



# City of Eden Prairie Police Department

## 2015 Annual Report





March 2016

Dear Mayor Tyra-Lukens and City Council Members:

I am pleased to submit the 2015 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 2015.

After having no traffic fatalities in 2014, Eden Prairie experienced three in 2015, with weather and speed as contributing factors. There were no homicides in Eden Prairie in 2015. Robberies increased from four in 2014 to 15 in 2015. In seven of last year's cases, the suspects were arrested including those involved in robberies at a TCF Bank and a Holiday Stationstore.

Our calls for service were consistent with the previous year. We handled 49,921 calls in 2015 compared to 50,245 calls in 2014. Identity theft and credit card fraud crimes both saw an increase from the prior year. This is consistent with national trends and may be due to the prevalence of credit card skimming and data breaches.

A more detailed table of 2015 statistics can be found on page 18 of this report.

2015 was the second year for the 2014-15 initiatives that were laid out in our Blueprint for Success, the planning guide for the Police Department. We accomplished all of the remaining initiatives last year including:

- Installation of squad car cameras
- Providing crisis intervention training for all officers to utilize when they encounter people in mental crisis
- Training all officers to identify, arrest and process drug-impaired drivers

This year we plan to work on the 2016-17 initiatives detailed in the Blueprint including the establishment of a Street Crimes Unit, research on body cameras and research on the use of license plate readers.

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.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Robert L. Reynolds'.

