



Tracy Police Department

2023 ANNUAL REPORT

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Message from the Chief



Transparency is a pillar upon which trust is built, and we continue to enhance our communication channels. Open dialogues, town hall meetings, and accessible resources are integral components of our commitment to keeping you informed. Your right to know and understand our actions remains at the forefront of our practices.

In our pursuit of excellence, the Tracy Police Department has embraced technological advancements to augment our capabilities. From predictive analytics to community-oriented platforms, we are leveraging innovation to stay ahead of emerging challenges and provide you with the best possible service.

Yet, progress is not without its share of challenges. The evolving landscape of law enforcement demands adaptability, and we remain dedicated to ongoing training, ensuring that our officers are equipped with the knowledge and skills necessary to navigate complex situations with sensitivity and professionalism.

As we celebrate the victories, let us also acknowledge the areas where improvement is needed. Your feedback is invaluable, and we encourage an ongoing dialogue to address concerns and shape the future of policing in Tracy collaboratively.

In closing, I extend my deepest gratitude to the Tracy community for your unwavering support. Together, we have made strides toward a safer, more inclusive city. The Tracy Police Department remains steadfast in our commitment to serving and protecting, and I look forward to the continued journey ahead.

Sincerely,

Sekou Millington

SEKOU MILLINGTON

Chief of police

Dear Tracy Community,

As we turn the pages of another year, I am honored to share with you the progress and endeavors of the Tracy Police Department throughout 2023. This annual report serves not only as a testament to our collective efforts but also as a transparent reflection of the challenges and triumphs that have defined our journey.

In the face of evolving societal dynamics, our commitment to public safety and community well-being has remained resolute. Our officers, dedicated professionals, have tirelessly worked to uphold the highest standards of law enforcement while embracing innovation to better serve you.

This year, community engagement has been a cornerstone of our approach. From neighborhood watch programs to outreach initiatives, we have sought to strengthen the bond between our department and the diverse tapestry that is Tracy. Your involvement and partnership have proven invaluable, empowering us to tailor our services to meet the unique needs of our community.

Organizational Values

SERVICE

Consistently pursue lasting solutions to problems. Offer feedback that is honest, open, and timely (HOT). Align with and work towards achieving organizational goals. Take a stand against gossip and rumors. Respond promptly to requests and communication. Foster and encourage proactive attitudes.

INTEGRITY

Uphold honesty in both thoughts and actions. Focus on addressing behaviors rather than reputations. Prioritize organizational loyalty over personal loyalties, and place the interests of the organization above personal agendas.

EXCELLENCE

Encourage innovation by advocating for fresh and creative ideas. Take pride in your profession and the Department. Embrace a commitment to continuous learning throughout your career. Strive to consistently perform at the highest level according to the Department's standards. Lead by setting a positive example. Always go the extra mile to meet the needs of the community.



MISSION STATEMENT

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

VALUES

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

F.I.R.S.T. Commitment



FAIRNESS

We advocate for accountability and transparency. Ensuring fair and equal treatment of the public is crucial to sustaining community trust and support.

INTEGRITY

We value honesty and professionalism, emphasizing the need for constant accountability. Integrity is demonstrated by doing the right thing even when no one is watching.

RESPECT

We uphold ethical and honest conduct by treating both the community and each other with dignity. Maintaining the public's trust is essential for the success of our organization, making ethical and honest behavior imperative.

SERVICE

Demonstrating leadership and offering clear guidance: We courageously and honorably serve the community. Achieving this involves modeling leadership and providing clear direction, which is essential for maintaining the confidence and trust of both employees and the community we serve.

TEAMWORK

We highly prioritize teamwork, recognizing its positive influence on work quality, public perception, and overall health and wellness. This collective effort fosters transparency and enhances internal morale.



Tracy Police Executive Staff



Sekou Millington
CHIEF OF POLICE



Mike Richards
Sergeant
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF



Scott Muir
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



Octavio Lopez
Captain
BUREAU OF
INVESTIGATIONS

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

Honorable City Council and City Manager



MAYOR PRO TEM
Ellassia Davis



MAYOR
Nancy Young



COUNCIL MEMBER
Dan Arriola



COUNCIL MEMBER
Mateo Bedolla



CITY MANAGER
Midori Lichtwardt

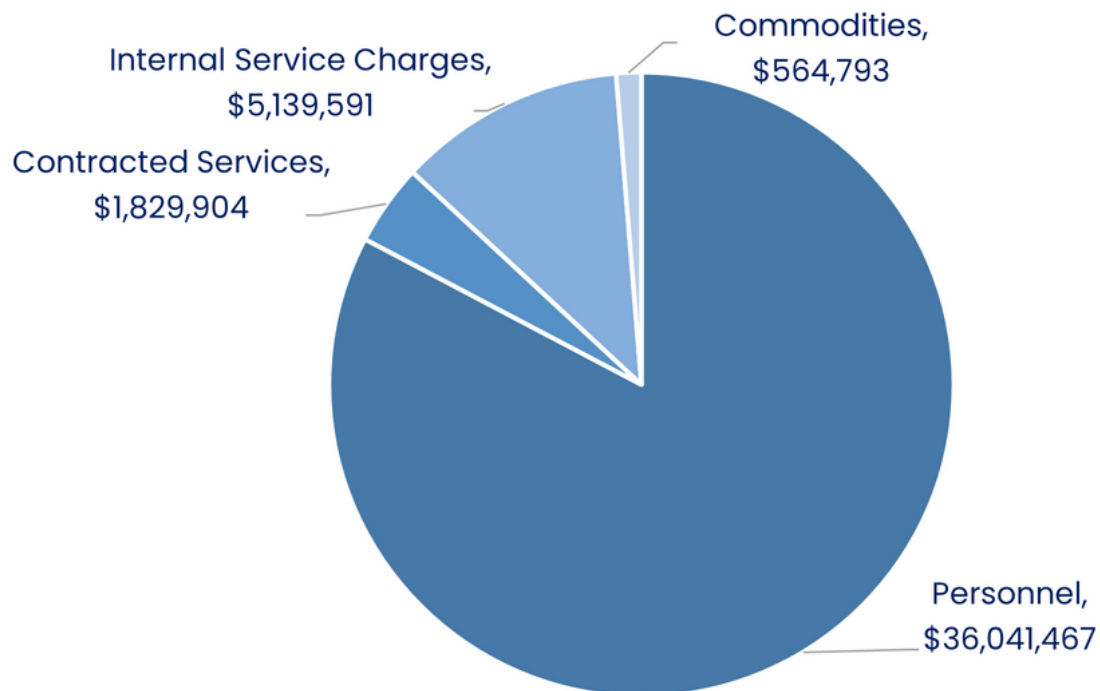


COUNCIL MEMBER
Dan Evans

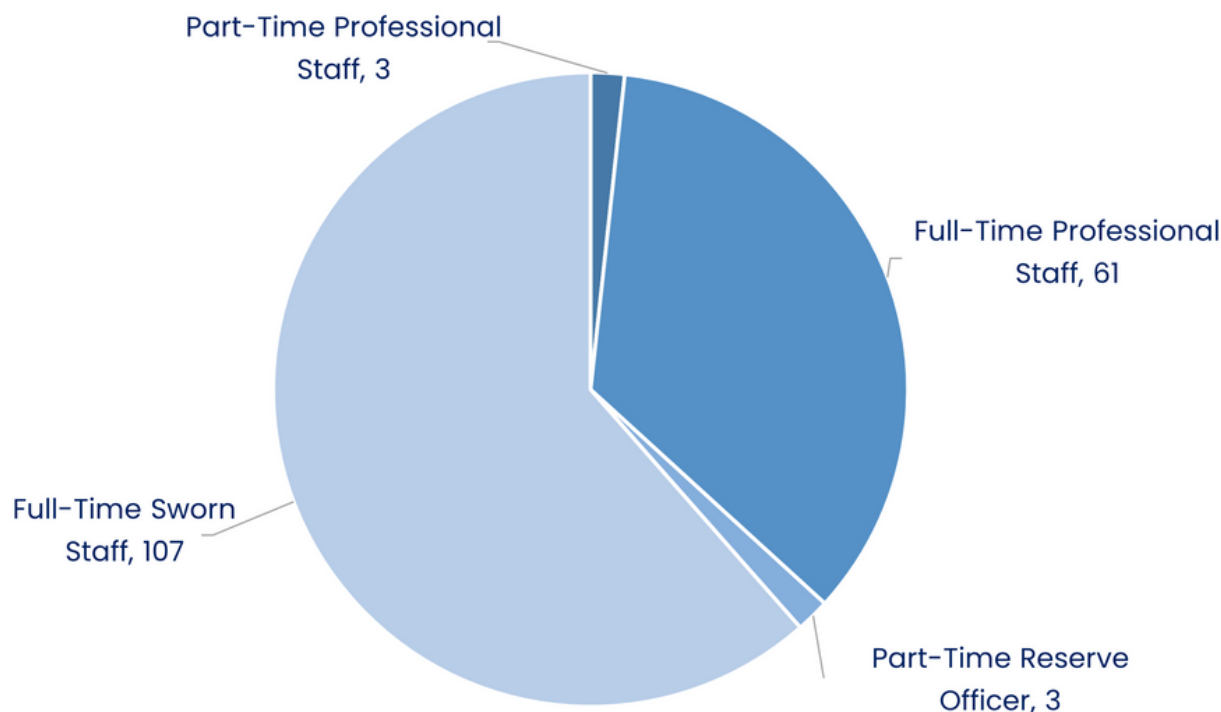
Department Personnel & Budget

The Tracy Police Department budget (\$43,575,755) was allocated to 107 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.

