



OZARK POLICE DEPARTMENT **ANNUAL REPORT** 2023

CITY OF OZARK

DON CURRENCE , MAYOR

PRESENTED BY

JUSTIN ARNOLD, CHIEF OF POLICE

STREET TOWN CONNECTIONS

i

ABOUT THE OZARK POLICE DEPARTMENT

01

A MESSAGE FROM COMMAND STAFF

02 - 03

MEET YOUR POLICE STAFF

04

ANNUAL BUDGET

05

DEMOGRAPHICS BREAK DOWN

06

QUICK STATISTICS

07

FIELD SERVICES DIVISION

08

SPECIAL OPERATIONS DIVISION

09

TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT

10 - 11

SUPPORT SERVICES DIVISION

12

AWARDS

13 - 14

OUR COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS



Contact Us:

417-581-6600

201 E. Brick St.

OzarkMissouri.com

Info@OzarkPD.org



ABOUT THE OZARK POLICE DEPARTMENT

Welcome to the Ozark Police Department – a committed and community-driven law enforcement agency dedicated to ensuring the safety and well-being of our residents. With a proud history and a forward-looking approach, we stand as a beacon of trust and security in our vibrant city. At the heart of our mission is a steadfast commitment to serving and protecting. Covering a diverse and dynamic community spanning 12.42 square miles, we understand the unique needs and challenges that come with ensuring public safety in every neighborhood.



MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Ozark Police Department is to work in a true partnership with our community; enhancing the quality of life in our city, maintaining order and protecting the people we serve by reducing incidences of crime, while pledging to uphold our professionalism, honor and integrity. We strive to preserve the peace and safety of our citizens through enforcement of federal, state, and local laws with a goal of safeguarding the rights of all persons with the least possible disruption of their daily activities while setting the standard in law enforcement.

CORE VALUES

Integrity: We are committed to candor, honest, and ethical behavior with each other and those we serve.

Public Service: We deliver to the public, high quality service, which is fair, courteous, responsive & efficient. We recognize the need to involve the community in creating a secure and safe environment.

Competence: We maintain high standards of training and expertise and keep abreast of new trends and standards in the field of law enforcement.

Responsibility and Accountability: We make effective use of our resources and provide a spirit of open communication within our community. We are responsible for our actions. We admit our mistakes and strive to earn the trust and support of our community.

Respect for Co-workers: We maintain a workplace environment based on mutual respect, which reflects an appreciation of the unique qualities of each individual who contributes to the overall good of our team.



A MESSAGE FROM COMMAND STAFF

"I am deeply honored and privileged to serve as your Police Chief, leading this remarkable police department in our shared commitment to the safety and well-being of our community. On behalf of the dedicated men and women of the Ozark Police Department, I would like to present our 2023 Annual Report.

Throughout the year, we have remained steadfast in our mission to foster a forward-thinking police force, tirelessly striving to deliver exemplary public safety services at every turn. As an organization, we recognize the importance of community engagement and collaboration, and we are committed to doing our part in making Ozark an even better community.

A testament to our unwavering dedication is our continued recognition as an Accredited Law Enforcement Agency through the esteemed Missouri Police Chiefs Charitable Foundation. As the sole accredited agency in Christian County, we uphold the highest standards of professionalism, adhere rigorously to industry best practices, and actively engage with our community to better serve its needs.

Our exceptional team of officers and staff exemplifies a steadfast commitment to ensuring the safety and security of every individual who calls Ozark home. We extend our deepest gratitude to you, the residents, for your unwavering trust and support, which drives us forward in our shared mission."



Justin Arnold
JUSTIN ARNOLD
CHIEF OF POLICE



The staff members of the Ozark Police Department are deeply committed to providing professional law enforcement services to the citizens of Ozark and its visitors. Ozark Officers prioritize policing techniques and decision making that maintains the benchmark of nationally recognized best practices in policing, represented by our Accreditation through the Missouri Chiefs Charitable Foundation. As we proceed toward 2024, the Ozark Police Department is excited about the opportunities we will have to serve our community with excellence.

