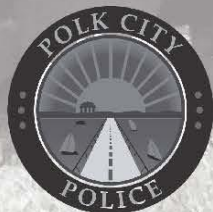
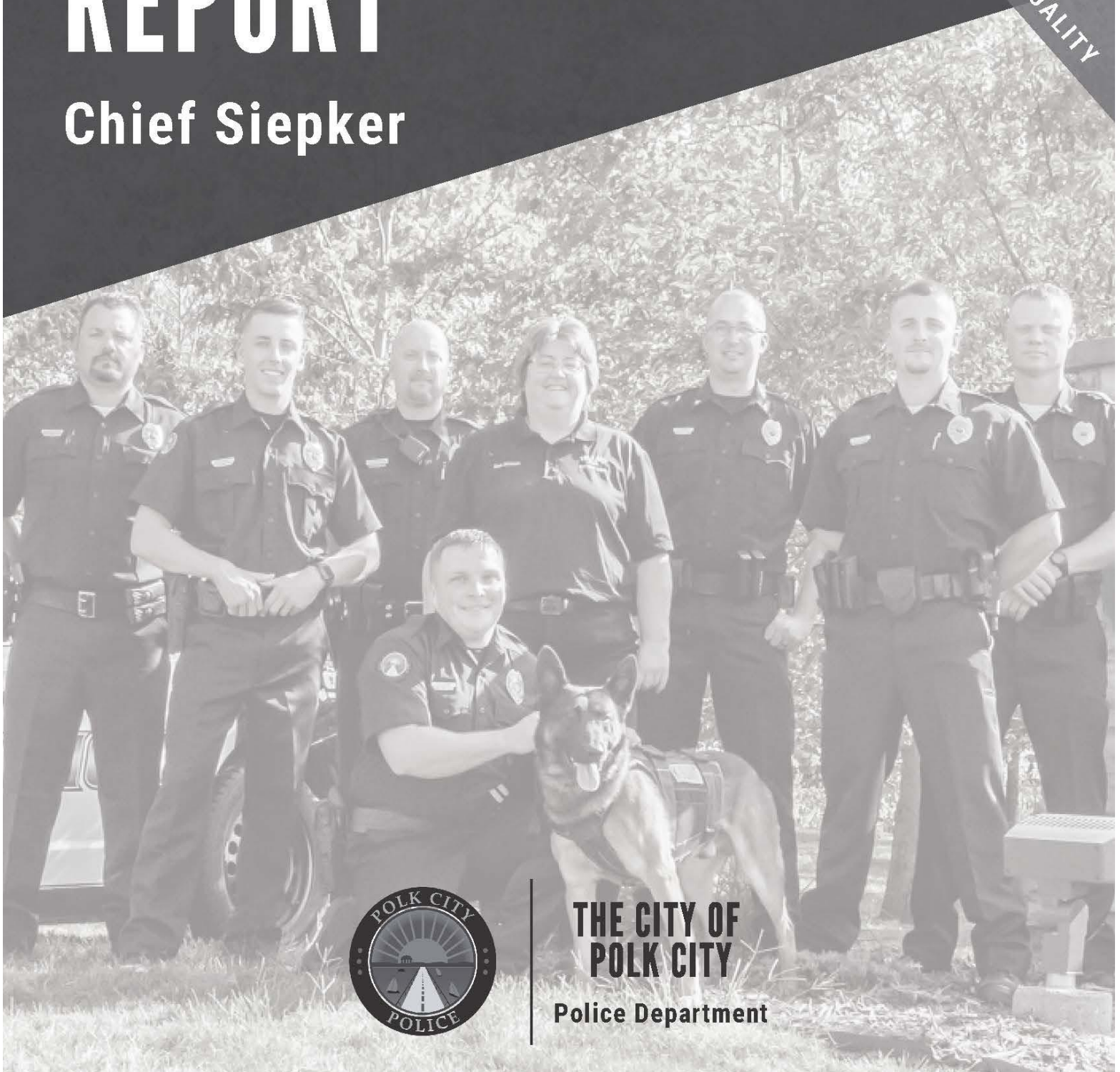


# 2021 ANNUAL REPORT

Chief Siepker

SERVICE - INTEGRITY - RESPECT - QUALITY



**THE CITY OF  
POLK CITY**

**Police Department**

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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



I would like to extend my gratitude for all the support our department has seen over the past year. We are blessed to have such a great community.

I look forward to what our department will bring over this next year as we focus on enhancing our community relationships and manage the growth and changes in our City. Please enjoy reading about our accomplishments and highlights from 2021!

