



# ANNUAL REPORT 2019

Avon Lake Police Department

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# TABLE OF CONTENTS

Letter From Chief Streator _____	3
Organizational Chart _____	4
Hires & Retires _____	5
Community Relations _____	6
Specialized Units _____	7
Education and Training _____	8
Patrol and Calls for Service _____	9
Calls for Service and Case Reports _____	9
Traffic Stats _____	9
Traffic Stats Continued _____	10
OVI Task Force Stats _____	10
Noteworthy Events & Investigations _____	11
Patrol Events _____	11

# LETTER FROM CHIEF STREATOR

On behalf of the men and women of the Avon Lake Police Department I am proud to present the 2019 annual report. The highlights and activities of our department are summarized in this document.

In 2019 we continued to experience relatively low levels of crimes in our community. We attribute this in part to the alliance we have built with the community. One of our main goals in the department is community involvement and by being actively involved with our community groups we have raised awareness of crime prevention. We believe that this is a major factor in our low crime rates.

We also value the collaboration that our department has with other entities. The outstanding working relationships we have with the city administration, city council, and other city departments provides the best overall services for the citizens in our community. Our involvement with other cities, state, and federal agencies is also important to our success.

In 2019 we did experience a tragic crash that led to the death of one of our residents. This was the first crash fatality our community has experienced in 14 years. Through the diligence of our officers we were able to successfully prosecute and obtain a conviction of the person responsible. We have also committed to working with the administration, council and community to review opportunities to improve bike safety in our city in the future. Not only are we committed to bicycle safety in the future, we are also involved in programs to improve the older adult population's safe operation of their vehicles.

One of the most notable accomplishments of 2019 was the expansion of our youth Explorer program. Since its inception this program has doubled in size. It is awesome to see the youth of our community become involved in law enforcement and we are excited to see this program grow.

All of our accomplishments would not be possible without the dedication of our department staff. Our community is very fortunate to have well trained, professional, and competent people serving them. We look forward to working with our community in making Avon Lake the place to call home.



