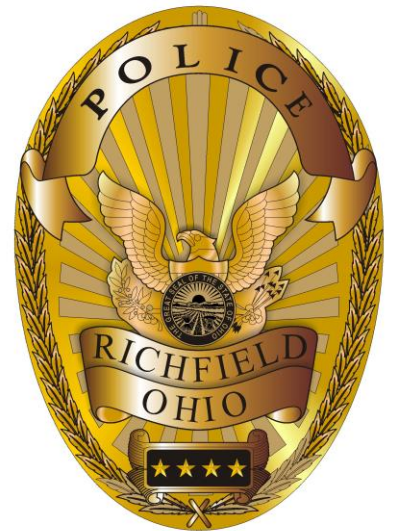


*Richfield Police Department
2017 Annual Report*





RICHFIELD POLICE DEPARTMENT

4450 WEST STREETSBORO ROAD
RICHFIELD, OHIO 44286
(330) 659-9500
(330) 659-0677 FAX



Keith D. Morgan
Chief of Police

Bobbie Beshara
Mayor

Mayor Beshara,

It is with pleasure that I submit the annual report of behalf of the Richfield Police Department.

In 2017, the communications center received a much-needed makeover. Preparations of the remodel began more than two years ago when it was discovered that the 800MHz radio system in use was facing obsolescence in the very near future. The Village of Richfield purchased over \$500,000.00 in radio equipment at the end of 2015 in anticipation of the change. In 2017 the Village purchased two (2) radio consoles to complete the radio replacement project.

Because the new consoles would require extensive retrofitting in the dispatch center and the existing consoles were not ergonomically friendly; a complete dispatch remodel was the best course of action.

The old dispatch center was completely gutted, the electrical system received an extensive upgrade, paint and carpeting was completed and a state-of-the-art four (4) station console system was installed. A four-station center (with two radio consoles) was chosen in consideration of future growth.

In January 2018 the radio/dispatch project will be complete when we discontinue use of the old 800 MHz system and join the Summit County Radio group.

In addition to the communications remodel, the Safety Town office space was converted to a report/conference room. Officers are now able to gather report information from subjects in a much more favorable environment. Prior to the renovation officers would either speak to individuals in the lobby or would have to bring them inside the secured area of the police department. The new area is accessible to the lobby but is secured from the rest of the police department.

Unfortunately, 2017 was not without its tragedies. One officer was injured while at work and was not able to return due to the injuries she sustained while another was struck in his vehicle on Interstate 77. The officer involved in the crash has not returned to work. The driver of the vehicle that struck the cruiser was arrested for driving under the influence, the police vehicle was totaled.

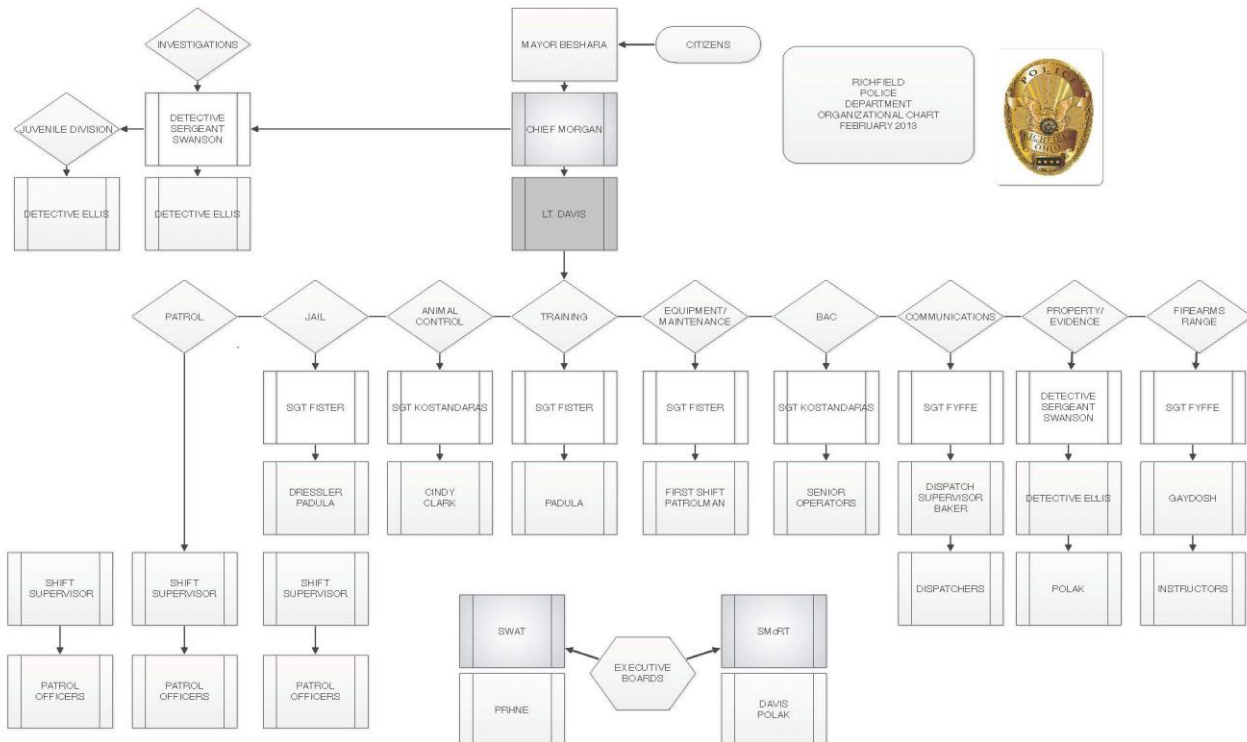
Respectfully Submitted

Keith D. Morgan
Chief

MISSION STATEMENT

The Men and Women of the Richfield Police Department are committed to being a professional and caring organization dedicated to the concepts of personal excellence, continuous improvement, integrity, teamwork, and service to our community.

