



DARIEN POLICE



JOSEPH MARCHESE
Mayor

GREG THOMAS
Chief of Police

JASON NORTON
Deputy Chief

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Darien, Illinois 60561-5044
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Police Response 9-1-1
www.darien.il.us

POLICE COMMITTEE

April 7, 2025

Rescheduled Meeting

6:00 P.M.

**Police Department Training Room
1710 Plainfield Road**

1. Call to Order
2. Public Comment and Communications
3. Approval of meeting minutes from February 18, 2025
4. An Ordinance to amend the Fire and Police Commission's Rules
5. Darien Police Annual Report
6. Next Meeting Date – May 19, 2025
7. Adjournment



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Deputy Chief – Operations Commander

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POLICE COMMITTEE
February 18, 2025
Regular Meeting Minutes
Police Department Training Room
1710 Plainfield Road

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. in attendance were Aldermen Ralph Stompanato and Eric Gustafson and Police Chief Greg Thomas. Alderman Kenney was absent.

2. Public Comment and Communications

There was no public comment or communication.

3. Approval of Meeting Minutes from the January 20, 2025 Meeting.

Alderman Gustafson motioned to approve the minutes seconded by Alderman Stompanato. The minutes were approved.

4. A resolution to purchase (5) Panasonic Toughbook computers for \$20,055 from CDS Office Technologies.

Chief Thomas explained that each of the (5) sergeants has a device in the building and (2) devices in the cars. Three of the (5) devices are scheduled to be replaced. Instead of replacing the (3) devices, the department would like to purchase (5) Panasonic Toughbook computers for each sergeant to use both in the cars and at their desks. A discussion ensued about the age of the current computers and how they are used.

Alderman Gustafson motioned to approve seconded by Alderman Stompanato. The motion was unanimously approved.

5. A resolution to purchase (2) Body Worn Cameras and (1) Charging/Docking station for an amount not to exceed \$11,000 from Axon Enterprises, Inc.

Chief informed the committee that when City Council increased the sworn officer authorization by two officers, he and Deputy Chief Norton gave up their body worn cameras so that the two new officers could use them. The Illinois statute states that when a uniformed officer is on the street they are required to wear body worn cameras. The department would like to purchase (2) more body worn cameras so every officer including the Police Chief and Deputy Chief can use one when needed. The committee discussed how well the current Axon cameras and redaction software are working.

Alderman Gustafson motioned to approve seconded by Alderman Stompanato. The motion was unanimously approved.

6. **An ordinance authorizing the sale or disposal of surplus property**

Chief Thomas advised that the department would like to get rid of items that are no longer needed or working.

Alderman Gustafson motioned to approve seconded by Alderman Stompanato. The motion was unanimously approved.

7. **Next Meeting Date – March 17, 2025**

8. **Adjournment**

Alderman Gustafson motioned to adjourn seconded by Alderman Stompanato. The meeting was adjourned at 6:13 p.m.

Approved: _____
Date

Alderman: _____
Eric Gustafson

Chairman: _____
Joseph Kenny

Alderman: _____
Ralph Stompanato

AGENDA MEMO
Police Committee
Rescheduled
April 7, 2025

ISSUE STATEMENT

Approval of an ordinance authorizing the City's Fire and Police Commission to amend its rules to allow for the selection of new police hires from among the top three candidates on an eligibility list.

BACKGROUND HISTORY

In Illinois there are two merit-based statutory hiring structures – the Civil Service Commission structure and the Board of Fire and Police Commission structure. Darien has adopted the BFPC structure.

Under the Civil Service structure, an employer may select both new employees and fill promotional vacancies from among the top three on the eligibility list. In contrast, under the BFPC structure, this “rule of three” discretion only exists in the case of promotions.

Staff proposes that the “rule of three” concept be utilized for initial police hiring as well as the filling of promotional vacancies.

Because the City is a home rule unit, the City has the authority to utilize the rule of three in the case of hiring from an eligibility list. But . . . only the City Council, as the City's legislative body, has home rule authority. The Commission in and of itself does not have home rule authority.

STAFF / COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends approval of the ordinance to amend the FPC rules.

ALTERNATIVE CONSIDERATION

As directed.

DECISION MODE

This item will be on the April 7, 2025 City Council agenda for formal approval.

Odelson, Murphey, Frazier & McGrath, Ltd.

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Memorandum

VIA E-MAIL

To: Mayor Marchese and City Council

From: John B. Murphey

Date: March 7, 2025

Re: Ordinance Authorizing Amendment to the BFPC Rules

Background

In Illinois there are two merit-based statutory hiring structures – the Civil Service Commission structure and the Board of Fire and Police Commission structure. Darien has adopted the BFPC structure.

Under the Civil Service structure, an employer may select both new employees and fill promotional vacancies from among the top three on the eligibility list. In contrast, under the BFPC structure, this “rule of three” discretion only exists in the case of promotions.

BFPC Proposal And Need For Council Action

Chief Thomas and the Commission propose that the “rule of three” concept be utilized for initial police hiring as well as the filling of promotional vacancies. Chief Thomas will explain the Commission’s thinking in this regard.

Because the City is a home rule unit, the City has the authority to utilize the rule of three in the case of hiring from an eligibility list. But . . . only the City Council, as the City’s legislative body, has home rule authority. The Commission in and of itself does not have home rule authority.

Accordingly, I have prepared a draft ordinance for the City Council to adopt approving this rule change. A draft of the ordinance is attached.

JBM/sml
Enclosure

Darien Police Department

Annual Report

2024



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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Darien Police Department collects and reports crime data following the National Incident Based Reporting System (NIBRS). Several of the crime categories and statistics include:

Person Crime

The frequency of crimes committed against persons decreased by 5.1%. There were 150 reported crimes against persons in 2024 down from 158 in 2023 or 8 less crimes.

Property Crime

Property crime saw a 6% decrease or 25 fewer crimes comparing 2024 to 2023.

Person & Property Crime

Total person and property crimes show a 5.7% decrease in total crime comparing 2024 to 2023. A reduction of 33 criminal acts.

Crashes

Darien saw 2.7% increase in accidents or nine more crashes in 2024 compared to 2023.

Concerns

There were 52 locations where the public had a specific concern, mostly related to traffic, to be monitored and

Partnerships

The Police Department is partners with a number of intergovernmental groups:

- DuMEG
 - The DuPage Metropolitan Enforcement Group (DuMEG) is a county-wide agency tasked with drug investigations. We have used them as a manpower resource outside of drug enforcement as well.
- DuComm
 - DuPage Public Safety Communications (DuComm) manages our 9-1-1 and non-emergency calls for police services as well as officer initiated calls for service.
- DEA
 - We partner with the DEA by assigning an officer to the DEA who is actually sworn in as a federal employee. The DPD officer acting as a DEA agent handles situations that a typical DEA agent does.
- Metropolitan Emergency Response and Investigations Team (MERIT)
 - Metropolitan Emergency Response and Investigations Team (MERIT) handles a number of issues such as drone usage, Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT), Negotiations, Crash, Major Crimes and others. MERIT was utilized four times in 2024 within Darien, one SWAT related and three crash related.

