

2018

# 2018 Annual Report

TOWN OF MINOCQUA POLICE DEPARTMENT  
CHIEF OF POLICE DAVID J JAEGER

MINOCQUA POLICE DEPARTMENT | 418 E. Chicago Avenue/P.O. Box 346 Minocqua, WI 54548

# OUR MISSION

The Minocqua Police Department will enhance the quality of life in the community through our service to the public, protection of persons and property, impartial enforcement of the law, and partnership with the community.

# OUR COMMITMENTS

To identify criminal offenders and criminal activity and, where appropriate, to apprehend offenders and participate in subsequent court proceedings.

To reduce the opportunities for the commission of some crimes through preventive patrol and other measures.

To aid individuals who are in danger of physical harm.

To protect Constitutional guarantees.

To facilitate the movement of people and vehicles.

To assist those who cannot care for themselves.

To resolve conflict.

To identify problems that are potentially serious law enforcement or governmental problems.

To create and maintain a feeling of security in the community.

To promote and preserve order.

To provide other services on an emergency basis.



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# MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF

I am excited to present to you our Annual Report for 2018. I hope this report gives you insight into the operations and accomplishments of the Town of Minocqua Police Department. Law enforcement is unique in that services need to be provided 24 hours a day, seven days a week and 365 days a year. The employees of the Minocqua Police Department are committed to providing the highest possible level of police service to our community. The mission of the Minocqua Police Department is to "enhance the quality of life in the community through our service to the public, protection of persons and property, impartial enforcement of the law, and partnership with the community."

We accomplish this mission by departing from a traditional incident-driven approach to policing and implementing a results-oriented systemic approach to the many problems that allow crime and disorder to exist and to grow. To this end, we have embraced a philosophy of policing known as Intelligence-Led Policing. Intelligence-Led Policing is an interactive process between police officers who work for the Minocqua Police Department and the citizens who either reside, visit or work in the Town of Minocqua, to mutually develop ways to identify problems and concerns and then respond to these problems utilizing a wide range of methods and resources available to the police department, other government entities, or the community itself. Our overall goal is to create a cooperative relationship between the police and residents to identify problems that impact the quality of life, to devise strategies to address those problems, and to work together to solve them.

On February 22, 2019 at approximately 4:17 AM, officers responded to the report of a male subject throwing-up in the Burger King parking lot. Officers responded to the scene with medics. Once on scene, medics were attempting to resuscitate the victim from a drug overdose. Officers investigated the suspicious death and learned the victim overdosed on Fentanyl. On September 19, 2018 at approximately 4:23 PM, officers responded to the report of a male subject not breathing and cold to the touch at the Coachlite Apartments located at the South Loop of the island. Officers arrived on scene and found the victim to be deceased. Officers investigated the suspicious death and learned the victim overdosed on Fentanyl. Both investigations are lengthy in nature and officers conducted follow-up on all leads in an attempt to determine where and who the drugs were purchased from. These investigations continue with no foreseen conclusion until those who sold the victims the drugs are identified and brought to justice. Officers continue to work with the community in bringing these types of investigations to a conclusion. The officers' actions during these investigations, without question, work to "enhance the quality of life in the community through our service to the public, protection of persons and property, impartial enforcement of the law, and partnership with the community."

I am extremely proud of the men and women that I have the pleasure to serve with at the Minocqua Police Department. We select, retain, and recognize only the best employees. Every employee at the Minocqua Police Department strives to provide a "second to none" level of service. Our employees rise to the challenge on a daily basis to provide a level of service that meets your needs. I would also like to thank the citizens of the Town of Minocqua and those that visit our area for their continued support. Please do not hesitate to let us know when we have met this challenge or where we may have fallen short in your eyes. I am committed to accountability at all levels, respect and honest communication with the community, and a desire to work with members of the public to enhance the quality of life that makes the Town of Minocqua such a unique place to reside, visit and work.

