

YEAR IN REVIEW



PATROL DIVISION

The 2024 budget, including contract revenues, was \$4,555,600.

The department has an authorized strength of 22 officers, four of which are employed due to contract revenues received from the City of Lauderdale. At the end of 2024, the department had 21 Police Officers, one full-time Community Service Officer, two part-time Cadet Officers, two full-time civilian support staff, and one part-time Evidence Technician.

This year brought about several personnel changes for the department. Chief Jon Mangseth retired after 29 years of service. Officers Mark Mosby and Dan Johnson retired after 30 years and 29 years of service, respectively. Through strong recruitment efforts, we added four new officers to our Patrol Division in 2024.

Our fleet has seven marked squad vehicles, one marked CSO unit, and five passenger vehicles assigned to the Chief, Captain, Detective, and Special Detail.

Police calls for service, comprised of 911 calls and police initiated activity in St. Anthony, Lauderdale, and mutual aid to outside agencies, was 11,047.

2024 Work Plan Accomplishments:

- Hired and trained four new officers.
- Promoted a new Captain, Lieutenant, two Sergeants, and a Task Force officer.
- Purchased and trained officers in new scheduling, training, and investigative software.
- Met with Benchmark Analytics via the League of Minnesota Cities Insurance Trust to determine best practices to reduce liability.
- Implemented a Peer Support Team.
- Held Coffee with the Chief and Coffee with a Cop events in the community.
- Updated department's Strategic Plan including new Core Values.
- Developed a bold recruitment and retention plan.
- Explored addition of department drone program.
- Conducted thorough department-wide exploratory process to provide input to the City Council on decision to renew policing services contract for City of Falcon Heights.
- Collected and responsibly disposed of nearly 340 pounds of pharmaceuticals through our Medicine Dropbox program.



The Patrol Division is the largest component of the St. Anthony Police Department. This division is charged with working with the community to provide police services to the residents of St. Anthony Village and Lauderdale.

The officers of the Patrol Division operate 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Patrol Division operates with four 12-hour shifts, each supervised by a Sergeant. The Division is commanded by a Lieutenant who reports directly to the Chief of Police.

Patrol officers are responsible for answering initial calls for service, completing incident reports, making necessary arrests, and providing traffic safety through enforcement and education. The St. Anthony Police Department utilizes a data-driven approach that focuses on recent crime trends and citizen complaints.

Aside from the previously mentioned tasks, the men and women of the Patrol Division remain steadfast in their commitment to provide exceptional service by prioritizing community partnerships.



In 2024, the St. Anthony Police Department welcomed several new members to the Patrol Division.

- Tony Mickelson, also works as a part-time firefighter in a nearby community
- Elijah Schiro, an entry-level officer from Andover
- Leah Gulbranson, a lateral officer with previous experience.
- James Devaney, a lateral officer with previous experience.

In addition to the sworn staff, we also welcomed Cadet Billy Vang, a law enforcement student who works directly with Patrol Officers to provide needed assistance.



EDUCATION & TRAINING

The St. Anthony Police Department emphasizes the importance in providing high quality training to all employees. We train all employees to provide professional and ethical services to ensure the department can carry on its tradition of excellence.

The MN POST Board requires 48 hours of continuing education every 3 years. Officers are statutorily required to complete training in Crisis Intervention, Conflict Management, Community Diversity, Autism, & Crimes Motivated by Bias. In addition to the mandatory learning requirements, officers are encouraged to build on their professional development by seeking additional training that aligns with the Department's mission and vision.

In 2024, the St. Anthony Police Department provided its staff with 1894 hours of continuing education. In addition to the many hours of internal and external training, officers continue to provide ongoing training to our cadets to assist in preparing them for a career in law enforcement.

Also in 2024, the St. Anthony Police Department began documenting training through new software from Vector Solutions. This program streamlines all training records and assists with compliance and workforce management for law enforcement.

MN Crime Data Explorer

The Minnesota Crime Data Explorer allows you to query and sort data, view trends in charts and graphs, export spreadsheets, and learn about crime activity in our state in more dynamic ways than ever before.

To use this tool, visit cde.state.mn.us



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2024 LAUDERDALE ANNUAL REPORT



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LETTER FROM CHIEF JEFF SPIESS

Honorable Mayor, City Council, City Administrator, and residents of the City of Lauderdale.

It is my honor to present the St. Anthony Police Department's 2024 Annual Report.

This year has been one marked by change, challenge, growth, and success. We navigated significant personnel changes with the retirement of a Chief and two veteran officers, while also promoting a Captain, Lieutenant, two Sergeants, and a Detective. Additionally, we strengthened our team by hiring four new officers, who all embody the professionalism and dedication of our department.

At the beginning of 2024, we embarked on a thorough and rigorous process to explore the feasibility of renewing a contractual relationship to provide policing services for the City of Falcon Heights. This exploration included multiple opportunities for feedback from all members of the department. Ultimately, the overall consensus was that this partnership would be a positive and sustainable direction for our agency.

In preparation for this transition, we launched a forward-looking recruitment strategy. Thanks to our recruitment team, Cadet program, grant awards, and hiring incentives, we have seen immediate success in attracting talented candidates to our team.

We also prioritized the wellness of our officers, recognizing that a healthy, supported team is essential to providing exceptional service. This year, we enhanced our officer wellness program, introducing a peer support team to provide critical resources and support to our staff.

