

**Tipp City Police Department
2019 Annual Report**



Chief Eric L. Burris, CLEE

February 5, 2020

Tim Eggleston, City Manager
City of Tipp City
260 S. Garber Dr.
Tipp City, Ohio 45371

Dear Mr. Eggleston,

Attached is the 2019 Annual Report for the Tipp City Police Department. I am proud of our level of professionalism for a small-town police department. We are committed to continuous improvement and developing better relationships with those we serve. I am genuinely appreciative of the supportive work environment we have. The vast majority of citizens, the city council, and the city staff all regularly express their support for the men and women in the police department. The following report is an overview of police activities from the calendar year 2019. If you have any questions about the materials contained within the report or would like more detail, please let me know.

Respectfully,

Eric L. Burris, CLEE
Chief of Police

ADMINISTRATIVE

The police department implemented several significant administrative changes during 2019. These changes are intended to make the department operate more efficiently and increase the level of service we provide to our citizens.

Reorganization

The biggest of these administrative changes was a proposed reorganization of our workforce. The retirement of our Records Supervisor allowed for a reduction in positions through attrition. Meaning we could make some changes without affecting any employee's hours or compensation. By reducing the records personnel by one full-time job, that salary could be used to help pay for a Deputy Chief who would act as second in command of the police department. The addition of a Deputy Chief relieves the patrol sergeants of many of their daily administrative tasks allowing them to focus on patrol and patrol supervision. The creation of this rank also provides for a succession plan so someone will be better prepared to run the department in the future, either as a permanent replacement or as interim chief.

Mission:

As provided in Section 35.02 of the Tipp City Code of Ordinances, the Tipp City Police Department is responsible for the preservation of the public peace and order, the prevention and detection of crime, the apprehension of offenders of laws and ordinances, the protection of persons and property, and the enforcement of the criminal laws of the United States, the State of Ohio and the ordinances of the municipality.

Vision:

The Tipp City Police Department is a "service-first" police agency. We realize that working hard to help our citizens means they will, in turn, help and support us in our efforts to make Tipp City the most exceptional place to live in Miami County.

Guiding Principles:

To aid us in accomplishing our mission and vision, we will adhere to the following guiding principles:

WE EXIST TO SERVE

The residents of a community must know their police department exists to be of service to them. Service is the primary reason for the existence of a police agency.

INTEGRITY IS ESSENTIAL

The community entrusts us with a position of power and therefore has a right to expect more. We must be honest and ethical in everything we do.

WE ARE FAIR, BUT FIRM

We will be fair, but firm to earn respect and understanding. We do not apologize for enforcement action. However, everyone, even those we arrest, must be treated fairly. This approach promotes police conduct that is responsive and sensitive to the needs of the community.

REPRESENTING CIVILITY AND ORDER

As societal norms and technology change, police/community relations sometimes suffer. We will remain steadfast in our belief in service, integrity, fairness, and professionalism.

Ohio Law Enforcement/Community Collaborative:

For 2019, the Ohio Collaborative required that departments recertify on the policies for the Use of Force, Recruitment and Hiring, Community Engagement, and Body-Worn Cameras. The collaborative also added two additional areas of policy scrutiny: Bias-Free Policing and Investigation of Employee Misconduct. The Tipp City Police Department has received the Group 1 and Group 2 recertification and has submitted the requested documentation to become compliant with the two new policy standards in Group 3.

Annual Policy Manual Review:

In addition to some policy changes necessary for compliance with the Ohio Collaborative Project, we adopted and issued several other policy adjustments as 2019 ended. The manual and the updates provided through the Lexipol policy service ensure that the department has comprehensive policies based on Federal and State laws and the accepted best practices within the law enforcement community. Officers have all acknowledged the policy changes and completed their daily policy training bulletins for the year.

PERSONNEL

As stated in the introduction, 2019 was a year of restructuring within the police department. Sergeant Greg Adkins was promoted to Deputy Chief of Police, on June 19, 2019. This position was created to take many of the daily administrative duties from the sergeants so they could focus on the critical job of carefully managing the patrol officers assigned to their shifts. Officer Adam Grubb was promoted to the rank of sergeant to replace Greg Adkins. Finally, after a new round of recruiting and testing was completed, Sean Powell was hired from Miami Township PD to fill the patrol officer slot opened by Adam Grubb's advancement.