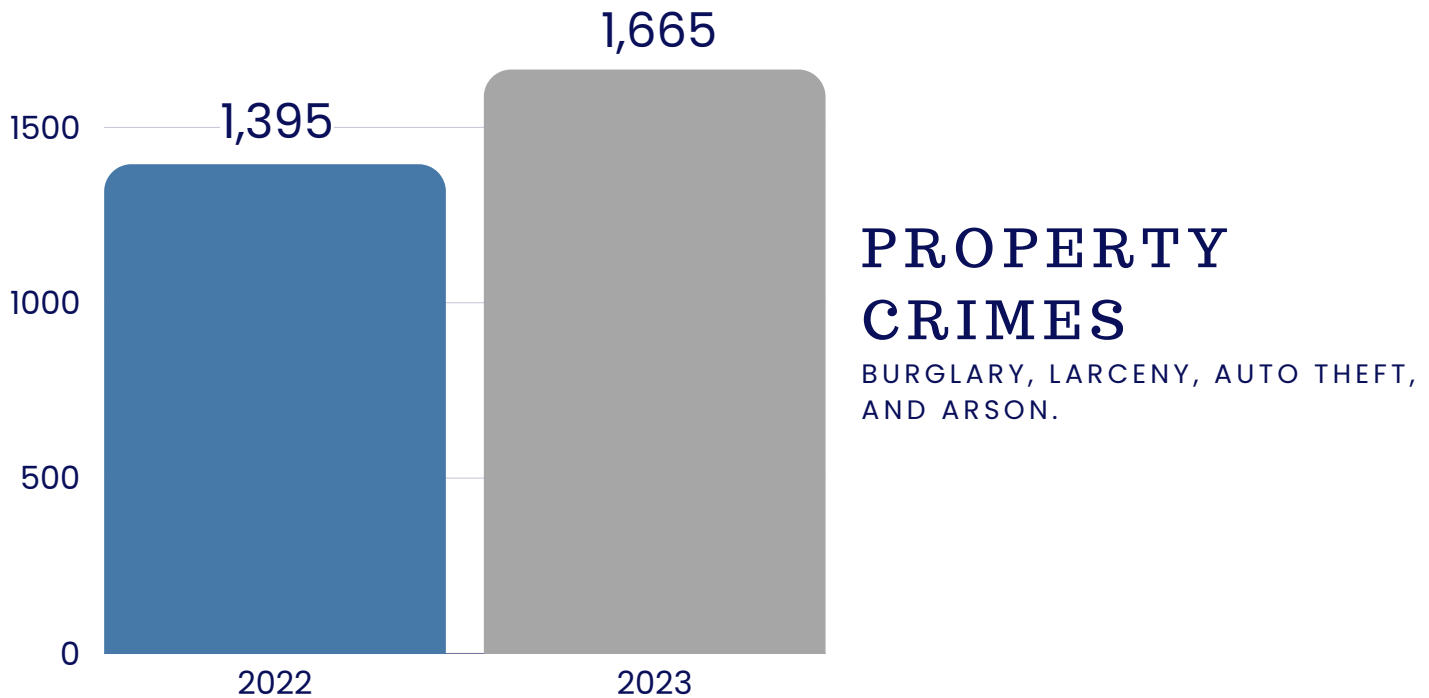
BUDGET ALLOCATION



PERSONNEL ALLOCATION



NATIONAL INCIDENT-BASED REPORTING SYSTEM



NATIONAL INCIDENT-BASED REPORTING SYSTEM

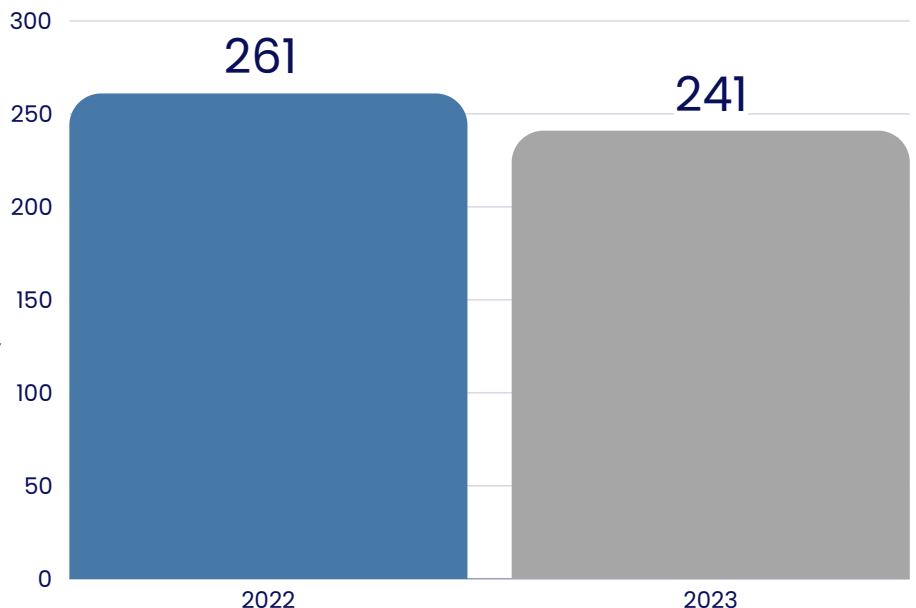
The Tracy Police Department regularly shares its monthly crime data with the Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI) using the National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS). They categorize crimes into two main groups:

Violent Crimes: These are the most serious offenses, including homicide, sexual assault, robbery, and aggravated assault.

Property Crimes: This category involves crimes related to property, such as burglary, larceny, auto theft, and arson.

VIOLENT CRIMES

HOMICIDE, SEXUAL ASSAULT, ROBBERY AND AGGRAVATED ASSAULT.



OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF POLICE

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

In 2023, Sergeant Mike Richards assumed the vacant Chief of Staff role, taking on responsibilities such as disseminating monthly legal update bulletins for changes in case law and proposed legislation affecting the Department. He also established a Media Relations Team that aids in responding to critical incidents that attract media attention. Embracing technological advancements, the Executive Assistant spearheaded the Department's move toward a paperless environment, making forms accessible to the public on our website and updating internal forms to fillable web forms.

In March, the Office of the Chief initiated a pilot program for our first Wellness Dog, Hope, currently managed by the Police Community Relations Coordinator. Throughout the year, Hope has been getting to know Officers and Professional Staff and undergoing obedience training for the American Kennel Club (AKC) Good Canine Certification. While still in training, Hope has started assisting the General Investigations Unit (GIU) in communicating with younger victims and has attended internal Critical Incident Debriefs to offer emotional support to staff.



Mike Richards
Sergeant

“
**May You Be Proud of
the Work You Do, the
Person You Are, and
the Difference You
Make.**

-Abigail Johnson

”

Professional Standards & Training Division

The Professional Standards & Training Division is staffed by a full-time lieutenant and sergeant who 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.

Along with overseeing department training, administrative investigations, and department policies, Professional Standards & Training has undertaken the task of overseeing construction improvements at the Tracy PD Firing Range, which is anticipated to be completed by the Fall of 2024.



Scott Muir
Lieutenant

“
**Success is not final,
failure is not fatal: it
is the courage to
continue that counts.**

-Winston Churchill

”

Personnel Investigations

Total: 18

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	2	0	3	0	0	0	5
Citizen Complaints	1	0	0	0	11	1	13

Use of Force

Total: 18

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.

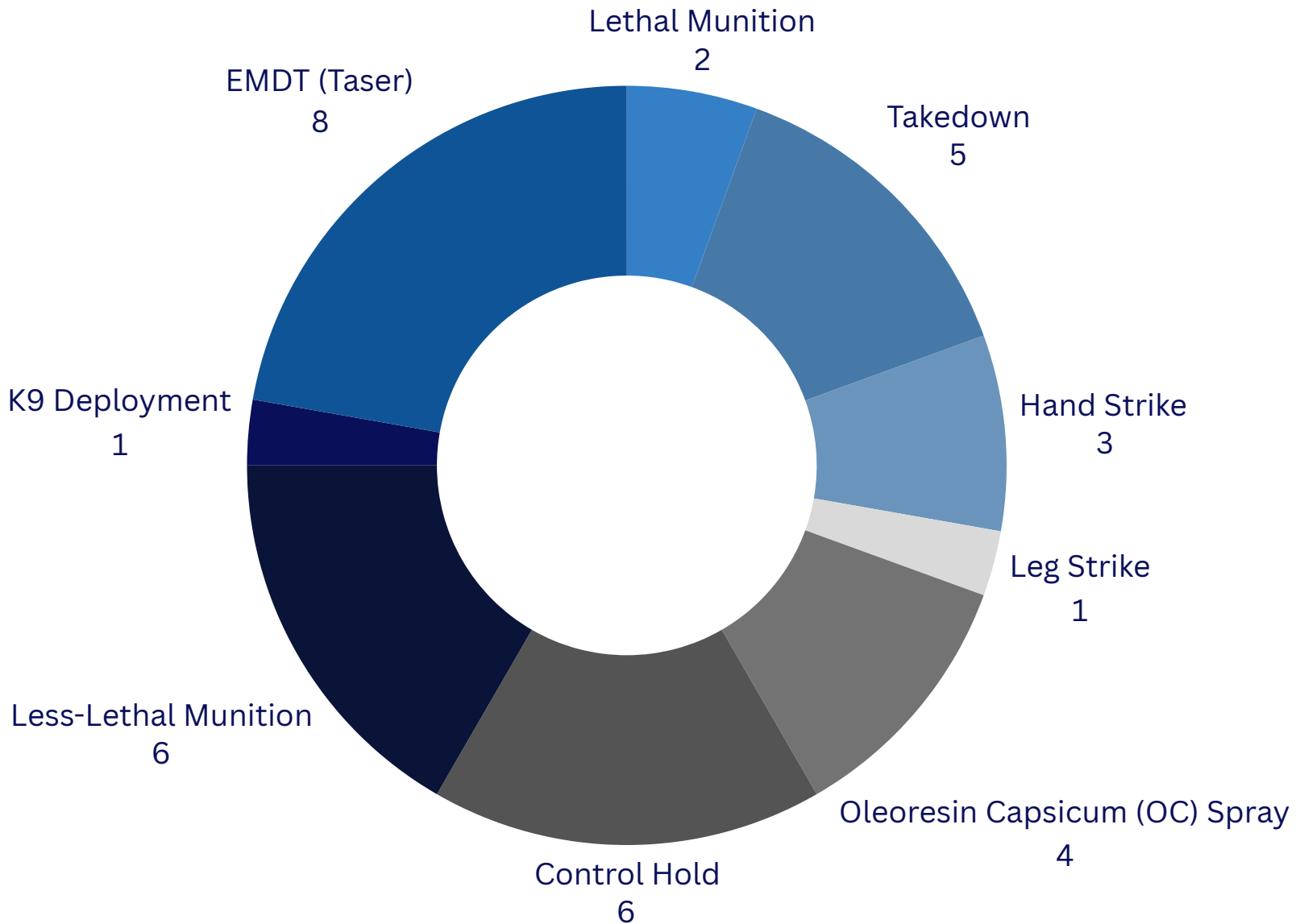
Suspect Characteristics		Reason for Contact		Race/Ethnicity	
Suspect Age	Incidents	Reason	Incidents	Race/Ethnicity	Incidents
0-20	4	Calls for Service	17	African American	3
21-30	7	Self-Initiated Activity	1	Hispanic	8
31-40	5			White	2
41+	2			Other	5

Types of Force Used

Total uses of force: 18

Total applications of force: 36

Force was used 18 times by Tracy Police in 2023 to arrest or detain subject(s). 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) has the most contact with our community, and 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 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 various types of calls, from parking complaints to homicides, often utilizing various technological advances from Automatic License Plate Readers (ALPR) to Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS), commonly referred to as drones, to aid in their response to a call for service.

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

“
The ability of the police to perform their duties is dependent upon public approval of police existence, actions, behavior, and the ability of the police to secure and maintain public respect.
”

-Sir Robert Peel



Patrol Operations



CALLS FOR SERVICE RESPONSE TIMES

PRIORITY 1	9:24
PRIORITY 2	17:48
PRIORITY 3	25:06

The Patrol Division stands as the cornerstone of the Police Department, with uniformed personnel organized into six patrol teams. The Bureau of Field Operations has made substantial strides in accomplishing this year's goals, with a focus on community engagement, officer training, equipment improvement, and adapting to evolving crime trends.

