

WINDERMERE POLICE DEPARTMENT

ANNUAL REPORT 2019



WINDERMERE PD
HONOR INTEGRITY SERVICE

Prepared by: Deputy Chief Jennifer Treadwell



Table of Contents

Windermere Police Department

Message from the Chief	p. 2-5
Agency Goals 2019.....	p. 6
Vision Statement, Values and Mission Goals.....	p. 7
Awards and Recognitions	p. 8-10
WPD Staff.....	p. 10

End of Year Statistics

Criminal Investigations.....	p. 11
Calls for Service by Month.....	p. 12
Calls for Service by Day of Week	p. 13
Calls for Service by Hour	p. 14
WPD Internal Statistical Data.....	p. 15
Police Activities – Most/Least Frequent.....	p. 16
2019 Traffic Crashes	p. 17-18

Community

WPD Reserve Unit.....	p. 19
Grants / Awards	p. 20-21
WPD Honor Guard	p. 21
WPD Chaplain Program	p. 22
Windermere Elementary School.....	p. 22-23
Special Events and Community Involvement.....	p. 24-27
WPD Foundation, Inc.	p. 28
Remembering Officer Robbie German.....	p. 29-30



MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF



Character is forged in the anvil of our past experience, self-discipline, and dedication to the pursuit of always striving to do things right. As 2019 came to a close, I reflected on our past successes, our challenges, and a vision for our future as we enter into a new decade. As I enter into my eighth year as your Chief of Police, there is tremendous evidence of the fruits of the teams' labor over the years, which is now that character. Moving forward into the new decade will undoubtedly bring us change. Therefore, succession planning, continued leadership development, buildout of the new facilities, pursuing Police Accreditation measures, and taking care of our residents and officers will continue to have my steadfast focus. In 2020 I challenge our team, and each of

you, to “outdo one another with honor by serving well.”

The Windermere Police Department is dedicated to providing a high level of service to our community, using professional policing standards and enveloping procedural integrity in everything that we do. We strive to be an exemplary police department that achieves all aspects of our mission and earns the trust of our community.

We see our duty as Guardians of the community, and stand ready to protect and serve. We are committed to, and embrace, our ethos; Honor, Integrity, and Service to others. Our goal is to prevent crime, the fear of crime, and to pursue justice for all while avidly protecting everyone's civil rights and civil liberties. “Everything matters” is more than just a saying, we want to provide a level of service to our community that sets a new standard in police practice.

As your Chief of Police, I pledge to stand firm to our values, maintain a high standard of ethics, abide by all laws, and hold ourselves accountable. It is my job to set an example for others, inspire our shared vision, encourage our team, and enable them to do their jobs through fostering a positive work environment. I hope and pray each day to achieve these standards.

Once again, I am proud of the men and women of the Windermere Police Department. This year has seen more accomplishments, and our small agency continues to set the bar for others to emulate. Sergeant Mark DeStefano received the *Lifetime Achievement Award* at the 2019 Annual Greater Orlando Chapter ASIS Law Enforcement Appreciation Luncheon for over 40 years of police service. Along with other local women police leaders,



Windermere Deputy Chief Jennifer Treadwell participated in the US Department of Justice International Criminal Investigation Training Assistance Program (ICITAP) "*Women in Law Enforcement*" panel at the University of Central Florida for police leaders from the Middle East. School Resource Officer Carlos Hernandez received the Crisis Intervention Team award, our Reserve Police Unit continues to shine, and our professional development program saw two officers be promoted to an Officer 2, which helps guide them on the path of future leadership and succession planning. Our Command Staff team is often requested to provide lecture and leadership opportunities across central Florida for leadership classes, at graduations, and for special engagements.

Our Town envelops the spirit of volunteerism, community service, and an appreciation for worthwhile causes that enhance the overall quality of life in and around our community. Our team continues to lead the way seeking new and innovative ways to build relationships with our community. In February of 2019, the Windermere Police Department Foundation, Inc., and its officers led the way supporting the *Sleep in Heavenly Peace* (SHP Beds) Bunk Bed Build. Over 100 residents stood side-by-side with our officers building 80 beds for kids in the Central Florida area who otherwise don't have a bed to sleep on at night. Furthermore, a few of our officers have continued to engage in the organization by delivering beds on their own accord to make a difference in the community. In September, we championed another new adventure called *Cops 'n Bobbers*, where our officers, staff, and Town Council members enjoyed a morning fishing with kids in our community. These programs, along with the multitude of other monthly events, have created personal relationships and bonds with our community at a much higher level of service than often seen in police work.

In 2019, we increased our Reserve Police Officer Program to continue to meet the need to cover many events. National Night Out, monthly food truck events, Windermere 5K, Craft Beer Fest, Pet Fest, Art Affair, Night to Shine, Tree-Bute, Holiday Hoopla, Boat Parade, Halloween Parade, St. Patty's Day Event, Bike to School, Easter Parade & hunt, the National Drug Take-Back Event, and dozens of other programs have a profound impact on a small team and require extra security. In 2019, we expanded from four to six Reserve Police Officers to meet this need. In this year, the Windermere Police Department Reserve Unit collectively volunteered a total of 1,610 hours of service to our community, at a cost savings of nearly \$44,000.00 to our residents. Most of these officers have full time jobs elsewhere, yet selflessly dedicate their time to serving our community. In 2019, the Reserve Unit received a unit citation, and they've logged 600 hours more service time than the previous year.

Fiscal responsibility is always one of our top priorities and I understand that we are working with your monies. Along with the School Resource Officer position reimbursements for FY 2018 / 2019, we solicited for several grants and developed professional collaboratives to save significant monies within our budget. Some of



these items include, but are not limited to, JAG grants, applications for enhanced DUI enforcement efforts, a reduction in cost for our investigative technology equipment, full funding for active shooter deployment kits, and a reimbursement for several issued or replaced bullet proof vests. When combining costs saved with our Reserve Officer program this is a cost savings of well over \$100,000.00 as enumerated within this report.

We are fortunate to enjoy a low crime rate, but we are certainly not immune to crime. Crime is a community problem, and I am pleased with the excellent information sharing and collaboration our agency has with our citizens. I believe that what the Windermere Police Department offers best is a level of service that simply cannot be matched anywhere in Central Florida policing. We are active with our Windermere Safety Watch program, engaged in social media, we write safety and security articles in the Gazette, attend HOA meetings, give safety presentations in Town Hall, check our House Watch list, check on our residents with our CARE program, and many of our officers have a real connection with our residents. This is community policing and the best way to effectively reduce crime and the fear of crime in our community.

In 2019, traffic safety and speeding continued to be the number one priority from our residents. The Town has invested a significant amount of monies in research on how to most effectively manage the traffic volume and cut-through concerns. Professional engineers have studied the issue and, in addition to those studies, we have conducted both overt and covert operations to curtail the speeding complaints, ordered a second speed measuring device, and now have a movable speed trailer to combat the traffic issues. We all know the problem is not going away with the tremendous volume of residents moving into the west Orange County community that cuts through the Town of Windermere.

Just two years ago, our agency helped spearhead a project to develop a multi-agency *Critical Incident Stress Management Team (CISM)* alongside the four west Orange County police municipalities under the guidance of a professional doctor and organization. Over the year's officers from each respective jurisdiction have been certified, received extensive training, and have been utilized to handle crisis events, such as, but not limited to, officer involved shootings, difficult death investigations, or other critical incidents that may have an effect on our officers if not handled appropriately. The CISM team has garnered a great reputation and is receiving attention from other smaller agencies as a model of success in this field.

A historic event occurred in 2019 as Mayor Gary Bruhn passed the gavel to our newly elected Mayor Jim O'Brien after 15 years of service to our community. Mayor Bruhn has always been a steadfast supporter of our Windermere Police Department, and he has been there every step of the way as we have rebuilt the agency over the years.



