

2019

ANNUAL REPORT



LAKEWOOD
POLICE
DEPARTMENT

LETTER FROM THE CHIEF



On behalf of the more than 400 men and women of the Lakewood Police Department, thank you for taking the time to read our 2019 Annual Report. This report gives us an opportunity to share with you our accomplishments and successes over the past year.

We're happy to report that most crime was down in Lakewood throughout 2019. Some highlights include a 31% reduction in aggravated assaults and a 42% reduction in motor vehicle theft across our city from 2018 to 2019.

Achieving dramatic reduction in crimes such as these can only happen through a strong partnership with our Lakewood community. We've worked hard at the Lakewood Police Department to foster those collaborative relationships with our residents through open communication and transparency.

Thank you for taking the time to review our annual report and for all your support throughout the year. We are proud to serve you, the residents of Lakewood, with integrity, intelligence and initiative. Take care and stay safe.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Daniel J. McCasky".

Chief Daniel J. McCasky



MISSION STATEMENT

The men and women of the Lakewood Police Department will protect and serve with integrity, intelligence, and initiative. Working with our community, we will bring to justice those who commit crime and cause disorder in our City.



1



2



3

1 | Detective Ezell takes a break from his School Resource Officer duties to have lunch with students.

2 | We were honored to be named the Hometown Heroes for Girl Scout Troop 65448 during their annual cookie sales drive.

3 | Having fun in the classic car during the St. Patrick's Day parade.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

[01 Lakewood Police Department in the Community | PAGE 6](#)

[02 Accreditation | PAGE 8](#)

[03 Lakewood Crime Statistics | PAGE 9](#)

[04 Patrol Division | PAGE 10](#)

[05 Investigation Division | PAGE 13](#)

[06 Support Services | PAGE 14](#)

[07 Internal Affairs | PAGE 16](#)

[08 Organization Chart | PAGE 18](#)



01

LAKWOOD POLICE DEPARTMENT IN THE COMMUNITY

A large piece of our crime fighting and prevention successes are a direct result of our relationships in the community we serve. The men and women of the Lakewood Police Department regularly participate in community meetings, block parties, [National Night Out](#) and other gatherings to engage directly with our citizens. In addition, we throw our own community celebrations such as the annual [Cops that Cook Pancake Breakfast](#) to visit with our community and to help raise funds for those in need through our [Caring by Sharing](#) program.



1 | Our Agents are hard at work prepping the food for our annual pancake breakfast.

2 | Sgt. Mains had a great time with these students as part of Read Across America Day.

3 | We're proud to take part in the annual Tip A Cop fundraiser to help raise money for Special Olympics.

02

ACCREDITATION

The Lakewood Police Department is proud to have been accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA) since 1986.

The CALEA Accreditation programs provide public safety agencies with an opportunity to voluntarily meet an established set of professional standards, which require:

- Comprehensive and uniform written directives that clearly define authority, performance, and responsibilities.
- Reports and analyses to make fact-based and informed management decisions.
- Preparedness to address natural or man-made critical incidents.
- Community relationship-building and maintenance.
- Independent review by subject matter experts.
- Continuous pursuit of excellence through annual reviews and other assessment measures.

Every four years, CALEA assessors re-examine the department's compliance with the commission's exacting standards. Lakewood has maintained its accreditation status, demonstrating that it conforms to the highest standards of contemporary law enforcement services. Since 2011, the department has been honored for "Law Enforcement Accreditation with Excellence." Only 10 percent of accredited agencies have received this prestigious award.

The Lakewood Police Department is working toward securing its 11th reaccreditation award scheduled for 2021. Maintaining the gold standard of excellence from the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA), is a daily endeavor embraced by all department personnel. CALEA's goals are to consistently formalize essential management procedures; establish fair and non-discriminatory personnel and coordination; increase community and staff confidence in the agency; and strengthen crime prevention and control capabilities.



