

# SPRINGFIELD POLICE DEPARTMENT ANNUAL REPORT

# 2021

SPRINGFIELD POLICE DEPARTMENT



Springfield  
POLICE



**HEADQUARTERS:**

321 E. Chestnut Expressway  
Springfield, MO 65802



**SOUTH DISTRICT STATION:**

2620 W. Battlefield Rd.  
Springfield, MO 65807

**CONTACT US:**

417-864-1810

SPDMail@SpringfieldMO.gov

**QUICK FACTS:**

FOUNDED:

**1858**



SWORN OFFICERS:

**313**

JURISDICTION SIZE:

**82.5 sq. miles**

JURISDICTION POPULATION:

**169,174**

COVER PHOTO BY CRIS SWATERS

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# MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF

*"These are the times that try men's souls..."*

The opening words of *The Crisis*, written by Thomas Paine in 1776 during the American Revolution, are ones that I reflected on frequently during 2021.

The challenges of 2020 seemed to continue relentlessly for members of the Springfield Police Department and the community, regardless of the calendar change. The COVID-19 pandemic and everything related to it ebbed and flowed but did not subside. Staffing throughout the department, of both officers and civilian staff, continued a downward trajectory. Crime, and the perception of it, remained the top concern of the department and community.

However, as we reflect on the past 12 months, positive signs of change in each of those areas became more prominent throughout the year. As we became accustomed to the precautions necessary to reduce the effects of COVID-19 (vaccination, masking, etc.) and the severity of those infected declined, we were able to slowly restore interaction with our citizens. The dedication and hard work of the men and women of the SPD resulted in us being able to "hold the line" on crime in Springfield, in the face of increasing crime rates nationwide. We developed a creative and innovative recruitment strategy which, coupled with significant pay improvements, led to an increased number of police applicants and hope for larger recruit classes in the future. These, and many other items of interest (both positive and negative), are contained in the pages of our annual report.

As you review the year that was, allow me to share the rest of Thomas Paine's quote, as those words reflect the character, commitment and courage of the men and women of the SPD, who willingly place themselves in that chasm between good and evil, striving to keep the citizens of Springfield safe every single day.

*"...the summer soldier and the sunshine patriot will, in this crisis, shrink from the service of their country; but he that stands by it now, deserves the love and thanks of man and woman."*

Sincerely,



**Paul F. Williams,**  
Chief of Police



*"45 applicants took the written exam at the SRFPTC this morning – first step in the process to join @SGFPolice as part of the 75th Academy class in January 2022.*

*#service #policing  
#PathForward"*

*– Oct. 15, 2021*

Follow Chief Williams on Twitter

**@CHIEF\_SPD**

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FOLLOW SPD  
ON SOCIAL MEDIA



# POLICE ADMINISTRATION AND DEPARTMENTS



**MAJOR TAD  
PETERS**

Uniform Operations



**PAUL WILLIAMS**

Police Chief



**MAJOR STACEY  
PARTON**

Investigations &  
Support Services



**CAPTAIN CULLEY  
WILSON**

Zone 1 Commander



**CAPTAIN FRED  
BECK**

Zone 2 Commander



**CAPTAIN TONY  
VIENHAGE**

Criminal  
Investigations



**CAPTAIN ERIC  
REECE**

Support Services

## UNIFORM OPERATIONS BUREAU

- **PATROL DIVISION:** Responds to calls for service
- **TRAFFIC SECTION:** Traffic and DWI enforcement
- **SPECIAL RESPONSE TEAM**
- **K9 UNIT**
- **COMMUNITY SERVICES SECTION:**
  - Police Area Representatives
  - Crime Prevention
  - Special Events
  - Center City Patrol
  - MSU and Drury Substations

## INVESTIGATIONS & SUPPORT SERVICES BUREAU

- **CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS DIVISION:** Investigates crimes and sends completed reports to appropriate prosecutor for the filing of criminal charges
  - Persons Crime Section
  - Property Crimes Section
  - Special Investigations Section
- **SUPPORT SERVICES DIVISION:** Support operations: crime analysis, standards, policy, accreditation
  - Training Section
  - Records Section
  - Support Operations Section

# STAFFING, BUDGET AND FLEET

## AUTHORIZED BY RANK (AS OF DEC. 2021)



**CHIEF**  
1



**MAJOR**  
2



**CAPTAIN**  
4



**LIEUTENANT**  
13



**SERGEANT**  
35



**CORPORAL**  
37



**OFFICER**  
221

## ACTUAL FULL-TIME EMPLOYEES (AS OF DEC. 31, 2021)



## 2021 BUDGET

**\$89,162,507** → **34%**

City of Springfield  
General Fund Budget  
for 2021

Percentage of General Fund  
Budget used for the Police  
Department in 2021

**\$30,221,705**

Police Department  
General Fund Budget  
for 2021

**\$45,404,825**

Total Police  
Department Budget  
(all funds included)

Budget numbers based on FY 2021-2022 Adopted Annual Budget

## FLEET MANAGEMENT



**MARKED SUVs**  
**80**



**MARKED SEDANS**  
**58**



**POLICE MOTORCYCLES**  
**14**

SPD patrols the City of Springfield using both Ford Police Interceptor Utility SUVs and Ford Police Interceptor sedans. These vehicles are utilized by more than 240 patrol and traffic officers at SPD. Each vehicle contains the necessary equipment officers need while working, from computers and dash cameras to first aid kits and AEDs. Each vehicle is driven about 17,000 miles each year.

SPD has 14 Harley-Davidson Road King motorcycles, used by motorcycle-certified officers in SPD's Traffic Unit who conduct traffic control activities and respond to traffic crashes. Motorcycle officers also assist at community events.

Outside of patrol and traffic, the department also manages a fleet of specialty vehicles used in various ways. Some of those vehicles include the Special Response Team's Bearcat, Mobile Command Resource Vehicle, and the Major Crime Investigation van.



# 2021 YEAR IN REVIEW

## SEXUAL ASSAULT KIT BACKLOG ELIMINATED

The Springfield Police Department has

**ZERO UNTESTED  
SEXUAL ASSAULT  
KITS**

Remaining in inventory

On Sept. 23, 2021, the Springfield Police Department cleared its backlog of sexual assault kits, shipping the final 15 kits to a lab for testing. This came after a nearly two-year process working with local and state partners to secure funding and a laboratory.

## EQUIPMENT

### FLOCK SAFETY LICENSE PLATE READERS

Stationary license plate readers take snapshots of cars as they drive by, assisting investigators with locating stolen vehicles or suspects. There are 20 cameras in Springfield, deployed as part of a pilot program offered by FLOCK safety.



### WATCHGUARD SYSTEM

In 2021, SPD began installing WatchGuard in-car video cameras in all new patrol vehicles. The WatchGuard system has a license plate reader function for officers to scan license plates as they patrol, which helps locate stolen vehicles and identify other crimes a license plate has been previously associated with.

