

Richfield Police Department 2020 Annual Report



Gerd Altmann/Pixabay



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RICHFIELD POLICE DEPARTMENT

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Michael Swanson
Chief of Police

Michael Wheeler
Mayor

Honorable Michael Wheeler
Mayor, Village of Richfield
RE: Annual Report, 2020

Mayor Wheeler,

On behalf of the Richfield Police Department, attached is our 2020 annual report. With the onset of COVID-19 early this year, 2020 was a challenging year within the police department. This certainly is not to diminish what the rest of the departments have had to endure. However, under your command we all came together to work through the myriad of issues that arose and continue to arise, as we managed our staff through this global pandemic. The challenges we continue to face serve as a catalyst to learn perseverance and how to overcome all obstacles. We had (4) officers test positive for COVID-19, all of whom made full recoveries and have returned to work.

In 2020, we completely revamped the police department's Rules and Regulations as well as our Policies and Procedures with Lexipol. I am pleased to report, that this massive project is complete and all of our manuals have been integrated into one complete manual that is current with all applicable state and federal best practices. We have also began issuing Daily Training Bulletins issued by Lexipol to all our staff. This will keep all the police department staff up to date with all our policies while maintaining compliance with the state and federal mandates.

This coupled with increased staffing and training for both the patrol and communications divisions, as well as, the community questionnaire--were important goals we accomplished for 2020. In addition, we replaced (3) cruisers with EcoBoost turbo charged versions and changed our cruiser graphics, implemented the Electronic Control Weapons program, purchased new state of the art Body/Cruiser Cameras and began replacing all our pistols and rifles. We completed all of the aforementioned and still came in under budget.

As we move forward into 2021, the police department staff remains committed to providing the Richfield Community with the best police service possible with an increased focus on community policing.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Swanson,
Chief of Police

2020 MISSION STATEMENT

It is the mission of the Richfield Police Department to safeguard the lives and property of the people we serve, to reduce the incidence and fear of crime, and to enhance public safety while working with the community to improve their quality of life.

Our mandate is to do so with honor and integrity, while at all times conducting ourselves with the highest ethical standards to maintain public confidence.

**Richfield Police Department
Summit County, Ohio**

Mayor Wheeler

Citizens



Chief Swanson

Patrolman Scott Dressler

Detective Kellackey

Detective Petrovich

Assistant Chief Fister

Investigation

SRO

Accident Investigation Patrol Jail Animal Control FTO/Range Equipment/Maintenance BAC Dispatch Property/Evidence

Sgt. Polak
Ptl. Gilbert

Sgt. Polak

Sgt. Kostandaras

Sgt. Fyffe

Sgt. Fyffe

Sgt. Kostandaras

Dispatch Supervisor Baker

Sgt. Polak

Ptl. Padula
Ptl. Meister

Patricia Horn

Ptl. Gaydosh
Ptl. Dressler
Ptl. Padula

Ptl. Michel

Senior Operators

Dispatchers

Ptl. Dressler
Ptl. Randolph

First Shift Supervisor

Second Shift Supervisor

Third Shift Supervisor

Det. Petrovich

Sgt. Polak

Patrol Officers

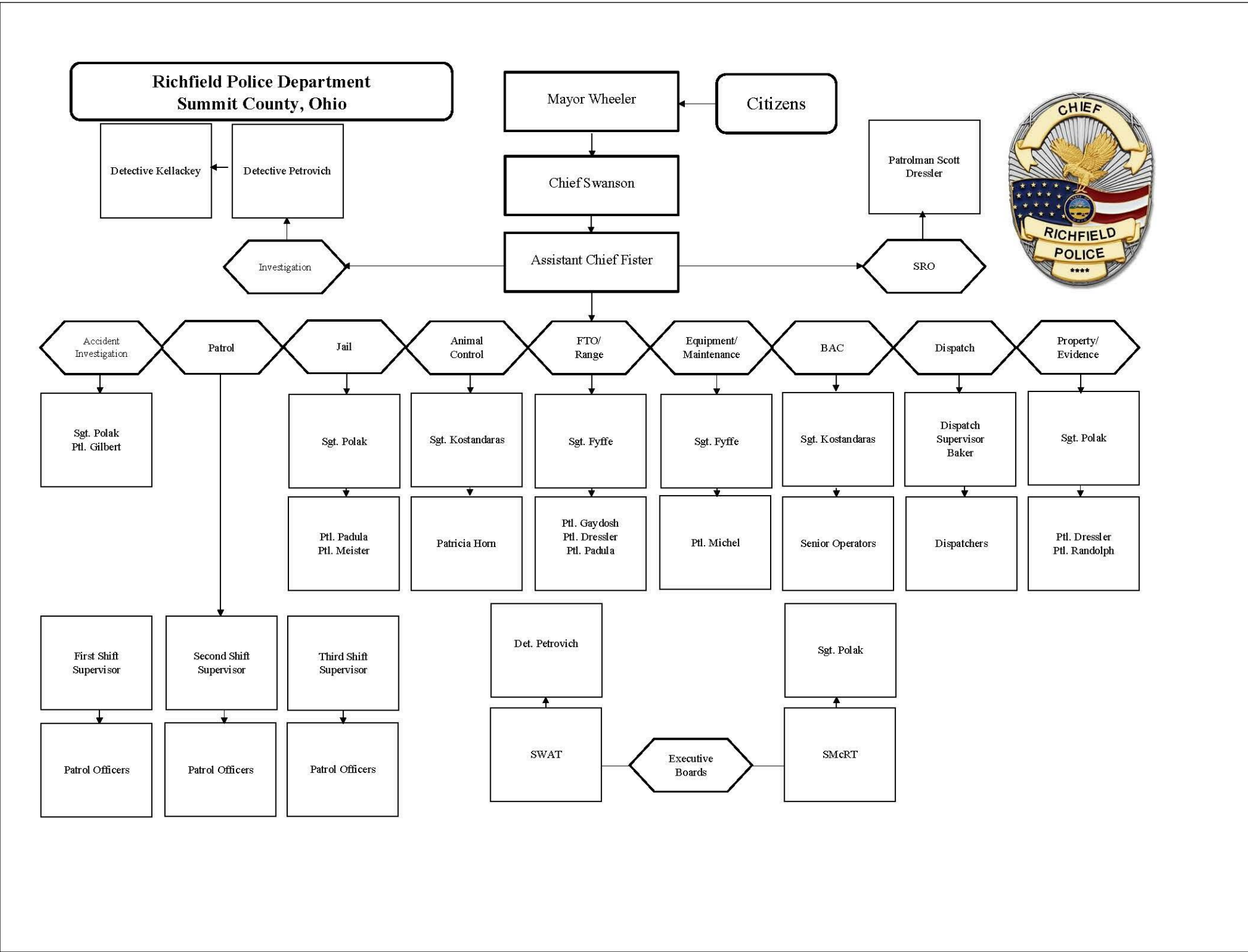
Patrol Officers

Patrol Officers

SWAT

Executive Boards

SMcRT



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 Peffer 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. In 2001, the Richfield Township Police Department was dissolved. Richfield Township contracted with the Richfield Village Police Department for police services and has since that time. In 2002 the Richfield Village Police Department moved into a new facility.

John Walsh was appointed as Tom Fisher's replacement in 1988. Chief Walsh served in the capacity until 2001. Chief Merlin Canter was the third police chief for the Richfield Police Department with his appointment in 2001. Chief Canter served in the capacity until 2012. Chief Keith Morgan was the fourth police chief with his appointment in 2012. Chief Morgan served in the capacity until 2019. Chief Michael Swanson was the fifth and current police chief with his appointment in 2019.

