
UTICA POLICE DEPARTMENT

UTICA POLICE DEPARTMENT

2024 ANNUAL REPORT



Prepared by: Mohawk Valley Crime Analysis Center





Greetings Uticans,

As Chief of Police, it is my honor and privilege to serve the citizens of the City of Utica and to lead the brave men and women of the Utica Police Department.

Public safety is our top priority; we want to ensure the City of Utica is a safe place to live, work and play. We also understand that we must accomplish this as a team, and that team includes the community. Our ability to be successful directly correlates to the strength of the partnerships we have created with our community members.

In 2024, our Department made great strides in combating gun violence. Utilizing the New York State Gun Involved Violence Elimination (GIVE) Initiative comprehensive plan, which includes community and law enforcement partnerships, the crime analysis center and enhanced technology tools to reduce shootings and firearm-related violent crimes, our city saw a significant decrease from the previous year, as well as our five-year average. Shooting incidents involving injury were down 55% from the previous year, and 59% over our 5-year average. However, we are mindful that we still have a lot of work to accomplish in addressing gun violence and that people's perception of crime doesn't always coincide with statistics.

We have been able to secure over \$2,000,000 dollars in grant awards during the past year. This not only helps to offset budgetary constraints of the City and the Department but has been crucial in maintaining staffing needs, equipment needs and supplementing salary and overtime costs.

The Utica Police Department's continued excellence relies on staying current with law enforcement training and best practices. The Training Unit vigilantly monitors statewide and national training opportunities, facilitating officer skill enhancement and instructor training to maintain department-wide proficiency. In the past year, we have been able to send numerous officers to a variety of trainings to keep our department operating at the highest standards and to continue providing excellent service to the community we serve. We have also provided numerous hours of In-Service Training to the entire department monthly to meet our obligations for maintaining certifications and accreditation standards. In total, the department has been able to provide over 30,000 hours of training department-wide to its 170 members.

Our continuation of the successful "trust building" sessions with "Rebuilding the Village Community Center. In 2023, the Utica Police Department was asked by the Division of Criminal Justice Services to participate in a trust building pilot program. We were one of two cities involved in this pilot program (Schenectady was the other). To the credit of Utica Police Lieutenant Starr Wooden and the other police officers participating in the program, Utica was recognized by DCJS for having a model program for other agencies to follow. The program has resulted in a greater understanding between officers and citizens of the challenges we both face.

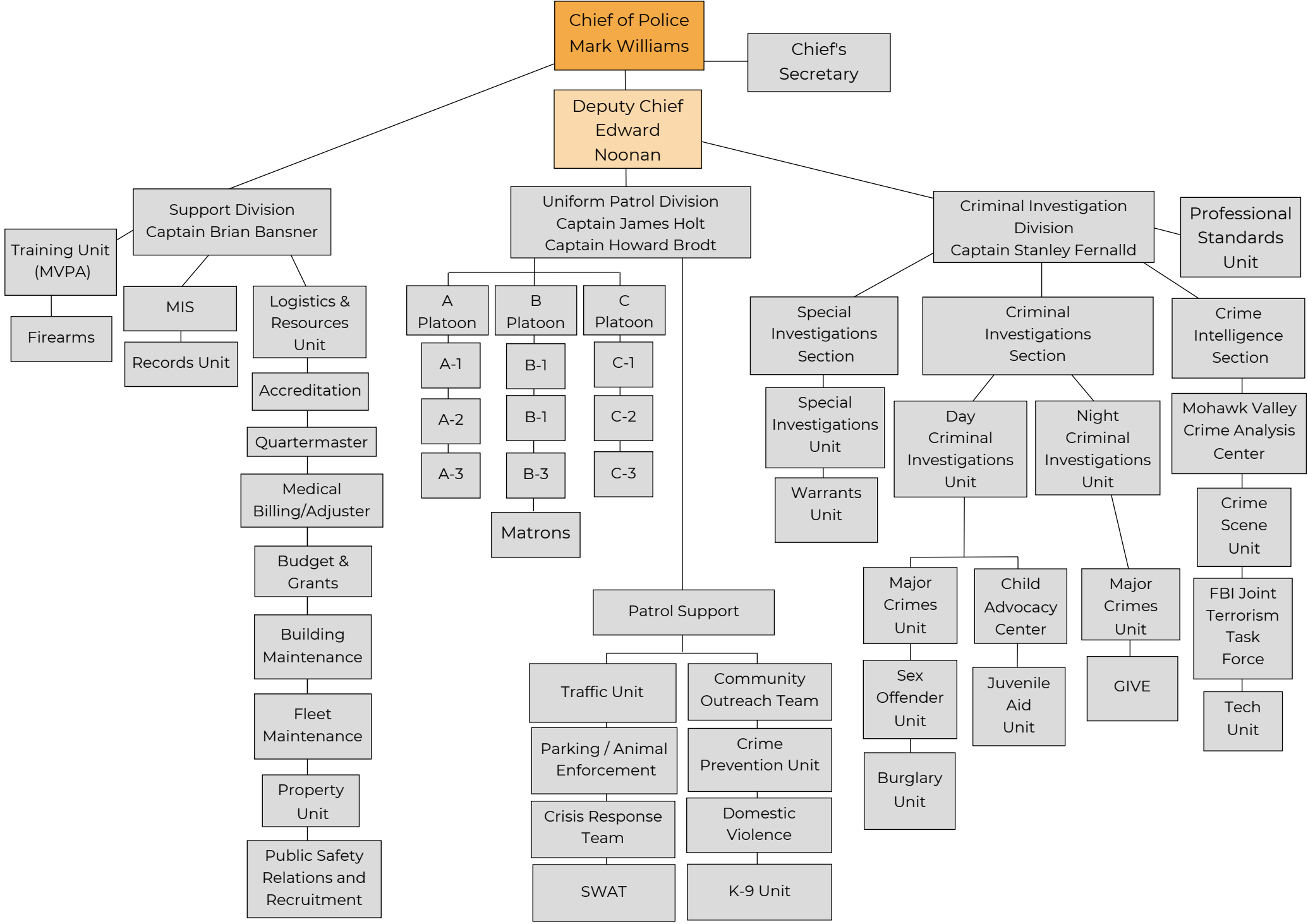
The Utica Police Department continues to build on our success of our Crisis Response Team in handling mental health calls for service. In 2024, we added a second Crisis Response Team during our evening shift. The Crisis Response Team is a partnership with specialty trained police officers working alongside mental health clinicians to provide a co-response for dispatch calls. The goal is to provide enhanced care and reconnect persons to the services they need. This collaboration has resulted in over 200 less mental health calls for service.

I have faith, as a community, that we can work together to overcome the many challenges we are facing. We can combat crime through accountability, fairness, positive open relationships and integrity. We are better together.

Respectfully,
Chief of Police Mark W. Williams



Utica Police Department Organizational Chart



CURRENT STATISTICS

The Utica Police Department serves an area of 16.76 square miles and a population of approximately 63,089. Former Common Council President Michael Galime officially took office as the Mayor to the City of Utica 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.

- 1- Administrative standards have provisions for such topics as agency organization, fiscal management, personnel practices, and records management.
- 2- Training standards encompass basic and in-service instruction, as well as training for supervisors and specialized or technical assignments.
- 3- 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.

