Vinton Police Department

> Annual Report



Serving the Citizens of Vinton and surrounding areas

WWW.VINTONPOLICE.COM

Proudly with Integrity, Honor, Courage, and a Commitment to a Safer Community.



A message from Chief Thomas L. Foster

First, let me thank you for taking the time to review *your* Vinton Police Department's Annual Report. As you will see, 2017 was an amazing year for our agency. It was a year marked by many "firsts" as we sought new ways to connect with our community, and serve the citizens of our town. During 2017 we unveiled our new Mobile Community Services Unit (MCSU). The MCSU has allowed us to engage our citizens in a very unique way. Through use of the MCSU, we have connected with our citizens through neighborhood cookouts, bicycle safety events, and Operation Child Safe gunlock distribution events. These experiences have given us opportunity to understand what issues are most important to you, and build partnerships that solve problems. Further, we launched our "Safe Exchange Zone" – the first in the Roanoke Valley – where citizens from across the valley can more safely engage in ecommerce; and conduct child custody exchanges. Lastly, the Vinton Police Department has invested in training and equipping our officers to respond to the myriad of emergency events facing our community and nation today. This training and equipment even includes "less lethal" technology, which may give our officers even greater opportunity to save lives in certain volatile law enforcement situations.

Partnerships and Team Building – In 2017, Your Vinton Police Department joined forces with the Roanoke Police Department, Roanoke County Police Department, and the City of Salem Police Department to form S.O.A.R., "Sober On All Roads." This grant funded taskforce strives to educate the community about the dangers of impaired driving; while detecting and apprehending those who choose to drive impaired anywhere in the Roanoke Valley. Through this partnership, "SOAR" removed 295 dangerously impaired drivers from our highways in 2017. Secondly, the Vinton Police Department joined these same agencies, and mental health professionals, in the development of a regional threat assessment team to help better identify those persons in our community needing mental health services. The goal of this initiative is to intervene, when appropriate, and provide care to individuals needing mental health services before there is a threat to public safety. Through our partnerships with other local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies, we have been able to create a cooperative and effective system of interaction and information sharing that has proven to be successful in the investigation of crime, and the prosecution of those who commit criminal offenses; thus, enhancing the safety of our community.

Hiring and Recruiting – 2017 was an incredible year for the Vinton Police Department as we completely filled all of our vacancies. In a time when almost all law enforcement agencies are struggling to find suitable candidates, your Vinton Police Department filled every vacancy with highly trained certified law enforcement professionals. These officers, along with a dedicated staff of veteran officers, are making a difference in our community. To this end, 2017 witnessed an increase of 68% in criminal arrests by our officers as we take on the opioid abuse problem; and the multitude of other crimes that occur related to this nationwide epidemic. Your Vinton Police Department truly is "Your" department. Our mission to is to provide our citizens and visitors with an unparalleled level of service. Our officers and staff are dedicated professionals who strive every day to make Vinton an even better place to "Live, Work, and Play!" Thank you for the privilege of serving as your chief of police.

Sincerely

Thomas L. Foster

Town of Vinton Employee of the Year



Congratulations to Thomas L. Foster, Chief of Police

Tom Foster was named Town of Vinton's Employee of the Year for 2017

Tom was nominated by Town of Vinton employees.

Some of the traits that were mentioned in his nominations were as follows;

*Promotes a positive attitude even during challenging times.

*Uplifts employees and gives everyone praise.

*Always has an open door policy and is willing to sit down
and

*Has worked very hard to
bring the morale of the department up
and to get us what we need"

*Goes above and beyond in preparing reports and
presentations

to make sure they are understandable and precise.

*Knowledgeable

*Gives 100%

*Is an innovator, incorporating new ideas
for the department and
the town., and last but not least
*Is loyal to department employees

Congratulations!!

Special Events



The Vinton Fall
Festival. Showing off
the new Mobile
Community Services
Unit and accessories.



Downtown Trick or Treat. We set up our Mobile Community Services Unit to hand out lots and lots of candy.