*Chief David J Jaeger*

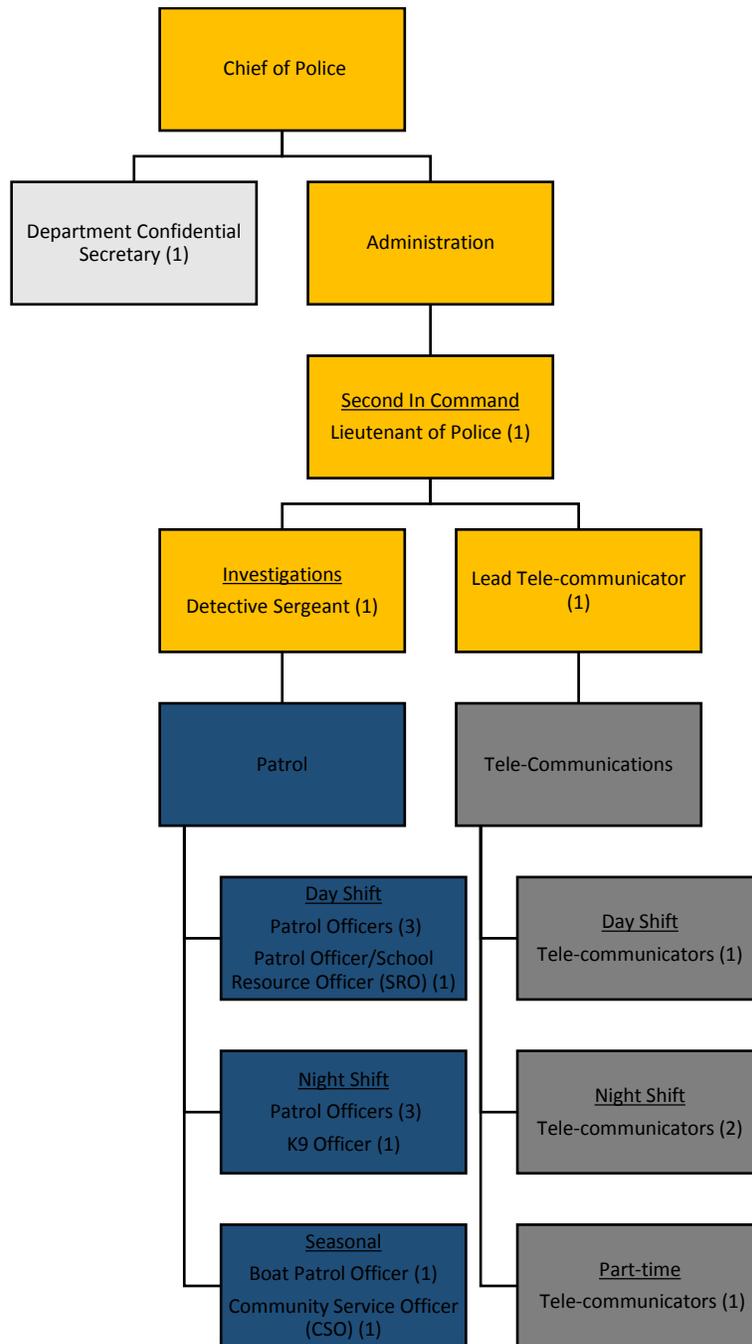


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# ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



# STAFF

## SWORN

### CHIEF OF POLICE

David Jaeger

### LIEUTENANT OF POLICE

Jason Benbenek

### DETECTIVE SERGEANT

David Geiss

### SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER/PATROL OFFICER

William Trojan

### CANINE (K9) PATROL OFFICER

Matthew Tate

### PATROL OFFICERS

Toni Haling  
Steven Zajicek  
Benjamin Burrows  
Daniel Littleton  
Devon Gaszak  
Kaleb Punzel

### SEASONAL BOAT PATROL OFFICER

Vacant

## CIVILIAN

### DEPARTMENT CONFIDENTIAL SECRETARY

Tina Aimone

### LEAD TELE-COMMUNICATOR

Jaclyn Korten Hof

### TELE-COMMUNICATORS

Dawn Bresnahan  
Lisa Clendening  
Ashley Weber

### PART-TIME TELE-COMMUNICATORS

Mary Goeldner  
Vacant  
Vacant  
Vacant

### COMMUNITY SERVICE OFFICER

Vacant

# COMMUNITY PROFILE

Minocqua was officially organized in the year 1889. While explanations vary regarding the meaning of the name "Minocqua", the most credible seems to be "noon day rest" and is attributed to the Island's earlier inhabitants, the Ojibwe Indians. The Ojibwe people have worked to keep their heritage alive and remain an integral part of area culture.

In the late 1800's, Minocqua was a logging town and also saw many French fur traders. Clawson Hill was a famous landmark in town and is the current location of the Pointe Resort & Hotel at the south end of the Highway 51 Bridge. The railroad was a critical component of Minocqua's early growth. The Milwaukee Road railroad company originally came to the area to access timber. Later, railroads catered primarily to sportsmen and tourists, transforming Minocqua into the vacation getaway haven it remains to this day. The two railroad trestles that brought trains to the Island are still intact today and serve as the trailhead for the Bearskin State Trail (hiking and biking in summer, snowmobiling in winter).

Minocqua is located in the middle of Northern Wisconsin's Lake Country. The Town of Minocqua has a service area of eighteen miles from east to west and twelve miles from north to south and contains over 180 miles of roads. Minocqua has a permanent resident population of 4,447 residents but the population grows to many times this size during the summer months. The increase in population is attributed to tourism and increases the population by approximately 15,000 residents. This number is provided by the Minocqua Area Chamber of Commerce who obtained approximately 15,000 residents through traffic census and approximate population census during major events held in the Town of Minocqua.

