

TO: NORWALK COMMUNITY
FROM: GREG STAPLES, CHIEF OF POLICE
SUBJECT: Annual Report - Calendar Year 2016

The Police Department finished 2016 with a strong record of accomplishment. This includes recognition as a National Champion in the National Law Enforcement Challenge. This is a nationwide program that recognizes departments for their efforts in incorporating traffic safety into all department operations. The NPD competed with departments of similar size and won first place in the Nation.

2016 was also a significant year for reflection on the issues of police community relations and the dangers of law enforcement as a profession. During the year, five officers from metro police departments were killed in the line of duty. Two of these officers were murdered in their police cars in ambush style attacks. In light of these events, the officers of the Norwalk Police Department remained steadfast in their commitment to protecting the community and providing quality service to those in need.

This annual report is designed to give the reader a brief snapshot of our accomplishments, work and activities for the year. It is organized as follows:

- Crime and Activity Statistics
- Annual Training
- Police Fleet Status
- Community Policing
- Professional Standards
- Personnel
- Goal Accomplishment for 2016
- Out and About

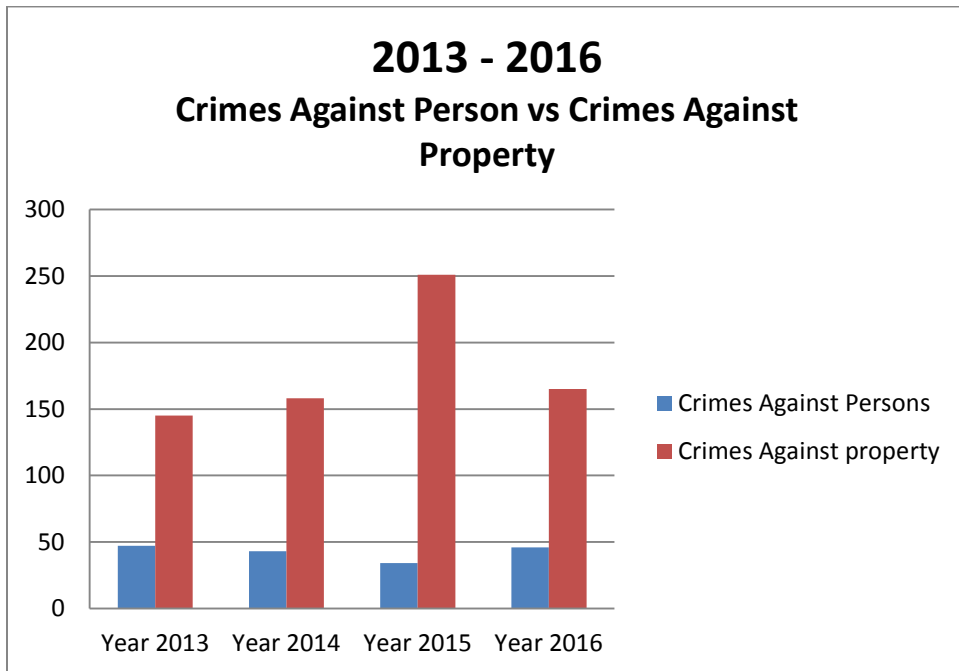
Crime and Activity Statistics

During the year we experienced a slight increase in crimes against persons but a significant decrease in crimes against property. The decrease in crimes against property can largely be attributed to the fact that we did not have any significant series of property crime. 2015 was an exceptionally high year for property crime. In 2016 the number of incidents more closely resembles the level experienced in 2014.