In the Records Section, the retirement of Records Supervisor Mary Jo Cullers in 2018 meant longtime clerk Susan Gostomsky moved into the supervisor role. We eliminated Susan's full-

time evening position. Part-time clerk Debbie Hellard now works Monday through Thursday evenings from 4-8 P.M. The records section is currently closed entirely on Saturday and Sunday. This reduction in records staff helps to pay for the addition of the Deputy Chief position, which was approved in the 2019 budget.

Finally, in recognition of his superior service, attitude, and team spirit, his peers selected Officer Brad Kline as the 2019 Officer of the Year for the Tipp City Police Department. Although Officer Kline just came to the Tipp City Police Department in 2017, he has eighteen previous years of law enforcement experience with the Miami County Sheriff's Office. Brad shares his knowledge with the younger officers as a field-training officer and an informal leader.

LEAVES AND OVERTIME

Overall leaves were up approximately twenty-two percent, with the most noticeable rise in sick time usage for the year. Overtime was 6.15% higher; however, some of that increase was due to an additional 256 hours of overtime worked in the schools in 2019. As a reminder, the school district is paying 60% of the cost for those hours.

LEAVES/ABSENCES		
TYPE	<u>2018</u>	<u>2019</u>
SICK LEAVE	1466.5	2146
VACATION	2415	2612
PERSONAL	808.5	936
DISC SUSP		188
INJURY	232	0
COMP TIME	679.5	818.5
SCHOOL		
ADM LEAVE		264
FUNERAL		
OTHER	108	
TOTAL	5709.50	6964.50
		21.98%

OVERTIME DISTRIBUTION			
<u>TYPE</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2019</u>	
<u>SHIFT COV</u>	<u>592.5</u>	<u>764</u>	<u>28.9%</u>
<u>COURT</u>	<u>142.5</u>	<u>174</u>	<u>22.1%</u>
<u>INVEST</u>	<u>222.5</u>	<u>97.75</u>	<u>-56.1%</u>
<u>TRAINING</u>	<u>213</u>	<u>207.5</u>	<u>-2.6%</u>
<u>ADMIN</u>	<u>194</u>	<u>187</u>	<u>-3.6%</u>
<u>EXTRA</u>	<u>492.5</u>	<u>317.25</u>	<u>-35.6%</u>
<u>SCHOOL</u>	<u>407.25</u>	<u>663</u>	<u>62.8%</u>
<u>K-9</u>	<u>120.89</u>	<u>121.42</u>	<u>0.4%</u>
<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>2385.14</u>	<u>2531.92</u>	
		<u>6.15%</u>	

TRAINING

The Tipp City Police Department logged a total of 3742 training hours in 2019. The Training Hours report is a breakdown of the training received at TCPD and training from outside sources or classes. For 2020, the police department will be implementing additional in-house online training from Police One Academy, which is associated with Lexipol, our policy guidance provider. Police One Academy offers a wide variety of training classes available to the officers, including short training blocks added to our Roll Call briefing most days.

Code	Description of Training	Cumulative Hours
TCPD001	ADAP/SFST/ARIDE/Intoxilyzer Testing	24
TCPD002	Administrative / Leadership	399
TCPD003	Bicycle Patrol	0
TCPD004	Crime Scene Investigation / Evidence Technician	36
TCPD005	Crisis Intervention / CIT	32
TCPD006	DARE / SRO / School Response Training	76
TCPD007	Emergency Vehicle Operations EVOC	172
TCPD008	Firearms / Range Weapons Training / Armorer	341.5
TCPD009	Gangs / Gang Identification	0
TCPD010	Instructor Course / Field Training Officer	60
TCPD011	Interviewing / Interviewing Techniques	4
TCPD012	Investigations / Investigation Training	54.5

TCPD013	Canine / Canine Training	470
TCPD014	Legal Update Training	33.5
TCPD015	Mental Health Training	7.5
TCPD016	Narcotics / Drug Investigation and Identification	9.5
TCPD017	Officer Safety / Use of Force Training	24
TCPD018	Radar and Lidar Training	0
TCPD019	Spillman / RMS Training	0
TCPD020	Crash / Crash Investigation Training	1
TCPD021	Traffic Patrol Operations / Criminal Interdiction	188
TCPD022	Crime Victim Rights	15.5
TCPD023	Community Policing / Community Policing Programs	40
TCPD024	Field Training Status Probationary Employee	1520
Academy Active	Employee Actively Enrolled in Academy	0
Police One Academy	Cumulative Hours P1A Online Academy Courses	0
DTB Lexipol	Total Completion of DTB Lexipol Review	234
	Total Training Hours Team Members	3742

