

ANNUAL REPORT 2023



### PREPARED BY

MOHAWK VALLEY CRIME ANALYSIS CENTER



I am honored to share the work of the members of the Utica Police Department, both sworn and civilian, in this, our 2023 Annual Report. In the report, we have highlighted accomplishments, community involvement, and statistical data. The report is just one component of our continued commitment to transparency with the community we serve.

Collectively, we are promoting strategies that support partnerships and problem solving techniques, which proactively address and help to reduce crime, especially violent crime and gun violence. We continue to exceed the FBI's National Clearance Rate of solving shootings and homicides, and we were able to remove more illegally possessed weapons off the streets than the previous year.

With the support of the city's elected officials and funding from the Division of Criminal Justice Services Gun Involved Violence Elimination (GIVE) grant, we have invested in the best crime-fighting technology, tools, and training for our police officers.

The Utica Police Department houses one of eleven statewide Crime Analysis Centers. Sworn police officers from several area law enforcement agencies, along with civilian crime analysts provide timely analysis, information, and investigative support to help area law enforcement agencies more effectively solve, reduce, and prevent crime.

Building and fostering community relationships remains on the forefront of what we do with more officers becoming active in the community. Our police officers are involved in many community and charitable events, visiting public schools and involved in trust-building sessions with our adult citizens. We also continue to hold a Citizen Police Academy for citizens of our community to learn more about our department, training, policies and practices.

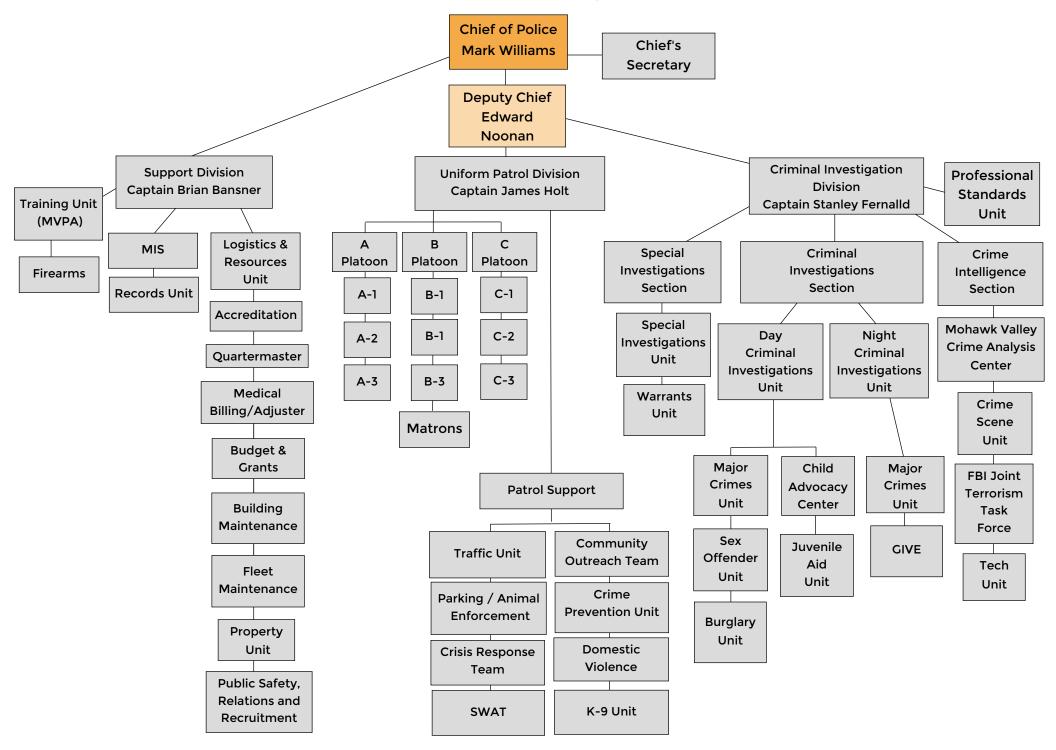


Mental health issues in our community and police response remains a priority for the Utica Police Department. We are one of two police agencies in Oneida County that have a dedicated Crisis Response Unit. This unit is a collaboration of mental health specialists from the Mobile Crisis Assessment Team (MCAT) working alongside trained Crisis Intervention Utica Police Officers. This team approach can offer rapid support and continuum of care to people in crisis. Additionally, the Crisis Response Team has added a new member to its ranks- "Officer Penny", a trained therapy dog. Penny's role will be to provide comfort and support to persons experiencing mental health-related issues.