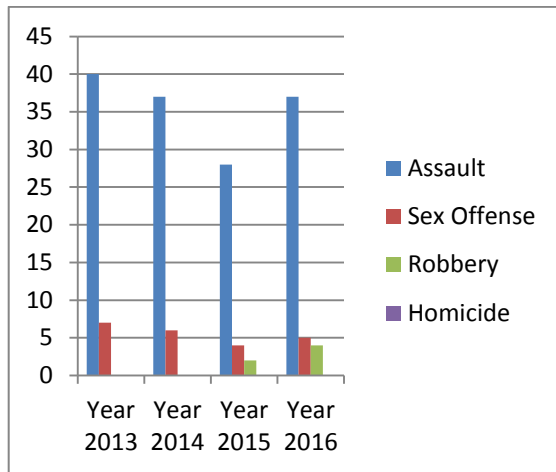
2016

Reported Crimes

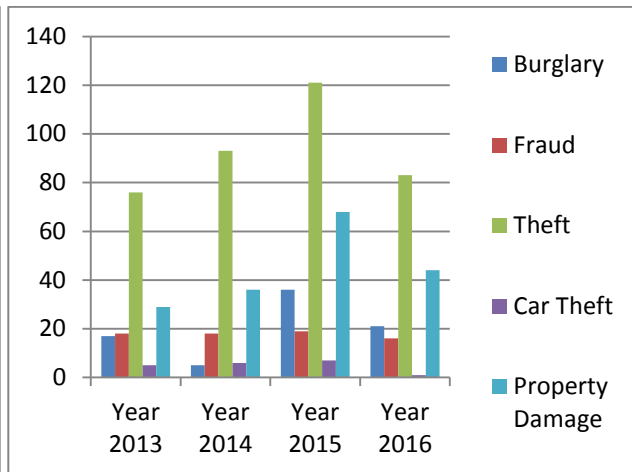
Crimes Against Person	2013	2014	2015	2016	Change
Assault Offenses	40	37	28	37	9
Sexual Assault Forcible	5	6	4	4	0
Sexual Assault Non-Forcible	2	0	0	1	1
Robbery	0	0	2	4	2
Homicide	0	0	0	0	0
<i>Subtotal</i>	47	43	34	46	12
Crimes Against Property	2013	2014	2015	2016	Change
Burglary	17	5	36	21	-15
Fraud / Forgery / Embezzle	18	18	19	16	-3
Theft / Larceny	76	93	121	83	-38
Motor Vehicle Theft	5	6	7	1	-6
Property Damage	29	36	68	44	-24
<i>Subtotal</i>	145	158	251	165	-86
Total	192	201	285	211	-74



