

Polk City Police Department

Annual Report 2020

Chief Jeremy Siepker



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- **January 21st: Possession of Controlled Substance w/ Intent**
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The Polk City Police Department is dedicated to provide exceptional service to the Polk City Community in order to create a safe and desirable place to live, work and visit. We will enhance public safety by actively seeking and deterring criminal behavior and enforcing the law impartially.



SERVICE, INTEGRITY, RESPECT, QUALITY

Chief Jeremy Siepker



Although faced with some unique challenges, 2020 was a successful year for the Polk City Police Department. We sent a new officer through the Iowa Law Enforcement Academy, initiated the Body-worn Camera Program, and achieved credentialing through the Iowa Law Enforcement Academy for the Executive Order on Safe Policing for Safe Communities 2020.

The dedicated officers and staff of the Police Department have done an outstanding job this past year in providing exceptional service to the Polk City community. I am very proud to stand as the

Chief for such a great organization and I look forward to another successful and safe year in 2021.

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Lieutenant Matt Aswegan



It goes without saying that 2020 was a very challenging year, but through the perseverance and hard work of our staff, we remain strong and able to serve our community.

Thanks to our department's recruiting and retention efforts, we were able to add a quality officer and retain our current staff in 2020. We will

undoubtedly be calling on our recruiting program as we continue to grow with the community.

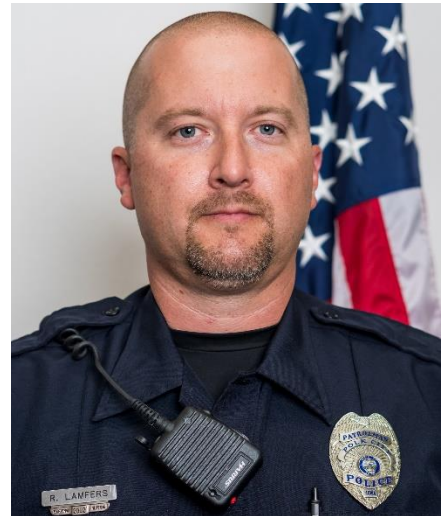
We introduced new state-of-the-art Use of Force simulator training to our training program and have exceeded all state mandated training requirements for our staff. We continue to provide our staff with updated equipment that helps officers respond effectively and efficiently to the needs of the community. The citizens of Polk City can be assured that when they call for a police officer there will be a well-trained, well-equipped officer who responds.

I look forward to helping lead the department into the future as we begin 2021.

Officer and Staff Biographies

Officer Ron Lamfers

- Patrol Officer
- Field Training Officer- Iowa National Association of Field Training Officers
- Glock Armorer
- Iowa Law Enforcement Emergency Care Provider
- 2002 Graduate of Iowa Law Enforcement Academy, Johnston, Iowa



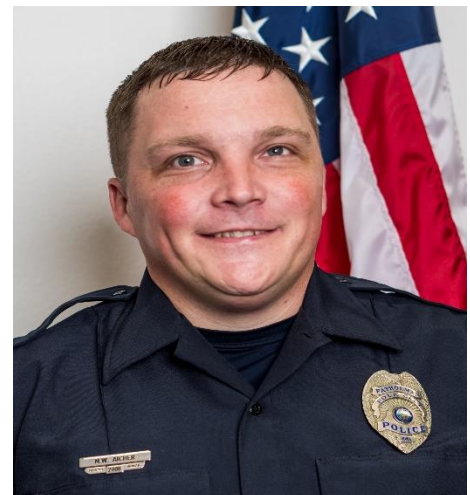
Officer Matthew Untrauer

- Patrol Officer
- GTSB Coordinator
- Evidence and Property Technician
- Vehicle Crash Investigator
- 2005 Graduate of Iowa Law Enforcement Academy, Johnston, Iowa



Officer Matthew Aicher

- Patrol Officer
- Canine Handler
- Basic Life Support CPR Instructor
- Standardized Field Sobriety Instructor
- 2008 Graduate of Iowa Law Enforcement Academy- Hawkeye Community College



Officer and Staff Biographies

Officer Gabriel Wilson

- Patrol Officer
- Defensive Tactics Instructor
- Taser CEW Instructor
- 2014 Graduate of Iowa Law Enforcement Academy, Johnston, Iowa



Officer Alex Delaney

- Patrol Officer
- 2020 Graduate of Iowa Law Enforcement Academy, Johnston, Iowa



Support Clerk Jane Jacobson

- Police Support Clerk
- NCIC Certified
- TAC Coordinator
- Polk County Attorney Office Liaison



2020 Highlights

- Seamlessly transitioned into new leadership after the departure of former Chief Kendig.
- Sent a new patrol officer to the Iowa Law Enforcement Academy. The Polk City Police Department has not hired a non-certified applicant in over 10 years.
- Added Spike Strips to our equipment inventory.
- Acquired a new Patrol Vehicle through the purchasing of a 2021 Chevy Silverado from Karl Chevrolet.



