



ANNUAL REPORT 2018

Avon Lake Police Department

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LETTER FROM CHIEF STREATOR

I am proud to present the 2018 Annual Report of the Avon Lake Police Department. This document details the activities and progress we have made throughout the year. As you will see, 2018 was a very busy and productive year for our department.

I am pleased to report for the second year we have experienced a reduction in crime in the City of Avon Lake. This is due in large part to the amount of resources that we dedicate to proactive policing within our community. Our officers spend considerable time interacting with the community to engage them in crime prevention strategies.

In 2018 we worked with the city administration and city council to improve our operation in many ways. Resources were provided to complete a major renovation of our dispatch center and radio communication capabilities. All of our radios were replaced and upgraded with a digital system that greatly improved our ability to effectively communicate citywide. New equipment that included digital camera systems and improved computers were included in the project.

With the cooperation of our city leaders and the school administration, we were able to increase our presence in the schools with the addition of a School Resource Officer. This allows us to have dedicated officers in both the middle school and high school. This program has proven itself to be an asset to the community since its inception. The addition of another officer in our schools will increase engagement with our younger citizens and greatly benefit our community.

We have continued to increase our presence on social media. We have found this to be an effective communication tool to disseminate information in a timely manner to our community. We intend to maintain our presence on various social media platforms in the future as a means to inform our citizens and promote our department.

Two important factors impact the success of the police department in our mission to provide for a safe community. First, we have enjoyed a great amount of support from the citizens of our community. We are very grateful for this and continuously look at ways to improve the services we provide our residents and businesses. Second, and most important are the men and women that comprise our department. We have highly professional and dedicated members serving the community on the Avon Lake Police Department. They excel in the field of law enforcement. Their efforts every day to provide exceptional policing in our community is unmatched.

I would like to acknowledge our administrative assistant, Rachel Burson for her outstanding efforts in compiling the information for this report.

I and the rest of our staff look forward to working hard to improve the services that we provide our community. By working with and for our community we will ensure Avon Lake is a very safe and enjoyable place to call home to our residents and businesses.



