

# WEST CHICAGO POLICE DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORT



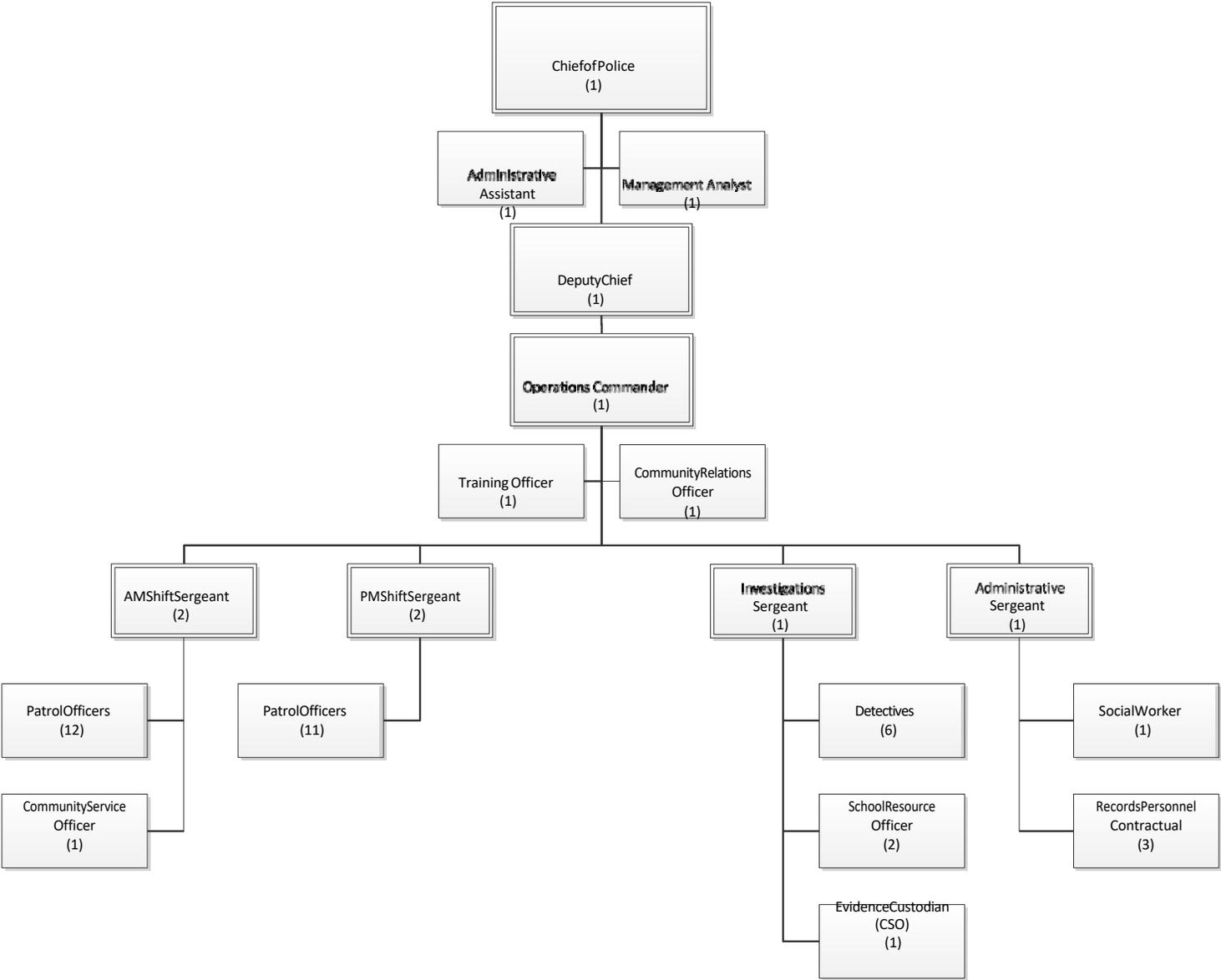
**AUGUST 2021**  
Colin Fleury, Chief of Police

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**Organizational Chart**

**West Chicago Police Department**



## 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 divisions in the Police Department: the Office of the Chief of Police, the Operations Division and the Support Services Division.

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

The Operations Division consists of Uniformed Patrol Officers, Community Service Officers, Detectives, School Resource Officers, Evidence/Property, the Training Officer and the Community Relations Officer.

The Support Services Division consists of Vehicle and Building Maintenance, Records and Social Services.

## Personnel

On August 16<sup>th</sup>, Officer Zepeda began an assignment as the School Resource Officer position for District 33.

On August 20<sup>th</sup>, members of the West Chicago Police Department participated in the Coffee for Champions at Dunkin Donuts locations in the City. The fundraiser for Special Olympics of Illinois raised almost \$10,000.00.



