

**TO:** Norwalk Community  
**FROM:** Greg Staples, Chief of Police  
**SUBJECT:** Annual Report – Calendar Year 2021

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## **Executive Summary**

2021 was another fantastic year for the Norwalk Police Department. The dedicated men and women of the force successfully investigated numerous crimes, continually patrolled all of the streets, enhanced our outstanding slate of community outreach initiatives, and wished a long time employee a happy retirement.

The modernization of the police records system continued when Officers Hepperly and Lewiston successfully implemented a new property room bar-coding system to be used to track evidence. This enables us to more easily keep the chain of custody intact and allows us to more efficiently manage the many items stored in the property room.

Over the summer, Officer Dunlop introduced the new NPD LYFE program for young teenagers. *"Limitless Youth for Excellence"* partners police officers and participants together for a positive message, sports / activities and food. Three sessions were held all resulting in a quality experience for all involved.

In December, our beloved long time Office Manager retired after 26 years of service. We know she is enjoying some well-deserved time with her husband and grandchildren.

Defining success in law enforcement is not always an easy proposition. At the end of the year, a community survey was completed. The survey indicated that 93% of respondents were satisfied with the quality of police services. The survey also reported that 98% of respondents felt that the number one reason why people want to live in Norwalk was that it is a safe and secure place to be. These outcomes are a tremendous success. They are a direct result of the tireless efforts of our police officers, who continually patrol the neighborhoods, respond to emergencies and handle every situation in a professional and empathetic manner.

It continues to be a pleasure and honor to lead the 20 outstanding individuals who work in the department. Thank you to Mayor Tom Phillips and the City Council along with all of the other City departments that regularly work with us to help with providing the best police services possible. I am continually blessed with the opportunity to serve this wonderful community. On behalf of all of the members of the department, thank you for your never ending support. We are looking forward to serving you in 2022 and plan to have another great year.

Respectfully,

Greg Staples  
Chief of Police

This annual report is divided into several categories. Each area of discussion is designed to give you a brief snapshot of our work during the year. The report 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