Community Engagement

Being a great partner with the community is a priority for the police department. We try to do a number of events and activities relative to community engagement to maintain high trust with the community including the use of community meetings, social media and other outreach programs.

Major Investments

In 2024 we made significant purchases, including

- 12 Squads Cars and related technologies (radar, computers, etc.)
- Drones
- Automatic License Plate Readers (ALPRs) to aid officers in actively responding to incidents and for investigations.

The police department's primary mission to our community is service and safety. We take our oath to uphold the law and serve our community seriously. Decisions are moral, ethical and within constitutional law. Our philosophical approach is to resolve problems and provide service that is accomplished by a variety of means of which enforcement is only one of many options.

CRIME

We collect and report crime data following the National Incident Based Reporting System (NIBRS). Since the 1930s police departments used the Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) system before it was replaced with NIBRS. Because NIBRS collects data differently comparing NIBRS data to UCR data is impossible.

Person Crime

The frequency of crimes committed against persons decreased by 5.1%. There were 150 reported crimes against persons in 2024 down from 158 in 2023 or 8 less crimes.

There were no murders, non-forcible sexual offenses, human trafficking or kidnapping related offenses reported in 2024. There were 3 sexual assaults reported and 147 assault related crimes reported. Included in the assault category are assaults and batteries. A battery means someone was physically harmed or physically provoked. An assault occurs when a person is in reasonable apprehension of receiving a battery. Assaults and batteries decreased by 5.2%, eight less assaults / batteries than what occurred in 2023. Of the 147 assaults 62 were domestic related. Seventeen of the assaults were situations of harassment which are not an assault or a battery by statutory definition. However, under the NIBRS guidelines they are counted as an assault.

Offense	YTD 2024	YTD 2023	Percent Change	Offenses Cleared	Percent Cleared	Rate Per 100,000
Homicide Offenses	0	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0.0
Murder & Non-Negligent Manslaughter	0	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0.0
Negligent Manslaughter	0	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0.0
Justifiable Homicide	0	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0.0
Non-Consensual Sex Offenses	3	3	0.0%	0	0.0%	13.8
Forcible Rape	2	1	100.0%	0	0.0%	9.2
Forcible Sodomy	0	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0.0
Sexual Assault with an Object	0	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0.0
Forcible Fondling	1	2	-50.0%	0	0.0%	4.6
Assault Offenses	147	155	-5.2%	67	45.6%	677.5
Aggravated Assault	6	6	0.0%	4	66.7%	27.7
Simple Assault	112	125	-10.4%	57	50.9%	516.2
Intimidation	29	24	20.8%	6	20.7%	133.7
Kidnapping	0	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0.0
Non-Forcible Sex Offenses	0	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0.0
Incest	0	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0.0
Statutory Rape	0	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0.0
Human Trafficking Offenses	0	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0.0
Commercial Sex Acts	0	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0.0
Involuntary Servitude	0	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0.0
Crimes Against Persons Total	150	158	-5.1%	67	44.7%	691.3

Property Crime

Property crime saw a 6% decrease or 25 fewer crimes comparing 2024 to 2023. This was driven in part by a decrease in fraud cases, 32 fewer incidents. There was 1 robbery reported in 2024 compared to 4 in 2023. Darien residents witnessed a 27.8% decrease in burglary whether residential (4) or commercial (9). Motor Vehicle Theft saw a 16.7% increase or 2 more cars stolen in 2024 than 2023. The incidents of theft went up by 9.5%, an increase of 15 incidents. Retail theft accounted for 68 of the 173 thefts. Fraud, led by false pretenses saw a 19.6% decrease a numeric change of 26. False Pretenses includes Computer Fraud, Deceptive Practices and Theft by Deception.

Offense	YTD 2024	YTD 2023	Percent Change	Offenses Cleared	Percent Cleared	Rate Per 100,000
Robbery	1	4	-75.0%	1	100.0%	4.6
Burglary	13	18	-27.8%	3	23.1%	59.9
Theft Offenses	173	158	9.5%	42	24.3%	797.3
Pocket Picking	0	0	0.0%			
Purse Snatching	0	0	0.0%			
Retail Theft	68	57	19.3%			
Theft from Building	3	1	200.0%			
Theft from Coin Operated Machine	0	0	0.0%			
Theft from Motor Vehicle	36	34	5.9%			
Theft of Motor Vehicle Parts	0	1	-100.0%			
All other Thefts	66	65	1.5%			
Motor Vehicle Theft	14	12	16.7%	2	14.3%	64.5
Arson	2	1	100.0%	0	0.0%	9.2
Destruction of Property	53	49	8.2%	7	13.2%	244.3
Forgery	5	4	25.0%	1	20.0%	23.0
Fraud Offense	131	163	-19.6%	17	13.0%	603.7
False Pretenses	68	94	-27.7%			
Credit Card Fraud	6	12	-50.0%			
Impersonation	7	10	-30.0%			
Welfare Fraud	1	0	0.0%			
Wire Fraud	7	4	75.0%			
Identity Fraud	41	43	-4.7%			
Computer Hacking	1	0	0.0%			
Embezzlement	0	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0.0
Extortion	1	8	-87.5%	0	0.0%	4.6
Bribery	0	1	-100.0%	0	0.0%	0.0
Stolen Property Offenses	1	1	0.0%	0	0.0%	4.6
Crimes Against Property Total	394	419	-6.0%	73	18.5%	1815.8

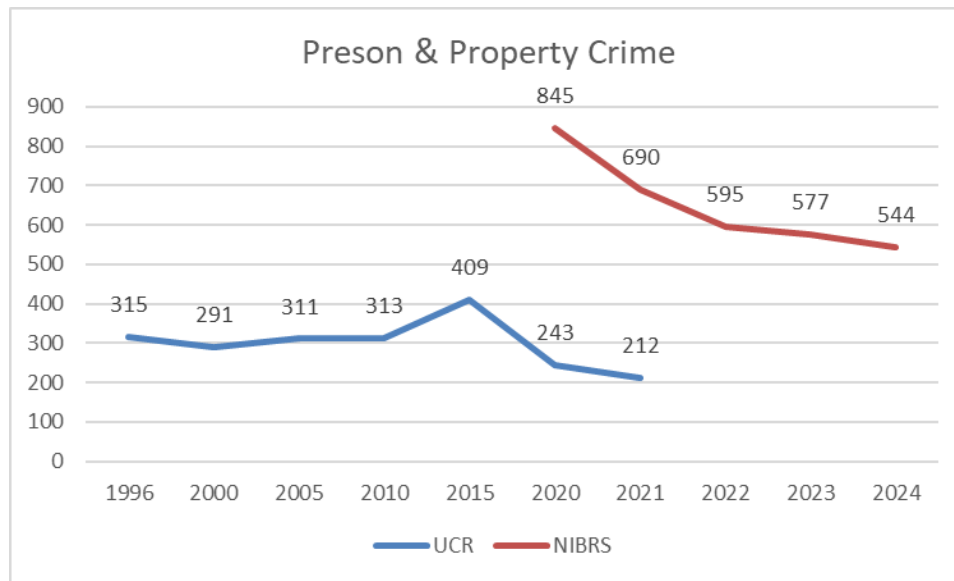
Total Person & Property Crime

Total person and property crimes show a 5.7% decrease in total crime comparing 2024 to 2023. A reduction of 33 criminal acts.

