

# Blackman-Leoni Township Department of Public Safety



## 2013-Annual Report

## **Mission Statement**

"The mission of the Blackman-Leoni Township Department of Public Safety is to provide for the safety and welfare of all their citizens, by preserving, protecting and defending people and property, while respecting the rights and dignity of all persons."

## **Code of Ethics**

As a sworn Public Safety Officer of the Blackman-Leoni Township Department of Public Safety, my fundamental duty is to serve all citizens, to safeguard lives and property, to protect the innocent against deception, the weak against oppression or intimidation, and the peaceful against violence and disorder, and to respect the Constitutional rights of all persons to liberty, equality and justice.

I will keep my private life unsullied as an example to all, maintain courageous calm in the face of danger, scorn, or ridicule, develop self-restraint, and be constantly mindful of the welfare of others. Honest in thought and deed in both my personal and official life, I will be exemplary in obeying the laws of the land and the regulations of my department. Whatever I see or hear of a confidential nature, or that is confided to me in my official capacity will be kept secret unless revelation is necessary in the performance of my duties.

I will never act officiously or permit personal feelings, prejudices, animosities or friendships to influence my decisions. With no compromise for crime and with relentless prosecution of criminals, I will enforce the law courteously and appropriately without fear or favor, malice or ill will, never employing unnecessary force or violence, and never accepting gratuities.

I recognize the badge of my office as a symbol of public faith, and I accept it as a public trust to be held so long as I am true to the ethics of public safety service. I will constantly strive to achieve these objectives and ideals, dedicating myself before God to my chosen profession.

## Personnel

Director Mike Jester

Deputy Director Jon Johnston

Sergeant Ralph VanHeyningen

Sergeant Mike Rand

Sergeant Steve Stowe

Sergeant Scott Grajewski

D/Sergeant Chris Boulter

Detective Bob Shrock

Detective Joe Merritt

Detective Brent Doxtader

Detective Dave Lubahn

S/PSO Randy Hengesbaugh

S/PSO Paul Long

PSO Patrick England

PSO Tom Brower

PSO Chris Jacobson (K-9)

PSO Rick Gillespie

PSO Sam Philipp

PSO Bryan French

PSO Patrick Boulter (K-9)