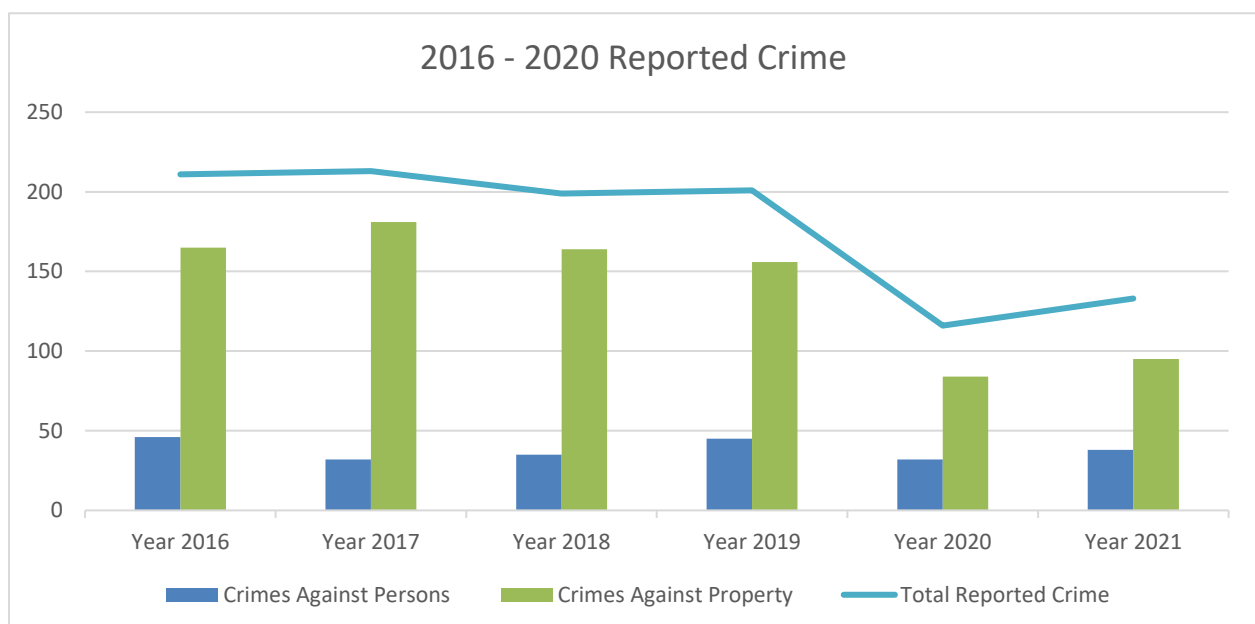
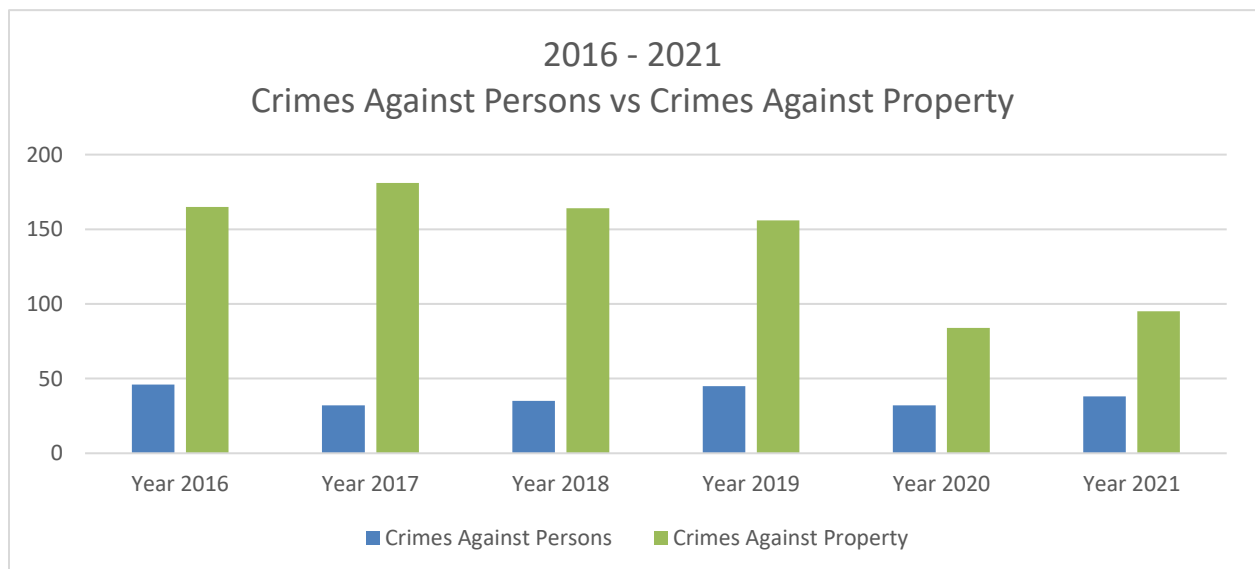
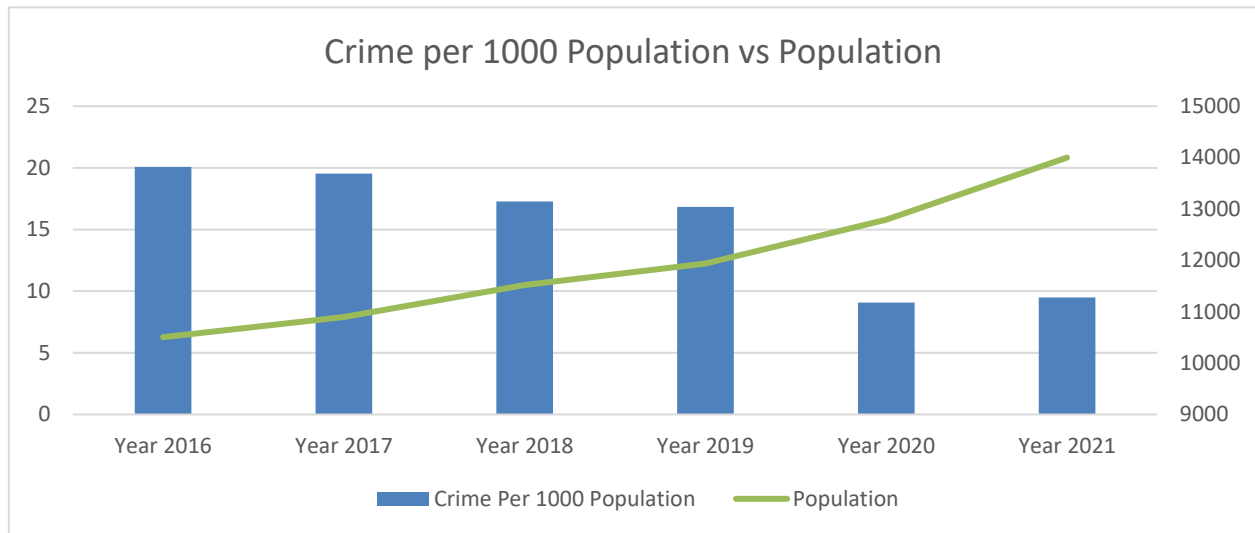
2021 saw an increase in reported crimes after the 2020 pandemic ended.

