

PLYMOUTH PUBLIC SAFETY DEPARTMENT



2022 ANNUAL REPORT

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A MESSAGE FROM

Chief Erik Fadden



May 1, 2023

City of Plymouth
3400 Plymouth Boulevard
Plymouth, MN 55447

Honorable Mayor Jeff Wosje
City Council Members
City Manager Dave Callister

On behalf of the City of Plymouth, I am pleased to present the Plymouth Public Safety Department's 2022 Annual Report.

This annual report covers another year in which our public safety employees were faced with many difficult and unique challenges. It was also another year where our employees consistently provided exceptional service to the residents of Plymouth. The department saw a number of changes in personnel. This included the appointment of a new Deputy Police Chief as well as new police officers and firefighters.

This annual report will give you a comprehensive overview of the great work that staff has done in 2022. The department has again risen to the challenge of responding to and investigating a number of high profile, complex incidents. The continued professionalism and excellence that the men and women of our public safety department have exhibited while responding to and investigating those complex incidents is inspiring.

This past year, we completed the construction of Fire Stations 2 and 3. This affords our fire department the opportunity to provide a level of service never seen before in the City of Plymouth. The state-of-the-art facilities provide better efficiencies in training, call response, and daily operations which benefits all of Plymouth.

Police and Fire department staff continues to focus on connecting with our community and building trust and legitimacy. This past year we continued to connect with the community in ways that are meaningful and productive. Our community conversations effort has provided an opportunity for residents to have in depth conversations with department members about topics that are sometimes tough to discuss, but critically important.

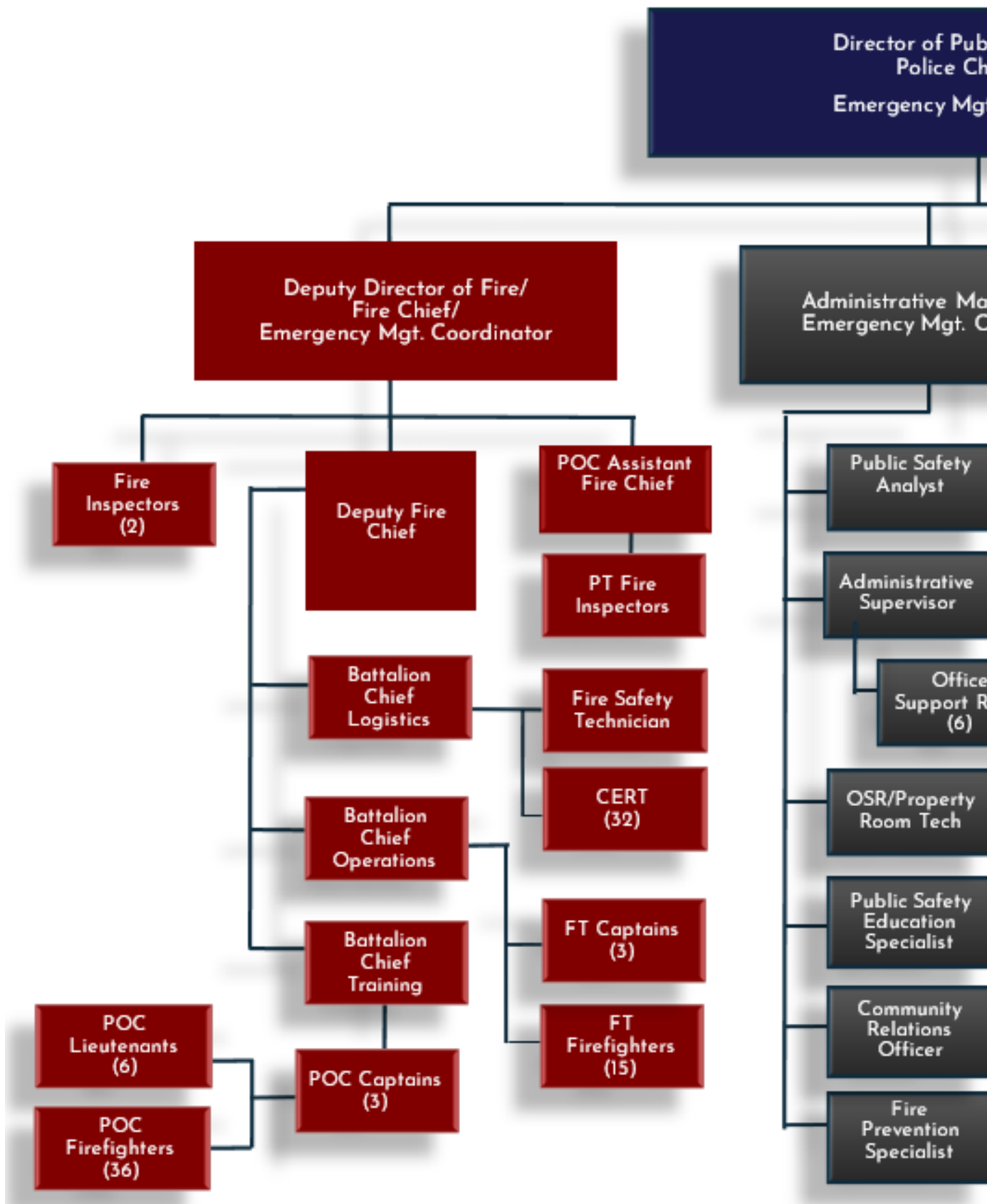
I want to thank Mayor Wosje, the City Council, and City Manager Dave Callister for your continued support to the women and men that work in public safety.

