If you’re happy to call Royal Oak home, you can thank the Royal Oak Police.
Keeping Royal Oak Safe
I am pleased to present the 2016 Royal Oak Police Department Annual Report. Included in this report you will find operational data, crime statistics, and a variety of other information on police activity in 2016.

Crime rates for 2016 were virtually unchanged. Part A crimes dropped .72% and Part B crimes increased 2.85%. Crime rates have dropped steadily over the last several decades and currently remain historically very low.

In 2016, the police department hosted two citizen’s police academy sessions. The citizen’s police academy is a unique opportunity to give citizens an in-depth, behind the scenes look at police operations. Both sessions were wildly popular with the residents who participated and with my staff who presented on various aspects of the department. Engaging with the community in this way allowed for a fuller understanding of what we do and, just as importantly, allowed the opportunity for my staff and me to hear the perspectives and concerns of our residents. The police department will continue to host an academy every fall.

On May 8, 2017, we will swear in our 78th and 79th police officers. Getting the department fully staffed has been a challenge. Unfortunately, as we worked to fill positions, we have seen a dramatic drop nationwide in qualified individuals looking to careers in law enforcement. Despite the challenges, we have not lowered our standards. Although it has been difficult and extremely time consuming to find good candidates, our patience has paid off. I am extremely pleased with our new officers, many of whom are highlighted in this report.

Our vision is to build Michigan’s premier police department. We believe we can do that by hiring the right people, provide the proper training, and maintain a culture that focuses on constant improvement and is true to our core values. Now that our staffing levels are met, we will put a greater emphasis on training to ensure our officers are prepared to meet the challenges they face. The culture of the Royal Oak Police Department is made clear to every potential new hire early in the hiring process and reinforced across all levels continually.

I hope you find this report informative.

Respectfully submitted,
Corrigan P. O’Donohue
Chief of Police / Assistant City Manager
Table of Contents

Mission Statement .................................................. 6
Vision Statement ...................................................... 6
Core Values ............................................................ 7
Designing a New Police Station ................................. 8
Retirements, Promotions and New Hires ..................... 9
Organizational Make-Up .......................................... 10
Records Division ..................................................... 12
Crime Stats ........................................................... 13
Patrol Division ......................................................... 14
Calls for Service ...................................................... 15
Traffic Mobilization ................................................ 16
Meet your Midnight Shift ......................................... 17
Meet your Day Shift ................................................. 18
Meet your Afternoon Shift ....................................... 19
Citizen’s Police Academy ......................................... 20
Parking Enforcement ............................................... 22
Criminal Investigation Division ................................. 23
Significant Incidents ............................................... 24
Crime Analyst ......................................................... 28
Michigan Department of Corrections ......................... 29
Narcotics Enforcement Team .................................... 30
Financial Crime Task Force ...................................... 31
Safe Streets Task Force ........................................... 32
Special Investigation Unit ....................................... 33
School Liaison Officer ............................................ 34
Professional Standards Unit ................................... 36
Training ................................................................. 37
Firearms Training .................................................... 39
Defensive Tactics Unit ............................................. 39
Field Training Unit ................................................ 39
Southeast Oakland SWAT Team ............................... 40
Auxiliary Police Program ....................................... 41
Police Chaplain Program ....................................... 42
Police Motor Unit ................................................... 43
Police Mountain Bike Program ................................. 43
Honor Guard .......................................................... 43
Woodward Dream Cruise ....................................... 44
Arts Beats and Eats ............................................... 46
Giving Back to the Community ................................. 47
Grants and Citizen Complaints ............................... 49
Police Award Recipients ......................................... 50
Mission Statement

“To Keep Royal Oak Safe”

Vision Statement

“To build Michigan’s premier police agency that is a recognized leader for efficiency, effectiveness, innovation, and public safety”
Our Core Values

Integrity
The Royal Oak Police Department will strive to maintain the highest level of moral values and standards of conduct while demonstrating fairness and equality to those we serve. Integrity is the cornerstone of our profession. It is a sacred quality that is essential to maintain public trust and mutual respect. The Royal Oak Police Department will be steadfast in adherence to a code of moral excellence and incorruptibility. We will maintain a standard of conduct that reinforces the ideals of honesty, accountability and pledge to hold ourselves to the highest legal, moral and ethical standards.

Loyalty
The Royal Oak Police Department will be faithful to the highest ideals of law enforcement. We will be loyal to the community in action and deed with the understanding the safety of the citizens of Royal Oak is our primary mission. We will maintain an unwavering allegiance to the law, our profession and those we serve and protect.

Compassion
The Royal Oak Police Department will be ever mindful and conscientious of the emotional and physical well being of all those we strive to protect. We will be understanding and by deed, assuage the suffering and provide consolation to all those affected by, or involved in the criminal justice process. We will be pillars of fairness, and, by example, provide solace and an atmosphere where all citizens are equal and protected.

Courage
The Royal Oak Police Department will maintain the strength of mind, body and spirit to encounter and withstand danger, fear or difficulty, with firmness and surety of purpose. We will confront difficult situations with confidence and determination to overcome any obstacle put before us. We will put the safety of others above our own and will not hesitate to protect those who cannot protect themselves.

Service
The Royal Oak Police Department will demonstrate the desire to contribute to the welfare of others by responding appropriately to the needs and demands of the community. We will put service before self and strive for excellence in all we do. We are committed to faithfully and selflessly performing our duties with the goal of enhancing public safety and reducing the fear of crime. We are dedicated to working with the public to ensure the highest level of service and feeling of security for those we serve.
Designing A New Police Station

The Royal Oak Police Department was established in 1918. Our very first police station was actually a house that served its purpose until we expanded and moved into the City Hall building in 1954. Construction began on our current police station in 1963 and was completed in 1964. Back then this building was considered state of the art. It included things such as fluorescent lighting, painted interior cinderblock walls, and vinyl asbestos tiles throughout. Since that time, many aspects of policing has evolved but our building has remained virtually unchanged. Many advances in equipment and technology has necessitated retrofitting our outdated, aging building. As policing has evolved, we have simply outgrown our building and it has become functionally obsolete.

The planning process toward this project has been extensive. Every member of the police department had the opportunity to provide valuable input throughout every stage. We are very proud of this final product and looking forward to the opportunity to move into this new facility.

Click Here To Watch A Facebook Live Presentation
Retirements, Promotions and New Hires

2016 Retirements
- Kathy Kantarian (records supervisor)
- Patricia Curtis (police service aide)

2016 Promotions
- Al Carter (sergeant to lieutenant)
- Dave VanNess (sergeant to lieutenant)
- Brian Zelakiewicz (police officer to sergeant)
- Karly Wingart (detective to sergeant)
- Bret Nelson (police officer to detective)
- Jenny Calabrese (Records Clerk to Supervisor)

2016 New Hires
- Stephen Baker (police service aide)
- Paul Korb (p/t police evidence specialist)
- Corey Stiers (p/t police desk attendant)
- Katelyn Smaltz (police officer)
- Michael Clement (police officer)
- Brooke Williams (p/t police desk attendant)
- Christine Page (police service aide)
- John Coyle (p/t police evidence specialist)
- Thomas Tinari (police service aide)
- Brian Buckley (police officer)
- Corey Stiers (police officer)
- Andrew Nadowksi (police officer)
- Frank Stuglin (police officer)
- Amber McNeil (p/t police desk attendant)
- Keila Fitzpatrick (p/t police records clerk)
The following sections are comprised of seven key categories:

- Organizational Make-up
- Citizen Complaints
- Lawsuits
- Records Division
- Patrol Division
- Criminal Investigations
- Training

### Organizational Make-up

The following table represents a nine-year comparison of the number of personnel budgeted for the Royal Oak Police Department.

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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chief</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deputy Chief</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lieutenant</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
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<td>5</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sergeant</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>11</td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>13</td>
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<tr>
<td>Detective</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>7</td>
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<tr>
<td>Police Officer</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>51</td>
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<tr>
<td>Police Service Aide</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>9</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>12</td>
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<tr>
<td>Admin. Assistant</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Records Superv.</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Clerical/Secretarial</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Records Division consists of one Records Supervisor, three full time Records Clerks, one part-time Records Clerk, and one Property Officer.

