

WEST CHICAGO POLICE DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORT



NOVEMBER 2020
Michael Uplegger, Chief of Police

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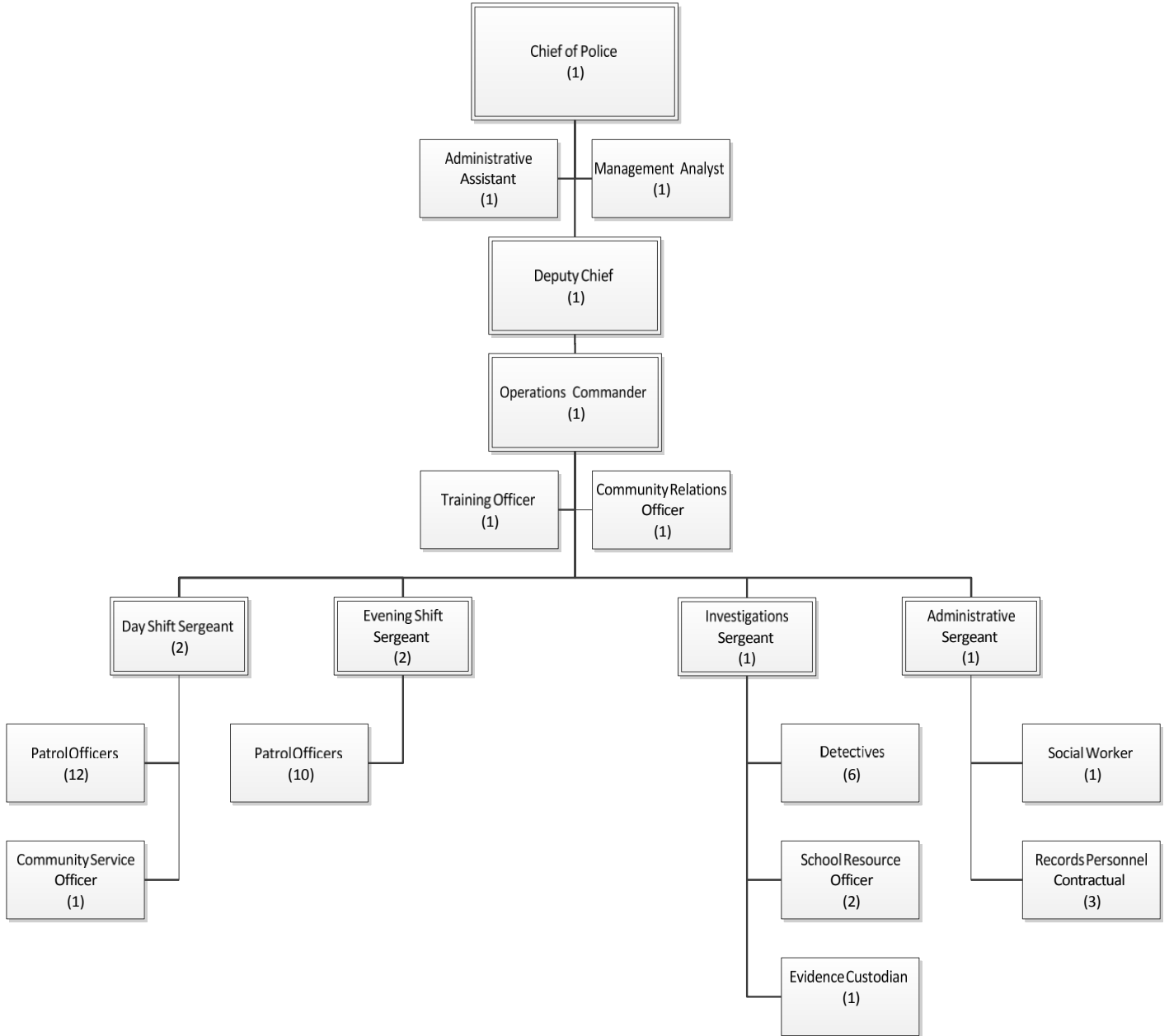
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Organizational Chart

West Chicago Police Department

November 2020



Department Overview

The Mission of the West Chicago Police Department is to Protect Life and Liberty, Provide Quality Police Services, and Forge Community Partnerships with Integrity and Professionalism.