Respectfully submitted,

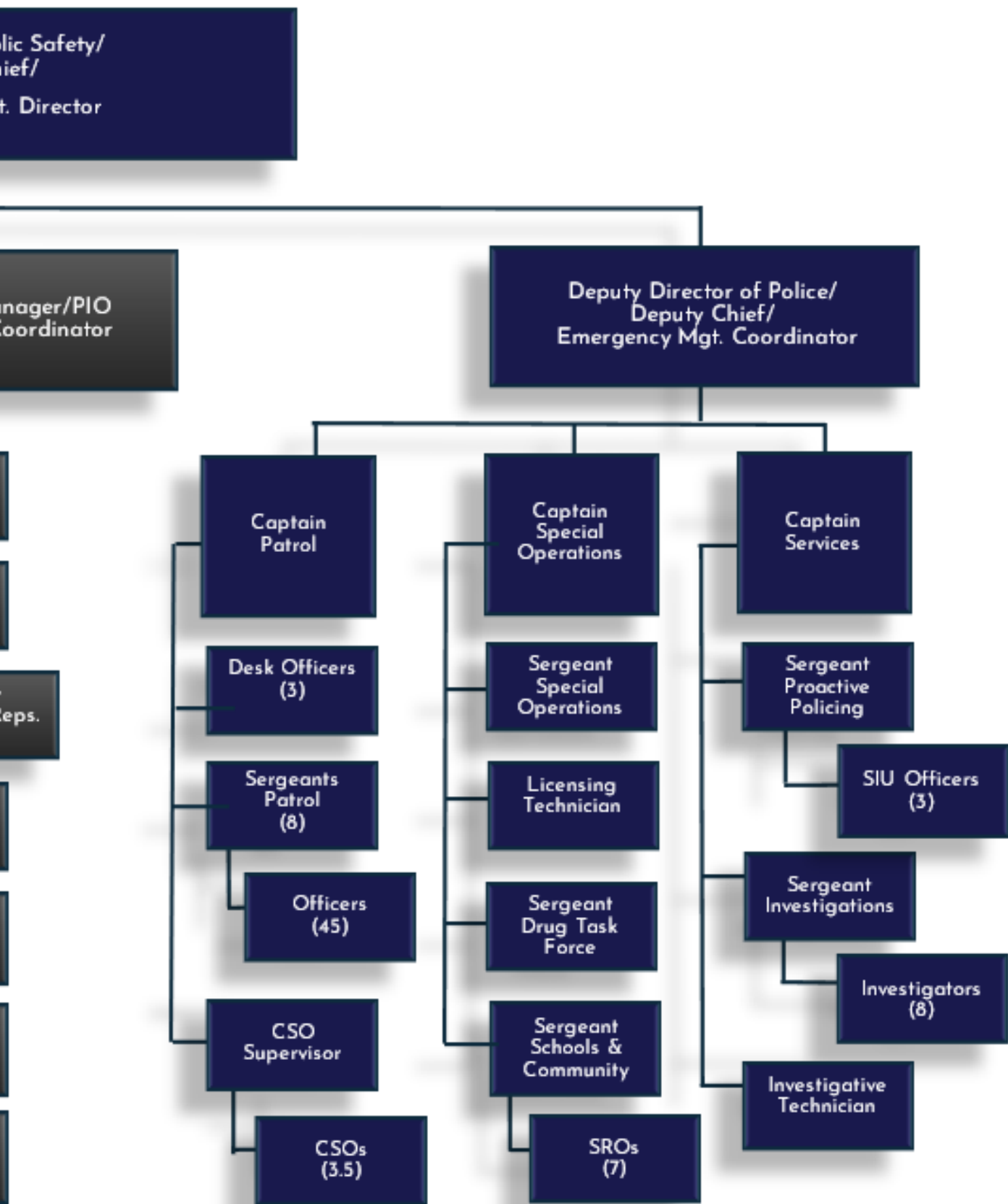
A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Erik Fadden".

