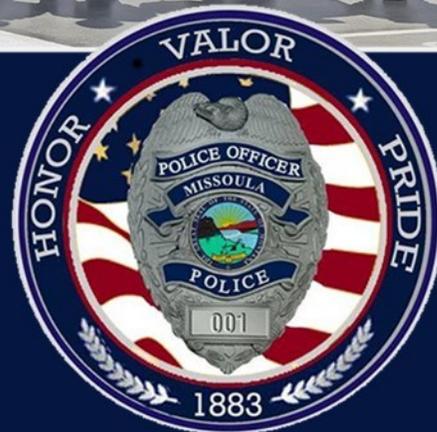


ANNUAL REPORT 2021



Missoula Police Department

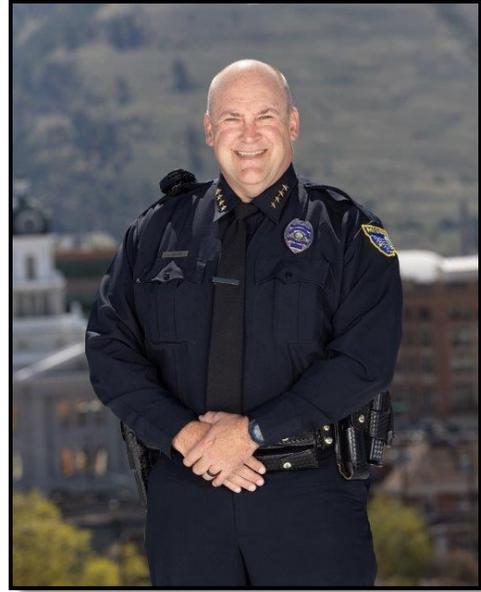
Missoula • Montana



Message from the Chief

On behalf of the members of the Missoula Police Department, I am proud to present you with the 2021 Annual Report of the Missoula Police Department. Missoula Police Officers are proud to be a part of our community and are dedicated to serving you.

The Missoula Police Department is committed to providing a safe community in which to live, work, recreate and visit. As you read this report, please keep in mind that it represents the dedication and service of the professionals that make up the Department. We are here to serve you with Honor, Valor and Pride.

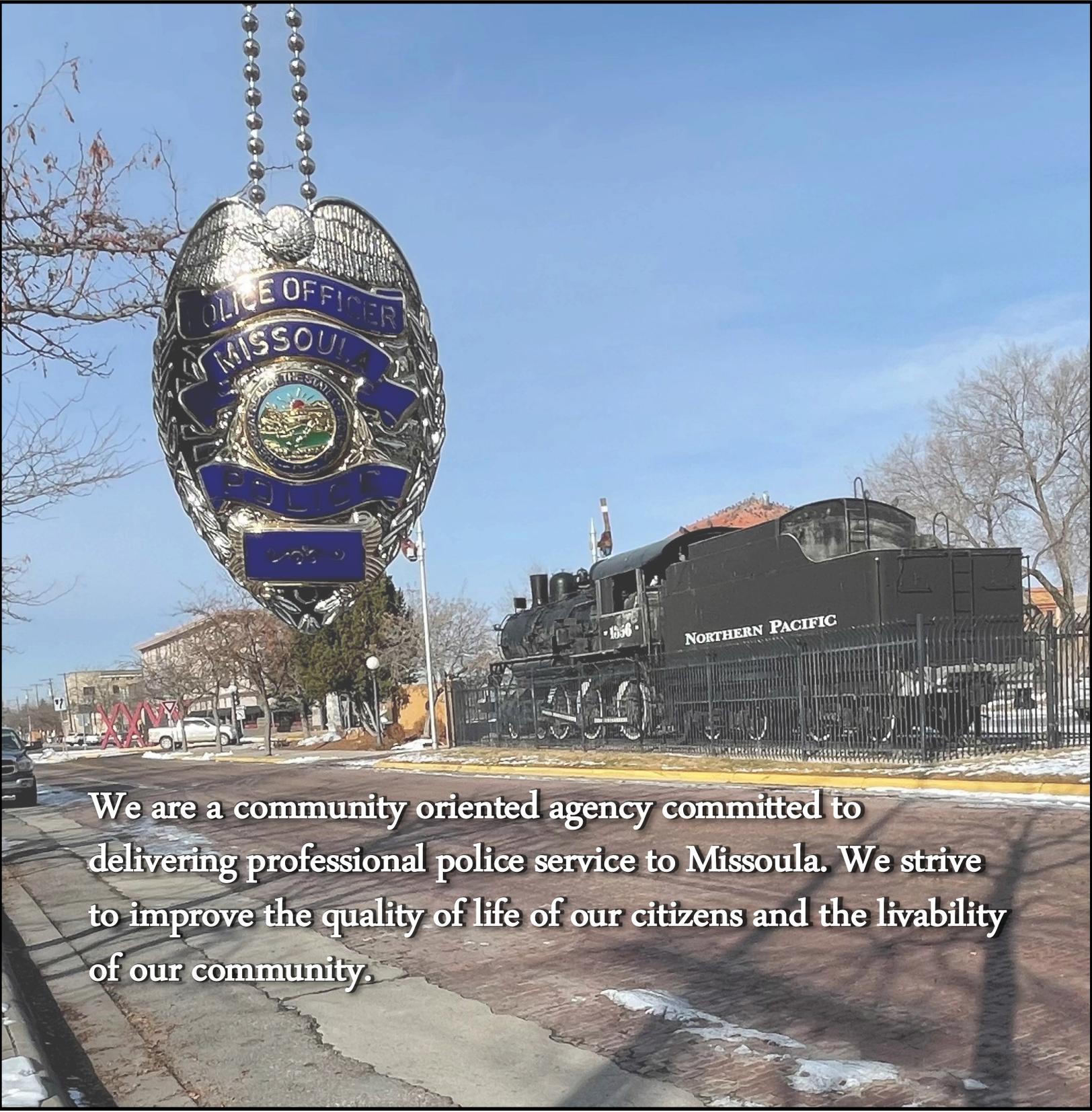


This past year continued to provide challenges to public safety as Missoula and the rest of the country emerge from the COVID-19 Pandemic. Of concern was the rise in violent crime reported to the Missoula Police Department. Specifically, the number of reported aggravated assaults have doubled from 221 in 2019 to 442 in 2021, and the number of reported robberies has increased 43% from 28 in 2019 to 40 in 2021. Homicides decreased 57% from 7 in 2020 to 3 in 2021. In looking at the potential reasons for the increase of these crimes, the two driving forces are illicit drugs and domestic violence. The Missoula Police Department has developed an action plan to address these issues in our 2022-2025 Strategic Plan.

I welcome you to visit our website at www.ci.missoula.mt.us/police to find more information about the Department, our strategic plan, programs and policies. I also urge you to follow us on our social media accounts for up-to-date information about the Missoula Police Department.