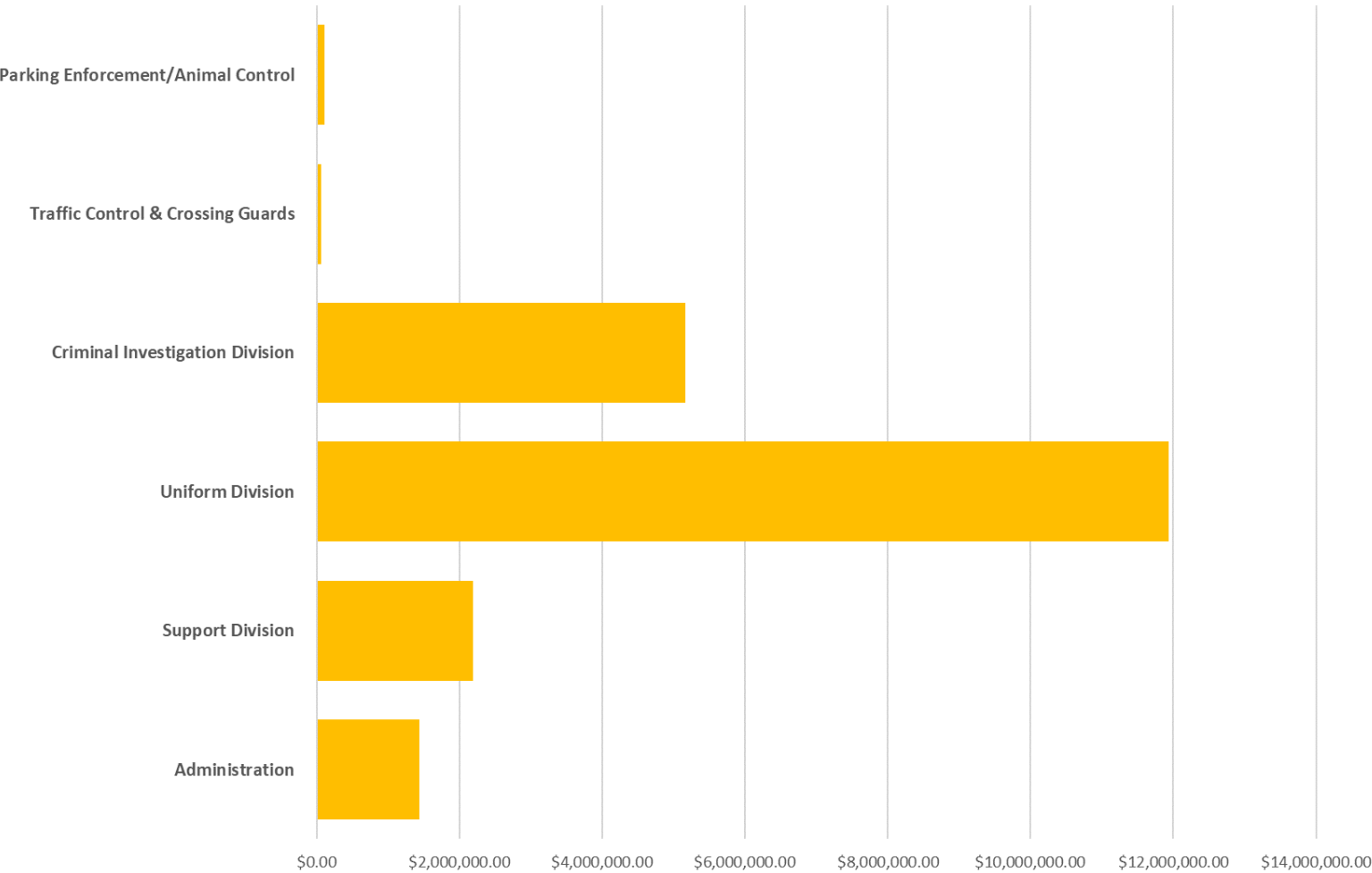
PUBLIC SAFETY RELATIONS AND RECRUITMENT

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.



SUPPORT DIVISION

The Utica Police Department’s April 2024- March 2025 budget is \$20,889,618.00.



APRIL 2024-MARCH 2025 OPERATING BUDGET

GRANTS

Most Recent Grants Awarded

Law Enforcement Technology Program	\$951,450.00
GIVE XI Initiative	\$829,463.00
Assembly Grants	\$60,000.00
Critical Infrastructure Grant FY21	\$50,000.00
Tactical Team Targeted Grant FY21	\$50,000.00
Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant FY24	\$25,950.00
Bulletproof Vest Partnership FY24	\$20,780.00
Explosive Detection Canine Team Grant FY21	\$15,000.00

ADDITIONAL GRANTS MANAGED

- Body-Worn Camera Policy and Implementation Program FY22
- Child Passenger Safety FY25
- Community Wellness
- COPS Hiring Program FY23
- Crisis Response Therapy Canine
- Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant FY22
- Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant FY23
- FBI Joint Terrorism Task Force FY25
- Justice and Mental Health Collaboration Program FY22
- Police Traffic Services FY25
- STOP DWI FY24
- STOP DWI High Visibility Enforcement FY25
- STOP Violence Against Women FY20
- Tactical Team Targeted Grant FY20
- U.S. Marshals Regional Fugitive Task Force FY24



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 needs necessary for adherence to state and federal laws, and department policies.
- Prepares and distributes training bulletins.
- Administers in-service and field officer programs, firearms training and qualifications, and police academy programs.
- Maintains records of training, standards, programs and lesson plans.

3,441

REGIONAL TRAINING
HOURS



Including but not limited to:

- Crime Scene Investigations for HAZMAT
 - HIDTA Ghost Gun Investigations
 - Crisis Intervention Training
 - Background Investigations for Police Applicants
 - FBI Basic Crisis Negotiation Course
 - Interview Techniques Course
 - De-escalation Strategies
 - Artificial Intelligence and Law Enforcement
 - Yates County K9 Seminar
 - Comprehensive Sex Assault and Child Abuse Investigations
-



CITIZEN POLICE ACADEMY



The 2024 Citizens' Police Academy was held from January 8, 2024-March 4, 2024. The topics covered during the academy included the Crime Scene Unit, EAP and Mental Health, Community Outreach, Patrol Operations, Professional Standards Unit, Metro SWAT, GIVE, MVCAC, K9 Operations, Juvenile Aid Unit, Use of Force, Reality Based Training Scenarios, and Virtual Reality Training.

Citizens' Police Academy Graduates:

- Patrick Comeskey
- Ashlee Guinto
- Mark Harf
- Diego Landaverde
- Eldar Mujic
- Danielle Smith



POLICE ACADEMY

Graduating Class 2025-1



In 2024, 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 (MVPA).

In February 2025, the following officers graduated from the MVPA after completing six months of academy training and 12 weeks of field training:

🛡️ Anthony Altieri

🛡️ Aven Vargas

🛡️ Lexis Youngs

🛡️ Liam Williams

🛡️ Edward Rodriguez

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.

