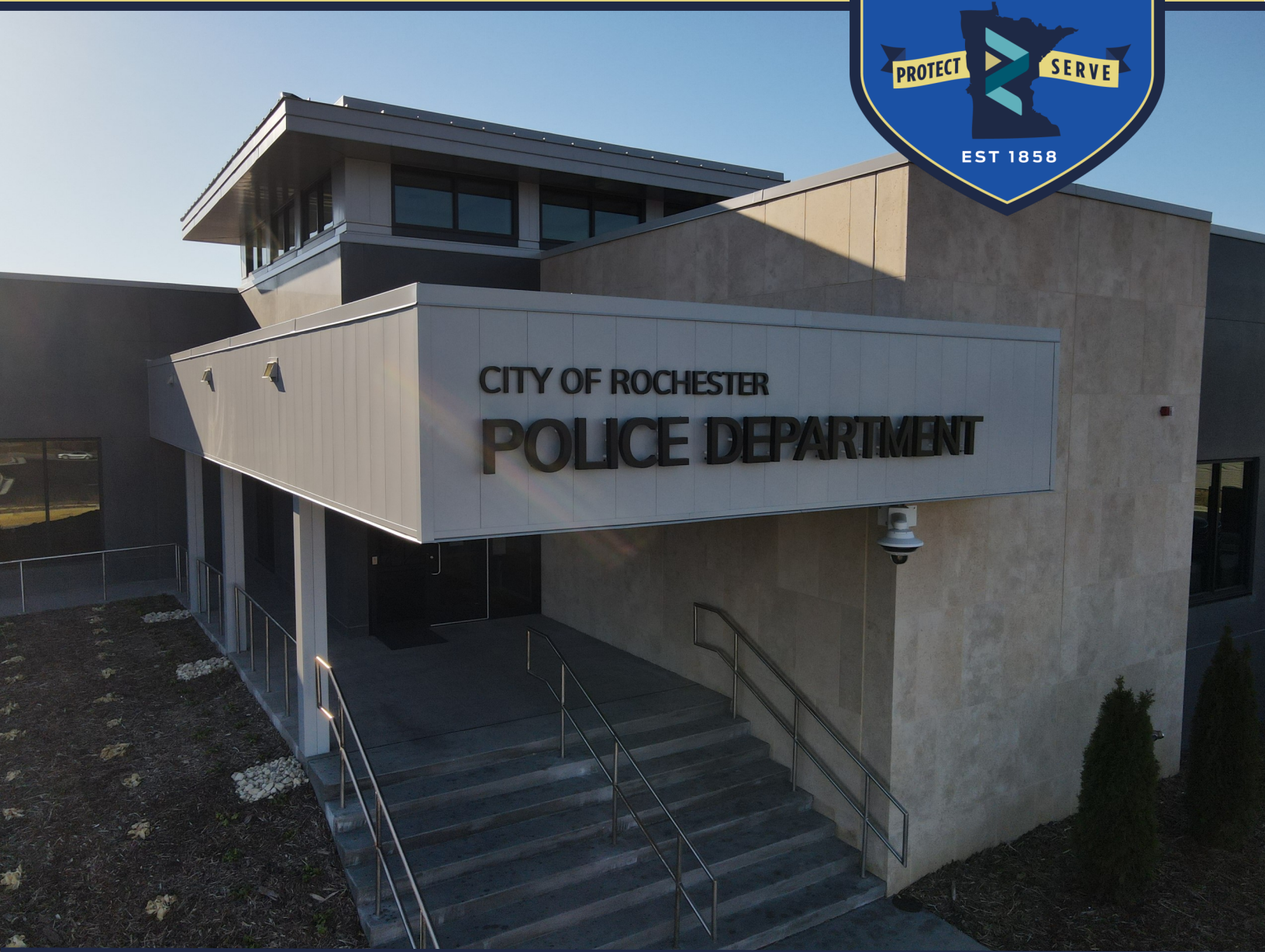


ROCHESTER POLICE DEPARTMENT

2021 Annual Report



"Every contact counts."