There have been many changes since John Bigelow and Isaac Hopkins took their oaths of office in the early 1800's. However, 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



Mike Swanson
2019-Present



Keith Morgan
2012-2019

Thomas S. Fisher
1926 - 2020
First Police Chief for
Richfield Village 1967 - 1988



Chief Tom Fisher passed away this year on
September 29, 2020 at the age of 94.

Chief Fisher was a graduate of the FBI National Academy and helped many people over his lifetime as a World War II Navy veteran sailing in a minesweeper in the Pacific, he was a Richfield volunteer fireman for 15 years, served on the Richfield Board of Appeals, and was a Summit County Deputy Sheriff from 1961 - 1967. In his honor, we have mounted a memorial plaque in the lobby of the police department.

Personnel Information

The Richfield Police Department is currently staffed with 36 employees as follows:

Chief

Assistant Chief

3-Patrol Sergeants

2-Detectives

1-School Resource Officer

10-Full-Time Officers

4-Part-Time Officers

1-Animal Control Officer

Dispatch Supervisor

7-Full-Time Dispatchers

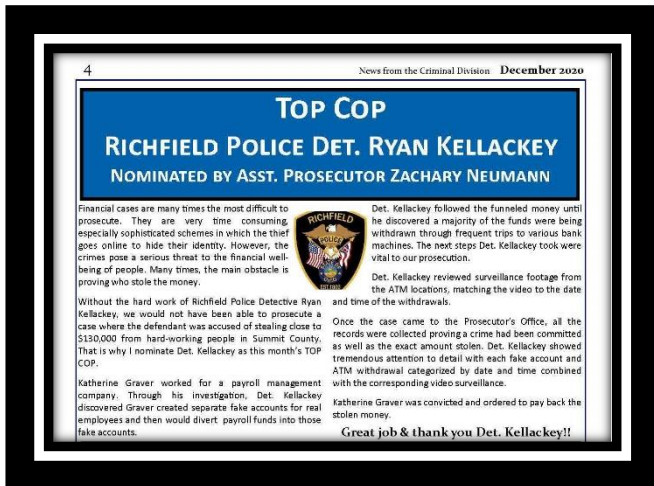
5-Part-Time Dispatchers



In 2020, there has been some significant accomplishments amongst the Richfield Police Officers. School Resource Officer Scott Dressler was nominated and named the School Resource Officer of the year by the Ohio School Resource Officers Association. State Representative Bill Roemer and The State of Ohio House of Representatives also commended



Officer Dressler for this accomplishment. Officer Dressler has been instrumental in running safety drills, organizing Stop the Bleed training, and implementing the installation of vaping detectors to combat this health epidemic facing our youth. Most recently during the pandemic, Officer Dressler helped to organize a food pantry at the Richfield Police Department for local families in need. Revere Local School Superintendent Dr. Matthew Montgomery, stated, “We are beyond proud of Officer Dressler, who is more than deserving of this award for all of the hard work he provides to our district on a daily basis. He knows our students and their families, and he works tirelessly to help provide support whenever and wherever he is needed.”



Detective Ryan Kellackey was nominated by Summit County Asst. Prosecutor Zachary Neuman and named the December 2020 “Top Cop” by Summit County Prosecutor Sherri Bevan Walsh.



This was for Detective Kellackey’s diligent work in a complex embezzlement scheme, which resulted in the successful prosecution

of a suspect for stealing close to \$130,000.00. Detective Kellackey was just appointed to the detective bureau last year and as noted by this accomplishment, he is excelling in his new position.



Officer Rudy Prhne has stepped down this year after serving 7 years and 8 months as a Metro SWAT Tactical Officer. The minimum requirement is 5 years and Officer Prhne is commended for his length of service and commitment to the team, as this is a very demanding assignment that requires a high level of physical fitness, responsibility and responsiveness.



We are very proud of these officer’s accomplishments in 2020. We are equally proud of the rest of the Richfield Police Department staff, past and present, for all their accomplishments. Each and every one of them have worked and continue to work diligently to provide a safe community in the face of constant adversity.

To fill the ranks due to 2019 retirements, Officer Douglas McArtor and Officer Shelby Noffsinger were hired as part-time police officers.

Douglas McArtor is a graduate of Brecksville Broadview Hts. High School and his father is also a police officer. He attended Kent State University, where he earned a Bachelor’s degree in Criminology and Criminal Justice studies. Douglas also recently completed the Kent State Universities Police Academy and is certified as a peace officer in the State of Ohio.





Shelby Noffsinger is a graduate of Akron Early College High School where she averaged a 3.6 GPA. Shelby also attended the University of Akron where she earned a Bachelor's degree in Anthropology with a minor in Pre-Law. Shelby also recently completed the University of Akron's Police Academy and is certified as a peace officer in the State of Ohio. Shelby was also recently commissioned with the Village of Peninsula Police Department, where she is currently working a part-time police officer.

Dispatcher Patricia Horn has stepped down from a full-time position as a dispatcher to assume the duties of our part-time Dog Warden. Patti has been employed as a dispatcher with the village since February 2005. She knows our records management system, our policies and procedures and the staff very well. She resides in the Richfield community, worked closely with former Dog Warden Cindy Clark and has been maintaining the kennel along with her dispatching duties.



Paige Bruder was promoted to full-time dispatcher to fill Patti Horn's position. Paige has been a part-time dispatcher since October 01, 2019. Paige is a graduate of Brunswick High School and earned her Bachelor's Degree in Sociology and Criminology Law Enforcement from the University of Akron. She also took courses in American Sign Language and she has volunteered in the deaf community.

Renee Heiser was hired as a part-time dispatcher. Renee was previously employed as a part-time dispatcher with the village from 2013-2015. She resigned her position to pursue a career as a felony probation officer for Portage and then Stark County Probation. Renee is a graduate of Strongsville High School and earned her Bachelor's Degree in Political Science and Criminal Justice. Renee was also accepted into the National Leadership and Honors Organization, Sigma Alpha Lambda.

We are all excited to move to the next chapter of the Richfield Police Department, with such qualified staff as the aforementioned. We will continue to focus on hiring qualified candidates through stringent hiring protocols, with the ultimate goal being to provide the citizens of Richfield with the best possible police service we can.

