

# EDEN PRAIRIE POLICE DEPARTMENT 2018 ANNUAL REPORT





**Chief Greg Weber**

*Cover photo: On May 15, 2018, EPPD officers stood guard at the Minnesota Law Enforcement Memorial on the state capitol grounds as part of Law Enforcement Memorial Day. The day honors those who died as heroes in the line of duty.*

**April 2019**

Dear Mayor Case and City Council Members:

I am pleased to submit the 2018 Eden Prairie Police Department Annual Report to you and the residents of Eden Prairie. This report contains a summary of the events and operations the Police Department undertook in 2018.

As you are aware, Chief Jim DeMann retired on Sept. 28, 2018, which led to my hiring as chief and the promotions of Bill Wyffels to captain, Chris Wood to lieutenant and Jen Ficcadenti to sergeant. We also hired one officer, two records technicians and one dispatcher last year.

We responded to 52,278 calls for service which was up 13% over 2017, mainly due to increased traffic enforcement.

Opioid overdoses were up slightly from 21 in 2017 to 24 in 2018. As part of our prevention and education efforts, last fall the department produced an opioid impact video aimed at students which is shown in middle school health classes.

The City experienced one homicide last year, the assisted suicide death of Linda Conrad in August. In October, a home invasion robbery resulted in the death of one of the residents. We continue to partner with the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms in the prosecution of this case, along with similar crimes committed in other communities.

A full list of statistics can be found on the last page of this report.

On behalf of the nearly 150 staff and volunteer members of the Police Department, I thank you for your continued support and look forward to serving you in the coming year.

**Chief Greg Weber**

# MISSION STATEMENT

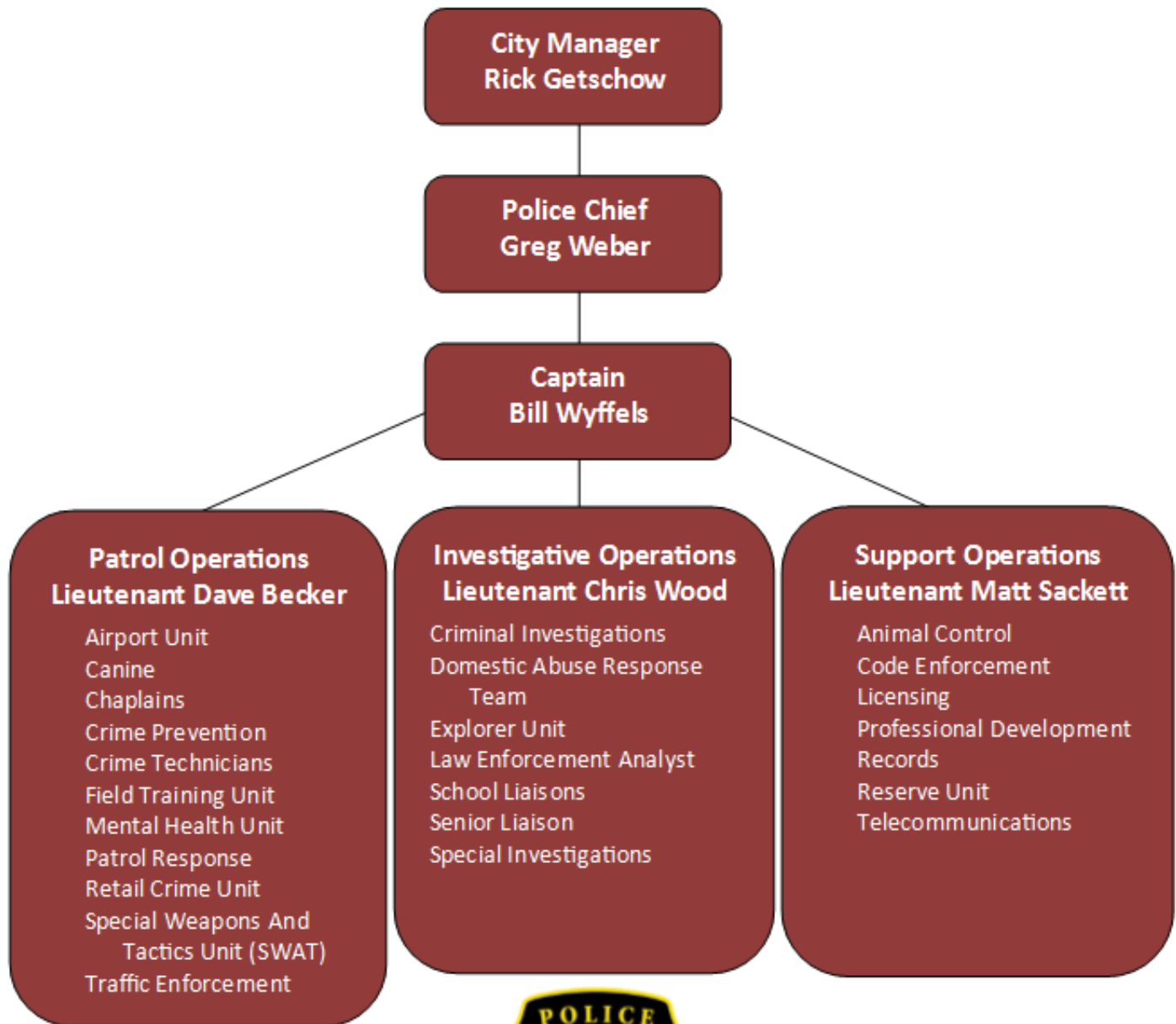
The mission of the Eden Prairie Police Department is to protect and serve the community of Eden Prairie through active and professional engagement.