In 2023, the Directed Patrol Unit (DPU) officers were strategically deployed, showcasing outstanding efforts in locating and removing firearms from the streets. Their proactive measures significantly curtailed activities in hotspots, instilling a heightened sense of security among Tracy residents and acting as a visible deterrent during heightened criminal activity.

Patrol Officers continued to bolster community engagement through successful events and educational programs on crime prevention. Notable initiatives included Badges For Books, Dr. Seuss Night, Tracy PAL Robotics & Engineer Clubs, Downtown Block Parties, Java & Jalopies, Tracy PAL Donut Dash 5K, Special Olympics Torch Run, Downtown Farmers Market, Crab Feed Dinner & Dance, Catalytic Converter Etch & Catch, Crosswalk Patrols, Tracy PAL Youth Fitness Class, Sexual Assault Teal Sand Campaign, Community Drone Boot Camp, High School Career Days, Coffee With A Cop, Tracy PAL Youth Baseball Camp, Paint with Tracy PAL, Stuff the Cruiser, and more.

The Department implemented equipment upgrades, including the Red Dot pistol and new unmanned aircraft systems (drones), and provided specialized training such as Active Shooter Response and Tactical Medicine to patrol teams. The successful deployment of the Crossroads e-Ticket writing software and mobile app enhanced efficiency in traffic enforcement, vehicle collision reporting, and RIPA data collection.

Flock Safety ALPRs remained effective in daily crime reduction efforts, resulting in successful investigations, arrests, and stolen vehicle recoveries. Additional tools, such as breaching tools in patrol vehicles, were provided to assist with rescues and gaining access to secured areas.

Upgrades to the patrol fleet included multi-causality trauma kits in several vehicles, identified with a Red Cross for quick identification during medical emergencies. The DARE vehicle was redesigned for community events, and a recruitment vehicle with custom graphics was introduced to support agency staffing needs.

As the Department continued to prioritize Officer and Staff Wellness, it hosted two Family BBQs, launched a partnership with Sigma Health, and welcomed Hope as the new Peer Support Dog.

Special Enforcement Team



The Tracy Police Department Special Enforcement Team (SET) closely collaborates with the Patrol Division and Investigations Units, specializing in street-level enforcement, encompassing gang enforcement, narcotics enforcement, and fugitive apprehension. Their mission revolves around diminishing criminal activity by addressing emerging crimes through both overt and covert operations.

Throughout 2023, SET demonstrated flexibility in adjusting work schedules as required and undertaking diverse tasks and missions. In response to a rise in homicides, SET actively assisted the General Investigations Unit (GIU) in multiple investigations, including the McDonald Park Homicide, Peerless Court Homicide, I-580 @ Corral Hollow Homicide, and Elsinore Homicide. During their collaboration with GIU, SET contributed to various activities, such as interviews, surveillance, evidence collection, apprehension of a murder suspect, and warrant services.

SET initiated a proactive mission involving narcotics and gangs, actively identifying and contacting suspected gang members in and around Tracy.

In one notable instance, SET conducted a follow-up on a case, resulting in the arrest of an individual and the seizure of firearms and ammunition. The acquired information was effectively relayed to GIU, illustrating the successful collaboration between units. SET officers also engaged in surveillance operations at specific restaurants, leading to the apprehension of a suspect responsible for multiple acts of vandalism.

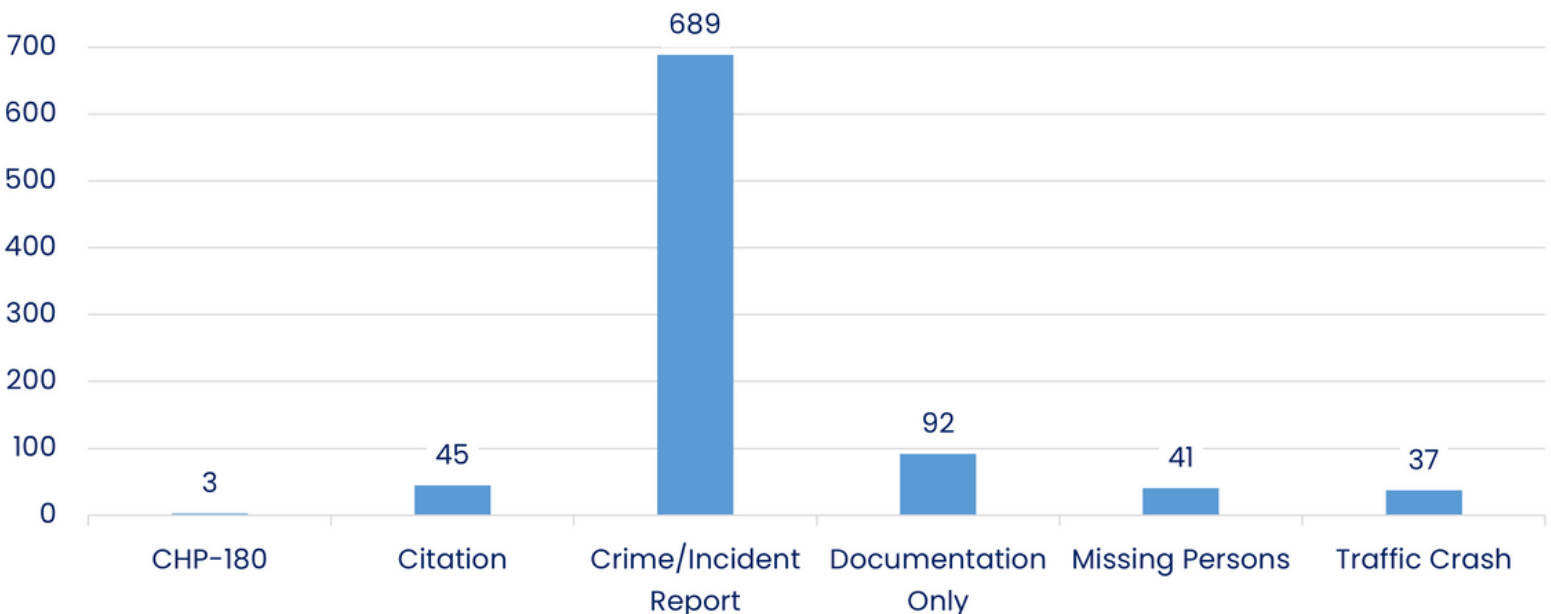
These examples underscore SET's dedication to proactive enforcement, seamless collaboration with other units, and their pivotal role in addressing diverse criminal activities within the Tracy community.

Community Service Officers



The Tracy Police Department Community Service Officers (CSO) perform a range of field and administrative tasks to support police services and programs for the City's Police Department. They provide comprehensive professional staff support to supervisory and management personnel, covering various law enforcement programs, projects, and services. Community Service Officers respond to public requests and carry out additional assigned duties.

In 2023, Community Service Officers handled 1,509 Calls for Service and generated 907 Reports.



Community Services Division



The Tracy Police Department's Community Services Division's mission is to improve the quality of life for Tracy residents by tackling community issues. This unit employs the Community Oriented Policing and Problem Solving (COPPS) philosophy to collaborate with the community in addressing problems.

The Community Services Division coordinates the Police Department's community outreach efforts. This division not only enforces laws for the safety of our community but also addresses quality-of-life issues by working closely with the Tracy Unified School District, faith-based organizations, and other local services. Through these partnerships, the division aims to create a safer and more vibrant community for all residents.

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
- Mobile Evaluation Team

Traffic Safety Unit



The Tracy Police Department's Traffic Safety Unit is responsible for ensuring traffic safety within the City of Tracy. This involves educating the community on safe vehicle operation, implementing safety-related technology, and enforcing vehicle code laws. The unit, commonly known as "motors," is comprised of five motorcycle officers under the supervision of a sergeant and a lieutenant. All motorcycles are equipped with moving radar, and the unit received a DUI vehicle to enhance its capabilities.

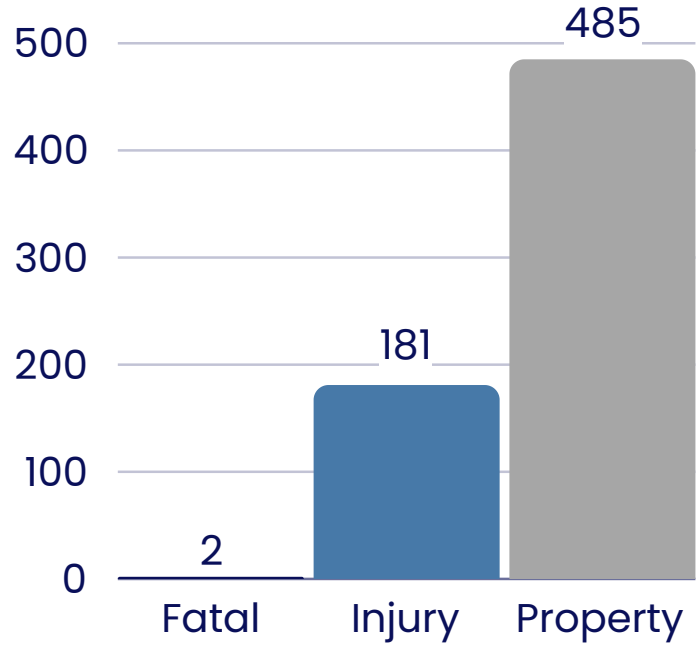
The Traffic Safety Unit plays a crucial role in investigating major injury collisions and fatalities. With the primary objective of reducing collisions in Tracy, the unit focuses on daily vehicle code enforcement, high police vehicle visibility, and encourages citizen input through the Go Tracy app and social media. The team, consisting of five traffic safety officers and one sergeant, is dedicated to educating the public on California vehicle code and vehicle safety operations.

In 2023, the Traffic Safety Unit conducted various operations, including Commercial Vehicle Enforcement with the California Highway Patrol (CHP) and San Joaquin County Sheriff's Office, a school bus stop safety operation, red light and stop sign enforcement, and cell phone enforcement. By conducting these enforcement operations and sharing their impact with the community on social media, the Traffic Safety Unit aims to educate drivers and contribute to keeping Tracy roads safe. With the implementation of Crossroads Software to improve traffic stop efficiency, the Traffic Safety Unit observed a 76.7% increase in citations issued. Additionally, the Traffic Safety Unit saw an 81.8% decrease in fatal traffic collision investigations. Furthermore, there was a notable increase of 50.5% in arrests related to Driving Under the Influence (DUI) due to enhanced proactive patrols in areas that were known to have a high frequency of DUI-related Calls for Service by Patrol Operations.

