



Police Department City of Wisconsin Rapids

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Date: January 9, 2024

To: Mayor Shane Blaser

Wisconsin Rapids Police and Fire Commission

Wisconsin Rapids Common Council

From: Daniel Hostens, Chief of Police

RE: Report on the Police Department activity for December 2023

Departmental Activity/Training:

Meeting with Fire Executives

Police and Fire Commission Meeting

Command Staff Meeting

Completed mandated training and monthly range training.

For the month, 2023 vs. 2022:

Calls for Service	2023	1,238	2022	1,296
OWI	2023	3	2022	6
Traffic Crash Inv.	2023	27	2022	60
Traffic/Municipal Citations	2023	160	2022	228
Written Warnings	2023	244	2022	235
Restricted Parking Tickets	2023	89	2022	46

Administration Staff

Ordinance	November Days Worked	Calls for Service	Written Warnings	Citations	Complete without Enforcement Action	Parking Citations	OWI	Arrests	Crash Reports	Totals
Andrys	13	30	0	1	30	0	0	0	0	31

Open Records	Request	Completed	Denials	Redactions
November	45	45	0	1

Notable Incidents

All members of the detective bureau assisted the Marathon County Sheriff's Department by executing a search warrant at a Wisconsin Rapids residence. The target in the warrant was wanted for firing a gun at a Marathon Co. deputy. Detectives assisted by surveilling the residence for two days until the warrant was executed. Detectives also assisted in the search of the residence. While searching, detectives found numerous controlled substances, including cocaine and methamphetamine. There was also drug paraphernalia located throughout the property. A detective also located a box of fraudulent checks in the garage that may be tied to other investigations our agency completed regarding fraudulent checks. Charges will be forwarded to the Wood County DA's office for the possession of controlled substances and paraphernalia.

Detective Wetterau was active in and assisted with an extensive several-month drug investigation as a Central Wisconsin Drug Task Force member. The investigation spanned throughout Wood and Clark Counties. As a result of this investigation, search warrants were executed on December 19. Two adult males were eventually taken into custody, and the following evidence was seized: multiple firearms (handguns, AR-style rifles, shotguns), 57lbs of raw marijuana, 12lbs of THC gummies, 8 pounds of THC wax, 382lbs of psilocybin mushrooms, prescription meds, and U.S. currency. Although the warrants did not occur in our jurisdiction, Detective Wetterau spent much time assisting in the investigation.

On December 4, 2023, Officer Greening noticed a vehicle without having its headlamps illuminated during the hours of darkness. A traffic stop was conducted on the vehicle on State Highway 54 by Saratoga St in the City of Wisconsin Rapids. Officer Greening detected an odor of marijuana coming from the vehicle and asked the driver if he had any marijuana or paraphernalia in the vehicle. The driver admitted to having a vape in the vehicle. The driver admitted the cartridge was THC. Officer Greening tested the cartridge, and it tested positive for THC. The driver was issued a citation for possession of paraphernalia.

One subject was cited for possession of THC paraphernalia.

Ofc. Krier and Sgt. Jazdzewski were dispatched to a parking lot for a welfare check on an unresponsive male subject in a vehicle. Officers located the male subject and were able to contact the male. Officers observed baggies of a powdery substance, later tested and identified as cocaine, in plain view inside the vehicle. Officers also located what appeared to be a homemade explosive device inside the vehicle. The officer seized the 6.1 grams of cocaine and transported him to jail for Possession of Cocaine.

Officers were called to Sandlot Park for a welfare check on a male, his adult daughter, and her boyfriend. Officer Paltz arrived first and determined these individuals had recently been kicked out of residence in town, had no ties to our area, and had no place to stay. This group had spent the night prior sleeping outside at Sandlot Park in freezing conditions with their pets. They were making arrangements for a ride to pick them up, but it was coming from out MN. Officer Paltz provided this group with a gift card, and officers were able to find a couple more gift cards to help them out until their ride arrived. At this point, officers cleared the scene and could have ended our contact with these individuals. Officer Paltz went home, collected his own blankets and snack items, and returned to Sandlot Park. Officer Paltz gifted his personal property and food to this group of individuals in need. Officer Paltz went above and beyond what was required of him to help those in need. Officer Paltz never looked for recognition or was outspoken about his actions, actions which he was not asked to perform, actions which took away goods from his family so he could help others.

12/7 Johnnys- A fight outside the establishment at the bar close was started in the establishment when some intoxicated patrons kept questioning the age of a female patron. Outside, the V allegedly made some comments about

having a gun and wanting to kill someone. Two females started to fight. One male victim attempted to break up the fight and was thrown down, causing injury to his head. Another male pushed and struck the alleged underage female. This female BF started fighting the male. A second male that he had been with, the young-looking female, jumped in. These two males beat the V into unconsciousness. OFC Drew investigated. He ID the first male S and his GF. GF was interviewed and confirmed the ID of her BF. BF would not answer calls and is on probation. P&P has issued a warrant. While investigating the below complaint, OFC Drew found the second male S VIC, which was observed on the bar video. RO was run and fit the description and video image of S #2. Contact has been unsuccessful, but S #2 has a history of battery arrests and is FB friends with a young-looking female. Medical record release of Male V #2 returned enough injury for Substantial Battery. The photo line-up is scheduled with the victim for 1/4/2024.

