

**2021**  
**Saint Peter Police Department**  
**Annual Report**



**Prepared by**  
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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 report contains an overview of various divisions of our service.

We believe that to best respond to the needs of the community, we must embody the community oriented policing mind-set. The St. Peter Police Department believes Police are a reflection of their community and should maintain similar values and goals of our community. Our provided service has developed and continues to develop new partnerships and relationships within the community to strengthen our trust with all members of this city and surrounding area.

It is our mission to enhance the quality of life in the City of St. Peter. It is imperative that members of the St. Peter Police Department provide an educational experience to understand the services provided and a description of the programs offered by the St. Peter Police Department. Three of the most important elements of community policing are positive interaction, partnerships, and problem solving.

As such, our policy and values are as follows:

### *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 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 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 it is our responsibility to protect each individuals' constitutional rights and liberties.*

*THEREFORE, as professionals, we will perform our duties within the guidelines of the law, without malice or prejudice.*

*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 we are accountable to each other and the people we serve, 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.*

*WE BELIEVE that in our policing activities we have important goals and objectives in common with the City of Saint Peter and that we will assist each other in accomplishing these goals. THEREFORE, we are willing to involve ourselves with City of Saint Peter employees at all levels of the organization to better conduct our police activities and achieve our common goals.*

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.

Do we think the Saint Peter Police Department believes in the community oriented policing philosophy? Absolutely! The St. Peter Police Department has the obligation to recognize and address issues in their early stages and promote habits that prevent problems in the future.

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. So is policing. We have to understand there are no easy solutions to some concerns. 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 try hard, solve problems and fix things the first time, contribute, and above all else be committed to community needs.

The following report will summarize the organization of the department.

### 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 is made up the Office Services Coordinator, two Patrol Sergeants, and two Detectives.

### PATROL SERGEANTS

Patrol Sergeants supervise all Patrol Officers and Police Reserves. Our department consists of two Patrol Sergeants who direct the work of ten patrol officers. Patrol Sergeants oversee all patrol activities, including but not limited to, review and approval of investigative case files and accident reports, organize work schedules, maintain training records, assure patrol equipment is operational, preparation for city events, and fulfills many other departmental responsibilities.

Patrol Sergeants often fulfill a Patrol Officer role when needed and are our front-line supervisors. They are a resource for policy, procedure, statute, and investigation for our Patrol Officers to utilize.

### PATROL

Patrol is the backbone of all policing. Patrol Officers are our initial response to our community's concerns and problems and are responsible for all aspects of policing. They perform a wide range of general law enforcement duties and 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 assure the preservation of the constitutional and civil rights of all individuals.

Police Officers of the Saint Peter Police Department are highly trained professionals, skilled

in all facets of policing. But 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.

### DETECTIVES

Our two Detectives are responsible for all law enforcement investigative activities. All major criminal investigations are their responsibility, 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.

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

### COMMUNICATIONS

The Office Services Coordinator supervises communications. Communications is comprised of four full-time and two part-time Communications Technicians. Communications Technicians have extremely varied functions. Most significantly communications technicians are often the first to interact with the public.

Communications Technicians duties include: receiving emergency and non-emergency telephone and radio calls, dispatching emergency service providers, receptionist, clerical functions, monitoring of fire and burglar alarms, transcription of statements, receptionist for all after hour city calls, state and local data entry, providing information requested from the public, tourist information, as well as other support services.

### 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, and bicycle

education and enforcement.

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.

### 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 wellbeing and safety of young people of the community in any way possible. We have strengthened our relationship with the St. Peter Recreation Department through Officer involvement in multiple activities including dodgeball, arts and crafts, and water balloon fights.

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.

### 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 which are assigned to this role and provide services for six facilities throughout the city. During the summer months and breaks from school, these officers transition to a Patrol Officer role.

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 also help diminish any preconceived notions of law enforcement officers. School Resource Officers provide an additional resource for staff and students' toolkits as 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 go 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 Department