PSO Jim Prus

PSO Jan Ganzel

PSO Chris Pohl

PSO Martin Jordon

PSO Brandon Casler

PSO Kory Torbet

PSO Darin McIntosh

PSO Tom Bertram

PSO Shane Allen

PSO Justin Davis

PSO Mike Villarreal

PSO Rachel Benninger

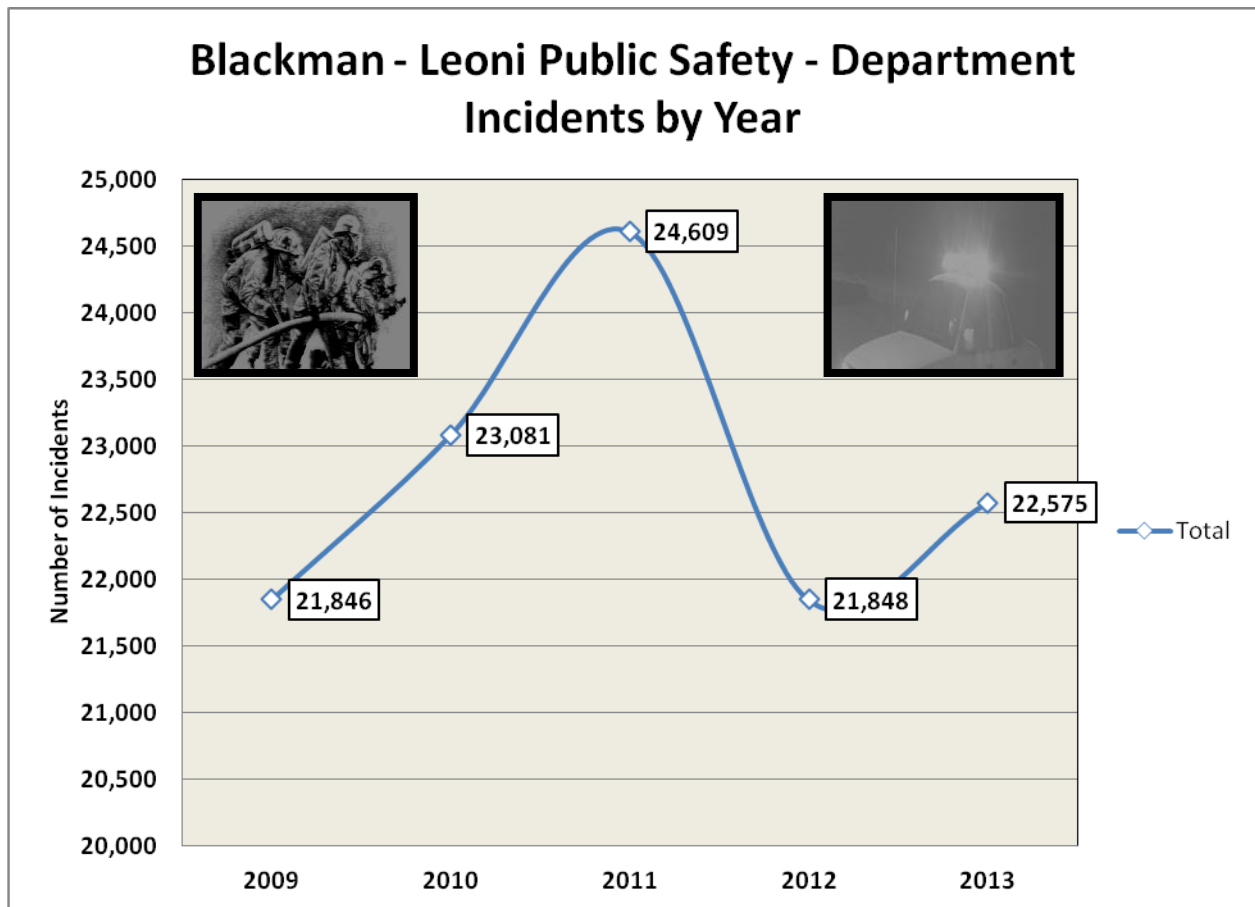
Danielle Slack-Clerk-Typist

## Administration

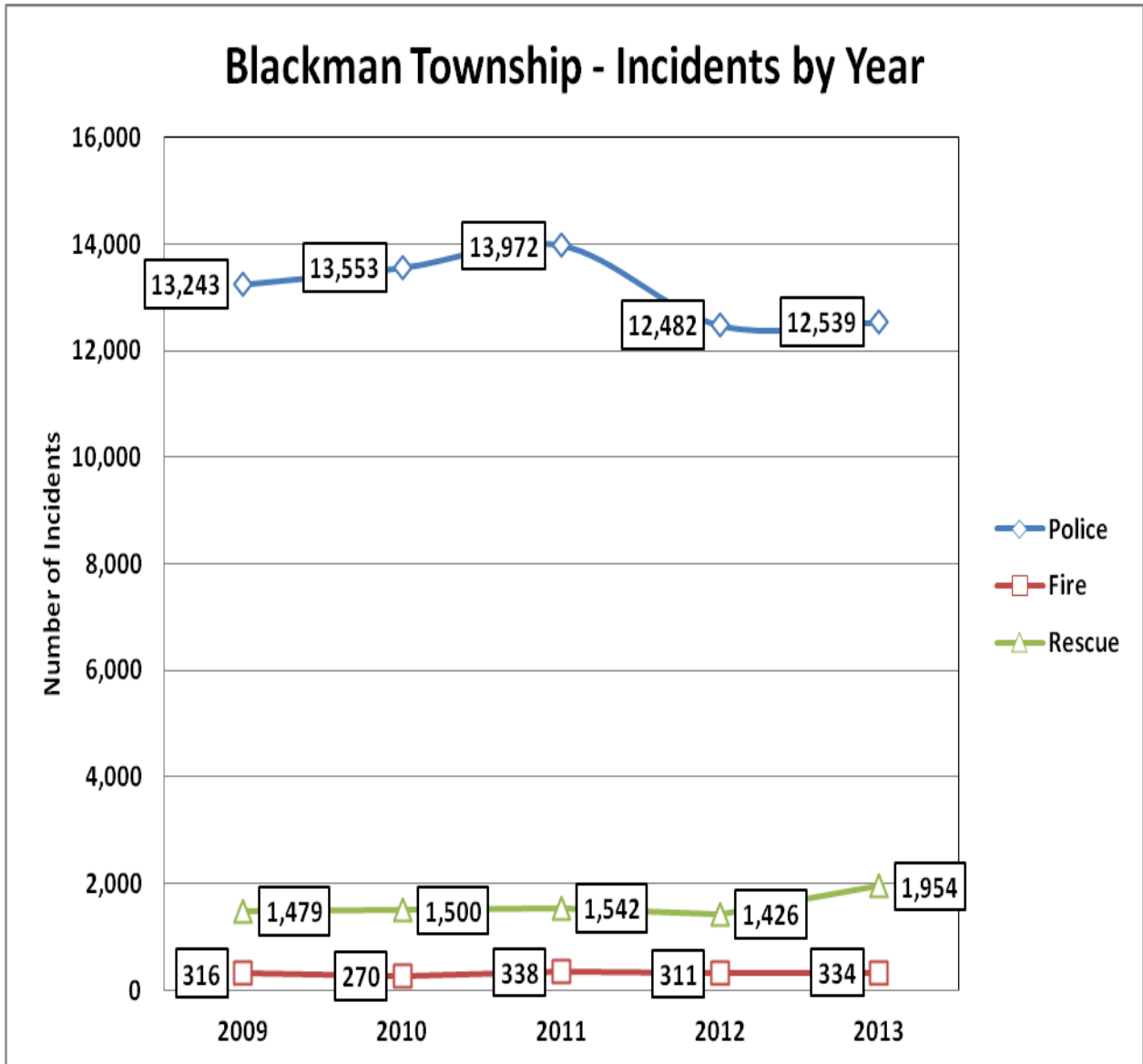
In 2013, the department administration stayed consistent with 2012 and included the Director of Public Safety and the Deputy Director of Public Safety.