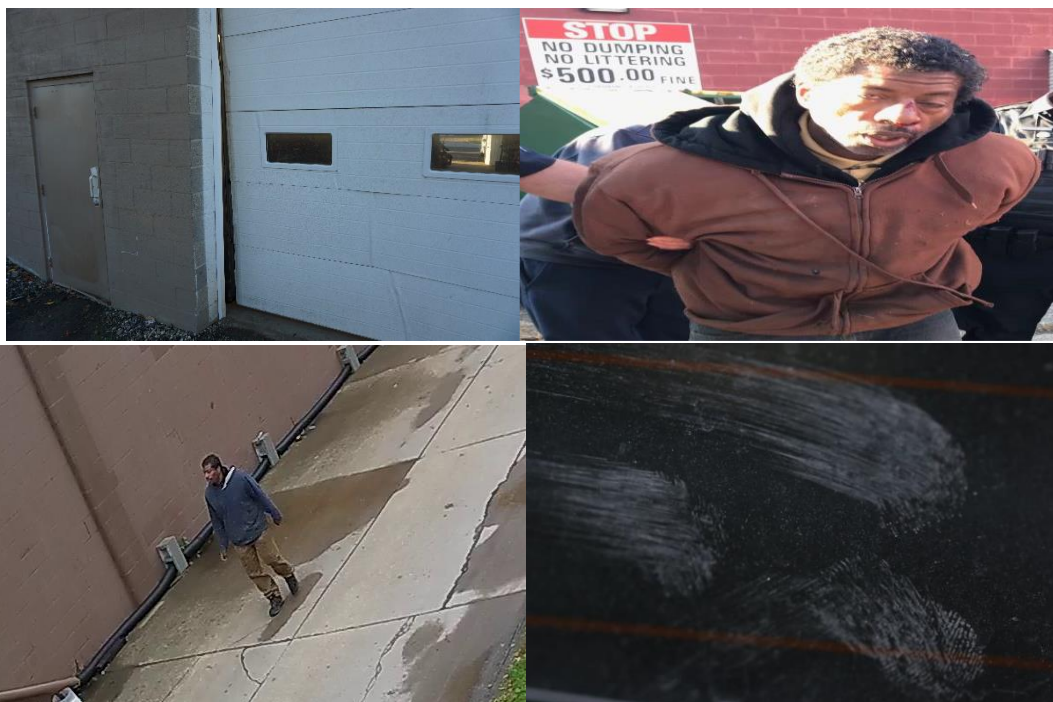
Detective Bureau

The detective bureau is currently staffed by Detective John Petrovich and Detective Ryan Kellackey. Detective Petrovich also serves on the Metro SWAT Team as the Command Staff Administrator. The detective bureau still maintains a close working relationship with School Resource Officer Scott Dressler to address investigations involving juveniles.

In 2020 the detective bureau investigated 135 cases. Among the investigations were 58-thefts/fraud/receiving stolen property, 2-robberies, 7-assaults/domestics, 7-sex crimes, 13-harassment/menacing cases, 6-deaths, 2-missing persons and 6-B&Es, all of which were cleared by identifying the suspects responsible and issuing warrants for their arrest.

Three search warrants were prepared and served in 2020, along with numerous subpoenas and court orders. Additionally, 33-felony arrest warrants and 18-misdemeanor arrest warrants were obtained in 2020.

Below are crime scene photos and security video captured over the course of a month in which Ronald L Williams committed four B&Es, stole two vehicles and commit numerous thefts from vehicles and criminal damaging offenses. Investigation linked all the crimes to the same suspect and numerous felony and misdemeanor warrants were issued. Williams is currently incarcerated in Summit County Jail awaiting sentencing.



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.



These photographs were taken after a piece of heavy machinery valued at over \$45,000 was recovered by Richfield Detectives in Medina. The machine was reported stolen from a local Richfield business. A suspect was identified and charged with felony receiving stolen property as a result of the investigation.

The pictures below were captured on security video from a local business, relating to a robbery that was investigated in which the suspect threatened to shoot the manager of the business after he was confronted for shoplifting. He was charged, convicted and incarcerated at Summit County Jail.



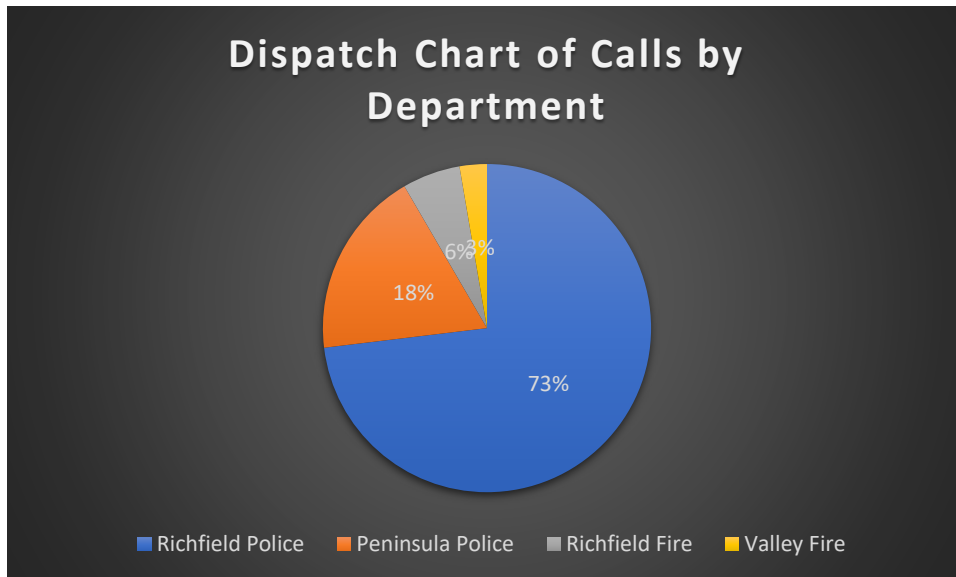
The detective bureau also conducts background investigations for police department applicants and other Richfield employees. This is a very involved process that requires hours of research and investigation into the applicant's background. It includes interviews of the applicant, their past employers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

Communications Division

The communications division of the Richfield Police Department is supervised by Tim Baker. There are six (7) full-time and five (5) part-time dispatcher that, in 2020 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, Boston Twp. and Boston Hts.)	Fire and EMS Services

The dispatch center fielded 20,347 calls for service in 2020.



Richfield Police	14,872
Peninsula Police	3,767
Richfield Fire	1,161
Valley Fire	547

With the start and continuing battle of Covid-19, our dispatchers were trained to increase their questioning on calls for both Police and Fire.

In an effort to keep our dispatchers safe, we have closed our center to no visitors or any other employees of the Village. Our center is a vital operation and cannot afford to have employees off sick for a period of time.

We also assisted the Cuyahoga Valley National Park dispatch center for 2 weeks while they closed down due to Covid-19. Several of their employees contracted the disease and we were asked to dispatch for them.

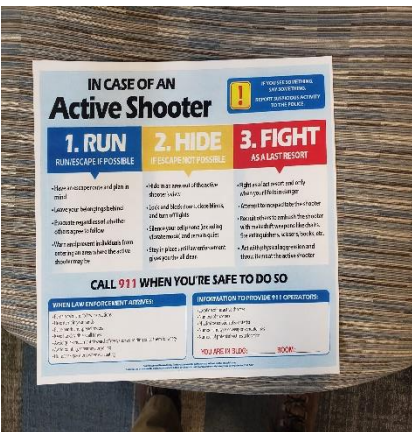
The remaining calls were handled with our service departments and miscellaneous calls handled by dispatchers or walk-ins into the station.

In 2019 we replaced our 911 equipment to a newer version with power mapping. The new system will allow us to transfer calls as well as to pin point a caller on the map with GPS coordinates. The new system is in compliance with all the State of Ohio ESINET (Emergency Services IP Network) standards. In order for Richfield to maintain their PSAP (Public Safety Answering Point) status, we had to comply with the new State of Ohio standards, and upgrading our equipment with up-to-date software and equipment was just one of the many standards we are in compliance with.

Over the past 3-4 years with the support of the Mayor, Police Chief and all of Council, we have been able to update our center to a much more user friendly and up to date equipment for better ease in doing the job when an emergency should arise. Thank you to all involved in making this process happen.