It is an honor and privilege to serve beside the men and women of the Utica Police Department and to serve our citizens. Our successes are a result of the great team we have here at UPD and their dedication and hard work.

Sincerely, Mark Williams Chief of Police

### **Utica Police Department Organizational Chart**



# **CURRENT STATISTICS**

The Utica Police Department serves an area of 16.76 square miles and a population of approximately 64,500. Mayor Robert Palmieri finished his term in office at the end of December 2023. Former Common Council President Michael Galime was elected as Mayor for the City of Utica in November 2023 and officially took office on January 1, 2024

The Utica Police Department is an accredited agency and subject to regular reviews by the New York State Law Enforcement Agency Accreditation Program. Accreditation is a progressive and contemporary way of helping police agencies evaluate and improve their overall performance. It provides formal recognition that an organization meets or exceeds general expectations of quality in the field. Accreditation acknowledges the implementation of policies that are conceptually sound and operationally effective.



The New York State program became operational in 1989 and encompasses four principal goals:

1-To increase the effectiveness and efficiency of law enforcement agencies utilizing existing personnel, equipment and facilities to the fullest extent possible.

2-To promote increased cooperation and coordination among law enforcement agencies and other agencies of the criminal justice services.

3-To ensure the appropriate training of law enforcement personnel.

4-To promote public confidence in law enforcement agencies.

The Accreditation Program is comprised of a set of standards developed to further enhance the capabilities of an agency, and is divided into three categories: Administrative, Training and Operations Standards.

- Administrative standards have provisions for such topics as agency organization, fiscal management, personnel practices, and records management.
- Training standards encompass basic and in-service instruction, as well as training for supervisors and specialized or technical assignments.
- Operations standards deal with such critical and litigious topics as high-speed pursuits, roadblocks, patrol and unusual occurrences.

### **Support Division Units**

#### MIS

Computer systems maintenance, software and hardware updates, upgrades and repairs.

#### Records

Maintenance of all police records and files and servicing of public requests for information.

### Training

Provide up-to-date training on current law enforcement trends and updates from the Municipal Police Training Counsel.

### **Logistics & Resources**

Management of employee services and building/equipment maintenance.

#### Accreditation

Responsible for maintaining standards set forth for the accreditation process.

### **Budget & Grants**

Management of department's fiscal resources, and application/report management of departmental grants.

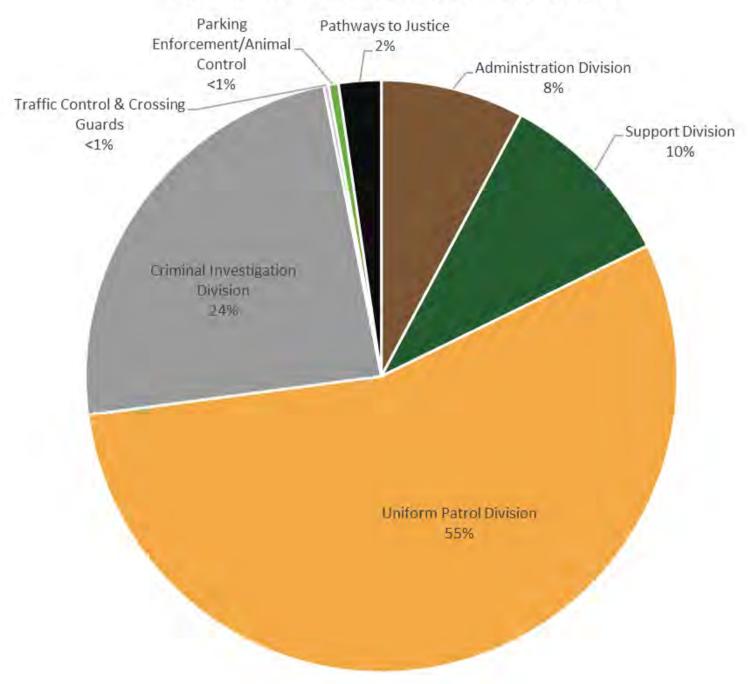
### **Public Safety Relations and Recruitment**

Public safety relations and recruitment's main focus was increasing the department's recruitment efforts to boost the number of applicants for the Civil Service Exam.



