

TRAVERSE CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT 2021 ANNUAL REPORT

CHIEF JEFFREY J. O'BRIEN



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MISSION STATEMENT:

Excellence in public service and safety through community policing.

DEPARTMENT VALUES:

COMPASSION

We care for and empathize with our fellow human beings.

COURAGE

We face danger to ensure the safety of others. We stand up for what is right. We will brave when others may not. We eliminate fear through our actions.

EXCELLENCE

We employ those who strive to achieve a higher standard. We listen to our employees and members of our community to continually improve our effectiveness and reliability. We strive to exceed community and professional expectations.

FAIRNESS

We treat all individuals impartially. We act in a just manner. We embrace different points of view. We exercise discretion appropriately.

INTEGRITY

We fulfill our mission in its entirety using sound principles, honesty, and sincerity.

RESOURCEFULNESS

We are relied upon to help and support. We have the ability to deal with situations effectively. We build on mutual experiences to effectively resolve problems.

RESPECT

We value the rights and beliefs of others. We are courteous. We treat others as we expect to be treated. We appreciate diversity.

WORK ETHIC

We are self-motivated and self-directed. We do what is asked to achieve expectations. We hold ourselves to the highest standards.

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF

ADMINISTRATION

The Office Of The Chief Of Police is comprised of the department's command staff along with civilian support personnel.

The sworn officers are:

Jeffrey J. O'Brien, Chief of Police

James A. Bussell, Captain - Investigative Division

Keith L. Gillis, Captain - Patrol Division

Erich T. Bohrer, Lieutenant - Patrol Division

The support personnel include:

Andrea J. Langler, Administrative Assistant to the Chief of Police

Christine L. Klco, Administrative Clerk/Evidence



Jeffrey J. O'Brien
Chief
1991



Andrea J. Langler
Accreditation Specialist
2020



Christine L. Klco
Administrative Clerk
2020

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF

ACHIEVEMENTS & OBJECTIVES

21ST CENTURY POLICING:

The Traverse City Police Department has embraced the six pillars of the President's Task Force on 21st Century Policing, they include:

Pillar 1 - Building Trust & Legitimacy

Pillar 4 - Community Policing & Crime Reduction

Pillar 2 - Policy & Oversight

Pillar 5 - Training & Education

Pillar 3 - Technology & Social Media

Pillar 6 - Officer Wellness & Safety

COMMUNITY POLICING ADVISORY BOARD:

The final report of the President's Task Force on 21st Century Policing specifically recommended the use of civilian advisory boards and community outreach programs.

- Citizen participation promotes trust in government operations.
- Conflict can arise between citizen involvement and traditional principles of public administration theory and practices.
- Implementation must be thoughtful and purposeful, focusing on the situation needing to be addressed.

The ideal role of advisory bodies, notes that these panels should seek to:

- Develop alternative solutions and new ideas through comprehensive interaction.
- Provide informed recommendations on public policies and practices through research and personal experience.

HEALTHIER DRINKING CULTURE - Phase 2:

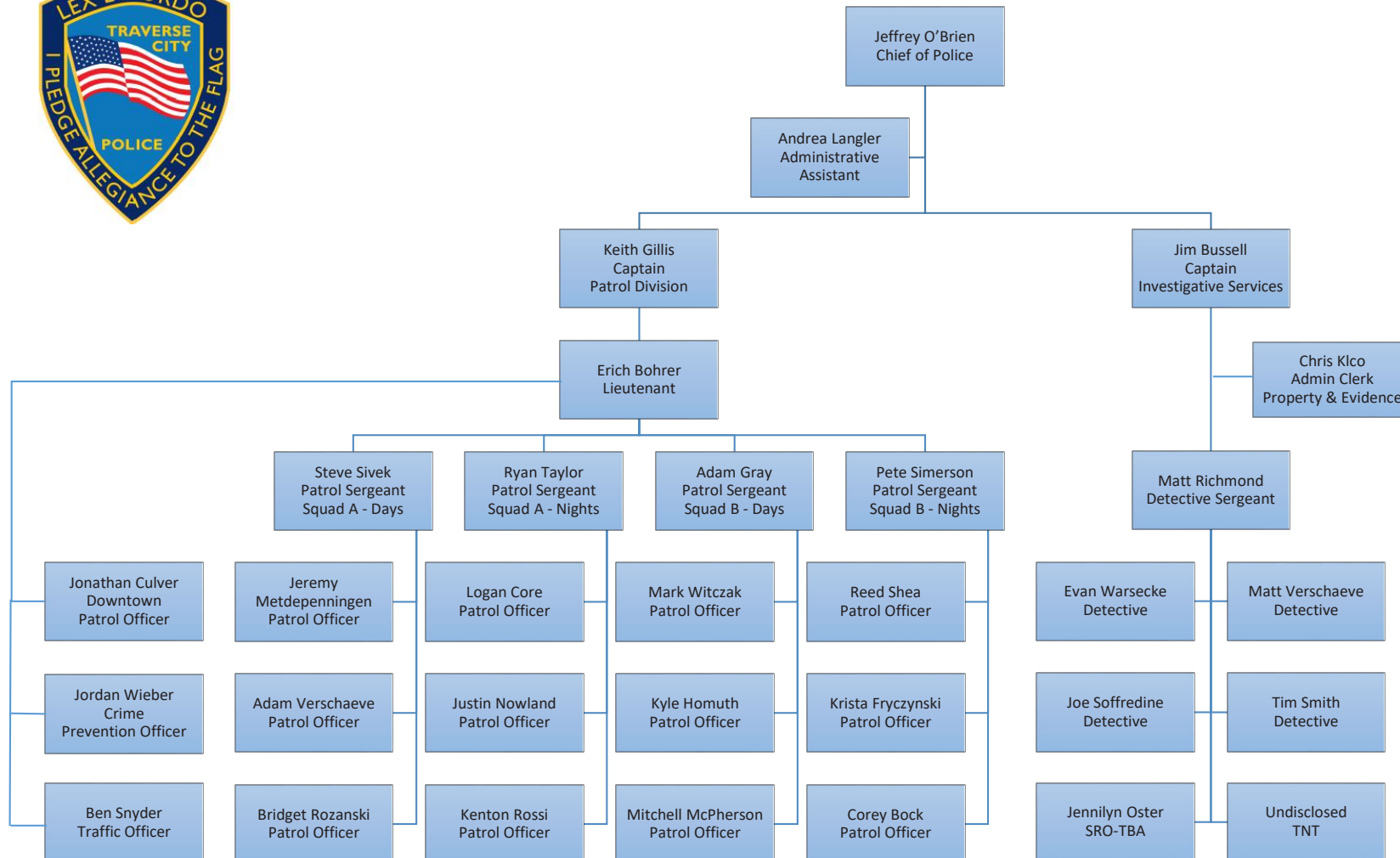
The Healthier Drinking Culture launched in early 2021 with a focus on promoting safer drinking habits through education and community input. In Phase 2, the HDC will work to develop the Responsible Drinking Council. The Council will work with business owners and staff to develop a mindset that will encourage those responsible for serving guests promote safer drinking habits. It is an initiative dedicated to community engagement and listening, cooperation and celebration among those invested.

QUICK RESPONSE TEAM - MSP ANGEL PROGRAM:

In partnership with the Michigan State Police, the TCPD will work to develop a Quick Response Team (QRT) that will consist of a collaborative multidisciplinary membership. In 2021, the MSP was awarded federal funds to directly work to combat opioid, stimulant and substance abuse in the state of Michigan. Through our relationship with the MSP Angel Program, they will provide a subaward to our agency that will be used to form and develop a QRT as an alternative to individuals with substance abuse disorders. Innovative programs are needed now more than ever to help reduce the rate of overdoses in our community and to help families heal and recover from the drug overdose epidemic.