The 4th of July Event held at the Vinton War Memorial







VA State Police Event Longwood Manor Apartments and Glade Town Reunion







Special Events

The Drug Take Back program was held on Saturday, April 29th, and October 28th, at several locations in Roanoke, Vinton, and Salem. Medication was safely collected and then destroyed by local law enforcement and DEA Agents.





The Vinton Police Department partnered with the General Federation of Women's clubs, and The Vinton Women's

Club, to recognize National Child Abuse Prevention Month. The Women's Club signified the event by planting pinwheels in front of the Municipal Building. This event was recognized by Town Council in the April meeting.



Special Events







National Night Out 2017

was a huge success. The event was held at the Vinton Senior Center. National Night Out is a night when the town of Vinton residents get together and network with local law enforcement, and show support for the Night Out Against Crime initiative. There were over 150 people in attendance, including the Mayor and Council Members, town staff and other local police and sheriff departments.

A Huge Thanks to Vito's Pizza, Steve FM and all of those that participated and came out to make this event a success.

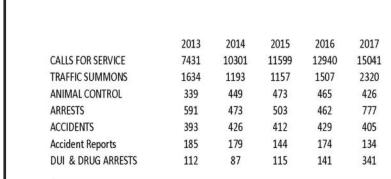


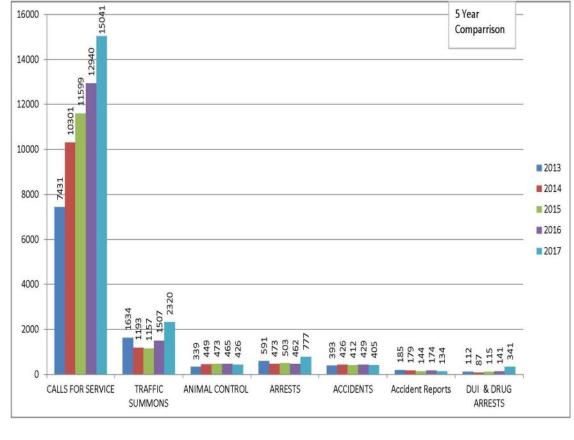




Yearly Statistics

Comparison of Statistics over a 5 year period







2017 Crime Analysis Report

2017 Yearly Report

CAD INCIDENTS		2017			
Accidents	405	Accidents w/Property Damage	250		
Animal Control	426	Accidents w/injury	80		
911 Hang-up	382	Accidents w/fatality	1		
Abandoned Vehicle	32	Hit and Run Property Damage	71		
Abduction	0	Hit and Run w/Injury	3		
Annoying Communication Assist Police	39	Animal Ordinance	69		
Assist Police Assault/Assault with Weapon	274	Attack Animal	7 5		
Bank Robbery	0	Attack Person Barking	24		
Brandishing Firearm	7	Bear	1		_
Break in Business / Residence	85	Cruelty	50		
Burglar Alarm Business/Residence	194	Dead Animal in road	5		
Civic/Crime Prevention	32	Dog At Large	113	+ + + +	_
Civil Advice	627	Injury/Sick	22		
Community Policing	384	Livestock	8		
Death Investigation	2	Neglect	11		_
Deliver Message/Town Admin Requests	16	Snake	3		
Disabled Vehicle	140	Stray	40		
Discharge Fireworks	37	Trap Calls	10	1 1	
Discharge Firearm	0	Wildlife	58		
Disturbance / Disturbance with weapon	386	Mental Subject	98		
Domestic Calls	291	Missing Person	13		
Drug Overdose	19	Paper Pickup/Paper Service	568		
Drug Possession	249	Parking Enforcement	52		
Drunk Driver	65	Personal Assault	9		
Drunk Subject	33	Personal Assault Child	3		
ECO/TDO	24	Property Damage	72		
Escort	192	Prowler	3		
Fight/Fight with weapon	30	Radar	83		
Fire and EMS Calls	200	Reckless Driving	219		
Follow Up	481	Recovered Property	80		
Fraud/Forgery	133	Road Blocked	54		
Homicide	0	Robbery	4		
Illegal Dumping	1	Runaway	14		
Indecent Exposure	2	Screams for Help	3		
Improper Parking	112	Security Checks	927		
Juvenile Problems	105	Shoplifting	54		
Keys Locked in Vehicle/Child Locked in vehicle	170	Stalking	5		
Littering	2	Suicide Attempt/Threats	17		
Larceny from Vehicle	107	Suspicious	1032		
Larceny of Tags	16	Threats	60		
Larceny Other	211	Traffic Stops	5054		
Lookout	214	Traffic Summons Issued	2320		
Lost Firearm	0	Trespassing	39		
Loud Music/Loud Party/Noise Violations	86	Well Being Check	316		
Malicious Wounding	3	Work Traffic	48		_
Total CAD Incidents	15041	1			
REPORTS WRITTEN		The second residence of the second			
Abduction	0	Drunk In Public	51		_
Accident Reports	141	DUI	90		
Animal Control	8	Liquor Law Violations	1 6	+ + +	
Alcohol Related Assault	142 31	Missing person/Runaway	6 2		
Assault Child Abuse/Neglect	0	Obstruction Of Justice Other Calls	55	1	
Counterfeiting	4	Overdose Overdose	9	+ + +	
Counterreiting Crisis Intervention	31	Property Damage	38	1	
Disturbance Calls	20	Recovered Property	27	+ + +	
Domestic Domestic	97	Search Warrant	8	+ + +	
Drug Cases	251	Sex Offense	9		
ECO/TDO	0	Suspicious	22	+ + +	
Embezziement	7	Tampering With Vehicle	27		_
Fraud/Forgery	51	Threats	12		
Homicide/Death Investigation	13	Traffic	49		
Informational Report/Field Contact	68	Trespassing	10	1 1	
Juvenile	5	Violate Protection Order	10		
Larceny/Burglary/Shoplifting	228	Well being check	6		
Total Reports Written	1387	TOTAL STATE		1 1	
				1 1	





