



2018 ANNUAL REPORT

Fairness

Trust

Professionalism

Dedication



An Internationally and State Accredited Agency

FINDLAY POLICE DEPARTMENT

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Findlay Township Police Department is to fulfill all of our job duties and responsibilities while adhering to the philosophy of safeguarding the rights and liberties of both citizens and fellow coworkers, in recognition of human dignity and the constitutional rights bestowed on all persons. We shall always treat other persons as we would expect to be treated or that we would want our loved ones to be treated under similar circumstances.

VISION STATEMENT

We will continue to be a leader and an example, both professionally and personally, to all law enforcement agencies as we provide an effective service through partnerships built in the schools and the community with the ultimate goal of detecting and preventing crime, while preserving peace, integrity and public trust.

VALUES STATEMENT (FTPD)

Fairness

We will enforce the law fairly without compromise for crime, with relentless prosecution of criminals and without fear of favor, malice or ill will.

Trust

We will recognize the badge of our office as a symbol of public faith and trust to be held so long as we hold ourselves to the ethics of the policing profession.

Professionalism

We will conduct the business of our profession in an honest, compassionate and efficient manner, while adhering to a higher standard of personal conduct and decency.

Dedication

We will hold true to our oath to uphold the Constitution of the United States of America, the laws and ordinances of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the Township of Findlay.

Dear Resident:

It is with great pride that I present to you the annual report for the 2018 calendar year for the Findlay Township Police Department.

By statistical comparison, our 2018 activity has increased in all categories. Officers patrolled a total of 209,539 miles and investigated or handled 5,693 total complaints for the year. There were 942 more complaints investigated in 2018 as compared to 2017. Our criminal arrests in 2018 were 115 compared to 114 in 2017. There were a total of 36 Felony, 119 Misdemeanor and 133 summary charges for a total of 288 charges in 2018. In 2017 there were 28 Felony, 88 Misdemeanor and 124 summary charges for a total of 240 charges in 2017. This represents 48 more charges being filed in 2018. The department also conducted 2,229 traffic violator contacts in 2018 in an attempt to reduce the number of traffic accidents in the township. There were 1,600 traffic violator contacts in 2017. This represents an increase of 629 traffic violator contacts when compared to 2017.

The department has continued its status as an Internationally and State Accredited law enforcement agency as we were re-accredited again in 2016. The department is one of only eight (8) departments in the state to hold this distinction.

The department maintains its commitment to the West Allegheny School District by providing a fulltime officer who teaches various programs to our students. These programs are tailored to the changing threats to which our children are exposed. In 2018 our K-9 Unit conducted numerous locker searches at both the High School and Middle School. The department has also hosted the NRA "Refuse to Be a Victim" program and partnered with the DEA to facilitate a drug take-back program where residents can turn in any unused prescription medication.

The agency continues to invest in our officer's training. Officers of the department are required to attend drivers training every two years. In the past, the department received funding. In 2018, the department did not receive this necessary funding. As with other specialized training, small departments in today's financial climate need to do more with less. We have demonstrated that we can be more self-sufficient in this area by combining resources with other agencies in the area to help manage the costs.

The department continues to train its officers in ALERRT, (Advanced Law Enforcement Rapid Response Training) by providing refresher training at various schools and office type structures. Officers with our Commercial Vehicle Inspection Team work in partnership with numerous Police Departments in the area to inspect commercial vehicles in an effort to keep our roadways safe.

As we enter 2019, the Findlay Township Police Department maintains its preparedness to face any and all challenges and remains committed to its citizens by providing a quality service to all of the residents and visitors of Findlay Township.

Sincerely,

Jesse J. Lesko, Jr.

ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITY

	2017	2018
• Total Calls for Service:	4,751	5,693
• Total Arrests (Felony, Misdemeanor):	114	115
• Non-Traffic Citations issued (summary arrests):	124	133
• Traffic Citations issued:	421	498
• Traffic Warnings issued:	1,325	1,913
• Total Parking Complaints/Violations:	36	54
• Total Parking Citations	4	4
• Total DUI Arrests	9	22

USE OF FORCE REPORTS

• Soft Empty Hand Techniques (pressure points, etc)	0
• Hard Empty Hand Techniques (joint locks, etc)	1
• Intermediate Weapon Strikes (baton strikes, OC Spray, Taser, etc)	0
• Showing of Weapons (General Use of Force)	1
• Deadly Force	0

The use of force incident for 2018 were reviewed and critiqued and found to have been conducted within the policies and procedures set forth by the department and approved by all accreditation standards. Out of 115 criminal arrests and 5,693 calls for service, the Findlay Township Police Officers had only used force two (2) times. This is a very impressive statistic that we are very proud of and a result of our extensive training and the fact that all officers act within the guidelines of the Mission, Vision and Values Statements.

VEHICLE PURSUITS

The Findlay Township Police Officers were not involved in any vehicular pursuits in 2018.

TRUCK INSPECTIONS

The Findlay Township Police department has two (2) trained Motor Vehicle Carrier Inspection Officers. Officers Patrick Zilles and Russel Andree. Both of these Officers receive extensive training and recertified annually.

- Total number of truck inspections: 196
 - Total number of citations issued to truck drivers: 21
 - Total number of violations: 199
 - Total commercial vehicles placed out of service: 19
 - Total number of drivers placed out of service: 4
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COMMUNITY ORIENTED POLICING ACTIVITIES

During the 2018 calendar year, the officers of the department have either provided traffic control, crowd control or merely made their presence known by interacting with citizens through various programs such as:

- Crime Watch Program
- Business Watch Program
- Participation in the Fair in the Woodlands annual event
- The Christmas Light-Up Celebration

- Various Montour Trail events such as the IKEA Race, Montour Trail Bike Detail, and Crop Walk, etc.
- Daily AM and PM school bus traffic control during the school year on Route 30 @ Santiago road
- Annual Easter Egg Hunt

- Annual Halloween Day Parade
- Annual Independence Day Fireworks celebration
- Participation in the annual Fishing Derby at the Leopold Lake
- Child Safety Seat Programs/Installations

The Findlay Township Police Officers provide Vacation Home checks. To participate in this program, contact the police department at (724) 695-1300.

SPECIAL PURPOSE K-9 TEAM

The police department employs one (1) K-9 officer, Sergeant Neil Cridge. Sergeant Cridge and his K-9 Scooby received extensive training in order to become a fully trained K-9 Officer. K-9 Scooby was utilized in more than one way. The following is a summary of the activities of the K-9 unit:

- Tracking: 2
- Article search: 0
- Narcotics search: 14
- Warrant service: 1
- Area search: 0
- Building search: 3
- Apprehension: 1

The Sports and Recreation Complex were patrolled approximately 47 times throughout the year by the K-9 Team.

K-9's Scooby was utilized to perform locker searches at the West Allegheny High School, Middle School and assisted with searches of multiple other schools in neighboring jurisdictions.

TASK FORCES

The police department was involved with the following task forces during 2018:

- The District Attorney Narcotics Enforcement Team sponsored by the Allegheny County District Attorney (Overtime is reimbursed)
- The West Hills Area DUI Task Force (Overtime is reimbursed)

INTERNAL AFFAIRS INVESTIGATIONS/CITIZENS COMPLAINTS

There was one (1) Internal Affairs Investigation and one (1) Citizen Complaints during 2018 and both incidents were unfounded.