WINDERMERE POLICE DEPARTMENT
ANNUAL REPORT 2019

Mayor Bruhn stood by us all through one of the most horrific events the Town has ever endured, the loss of one of our own, Officer Robert “Robbie” German. Words cannot express my heartfelt gratitude and appreciation for his unwavering support for our police department and the family.

As we embark on a new decade, our police department remains strong with a healthy desire to serve our community. In 2020, our leadership team will focus on inevitable changes to come; succession planning, leadership, mentoring, officer care, securing our new facility, establishing accreditation success, and continuing to serve well. Thank you again for the opportunity to serve as your Chief of Police. Our officers are Guardians of our community and stand ready to protect and serve with Honor, Integrity and Service to our Town of Windermere. We look forward to 2020!

Stay Safe,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David Ogden".

Chief David A. Ogden

Leadership is service, not your title.





AGENCY GOALS 2019

1. **Professional Development:** The Windermere Police Department is committed to the personal and professional development of all employees. We will create objectives that will assist members with career development and help to identify officers for future leadership roles.
2. **Enhanced Officer Training:** The Windermere Police Department is committed to training its officers to meet professional standards of law enforcement. We will create objectives that will improve our job knowledge, increase officer safety and develop our patrol tactics.
3. **Fiscal Responsibility:** The Windermere Police Department is committed to being fiscally responsible. We will create objectives that will allow members of Command Staff to ensure there is an understanding of fiscal responsibilities at each level of management.
4. **Promote Agency Collaboration:** The Windermere Police Department will work cooperatively with other agencies and resources.
5. **Enhance Community Relations:** The Windermere Police Department will develop its community outreach to the citizens and business owners of the Town of Windermere.





VISION STATEMENT, VALUES, AND MISSION GOALS

The mission of the Windermere Police Department is to ensure the safety and security of all people residing in and passing through the Town of Windermere. The Windermere Police Department is a community-oriented police department and as such will work closely with the community to maintain a high quality of service.

Vision Statement

The Windermere Police Department will be an exemplary police department that achieves all aspects of our Critical Mission Goals. We shall comply with all laws, adhere to a high level of ethical standards, and earn the trust of the community that we serve.

Values of the Windermere Police Department

We recognize the value of establishing and maintaining community partnerships. From our professional staff and sworn members to the many citizens and business groups who assist us in the fulfillment of our mission, we remain committed to the further enhancement of these partnerships. We will continually strive to develop the skills of our members and to efficiently and effectively manage our resources to deliver the highest level of police service to the citizens of the Town of Windermere. The members of the Windermere Police Department will achieve this by adhering to the agency motto of “Honor, Integrity, Service.”

Mission Goals:

- *Prevent Crime
- *Pursuing Justice
- *Public Safety
- *Enhance the Quality of our Community
- *Provide a High Level of Service to our Residents
- *Protect Civil Rights & Civil Liberties of All
- *Pursuit of Excellence



AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS

Officer of the Year

School Resource Officer (SR0) Carlos Hernandez received the Officer of the Year award for his dedicated service as the SRO for the Windermere Elementary School. SRO Hernandez conducted traffic enforcement, coordinated school safety training, taught educational programs, coordinated the school crossing guard program, and participated in various activities with the children.



Distinguished Conduct Award



On February 14, 2019, former **Officer 2 George Gonzalez**, was dispatched to a medical call and while conducting an assessment of the resident he requested medical assistance. Within moments she collapsed and was caught by Officer Gonzalez and assisted to the ground preventing injury to her person. Medical help arrived moments later and the resident was transported to the hospital without delay.

Community Service Award

Police Administrator and Reserve Officer Lori Sipek was recognized for her dedicated service and volunteerism to the Town of Windermere and the Windermere Police Department in support of countless Town and Police functions that enhance the overall level of service provided to the community.



Promotions

Officer George Gonzalez was promoted to the rank of Patrol Officer 2.

Officer Chip Irwin was promoted to the rank of Patrol Officer 2.





Service Awards

Detective John Allen received recognition for five years of service to the Town of Windermere.

Officer 2 Chip Irwin received recognition for five years of service to the Town of Windermere.

Crossing Guard Patty Sanders received recognition for five years of service to the Town of Windermere.



Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) – Central Florida

The Windermere Police Department's Crisis Intervention Team was recognized as a 2019 participating CIT Agency in Central Florida. The CIT program is designed to promote and support collaborative efforts to create and sustain more effective interactions among law enforcement, mental health care advisors, individuals with mental illnesses, their families, and communities, and to reduce the stigma of mental illness. The Windermere

Police Department has twelve (12) certified CIT officers. Three members of the WPD graduated from the program in 2019: Officer Jerrell Ogletree, Officer Griffin Hebel, and Officer Sam Keith.

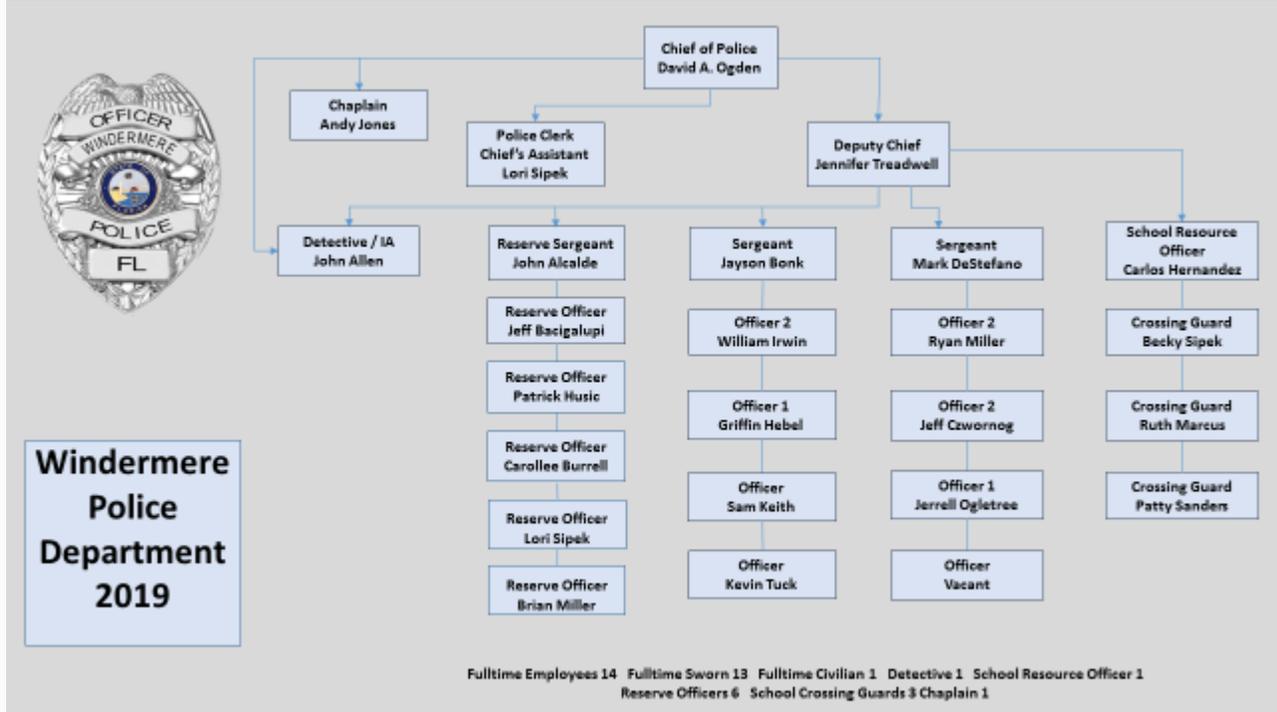


Lifetime Achievement Award

Sergeant Mark DeStefano was awarded the Lifetime Achievement Award by the American Society for Industrial Security (ASIS). Sergeant DeStefano was recognized for his commitment to law enforcement and community service for the past forty (40) years.