The Records Division assists the public Monday through Thursday on the telephone or at the counter. Other Records duties include maintaining the department’s electronic records system (CLEAR), checking and issuing Royal Oak residents’ gun permits, registering of weapons, processing of Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests, ink fingerprinting, conducting vehicle auctions, issuing reports to involved parties and insurance companies, and providing requested report information to the City Attorney’s office and 44th District Court.

In 2016, the Records Division processed the following requests:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Request</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Accident Reports requested</td>
<td>392</td>
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<tr>
<td>Incident Reports requested</td>
<td>317</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Audio Tape and FOIA Requests</td>
<td>231</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Citizen Record Checks</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Record Checks requested by mail/fax</td>
<td>701</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Crime Statistics

Crime is reported to the State and FBI as Part A-F offenses:

**Part A Offenses** include the following: Murder, Negligent Homicide, some Forcible and Non Forcible Sex Offenses, Robbery, Assault, Burglary, Motor Vehicle Theft, Arson, Kidnapping, Forgery, some Frauds, some Liquor Law Violations, Embezzlement, Damage to Property, Weapon Violations, Commercialized Sexual Offenses, Drug Laws and Gambling.

**Part B Offenses** include the following: some Frauds, some Non Forcible Sex Offenses, Non Violent Family Offenses, OUIL, Liquor Law Violations, Obstruction/Escape, Disorderly Conduct, State, Local and Federal Offenses, Local Ordinances, Juvenile Offenses and specific Traffic Offenses which are arrestable.
## Crime Statistics Reported to State and FBI

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<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Part A Offenses</td>
<td>3776</td>
<td>3615</td>
<td>3242</td>
<td>2949</td>
<td>2963</td>
<td>2601</td>
<td>2305</td>
<td>2205</td>
<td>2320</td>
<td>2309</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Part B Offenses</td>
<td>2621</td>
<td>2562</td>
<td>2478</td>
<td>2199</td>
<td>1948</td>
<td>1179</td>
<td>1271</td>
<td>1228</td>
<td>1296</td>
<td>1333</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Part A &amp; B</td>
<td>6397</td>
<td>6177</td>
<td>5720</td>
<td>5148</td>
<td>4911</td>
<td>3780</td>
<td>3576</td>
<td>3433</td>
<td>3616</td>
<td>3642</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Part A Change</td>
<td>-3.2%</td>
<td>-4.3%</td>
<td>-10.3%</td>
<td>-9.0%</td>
<td>.5%</td>
<td>-12.2%</td>
<td>-11.4%</td>
<td>-4.3%</td>
<td>5.22%</td>
<td>-0.47%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Part B Change</td>
<td>18.9%</td>
<td>-2.3%</td>
<td>-3.3%</td>
<td>-11.3%</td>
<td>-11.4%</td>
<td>-39.5%</td>
<td>7.8%</td>
<td>3.38%</td>
<td>5.54%</td>
<td>2.85%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annual Change</td>
<td>4.8%</td>
<td>-3.4%</td>
<td>-7.5%</td>
<td>-10%</td>
<td>-4.6%</td>
<td>-23%</td>
<td>-5.4%</td>
<td>-4.0%</td>
<td>5.33%</td>
<td>0.72%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### A partial breakdown of these crimes over a 10-year period:

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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Murder</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aggravated Assaults</td>
<td>101</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Simple Assaults or Intimidation</td>
<td>592</td>
<td>533</td>
<td>522</td>
<td>527</td>
<td>458</td>
<td>375</td>
<td>352</td>
<td>342</td>
<td>305</td>
<td>326</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robbery</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forcible Rape</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burglary</td>
<td>255</td>
<td>256</td>
<td>197</td>
<td>213</td>
<td>228</td>
<td>183</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>97</td>
<td>86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Motor Vehicle Thefts</td>
<td>158</td>
<td>134</td>
<td>114</td>
<td>110</td>
<td>108</td>
<td>96</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arson</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Larceny Thefts</td>
<td>1073</td>
<td>993</td>
<td>820</td>
<td>807</td>
<td>887</td>
<td>711</td>
<td>574</td>
<td>446</td>
<td>487</td>
<td>414</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Narcotic Violation</td>
<td>437</td>
<td>546</td>
<td>519</td>
<td>390</td>
<td>419</td>
<td>379</td>
<td>389</td>
<td>478</td>
<td>513</td>
<td>618</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disorderly Conduct</td>
<td>1302</td>
<td>1320</td>
<td>1319</td>
<td>1307</td>
<td>1179</td>
<td>1359</td>
<td>1370</td>
<td>1320</td>
<td>1287</td>
<td>1289</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Traffic Accident</td>
<td>2397</td>
<td>2418</td>
<td>2147</td>
<td>2013</td>
<td>2262</td>
<td>2191</td>
<td>2271</td>
<td>2318</td>
<td>2280</td>
<td>2371</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
In 2016, the Royal Oak Police Department continued its pursuit of reaching its full staffing level of 79 sworn police officers by hiring 6 new officers. Our officers have made a commitment to our core values, mission statement, and most of all, this community.

The patrol level (police officers, sergeants and lieutenants) have the most contact with the general public. The patrol division has focused on developing a customer service oriented style of policing. This philosophy has improved our relationship with the community, our businesses, and has enabled us to build upon the public’s trust.

The officers assigned to the patrol division respond to all types of calls for service. From traffic crashes to traffic enforcement to all types of emergency scenarios, the Royal Oak Police Department is a full-service police department.

The patrol division is responsible for answering 911 and landline phone calls. The personnel who answer these calls obtain all the pertinent information, enter the information into the computers, and dispatch Police, Fire or EMS personnel.

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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Phone Calls 911 and Non Emergency</td>
<td>70,544</td>
<td>69,645</td>
<td>60,111</td>
<td>85,458</td>
<td>107,341</td>
<td>85,024</td>
<td>84,645</td>
<td>84,683</td>
<td>81,592</td>
<td>88,029</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Incidents Dispatched</td>
<td>31,743</td>
<td>30,451</td>
<td>28,953</td>
<td>29,848</td>
<td>28,675</td>
<td>36,197</td>
<td>39,571</td>
<td>44,616</td>
<td>48,051</td>
<td>46,389</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The patrol division also responds to traffic complaints such as excessive speeding or no thru-traffic as staffing allows. Traffic complaint response may include:

- Utilization of the department’s SMART trailer to give a more accurate count of vehicular traffic and average speed.
- Initiating a formal request to have the staff traffic committee look at the problem and make recommendations.
- Coordinating with the City Traffic Engineer to evaluate roadways.

In addition, the patrol division evaluates and approves valet parking applications, directs the crossing guard program, coordinates the repair and inspection of handheld preliminary breath test machines, Auto-cite, radar units, and investigates other traffic related issues.
### Yearly Accident Summary

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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Non-Injury</td>
<td>2,092</td>
<td>2,117</td>
<td>1,958</td>
<td>2,863</td>
<td>2,111</td>
<td>1,935</td>
<td>2,030</td>
<td>2,075</td>
<td>2,037</td>
<td>2,143</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Injury Accidents</td>
<td>303</td>
<td>299</td>
<td>187</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>255</td>
<td>241</td>
<td>241</td>
<td>242</td>
<td>227</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fatal Accidents</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Totals</td>
<td>2,397</td>
<td>2,418</td>
<td>2,147</td>
<td>2,013</td>
<td>2,262</td>
<td>2,191</td>
<td>2,271</td>
<td>2,318</td>
<td>2,280</td>
<td>2,371</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Calls for Service increased significantly in 2012 due to our department implementing the ICMA recommendation of listing traffic stops as calls for service. Traffic stops where not accounted for in the previous years.*

### Overall Department Ticket Summary

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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Traffic Violations General</td>
<td>19,818</td>
<td>19,187</td>
<td>15,856</td>
<td>11,986</td>
<td>12,163</td>
<td>11,382</td>
<td>12,317</td>
<td>13,080</td>
<td>12,176</td>
<td>13,529</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Traffic violations-Accident Scene</td>
<td>980</td>
<td>999</td>
<td>710</td>
<td>949</td>
<td>979</td>
<td>832</td>
<td>873</td>
<td>925</td>
<td>837</td>
<td>966</td>
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<tr>
<td>Traffic violations-Motor Carrier</td>
<td>837</td>
<td>748</td>
<td>303</td>
<td>327</td>
<td>464</td>
<td>400</td>
<td>209</td>
<td>142</td>
<td>165</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ordinance violations</td>
<td>Not Available</td>
<td>Not Available</td>
<td>1,356</td>
<td>1,162</td>
<td>1,494</td>
<td>1,653</td>
<td>1,666</td>
<td>1,701</td>
<td>1,478</td>
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<td>Total violations</td>
<td>21,635</td>
<td>20,934</td>
<td>19,581</td>
<td>15,586</td>
<td>16,594</td>
<td>14,267</td>
<td>15,065</td>
<td>15,848</td>
<td>14,656</td>
<td>16,003</td>
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Traffic Enforcement Mobilizations

In 2016, the Royal Oak Police Department continued to participate in the traffic mobilization program. The program is funded through use of grant monies made available by the Michigan Office of Highway Safety and Planning. In Oakland County, the grant program is administered through the Traffic Improvement Association.