Use of Force

Tipp City officers continue to do a commendable job using the minimum amount of force necessary to gain compliance when making arrests. They are adept at using their verbal skills to persuade people to cooperate. There were sixteen (16) use of force reports filed in 2019 compared to twenty-one (21) reports in 2018. That is a 24% reduction overall. Seven (7) of the fifteen incidents in 2019 included the use of hands/feet/other as the applied force administered. Meaning the officer had to put hands on the person to gain compliance. Five (5) incidents documented were because a firearm was un-holstered and pointed at another person. Three (3) recorded events were because a Taser was un-holstered and aimed at someone. The final incident (1) was a K9 bite of a suspect that would not comply and come out of hiding. There were no reported firearm discharges, no discharges of a Taser, no noted uses of an impact weapon (baton), and no stated use of OC aerosol spray in 2019.

A decrease in the use of force is always a welcome development. However, in most encounters requiring the use of force, the suspect dictates the necessary amount of force required from the officers by their actions. We were fortunate to have fewer interactions with non-compliant people in 2019. Internally, I prefer the term “response to resistance” to label these situations rather than “use of force” because it better describes our need to react to the suspect’s actions.

Vehicle Pursuits

The annual pursuit review revealed only one vehicle pursuit during 2019. The supervisor on duty terminated the pursuit within a short time, realizing the operator of the fleeing vehicle was not going to comply, and the violations witnessed by the officer were limited to minor traffic offenses. This pursuit falls within our policy parameters. The department pursuit policy was

updated in the fall of 2017 to restrict pursuits to cases in which it is reasonable to believe the suspect has committed or is about to commit a violent felony offense, or the officer can articulate that the suspect is an immediate threat to public safety. This change has reduced the number of vehicles we pursue dramatically.

Random Evidence Audit

On January 23, 2020, Sgt. Graham and Sgt. Grubb conducted an audit on a series of cases randomly selected by Deputy Chief Adkins. The selected incidents should have all had evidence maintained in our vault. In each of the chosen examples, all evidence was present and accounted for. I would like to recognize Sgt. Grubb for his continued thoroughness and attention to detail when it comes to maintaining our evidence.

Bias-Free Policing Review

2019 was the first year the Tipp City Police Department had access to what is known as a crystal report. A crystal report breaks down citations issued by each officer by the race of the offender. The crystal report, provided by the Miami County Sheriff's office, which has the program and was willing to assist us, helps identify possible trends based on race. When analyzing the report for 2019, Deputy Chief Adkins discovered that we had several officers who did not regularly list the driver's race on a traffic citation. The issue has been addressed with each of the patrol sergeants, and they understand they are to ensure that field is appropriately completed from this time forward.

This reporting and tracking are required by the Ohio Collaborative to meet the standard for Bias-Free Policing.

New Equipment and Upgrades

For 2019 cruisers 106 and 102 are to be replaced. Both replacements are 2020 Ford Utility Interceptors. Car 102 the new K9 car has arrived, but Ford has not produced car 106 to date. Ford has experienced quite a few problems during the changeover to the new model, but we are hopeful the cars will be service soon.

In addition, to the two new cars, the look of all the police vehicles is being updated for the first time in over twenty years. We are extremely proud of the new graphics package and feel it makes a great first impression for the department.

ACTIVITY REPORT

2019 was an average year for the police department with the officers receiving 8845 dispatched calls for service, including traffic stops. In addition to the dispatched calls, the officers also often initiate their own record of services such as vacation house checks, building checks, and school zone monitoring. There were an additional 7,427 of these types of activity recorded in 2018, bringing the total number of documented police activities to 14,326.