03

LAKWOOD CRIME STATS

PERSONS CRIMES					
Offense	2017	2018	% Change	2019	% Change
Homicide	5	3	-40%	13	333%
Sexual Assault	267	280	5%	237	-15%
Robbery	208	166	-20%	181	9%
Aggravated Assault	650	692	6%	480	-31%
Total	1130	1141	1%	911	-20%

PROPERTY CRIMES					
Offense	2017	2018	% Change	2019	% Change
Burglary	925	945	2%	805	-15%
Motor Vehicle Theft	1213	1088	-10%	893	-18%
Criminal Trespass - Vehicle	1522	1557	2%	899	-42%
Shoplifting	1812	1954	8%	2089	7%
Criminal Mischief	2028	2059	2%	2069	0%
Fraud/Forgery/Counterfeiting	1585	1788	13%	1443	-19%
Arson	24	35	46%	28	-20%
Larceny Theft	2261	2460	9%	2740	11%
Total	11370	11886	5%	10966	-8%

TOTAL CRIMES					
Offense	2017	2018	% Change	2019	% Change
All Crimes	12500	13027	4%	11877	-9%



1

04

PATROL DIVISION

As the primary responders to emergency calls within the city, the agents of our Patrol Division are on the front lines, keeping our community and its residents safe. Patrol agents are assigned for a full year to one of two sectors (North and South), so that they can become more familiar with the residents, business owners and crime trends in their area. Aside from normal police patrol duties, the Patrol Division also consists of various specialty units including teams that address community needs and problems involving homelessness, mental health, traffic, major crimes, career criminals, gang activity and issues in the areas of the Colorado Mills Mall and Belmar.

Community Action Team (CAT)

The Community Action Team (CAT) is responsible for administering a variety of crime prevention programs. Education, directed intervention, mediation, and enforcement are areas of particular focus. This unit plays a critical role in our community policing efforts, including addressing homelessness and those suffering from mental illness



2

1 | We're proud to partner with MADD (Mothers Against Drunk Driving) as part of our DUI enforcement.

2 | New graduates from the academy are partnered up with Agents specially trained to help teach them throughout their field training.



Traffic Team

The Lakewood Police Traffic Team is dedicated to motorist and pedestrian safety. This is done through statistic-driven enforcement, special events and tips and requests from our community. While all patrol agents are responsible for traffic safety in Lakewood, the Traffic Team is focused on this single goal. Traffic detectives are responsible for investigating hit and run traffic collisions while the Lakewood Police Traffic Team is involved in numerous enforcement and special city events such as marathons and enforcement campaigns.

Special Enforcement Team (SET)

The Special Enforcement Team (SET) is responsible for tracking and suppression activities along with proactive police contacts with gang members. The team provides directed enforcement intended to impact the most pressing criminal activity, locations, offenders, patterns, graffiti and trends of gang activity. SET will respond, handle and investigate a variety of gang-related crimes, career criminals, warrant arrests and graffiti.

Colorado Mills Mall Team

The Lakewood Police Department Mills Substation is a limited service police station housing seven agents, a detective, and a sergeant. The agents in the station proudly serve northwest Lakewood. The substation facilitates a closer relationship between the department and the community using a community-oriented policing philosophy called Sector-Based Policing. The Colorado Mills Mall Team was developed to handle the traffic, criminal and non-criminal issues specific to the mall and surrounding areas.

Canine Unit (K-9)

The K-9 Unit responds to incidents involving tracking and locating individuals eluding capture and provides officer protection. It also is used for detection of narcotics. The K-9 unit is called upon in many types of situations, some due to the danger agents would be exposed to, and others because of K-9's unique and often superior senses. Before ever being used in the field, the handler and K-9 teams undergo extensive training. Training continues on a regular basis for as long as they are a part of the K-9 unit.



Detective Moffat was named the 2019 Detective of the Year by the First Judicial District Attorney's Office.