### COLD PATROL TRUCK

The Cold Patrol outreach program engages SPD with local youth and community groups to facilitate a positive interaction between young people and law enforcement. Hiland Dairy, facilitated through the Springfield Area Council of Churches, donates ice cream for the program. The Community Services Section attended 19 events in 2021 with Cold Patrol, serving thousands of community members.



## PROGRAMS

### CORDICO APP

The Officer Wellness Committee launched the Cordico Mobile Device Application for all sworn and non-sworn employees, both current and retired, in July 2021. Cordico is a wellness app for mobile devices that provides a centralized location for officers and staff to access resources such as peer support, chaplain support or mental health support. The app has been downloaded 383 times and accessed 1,938 times.



### MOTORCYCLE SAFETY COURSE

Share the Road is a civilian motorcycle safety course designed to improve riders' skills while traveling on roadways. The goal of the course is to reduce injury/fatal crashes involving motorcycles. The course covers slow-moving maneuvers, braking exercises, and picking up a downed bike. In 2021, we offered the course three times, and 51 participated. Participants of the program have provided very positive feedback.



### TECHNOLOGY AT SPD

Throughout the year, investigators took advantage of investigative resources such as NICHE, leads online, social media, Nextdoor, Flock, and various city traffic cameras to assist in identifying suspects.

Information from the Flock camera system helped investigators identify a suspect vehicle related to a commercial burglary near the fairgrounds.

Using a combination of the available resources, investigators assisted in identifying a robbery suspect and a sexual assault suspect. These are only a few examples of the successful use of technology in investigations.

# CATALYTIC CONVERTER THEFT INVESTIGATION

A complex investigation involving the theft of catalytic converters concluded in 2021. In October 2020, theft of catalytic converters saw a notable increase, doubling over the previous five months, and continued to see increases month-over-month into spring 2021. The impact to the community was staggering with an average monetary loss between \$100,000 and \$140,000 each month. To reverse the trend, one detective was selected to solely focus on stopping this crime.

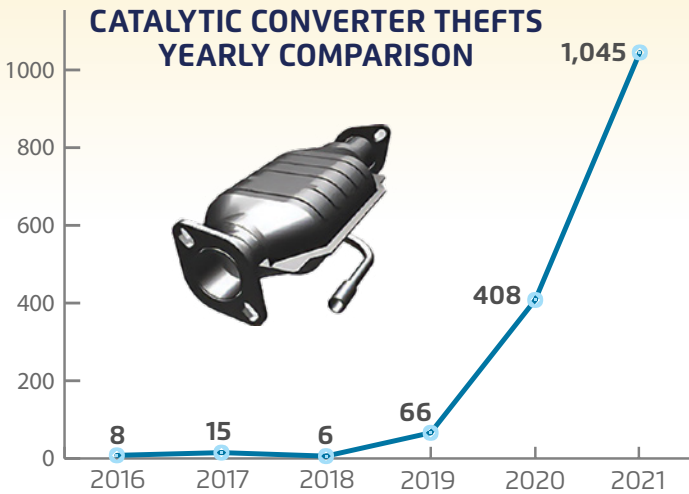


of the theft ring involved the assistance of multiple federal, state, and local enforcement agencies.



On Oct. 15, 2021, SPD investigators and federal agents led a search warrant at 8747 E. Farm Road 186 in Rogersville. As a result, catalytic converters, money, firearms, and other property were seized worth \$287,272. Following the search warrant, the number of catalytic converter thefts decreased.

Over the course of the investigation, seven people were federally indicted, 36 people were charged through the State of Missouri, and municipal charges were presented to two people.



After countless hours of intelligence gathering through interviews, surveillance, undercover operations and research, investigative efforts would reveal a complex operation of criminal activity that encompassed the southwest Missouri region and beyond. The magnitude

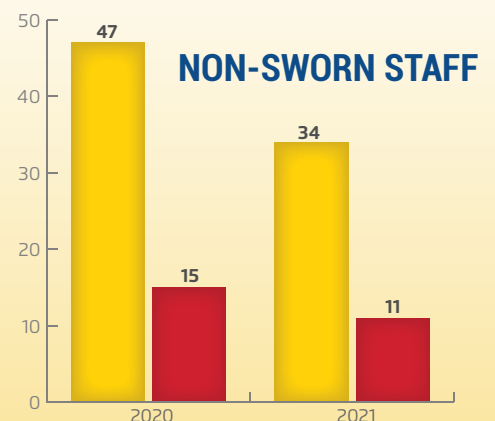
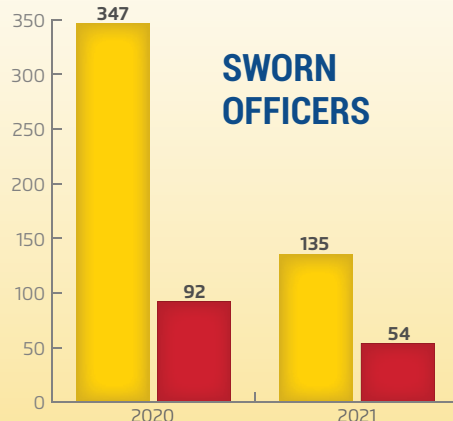
# ENGAGING THE COMMUNITY AFTER COVID-19

In 2021, the nation was emerging from the pandemic and community organizations were returning to normal. With the restrictions on face coverings and in-person groups lifted, CSS had a busy spring, summer, and fall full of both small and large community events that engaged thousands of people in the community.