UNIFORM PATROL DIVISION

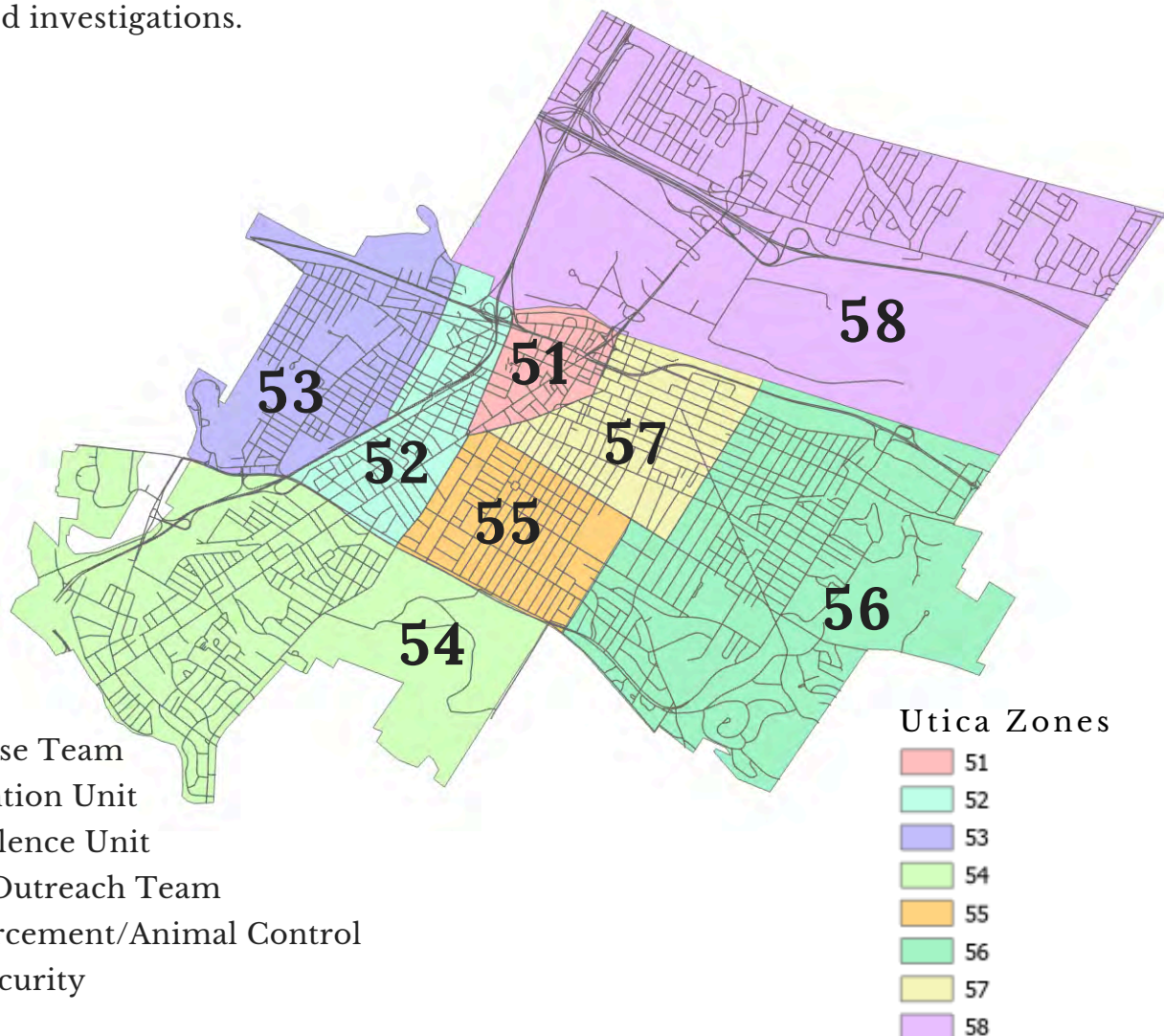
The Patrol Division is responsible for providing direct police services to the public. Its primary responsibility is to provide continuous patrol coverage and traffic control.

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 36,961 calls for service during the 2024 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
 - SWAT
 - K9 Unit
 - Crisis Response Team
 - Crime Prevention Unit
 - Domestic Violence Unit
 - Community Outreach Team
 - Parking Enforcement/Animal Control
 - City Court Security



2024 CALLS FOR SERVICE ZONE STATISTICS

Statistics for the City of Utica to determine the Calls for Service per policing zone for the year 2024.

The “Not Applicable” category accounts for points with unknown addresses or addresses that cannot be appointed a zone. For an address not to be appointed a zone, the point has to not have an exact location or be considered to be completely within a zone when running summarize statistics.

Utica Boundary Zone	Number of Calls for Service	Percentage
Zone 51	4,549	12%
Zone 52	5,615	15%
Zone 53	4,739	13%
Zone 54	3,369	9%
Zone 55	4,406	12%
Zone 56	4,114	11%
Zone 57	6,106	17%
Zone 58	3,192	9%
Not Applicable	871	2%
Grand Total	36,961	100%



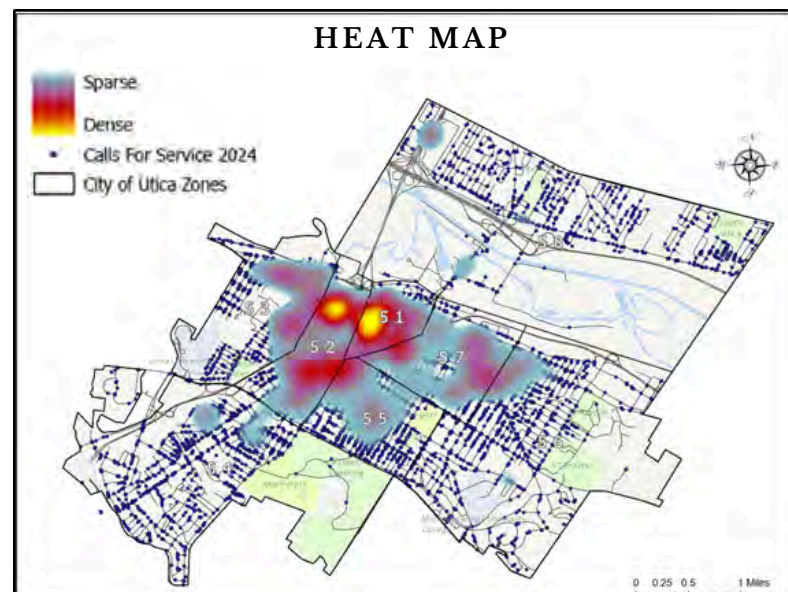
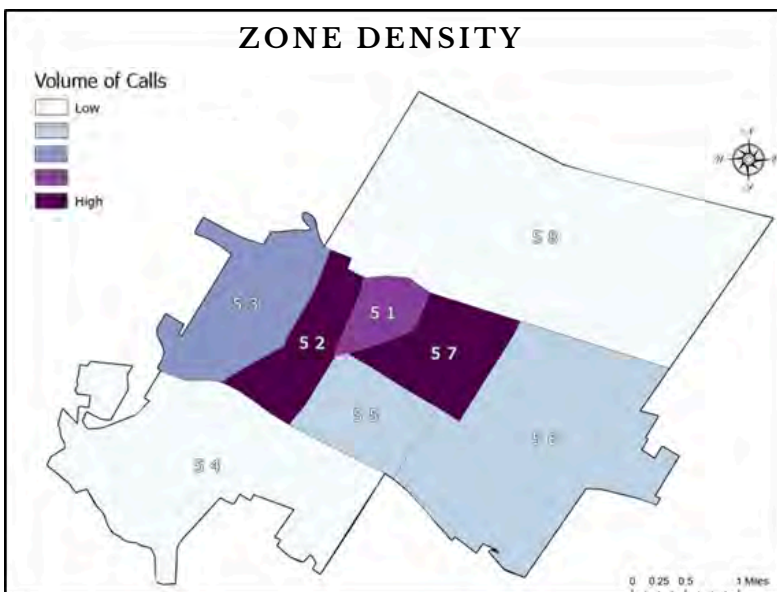
2024 CALLS FOR SERVICE ZONE STATISTICS DIVIDED BY SHIFT HOURS

Zone Statistics for the 2024 year broken down into the three shifts; 12AM-8AM, 8AM-4PM & 4PM-12AM.

