



# POLICE DEPARTMENT

Annual Report, 2020

# White Lake Township Police Department

**Annual Report  
2020 Calendar Year**

Daniel T. Keller  
Chief of Police



*Daniel T. Keller*  
Chief of Police



# POLICE DEPARTMENT

Annual Report, 2020

April 30, 2021

To: Rik Kowall, WHITE LAKE TOWNSHIP SUPERVISOR  
Topic: 2020 (calendar year) ANNUAL POLICE ACTIVITY REPORT

Attached is the annual White Lake Township Police Department activity report for the calendar year of 2020, which summarizes:

- 2020 Community Involvement Highlights
- 2020 Crime Analysis
- Reactive, Proactive, & Community based police efforts

This annual report is produced to increase awareness of our on-going effort to keep White Lake Township a safe place to live, work, play and visit.

The White Lake Township Police Department employees work diligently to achieve customer satisfaction and to maintain or improve the quality of life for our citizens. Our Department wholeheartedly believes that our efforts would not be successful without the relationship enjoyed between the White Lake Township Police Department, elected officials, appointed officials, businesses, and community residents. We thank you for making this community-focused Police Department one of the best in the state of Michigan.

Sincerely,

Daniel T. Keller  
Chief of Police

*Daniel T. Keller*  
*Chief of Police*



# POLICE DEPARTMENT

Annual Report, 2020

## Table of Contents

<u>Section</u>	<u>Page</u>
Letter from the Chief .....	1
Department Strength .....	2
Crime Analysis .....	7
Police Department Training .....	10
Community Involvement .....	11
Traffic Improvement Grant .....	13
White Lake Police Foundation .....	15
Social Media .....	16
Community Events .....	17
Police & Community Together (PACT).....	25



# POLICE DEPARTMENT

Annual Report, 2020

## Letter from Chief Keller

The White Lake Township Police Department started 2020 with great pride and idealism for a productive year. Having been recently awarded Michigan Law Enforcement Accreditation Commission – Accredited Status, the Department began looking to continue our tradition of quality police service to the community.

Then, in the beginning of March, much like the rest of the world, the Police Department had to deal with the ever-changing struggles of the COVID-19 pandemic. This meant changes to operating procedures, postponing long sought-after programs, and instituting safety measures to keep both the officers and the citizens safe. Beginning 2020 brought to the forefront our motto, “One Team, One Fight”. Working together, the department was able to maintain training and certifications in all core areas of law enforcement. Advanced training, while more difficult to conduct, was continued through the use of virtual technology and in-house training with instructors. The Department was able to add five members to it’s ranks and get them all through training, as well as the promotion of a one member to the rank of Lieutenant.

Despite the limitations imposed on many programs, Officers in the department banded together to ensure that many of the community-related events were still in place, even though they may have looked different than in years past. By the end of the year, Officers were able to put on Shop with a Cop, support to Special Olympics, and numerous birthday drive-bys for citizens who were unable to celebrate with loved ones.

Finally, the members of the Police Department felt the love and appreciation from the citizens we serve. On a daily basis, citizens showed their support, both in person and through social media. Their support kept the Police Department going through some of the toughest times. The end of 2020 brought a renewed sense of hope that normalcy will prevail and that the Police Department will once again be able to engage with the community in the fashion that we have long since become accustom.

Daniel T. Keller  
Chief of Police

*“It is the Mission of the White Lake Township Police Department to serve our citizens with professionalism, courage, and integrity. To hold the quality of life, preservation of safety, and protection of property in the highest regard.”*

*Daniel T. Keller*  
*Chief of Police*



# POLICE DEPARTMENT

Annual Report, 2020

## White Lake Township Police Department Promotions and New Hires



Chuck Brandt, Retired Officer



Steven Bohez, New Officer



Matthew Silverthorn, promoted  
to Lieutenant



Brittany Lynch, New Officer



Kyle Welling, New Officer



Helen Skaglin, New Dispatcher

*Daniel T. Keller*  
Chief of Police



# POLICE DEPARTMENT

Annual Report, 2020

## White Lake Township Police Department Sworn Personnel

### **Patrol Officers**

Jeffrey Barber	Ronald Rogowicz	Kevan DiClaudio
Ed McNulty	Greg Hartner	Steve Bohez
Roxanne Ostrowski	Wade Swalwell	Michael Kaz-Mikha
Michael Race	Kristopher Mesaros	Michael Pence
Jarrett Hinman	Dylan Matthews	Brittany Lynch
Kyle Welling		

### **Investigative Officers**

Tom Sarasin  
Steve Moore  
Jeff Sutton

### **School Officers**

S.R.O. Jessica Snow  
T.E.A.M. Shawn Kidle

### **Shift Sergeant**

Sgt. Brad Connell  
Sgt. Gregory Gondek  
Sgt. Jeffrey Way  
Sgt. Ross Wagenmaker