## STAFF COVID-19 TESTING 2020 vs. 2021

● TESTED  
● POSITIVES



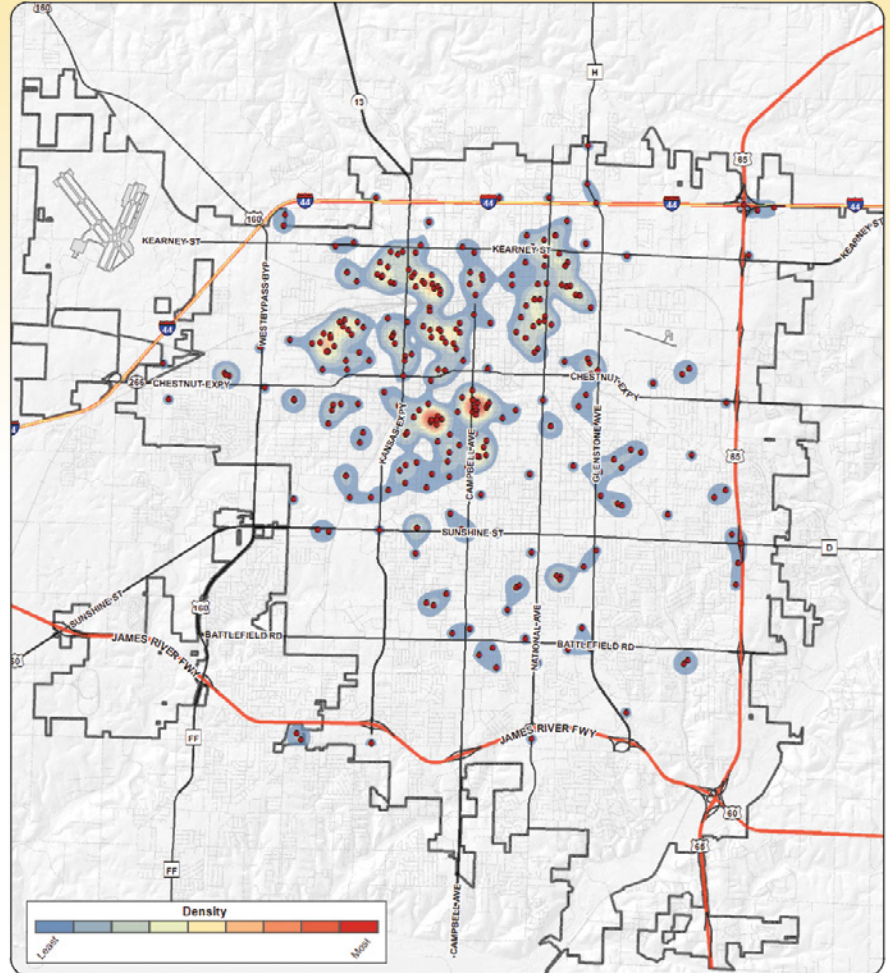
# GUN VIOLENCE IN 2021



**23**  
HOMICIDES  
WITH A FIREARM

Of Springfield's 26 total homicides, 23 were with a firearm.

## SHOTS FIRED 2021



DISCLAIMER: This map or digital file constitutes the work product of the Police Department of the City of Springfield, Missouri. While every effort has been made to preserve the accuracy of the data, you should not assume it is valid. All information included on this map or digital file is provided "as is" for general information purposes only. This map is not to be used for commercial purposes. The City of Springfield Police Department and all other contributing data suppliers make no warranties, expressed or implied, concerning the accuracy, completeness, reliability, or suitability of the data for any particular uses. Furthermore, the City of Springfield Police Department, and all other contributing data suppliers, assumes no liability whatsoever associated with the use or misuse of the data.

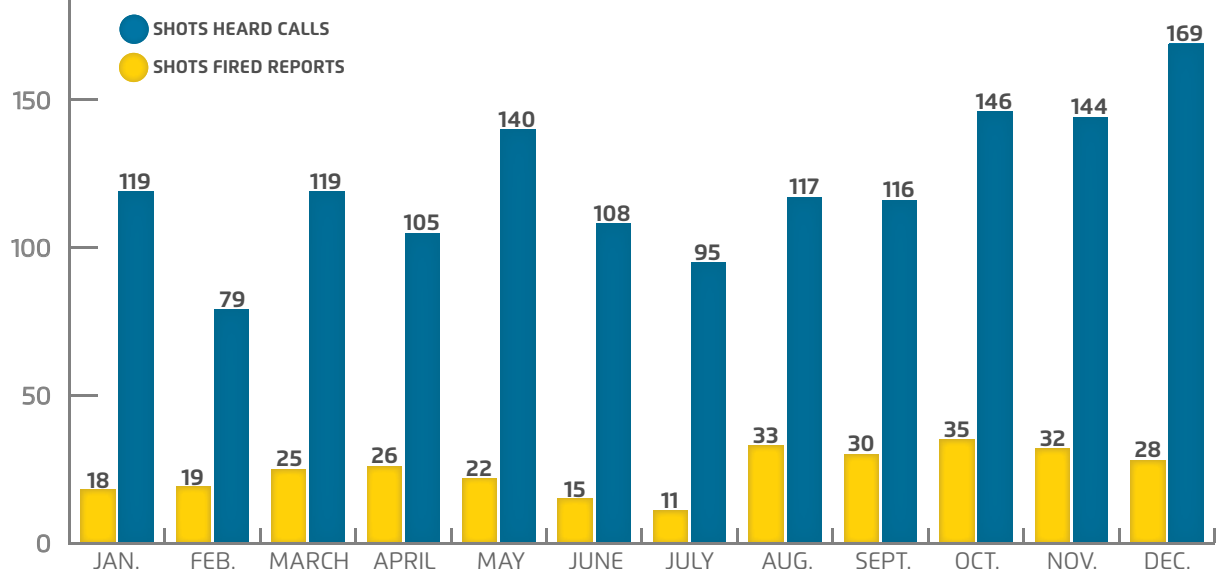
**Shots Fired**  
● 1 Jan 2021 - 31 Dec 2021




## SHOTS HEARD CALLS VS. SHOTS FIRED REPORTS

Shots Heard calls indicate the occurrence of 911 calls from citizens who believe they may have heard a gunshot. When officers arrive on scene, they will look for evidence that a firearm was discharged (property damage, shell casings, witnesses, victims, etc.). If evidence is discovered, they will write a Shots Fired report. Many times, the caller is only able to provide broad information as to the direction of the gunshot, which isn't enough information to assist officers in the discovery of evidence.

## SHOTS HEARD VS. SHOTS FIRED REPORTS IN 2021



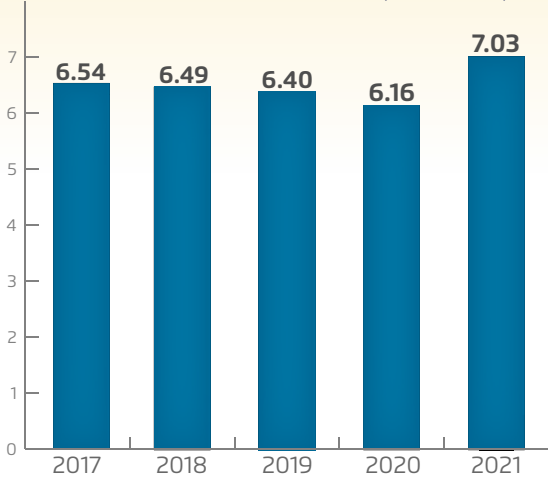


# UNIFORM OPERATIONS BUREAU

## ● PATROL DIVISION

Patrol Officers are the first to arrive on scene to start investigations and are the most visible of our efforts to protect and serve the community. In 2021, there were 141 officers assigned to SPD's Patrol Division who performed a wide variety of functions, but their main role is to patrol the streets of Springfield, focusing their efforts on a specific area of the city, or beat, to prevent crime and answer calls for service.

**PRIORITY 1 MEDIAN RESPONSE TIME  
YEARLY COMPARISON (MINUTES)**



### AVERAGE CALL RESPONSE TIME:

- Priority 1: **7 Min. 3 Sec.**
- Priority 2: **10 Min. 39 Sec.**
- Priority 3: **19 Min. 58 Sec.**

**Priority 1:** A life-threatening situation or where serious injuries are believed to exist, and immediate police response is necessary.