We believe in the dignity of all citizens and desire to protect individual rights. We aspire to contribute to the quality of life in the community of Richfield by providing efficient Law Enforcement services. We take pride in our professional performance and image.



Richfield's Law Enforcement History

The Richfield Police Department can trace its law enforcement tradition back to 1816. The first law enforcement official was a constable who was elected to office. Two of the first known constables were John Bigelow and Isaac Hopkins. One of the most colorful constables was Arthur Scobie who served from 1920 to 1935. Constable Scobie wore boots and a western style hat. He rode a horse in order to perform his duties.

Web Orcutt and Joseph Smith also served as constables in the 1920's, while Preston Fauble was the first motorcycle officer. In the early 1930's, Orcutt, Smith and Fauble changed careers and were each elected to the office of Justice of the Peace.

William Guthrie was the last constable of Richfield and the first to have a car with two-way radio. An auxiliary captain, Charlie Palmer, and Virgil Newton served as deputies. The constable system was replaced by the Summit County Sheriff in 1962. Three local men, Tom Fisher, Ed Pepper, and Lee Weber were sworn in as deputies. The Summit County Sheriff continued to serve in Richfield until 1970, shortly after the Village of Richfield was formed. The formation of the Village resulted in two entities: Richfield Township and Richfield Village.

In 1970 the Richfield Village Police Department was formed. Tom Fisher was chosen to be the police chief, a position that he held until 1988. The Township continued its affiliation with the Summit County Sheriff's office. Richfield Township did have a police chief, Dave Arbogast, who was appointed in 1984. Chief Arbogast worked in conjunction with the Sheriff's department. The Township formed their own department with six additional officers joining Chief Arbogast.

John Walsh was appointed as Tom Fisher's replacement in 1988. Chief Walsh served in that capacity until 2001. Chief M.D. Canter was the third police chief for the Richfield Police Department with his appointment in 2001. In that same year, the Richfield Township Police Department was dissolved. Richfield Township contracted with the Richfield Village Police department for police services. In 2002 the police department moved into a new facility.

There have been many changes since John Bigelow and Isaac Hopkins took their oaths of office in the early 1800's. The law enforcement mission remains the same, to protect and serve the citizens of Richfield.

CHIEFS OF POLICE

John Walsh
1988 to 2001



Dave Arbogast
Richfield Township



Tom Fisher
1962-1988



Dale Canter
2001-2012



Keith Morgan
2012-Present

Personnel Information

Officer Scott Dressler expressed an interest in becoming the School Resource Officer for the Revere School District after learning the current SRO had requested a transfer back to patrol. The SRO program is a collaborative effort with Richfield, Bath Township and the Revere School District. Applications were reviewed and two outstanding candidates were interviewed for the position. Officer Dressler was the unanimous choice of the reviewing committee and assumed SRO duties at the beginning of the school year. Officer Dressler has already made a distinct mark at the schools and was nominated to receive the “Helping Hands” award from the PTA. In addition to his SRO duties, Officer Dressler was able to provide the entire department the State of Ohio mandated “Practical Application of Force.”

Officer Ryan Kellackey was appointed to full-time in February 2017. Officer Kellackey had been serving as a part-time officer.

Officer John Hetzel was also appointed to full-time in 2017. Officer Hetzel took Officer Dressler’s place in the patrol division following his appointment to the SRO position.

David Arbogast retired from the Richfield Police Department in October 2017. Dave served as chief of the Richfield Township Police Department while the department was in existence. Following the dissolution of the Township Department, Dave served as a part-time officer with the Village. During that time, he served as Chief of Police for the Medina Township Police Department. Chief Arbogast will continue to serve in that capacity.

His leadership and guidance has been evident within the community for decades. He will certainly be missed.

I am pleased to announce that Sergeant Paul Fister has completed his coursework and received his Master’s Degree. Paul serves as a shift supervisor, Jail Administrator, Vehicle Fleet supervisor, and assists with the property room and digital evidence management.

After weeks of training, Officer Dave Polak completed coursework and is now certified as a Traffic Crash Reconstructionist. Officer Polak is a member of the Summit Metro Crash Response Team.

B.A.C. Datamaster (Blood Alcohol Content)

Sergeant Nick Kostandaras is responsible for the Breathalyzer Equipment; Patrolman Scott Dressler assists him.

The B.A.C. Datamaster is an Infrared Electronic Breath Alcohol Measuring Instrument used for determining the alcohol concentration in a person's breath. The B.A.C. Datamaster is approved by the National Traffic Safety Administration and by the Ohio Courts. The B.A.C. Datamaster measures the grams of alcohol per 210 liters of breath. The B.A.C. Datamaster is an essential tool used for the prosecution of impaired drivers and for the prosecution of underage drinkers. In the State of Ohio, the Prima Facie Evidence for a subject under the influence of alcohol is .08 grams of alcohol per 210 liters of breath.

The B.A.C. Datamaster instrument check is required every seven days not to exceed 192 hours. The operation and instrument checks are overseen by Sgt. Kostandaras with Ptl. Dressler assisting. The instrument checks are done to insure the integrity of the tests and the instrument. A senior operator who has been certified by the Ohio Department of Health can only conduct an instrument check. The Richfield Police Department has twelve senior operators and seven standard operators. The Standard Operator may only administer a test to a subject and are not authorized to conduct an instrument check. The Standard Operators have also been certified by the Ohio Department of Health.

