



BEATRICE POLICE DEPARTMENT

2024 ANNUAL REPORT



(402) 223-4080

www.beatrice.ne.gov/police

201 N. 5th Street | Beatrice, NE

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Beatrice Police Department Mission Statement

“The Beatrice Police Department will provide service and protection to its citizens through a professional and caring staff of sworn and non-sworn personnel.

A strong patrol presence, supported by various other divisions within the department will be the basis for our crime prevention efforts. Members of the department will work to maintain the standard of living that citizens of Beatrice have come to enjoy.”

A Word from the Chief



Dear Mayor Morgan, Members of the Beatrice City Council ,
and Citizens of Beatrice,

Boy these years fly by fast. It seems like I was just writing this same type of letter a few months ago. It is with great pleasure that I can present to you the 2024 Beatrice Police Department Annual Report. This report consists of a large amount of information put together by various members of our department and compiled by Traci Baehr, our Police Information and Systems Coordinator. As I have mentioned before, statistics are good to a certain point but the way I see progress is through the communication between our department, the court system, and the citizens of Beatrice.

Our department consists of a lot of divisions that mesh to form one great team. Sometimes without the help of another division in our department, a case or issue may not be solved. So, it is important that we work as a team and, better yet, a family to serve the great citizens of Beatrice.

The year 2024 was a much smoother ride than last year when we scrambled to get the department put back together. The best part of the year 2024 was that it involved a lot of what I like to call accomplishments. These are all accomplishments because they show our department's growth and fulfillment of things that we have been hoping for and working towards for many years. The year 2024 was a monumental year for the department. It brought new leadership, along with a new and better morale throughout the department. A list of our 2024 accomplishments is listed in this report.

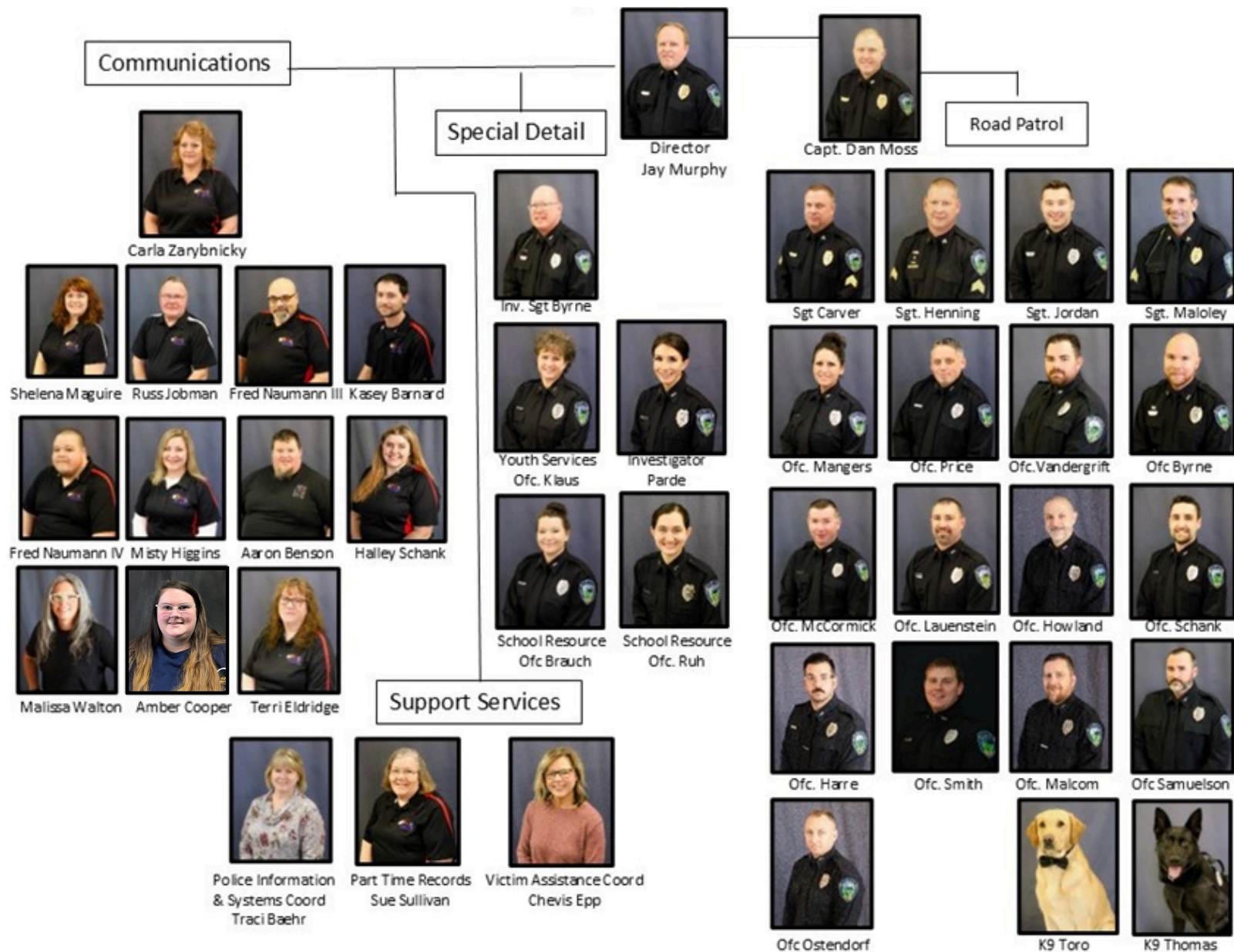
I feel that this year will be another productive year for the department as we continue to build morale, support from the City management and from the public. We are certainly moving in the right direction and are full steam ahead!

As always, if you have questions about the annual report, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Jay Murphy
Interim Chief of Police

2024 Beatrice Police Department Organizational Chart



Changes in Staff and Recognitions 2024

Promotions

- Erin Byrne – Sergeant

New Hires

- Zach Smith – Officer (previously employed here 2017 to 2023)
- Clayton Malcom - Officer
- Brandon Howland - Officer
- Matthew Harre – Officer
- Trent Ostendorf- Officer

Internal Transfers

- Natasha Parde – Investigator
- Courtney Brauch – School Resource Officer
- Brittney Ruh – School Resource Officer
- Zac Lauenstein – Road Patrol

Resignations

- Jason Duff – Officer
- Nicholas Graner – Officer

Retirements

- None

Department Accomplishments

- Fully staffed for sworn personnel
- Working with SCC to start Internship Program
- Assigned two officers (Brauch & Ruh) as Community Relations Officer
- Started “Coffee with a Cop” program
- Assigned Officer Mangers as FTO Supervisor; improved FTO Program
- Updated all patrol cars to new design
- Added one vehicle to patrol fleet
- Sponsored and coached a YRI baseball team
- Juvenile Services Officer Klaus is now at the elementary school one day a week
- License Plate Reader software was installed in 2 patrol vehicles
- Assembled an internal Drug Task Force
- Plans to rebuild police shooting range

Budget & Finances

The City of Beatrice and the Beatrice Police Department operates on a biennial budget, running from Oct 1st through Sept 30th. The Police Dept Budget Expenditures ending Sept 30, 2024 was \$4,827,681.

Police Patrol: \$2,964,065

Southeast 911 Communications: \$1,424,977

Police Administration: \$284,823

Victim Assistance Program \$93,816

Animal Control: \$60,000

Grants

The Police Department applies for Grants each year to help offset costs. In 2024 we received grant money to help purchase: bullet proof vests, radar units, dash cameras, computers and E-citation equipment for 4 patrol cars.

Records

The Beatrice Police Department uses the New World System's Public Safety software. Our records management system is integrated with the CAD (Computer Aided Dispatch) and Mobile software which is used by Communications and Patrol. This allows a Call for Service, persons, or crimes to be easily tracked and searched for reference. This system also has the capability to create reports, charts, and maps of crimes, accidents, types of incidents, etc. This tool is very useful to Patrol to be proactive to help prevent crime. The Gage County Sheriff's Office and Crete Police Department utilizes our computer system as well. This allows agencies to share information.

Our department implemented an E Citation system in 2020. This allows officers to enter a citation directly into the mobile computer and print a citation in the car to be given to the driver. These citations are sent automatically to our records system and State Court system where the County Attorney can download them. This has streamlined the process, and saves time for both Patrol and Records.

