

# Tracy Police

## DEPARTMENT



**2022**  
**ANNUAL REPORT**

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# Message from the Chief



Welcome to the Tracy Police Department's 2022 Annual Report. As I reflect on the past year, and all of our achievements, I can't help but notice how we continue to make advancements that allow us to serve our community to our full ability. It's time to look ahead, challenge ourselves, continue to advance in community-police relationships, and elevate our noble profession. We're in a new time, a new era of policing that requires new, forward-thinking, and adaptability. Our caring and dedicated staff has again prepared this robust report to provide our community with easy access to information about our Department. This report includes statistics, organizational operations, accomplishments, goals, and information about our programs and community outreach. The Tracy Police Department has established the values of an organization steeped in Service, Integrity, and Excellence for over one hundred years.

This report lays out the framework for our continued vision of addressing quality-of-life issues through innovative programs that will serve as a model for other agencies, deepening our engagement with community stakeholders, and continuously seeking advancements in technology that can lead to a reduction in crime.

The Tracy Police Department has a long history of judicious, lawful, and minimal uses of force, supported by firm policy, training, supervision, progressive thinking, community engagement, and community expectations.

We are proud to be an organization that is continuously seeking to improve, grow, and enhance our commitment to protect and preserve life under an umbrella of accountability. The men and women of the Tracy Police Department continue to demonstrate their adaptability and innovation by using new technologies to provide outstanding service on a day-to-day basis. I'm incredibly proud of the dedicated work our Officers and Professional Staff have accomplished this year.

As your Chief of Police, I'm committed to leading the men and women of the Tracy Police Department to provide respectful, responsible, and conscientious public safety services. I've shared with every member of the Tracy Police Department my values that would be our North Star to guide us forward, the foundation of which is that the sanctity of life is the most precious of all our duties. By being committed to Fairness, Integrity, Respect, Service, and Teamwork, we can continue to create an environment where every citizen, business, and visitor to the City of Tracy can live, work, and play free from crime or fear of crime. We have a great deal of work to do, and I am relentlessly committed to working with our community to strengthen our trustworthiness and legitimacy with all we serve. I look forward with high hopes and humility to all of the fantastic accomplishments that will take place this coming year.

*Sekou Millington*

**SEKOU MILLINGTON**

*Chief of police*

# Organizational Values



## SERVICE

Always seek long-term resolutions to problems.  
Provide honest, open, and timely (HOT) feedback.  
Support organizational goals and strive to achieve them.  
Stand against gossip and rumors.  
Provide prompt responses to requests and communicators.  
Promote proactive attitudes.

## INTEGRITY

Honesty in thought and actions. Address behaviors, not reputations. Practice organizational loyalty over personal loyalties. Place organizational priorities over personal agendas.

## EXCELLENCE

Challenge the status quo by promoting new creative and innovative ideas. Always be proud of your profession and Department.  
Ascribe to being a lifelong learner. Always perform at Department's highest level or organizational standards.  
Lead by example. Always go the extra step to meet the community's needs.

## VISION STATEMENT

The Tracy Police Department works to preserve the safety and high quality of life in Tracy through value-based policing.

## MISSION STATEMENT

The Tracy Police Department aims to keep Tracy a safe place in which to live, work, and invest.

# F.I.R.S.T. Commitment



## FAIRNESS

We promote accountability and transparency. Fair and equal treatment of the public is essential for maintaining community trust and support.

## INTEGRITY

We embrace honesty and professionalism. It is equally important to hold ourselves accountable at all times. Integrity is doing the right thing even when no one is watching.

## RESPECT

Ethical and honest behavior: We treat the community and each other with dignity. We must be ethical and honest to gain and maintain the public's trust and it is imperative for the success of our organization.

## SERVICE

Modeling leadership and clear direction: We serve the community with courage and honor. This is accomplished by modeling leadership and providing clear direction which is vital to maintaining the confidence and trust of employees and the community we serve.

## TEAMWORK

We place a high value on teamwork and feel that it has a positive impact on the quality of work, public image, as well as health, and wellness. Collectively this promotes transparency and improves internal morale.

# Tracy Police Executive Staff



Sekou Millington  
**CHIEF OF POLICE**



Trevin Freitas  
Lieutenant  
**PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS  
& TRAINING DIVISION**



Beth Lyons-McCarthy  
Manager  
**BUREAU OF  
SUPPORT SERVICES**

- Fiscal Management
- Animal Services
- Communications
- Records



Luis Mejia  
Captain  
**BUREAU OF  
FIELD OPERATIONS**

- Patrol Division
- Special Enforcement Team
- Community Services Division
- SWAT
- Traffic Safety Unit
- Drone Cadre



Alex Neicu  
Captain  
**BUREAU OF  
INVESTIGATIONS**

- General Investigations
- Special Investigations
- Hi-Tech Crimes
- Crime Scene Unit

# Honorable City Council and City Manager



**MAYOR**

Nancy Young



**MAYOR PRO TEM**

Veronica Vargas



**COUNCIL MEMBER**

Dan Arriola



**COUNCIL MEMBER**

Mateo Bedolla



**CITY MANAGER**

Michael Rogers



**COUNCIL MEMBER**

Elassia Davis

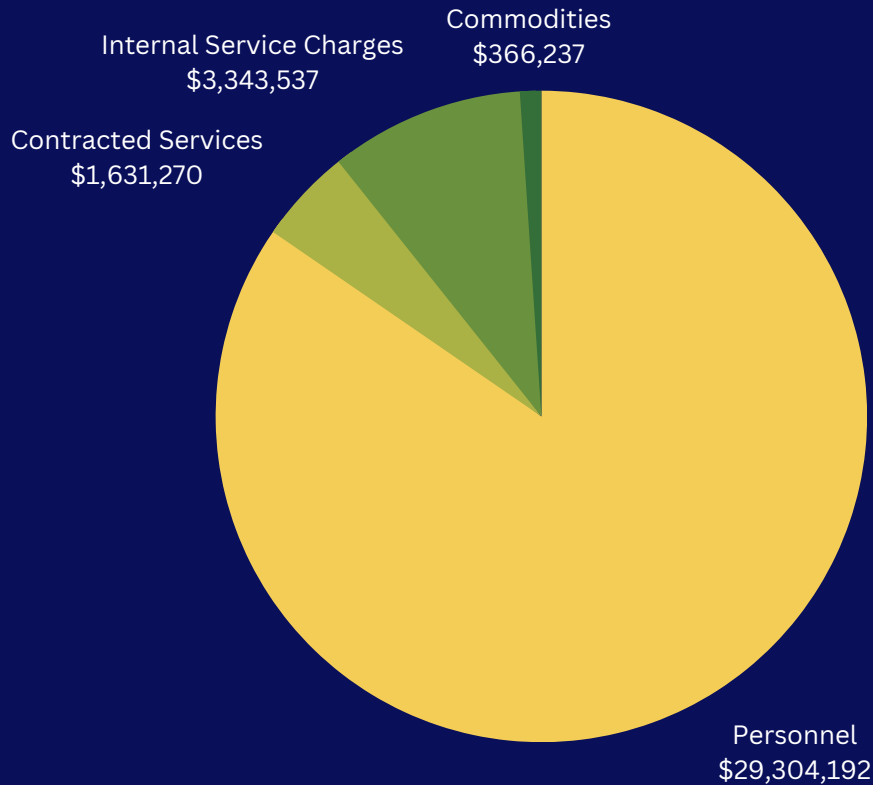


Learn Inside the Triangle™

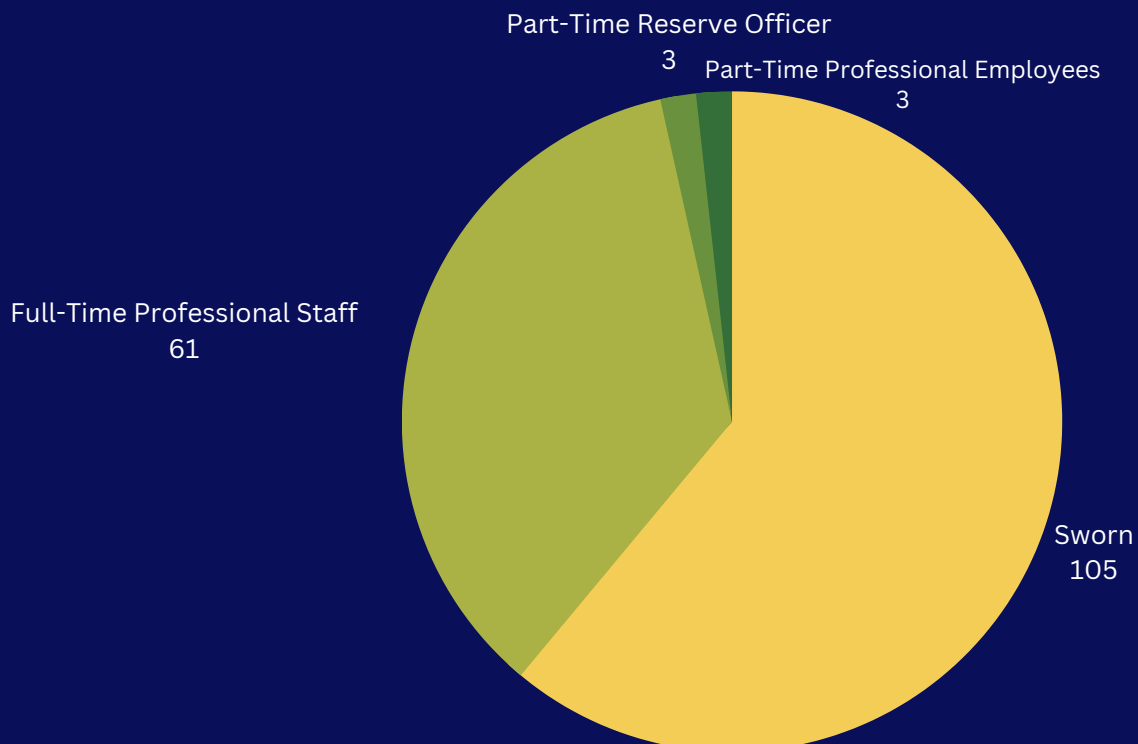
# Department Personnel

The Tracy Police Department budget (\$34,645,236) was allocated to 105 full-time sworn officers, 61 full-time professional staff, 3 part-time reserve officers, and 3 part-time professional employees. The following chart shows the distribution and cost of personnel.