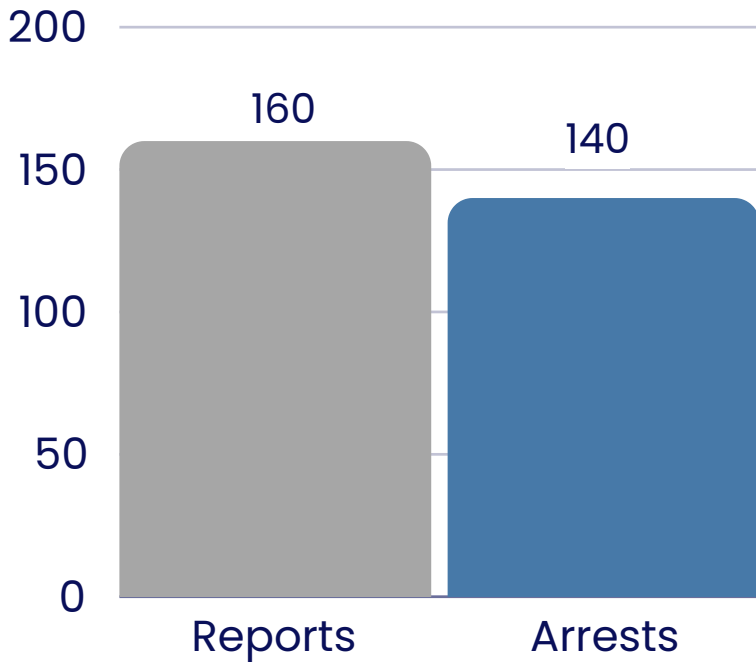
Traffic Safety Unit Data



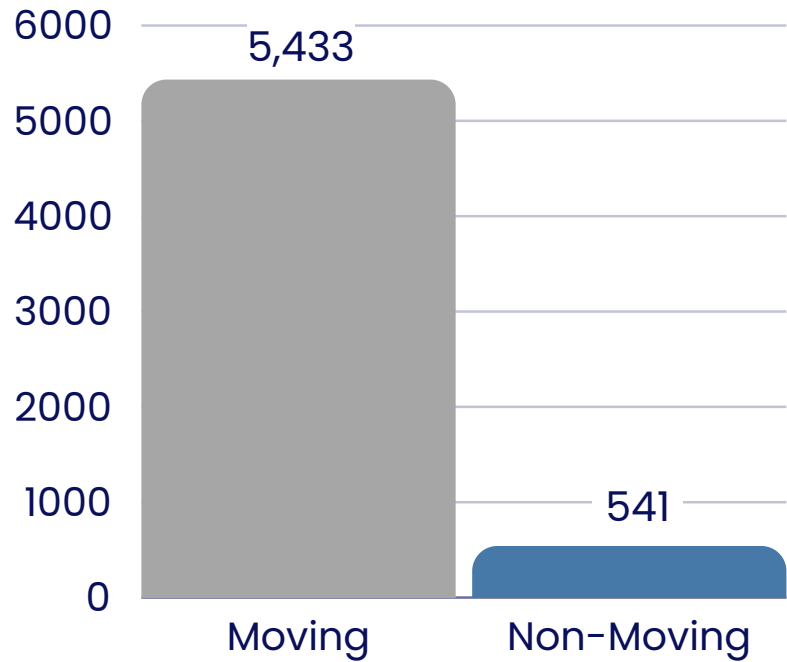
TOTAL COLLISIONS IN THE CITY OF TRACY



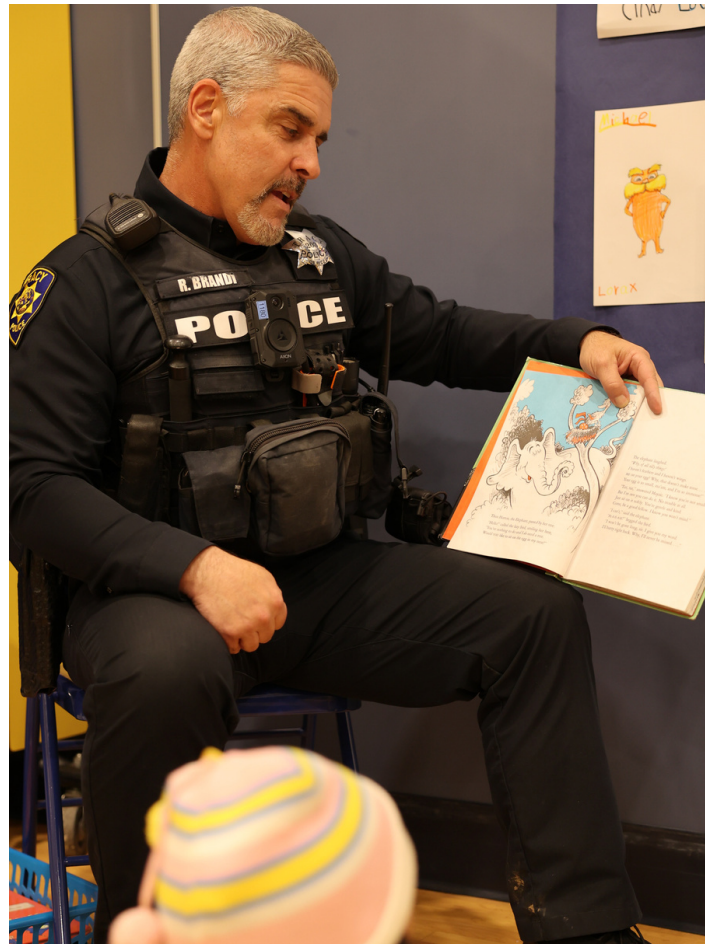
TOTAL DUI INVESTIGATIONS IN THE CITY OF TRACY



TOTAL CITATIONS ISSUED IN THE CITY OF TRACY



Neighborhood Resource Officers



The Neighborhood Resource Officer (NRO) positions embody the true essence of community-oriented policing. NROs, as law enforcement officers, serve as vital liaisons between the Tracy Police Department, the community, non-profits, and various city and government agencies.

In their role, NROs collaborate with citizens, civic groups, schools, and property owners to organize and assess effective crime prevention programs and address ongoing concerns in neighborhoods or business districts. These concerns may require more attention, investigative work, or time than can be accommodated during routine patrol calls.

NROs actively engage with Tracy citizens through public relations initiatives such as Neighborhood Watch Programs, homeless outreach, residential and personal/business crime prevention, crime information bulletins/alerts, and security presentations for banks and businesses. They also participate in recruitment for the Tracy Police Community Academy and internet safety programs.

Throughout 2023, NROs have closely collaborated with the Familiar Faces Homeless Outreach Team to support Tracy's efforts in establishing a Temporary Emergency Housing Shelter. By conducting consistent outreach at homeless encampments, NROs have facilitated the relocation of individuals to the Shelter, reducing cleanup operation hours at known encampments. Moreover, the NRO's Mobile Evaluation Team (MET), a hybrid team with clinicians and NROs, has increased deployment frequency to weekly. Additionally, in 2023, NROs worked closely with Code Enforcement and various Departments throughout the City of Tracy to complete writing, proposing, and implementing Tracy Municipal Code (TMC) Section 5.12.200 (b). The new municipal code makes it unlawful to camp within 1,000 feet of any public building, park playground, homeless shelter, school, daycare, sports field, or recreational facility.

Mobile Evaluation Team



The Tracy Police Department and San Joaquin County Behavioral Health Services have joined forces to establish the Mobile Evaluation Team (MET), dedicated to conducting health and welfare checks, evaluations, short-term case management, and services for individuals following psychiatric emergencies. Tracy Police Department's Neighborhood Resource Officer Dwayne Pavelski collaborates with San Joaquin County Behavioral Services during weekly outreach events in Tracy, alongside Mental Health Clinician Gisell Castillo and Mental Health Outreach Coordinator Rosalva Sandoval. This collaboration aims to leverage the expertise of licensed mental health clinicians, county agencies, non-profits, and service providers to offer comprehensive assistance to individuals facing mental health challenges. Tracy Police Chief Sekou Millington emphasizes the goal of enhancing safety by reducing repeated police calls related to psychiatric crises and delivering services to those in need. The MET also extends support, referrals, and safety planning to family members affected by recent psychiatric crises. The MET operates monthly, pairing Tracy PD officers skilled in de-escalation and crisis intervention with San Joaquin County Behavioral Health Clinicians to respond to referrals and provide crisis assessment and services in partnership with county clinicians. The MET team is committed to serving the community during times of crisis.

Familiar Faces



The Familiar Faces Homeless Outreach Team of the Tracy Police Department is instrumental in executing the City of Tracy's Homeless Strategic Plan. Their primary objective is to identify and engage with individuals experiencing or at risk of homelessness in the city. To achieve this, they've established a Law Enforcement Protocol for initiating contact with this demographic.

The Familiar Faces program serves as the initial point of contact, assessing needs and providing follow-up assistance to individuals experiencing homelessness. They offer resources encompassing mental health, substance use disorder treatment, motivational interviewing, trauma-informed care, and harm reduction. Leveraging community, county, and state resources, they provide transportation services for reunification, shelter, urgent care, and housing options, including the City's Temporary Housing Shelter. Additionally, they extend case management services to individuals ineligible for the Tracy Interim Shelter.

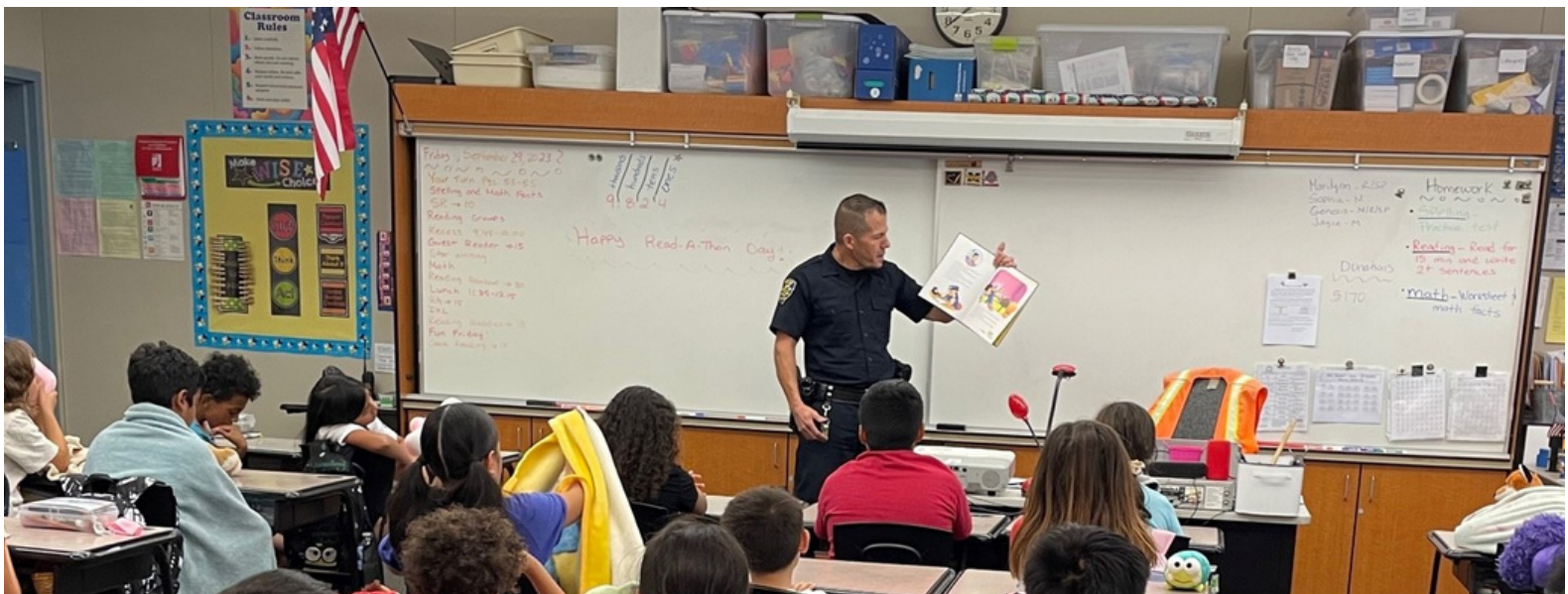
In 2023, the Familiar Faces program aided 169 clients by providing a spectrum of services. Their provision of transportation services for clients to medical appointments, mobile showers, food benefits (EBT), the Social Security office, and DMV appointments has been pivotal in nurturing relationships and fostering trust. While actively addressing homeless encampments at local parks, the Familiar Faces team also focused on individuals experiencing homelessness in various locations throughout downtown Tracy. Their efforts led to the elimination of downtown encampments, alleviating long-standing concerns for local business owners and community members.

