

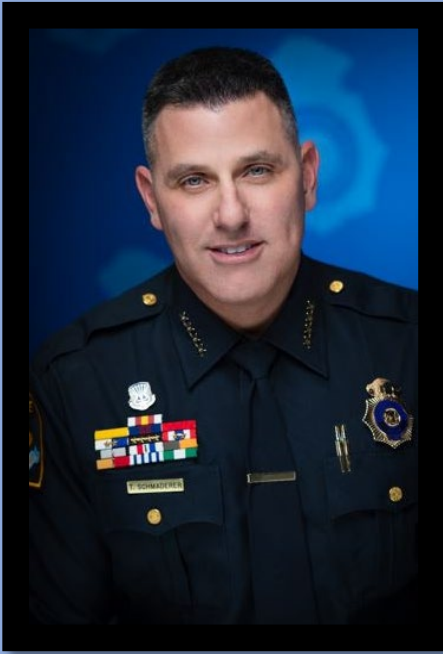
OMAHA POLICE DEPARTMENT

ANNUAL REPORT 2021



This monument represents the men and women of the Omaha Police Department and their families. Since 1887, this organization has served and protected our community in order that we may all live in a free and safe society. It is with love and appreciation that the Omaha Police Department honors

MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF



On behalf of the dedicated men and women of the Omaha Police Department (OPD), I am proud to present the department's 2021 Annual Report. This report discusses some of OPD's most important accomplishments and describes the vital role this department plays in the Omaha community. Although the COVID pandemic continued in 2021, OPD served Omaha tirelessly, with the pandemic only minimally affecting the department's normal operations.

OPD is a progressive law enforcement agency comprised of an excellent group of people who work diligently to serve the Omaha community and ensure its residents are safe. I have been with OPD for more than 26 years, with 10 of those years as Chief of Police. Prior to being Chief, I was a Deputy Chief, Traffic Unit Captain, Southwest Precinct Captain, Training Academy Commander, Criminal Investigations Bureau Lieutenant, Uniform Patrol Lieutenant, Uniform Patrol Sergeant, and Uniform Patrol Officer. Omaha is an amazing community, and the men and women of

OPD are a special group of people, which is why I have chosen to stay with OPD for so long.

Diversity and inclusion are very important to Omaha and the department, and OPD continues to hire people from diverse backgrounds. OPD's representative groups, such as the Black Police Officers Association, Latino Police Officers Association, Nebraska Association of Women Police, and several others, have helped in the recruiting process. These efforts have proved successful and the recruit class for 2021 was the most diverse in the history of the department.

OPD has always had a strong pride in police-community relations, and we feel it is the best way to reduce crime and improve quality of life in Omaha. OPD encourages its officers to participate in community events and community associations so that good relationships can be established between the community and the department. OPD's leaders also do their best to be involved with community events and associations, including organizations like the Empowerment Network and Omaha 360. The department also supports efforts to increase economic opportunities for areas of Omaha affected the most by poverty. We believe having more jobs in areas with higher poverty rates will reduce crime far more effectively than solely adding more officers. The collaboration between the Omaha community and OPD over the last 10 years has helped to reduce crime rates significantly and it has increased clearance rates to levels often above the national average.

Thank you for taking the time to learn more about OPD through the 2021 Annual Report. If we can be of any assistance to you, please do not hesitate to reach out to us.

Respectfully,

Todd R. Schmaderer, Chief of Police

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ABOUT US – A SNAPSHOT

The City of Omaha Marshal's Office was established in 1857 and in 1887 it transformed into the Omaha Police Department (OPD). OPD began with only a handful of officers and no non-sworn employees, but it currently has more than 1,000 employees, including over 900 sworn officers. When OPD first started, officers did not have uniforms and they utilized horse propulsion to patrol the streets. Today, all OPD officers are provided with uniforms and equipment, and while horses are still used, the main means of transportation for officers is by police cruiser or motorcycle. At OPD's inception, officers were responsible for investigating all types of crimes and there were no specialized forces or divisions. Today, OPD has 6 overarching bureaus, including the Criminal Investigations Bureau, Executive Services Bureau, Police Services Bureau, Professional Oversight Bureau, Technical and Reporting Services Bureau, and Uniform Patrol Bureau. These 6 bureaus oversee a combined 11 sections and 114 subsections, which all have their own expertise and specialized training. In recent years, the Professional Oversight Bureau was created to provide greater oversight for officers and internal affairs reviews. The Behavioral Health and Wellness Unit was also established in recent years to better assist the community with mental and/or behavioral health needs, and to provide officers with various types of support. OPD has experienced many changes throughout its history, which has only made the department and the City of Omaha stronger and better.

OPD's Motto

The motto of OPD is "To Serve and Protect!"

OPD's Mission Statement

"The Omaha Police Department, in partnership with our community, provides impartial, transparent, ethical, and professional law enforcement service and guardianship. We strive to maintain the trust and confidence of our citizens and employees while working to improve the quality of life."

OPD's Vision Statement

OPD's vision is to provide an environment that results in the reduction of crime and fear of crime; to improve public confidence and transparency where appropriate; enhance customer service; maximize efficiency through resource and technology allocation; and to provide opportunities for personal and professional growth for employees, including for their mental and physical well-being.

OPD vehicle from the 1940s



OPD vehicle from 2021



WORKFORCE DETAILS IN 2021

On December 31, 2021, OPD was staffed by 1,077 employees. 911 of those employees were sworn and 166 were non-sworn. The tables below illustrate the race/ethnicity and gender of OPD's employees in 2021.

Sworn Employees Totals

Race/Ethnicity	Males	Male %	Females	Female %
Black	77	8.45%	13	1.43%
White	589	64.65%	111	12.18%
Hispanic	78	8.56%	19	2.09%
Native American/Alaskan Native	5	0.55%	2	0.22%
Asian/Pacific Islander	13	1.43%	3	0.33%
Other	1	0.11%	0	0%
Totals	763	83.75%	148	16.25%

Non-Sworn Employees Totals

Race/Ethnicity	Males	Male %	Females	Female %
Black	4	2.41%	6	3.61%
White	44	26.51%	94	56.63%
Hispanic	3	1.81%	10	6.02%
Native American/Alaskan Native	0	0%	0	0%
Asian/Pacific Islander	2	1.2%	3	1.81%
Other	0	0%	0	0%
Totals	53	31.93%	113	68.07%

*According to the U.S. Census Bureau, the Omaha population in 2021 was 66.2% White, 14.1% Hispanic or Latino, 12.1% Black or African American, 4.0% Asian, 0.5% Native American or Alaskan Native, and 5.0% Two or More Races.

OFFENSES, CLEARANCES, AND OTHER IMPORTANT STATISTICS FOR 2021

Included below are some of Omaha's crime statistics for 2021. Additional crime statistics can be found on the OPD website, under the ["Crime Information"](#) tab.

Non-Fatal Shootings and Homicides by Precinct

Precinct	Non-Fatal Shooting Victims	Homicide Victims
Northeast	67	13
Northwest	30	7
Southeast	20	8
Southwest	8	1
West	5	3
Total	130	32

**81% of homicides were cleared by OPD in 2021. This means someone was arrested for the crime.

Major Crime

	Rape	Burglary	Robbery	Aggravated Assault	Theft	Auto Theft
Totals	373	1,477	379	2,045	11,659	2,807
Clearance Rates	214 (57%)	213 (14%)	156 (41%)	1,115 (55%)	2,547 (22%)	528 (19%)

**The phrase "clearance rates" in the table above means that a suspect was arrested for the crime.

Gangs

	New Gang Members	Suspected Gang Members	Suspected Number of Gangs
Totals	114	2,996	87
Percent Change from 2020	-60% (decrease)	-6% (decrease)	0% (no change)

Gang Arrests by Crime

Type of Crime	Arrests
Criminal Homicide	13
Rape	9
Robbery	33
Aggravated Assault	5
Burglary	11
Larceny-Theft	104
Auto Theft	0
Possession with Intent to Deliver Narcotics	8
Firearms	205
Domestic Violence	32
Totals	420

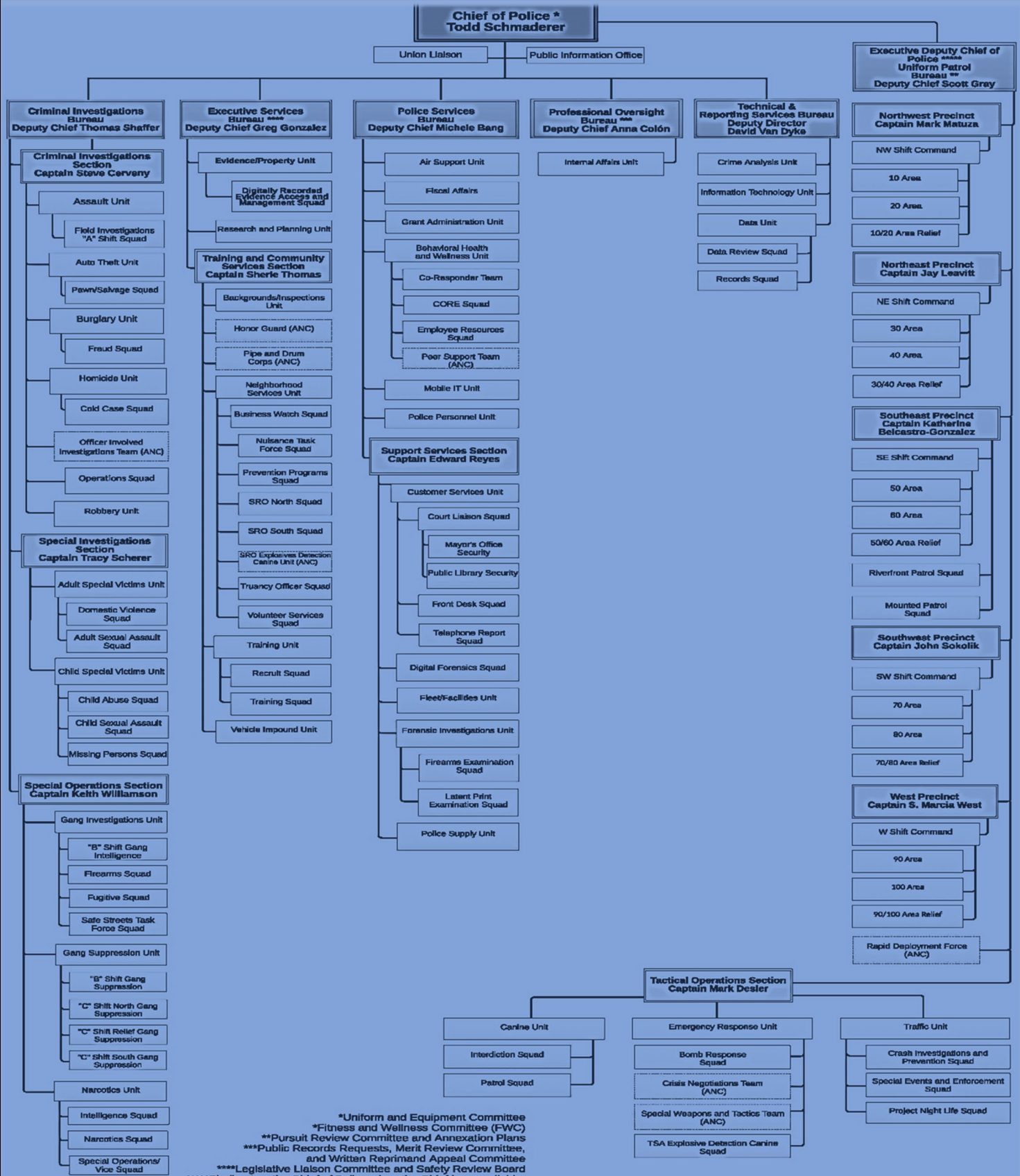
Felony Drug Arrests

Type of Drug	Arrest Totals
Cocaine	104
Crack	19
Ecstasy	33
Marijuana	187
Meth	670
Heroin	7
LSD	5
Other	105

911 Calls for Service

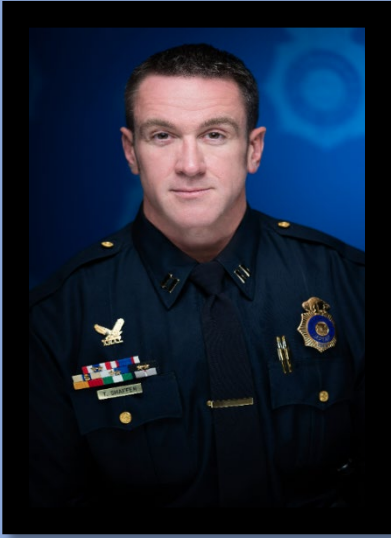
911 Calls Received	Daily Call Average	Priority 1 Call Response Time Average	Priority 2 Call Response Time Average
265,605	728	5:33 (minutes: seconds)	11:46 (minutes: seconds)

ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE IN 2021



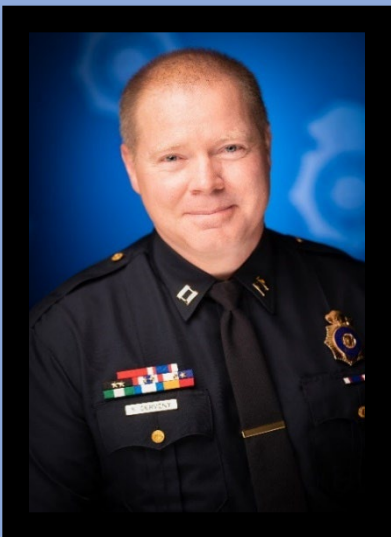
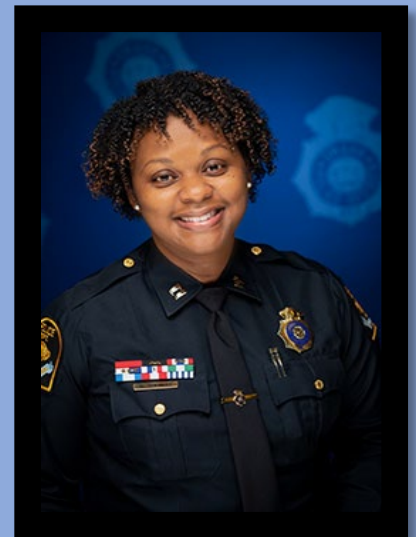
*Uniform and Equipment Committee
 **Fitness and Wellness Committee (FWC)
 ***Pursuit Review Committee and Annexation Plans
 ****Public Records Requests, Merit Review Committee, and Written Reprimand Appeal Committee
 *****Legislative Liaison Committee and Safety Review Board
 *****Shall act as the Chief of Police when the Chief is unavailable.