Jaeson D. White
Chief of Police

Mission Statement

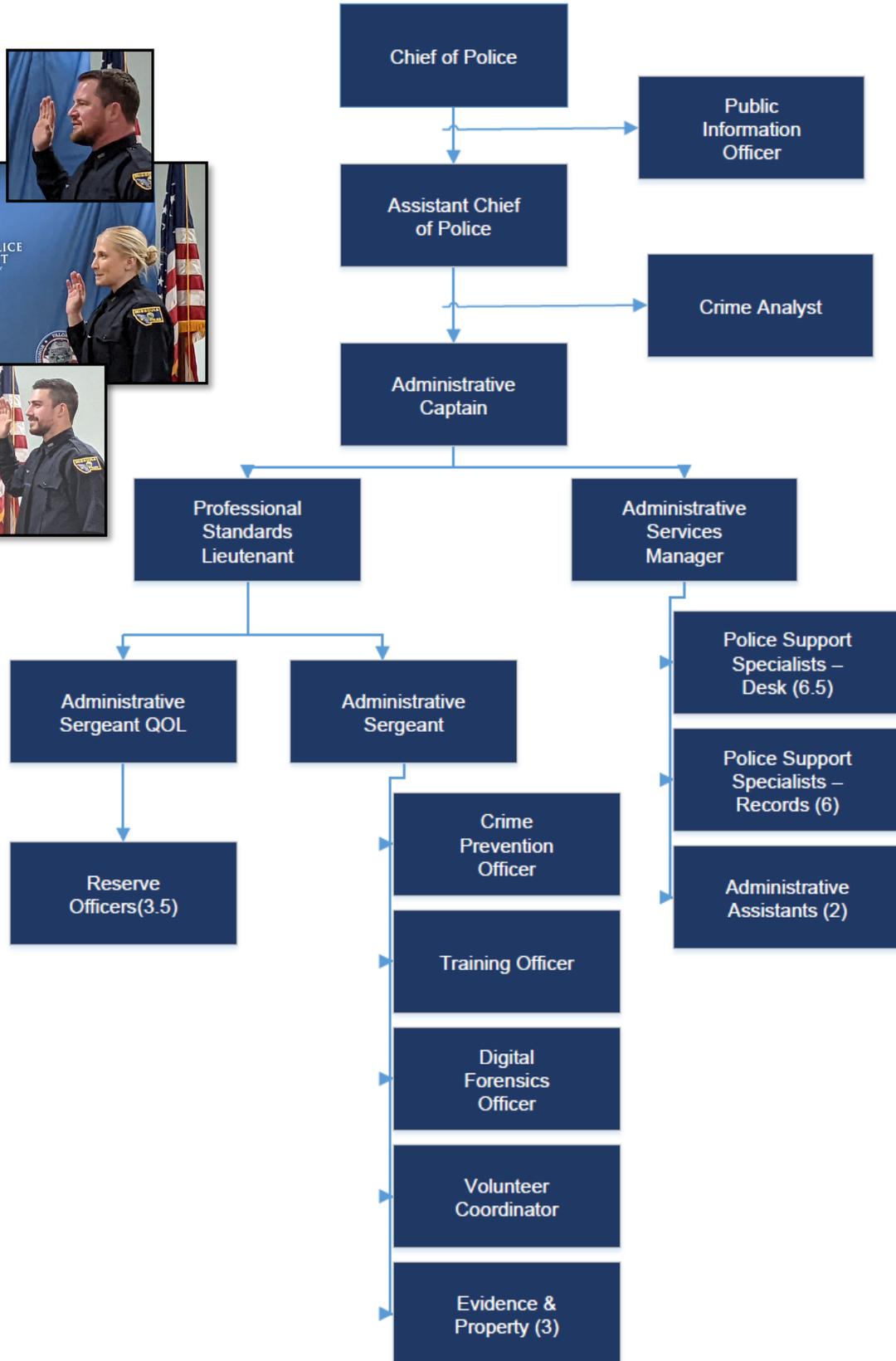
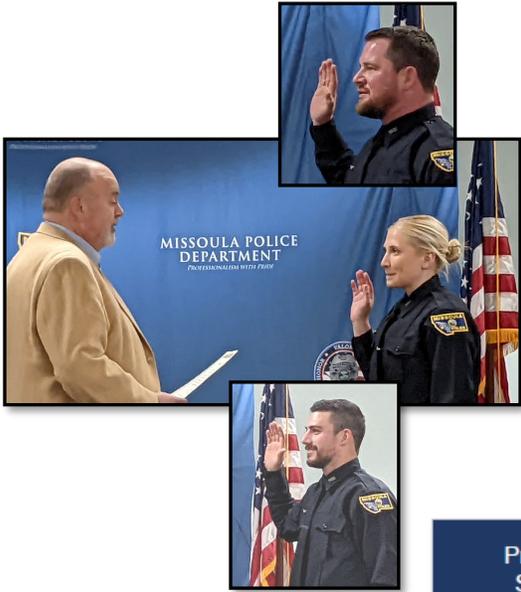


We are a community oriented agency committed to delivering professional police service to Missoula. We strive to improve the quality of life of our citizens and the livability of our community.



ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISION

Police Department – Administrative Division





ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISION

Office of Professional Standards

The Office of Professional Standards (OPS) is responsible for processing all complaints and investigations regarding the conduct of MPD employees. All complaints received by the MPD are taken seriously, and are investigated thoroughly in an effort to uphold and maintain the integrity of the MPD and its employees.

Use of Force Summary

In 2021, the Missoula Police Department reported 211 incidents where at least one use of force (UOF) action was used against a subject, resulting in 571 total UOF actions. There can be multiple UOF actions in a single incident by one or multiple officers. In 2021, the MPD received 52,666 calls for service and of that, 0.4% resulted in at least one UOF action.

- "Personal Weapons" means officers utilized physical hand/foot actions and control techniques against the subject.
- Force options MPD added in 2021: Peacekeeper Baton, CS Gel Spray, and The Wrap Restraint Device.



Snapshot > Use of Force Summary

- 211 Use of Force Incidents
- 14 Different Types of Officer Actions Taken
- 80 Different Officers Involved
- 571 Total Officer Actions from all 211 Incidents



Use of Force Incidents

Officer's Action/Response	Number	Percentage of Total Incidents
Department Vehicle	3	0.50%
Firearm Pointed	166	29.0%
Firearm Fired	2	0.30%
K-9 Deployed	1	0.20%
Peacekeeper Baton	1	0.20%
Pointed Less Lethal Impact Weapon	3	0.50%
Less Lethal Impact Munitions Deployed	4	0.70%
O/C Deployed	1	0.20%
CS Gel Deployed	2	0.30%
Taser Pointed	35	6.10%
Taser Deployed	32	6.00%
Personal Weapons	263	46.0%
The Wrap Restraint Device	45	8.00%
Hobble Restraint	13	2.00%
Total Actions Taken	571	100.00%



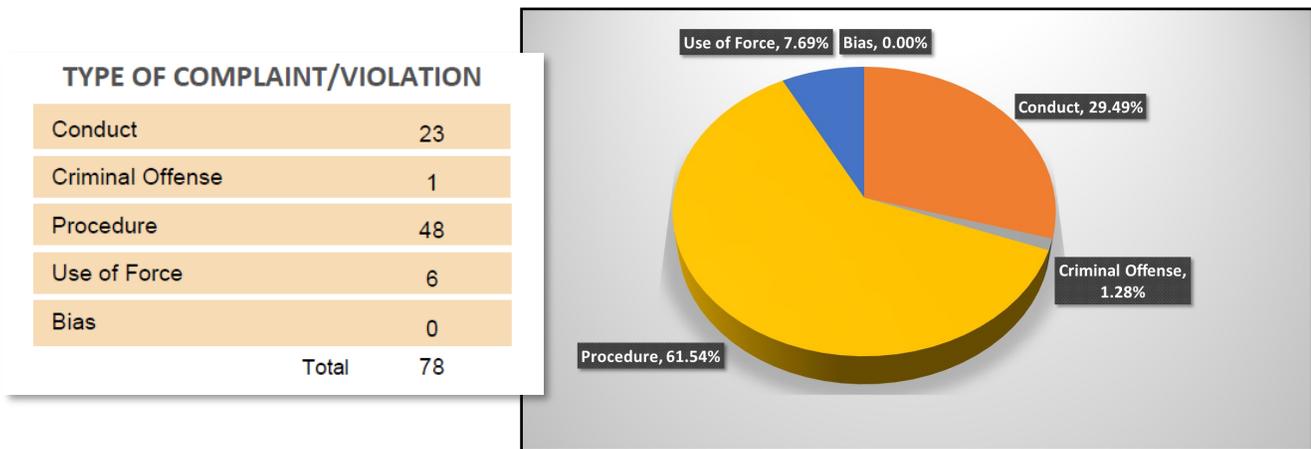
ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISION

Office of Professional Standards

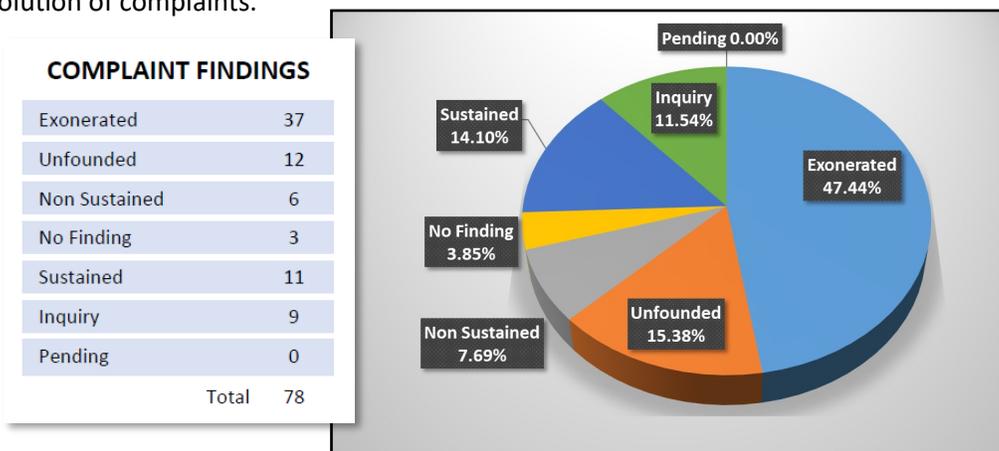
Citizen Complaints Summary

During 2021, MPD received 78 citizen complaint allegations, stemming from 40 incidents. Each incident may list a number of allegations within, denoting a higher number of findings compared to the number of complaints filed. During the course of a complaint investigation, Professional Standards (supervisors) may also identify additional violations by the employee(s), unbeknownst to the complainant which are then added to the final findings report.

***These numbers do not include violations and findings from internally generated Investigations.



The City of Missoula Police Commission holds quarterly meetings to review complaints brought against Missoula Police Department employees and reports its findings to the Mayor. On behalf of the Mayor, the Missoula Police Commission holds hearings at the request of complainants who are not satisfied with the Missoula Police Department's resolution of complaints.