### **Administrative Division**

Lt. Matthew Silverthorn

### **Investigation Division**

Lt. Christopher J. Hild

### **Patrol Division**

Lt. Matthew Ivory

### **Chief of Police**

Daniel T. Keller



# POLICE DEPARTMENT

Annual Report, 2020

## White Lake Township Police Department Civilian Personnel

### **Communications**

Kolleen Hendin  
Shelby Dominick  
Hanna Lewis  
Helen Skaglin  
Jill Harrison

### **Communications Coordinator**

Anna Cross

### **Records**

Marilyn McDonald  
Holly Kidle  
Betsy Kettler

### **Cadet**

Rebecca McAuliffe

### **Executive Secretary**

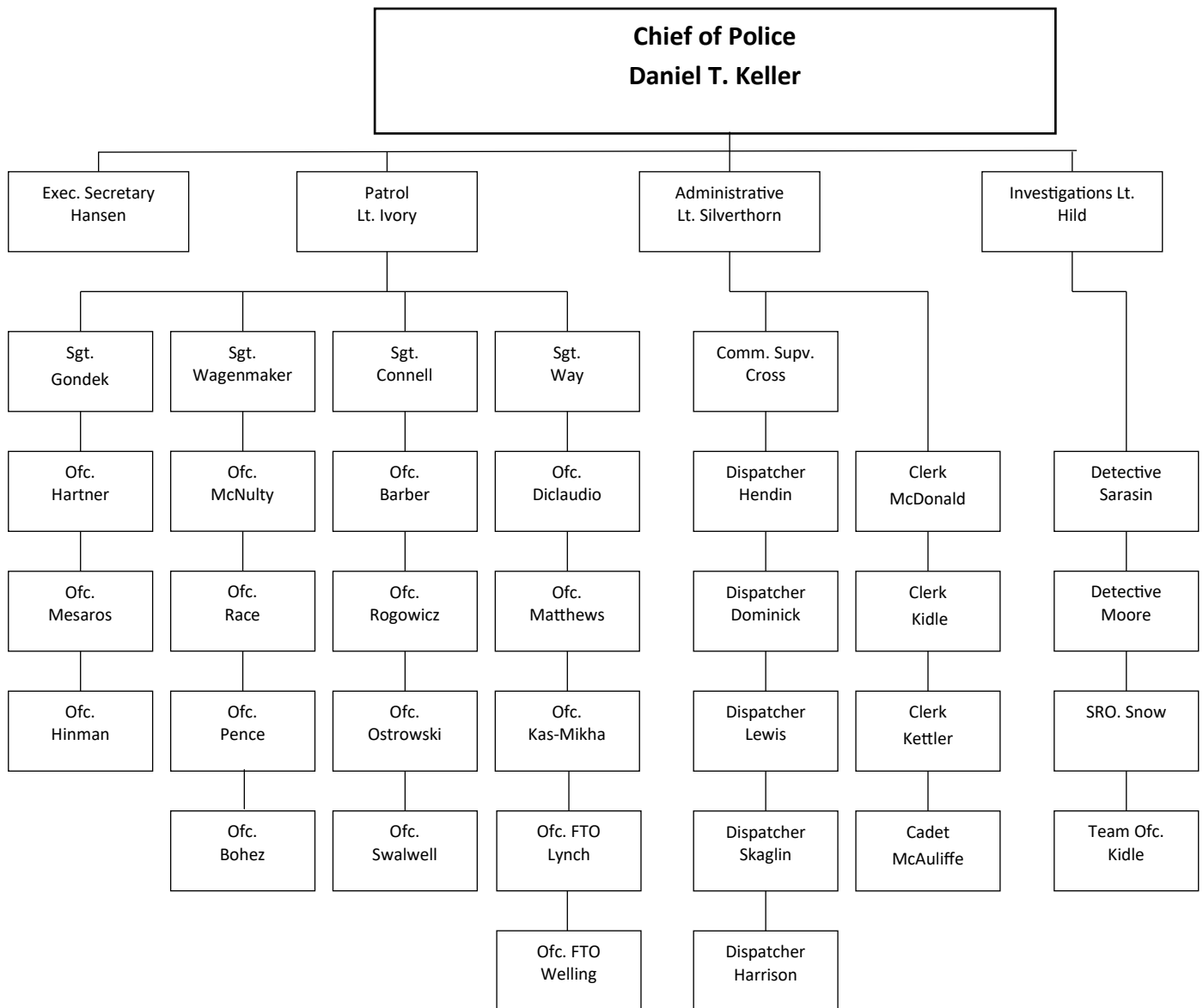
Jennifer Hansen



# POLICE DEPARTMENT

Annual Report, 2020

## White Lake Township Police 2020 Organization Chart



*Daniel T. Keller*  
Chief of Police





# POLICE DEPARTMENT

Annual Report, 2020

## 2020 No Shave November

In honor of "No Shave November," officers grew out their beards as part of a fundraising campaign to support a local White Lake family during Christmas. Since October, Chief Keller has allowed officers to grow beards for this good cause. If you have observed any officers with beards or female dispatchers / clerks in "plain clothes", these employees have donated money for that perk. All money raised went towards the Police Department's 2020 adopt a family! Thank you to all that participated in this cause!



*Daniel T. Keller*  
Chief of Police



# POLICE DEPARTMENT

Annual Report, 2020

## **Crime Analysis**

Reported crime in White Lake Township for 2020, is similar to what our region is experiencing, with some notable differences in this year's statistics from last.

The charts on page 10 show the total number of accident reports, citations issued, arrests, calls for service, vacant home checks, focused patrols, and neighborhood checks performed by the White Lake Township Police Department from 2010 to 2020.

