

# LONDON DIVISION OF POLICE

## 2021 YEAR END SUMMARY

Chief Glenn A. Nicol

January 24, 2022



## General Summary:

The past year, 2021, continued to be a challenging year with fallout from the current pandemic and resulting uncertainties. We continued to adjust accordingly and while normality returned in many areas, the effects were still felt in many ways, primarily financially. Our agency worked with the Madison County Public Health Department assisting with equipment for the mass vaccination clinics held in the beginning of 2021. Much of the equipment utilized was obtained with CARES Act funding received in late 2020.

We were able to engage with the community in a public setting at a limited pace, with some events still on hiatus. The National Night Out and Safety Expo were both held this year and allowed us to have some interaction with our community. Our Shop with a Cop was bigger than ever, thanks to a great fundraiser we were able to assist several families with approximately 40 total children participating.



Our agency continued to participate in security and traffic control for local events and festivals including the Cobra Show, Strawberry Festival, Rhythm and Ribs Festival and various holiday parades.

We maintained a social media connection with the community through the London City website at [www.londonohio.gov](http://www.londonohio.gov), on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and the Next-door email system, as well as our mobile app. Our app continues to be a great tool, with many success stories. Please consider downloading it, as currently 4,360 of like-minded people have and continue to utilize the resource. It is the best way to get timely emergency notifications. Also, the Madison County Sheriff's Office and the Village of West Jefferson both have recently acquired and implemented the app platform to stay connected to the communities. You can find the apps on both the google and apple stores.

We entered our newly acquired pickup truck into a statewide cruiser photo contest for first responder vehicles and our cruiser was voted #1 in our category. This was based on the size of our jurisdiction, serving between 5,000-14,999 population. We appreciated the support and recognition by the public.

We recognize the shortcomings of our current facility and obtained funding for a professional facility needs assessment. This assessment was completed by a local architectural firm over several weeks, and encompassed assessing the needs of a community center as well. We hope to further the development of this assessment in the near future.



**Personnel:**

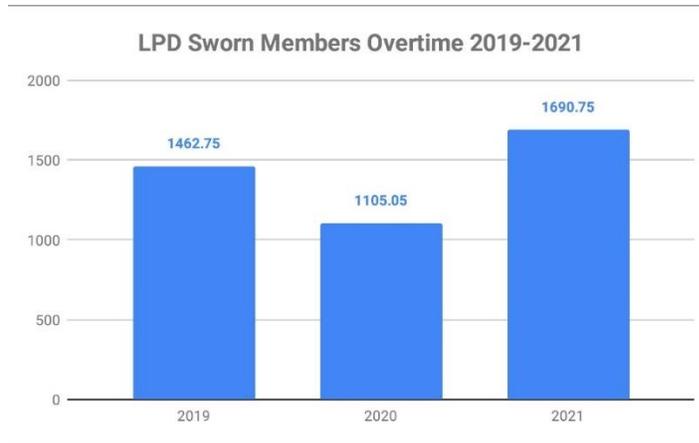


We had a variety of changes in our personnel over the year. Ofc. Areli Revilla was sworn in as an officer in January and Ofc. Hunter Carty graduated from his basic training at the Columbus Police Academy in February. We also hired Ofc. Eric Langham in August, with Ofc. Leavitt, Gibson and Emler all resigning for opportunities with other agencies in 2021.

Det. Frank White, assigned to the Madison County task force was also selected to work, in conjunction with a Madison County deputy, with the Franklin County Drug Task Force. This agreement with Franklin County’s SIU affords the agency extra manpower and resources in our continuing efforts of illegal narcotics investigations.

A part time administrative assistant position was abandoned in early 2021, and part time dispatcher John Todd resigned, while previous member Keith Akers was hired as a part time dispatcher.

This graph shows our overtime usage for the past three years, with 2021 being the highest of the three. This appears to be due to staffing shortages causing more use in maintaining leave coverage as well as an increase in the calls for service category of overtime use. Additionally, with the assignment of a detective to the Franklin County SIU, that overtime is a new category, not shown in previous years. We do get reimbursed for most of that overtime pay by the FCSO grant.