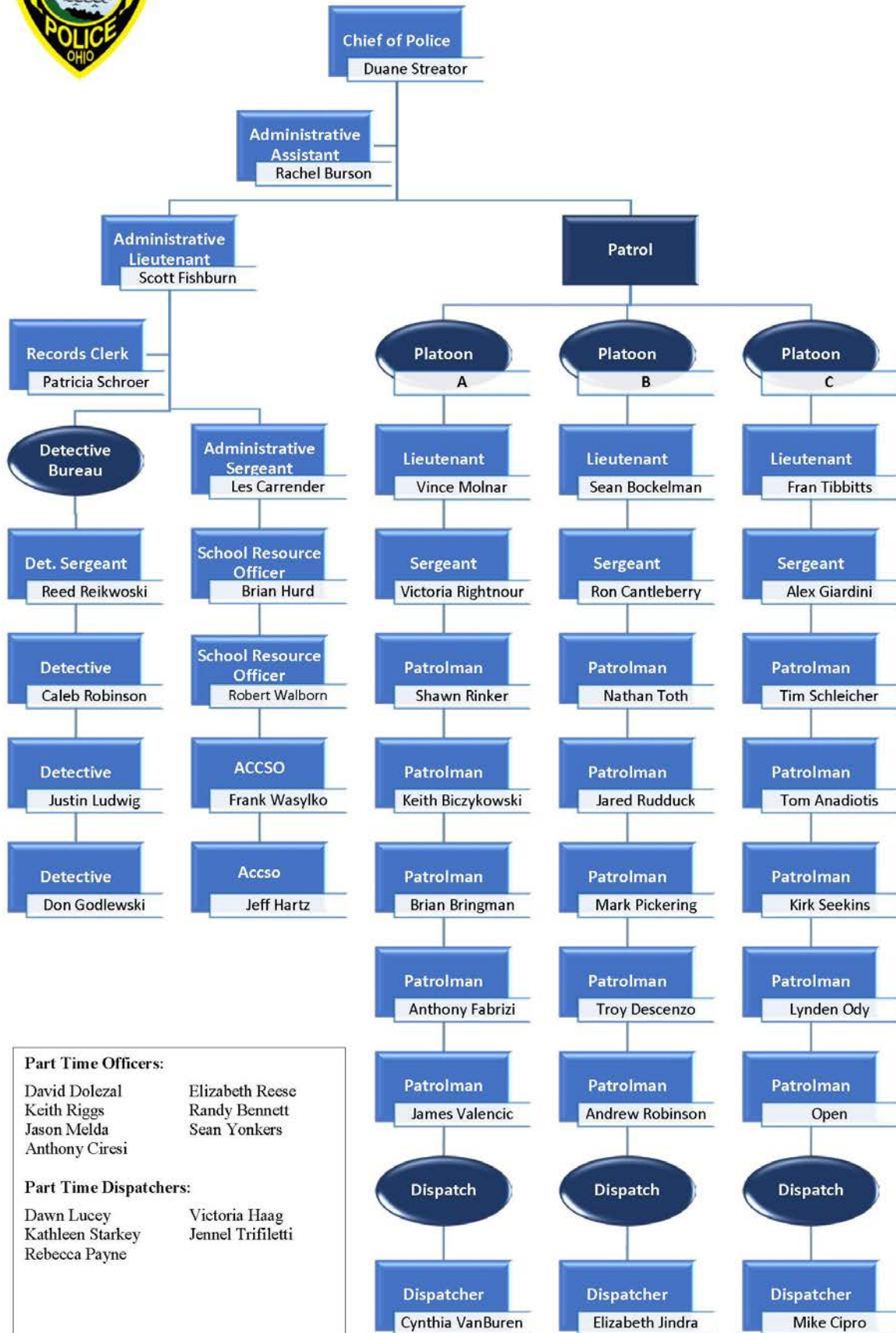
Chief Duane P. Streator



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

HIRES & RETIRES



Lieutenant Michael Bulger retired in May of 2018 after serving this Department and the citizens of Avon Lake for 25 years.



Officer Bernard Koltiska retired in July of 2018. He served with the Avon Lake Police Department for nearly 30 years.



Lynden Ody was sworn in as an Avon Lake Police Officer in July of 2018.



Andrew Robinson was sworn in as an Avon Lake Police Officer in August of 2018.

COMMUNITY RELATIONS

The Avon Lake Police Department continues to maintain an excellent relationship with the community we serve. Through our interactions with citizens at various community events we work to build and maintain the trust and confidence of the people of Avon Lake.

Big Trucks is one of the largest events held in the City and continues to grow successfully each year. As part of the event people get the opportunity to tour the police department, interact with officers, tour our cruisers, and kids receive their Child Identification cards and gift bags.



Working with the children of our community and teaching them the basics of safety is always a priority. Officers interact with kids through Avon Lake Safety Town, Bike Rodeos, Scout tours, the Explorers Program, Safety Fairs, Ice Cream for wearing bike helmets, and the Child Identification Card program. These interactions promote safety education, encourages interest in law enforcement, and maintains a dialogue between police officers and the youth of Avon Lake.



Tools we use to maintain contact with adults in our community include social media outlets Facebook and Twitter, the Avon Lake Community Police Academy, and stopping to speak with residents while officers are out on patrol. Through social media we can get word out to the larger community quickly in case of an emergency, community events, or answering questions citizens send us through the various apps. The Community Police Academy continues to be popular with residents and has been a useful program to educate the public about police work.



Avon Lake Police Department
November 2, 2018 · 🌐

Det. Sgt. Reikowski talks about burglary prevention.
For a Security Tips check list please go to: <https://www.avonlake.org/depart.../police/security-information>
<https://vimeo.com/298400837>

VIMEO.COM
Avon Lake Police Department PSA: Burglary Prevention & Info Sharing

3,630 People Reached 563 Engagements [Boost Post](#)

SPECIALIZED UNITS

Detective Bureau

2018 had the Avon Lake Detective Bureau working a variety of different cases. Here are few of note.