The B.A.C. Datamaster was used 45 times from January 1, 2017 to December 31, 2017 for DUI's and alcohol related calls for service.

The following is a breakdown of the use of the B.A.C. Datamaster for 2017:

		<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
Richfield Arrests:	20	17	3
Peninsula Police:	12	10	2
OSP:	10	7	3
National Parks	3	3	
Totals	45	37	8

The following is a breakdown by months:

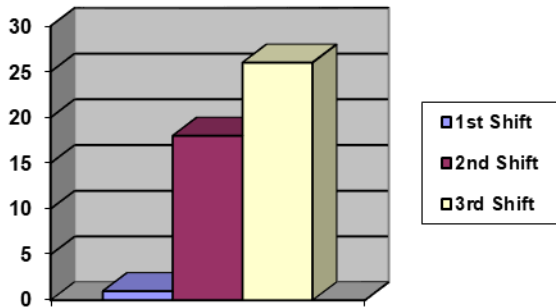
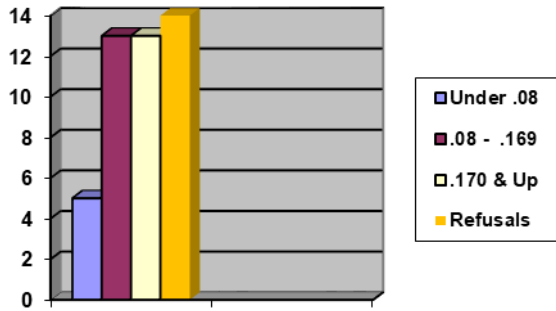
January	3	July	2
February	4	August	1
March	6	September	4
April	1	October	4
May	7	November	3
Page # 2			
June	3	December	7

The following is a breakdown by the test results:

Under .08	5
.08 To .169	13
.170 and up	13
Refusals	14
Highest test given	.329

The following is a breakdown by the shifts:

Day shift	1
Afternoon shift	18
Midnight shift	26
Totals	45



The B.A.C. Datamaster was also used by several Police agencies in Summit County for proficiency testing of officers. Statistics nationwide reveal that drunk drivers cause a fatal accident once every fifteen minutes. The numbers listed in this report do not tell how many lives may have been saved by removing 45 DUI suspects from the roads. Fortunately, we will never know because they were taken off our roads before a fatality occurred.

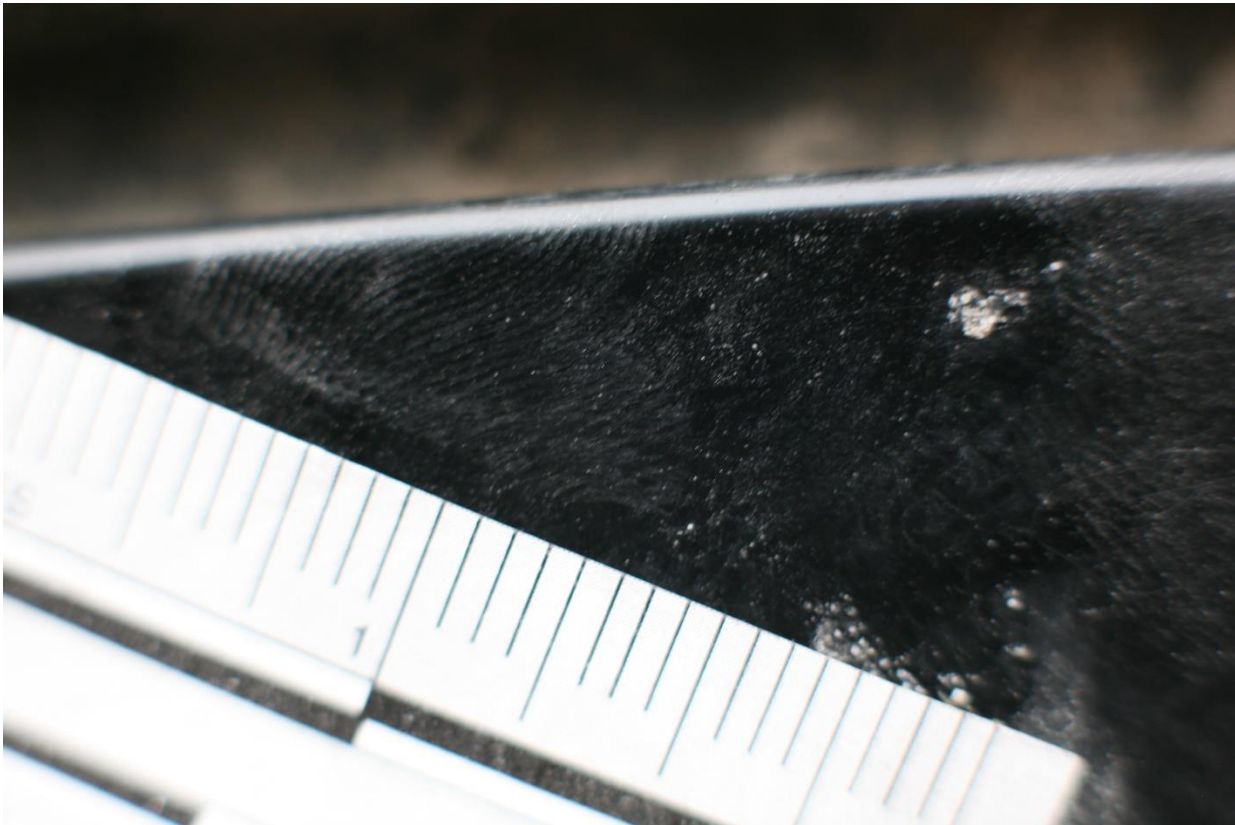
Detective Bureau

The detective bureau is staffed by Detective Sergeant Mike Swanson and Detective Amy Ellis. Det. Ellis also serves as the Juvenile Detective and works closely with the schools, parents, and children.