## Lieutenant Matt Aswegan



Despite some on-going challenges our profession, community and nation have faced in 2021, the Polk City Police Department had another successful year. We had several successful criminal investigations this year including the apprehension of a catalytic converter thief, car burglars, and made numerous drug seizures. Through the hard work of our patrol staff and partnerships with the community, we continue to enjoy a very low crime rate.

We continue to improve on our excellent training program, where we exceed state mandated training requirements for our staff. Citizens of Polk City can rest easy, knowing that trained and dedicated patrol officers are patrolling their neighborhoods and businesses.



# 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



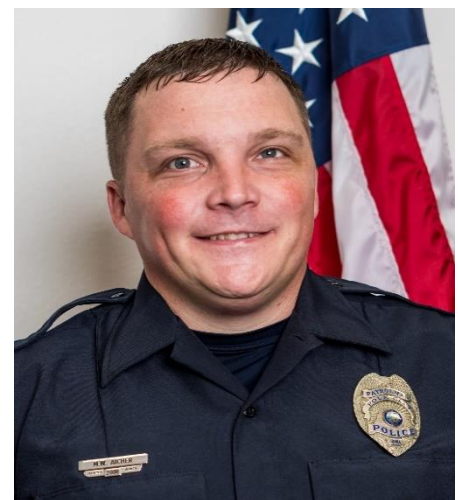
## Officer Matthew Untrauer

- 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



## Officer Jeremy Burdess

- Patrol Officer
- 2010 graduate of the Iowa Law Enforcement Academy
- Resigned in December and currently hiring to fill vacancy





# Officer and Staff Biographies

## Support Clerk Jane Jacobson

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



## **2021 Achievements**

- Added an 8<sup>th</sup> full-time officer to our staff, which has decreased overtime costs, decreased response time, and increased the number of hours when we have 2 officers on patrol.
- We were one of the first agencies to make the complete transition to the new online UCR reporting database, I-Crime. This online database is a modern tool that updates Iowa's incident-based Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) system, which serves as the central repository for crime and arrest data across all of Iowa law enforcement.
- Restructured the front lobby with extra security for our administrative staff, provide a lobby area for citizens, and a phone to call dispatch during non-business hours.
- Fully transitioned into the online training tracking program Target Solutions. The program helps us track the total number of training hours, schedule training events, and deliver online training courses.
- Received 5 new Stryker CR2 AEDs through the Iowa Department of Public Health and Helmsley Charitable Trust Law Enforcement AED grant.
- Instituted a Code Enforcement Program and provided citizens with a route to voice code violation complaints through our department website.
- Deployment of Remington 870 Less Lethal shotgun in each patrol vehicle, also known as a “Red Gun”. This shotgun fires a less lethal beanbag round.

# **2021 Community Outreach Events**

- Summer reading program in partnership with the Polk City Library
- Summer cooling tent and water station
- Neighborhood meetings with children
- Summer Kick Off Event
- Light Up Polk City!
- Halloween
- RVTv
- Cop cards
- Participation in the Polk City Fall Fest
- Participation in the Polk City Four Seasons Mini-fest
- Polk City Citizens Academy 2021