School Resource Officers



The Tracy Police Department maintains its collaboration with the Tracy Unified School District (TUSD) to deploy three School Resource Officers (SRO) ensuring a secure learning environment for TUSD students and staff. Each SRO is a sworn, full-time officer assigned to one of the three major high schools—Tracy High, West High, and Kimball High—while also being responsible for serving the remaining elementary and middle school sites within TUSD.

In 2023, the School Resource Officers have sustained robust relationships with TUSD administration. This rapport enables SROs to respond promptly to emerging threats on campus or those circulated on social media. Through these connections, SROs continue to serve as a resource for TUSD partners by offering training, such as large-scale multi-agency active shooter response, and utilizing Hope to provide emotional support for students during stressful times.



Code Enforcement



The Code Enforcement Unit comprises a dedicated team, including four Code Enforcement Officers, a Code Case Analyst, an Administrative Assistant, two part-time traffic interns, and a Code Enforcement Manager. This unit is dedicated to providing regulatory enforcement services, ensuring compliance with a diverse range of local, state, and federal codes. Through education and responsive enforcement, the Code Enforcement team collaborates with private property stakeholders, residents, and the business community, aiming to educate, preserve, and promote safe and healthy communities by enforcing these adopted standards.

On an average day, two Code Enforcement Officers allocate 65 percent of their time to addressing homelessness-related issues in the City of Tracy. They have coordinated over 100 cleanup efforts targeting trash and debris around encampment areas at various locations, including El Pescadero Park, Placencia Fields, Jack Fisher Park, drainage channels, detention basins, Caltrans property, Union Pacific property, and private property.

In 2023, the Code Enforcement Unit concluded a collaborative case at Motel 6 that commenced in August 2022. Motel 6 corporate and local property management successfully met compliance requirements set forth by Code Enforcement, City Planning staff, South County Fire Authority, and the City's Building Safety Division, rectifying violations based on life safety issues. This led to the closure of the case on March 9, 2023. Additionally, Code Enforcement addressed multiple properties known for criminal activity, squatters, substandard living conditions, and excessive calls for service through their nuisance abatement process. Consequently, these properties have been sold or taken over by the bank under default through the compliance process.

The inspection of the City's first cannabis retail stores and cannabis non-retail delivery service marked significant milestones for the Code Enforcement Unit. Moreover, Code Enforcement actively participated in the Mayor's Summer Youth Internship Program, providing a selected intern with valuable hands-on work experience, learning opportunities, mentorship, and insights into a potential career as a Code Enforcement Officer, which has resulted in the intern joining the Tracy Police Explorer program.

Crime Prevention Specialist



The Crime Prevention Specialist at the Tracy Police Department is dedicated to proactive crime prevention efforts by developing and implementing various programs, presentations, and materials for businesses and the community. This includes performing services like Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design inspections and organizing community outreach events. The Crime Prevention Specialist plays a key role in managing our volunteer program (VIPS) and overseeing large-scale events for the Police Department, such as the Tracy Police Department Community Academy and National Night Out. Additionally, they serve as the primary liaison for over 40 block captains involved in Neighborhood Watch.

Our Neighborhood and Business Watch Programs are continually evolving and expanding. In response to an incident where limited cameras hindered detectives, our Crime Prevention Specialist collaborated with Tracy Crime Stoppers and Amazon to create a program that provides community members in active Neighborhood Watch Groups with access to security cameras and equipment. While this initiative is in its early stages, we are excited to partner with businesses and local organizations to enhance community safety.

In 2023, our partnerships with community organizations and members were strengthened and enthusiastically renewed. Through active participation in these events, our officers and professional staff have increased their engagement with the public. The community showed eagerness to continue participating in events. Throughout the year, the department hosted or attended a total of 193 community events. Events like National Night Out, Stuff the Cruiser (school supply donation drive), Coffee with a Cop, Etch and Catch, Crosswalk Patrol, and Badges for Books provided opportunities for our officers and professional staff to be consistently available to the public, addressing any questions they may have.

Volunteers in Police Services



Serving as a vital component of the department, the Tracy Volunteers in Police Service (VIPS) play a crucial role in supporting police officers and enhancing community safety and security. The diverse opportunities offered by VIPS programs, including administrative support and community outreach, contribute significantly to fostering a stronger relationship between law enforcement and the community. This, in turn, builds trust and improves public safety. The VIPS programs are a valuable resource for law enforcement agencies and provide individuals with a meaningful way to give back to their communities.

Currently, there are 17 VIPS members, with a goal to increase this number to 25. In 2023, the dedicated efforts of our VIPS members have resulted in an impressive 3,593.75 hours volunteered through assisting with community events, vacation house checks, extra patrols throughout Tracy, and ensuring that the Tracy Police Fleet is properly maintained for all employees. Notably, these contributions have translated into substantial cost savings for the City, amounting to \$107,633 in 2023. The Tracy VIPS continue to exemplify their commitment to the Tracy community, service, and support, significantly impacting our organization and the residents we serve.

Throughout 2023, the Tracy VIPS continued to attend numerous community events, such as Coffee with Cops, Crosswalk Patrol, Downtown Tracy Candy Crawl, Java and Jalopies, and the Tracy Police Department Community Academy, while also continuing to organize Tony's Letters to Santa and Shop with a Cop. As the VIPS continue to make an impact and connections with community organizations and residents, they were invited to be the first organization highlighted during the monthly Java and Jalopies car meet-up that they attend, as well as earn a feature on Good Day Sacramento to talk about their organization and how they continue to help the community of Tracy.

BUREAU OF INVESTIGATIONS

The Bureau of Investigations (BOI) in Tracy is overseen by both a Police Captain and a Police Lieutenant, who jointly manage specialized units aimed at addressing various community needs. These units include the General Investigations Unit (GIU), Special Investigations Unit (SIU), Crime Scene & Property Unit, Hi-Tech Investigations, Evidence and Property, and the Department's Crime Analyst.

Each unit within BOI is dedicated to supporting community-oriented policing and problem-solving initiatives, upholding the highest standards of professionalism and ethical conduct. To ensure effective service to Tracy's community, BOI collaborates closely with external agencies such as the San Joaquin County District Attorney's Office, and assigns staff members to the Delta RATT and the San Joaquin Metro Taskforce.

BOI remains committed to enhancing its investigative capabilities through the adoption of new technologies, including Hi-Tech software for phone analysis and the planned implementation of a Real-Time Information Center (RTIC). These initiatives reflect the department's ongoing efforts to optimize its operational effectiveness and responsiveness to community needs.



Octavio Lopez
Captain

“

When you pay attention to detail, the results will take care of themselves.

-Unknown

”

General Investigations Unit



The General Investigations Unit (GIU) is responsible for tackling intricate and time-consuming cases within the department. In 2023, the unit comprised eight detectives, one crime analyst, and one sergeant, committed to conducting continuous investigations covering homicides, robberies, crimes against children, sexual assaults, property crimes, financial crimes, and gang-related incidents. Additionally, one detective was designated to the county-wide auto theft task force, specializing in auto theft-related crimes and catalytic converter thefts. These detectives also provided essential investigative training to patrol officers, arming them with skills in documentation, victim/witness interviews, and crime scene processing to improve community service and investigation outcomes.

In 2023, the General Investigations Unit managed a total of 471 cases, referring 488 cases to the San Joaquin County District Attorney's Office for charges. Collaborative efforts with the District Attorney's Office revealed that the primary reason for not pursuing charges often revolved around insufficient evidence or a limited likelihood of securing a guilty conviction.

Despite the heightened workload due to an increase in targeted homicides in the City of Tracy, the General Investigations Unit effectively investigated and resolved 7 out of the 8 homicides reported during the year. Moreover, Child Abuse and Sexual Assault (CASA) detectives delivered sexual assault training to patrol officers, providing them with the necessary knowledge and skills to initiate investigations before a detective's arrival.

Special Investigations Unit



The Special Investigations Unit (SIU) is charged with investigating cases involving illegal drugs, prostitution, and human trafficking. With four investigators and one sergeant, the unit relies on community tips, leads from other department units or external agencies, and self-developed intelligence.

SIU actively conducts safety presentations for community groups, hosts specialized training sessions for TPD personnel, and collaborates with local, state, and federal agencies on large-scale investigations. Taking a proactive victim-centered approach, SIU detectives became experts on human trafficking in 2022. They continued to provide internal training and expanded their outreach by conducting Human Trafficking training for neighboring agencies.

In 2023, SIU detectives devoted substantial time to assisting other TPD units with surveillance, apprehensions, and executing search warrants. Amid their regular duties, SIU also established a response protocol for Fentanyl overdose deaths and delivered crucial training to Patrol Officers to enhance their safety.

As part of SIU's protocol for responding to fentanyl-related overdose deaths, they have begun taking responsibility for fatal incidents involving counterfeit prescription pills. SIU's goal in these investigations is to attempt to identify the source of the victim's Fentanyl pills. SIU then works collaboratively with the San Joaquin County District Attorney's Office to determine if charges can be sought related to the death.

CSI & Property Unit



The CSI and Property Unit plays several crucial roles within the Police Department, operating under the Investigations Division. Staffed with one crime scene technician supervisor, four crime scene technicians (CSTs), and one Senior Property and Evidence Technician, the unit responds to various crime scenes and critical incidents. Their duties encompass evidence documentation, collection, processing, and the intake of all evidence and property booked by department personnel. They coordinate evidence submission to state and federal laboratories for analysis and work closely with the San Joaquin County District Attorney's Office for case prosecution, providing discovery materials and courtroom testimony.