WINDERMERE POLICE DEPARTMENT STAFF 2019



Team building exercises with Town of Windermere employees

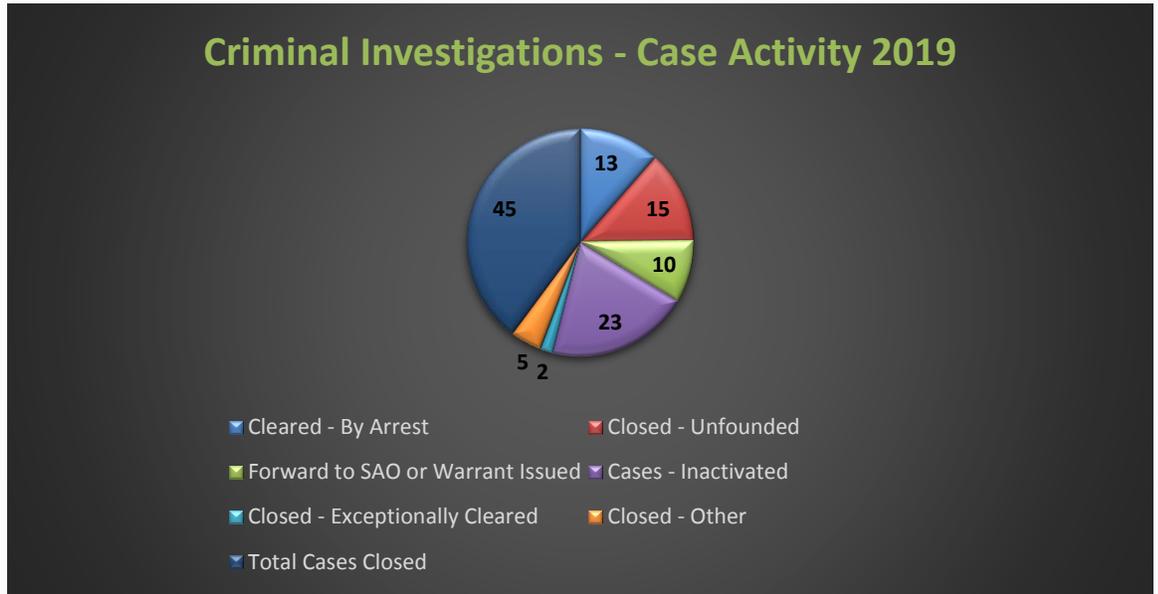


CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS



By the end of 2019, the police department was staffed with 11 sworn officers, 1 school resource officer, 1 police clerk, 1 investigator, 6 reserve police officers, and 3 school crossing guards. Sworn personnel patrolled an area of approximately 2 square miles. Our WPD Detective John Allen was assigned 76 cases throughout the year; 8 of which were carried over from 2018.

This pie chart shows the final outcome of these cases with further explanation of the dispositions. Thirteen (13) reported cases were closed by making one or more arrests. Reported crimes that are solved and a victim indicates they do not want the case prosecuted or the victim refuses to provide a statement and indicates they are unwilling to testify in any judicial proceeding are classified as exceptionally cleared. Detective



Allen closed two (2) reported cases as exceptionally cleared. There were fifteen (15) cases closed as unfounded. These are reported crimes that are determined to have not occurred, or the crime occurred in another jurisdiction. Cases that are closed as other, five (5) in 2019, are considered reported crimes that are closed in a manner not covered by the three previous dispositions. These are cases that might not be suitable for criminal prosecution but rather handled through other means such as social services. There were twenty-three (23) cases that were inactivated. These are cases that are investigated; however, due to no investigative leads, or leads that are provided do not lead to any suspect(s) being identified, the cases are considered closed. There were ten (10) reported crimes that were turned over to the Office of the State Attorney for further review, and where an arrest warrant was issued. Throughout the year, Detective Allen obtained ten (10) arrests warrants, two (2) search warrants, and six (6) investigative subpoenas.

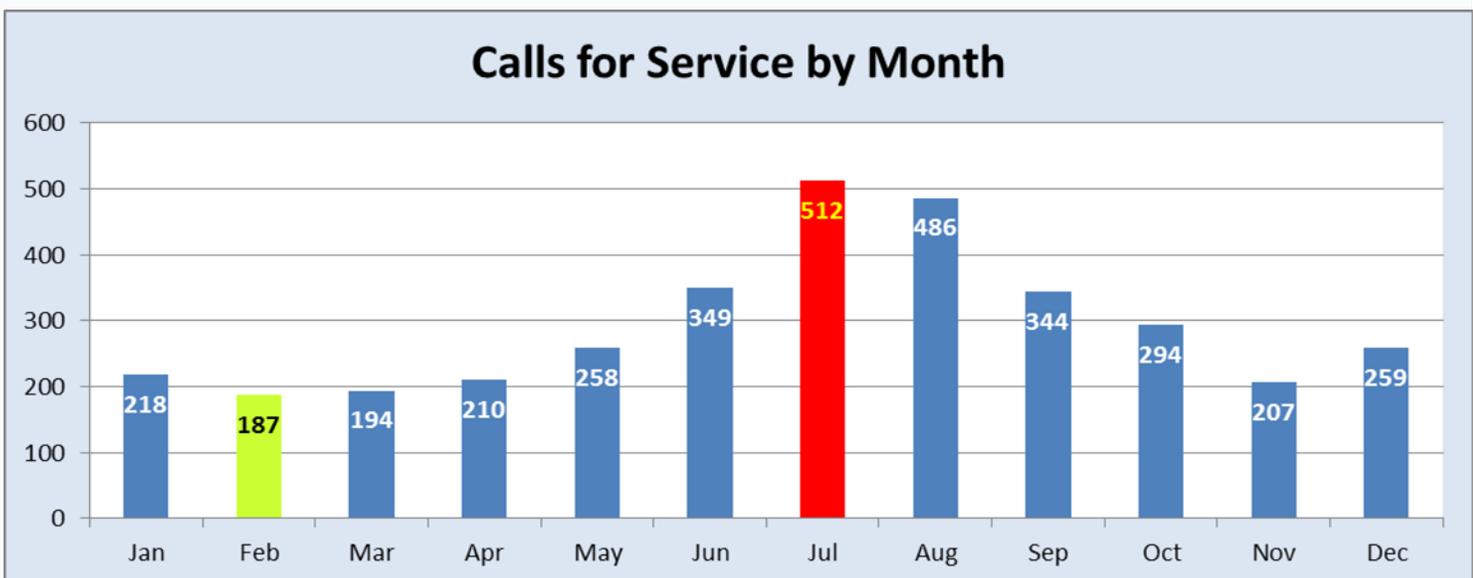


2019 CALLS FOR SERVICE BY MONTH

There were 3,518 total Calls for Service in CY2019.

CFS by Month	
January	218
February	187
March	194
April	210
May	258
June	349
July	512
August	486
September	344
October	294
November	207
December	259
Total	3,518

- ▶ The month with the **highest** calls for service is **July** with **512 calls**. The month of August follows with 486 calls for service.
- ▶ The month with the **lowest** calls for service is **February** with **187 calls**.