Erik Fadden
Public Safety Director/Police Chief

PUBLIC SAFETY



DEPARTMENT OVERVIEW



Fire Stations

In June of 2022, Plymouth firefighters moved into two new fire stations. The move signified the completion of a three-year process. The decision to rebuild Fire Station 2 and expand and renovate Fire Station 3 was done to better accommodate 24/7 firefighter staffing and improve Plymouth's overall emergency preparedness.

In recent years, the Plymouth Fire Department has transitioned to a hybrid staffing model made up of a mix of part-time, paid-on-call and full-time firefighters. This change allows Plymouth firefighters to provide 24/7 staffing to the City, which had significantly reduced response times, especially for overnight calls for service. As the department's staffing model has evolved, the facilities needed to change as well.

On August 13, the Plymouth Fire Department hosted a ribbon cutting ceremony and open house to celebrate the newly renovated Fire Station 3.



Floor plans for both stations are similar, with the primary difference being that Station 2 has a full second floor to house the fire department's administrative offices and city's emergency operations center. Both stations have three drive-through, double-deep apparatus bays, flanked by equipment, decontamination, turnout gear, work, and self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) rooms. Each station has multiple training spaces and features built into their design. The stations' living quarters have modern kitchens, dining areas, day rooms, fitness rooms, six individual dorm rooms with private locker spaces, and bathroom/shower rooms.



The construction of both stations was done in a phased approach to minimize any potential delay in response to emergency calls or change in the Fire Department's overall service level. This phasing served the citizens well, but was a challenge for the firefighters. For two years firefighters lived in the middle of a construction zone, so they were looking forward to moving into the new facilities.

Operations

In 2022, five part-time firefighters were hired and will be going through the West Suburban Fire Academy in 2023. They will become operational firefighters by end of 2023 and will bring the current number of part-time firefighters to 35. These part time firefighters fill a fourth spot at each station, covering shifts when career firefighters take time off, and respond to call backs.

Despite the challenges of working around station construction, the department maintained a timely and effective response to 3,729 calls for service in 2022, which is 516 more calls than the previous year. As the city grows and call volumes continue to increase, Fire Department command staff is confident that its planning and preparation will provide high quality customer service and efficient response times throughout the city.



Call Types	2022	2021	2020
Fire includes cooking, vehicles, grass & brush, and dumpsters	164	189	160
Rupture, Explosion Overpressure rupture, explosion, overheat (no fire)	1	6	4
Rescue & EMS Trauma, illness, vehicle crashes, missing person search, stuck in elevator	1780	1332	928
Hazardous Condition Non-fire emergencies including gas leaks, fuel spills and down power lines	188	181	158
Service Call Request for lift assists, smoke or odor removal and assist other agencies	408	471	401
Good Intent Call Non-emergency calls for smoke seen, chirping smoke or CO detectors	677	579	465
False Alarm Unwanted or unintentional alarm, no emergency	495	452	422
Severe Weather, Disaster Severe weather, lightning strike (no fire)	6	0	5
Special Incident Citizen complaint, other	10	3	0

Firefighter Training

To ensure Plymouth firefighters are prepared to answer each 9-1-1 call, they have invested over 8,500 hours of training in 2022. In addition to standard department training, firefighters have received extra training in a number of critical areas such as: Blue Card, investigations, inspections, and lithium-ion battery fires.

The "Blue Card" training program utilizes the National Incident Management System to provide a standardized training and certification system that defines the best practices for common events. This training program produces incident commanders and firefighters who make better decisions to potentially eliminate the lethal and/or costly mistakes that cause injury, death, and unnecessary fire loss.

For the past several years, PFD has increased its capacity for fire investigations and inspections using on-shift firefighters. The Department now has certified fire investigators that work on each shift. These investigators have received special training on conducting company inspections to help enhance our community fire prevention programs.

Fires caused by lithium-ion batteries are on the rise across the country. Trends are showing more volatile fires from a variety of different devices such as scooters, hover boards, phones, laptops, and cars. This has caused a call to action by the Department to prepare firefighters with as much knowledge as possible.

Firefighters have received training from local experts and from the UL's Fire Safety Research Institute.

WEST SUBURBAN



FIRE ACADEMY

2022 was the sixteenth year that new Plymouth firefighters have attended the West Suburban Fire Academy. At the Academy, new recruits gain knowledge and learn skills that will help them safely navigate the challenges that come with responding to a variety of emergencies.



In 2022, the fire department replaced an outdated aerial platform truck. The outdated 100' aerial platform was 21-years-old and lacked many safety features provided by today's modern apparatus. Like many vehicles, the new aerial platform has safety features such as passenger air bags, roll over protection, and a HASS system which warns other drivers on the road of an approaching emergency vehicle.