05

INVESTIGATION DIVISION

The Investigation Division is primarily responsible for conducting follow-up criminal investigations, collecting, preserving, and analyzing physical evidence, arresting offenders, filing criminal cases, and assisting with the prosecution of those cases. The Investigation Division is made up of teams of detectives specializing in behaviors associated with specific crimes, along with detectives assigned to Federal and State funded tasks forces. The Investigation Division also helps ensure victims of crimes receive the resources and assistance they need through our Victim Assistance Unit.

The teams of detectives are located on two separate floors with an Investigation Commander overseeing each floor. Teams are located in close proximity to those working overlapping crimes to assist in collaboration and encouraging teamwork. Teams on the lower floor are the new Family Crimes Team, Persons Team, Burglary/Robbery, Economic Crimes and Victim Advocates. Teams on the upper floor are Crimes Against Children, Juvenile Crime Team including School Resource Officers, Theft Team, Special Investigation Unit, Sex Offender Apprehension and Registration Team. These teams are responsible for investigations involving assaults, homicides, sexual assaults, child abuses, property crimes and juvenile delinquency matters. These teams are also responsible for gathering criminal intelligence and conducting background investigations for liquor licenses, towing

operators, pawnshops, adult retail businesses, and massage parlors. The Victim Assistance Unit, staffed by non-sworn personnel, provides direct services and crisis intervention to victims and witnesses of crimes. The Victim Assistance Unit oversees the Victim Compensation Fund.

The Lakewood Police Department continues to co-host the multi-agency Metropolitan Auto Theft Task Force. CMATT's mission is to investigate continuing problems caused by auto theft crimes in the Denver metropolitan area. CMATT is funded by the Colorado Auto Theft Prevention Authority and supported by partnering law enforcement agencies. CMATT utilizes a proactive investigative approach by incorporating data sharing and public education to impact the organized criminal efforts related to auto theft.

The Criminalistics Section, which is also part of the Investigation Division, is staffed by non-sworn personnel. They provide support service for the evaluation, processing, and scientific examination of physical evidence. The staff possesses considerable technical expertise in a wide variety of disciplines including fingerprint comparison, photography, computer analysis, crime scene reconstruction, and the collection and preservation of evidence.

06

SUPPORT SERVICES

The Support Services Division encompasses several sections of the Lakewood Police Department that provide crucial services to our community. These sections provide both administrative and technical support to the department and the community. Those sections include:

1. COMMUNITY SERVICES

The Community Services Section is comprised of the Animal Control Unit, Code Enforcement Unit, Crime Analysis Unit, Property Services Unit, Technology Liaison, and the Volunteer Program.

- **The Animal Control Unit** enforces municipal ordinances relating to the welfare of animals and the responsibilities of animal owners. It plays a critical role in educating citizens about the humane and safe treatment of animals and responding to public safety concerns with companion animals, exotic pets, and indigenous wildlife. Compliance with the Jefferson County dog licensing requirements is a continuing focus.
- **The Code Enforcement Unit** provides enforcement of the Municipal Code as it relates to nuisance violations, which include overgrown vegetation both on private property and adjacent rights-of-way, inoperable motor vehicles, the accumulation of junk and rubbish, parking of commercial vehicles and trailers on City streets, wood burning, overflowing dumpsters, trash and graffiti. Officers also enforce the Zoning Ordinance as it pertains to land use issues, parking requirements, fence regulations, home businesses, and signs.
- **The Crime Analysis Unit** is composed of personnel who analyze and disseminate timely and pertinent information relative to crime patterns and trends to assist in daily operations.
- **The Property & Evidence Unit** serves the Lakewood Police Department and citizens by accepting and maintaining items booked for safekeeping and evidentiary value. The preservation, storage, custody tracking, and timely release of property and evidence are essential functions of the Unit.
- **The Technology Liaison Sergeant** provides coordination to the Information Technology (IT) Department to maximize the effectiveness and efficiency of the computer applications that are utilized by the police department. This position is also responsible for application training, management of software programs, and oversight of the Records Management System.
- **The Volunteer Program** assists in a wide variety of programs to include the Department Chaplains, enforcing disabled parking violations, assisting motorists, and booking abandoned property. Volunteers are also enlisted to help with various community events, logging over 12,000 hours of service to the City.



