



Police Department City of Wisconsin Rapids

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To: Mayor Matt Zacher
Wisconsin Rapids Police and Fire Commission
Wisconsin Rapids Common Council

From: Scott Dewitt, Deputy Chief of Police

RE: Report on the Police Department activity for August 2024

Departmental Activity/Training:

- Wood County Law Enforcement Executive Meeting
- Common Council Meeting
- Police and Fire Commission Meeting
- Completed mandated training and monthly range training.
- As you know, we have promoted 2 Lieutenants
 - Lt. Joseph Foy III
 - Lt. Andrew Borchardt
- Compression of our 800 numbers
- National Night Out Event
- Cops@Culver's Event
- Cops on a Rooftop at Dunkin Event
- Walmart Brat Fry for K9 program and Auxiliary Unit
- Wheelers K9 Brat Fry for K9 program
- FLOCK camera training certifications
- ICS – 400 course Dewitt
- Officer involved critical incident Aug. 20th
- Monthly Special Response Team (SRT)
- Leadership in Police Organizations (LPO) Sgt. Fleisner, Sgt. Killian
- Basic Crisis Negotiator Lt. Radtke, Sgt. Burger
- Eric Jenkin and Trent Woebeking completed FTO training and are on solo patrol.

For the month of August 2024 vs. 2023:

Calls for Service	2024	1563	2023	1480
OWI	2024	10	2023	3
Traffic Crash Inv.	2024	53	2023	45
Traffic/Municipal Citations	2024	245	2023	125
Written Warnings	2024	328	2023	303
Restricted Parking Tickets	2024	5	2023	115

Administration Staff

Ordinance	July Days Worked	Calls for Service	Written Warnings	Citations	Complete without Enforcement Action	Parking Citations	Arrests	Crash Reports	Totals
Andrys	14	38	0	5	33	0	0	0	38

Open Records	Requests	Completed	Denials	Redactions	Pending Release	Time (in hours)
August	69	68	0	0	1	12.48

Notable Incidents

Members of the Wisconsin Rapids Police Department along with the Portage County Sheriff Department, Wood County Sheriff Department, Grand Rapids Police Department and Nekoosa Police Department worked in conjunction to apprehend an individual that was involved in a domestic abuse situation in the City of Wisconsin Rapids earlier in the day. This suspect left prior to officers’ arrival and was not taken into custody. This suspect later engaged in a vehicle pursuit with the Portage County Sheriff Department and fired a gun at officers. This pursuit came into the City of Wisconsin Rapids. WRPD officers were able to successfully deploy stop sticks which is a tire deflation device used by WRPD. The pursuit continued through several areas of the city with the suspect firing at officers until the vehicle became disabled. The suspect then left on foot still firing at officers. Officers from the above-mentioned departments worked together to successfully locate and apprehend the suspect and take him into custody. This case is still under investigation.

Sgt Daven, Detective Bailey, Detective Wetterau, and Lt. Lubeck assisted in various ways throughout the duration of the critical incident on 08/20/24 where numerous shots were fired at law enforcement throughout the City of Wisconsin Rapids. Detectives assisted in scene security, evidence identification and preservation, intel gathering, and support roles. Detectives also assisted DCI Special Agents with several tasks.

Officer Drew and Sergeant Burger responded to a call of a disturbance at 3:40 am. Office Drew recognized one of the subjects causing the disturbance and was aware that he had a “body only” warrant for his arrest. Officer Drew advised the subject he was under arrest. The subject resisted officers and was apprehended with the aid of a Taser. Multiple officers responded and subject was ultimately placed in a WRAP restraint system to control this subject.

Officer Greening was dispatched to a call at 7:16pm of a female that had requested an ambulance but refused to be seen by the ambulance that arrived. Officer Greening located the female in the lane of traffic on STH 54 and Washington St. Officer Greening attempted to get the female out of the lane of traffic and find out what was wrong. Officer Greening ultimately had to tackle the female to the ground as she was attempting to climb over the railing on the STH 54 viaduct near Robinson Park. This railing protects against a very long drop-off. It was learned that this female was in crisis. This female was placed in the WRAP restraint system to control her and prevent her from hurting herself. Officers were unable to identify her until approximately 4:20am the next day. This female was detained as an Emergency Detention at Aspirus Riverview Hospital and had to be sedated with the use of medication to prevent her from hurting herself further. Officer Greening likely saved this female's life by not allowing her to climb over the railing on STH 54.

Officer Contreras responded to an erratic driver complaint headed NB on 8th St. S. According to the complainant the car had stuck a curb and continued to drive erratically. Car was stopped. Driver was thought to be intoxicated. Driver stated he had "the right to remain silent" when questioned about drinking. SFSTs not performed due to driver not wanting to. Driver arrested for OWI 4th.

Sgt. Fleisner assisted SPPD at their office with a K9 sniff. Stevens Point USPO postal inspector brought some suspicious packages to the SPPD office. K9 alerted. 2.5 lbs. of THC were confiscated. That K9 alert led to a later search warrant for narcotics.

Sergeant Killian was on routine patrol on 8th Street South Near Kuhn Avenue when he observed a vehicle traveling northbound on 8th Street at a radar locked speed of 89mph in a 35mph zone. Sergeant Killian initiated a pursuit and the fleeing vehicle-maintained speeds over 80mph. The suspect vehicle made several erratic turns while violating multiple stop signs. The suspect vehicle did come to a stop where a high-risk traffic stop was performed, and the driver was taken into custody. This high-risk stop was completed with multiple Rapids units as well as the assistance of the Wood County Sheriff's Office.