The FBI statistics (page 8) along with charts show comparisons between communities in Michigan, as well as nationally. Overall, the reported crime in White Lake Township demonstrate a downward trend in crime based on data from 19 years with violent crime decreasing and property crime decreasing. Based on this trend, the projected crime rate in White Lake Township for 2021 is expected to be lower than in 2020. The violent crime rate for White Lake Township in 2016 (*last recorded data*) was lower than the national violent crime rate average by 87.87% and the property crime rate in White Lake Township was lower than the national property crime rate average by 58.19%. In 2016 (*last recorded data*) the violent crime rate in White Lake Township was lower than the violent crime rate in Michigan by 82.54% and the property crime rate in White Lake Township was lower than the property crime rate in Michigan by 46.35%.

Marijuana was decriminalized in Michigan beginning in 2019. As a result, arrests for violations of the controlled substance act decreased dramatically.

The amount of retail fraud complaints have increased as more businesses moved into the township. As a department, we have focused on arresting and prosecuting retail fraud offenders to discourage repeat offenses.

*Daniel T. Keller*  
Chief of Police

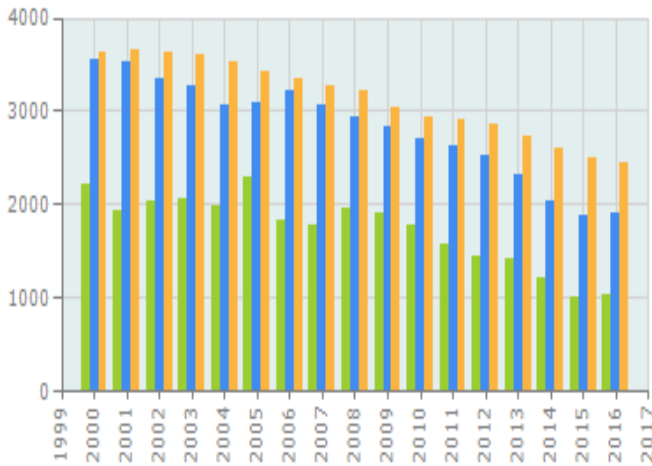


# POLICE DEPARTMENT

Annual Report, 2020

## FBI Crime Statistics

### White Lake Property Crime Index

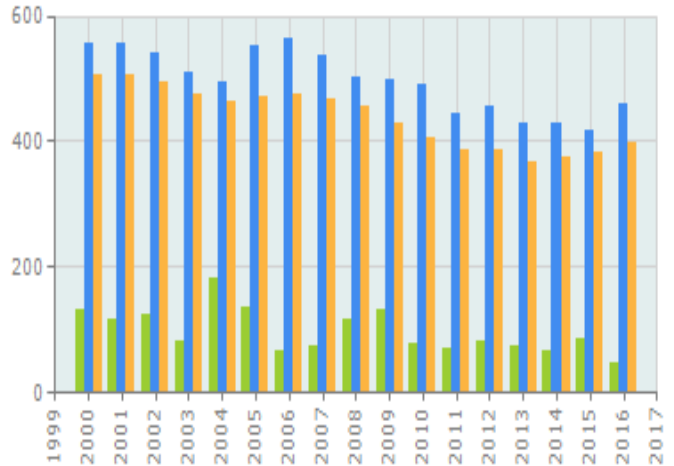


White Lake Township Michigan National

Crime Index corresponds to incidents per 100,000 inhabitants

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### White Lake Violent Crime Index

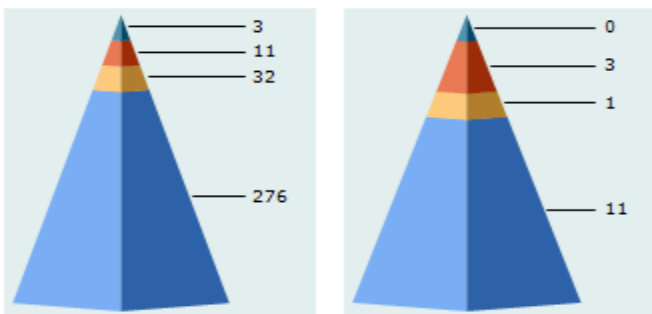


White Lake Township Michigan National

Crime Index corresponds to incidents per 100,000 inhabitants

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### White Lake 2016 Crime



Property

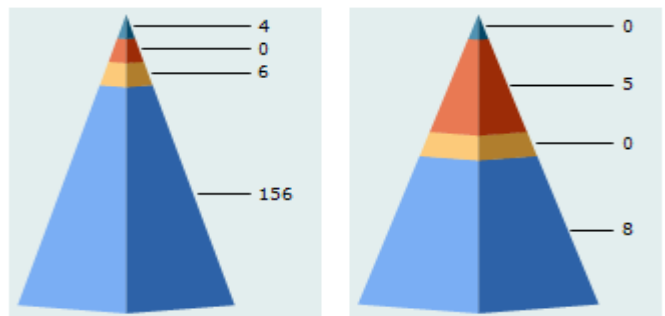
Arson  
Motor Vehicle Theft  
Burglary  
Larceny and Theft

Violent

Murder and Manslaughter  
Rape  
Robbery  
Aggravated Assault

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### White Lake 2021 Crime (Projected)