Over The Limit, Under Arrest

This is a state-wide mobilization effort to combat drunk driving. Media announcements and newspaper stories precede the enforcement dates. Members of the participating agencies are present during these press conferences.

The mobilization dates in Royal Oak were: March 17, March 18, March 19, March 25, March 26, April 1 and April 2.

The Royal Oak Police Department dedicated 78 personnel hours and conducted 75 traffic stop investigations, resulting in 12 total arrests: 9 for Operating While Intoxicated, 1 for Driving While License Suspended, 1 for Warrant Arrest, and 1 for Obstructing Police. Officers issued 38 other traffic violations while working these dates.
The midnight shift is commanded by Lieutenant Dave VanNess. The shift begins at 11 p.m. and finishes at 7 a.m. It currently consists of 3 sergeants, 14 officers, and 4 police service aides.

Midnight shift officers are visible in the central business district Wednesday through Saturday. Royal Oak continues to be a well-known weekend destination for its vibrant restaurants and nightlife. Our officers have maintained an excellent working relationship with area businesses to efficiently address issues and complaints. Officers routinely patrol on foot to maintain high visibility and to conduct walk-throughs of area establishments. They are constantly monitoring compliance to local ordinances and businesses with liquor licenses in the downtown area.

Midnight shift officers are also constantly on watch for alcohol related driving offenses, especially on weekends when these types of offenses are most prevalent. During Midnight shift, officers participated in the “Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over” effort during the months of November and December.

Midnight shift also patrols the neighborhoods and businesses beyond the downtown area. While the city sleeps, officers patrol these areas for suspicious people and vehicles in an effort to prevent crimes before they occur.

Midnight shift officers conduct systematic checks of the area hotels and motels for compliance to local ordinances and wanted individuals. In 2016, these establishments were checked 171 times and resulted in 26 wanted subjects arrested.
The day shift is commanded by Lieutenant Dave Clemens. The shift begins at 7 A.M. and concludes at 3 P.M. It currently consists of 3 sergeants, 15 officers, 4 police service aides, and 3 part time police desk attendants.

Day shift officers work when a majority of businesses are open to the public which generates a measurable increase in vehicular and pedestrian traffic. As a result, the officers are called to investigate a large number of traffic accidents and employ community policing tactics in their contacts with businesses, residents and visitors alike. These contacts have shown the ability to leave lasting impressions.

Day shift officers also work daily in conjunction with the 44th District Court. The officers handle court functions such as arraignments, prisoner transports, court-ordered fingerprinting, probation violations, and processing for confinement in the Oakland County Jail.

Day shift continues to coordinate and assign crossing guards to ensure key school crossings are staffed. When a crossing guard is absent, a police officer makes sure the children cross safely. The officers also take this opportunity to interact with the students and parents.

Day shift officers also conduct monthly checks of sex offenders registered in the City of Royal Oak and visiting from other states. The officers confirm all supplied information is accurate, up-to-date, and verify the offenders are compliant.

The communications center located inside the police station is extremely busy from start to finish during day shift hours. Hundreds of phone calls, both 911 and non-emergencies are received and processed daily. The personnel assigned inside are responsible for dispatching police and fire units and also answering a wide range of general information questions. This flurry of activity is a daily occurrence inside the police station.

Lastly, day shift officers handle a large number of special events that occur in the city such as holiday parades, block parties, 5 and 10K runs, and numerous community events hosted at the Farmer’s Market.
The afternoon shift is commanded by Lieutenant Al Carter. The shift begins at 3:00 p.m. and ends at 11:00 p.m. The staffing includes 3 sergeants, 15 police officers, 4 police service aids and 3 part-time civilian desk attendants.

The afternoon shift commonly receives the highest volume of calls for police service. Near the start of shift, afternoon officers contend with the demanding rush hour and traffic-related complaints throughout the city. As evening approaches, the downtown area known as the Central Business District (CBD) becomes very active. The officers assigned to the CBD area are primarily focused on community policing. They concentrate their patrols near the restaurants/bars, coffee shops and the retail businesses. The officers patrol in vehicles, bicycles, and on foot in the downtown area making them very visible.

The vibrant downtown is host to motorcycle enthusiasts from all around Southeast Michigan for informal “bike” nights. The officers patrol on motorcycles enforcing traffic laws and maintaining a safe environment for everyone.

Several times a year, the afternoon shift officers participate with the Michigan Department of Corrections (MDOC) during Operation Nighthawk. This is a partnership with the MDOC and the Royal Oak Police Department to conduct residence checks, ensuring parolees and probationers are complying with their conditions of probation. This operation has proven to be vital in building a strong and successful partnership between the organizations.

The afternoon shift officers stay very busy with numerous community events that occur throughout the year. Some include the concerts at the Center Street Pop-Up Park, the Detroit Zoo, the Royal Oak Music Theatre, events held at the Farmer’s Market, and numerous other special events. The officers also begin attending to the cruisers on Woodward during the warmer evenings early in the year.
Citizen's Police Academy

In 2016, the police department re-established the Royal Oak Citizen's Police Academy. It had been over ten years since this program was previously offered. The program was offered to Royal Oak residents through an application process and the response was overwhelming. Within the first two weeks of accepting applications, we received almost 80 responses and had to close the application window. Only one third of the applicants were chosen to attend the April session. Due to the large interest, we decided to offer an additional session that was held in the fall of 2016.

The program was structured to offer residents a unique insight into local law enforcement. The exciting seven-week course met once a week for three hours at the police department. The purpose of the program was to allow the residents to become familiar with their police department through classroom instruction and also receive practical, hands-on experience. The Citizen's Police Academy gave the participants insight into how police officers perform their duties and how we serve the community.

The well-received Citizen's Police Academy offered a first-hand approach to what the police department actually does and how we do it. More importantly, the program allowed the residents to get to know and build a bond with the men and women of the Royal Oak Police Department.

The first week of the academy included a presentation by Chief O'Donohue followed by a detailed tour of the police station facilities, including the jail area. Some of the curriculum covered the following weeks included a defensive tactics lesson, a TASER demonstration, a K9 demonstration and a presentation by the Criminal Investigation Division on an actual homicide case. The class also experienced the firearms range where they had the opportunity to shoot the handgun carried by department officers and the patrol rifle as well.
Citizen’s Police Academy (continued)

One of the most popular parts of the program was the opportunity to ride along with a patrol officer. Class members signed up for a four hour ride along over the seven week period the class was held. This really offered the class members some insight as to what a Royal Oak police officer experiences while on patrol.

Those attending the Citizen’s Police Academy were also told of different opportunities to volunteer with the police department and throughout the city. As a result, several members of the spring session volunteered with assisting the police department during the 2016 Woodward Dream Cruise. Another member volunteered to become part of the Royal Oak Auxiliary Police unit.

At the conclusion of each academy session, those attending were asked to complete an evaluation of the program. Following are a few quotes taken from those evaluations:

"The Citizen’s Police Academy was the most interesting thing I have done in a long time. I found it highly educational and it gave me great insight to the interworking of the police department. It made me feel like a part of the team/police department."