# 2021 Community Outreach Events





# 2021 Community Outreach Events





# 2021 Community Outreach Events



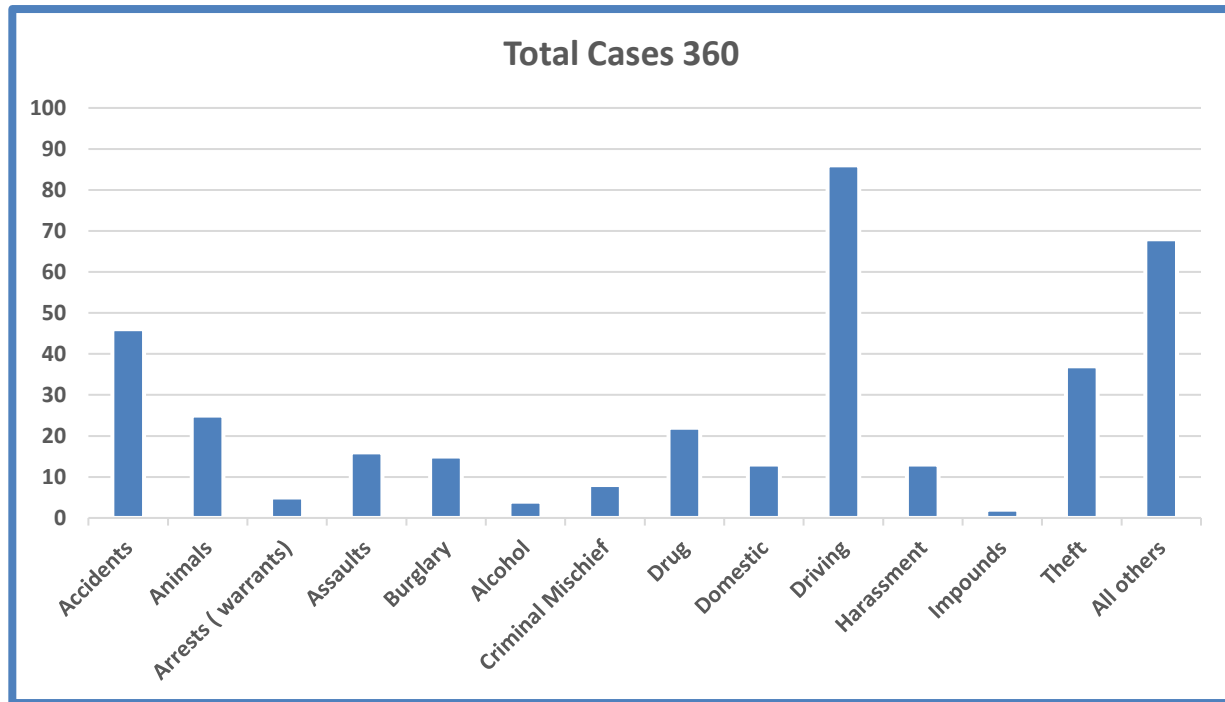
## 2021 Outreach Events





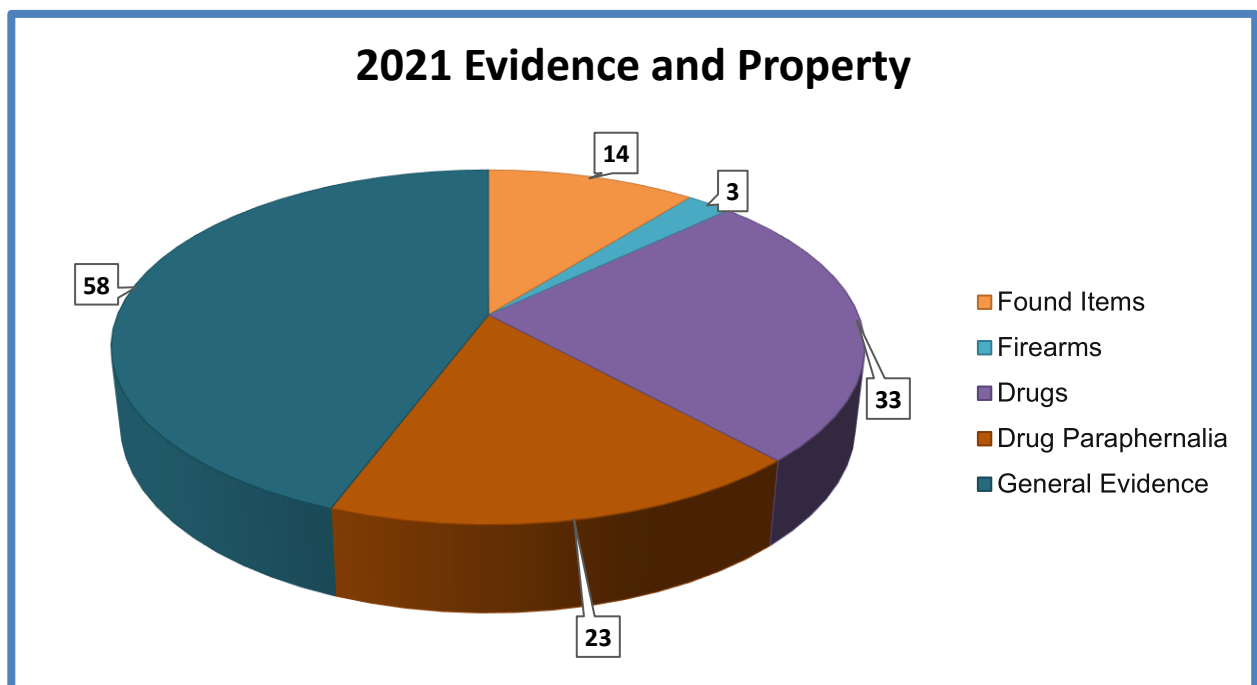
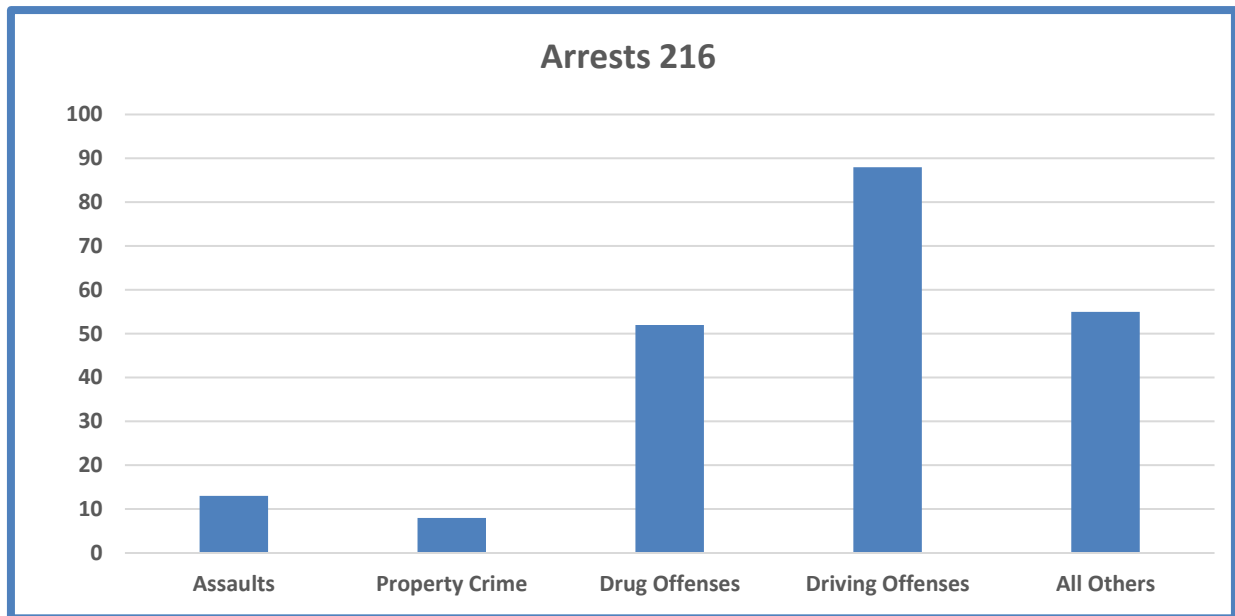
# Patrol Statistics

