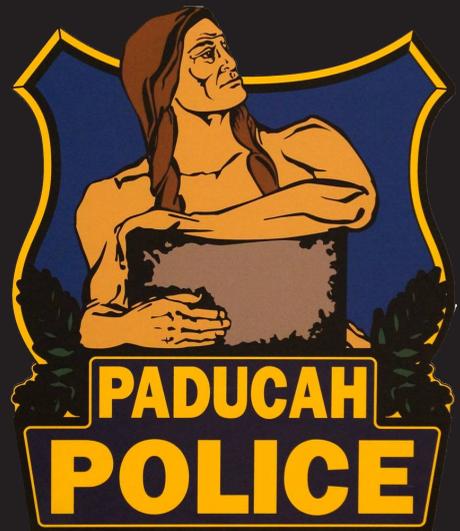


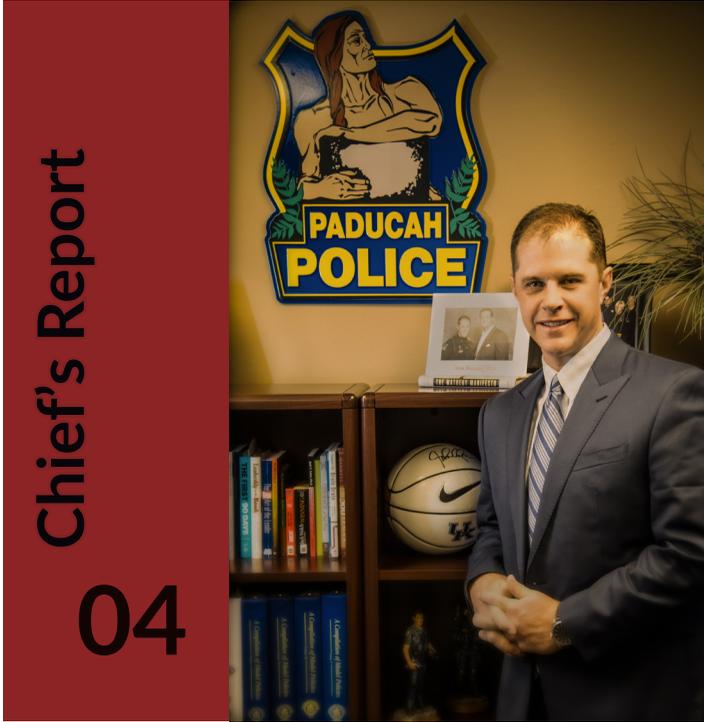
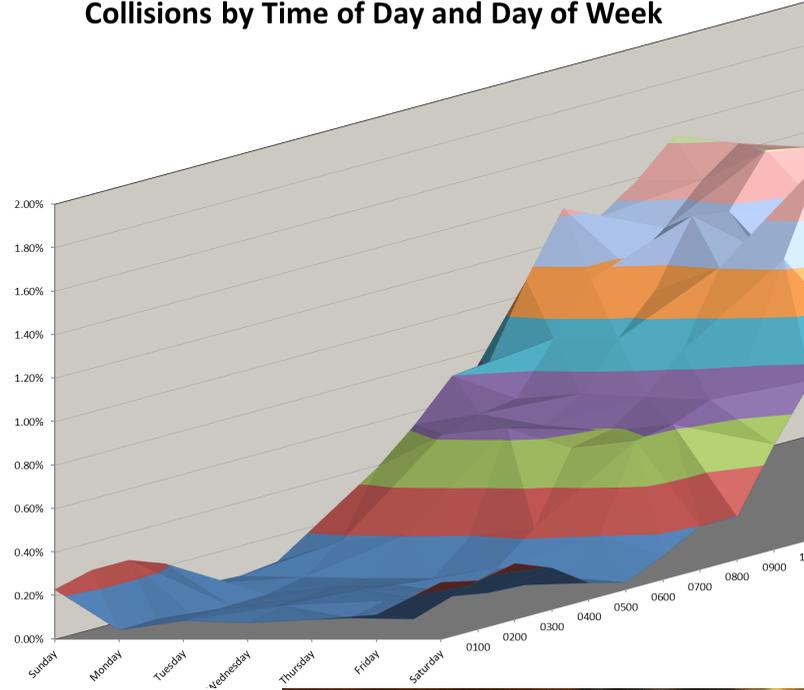
# Paducah Police Department



## 2015 Annual Report

# Annual Report Content

Collisions by Time of Day and Day of Week

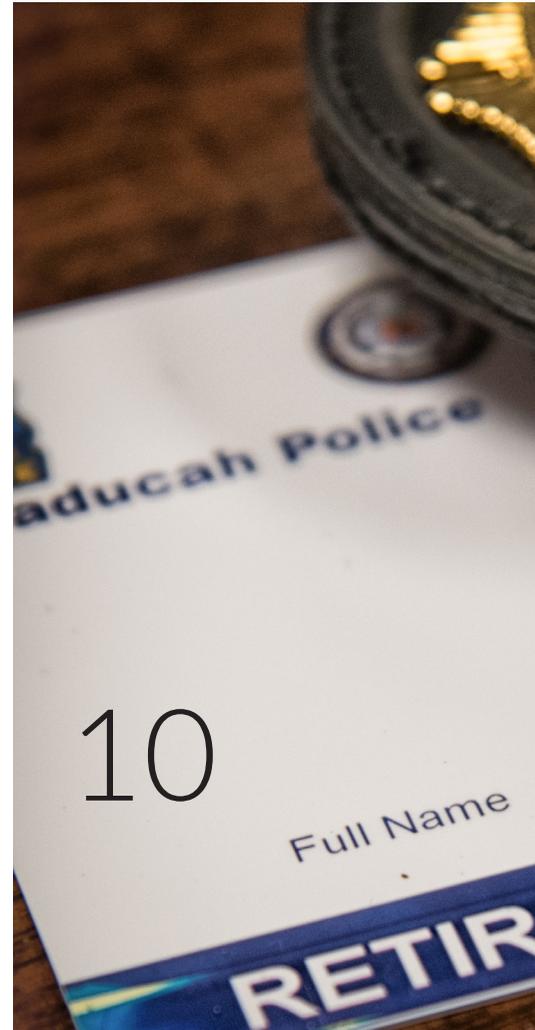


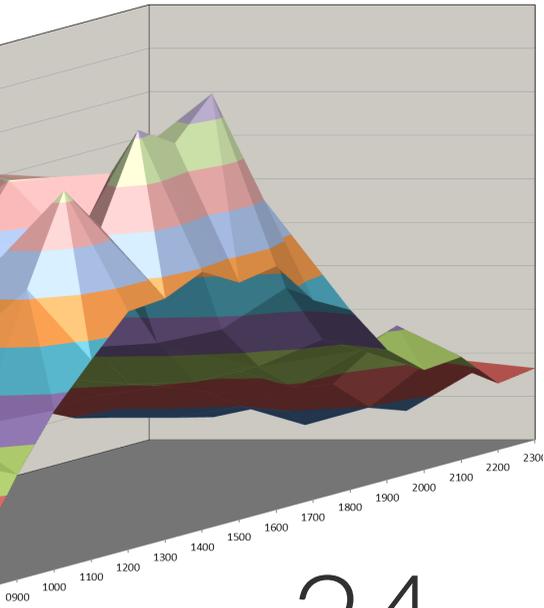
Cover art by Wes Orazine, all other photos were taken by other city employees or former city employees, used with permission, or taken from non-copyrighted materials.

Contributors: Brandon Barnhill, Brian Krueger, David White, Brian Laird, George Johnson, Gretchen Morgan, Michael Zidar.

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*Chief Brandon Barnhill*

Have kindness and respect toward law enforcement gone astray? I am frequently asked this question. In my opinion, the short answer is no. However, to affirm my opinion I considered several key observations in depth. Kindness and respect are often overshadowed by the rhetoric of today's headlines, which add fuel to today's volatile society that we share. The second is that addressing conflict and confrontation requires participation with the various entities that represent a community and desire reform.

Unfortunately, 2015 brought a lot of attention to the law enforcement profession as a whole. Several United States cities with highly publicized excessive use-of-force cases were cast in the limelight. In the wake of incidents in Baltimore, Chicago, Cleveland, New York, Columbia, SC, and others, the topics of police legitimacy and procedural justice became the focus of daily discussions. Public scrutiny of the policing profession has again caused microscopic critique of the profession; this, in turn, influences the role that law enforcement plays in society. Foreseeably, I expect to witness monumental changes for years to come in the topics of use of force and policing in general. In the case of our community, I know the Paducah Police Department is engaged with the community at most levels and willing to accept constructive criticism from those with legitimate concerns.