## Operations Division

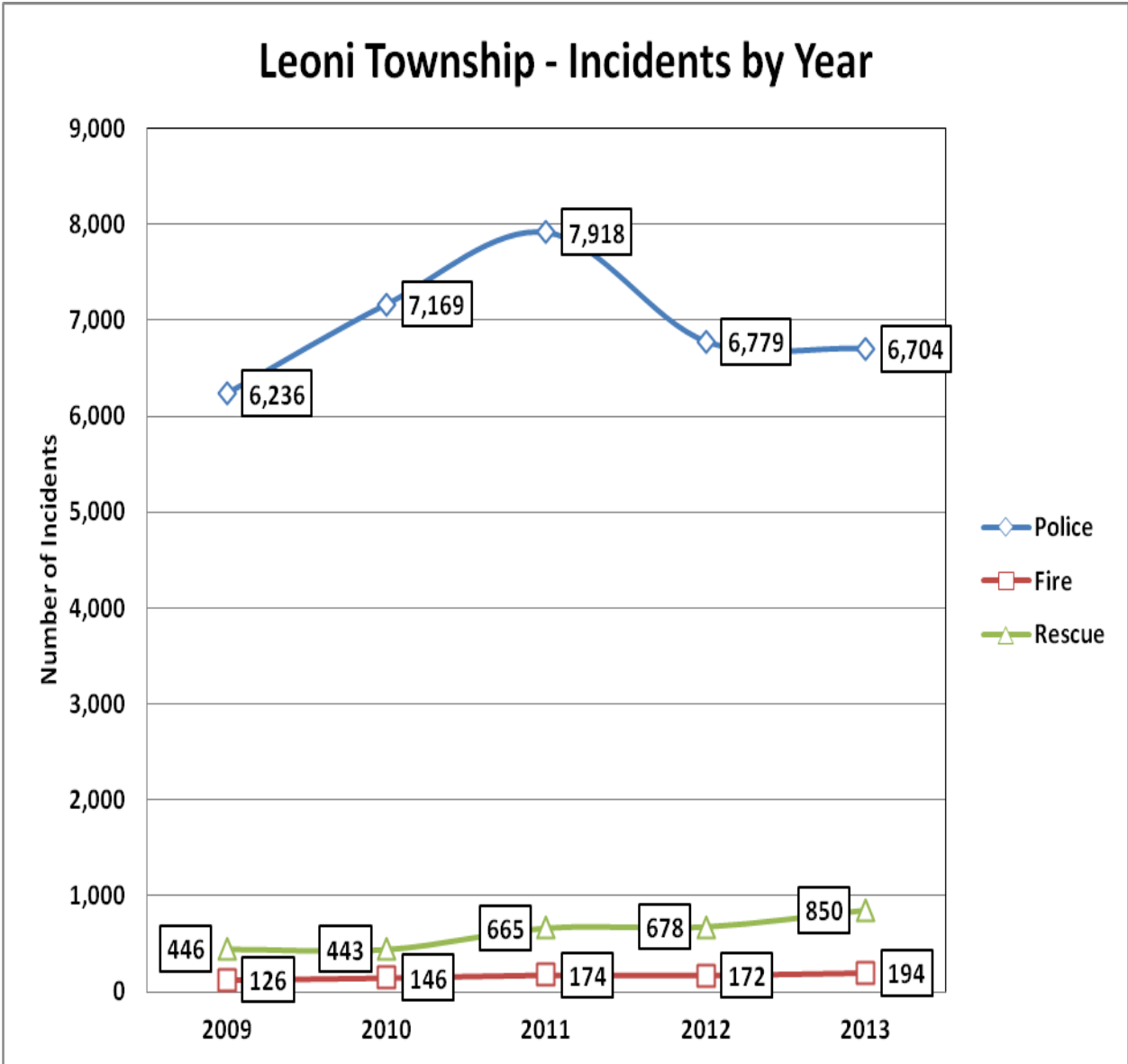
The operations division consists of public safety officers, K-9 officers and shift supervisors, who provide 24/7 public safety services to the 39,039 residents of Blackman and Leoni Townships, utilizing 24-Public Safety Officers and 4-Sergeants. The headquarters building on West Parnall Road in Blackman Township and the 5<sup>th</sup> Street Station in Leoni Township are staffed 24-hours per day, in order to provide an immediate response to medical emergencies and fire suppression/extrication incidents. In 2013, there were 22,575 incidents handled in Blackman and Leoni Townships by the Department of Public Safety. The operations division issued 2,528 traffic citations in 2013.