Equipment/Technology

Decontamination Shower Kits – To continue to provide for firefighters' health and safety, PFD assembled six decontamination shower kits for both Station 2 and Station 3. These kits allow a firefighter that has been exposed to any hazardous contaminate to safely shower in a timely manner without contaminating the living quarters of the station.



Blitz Fire – The Department replaced its preconnected ground monitors with Blitz Fire monitors. Blitz Fire monitors are connected to three large Engines. They allow firefighters to set up a 500 GPM master stream that only requires one firefighter to manage.

Rope Bags – New rope bags were assembled and put on the Department's ladder and rescue trucks. These bags contain specialty ropes and hardware to use during technical rescue calls. The Department is in the process of advancing its technical response capabilities in the near future.



EMS Bags – New EMS bags have been placed in service on all large apparatus. The blue bags carry airway and medical supplies. The red bag is set up for trauma and bleeding. With these bags, firefighters can carry more tools to help on medical and rescue calls.



In 2022, the Department purchased two new Thermal Imaging Cameras (TIC). TIC allow firefighters to see in smoke filled environments. Common uses for the TIC are locating trapped occupants, finding the source of the fire quickly, and identifying hot spots while trying to determine if the fire is out. The Department carries one TIC on every engine and ladder company in the city.



Also, in 2022 the Department purchased two, self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) washing machines. The specialty washers reduce the number of carcinogens that firefighters are exposed to. According to the National Institute for Occupational Health and Safety, firefighters are at a 14% higher risk of dying from cancer than the general U.S. population. The SCBA washing machines are an important investment in trying to try to reduce the risk of cancer.



The Department replaced all of its electric fans and lighting in 2022 with battery operated equipment. Battery equipment allows for a quicker deployment and setup while operating on a fire or rescue scene. In addition, battery operated equipment also reduces the maintenance costs associated with regular combustion type equipment.

Services Division

Investigations

In 2022, detectives were assigned approximately 650 criminal cases to investigate. These cases ranged from misdemeanor-level crimes to major felony crimes. This past year, Plymouth experienced two homicides, an attempted murder, a criminal vehicular homicide, and multiple weapons offenses. Our talented group of detectives were able to investigate these serious events and successfully charge those involved. The Investigations Unit also partnered with a variety of federal, state, and other local law enforcement agencies to investigate crimes that occur in Plymouth. Because establishing and maintaining relationships with other agencies is critical to effectively investigate and prosecute criminal cases, the unit works closely with the Hennepin County Attorney’s Office, Hennepin County Child Protection, Hennepin County Probation and CornerHouse.

The Investigations Unit is made up of six promoted investigators, two rotating investigators, and a sergeant. Sergeant Jeff Dorfsman has supervised the Investigations Unit since 2019, and his term expired at the end of 2022. Sergeant Scott Whiteford was appointed to supervise the Investigations Unit starting in 2023. Detectives Ryan Hazen and Matt Krueger serve as rotating investigators for a three-year period. Detectives Molly Lynch, Jeff Voller, Warren Anderson, Mike Passig, Amy Goodwin, and Nick Benesch serve as permanent investigators. These investigators specialize in persons, financial, and property crimes. Detective Jeff Voller serves as the department’s background investigator. He is tasked with doing pre-employment background investigations for all police, fire, and city employees and city volunteers.



Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) Program

2022 Total Mileage: 51

2022 Total Airtime: 17:15:46 (hrs/mins/secs)

2022 Total Flights: 180

Schools and Community

The Schools and Community Unit is staffed with seven School Resource Officers, five DARE Officers, and a Sergeant to serve the Wayzata and Robbinsdale school districts. This unit focuses on maintaining a close partnership with all of the schools in the city as they continue to effectively plan and train for a variety of potential hazards. This includes ongoing and refresher crisis response training in the Wayzata School District and continued modifications to procedures currently used in the Robbinsdale School District.

The School and Community Sergeant also responds to requests for similar preparedness guidance from places of worship and the greater business community in Plymouth.



Special Investigative Unit (SIU)

The Department’s Special Investigations Unit fills a unique roll in the organization by supporting both the patrol and services divisions and by working with other agencies on an overarching spectrum of crime. In 2022, SIU transitioned in two new members and a new supervisor. These changes provided a good opportunity to redefine the goals of the unit. SIU’s revamped focus is to investigate quality of life issues in our city.

The Unit assisted both the Patrol and Investigative Divisions with cases that ranged from narcotic investigations to national trends such as catalytic converter thefts. The Unit worked closely with both divisions to identify emerging issues. This year, the SIU was able to help the Investigative Division solve several significant crimes, including violent murder and assault. Together, they were able to investigate, identify, arrest, and help bring charges to prosecute the criminals that were responsible.