BUREAU COMMANDERS



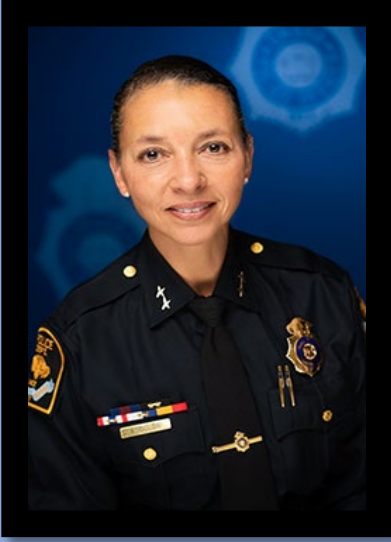
Thomas Shaffer is the Deputy Chief of the Criminal Investigations Bureau, effective December 2021. He held various roles in the Criminal Investigations Section prior to this role. He also previously worked in the Uniform Patrol Bureau and Emergency Response Unit. He has been with the department since 1998. Kenneth Kanger was the Deputy Chief of the Criminal Investigations Bureau for most of 2021.

Sherie Thomas is the Deputy Chief of the Executive Services Bureau, effective January 2022. Prior to this role, she was the Captain of the Training and Community Services Section. She has also been a Sergeant and a Lieutenant in various units, including the Training Unit and Internal Affairs. She has been with the department since 1998. Greg Gonzalez was the Deputy Chief of the Executive Services Bureau in 2021 and he retired in 2022.



Steve Cerveney is the Deputy Chief of the Police Services Bureau, effective June 2022. He has been with the department since 1998. He was the Captain of the Criminal Investigations Section prior to becoming Deputy Chief of the Police Services Bureau and he has worked in the Uniform Patrol Bureau as well. Michele Bang was the Deputy Chief of this Bureau in 2021 and she retired in 2022.

BUREAU COMMANDERS CONTINUED...



Anna Colón is the Deputy Chief of the Professional Oversight Bureau, effective March 2021. She has been with the department since 1999. She was Captain in the Special Investigations Section prior to being Deputy Chief. She has worked in the Northeast Precinct, Northwest Precinct, Gang Unit, and Homicide Unit.

David Van Dyke is the Deputy Director of the Technical and Reporting Services Bureau. He began working for OPD in June of 2019. He worked with OPD as a contractor on several large projects before he was officially hired with OPD. He previously worked in the private sector where he gained extensive IT experience.



Scott Gray is the Executive Deputy Chief of the Uniform Patrol Bureau, effective July 2018. He held various command roles in the Uniform Patrol Bureau prior to being Executive Deputy Chief. He also commanded the Training Unit and helped establish the Rapid Deployment Force Squad. He has been with OPD since 1996.

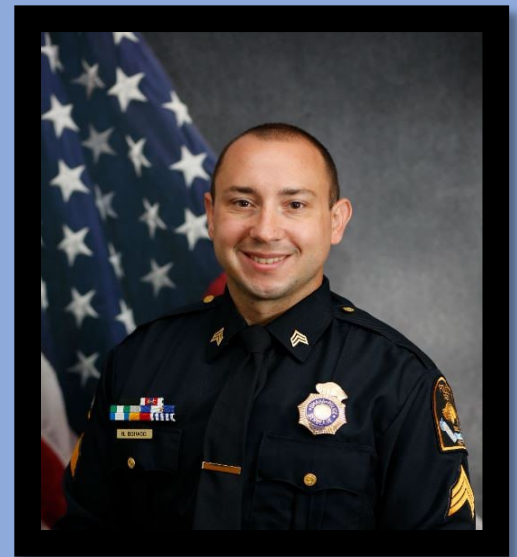
CHIEF'S OFFICE



The Chief's Office is responsible for managing OPD's policies, rules, and regulations. The Chief (pictured left) makes certain that all duties imposed upon OPD are discharged completely. The Chief also manages the OPD budget, allocates personnel, oversees internal affairs investigations, collaborates with the community on various community-related issues, and is responsible for many other important duties. The Chief reports directly to the Mayor. The Chief's Office also includes the Public Information Office (PIO) and Union Liaison.

PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE

The Public Information Office (PIO) is commanded by a Lieutenant and includes several officers. In 2021, this office distributed daily press releases to the media and conducted interviews with the media or arranged interviews with the media and OPD employees. The PIO also made on-scene statements at high profile crimes scenes and facilitated public service announcements on local radio stations or through social media outlets regarding crime prevention information. This office organized all promotional ceremonies and retirement ceremonies. The PIO also managed OPD blood drives with the American Red Cross. The office oversaw the Crime Stoppers Program, which is a program that allows citizens to give anonymous crime tips. The PIO trained command staff and new recruits on issues related to media relations and social media. The PIO also managed OPD's social media pages (such as Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, LinkedIn, and YouTube) and OPD's website. In 2021, the PIO attended the Crime Stoppers Officer of the Year Ceremony, Omaha Police Foundation Officer of the Year Awards Ceremony, Blue Mass Ceremony, Omaha 360 meetings, Drug Take Back Day, Gun and Fireworks Amnesty Day, and the Septemberfest Parade.



Current PIO Lieutenant, Neal Bonacci

UNION LIAISON

The Union Liaison is a full-time Union representative assigned to the Chief's Office who conducts the affairs of the Omaha Police Officer's Association. The Liaison is selected by the Omaha Police Officer's Association. The person in this position cannot hold a rank greater than that of a Sergeant. The Liaison is chosen once a year and the Union advises the Chief around May 1 of each year who the Liaison will be. The Liaison works on all things related to Union duties and the representation of OPD's sworn employees.

CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS BUREAU

The Criminal Investigations Bureau (CIB) is commanded by a Deputy Chief. The CIB conducts 24-hour investigations of criminal activity. This bureau includes the Criminal Investigations Section, the Special Investigations Section, and the Special Operations Section. Each section has sub-sections or units that have their own area of expertise.

CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS SECTION

The Criminal Investigations Section (CIS) is commanded by a Captain and includes the Assault Unit, Auto Theft Unit, Burglary Unit, Homicide Unit, Officer Involved Investigations Team, and Robbery Unit. These units are composed of non-sworn employees, and sworn detectives, sergeants, and lieutenants.

ASSAULT UNIT

The Assault Unit investigates most assault crimes, including non-fatal shootings, non-fatal stabbings, fights, or anything similar that is non-fatal. However, crimes related to domestic violence and sexual assault are investigated by other units. The Assault Unit's officers are key members of the Threat Assessment Team and the Douglas County School Threat Assessment Team (DSTAT). This unit also has a Field Investigations "A" Shift Squad that is an integral part of investigating felony assaults between the hours of 2300-0700.

In 2021, the Assault Unit dealt with four times the amount of school threats compared to years prior, but with successful investigation, no incidents arose from these threats. This unit worked closely with the School Resource Officers (SROs), school staff, and the community to investigate the threats. Some of the school threats were made via social media and were re-postings from national threat trends. One of the threats was investigated in collaboration with the FBI. In December 2021, there were nearly 100 calls for school threats. The Assault Unit also investigated school fights at local high schools. The school fights were all successfully investigated.

This unit also investigated several serious incidents involving assaults on officers. Two incidents involved gang officers being shot at and another involved an officer being dragged by a vehicle. A fourth incident involved Officer Wittstruck (pictured right), who was shot in the face and head during the investigation of a shoplifting at Westroads Mall. Officer Wittstruck has recovered and has since been able to come back to work as an officer.



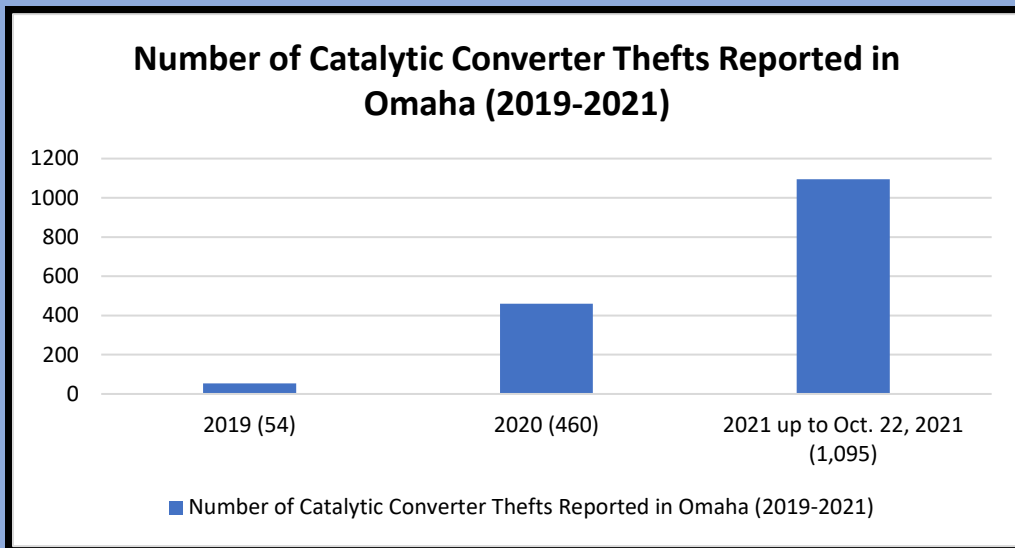
AUTO THEFT UNIT

The Auto Theft Unit includes the Auto Theft Squad and the Pawn/Salvage Squad. In 2021, this unit focused on arresting offenders who were known to repeatedly steal motor vehicles and they worked closely with the County Attorney's Office to ensure successful prosecution of these offenders. The unit also had one of its detectives investigate and follow-up on all catalytic converter thefts in the city. This detective worked with the Pawn/Salvage Squad and the Burglary Unit to identify trends in the ongoing catalytic converter theft epidemic. The information that was gathered about catalytic converter thefts was shared with surrounding jurisdictions and the collaboration

resulted in the arrest of several offenders that had repeatedly committed such thefts in Omaha and surrounding areas. There were a total of 30 arrests for catalytic converter thefts in 2021. The Pawn/Salvage Squad also collaborated with the City of Omaha’s legal offices, the City Council, and the State Legislature to make changes to city ordinances and state statutes surrounding the possession and selling of catalytic converters.

Auto Theft Unit - Notable Statistics 2021

- \$269,345 worth of stolen items recovered by Pawn/Salvage Squad and returned to rightful owners
- 196 less cars stolen in 2021 compared to 2020
- 3,044 auto thefts investigated
- 4,588 other thefts investigated
- 18% clearance rate for auto thefts, which is double the national clearance rate



BURGLARY UNIT

The Burglary Unit investigates crimes pertaining to shoplifters, home thefts, and other types of thefts. This unit works with the Auto Theft Unit and other units as needed to solve crimes. The Burglary Unit identified and arrested multiple burglary and theft suspects in 2021 that were later identified as being involved in other serious crimes, including assaults, robberies, gang activities, domestic violence incidents, and auto theft incidents. One achievement of the unit in 2021 is when it identified a series of residential burglaries that were occurring in Midtown Omaha. The suspects involved in this series were entering residences and stealing vehicle keys, then stealing the vehicles and breaking into other vehicles parked on the street. The Burglary Unit worked closely with the County Attorney’s Office to adjudicate the suspects involved in this series of residential burglaries.

Burglary Unit Statistics 2021

- 7,399 property crimes investigated
- 1,580 burglaries reported and reviewed – decrease of 6% since 2020
- 467 theft arrests
- 91 arrests/clearances for burglaries
- 80 total arrest warrants

- 298 destruction of property clearances
- 141 crime scene bulletins created
- 13% total clearance rate for all crimes investigated



In July 2021, Burglary Unit Detective Jennie Scanlon won “Super Sleuth” of the month for her hard work, including her work in helping solve the series of burglaries occurring in Midtown Omaha.

HOMICIDE UNIT

The Homicide Unit investigates all homicides in the Omaha area, often in collaboration with the Forensic Investigations Unit, the Gang Units, and the FBI. Homicide investigations are extremely complex, often requiring long hours and extensive amounts of time to properly solve the crimes. The Omaha area experienced 32 homicides in 2021. Thirty-one of these homicides were investigated by the Homicide Unit and 1 was investigated by the Child Special Victims Unit (CSVU). The Homicide Unit was successful in its mission to solve these crimes with an end-of-year clearance rate of 81.25%, which is well above the national average. Homicide rates for Omaha decreased in 2021 and clearance rates increased, which indicates that OPD’s community policing practices and enforcement efforts have been effective.

The Homicide Unit also focused on community engagement in 2021. Several detectives were Adjunct Instructors at OPD’s Training Academy and they instructed the new recruits on investigative techniques. This unit also participated in events hosted by the Latino Police Officers Association, Black Police Officers Association, and Omaha Police Officers Association. Several detectives volunteered with Police Athletics for Community Engagement (PACE), Scouts BSA (formerly known as Boys Scouts of America), and local pet rescue organizations. The unit conducted community presentations for elementary classes, junior high classes, and college classes at Wayne State College. The Homicide Unit also collaborated with Douglas County Attorney’s Office, Douglas County Victim/Witness Assistance Office, and community members to create the Homicide Support Group. The Homicide Support Group was designed to provide better care for families of homicide victims through grief counseling and other services, and the group is expected to officially launch sometime in 2022.

Notable Homicide Investigations 2021

- Closed 2 homicide cases from previous years
- Clearance of 2-double homicides from March and June 2021. The suspects are awaiting trial
- Clearance of the murder of 61-year-old Jolene Harshbarger, who was murdered in her residence
- Clearance of the murder of 14-year-old Isabella Santiago, who was killed during a shooting just before Christmas
- Clearance of the 2020 murder of Ebony King (pictured right), a local mother of 3, who was killed inside her residence



ROBBERY UNIT

The Robbery Unit investigates all local robberies. This unit sometimes collaborates with other law enforcement agencies and with the FBI to solve robberies when criminals have violated federal laws. The unit also works closely with the Crime Stoppers Program to generate tips from the public to help solve robberies. The tips provide the unit with suspect information and tipsters sometimes receive cash payouts for their help. In 2021, the Robbery Unit investigated approximately 400 reported robbery incidents. This number includes robberies of individuals, business/commercial robberies, and bank robberies. The robbery clearance rate for 2021 was 41%, which is above the national average. There were only 5 bank robberies in 2021, and the unit attributes the low numbers to their collaboration with the FBI and their Federal Task Force Liaison Officers. Several of the Robbery Unit's officers attended in-person trainings and did a variety of presentations to school and community groups.



SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS SECTION

The Special Investigations Section (SIS) is commanded by a Captain and includes the Adult Special Victims Unit and the Child Special Victims Unit. Each of these units includes multiple squads that are composed of non-sworn employees, and sworn detectives, sergeants, and lieutenants.

ADULT SPECIAL VICTIMS UNIT

The Adult Special Victims Unit (ASVU) includes the Domestic Violence Squad and Adult Sexual Assault Squad. These squads investigate all crimes in the Omaha area pertaining to domestic violence and adult sexual assaults, sometimes in conjunction with other units or other law enforcement agencies. The Domestic Violence Squad investigated a total of 4,809 cases in 2021, which resulted in 1,624 misdemeanor arrests and 389 felony arrests. This unit also applied for 1,532 misdemeanor warrants and 724 felony warrants.