Findings:

Exonerated	The acts that formed the basis for the complaint or allegation did occur, but were justified, lawful, and proper according to departmental policy or standard operating procedures.
Unfounded	The investigation conclusively proved that the act or act complained of did not occur.
Non Sustained	The investigation failed to discover sufficient evidence to clearly prove or disprove the allegations made.
No Finding	The investigation cannot proceed because the complainant failed to disclose promised information to further the investigation; or the complainant wishes to withdraw the complaint; or the complainant is no longer available for clarification. This finding may also be used when the information provided is not sufficient to determine the identity of the officer(s) or employee(s) involved.
Sustained	The investigation disclosed a preponderance of evidence to prove the allegation(s) made.
Inquiry	If during the investigation it is determined that a citizen is merely requesting clarification of a policy or procedure, that complaint, with the concurrence of the investigating supervisor's commanding officer, may be considered an inquiry.



ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISION

Training Unit

The Missoula Police Department Training Unit coordinates and instructs many different types of training for full-time sworn officers, reserve officers and support staff in the department. We strive to provide professional development to all staff to ensure continued learning and growth with classes that are relevant to their job.

The Missoula Police Department Training Unit brought a total of 27,543 hours of training to its officers in 2021. This training includes time spent at the Montana Law Enforcement Academy, our own Advanced Academy, mandatory bi-monthly trainings, recommended and discretionary training.

27,543 Hours
Devoted to
Officer Training

Highlights of 2021 Trainings Received By MPD

- Instructor Development
- Crisis Intervention Training (CIT)
- Implicit Bias
- O.O.D.A (Observe, Orient, Decision, Action) Loop Officer Survival
- FETI (Forensic Experiential Trauma Interview) Interviewing
- Fundamentals of Body Language and De-escalation Techniques
- FBI LEEDA Supervisory, Executive and Command Leadership
- Missoula Police Department Advanced Academy
- Street Crimes Seminar
- Officer Wellness
- CPR, Narcan, First Aid
- Crime Scene Reconstruction
- Field Training Officer Basic

We currently have
70
Crisis Intervention Trained (CIT)
employees.





ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISION

Crime Prevention

The Crime Prevention Officer (CPO) is responsible for numerous duties within the department and community. Some of these duties for the CPO are being a board member for numerous groups within the community like Crimestoppers and Neighborhood Watch, and provide various trainings for the Missoula Police Department as well as local businesses. Two of the most popular trainings provided to the community by our crime prevention officer are CRASE (Civilian Response to Active Shooter Events) and Navigating Crisis in the Workplace.

MPD's Crime Prevention Officer works with a number of groups on a frequent basis. These groups include:

- Poverello Center
- Crisis Intervention Team - CIT
- Crimestoppers
- Missoula Neighborhood Watch
- Emergency Winter Shelter (*Johnson Street, Clark Fork Lane, Buckhouse, and Reserve Street*)
- Loss Prevention Offices throughout the city
- HOT (*Homeless Outreach Team*)

Over **100 HOURS** of

• Training • Tours • Outreach

were conducted by the
Crime Prevention Officer in 2021



ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISION

Property / Evidence Unit

The MPD Evidence Unit is responsible for the preservation, storage, and release of all items of evidence collected by Officers, Crash Investigators and the Crime Scene Technician. The unit has three full-time employees, which consist of a Crime Scene Technician, Digital Evidence Technician and Evidence Technician.

The primary duties of the Crime Scene Technician are to identify, collect, inventory, and preserve physical evidence from major crime scenes such as armed robberies, sexual assaults, homicides and fatal crashes that occur within the Missoula City Limits.

The Digital Evidence Technician is responsible for the preservation, dissemination and oversight of all surveillance, police department produced videos, and digital evidence.

The duties include: the processing of digital evidence requests, from FBI, ATF, DEA and DOJ, manage the digital evidence submission cloud, backing up transcription audio recordings, process interview rooms for transcriptions and process city and county digital evidence discovery requests.

The Evidence Technician catalogs, documents, and stores evidence related to a variety of crimes, along with providing for the disposition of items in accordance with state law when no longer needed.



Presently, the MPD has approximately **81,300** items stored in our evidence facility. Items that could be, were disposed as follows:

Property Disposal in 2021

918	Returned to Owner
813	Destroyed
377	Other Agency
80	Auction
77	Donated
10	Finance
3	Agency Use



WatchGuard Video Systems Installed

The Missoula Police Department has installed Watch Guard video systems into all of our marked patrol vehicles, interview rooms and DUI rooms. This system is capable of syncing with uniformed officers body-worn camera systems, allowing for a seamless transition between in-car and body-worn videos.

New Video Analysis Software Acquired

The Department purchased video analysis software. The software will play nearly any raw digital video format, and the video can then be exported to a playable format. The software allows the user to select areas and enlarge the image during playback. The software can also merge different video clips from an incident into a single video for a timeline presentation.

Evidence Unit Facts

2,312	City discovery-requests
715	County discovery-requests
688	Property items submitted via USB or PD Cloud
4,285	Cases Digitally Archived

A discovery-request is a legal document filed in connection with litigation, which describes documents, materials, or information which the opposing party is requested to produce.



ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISION

Digital Forensics Unit

The Digital Forensic Officer extracts and compiles data from digital devices and maps, analyzes cellular data to identify locations and apprehend suspects in major crimes, and offers technical support and search warrant expertise to the Patrol and Detective Divisions.



2021 marked the first full year of the Digital Forensic Officer position and evidence was extracted from 115 electronic devices in 55 separate investigations. This position offers support for not only the Missoula Police Department, but also the Federal Bureau of Investigations, Department of Homeland Security, State Department of Criminal Investigations, as well as statewide drug task forces, probation and parole, and other Montana city and county law enforcement agencies.

The ability to obtain and use digital data in law enforcement investigations is quickly becoming standard practice and one of the most important resources for investigating crimes ranging from theft, stalking, drugs, partner assaults, child sexual abuse material, homicides, as well as locating missing people.





ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISION

Special Projects

The Special Projects Sergeant is responsible for the general oversight of the police department's equipment and supply function, to include: issuing equipment and other supplies to department personnel, identifying, and evaluating "police specific" equipment, making equipment and supply purchases, and maintaining inventory records.

What's New in 2021

Examining Current Policies vs Nationwide Standards and Best Practices

Special Projects, in conjunction with LEXIPOL, began the process of revising our current policy manual. Policies create the foundation for public safety operations and MPD's goal is to ensure that our policies are based on nationwide standards and best practices while also incorporating state and federal laws and regulations.

Portable Radio Equipment Acquisition

Our communication system was upgraded, which included the allocation of new Motorola APX 8000 radios. Special Projects played a vital role in the programming and issuing of nearly 130 portable radios to MPD's Officers, Crash Investigators, Community Service Specialists and Reserve Officers.

Reserve Officer Program Takes Off

The Missoula Police Department started its first Reserve Officer program in 2021. All Reserves are required to complete a five-week Advanced Academy to ensure that they meet all Public Safety Officer Standards and Training (POST) requirements. Reserve Officer responsibilities include security of courtrooms during appearances, trials and other hearings, transport of persons to and from the Missoula County Detention Facility as ordered by a Judge; taking custody of subjects arrested by regular sworn officers on appearance warrants; the escort and supervision of seated juries in trials and the fingerprinting and photographing of persons to be released on their own recognizance, as ordered by a judge.

Virtual Reality Scenario Training Offers Practice in De-escalation Techniques

The department was provided funding to expand their electronic control weapons program as well as obtaining virtual reality scenarios for training in critical incidents. The department now has provided non-lethal weapons for all sworn personnel. The virtual reality training has been implemented and officers are able to utilize this training for gaining additional skills in de-escalation and other relevant scenarios.

COVID Grant Provides for Decontamination

A federal COVID grant has provided the department with multiple ultraviolet units for department personnel to utilize in disinfecting items in the field as well as items turned into the department. These units can quickly decontaminate personal protective equipment, found property, and other items.





ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISION

Records Unit

The Records Unit is responsible for processing and maintaining information generated by the members of the Missoula Police Department. The Records Unit consists of six records specialists. Records personnel conduct a variety of tasks and duties and play a vital role in daily operation of the MPD.

What our records personnel do . . .

- Validate reports
- Submit cases to MBCC and the FBI
- Manage cases and report management
- Court discovery
- Complete records checks
- Seal and expunge records
- Disseminate reports

One of the most important roles of the Records Unit is report validation. The Records Unit reviews, verifies, and submits crime statistics to the Montana Board of Crime Control (MBCC) on a monthly basis. In 2021, the Records Unit reviewed 9,111 reports and submitted 5,875 criminal cases which met the MBCC and FBI requirements for crime data reporting. This information provides a unique look at crime in Montana and, more specifically, crime in Missoula. In addition, this data is an important tool for the MPD when it comes to deploying of resources, applying for grants and provides a better understanding of the criminal activity impacting the citizens of Missoula.