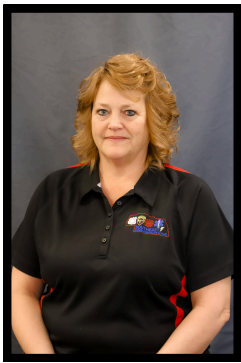


Police Information & Systems Coordinator,
Traci Baehr



Part Time Records Clerk,
Sue Sullivan

Communications Division



Carla Zarybnicky
Communications Director, 2015



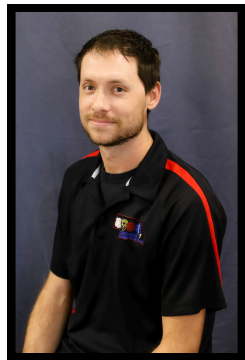
Shelena Maguire
2001



Russell Jobman
2003



Fred Naumann III
2011



Kasey Barnard
2013



Fred Naumann IV
2015



Misty Higgins
2017



Aaron Benson
2020



Terri Eldridge
2021



Halley Schank
2021



Malissa Walton
2022



Amber Cooper
2023

Southeast 911 Communications Center

Southeast Communications Center dispatches for 22 agencies including Gage County, the City of Crete, Crete Fire and Crete Rescue. These dedicated people staff the communications center 24/7, 365 days a year. The communications center fields over 100,000 phone calls, on average per year, between emergency and administrative phone calls. I am extremely proud to have them as my team.

The communications center completed our second audit by the Public Service Commissions Field Coordinator for compliance of the statewide training standards. Southeast Communications met and exceeded all state requirements again this year.

The State of Nebraska has migrated about 95% of the state over to the new ESInet. Next Generation 911 (ESI net) is a secure Internet Protocol based system, utilizing high speed data connectivity capable of receiving information to include voice, text messages, picture, and videos. This system across the state will allow seamless information sharing between citizens and 911 centers.

Also, in 2024 the State of Nebraska purchased and implemented throughout, an application called RAPID SOS UNITE. Statewide PSAP's were already utilizing the free RapidSOS application, but Unite is better. RapidSOS Unite is an evolution of the company's existing Portal and Premium solutions into a single product with a suite of new advanced features:

- AI automation to save time
- Rich content pathways, including multimedia and texting
- Redundant connection to caller phones, even if calling fails
- Critical data from a network of over 540 million connected devices

RapidSOS Unite modules allow customization for agencies based on their scope and needs, including:

- Enhanced mapping using locally authoritative GIS data
- Automated translation and transcription
- Seamless integration into field responder applications
- Single sign-on (SSO) and just-in-time provisioning
- Intelligent analytics, forecasting, and reporting for calls, text, and digital alerts

In an emergency, Unite intelligently fuses millions of sensor feeds into one unified picture of an incident, allowing public safety officials to view real-time location, health profile, telematics, alarm data, and more.

When Should You Call 911?

- 9-1-1 should be called for emergencies, such as crimes in progress, to report a fire or for a medical emergency.
- For non-emergencies: parking problems, non-injury car accidents, thefts or vandalism call 402-223-4080
- Remember to remain calm, speak clearly and follow any instructions the dispatcher gives you.
- Be prepared to provide the location of the emergency. Always know your location and be ready to give directions to the dispatcher. Descriptive information such as cross streets, mile markers, landmarks, and business names are helpful.
- The dispatcher will verify your address and phone number.
- Do not hang up until the dispatcher tells you to. Even if you dialed by mistake, stay on the line and explain that you accidentally dialed.
- The dispatcher will ask you questions. Stay calm and answer the questions clearly. This questioning does not delay the response of Law Enforcement/Fire/EMS Personnel. It does provide the responders with more information as they are in-route so they can be better prepared when they arrive.
- When describing a vehicle, the dispatcher may ask the color, year, make and model, body style, license plate and state, and any other distinguishing characteristics.

2024 SE911 Calls for Service

This list is a total for Southeast 911 Communications; including the Beatrice Police Department, Gage County Sheriff's Office, Wymore Police Department, Beatrice Fire & Rescue, Crete Police Department, Crete Fire & Rescue, Richardson County Sheriff's Office, Nebraska Game & Parks, Board of Public Works, Animal Control & all Gage County Rural Fire/Rescue Agencies.

CALL TYPE	2021	2022	2023	2024	CALL TYPE	2021	2022	2023	2024
New Call-not assigned	53	71	81	33	Disorderly Conduct	5	9	11	17
911 Hang Up	551	961	1,710	1,070	Disturbance	495	534	488	422
Abandoned Vehicle	16	26	45	64	Domestic	47	60	91	75
Accident/Fatality		5	3	2	Door Checks	72	330	284	158
Accident/H&R	157	129	168	149	Drone Deployment				1
Accident/Injuries	161	139	158	100	Drowning	1			
Accident/No Injuries	631	669	673	625	Drug Information	99	113	92	98
Adult Abuse	205	232	371	369	Drug Violation	66	87	68	55
Alarm	60	68	65	42	DUS	97	141	132	75
ALS	20	16	19	20	DWI - DUI	145	185	126	102
Animal Bite	64	83	72	84	Embezzlement	1			
Animal Complaint	639	643	668	619	Emergency Protective Custody	23	27	18	27
Animal Cruelty	99	106	123	106	Escort	87	107	86	205
Animal on Roadway	271	296	296	236	Fail to Appear	4			
Arson	1	2	2	4	False Reporting	1	5	5	3
Assault	126	140	137	146	Field Interview	43	12	5	2
Assist Citizen	311	287	328	338	Fire	148	257	173	183
Assist Other Agency	749	843	785	705	Fire Alarm	103	139	112	139
Attempted Suicide	1		5		Fireworks Complaint	27	52	71	47
Background Check			13	23	Forgery	3	5	3	2
Bar Check	122	90	151	304	Found Animal	212	220	176	201
Barking Dog	77	75	66	74	Found Bike	59	37	22	15
BCH Security	18	366	365	365	Found Property	180	188	174	174
Bicycle Theft	27	19	9	10	Fraud	109	131	109	108
Bomb Threat			1		Gage Co. Warrant	262	330	313	285
BPW	96	85	116	100	Gambling Violation			1	
Burglar Alarm	215	242	211	229	Game Violation	4	3	7	7
Burglary	59	71	60	41	Gas Drive Off	49	50	30	19
Child Abuse	431	439	454	420	General Information	426	572	523	476
Child Custody	18	42	31	30	Harassment	186	157	194	222
Child Neglect	43	25	41	49	Harassment - Text	23	12	21	19
Civil	390	385	355	384	Health Hazard	100	84	93	107
Civil Process	607	829	787	591	Hitch Hiker	3	7	10	8
Civil Standby	130	124	103	116	Homicide	1			1
Community Oriented Policing and Problem Solving				248	ICAC	15	13	26	20
Complaint Against Officer	10	17	15	12	Identity Theft	34	38	36	20
Compliance Check	2	3	1	19	Indecent Exposure	6	4	2	7
Crimestoppers	4	7	20	5	Injury	1	3	2	4
Death	134	120	127	123	Jail Incident	23	32	19	18

Stats are for All Agencies that SE911 Dispatches For*

CALL TYPE	2021	2022	2023	2024	CALL TYPE	2021	2022	2023	2024
Junked Motor Vehicle	3	4		3	Rescue	1,781	1,863	1,680	1,897
Juvenile	503	463	491	490	Richardson Co. Warrant	332	344	300	154
K9 Public Relations	1	2	4		Road Closed	17	8	3	9
K9 Training	16	37	85	32	Robbery	1	2	1	1
Lift Assist	203	203	220	202	Runaway	89	67	83	65
Liquor Laws Violation	3	6	11	3	Scam	171	129	136	143
Livestock Complaint	2	3	1	14	Search Warrant	8	9	12	14
Lost Animal	116	160	112	94	Sex Off Reg Viol	25	16	25	13
Lost Property	109	100	110	79	Sex Offender Compliance Check	44	27	59	103
Medical Alarm	133	130	119	176	Sexual Assault	57	64	64	42
Mental Health	187	163	153	174	Shoplifting	49	50	133	134
MIP	29	15	21	18	Solicitor		4	2	5
Missing Person	17	20	32	37	Special Detail	4	21	17	38
Motor Vehicle Theft	43	39	39	35	Suicide	3	1	1	2
Motorist Assist	428	615	626	520	Suspicious	830	898	968	841
Mutual Aid	23	35	57	39	SWAT	1	1		
Noise	209	263	269	240	Test Call	12	45	77	64
Nuisance	122	90	16	17	Theft	323	391	301	325
Out Of Unit	940	1,001	867	792	Threats	154	202	222	219
Open Container	1	1			Title Inspection	124	372	380	195
Open Door	82	64	72	51	Tobacco/Vape				1
Ordinance Violation	149	162	143	138	Traffic Hazard	362	325	368	375
Overdose			7	11	Transfer	1,151	1,010	980	972
Parking /2 HR	14	11	20	20	Transport	130	212	200	115
Parking/24 HR	184	94	206	170	Trash	50	60	57	36
Parking/Other	562	512	575	471	Trespassing	86	117	123	110
Pivot	7	10	8	8	Truancy	14	8	9	24
Probation Violation	1		2	3	Traffic Stop	6,135	9,580	10,211	7,363
Procuring	2		1	1	Unknown	2	3	2	1
Property Damage	68	48	84	89	Vacation Watch	41	44	38	32
Protection Order Viol.	74	82	63	48	Vandalism	228	228	202	169
Prowler	6	3	3	2	Vehicle Complaint	931	1,021	1,037	966
Public Service	216	338	408	332	Warrant	276	217	198	145
Pursuit	10	18	20	14	Watch	59	52	50	54
Remove Party	159	145	194	185	Weapons Law Violation	7	20	12	8
Repo	24	47	52	50	Weather	22	23	19	29
					Welfare Check	823	930	847	823