Offense	YTD 2024	YTD 2023	Percent Change	Offenses Cleared	Percent Cleared	Rate Per 100,000
Crimes Against Persons Total	150	158	-5.1%	67	44.7%	691.3
Crimes Against Property Total	394	419	-6.0%	73	18.5%	1815.8
Total Person & Property Crimes	544	577	-5.7%	140	25.7%	2507.1

In an effort to show crime over longer periods of time using two different systems is impossible. However, to show crime over a longer period of time we included a graph that shows crime from

1996 through 2021 (26 years) using UCR methodology of counting crime as well as 2020 through 2024 using NIBRS requirements. A total of 29 years of data shows we continue to drive down crime and make Darien a nice place to live.



Crime Clearances

All three sexual assault incidents were closed – leads exhausted due to no viable leads that would lead to an arrest. Of the 147 assault cases, 67 were cleared either by an arrest or cleared exceptionally for a 45.6% clearance rate. Cleared exceptionally means that sufficient probable cause for an arrest was established and the offender was clearly identified, but matters outside the control of law enforcement an arrest could not be made.

The single robbery case was cleared by arrest. An arrest was made in 3 of the 13 burglaries. There was an arrest in 2 of the reported stolen motor vehicle cases. An arrest was made in 42 theft cases. Of the 131 cases of fraud 17 were cleared by an arrest.

Societal Crime

Societal crimes decreased by 35.7% (25 less crimes) comparing 2024 to 2023.

Offense	YTD 2024	YTD 2023	Percent Change	Offenses Cleared	Percent Cleared	Rate Per 100,000
Drug Violations	32	49	-34.7%	24	75.0%	147.5
Drug Equipment Violations	1	4	-75.0%	0	0.0%	4.6
Gambling Offenses	0	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0.0
Pornography	1	4	-75.0%	0	0.0%	4.6
Prostitution	0	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0.0
Weapons Law Violation	8	10	-20.0%	6	75.0%	36.9
Animal Cruelty	3	3	0.0%	1	33.3%	13.8
Crimes Against Society Total	45	70	-35.7%	31	68.9%	207.4
Total Group "A" Offenses	589	647	-9.0%	171	29.0%	2714.5

Other Incidents

There are a number of different crime / incident types included in “other crime” category. MRAI (below table) means a Minor Requiring Authoritative Intervention, such incidents as habitual runaways.

Offense	YTD 2024	YTD 2023	Percent Change	Offenses Cleared	Percent Cleared	Rate Per 100,000
Bad Checks	0	0	0.0%	24	0.0%	0.0
Curfew	3	1	200.0%	25	833.3%	13.8
Disorderly Conduct	99	101	-2.0%	26	26.3%	456.3
DUI	70	87	-19.5%	27	38.6%	322.6
Family Offenses (Non-Violent)	4	9	-55.6%	28	700.0%	18.4
Liquor Law Violation	9	20	-55.0%	29	322.2%	41.5
Peeping Tom	0	0	0.0%	30	0.0%	0.0
MRAI	0	0	0.0%	31	0.0%	0.0
Trespass	22	33	-33.3%	32	145.5%	101.4
All Other Crimes	109	172	-36.6%	33	30.3%	502.4
Total Group B Offenses	316	423	-25.3%	34	10.8%	1456.4

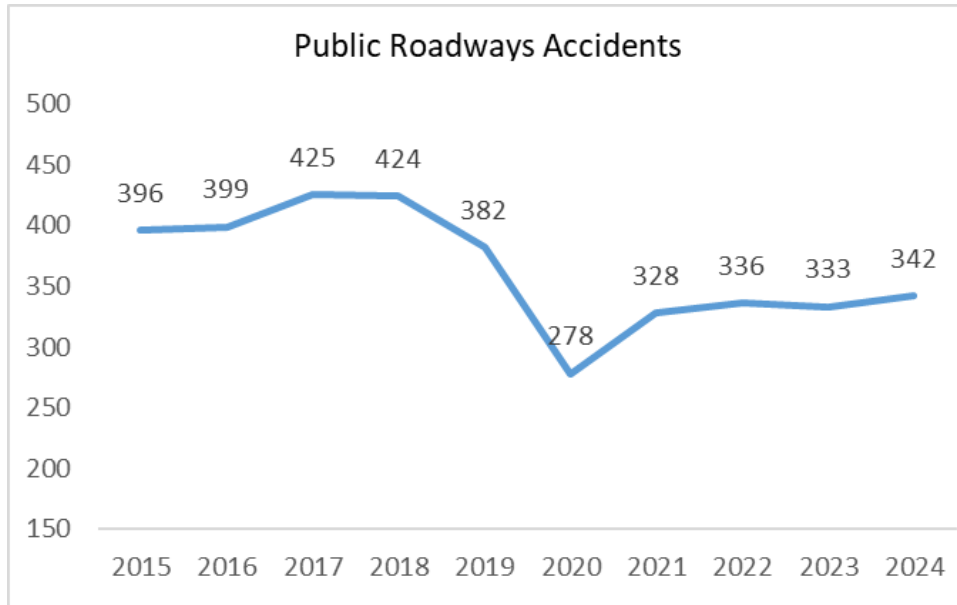
TRAFFIC

Crashes

The safety of the driving public is important to the Darien community. To determine the safety of the driving public the measure used is the frequency of crashes on public right-of-ways. Darien saw 2.7% increase in accidents or nine more crashes in 2024 compared to 2023. There was one fatal crash in 2024 with two people killed. Injury crashes increased by 5.3%. Crashes due to impaired driving increased 100% or one more.

	YTD 2024	YTD 2023	YTD 2019	1 Year Change	5 Year Change
Public Way					
No Injuries	279	265	330	5.3%	-15.5%
Injury	62	67	51	-7.5%	21.6%
Fatal	1	1	1	0.0%	0.0%
Total	342	333	382	2.7%	-10.5%

	YTD 2024	YTD 2023	YTD 2019	1 Year Change	5 Year Change
Fatalities	2	1	1	100.0%	100.0%
Hit & Run	41	20	27	105.0%	51.9%
DUI	2	1	3	100.0%	-33.3%



Crashes on private property went up by 15.1% or 21 more crashes in 2024 than what was reported in 2023.

	YTD 2024	YTD 2023	YTD 2019	1 Year Change	5 Year Change
Private Property	160	139	213	15.1%	-24.9%

The top crash locations did not change much. Most of the crash locations from the prior year are on the list but maybe in a slightly different order. However, of note is the number of crashes at Clarendon Hills and 67th Street reduced to zero. A new traffic light at the intersection that was went live on October 2023 may have an effect on that change.

