

Fox Crossing Police Department

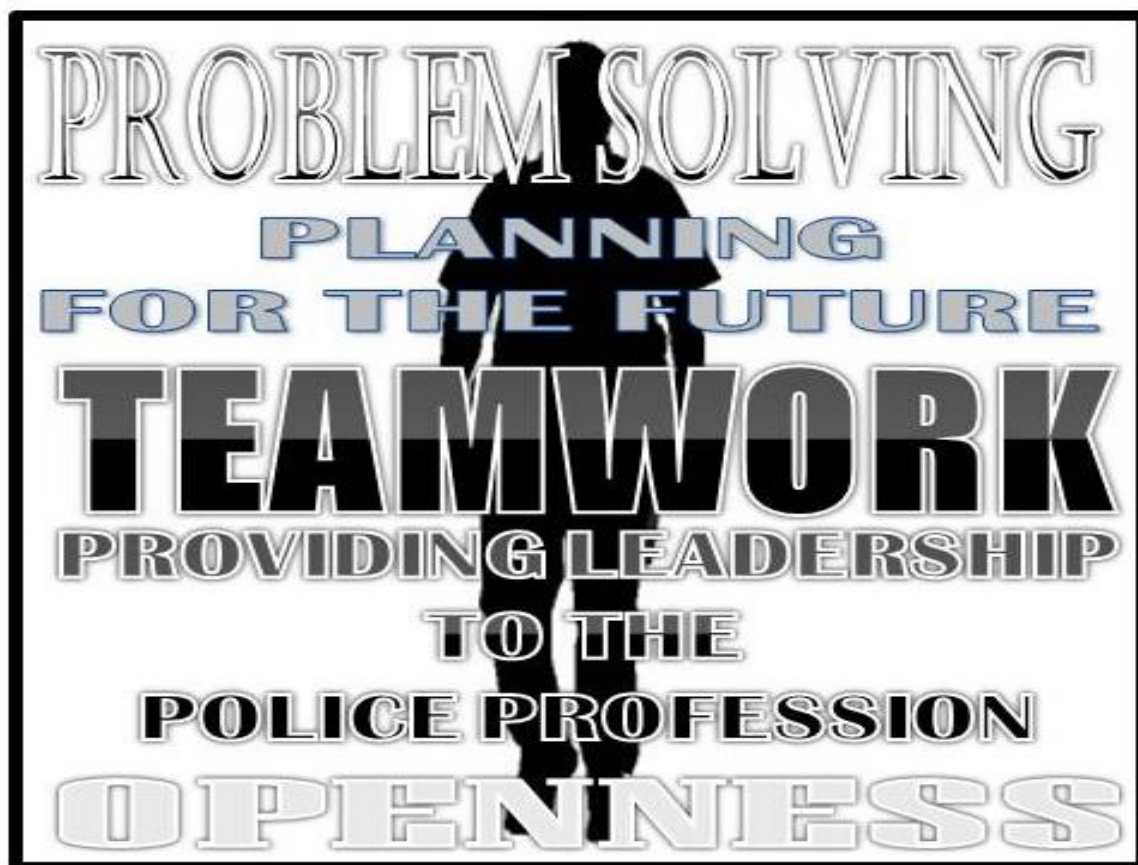


2017 Annual Report

OUR MISSION

The Fox Crossing Police Department exists for the purpose of providing an enhanced level of public safety in the community, protecting the constitutional rights of all people, and improving the quality of life of each citizen.

OUR COMMITMENTS



MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF

2017 was a year full of changes for our police department. Police Chief Rod McCants retired and I was selected for the Police Chief's position, in February, after having been an administrative lieutenant for the department the previous 14 years. Our agency went from being known as the Town of Menasha Police Department in 2016 to the Fox Crossing Police Department, and in 2017, we were still making all of the necessary changes for our new name and identity.

The Fox Crossing Police Department organizational structure was changed in the Administrative Division. The administrative lieutenant's position was reclassified as a police captain and that position became a salaried position.

The Fox Crossing Police Department had two of its officers honored for serving on the joint Appleton SWAT team. One of those honored had been and active member on the joint team for 20 years and had climbed to the role of assist-team leader. The Fox Crossing Police Department had a great working relationship with the Appleton Police Department on the joint team, but decided to become part of the Winnebago SWAT team at the start of the new year being our jurisdiction is located in Winnebago County.

In 2017, the Fox Crossing Police Department recognized three citizens throughout the year for their selfless actions. One award was a Civilian Award for Gallantry, and two were for Civilian Community Service Awards.

The community established a committee to raise funds for a department K-9 and the group began to raise money for a canine and the necessary equipment to operate a K-9 unit. The Fox Crossing Police Department has been without a K-9 unit for at least 20 years.