Robert L. Reynolds  
Police Chief

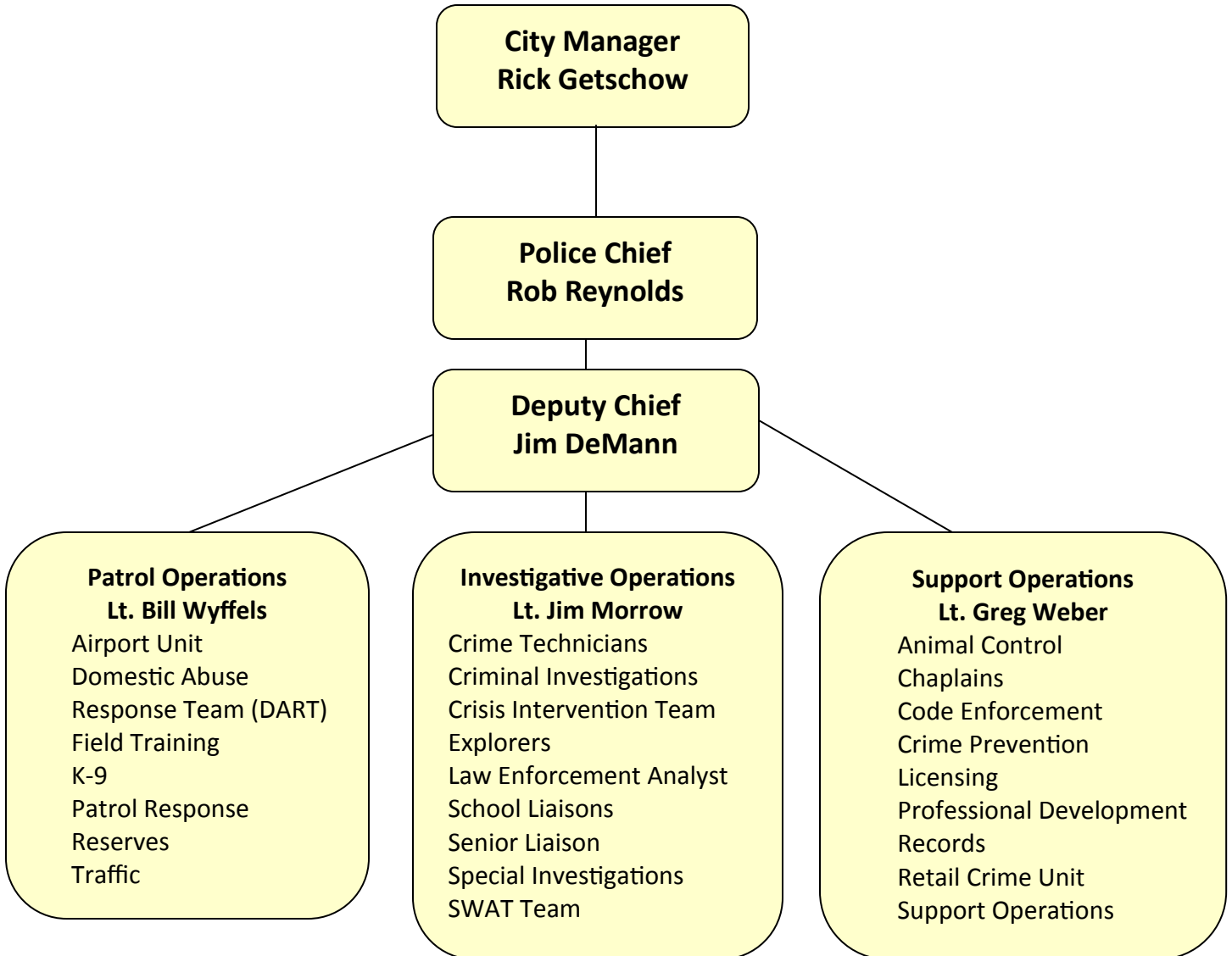
## **Mission statement**

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; and
- Promote the professional development of its members.

# 2015 Eden Prairie Police Department Organizational Chart





# Office of Police Chief



**Chief  
Rob Reynolds**



**Deputy Chief  
Jim DeMann**

The **Office of Police Chief (OPC)** consists of the Chief, Deputy Chief, Projects Coordinator and Administrative Assistant. The OPC oversees departmental operations including a \$13.2-million annual budget.



The Command Staff, L to R: Lt. Greg Weber, Lt. Jim Morrow, Chief Rob Reynolds, Deputy Chief Jim DeMann, Lt. Bill Wyffels

Office of Police Chief

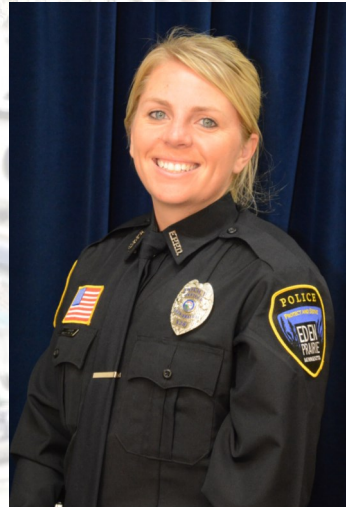
# Patrol Division



**Lt. Bill Wyffels**

The **Patrol Division** is led by **Lt. Bill Wyffels** and includes eight sergeants and 34 officers. There are seven Patrol Units as well as the secondary Airport, K-9, Field Training and Reserve Units.

**Officer Brianne Lesnau** began working as an EPPD officer in October 2015. Prior to coming to Eden Prairie, Officer Lesnau worked as a police officer in Owatonna for two years.



In November 2015 **Officers Miguel Zetina** and **Matt Kucera** were sworn in. Both served as Community Service Officers in Eden Prairie before being hired as police officers.

Patrol Division



# Patrol Division

For the fifth time since 2008, **Officer Todd Groves** was named to the Minnesota DWI All-Star Team by the Minnesota Department of Public Safety for achieving one of the highest number of DWI arrests in Minnesota in 2014. Officer Groves made 65 DWI arrests that year.



EPPD Officers participated in the 2015 **Law Enforcement Memorial Day** tribute on the Minnesota State Capitol grounds on May 15 in remembrance of Minnesota peace officers who lost their lives while on duty.



**Officer Brad Miles** retired in September 2015 after 27 years of service.

**Officer Patrick Kenyon** retired in October 2015 after nine years of service. Officer Kenyon received the EPPD's 2015 Officer of the Year award from the department's Labor Management Team in November for his work ethic and dedication while working as a patrol officer and training instructor.



Patrol Division

## Patrol Division

In March Eden Prairie officers and 750 other people jumped into Riley Lake to help raise more than \$160,000 for the **Special Olympics Polar Plunge**. The EPPD helps out with a number of annual Special Olympics fundraising events including the Polar Plunge and Torch Run.



In October the Police Department held its annual **Open House** along with the Fire Department. A highlight was the demonstration of the department's robot which is used to enter a high-risk scene and gather data officers can use to secure the scene.

In March **Officer Steve Velner** was awarded a City Manager's Quality Award for the consistently high level of service he provides to both internal and external customers.



In April **Sgt. Matt Sackett** received the department's Award of Merit for successfully managing the process of researching and installing cameras in the department's squad cars.

Patrol Division



## Investigations Division

The **Investigations Division** is led by **Lt. Jim Morrow**. This division consists of the Criminal Investigations Unit, the School Liaison Unit and the Special Investigations Unit. There are two sergeants, 13 officers and two full-time civilian employees in the Investigations Division.

In April 2015 Lt. Morrow was awarded a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Special Operations Training Association of the Upper Midwest for his leadership and dedication to the SWAT community.



**Lt. Jim Morrow**



**Detective Jim Lindgren** retired in April 2015 after serving the department for 33 years. Upon his retirement Detective Lindgren received the department's Career Achievement Award for his work ethic, patience, respectful treatment of victims, and positive and helpful demeanor.