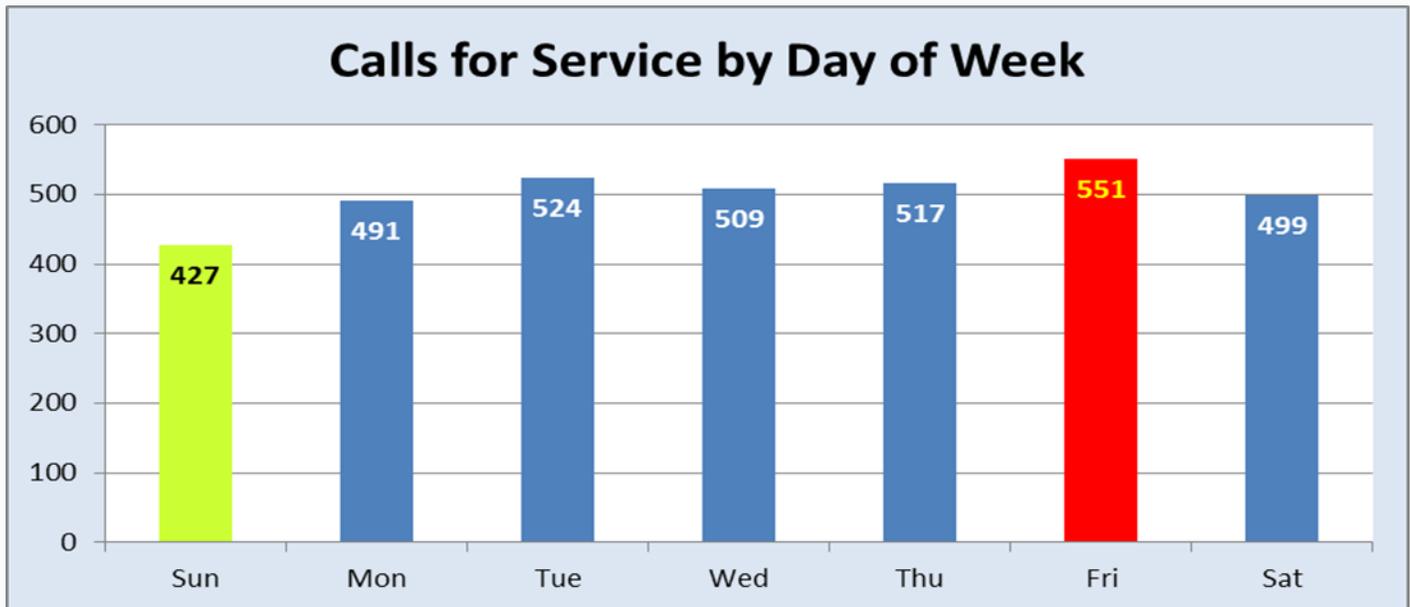


Analyst Note: This analysis is based on the records generated by the Communications Division of the Winter Garden Police Dept.



2019 CALLS FOR SERVICE BY DAY OF WEEK

There were 3,518 total Calls for Service in CY2019.

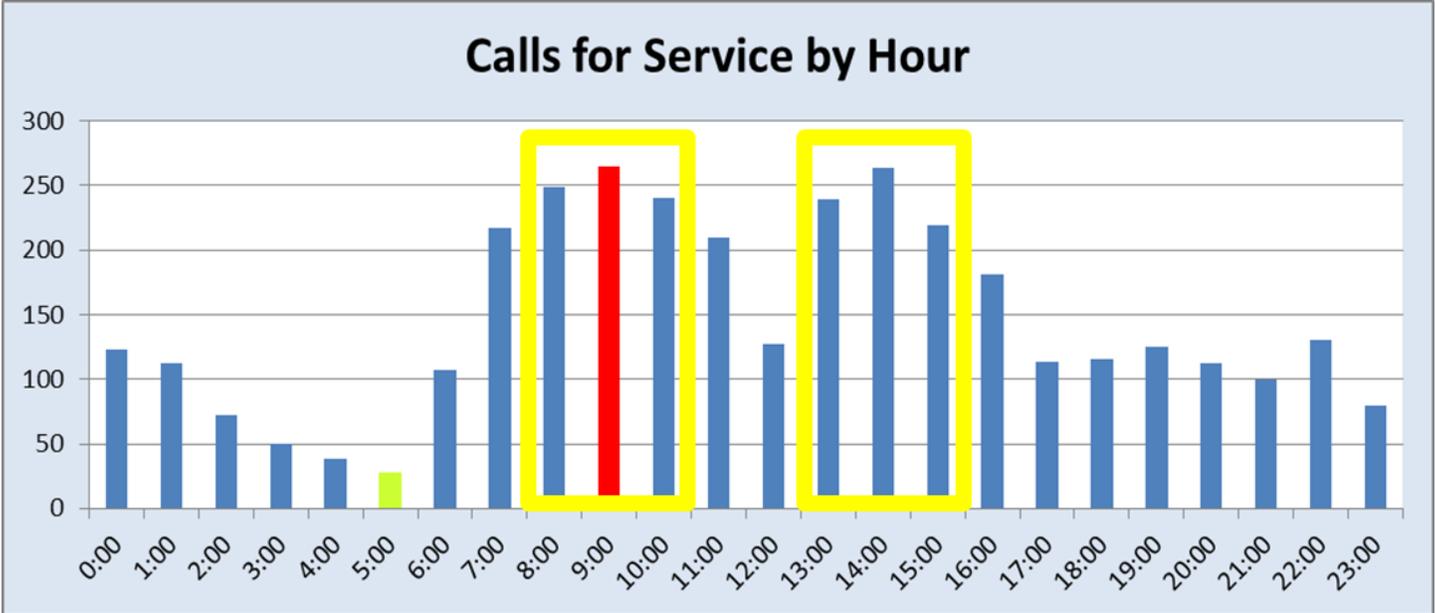


- ▶ The day of week with the **highest** calls for service occurred on a **Friday**.
- ▶ The day of week with the **lowest** calls for service occurred on a **Sunday**.



2019 CALLS FOR SERVICE BY HOUR

There were 3,518 total Calls for Service in CY2019.



Calls for Service by Hour

0:00	123
1:00	112
2:00	72
3:00	50
4:00	38
5:00	28
6:00	107
7:00	217
8:00	249
9:00	265
10:00	240
11:00	210
12:00	127
13:00	239
14:00	264
15:00	219
16:00	181
17:00	114
18:00	116
19:00	125
20:00	112
21:00	100
22:00	130
23:00	80

There are time clusters showing high calls for service by hour:

- ▶ The hour with the **highest** calls for service time frame is **0900** hours with a total of **265 calls**.
- ▶ There were two blocks of time experiencing high calls for service:
 - 0800 – 1100 hours with a total of **754 calls**
 - 1300 – 1600 hours with a total of **722 calls**
- ▶ The **lowest** calls for service time frame is **0500** hours through 0559 hours with a total of 28 calls.

Analyst Note: This analysis is based on the records generated by the Communications Division of the Winter Garden Police Dept.