Property

Arson  
Motor Vehicle Theft  
Burglary  
Larceny and Theft

Violent

Murder and Manslaughter  
Rape  
Robbery  
Aggravated Assault

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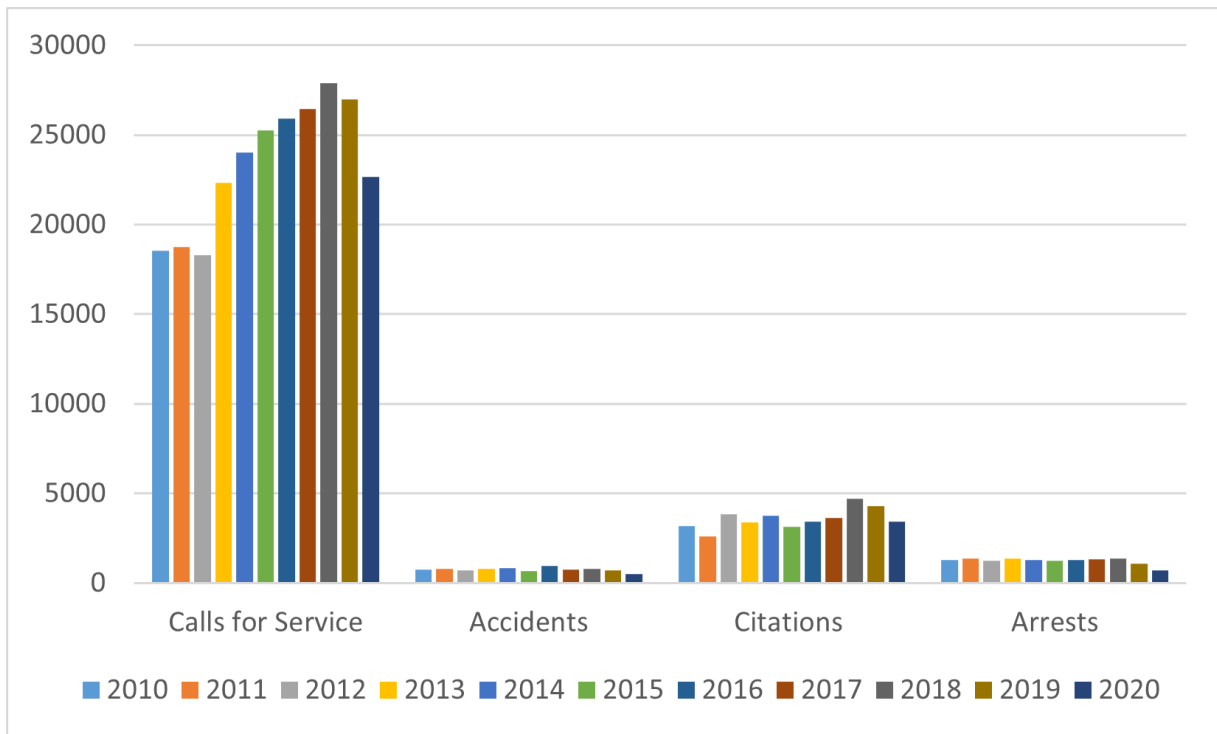
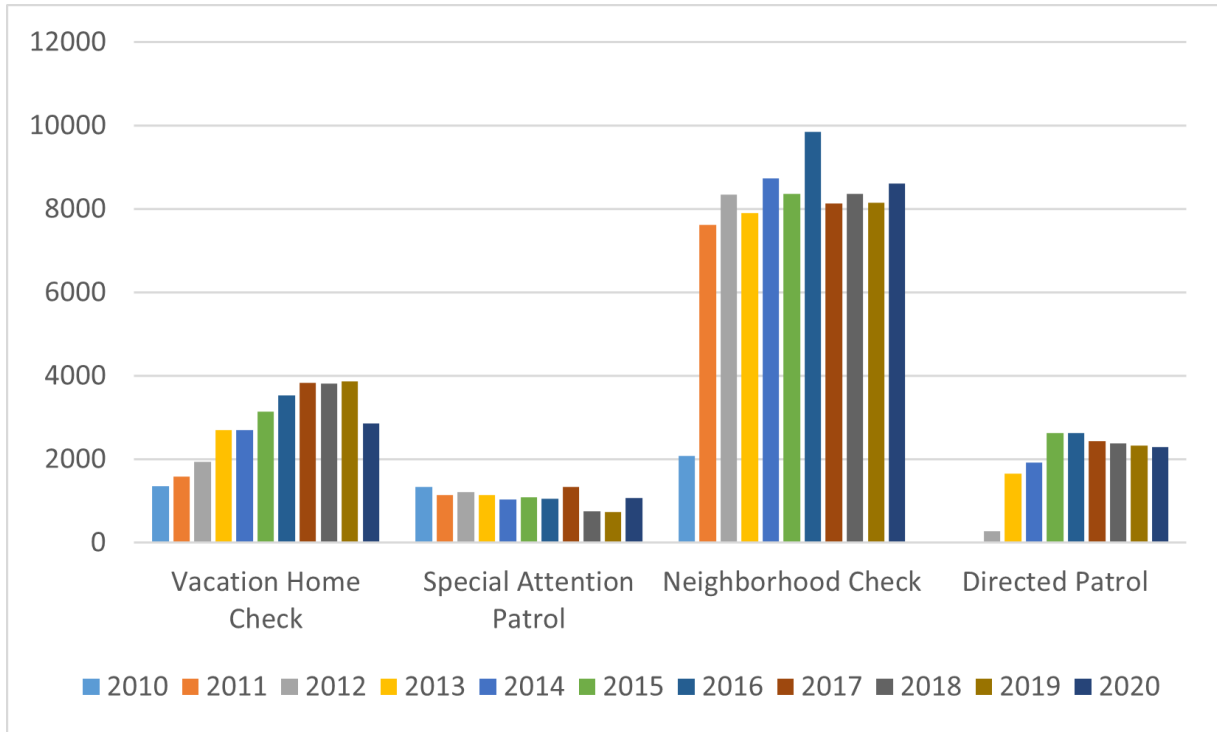
\* The source of **actual** data on this White Lake Township, Michigan crime rate report is the **FBI Report of Offenses Known to Law Enforcement** for the corresponding year or years. Arson numbers are reported inconsistently. Zero values may indicate the data was not available. The **projected** crime rate data displayed above was generated from the trends and crime data available from previous years of actual reported data. In this case, the White Lake Township crime report data for 2021 was projected from 18 years of actual data. The last year of actual available crime data, as reported above, was 2016.