School Resource Officer

Officer Scott Dressler is the Revere School District, School Resource Officer (SRO). 2020, was an unprecedented year with the pandemic, the school shut down in March. I was able to check on students regularly and make sure they were ok mentally and staying active with their school work. I worked with the construction companies on safety and security measures for the new high school that was set to open in September. I noticed that there was a need for families struggling to feed their kids, so I started a food pantry. The food pantry ran for the whole summer and fed 20 to 25 families on a regular basis. I received the SRO of the year award by the Ohio School Resource Officers Association in June. In September the new school opened and the students were able to attend following all CDC guidelines. We were able to use school safety grants for a bullet proof shield and a taser to be used by the schools. The grant was also used to rebrand or lockdown procedures. We changed from ALICE to Run, Hide and Fight. This allowed to train the staff/students in a simplified procedure for lockdowns. We were able to provide 22 needy school families with Thanksgiving meals and gift certificates. We also did help these families at Christmas with gift cards and cookies. All of this was done with help from local churches, community members and businesses. In cooperation with Bath Police and Richfield Police we continue to make life lasting relationships with students and be positive role models for the community.



Animal Control

Dog Warden Patricia Horn

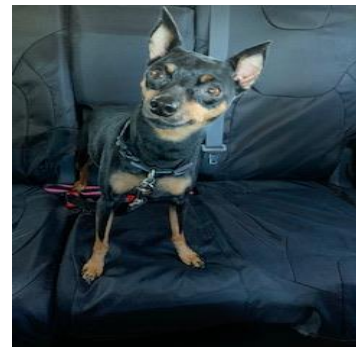


In 2020, I covered the kennel duties until I decided to move from full-time dispatcher to part-time Animal Control.

In 2020, there were 169 calls for service: 94 calls for loose/stray/off leash dogs, 21 barking/noise complaints, 20 miscellaneous calls which could be residential alarms set off by animals, vehicle lock outs with dogs inside, stray chickens and goats. This year due to equipment and staff issues we did not trap wild/nuisance animals, those callers were referred to licensed critter catcher companies. Going forward, we will evaluate the trapping of nuisance animals and what we may be able to offer.

We had 33 animals housed/in kennel this year, with 21 claimed by their owner. All dogs and cats brought to the kennel are photographed and examined for owner identification collar & tags and or microchip, and posted to the Village Facebook account. Eleven animals went to rescue to be put up for adoption after a period of hold time, all animals are evaluated and any issues dealt with or noted for the rescue organization. Sadly 1 dog was turned over to Summit County Animal Control and had to be humanly euthanized due to his aggressive behavior and bite history.

We took in 2 dogs for an extended period due to the status of their owners. In June, a female owner was involved in a domestic assault and spent time hospitalized, once she was released, she claimed her chihuahua. We also had “Cash” a male Miniature Pinscher whose owner was staying in town to receive cancer treatments, unfortunately the owner Stephanie declined and ended up passing away. In speaking with her work supervisor, I found out that Cash was Stephanie’s only family. I also spoke to a social worker at the hospital where Stephanie was transported and found out that Stephanie’s only request was to find out what happened to her beloved Cash. With the help of Assistant Chief Fister and the social worker Patrick we took Cash on a field trip to Marymount for one last visit on August 3rd and Stephanie passed on August 6th. Cash was transferred to rescue and adopted.



Two dogs were abandoned at Pilot travel center, a gentle senior Pitt mix and a purebred beautiful young German Shepherd. The Shepherd appeared to have some sort of hip dysplasia/or injury, he was transferred to a rescue who would get him the specialized medical attention he required. Both were adopted by amazing families



This year I made several improvements in the kennel to make my job easier and the animal guest as comfortable as possible. I truly treat each one as if they were my own.



Training

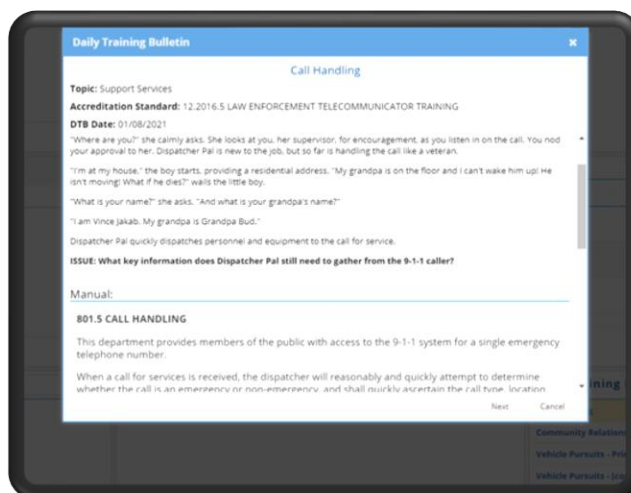
The Richfield Police Department is to administer a training program that will meet Department or nationally recognized standards and provide for the professional growth and continued development of its personnel. By doing so, the Department seeks to ensure its personnel possess the knowledge and skills necessary to provide a professional level of service that meets the needs of the public. The Richfield Police Department policy contains content that pertains to Ohio Collaborative Law Enforcement Agency Certification (OCLEAC) Standards.

The Department seeks to provide ongoing training and encourages all personnel to participate in advanced training and formal education on a continual basis. Training is provided within the confines of funding, requirements of a given assignment, staffing levels and legal mandates. The objectives of the training program are to:

- a. Enhance the level of law enforcement service to the public.
- b. Increase the technical expertise and overall effectiveness of Department personnel.
- c. Provide for continued professional development of Department personnel.
- d. Assist in compliance with statutory requirements.

In 2020, the Richfield Police Department provided approximately 1,080 hours of training, both in-house and outside the agency. In 2021 the Richfield Police Department will strive to go above and beyond the 1,080 hours of training in 2020. To assist in this goal, will be the issuance of Daily Training Bulletins through Lexipol. The Lexipol Daily Training Bulletins (DTBs) are a web-accessed system that provides training on the Richfield Police Department Policy Manual and other important topics. Generally, one training bulletin is available for each day of the month.

The Daily Training Bulletins uses the IRAC method which is a framework for logical method of applying rule of law to facts. The basic structure is: Issue, Rule, Analysis, and Conclusion. This method is taught in our nation's law schools. The first set of Daily Training Bulletins are related to the Ohio Collaborative Law Enforcement Agency Certification Standards. Each training bulletin will have a question related to the policy. These training bulletins are to keep Richfield Officers current on policies, directly linked to Richfield policies, and to be a positive experience.



This year, every sworn officer attended a number of Use of Force Trainings which included de-escalation techniques. The Richfield Police Department introduced Tasers (Electronic Control Weapon). The Electronic Control Weapon is intended to control a violent or potentially violent individual, while minimizing the risk of serious injury. The appropriate use of such a device should result in fewer serious injuries to officers and suspects. Richfield Officers who are authorized to carry the Electronic Control Weapon, shall be permitted to do so only after successfully completing the initial department-approved training by Ptl. Prhne. Along with our initial Taser training Richfield Officers were also trained by, Deputy Chief Craig Morgan, the Akron Police Legal Advisor in the application of force (Taser), active versus passive resistance, and de-escalation techniques.



All officers attended annual training in force options scenario training where decision making and stress response are tested. Richfield Officers attended Engage Virtual Range to routinely utilize de-escalation techniques in their job in law enforcement. If they aren't regularly practiced in an educational environment, these skills may not be deployed in a way that always produces a positive outcome. The Engage Range and our Range Officers created a simulated training environment for Richfield Officers to practice essential and potentially life-saving drills.