The Utica Police Department's April 2023 - March 2024 Budget is \$20,836,721.60

### April 2023 - March 2024 Operating Budget



### Grants

### Most Recent Grants Awarded

GIVE X Initiative	\$864,446.00
COPS Hiring Program	\$625,000.00
Violent Crime Reduction	\$191,700.00
DOS Community Wellness	\$29,000.00
LiveScan	\$26,500.00
Crisis Response Therapy Canine	\$20,000.00

### Additional grants managed:

- Body-Worn Camera Policy and Implementation Program FY22
- Bulletproof Vest Partnership FY22
- Child Passenger Safety FY24
- Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant FY21
- Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant FY22
- Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant FY23
- FBI Joint Terrorism Task Force FY24
- DWI High Visibility Enforcement FY24
- Justice and Mental Health Collaboration Program FY22
- Police Traffic Services FY24
- STOP DWI FY23
- STOP Violence Against Women FY20
- Tactical Team Targeted Grant FY19
- Tactical Team Targeted Grant FY20

### Training Unit

- Coordinates and administers departmental training programs.
- · Administers training to police officers from outside agencies.
- Plans and develops departmental training standards and programs.
- Monitors training methods and identifies training necessary for adherence to state and federal laws, and department policies.
- Prepares and distributes training bulletins.
- Maintains records of training, standards, programs and lesson plans.
- Administers in-service and field officer training programs, firearms training and qualifications and police academy programs.

# 2,824 regional training hours



### Including but not limited to:

- SWAT
- Supervisor School
- Advanced Crisis Negotiations
- Advanced Assisting Individuals
- Mountain Bike
- Officer Wellness
- Firearms Instructor
- Ghost Gun Investigations
- Force Science De-escalation
- Animal Cruelty Training
- Use of Force Summit
- Procedural Justice
- Principled Policing Impact Bias
- Duty to Intervene
- Crisis Intervention Training

### Public Safety Relations and Recruitment

#### Recruitment

In 2023, members of the Utica Police Department attended the Police Recruitment and Retention Summit. The agenda included increasing positive relationships with the community, developing youth programs, and utilizing social media and independent websites for recruitment. These topics were reflected in the unit's goals and objectives this year.

The unit developed a recruitment website (<u>www.joinuticapd.com</u>) independent of the city's website this year. This website highlights the benefits of being a police officer, including salary, healthcare, retirement benefits and opportunities for advancement within the department. The hiring process is described in clear and concise steps for prospective applicants to review, and there is a Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) section included. Prospective applicants are able to apply online or fill out an interest form to be contacted. This year, the Utica Police Department waived application fees in hopes of attracting more applicants and making the application process easier. To attract the younger generations to the job, there was a focus on social media advertisement, specifically advertising the easy-to-use website and application process. The Utica Police Department saw a 23% increase in applications in 2023. Applications have increased 64% since the creation of this unit in 2022.

The Utica Police Department joined the 30x30 pledge in May. The pledge aims to increase women in policing to 30% by 2030. This goal will be reflected in future recruitment campaigns by increasing visibility of women police officers, as well as reviewing our own policies and procedures to ensure our efforts match the goals we have set out to accomplish.

The Junior Public Safety Academy graduated 13 Junior Cadets this past summer. The Junior Academy increased from four weeks to five weeks this year, allowing for Jr. Cadets to gain more hands-on experience. All Jr. Cadets obtained their CPR Certification and were eligible to earn 3 college credits for participation. Jr. Cadets were encouraged to attend weekly workout sessions throughout the school year to stay in contact with Public Safety professionals.



Public Safety Relations and Recruitment | Citizens' Police Academy

### **Public Relations**

After a two year hiatus due to COVID-19, the Utica Police Department once again started to host the Citizens' Police Academy (CPA). Twelve individuals graduated from the CPA. They attended a nine week program which covered topics ranging from Patrol Operations and Use of Force to Community Outreach

and Crisis Response.

### Citizens' Police Academy 2023

The 2023 Citizens' Police Academy was held from January 9, 2023-March 6, 2023. The topics covered during the academy included Patrol Operations, Police K-9, Metro SWAT, Community Outreach, Professional Standards, Crime Scene Investigations, Mohawk Valley Crime Analysis Center, Juvenile Aid Unit, and Use of Force.

