

INTEGRITY • COMMITMENT • COOPERATION • PROFESSIONALISM



Hilliard Division of Police

2018 ANNUAL REPORT TO OUR COMMUNITY



Division
of Police

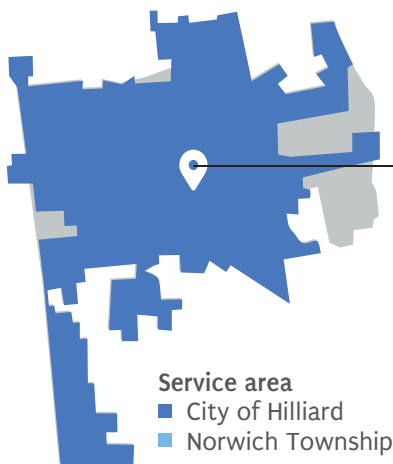
Real People. Real Possibilities.

Mission Statement



"We, the employees of the Hilliard Division of Police, are committed to serve the Hilliard community to enhance the quality of life by working cooperatively with the public to prevent crime, preserve peace, enforce the law with respect to the constitutional rights of all citizens, reduce fear and provide a safe community environment. The mission is based on a foundation of **integrity, commitment, cooperation** and **professionalism.**"

HILLIARD DIVISION OF POLICE



Service area
■ City of Hilliard
■ Norwich Township

36,447
Population served

Hilliard Division of Police
5171 Northwest Parkway
Hilliard, Ohio 43026

How to reach Hilliard Police
Emergencies | Dial 911
Non-emergencies | 614-876-7321

1957
Year established
(62nd anniversary)

17
Square miles in our
service area

Connect with us



HilliardOhio.gov



@Hilliard_Police



Facebook.com/HilliardPolice



@Hilliard_Police

Meet the Leadership Team



Chief of Police
Robert Fisher, CLEE

A Message from Chief Robert Fisher

On behalf of the men and women of the Hilliard Division of Police, I am pleased to present the 2018 Report to our Community. This publication shares with you some of the many things your police officers have been doing to make our community safe.

This has been a tremendous year for HPD as we've focused on advancing the organization and further defining our professional role. As our community continues to grow and change, so does the approach to safety that defines our role in making Hilliard a fantastic place to live.

We share a very special bond that makes Hilliard second to none. The partnership that is present between the community and your first responders helps us keep crime low and supports a very high quality of life. I am extremely proud of the members of this Division, who proudly serve through our core values of integrity, commitment, cooperation, and professionalism. Thank you for joining me in celebrating the accomplishments of 2018.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Robert Fisher".

Sincerely,
Chief of Police Robert Fisher, CLEE

Command Staff



Deputy Chief Eric Grile, CLEE



Field Operations Bureau
Lieutenant Doug Lightfoot

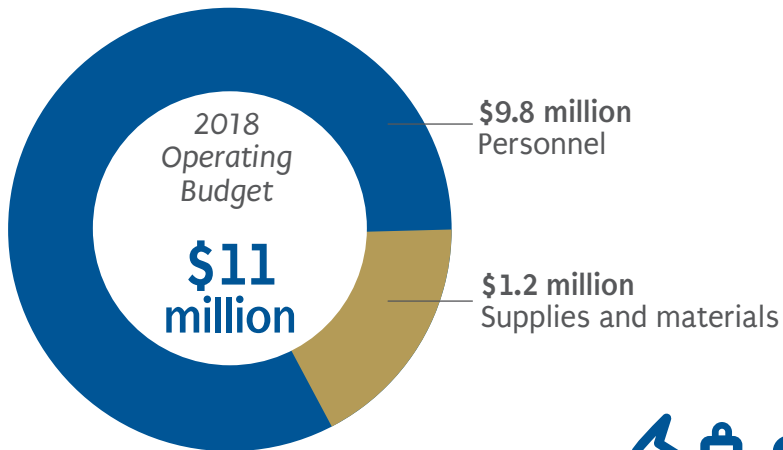


Investigations Bureau
Lieutenant Ronald Clark,
CLEE



Support Services Bureau
Supervisor Natalie Riley

A Look at Our Budget and Vehicles



455,422
total miles driven in 2018



46 vehicles, including patrol cruisers, unmarked detectives' cars, motorcycles and a crime scene investigation van



PERSONNEL

The People of Hilliard Police

Staffing figures



60 full-time sworn
agency employees



11 full-time support
services staff



4 part-time non-sworn
support staff

Longevity

33

employees
have been
with HPD for
more than 10
years

28

have been
with HPD
for more than
15 years

18

have been
with HPD
for more than
20 years

8

have been
with HPD
for more than
25 years

3

have been
with HPD for
more than 30
years



Sergeant John Higgins and Officer Hyda Slone celebrated 30 years with HPD in 2018.