2020 Highlights

- Implemented a body-worn camera program.
- Completed patrol vehicle in-car camera systems- all use the same Arbitrator system that is integrated with the body-worn cameras.
- Utilization of RUAN state-bid holders for vehicle leasing
- Completed transition of patrol uniforms to all exterior vest carriers with black and white patch.
- Entered into a 28E agreement with Polk County for delinquent parking citation collections.
- Implemented a city-wide security camera system.
- Achieved credentialing through ILEA for the Executive Order on Safe Policing for Safe Communities 2020

2020 Highlights

2020 Community Outreach Initiatives

- Summer reading program in partnership with the Polk City Library
- Took part in numerous birthday party parades in the local area.
- Donation to Comet Cupboard
- Halloween
- Santa Parade

2020 Highlights



2020 Highlights



Notable Cases

20-0020

On January 21st, a Polk City Police Officer stopped a vehicle for a traffic violation. An investigation revealed that the passenger was in possession of over 61 grams of marijuana, which is a felony in Iowa. The passenger was charged with Possession of Controlled Substance w/ Intent to Deliver and Failure to Affix Drug Tax Stamp. The driver was cited and released on a charge of Driving While License Suspended.



20-0054

On February 23, at approximately 3:35 am, a Polk City resident reported a suspicious vehicle in their neighborhood. The officer located the vehicle and initiated a traffic stop. Contact was made with the driver and officer suspected that the driver may be impaired. Upon ordering him to exit the vehicle, the driver refused to comply and fled in his vehicle.



A vehicle pursuit ensued and went into Ankeny. The driver fled from the vehicle on foot, but after a search of the area the suspect was located and apprehended with the assistance of Ankeny Officers and their K9. An investigation revealed that the suspect was in possession of 2.5 grams of cocaine, a crack cocaine smoking pipe, and over \$1,600 in cash.

The driver was also found to be under the influence of methamphetamine, cocaine, and depressants. At the time of the incident, he was on parole numerous felony theft convictions. The driver was charged with OWI-1st Offense,

Notable Cases

Felony Eluding, Possession of Controlled Substance, Interference with Official Acts, and Possession of Drug Paraphernalia. He was convicted and sentenced to serve 6 years in prison. The money was seized and forfeited over to the Polk City Police Department.

20-0068

On March 3, at approximately 2:15 pm, a Polk City resident reported a possible impaired driver traveling northbound on NW Polk City Drive into Polk City. A Polk City officer located the suspect sitting in the driver's seat of a vehicle parked at Casey's. An investigation revealed that the suspect was under the influence of narcotics. The suspect was also found to be in possession of marijuana paraphernalia and prescription medications that were not prescribed to the suspect. The suspect was charged with Operating While Intoxicated-2nd Offense, Unlawful Possession of Prescription Drugs, and Possession of Drug Paraphernalia.

20-0289

On November 4th, a Polk City Police Officer stopped a vehicle for a traffic violation. An investigation revealed that the driver was under the influence of



narcotics. She was found in possession of methamphetamine, marijuana, and drug paraphernalia. Her 11-year-old son was a passenger in the vehicle. The driver was arrested and charged with OWI-1st Offense, Child Endangerment, Possession of Methamphetamine, Possession of Marijuana, Possession of Drug Paraphernalia and Driving While License Suspended.

Notable Cases

20-0321

On December 14th, a Polk City Police Officer was dispatched to a residence for a report of a motor vehicle theft. An investigation revealed that a Polk City resident had lent his vehicle to a woman he had recently met. The 36-year-old female Des Moines resident did not return the vehicle to the owner. The officer investigated resulting in the vehicle and suspect were found in West Des Moines later in the evening. The suspect was charged with Operating a Motor Vehicle w/o Owner's Consent.

Forfeitures

Property which is illegally possessed; property which has been used or is intended to be used to facilitate the commission of a criminal offense or to avoid detection or apprehension; and property which is acquired from the proceeds of a criminal offense may be subject to forfeiture.