Frequency of Crashes by Locations					
Primary Street	Cross Street	2024 Crashes	2023 Crashes	5 Yrs Crashes	5 year Average
Cass Avenue	75th Street	39	31	179	35.8
Plainfield Road	75th Street	29	25	124	24.8
Lemont Road	83rd Street	26	9	38	15.8
Cass Avenue	Plainfield Road	23	14	98	19.6
Lemont Road	87th Street	22	13	72	20.4
Plainfield Road	Clarendon Hills Road	13	15	64	12.8
Lemont Road	Cheese Road	8	3	26	5.6
Lemont Road	I-55	7	27	56	11.2
Cass Avenue	S Frontage Road	7	11	19	6
Cass Avenue	N Frontage Road	6	10	37	7.4
Lemont Road	103rd Street	2	4	22	4
Cass Avenue	Hinswood Drive	1	5	17	3.4

Roadways with higher collision rates regardless of cross street are depicted below.

<u>Frequency of Crashes by Street</u>				
Primary Street	2024 Crashes	2023 Crashes	5 Yrs Crashes	5 Year Average
Cass Avenue	105	72	491	74.4
Plainfield Road	94	59	439	66.2
75th Street	91	33	383	42.6
Lemont Road	81	65	397	62.8
83rd Street	21	12	120	12
Clarendon Hills Road	19	9	109	15.6
N Frontage Road	27	8	87	14.4

Enforcement

Traffic enforcement lessened in 2024 compared to 2023. Of note is the number of police officers. For most of the year we operated with one less officer. We then increased the number of sworn officers from 34 to 36. However, four officers were / are not deployable due to illness or injury.

Citations							
	YTD 2024	YTD 2023	YTD 2019	YTD 2014	1 Yr. Change	5 Yr. Change	10 Yr. Change
Moving Citation	958	988	1227	1325	-3.0%	-21.9%	-27.7%
Moving Warning	2404	2824	1996	1149	-14.9%	20.4%	109.2%
Total Moving	3362	3812	3223	2474	-11.8%	4.3%	35.9%
Non-Moving Citation	727	666	595	756	9.2%	22.2%	-3.8%
Non-Moving Warning	1396	1823	1337	820	-23.4%	4.4%	70.2%
Total Non-Moving	2123	2489	1932	1576	-14.7%	9.9%	34.7%
Total Warning	3800	4647	3333	1969	-18.2%	14.0%	93.0%
Total Citations	1685	1654	1822	2081	1.9%	-7.5%	-19.0%
Total Enforcement Actions	5485	6301	5155	4050	-13.0%	6.4%	35.4%

DUI Arrests							
	YTD 2024	YTD 2023	YTD 2019	YTD 2014	1 Yr. Change	5 Yr. Change	10 Yr. Change
Total	71	82	59	NA	-13.4%	20.3%	0.0%

Category							
	YTD 2024	YTD 2023	YTD 2019	YTD 2014	1 Yr. Change	5 Yr. Change	10 Yr. Change
SPEED	2195	2320	2018	1192	-5.4%	8.8%	84.1%
REGISTRATION	1175	1401	630	639	-16.1%	86.5%	83.9%
STOP SIGN OR SIGNAL	575	676	392	472	-14.9%	46.7%	21.8%
EQUIPMENT	334	478	568	354	-30.1%	-41.2%	-5.6%
INSURANCE	313	324	251	347	-3.4%	24.7%	-9.8%
LICENSE	241	238	206	167	1.3%	17.0%	44.3%
LANE	220	301	220	169	-26.9%	0.0%	30.2%
DISTRACTED	159	160	336	451	-0.6%	-52.7%	-64.7%
SIGNAL	71	129	105	78	-45.0%	-32.4%	-9.0%
YIELD	67	175	80	51	-61.7%	-16.3%	31.4%
TURNING	49	78	43	28	-37.2%	14.0%	75.0%
OTHER	45	27	74	52	66.7%	-39.2%	-13.5%
ALCOHOL / CANNABIS	23	25	4	5	-8.0%	475.0%	360.0%
SEAT BELT	18	19	28	45	-5.3%	-35.7%	-60.0%

CONCERNS

We track citizen concerns on various issues. See below chart for the locations residents informed us about regarding a situation and how we responded.

<u>Location</u>	<u>Issue</u>	<u>Dates Monitored</u>	<u>Police Response</u>
Manning Rd	Speeding	01/02/24 - 01/16/24	27 Observations / 655 Minutes 12 Warnings / 2 Citations
Beller Dr & Ailsworth Dr	Stop Sign	01/18/24 - 02/02/24	30 Observations / 671 Minutes 9 Warnings / 2 Citations
Bentley Ave & 69 th St	School Bus Passing	01/22/24 - 02/02/24	14 Observations / 154 Minutes 0 Warnings / 0 Citations
Exner Rd & 71 st St	Stop Sign	02/03/24 - 02/16/24	23 Observations / 639 Minutes 10 Warnings / 2 Citations
67th St & Clarendon Hills Rd	Speeding	02/12/24 - 03/02/24	47 Observations / 1,365 Minutes 10 Warnings / 11 Citations
7600 block of Nantucket Dr	Speeding	02/23/24 - 03/08/24	27 Observations / 638 Minutes 2 Warnings / 1 Citations
2900 block of 87 th St	Speeding	02/28/24 - 03/13/24	31 Observations / 619 Minutes 10 Warnings / 2 Citations
87 th St & Meadow Ln	Illegal Turn	02/28/24 - 03/13/24	9 Observations / 260 Minutes 0 Warnings / 0 Citations
451 Plainfield Rd	Illegal Turn	03/08/24 - 03/25/24	27 Observations / 620 Minutes 5 Warnings / 1 Citation
Bailey Rd	Speeding	03/16/24 - 03/30/24	38 Observations / 1,015 Minutes 12 Warnings / 2 Citations
1502 75 th St	Speeding	03/17/24 - 04/01/24	12 Observations / 320 Minutes 0 Warnings / 0 Citations
Nantucket Dr & Walnut Dr	Stop Sign	04/01/24 - 04/22/24	46 Observations / 997 Minutes 11 Warnings / 2 Citations
Cass Ave & Ashbrook Ct	Illegal Turn	04/11/24 - 04/25/24	11 Observations / 213 Minutes 0 Warnings / 0 Citations
Portsmouth Dr & N Frontage Rd	Speeding	04/19/24 - 5/13/24	23 Observations / 508 Minutes 0 Warnings/ 0 Citations
900 block of 79 th St	Speeding	04/23/24 - 05/07/24	24 Observations / 535 Minutes 2 Warnings / 0 Citations
8200 block of Hinswood Dr	Speeding	04/29/24 - 05/13/24	7 Observations / 163 Minutes 0 Warnings / 0 Citations
Adams St & Sequoia Ln	Stop Sign	05/08/24 - 05/2/24	12 Observations / 253 Minutes 4 Warnings / 1 Citation
71 st St & Seminole Dr	Speeding and Stop Sign	05/10/24 - 05/24/24	29 Observations / 723 Minutes 10 Warnings / 3 Citations
Nantucket Dr 75 th St to 79 th St	Speeding	05/22/24 - 06/05/24	9 Observations / 215 Minutes 0 Warnings 0 Citations
900 block of 79 th St	Speeding	05/22/24 - 06/22/24	41 Observations / 960 Minutes 3 Warnings / 0 Citations
7600 block of Nantucket Dr	Speeding	06/29/24 - 07/13/24	290 Observations / 662 Minutes 5 Warnings / 3 Citations
71 st St Cass Ave to Richmond Ave	Speeding	07/02/24 - 07/16/24	31 Observations / 723 Minutes 8 Warnings/ 0 Citations

