

Blackman-Leoni Township Department of Public Safety



2019 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.

Personnel/Hire Date

Director Michael Jester	8/30/94
Deputy Director Scott Grajewski	11/8/95
Deputy Director Christopher Boulter	8/23/03
Sergeant Steven Stowe	5/14/96
Sergeant Richard Gillespie	8/2/00
Sergeant Darin McIntosh	5/23/09
Sergeant Jan Ganzel	2/28/06
Sergeant James Prus	5/24/05
D/Sergeant Robert Shrock	2/19/01
Detective Joseph Merritt	9/28/03
Detective Sam Philipp	2/21/01
Detective Shayne Allen	11/1/10
Detective Mike Villarreal	11/1/10
S/PSO Paul Long	2/28/92
S/PSO Thomas Brower	8/1/96
S/PSO Christopher Jacobson	8/16/97
S/PSO Bryan French	7/16/01
PSO Patrick Boulter	4/15/02
PSO Christopher Pohl	8/1/06
PSO Martin Jordon	10/6/06

PSO Brandon Casler	10/16/06
PSO Kory Torbet	2/8/07
PSO Thomas Bertram	11/1/10
PSO Dave Lubahn	11/1/10
PSO Justin Davis	11/1/10
PSO Rachel Doxtader	8/12/13
PSO Chad Burdette	2/17/16
PSO Isaac Clelland	2/17/16
PSO Jeremiah Wheeler	2/17/16
PSO Alexander Norris	2/17/16
PSO Chad Root	2/17/16
PSO Ryan Martin	8/5/16
PSO Chandler Fryt	5/15/17
PSO Jason Meyers	1/8/18
PSO Blake Hudson	1/15/18
PSO Britanee Owen	7/30/18
PSO Kyle Wilson	8/6/18
PSO Bill Regnier	6/2/19
PSO David Grumhaus	6/2/19
PSO Alex Watson	11/4/19

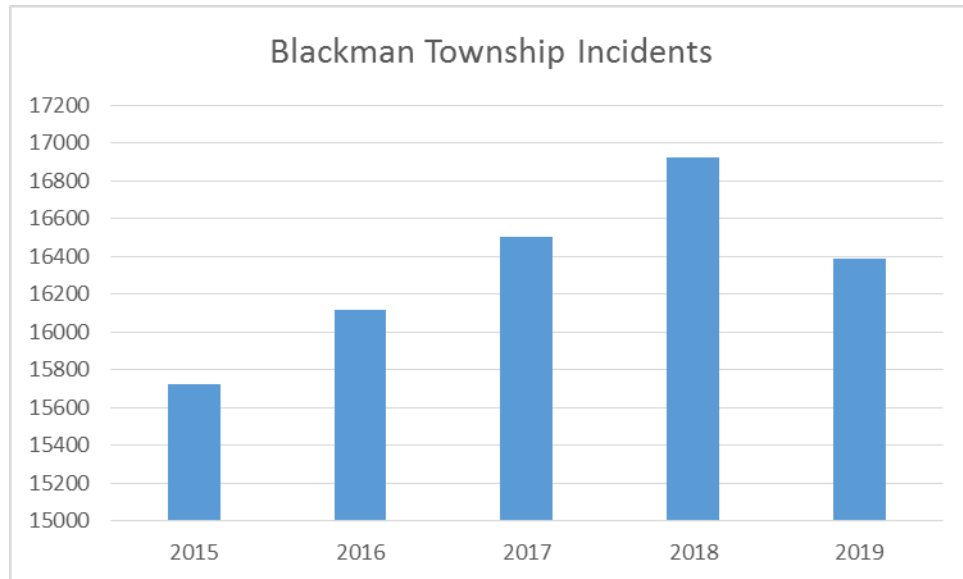
Administration

The Department is led by Director Michael L. Jester. Deputy Director Scott J. Grajewski is in-charge of the Operations/Patrol Division and Deputy Director Christopher R. Boulter is in-charge of the Support Services Division.