CAPTAIN DEREK HILL
DEPUTY CHIEF OF POLICE



FIELD SERVICES DIVISION

LT. Jared Drye
Field Services Division Commander



Sgt. Nathan Lewis



Sgt. Truman Isbell



Sgt. Trevor Spencer



Cpl. Greg O'Neil



Cpl. Shonda Jackson



Cpl. Tom Cole



Cpl. David Bright



Cpl. Cory Turner



Officer Bryan Tyler



Officer Jennyfer Ramirez



Officer Jessica Conner



Officer Jonah Crim



Officer Dakota Inlow



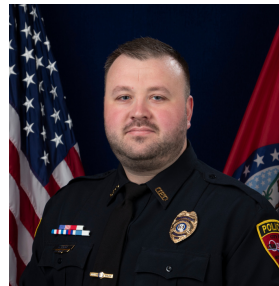
Officer Dillon Johnson



Officer Josh Wahl



Officer Brennan Greble



Officer Ben Cook



Officer Brett Leslie



Officer Austin Ponder



Officer Marco Cabrales



Officer Micah Rodgers



Officer Anthony Dewey



SPECIAL OPERATIONS DIVISION

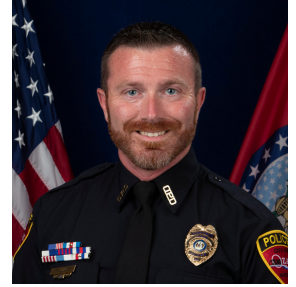
LT. Ben Deutscher
Special Operations Commander



Sgt. Tommy Wade



Cpl. Taylor Wheeler



Cpl. Byant Soules



Det. Corey Hodzic



K9 Handler
Tanner Gilmore



K9 Handler
Jeremy Watson



Officer Thomas Richardson



SUPPORT SERVICES DIVISION

LT. Matt Jones
Support Services Commander



Cpl. Kyle Prince



Support Supervisor
Becky Appleton



Evidence Technician
Sue Choate



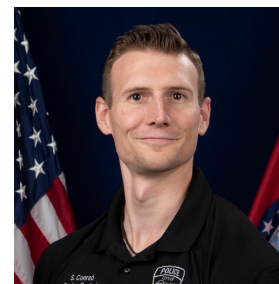
Clerk Sue Ellen Larimer



Clerk Ann Custer



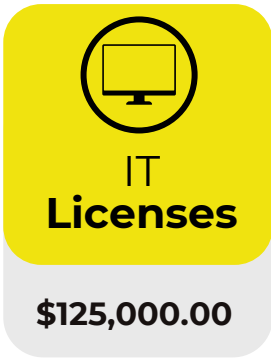
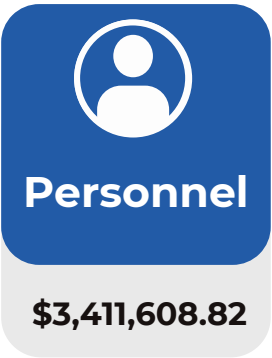
Clerk Jackie Dye