Crimes Against Persons



Crimes Against Property

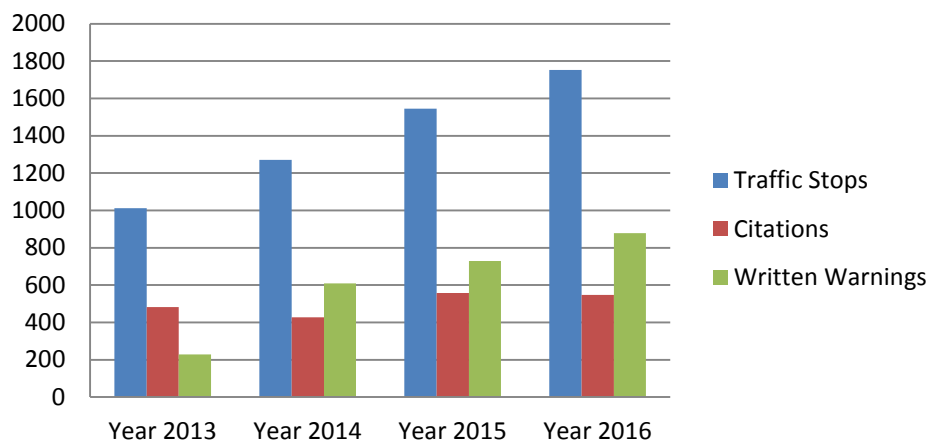


General Activities and Proactive Law Enforcement

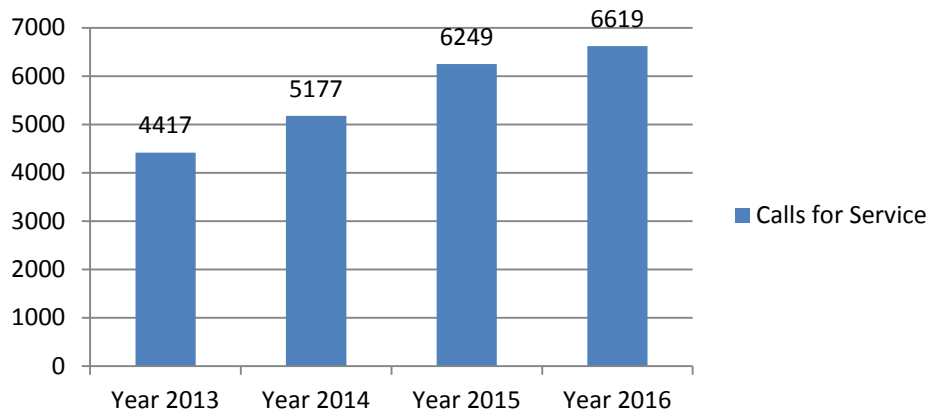
During 2016, NPD Officers stopped more cars than previous years but issued fewer citations. This is reflective of a strategy change to bring compliance on traffic laws through education and increased police presence. Officers focused on areas where traffic safety is paramount and where aggressive driving behaviors have been exhibited. This strategy change is exemplified by the large increase in written warnings. During 2016, the NPD responded to increased calls for service and increased public service calls. Calls for service increased 5.9% and public service calls increased 7.6%.

Traffic Related	2013	2014	2015	2016	Change
Traffic Stops	1012	1271	1546	1753	207
Moving Violations	319	303	378	332	-46
<i>Speeding</i>	243	198	286	258	-28
<i>Impaired Driving</i>	20	22	39	36	-3
Equipment / License Citations	164	124	180	216	36
Occupant Protection	7	9	31	45	14
Written Warnings	228	610	730	878	148
Crash Investigations	131	95	95	95	0
General Activities	2013	2014	2015	2016	Change
Drug Investigations	38	42	31	40	9
Officer Initiated Incidents	XX	31	41	49	8
Public Service Calls	600	717	710	764	54
Calls For Service	4417	5177	6249	6619	370

2013 - 2016 Traffic Enforcement



2013 - 2016 Calls for Service



ANNUAL TRAINING

During the year, numerous conversations were held with community stakeholders concerning the status of the Department. These conversations later served as the basis for a five year strategic plan. One aspect of a competent professional police force, which the community emphasized during these planning sessions, was that the Department should maintain excellent training. To that end, the Department contracted with an on-line training program that provides monthly classes on valuable and pertinent topics. The training during the year was geared toward increasing the knowledge of our new Community Impact Officer, Officer Lewiston, and learning about the new records management system that was to be implemented in 2017.

Officers spent a total of approximately 1,006 hours in training during the year. Additionally, many of our officers assist with Basic Academy Training at the Iowa Law Enforcement Academy. During the year Norwalk officers assisted with Firearms, Driving and Chemical Agents training for the basic recruit classes.