In 2021 the Polk City Police Department received **4,651** calls for service. This number includes citizen reports/complaints, traffic stops, and other self-initiated activity. Officers took **360** cases in 2021 and responded to **60** traffic collisions. Officers also made **216** arrests, issued **388** traffic citations, and issued **1105** traffic warnings.



# Patrol Statistics

In 2021, our department made 216 arrests. Most of our arrests come from driving related offenses such as Operating While Intoxicated, Driving While Barred, Revoked or Suspended. Drug arrests is the other most common type of arrest made by our department. Numerous drug seizures and items of drug paraphernalia were seized by our department in 2021.



# Notable Case and Events

## 21-0085

On April 10<sup>th</sup>, Officer Wilson stopped a vehicle for expired registration. The vehicle was operated by a 33-year-old Des Moines woman. An investigation revealed that she had a barred driver's license. She was additionally found in possession of Psilocybin mushrooms, methamphetamine and cocaine and numerous items of drug paraphernalia. She was charged with 3 counts of Possession of Controlled Substance, Driving While Barred and Possession of Drug Paraphernalia.



## 21-0088



On April 12<sup>th</sup>, Lt. Aswegan stopped a vehicle for a traffic violation. The vehicle was driven by a 30-year-old Des Moines resident and a passenger in the vehicle was identified as a 26-year-old West Des Moines resident. They were determined to be under the influence of drugs. Officer Aicher and Eudoris responded to the scene. Eudoris was deployed on the vehicle and alerted to the odor of narcotics. Lt. Aswegan recovered heroin, fentanyl and used

needles from the vehicle. A search warrant was executed to draw the driver's blood. He was found to have methamphetamine, fentanyl, heroin, and marijuana in his system when he was driving. The driver was charged with 2<sup>nd</sup> Offense OWI, Driving While Barred, 2 counts of Possession of Controlled Substance, and Possession of Drug Paraphernalia. He additionally had a warrant for his arrest from the Iowa Department of Corrections. The passenger was charged with two counts of Possession of Controlled Substance and Possession of Drug Paraphernalia.