TRAINING HIGHLIGHTS

Each Police Officer has received approximately 100 hours of training and each Communications Officer has received approximately 50 hours of training in 2018. The training aspect of the department is one of the most important because it affords the members an opportunity to become more adept at their individual positions which ultimately provides a professional service to the public. The following is a summary of the training received by the members of the department:

POLICE OFFICERS

- All officers completed their annual mandatory in-service training required by the Municipal Police Officers Education and Training Commission
- All officers completed their annual Use of Force Tactics training
- All officers completed their annual Taser® re-certification
- All officers completed three (3) firearms training/qualifications, Spring, Summer and Winter
- All officers completed their Force on Force, scenario based training
- All officers completed their drivers training (every 2 years)
- All officers completed their Advanced Law Enforcement Rapid Response Training (ALERRT)
- CPR/AED Training
- Narcan Training
- Incident Command System Training
- Bicycle Patrol Training
- Bloodborne Pathogens Training
- Fire Extinguisher Training
- Mental Health Training

Individual officers received training in the following categories:

- Risk Management
- Emergency Management
- J-NET/CLEAN Access Training and Recertification
- K-9 Maintenance
- Cody Computer Records Management Training
- Standardized Field Sobriety Testing Training
- Advanced Critical Incident Response Training
- Car Seat Installation Training
- Commercial Vehicle Inspection Training

- Domestic Violence Training
- Various Officer Safety Training Programs
- Crime Scene Investigation Training
- Bullying Prevention Training
- School Security Training
- DARE Training
- Interview and Interrogation Training
- Various Computer Training Classes

In 2018, the Department continued providing PAVTN training for the police officers and dispatchers. The program, Pennsylvania Virtual Training Network (PAVTN), is administered through the Pennsylvania Chiefs of Police Association and involves several training videos that are completed on-line. The videos are all job related and provide our personnel with cost effective (free) and time efficient training.

COMMUNICATIONS OFFICERS

Individual Communications Officers received training in the following categories:

- J-NET/CLEAN Access Training and Recertification
- Computer Network Training
- Excel Computer Training
- Cody Records Management Refresher Training
- APCO Basic Telecommunicator Course
- Incident Command System Training (ICS)
- Bloodborne Pathogens Training
- CPR/AED Training
- Fire Extinguisher Training
- Emergency Medical Dispatching Training
- PA Emergency Management Training



D.A.R.E. PROGRAM

During the 2018 calendar year, Officer Jamie Sacco taught numerous lessons to students in grades K-12 in the following schools within the West Allegheny School District:

- Wilson Elementary School
- West Allegheny Middle School

- **West Allegheny High School**
- **There was no D.A.R.E. grant in 2018. It is important to remember that there had not been any changes to the programs offered and the department and township administration utilized other sources of funding for these programs. The West Allegheny School District had decided to pay a portion of an officer's salary to ensure that the officer remains in the school teaching vital information to our children.**

In addition to teaching D.A.R.E. to the students in the West Allegheny School District, Officer Sacco also performed the following activities throughout the year:

- **Conducted a program on Protecting Kids on the Internet to students in grades K-12, at parent meetings and with teachers.**
- **Conducted Safety Programs.**
- **Conducted the Eddie Eagle Firearms Education Program.**
- **Conducted basic self defense and crime prevention techniques to prevent domestic violence, sexual assault, and date rape to high school girls.**
- **Formulated Block Watch and Safe House Programs.**
- **Developed and managed the Crime Watch and Business Watch Programs.**
- **With the donations from area businesses, the officers were able to develop and manage the Shop with a COP Program.**
- **Served on the Safe Schools Committee.**
- **Remain actively involved with the Boy Scout and Girl Scouts.**
- **Serve on the Student Support Team at the Middle and High School.**
- **Remain actively involved with the PTA Organization.**
- **Utilize McGruff at community events.**
- **Continually evaluate and assess juvenile crime throughout Findlay Township and the West Allegheny School District in order to assess possible solutions or crime prevention programs that could assist in the reduction of juvenile crime.**
- **Maintain a close working relationship with the school district and the local district magistrate in devising a plan to deal with juvenile offenders involved in minor offenses and offer community service.**
- **Work closely with the school district and the local district magistrate in devising plans to reduce truancy.**

If you have any questions or you have any requests for assistance, please feel free to contact Officer Jamie Sacco at (724) 695-1300.