1 | Agent Gibson-French and Animal Control Officer Shaw teamed up to save these two pups from a house fire.

2 | We never know exactly what our Animal Control Officers will encounter on a daily basis. On this day, they were called to free an owl who had become trapped in a soccer goal net.

2. RECORDS

[The Police Records Section](#) serves as the police department's primary information management center. The section manages and disseminates all criminal justice records to include incident/crime reporting, warrant processes, municipal and county bonds, traffic and criminal citations, quality control monitoring of electronic ticketing, and expungement orders. The information is maintained to assist victims of crime, enhance the decision-making for investigations, and for the timely prosecution of criminal activity. Additionally, the section collects, processes, and submits statistical crime information to the state and federal crime databases.

3. EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

The Emergency Management Section is responsible for administering Lakewood's Emergency Management and Homeland Security programs and providing response to hazardous material incidents.

4. PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS

The Professional Standards Section oversees the Police Recruitment Team and works closely with the Human Resource Department (HR) in recruiting, selecting and promoting qualified police personnel who reflect our community's diversity and values. This section operates the Police Recruit Training Academy, conducts in-service training, manages the written directive system, processes employee commendations, and investigates complaints of misconduct against police employees.

5. POLICE PLANNING AND ANALYSIS UNIT

The Police Planning and Analysis Unit is responsible for coordinating the preparation of the department's annual budget, reporting of the department's grant and seizure funds, and providing research and planning assistance. This unit manages the department's accreditation process.

07

INTERNAL AFFAIRS/ PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS

	2017	2018	2019
COMMENDATIONS			
Number	87	55	71
Personnel	274	148	229
INTERNAL AFFAIRS CASES			
Allegations of Misconduct			
Investigations	57	60	66
Internally/Externally Generated	28/29	29/31	23/43
Informational Inquiry	36	36	27
ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW CASES			
Traffic Accident Review	41	58	50
Preventable Traffic Accidents	25	38	34
USE OF FORCE REVIEW			
Taser	58	63	73
Physical	84	90	101
K-9	2	4	6
Baton / ASP	0	5	3
OC Spray	0	0	0
Firearm	1	1	6
Pepperball	3	4	4
Foam Baton / Bean Bag	1	1	8
TOTALS	149	168	201
Total Cases Received			344

Note: The above chart demonstrates the different types of force that were used, recognizing that multiple types of force may be used during a single incident and by multiple officers. In 2019, agents were involved in 170 use of force incidents.