#### 2021 Reported Crimes

Crimes Against Person		2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	Change
Assault Offenses		37	25	30	37	28	32	4
Sexual Assault Forcible		4	6	4	7	4	5	1
Sexual Assault Non-Forcible		1	0	1	0	0	1	1
Robbery		4	1	0	1	0	0	0
Homicide		0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Subtotal		46	32	35	45	32	38	6
Crimes Against Property		2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	Change
Burglary		21	18	23	15	9	6	-3
Fraud / Forgery / Embezzle		16	25	37	35	31	28	-3
Theft / Larceny		83	86	75	75	27	31	4
Motor Vehicle Theft		1	10	7	7	4	9	5
Property Damage		44	42	22	24	13	21	8
Subtotal		165	181	164	156	84	95	11
Total		211	213	199	201	116	133	17

*The change listed in the right hand column is the change between 2020 and 2021*

The below charts are a visual representation of the increasing population and the rate of crime per resident as well as the types of crimes reported.



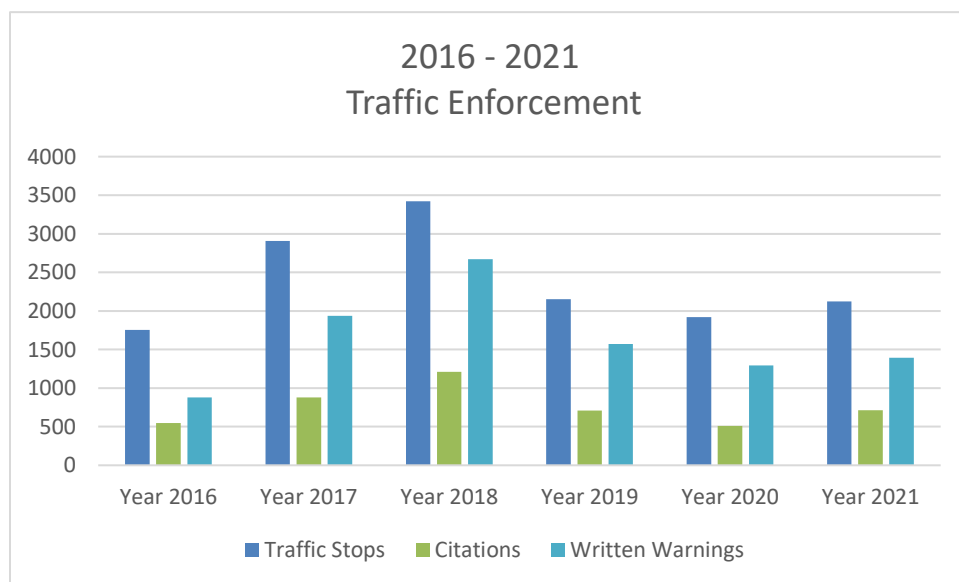
## General Activities and Proactive Law Enforcement

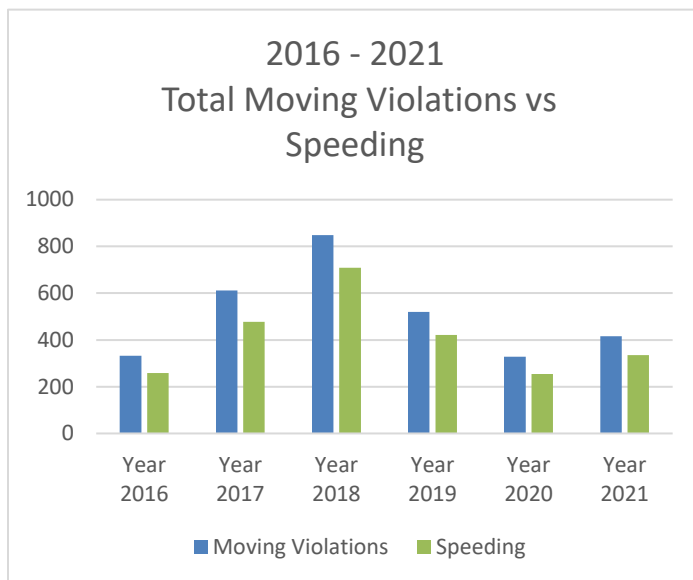
Calls for service in 2021 increased by 631. Public service calls increased by 71. All other categories as seen in the chart below were up as well. This is most likely due to COVID 19 pandemic ending, and more people moving around on the roadways. Continuing a several year trend, about 65.5% of all traffic stops resulted in a written warning. Officers believe that in general, a written warning has the same deterrent effect on driving behavior as does a citation and therefore generally choose to issue a warning.