SHIFT A: 12 AM – 8 AM

Utica Boundary Zone	Number of Calls for Service	Percentage
Zone 51	831	13%
Zone 52	1,138	18%
Zone 53	811	13%
Zone 54	554	9%
Zone 55	741	11%
Zone 56	729	11%
Zone 57	1,006	16%
Zone 58	554	9%
Not Applicable	111	2%
Grand Total	6,475	100%

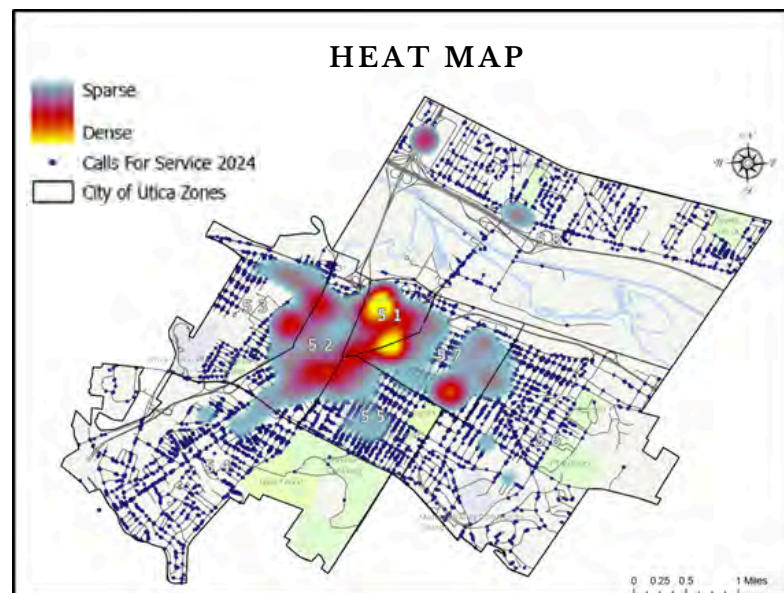
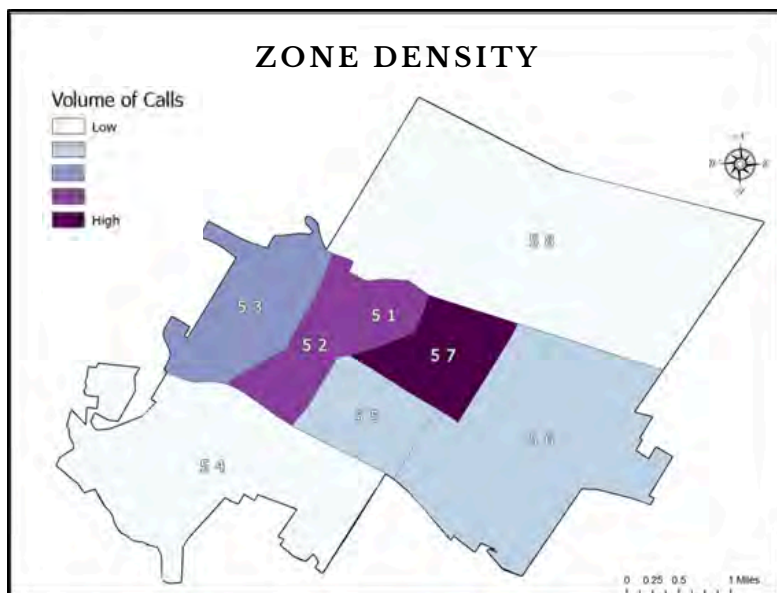
2024 CALLS FOR SERVICE ZONE STATISTICS 12 AM – 8 AM SHIFT



SHIFT B: 8 AM – 4 PM

Utica Boundary Zone	Number of Calls for Service	Percentage
Zone 51	1,951	13%
Zone 52	2,131	14%
Zone 53	1,856	12%
Zone 54	1,348	9%
Zone 55	1,664	11%
Zone 56	1,640	11%
Zone 57	2,576	17%
Zone 58	1,418	9%
Not Applicable	442	3%
Grand Total	15,026	100%

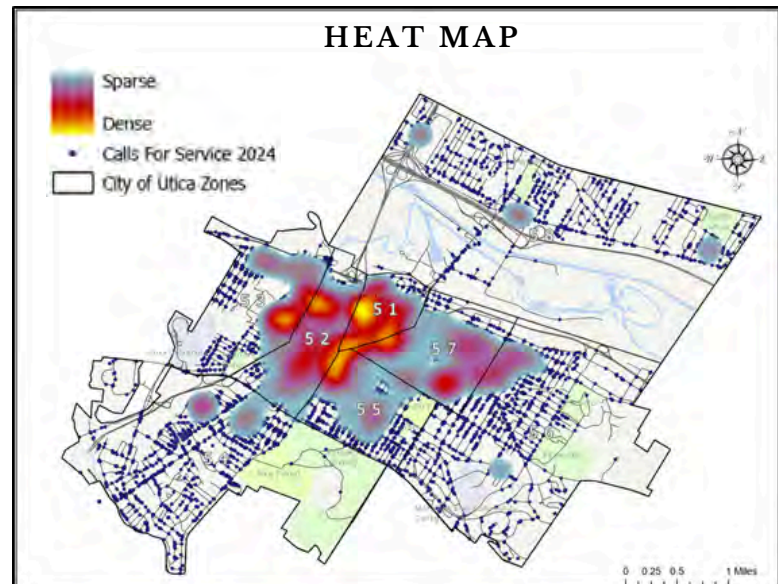
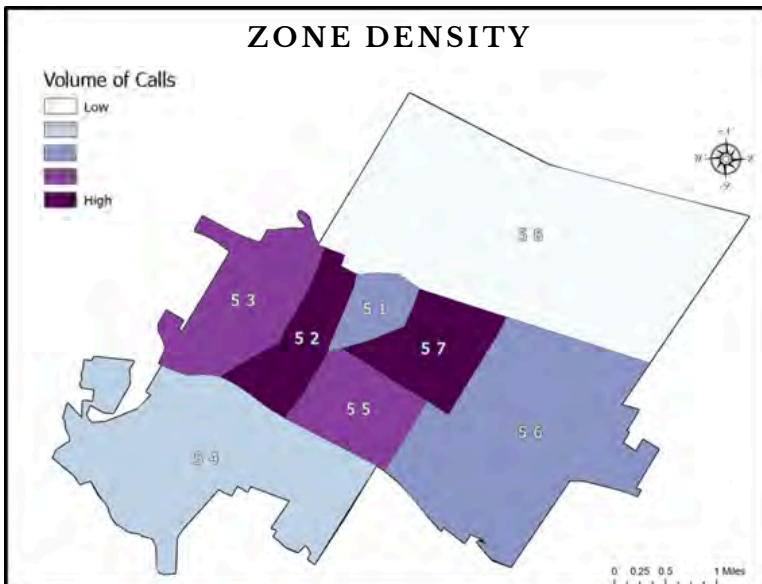
2024 CALLS FOR SERVICE ZONE STATISTICS
8 AM - 4 PM SHIFT



SHIFT B: 4 PM - 12 AM

Utica Boundary Zone	Number of Calls for Service	Percentage
Zone 51	1,797	11%
Zone 52	2,371	15%
Zone 53	2,099	13%
Zone 54	1,482	9%
Zone 55	2,018	13%
Zone 56	1,778	11%
Zone 57	2,549	16%
Zone 58	1,233	8%
Not Applicable	334	2%
Grand Total	15,661	100%

**2024 CALLS FOR SERVICE ZONE STATISTICS
4 PM - 12 AM SHIFT**



DOG SEIZURE



CNYSPCA
Promoting Kindness to Animals

The Utica Police Department's Article 7 Dog Shelter was placed into operation on 3/1/24. After operating without a contract for over a year, the responsibility for caring for stray dogs fell into the hands of City Officials. Recognizing the need to reevaluate and enhance the approach to addressing city strays, the City of Utica partnered with local shelters and rescues, such as Rover's Do Over, Wanderers Rest Human Association, and Central New York Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCA) to improve the lives of stray dogs and fostering stronger community bonds. Below are the statistics for the Utica Police Departments Dog Seizures from 3/1/24-12/31/24.