	2021	2022	2023	2024
Total Calls Per Year	28,646	34,847	36,066	31,222
**Emergency Duplicated or Cancelled Calls	4,633	3,870	3,940	3,373
Total including Cancelled Calls	30,114	32,279	38,717	34,595

Calls for Service by Agency 2024

A total is not given because several agencies can respond to the case CFS; for example, there is always a fire unit, a rescue unit, an extrication unit and a law enforcement officer sent to an injury accident, therefore this would generate four different calls for service for one actual call.

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Beatrice Police Department	10,110	10,108	11,500	11,765	11,577
Board of Public Works	64	96	87	116	116
Gage County Sheriff's Office	5,809	5,422	6,806	6,491	6,593
Wymore Police Department	1,112	1,077	669	340	228
Beatrice Fire & Rescue & Rural Fire	3,069	3,227	3,295	3,036	3,207
Adams Fire	22	26	48	82	89
Adams Rescue	66	88	120	144	123
Barneston Fire	16	7	26	61	67
Blue Springs Fire	24	35	51	71	94
Clatonia Fire	28	14	31	80	70
Clatonia Rescue	83	80	92	117	107
Cortland Fire	46	38	55	99	93
Cortland QRT's	106	99	104	122	117
Crete Police Department	5,695	6,134	5,629	6,286	6,356
Crete Fire and Rescue	827	900	942	904	845
Dewitt Fire/Rescue	7	1	3	3	2
Diller Fire/Rescue	0	1	2	0	3
Filley Fire	16	20	36	66	72
Firth Fire & QRT	8	15	14	17	14
Hallam Fire & Rescue	10	12	17	16	20
Odell Fire	19	21	46	73	67
Odell QRT's	26	19	32	24	19
Pickrell Fire/QRT's	20	26	40	107	108
Plymouth Fire					2
Richardson County Sheriff's Office		3,141	7,208	8,356	3,499
Wymore Fire & Rescue	283	282	317	351	284

Patrol Division



Captain Dan Moss
2009



Sgt Wes Henning
1997



Sgt Brian Carver
2000



Sgt Shane Maloley
2009



Sgt Ethan Jordan
2018



Ofc Zac Lauenstein
2002



Ofc Kristine Mangers
2006



Ofc Joseph McCormick
2007



Ofc Timothy Price
2014



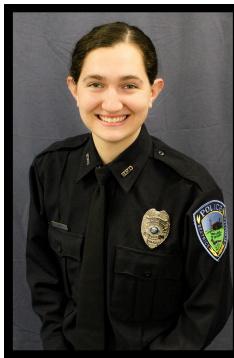
Ofc Kelly Byrne
2018



Ofc Courtney Brauch
2021



Ofc Benjamin Schank
2021



Ofc Brittney Ruh
2022



Ofc Brandon Samuelson
2023



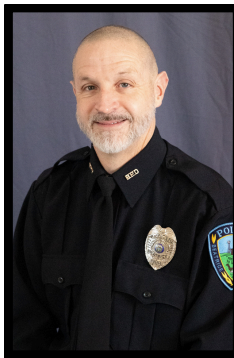
Ofc Christien Vandergrift
2023



Ofc Zach Smith
2024



Ofc Clayton Malcom
2024



Ofc Brandon Howland
2024



Ofc Matthew Harre
2024



Ofc Trent Ostendorf
2024

Patrol

2024 saw a return to normal staffing levels. Four new officers were hired during the year; one came in already certified through the State of Nebraska, two were able to attend the last certification class of the year and graduated in December; the fourth was hired at the end of the year and began his certification training in January 2025.

Last year's statistics showed the number of calls handled by all officers. From this year forward, this section will only show the calls handled by patrol officers. In 2024, patrol officers handled 9,222 calls for service.

Traffic enforcement is one of the main functions for patrol officers. In 2024 officers conducted 2,216 vehicle stops. These resulted in 51 driving under the influence arrests and 20 driving under suspension arrests. Officers also responded to 345 vehicle crashes to include one fatality accident. Fatality accident investigations are handled by a Traffic Crash Reconstructionist from the Nebraska State Patrol.

The second main function of patrol officers is to respond to self-initiated and citizen-initiated calls for service. There are 130 different call types, with Disturbance, Out of unit, Suspicious, Vehicle complaint, and Welfare check making up 1,900 of the remaining 7,000 calls for service handled. Officers responded to 275 fewer mental health calls in 2024 as compared to 2023, but placed ten people in Emergency Protective Custody, compared to 8 in 2023. Mental health assessments were also down in 2024 from 125 to 90.

Outside of the great things Officers are doing on a daily basis, a few were individually recognized for their outstanding efforts. Sergeants Carver and Maloley, along with officers Byrne, Schank, and Smith received the Medal of Valor, while Officers Lauenstein and Price received the Meritorious Service Award for their efforts in successfully removing two children from a home where they were trapped by a parent after a homicide was committed. Sergeant Maloley also received the American Legion Law Enforcement Officer of the Year award for 2024.

With earlier staff shortages, the department had no dedicated drug investigator. With staffing level improved and the former drug investigator in the position of patrol sergeant we looked to take on the local drug distribution issue another way. A narcotics investigation team has been formed as an additional duty to several officer's normal patrol functions. Some officers focus on vehicle interdictions while others are emphasizing investigations from information gathered from the public and confidential informants.

Dan Moss
Operations Captain

2024 Beatrice Police Department Vehicle Information

#	Model	Year	Mileage	Used for	Assigned to	Fuel
1	Explorer	2021	43,615	Patrol		Gas
2	Explorer	2016	79,861	K9	Lauenstein	Gas
3	Tahoe	2020	89,630	Sergeant	Day	Gas
4	Explorer	2021	73,251	Patrol		Gas
5	Taurus	2018	96,302	SRO		Gas
6	Explorer	2017	102,569	SRO		Gas
7	Explorer	2022	46,267	Patrol		Gas
8	Explorer	2022	44,341	Patrol		Gas
9	Tahoe	2016	120,150	K9	Price	Gas
10	Blue Bird	1995	6,213	Command Center		Diesel
11	Explorer	2013	125,825	Captain	Moss	Gas
12	Explorer	2021	15,580	Investigations	E. Byrne	Gas
13	Tahoe	2011	138,527	Patrol/Black		Gas
15	Dodge Ram	2021	19,556	Investigations	Murphy	Gas
20	Oshkosh M-ATV	2010	1,468	SWAT		Diesel
25	Lacrosse	2006	95,836	Investigations	Klaus	Gas
27	Cruze	2018	4,802	Victim Assistance	Epp	Gas
29	Explorer	2023	16,283	Patrol		Gas

The Beatrice Police Department added car 16, which is a 2024 Tahoe to its fleet. This new Tahoe will be a second Sargent vehicle to keep strain off of car 3. Due to cracking on the white door covers of the patrol units and for uniformity, all patrol units have the new style decals on them. Patrol units 9 and 29 were both equipped with license plate readers. This allows the camera in the vehicle to not only record, but also to read license plates and alert the Officer if it is stolen, the person is missing, Amber Alerts or if there is any other alert on the vehicle. The BPD has been awarded grants to replace computers in four patrol units and cameras in eight units. The new cameras allow all recordings to be automatically downloaded to the cloud for storage.



Training Summary 2024

Officers are required to complete 32 hours of continuing education as mandated by the Nebraska State Legislature. This includes specific training on topics such as de-escalation, mental health, substance abuse, anti-bias and implicit bias, as well as firearms, among others.