Detective Justin Ludwig worked a multi-agency theft ring where Asian owned restaurants and businesses were being targeted by thieves. Avon Lake experienced 2 break-ins that fit this description. Other cities seeing the same type of criminal activity were Westlake, North Ridgeville, Parma, Berea, North Olmsted, Strongsville, Twinsburg, and Independence. Involved cities analyzed, compared, and shared data. ALPD enacted a specialized patrol that specifically focused on the affected businesses in town. The Detective Bureau also assisted business owners with added security measures, and set up a real time video feed in an effort to identify the involved parties. Cooperation with the involved cities assisted in the identification and arrest of several subjects.

Detective Robinson worked a complicated fraud case where \$70,000.00 in transactions had been made from the victim's account. After an extensive investigation involving subpoenas for online activity, credit card payments, and money transfers, a suspect was identified. This case is currently being processed through Common Pleas Court.

Detective Godlewski has worked a variety of cases involving property and fraud. One case involved numerous thefts occurring at a senior residential facility. After conducting extensive interviews in conjunction with surveillance, a suspect was identified. That suspect was charged and convicted on these crimes.

The Avon Lake Police Detective Bureau again focused on crime prevention and information sharing with our residents in 2018. Effort was made to assist in deterring property crimes and loss stemming from fraudulent activity. We used Public Service Announcements broadcast on ALCTV, Facebook and Twitter, and crime specific foot patrols as vehicles to share information.

Detective Bureau – Drug Task Force

ALPD designated an officer to be assigned to the Lorain County Drug Task Force this year. That officer reported to DTF management as well as staying in daily contact with the ALPD Detective Bureau. Work done by this unit has helped to address narcotic related complaints in Avon Lake. Arrests made through this partnership are still being process the legal system, but have had a positive effect within our community.

LCDTF investigated 127 cases in 2018 county wide, which resulted in 326 separate events that include activities such as controlled narcotics buys, overdose death investigations, execution of search warrants, investigative intelligence gathering, and prescription pill investigations.

Detective Bureau – Drug Task Force Continued

30 of those cases were investigated by the ALPD Officer assigned to the Drug Task Force. Of these 30 cases, 19 of them involved drug dealers that were selling narcotics within the City of Avon Lake or dealers that were supplying narcotics to Avon Lake citizens in nearby cities or surrounding counties. To date, 14 subjects have been indicted on multiple counts of drug trafficking and drug possession crimes that have directly been linked with the distribution of narcotics within Avon Lake city limits. Additional cases are still pending.

Narcotics seized from Avon Lake cases included: heroin, fentanyl, crystal methamphetamine, percocet, oxycontin, alprazolam, MDMA (ecstasy), psilocin (mushrooms), marijuana, and crack cocaine. Additional seizures included multiple drug paraphernalia and drug abuse instruments, several thousand dollars in drug proceeds, and 8 guns.

K-9 Unit

Avon Lake Police Department's K-9 Unit consists of handler Officer Rudduck and K-9 Ady. The K-9 Unit patrols as part of the regular shift rotation, attends regular training throughout the year, and performs vehicle sniffs, tracking and school searches throughout the year.



OVI Task Force

Lorain County is currently one of the top alcohol related fatal crash areas in the State of Ohio. As a result, the county has received a Federal grant to form an OVI Task Force to combat this issue through saturation patrol and OVI checkpoints.

Departments involved in this Task Force include Amherst, Avon, Avon Lake, Elyria, LaGrange, Lorain, Lorain County Sheriff's, North Ridgeville, Sheffield Village, and Wellington Police Departments. Sgt. Giardini, Ptlm. Schleicher, Ptlm. Anadiotis, Ptlm. Seekins, Ptlm. Godlewski, Ptlm. Walborn, Ptlm. Melda, Ptlm. Yonkers are the Avon Lake Police Officers assigned to the OVI Task Force.

From October 1, 2017 through September 30, 2018, Avon Lake OVI Task Force Officers conducted 28 saturation patrols and performed 115 traffic stops resulting in 30 traffic citations and 1 OVI arrest. Avon Lake Officers also participated in 5 OVI checkpoints throughout Lorain County.

