

TO: NORWALK COMMUNITY
FROM: GREG STAPLES, CHIEF OF POLICE
SUBJECT: Annual Report - Calendar Year 2018

2018 was a very successful year for the Norwalk Police Department. Significant crimes were solved, new community policing initiatives were started, a citizen survey revealed strong support for the police and the City remained a safe place to live.

For the second year in a row, **Norwalk was rated as the safest city in Iowa** by the national Council for Home Safety and Security. This continues a trend of recent ratings that show Norwalk continues to be considered a great place to live and work. During the year, the Police Department continued to provide quality services designed to develop a culture of trust between the community and the department. These measures were designed to increase the quality of life for the residents.

Over the summer, Norwalk Officers participated in a new community policing event called “Front Porch Norwalk”. This turned out to be a grand success and brought many in the community together on Tuesday nights in the summer. In 2019 this concept could be expanded further to include “Walk, Talk Norwalk” events where officers and citizens can walk around their neighborhoods to see and meet new people.

During the summer, multiple cars were broken into. The resulting investigation led to the arrest of several individuals from out of town who had committed crimes all over the metro. The effort by Norwalk officers solved these crimes for the entire Des Moines area.

During the fall a major ATM fraud was discovered where suspects used multiple cloned cards to fraudulently withdraw funds from many ATM machines around the region. The resulting investigation led to the arrest of the perpetrators. The effort by Norwalk officers solved these crimes for the entire Des Moines area.

A Citizen survey conducted revealed that 93% of Norwalkians were satisfied with the quality of police services, 93% of Norwalkians felt safe in the City and 92% of Norwalkians thought that the Department’s officers acted professionally.

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
- Out and About

Crime and Activity Statistics

In 2018, we had a net decrease of 14 crimes reported. There was an increase of five simple assaults over 2017, but there was significant decreases in theft and property damage; 12.8% and 47.6% respectively. The overall reported crime fell to 199 incidents which is lower than the crimes reported in 2014.

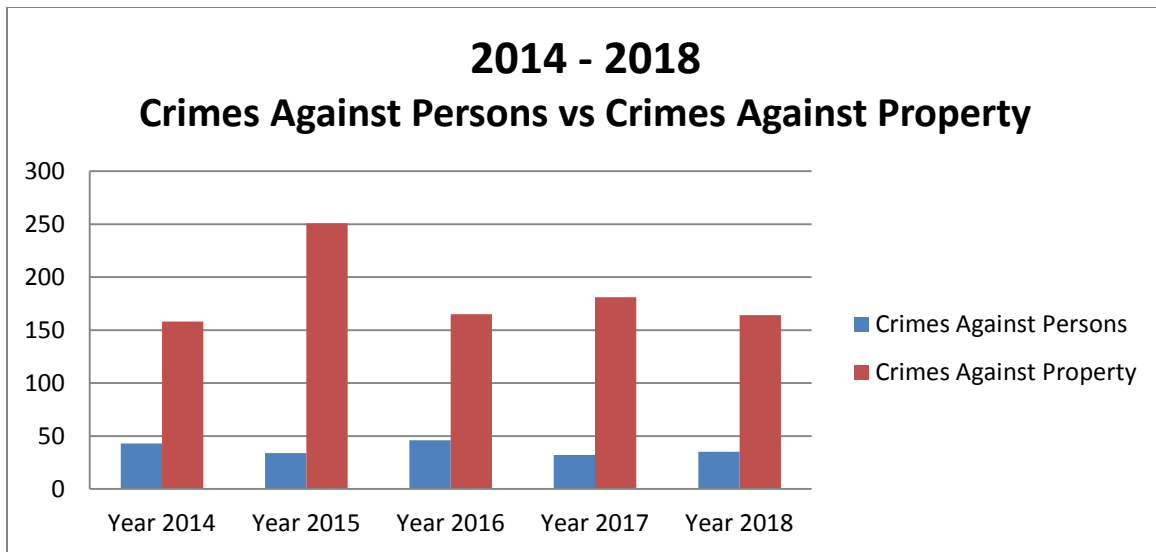
It is also important to note, that based on our increasing population, the crime rate per 1,000 residents is falling. In 2014 the crime rate per 1000 persons was 20.4. In 2018 this rate per 1000 persons fell to 17.2.