2016 Training

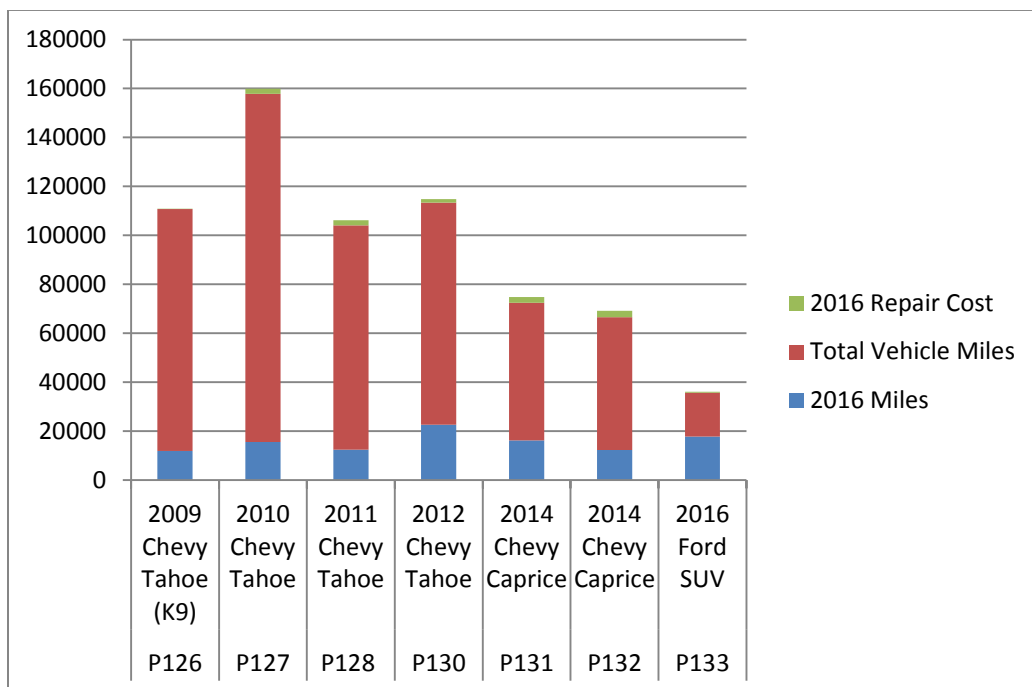
MONTH	TOPIC	OFFICERS
January	K-9 Training	Parker
February	Leadership in Police Organizations (Part 2) Defensive Tactics, Use of force, Impact Baton	Downing Entire Department
March	Leadership in Police Organizations (Part 3) Tri-Tech User Conference Cultural Diversity Crime Scene Evidence Collection Iowa Women Police Conference Report Writing	Downing Westvold Hepperly, Lewiston Lewiston, Bryant Dunlop Hepperly, Lewiston, Hutchinson
April	Bike Patrol Refresher Property Room Management Firearms Qualification Crime Free Multi-Housing Civil Rights in the 21 st Century	Criswell Albers ½ of Department Lewiston Palmer, Spurr
May	CAD/RMS Training De-escalation Domestic Communications Rifle Qualification K9 Narcotics Detection Iowa Police Chief Conference Identifying Sex offenders Interview and Interrogation	Westvold, Martin Bryant Westvold Various Parker Staples Lewiston Bryant
June	Informant Development Incident Command System CAD / RMS Crime Scene Management	Lewiston Westvold Martin Westvold Lewiston
July	Defensive Tactics- Overcoming size differences	Dunlop
August	De-escalation Financial Crimes Investigation Basic Academy 271- Week 1 Firearms Qualification	All Department Lewiston Koestler Albers, Downing, Lewiston
September	Iowa Code Firearms Qualification	All Department Various
October	Arrest of Foreign Nationals	All Department

	ASP Instructor Re-cert CAD / RMS Configuration	Lewiston Westvold, Croat
November	Iowa Police Law TASER	All Department Various
December	Iowa Police Law RMS Training RMS Investigations Training TASER	All Department Martin, Downing, Westvold, Croat Westvold, Lewiston Various

POLICE FLEET

The Police vehicle fleet consists of seven marked police units and one unmarked command / investigative vehicle. The marked units drove a total of 108,830 miles. This represents a slight decrease of about 978 miles from the previous year. During the year a new marked unit (P133) was added to the fleet. The command / investigative vehicle is P129; it is not included in this data.