School Resource Officers

In 2018 Officer Walborn joined Officer Hurd as a School Resource Officer. Officer Walborn mainly interacts with the students and staff at Learwood, Eastview, Troy, and Westview schools. While Officer Hurd is at the Highschool, Redwood, St. Joe's, and Erieview schools. SRO's work with students and staff and maintain a police presence at the schools, aid in safety drills, and act not only as police officers but mentor students and teach classes.



Motor Unit

The Avon Lake Police Motor Unit is manned by Sgt. Carrender, Ptlm. Biczukowski, Det. Ludwig, and Ptlm. Riggs. The primary functions for the Motor Unit focus on traffic enforcement and responding to calls for service. In addition to patrol duties, the Avon Lake Motor Unit also participates in local parades, motorcycle charity runs, memorial rides and funeral escorts.

Bike Patrol

Sgt. Carrender, Lt. Tibbitts, Ptlm. Toth, Ptlm. Biczukowski, Ptlm. Bringman, Det. Godlewski, Ptlm. Valencic, Ptlm. Walborn, Ptlm. Fabrizi, and Ptlm. Melda make up the Avon Lake Police Bike Patrol Unit. With this unit bike officers are able to make contact with the public while on patrol and during events like Safety Town, bike rodeos, and park events. Bicycles give officers the ability to patrol in locations that are not accessible by cruisers.

Animal Control Community Service Officer

2018 was the second year of the ACCSO position. As part time, noncommissioned officers, ACCSO Hartz and ACCSO Wasylko performed a wide array of duties. Duties include: handling animals at large in the City, directing traffic, departmental maintenance, compliance checks of the City's Dog Ordinance, house watches, vehicle lock outs, and educating the community on issues from animal control to park regulations.

Lorain County SWAT

Members of the Lorain County SWAT team are on call 24/7, operating as sworn Sheriff Deputies with powers of arrest and authority to go anywhere within Lorain County. This multi-jurisdictional team consists of team members from; Amherst, Avon, Avon Lake, LaGrange, L.C. Sheriff's Department, North Ridgeville, Oberlin, Wellington, and Vermilion. Specialized operations L.C. SWAT performs are: Drug Raids, Suspect Searches, High Risk Incidents, Dignitary & V.I.P. Protection, Barricaded Suspects, Hostage Situations, and Rapid Deployment Against Active Shooters.



Honor Guard



The Avon Lake Honor Guard members include Lt. Tibbitts, Sgt. Carrender, Sgt. Cantleberry, Ptlm. Schleicher, Ptlm. Toth, Det. Robinson, Ptlm. Valencic, Ptlm. Fabrizi, Ptlm. Riggs, Ptlm. Melda, and Ptlm. Yonkers. The honor guard is a ceremonial unit that is frequently used in parades and funeral services.

Northern Ohio Violent Fugitive Task Force

Det. Godlewski, Det. Robinson, and Det. Ludwig are all deputized as Special Agents with the U.S. Marshalls. Detectives regularly go out with the U.S. Marshalls Violent Fugitive Task Force to pursue and arrest violent fugitives primarily within Lorain County. This has proven to be a valuable partnership for the Marshalls, the Avon Lake Police Department, and the County.

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Education and training continues to be a priority for the Avon Lake Police Department. Listed below are various training classes that Avon Lake Police Department employees attended in 2018:

- “Beyond the Silence”, Ohio Child Welfare Training Program
- Commercial Motor Vehicle Weight Enforcement
- Active Attack Integrated Response Course
- Cell Phone Use in Drug Trafficking Investigations
- Legal Update: Ohio Casino Control Commission
- Ohio Association of Chiefs of Police: In-Service and Annual Conference
- Active Shooter: Lessons Learned from Madison High School for School Resource Officers and School Administrators
- Ohio Tactical Officer Association: Annual Conference
- Ohio Crisis Assistance Training
- Pedestrian and Bicycle Law Enforcement Training Workshop
- Field Training Officer Program
- The Reid Technique of Investigative Interviewing and Advanced Interrogation
- Fundamentals of Criminal Intelligence
- Ohio Attorney General Conference on Law Enforcement
- FBI - Child Abduction Response Training
- US Attorney’s Office - Anti-Terrorism Advisory Council Conference
- Courageous Leadership

Ptlm. Walborn, in preparing for his new position in the Avon Lake City Schools, attended the week long **School Resource Officer Basic Training** that was hosted by the Ohio School Resource Officers Association.