S was SB on Lincoln St and struck a fire hydrant at Witter St. S fled the scene. SGT Killian and OFC Krummel were able to track the vehicle to a residence at 1641 6th St S, where they found the damaged vehicle. OFCs made contact with S and were able to obtain a confession. OFCs worked together during the investigation, splitting the OWI arrest tasks and the accident report. The city was notified of the damaged fire hydrant, which had been displaced approximately 60 feet by the crash's impact.

12/25 Officers responded to 8 Black Oak Circle for an open line 911 where a female could be heard saying, "Stop hitting me." Officer Drew and Officer Krummel arrived on the scene and were confronted with a locked door. Dispatch still had the female on the line, and officers could hear her yelling for officers to come in. Just prior to forced entry, the female made her way to the door and allowed officers in, who immediately observed that she had been battered. Officers systematically cleared the trailer and found that the male suspect had fled out a bedroom window. Other officers set a perimeter and coordinated with Wood County K9 for a track. The area was thoroughly checked but was unsuccessful due to heavy rainfall. The victim declined to leave the residence, but officers ensured she had a charged phone and that the doors were locked. Dispatch was called back approximately 3 hours later from her phone number, and she told dispatch she made the call by mistake but sounded distraught. Officers created an outer perimeter first and then contacted the residence. The victim gave consent to officers to check the trailer, and the suspect was subsequently taken into custody, hiding, and partially barricaded in a bathroom closet. Rapids officers worked methodically with the Wood County Sheriff's Office to peacefully take the suspect into custody without further incident. Charges referred to the DA's Office for Battery Domestic Repeater, DC Domestic Repeater, and Resist/Obstructing.

12/31 Wood County dispatch received an automated call stating that a Honda vehicle was involved in a collision and provided ping data to the area of 3rd Avenue and Chase Street. Officers responded to the area, and Officer Greening located a Honda CRV in the Centralia Center parking lot with deployed airbags and significant rear passenger side damage. The vehicle was unoccupied and running when found. Officers canvassed the area and attempted contact with the registered owner by phone and at the home address without success. Officer Mortel canvassed the area on foot, found a piece of the vehicle's rim at 3rd Avenue and Johnson Street, and determined the collision site with a curb. The vehicle was ultimately collected and held by Nieman's Tow Service until contact could be made with the registered owner. Investigation to follow.

12/31 Officers responded to Whodini's bar for a report of a vehicle that had crashed into a gas meter, and natural gas was actively being dispersed into the surrounding area and into the bar. Officer Krummel worked with Fire and EMS to ensure evacuation and scene security. The bar needed to be ventilated by Fire personnel, and Officer Krummel determined the crash was due to poor pavement conditions and not impairment. Information was collected for business, and an accident report was completed.

Other Activity

- Sgt. Daven completed a background investigation for new hire candidate Matt McHugh.
- Sgt. Daven completed this year's Citizens Academy, and graduation was held on December 6.
- I received 11 Child Protective Service reports from Wood County Human Services for investigation and review.
- Lt. Lubeck organized and completed the 2023 "Shop with a Cop" event sponsored by Walmart and Pepsi. WRPD shopped for ten local children and delivered gifts to them before Christmas.

- The department's new report face sheet and report tracking process has been implemented and is now being used.
- The new case assignments system for the detective bureau has been implemented and is now being used.
- SRO Pelot arranged for a K9 sniff conducted at WRAMS on December 14. Members of the detective bureau assisted in searching lockers and property.

Possession of Marijuana	4
Possession of Narcotic Drugs	5
Possession of Methamphetamine	1
Possession of Drug Paraphernalia	1
Total:	11

Drugs Taken In:

Drug	Quantity
Marijuana	23.6g
THC Cartridges	1 unit
Methamphetamine	2.88g
Fentanyl	0.19g
Cocaine	13.4g
Other: Vyvanse (ADHD Medication)	10 units

Wisconsin Rapids Police Department Monthly Totals - 2023
K9: Lex Handler: Fleisner

	Narcotic Deployments	Times Narcotics Found	Patrol Deployments	Demonstrations	Training Hours	Agency Assist
January	2	0	2	0	11	3
February	1	0	0	2	12.75	0
March	3	1	0	2	0.5	0
April	3	1	0	0	11	1
May	1	2	0	3	34.75	0
June	5	2	1	1	11.5	2
July	2	2	1	0	13.75	1
August	1	1	0	2	11.75	0
September	2	0	1	0	27.5	2
October	0	0	1	2	11	0
November	4	0	1	0	32.25	1
December	1	0	1	0	8	0
Totals	25	9	8	12	185.75	10