The Department conducts training sessions on the second Monday of each month, covering various topics. These sessions are led by officers who have received specialized training to become trainers in specific areas, helping to reduce costs for the department.

Some of the more notable trainings hosted or attended by officers in 2024 are listed below.

- Tactical Narcotics Debriefing
- 33rd Annual National School Safety Conference
- Highway Drug Investigations for Patrol
- Tactical Medical (Law Enforcement)
- Cyber Investigations: Virtual Currency
- Introduction to Interview and Interrogation
- Human Sex Trafficking
- Active Shooter Incident Management

Sgt. Brian Carver

Calls Responded to 2024

The following are types of calls that the Beatrice Police Department responded to during 2024.

CFS/Incident Type	2021	2022	2023	2024
911 Hang Up	234	379	814	473
Accidents	403	368	403	362
Animal Complaints all types	738	775	707	737
Arson	0	1	1	2
Burglary	27	35	23	21
Child Abuse/Neglect/Custody	268	276	292	258
Civil Types	311	301	301	334
Complaint Against Officer	7	8	10	8
Death	81	75	74	71
Disturbance, Domestic or Assaults	506	527	588	430
Drug Complaint or Info	81	105	78	95
DWI - DUI	69	84	64	52
Fraud or Scam	143	157	144	125
Harassment or Threats	285	264	305	306
Homicide	0	0	0	1
ICAC	9	5	18	13
Juvenile	290	286	324	321
Liquor Law Violations	25	13	26	14
Missing Person	11	9	19	18
Motor Vehicle Theft	26	27	18	19
Parking Complaints	240	266	285	255
Pursuit	5	10	7	9
Rescue	103	99	121	202
Robbery	0	2	1	0
Runaway	65	33	46	29
Sexual Assault	30	34	41	20
Suicide	2	1	1	1
Suspicious	454	463	516	441
Theft or Shoplifting	208	195	181	197
Traffic Stops or DUS	1,788	2,452	1,866	2,279
Vandalism/Property Damage	121	125	135	121
Vehicle Complaints	418	348	417	390
Welfare or Mental Health	733	760	837	630
All Other Types of Calls	2,428	3,019	3,102	3,343
	10,109	11,502	11,765	11,577

Mental Health Assessments made by Officers

A Call for Service may require the officer to make mental health assessments at that time.

	2021	2022	2023	2024
Mental Health Assessments made by an Officer	130	120	125	88

Ticket Statistics for 2024

Parking/Animal/City Ordinance Charges

Description	Warnings or ER's	Citations
Parking Violation	29	35
Animal Neglect/Cruelty		3
Dog and Cats must be licensed	2	
Dog at Large	1	10
Nuisance or Barking Dogs		2
Removal of Deceased Animal		1
Discharge Firearm in City Limits		2
Disturbing the Peace		16
Littering		2
Maintain Disorderly House		4
Shoplifting		16
Urinating in Public		2
Totals	32	93

Traffic Citation Charges

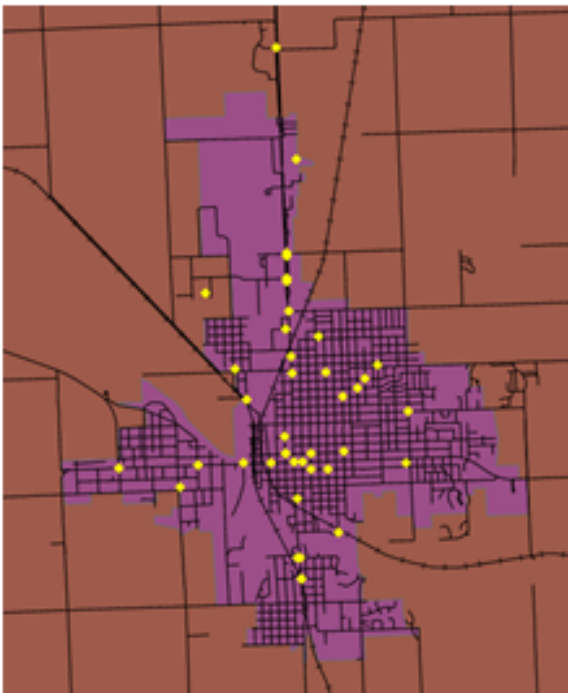
Description	Written Warning or ER's	Citations
Drag Racing		2
Driving Under Suspension or Revocation		70
Exhibition of Acceleration	3	3
Failure to yield ROW to vehicle or Sign	4	21
Fictitious Plates		18
Leaving Scene of Accident		14
Lights required on Vehicle or Violation	302	8
Motor Vehicle Restraint – Adult & Child	1	14
Negligent Driving		14
No License Plates or manner of display	29	4
One Way Violation	5	1
Operators must have valid license	8	102
Other Traffic Violations	84	35
Proof of Insurance or Ownership	6	61
Reckless Driving	1	6
Registration Required	36	188
Speeding	199	59
Stop Sign or Traffic Signal Violation	50	39
Unlawful Operation of ATV		1
Totals	728	660

Accident Tallies for 2024

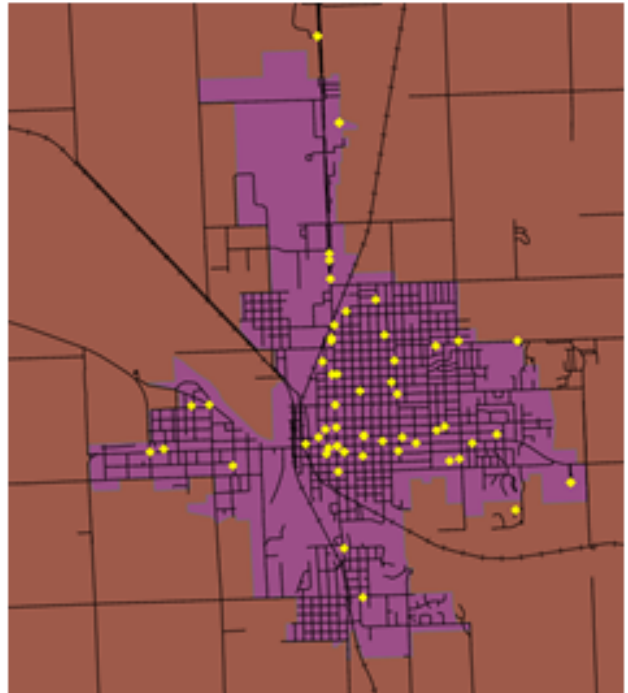
Types of Accidents

Officer Responded but no formal report taken	52
Property Damage	205
Hit and Run	68
Injury	42
Fatality (assisted the Gage Co. Sheriff Office)	1
Total	368

Injury Accidents



Hit and Run Accidents



Arrest Charges

(Traffic Offenses not included)

Type of Charges	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Assault 1 st /2 nd /3 rd	32	36	30	37	49
Assault on an Officer	6	3	6	1	3
Strangulation	4	7	6	4	5
Domestic Assault (Aggravated or Simple)	35	40	35	35	27
Protection Order Violations	28	11	13	15	10
Sexual Assaults 1st/ 2nd/ 3rd & child	4	0	1	6	6
Terroristic Threats/ Threats	5	11	9	10	21
Murder in the 1st or 2 nd Degree	1	0	0	0	1
Kidnapping	0	0	0	0	2
Child Abuse/Neglect	34	14	19	28	21
Child Abuse Resulting in Death	0	0	0	0	2
Drug Violations	123	105	137	85	84
Burglary	3	4	6	5	3
Theft	25	16	19	17	33
Robbery	2	0	1	0	0
Motor Vehicle Theft/Unauth Use	3	1	1	2	3
Criminal Mischief	33	20	16	21	30
Weapons Violations	14	15	31	12	17
Disorderly Conduct	5	8	9	9	6
Minor In Possession	56	50	51	37	65
DWI	91	59	73	48	47
Other Alcohol offenses	42	14	26	14	33
Resisting Arrest	10	5	12	6	8
Flight to Avoid Arrest	7	1	4	3	5
Other Offenses	160	244	148	185	159
Total Arrests or Citation Charges	723	664	653	580	640

*Arrestees can be charged with multiple charges on one arrest. Out of these 640 Arrest charges, 250 individuals were taken into custody at the Gage County Jail and 209 people were cited and released at the scene.