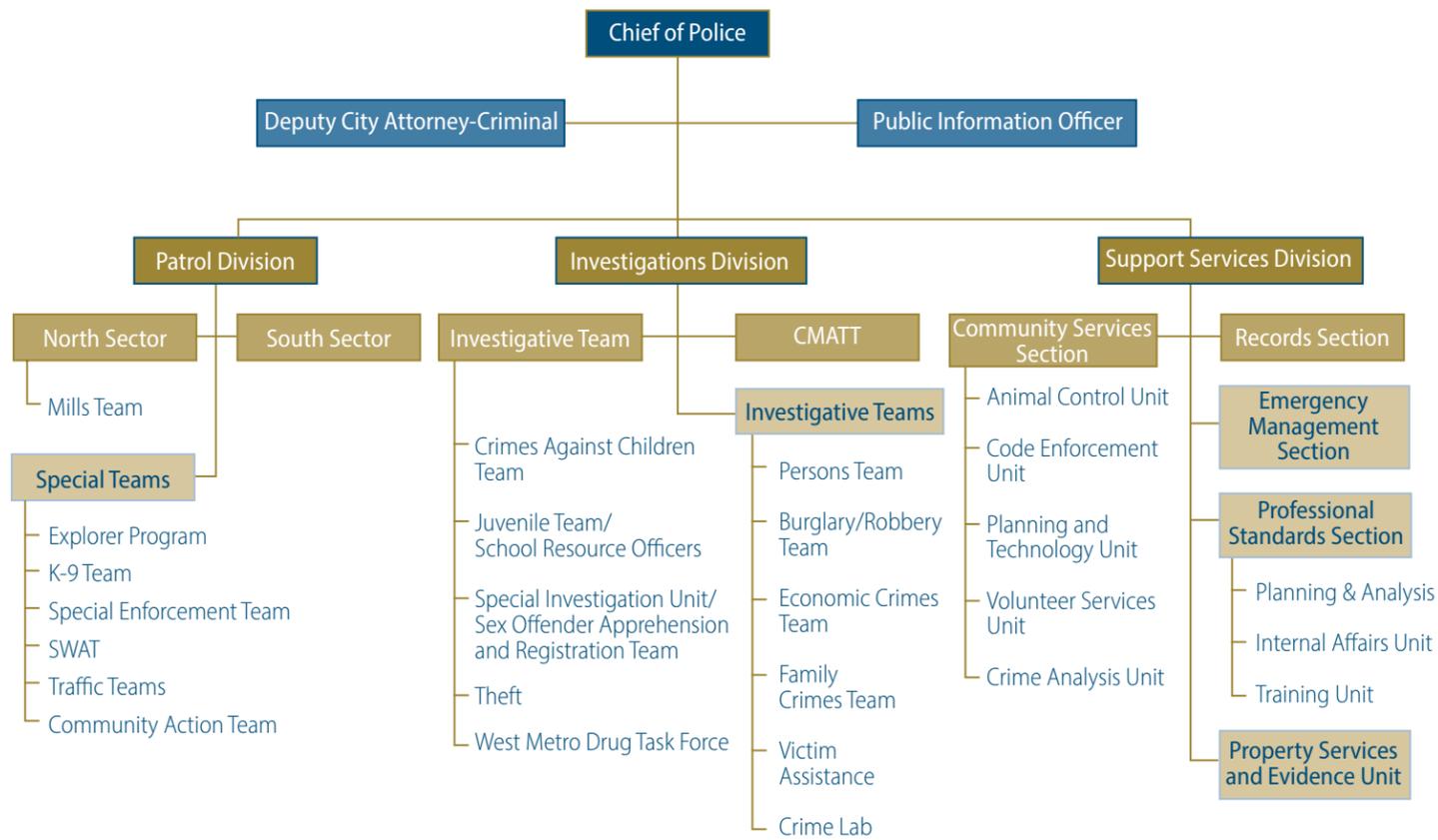
1 | Chief McCasky recognizes Agent Ferris with the LPD Lifesaving Award at our annual awards ceremony.

2 | Agent Osckel is recognized as a "Big Deal" by Lakewood City Manager Kathy Hodgson for his work with a domestic violence victim.

3 | Sgt. Caracostas is congratulated by Chief McCasky for receiving the LPD Distinguished Service Award.

4 | Detective Poellot is recognized by Division Chief Koester as the 2019 LPD Detective of the Year at our annual awards ceremony.

08 ORGANIZATION CHART



1 | Our Colorado Mills team and LPD volunteers are proud to sponsor a giving tree that donates gifts for underprivileged kids during the holidays.

2 | After suffering major injuries during an on-duty motorcycle crash in 2018, Agent O'Donnell made a miraculous recovery and returned to full duty in 2019.

3 | Chief McCasky officially swears in the newest graduates of the academy.



LAKEWOOD POLICE DEPARTMENT 2019 ANNUAL REPORT

445 South Allison Parkway
303-987-7111 • Lakewood.org/Police
For all non-emergency: 303-980-7300
Join LakewoodBlue.com

   @LakewoodPDCO