There are three units in the Police Department: Office of the Chief of Police, Support Services Unit and Operations Unit.

The Office of the Chief of Police's primary responsibility is to provide general management direction and control for the Department. The Office of the Chief of Police consists of the Management Analyst, and the Administrative Assistant.

The Support Services Unit consists of Vehicle and Building Maintenance, Records and Social Services. The Operations Unit consists of Uniformed Patrol, Training Officer, Community Relations, Investigations, School Resource Officers, Evidence/Property and Community Service Officers.

Personnel

Veteran's Day was observed on November 11th. The holiday was first commemorated in 1919 to honor those who served and died in the military. The Department wishes to acknowledge those members who have honorably served our country in the Armed Forces: Sergeants John Zurick, Joe Gaztambide and Antonio Reyes and Officers Mike Zepeda, Don Landbo, Andrew Alaniz, Robert Winton, Michael Cummings, Jacob Fuller, Christopher Richards, Blake Bertany, Derek Mielke, Ryan Moore, Nathan Hunt and Richard Dominguez.

During November, the Citizens Police Academy met three times. Topics covered were use of force, firearms and rapid response to active shooter situations. Instructors for these sessions included Officers O'Neil, Jones, Bertany and Mielke.



Criminal Activities

Criminal Damage to Property:

Person(s) unknown damaged a vehicle in the 1000 block of Allen Ave. A landscape brick was used to break the rear window.

Person(s) unknown damaged a vehicle in the 600 block of W. Forest Ave. Both tires on the driver's side of the car had been flattened.

Person(s) unknown damaged a vehicle in the 500 block of Yale St. A driver's side window had been broken by unknown means.

Burglary from Motor Vehicle:

Person(s) unknown entered a vehicle in the 1000 block of Allen Ave. and removed a leaf blower and fan. It is unknown if the vehicle had been secured. Investigation is ongoing.

Person(s) unknown entered an unsecured vehicle in the area of Kenwood Ave. and Ann St. and removed a backpack. The backpack contained the victim's wallet, \$40.00, headphones, a cell phone charger and a State-issued identification card.

Person(s) unknown entered an unsecured vehicle in the 300 block of Hemlock Ln., gaining access to a garage door opener. The suspect(s) opened the overhead garage door and entered the attached garage. Once inside the garage, the suspect(s) entered an unsecured vehicle, removing an unknown amount of change.

Person(s) unknown entered a vehicle in the 200 block of Red Oak Ct. Approximately \$25.00 was missing from the vehicle. It is unknown if the vehicle had been secured.

Person(s) unknown entered a vehicle in the 200 block of Red Oak Ct. The owner determined \$100.00 had been taken from the center console. It is unknown if the vehicle had been secured.

Person(s) unknown entered a vehicle in the 200 block of Laurel Ln. Taken from the vehicle were a key, a garage door opener and an unknown amount of change. It is unknown if the vehicle had been secured. Investigation ongoing.

Person(s) unknown entered an unsecured vehicle in the 300 block of Laurel Ln. and removed a computer monitor valued at \$108.00. Investigation is ongoing.

Person(s) unknown entered an unsecured vehicle in the 1000 block of S. Oak St and removed an LG television valued at \$1,000.00. Investigation is ongoing.

Criminal Trespass to Motor Vehicle:

Person(s) unknown entered an unsecured vehicle in the 500 block of E. Brown St. and rummaged through various compartments. Nothing was taken from the vehicle.

Person(s) unknown entered two unsecured vehicles in the 1000 block of S. Oak. St. The vehicles had been rummaged through; the owner determined nothing was missing.

Theft Under \$500.00:

Person(s) unknown and without authorization withdrew \$183.00 from the victim's bank account at a CVS store in Wheaton. The victim, who lives in the 200 block of Long Oak Dr., was still in possession of her bank card. She believes her card information may have been compromised when she used it at a store in Bartlett. Investigation is ongoing.

Person(s) unknown removed aviation-grade spark plugs from a business in the 1100 block of Commerce Dr. Loss is estimated at \$1,000.00.