On August 20<sup>th</sup>, Chief Fleury and Mayor Pineda delivered coffee and donuts as part of the Meet the Chief Coffee & Donut Delivery. The Department wishes to thank the following businesses for participating: A.R.M. & Associates, Action Plumbing, Airhart Construction Corporation, American Standard Circuits, AT&T (Streamwood location), B&B Networks, Barco Stamping, Boost Auto Parts, Chicago Industrial Fasteners, Chihuahua Tire Shop, CTC Machine Shop, Daniel and Associates Real Estate, Domino's Pizza, DS Containers, ESM Products, Flolo Corporation, FNBC Bank, Frain Industries, Gary Spielman Plumbing, Groebner, Haggerty Ford, Hawthorne's Backyard, HFI, Integrated Control Technologies, Jel Sert, Jiffy Lube, Joshua's Pest Control, Kentucky Fried Chicken, KRK Mechanical, Marcy Laboratories, Metro Self Storage, Mineral Masters, Orgchem LLC, Perfect Plastic, Resto Paint, Rite Way Automotive Service, Royal Polish Nail & Salon, S.S. Schwarz Construction, St. Andrews Golf Course, WCCHS Physical Education Teacher, We Grow Dreams, West Chicago Professional Center, West Chicago Social Club, and the Western DuPage Chamber of Commerce.



On August 25<sup>th</sup>, The Police Explorers received training on defensive tactics. Officer Jones provided information to the youths on pressure points.



On August 28<sup>th</sup>, the Explorers provided assistance at the West Chicago Food Festival.



## **Criminal Activities**

### **Aggravated Discharge of a Firearm:**

Person(s) unknown fired a bullet into the garage of a residence in the 1200 block of S. Oak St. A bullet hole and bullet were found in the garage. A shell casing was located on the street near the residence and a second shell casing was found further down the street. Witnesses heard an argument involving a male on foot. A white SUV was also reported in the area around the same time. Investigation is ongoing.

Person(s) unknown fired five shots at a residence in the 500 block of Kenwood Ave. Officer on an unrelated traffic stop heard five guns shots to the west of his location and began to drive to the area from where the shots emanated. While en route, the residents called and advised five shots had been fired at the house. Investigation is ongoing.

### **Criminal Damage to Property:**

A known person damaged vehicles parked in the 800 block of High Ridge Drive. The offender showed up to confront the victim. When the victim refused to answer the door, the offender grabbed a rock and shattered the windshields of two vehicles owned by the victim. The suspect was located and issued two local Ordinance violations for Criminal Damage to Property.

A known person damaged the door to an apartment in the 200 block of N. Neltnor Blvd. The suspect forced open the door to the apartment, entered the unit and then left. Investigation is ongoing.

Person(s) unknown damaged a vehicle parked in the 500 block of Carriage Dr. The rear window to the car had been broken by unknown means.

### **Criminal Defacement:**

Person(s) unknown spray painted non-gang related graffiti on the street in the 200 block of W. Brown St.

Person(s) unknown spray painted gang-related graffiti on a fence on the north side of a residence in the 400 block of Glen Ave.

Person(s) unknown spray painted gang-related graffiti on a fence in the backyard of a residence in the 600 block of Joliet St.

### **Fraud:**

Person(s) unknown made numerous unauthorized charges to the victim's debit account. A Meijer Door Dash Order totaled \$268.73, two Walmart charges totaled \$1,400.00 and there was a \$25.00 Grub Hub delivery from the Jewel at Roosevelt and Canal in Chicago. The victim, of the 700 block of S. Neltnor Blvd., was able to have these charges denied/refunded. A \$2,900 Zell payment is still outstanding. Investigation is ongoing.

Person(s) unknown called the victim at a residence located in the 400 block of W. Blair St. The caller stated the victim was “in trouble” with law enforcement. The victim as directed to purchase \$400.00 in Google Play Cards and provide the card information to the caller. The victim provided the card information to the caller. The victim was later requested to provide his social security and address information to the caller.

Person(s) unknown emailed the victim at her residence in the 1600 block of Orchard Ct. The email appeared to be an invoice and had a number to call. The victim called the number and was convinced to purchase \$700.00 in prepaid Best Buy cards and provide the suspect with the card numbers and redemption codes.

**Motor Vehicle Theft:**

Person(s) unknown removed a vehicle from a parking lot in the 1200 block of Kings Circle. The owner stated the keys were lost and the car had not been moved for about two weeks. The owner was also unsure as to if the car had been locked. Aurora Police Detectives advised the vehicle had been used in an Aggravated Battery with a Firearm incident in their city.