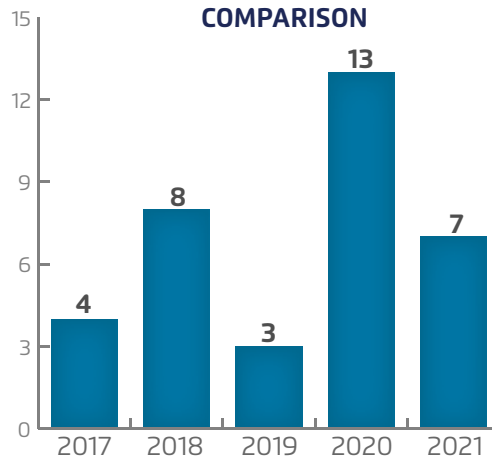
## ● TRAFFIC SECTION

The Traffic Section is responsible for the safety of the drivers, bicyclists, and pedestrians in Springfield. The Traffic Section also conducts follow-up investigations on all vehicle-related fatalities. The section is divided into three different squads. Squad 1 and Squad 2 work during the day hours and Squad 3 works the evening hours and focuses on the detection of impaired drivers.

In 2021, Springfield saw 157 motorcycle wrecks, seven of which were fatalities. As a response, the Traffic Section conducted three Share the Road Motorcycle Survival Courses for civilian riders, which is fully funded by the Civilian Motorcycle Safety grant. The course is instructed by motorcycle-certified SPD Traffic Officers and includes advanced riding techniques, motorcycle handling, object avoidance, and other skills to make participants safer riders.



**MOTORCYCLE FATALITIES YEARLY COMPARISON**



## PATROL DIVISION BY THE NUMBERS

**Number of Calls  
for Service:**

**124,818**

**Most frequent Calls  
for Service in 2021:**

- Check Well-Being
- Check Person
- General Disturbance
- Domestic Disturbance



## TRAFFIC SECTION BY THE NUMBERS

**Total Traffic Stops:**

**13,802**

**Traffic Violation Citations:**

**15,384**

**Parking Violation Citations:**

**577**

**Motor Vehicle Crashes  
Investigated:**

**6,837**

**Impaired Drivers Arrested:**

**551**

**TOTAL FATALITIES: 30**

- Pedestrian Fatalities: **5**
- Motorcycle Fatalities: **7**



## ● SPECIAL RESPONSE TEAM AND K9 UNIT

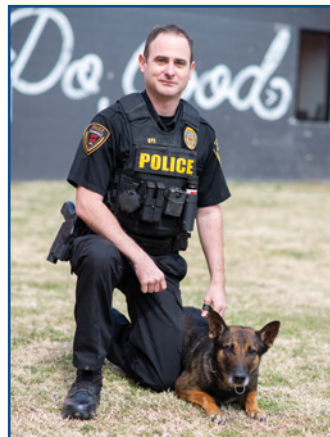
The SPD Special Response Team (SRT) is a tactical team whose primary mission is to save lives. The team is comprised of officers who have been selected through a physically and mentally challenging selection process.



These officers possess a specific set of skills, abilities and techniques to safely resolve hostage situations, high risk arrest situations, search warrant service and any other tasks as needed. SPD has a full-time SRT (Red) team which is supplemented with an on-call (Blue) team of officers assigned to other primary roles until needed for an incident or training.

### K9 UNIT

The SRT is complimented by the SPD Police Service Dog Unit of highly trained and effective K9 teams. The assigned officer and their canine partner work a varied schedule to assist patrol units with narcotics detection, building and area searches for offenders in hiding, tracking suspects or locating lost and missing persons, among other tasks. At SPD the K9 unit conducts training and certification programs in-house, which saves training funds and enhances overall training availability.



## SPECIAL RESPONSE TEAM & K9 UNIT BY THE NUMBERS

Red Team Officers: **6**

Blue Team Officers: **20**

K9 Unit Officers: **5**

### SRT STATISTICS

- Search Warrants Served: **62**
- Search Warrants Planned but Not Served: **13**
- Barricades: **16**
- Hostage Situations: **1**
- Man Hunts: **3**
- Threat Assessments/Special Events: **20**

### K9 STATISTICS

- K9 Deployments: **402**
- Narcotics Finds: **44**
- Persons Finds: **18**

*Narcotics/person finds resulted in **20 felony arrests** and **four misdemeanor arrests**.*

## ● COMMUNITY SERVICES SECTION

The Community Services Section (CSS) is a specialized unit that serves as a liaison throughout the city for citizens and businesses. The section consists of three patrol squads assigned to the downtown area, Police Area Representatives (PAR), Crime Prevention Officers, Drury University substation and Missouri State University substation.



In 2021, SPD was awarded Outstanding Agency of the Year (Region 3) by Special Olympics Missouri. L-R: Chief Paul Williams, Sgt. Ryan Russell, Sgt. Kaylee Friend.

The PAR officers are assigned to separate geographic areas in the city and are tasked with resolving community concerns. They receive complaints regarding criminal activity and conduct follow-up investigations.

It was also a year of change for CSS that included a restructure that affected both the PAR officer and Crime Prevention programs. With the changes, there are now eight PAR officer positions and one Crime Prevention slot. The change corresponded with SPD's redistricting, which broke the city into eight areas known as beats, and a PAR officer was assigned to each beat. The PAR officer positions were fully staffed by May, retaining four veteran CSS members and gaining four new members.

## COMMUNITY SERVICES SECTION BY THE NUMBERS

Events Worked: **43**

Citizen Service Requests: **1,441**

Search Warrants Conducted: **4**

Neighborhood Watch Groups: **16**

Apartment Watch Groups: **7**



## SPECIAL EVENTS

Special events, one of the main responsibilities of the Community Services Section (CSS), were coordinated by Sgt. Kaylee Friend and are a primary responsibility for PAR officers. In 2021, 172 event applications were approved, including running events, walks, and parades, with an estimated combined total of 122,338 attendees, as well as applications for events at the Ozark Empire Fairgrounds.

**Ozark Empire Fair:** This 10-day event involved approximately 600 work hours on location by CSS, plus coordination with the Cadet Unit. CSS responded to calls for service at the event including physical disturbances, lost children, and lost or stolen belongings.

**Bass Pro Marathon:** This “all hands” event for CSS required a total of 39 officers. The route began on Campbell Avenue and ended on Sunshine Street, a major thoroughfare, which involved additional planning and placement of cones along with coordinating with Public Works for the use of signs.

**Shop with a Hero:** An outreach program coordinated between SPD, Greene County Children’s Division, Walmart, and Academy Sports, paired 220 children with a local first responder for a Christmas shopping experience. Both Walmart and Academy each donated roughly \$100 per child.