The Town of Minocqua has a variety of zoning types within its boundaries to include single family, multi-family, recreational, rural residential, business (06 & 07), manufacturing/industrial and forestry (1A). The economy of the area is based upon the tourism industry. The Town of Minocqua has thousands of lakes, rivers and streams that literally saturate the geography. Tourists have long been visiting the Town of Minocqua to enjoy all this water by boating, swimming, fishing, snowmobiling and more. These are some of the major draws to the Town of Minocqua.



# AGENCY PROFILE

*Although the patrol officer is the most visible part of any law enforcement agency, there are many other facets involved in keeping a community safe.*



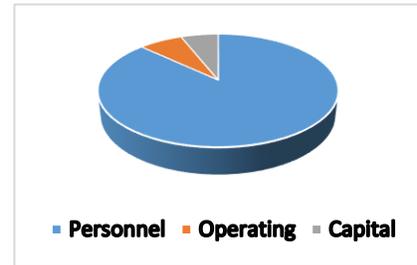
*The following section takes a look at those different facets.*

# POLICE ADMINISTRATION

The administration division of the police department consists of the chief of police, administrative lieutenant, detective sergeant and the lead tele-communicator. This division is responsible for the coordination and direction of the department.

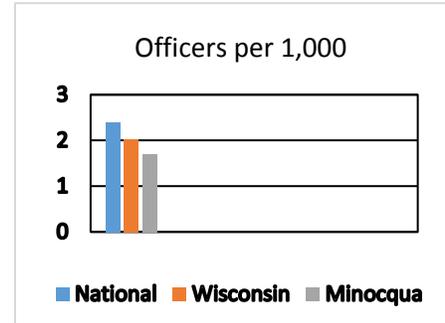
## BUDGET

A large task of this division is budgeting and fiscal management. With the current state of economy and the need and demand for law enforcement services, this is no easy task. Through careful planning, the Town of Minocqua Police Department has been able to maintain and in some instances increase the level of service all while maintaining a little to no impact on tax dollars. The budget established for the police department in 2018 was \$1,570,300. As the info graphic to the right shows, the largest area of our budget is personnel. The administrative division coordinates the management of personnel from recruitment to promotions and internal investigations.



## PLANNING

We have been fortunate to continue to maintain staffing levels over the last year, however we continue to look at the future with the anticipated increase in call volume and growth in tourism to our jurisdiction and the surrounding areas. The average number of officers per 1,000 people in Wisconsin in 2017 was 2.4. This number accounts for police officers as well as sheriff's deputies. At face value, with the base population of 4,447, it would appear the officer to population ratio is average for the Town of Minocqua but if you include the increase in population due to tourism, the officer to population ratio is low. Here in the Town of Minocqua we have consistently "done more with less" during the tourism season and have operated at our current level of 2.4 officers per 1,000 people taking into account a tourism population influx of 15,000 tourists in the Minocqua area at any given time.



## TRAINING

The State of Wisconsin requires that sworn officers attend a minimum of 24 hours of training annually to maintain their law enforcement certification. Our officers attended 851 hours of training in 2018. This averages to 77 hours of training for each officer. This training included firearms qualification- which occurs twice a year, Defense And Arrest Tactics, Emergency Vehicle Operations Course, Vehicle Contacts Course, Taser Update, along with annual legal updates on new laws and court rulings. Officers also attended a variety of specialized training such as: Basic Criminal Investigation/New Detective Training, Basic Evidence Technician Training, Field Force Operations (Riot Control), Active Shooter Training, Field Sobriety Instructor Training, and Leadership Training.



The police department continues to work on completing our training room. This will enable us to host trainings at our department. The department's goal is to become a leader in law enforcement training in Wisconsin as a host agency for law enforcement across the State of Wisconsin.

## ACCOUNTABILITY

As outlined in our mission statement and commitments, the Town of Minocqua Police Department takes great strides to ensure we will enhance the quality of life in the community through our service to the public, protection of persons and property, impartial enforcement of the law, and partnership with the community. The police department maintains several methods of receiving and processing comments and/or concerns regarding staff performance. This can be done by speaking with a supervisor on the phone, filling out a form at the police station, emailing the department, through direct contact with any supervisor, or by contacting the Town of Minocqua Town Offices. When a report is filed that may indicate a possible violation of department policy, the complaint is referred to the Lieutenant of our department. The Lieutenant will gather information regarding the circumstances of the complaint and ensure that it follows through the chain of command to the Chief of Police. If the finding warrants, appropriate disciplinary action and/or training will be administered. Regardless of the outcome, the complainant will be contacted and advised of the findings.



