



# **SAINT PETER POLICE DEPARMTENT**

## **ANNUAL REPORT**

### **2020**

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## INTRODUCTION

Historically, the Saint Peter Police Department has produced an annual report outlining the past year in a statistical format. The report has also outlined the organization of the department. This year we hope to provide a more concise document highlighting various statistical points yet not dwelling on charts and graphs. This report contains an overview of various divisions of our service. If interested, you will be able to locate detailed statistics by following various hyperlinks in the document.

More importantly, this report includes areas of concentration for the upcoming year. Our Department will take this opportunity to help the public learn about us and become informed about what to expect in 2021.

We believe that to best respond to the needs of the community we must embody the community oriented policing mind-set.

The earliest definition of policing is clear and enlightening. It describes policing as, "A better state of society." As you can see this definition places far too great a burden on far too few.

What is put forth by the definition of policing is that the primary responsibility rests with families, the community and its individual members. The police can only facilitate and assist members of the community in the maintenance of order. We cannot be all things to all people. Yet our Department has developed and continues to develop new partnerships to facilitate "A better state of society".

Indeed, found in one of Sir Robert Peel's principals of policing is the phrase, "in the interest of community welfare and existence." Keep in mind that Peel, known as the father of policing, wrote this in 1829. This was written in the context of riots and public disorder in London at that time. Although, the phrase embraces the innumerable social issues that encompass, and are inextricably associated with, *modern* policing--poverty, illiteracy, voracity, racism, narcissism, etc. we believe this original definition is the cornerstone of our fundamental role. It's the police version of the golden rule. "Police others as you would have others police you."

This is the community policing philosophy; it's a mind-set, the reason *why* we do things in policing. This philosophy is continual, it cannot change from officer to officer. On the other hand, how it gets done is dynamic.

Problem-Oriented Policing uses as its motto, "There's more than one way to skin a cat." This accepts the reality that police work goes far beyond law enforcement. It means we have to recognize and treat problems in the early stages and promote habits that prevent crime in the future. Problem-Oriented Policing is tangible, unlike community oriented policing. Problem-Oriented Policing is a tactic or a strategy.

Do we think the Saint Peter Police Department believes in the community oriented policing philosophy? Absolutely! Do we see officers as problem solvers? Yes, although we can certainly do better. Each of us has to prioritize our efforts for the good of the community. Life is dynamic and so must be policing. We have to understand that there are no quick fixes. Ingenuity and imagination will take us forward. A "better state of society" cannot be bought; it can only come about from our hard work and us.

So as we look ahead we ask each member of our department to use imagination, care and to try hard to solve problems and fix things the first time, to contribute, and above all else, be committed to community needs.

Briefly, think back to March 1998, an important part of our history. That year began with the March tornado disaster - a major event impacting the entire area as well as the personal and professional lives of the members of the Saint Peter Police Department. No other event, save the death of a police officer, can have such an enormous impact on the people of police service.

The members of this department rose above the fray. They worked tirelessly in an effort to serve the needs of the community. Indeed, every member of the organization served intrepidly, working above and beyond the normal call of duty. Members of our department continue this effort of excellence now and will do into the future. As they have proven, all personnel of this organization are and will remain dedicated to the safety and welfare of the people they serve.

The following report will summarize the organization of the department. It is only appropriate to begin with a statement of our values.

## **VALUES OF THE SAINT PETER POLICE DEPARTMENT**

We believe it is our primary responsibility to protect human life and dignity above all else. Therefore, we are committed to treating all human beings, including each other, with utmost respect, courtesy and concern.

We believe integrity is the basis of trust within our organization and for the people we serve. Therefore, we will strive to maintain the highest ethical standards of conduct in all of our activities.

We believe as professionals we will always strive for excellence. Therefore, we will support continuous training, career development, modern equipment and methods, and professional attitudes and appearance among all members, and we will continuously and objectively evaluate our own performance and be receptive to new ideas and constructive changes.