Four officers made the decision to Wear The HPD Badge in 2018. Pictured with the chiefs on Columbus Police Academy graduation day are Officers Taylor Graves, AJ Murry, Matthew Hayes and Casey McManaway.



Chief Fisher and Deputy Chief Grile pose with Clerk Danielle Epperhart, who joined the agency in March 2018.



Officer Mark Proud retired in December with more than 18 years of experience at HPD. During his career at HPD he served in a variety of positions, including as a patrol officer and the agency's training officer.



HPD experienced a year of growth in 2018, hiring Court Officer Anna Stephenson, Training Coordinator Greg Bernard, and Professional Standards Coordinator Jeffrey Pearson. James Mosaic was also hired to serve as the City's safety director.

SERVICE CALLS

Officers Only a Call Away



On average, each of the agency's three K9 teams are used about 150 times per year, mostly for narcotics detection.



90
seconds

average time for a Hilliard police officer to be on the way from the time a caller dials 9-1-1

Calls by day of the week

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
4,789	5,848	6,066	6,385	6,333	6,013	4,927
12%	14%	15%	16%	16%	15%	12%

HPD Partners with Schools for Training

On Aug. 20, 2018, the Hilliard Division of Police partnered with Norwich Township Fire Department and Hilliard City Schools to conduct a large-scale active shooter drill.



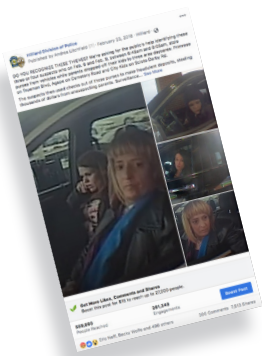
1,600
staff members were involved
with the drill, which involved
more than a year to plan

The exercise was conducted flawlessly with the assistance of volunteers from the Hilliard Citizens Police Academy Alumni organization. It was the first of its kind in scale and accomplishment for our community and this region. Numerous lessons were learned from the exercise that will be applied to better prepare our first responders and schools for an active shooter event. All who were involved agreed the drill will most definitely save lives in the future, should a violent action take place in the schools.



Social Media

f 15,227



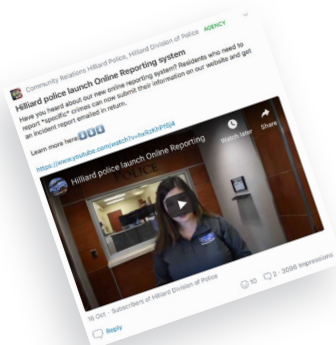
Facebook continues to be the most popular way for the public to follow HPD on social media. Followers helped to successfully identify suspects in various cases, including these individuals who were later charged in connection with stealing from cars parked outside local daycare facilities.

t 12,134

The agency gained about 2,000 followers on Twitter in 2018. One post showed school resource officers posing for "First Day Back to School" photos.



h 8,693



Hello, neighbor! HPD used Next Door to share community information, including this video announcing the agency's online reporting system.

i 1,156

After launching our Instagram page in 2017 as a way to further connect with the community on social media, we tripled our following during our first full year on the platform.



The agency enjoyed several viral videos and stories of the year as a result of social media posts, including an entire month's worth of adventures through the eyes of our very own Elf on the Shelf: Johnny Law.



The most popular photo of the year showed HPD officers patrolling the streets of Westerville after the deaths of two Westerville police officers. HPD was among several Central Ohio agencies that assisted the department.



HPD used the power of social media to promote a new tool for residents: the Safe Exchange Zone. The area serves as a safe place for conducting online and private transactions.

Traffic Safety



1,112
Traffic crash
reports taken

In 2018, Hilliard police officers took 1,112 traffic crash reports. Most of those, 1,008, occurred on public property while only 104 occurred on private property.

6,482

traffic stops made

5,615

traffic violations

2,874

traffic citations

2,855

traffic warnings



Hilliard police partnered with the Ohio State Highway Patrol in January to conduct an enforcement blitz on Interstate 270 to catch violators from the ground and air with the use of OSP's helicopter. Four miles of the freeway is within HPD jurisdiction.



Motorcycle Officer Brandon Long monitors the roundabout at Cemetery Road and Main Street to ensure drivers are safely navigating the intersection.