# **Notable Case and Events**

## **21-0228**

Several vehicles were burglarized in Polk City during July and August. One of the victims had their wallet and other items stolen from their vehicle. During an investigation, evidence led investigators to a 19-year-old Des Moines man who had used the victim's credit cards to make several purchases in Des Moines. Our department charged the man with 2 counts of Unlawful Use of a Credit Card and one count of Theft. Arrest warrants were issued, and he was picked up in September by Norwalk Police Department.

## **21-0093**

On April 18<sup>th</sup>, Officer Untrauer was notified by Polk County dispatch of a reckless driver coming into Polk City from the Mile Long Bridge. Officer Untrauer located and stopped the vehicle after observing the erratic driving. An investigation revealed that the driver was intoxicated and had a barred driver's license. He was arrested for OWI and Driving While Barred. The driver became aggressive and belligerent with officers during transport to the Polk County jail. The driver continued to be aggressive towards jail staff. He was additionally charged with Interference with Official Acts.

## **21-0302**

On November 6<sup>th</sup> at about 4:30 am Officer Delaney stopped a vehicle for a traffic violation. An investigation led to the discovery of methamphetamine, prescription drugs and drug paraphernalia in the vehicle. The driver and passenger were charged with Possession of Controlled Substance with Intent to Deliver, Failure to Affix Drug Tax Stamp, Possession of Controlled Substance-3<sup>rd</sup> Offense, and Possession of Drug Paraphernalia. The passenger additionally had a warrant for his arrest out of Polk County and the driver had a suspended driver's license. Both subjects were booked into the Polk County jail.

## **21-0332**

On November 24<sup>th</sup> at about 11:00 am Officer Lamfers stopped a vehicle for a traffic violation. The driver was found to have a suspended driver's license. An investigation also revealed the driver was in possession of methamphetamine and a methamphetamine smoking pipe. The driver was charged with Possession of Controlled Substance-2<sup>nd</sup> Offense, Possession of Drug Paraphernalia and Driving While Suspended.

# Notable Case and Events

## Baby Delivery

On June 2, 2021, at about 7:15 pm Polk City Police Officers Matt Aicher and Alex Delaney responded to assist Polk City Medics for a childbirth in progress. Polk City Officer Aicher was the first officer on scene where he was met with the imminent reality that he was about to deliver a baby into the world. Faced with the reality in front of them, officers and medics called upon their training and successfully delivered a newborn into the world



# Special Programs

## K9 Program

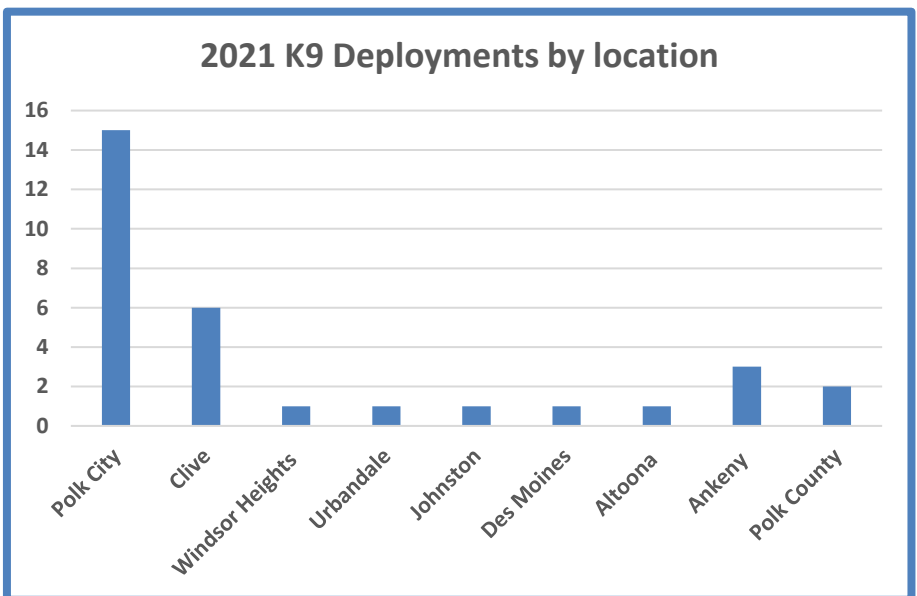
### Certifications and Training

K9 Eudoris and Officer Aicher continue to excel in their annual K9 Certifications. The team was awarded 2<sup>nd</sup> Place out of 50 teams in “Vehicle Detection” at 2021 USPCA Region 21 K9 Detector Trails in Fort Madison. The team was also awarded “The 2021 CTAC Best Narcotic K9 Detection Team” at the “Second Layer Certification” at Canine Tactical in Chariton, Iowa.