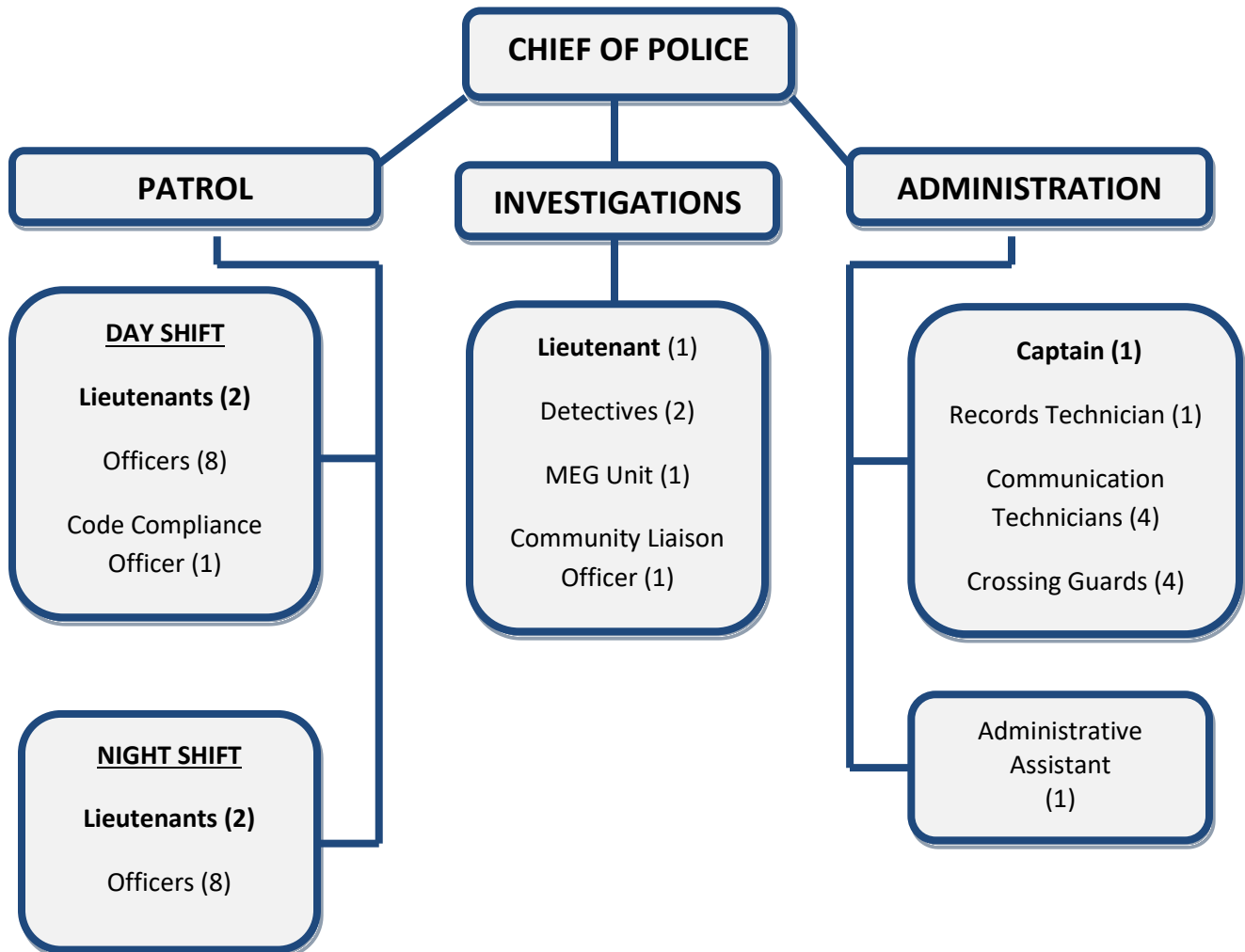
The 441/10 project has proven challenging at times for traffic and our officers, but we are getting closer to that tentative completion date. The entire project is expected to be completed in 2019.

We would again like to thank all of the citizens and businesses of the Village of Fox Crossing for their continued support. With our police department working together with the community, we can continue to make our community a safer and enjoyable place to work and live.

The Fox Crossing Police Department exists for the purpose of providing an enhanced level of public safety in the community, protecting the constitutional rights of all people, and improving the quality of life of each citizen. We are committed to: problem solving, teamwork, openness, planning for the future, and providing leadership to the police profession.



ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



STAFF

SWORN

CHIEF OF POLICE

Tim Seaver

CAPTAIN

Pete DeBoer

INVESTIGATIONS LIEUTENANT

Scott Blashka

PATROL LIEUTENANTS

Rick Leneau

Gary Cutler

Jason Severson

Tim Callan

DETECTIVES

Christopher Anderson

Jason Feucht

Jeremiah Gustafson

COMMUNITY LIAISON OFFICER

Jason Weber

PATROL OFFICERS

Scott Boehlen

Gerard Stephanie

Dan Wiechman

John Swenson

Christopher LaSage

Seely Moe

Christopher Brandt

Megan Hickey

Scott Farrell

Corey Colburn

Erwin Davis

Corey Haag

Jon Evers

Mitch Deterville

Shawn Glasel

CIVILIAN

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Sherri Gotto

RECORDS TECHNICIAN

Erin LeMahieu

COMMUNICATIONS TECHNICIANS

Angela Oppor

Christy Scott

JoAnn Richards

Michelle Julius

Taylor Warning

CROSSING GUARDS

Jacquelyn Lovejoy

Tori Niemuth

Tara Kelbert

Ron Obermeier

CODE COMPLIANCE

Scott Glasel

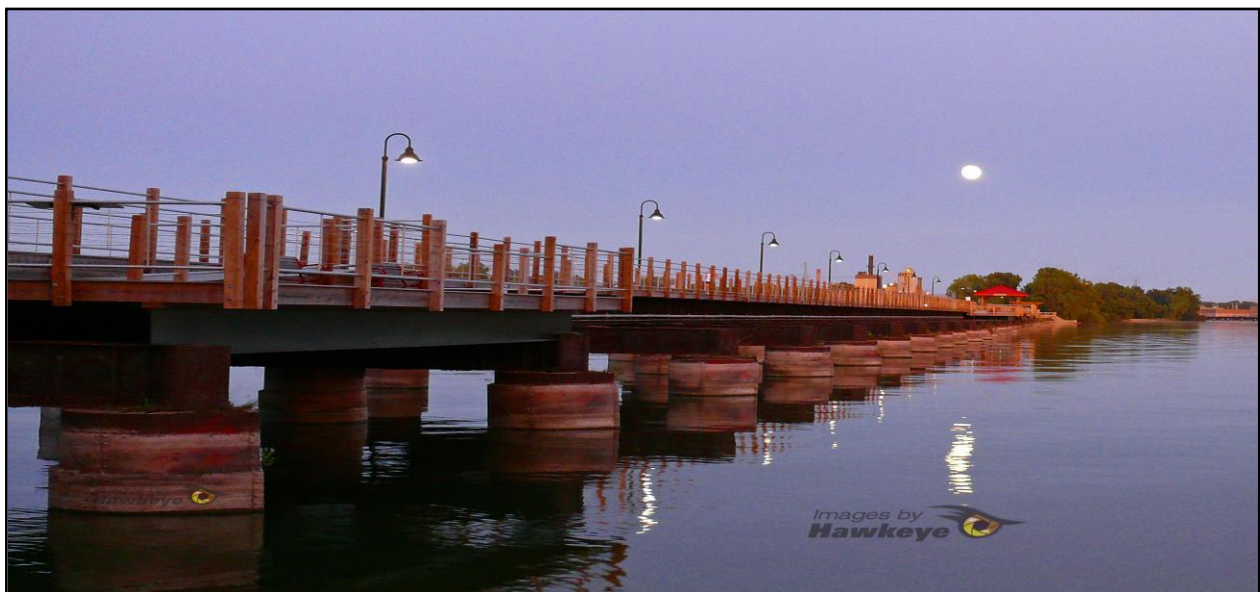
COMMUNITY PROFILE

The Village of Fox Crossing can trace its roots back to before Wisconsin was even a state. A territorial government was set up for the State of Wisconsin in 1836 and land was ceded by the Native Americans that later became the Village of Fox Crossing. In 1847, the Township of Neenah was created and organized by an act of the territorial legislature. The original township included the present day cities and towns of Neenah and Menasha, and the towns of Clayton and Vinland. Vinland and Clayton were split off and given independent statuses in 1849. By 1855, the Winnebago County Board split the remaining Town of Neenah, with its two settlements, into two parts: the Town of Neenah on the south and the Town of Menasha on the north. The more urban areas of both towns later incorporated into cities – Neenah in 1873 and Menasha the following year in 1874. In 2016 the Town of Menasha incorporated into a village and changed the name to Fox Crossing.

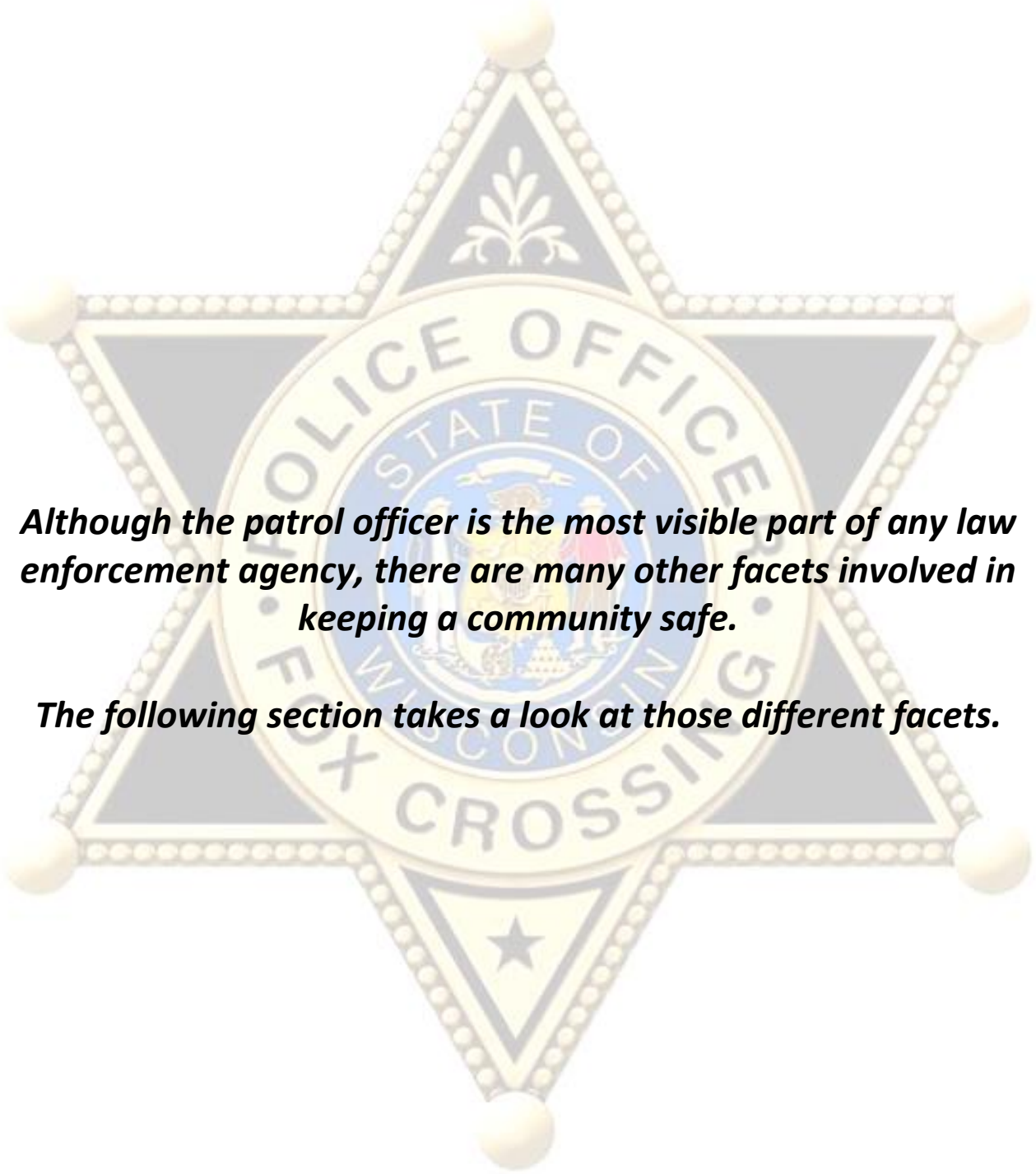
The Village of Fox Crossing lies in the “Fox Cities” area of Wisconsin, near the northwest corner of Lake Winnebago, about thirty minutes southwest of Green Bay. The Village of Fox Crossing has enjoyed steady growth for many years, and is presently the sixth largest village in Wisconsin with a population of 18,957.