As we reflect on this transformative year, I thank the dedicated members of the St. Anthony Police Department and our community for your trust and partnership.

Together, we remain committed to our mission:

"To improve the overall quality of life by preserving the peace and safety of the community."



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Community Policing is not just a buzzword. It is a philosophy that puts the community at the heart of law enforcement. Engaging our community and being transparent and accountable, while still keeping our communities safe are paramount to the success of our police department and are fundamental goals of our strategic plan.

Officers have conducted over 400 "Directed Patrols" which include checking problem intersections, business checks, vacation home checks, and response to complaints called in by our community. We have also participated in over 127 community engagement events including visiting lemonade stands, handing out stickers to kids, playing football and basketball, or providing reminders to residents who have left their garage doors open.

2024 Community Events:

- Cops vs Kids Basketball
- Summer Safety Camp
- Night to Unite
- Holiday Train
- Coffee with a Cop
- Hot Dogs with a Cop



We are proud of our opportunities to engage and partner with all of our community members and look forward to a great start to 2025!

EMPLOYEE WELLNESS

The St. Anthony Police Department's most valuable resource is its members. To support them, the department offers an array of resources promoting employee wellness. Research has shown that police officers perform most effectively when they are physically, mentally, and emotionally fit for duty. Resources provided by the department include an internal chaplain service, an on-duty physical fitness center, an Employee Assistance Program, and annual check-ins with a mental health professional.

This year, the St. Anthony Police Department introduced a new resource for officers, known as the Peer Support Team (PST). The PST provides all employees with assistance and access to appropriate support resources when personal or professional matters affect their work performance, family life, or overall well-being. The program is proactive in addressing stressors caused by personal and/or professional challenges; helping officers remain productive and well. Peer support is powerful because it is grounded in conversation. Through safe, non-judgmental, and confidential discussions, peer support aims to build trust and foster healthy, sustainable relationships among colleagues. PST is led by internal personnel trained to recognize signs of mental health challenges, providing peer support, and facilitating access to professional care. This year, three officers attended a 40-hour course hosted by Marie Ridgeway and Associates. This training and program are designed to help keep our members healthy and fit for duty.

RECRUITMENT

Command staff, officers and non-sworn personnel continue to actively participate in career fairs, tabling events, and speaking engagements at local law enforcement classes to promote careers with the St. Anthony Police Department.

By engaging with interested candidates at these events, our department can highlight the benefits of a law enforcement career while also building relationships with potential candidates. By sharing their experiences and insights, our officers help clarify the profession, answer questions, and provide a first-hand perspective on the challenges and rewards of law enforcement.

Through these events, we have successfully engaged and attracted individuals who are interested in participating in a ride-along experience, providing them with an opportunity to see the day-to-day responsibilities and dynamics of the St. Anthony Police Department. This initiative has proven to be an effective tool in fostering a deeper understanding of the profession and generating interest in our department.

The police department welcomed two lateral transfers, largely due to positive word of mouth and the offer of a hiring incentive. Officers heard about the department's supportive culture and attractive benefits through current staff, leading them to consider the opportunity.

The department was recently approved to hire six police cadets, a move aimed to make the program more attractive to aspiring law enforcement officers. As part of this initiative, one cadet is completing the final stages of training, and both current cadets will graduate in 2025 and look forward to a career in law enforcement.

The Recruitment Team is excited for the opportunities and growth that 2025 has in store!



St. Anthony Police Department



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INVESTIGATIONS DIVISION

The Investigations Division is responsible for investigating all crime, ranging from trespassing and theft, to financial crimes, sex crimes, assaults, violations of protection orders, robberies and shootings. Detectives regularly work with prosecuting authorities and inform victims of case status, as well as referrals to resources and advocacy programs. The Division is comprised of three detectives and overseen by the Captain of Investigations who is also responsible for internal affairs matters, predatory offender compliance, and the department Body Worn Camera program. The Captain of Investigations reports directly to Chief Spiess regularly on all of these matters.

Significant events in 2024 included personnel changes, investigation of major incidents, technology advances, and application of new laws and court processes.



In February 2024 Captain Mike Huddle assumed responsibility of the investigations team from Jeff Spiess, who was promoted to Chief of Police. We added a detective to the team who was appointed to a Ramsey County task force, the Violent Crime Enforcement Team (VCET). This position allows us immediate access to enormous investigative resources, such as crime

analysts, specialized technology, a large team of additional investigators, training and experience. Supplemental funding from County and Federal sources help displace SAPD wage and overtime costs for this assignment, bringing additional value to our community. Our communities directly benefit from involvement in VCET through their active role in investigating major crimes. VCET acts as a force multiplier as it allows our resident detectives to dedicate more time to their primary investigation load. The program also reduces overtime costs and brings a powerful investigative team at no additional cost.

To accomplish our mission efficiently, we are active in strong partnerships with the MN Bureau of Criminal Apprehension, City and County Attorney's Offices, state and county social services, the MN BCA and Hennepin County Crime Labs. We also participate in regional investigative and information sharing groups.

The statistics below reflect the number of crimes committed and investigated in Lauderdale in 2024.

Total Criminal:	125
Cases Closed:	47
Cases Cleared by Arrest:	35
Cases Cleared Other:	12
Clearance Rate:	38%

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