## Solving Crimes

Investigators worked with other metro law enforcement agencies to investigate and arrest a man who was linked to the theft of 180 catalytic converters from shuttle busses and other large vehicles, including four in Eden Prairie with an estimated \$180,000 loss.

EPPD investigators solved two robberies last year where the suspects were also wanted in other communities. The first instance occurred in June when a man robbed the TCF Bank branch at Cub Foods. After an extensive investigation, the suspect was arrested and is currently awaiting trial.

The second case occurred in October when a man robbed the Holiday Stationstore on Flying Cloud Drive after displaying a knife. Witnesses provided valuable information and investigators developed a suspect description that matched similar robberies in other communities. Investigators arrested the man and he is now serving 88 months in prison.

Investigations Division

# Investigations Division

## Awards



At the department's Annual Meeting and Awards Ceremony in November, **Investigative Aide Pauline Sager** was awarded the first-ever Eden Prairie Police Department Civilian Employee of the Year Award by the department's Labor Management Team. Pauline has worked for the department since 1979 and has specialized in investigating financial fraud cases for the past 25 years. She is known in Eden Prairie and throughout the state as an expert in financial crimes and consistently demonstrates a willingness to help colleagues with financial fraud cases.

The **Investigations Unit** received a Unit Citation at the 2015 Awards Ceremony for their work with other agencies in investigating and arresting a man who was linked to 42 burglaries in six counties and 19 different communities including Eden Prairie, totaling \$1-million in losses including 22 firearms. In nearly all of the cases, the victims were attending a theater performance or funeral at the time of the burglary.



**Back row:** Sgt. Dave Becker, Det. Dean Corder, Det. Carter Staaf, Analyst Ryan Kapaun, Investigative Aide Pauline Sager, Det. Erica Coy. **Front row:** Det. Jess Irmiter, Det. Andy Rohde, Det. Jim Lindgren, Det. Chris Millard, Det. Mark Gustad

Investigations Division



## Investigations Division



**Above:** Senior Citizens Academy participants with **Officer Jenny Ficcadenti** and her K-9 partner **Jace**.

Last summer the EPPD held a six-week **Senior Citizens Academy** where participants had a chance to learn about various aspects of the EPPD including investigations, use of force, the SWAT team, K-9, Dispatch, the Crime Tech Unit and crisis negotiations. The Senior Citizens Academy is sponsored by the Eden Prairie Lionesses and the Eden Prairie Crime Prevention Fund.



**Officer Kevin White** talks to participants at a May 2015 Coffee with the Cop event at the Eden Prairie Senior Center where he talked to the seniors about the department's Crime Tech Unit.



# Support Division



**Lt. Greg Weber**

The **Support Division** is led by **Lt. Greg Weber** and consists of the Records, Dispatch, Professional Development, Support Operations, Community Service/Animal Control, Licensing, Code Enforcement, Chaplain and Retail Crime Units. There are three sergeants, two supervisors and 24 civilians in the Support Division.

In 2015 the Eden Prairie Crime Prevention Fund received a donation from OptumRx to purchase additional bags for the department's home medication disposal program. Providing the bags free to residents helps decrease the number of prescription painkillers in circulation, preventing potential abuse. In the department's continuing effort to combat heroin use, all officers were trained in administering naloxone, a drug that reverses the effects of a heroin overdose. All police officers, firefighters and EMTs carry overdose kits on calls.



Our 911 dispatchers answered 49,921 calls for service in 2015.

Support Division

# Support Division

Throughout 2015 all officers completed Crisis Intervention training to help them respond to calls involving people in mental crisis. The training had been previously offered to members of the Crisis Intervention Team and because that training was so successful, the department decided to extend it to all officers.



In 2015 **Animal Control and Community Service Officers** in Eden Prairie responded to 106 calls of animal abuse, 31 animal bite calls, 341 calls for a dead or injured animal, and 139 calls for other animal problems.



In 2015 the **Records Unit** processed 9,171 records. At left: Carri Haberle, Julie Bergstrom, Supervisor Cesar Munoz, Pat Sullivan, Stacy Boyer, Cindy Rock.

Support Division



# Volunteers

*The Eden Prairie Police Department relies on its three volunteer programs—Reserves, Explorers and Chaplains—to assist department members with traffic direction, security at special events, requests for service at both emergency and non-emergency incidents, and, in the case of the Chaplains, spiritual guidance in times of trauma and tragedy.*



**Mason Heine** joined the Eden Prairie Reserves in May after completing the 10-week Reserve School hosted by the Hennepin County Sheriff's Office. He is pictured with members of the department and fellow Reserve officers.