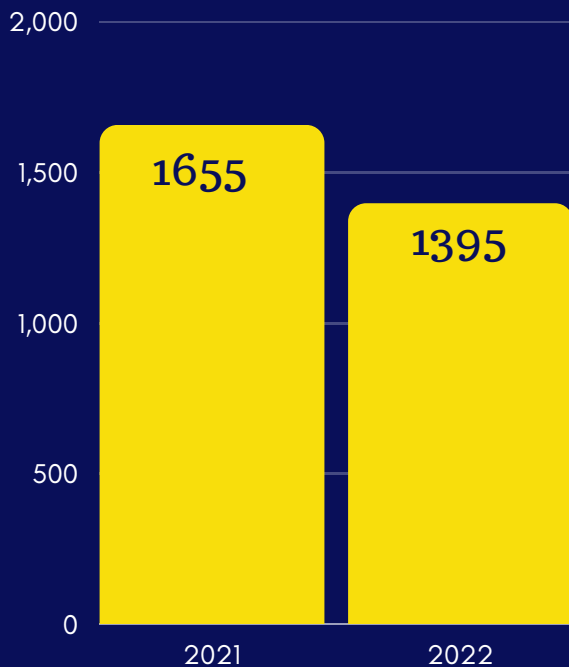
## BUDGET ALLOCATION



## PERSONNEL ALLOCATION



# NATIONAL INCIDENT-BASED REPORTING SYSTEM



## PROPERTY CRIMES

BURGLARY, LARCENY, AUTO THEFT  
AND ARSON.

## NATIONAL INCIDENT- BASED REPORTING SYSTEM

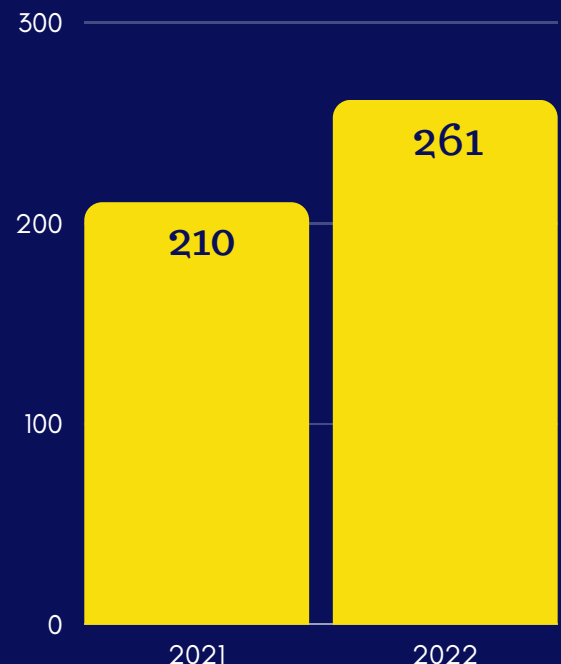
Tracy Police Department reports its monthly crime statistics to the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) through the National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS). Part 1 crimes are the most serious crimes and are divided into two categories:

**Violent Crimes:** homicide, rape, robbery, and aggravated assault.

**Property Crimes:** burglary, larceny, auto theft, and arson.

## VIOLENT CRIMES

HOMICIDE, RAPE, ROBBERY AND  
AGGRAVATED ASSAULT.



# OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF POLICE

The Office of the Chief of Police is led by the Chief of Staff and is staffed by the Department's Executive Assistant, a Police Support Services Technician, and the Police Community Relations Coordinator.

The team is responsible for the overall management of policy directives and operations. Additionally, the team is responsible for sharing information internally and with our community partners.



**Sergeant Mario Ysit**  
Chief of Staff



**Melissa Chamberlain**  
Executive Assistant



**Grace Segura**  
Police Support Services Technician



**Kaylin Heefner**  
Police Community Relations Coordinator

# Professional Standards & Training Division

The Professional Standards & Training Division is staffed by a full-time lieutenant and sergeant that oversee the development and maintenance of department policies, training, and administrative investigations. Additionally, they are responsible for audits, compliance processes, and coordinating outside entities that inspect the Tracy Police Department such as Public Health, California Peace Officers' Standards and Training (POST), and the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation to help ensure the organization achieves the highest professional standards.

The division oversees all department training, which includes the Field Training Program, firearms instruction, defensive tactics, de-escalation, and professional development. This training includes ensuring compliance with POST and legislative mandates such as CPR, emergency vehicle operations, perishable skills, etc.



**Trevin Freitas**  
**Lieutenant**

“ Although often unnoticed, the work we do helps put the officers doing the work day to day and the community they serve in the best possible position to be safe and successful. ”

# Personnel Investigations

**Total: 4**

Personnel investigations are conducted by the Professional Standards & Training Division and submitted to the Chief of Police for review.

The Chief of Police believes both uses of force incidents and personnel investigations are of the utmost importance to critically review to ensure compliance with policy and law. This process helps the Tracy Police Department improve, and ensure accountability to the Community who places their trust in the Tracy Police Department.

Category	Exonerated	Not Sustained	Sustained	Unfounded	Admin. Closure	Pending	Total
Administrative Complaints	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Citizen Complaints	0	0	0	3	0	1	4

# Use of Force

**Total: 25**

The following shows a statistical review of the use of force by members of the Tracy Police Department and personnel complaints from the community or generated internally.

Each use of force incident is reviewed to ensure compliance with policy, law, training, and best practices. The review process is completed by a member of the department's command staff and each one is reviewed by the Chief of Police.

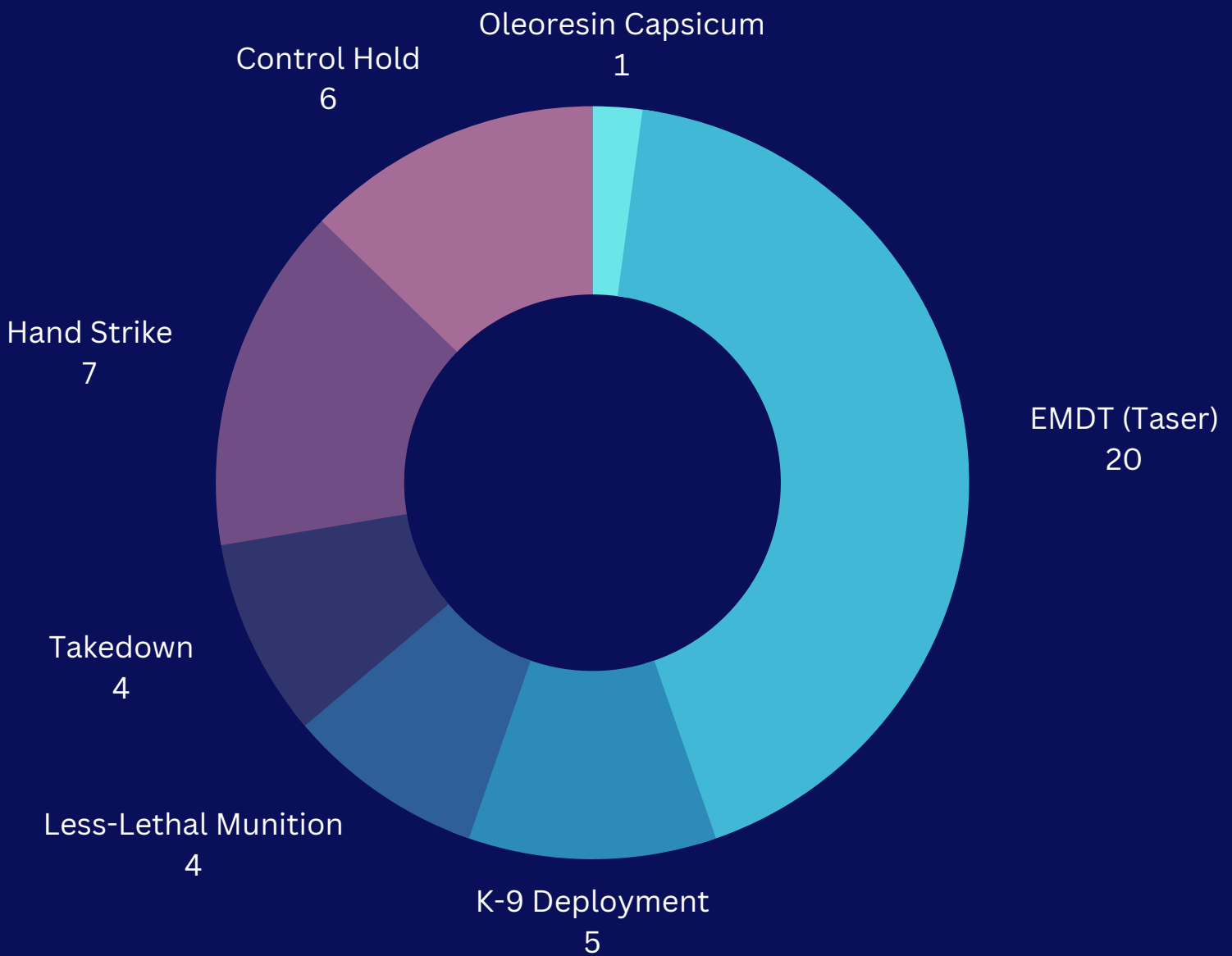
Suspect Characteristics		Reason for Contact		Race/Ethnicity	
Suspect Age	Incidents	Reason	Incidents	Race/Ethnicity	Incidents
0-20	4	Calls for Service	18	African-American	6
21-30	5	Self-Initiated Activity	7	Hispanic	17
31-40	8			White	2
41+	8			Other	0