*Daniel T. Keller*  
Chief of Police



# POLICE DEPARTMENT

Annual Report, 2020



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# POLICE DEPARTMENT

Annual Report, 2020

## Police Department Training

### 2020 TRAINING

During 2020, The White Lake Township Police Department continued our commitment to training and education. Despite COVID-19, the Department continued needed certification training in our core areas of skill, such as firearms, driving, mental health, de-escalation, defensive tactics, and first aid. However, the pandemic did cause more advanced training to be put on hold or be held remotely. All Officers maintained needed certifications in all aspects of law enforcement.



*Daniel T. Keller*  
Chief of Police



## Community Involvement



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Chief of Police



# POLICE DEPARTMENT

Annual Report, 2020

## Traffic Improvement Grant

The White Lake Township Police Department was awarded and participated in the 2020 TIA / OHSP Traffic Enforcement Grant. Our department originally received \$17,667.00 (\$13,384 for Impaired and \$4,283.00 for Seatbelt) in finances to participate in the grant. On March 19, we were informed the May Click It or Ticket campaign was postponed due to COVID-19, thus our agency not using \$2,505.54 in Click It or Ticket funding. In August, we were advised that an additional \$3,000 was awarded to our agency for the Labor Day Impaired wave, thus awarding us a total of \$20,667.00 for the 2020 TIA grant (minus the COVID-19 postponed wave = \$18,161.46). We scheduled times during all the mandatory time periods between October 17, 2019 and September 7, 2020.



In total, the White Lake Township Police Department used 316.75 of patrol hours, accounting for \$18,289.28 of grant funds. An average wage rate of \$57.74 per hour.

White Lake Township Police Department participated in all the following four (4) mandatory mobilization enforcement periods:

- Seatbelt enforcement (October 17, 2019 – October 31, 2019)
- Impaired driving enforcement (Dec 18, 2019 – January 1, 2020)
- Seat belt enforcement – CANCELLED (May 21, 2020 – May 31, 2020)
- Impaired driving Enforcement (July 1, 2020 – July 19, 2020)
- Impaired driving enforcement (August 14, 2020 – September 7, 2020)

During all enforcement periods, we promoted the enforcement on our social media platforms (Facebook / Twitter) and hung the OHSP banners in front of the police Department on Highland Rd (M-59) near the intersection of Porter Road.

In total, the White Lake Township Police Officers stopped 390 vehicles, issued 216 citations and made 47 arrests during the grant. The breakdown is as follows:

Hours Billed: 316.75	Vehicles Stopped: 390
Seat Belt Citations: 3	Speeding Citations: 73
Moving Violation Citations: 67	
Non-Moving Citations: 70	
OWI Arrest / OWI High BAC: 11	
Felony Arrest: 3	
Misdemeanor Arrest: 33	

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# POLICE DEPARTMENT

Annual Report, 2020

The White Lake Township Police Department completed and returned all reports to our grant coordinator by the required date. Our department experienced decreased traffic during the July period, which we suspect was a lingering effect of COVID-19. The community / citizens did not file any complaints, but on several occasions, we were thanked for enforcement efforts, and we received positive feedback including several positive social media responses.

One major arrest during this period was on July 16, 2020 at approximately 10 p.m., a White Lake Township Police Officer working the OHSP grant made a traffic stop on a Chevy Malibu for speeding on Ormond Rd. The Officer found that the driver, identified as a 36-year-old male Waterford resident, had a suspended license and that the passenger, identified as a 29-year-old male White Lake resident, had multiple warrants for his arrest. The Officer placed both under arrest, and then began doing an inventory search of the vehicle for impound. Meanwhile, other officers responded to the scene to assist. During the search, officers found an active, "one pot" methamphetamine lab in the trunk of the vehicle. Officers then requested assistance from the Michigan State Police and the White Lake Township Fire Department. MSP processed the scene and made it safe. Furthermore, the Primary Officer was bit on the hand by a dog that was inside the vehicle. The officer sustained puncture



WLTDP @WhitelakePolice · Jul 18  
Ofc's working on the @MIOHSP @tiasafety grant made a traffic stop for speeding. A search of the vehicle located active manufacturing of methamphetamine. 2 adult males were arrested. Thank you @mspmetrodet who assisted in the safe removal and collection.



1 2 13

marks and bruising, and was later treated at a nearby medical facility. As of 09/09/2020, the case is still pending lab reports. This case will be forwarded to the Oakland County Prosecutor's Office for review of charges, including operating/maintaining a meth lab.

The impact of this grant and the enforcement hours provided is tremendously important to our enforcement efforts and our community. Our department relies on this grant for the majority of our overtime available for traffic enforcement. Without the grant, almost all the stats provided above, would not have occurred.