### General Activities

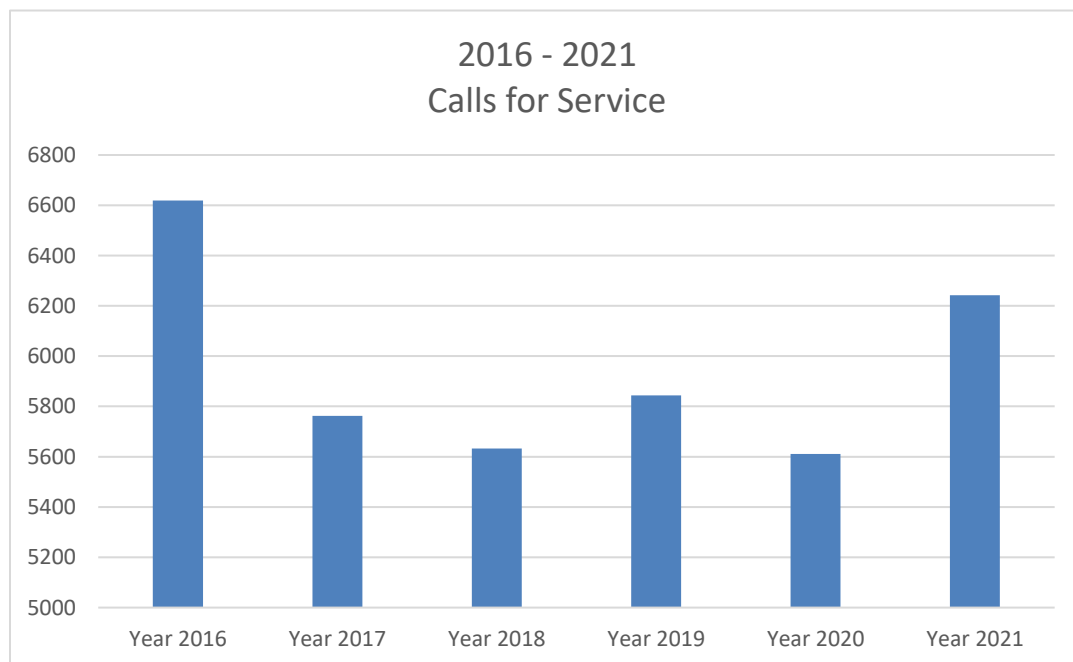
Traffic Related	2018	2019	2020	2021	Change
Traffic Stops	3421	2,153	1,921	2,124	203
Moving Violations	848	520	328	416	88
<i>Speeding</i>	709	421	255	335	80
<i>Impaired Driving</i>	40	39	31	42	11
Equipment / License Citations	365	191	184	299	115
Occupant Protection	38	14	7	9	2
Written Warnings	2672	1571	1295	1393	98
Crash Investigations	80	104	84	105	21
General Activities	2018	2019	2020	2021	Change
Public Service Calls	1044	1094	1203	1274	71
Calls For Service	5633	5844	5611	6242	631

*The change listed in the right hand column is the change between 2020 and 2021*





During the year, 80.5% of all moving violation citations were issued for speeding. This is consistent with previous years. Equipment violations include such things as registration and licensing issues as well as broken or malfunctioning equipment such as headlamps.



There was an increase in calls for service for the year. The increase was most likely due to the continuing increase in population and the ending of the 2020 pandemic. Total calls for service going up or down does not necessarily mean an increase or decrease in crime. A call for service is merely just a request for police service.

## Annual Training

Officers regularly attend various trainings in person and online to ensure they are staying up to date and certified. Below are the trainings each officer attended during 2021. The department totaled 1,281 training hours