In 2017, the detective bureau investigated 165 cases. Among the investigations were 34-thefts/fraud/forgeries, 11-B&E/Burglaries, 7-Assaults/Domestics, 15-phone harassment/menacing, 8-Sex Crimes, and 4-Deaths.

Numerous search warrants, subpoenas and court orders were obtained. Additionally, 20-Felony arrest warrants/indictments and 18- Misdemeanor arrest warrants were obtained in 2017.

Below is fingerprint evidence that led to the identification, arrest and conviction of a suspect involved in a 2017 Felony Theft from Columbus Equipment



All of the case work involves countless hours of investigation which includes, but is not limited to, crime scene processing, victim-witness and suspect interviews, surveillance, report writing and warrant preparation. Additionally, many hours are spent coordinating efforts with The Summit County Common

Pleas Court, The Akron Municipal Court, The Summit County Juvenile Court and their prosecutor's offices, as well as other state and federal agencies.

Suspect involved in a 2017
Armed Robbery at Pilot Travel
Center



The detective bureau also conducts background investigations for police department applicants and other Richfield employees. This is a very involved process that requires hours of research and investigation into the applicant's background. It includes interviews of the applicant, their past employers, references and neighbors of the applicant. The background investigation process is similar to any other investigation, which is why it's typically assigned to detective bureaus.

PROPERTY ROOM

The property room is staffed by Det. Sgt. Mike Swanson, Det. Amy Ellis and Ptl. Scott Dressler. There is a constant flow of property and evidence that passes through the property room each year. Each piece of property/evidence must be packaged, labeled, logged and properly stored, while maintaining a proper chain of custody. Det. Ellis typically handles the day to day operations of the property room. The property room also manages all of the digital evidence i.e.: photographs and in-car camera data. Det. Amy Ellis and Ptl. Dressler have been keeping up with this task along with their other duties.

Below is a photo of evidence entered into property in 2017



Many pieces of evidence are submitted to the crime lab every year for analysis. This process is also managed in the property room. The evidence must be prepared for submission, and after analysis it's returned to our property room. The accompanying lab reports that follow then must be filed appropriately and or forwarded to the prosecutor's office.

Richfield Jail Annual Report

The Richfield jail is located within the police department; the facility consists of three 12-day jail cells a holding cell, and a detox cell. These cells can be used to detain adults for a maximum of 288 hours. The jail is available to detain individuals at any time our department warrants it, once the jail is occupied with a detainee it is to be staffed by Road Patrol officers. The detainee is evaluated by a Booking Officer (Road Patrol) to determine what classification the arrestee is to be held under.

Richfield Patrol Officers are expected to follow and maintain the standards set forth by the state of Ohio. The Richfield Jail has policies and procedures to direct staff members in the performance of their job, and tasks and duties while inmates reside in the jail. The Richfield Jail Staff along with Road Patrol carries out their duties in a manner that will preserve the high standards of professionalism expected by the community of Richfield.

The Richfield Jail is staffed by all members of the Patrol Division. The Jail Staff consists of administrator Sgt. Paul Fister, and jail assistant administrator Tony Padula who are responsible for the day to day activities. The Richfield Jail Staff are responsible for weekly jail checks, and maintaining standards set forth by the state of Ohio to obtain the title of a "Compliant Jail".

The Richfield Jail Staff belongs to the North Coast Correction Manager's Association (NCCMA). The association is comprised of Jail Administrators, Corrections Officers from County Agencies, Local Municipalities, and State Correctional Facilities throughout the region. Meeting several times, a year which fosters collaboration and sharing of information between State, County, and Local agencies to improve process and provide continuing education for Administrators and Corrections Officers.