ACTIVITY SUMMARY CHART 2019

Calls for Service

Dispatched calls for service from citizens (excl. officer Initiated)	9472
Officer initiated activity	4530
Traffic stops	1390
Traffic citations	380
Traffic Warnings	1131
Traffic Control	1492

Traffic Accidents 2019

Total Accidents	216
Non-injury Accidents	117
Injury Accidents	44
Fatal Accidents	1
Private Property Accidents	54

2019 Arrests

Total Arrests	327
Adult Arrests	301
Juvenile	26

Community Event Participation

In addition to our criminal/traffic-related activities, the department continues to devote as many hours as possible to interact with our citizens positively. We work to increase our presence at community events, school events, presentations, and training whenever possible while maintaining coverage for crime prevention, response, and regular patrol. The following is a list of activities we attended. While the list is relatively long, I am sure there are additional events I could not recall for this report.

Bank Security & Alarm Review Meetings
Field trip to Camp Kern with 5th grade class.
Safety & Policeman Talk to preschool students at St. John's.
Security Assessment Meeting at St. John's.
Lockdown drills at St. John's.
Preschool Security Assessment Meeting at Ginghamburg Church.
Lockdown drills at Ginghamburg Church.
Lockdown Drills at each School and B.O.E., 18 total.
Student of the Month Breakfast at L. T. Ball Intermediate School.
Musical at L. T. Ball Intermediate School.
Musical at Broadway Elementary School.
Theater Program at Tippecanoe High School.
D.A.R.E. Graduation Ceremonies (2).
Muffins for Moms Breakfast at Broadway Elementary School.
Donuts for Dads at Broadway Elementary School.
Fingerprint & Evidence Presentation to Boy Scouts.
After Prom Event.
Relay for Life 5K Run.
Relay for Life Celebration at L. T. Ball Intermediate School.
Broadway Fun Fair -DARE Booth.
YMCA Health Fair.
Meijer Family Day -Child ID booth.
Mock Crash at Tippecanoe High School.
Board of Education Community Meetings held at various schools.
Senior Parade.
Senior Celebration picnic.
8th grade celebration event.
5th grade Social Media Safety Talk.
Voss Honda Safety Day.
VFW Women's Auxiliary School Supply Campaign.
Ginghamburg Church Run-Hide-Fight/Active Shooter Presentation.

4th of July Fireworks.
Mum Festival Motorcycle Ride.
Mum Festival Cruise-In.
Run for the Mums 5K Run.
Mum Festival Parade.
Mum Festival DARE booth.
Halloween Parade & Activities.
Beggar's Night -Hand out candy.
Tippecanoe Homecoming Dance.
5th Grade Veterans Day Ceremony at Veterans Memorial.
Luncheon for Veterans at L. T. Ball Intermediate School.
4th Grade Hoedown Dance.
5th Grade Blizzard Blast Dance.
Countywide STEM Science Fair at Tippecanoe High School.
Tipp City Art in the Park.
Open House at all schools prior to first day of school.
6th Grade Orientation Night.
Trans Am Cruise-In.
Harvest Fest.
Safety City.
Police Officer Memorial Ceremony.
Shop with a Cop.
School District-wide Pep Rally.
McDonald's Coffee with a Cop.
Attend "Lunch on Us" at Tipp City United Methodist Church.
Attend Miami County Sheriff's Office Summer Camp.
Autism Awareness event.
Heroin Talk Presentations.
R.A.D. classes.
County-wide Seat Belt Challenge at Tippecanoe High School.
Presentations at Tipp-Monroe Community Services Summer Camp.
Parents Lunch at Broadway Elementary School.
Grandparents Lunch at Nevin Coppock Elementary School.
Grandparents Lunch at Tippecanoe Middle School.
5th grade field trip to COSI in Columbus.
Senior Citizen Christmas Breakfast at L. T. Ball Intermediate School.
Victory Church Car Show Judging
Downtown Christmas Tree Lighting
"No Shave November" Fundraiser-Brain Aneurism Foundation
October Susan B. Komen Fundraiser
Mission Mitten with TCUMC
Secret Santa Traffic Stops

Community Christmas Tree Decorating-ornaments for kids
Adopt a Tipp City Family for Christmas

Department Goals for 2020

- Introduce online scheduling to the department
- Update all video to cloud storage
- Update Roll Call process to digital format to increase info sharing
- Integrate Police One Academy training
- Improve fleet security with anti-theft technology
- Autism and Breast Cancer Awareness uniform patches
- Begin update of in-car camera systems to new “EVO” system
- Focus on reducing incidents of property crime