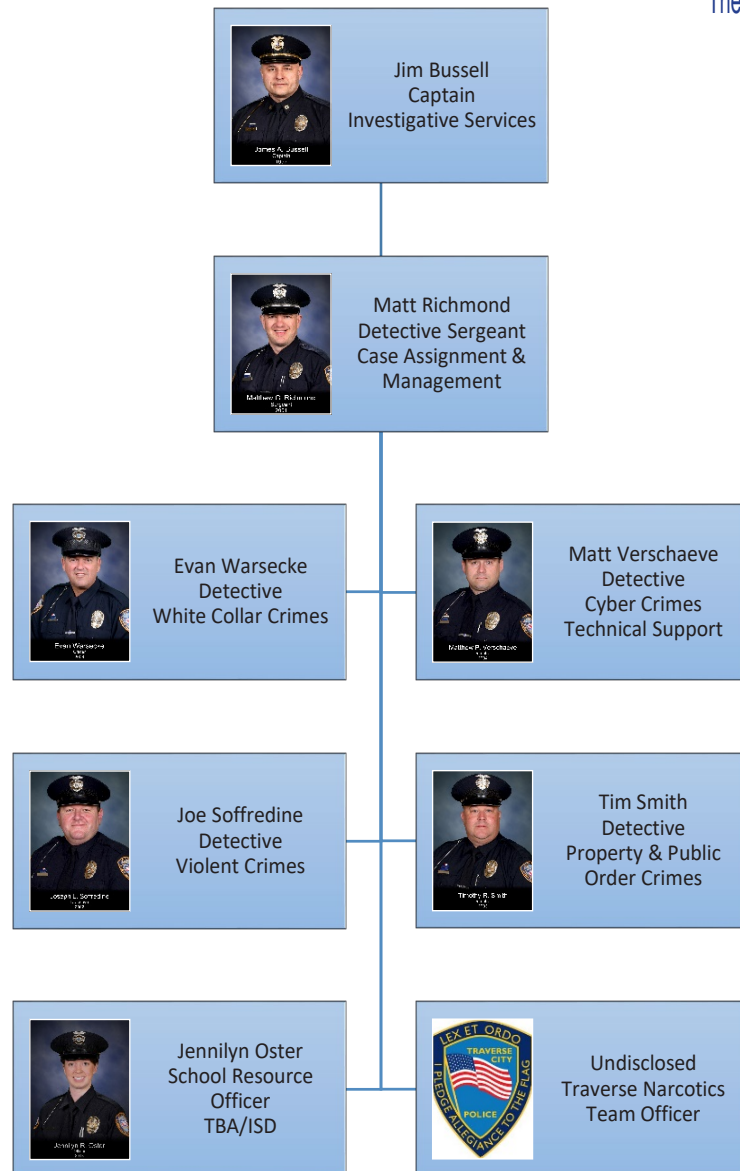
ORGANIZATIONAL CHART

TRAVERSE CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT ORGANIZATIONAL CHART 2021



INVESTIGATIVE SERVICES DIVISION

The Division consists of various units with each having its own assigned personnel and responsibility. Due to the size of our agency, it is necessary that personnel be assigned to several areas within, and in some cases outside, of the Division.



PROPERTY/EVIDENCE SECTION

548 items were processed into evidence.

\$8,822.91 cash was submitted into evidence; of that \$7,054.70 was returned to the rightful owner.

26 firearms were brought into evidence and 5 released.

48 Blood kits were submitted into evidence and sent to the MSP Lansing lab.

6 SANE kits were submitted and entered in to the Track Kit System.

1,694.25 pounds of drugs from the Law Enforcements Centers POD were taken in and destroyed.

1 surplus auction was held in June of 2021 with the sale of 24 bikes a revenue of \$778.05 was collected.

INVESTIGATIVE SERVICES DIVISION

STATISTICS

Case Status					
Year	Total Closed	Percent Closed	Total Open/Inactive	Percent Open/Inactive	Total Cases
2015	131	95.62%	6	4.38%	137
2016	100	80.00%	25	20.00%	125 (-8.75%)
2017	200	88.11%	27	11.89%	227 (80.80%)
2018	172	89.58%	20	10.42%	192 (-15.41%)
2019*	176	85.02%	31	14.97%	207 (7.81%)
2020	108	81.20%	25	18.79%	133 (-35.74)
2021	142	80.22%	35	19.77%	177

Year	Referred from Patrol Division	Returned to Patrol for Investigation
2015	72	11
2016	108 (50%)	7
2017	77 (-28%)	7
2018	80 (4%)	2
2019*	73 (-9%)	10
2020	53 (-27)	7
2021	53	9

