



**WOOSTER POLICE  
DEPARTMENT**

**2019 ANNUAL REPORT**

**CHIEF MATTHEW D. FISHER**

**"ETHICS, INTEGRITY, AND PROFESSIONALISM"**





## WOOSTER POLICE DEPARTMENT

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February 7, 2020

The Honorable Mayor Robert Breneman  
City of Wooster  
538 North Market St.  
Wooster, Ohio 44691

Dear Mayor Breneman,

I am pleased to present to you and to the Wooster City Council, the Wooster Police Department's 2019 Annual Report.

In 2019, the Wooster Police Department received a grant from the Ohio Office of Criminal Justice Services in the amount of \$23,600 that helped purchase active shooter kits for every officer. These kits contain ballistic plates and helmets that will stop a rifle round (our everyday wear body armor will not stop a rifle round).

Captain Victor Nedoma attended and graduated from the prestigious FBI National Academy. This 10-week program, which provides coursework in intelligence theory, terrorism and terrorist mindsets, management science, law, behavioral science, law enforcement communication, and forensic science, serves to improve the administration of justice in police departments and agencies at home and abroad and to raise law enforcement standards, knowledge, and cooperation worldwide.

Also in 2019, we held our sixth annual Citizen's Police Academy and continued a very active presence in our community. Some of the projects we participated in included the 5.0 Cookout, Bicycle Rodeo, Sgt. Santa, Cash for Christmas program, Reading Under the Lights and the Junior Police Officer program in all of the Wooster City Elementary Schools. We also had numerous officers speak to community groups throughout our city. We are grateful for the tremendous support of so many Wooster area individuals and businesses.

Throughout 2019, the Department continued many of its specialized programs, including: police canine, bike patrol, School Resource Officer/DARE program, community relations and the Wooster Hospital Resource Officer positions.



Our Detective Bureau continued to play a major role in our community in 2019 by conducting approximately 45 ALICE presentations across the city. These presentations were done at places such as GOJO Industries, Wooster Rotary, LifeCare Hospice, Brookdale Senior Living, Goodwill, 180, and First Presbyterian Church.

Our relationship with Wooster City Schools continues to be very strong, especially when it comes to the safety of the children. Over 25 drills were conducted involving pre-school to high school age children. These drills are required by law for each school and law enforcement is present to observe.

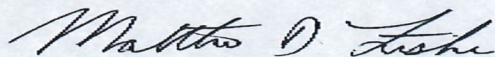
The Police Department investigated no homicides in 2019. Part One Offenses (major crimes: homicide, rape, robbery, felony assault, burglary, and theft) showed an overall decrease of 5 percent from 946 in 2018 to 899 in 2019.

The Police Department handled 22,207 calls for service in 2019 which is a slight increase of approximately 350 calls from 2018. The top calls for service for 2019 included: Suspicious Activity/Persons: 2212; Traffic Complaints: 1512; Thefts: 1092; Alarms: 1151; and 911 Calls (with no other disposition): 1264. Arrests were down for 2019 from 1467 to 1204.

Hiring continues to be one of the top priorities of the Wooster Police Department. Like many other law enforcement agencies across the country, finding qualified applicants is becoming more and more challenging. We held our first hiring event in 2019 and used billboards to help spread our recruiting message. We will continue to look for innovative ways to recruit and hire the best candidates to fill our vacancies.

We are happy to report that we did hire three new officers in 2019, Ptl. Nathaniel Koch, Ptl. Michael Egbert, and Ptl. Danielle Slichenmyer. These officers recently graduated from the Ohio State Highway Patrol Basic Police Academy and we believe they have bright futures ahead of them.

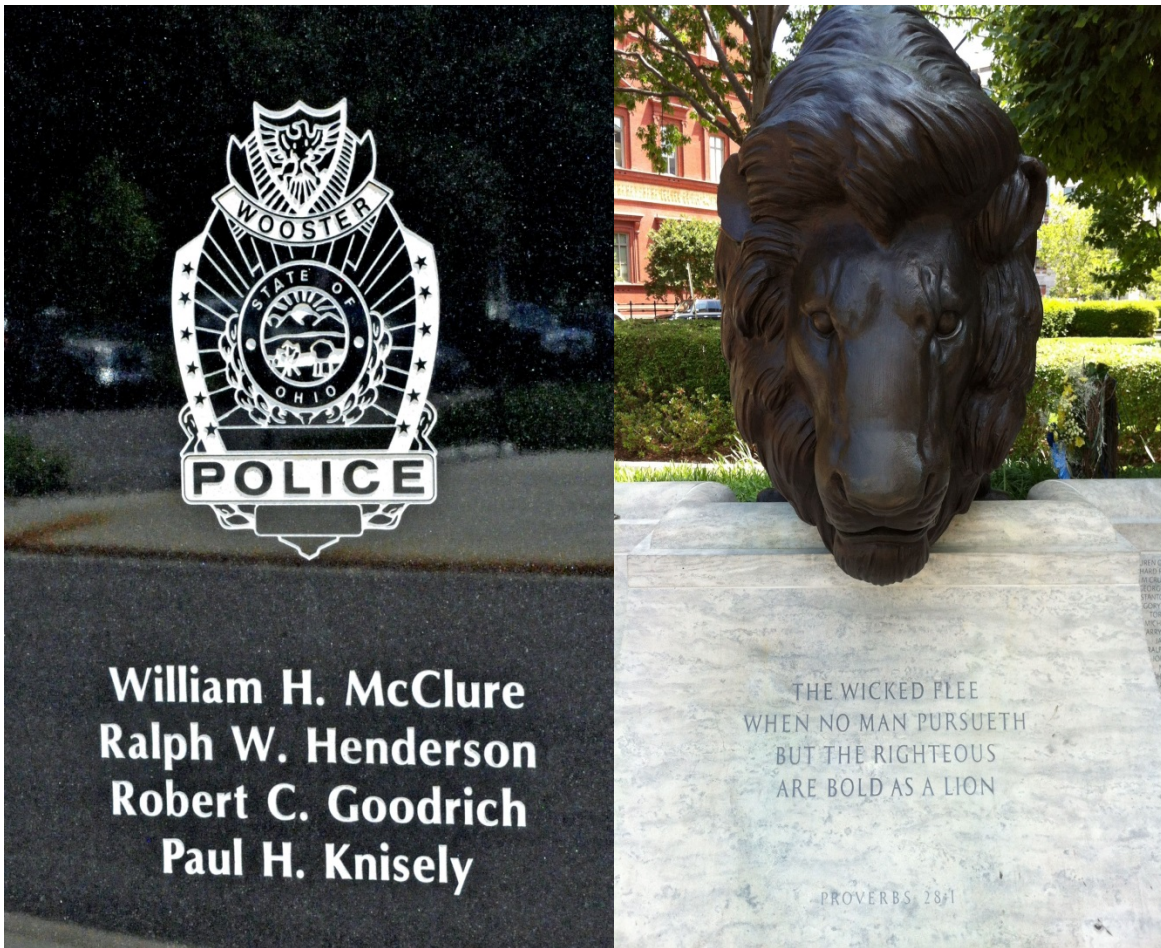
Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Matthew D. Fisher". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Matthew D. Fisher  
Chief of Police  
Wooster Police Department



# HONORING OUR FALLEN



## **Our officers who made the ultimate sacrifice**

**Patrolman William H. "Tip" McClure –**  
Died in the line of duty – December 30, 1886

**Patrolman Ralph W. Henderson –**  
Shot in the line of duty – June 23, 1912 Died  
from the resulting wound – July 3, 1912

**Patrolman Robert C. Goodrich –**  
Drowned during rescue efforts – July 5, 1969

**Sergeant Paul H. Knisely –**  
Drowned during rescue efforts – July 5, 1969



# WOOSTER POLICE DEPARTMENT



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# **WOOSTER POLICE DEPARTMENT**

## **Mission Statement**

The Wooster Police Department is a committed partner with our community. Ethics, integrity and professionalism are the core values which lead us forward. These core values are the foundation upon which we base our mission.