# Types of Force Used

Total uses of force: 25\*

Total applications of force: 47

Force was used 25 times by Tracy Police in 2022 to arrest or detain a community member. In some incidents of force, more than one force option was applied to gain compliance.



# BUREAU OF FIELD OPERATIONS

The Bureau of Field Operations (BFO) is led by a captain and five lieutenants who share the leadership responsibilities for completing our operational mission with nine sergeants. The Bureau of Field Operations has the most contact with our community, of the 105 sworn members in the Tracy Police Department, 77 are in this bureau, and most are uniform patrol officers.

The Bureau of Field Operations includes many specialized units that address a wide variety of policing problems, such as the Special Enforcement Team (SET), Traffic Unit, and Community Preservation Unit.

The backbone of the Bureau of Field Operations is the uniformed police officer who is responsible for providing the round-the-clock “first responder” capability of the Police Department. The officers of the Bureau of Field Operations respond to all types of calls, from parking complaints to homicides.

When not answering calls for service, officers are responsible for enhancing the quality of life through self-initiated activity in enforcing our laws or preventing crime through their interaction with the public.



Luis Mejia  
Captain

“

We cannot become what we need by remaining what we are.

– John C Maxwell

”

# Patrol Operations



The Patrol Division is considered the backbone of the police department and is staffed by uniformed personnel, organized into six patrol teams and one Special Enforcement Team. Each team is supervised by a sergeant, providing 24/7 service to the community, and is managed by one Captain and four Lieutenants.

In addition to sworn police officers, the Patrol Division also has civilian Community Service Officers who are trained to respond to calls for service that do not require suspect contact. The primary role of the patrol officer is to respond to calls for service with officers responding to 69,113 calls in 2022.

The Patrol Division continues to incorporate technology in their daily activities through the use of unmanned aerial vehicles (drones) that are assigned to each shift, and the Axon Fleet 3 Automatic License Plate Readers that each patrol car is equipped with. Additionally, the Flock Safety Automatic License Plate Reader (ALPR) cameras that were installed have resulted in 204 calls for service.



## CALLS FOR SERVICE RESPONSE TIMES

**PRIORITY 1- 9:09**

**PRIORITY 2- 18:02**

**PRIORITY 3- 26:29**

# Special Enforcement Team

The Special Enforcement (SET) Team consists of one sergeant, one corporal, and four officers. The SET team works closely with both the Patrol Division and the investigations units. SET's primary mission is street-level enforcement, including gang enforcement, narcotics enforcement, and fugitive apprehension. The SET team is frequently utilized to reduce criminal activity by focusing on trending crimes, and operating in an overt or covert capacity. The SET team has the flexibility to adjust their work schedules as necessary to accomplish a mission, as well as attend community events and career fairs at the high schools.

Due to an increase in individuals recklessly riding dirt bikes throughout Tracy, SET, our partners from both the San Joaquin County Sheriff's Department and the California Highway Patrol, Operation Whiskey Throttle was conducted to curb the enthusiasm of the reckless motorcycle riders in town. During the operation, 6 dirt bikes were impounded for 30 days. Due to the increased transparency on social media posting about the seizures, complaints about reckless dirt bike riders around Tracy decreased.

Additionally, at the end of 2022, after the Patrol Unit responded to a reported mail theft at an apartment complex, SET officers authored and served a search warrant at a residence in Stockton with the assistance of GIU, locating dozens of victims of mail and identity theft, 30 grams of methamphetamine, and a loaded un-serialized P80 Glock style pistol was also located during the search.

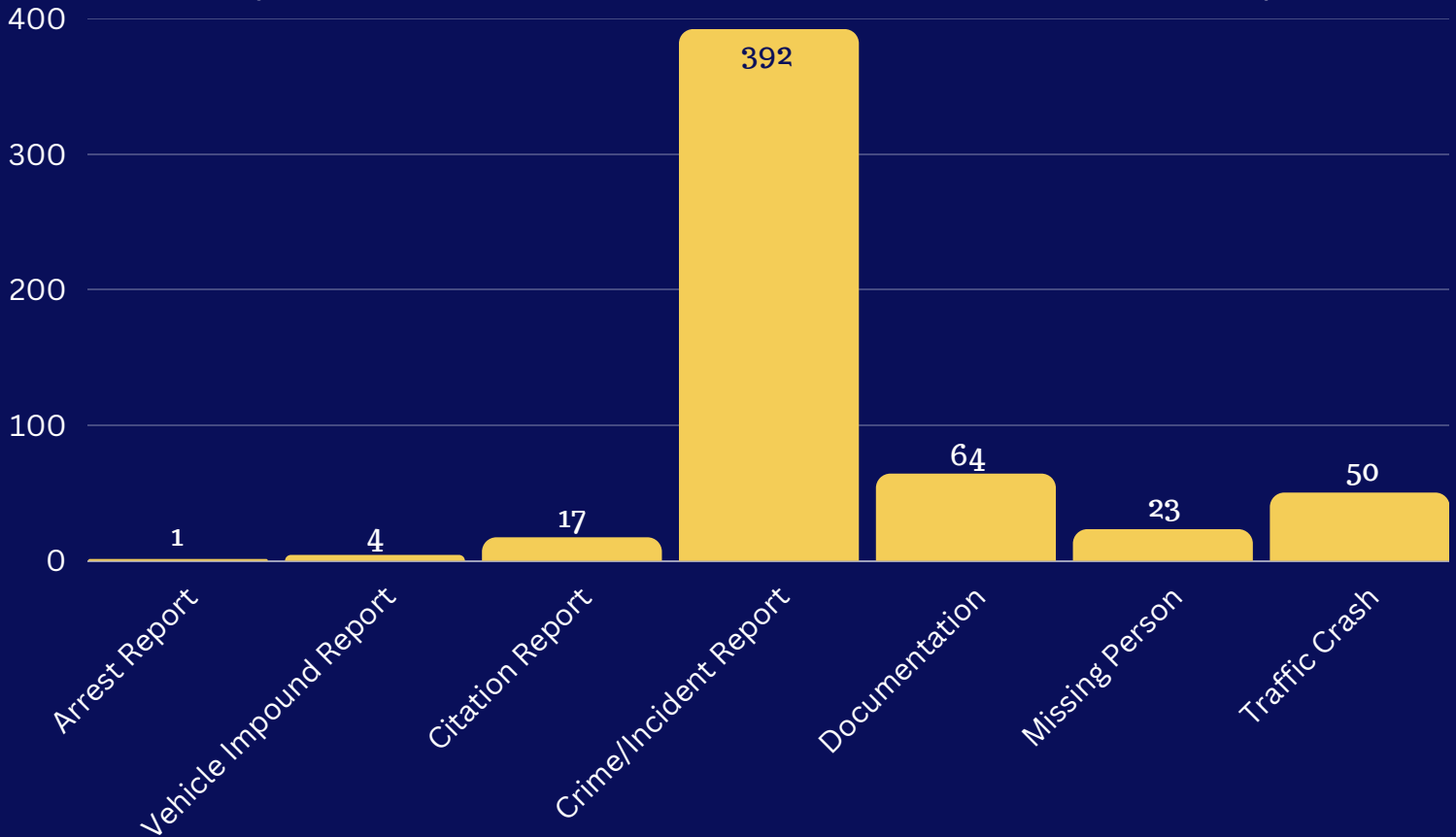
SET briefly conducted a special operation at El Pescadero Park, due to growing concern from community members about potential violence at the Park. During the operation, SET issued 9 citations, towed 9 vehicles, completed 19 Field Interviews, and 20 arrests.