## Department Values

- ◆ Provide customized service to the community
- ◆ Exercise discretion and fairness in enforcement
- ◆ Build public trust in the Department
- ◆ Promote the professional development of its members

# 2018 Eden Prairie Police Department Organizational Chart

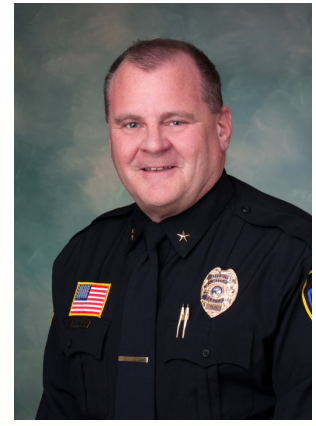


# OFFICE OF THE POLICE CHIEF

The Office of the Police Chief consists of the Chief, Captain, Projects Coordinator and Administrative Assistant, and oversees departmental operations, including a \$14.6-million budget.



**Retired Chief Jim DeMann**



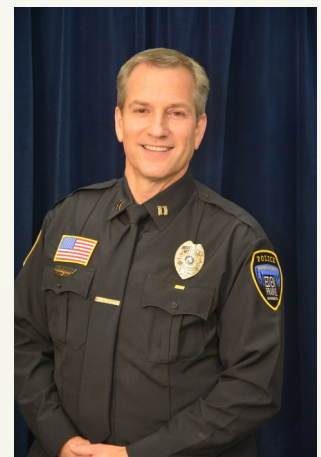
**Chief Greg Weber**

## NEW POLICE CHIEF

On Sept. 28, 2018, Chief Jim DeMann retired after serving the Eden Prairie Police Department for 31 years. Deputy Chief Greg Weber was appointed chief Sept. 29, 2018. Chief Weber has worked for the EPPD for 29 years in a variety of roles including sergeant, lieutenant and captain. He earned a bachelor's degree in law enforcement from Minnesota State University-Mankato and a master's degree in police leadership, administration and education from the University of St. Thomas. He is also a graduate of the FBI National Academy.