POLICE DEPARTMENT WEBPAGE

The police department currently maintains a page on the township wide website. The webpage contains links to the following areas of interest:

- Block Parent Program
- Business Watch Program
- Crime Watch Program
- Swift 9-1-1 Emergency Notification System (residents are encouraged to sign up for free)
- Anti-Bullying Programs
- Assistance to Families/Drug & Violence Prevention
- Bicycle Safety
- Boy Scout/Girl Scout Safety Programs
- Car Seat Program
- Charlie Check First (Stranger Awareness Program)
- Child ID Videotaping Program (Wilson Elementary School)
- Conflict Resolution
- D.A.R.E. Program K-4
- D.A.R.E. Program 5th Grade
- D.A.R.E. Program (Middle & High School)
- Drug Identification Programs
- Eddie the Eagle Gun Safety Programs
- Fingerprinting Services
- Girls Self-Defense Program
- Halloween Safety
- Home and Business Security Checks
- Home Invasion Prevention Programs
- Identity Theft Prevention Programs
- Internet Safety
- McGruff the Crime Dog Appearances
- Montour Trail Bicycle Patrol
- Road Rage Prevention
- Safety & International Programs for Businesses
- Seatbelt Safety
- Street Law Classes (West Allegheny High School)
- Terrorism Awareness
- Truck Safety Inspections, Enforcement Team
- Vacation House Checks
- VIN Etching Program
- Welcome Packet Program

- Wilson Elementary Student Safety Programs

The police department instituted a Facebook (Findlay Township Police Department) And a Twitter account (@FindlayTwpPD) so that the department could interact with the community utilizing social media.

ROSTER OF OFFICERS

<i>NAME</i>	<i>YEARS OF SERVICE</i>
Chief Jesse J. Lesko, Jr. (Graduate of Southern Police Institute)	32
Captain John H. Hart (Graduate of The FBI National Academy Session #270, NRA Firearms, Taser and ALERRT Instructor)	28
Sergeant Michael Flaskos (Graduate of Northwestern University School of Police Staff and Command, NRA Firearms, Taser & ALERRT Instructor, Field Training Officer, Computer Forensics Examiner, IT Director)	21
Sergeant Detective Christopher Stang	18
Sergeant James Malesky (Accreditation Manager)	18
Sergeant Neil Cridge & K-9 Scooby (K-9 Officer, Use of Force & PPCT Instructor)	14
Officer Patrick Zilles (Certified Motor Carrier Inspector, Computer Forensics Examiner)	28
Officer Michael Zacios (Firearms, Taser and O.C. Spray Instructor)	14
Officer Miguel Amaya (Firearms, Taser, Use of Force & PPCT Instructor)	10
Officer Jamie Sacco (Certified D.A.R.E. Officer, Accreditation Function Assistant, Car Seat Technician)	6
Officer Michael Johnson	3
Officer Russ Andree (Certified Motor Carrier Inspector)	3
Officer Antonio Mascilli (JTAC Assistant)	3

Officer Shannon Luhrman	2
Officer Bryce Cochran	2
Officer Duell Thompson	1
Officer Anthony Tarentino	1
Officer Corey McNally	1

- Total years of experience = 205
- Average years of experience per officer = 11.4
- Age of oldest police officer = 58
- Age of youngest police officer = 25
- Average age of police officer = 39.1

ROSTER OF DISPATCHERS

<i>NAME</i>	<i>YEARS OF SERVICE</i>
Dispatch Supervisor Linda Weible	43
Dispatcher Teresa Reaghard	26
Dispatcher Cindy Sherbondy	18
Dispatcher Elizabeth Vuono	11
Dispatcher Trina Tokarski	10
Dispatcher Kimberly Eisenried	4
Dispatcher Heather Bombard	3

- Total years of experience = 115
- Average years of experience per dispatcher = 16.43
- Age of oldest dispatcher = 61

- Age of youngest dispatcher = 32
 - Average age of dispatchers = 54.43
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The members of the Findlay Township Police Department want to thank you for all of your support over the years. Without the support of the citizens of the township, our job would be much more difficult.

If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to contact:

Chief Jesse J. Lesko, Jr. at (724) 695-1300.