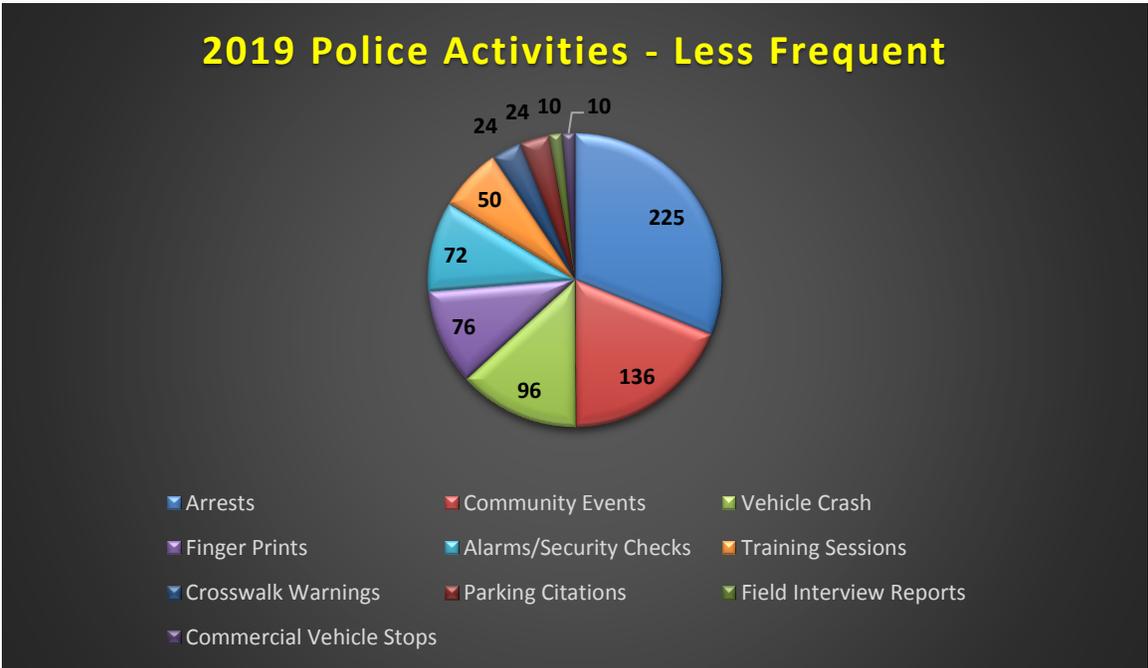
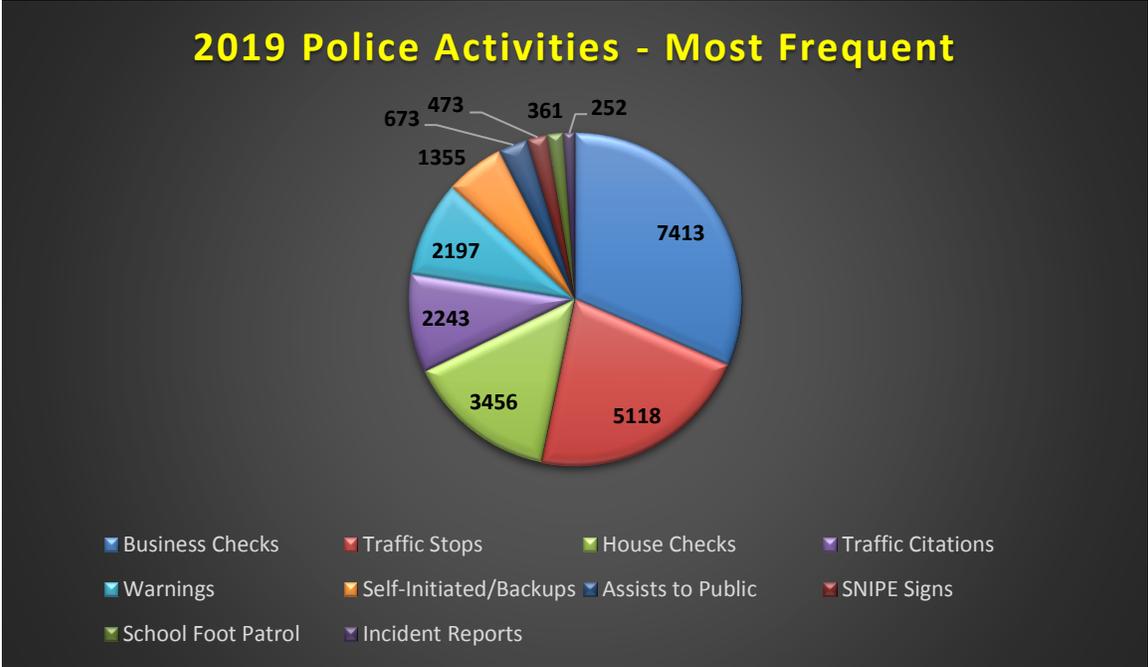
2019 WPD INTERNAL STATISTICAL DATA

The following statistical data was captured via the Windermere Police Department's (WPD) internal monthly tracking system. This data is separate in and of itself from data received from the WGPD Communications Center.

Call type:	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Commercial Vehicle Stops	1	2	0	0	0	0	3	1	0	2	1	0	10
Parking Citations	4	0	2	2	7	1	4	2	0	1	1	0	24
Field Interview Reports	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	2	3	10
Crosswalk Warnings	0	0	0	24	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	24
Training Sessions	3	3	2	6	7	6	4	7	5	2	4	1	50
Vehicle Crashes & Drivers Exchanges	4	9	19	9	12	14	4	2	8	5	5	5	96
Alarms/Security Checks	12	3	2	10	6	6	12	1	5	7	4	4	72
Finger Prints	3	10	9	6	10	11	4	6	4	13	0	0	76
Community Events	13	13	13	13	5	4	8	16	13	16	11	11	136
Patrol Phone Assists	3	6	10	6	4	5	6	4	4	2	5	2	57
SNIFE Signs	35	5	48	51	23	56	33	86	61	38	9	28	473
Incident Reports	15	25	25	20	22	33	19	16	24	26	9	18	252
Arrests	22	19	26	12	32	24	11	1	19	21	10	28	225
School Foot Patrol	32	36	41	45	13	4	1	35	40	49	33	32	361
Assists to Public	101	61	59	65	67	69	56	32	43	32	45	43	673
Self-Initiated/Back-ups	116	69	124	161	117	134	112	80	103	104	139	96	1355
Warnings	316	193	213	219	208	211	134	101	132	162	176	132	2197
Traffic Citations	178	140	157	155	234	124	123	129	289	226	254	234	2243
House Checks	180	160	144	168	175	323	549	465	435	338	189	330	3456
Traffic Stops	579	387	445	390	483	359	302	224	498	429	506	516	5118
Business Checks	250	297	454	700	470	780	615	366	966	806	1169	540	7413



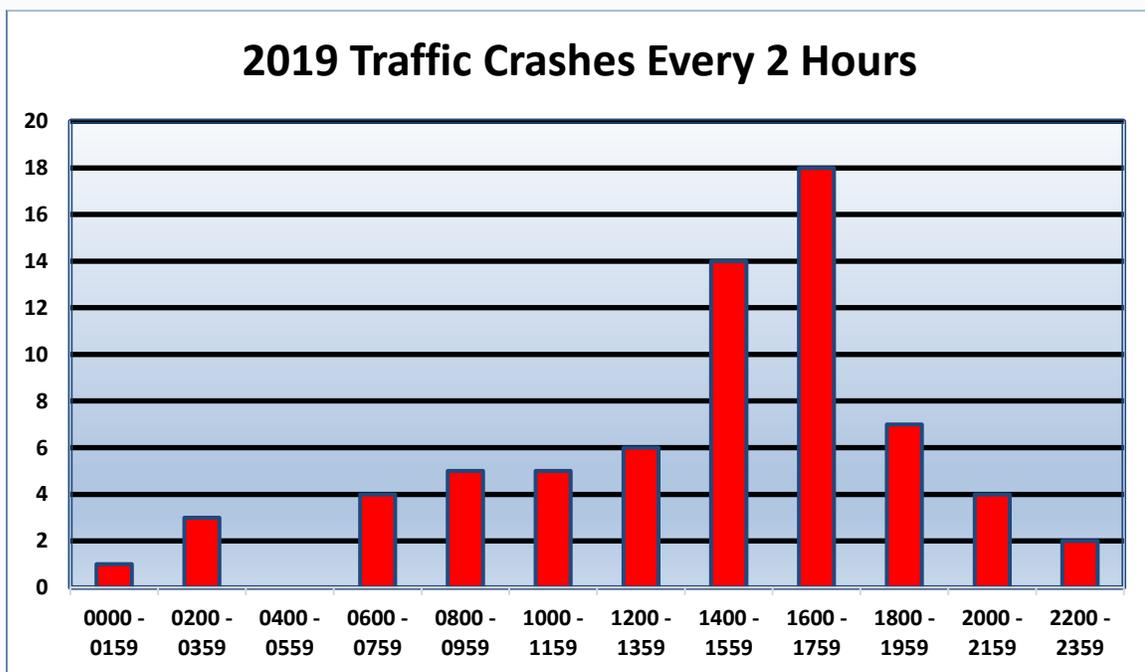
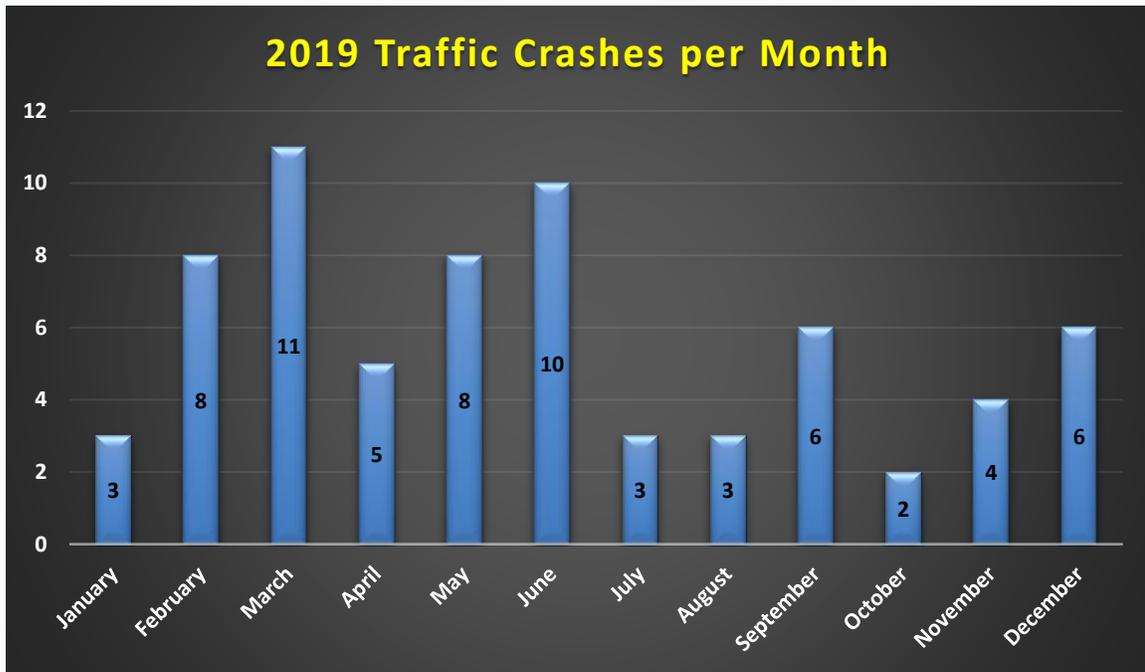
2019 WPD INTERNAL STATISTICAL DATA