"I have learned so much about what the police officers go through and have a much greater appreciation for the police department"  

"Thank you - this was a once in a lifetime opportunity that I will never forget."  

"Thank you for being a catalyst in making positive changes in our community and opening your doors to the citizens of Royal Oak."  

"Thank you so very much to the ROPD! Even the fact that you put this program together is incredible. All the officers involved in the program have been exceptionally nice and informative. Your department makes me proud to be a Royal Oak citizen."

"The class exceeded any expectation I could have had."

Look for more information on the city's website soon about the next Royal Oak Citizen’s Police Academy this fall.
The Royal Oak parking enforcement unit consists of nine part time uniformed parking enforcement officers. They are responsible for the enforcement of laws and ordinances pertaining to parking throughout the city. Royal Oak’s parking enforcement officers are professional and well trained. They work year round, mainly on foot, in all types of seasonal weather conditions. The parking enforcement unit always complies with the Royal Oak City Ordinances along with the Michigan Vehicle Code. Although their work is performed in accordance with the established rules and procedures, a Parking Enforcement Officer is expected to exercise independent judgment and discretion in the performance of their tasks. They primarily enforce parking violations in the busy downtown area; however they are commonly called on to respond and assist with parking complaints in all parts of the city.

Some of the enforcement duties include the general enforcement of metered and time zone areas, permit and private property parking complaints, residential parking, handicap parking complaints, snow emergency restricted parking, fire restricted zones, as well as the removal of abandoned vehicles and vehicles with outstanding unpaid parking violations.

Although the primary responsibility of a parking enforcement officer is to enforce parking violations, because of their immediate visibility, parking enforcement officers routinely have many positive contacts with the public. They assist by providing answers to questions regarding available parking, directions, and information about the many businesses and restaurants throughout the city.

Overall Parking Enforcement Violations Issued

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<tr>
<td>Violations issued by PEO's</td>
<td>90,409</td>
<td>78,278</td>
<td>85,870</td>
<td>88,268</td>
<td>96,180</td>
<td>91,970</td>
<td>93,891</td>
<td>87,384</td>
<td>85,429</td>
<td>74,401</td>
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<td>Uniform Officers</td>
<td>1075</td>
<td>728</td>
<td>203</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>743</td>
<td>1,248</td>
<td>2,091</td>
<td>4,650</td>
<td>992</td>
<td>948</td>
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<tr>
<td>Beaumont Security</td>
<td>461</td>
<td>711</td>
<td>692</td>
<td>501</td>
<td>398</td>
<td>372</td>
<td>332</td>
<td>361</td>
<td>399</td>
<td>143</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oakland Comm. College</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>135</td>
<td>135</td>
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<tr>
<td>TOTAL (non-PEO)</td>
<td>1,636</td>
<td>1,498</td>
<td>922</td>
<td>562</td>
<td>1,211</td>
<td>1,691</td>
<td>2,494</td>
<td>5,070</td>
<td>1,526</td>
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<td>OVERALL TOTAL</td>
<td>92,045</td>
<td>79,776</td>
<td>86,792</td>
<td>88,830</td>
<td>97,391</td>
<td>93,661</td>
<td>96,385</td>
<td>92,454</td>
<td>86,955</td>
<td>75,627</td>
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The Criminal Investigations Division is comprised of Detectives and Officers who investigate a very wide variety of complaints. Using skills ranging from crime scene analysis to cell phone forensics, the division concentrates its efforts on collecting information and evidence to investigate an incident. The C.I.D. is currently commanded by Lieutenant Keith Spencer. Lieutenant Dave Clemens completed his 3 ½ year assignment to the bureau in October and will bring back a lot of knowledge and experience from the C.I.D. to the road patrol division.

Having served in investigations for a combined 20 years, Lieutenant Spencer and Sergeant Don Swiatkowski rely heavily on that experience to oversee every case the division assigns. Cases assigned to a fully staffed division of 7 detectives, 5 specially assigned police officers, and 1 part-time crime analyst are all carefully reviewed. Effectively managing cases that are assigned is based upon several factors which determine each case’s solvability. A case is assigned if it meets those factors, otherwise it may be closed or filed for further information and developments.

Detectives play a critical role taking a case from the initial criminal complaint to prosecution. Skills in interviewing, collecting evidence, and “looking for the details” are important aspects of a successful investigation our Detectives use every day. Detectives must efficiently manage multiple cases and efforts to bring each case to a logical conclusion is a demanding task our investigators have become adept and proficient in accomplishing.

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<tr>
<td>Cases Assigned</td>
<td>914</td>
<td>886</td>
<td>931</td>
<td>807</td>
<td>915</td>
<td>613</td>
<td>766</td>
<td>837</td>
<td>823</td>
<td>773</td>
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<tr>
<td>Warrants Obtained</td>
<td>563</td>
<td>552</td>
<td>545</td>
<td>419</td>
<td>354</td>
<td>288</td>
<td>310</td>
<td>395</td>
<td>401</td>
<td>409</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Warrants Obtained Per Cases Assigned</td>
<td>62%</td>
<td>62%</td>
<td>59%</td>
<td>52%</td>
<td>39%</td>
<td>47%</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>47%</td>
<td>49%</td>
<td>53%</td>
</tr>
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Royal Oak Police Department
Significant CID Cases in 2016

Shooting at Hookah Joes

Royal Oak Detectives worked tirelessly to identify the suspects involved in an early morning shooting at Hookah Joes. The initial investigation determined the suspects fired one round at an individual outside the lounge on Washington Street. The suspects then pulled their vehicle in front of the business and fired into the lounge, striking an employee who suffered non-life threatening injuries.

Collaborating with task force officers from the FBI Safe Streets Task Force, the Oakland County Narcotics Enforcement Team, and the Troy Special Investigation Unit, Royal Oak Detectives identified and arrested a 24-year-old Detroit resident who was identified as the shooter. The suspect was charged with Assault with Intent to Commit Murder, Discharging a Firearm in or at an Occupied Dwelling Causing Injury, and Possession of a Firearm in the Commission of a Felony. In January of 2017, the suspect pled guilty in 6th Circuit Court and was sentenced to 7 - 30 years in state prison.

Bomb Threat at Yogurt City

Detectives investigated a bomb threat called into Yogurt City. After receiving two phone calls indicating a bomb was in the building and saying it would detonate within four hours, the employee contacted police. Royal Oak Officers evacuated the business and surrounding area to conduct a thorough search with the assistance of a Macomb County Bomb Dog. After determining no device had been placed in the business, Detectives tracked the suspect to a home in Oak Park. The 22-year-old resident of Oak Park was arrested and charged with False Report or Threat of Terrorism. In November 2016, the suspect pled guilty to the charge and was sentenced to 16 months to 20 years in state prison.
Home Invasion and Vehicle Theft suspect Arrested

Officers from the Oakland County Curtail Auto-theft Team (C.A.T.), including an officer from Royal Oak, investigated a report of a home invasion and car theft. A resident on N. Altadena called police to report an unknown suspect just broke into his home. Royal Oak Officers learned the victim was woken up by the sound of a skateboard falling down the stairs and went to investigate. The victim reported seeing a dark colored SUV backing down the driveway after going downstairs.

Later that morning, a resident on N. Minerva called to report an unknown suspect stole his black 2014 Jeep from the driveway of his home.

CAT Officers quickly located the suspect and the stolen vehicle in Detroit. The suspect was swiftly arrested and the stolen vehicle recovered with stolen items located inside from the Home Invasion on N. Altadena. The suspect was charged with Home Invasion 1st degree and Unlawful Driving Away an Automobile. In January 2017, the suspect was found guilty on both counts and is sentenced to 2 - 30 years in state prison.

Homicide Suspect found Guilty of Murder

The trial for the suspect in the 2015 shooting death of Theresa Ann Diamos was held in the 6th Circuit Court in Pontiac. In August of 2016 after an eight (8) day trial and several witnesses, a jury found the suspect, David Douglas Davis, guilty of 1st degree Murder. In addition, Davis was found guilty of Possession of a Firearm in the Commission of a Felony and Felon in Possession of a Firearm.