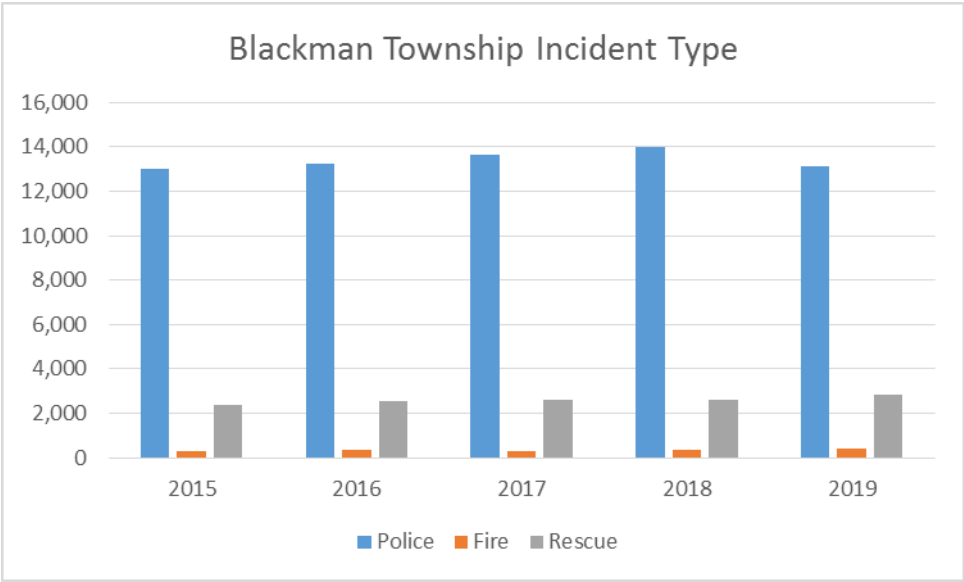
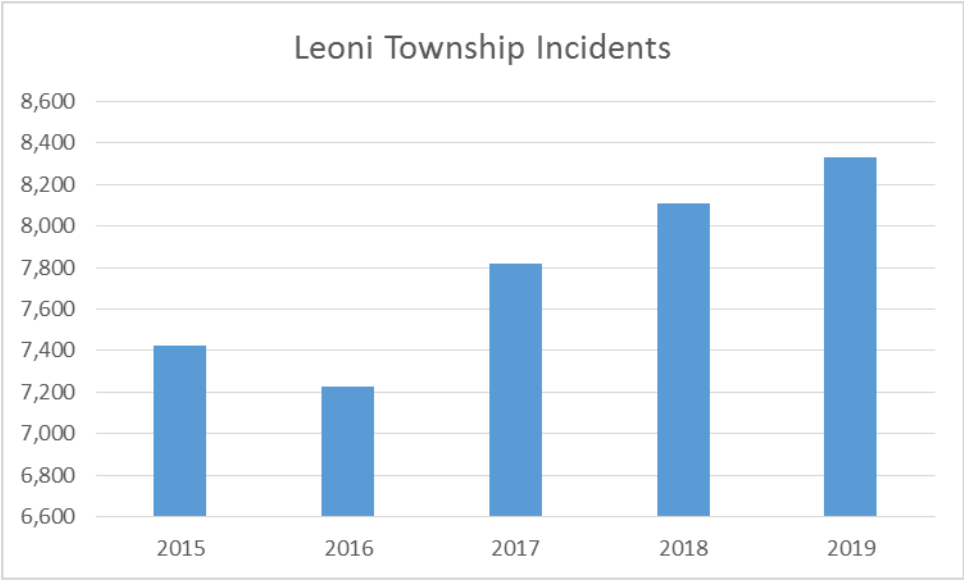
Operations/Patrol Division