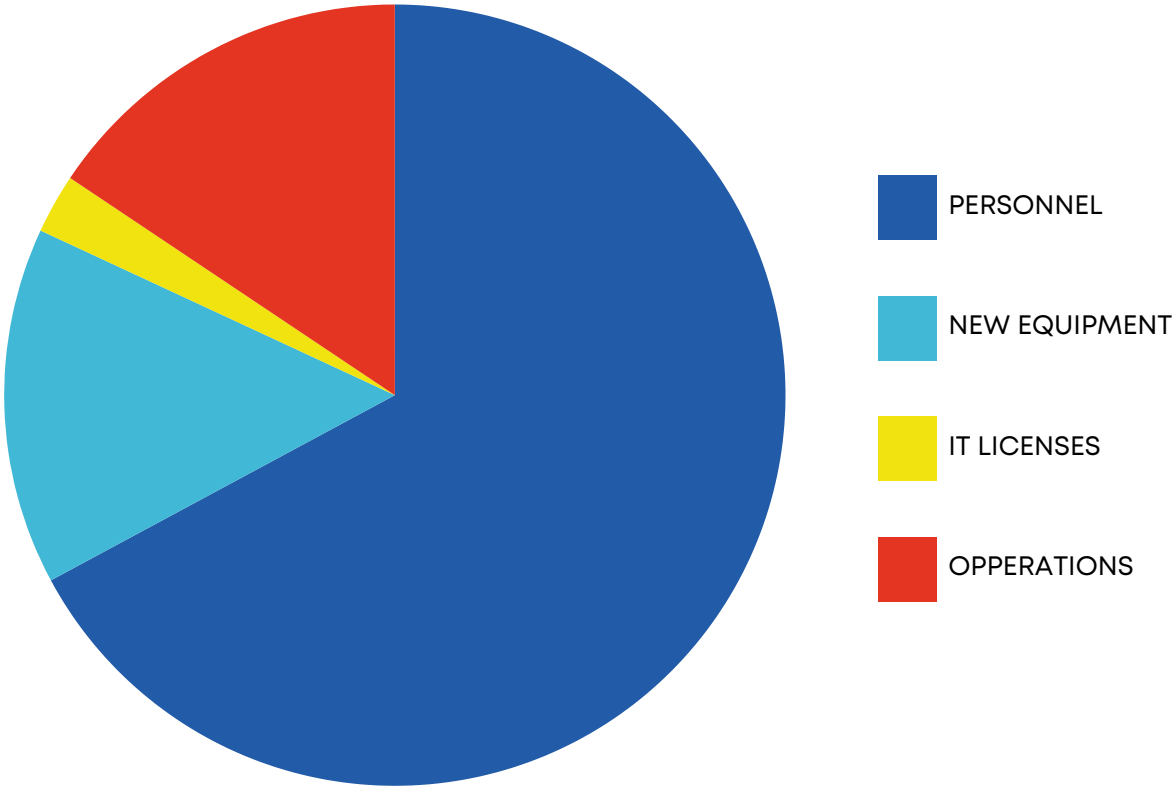
Animal Control Officer
Sean Conrad

2023 ANNUAL BUDGET BREAK DOWN

The Ozark Police Department relies predominantly on the City of Ozark's general fund for its funding. This essential fund is sustained by local taxes, permits, fees, fines, and various other revenue sources. Additionally, the department secures support from state and federal grants tailored to bolster specific programs and initiatives. This year, our total budget stands at \$5,081,479.92, allocated as follows: \$3,411,608.82 for personnel, \$751,246.10 for new equipment, \$125,000.00 for IT licenses, and \$793,625.00 for operational expenses.



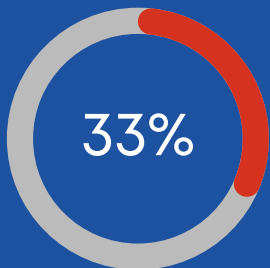
TOTAL BUDGET: \$5,081,479.92



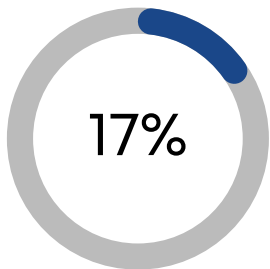
DEMOGRAPHICS

BREAK DOWN

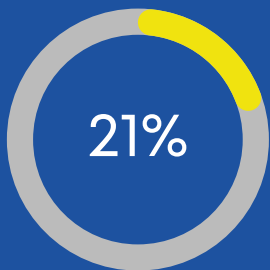
YEARS OF SERVICE



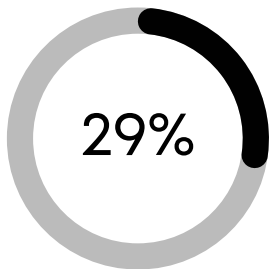
Of The Ozark Police Department has 15 + years of service
Chief, Captain, 1 Lieutenant, 3 Sergeants, 3 Corporals, 2 Police Officers, Support Service Supervisor, Evidence Technician, 1 Police Clerk



Of The Ozark Police Department has 10-14 years of service
2 Lieutenants, 3 Corporals, 2 Police Officers



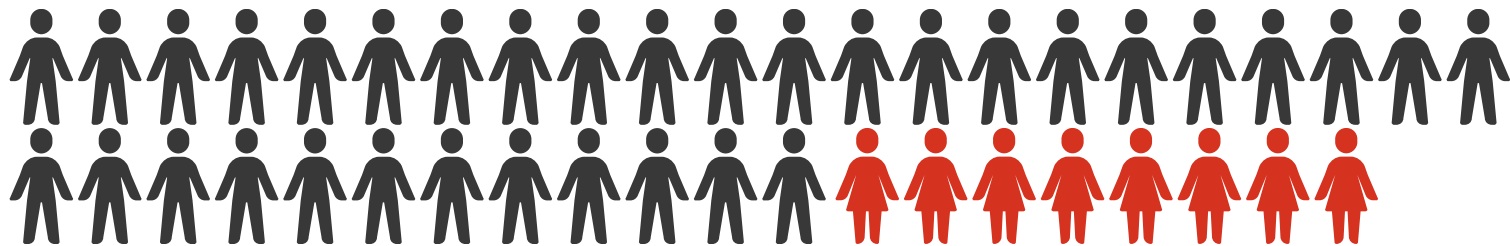
Of The Ozark Police Department has 5-9 years of service
1 Sergeant, 2 Corporals, 5 Police Officers, 1 Police Clerk



Of The Ozark Police Department has 0-4 years of service
10 Police Officers, Animal Control Officer, 1 Police Clerk

GENDER BREAK DOWN

The Ozark Police Department employs 34 male and 8 female staff members.