In September of 2016, Davis was sentenced to Life in prison without the possibility of parole.
Significant CID Cases in 2016 (continued)

TCF Bank Robbery

On August 8, 2016, the Royal Oak Police Department investigated a bank robbery that occurred at the TCF Bank located at 1811 Crooks Road. The incident began after Royal Oak Police received a call reporting a bank robbery when the suspect passed a bank teller a note, demanding money, and indicating he had a weapon. Royal Oak Officers with the assistance of a Southfield K-9 officer, searched for the suspect. It was determined the suspect likely got into a vehicle and fled the area.

Detectives working in conjunction with the FBI, Warren Police Department, and Troy Special Investigation Unit identified a 25-year-old man from Detroit as the suspect. The same suspect was believed to have committed another bank robbery in the City of Warren the day following the Royal Oak robbery. The suspect was located and arrested without incident and charged with Armed Robbery and Bank Robbery for his actions in the Royal Oak incident.

In September 2016, the man pled guilty in 6th Circuit Court and was sentenced to 1-20 years in state prison.
Off Duty Officer Saves Woman

On June 8, 2016, Royal Oak Police Officer Joe Francis was celebrating his second wedding anniversary with his wife when he observed a woman in distress in a restaurant in the city of Plymouth. The woman was unable to breathe and Officer Francis quickly realized she was choking. Officer Francis performed the Heimlich maneuver and on the third thrust, a large piece of food was dislodged from the woman’s throat and she began to breathe normally.

The woman and her family were very grateful Officer Francis was there and had the training to resolve this potentially life threatening situation. “She was really happy and so was I,” Officer Francis said. “She said she had never choked before and I told her I never had to use the Heimlich maneuver before.” Officer Francis credits the lifesaving training he received from the Royal Oak Fire Department in preparing him for this unexpected emergency. The management of Ironwood Grill was also grateful and picked up the bill for their lunch.

Dangerous Felon Captured After Foot Pursuit

On September 2, 2016, during the Arts, Beats and Eats festival, Officer Chipman investigated a subject acting suspicious. Officer Chipman investigated the subject and observed him using narcotics. When Officer Chipman attempted to place him under arrest, the subject resisted and led Officer Chipman on a foot pursuit. Officer Chipman caught up to the subject and, during the struggle to arrest the subject; he tried to stab Officer Chipman with a syringe. After the subject was taken into custody, it was determined he had escaped from prison and was on a multi-state crime spree that included bank robbery, at least 2 UDAA’s, and multiple larcenies and frauds.

Officer Chipman’s keen observations, diligence, and willingness to put himself in harm’s way led to the capture of a dangerous felon.
Information is the key to the effectiveness of any investigative effort. Data must be gathered and analyzed to develop suspects, determine methods used by criminals to commit crimes, and track potential trends. This important task is handled by Crime Analyst Pete Pizzorni. Having over 38 years of law enforcement experience, Pete can recognize trends and extract investigative data from almost any case.

Pete’s skill at collecting and providing timely data analysis to personnel assigned to the Criminal Investigation Division has proven time and again to be an invaluable asset to the department. Since 2013, incidents occurring inside and outside Royal Oak have been meticulously dissected to determine relationships with crimes in our community as well in our neighboring cities.

Pete maintains constant contact with other intelligence networks to augment our department’s ability to track down and apprehend suspects. Collaborative effort between other departments and agencies is a skill Pete uses on daily basis. By collaborating and sharing intelligence, our department directly benefits with an enhanced ability to combat the criminal element.

Supporting our department’s mission with critical information has benefited the residents and visitors of our city in the following ways:

- The CID had been investigating a subject who was stealing wallets from customers at Meijer sporadically over several months. After developing a pattern of who the suspect was targeting, Pete developed a suspect using photographs obtained from security video.

- With this information, CID detectives, along with officers from Troy’s Special Investigation Unit, conducted surveillance on the suspect. Officers tracked the suspect to Meijer in Royal Oak and observed him steal a wallet from the purse of an unsuspecting victim while they shopped.

- The suspect was arrested, charged, and the victim’s wallet recovered. The intelligence Pete was able to share resulted in the identification of this suspect being tied to several cases in Royal Oak and multiple other communities.

- In November, the CID investigated a larceny of a brand new iPhone 7 from the Sprint store on Woodward. Pete identified a pattern of cell phone thefts in the area and compared this with information being gathered by other departments. Pete was able to distribute suspect photographs and their method to area departments. Our detectives were alerted by another department of an arrest of two suspects who matched the information gathered by Pete. Our detectives obtained full confessions from these subjects and they were charged in Royal Oak.
The partnership with the Michigan Department of Corrections continues to be an asset and integral part of the Royal Oak Police Department’s overall mission. Maintaining supervision of parolees who choose to call Royal Oak home is the responsibility of MDOC Agent Brody Flesher.

Since 2013, the Michigan Department of Corrections has maintained a satellite office inside the Royal Oak Police Department. Providing an in-house corrections agent has proven to be a critical resource for our officers when they encounter individuals who are under the supervision of the Michigan Department of Corrections.

Supervising persons given the opportunity for parole involves multiple layers of rules to keep them on track. Agent Flesher embraces a proactive role through random in-person visits and frequent interactions to ensure parolees are successful. Parolees are subject to strict adherence with their conditions of parole by continuous monitoring and substance abuse testing. Partnering with MDOC Probation Agents, Agent Flesher also conducts periodic surprise home visits for parolees and probationers in Royal Oak.

As part of the criminal investigation team, Agent Flesher provides valuable information and resources to identify and apprehend individuals who are suspected of committing additional crimes. Agent Flesher’s knowledge of the people under his supervision, both past and present, is a valuable resource for our investigators. As a liaison for MDOC, Agent Flesher can provide access to other MDOC agents and supervised persons throughout the area. This team approach has shown great successes when an incident involves a person on parole or probation. Through Agent Flesher, any person under the supervision of the Michigan Department of Corrections found violating their terms of parole or probation is held and can be sent back to prison.

The commitment MDOC has shown to the residents and visitors of Royal Oak is demonstrated by the low number of parolees living in Royal Oak. Since 2013 the number of parolees in Royal Oak has decreased from 35 to 15.
The Oakland County Narcotics Enforcement Team (NET) is a multijurisdictional undercover unit comprised of officers from around the metro area. One officer from the Royal Oak Police Department is assigned to the team. The team’s area of expertise is to investigate, arrest, and prosecute individuals suspected of delivering controlled substances.

In certain circumstances, NET officers assist the Royal Oak Police Department and surrounding agencies with non-narcotic related investigations. NET officers interact frequently with individuals entrenched with the criminal element and can provide intelligence and information that could otherwise go undiscovered.

NET’s ongoing effort of narcotic interdiction in 2016 resulted in the initiation of 681 cases, 17 of which were initiated out of Royal Oak. NET Detectives seized 155 firearms, arrested 400 suspects, and executed 224 search warrants. Below is a sampling of the cases NET undertook in 2016.

- NET Detectives received information regarding a suspect involved in trafficking marijuana. Further investigation lead to the execution of four search warrants at homes in Hazel Park, New Baltimore, Roseville, and River Rouge. The items seized from all four locations totaled 2600 grams of marijuana, 490 grams of marijuana wax, and 190 plants. NET Detectives also seized a vehicle, 2 jet skis, $2,000 in cash, and 15 firearms. The suspect was arrested and subsequently charged with Possession with Intent to Deliver/Manufacture Marijuana.

- NET Detectives conducted a controlled purchase from a suspect dealing Heroin. Further testing by forensic lab technicians discovered the substance was 100% pure Fentanyl, a deadly synthetic opioid. Detectives conducted a search warrant at the suspect’s home and seized 3 grams of Fentanyl and a small amount of cash. The suspect was arrested and charged with Delivery of a Controlled Substance. NET Detectives also learned the suspect had been involved in an overdose fatality and charged with Delivery of a Controlled Substance causing Death. The suspect is currently incarcerated in Federal prison.