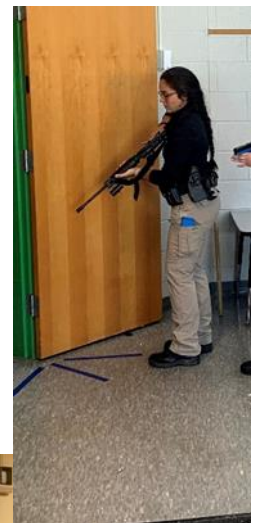
Benefits of the Engage Virtual Range simulator training: judgmental and circumstantial training, lifelike and realistic settings, shoot / don't shoot situations, less-than-lethal scenarios, controlled stress and active response scenarios, and authentic sim guns with realistic recoil.



Also, in 2020 Richfield Officers received training on driving skills through a Cuyahoga Falls Company “Drive Team.” Drive Team has trained police officers and sheriff’s deputies from 120 law enforcement agencies across the State of Ohio, Western Pennsylvania, and other States across the U.S. with training in Emergency Response. Richfield Officers learned Evasive Maneuvering, Braking Techniques, ABS, Threshold Braking, Driver/Vehicle Limits, Advanced Vehicle Dynamics, Safe and Effective Emergency Response Driving.



The Richfield Police department also participated in a High Threat Close Quarter Battle Training conducted by Metro SWAT. The goal of this course is to provide the Richfield Officer with a set of principles to help them safely and effectively deal with combative subjects in a wide array of situations and arenas. At the end of training, the Richfield Officer should be able to apply the principles to a building/room, vehicle (traffic stop) and vehicle (high-risk stop). There will be a heavy focus on the manipulation of the department issued sidearm and rifle in a safe and efficient manner. The officer will be able to employ these tactics in a solo or group environment and in a slow methodical search or a hostage rescue/active killer event. Lastly a number of de-escalation techniques were presented Richfield Officers to utilize.

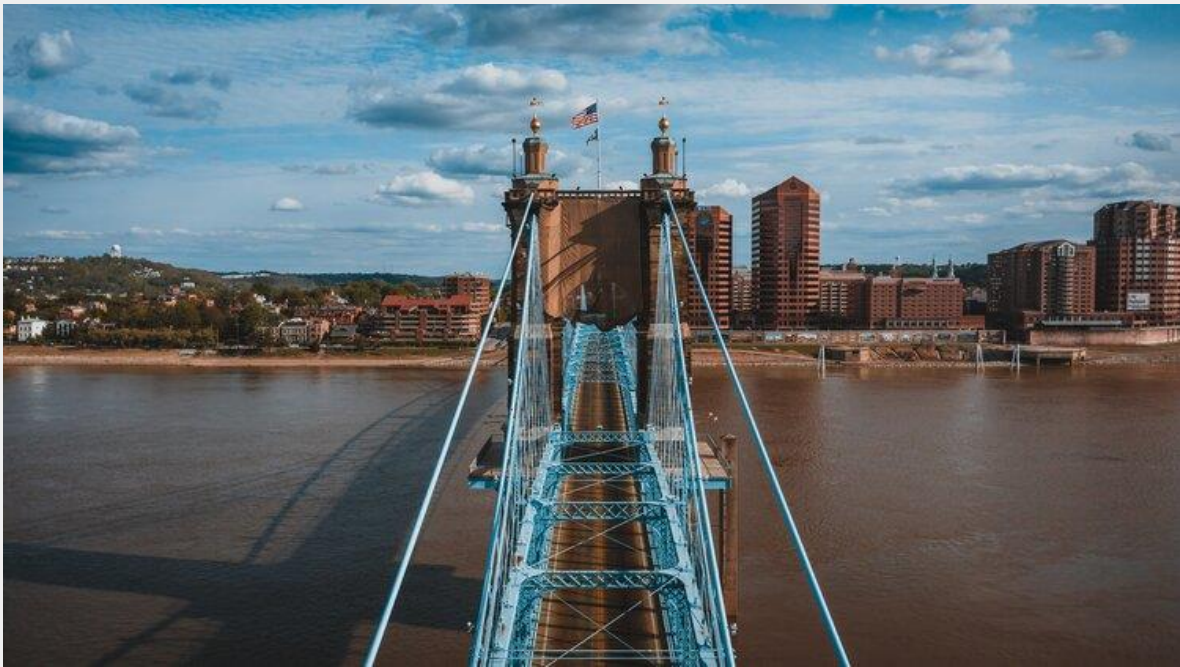


The Richfield Police Department was approached by surrounding agencies in response to today's times of Civil Disorder. A Mutual Aid Agreement was made with surrounding agencies including: Bath, Copley, Tallmadge, Fairlawn, University of Akron, Hudson, Stow, and the Summit County Sherriff. Eleven Richfield Officers were trained in planning police actions to effectively manage civil disorder incidents. Tactics for effectivity dealing with civil disorder, violent protests, officer rescue, and looters. Tactics also trained for were arrests and removing violent persons, rapid mobilizations, and deployment of police resources.



Richfield Officers completed firearms qualifications, less lethal munitions and chemical agents. A quarter of Richfield Officers that work night shift trained at APEX range, which included shooting in no light situations similar to night shift conditions. Richfield sent another officer to ACTIVE SHOOTER LEVEL I ALERRT, hosted by Barberton Police. This dynamic course of instruction is designed to prepare the first responder to isolate, distract, and neutralize an active shooter. This course will cover shooting and moving, threshold evaluation, concepts and principles of team movement, setting up for and room entry techniques, approach and breaching the crisis site, secondary responder tactics, improvised explosive devices, and post engagement priorities of work. The course culminated with dynamic force-on-force scenarios.

The Richfield Police Department sent four officers to Blue to Gold Trainings included topics were: Advance Search and Seizure, Advance Traffic Stops, and Bulletproof Report Writing. The officers came back with a wealth of knowledge and suggested that the Richfield Police Department host a series of classes. On March 15th-18th 2021 the Richfield Police Department will host three classes at the Village Hall.



RICHFIELD, OHIO

HOSTED BY RICHFIELD POLICE DEPARTMENT

Advanced Search & Seizure

This is the premier Blue to Gold Course and the only Nationally Certified search and seizure training by IADLEST. This course is designed for experienced law enforcement officers who already possess knowledge and experience in search and seizure law.

Tuesday, March 16, 2021 | Time: 8:30 - 5:00

Advanced Traffic Stops

This class picks up where Advanced Search & Seizure leaves off. You'll learn about the many search and seizure issues you face when dealing with vehicles.

Master traffic stops with this class.

Wednesday, March 17, 2021 | Time: 8:30 - 5:00

Bulletproof Report Writing

Police Officers need solid fundamentals that will help them write defensible police reports. that will allow prosecutors to charge defendants without asking for follow-up information.

Thursday, March 18, 2021 | Time: 8:30 - 5:00

CERT: ADVANCED TRAINING CERT

MARCH 2021

16-18

**ATTEND ALL THREE
DAYS FOR \$379,
OR \$159 PER DAY**

**ASK ABOUT OUR
GROUP RATES
CALL 888-579-7796
OR EMAIL**

training@bluetogold.com

REGISTER NOW

**Richfield Police Department
4450 W Streetsboro Rd
Richfield, OH 44286**

In addition to the approximate 1,080 hours of training attended, several Richfield Officers received certification which allows them to conduct in-house training for the following areas: Electronic Control Weapons, PepperBall systems and Standard Field Sobriety Testing. Officers received advanced training in these areas which allows them to quickly and efficiently pass along the knowledge and certification to the rest of the Department without adding additional cost. We look forward to more of our officers becoming certified instructors in other areas in the coming years.

Property Room

The proficiency of the property room often makes the difference in a successful outcome of a criminal case. 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.