We believe it is our responsibility to protect each individual's constitutional rights and liberties. Therefore, as professionals, we will perform our duties within the guidelines of the law, without malice or prejudice.

We believe that each and every member is valuable to the Saint Peter Police Department. Therefore, we are committed to ensuring our safety and supporting each other to achieve our full potential.

We believe that in our policing activities we have important goals and objectives in common with all departments of the City and we will assist each other in accomplishing these goals. Therefore, we work cooperatively with all City employees to better conduct our police activities and achieve the City's common goals.

We believe we are accountable to the people we serve and each other and recognize that we are responsible for our actions. Therefore, we are committed to ensuring that all members have full knowledge of their job responsibilities and that a fair and just system of accountability and reward is in place.

These are the values of the Saint Peter Police Department. They will form the basis of policy developed during the coming years, will provide guidance to all members of the Department on how we will approach our mission, and will communicate our aspirations to the general public.

## DEPARTMENT ORGANIZATION

The Saint Peter Police Department is organized into four major areas of responsibility: patrol, criminal investigation, communications, and community service.

The Department is administered, coordinated and directed by the Chief of Police and supervisory staff. The supervisory staff include the Office Services Coordinator and the Patrol Sergeant.

Patrol is the backbone of all policing. A Sergeant who directs the work of thirteen (13) patrol officers supervises patrol. Patrol Officers are responsible for all aspects of policing. They perform a wide range of general law enforcement duties. Patrol Officers are responsible for the maintenance of order, the enforcement of law and ordinances, the protection of life and property, and the prevention, detection, and investigation of criminal acts within the city. They provide for the enforcement of court orders and court directives and assure the preservation of the constitutional and civil rights of all individuals.

The Office Services Coordinator supervises communications. Communications is comprised of four full-time and three part-time Communications Technicians. Communications Technician duties include receiving emergency and non-emergency telephone and radio calls, dispatching emergency service providers, serving as receptionist (including after hour City calls), performing clerical functions, monitoring of fire and burglar alarms, transcription of statements, state and local data entry, providing information requested from the public, tourist information, as well as other support services.

Our two Police Detectives are responsible for all law enforcement investigative activities. All major criminal investigations are carried out here and in addition, assistance is provided to Patrol Officers in the investigation of misdemeanor and gross misdemeanor investigations. All investigations, crime scenes, prosecution of felony level crimes, child protection investigations, and vulnerable adult investigations are coordinated by Detectives.

### **PATROL**

Police Officers of the Saint Peter Police Department are highly trained professionals, skilled in all facets of policing. Their training, dedication to duty and professionalism provide each and every Officer with the characteristics necessary to endure and overcome the daunting task they often encounter. Patrol Officers provide numerous public safety functions including:

- ▶ Respond to all emergency calls
- ▶ Traffic regulation
- ▶ Accident investigation
- ▶ Community service calls and complaints
- ▶ Interact with victims of crime
- ▶ Criminal law enforcement
- ▶ Criminal case investigation and follow-up
- ▶ Crime prevention

These are only a few of the situations Police Officers respond to on a daily basis. Certainly the work of a Police Officer is varied and dynamic. Officers often respond to potentially dangerous and complex situations. Threats of potential violence, crimes against persons, and the overall complex nature of serious crime in society today, require that Officers be well trained, articulate and knowledgeable in all facets of policing.

As society becomes ever more complex so too are the legal issues faced by police when dealing with often technical and complex situations, criminals and crime. It is a challenge for Police Officers to maintain the skills necessary for the prevention of crime as well as the apprehension of criminals in a mobile, technological laden society. Education and training are necessary to provide the best service possible, the best possible outcome of any given situation, and the prevention of action or inaction which could result in liability.