In 2015 the Police Reserves started a pilot bike patrol program to provide a presence in parks and other public places. The pilot program was a success and the Reserves hope to expand the program in 2016. They also picked up trash on their Adopt-A-Highway and helped lead a traffic direction school for Reserve officers in Hennepin County.



Volunteers



# Volunteers



The department's eight 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 2015 they were called out eight times. The **Eden Prairie Crime Prevention Fund** sponsors the Chaplain program.

**Back Row:** Pastor John Brecount, Pastor Don Odens, Pastor Jac Perrin. **Front Row:** Pastor Paul Nelson, Father Tim Power. **Not pictured:** Pastor Sharon Predovich, Pastor Jim McCracken, Pastor Jim Erickson.

Explorers are young people aged 14-21 who are interested in law enforcement. This year the Edina/Eden Prairie Explorers attended two state conferences where they took home awards in multiple events including crime prevention, crime scene, domestics and traffic stops.



Volunteers

## 2015 Highlights

At last year's **Night to Unite** in August, neighbors at 159 parties donated 10,270 pounds of food for PROP (People Reaching out to Other People) which were collected by EPPD staff. They also had a chance to meet officers and McGruff, the Crime Fighting Dog.



Last fall the EPPD hosted a **Citizens Academy** for 20 people who either work or live in Eden Prairie. The participants spent one evening per week for five weeks gaining hands-on law enforcement experience. The department's hope is that participants will share their opinions and observations with their neighbors, civic organizations, friends and family, to further develop the EPPD's community network.

2015 Highlights



## 2015 Highlights



In September Eden Prairie's **SWAT** team participated in the Minnesota Tactical Officers Association's annual conference at Camp Ripley in Little Falls, Minn. Part of the conference is dedicated to hands-on training exercises, including firearms and scenarios, which are evaluated by host team SWAT members. Eden Prairie's team received second place in the Iron Man competition and second place in the Top Gun competition, reflecting the strong work ethic and teamwork they exhibited during the three-day conference.



The EPPD's first ever **Shop With a Cop** event took place in December, funded by generous donors through the Eden Prairie Crime Prevention Fund. Kohl's and JCPenney also donated gift cards and discount coupons. After buying gifts for themselves and family members, the kids and their families enjoyed lunch at Davanni's with the officers.

2015 Highlights



# 2015 Statistics

<b>Person Crimes</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>
Homicide (includes attempts)	3	0
Criminal Sexual Conduct	28	22
Robbery	4	15
Felony Assault	44	21
Non-Felony Assault	31	42
Domestic Assault	77	85
Disorderly Conduct	34	77
Harassing Communication	10	18
Crimes Against Families	14	10
Interfering with 9-1-1 Calls	12	10
Kidnapping/False Imprisonment	2	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>259</b>	<b>300</b>

<b>Property Crimes</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>
Residential Burglaries	56	74
Non-Residential Burglaries	44	30
Theft	500	689
Theft from Vehicle	167	228
Vehicle Theft	26	33
Motor Vehicle Tampering	215	291
Financial Theft		
Identity Theft	189	252
Forgery/Counterfeiting	25	32
Theft by Check	10	15
Credit Card Fraud	30	79
Shoplifting	265	318
Property Damage	252	278
Arson	2	3
Negligent Fires	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,781</b>	<b>2,322</b>

<b>Other Crimes</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>
Crimes Against Government	91	59
Gambling	0	0
Narcotics	278	223
Underage Drinking Age 18-21	15	21
Underage Drinking & Driving	7	3
Weapons	5	6
Fleeing Police	7	14
Miscellaneous	109	136
<b>Total</b>	<b>512</b>	<b>462</b>

<b>Traffic Related</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>
Fatal Vehicle	0	3
Personal Injury Crash	127	138
Driving While Impaired	257	291
Property Damage Crash	1,040	908
Hit and Run	200	191
Driver's License Violations	771	790
Equipment Violations	672	724
Parking Violations	93	112
Moving Violations	3,573	4,342
<b>Total Traffic Citation Violations</b>	<b>5,109</b>	<b>5,968</b>

Warnings-Written	9,091	9,355
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<b>Selected Calls for Service</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>
Animal Control	1,308	1,507
Medicals	2,850	2,769
9-1-1 Hang-Ups	4,578	3,806
Alarms (False)	1,923	1,876
Suspicious Activity	1,893	2,095

<b>Total Calls for Service</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>
	50,245	49,921

<b>Juvenile Status Offenses</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>
Juvenile-Alcohol	9	9
Juvenile-Runaway	48	47
Juvenile-Curfew	4	9
Juvenile-Tobacco Use	7	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>66</b>