Out of the 5,875 criminal cases submitted, MPD Records Specialists had one error and were referred to by the Montana Board of Crime Control as, "a well-oiled machine."

Reports Disseminated

	2019	2020	2021
Crash Reports	1188	1007	1241
Case Reports	3048	3455	2704

Volume of Incidents, Cases and Accidents

	2019	2020	2021
Incidents	60427	55136	52666
Cases - All	10315	9693	9111
Cases - Criminal	6942	6370	5875
Accidents	2196	1482	1819

SOURCE: LERMS, MBCC



ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISION

Communications Center



The Missoula Police Department's Communication Center, most often referred to as "The Desk," is made up of Police Support Specialists who are a critical part of our team. "The Desk" is the hub of our department and the City of Missoula's many departments. The role they perform is vital for the safety of our officers and the citizens of Missoula. They work together to provide support to our officers, support staff and other City departments – 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year.

Their main objective is being the first face seen or voice heard for our department and providing professional and courteous customer service to those members of our community requesting assistance. In addition, they take non-emergency police reports on the phone, in person or online. In 2021, they took over 2,900 reports and almost 50,000 telephone calls. These intake reports help keep our officers available to respond to emergency calls and incidents.

Along with taking phone calls and reports, our desk personnel enter and monitor incidents and reports in the National Crime Information Network (NCIC). Entries into this terminal include missing persons, stolen guns and vehicles, protection orders and other items. These entries are critical in helping solve crimes and keeping officers safe as well as providing protection to some of our most vulnerable populations. They also support our City and County Attorneys' offices with background information necessary for prosecuting offenders.





ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISION

Volunteer Services

The Missoula Police Department offers volunteer opportunities for individuals to assist the department in serving the Missoula community. Volunteers assist with a spectrum of tasks and duties. These assignments can vary significantly to meet the growing needs of the department.



Our college volunteers participated in a day role-playing during an officer scenario training at Mount Jumbo School.

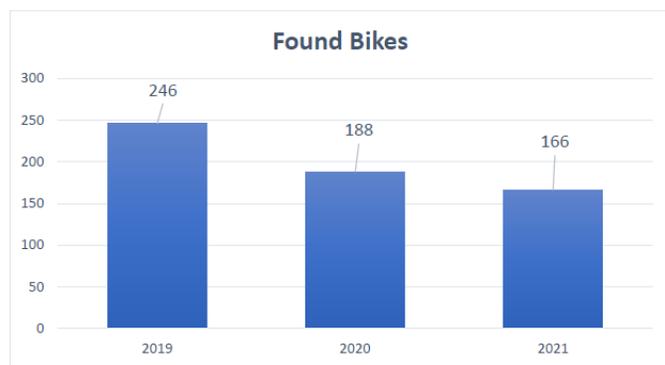
We have a diverse group of retired citizens, students and working professionals who dedicate their time. Volunteers donate between four to ten hours of their time each month to the program. Many of our volunteers join the program with the specific intent of enhancing their resumes and looking to get their foot in the door with law enforcement.

Volunteers Hours Donated

2019	50 Volunteers worked 3,994 hours
2020	41 Volunteers worked 3,370 hours
2021	40 Volunteers worked 3,673 hours

Recovering Abandoned/Found Bikes

Abandoned and found bikes go through an extensive bike recovery process. MPD volunteers spend hours picking up bicycles, processing them and checking them against MPD stolen bike reports and the City of Missoula's bicycle registration program called 529 Garage.



What Volunteers Do...

- Assist with administrative duties
- Paint over graffiti
- Checking abandoned vehicles
- Found bike pick up and processing
- Found property
- Patrol car stocking
- Training scenarios- volunteers act out real life scenarios for officers' trainings
- Internship opportunities

Volunteers also assist with Special Events

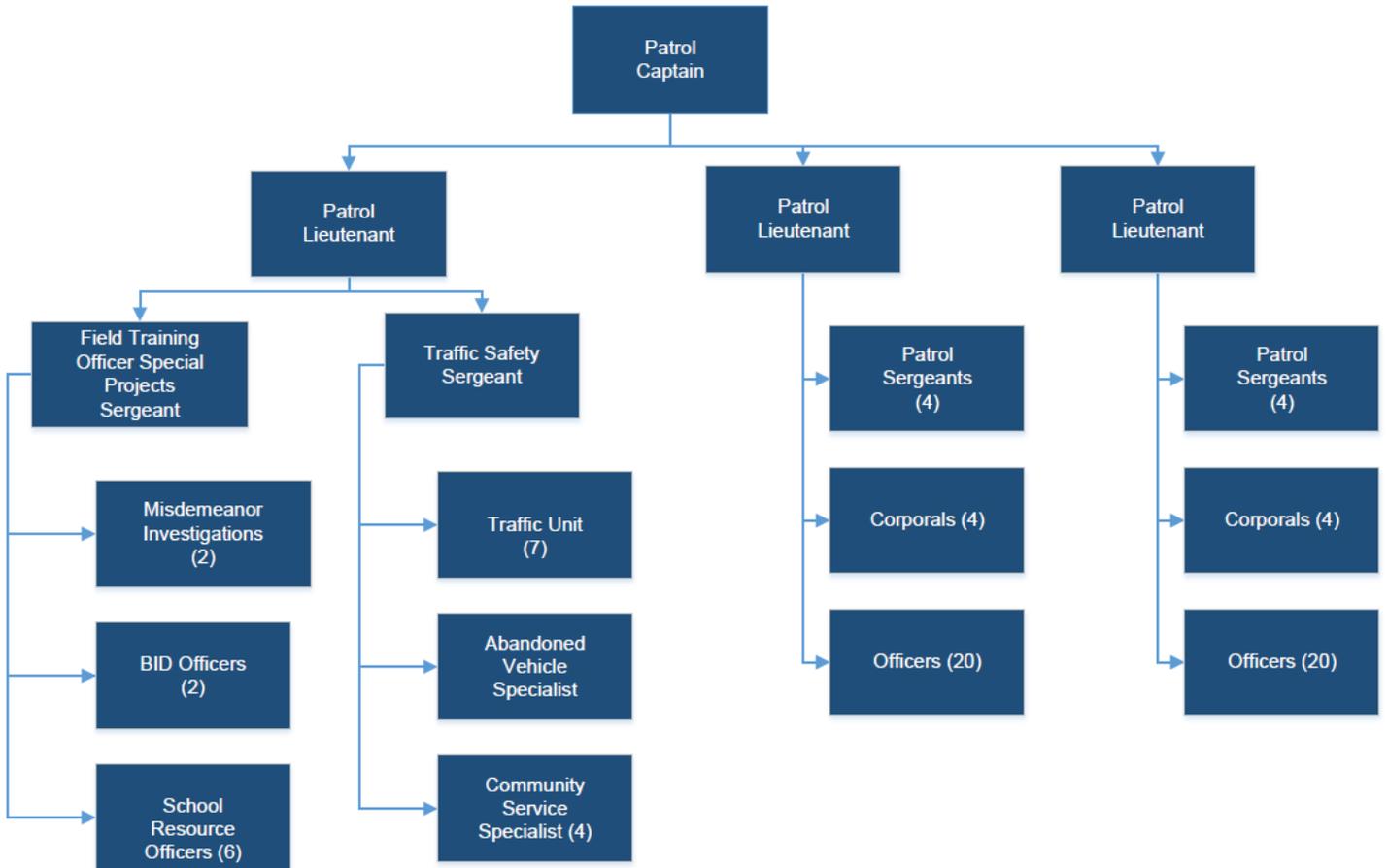
- Citizens' Law Enforcement Academy
- Kids' Fairs in the Missoula community
- Fingerprinting events
- Abandoned Vehicle Auctions





PATROL DIVISION

Police Department – Patrol Division





PATROL DIVISION

Traffic

When citizens request a police officer, the information provided is used to create a Call for Service (CFS) which is then categorized with an incident type. The type of incident guides dispatch and officers on the number of personnel that should respond. Depending on the circumstances or events, more officers may be called to assist.