### Citizens' Police Academy Graduates

Saw Kwe-Klue Moo Michael Furbeck

Susan Kot Amy James

Roosevelt Patterson Sidi Mwalimu

Saphar Art **Anthony Spratt** Yousif Alsaad Semsida Jasencic Ler Wah Alexander Colon





# POLICE ACADEMY



Graduating Class 2024-1

In 2023, the Utica Police Department began the process of hiring officers to fill several vacancies within their ranks. After a rigorous hiring process that included physical agility testing, background investigation, polygraph and psychological evaluation, several individuals were chosen to attend the Mohawk Valley Police Academy.

In May 2023, the following officers graduated from the MVPA after completing six months of academy training and 12 weeks of field training:

- Adam Agosto
- Ronald Alesandro
- Shaun Burris

- Mark Diana
- Jamarious Morgan
- Matthew Pastor
- Cristhofer Rodriguez Ramirez
- Khiry Wilkinson
- Matthew Williams

The Mohawk Valley Police Academy (MVPA) is co-chaired by the Oneida County Sheriff's Office and the Utica Police Department. The current "Basic Course for Police Officers" consists of a minimum standard of over 700 hours established by the Municipal Police Training Council (MPCT). However the MVPA gives our recruit police officers over 1000 hours of police instruction on a variety of important law enforcement topics.

Staff routinely reviews the content of the Basic Course for Police Officers to ensure that the material remains relevant to criminal justice issues and best prepares officers to serve their communities. Today's Basic Course for Police Officers covers a wide range of topics including but not limited to, Ethics & Professionalism, Cultural Diversity, Bias-Related Incidents, Professional Communication, Persons with Disabilities, Crisis Intervention, Use of Physical Force & Deadly Force, Active Shooter Response and Decision-Making. Today's police recruits are also mandated to complete numerous Reality-Based Training Scenarios to better prepare them for the situations they will encounter on the job.



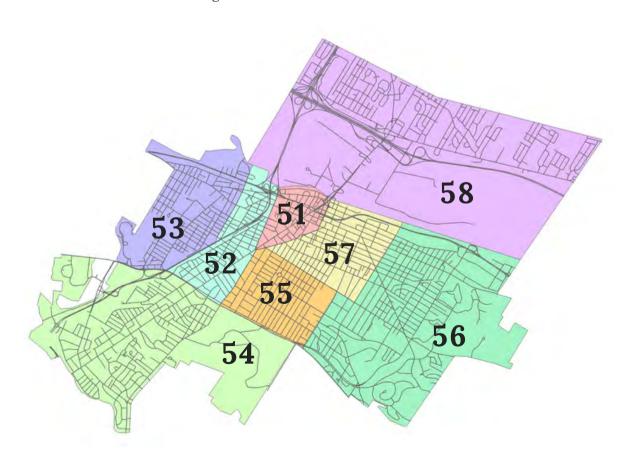
The Patrol Division is responsible for providing direct police services to the public. Its primary responsibility is to provide continuous patrol coverage and traffic control.

In order to provide for continuous patrol coverage, patrol is divided into three "platoons" (8.25 hour tours of duty) based on department needs. A lieutenant commands each of the three platoons (designated as the A, B and C platoons) further subdivided into three squads (i.e. A1, A2 and A3). Subordinate supervisory officers assigned to each squad are accountable to their respective platoon commander.

Officers have responded to more than 39,917 CAD and 911 calls during the 2023 calendar year. This does not include other incidents such as motor vehicle stops, premise checks, or other self-initiated investigations.

#### Units

- A Platoon
- B Platoon
  - Matrons
- C Platoon
- Patrol Support
  - Traffic Unit
  - Community Outreach Team
  - Parking Enforcement/Animal Control
  - Crisis Response Team
  - Crime Prevention Unit
  - Domestic Violence Unit
  - SWAT
  - K9 Unit
  - City Court Security
  - Public Safety Relations and Recruitment



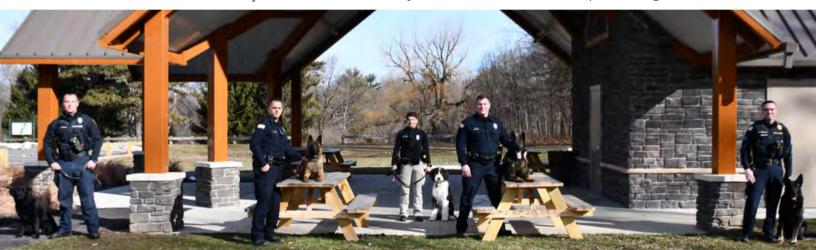
K9 Unit | SWAT

### 2023 K9 Annual Report

Sgt. Kyle Piersall & K9 Dak -10 Utilizations Narcotics Detection & Patrol/Tracking