129

CANINES SEIZED
(INTAKES)

37

CANINES REDEEMED
BY OWNER

14

CANINES ADOPTED
AFTER COMPLETING
MANDATORY HOLD

74

CANINES TRANSFERRED TO
NYS AG & MARKETS
APPROVED SHELTER/RESCUE



K9 UNIT

Officer Vomer and K9 Penny:

Utilizations of calls for service- 36

Community engagements -18

Officer Castilla and K9 Varick:

-Specializes in Narcotics Detection

Utilizations – 5

Officer Kellogg and K9 Vigo:

-Specializes in Explosives Detection and Patrol/tracking

K9 Vigo also has been trained to locate spent shell casings, firearms and has located three (3) semi-automatic handguns this year.

Utilizations – 71

Officer Dodge and K9 Brophy:

-Specializes in Explosives Detection and Patrol/tracking

Utilizations - 41

Sergeant Piersall and K9 Dak:

-Specializes in Narcotics Detection and Patrol/tracking

Utilizations – 9



SWAT

The Metro SWAT team consists of 12 officers from the Utica Police Department, 6 officers from the New Hartford Police Department and 8 officers from Oneida County Sheriff's Office. In 2024, there were 22 total deployments -6 armed barricaded persons, 6 warrant service, and 10 quick reaction force for events. Metro SWAT operators trained for a total of 198 hours this year. Additionally, Metro SWAT members participated 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 assessments 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.

1803

PROPERTY DAMAGE
ACCIDENTS

462

PERSONAL INJURY ACCIDENTS

555

HIT & RUN ACCIDENTS

44

DWI ARRESTS

COMMUNITY OUTREACH TEAM

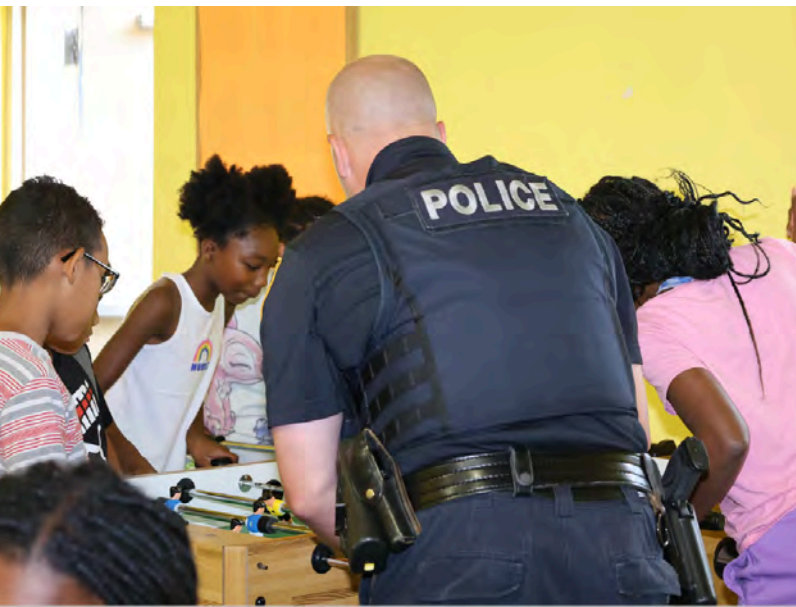
The Utica Police Department Community Outreach Team (COT) is responsible for numerous tasks dealing with quality of life complaints and improving the relationship between the police and the community we serve. In 2010, UPD obtained the Armadillo, a vehicle equipped with high powered cameras that record 24/7, even in low light conditions. The COT facilitated 16 Armadillo deployments and processed 16 nuisance abatement proceedings. In 2024, the team attended 119 community events to include:

- Neighborhood meetings – (North Utica, South Utica, West Utica, Cornhill and East Utica) conducted monthly
 - Law Enforcement Appreciation Day – Jones Elementary
 - Youth Intervention – Donovan Middle School Enrichment Program (Youth Violence related)
 - Adopt-a-Cop – Mohawk Valley Community Action Agency (conducted monthly)
 - Community Helper events conducted at several Utica City schools
 - Ice Cream Social (served sundaes to all students attending) as part of the Utica Recreation Center Wellness Program
 - Area Job/Career Fairs – Participated in several recruiting efforts at locations throughout Oneida and Herkimer County
 - Community Reader events – Utica City School District (participated at multiple elementary schools throughout the district)
 - Boy Scouts of America Salute to Service Camporee – Displayed the Mobile Command Center for participants
 - ICAN's Reset and Refresh Fitness event – Conducted exercise class with area youth at Proctor Park
 - Participated in their Spring Outreach (Erin's Light) community giveback – Center for Family Life and Recovery
 - Rebuilding the Village – James St. Summer Festival (two day event) displayed the Mobile Command Center for the community to tour
 - World Refugee Day – attended The Center's World Refugee Day event and spoke to new citizens about careers at UPD
 - Participated in quarterly meetings with The Center regarding incoming refugees
 - Participated in the MVCAA's Summer Program (interacted with youth via games/activities and spoke on concerns related to the officer involved shooting of an area teen)
-

COMMUNITY OUTREACH TEAM

Continued

- Jefferson Elementary Summer Program – read to special needs students and toured a patrol vehicle
- Utica Pop Warner First Responders Day – displayed a Color Guard and interacted with the teams
- Masonic Home – Briefed to staff on safety and awareness for visiting nurses
- Halloween Trunk or Treat events – Conducted at Jones Elementary and The Salvation Army
- Halloween Parades – Participated at several schools in the district
- Met twice a week with students attending the after-school program to engage in active communication – Utica Rec. Center
- Back the Blue Inc. – participated in the Fill the Cruiser event to distribute toys to the community during the Christmas season
- Assisted with multiple issues around the city related to homelessness (outreach related)
- Assisted the Parks Dept. in relation to homeless cleanup after they have been offered/received services
- Women's Group briefed on safety and awareness – Seventh Day Adventist Church
- Christmas at City Hall
- Center for Family Life and Recovery – Participated in their Winter Heartwarming Campaign holiday giveback
- Rebuilding the Village Christmas Event – provided hot chocolate and candy canes to all participants



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.

2,734

DOMESTIC INCIDENT REPORTS TAKEN

CRISIS RESPONSE TEAM

The Crisis Response Team (CRT) is a combined effort of a UPD Police Officer and the Mobile Crisis Assessment Team (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. In 2024, two new MCAT Crisis Counselors, Kellie Kiesel and Elyse Jones joined the team, along with PO Amanda Maciol-Emerick. With the addition of these new members came the ability to extend the hours of CRT's availability. Kellie Kiesel is paired with PO Vomer to cover the day shift, and Elyse Jones is partnered with PO Maciol-Emerick to cover nights.

- CRT responds to real time requests for in-field crisis response after initial UPD patrol triage
- Completes field outreach to high utilizers in the community
- Reviews 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.

1,249

EMOTIONALLY DISTURBED
PERSON CALLS

701

MHL
ARRESTS

1,109

CRT OUTREACH
CONTACTS

190

22.09
ARRESTS

CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION UNIT

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, 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.

822

TOTAL CASES
ASSIGNED



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.