Incident Type	2019	2020	2021
Traffic Stops	9,803	7,801	7,284
Theft	4,194	3,891	1,909
Welfare Check	3,850	3,808	2,672
Traffic Crashes	3,273	2,273	2,550
Suspicious Activity	2,557	2,971	2,825
Person to be Removed	1,945	2,558	2,206
Disturbance	1,997	2,046	1,877
Alarm	1,602	1,528	1,542
Vandalism	707	752	605
Suicidal Person	711	677	825
Drugs	566	507	541
DUI	423	427	386





PATROL DIVISION

Traffic

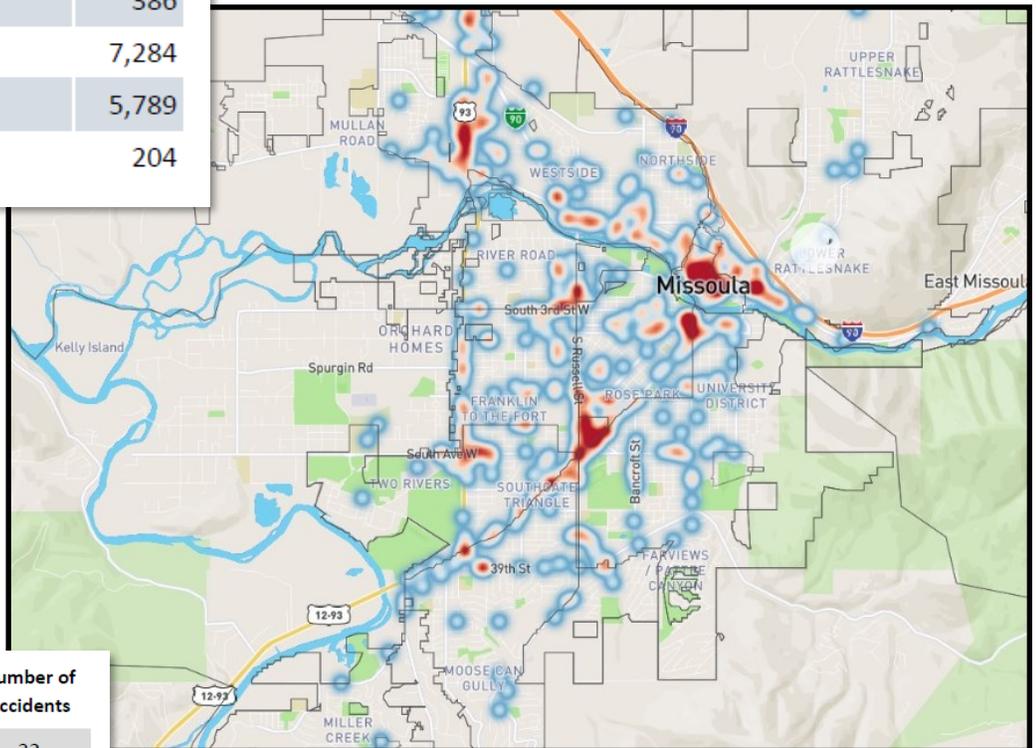
2021 Traffic Accident Statistics

Accidents	2,550
Hit & Run	718
Injury Crash	336
Vehicle vs. Pedestrian	70
Fatalities	6

More Statistics....

DUI's	386
Traffic Stops	7,284
Citations Issued	5,789
Follow up Investigations	204

In 2021, the Missoula Police Department took 2,550 traffic collision reports. That is up from 1,482 in 2020 and 2,196 in 2019. The information below identifies where the collisions took place in 2021. Using this information, the Department can identify strategies to address the accidents occurring at these locations.



High Risk Intersections

Number of Accidents

High Risk Intersections	Number of Accidents
Reserve St / S 3rd St W	32
N Reserve St / Mullan Rd	29
Brooks St / Reserve St	26
South Ave W / Reserve St	18
Union Pacific St / N Reserve St	17
N Reserve St / England Blvd	15
S 3rd St W / Russell St	15
Palmer St / W Broadway	13
Reserve St / Mount Ave	13
W Broadway / N Russell St	13





PATROL DIVISION

Special Duty Assignments

Officers within the Patrol Division have the opportunity to apply for special duty assignments that are more specialized and can take advantage of the officer's interests, training and expertise. These positions are very important to the operations of the MPD as they allow the assigned officers the ability to focus on specific areas or

STREET CRIMES UNIT

The Street Crimes Unit's (SCU) focus has changed a bit over the last couple of years after entering into a collaboration with the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (ATF). The Street Crimes Officers have been designated as Task Force Officers under the ATF with a focus on firearms. They have also led several large-scale, long-term drug investigations.

CONSPIRACY TO DISTRIBUTE METHAMPHETAMINE & FENTANYL Case #788076-21-0022 "Operation Kootenai Courier"

Investigation started by SCU/ATF and assisted by ATF agents in Fresno, California. Suspects in Missoula were purchasing large amounts of firearms and transporting them to the Fresno Bulldog Gang in Fresno, California to trade for dangerous drugs. Two local suspects were arrested and federally indicted. Seizure statistics from the investigation included: 6.8lbs of meth, 1500 fentanyl pills, 10,000 rounds of ammunition, 35 guns, and a set of body armor.

CONSPIRACY TO DISTRIBUTE METHAMPHETAMINE Case #2019-26569

This case was initiated by SCU in 2019, and began by checking out with a suspicious vehicle behind a gas station and a simple warrant arrest. The case was passed on to FBI/HITDA for assistance due to the weights involved and suspects involved. SCU continued to be active participants in the investigation. FBI undercover officers were brought up from Texas during the investigation to conduct buys from the suspect. Multiple pound seizures were made along the way with the main suspect being apprehended in early 2021. He was in possession of 14 lbs methamphetamine at the time of arrest. He was recently sentenced to 12 year federal prison.

Street Crimes Unit

21 total search warrants written/executed

Seizures

15,622.77g Methamphetamine (34.44 lbs)

45.57g of Heroin

1507 Fentanyl pills

\$127,340 in cash

59 Firearms

10,000 rounds of ammunitions

2 pipe bombs

1 set of body armor

THEFT OF A FIREARM Case #2021-9448

This case involved the theft of a large amount of firearms from Bob Wards and was investigated by SCU/ATF. An ATF undercover officer was used to purchase stolen guns from the suspect resulting in his arrest. Five total stolen guns from Bob Wards were recovered with the suspect confessing to the thefts.

CONSPIRACY TO DISTRIBUTE METHAMPHETAMINE Case #2021-24539

Joint investigation between SCU, HITDA, and Great Falls law enforcement resulting in the suspect being federally indicted.

In addition to the suspects mentioned, SCU also adopted local cases initiated by patrol for federal prosecution involving a total of six additional suspects. One has been federally indicted and the other five will be indicted shortly.



PATROL DIVISION

Special Duty Assignments

K9 UNIT

The Missoula Police Department has two K9 Officers who work with their canine partners Sunka and Jip. The K9 Unit had 62 deployments during 2021. These deployments included area searches, article searches, drug sniffs and SWAT call-outs.



62 total deployments

Narcotics Located

3,292.15g Methamphetamine

33.61g Black Tar Heroin

2 Suspects located

1 Apprehension (bite) felony assault with a weapon suspect

ABANDONED VEHICLE PROGRAM

The Abandoned Vehicle Program is based on citizen complaints of vehicles they suspect to be abandoned on public right of ways. We do not enforce illegal camping or other parking violations, only motorized vehicles under the Abandoned Vehicle Program. Non-motorized vehicles, such as vehicles that are towed and not driven (campers, trailers, etc.), are assigned to Community Service Specialists using these same ordinances. State law requires motorized vehicles to be disposed of through public auction after notification attempts have been made to the last registered owner, or through the County's Junk Vehicle Program if it qualifies as junk.

Abandoned Vehicles Complaints

	2019	2020	2021
Total	1,801	1,533	1,683

2021 saw a 9.78% increase in complaints compared to 2020

Out of 1,683 complaints:

> 40 vehicles were towed

> 5 of the 40 were reclaimed by the owner

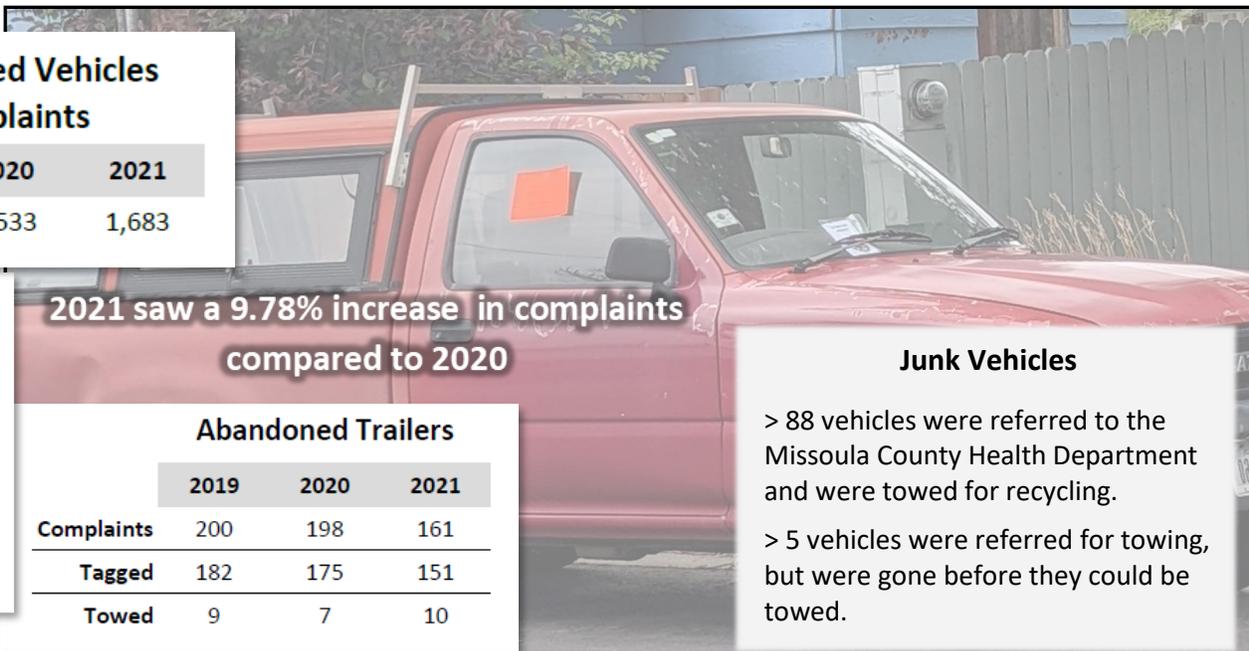
Abandoned Trailers

	2019	2020	2021
Complaints	200	198	161
Tagged	182	175	151
Towed	9	7	10

Junk Vehicles

> 88 vehicles were referred to the Missoula County Health Department and were towed for recycling.