OZARK POLICE DEPARTMENT

QUICK STATISTICS



Calls for Service



Traffic Stops



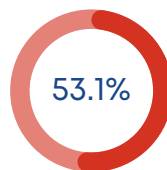
Arrests



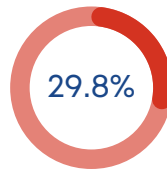
Motor Vehicle
Crashes

The Ozark Police Department releases information annually about its traffic stop statistics to help promote transparency and accountability in its policing practices.

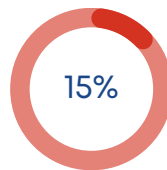
WHERE?



Of traffic stops conducted by the Ozark Police Department were on city streets.



Of traffic stops conducted by the Ozark Police Department were on HWY 65.



Of traffic stops conducted by the Ozark Police Department were on State Highways.

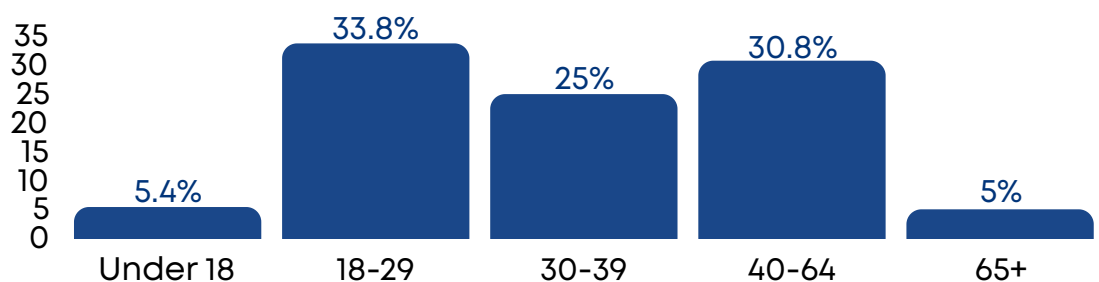
2 % of traffic stops conducted by the Ozark Police Department were on County Roads or Private Property.

ABOUT THE STOPS



73.2% of all traffic stops resulted in warning.

Age of Drivers Stopped:



FIELD SERVICES

OUR MOST VISIBLE DIVISION

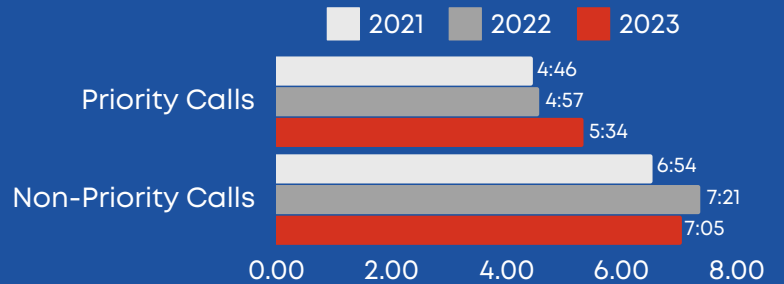
The Field Services Division of the Ozark Police Department, often known as uniformed patrol, acts as the most visible face of the department within the community. This division is tasked with responding to service calls from residents, employing proactive policing strategies, and ensuring the enforcement of traffic regulations across the City of Ozark.

**Ozark Police Department provides services 24 hours a day, seven(7) days a week, and 365 days a year.*



HOW FAST DO WE RESPOND TO CALLS FOR SERVICE?

The response times of the Ozark Police Department can vary depending on the nature and urgency of the situation. In general, we strive to respond to emergency situations as quickly as possible, with a priority of ensuring the safety of both the responding officers and the community. The table shows response times over the last three years.



Note: The table is calculated in minutes and seconds

DIVISION BREAK DOWN

THREE PATROL SHIFTS COMPRISED OF:

- 3 Sergeants
- 6 Corporals
- 14 Police Officers

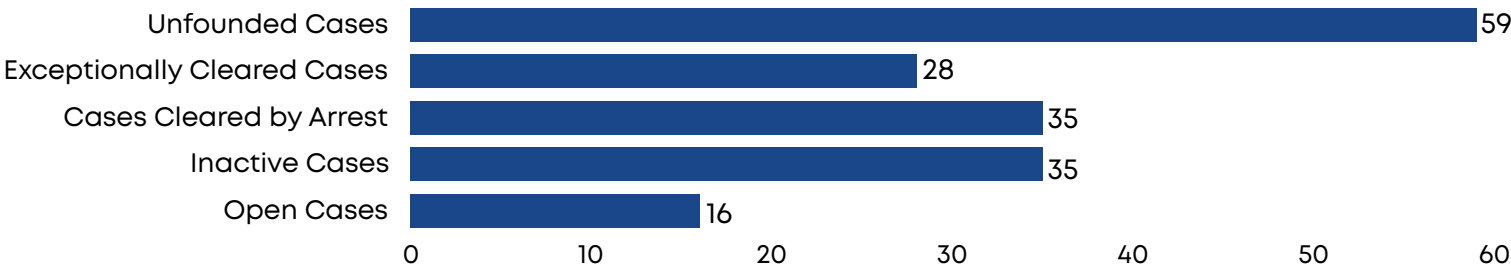


SPECIAL OPERATIONS DIVISION

CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION UNIT

The Criminal Investigation Unit is tasked with investigating crimes against individuals and property, primarily focusing on the most severe crimes reported to the Ozark Police Department. The Detectives also provide support to the Field Services Division in terms of crime scene processing, criminal intelligence evaluation, and other cases such as missing person investigations. **2023 Total Felony Cases Assigned to Detectives: 170**

BREAKDOWN OF FELONY CASES:



K9 UNIT

The Ozark Police Department is staffed with two Police Service Dog teams specializing in narcotics detection, apprehension, tracking, and article recovery. K9 Ollie is partnered with Officer Jeremy Watson, and K9 Dex is partnered with Officer Tanner Gilmore. In 2023, OPD K9 teams had 265 deployments, resulting in 216 outcomes.

- 94 drug cases
- 60 arrests
- 26 Individuals located
- 26 Building Searches
- 10 Evidence Search/ Missing Persons
- *Our K9 Teams also participated in 20+ Community Engagement Events

**Not calculated as a Deployment*



K9 Ollie &
Officer Watson



K9 Dex &
Officer Gilmore

Unmanned Aircraft Systems(UAS) | Drone Unit

Ozark Police Department's Unmanned Aerial System (Drone) Unit provides an innovative and enhanced resource to assist the department in its mission to protect lives and property. The UAS/ Drone Unit consists of two (2) FAA-licensed operators who provide specialized imaging and viewing during police incidents. The UAS/ Drone Unit is deployed in situations such as missing persons investigations, high-risk operations, crime scene investigations, evidence recovery operations, and traffic impact analysis. The UAS/ Drone Unit is prohibited from operating where an individual would have an expectation of privacy, from conducting routine surveillance, or from conducting traffic enforcement operations.

The Drone Unit was deployed 38 times this year for:

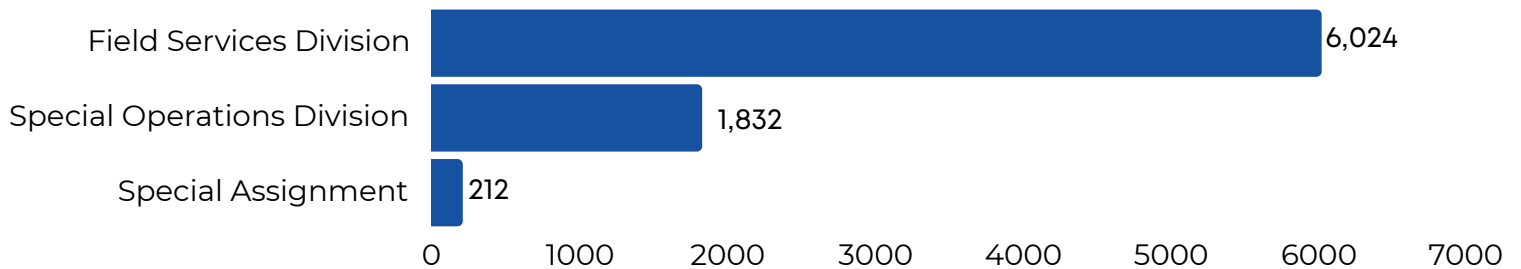
- Warrant Arrests: 4
- Fleeing Suspects: 5
- Barricaded Suspects: 2
- Burglary: 1
- Shots Fired Response: 1
- Public Demonstrations: 10
- Traffic Impact Analysis: 5
- Special Events Observations: 10

TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT

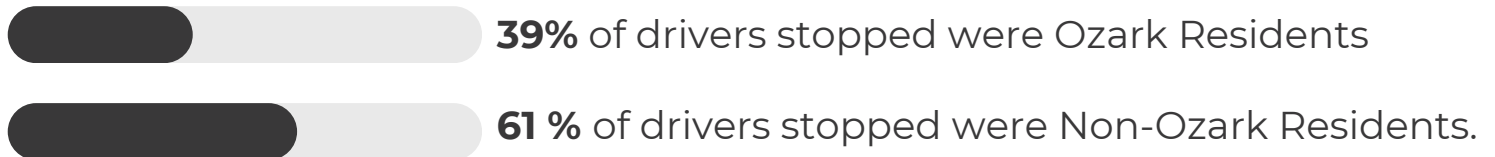
The Ozark Police Department's Traffic Enforcement Unit is a component of the Special Operations Division. The goal of this specialized group of police officers is to enhance roadway safety within Ozark, focusing on investigating and preventing motor vehicle crashes, identifying and addressing traffic hazards, planning for traffic impacts, proactively identifying impaired drivers, and enforcing traffic laws.

THE OZARK POLICE DEPARTMENT STOPPED A TOTAL OF 8,068 VEHICLES IN 2023.

BREAKDOWN OF TOTAL STOPS:



COMMON REASONS FOR TRAFFIC STOPS:



SUPPORT SERVICES DIVISION

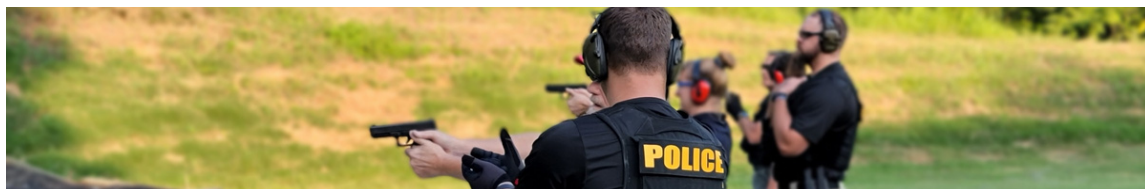
The Support Services Division of the Ozark Police Department plays a crucial role in ensuring the efficiency and effectiveness of various essential functions within the department. Overseeing key units such as the Canine Control Unit, Training Unit, and Records Unit/Property & Evidence, this division coordinates vital aspects of law enforcement operations.

TRAINING UNIT

The Ozark Police Department's Training Unit is committed to obtaining the best possible continuing education and training for our personnel. Ozark Police Officers received 3,560 hours of training in 2023. Corporal Kyle Prince is responsible for the oversight, implementation and management of the department's training efforts.

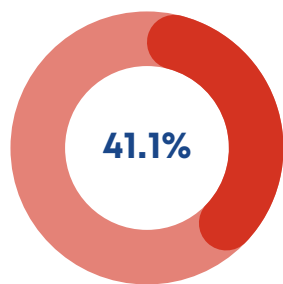
THE FOLLOWING IS A BREAKDOWN OF OUR STAFF'S 2023 TRAINING HOURS:

- **Interpersonal 798**
- **Technical: 647.5**
- **Legal: 200**
- **Skill: 342**
- **Other: 1,573**



RECORDS UNIT | PROPERTY & EVIDENCE

The Records Unit provides customer service to citizens conducting business at the Ozark Police Department. Clerks of the Records Unit are responsible for all reports generated by the Ozark Police Department and are the central repository for all police documents. These documents include citations, offense reports, vehicular accident reports, tow reports, and additional reports completed by patrol and investigative officers. Clerks provide administrative support to sworn staff and play a vital role in compiling and reporting statistical data to State and Federal record information databases. The Property & Evidence Unit is responsible for maintaining the integrity and safe custody of all evidentiary items and property submitted by the Ozark Police Department. The Records Unit and Property & Evidence Unit consist of a Support Services Supervisor, three (3) Police Clerks, and one (1) Evidence Technician.



more evidence was processed in 2023 than 2022

3,671 Pieces of evidence were processed in 2023.

2,784 of that evidence was Property Disposed.

887 of that evidence was Property Taken.

124 of that evidence was Drug Related.

SUPPORT SERVICES DIVISION CONTINUED

CANINE CONTROL UNIT

The Ozark Canine Control officer is responsible for enforcing local animal control laws and regulations. Our Canine Control Officer is tasked with responding to reports of stray or dangerous dogs, investigating cases of animal cruelty, and ensuring that pet owners comply with licensing and vaccination requirements. Our canine control officer receives ongoing training and is certified by the National Animal Control Association. If you have lost your canine, you must provide proof of ownership, current rabies vaccination, and a city pet license to claim or pick up your dog.