*Daniel T. Keller*  
Chief of Police





# POLICE DEPARTMENT

Annual Report, 2020

## Thank you White Lake Township Residents for all of you support during this difficult year!!!



Daniel T. Keller  
Chief of Police



# POLICE DEPARTMENT

Annual Report, 2020

## White Lake Police Foundation



### WE ARE WHITE LAKE POLICE FOUNDATION

To promote drug abstinence and crime prevention amongst children and teens. To provide the Citizens of White Lake Township programs and events to enrich their community and increase quality of life.

The White Lake Police Foundation 501(3)C was created to better serve our community. It is our hope to improve the lives of children and adults living in White Lake Township. We will continue the numerous programs such as TEAM (Teach Education and Mentoring), Shop with a Cop, Police Youth Academy, Citizens Academy, 5K Run, Golf Outing, Adopt-a-Family, Open House and more!

*Daniel T. Keller*  
Chief of Police

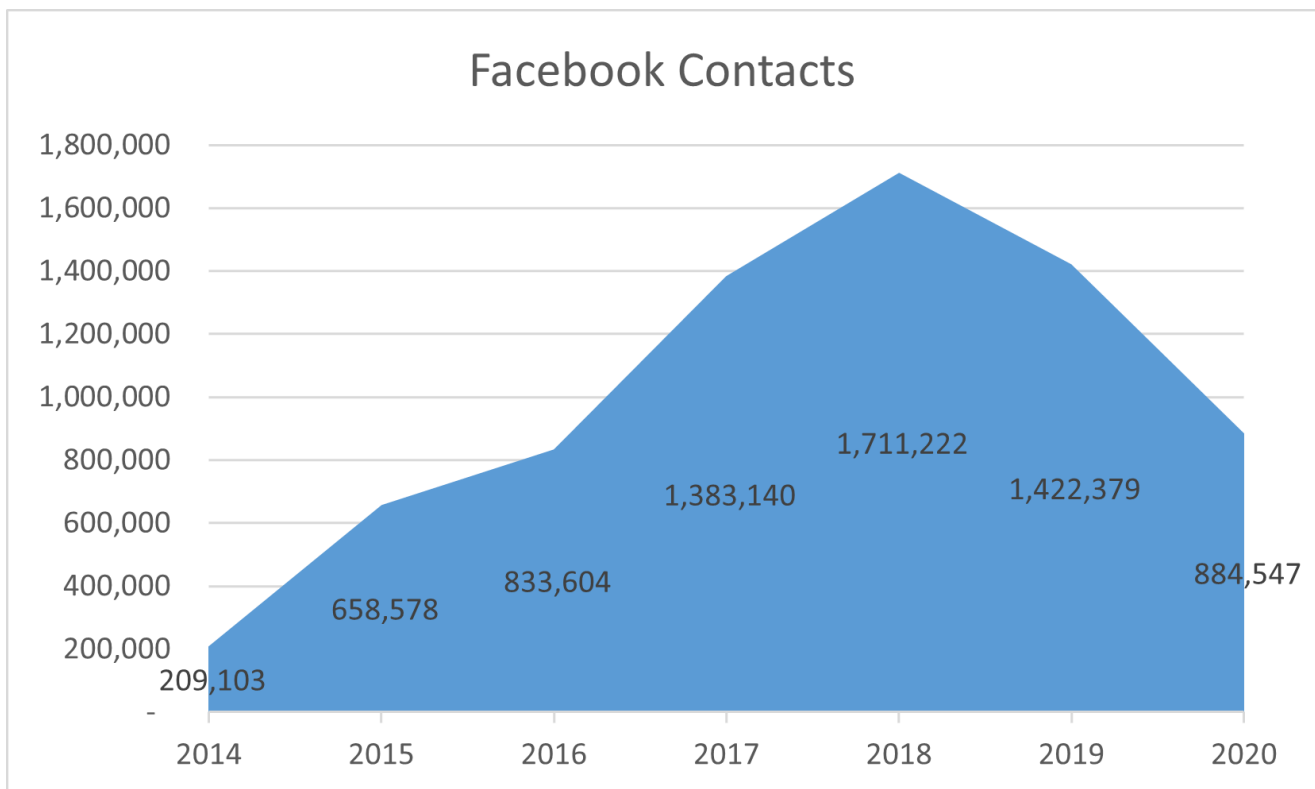


# Social Media

In 2020, our Facebook posts reached 884,547 people. Through those posts, we increased our followers from 7,438 in the beginning of the year to 8,381 by the end of the year. Social media was utilized in many different forms, from keeping in touch with the community, publicizing community events in which the Department participated, and preventing crime. Numerous cases were closed by our Detective Bureau with the assistance of citizens who responded to posts of photographs of suspects. One of the major accomplishments of the Facebook page was reuniting lost dogs with their owners.

The Department's Twitter feed is followed by 1,039 people and is typically used as a daily news ticker for the Department. Department tweets for 2020 were retweeted and interacted with 176,238 times.

In 2020, the Police Department set a social media goal to become a contributing member of the Neighbors by Ring app. Neighbors allows citizens to share video footage from their cameras with the Police Department in order to provide much needed information for investigations. The goal will be accomplished by January of 2021.



*Daniel T. Keller*  
Chief of Police



# POLICE DEPARTMENT

Annual Report, 2020

## Community Events

The White Lake Township Police Department makes community events a part of our culture and will continue to do so in 2021 with plans to expand our collaboration within the community. Covid-19 brought a pause to most of our events and fundraisers and we have sorely missed them. Once it is safe to do so, the Police Department will resume our wonderful programs.