GRANTS/New Projects

A Mobile Community Services Unit was purchased in February 2017 after being awarded a grant in the amount of \$20,000.00 from The Department of Criminal Justice. With these funds we also purchased a go-cart and drunk goggles for demonstration of drinking and driving. We also purchased bike

helmets and distributed these to the children

in our area during different events. The Foundation for Roanoke Valley awarded the Police

The Police

Department \$1,820.00,

which we used to purchased 125 art kits. During the year the MCSU attended



several events in the neighborhoods in Vinton, the Police Department was able to interact with the community in a very positive way.



From The Department of Criminal Justice Services bullet proof vest grant, we received 2,000.00. This grant covers 1/2 the cost of a new vest for police officers.

The police department also received \$5,093.00 in funds for 21 Active Shooter Vests.



New Projects/Grants

The Department of Motor Vehicles awarded the Police Department 2 grants this year.

DMV Selective Enforcement Overtime and the DUI Task Force Grant. In 2016-2017 we received \$8,750.00 in DMV Patrol funds to pay for extra patrol overtime. We were also able to purchase two new Lidar/Radar units.



The Department of Motor Vehicles also awarded \$129,789 in DUI Task Force Grant Funds. This is a multijurisdictional grant and funds the

salary, vehicle, accessories, etc., of one of our police officers. This grant is expected to continue for 3 years.



The Safe Zone is an area constructed right in front of the police department. This site was created to allow citizens to conduct safe exchanges. This could be a child custody exchange, sale of goods, or for anything that you need to feel safe doing. There is a camera recording the area during these times.

AWARDS & RECOGNITION



These awards were held in 2017, but are the 2016 winners.

Leadership Award Winner Sergeant Timothy Lawless

Life Saving Award Winners, grouped for different incidents.

Officer Andrew DiCarlo



Sergeant Michael Caldwell Sergeant Timothy Lawless Corporal Silas Chapman

Sergeant Scott Hurt and Officers Terry Pittman and Scott Giles (not pictured)



Sergeant Scott Hurt, Officer Matthew Stafford and Deputy Chief Fabricio Drumond



AWARDS & RECOGNITION



Traffic Safety Award Winner Sergeant Timothy Lawless



MADD Award, presented to Office Matthew Stafford for his efforts in DUI Patrol



The 2017 Officer of the year Award goes to...

Sergeant Michael "Buck" Caldwell



Promotions and New Officers

















Throughout the year