We realize that our most important asset is our employees who strive to make our organization a premier law enforcement agency.

Our employees are dedicated to protecting and preserving life while providing fair and impartial law enforcement services to all.

It is these core values, dedication and community partnership that make our agency distinguished.

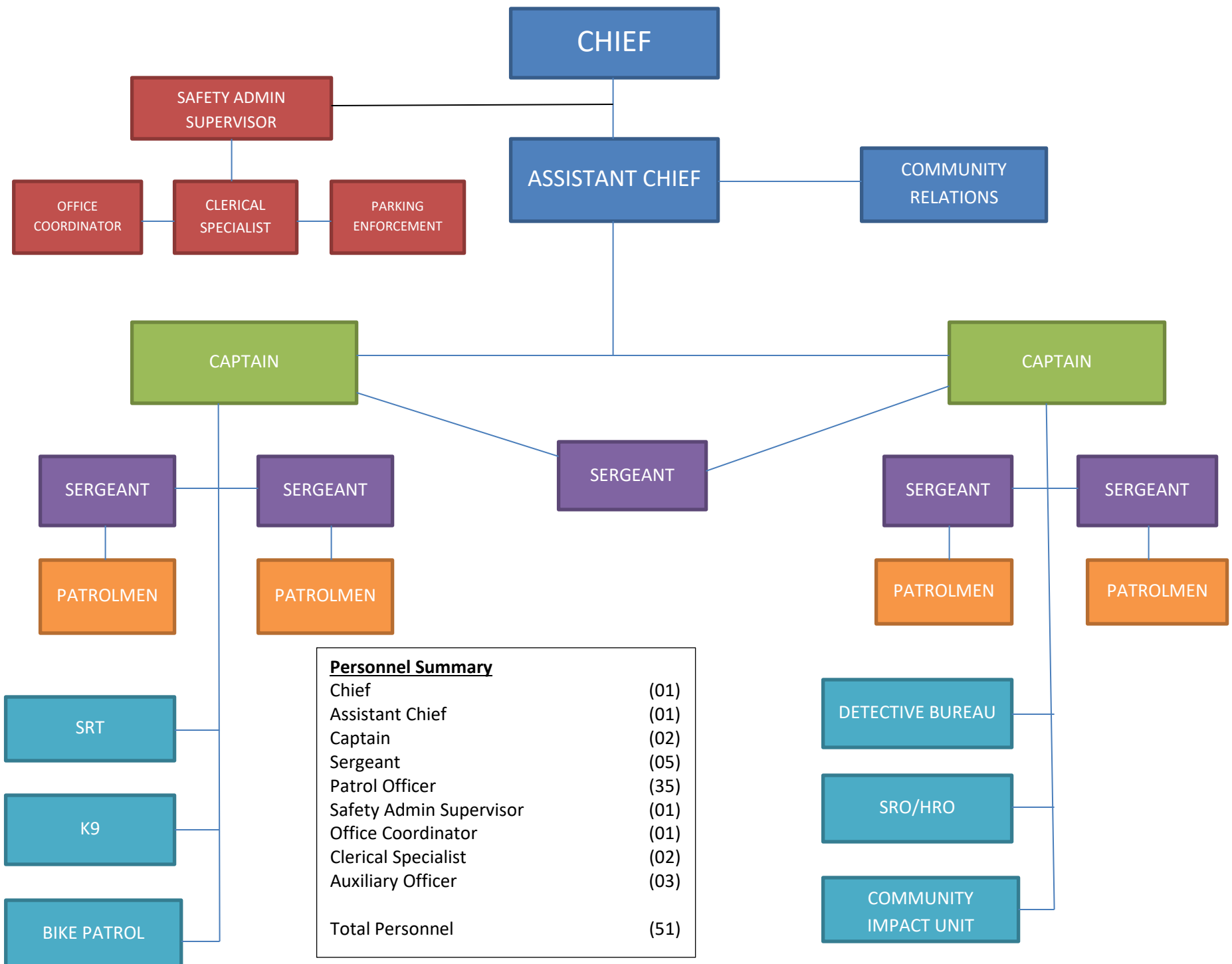
## ***Values***

*We value dignity and respect for all persons.*

*We value integrity and honesty as the basis  
for community trust.*

*We value excellence and professional growth.*

*We value the highest standards of moral and ethical conduct.*





# 2019 WOOSTER POLICE DEPARTMENT PERSONNEL

<b>CHIEF</b>	Matthew Fisher	Administration
<b>ASSISTANT CHIEF</b>	Scott Rotolo	Administration
<b>CAPTAIN</b>	Anthony Lemmon	Administration
<b>CAPTAIN</b>	Victor Nedoma	Administration
<b>SERGEANT</b>	Clint Bartolic	Patrol / Supervisor / Bicycle Patrol / Defensive Tactics Instructor / Firearms Instructor
<b>SERGEANT</b>	Michael Jewell	Patrol / Supervisor
<b>SERGEANT</b>	Michael Shonk	Patrol / Supervisor
<b>SERGEANT</b>	Greg Kolek	Patrol / Supervisor/ Taser Instructor / FTO
<b>SERGEANT</b>	Thomas Webber	Patrol / Supervisor / Taser Instructor
<b>PATROLMAN</b>	William Belcher	Detective / CVSA Examiner / ALICE Instructor
<b>PATROLMAN</b>	Shane Berry	Patrol/ Bicycle Patrol
<b>PATROLMAN</b>	Gaetano Bremenour	Detective / Bicycle Patrol
<b>PATROLMAN</b>	Dustin Burnett	Patrol / Stop Stick Instructor
<b>PATROLMAN</b>	Stacey Chuhi	Patrol / Hostage Negotiator
<b>PATROLMAN</b>	Philip Coe	Patrol / K-9 Officer / FTO
<b>K-9</b>	"Lex"	Patrol / K-9 Unit
<b>PATROLMAN</b>	Ricki Crawley	Patrol / Firearms Instructor
<b>PATROLMAN</b>	Matthew Cruise	Patrol / Hostage Negotiator / Community Relations
<b>PATROLMAN</b>	Michael Egbert	Patrol
<b>PATROLMAN</b>	Jerome Fatzinger	Patrol / FTO / CIT Liaison
<b>PATROLMAN</b>	Carl Festa	Patrol / K-9 Officer / FTO
<b>K-9</b>	"Lucky"	Patrol / K-9 Unit
<b>PATROLMAN</b>	Christopher Grabowski	Patrol / Stop Stick Instructor
<b>PATROLMAN</b>	Donald Hall	Patrol
<b>PATROLMAN</b>	Christopher Hartzler	Patrol
<b>PATROLMAN</b>	Robert Henderson	Patrol / ASP Instructor / Hostage Negotiator
<b>PATROLMAN</b>	Nathan Joppeck	Patrol
<b>PATROLMAN</b>	Nathaniel Koch	Patrol
<b>PATROLMAN</b>	Michael Kopacko	Patrol
<b>PATROLMAN</b>	Kenneth Linz	Patrol / School Resource Officer / ALICE Instructor
<b>PATROLMAN</b>	Juan McCloud	Detective / Hostage Negotiator / CVSA Examiner
<b>PATROLMAN</b>	Quinn McConnell	Patrol / Bicycle Patrol
<b>PATROLMAN</b>	Benjamin Meintel	Patrol
<b>PATROLMAN</b>	Joshua Miller	Patrol / Hospital Resource Officer / Taser Instructor / CIT Liaison
<b>PATROLMAN</b>	Jacob Mottayaw	Patrol / Bicycle Patrol
<b>PATROLMAN</b>	Johnathan Ruggeri	Patrol
<b>PATROLMAN</b>	Danielle Slichenmyer	Patrol
<b>PATROLMAN</b>	April Teichmer	Patrol / Defensive Tactics Instructor / School Resource Officer
<b>PATROLMAN</b>	Jordan Telquist	Patrol
<b>PATROLMAN</b>	Joshua Timko	Patrol / K-9 Officer
<b>K-9</b>	"Haro"	Patrol / K-9 Unit
<b>PATROLMAN</b>	Suzanne Trepal	Patrol / Hospital Resource Officer
<b>PATROLMAN</b>	Brian Waddell	Patrol / ASP Instructor
<b>PATROLMAN</b>	Daniel Whitmore	Patrol / Firearms Instructor / Bicycle Patrol
<b>PATROLMAN</b>	Megan Zimmerman	Patrol
<b>ADMIN. SUPERVISOR</b>	Melanie Rowland	Administration
<b>OFFICE COORDINATOR</b>	Sabrina Jentes	Administration
<b>CLERICAL SPECIALIST</b>	Melissa Keener	Administration
<b>CLERICAL SPECIALIST</b>	Ashley Few	Administration
<b>AUXILIARY OFFICER</b>	Terry Heim	Sergeant / CVSA Examiner / ALICE Instructor
<b>AUXILIARY OFFICER</b>	Steven Glick	Patrol
<b>AUXILIARY OFFICER</b>	Charles Hardman	Patrol

