



BATH TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT 2025 ANNUAL REPORT

FROM: VITO F. SINOPOLI, CHIEF OF POLICE

Welcome to the police department's annual review and highlights of this past year. In looking back, it has been a great time of encouragement as our department has received several grants and other funds from residents and outside funding sources. At the completion of my eighth year as Chief of Police, I'm pleased with the personnel we have serving our community as communication specialists, police officers, detectives, and administrative staff. All are highly trained specialists in their fields. Data provided in this report is from January 1, 2025 to December 31, 2025.

Below is a review of our accomplishments, especially in the areas of goals and objectives:

Goal 1: Strengthen Inter-Agency Collaboration

- Develop and implement a virtual dispatch link connecting the Bath Township Police Department with the Richfield Village and Hudson Police Departments to improve real-time communication and operational coordination. Establish standardized protocols for information sharing and mutual aid during emergency and non-emergency incidents.

Status: This was an ongoing collaboration this year, and with the implementation of Ava, the Aurelian AI, all Summit County dispatch centers had the opportunity to experience the new protocol and training for answering non-emergency incoming calls.

Goal 2: Prioritize Officer Education and Professional Development

- Encourage ongoing education and training through partnerships with the Ohio Collaborative, ensuring Bath Township Police officers receive cutting-edge training on law enforcement best practices. Schedule regular in-service training sessions and specialized certifications to maintain and enhance skills in critical areas, such as de-escalation, mental health response, and community policing.

Status: The department completed two in-house training courses, two annual firearms qualifications, and submitted the mandatory 24 hours of OPOTA training to enable the officers to continue to serve in their law

enforcement capacity for 2026. We have followed the directives of the Ohio Collaborative since 2017, and now, we are moving in a direction that meets the needs of our community while keeping the standards of the Collaborative up to date.

Goal 3: Enhance Technology for Public Safety

- Expand and optimize the use of the existing Flock camera network to support crime prevention, investigations, and traffic safety. Regularly review and upgrade data security protocols to protect public privacy and adhere to law enforcement technology standards. Work with the staff sergeant, administrative assistant, and police captain to proactively seek, apply for, and manage local, state, and federal grants to benefit and upgrade law enforcement initiatives.

Status: We were able to successfully engage in securing two local grants to increase the number of Flock ALPR cameras in the township. In addition, the Bath Community Fund (BCF) grant gave \$1500 toward this initiative. The cost to install and maintain a single Flock ALPR camera is \$6,650. It is a two-year commitment upfront expense for each camera.

Goal 4: Maintain Efficiency in Criminal Investigations

- Implement data-driven methods and case management software to streamline investigations and reduce case resolution time. Develop metrics to track investigative progress and allocate resources efficiently to high-priority cases.

Status: The detective bureau's newest staff member, Rob Young, started in January to replace Det. Mike Gabel, who retired after 30 years of service. He had the opportunity to train with Det. Gabel before his retirement. We entered into a yearly contract with TransUnion TPXLO to use in criminal investigations. Other technological upgrades included Otter AI and a new audiovisual system in the Detective Bureau Conference Room to replace a non-functional camera system.

Goal 5: Broaden Community Engagement through Community Policing

- Increase visibility and presence at community events, fostering positive relationships and trust within the community. Sponsor annual Coffee with a Cop and other community events to provide residents with an opportunity to voice concerns, ask questions, and learn more about department operations.

Status: In April, we received notice that our department was awarded \$1,000 to be used for youth incentives at community events. We wanted to use the funds to promote positive messages, and we have purchased a variety of items that would appeal to young people accordingly. In addition, our officers were present at many different events, including Drug Take Back Day at the Acme Fresh Market in April and October, the Fall Festival at Camp Christopher, Spring and Fall into Nature, Coffee with a Cop, and Haunted Halloween.

Letters of Commendation and Appreciation – When a staff member has received more than one letter, it is noted by their name with an asterisk*. Letters of commendation and appreciation are added to personnel files.