Shop	Year and make	2016 Miles	Total Vehicle Miles	2015 Repair Cost	2016 Repair Cost	Cost Difference
P126	2009 Chevy Tahoe (K9)	11,883	98,873	1431	139	-1,292
P127	2010 Chevy Tahoe	15,622	142,239	1134	2125	+991
P128	2011 Chevy Tahoe	12,418	91,739	1811	2023	+212
P130	2012 Chevy Tahoe	22,617	90,763	1062	1426	+364
P131	2014 Chevy Caprice	16,152	56,237	920	2399	+1,479
P132	2014 Chevy Caprice	12,316	54,214	1054	2602	+1,548
P133	2016 Ford SUV	17,822	17,822	NA	422	NA



COMMUNITY POLICING

The Department completed another strong year of community policing. The officers continued to provide quality service through our ongoing projects such as:

- Lunch in the park
- Lakewood family fun night
- Beggars night patrols
- Bike patrol
- Lunch with the Chief
- NPD Reads
- Traffic safety poster contest

In addition to these activities, the Department continued with the on-going educational programs provided to the communities school aged children. Programs such as DARE, the Junior Police Academy, Bike Safety Day and character education were all continued.

New during 2016 was an effort to raise awareness about the residents of Warren County that are food insecure and to organize a food drive for the local food pantry. “Cops with Carts” was started with a \$300 donation from the officers and then matching donations from businesses and other individuals. On one night in December, the project filled 3.5 police cars with food in less than 3 hours. Officers shopped for food at Fareway and took donations of food and money from other shoppers. The result was a full pantry of food that was used to help feed a growing number of needy families.



Another new community policing initiative started in 2016 was a campaign to raise funds for cancer research. The “Pink Patch Project” involved officers wearing pink patches on their uniforms and selling additional patches to the public. Over \$1,000 was raised and donated to the Navigation Programs at the John Stoddard Cancer Center in Des Moines.



The Pink Patch Line UP

PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS

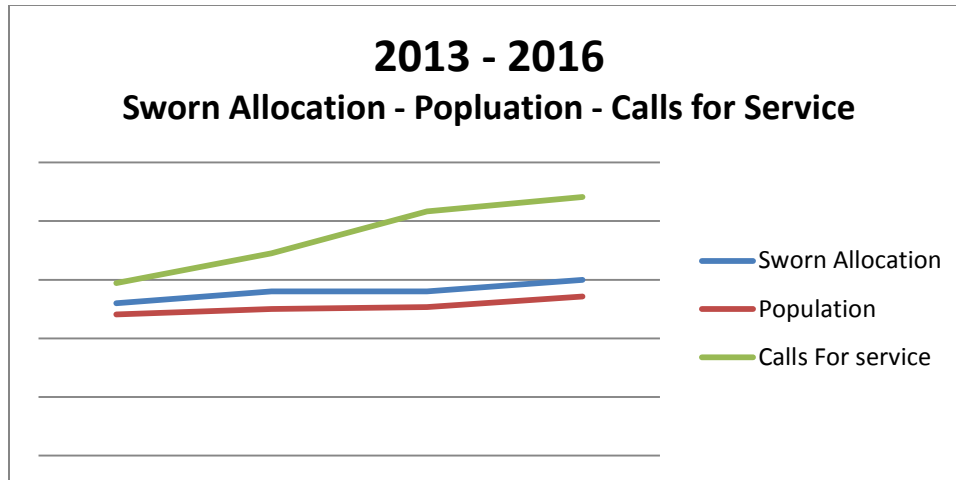
The Department received one formal complaint concerning officer conduct. The complaining party accused officers of violating their rights during the investigation of a domestic related incident. The allegation was ultimately unfounded. The complaining party refused to cooperate with the investigation.

PERSONNEL

Personnel moves for 2016 are noted below. The Department was fortunate to welcome three new officers into the community:

- In June Officer Bryant resigned from his position
- In August Officer Kirstin Koestler was hired
- In August Officer Carman Iredale was hired
- In August our beloved K9 Zena retired and moved to a farm in the country
- In October Officer Iredale resigned her position
- In December Officer Andrew Jackson was hired

The Department was given a new budgeted position that increased the total sworn allocation of officers to 15. As you can see from the graph below, the addition of the 15th Officer allowed the Department to maintain pace with an increasing population and an increased number of calls for police service.