## DRURY UNIVERSITY SUBSTATION

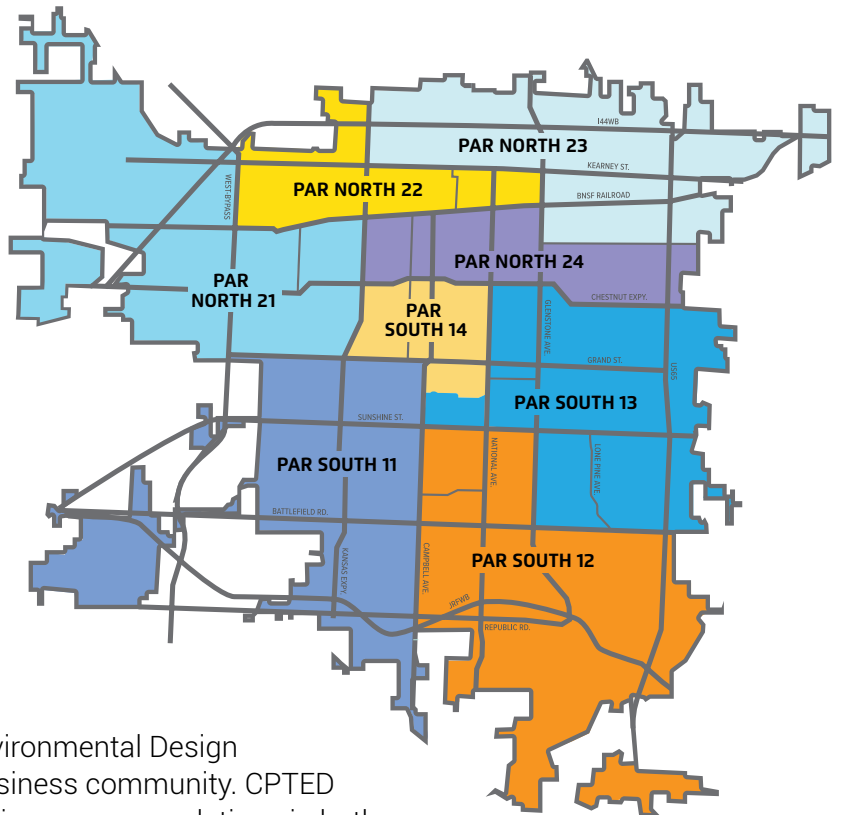
Through a contract with Drury University, two CSS officers took calls for service on the Drury campus, monitored all school-related special events, and acted as a liaison between SPD and Drury University in 2021. The officers provided risky-behavior reduction training to current and incoming fraternity and sorority students, as well as to all students living in the dorms. Their largest project involved conducting 15 “active shooter” presentations, which ensured all faculty and staff were trained.

## PAR AND CRIME PREVENTION

Police Area Representative (PAR) officers and Crime Prevention responded to 1,441 citizen complaints received through the Citizen Resource Center. Complaints range from criminal activity to noise complaints and many other incidents. PAR officers routinely accompany Building Development Services (BDS) inspectors and assist with court-ordered abatements stemming from residential nuisance complaints.

In-person Neighborhood Association meetings resumed in 2021. PAR officers attended 106 association meetings, in varying formats including those meetings that remained virtual. PAR officers also attended 43 other community events that are classified outside of Neighborhood Association events.

CSS conducted 23 Crime Prevention through Environmental Design (CPTED) assessments in 2021, popular in the business community. CPTED is a unique program that provides landscape design recommendations in both the business and residential arenas. PAR officers receive extensive training.



## CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS DIVISION

### • PERSONS CRIME SECTION

The Springfield Police Department Criminal Investigations Division – Persons Crime Section consists of four units:

- **Violent Crime Unit**
- **Child Victim/Computer Forensic Unit**
- **Domestic Violence Unit**
- **Special Victims Unit**

The Violent Crime Unit investigates all non-domestic assaults, missing adults, homicides and robberies. The Child Victim/Computer Forensic Unit investigates crimes against children and crimes facilitated through computers and other electronic devices.

In 2021, Springfield saw an increase in persons crimes, which continues to increase each detective's case load. Springfield recorded 26 homicides in 2021, which is a slight decrease from 2020.

The Persons Crime Section continues to work with our assigned advocates from the Victim Center and Harmony House. These advocates allow us to provide the best resources available to the victims of sexual assault and domestic violence within our community.

### PERSONS CRIME SECTION BY THE NUMBERS

#### AVERAGE MONTHLY CASE LOAD PER UNIT

- Violent Crime Unit: **43**
- Sexual Assault Unit: **30**
- Child Victim/Computer Forensic Unit: **36**
- Domestic Violence Unit: **43**

#### PROCESSED BY FORENSIC UNIT

- Computers: **145**
- Mobile Devices: **366**
- Other Devices: **471**
- Total Amount of Data Processed (terabytes): **143.22 TB**



The Major Crime Investigation (MCI) van is used by SPD's Homicide Response Team (HRT), which is responsible for the collection and preservation of physical evidence at all homicides and life-threatening assaults. The van contains state-of-the-art equipment that assists in the collection of forensic evidence.

# PROPERTY CRIMES SECTION

The Property Crimes Section of the Criminal Investigations Division is divided into three separate units whose primary function is to present strong cases against those who primarily commit general property crimes, financial crimes and vehicle theft. The Property unit reviewed and assigned cases, and, in spite of staffing challenges, many property cases were investigated and cleared.

In addition to performing criminal investigations, personal and professional development training remains important. Several members of the unit attended classes including crime scene processing for officer-involved shootings, advanced training for collecting and preserving latent prints and trace evidence, autopsy and injury photography, financial crimes against seniors, and virtual currency investigations. Investigators also proactively shared their knowledge with the recruits in the 74th police academy.

## PROPERTY CRIMES SECTION BY THE NUMBERS

### CASES REVIEWED

- General Property Crimes: **11,607**
- Financial Crimes: **5,731**
- Vehicle Thefts: **3,818**

### CASES ASSIGNED TO INVESTIGATORS FOR FOLLOW-UP

- General Property Crimes: **955**
- Financial Crimes: **438**
- Vehicle Theft: **571**