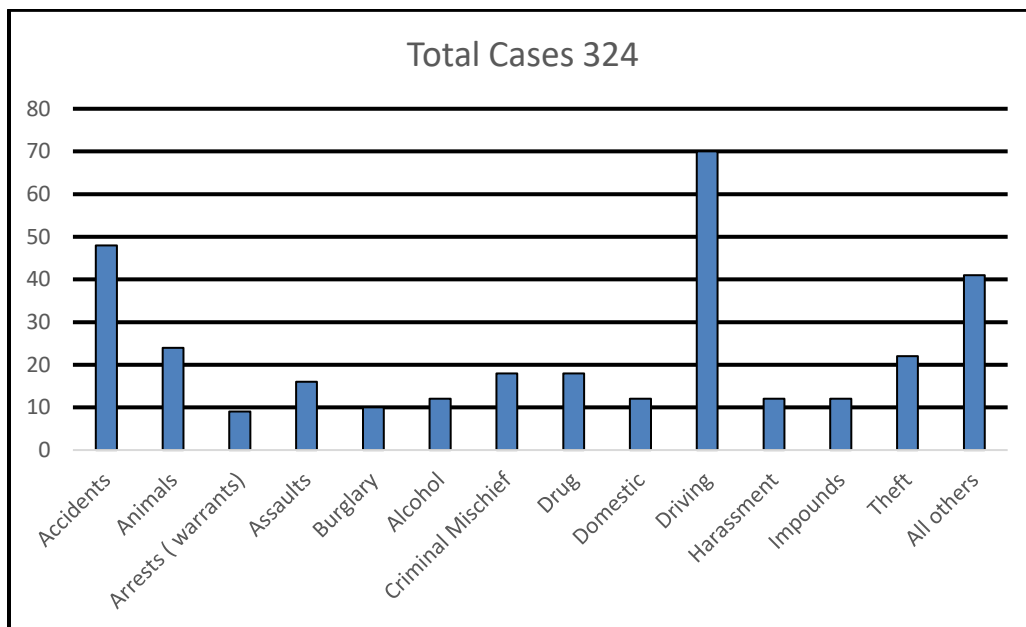
In 2020 the Polk City Police Department had one seizure related to narcotics trafficking.

Case	Type of seizure	Item Seized	Status
20-0054	Cash	\$1600.00	Awarded to PD

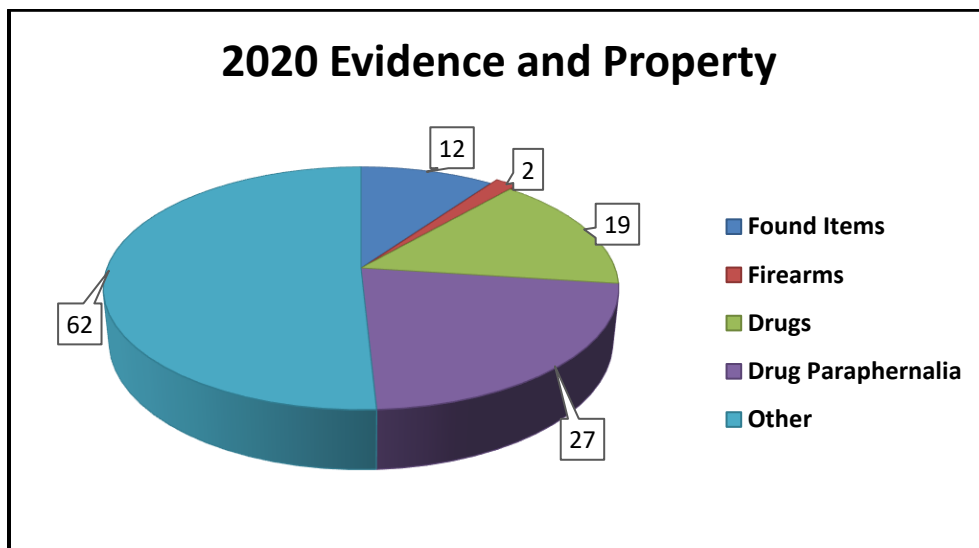
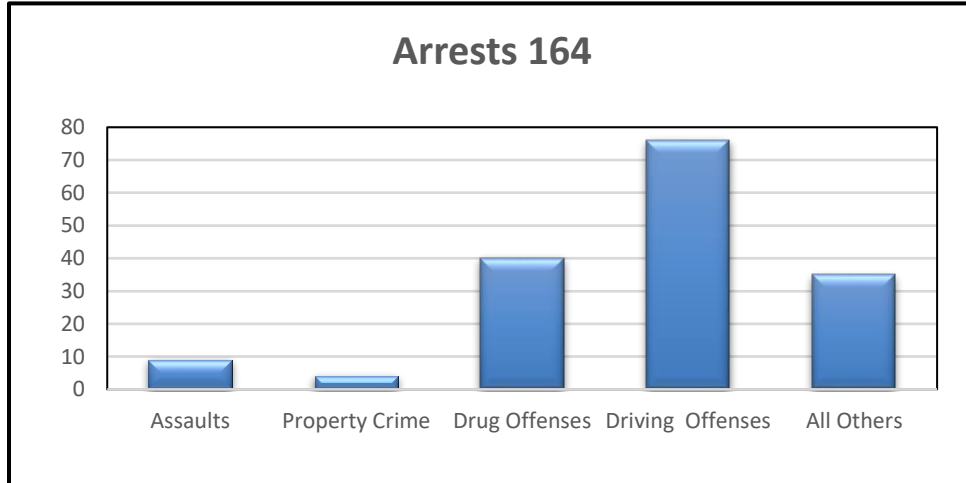
Patrol Statistics