Many pieces of evidence are submitted to the crime lab each year for analysis and this process is managed through 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.

The day-to-day operations of the property room are managed among three officers on their respective shifts while also performing their other assigned duties. Sergeant Dave Polak, SRO Scott Dressler and Officer Bart Randolph ensure that these duties are performed.

Examples of evidence/property that was collected this year.



Large amounts of marijuana, Carfentanil and handguns are just a few items that were taken from the streets and logged into our property room here at the Richfield Police Department. This year alone, 362 items were entered into our property room.

Summit Metro Crash Response Team



The Summit Metro Crash Response Team (SMcRT) is Summit County's first multi-jurisdictional crash response team. Investigators are assembled from 15 police agencies throughout Summit County and include officers from Bath, Boston Heights, Copley, Cuyahoga Falls, Fairlawn, Hudson, Norton, Macedonia, Peninsula, Richfield, Summit County Metro Parks, Silver Lake, Stow, Tallmadge, Twinsburg, Streetsboro PD, and the Summit County Sheriff's. SMcRT also works closely with the Summit County Engineer's Office, the Summit County Medical Examiner, and our municipal and county prosecutor's offices.

The Unit is divided into three response teams that rotate on-call each week. One or more members of each team are Level III Crash Reconstructionists or Level II Technical Crash Investigators who have training in Vehicle Dynamics, Crush Deformation, Low Speed Impact, Commercial Vehicles, Motorcycles, Occupant Kinematics, Lamp and Tire Analysis, Evidence Collection and Court Room Testimony. Other team members are Basic Crash Investigators who assist the Reconstructionists in data collection and evidence preservation.

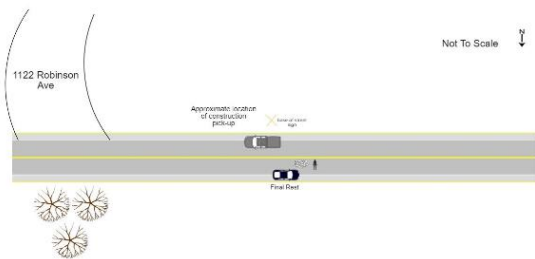
The Unit is investigative only and does not initiate any enforcement action. Investigators support and advise the requesting agency as to the causes and factors involved in the crash and can provide an agency with a professional and scientific analysis and reconstruction of a serious crash. Participation in the Unit serves to multiply our resources in a crash emergency, both in terms of manpower as well as equipment which is shared among the participating agencies. This assures a quick and professional response in an emergency as well as an expert investigation.

Sergeant Polak is an active member of the SMcRT and has been a team member since 2014. Sergeant Polak is a traffic crash reconstructionist. The Richfield Police Department will be

adding a second member to the crash team in 2021. Chief Swanson put out a memo to officers who are interested in joining. The officers will submit a letter of interest and their experience with crash investigations. Being a traffic crash investigator is strenuous and time consuming. Its an excellent skill to possess and the additional officer will be an asset to the Richfield Police Department.

The Summit Metro Crash Response team holds training once per month with the exceptions of June, July and August. Due to the unfortunate circumstances of COVID-19, in-person training was cancelled. The Pennsylvania State Police Reconstruction Seminar was also cancelled in-person. They did have online webinar training which was free to officers. Sgt. Polak attended the webinars. Sgt. Polak responded to multiple serious injury/fatal crashes in 2020. Sgt. Polak was part of the investigative team that responded to Hudson, where a 7-year-old unfortunately lost his life.

During 2020, Richfield did not have any fatal accidents. There were a few accidents with reported injuries on scene. Richfield Police Officers have made traffic enforcement a high priority. Due to the increase in traffic enforcement, we believe that this could contribute to the less serious traffic accidents and fatal traffic accidents. Also, the speed signs located around town is believed to give us an accurate representation of problem areas within Richfield that could use more traffic control. Richfield Officers are working hard to ensure the safety of all citizens who live or commute in our area. The Richfield Police Department also implemented the use of Easy Street Draw, a program designed to assist officers in field drawings to put on traffic accident reports.



Firearms/Range



The Richfield range and firearms program consists of two firearms instructors (Ptl. Gaydosh, and Ptl. Padula). The program and range are overseen by Sgt. Fyffe with Ptl. Gaydosh being the lead instructor for the program. We will be adding an additional range officer in 2021.

Officers must qualify at least one time a year with their pistol, rifle, shotgun and with any secondary backup weapons. The Richfield Police Department used approximately 7,000 pistol rounds, 5,000 rifle rounds and 250 shotgun rounds, during qualifications and practice throughout the year. The pistol qualifications are currently being completed at the Richfield pistol range while all other qualifications are performed off site.

The patrol cars are equipped with a patrol rifle and a shotgun given officers the ability to respond to any type of call. Officers are trained in combat marksmanship which is a multiday training which consists of approximately 500 rounds of ammunition each. The course incorporates movement drills, skill development drills and several other “real life” training drills. The Police Department currently uses the Smith & Wesson M&P pistol in 45 ACP or 9mm.

This year we also incorporated a virtual range training. Engage Virtual Range is located in Medina and is a state-of-the-art virtual range. The training uses scenario-based technology which simulates live fire exercises. The training is designed to help grow skills, accuracy, and confidence in various realistic scenarios.

The Police Department has ordered new Smith & Wesson M&P pistols to replace our aging current pistols. The new pistols should be in sometime in early 2021. Mayor Wheeler and other administrative employees were given an opportunity to shoot with the department range instructors this year. The training was a good opportunity for the Mayor and other administrative employees to see and use the equipment we carry on a daily basis.

Due to COVID 19, firearms training has been limited to basic training with all Officers completing the OPTOA mandated qualifications.

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, and front fenders, American Flag design, and a reflective strip on the back. In 2020, Chief Swanson allowed Officers to design new graphics for the new Patrol Cars which will be replacing the old graphics as we replace the fleet.

New Patrol Car Graphics



The Richfield Police Department added three new Police Rated Ford Explorer Eco Boost SUV'S to marked patrol division. The new Ford Explorer's are much quicker than the old Ford Explorer's, which enable Officers to catch speed violations in a much shorter distance and time. Michigan State Police has done a study on all patrol vehicles you can go to this link for further information:

https://www.michigan.gov/documents/msp/TestResultsCombinedMY2020_666841_7.pdf

Scott Dressler the Revere School Resource Officer (SRO) has been issued a Ford Explorer to be used for SRO duties. The Cruiser Inventory of vehicles presently consists of 13 vehicles. Within the Cruiser Inventory are Ten Marked Road Patrol Units, and Three Unmarked Units.

The marked road patrol cruisers are equipped including: communication equipment, emergency lighting, crash equipment, weapon retention equipment, mobile data terminals, automated external defibrillator (AED) which also contain two doses of Narcan, and in-car video cameras. The in-car video system is now paired with body-worn cameras that officers wear throughout their shift. The marked road patrol cruisers 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. Lastly, located in the trunk of each marked patrol cruiser are: flak jackets, helmets, low profile police uniforms, and chemical suits in addition are gas masks for our first responder police officers.