# Community Service Officers

Community Service Officers perform a variety of field and administrative activities in support of police services and programs for the City's Police Department; provide comprehensive professional staff support to Police Department supervisory and management personnel on a wide variety of law enforcement programs, projects, and services; responds to public requests; and performs related duties, as assigned.

In 2022, Community Service Officers handled 1,047 Calls for Service and wrote 551 Reports.



Cathy Taylor



Wazhma Palmer



Bryan Desousa

# Community Service Division



The Community Services Division is responsible for the coordination of the Police Departments' community outreach efforts. This division not only enforces laws for the safety of our community, but also deals with quality-of-life issues by working with the Tracy Unified School District, faith-based organizations, and other local services.

The units assigned to the Community Service Division are:

- Traffic Safety Unit
- Neighborhood Resource Officer
- Familiar Faces Homeless Outreach Team
- School Resource Officer
- Crime Prevention Specialist
- Code Enforcement
- D.A.R.E.
- Volunteers in Police Service
- Police Activities League
- Mental Health Evaluation Team

Community is  
the Foundation  
to Success.

– Kristen Jones

# Traffic Safety Unit

The Traffic Safety Unit is tasked with investigating all major injury collisions and collisions involving fatalities. Our unit's primary goal is to reduce collisions within the City of Tracy, through daily vehicle code enforcement, high police vehicle visibility, and citizen tips through our Go Tracy app and social media posts. We aim to also educate the public on the California vehicle code and vehicle safety operations. There are five traffic safety officers and one sergeant, who make up this six-person unit.

Some of our unit's continuous goals and safety operations involve pedestrian-safe crosswalks, child restraint/safety belt events, commercial truck route enforcement, Saturation Traffic Enforcement Program, which involves other agencies of San Joaquin working together to enforce unsafe vehicle code violations together in Tracy and other neighboring cities, operation school bus, and distracted driver enforcement. During the November S.T.E.P. operations, officers made 246 enforcement stops for violations such as speeding, and the use of a cell phone. Additionally, 7 drivers were cited for driving without a license and 3 were cited for driving with a suspended license.

During 2022, the Tracy PD Traffic Safety Unit responded to and investigated 188 injury collisions, with eleven (11) resulting in fatalities.

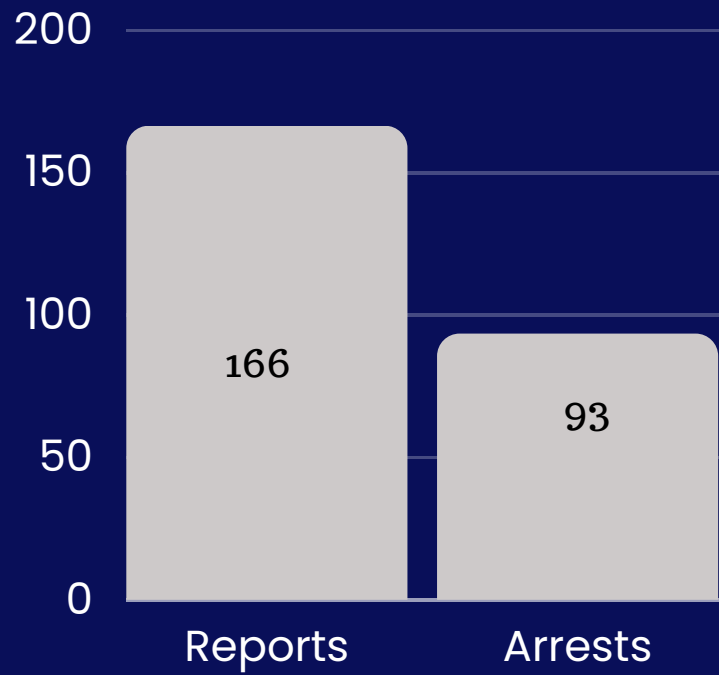
The goals for 2023 include continuous daily vehicle code enforcement, public education of the vehicle code's rules of the road through citizen contacts, social media, and our city's websites, and more unit safety vehicle code enforcement operations. The Traffic Safety Unit will continue to work diligently to provide the citizens and motorists of Tracy, every opportunity to be aware and reminded of speed limits, stop signs, crosswalks, and school zones, to reduce and eliminate collisions of any kind. Additionally, the Tracy Safety Unit will continue to use the Office of Traffic Safety grants, which will allow us to purchase more safety equipment, attend specialized training, and fund patrol units to conduct DUI enforcement through various months of the year.



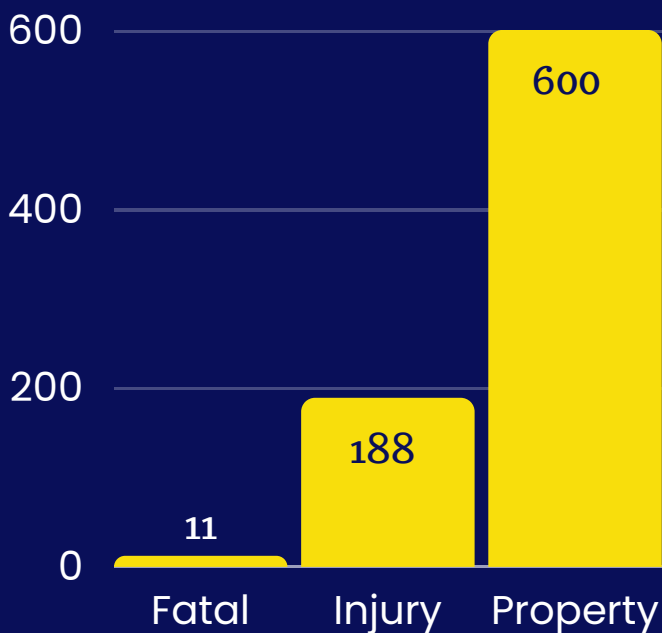
# Traffic Safety Unit- Data



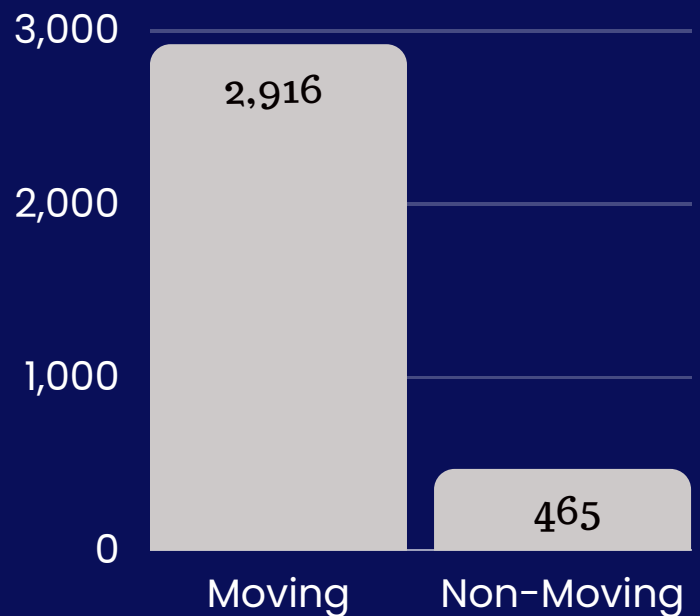
## DUI REPORTS



## COLLISIONS



## CITATIONS



# Neighborhood Resource Officers

The Neighborhood Resource Officer (NRO) positions exemplify community-oriented policing in its truest and purest form. The NRO is a law enforcement officer that acts as a liaison between the Tracy Police Department, the community, non-profits, and a variety of city and other government agencies.

NROs work with citizens, civic groups, schools, and property owners, in organizing and evaluating effective crime prevention programs and problem-solving. The NROs are responsible for issues and concerns in a neighborhood or business district, that are ongoing or simply demand more attention, investigative work, or time than can be reasonably allotted during the course of a routine patrol call.

The NROs have proactive interactions with the citizens of Tracy in a wide variety of public relations efforts such as Neighborhood Watch Programs, homeless outreach, residential safety, personal/business crime prevention, crime information bulletins/alerts, bank and business security presentations, recruitment for Citizens Academy and internet safety programs.

Throughout 2022, Neighborhood Resource Officers have continued to be a vital part in assisting with Operation Helping Hands, by conducting outreach efforts twice a month to offer services to the unsheltered population of Tracy. The NRO team grew to a team of three (3) officers to allow for an officer to be integrated into the Familiar Faces Homes Outreach Program, funded in partnership with the San Joaquin County of Behavioral Health through a \$213,000 grant to be used for equipment, training, and a consultant, allowing the program to serve as a model for other local agencies. Finally, due to the NRO team's growth, they were able to add an additional day each month for the Mental Health Evaluation Team (MET) to allow for the resource to be available twice a month, where it had only been able to be operational once a month in 2021.



# Familiar Faces



The Tracy Police Department's response to calls for service will now include our Familiar Faces Homeless Outreach Team. The Familiar Faces program will serve as an initial call, triage level, and follow-up response team. Through their work of identifying, engaging, and assisting unsheltered individuals in the community, they will be able to build relationships and work with them to develop solutions that may include transporting them and their belongings to existing homeless services or health care providers. While working closely with Tracy Police Department Officer, they will serve as a vital resource for connecting individuals to Homeless Services and will work alongside the City of Tracy's Homeless Services Manager, Homeless Advisory Committee, San Joaquin County Continuum of Care, South San Joaquin County Fire Authority, Tracy Community Connections Center, and City Net.