The unit shoulders the significant responsibility of maintaining evidence and property integrity, ensuring proper documentation, packaging, preservation, and security of all items booked by the Police Department. The Evidence and Property Technician oversees the release, auction, and destruction processes, conducting thorough research to determine the disposition of items in accordance with local, state, and federal laws.

In 2023, unit members successfully migrated evidence from the Legacy System to Mark43, the department's current software. Additionally, Crime Scene Technicians led the completion of multiple large-scale Public Records Act (PRA) requests, involving extensive redaction of video, audio, and photo materials. Throughout the year, the Crime Scene and Property Unit processed 4,535 pieces of evidence and generated 833 reports.

BUREAU OF SUPPORT SERVICES

The Bureau of Support Services (BSS) stands as a cornerstone within the Tracy Police Department, constituting one of its three primary bureaus. The Bureau of Support Services boasts four specialized units meticulously crafted to address the diverse needs of the community.

The Bureau of Support Services is comprised of the Animal Services Unit, the Communications Unit, the Fiscal Management and Planning Unit, and the 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.

Operating behind the scenes, BSS undertakes the arduous task of managing the department's budget. Actively pursuing grants to bolster the General Fund, BSS spearheads initiatives aimed at enhancing organizational efficacy and responsiveness to community concerns. In 2023, BSS achieved significant milestones by securing grants to enhance animal welfare, promote the wellness and mental health of officers, and contributing to various community-oriented initiatives.

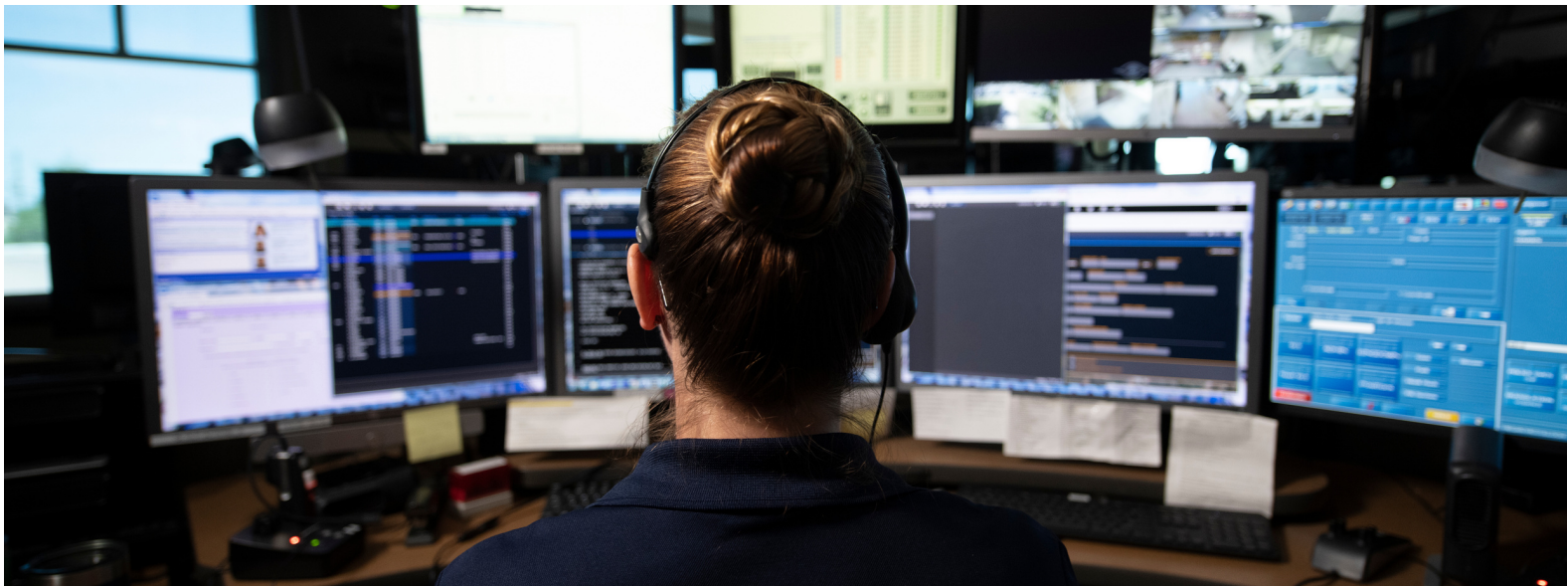


Beth Lyons-McCarthy
Support Operations
Manager

“
**Quality is never an accident;
it is always the result of intelligent effort.**

–John Ruskin
”

Communications Unit



The Communications Unit at the Tracy Police Department is comprised of 13 Public Safety Dispatchers, 4 Senior Public Safety Dispatchers, and 2 Public Safety Dispatch Supervisors. These dedicated professionals ensure the provision of emergency and non-emergency police communications services 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. In the year 2023 alone, the Tracy Police Department's Public Safety Dispatchers managed a total of 136,681 telephone calls, including 75,648 9-1-1 emergency calls for service.

Remarkably, in 2023, the unit achieved a response time excellence, with 99.67% of the 9-1-1 calls answered in under 15 seconds. This surpasses the National Emergency Number Association (NENA) standard, which requires 95% of calls to be answered within 20 seconds.

The ongoing commitment to efficiency includes the continuous updating and fixing of the Mark43 program maps in collaboration with ESRI and Google Maps. A significant advancement is the deployment of the OnScene App, offering various benefits such as enabling Dispatch to view GPS locations and providing the Traffic Unit with the capability to access CLETS returns initiated by Dispatch.

Looking forward, pending the installation of a new message switch and approval from the Department of Justice (DOJ), the Communications Unit anticipates the availability of CLETS returns on department cell phones. This advancement underscores the unit's dedication to staying at the forefront of technology and optimizing communication processes for enhanced public safety.

**2023 TOTAL CALLS
TO DISPATCH**



136,681

2023 CALLS FOR SERVICE



75,648

9-1-1 CALLS



34,905

Records Unit

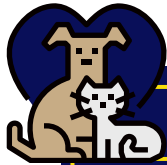


The Tracy Police Department Records Unit is comprised of a total of seven full-time Police Records Assistants, including five full-time Police Records Assistants, two full-time Senior Police Records Assistants, and a Supervisor. This dedicated staff is responsible for overseeing all aspects of report processing and document control within the Tracy Police Department. They provide crucial support to police officers and offer service and assistance to the public, addressing requests for copies of police reports, vehicle releases, Live Scan fingerprinting, and similar inquiries.

In 2023, the Records Unit concentrated on optimizing the Mark 43 Records Management System. This initiative included cross-training the records staff on NIBRS reporting, implementing quality assurance measures, and conducting a thorough cleanup of the Mark 43 system. Furthermore, efforts were directed towards bolstering data analysis capabilities by generating additional reports from Analytics and introducing Crossroads for comprehensive information gathering. The implementation of Crossroads in 2023 was complemented by comprehensive training initiatives, such as the "Train the Trainers" program, ensuring proficiency across all staff. To maintain a comprehensive record of traffic collisions, all incidents from the year 2023 were diligently entered into Crossroads.

Looking ahead to 2024, the Records Unit has outlined strategic initiatives aimed at maximizing revenue and streamlining data collection efforts. Collaboration with a third-party administrator for alarm permitting and false alarms is set to enhance revenue and debt collection processes. The commitment to Racial and Identity Profiling Act (RIPA) data collection remains strong, incorporating Veritone for efficient data gathering. Close collaboration with the Department of Justice is a priority to ensure accurate reporting. The overarching goal is to identify the most efficient method of reporting, contributing to a streamlined and effective data management process in the coming year.

Animal Services Unit



Dogs	Cats
206 Adoptions	228 Adoptions
12 Euthanasia	103 Euthanasia
1 Died	19 Died
1 Lost	3 Lost
28 Rescue/Transfer	40 Rescue/Transfer
3 Other Live Outcome	311 Other Live Outcome
119 Returned to Owner	1 Returned to Owner
Total: 370	Total: 705



From January 1st to December 31st, 2023, Animal Service Officers responded to 3,858 calls for service, showing an increase from the 3,653 calls in 2022. Tracy Animal Services impounded 705 felines and 370 canines during this period, compared to 607 felines and 569 canines in the same period of 2022. When comparing stray intakes, feline intakes increased, while canine intakes decreased.

Out of the 370 canines brought in, 206 were adopted, 119 were returned to their owners, and 28 were transferred to rescue organizations. Of the 705 felines, 228 were adopted, 40 were transferred to rescue organizations, and 311 went through our Shelter-Neuter-Return program.

The shelter implemented a delayed intake 'foster finder' program in January 2023, resulting in 176 reported found pets. Of these, 85 were reunited with their owners outside of the sheltering system. Additionally, 61 pets were brought in through appointments, 12 were kept or rehomed, 9 were transferred to a rescue organization, and 9 had an unknown or negative outcome. Overall, this pilot program has proven positive for life-saving efforts.

Data tracking for the Doggy Day Out program began in 2023, with 202 instances of pets being taken out of the shelter. Animal Services received \$23,000 in grant funding year-to-date, contributing to efforts to improve live outcomes for cats. This includes the purchase and creation of 100 neo-natal kitten kits and targeted trapping in areas with high kitten intake, aiming to reduce neo-natal and sick/injured stray roaming cats.

The focus on social events was evident through monthly off-site adoptions at Petsmart and participation in over 37 community events throughout the year. The Friends of the Tracy Animal Shelter organization sponsored \$24,817.77, preventing the depletion of the annual budget for shelter pets and ensuring positive outcomes for animals.

Currently, there is a save rate of 83.24% for felines, indicating an increase from the 83.16% save rate in 2022. The save rate for dogs is 97.12%, showing a slight decrease from 98.42% in 2022. This results in an average live release of 88.04% for animals brought into the facility, compared to 89.75% in 2022.



Drone Cadre



Honor Guard



Reserve Program



Motor Cadre



Field Training



Range Cadre



Crisis Negotiations



PAL Program



Bicycle Patrol



Tactical Dispatch



Special Weapons and Tactics



Canine Unit



Recruitment



Tactical Medics



Media Team



D.A.R.E



Defensive Tactics



Police Explorers



Peer Support



Police Chaplaincy

Promotions



Octavio Lopez
Police Captain



Mario Ysit
Police Lieutenant



Veronica Nunez
Police Support Services Technician



Bryan Desousa
Crime Scene Technician



Jake Comber
Police Sergeant



Josh Pettit
Police Corporal

Promotions



Mike Roehlk
Police Lieutenant



Leticia Infante
Police Sergeant



Raymundo Reynoso
Police Corporal



Brittany Pasquale
Animal Services Manager

New Team Members



Jessica Henry
Public Safety Dispatcher II



Samantha Clark
Public Safety Dispatcher II



Frank Padilla
Police Officer



Terryl Nicasio
Public Safety Dispatcher I



Chelsea Fitzgerald
Public Safety Dispatcher I



Angelo Arnaudo
Police Officer

New Team Members



Lillian Torres
Community Services



Rylee Osby
Police Parking



Anthony Parrino
Police Officer



Adrian Loera
Police Officer Trainee



Jose Miranda
Police Officer Trainee



Andrew Millard
Police Officer Trainee

Medal of Meritorious Service

Miguel Contreras *Community Services Division Lieutenant*



Lieutenant Contreras has exhibited an unwavering dedication to addressing the challenges of homelessness. Understanding its complexities, he has invested substantial time engaging with homeless individuals, comprehending their obstacles, and crafting practical solutions. Notably, he initiated the Familiar Faces program within the PD, adeptly managing associated grant funding and ensuring its success, with plans for expansion in 2024.