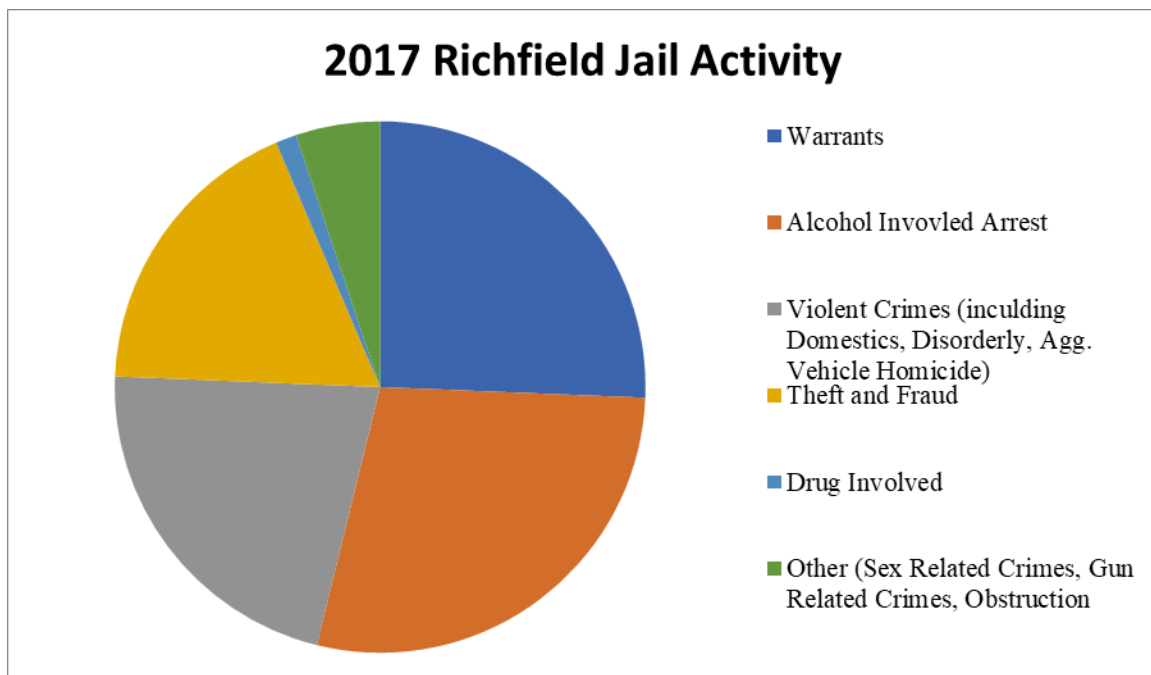
In 2017 the Richfield Jail has continued its partnership with University Hospitals Ahuja Medical Center, as our Medical Control under the direction of Dr. Anthony Daher. Dr. Daher and the staff are available on a 24-hour basis to handle medical situations that occur within the jail. Ahuja Medical Center continues to provide meals for inmates under the direction of Steve Savanick, General Manager of Nutritional Services. Dr. Daher is also responsible in training the Richfield Police Department Officers on such issues as: Medical Intake of Inmates, Suicide Prevention, and lastly educate the officers of the Opioid Epidemic and how it relates to the Richfield Jail.



The Richfield Police Department placed in service a Safety Restraint Chair in the Richfield Jail in second quarter of 2017. The Safety Restraint Chair is a tool intended to aid Richfield Officers to help control combative, self destructive, or potentially violent detainees. Richfield Officers were trained in the proper technics of placing an inmate in the chair by watching a video, tested on policies and manufacture instructions, as well as hands-on practical training. The restraint chair will only be used to control inmates whose behavior may result in harm to themselves, others, or the damage or destruction of property in the Richfield Jail.



In 2017, the Richfield Jail had a total of 78 prisoners, the offenses ranged from: Warrants, Alcohol Involved Arrests, Violent Crimes, Theft and Fraud, Drug Involved Crimes, and Felony Warrants. Felony Warrants are initially processed through Richfield Jail and then transferred to Summit County Jail to await trial.



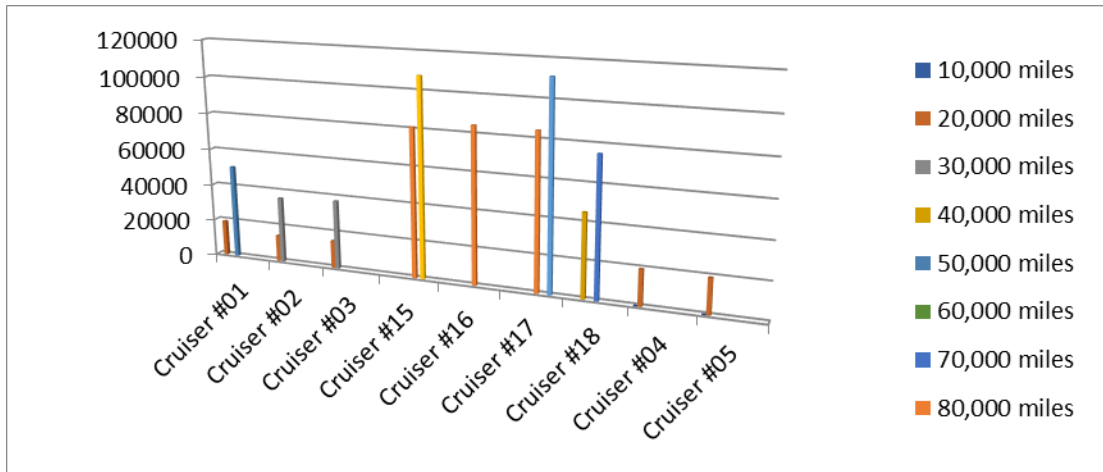
Police Vehicles



The Richfield Police Cruisers are easily identified and recognized as protectors of peace. They are Black with White Letters and Numbers on sides, roof, and front fenders, American Flag design, and a reflective strip on the back. The Richfield Police Department added two Police Rated Interceptors and a Police Rated Explorer to the Detective Bureau to diversify the fleet. The Cruiser Inventory of vehicles presently consists of 12 vehicles. Within the Cruiser Inventory are Eight Marked Road Patrol Units, and Four Unmarked Units.

The marked Road Patrol cruisers are equipped with, communication equipment, emergency lighting, crash equipment, weapon retention equipment, Mobile Data Terminals, and Mobile Video Cameras. The marked Road units also are equipped with Ready Bags located in the front compartment of each cruiser, which contain extra ammunition, and First Aid supplies for an officer to take with them to high risk incidents. Located in the trunk of each cruiser contains flak jackets, helmets, low profile police uniforms, and chemical suits which include gas masks for first responders.