Blackman Township - Incidents by Year					
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
<b>Police</b>	13,243	13,553	13,972	12,482	12,539
<b>Fire</b>	316	270	338	311	334
<b>Rescue</b>	1,479	1,500	1,542	1,426	1,954
<b>Total</b>	15,038	15,323	15,852	14,219	14,827
Percentage of Total Department Calls			65%	65%	66%



Leoni Township - Incidents by Year					
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
<b>Police</b>	6,236	7,169	7,918	6,779	6,704
<b>Fire</b>	126	146	174	172	194
<b>Rescue</b>	446	443	665	678	850
<b>Total</b>	6,808	7,758	8,757	7,629	7,748
Percentage of Total Department Calls			35%	35%	34%



Call For Service-As Received Through Central Dispatch			
Type	Number	Type	Number
Abandoned Vehicle	60	Accidents-Without Injuries	993
Accidents-With Injuries	208	Accidents-Private Property	193
Alarms	939	Animal Complaints	292
Arson	1	Assault	126
Bomb Threats	1	Breaking and Entering	180
Concealed Weapon	6	Child Abuse/Neglect	27
Citizen Assist	65	Civil Dispute	114
Conservation	92	Criminal Sexual Conduct	37
Disorderly	934	Domestic	986
Embezzlement	10	Field Contact	163
Fire	557	Forgery/Counterfeiting	8
Found Property	71	Fraud	194
General Non-Criminal	806	Health and Safety	2
Hit and Run Accidents	94	Indecent Exposure	14
Homicide	1	Inspections-Vehicles	24
Inspections-Property	419	Kidnapping	1
Larceny	1,115	Liquor Violations	3
Loitering	0	Loud Music	204
Malicious Destruction of Prop	170	Minors/Juveniles	24
Missing Person	42	Motorist Assist	394
Natural Death	25	Obstructing Police	13
Operating While Intoxicated	155	Ordinance Violation	37
Overdose	18	Parking Complaints	109
Peace Officer	1,039	Prostitution	0
Rescue	2,835	Robbery	16
Runaway	64	Sex Offense	1
Shooting	2	Shots Fired	74
Stolen Property	13	Suicide	76
Suspicious Situation	628	Threats	213
Traffic Offenses	4,993	Traffic Hazard	22
Trespassing	22	Stolen Vehicle	42
Violation-Controlled Substance	135	Walk-Away	18
Warrant Arrest	259	Weapons	15