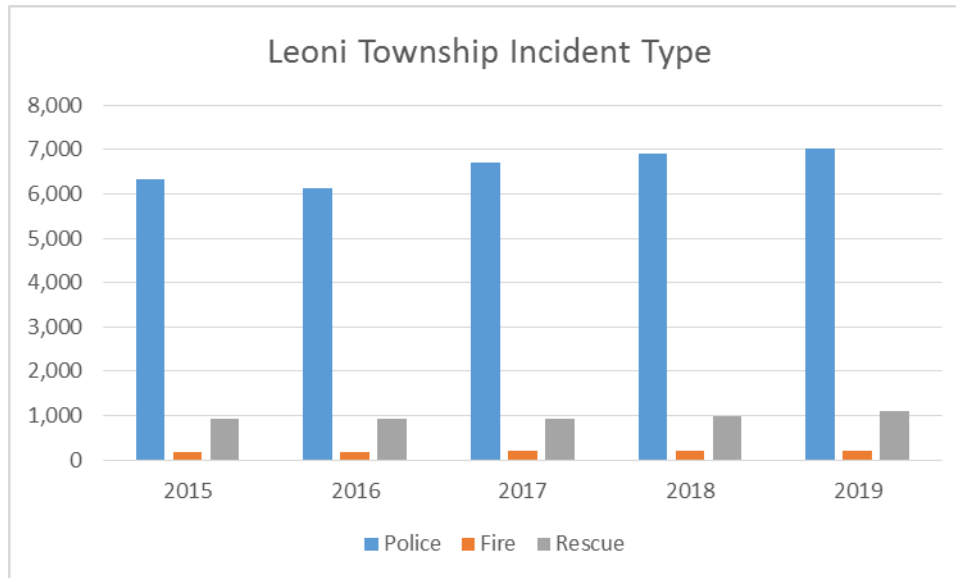
The operations division consists of public safety officers, K-9 officers and shift supervisors, who provide 24/7 public safety services to the 39,039 residents of Blackman and Leoni Townships, utilizing 27-Public Safety Officers, 4-Detectives and 6-Sergeants. The headquarters building on West Parnall Road in Blackman Township and the 5th 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 2019, there were 25,961 incidents handled by the Department of Public Safety. The operations division issued 2,934 traffic citations in 2019.

Blackman Township - Incidents by Year					
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Police	13,034	13,250	13,620	13,968	13,136
Fire	301	352	298	329	413
Rescue	2,390	2,517	2,584	2,628	2,841
Total	15,725	16,119	16,502	16,925	16,390



Leoni Township -Incidents by Year					
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Police	6,330	6,140	6,699	6,919	7,034
Fire	167	161	202	215	189
Rescue	929	923	917	977	1,108
Total	7,426	7,224	7,818	8,111	8,331





Call For Service-As Received Through Central Dispatch			
Type	Number	Type	Number
Abandoned Vehicle	141	Accidents-No Injuries	1,313
Accidents-With Injuries	216	Accidents-Private Prop.	203
Alarms	1,079	Animal Complaints	292
Arson	1	Assault	164
Bomb Threats	0	Breaking and Entering	94
Concealed Weapon	21	Child Abuse/Neglect	41
Citizen Assist	30	Civil Dispute	198
Conservation	117	Criminal Sexual Conduct	58
Disorderly	1,460	Domestic	1,556
Embezzlement	9	Field Contact	196
Fire	646	Forgery/Counterfeiting	32
Found Property	128	Fraud	201
Assist-Other Agency	770	Health and Safety	4
Hit and Run Accidents	213	Indecent Exposure	3
Homicide	1	Inspections-Vehicles	87
Inspections-Property	560	Kidnapping	0
Larceny	1,215	Liquor Violations	1
Loitering	0	Loud Music	137

MDOP	152	Minors/Juveniles	10
Missing Person	31	Motorist Assist	460
Natural Death	36	Obstructing Police	30
Operating While Intoxicated	81	Ordinance Violation	790
Overdose	60	Parking Complaints	70
Peace Officer	1,780	Prostitution	0
Rescue	4,001	Robbery	8
Runaway	64	Sex Offense	1
Shooting	6	Shots Fired	86
Stolen Property	25	Suicide and Attempts	139
Suspicious Situation	1,247	Threats	104
Traffic Offenses	3,949	Traffic Hazard	596
Trespassing	15	Stolen Vehicle	77
Controlled Substance	92	Walk-Away	1
Warrant Arrest	529	Weapons	21