- Citizens Academy
- Shop with a Cop
- Open House
- WLTPD Golf Outing
- Youth Police Academy
- C.E.R.T.
- Self Defense Classes
- No Shave November
- Santa's Vault



The Police Department will continue to host these events, in order to build our relationships and earn trust while gaining social capital within our community.

*Daniel T. Keller*  
Chief of Police



# POLICE DEPARTMENT

Annual Report, 2020

## Torch Run

In January of 2020, Lieutenant Matt Silverthorn and Sergeant Brad Connell accepted the Law Enforcement Torch Run 2019 Sapphire Award and the 2019 Oakland County Community Run Award for the Police Department's continued effort towards fundraising for Special Olympics of Michigan. Additionally, Sergeant Connell was honored with the Rising Star Award for his individual efforts and commitment. We love and look forward to continuing our partnership with both Team Huron Valley Special Olympics and Special Olympics of Michigan.



*Daniel T. Keller*  
Chief of Police



# POLICE DEPARTMENT

Annual Report, 2020

## Shop with a Cop

Shop with a Cop looked a lot different this year. This is one of our most popular programs and we couldn't bring ourselves to cancel it. Instead of having the children attend our event at either Meijer or Walmart, our Officers shopped for them in advance.

Approximately 50 children were able to participate for Christmas 2020.

T.E.A.M. Officer Shawn Kidle was able to locate each child and get a wish list. He gave each Officer their prospective list and sent them out to shop for their child on their own. Each Officer was given a \$100.00 gift card donated by Meijer to shop.

Thanks to our Records staff, all of the gifts were wrapped in advance. The families were invited to come to a socially-distanced event held in our parking lot. They were given a pizza dinner to take home, all the pre-wrapped gifts, and a food basket for a delicious holiday meal.



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Annual Report, 2020



The White Lake Township Police Department is proud to announce Operation Santa's Vault. Starting November 1st and running through December 21st, White Lake Township residents may opt to use the police department's address (7525 Highland Rd, White Lake Twp., MI 48383) when purchasing packages online. The police department is offering this service to residents in order to lower the number of package thefts from front porches. Residents may pick up their packages from the police station, 8:30am through 5:15pm, Monday through Friday. There is no charge for this service.

## OPERATION SANTA'S VAULT

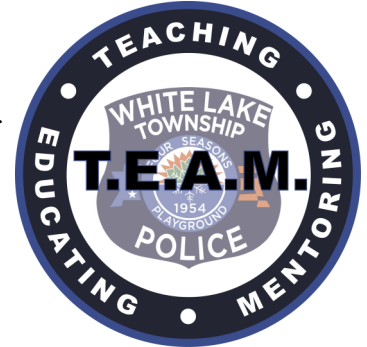


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Chief of Police



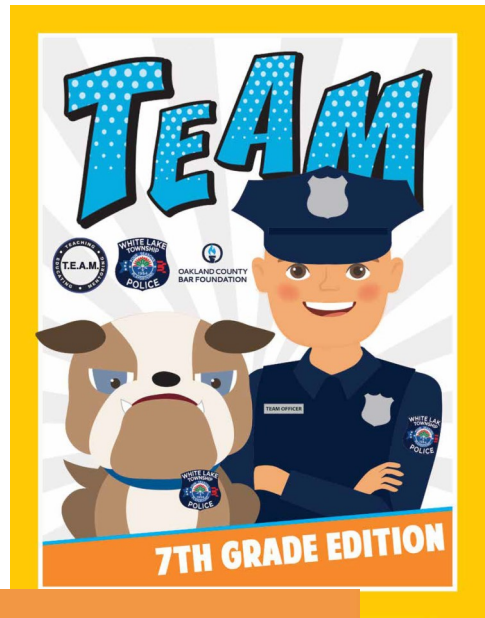
# POLICE DEPARTMENT

Annual Report, 2020



T.E.A.M. is a school-based, "law related" program, taught to grades K-8 by our T.E.A.M. trained police officer. In 2020 we were not able to be in the schools, but we did create a T.E.A.M. workbook for seventh graders. The workbook is designed to be used as one of the tools available to our TEAM Officer to engage students in an interactive discussion for the best possible learning outcome. The White Lake Police Foundation received a \$10,000 grant from the Oakland County Bar Foundation for the design and production of the book. This is the second year in a row that we received this grant. We now have an ample supply for our 5th graders and now a more mature book for our 7th graders. The two workbooks cover the following subjects:

- Why Do We have Rules and Laws?
- Drugs are Dangerous
- Gun Safety
- Internet: Stay Safe and Have Fun
- Laws and Rules - What is the Difference?
- Understanding the Court System
- Bullying and Harassment.



## Chapter 1



## LAWS & RULES; WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE?

### Rules

RULES are guidelines for acceptable behavior and meant to keep people safe and working peacefully, together.

### Laws

LAWS are a set of "rules" designed to keep people safe. LAWS are made by elected officials who represent the people.

### Rights

As a citizen of the United States of America, everyone has RIGHTS. In a document called the United States Constitution and the Bill of Rights, every person is guaranteed certain RIGHTS.