PATROL SERVICES DIVISION

TRAVERSE CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT PATROL SERVICE AREAS

West Arm
Grand Traverse Bay



Keith Gillis
Captain
Patrol Services



Erich Bohrer
Lieutenant



Steve Sivek
Sergeant
Squad A - Days
Service Area 1



Ryan Taylor
Sergeant
Squad A - Nights
Service Area 3



Adam Gray
Sergeant
Squad B - Days
Service Area 4



Pete Simerson
Sergeant
Squad B - Nights
Service Area 2



Jonathan Culver
Downtown
Patrol Officer



Jordan Wieber
Crime Prevention
Officer



Ben Snyder
Traffic Officer



Jeremy
Metdepenningen
Patrol Officer



Adam Verschaeve
Patrol Officer



Bridget Rozanski
Patrol Officer



Logan Core
Patrol Officer



Justin Nowland
Patrol Officer



Kenton Rossi
Patrol Officer



Mark Witczak
Patrol Officer



Kyle Homuth
Patrol Officer



Mitchel McPherson
Patrol Officer



Reed Shea
Patrol Officer



Krista Fryczynski
Patrol Officer



Corey Bock
Patrol Officer

PATROL SERVICES DIVISION

2021 UPDATE

The Department values the many partnerships it maintains with local organizations and neighborhoods throughout the community. Below we will highlight some of the various ways the organization continues to work to support our community policing philosophy. The Department was honored to play an integral role in various high profile visits in 2021 that included a visit from the President and First Lady of the United States.

DOWNTOWN PATROL OFFICER

In 2021, Officer Culver served his 3rd year as the Downtown Community Policing Officer (CPO) recording 172 Public Relations for the sole purpose of establishing positive non-enforcement contacts while walking the "beat". On a daily basis, Officer Culver is observed throughout the Downtown area on foot, engaging with people, and at times educating people on the City Ordinances keeping the community safe. Attending community meetings, doing property checks, and offering additional resources to people throughout the area like Safe Harbor, Goodwill Inn, and Central United Methodist Church have become an additional focus throughout the year. These efforts continue to uphold the Department's core values incorporating the Community Oriented Policing (COP) philosophy into his daily activities.

Community policing programs such as "Operation Chill" are endorsed by 7-11 providing law enforcement with FREE Slurpee coupons to pass out to the younger generation in the community. During Halloween, Officer Culver handed out tasty treats to ghosts, monsters, and vampires (AKA: children) in the surrounding neighborhoods portraying the more positive side of law enforcement. "Coffee with a Cop" is another community policing program which creates a great opportunity to address any concerns from a personal matter or public perspective.

Officer Culver teamed up with members of the Downtown Development Authority (DDA) and the City of Traverse City on the Healthier Drinking Culture project which helped identify current drinking trends within the Downtown area. Approximately 12 months of engaging with local businesses, neighborhoods, and surrounding vendors via in-person or questionnaires provided a solid foundation of how Traverse City is perceived as a whole. A strategic plan was then established reinforcing positive activities/behaviors and highlighting areas that need some attention to promote a more welcoming environment for all to ENJOY.

2SLGBTQIA+ LIASON

The Traverse City Police Department appointed Officer Fryczynski to the position of 2SLGBTQIA+ Liason in October 2021 after the position was left vacant for nearly two years due to the departure of the former liason officer. Officer Fryczynski quickly embraced the department's expectations of this position by engaging in the community through multiple public events. She serves as the point of contact for both members of the community and the department and is working to advocate for mutual trust between them. The position strives to enhance the livability of Traverse City by supporting a variety of diversity and equity initiatives.

PATROL SERVICES DIVISION

FIREARMS TRAINING

The Traverse City Police Department participated in two department qualifications in 2021, the training required officers to qualify with both their handgun and rifle in the MCOLES active duty course of fire. The training also focused on Tasers, weapon malfunctions, and shoot/don't shoot scenarios. Due to the nationwide shortage of ammunition, we were unable to conduct the additional range events as desired for the year. To supplement in-person training, officers also completed online courses for active shooter preparedness and scenario based training through PoliceOne Academy.