Although police/community relations have suffered nationwide over the last several years, locally, we have been fortunate enough to maintain our transparency and be responsive in our community service endeavors. The role of policing is undoubtedly complex, but by placing our community at the forefront and providing them "a seat at the table," we are hopeful to continue fostering a positive working partnership that builds upon the foundation of per-

sonal relationships.

We at the Paducah Police Department know that these topics of procedural justice must continue to drive our agency and profession if we want to have any influence on swinging the pendulum back in favorable light of the profession. To achieve a successful public/private partnership, we employ community-oriented-policing, problem-oriented policing, and open communication, both internally and externally. We believe that this police department owes more to this community than to simply answer calls for service. We must be, and will continue to be, an integral part of Paducah's success.

Personally, I want to say "thank you" to our community for supporting this staff. We have received a multitude of cards, support, and words of encouragement throughout the year. As we embark on 2016, our top priority remains providing a safe community in which to live, work, and play. We hope you will join our efforts to make this community even greater!

*- Chief Brandon L. Barnhill*

**"I know the Paducah Police Department is engaged with the community at most levels and we welcome constructive criticism from those with legitimate concerns."**



Brandon Barnhill  
 Brian Krueger  
 David White  
 Brian Laird  
 George Johnson  
 Wesley Kimbler



Joseph Hayes  
 Robert Hefner  
 Wesley Orazine  
 Anthony Copeland  
 Matthew Smith  
 Justin Crowell



Christopher Baxter  
 Kelly Drew  
 Ryan Conn  
 Rene Long  
 John Tolliver  
 Brian Kopischke



William Gilbert  
 Nathan Young  
 Paul Stevenson  
 Cindy Neihoff  
 Scotty Davis  
 James Davis



Matthew Wentworth  
 Travis Counts  
 Jason Montgomery  
 Justin Canup  
 Melissa Dillon  
 Linda Hodgson



Gretchen Morgan  
 Dana Davie  
 James Robbins  
 Troy Turner  
 Lofton Rowley Jr.  
 Ryan Clark

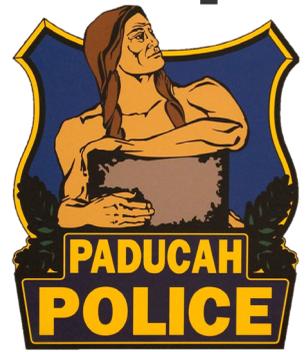


Jarrett Woodruff  
 Christopher Bolton  
 Corey Willenborg  
 Joshua Bryant  
 Beau Green  
 Nathan Antonites



Nathan Jaimet  
 Jason Hicks  
 Christopher Fearon  
 Keith Thuline  
 Kevin Collins  
 Derik Perry





Matthew Scheer  
Justin Hodges  
Shawn Craven  
Steven Thompson  
Austin Guill  
Travis Watson



Ryan Burrow  
Blake Quinn  
Nickolas Francescon  
Eric Taylor  
Matthew Hopp  
Andrew Parrish



Matthew Jones  
Chelsee Breakfield  
Lucas Stone  
Cody Santel  
Daniel Kimball  
John Smith



Blair Wrye  
Ryan Hudson  
Kerry Naquin  
Kevin Wilson  
Danny Slack  
Conrad Gholson



Nicholas Rolens  
Robin Newberry  
Amy Travis  
Lourdes Morrison  
Vicki Miller  
Myra Reid



Kimberly Newlon  
Amanda Kinser  
Jon Boulton  
Michael Zidar

# Operations Division



**Assistant Chief  
Brian Krueger**

Nationally, this past year was one of difficulty, tough questions, and self-examination for law enforcement. Significant events related to interactions between police and citizens highlighted the importance of not only what we do, but also the “how” associated with protecting and serving daily. It is easy to find both good and bad examples

of these interactions. However, the unfortunate truth is, unless one goes searching for the positives, more often than not they do not lead the evening news. I am very proud of the level of professionalism that the men and women of the Operations Division collectively demonstrates each day in the furtherance of our mission and for the people who live in, work in, or visit Paducah each day. The Operations Division comprises the largest portion of the police department’s work force. Midway through 2015, we realized a loss of several decades’ worth of policing experience, as we saw two employees, Captain Jason Merrick and Sergeant Kevin Neal, retire. This not only equated to a loss of personnel, it also meant subsequent internal transitions, and vacancies created by such internal movement. Another significant change within the division was the discontinuation of assigning officers to our FLEX team. In addition, we dealt with a work force shortage at the street level -- at one time there were as few as 36 patrol officers.

The Operations Division is made up of uniformed patrol officers.

This number represents ten fewer patrol officers, approximately 20 percent less, than we had at the conclusion of 2014. Though we experienced these hurdles, we faced them while emphasizing progressive thinking and innovation. Even while facing these challenges, Operations Division personnel accepted a philosophical shift in work force allocation and in how we approached “problem areas,” all while responding to approximately 45,469 calls for service. The old cliché of doing more with less was very much a reality for our officers this



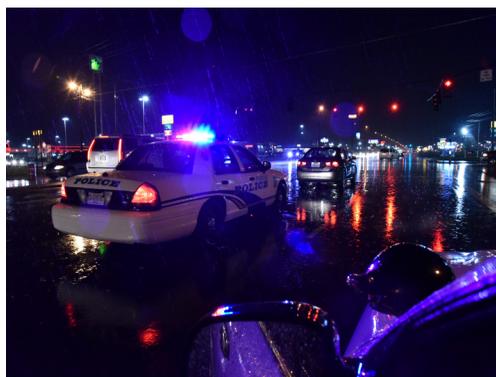
past year. I want to emphasize that our dedicated men and women were able to complete these tasks with very few complaints from the citizens they interacted with each day. This was due in large part to our

continued emphasis on our core values and focusing on the fact that we very much rely on positive relationships and mutual respect to accomplish our mission. I also want to take time to talk about our response to resistance, otherwise known as use of force. Many people think that this is something that frequently occurs. In reality, we saw force used during only 42 encounters in 2015.

In terms of percentages, our officers used force less than 2 percent of the time when arresting an adult offender. Part of what we wanted to accomplish in 2015 related to reduction of overall crime numbers. We realized lower numbers in three of four violent crime categories, and the total reported violent offenses remained the same as the previous year with 91 reports filed. I want to emphasize that crime prevention and traffic collision reduction will continue to be a focus moving into 2016. Specific expectations and goals related to these priorities, coupled with internal and external collaboration, will help us achieve positive results. In addition to the “traditional” patrol assignments performed by Operations Division personnel, several specialized units, activities, roles and other responsibilities are assumed, including: the Citizens Police Academy, Junior Citizens Police Academy, Collision Reconstruction Team, Bike Patrol, Ride-Along program, Police



*Officer Cindy Neihoff assists pedestrians crossing the road during the Quilt Show in 2015.*



*An officer assists a motorist having car trouble on Hinkleville Road.*

Explorers, D.A.R.E. (Drug Abuse Resistance and Education), K-9 Unit, Crisis Negotiation Team, Special Weapons and Tactics Team, and the Bomb Squad. Our personnel were also tasked with handling safety and security for a multitude of special events like the Iron Mom Half Marathon, BBQ on the River, and the Quilt Show, just to name a few. I am pleased with our overall results, especially considering the hurdles that we faced. I am even happier with the professional conduct of our officers as they performed their duties during 2015. If you have any suggestions or ideas about how we can be even more successful, if you would like to commend a police officer, or if you have a concern about crime in your neighborhood, please email me at [bkrueger@paducahky.gov](mailto:bkrueger@paducahky.gov).

# 2015 Retirements

You may remember one of Bill Clinton's achievements as President was the passage of his 1994 Crime Bill (Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act). At the time, crime was double what it is today, and police departments were struggling to keep up. The Crime Bill funded policing reforms, including many important community policing programs. One of the more prominent pieces of the legislation was funding for 100,000 new police officers—one of Clinton's campaign promises. These new positions were largely funded through grants by the Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) Office. Paducah enjoyed several of these COPS grants, and as part of the increased police hiring during the 1990s, it is not surprising that we are now seeing a number of retirements.