Sgt. Alexander*
Sgt. Shaffer*

Det. Gabel*
Det. Young*
Det. Reilly*

Officer Campbell*
Officer Chapman*
Officer Deep*
Officer Falconer*
Officer Klein*
Officer Knauer*
DISPATCH STAFF

Officer Krager*
Officer Lance
Officer Lilly*
Officer Mihalik*
Officer Pemberton*
Officer VanFossen

Communication Specialist Gaydosh
Communication Specialist Tsai*

Communication Specialist Pramik

Department Highlights

Project Beloved, a non-profit organization located in Fort Worth, Texas, provided room essentials to create a soft interview room for our department. The in-kind donation of furniture and accessories was approximately \$2,400. After the renovation, the Bath PD Association Inc. and the Police Department split the cost of adding an Officer Wellness and Dispatcher Destressing Massage Chair that has been utilized many times this year. The staff response has been positive; this room provides an opportunity for staff to take a moment and relax from the stress of the job.



A local grant was applied for and approved with \$5000 received March 6, 2025, and again on September 22, 2025 – the funds

will be added to the BCF grant to pay for an additional Flock camera in the Montrose area. The department now has 11 Flock cameras throughout the township.

Spark Good's Grant - \$1,000 to be used for youth incentives at community events. This grant comes from the Walmart Corporate Foundation and was approved by our local Sam's Club. We are able to apply for this grant on a yearly basis, and we appreciate their support.

An application was submitted to the Office of Criminal Justice Services (OCJS) for the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) for the replacement of portable radios. The requested amount was \$118,702.54. This grant is a 75/25 match that begins January 1, 2026, and ends December 31, 2026. The portable radios were last replaced in 2020. We expect to receive notice of whether we are approved for the grant before the end of December 2025. However, there has been a relay at the state-level at this time.

One by One grant of \$500 was awarded to the Bath Police Department Association Inc. to purchase gold junior officer stick-on badges. The 4imprint company provided 6,000 stick-on badges at no cost to the department in June 2025. We appreciate their grant support.

The Ohio Law Enforcement Body Armor Grant through the Ohio Attorney General's Office awarded our department the ability to outfit seven of our officers with new bulletproof vests (BPV). This is a 75/25 grant match, and the department was reimbursed \$4,703.63 in July. BPVs must be replaced every five years; therefore, this grant is very important in helping us to keep law enforcement equipment costs to a minimum. We have been fortunate to receive this grant since 2018.

The Office of Criminal Justice Services – Body Worn Camera Grant was submitted September 23, 2025, in the amount of \$22,536 for Getac Cloud Services for the body-worn cameras and the docking stations that are needed to maintain video and audio for two years of funding. The grant will be decided in December 2025. There has been a relay at the state-level and is under review. This is a 100% matching grant.

The Bath Community Fund grant for this year was submitted in September for \$4750 to support the purchase of software to reconstruct traffic crash accidents using drone technology. We were notified on December 5, 2025, that we received \$2,000 from the Bath Community Fund towards this purchase.

H.E. Graves, Jr. Family Foundation - \$1000 September 2, 2025, for training and/or equipment needs.

OTHER DEPARTMENT HIGHLIGHTS

Mike Gabel's retirement – March 31, 2025

Mike joined the US Marshal's Northern Ohio Violent Task Force on April 7, 2003. He was recognized at the 2021 Annual Awards Ceremony as the Susan Graves Part-Time Task Force Officer of the Year 2019 for Outstanding Service and received three commendations in 2024.



Community Engagement

Department Visits from

- Teammates LLC February 7, 2025

Community Events

- National Missing Children's Day at Summit Mall, May 17, 2025
- Spring into Nature at the Bath Nature Preserve, June 8, 2025
- Safety Town June 16-19, 2025, Officer Campbell (7th year for her participation)
- Putting with the Police, July 10, 2025, Chief Sinopoli, Detective Young, and Administrative Assistant Bartlett represented the department.
- Faith and Blue October 4, 2025, Officer Knauer attended the event.
- Fall Into Nature October 4, 2025, Chief Sinopoli was on hand to meet and greet the children and their families. The two bicycle donations from Walmart are a popular raffle every year.
- Drug Take Back – Acme Fresh Market hosts this community drop-off for prescription medications on April 26th and October 25, 2025.
- Haunted Halloween – October 26, 2025