The unit made several notable arrests in 2021. The first involved a suspect who was arrested and charged with misdemeanor sexual assault, attempted sexual assault, and attempted kidnapping. Another significant arrest was of a suspect who engaged in lewd conduct. This suspect was also arrested by the Douglas County Sheriff's Office for child enticement. Another suspect was arrested for a series of attempted sexual assaults, burglary, and trespassing. The last notable arrest was that of suspect who was arrested for lewd conduct.

One of the ASVU's detectives, Shannon Knuth (pictured right), won the Crime Stoppers "Officer of the Year" Award in May 2021. She won this award because of her exemplary work in investigating a series of sexual assaults. During her investigation, she tied at least 12 victims to 1 suspect. The suspect was arrested and charged with several felony counts.



CHILD SPECIAL VICTIMS UNIT

The Child Special Victims Unit (CSVU) includes the Child Abuse Squad, Child Sexual Assault Squad, and Missing Persons Squad. This unit investigates all incidents involving children, including human trafficking of minors and/or sex trafficking of minors. The CSVU often works with the FBI to solve their cases and other community agencies to solve crimes against children, including Project Harmony and the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services-Child Protection Services.



SPECIAL OPERATIONS SECTION

The Special Operations Section (SOS) is commanded by a Captain. The SOS includes the Gang Investigations Unit, Gang Suppression Unit, and Narcotics Unit. These units are composed of non-sworn employees, and sworn detectives, sergeants, and lieutenants.

GANG INVESTIGATIONS UNIT AND GANG SUPPRESSION UNIT

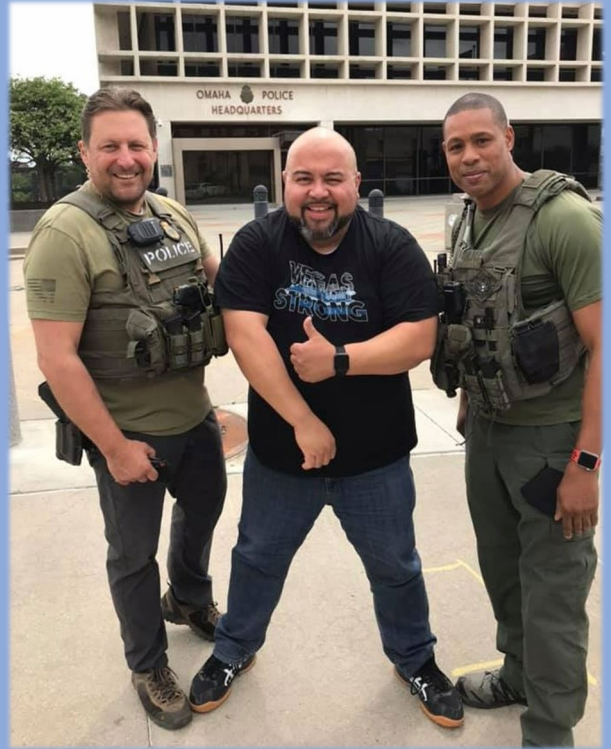
The Gang Investigations Unit includes the “B” Shift Gang Intelligence Squad, Firearms Squad, Fugitive Squad, and Safe Streets Task Force Squad. The Gang Suppression Unit includes the “B” Shift Gang Suppression Squad, the “C” Shift North Gang Suppression Squad, the “C” Shift Relief Gang Suppression Squad, and the “C” Shift South Gang Suppression Squad. The Gang Units work the streets daily and they are often the first ones on-scene to conduct initial follow-ups on narcotics trafficking, firearm violations, and violent crimes that are gang-related. In 2021 detectives in these units were instrumental in the identification and apprehension of several homicide suspects. They also dismantled several high-level drug and firearm trafficking operations.

Gang Unit officers and commanders also participated in various community activities in 2021, including over 238 community visits and presentations, as well as 159 adult and juvenile probation/parole visits. They attended National Night Out (NNO) events, Empowerment Network 360 meetings, and Q&A sessions with refugee community members. These units also collaborated with Operation NETS to give out sports equipment to local kids and worked with the U.S. Department of Justice’s Project Safe Neighborhood Program. Four non-sworn Gang Specialists also worked in conjunction with the Boys & Girls Club of Omaha to provide education and prevention measures to youth in local schools and communities.



Notable Gang Unit Statistics 2021

- 1) Operation KO: A 4-month long operation led by the U.S. Marshals Metro Fugitive Task Force (MFTF), Lincoln Police Department, and OPD. The operation resulted in the seizure of numerous firearms and narcotics, along with 231 arrests, including 144 arrests of gang members.
- 2) Greater Omaha Safe Streets Task Force Operation: An investigation into illegal firearm parts manufacturing led by OPD in collaboration with the FBI. The suspect, who was a known gang member, was selling 3-D printed Glock and AR-15 conversion devices that converted semi-automatic weapons into fully automatic weapons. This conversion allowed handguns to fire multiple rounds with a single trigger pull. The suspect was federally indicted and plead guilty, which led to a 5-year prison sentence.



Fugitive Sergeant Aaron Hanson and Fugitive Detective Kenneth Fortune with Comedian Vinnie Montez. Montez visited OPD Central Headquarters in May 2021 to share some jokes and laughs with OPD personnel.

Notable Statistics 2021

- 95 federal indictments
- 267 search warrants
- 596 recovered firearms
- 1,300lbs of marijuana recovered
- 125lbs of meth recovered
- Recovery of over \$300,000 in US currency

Of special mention is when Gang Suppression Unit Detectives Camron Payne and Devin Washington won “Super Sleuth” of the month in May 2021. They were awarded this honor after they made several significant arrests and took many guns off the streets. These detectives are also very active in the community coaching youth basketball teams, assisting with Operation NETS activities, and routinely playing catch or shooting hoops with kids outside (see photos below).



NARCOTICS UNIT

The Narcotics Unit consists of the Narcotics Squad, the Vice/Special Operations Squad, and the Intelligence Squad. In 2021, this unit worked with the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) of Omaha, the FBI, the United States Postal Inspectors, the Department of Homeland Security, the Internal Revenue Service, Douglas and Sarpy County Sheriffs' Offices, Bellevue Police Department, Council Bluffs Police Department, and others to combat crimes related to narcotics. This unit also established a direct link between the Omaha drug trade and the Mexican Drug Cartels, who trafficked drugs into America via the southern border and then distributed the drugs into Omaha's drug markets. This unit subsequently conducted 112 search warrants and made 1,130 felony arrests. Large amounts of narcotics (including marijuana, cocaine, meth, fentanyl, heroin), 1.2 million dollars in cash, and 173 firearms were confiscated.

Notable Narcotics Unit Investigations from 2021

1) From November 2020 into 2021: Detectives executed a search warrant at a suspect's residence and recovered 2 firearms, 97 Xanax pills, LSD, psychedelic mushrooms, 1,029 fentanyl pills, and \$10,293 in cash. A Narcotics Detective and agent with the Omaha DEA's office identified the source of the drug supply to be in Oregon, so the detectives' purchased drugs from them via the Dark Web in order to prove that the suspects were the supplier. In September 2021, the detectives traveled to Oregon to execute a search warrant at the supplier's residence where they located 3.6lbs of meth, 1.7lbs of cocaine, 327 grams of heroin, 325 pills, \$10,600 in cash, \$14,159 in virtual currency, an automatic pill press and an automatic mixer (see photo to the right). The supplier was federally indicted.



- 2) June 2021: The Narcotics Squad investigated a suspect that was known for selling illegal narcotics in Omaha. After an interview with the suspect, the squad was granted permission to search the suspect's house and recovered 7.8lbs of meth, 2lbs of cocaine, a 9mm handgun, and \$469,000 in cash. The suspect was arrested and federally indicted.
- 3) July 2021: Narcotics Detectives in conjunction with the Omaha DEA's office conducted an investigation and discovered suspects were using a "stash house" for their illegal drugs. Detectives interviewed the suspects and then executed a search warrant for the house. Detectives recovered 56lbs of meth, 5lbs of cocaine, and \$17,430 in cash. Both suspects were federally indicted.
- 4) Throughout 2021, the Intelligence Squad helped ensure safety at local protests and rally events sparked from national-level events. Their research helped OPD determine the appropriate number of law enforcement officers to have present at local events to provide a safe environment. The Intelligence Squad also gathered information about different possible threats and distributed the information to units within OPD. The squad assisted the United States Secret Service with dignitary visits involving the Second Gentleman of the United States. This squad also assisted the FBI's Joint Terrorism Task Force, investigating 9 possible terrorist threats and 2 other threats that resulted in federal indictments. Intelligence Detectives also investigated incidents where anti-Semitic stickers were being placed on poles near an

Israel synagogue temple and with the help of Uniform Patrol Officers, they eventually arrested and charged the suspect with “hate by intimidation.” The suspect had ties to a neo-Nazi organization.

5) Throughout 2021, the Special Operations/Vice Squad assisted other OPD units with various investigations and surveillance operations, including those involving child pornography, sex trafficking, and incidents where suspects were violently robbing parties soliciting sex acts for money. The squad’s detectives are also members of the FBI’s Child Exploitation/Human Trafficking Task Force, and they helped to recover sex trafficking survivors and 8 endangered juveniles. The squad further assisted with enforcing underage drinking violations involving local alcohol distributors. OPD’s Sgt. Alan Reyes also won the 2021 MADD Hero Award because of his pivotal efforts in reducing and preventing underage drinking.



6) Winter 2021: The Narcotics Squad investigated a drug trafficking organization that shipped meth and fentanyl from California to Omaha. The unit worked with state and federal partners where they recovered 27lbs of meth and 500 fentanyl pills from a drug courier in Nebraska. A second drug courier investigation recovered 25lbs of meth in New Mexico that was destined for Omaha. A follow-up investigation was conducted and an additional 6.5lbs of meth was recovered from a suspect’s residence. A total of 5 drug traffickers were federally indicted.

Pictured below are drugs, money, and paraphernalia confiscated during the Narcotics Unit investigations in 2021



EXECUTIVE SERVICES BUREAU

The Executive Services Bureau (ESB) is commanded by a Deputy Chief. The ESB includes the Evidence and Property Unit, Research and Planning Unit, and Training and Community Services Section. The ESB's Deputy Chief chairs the Legislative Liaison Committee and the Safety Review Board.

EVIDENCE/PROPERTY UNIT



The Evidence and Property Unit (EPU) is responsible for booking, processing, and storing evidence or property collected by OPD, including evidence collected during the investigation of a crime, found property, or property surrendered at Gun Amnesty events. In 2021, the EPU participated in multiple audits and no discrepancies were noted. The EPU also participates in property auctions and 6 were conducted at the City of Omaha's Impound Lot in 2021. In August 2021, the Digitally Recorded Evidence Access and Management (DREAM) Squad moved under the EPU's command. The DREAM Squad stores all digital evidence from officers' body worn cameras or mobile video recorders. The DREAM Squad also creates DVDs of digital evidence for police investigations and court proceedings. The DREAM Squad currently staffs 2 full-time non-sworn Technicians and 1 part-time non-sworn Technician. These Technicians eliminated a backlog of court requests within 2 months of moving to EPU in 2021.

RESEARCH AND PLANNING UNIT

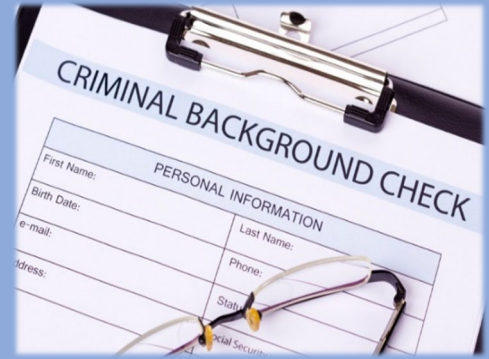
The Research and Planning (RPU) Unit is comprised of a Research & Planning Supervisor and 3 Research & Planning Specialists. The RPU is responsible for updating OPD policies, the OPD Policies and Procedures Manual (PPM), and OPD forms. This unit also drafts general orders, information orders, personnel orders, and training bulletins. The RPU authors the OPD Annual Report and reviews city, state, federal, and county legislative changes. If legislative changes affect OPD, the RPU will update OPD's policies accordingly. The RPU also surveys other law enforcement agencies and conducts other research assignments at the request of OPD command. The Department is accredited by CALEA (Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies); the process is overseen and managed by the RPU. CALEA guidelines ensure participating law enforcement agencies, including OPD, are abiding by specific standards and guidelines, which helps improve the delivery of public safety services. In 2021, the RPU managed CALEA documents, completed dozens of research/survey requests, updated over 70 OPD policies, issued multiple training bulletins and dozens of orders related to policy/procedure changes or legal updates, updated several OPD forms, and managed the Policies and Procedures Manual (PPM).

TRAINING AND COMMUNITY SERVICES SECTION

The Training and Community Services Section (TCSS) is commanded by a Captain. The TCSS includes the Backgrounds/Inspections Unit, the Honor Guard, the Neighborhood Services Unit, the Pipe and Drum Corp, the Training Unit, and the Vehicle Impound Unit.

BACKGROUNDS/INSPECTIONS UNIT

The Backgrounds/Inspections Unit is composed of several officers, a sergeant, a lieutenant, and a non-sworn support employee. This unit's primary purpose is to conduct background checks on people who apply for OPD and other city jobs. In 2021, this unit completed around 300 background checks for people who had been accepted into OPD's recruit and lateral officer classes. Due to the large number of background investigations for recruits and laterals, officers from the Neighborhood Services Unit (NSU) assisted in completing the background checks. This unit first had to train the NSU on the background process and was responsible for overseeing each of the NSU's background investigations.



In addition to conducting background investigations for recruit and lateral officer classes, this unit also conducted background checks for people who applied for non-sworn jobs and for OPD's Fall 2021 Internship Program. Interns accepted into the program were assigned to various units, including Auto Theft, Burglary, Training and Community Services, Special Victims, and Forensic Investigations.

In 2021, officers from the Backgrounds/Inspections Unit along with officers from partnering units attended or hosted various community events to attract potential OPD applicants. Some of these events included job fairs or presentations at Ralston Arena, Ralston High School, Heartland Workforce Solutions, and Metropolitan Community College-Fort Campus. Many of the teens and young adults at these job fairs and presentations showed interest in becoming a police officer, and they were also given OPD promotional items. This unit and officers of the Public Information Office (PIO) also hosted a tour of OPD Headquarters for a group of 15 high school students who were taking criminal justice classes for college credit.

HONOR GUARD

The Honor Guard participates in various events and ceremonies, but their first line of duty is to honor those who have passed away. In 2021, the Honor Guard rendered honors at 11 Omaha Police Retiree funerals. They also completed 7 line of duty funerals to outside agencies in Burt County (NE), Colorado, Iowa, Chicago (IL), and Missouri. The Honor Guard further participated in 22 color guard events, 1 parade, the Blue Mass, Nebraska Police Week Memorial Services, Memorial Day Services in Omaha, 1 graduation, Washington D.C.'s Police Memorial Day, and 8 other events.