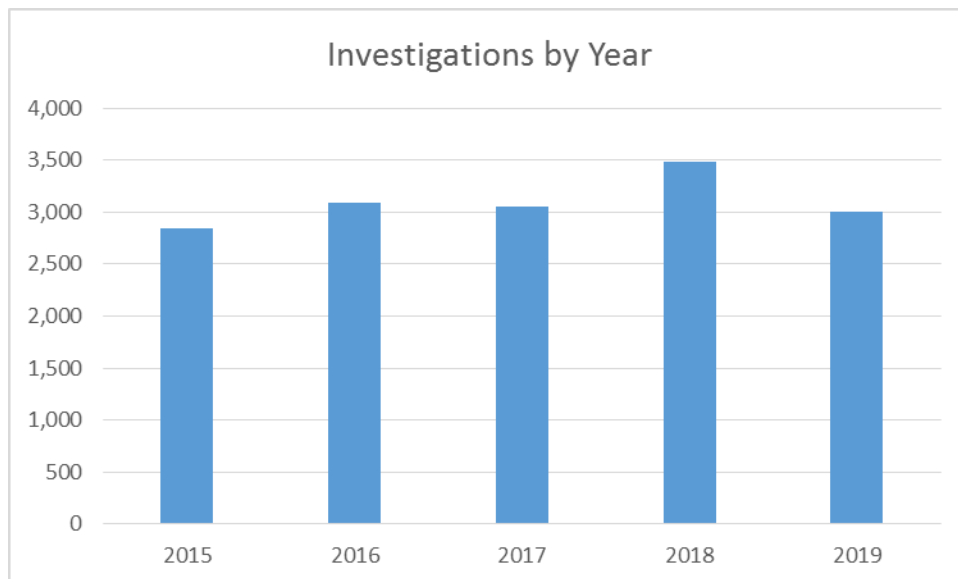
Investigative Division

The investigative division is staffed by 3-Detectives and 1-Detective Sergeant. This division investigates major crimes and completes follow-up on any open case. The investigative division reviewed and/or investigated a total of 3,003 cases in 2019. 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				
2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
2,849	3,086	3,055	3,480	3,003



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 Hooch and K-9 Pyro. 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 required standards. Both K-9 Teams also assist other departments, conduct school searches and provide training demonstrations to the public, upon request. The K-9 division logged over 438 hours of training in 2019 and over 300 deployments.

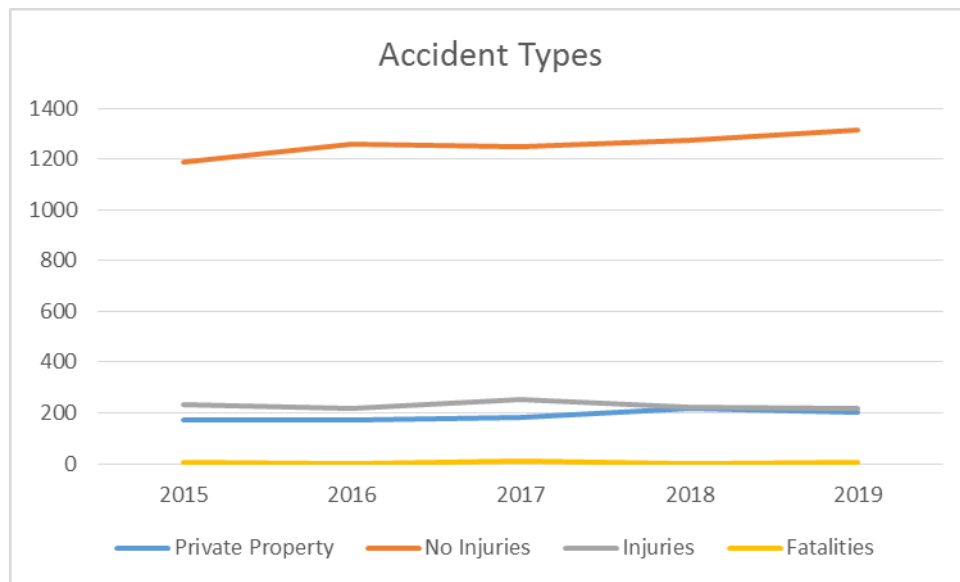
Traffic Crash Reconstruction Team

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.

Of the 1,945 traffic crashes handled in 2019, (6) fatalities were reported. Team members investigated numerous traffic crashes that resulted in serious injuries, which had the possibility of resulting in a fatality.

Traffic Crashes by Type-2019			
Private Property	No Injuries	Injuries	Fatalities
203	1,313	216	6

Accident Type	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Private Property	172	171	181	216	203
No Injuries	1,188	1,259	1,249	1,275	1,313
Injuries	233	217	253	223	216
Fatalities	4	2	8	1	6



Fire Inspections/Investigation Division

The Blackman-Leoni Township Department of Public Safety has two state certified fire inspectors and three 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-Operations 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. 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.