In 2022, SIU worked with neighboring agencies to investigate the solicitation of juveniles for sex. These “Guardian Angel” operations were collaborative efforts that involved cities along the I494 corridor. In addition to these local partnerships, SIU has been an affiliated member of the Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) group for 15 years.

SIU continues to work with other agencies to curb retail theft. The Unit proactively partners with local businesses to educate them on crime prevention and reduction. These efforts have built positive relationships between officers and the City’s business community.

Arrests/Activity by SIU in 2022	
Controlled Substance.....	7
ICAC investigations.....	22
Thefts.....	17
Arrest/Search Warrants.....	21

Behavioral Health Unit (BHU)

The BHU was officially launched in August 2019. In 2022, the embedded social worker position was upgraded to a full-time position to meet the needs of the community more adequately. The mission of the BHU program is to improve the quality of service provided to the community by facilitating connections between members of the public and needed health services. BHU also provides information and resources to better meet the community’s future mental health needs.

The goal of impacting our community members directly is being achieved by the following groups: Crisis Intervention Team (CIT), officers who respond directly to the location where a person may be in crisis, Behavioral Health Assistance (BHAT) who provide follow-up and resources to the person/family involved, and Case Assessment Management Program (CAMP) who review cases/events that are submitted that have a mental health crisis component or concern.

Referral Volume				
Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Annual
204	230	234	146	814

Training Unit

The Training Unit provided the Department the opportunity to get back to normal (post COVID) in terms of training. The number of departmental training hours made a significant increase and have comeback to pre-pandemic levels. The department provided 7,825 hours of training for officers and support staff. It exceeded the mandated training required for each officer. 2023 will prove to be an exciting time for department training with a number of new facilities and technologies being made available. These facilities will also allow the department to reimagine the way officers train while becoming more efficient on how the department manages training.

Patrol Division

The Patrol Division is comprised of a Patrol Commander (Captain), 8 Patrol Sergeants, approximately 50 patrol officers, including 2 officers solely dedicated to traffic enforcement, and 3 part-time desk officers. In 2022, the Patrol Division continued to focus on increasing community engagement and relationship building. Patrol officers focused less on traffic enforcement and more on proactive traffic education.

Patrol initiatives largely revolved around officer “presence” within the community. While we have always tried to provide the community with superior services, we took a purposeful approach to actual enforcement based on community input and expectations. A broad approach to criminal apprehension has been replaced with a data driven and analytical approach to overall police services. Directed activities largely replaced random police patrols and interactions.



Overcoming some staffing challenges, officers began a teamwork approach to provide the high level of service Plymouth citizens are accustomed to. Several realignments in command and supervisory duties provided improved outcomes and better efficiencies.

Traffic Citations

	2021	2022
Hazardous Moving		
Careless/Reckless	23	11
Defective/Improper Equipment	259	194
Disobey Signs & Signals	208	205
Fail to Yield	67	70
Following Too Closely	19	13
Improper Lane Usage/Wrong Way	55	42
Improper Passing	25	15
Improper Turning	44	42
Improper/No Signal	13	9
Inattentive Driving	233	200
School Bus Stop Arm	35	33
Speed	1109	882
Stop Sign	260	162
Non-Hazardous Moving		
DAR/DAS/DAC	916	667
Improper Registration	637	658
No Insurance	182	192
No MN DL/No MN DL within 60 days	139	119
Other DL violations	164	111
Seat Belts	71	41
Unreasonable Acceleration	3	2
Non-Moving		
2am to 5am parking/over 12 hours	395	212
Fire Lane/Fire Hydrant	53	61
Handicapped Parking	43	36

Directed activities largely replaced random police patrols and interactions. Overcoming some staffing challenges, officers began a teamwork approach to provide the high level of service Plymouth citizens are accustomed to. Several realignments in command and supervisory duties provided improved outcomes and better efficiencies.

Traffic & DWI Unit:

The Traffic & DWI Unit’s primary responsibility is to address traffic concerns in the city's residential areas. Additional responsibilities include providing high-visibility traffic enforcement throughout the city, responding to and investigating major traffic accidents, enforcing commercial motor vehicle regulations, and conducting follow-up investigations of traffic-related complaints. Plymouth also has a grant-funded, dedicated traffic officer for impaired driving enforcement.

Crashes

Includes crashes on private property and Hit & Run crashes.