PIPE AND DRUM CORPS

The Pipe and Drum Corps provides various ceremonial services for OPD, including funeral services to honor active or retired personnel who have passed away. This unit performed at 23 events in 2021, 12 of which were funeral services performed in conjunction with OPD's Honor Guard. The Pipe and Drum Corps also completed services for the Burt County Sheriff's Office, the United States Secret Service, and the former Mayor of Omaha. Other events the unit performed at included: the Nebraska Law Enforcement Memorial in Grand Island, the National Peace Officers Memorial Day Service at the Washington County Sheriff's Office in Blair, the September 11th Memorial at the Bennington Volunteer Fire Department, the 9/11 Luncheon of Honor, Guns and Hoses Boxing, and the National Crime Stoppers Conference. This unit also performed at several graduation ceremonies for OPD, Nebraska State Patrol, and the Sarpy/Douglas Law Enforcement Academy.

Photo is of OPD's Pipe and Drum Corps, and Douglas County Sheriff's Pipe and Drum Corps



NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES UNIT

The Neighborhood Services Unit (NSU) provides assistance to the public aimed at problem resolution and prevention programs. This unit consists of the Business Watch Squad, Nuisance Task Force Squad, Prevention Programs Squad, School Resource Officer (SRO) Squads, Truancy Officer Squad, SRO Explosives Detection Canine Squad, and Volunteer Services Squad. In 2021, members of the Prevention Programs Squad and Business Watch Squad assisted the Backgrounds/Inspections Unit with pre-employment background investigations, and the unit helped the Training Unit certify the entire department in CPR. Due to the pandemic, it was more difficult for the NSU to run some of its regular programs since some schools and other places of business weren't allowing visitors. However, the SROs continued to serve at their school assignments and were able to provide services with few absences despite the pandemic. Some of the events the NSU was able to attend and/or presentations they were able to host included: Clarkson College Health and Safety Fair, UNO for Health and Safety Fair, Eastern Nebraska Office on Aging Fraud Presentation, P.A.C.E. Summer and Christmas Camps, Super Hero Walk at Mary Our Queen School, Omaha Christian Academy Homecoming, Ralston Middle School Presentation to 8th Graders, Westside High School presentations, Miracle Hills Optimist presentations, and Holy Family Community Center events.

TRAINING UNIT

The Training Unit includes the Recruit Squad and the Training Squad. The unit is comprised of non-sworn employees, and sworn officers, sergeants, and a lieutenant. The unit is responsible for training all OPD recruits and lateral entry officers. This unit is also responsible for training all sworn and non-sworn employees on various topics throughout the year. Some of the accomplishments of the unit in 2021 include:

- Trained 44 basic recruits and 12 lateral recruits. The basic recruits completed 23 weeks of training and the 12 lateral recruits completed 12 weeks of training. These recruits then went on to complete on-the-field training.
- Trained 620 sworn officers on the new Taser 7 Transition program, which resulted in 8,680 combined hours of training
- 789 sworn employees completed a 3-day in-service training program, which included Resiliency, Force Science and VirTra, Jiu-Jitsu, and more. This resulted in a total of 16,569 combined hours of training
- Recertified 339 patrol rifle users and certified 33 new patrol rifle users
- Conducted 73 sessions of Basic Life-Saver Training to certify all sworn officers
- Conducted Body Worn Camera Training from Body 2 to Body 3
- Completed a combined 671 training classes for a total of 66,731 hours of training





Basic Recruit Class in training 2021

VEHICLE IMPOUND UNIT

The Vehicle Impound Unit (VIU) is responsible for storing and disposing of vehicles towed by OPD, the Douglas County Sheriff's Office, and the Nebraska State Patrol. This unit generates revenue for the City's General Fund by auctioning abandoned vehicles, receiving daily cash revenues, and auctioning abandoned property found inside abandoned vehicles. In 2021, the VIU auctioned 2,562 vehicles, which generated millions in revenue. The unit only auctions abandoned vehicles and property when owners of the property have failed to retrieve their property after notice has been given to them. Also in 2021, the unit processed 9,794 vehicles, including 8,816 that came from OPD. The unit processed 16,255 certified lien letters and 3,127 Nebraska applications for titles. Also in 2021, separate required-notice letters were combined into one letter, which saved the City of Omaha thousands of dollars in certified letter fees. Three individuals were also arrested at the VIU for outstanding warrants.



OPD's Vehicle Impound Lot

POLICE SERVICES BUREAU

The Police Services Bureau (PSB) provides support services to OPD and is commanded by a Deputy Chief. This bureau is composed of the Air Support Unit, Fiscal Affairs, Grant Administration Unit, Behavioral Health and Wellness Unit, Mobile IT Unit, Police Personnel Unit, Customer Services Unit, Digital Forensics Squad, Fleet/Facilities Unit, Forensic Investigations Unit, and the Police Supply Unit.

AIR SUPPORT UNIT

The Air Support Unit (ASU) provides aerial surveillance support to the department. The unit is comprised of a Chief Pilot, sergeant, officers, and an aviation mechanic. In 2021, the unit handled 467 mission requests, assisted with 443 vehicle and foot pursuits, and were called to more than 1,800 backups for traffic stops. ASU assisted outside agencies more than 150 times with requests for a helicopter. The unit also expanded their operations with Downlink capabilities, allowing the unit to send live video to the ground to assist with command, control, and officer safety. Downlink capabilities also allow ASU to provide video to Fire Rescue, FEMA, NEMA, and other stakeholders in times of emergencies or disasters. ASU continued to develop their unit manual and their safety management system in 2021 by selecting a safety officer. ASU also purchased a Bell 505 Helicopter that was delivered in the first quarter of 2022. Adding this helicopter helps to keep the unit operational when other helicopters are under maintenance. ASU assisted with the annual SAC Museum Helicopter Day and the Sam's Club Safety Day. ASU also conducted a capabilities and limitations briefing with the Mayor, Chief Schmaderer, City Council Members, and other community leaders in 2021.



FISCAL AFFAIRS

Fiscal Affairs is staffed by a full-time Accountant and a part-time Account Clerk who reports directly to the Police Services Bureau's Deputy Chief. In 2021, Fiscal Affairs worked with the City of Omaha Finance Department to manage OPD's finances, assist in preparing and monitoring the OPD budget, and project future OPD spending in collaboration with OPD's senior staff.

GRANT ADMINISTRATION UNIT

The Grant Administration Unit (GAU) is comprised of the Public Safety Grant Coordinator. The unit is responsible for writing grants and grant management. In 2021, the GAU completed a grant review of 5 programs that were financed by federal awards, including the FY 2015 COPS Hiring Program (CHP), FY 2016 CHP, FY 2018 School Violence Prevention Program (SVPP), FY 2019 Law Enforcement Mental Health and Wellness Act (LEMHWA) Program, and FY 2020 LEMHWA program. The awards given to these programs are worth a combined total of \$1,378,142 and have a match funding of \$843,909. There were no major findings in the grant



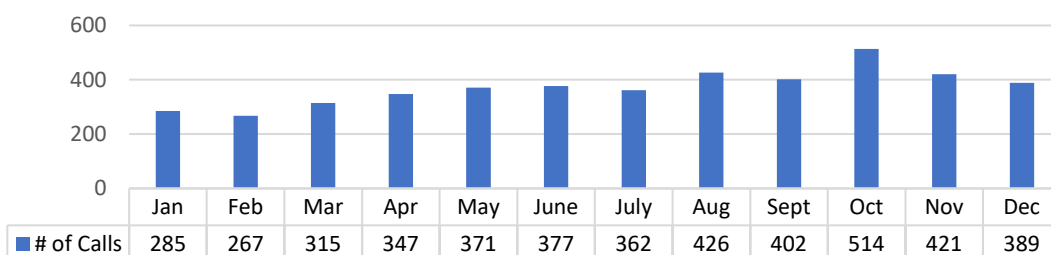
reviews of these awards, and all compliance issues were resolved and remedied. The GAU also worked with the Omaha Police Foundation to secure grant funding for OPD initiatives and community partnerships (see page 47 for more information). The unit also collaborated with the Uniform Patrol Bureau and First Responders Foundation to secure grant funding for the OPD Canine Unit and Mounted Patrol Squad, which included a \$7,534 award for protective gear. The GAU attended the 21st Annual Officer of the Year Awards Luncheon and 3rd Annual First Responders & Military Appreciation Night at the I-80 Speedway.

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AND WELLNESS UNIT

The Behavioral Health and Wellness Unit (BHWU) is commanded by a lieutenant, and consists of both sworn and non-sworn employees. The unit assists OPD employees and the community with various mental and behavioral health needs. The unit facilitates programs, trainings, and resources for OPD employees geared towards fitness, emotional intelligence, stress reduction, peer support, mental health support, and more.

The BHWU provides various programs to help the community, including the Co-Responder Program. Co-Responders are non-sworn employees that are licensed mental health therapists. Co-Responders are dispatched out to the community along with an officer when a mental and/or behavioral health issue arises. Co-Responders also assist members of the community over the phone with mental and/or behavioral health issues to divert from a law enforcement response when appropriate. Co-Responders successfully helped alleviate an officer response 84 times in 2021. An additional position for a youth-focused Co-Responder was created and the unit responded to a total of 4,476 community mental health related calls in 2021.

**Mental Health Dispositions/Calls
(January 2021-December 2021)**



The BHWU also consists of the CORE Squad (Collaborative Outreach, Response, and Engagement Squad). This squad assists the Crisis Intervention Team (CIT), OPD's Peer Support Team, and other special projects geared towards behavioral and/or mental health. In 2021, CORE gained additional oversight and monitoring responsibilities to help community members in a behavioral health crisis. CORE used qualified CIT trained officers to assist with outreach to community members and CORE paired the officers with a Co-Responder. There was a total of 252 CORE engagements in 2021.

The BHWU prioritized training in 2021 and the unit was very involved in training OPD employees about mental health-related issues. CIT training was one of the major areas of focus and it helped educate officers on how to assist in a mental health crisis. The BHWU successfully conducted several 40-hour CIT classes throughout the year and brought the total number of active CIT trained OPD officers to 352. In addition, the BHWU conducted various 8-hour CIT classes focused on youth-related issues, which brought the total number of Crisis Intervention – Youth Trained officers to 116. The unit also conducted in-service training related to officer wellness and resiliency two times a week from July to December 2021. The Co-Responder's Mental Health Coordinator Lindsay Kroll trained the 2021 recruit class on mental health first aid during two 8-hour sessions.



BHWU was awarded the Omaha Police Foundation's "Community Impact Award" in 2021 for their hard work and dedication to OPD and the community. Pictured back from left is former DC Bang, CORE Sgt. Heft, Co-Responder Ashley Brugmann, Co-Responder Natalya Flaten, Co-Responder Shelley Pool, CORE Ofcr. Culver, Co-Responder Elisa Limoges, and Behavioral Health Support Foundation's Christine Johnson. Front from left is Co-Responder Lee Dittman, Lutheran Family Services' Peer Support Specialist Michele Gerdes, and OPD's Mental Health Coordinator Lindsay Kroll.

POLICE PERSONNEL UNIT

The Police Personnel Unit is comprised of two non-sworn employees. The unit provides various supportive functions, including coordinating hiring and personnel actions, applying rules of labor contracts, applying rules of the Omaha Municipal Code relevant to personnel issues, managing payroll, and managing timekeeping. In 2021, the unit assisted with the hiring and onboarding of over 60 sworn employees and 17 non-sworn employees.

MOBILE IT UNIT

The Mobile IT Unit is comprised of a lieutenant, sergeant, officer, and a microsystem support analyst. The unit is responsible for ensuring the department's mobile technologies are properly maintained, including the mobile data computers (MDC), mobile video recorders (MVR), body worn cameras (BWC), and the small unmanned aircraft systems (sUAS). The unit also provides technical support to OPD personnel when they have issues or questions about the mobile technologies or electronic reporting systems.

The Mobile IT Unit is also responsible for OPD's sUAS (i.e., drone) Program. In 2021, OPD had 13 drones in this program, including the Mavic Mini, Autel EVO 2, and DJI

	Total Uploads
Number of Videos	563598
Hours of Videos	121671.43
GB of Videos	512504.74
	Active Evidence
Number of Active Videos	552480
Hours of Active Videos	119889.95
GB of Active Videos	506414.47
	Average Per Day
Number of Videos Uploaded	1544.10
Hours of Video Uploaded	333.35
GB of Video Uploaded	1404.12

Mobile IT Stats 2021

M300. The drone program allows OPD to search large areas quickly and aids in various investigations including home explosions, homicides, traffic accidents, and missing person searches. The operations for this program fall into 4 areas: SWAT, Forensics, Traffic Investigations, and Mobile Technology. This unit also conducted approximately 600 sUAS flights for training, maintenance, and/or deployment purposes that were more than 3 minutes in length. Hundreds more flights were conducted that were shorter than 3 minutes.



SUPPORT SERVICES SECTION

The Support Services Section (SSS) provides informational and support services to OPD. The SSS is commanded by a Captain, who reports to the PSB's Deputy Chief. The SSS includes the Customer Services Unit, the Digital Forensics Squad, the Fleet/Facilities Unit, the Forensics Investigations Unit, and the Police Supply Unit.

CUSTOMER SERVICES UNIT

The Customer Services Unit (CSR) includes the Front Desk Squad (FDS), the Court Liaison Squad (CLS), the Telephone Report Squad (TRS), and Public Library Security Squad (PLSS). It is comprised of a lieutenant, sergeants, officers, and non-sworn employees. The FDS handles inquiries and requests from the public such as handgun registrations, taxi cab permits, regulated metals permits, criminal history requests, and more. The FDS

also receives and processes incoming calls from members of OPD and the public. The CLS is responsible primarily for administrative duties including coordination of the court schedule for OPD and relevant parties, along with assisting OPD in the completion of court documents. The TRS handles inquiries from the public and documents crime reports for crimes with no evidence and/or little to no suspect information, which allows officers in the Uniform Patrol Bureau to focus more on patrolling the streets and responding to in-progress incidents.

Customer Services Unit Stats 2021

Front Desk Squad	Court Liaison Squad	Telephone Report Squad
Firearm registrations: 2,693 Reports Sold: 4,363 Fingerprints Completed: 480 Criminal History Requests: 1,118 Mugshots: 996	Court Cancellations: 3,614 (saved OPD \$618,990)	Received approximately 8,272 calls per month

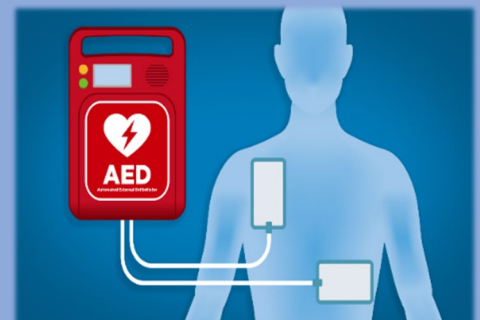
DIGITAL FORENSICS SQUAD

The Digital Forensics Squad employs 5 officers who analyze digital data from all types of electronic devices. The squad then assists investigators and the courts in understanding these complex data sets. The squad plays a pivotal role in the investigations conducted by the Homicide Unit, the Child Special Victims Unit, the Sexual Assault Units, and other Criminal Investigation Units. The squad continuously upgrades their software to keep up with phone companies that continuously change their protective features. With the assistance of the Omaha Police Foundation, the Digital Forensics Squad obtained Cellebrite Premium Software in 2021. Cellebrite Premium is the industry leader in gaining on-site access to locked devices and encryption barriers. Having Cellebrite Premium helps to shorten investigation times and increases clearance rates for crimes, which in return lowers costs.