School Resource Officers

In 2019, the Blackman Township Board of Trustees and the Leoni Township Board of Trustees both made significant investments in trying to provide a safer environment at the three school districts in our two townships. Officer Bryan French is assigned full-time to the Northwest School District in Blackman Township and Officer Chris Pohl is assigned full-time to the East Jackson and Michigan Center School Districts in Leoni Township. Two additional officers were hired to back-fill their positions in the operations division. School safety is important to both communities and we were fortunate to be afforded these two positions in an attempt to accomplish that goal.

Medical Marijuana Compliance

In 2019, the Leoni Township Board of Trustees approved hiring an additional officer to assist Sergeant Steve Stowe, who is the Medical Marijuana Compliance Officer for Leoni Township. Officer Kory Torbet was assigned to this position. Their responsibilities include

enforcing Leoni Township's Medical Marijuana Ordinance, conducting background checks on applicants and employees, processing application paperwork, following-up on complaints regarding medical marijuana facilities, providing visible patrol in and around these facilities and anything else related to the ordinance or the facilities covered by the ordinance. They work closely with the Michigan State Police and the Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs. The goal of these positions are to seek a balance between providing a safe environment for those patients receiving their medical marijuana and protecting the quality of life aspects of the residents and visitors of/to Leoni Township.

Jackson County Violent Crime Unit

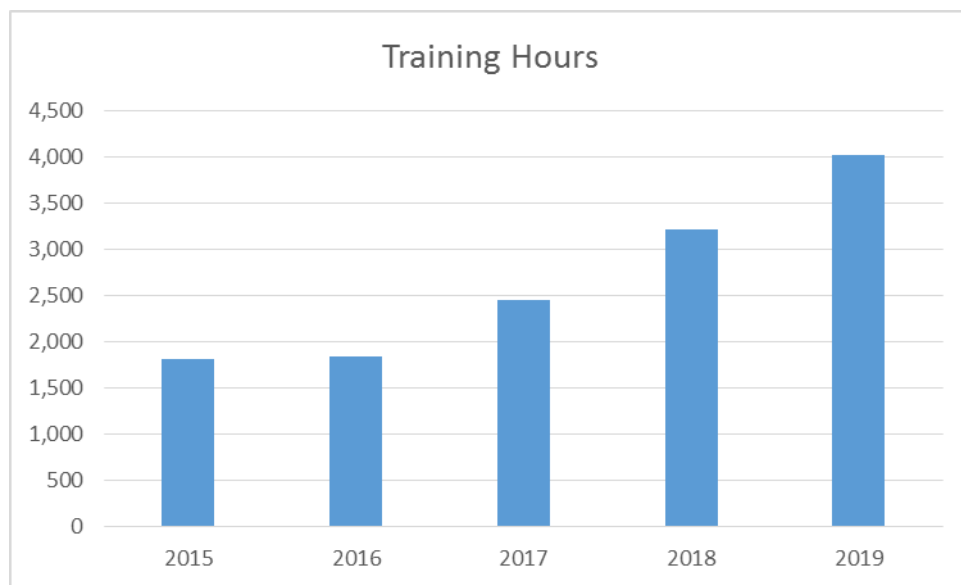
In 2019, an additional officer was hired, so that an existing officer could be assigned to the Jackson County Violent Crime Unit. This unit is made up of officers from the Blackman-Leoni Department of Public Safety, the Jackson County Sheriff's Department, the Jackson Police Department and the Michigan State Police. The mission of this unit is to reduce violent crime in Jackson County, specifically targeting gang and gun violence and making the streets of Jackson County a safer place to live, work and/or visit.

Regional Sexual Assault Kit Initiative Task Force

In 2019, an additional officer was hired, under a federal grant, so that an existing detective could be assigned to the Ingham County/Jackson County Sexual Assault Kit Initiative Task Force. This unit investigates sexual assault cases where a sexual assault kit was obtained, but the case has not been solved and/or needs further investigation. Detective Joseph Merritt has been assigned to this unit. This unit has and will make Blackman Township, Leoni Township, Jackson County and the Mid-Michigan Region a safer place to live, work and/or visit.

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 **4,012** hours of additional training in 2019.



Awards

The 2019 Officer of the Year was Detective Shane Allen. Detective Allen joined the department in 2010 and was nominated by his peers and selected based on his work ethic, attitude and professionalism. Detective Allen has a positive attitude, has a solid work ethic and works well with the public. Detective Allen is a skilled investigator and is a very instrumental part of our detective bureau.