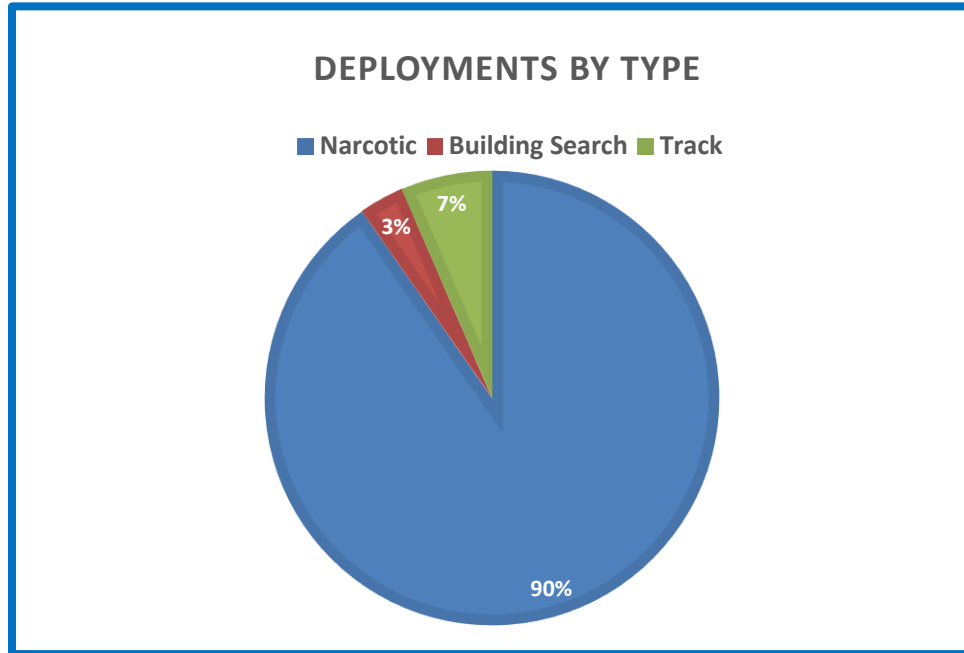
### Deployments

Officer Aicher and Eudoris were deployed **31** times in 2021. 27 deployments were for narcotics detection resulting in **9** felony drug charges, **4** serious misdemeanor drug charges, and **6** simple misdemeanor paraphernalia charges. On occasion, Officer Aicher and Eudoris are called to support area agencies. During 2021, deployments in Polk City accounted for about 50% of the annual deployment total.



# Special Programs

## K9 Program



### Notable Canine Deployments

#### Methamphetamine Arrest

On May 4<sup>th</sup> Officer Aicher and Eudoris were called to assist Lt. Aswegan, Chief Siepker and Big Creek Park Ranger Poen on a suspicious vehicle at Big Creek Beach for narcotic detection. Eudoris alerted to the odor of narcotics in the vehicle. Methamphetamine and multiple pieces of drug paraphernalia was located. The driver of the vehicle was charged with misdemeanor drug possession.

#### Felony Narcotics Seizure

On December 17th Officer Aicher and Eudoris were called to assist the Ankeny Police Department for narcotic detection. Eudoris alerted to the odor of narcotics in the vehicle. Felony amounts of Methamphetamine were found in the vehicle. The driver and the passenger were both charged with felony drug possession.

# Special Programs

## K9 Program

### Successful Track of Burglary Suspect

On August 25th Officer Aicher and Eudoris were called to 4575 NW 2<sup>nd</sup> Street in Des Moines to assist the Ankeny Police Department and the Polk County Sheriff's Office on a track of a suspect that had fled from a vehicle after a pursuit. Prior to the pursuit the suspect was observed in Ankeny attempting to burglarize vehicles.

During the track a suspect was flushed to officer's that had set up a perimeter. This suspect was later identified as a suspect in a shooting in Des Moines as well as a main suspect in multiple car burglaries throughout the Des Moines metro area including Polk City.

## Drug Recognition Expert Program

A Drug Recognition Expert (DRE) is a police officer trained to recognize impairment in drivers under the influence of drugs other than, or in addition to, alcohol. The Polk City Police Department is one of 46 municipal police departments in Iowa that has an active DRE on their staff. There are only 109 DRE's in the State of Iowa. Lt. Aswegan has been a DRE for over 9 years and maintains a current certification.

In 2021, there were **6 drug impaired drivers** investigated by Lt. Aswegan. Three drivers were under the influence of marijuana, one was under the influence of fentanyl, heroin, and methamphetamine and two drivers were under the influence of a central nervous system stimulant.

