## TOGETHER AS











PLEASANTON POLICE DEPARTMENT ANNUAL REPORT 2023





#### A MESSAGE FROM POLICE CHIEF DAVID SWING



Welcome to the 2023 Annual Report. The past year has been one of opportunity to come together as a police department in support of and as part of One Pleasanton. The City of Pleasanton has embarked on a five-year strategic plan that supports the work of the police department through the goal of Safeguarding Our City. The police department strategic plan folds in the City plan with the goal of reducing crime and increasing the feeling of safety. The men and women of the police department work diligently to accomplish this work in partnership with you, our community.

We know that reducing crime requires a partnership with the community with both a near and long-term focus. To that end, we are focused on succession planning and expanding our growing base of community partners. In 2023 we developed a Police Cadet program and continue to invest in the Police Explorer and Volunteer In Police Services (VIPS) program. If you know of someone interested in these roles, please reach out to us to learn more.

Finally, 2023 marked the first full year of our Alternate Response Unit. I am thankful for the support of the City Council to fund this program and our team for making this program a reality. I know it has positively impacted countless lives and am exceedingly proud of this award-winning program in Pleasanton.

I trust you will enjoy reading about our department in the following pages. The report is designed to provide a snap shot of who we are. You can always find out more by visiting the City of Pleasanton website, going on a ride-along, participating in a community event or joining us for our annual Citizen's Police Academy.



**Pleasanton Police Department** is hiring. Don't wait, start your career in law enforcement. Scan the QR code and connect with one of our recruiters today!

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#### JOIN OUR TEAM





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## PATROL & DISPATCH

In 2023, the Pleasanton Police Department proudly served its community of approximately 80,000 residents by responding to nearly 60,000 calls for service related to burglaries, mental health related incidents and more.

As we reflect on the past year, we experienced an increase in property crimes, and, unfortunately, there were three homicides in a span of six months. Additionally, there was an uptick in gang-related graffiti in certain areas of the city. In response to the tagging, the department increased patrols and assigned a detective to coordinate crime suppression. While these trends are

concerning, we remain committed to ensuring the safety and security of our community. Our staff is working diligently to address these issues and foster a safe environment for all residents.

Pleasanton's Crime Scene Investigation (CSI) team assisted patrol with 49 total investigations. Some of the notable cases where CSI members processed a scene and collected evidence include suspicious deaths, homicides, sexual assaults, and a major collision investigation, which was a first for the CSI team.

In a two-day event, Pleasanton Police Department held its longstanding active threat training, during which patrol teams collaborated with partners such as fire, public works, and dispatch. This provided an excellent opportunity for participants to identify blind spots, while emphasizing the importance of teamwork, communication, and need for additional training between police and fire.

CALLS FOR SERVICE	2020-2022 AVERAGE	2023	POLICE ACTIVITY	2020-2022 AVERAGE	2023
On-view/Self Initiated	24,503	21,331	Traffic Stop	10,347	9,345
Requests for Service	36,295	38,510	Patrol Check	7,976	4,500
Total Incidents	60,798	59,841	Alarm	2,083	2,175*
			Suspicious Vehicle	1,768	2,010
			Pedestrian Stop	1,302	3,214
			Illegal Parker	1,553	2,054
		-	Disturbance	1,553	1,535
			Welfare Check	1,465	1,450
		R 👻 🖬	Suspicious Person	935	1,268
			Animal Call	885	1,300



## AN OVERVIEW OF PUBLIC SAFETY IN 2023

TOTAL CALLS 2023 59,841

TOTAL CASES 2020-2022 2023 AVERAGE 4,891 4,819



## **STAFF MEMBER SPOTLIGHT:** Officer Jared Dekkers

Officer Dekkers has over six years of experience in law enforcement, and he joined Pleasanton Police Department in August 2022. In 2023, Officer Dekkers was awarded the "10851" Grand Theft Auto Award from the California Highway

## **STAFF MEMBER SPOTLIGHT:** Dispatcher Amber Wisgerhof

Dispatcher Wisgerhof has over 18 years of dispatching experience and is a member of the department's tech team, CNT/Tactical dispatch, and an active contributor to the real-time crime center industry. During our inaugural Awards Ceremony, Wisgerhof received a Lifesaving Award and recognized as the 2023 Professional Staff Member of the Year.