The Village of Fox Crossing has a service area of 12.3 square miles that includes two major federal highways that intersect within those boundaries. Approximately 66,000 vehicles cross USH 10 each day, and another 91,000 vehicles travel on I-41 each day. In addition, the Village of Fox Crossing maintains approximately 100 miles of local roadways.

The Village of Fox Crossing has a variety of zoning types within its jurisdiction, ranging from industrial/commercial to agricultural/residential. The economy of the area is based upon the paper industry and the village is home to many large corporations including Pierce Manufacturing, Kimberly Clark, SCA Tissue, Clearwater, Miron Construction, Outlook Corp., Great Northern and many other great businesses.



AGENCY PROFILE

A large, semi-transparent watermark of a Wisconsin State Police badge is centered on the page. The badge is a seven-pointed star with a central seal. The seal features a figure holding a scale and a sword, with the text 'STATE OF WISCONSIN' around it. The outer ring of the badge contains the words 'POLICE OFFICER' at the top and 'WISCONSIN' at the bottom, with 'FOR CROSSING' on the left and right points. The points of the star contain a leaf and a star.

Although the patrol officer is the most visible part of any law enforcement agency, there are many other facets involved in keeping a community safe.

The following section takes a look at those different facets.

POLICE ADMINISTRATION

The administration division of the police department consists of the chief of police, the captain, and the administrative assistant. This division is responsible for the coordination and direction of the department.

BUDGET

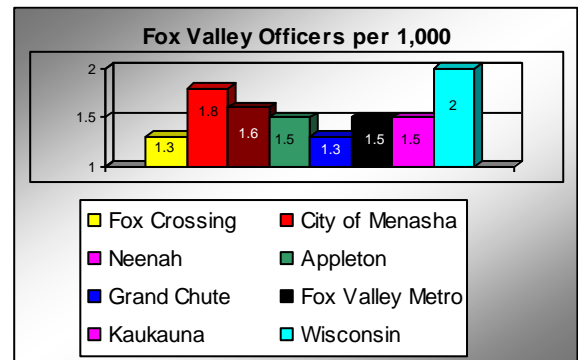
A large task of this division is budgeting and fiscal management. With the current state of economy and the need and demand for law enforcement services, this is no easy task. Through careful planning, the Fox Crossing Police Department has been able to maintain, and in some instances, increase the level of service while maintaining little to no impact on tax dollars. The budget established for the police department in 2017 was \$3,350,946.00.

As the info graphic to the right shows, the largest area of our budget is personnel. The administrative division coordinates the management of personnel from recruitment to promotions and internal investigations.



PLANNING

We have been fortunate to maintain staffing levels over the years; however, we continue to look at the future with the anticipated growth that is projected to occur once the 441/41/10 interchange is completed.



The average number of officers per 1,000 people in Wisconsin in 2014 was 2.03. Here in the Village of Fox Crossing we have consistently “done more with less” and have operated at a high of 1.6 officers per 1,000 people in 2009 and since that time we have decreased to our current level of 1.3 officers per 1,000 people. This decrease can be attributed to a rise in population and budget constraints, limiting the hiring of personnel. Last year we budgeted for an increase to our staffing by one officer and we will continue to monitor the growth in the village and calls for service and plan ahead.

The department is also looking towards the future with its current space needs. Our police department and village municipal complex was constructed in 1996 and the growth of the village over the past 20 years is starting to have its effect on space throughout the building.

TRAINING

The State of Wisconsin requires that sworn officers attend a minimum of 24 hours of training annually to maintain their law enforcement certification. ***Our officers attended 1,684 hours of training in 2017. This averages to over 64 hours of training for each officer.***

This training included firearms qualification- which occurred twice a year, along with annual legal updates on new laws and court rulings. Officers also attended a variety of specialized training such as: Crisis Intervention Team – Instructor; TASER Instructor re-certification; Investigative Photography; Drug Recognition Expert; Field Training Officer certification; and several case studies of active threat events in the United States.