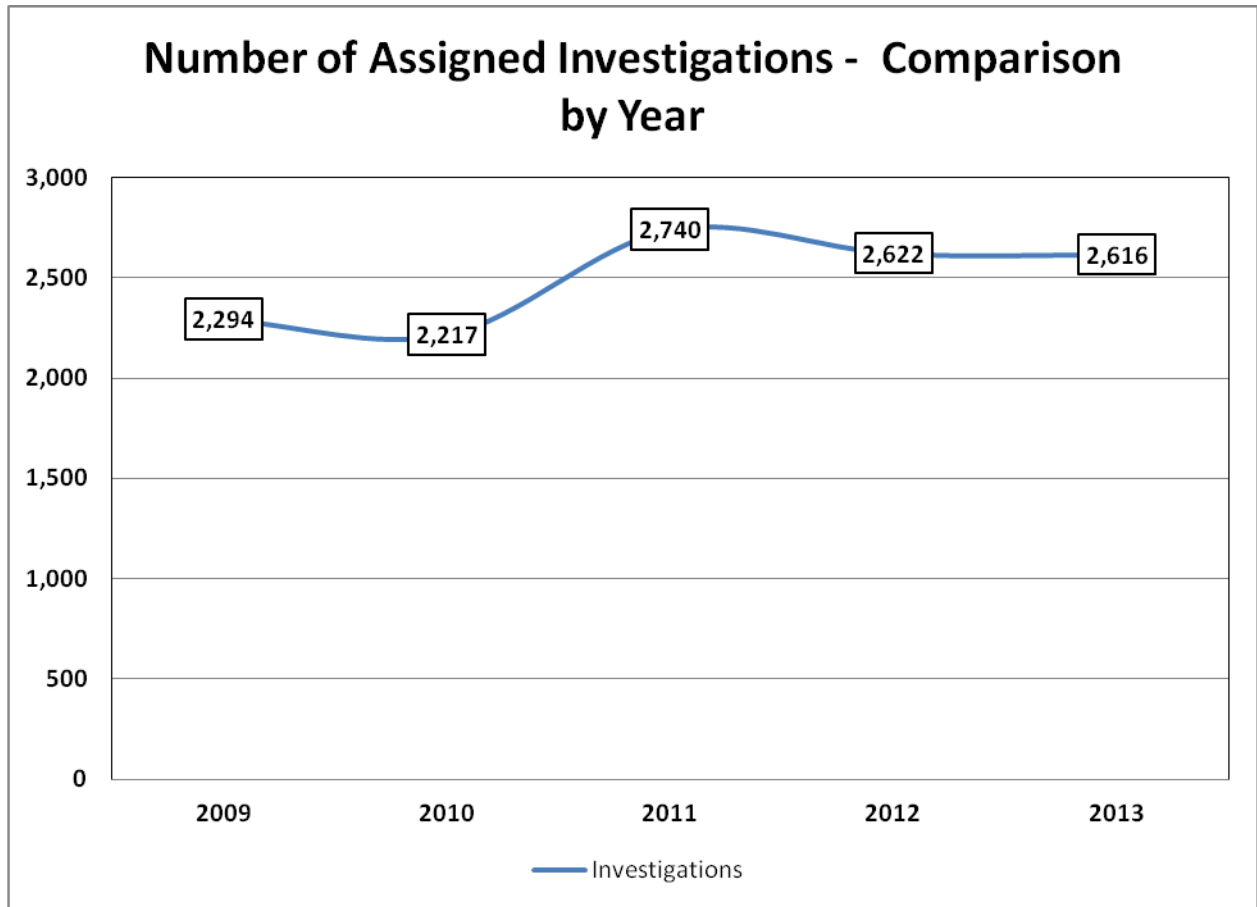
## Investigative Division

The investigative division is staffed with a Detective Sergeant and four Detectives. This division investigates major crimes and completes follow-up on any open case. Three of the four detectives are assigned to 24-hour shifts and staff the 5<sup>th</sup> Street Station in Leoni Township, 24-hour per day, 365 days per year. The investigative division reviewed and/or investigated a total of 2,616 cases in 2013. The investigative division is also a member of the Jackson County Major Crime's Task Force. The Jackson County Major Crime's Task Force is a cooperative team with members from the Blackman-Leoni Township Department of Public Safety, the Jackson County Sheriff's Department, the Jackson Police Department and the Michigan State Police, who investigate high-profile criminal complaints in Jackson County.

Members of the investigative division participate in the Domestic Violence Coordinating Council, the Child Death Review Team, the Child Advocacy Center, and the Recovery Court. The investigative division also puts on presentations to local businesses and financial institutions on personal safety, robbery response and how to assist investigators, as a witness, during criminal incidents.

Investigations - Comparison by Year				
2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
2,294	2,217	2,740	2,622	2,616





In 2013, the investigative division was moved from the headquarters building on West Parnall Road to the 5<sup>th</sup> Street station in Michigan Center. This move was instituted to serve the following purposes:

- Relieve the crowded office space conditions at headquarters, as our staffing has doubled since 1992
- Provide an immediate response, with a 2<sup>nd</sup> fire apparatus, to structure fires in both Blackman Township and Leoni Township, during normal business hours
- Allow for the district car, that is shared by Blackman Township and Leoni Township, to more easily respond to either Township, without the fear of a delayed response to a medical or fire emergency in each Township

The relocation of the investigative division has proved beneficial and has accomplished the above goals.