Our leave usage increased by 14% from 2020 with significant increases in sick time and comp time usage. The sick time increased due to some serious individual health issues, as well as COVID protocols requiring lengthy quarantine periods. This leave time is still a reduction from our initial 2017 recordings. Our relief factor for the patrol section was figured at 1.59, which is within the normal and acceptable range for an agency our size and only a .03 increase over 2020. The relief factor is the number of officers required to complete one patrol shift for the year based on the average time off of the sworn patrol staff. This was based on 18 officers, not full staff of 20.

**Budgetary/Equipment:**

The 2021 capital budget continued to be very restrictive with funding initially limited to obtaining a professional needs assessment for our facilities. Late in the year additional funding was granted for the purchase of one new patrol cruiser and related outfitting. Due to supply issues, we are currently waiting for the upfitting of that cruiser. A new digital fingerprint processor was obtained with 2020 CARES Act funding and it was put in service in the last quarter of this year. The automated fingerprint system assures we are compliant with state mandated arrest reporting by submitting arrest information directly to the state system. A marked pickup truck obtained late in 2020 was upfitted with markings and emergency lighting. Also obtained with CARES act funding were AED units for each cruiser, two digital traffic signs, and an enclosed cargo trailer. Our building generator of more than 35 years of age was deemed unrepairable and a new generator was approved for purchase and was just recently installed. We started utilizing the city auditor’s updated finance software, streamlining our purchasing and budget tracking capabilities.

**Traffic Enforcement Statistics:**

Officers made 1,315 traffic stops in 2021, an increase from 1,120 traffic stops in 2020. Of those 1,315 traffic stops, 208 citations were issued, and 997 of those traffic stops resulted in warnings. The remaining stops were various arrest or report related events. There were 741 traffic offenses charged in 2021, a 5% increase over 2020 charges. The division responded to 160 reports of non-injury property damage crashes, 36 hit-skip crashes and 31 injury crashes for the year. No fatal crashes occurred within the city in 2021.

**Core Statistics:**

One usual measurement tool is our basic duty statistics; the calls for service and incident reports filed. Not surprisingly, there was a 15% increase in calls for service in 2021 to 8,269. We continued to track routine services that better reflect our actual calls for services. For instance, we are capable of tracking our community watches, which include various vacation watch checks and special circumstance checks of a specific location. These checks are completed by officers while on free patrol. Officers completed 2,087 checks on numerous requested locations during 2021. The following table shows some of the various calls for service requests handled by officers.

Statistical Summary of various 2021 Calls for Service:

911 Unknown	36	Alarms - Commercial	225	Alarms - Residential	62	Assist Other Agency	115
Animal Complaints	59	Custody Dispute	39	Civil Standby	95	Civilian Transports	124
Disputes	270	Dog Stray -Uncontrolled	160	Driving Complaints	248	Drug Overdose	20
DAV/Motorist Assist	137	DOA	20	Fights	44	Domestic Dispute	157
Intoxicated Ind.	58	Medical Assist	183	Missing Persons	7	Mental Episode	84
Narcan Utilization	7	Open Door Poor Security	58	Prowler	29	Road Hazard	76
Susp Person	337	Susp Conditions	212	Shooting/Gunfire	24	Parking Comp	280
Trespassing	112	Unruly Juvenile	203	Vehicle Lockouts	282	Welfare Check	192

A more accurate area to consider for agency extended workload is the incident and offense reports filed. This usually reflects an accurate status of resource consuming calls for service handled by the agency. In 2021 we took 1,576 reports, an increase of approximately 15% over 2020.

Statistical Summary of pertinent 2021 Incident Reports:

Assaults	19	Domestic Violence	72	Menacing	44	Child Abuse	13
Sex Offenses	5	Overdose Related	8	Thefts	195	Burglary	9
Robbery	0	Criminal Damage /Vandalism	41	Death Inv	17	B&E	6
Drug Abuse	32	Drug Related	14	Unruly Juv	50	Suicide	0

**Notable Incidents:**

There were two incidents of infant deaths related to suffocations that occurred in the city as the result of improper sleeping conditions.

Jason Tipton, 37, formerly of London, was sentenced to 9 to 10.5 years in prison on convictions for child pornography charges as a result of an investigation by Det. Perkins.

William J. Taylor, 40, Columbus climbed approximately 50 feet up a pine tree after crashing his vehicle on nearby railroad tracks and would not come down. After several hours of negotiations, including with FBI negotiators, he came down as he started the tree on fire. Criminal charges were filed and he is awaiting trial in Madison County Common Pleas Court.