### Total Narcotic Seizures in Royal Oak
- (41.78) Pounds of Marijuana
- (72) Marijuana Plants
- (0.10) Grams of Heroin
- (4.57) Grams of Cocaine
- (5) Units of Ecstasy
- (2.00) Units of Prescription Pills

### Total Narcotic Seizures
- (1,609.09) Pounds of Marijuana
- (3,915) Marijuana Plants
- (1,346) Grams of Hash
- (1,143.54) Grams of Heroin
- (461.36) Grams of Crack Cocaine
- (5,723.79) Grams of Powder Cocaine
- (767.60) Units of LSD
- (12.70) Units of Ecstasy

Identity theft and credit card fraud require a specialized team of investigators to connect individual illegal transactions to their larger organized counterparts. SEMFCTF detectives investigate low level instances of financial crimes that can be charged locally or develop into larger scaled investigations. Large scale criminal enterprises are further uncovered through information sharing with local, regional, and federal jurisdictions.

The advantage of assigning a participating detective to the SEMFCTF offers a significantly higher level of investigative power to the Criminal Investigation Division to track down, arrest, and prosecute those who prey on the assets our residents work hard to earn.

Although some financial criminal investigations take significant time and resources to develop, the following are some highlights of investigations conducted by Detective Millard and the SEMFCTF.

- Following an arrest of an individual by Royal Oak Officers for possessing a fraudulent credit card, Detective Millard was called to look into the case. By networking with area banks, Detective Millard learned the suspect was involved in a counterfeit check operation. After six months of investigation, 40 separate accomplices were identified as “runners” who helped the suspect pass over $350,000 in counterfeit checks. The investigation culminated in the suspect’s eventual arrest and federal charges currently being sought.

- In late 2016, the Royal Oak Police received reports from local 7-11 stores that suspicious devices had been located on ATMs inside the store. The devices were identified as “skimmers”, which collect debit card data and stores it. Detective Millard began networking with 7-11 corporate headquarters and area banks to gather additional intelligence. Further investigation uncovered a layered, well organized scheme to steal credit card information, clone the card numbers, and withdraw cash before the victim became aware of the compromise. The investigation led to the arrest of two suspects who were caught using the cloned cards to make multiple ATM withdrawals. Police recovered $15,000 in cash and hundreds of stolen credit card information. Further investigation pointed to 3 other suspects staying in a local hotel. A subsequent search warrant uncovered $30,000 in additional cash related to ATM withdrawals. One of the suspects was deported and the two others are currently incarcerated.
Working out of the FBI office in Troy since 2014, the Royal Oak Officer assigned to the Safe Streets Task Force (SSTF) is a member of an intricate team of investigators tasked with investigating and capturing suspects of violent crimes. The task force is overseen by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and is comprised of officers from departments throughout Oakland County and other Federal Agencies.

The task force uses a variety of resources to gather information and intelligence to share with local agencies, including Royal Oak. By sharing information and intelligence, local and federal agencies are better equipped to locate, identify, and prosecute violent criminals.

Through the collaborative effort of intelligence and manpower made available by participating in the task force, the Royal Oak Police Department is able to dramatically expand the investigative power of the investigation division.

Since 2016, the SSTF has continued to aggressively investigate heroin related crimes throughout metro Detroit in response to an increase of overdoses and drug related deaths. One specific drug trafficking organization operating in the Woodward corridor was identified. That investigation resulted in the successful seizure of narcotics and weapons. Continued pressure by SSTF lead to the arrest of several members of this organization for other serious crimes, including armed robbery. The investigation has also revealed other intelligence, identifying suspects who are believed to be responsible for other violent crimes.

This past year members of the SSTF executed 99 search warrants, made 45 arrests, and disrupted 21 criminal organizations. Task force officers completed 31 narcotics seizures, 19 weapons seizures, and removed 1.6 million dollars from criminal circulation. Seven subjects were indicted and 11 suspects were convicted as a result of the task forces’ investigations.
Since late 2015, the Royal Oak Police Department has participated with other southeast Oakland County agencies in a multi-agency team headquartered out of the Troy Police Department. The Troy Special Investigation Unit (SIU) is a plain clothes team of officers whose mission is the covert tracking and arrest of suspects who commit a wide variety of offenses. SIU is comprised of officers from Royal Oak, Troy, Bloomfield Township, Auburn Hills, and Birmingham.

Gathering information and intelligence from the participating agencies, as well as state and federal resources, SIU actively tracks career criminals and habitual offenders who have committed crimes ranging from car break-ins to armed robbery. SIU Officers employ a variety of tactics to surveil and locate suspects throughout southeast Michigan. SIU is particularly adept at catching criminals in the act of committing an offense and quickly taking them into custody to face charges.

In 2016, SIU made 89 arrests, executed 15 search warrants, and conducted 76 surveillances. The following are some notable cases generated from complaints originating in Royal Oak.

- SIU was provided intelligence about a subject who had been caught on home security video stealing packages from front porches of homes around the holiday season. SIU began surveillance on the suspect and tracked him to a home in Pleasant Ridge. SIU officers observed him steal a package from the front porch and attempt to leave the area. Officers quickly moved in to arrest the suspect and impound his vehicle. During the arrest of the suspect, another stolen package from Oak Park was recovered. The suspect currently is facing several charges related to package thefts.

- In July and August, several reports were received by female customers at local restaurants and shopping centers who had their purses stolen. The Royal Oak Police Criminal Investigation Division provided SIU with a potential suspect and followed her to a fitness center in Beverly Hills. SIU Officers observed the suspect exit the business and begin to unlock cars in the parking lot with key fobs. SIU officers took the suspect into custody and the victims came forward to report their wallets and keys stolen. The suspect was ultimately charged and is tied to incidents in Royal Oak, Birmingham, Troy, Clawson, Madison Heights, and Taylor.

- During the spring and fall of 2016, SIU received intelligence about three separate crews of suspects breaking into vehicles and stealing navigation systems throughout the area. SIU conducted surveillance on two crews during the month of May and one crew in the month of September. Each time, SIU conducted surveillance and observed a pair of suspects steal navigation systems. Each time, SIU swiftly arrested and identified all the suspects involved. These investigations resulted in the arrest of six suspects and a significant interruption of this type of criminal activity occurring in Royal Oak, Troy, Auburn Hills, Birmingham, Berkley, Southfield, Madison Heights, and Warren.
Fostering a safe and secure environment for the staff and students of Royal Oak High School is one of many responsibilities of School Liaison Officer (SLO), Cathy Szydlowski. Since taking the position in 2014, Officer Szydlowski has continued to develop and maintain a professional working relationship with the students and staff at the High School. By meeting regularly with administrators, Officer Szydlowski employs an open communications model to her day-to-day operations in an effort to maintain strong relationships.

Providing a positive role model and frequent visibility for the students is essential to the SLO’s daily routine. Being available to work with school administrators, counselors, and social workers allows the students an avenue to address concerns promptly and professionally.

While Officer Szydlowski’s day-to-day tasks are primarily accomplished at the High School, she is also responsible for assisting with incidents occurring at other schools within Royal Oak. By networking amongst the staff and students in other schools, she lends her expertise to address issues throughout the district.

Officer Szydlowski frequently monitors various other safety related issues within the district. She observes activities in all the various public and private schools in the city when Fire, Tornado, and security drills are conducted and provides appropriate recommendations. Traffic issues which arise at a particular school are shared with the patrol division to ensure the safety of all visitors and students.

The SLO position reports directly to the Criminal Investigation Division. Working with investigators, prosecutors, and various juvenile outreach programs, the SLO can provide juveniles an opportunity to successfully overcome missteps. Officer Szydlowski also investigates and determines which course of action should be recommended in cases of minor criminal matters involving all juvenile offenses occurring within the city.
Additional SLO Duties

- Runaway Juvenile investigations
- Networking and sharing information with school principals and other agencies
- Attend ROHS and Churchill graduation ceremonies
- Attend various school sporting events, dances, parent-teacher conferences
- Homecoming / Prom / Senior all-night party committees
- Classroom presentations on various topics
- Arrange and assist with K-9 sweeps
- School Board – Attend and give testimony at expulsion hearings
- Daily Report review for matters involving High School students/family problems
- Assist school officials with residency verifications / investigations
- School surveillance camera system - monitor, review, facilitate repairs
- School parking lots – monitor, enforcement
- Truancy home visits
- Coordinating with County Juvenile Caseworkers
- Coordinating with Royal Oak Community Coalition
- Coordinating with Save Our Youth Taskforce
- Coordinating with Royal Oak Youth Assistance
- Return calls and emails from parents who initiate contact seeking advice

SLO Statistics

- Cases Assigned: 98
- Disciplinary Interviews attended: 20
  - Restitution collected: $1375.00
    - Violations issued: 12
- Juvenile Petitions sent out: 25
  - Diversion Cases: 25
  - Expulsion Hearings: 0
The Professional Standards Unit is comprised of one Lieutenant and one Sergeant who report directly to the Chief of Police. The unit is responsible for a variety of tasks including new employee background investigations, conducting internal investigations, processing and coordinating special event permits, coordinating departmental training and Liquor Control Commission investigations. The unit also performs many additional tasks assigned by the Chief of Police.