## USE OF FORCE

The Town of Minocqua Police Department requires an officer to complete a Use of Force report each time an officer uses any type of force, such as: empty hands, intermediate weapon (baton, OC spray, TASER) and lethal force. The Town of Minocqua Police Department had 3 documented uses of force incidents in 2018. Because most use of force incidents happen during arrests, it is important to consider the number of use of force incidents in relation to the number of arrests made. The police department used force in only .0067% of all arrests. There are several options of force that an officer has available to them ranging from the use of hands on techniques to deadly force. In 2018, the use of force was limited to hands on techniques. There were no incidents that resulted in the deployment or pointing of an electronic control device (Taser), firearm, OC spray, use of baton or deadly force.



## TRAFFIC PURSUITS

Vehicle pursuits can expose citizens, law enforcement officers and fleeing violators to the risk of serious injury or death. Officers must weigh the safety of the public and themselves against their law enforcement duty to apprehend violators of the law when determining whether or not to engage and continue in a pursuit. The Town of Minocqua Police Department reviews all pursuits in which officers are involved to ensure that officers follow policy and minimize the risk of pursuit related crashes. In 2018 there was one pursuit initiated by Town of Minocqua officers.



## 2018 ACHIEVEMENTS

- Continued to engage the community through Canine Program demonstrations in local community events.
- Continued the evaluation system for the officers which will provide feedback, reinforce expectations and hold employees accountable for their performance.
- Continued efficiency in records division by scanning old case files, crash reports and traffic citations.
- Continued seeking funding through donations and fund raising to maintain a Canine Program at the Department.
- Continued seeking funding through donations to enhance the training room and training in general.
- One member of the department continues to be a part of the Northcentral Drug Enforcement Group (NORDEG) working on drug interdiction investigations in the Northcentral area of Wisconsin.
- Continued to engage the community through conducting the 2018 Citizen's Academy.
- Continued to engage the community through conducting Department of Natural Resources Safety Courses; Boater's Safety, Snowmobile Safety, ATV Safety and Hunter's Safety Courses.
- Continued to engage the community through our presence on social media, the internet (website) as well as traditional media.
- Continued to engage the community through participating in the Minocqua Professional Police Association's (MPPA) annual Shop With a Cop event.
- Began working with the 'REACH-A-Child' organization which provides departments with books and drawstring backpacks for children. These books/bags are aids to help us engage with the children in a positive way, through the power of a book. We present a child the book in hopes that it will distract the child from the tragic situation that is taking place.



# PATROL DIVISION

The patrol division is the backbone of the police department. This division is responsible for handling a majority of the many emergency and non-emergency calls received each year, along with enforcing traffic laws on the highways and roadways throughout the Town of Minocqua.



The Town of Minocqua presently has 8 patrol officers that are assigned to this division. These officers are then split among 4 patrol shifts that provide coverage 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

At any given time there are between 1 to 3 officers working each shift, depending on the time of day.

Officers primarily conduct their patrols from police cars. The Town of Minocqua utilizes six marked patrol vehicles and one unmarked patrol vehicle. This has traditionally been the primary means of providing police services, but we have also initiated alternative patrol methods.

Our officers also get out of their patrol cars and will either patrol certain areas of the town on ATV or foot. These efforts afford the officers the opportunity to interact more freely with the residents outside the "confines" of a patrol car. Officers are also periodically assigned to a specialized directed patrol. This places officers in certain areas of the town due to a high profile events.

This past year proved to be quite a busy year for our patrol officers. In addition to responding to calls for service, our patrol officers enforce traffic laws on over 180 miles of town roads in addition to USH 51, ST HWY 70W and ST HWY 47.



## CALLS FOR SERVICE

In the Town of Minocqua, calls for service are received in a variety of ways. Emergency calls are typically placed through 911 calls which are answered and dispatched through the Minocqua Police Department Tele-communications Center. In addition to these emergency calls, citizens can either report crimes in person at the police department or by calling the non-emergency number. These calls are fielded 24 hours a day by a police tele-communicator at the police department. Lastly, officers on patrol can self-initiate calls for service should they encounter something on their patrols.

CALLS FOR SERVICE				
2018	2017	2016	2015	2014
6,208	6,291	6,255	5,141	5,340

Incident Type	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014
Abandoned Vehicles	30	19	27	13	24
Alarm	154	171	193	135	152
Animal	142	171	177	180	153
Civil	42	28	24	28	25
Death	17	6	8	11	2
Disturbance	90	89	111	110	129
Domestic	39	30	26	19	25
Fireworks	9	9	11	9	8
Fraud	11	13	8	16	27
Gas Drive Off	21	16	35	32	33
Gunshots	7	9	10	15	8
Harassment	49	36	47	38	55
Health & Welfare Check	91	92	98	84	77
Juvenile	127	71	74	50	42
Mental Commitment	39	56	29	29	35
Missing Person	11	8	5	8	2
Noise Complaint	13	21	23	35	26
Property Lost/Found	87	98	98	83	68
Reckless Driving	119	91	110	101	108
Runaway	3	2	6	10	3
Sex Offenses	5	4	5	5	10
Shoplifting/Theft	90	85	81	68	34
Suspicious Incident	205	217	248	189	190
Trespass	12	19	18	13	9
Underage Drinking	10	14	5	6	0
Vandalism/CDP	26	36	37	57	23
Warrant Arrest	109	95	105	47	64
Weapons Violations	2	3	0	0	2

## TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT

Traffic safety and enforcement is one of the main complaints and concerns that we receive from community members. Officers routinely conduct proactive traffic enforcement during their shift as calls for service allow.