> 5 vehicles were referred for towing, but were gone before they could be towed.





PATROL DIVISION

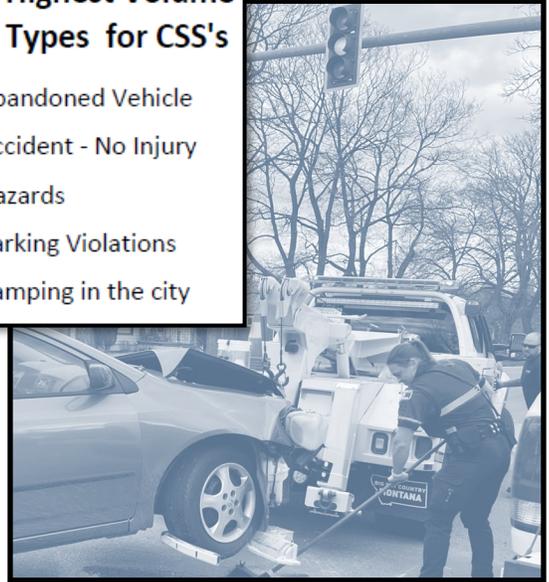
Special Duty Assignments

COMMUNITY SERVICE SPECIALIST

The Missoula Police Department employs four civilian Community Service Specialists (CSS) that assist the patrol officers with traffic control, patrol of parks and trails, responses to non-emergency incidents, as well as taking routine police reports, handling evidence and providing information to the public. The Community Service Specialists are not only a huge asset to the Patrol Division, but their wide array of duties provide benefits to the Administrative and Detective Division as well.

Five Highest Volume Call Types for CSS's

- Abandoned Vehicle
- Accident - No Injury
- Hazards
- Parking Violations
- Camping in the city



MISDEMEANOR INVESTIGATION OFFICERS

Prior to the creation of the Misdemeanor Investigation Officer positions, investigations of this nature were generally assigned to patrol officers that were on day shift. The Missoula Police Department has almost 2,000 misdemeanor calls a year that require additional investigation. The two Misdemeanor Investigations Officers are assigned the vast majority of these cases which allows the officers on patrol squads to be more responsive to in-progress incidents.

SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS

The Missoula Police Department has a total of six School Resource Officers (SRO). Three of these officers are assigned to the Hellgate, Sentinel and Big Sky High Schools. Two School Resource Officers cover the middle schools, and one SRO is assigned to Hellgate Elementary School.

School Resource Officer

2021 Calls for Service (CFS)

Total CFS on school grounds	215
Runaways	149
MIP's	74
Major Incident- Possible active shooter	1
	<hr/>
	439

Business Improvement District

Ten Highest Volume Calls for Service

Extra Patrol	421
Person to be Removed	210
Welfare Check	152
Person needs assistance	114
Disorderly Conduct	113
Camping in the city	95
Follow Up	74
Trespassing	49
Burglary Alarm	46
Warrant	32



BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT OFFICERS (BID)

The BID Officers work with citizens, community members and committees to assist in identifying and resolving quality of life issues in the Business Improvement District. They also work to develop and expand crime prevention efforts in the downtown area.



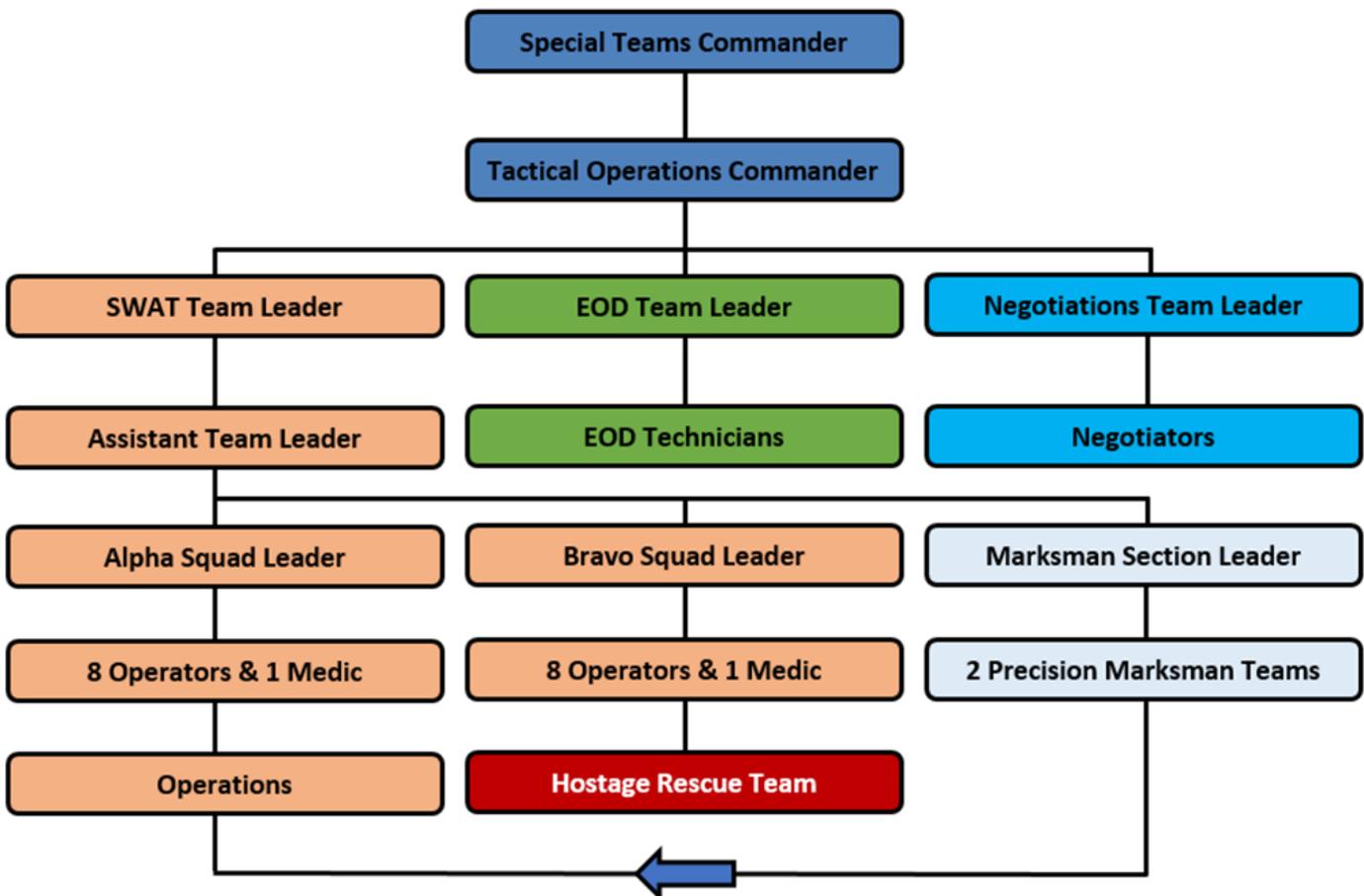
Special Teams



The Missoula Police Department maintains three special teams in order to provide advanced capabilities to safely resolve critical incidents which may be beyond the overall capabilities of day-to-day patrol operations. These teams include:

- Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT)
- Crisis Negotiations Team (CNT)
- Explosive Ordinance Disposal Team (EOD)

Officers assigned to special teams serve in a voluntary capacity in addition to their regular assignments within the department.



When not deployed as Marksmen/Observer Teams during a hostage scenario, Marksmen/Observers will be assigned to Operations.