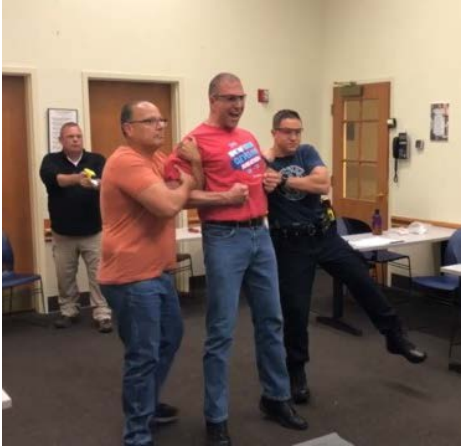
Detective Sergeant Reikowski attended a two week **Homicide Investigation** course that was presented by The Southern Police Institute.

Detective Caleb Robinson attended the highly technical **Mobile Digital Forensics Law Enforcement Training**. Det. Robinson’s skills will help the detective bureau to extract information from cell phones associated with criminal investigations.

Newly hired Ptlm. Andrew Robinson is currently attending Basic Peace Officer Training at the Ohio State Highway Patrol Training Academy. He is scheduled to graduate from his basic academy on January 23rd of 2019.

Education and Training Continued

In 2018, the Avon Lake Police Department initiated its Taser Program. Lt. Bockelman and Ptl. Toth attended Taser Instructor School. As instructors, Lt. Bockelman and Ptlm. Toth trained all of the full-time officers assigned to patrol. Our officers now carry the Taser X26P Conducted Energy Device.

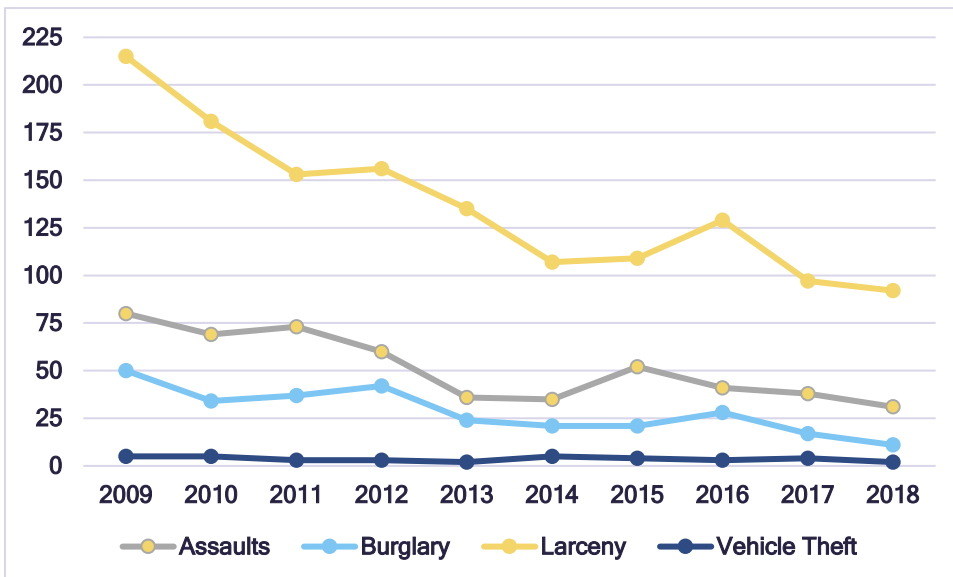


Officers of the Avon Lake Police Department participate in ongoing proficiency training and certifications for the weapons carried. The current weapons utilized by the police department are: Glock Model 22 and Glock Model 23 (handguns), Colt AR-15 (patrol rifle), and Remington 870 (shotgun).