2018

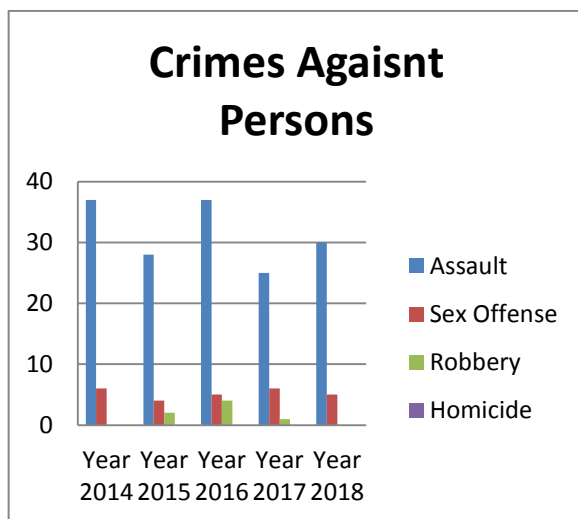
Crimes Against Person	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	Change
Assault Offenses	37	28	37	25	30	5
Sexual Assault Forcible	6	4	4	6	4	-2
Sexual Assault Non-Forcible	0	0	1	0	1	1
Robbery	0	2	4	1	0	-1
Homicide	0	0	0	0	0	0
<i>Subtotal</i>	43	34	46	32	35	3
Crimes Against Property	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	Change
Burglary	5	36	21	18	23	5
Fraud / Forgery / Embezzle	18	19	16	25	37	12
Theft / Larceny	93	121	83	86	75	-11
Motor Vehicle Theft	6	7	1	10	7	-3
Property Damage	36	68	44	42	22	-20
<i>Subtotal</i>	158	251	165	181	164	-17
Total	201	285	211	213	199	-14

Reported Crimes

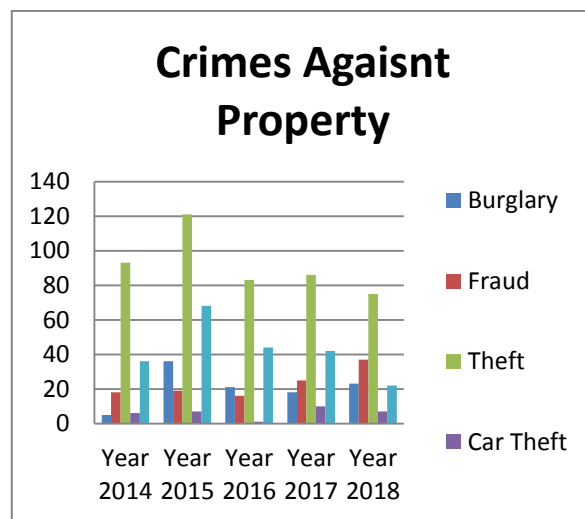
The change listed in the right hand column is the change between 2017 and 2018