Special Teams



Special Weapons and Tactics

Mission and Objective

The mission of the Missoula Police Department Special Weapons and Tactics Team (SWAT) is to protect life. MPD SWAT completes this mission by maintaining a highly professional and disciplined tactical team through additional training, equipment and personnel. This team is specifically designed to support and supplement the department's ability to respond to extraordinary events that carry a higher risk of injury and/or death. These events require the use of specialized weapons, tools and/or training which is generally beyond the scope of general Uniformed Patrol Operations. Such events include, but are not limited to:

- High-risk arrest warrant service
- High-risk search warrant service
- Barricaded subjects
- Hostage situations and emergency hostage rescue
- Counter Sniper Operations
- Dignitary protection
- In progress incidents of mass violence (active shooter)
- Riot/Civil Disturbance
- Terrorist Attacks
- Any other occurrence or situation requiring additional advanced training, equipment or personnel beyond the capabilities of Uniformed Patrol Officer and/or Detectives for which the unit has been trained



The objective of the SWAT team is to resolve higher risk police operations or crisis situations while minimizing the risk of injury or loss of life to parties involved, innocent bystanders and residents of the Missoula community. The Missoula Police Department SWAT team accomplishes this by implementing de-escalation techniques in a controlled manner while applying them to the following priority of life:

1. Hostages
2. Other innocent civilians and members of the community
3. SWAT operators and other law enforcement personnel
4. Suspect(s)



Special Teams



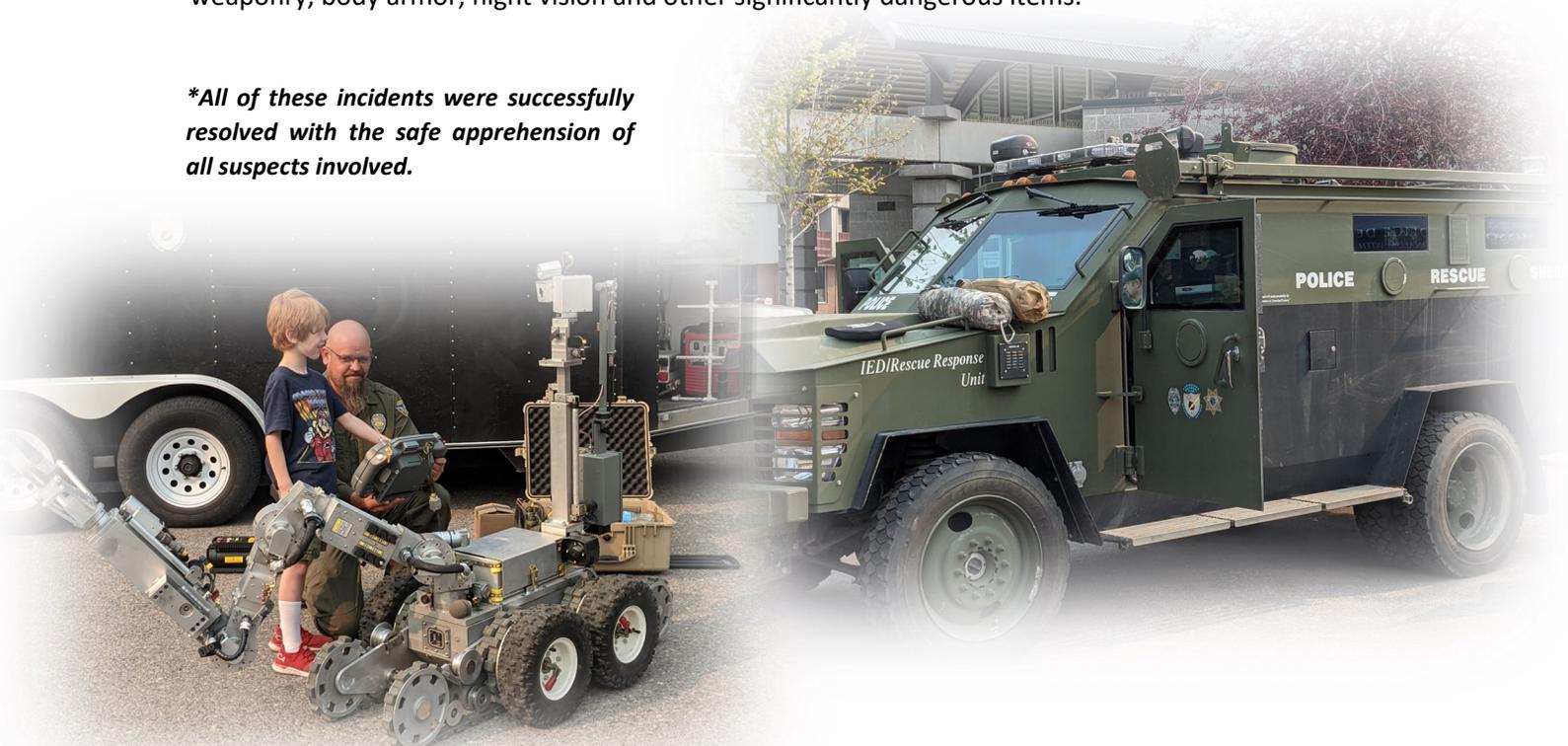
Special Weapons and Tactics

In 2021, the Missoula Police Department SWAT team was deployed four times, and was consulted and put on standby to assist with a federal operation being conducted in the Missoula area.

The incidents in which MPD SWAT were directly deployed involved the following situations:

- Apprehension of a suspect wanted for the crime of attempted deliberate homicide presently believed to be armed and dangerous with a firearm
- Apprehension of a suspect wanted for the crime of partner family member assault in which the suspect was presently armed with a handgun and barricaded inside of a residence
- Apprehension of a Federal Fugitive wanted by the United States Marshals Service in which the suspect was presently armed with a handgun and barricaded inside of a residence
- Apprehension of a suspect wanted for the crime of assault with a weapon in which the suspect was presently armed with a knife and barricaded inside of a motor vehicle
- MPD SWAT prepped and provided assistance to the Federal Bureau of Investigation in the apprehension of two suspects wanted for deliberate homicide who were armed with advanced weaponry, body armor, night vision and other significantly dangerous items.

****All of these incidents were successfully resolved with the safe apprehension of all suspects involved.***

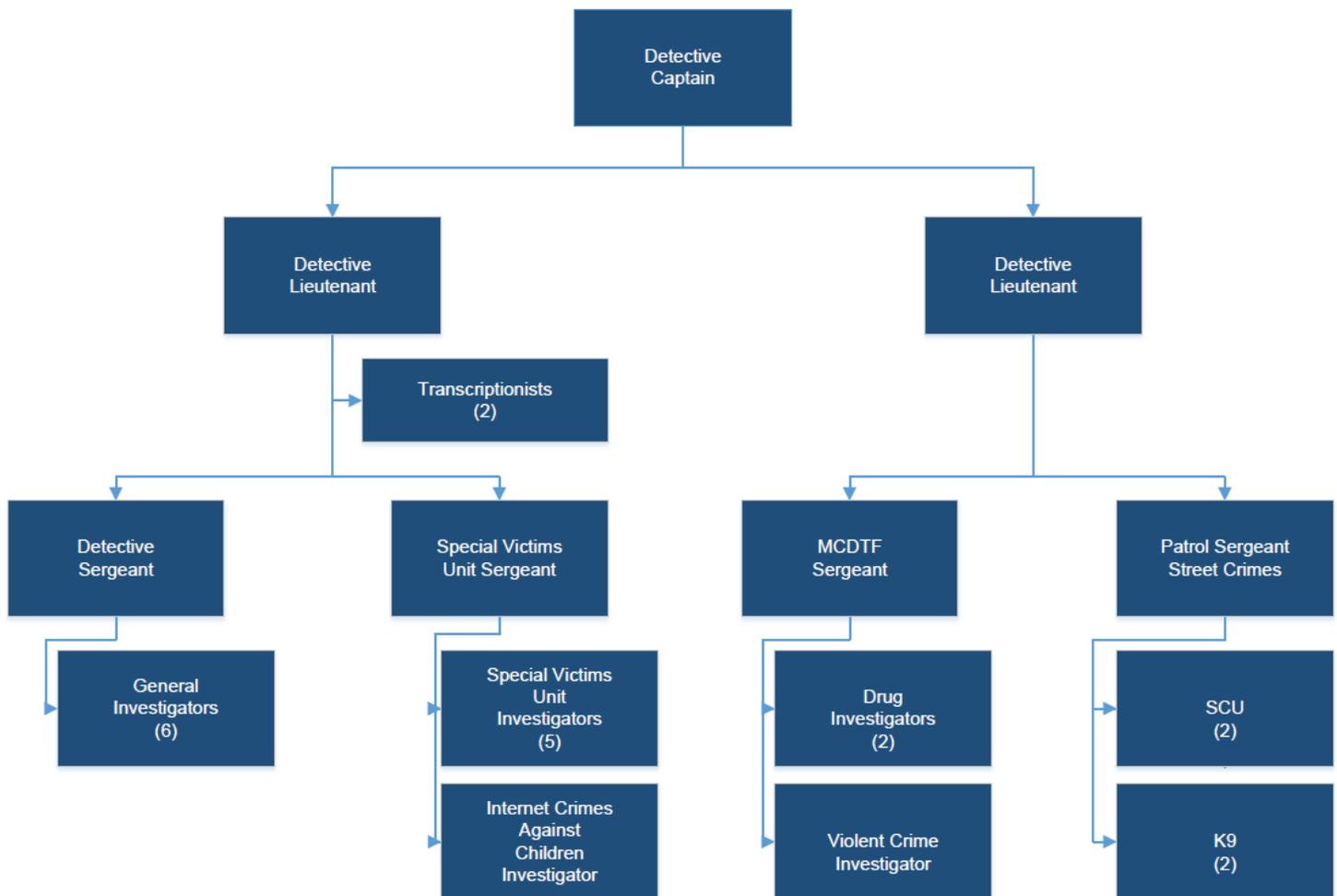




DETECTIVE DIVISION

The Missoula Police Department Detective Division consists of 21 sworn detectives and two non-sworn transcriptionists. In addition, we benefit from the assistance of one University of Montana Police Department (UMPD) detective and one crime victim advocate from the Community Justice Department. Both of these co-located resources ensure victim-centered investigations and provide valuable coordination and communication between the UM Community and the MPD.