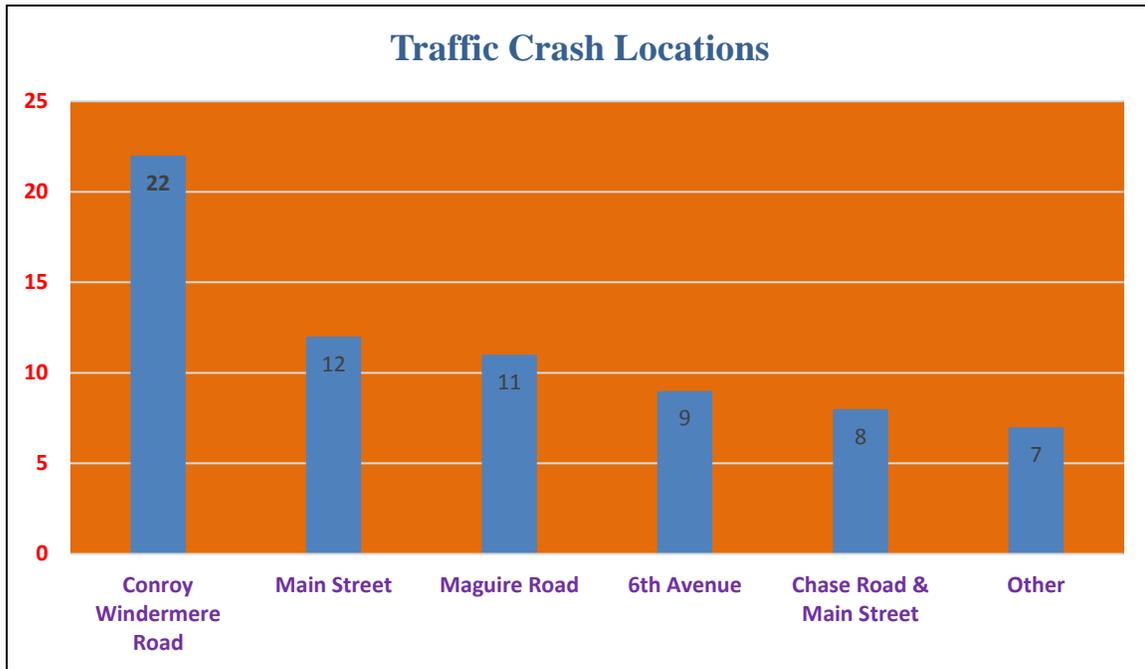




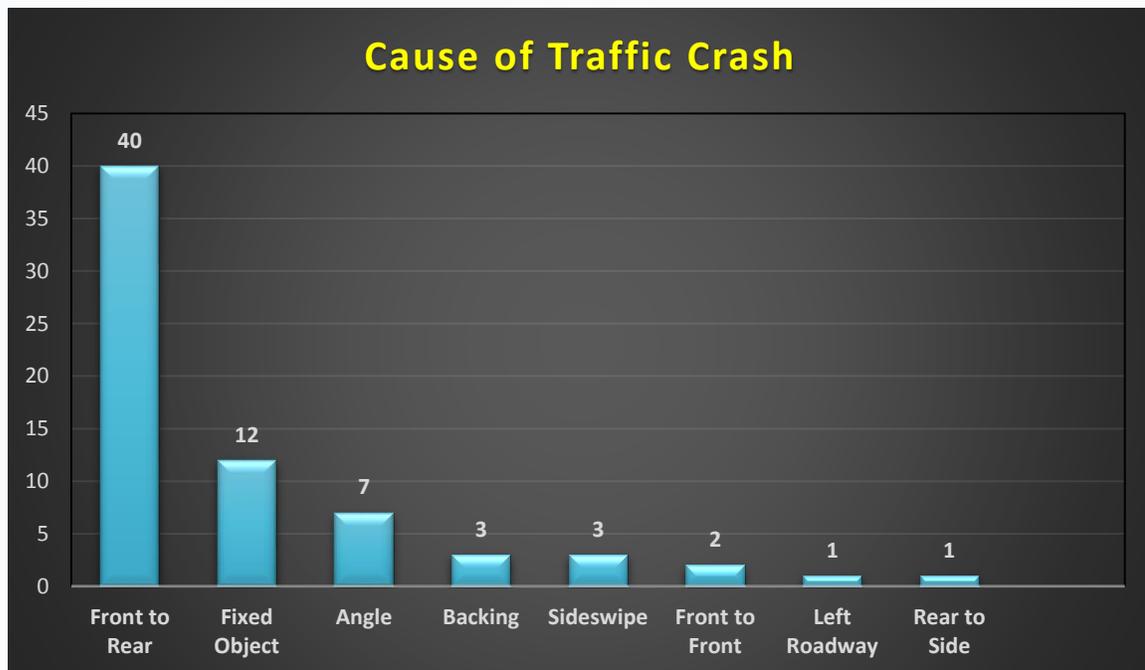
2019 TRAFFIC CRASHES REPORTED

By the end of 2019, Windermere officers investigated a total of sixty-nine (69) traffic crashes. There were no reported injuries in fifty-three (53) of these crashes. Of the remaining, there were eighteen (18) reported non-fatal injuries and zero (0) fatalities. Of the total number of crashes, seven (7) were investigated as Hit & Run, and ten (10) occurred at the roundabouts. The following tables indicate traffic crashes per month, per hour, location, and cause of crash.





For the purpose of the above chart, crashes that occurred on Conroy Windermere Road were calculated to Jennifer Lane. Crashes that occurred on 6th Avenue were calculated west of Jennifer Lane and up to Main Street.