Assistant Chief Stacey Grimes started with the Paducah Police Department August 8, 1994. Stacey rose through the ranks serving in both divisions of the department.

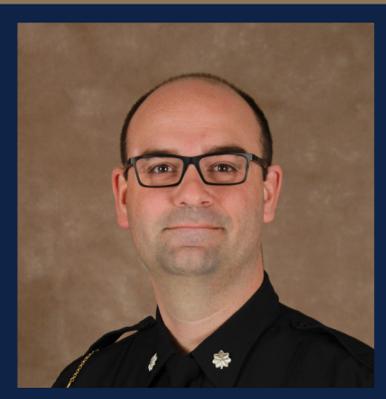


Captain Jason Merrick started with the department October 19, 1998. Jason transferred to us from the Princeton, Kentucky, Police Department. He served in both divisions of the department and is a Navy veteran.

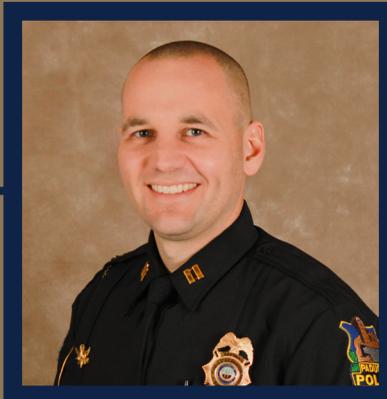


Sergeant Kevin Neal started with the Paducah Police Department July 26, 1999. Kevin is a Marine veteran and was deployed several times during his career with the department. Kevin served in both divisions of the department.

# 2015 Promotions



Assistant Chief David White was promoted to Assistant Chief in 2015. He has a Bachelor's Degree in Police Administration from Eastern Kentucky University, a Master's Degree in Justice Administration from Norwich University, and a graduate certificate in Criminal Justice Education from the University of Virginia. He is currently working on his doctorate in criminal justice and criminology at Southern Illinois University. He is a graduate of the 255th Session of the FBI National Academy.



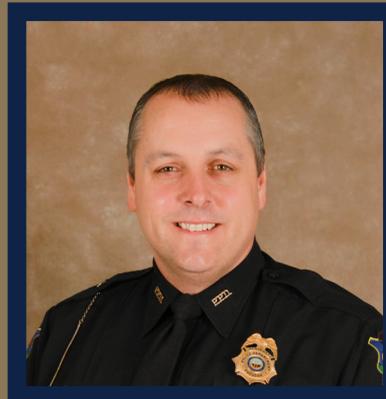
Captain Joseph Hayes was promoted to the rank of Captain on May 14, 2015. Captain Hayes is a Marine veteran and is currently serving in the Operations Division of the Paducah Police Department. Captain Hayes was assigned to the Support Services Division as a sergeant at the time of his promotion.



Sergeant Justin Crowell was promoted to the rank of Sergeant on May 14, 2015. Sergeant Crowell is a certified Forensic Computer Investigator and was serving as a detective in the Support Services Division of the Paducah Police Department at the time of his promotion. He currently serves in the Operations Division.



Sergeant Chris Baxter was promoted to the rank of Sergeant on August 6, 2015. Sergeant Baxter serves on the department's SWAT team, as a Police Training Supervisor and is a Navy veteran. Sergeant Baxter was serving as a detective with the Support Services Division at the time of his promotion. He currently serves in the Operations Division.



Sergeant Kelly Drew was promoted to the rank of Sergeant on August 6, 2015. Sergeant Drew serves as a Police Training Supervisor in the Operations Division. Sergeant Drew was serving in the Operations Division at the time of his promotion and is an Army veteran. Sergeant Drew came to us from Kentucky Vehicle Enforcement.

# Social Media



Gretchen Morgan

When social media first appeared, most police officers never dreamed they would someday utilize such technology to communicate with the citizens they serve. Even fewer would have predicted that social media could be used as a crime-fighting tool. In 2011, the Paducah Police Department joined many other departments using social media technology platforms. In 2015, social media platforms such as Facebook and Twitter became a source of two-way communication between the department and the citizens of Paducah. Through our social media engagement with the community we can now listen, too. We can hear from our community their concerns, praises, quality of life issues, tips, and suggestions for service improvement. Benefits to the community through use of social media include:

- Establishing connections – building trustworthy relationships with the community by engaging with each other.
  - Greater connection - provides a place to ask questions or share tips that they otherwise may not have shared.
  - Community outreach - the ability to quickly share information, with minimal effort, that could protect the community, catch suspects, or find missing persons.
  - Service improvement - a conduit for community input that can improve service.
- Due to our commitment to effective communication and transparency, the department has increased its social media footprint by posting almost daily to Facebook, and adding Twitter and Instagram accounts.



The Police Foundation of Paducah-McCracken County Inc. represents a public/private partnership designed to assist our Police Department in building positive relationships within the community, improving officer proficiency and safety, and augmenting law enforcement equipment and technology in order to enhance public safety and quality of life within the City of Paducah.

The Foundation does not relieve the City of Paducah of its responsibility to provide the necessary funding for law enforcement services. Instead, the Foundation is able to complement Department funding allowing the Department to support additional programs and maximize its resources.

Police Chief Brandon Barnhill states, "The Police Foundation of Paducah-McCracken County Inc. is a public-private partnership established to further the mission of the

Paducah Police Department through programs, training, education and outreach. This partnership will not only assist our programs financially, but it will also provide another avenue for us to continue improving our vital relationship with our wonderful community. We are extremely excited to watch how this partnership benefits everyone involved!" To this end, the Foundation provides support that addresses three overall areas.

The Police Foundation of Paducah-McCracken County is the only organization sanctioned by the Paducah Police Department to raise funds for its benefit and it does not solicit by using telemarketers.

The Police Foundation of Paducah McCracken County, Inc. is a registered Corporation within the state of Kentucky and is recognized by the Federal Government as a 501 (c) (3) tax-exempt, non-profit organization.

PART I CRIME	Incidents	Percent
MURDER	1	0.1%
FORCIBLE RAPE	11	0.8%
ROBBERY	36	2.5%
AGGRAVATED ASSAULT	43	3.0%
BREAKING AND ENTERING	162	11.1%
LARCENY-THEFT	1145	78.7%
AUTO THEFT	53	3.6%
ARSON	4	0.3%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1455</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

The FBI compiles data from law enforcement agencies across the county and publishes the results in what is known as the Uniform Crime Report. This is a standardized report that washes out the subtle differences between jurisdictions, and gives a measure of crime that is comparable across the country. This report is divided into two parts. Part I crimes consist of four violent crimes and four property crimes. The violent crimes are: murder, rape, robbery, and aggravated assault. The property crimes consist of burglary, larceny/theft, auto theft, and arson. Part II crimes consist of all other minor crimes.

The city saw fewer rape and robbery numbers as well as one less homicide in 2015. There was an increase in the number of assaults in 2015; they jumped from 33 to 43. It should be noted that even with this increase the number of assaults is still constant with the national average for a population of 25,000, and well below the average for a population of 50,000. The overwhelming majority of Part I offenses were property crimes, with larceny/theft (including shoplifting) accounting for 79% of major crime and all property crime accounting for 94%. Only 6% of the major crimes in the city were violent crimes.

“  
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”



PART II CRIME GROUPED	Incidents	Percent
SIMPLE ASSAULTS	626	22.3%
FORGERY	77	2.7%
FRAUD	241	8.6%
CRIMINAL MISCHIEF	383	13.7%
SEX OFFENSES	36	1.3%
DRUG VIOLATIONS	754	26.9%
OFFENSES AGAINST FAMILY AND CHILDREN	81	2.9%
ALL OTHERS	604	21.6%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2802</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Part II offenses made up 66% of crimes reported in 2015. Of these crimes, drug violations and simple assault were the most common. While Part II offenses are considered minor crimes, we are not overlooking them in our 2016 efforts to drive down our crime numbers.

In 2015, PPD arrested fewer people compared to previous years. From 2014, there was an 8% decrease in the number of arrests. This includes a 23% decline in the number of juveniles taken into custody.

In order to address the increase in property crimes and minor crimes from 2014, we are planning more problem-oriented strategies to combat persistent crime issues. It is our goal to not only respond to crime, but to partner with the community to remove future crime opportunities from would-be offenders.