Sgt. Adam Gray is the department's lead firearms instructor. He is supported by additional department trained Firearms Instructors: Sgt. Sivek, Det. Smith, Officer Witczak, and Officer Shea.

FIELD TRAINING PROGRAM

The Field Training Program (FTO) Program is designed to teach new hires and experienced Officers that join our team about the Department and community they work in. The FTO will teach the Probationary Officer how to be an effective Officer with the Traverse City Police Department. The Department currently has six Field Training Officers and one FTO supervisor who themselves have attended an intensive training course and participate in annual refresher training as required in this role. The Department welcomed two Officers to the department in 2021 and both have completed their FTO training on time by logging over 615 hours with their FTOs before graduating to solo patrol. New Officers remain on probation for one full year and continue to receive additional training and mentoring on a daily basis.

EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM

The Traverse City Police Department is a part of the Northern Michigan Mutual Aid Emergency Response Team (N.M.M.A.E.R.T.). This is a multi-jurisdictional Emergency Response Team composed of several law enforcement agencies throughout Northern Michigan. The ERT team is broken down into three separate teams to effectively cover Northern Michigan. TCPD is assigned to "Team 2" with additional members from Grand Traverse County Sheriff's Department, Leelanau County Sheriff's Department, Benzie County Sheriff's Department, Antrim County Sheriff's Department as well as the Grand Traverse Tribal Band Police Department.

Members of the department responded to 8 call-outs in 2021. All of the call-outs had a successful outcome, with the suspect(s) being placed into custody without incident and without use of force.

The Traverse City Police Department has 6 members assigned to the ERT team; Sgt. Taylor, Officer Witczak, and Officer Shea are operators and Officers Oster, Nowland and Culver are negotiators.

PATROL SERVICES DIVISION

POLICE MOTORCYCLE TEAM

The Traverse City Police Department Motorcycle Team consists of 6 officers who have individually assigned Harley Davidson Road King motorcycles. Due to the hazards associated with this specialty, an extensive amount of training is required on an annual and on-going basis, including a combined weeklong training at Camp Grayling prior to the start of the summer season.

2021 was a successful year for the motors, participating in several special events including the escort of the Michigan Police Unity Team from Manistee to Petoskey, President Biden's visit to Traverse City, and the escort of our local high school sports and band programs throughout the season. The motorcycle team participated in five directed traffic enforcement details that resulted in 78 traffic citations being issued.

Team members are Sgt. Taylor, Sgt. Simerson, Officer Metdepenningen, Officer Shea, and Officer Homuth. With the retirement of long-time motor Officer Ellul at the close of the 2021 season, Officer Culver has been selected to fill the vacancy pending his successful completion of operator training.

USE OF FORCE 2021

The Traverse City Police Department documents and tracks every incidence of force applied by an officer to verify justification, proper application, contributing factors and to plan future training needs. In 2021, officers of the department were involved in 43 arrest incidents requiring use of force reporting as mandated by department policy. Keep in mind, more than one officer is sometimes involved, and more than one type of force may be applied during an incident. In each of the incidents reviewed, it was determined that the officers' actions were justified in order to safely affect an arrest. One significant observation was that incidents that involved verbal direction in conjunction with a brandished Taser resulted in almost immediate suspect compliance with no other force necessary.

Traverse City Police Department Calls for Service Statistics												
Quarter Totals 2021												
2021	Citations	Traffic Crashes			Arrests				Incidents			
		Fatal	PIA	PDA	OWI Alcohol/ Drugs	Criminal	Non- Criminal	Total Arrests	Criminal	Non- Criminal	Accidents	Total Incidents
Q1 Totals	172	0	5	144	11	76	16	103	625	2,045	149	2,819
Q2 Totals	372	0	26	245	17	90	56	163	760	2,442	271	3,473
Q3 Totals	380	2	26	304	16	111	41	168	906	2,651	332	3,889
Q4 Totals	449	0	23	252	27	94	83	204	693	2,442	275	3,410

CALLS FOR SERVICE

The Traverse City Police Department maintains statistics as they relate to many types of incidents as exhibited here.