PO Al Castilla & K9 Varick -28 Utilizations Narcotics Detection & Community Outreach PO Jordan Dodge & K9 Brophy
-50 Utilizations
Explosive Detection & Patrol/Tracking

PO Ray Kellogg & K9 Vigo
-29 Utilizations
Explosive Detection & Patrol/Tracking



### **SWAT**

The Metro SWAT team consists of 9 officers from the Utica Police Department, 4 officers from the New Hartford Police Department and 7 officers from Oneida County Sheriff's Office. In 2023 there were 6 call-outs, 5 warrant requests and 7 events (Quick Reaction Force/Sniper Observation Teams). Metro SWAT operators train 2 days per month which totals 192 hours a year. Additionally, Metro SWAT members participate in training conferences and events such as NYDHSES TAC Week, NYDHSES Excelsior Challenge, Notre Dame Active Shooter Drill, NYTOA Conference, MERCY Flight Joint Training and NYSDHSES Tactical Team Conference.



### Traffic Unit

The Utica Police Department Traffic Unit is a two officer unit that plans and coordinates large events that impact traffic flow throughout the City of Utica. The Traffic Unit also conducts traffic surveys and researches, reviews and writes traffic legislation.

It is the policy of the Utica Police Department to provide for the safe and orderly flow of traffic by encouraging public compliance with traffic laws through both discretionary and mandatory enforcement.

The department shall promote traffic safety through the effective use of its resources and provide information to the public and appropriate traffic engineering authorities to assist in identifying and remedying the causes of motor vehicle accidents and other traffic problems as necessary.

Beyond traffic enforcement and traffic control for special events, the UPD Traffic Unit conducts regular traffic studies to keep the city roads safe for all.



### Community Outreach Team

The Utica Police Department Community Outreach Team (COT) is responsible for numerous tasks dealing with quality of life complaints and improving the relationship between the police and the community we serve. The COT facilitated 20 Armadillo deployments and processed 6 Nuisance Abatement proceedings. In 2023, the team attended 137 community events to include:

- All neighborhood Association meetings (monthly) for East,
   West, North, South and the Cornhill neighborhoods of Utica.
- Sleep in Heavenly Peace bed delivery for the underprivileged.
- Law Enforcement Seminar for The Center regarding incoming immigrants.
- Worked with The Center on a quarterly basis for updates on the local immigrant populations.
- Also, held a traffic safety forum for The Center.
- Participated in multiple Career Assembly's for local schools for grades K-12.
- Proctor High School Public Safety Club meetings.
- Participated in multiple job fairs at Proctor High School, MVCC, HCCC, Utica University and SUNY Morrisville.
- Participated in Career Days at local elementary schools.
- Community Reader events at several local elementary schools.
- School Fun Day events at Albany Elementary and Notre Dame Elementary.
- Assisted the Center for Family Life and Recovery with Spring and Winter Outreach programs/giveaways.
- Lowe's Fire Safety event.



### Community Outreach Team

#### Continued...

- Worked with Utica Little League for First Responder Appreciation night.
- Conducted a K9 Demonstration with Criminal Justice students at Utica University.
- Conducted a Q&A session with Criminal Justice students at BOCES.
- Participated in Career Speaker Day at BOCES alternate education location.
- Conducted a Safety and Security briefing with OCSO at Margaret Knamm Apartments.
- Participated in the Adopt-a-Cop program at Mohawk Valley Community Action Agency where Officers met monthly with Pre-K children to get them accustomed to Police Officers.
- Participated in the Jefferson Elementary Summer School program where Officers read to and engaged with special needs students.
- Mastrovito Driver Safety Event recruitment/driver safety/car seat installation.
- MVCAA Summer Safety program spoke with approx. 75 children ages 7-13 about summer safety.
- Organized and conducted multiple Coffee with a Cop events at local convenience stores and coffee shops.
- Jones Elementary Trunk or Treat event.
- Harvest on the Hill Cornhill Halloween Festival.





Domestic Violence Unit | Crisis Response Team

### **Domestic Violence Unit**

It is the policy of the Utica Police Department to respond to every domestic incident as a serious call for service. Department members shall consistently seek to enhance the safety of victims and their children through a combination of law enforcement and referrals to domestic violence service providers. The Department will further promote officer safety by ensuring that officers are fully prepared to respond to and effectively deal with domestic violence calls for service.