POLICE SUPPLY UNIT

The Police Supply Unit provides OPD with items needed to work effectively including uniforms, safety equipment, office supplies, and work-related forms. The unit orders the supplies, processes invoices for payment, tracks supplies ordered to units and/or individuals, and keeps maintenance and repair logs. The unit also maintains OPD’s petty cash fund. In June 2021, this unit assisted in deploying 209 automated external defibrillators (AEDs) for frontline Uniform Patrol Bureau (UPB) vehicles and motorcycles, and each AED was tagged and registered before deployment.



FLEET/FACILITIES UNIT

The Fleet/Facilities Unit is comprised of a coordinator and two maintenance repairers. The unit is responsible for the maintenance and upkeep of OPD's buildings and equipment. The unit ensures that OPD Headquarters, Uniform Patrol Bureau Precincts, and other OPD buildings are running smoothly. The unit also issues security badges for employees and many other tasks. In 2021, the unit oversaw the painting of several floors at OPD Headquarters and the installation of new carpet on the 5th floor at Headquarters. The unit helped purchase 34 marked vehicles and 16 unmarked vehicles, submitted 536 work orders, and completed 584 OPD work requests. The unit also completed a major project when it constructed an area for the OPD Call Center at Headquarters.



FORENSIC INVESTIGATIONS UNIT

The Forensic Investigations Unit (FIU) provides 24-hour, 7-day a week evidence collection and preservation support to the Department. This unit is made up of two sub-units: the Firearms Examination Squad and the Latent Print Examination Squad. The FIU is comprised of a forensic manager, criminalists, forensic technicians, and support staff. The unit had ongoing challenges in 2021 due to the COVID-19 pandemic but the unit used Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), online training services, risk mitigations, and assistance from the Supply Unit and Information Technology Unit to continue to deliver services. In 2021, the unit expanded and improved their internal debriefing meetings with the Homicide Unit, as well as participated in the Homicide Unit's After-Action Reporting Sessions. The FIU also purchased Intoxilyzer 9000 breath testers to replace the DataMaster breath testers. The unit successfully completed a full accreditation re-assessment under the ANAB ISO/IEC 17020 Standards for Crime Scene Investigations and Latent Print Examinations, and also implemented "Table Top" training exercises from historical crime scene investigations. The Firearms Examination Squad had remarkable nationwide NIBIN performance that was consistent throughout 2021. Community events for the unit were limited, but presentations were given to Cub Scout and Girl Scout groups.

Notable Forensic Investigations 2021

- Discovery of homicide suspect's latent print in victim's blood stemming from a brutal double homicide
- Identification of a suspect's latent print from a 38-year-old cold case where a university student had been sexually assaulted and murdered
- Identification of a complex .22 caliber comparison which linked a firearm to several crimes, including a homicide, several felony assaults, and destruction of property shootings
- Investigation of civil unrest incident scenes





A forensics laser is being used in the photo to the left. In the photo to the right, a Forensics Technician is checking for fingerprints.

ADDITIONAL PROGRAMS

The Police Services Bureau (PSB) also oversees two relatively new programs: the Restorative Justice Diversion Program (RJDP) and the Multi-Disciplinary Threat Assessment Team Program.

MULTI-DISCIPLINARY THREAT ASSESSMENT TEAM PROGRAM

In 2021, OPD formally established a Multi-Disciplinary Threat Assessment Team (TAT). The team is led by Mental Health Coordinator Lindsay Kroll and includes members from the following units, squads, or teams: Intelligence Squad, Homicide Unit, Assault Unit, School Resource Officer Squads, Co-Responder Team, Child Special Victims Unit, and Domestic Violence Squad. TAT reviews any community-based threat report that OPD receives, to include school threats involving former students. This threat assessment team is separate from the Douglas County School Threat Assessment Team, which focuses on school-based threats involving active students only. Any member of OPD may forward a case to TAT for review.

The TAT's practices are based upon national models which focus on prevention and not prediction. The team uses proactive and protective measures to manage potential threats and provides an alternative to criminal investigation and prosecution for families, friends, and bystanders interested in seeking assistance for intervention. The team focuses on identifying concerning behaviors, assessing the behavior to determine the level of concern, and implementing and managing intervention strategies.

In 2022, in partnership with a private foundation, OPD will implement a community-based threat-tip reporting system that will supplement the Nebraska Safe2Help school-based threat reporting system and Crime Stoppers. This new system will help TAT successfully stop community threats by allowing partners, such as law enforcement agencies, schools, and other community stakeholders, to better work together to coordinate the overall community response. Unlike Crime Stoppers, tips do not have to be anonymous when using this new system, although they can be.

RESTORATIVE JUSTICE DIVERSION PROGRAM

The Restorative Justice Diversion Program (RJDP) is a pre-adjudication diversion program and is a collaborative effort between OPD, the Omaha Human Rights and Relations (HR&R) Department and the City Prosecutor's Office. The program is based upon the principles of restorative justice for adult offenders who have been arrested for minor offenses such as resisting arrest, disorderly conduct, obstructing justice, failure to disperse, and other similar types of offenses. The City Prosecutor's Office screens all potential participants, based upon the nature of their offense and their overall criminal history. Those who wish to participate in the program must attend a four-hour class facilitated by a HR&R representative trained in restorative justice practices. One of the arresting officers also attends the class. This provides an opportunity for discussion between the participant and officer about what factors lead to the encounter and what could have been done, if anything, to change the outcome that led to the arrest. The participant then must complete 12 hours of community service and participate in an exit interview with HR&R. Once the participant successfully completes the program, the City Prosecutor dismisses the charges and the participant's record is sealed. The RJDP was piloted initially in 2020 in response to protesters who were arrested for minor offenses such as curfew violations and refusals to leave property. In 2021, 12 arrestees successfully completed the RJDP. In 2022, the City of Omaha hopes to expand the program through a generous gift from a local foundation.

Picture of protesters from May 2020, one of the incidents that sparked the launch of RJDP



Closing Project Artwork completed in 2021 by one of the groups participating in RJDP



PROFESSIONAL OVERSIGHT BUREAU

The Professional Oversight Bureau (POB) is commanded by a Deputy Chief. This bureau provides professional review services to OPD, including internal affairs investigations and public records requested per Nebraska Revised Statute §84-712, et al. The bureau also handles the Merit Review Committee.

INTERNAL AFFAIRS UNIT

The Internal Affairs Unit (IAU) is comprised of a lieutenant, several sergeants, and a non-sworn support staff. The IAU investigates complaints against OPD employees that are made by external parties (i.e., the public) or internal parties (i.e., a fellow employee). The unit also investigates officers every time they discharge a firearm (other than for training purposes), in-custody deaths, or a complaint of criminal misconduct of an employee. The IAU's goal is to retain the continued confidence of the community by upholding the integrity of OPD through a professional and thorough investigative process. IAU's process can bring to light misconduct or inappropriate activity of OPD employees, but it also can protect employees or OPD from unfounded or unwarranted accusations. In 2021, the IAU hosted several events where they talked to the community about interacting with officers and how to file a complaint against an officer.



Pictured left are photos from presentations of “What to Do When You Have Been Pulled Over by Law Enforcement.” The presentations were conducted in May, June, and July of 2021. Youth from the 100 Black Men of Omaha Mentoring Group and attendees from the East African Development Association of Nebraska were present.

To the bottom left is a picture from the presentation “Community Conversation” at the Heart Ministry Center on June 22, 2021. The presentation focused on ways to interact with law enforcement and how to contact IAU for complaints against officers.

Below is a picture of Sgt. Finch from OPD, Chief Deputy Sheriff Wayne Hudson from DC Sheriff's Office, and Rev. Dr. Cedric L. Perkins. They presented “What to Do When You Have Been Pulled Over by Law Enforcement” to Pilgrim Baptist Church in September 2021.



TECHNICAL AND REPORTING SERVICES BUREAU

The Technical and Reporting Services Bureau (TRB) is managed by a Deputy Director. The TRB provides police report services, technology management, and crime analysis support.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY UNIT:

The Information Technology (IT) Unit is comprised of 2 Applications Analysts and 1 Applications Development Manager. The IT Unit ensures proper maintenance and development of OPD's information technology systems, including the Law Records Management System (LRMS), IT infrastructure, and web-based applications. The unit also reviews purchases and agreements made by OPD with outside IT vendors. In 2021, the IT unit made considerable progress on the implementation of the Nebraska Investigator Crash Report (NE ICR) System. The implementation of this new system is a joint effort between the Nebraska Department of Transportation (NDOT), LexisNexis, and OPD. The new NE ICR System allows officers to create electronic reports at the scene of a crash. The IT Unit also worked on the implementation of the National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS) per the FBI which mandated that all law enforcement agencies use NIBRS. The implementation of NIBRS requires additional data elements to be collected by officers when they create reports and the IT Unit continues to modify the system to allow this to happen while facilitating the work of our officers. The IT Unit is doing major work on the queries used to generate NIBRS information that is sent to the State and FBI. The IT Unit also worked with the Air Support Unit to implement the CNC Live System, which is a system that allows a video signal from a helicopter to be streamed to authorized users. The CNC Live System allows OPD command and other governmental authorized users to view real-time video in emergency situations.

DATA UNIT:

The Data Unit is comprised of an Administrative Information Manager, Administrative Information Coordinator, Office Supervisors, Police Information Operators, Clerk Typists, and a Secretary. It is composed of the Data Review Squad and the Records Squad. The Data Review Squad is important for many reasons, including providing information via radio to police personnel. The unit is also responsible for inputting crime reports, citations, and NCIC entries into the computer systems. The Records Squad maintains OPD's Central Records System, which includes scanning, filing, and disseminating of reports and criminal history information.

Data Unit Statistics 2021

- 50,403 citations
- 92,858 incident reports
- 7,752 crash reports
- 3,154 stolen vehicle reports
- 3,123 missing persons reports
- 6,239 criminal history requests
- 8,430 accident report requests
- 5,540 agency record requests
- 1,040 repossession reports
- 12,209 tow reports
- 96,800 radio calls
- 489 record "set asides"
- 3,442 adult record seals
- 1,725 juvenile record seals

CRIME ANALYSIS UNIT:

The Crime Analysis Unit is commanded by a Crime Analysis Manager and the unit is comprised of 5 Crime Analysts. All Crime Analysts are members of the Mid-America Regional Crime Analysis Network (MARCAN) and the International Association of Crime Analysts (IACA). This unit provides analytical capabilities to OPD including tactical, strategic, administrative, investigative, statistical, and intelligence capabilities.

Crime Analysis Unit Tasks 2021:

- **Tactical, Intelligence, & Investigative = 47% of tasks**
 - Created weekly crime activity maps and data
 - Identified crime series or patterns and distributed findings to appropriate units
 - Conducted investigative analyses and database searches to identify possible suspects or link multiple crimes to known suspects
 - Conducted link analysis using specialized software applications and social media
- **Strategic, Administrative, & Statistical = 44% of tasks**
 - Prepared monthly CompStat presentations
 - Prepared quarterly Data Driven Approaches to Crime and Traffic Safety (DDACTS) maps
 - Compiled and published the monthly and quarterly reports to the OPD website
 - Gathered, compiled, and reported crime data to the Nebraska Commission on Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice (NCLEC or NCC) and the FBI
- **Public Information = 9% of tasks**
 - Responded to external public information requests approved by the Chief of Police

The Crime Analysis Unit publishes many of its reports and other valuable information online. Click the link [here](#) to access the information.



UNIFORM PATROL BUREAU

The Uniform Patrol Bureau (UPB) is commanded by a Deputy Chief and is divided into five Uniform Patrol Precincts and the Tactical Operations Section. The Rapid Deployment Force (RDF) is also a part of the UPB and RDF reports directly to the UPB Deputy Chief. The UPB provides 24-hour police services to the public, including uniform patrol, emergency response, general law enforcement, community outreach, event safety, drug interdiction, and problem resolution. Each precinct is commanded by a Captain and is comprised of lieutenants, sergeants, patrol officers, and administrative support staff. A Crime Prevention Specialist also reports to each Captain and assists with problem resolution and crime prevention education for the community.

NORTHEAST PRECINCT

The Northeast Precinct includes the 30 Area, 40 Area and 30/40 Area Relief. In 2021, this precinct attended over 200 community meetings and events, including weekly meetings with Omaha 360. OPD's Northeast Precinct, other OPD units, and many other organizations collaborate with Omaha 360 to reduce violence within the City of Omaha, especially around the Northeast area. Through this collaboration and others throughout the city, Omaha has seen a drastic drop in violent crime in this area and an increase in clearance rates.

Other meetings and events the Northeast Precinct attended in 2021 include the following: 24th Street Business Improvement District Safety and Security Meeting, Creighton University MLK Unity Day, Nebraska Juvenile Justice Association (NJJA) Conference, Latino Center for the Midlands Pathway to Success Program Meeting, Refugee Resettlement Seminar, Miller Park/Minne Lusa Neighborhood Association Saturday Coffee Event, Juneteenth Parade, Omaha Freedom Festival, Native Omaha Days, National Night Out (NNO) Events, St. Phillip Neri Church Festival, Pastors and Faith Leaders Meeting, Cathedral Fest, Halloween on the BooLevard, Cathedral School Trunk or Treat, and Christmas in the Village.

Pictures from National Night Out 2021



Pictures are from an article that was published by the Northeast Precinct in February 2021 for Black History Month

NORTHEAST PRECINCT
Omaha Police Department

February 2021



This Issue
 OPD Celebrates Black History P1
 OPD Celebrates Black History P2
 Neighborhood Notes P3
 Crime Trends P4

We are celebrating Black History Month recognizing trailblazers in the Omaha Police Department.