# Crime Report

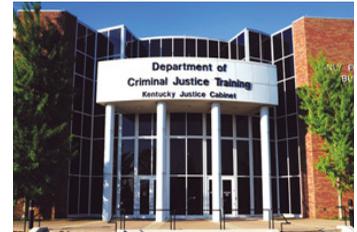
# The Office of Professional Standards



Captain George Johnson  
Professional Standards

The Paducah Police Department's Professional Standards Unit has multiple responsibilities including Internal Affairs investigations, managing accreditation materials, assisting with policy development and review, leading the Training Unit and assisting with recruitment. The Professional Standards unit also houses the department's Training Officer, Community Resource Officer and the department's Crime Analyst. Officers employed by the Paducah Police Department receive some of the best training the country has to offer. Before the officer ever hits the streets they must successfully complete a rigorous training schedule through the state academy located in Richmond, Kentucky, on the Eastern Kentucky University campus.

Kentucky's basic training academy was recently raised from 888 hours to 928 hours as the minimum number of hours required for certification. The only other state in the country that requires more time in the academy is Rhode Island at 950 hours. Yet Kentucky surpasses Rhode Island in training as Kentucky officers are required to have, at minimum, 40 hours per year of professional development training.



In 2015, the Paducah Police Department was again able to have in-house training that was conducted by the department's 20 field instructors. All of the department's officers were able to refresh skill sets including precision driving, firearms use, defensive tactics, and active shooter response and suppression. The training is coordinated by the department's Training Officer Scotty Davis. Officer Davis is tasked with not only the in-house training, but with insuring that each officer is scheduled for yearly professional development and any other training programs that are utilized. Officer Davis also serves as the department's Quartermaster.

As officers promote to specialized positions or supervision, the training requirements can become even more rigorous. Newly promoted sergeants attend the Academy of Police Supervision (APS). This intensive three-week academy in Richmond, Kentucky, helps develop a leadership mindset for new supervisors. Beyond the Academy of Police Supervision some supervisors are given the opportunity to attend Criminal Justice Executive Development and/or the Southern Police Institute's Administrative Officer's Course, which is a 12-week instruction session. In addition, the Paducah Police Department also supports and has graduates from the FBI's National Academy.

In 2015, 38 complaints were documented department-wide. These complaints were comprised of 30 internal complaints and eight external complaints. Of the internal complaints, 25 resulted in employee counseling or written disciplinary action, one led to suspension, two resulted in loss of employment, and two were unfounded. Of the eight external complaints, one resulted in a suspension, the remainder were unfounded or unsubstantiated.

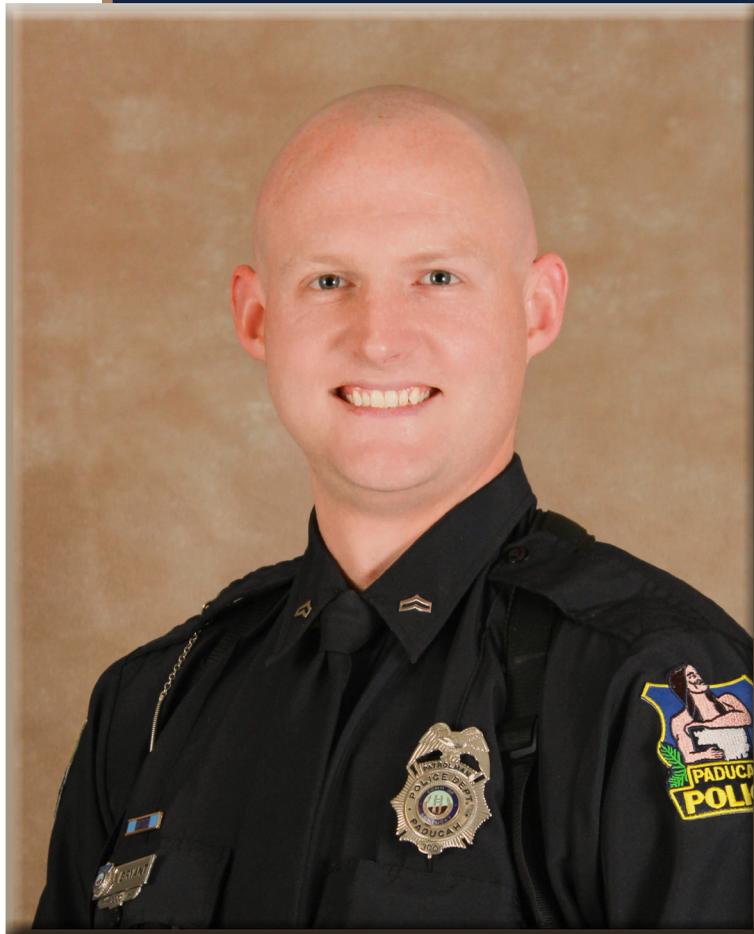
# Employee of the Year 2015

Officer Josh Bryant was chosen as the 2015 Paducah Police Department Employee of the Year. His fellow officer, Melissa Dillon, nominated him. In 2015, the Paducah Police Department implemented body worn cameras. In her nomination, Officer Dillon wrote, "...One of the biggest projects the Paducah Police Department undertook was the implementation of the body worn camera. It was critical to select the right company and camera. Officer Bryant took it upon himself to lead the field-testing and evaluation of many products. Officer Bryant tested, researched and evaluated many different brands to ensure that we were getting the best product to meet our needs."

Officer Bryant also worked on set up and roll out of the body worn camera equipment.

Officer Bryant started with the Paducah Police Department in August 2007. He is a senior member of the Collision Reconstruction Team and serves as an advisor to the Paducah

Police Department's Explorer Program. He assists the department and its personnel on a regular basis with technical issues pertaining to computers, scanners, body worn cameras or other technical products utilized by the department. Officer Bryant is a department instructor and teaches classes on the use of radar and Lidar.



## 2015 Awards

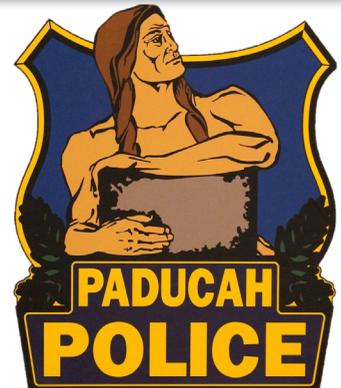
Chief's Award: Sergeant Justin Crowell

Meritorious Service Award: Officer Jason Hicks

Administrative Commendation: Sergeant Wes Orazine

Service Commendation: Jon Boulton

Life-Saving Award: Officer Josh Bryant, Officer Jason Hicks



# Paducah Police Special Units



## SWAT

As with the other special units, SWAT is a secondary assignment for officers. To be a member of the team, officers must go through a rigorous testing process, which involves a physical fitness test and a high level of marksmanship. The team meets national standards by training 16 hours a month. SWAT was called out once in 2015 when a violent suspect barricaded himself inside a home.

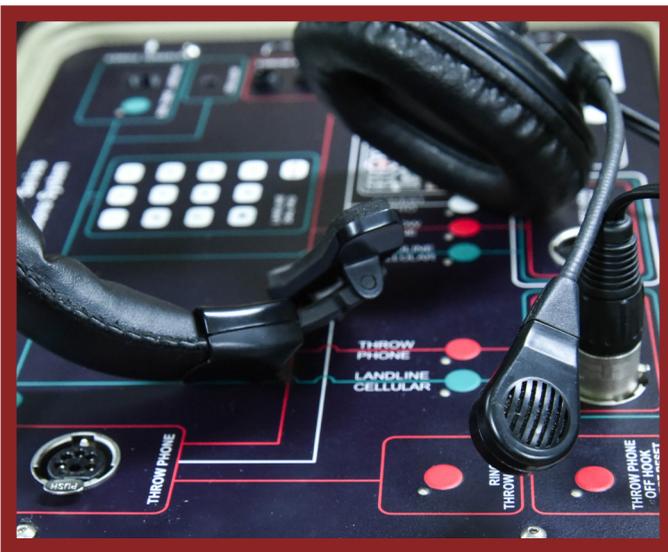


## K-9

The PPD has three K-9 teams, which are assigned to the Operations Division. Each team is comprised of one officer and a dual purpose Belgian Malinois. K-9 Fox is partnered with Officer Lofton Rowley, K-9 Junior works with Officer Nathan Antonites and K-9 Huub has Officer Shawn Craven for a partner. All three dogs have been trained and receive weekly training in narcotics detection, tracking and article searches. In 2015, the teams conducted 31 tracks, 20 article searches, 173 narcotic searches and responded to several after-hours call outs. The teams also conduct school searches and public demonstrations. Over the course of the year, they conducted 16 demonstrations for nearly 1200 adults and children.