Job Fairs

- Kent State Police Academy, Twinsburg Campus, March 27, 2025 and October 26, 2025. Officer Austin Klein & Administrative Assistant Sue Bartlett attended.
- Polaris Career Center 3rd Annual First Responder Career Fair, April 26, 2025, Administrative Assistant Sue Bartlett represented the department.
- Cuyahoga Community College Public Safety Dispatch Communication Career Fair, June 14, 2025, with Dispatch Supervisor Steven Tayerle, attending.
- University of Akron – October 15, 2025, Part-time employment opportunities with Dispatch Supervisor Tayerle and Administrative Assistant Bartlett.
- Cuyahoga Community College Public Safety Job Fair for Dispatch, November 8, 2025, with Administrative Assistant Bartlett attending.
- Stark State Police Academy Job Fair, November 14, 2025, with Captain Brown and Administrative Assistant Bartlett attending.

General Orders – New and/or Updated

- General Order 301 Response to Crime Victims
- General Order 335 eTrace & National Integrated Ballistic Information Network (NIBIN)
- General Order 304.3 Ohio Law Enforcement Gateway (OHLEG)

Ohio Collaborative Community Police Advisory Board

We continue to comply with all the standards and guidelines issued by the Collaborative. Recognition of our compliance was reviewed by Retired Chief Brian Ohlin on September 11, 2025. Our agency is in the top 25% (one of seven Summit County Law Enforcement Agencies) out of 28 departments that have completed all of the Standards.

POLICE STATISTICS – January 1 – December 31, 2025

- All Calls for Service 23,182 [100%]
- Community Policing 16,089 [69%]
- Traffic Stops 963 [4%]
- Traffic Accidents 545 [2%]
- Alarm Drops 375 [2%]
- Sexual Offense 2 Robbery 0 Burglary 5
- All other calls for service: 5,203 [23%]
- Booking Charges [Total] 306
- OVI /DUI 49
- Theft 54
- Possession of Drugs 9
- Failure to Appear; Issuance of Warrant 50

933 Top-O-Hill Shooting Investigation

On November 2, 2025, at approximately 12:00 a.m., Bath Township experienced one of the most significant and complex criminal incidents in its recent history when a mass shooting occurred at a residence on Top O Hill Drive. The incident resulted in nine individuals sustaining injuries, one of whom later died as a result of those injuries. The response, investigation, and follow-up actions required comprehensive coordination among Bath Township Police, Fire Department personnel, area law enforcement and fire agencies, as well as state investigative partners. This summary outlines the critical actions taken, the progress of the investigation, and the support efforts initiated following the event.

The Bath Township Police Department received the first 9-1-1 call at approximately 12:06 a.m. Due to the seriousness of the situation and the number of callers reporting gunfire and injured individuals, dispatch immediately initiated a high-priority response. Officers arrived on scene within two minutes of the initial call, which proved essential in stabilizing victims and assessing the

chaotic and evolving situation. Responding officers encountered multiple injured individuals both inside and outside the residence. Their immediate priority became rendering aid, securing the scene, and ensuring that additional threats were not present. Fire and EMS units coordinated closely with law enforcement to triage victims, provide emergency medical care, and transport those in critical condition to area hospitals.

As officers established control of the scene, the shift moved quickly toward investigative operations. The Police Chief remained in direct communication with command personnel throughout the incident, ensuring resources were appropriately allocated. He conducted media interviews to provide the public with timely, accurate updates and drafted the necessary press releases to keep the community informed while protecting the integrity of the investigation. These communications played an essential role in reinforcing public confidence, reducing speculation, and demonstrating transparency during a highly sensitive and fast-moving case.

Simultaneously, the Chief coordinated the deployment of detective personnel to the scene. Detectives worked throughout the night and in the days that followed to document evidence, interview witnesses, and begin piecing together a comprehensive understanding of the circumstances leading to the shooting. Given the severity and scale of the incident, the Bath Township Police Department partnered with the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI), allowing for expanded forensic support, specialized investigative resources, and greater technical capacity for evidence processing. This partnership proved invaluable as investigators worked through ballistic evidence, digital data, witness testimony, and other critical leads.