Northeast Precinct

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 Omaha, Nebraska 68111



Thomas Warren, Sr.
 First African American
 Chief of Police



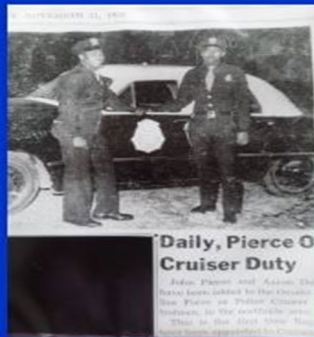
Brenda Smith
 First Female African
 American Officer in the
 State of Nebraska
 First Female African
 American Deputy
 Chief



Sgt. Anthony Conner
 First African American
 President of the
 Omaha Police Officers
 Association



Pitmon Foxall II, First African American Patrol
 Sergeant, First African American
 Lieutenant in charge of the Homicide Unit,
 First African American Public Safety Director



Marvin McClarty, Sr. Founding Member
 Brotherhood of the Midwest Guardians



Monroe Coleman, First African American Captain



Denise Cousin
 First Female African American Captain



Gene Brown



P.Foxall, M.McClarty, G. Brown, J. Smith, W. Nared



Samuel Lee

NORTHWEST PRECINCT

The Northwest Precinct includes the 10 Area, 20 Area, and 10/20 Area Relief. There were many incidents that this precinct responded to in 2021. Listed below are some notable incidents from 2021:

- Responded to Hamilton Food Mart in July 2021 for a possible abduction. Officers learned that several suspects were chasing people around in the parking lot with a “long gun” as described by witnesses. Officers located the suspect vehicle at a home and 2 suspects were detained. Gang Unit Officers responded and a firearm was recovered. A known gang member was subsequently booked for the incident.
- Conducted a traffic stop in September 2021, which led to the seizure of large amounts of marijuana, THC concentrate, and THC/marijuana edibles.
- Responded to a shooting inside Westroads Mall in April 2021. Arrests were made and then Youth and Family Engagement Specialists from outside agencies subsequently set up a booth at the mall once a month to talk to the community about gang violence and provide resources.



The Northwest Precinct was involved with various community events and meetings in 2021 including:

- May 15, 2021 - Made New Makerspace at Fontenelle Park.
- July 2021 - Senior Open at the Omaha Country Club Golf Course.
- August 2021 - Memorial Park Concert, 10 NNO Events, and Nebraska Children’s Home Society Neighborhood Celebration. At the NNO events, the precinct interacted with approximately 350 citizens and handed out OPD swag, played games, and answered questions. At the Nebraska Children’s Home Society Neighborhood Celebration, the precinct interacted with more than 150 people.
- September 2021 - Holy Cross Lutheran Church Block Party with more than 200 attendees.
- Weekly Omaha 360 meetings.
- Coalition RX Teen Meetings at the Salvation Army, Refugee presentations, Neighborhood Watch Presentations, and numerous prayer walks.
- Throughout 2021 - Monthly after-school programs at the Salvation Army to interact with the youth.



Of special note is when Officer Mike Hansen (pictured right) won the “Dedication Award” from the Metropolitan Chiefs Association in November 2021. Officer Hansen was proactive, hard-working, and constantly collaborating with the Gang, Burglary, and Auto-Theft Units in 2021 to solve crimes and help the community. His determination resulted in 14 firearm arrests, 2 stolen vehicle arrests, 2 robbery warrant arrests, 1 shooting arrest, and 4 felony warrants.



COMMUNITY RESOURCE CENTER

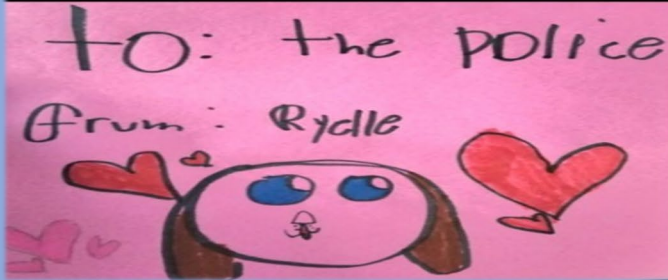
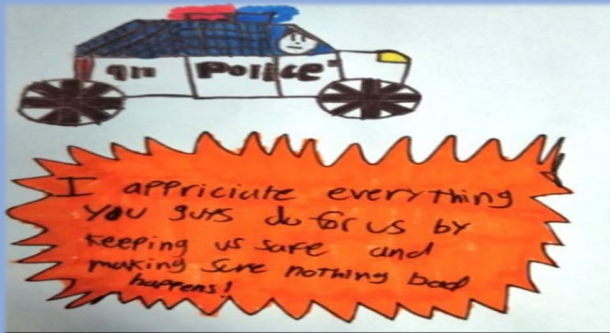
The Community Resource Center (CRC) is also housed at the Northwest Precinct. The purpose of the CRC is to serve as a liaison between OPD and Neighborhood Watch groups, neighborhood associations, other community groups, and individuals within the community who want or need help with crime prevention and problem-solving. The CRC helps neighborhoods develop, and promotes a better, safer quality of life by utilizing a variety of crime prevention resources and programs. The CRC is staffed with 5 non-sworn employees, including 4 Crime Prevention Specialists and a Crime Prevention Coordinator. Although the CRC is housed at the Northwest Precinct, the Crime Prevention Specialists work at all of the Precincts. In 2021, the CRC conducted 77 presentations, 16 events, and 83 Business Watch follow-ups. The CRC made a total of 4,934 civilian contacts.

SOUTHWEST PRECINCT

The Southwest Precinct includes the 70 Area, 80 Area, and 70/80 Area Relief. In 2021, the Southwest Precinct focused on criminal activity at the hotels along the 108th and L. Street corridor, including a fatal shooting that occurred in early January. The Southwest Precinct has been working with Motel 6's National Headquarters, the City of Omaha's Code Enforcement and Planning Department, and local hotel management to improve conditions at these hotels. These hotels often serve as a home base for itinerant criminals who are believed to be responsible for property crimes in the area. The Southwest Precinct has been conducting directed patrol operations around these hotels to reduce crimes such as burglary, auto theft, and theft from motor vehicles. Numerous arrests have been made due to this effort, and stolen property and vehicles have been recovered.

The Southwest Precinct also participated in several drive-by birthday parties, church gatherings, NNO Events, and Millard Days in 2021. In December 2021, the precinct hosted the Cocoa with a Cop event at Stinson Park where 250 visitors were treated with cocoa, candy canes, Christmas music, and assorted OPD incentive items.





**THANK YOU TO OUR
WONDERFUL HERO'S
HERE IN OMAHA!!!**

**ENJOY THESE
PICTURES WE
COLORED FOR YOU**

---COMPASSION WEEK 2021

Artwork created by local youth given to Southwest Precinct in 2021

SOUTHEAST PRECINCT

The Southeast Precinct includes the 50 Area, 60 Area, 50/60 Area Relief, the Riverfront Patrol Squad, Mounted Patrol Squad, and Southeast Shift Command.

In 2021, Southeast Precinct officers attended many community events and meetings, both virtually and in-person. Some of the events included the NCAA Volleyball National Championship, Drug Take Back at Walgreens, Olympic Swim Trials, Cinco de Mayo, NCAA College World Series of Baseball, NNO Events, Septemberfest, and El Grito. The precinct celebrated several birthdays with its citizens, sometimes through birthday drive-by events. The precinct also attended Meet & Treat and Holiday with the Blue.

The Southeast Precinct uses a community-policing approach to make its patrol area safer and the precinct attended regular meetings hosted by community-led organizations. Some of the organizations who hosted the meetings in 2021 included: South Omaha Violence Intervention and Prevention, South Omaha Neighborhood Alliance, South Omaha Environmental Task Force, Old Market Association, Downtown Improvement District, Homeless Task Force, South Omaha Community Care Council, Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiatives, South Omaha Juvenile Justice Forum, and Police Athletics for Community Engagement (P.A.C.E). The Southeast Precinct's Crime Prevention Specialist also sent out monthly newsletters to help community groups stay in touch with OPD during 2021.





WEST PRECINCT

The West Precinct includes the 90 Area, 100 Area, and 90/100 Area Relief. The West Precinct responded to thousands of calls in 2021, which ranged from minor to extremely dangerous and difficult in nature. Many calls resulted in the arrests of dangerous and repeat offenders. Some of the more serious calls that the West Precinct responded to in 2021 included:

- February 25, 2021 – A call came in for a theft-in-progress. Officers arrived to the home and saw the suspect leaving in a vehicle they had stolen. A traffic stop was attempted but the driver fled, so an ABL 1 Helicopter was used to monitor the vehicle to minimize danger to the public. The driver then bailed out of the vehicle and was eventually taken into custody. Besides recovering the stolen vehicle and stolen property from the home, officers recovered meth and stolen catalytic converters stemming from the arrest.
- June 21, 2021 - Officers responded to a call regarding an armed, suicidal party at a hotel. The victim claimed he was unarmed and was demanding officers to shoot him. Officers were able to get the victim to walk out of the room where he was safely taken into protective custody. Officers recovered a loaded firearm in the victim's room.
- Summer 2021 - More than 15 complaints were made about civilians' vinyl fences being damaged by juveniles. After thorough investigation by the precinct and the Criminal Investigations Bureau, it was learned that juveniles were doing a video challenge called the "Kool-Aid Man," where they would run through fences like the Kool-Aid Man causing extensive damage to fences.
- November 22, 2021 – Officers responded to a call regarding a domestic violence incident. The incident started over a disagreement between the parties regarding custody of their children. The male suspect

involved showed everyone his firearm and threatened to shoot and kill some of the people that were present. The male suspect then took the infant that was present and left the area. Officers located the suspect and the infant. The suspect was arrested and the infant was safely returned to his mother.

The West Precinct's Captain and the Southwest Precinct's Crime Prevention Specialist also attended the ribbon cutting ceremony and opening of the first female owned McDonald's near the precinct. This same McDonald's was where the precinct hosted the 2021 Coffee with a Cop Event.



TACTICAL OPERATIONS SECTION

The Tactical Operations Section (TOS) is commanded by a Captain and includes the Emergency Response Unit, the Traffic Unit, and the Canine Unit.

EMERGENCY RESPONSE UNIT

The Emergency Response Unit (ERU) consists of the Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) Team, Bomb Response Team, TSA Explosive Detection K9 Team, and Crisis Negotiation Team. The ERU participated in over a dozen community events in 2021, which often included vehicle or device displays from the SWAT Team or Bomb Team.



The SWAT Team deployed to 137 incidents in 2021. There were 79 high-risk warrants served, 15 barricade incidents, 29 enhanced security assignments, and 14 other assignments (such as dignitary protection, protest operations, etc.).

The Crisis Negotiation Team had 28 callouts for 2021, which was a 75% increase from the previous 4 years. 15 of the callouts were for



suicidal persons with 4 of these calls being persons attempting to jump from buildings or bridges. The remaining callouts were for barricades and for assisting SWAT with surround service or callout warrant service.

The Bomb Response Team and TSA Explosive Detection K9 Team deployed to 118 incidents in 2021. There were 32 callouts for suspicious devices, 31 enhanced EOD security operations, 46 K9 security sweeps and dignitary protections, 5 demolition events, and 4 ammunition burns. The Bomb Response Team also assisted the FBI with a large seizure of flash powder from a suspect who was making explosive devices. They also collected and rendered safe multiple military grade devices, including 1 callout which recovered multiple live pieces from WWII.



TRAFFIC UNIT

The Traffic Unit consists of 3 squads: the Crash Investigation & Prevention Squad (CIPS), Selective Enforcement Event Squad (SEES), and Project Night Life Squad (PNLS). In 2021, CIPS investigated 167 city vehicle crashes, 175 “code 3” crashes, 39 fatal crashes, and 4,829 hit and run incidents. Three notable fatal crashes that CIPS investigated included: 1) an incident in which a suspect drove at a high rate of speed and t-boned another vehicle; 2) an incident where a suspect ran a victim over; and 3) an incident in which a suspect travelled at a high rate of speed and slammed into the back of 3 stopped vehicles.



In 2021, SEES provided police services at 93 events and escorts, with several of these being large scale national or international events. SEES also issued 6,779 citations. PNLS conducted 43 operations, resulting in 5,382 citations. PNLS also gave 83 presentations to area teens on the dangers of impaired and distracted driving.

Notable CIPS and SEES Information 2021

Serious Injury CIPS	SEES
<p>“CODE 3” CRASHES: 20 pedestrian, 28 motorcycle, 56 DUI, 14 drug use, 65 no seatbelt use</p> <p>FATAL CRASHES: 5 pedestrian, 4 motorcycle, 12 DUI, 8 drug use, 15 no seatbelt use</p>	<p>NCAA Women’s Volleyball National Championship Tournament</p> <p>USA Olympic Swim Trials</p> <p>NCAA Men’s Baseball College World Series</p> <p>Senior PGA & Senior US Open</p> <p>CPL Daegan Page escort & funeral</p>



CANINE UNIT



The Canine Unit's primary purpose is to enhance patrol and narcotics detection duties with the assistance of canines. Officers working patrol duties utilize canines to search for, locate, and apprehend potentially dangerous suspects who have fled crime scenes, who are hiding, and/or who are actively resisting arrest. Officers working narcotics detection duties utilize highly trained canines to locate the odor of illegal narcotics. This unit undergoes continual extensive training to maintain a high level of efficiency in the performance of their duties and the unit has 3 police service dog trainers who have earned Nebraska State Certifications.

The Canine Unit consists of 7 officers who have dual-purpose canines (i.e., trained in both patrol and narcotics detection duties), 3 officers who have single-purpose narcotics detection canines that are assigned to OPD's K9/Metro Area Interdiction Team, and 1 sergeant who has a narcotics detection canine. This unit is often called upon to assist other OPD units and outside agencies. In 2021, the Canine Unit assisted various units including Narcotics, SWAT, Homicide, Burglary, Gang, and Fugitive. The unit also assisted Homeland Security, the US Marshalls, and the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA).

Canine Unit Stats 2021:

- 2,342 calls for service
- 885 arrests
- 1,920 traffic stops
- 307 searches for suspects
- 120 suspects located or apprehended
- 173 drug searches
- 56 firearms recovered
- 2,530.9 lbs. of marijuana recovered
- 224 lbs. of methamphetamine seized
- 111 lbs. of other drugs seized (cocaine, heroin, etc.)



RECRUIT CLASSES

In 2021, the Training Unit trained 44 basic recruits (RC1-2021) and 12 lateral recruits (L1-2021). The basic recruits completed 23 weeks of training and graduated from the classroom portion of the academy on October 8, 2021. They then went on to complete the field training portion of the academy, which lasted 15 weeks and ended on January 22, 2022. The lateral recruits completed the classroom portion of their training on July 9, 2021 and completed their field training on September 18, 2021. The lateral recruits officially graduated from the academy on October 8, 2021. The basic recruit class in 2021 shattered records for diversity: 40% of the class were people of color and approximately 20% were women. 10 of the recruits were bilingual.



POLICE OFFICER ASSOCIATIONS

There are many associations that work with and/or support OPD, and detailed below is information on some of these amazing associations. Many of OPD's employees are members or leaders of these associations.



BLACK POLICE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF OMAHA

The Black Police Officers Association of Omaha (BPOA) is a non-profit that works to enhance diversity in the police department, bridge the gap between the Black community and law enforcement, and enhance the quality of life in the Black community. The BPOA of Omaha upholds their mission through community service and educational events, such as the Omaha Teen Summit, Easter Egg Hunt, Student Celebration Day, athletic events, and more. The BPOA gave out free bikes to kids in the community in 2021 (see photo to the left). In 2021, the BPOA was headed by OPD's own Lieutenant Kenneth Fox.