77%

SOLVE RATE ON
2024 SHOOTING
RELATED INVESTIGATIONS
(INCLUDING HOMICIDES)

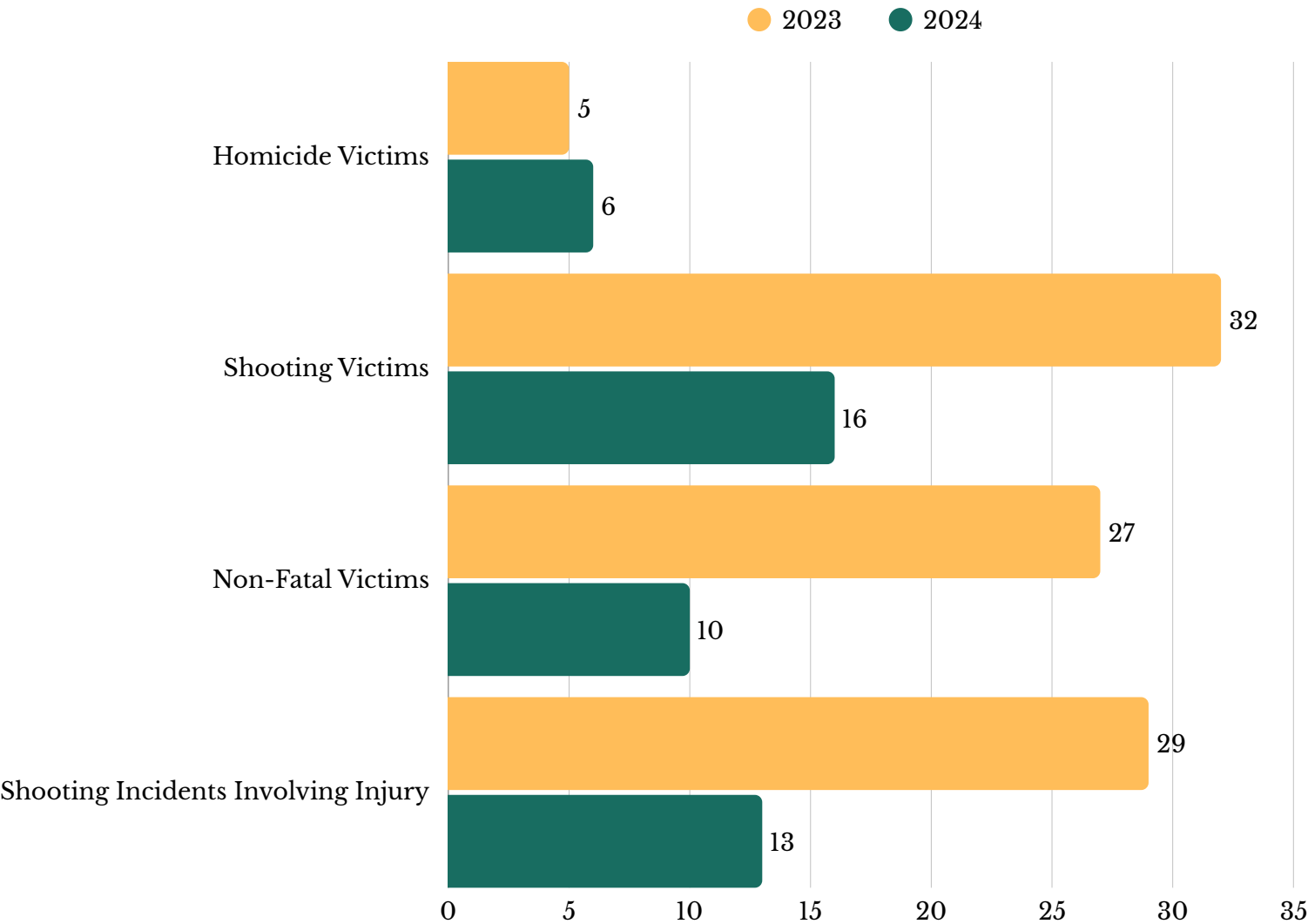
90%

SOLVE RATE ON 2024
NON-FATAL SHOOTINGS

75%

SOLVE RATE
FOR 2024
HOMICIDES

2023 VS. 2024 GUN VIOLENCE



MOHAWK VALLEY CRIME ANALYSIS CENTER



In 2024, the Mohawk Valley Crime Analysis Center moved into a new office space within the Utica Police Department. This expansion nearly doubled the size of the office space, with more work stations, two of which have been filled by a NYS DOCCS Office of Special Investigations Investigator and a Gun Involved Violence Elimination (GIVE) Anti-Violence Coordinator.

The MVCAC processed 4,010 service requests in 2024, a 5% increase from 2023. The year 2024 brought several technological advancements including an increased number of cameras/LPRs and ShotSpotter. In April, the CAC went live with the National Integrated Ballistic Information Network (NIBIN) machine that has been a great asset to MVCAC law enforcement partners, providing timely information on ballistic evidence.

Crime Type	5YA	2023	2024	Last Year % Change	5YA % Change
Homicide	7.6	8	8	0%	5%
Rape	17	22	12	-45%	-29%
Robbery	90.8	60	64	7%	-30%
Agg Assault	217.2	208	211	1%	-3%
Burglary	252.8	229	205	-10%	-19%
Larceny	1664	1622	1386	-15%	-17%
MV Theft	139.6	120	80	-33%	-43%
Violent Crime	332.4	298	295	-1%	-11%
Property Crime	2056.4	1971	1671	-15%	-19%
Overall Index Crime	2388.8	2269	1966	-13%	-18%

Part 1 Crimes DCJS Stats comparing 2024 to 2023

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 two (2) fulltime GIVE-funded officer positions 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. Retired Utica Police Captain, Charles Kelly, is assigned to the MVCAC as the GIVE Anti-Violence Coordinator. This past year, 2024, had the lowest gun involved violence rates since 2013.