# School Resource Officers



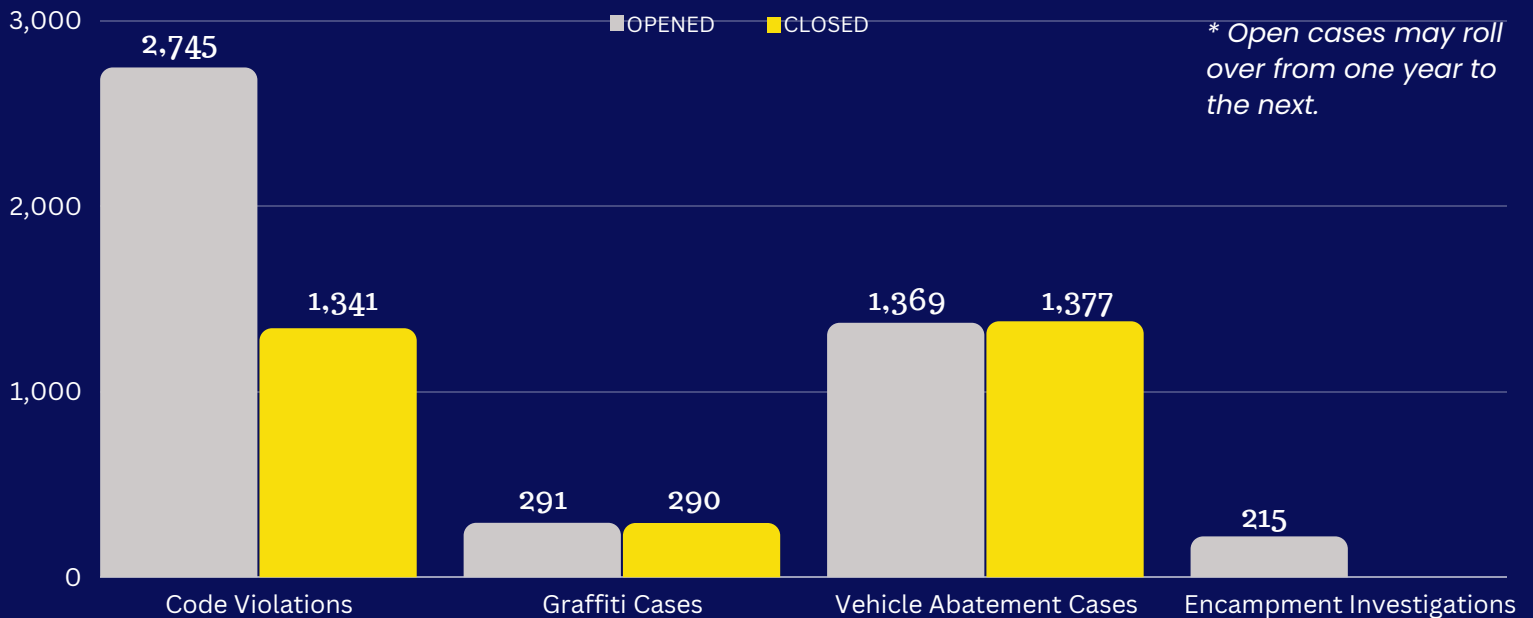
The Tracy Police Department continues its partnership with the Tracy Unified School District (TUSD) to provide three School Resource Officers (SRO) to ensure a safe learning environment for TUSD students and staff. Each SRO is a sworn, full-time officer and each is assigned to one of the three major high schools: Tracy High, West High, and Kimball High. The SROs also have responsibility for servicing the remaining elementary and middle school sites within TUSD.

In 2022, community engagement and creating connections with students and staff was focal point of the SRO program. Our SRO team has spearheaded numerous school and youth-related programs including the PAL Boxing program, 3 on-3 Basketball, career days at the high schools, crosswalk patrol, distributing a monthly bulletin for High teachers addressing trends amongst teens, and starting Team Diabetes on Campus (TDOC).



# Code Enforcement

The Code Enforcement Unit consists of four Code Enforcement Officers, one Code Case Analyst, one Administrative Assistant, two part-time traffic interns, and one Code Enforcement Manager. The Unit provides reactive, regulatory enforcement services for a broad range of adopted local, state, and federal laws. These codes include but are not limited to, the Tracy Municipal Code, 2019 California Building, Plumbing, Electrical, Mechanical, Residential, and Energy Codes, California Vehicle Code, California Health and Safety Code, and the Code for the Abatement of Dangerous Buildings. Through education and responsive enforcement, Code Enforcement aims to work with private property stakeholders, residents, and the business community, to educate, preserve and promote safe and healthy communities through enforcement of these adopted standards.



## Noteworthy Cases:

Cleared two large homeless encampments; one on property adjacent to Home Depot on W. Grant Line Road and the second on MacArthur Drive immediately north of the I-205 freeway.

Revocation of a Conditional Use Permit – Leia’s Nightclub – Consideration a revocation of the Conditional Use Permit for Leia’s Nightclub was considered by the Planning Commission on May 11, 2022. The Commission’s decision to uphold the staff’s recommendation to revoke the permit was appealed by the applicant and considered by City Council during its meeting on June 21, 2022. City Council upheld the Planning Commission’s recommendation to revoke the use permit due to its detrimental effects on the community resulting from increased calls for service, unreported criminal activities, and with violations of the conditions of approval imposed at the time of the Conditional Use Permit approval.

Former Long John Silver Building – After many years of being vacant, the property was sold, and the new property owner demolished the structure to make way for a gas station/convenience store concept. The Planning Commission approved the project in early 2021 and building permits were issued on March 8, 2022. The gas station/convenience store is currently under construction.

The Great Plate – Following lengthy litigation on this case relating to structural deficiencies of the structure, the San Joaquin County Superior Court executed a final stipulated judgment in the City of Tracy v. BBS Adventures case. The judgment provided BBS 90 days from the filing of the judgment to complete all repairs identified in Council Resolution No. 2018-098. As a result of non-compliance with the deadline date established by the courts, the City applied for and was issued a Demolition Permit on July 22, 2022, and the demolition was completed in November 2022.



# Code Enforcement

In late June 2022, Tracy Police Department Officers investigated an attempted murder of a male victim at El Pescadero Park, where the suspect fled the scene. The General Investigations Unit Detectives identified the suspect and requested the Special Investigations Unit (SIU) assist in apprehending the individual. Detectives from SIU had previously received tips of illegal activity taking place at Motel 6 and were actively conducting investigations at this location. Through this investigation, Detectives learned the suspect was living at Motel 6 with his mother, who was the motel manager.

Following the execution of the search warrant, at which time the Code Enforcement team was requested to respond to address numerous building code violations. During Code Enforcement's inspection, it was discovered that two of the motel rooms were converted to living quarters. The un-permitted work included doorways cut out between rooms serving as access points to adjacent rooms, compromised load-bearing walls, installation of kitchens, required fire clearances from ignition sources, electrical hazards, compromised fire-rated construction, missing/faulty smoke detectors, missing toilets, missing vent screens, an unmaintained swimming pool, trash, debris, and dead vegetation. Code Enforcement coordinated inspections of all 133 motel guest rooms and all maintenance rooms, for fire and building code violations as well as violations of the initial development conditions imposed as part of the development approval process. Development condition violations include unmarked handicapped parking spaces, unmet landscaping requirements, lack of enclosed garbage dumpster locations, and other similar types of requirements.

A series of compliance inspections have taken place since August 2, 2022, to track the progress of correcting the deficiencies noted. As of November 22, 2022, the few remaining violations include the repair of the pool equipment, required landscaping (trees), and inspection of two remaining guest rooms (currently under eviction proceedings). The City provided a deadline date of December 22, 2022, to finalize the remaining corrections. A follow-up inspection will take place the first week in January of 2023 at which time we expect the remaining violations will be abated. Motel 6 Corporate and on-site management have been cooperative and accommodating to staff's requests to inspect. They are making a concentrated effort to remedy the nuisances and violations at their motel and to provide a higher level of services and amenities to their guests. They have expressed appreciation to City staff for its guidance in addressing the nuisances, violations, and illegal activities experienced at the motel.

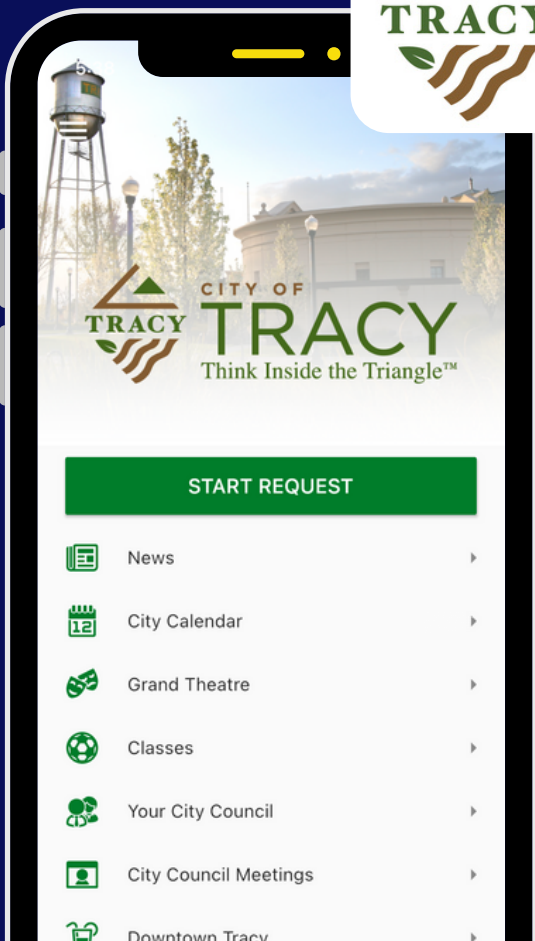


## Go Tracy! App

Community members are continued to be encouraged to report code enforcement violations using the Go Tracy App.