## NEW CAPTAIN

On Oct. 1, 2018, Bill Wyffels was promoted to Captain after Chief Weber was promoted. Captain Wyffels has worked for the EPPD since 1988 in a number of positions, most recently serving as lieutenant of the Investigations Division. Captain Wyffels earned a bachelor's degree in police science from St. Mary's University and an associate's degree in law enforcement from Alexandria Technical College.



# PROMOTIONS

In addition to the promotions of Chief Weber and Captain Wyffels, there was one lieutenant promotion and one sergeant promotion in 2018.



**Chris Wood was promoted to lieutenant Oct. 27, 2018. He is currently serving as lieutenant of the Investigations Division.**



**Jennifer Ficcadenti was promoted to sergeant Nov. 10, 2018. She is currently serving as a patrol sergeant.**

# NEW HIRES

In 2018, the EPPD hired one new officer, two new records technicians and one new dispatcher.



**Officer Linda Moua was hired Feb. 17, 2018.**



**Records Technician Alyssa Meyer started with the EPPD Nov. 5, 2018.**



**Records Technician Natalie Kalkes began working for the EPPD Nov. 5, 2018.**



**Dispatcher Katie Sjolander started working for Eden Prairie Dec. 13, 2018.**

# RETIREMENTS

In addition to Chief DeMann, three other department staff and one K-9 retired in 2018.



**Sgt. Pete Vosbeek retired in January after 30 years of service.**



**Officer Mike Harrington retired in October after 29 years of service.**



**Dispatcher Laurie Henning retired after serving for 28 years.**



**K-9 Jace retired after serving with Officer Jennifer Ficcadenti for six years.**



# PATROL DIVISION



Lt. Dave Becker leads the Patrol Division, which includes eight sergeants and 37 officers.

There are eight Patrol Units as well as the secondary Airport, Canine, Chaplain, Crime Prevention, Crime Tech, Field Training, Mental Health, Reserve, Retail Crime, Traffic and SWAT units.

In 2018, EPPD officers made 17,326 traffic stops including 214 DWI arrests. The department continues to educate the community about the dangers of drinking and driving. One of our newest tools is a pedal kart that people can “drive” while wearing impairment goggles that mimic the effects of driving while drinking or using drugs. In 2018 the pedal kart was used at Citizens Academy and the Citywide Open House. We will continue to use the kart in 2019 at community events.



The Patrol Division placed an extra emphasis on traffic enforcement in 2018 which resulted in a higher number of written warnings, equipment violations and moving violations compared to 2017.

The Patrol Division also created a special training program for newer officers that teaches them how to recognize and handle complex traffic stops that may include drugs, and multiple offenders and violations.



# PATROL DIVISION

In 2018, officers responded to one fatal vehicle crash, 104 personal injury crashes and 1,060 property damage crashes.



During the 2018 Super Bowl, members of the EPPD managed traffic and provided security in and around Winter Park and Flying Cloud Airport. The department also provided officers to assist with security at Mall of America and work on a metrowide human trafficking enforcement effort.



Just in time for last year's Super Bowl, the EPPD purchased a camera trailer that allows department personnel to look at what's happening in the location where the camera is set up. The camera goes where the need is the greatest — retail parking lots, parks and large community events. It also works as a crime deterrent, letting potential criminals know we're watching!

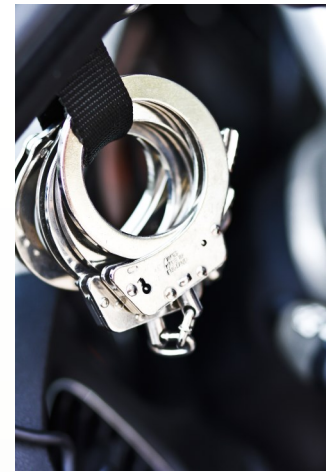
# INVESTIGATIONS DIVISION



Lt. Chris Wood leads the Investigations Division, which includes two sergeants, 13 officers and two civilian employees.

The Investigations Division oversees the Criminal Investigations, Domestic Abuse Response Team, Explorers, Law Enforcement Analyst, School Liaison, Senior Liaison and Special Investigations units.