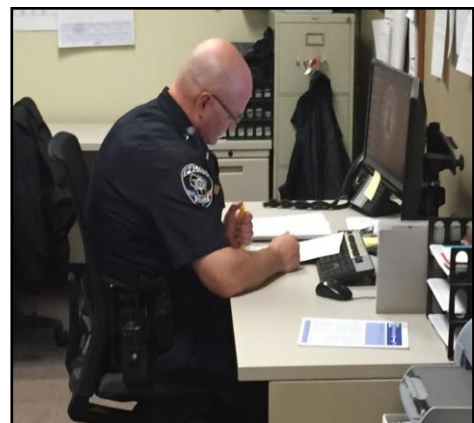


ACCOUNTABILITY

As outlined in our mission statement and commitments, the Fox Crossing Police Department takes great strides to ensure that we maintain a high level of service to our residents, businesses and visitors. The police department maintains several methods of receiving and processing comments and/or concerns regarding staff performance.

This can be done by speaking with a supervisor on the phone, completing an online survey, filling out a form at the police station, emailing the department, through direct contact with any supervisor, or by contacting the Fox Crossing Police and Fire Commission. When a report is filed that may indicate a possible violation of department policy, the complaint is referred to the supervisor of the employee. The supervisor will gather information regarding the circumstances of the complaint and ensure that it follows through the chain of command. Regardless of the outcome, the complainant will be contacted and advised of the findings.

In 2017 there were no citizen complaints filed against Fox Crossing police staff.

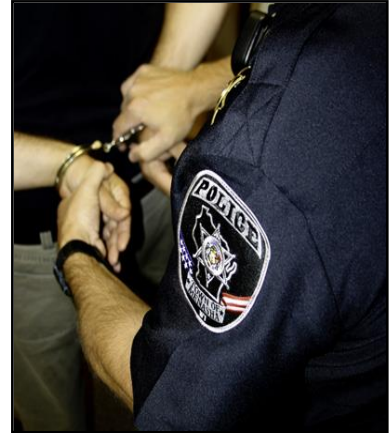


USE OF FORCE

The Fox Crossing Police Department requires an officer to complete a Use of Force report each time an officer uses any type of force, such as: empty hands, intermediate weapon (baton, OC spray, TASER) and lethal force.

The Fox Crossing Police Department had **39** documented uses of force incidents in 2017. Because most use of force incidents happen during physical arrests, it is important to consider the number of use of force incidents in relation to the number of arrests made. The police department used force in only 7% of all custodial arrests and .006% of all contacts with the public.

There are several options of force that an officer has available to them ranging from the use of hands to deadly force. In 2017, the use of force was limited to hands only. There were no incidents that resulted in OC spray, Taser, baton use or deadly force.



TRAFFIC PURSUITS

Vehicle pursuits can expose citizens, law enforcement officers and fleeing violators to the risk of serious injury or death. Officers must weigh the safety of the public and themselves against their law enforcement duty to apprehend violators of the law when determining whether or not to engage and continue in a pursuit. The Fox Crossing Police Department reviews all pursuits in which officers are involved to ensure that officers follow policy and minimize the risk of pursuit related crashes.

In 2017 there were three pursuits that village officers were involved with. Three pursuits were initiated in the village – two of those terminated shortly after they began and one ended in another community. The other pursuit began in another community and traveled through the village. All drivers were ultimately located and held accountable for their actions.



PATROL DIVISION

The patrol division is the backbone of the police department. This division is responsible for handling a majority of the many emergency and non-emergency calls received each year, along with enforcing traffic laws on the freeways and roadways throughout Fox Crossing.

The Village of Fox Crossing presently has 16 patrol officers and 4 patrol lieutenants that are assigned to this division. These officers are then split among 4 patrol shifts, each with a lieutenant, that provide coverage 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. At any given time, there are between 3 and 5 officers working each shift, depending on the time of day.

Officers primarily conduct their patrols from police cars. The police department utilizes six marked patrol vehicles. This has traditionally been the primary means of providing police services, but we have also initiated alternative patrol methods.

Our officers also get out of their patrol cars and will either patrol certain areas of the village on foot or even UTV. These efforts afford the officers the opportunity to interact more freely with the residents outside the “confines” of a patrol car. Officers are also periodically assigned to a specialized directed patrol. This places officers in certain areas of the village due to a high call volume.

This past year proved to be quite a busy year for our patrol officers. In addition to responding to calls for service, our patrol officers enforce traffic laws on over 100 miles of village roads in addition to USH 10/441 and I-41. As many of you are all too familiar with, the construction along I-41 and STH 441 has been challenging and will continue to test all of us.



CALLS FOR SERVICE

In Fox Crossing, calls for service are received in a variety of ways. Emergency calls are typically placed through 911 calls which are answered and dispatched through the Winnebago County Sheriff's Office. In addition to these emergency calls, citizens can either report crimes in person at the police department or by calling the non-emergency number. These calls are fielded 24 hours a day by a police communication technician at the police department. We noticed that there was a significant increase in calls for service in 2017. Lastly, officers on patrol can self-initiate calls for service should they encounter something on their patrols.

CALLS FOR SERVICE					
2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012
7,871	6,694	7,144	6,720	6,881	6,982

Select Incident Types	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012
Abandoned Vehicles	22	16	26	23	26	17
Alarm	155	106	105	131	116	112
Animal	287	152	177	167	217	248
Civil	50	25	24	32	30	24
Damage to Property	71	63	42	42	90	204
Death	19	24	16	16	20	10
Disturbance	231	170	220	183	214	242
Domestic	87	80	92	113	76	79
Emergency Committal	31	25	42	42	53	47
Fraud	23	19	13	29	36	28
Harassment	85	74	76	82	79	124
Junked Vehicles	177	154	127	77	53	47
Juvenile	213	140	101	92	156	152
Lost/Found Property	106	84	127	76	78	100
Missing Person	5	3	6	4	1	3
Noise	171	87	91	75	103	135
Open Door	41	31	34	70	57	37
Runaway	24	12	35	26	12	18
Sex Offenses	11	7	19	7	8	14
Suspicious Incident	262	172	190	125	176	192
Trespass	23	14	19	25	21	23
Warrant Arrests	170	113	189	125	138	125
Weapon	2	4	5	2	5	7
Welfare Check	401	192	198	193	167	163

TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT

Traffic safety and enforcement is one of the main complaints and concerns that we receive from community members. Officers routinely conduct proactive traffic enforcement during their shift as calls for service allow.