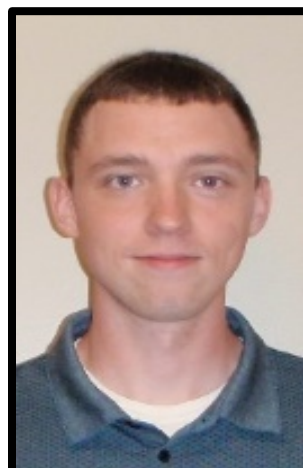
# **2019 NEW HIRES**



**PATROLMAN MICHAEL EGBERT**



**PATROLMAN NATHAN JOPPECK**



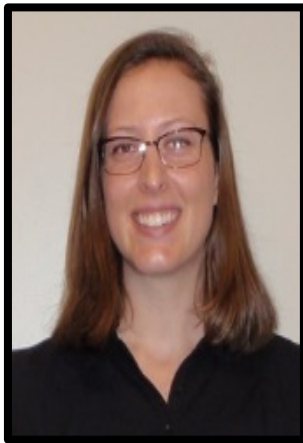
**PATROLMAN NATHANIEL KOCH**



# **2019 NEW HIRES**



**PATROLMAN MICHAEL KOPACKO**

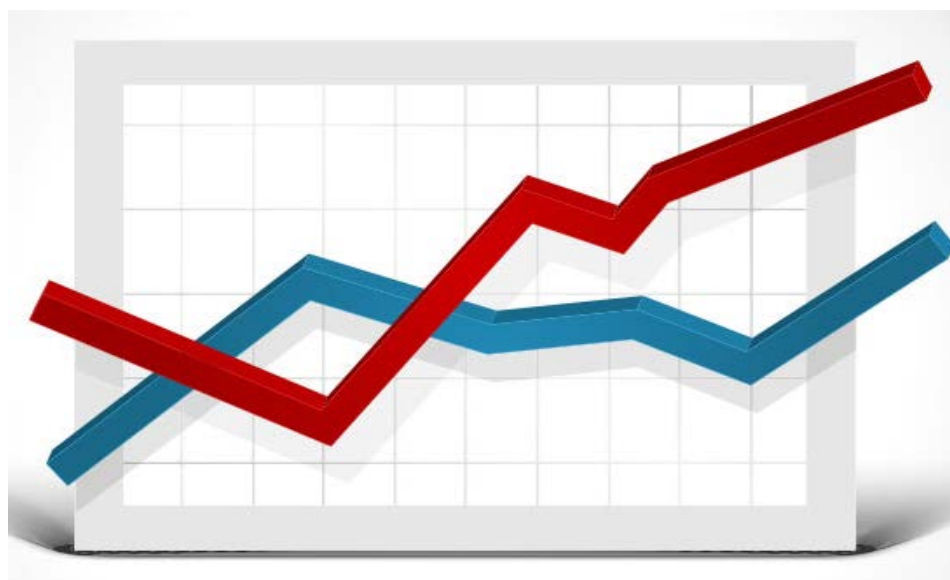


**PATROLMAN DANIELLE SLICHENMYER**

**WOOSTER  
POLICE  
DEPARTMENT**

**BUREAU & DIVISION  
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**2019  
ANNUAL REPORT**







# PATROL DIVISION

The Patrol Division is undoubtedly the heart and soul of the Wooster Police Department. At the end of 2019, our Patrol Division consisted of two (2) captains, five (5) sergeants and twenty-nine (29) officers, three (3) of which completed the Police Academy in December. Several of the officers, in addition to being part of the Patrol Division, also serve on our Bicycle Unit, K-9 Unit, Special Response Team (SRT), and as Field Training Officers (FTO). These upstanding men and women brave the elements twenty-four (24) hours a day, seven (7) days a week, three hundred sixty-five (365) days a year, spending time away from their families to make sure we are safe while with ours. The officers assigned to this unit provide all of the essential law enforcement functions and community services. These officers have a wide range of knowledge and skills in order to perform these duties. The Department provides the most up-to-date equipment to assist them in their job performance and to help keep them safe. Training is provided on a continuous basis so officers can keep abreast of the most current and best law enforcement procedures and tactics. The Patrol Division collaborates with local, state and federal law enforcement agencies and strives to provide professional and world class service to the Wooster community.

The Patrol Division investigates calls for police service throughout the year which include, but are not limited to, welfare checks, downtown foot patrol, traffic stops, disorderlies, thefts and drug complaints. When criminal complaints need further investigation, they are returned to the initiating officer for follow-up. Once the criminal complaint is closed by the officer, the next step of the process begins; prosecution. The officers spend countless hours throughout the year working with the prosecuting attorneys, as well as appearing in court for their criminal complaints, until a disposition is handed down by the court and sentencing is complete.

A sincere thank you goes out to our Patrol Division for their hard work and sacrifices made. Their efforts do not go unnoticed. It is an honor and a privilege to have them as part of the Wooster Police Department.

***"As we express our gratitude, we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter words, but to live by them." -John F. Kennedy***



# DETECTIVE BUREAU



In 2019, the Wooster Police Department Detective Bureau remained status quo when it came to manpower. The Bureau is staffed by Det. Sgt. Heim, Det. McCloud, Det. Belcher, and Det. Bremenour. These four detectives bring over 90 years of experience in investigations to the department.

There was a slight increase in cases investigated from 2018 to 2019. Detectives investigated weapons violations, drug trafficking, rape, robbery, arson, assault, gross sexual imposition, and theft. In 2019, detectives began to be assigned all missing person cases, including unruly runaway reports. At the end of 2019, Det. Belcher and Det. Bremenour were sent to training in order to do undercover chat operations. As this becomes more prevalent in our society, this is just another way to protect the children in our community that these people prey on.

Aside from simply handling assigned cases, detectives are involved in many other functions of the department. They spend time assisting other agencies such as the FBI, Medway, The Ohio Investigative Unit, The U.S. Marshalls, and the ATF. They provide a service to our community by doing presentations such as Active Shooter (ALICE) and Peer to Peer training. They are also involved with Wayne County Children's Services and the Wayne County Children's Advocacy Center on a Multi-Disciplinary team which focuses on child abuse investigations. The detectives are also certified in the use of the CVSA (Certified Voice Stress Analysis) and perform background investigations for the City Of Wooster employees.