MISSION

To provide exceptional service and superior protection by reducing crime and enhancing the quality of life of the first class community we serve.

VISION

We, the Rochester Police Department, are dedicated to becoming the **premier law enforcement** agency in Minnesota, one that is **reflective of and responsive to the community** that we serve.

Service • Respect • Compassion • Integrity • Innovation



FROM THE CHIEF

Jim Franklin

Jim Franklin, Chief of Police

On behalf of the City of Rochester, I am pleased to present the Rochester Police Department's 2021 Annual Report.

Law enforcement faced many challenges throughout 2021 – a year that started and ended during a pandemic and where police continued to receive the national spotlight following several difficult events.

We once again had to alter many of our community engagement efforts and annual activities, and although uncertainty and division surrounded us, we admirably met every challenge presented and experienced many accomplishments as we demonstrated resiliency and innovation.

In the past year, our officers maintained the delivery of exceptional police services for the citizens of Rochester, responding to over 56,000 calls for service, always striving to demonstrate our core values of service, respect, compassion, integrity and innovation. We embraced our commitment to collaborative policing, exemplified by our partnerships and relationships with our community outreach specialists and the Community Engagement Response Team (C.E.R.T.).

Events continued to challenge the police profession, affecting recruiting, hiring and training. Despite these hurdles, the Department trained, mentored and certified 17 new officers who join us as we proudly wear the badge and serve this community.

Those are just some of the highlights provided in the pages ahead.

On behalf of the 200+ members of the Rochester Police Department, thank you for your continued support. We look forward to serving you in the coming year.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Franklin".

Jim Franklin
Chief of Police
Rochester Police Department



DEPARTMENT OVERVIEW

Rochester Police Department is comprised of four divisions working together to deliver the highest level of public safety to our community.

1 Chief
4 Captains
9 Lieutenants
25 Sergeants
108 Sworn Officers (approx.)
75 Support Staff (approx.)

PATROL

Patrol provides 24/7 support throughout Rochester and are the officers who respond to calls for everything from a hit and run to shots fired to a person in crisis.

Over the course of the year, officers responded to 56,376 calls for service, made 1,506 custodial arrests and conducted 5,327 traffic stops.

They went to help on 1,564 person in crisis calls — calls often involving individuals experiencing a mental health emergency.

Officers responded to 93 drug overdoses and administered Narcan, a life-saving medication that can temporarily stop or reverse the effects of drug overdose, 49 times.

Rochester Police and Fire used defibrillators to save eight people experiencing sudden cardiac arrest in 2021.

INVESTIGATIONS

Investigations follows up with and provides detailed examinations of crimes referred by Patrol. Investigators work closely with victims and prosecutors to bring criminals to justice. Units such as the Criminal Interdiction Unit and Technology Forensic Unit provide specialized investigative expertise.

In 2021, Investigations was assigned 1,593 cases plus an additional 804 in-custody cases. (In-custody cases are when the suspect has been arrested, usually by a Patrol officer, and the case needs to be prepared for the prosecutor right away.)

The Technology Forensic Unit assisted with more than 129 investigations, which included 291 device examinations.

Investigators reviewed 660 Adult Protection cases and 1,128 Child Protection cases — up significantly from 2020.

Overall, the cases led to 271 citations and 852 signed criminal complaints.

SERVICES

Services makes sure the Department has the tools necessary to function optimally. Dispatch, Records/Evidence, Training and Fleet Maintenance are within Services.

Throughout the year, Dispatch received 137,914 non-emergency calls and 53,130 911 calls. 95% of those 911 calls were answered in ten seconds or less.

Records processed approximately 515 requests for data each month, and Evidence received approximately 745 pieces of evidence each month.

In 2021, the Department replaced eight squad cars that had an average of 141,000 miles on them.