Beller Dr & Ailsworth Dr	Stop Sign	07/02/24 - 07/16/24	25 Observations / 852 Minutes 7 Warnings / 3 Citations
79 th St Cass Ave & Farmingdale Dr	Speeding	07/17/24 - 07/31/24	27 Observations / 624 Minutes 4 Warnings / 1 Citation
Creekside Ln at Kearney Rd	Stop Sign	07/23/24 - 07/31/24	13 Observations / 347 Minutes 5 Warnings / 0 Citations
Exner Rd & 75 th St	Stop Sign	08/01/24 - 08/16/24	29 Observations / 630 Minutes 6 Warnings / 2 Citations
1410 75 th St	School Bus Passing	08/14/24 - 08/23/24	9 Observations / 154 Minutes 1 Warning / 1 Citations
2000 Manning Rd	School Bus Passing	08/16/24 - 08/23/24	5 Observations / 99 Minutes 1 Warning / 0 Citation
6801 Wilmette Ave	School Bus Passing	08/21/24 - 08/30/24	11 Observations / 204 Minutes 0 Warnings / 0 Citations
7414 Cass Ave	School Bus Passing	08/21/24 - 08/30/24	8 Observations / 93 Minutes 1 Warning / 0 Citations
1019 Concord Pl	School Bus Passing	08/29/24 - 09/06/24	4 Observations / 58 Minutes 0 Warnings / 0 Citations
8502 Bailey Rd	School Bus Passing	08/29/24 - 09/06/24	5 Observations / 118 Minutes 1 Warning / 1 Citation
Beller Dr & Beller Ct	Speeding	08/13/24 - 08/20/24	10 Observations / 148 Minutes 0 Warnings / 0 Citations
Beller Dr & Ailsworth Dr	Stop Sign	08/26/24 - 09/06/24	21 Observations / 515 Minutes 3 Warnings / 1 Citation
67 th St Cass Ave & Clarendon Hills Rd	Speeding	08/26/24 - 09/06/24	18 Observations / 408 Minutes 2 Warnings / 1 Citation
79 th St & Farmingdale Dr	Stop Sign	08/26/24 - 09/06/24	15 Observations / 332 Minutes 5 Warnings / 0 Citations
6900 block of Sierra Dr	Speeding	08/30/24 - 09/05/24	6 Observations / 115 Minutes 0 Warnings / 0 Citations
79 th St & Farmingdale Dr	Stop Sign	09/09/24 - 09/20/24	19 Observations / 411 Minutes 6 Warnings / 2 Citations
69 th St & Richmond Ave	Speeding	09/17/24 - 10/01/24	140 Observations / 323 Minutes 0 Warnings / 0 Citations
71 st St Cass Ave to Richmond Ave	Speeding	09/21/24 - 10/04/24	24 Observations / 597 Minutes 10 Warnings / 0 Citations
69 th St & Wilmette Ave	Speeding	09/29/24 - 10/20/24	23 Observations / 407 Minutes 1 Warning / 0 Citations
7414 Cass Ave	Speeding	10/01/24 - 10/15/24	10 Observations / 215 Minutes 2 Warnings / 0 Citations
Oldfield Rd & N Frontage Rd	Speeding	10/06/24 - 10/20/24	29 Observations / 754 Minutes 16 Warnings / 5 Citations
79 th St & Farmingdale Dr	Stop Sign	10/07/24 - 10/21/24	26 Observations/ 621 Minutes 8 Warnings/ 1 Citations
67 th St at Ridge Rd	Speeding	10/25/24 - 11/22/24	30 Observations/ 840 Minutes 5 Warnings/ 1 Citations
8502 Bailey Rd	Speeding	10/31/24 - 11/14/24	14 Observations/ 336 Minutes 3 Warnings/ 4 Citations
2189 75 th St at Lyman Rd	Illegal Turn	10/31/24 - 11/14/24	30 Observations/ 831 Minutes 17 Warnings/ 2 Citations

900 Block of 79 th St	Speeding	11/12/24 - 12/02/24	41 Observations/ 991 Minutes 3 Warnings/ 2 Citations
67 th St & Tall Pine Dr	Speeding	11/23/24 - 12/7/24	23 Observations/ 554 Minutes 1 Warnings/ 3 Citations
67 th St & Richmond Ave	Speeding	11/23/24 - 12/7/24	20 Observations/ 523 Minutes 9 Warnings/ 2 Citations
Farmingdale Dr & Walnut Dr	School Bus Passing	12/12/24 - 12/20/24	6 Observations/ 74 Minutes 0 Warnings/ 0 Citations
900 Block of 79 th St	Speeding	12/12/24 - 12/26/24	44 Observations/ 1066 Minutes 12 Warnings/ 0 Citations

In 2024 the Darien Police Department completed a total of 2,395 vacation watch house checks. Some of the vacation house watches ranged from a few days to several months. The range of watches stretched over every patrol beat and every watch was completed on a regular basis.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Officers and support staff are involved in the community in various activities totaling hundreds of hours. Many of those hours are voluntary – unpaid.

Fundraising Events

- Saint Baldrick's – is a fundraising event to raise donations child cancer research.
- Cop on a Rooftop – is a fundraiser for Special Olympics. This year the Dunkin Donuts at Cass Avenue and Plainfield Road hosted the event. Cop on a Rooftop raised \$2,700. We thank those sown members who participated Cachro, Dollins, Giza, Jump, Parris, Pastick, Pilia, Servin, Stutte and Versis as well as Dunkin Donuts.
- Movember – a fundraiser for men's health raised \$1,066.

Outreach Events

- Westmont Police Car Show saw Officers Servin and Oplawski participate. They brought a Darien Police Department (DPD) squad car and represented our City in a positive light.
- Lemont Police Car Show – Officer Rundell participated again representing the police in a positive manner.
- National Night Out – saw multiple vendors and approximately 300 people in attendance. New this year were the 4-Stray Paws Rescue organization and the Parkridge Army Reserve personnel and equipment. Verseti Blood Donations attended with their blood donation bus. We are thankful to the Lion's Club for grilling hot dogs and providing music. Many officers were present. Canine Officer Milazzo provided a demonstration with his dog Axel which was well received.
- Coffee with a Cop – an event to discuss anything that the public wants to with an officer. This year's event was hosted at McDonald's. Unfortunately, only two people attended.
- Trunk or Treat – saw Officer Janik participate and handed out give-a-ways to the kids.
- Blessing Tree – witnessed Officers Stutte and Pilia, along with Sergeants Lorek and Skweres help with the gift delivery event. It was hosted by Our Lady of Peace Church. These Officers delivered Christmas presents to needy families in DuPage County.