Type	2021	2022
Fatal	1	2
PD	687	736
PI	104	116

K9 Unit

Plymouth Police Department maintained three K9 Teams in 2022. Officer Grabau is paired with K9 Romeo; Officer Duncan is paired with K9 Rico; and Officer Coopet is paired with K9 Reign. These canines are all German Shepherds and all were imported from Eastern Europe through a well-established local vendor. This vendor also provided an initial 16-week, basic patrol dog training that certified the teams as police service dogs and handlers. The training is intense and required a high level of dedication and commitment by both dog and handler. Plymouth's K9 Unit is well respected within the state.

K9 teams average 300 deployments per year and 2022 was no different. Plymouth's teams assist with calls within and outside of the city borders. The Department is fortunate to have 3 dedicated K9 teams and are always willing to help our surrounding communities. In fact, many of our K9 calls for service are outside of Plymouth. K9 deployments range from locating missing persons, recovering evidence related to crime scenes, and tracking. All three teams are certified in detecting specific illegal narcotics. The dogs can detect the odor of illegal narcotics while on traffic stops, storage garages, or within residences when a search warrant allows. Each Team must certify annually in both patrol work and narcotic detection.

The K9 Program attracts great community attention and support and is often featured at large community events. The teams take part in many outreach activities including school and business visits and public demonstrations.



Community Service Officers (CSO)

The Community Service Officer (CSO) Unit currently includes a Community Services Supervisor and three full-time Community Service Officers. In 2022, Community Service Officers responded to a significantly higher number of calls for service and self-initiated events in comparison to 2021. In 2021, the number of incidents handled by Community Service Officers was approximately 1,600. In 2022, the number of similar incidents rose to just over 2,400. Many of these calls consisted of animal complaints, miscellaneous ordinance violations including parking complaints, stalled vehicles, and various assistance requests.

In 2022, 24% of the calls that CSO's responded to were animal related calls. This includes a mix of wildlife and domestic animal related calls. Some of the most common wildlife related calls are related to sick or injured wildlife and nuisance wildlife. While the Police Department does not relocate healthy animals, often advice can be provided to better manage wildlife when issues arise. Some of the most common domestic animal calls include dogs or cats at large, lost pets, animal bites and barking dog complaints. Pet owners are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the animal related ordinances within the City Code on the City of Plymouth's Website. These ordinances are intended to keep both animals and the citizens of Plymouth safe and living cohesively.



Patrol Division

Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT)

The SWAT Team had a busier than usual year in 2022. SWAT is led by long-time team leader Sgt. Chris Kuklok. In 2022, Plymouth's SWAT team assisted its sister team in Maple Grove conducting several high-risk warrants in their city. Additionally, there were several other high-risk warrants related to homicides that occurred in Plymouth where our SWAT team was utilized to ensure a safe and peaceful resolution. As in years past, training remained a top priority and focused on a wide variety of tactical topics to cultivate best practices in the field. In 2022, Plymouth SWAT took on the large task of helping host an annual tactical training conference at Camp Ripley where a total of 140 SWAT operators from across the metro convened to train. Several SWAT team members are also department instructors and assist the department overall by teaching a myriad of topics related to police tactics and officer safety.

SWAT Hostage and Crisis Negotiation Team

The SWAT Hostage and Crisis Negotiation Team continues to be used at an increased rate each year. In 2022, there was a 23% increase in incidents needing trained negotiators. The Team also aided five other cities in seven incidents. One of these incidents was the basis for a local story about Plymouth's team and the growth required to handle increased dangerous mental health and criminal incidents.

The Team consists of seven negotiators, a technical advisor, and a mental health advisor. The team is led by Sgt. Scott Whiteford. Training is a priority for the Team. The Team trains regularly throughout the year in specialized areas of crisis negotiation and mental health. The Team also trains with other departments around the area. In 2022, newly appointed negotiators, Officers Serre and Freng, attended the FBI Regional Crisis Negotiation Course to become certified as a crisis negotiator. Sergeant Whiteford also became the President and Co-Founder of the Crisis Negotiators Association of Minnesota.

West Command Mobile Field Force

The Department started the year with eleven members representing Plymouth PD on the West Command Mobile Field Force. Through appointment and promotion, the department lost two members and are now down to eight members and one supervisor. Plymouth's team continues to train quarterly with the entire West Command group of approximately 135 officers from various agencies. In October of 2022, we hosted training at Plymouth's government center. This training was designed to be as realistic as possible for the members of the group. It was a great success and is now considered the training that has set the bar for the rest.

A proposal was submitted in 2022 for the 2023 budget to purchase new ballistic helmets for members from Plymouth. Through the DRMO military program, the group also acquired hearing protection that doubles as our communication and mounts to the new helmets. This is a significant upgrade for the platoon and one that is greatly appreciated as we experienced numerous armed induvial during deployments.