Juvenile Arrests and Citations

(Under the age of 18. These numbers are also included in the arrest charges on page 17)

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Possession of Marijuana less than 1 oz	6	5	5	9	4
Possession Marijuana more than 1 oz	0	0	0	1	0
Possession of Drug Paraphernalia	4	2	3	1	2
Other Drug/Narcotics Violations	2	2	0		0
Manufacture Drugs/Intent to Distribute	1	0	0	1	0
.02 Violation	1	0	0	0	0
Minor In Possession	7	16	9	11	14
Procure Alcohol for Minor	0	1	0	0	0
Open Container	2	0	0	0	0
Driving While Intoxicated	1	0	1	1	0
Use of Tobacco by a Minor	3	2	17	16	9
Runaway	20	27	17	28	11
Motor vehicle Theft	1	0	0	2	1
Burglary/Thefts/Shoplifting	12	11	9	14	12
Criminal Mischief	11	6	6	10	8
Sexual Assault	0	0	1	5	2
Assaults or Threats	6	20	16	28	26
Assault on an Officer	2	1	1	0	2
Weapons Violations	2	2	5	3	1
Other Offenses	36	25	24	35	26
Juvenile Contacts(warnings)	2	1	11	8	2
Total	119	121	125	173	120

Narcotics Investigation Division

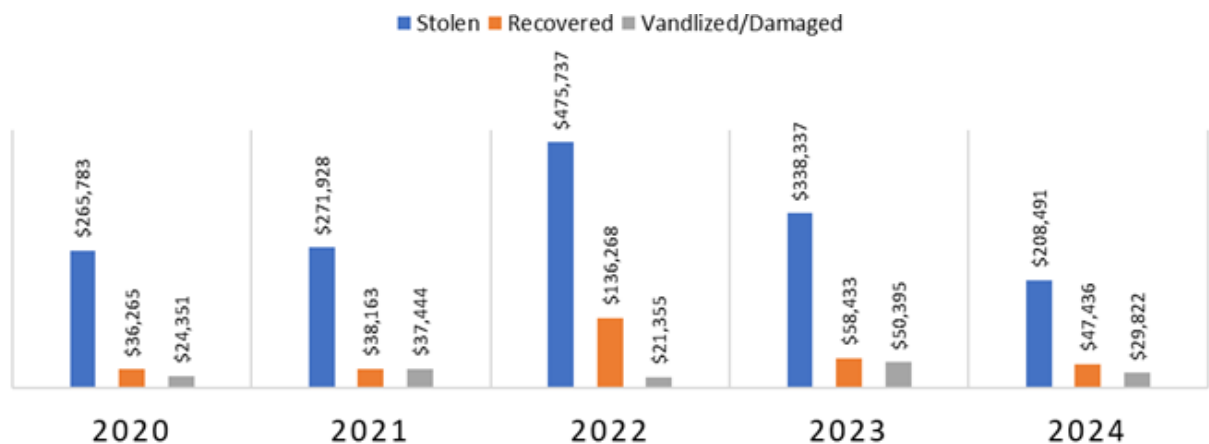
On May 28, 2024, the BPD Narcotics Investigation Division was officially re-activated, consisting of four road patrol Officers under the supervision of Sergeant Maloley. Officer Zach Smith #307, Officer Kelly Byrne #324, Officer Benjamin Schank #320, and Officer Tim Price #325. These Officers investigations resulted in approximately 19 arrests, 2 arrest warrants, 2 search warrants, 38 grams of methamphetamine with a street value of approximately \$3800, 37.4 grams of Marijuana, ½ lb. of cocaine (assisted Gage County), 13 fentanyl pills, 4 LSD squares, \$1022 in drug funds, and 2 prescription pill arrests.

Officer Zach Smith, Tim Price, and Brandon Samuelson have now been moved officially to Roadside Interdiction. This is a newly formed unit that is in the beginning stages of interdiction.

Breakdown of Drug Arrests

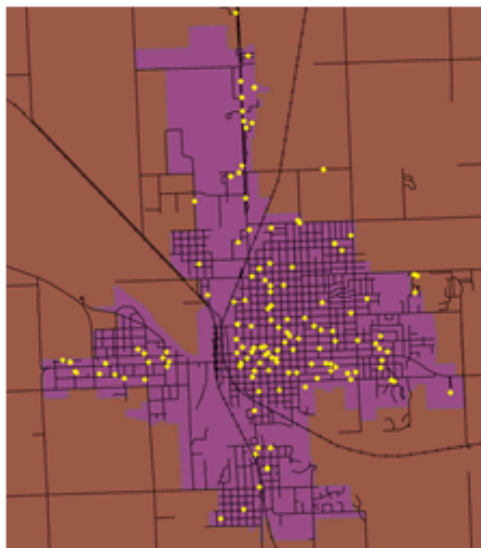
	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Poss. Marijuana less than 1 oz	28	17	27	22	19
Possession of Marijuana > 1 oz	2	4	3	1	1
Possession of Drug Paraphernalia	46	27	37	23	20
Possession of Controlled Substance	32	37	55	31	29
DUI - Drugs	2	1	3	3	3
Drug/Narcotics & Other Violations	6	8	3	7	6
Manufacture Drugs Intent to Distribute	1	2	5	0	0
Possess with Intent to Deliver	6	9	4	3	6
Totals	123	105	137	90	84

Property Crime Stats

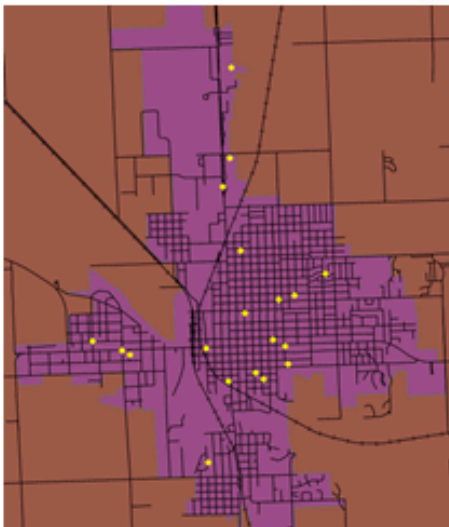
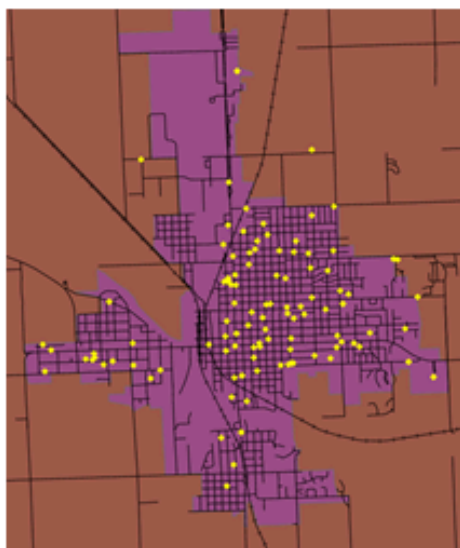


*In October 2024 a shipment of Cryptocurrency Mining Units originating in Beatrice valued at \$1,300,000 was stolen enroute to its Texas destination. All was recovered in California.

Thefts



Vandalisms

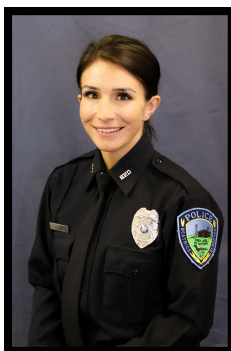


Motor Vehicle Accidents

Criminal Investigations Unit 2024



Investigative Sergeant
Erin Byrne
1996



Investigator
Natasha Parde
2015



Juvenile Services Ofc.
Jennifer Klaus
1994

The Criminal Investigations Unit is responsible for the investigation of cases involving a special subject matter and cases that are more complicated and often of a more time-consuming nature. The Criminal Investigations Unit is assigned a case when the nature of the crime involves serious criminal activity, such as suspected homicides, suicides, felony thefts, forgeries, felonious assaults, fraud, narcotics, or when the criminal activity appears to be part of a pattern of crimes.

The Criminal Investigations Unit is commanded by Erin Byrne, Investigative Sergeant. The Investigations unit is staffed with two investigators. The investigators are Juvenile Services Officer Jennifer Klaus and General Criminal Investigator Natasha Parde.

During 2024, the Investigations Unit was directly assigned 531 calls for service. In addition, the Investigations Unit assisted road patrol with 329 cases as well as numerous outside agencies with investigations of crimes in their jurisdictions which had ties to Beatrice.

The Investigations Unit continues to work with other agencies in regard to Internet Crimes against Children (ICAC). These cases involve crimes such as possession of child pornography, online enticement of a child, and any other cyber-crime involving a child. There were 13 ICAC cases in 2024. The Investigations Unit sometimes is requested to install covert surveillance cameras in Beatrice businesses and home residences in order to solve theft or other crime related issues.