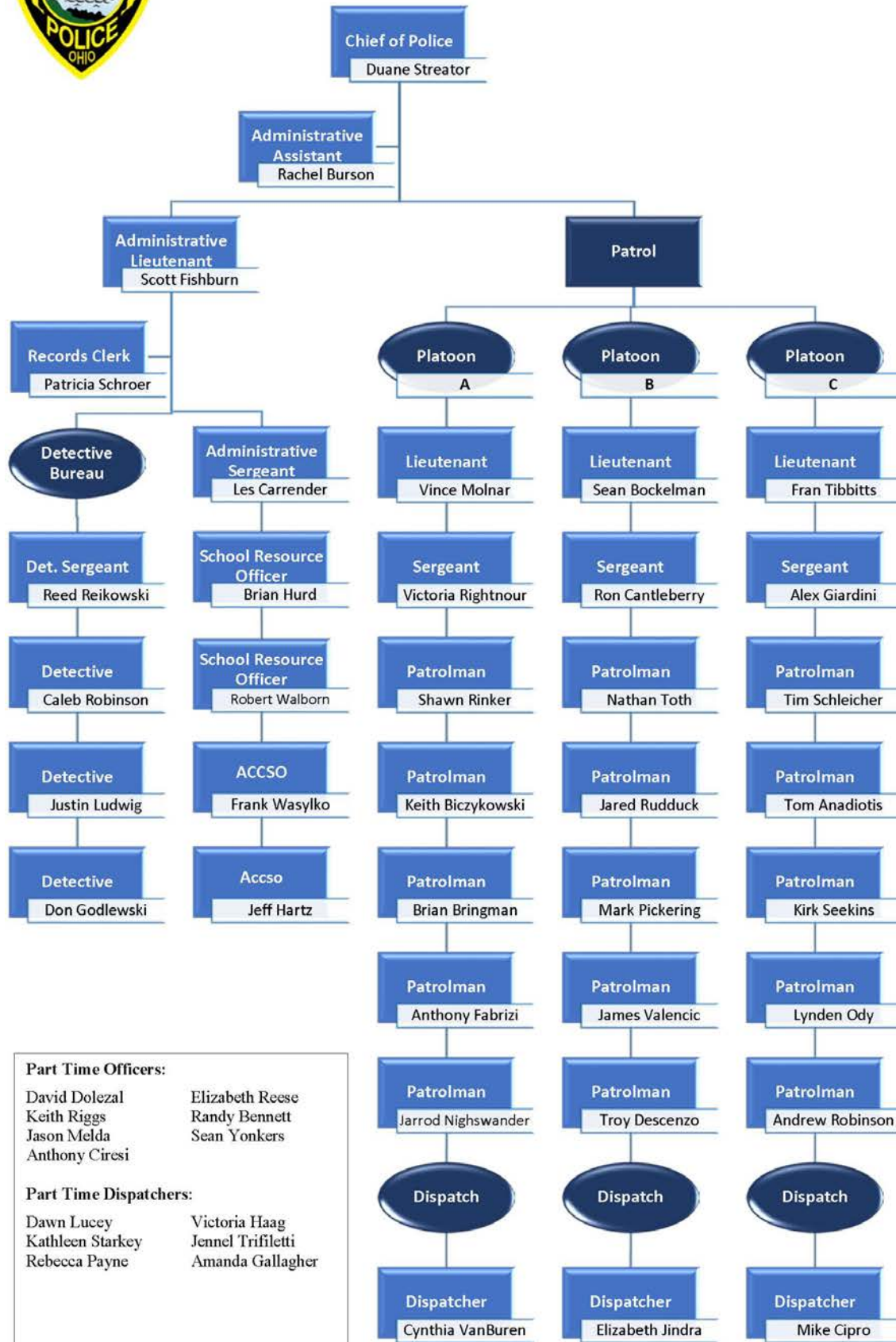
Chief Duane P. Streator



# ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



## AVON LAKE POLICE DEPARTMENT ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



**Part Time Officers:**

David Dolezal	Elizabeth Reese
Keith Riggs	Randy Bennett
Jason Melda	Sean Yonkers
Anthony Ciresi	

**Part Time Dispatchers:**

Dawn Lucey	Victoria Haag
Kathleen Starkey	Jennel Trifiletti
Rebecca Payne	Amanda Gallagher

## HIRES & RETIRES



Officer Jarrod Nighswander was sworn in as an Avon Lake Police Officer in April of 2019.



In June of 2019 Amanda Gallagher was hired as a part time Dispatcher.



After serving the community of Avon Lake for six years as a part time patrolman, Officer Anthony Ciresi retired at the end of 2019.



# COMMUNITY RELATIONS



The Avon Lake Police Department continues to support and strives to maintain a strong relationship with our community members.

Avon Lake Police Department utilizes as many tools and events as possible to promote safety education, encourage interest in law enforcement, notify the public of events or safety issues, and boost an open dialogue and relationship with the public we serve. With some of the tools and events listed below, our interactions with citizens work to build and maintain the trust and confidence of the people of Avon Lake.



- 🛡️ Big Trucks
- 🛡️ Avon Lake Safety Town
- 🛡️ Safety Fairs & bike rodeos
- 🛡️ Social media posts and messaging
- 🛡️ Community Police Academy
- 🛡️ Burglary Prevention Patrols
- 🛡️ Scout Tours
- 🛡️ Child ID Card program
- 🛡️ Ice cream rewards for helmets
- 🛡️ Food Truck Lunches with the public



A noteworthy addition to the Department's community relations and education initiative is the Police Explorers program. 2019 was the first full year of the Avon Lake Police Explorers. This is a hands-on program open to young men and women in our community who are interested in a career in law enforcement or other related field. The program offers young adults a personal awareness of the criminal justice system through training, practical experiences, competition, and other activities. It also promotes personal growth through character development, respect, fitness, and good citizenship.