Officers annually receive hundreds of hours of training. This is a sample of just some of our annual *mandatory* training:

- Emotional Wellness for Law Enforcement
- Implicit Bias Part 1
- Implicit Bias Part 2
- Mental Health Part 1 - Introduction
- Mental Health Part 2 - Assessment
- Mental Health Part 3 - Intervention
- Mental Health Part 4 – Capstone
- 72-Hour Holds for those suffering with mental illness
- Persuasion and De-escalation
- Preventing In-Custody Suicide
- Procedural Justice and Police Legitimacy
- Serving those with Autism Spectrum Disorder
- Use of Force Part 1: Law and Principles
- Use of Force Part 2: Law and Principles
- Use of Force Part 3: Readiness Aspects
- Firearms
- Duty to Intervene
- Immigration Law

This Department is in a constant state of evaluation and reevaluation. Actions of Officers must not only stand-up to legal challenge, but must also meet the standards set forth in Departmental policy. We must always be forthright and willing to undergo the scrutiny of the public, the media and various other organizations. We will be successful in policing only by holding ourselves to the highest of expectations and standards set forth. We always review, scrutinize, and critique our own work.

## COMMUNICATIONS

Communications Technicians have extremely varied functions. Most significantly Communications Technicians are often the first to interact with the public. Over the course of a year Communications Technicians will have received about 9,500 people at the department. In addition they have handled over 60,000 radio and telephone calls.

Most calls received are customer service related. Communications Technicians must have the ability and knowledge to interact with a wide range of people. Certainly they must be adept at handling emergency situations often requiring quick and decisive action.

Communications Technicians are also required to perform many other duties:

- ▶ Documentation of all personal contact, and calls received
- ▶ Processing reports and records
- ▶ State, local and national computer data entry
- ▶ Transcription of interviews
- ▶ Burglar and fire alarm monitoring
- ▶ Fire Department dispatching
- ▶ Bicycle inspection and registration
- ▶ Initiation of crime alerts
- ▶ Support various police agencies
- ▶ Support patrol and investigation, etc.

## INVESTIGATIONS

As society becomes more complex, technical, and mobile so too is the nature of criminal investigations. The ever-increasing intricacy of criminal investigations calls for specialization. Scientific advances and the use of technology have proved to be great resources in the apprehension and conviction of criminals. Investigators must have the knowledge, skill and ability of these resources in order to successfully initiate and conduct criminal investigations.

Criminal investigations are often resource intensive. Major complex cases are often labor intensive. Because of the complexity of criminal investigations it is necessary for a Detective to supervise and monitor all criminal cases.

A Detective responds to all major crime scenes and will manage all major felony crimes as well as all crimes against persons.

The number of serious crimes reported to the Saint Peter Police Department was up slightly in 2020. Although the number of child protection and criminal sexual assault investigations diminished, assault cases and disorderly conduct type cases increased. The number of drug cases remained steady.

Criminal investigation is fundamental to the success of policing. It would not be possible to pursue, apprehend, and successfully prosecute criminals without this function. It is the essential mission of the Saint Peter Police Department to prevent crime, protect victims and witnesses, and apprehend criminals. This could not be successful without a viable investigative branch.

## COMMUNITY SERVICE OFFICER

SPPD has one Community Service Officer who fulfills a support role within the department. This is a dynamic and functional duty. Responsibilities include:

- ▶ Animal control
- ▶ Code enforcement
- ▶ Community service activities
- ▶ Support services
- ▶ Public education
- ▶ Bicycle education and enforcement
- ▶ Supervision of "Sentence to Serve" projects

The Community Service Officer (CSO) spends much time on animal control problems. This entails working with residents in an effort to license animals. It also involves assisting residents in the trapping of wild animals. Thanks to the CSO, most impounded animals are returned to their owners or successfully adopted by a new owner.

Another major role of the CSO is code enforcement. This includes identifying nuisances and responding to nuisance complaints. Examples of common nuisance complaints are; unregistered or inoperable vehicles, discarded furniture and appliances, unused building materials, brush and weeds. It's necessary to identify violators and work with property owners in an effort to abate the nuisance.

The CSO also conducts residential "vacation" surveys, surplus property auctions, organizing department projects, and delivery of various department correspondences.