### **K-9 Division**

The K-9 division is comprised of two K-9 handlers, Officer Chris Jacobson and Officer Patrick Boulter, along with K-9 Zando, K-9 Axe and K-9 Hooch. K-9 Hooch was donated to the department by a Leoni Township resident and is currently being trained by Officer Chris Jacobson, who is a Certified Master K-9 Handler. The two K-9 Teams are assigned to opposite night-shifts, so that a K-9 Team is on duty every evening from 6 p.m. to 6 a.m. Officer Jacobson and Officer Boulter spend an enormous amount of time training, above and beyond what is required by the Department or industry standards. Both K-9 Teams also assist other departments, conduct school searches and provide training demonstrations to the public, upon request.

### **Traffic Crash Reconstruction Team**

The Blackman-Leoni Township Department of Public Safety Traffic Crash Reconstruction Team is comprised of several officers, with varied levels of training. The department currently has three trained investigators who have been trained in Accident Reconstruction and has investigators assigned to the Jackson County Accident Investigation Team, which investigates serious or fatal accidents within Jackson County. This team consists of members from the Blackman-Leoni Township Department of Public Safety, the Jackson County Sheriff's Department and the Michigan State Police. In a typical year, the Blackman-Leoni Township Traffic Crash Reconstruction Team will investigate anywhere from three to ten traffic fatalities.

Of the 1,394 traffic crashes handled in 2013, none of the accidents resulted in traffic fatalities. Team members investigated numerous traffic crashes that resulted in serious injuries, which had the possibility of resulting in a fatality.

Traffic Crashes by Type-2013			
Private Property	No Injuries	Injuries	Fatalities
193	993	208	0

### **Emergency Services Unit**

The Blackman-Leoni Township Emergency Services Unit is a team of officers from this department who have received additional training in special weapons and tactics, high-risk entry and train on a monthly basis. All team members have completed Basic S.W.A.T., Intermediate S.W.A.T. and Raid Entry. The team consists of ten tactical officers, which include two supervisors. In addition to the tactical members, the team has a police sniper and two hostage negotiators, as well as one EMT/Driver. The emergency services unit has an armored tactical vehicle, which was donated to the department, at no cost to the taxpayers. The team conducted 168-hours of training in 2013.

### **Fire Inspections/Investigation Division**

The Blackman-Leoni Township Department of Public Safety has two state certified fire inspectors and five fire investigators, who have either received their training through the Michigan State Police or the National Fire Academy. This division is headed by the Deputy Director of Public Safety and is responsible for the enforcement of the National Fire Code, Building Plan Review, Commercial and Industrial Fire Inspections and the determination of cause and origin at all structure fires. This division completes numerous continuing educational training classes on a yearly basis.

### **Records Division**

The records division consists of one full-time clerk/typist and one part-time clerk/typist. The records division maintained criminal records databases, conducted local background checks, handled requests for information from the public, by telephone and at the service counter and answered the overflow telephone calls to the Department. At the end of 2013, the part-time clerk/typist position was eliminated due to budget reductions.

## Training

The Blackman-Leoni Township Department of Public Safety Officers have all been certified by the State of Michigan, as a police officer, firefighter II and to a minimum level of medical first responder, but additional training is fundamental in providing the best public safety services to the residents of Blackman and Leoni Townships. The department completed 2,266 hours of training in 2013, which included the following:

Prison Pre-Plan	Thermal Imaging Cameras
Prison Pre-Plan-Administration	Spinal Injuries
RIT Training	Geriatric Patients
L-Z Training Presentation	Shock Management
Vehicle Extrication	Fire Code Training - MSU
Ground and Aerial Ladder	Fire Code Training-Advanced
Apparatus Driving	May-Day Training
Pump Operations	Fire Instructor I
Class-B Foam Training	Fire Instructor II
Structural Entanglement	NIMS – ICS
Ventilation Training	Incident Safety Officer
Advanced Vehicle Extrication	ICS 300
Ladder 1 Truck Operations	Radiation Exposure Training
Apparatus Driving	Citgo Bulk Fuel Plant
Landing Zone Training	FETN Haz-Mat I and II Series
Roof Operations	Haz-Mat Tech I
Search and Rescue	Haz-Mat Hot Zone Rescue
Vehicle Extrication-Air Bags	Haz-Mat Tech Advanced – MSP
Small Pump Operations	Haz-Mat Branch Officer School
Multiple Pump Operations	Haz-Mat Tech Advanced – MSP
Reid Interview School	Advanced Reid School
Personal Protective Equipment	Defensive Driving

Ventilation and RIT Scenario	Accident Investigation 11/12
Airbag Training-Machines	Accident Investigation 14
Blood Borne Pathogens	Homicide Investigation
Ventilation Training	Forensic Interviewing
Vehicle Fires	Firearms Training-Pistol
Bus Rescue	Firearms Training-Long Guns
Hose Line Tactics	Defensive Tactics

### **Awards**

The 2013 Officer of the Year was Officer Paul Long. Officer Long joined the department in 1992 and came from the Columbia Township Police Department. Officer Long was nominated by his peers and selected based on his work ethic, attitude and professionalism. Officer Long also previously served as a firefighter for the City of Jackson Fire Department and is a valuable asset to the department.