The Utica Police Department partners with the YWCA of the Mohawk Valley in order to provide victims of domestic violence with advocacy and services. These services include shelter, court advocacy, hotline advocacy and counseling. A YWCA employee works directly in the Utica Police Department with the assigned Domestic Violence Officer.

# 2,697 Domestic Incident **Reports Taken**

### Crisis Response Team

The Crisis Response Team (CRT) is a combined effort of a UPD Police Officer and the MCAT Crisis Counselor who are partnered together and respond together in the field. In 2023, Officer Penny, a sheepadoodle, joined her handler PO Marissa Vomer and the CRT team as a therapy dog, along with two new MCAT Crisis Counselors, Kellie Kiesel and Minela Serferagic.

- CRT responds to real time requests for in-field crisis response after initial UPD patrol triage
- Complete field outreach to high utilizers in the community
- Review MHL calls daily for new opportunities for outreach and to connect with individuals with mental health struggles
- CRT works with local service providers, police, probation, mental health court, Oneida County Mental Health, MVHS, etc.



1,433 Emotionally Disturbed Person Calls

838 MHL Arrests

1,004 CRT Outreach

Criminal Investigation Division | Burglary Unit

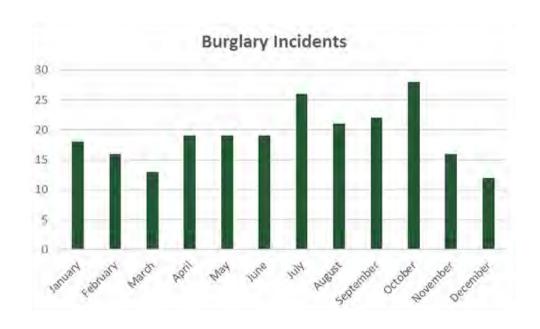
### **Criminal Investigation Division**

It is the policy of the Utica Police Department to place case responsibility upon CID for certain crimes. Examples of these crimes include felony crimes, certain qualifying misdemeanor crimes against persons and property, serious or unusual incidents, homicides and suspicious deaths and any other cases assigned by the Chief of Police. Personnel and cases shall be assigned within the division on the basis of expertise. Police officers assigned to conduct criminal investigations shall be titled investigators.

The United States Constitution guarantees every citizen certain rights and protections, i.e. the right to legal counsel, protection against self-incrimination, protection against unlawful search and seizure, the right to privacy, etc. Every member of the department bears a strict liability to comply with and safeguard those constitutional obligations. Members of the Criminal Investigation Division, by virtue of the nature of their specific duties, must be keenly aware of these obligations and keep current with any court decisions that may affect these rights.

### **Burglary Unit**

The Burglary Unit consists of two investigators solely assigned to the investigation of burglary complaints.



Major Crimes Unit | Mohawk Valley Crime Analysis Center

### Major Crimes Unit

The Major Crimes Unit is comprised of 5 investigators. Their primary role is to investigate homicides, shooting assaults, bank robberies, and other serious crimes or investigations assigned at the discretion of the CID Commanding Officer.

### Mohawk Valley Crime Analysis Center

In 2023, the Mohawk Valley Crime Analysis Center began expansion within the Utica Police Department; the amount of office space nearly doubled in size. With the expansion will come the ability to partner with more local agencies and state agencies, such as NYS DOCCS-Office of Special Investigations. It is expected that in 2024, a DOCCS OSI Senior Investigator will be assigned to the MVCAC full time to assist law enforcement.



The Mohawk Valley Crime Analysis Center's requests for assistance increased by 18.5 percent from 2022 to 2023. A 31 percent increase was noted from 2021 to 2023. As more agencies under the MVCAC's area of responsibility continue to see the value the center offers, these numbers are expected to increase.