Citizen Complaints

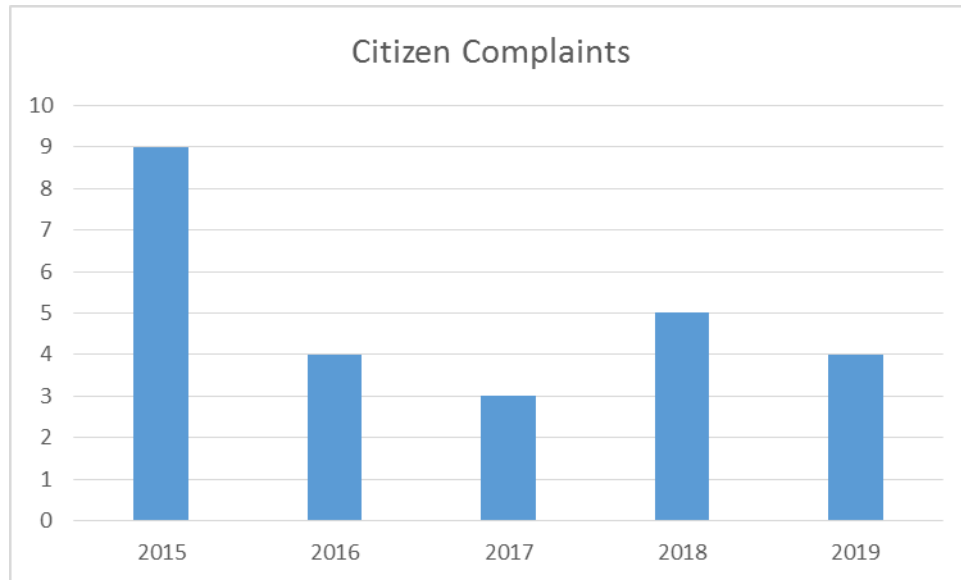
The department takes citizen complaints seriously and does a thorough investigation into the complaints. Assisting the department in these investigations is the use of in-car video cameras, which document the interaction officers have with the public, either capturing both video and audio or just audio, when the officer is out of view of the camera. At the end of 2014 the department received a grant for body cameras, which supplements the existing in-car video cameras in an effort to further document the interaction officers have with the public. In 2019, the department received five (4) citizen complaints, which included the following:

- A citizen made a complaint of an officer being unprofessional. After investigating the complaint, the complaint 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 and audio recordings of the incident, the complaint was sustained and corrective action was taken.
- A citizen made a complaint that an officer was rude and unprofessional. The complaint was investigated and after reviewing the video and audio recordings of the incident, the complaint 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 and audio recordings of the incident, the complaint was determined to be unfounded.

Citizen Complaint Comparison by Year					
Year	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Total	9	4	3	5	4
Sustained	3	2	1	1	1
Not-Sustained	1	0	0	1	0
Exonerated	0	0	0	0	0
Unfounded	8	6	2	3	3

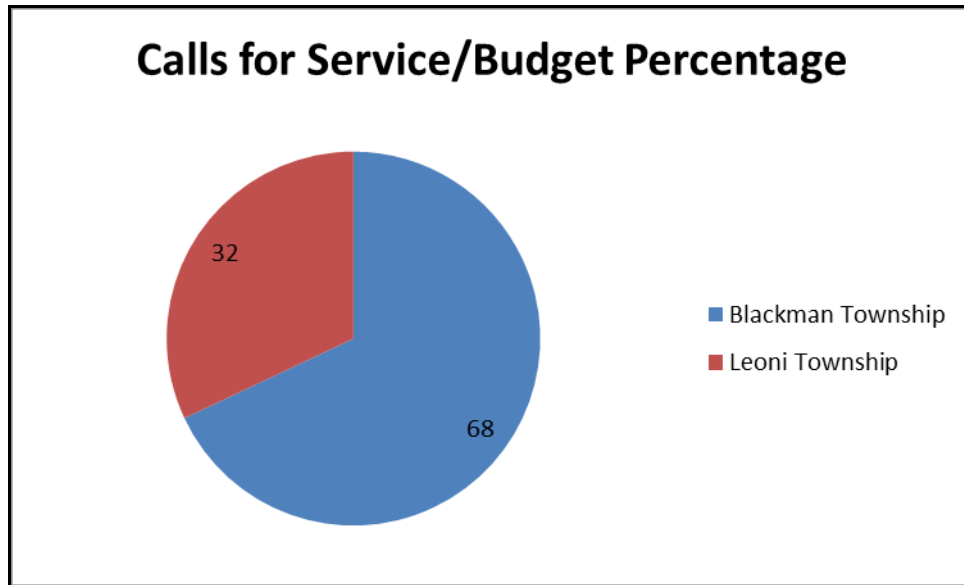
In 2019, the Department received, on average, one citizen’s complaint for every 6,490 contacts that officers made with the public.



