# Blackman-Leoni Department of Public Safety



2022 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 Mike Villarreal	11/1/10
Detective Jeremiah Wheeler	2/17/16
S/PSO Paul Long	2/28/92
S/PSO Thomas Brower	8/1/96
S/PSO Bryan French	7/16/01
S/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 Rachel Doxtader	8/12/13
PSO Chad Burdette	2/17/16
PSO Isaac Clelland	2/17/16
PSO Alexander Norris	2/17/16
PSO Ryan Martin	8/5/16
PSO Chandler Fryt	5/15/17
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 Jason Jahn	11/30/20
PSO Jonathan King	12/28/20
PSO Rebecca Luce	2/8/21
PSO Thomas Porter	5/4/21
PSO Jeremy Harrell	6/7/21
PSO Ryan Tursich	2/7/22
PSO Brandon Bradley	6/21/22
PSO Corey Roberts	9/12/22
PSO Josh Howard	11/14/22

## Administration

The Director of Public Safety is 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.

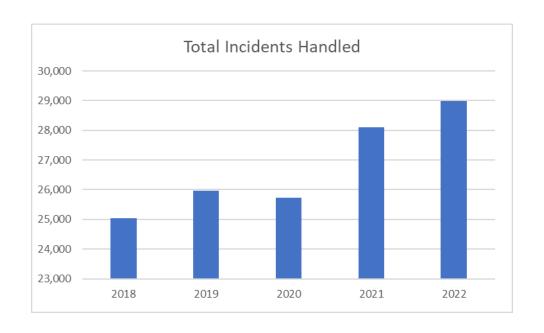


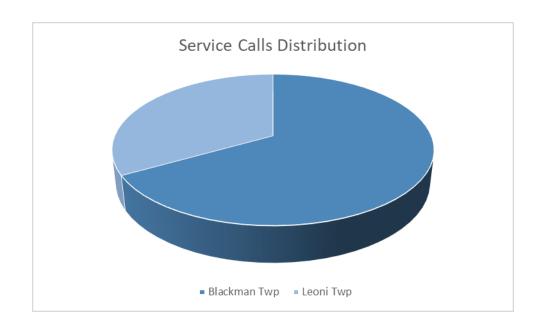




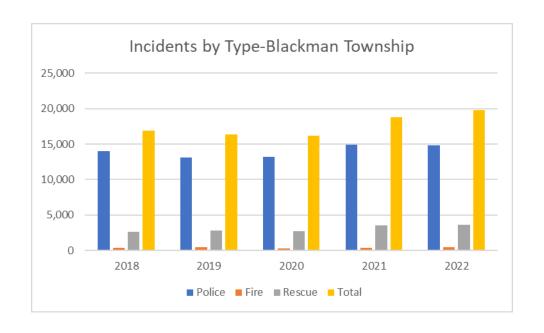
## **Operations/Patrol Division**

The Operations/Patrol Division consists of public safety officers, K-9 officers, and shift supervisors, who provide 24/7 public safety services to the 39,489 residents of Blackman and Leoni Townships, utilizing 27-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, to provide an immediate response to medical emergencies and fire suppression/extrication incidents. In 2022, there were 28,997 incidents handled by the Department of Public Safety. The operations division issued 2,064 traffic citations in 2022.

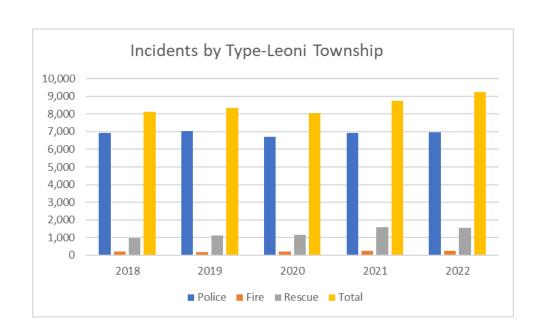




Blackman Township - Incidents by Year					
	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Police	13,968	13,136	13,157	14,894	15,661
Fire	329	413	295	376	432
Rescue	2,628	2,841	2,708	3,515	3,656
Total	16,925	16,390	16,160	18,785	19,749



Leoni Township -Incidents by Year						
	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	
Police	6,919	7,034	6,691	6,934	7,431	
Fire	215	189	209	241	255	
Rescue	977	1,108	1,141	1,571	1,562	
Total	8,111	8,331	8,041	8,746	9,248	