The Investigations unit also assisted in the searches of cell phones and computers for various Beatrice Police Department cases as well as outside surrounding agency cases. These searches are done with a software/hardware program called Cellebrite. These update costs are shared between Beatrice Police Department, the Gage County Attorney's Office, and formerly the Wymore Police Department. Total number of cell phone searches in 2024 totaled 7 due to staffing changes. These searches can take multiple hours per search given the ever-increasing storage capabilities of newer cell phones. Cell phone searches are completed to obtain information, photos, and videos on various types of cases in which a cell phone or tablet may have been somehow involved.

Aside from criminal investigations, the Investigations Unit conducts background investigations for new department personnel, backgrounds for handgun permit applications, vendor background investigations, and background investigations for liquor license applications within the City of Beatrice. The Investigations Unit also serves as liaison officers to Crime Stoppers of Gage County. This assignment requires the investigators to attend meetings of the Crime Stoppers Board and to assist with recommendations of rewards to callers who provide information leading to arrests.

Felony Crimes Reported in Beatrice

	Offenses Reported	Arrests Made
Murder in the 1st Degree	1	1
Child Abuse Resulting in Death	1	2
Child Pornography	3	1
Forcible Rape/Sexual Assault	5	5
Aggravated Assault/Terroristic Threats	15	15
Felony Drug Offenses	50	38
Burglary	19	3
Fraud/Counterfeit/Forgery/False Pretense/Theft	29	11
Weapons Law Violations	16	14
Family Offenses Nonviolent	8	6
Vandalism/Criminal Mischief	4	2
Other Felony Offenses	47	23
	198	121

Crime Scene Team

The Beatrice Police Department Crime Scene Team, led by Sgt. Erin Byrne, consists of sworn officers and civilians of the Beatrice Police Department. The team is activated to investigate large or complicated crime scenes. The duties of the team include; collecting and preserving evidence, such as fingerprints, shoeprints, tool impressions, DNA, photographs, diagrams, video recording and all physical evidence at the scene. Members of the team have specialized training in all areas of crime scene investigations. The team has training at least once a year to stay up on the knowledge and skills needed for this unit. It should be noted that the team was significantly depleted with the large amount of employee resignations from 2023 however still responded to a homicide crime scene in 2024. Efforts are just getting underway to staff and train the team with new members in 2025.

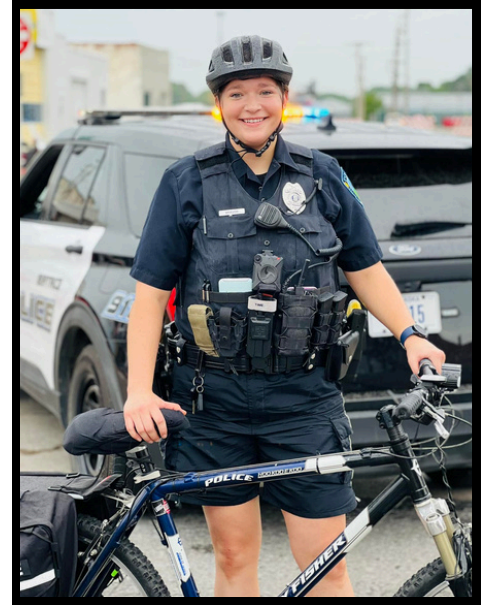
Juvenile Services

In 2024, the Beatrice Police Department received 258 child Abuse/Neglect/Custody calls and 630 Welfare Check reports. Many Welfare Checks involve juveniles. These reports are received from the Department of Health and Human Services Child Abuse Hotline, school personnel, and other concerned parties that contact the police directly or in situational responses.

Of the 258 Child Abuse/Neglect/Custody reports, 21 resulted in arrest or citations. There were two arrests in a case of child abuse resulting in death. Child abuse cases are difficult and time consuming. In the majority of cases, the situation or actions do not rise to criminal levels but do require intervention, or at least support services to protect the child and meet the identified needs.

There were also 2 juveniles that were victims involved in sexual assault cases. Juvenile victims of sexual assault, serious physical abuse, witnesses to a violent crime, or other situations are required by State statute to be taken to the BraveBe/Child Advocacy Center in Lincoln as part of the investigation and require officer presence. Each of these interviews can take up to four hours or longer, depending on how talkative the child can be. In 2024, numerous juveniles were interviewed at the BraveBe/Child Advocacy Center on behalf of the Beatrice Police Department. The Juvenile Services Officer or other investigators generally attend the CAC interviews. The Juvenile Services Officer is also the liaison officer for the monthly multi-disciplinary investigative and treatment team meetings as required by State Statute (1184 meetings).

Special Services



K9 Unit 2024

The Beatrice Police Department's two K9 Units assist officers with Beatrice Police, Gage County Sheriff's Office, Nebraska State Patrol, and surrounding county law enforcement agencies. The K9 Unit was supervised by Officer Zac Lauenstein in 2024, who facilitates K9 operations, ensures K9 training standards are met, and ensures these valuable assets are effective and efficient in their time of need.

K9 Toro has been working with Officer Lauenstein since 2021. Officer Lauenstein, one of two School Resource Officers, and K9 Toro are a Certified Narcotics Detection Team in the State of Nebraska. Toro, a yellow British Labrador, not only serves as a narcotics detection dog, but also serves as a community-based service dog, utilized for educational functions, public service events and events with local youth. Officer Lauenstein and K9 Toro work primarily at Beatrice High School, but also provide assistance to Beatrice Road Patrol Officers. Toro had 8 deployments in 2024 and 21 training sessions.

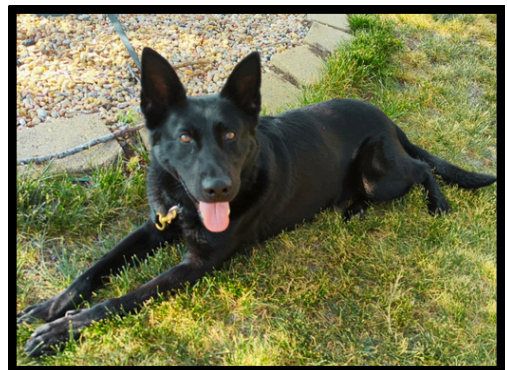
K9 Thomas has been working with Officer Price since 2023, and assigned to a road patrol shift. Officer Price and K9 Thomas are a Certified Narcotics Detection Team in the State of Nebraska. K9 Thomas, a black Dutch Shepard, had 25 deployments and 19 training sessions in 2024.

At the end of the year Officer Lauenstein bid back to road patrol with his K9 Toro and the department is developing a K9 Shift to begin in 2025 to increase hours that a K9 is on the streets. There is also an adjustment in the supervisor of the K9 unit which is switching to Sgt. Maloley in 2025.

If you have any questions regarding the Beatrice Police K9 Unit, please feel free to contact the new K9 Supervisor, Sgt. Shane Maloley at 402-223-4080.

If you would like to make a donation to the Beatrice Police Department K9 Unit, please send donations to:

Beatrice Police Department
Attn: Beatrice Police Department K9 Fund
201 N 5th St Beatrice, NE 68310



School Resource Officer Program (SRO)

The SRO program plays a crucial role in maintaining safety, building positive relationships, and supporting the overall well-being of our students, staff, and community. Throughout the year, our School Resource Officers have worked closely with school administrators, educators, and students to prevent and address potential safety concerns, promote a positive school climate, and provide mentorship and guidance to young individuals. By acting as both a law enforcement officer and a trusted adult role model, the SRO contributes significantly to the physical and emotional safety of our schools.

During the first part of the 2024-2025 school year, Officer Nesbitt served as the Middle School Resource Officer, dedicating time and effort to build connections with students and staff while addressing any concerns related to school safety. In October 2024, Officer Brauch, who has been with the Beatrice Police Department for four years, took over the position. Officer Brauch has continued the important work of fostering a safe and supportive environment at Beatrice Middle School. Officer Brauch's experience and dedication have further strengthened our department's engagement with the school community, continuing the commitment to student safety and mentorship.

At Beatrice High School, Officer Lauenstein began the school year as the School Resource Officer, providing a reassuring presence to students and assisting with various safety initiatives. In November 2024, Officer Ruh, who has been with the department for three years, transitioned into the High School SRO role. Officer Ruh has continued the important work of fostering a safe and supportive environment at Beatrice High School.

Looking ahead, both Officer Brauch and Officer Ruh will attend their first National Association of School Resource Officers (NASRO) conference in the summer of 2025. At this prestigious event, they will receive the Gold Standard in training related to school-based policing, further enhancing their skills and knowledge to better serve the students, staff, and families of Beatrice.