PATROL SERVICES DIVISION

CRISIS INTERVENTION TEAM

The Traverse City Police Department maintains a Crisis Intervention Team (CIT). The goal of CIT is to reduce the risk of serious injury or death during an emergency interaction between persons with mental illness and police officers. This is accomplished through specialized training of officers along with partnerships between law enforcement, mental health resources and the community. All CIT officers are trained both in Crisis Intervention and Hostage Negotiations. In 2021, the CIT Team assisted in 22 calls for service that involved persons experiencing a mental health crisis.

CRIME PREVENTION - TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT - TNT

The Crime Prevention Officer in coordination with our Traverse Narcotics Team Member and Traffic Safety Officer is responsible for conducting proactive policing by engaging the community and responding to issues that may arise. Along with working with community groups, the trio utilize crime data and work closely with fellow local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies to allocate resources to address crime and quality of life issues which occur within the city. Most significantly, the department began using a nationwide overdose tracking tool to monitor responses by department personnel to overdose situations.

In 2021, department personnel responded to 20 overdoses of which 2 ended in fatalities. With the implementation of this widely used program, the CPO has been able to follow-up with individuals and offer education and treatment service options. They have also been able to make direct referrals to individuals suffering from substance use disorders.

Category	Total
Arrests	33
Assisted Arrests	25
Complaints Assigned	397
Public Relation Events	86
Agency Assists	137
Tips Received	74
Joint Operations	27
Community Presentations	3
Treatment Referrals	33
Surveillance Details	45
Directed Patrol Details	51
Vice (Prostitution/Liquor Violation)	3
Home Visits (Probation Violation)	2

Due to the large amount of traffic within the city, a majority of the complaints the department receives are traffic-related. In late 2021, the department assigned one officer to a full-time neighborhood traffic position. The allocated officer works closely with the Crime Prevention Officer. To reduce accidents and traffic complaints, the traffic officer and crime prevention officer proactively deploy by conducting community engagement, attending community events, and traffic enforcement.

Crime Prevention Statistics (as displayed) were affected due to COVID-19 protocols at the Grand Traverse County Jail. Numerous individuals with outstanding warrants were advised and released in an attempt to prevent the spread of COVID-19 throughout the Grand Traverse County Jail.

COMMUNITY POLICING



NATIONAL WALK TO SCHOOL

Due to ongoing COVID-19 restrictions, National Walk to School Day had a smaller participation than in years past. Downtown Community Police Officer Culver joined students on their way to Willow Hill Elementary and enjoyed a fun morning on their walk to school.

NEIGHBORHOOD MEETINGS

Command staff and officers attend neighborhood meetings across the city to enhance our knowledge of the unique issues facing specific neighborhoods. We intend for these relationship building opportunities to result in proactive ways to address issues impacting a particular neighborhood. It also allows for our officers to hear first-hand what issues or concerns may be impacting an area the most according to those who live in those neighborhoods. We are also there to assist the members by offering insight from our perspective on how an issue may be resolved. Community Policing is successful when we work together with our community members and help them address issues near and dear to them and their neighbors. When our goals align with theirs...we keep Traverse City a safe and beautiful place for all to live.

HONOR GUARD

The Traverse City Police Honor Guard is comprised of five members, Sgt. Gray, Officer Metdepenningen, Officer Verschaeve, Officer Wieber, and Officer Oster; all of whom are highly respected for their precision and attention to detail.

In 2021, we were honored to add a piper, Officer Jennilyn Oster (pictured) who will play the bagpipes at official events throughout the year. Officer Oster has been a piper for three years and is honored to bring her special services to events on behalf of the Traverse City Police Department.

Honor Guard members were able to participate in five former law enforcement and fire department personnel funerals; the NMC Police Academy Graduation; Flag Day celebrations, the TC Patriot game, and multiple 9/11 memorials across the region.



K-9 PROGRAM

DRAGO

Drago was born in Slovakia on October 14, 2014. He has been on duty since April 3, 2017, and serves our community as a dual purpose drug detection dog. Drago's handler is Officer Adam Verschaeve.