NEBRASKA ASSOCIATION OF WOMEN POLICE (NAWP)

The Nebraska Association of Women Police (NAWP) is devoted to furthering the education, training, and professionalism of women in law enforcement. This is done through mentorship, community awareness, community events, and wellness programs. The NAWP also helps to recruit women for Nebraska's law enforcement agencies. The NAWP hosts an annual conference that includes women in law enforcement, fire safety, dispatch, corrections, and EMS.



LATINO PEACE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF OMAHA

The Latino Peace Officers Association of Omaha (LPOA) has many functions, including bridging the gap between the Latino community and the police. The LPOA hosts various community events throughout the year including a golf outing, soccer games, and baseball games. The LPOA has a program called the South Omaha Athletic League that helps prevent youth from getting involved with gangs, crime, and drug use. The LPOA's president was headed by OPD's own Officer Johnny Palermo in 2021.

Photo is from December 2021, when the LPOA distributed meals to Omaha families for Christmas



OMAHA POLICE FOUNDATION

The mission of the Omaha Police Foundation (OPF) is to promote and strengthen OPD by providing financial support and creating community partnerships to ensure OPD has highly qualified officers who have the training, equipment, and technology needed to prevent crime, save lives, and make Omaha a safer community. In 2021, the OPF and the Grant Administration Unit secured funding for OPD initiatives and community partnerships. Listed below are some of the important things generously funded in 2021:

- \$275,380 for the ongoing support of the Safe2Help Program and Douglas County School Threat Advisory Team (DCSTAT)
- \$347,126 in reallocated funding to support the Threat Assessment and Response Project (TARP)
- \$134,573 for the purchase of school safety equipment as part of OPD's FY 2018 School Violence Prevention Program (SVPP)
- \$122,239 for the expansion of the Restorative Justice Diversion Program (RJDP)
- \$445,465 for OPD Co-Responder Program
- \$214,250 for the hiring of a Youth Co-Responder position and continued operating expenses for 3 years
- \$195,922 for Youth and Family Engagement Specialist costs
- \$195,500 for the purchase of the Cellebrite Universal Forensic Extraction Device Premium Software and Hardware
- \$61,250 for the purchase of a van to house small unmanned aircraft systems/drones
- \$25,000 for the purchase of a remotely operated underwater vehicle
- \$5,000 for the Officers and Families in Crisis Fund



Officer Brandon Fender (second to the right) won Omaha Police Foundation's 2021 "Officer of the Year" award. Also pictured in this photo is Omaha Police Foundation's Board President Woody Bradford, OPD's Chief Schmaderer, and Mayor Jean Stothert.

FIRST RESPONDERS FOUNDATION

The First Responders' Foundation (FRF) has a mission to serve and honor all first responders, veterans, and their families; build appreciation and respect for their work; and enhance public safety. The FRF offers behavioral health services, physical fitness programs and classes, medication management, financial classes, support teams, and more. In 2021, the FRF worked with the Grant Administration Unit to secure grant funding for the OPD Canine Unit and Mounted Patrol Squad. The FRF also hosted and/or attended many events in 2021 including several awards ceremonies to honor first responders, NNO events, the First Responders and Military Appreciation Night, Guns & Hoses Hockey, Omaha Rally for First Responders, Guns & Hoses Boxing, 9/11 Luncheon of Honor, Guns & Hoses Racing, and much more. The FRF sponsored several appreciation lunches in 2021 where they provided lunch for OPD and other metro area first responders.



Photos are from June 2021, when FRF provided lunches to OPD and other first responders in the surrounding area.

OMAHA POLICE WELFARE AND BENEFIT ASSOCIATION (OPWBA)

The Omaha Police Welfare and Benefit Association's (OPWBA) goals are to preserve the high standard of integrity of those serving as officers; to encourage cooperation with OPD; to promote and encourage health, recreational activities, and social activities; to promote better relations between citizens and OPD; and to serve the best interests of its members and their families. The OPWBA periodically hosts events and makes merchandise for purchase.



FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE OMAHA LODGE NO. 1



The Fraternal Order of Police Lodge No. 1 is a fraternal beneficiary non-profit organization comprised of active duty and retired Omaha officers. This organization promotes both professional and social relationships in a variety of ways, including family events throughout the year and even life insurance plans. OPD's own Deputy Chief Anna Colón was Secretary of this organization in 2021.

OMAHA POLICE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION

The Omaha Police Officers Association's (OPOA) goal is to represent the sworn officers of OPD. This is done through education, legal support, community outreach, and trust building. OPOA is committed to partnering with the community and city leaders to make Omaha a safer place and maintain it as a great city to live, work, and raise a family. OPOA also ensures officers are paid a fair wage, have great benefits, and the safest possible working conditions. OPOA hosts several events throughout the year including Kids & Cops and Shop with a Cop. In 2021, the OPOA was headed by OPD's own Sergeant Anthony Conner.



POLICE ATHLETICS FOR COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Police Athletics for Community Engagement (PACE) was initially created by a former OPD officer Antonio (Tony) Espejo who worked for the Gang Investigations Unit. Espejo collaborated with other OPD employees and community associations to start PACE. PACE's aim is to give at-risk youth the opportunity to play sports free-of-charge and to help kids avoid gangs. PACE started off small, but has grown to have more than 5,000 participants in recent years! Many of OPD's employees volunteer for PACE. Some of the sports that PACE offers are: baseball, flag football, soccer, and CrossFit. PACE offers other various events and fun activities throughout the year for OPD members and the community. The pictures to the right are from the 2021 baseball season and the picture below is from the 2021 football season.



COMMUNITY PHOTOS

OPD employees participate in many community events throughout the year. Some of these events are geared towards fun and recreation, while other events are geared towards bringing the community and OPD together.



Native Omaha Days, July 26, 2021 to August 2, 2021



OPD Mounted Unit at the 2021 July 4th Parade



OPD at Blue Mass, October 2021



Coffee With a Cop, September 2021



National Night Out, August 2021

Shop with a Cop, Annual Christmas Event, December 2021



Christmas in the Village, North Omaha, December 2021



Holiday with the Blue, South High School, December 2021





Gang Unit Officer interacting with youth. Mounted Patrol Squad interacting with the community while on patrol.
Southwest Precinct Officer participating in a celebration of a youth's birthday.





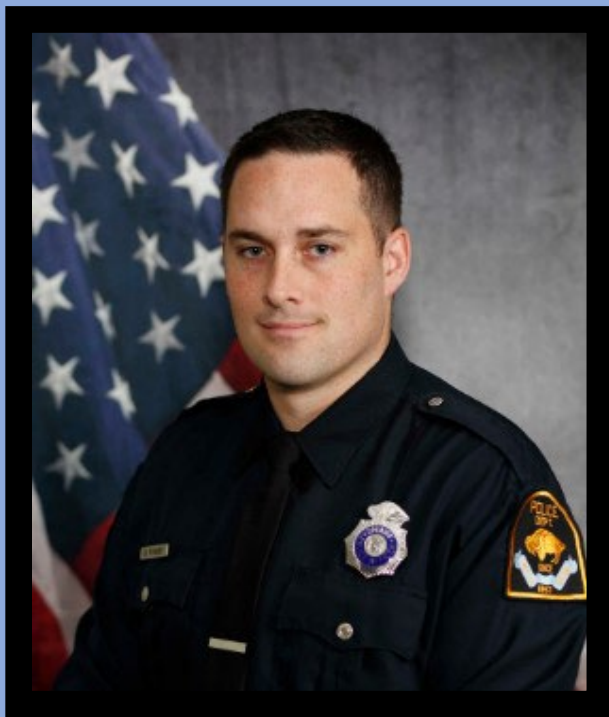
Officers from the Gang Investigations Unit and Gang Suppression Unit putting up basketball hoops and playing basketball with local kids thanks to Operation NETS, Summer 2021.



AWARDS, RECOGNITIONS, AND RETIREMENTS 2021

POLICE LIFE SAVING MEDAL

Officer Brandon Fender

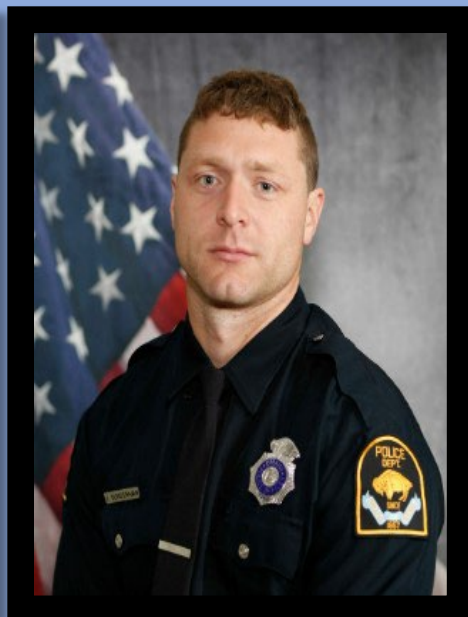
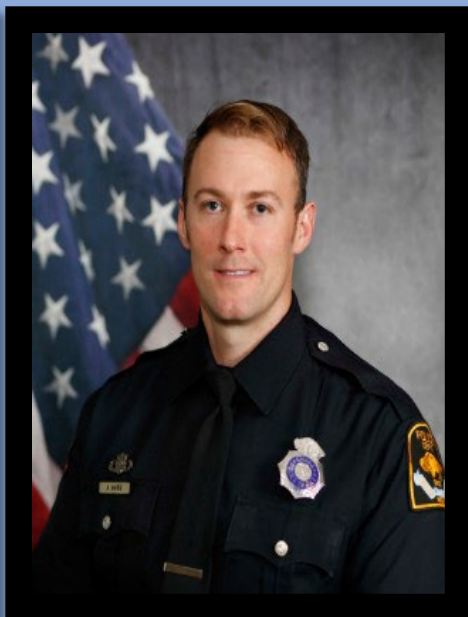
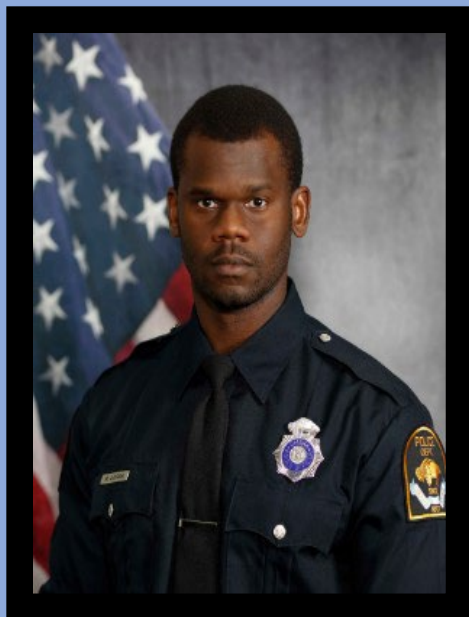


POLICE BLUE SHIELD MEDAL

Officer Matthew Ajuoga

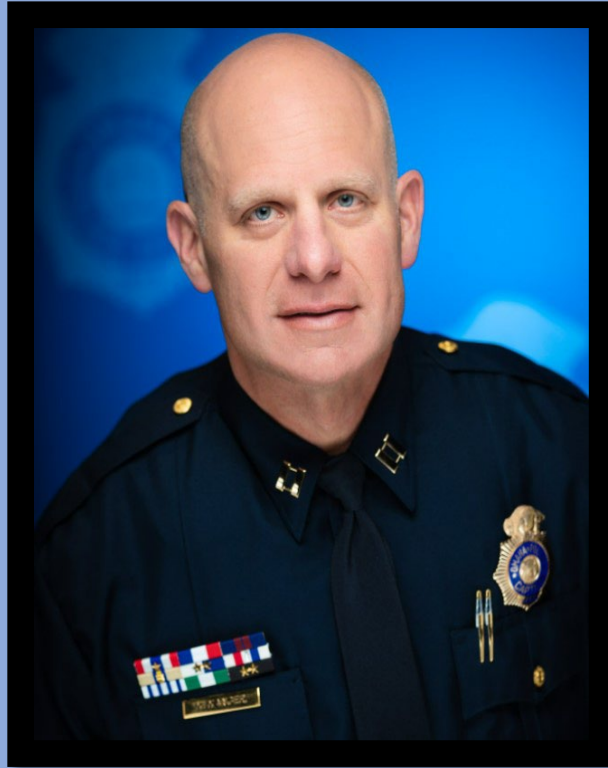
Officer Joshua Ames

Officer Jacob Sunderman



COMMUNITY SERVICE MEDAL

Deputy Chief Kenneth Kanger



AMERICAN RED CROSS – “HEROES IN THE HEARTLAND”

Executive Deputy Chief Scott J. Gray



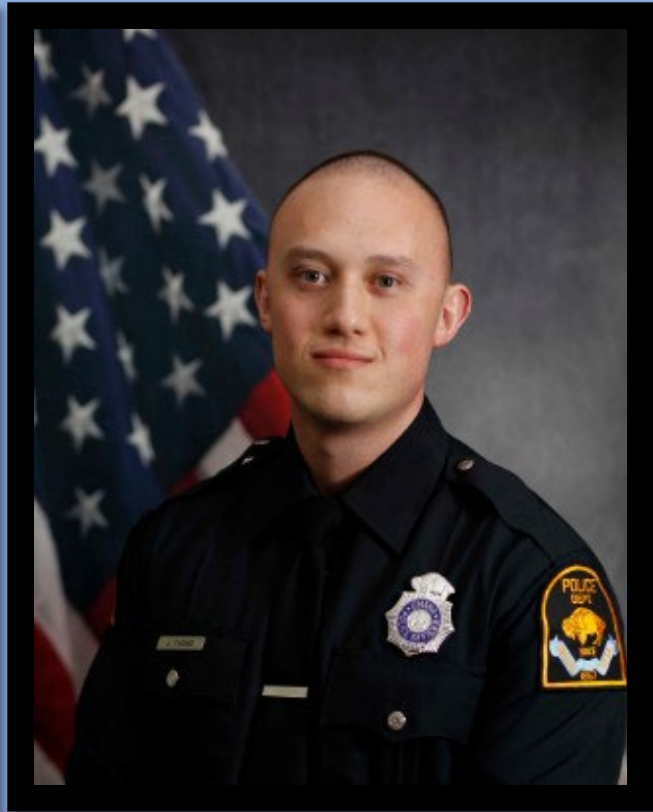
AMERICAN LEGION - NATIONAL LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER OF THE YEAR