Theft Over \$500.00:

An unknown person returned a snow blower in a box to Menards, located at 220 W. North Ave. The suspect advised the unit was purchased at the store and claimed parts to the snow blower were missing. The unit was exchanged for a new snow blower valued at \$809.99. After the suspect left the store, it was discovered that an old, non-functioning unit was in the box instead of a new unit.

A known person is alleged to have removed \$2,500.00 from a closet in the victim's apartment in the 700 block of W. Forest Ave. Investigation is ongoing.

Person(s) unknown agreed to sell the victim a Play Station 5 (PS5) after communicating via text. The victim, who lives in the 1400 block of White Oak Ln., traveled to a residence in Bensenville to complete the sale. Citing COVID concerns, the victim was instructed to remain in his vehicle and transfer \$600.00 through the Zelle app. After completing the transaction, no one came out of the residence with the PS5. The victim made contact with the homeowner, who advised that other victims had been directed to his address reference the sale of a PS5. No one at that address was selling a PS5. Investigation is ongoing.

Theft of License Plates:

Person(s) unknown removed the front and rear license plates from a vehicle in the 900 block of E. Gary's Mill Rd.

Person(s) unknown removed the rear license plate from a vehicle in the 300 block of E. Lester St.

Criminal Damage to Property/Disorderly Conduct:

Person(s) unknown broke a window and displayed what appeared to be a handgun in the 800 block of Burr Oaks Dr. Two vehicles approached the victims while they were walking in the parking lot. One suspect exited a silver pickup truck and threw an object that broke a glass door at the front entrance of an apartment building. A second suspect in a black Jeep waved what appeared to be a handgun out of the window. Investigation is ongoing.

Credit Card Fraud:

Person(s) unknown made unauthorized charges to the victim's Home Depot credit card. The victim, who lives in the 400 block of W. Stimmel St., noted \$5,116.06 in charges he did not make or authorize. The charges were made in Michigan.

Fraud:

A known person issued a check to Menards, located at 220 W. North Ave., in the amount of \$81.06. The check was returned due to insufficient funds in the account. The suspect has stopped answering calls from Menards staff. Investigation is ongoing.

Person(s) unknown emailed the victim with a job offer. The victim, who lives in the 800 block of Lincoln Ave., expressed interest in the job and received a check for \$4,985.00. He was instructed to deposit the check into his bank account, keep \$985.00 and send the rest via money orders and Cash app transactions to an individual in Texas. The victim did as instructed; he was then advised by his bank that the \$4,985.00 check bounced. The victim was able to cancel the money orders and all but one \$500.00 Cash app transaction. Investigation is ongoing.

Person(s) unknown contacted the victim at a business located in the 100 block of W. Roosevelt Rd. The caller claimed to be with the Health Department and that the victim needed to immediately pay for an important package on behalf of her employer. The victim was instructed to wire \$952.99 to the suspect. The victim wired the money from her personal account using Western Union. The victim then contacted her employer and learned she had been scammed.

Person(s) unknown applied for a loan in the victim's name. The victim, who lives in the 1400 block of Prairie Crossing Ln., received a notice from a collection agency advising of a debt of \$2,549.87 resulting from an unpaid Maxlend Loan.

Person(s) unknown applied for and received a \$150,000.00 loan from the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) on behalf of a business, located in the 1100 block of Commerce Dr. The business learned about the loan, for which they had not applied, when they received notice that a \$731.00 payment was due. The SBA opened an investigation.

Monthly Report

Monthly Performance

Activities	Aug 2020	Sep 2020	Oct 2020	Nov 2020	YTD 2020	YTD 2019	Total 2019
Traffic Stops	520	426	569	481	4,072	7,156	7,565
Traffic Citations	224	196	217	186	1,657	4,339	4,545
Traffic Warnings	273	203	277	240	2,219	3,837	4,091
Parking Citations	114	106	82	145	1,169	2,140	2,301
Traffic Crashes	57	60	74	46	614	831	905
Incident Reports	212	265	265	229	2,444	2,843	3,058