- Shop with a Hero – is a community event to provide Christmas to those who may otherwise not receive presents. This is a partnership between Darien Police Department and the Darien-Woodridge Fire Department. This year 22 children and their families were assisted. Each child was allotted \$150 to spend on gifts for themselves and their family members. Officers Dollins, Stutte, Somogy, McKay and Pilia participated.
- Touch a Truck – Community Outreach for kids. Officer O'Brien handed out give-a-ways.

Late in 2023 we started having Safety Conversations at the Indian Prairie Public Library's outreach program. The meetings are generally held on the first Wednesday of the Month, topics included:

- January Fire Safety conducted by Tri-State Fire Department
- February Animal Services conducted by DuPage County Animal Services
- March Situational Awareness presented by Deputy Chief Norton
- April Scams presented by Detective Dollins
- June Preparedness presented by DuPage County Office of Homeland Security & Emergency Management
- July First Aid presented by Tri-State Fire Department
- October Internet Safety presented by Officer Simek
- November Holiday Shopping Tips presented by Deputy Chief Norton

In addition to the outreach at the Library, Deputy Chief Norton also met with the Hinsbrook Patio Homes to discuss safety concerns.

Educational Events

- Safety Village of Darien – is a community operated organization that teaches youth about safety and other concerns. Officers Somogy, Thom, Pastick and Giza taught topics such as Stranger Danger and Traffic Safety.
- K-9 Demonstration – Officer Milazzo and his K9 Axel participated in a K-9 demonstration during Woodridge PD's open house celebration for their new police facility.
- Tour – We provide tours of the police department. This year, we gave a tour to a Cub Scout pack.

Social Media

We use X (previously Twitter) to post various crime prevention and other tips throughout the year. These are the Xs that were posted.

01/02/24	Driving Tips	04/10/24	Downed Power Line
01/18/24	Accident Notification	05/01/24	Mental Health
02/02/24	Driving Tips	06/04/24	Road Closure
02/21/24	Medical Issue HSHS	07/01/24	Vehicle Prevention Month
02/23/24	Burglary Notice	08/01/24	Back to School Safety
02/27/24	Rumors at HSHS -No credible threat	09/02/24	Bikes & Scooters
02/28/24	Solicitors in area due to storm	10/01/24	Domestic Violence
03/04/24	Weather Service Storm Tips	12/04/24	Drinking & Driving
04/01/24	Distracted Driver	12/04/24	Porch Pirates Concerns

HONOR

We do our best and have been successful in hiring personnel with high moral and ethical character. Officer candidates must pass a rigorous hiring process. Once hired the officer must attend and pass a sixteen week basic police academy, sixteen week intensive field training and evaluation program and one year of probation. We train personnel to a high level of competence and continue to train personnel throughout the year.

Never Forget

Sergeant James “Jim” Borsilli was hired by Darien Police Department in 1988 as an officer and was assigned to patrol duties. Jim, while working patrol, had the additional duties of an evidence technician and a juvenile officer. Jim was assigned to Investigations Division in 2001 and worked as a detective until he was promoted to sergeant in 2002 and returned to Patrol Operations.

Those who worked with Jim will talk of his never-ending appetite for chicken and telling a story that started with, “You know, years ago...”

Jim passed away while serving in 2012. Jim was assigned badge number 301, it was retired in memory of Jim. Gone but not forgotten...

Recognition

There were 114 letters of appreciation from citizens or other police departments to our officers. Additionally other awards were earned in 2024. The following personnel earned a Letter of Commendation,

- Konrad Kano
 - Medically stabilizing injured motorcyclist
- Officer David Milazzo
 - Use of K9 to track & make an Arrest
- Officer Nelson Servin
 - Use of Drone to locate offender
- Officer Nelson Servin
 - Rescued trapped individuals from vehicle involved in a crash
- Officer Maciej Cachro
 - Used Stop Sticks and foot chase to capture 4 car thieves
- Officer David Milazzo
 - Used Stop Sticks & K9 to track car thieves
- Sergeant Austin Jump
 - Helped with the capture of car thieves
- Officer Nelson Servin
 - Use of Drone to locate from an armed robbery
- Officer Maciej Cachro
 - Captured armed robbery suspects
- Sergeant Douglas Rumick & Officers Cachro & Servin
 - Captured armed Robbery suspects

- Officer Maciej Cachro
 - Medical assistance to a subject who had been shot
- Officer Christopher Oplawski
 - Saved driver from burning car following a crash

The following officers were honored by the Alliance Against Intoxicated Motorists & Mothers Against Drunk Drivers Recipients Maciej Cachro, Tony Hruby, Paulina Janik, Nicholas Nelson and Nelson Servin.

Discipline

We want to make sure we continually earn the public's respect and trust. Therefore we do not shy away from investigating complaints against personnel. We have well trained and strictly vetted officers who understand and live by their oath of office and oath of honor.

From January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024, Darien Police Department handled over 15,000 calls for service. Amongst these incidents, officers made over 5,400 traffic stops and engaged in 403 arrests.

In 2024, Darien Police Department received six citizen generated complaints. Each of these complaints were thoroughly investigated.

- Five of the six complaints were found to be Unfounded (alleged acts did not occur)
- One complaint is still in the process of investigation

Administrative Reviews

The Darien Police Department utilizes a formal administrative review procedure for use of force incidents, pursuits, deployment of stop sticks and unusual occurrences. Stop sticks are a tool to flatten a fleeing vehicle's tires to force it to stop before the car causes injury to others. A sergeant who was not directly involved in the incident is tasked with reviewing the incident to determine whether the officer's actions were within department policy and state laws. These investigations are deemed to be "in compliance" or "not in compliance" by the investigating supervisor. When an incident is deemed to be not in compliance a performance complaint investigation is conducted.

Vehicle Pursuits

Darien officers were involved in one pursuit. An uninvolved supervisor reviewed the incident and the officer's actions and the actions were deemed to be within Darien Police policies and the state law.

Use of Force

In 2024, Darien officers were involved in 13 incidents involving the use of force. Of the 13 incidents, 28 officers used force in some capacity through the course of their duties. An uninvolved supervisor reviews each use of force to ensure officers' actions are in accordance with Darien Police Policies and law. All of the 13 incidents and all of the 28 individual actions were found to be in compliance which included the Duty to Render Aid, Duty to Report and Duty to Intervene. In all cases, officers were in compliance with the new requirements. Darien Police Department has held these elements of review for several years prior to the law requiring such a review.

Officers used verbalization skills, empty hand control, intermediate weapon control and firearms during the year. Intermediate weapon control or Tasers, were pointed at subjects on four occasions. Only one of those incidents did an officer deploy the Taser. There were two incidents when officers needed to deploy his/her firearm to gain compliance. In both incidents, compliance was gained without firing a weapon. The reasons for using force included: making an arrest, prevent an escape, defending another, defending oneself and prevent a violent crime.