- Suspect was booked on the charge of Felony Flee/Elude Officer

Officer Pongratz was on routine patrol and was waved down by a citizen at McMillian library who was inquiring about the rental bicycles there. While assisting, Officer Pongratz asked the male if he would be willing to identify himself and he declined. Officer McHugh arrived on scene and was able to identify the male from prior police contacts. Officers asked the male if he was who Officer McHugh knew him to be and the male stated no. While officers were running the subject's information through Wood County Dispatch the male left the scene on foot. Wood County Dispatch advised that the subject had a servable warrant for his arrest through the Department of Corrections. Officers relocated the male and announced for him to stop and that he was under arrest. The male fled on foot and led officers on a foot pursuit where he was ultimately apprehended. The male was transported to the Wood County Jail and while there a small plastic baggie was located in a pants pocket of the male's jeans which contained a substance which later tested positive for methamphetamine.

- Suspect was booked on charges of Obstructing an Officer, Felony possession of Methamphetamine, and Felony bail jumping.

While on patrol a Rapids officer had Wood County Dispatch run information for a male that was walking northbound on 8th Street South near Two Mile Avenue. Wood County Dispatch advised that the male had a servable warrant for his arrest through the Department of Corrections. Officer Leher made contact with

the male and took him into custody for the warrant. While a search of the male was conducted a baggie of Methamphetamine was recovered. Additionally, a digital scale was located in the male's backpack.

- The male was booked on the charges of possession of methamphetamine second or subsequent, possession of drug paraphernalia, and 3 counts of felony bail jumping.

Detective Bailey completed an ICAC investigation where Wisconsin DOJ sent a cyber-tip to our agency regarding possible child pornography. Throughout this investigation, Detective Bailey identified a suspect, executed a search warrant at the suspect's house, and confiscated digital evidence. As reported last month, the evidence produced approximately 1200 images of child pornography. As a result of this investigation, Detective Bailey requested 10 charges of Possession of Child Pornography to the Wood County District Attorney's Office.

Detective Richter received information from members of the Central Wisconsin Drug Taskforce that an individual who was involved in a disturbance in Stevens Point, WI may be stashing large quantities of drugs in Wisconsin Rapids. Detective Richter later responded to a Wisconsin Rapids residence with Detectives from the Stevens Point Police Department where they conducted a knock and talk. Detectives ultimately located and seized 1034.5 grams of cocaine, 6282 grams of THC, 462 THC Cartridges, and 589 grams of THC Wax. Detective Richter later drafted a search warrant for a Saratoga residence where he later recovered approximately \$53,000 cash that was directly associated with the previously confiscated drugs. Several Assault Rifles were also confiscated.

Officers were called to a welfare check on a female subject that had not been heard from or seen in a couple days. Maintenance workers at that apartment were able to unlock the door for officers to conduct a welfare check. When officers made entry, they located a female that was unresponsive and cold to the touch. The death investigation resulted with the findings of a natural death.

While on that scene, other officers were dispatched to a male subject that was located deceased in his residence. A brother of the deceased traveled from Rhode Island to check on the deceased and the 101-year-old father that he was unable to contact. It was apparent the deceased male had died from a fall down the steps weeks prior. The 101-year-old father lived next door and was transported to the hospital by ambulance. The deceased male was the caretaker for the 101-year-old father. The 101-year-old father was uncared for in the weeks prior and later passed away at the hospital.

Other Activity

- Detective Lieutenant Lubeck received 16 Child Protective Service reports from Wood County Human Services for investigation/review.
- WRPD received information through a criminal informant that several individuals planned to complete an armed robbery of a postal carrier in Wisconsin Rapids. The detective bureau worked to identify the suspects, locate the suspects, and interview the suspects. The threat was determined to be not valid and there were many discrepancies and inconsistencies throughout the investigation. The Postal Inspector and WR Post Office assisted throughout this investigation.
- Sgt. Daven assisted a representative from the Department of Safety and Professional Services in completing an inspection of YouYou's Massage. This was follow up regarding reports of sexual favors taking place and unlicensed workers giving massages.

K9 Lex

Narcotics Deployments	Narcotics Found	Patrol Deployments	Demonstrations	Training Hours	Agency Assists
2	1	0	1	11.5	2

Drugs Taken In

Drug	Quantity
Marijuana	6,282 g
THC Cartridge	462
THC Wax	589 g
Methamphetamine	0.52 g
Fentanyl	0
Cocaine	1034.5 g
Heroin	0

Overtime Hours

	Crew A	Crew B	Crew C	Crew D	Detectives	Code Enf.	Totals
Call time	12.00	10	12	24	8	2	68.00
Chapter 51	0.00	0	0	0	0	0	0.00
Community	0.00	1.5	2.75	3	4.5	0	11.75
Court	8.00	16	20	48	0	2.67	94.67
Emergency call	22.14	53.25	59.26	91.88	32.625	10	269.16
FMLA	0.00	0	0	0	0	0	0.00
Grant	0.00	0	0	0	0	0	0.00
Late Call	0.38	4.8	6.38	3	2.25	0	16.81
Other	0.00	0	14	18.75	13.5	0	46.25
Sick	1.88	13.5	9	72.25	0	0	96.63
Training	27.00	12	37.5	60.75	0	0	137.25
Cover Training	29.00	18	13.5	11.62	0	0	72.12
Vacation	15.00	0	9	0	0	0	24.00
Worker's Comp	0.00	0	0	0	0	0	0.00
Search Warrant	0.00	0	0	0	9	0	9.00
FTO Pay	15.75	0	31.5	0	0	0	47.25
K9 Pay	21.00	0	0	0	0	0	21.00
Total	152.15	129.05	214.89	333.25	69.875	14.67	913.89