Of the twenty-two (22) crashes that occurred on Conroy Windermere Road, seventeen (17) were front to rear collisions. Of the nine (9) crashes that occurred west of Jennifer Lane on 6th Avenue up to Main Street, six (6) were front to rear collisions.



WPD RESERVE UNIT

The Windermere Police Department finished the year with six (6) Reserve Police Officers. The primary function of the reserve officer is to supplement the staffing of full-time officers and assist in the responsibilities of law enforcement. In addition to providing patrol coverage, reserve officers fulfill various positions to include assisting with special details, providing safety programs for local school children and scouts, training instructors, and participating in Town special events. The reserve unit provided a total of 1,610 hours of participation in 2019. Utilizing a rate of \$27.00 per hour (the amount per hour for a full-time officer with some benefits), the contribution of these volunteer hours resulted in a cost savings of **\$43,470.00**. Below is a portion of the special details in which the reserve unit provided assistance this past year:

- D.U.I. Saturation Patrols
- Night to Shine
- St. Patrick's Day Event
- Annual Run Amongst the Lakes
- Easter Egg Hunt
- July 4th Pancake Breakfast
- National Night Out
- Boy Scouts & Girl Scouts
- DEA Drug Takeback
- Craft Beer Festival
- Halloween Parade
- WES Civics Day
- Shop with a Cop
- Seminole Harley Annual Chili Cook Off
- Boat Parade
- Florida LE Memorial
- Orange County LE Memorial
- TOW Golf Cart Parade
- TOW Veteran's Day Memorial
- VA Police Memorial
- Arbor Day – Honor Guard
- Back the Blue 5K
- Art Affair – Honor Guard
- NAMI Walk
- Holiday Hoopla
- Light Up Windermere
- Windermere Teach-In
- Windermere Union Preschool
- Cops and Bobbers
- Kindergarten Roundup
- MAGIC Graduation – Honor Guard
- Various training and conferences





GRANTS / AWARDS

In 2019 the Windermere Police Department was able to secure **\$101,270.70** in grants/awards to benefit the agency. Interagency collaboration, understanding the resources available in our region and building networks are invaluable assets to a small police department. Along with the submission of grants the police department works diligently in identifying assets and building partnerships to continue our professional development.

Bullet Resistant Vest Grant:

The Windermere Police Department received **\$2,500** from a federal grant for the reimbursement of 50% of our cost for new vests needed for our officers.

DUI Overtime Detail:

Through interagency collaboration, the police department was able to secure a grant from the Orange County Drug-Free Coalition for officers to work DUI related operations in Orange County. The detail reimbursed the Town of Windermere **\$1,760.70** for participation in details throughout 2019.

JAG Grant:

This past year, the Windermere Police Department received **\$10,000** in grant money to purchase five laptops, one of which was assigned to the school resource officer. Additionally, an application was submitted to purchase five fully outfitted rifles, and training/duty ammunition. Approval for this grant is expected in early 2020.

FINDER Program:

The FINDER program is an information technology program commonly used for investigations. The Windermere Police Department received a waiver in the amount of **\$2,500** from Law Enforcement Training Technology for the cost of the program and dual authentication security measures, and a **\$10,000** reimbursement for IT capabilities due to interagency collaboration.

Eddie Eagle Grant:

In May of 2019, the police department was awarded a grant in the amount of **\$2,800.00** for funding for the Eddie Eagle Mascot Costume. The Eddie Eagle program is a gun accident prevention program for children in Pre-K



through Fourth grade, provides Kids Activity Books, reward stickers, and informational brochures about the program. Eleven (11) Eddie Eagle classes were taught by the end of 2019.

Ballistic Shields and Helmets:

In early 2019, the Orange County Sheriff's Office, acting as administrator of the Homeland Security's Grant Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI), allowed for the purchase of twenty (20) active shooter response plate carriers, each with level III steel rifle plates, twenty (20) ballistic helmets, and carry bags that hold the plate carrier system and helmet. This grant provided the Town of Windermere a cost savings of **\$11,960.00**.

OCPS SRO Contract:

The agreement between The School Board of Orange County, Florida and the Town of Windermere for the School Resource Officer Program allowed for a reimbursement to the TOW in the amount of **\$59,750.00**. This reimbursement included the summer program held at the Windermere Elementary School which was staffed with our school resource officer.

WPD HONOR GUARD

The Windermere Police Department's Honor Guard participated in various details this past year. These include several law enforcement memorials, Treebute, Art Affair, VA Law Enforcement Memorial, 9/11 Memorial, Town Council meetings and the Wide World of Sports Special Olympics. By the end of 2019 there were five (5) members of the WPD Honor Guard Unit under the direction of Sergeant Mark DeStefano.





WPD CHAPLAIN PROGRAM



Chaplain Andy Jones has been serving as the Police Chaplain for the Town of Windermere and the Oakland Police Departments since June of 2017. He continues to serve as a support system for law enforcement officers and their families, and he is available to render support to residents and victims of crimes when necessary, and may be tasked with helping deliver sensitive notifications. Chaplain Jones has logged over one hundred seven (107) volunteer hours in 2019. He participated in local and state law enforcement memorials, Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM) meetings, trainings sessions, hospital visits, special projects, and he can most often be seen helping out at various fundraisers.

WINDERMERE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



Throughout 2019, School Resource Officer Carlos Hernandez maintained constant vigilance over the Windermere Elementary School. He attended events

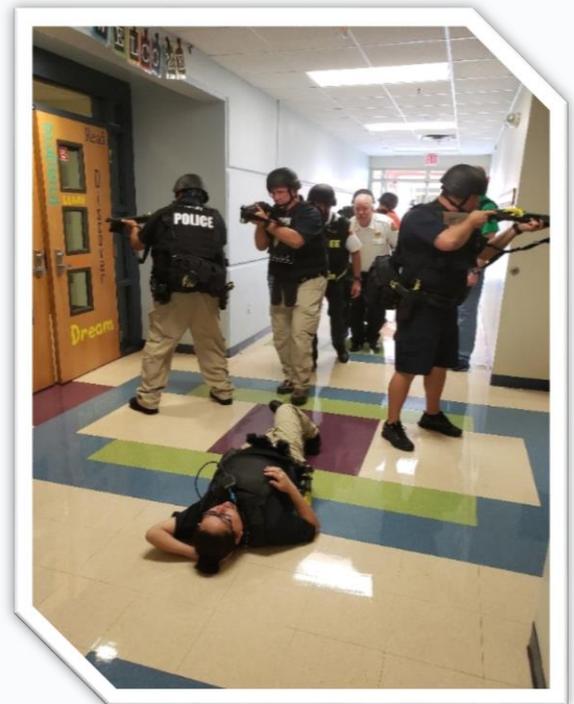


such as Meet the Teacher, Red Ribbon Week, PTA Dance Party, 5th Grade Carnival, Crossing Guard training, Civics Day, Walk/Bike to School and National Night out. SRO



WINDERMERE POLICE DEPARTMENT ANNUAL REPORT 2019

Hernandez taught fifty (50) MAGIC lessons and fifteen (15) Eddie Eagle lessons. During the summer break he monitored the summer program on campus, participated in the SRO Active Shooter Training hosted by the Orange County Sheriff's Office and the Orange County Public Schools, organized the Windermere Police in-service active shooter training which included the Ocoee Fire Department, and he attended the School Resource Officer conference in South Florida.





2019 SPECIAL EVENTS & COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT





WEST ORANGE
Windermere, Horizon West, Dr. Phillips

Observer

YOU. YOUR NEIGHBORS. YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD.

VOLUME 4, NO. 51 FREE • THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2019



Windermere Police Chief David Ogden and Get Hooked Bait & Tackle Owner Tim Bagwell presented Jayden Burns, 10, with trophies for the first fish and biggest fish in the Little Bobbers group.

REEL-LIFE HEROES

The Windermere Police Department partnered with Get Hooked Bait & Tackle to put on its first Cops & Bobbers event for local children.