In March, a Hennepin County jury found Eden Prairie building contractor Daniel Baker guilty of two counts of theft by swindle and one count of nonpayment for improvement. Eden Prairie investigators worked for months to investigate Baker, who had swindled 14 homeowners out of more than \$1-million.



Last year EPPD investigators conducted 57 death investigations where a death was not witnessed by another person, and the deceased person was not in hospice or under a doctor's care. One of those deaths, the assisted suicide of Linda Conrad by her husband, was investigated as a homicide.



In 2018, EPPD officers responded to 22 drug overdoses and two drug overdose deaths. Most of them involved opioids. As part of the EPPD's ongoing efforts to combat opioid addiction, the department created a video called "One Time is Too Many — The Impact of Opioid Addiction in Eden Prairie."

The video focuses on the lives and deaths of two young men from Eden Prairie: Andy Johnson and Andrew Princev. Both men left behind devastated families who were determined to tell their stories in hopes of preventing another family from experiencing their pain. The video is shown to Eden Prairie middle school health classes and can also be viewed on the City's website.

# INVESTIGATIONS DIVISION

There were 16 arrests for prostitution in Eden Prairie in 2018. Our efforts last year focused on demand for prostitution rather than human trafficking, as a result of the federal government shutting down popular online sites that advertised trafficking.



The EPPD conducted its 500th juvenile diversion case in February. Diversion cases allow first-time young offenders who have committed minor crimes to meet with people impacted by their crimes in lieu of going to court. Since the program started in 2006, the recidivism rate has been 12%, which is well below the national average of 20% for teenagers.



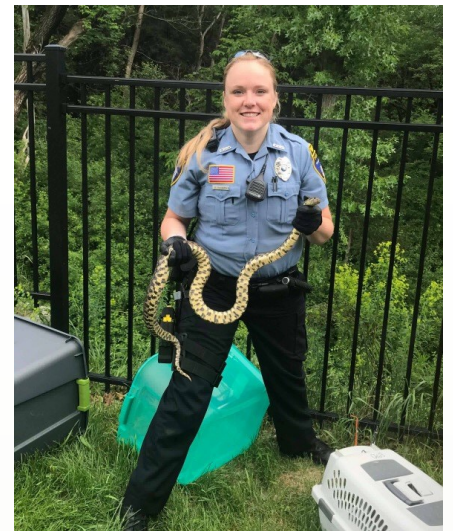
Last March residents of Sterling Ponds Apartments told Senior Liaison Officer Elizabeth Stroner they did not feel safe crossing Eden Prairie Road to the shopping area on the other side of the street. Officer Stroner approached the Eden Prairie Crime Prevention Fund for assistance, which resulted in a generous donation that was used to purchase safety vests for the residents.

# SUPPORT DIVISION



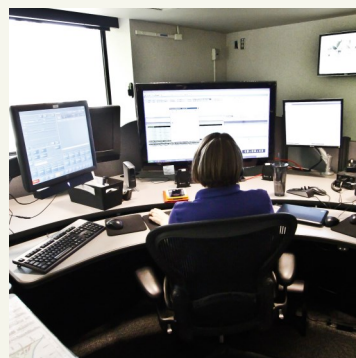
Lt. Matt Sackett leads the Support Division, which includes the Records, Dispatch, Professional Development, Support Operations, Community Service, Animal Control, Licensing and Code Enforcement units.

In 2018, community service and animal control officers responded to 1,441 animal control calls, including one that involved catching a 4-foot-long bull snake in a backyard in June. Of the total number of calls were 36 for animal bites and 189 for barking dogs.



In October, 25 students graduated from the 2018 EPPD Citizens Academy. During their six-week class, participants learned the ins and outs of traffic enforcement, use of force, DWI enforcement, 911 dispatching, K-9, the SWAT team and investigations.

Citizens Academy is sponsored by the Eden Prairie Crime Prevention Fund.