Crimes Against Persons



Crimes Against Property



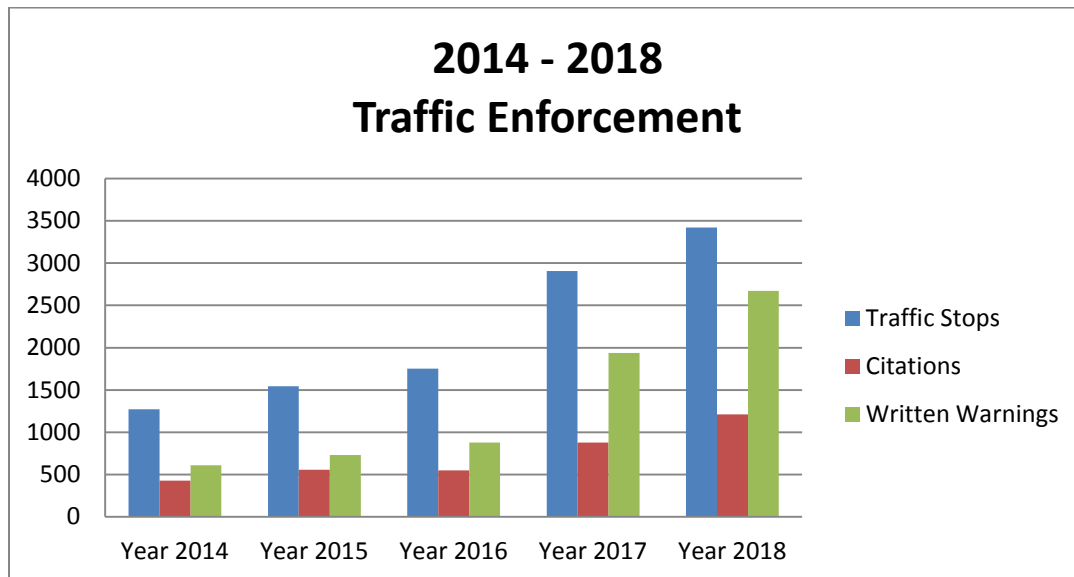
General Activities and Proactive Law Enforcement

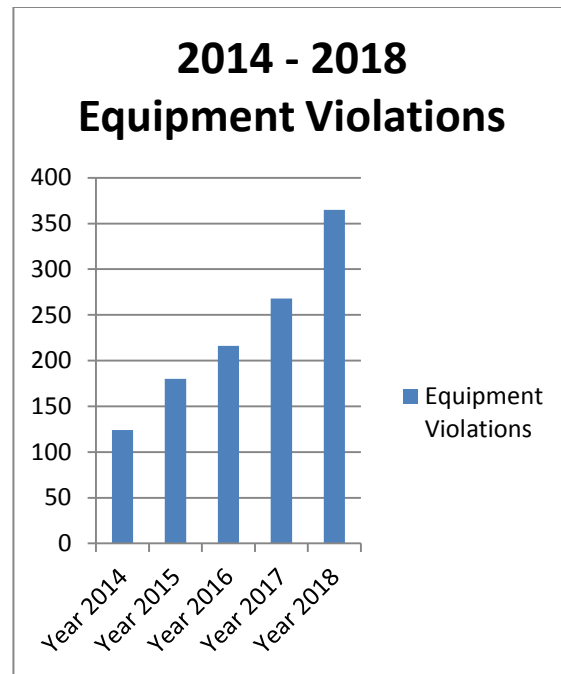
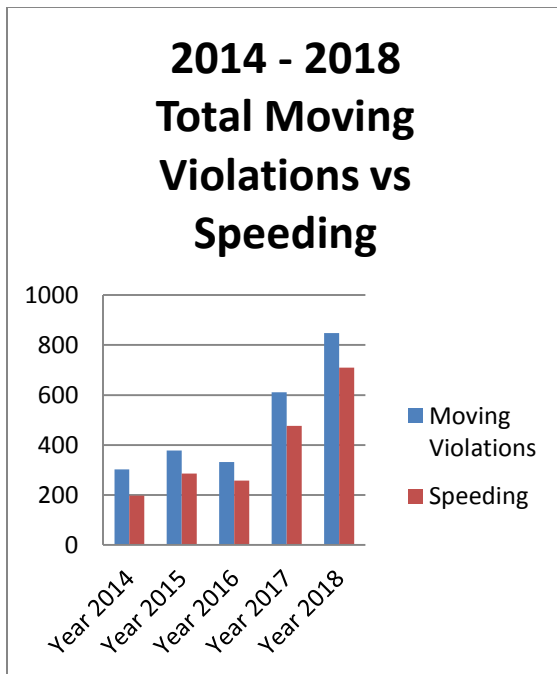
The overall calls for service in 2018 fell slightly by 130 calls. Conversely, proactive traffic enforcement increased significantly by 17.6%. The officers of the department increased production in all areas of traffic enforcement which could be a significant factor in the substantial decrease in traffic crashes. There is documented evidence that an increase in traffic enforcement will translate into a decrease in traffic crashes. In this scenario, the 27% reduction in crashes is a possible result of the increased work outputs by the officers.