TRAFFIC CITATIONS			
	2017	2016	2015
Speeding	479	588	698
Non-speeding	1,747	2,306	1,687
Parking	935	451	571
OWI	72	70	83
Total	3,233	3,415	3,039

TRAFFIC WARNINGS			
	2017	2016	2015
Speeding	1,296	1,346	1,722
Non-speeding	832	877	820
Vehicle defect	543	884	917
Total	2,671	3,107	3,459



ACCIDENTS

State reportable crashes in Wisconsin are those crashes which are defined by one or more of the following criteria: property damage in excess of \$1,000, or any sustained injury. All other crashes which do not meet these criteria are considered as a non-reportable crash.

ACCIDENTS INVESTIGATED		
2017	2016	2015
308	300	322

Note: These numbers do not reflect accidents that occur on I-41, USH 10, or STH 441 as those freeways are the responsibility of the Wisconsin State Patrol and the Winnebago County Sheriff's Office. However, a few crashes in these locations may be documented here as occasionally we are asked to assist and take an accident report if the primary agency is busy on other calls.

NUISANCE ABATEMENT

In June of 2008, the police department was facing a spike in calls for service; many being repeat calls to the same property for nuisance type of activity. These chronic nuisance calls affect the quality of life in neighborhoods and can include offenses such as loud noise, disorderly people, fighting, damage to property, drug offenses, and the list goes on. The police department began researching this problem and developed a chronic nuisance program and an ordinance aimed at not only reducing these calls, but increasing our communication with landlords and property owners and working collaboratively to resolve many of these concerns.

The ordinance allows for three nuisance calls resulting in an arrest or citation on a property within a year. The police department will notify property owners and landlords of these calls and begin working ahead of time to curb future calls. If a property were to receive three such calls, we will meet with the property owner to explain the concern and the need for assistance in combating the problem(s). If the property owner fails to or refuses to provide any assistance, the police department can issue a citation for maintaining a public nuisance and bill the property owner for any future nuisance calls to that property.

	2017	2016	2015	2014
Drugs	0	3	3	0
Nuisance	2	6	19	21

One owner occupied property reached the three calls threshold in 2016 and had two calls afterwards resulting in further citations and bills for village services in the amount of \$349.83

ARRESTS

Arrest data is taken from the Uniform Crime Reports and, for their purposes, a juvenile is identified as a person younger than eighteen. However, presently in Wisconsin, a seventeen year-old is treated as an adult for criminal purposes. There are also different types of arrests that a law enforcement officer can make.

Type	2017	2016	2015	2014
State Charges	169	177	168	210
Juvenile Referrals	49	41	51	66
Village Summons	276	263	270	339
TOTAL	494	481	489	615

- **Prosecution requests** are requests to the district attorney's office for state charges, which can result in a punishment of incarceration in jail or prison, probation and/or monetary fines.
- **Juvenile referrals** are requests to the juvenile authorities for charges which can result in a punishment of incarceration in a secure detention facility and/or juvenile supervision through a case worker.
- **Village summonses** are local ordinance violations which can result in a punishment of community service or monetary fines.

INVESTIGATION DIVISION

Criminal investigations are an important aspect of the services that we provide. Each Fox Crossing police officer has received training to conduct thorough and complete investigations. Officers routinely conduct investigations and frequently resolve the issue with no additional assistance. Those investigations that require additional or technical assistance are forwarded to the Investigation Division.



The Fox Crossing Police Department Investigation Division consists of one lieutenant, two detectives, one MEG drug unit investigator and one community liaison officer. The Investigation Division is responsible for investigative follow-up and criminal case preparation related arrest and prosecution of persons suspected of committing crimes.

The Investigation Division works closely with the Winnebago County District Attorney's Office, as well as many other agencies both locally and nationally. Our investigators meet regularly with other Fox Valley agencies to share and obtain information regarding criminal activity in and around the Village of Fox Crossing. The information shared at these meetings has proven invaluable and has directly resulted in crimes being solved not only here in Fox Crossing but throughout the Fox Valley.

CRIME REPORTING

The Federal Bureau of Investigation's Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program, which began in 1929, collects information on the following crimes reported to law enforcement: homicide, forcible rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, theft, motor vehicle theft, and arson. The UCR Program also maintains a database of arrests and clearance rates of law enforcement agencies. Clearance rates reflect the percentage of those cases that are cleared or solved.

The United States clearance rates for 2015 were: 46% for violent crimes and 19% for property crimes.

	2017	2016	2015
Violent Crime			
Murder	0	0	0
Forcible Rape	1	0	7
Robbery	1	4	0
Assault (Battery)	35	49	45
Total Violent	52	53	52
Clearance Rate	96%	89%	90%
Property Crime			
Burglary	26	54	39
Theft	158	147	137
Motor Vehicle Theft	14	8	12
Total Property	198	209	187
Clearance Rate	30%	29%	33%
Total Index	250	262	239

PROPERTY STOLEN/RECOVERED

As shown in the previous page, property crimes have accounted for over 80% of the *Index Crimes* reported by the Fox Crossing Police Department. Property crimes include residential and commercial burglaries, theft and auto theft.