\* Of the 2 175 alarms 99% were false



POLICE RESPONSE TIMES

5:19, 24:57





## EXPANDING OUR ORGANIZATION

In June 2023, not only did the Pleasanton Police Department hire new officers and fill vacancies, but it also launched its cadet program. In addition to welcoming cadets, Pleasanton Police Department's volunteer programs expanded throughout the year. Designed to introduce local teens to the world of policing while earning volunteer service hours, our Explorers welcomed two new Sergeants and bid goodbye to many long-term participants in 2023. During the summer, several members competed in the Central Valley Explorer Competition, and because of their community service efforts, the Explorers were able to purchase new duty belt gear and debut a new uniform in 2024.

Another valuable opportunity for residents to volunteer their time and support our patrol staff is through our Volunteers in Police Services (V.I.P.S) program. As a2023 Awards Ceremony, three of our most seasonedVIP, individuals assist with traffic control, vacation<br/>checks, and foot patrol. In 2023, several VIPS joined our<br/>program after successfully completing the Citizens'2023 Awards Ceremony, three of our most seasonedVIP, individuals assist with traffic control, vacation<br/>checks, and foot patrol. In 2023, several VIPS joined our<br/>program after successfully completing the Citizens'VIPs Don Clink, Pam Yeaw and Becky Stuckey were<br/>honored with the Distinguished Service Award, for<br/>their dedication and combined service of over 25,000<br/>volunteer hours.



## **STAFF MEMBER SPOTLIGHT:** Animal Services Officer Frankie Ayers

As the City of Pleasanton's sole Animal Services Officer, Frankie Ayers responds to hundreds of animal-related calls annually. These calls range from injured or orphaned wildlife to reuniting lost pets with their families. As a cadet coordinator, ASO Ayers trains cadets on basic skills and how to assist with animal calls. In recognition of her unwavering compassion for animals and dedication to the police department, ASO Ayers received the 2023 Chief's Service Award.

The cadet program is an opportunity for college students to work part-time and learn about law enforcement. There are three cadets who assist with a variety of tasks related to patrol, fleet maintenance, records, and animal services.



## MENTAL HEALTH AND COMMUNITY OUTREACH

In 2023, the Alternate Response Unit received the League of California Cities' Helen Putnam Award for Excellence for its reduction in utilization of emergency psychiatric detentions by PPD, and a reduction of psychiatric detentions on PUSD campuses. members with additional resources aimed to support those dealing with mental health issues or experiencing homelessness.

#### Total 5150 Holds By PPD



Continuing its engagement with the community, the Pleasanton Police Department partnered with local businesses to host Coffee With A Cop, National Night Out, and Cone With A Cop. During Cone With A Cop, members of the police department teamed up with the staff at Meadowlark Dairy to distribute more than 2,500 cones of ice cream to the public. This popular one-day event will return in May 2024. For updates, follow @ @pleasantonpd.



## STAFF MEMBER SPOTLIGHT: Records Clerk Christine Libby

Records Clerk Christine Libby's commitment to the police department is demonstrated by her previous years as a volunteer in our VIPS program, and by her continued efforts to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of our records unit. She enthusiastically worked to make traffic and crime reports available online and was instrumental in the implementation of e-cites and UCR stats. During PPD's Awards Ceremony, Christine received the Distinguished Service Award.

## STAFF MEMBER SPOTLIGHT: Lieutenant Nick Albert

Lieutenant Nick Albert is a proud Amador Valley High School alum and United States Army veteran. From 2022-2023, Lieutenant Albert helped lead the Alternative Response to Mental Health Unit, which lessened uniformed police response to mental health incidents. The program earned a Helen Putnam Award for Excellence, and Lieutenant Albert was selected as a fellow recipient of the 2023 Chief's Service Award.