Traffic Related	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	Change
Traffic Stops	1271	1546	1753	2907	3421	514
Moving Violations	303	378	332	611	848	237
<i>Speeding</i>	198	286	258	477	709	232
<i>Impaired Driving</i>	22	39	36	33	40	7
Equipment / License Citations	124	180	216	268	365	97
Occupant Protection	9	31	45	36	38	2
Written Warnings	610	730	878	1938	2672	734
Crash Investigations	95	95	95	110	80	-30
General Activities	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	Change
Public Service Calls	717	710	764	653	1044	391
Calls For Service	5177	6249	6619	5763	5633	-130

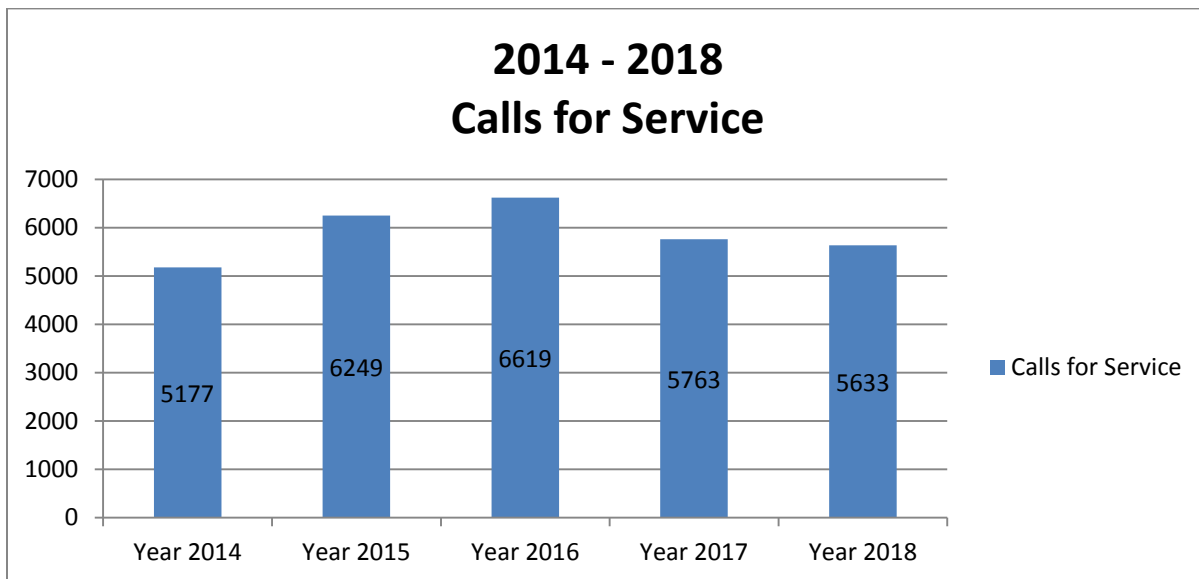
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The graphs below show the breakdown of our traffic enforcement operations. Warnings remain the most frequent form of resolution for a traffic enforcement encounter. Speeding remains our most frequent violation for citation issuance. Speeding accounted for 83.6% of all moving violation citations.





For 2018, of the 848 moving violation citations issued, 83.6% or 709 were issued for speeding. Equipment violations include such things as registration and licensing issues as well as broken or malfunctioning equipment such as headlamps.