## Bomb Squad

The Paducah Police Department Bomb Squad is a four-person unit whose goal is to protect the community from hazardous devices and to educate the public on how to keep themselves safe in the event of a hazardous device incident. The Bomb Squad not only serves the citizens of the City of Paducah, but also responds to the needs of the surrounding region. This service is made possible by a partnership with the FBI. During 2015, the Bomb Squad responded to 10 calls and gave 12 public presentations.



## Crisis Negotiation Team

The CNT is comprised of four officers specially trained to talk with people in crisis. In 2015, CNT was called out four times, three of which involved a person in a mental health crisis. In each of the three situations, the negotiators successfully resolved the situation with no one being injured. The team also responded to assist SWAT with a criminal who barricaded himself inside a home.



# Body Worn Cameras



We were very pleased this year to roll out body-worn cameras (BWCs) to all of our patrol officers. The public attention to police use of force encounters, particularly following the 2014 deaths of Michael Brown and Eric Garner, have helped spur public dialogue concerning the importance of BWCs as a method of increasing transparency and ensuring accountability with police action. Having implemented in-car cameras (dash cams) in our patrol cars in 1997, our officers were accustomed to having their actions recorded. However, the BWCs offer the advantage of providing video wherever the officer goes.

While Taser's system was not the cheapest, the five-year contract we signed with the company has several advantages. First, the camera pack itself is a ruggedized piece of equipment that is well suited for the type of work police officers do, day-in and day-out. The system offers a high quality video; it has sufficient memory and battery life to record for more than eight hours at a time; and many other intricate features that make it superior to similar products. In addition, our contract provides for two full

replacements of the equipment over the five-year term—including upgrades as Taser enhances their products. With the way technology advances over time and given the rough conditions these cameras are exposed to, we felt this was important, and it ensures we will have the best quality equipment in the field in the future. Taser is a very large company, with a very big corporate footprint in the BWC market, and an industry-leading record of accomplishment and innovation. They have been in the BWC business since about 2005.

The department used a small committee of officers to help roll this project out: Assistant Chief David White, Captain George Johnson, and officers James Davis, Scotty Davis, Josh Bryant, and Chris Fearon, as well as Evidence Technician Amy Travis and assistant Amanda Kinser. While praise is due all committee members for helping push this innovation out with very few glitches, particular thanks is owed to Officer Josh Bryant, who helped oversee much of the testing and evaluation, as well as the behind-the-scenes technical work of setting our systems up.



The Taser system is backed up by a cloud-based computer server, which allows our videos to be securely uploaded to their website (evidence.com) as soon as the officer docks the device at the end of their shift. This prevents us from having to worry with an on-site computer with the terabytes of space necessary to keep up with all that video. According to the current contract, the department is allowed six terabytes per year on the cloud, so it is important that officers classify their videos based on the type of contact. Videos then are deleted according to the records retention schedule, which is recommended or mandated by law. Videos of lesser consequence are deleted more quickly, while things like use of force

encounters and contacts that lead to arrests are held for much longer.

The Taser system also ensures that officers are never allowed to delete or alter the original recordings. The cloud system always keeps the original video file, and it tracks anyone who has viewed or shared the video in an evidentiary-style log.

When video files are requested by the court, they can be sent via a web link, which is emailed to the attorney's office, rather than copied to a DVD. The new system is much more efficient and is expected to save a significant amount of time.

# Support Services Division



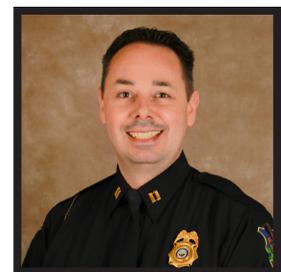
*Assistant Chief  
David White  
Support Services*

Police serve a critical role in our community that reaches beyond the uniformed patrol officer's initial response to a call for service. Behind the scenes, detectives pick up the work of serious felony cases, giving them the investigative attention they deserve and helping put dangerous criminals away. Our drug detectives work collaboratively with state and federal investigators to curtail the illicit drug trade in our area—something that too often is connected to outside sources; our Records Unit manages the information we collect, ensuring that we are compliant with public records laws and we are completely transparent with our community; and our evidence technicians ensure that we maintain the highest level of accountability with the evidence we collect.

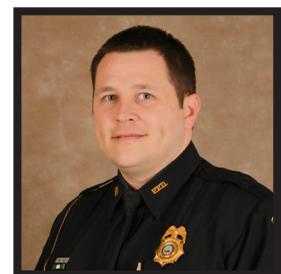
All of these functions fall within the responsibility of the Paducah Police Department's Support Services Division.

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The General Investigation Unit (GIU) manages serious felony investigations, and in 2015, detectives maintained a case clearance rate of 70.6%, which is exceptionally high. Of the department's 803 felony reports in 2015, the GIU detectives investigated 225 cases—primarily the most serious felonies. These include 76 after-hours calls to respond to crimes that had just occurred. Additionally, our Digital Forensics Unit (DFU) examined 312 computer hard drives and other digital media sources related to everything from homicide and robbery cases, to sex and drug cases. The two DFU investigators, Sgt. Justin Crowell and Det. Justin Hodges, opened 130 cases for investigation: 55 for the Paducah Police Department with 95 exams, and 75 for other law enforcement agencies with a total of 217 exams. This work is part of a collaborative effort with other law enforcement partners to accelerate the forensic examination of digital media sources that now play a key role in a wide variety of criminal investigations.



*Captain Brian Laird  
Support Services*



*Sergeant Matt Smith  
Support Services*



Crime and accident reports can now be obtained online in lieu of obtaining a copy at the Police Department.

The Records and Evidence Unit helps manage requests for public records, and they manage the intake, safe storage, and proper disposal of evidence. In 2015, officers logged 3,005 pieces of evidence and evidence personnel were able to dispose of 3,345 old items. In all, the Evidence Unit houses approximately 11,000 pieces of evidence at any given time.

Last year was a transitional year for much of our Support Services leadership team, and for many of our employees. In addition to personnel changes, the Records and Evidence Unit absorbed the responsibility of managing requests for body-worn camera (BWC) videos. The unit had been (and remains) responsible for copying videos of in-car video for pending court cases, and they now have the responsibility of copying and sending BWC video when they are requested by the court. Luckily, one of the features of the Taser (evidence.com) system that the City purchased is that it allows the evidence technician to do this simply by identifying the video and emailing a hyper link to the requesting party. The ease of the Taser system saves time and money, compared to systems that require each video to be burned to DVD.

In all, the Support Service Division met or exceeded most of their stated goals for 2015, and as we turn toward 2016, we want the citizens of Paducah-McCracken County to know that we are working hard for you. If you have any questions or concerns related to the Support Services Division, feel free to reach out to me at any time at [dwhite@paducahky.gov](mailto:dwhite@paducahky.gov).