# K9 UNIT



## K9 EX

**EOW: OCTOBER 14<sup>TH</sup>, 2019**

Regretfully in 2019, the Wooster Police Department, Captain Victor Nedoma, and his family said goodbye to their beloved canine partner and friend, Ex. Ex served our community for over ten (10) years and his work was greatly appreciated. Ex exemplified the true meaning of a partner and a working dog. We would like to thank Ex for his committed service.





# K9 UNIT



The Wooster Police Department Canine Unit is comprised of three (3) dual purpose trained canines. The canines are cross trained in the odor of narcotics, article searches, building searches, tracking, and apprehensions. The unit consists of two (2) German-Shepherds and one (1) Belgian Malinois.

Throughout 2019, the canine teams successfully completed their state certification, as well as, completed a secondary certification with the International Police Working Dog Association (IPWDA) in Grayling, MI. The teams were deployed over 110 times which culminated in the successful seizure of illegal narcotics, weapons, and US currency. The teams also assisted in being a force multiplier and deterrent on several occasions to include, residential search warrants, areas searches, and high risk calls for service.

In addition to scheduled training, the canine teams spend time daily perfecting their skills to be successful officers on the road. The teams also donate numerous hours each year engaging with the community through various presentations and events.

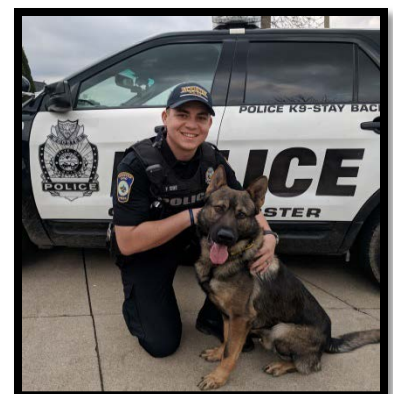
The canines and their respective handlers are listed below.



**Ptl. Timko & K9 Haro**



**Ptl. Festa & K9 Lucky**



**Ptl. Coe & K9 Lex**



# BICYCLE UNIT

The Wooster Police Bicycle Unit has added two new members to the team. The Unit is now manned with six officers total. In addition to working the July 4<sup>th</sup> Fireworks detail, the Heart and Sole race, Woosterfest and other security details, the Unit was able to catalog:

- 188 hours on regular patrol
- 453 community contacts with the general public
- 62 calls for service
- 101 building checks
- 26 arrests
- 15 traffic stops
- 1 parking citation
- 8 criminal reports
- 12 narcotic reports which includes seized contraband
- 8 traffic warnings.

We will reconvene our efforts in spring of 2020.

-Sergeant Clint Bartolic #49  
Wooster Police Department





# COMMUNITY RELATIONS DIVISION

\* Throughout 2019, WPD gave several tours of the City of Wooster Safety Center. Tours are given for educational purposes for scout groups, local school districts and home schooled children. Local civic groups have also toured our facility.

\*Throughout the school year, WPD recognized several Wooster City School fourth grade students with our Honorary Jr. Police Officer Award. This award recognizes students who exemplify leadership, character, attitude, responsibility, respect, kindness, etc.

\*In May 2019, WPD hosted the Thin Blue Line Walk, which started at Wooster High School's Follis Field to honor and remember 167 police officers who died in the line of duty in 2018. Some of our Citizen's Police Academy alumni are deeply involved with helping put the event together. They contribute several hours volunteering to help honor our fallen officers.

\*In May 2019, WPD again partnered with the United Way, Wooster City Schools and The Wayne County Library for Reading Under the Lights at Maurer Field. We have set a trend across the county in other cities and school districts who are now having their own RUL events.



\*In June 2019, WPD partnered with Bret Defibaugh and Bowman Beverage for our 4th annual "Five – 0" neighborhood cookout. This neighborhood gathering has grown a little each year and we feel it has become a staple event on Washington St. that will be continued for years to come.

\*In June 2019, WPD partnered with Kiwanis and Wooster Community Hospital for our annual Bike Rodeo at Cornerstone Elementary School. Ptl. Quinn McConnell and Det. Guy Bremenour do a fantastic job with this event. They have a special connection with the kids who come regularly each year.

\*In June 2019, WPD participated in Main Street Wooster's annual Kids Day in downtown Wooster at the Wayne County Library.

\*In July 2019, WPD participated in Wooster Healthy Living's Kids Day at Christmas Run Park. The kids got to meet Ptl. Josh Timko and K9 Haro and they were treated to a K9 demo.

\*In August 2019, WPD participated in The Village Network Celebration Day. We hold a basketball free-throw contest and prizes are given out to the boys and girls who participate. We also partner with Buffalo Wild Wings who treat the kids to over 450 boneless wings as they shoot hoops. Over the past couple of years, we have received feedback from the staff at TVN who stated that during exit interviews, some of the kids commented that the WPD basketball event was one of their favorite memories during their stay.

\*Throughout the summer of 2019, WPD made visits to the Boys and Girls Club, YMCA and Wooster City parks and swimming pools for community outreach opportunities. “Cop – sicles” are always a big hit with the kids all summer long at the pools and during the Fourth of July festivities at the Kinney Fields.

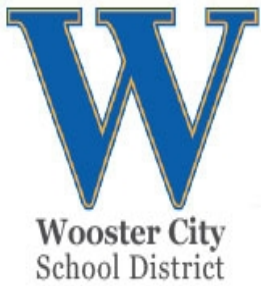
\*In October 2019, WPD participated in the WooTown Treat Trail with downtown businesses and the Wayne County Library.

\*In November 2019, Sgt. Mike Jewell, along with other WPD officers, volunteers and WCPAAA Alumni worked for three days straight to make our annual Stuff the Cruiser campaign successful. A total of 227 children received Christmas presents from this program. Not only do the families and kids get items on their wish list, each family received a free CO detector donated by Lowe’s in memory of Megan Keller. Many of you may recall that our WPD family lost Megan and her husband Cody in November 2017 to carbon monoxide poisoning. News 5 Cleveland even ran a story interviewing Sgt. Jewell and a Daneylle Swain about how a Megan’s Memory CO detector saved her and her children's lives. Countless volunteer hours were given back to the community by officers and community members in the collection and distribution of these toys.



\*In December 2019 WPD again partnered with AmeriGas and Wayne Savings Community Bank for Cash for Christmas. Grace Church also joined this partnership to help spread more joy and cheer throughout our community. During traffic stops and other interactions with the public, our officers gave out \$3,900.00 in cash. Thanks to our great partners, these random acts of kindness build positive relationships.

We work for a great community and will continue to build on our current relationships and seek out new ones to help make the City of Wooster a great place to live, work and raise a family.



# **SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER**

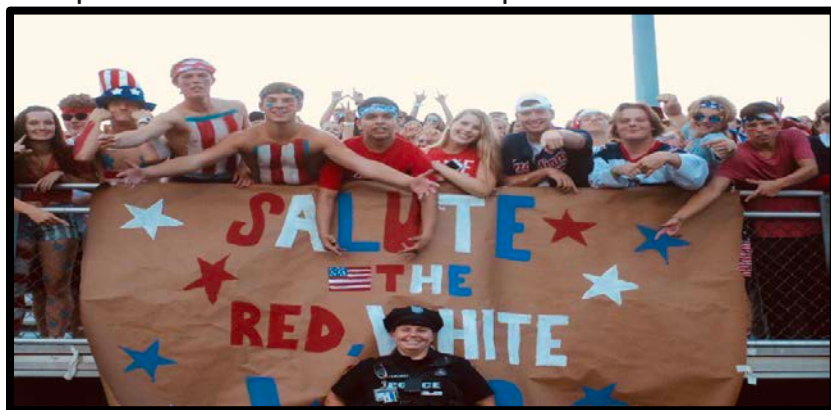


The Wooster Police Department started 2019 by expanding into Wooster City Schools. Patrolman Teichmer was assigned as a second School Resource Officer, assigned to Wooster High School. Patrolman Linz was assigned to Edgewood Middle School. The addition of another officer shows our deep commitment to the safety of our youth.