Through the app, the community is able to report graffiti, abandoned shopping carts, downed trees, abandoned vehicles, & much more!

DOWNLOAD THE APP!



# Crime Prevention Specialist



Our Crime Prevention Specialist focuses on proactive crime prevention. The Crime Prevention Specialist also develops and implements a variety of crime prevention programs, presentations, and materials for businesses and the community, and performs services such as Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design inspections and community outreach events. Increasing opportunities for our officers and professional staff to engage with the public. The Crime Prevention Specialist also serves as the primary liaison for more than 40 block captains that are a part of Neighborhood Watch. Additionally, the Crime Prevention Specialist also helps manage our volunteer program (VIPS) and large-scale events for the Police Department, including the Community Academy and National Night Out.

In 2022, our partnerships with community organizations and members were strengthened and enthusiastically renewed this year as the community was eager to continue to come out to events. This year the department hosted or attended a total of 180 community events including National Night Out, Stuff the Cruiser (school supply donation drive), Coffee with a Cop, Etch and Catch, Badges for Books, and Fries with the Good Guys.



# Volunteers in Police Services



Volunteers in Police Service (VIPS) is a citizen volunteer organization within the Police Department. VIPS members have volunteered thousands of hours each year as part of the department's Community Oriented Policing philosophy.

The Volunteers in Police Services are led by our Crime Prevention Specialist with their assistance to the Police Department and City far-reaching. They routinely participate in programs that include: patrol duties, special events, tours of police facilities, traffic control, citizens academy, community partnerships, home, and business security checks, Neighborhood Watch, shredding events, and community relations events.

In 2022, the volunteers logged approximately 3,541 hours. While our VIPS program lost two long-time members, Rich and Lee Cava, they are going into 2023 with a hopeful outlook to continue engaging and supporting the growing in-person community events and police functions they've traditionally supported, as their membership continues to grow.

**"HEART AND  
SOUL OF OUR  
DEPARTMENT"**

# BUREAU OF INVESTIGATIONS

The Bureau of Investigations (BOI) is led by a Police Captain and a Police Lieutenant who share the leadership responsibilities for a variety of specialized units with unique responsibilities dedicated to serving community needs.

Units assigned to the BOI are:

- General Investigations Unit
- Special Investigations Unit
- Crime Scene Investigations
- Hi-Tech
- Evidence and Property
- Crime Analyst

Each of these units is focused on supporting community-oriented policing and problem-solving initiatives undertaken by the police department. All units are tasked with meeting specific goals and duties with the highest level of professionalism and ethical commitment to the community members of Tracy.



Alex Neicu  
Captain

“

Seeking justice through fact finding investigations with resiliency in pursuit of the truth.

– Anonymous

”

# General Investigations Unit

The General Investigations Unit (GIU) is responsible for investigating cases that are more time-consuming and consist of more in-depth investigations for the department. In 2022 there were eight detectives, one crime analyst, and one sergeant that were assigned to conduct 24/7 investigations involving homicides, robberies, crimes against children, sexual assaults, property, financial, and gang-related crimes. In addition, the General Investigations Unit has one detective that is assigned to the county-wide auto theft taskforce that is investigating auto theft-related crimes and catalytic converter thefts. These detectives also provided investigative training to patrol officers on how to document, interview victims/witnesses, and process crime scenes. This training helps officers with providing a better level of service to the community and increases the solvability when the detectives continued the investigations.

In 2022, the General Investigations Unit investigated a total of 518 cases, with 329 cases closed.



**Cases Assigned: 518**  
**Cases Closed: 329**

# Special Investigations Unit

The Special Investigations Unit (SIU) is tasked with investigating cases involving illegal drugs, prostitution, and human trafficking. The four investigators and one sergeant who make up the unit, rely on tips from the community, leads from other units within the department or outside agencies, as well as self-developed intelligence.

SIU is regularly involved in providing safety presentations for community groups, developing specialized training sessions for TPD personnel, and collaborating with other local, state, and federal agencies on large-scale investigations. Throughout 2022, SIU detectives became subject matter experts in human trafficking, and now provide expert courtroom testimony and training on the subject to other departments in the region.

In 2022, SIU detectives spent a significant amount of time assisting other TPD units with surveillance, apprehensions, and search warrant services. SIU detectives authored 136 reports while handling 17 misdemeanor and 15 felony arrests.



# CSI & Property Unit

The CSI and Property Unit serves multiple functions within the Police Department. The unit is under the Investigations Division and is staffed with one crime scene technician supervisor, four crime scene technicians (CST), and one Senior Property and Evidence Technician. The CST/CST Supervisor respond to all types of crime scenes and critical incidents, to perform various methods of evidence documentation, collection, and processing. In addition, the Unit is responsible for the intake of all evidence/property booked by police department personnel. They coordinate the submission of evidence to the State of California Criminalistics Laboratories, SERI Laboratory, and IBIS/ATF, for analysis. They also work closely with the San Joaquin County District Attorney's Office for the prosecution of our cases. This includes providing all the discovery materials for trials, and testimony in court.

The Unit is tasked with the heavy responsibility of maintaining the integrity of evidence and property, by properly documenting, packaging, preserving, securing, and tracking all items booked by members of the Police Department. The Evidence and Property Technician coordinates the subsequent release, auction, and destruction of this evidence/property, making sure proper notifications and clearances are completed. This involves extensive research by all members of the Unit, through the court system to see which cases are adjudicated and eligible for destruction/release. All items are disposed of in accordance with local, state, and federal laws.

In 2022, Unit members booked over 4,966 items of evidence and wrote over 2,020 supplemental reports, as well as, 19 fingerprint hits made from fingerprints developed on scenes.



# BUREAU OF SUPPORT SERVICES

The Bureau of Support Services (BSS) is one of the three major divisions of the Tracy Police Department. The Support Operations Division has four specialized units with unique responsibilities dedicated to serving the needs of the community.

Units assigned to the Support Operations Division are:

- Animal Services Unit
- Communications Unit
- Fiscal Management and Planning Unit
- Police Records Unit

Our dedicated Support Services staff play an important role in providing essential services efficiently and effectively to officers, detectives, command staff, and community members.



**Beth Lyons-McCarthy**  
Support Operations  
Manager

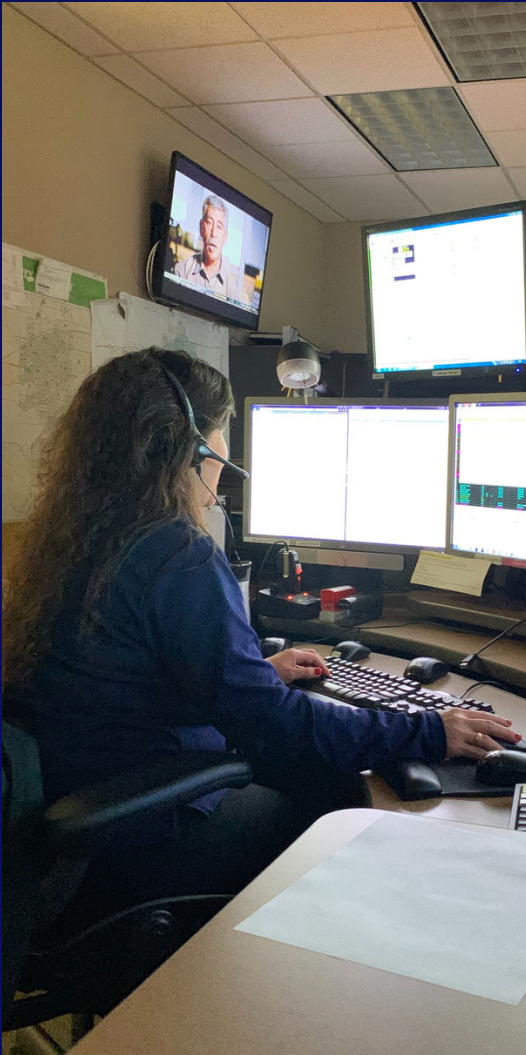
“

Perpetual optimism is a force multiplier.

– Colin Powell

”

# Communications Unit



The Communications Unit is staffed with a total of 15 Public Safety Dispatchers and two Communications Supervisors. The Tracy Police Department Public Safety Dispatchers provide emergency and non-emergency police communications 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. In 2022, the Tracy Police Department's Public Safety Dispatchers handled a total of 127,926 telephone calls. During this period, 33,062 were 9-1-1 emergency calls for service.