704 TOTAL CANINE RELATED CALLS IN 2023



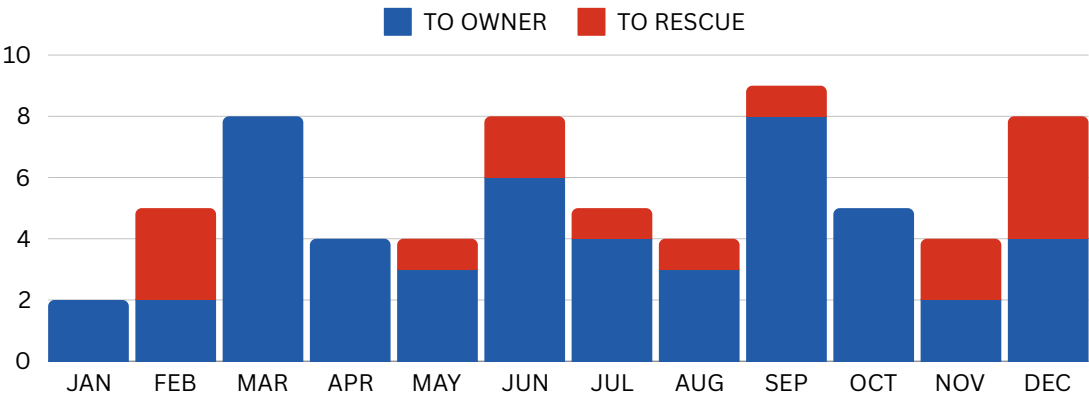
Contact us:
Monday - Friday
9:30 am - 4:30 pm
417-581-6600
S.Conrad@OzarkPD.org

CANINE CALLS BY THE NUMBERS:



Ozark's Canine Control officer has a strong understanding of animal behavior and safety procedures, as well as excellent communication and customer service skills. Canine Control works closely with local shelters and rescue organizations to help place animals needing homes.

Overall, Ozark's Canine Control officer plays a vital role in protecting both animals and the community at large. Ozark Canine Control is not licensed to adopt, so please only contact our office for release if you are the animal's owner or know the animal's owner. Our Canine Control Facility is licensed through the Missouri Department of Agriculture.



Taken off Streets



Returned to Owner



Canines went to Rescue

2023 AWARDS

Officer of the Year: Officer Jonah Crim



Officer Crim has been employed by The Ozark Police Department since 2018. Currently, he serves in the Field Services Division (Uniformed Patrol) but has also served as a Street Crimes Detective in the Special Operations Division. He is one of the most proactive officers in the department and routinely makes cases on individuals with illegal controlled substances and makes warrant arrests. Officer Crim serves as a Field Training Officer, which is one of the most important positions within the department, being relied upon to provide training to new Ozark Police Officers. He routinely volunteers for community engagement opportunities such as serving meals at the Ozark Senior Center, participating in Veteran's Day service projects, and Cops for Kids. He is a graduate of Ozark High School and a United States Marine Corps veteran. Officer Crim is dependable, reliable, and committed to providing exceptional public safety services to the City of Ozark.

Other Department Awards:

Chief's Award:

- Corporal Kyle Prince
- Corporal Taylor Wheeler
- Detective Corey Hodzic
- Officer Ben Cook

Life-Saving Award:

- Corporal Greg O'Neil
- Officer Jessica Conner
- Officer Marco Cabrales
- Officer Brennan Greble

Honorable Service:

- Corporal Kyle Prince
- Officer Jeremy Watson
- Officer Tanner Gilmore
- Officer Ben Cook
- Officer Thomas Richardson
- Officer Micah Rodgers

Promotions:

- Corporal David Bright
- Corporal Cory Turner
- Corporal Tom Cole
- Corporal Taylor Wheeler

Exceptional Service:

- Officer Jessica Conner

Unit Commendation Award:

- Lieutenant Matt Jones
- Sergeant Tommy Wade
- Sergeant Nathan Lewis
- Sergeant Truman Isbell
- Sergeant Trevor Spencer
- Corporal Bryant Soules
- Corporal Cory Turner
- Corporal Taylor Wheeler
- Corporal Tom Cole
- Detective Corey Hodzic
- Officer Bryan Tyler
- Officer Jonah Crim
- Officer Jessica Conner
- Officer Jeremy Watson
- Officer Tanner Gilmore
- Officer Dillon Johnson
- Officer Thomas Richardson
- Officer Josh Wahl
- Officer Ben Cook
- Officer Brett Leslie
- Officer Micah Rodgers

Chief Justin Arnold graduated from the FBI National Command Course (NCC) Session #4 in Quantico, Virginia.