Investigations Bureau

CIU: The Criminal Investigations Unit conducts a wide variety of investigations that require special expertise, including arson, auto theft, burglaries, child abuse, embezzlement, financial crimes, forgery, fraud, homicides, identity thefts, juvenile matters, missing persons, narcotics, rape, robbery and sex crimes. The unit is provided with all the necessary equipment essential to investigating a wide range of offenses from breaking and entering to homicide. To assist with these investigations, detectives frequently receive advanced training in all areas of criminal investigation, including crime scene analysis and evidence collection. This advanced training, coupled with extensive experience, ensures that the citizens of Hilliard receive the best possible service.



486 cases investigated by the Criminal Investigation Unit in 2018.



Detectives executed a search warrant April 20, 2018, that resulted in the arrest of two Hilliard-area drug dealers. A large amount of drugs was seized, including black tar heroin, cocaine, prescription pills and marijuana. Weapons, needles and packaging consistent with mass drug distribution, as well as thousands of dollars, were also taken from the home.

The Property Room, which is part of the bureau, oversees the agency's prescription drug drop-off box. Located in the lobby of the Safety Services Building, the box collected 281 pounds of unwanted medications in 2018.

SIU: The Special Investigations Unit is the proactive investigation and enforcement arm of the Bureau of Investigation. SIU is responsible for investigating narcotics, prostitution and gambling offenses, as well as fugitive apprehension, surveillance operations and search warrant executions. SIU also investigates pattern crimes that affect quality of life for residents. It is supervised by a sergeant and staffed by detectives.



100 cases investigated and 74 warrants served by the Special Investigations Unit in 2018.



Detective Rob Seum received his Master Evidence Technician certificate from the Ohio Peace Officer Training Academy in November. The program requires 260 hours of courses on various topics, including bloodstain evidence, crime scene photography, death investigation, fingerprint classification, law enforcement videography and death investigation.

Detectives seized \$118,465 in currency throughout the year.

Community Relations



CPA: Citizens Police Academy The 10th class of the Hilliard Citizens Police Academy joined our alumni organization in May 2018. This interactive program teaches students what it's like to be a police officer and creates a growing nucleus of well-informed citizens. Every Tuesday evening for 14 weeks students begin by eating dinner — which has been donated by our local businesses — with police and fire personnel. Classes focus on various topics, including criminal investigations, laws, K9, radar, dispatch (NRECC) and fire.



National Night Out HPD hosted the community for the annual National Night Out on Aug. 1 at Tinapple Park. Officers were on hand for various activities, including a bounce house, cornhole games, and registration for the agency's free fingerprinting system: EZ Child ID. Police cruisers and the motorcycle unit were also on display for the event, which works to build relationships in the community.



In addition to providing station tours of the facilities year-round, HPD offers Forensics for Youth classes to Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts for children in grades 4-6. This class gives insight into the world of police forensic science and crime solving. Children overview careers in forensics and then explore a mock crime scene, where they will gather evidence. Using the evidence, hands-on mini-labs and critical thinking skills they will solve the "donut caper" case.



WSD: Women's Self Defense One of our most popular programs is Women's Self Defense. This free course focuses on prevention strategies, with self-defense options that could be used as a last resort if a person is attacked.



Officers enjoyed the opportunity for casual conversation over a cup of Joe as part of the agency's newest program, Coffee with A Cop. One 2018 event was held at the Phyllis A. Ernst Senior Center in conjunction with Valentine's Day. This is the community's chance to ask questions, voice concerns and get to know law enforcement in Hilliard — one cup of coffee at a time.

HPD Gives Back

For years, the Hilliard Division of Police has made a conscious effort to implement a community-oriented policing philosophy and build a unique bond with the people of Hilliard. We are more than your average police force. Not only do we play a role in protecting the city, we also strive to promote positive relationships through our presence and engagement within the community.

Our roles in the community go beyond the line of duty to sporting events, city council meetings, community celebrations, educational programs and even volunteer functions. We take pride knowing that our uniform is a beacon to the community as a friendly face and dependable resource.



Shop With A Cop Twelve children enjoyed a Christmas they will never forget thanks to the agency's Shop With A Cop event, which is held every December. Officers volunteer their Saturday to take a child shopping at Target. After the shopping frenzy, children are invited back to the police station for lunch, movies and games while Santa's elves wrap their gifts.



HPD Gives Back - CONTINUED



Special Olympics Torch Run Hilliard officers strapped on their sneakers once again to participate in the Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics. The event raises awareness and funds for the organization. There are more than 97,000 law enforcement members that carry the “Flame of Hope” annually. The flame symbolizes courage and celebration of diversity, uniting communities around the globe.



Penny 4 A Pound In 2018 Hilliard officers partnered with Norwich Township firefighters once again to lift for a good cause. Penny 4 A Pound was created by Lt. Doug Lightfoot in 2016 and continues to grow its philanthropic efforts. About \$1,600 was raised for Nationwide Children's Hospital.