As a result of the Coronavirus pandemic our officers had to make major changes in our day-to-day operations and our approach in proactive criminal interdiction. Officers were required to focus their enforcement to more severe offenses. This reflected largely in traffic enforcement for minor offenses, in comparison to 2019, our traffic citations and warnings were fewer by nearly 40% while our total calls for service remained consistent with the previous year.

In 2020 the Polk City Police Department received **4,441** calls for service (vs 4519 the previous year). This number includes citizen reports/complaints, traffic stops, and other self-initiated activity. Officers took **324** cases in 2020 and responded to **48** accidents. Officers also made **156** arrests, issued **306** traffic citations, and issued **682** traffic warnings.



Patrol Statistics



Training Summary

The Police Department had adjusted our training program throughout 2020 as restrictions and recommendations were disseminated. Even through numerous precautions, we managed to continue a quality training program for our staff. Our department was one of the first in the area to train officers on new state requirements of de-escalation and fair and impartial policing. We continue to reinforce these areas in our training program.

In-Service Topics Include:

- Officer Firearms
- CPR/AED Recertification
- Officer Safety and Tactics
- Scenario Based Training
- Law Updates
- Hazardous Materials
- Mandatory Reporting
- Developmental Disabilities and Dementia
- Fair and Impartial Policing
- Spike Strip Deployment

Specialty Schools Include:

- Firearms Instructor Re-Certification
- Patrol Rifle Instructor Re-Certification
- Low-Light Instructor
- Drug Recognition Expert (DRE) Re-Certification
- Taser CEW Instructor
- Glock Armorer's Training
- Canine Handler Training and Certification
- Social Media Investigations and Engagements
- Crime Scene Processing
- Low-Light Instructor Course
- FBI-LEEDA Leadership Courses
- Police Records Management

Training Summary

In 2020 the police department employees received a combined 1,136 hours of individual training.

Individual Officer Training:

Chief Siepker:	93 Hours
Lt. Aswegan:	135 Hours
Officer Lamfers:	27 Hours
Officer Untrauer:	24 Hours
Officer Aicher:	49 Hours
Officer Wilson:	128 Hours
Officer Delaney:	672 Hours (640 hours from LE Academy)
Admin Jacobson:	8 hours



Training Summary



Training Summary

Canine Unit Development

Certifications and Training



In October Officer Aicher and Eudoris certified in narcotics detection in the USPCA Detector Trials held in northwestern Iowa. Officer Aicher and Eudoris scored 198 points out of a possible 200 points, giving them an overall rating of 98%.

Deployments

Officer Aicher and Eudoris were deployed **37** times in 2020. Of these deployments, **26** were for narcotics detection resulting in over **20** items of drug related contraband taken from the street. Eudoris also assisted local agencies in locating **2** criminal offenders.

On May 4th, Officer Aicher and K9 Eudoris were requested to assist Johnston Police Officers in locating a suspect who had been cutting off catalytic converters from numerous vehicles. The officers had located the subject, but he fled. K9 Eudoris tracked the suspect for almost a mile over various terrain, ultimately leading officers to the area where the suspect was hiding. The suspect was taken into custody. The theft of catalytic converters has been a Des Moines Metro-wide problem and one that has also affected Polk City.

On July 7th, Officer Aicher and Eudoris responded to Clive to assist officers on a traffic stop involving possible drugs. Eudoris was deployed on the vehicle and alerted to the presence of the odor of narcotics. Officers located over 7 grams of methamphetamine with a street value of over \$500. Officers also found drug paraphernalia, including items used in the distribution of methamphetamine. One suspect was arrested and charged with Felony Possession of Controlled Substance and Possession of Drug Paraphernalia.



2020 Complaints

Complaints Received by PCPD in 2020

Chief Siepker and Lt. Aswegan log all complaints made on PCPD staff. All formal complaints are logged and investigated. These are handled per PCPD policy and procedures. The content of these investigations is confidential, but the number of complaints will be compiled and listed in this section of the annual report. In 2020 there were no formal complaints filed on any member of PCPD staff.