OUR COMMUNITY CONNECTION

OPERATION HOPE: MEALS ON WHEELS

During the festive seasons of Christmas and Thanksgiving, the Ozark Police Department eagerly partakes in Operation Hope: Meals on Wheels, extending compassion and support to the community in Ozark and neighboring Christian County. With heartfelt gratitude to the Utopia Club, Apple Market, the Ozark Police Officers Association, and the Christian County Deputy Sheriffs Association for their generous funding, this initiative blossoms into reality. Through their concerted efforts, the police department not only delivers nourishing meals but also spreads joy and warmth to those in need, embodying the spirit of giving and solidarity that defines the holiday season.



OZARK SENIOR CENTER MEAL SERVICE

Ozark Police Department Serves Meals at the Ozark Senior Center for several holidays and events throughout the year;

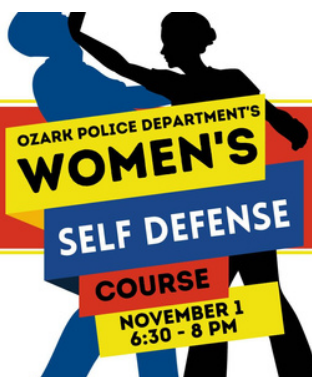
- Christmas
- Thanksgiving
- Veteran's Day



WOMEN'S SELF-DEFENSE COURSE

This is a FREE class brought to you by the Ozark Police Department. This session offers valuable education, hands-on instruction, and real-world self-defense techniques.

We offered two classes this year with a total of 48 participates.



OZARK POLICE DEPARTMENT'S
**WOMEN'S
SELF DEFENSE
COURSE**
NOVEMBER 1
6:30 - 8 PM

Women's Self Defense Course
November 1 | 6:30-8 pm
at The Ozark Community Center



Brought to you by The Ozark Police Department.

OUR COMMUNITY CONNECTION

HERO IN TRAINING PROGRAM

Our young detectives-in-training got to put their skills to the test by investigating a crime scene, analyzing fingerprints, witnessing K9 Ollie and K9 Dex in action, observing a drone demonstration, and most importantly, enjoying some delicious slices of pizza! We couldn't have made it possible without the help of our volunteers. We hope to see all of our little heroes again next year for another exciting adventure with the Ozark Police Department!



8TH ANNUAL CITIZENS ACADEMY

The program provides an informative overview of the fundamentals of police operations and the divisions within the Ozark Police Department for anyone 18 years of age and older. The format includes lecture-style presentations by OPD officers and staff, as well as some hands-on experience. The Citizen's Academy is free of charge, so if you are interested in learning more about the Ozark Police Department, the Citizen's Academy is a great way to get started.



SHOP WITH THE COPS

About 20 officers from the Ozark Police Department & Christian County Sheriff's Department took 113 amazing kids for a festive shopping spree. The joy and smiles shared during this experience were truly heartwarming. Thanks to everyone who made this event possible, fostering community connections and spreading holiday cheer!



OUR COMMUNITY CONNECTION

PARTNERING WITH OZARK SCHOOL DISTRICT

As an extension of our Embrace a School Program, the second-grade entrepreneurs at East Elementary invited us to a grand opening of their Economics Restaurant. It culminates in an economics unit, where students learn about spending, savings and loans, restaurant management, and goods and services. We enjoyed our lunch at Cashman's Cruisin Cafe. We give them 5 STARS for good food and service.



PARTNERING WITH OZARK PARKS & RECREATION

OPD participated in the annual Ozark Parks and Rec Summer Camp 4th of July parade. This year, due to the heat we did things a little differently. The Ozark Fire Protection District set up a huge sprinkler for the kids and we got to eat ice cream with them after. Thanks again to the summer camp kids. You made our day.

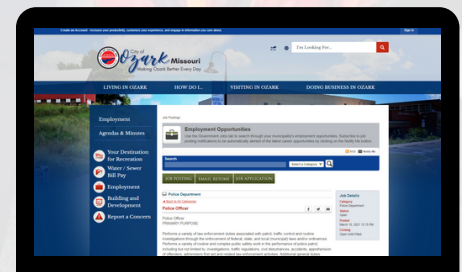


FRIDAY NIGHT LIGHTS

The Ozark Police Department is thrilled to announce our victory in the Friday Night Lights First Responders vehicle decoration night! It was an honor to showcase our dedication and creativity alongside other first responders in the community. Special thanks to our team for their hard work and enthusiasm in decorating our vehicles, as well as to the event organizers for providing such a fun opportunity to engage with the community.



Thank You Ozark



Follow us on Facebook
@OzarkPoliceDepartment

Do you want to "Make Ozark Better Every Day"?
Join The Ozark Police Department!
Apply Online at OzarkMissouri.com