### COMMUNITY ORIENTED YOUTH ACTIVITIES

Police as well as Reserve Police Officers conduct many organized youth activities. Our service is extremely interested in strengthening the relationship between young people and Officers. We hope to enhance well-being and safety of young people of the community in any way possible.

The Police Department, in conjunction with the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, conducts a Youth Firearms Safety Program. This program teaches the safe handling and use of firearms. Through hands-on training it promotes and stresses safety, recreational use of firearms, hunting, natural resource ethics, and sportsmanship.

Police Officers also conduct a Snowmobile Safety Training Course. This course involves classroom and practical skill application. Safety is stressed. At the successful completion of the class students receive a Snowmobile Safety Certificate.

Various other projects are conducted each year: Halloween safety lectures, moped training, judging of the Pinewood Derby, Boy Scout and Cub Scout presentations, Casting with Cop, and Holiday Shop with a Hero.

We will continue to work in concert with the Recreation Department on things like Night to Unite, Summer Celebrations (August) and are working towards more programing integration in the future.

### SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS

The Saint Peter Police Department and the Saint Peter School District continued their partnership to provide safety and security for Saint Peter Public Schools. The Saint Peter Police Department has two Officers who are assigned to this role and provide services for six buildings throughout the School District. During the summer months and breaks from school, these Officers transition to Patrol.

School Resource Officers perform a wide range of services throughout the day. Their main goal is to maintain a safe and secure facility for staff and students.

Additional goals are to prevent juvenile delinquency through establishing and fostering positive relationships. This is completed through strong bonds, trust and relationships with school

administrators, school faculty, students, and students' families. These relationships break law enforcement and community barriers and assist to mitigate concerns in an effective and proactive manner. These relationships also help bridge the gap and diminish any preconceived notions of law enforcement officers. School Resource Officers provide an additional resource for staff and students' toolkits so they can consult with them regarding events going on in their life.

School Resource Officers also deliver in-classroom education about their roles in the schools and additionally a wide array of topics related to law enforcement, community relations, and keeping students safe, in and out of the classroom. School Resource Officers use their external professional relationships to bring unique experiences to students, including Mock Crashes, MADD speakers, and texting driving simulators.

Ultimately it is the goal of a School Resource Officer to establish relationships with students that goes beyond the walls of the school so they can be a part of their life and watch them succeed and be a successful part of society.

### SAINT PETER POLICE RESERVE UNIT

The Police Reserves are an integral part of Police Department operations. This all-volunteer group provides thousands of hours of service to the community each year. These volunteers provide much utility to the Police Department. Their duties often entail:

- ▶ Assist patrol activities
- ▶ Emergency Management Response and Support, e.g. floods, etc.
- ▶ Assist and support during missing persons searches
- ▶ Secure and guard crime scenes
- ▶ Organize community events and special activities

The Saint Peter Police Reserve Unit has evolved over time into a true community service unit. The Unit has an authorized strength of 24 volunteer members. Each member of the unit is trained in various areas of police response. They all undergo various application and screening processes to become members of the organization.

The Reserve Unit is self-supporting. Without the service of the unit it would be extremely difficult for the Department to maintain order and provide for the safety of the community during large-scale community events such as the Independence Day celebration. The Unit provides in excess of 3000 hours of service during the course of a year. Without this effort, the cost for such large-scale events would be substantial.

### CRIME STATISTICS

Since 1930, the FBI has administered the Uniform Crime Report Program (UCR) and has continued to assess and monitor the nature and type of crime in the nation. The UCR's primary objective is to generate reliable information for use in law enforcement administration, operation, and management; over the years the data has become one of the Country's social indicators.

On September 1, 2018, the Saint Peter Police Department became one of Minnesota's pilot agencies implementing the National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS). All federal, state, county, local, and tribal law enforcement agencies across the nation are required to transition to NIBRS by January 1, 2021. The FBI implemented the NIBRS requirement to improve the overall

quality of crime data reported by law enforcement. NIBRS captures incident-level details about crime, including multiple offenses within the same incident. The move to the NIBRS-only data collection will offer law enforcement, government officials, and other data users richer details about crime victims, offenders, and offenses; better context to help understand crime occurrences; and a more comprehensive view of crime in the United States. NIBRS provides detailed incident information on 52 offenses. Additionally, NIBRS collects arrest data for those 52 offenses plus 10 others.