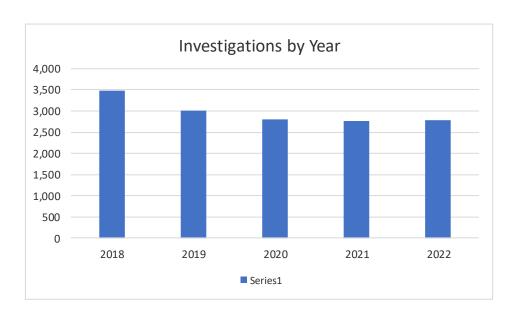
Service Calls-As Received Through Central Dispatch				
Type	Number	Type	Number	
Abandoned Vehicle	189	Accidents-No Injuries	1,191	
Accidents-With Injuries	230	Accidents-Private Prop.	266	
Alarms	1037	Animal Complaints	309	
Arson	6	Assault	195	
Bomb Threats	1	Breaking and Entering	120	
Concealed Weapon	15	Child Abuse/Neglect	39	
Citizen Assist	24	Civil Dispute	177	
Conservation	138	Criminal Sexual Conduct	65	
Disorderly	2,008	Domestic	1,681	
Embezzlement	14	Field Contact	326	
Fire	687	Forgery/Counterfeiting	14	
Found Property	110	Fraud	191	
Assist-Other Agency	622	Health and Safety	2	
Hit and Run Accidents	221	Indecent Exposure	11	
Homicide	2	Inspections-Vehicles	178	
Inspections-Property	659	Kidnapping	1	
Larceny	1,119	Liquor Violations	1	
Loitering	0	Loud Music	133	
MDOP	171	Minors/Juveniles	22	
Missing Person	30	Motorist Assist	384	
Natural Death	70	Obstructing Police	52	
Operating While Intoxicated	60	Ordinance Violation	122	
Overdose	30	Parking Complaints	58	
Peace Officer	209	Personal Welfare Check	1,983	
Rescue	6,205	Robbery	7	
Runaway	39	Sex Offense	5	
Shooting	4	Shots Fired	61	
Stolen Property	50	Suicide and Attempts	127	
Suspicious Situation	1,333	Threats	74	
Traffic Offenses	3,603	Traffic Hazard	527	
Trespassing	32	Stolen Vehicle	98	
Controlled Substance	109	Walk-Away	1	
Warrant Arrest	231	Weapons	25	

#### **Investigative Division**

The investigative division is staffed by 4-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 2,779 cases in 2022. The investigative division is also a member of the Jackson County Major Crime's Task Force and the Sexual Assault 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. The Sexual Assault Task Force is a cooperative team in coordination with the Michigan Attorney General's Office and the Ingham County Sheriff's Department. This task force is a regional team that investigates cold-case sexual assaults.

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					
2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	
3,480	3,003	2,805	2,771	2,779	



**K-9 Division** 

The K-9 division is comprised of two K-9 handlers, Officer Chandler Fryt and Officer Patrick Boulter, along with K-9 Dani and K-9 Pyro. The two K-9 Teams are assigned to opposite nightshifts, so that a K-9 Team is on duty every evening from 6 p.m. to 6 a.m. Officer Fryt and Officer Boulter spend an enormous amount of time training, beyond what is required by the Department or required standards. The K-9 division logged over 468 hours of training in 2022 and over 144 deployments.



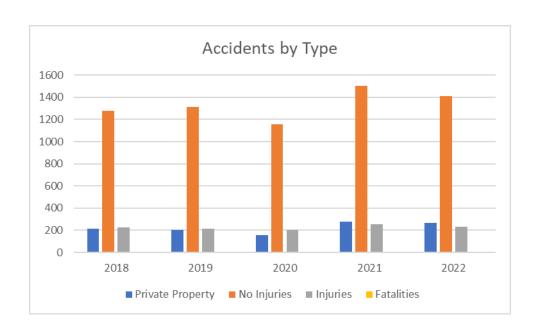
#### **Traffic Crash Reconstruction Team**

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 1,908 traffic crashes investigated in 2022, (4) 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-2022				
Private Property	No Injuries	Injuries	Fatalities	
266	1,412	230	4	

Accident Type	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Private Property	216	203	158	276	266
No Injuries	1,275	1,313	1,159	1,503	1,412
Injuries	223	216	202	257	230
Fatalities	1	6	5	5	4





**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 maintains the criminal records databases, conducts local background checks, manages 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**

The Blackman Township Board of Trustees and the Leoni Township Board of Trustees have both made significant investments in trying to provide a safer environment at the three school districts in our two townships. Officer Blake Hudson is assigned full-time to the Northwest School District in Blackman Township, Officer Jeremy Harrell is assigned full-time to the East Jackson School District and Officer Thomas Porter is assigned full-time to the Michigan Center School District, which are both in Leoni Township. School safety is important to both communities, and we are fortunate to be afforded these three positions to accomplish that goal.



### **Marijuana Compliance Unit**

The Marijuana Compliance Unit is comprised of Sergeant Steve Stowe, Officer Kory Torbet and Officer Chris Pohl. Their responsibilities include enforcing Leoni Township's Marijuana Ordinances, 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 Marijuana Ordinance or the facilities covered by this ordinance. This unit works closely with the Michigan State Police and the Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs. The goal of these positions is 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**

A public safety officer is assigned to the Jackson County Violent Crime Unit. This unit is made up of officers from the Blackman-Leoni Department of Public Safety and the Jackson Police Department. 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 visit.