Crime Type	5YA	2022	2023	Last Year % Change	5YA % Change
Homicide	7.2	3	8	100%	8%
Rape	18.8	29	12	-59%	-36%
Robbery	95.6	83	64	-23%	-33%
Agg Assault	223.2	247	210	-15%	-6%
Burglary	276	280	212	-24%	-23%
Larceny	1663.8	1819	1505	-17%	-10%
MV Theft	135.4	164	110	-33%	-19%
Violent Crime	344.6	362	294	-19%	-15%
Property Crime	2075.2	2263	1827	-19%	-12%
Overall Index Crime	2419.8	2625	2121	-19%	-12%

Part 1 Crimes DCJS Stats comparing 2023 to 2022

GIVE | Crime Scene Unit

#### GIVE

The goal of the Gun Involved Violence Elimination (GIVE) initiative is the elimination of shootings and homicides, or aggravated assaults, through the integrated use of evidence-based strategies that are incorporated into the four core elements of GIVE: People, Places, Alignment and Engagement. GIVE is a DCJS-funded project that allots one full-time GIVE funded officer position and one part-time GIVE funded officer position at the Utica Police Department. The initiative is a joint venture involving the Utica Police Department, the Oneida County District Attorney's Office, Oneida County Probation and the Oneida County Sheriff's Office.



### Crime Scene Unit

In 2023, the Crime Scene Unit responded to homicides, serious physical injury/fatal injury motor vehicle collisions, numerous non-fatal shootings, serious assaults and several unattended death investigations.

The Mobile Forensic Investigation Center continued assisting members of local, state and federal law enforcement.



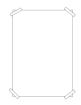
Juvenile Aid Unit

Sex Offender Unit

### Juvenile Aid Unit

The Juvenile Aid Unit is comprised of three investigators who deal specifically with the problems of young people. Although they are members of a municipal police department, juvenile officers are set apart from other police personnel by their emphasis on youth. The primary objective of the Juvenile Aid Unit is to prevent juvenile delinquency and provide services that will have a positive impact on juvenile behavior.

The Juvenile Aid Unit has the added responsibility of assisting guardians with juveniles in need of supervision, even if their activity does not amount to criminal conduct. The Juvenile Aid Unit investigates, processes and refers juveniles who engage in criminal acts and offenses against the community. It maintains all juvenile records, independent from the standard records keeping function of the department's Records Unit. The unit is also responsible for investigating all missing persons cases, both adult and juvenile.



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**418 Missing Person Cases** 

162 Juveniles Arrested

### Sex Offender Unit

It is the policy of the Utica Police Department to use all reasonable means to assist in the investigation of non-compliant sex offenders, to educate the public about personal safety precautions and to train designated law enforcement personnel on registration, notification, verification and community education procedures.

This department recognizes that sex offenders can pose a significant risk to the community and that community fear may be fueled by confusing sex offender laws and lack of understanding of law enforcement efforts to hold sex offenders accountable. This department is guided by federal and state laws regarding the registration, public notification and verification of convicted sex offenders to enforce compliance and to prevent future victimization. This department also recognizes that law enforcement agencies are responsible for maintaining registration files, verifying compliance with registration laws, investigating violations of such laws and new offenses and locating non-compliant or absconded offenders. The Sex Offender Unit is staffed by a single investigator from the agency who is responsible for over 300 registered sex offenders residing in the City of Utica.

4 Arrests

Special Investigations Unit

Warrants Unit

### **Special Investigations Section**

The Special Investigations Section is made up of the Special Investigations Unit and the Warrants Unit. Special Investigations is responsible for such things as street-level drug interdiction, mid-level narcotics investigations and quality of life complaints.

### Special Investigations Unit

The Special Investigations Unit investigates street- to mid-level narcotic activity and short- to mid-term investigations. They are responsible for the department's narcotic testing and provide supporting documentation for local and county prosecution.

218 Overdose Investigations

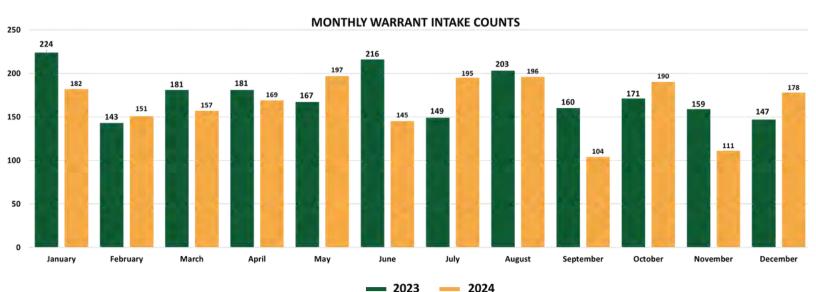
47
Search Warrants
Executed

\$124,874 seized

#### Warrants Unit

The Warrants Unit is responsible for recording and enforcing all Utica City Court warrants and assisting any outside agency requesting information or resources.

The Warrants Unit is staffed by two investigators and a Warrants Specialist. The unit also works in collaboration with the United States Marshals Service.



### PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS UNIT

### Professional Standards Unit

The Professional Standards Unit is made up of one supervisor who works at the discretion of the Chief of Police. Their primary responsibility is to record, register and maintain staff control of all internal and external investigations involving police personnel. These investigations include, but are not limited to, the evaluation of use of force, civilian complaints and inquiries related to alleged police misconduct. The unit is also responsible for completing background investigations on both sworn and non-sworn employees. Conducting any necessary audits in relation to police property and evidence is also part of their responsibilities. Professional Standards Unit also monitors an "early warning system" (EWS) is a proactive accountability tool that uses police administrative data to identify police officers who are on a trajectory that may jeopardize public safety or their performance on the job. The system is designed to detect patterns and trends in police conduct before that conduct escalates. The EWS can assist law enforcement in identifying and remediating problematic officer conduct that poses a potential risk to the public, to the agency, and to the officer.

### Complaints/Allegations Received in 2023

Finding	Count	
Sustained	6	
Not sustained	40	
Total	46	

### PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS UNIT

### 2023 Use Of Force Statistics

Force Used	Count
Taser Deployment	21
Take Down	43
Point Handgun	9
Hard Hand Strikes	1
Taser Announcement	12
Empty Hand Control	56
Capstun	3
Presence Of Authority	1
Pressure Points	1
Total	147

### Sex:

Male: 130 Female: 29 Unknown: 1

### Race:

Asian: 2 Black: 94

Black Hispanic: 1 Unknown: 1

White: 58

White Hispanic: 4

### Age:

Under 20: 35 20-29: 50

30-39: 45 40-49: 14 50+: 13

Unknown: 3

### 3,836 Criminal Arrests

the ratio of use of force by Utica police officers to all arrests in 2023 was only 3.8%

# 2023 ADDITIONS/EVENTS

### **Additions**

### **Electric Bikes**

In 2024, the Utica Police Department purchased 4 electric bikes that were utilized for the purpose of community policing and to patrol in city parks. The bikes add the ability to police large crowds, fit into tighter spaces and cover more distance faster than traditional means of transportation.

#### **Pole Cameras**

Six (6) new pole cameras were installed throughout the city of Utica in 2023.

### Stationary Plate Readers

The Utica Police Department purchased and installed six (6) stationary plate readers.





### **Equipment**

The Utica Police Department received the following in 2023:

- Updated body worn cameras and TASERs with AXON.
- Acquired Virtual Reality Training equipment.
- Updated and acquired less lethal shotgun conversion kits and less lethal launchers.

### **Community Policing Bus**

The Utica Police Department acquired a new Community Policing transport bus. The bus will be utilized to transport officers and equipment during community engagement events and other large scale details.

### Crisis Response Team

In 2023, the CRT saw the addition of a second CRT officer and crisis worker during evening hours, as well as the addition of Penny, our new therapy service dog.

# 2023 ADDITIONS/EVENTS

### **Events**

#### No Shave November

The No Shave November fundraiser raised money that was donated to a local charitable cause.

### UPD vs UFD Charity Hockey Game

Members of the Utica Police Department played against the Utica Fire Department to raise money for the Save The Day Foundation.



### National Prescription Drug Take Back

The Utica Police Department participated in a National Prescription Drug Take Back twice in 2023 at Union Station. Unused/expired prescription medication, over-the-counter medications, sharps, and pet medication were collected during the event.



### UPD vs Proctor Raiders Basketball Game

Members of the Utica Police Department played against Proctor Seniors in a friendly basketball game.



# 2023 ADDITIONS/EVENTS

### First Responders Cup Soccer Tournament

The Utica Police Department along with the New York State Police, Oneida County Sheriff's Department, Utica Fire Department and Rome Fire Department participated in the annual soccer tournament. The Utica Police Department faced off against the New York State Police in the final round, as the two top scoring teams.



### Shop with a Cop

The Utica Police Department, partnered with several local businesses, were able to take underprivileged children shopping for Christmas gifts and out to enjoy a pizza dinner.



#### Food Drive

This year, members of the Utica Police Department, civilian staff and their families were able to raise enough money to donate over 1000 lbs. of food to the Veteran's Outreach Center.



### Coffee with a Cop

Throughout 2023, multiple Coffee with a Cop events were held at various local coffee shops. Citizens were invited to join members of law enforcement over a cup of coffee, to chat and build relationships.