Police Department – Detective Division



As the chart above illustrates, investigators are divided into primary areas of responsibility. As a matter of routine, offenses are assigned to investigators based on these assignments because they have demonstrated skills, interest and advanced training in those areas; however, all investigators are expected to be able to be proficient in the wide variety of cases we encounter.



DETECTIVE DIVISION

Notable Cases



ROBBERY Case #2021-17370 — Lead Investigator: Guy Baker

On May 7, 2021, MPD officers responded to a robbery in the 1500 block of Liberty Lane. The victim stated people entered his RV, put a gun against his head, “pistol whipped” him and made him lay on the ground while they stole many items including a firearm, drugs, cash, and a phone.

A coordinated effort between the Patrol Division and Detective Division identified, located, and arrested four suspects within approximately six hours. Those suspects are 27-year-old Kandace Nateese Miller, 25-year-old Rio Don Beierle, 23-year-old Taylor Nickoles Mienke and one 17-year-old male.

Detectives obtained admissions from three of the identified suspects and recovered physical and digital evidence which further corroborated the reported robbery.

Beierle was convicted of Conspiracy to Commit Robbery. Miller and Mienke were both convicted of Accountability for Criminal Endangerment and have been sentenced. The juvenile offender was also convicted and sentenced as a juvenile.

Illegal fentanyl pills were some of the items stolen in this robbery. Fentanyl is a potent pain killer which is at the center of a nationwide crisis. These pills are known on the street as “Mexies” as they are being illegally smuggled into the United States from Mexico. Missoula, like much of the country, has experienced a marked increase in fatal and non-fatal overdoses from fentanyl. The MPD has responded by issuing Narcan to officers. Narcan is an effective tool reversing effects of opiate overdose and has saved many overdose subjects. Also, the MPD is coordinating enforcement efforts with the DEA Tactical Diversion Squad and other agencies. In 2021, MPD seized over 1000 illegal fentanyl pills and long-term, multi-organization investigations are ongoing.



Trend in Violent Crimes

	2019	2020	2021
January	22	23	36
February	22	31	32
March	30	28	28
April	43	24	41
May	30	34	41
June	28	28	41
July	24	39	85
August	31	56	52
September	40	34	62
October	25	35	48
November	30	47	38
December	33	23	51

SOURCE: Montana Board of Crime Control (MBCC)

Violent Offense Cases

	2019	2020	2021
Robbery	28	30	40
Rape	106	60	72
Agg Assault	221	308	442
Homicide	5	7	3

SOURCE: MBCC



DETECTIVE DIVISION

Notable Cases

BANK ROBBERY Case #2021-22400 — Lead Investigator: Guy Baker

On June 8, 2021, MPD officers responded to a reported bank robbery at Stockman Bank at 321 W. Broadway. Upon the initial officer's arrival, a witness reported the suspect left in a silver passenger car and provided a partial Montana license plate. The 911 dispatch center identified a grey 2014 Kia Optima that was stopped by MPD Motor Officer Ross Colyer earlier this day that had a matching license plate. The registered owner matched the description of the robbery suspect.



Approximately 10 minutes later, Missoula County Sheriff's Deputies located the above vehicle at the Motel 6 near the "Wye" Interchange at Interstate-90 and US Highway 93. The suspect was detained through the initial investigation and then arrested for robbery. While the suspect was being transported to jail, he said, "I made the grand decision to rob a bank today."

HOMICIDE Case #2021-43072 Lead Investigator: Mick McCarthy

On October 16, 2021, the Missoula Police Department responded to a report of a female who had been struck by a vehicle on the north side of the WinCo parking lot. Upon arrival, officers determined a female had been run over by a vehicle which was driven by her boyfriend.

The investigation resulted in the suspect's arrest, and he was charged with Deliberate Homicide and Third Offense DUI.



Photo by Missoulilian

DOUBLE FATAL VEHICLE CRASH Case #2021-13627 - Lead Investigator: Josh Harris

On June 29, 2021, MPD officers responded to a report of a two-vehicle head-on crash on the Russell Street Bridge. Upon arrival, officers provided medical aid to Paul Richard Davis and Scott Littlewood Orr, both occupants of an Oldsmobile sedan. Unfortunately, both Davis and Orr were already deceased at the scene.

The investigation determined the Oldsmobile traveled southbound in the northbound lanes of the Russell Street Bridge. The Oldsmobile was traveling at a high rate of speed and without headlights illuminated before crashing head-on with a northbound vehicle.

The occupant of the northbound vehicle had minor injuries. Drugs and alcohol were a factor in the crash and there was no criminal prosecution as the responsible party was deceased.

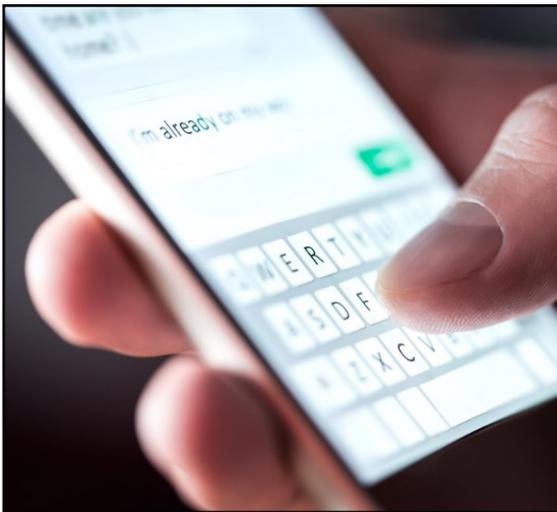


DETECTIVE DIVISION

Notable Cases

SEXUAL ABUSE OF CHILDREN Case #2021-15163 - Lead Investigator: Josh Harris

In June 2021, the MPD received a report from an adult who found inappropriate internet communication between a 12-year-old family member and an unknown subject. The reporting party provided the devices to the MPD for further investigation.



A digital forensic examination of the device located sexually explicit communication between the 12-year-old and an adult male. The communication included an attempt by the adult male to meet with the 12-year-old, as well as a sexually explicit video file.

The MPD served a search warrant at the suspect's home and arrested him pursuant to an arrest warrant. The suspect acknowledged many of the details of the investigations, including his intent to meet with the child for sexual intercourse and he "hoped" he was not a child.

The suspect posted bond after the arrest on a \$100,000 arrest warrant. He was charged with two felonies, Sexual Abuse of Children and Attempted Sexual Abuse of Children.





Awards & Recognition

2021 Officer of the Year Corporal John Griffith



(L-R) CPT Jake Rosling, CPL John Griffith, Chief Jaeson White

Domestic Violence Awareness 2021 Officer of the Year



Officer Ben Graupmann



AWARDS

Police Medal

- ◆ Officer Tyler Swartz

Awarded for actions above and beyond the call of duty, but where the gallantry is of a lesser degree than for the Medal of Valor but performed with marked distinction.

Life Saving Medal

- ◆ SGT Pat Malone
- ◆ Officer Ben Graupmann
- ◆ Officer Jesse Potter
- ◆ Officer Kurt Trowbridge
- ◆ Officer Brandon Geher (two medals)
- ◆ Officer Tyler Swartz

Awarded for the conspicuous actions of an officer leading to the saving of a human life.

We Appreciate the Community's Support!



"... Please know that there are many, many people who stand behind you and support your efforts to keep Missoula safe place for all. Keeping the peace is everyone's duty, and I thank you for being willing to risk your safety and comfort to do a job many do not have the strength to do."

"... Well done. Truly served your community, businesses and those in need. We will continue to consider Missoula our second home."

PROMOTIONS

Lieutenant

Mike Kamerer
Matt Stonesifer
Matt Kazinsky

Sergeant

Meagan Bilbrey
Pat Malone
Crystal Crocker
Kasey Williams
Josh Geissel
Ben Slater
Sean Manraksa

Corporal

John Griffith
Kenny Smith
Mark Puddy
Shaun Loya
Pat Mulligan