# SPECIALIZED UNITS



<b>Detective Bureau:</b>	Det. Sgt. Reikowski, Det. Robinson, Det. Ludwig, Det. Godlewski
<b>K-9 Unit:</b>	PtIm. Rudduck, K-9 Ady
<b>OVI Task Force:</b>	Sgt. Giardini, PtIm. Schleicher, PtIm. Anadiotis, PtIm. Seekins, PtIm. Godlewski, PtIm. Walborn, PtIm. Melda, PtIm. Yonkers
<b>School Resource Officers:</b>	SRO Hurd, SRO Walborn
<b>Motor Unit:</b>	Sgt. Carrender, PtIm. Biczynowski, Det. Ludwig, PtIm. Riggs
<b>Bike Patrol:</b>	Sgt. Carrender, PtIm. Toth, PtIm. Hurd, PtIm. Biczynowski, PtIm. Bringman, Det. Godlewski, PtIm. Valencic, PtIm. Walborn, PtIm. Fabrizi, PtIm. Melda
<b>Animal Control Community Service Officers:</b>	ACCSO Hartz, ACCSO Wasylko
<b>Lorain County SWAT:</b>	Lt. Bockelman, Lt. Tibbitts, PtIm. Rinker, PtIm. Schleicher
<b>Honor Guard:</b>	Lt. Tibbitts, Sgt. Carrender, Sgt. Cantleberry, PtIm. Schleicher, PtIm. Toth, Det. Robinson, PtIm. Valencic, PtIm. Fabrizi, PtIm. Riggs, PtIm. Melda, PtIm. Yonkers
<b>Northern Ohio Violent Fugitive Task Force:</b>	Det. Robinson, Det. Ludwig, Det. Godlewski

# EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Education and training will always be a top priority for the Avon Lake Police Department. Listed below are various training classes that Avon Lake Police Department employees attended in 2019:

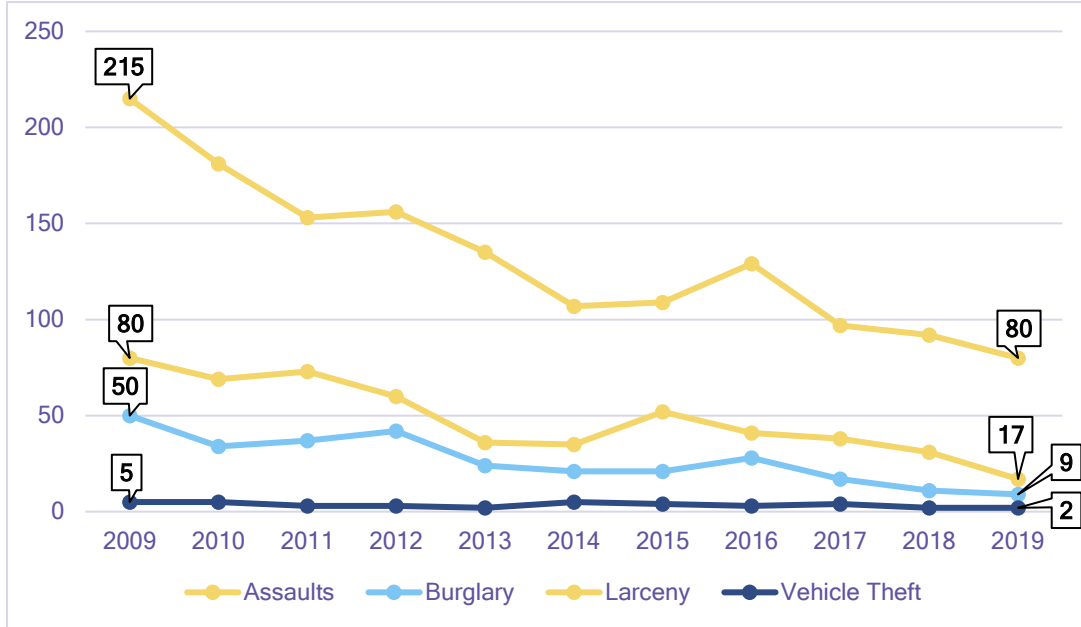
-  Foundations of Strategic Awareness
-  First Line Supervision
-  Mid-Level Narcotics Investigations
-  FBI - DIVERT (Digital Imaging and Video Recovery Team)
-  Crisis Intervention Training
-  DEA - Operation Gateway
-  STEP (Supervisor Training and Education Program)
-  Criminal Patrol and Drug Interdiction
-  Northern Ohio Arson Seminar
-  Statement Analysis Interviewing Techniques
-  Ohio Tactical Officers Association 2019 Conference
-  Overdose Death Investigations
-  Decision Making: The Foundation of Reasonable Force
-  Suicide Interdiction (Dispatcher Training)
-  OACP: Public Records 101, 102, 103, and 104
-  OVI Refresher Training
-  Ohio Attorney General 2019 Conference on Law Enforcement
-  FTO School