In 2018, Eden Prairie Dispatchers answered 52,278 calls for service, a 13% increase over 2017 calls for service.

# SUPPORT DIVISION

Recently, the City Council approved licensing for businesses and individuals that sell massage services. In the first year of licensing, the EPPD processed nine massage business licenses and 93 individual massage therapist licenses.

The Records Unit processed 5,531 pieces of evidence and 8,802 records in 2018. In addition, 7,758 pieces of evidence were disposed of in accordance with state statutes.

The Records Unit is in the process of digitizing all of the department's case files and records, which will make it easier for staff to find and maintain these records.



In 2018, the Licensing Unit processed 706 licenses, including 112 for peddlers and solicitors, 340 for gun permits and 20 for private kennels.



In June, the Support Division organized City of Prairie employees to run three miles through the City carrying the Minnesota Special Olympics torch. Our staff received the torch from the Minnetonka Police Department and handed it over to the Richfield Police Department several miles later. Throughout the day, the torch made its way to the University of St. Thomas, where the 2018 Special Olympics Summer Games took place.

# RESERVES

EPPD reserve officers are adult volunteers who assist sworn officers by performing community service tasks and non-criminal police functions.

Reserve officers also assist in natural disasters and other emergencies that require additional personnel.

In 2018, reserve officers contributed 3,307 hours of volunteer service to the community.



Reserve Officers serve as the department's Color Guard, raising and lowering flags at City facilities and during special events, including the annual Memorial Day Event at Purgatory Creek Park.



Reserve officers with City Manager Rick Getschow at Schooner Days.



Reserve Officer Loren Moriearty retired after 26 years of service.



Reserve Officer Scott Harrison retired after five years of service.

# CHAPLAINS

The EPPD's volunteer chaplains provide emotional and spiritual care to community members and public safety responders. Chaplains take turns wearing a paging device and being on-call for the department.

In 2018, Chaplains were called out 17 times.

The EPPD welcomed three new Chaplains in 2018



**Bruce Goodwin**  
Church of Christ



**Jake Reiter**  
Grace Church



**Ryan Tarman**  
Wooddale Church



Chaplain Jac Perrin of Eden Prairie Assembly of God retired from the Chaplain Unit after serving for 15 years.



# EXPLORERS

Police Explorers are young people ages 14-21 who are interested in law enforcement.

Explorers gain working knowledge through hands-on experience, including weekly meetings and training sessions.

In 2018, the Explorers assisted with 20 community events.

In 2018, the Explorers competed in two state competitions and one national competition. They received numerous awards, including placing fifth in the nation for Crime Scene Investigation.



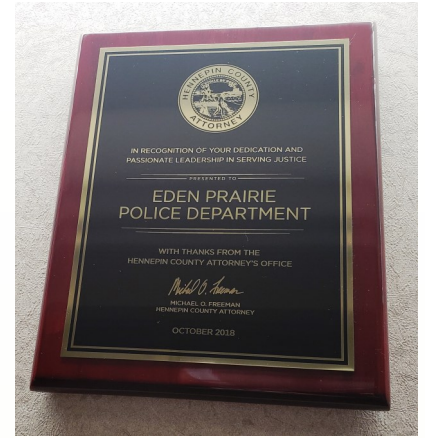
# AWARDS



Investigative Aide Pauline Sager received a City Manager’s Quality Award for her work in creating two uniform financial fraud information packets — one for victims and a corresponding set of guidelines for law enforcement.

These materials have streamlined the reporting process for both law enforcement and victims.

In October, several members of the EPPD’s Investigations Division received a Community Leadership Award from the Hennepin County Attorney’s Office for their work on the I-494 Corridor Group, a coalition of cities that work to combat human trafficking along I-494.



Since June 2017, the group has been responsible for the charging of 80 sex buyers, and more than 20 traffickers and promoters of prostitution.