A key goal of the SRO program is to prevent deviant behavior and promote a positive, respectful school culture. SROs are not focused on making arrests for criminal violations, but rather on building trust and guiding students toward making responsible choices. They work proactively to address issues before they escalate into more serious problems, providing counseling, conflict resolution, and intervention when necessary. However, while the primary role of an SRO is preventive, they are also trained to respond appropriately to criminal violations. In cases where an arrest is necessary, the SRO will take appropriate action to ensure the safety of all students and staff and to maintain order within the school environment.

During 2024, the Beatrice Police Department responded to a variety of calls for service at Beatrice Middle School. The department handled 64 juvenile-related incidents, reflecting the department's proactive engagement with students. Officers responded to several assaults (4), disturbances (2), and disorderly conduct (1) situations, addressing conflicts and maintaining order within the school. Additionally, there were 2 incidents related to the Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) initiative. Other calls included 1 animal complaint, 1 mental health-related call, and 2 theft reports. The department also responded to a few traffic-related incidents, with 2 traffic stops and 1 vehicle complaint. Officers assisted with 1 complaint against an officer, 1 assist citizen request, and 1 general information inquiry. Officers also addressed 6 ordinance violations and 2 instances of suspicious behavior. In addition, 7 public service calls were handled, and officers found 1 piece of property that was turned in. Lastly, the department responded to 1 accident with no injuries, 1 hit-and-run accident, and 1 drug violation. These calls highlight the diverse range of issues that School Resource Officers address in their efforts to maintain a safe and supportive environment for students at the middle school.

During 2024, the Beatrice Police Department responded to a wide range of calls for service at Beatrice High School. Officers handled 14 juvenile-related incidents, demonstrating the department's continued engagement with students. There were 11 assault reports and 11 incidents involving threats, which were promptly addressed by officers to maintain safety. Other notable incidents included 6 harassment cases, 4 drug violations, and 1 sexual assault. Officers also responded to 4 disorderly conduct calls, 2 disturbances, and 1 case of false reporting. The department conducted 5 traffic stops and responded to 3 vehicle complaints, as well as 1 incident of vandalism.

In addition, officers handled various other matters such as 1 child custody issue, 1 child neglect case, and 4 welfare checks. Officers also responded to 17 ordinance violations and assisted with 25 public service calls, reflecting their commitment to supporting the school community. Other calls included 2 incidents of suspicious activity, 1 theft, and 4 special details. Officers conducted 3 door checks and 2 open door investigations as part of their routine safety measures. Additionally, there were 2 cases related to Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC), 1 drug information inquiry, and 1 tobacco/vape violation. Throughout these calls, the department remained focused on ensuring the safety, well-being, and overall security of students and staff at Beatrice High School.

Courtney Brauch - Beatrice Middle School

Brittney Ruh - Beatrice High School

Drone Program

The drone program is expanding, now with four certified pilots. The department still owns a DJI drone, but its use is restricted. Purchased with donated funds, this drone is more of a consumer-grade model available at retail stores like Best Buy. It can only operate during the day due to its lack of nighttime capabilities. The department is actively seeking donations and funding to acquire a law enforcement-grade drone capable of flying around the clock when needed.

There have been multiple instances where the drone team was asked to assist in locating or searching for a missing person at night. Unfortunately, those requests were declined because the current drone is not effective after dark. On one such occasion, the Saline County drone team was called in to help.

In 2024, the drone was used 3 times:

- Missing livestock
- Airplane crash landing search
- Search the river for possible swimmer drowning





Gage County Victim Assistance Program

About the Program

Established in 1995, the Gage County Victim Assistance Program has been dedicated to supporting crime victims throughout Gage County. The program operates through the federal Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) grant funding, as well as in-kind and cash contributions from the City of Beatrice and Gage County.

Our Mission

The Gage County Victim Assistance Program is a free public service that provides information, practical assistance, and crisis intervention to victims of crime. Victims not only experience physical harm but also endure emotional and financial hardships, including lost wages, medical expenses, and property damage. Many victims struggle with anger, guilt, confusion, and frustration with the complexities of the criminal justice system.

Our mission is to ensure that victims' rights are upheld while offering guidance, support, and advocacy throughout the legal process. We provide case updates, assistance with compensation applications, and emotional support, always treating victims with dignity, compassion, and empowerment. The criminal justice system is designed to bring justice and relief, but its process is often lengthy and complex. Our office is committed to helping victims navigate each step, ensuring they receive the information, resources, and support they need.

Services Provided

The Victim Assistance Coordinator is responsible for direct victim services, advocacy, and administrative oversight. Daily responsibilities include:

- Making initial contact with victims and providing case updates
- Assisting with State Crime Victims' Compensation applications
- Helping victims complete their Victim Impact Statements (VIS)
- Acting as a liaison between victims and prosecutors
- Attending pre-trial meetings and providing court/law enforcement accompaniment
- Connecting victims with community resources and services
- Assisting with protection orders and follow-up contacts
- Addressing questions and concerns about the criminal justice process

Additionally, the Victim Assistance Coordinator manages collaborations with partner agencies, grant writing, and all required financial and statistical reporting for VOCA funding.

With the loss of the Assistant Victim Advocate position due to funding reductions, the program continues to adapt to ensure that victims in Gage County receive the highest level of support possible.

The Victim Assistance Coordinator, Chevis Epp, has been serving Gage County crime victims since April 2021, following the retirement of the previous coordinator after 20 years of service. With over 15 years of experience in victim advocacy, she specializes in supporting survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, human trafficking, child welfare, and juvenile justice. She also has extensive experience in diversity and equity work, child abuse prevention, and is a certified Mental Health First Aid trainer. Chevis holds a Bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice with a minor in Psychology and an emphasis in Counseling.

The Gage County Victim Assistance Program faced a significant loss on November 30, 2023, when the Assistant Victim Advocate position, held by Marty Seymour since December 1, 2016, was eliminated due to a statewide reduction in Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) grant funding. Since its inception in 1995, the program has relied on VOCA funding to provide critical services to crime victims in Gage County. Losing an advocate has placed an increased strain on the remaining staff, reducing the program's capacity to offer essential support to victims navigating the aftermath of trauma and crime.

The funding crisis has only deepened in the current grant cycle. In the first year, Nebraska experienced a 40% reduction in VOCA funds, and in year two, that shortage increased to 60%. Despite these drastic cuts, the Gage County Victim Assistance Program was fortunate to receive its fully awarded amount in year two, allowing it to continue serving victims without further reductions. However, the ongoing decline in VOCA funding across the state remains a significant concern, as the demand for services far exceeds the available resources.

To help ease the burden on the Victim Assistance Coordinator, who is now solely responsible for running the program, the City of Beatrice brought on Sue Sullivan in a part-time capacity to assist with non-direct tasks such as record-keeping. Her position, not funded by the VOCA grant, was implemented to provide administrative support and help close out the grant year efficiently. While this assistance alleviates some workload pressures, the absence of a second advocate continues to impact the program's ability to provide direct services to victims in need.

Gage County Victim Assistance Program: Services & Community Partnerships

24/7 Availability & Law Enforcement Collaboration

The Gage County Victim Assistance Program is available 24/7 to support crime victims and assist law enforcement when called upon by the shift supervisor. The program works closely with the Beatrice Police Department, Gage County Sheriff's Department, Wymore Police Department, Nebraska State Patrol, and the Gage County Attorney's Office to ensure victims receive timely and effective assistance.

Comprehensive Victim Services

The program provides a wide range of services to all crime victims in Gage County, including but not limited to:

- Crisis Intervention – Immediate emotional support for victims in crisis
- Personal Advocacy – Assistance with navigating victim rights and available resources
- Criminal Justice Advocacy – Guidance and support throughout the legal process
- Protection Order Assistance – Help with filing and understanding protection orders
- Property Release – Coordination with law enforcement for property retrieval
- Restitution Assistance – Helping victims seek financial reimbursement
- 911 Cellular Phones – Providing emergency phones for victims in need
- Safety Planning – Developing personalized plans to enhance victim safety
- Transportation Assistance – Helping victims access services and court proceedings
- Parole Information – Updates on offender release and parole hearings
- Victim Impact Statement Assistance – Helping victims express how the crime has affected them
- Court Proceedings Support – Accompaniment and guidance for victims in court
- General Information & Assistance – Providing answers and referrals for victim-related concerns
- Nebraska Crime Victim's Reparations Program – Assisting with financial compensation applications
- Nebraska Victims of Crime Alert Portal Registration – Enrolling victims for case status notifications

Community Involvement & Partnerships

The Victim Assistance Coordinator actively collaborates with multiple organizations to enhance victim services and promote community safety. These partnerships ensure a comprehensive, multidisciplinary response to crime and victimization in Gage County.