### AVERAGE MONTHLY CASE LOAD FOR DETECTIVES

General Property Crime: **20**

Financial Crimes: **19**

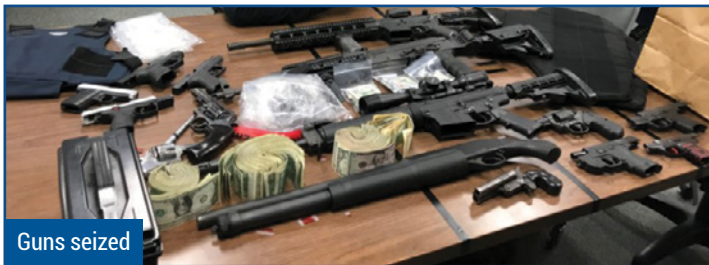
Vehicle Theft: **15**

# SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS SECTION

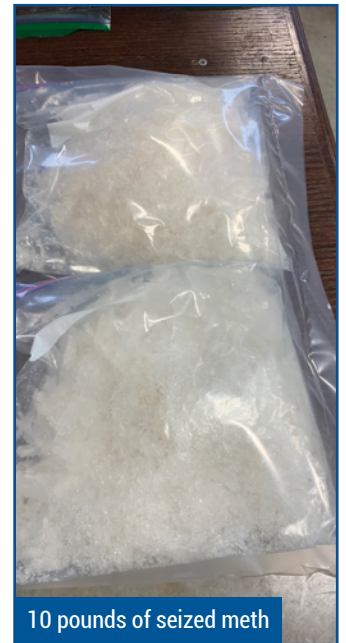
The Special Investigations Section (SIS) primarily focuses on drug- and weapons-related crimes. Overdose deaths were the biggest challenge for SIS in 2021. There were more than 550 reported overdoses and more than 60 deaths. The number of deaths is nearly double the 32 overdose deaths in 2020. SIS continues to monitor overdose deaths and assign cases which merit further investigation. Fentanyl appears to be involved in many of these cases. The accessibility of illegal narcotics in the Springfield community is at an all-time high.

In 2021, SIS officers made 242 arrests and served 119 search warrants. Officers

continue to work with our federal partners to present cases at the federal level, focusing on efforts to remove violent offenders and illegal guns from the streets.



Guns seized



10 pounds of seized meth

	GUNS SEIZED	DRUGS SEIZED	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
2017	<b>181</b>	Marijuana (ounces)	<b>3,224.09</b>	<b>5,587.97</b>	<b>1,219.2</b>	<b>1,448.06</b>	<b>23,496</b> (1,500% Increase)
2018	<b>212</b>						Meth (ounces)
2019	<b>283</b>	Cocaine (grams)	<b>184.9</b>	<b>415</b>	<b>399.16</b>	<b>166</b>	
2020	<b>88</b>						Heroin (grams)
2021	<b>150</b>						

# SUPPORT SERVICES DIVISION

## • SUPPORT OPERATIONS SECTION

The Springfield Police Department's Support Operation Section includes:

- **Crime Analysis Unit (CAU)**
- **Research and Development Unit (R&D)**
- **Policy and Accreditation Unit**
- **Fleet Services and Quartermaster Unit.**

Each unit plays an integral role in supporting and maintaining day-to-day operations at the police department.

The mission of the Crime Analysis and R&D units is Criminal Intelligence Management.

The analytical process for the **Crime Analysis Unit** involves the review, analysis, and development of source documents and crime data. Each analyst is assigned at least one specific crime type for which they are primarily responsible. They work to develop information from a wide variety of sources into actionable intelligence.

**Research and Development** is responsible for compiling the information and presenting documented analysis to assist in the management and decision-making processes of the police department.

**The Policy and Accreditation Unit** works to ensure that the Springfield Police Department maintains the highest standards of service through the implementation of internal policies and guidelines based on the internationally recognized policing standards established by the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA).

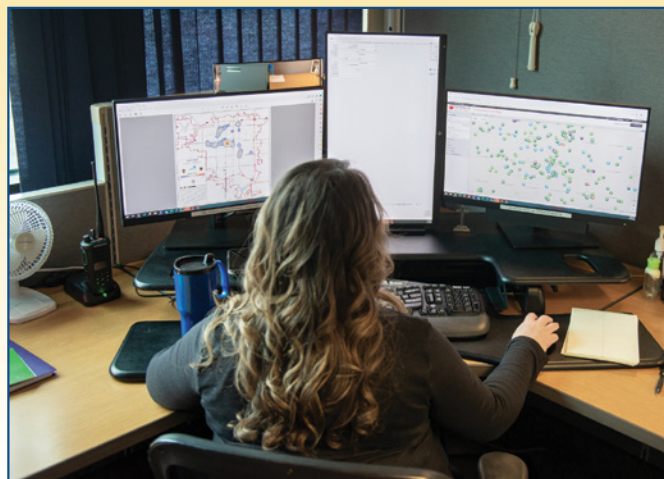
The **Fleet Services and Quartermaster Unit** is responsible for all the police department's vehicles and equipment. The unit equips and maintains vehicles, and obtains and maintains all department-issued equipment for every employee. In 2021, they worked endless hours to prepare the department for the change from an analog radio system to the digital system.

## BODY WORN CAMERA PROGRAM

The body worn camera program was implemented in January 2021. The implementation has increased the department's transparency and accountability regarding citizen complaints as well as provided critical information for criminal investigations including officer-involved shootings.

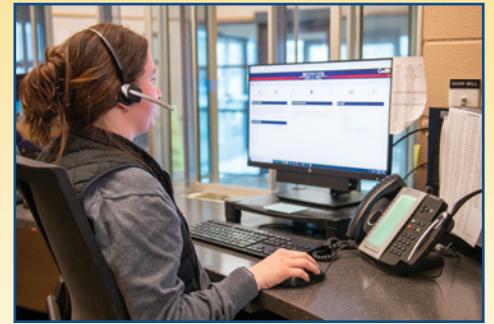
In 2021, immediate review of body worn camera footage resulted in 21 citizen complaints being resolved without further investigation as unfounded, withdrawn, or classified as miscellaneous. Of those 21, four required the use of "record after the fact technology" (RAFTA). These complaints involved 26 officers (one mentioned twice) and 39 allegations. Body worn camera footage was also helpful in nine internal investigations that resulted in at least one "sustained" finding.

For criminal investigations, body worn camera footage gives detectives real-time views of what a crime scene looks like before processing begins, thus providing a better perspective of the crime scene. The footage is also beneficial in supplementing interviews conducted with victims, witnesses, and suspects. Body worn camera footage was available and used in the investigation of five officer-involved shootings in 2021. Investigative Services processed more than 75,000 events from body worn camera footage throughout the year, in addition to their regular duties.



## • RECORDS SECTION AND PROPERTY ROOM

Police Services Representatives (PSR) are the non-sworn employees of the Springfield Police Department's Records Section. The Records Section is staffed 24/7 and provides support services to department personnel and the citizens of Springfield. Records PSRs are responsible for a variety of essential functions including, but not limited to, taking police reports from citizens by phone or in person, processing documents for distribution to local courts, filling Sunshine requests, and submitting National Incident Based Reporting System crime data to the Missouri State Highway Patrol.



Both the Records Section and Property Evidence Unit experienced staffing shortages in 2021. The staffing shortage caused the Springfield Police Department to reduce its public hours of operation in the headquarters lobby and phone service. However, even with reduced staffing, PSRs took approximately 15,000 reports from citizens and processed approximately 1,100 online reports.

PSRs assigned to the Property and Evidence Unit are responsible for maintaining chain of custody and storing all items collected and submitted by SPD officers. The Property Room processed more than 33,000 new items of evidence in 2021. As COVID-19 restrictions eased, staff began to focus on disposing of unclaimed found property and items no longer needed as evidence for the courts.