- Cruiser #15 2014 Ford Police Interceptor
- Cruiser #16 2014 Ford Police Interceptor
- Cruiser #17 2014 Ford Police Interceptor
- Cruiser #18 2015 Ford Police Interceptor
- Cruiser #01 2016 Ford Police Explorer
- Cruiser #03 2016 Ford Police Explorer (Out of Service)
- Cruiser #02 2016 Ford Police Explorer
- Cruiser #04 2017 Ford Police Interceptor
- Cruiser #05 2017 Ford Police Interceptor



Legend

- First Column is the year beginning mileage, Second Column is mileage at the end of 2017
- Cruiser #03 and #18 were involved in officer related crashes in which they were hit protecting a crash scene. (Cruiser #03 was placed out of service due to the crash. Cruiser #18 was repaired and placed back in service)
- Total miles driven in 2017 of 212,198

In addition to the Richfield Police Cruiser Inventory are two vehicles assigned to the Detective Bureau, one vehicle assigned to Chief of Police, and one vehicle assigned to Animal Warden. These vehicles are not marked, but they are equipped with police radios, and weapon retention equipment. These vehicles carry all necessary equipment for detectives to assist them at crime scenes, and to transport all evidence back to police department. The vehicle assigned to the Animal Warden is used and equipped to aid her in her duties and is marked similar to our Road Patrol.

The entire fleet is on a weekly maintenance program set up through our department with Sgt. Fister and Ptl. Petrovich, and the Village's mechanics Chuck Soulek, Ken Horn, and John Luther. This is an effort to maintain efficient service at a minimal cost and to make every effort to provide a safe and properly working vehicle for a Richfield Police officer

The Richfield Police Department in 2017 updated its In-Car Video System in which it is now paired with Body-Worn Cameras that officers wear throughout their shift. After an extensive study and series of test trials of different police cameras, the Richfield Police Department entered into a working agreement with Digital Ally. Digital Ally is a company that can connect In-Car Video, Body Cameras & the office software into one complete package. Digital Ally provides a service that is secure and with the use of its software can generate chain of custody reports and audit logs to ensure that the video evidence being shown is exactly what was created, and it has not been edited, tampered with or altered in anyway.

Digital Ally concluded from studies that, "when video is deployed by a Law Enforcement Agency, Officer performance and professionalism increase dramatically and there are improved community relations between the Agency and the general public. Video deployments always coincide with an increase in successful prosecutions and Officers spend less time completing paperwork and making court appearances" (Digital Ally, 2017). A 2014 Police Executive Report Forum report inferred a number of perceived benefits for using body-worn cameras, including better evidence documentation and increased accountability and transparency. The Richfield Police is dedicated to afford its officers

with the tools and latest technology to provide a superior service to those that travel through Richfield, work in Richfield, and to the residents of Richfield.



METRO SWAT



Metro SWAT Police Officers from Summit and Portage Counties make up the Critical Response Team known as Metro Swat. There are fifteen board members comprised of member agency police chiefs. Of this fifteen, three are chosen to serve on the board of directors. Richfield is an active member of the regional unit.

The team was formed in 1990 so the member communities could combine their resources to deal with unusual situations that would exceed the capabilities of individual departments.

The Richfield Police Department contributes two members to the team. Officer Rudy Prhne serves as a tactical officer and Officer John Petrovich serves as command security and technical support to the team. Richfield Fire Department also contributes Paramedic Mike Lester to the team as a Swat Medic.

The team is activated when a crisis situation develops. The team is trained to cope with problems that a regular Police unit is neither equipped nor trained to handle. These situations include active shooters, snipers, barricaded suspects, hostage incidents, violent felons and high risk warrants. The team is also activated in search and rescue missions, crowd control and other circumstances that would require a department needing additional manpower.

The member departments include: Aurora, Boston Twp, Brimfield, Copley, Fairlawn, Hudson, Kent, Kent State University, Lakemore, Macedonia, Munroe Falls, Northfield, Peninsula, Portage County Sheriff, Ravenna, Richfield, Silver Lake, Springfield Twp, Stow, Streetsboro and Twinsburg. Team members train a minimum of once a month in addition to attending tactical seminars and schools.



ANIMAL CONTROL

Cindy Clark serves as the Richfield Police Department's Animal Control Officer. In 2017, she responded to 957 calls for service.

Calls for service include

- Impoundment of stray dogs and cats
- Nuisance animal trapping
- Resident complaints such as barking dogs, animals-at-large.
- Animal abuse and/or neglect
- Animal quarantine in response to bite
- Veterinarian treatment for potential adoption
- Adoption services
- Animal enforcement in Richfield Village; The Township enforcement is handled by the Summit County Animal Warden
- Cleaning, maintenance and supplying a 24-hour animal kennel

In addition, Cindy is a participant in the annual Safety Town program focusing on safety around animals, domestic and wild.

TRAINING

The Ohio Peace Officer's Training Council expanded to 20-hours of mandated training be completed per officer as a result of the formation of the Ohio Collaborative Community-Police Advisory Board in 2015-2016. The required topics for all our officers in 2017 were as follows:



- Trauma Informed Policing (6-hours)
- Practical Application of Force (4-hours)
- Procedural Justice Police Legitimacy (4-hours)
- Legal Update (4-part series)
- Two 1-hour elective courses of the officer's choosing

The many acts of terrorism abroad and here in the homeland have evolved, highlighting the need for continued training to be attune to detecting the latest methods and tactics being used by terrorists. Officers attended a four- day course in Commercial Vehicle Counter-terrorism



All officers received updated training in jail operations so our jail remains in compliance with state standards, topics covered included suicide prevention, medical screening & use of a restraint chair for combative inmates



Other officers received training in crash investigation at varying levels based on their experience and expertise