PATROL AND CALLS FOR SERVICE

Burglary Prevention Patrols

Burglary Prevention Patrols were continued in 2018. The Detective Bureau assigned patrol officers to areas determined to be at higher risk of property crimes. As part of this detail officers would stop and speak with residents, showing them easy ways to help protect their homes and property from burglary. It also includes officers keeping an eye out for vehicles that could potentially be at risk of Theft from Auto. If residents cannot be spoken to in person, notifications are left for them to make them aware of how they may be at risk. We credit the continued drop in Burglaries, Vehicle Theft, and Larceny occurrences in Avon Lake in part to this program. Between 2017 and 2018 Burglaries have decreased 35%, Larceny cases have declined 5%, and Vehicle Theft incidents are down 50%.



Calls for Service and Case Reports

In 2018 the Avon Lake Police Department saw an approximate 10% decrease in total Calls for Service. This was reflected in the total number of those calls the number that resulted in a Case Report decreasing 8%. Assaults, Burglaries, Larceny, Vehicle Thefts, OVI cases and Domestic Violence Case Reports all declined in 2018. In contrast however, over all arrests increased 7%.

FRONT OF VEHICLE REPORT CARD

City of
AVON LAKE
POLICE

THIS IS NOT A TICKET

YOUR VEHICLE REPORT CARD

YOUR VEHICLE HAS:

PASSED FAILED

If your vehicle has failed, it was because of the following:

- Backpacks/Purse/Briefcase
- Cash/Coins
- Door(s) Unlocked
- Electronics
- GPS/Radar Detector
- Jewelry
- Tools
- Window(s) Open
- Other: _____

Follow these suggestions to help deter criminals:

- Take keys out of your vehicle
- Park in well-lit areas
- Completely close car windows when parking
- Lock you garage door and the vehicle inside

Avoid leaving valuables in plain view

BACK OF VEHICLE REPORT CARD

City of
AVON LAKE
POLICE

VEHICLE SECURITY REPORT CARD

Property theft from parked vehicles is a common crime that is very easy to prevent. It takes only a few moments to secure your belongings.

Your Avon Lake Police Department Officers are concerned about your safety and the security of your property. This form is only to inform you of possible security risks you may have overlooked. **IT IS NOT A TICKET**

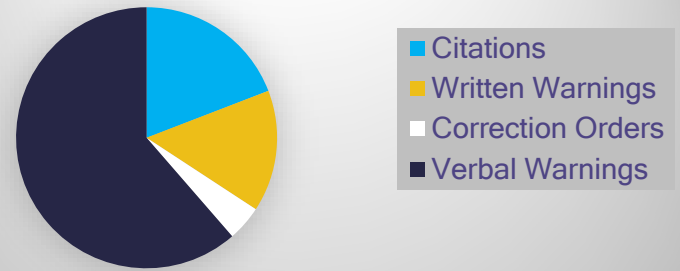
Questions/Comments?

Please call the **Avon Lake Police Department** at 440 933-4567 with questions or to become more aware of criminal methods and learn what you can do to help deter criminals.