GOAL ACCOMPLISHMENT FOR 2016

The overall goals identified in 2015 remained as the goals for department achievement in 2016. These goals and their associated objectives are listed below along with the success achieved in pursuit of the objective.

GOAL - Members of the Norwalk Police Department shall protect the public by maintaining law and order in an efficient and effective manner.

OBJECTIVES:

Work to increase staffing levels to a recommended 18 officers – COMPLETE

During the year we asked for a received a 15th budgeted officer. This additional position keeps the department on the path for bringing in the department to 18 officers by FY 20. We also applied for a COPS hiring grant but were unsuccessful in being awarded funding. Our application was scored just a fraction of a point below the lowest score that received funding.

Answer all calls for service including an expected increase of over 20% - COMPLETE

All calls for service received by Westcom were answered. There was an increase in calls received. However the increase was only 5.9%. This increase was not as high as what was projected which allowed officers to concentrate more on each request for service.

Implement a new Community Impact Officer position that will split work time between investigations, community policing and patrol – COMPLETE

Officer Ben Lewiston was transferred to the Community Impact Officer (CIO) position in March. He received several trainings related to the needs of his new assignment and immediately put his new skills to use. A number of investigations that were previously handled by patrol officers now received more in depth attention from Lewiston.

Work to incorporate traffic safety programs / planning into all areas of the Department – COMPLETE

As mentioned at the beginning of this report, the Department won first in the nation in the National Law Enforcement Challenge for traffic safety. This program requires departments to incorporate traffic safety into the daily operating environment for the Department. The fact that we won the contest indicates the level of success achieved in this area.

Implement strategies to reduce crime and provide for increased capacity to successfully investigate crimes – COMPLETE

The community impact officer position was started in March. This immediately had an impact on our ability to provide for in-depth investigations where patrol officers couldn't dedicate the necessary time to fully complete the tasks needed. The CIO position has allowed the department to increase our liaisons with businesses and neighborhoods. A second CIO position is expected to begin in early 2017.

Goal – The Norwalk Police Department will provide effective public service through the establishment and maintenance of programs that provide for and assist with Departmental effectiveness

OBJECTIVES

Attend neighborhood meetings and provide crime statistics to residents - COMPLETE

Officer Hutchinson and Officer Lewiston have completed the Crime Free Multi Housing program. This training teaches officers and apartment managers how to decrease crime in their communities. Both officers have attended resident meetings at the apartment complexes in town. A department representative has attended all Lakewood association meetings. In addition to these two regular programs, Chief Staples and other members of the Department have met with neighborhood groups as the need arose.

Implement and continue programs that encourage interaction between the Department and school aged children – COMPLETE

All programs for school age children conducted in 2015 were repeated in 2016. Additionally a traffic safety poster contest was initiated for the 4th grade. The contest required students to create posters discussing seatbelt safety. The posters were then presented to the entire grade. A panel of police judges

determined the winner, and that student's class received a pizza party. The Department also had a presence at the kindergarten orientation day where bicycle helmets were given to those in need.

Increase the number of community events attended by 10% - COMPLETE

The number of events and meetings that officers attended during the year was 103. This represents a 41% increase over 2015

Increase partnerships with businesses, community organizations and churches – COMPLETE

Evidence of an increase in connections with local businesses can be demonstrated through the increasing willingness of organizations to sponsor our police events. Sponsorships for the DARE golf tournament were up in 2016. We also received first ever sponsorships for our Cops with Carts project and on-going financial commitments for our Bike Safety Day. The Department continues to partner with the Norwalk Ministerial Association and with the Lakewood Village Association. Additionally cooperative relationships with the management groups at all of our apartment complexes have been established.