## • TRAINING SECTION

The Training Section operates the Springfield Regional Police and Fire Training Center (SRPFTC) and is certified through the Missouri Department of Public Safety's Peace Officer Standards and Training Program (POST). The training staff is responsible for various training programs including the Police Academy, In-Service Training, conducts numerous departmental training courses and hosts outside specialized training and education opportunities for police officers throughout Southwest Missouri. The Training Section is also responsible for department recruiting efforts as well as coordinating and managing volunteer activities (VIPS), such as the Chaplain Program, the Cadet Program and the Citizens Police Academy.



In 2021, in-service training returned to normal with limited impacts from the COVID-19 pandemic. The Training Section was also able to host a variety of outside training opportunities with outside agencies. Applications for sworn officer positions increased significantly in 2021 over the numbers from 2020. This increase will be reflected in the academy classes in 2022.

In 2021, 17 recruits graduated from the Springfield Police Academy as members of the 73rd, on Feb. 5, and 74th, on Nov. 9, academy classes: Wyatt Eubanks, John Taylor, Isaiah Houseknecht, Casey Bruton, Bradley Essary,



John Adamson, Colton Simmons, Tanner Stark, Autumn Brashears, Jordyn Dunacusky, Brendan Gabbart, Kobe Hammers, Austin Mudd, Tyler Rhoads, Hailey Seaton, and Springfield Fire Marshal Travis Morrissey.

Additionally, two experienced police officers completed the 19th Lateral Police Academy on Oct. 10: Kristen Spears and Ethan Leasman.

On July 16, 2021, Springfield Police Department rookies met with the public at the Battlefield Mall for cookies. Cookies with Rookies gives recruit officers opportunities to interact with the community's children in a public setting.

# CITIZEN PROGRAMS

## • CADET PROGRAM

The Springfield Police Cadet Program conducted one academy in the fall of 2021, with five attendees. They attended eight weeks of training for a total of 45 hours. The new graduates volunteer alongside the 12 standing Cadets in the department and community. New Cadets are mentored by standing Cadets as they continue to learn. SPD Cadets volunteered more than 900 hours in 2021 at events such as Polar Plunge, Academy Practicals, tours, CPA, and the Ozark Empire Fair.



## • CITIZENS POLICE ACADEMY

Two Citizens Police Academies were held in 2021 with 25 total citizen graduates. Both academies were held at the Springfield Police and Fire Regional Training Center. The academy met for 10 weeks in the spring and fall on Thursday evenings for three hours. The 30 hours of training on various topics such as police policies, organizational structure, investigative processes, and challenges involved in providing a safe community also included tours of the Training Center, Headquarters, and the SPD range.



## • VOLUNTEER PROGRAMS

The six members of the Handicap Enforcement Action Team (HEAT) volunteered 241 hours in 2021 to enforce handicap parking violations and aid motorists, issuing 113 handicap parking citations and assisting 82 motorists.



## • CHAPLAIN PROGRAM

The seven members of SPD's Chaplain Program support officers daily. They assist officers on death notification, participate in ride-alongs and provide prayer at events such as academy graduation, and host an annual memorial service. Their goal is to create more bridges between the Chaplains and the officers and to that end they hosted a successful officer appreciation event in October at Andy B's. In 2021, the Chaplains lost one member, David Johnson, due to illness and gained a new member, Keith "Dewayne" Butler.



## • INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

The Springfield Police Department's Internship Program provides interns with knowledge about SPD, how police function, job shadowing, and career preparation. In 2021 four interns completed a total of 773 volunteer hours total, averaging at least 150 hours per intern.