Recognizing the emotional and psychological toll such an incident has on first responders, the Chief also coordinated a critical stress debriefing for both police and fire personnel who participated in the response. Peer support counselors and mental-health professionals facilitated the session, giving responders an opportunity to discuss what occurred, process trauma, identify stress reactions, and access necessary support resources. This proactive approach ensured personnel were not only operationally prepared but also cared for on a human level, strengthening departmental resilience.

In the weeks following the shooting, detectives continued building the case with BCI. Through extensive investigative work, including analysis of physical evidence, review of surveillance and digital records, and follow-up interviews, investigators developed a primary suspect. Within three weeks of the November 2 incident, three arrests were made. The swift identification and apprehension of three suspects reflected the dedication and persistence of

everyone involved and represented a major milestone in the pursuit of justice for the victims.

Of the nine individuals injured in the shooting, eight ultimately survived. Tragically, one victim succumbed to injuries sustained that night. The department extended its deepest condolences to the family and ensured investigative updates were communicated respectfully and appropriately as the case progressed.

The Top-O-Hill Drive investigation stands as a testament to the professionalism, coordination, and commitment of Bath Township's safety forces and state investigative partners. Through rapid response, thorough investigative work, and compassionate post-incident support, the department demonstrated its continued dedication to community safety and accountability.

DETECTIVE BUREAU STATISTICS

Fifty-eight cases were assigned to the Detective Bureau, of which thirteen remain open. Seventy-one percent of the cases were theft-related. Of the 41 assigned cases, 34 were closed either due to arrests being made or no further information was available on which to follow up.

Detectives Reilly and Young logged more than 205 hours on follow-up investigations assigned to them. The most recent event of the shooting has consumed countless hours in collaborating with other law enforcement agencies, interviewing witnesses, and processing evidence.

Juvenile Diversion Program continues to be managed by Officer Dan Lance who has had nine juvenile cases this year. Six cases were successfully closed, and one case was forwarded on to the Summit County Juvenile Court for disposition.

Use of Force

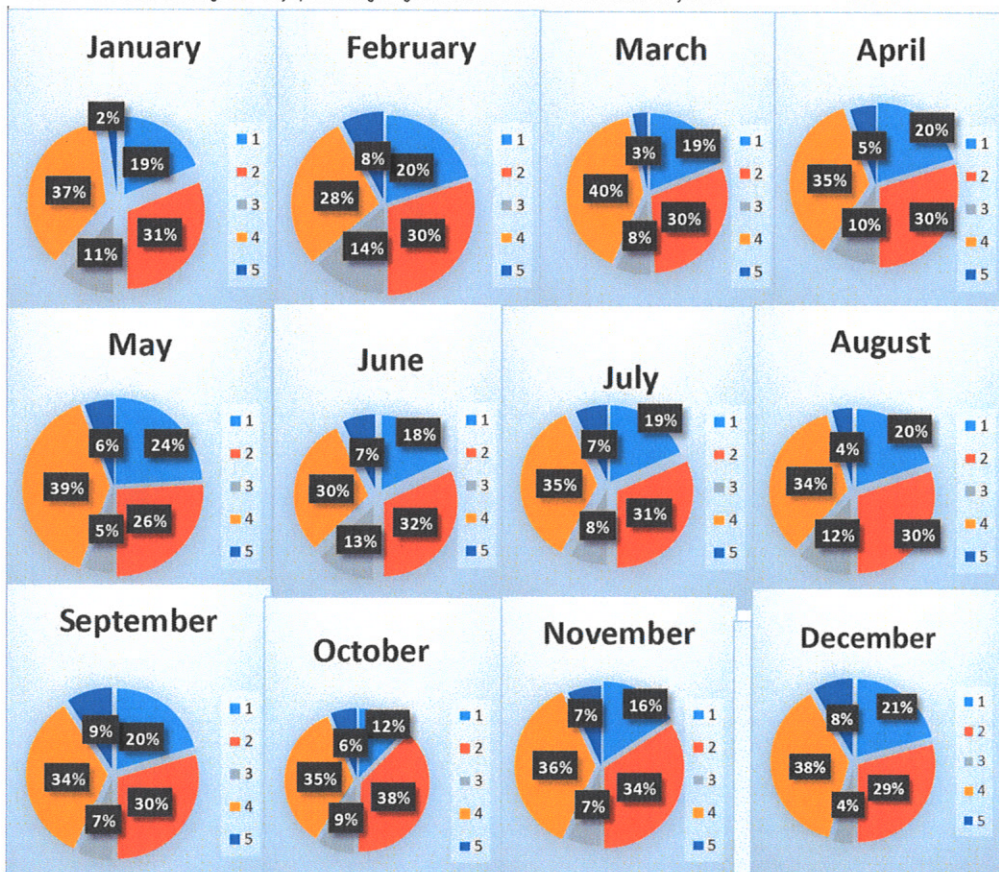
From January through December 31, 2025, there were fourteen reported cases involving the use of force by officers. The incidents are always thoroughly documented and reviewed by a supervisor. All incidents were found to be justified. Typically, the use of force involved suspects who were being taken into custody and were males resisting arrest. Some individuals were experiencing a mental health crisis. The average age was 29 years old.