## **Regional Sexual Assault Kit Initiative Task Force**

Detective Joe Merritt is 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. This unit has and will make Blackman Township, Leoni Township, Jackson County, and the Mid-Michigan Region a safer place to live, work and visit.

## **Special Response Team**

Three Blackman-Leoni Public Safety Officers are members of the Jackson County Special Response Team. This team is a cooperative effort between the Jackson County Sheriff's Department, the Jackson Police Department and the Blackman-Leoni Department of Public Safety. This team responds to a variety of situations, specializing in critical incident management, barricaded gunmen, hostage rescue and high-risk warrant service.



## **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 <u>3,154</u> hours of additional training in 2022.





#### **Awards**

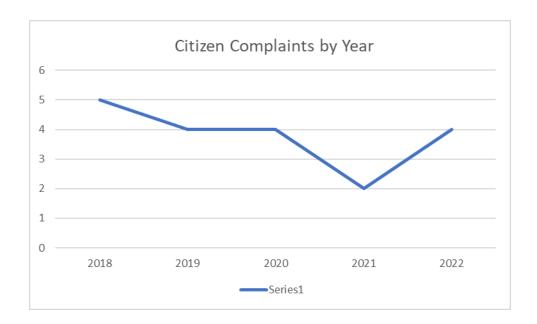
The 2022 Officer of the Year is Officer Jonathan King. Officer King was nominated by his co-workers, who recognized that he is an extremely diligent worker, and he puts the safety of the community and his fellow officers as his number one priority. Officer King demonstrates a strong work ethic and strives to bring his cases to successful closure. We are proud to have Officer King as our 2022 Officer of the Year.

## **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 and body worn cameras. In 2022, the department received four citizen complaints, which had the following dispositions:

Citizen Complaint Comparison by Year						
Year	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	
Total	5	4	4	2	4	
Sustained	1	1	0	1	1	
Not Sustained	1	0	4	0	0	
Exonerated	0	0	0	0	0	
Unfounded	3	3	0	1	3	

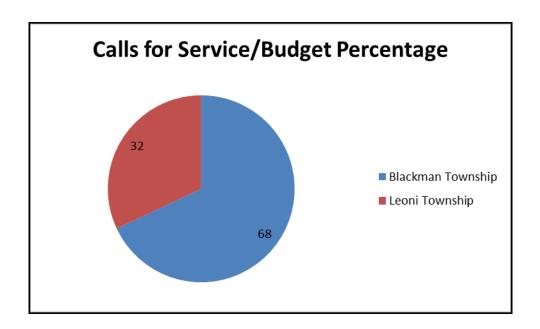
In 2022, the Department received, on average, (1) citizen's complaint for every 7,249 contacts that officers made with the public, with (1) sustained complaint out of 28,997 contacts.



## **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 2022 was \$9,138,584.00. The adopted 2023 public safety budget is \$9,276,707, which is a 1.5% increase from 2022. The budget fluctuates on a yearly basis, depending on personnel costs and scheduled equipment replacement. The 1.5% increase is attributed to increased personnel costs in 2023.

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 approximately 68% of the budget is paid for by Blackman Township and approximately 32% of the budget is paid for by Leoni Township.



### **Social Media**

The Blackman-Leoni Township Department of Public Safety, to partner with the community to accomplish its mission, utilizes social media and direct correspondence with citizens daily. The Public Safety Facebook Page is updated daily, and a daily activity report is sent to approximately 750 people by email and is posted on both the Facebook page and the Township's website.

## **Community Involvement**

The Blackman-Leoni Township Department of Public Safety is highly 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



### **Public Safety Explorers**

The Blackman-Leoni Township Department of Public Safety Explorer Unit is comprised of (9) youth participants who have an interest in public safety as a future profession. Explorers attend meetings and trainings, twice per month, where they receive instruction on public safety topics, policies and procedures and participate in job shadowing, both on the law enforcement and fire service portions of a public safety officer's job. The goal of this program is to allow youth interested in a public safety career to job shadow, learn and hopefully serve as a source of future public safety employees.





#### **Apparatus/Vehicle Fleet**

The current fire apparatus fleet is as follows:

- 2022 Rosenbauer Tower/Ladder 103 ft. (Tower 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 vehicle fleet is as follows:

- 10-Dodge Durango Police Pursuit Vehicles
- 15-Dodge Charger Police Pursuit Vehicles

#### **Insurance Services Office Fire Classification**

In 2021, both Blackman Township and Leoni Township had an ISO classification of 5/5Y. A split classification indicates the difference between parts of the community that have municipal water, versus those that do not. This 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.

	<b>Current Classification</b>	<u>Prior to 2019</u>
Blackman Township	5/5 <b>Y</b>	7/9
Leoni Township	5/5Y	6/9



## **ISO Public Protection Classifications**

#### National ISO Fire Rating Distribution