TRAFFIC CITATIONS			
	2018	2017	2016
Speeding	148	181	202
Non-speeding	344	292	500
Parking	506	284	376
OWI	95	107	153
Ordinance	345	249	223
DNR	26	18	20
Total	1464	1131	1474

TRAFFIC WARNINGS			
	2018	2017	2016
Speeding	672	710	641
Non-speeding	569	647	628
Vehicle Defect	317	192	192
Total	1558	1658	1461



## ACCIDENTS

State reportable crashes in Wisconsin are those crashes which are defined by one or more of the following criteria: property damage in excess of \$1,000, or any sustained injury. All other crashes which do not meet these criteria are considered as a non-reportable crash.

ACCIDENTS INVESTIGATED			
2018	2017	2016	2015
360	286	348	280

## ARRESTS

Arrest data is taken from the Uniform Crime Reports and, for their purposes, a juvenile is identified as a person younger than eighteen. However, presently in Wisconsin, a seventeen year old is treated as an adult for criminal purposes. There are also different types of arrests that a law enforcement officer can make.

- District Attorney Referrals are requests to the district attorney's office for state charges, which can result in a punishment of incarceration in jail or prison, probation and/or monetary fines.
- Juvenile Referrals are requests to the juvenile authorities for charges which can result in a punishment of incarceration in a secure detention facility and/or juvenile supervision through a case worker.
- Town Summonses are local ordinance violations which can result in a punishment of community service or monetary fines.

	2018	2017	2016	2015
District Attorney Referrals	194	229	236	133
Juvenile Referrals	28	49	45	30
Town Summons	93	137	148	119
Total	315	415	429	282

## Special Response Team (SRT)

The Town of Minocqua Police Department has partnered with the Oneida County Sheriff's Office over the last year to provide assistance for any tactical situations in our community as well as surrounding communities. Currently, the Department has no officers assigned to the Oneida County SRT team.



## FIELD FORCE TEAM (FFT)

The Town of Minocqua Police Department has partnered with the Oneida County Sheriff's Office over the last year to provide assistance for any civil unrest situations in our community as well as surrounding communities. Currently, the Department has two officers assigned to the Oneida County Field Force team.

# INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION

Criminal investigations are an important aspect of the services that we provide. Each Town of Minocqua police officer has received training to conduct thorough and complete investigations. Officers routinely conduct investigations and frequently resolve the issue with no additional assistance. Those investigations that require additional or technical assistance are forwarded to the Minocqua Police Department’s Detective Sergeant Dave Geiss.



The Town of Minocqua Police Department has collateral duties which assigns certain officers to conduct investigations involving high profile crimes, white collar crimes as well as drug related crimes. The Detective Sergeant is responsible for investigative follow-up and criminal case preparation as related to arrest and prosecution of persons suspected of committing crimes.

The Detective Sergeant works closely with the Oneida County District Attorney’s Office, as well as many other agencies both locally and nationally. The Detective Sergeant meets regularly with other local agencies to share and obtain information regarding criminal activity in and around the Town of Minocqua. The information shared at these meetings has proven invaluable and has directly resulted in crimes being solved not only here in the Town of Minocqua but throughout the northcentral area of the State.

## CRIME REPORTING

The Federal Bureau of Investigation’s Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program, which began in 1929, collects information on the following crimes reported to law enforcement: homicide, forcible rape, robbery, aggravated assault, simple assault, burglary, larceny theft, motor vehicle theft, and arson.

These numbers reflect data on offenses reported by the Minocqua Police Department to the Wisconsin UCR program. Law enforcement agencies are responsible for the completeness and accuracy of the data. UCR Data for 2018 has not been released at the time of this report.

Violent Crime			
	2017	2016	2015
Homicide	0	0	0
Forcible Rape	0	1	1
Robbery	0	0	0
Aggravated Assault	7	3	5
Simple Assault	21	27	44
Total Violent	28	31	50
Property Crime			
	2017	2016	2015
Burglary	2	16	4
Larceny Theft	82	87	100
Motor Vehicle Theft	2	0	0
Arson	0	0	0
Total Property	86	103	104

***The United States clearance rates for 2017 were: 45.6% for violent crimes and 17.6% for property crimes.***

## PROPERTY STOLEN/RECOVERED

As shown in the previous page, property crimes have accounted for over 75% of the Index Crimes reported by the Town of Minocqua Police Department. Property crimes include residential and commercial burglaries, theft and auto theft. A large number of property crimes which occur in our area involve the seasonal residences within our jurisdiction.