### **Citizens Complaints**

The department takes citizen complaints seriously and does a thorough investigation into the complaints. Assisting the department in these investigations is the use of in-car video cameras, which document the interaction officers have with the public, either capturing both video and audio or just audio, when the officer is out of view of the camera. In 2013, the department received six citizen complaints, which included the following:

- A citizen made a complaint of an officer being unprofessional, while off-duty. This complaint was investigated and was determined to be unfounded.
- A citizen made a complaint that an officer was rude and unprofessional. The complaint was investigated and after reviewing the video of the incident, it was determined that the complaint was unfounded.

- A citizen made a complaint that an officer was unprofessional and rude. The complaint was investigated and after reviewing the video of the incident, it was determined that the complaint was unfounded.
- A citizen made a complaint that an officer was rude and unprofessional. The complaint was investigated and the complaint was sustained, which resulted in disciplinary action.
- A citizen made a complaint that an officer was rude and unprofessional. The complaint was investigated and after reviewing the video of the incident, it was determined that the complaint was unfounded.
- A citizen made a complaint that an officer was speeding with his lights on, but was not responding to an emergency. The complaint was investigated and after reviewing the tracking of the vehicle, the officer was traveling 47 m.p.h. in a 45 m.p.h. zone. The review also determined that the officer forgot to turn his lights off, after clearing a traffic stop. The complaint was closed as unfounded.

<b>Citizen Complaint Comparison by Year</b>					
Year	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Total	6	12	6	5	6
Sustained	1	2	1	2	1
Not-Sustained	2	2	1	0	0
Exonerated	0	0	0	0	0
Unfounded	3	8	4	3	5

In 2013, the Department received, on average, one citizen's complaint for every 3,762 contacts that officers made with the public. Of those complaints, one complaint was sustained and the other five were unfounded.

## **Funding**

The Department of Public Safety is funded through numerous revenue sources, including a Public Safety Millage from Blackman Township residents, as well as a contractual payment from Leoni Township for public safety services. The public safety budget for 2013 was \$4,184,030. The contractual payment amount is based on the percentage of officers assigned to Leoni Township (21%), versus those assigned to Blackman Township (79%) at full-staffing. The contractual agreement, which is for 5-years, has a yearly increase of 3%. This agreement has provided a cost savings to both Townships and shows excellent cooperation between neighboring municipalities, which has been stressed as important, by both the Governor's Office and the Michigan Legislature.

## **Social Media**

The Blackman-Leoni Township Department of Public Safety, in an effort to partner with the community to accomplish its mission, utilizes social media and direct correspondence with citizens on a daily basis. The Public Safety Facebook Page currently has 3,094 followers and a daily activity report is sent to approximately 500 people and is posted on the M-Live website, in conjunction with the Jackson Citizen Patriot.

## **Community Involvement**

The Blackman-Leoni Township Department of Public Safety is very active in community events, and is proud to be involved in the following:

- Shop with a Cop-100 Students
- Jackson Christmas Parade
- Blackman Township Halloween Open House
- Leoni Township Halloween Open House
- Toys for Tots
- Homecoming Parades-Northwest, East Jackson, Michigan Center
- Michigan Center Christmas Parade

## **Vehicle Fleet**

The current fire apparatus fleet is as follows:

- 2003 Pierce 100 ft. Tower (Ladder 1)
- 1989 Pierce 65 ft. Tele-Squirt (Ladder 2)
- 2006 GMC Rescue Truck (Rescue 1)
- 2003 Ford Expedition (Rescue 2)
- 1992 Spartan Pumper (Engine 1)
- 1987 Pierce Arrow Pumper (Engine 2)
- 1995 International Pumper (Engine 3)
- 1990 Chevy 4x4 Brush Truck (Truck 1)
- 2005 American General Brush Truck (Truck 2)
- 1990 Ford 4x4 Brush Truck (Truck 3)

The current patrol fleet is as follows:

- 11-Chevy Tahoe Police Pursuit Vehicles

The current investigative/administrative fleet is as follows:

- 4-Chevy Impala Police Investigative Package
- 1-Dodge Charger Police Investigative Package

## **Insurance Services Office Fire Classification**

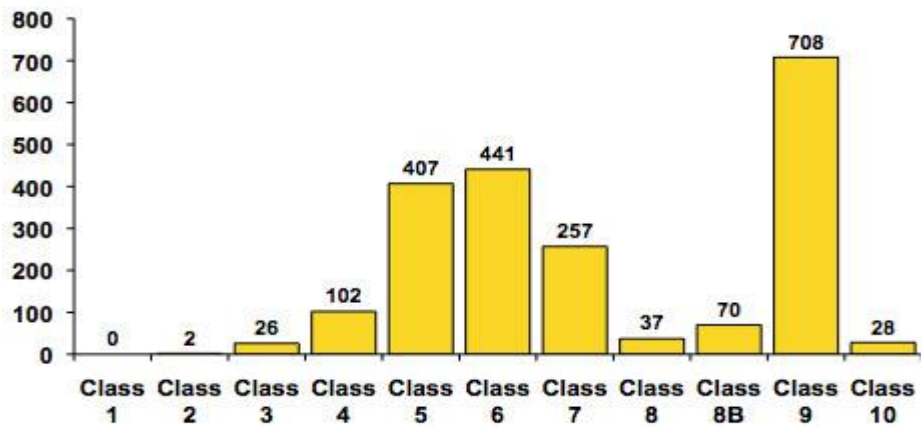
In 2012, the department went through the process of being re-evaluated by the Insurance Services Organization (ISO), which sets fire service classifications for communities throughout the United States. After completion of the audit, ISO rated both Blackman Township and Leoni Township with a classification of 5/9. This was an improvement for both communities. A split classification indicates the difference between parts of the community that have municipal water, versus those that don't. This directly relates to the department's firefighting capabilities, as areas serviced by fire hydrants provide an uninterrupted supply of water for fire suppression, where non-hydrant areas do not. During hard economic times, which have resulted in a loss of staffing and the closing of fire stations across Michigan, we are proud to be able to improve our fire service classification.



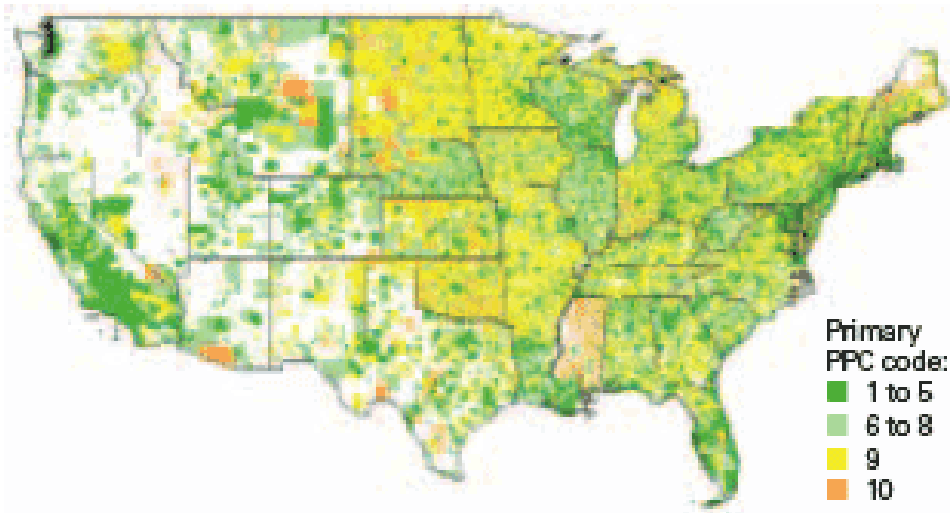
	<u>Current Classification</u>	<u>Previous</u>
Blackman Township	5/9	7/9
Leoni Township	5/9	6/9

**ISO Public Protection Classifications**

Michigan



**U.S. ISO Public Protection Classifications**



### Asset Forfeiture

In 2013, the department continued to enforce the Controlled Substance Act, and in doing so, made numerous property seizures. The following seizures were made:

(7) Vehicles	\$5,623
Cash/Property	<u>\$23,487</u>
Total	\$29,110

The above funds were used in accordance with the Controlled Substance Act and were used for the following purposes:

Vehicles	19%
Equipment	77%
Overtime	0%
Training	3%
Informant Fees	0%
Supplies	0%
Buy Money	0%
Animal Expenses	0%
Other	<u>1%</u>
Total	100%