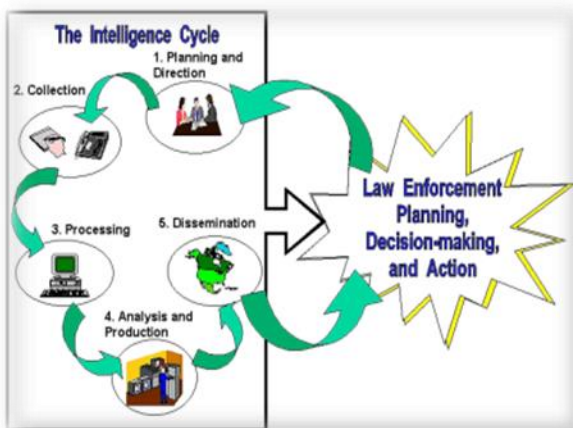
Investigators attended Responding to Victim's Needs to insure we are attentive to the emotional, mental and physical state of the victim's while gathering the information necessary to solve the crime





Officers also attended specialized courses in drug operations and detection for patrol officers, as well as identification courses of the latest drugs and the concealment techniques of the drug user.

Newer patrol officers who had not had an opportunity to be involved in prior active shooter training exercises were sent to “ALERRT” (Advanced Law Enforcement Rapid Response Training) developed by the University of Texas and a FBI endorsed curriculum



Offered by the Department of Homeland Security in partnership with Louisiana State University, “Fundamentals of Criminal Intelligence” provided officers with the basic skillset required for intelligence gathering activities and analysis from an all-crimes, all-hazards perspective, encompassing traditional crime as well as domestic and international terrorism acts.

The dynamics of behavior during high-stress, rapidly unfolding encounters and making split-second decisions during high-stress events were addressed in a course on “Understanding Human Behavior & Stress”.



“Understanding Force Science Issues Specifically Relating to Body Cameras” highlighted numerous investigative and public relations issues related to body cameras. Topics of fairness and thoroughness of investigations; creating and analyzing protocols and policies; minimizing liability, training officers, educating the public with a basic understanding of the nature of force encounters were addressed during the class.



SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER

The school resource officer is Scott Dressler; as mentioned in the Personnel Section of this report, Scott is in his first year in this position. The past three years have been a Bath Police officer. Officer Dressler is responsible for all schools in the Revere district.

The schools comprising the Revere Local School District are Hillcrest Elementary, Bath Elementary, Revere Middle School and Revere High School. Hillcrest is in the Village of Richfield while the other schools are in Bath Township.

Officer Dressler works closely with the superintendent and building principals to make sure the students, staff and visitors are safe in the buildings and around the campus. He also attends parent meetings to help address community concerns with our students. The primary duties for him are safety, security, leadership, mentoring and mediator.

In his first few months as SRO, Scott has handled numerous calls at all four buildings and has been assisted by the Bath and Richfield Police Departments. He handles residency and truancy issues with the help of school staff.



Summit County OVI Taskforce

During the 2017 grant period, the OVI Task Force conducted 26 checkpoints; two less than the prior year as inclement weather forced cancellation of two checkpoints.



Over 6,814 vehicles passed through checkpoints in 2017 with 349 of those vehicles directed into diversion for items ranging from felony violations to failure to display a driver's license. Another 1,100 vehicles were stopped by saturation units patrolling streets adjacent to the checkpoint locations.

The combined total between checkpoint and adjacent saturation patrols exceeded 43 OVI arrests with an average BAC of .173. Although 2017 saw a decrease in the total number of alcohol impaired drivers arrested at the checkpoints, the blood alcohol concentration of the impaired drivers arrested crept upward by .027 from the previous years' average of .146.



There was a marked increase of impaired drivers refusing to provide a breath sample, instead choosing to refuse and suffer the mandatory administrative license suspension. There was also an increase in the number of impaired drivers from controlled substances, both prescription and illicit that required additional testing to determine the type and degree of impairment.

75 drivers with suspended licenses were arrested after driving through into the checkpoints, with an additional 13 arrested for driving that never bothered to obtain a license.



There were felony arrests for concealed weapons and narcotics, and as all too often one is accompanied by the other. With the burgeoning opiate epidemic officers had to be constantly vigilant against "needle sticks" when patting down arrestees or inventorying motor vehicles.



Checkpoint operations yielded the arrest of an individual wanted on a nationwide felony warrant from Florida and other miscellaneous warrant arrests, as well as multitude of misdemeanor drug and open container arrests.

Of particular interest was an individual arrested for driving under suspension. While processing the gentleman, he was discovered to be in possession of four "Ohio Directions" cards and \$2,550.00 in U.S. currency he claimed he earned from mowing yards earlier that day. The only problem was not one of the cards were issued in his name. The cards and cash were seized and the individual arrested for welfare fraud



As periodically occurs, the Task Force was questioned by the media we receive is spent and the effectiveness of the checkpoints. After WEWS released a story outlining the Task Force functions and cost: <https://www.news5cleveland.com/news/e-team/are-ovi-checkpoint-taxpayer-money>



grant money
orce staff
is included
[th-the-](#)