The Professional Standards Unit plays a key role in the selection process of new police department employees. In 2016, the unit conducted 50 police officer interviews, 14 police service aide interviews and several part-time police desk attendant and records clerk interviews.

The Professional Standards Unit took part in the background investigation and hiring process of 16 police department employees in 2016.

The professional Standards Unit processed and coordinated 46 special event permits submitted in 2016. These include recurring annual events such as Shakespeare in the Park, Royal Oak in Bloom, the Oak Apple Run and the Holiday Magic Parade. Many are one-time events such as grand opening events at new local businesses. In addition, the unit processed 74 special event permits related to the Woodward Dream Cruise.

A very important duty of the Professional Standards Unit is the coordination of the Field Training Officer Unit. This unit is responsible for the training of new officers. Each new officer must successfully complete 17 weeks of training which consists of riding with a field training officer (FTO) every day. The FTO’s evaluate the new recruits in categories ranging from orientation and report writing to officer safety and decision making. The Professional Standards Unit meets with the new recruits and training officers on a weekly basis to evaluate their progress.
The Royal Oak Police Department is committed to providing training to department personnel as a means to advance the employees’ professional growth and competence while enhancing the overall ability of the department to provide improved service to the community.

**In-service Training** includes annual instruction to all personnel in such areas as firearms, pathogen exposure, first aid and CPR, and defensive tactics, etc. The figures below represent total hours per officer.

**Advanced Training** includes individualized instruction in areas such as interview and interrogation, accident investigation, search and seizure, incident command, radar operation, breathalyzer operation, surveillance techniques, specialized investigation courses, etc. The figures below represent total hours training for all department personnel during the year.

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<tr>
<td>In-Service (total department training hours per officer)</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advanced training hours (for all personnel)</td>
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<td>3,988</td>
<td>3,199</td>
<td>1,963</td>
<td>1,809</td>
<td>2,593</td>
<td>4,220</td>
<td>3,388</td>
<td>4,596</td>
<td>4,003</td>
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The Royal Oak Police Department has several specialized units with instructors dedicated to training our officers in-house. They include Firearms, Defensive Tactics, Police Motorcycle, Police Mountain Bike Patrol, Field Training Officers and Communication Training Officers to name a few. These instructors ensure our officers remain certified according to state mandates.
Mayor Visits In-Service Training

During a recent in-service training session, our new Mayor, Michael Fournier, stopped by to address our staff. He used this time to introduce himself and answered questions from the police officers in attendance. Mayor Fournier offered his support to the men and women of the police department and encouraged everyone to keep up the good work.

Fair and Impartial Policing

In 2016, the Royal Oak Police Department sent three officers to become certified to teach Fair & Impartial Policing, which was specifically designed to assist officers in recognizing and then overcoming personal biases. These officers from the Royal Oak Police Department coordinated with other officers from the Troy Police Department and Shelby Township Police Department, thereby becoming the forerunner in bringing this innovative training and mindset to Southeastern Michigan. These officers trained over 330 law enforcement personnel in the concepts of Fair & Impartial Policing from Royal Oak, Troy and Shelby Township police departments.

The fundamental premise behind Fair & Impartial Policing is a new way of thinking about the issue of biased policing. It is based on the science of bias, which tells us that biased policing is not, as some contend, due to widespread racism in policing. In fact, the science explains that even well-intentioned humans (and thus, officers) manifest biases that can impact on their perceptions and behavior. Some social psychologists have shown that “implicit” or “unconscious” bias can impact what people perceive and do, even in people who consciously hold non-prejudiced attitudes. The implication of the science is that even the best law enforcement officers may manifest bias because they are human, and even the best agencies, because they hire humans, must be proactive in producing fair & impartial policing. As such, the Royal Oak Police Department proactively took steps to ensure its officers received training in this innovative area and continue to exemplify our Core Values of Integrity, Service, Courage, Compassion, and Loyalty.
Royal Oak Police Department
Training

Firearms and Range Unit

Defensive Tactics Unit

Field Training Unit
Four Royal Oak officers are currently part of the Southeast Oakland SWAT Team. This is a multi-jurisdiction, special response team consisting of officers from Royal Oak, Ferndale, Madison Heights, Berkley and Hazel Park. The Southeast Oakland SWAT Team officers have their everyday responsibilities in patrol, detective bureau, or other assignments and are on call when needed for an emergency. Officers come from five different police departments and bring a variety skills and training to the overall makeup of the team.

The Southeast Oakland SWAT team has incorporated a partnership with Alliance ambulance service. Alliance provides the SWAT team with trained tactical medics who attend training and respond to call outs with the rest of the team.

The Southeast Oakland SWAT Team is utilized to handle dangerous situations such as barricaded gunmen, high risk search warrants, and assist outside agencies when requested.

In order to be accepted to the Southeast Oakland SWAT Team, officers must attend and pass one of the states most rigorous and intense tactical training academies. The team trains on a monthly basis and requires officers to pass regular proficiency tests in weapons, chemical munitions and fitness. There is also a Sniper section within the team and those officers have additional monthly training to stay proficient. Additionally, the Southeast Oakland SWAT Team has 3 crisis negotiators assigned to the team.

In 2016, the team was utilized during one incident. The team assisted Ferndale Police with a large protest. The crowd was peaceful and the team did not have to fully deploy.
The Royal Oak Auxiliary Police is a volunteer corps that augments the Royal Oak Police Department by performing uniformed foot, vehicle and bicycle patrols. The auxiliary unit is comprised of service oriented men and women who volunteer their valuable time to assist us in providing uniformed patrol. They are trained and equipped by the Police Department. They are trained to observe and report conditions requiring police services. Whenever possible, they assist in non-enforcement and non-hazardous duties. The following are some areas in which the Auxiliary Police assist the Police Department:

- Conducting residential, schools and commercial business checks
- Assist with community festivals, parades, concerts, street fairs, and park patrols
- Crime prevention activities
- Traffic control when needed at intersections with malfunctioning signals
- Pick up abandoned bicycles
- Residential vacation checks
- Royal Oak High School sporting events
- Report unsightly graffiti on businesses throughout city
- Respond to scenes during natural disasters, protecting citizens from areas with downed lines and fallen trees

The auxiliary members are made up of men and women from all backgrounds; their dedication is paramount to the success to most of our festivals and events that take place on a weekly basis throughout the fair-weather months. They can be seen at the various runs, walks, the flower sales and festivals that take place downtown. They also patrol at sporting events, zoo events, Woodward Dream Cruise and Arts, Beats and Eats.

We are always looking for additional volunteers to join the Auxiliary team!

We have members that have dedicated 10, 20, 30 and even 50 years with the unit.
The Royal Oak Police Chaplain Program works in conjunction with ROPD patrol officers to assist in providing support and comfort to residents, primarily when they are in a time of great need. They also provide support for officers within the department in the form of counseling and guidance with their professional and personal matters. The Chaplains have even performed marriages for some of the officers as well.

The nine members of the chaplain program come from a variety of religious denominations, including: Catholic, Jewish, Non-denominational and Christian. The program stresses a non-denominational approach to the ministry that they provide, but with the variety of backgrounds we are able to accommodate some residents with Chaplains of their personal faith.

The chaplains are volunteers that donate their time to the city and the department. This valuable time includes attending monthly meetings and being available for “on-call” duty seven days a week. The chaplains also perform regular ride-alongs with the officers to familiarize themselves with the officers that they support.