Funding

The Department of Public Safety is funded through numerous revenue sources, including a Public Safety Millage from Blackman Township residents, a Public Safety Millage from Leoni Township residents and the General Funds of both Blackman Township and Leoni Township. The public safety budget for 2019 was \$5,570,323. The adopted 2020 public safety budget is \$5,873,409, which is a 5.2% increase over 2019. The budget fluctuates on a yearly basis, depending on personnel costs and scheduled equipment replacement.

The percentage of the public safety budget that is paid for by each Township has a direct relationship to the historical percentage of service calls in each Township. The current percentage breakdown is 68% of the budget is paid for by Blackman Township and 32% of the budget is paid for by Leoni Township.



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 9,705 followers and a daily activity report is sent to approximately 750 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 Hero Event-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)
- 1990 Pierce 65 ft. Tele-Squirt (Ladder 2)
- 2017 Rosenbauer Pumper/Tanker (Engine 1)
- 2017 Rosenbauer Pumper/Tanker (Engine 2)
- 2018 Chevy Suburban 4x4 (Rescue 1)
- 2018 Chevy Suburban 4x4 (Rescue 2)
- 2017 Chevy 1-Ton-4x4-Brush Truck (Truck 1)
- 2017 Chevy 1-Ton-4x4-Brush Truck (Truck 2)

The current patrol fleet is as follows:

- 2-Dodge Durango Police Pursuit Vehicles
- 2-Chevy Tahoe Police Pursuit Vehicles
- 12-Dodge Charger Police Pursuit Vehicles

The current investigative/administrative fleet is as follows:

- 9-Dodge Charger Police Administrative/Investigative Vehicles

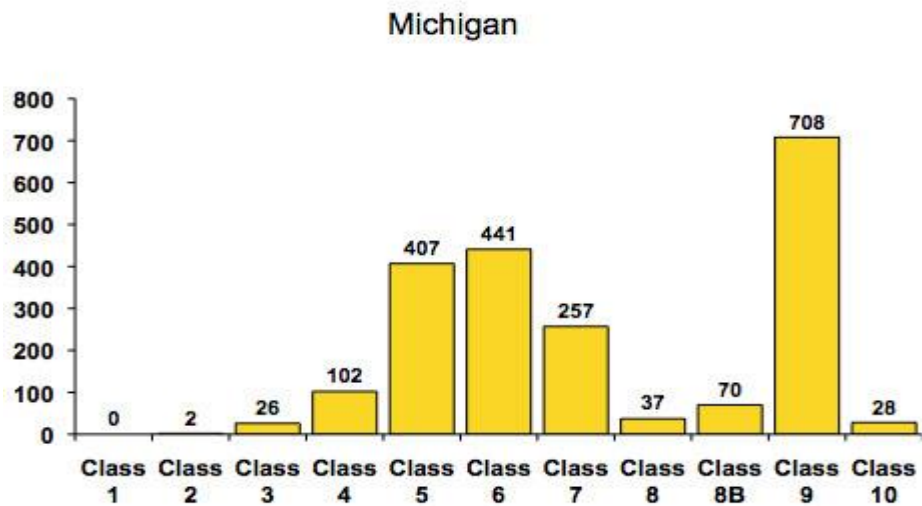
Insurance Services Office Fire Classification

In 2019, 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 5/5Y. 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.

Recent investments by both the Blackman Township Board and the Leoni Township Board for new, updated equipment and additional staffing has and continues to have a positive effect on our ISO classification.

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

ISO Public Protection Classifications



U.S. ISO Public Protection Classifications