### 2021 Training

MONTH/HOURS	TOPIC	OFFICERS
<b>January</b> Total Hours - 35 Hours	Iowa Law Update Force Science De-Escalation Instructor	All Officers Lewiston & Koestler
<b>February</b> Total Hours - 30 Hours	HAZMAT Materials/Communications Child Safety Seat Installer – Recertification	All Officers Lewiston
<b>March</b> Total Hours - 65 Hours	Online Training Hazardous Materials Defensive Tactics Instructor Recertification OWI Webinar  Highway Drug Investigations	All Officers Lewiston Jackson, Koestler Slagle, Hepperly, Reed, Frye Haller
<b>April</b> Total Hours - 257 Hours	Online Training – Iowa Police Law TASER Instructor Recertification Peer Support Training Management/Supervision of Investigative Units Spring Firearm Qualifications	All Officers Lewiston Koestler Westvold All officers
<b>May</b> Total Hours - 47 Hours	Online Training – Mental Health Awareness Child Protective Services – Virtual Conference Iowa Police Chief Conference	All officers Lewiston Staples
<b>June</b> Total Hours - 196 Hours	Online Training – Iowa Police Law NCIC Recertification SRO Conference De-escalation, Defensive tactics, TASER, School Tours	All Officers Dunlop Criswell All Officers
<b>July</b> Total Hours - 118 Hours	Iowa Legal Update Assist ILEA on Field Sobriety Chemical Munitions	All Officers Hepperly Reed & Haller
<b>August</b> Total Hours - 153 Hours	Iowa Legal Update Interview/Interrogation Disorder Control Training Rifle Instructor Recertification Red Dot Sight Training	All Officers Lewiston & Hepperly Reed & Haller Martin Martin, Downing, Frye
<b>September</b> Total Hours - 253 Hours	Iowa Legal Update Standard Field Sobriety Testing Recertification Robbery Response, Traffic Stop/Felony Stop, Handle with Care, Peer Support. Less Lethal Munitions Glock Armorer School Recertification Implicit Bias	All Officers Hepperly All Officers  Downing & Frye Hutchinson, Lewiston, Reed, Alcorn
<b>October</b> Total Hours - 38 Hours	Online Training – Implicit Bias Online Training – De-escalation	All Officers All Officers
<b>November</b> Total Hours - 60 Hours	Online Training – Diverse Communities Online Training – Bias Prevention Monthly SERT Training Firearms Qualification Implicit Bias	All Officers All Officers Haller Spurr Frye, Jackson
<b>December</b> Total Hours - 29 Hours	Online Training – Iowa Case Law Update NCIC Recertification Field Sobriety Instructor - Recertification	All Officers Hepperly & Slagle Hepperly

## Police Fleet Status

The police vehicle fleet contains nine marked patrol vehicles and three unmarked command/investigative vehicles. The marked vehicles were driven 172,680 miles during the year. There were three new cars added to the fleet.

Shop	Year and Make	2021 Miles	Total Vehicle Miles
P130	2012 Chevy Tahoe	2,541	119,672
P133	2016 Ford SUV	32,467	159,139
P134	2017 Ford SUV	20,014	132,797
P136	2017 Ford SUV	38,703	124,030
P137	2017 Ford SUV	11,551	55,454
P138	2019 Ford SUV	25,489	62,303
P139	2019 Ford SUV	25,913	61,691
P142	2021 Chevy Tahoe	8,194	8,206
P143	2021 Dodge SUV	7,808	9,308
P144	2021 Chevy Tahoe	-	-





## Community Outreach

The officers continued community policing and engagement with the residents of the city. Throughout the year we try and interact with the community in an effort to build trust and partnerships. There were 108 various events around the city that officers and staff attended.



Officers Haller & Slagle hang out with the FD and kids



Officers Hepperly and Jackson attend Front Porch Norwalk



Officers Slagle, Haller, Dunlop, Koestler and Chief Staples prepare for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade



Our annual event, Cops with Carts was held again. This is a major foodraiser that raises funds and food for the local food pantry. Many police cars were filled with food and all food was delivered to the pantry. These food items will help feed a growing population of food insecure families.

*Cops with Carts 2021*





Officer Dunlop started up a new program called the Limitless Youth for Excellence or LYFE program. This program aims to create positive relationships between youth and police officers by providing positive messages and fun. Three events were held in 2021, playing soccer and games at local parks, grilling out and having snow cones. We look forward to hosting many more LYFE events in 2022

*Limitless Youth for Excellence "LYFE"*





## Professional Standards

The department received no formal complaints involving officer conduct during the year. Many “thank you” and appreciation messages were received in various forms throughout the year.

## Personnel

Officer Williams was hired at the end of 2021 and will start at the academy at the beginning of 2022. Our Office Manager retired after 26 years of service. We thank her for all of the years she spent serving our community.

## Out and About



Officers Lewiston and Criswell use the new bike trail connection



Officers Dunlop and Koestler help rake leaves for a local family



Officer Hutchinson found a junior officer Trick or Treating



Officer Haller stopped at a local lemonade stand