Frankie Dent, 38, London was arrested for felonious assault as the result of shooting another male on S Oak St. He is awaiting sentencing in Madison County Common Pleas Ct.

Five Columbus area young adults were indicted as a result of an investigation into a local auto theft and burglary ring throughout Ohio. Felony prosecution is pending on the suspects.

**K-9 Ygor**



Our canine unit consisting of Ofc. Michael Combs and Ygor, a 5-year-old Belgian Malinois continue to be an asset to our community and neighboring jurisdictions since Ygor started in 2017. Ygor was utilized by various agencies over the past year including Springfield PD, Madison Correctional, Madison County Sheriff's Office, Union County Sheriff's Office, and the Ohio Highway Patrol. Ygor assisted in many seizures of cocaine, fentanyl, methamphetamine, and Marijuana. He also performed two area searches for suspects, making one no-bite apprehension. He was utilized on 75 vehicle searches, with 53 positive indications, 3 storage facility sniffs with two containing illegal narcotics; 7 article searches for various items; 2 tracks for suspects with one

apprehension, one search warrant assist, and three school sniffs for narcotics. He also loves his public relations appearances with schools and the public, and absolutely enjoys the extra attention from those that surround him. Ygor and Ofc. Combs are pictured below after discovering over 100 pounds of marijuana for another jurisdiction.

## **Ohio Collaborative Community-Police Advisory Board**

Our agency continued to comply with the mandates and aligned policies and practices to support those current certifications issued by the board every three years. Those mandates requiring annual reviews, including Use of Force, Traffic Stops, and Citizen Complaints will be contained in a separate report once all the statistical information is processed. They will be made public on the Division's website at londonohio.gov.

### **Training:**

We continued to prioritize training of all our officers by utilizing various resources and maintaining a guideline for the development of younger officers, as well as appropriate advanced training for veteran officers. The agency as a whole was able to complete over 800 total hours in a variety of courses. All officers continued to be trained and qualify on the division issued firearms and electronic control devices, with department instructors, as well as online training on our policy and procedures. Additionally, each officer underwent training on new AEDs that were placed in each cruiser in 2021. Det. Greg Perkins completed the OACP's Police Executive Leadership Course, a three-week course of study geared toward police supervisors and Ofc. Joseph Harris completed the STEP program through the OACP. We have obtained an open room in city hall on the second floor as our training mat room; with regularly held training of our agency and nearby jurisdiction's officers by in house instructors. Various courses of instruction included OVI SFST Instructor; OC Instructor, Public Records Laws, Firearms Instructor, Interview & Interrogation, Driving Instructor, FTO Instructor, Mass Demonstration Control, Criminal Patrol Tactics, Subject Control, AED, CPR and ADAP.

### **2022 Goals:**

The following goals are listed for development in the upcoming year as we seek to continually improve ourselves personally and our organization.

We have completed a facility needs assessment and continue to work with the city administration on making those recommendations a reality and plan for constructing a modern facility.

We will continue to increase our traffic enforcement activities by at least 5% over 2021 totals in an effort to keep the motoring public safer.

We continually look to increase our public and community involvement and will continue in 2022 by introducing a new Safety Town event, as well as enhancing our National Night out event. Plans will be discussed for the possibility of a dedicated Community Resource Officer to work closely with the schools and other entities in the community.

### **Closing:**

Each year we develop a mantra to help us maintain focus on our mission and our vision. The past few years mantra's have included the following: Focus on being of value, in order to experience success; Maintaining humility as the solid foundation for all virtues; Just do the next right thing, and Attitude, it makes a difference.

Based on the many changes and various issues we have seen over the past couple of years, it reminds me of the saying “*Change is the only constant in life. One's ability to adapt to those changes will determine your success in life.*” John Wooden was quoted often that "Adaptability is being able to adjust to any situation at any given time." I believe he was pretty successful with his coaching and teams, so his realization appears on target. I do believe to be successful in our agency mission and our personal lives, we need to adopt adaptability!!

We continue to appreciate the great support from our community as shown through your words of encouragement, as well as the many donations throughout the year. We are not always able to publicly recognize your gifts or tokens of appreciation and encouragement, but do know they are appreciated and beneficial to our members' well-being.

Please continue to work with us as we strive to obtain our vision of a valuable and respected member of a vibrant community. Stay safe and remember – we are all in this together!