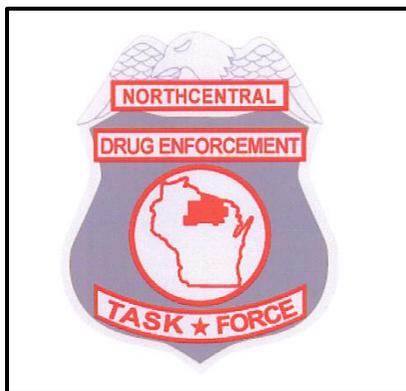
Property crimes generally have very few witnesses. As a result, those cases have limited investigative leads and low solvability rates. This is reflected by their low clearance rate. A majority of our property crimes occurred with force, meaning that the property (home, business, and car) was secured or had a locked door and force was used to gain entry.

Due to advances in technology and information sharing, a greater percentage of stolen property is being recovered and returned to the rightful owners. Pawn shops and second hand retailers are now entering property taken in by their stores into a database that is accessible and regularly searched by the Detective Sergeant.



## DRUG INVESTIGATIONS

Many of the people arrested indicate that the reason for committing these property crimes is to support their drug habit. Major drug investigations in the Town of Minocqua are conducted by the Northcentral Drug Enforcement Group (NORDEG). The NORDEG Unit consists of numerous officers from police and sheriff's departments in the northcentral counties of Wisconsin. The Town of Minocqua has had an officer assigned to this unit as a collateral duty since Chief Jaeger took over in 2014.



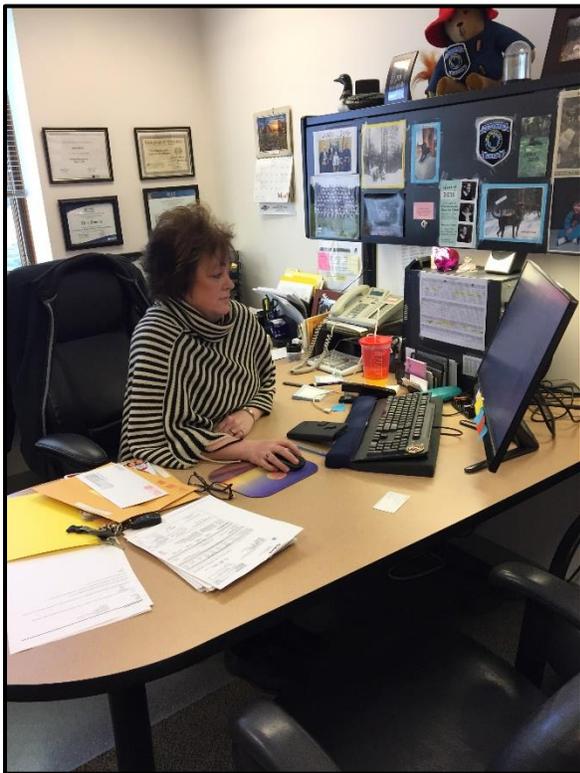
Drug offenses are a unique category for statistical comparison. Possession offenses typically result from the initiative and investigation of an officer at another incident, oftentimes a traffic stop. Arrests for drug sales generally stem from investigations conducted by the NORDEG Unit as a result of a tip or investigative lead.

Drug Type	Sales	Possession
Marijuana	0	41
Opium or Cocaine or other Derivatives (Morphine, Heroin, Codeine, etc.)	1	1
Synthetic Narcotics – Manufactured Narcotics (Demerol, Methadones, etc.)	0	4
Other – Dangerous Non-narcotic Drugs (Barbiturates, Benzedrine, etc.)	0	2

# SUPPORT SERVICES

## COMMUNICATIONS AND RECORDS

The Town of Minocqua Police Department's Tele-communications Center and Records Section serves the citizens in a variety of ways. The Tele-communications Center is open to the public 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. This Center is generally the first point of contact the public has with the police department. Tele-communicators are those employees who receive the public's phone calls and greet those that come into the lobby.



In addition to serving the citizens of the Town of Minocqua, the Tele-communications Center and Records Section provides support to our sworn personnel. The Center monitors cameras placed in and around the Department, and routinely provides searches of Federal, State, and local databases to assist officers with locating information that is pertinent to their cases and investigations.

The Tele-communications Center and Records Section is responsible for maintaining the information that is entered into these systems. Information is entered into local, State, and Federal databases, and must be done so in accordance with various laws and system regulations. These entries include missing persons and stolen and recovered articles and vehicles. In order to ensure a high standard of accuracy, routine audits are conducted on these systems.