In 2018 Officer Chad Streiff earned three separate “Hat Tricks” by arresting three drunk drivers in one shift. The Minnesota Department of Public Safety honors officers who achieve hat tricks with commemorative hockey sticks.

For the 84 DWI arrests he made in 2017, Officer Streiff received a MADD Silver Pin award and was named to the Minnesota Department of Public Safety’s DWI Enforcer All-Star Team. In addition, Officer Streiff received a City Manager’s Quality Award for his commitment to DWI enforcement in Eden Prairie.

# AWARDS



**Officer Steve Verner** received the Chaplain Tim Power Award, named in honor of Father Tim Power who served as a Police and Fire Department Chaplain for 24 years before his death in 2016.

The award recognizes an employee who provides consistent care for people in the department and community and is awarded by the Chaplain Unit.



**Officers Brandon Carlston and Bryan Dean** were awarded the EPPD's Medal of Valor for their roles in a November 2016 pursuit and shooting that ended with the arrest of three people wanted for homicide in Prior Lake. Officers Carlston and Dean were recognized for their courage and bravery in the midst of a dark, chaotic and volatile scene.

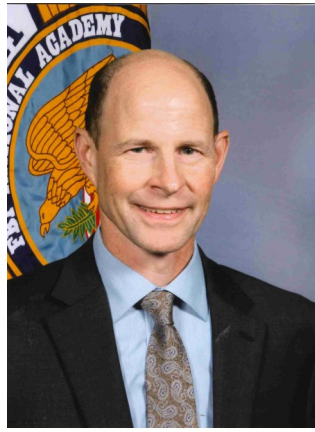
The Labor Management Team awarded Community Service Officer Louis Diethelm with the Civilian Employee of the Year Award for his exceptional internal and external customer service and work ethic.



**Officer Brandon Carlston** received the Officer of the Year Award for his positive attitude, hard work and the respectful and professional manner in which he treats his coworkers and members of the community.



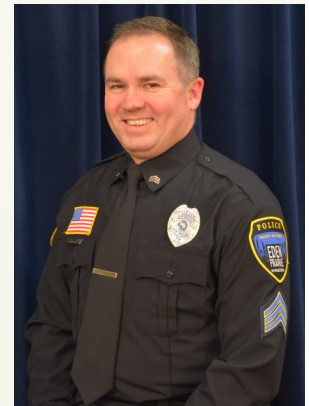
# AWARDS



In September, Lt. Dave Becker graduated from the FBI's National Academy after attending a rigorous 10-week program in Quantico, Virginia.

Det. Mark Gustad received the Tri-County Investigator of the Year Award for his work in setting a precedent for investigating heroin overdose deaths.

The successful investigative methods used by Det. Gustad have been implemented by other agencies across the Twin Cities.



In 2018, EPPD Sergeants Jess Irmiter, Lonnie Soppeland and Bob Davis earned the Trilogy Award from the FBI Law Enforcement Executive Development Association for completing three weeklong courses in Supervision, Command and Executive Leadership.

# AWARDS



Eden Prairie resident and former EPPD officer Patrick Kenyon received a Letter of Recognition from the Police Department for his actions in saving the life of a woman who had collapsed in a grocery store in July 2018.

Mr. Kenyon used the store's AED to revive the woman who has since made a full recovery.



Civilians Adam Frey and Casey Herrmann received a joint Commendation Award from Police Chief Greg Weber and Fire Chief George Esbensen for saving the life of a woman they pulled from the Minnesota River in August 2018.



Six civilians were recognized with Police Department awards for their roles in helping the victims of a serious car crash that occurred in January 2018.

Dr. Rosa Seim and Shane Caughey received the EPPD's Commendation Award for administering emergency care to the victims. Jodi Lannom, Khloe Lannom, Lucia Duggan and Emma Mayer received Letters of Recognition for taking care of an uninjured 8-year-old involved in the crash while his family members were brought to the hospital.