COMMUNITY SERVICES

Community Services fosters relationships in the community to solve problems and reduce crime. Several units comprise Community Services: Community Action Team (CAT), Community Service Officers, School Resource Officers, Hospital Resource Officers and Intel/Crime Analysis.

CAT alone dedicated approximately 11,000 hours to crime prevention and community engagement efforts. The team participated in approximately 75 outreach initiatives and coordinated Safe City Nights, a series of events focused on public safety. An estimated 3,350 people attended Safe City Nights in 2021.



CRIME COUNTS

PERSON CRIMES

	2019	2020	2021
MURDER AND NON-NEGLIGENT MANSLAUGHTER	2	5	2
NEGLIGENT MANSLAUGHTER	2	2	1
AGGRAVATED ASSAULT	193	188	253
SIMPLE ASSAULT	562	619	637
INTIMIDATION	107	125	161
ROBBERY	45	51	48
KIDNAPPING	21	25	17
CRIMINAL SEXUAL CONDUCT	153	155	191
HUMAN TRAFICKING COMMERCIAL SEX ACTS	0	3	7

PROPERTY AND SOCIETY CRIMES

	2019	2020	2021
ARSON	3	7	9
BURGLARY, BREAKING & ENTERING	289	288	315
SHOPLIFTING	865	664	584
THEFT FROM MOTOR VEHICLE	325	453	506
THEFT OF MOTOR VEHICLE PARTS	43	91	198
ALL OTHER THEFT	697	700	705
STOLEN VEHICLE	138	170	167
FRAUD/EMBEZZLEMENT	670	776	755
STOLEN PROPERTY	55	53	44
VANDALISM	646	736	755
DRUGS/NARCOTICS	401	351	307
DRUG PARAPHERNALIA	216	197	202
OBSCENITY/PROSTITUTION	49	44	28
WEAPON LAW VIOLATIONS	79	88	105
ANIMAL CRUELTY	8	5	7
DRIVING UNDER THE INFLUENCE	193	263	242
ALL OTHER OFFENSES	1,386	1,157	1,254

SEIZURES

by the Criminal Interdiction Unit (CIU)

11

firearms

10,258.45

grams of methamphetamine

177.15

grams of cocaine

94.81

grams of heroin

6.9

grams of crack

3,000+

prescription pills

*the majority of which were counterfeit oxycodone pills
laced with fentanyl*

The Rochester Police Department continues to address drug addiction with a focus on removing drugs and firearms from our streets as well educating those suffering from addiction about diversion and treatment options.

In 2021, community outreach specialists responded to approximately 75 overdose cases. From those cases, they convinced three people to get help from the Police Assisted Recovery program (PAR), which uses narcotics seizure money to fund treatment.

Rochester Police Department executed approximately 53 residential-type search warrants. We did apply for one no-knock warrant. However, it was not executed as a no-knock warrant.

Technology Forensics

Rochester Police Department's Technology Forensics Unit assisted in 129 investigations in 2021.

They received 21 cyber tips from the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children and worked on 22 cases with the Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC). ICAC is a national network of coordinated task forces dedicated to investigating, prosecuting and developing effective responses to internet crimes against children.

HUMAN TRAFFICKING

Work Group

The Human Trafficking Work Group was formed in 2021 to create awareness, develop better practices and increase victim-centered approaches toward human trafficking. The work group involves many local stakeholders and has ongoing meetings. During its first year, the group placed an emphasis on enforcement at massage parlors.

Sexual Assault Kit Initiative

In 2021, the Department began working with the Bureau of Criminal Apprehension (BCA) on the Sexual Assault Kit Initiative (SAKI). The project involved sending all of our untested sexual assault kits from a 2015 statewide inventory to the BCA laboratory to be tested for DNA. Of the kits that were tested, 12 of them produced evidence that initiated case reviews with the prosecutor and Victim Services to determine next steps. The Olmsted County Attorney's Office is currently reviewing those 12 cases.