Because NIBRS includes additional offenses that UCR Part 1 and Part 2 Crimes did not, an annual statistical comparison cannot be made between UCR Part 1 and Part 2 offenses to Group A and Group B until there is historical NIBRS-only data.

For more information about NIBRS visit: [National Incident-Based Reporting System](#)

The most current statistical data for Minnesota Law Enforcement Agencies may be found at the MN Department of Public Safety. Saint Peter began reporting in the NIBRS format for the year 2018 so it is possible summary data numbers may not be consistent.

For more information on MN specific data visit: [2019 Minnesota Uniform Crime Report](#) This data is searchable using various parameters some of which is available in xls format.

The report also includes crimes motivated by bias. The Saint Peter Police Department reports monthly to the BCA even if no such reports are made to SPPD.

**BCA Bias/Hate Crime Report - Terms and definitions:**

**Adult** - For Minnesota Uniform Crime Report purposes, a person 18 years of age or above.

**American Indian or Alaskan Native** - A person having origins in any of the original peoples of the Americas and maintaining cultural identification through tribal affiliations or community recognition.

**Asian** - A person having origins in any of the original peoples of the Far East, Southeast Asia, or the Indian subcontinent including, for example, Cambodia, China, India, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Pakistan, the Philippine Islands, Thailand, and Vietnam.

**Arab** – All persons having origins, and/or ancestry in any of the Arabic speaking peoples of Lebanon, Syria, Palestine, Jordan, Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Yemen, Oman, United Arab Emirates, Qatar, Bahrain, Kuwait, Egypt, Libya, Tunisia, Comoros, Algeria, Morocco, Sudan, Djibouti, Mauritania, and Somalia.

**Bias Crime** - A criminal offense committed against a person or property that is motivated, in whole or in part, by the offender's bias against a race, religion, ethnic/national origin, age, sex, disability or sexual orientation.

**Bisexual** – A sexual behavior or an orientation involving physical or romantic attraction to both males and females.

**Black or African American** - A person having origins in any of the black racial groups of Africa.

**FBI** - Federal Bureau of Investigation.

**Gender Non-conforming** - Gender non-conforming refers to people who do not adhere to society's rules about dress and activities for people that are based on their sex. A gender non-conforming person may choose to present as neither clearly male, nor clearly female, but rather as a gender-free individual.

**Heterosexual** - somebody who is sexually attracted to members of the opposite sex.

**Hispanic or Latino Origin** – A person of Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, Central or South American, or other Spanish culture of origin, regardless of race.

**Homosexual** - As a sexual orientation, homosexuality refers to “an enduring pattern of or disposition to experience sexual, affectionate, or romantic attractions” primarily or exclusively to people of the same sex.

**Juvenile** - For Minnesota Uniform Crime Report purposes, a person under the age of 18.

**Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander** - A person having origins in any of the original peoples of Hawaii, Guam, Samoa or other Pacific islands. The term “Native Hawaiian” does not include individuals who are native to the State of Hawaii by virtue of being born there. Other Pacific Island groups included are Carolinian, Fijian, Kosraean, Melanesian, Micronesian, Northern Mariana Islander, Palauan, Papua New Guinean, Ponapean (Pohnpelan), Polynesian, Solomon Islander, Tahitian, Tarawa Islander, Tokelauan, Tongan, Trukese (Chuukese), and Yapese.

**Transgender** - Transgender is the state of one's “gender identity” (self-identification as woman, man, neither, or both) not matching ones “assigned sex” (identification by others as male, female, or intersex based on physical/genetic sex).

**UCR** – Uniform Crime Reporting is a city, county and state law enforcement program which collects crime statistics from local law enforcement agencies and submits data to the Minnesota UCR Program. The State UCR Program then submits to the national UCR Program administered by the FBI.

