



Police Department City of Wisconsin Rapids

444 West Grand Avenue • Wisconsin Rapids, Wisconsin 54495

(715) 423-4444

Date: August 10, 2022
To: Mayor Shane Blaser
Wisconsin Rapids Police and Fire Commission
Wisconsin Rapids Common Council
From: Mike Potocki, Interim Chief of Police
RE: Report on the Police Department activity for July 2022

Departmental Activity/Training:

Took part in the joint Wood County Speed Grant.

Conducted department oral interviews for new department candidates.

Detectives Wetterau and Bailey began background investigations on two candidates in the police department hiring process.

WRPD detectives assisted the Wood County Sheriff's Department in searching the river bottom in Port Edwards for human remains.

School Resource Officer Dan Pelot celebrated 20 years of service with the Wisconsin Rapids Police Department.

Interim Deputy Chief Scott Dewitt attended the Northcentral Chiefs of Police Association meeting.

Interim Chief Potocki and Interim Deputy Chief Dewitt attended the ribbon cutting ceremony for the new ODC Opportunity for Hope, outpatient mental health clinic.

Detective Daven attended the Wood County Fire Investigation meeting.

All officers completed their 24 hours of recertification training that was reported to the State of Wisconsin Training and Standards Bureau.

Conducted Department Staff meeting.

Year to date statistics and previous year comparison:

WRPD responded to **1339** incidents and calls for service in July 2022.

July 2021: **1663**

Total incidents and calls for service to date in 2022: **9662**

Total for 2021: **10438**

For month of July 2022 vs 2021:

- OWI - 2022: **5** 2021: **8**
- Traffic Crash Investigations - 2022: **29** 2021: **39**
- Traffic / Municipal Citations – 2022: **164** 2021: **308**
- Written Warnings – 2022: **181** 2021: **263**
- Restricted Parking Tickets – 2022: **71** 2021: **136**

Controlled Substance Arrests

Wisconsin Rapids Police Officers and Detectives made **24 arrests** for Controlled Substance offenses in July 2022. These charges include:

- Possession of Narcotic drugs.
- Possession of Methamphetamine.
- Possession of Drug Paraphernalia.
- Manufacture/Deliver THC
- Possession of illegally obtained prescription

Notable investigations and arrests:

WRPD 22-10474: Detectives Richter, Wetterau, the Central Wisconsin Drug Task Force, and Stevens Point PD executed a search warrant at a Wisconsin Rapids residence as a result of a multi-jurisdictional investigation. Detective Richter conducted surveillance on the residence for drug trafficking while Stevens Point developed probable cause for a warrant for a Reckless Homicide investigation. As a result of the warrant, one male subject was taken into custody and charges were referred to the DA's office for Possession w/ intent – Fentanyl, Possession w/ Intent – Methamphetamine, Possession w/ Intent Cocaine, Maintain a drug trafficking place, and Felony bail jumping. 26.7 grams of fentanyl, 37.18 grams of cocaine, and 34.71 grams of methamphetamine were confiscated. One female was also charged with the above charges, as well as Neglecting a Child. The juvenile was removed from the home by Wood Co Human Services and placed elsewhere.

See attached email reference Officer Krier.

Special Operations: Have been suspended because of personnel shortages.

June 29, 2022

Dear Wisconsin Rapids Police Department,

Last Friday, we were very blessed in a time of need by one of your officers, Officer Krier! We had gone for a bike ride and Tristan's bike broke down. It literally wouldn't pedal because the training wheels were stuck. But, not even 5 minutes later, Officer Krier arrived to help us fix his bike! 🙏

We were very blessed by this experience and spread the news quickly to our family and friends of how awesome and kind our "guardian angel" was and how he even let our boys explore the trunk of his vehicle for tools to fix the bike! This simple act of kindness has blessed our hearts and our boys are even more excited when they see a police vehicle because they remember when they were saved by a police officer on a warm, summer day! God is good and we feel blessed. Please keep up the AMAZING work and know we are very thankful for all you do to keep our community safe!

God bless you all,

Mike, Chelsea, Tristan & Caspian Srnka