Sergeant Anthony Copeland Support Services

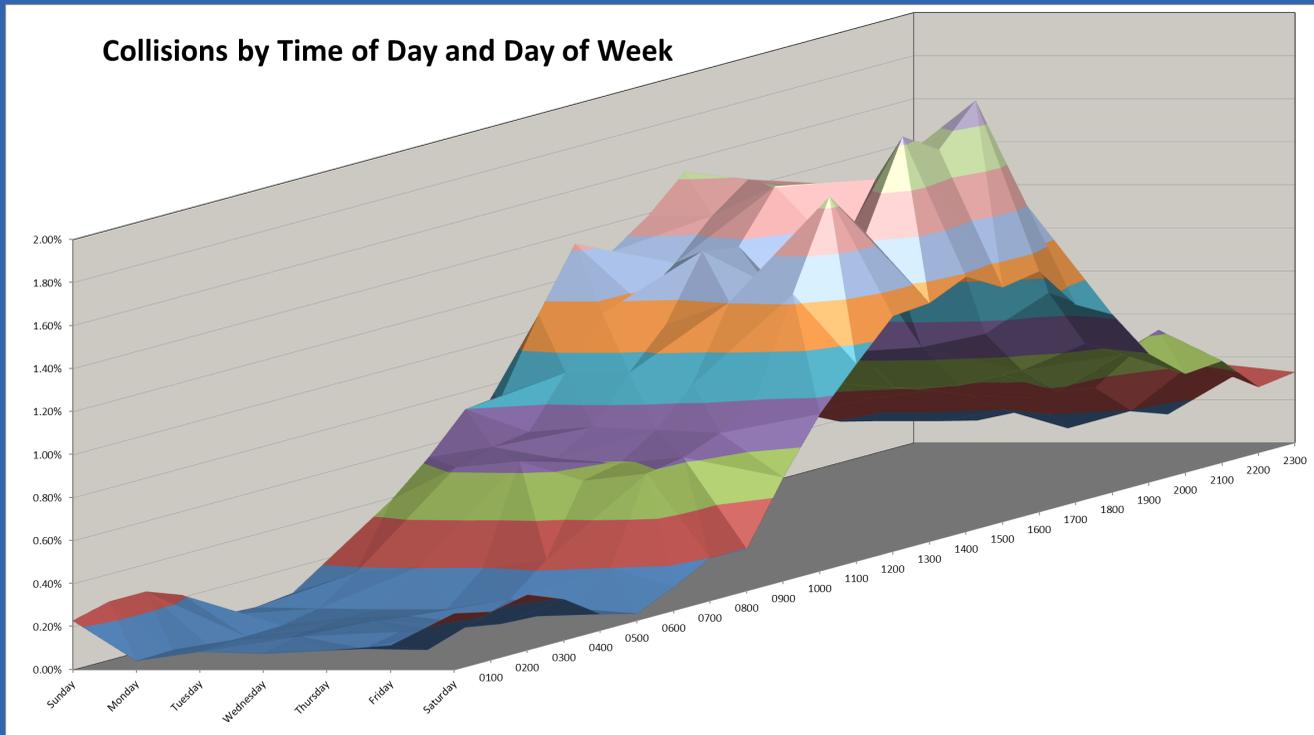
The Drug Unit opened 270 cases, 149 of which were related to prescription drug abuse. The unit charged 167 people with felony offenses, and while we work to enforce drug laws, we participate in a more comprehensive strategy

to reduce the impact of drug abuse in our area. That is, we actively support and participate in the Paducah-McCracken County Drug Court program, which gives offenders a second chance, and we participate in a semi-annual drug take-back program and offer citizens a drug drop-box in our lobby. In 2015, the drug take-back program resulted in the collection of 584 pounds of unused or unwanted medications.



# 2015 Traffic Report

In 2015, the Paducah Police Department created a Crime Analyst Office. We now have a greater ability to understand our numbers.



Ten years of data was collected and analyzed to highlight the most frequent day and time that accidents are occurring in the City of Paducah. Through this type of analysis, department administration can form solid opinions and strategies on accident reduction tactics.

Collision Comparison 2014-2015			
	2014	2015	Percent Change
Total Collisions	1548	1912	24%
Fatal Collisions	1	7	600%
Injury Collisions	312	393	26%
Persons Killed	1	8	700%
Persons Injured	513	592	15%

Traffic collisions in 2015 saw a significant increase over 2014. There was a 24% increase in the total number of collisions, and seven resulted in fatal injuries. The number of injury collisions increased by 26% from 312 to 393. More disturbing is that the number of collisions increased by 20% from the past five-year average. (See figure 2)

Figure 2

# Contributing Factors

Top 10 Contributing Collision Factors			
Contributing Factor	2014	2015	Percent Change
Inattention	579	789	36%
Failed To Yield Right Of Way	379	415	9%
Not Under Proper Control	210	258	23%
Misjudge Clearance	120	203	69%
Following Too Close	132	194	47%
Distraction	97	152	57%
Disregard Traffic Control	99	104	5%
Too Fast For Conditions	59	73	24%
Improper Backing	52	71	37%
Alcohol Involvement	30	43	43%

There are many factors that could lead to the increase in collisions, such as road construction and traffic volume, but none of those factors are as relevant as driving behavior. The largest recorded human factor contributing to collisions in 2015 was inattention. This data is derived from accident investigations and on-scene interviews with individuals involved in the collision investigation.

Figure 3

# High Collision Intersections

Top Five Collision Roadways	
1	Hinkleville Rd /US 60
2	Lone Oak Rd /US 45
3	Irvin Cobb Drive
4	Broadway
5	James Sanders Blvd

In order to combat this increase, the Paducah Police Department plans to increase traffic enforcement geared toward the human factors that contribute to many of these collisions, such as monitoring for vehicles traveling too close to each other or failing to yield the right of way to oncoming vehicles. This increase in enforcement will take place in the areas of the city that have a higher concentration of collisions. These areas are intersections around high traffic roads. Hinkleville Road around the Kentucky Oaks Mall is a particular area of interest, for example. (See figure 4) In addition to increasing focused enforcement, we plan to continue programs that educate the public about the dangers of distraction and inattention while driving.

Figure 4

# Crime Analysis

## What drives the numbers?

To answer this question, we can examine what the FBI considers major crimes. These crimes are broken down into two categories of violent crime and property crime. In 2015, violent crime consisted of 6% of the department's major crime reports, and property crime made up the other 94%. Violent crimes are murder, rape, robbery, and aggravated assault, while property crimes are burglary, theft, and auto theft. Assault and robbery make up the majority of violent crime, while burglary and theft make up most of the property crime.

Of all major crime reports in 2015, theft makes up 79%, and a big portion of these thefts is shoplifting. Given this, thefts expectedly cluster around retail locations in the city, but a very small amount of retailers account for the vast majority of theft reports. These reports are the largest driver of major crime trends in Paducah.

The reason a few retailers drive the trend is because of differences in store policies on crime prevention. Some retailers design their shopping environment to encourage buying goods while discouraging theft. Retailers accomplish this in part by having a staff that greets customers, having an abundance of open spaces to make

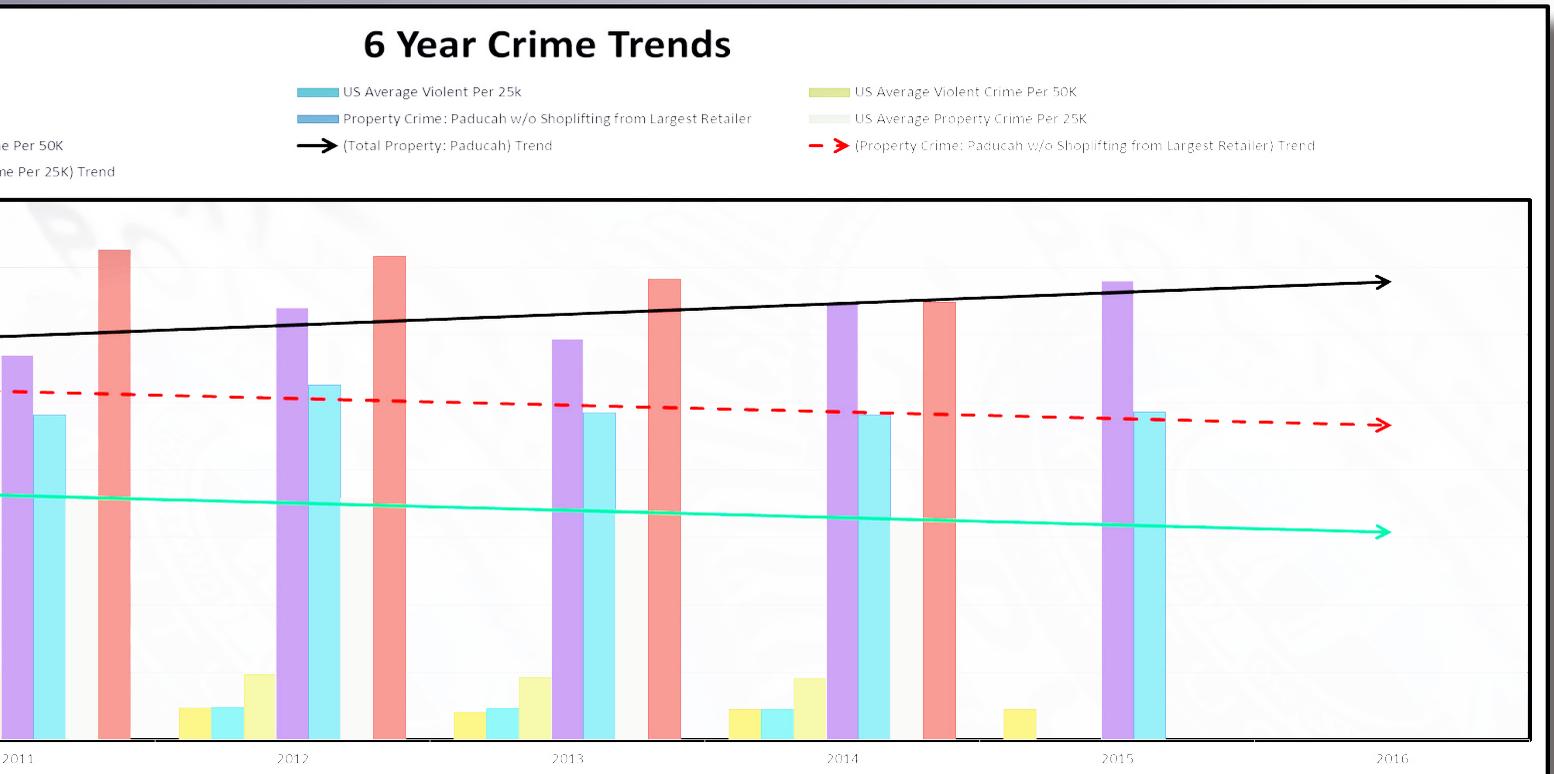
concealing items difficult, and the strategic placement of items commonly targeted by thieves. In other words, these retailers focus on eliminating opportunities to steal.