Provide training to officers as needed to enhance skill and increase effectiveness – COMPLETE

The newly implemented on-line training program is a direct result of this objective. Officers receive necessary legal updates and all required classroom training required by the State of Iowa through the online system. Additionally, the CIO attended a number of training classes necessary for him to be able to successfully complete his assigned tasks.

OUT AND ABOUT IN 2016

Officer Dunlop teaching at a Baby Sitting Clinic



Officer Hepperly helping with Everybody Wins reading program



Officer Criswell helping with the Everybody Wins reading program



Officer Hepperly waiting for his shift in the Guns and Hoses Hockey Game



Chief Staples and Officer Criswell presenting an award to Scheels for their on-going support



Officer Lewiston leading the class in NPD Reads



Chief Staples at Lunch with the Chief



Young Wyatt Learning how to wear a seat belt



Officer Albers helping with Bike Safety day



Officer Albers making friends at Lunch in the Park



Chief Staples, Officer Albers, Officer Dunlop and Officer Lewiston before a big Norwalk varsity football game



4th Grade traffic safety poster contest winning classes



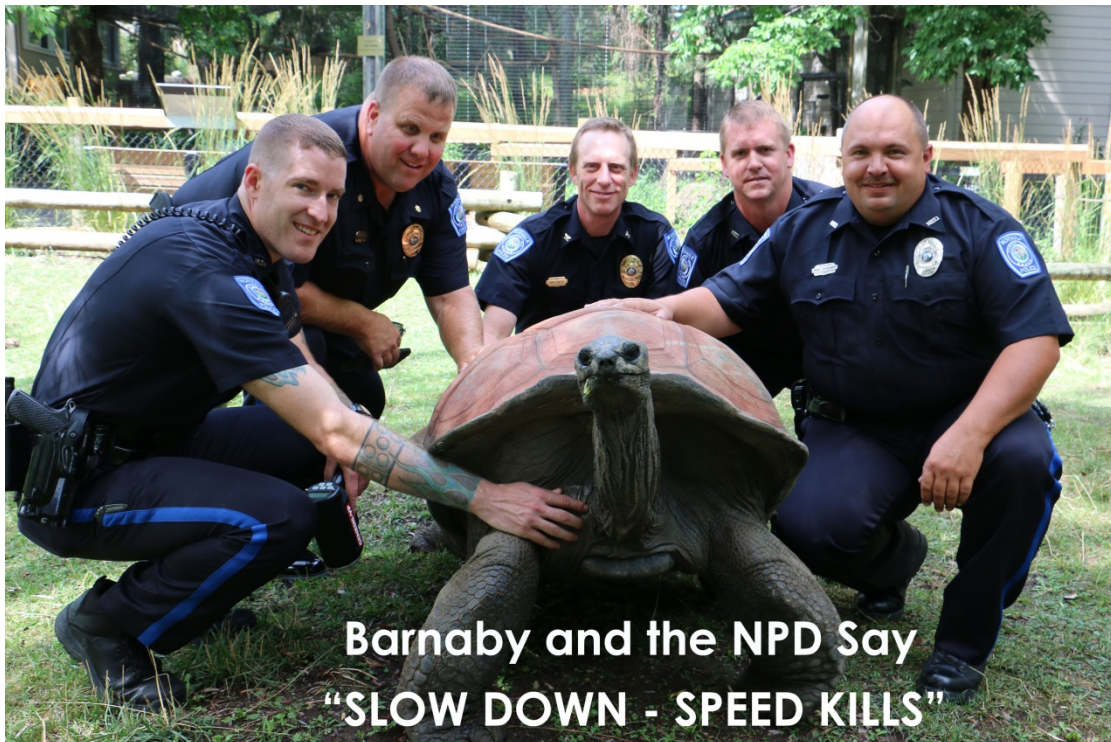
Officers Spurr, Palmer and Criswell with Fun Night Prizes



Chief Staples accepting a Thank You card from a local Daycare



NPD Officers took a trip to the Zoo to meet Barnaby the Tortoise



Thank you from the NPD for your on-going support!