# PATROL AND CALLS FOR SERVICE

## Calls for Service and Case Reports

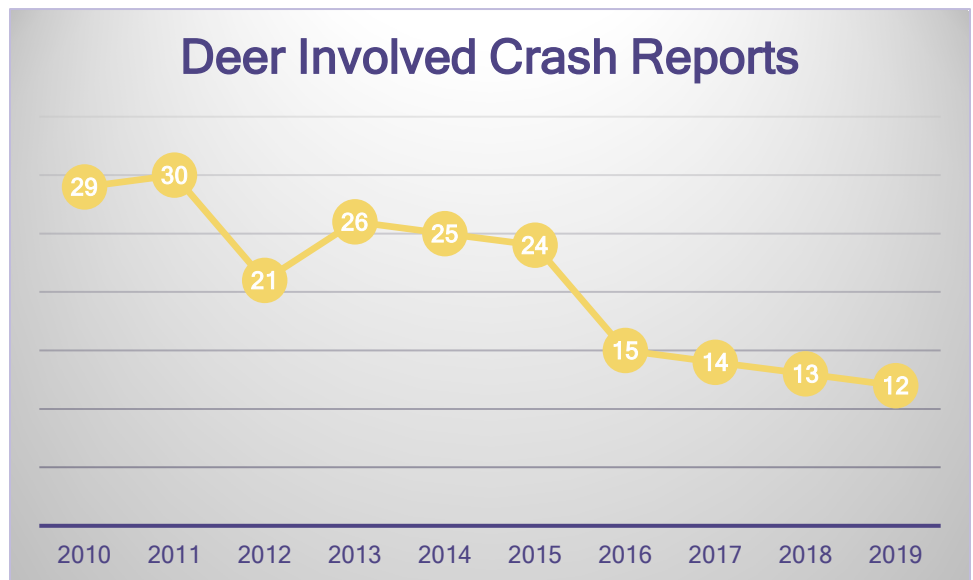
In 2019 the Avon Lake Police Department had a total of 10,129 Calls for Service. Of these Calls for Service 796 resulted in a Case Report. Total number of Assaults, Burglaries, Larceny, and Vehicle Theft cases continued the 10 year trend in overall decreases as illustrated by the graph below. Domestic Violence cases saw a slight increase going from 24 in 2018 to 29 in 2019. Total of arrests made in 2019 were 170 compared to 171 in the previous year.



## Traffic Stats

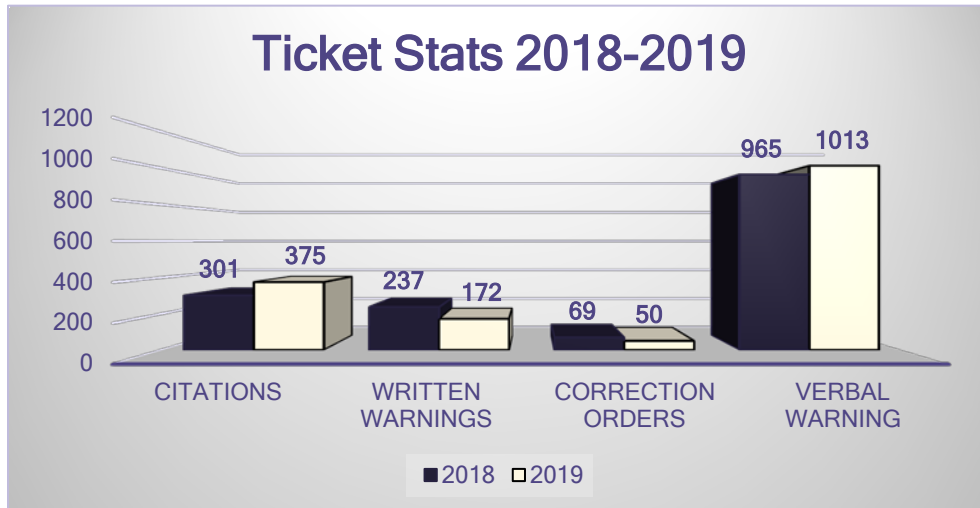
Property Damage Only Traffic crash reports decreased 2% from 2018 and crashes that resulted in an injury decreased 42% in the same time period. However, accidents reported on private property increased slightly from the previous year's total. Compared to reported stats in 2014, Property Damage Only incidents decreased by 90 reports and Injury reports decreased from 27 to 22. In 2019 had one traffic incident that resulted in a fatality. This was the first fatal crash in Avon Lake since 2005.