Other retailers focus on covert surveillance as a means of catching thieves in the act, and place little emphasis on eliminating the opportunity to steal.

***“Of all major crime reports in 2015, theft makes up 79%, and a big portion of these thefts is shoplifting.”***



# Using data to drive community policing in the 21st century.



## Adding a Full-Time Analyst

Crime is not random. In fact, researchers have shown that crime concentrates among people and places. In one study, the top worst 10 percent of places accounted for 60% of crimes, and the top worst 10 percent of offenders were responsible for 55% of crimes. This type of concentration is true for Paducah. In 2015, 25% of all crime reports came from just 13 addresses. Data from past police calls, citations, reports, and tips are essential to understanding where we should focus our resources.

The Paducah Police Department consistently strives to make the best of our resources in the service of the community. This philosophy led us to hire the department's first full-time crime ana-

lyst in 2015. In the 21st century, data is everywhere. The crime analyst makes the vast amount of information available to the police usable, with the goal of detecting, preventing, and eliminating concentrated crime problems.

The creation of this position helps to move the department toward a more evidence-based, proactive style of community policing. The crime analyst is dedicated to using academic research and the data available to the police to help form the department's practices in the community.

Spelman, W., & Eck, J. E. (1989). Sitting ducks, ravenous wolves and helping hands: new approaches to urban policing. Lyndon B. Johnson School of Public Affairs, University of Texas at Austin. Figure excludes reports taken at the police station.

# Defending Against

## Vigilance

Active shooter incidents can be prevented. Breaking the silence about threats is the first and most crucial step in prevention. In 93% of the occurrences the shooter acted in ways that caused concern prior to the incident and in 81% of the cases the perpetrator told another person their intentions or idea before the attack.

Paducah police officers are put through rigorous Active Shooter Training every year.

Each of the scenarios is based on prior historical



active shooter incidents. The agency trains with the mindset that past behavior is the best indicator of future behavior. By studying past attacks and police response we can better prepare ourselves to protect the community.

***"In 93% of the occurrences the shooter acted in ways that caused concern prior to the incident...."***

The Active Shooter Training Program at the Paducah Police Department trains all officers in the areas of mindset, response, tactics, stopping the threat, treating the wounded, and protecting all at the scene, as well as additional categories.

Preserving life is the foremost focus and reason for the coordinated program. The program has been in place for four years and was developed after sending four officers to two different instructor schools. The training uses various locations in Paducah such as schools, hospitals, the mall and businesses, along with interacting with role players during practical exercises that are designed to challenge the officers on what has been learned.



Sergeant Ryan Conn training on Active Shooter scenarios.

Active shooter incidents are one of, if not the most dangerous and violent occurrences that take place in the United States for both law enforcement and citizens alike. The assailants that have chosen to engage in an action of such heinous intent often form plans, gather weapons and pick a vulnerable location to carry out the attack. The attackers historically have placed themselves in positions to gain tactical advantage, and have often been more heavily armed than the initial police response.

According to the FBI, the current average is 16.4 active shooter incidents per year, or one every three weeks. The FBI reports there have been 160 incidents in 13 years and a steady increase in frequency. Clearly recognizing these trends and statistics, the Paducah Police Department has taken great effort in working with the community to prevent an incident from happening, and has prepared to respond in the best and most effective manner by national standards. One of the basic teachings about active shooter incidents is they can happen anywhere and there is no proven profile to predict the shooters.

***"According to the FBI, the current average is 16.4 active shooter incidents per year, or one every three weeks."***

# the *Active Shooter*

In previous active shooter incidents in this country, attackers have utilized body armor and rifles, hardening themselves for the police response. The Paducah Police Department has recognized this trend, and supplies patrol rifles to officers after the completion of a 3-day Patrol Rifle Course. The agency has been able to reduce the cost of the Active Shooter program by receiving and issuing rifles from the Federal DRMO or 1099 program. The rifles come at no cost to the agency or officer, and allow for advanced training and an increased ability to respond to larger threats. The program placed demands on the agency, largely in the acquisition and distribution of resources for the department and officer.



DRMO Rifles

## **RUN. HIDE. FIGHT!**



## **RUN!**

If it is safe, run out of the building and far away until you are in a safe location.

## **HIDE!**

If running is not a safe option, hide in as safe a place as possible.

## **FIGHT!**

As a last resort, adults in immediate danger should consider using force and items in their environment: fire extinguishers and chairs.

## **Preparing for Injury**



Dr. Irvin Smith

Emergency medical response to the active shooter scenario is based on the recommendations of the Tactical Emergency Casualty Care (TECC) guidelines which are centered on the military Tactical Combat Casualty Care (TCCC) program.



National experts call for the basic TECC procedures to be taught to all law enforcement officers. The best medical care in the active shooter scenario, and the first task of law enforcement, is to stop the shooter. Once the shooting is stopped, the officers can begin to render basic medical aid using the TECC guidelines. The basic TECC principles are bleeding control and basic airway management. EMS providers must access critically injured victims quickly. The TECC guidelines call for the formation of a "rescue task force" which consists of a group of EMS providers being escorted into the shooting scene by law enforcement. In 2014, the Paducah police and Mercy Regional EMS worked cooperatively to bring TECC training to Paducah. Within days of completing TECC training Paducah police officers deployed a combat application tourniquet (CAT) to control bleeding.