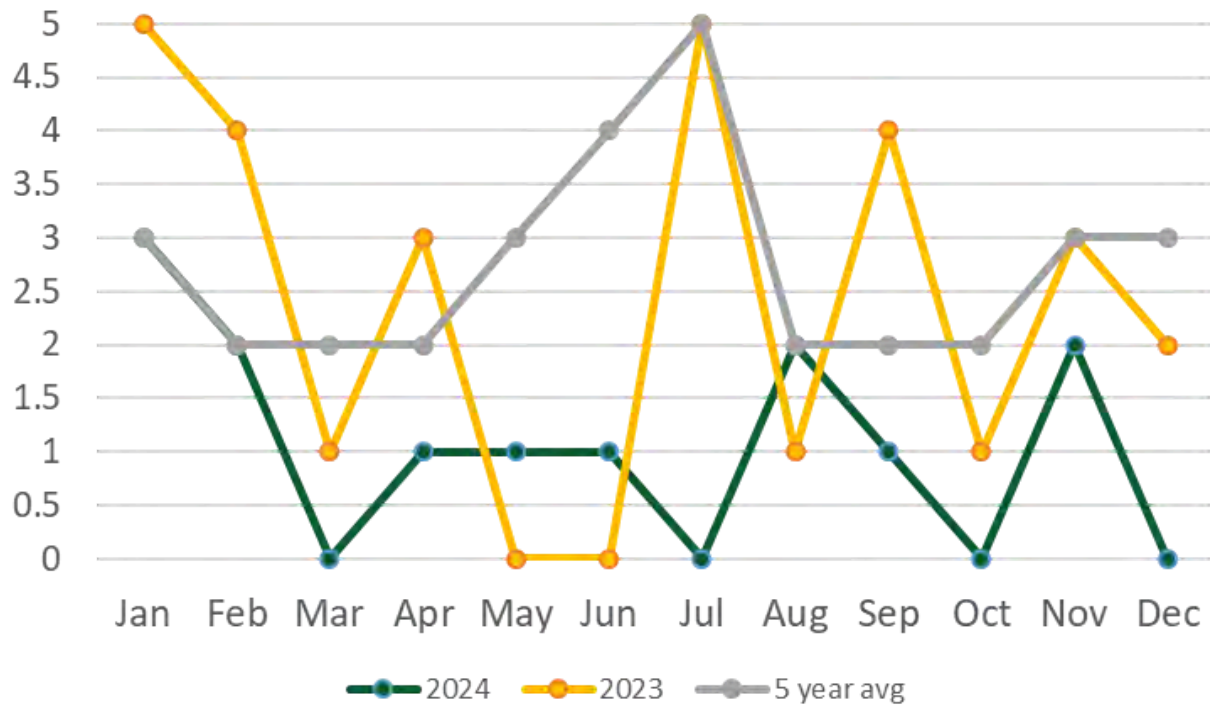


Utica GIVE Shooting Activity Report
January- December 2023 v 2024

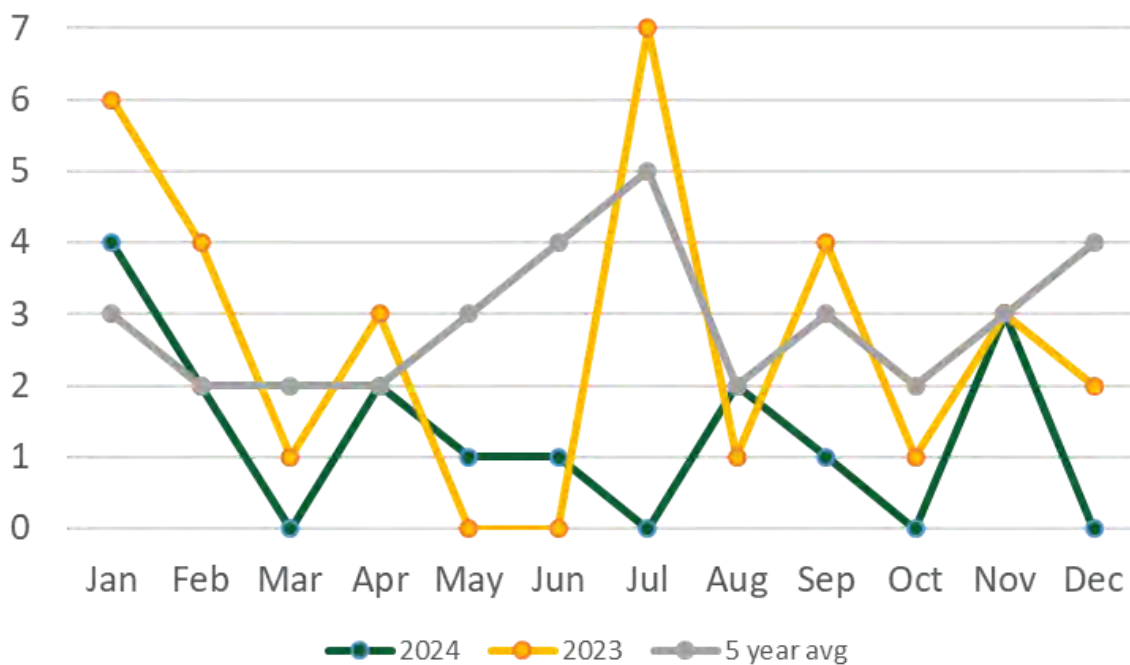
	5-Year Average YTD (2019-2023)	2023 YTD	2024 YTD	% Change	
				23 vs. 24	5-Yr. Avg vs. 2024
Shooting Incidents Involving Injury	32	29	13	-55%	-59%
Shooting Victims (Persons Hit)	36	32	16	-50%	-56%
Individuals Killed By Gun Violence	5	5	6		

GIVE

Shooting Incidents Involving Injury

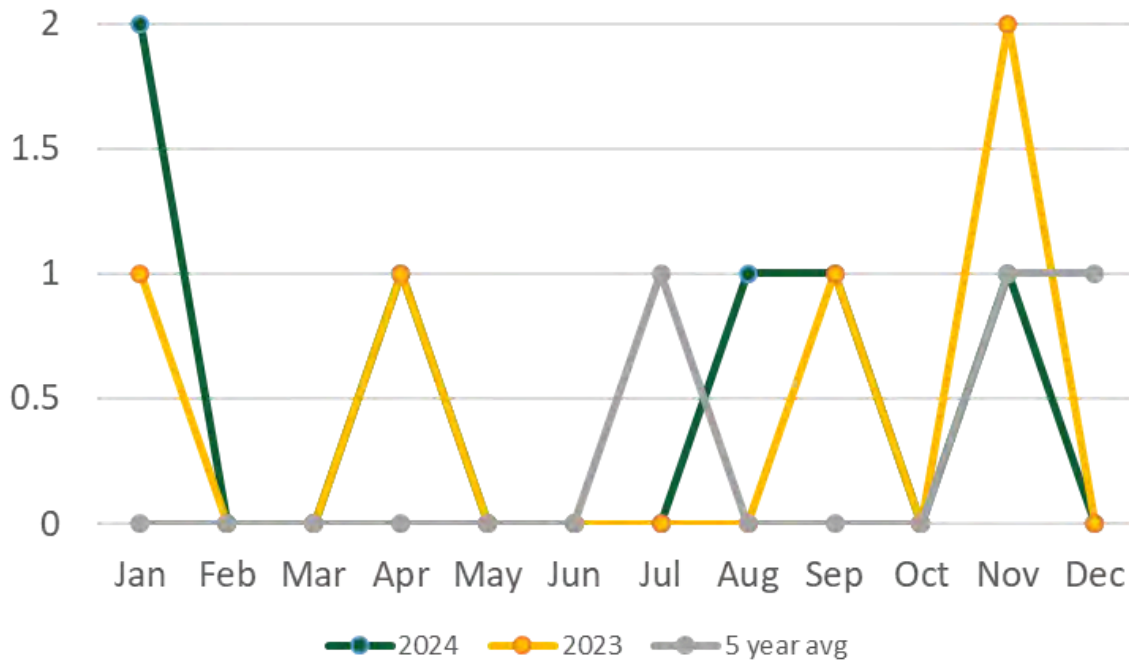


Shooting Victims (Persons Hit)



GIVE

Individuals Killed By Gun Violence



CRIME SCENE UNIT

In 2024, 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 conducts cellphone data extractions and assists members of local, state and federal law enforcement.

43

PHONES PROCESSED



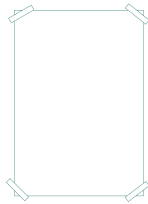
JUVENILE AID UNIT

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.

482

MISSING PERSON CASES



194

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 302 active registered sex offenders residing in the City of Utica.

97

LEVEL 3 SEX OFFENDERS



9

ARRESTS



SPECIAL INVESTIGATION UNIT

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.

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

102

OVERDOSE
INVESTIGATIONS

46

SEARCH WARRANTS
EXECUTED

\$66,893

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.