A slight decrease in the number of calls for service was experienced. Proactive police patrols, community policing activities and crime prevention efforts could be responsible for the decrease / lack of increase.

ANNUAL TRAINING

Training during 2018 was geared toward keeping the instructor cadre certified and developing specific skills for various officers. The officers of the department also completed the mandatory training requirements for the State of Iowa.

2018 Training

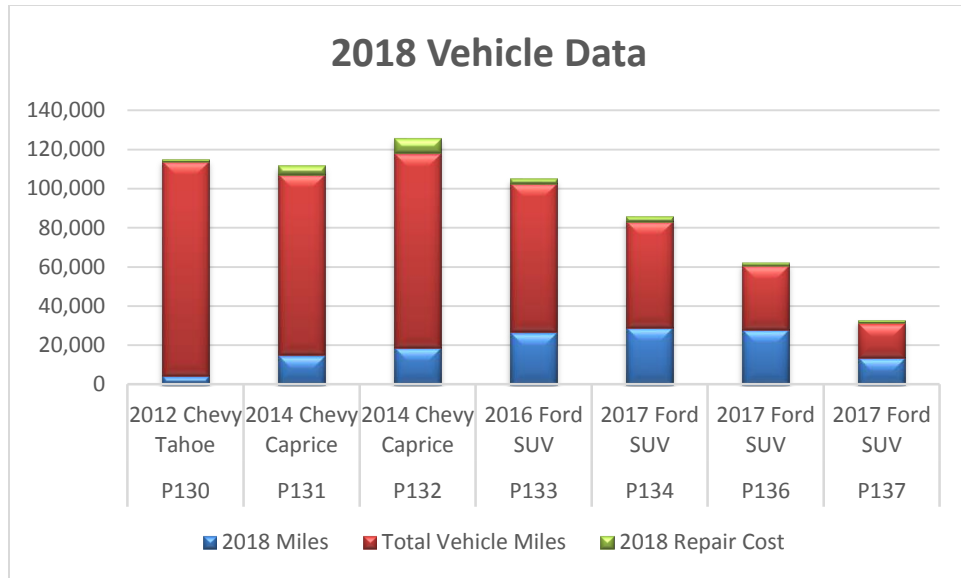
MONTH	TOPIC	OFFICERS
January	On-Line Training – Bias based Policing CPR, AED, ALICE Control Bleeding Responding to Suicidal Subjects	All All Marin, Parker
February	On-Line Training – Iowa Police Law Session 1 and 2 Warren County Leadership Institute	All Downing
March	On-Line Training – Iowa Police Law Session 3 and 4 Warren County Leadership Institute Advanced Impaired driving Enforcement Social network / Open source investigations Blue Courage	All Downing Koestler, Jackson Hepperly, Lewiston Albers, Martin
April	On-Line Training – Mental health Session 5 and 6 Warren County Leadership Institute Glock Armorer School	All Downing Downing, Frye
May	On-Line Training – Iowa Police Law Roadside Interview techniques Law Enf. Intelligence Network- Investigations Warren County Leadership Institute GTSB Conference Robbery, Active Threat and Card skimming	All Koestler Hepperly Downing Downing All
June	On-Line Training – Blood Borne Pathogens Evidence Module for RMS Empowerment and Delegation Evidence Module for RMS Rifle Instructor School Active Threat integrated Response Mental Health First Aide Firearms Qualification	All Lewiston, Croat Downing Albers, Westvold Frye Lewiston Palmer, Koestler All
July	On-Line Training – Iowa Police Law Improving Employee Performance Rifle Instructor Re-Certification Radar/Lidar instructor re-certification	All Martin Martin Palmer
August	On-Line Training – Child Abuse – Mandatory Reporting DARE Conference	All Dunlop