Police Interceptor, Police Rated Explorer and Chevrolet Police Tahoe

Car #01	2016 Ford Police Explorer (SRO)	97684 Miles
Car #02	2019 Ford Police Explorer	12136 Miles
Car #03	2018 Ford Police Explorer	67495 Miles
Car #04	2019 Ford Police Explorer	8436 Miles
Car #05	2019 Ford Police Explorer	8046 Miles
Car #06	2018 Ford Police Interceptor	85820 Miles
Car #07	2018 Ford Police Interceptor	66757 Miles
Car #08	2018 Ford Police Interceptor	80807 Miles
Car #09	2019 Chevrolet Police Tahoe	50423 Miles
Car #10	2019 Chevrolet Police Tahoe	35883 Miles

Total miles driven on patrol in 2020 is approximately 223,056 miles which is up 7,000 miles from 2019. This is almost 612 miles of patrol per day in a 24-hour time period.

In addition to the Richfield Police Cruiser Inventory are two vehicles assigned to the Detective Bureau, and one vehicle assigned to Chief of Police. These vehicles are not marked, but they are equipped with police radios, and weapon retention equipment. These vehicles carry all necessary equipment for detectives' assist them at crime scenes, and to transport all evidence back to police department. The vehicle assigned to 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. Fyffe, Ptl. Michel, 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 officers.



SAFETY TOWN

The 43rd Annual Richfield Safety Town program was set for June 22nd-June 26th, 2020 at Richfield Elementary. The program had 12 students and 26 volunteers signed up when the progression of the COVID-19 pandemic forced the program to be cancelled in April 2020. School Resource Officer, Scott Dressler and Program Coordinator, Rachel Alaimo, along with the support of village administration decided to plan on offering the program to the children who missed out in the summer of 2021.



Metro SWAT

Metro SWAT Police Officers from Summit and Portage Counties make up the Critical Response Rescue Team known as Metro SWAT. The team has 20 member jurisdictions with officers assigned to the team. The Board of Directors is made up of the 20 Police Chiefs of member agencies. Of the 20 Chiefs, three are chosen to serve on the executive board. Richfield Police Department is an active member of the regional unit.



The Richfield Police Department contributes two members to the team. Detective John Petrovich is the Administrator and Officer Rudy Prhne recently resigned from the team. Richfield PD is currently in the selection process to choose a tactical officer to join the team replacing Officer Prhne. Richfield Fire Lt. Mike Lester is the lead tactical medic on the team.

In 2020, Metro SWAT responded to 13 call for service, ranging from arrests warrants, high risk search warrants, and missing persons. The team is activated when a crisis situation devolps. The team is trained to handle problems that a regular police unit is neither equipped nor trained to handle such as active shooters, snipers, hostage incidents, barricaded suspects, violent felons, high risk warrants, large scale search areas and VIP dignitary protection.

The Metro SWAT team currently has 45 members including command staff, doctors, medics and negotiators. These members are on call 24/7 365 days of the year.



The Metro SWAT team has also been utilized for civil unrest situations as a mobile field force as well as searching for missing persons. Some of the SWAT team's equipment and Richfield Police SWAT members will be in our area for the Police Departments Open House and Community Days.

B.A.C. Datamaster

(Blood Alcohol Content)

Sergeant Nick Kostandaras is responsible for the Breathalyzer Equipment; Patrolman Michael Testa 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 consumption. 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. Testa assisting. The instrument checks are done to ensure 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 ten Senior Operators and five 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 31 times by four different Law Enforcement Agencies, from January 1, 2020 to December 31, 2020 for OVI’s and alcohol related calls for service.

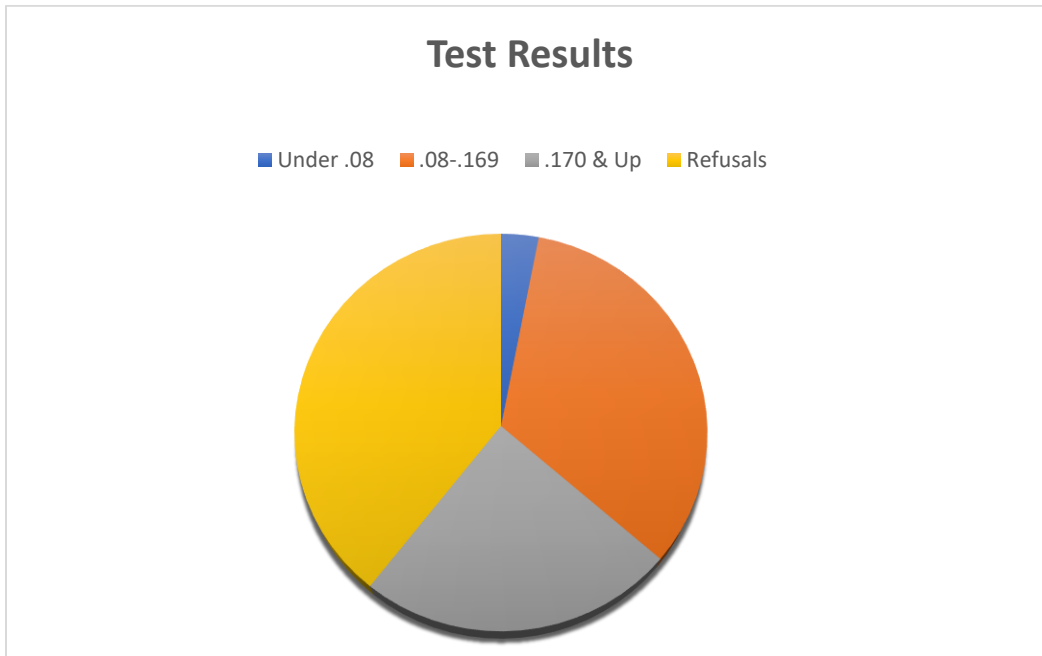
The Following is a breakdown of the B.A.C Datamaster for 2020.

<u>Agencies</u>	<u>Arrests</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
Richfield Police	15	13	2
Peninsula Police	7	7	0
Ohio Highway Patrol	7	4	3
National Park Service	2	2	0
Totals	31	26	5

<u>Break Down by Test Results</u>	
Under .08	1
.08-.169	10
.170 and up	9
Refusals	11
Faulty Machine	0
Highest Test Given	0.358

<u>Breakdown by Shift</u>	
Day Shift	4
Afternoon Shift	12
Midnight Shift	15
Total	31

<u>Breakdown by Month</u>			
January	4	July	3
February	3	August	2
March	4	September	2
April	3	October	2
May	2	November	4
June	1	December	1



The B.A.C Datamaster was also used by several Police agencies in Summit County for proficiency testing of officers. Statistics nationwide reveal that impaired drivers cause a fatal accident once every fifteen minutes. The number listed in this report do not tell how many lives may have been saved by removing 31 OVI suspects from the roads. Fortunately, we will never know because they were taken off our roads before a fatality occurred.

Richfield Jail



The Richfield Jail Staff are expected to follow and maintain the standards set forth by the state of Ohio. 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 held under.

The Richfield Jail staff along with Richfield Road Patrol sustain their duties in a manner that will preserve the high standards of professionalism expected by the community of Richfield. The Richfield Jail has policies and procedures to direct staff members in the performance of their job, tasks, and duties while inmates reside in the jail. These policies and procedures along with an onsite inspection are reviewed annually by the State of Ohio. The inspection consists of assessing compliance of the Richfield Jail with a group of standards, selected from the Standards for Jails in Ohio formulated by the Department of Rehabilitation and Correction. The Richfield Jail is in compliance with 100% of the Essential Standards and at least 90% of the Important Standards meeting the requirements of a “Compliant Jail”, for 2020.