### Status Offense

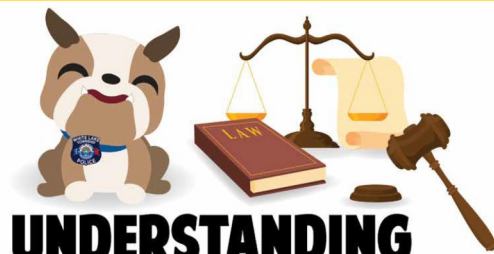
A violation of the law, which if committed by an adult, would not be a crime. Such examples are: Running away from home, Truancy, Incurability, Curfew violations.

### Juvenile

In Michigan, a JUVENILE is any person under the age of 17 years.

3

## Chapter 3



## UNDERSTANDING THE COURT SYSTEM



### Judge

An appointed or elected official whose duty it is to decide questions of law brought before the court and to make certain that legal procedures are followed.

### Prosecuting Attorney

The attorney (elected official) who represents the people.

### Defense Attorney

The attorney who represents the defendant.



### Arrest

When a person is detained and held by authority of law.

### Warrant

An arrest WARRANT is an order, signed by a judge authorizing a police officer to apprehend a defendant and bring them before the court.

9

Daniel T. Keller  
Chief of Police





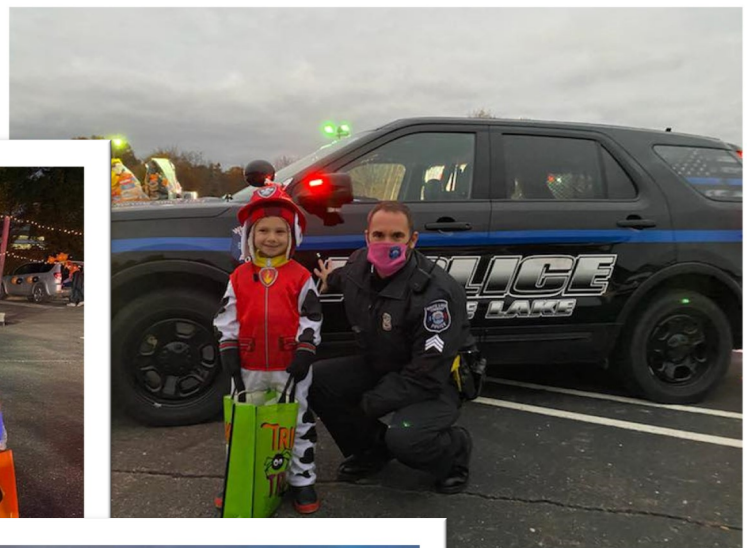
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Annual Report, 2020

## Trunk or Treat

Halloween is one of our favorite times of the year. Each year we are invited to participate in Trunk or Treat. It is a great way for us to interact with kids so that they can gain a level of comfort and trust with our men and women in uniform.

Every year, we have preprinted White Lake Police Halloween bags to hand out to our kids. We use funds from the White Lake Police Foundation to pay for them. If you have any interest in getting some of them for free, please contact TEAM Officer Kidle at 248-698-4400 and he will be happy to supply you with them.



*Daniel T. Keller*  
Chief of Police



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Annual Report, 2020

## White Lake Township Police Employee Community Support

The 2020 Polar Plunge was a great success with White Lake Township being one of the top law enforcement teams! White Lake Township Police Department staff raised over \$10,000 for Special Olympics.



*Daniel T. Keller*  
Chief of Police

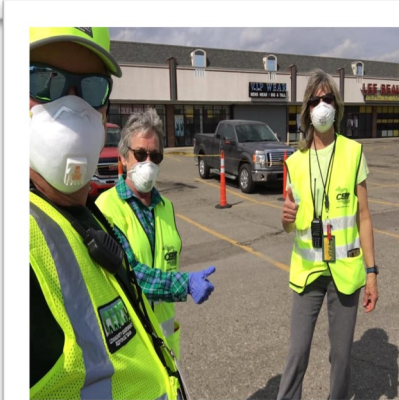


# POLICE DEPARTMENT

Annual Report, 2020

## Community Emergency Response Team C.E.R.T.

The C.E.R.T. emergency preparedness course is designed for all citizens, and prepares attendees to manage large-scale disaster type incidents that could impact the White Lake area, and trains them in basic disaster response skills. These skills include fire safety, light search and rescue, team organization, and disaster medical operations. Using this training, C.E.R.T. members can assist others in their neighborhoods or workplaces following incidents when professional responders are not immediately available to help. C.E.R.T. members are also encouraged to support response agencies by taking a more active role in emergency preparedness projects in the White Lake community, for information on this program, contact Sgt. Jeff Way at the White Lake Township Police Department, via email, at [jway@whitelakepolice.com](mailto:jway@whitelakepolice.com).



*Daniel T. Keller  
Chief of Police*



# POLICE DEPARTMENT

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## Police and Community Together P.A.C.T.



In an effort to facilitate expanded communication between the neighborhoods of White Lake and the Police Department, the White Lake Township Police Department has established a program called, "**Police and Community Together**". This program is designed to enhance communication by providing each neighborhood with a liaison officer who will be in direct communication with a member of the respective neighborhood. The representative from the Police Department and the representative from the neighborhood will have contact on a monthly basis. In doing so, our department will be able to provide up-to-date information for neighborhoods regarding the numerous community programs we have available, safety tips, and topics of concern pertaining to each particular neighborhood. Likewise, this will be a perfect opportunity to express any concerns or other information that is important for our department to know.

The Chief of Police and PACT liaisons attend the annual meeting of each neighborhood association every year. We also encourage all of our residents to Like us on Facebook, where we also do community outreach.



*Daniel T. Keller*  
Chief of Police