Gage County Child Abuse and Neglect Treatment Team

The Gage County Child Abuse and Neglect Treatment Team is dedicated to a collaborative, multidisciplinary approach to assisting children who have experienced abuse or neglect, are at risk, or are displaying delinquent behavior. This team works to fill service gaps for children whose needs are not met within the current system, even in cases where the Juvenile Court is not involved.

Gage County Crime Stoppers

Gage County Crime Stoppers is a nonprofit organization led by a volunteer citizen board. This initiative brings together law enforcement, media, and the community to combat crime. Crime Stoppers provides a secure, anonymous way for individuals to report crime-related information to law enforcement. Tipsters may receive a reward of up to \$1,000 for valuable information leading to an arrest.

Southeastern Nebraska Human Trafficking Task Force

Established in 2015, the Nebraska Human Trafficking Task Force (NHTTF) coordinates the state's efforts to combat human trafficking. This initiative brings together law enforcement, prosecutors, service providers, advocates, and community partners to implement a unified, strategic response to trafficking in Nebraska.

Nebraska Partnership Against the Trafficking of Humans (NE PATH)

NE PATH connects organizations and individuals engaged in the fight against human trafficking. This network strengthens Nebraska's anti-trafficking efforts by fostering collaboration, promoting trauma-informed practices, and ensuring a survivor-centered approach.

Community Justice Committee – Gage County MAPS

The Community Justice Committee operates within the Multiple Agencies Partnering for Success (MAPS) Coalition, a network of over 50 individuals, agencies, and organizations committed to improving the quality of life for individuals, families, and communities in Gage County. Through collaboration, the coalition addresses critical social issues and enhances community resources.

Chevis Epp
Victim Assistance Coordinator



Victim Assistance Program Statistics 2024

*Not an all-inclusive list of services provided

TYPE OF SERVICE	# OF TIMES PROVIDED	
	2024	2023
Emotional Support & Safety Services	1,742	1,864
Personal Advocacy & Accompaniment	446	372
Information about the Criminal Justice Process & Referral	3,711	3,947
Law Enforcement Interview/Accompaniment	190	300
Criminal & Civil Justice System Advocacy	4,033	4,821
Compensation Assistance	20	25
Transportation	7	10
Protection Order Assistance	432	451
Total # of Services Provided	10,581	11,790
Total # of Victims Served	1,258	1,037

Types of Victimization & Number of Crime Victims Who Received Services

*An individual MAY be counted in more than one victimization type

Types of Victimization	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018
Adult Physical Assault	77	99	94	94	193	150	154
Adult Sexual Assault	21	34	34	44	53	36	9
Adults Sexual Abused as Children	2	2	2	1	24	7	5
Arson	0	4	4	3	1	64	16
Bullying (verbal, cyber or physical)	20	12	10	27	24	0	1
Burglary	47	92	101	68	39	124	97
Child Physical Abuse/Neglect	209	182	167	144	420	113	62
Child Pornography	2	0	0	0	0	4	2
Child Sexual Abuse/Assault	160	68	101	161	209	237	108
Domestic and/or Family Violence	787	838	793	749	808	1080	813
DUI/DWI Incidents	9	21	26	10	14	9	33
Elder Abuse/Neglect	9	4	4	5	0	2	1
Hate Crimes	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Human Trafficking Labor/Sex	1	0	0	1	1	0	0
Identity Theft/Fraud/Financial Crime	231	157	157	57	11	5	8
Kidnapping (custodial/non-custodial)	0	1	1	0	0	0	0
Mass Violence	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Vehicular Victimization (hit & run etc.)	34	93	94	49	33	16	18
Robbery	2	0	2	8	20	28	22
Stalking/Harassment	224	256	256	354	355	372	355
Survivors of Homicide Victims	50	44	44	40	5	0	5
Teen Dating Victimization	3	18	18	0	0	0	0
Terrorism (domestic/international)	0	0	0	0	1	1	0
Other (PO violations, criminal mischief etc.)	142	198	196	131	232	133	256
Total	2,030	2123	2104	1946	2443	2381	1956

Source: U.S. Dept. of Justice, Office of Justice Programs- Performance Measurement Platform Compiled by: Chevis Epp

Community Policing

Speaker Service

The Beatrice Police Department organized a Police Speaker's program in 2008 as part of our community awareness effort. The focus of the program is to help educate the public about various law enforcement related topics. The topics include personal safety, crime prevention and criminal activities, and range from 20 to 60 minutes in length. Sworn personnel along with the Victim Assistance Coordinator and Communications personnel prepare the presentations based on their area of expertise.

Beatrice Public Schools, various church groups, service clubs, businesses and other community groups and classes requesting the service. The most requested topics are fraud, K-9 presentations and computer scams. Officers also spent time informing people about the Police Department and Officer Duties. Numerous Groups continue to tour the Beatrice Police Department including Boy Scout and Girl Scout troops, along with school classes.

Community Survey

As part of the Beatrice Police Department's commitment to community engagement and continuous improvement, a public survey was conducted to assess resident perceptions of public safety, police services and department effectiveness. The survey gathered valuable input on key areas such as community trust, response times, officer interactions and overall satisfaction with law enforcement efforts.

The results showed that 78% of those who took the survey feel safe in their neighborhoods. 66% feel that the police response time is satisfactory, 78% feel that the Beatrice Police Department is effectively addressing crime and maintaining public safety and 74% feel that the officers are very professional when doing their jobs. Although these numbers leave a little room for improvement, we feel that this is very positive feedback and we will continue to work and increase our public satisfaction in the following years.

Holiday Events

Officers participated in the Downtown Night of the Great Pumpkin fun night and the Trick or Treat event, speaking to Children and family members at this event. Officers also participated in the Downtown Lighted Parade during the Christmas Holiday.

Lunch with a Cop

In 2024 our Lunch with a Cop program primarily focused on group lunch dates. Students at Beatrice Middle School were recognized and rewarded with a few pizza parties after participating in Attendance Challenges. Officers had lunch with the HOPE squad at Beatrice Middle School. Officer Nesbitt organized a get together with the students of the winning House. Several officers attended a lunch with the CORE kids at Paddock Lane and enjoyed Playa Azul, at their request. SRO Lauenstein went out to lunch with a couple high school students. Although we always enjoy a one-on-one lunch these group lunches have been a hit.

Special Olympics

Officers continue their involvement with Special Olympics, hosting the annual torch run through downtown Beatrice, and played a basketball game at BHS versus the Special Olympians.

Free Ride Home Program

The Beatrice Police Department has partnered with Yellow Cab and Gage County MAPS since 2019 allowing officers, bars and restaurants in Beatrice to give vouchers for a free ride home to impaired drivers. A total of 618 vouchers were given out in 2024.

National Night Out

This year, the Beatrice Police Department participated in National Night Out for the first time in several years, recognizing its longstanding tradition and its significance as an annually celebrated event. National Night Out is known nationwide for its focus on building safer, stronger communities through positive interactions between law enforcement and residents. We invited local vendors, food trucks, and community programs to take part, creating a lively atmosphere filled with engaging activities for all ages. This event allowed us to reconnect with the community, foster relationships, and highlight the importance of collaboration with local businesses and organizations. The turnout was fantastic, and we look forward to making National Night Out a continued tradition in the years to come.

Mini Mart

The Mini Mart has been an integral part in supporting local students and families, with the School Resource Officer (SRO) playing an active role in providing food from local monetary donations and resources. Through this program, which is supported by the school, the SROs work closely with the Mini Mart to ensure students have access to meals throughout the school year. This program is highly utilized and appreciated by the school community. Additionally, the Beatrice Police Department conducted a food drive for the Mini Mart, during which around \$8,700 worth of items were donated, further helping to meet the needs of local families.

Stuff the Cruiser

The Beatrice Police Department's annual "Stuff the Cruiser" event, hosted by FOP Lodge 84, was a tremendous success this year. Through the generosity of our community, we were able to provide gifts for over 250 children from 80 families in Gage County. Additionally, the event raised nearly \$1,700 in monetary donations, which was reinvested into local businesses to help provide more gifts for teens. This year's event was made possible thanks to the unwavering support of our community partners, including the YMCA, Walmart, the Legion Riders, and eight other local service organizations. Their collective effort and dedication allowed us to reach more families and make a significant impact on the community. We are deeply grateful for the outpouring of support from all those involved—community members, businesses, and organizations—whose generosity helped make this event a success.