View Looking into Dayroom A and Cell #1

View looking out from Cell #2 into Dayroom A



Control Panel for Jail in Jail Control



The Richfield Jail is staffed by all members of the Patrol Division. The Jail Staff consists of Administrator Sgt. Dave Polak, Jail Assistant Administrator Ptl. Tony Padula, and Jail Assistant Ptl. Joel Meister 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 continue 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 2020 the Richfield Jail 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.

In 2020, the Richfield Jail had a total of 58 prisoners, the offenses ranged from: Warrants, Alcohol Involved Arrests, Violent Crimes, Theft and Fraud, Drug Involved Crimes, Fleeing, Domestic Violence, Stolen Vehicle, Felony Warrants. Felony Warrants are initially processed through Richfield Jail and then transferred to Summit County Jail to await trial. The Richfield Jail held prisoners for an approximate total of 214 hours for the following offenses.

COVID-19 Pandemic

Due to the unfortunate circumstances of COVID-19, there were many restrictions on all jails in Ohio. The Richfield Police Department followed the direction of the State of Ohio recommendations. Akron Municipal Court had strict policies put in place of seeing offenders in person and closed down for a short period of time for COVID-19. Summit County Jail also had strict policies put in place of who could be housed within their jail. Offenders, both with misdemeanor charges and certain felony charges, were given a summons with a court date. Upon entrance into the Richfield Jail, a COVID-19 screening form was completed. If the offender had any symptoms, they were asked if they needed medical attention and were immediately released from custody with a summons. The jail would then be thoroughly decontaminated upon release of the prisoner.

In the Summit County Jail, they received their first positive case of COVID-19 in December of 2020. The Summit County Jail made extradentary measures to handle the COVID-19 pandemic and limit exposure. Remote court appearances were used whenever possible and inmate face-to-face contact was limited. The Richfield Jail took a similar approach and limited contact with inmates as much as possible. PPE was always used and inmates were often placed in masks as well. We were able to use ZOOM for both officers and offenders who had court dates. The Richfield Police Department had 3 staff members test positive for COVID-19 and were off for the recommended amount of time. Members did not return to work unless they were symptom free. Below is a copy of the COVID-19 jail screen that was used when booking in offenders.

COVID-19 Ohio Jail Screening Assessment

Patient Name		
Patient Identifier		
Symptom Screen		
Current Temperature		
Is temperature greater than 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit	YES	NO
Is the person positive for any of the following symptoms:	YES	NO
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fever or chills • Cough • Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing • Fatigue • Muscle or body aches • Headache • New loss of taste or smell • Sore throat • Congestion or runny nose • Nausea or vomiting • Diarrhea 		
Contact History		
Have you had contact with, or prolonged exposure to a known COVID-19 positive person within the past 14 days?	YES	NO

FOR GENERAL SCREENING IN JAILS:

- If person is positive on the symptom screen, place a mask on the patient immediately, place in a single cell, and notify a healthcare provider to evaluate for next steps.
- If person has screened positive for contact history, place a mask on the patient, place in a single cell and notify a healthcare provider to determine next steps. Proper measures (contact tracing/review with local health department) shall take place prior to any transfers.

SCREENING IMMEDIATELY PRIOR TO OHIO DRC OR JAIL TRANSFER:

- This screening tool must be completed immediately prior to the transfer of any inmate to any jail or the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction
- **IF THERE ARE ANY "YES" INDICATORS ON EITHER SYMPTOM OR CONTACT SCREENING STOP! DO NOT TRANSPORT THIS PERSON TO THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF REHABILITATION & CORRECTION**
- Follow the instructions above in general screening section for any positive/yes responses.

Richfield Jail Activity 2020

Richfield Jail Activity 2020										
DATE	LOS	MEALS	OFFENSE	DEGREE	FLAG	SEX	RACE	AGE	BOND/TIME SERVE	TRANSFER
1/14/2020	1 hrs	0	Inv. Manslaughter	F1	N/A	Male	Hispanic	26	T.O.T	Summit County
1/17/2020	3 hrs	0	Obstrcuting	M2	N/A	Female	white	31	T.O.T	Akron Muni
1/22/2020	1 hrs	0	Agg Robery	F1	N/A	Male	Hispanic	20	T.O.T	Summit County
1/6/2020	1 hrs	0	theft	M1	N/A	Male	white	28	P.R. Bond	
1/22/2020	1 hrs	0	Agg Robery	F1	N/A	Male	Hispanic	17	T.O.T	S.C.J
1/23/2020	4 hrs	0	FTA	M1	N/A	Male	Black	33	Bond	
2/2/2020	1 hrs	0	DUS	M1	N/A	Male	Black	63	Furlough	
2/17/2020	1 hrs	0	OVI	M1	N/A	Female	white	62	P.R. Bond	
2/19/2020	12 hrs	2	Domestic	M1	N/A	Male	white	80	T.O.T	Akron Muni
2/26/2020	5 hrs	0	OVI	M1	N/A	Female	white	46	Bond	
3/11/2020	3 hrs	0	Larceny	F5	N/A	Male	Black	31	T.O.T	Akron Muni
3/16/2020	1 hrs	0	Drug Abuse	F5	N/A	Female	Black	30	Bond	
3/16/2020	1 hrs	0	Drug Abuse	F5	N/A	Male	Black	33	Bond	
3/21/2020	1 hrs	0	OVI	M1	N/A	Male	white	57	bond	
4/6/2020	2 hrs	0	OVI	M1	N/A	Male	Black	30	Bond	
4/24/2020	1 Hrs	0	OVI	M1	N/A	Female	white	54	Bond	
4/15/2020	1.5 hr	0	OVI	M1	N/A	Male	white	47	Bond	
5/10/2020	2 hrs	0	Domestic	M1	N/A	Female	white	20	Bond	
5/27/2020	1 hrs	0	Disorderly	M4	N/A	Male	white	47	Pink Slip	
5/28/2020	8 hrs	1	OVI	M1	N/A	Male	White	37	P.R. Bond	
6/6/2020	2 hrs	0	Disorderly	M4	N/A	Female	white	49	P.R. Bond	
6/25/2020	1 hrs	0	Pandering	F5	N/A	Male	white	19	T.O.T	Summit County
6/27/2020	1 hrs	0	OVI	M1	N/A	Male	Hispanic	34	P.R. Bond	
7/2/2020	1 hrs	0	Grand Theft	F4	N/A	Female	white	32	P.R. Bond	
7/3/2020	1 hrs	0	Improper Firearm	F4	N/A	Male	Black	42	P.R. Bond	Akron Muni
7/9/2020	1 hrs	0	OVI	M1	N/A	Female	Black	19	P.R. Bond	
7/8/2020	1 hrs	0	OVI	M1	N/A	Male	white	23	P.R. Bond	
7/13/2020	2 hrs	0	Drug Abuse	F5	N/A	Male	white	45	T.O.T	Akron Muni
7/23/2020	7 hrs	1	Contempt	M1	N/A	Male	Black	20	T.O.T	Akron Muni
7/30/2020	5 hrs	1	FTA	M1	N/A	Male	white	36	T.O.T	Akron Muni
7/26/2020	1 hrs	0	Drug	M4	N/A	Male	white	37	T.O.T	Barberton
7/22/2020	1 hrs	0	FTA	M4	N/A	Male	Black	30	P.R. Bond	
8/22/2020	13 hrs	2	OVI	M1	N/A	Male	white	55	P.R. Bond	
8/17/2020	1 hrs	0	Weapon Dis	F3	N/A	Male	Black	30	T.O.T	Summit County
8/22/2020	1 hrs	0	Stolen property	F5	N/A	Male	white	41	T.O.T	Brecksville

