

WILMINGTON POLICE DEPARTMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

We have been busy this year with the loss of one officer and a second on maternity leave. This means officers have carried an increased call volume. We have been actively working on backgrounds and look to hire an additional officer in 2017.

Calls for service for the year were 18,567. This year had a large number of sex offense cases involving minors. We also experienced a higher than normal call volume of stolen cars. Our detectives have been inundated with drug cases and Det. Scott Baker completed two additional wiretap cases. We solved a bank robbery and the suspect later escaped from the hospital. However, he was arrested without incident a few days later. Another high-profile case was our high school being broken into, resulting in 46 stolen laptops. Through good detective work, all laptops were recovered and two suspects were charged. In all, WPD filed 174 felony charges and accounted for 33.3% of the Clinton County Prosecutor's case load.



In 2016, Ptl. Codey Juillerat received of the Officer of the Year Award. He continues to work hard for our department and the community. Det. Robert Wilson was recognized as our Crime Fighter of the Year for his endless pursuit of criminals. My thanks to Ptl. Codey Juillerat and Det. Robert Wilson for a job well done. I would also like to recognize Ptl. James Smithson for his third straight year with perfect attendance, Ptl. Jeremy Skates for his second straight year for perfect attendance, and Sgt. Ron Fithen for one year of perfect attendance.

We continued to be active in the community this year. We had our first National Night Out event at the city park. This was well received and we partnered with the Sheriff's Office for this event. We held safety days at the Banana Split Festival, Senior Center, Walmart, and at Quaker Apartments. We also conducted one medication disposal day where we collected over 50 pounds of pills from local residents. Our medication disposal box located in our lobby has collected over 150 pounds of pills for destruction.



This year the Wilmington Police Department logged 2,178 hours of training, including in-service, for driving, Taser, unarmed self-defense, and legal update. OPOTA required additional continuing education this year that brought on new challenges. Sgt. Fithen, Sgt. Rager, and Sgt. Cravens conducted in-service for our agency, the sheriff's office, and village agencies, for five straight days getting the entire mandated in-service completed.

This year, WPD exceeded 1,300 arrests. We had 1,160 physical arrests and filed another 231 charges served as summons. We have 16 use of force incidents for the year and when you deduct red dot compliance or when we point a firearm, we only used force to affect an arrest eight times. This equates to .9 % of the time do we use force. While there is no national standard or record keeping, this is exceptionally low. This is attributed to the officer's ability to resolve issues by de-escalation. This year capped off another great year of fine work by the men and women of WPD.

WILMINGTON COMMUNICATIONS

This year has been active for our Communications Center. In 2016, we dispatched 18,567 calls for police service, 3,364 calls for Wilmington EMS, 617 calls for Wilmington FD, 219 Blanchester fire runs, 107 Sabina fire runs, and 629 Sabina EMS runs. Our dispatchers handled over 5,963 calls for services.

My thanks to our excellent communications staff. Each year brings different challenges with mandates or types of calls. Heroin overdoses have risen and many of the calls they take involve someone frantic over a suspected heroin death. Our newest addition to dispatch was Terri Murphy. She completed probation this year and has done an excellent job for our agency.



Each year our dispatchers enter warrants, protection orders, and stolen items. This year we exceeded 1,400 warrants entered and maintained over the year. Becky Myers maintains these records each year and I can't thank her enough for this.

Robin Cassell, pictured to the left, is our Communications Officer of the Year. She has done an outstanding job and has been a joy to work with. We also recognize Robin Cassell for perfect attendance. This is her fourth year earning such distinction.

Submitted by:

Duane Weyand, Police Chief