	ALICE Active Threat Response Chemical Munition Instructor Roadside Interview Techniques	Lewiston Parker Dunlop, Jackson
September	On-Line Training – Child Abuse – Mandatory Reporting Problem Solving in the Workplace RADAR / LIDAR Officer Reed started the Basic Academy	All Wetvold Dunlop, Koestler, Jackson, Perez Reed
October	Digital Investigations On-Line Training – Child Abuse – Mandatory Reporting Crime Free Multi Housing Tactical Medical / First Responders	Lewiston All Koestler Frye, Martin
November	On-Line Training – Iowa Police Law Criminal Intelligence Systems Firearms Qualifications Assisted ILEA as Driver Instructor Road Safety Workshop	All Lewiston Half Dept. Spurr Downing
December	On-Line Training – Iowa Police Law Crisis Intervention Defensive Tactics, ASP, Taser Defensive Tactics, ASP, Taser NCIC Firearms Instructor Recertification Dealing with Suicidal Suspects	All Koestler Half Dept. Half Dept. Albers Downing Downing, Albers, Hepperly

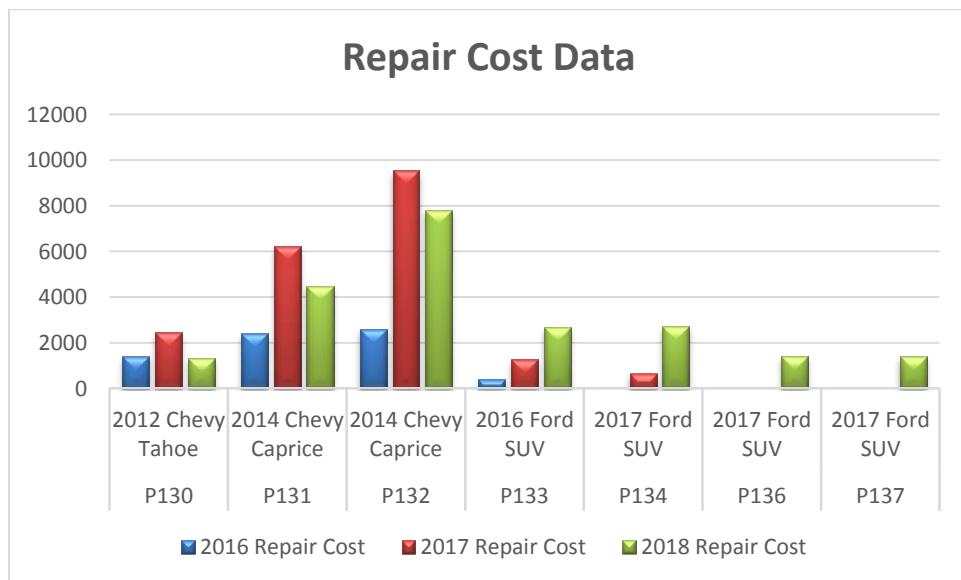
POLICE FLEET

The Police vehicle fleet consists of seven marked police units and two unmarked command / investigative vehicles. The marked units were driven a total of 135,610 miles. This is a 7.4% increase over 2017.

Shop	Year and Make	2018 Miles	Total Vehicle Miles	2018 Repair Cost
P130	2012 Chevy Tahoe	4,352	109,527	1327
P131	2014 Chevy Caprice	15,091	92,212	4493
P132	2014 Chevy Caprice	18,958	99,222	7798
P133	2016 Ford SUV	26,654	75,858	2694
P134	2017 Ford SUV	29,052	54,032	2709
P136	2017 Ford SUV	27,901	32,760	1428
P137	2017 Ford SUV	13,602	17,797	1387



The miles each vehicle is driven are recorded each month and the repair costs are calculated at the end of the year. The Chevrolet Caprice patrol sedans continued to have high repair bills. They will be sold in 2019.



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 foot patrols

- Bike patrol
- Lunch with the Chief
- NPD Reads

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

We continued the highly successful Cops with Carts foodraiser. A program designed to raise awareness concerning the residents of Warren County who are food insecure. The project involves a food drive for the local food pantry. The result was a full pantry of food that was used to help feed a growing number of needy families. The total value of the food purchased / donated is estimated to be approximately \$9,000.