Sergeant Daniel S. Martin



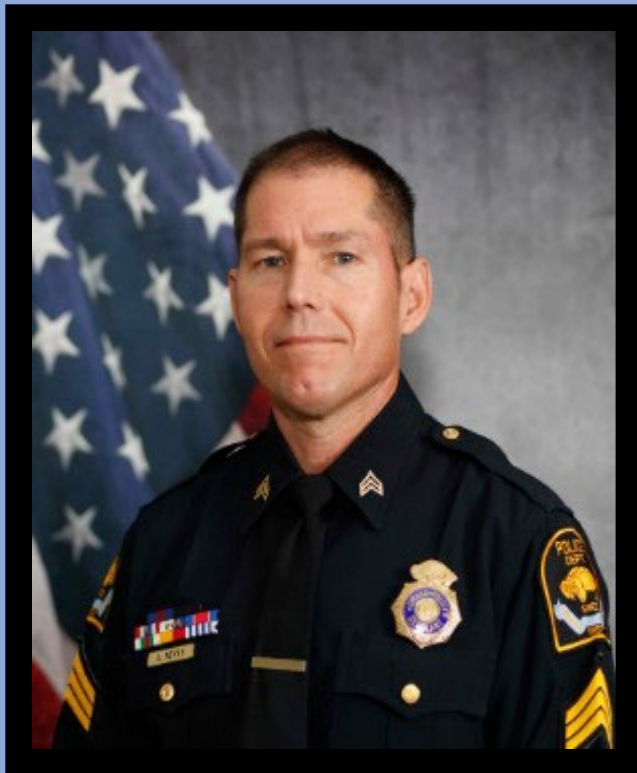
ROTARY CLUB OF OMAHA WEST OFFICER OF THE YEAR

Officer Jacob Chong



METROPOLITAN CHIEFS' ASSOCIATION RECOGNITION

Sergeant Alan Reyes



Officer Michael Hansen

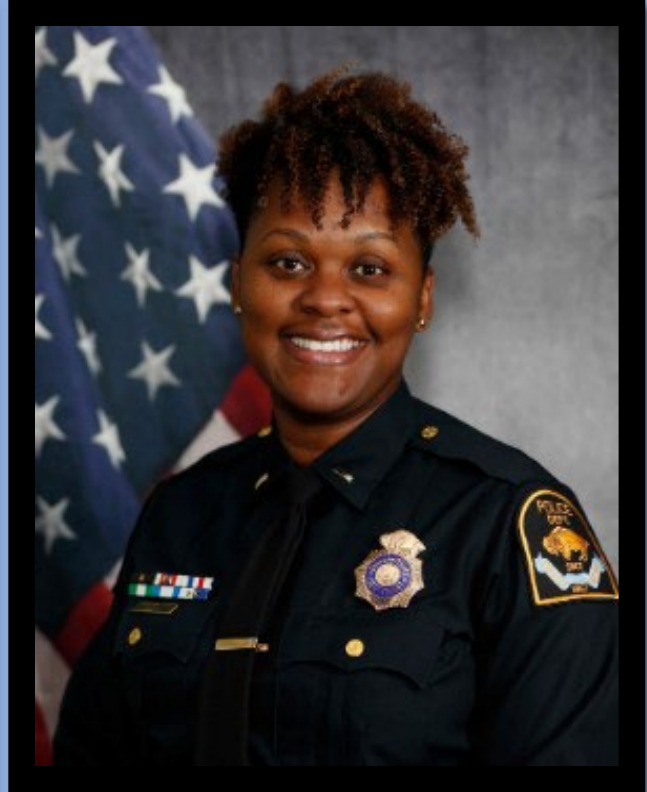


**GREAT PLAINS BLACK HISTORY MUSEUM
OF OMAHA- YOUTH SPORTS, HEALTH
AND WELLNESS AWARD**

**GREATER OMAHA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
LEADERSHIP DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI
AWARD & DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.
LIVING THE DREAM SERVICE AWARD**

Lieutenant Kenneth Fox

Deputy Chief Sherie Thomas



DISTINGUISHED SERVICE MEDAL

Retired Captain Laurie
Scott

Retired Sergeant Stacy
Williams

Retired Sergeant Jeffrey
Kopietz

Retired Sergeant Tina
Jennum

PRESERVATION OF LIFE RIBBON

Sergeant Phillip Ricker
Retired Sergeant Angie
Diehm
Sergeant Thomas
Deignan
Officer Tyler Boyer
Officer Matthew Nass
Officer Jesse Walker
Officer Josiah Warren
Officer David Ackerson
Officer Lisa Crouch
Officer Jeffrey Kozlik

Officer Nicholas
Lanning
Officer Christopher
Rich
Officer Joseph Sullivan
Officer Steve Wilson
Officer Alan Wolf
Officer Rigel Murphy
Officer Darryl Hume
Officer Daniel Morales
Officer Benjamin
Hoffman

Officer Ashley Warman
Officer Joseph Barrett
Officer Bryson
Blandford
Officer Marc Chlopek
Officer Adam Connors
Officer Kaleb Gamble
Officer Mitchell
Hetherington
Officer Mark Keele
Officer Aaron Lier

Officer Donte
McMorris
Officer Tamara Phillips
Officer Brock Rengo
Officer Daniel Faulkner
Officer Anna Koenig
Officer Richard Martier
Officer Joseph Salerno
Officer Brock Gentile
Officer Austin Beck
Officer Anthony
Desanti

Officer David Hanzek
Officer Kendall
Hofsheier

Officer Aaron Lier
Officer Jordan Miller
Officer Jacob Pursell

Officer Justin Sanny
Officer Paul Lawson
Officer Sheila Valquier

POLICE RIBBON OF UNIT EXCELLENCE

Deputy Chief Greg
Gonzalez
Retired Captain Russell
Horine
Lieutenant Kenneth Fox
Lieutenant Steven
Meister
Lieutenant James Pauly
Lieutenant Kyle Steffen
Sergeant Antone Arrick
III
Sergeant Margaret
Fricke

Sergeant Paul Hanson
Sergeant Tyler Keith
Sergeant Jonathan
Robish
Sergeant Marcus
Sullivan
Sergeant Brett Schrage
Officer Lisa Crouch
Officer Jeffry
Shelbourn
Officer Matthew
Backora
Officer Steven Barnes

Officer Billie Jo Ceglar
Officer Mike Dose
Officer Malcolm Flight
II
Officer Sherry Gooley
Officer Paul Leaders
Officer John Lopez
Officer Joseph Richter
Officer Jennie Scanlon
Officer Ja-Price Spears
Officer Joel Strominger
Officer Brian Wucher

Secretary I Trisha
Dunwoody
Secretary I Jennifer
Johnson
Administrative
Assistant III Michael
Maxon
Data Analyst Rebekka
Hall

POLICE RIBBON OF EXCELLENCE

Lieutenant Kenneth Fox
Lieutenant Steven
Meister
Sergeant Mandee
Kampbell

Crime Prevention
Specialist Lauren
Genier
Administrative
Assistant III Daneen
Robb

Administrative
Assistant III Kelly Hall
Administrative
Assistant III Michael
Maxon

Administrative
Assistant III Kimberly
Vaughan

LETTER OF COMMENDATION

Lieutenant Shane
Meyers
Sergeant Kevin Elliott
Sergeant Makayla Stiles
Sergeant John Villwok
Sergeant Aaron Hanson
Officer Caleb Hanish
Officer Zachary Hanish
Officer Micheal Hansen
Officer Adam Vail
Officer James Johnson
Officer Nicholas Groth

Officer Robert Seitzer
Officer Andrew
Ramsay
Officer Austin Taylor
Officer Jacob Chong
Officer Brian Gerrity
Officer Michael Hansen
Officer Joseph Barrett
Officer Marc Chlopek
Officer Adam Connors
Officer Mitchell
Hetherington

Mental Health Crisis
Co-Responder Shelley
Pool
Officer Justin Barnes
Officer Daniel Ortiz
Officer John Urban
Officer Robyn Bruning
Officer Mickey Larson
Officer Melissa
McDermott
Officer Ashley Smith
Officer Anthony Barnes

Officer Dylan Belter
Officer Justin Durrett
Officer Stephen Garcia
Officer Jordan Vander
Zwaag
Officer Adam Barcal
Officer Jacob
Sunderman
Office Supervisor Kyle
Porter
Secretary I Darcy
Schaff

LETTER OF WORK WELL DONE

Captain Mark Matuza
Lieutenant Stefanie
Fidone

Lieutenant Nicholas
Muller
Lieutenant Owen Gregg

Lieutenant Nicholas
Muller
Sergeant David Bianchi

Sergeant Alan
Peatrowsky
Sergeant Daniel Flynn

Sergeant Thomas Fricke	Officer Ryan Hinsley	Officer Jordan Vander Zwaag	Officer David Ullery
Sergeant Sheila Cech	Officer Sherry King	Officer Cory Waltemath	Officer Jamelle Ross
Sergeant Lindsey Fox	Officer Nathan Meisinger	Officer Mark Blice	Officer Timothy Seiker
Sergeant James Shade	Officer Joseph Negrete	Officer Theodore Delezene	Officer Adam Barcal
Sergeant Christopher Spencer	Officer Aneta Nelson	Officer Kyle Foster	Officer Robert Book
Sergeant Scott Warner	Officer Micheal Oliver	Officer David Moore	Officer Brian Bosn
Sergeant Paul Latschar	Officer David Preston Jr.	Officer Erin Riley	Officer Marc Chlopek
Sergeant Matthew Rech	Officer James Reisinger	Officer Timothy Seiker	Officer Corey Clements
Officer Nicola Bay	Officer David Schneider	Officer Nicholas Sorensen	Officer Adam Fisher
Officer Alexis Boults	Officer Thomas Smith	Officer Devin Washington	Officer Caleb Hanish
Officer Heath Brunow	Officer Brian Wucher	Officer Brian Bosn	Officer Matthew Marchio
Officer James Carlson	Officer Micheal Young	Officer Timothy Cornstock	Officer Matthew Owen
Officer Erin Marcotte	Officer Thomas Ewin	Officer Brandon Hahn	Officer Thomas Rosas
Officer Ricardo Martinez	Officer August Hogan	Officer DaShawn Haynes	Officer Connor Smith
Officer Thomas McCaslin	Officer Nicola Bay	Officer Christopher Mathis	Officer Alex Atkinson
Officer Robert Seitzer	Officer Heath Brunow	Officer Connor Smith	Officer Adam Barcal
Officer Robert Soldo	Officer Brian Diminico	Officer Devin Washington	Officer DaShawn Haynes
Officer Jacob Sunderman	Officer Kyle Graber	Officer Jaime Partida	Officer William Klees
Officer Matthew Worm	Officer Adam Kruse	Officer Jesse Walker	Officer Romina Perez
Officer Douglas Arrick	Officer Spenser Lewis	Officer Bryson Blandford	Officer Devin Washington
Officer Domonic Ernesti	Officer Nathan Meisinger	Officer Christopher Brown	Officer Jennifer Buhrman
Officer Jesse Godden	Officer Luciano Rizzo	Officer Heath Brunow	Officer Tyler Buhrman
Officer Michael Hansen	Officer Paul Sarka	Officer Mitchell Hetherington	Officer Michael Hansen
Officer William Klees	Officer Robert Seitzer	Officer Sterling Hitch	Officer Mitchell Hetherington
Officer Randy Pignotti	Officer Marcos Diaz	Officer Roman Hutton	Officer Jason Kennedy
Officer Ryan Sillman	Officer Matei Jackson	Officer Aaron Kruger	Officer Thomas Loftus
Officer Sean Soderberg	Officer Devin Crinklaw	Officer Mickey Larson	Officer Nathan Miller
Officer Sean Soderberg	Officer Leigh Culver	Officer Jon Martin	Officer Kasha Moore
Officer Meeko Spainhower	Officer Angela Echtenkamp	Officer Logan Moran	Officer Logan Moran
Officer Brittney Taylor	Officer Sonia Elkins	Officer Dustin Morris	Officer Joseph Wolf
Officer Adam Vail	Officer Paul Hasiak	Officer Trevor Shoemaker	Senior Forensic Technician Laura Casey
Officer Ashley Warman	Officer Jennifer Nelson	Officer Nicholas Sorensen	Forensic Technician Jaeyeon Lee
Officer Steven Wilson	Officer Terrance Smith	Officer Trevor Toelle	Forensic Technician Brenna Longacre
Officer Matthew Backora	Officer Sean Soderberg		Forensic Technician Kimberly Van Den Akker
Officer Larry Cahill	Officer Ruben Soto		Forensic Technician Kyle Drews
Officer Patrick Dempsey	Officer John Supeh		
Officer Wendi Dye	Officer Dylan Belter		
Officer Sergio Gutierrez	Officer Erin Marcotte		
Officer Brandon Hahn	Officer Christopher Overton		
	Officer Scott Richter		

SWORN RETIREMENTS

Lieutenant Vivian E. Buckley
Lieutenant James M. Skelnar
Lieutenant Staci A. Witkowski
Sergeant Stacy L. Williams
Sergeant Tahnee R. Johnson
Sergeant David W. Volenec
Sergeant Felicia A. Merritt
Sergeant Tina M. Jennum
Officer Debra S. Janing
Officer Jason T. Bosiljevac
Officer Keith P. Thompson
Officer Rickey M. Brown

Officer Matthew L. Williams
Officer Antonio L. Espejo
Officer David G. Rieck
Officer Dana L. Taylor
Officer Christopher B. Leick
Officer Shane A. Bonacci
Officer Shawna M. McClure
Officer John R. Supeh
Officer Christopher C. Legrow
Officer Constance A. Garro
Officer Gregg A. Grosssoehmig
Officer Ikhui Chong

Officer Sandra L. Wylie
Officer John R. Martinez
Officer Joseph M. Sanchez III
Officer Kenneth B. Randall
Officer Christopher B. Leick
Officer Jeffrey M. Kozeny
Officer Matthew L. Williams
Officer Gary D. Kula

NON-SWORN RETIREMENTS

Information Services Technician Mark A. Haeefele
Office Supervisor Judith E. Wilcoxson
Office Supervisor Constance M. Barbas

Secretary I Francene M. Holstein
Secretary I Jacqueline J. Williams-Elliston



Photos of some of the 2021 retirees

IN REMEMBRANCE

Listed below are the names of the men and women of the Omaha Police Department who passed on in 2021. The department appreciates their sacrifice and dedication to serving the citizens of Omaha and for their diligence in keeping Omaha safe.

Retired Sergeant Edward W. Horne.....Served Citizens of Omaha for 34 years

Retired Sergeant Glenn Emery Berry.....Served Citizens of Omaha for 26 years

Retired Sergeant Carl Ciciulla.....Served Citizens of Omaha for 30 years

Retired Sergeant John "Preston" Sears.....Served Citizens of Omaha for 13 years

Retired Sergeant Paul H. Wade.....Served Citizens of Omaha for 29 years

Retired Officer Charles Martinez Jr.....Served Citizens of Omaha for 27 years

Retired Officer Thomas Michael Schwartz.....Served Citizens of Omaha for 27 years

Retired Officer Winton S. "Ben" Utter.....Served Citizens of Omaha for 27 years

Retired Officer James R. Orr.....Served Citizens of Omaha for 32 years

Retired Officer Isaiah "Zeke" Jackson, Jr.....Served Citizens of Omaha for 31 years

Retired Officer Larry Reid Chalfant.....Served Citizens of Omaha for 12 years

Retired Officer John Charles Tess.....Served Citizens of Omaha for 4 years

Retired Police Information Operator I Virginia Putnam.....Served Citizens of Omaha for 13 years

Retired Automotive Equipment Operator II.....Served Citizens of Omaha for 11 years