In addition to the impaired driving investigations, numerous items of drug paraphernalia and several packages of drugs were seized from these subjects. Paraphernalia seized included used needles, marijuana pipes, methamphetamine pipes and other drug smoking devices. User amounts of marijuana, THC wax, fentanyl, heroin, and methamphetamine were seized as well.





# Special Programs

## Code Enforcement Program

In July 2021, our department began a code enforcement program to help solve some neighborhood concerns. Since its inception, we have handled **31** code violations. These include junk vehicles, off-street parking, excessive length of grass, etc. Most of these violations were corrected by the property owner after they were made aware of the problem.



## GTSB Program

Our department participates in the Iowa Governor's Traffic Safety Bureau and receives funding for traffic safety initiatives. The grant pays for equipment such as Preliminary Breath Tests, in-car video cameras, radars, and several other pieces of equipment to assist in the detection and deterrence of traffic related offenses. A portion of the grant is allotted for overtime wages specifically for officers to work hours beyond their normal work week, where during these hours they conduct high visibility enforcement of traffic offenses with the goal of reducing traffic crashes and fatalities.

In 2021, we used the grant to update our inventory of Preliminary Breath Tests (PBT). Several hours of overtime enforcement hours were worked by patrol officers where we had **111** traffic contacts, 1 OWI arrest, 1 drug arrest and one revoked driver was arrested.



# Training Summary

The Police Department continued a well-established training program throughout 2021. Our department continues to meet and exceed all annual training requirements for Iowa law enforcement.

## **In-Service Topics Include:**

- Officer Firearms
- Officer Safety and Tactics
- Scenario Based Training
- Law Updates
- Use of Force
- Hazardous Materials
- Mandatory Reporting
- Mental Health Awareness Training
- Implicit Bias Awareness Training
- Medical training

## **Specialty Schools Include:**

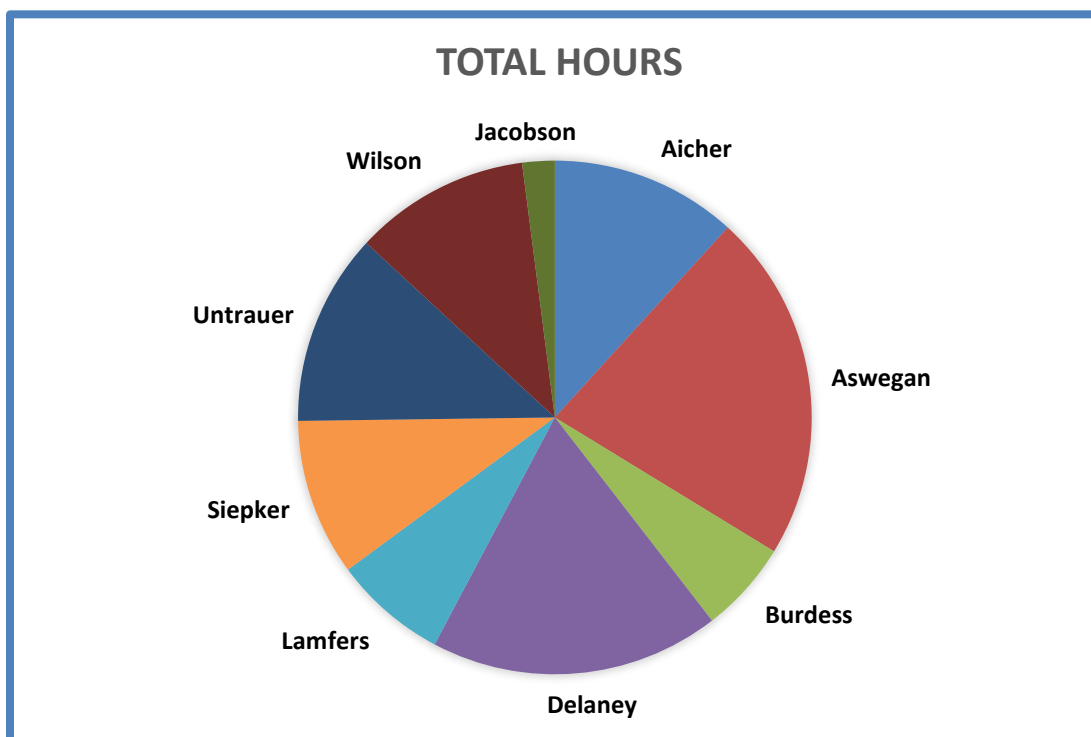
- Patrol Rifle Instructor Course
- ASP Baton Instructor Course
- Handcuffing Instructor Course
- Sexual Assault Response and Investigations Training
- FTO Program Supervisor Course
- FTO Refresher Course
- Canine Handler Training and Certification
- Highway Drug Investigations for Patrol
- OWI/SFST Update Training
- Annual GTSB Conference
- FBI-LEEDA Leadership Courses
- Police Records Management
- Sexual Assault Investigations for the Rural Officer
- Foundations of Sexual Assault Investigations