Several members of the HPD participated in the annual Columbus Honor Guard 5K. Proceeds of the event go to the families of newly fallen officers as they learn to move forward without their loved ones.



Members of the agency's command staff enjoyed participating in the annual First Responders Challenge at the Franklin County Fair.

Opportunities at Hilliard PD

A Hilliard police officer performs proactive patrols to ensure compliance with laws and ordinances, answers calls when crime is suspected or an emergency occurs, and takes action to prevent crime and to apprehend criminals. Officers also enjoy specialized duties based on interest and skill. There are opportunities galore outside the patrol car.



Training Learning is a never-ending process at HPD. In 2018, officers attended 272 outside courses for a total of 5,158 class hours.



Training Officers also underwent year-round internal training on various topics, including the use of gas masks, "Below 100" safety, defensive tactics, firearms and emergency vehicle operations.



134 arrests per year assisted by each K9 team.

K9 HPD established its K9 program in June 2005 and currently has three dogs: K9 Oz, K9 Kane and K9 Jawaak. In 2018, there were 134 arrests made as a result of a K9's work. Each team is used about 150 times per year, mostly for narcotics detection. The unit is often called upon by other law enforcement agencies throughout Ohio for assistance, and works closely with Hilliard City Schools in its dedication to keeping the buildings drug-free.



In September the Ohio Law Enforcement K9 Association (OLEKA) donated a bullet- and stab-resistant vest to the agency's newest dog, K9 Jawaak. The vest is flame resistant, made of 13 layers of Kevlar and insulated with 1,000-count thread.

Opportunities at Hilliard PD - CONTINUED



Bicycle Unit Members of the agency's Bicycle Unit have received specialized training in bicycle operations and can easily access areas restricted to automobile patrol. The unit is often spotted patrolling Old Hilliard during summer events. Members of the Bicycle Unit are instructors at Safety Town, where they encourage children to follow traffic laws and wear their helmets.



Honor Guard The Division's Honor Guard was invited to present the colors at a Cincinnati Reds baseball game and a Columbus Blue Jackets hockey game. The guard also participated in various parades and recognition ceremonies, including the Hilliard Police Memorial Ceremony in May, in which we recognized local first responders who died in the line of duty.



Awards & Recognition

Hilliard police officers were recognized by various community institutions, as well as their peers, throughout the year for their work on and off the streets. We're proud to have each of them representing the division.



Members of third-shift patrol were recognized for their heroic actions in responding to a domestic violence situation in May. They were named the Officers of the Month for May 2018 by Central Ohio Crime Stoppers, FOP Lodge #9 and UDF. From left, front row: award recipients Sgt. Josh Cohill, Officer Bill Okey, Officer Trevor Gill, Officer Randall Pugh, Officer Tyler Harris and Officer Jeb Pencil; back row support staff: Lt. Doug Lightfoot, Detective Glenn Rogers, Deputy Chief Eric Grile and Chief Robert Fisher.

Sgt. Kris Settles and Sgt. Justin Cramer graduated from the Police Executive Leadership College. PELC is an intensive learning experience focused on leadership skills. Sgt. Marcus Blevins graduated from the Supervisor Training and Education (STEP) program.



Officer Robert Parkey was recognized as a "Friend of Education" by the Hilliard Education Foundation. He serves as a school safety officer in the Hilliard City School District.



Officer Shane O'Connor and Officer Brian Gano were recognized by their supervisors for their work in safely capturing a man who was driving recklessly on the freeway's closed construction lane in October.



Detective Debbie Mullin received the STAR award at the Franklin County Sheriffs Law Enforcement Recognition Dinner.

Awards & Recognition - CONTINUED



Officer Jared Zellers, who has served with Hilliard police since 2011, was named the Employee of the Year for the Field Operations Bureau, which includes all patrol officers. He has served on patrol for seven years.



Officer Vanessa Spears received the Police Officer of the Year Award from the Hilliard Optimists Club. She also received the Mayor's Award from Mayor Don Schonhardt at the annual Awards Banquet.



Officer Hunter Schweickart, received the Division's Community Service Award for his community outreach. The award is reserved for those who are actively engaged in public dialog with the community and help the public better understand and appreciate the role of safety forces.



Lieutenant Ronald Clark graduated from the FBI National Academy, a prestigious professional development course for law enforcement personnel in June. Clark, who has served with Hilliard police since 1992, was among 232 law enforcement officers from 48 states who graduated from the 10-week program in Quantico, Virginia, which is located about 40 miles southwest of Washington, D.C. Clark currently oversees the agency's Bureau of Investigations. He has previously served as a lieutenant over the Bureau of Patrol Operations and as a patrol officer.