School Resource Officers have a variety of roles within the schools. Not only do they enforce criminal offenses and provide security, they also provide opportunities for kids to build friendships and role models. Several programs are in the works to continue to build these relationships with our youth.

In the high school, Officer Teichmer provides information and humor through her Instagram page @Officer\_April. Another program held in May is called the Safety Challenge. Kids were given several stations with activities to complete. These activities were timed and the winners were rewarded with candy. All of these activities dealt with vehicle safety and seat belts. Over 250 kids participated in this event which was held over their lunch periods.

Both schools have an area named "The General's Closet" where kids in need can find clothing and household items. Recently, the high school has expanded this area to include food. With help from the community, a refrigerator was added to expand the food options. Donations from the public are welcomed.







# HOSPITAL RESOURCE OFFICER



In 2019, Officers Miller and Trepal provided safety and security to the staff, patients, and visitors of the Wooster Community Hospital, both physically and mentally. Officers Miller and Trepal continued to heavily train and review with the staff the ALICE principles, involving an active shooter situation. In 2019, Officers Miller and Trepal hosted 23 ALICE sessions and provided safety and security to more than 1500 suicidal, homicidal, mental health, intoxicated, overdosed, and substance abuse patients that visited the WCH.

In 2019, Officer Miller also continued to heavily push the education and safety of Verbal Defense and Influence / Verbal Judo training, to the staff at the WCH, attempting to create a safer environment for everyone. This safety and de-escalation course offers proven strategies and methods to help maintain safety and composure when dealing with a potentially violent escalated person. In 2019, this training course was added to the WCH Orientation roster, replacing the tradition AIDET program and was provided to all new hires at the facility. Officer Miller hosted a total of 17 Verbal Defense / Verbal Judo trainings in 2019. Furthermore, with the assistance of the WCH, Officer Miller attended a mandatory update training through the Verbal Judo Institute, located in Austin, Texas.

In 2019, with the success and dedication that Officer Miller and Trepal had provided, the WCH requested more hours of uniform police coverage at their facility. In May of 2019, the WCH and WPD again contracted to allow an additional 36 hours of weekly coverage. This change allowed for 6 additional extra hours of coverage, 6 days a week, totaling 116 hours of police coverage weekly. This exciting change allowed our traditional patrol officers and supervisors to voluntarily sign up to work at the WCH, allowing them a better understanding and more personal experience at the WCH. These additional hours of coverage have created a better and stronger community relationship, as well as social bond, between the two agencies.

An additional big undertaking in 2019 included a large amount of Emergency Admission Form (Pink Slip) training, regarding mostly suicidal and homicidal patients, for the WCH staff and community of first responders. In 2019, Officer Miller assisted the National Alliance of Mental Illness (NAMI), MOCA House, and Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) Committee, in providing training and education regarding the process and placement of someone that met the requirements of the Emergency Admission form. The impact of this training throughout our communities had a huge impact on the WCH, since most of the surrounding Police, Fire / EMS, and Social Service agencies use the WCH as a drop off point for their Emergency Admission patients. Furthermore, with the training provided to the WCH staff, it allowed for a smooth transition at drop off and confidence and knowledge when caring for this sometimes challenging population. With the assistance of these organizations, Officer Miller hosted and assisted in six training sessions for most of the Police, Fire / EMS, and Social Service agencies of Wayne and Holmes Counties in attempt to create a more fluid and safe process, which creates the best patient experience. It should also be noted; our local CIT committee was recognized at a state level and given the "CIT Group of the Year" award at a state conference in Columbus, Ohio. Officer Miller was also fortunate enough to attend the International CIT Conference, to further his knowledge and education on the topic, which was hosted in Seattle, Washington.

In 2019, Officer Miller and Trepal also assisted in multiple HERT (Hospital Emergency Response Team) / Hazmat drills and scenarios at the WCH, as well as, participated with many other teams and committees, creating strong relationships and partnerships within the Wooster Community Hospital Systems.

# WOOSTER CITIZEN'S POLICE ACADEMY



Since 2014, the Wooster Citizen's Police Academy has provided a way for those we serve to "walk in our shoes" and see what it's like to be a police officer. Each three hour session twice a month between January and May is designed to allow participants the opportunity to gain a better understanding of our jobs, our officers, and even our families. Some of the topics include:

- \*A tour of our Safety Center
- \*Our hiring and field training process
- \*What it's like to be a law enforcement officer in the 21<sup>st</sup> century
- \*Taser demonstration
- \*SRT and bike patrol demonstration
- \*Drug investigations
- \*Homicide case study
- \*Lethality of the job
- \*Overview of Crisis intervention training
- \*Traffic stops
- \*\* What it's like to be the spouse of a police officer
- \*\* A female police officers perspective on the job
- \*\* Use of force simulator

This program is a great way to facilitate communication and transparency. Our goal for each session is to showcase who the men and women are behind the badge and work on creating relationships with the public.



# **SPECIAL RESPONSE TEAM**



## **COMMANDER**

Captain Victor Nedoma

## **TEAM LEADER**

Sergeant Clint Bartolic

## **OPERATORS**

Sergeant Greg Kolek

Sergeant Tom Webber

Patrolman Gaetano Bremenour

Patrolman Joshua Timko

Patrolman Carl Festa

Patrolman Christopher Hartzler

Patrolman Ricki Crawley





# **SPECIAL RESPONSE TEAM**



The Wooster Police Department Special Response Team (SRT) consists of nine members, including the SRT Commander. Members are specially trained and equipped to respond to the community's most critical needs under a variety of circumstances. The types of situations where the team would be activated include; high-risk warrant service, barricaded/armed subjects, hostage situations and civil unrest. The Special Response Team works with state and local law enforcement agencies striving to provide the best possible resolution to all types of critical incidents.

Officers who express an interest in becoming a member of the Special Response Team must apply for the position. Team member selection is based on several criteria, including; experience, physical fitness, firearms proficiency, disciplinary record, and an interview process. Once selected, the officer must attend a basic 40 hour SWAT/SRT school in order to be considered for deployment.

The Special Response Team trains on a monthly basis. From the 3<sup>rd</sup> to the 7<sup>th</sup> of June 2019, the team attended the Ohio Tactical Officers Association Conference in Sandusky, Ohio. The conference included several critical incident debriefings (Las Vegas Police Murders- A behavioral perspective, Brick Mills Farms- Delaware State Police Officer Execution, etc.) and the following training.

- Fourth Amendment Update
- Civilian Gun Laws for the Law Enforcement Officer
- Explosive Effects and Injuries
- Hostage Rescue Overview
- Tactical Breaching
- Vehicle Close Quarters Battle

The team was utilized on successful search warrants at 752 Lincoln St. and 4886 Cleveland Rd. Team members assisted on several active incidents, some involved the service of search warrants with outside agencies.

Over the last year, The Wooster Police Department SRT continued to train in collaboration with Orrville Police Department's SRT, and the MEDWAY Drug Enforcement Agency's SRT. The joint teams are collaboratively known as Medway, Orrville, and Wooster tactical response team (M.O.W. TRT). The agencies expect to become a multijurisdictional team early in 2020.