Officers Koestler, Jackson and Dunlop having fun at Cops with Carts



A new outreach initiative started in 2018 is known as “Front Porch Norwalk”. This program encouraged neighbors to get together for an evening of conversation so that neighbors could know neighbors. Front Porch Norwalk hosts registered their event on a Facebook page and then Officers from the department

stopped by to say hello, interact with the adults and kids and answer questions about the department and the city. The concept was a resounding success and over 50 events were held.

Officer Koestler at a Front Porch event



Officers Criswell and Hepperly speaking to neighbors on Front Porch Norwalk



“Coffee With a Cop” is a national event that was held for the first time in Norwalk. Officers went to Maid Rite in the morning and then McDonalds in the afternoon to have coffee with the residents and talk about issues of the day. The program will continue in future years.

The first Citizens Police Academy was held with 13 participants. The students learned about police work, the role of the police, had tours of Westcom and the court facility. Participants also had the opportunity to conduct a traffic stop and shoot at the pistol range. The program will continue in future years.

The graduates of the Inaugural Class of the NPD Citizens Academy



PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS

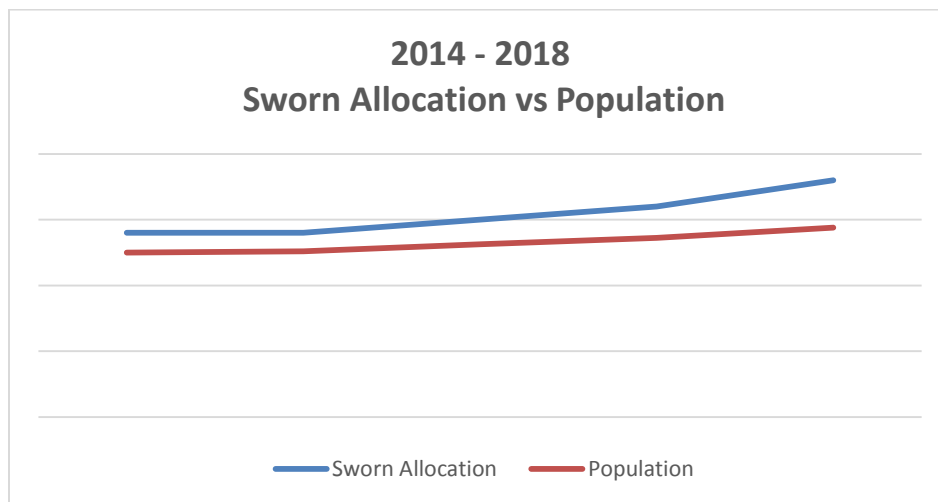
The Department received no formal complaints concerning officer conduct.

PERSONNEL

Personnel adjustments for 2018 are noted below:

- In April Officer Jose Perez was hired
- In August Officer Andrew Reed was hired

In July at the start of the FY 18/19 budget, the Department was given a new full time position. During the year, the department also received a COPS grant that allowed the hiring of an additional officer. This brought the total number of officers up to 18. The graph below indicates that the addition of the 17th and 18th officers allowed the Department to gain some ground on the ratio between police and population. The census estimate for 2018 is 11,517.



OUT AND ABOUT IN 2016

Officer Lewiston speaking about Bike Safety



Bikeathon Rodeo selfie with Chief Staples



Officer Hutchinson giving a birthday boy a NPD Frisbee



Officer Palmer showing the birthday boy a police car



Officer Lewiston doing car seat checks



Officers Lewiston and Hepperly giving bike safety lessons



Beggars Night – The Whole Crew



Officer Spurr making kids happy



Officer Dunlop with a future officer



Family Fun night with the NPD



Officers Hepperly and Spurr with a Fun Night Bingo winner



Cops with Carts – Officers Spurr and Dunlop with the good deals



Officer Koestler having fun at Cops with Carts



Chief Staples going for a ride at Cops with Carts