In 2022, 99.34% of the 9-1-1 calls that the Unit received were answered in under 15 seconds, exceeding the National Emergency Number Association (NENA) standard of 95% of calls that must be answered within 20 seconds.

The Communications Unit implemented the Tracy RAVE Alerting system allowing citizens to opt-in to alerts via text message, email, and phone call.

In 2023, the Communication Unit will start looking at the approved cloud-based phone systems CalOES systems to update the current phone system that is in place. The Communications Unit continues to work with the City of Tracy Geographic Information System (GIS) vendor GEOCOMM to update maps in Mark43.

## 2022 TOTAL CALLS TO DISPATCH



127,926

## 2022 CALLS FOR SERVICE



69,113

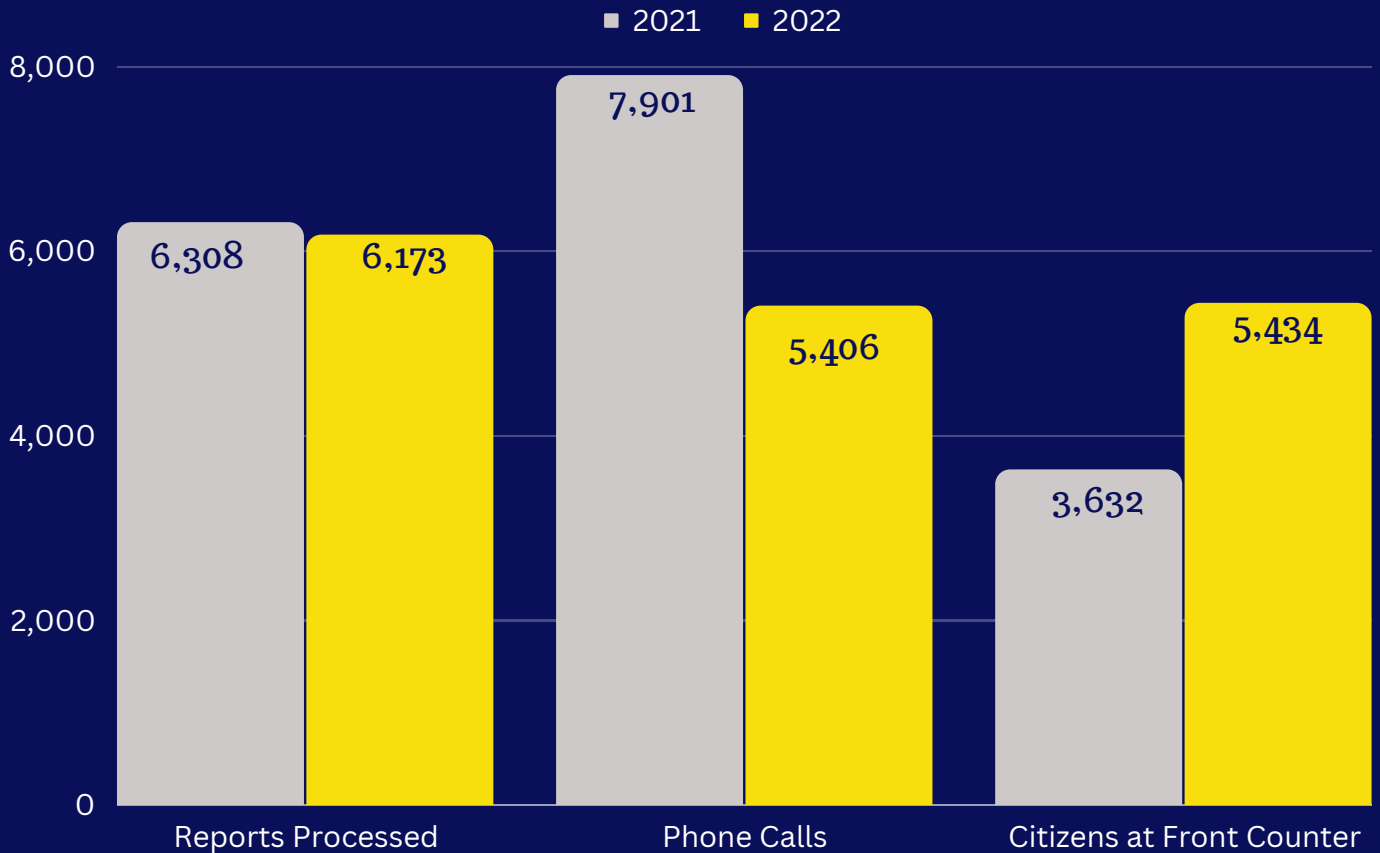
## 9-1-1 CALLS



33,062

# Records Unit

The Records Unit is staffed with seven full-time Police Records Assistants, two full-time Senior Police Records Assistants, and a Supervisor. Staff is responsible for all aspects of report processing and document control within the Tracy Police Department, providing support to police officers, and service and assistance to the public who need to obtain copies of police reports, vehicle releases, Live Scan fingerprinting, and other similar requests.



# Animal Services



The Animal Services Unit is comprised of nine (9) employees consisting of a Supervisor, three (3) Animal Services Officers, three (3) Kennel Aides, and two (2) Administrative Assistants. Staff is responsible for the operation and maintenance of the Tracy Animal Shelter, the care and welfare of animals housed in the shelter, responding to animal-related calls and complaints, and enforcing animal-related laws.

In 2022, Animal Services accomplished several goals. We were the award recipient of several grants totaling over \$46,000, one of which provided the shelter the ability to provide early spay/neuter to any pet in the shelter longer than two weeks, shortening the animal's length of stay in the shelter, as the pet can go home the same day that they are adopted.

The Animal Shelter also began to reopen for general walk-throughs. They found that doing so was causing stress, resulting in a lowered ability to match adopters with animals. With this realization, staff changed practices leading to four long-time dogs being adopted.

## Dogs

289 Adoptions

8 Euthanasia

2 Died

39 Rescue/Transfer

231 Returned to owner

Total: 569

## Cats

243 Adoptions

98 Euthanasia

27 Died

231 Rescue/Transfer

8 Returned to owner

Total: 607

Additionally, in 2022 Animal Services focused on participating in, and hosting, community events, and for the first time staff participated in the Fourth of July parade, held multiple Best Friends Adoption weekends, launched their Youth Ambassador program, and brought back The Fast and The Furriest Fun Run, which saw hundreds of community members come out to raise money for shelter animals.

Animal Services will continue to focus on growing their knowledge of animal behavior to help educate and assist the community.

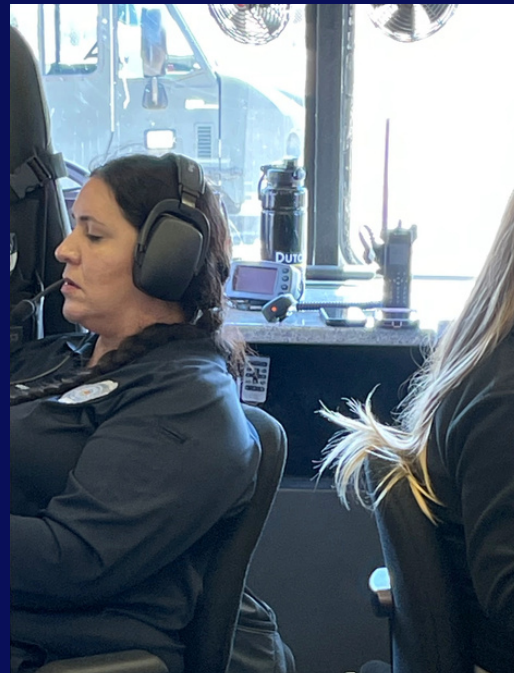




## Honor Guard



Field Training



Tactical Dispatch



PAL Program



Bicycle Patrol



Motor Cadre



Reserve Program



D.A.R.E.



Police Chaplaincy



Peer Support



## Police Explorers



## Tactical Medics



## Special Weapons and Tactics



## Crisis Negotiations



## Defensive Tactics



## Canine Unit



## Range Cadre



## Recruitment

Tracy Police Department



## Drone Cadre

# Promotions



Michelle Balletti-Jimmerson  
Sr. Records Assistant



Nestor Mejia  
Sergeant



Craig Kootstra  
Lieutenant



Wesley Bancroft  
Corporal



Graham Hawkinson  
Corporal



Ricardo Hernandez  
Lieutenant



Daniel Garcia  
Sergeant



Gus Cisneros  
Corporal



Estefania Rodriguez  
Police Officer

# Promotions



Scott Criswell  
Sergeant



Crissy Shevlin  
Sr. Public Safety Dispatcher



Jeff Berdosh  
Sergeant



Jake Pineo  
Corporal



Matt Grijalva  
Corporal



Eric Smith  
Corporal



Matthew Sieperda  
Sr. Public Safety Dispatcher



Ana Olmos  
Code Enforcement Officer



# New Team Members



James Vincent  
Public Safety Dispatcher II



Gabriel Alvarez  
Animal Services Officer I



Joseph Bourassa  
Police Officer



Abel Perez-Miranda  
Police Officer



Bonnie Crawford  
Animal Services Aide



Shelby Zaragoza  
Public Safety Dispatcher I



Wazhma Palmer  
Community Services Officer



Brock DeWitt  
Police Officer



John Hostetler  
Police Officer

# New Team Members



Gabriel Silva-Quezada  
Police Officer



Kaylin Heefner  
Community Relations Coordinator



James Sams  
Police Officer



Charles Blizinski  
Police Officer



Jacob Eakin  
Police Officer



Emily Galindo  
Police Officer



Arturo Ortega  
Police Officer



Vanessa Erickson  
Animal Services Aide



Heather Macias  
Animal Services Aide

# New Team Members



Llusleny Velazquez  
Police Officer Trainee



Ahmad Patang  
Police Officer Trainee



Bryant Tlazalo  
Police Officer Trainee



Joseph Blair  
Police Officer



Noel DeLoza  
Police Officer



Adrian Macias  
Police Officer



Sergio Molina  
Police Officer



Martin Vargas  
Administrative Assistant



Alexandra Warner  
Crime Analyst

# New Team Members



Heidi Horner  
Public Safety Dispatch Supervisor



Ayesha Nic-Gongora  
Homeless Outreach Coordinator



Hector Jaimes  
Homeless Outreach Coordinator



Mitchell Van Dyk  
Police Officer



# Award of Excellence

## MICHAEL RICHARDS POLICE SERGEANT



The Award of Excellence is an achievement award that may be presented to an employee or work group, based upon their outstanding accomplishments during the past 12 months, and who practices the concepts in the Tracy Police Department's Mission Statement.