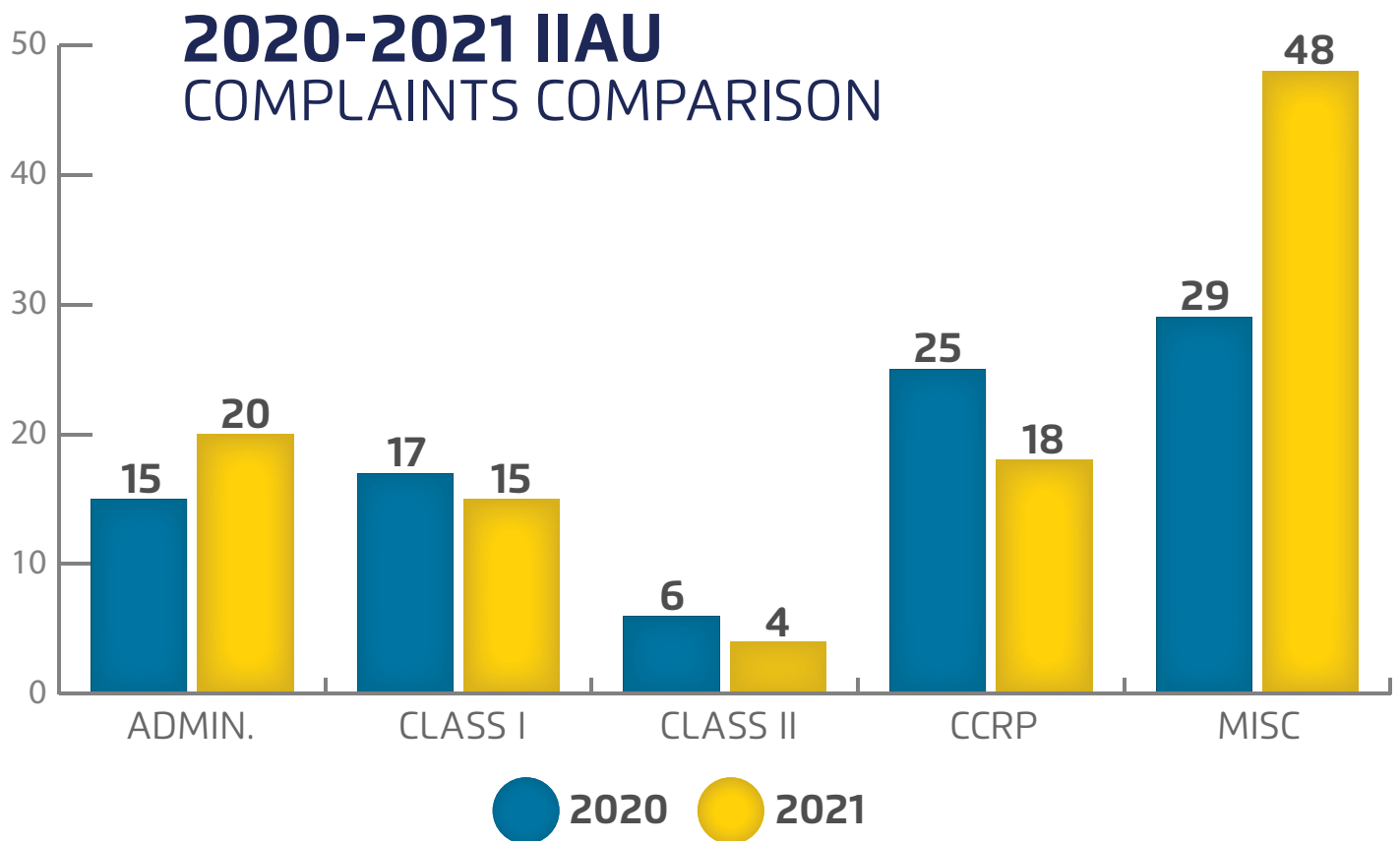




# INSPECTIONS AND INTERNAL AFFAIRS

The Inspections and Internal Affairs Unit (IIAU) is responsible for tracking and investigating complaints of misconduct against SPD employees. The unit maintains records on a variety of incidents, including disciplinary actions taken, vehicle pursuits, use of force and vehicle accidents involving on-duty SPD employees. In addition, this unit conducts internal audits, inspections of cash funds and evidence, as well as background checks for the City of Springfield related to certain licensing applications.

Complaints received by IIAU are classified as one of five types: Class I, Class II, Administrative, Miscellaneous and CCRP (Citizen Complaint Resolution Process). **Class I** complaints are the most serious external complaints (i.e. criminal violation, excessive force), while **Class II** complaints are based on less severe policy violations (i.e. discourtesy, improper procedure). **Administrative** complaints are complaints initiated from within the police department. Other complaints are classified as **Miscellaneous**, as determined by the Chief of Police (i.e. dispute over guilt or innocence of the complainant, no allegation of misconduct, not involving SPD employees). Complaints classified as **CCRP** involve a face-to-face meeting with the complainant, the subject of the allegation, and the employee's supervisor.



IIAU received a total of 107 Citizen Complaints in 2021, which represents a **16.3% increase** compared to 2020.

# DEPARTMENT RECOGNITIONS

## AWARDS

### MISSOURI MEDAL OF VALOR

- Sgt. Heather Anderson

### CITIZEN SERVICE COMMENDATION

- Dana Ford

### COMMAND COMMENDATION

- Officer Taylor Bolton

### MERITORIOUS UNIT CITATION

- Violent Crimes Unit
- Narcotics Enforcement Team

### LIFE SAVING AWARD

- Officer Ethan Millican

### COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD

- Major Tad Peters



### LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMENDATION MEDAL

Sons of the American  
Revolution

- Cpl. Marcus Walker

### OZARK EMPIRE PRCA OFFICER OF THE YEAR

- Officer Daniel Carlson

### OUTSTANDING SELFLESS SERVICE TO OUR COMMUNITY

Daughters of the  
American Revolution

- Springfield Police Department

### ROTARY OFFICER OF THE YEAR (2020)

- Detective Eric Pinegar

## LEADERSHIP TRAINING

### MISSOURI POLICE CHIEFS COMMAND COLLEGE

- Lt. Mark Foos
- Lt. Tonya Price

### LEADERSHIP SPRINGFIELD

- Lt. Dustin Martin
- Lt. Annesha Umbarger

### GREATER OZARKS LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

- Lt. Bryan Welch
- Lt. Mark Foos

### PERF SENIOR MANAGEMENT INSTITUTE FOR POLICE

- Major Stacey Parton

## PROMOTIONS

### MAJOR

- Captain Stacey Parton

### CAPTAIN

- Lt. Tony Vienhage

### LIEUTENANT

- Sgt. Nelson Kibby
- Sgt. Steve Schwind
- Sgt. Annesha Umbarger

### SERGEANT

- Officer Jeff Burnett
- Officer Jason Copley
- Officer Chad Immekus
- Officer Michael Ramsey

### CORPORAL

- Officer Dorian Bernett

### POLICE SERVICES SUPERVISOR

- Ronora Correll

## RETIREMENTS

- Major Vance Holland, 25 years
- Lt. Bob Byrne, 23 years
- Lt. Chad McIntyre, 25 years
- Sgt. Ken Browning, 19 years
- Sgt. Flint Roufs, 25 years
- Cpl. Jim Calhoon, 22 years
- Cpl. Gilbert Correa, 25 years
- Cpl. Alberto Estrada, 23 years
- Cpl. Mike Evans, 21 years
- Cpl. Josh McCain, 21 years
- Cpl. Harold Millirons, 19 years
- Cpl. Matt Shackelford, 24 years
- Officer Richard Mansel, 25 years
- Officer Greg Sly, 17 years
- Officer David Snider, 14 years
- Officer James Stacy, 19 years
- Officer Brian Steen, 24 years
- Officer Marc Stevens, 20 years
- Administrative Assistant Margie Brown, 21 years

# 2021 MEMORIALS

## OFFICER BLAIZE MADRID-EVANS (INDEPENDENCE, MISSOURI POLICE DEPARTMENT)

Springfield Police Officer Mark Priebe, who was severely injured in the line of duty in 2020, discovered he needed a new kidney. On Sept. 15, 2021, Independence, Missouri, Police Officer Blaize Madrid-Evans, was shot and killed in the line of duty. As an organ donor, he and Officer Priebe were a match. On the morning of Sept. 17, 2021, the Priebe family was notified, and a successful kidney transplant was performed the following evening in St. Louis.



## OFFICER CHRISTOPHER WALSH

On Aug. 8, 2021, fallen Springfield Police Department Officer Christopher Walsh was honored by End of Watch Ride to Remember, a group of motorcycle riders from the state of Washington who honor fallen officers throughout the United States from the prior year. The six riders traveled 22,300 miles across the country between May 28 and Aug. 19, visiting cities and agencies to honor 338 officers who paid the ultimate price in service to their communities in 2020.

One year after the tragic loss of Springfield Police Department Officer Christopher Walsh, SPD held a ceremony to honor his memory and sacrifice. During the ceremony, the memorial monument outside Springfield Police Headquarters was unveiled to reveal the addition of Officer Walsh's name.

In 2021, fallen Officer Walsh's memory and sacrifice were also honored as his name was inscribed on the National Law Enforcement Memorial in Washington D.C. in October, and on the the Missouri LEO Memorial in Jefferson City, Missouri in May.

## K9 OFFICER ARIES

On April 26, 2021, retired Police Service Dog Aries passed away and was laid to rest at Lakeland Pet Cemetery's Police Service Dogs area. Aries served the Springfield Police Department for five years before retiring on Sept. 9, 2016, due to long-term ailments.

During his career, Aries was deployed 764 times, located 23 suspects, and made 71 narcotics finds, leading to approximately 80 arrests. In retirement, Aries lived with his handler, Officer Tom Spence, and the Spence family, who remembered him as a faithful companion and a true friend.





# Springfield POLICE



*"As members of the Springfield Police Department, we are committed to providing quality service to our community through personal integrity, fairness, open communication and a helpful attitude."*