# **AUXILIARY UNIT**

The Auxiliary Unit of the Wooster Police Department provides additional manpower when needed. Over the years, this unit has supplemented patrol, the detective bureau, traffic and extra duty details.

At the end of 2019, the Auxiliary Unit consisted of Sergeant Terry Heim, Officer Steve Glick and Officer Charlie Hardman. All three of these men are retired full time law enforcement officers, yet they continue to serve. Between the three of them, they have a total of 128 years of experience. We appreciate their commitment to our department and value their knowledge and experience. In 2019, the Auxiliary Unit Officers logged a combined total of approximately 1000 hours of service.



# **ALICE**

The request for training for a response to active shooters has once again been high across our country and our community. In a lot of jurisdictions, including the City of Wooster, this duty to provide this training has fallen on the shoulders of law enforcement. Chief Fisher feels this is a responsibility high in priority for the community and we currently have four officers that provide this training on a regular basis. Those officers are Captain Lemmon, Det. Belcher, Ptl. Trepal, and Ptl. Miller.

In 2019, there were approximately 45 ALICE presentations given across the city. These presentations were done at places such as GOJO Industries, Rotary, Hospice, Brookdale Senior Living, Goodwill, One-Eighty, and First Presbyterian Church. All the local schools kept officers busy with presentation requests such as Wooster City Schools, St. Mary's, The College of Wooster, and local pre-schools. Wooster Community Hospital is provided with ALICE training during their new hire orientation period. This occurs on a monthly basis.

The relationship with Wooster City Schools continues to be very strong, especially when it comes to the safety of the children. Over 25 drills were conducted involving pre-school to high school age children. These drills are required by law for each school, and law enforcement is present to observe. In the event of a real active intruder situation, these drills assist in preparing them to respond.



# WOOSTER POLICE HONOR GUARD



The Wooster Police Department maintains an honor guard team of five volunteer officers. In 2019, these officers participated in several community events including:

- Various community parades
- July 4<sup>th</sup> wreath laying at WPD Police Memorial
- OPOTA Police Memorial Services
- WCS Veteran's Day lunches
- Dayton police officer funeral
- Stuff the Cruiser
- WPD Hiring Event
- Cop on Top benefiting Special Olympics

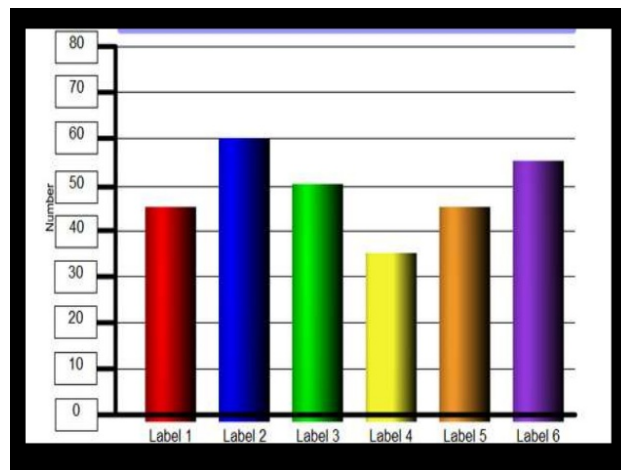
We are also posting flyers quarterly of past officers who have worked for the City of Wooster. We do this in remembrance of those officers who have served and given so much to this community.

The Honor Guard is looking forward to continuing its service to the city and citizens of Wooster in 2020.

# **WOOSTER POLICE DEPARTMENT**

## **STATISTICAL TABLES AND CHARTS**

### **2019 ANNUAL REPORT**



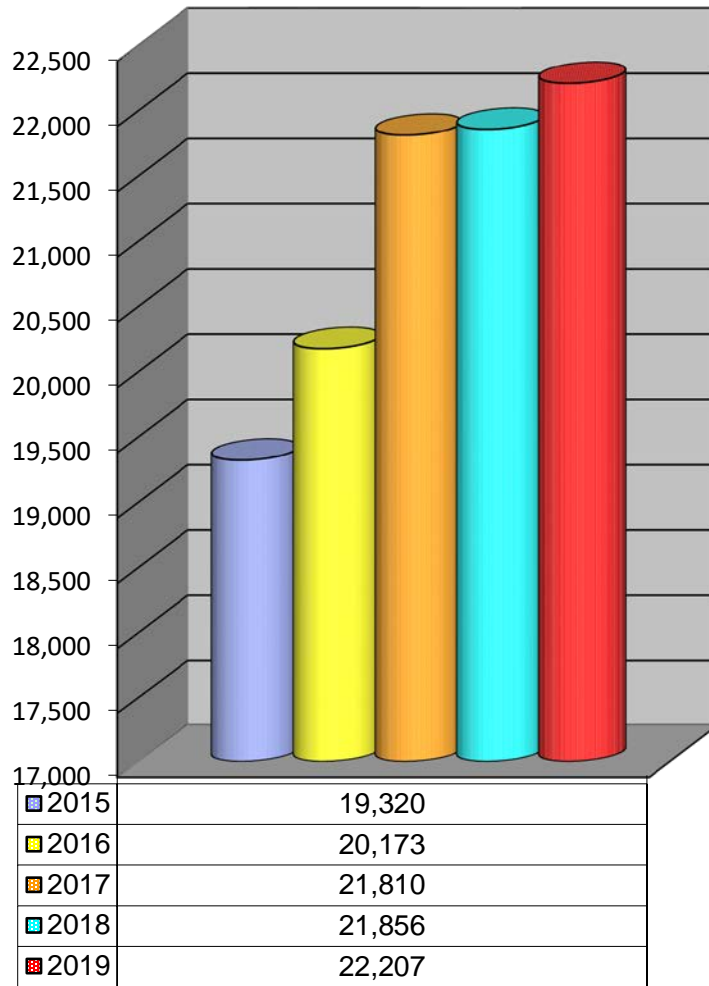
# 2019

## CALLS FOR SERVICE BY CATEGORY

The Calls for Service section shows the number of calls received by the Wooster-Ashland Regional Council of Governments Dispatch which occurred within the city limits. Dispatchers, based on the information received, categorize the call prior to dispatching officers. While useful, the information can be misleading because oftentimes the call for service can end up later being classified differently than dispatched.