The chaplains also act as liaisons with other religious leaders in the community by communicating the needs of the homeless populations and civic functions to the police department.

During 2016, the chaplains performed admirably in assisting with the delivery of death notifications, counseling grieving families who experienced tragedy, and ministering to the officers of the Royal Oak Police Department.
Royal Oak Police Department
Other Units and Resources

Police Motor Unit

Police Honor Guard Unit

Police Mountain Bike Unit
The Woodward Dream Cruise started in 1995 as a fundraiser to raise money for a local soccer field. A group of Woodward Avenue business owners got together and devised a plan to hold a “cruise” down Woodward.

22 years later, the cruise has grown exponentially and gained significant corporate sponsors. The Woodward Dream Cruise is billed as the largest one-day car show in the world. It is also known as the largest car cruise in the world, attracting over 40,000 muscle cars, street rods, custom, collector, and special interest vehicles. The cruise route embraces 16 miles, running from the State Fair Grounds in Detroit all the way to Pontiac, with an estimated 1.5 million spectators. Of these 1.5 million spectators, close to 1 million of them line Woodward Avenue between 10 Mile and 14 Mile Roads, the majority of which is the City of Royal Oak. Though the event is billed as a one-day event, it has expanded to an unofficial week long event.

The City of Royal Oak is the epicenter for this event. The Dream Cruise originated in Royal Oak. It is in Royal Oak that a majority of the corporate sponsors lease space to showcase their products. Additionally, it is near Woodward and 13 Mile where the greatest concentration of people collect.

The Royal Oak Police Department takes on a leadership role to coordinate and direct all law enforcement meetings associated with the Dream Cruise. This year was no exception. The meetings include not only local law enforcement directly affected by the Dream Cruise, but also included are the FBI, Oakland County Sheriffs Office, MSP, Oakland County Emergency Management and Oakland County Department of Health and Human Service, and the National Weather Service.
Responsibility for coordinating the law enforcement assets for the Dream Cruise requires much more than calling a few meetings or scheduling a few officers. The planning phase incorporates everything from coordinating amateur radio assistance to checking and approving Special Event Permits to organizing support from dozens of other police departments. It requires managing volunteers, providing lodging for our weekend prisoners and everything in between. This planning process involves hundreds of hours of commitment for the police department and its administration. This commitment and dedication to the planning effort has ensured a safe family-oriented environment for everyone to enjoy for over 20 years.
Royal Oak hosted the annual Ford Arts, Beats & Eats over the Labor Day weekend. Over 415,000 people attended this very popular event in 2016 and over $350,000 was raised for local charities. The festival is located in our downtown and offers highly-regarded fine art exhibits, more than 200 live performances on ten stages and local restaurants showcasing their cuisine.

For the second year in a row, Mother Nature cooperated and gave us beautiful weather.

Similar to preparing for the Dream Cruise, Arts, Beats & Eats involves extensive planning and coordination with outside agencies. The Michigan State Police, Oakland County Sheriff Office, CN Railway, and several other area departments send staff to supplement our resources.

This was the seventh year Royal Oak has hosted this event and this department has continuously tweaked and revised the operational plan to ensure the event is safe, secure and enjoyable for those who attend.
Royal Oak Charity Golf Event

In August, the Royal Oak Police Department hosted their fourth annual charity golf outing at Red Run Country Club. Once again, the business community in Royal Oak came together and generously donated their time and resources to this great event. Over 140 participants experienced the best of what Royal Oak has to offer while raising money for a very worthy cause. With the exception of a short rain shower, the weather was great. The Royal Oak Police Department would like to thank all those who participated in this event. Your participation allowed us to raise over $29,000. One-hundred percent of the proceeds from this event went to The Boys and Girls Club of Royal Oak.
Guns and Hoses Charity Event

Now in its seventh year, the Royal Oak Guns & Hoses Charity Hockey Game has raised $47,500 for charitable causes in the Metro Detroit area, including beneficiaries such as the Canine Advocacy Program, Michigan Warriors Hockey, Autism ASK and others.

Created in 2010 by Royal Oak Police Department Sergeant Patrick Stanton and Royal Oak Fire Department Firefighter Tony Cattini as a means of giving back to the community, the game features teams comprised of Royal Oak Police Officers and Firefighters in an annual battle for department bragging rights. In 2016, nearly 400 fans witnessed the Royal Oak Police Department beat the Royal Oak Fire Department by a score of 9-2 to take a 4-2 series lead.

While the Royal Oak Police Department took a commanding lead in the series, the real champion continues to be the residents and businesses of Royal Oak, who enthusiastically support the event. This support was no more evident than in 2016, when the Royal Oak community came together to raise $15,000 for the family of fallen Michigan State Police Trooper Chad Wolf.
2016 Royal Oak Police Department
Grant Awards

Throughout 2016, the Royal Oak Police Department applied for, and was awarded, a number of different grants and awards that were provided at the state and federal level. Listed below is a summation of these grants and what they encompassed.

1) $13,700 received from the Office of Highway Safety to enforce the “DRIVE SOBER OR GET PULLED OVER” campaign.

2) $7,400 received from the U.S. Department of Justice-Office of Justice Programs to assist in the purchasing of bulletproof vests for our officers.

3) $12,500 received from the Office of Highway Safety Planning to execute an Underage Drinking Enforcement detail.

2016 Royal Oak Police Department
Citizen Complaints and Lawsuits

It is the policy of the Royal Oak Police Department to accept and investigate any complaints of employee misconduct or wrongdoing. This department is committed to providing law enforcement services that are consistent with our Mission Statement and Core Values. The complaint procedure provides citizens with a meaningful and effective avenue for legitimate complaints against a member of the Police Department. It is the intention of the Police Department to encourage public support and confidence through the assurance of a fair and thorough investigation of all complaints.

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<td>Total Complaints</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>7</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>8</td>
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<td>12</td>
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<td>Excessive or Unnecessary Force / Assault Complaints</td>
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<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
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<td>Total Lawsuits</td>
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It is a great privilege to introduce some of the staff of the Royal Oak Police Department who stood out in 2016. These individuals were nominated by their peers or supervisors for exceptional performance. Following the April 12, 2017 meeting of the Citation Review Board, we are pleased to announce the names of award recipients.

2016 Award Recipients are as Follows:

**OFFICER OF THE YEAR**
Officer Kyle Adair

**LIFESAVING AWARD**
For an incident on June 8, 2016
Officer Joe Francis

**DISTINGUISHED SERVICE**
Lieutenant Dave Van Ness
Officer Rob Spellman
Detective Rich Millard

**MERITORIOUS SERVICE**
For the investigation and conviction of a homicide suspect
Detective Tim Wood
Detective Matt Murray

For an incident on May 31, 2016
Kyle Adair

For an incident on July 14, 2016
Officer Brian Black
Officer Jim Wern
Officer Dan Pelletier
Officer Andre Steinke
Officer Mike Clement

For an incident on September 2, 2016
Officer Rich Chipman
2016 Award Recipients are as Follows:

UNIT CITATION

For an incident on March 20, 2016
Lieutenant Dave Clemens
Sergeant Don Swiatkowski
Detective David Szlezyngier
Detective Carl Barretto
Detective Don van Ochten
Detective Tim Wood
Detective Matt Murray
Detective Bret Nelson
Detective Rich Millard

For work efforts in fair and impartial police training
Sergeant Dave Budzynowski
Officer Mike Paramo
Officer Kevin Cavanagh

CERTIFICATE OF COMMENDATION

For an incident on September 3, 2016
Detective Bret Nelson
Officer Mike Paramo

LETTER OF RECOGNITION

For an incident on July 14, 2016
Officer Jim Stehlin
Officer Keith Bierenga
Officer Matt Bobek

For an incident on September 24, 2016
Officer Dominick Catanese
Officer Dave Ratliff
2016 Award Recipients are as Follows:

**LETTER OF RECOGNITION (continued)**

For an incident on December 11, 2016  
Officer Mike Stajich  
Officer Corey Stiers

**CUSTOMER SERVICE AWARD**  
Officer Ryan Spangler