848

TOTAL WARRANT
ARRESTS

1588

TOTAL WARRANTS
CLOSED

2044

WARRANTS
ENTERED

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. The Professional Standards Unit also monitors an “early warning system” (EWS), 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 2024

Findings	Count
Sustained	14
Not sustained	34
Total	48

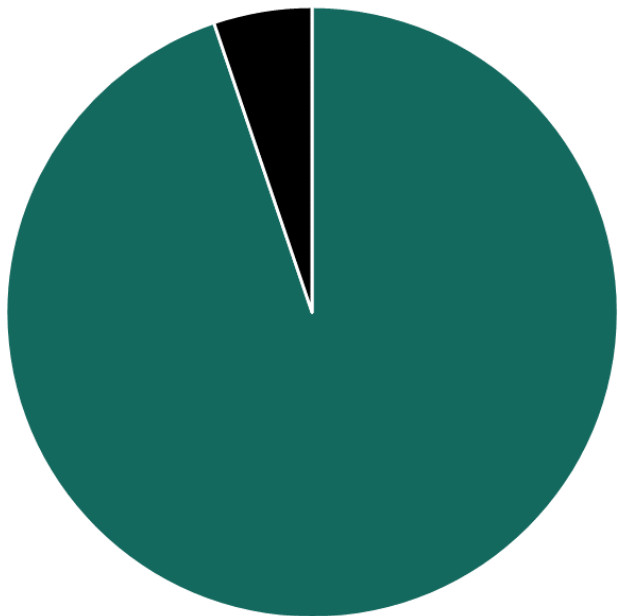
2024 USE OF FORCE STATISTICS

Force Used	Count
Firearm Discharge	1
Pointing of Handgun	15
Taser Deployment	26
Pepper Spray	3
Taser Announcement	6
Punched	4
Take Down	22
Empty Hand Control	120
Total	197

Sex:
Male: 167
Female: 58
Unknown: 2
No data entered: 2

Race:
Asian: 9
Black: 129
Unknown: 1
White: 76
White Hispanic: 12
No data entered: 2

Age:
Under 20: 54
20-29: 57
30-39: 67
40-49: 25
50+: 15
Unknown: 11



■ Criminal Arrests ■ Use of Force

3,613
CRIMINAL ARRESTS

The ratio of use of force by Utica Police Officers to all arrests in 2024 was 5.4%

2024 ADDITIONS/EVENTS

Additions

ShotSpotter

On September 13th, 2024 the City of Utica activated SoundThinking's ShotSpotter. ShotSpotter uses an array of acoustic sensors that are connected wirelessly to ShotSpotter's centralized, cloud-based application to reliably detect and accurately locate gunshots using triangulation. Each acoustic sensor captures the precise time and audio associated with impulsive sounds that may represent gunfire. This data is used to locate the incident and is then filtered by sophisticated machine algorithms to classify the event as a potential gunshot. Acoustic experts, who are located and staffed in ShotSpotter's 24/7 Incident Review Center, ensure and confirm that the events are indeed gunfire. This entire process takes less than 60 seconds from the time of the shooting to the digital alert popping onto a screen of a computer in the 911 Call Center or on a patrol officer's smartphone or mobile laptop.



License Plate Readers

The Utica Police Department purchased and installed two (2) mobile plate readers called Falcon Flex from Flock.



2024 ADDITIONS/EVENTS

Additions

Pole Cameras

Approximately forty (40) new pole cameras were installed throughout the City of Utica in 2024.

NIBIN Machine

In March of 2024 a National Integrated Ballistic Information Network (NIBIN) Machine was deployed to the Utica Police Department to be hosted by the MVCAC/DCJS to be used by all departments in Oneida, Herkimer & Lewis Counties.

NIBIN technology compares images of submitted ballistic evidence from shooting scenes and recovered firearms and produces a list of possible similar results. Trained NIBIN technicians then conduct a correlation review of these results, identifying NIBIN leads or potential links or associations from the same firearm. A NIBIN lead is an unconfirmed, potential association between two or more pieces of firearm ballistic evidence and is based on a correlation review of the digital images in the NIBIN database.



	YTD (2024)
NIBIN Entries	118
NIBIN Correlations	53
NIBIN Leads	125

Thermal Imagers

In August of 2024, 2 AttckPRO+ Thermal Imagers manufactured by Seek were purchased by the department. These thermal imagers can detect a thermal temperature range of -4 degrees to 1022 degrees, up to 1000 feet away. Scenarios when the use of these devices could prove beneficial include but are not limited to: Search and rescue, Perimeter surveillance, Collision investigation, Evidence retrieval, and Fugitive searches.

2024 ADDITIONS/EVENTS

Events

No Shave November

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

Food Drive

This year, members of the Utica Police Department, civilian staff and their families were able to raise enough money to donate over 800 lbs. of food to the Veteran's Outreach Center.



UPD vs Kids Kickball Game

Members of the Utica Police Department, New Hartford Police Department, and Oneida County Probation played kickball alongside members of the community at the Salvation Army.



2024 ADDITIONS/EVENTS

Coffee with a Cop

Throughout 2024, 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.



National Prescription Drug Take Back

The Utica Police Department partnered with the Center for Family Life and Recovery, and the Oneida County Sheriff's Department for National Prescription Drug Take Back Day. Unused/expired prescription medication, over-the-counter medications, sharps, and pet medication were collected during the event. Over 240 pounds of unwanted and/or unused medication was turned in.



2024 ADDITIONS/EVENTS

Wilson's Cops & Kids Boxing Program

Wilson's Cops & Kids is a free non-profit boxing gym located in the City of Utica. This involves collaboration of members from local law enforcement agencies with previous boxing experience, who volunteer their time to teach local children how to box. Some participants receive proper licensing, and going on to compete in competitions throughout NY and beyond.



Shop with a Cop

The Utica Police Department, partnered with several local businesses, were able to provide 40 families with gift cards to shop for Christmas gifts. This was a special opportunity for our local youth and their families to experience the holiday spirit in a unique way alongside our dedicated police officers.



2024 ADDITIONS/EVENTS

Christmas Caroling

Our police officers were visited by a church group from Utica Karen Baptist Church. The group came to perform Christmas carols for our police officers, sharing their time, talents and uplifting spirits with us. Additionally, members of the Utica Police Department treated this wonderful group of Christmas carolers to hot chocolate and cookies. Moments like these strengthen the bond between our community and law enforcement.



Trust Building

The Utica Police Trust Building Initiative fosters police and community relations through open and candid conversations about the state of policing in minority communities. These conversations allow for both sides to be frank about their feelings and thought processes involving the interactions amongst these groups. The goal is to build lasting relationships with mutual trust that the police function as a member of the community and have the community's interest at heart. Lt. Starr Wooden joins youth groups for open and honest discussions about working together for a safer, more united Utica. In 2024 the group conducted their 27th meeting. The Lieutenant continues to canvass sworn members of the department to participate in efforts to get new officers involved.



2024 ADDITIONS/EVENTS

Rebuilding the Village

A grass roots community organization that provides a myriad of community services, i.e counseling, life skills, and job skills to Utica's inner city youth all with the overall goal of reducing gun violence. This endeavor is spearheaded by our Save our Streets Coordinator, Roosevelt Patterson and his Street Team. Events are hosted that further their goals, builds positive relationships with law enforcement and adult mentors.

The Utica Police Department is heavily invested in the SOS Street Outreach program, as well is its off-shoot Rebuilding the Village. Their directors have a direct line of communication with GIVE members and the open and honest free flow of dialogue is necessary to understand their needs and the needs of the population they serve.

Officers assisted in a Rebuilding a Village event in December. They helped with the distribution of hot chocolate and candy canes. A Traffic Unit followed behind the horse and carriage. Officers also participated and helped with the first ever dream big car show. The "Dream Big" car show is more than just an exhibition—it's a platform for motivation, exposure, and inspiration. By showcasing the connection between passion, hard work, and success, it helps youth see that they can turn their own big dreams into reality, no matter where they come from.



2024 ADDITIONS/EVENTS

Additional Events:

- Bank of Utica NYE
- Boilermaker
- Memorial Parade
- 4th of July
- Towers to Tunnels race
- Falling Leaves Road Race
- Harvest on the Hill
- Hoops & Dreams
- Horse & Carriage Ride
- St Patrick's Day Parade
- Walk A Mile In My Shoes walk
- Torch Run





Utica Police Department
413 Oriskany St W. Utica, NY 13502



City of Utica, NY Police Department



@UticaPolice



@uticany_police_department

CITYOFUTICA.COM/DEPARTMENTS/POLICE-DEPARTMENT/INDEX