CALL TYPE	2018	2019	Change	Percent of Change
911 Calls (no other disposition)	1292	1264	-28	-2%
Abandoned/Disabled Vehicles	25	84	59	236%
Accidental Damaging	0	0	0	0%
Alarms	1119	1151	32	3%
Animal Complaints	490	404	-86	-18%
Arson	0	0	0	0%
Assist Citizens/Welfare Checks/Message Delivery	845	941	96	11%
Assist Other Agencies (Parole,Counseling Center, Medical, Etc.)	747	623	-124	-17%
Attempted Suicide	10	12	2	20%
Bomb Threat	3	0	-3	-100%
Burglary	278	228	-50	-18%
CCW/Discharging Firearms	0	0	0	0%
Civil Disputes/Standby	365	410	45	12%
Computer Crime	0	1	1	100%
Counterfeiting	0	0	0	0%
Criminal Mischief/Vandalism	236	281	45	19%
Criminal Trespass/Refusal to Leave	665	762	97	15%
Death Investigations (Natural)	3	3	0	0%
Disorderly/Disturbances/Disrupting Public Service	976	1108	132	14%
Domestic Violence/Custody/Violation of Protection Orders	658	562	-96	-15%
Drug Violations	394	371	-23	-6%
Drunks	101	120	19	19%
Emotionally Disturbed Persons	511	595	84	16%
Escorts	6	9	3	50%
Extra Patrols	283	211	-72	-25%
Falsification/Obstructing	0	0	0	0%
Felony/Aggravated Assault	2	0	-2	-100%
Fire (car, house, building)	0	0	0	0%
Forgery/Bad Checks	235	271	36	15%
Gambling	0	0	0	0%
Impersonating an Officer	0	0	0	0%
Indecent Exposure/Other Sex Crimes	86	100	14	16%
Information	539	632	93	17%
Juvenile Complaints	196	188	-8	-4%
Kidnapping/Abduction	6	6	0	0%
Liquor Violations	0	0	0	0%
Littering	22	10	-12	-55%
Menacing/Threats/Harassment	640	568	-72	-11%
Miscellaneous	231	237	6	3%
Missing Person	209	224	15	7%
Murder	0	0	0	0%
MV Pursuits/Fleeing	0	0	0	0%
Nature Unknown	48	35	-13	-27%
Noise Disturbance	227	281	54	24%
Open Door/Window	4	0	-4	-100%
OVI Arrest	34	26	-8	-24%
Prisoner Transports	13	11	-2	-15%
Probation/Parole Violation	30	62	32	107%
Property Calls (found, lost)	298	285	-13	-4%
Rape/Gross Sexual Imposition	40	15	-25	-63%
Receiving Stolen Property	0	0	0	0%
Resisting Arrest	0	0	0	0%
Robbery	16	15	-1	-6%
School Bus Violation	0	0	0	0%
Search Warrants	3	4	1	33%
Security Checks	105	309	204	194%
Simple Assault	228	224	-4	-2%
Suicide	0	0	0	0%
Suspicious Person/Activity	2256	2212	-44	-2%
Telephone Harassment	0	0	0	0%
Theft (general)	1001	1019	18	2%
Theft (motor vehicle)	73	73	0	0%
Traffic Complaint	1466	1512	46	3%
Traffic Crashes	779	814	35	4%
Traffic Detail	5	1	-4	-80%
Traffic Hazard	14	0	-14	-100%
Traffic Stop	2918	2991	73	3%
Vehicle Immobilization/Release	0	0	0	0%
Warrant Arrests	871	745	-126	-14%
Warrant Arrests/Attempted	177	142	-35	-20%
Weapons Violation	77	55	-22	-29%
Zoning Violations	0	0	0	0%
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>21856</b>	<b>22207</b>	<b>351</b>	<b>1.61%</b>

# 2019 CALLS FOR SERVICE





# 2019

## PART I OFFENSES

	2018	2019	PERCENT DIFFERENCE
HOMICIDE	1	0	100%
RAPE	34	34	0%
ROBBERY	11	16	-45%
FELONY ASSAULT	40	54	-35%
BURGLARY	157	101	36%
THEFT	703	694	1%
TOTALS	946	899	5%

# 2019

## COMPARISON OF STOLEN PROPERTY

CATEGORY	2018	2019	% Difference
CURRENCY / CREDIT CARDS / NEGOTIABLE / NON-NEG	\$ 204,430	\$ 253,523	24%
PERSONAL PAPERS / DOCUMENTS / OTHER PERSONAL	\$ 35,285	\$ 4,343	-88%
JEWELRY	\$ 25,817	\$ 31,775	23%
CLOTHING / FURS	\$ 13,668	\$ 32,714	139%
PURSES / WALLETS	\$ 3,379	\$ 3,516	4%
HOUSEHOLD GOODS	\$ 14,006	\$ 21,818	56%
ART OBJECTS / OTHER VALUABLES (COLLECTORS ITEMS)	\$ 221	\$ 3,727	1586%
COMPUTER EQUIPMENT	\$ 36,122	\$ 13,892	-62%
TV / RADIO / STEREO / CELL PHONES	\$ 36,571	\$ 39,621	8%
CD / AUDIO & VIDEO TAPES	\$ 4,197	\$ 365	-91%
SPORTS, CAMPING, HUNTING AND FISHING EQUIPMENT	\$ 8,941	\$ 10,342	16%
PHOTOGRAPHIC EQUIPMENT	\$ 275	\$ 340	24%
OTHER EQUIP (FARM, LAWN, HEAVY CONST, MEDICAL)	\$ 44,947	\$ 23,468	-48%
TOOLS/BUILDING SUPPLIES	\$ 64,744	\$ 17,344	-73%
AUTO PARTS / AIRCRAFT PARTS	\$ 15,779	\$ 4,085	-74%
CONSUMABLE GOODS	\$ 11,550	\$ 9,302	-19%
MEDICATIONS	\$ 891	\$ 881	-1%
PETS / ANIMALS	\$ 10	\$ -	-100%
SCHOOL SUPPLIES/OFFICE EQUIPMENT	\$ 976	\$ 2,761	183%
SERVICES	\$ -	\$ -	0%
AUTOMOBILES & OTHER VEHICLES (LAND, AIR, WATER)	\$ 151,201	\$ 421,600	179%
BICYCLES	\$ 12,153	\$ 17,166	41%
FIREARMS / FIREARM ACCESSORIES	\$ 3,365	\$ 4,971	48%
OTHER WEAPONS (SWORD, BB GUNS)	\$ 729	\$ 1,849	154%
MISCELLANEOUS	\$ 7,098	\$ 8,307	17%
VIDEO GAMES	\$ 6,764	\$ 1,560	-77%
<b>TOTAL LOSS</b>	<b>\$ 703,119</b>	<b>\$ 929,270</b>	<b>32%</b>

\*All percentages are rounded off.

# 2019 ARRESTS AND TRAFFIC CITATIONS

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	TOTAL
<b>ARRESTS</b>													
ADULT	103	84	133	115	109	110	97	96	89	94	62	84	<b>1176</b>
JUVI	5	3	3	4	6	0	0	1	3	2	1	0	<b>28</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>108</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>136</b>	<b>119</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>1204</b>
<b>TRAFFIC CITATIONS</b>													
ADULT	93	63	121	111	110	98	92	101	88	106	89	100	<b>1172</b>
JUVI	7	0	3	2	3	1	2	4	3	3	6	1	<b>35</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>124</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>91</b>	<b>109</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>1207</b>

**\*\*Unable to break down by gender. Sundance Reports unavailable.**

# 2019

## TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT SURVEY

The following is a breakdown of the traffic charges filed in the Wayne County Municipal and Juvenile Courts by the Wooster Police Department during 2019, with comparison to the year 2018.

<b>VIOLATION</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>
ASSURED CLEAR DISTANCE	131	169
CHILD RESTRAINTS	2	0
DRIVING UNDER INFLUENCE	66	57
DRIVING UNDER SUSPENSION	482	527
EQUIPMENT VIOLATIONS	10	21
EXPIRED OR MISSING VEHICLE PLATES	161	151
FAILURE TO CONTROL	73	80
FAILURE TO YIELD	110	94
FICTITIOUS PLATES	11	19
HIT/SKIP	15	15
IMPROPER LANE CHANGE	42	32
IMPROPER SIGNAL	12	22
IMPROPER TURN	29	18
JUVENILE PERMIT RESTRICTIONS	1	0
LOAD/WEIGHT VIOLATIONS	1	0
LOUD MUSIC FROM VEHICLE	1	0
NO OPERATORS LICENSE/EXPIRED LICENSE	292	200
PASSING	7	3
RECKLESS OPERATION	9	4
RIDE OUTSIDE VEHICLE	0	0
SCHOOL BUS VIOLATION	2	0
SEAT BELTS - DRIVER	11	16
SEAT BELTS - PASSENGER	1	4
SPEED	64	125
SQUEAL TIRES	1	0
STARTING/BACKING	62	53
TEXTING WHILE DRIVING	0	0
TRAFFIC CONTROL DEVICE	63	56
WRONG WAY-ONE WAY	4	1
MISC. OFFENSES	23	27
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1686</b>	<b>1694</b>