# D.A.R.E.

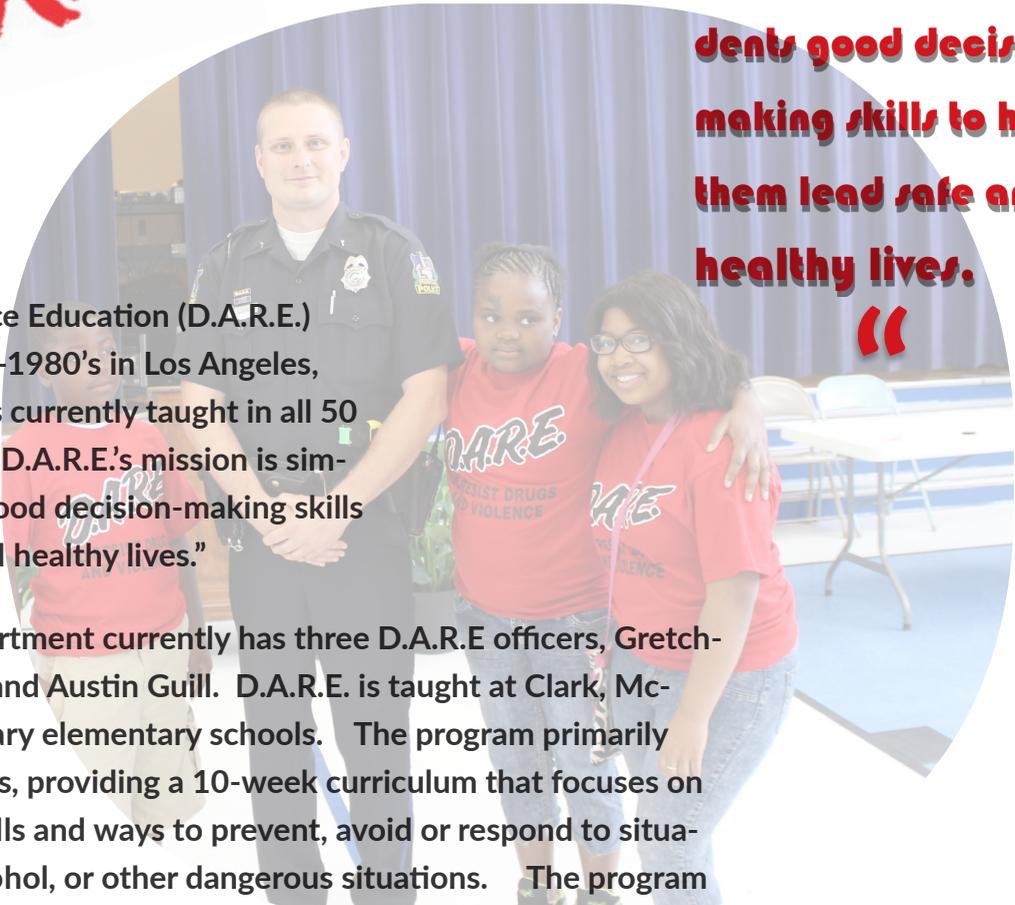
**))  
D.A.R.E.'s mission is  
simple: Teaching stu-  
dents good decision-  
making skills to help  
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The Drug Abuse Resistance Education (D.A.R.E.) program began in the mid-1980's in Los Angeles, California. The program is currently taught in all 50 states and 49 countries. D.A.R.E.'s mission is simple: "Teaching students good decision-making skills to help them lead safe and healthy lives."

The Paducah Police Department currently has three D.A.R.E officers, Gretchen Morgan, Jason Hicks, and Austin Guill. D.A.R.E. is taught at Clark, McNabb, Morgan, and St. Mary elementary schools. The program primarily targets 5th grade students, providing a 10-week curriculum that focuses on good decision-making skills and ways to prevent, avoid or respond to situations involving drugs, alcohol, or other dangerous situations. The program targets this age group so they have the skill sets in place to make good choices before they encounter these dangerous situations. The D.A.R.E. officers also provide abbreviated lessons to K-3rd grade, with lessons on personal safety and conflict resolution.

In 2015, 236 students graduated from the D.A.R.E. program. We are thankful for the cooperation and partnership of both Paducah City Schools and St. Mary School System, for allowing us the opportunity to make a difference in these young peoples' lives.

The D.A.R.E. program is supported financially by the Paducah Police Department. Teaching materials and rewards are purchased each year for the students. If you are interested in contributing to the D.A.R.E. effort, contact Officer Gretchen Morgan for more information. She can be reached by email at: [gmorgan@paducahky.gov](mailto:gmorgan@paducahky.gov).



The Volunteers in Police Service (VIPS) program provides volunteer support staff to aid sworn and civilian personnel in the effective delivery of services to the community. Volunteers supplement existing Police Department services, freeing paid employees to perform their necessary duties.

In 2015, the Paducah Police Department VIPS had 531 hours of service for the department. Volunteers assisted with the Iron Mom Half Marathon, Lower Town Arts Festival, The Riverfront Concert Series, the 4th of July Riverfront Fireworks, BBQ on the River, Halloween on Jefferson, CPA classes, and Christmas With A Cop. Paducah Police VIPS now has 15 active members and continues to grow.



## Citizen's Police Academy

In 2015, the Paducah Police Department hosted the annual Citizen's Police Academy. Training Officer Scotty Davis and Community Resource Officer Gretchen Morgan guided participants through an 11-week period of "behind the scenes" access to the department. Each week a different division was highlighted and participants were exposed to a myriad of police functions from investigations to DUI stops, and from the SWAT team to the bomb squad. Participants were encouraged to go hands-on from time to time in order to gain a new perspective of their police department. Community Resource Officer Gretchen Morgan states, "One of the best benefits of the Citizen's Police Academy is it allows the department to be more transparent and helps participants develop positive relationships with the department."



Citizen's Police Academy

Class of 2015



A class participant gets some "hands on" experience with the bomb suit.



Police Chief Brandon Barnhill helps his new friends place their handprint on the United We Stand project.



In 2015, the Paducah Police department teamed with Paducah Parks and Recreation and Better Than Ever Art Studio to sponsor "United We Stand." The project kicked off the July 4th celebration at the Riverfront in downtown Paducah. Kids and adults of all ages were invited to unite and place their handprint on the project billboard. The project was a terrific success. Community Resource Officer Gretchen Morgan said, "This project united many people in downtown Paducah. The police department was given the opportunity to help unite people of all ages, races, and genders for a few moments to make a meaningful statement." The project remains on display in Paducah Parks and Recreation's main office.

The Paducah Police Department participates annually in the "Touch-a-Truck" event. During the Touch-a-Truck event children are invited to come and explore all types of emergency response vehicles, utility vehicles, and other interesting trucks. The event allows children to interact in a fun and non-threatening environment. This event draws a large crowd and is always met with many smiles and abundant good times.

Officer Chelsea Breakfield takes time out of a busy night to make police hats with a new friend at Chick-fil-A Family Night



Paducah Police Officers had many opportunities in 2015 to attend events and have positive social contact with the community they serve. Pictured above Paducah Police popped popcorn at a Live on the River event in August of 2015 and made many new friends at Chick-fil-A Family Night.

UNITED WE STAND  
WITH PADUCAH



## Chief's Community Forum

Shortly after assuming his duties as Chief of Police, Brandon Barnhill took steps to open the lines of communication between the Paducah Police Department and Paducah's African-American community.

One of those steps was the formation of the Chief's Community Forum, a group of community leaders who meet to discuss topics of concern and interest in not only the African-American community, but the entire City of Paducah.

Chief Barnhill invited representatives from local churches and schools, the local NAACP chapter, and the Oscar Cross Boys and Girls Club, to name a few, to the first meeting and the Forum since has taken off. The Forum has been successful in providing a venue for police department command staff to meet in an informal setting to listen to concerns and provide information to this variety of interests.

"I feel that the Paducah Police Community Forum is good for our community," said Justin Hill, College Completion Coach at West Kentucky Community and Technical College. "The information provided by Chief Barnhill and other officers gives us insight on what they go through on a daily basis, to protect and serve our community.

"The meetings I have attended have been very productive and informative. My opinion is valued and we get to bring everything to the table and talk about various issues, whether they are local or national. Being a part of this forum, I have had many conversations with friends and family. I have attempted to clear any misconceptions that may arise through other opinions."

Alvin Moore, also of WKCTC, is another

member of the forum. "I believe the information presented and resulting dialogue generated by the forum has been very healthy for the police department and the community," he said. "The meetings provide an opportunity for perceptions to be aired and understood. The understanding supports continued improvement within the police department and supports improved relationships within the community as those in attendance communicate with others.

"Having a first-hand relationship with police leaders allows attendees within the course of their everyday life to speak positively to correct misconceptions of our Paducah Police Department. I commend the chief in his effort to support open communication and community unity."

J.W. Cleary, president of the Paducah/McCracken County Branch of the NAACP, said the Forum has shown him that Chief Barnhill intends to "put his money where his mouth is."

"I have truly enjoyed working with the committee and our Chief of Police Barnhill," Cleary said. "He has showed us he is trying to make a difference in our community for everybody. Up to his point, he has showed us he is doing what he said he is going to do."

Chief Barnhill intends to build on the Forum's success and keep the momentum going as he looks for other ways to reach out to the community that this department serves. To this point, a partnership has been formed with Paducah Tilghman High School for a similar forum involving students, in an effort to increase dialog with that age group in community.

# Paducah City Commission

## Paducah Mayor



*"Safety is a large component of offering a high quality-of-life to our citizens. The Paducah Police Department strives to always be ahead of the curve when it comes to training and utilizing state-of-the-art equipment. Community policing initiatives have built a strong bridge between our law enforcement and Paducah's citizens."*

*-Mayor Gayle Kayler*



**Jeff Pederson, City Manager**



Commissioner Sandra Wilson



Commissioner Alan Rhodes



Commissioner Richard Abraham



Commissioner Carol Gault



[paducahky.gov](http://paducahky.gov)