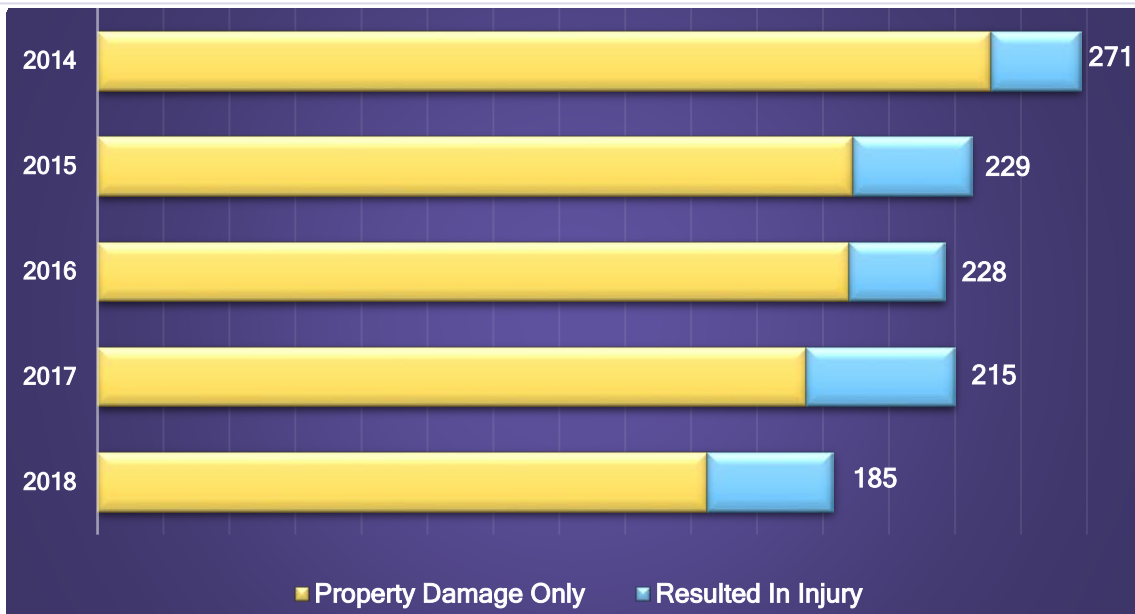
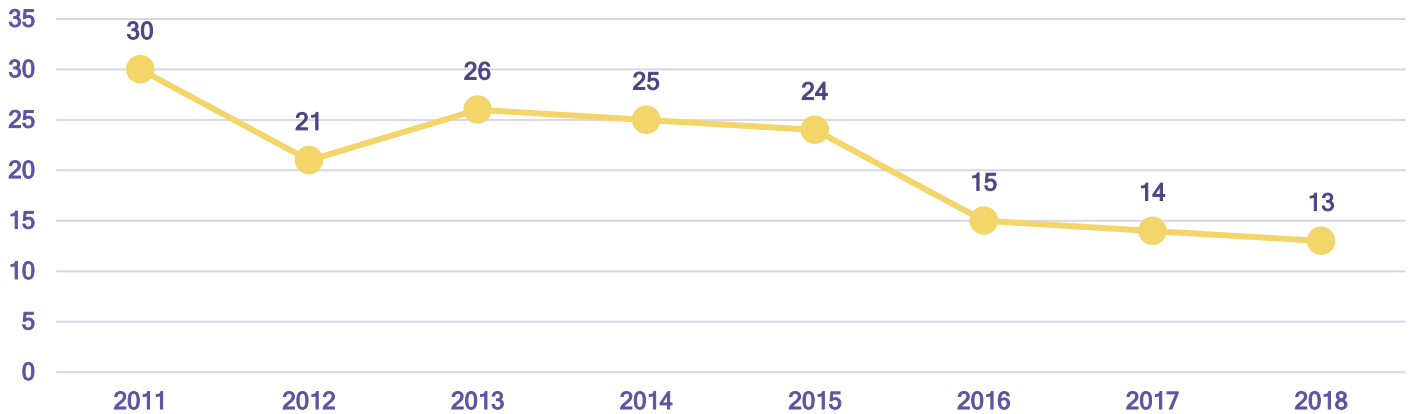
Traffic Stops

Traffic enforcement is a large part of a patrol officer's duties. In 2018, Officers completed a combined total of 1,572 traffic citations, written warnings, correction orders and verbal warnings.

2018 Ticket Stats



Deer v. Car Accidents



Traffic crashes in the City have continued their 6 year declining trend. In 2018 there were a total of 185 crash reports filed. This is 30 less than the total in 2017 and 86 less than the total in 2014. Crashes that resulted in an injury decreased by 7 in total and continue to be mainly the result of Following Too Closely and Failure to Yield. Reported deer involved vehicle crashes are still declining every year. There were 13 deer involved vehicle crashes reports filed at the Police Department in 2018 and none of them resulted in an injury. This compares to 30 reports filed in 2011 to show a 57% decrease in occurrences in an 8 year period.