Training

In 2024 we continued the 40 hours of in house continual education. Included in these training sessions were:

Law Enforcement use of Authority	Procedural Justice
Hate Crime Awareness	Taser Recertification
Defensive Tactics	Firearms
High Risk Traffic Stops	

Additionally our officers attended 4,633 hours of continual education training. Much of this training was done through online portals, though a good deal of it was in person learning. In total, 776 classes, seminars, and training blocks were attended. Officers attended classes in many different law enforcement disciplines, including:

Vehicle Extractions	Ground Fighting
Use of Force for Administrators	Search & Seizure
Internal Affairs	Evidence Technician
Active Threat Master Instructor	Interview & Interrogation
National Tactical Officers Association	Drone Class & FAA Certification
Threat Assessment	Death Investigations
Ballistic Shield	Crisis Intervention
Glock Armorer's	

Our Officers were active in many different conferences and seminars around the state including:

Homicide Conference	Illinois Tactical Officer Conference
Regional Crime Task Force Conference	Evidence Conference
Illinois Law Enforcement Conference	Illinois Juvenile Officer Conference
Illinois Property Managers Conference	Active Threat & Response Conference
Illinois Crisis Negotiators Conference	

PERSONNEL

Retirements

Sergeant Geoff Kosieniak retired on May 25, 2024 with over 23 years of service with the Darien Police Department. Sergeant Kosieniak started his career with Darien in September of 1999 as a patrol officer. He held many assignments during his career such as Field Training Officer, Evidence Technician, Control Tactics Instructor and Juvenile Officer. Sergeant Kosieniak was promoted to sergeant on January 1, 2022. One of his many duties as a sergeant was handling community relations. Sergeant Kosieniak masterfully coordinated St. Baldrick's, Cop on a Rooftop, Safety Village, National Night Out, Coffee with a Cop, Shop with a Hero and others.

Sergeant Kosieniak earned a Bachelor of Arts Degree from Lewis University in the field of Criminal Social Justice and a Master of Science degree in Management and Organizational Behavior from Benedictine University. We wish Geoff a long and happy retirement.

Resignations

Jade Niedzwiedz resigned her position as a Community Services Operator (CSO) on October 25, 2024 after three years of service with the Darien Police Department. While employed CSO Niedzwiedz earned her Bachelor of Arts Degree in Criminal Justice from Lewis University. In October 2024, she accepted a full-time position with the City of Naperville as a 911 Operator. We wish Jade well in her new endeavors.

New Hires

Officer Jaime Pilia was hired January 2, 2024 as a police officer. Prior to joining the DPD, Officer Pilia served in the United States Marine Corp for four years. He earned his honorable discharge in 2012 at the rank of Corporal. Officer Pilia earned several medals in the Marine Corp including Combat Action Ribbon (Afghanistan), NATO Medal-ISAF Afghanistan, Marine Corp Good Conduct Medal and Expert Rifle Badge three times. After his military career Officer Pilia and before joining the DPD, he worked several years in the manufacturing industry most recently with Atkore International where he supervised a staff of 43 employees.

Officer Kimberly McKay was hired on September 18, 2024 as a police officer. She has previous law enforcement experience with the Bolingbrook Police Department as a police and code enforcement officer. Officer McKay graduated from Lakeland University (Summa Cum Laude GPA 3.865) with a Bachelor of Arts degree in December 2021. She played Division III volleyball for four years at Lakeland University.

Jeff McKenzie was hired as a CSO for the DPD on July 08, 2024. CSO McKenzie lives in Darien. He retired from FedEx in 2023 after 33 years as a courier. CSO McKenzie served nine years with the United States Air Force as a Staff Sergeant, Flight Medic and Emergency Room Medic. CSO McKenzie graduated from the Air Force Flight Medic School in 1982 and was honorably discharged in 1990.

Antonija Magazin was hired on December 16, 2024 as a Community Service Operator. She is a graduate of Downers Grove South High School and is currently attending the College of DuPage where she is pursuing a degree in Criminal Justice. CSO Magazin previously worked for Target in their Asset Protection Department.

Promotions

Douglas Rumick was promoted to sergeant on May 25, 2024. Sergeant Rumick began his career with the Darien Police Department on September 10, 2008 as a police officer. He has performed many assignments throughout his career including Field Training Officer, Firearms Instructor, Evidence Technician, Crisis Intervention Member and Juvenile Officer. In his new role as sergeant he has been assigned the task of coordinating many of the outreach and fundraising events such as National Night Out, Shop with a Hero and Cop on a Rooftop and many more. Sergeant Rumick is a veteran of the Marine Corp where he served six years and was honorably discharged in 2006 at the rank of Sergeant.

Assignments

Officers Lauren Throm, Konrad Kano, Nelson Servin and Maciej Cachro were appointed as Field Training Officers on June 12, 2024. These officers will train newly hired officers to be solo patrol officers.

Officer Luke Somogye was appointed as a Firearms Instructor.

Officer Matthew Giza was assigned as a Rapid Deployment Instructor.

PARTNERSHIPS

Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) Task Force

We have an officer assigned to the Federal Drug Administration (DEA) Task Force. He and his task force group were very active last year, earning Task Force of the year Honors which were presented to him and his team in Washington DC. Our officer handled several high profile cases involving high end money trafficking and drug smuggling. He also was involved in an investigation which resulted in drug induced homicide charges for a Darien Case. Through his and his team's actions, \$751,295.10 was seized in illegal drug activities. Through him and his team's efforts the following quantities were also seized.

- Cocaine 92,691.64 Grams
- Heroin 3,273.31 Grams
- Methamphetamine 32,841.41 Grams
- Fentanyl 911.07 Grams
- Ecstasy 93.42 Grams
- Firearms seized 38
- Car seized 1
- House seized 1
- Arrests Made 38

DuPage Metropolitan Enforcement Group (DuMEG)

There are numerous functions and attempts to curtail the ills of narcotics through enforcement, education and seizing of funds that were gained through illegal operations. In 2024, DuMeg investigated 190 cases that resulted in 130 arrests, 82 weapons seizures and an estimated value of \$4.2 million worth of drugs.

Metropolitan Emergency Response and Investigations Team (MERIT)

Metropolitan Emergency Response and Investigations Team (MERIT) was utilized four times in 2024 within Darien. During a burglary it was believed the offenders were still inside the residence and MERIT Special Weapons and Tactics entered the building, however, no one was located. Two serious traffic crashes and one double fatal traffic crash were investigated by MERIT Major Crash Reconstruction Team.

We continued our support of county wide programs such as the Merit SWAT team, The Merit Crisis Negotiation team, the DuPage County Peer Support Team (IMAC), Merit Crash Reconstruction Team, the county wide K9 Response team and Training Group, and the DuPage County Drone response team.