With over fifteen years with the Tracy Police Department, Sergeant Mike Richards exudes the leadership qualities of a highly respected leader. Sergeant Richards is a fair sergeant with simple and clear team expectations that he holds his entire team accountable to, never deviating from the expectations of his officers, and has always been humble about admitting if he is wrong about something.

Sergeant Richards genuinely cares about the officers assigned to his team which is apparent by his "open door policy." Officers know if they have a personal or professional problem, he is there to listen and offer them any support they may need.

Sergeant Richards motivates all the officers on his team to be the best they can be simply by his actions during each shift, this is due to his hard-working ethic and leadership qualities we witness daily.

Congratulations on your Award of Excellence!

# Award of Excellence

## COMMUNITY SERVICE DIVISION & CODE ENFORCEMENT UNIT



The Award of Excellence is an achievement award that may be presented to an employee or work group, based upon their outstanding accomplishments during the past 12 months, and who practices the concepts in the Tracy Police Department's Mission Statement.

When it comes to assisting the Homeless problems in the City of Tracy, two teams within the Community Service Division exemplified teamwork, coordination, and perseverance.

The Neighborhood Resource Officer team and Code Enforcement Unit have exemplified and demonstrated the Department's core values of Service, Integrity, and Excellence. Our Neighborhood Resource Officer team took ownership of these pressing community matters while using teamwork to tackle the issues, establishing the Mobile Evaluation Team (MET) by partnering with San Joaquin County Behavioral Health and the Familiar Faces Homeless Outreach team. Code Enforcement Officers were instrumental when it came to coordinating homeless encampment cleanups with our NROs, addressing blight, and recurring trash and debris while treating the unsheltered with dignity and respect.

Congratulations on your Award of Excellence!



# Department Recognition Award

## ALEX CONTRERAS SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER



The Department Recognition Award may be awarded to an individual or group of employees for outstanding performance of duties under unusual or complicated conditions over a period of time, or in recognition of a proactive philosophy as demonstrated by projects or community involvement.

Officer Alex Contreras joined the Tracy Police Department (TPD) in 2016 to serve in his hometown after four years of service with the Ripon Police Department.

Since he has been with TPD, Officer Contreras transferred into the School Resource Officer (SRO) position in 2021, assigned to West High School, serves as a new SWAT Operator, and is the Vice President of the TPD Police Activities League (PAL) Board. While these duties are all time-consuming and demanding, Officer Contreras juggles them seamlessly and enthusiastically. In addition to his demanding work duties, Officer Contreras continues to coach youth sports (baseball and football).

In his two years as an SRO and PAL Vice President, Officer Contreras has organized and assisted in several youth engagement events including lunchtime basketball tournaments, football skills camp, baseball skills camp, and boxing club coach, while also volunteering to organize a Crab Feed to ensure funding for future Tracy PAL endeavors. These events have an obvious enrichment factor for the kids who participate, but equally, and maybe more importantly, it shines a humanizing light of compassion and care when a police officer shows up to help and teach in a non-enforcement setting. These interactions may be the course-changing event that pushes a child into the police calling later in life or stirs them away from the wrong path.

Officer Contreras exemplifies the department's commitment to Service, as well as the Trust and Legitimacy Pillar of 21st Century Policing. Officer Contreras' genuine care and compassion for the City's youth make him an asset to the Tracy Police Department and deserving of the 2022 Department Recognition Award.

# Medal of Meritorious Service

## JAKE PINEO POLICE CORPORAL



The Medal of Meritorious Service is given to an employee who, while serving in an official capacity, distinguishes themselves by contributing significantly towards the Department in attaining goals and objectives, service that significantly positively impacts the Department, and lastly is involved in a great deal of responsibility and personal initiative.



Corporal Pineo has made significant contributions to the department, dedicating his time to attending outside training where he became a regionally recognized expert in tactics and officer safety. Due to this advanced level of education, Corporal Pineo has been tasked with leading active shooter response/awareness training for our officers, the City of Tracy Employees, the South San Joaquin County Fire Authority, and the Tracy Unified School District.

Through hours of research, Corporal Pineo wrote a paper that was published in the California Association of Tactical Officers monthly magazine and was invited to speak at the 2022 CATO conference about his published article.

Corporal Pineo's knowledge has greatly benefitted the Department's ability to train officers to be safer in the field, making the City safer for everyone.

Congratulations on your Meritorious Service Medal!

# Volunteer of the Year

## CHARLES HARRISON VOLUNTEER IN POLICE SERVICE



The Police Volunteer of the Year Award serves to recognize an outstanding volunteer within our Department who contributes to the efficiency and effectiveness of the Department, and who demonstrates the qualities set forth by the Tracy Police Department's Mission Statement.

Volunteer Charles "Chuck" Harrison has been with the Tracy Police Department's Volunteer in Police Service (VIPS) program since 2019. He has been a constant and dedicated member of the fleet team, losing himself in his contributions to this department's mission.

Chuck's persistent dedication to ensuring that the Tracy Police Department's fleet is maintained and managed is an essential duty that keeps rubber to the road and ensures that our Officers can respond to all calls for help or service. Arriving in the waking hours of the morning, usually before the sun is up, Chuck and his fleet partners arrive quietly and shuffle vehicles to and from the Boyd Service Center with little fanfare or noise.

In 2022 Chuck logged over 430 hours of volunteer time, which by any measure of a volunteer is a commendable feat and reminds us that our volunteers are the embodiment of service. Chuck demonstrates daily, the power of giving with his contributions to the mission, going unnoticed by many because of his selflessness. Chuck's actions are essential and greatly appreciated as a valuable member of the Tracy PD VIPS and deserving of the 2022 Volunteer of the Year Award.



# Police Employee of the Year

## CARLO FANTO

### INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SPECIALIST



The Employee of the Year may be awarded to professional staff of any rank who looks for ways to improve the Department's efficiency and effectiveness, and who demonstrates the qualities set forth by the Tracy Police Department's Mission Statement.

Carlo Fanto exemplifies Service, Integrity, and Excellence daily when assisting Department employees. He is highly reliable and often accommodates his work hours to meet organizational needs. Carlo continuously does an outstanding performance in his duties year after year without ever seeking recognition. His humble yet open-minded approach makes him a pleasure to work with on complicated projects. Carlo at a moment's notice will stop what he is doing and handle any technical issues that arise without delay. His positive outlook and incredible work ethic make him a great asset and value to TPD. As the primary IT Specialist for the Department, Carlo not only helps support and maintain virtually all technology third-party vendor programs but takes care of all fleet-related technology maintenance. He often does work in the background to ensure all systems are operating correctly and his work goes unnoticed until systems fail.

In addition to his daily duties, in 2202 Carlo played a crucial role in upgrading the Wireless Cradle Points in all Patrol vehicles, resolving latency issues that compromised officer safety due to lagged GPS, while also replacing and upgrading Patrol vehicle MDC/MDT.

These projects are just some examples of how his work improved the department's efficiency and effectiveness, demonstrated great customer service both internally and externally, and aligns with our department's strategic goals while exemplifying our values.

Congratulations on your Employee of the Year Award!

# Police Officer of the Year

## BRIAN AZEVEDO DETECTIVE



The Police Officer of the Year Award is granted for outstanding achievement by an officer that brings credit to the Department, and which involves performance well above and beyond that which is required by an officer's basic assignment.

Over the last two years, Detective Azevedo has worked on many high-level investigations, often having to respond to work either late at night or early in the morning.

Through his hard work, Detective Azevedo has received a Chief's Commendation for his dedication to the City of Tracy and the Department, teamwork, and ability to coordinate with multiple agencies. Detective Azevedo's tenacity, dedication, and willingness to work with other Detectives, make him a valuable member of the General Investigations Unit. Additionally, Detective Azevedo always makes himself available to help Patrol officers on any of the cases they have and helps train new Detectives in writing search warrants and reviewing them.

Congratulations on your Officer of the Year Award!