[SEE PHOTOS ON PAGE 7](#)



Janet and Penelope Maland, 4, spent some quality time together at the event.

Photos by Tim Freed

407-347-3072
GET HOOKED
BAIT AND TACKLE & PROFESSIONAL GUIDE SERVICE



WINDERMERE POLICE FOUNDATION
Sign up: Ms. Lori Sipek lsipek@town.windermere.fl.us
Phone: 407-876-3757 Mon-Fri. 9am -5pm

COPS & BOBBERS

SEPTEMBER 21, 2019 8:00 AM TO 12:00 PM
Registration & Meetup @ Town Hall, 520 Main St, Windermere, FL 34786
Registration 7:30 AM- 8:00 AM. Kids from 3- 17 years old welcome!
3-5 Years old will be fishing from the shoreline.



Age Groups:
Tiny Bobbers: 3-5 Years Old
Little Bobbers: 6-10 Years Old
Jr Bobbers: 11-17 Years Old

The first 100 Little and Junior Bobbers who sign up may be eligible to fish from a boat!



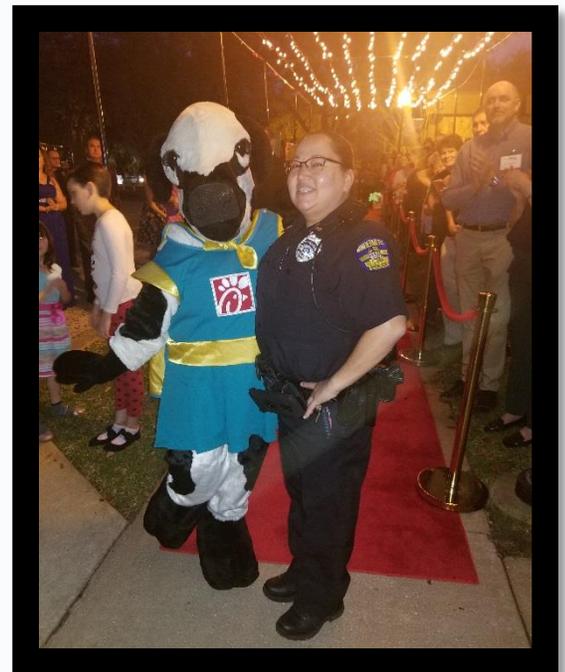


WINDERMERE POLICE DEPARTMENT
ANNUAL REPORT 2019





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WINDERMERE POLICE FOUNDATION, INC.



WINDERMERE POLICE FOUNDATION

On March 22nd, 2014, the Town of Windermere Family lost a son, a brother, and a hero when Officer Robert German was killed in the line of duty. The Windermere Police Department Foundation, Inc., was established that year in the wake of this tragedy to support, encourage, and benefit the citizens served by the Windermere Police Department and the Central Florida community. To date, the Windermere Police Foundation has contributed to the following:

- Establishing an Annual Officer Robert “Robbie” German Scholarship Fund to a cadet enrolled in the Law Enforcement Academy
- Annual support for families and Officers to attend Law Enforcement Memorials in Tallahassee Florida and Washington D.C.
- WPD Secret Santa
- Wounded Officer Initiative
- Annual Purchase of School Supplies for local children
- ICAARE Law Enforcement Ride
- The Gift of Swim
- Central Florida C.O.P.S.
- Prince of Peace home for Girls in Guatemala
- One Heart of Women and Children
- Back the Blue 5k/Community Event
- M.A.D.D of Central Florida
- XL 106.7 Baby DJ Program
- Hosting of Regional DUI Training for local Law Enforcement
- National Night Out
- Anti-Bullying Initiatives
- WPD Foundation Softball Tournament and Family Fun Day
- Roper YMCA
- Mental Health First Aid USA
- Windermere Veterans Memorial
- Windermere Annual St. Patrick’s Day Event
- Mathews Hope
- JULESTRONG
- NTSAD (The National Tay-Sachs & Allied Diseases Association) Support for kid’s trip to SeaWorld
- Windermere Annual Easter Egg Event
- Crime Line Chili Cook-off Fundraiser
- Annual Breast Cancer Walk
- Addition of Security Cameras at Windermere Recreation Center
- Officer Robert “Robbie” German Memorial
- Medical Expenses of Officers and Employees of the Town of Windermere
- Sleep in Heavenly Peace Bunk Bed Build
- Cops and Bobbers
- Team Building Training
- Donations in support of the following Fallen Law Enforcement Officers and their Families:
 - Tarpon Springs Officer Charles Kondek
 - OPD Officer Anderson
 - The Lynn Sowers Memorial Foundation: Deputy John Kotfila Jr.
 - Officer David Starling
 - OCSO Deputy Norman Lewis
 - OPD Lt. Debra Clayton
 - Kissimmee Officer Baxter
 - Kissimmee Officer Howard
 - Highlands County Deputy William Gentry Jr.
 - Michael Callin Memorial Scholarship Fund (Fallen OCSO Deputy)



Written by Tim and Debbie German

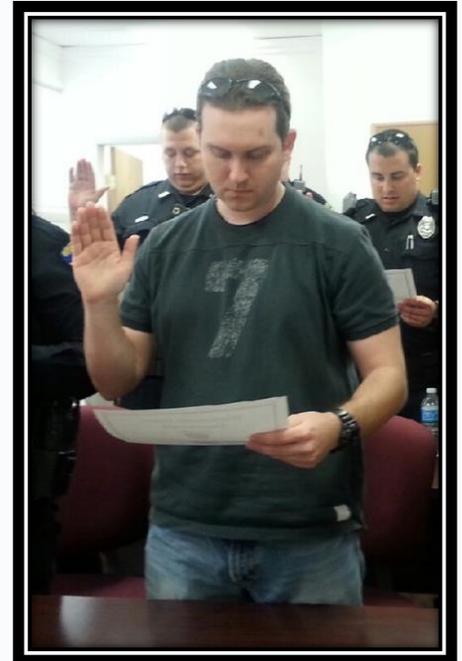
It was during Robbie's work at the Sanford airport when he decided on a career in law enforcement. As a night operations manager he worked closely with officers from the Sanford Police Department, performing daily airport perimeter checks, and having casual talk of the officers' day, duties, etc. Intrigued with the variety of their activities as patrol officers, he entered the Seminole State College law enforcement academy. We saw an immediate change in Robbie's "energy"; he was excited and focused, studying, ironing his uniform, polishing shoes and brass daily. Graduation and state certification brought great pride and anticipation; however, lengthy frustration followed as the economic down-turn of that time had reduced budgets for hiring among local police agencies. For well over the next year, Robbie applied to all the biggest and closest city and county agencies, but with no law enforcement or military service he was not being hired. Refusing to give up, he began requesting to go on "ride-alongs" with local agencies, while working at Macy's to pay his bills.



Finally, Robbie was hired by the Windermere Police department. He connected quickly with the other officers, the Mayor and Town Council members, and gradually with many residents. Windermere had become HIS neighborhood, and he began attending local events and Town Council meetings. In fact, Robbie was so happy at Windermere, with their new Chief, Dave Ogden, and Deputy Chief whom he called “mom”, he was now turning down offers from the very agencies he had applied to a few years earlier.



This was where we saw Robbie meeting his “calling”; showing his core personality, his love of people, his character of loyalty and eagerness to help where he could. Years earlier, one of his police academy instructors called him the “quiet leader of his class, the magnetism others followed because they wanted to, a rare quality”. In some ways we know our son better now than



before, through his closest friends and colleagues who share their memories of his fun-loving antics and practical jokes, yet steadfast loyalty.



As parents, we remain grateful for the very quality of life Robbie enjoyed during his service with Windermere, proud for exactly how he chose to serve and thankful for his courageous ‘brothers and sisters’ of law enforcement who carry on his dream.

Officer Robert “Robbie” German

E.O.W. March 22, 2014