Person(s) unknown removed a vehicle from The Crusher, located at 651 W. Washington St. The vehicle had been purchased at auction for \$5,000.00 and left unsecured in the lot with a key fob under the front seat. Surveillance video shows a suspect entered the vehicle and removed it on August 6<sup>th</sup>. Officer learned Lemont Police had run the vehicle’s plate on the 19<sup>th</sup>. The vehicle had been parked in Lemont with the keys in the car for a week. The owner was notified and sent a tow truck to recover the vehicle.

**Theft of Cargo Container:**

Person(s) unknown removed a semi-trailer from a lot in the 1100 block of Harvester Rd.

**Burglary:**

Person(s) unknown entered the garage of a residence in the 800 block of Appletree Ln. The homeowners belatedly reported that on July 26<sup>th</sup> at 1 AM, a vehicle pulled into the victim’s driveway. Four subjects wearing ski masks and gloves exited the vehicle one possibly armed with what appeared to be a firearm. One suspect entered the victims’ unsecured vehicle parked in the driveway and utilized the garage door opener kept in the car. The other three subjects entered the garage. All four of the suspects are then seen quickly entering the vehicle they arrived in and then leaving the area. The only object known to have been taken was the garage door opener. Investigation is ongoing.

**Burglary from Motor Vehicle:**

Person(s) unknown entered the unsecured vehicle parked in the 300 block of S. Neltnor Blvd. Removed was a 35mm camera and a lens. The loss is estimated at \$221.00. Investigation is ongoing.

Person(s) unknown entered an unsecured vehicle parked in the 100 block of Ainsley Dr. Removed were two Bluetooth headphones valued at 4100.00 and a wallet valued at \$50.00. The wallet contained a driver’s license, credit card, debit card and insurance card.

**Theft Under \$500.00:**

A known person(s) removed two packages containing \$65.00 worth of clothing from the mailing room of an apartment building in the 700 block of Forest Ave. The victim received notification from Amazon that her items had been delivered. When she went to pick them up, they were missing. Surveillance video captured the suspect removing the victim's packages. Management was able to provide still photos and identify the suspect. The suspect was located, interviewed, admitted to the theft and was issued a local ordinance citation for Theft.

Person(s) unknown removed the victim's bicycle from the gazebo at Reed Keppler Park located at 241 W. National St. The owner left the BMX bicycle valued at \$300.00 unsecured while he went swimming. When he returned, the bicycle was missing.

**Theft of Lost/Mislaid Property:**

Person(s) unknown removed the victim's wallet from the 900 block of Lorlyn Dr. The victim had placed items on the ground before entering the apartment. She picked up the items and entered the building, later realizing the wallet was left outside. Returning to retrieve the item, it was found to be missing. The wallet contained \$130.00 U.S.C, a debit card and Mexican Metricula card. The victim learned the debit card had been used for a \$1.83 purchase at Mr. A's Liquors and for \$29.01 at the Citgo gas station. Investigation is ongoing.

**Theft of Motor Vehicle Parts/Accessories:**

Person(s) unknown removed the catalytic converters from two vehicles parked at a business in the 800 block of Industrial Dr.

Person(s) unknown removed the catalytic converter from a vehicle parked in the 1600 block of Downs Dr.

Person(s) unknown removed the catalytic converter from a vehicle parked in the 100 block of Wycliffe Dr.

**Aggravated Assault:**

A known person is alleged to have confronted the victim while armed with a handgun at a residence in the 600 block of Sherman St. The victim stated he was in the house when the suspect entered possessing a firearm and stated he was "ready to shoot" the victim. The victim left then for work and no one was at the residence when officers arrived. Investigation is ongoing.

## Monthly Totals

| Activities           | May<br>2021 | Jun<br>2021 | Jul<br>2021 | Aug<br>2021 | YTD<br>2021 | YTD<br>2020 | Total<br>2020 |
|----------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|---------------|
| Traffic<br>Stops     | 519         | 503         | 506         | 456         | 3,959       | 2,596       | 4,646         |
| Traffic<br>Citations | 151         | 175         | 275         | 155         | 1,258       | 1,058       | 1,849         |
| Traffic<br>Warnings  | 251         | 194         | 155         | 176         | 1,631       | 1,499       | 2,516         |
| Parking<br>Citations | 424         | 373         | 230         | 382         | 2,827       | 836         | 1,293         |
| Traffic<br>Crashes   | 79          | 81          | 54          | 70          | 523         | 434         | 700           |
| Incident<br>Reports  | 236         | 271         | 283         | 209         | 1,875       | 1,685       | 2,652         |