Property crimes generally have very few witnesses. As a result, those cases have limited investigative leads and low solvability rates. This is reflected by their low clearance rate. However, a majority of our property crimes occurred with no force, meaning that the property (home, business, and car) was left unsecured or had an unlocked door.

Due to advances in technology and information sharing, a greater percentage of stolen property is being recovered and returned to the rightful owners. Pawn shops and second hand retailers are now entering property taken in by their stores into a database that is accessible and regularly searched by patrol and detectives. In 2017, the police department recovered **20.2%** of the property stolen.

PROPERTY	
Stolen	\$313,182
Recovered	\$63,183
Recovery Rate	20.2%

DRUG INVESTIGATIONS

Many of the people arrested indicate that the reason for committing these property crimes is to support their drug habit. Major drug investigations in the village are conducted by the Lake Winnebago Area Metropolitan Enforcement Group (MEG). The MEG Unit consists of 13 officers from police and sheriff's departments in Winnebago, Outagamie, Calumet and Fond du Lac counties. We have had officers assigned to this unit since it was formed in 1988.



Drug offenses are a unique category for statistical comparison. Possession offenses typically result from the initiative and investigation of an officer at another incident, oftentimes a traffic stop. Arrests for drug sales generally stem from investigations conducted by the Lake Winnebago Area MEG Unit as a result of a tip or investigative lead.

2017 DRUG TYPE ARRESTS	SALES	POSSESSION
Marijuana	4	44
Opium or Cocaine and their Derivatives (Morphine, Heroin, Codeine, etc.)	0	5
Synthetic Narcotics – Manufactured Narcotics (Demerol, Methadones, etc.)	1	3
Other – Dangerous Non-narcotic Drugs (Barbituates, Benzedrine, etc.)	1	10

COMMUNITY POLICING

Although a major function of the police department is responding to calls for service and investigating crimes that are committed, the Fox Crossing Police Department firmly believes in being actively involved in the community.

Community policing is a concept that saw its origins in England back in the early 1800's. Sir Robert Peel, known as the "Father of Modern Policing," is credited with establishing the modern concept of the police force. He realized that a partnership must exist for the success of the community and the police. Participation by all facets of the community is critical for real problem solving that leads to lasting solutions. A famous quote from Peel is "the police are the public and the public are the police".



COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND EDUCATION

Last year our community liaison officer participated in MANY opportunities of community outreach such as special events and presentations on a variety of topics including visits to village schools, area businesses and organizations. Topics of these presentations ranged from scams, active shooter response, emerging drug trends and robbery prevention.

In response to several active threat incidents in the United States and here in Wisconsin we have been working proactively with area business, schools and churches to assist them with crisis planning and offering suggestions to improve the security at their buildings. This has become a collaborative project with other Fox Valley law enforcement agencies and the community liaison officers work as a team when conducting these free security and risk assessments. In 2017 the group completed several risk assessments for area businesses including many here in the village.



It is often the little things that make the job great!

Below are some photos of a few of those little things in 2017!



NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH

Neighborhood Watch is a program designed to assist neighborhood members in working together and in partnership with the police department to reduce crime through the reporting of suspicious activity to police as well as sharing that information with their neighbors. The purpose of Neighborhood Watch is to have as many neighbors watching after each other's property as if it were their own. Neighbors are asked to be the extra 'eyes and ears' for the police, as they know what is normal for their neighborhood and what isn't and who belongs and who doesn't.



Neighborhood Watch has shown to be the most successful anti-crime tool and the least expensive program in the country to help create safe, pleasant and livable communities. There are currently 7 officially registered Neighborhood Watch groups in Fox Crossing; however, there are a few loosely organized neighborhoods that meet and communicate infrequently.

SUMMER SAFETY NIGHT

In June we held our Summer Safety Night event. This event has been ongoing for the past 15 years and continues to grow each year! This past year over 1,000 people attended Summer Safety Night and we were treated to great weather along with a variety of activities. This event costs close to \$6,000 each year to put on and is mainly supported through donations from the community!



MEDIA: TRADITIONAL AND SOCIAL

Even though we would much rather connect with the community through public events and presentations we understand the value of and power of traditional media and social media to reach an incredibly large audience.

For a number of years, the police department has maintained a great working relationship with the local media and has been considered a leading agency for information and comment. In 2017 we continued our relationship with several local television morning news programs and hosted some live broadcasts in addition to working on proactive and preventative stories with not only the local television stations, but also print and radio.



We also maintain an active presence on social media with pages on Facebook, Twitter and YouTube. Social media helps assists the department in distributing timely and emergent information to the public; is a tool used to solve crimes; and helps the department connect with the community by promoting conversation. The use of social media has been a great relationship building tool and has allowed the department to connect with others in a way that we had not been able to.

Facebook was a great crime fighting tool for us in 2017. There were several instances where we had shared surveillance photos of suspects in thefts and were able to identify them through the help of our followers.

PRESCRIPTION PILL AND DRUG DISPOSAL

Through a grant from the National Association of Drug Diversion Investigators, we installed a drug disposal box in the police department lobby in 2012. Since that time, we have collected over 1 ton of unused medication!