**White** - A person having origins in any of the original peoples of Europe, North Africa, or Middle East.

### **Statutory references**

- [Minnesota Statutes §626.5531, Reporting of Crimes Motivated by Bias](#)
- [28 USC §534](#)

There is much data that can be consumed in the above reports. Saint Peter Police won't recreate this already available data in this report. We could not do so with greater detail or in a format more convenient for the user. However, the following chart provides an example or “dashboard” if you will, of various statistics helpful to us at SPPD.

**Saint Peter Police Department**  
**2018-2020 Statistical Comparison**

<b>Person Crimes</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>Traffic Related</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>
Homicide	0	0	0	Fatal Vehicle	0	0	1
Criminal Sexual Conduct	11	13	16	Personal Injury Crash	6	10	7
Robbery	2	0	1	Driving While Impaired	2	13	19
Felony Assault	6	7	8	Property Damage Crash	210	194	130
Non-felony Assault	43	37	31	Hit and Run	35	33	35
Domestic Assault	8	15	14	<b>Traffic contacts</b>			
Disorderly Conduct	47	31	9	<i>Citations</i>			
Harassing Communication	25	15	19	Driver License violations	223	281	208
Crimes Against Family	2	2	8	Equipment violations	6	2	4
Interfering with EMGY Call	0	0	0	Parking violations	380	287	426
<u>Kidnapping/False Imprisonment</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	Moving violations	206	129	130
<b>Total</b>	<b>144</b>	<b>121</b>	<b>108</b>	<b>Total Traffic Citation Offenses</b>	<b>815</b>	<b>699</b>	<b>768</b>
				Warnings	1817	1898	1908
				<b>Total</b>	<b>2632</b>	<b>2597</b>	<b>2868</b>
<b>Property Crimes</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>Selected Calls for Service</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>
Residential Burglaries	3	6	6	Animal Control	235	301	211
Non-residential Burglaries	5	7	6	Medicals	385	354	342
Theft	135	82	102	9-1-1- Hang-ups	81	122	88
Theft from Vehicle	18	35	14	Alarms (False)	100	108	131
Motor Vehicle Tampering	3	4	4	<u>Suspicious Activity</u>	<u>443</u>	<u>468</u>	<u>343</u>
<b>Financial Theft</b>				<b>Total</b>	<b>1244</b>	<b>1353</b>	<b>1115</b>
Identity Theft	5	10	14				
Forgery/counterfeiting	10	20	11	<b>Total Calls for Service</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>
Theft by Check	1	2	7		7549	7409	7870
Credit Card Fraud	7	5	1				
Shoplifting	10	11	11				
Property Damage	44	43	53				
Arson	3	0	1				
Negligent Fires	0	0	0				
<b>Total</b>	<b>244</b>	<b>225</b>	<b>230</b>	<b>Juvenile Status Offenses</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>
				Juvenile - Alcohol	0	0	2
<b>Other Crimes</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	Juvenile - Runaway	12	14	11
Narcotics	35	60	33	Juvenile - Curfew	0	6	0
Underage Drinking Age 18-21	42	27	20	<u>Juvenile - Tobacco Use</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>5</u>
Underage Drinking & Driving	1	0	2	<b>Total</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>18</b>
Weapons	4	3	4				
Fleeing Police	3	1	1				
<u>Miscellaneous</u>	<u>34</u>	<u>76</u>	<u>28</u>	Motor Vehicle Theft	4	4	4
<b>Total</b>	<b>119</b>	<b>167</b>	<b>88</b>				

## **IN CONCLUSION**

It is an honor to serve Saint Peter. We take pride in what we do and will continue our effort to learn more, communicate with you, be problem solvers and focus on how we can help all members of the community. We believe it is our primary responsibility to protect human life and dignity above all else. Therefore, we are committed to treating all human beings, including each other, with the utmost respect, courtesy and concern. If you have questions about this report or any of the data provided, please feel free to contact the Department at 507-931-1550.