DuPage Public Safety Communications (DuComm)

DuComm continues to be a great partner managing calls for service. DuComm receives funding from the Emergency Telephone System Board (ETSB). This helps defray a significant portion of the cost to operate the 9-1-1 center reducing our costs. The ETSB funds the costs associated with the delivery of calls from the 9-1-1 center to officers on the street by funding radios, MPS, CAD, phones, etc.

Citizen Generated

DuComm managed 7,013 citizen generated calls for service. A citizen generated call when a member of the public calls into DuComm whether dialing a 10 digit number or 9-1-1.

Citizen Generated Calls for Service							
	YTD 2024	YTD 2023	YTD 2019	YTD 2014	1 Year Change	5 Year Change	10 Year Change
Shift 1	4405	4250	5117	3995	3.6%	-13.9%	10.3%
Shift 2	2607	2619	2780	2296	-0.5%	-6.2%	13.5%
Total	7012	6869	7897	6291	2.1%	-11.2%	11.5%

The types of citizen generated calls for service fall into these general categories.

Category of Call	YTD 2024	YTD 2023	1 Year Change		Category of Call	YTD 2024	YTD 2023	1 Year Change
Citizen Assist	1362	1337	1.9%		Parking	148	133	11.3%
Accident	774	750	3.2%		Forgery	144	134	7.5%
Public Order	672	623	7.9%		Investigative	133	131	1.5%
Suspicion	591	611	-3.3%		Fire	132	122	8.2%
Medical/Ambulance	586	552	6.2%		Burglary	41	39	5.1%
Alarm	539	577	-6.6%		Missing Person	40	34	17.6%
Disorder	399	427	-6.6%		Assault	39	49	-20.4%
Administrative	373	356	4.8%		Warrant	37	33	12.1%
Domestic	323	302	7.0%		Hazard	36	20	80.0%
Theft	288	303	-5.0%		Rape	19	14	35.7%
Agency Assist	284	242	17.4%		Shots Fired	15	13	15.4%
Animal	279	295	-5.4%		Drug	4	3	33.3%
Traffic	255	268	-4.9%		Robbery	1	7	-85.7%

Officer Initiated

DuComm operators managed 7,377 officer initiated calls for service. An officer initiated call for service can be created by an officer calling DuComm from his portable radio or creating a call for service utilizing the computer in his/her squad car. Officer initiated calls for service are proactive situations where officers are trying to accomplish the goal of problem reduction.

Officer Initiated Calls for Service							
	YTD 2024	YTD 2023	YTD 2019	YTD 2014	1 Year Change	5 Year Change	10 Year Change
Shift 1	3209	3206	6812	10976	0.1%	-52.9%	-70.8%
Shift 2	2975	4227	5053	11605	-29.6%	-41.1%	-74.4%
Total	6184	7433	11865	22581	-16.8%	-47.9%	-72.6%

The types of officer initiated calls for service fall into these general categories:

Category of Call	YTD 2024	YTD 2023	1 Year Change		Category of Call	YTD 2024	YTD 2023	1 Year Change
Traffic	4922	5857	-16.0%		Domestic	13	10	30.0%
Citizen Assist	363	582	-37.6%		Assault	10	2	400.0%
Suspicion	326	326	0.0%		Medical/Ambulance	8	6	33.3%
Agency Assist	191	187	2.1%		Burglary	8	2	300.0%
Administrative	96	181	-47.0%		Forgery	7	5	40.0%
Investigative	89	112	-20.5%		Rape	4	11	-63.6%
Accident	44	56	-21.4%		Alarm	1	0	0.0%
Public Order	40	34	17.6%		Hazard	1	0	0.0%
Warrant	19	18	5.6%		Missing Person	1	2	-50.0%
Theft	16	23	-30.4%		Shots Fired	1	2	-50.0%
Parking	16	15	6.7%		Fire	0	0	0.0%
Disorder	15	23	-34.8%		Drug	0	0	0.0%
Animal	13	14	-7.1%		Robbery	0	0	0.0%

ORGANIZATION

Generally

Our Patrol Division provides complete police coverage throughout the city throughout the year. Our Investigative Division includes, detectives, a School Resource Officer (SRO) and an officer assigned to the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA). The detective unit investigates criminal offenses, fatal / near fatal accidents, missing persons as well as other issues. Our SRO is not in the school to arrest offenders, though he can, most of his day is spent on positive interactions.

Canine Unit

In 2024, the Darien Canine Unit responded to a total of 82 deployments. Of the 82 deployments, 25 were generated within Darien, 6 to assist a federal agency, 1 to assist a state agency, 7 times for county operations, the remainder other local agencies.

The types of patrol activities the K9 was involved in included: human tracks, building searches, area searches, evidence searches.

Of the searches nine times the K9 was able to locate the subject (arrestee or missing person).

The Canine Team was responsible for:

• Cannabis	12 Alerts	131.0 Grams
• Methamphetamine	2 Alerts	15.0 Kilograms
• Heroin	1 Alerts	1.0 Grams
• Cocaine	3 Alerts	32.1 Grams
• Firearms	1 Alerts	5 Guns
• Currency Seized	7 Alerts	\$425,950



Juvenile Matters

The Peer Jury program, an alternative to juvenile court, is designed for first time offenders who committed a non-serious offense. High school juniors are selected for a two year term to participate as jurors in the program. We utilized Peer Jury twice in 2024 which stemmed from a disorderly conduct. The individual successfully completed the process which included writing a letter of apology.

There were eight cases of Missing Juveniles / Runaways and in each case the individual was located and returned.

Numerous officers are trained as juvenile specialists to help underage persons are led away from crime and issues that would harm them.

Evidence

In March of 2024 we did a full property room audit. Prior to the property room audit, we brought in an industry expert on property management and audits to give our process an independent review. The audit itself was conducted over 4 days, by 4 custodians and took a total of 128 total man hours to audit 4,450 items. Of those 4,450 items only one item was unaccounted. The missing item was identified as a boat flare that was destroyed as it could not be kept in our evidence storage.

Currently our property room holds 3401 total items. During the year 1117 items were purged from the system by either return to the owner or through destruction (Drug Burns). Over the year 128 items were sent to the various crime labs in the State.

Additionally, we host a prescription drug turn-in program. We sent approximately 200 lbs. of prescription drugs sent in for destruction.

ADMINISTRATION

Buildings & Grounds

In 2024, staff began to review areas of the Darien Police Department (opened in 1995) that needed updating. The break rooms on the upper and lower levels had the counters and cabinets replaced along with new refrigerators and sinks. The community room too needed similar updating.

Many wires, cables and other obsolete/dated technologies were removed from the walls of the building and painted/patched in order to update and clean up the look of the rooms used in the department. Many original lights were replaced with outdated lighting mechanisms with more modern energy efficient lights.

Equipment & Technology

In 2024 new Darien Police squads were rolled out. The previous fleet was purchased in 2018 and needed replacement. The new squads have all new components and updated technologies.

Drones were deployed in early 2024.

Automatic License Plate Readers (ALPRs) were fully deployed in 2024. This tool will aid officers in actively responding to incidents and for investigations.