Under his leadership, innovative strategies have been implemented to combat homelessness, including proactive outreach, collaborative partnerships with local organizations, and community-based programs. He has spearheaded efforts to revitalize neglected areas like Detention Basin Four, Plascencia Fields, and El Pescadero Park, converting them from illegal camping spots into functional community spaces.

Lieutenant Contreras's collaborative approach has forged strong alliances with local organizations, nonprofits, and government agencies, facilitating resource sharing and expertise for a united response to homelessness. His genuine empathy and compassion towards those experiencing homelessness have fostered trust and facilitated access to vital services.

As a leader, Lieutenant Contreras has instilled a culture of service, integrity, and excellence within his team. Through mentorship and guidance, he has cultivated a committed group dedicated to addressing quality-of-life issues and effecting positive change in the community.

In conclusion, Lieutenant Miguel Contreras's exceptional contributions, unwavering dedication, and effective leadership in addressing homelessness have significantly enhanced the lives of individuals in our community. His embodiment of service, integrity, and excellence exemplifies the qualities deserving of the Meritorious Service Award.

The Medal of Meritorious Service is awarded to an employee who, while serving in an official capacity, stands out by making significant contributions to help the Department achieve its goals and objectives. This recognition is reserved for those whose service significantly and positively impacts the Department, and who take on substantial responsibility and demonstrate personal initiative.

Medal of Meritorious Service

Traffic Safety Unit



Sergeant Wilmshurst, Corporal Speaks, Officer Allen, Officer Belmonte, Officer Perez, and Officer Ventling

In January 2023, Tracy's Traffic Unit launched an extensive campaign to bolster public safety by increasing citations, educating the public, and reducing citywide traffic crashes. Despite facing 13 fatal/serious injury crashes and 699 total crashes in the previous year, the unit's efforts resulted in a notable decrease to 647 crashes and 5 fatal/serious injury crashes.

The Traffic Safety Unit's achievements include doubling citation issuance, conducting numerous collision call-out responses, and collaborating with CHP and the Sheriff's Office on Commercial Enforcement to address truck-related issues. Their comprehensive efforts prompted the city to seek consultation for updating truck routes and signage.

The Traffic Safety Unit's commitment extended to evening and weekend enforcement, community event participation, and hosting multi-agency Radar/Lidar trainings. They also spearheaded a countywide Saturation Enforcement Program and secured a California Highway Patrol Cannabis Grant for a new enforcement vehicle.

For their unwavering dedication and significant contributions to public safety, the Traffic Safety Unit merits recognition and the Meritorious Medal of Service Award.

*The **Medal of Meritorious Service** is awarded to an employee who, while serving in an official capacity, stands out by making significant contributions to help the Department achieve its goals and objectives. This recognition is reserved for those whose service significantly and positively impacts the Department, and who take on substantial responsibility and demonstrate personal initiative.*

Department Recognition Award

Lisa Avila *Animal Services Volunteer*



Lisa Avila is a recipient of the 2023 Department Recognition Award for her outstanding contributions to Animal Services. Beginning her journey as a PAWS Volunteer in May 2022, Lisa has become an invaluable asset to our shelter.

Lisa's commitment extends beyond attending numerous community events; she consistently arrives with a smile and a willingness to assist in any capacity. Her versatility shines as she provides support across various realms of our Animal Services unit. From assisting Administrative Assistants with filing and scanning documents to aiding Animal Shelter Aides with cleaning, enrichment activities, and socializing with pets, Lisa's dedication is evident.

Moreover, Lisa's amiable nature has endeared her to all staff members, making her exceptionally easy to work with. She has proven herself as a dependable resource, often being the first to respond when Animal Services requires transportation for pets to rescues or veterinarian appointments, even if they are out of town.

Her selflessness, compassion, and willingness to contribute, have greatly supported TAS's life-saving efforts.

In recognition of her invaluable contributions, we proudly acknowledge Lisa Avila as a true lifesaver in our eyes!

The Department Recognition Award can be granted to an individual or a group of employees who have demonstrated exceptional performance in their duties under challenging or complex circumstances for a significant period. It may also be given in acknowledgment of a proactive approach, as evidenced by projects or community involvement.

Department Recognition Award

City of Tracy Public Works



Chris Chaparro, Chris Davidson, Juan Godoy, Larry Gonzales, Brian Heefner, and Frank Morones

The Tracy Police Department is proud to recognize the dedication and service of The City of Tracy's Public Works employees: Chris Chapparo, Chris Davidson, Juan Godoy, Larry Gonzales, Brian Heefner, and Frank Merones, with the 2023 Tracy Police Department Recognition Award. These individuals have shown unwavering commitment to serving the community and have upheld the core values of Fairness, Integrity, Respect, Service, and Teamwork. Despite facing challenging circumstances, they have consistently demonstrated exceptional performance in their duties. Through their proactive approach, dedication, and collaborative efforts, they have made significant contributions to enhancing the quality of life for the residents of Tracy.

*The **Department Recognition Award** can be granted to an individual or a group of employees who have demonstrated exceptional performance in their duties under challenging or complex circumstances for a significant period. It may also be given in acknowledgment of a proactive approach, as evidenced by projects or community involvement.*

Department Recognition Award

Art Freiler Incident



Lieutenant Miguel Contreras, Sergeant Richard Graham, NRO Robert Brandi, NRO Matt Ford, NRO Dwayne Pavelski, Homeless Outreach Coordinator Ayesha Nic-Gongora, Homeless Outreach Coordinator Hector Jaimes, Code Enforcement Manager Ana Contreras, Code Enforcement Analyst Lacy Starling, Code Enforcement Officer Lilia Perez, Code Enforcement Officer Ana Adams, Code Enforcement Officer Shawn Potter, Code Enforcement Officer Bobby Alcantar, Animal Services Officer Amanda Sena, Animal Services Officer Abbey Potkonjak, Animal Services Gabriel Alvarez, Public Works Supervisor Holly Moyer, Maintenance Worker I Dominick Hollingsworth, Senior Maintenance Worker Steve Rhyne, Maintenance Worker II Shawn Holloway, and Maintenance Worker Keith Pemberton.

The coordinated response to a critical incident at Art Freiler School, where 13-year-old student Heather experienced respiratory distress, involved the efforts of multiple individuals. Teacher Alayna Evans and students Joseph Russell, Malyna Torres-Melton, and McKenna Adamo, guided by Dispatcher Joanna Ranu, provided initial assistance until emergency services arrived.

Upon their arrival, the Tracy Police Department, South County Fire, and AMR collaborated to transport Heather to the hospital, where she received prompt treatment and eventually recovered fully. In recognition of their exceptional performance during this challenging event, the Tracy Police Department extends its gratitude to Principal Stephen Theall, Teacher Alayna Evans, School Staff Davin Willhoit, and students Malyna Torres-Melton, McKenna Adamo, and Joseph Russell, along with Dispatcher Joanna Ranu, Paramedic Jason Boak, EMT Jessica Eudave, Captain Trent Vick, Captain Joel Slaughter, Engineer Ray Gonzalez, Engineer James Barr, Engineer/Paramedic Mason Vickers, and Firefighter Daniel Kopas. They are awarded the 2023 Tracy Police Department Recognition Award.

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Department Recognition Award

Crime Scene & Property Unit



CST Supervisor Tankersley, CST Martin, CST Santillan, CST Valles, CST DeSousa, and Property Technician Henry

Throughout the past year, the Crime Scene and Property Unit encountered significant challenges. The news from our IT department revealed that our legacy evidence program, crafted in-house by the previous supervisor, would become obsolete. This necessitated a manual migration to the new system, spanning 8-9 months and requiring extensive overtime hours.

Simultaneously, the unit faced a surge in Public Records Act (PRA) redactions for use of force releases following a spike in public requests. With no prior experience, our CSTs, guided by Jonathan Henry, undertook the laborious process of manual redactions, often spanning weeks for single videos.

These challenges coincided with a record number of homicides and call-outs, resulting in increased workload and overtime. Despite these strains, the unit persevered, with only three CSTs in the on-call rotation for the first half of the year, supplemented by additional assistance as needed.

Given the extraordinary workload and dedication demonstrated by the Crime Scene and Property Unit, they are deserving of the 2023 Department Recognition Award.

The **Department Recognition Award** can be granted to an individual or a group of employees who have demonstrated exceptional performance in their duties under challenging or complex circumstances for a significant period. It may also be given in acknowledgment of a proactive approach, as evidenced by projects or community involvement.

Department Recognition Award

Community Services Division



Principal Stephen Theall, Teacher Alayna Evans, School Staff Davin Willhoit, Student Malyna Torres- Melton, Student McKenna Adamo, Student Joseph Russell, Dispatcher Joanna Ruan, Paramedic Jason Boak, EMT Jessica Eudave, Captain Trent Vick, Captain Joel Slaughter, Engineer Ray Gonzalez, Engineer James Barr, Engineer/Paramedic Mason Vickers, and Firefighter Daniel Kopas.

Throughout 2023, the City of Tracy's multi-departmental team displayed exceptional dedication and collaboration in addressing homelessness. The team, consisting of departments such as Public Works, Parks, Homeless Services, Familiar Faces, Code Enforcement, Neighborhood Resource Officers, the Mobile Evaluation Team, and the Animal Services Unit, systematically cleared major homeless encampments across the city. Their approach involved updated municipal codes and proactive engagement with stakeholders.

Beyond clearing encampments, the team facilitated the reunification of homeless individuals with family members and utilized city resources, county programs, and non-profit partnerships to secure housing. The successful clearing of El Pescadero Park on December 20th, 2023, was a significant achievement, alleviating community concerns and paving the way for future developments, including the Multi-Generational Recreation Center.

Operating with compassion and respect, the team acknowledged the diverse circumstances leading to homelessness and aimed to provide hope and options to those affected. Each member emerged from the challenges stronger and more unified, embodying resilience and dedication. Their embodiment of service, integrity, and excellence reflects the qualities deserving of the Department Recognition Award.