The Tele-communications Center and Records Section is also responsible for data entering all of the officers' reports into the

Department's in-house records system. Any incident that involves an officer's response and investigation typically will require that officer to complete a report. These reports are then filed electronically and any attachments are filed in cabinets.

## EMERGENCY DISPATCH

The Minocqua Police Department is responsible for answering 911 emergency calls and dispatching emergency services throughout the Minocqua and Woodruff areas. The 911 Tele-Communications Center is located in the Tele-communications Center of the Minocqua Police Department. The 911 Communications Center is staffed 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. There are two shifts per day with one dispatcher on duty each shift.



# COMMUNITY POLICING



Although a major function of the police department is responding to calls for service and investigating crimes that are committed, the Town of Minocqua Police Department firmly believes in being actively involved in the community.

Community policing is a concept that saw its origins in England back in the early 1800's. Sir Robert Peel, known as the "Father of Modern Policing," is credited with establishing the modern concept of the police force. He realized that a partnership must exist for the success of the community and the police. Participation by all facets of the community is critical for real problem solving that leads to lasting solutions. A famous quote from Peel is "the police are the public and the public are the police".

## COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND EDUCATION

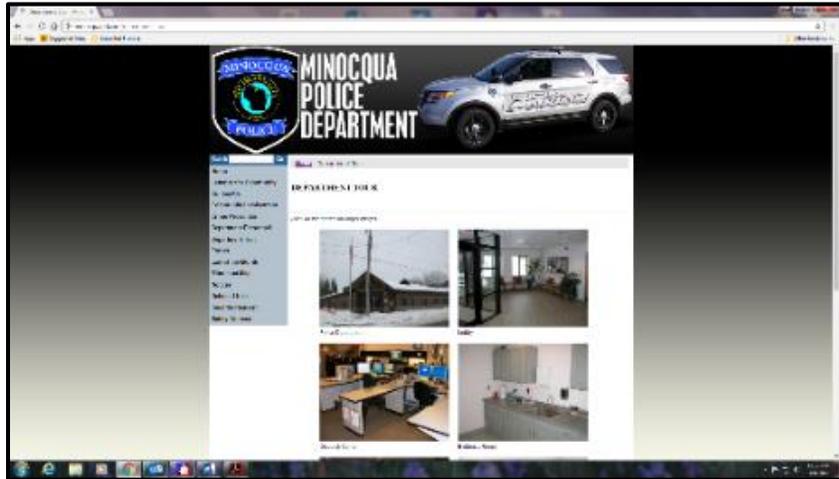
Last year our Officers gave numerous presentations on a variety of topics including visits to town schools, area businesses and organizations. Topics of these presentations ranged from scams, active shooter response, emerging drug trends and business – internal and retail theft prevention.

In response to several high-profile incidents in the United States, the police department puts on a yearly Citizen's Police Academy focusing solely on law enforcement tactics. This was the fourth annual academy put on by the department.



## SOCIAL MEDIA

The Town of Minocqua Police Department is active in social media in a variety of ways. We maintain a presence on Facebook and Twitter and have our own website. Social media helps assist the department in distributing timely and emergent information to the public; is a tool used to solve crimes; and helps the department connect with the community by promoting conversation. The use of social media has been a great relationship building tool and has allowed the department to connect with others in a way that we had not been able to.



## PRESCRIPTION PILL AND DRUG DISPOSAL

Through a grant from the Positive Alternatives Coalition, we installed a drug disposal box in the police department lobby in April of 2015. Since that time, we have collected over 629 pounds of unused medication! We are grateful for the assistance of the WI Department of Justice for the assistance in properly disposing of these unused medications.



## SHOP WITH A COP

For over the past decade the Minocqua Police Department has participated in some holiday cheer by involvement in the Minocqua Professional Police Association's Shop With a Cop event during a week in December. The event pairs officers with children from MHLT and AVW schools to purchase gifts for themselves as well as for their families.

The Minocqua Police Department would like to acknowledge the Minocqua Professional Police Association for organizing the event. The Minocqua Police Department would also like to acknowledge Burger King of Minocqua, Wal-Mart of Minocqua, Lakeland Bus Service and all of the volunteers that help make this event a success! (Photos courtesy of Dean Hall – Lakeland Times)



# AWARDS & RECOGNITION

The Minocqua Police Department has established high standards of personal performance for its members and expects that their conduct exemplify the highest of professional standards. Those members whose actions, specific achievements, and overall performance exceed Department standards deserve special recognition in the form of a commendation or award.

An individual that has personal knowledge of an act, achievement, or service, and believes that such conduct may qualify for formal recognition can initiate recommendations for awards or commendations.

Recommendations for awards or commendations guidelines include:

1. Any Department employee may submit a nomination to the Merit Review Board, including for Employee of the Year.
2. All recommendations for commendation shall be submitted in writing on an inter-office memo or Department form to the Chief in a timely manner. The Chief will forward a copy to the Merit Review Board.
3. An individual cannot submit a recommendation or advocate an award through another party if he/she would be the recipient of the award. This includes non-Departmental awards.
4. Awards may also be presented to citizens for their contribution to law enforcement.
5. Recommendations may be accepted at any point during the calendar year.