In partnership with licensed mental health clinicians from Bonita House Inc., the unit responds to calls for service received through the 911 and 988 system. In 2023, the team of clinicians and non-uniformed officers responded to approximately 893 calls for service and connected numerous community



# Californie VICTIN

### STAFF MEMBER SPOTLIGHT: Officer Nathan Cabral

Inspired by his father, a retired Livermore police officer, Officer Cabral joined Pleasanton Police Department in February 2021. In 2023, Officer Cabral was awarded the "23152" pin by Mothers Against Drunk Driving for making the most DUI arrests at Pleasanton PD.

#### STAFF MEMBER SPOTLIGHT: Officer Brian Jewell

Officer Brian Jewell holds collateral assignments as the East County Tactical Team operator, force options instructor, and field training officer. Officer Jewell helped bring the Pellet-B and WSTB testing procedures to Pleasanton and improved the department's hiring process. During the 2023 Awards Ceremony, Officer Jewell was honored as the Police Officer of the Year.

## SPECIAL ASSIGNMENTS

To ensure a high quality of life in Pleasanton, the expertise and specialized training from several units including Traffic, K-9, and East County Tactical Team are instrumental. Unified School District's Every 15 Minutes program, and Commercial Officers of Southern Alameda County.

The Criminal Investigations Unit (CIU) is made up of several detectives and a supervisor who handle a variety of investigations. Some of the detectives have specialized training in the areas of child abuse, sexual assault, financial crimes, domestic violence, cell phone technology, and homicide investigations. In 2023, CIU worked three homicide cases, addressed gang-related graffiti, and detectives were assigned 1,986 cases to investigate. In one case, detectives teamed up with the FBI and US Marshals to conduct surveillance and take a wanted subject into custody in Pleasanton. After the suspect was taken into custody, our detectives served a search warrant on the suspect's residence. Inside, detectives discovered a large amount of stolen credit cards, social security cards, stolen mail, and several credit card printers and embossers. Additionally, detectives discovered thousands of dollars in US currency, two unregistered handguns, a kilo of cocaine, and a variety of other illicit drugs. This case underscores the importance of integration with local and federal agencies.

The Pleasanton Police Department K9 unit is comprised of two sets of partners. Officer Cerri is partnered with 3.5 year old Belgian Malinois, Khaleesi, and Officer Boland is partnered with 2.5 year old Belgian Malinois/ German Shepherd, Koda. Both Khaleesi and Koda are dual purpose, and therefore trained in apprehension and narcotics detection. Kale Costantion recurst to several percention and percention of the several percenting of the several percenting of the several percention

For instance, the K-9 unit was deployed more than 20 times to assist with narcotics detection and suspect apprehension. During one incident, patrol units were in pursuit of a stolen vehicle which spun out, resulting in two occupants running from the vehicle. Officer Cerri and K9 Khaleesi arrived shortly thereafter to conduct an area search, make announcements, and eventually to take both individuals into custody. In a separate incident, Officer Boland and K9 Koda responded to several in progress calls to include a barricaded suspect,



<u>)</u>	residential burglaries, and stolen vehicle/carjacking high
	risk vehicle stops. The use of announcements, barking,
d k	and de-escalation led to several peaceful surrenders
	keeping our community and police officers safe.
	Notably, no bites occurred during these interventions.

The East County Tactical Team is a regional SWAT and Crisis Negotiations Team serving Pleasanton and Livermore. They train monthly on high-risk, low-frequency incidents which exceed a standard patrol-level response. These incidents include heavily armed and barricaded suspects, fugitives, high-risk warrant services and hostage situations. Unlike previous years, 2023 was the first year in the East County Tactical Team's history with no SWAT Team activations.

Within the department, the Traffic Unit's primary function is to reduce injury collisions though enforcement and education. However, 2023 was a particularly unusual year for our motor officers. In the face of industry-wide staffing issues, officers selected for the Traffic Unit were reassigned to patrol for most of the year. While the Traffic Unit was in operation between August to December 2023, a total of 1064 citations were issued for moving, equipment, and parking violations. Despite staffing challenges, motor officers participated in a regional DUI checkpoint operation, Pleasanton



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