Bias-Free Policing – The chart shows that there is no bias in the traffic stops that occurred in 2025. The overwhelming majority of stops involved Caucasian males and females.

Bath Township Police Department - Self Initiated & Radio Calls - Disposition by Race/Gender 2025		TRAFFIC STOPS				STANDARD 3.2017.6D
Month	Advised & Warned		Black [3]	White [4]	Other Race or Unknown [5]	
	Advised & Warned Females [1]	Males [2]				
January	17	28	10	33	2	
February	31	46	21	44	12	
March	36	57	14	76	6	
April	30	44	14	52	8	
May	26	28	6	42	6	
June	23	40	16	38	9	
July	19	32	8	36	7	
August	14	21	8	24	3	
September	18	26	6	30	8	
October	10	31	7	28	5	
November	7	15	3	16	3	
December						
TOTAL 2025	231	368	113	419	69	

Administrative Review By Chief Sinopoli: It has been and continues to be our firm commitment to being responsible in traffic enforcement.

There is no bias towards race or gender. Any questions regarding traffic enforcement data can be directed to my office.



Citizen Request/Report a Concern – The means for citizens to express concerns or issues involving the police are located on the Police Department webpage, *Report a Concern*. All citizen inquiries are addressed to the Chief for his response. There have been 15 concerns/complaints received this past year. This number fits with the trend since we implemented the link in 2020.

Department Trainings

All sworn officers of the department have completed the Ohio Peace Officers Training Commission (OPOTC) requirements of 24 hours of mandatory training. Of the twenty-one full-time officers and one part-time officer, 25 additional outside training sessions were attended by eleven officers. Two in-service training courses were held that complied with OPOTC continuing education training credit. Our department hosted the Digital Photography for Law Enforcement Level I 3-day class conducted by an instructor from the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center (FLETC) on August 19-21, 2025. Detectives Reilly and Young participated.

Bath Township Police Department Goals and Objectives – 2026

1. Maintain State Certification and Professional Standards

- **Goal:** Continue full compliance with the Ohio Collaborative Community-Police Advisory Board certification standards.
- **Objectives:**
 - Complete annual policy review and update by September 2026.
 - Participate in all required audits and maintain documentation for certification renewal.
 - Provide annual ethics and use-of-force training to all sworn officers.

2. Enhance Citizen Engagement and Service Response

- **Goal:** Deliver prompt, professional, and compassionate service to citizens.
- **Objectives:**
 - Maintain an average emergency response time of under five minutes.
 - Expand community outreach through annual “Coffee with a Cop” event and neighborhood meetings.

3. Strengthen Officer Training and Wellness Programs

- **Goal:** Support the continuous development and wellness of department personnel.
- **Objectives:**
 - Require a minimum of 24 hours of in-service training per officer annually.
 - Expand mental health and peer support initiatives for all staff.

- Implement leadership and supervisory development programs for command staff.