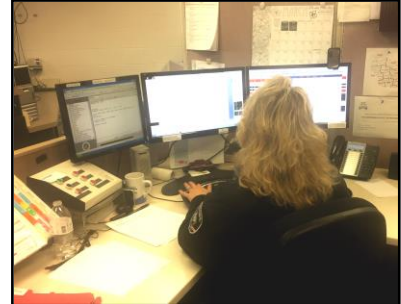
We are grateful for the assistance of the Fox Cities Victim Crisis Responders, Lake Winnebago Area MEG Unit and the WI Department of Justice for the assistance in properly disposing of these unused medications.



SUPPORT SERVICES

COMMUNICATIONS AND RECORDS

The Fox Crossing Police Department's Communication and Records Division serves the citizens in a variety of ways. This division is open to the public 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. This division is generally the first point of contact the public has with the police department. Communication Technicians are those employees who receive the public's phone calls and greet those that come into the lobby.



In addition to serving the citizens of the village, the Communications and Records Division provides support to our sworn personnel. The division monitors cameras placed in and around the municipal complex, and routinely provides searches of Federal, State, and local databases to assist officers with locating information that is pertinent to their cases and investigations.

The Communications and Records Division is responsible for maintaining the information that is entered into these systems. Information is entered into local, State, and Federal databases, and must be done so in accordance with various laws and system regulations. These entries include missing persons, stolen and recovered articles and vehicles, and arrest warrants. In order to ensure a high standard of accuracy, routine audits are conducted on these systems.

The Communications and Records Division is also responsible for typing all of the officers' dictated reports. Any incident that involves an officer's response and investigation typically will require that officer to dictate a report. These reports are then filed electronically and any attachments are filed in cabinets.

EMERGENCY DISPATCH

The Winnebago County Sheriff's Department is responsible for answering 911 emergency calls and dispatching emergency services throughout Winnebago County. The 911 Communications Center is located on the second floor of the Sheriff's Office. The 911 Communications Center is staffed 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. There are three shifts per day with five or six dispatchers on duty each shift.



SWAT

The Fox Crossing Police Department has partnered with the Winnebago County Sherriff's Department to provide assistance for any tactical situations in our community. We have two officers that are assigned to the WISO SWAT team.

HONOR GUARD

In 2010, the department formed an honor guard to represent not only the police department, but the community at formal events both here in Fox Crossing and around the state. The unit added another officer in 2016 and is comprised of one lieutenant and seven patrol officers. The Honor Guard jointly trains with other agencies as well, since many events are attended by all area departments.



In 2017 the honor guard attended several events such as the annual town meeting, Wisconsin Law Enforcement Memorial Ceremony and funerals for fallen officers in the area.

CODE COMPLIANCE

Over the years we have conducted a survey that addresses the level of problems in the community. As we review those surveys we routinely find that the areas that tend to be marked at a higher level involve quality of life issues such as junked vehicles, traffic problems, and blighted properties. When compared to other concerns that are marked lower such as gangs and drugs, one can surmise that 'life is pretty good'.





However, these quality of life issues are encountered daily in the neighborhoods and can be extremely frustrating. One thing that we can all practice is to be considerate of one another and maintain our property so that it does not become unsightly and to keep our noise at an acceptable level. Property maintenance goes a long way to reducing crime on our property. There is a pretty popular crime theory called “Broken Windows” that compares lack of property maintenance to increased criminal activity and mischief. The theory is that if you leave one window broken, over time that will invariably lead to other windows broken.

The code compliance officer is responsible for the enforcement of most of Fox Crossing’s municipal codes. There were 184 cases that the code compliance officer investigated in 2017. A majority of these cases were for junked motor vehicles and unsightly debris.

HOW SAFE ARE WE?

CRIME TRIANGLE

Crime trend research indicates absence creates opportunity and can lead to a higher rate of victimization. In 1979 in the American Sociological Review, Lawrence E. Cohen and Marcus Felton wrote, “Most criminal acts require a convergence in space and time of likely offenders, suitable targets and the absence of capable guardians against crime.” Their research laid the foundation for the development of the Crime Triangle.

The Crime Triangle theorizes that in order for a crime to occur, **3** elements must be present: ***an offender with the ability to commit the crime; a desired victim or target; and the opportunity to commit the crime.*** Based on this theory, crime can be reduced by removing any one of the three elements. Most crime reduction strategies utilize a combination of approaches to achieve this goal. The easiest way is to reduce the opportunity. Often something as simple as locking our car door or garage door can deter the potential criminal.



HOW DO WE COMPARE?

There are ways to compare a community to another in terms of frequency and likelihood of crime. Mathematical formulas are used to break down the numbers and put communities on a level playing field (typically per 1,000 residents) which allow us to compare different sized areas such as Fox Crossing and its surrounding Fox Valley police agencies.

FOX VALLEY CRIME RATES (as of 2017)			
Community	Population	Violent Rate per 1,000	Property Rate per 1,000
Wisconsin	5,840,615	3.06	19.74
Appleton	73,832	11.01	16.08
Neenah	25,821	6.93	19.47
Grand Chute	22,522	3.77	40.72*
Fox Crossing	18,957	2.90	10.44
Menasha	17,945	5.35	19.39
Kaukauna	15,883	2.90	10.64

**Grand Chute PD is a major retail-oriented jurisdiction, which is evident in their much higher property crime rate.*

CREDITS

AUTHOR

Officer Daniel Wiechman
(Community Liaison Officer)

STATISTICS

Wisconsin Department of Justice
Fox Crossing Police Department

PHOTOS

Images by Hawkeye
Fox Crossing Police Department