Administrative Division

The Administrative Division is responsible for customer service, records management, and retention, processing and dissemination of police reports, public safety community engagement efforts, and crime and fire data analysis. The division is also responsible for compliance with Minnesota Government Data Practices, public information, technology support, and providing administrative support to both police and fire personnel.



The Administrative Division is comprised of an Administrative Supervisor, seven public safety Office Support Representatives, three Community Engagement team members (Community Relations Officer, Public Safety Education Specialist, and Fire Prevention Specialist), a Public Safety Data Analyst, and an Administrative Manager. The team is



committed to providing the highest level of customer service and support possible to the members of the department and the community.

In 2022, the Office Support Services team processed almost 46,000 incident reports and 2,046 public data requests. 164 report requests requiring data analysis were processed by our data analyst.

Statistics / Data

Group/Category	2021	2022
Arson	1	0
Assault Offenses	292	257
Burglary/Breaking and Entering	261	176
Counterfeiting/Forgery	35	35
Destruction/Damage/Vandalism	259	224
Drug/Narcotic Offenses	184	137
Embezzlement	1	4
Extortion/Blackmail	2	0
Fraud Offenses	464	302
Homicide Offenses	2	5
Human Trafficking Offenses	0	0
Kidnaping/Abduction	1	1
Larceny/Theft Offenses	793	735
Motor Vehicle Theft	88	87
Pornography/Obscene Material	8	12
Prostitution Offenses	0	0
Robbery	7	10
Sex Offenses	28	25
Stolen Property Offenses	21	19
Weapon Law Violations	37	27

Group B/Category	2021	2022
Curfew/Loitering/Vagrancy Violations	0	0
Disorderly Conduct	61	91
Driving Under the Influence	208	218
Family Offenses, Nonviolent	5	5
Liquor Law Violations	29	50
Trespass of Real Property	0	11
All Other Offenses	417	335

In the National Incident Based Reporting System (NIBRS), offenses are either of the Group A or Group B type. Group A offenses are included in reported offense statistics while Group B are only included in arrest statistics. Each offense committed within an incident is assigned to one of three classifications: Crimes Against Persons, Crimes Against Property, and Crimes Against Society.

The definitions that were developed for the NIBRS are not meant to be used for charging persons with crimes. To the contrary, they are simply a way of categorizing or organizing the crimes committed throughout the United States.

Community Engagement

The Community Engagement Team recorded 322 public safety community engagement events in 2022 that reached thousands of community members from schools, neighborhoods, faith, social service, senior, and business communities.

Engagements focused on developing relationships with the community and providing education on crime prevention, fire and life safety, and a variety of other safety topics.

The Department hosted Cops and Bobbers, Citizens Academy, Presents with Public Safety, Home Alone Workshops, Bingo with Badges, second grade fire prevention education, police/fire station tours, K9 demonstrations, and much more. Public safety staff volunteered as literacy volunteers in elementary schools, patrol officers ate lunch with students and office support staff coordinated Birthdays with Badges at senior living communities.

In 2022, the Public Safety Department introduced four new initiatives:

Community Conversations with Police: The departments hosted nine small-group conversations with different community organizations to provide the community with the opportunity to meet representatives from the department, share perspectives, ask questions, tour the station, and see some of the technology that the Department uses in the line-of-duty.

The Safe Community Camera Program: This program allows residents and businesses to voluntarily register external video cameras to assist police if a crime occurs in their neighborhood. Once registered, police may reach out to camera owners in the event of a crime and request that the owners review their camera footage for any potential evidence.

MN Department of Commerce's Catalytic Converter Theft Prevention Pilot Program: The Department joined the statewide initiative administered by the MN Commerce Fraud Bureau. The pilot program looks to reduce the number of catalytic converter thefts in Minnesota by permanently marking converters with unique identification numbers.

The Community Engagement Team partnered with the nonprofit organization Starfish Assignment. Starfish Assignment provides complimentary children's books for the Department's Books and Badges Program. After reading with children, officers are able to provide a copy of the book that they read to each participating child.



← Tweet

The Dawoodi Bohras of USA
@Bohras_USA

The @PlymouthMNPDP Police Department did a presentation on #PublicSafety for students of the #Minneapolis @Dawoodi_Bohras & shared how to handle emergencies in our community areas. This included a book reading on the topic of safety, a tour of the squad car, and a birthday party!

A collage of four small photographs. The top-left photo shows a presentation being given to a group of people. The top-right photo shows a group of people, including children, sitting on the floor. The bottom-left photo shows a group of people, including children, sitting on the floor. The bottom-right photo shows a police officer interacting with a child.

Community Engagement

Presents with Public Safety

The Public Safety Department received generous donations from the Plymouth Lions, Plymouth Rotary, and received a new donation from Bauer Design Build for the 10th annual “Presents with Public Safety” event. The department partnered with Kohl’s Plymouth location once again after last year’s success.