*The **Department Recognition Award** can be granted to an individual or a group of employees who have demonstrated exceptional performance in their duties under challenging or complex circumstances for a significant period. It may also be given in acknowledgment of a proactive approach, as evidenced by projects or community involvement.*

Award of Excellence

Days B



Lieutenant Ysit, Sergeant Infante, Corporal Hawkinson, Officer Blizinski, Officer DeWitt, Officer Gonzalez, Officer Hostetler, and Officer Velazquez

On September 27, 2023, the city terminated its contract with Trine Security for park services, prompting Officer Abel Perez-Miranda, alongside Sergeant Infante and team members Corporal Hawkinson, Officers Gonzalez, DeWitt, Hostetler, Blizinski, and Velazquez, to step in and address the safety concerns at local parks.

Despite the less glamorous nature of the assignment, ensuring park safety remained a top priority for the community and city leadership. The team conducted numerous security checks throughout the year, leading to 53 arrests, with Officer Perez-Miranda accounting for 28 of them, not counting citations and vehicle impoundments. Their most significant achievement came in mid-December when they seized over six ounces of methamphetamine during a drug arrest at a local park, a quantity representing nearly 350 times the average user's possession.

Analyzing the team's overall productivity, they proved statistically above average, with 325 arrests, 1,601 reports, and 3,221 assigned calls compared to the patrol averages of 250 arrests, 1,116 reports, and 2,049 assigned calls, respectively.

Beyond the numbers, the team consistently demonstrated positive attitudes and mutual support, embodying the Tracy Police Department's Core Values of Service, Integrity, and Excellence.

Their commitment to community initiatives and proactive policing, exceeding both community and departmental expectations, merits recognition with the Tracy Police Department's Award of Excellence.

The Award of Excellence is a recognition given to an employee or work group for their exceptional achievements over the past 12 months, demonstrating a commitment to the principles outlined in the Tracy Police Department's Mission Statement.

Award of Excellence

Hostage Rescue Incident



Lead Dispatcher Shaina Marquez and Dispatcher Sarah Henrioulle

In acknowledgment of their remarkable contributions, Senior Public Safety Dispatcher Shaina Marquez and Public Safety Dispatcher II Sarah Henrioulle have been honored with the Award of Excellence. Their exemplary involvement in a Flock Safety Automatic License Plate Reader (ALPR) response on January 31, 2023, resulted in the successful recovery of two hostages and the apprehension of a violent suspect.

Through their swift and coordinated actions, Marquez and Henrioulle demonstrated exceptional professionalism, dedication, and adherence to the department's mission. Their commitment to public safety and effective utilization of resources exemplify the highest standards of service within the Tracy Police Department.

The Award of Excellence is a recognition given to an employee or work group for their exceptional achievements over the past 12 months, demonstrating a commitment to the principles outlined in the Tracy Police Department's Mission Statement.

Silver Star Medal

Hostage Rescue Incident



Sergeant Richards, Corporal Pineo, Officer Silva, Officer Alejo, Officer Nevarez, Officer Van Dyk, Detective Chavez, and Detective Juan

In response to a carjacking and hostage situation reported on January 31, 2023, at approximately 12:56 a.m. in the vicinity of W. Grant Line Rd./Lammers Rd., officers from A Graves Patrol swiftly took action. The suspect, armed with a handgun and with a history of violence, posed a significant threat to both law enforcement and the hostages involved.

Officer Joel Chavez promptly located the suspect's vehicle and initiated a pursuit, with Officer Gabe Silva managing communications. Despite the risks, Officer Julian Alejo attempted to deploy spike strips to intercept the suspect. Despite their efforts, the suspect evaded the spike strips, leading to the pursuit's termination via a PIT maneuver.

Following the immobilization of the vehicle, officers, including Officers Nevarez, Juan, Van Dyk, and Corporal Pineo, successfully detained the suspect and safely freed the hostages without harm. Their collective actions demonstrated exceptional courage and unwavering dedication to public safety.

In recognition of their bravery and valor in rescuing hostages and apprehending a violent suspect, Officer Joel Chavez, Officer Gabe Silva, Officer Julian Alejo, Officer Freddie Nevarez, Officer Jasper Juan, Officer Mitchell Van Dyk, Corporal Jake Pineo, and Sergeant Mike Richards are honored with the Silver Star Medal.

*The **Silver Star Medal** is bestowed upon members and employees for acts of bravery that fall outside the criteria for the Medal of Valor. Although the level of action may be less than that needed for the Medal of Valor, it must still have been executed with distinction and courage.*

Life-Saving Award

Las Casuelas Incident



Lieutenant Ysit and Corporal Cisneros

On February 10, 2023, Modesto Fire responded to an emergency at Las Casuela's Mexican Restaurant. Upon arrival, the team discovered an unconscious woman in need of urgent assistance. Three bystanders, including off-duty Tracy PD officers Lieutenant Mario Ysit and Corporal Gustavo Cisneros, along with Chris Parnell, an off-duty fireman, stepped in to help.

Lieutenant Ysit provided aid during CPR, and with the assistance of an AED on SQ11, they successfully restored the woman's pulse. Remarkably, their efforts led to her regaining consciousness before additional medical support arrived.

The off-duty heroics of Lieutenant Ysit and Corporal Cisneros exemplified the Tracy Police Department's commitment to service, integrity, and excellence. Their quick and selfless response significantly contributed to the positive outcome of the incident, showcasing the essence of heroism in the community, and merits the Life-Saving Medal.

*The **Life-Saving Medal** is awarded to an officer to honor acts that lead to the rescue or preservation of human life that would have otherwise been lost if not for the direct intervention of the employee.*

Life-Saving Award

Art Freiler Incident



Corporal Hawkinson, Officer Brown, and Officer Contreras

On September 22, 2023, Corporal Hawkinson, Officer Contreras, and Officer Brown responded to a critical situation at Art Freiler School, where a 13-year-old student named Heather had stopped breathing. Upon arrival, they immediately sprang into action.

Corporal Hawkinson swiftly coordinated with School Resource Officer Contreras and South County Fire to reach the classroom where Heather was located. Officer Contreras and Corporal Hawkinson facilitated the arrival of emergency medical equipment and assisted in creating space for life-saving measures.

Officer Contreras skillfully performed CPR, relaying crucial information to South County Fire, while Corporal Hawkinson liaised with school staff and Heather's father, providing vital explanations and support.

Corporal Hawkinson, Officer Contreras, and Officer Brown demonstrated exceptional professionalism, teamwork, and dedication in their life-saving response to this critical situation. Their quick thinking and decisive actions reflect the highest standards of service and merit commendation for their exemplary efforts.

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Volunteer of the Year

Mercedes Lavrinc Volunteer in Police Services



In 2023, Mercedes Lavrinc was honored as the Volunteer of the Year for her outstanding contributions to VIPS. Since joining Tracy VIPS in 2017, Mercedes has become an indispensable member of the Tracy Police Department, lending her support to various initiatives such as DA Runs, administrative tasks, and community events. She approaches every assignment with enthusiasm, tackling even the smallest tasks with grace and a can-do attitude. Whether it's assisting with Candy Crawl preparations or wrapping Christmas gifts for Tony's Letters to Santa, Mercedes' commitment shines through.

Her cheerful disposition and unwavering dedication have earned her praise from both officers and professional staff alike. In 2023 alone, Mercedes volunteered an impressive 361 hours, resulting in substantial savings of approximately \$10,811.95 for the Tracy Police Department.

Furthermore, Mercedes' recent election as the VIPS INC 501c3 Vice President for the 2024 term underscores her commitment to leadership and service. Her willingness to take on additional responsibilities and proactive approach to volunteering makes her a standout candidate for the Volunteer of the Year award.

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.

Police Employee of the Year

Cherise Acosta *Crime Prevention Specialist*



Cherise began her tenure with the Tracy Police Department in October 2014, initially serving as an Animal Service Officer 1 before advancing to her current position.

Since assuming the role of Crime Prevention Specialist, Cherise has made significant contributions to the Tracy Police Department, VIPS, and the Tracy community. She consistently raises awareness of TPD initiatives among Tracy residents and maintains an active presence in the community.

Under Cherise's leadership, the number of community involvement events has increased from 50 in 2021 to nearly 200 in 2023. She remains accessible to all City of Tracy employees, demonstrating professionalism and unwavering dedication.

Cherise's positive impact reverberates throughout the PD and the city, as she makes a meaningful difference each day. Her steadfast commitment to community outreach and proactive engagement undoubtedly qualifies her as a deserving candidate for the Employee of the Year Award.

The Employee of the Year Award 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.

Rookie Officer of the Year

Abel Perez-Miranda Officer



Officer Perez-Miranda has been selected as this year's recipient for his outstanding contributions to the Tracy Police Department. Over the past seven months, he has consistently demonstrated dependability, loyalty, dedication, honesty, and an exceptional work ethic.

Assigned to Beat 6, which includes El Pescadero Park, Officer Perez-Miranda willingly undertook the challenging task of addressing the city's highly publicized safety and blight issues associated with the park. Adopting a "My beat, my responsibility" mindset, he led by example, inspiring his team members to actively participate in making arrests and supporting his efforts.

With a cheerful attitude and a proactive approach, Officer Perez-Miranda remained vigilant and visible at the park while efficiently addressing other city concerns. Moreover, he willingly sacrificed personal time to assist A-side teams with patrol coverage, earning the respect and admiration of his colleagues.

Officer Perez-Miranda's remarkable achievements and exemplary qualities epitomize the finest attributes of law enforcement and reflect positively on the department. His unwavering dedication aligns perfectly with the Tracy Police Department's mission statement and core values of service, integrity, and excellence.

The Rookie Police Officer of the Year Award is presented to recognize exceptional accomplishments by an officer that enhance the Department's reputation and involve performance surpassing the expectations for a Rookie Officer's assignment. This award may be given to a sworn officer with two years or less of service with the Tracy Police Department who exhibits the qualities outlined in the Tracy Police Department Mission Statement and views their work as a source of joy and fulfillment.

Police Officer of the Year

Gabriel Silva Officer



Officer Gabriel Silva has been nominated for Officer of the Year in recognition of his exceptional performance within the Tracy Police Department. Throughout his tenure, Officer Silva has distinguished himself as one of the most proactive patrol officers, consistently demonstrating an exemplary team spirit. His proactive approach has led to numerous felony arrests, inspiring his colleagues with his unwavering dedication to duty.

Officer Silva's reliability, diligence, and commitment surpass the expectations for a rookie officer. He embodies the core values of the Tracy Police Department, representing the department with unwavering pride and professionalism.

Notably, Officer Silva has received two CHP 10851 awards and has successfully recovered over 20 stolen vehicles to date. His proactive efforts to combat crime have also led to significant seizures of narcotics and firearms. Additionally, Officer Silva's quick thinking and decisive action resulted in the interruption of a catalytic converter theft in progress, leading to the apprehension of all involved suspects. For his exemplary service in this incident, Officer Silva received a Captain's Commendation.

Officer Silva's outstanding contributions to law enforcement and his dedication to maintaining public safety make him a deserving candidate for Officer of the Year.

The Police Officer of the Year Award is given to an officer for exceptional achievements that reflect positively on the Department. This recognition is reserved for performances that go well beyond the expectations of an officer's basic assignment.