Drago - 2017

Handler: Adam J. Verschaeve

DRAGO

DEPLOYMENTS: 9

K-9 ARRESTS: 1

DEMONSTRATIONS: 31

Notable Events:

Assist TNT/GTSO in the detection and apprehension of a known narcotics dealer in the area.

ENO

DEPLOYMENTS: 14

K-9 ARRESTS: 1

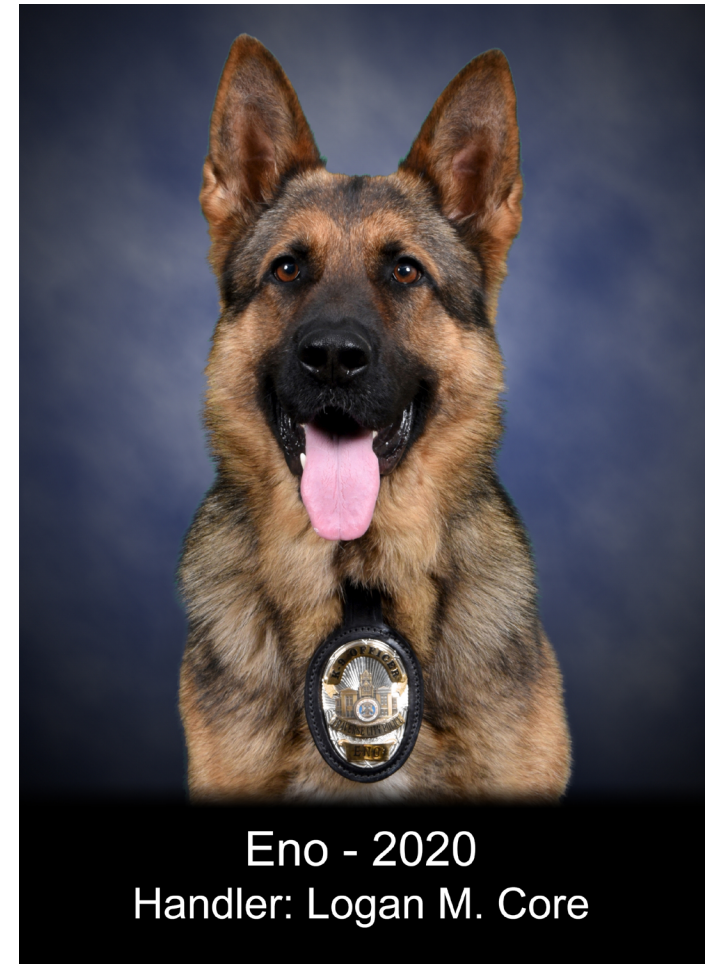
DEMONSTRATIONS: 7

Notable Events:

Assist the U.S. Secret Service in explosive detection prior to President Biden's visit to Traverse City.

ENO

Eno was born in Germany on April 26, 2017. He has been on duty since June 28, 2020, and serves our community as a dual purpose explosive detection dog. Drago's handler is Officer Logan Core



Eno - 2020

Handler: Logan M. Core

NEW HIRES

OFFICER MCPHERSON



Officer McPherson graduated from Kingsley High School and later attended Northwestern Michigan College where he earned his Associates in Criminal Justice in the Spring of 2020.

Before joining TCPD, he served as a police officer for the Harbor Springs Police Department. His Chief Firearms Instructor said "Mitchell was a stand out in the class, he has an outstanding personality and a great sense of humor."

Welcome Officer McPherson!



OFFICER ROZANSKI



Officer Rozanski joined the TCPD after completing her Bachelor of Science Degree in Criminal Justice at Lake State University as well as the Lake State Police Academy.

Ms. Rozanski's first experience with TCPD occurred when she joined the reserve program in 2017 after graduation from Kalkaska High. Bridget's teachers throughout her pursuit overwhelmingly agree that she is a great hire for Traverse City!

Welcome Officer Rozanski!

RETIREES

OFFICER MAXSON

OFFICER ELLUL

LISA GREEN



1995 - 2021



1996 - 2021



1996 - 2021

Thank you for your service to the citizens of Traverse City!

2021 ANNUAL REPORT

THANK YOU