K9 TEAMS

Rochester Police Department's K9 Unit includes six highly trained handler-dog teams — four dual purpose narcotic/patrol and two single purpose explosive detection.

In 2021, the canines were deployed 160 times.



Officer Brian Roussell and K9 Sarge pictured at the American Kennel Club/United States Police Canine Association K9 Detection Dog Challenge, featuring 20 of the nation's top explosives and narcotics detection dog teams.



Members of the department participated in scenario-based crisis intervention training with actors (above).

Captain Aaron Penning graduated from the Senior Management Institute for Police (SMIP), an intensive leadership course (right).



Six sergeants and lieutenants graduated from the Command & Staff Leadership Program (below).



TRAINING

Committed to continuous improvement, Rochester Police Department ensures officers receive extensive ongoing training. In addition to meeting all education requirements by the Minnesota Peace Officer Standard and Training (POST) board, officers receive training in fair and impartial policing, cultural awareness, less lethal options, emergency response and much more.

All new recruits participate in a ten-week, in-house training academy. The Department held three training academies throughout the year.

We estimate staff received roughly 10,000 hours of training in 2021.

RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION



Pictured are some of the 15 sworn officers hired in 2021. The Department also welcomed four new community service officers. Nearly half of the new hires are women and people of color.



For several years, law enforcement agencies across the country have been facing what some are calling a workforce crisis.

A survey by the Police Executive Research Foundation* revealed that a growing number of officers are reaching retirement, more officers are leaving the profession and switching careers and fewer people are entering the field altogether. The challenges of COVID-19 combined with increasing negative perceptions of police has only exacerbated the workforce crisis.

Rochester Police Department has seen a significant decrease in police officer applicants the last five years. In 2021, the Department received 106 applications compared to 285 in 2016.

Still, Rochester continues to successfully recruit top talent while maintaining the highest standards. The Department interviews every applicant and uses character- and integrity-based interview questions.

Our Community Service Officer Program gives potential candidates an opportunity to gain law enforcement experience before becoming a sworn officer. In 2021, Rochester Police Department transitioned two community service officers to sworn officer positions.

In an effort to create a deeper pipeline of diverse, quality candidates, the Department is working to rebuild its Police Explorer Program (for people 15-20 years old) and its Cadet Program (for law enforcement students).

* Police Executive Research Foundation. (2019) The Workforce Crisis, and What Police Agencies Are Doing About It.

<https://www.policeforum.org/assets/WorkforceCrisis.pdf>

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

As law enforcement, we often meet people in times of trouble or need, but we are here to serve you during the good times too. You will find Rochester Police Department active in the community, creating as many positive contacts as possible.

For example, each summer the Community Action Team (CAT) coordinates Safe City Nights, a series of events intended to give community members and police officers an opportunity to interact in a casual, fun setting. An estimated 3,550 attended Safe City Nights in 2021.



"I think it's a wonderful program that should continue. It is a great way to have the community connect with safety officials and for safety officials to connect with residents they may or may never otherwise interact with."



"I simply appreciated the availability of RPD officers to talk about the work they do and seeing the range of equipment they use to do their work."



"It's a great event! Great way to join and share a meal with the community! Thx."





Memorable Community Engagement Events

RPD Torch Run for Special Olympics Minnesota, K9 demonstration, Back to School Rally, Cops and Kids Community Bike Program event, officers distributing free holiday hams (clockwise from top left)



Memorable Community Engagement Events

Catalytic converter spray painting event, Hispanic Heritage Festival, Thursdays Downtown, Transportation Fair, Shop with a Cop (clockwise from top left)



Memorable Community Engagement Events
National Night Out, K9 Meet and Greet (clockwise from top left)



**THEN
&
NOW**



Rochester Police Department transitioned to a new patch, badge and logo in 2021. The entire City of Rochester underwent a rebranding in late 2020, and the Department updated its materials to align with the City's new look.