# HIGHLIGHTS



Last summer EPPD officers joined firefighters, parks and recreation staff, and Eden Prairie Library staff for the City's first-ever Pop-Up Splash Pad events at Edenvale and Nesbitt Parks.

At the free events, neighbors could visit with a member of the SWAT team, spray a firehose, shoot hoops with an officer and check out a library book.

Three Pop-Up Splash Pad events are scheduled for summer 2019.



In June, EPPD school liaison officers worked with firefighters and parks and recreation staff to host the 28th annual Safety Camp at Riley Lake Park. One hundred and eighty-one campers rotated through various activities, including personal safety, bullying prevention, power line safety, internet safety, animal safety, bike safety, fire safety, street maintenance safety and aquatics safety.



Eden Prairie's annual Night to Unite event in August included residents from 165 neighborhoods who collectively donated 7,471 pounds food and \$1,634 for PROP (People Reaching Out to People).



In October, the EPPD participated in the Citywide open house. Visitors were able to check out the SWAT team's gear, visit a "jailbird," take a peek in dispatch and watch a K-9 demonstration.

# HIGHLIGHTS



**EPPD staff filled squad cars full of gifts for Toys for Tots that were generously donated by Eden Prairie residents. The officers drove to the KARE11 studios in Golden Valley, along with law enforcement agencies from throughout the Twin Cities, where they gave the gifts to the U.S. Marine Corps Reserves for distribution to kids who would not otherwise receive holiday gifts.**



**In December, 16 EPPD officers and community service officers volunteered their time for the department's fourth annual Shop with a Cop event. The officers partnered up with 13 children for an afternoon of shopping followed by a pizza party at Davanni's.**

**The event is sponsored by the Eden Prairie Crime Prevention Fund with donations from Target and Davanni's.**



# 2017-2018 EPPD Statistics

<b>Person Crimes</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>
Homicide (includes attempts)	3	1
Criminal Sexual Conduct	34	39
Robbery	8	7
Felony Assault	13	17
Non-Felony Assault	123	124
Domestic Assault	71	72
Disorderly Conduct	46	59
Harassing Communication	23	15
Crimes Against Families	14	5
Interfering with 9-1-1 Calls	10	11
Prostitution	1	16
Human Trafficking	10	1

<b>Property Crimes</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>
Residential Burglaries	49	55
Non-Residential Burglaries	16	26
Theft	761	804
Theft from Vehicle	222	186
Motor Vehicle Theft	28	25
Motor Vehicle Tampering	295	243

<b>Financial Theft</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>
Identity Theft	269	232
Forgery/Counterfeiting	35	29
Theft by Check	4	12
Fraud	271	248
Shoplifting	297	323
Property Damage	239	202
Arson	0	9

<b>Other Crimes</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>
Crimes Against Government	13	4
Narcotics	341	299
Underage Drinking Age 18-21	22	36
Underage Drinking & Driving	12	6
Weapons	5	12
Fleeing Police	16	24

<b>Traffic Related</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>
Fatal Vehicle	1	1
Personal Injury Crash	118	104
Driving While Impaired	239	214
Property Damage Crash	1,035	1,060
Hit and Run	207	200
Written Warnings	7,236	9,875
Driver's License Violations	1002	1,090
Equipment Violations	247	357
Parking Violations	62	203
Moving Violations	2,110	2,891
<b>Total Traffic Citation Violations</b>	<b>3,421</b>	<b>4,541</b>

<b>Selected Calls for Service</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>
Animal Control	1,424	1,441
Medicals	3,042	2,794
9-1-1 Hang-Ups	3,117	3,897
Alarms (False)	1,398	1,165
Suspicious Activity	2,210	2,135
Death Investigations	42	57

<b>Total Calls for Service</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>
	46,319	52,278

<b>Juvenile Status Offenses</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>
Juvenile-Alcohol	19	11
Juvenile-Runaway	38	32
Juvenile-Curfew	3	5
Juvenile-Tobacco Use	12	48
<b>Total</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>96</b>