# Training Summary

In 2021, Polk City Police Officers received a combined 575 hours of individual training. The hours included in-service, online, and external trainings. In-service training is conducted within the department. We use Police Legal Science and Target Solutions to deliver our online trainings. External training is those training courses and conferences that officers attend at other locations.

## Individual Officer Training:

|                     |           |
|---------------------|-----------|
| Chief Siepker:      | 58 Hours  |
| Lt. Aswegan:        | 129 Hours |
| Officer Lamfers:    | 42 Hours  |
| Officer Untrauer:   | 71 Hours  |
| Officer Aicher:     | 69 Hours  |
| Officer Wilson:     | 65 Hours  |
| Officer Delaney:    | 107 Hours |
| Officer Burdess     | 34 Hours  |
| Admin Jane Jacobson | 12 hours  |

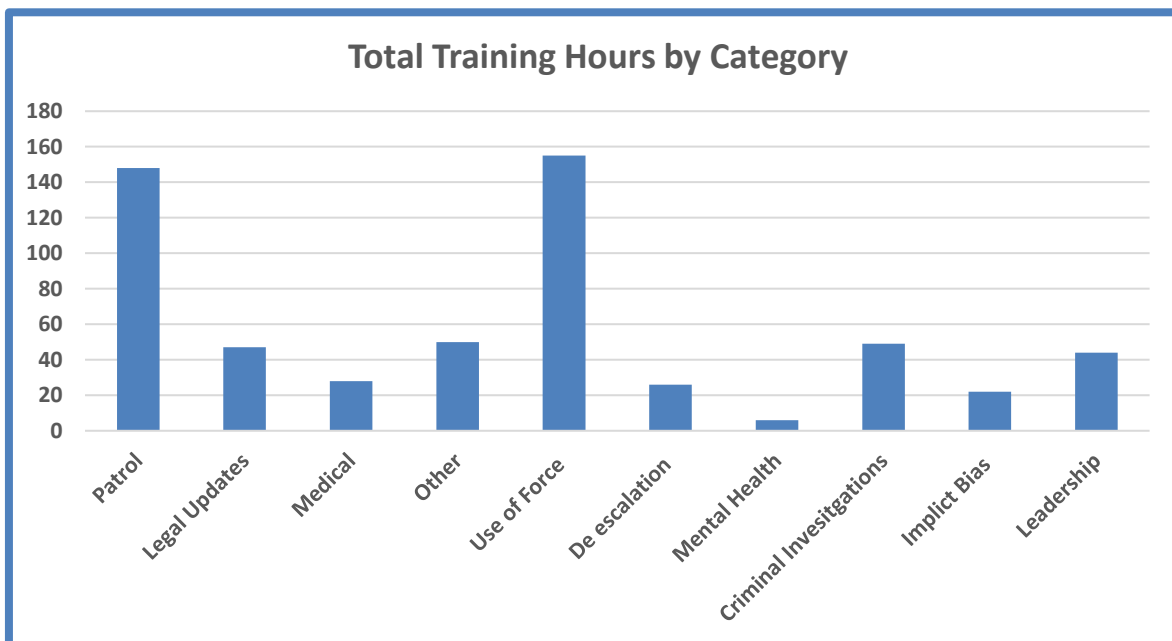


# Training Summary

Our top training categories were in the categories of Patrol and Use of Force. Patrol related training includes training on OWI enforcement, arrest procedures, criminal interdiction, responding to calls for service, building searches, searching of persons, etc.

Use of Force training includes mandatory annual qualifications on firearms, Taser, and other defensive weapons. In addition, a substantial part of our Use of Force training includes scenario-based training where officers are put into situations using a simulator or active scenarios with role players. During these scenarios, officers must make use of force decisions based on a rapidly developing situation.

Officers use tactics, de-escalation skills and verbal communication to resolve the situation. Scenarios are designed to focus on real world encounters. After each scenario, the officer and instructors discuss tactics and develop ways to improve our response.





# **2021 Complaints**

## **Complaints Received by PCPD in 2021**

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 2021 there were no formal complaints filed on any member of PCPD staff.