# 2019 TRAFFIC CRASHES

OFFICIAL					
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
JAN	65	47	58	54	48
FEB	52	60	43	33	39
MAR	44	45	45	63	33
APR	47	51	53	40	39
MAY	66	58	53	47	57
JUN	45	41	43	46	42
JUL	56	44	40	41	39
AUG	46	51	43	46	61
SEP	49	44	45	53	40
OCT	56	63	47	65	66
NOV	54	55	54	54	54
DEC	60	63	63	42	55
TOTALS	640	622	587	584	573

COURTESY					
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
JAN	3	1	2	1	2
FEB	3	3	1	3	2
MAR	1	0	5	1	4
APR	4	1	0	3	1
MAY	2	0	1	3	1
JUN	4	1	2	1	5
JUL	3	2	4	3	0
AUG	4	0	2	3	5
SEP	1	1	4	0	0
OCT	2	1	2	3	4
NOV	1	1	2	3	2
DEC	3	1	3	1	2
TOTALS	31	12	28	25	28

PERSONS INJURED					
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
JAN	7	9	17	14	7
FEB	10	10	8	6	11
MAR	9	8	8	7	8
APR	7	9	15	5	9
MAY	19	9	11	7	12
JUN	10	7	6	10	14
JUL	15	14	8	8	8
AUG	8	14	9	15	17
SEP	12	6	10	8	9
OCT	12	11	10	13	7
NOV	13	19	11	9	8
DEC	10	26	10	6	16
TOTALS	132	142	123	108	126
Fatal	2	0	1	0	1

PEDESTRIANS INJURED					
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
JAN	0	0	1	1	0
FEB	1	0	0	0	1
MAR	0	1	0	2	1
APR	0	2	0	0	1
MAY	0	0	2	0	0
JUN	1	0	0	3	0
JUL	1	0	0	1	0
AUG	0	0	1	0	1
SEP	1	0	1	1	1
OCT	0	0	4	0	0
NOV	0	0	1	2	3
DEC	0	0	2	2	3
TOTALS	4	3	12	12	11

# EVERY CRASH TELLS A STORY





# **2019 TRAINING**

Providing professional law enforcement services to the community is a complex task. The duties of a police officer are challenging and constantly changing. The constant interaction between the police and community creates many opportunities, but also exposes the potential for liability. A well-educated, experienced police officer will increase our chances for success, while limiting our potential exposure to liability.

The Wooster Police Department actively seeks training opportunities for its personnel. Officers are selected to attend various training based on their current assignment, past schools attended, and the value of the class to the overall mission.

# **SCHOOLS ATTENDED DURING 2019**

<b>Chief Fisher</b>	FBINAA National Conference, OACP Conference, Ohio Tactical Officers Association Conference (OTOA), Public Records, Annual In-Service
<b>Assistant Chief Rotolo</b>	FBINAA National Conference, PELCAA Conference, OTOA Conference, Public Records, Annual In-Service
<b>Captain Lemmon</b>	OTOA Conference, CVSA Recertification, PIO Conference, FBI LEEDA, Public Records, Annual In-Service
<b>Captain Nedoma</b>	FBI National Academy, PIO Conference, NTOA Command School, Public Records, K9 Legal Update, Annual In-Service
<b>Sgt. Bartolic</b>	OTOA Conference, Public Records, NTOA Command School, Annual In-Service,
<b>Sgt. Jewell</b>	FBI LEEDA, Public Records, Annual In-Service
<b>Sgt. Kolek</b>	OTOA Conference, NTOA Command School, Public Records, Annual In-Service
<b>Sgt. Shonk</b>	OTOA Conference, Medicolegal Investigation of Death, Public Records, Annual In-Service
<b>Sgt. Webber</b>	OTOA Conference, Public records, Annual In-Service
<b>Det. Belcher</b>	Advanced Medicolegal Investigation of Death, Public Records, Undercover Online Investigations, CVSA Re-Certification, Annual In-Service
<b>Ptl. Berry</b>	Criminal Interdiction Training, IPMBA Basic Cyclist Course, Advanced Emergency Vehicle Operations Course, Annual In-Service, Annual In-Service
<b>Det. Bremenour</b>	Advanced Medicolegal Investigation of Death, Undercover Online Investigations, CVSA Certification, Annual In-Service
<b>Ptl. Burnett</b>	Use of Force Simulator, Annual In-Service
<b>Ptl. Chuhi</b>	Annual In-Service



<b>Ptl. Coe</b>	IPWDA Conference, Advance Emergency Vehicle Operations Course, K-9 Legal Update, Annual In-Service
<b>Ptl. Crawley</b>	Advance Emergency Vehicle Operations Course, Annual In-Service
<b>Ptl. Cruise</b>	PIO School, Public Records, Annual In-Service
<b>Ptl. Egbert</b>	Basic Peace Officer Training at the Ohio State Highway Patrol Academy
<b>Ptl. Fatzinger</b>	CIT Instructor, Use of Force Simulator, International CIT Conference, State CIT Conference, Annual In-Service
<b>Ptl. Festa</b>	Use of Force Simulator, OTOA Conference, K9 Legal Update, IPWDA Conference, Advanced SRT, Annual In-Service
<b>Ptl. Grabowski</b>	Annual In-Service
<b>Ptl. Hall</b>	Annual In-Service
<b>Ptl. Hartzler</b>	Criminal Interdiction Training, Medicolegal Investigation of Death, Annual In-Service
<b>Ptl. Henderson</b>	Annual In-Service
<b>Ptl. Joppeck</b>	Criminal Interdiction Training, Annual In-Service
<b>Ptl. Koch</b>	Basic Peace Officer Training at the Ohio State Highway Patrol Academy
<b>Ptl. Kopacko</b>	Annual In-Service
<b>Ptl. Linz</b>	Ohio Juvenile Officer Association Conference, Annual In-Service
<b>Det. McCloud</b>	Public Records, Advance Medicolegal Investigation of Death, CVSA Re-Certification, Annual In-Service
<b>Ptl. McConnell</b>	Annual In-Service
<b>Ptl. Meintel</b>	Annual In-Service

<b>Ptl. Miller</b>	CIT Instructor, Verbal Judo Instructor, International CIT Conference, State CIT Conference, Annual In-Service
<b>Ptl. Mottayaw</b>	Annual In-Service
<b>Ptl. Ruggeri</b>	Criminal Interdiction Training, Medicolegal Investigation of Death, Annual In-Service
<b>Ptl. Slichenmyer</b>	Basic Peace Officer Training at the Ohio State Highway Patrol Academy
<b>Ptl. Teichmer</b>	OPJOA Conference, Basic School Resource Officer Course, ALiCE Instructor Course, Annual In-Service
<b>Ptl. Telquist</b>	Reid Interview and Interrogation Course, Annual In-Service
<b>Ptl. Timko</b>	K9 Legal Update, IPWDA Conference, Annual In-Service
<b>Ptl. Trepal</b>	Annual In-Service
<b>Ptl. B. Waddell</b>	Annual In-Service
<b>Ptl. Whitmore</b>	Annual In-Service
<b>Ptl. Zimmerman</b>	Street Crimes Seminar, Annual In-Service
<b>All Officers</b>	*Daily Continued Professional Training via Lexipol  *Roll Call and newsletter Training

The 2019 Annual In-Service block of training consisted of:

Response to Resistance Training  
 Criminal Legal Update  
 CIT and Pink Slip Update  
 ASP Baton  
 Taser  
 Firearms  
 OC Spray  
 OTOA course on response to active event on a school bus