A group of appreciative children were given the chance to join forces with a firefighter or police officer



to receive support while shopping for the holidays, making for a memorable day during this special season.

Citizens Academy

Twenty-five members of the community took part in the 2022 Citizens Academy. This was the Department’s 23rd class. Classes started



in September and ran for 12 weeks, with graduation on January 10, 2023. The academy expands the public’s knowledge of the Plymouth Police and Fire Departments and helps strengthen the partnership between public safety professionals and the community.

As always, Academy participants gave each speaker high praise in their evaluations. Many of the students of the academy had heard about the opportunity from a recommendation from a former participant.

Work with Rental Properties

The Community Relations Officer maintained a close working relationship with the city’s 63+ multi-housing rental complexes. These communities face unique challenges that distinguish them as key stakeholders in crime prevention efforts. Training held by the police department for rental property managers for their licensure through the city sustains a shared responsibility for maintaining a safer living environment. Collaboration between apartment complexes and the police department has allowed for effective communication and information sharing.



Night to Unite

Tuesday, August 1st, 2022 was another successful Night to Unite. 3,282 residents attended neighborhood events. Police visited 103 parties, Firefighters visited 46 parties, and Public Works visited 15.



Annual Recognition Event

The 2021 recognition event was delayed due to construction at the newly renovated Plymouth Community center, but on August 11, 2022 staff and community members were happy to be able to celebrate in person again. The Plymouth Police Department’s internal recognition committee reviewed submissions of potential award recipients for incidents which occurred in 2021.

At the event, several awards were given for organizational accomplishments, exceptional acts of service, and courageous actions by citizens. This event was the last of separate police and fire recognition events, with the 2022 event combining both departments in a joined Public Safety event.

Public Safety Volunteers

Reserve Unit

During 2022, the Plymouth Police Reserve Unit donated 2,673 volunteer hours, helping serve the community and the department in many ways. This was a 53% increase in volunteer hours compared to hours served in 2021 (1,742). With the addition of three new reserves officers in late 2021 and four more in 2022, and the waning COVID pandemic, the unit has experienced an outstanding growth in volunteer hours and have been able to provide increased support for the sworn officers.



The Plymouth Police Reserve program had fifteen Reserve Officers at year end. In 2022, the program lost one Reserve Officer (Jack Suecker - who was hired as one of our department's CSO's). The Reserve Unit is a solid group that has a healthy rapport in and amongst both the reserve and sworn officers. The unit is supervised by Sgt. Dallas Gjesvold and the Reserve Officer Command Staff which consists of volunteers Emy Peasha (Captain), Mark Robbins (Patrol Sergeant), and Dean Sherman (Administration Sergeant).

In 2022, Officers Brianna Bannon and Jake Groth grew into their roles as Reserve Advisors. Officer Bannon refined defensive tactics training and equipment logistics while Officer Groth helped reimagine the field training process. Reserve Advisor - Officer Kevin Schik's monthly training presentations remain fresh and relevant.



Sergeant Gjesvold's ongoing engagement, enthusiasm, and leadership continues to provide the group with the energy and resources needed to improve Reserve performance as volunteers. Thanks to continued city support, the Reserve Program was able to outfit new recruits with uniforms and updated equipment.



In the past, some members of our Reserve unit have advanced to become Community Service Officers and sworn police officers. The Reserve unit has been a positive tool in helping to recruit prospective police officers.

Explorer Program

The 2022-2023 season for the Plymouth Police Explorer Program started strong with 11 high school aged participants. This is significant, as the season before we had just four Explorers. Due to the size of the group, the department added two additional advisors from the Patrol Division. The department was able to restart the firearms program with the expanding group. Officer Dan Rice volunteered to assist with range instruction, which was allowed for the first time in several years. The Explorers were able to meet regularly at the range to shoot.



CERT

The Community Emergency Response Team (CERT), is a group of specially trained community volunteers, who assist the Public Safety Department at many events. While the primary role of a CERT program is to create a ready reserve of community volunteers trained in disaster preparedness, they are also utilized in other capacities to keep them engaged and well trained. CERT members are given the skills and confidence to help themselves and their neighbors in the event of a disaster.



Chaplain Program

This program consists of area volunteer pastors from a variety of religious denominations. Chaplains respond to death scenes, counsel officers and family members, visit sick or injured officers and assist at difficult situations. Currently we have ten Chaplains that share a rotating monthly schedule of on-call status.

We are fortunate to have such a talented group of professionals to draw upon in times of need. In 2022, Plymouth Public Safety Chaplains responded in-person to four incidents of need despite widespread COVID.





Plymouth
Police Department



Plymouth
Fire Department