There were 12 deer involved vehicle crashes reports filed at the Police Department in 2019 and none of them resulted in an injury. This reflects a 10 year low in deer involved crash reports filed with the police department.



## Traffic Stats Continued

Traffic enforcement is a large part of a patrol officer's duties. In 2019, Officers initiated a total of 1,671 traffic stops. Of those stops, 46 resulted in arrests. 2019's Ticket Stats, which consist of a total of citations, written warnings, correction orders, and verbal warnings, increased to 1,610 from a total of 1,571 in 2018. 2019 saw an increase in the citations issued as well as the number of verbal warnings issued.



2019 also saw a change in the way we issue citations. Avon Lake Police Department received 15 thermal printers and mounting brackets from the Ohio Department of Public Safety as part of the OLEIS (Ohio Law Enforcement Information System) eCitation Program. The program shares traffic ticket data with the State of Ohio and court system while creating an electronic record of the citation for the police department. This reduces the repetitive data entry tasks and errors resulting from poor handwriting or the officer not printing firmly enough for the old carbon copies to go through. Motorists receiving citations will notice that the tickets are now printed on 8.5 x 11" sheets of thermal paper and are no longer handwritten by hand.

This project would not have been possible without the coordinated efforts of Lorain County 911, the Avon Lake Municipal Court, and the Ohio Department of Public Safety. Avon Lake Police Department plans to continue to expand on the capabilities of the eCitation program which will further streamline the data entry process.

## OVI Task Force Stats

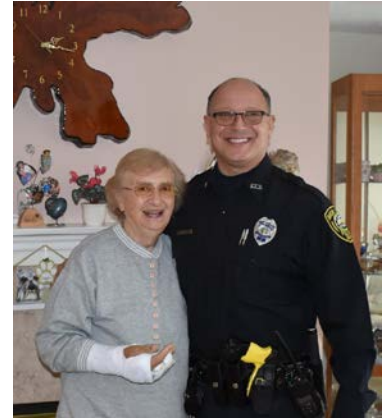
Avon Lake Police Department performed 61 hours of enforcement, 64 traffic stops, 9 citations, and 2 arrests as part of the OVI Task Force.

Lorain County has one of the highest number of alcohol related fatal crashes in Ohio. Through saturation patrols and OVI check points the OVI Task Force works to reduce the number of OVIs in the county and ensure the roadways are safe.

# NOTEWORTHY EVENTS & INVESTIGATIONS

## Patrol Events

- In January, while out on patrol, Officer Anadiotis heard someone calling out for help. He was able to locate an elderly resident who had fallen while trying to retrieve her mail and had lain injured in 18°F temps for 15 min. Officer Anadiotis stabilized her and kept her comfortable until paramedics arrived and could transport her to the hospital for treatment for her injuries. She has since made a recovery.



- When Avon Lake Police Department responds to a crime scene one of the first tasks is to identify potential sources of video surveillance. Businesses have long used video security systems and with the increase in popularity of residential video security systems and doorbell cameras, there is increased possibility that officers can find video evidence of events or suspects. Major crime investigations occurred in 2019 including the armed robbery of a restaurant and two bicycle involved motor vehicle crashes. These investigations were significantly assisted by video investigators collected from our residents, local businesses, and City facilities.

- In July while on patrol Officer Rudduck observed smoke coming from a home on State Route 83. Officer Rudduck was able to awaken the resident and get him and his dog out of the home safely.



- Avon Lake Police Officers continued their neighborhood foot patrols. As part of these patrols, officers stop and speak with residents, showing them easy ways to help protect their homes and property.
- In November Avon Lake Police Department was awarded the AAA Community Traffic Safety Gold Award for our efforts with traffic safety initiatives throughout the community.