Officer Activities

On August 3, 2019, Officers Rigler and Mielke responded to a call of an intoxicated person at the Laundry King Laundromat, located at 285 E. Roosevelt Rd. The subject was located, and ultimately found to be in possession of ten small baggies containing a white powdery substance, suspected to be illicit narcotics. The subject was released from custody pending the result of analysis of the substance by the DuPage County Crime Lab. Those results were received in early August 2020; the substance was identified as Fentanyl. The DuPage County State's Attorney's Office approved a charge of Possession of a Controlled Substance and an arrest warrant was obtained. On November 2, 2020, Officers Rigler, Mielke, Eversole and Richards and Detectives Calabrese and Flanigan were in the 800 block of Burr Oaks Dr. attempting to locate an individual when they encountered the suspect from this case. He was arrested, transported to the Station, fingerprinted, photographed and transported to the DuPage County Jail.

On November 2nd, Officers Cummings and Alaniz responded to a residence in the 300 block of E. Pomeroy St. for a reported overdose. The subject was described as being unconscious, but breathing. Upon arrival, the individual was administered three doses of Narcan and regained consciousness. West Chicago Fire Protection District medics arrived and transported the subject to Northwestern Medicine Central DuPage Hospital for treatment.

On November 2nd, a victim in the 1200 block of Bishop St. reported that her Ring doorbell camera system had captured her ex-boyfriend standing on her front porch looking inside the residence through a window. A check of the ex-boyfriend's name in a statewide law enforcement database revealed he had several outstanding warrants for his arrest. Officers Rigler, Mielke, Eversole and Richards and Detectives Calabrese and Flanigan went to the 800 block of Burr Oaks Dr. in an attempt to locate the suspect. He was found and taken into custody on the warrants. A search of his person incident to the arrest revealed a small baggie containing a white powdery substance, suspected to be heroin. The subject was transported to the Station, where the white powder tested positive for the presence of Fentanyl/Heroin. The DuPage County State's Attorney's Office approved a charge of Possession of a Controlled Substance. The offender was fingerprinted, photographed and transported to the DuPage County Jail.

On November 6th, Officers Schoonhoven and Richards and Detectives Flanigan and Calabrese responded to a residence in the 400 block of E. Brown St. for a report of a juvenile runaway who was likely in possession of a stolen handgun. The complainant advised her son had left home without permission; she also discovered a handgun she kept locked in the home was missing. The juvenile's girlfriend confirmed she had seen him in possession of the handgun after he had left home. The juvenile returned home on his own accord on November 7th. Officers Schoonhoven and Mielke followed up and confirmed the juvenile was home and returned the handgun to his mother. The juvenile advised he took the handgun for protection. The juvenile was taken into custody. The DuPage County State's Attorney's Office approved a charge of Possession of a Stolen Firearm. The offender was transported to the Kane County Juvenile Detention Center.

On September 26th, Officer Perry and Sergeant Reyes responded to Pioneer School, located at 130 E. Forest Ave., for a robbery. The victim stated three suspects punched him and took his cell phone and wallet containing \$1,469.00 before leaving the area. Security cameras in the area captured the crime. Detective Herbert and School Resource Officer Fuller were able to develop suspect information through interviews with witnesses and searches of social media posts. On November 18th, Detective Herbert contacted the DuPage County State's Attorney's Office, who approved a single count of Robbery against two of the three juvenile offenders.

Monthly Report

On May 19, 2019, Officer Perry responded to Gloria's Jewelry, located at 178 W. Washington St., for a burglary report. The suspect had broken out a window to gain access to the store. Sergeant Zurick performed evidence technician duties for this case and recovered blood from the window frame surrounding the broken window. The blood was sent to the DuPage County Crime Lab. Detective Peterson received a response from the crime lab that the blood collected at the burglary was a potential match to an individual with a profile currently in the national DNA database. The DNA was confirmed to be a match after a sample was taken from the suspect (pursuant to a search warrant) while he was in the custody of the Cook County Jail on a matter unrelated to this burglary. Detective Peterson contacted the DuPage County State's Attorney's Office, who approved a charge of Burglary against the offender. An arrest warrant was obtained and on November 2nd, the suspect was served with a copy at the Vandalia Correctional Center, where he is serving a prison sentence unrelated to this case.