

Independence Police Department

2020 Annual Report



2020 HIGHLIGHTS

The COVID-19 pandemic impacted our police department tremendously in 2020. You will see a noticeable decrease in several of our activities categories this year compared to last year. Many of the factors that accounted for the decreases were directly related to the COVID-19 pandemic. There was less traffic, businesses were shut down and many residents chose to stay home. That caused a reduction in vehicle and foot traffic, as well as in calls for service. Our police department personnel shown great resilience this year. They have been required to adapt, improvise, and overcome. It was not uncommon for them to have procedure changes, schedule changes, reassignments, or extra shifts. All those interruptions were necessary to continue to safely provide police services to our community.



Sergeant Jason Young passed away Thursday, January 2, 2020, from injuries sustained from a motor vehicle accident. Jason joined IPD in 1996 and was promoted to Sergeant in 2011. During his 24-year tenure, he selflessly served his community in the Patrol Division, Criminal Investigation Unit, the Special Response Team, the Jackson County Drug Task Force, and the Special Victims Unit, where he helped bring numerous sex-trafficking victims to safety.

Jason took his combat medic knowledge from his service in the United States Coast Guard and created the Tactical Medical Program for the Police Department. Jason was instrumental in teaching and providing training and medical supplies to IPD officers. The Tactical Medical Program has allowed Independence Police Officers to save numerous lives of citizens and officers. His knowledge, dedication, and compassion will be sorely missed, and his absence will be felt by his police family and the community.



Integrity. Service. Character.

OUR MISSION

- to protect life, individual liberty and property of all people within the City of Independence;
- to lower crime and disorder in the community;
- to develop and maintain positive relationships with members of the community and
- to foster a positive work environment for police employees.

CRIME STATISTICS

2020 National Incident Based Reporting System (NIBRS) Compared to 2019

Violent Crime

13.76% increase

- Murder: 13
- Aggravated Assault: 515
- Robbery: 125
- Sexual Assault: 142

Violent Crime
13.76%+

Property Crime

3.36% increase

- Burglary: 585
- Motor Vehicle Theft: 976
- Fraud: 453
- Arson: 22
- Larceny (Theft): 3,787

Property Crime
3.36%+

Domestic Violence Crimes: 1,069

3.29% increase

Drug/Narcotic Violations: 407

51.02% decrease

Firearm Related Crimes: 533

14.87% increase

Hate Crime: 4

50% increase (+2 offenses)

Law Enforcement Officer Killed and Assaulted: 82

24.24% increase

Aggravated Assault Against Law Enforcement Officers: 17

Simple Assault Against : 65



PATROL

In 2020, officers assigned to the *Patrol Division* responded to around 54,200 calls for service and completed around 11,700 police reports. There were an average of 11.51 calls for service, per day, per officer.

In 2020, the police department had numerous vacancies created from retirements and resignations. Additionally, COVID-19 exposures decreased the number of personnel available to work patrol. This forced officers in several specialized units (Traffic, SWAT, K9, etc.) to temporarily assist the Patrol Division with calls for service. The city entered a state of emergency in March of 2020 due to COVID 19. This led to many changes in the way we were policing. Patrol limited self initiated activity and limited to responding to only priority 1-4 calls. We stationed an officer at the desk to take reports on priority 5-9 calls. We limited community contact as much as possible to keep the citizens and officers safe. This remained in effect for the rest of year.

Yearly Average Response Times 2019 Vs 2020

	Priority 1	Priority 2	Priority 3	Priority 4
2019 Yearly Average	0:05:45	0:07:14	0:12:09	0:15:37
2020 Yearly Average	0:05:43	0:07:28	0:12:47	0:16:36

HAWTHORNE PLACE APTS. OFFICERS

- 465 Calls For Service
- 104 Police Reports
- 534 Background Checks
- Assisted Staff with 24 evictions.

STEP UNIT

- 1000 Liquor Compliance Checks
- 49 Violations (compliance rate of 95.1%)

RECORDS UNIT

- 41,980 Citizen Assists at the Front Desk
- 5,971 Desk Police Reports
- 126,994 Telephone Inquiries
- 26,756 Mail and Fax inquiries
- 150,842 Warrant Checks
- \$306,594 Collected in Bonds (includes outside agencies)

SWAT TEAM

- 43 Activations
- 179 Search Warrants
- 112 Residence Checks
- 4 Barricades
- 1,106 Hours of Training

K9 UNIT

- 312 Arrests
- 323 K9 Calls for Service
- 3 Call-Outs.
- 6 Demonstrations
- 31 Apprehension Contacts
- 43 Building Searches
- 153 Narcotic Searches
- 48 Track/Field Search

The part-time **BOMB SQUAD** was called out 13 times and had two outside agency assists.

COMMUNICATIONS UNIT

- 100,906 911 Calls Dispatched
- 77,916 Police Incidents
- 23,438 Fire Incidents
- 231,626 Non-Emergency calls
- 203 Text to 911 calls

TRAFFIC UNITS

1,972 Motor Vehicle Crashes.
The overall number of crashes decreased by 13.42% from 2019 to 2020.
Fatal crashes increased from 11 to 19.
The Traffic Safety Units issued 29,212 citations.
The police department issued 65 parking tickets.

CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS

- 1,969 Cases Worked by the Criminal Investigations Unit
- 784 In-Custody Cases
- 290 Stop Orders Issued
- 218 State Arrest Warrants Obtained
- 81 City Warrants Obtained
- 13 Homicide Investigations
- 70 Average Number of Cases Assigned Per Detective.

Drug Enforcement Unit

- 257 Cases Assigned to the Drug Enforcement Unit
- 70 Cases Submitted to the State, Other and Federal
- 576 TruNarc Tests Completed
- 17 Search Warrants

INDEPENDENCE CENTER OFFICERS

- 967 Calls for Service
- 539 Police Reports
- \$79,767 Recovered Worth of Stolen Merchandise for the businesses at the Center and along 39th St.
- 161 Disorderly House Cases.

DETENTION UNIT

- 4,723 Persons Booked in Detention
- 883 Detainees Housed Off-Site

COMMUNITY SERVICES (Outreach Officers)

- 930 Calls for Service
- 72 Community Events
- 65 Memorandums of Understandings Created