## Officer Activities

On July 20<sup>th</sup>, officers responded to a residence in the 1200 block of S. Oak St for a report of bullet hole found in a garage door. Officers located a spent bullet and two shell casings near the residence. While conducting a canvas of neighbors in the area, officers learned that gunshots were heard and around that same time a white SUV was seen driving through the area. Information was received that a resident who was in the area may have been targeted in the shooting. Detectives Calabrese and Flanigan interviewed two individuals. One denied being shot at. The second person admitted that she had been in the area with another individual who engaged in an argument with suspects who exited a white SUV with a black hood. The suspect returned to the vehicle, produced a handgun and fired two rounds at the victims before fleeing scene. Detectives were able to obtain surveillance video from a residence in the 1200 block of Oak St showing the white SUV with a black hood. The vehicle was recognized as frequenting West Chicago driven by a specific individual. On August 3<sup>rd</sup>, this vehicle was observed and stopped in the area of Oak St. and Forest Ave. Detectives Calabrese, Flanigan, Herbert and Bowers and Officers Alaniz and O'Neil all arrived to assist as the SUV was occupied by four individuals and a strong odor of cannabis was emanating from the vehicle. The driver was known to have a suspended license and was placed under arrest. The occupants were removed and a search of the vehicle located three loaded handguns. All occupants were placed under arrest and transported to the Police Station. The DuPage County State's Attorney's Office approved charges of Aggravated Unlawful Use of a Weapon and Possession of a Stolen Firearm against one offender and Aggravated Unlawful Use of a Weapon and Unlawful Use of a Weapon against a second suspect. As juveniles, they were both transported to the Kane County Youth Home.

In December 2019, a subject purchased a Mercedes Benz from Haggerty Ford. It was later learned the purchase had been made utilizing fictitious documents. The vehicle was later recovered in Lansing. In attempting to identify the offender, Detective Herbert uncovered an elaborate operation involving stolen identities, fraudulent credit applications, and fraudulent driver's license and social security card manufacturing. The crimes perpetrated by the offenders occurred in DuPage, Cook and Lake Counties as well as into to Wisconsin, Iowa, Indiana and Michigan. Those involved in these crimes included sales associates with car dealerships and low-level street crime offenders, all led by a lead suspect from Lansing. The suspect has a lengthy criminal history including a conviction for murder. Detective Herbert along with a Barrington detective continued working the case. As the evidence against the main suspect mounted, Detective Herbert reached out to the Illinois Attorney General's Office and U.S. Secret Service for assistance. In January of 2021, a large multi-jurisdictional operation led by Detective Herbert and Barrington's detective recovered several stolen vehicles, driver's license manufacturing equipment and cash. The main suspect fled the area but was later arrested in Indiana for possession of a stolen motor vehicle and released on bond before fleeing to Atlanta. Detective Herbert received information on August 29<sup>th</sup> that the offender may have returned to the Lansing area. On August 30<sup>th</sup>, Detectives Herbert, Flanigan, Calabrese, the Barrington detective and other investigators began surveillance near the suspect's home. Detective Herbert observed the suspect outside a residence and asked for assistance from other agencies. The U.S. Secret Service, the U.S. Marshalls, Lansing PD and Barrington PD assisted with taking the suspect into custody on a \$1,000,000.00 warrant. The Illinois Attorney General's Office approved charges against the suspect including Identity Theft, Aggravated Possession of a Stolen Motor Vehicle and Being the Organizer of a Continuing Financial Crimes Enterprise. In total, the suspect was charged with two Class X, three Class 1 and one Class 3 felonies. Detective Herbert's efforts in this case resulted in a 26-count indictment, including a total of five Class

X felonies against the lead suspect and seven of his accomplices. Assisting in the case were all WCPD Detectives, TFO Potapczak, Officer's Levato, Fuller, Nielsen and CSO/Evidence Custodian Fabiani.

On August 4<sup>th</sup>, Officers Kowalik and Smurawski responded to a residence in the 1600 block of Appletree Ln. A victim there had been battered by her ex-boyfriend who then fled the scene. The victim was bleeding profusely and was transported to Northwestern Medicine Central DuPage Hospital by West Chicago Fire Protection District personnel for treatment. Medical personnel advised the victim had suffered a left orbital wall fracture, spinal fracture, scalp contusion and knee and elbow abrasions. Due to the severity of the injuries, the DuPage County State's Attorney's Office approved charges of Aggravated Domestic Battery against the suspect. Detective Peterson obtained an arrest warrant for the suspect with no geographic limitations. Detective Herbert and Officer Kowalik made unsuccessful attempts to serve the warrant on the suspect at both his residence and place of employment. Due to the difficulty in locating the offender, Detective Herbert requested that the suspect's cell phone be "pinged". The return on the location came back to a specific area in Jacksonville, Florida. A search of records of calls made on the offender's cell phone determined that the suspect had called an individual who lived at an address in the 12200 block of Amanda Cove Trail in Jacksonville. The Jacksonville Sheriff's Office was contacted, advised of the no bond warrant and agreed to conduct surveillance on the Cove Trail residence. On August 25<sup>th</sup>, the offender was arrested on the warrant as he exited the residence and taken to the Jacksonville County Jail where he will be held pending extradition back to Illinois.