4. Advance Technology and Operational Efficiency

- **Goal:** Modernize systems to improve efficiency, transparency, and safety.
- **Objectives:**
 - Upgrade desktop computers in the patrol level for all officers to access.
 - Implement digital records management improvements for faster report processing.
 - Expand use of data-driven policing strategies to guide patrol deployment and resource allocation.
 - Expand Aurelian AI functionality for Bath Dispatch

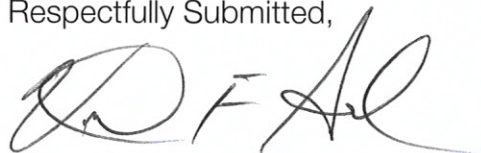
5. Promote Community Partnerships and Crime Prevention

- **Goal:** Strengthen partnerships to enhance public safety and trust.
- **Objectives:**
 - Collaborate with schools, businesses, and community groups on safety education programs.
 - Host at least two community safety workshops annually focused on fraud prevention and personal safety.

6. Ensure Fiscal Responsibility and Resource Stewardship

- **Goal:** Manage department resources efficiently while planning for future needs.
- **Objectives:**
 - Seek grant funding opportunities for training, technology, and equipment.
 - Review and update the five-year capital improvement plan by year-end.
 - Maintain balanced budgeting practices while ensuring operational readiness.

Respectfully Submitted,



Vito F. Sinopoli
Chief of Police

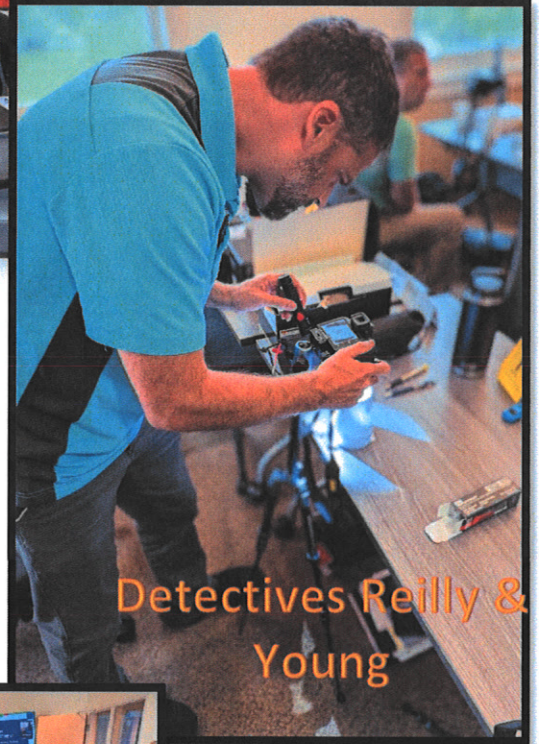
2025 DEPARTMENT TRAININGS

Crisis Intervention Team Training

Officer Pemberton & Chief Sinopoli



Digital Photography Training August 2025



Aurelian (AI) Training for Dispatch June and July 2025



Legal Updates with Craig Morgan



Hope and Healing Summit County Victims Assistance



Vehicle Dynamics



LEEDA CERTIFICATION EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP TRAINING



2025 Community Engagement



Putting with Police
8th Annual Law Enforcement Education Day
Thursday, July 10, 2025
11am to 2pm
Mud Run Golf Course & Driving Range



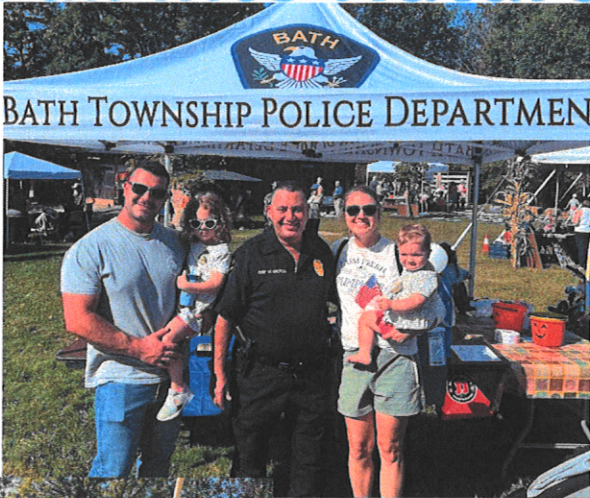
Coffee with a Cop
October 1, 2025



FAITH & BLUE

OCTOBER 4, 2025
Officer Knauer

Fall Into Nature



2025 Community Engagement Continued...

Haunted Halloween
October 26, 2025



Drug
Take Back
April &
October