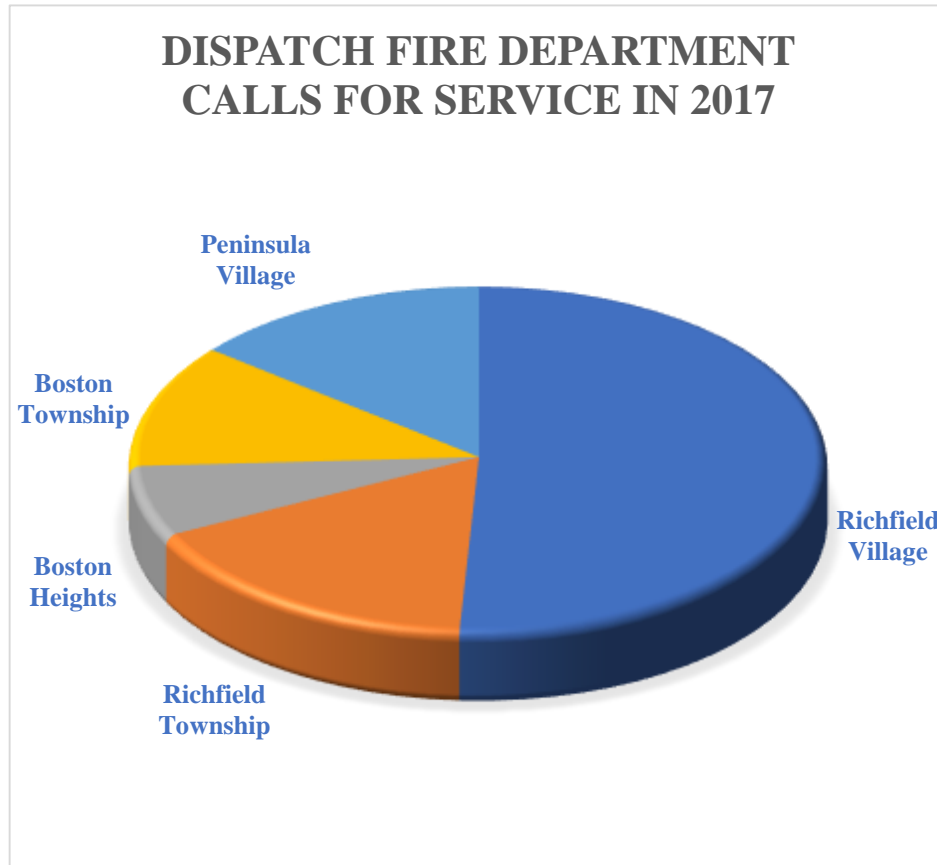
On a positive note, during the 2017 we observed many drivers chose to make wise choices to avoid an OVI in the form of alternate modes of transportation such as Uber, Lyft and carpools with a designated driver. These choices no doubt not only reduced the number of impaired drivers on the road, but also the arrests and the potential for loss of life.

Communications

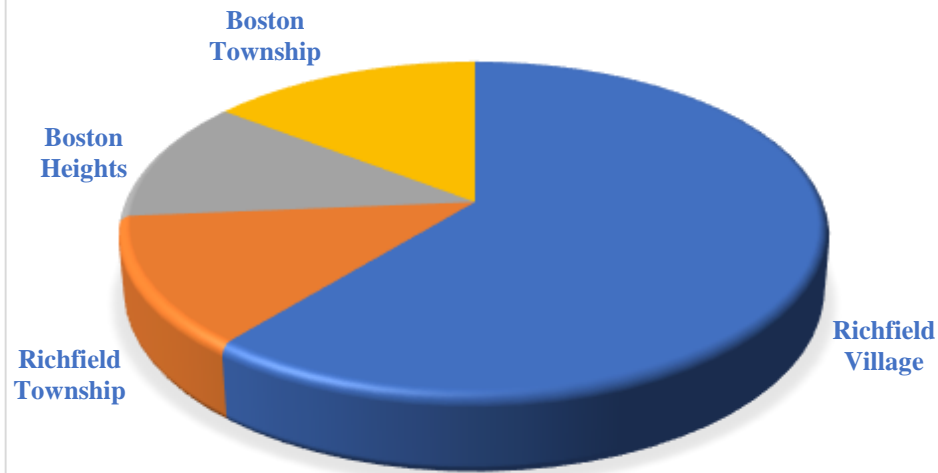
The communications division of the Richfield Police Department is supervised by Tim Baker. There are six (6) full-time and five (5) part-time dispatchers that, in 2017, were responsible for all communications incoming and outgoing for the following communities;

Richfield Village	Police, Fire, EMS and Service Departments
Richfield Township	Police, Fire, EMS and Service Departments
Village of Peninsula	Police and Service Departments
Valley Fire (Peninsula and Boston Twp)	Fire and EMS Services

The dispatch center fielded 22,931 calls for service in 2017.



DISPATCH POLICE DEPARTMENT CALLS FOR SERVICE IN 2017



In 2017 the communications center was remodeled to provide a more ergonomic work area for dispatch personnel. The new furnishings replaced the original design that was implemented in 2001.

Communications personnel are required to be at their respective stations during most of their shift. The new dispatch stations allow them to adjust their own heating/cooling, monitor location and most importantly the height can be adjusted to allow them to stand if they desire. The dispatch center stations were increased from two to four to accommodate future growth. Two of the four were equipped with new radio consoles to accommodate the switch to the Summit County Radio System. Should there be a need for expansion the stations would be operational with the addition of new radio consoles.

All communications personnel continue to provide Emergency Medical Dispatching (EMD) for all the communities we serve. Dispatchers are able to ascertain what type of medical emergency the caller is experiencing so that they can provide pre-arrival instructions and gather pertinent information for responding emergency personnel. For example, the dispatcher fielded an emergency call from a female who was in active labor. The dispatcher provided instructions to the female and relayed all pertinent information to the emergency medical personnel. Upon arrival the ems crew assisted with the delivery of a baby.



Old console



Temporary radio room



Completed report room



Completed Dispatch Center