These standards provide for uniformity and consistency in the granting of awards and ensures that these awards are properly valued as representing truly significant meritorious behavior.

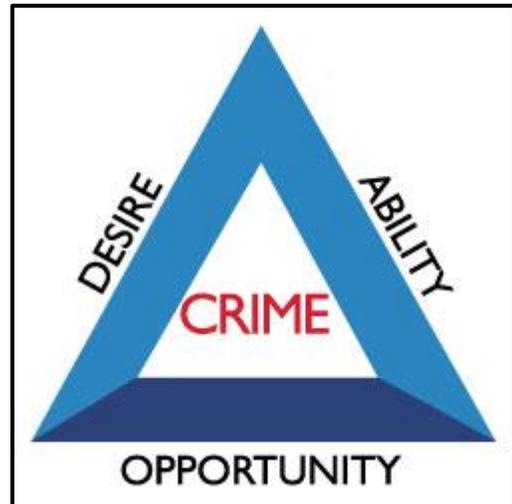
Awards or commendations are **not** granted without proper cause. Although there were several circumstances in 2018 where the staff at the Minocqua Police Department went above and beyond the call of duty, there were no awards granted in 2018.



# HOW SAFE ARE WE?

## CRIME TRIANGLE

Crime trend research indicates absence creates opportunity and can lead to a higher rate of victimization. In 1979 in the American Sociological Review, Lawrence E. Cohen and Marcus Felton wrote, “Most criminal acts require a convergence in space and time of likely offenders, suitable targets and the absence of capable guardians against crime.” Their research laid the foundation for the development of the Crime Triangle.



The Crime Triangle theorizes that in order for a crime to occur, three elements must be present: *an offender with the ability to commit the crime; a desired victim or target; and the opportunity to commit the crime.* Based on this theory, crime can be reduced by removing any one of the three elements. Most crime reduction strategies utilize a combination of approaches to achieve this goal. The easiest way is to reduce the opportunity. Often something as simple as locking our car door or garage door can deter the potential criminal.

## HOW DO WE COMPARE

There are two areas that can be studied to compare a community to another in terms of frequency and likelihood of crime. Mathematical formulas are used to break down the numbers and put communities on a level playing field (typically per 100,000 residents) which allow us to compare different sized areas such as Manhattan and Minocqua.

*Note that these are 2017 numbers as the Wisconsin Department of Justice has not completed their 2018 statistics at the time of publication.*

MINOCQUA AREA CRIME RATES		
Community	Violent	Property
Wisconsin - Rate per 100,000	304.5	1,808.3
Town of Minocqua	7	86
Town of Woodruff	2	13
Town of Lac Du Flambeau	23	236
City of Rhinelander	8	179
Town of Three Lakes	2	22
City of Eagle River	3	62
City of Park Falls	1	4

*These numbers reflect UCR offenses reported to or known by law enforcement and therefore may not reflect all crimes committed within the jurisdiction.*

## CRIME CLOCK

The Town of Minocqua strives to be one of the safest towns in Wisconsin and the northcentral area. The Town of Minocqua experienced a crime rate of 20.91 crimes per 1,000 people in 2017.

However, crimes still occur, even in the safest of towns. We took some of our activity and calls that have been referenced throughout this report and listed the frequency at which they occur here in the Town of Minocqua for 2018.



**POLICE CALL:** *Town of Minocqua officers handle an incident every 42 minutes.*

**TRAFFIC STOPS:** *Town of Minocqua officers make a traffic stop every 5.4 hours.*

**SEXUAL ASSAULT:** *One person is sexually assaulted every 73 days.*

**AGGRAVATED ASSAULT:** *One person is assaulted every 52 days.*

**THEFT:** *A theft from a vehicle, business or home happens every 4.1 days.*

**WELFARE CHECK:** *Officers check on the welfare of a person every 4 days.*

**BURGLARY:** *A home or business is broken into every 45.6 days.*

**ALARM:** *Town of Minocqua officers respond to alarms every 2.4 days.*

**DOMESTIC VIOLENCE:** *Someone is victimized by their partner every 9.4 days.*

**DRUNK DRIVING:** *A driver is arrested for OWI every 9.6 days.*

**ACCIDENT:** *Officers investigate 1.2 traffic crashes every day.*

**FRAUD:** *Someone is victimized by fraud every 33.2 days.*

### CREDITS

#### Author

David J Jaeger  
Chief of Police

#### Statistics

Wisconsin Department of Justice  
Town of Minocqua Police Department

#### Photos

Bing – Online Pictures  
Town of Minocqua Police Department  
Dean Hall – Lakeland Times