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Major Andrew Watts

FEBRUARY 2025 MONTHLY SUPPORT SERVICES REPORT

CHIEF OF POLICE
&
BROWNSBURG POLICE COMMISSION



Brownsburg Police Department

SUPPORT DIVISION REPORT

The following information contained within this report summarizes information deemed pertinent for dissemination from Major Andrew Watts.

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|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| -Investigations | -Information & Technology |
| -Administrative Services | -Human Resources |
| -Community Relations | -Training |
| -Public Information | -Vehicle Fleet |
| -Purchasing/Budget | |

Investigations

The Investigations Unit received (12) new cases, screened (30) outside agency reports, closed and/or suspended (18) cases, and closed (0) cases with (0) arrests. The crime trend for this month was *Crimes against persons*. The Unit served (12) search warrants and/or subpoenas, conducted (15) interviews, completed (4) background investigations and attended (5) Child Forensic Interviews this month.

Captain Barrett attended an Executive MDT meeting with other area agency administrators to discuss potential protocols involving victims of crime who are undocumented. Barrett attended a State Child Fatality Review board meeting, attended (3) Executive Staff meetings, conducted an Investigations Unit meeting. Barrett is auditing and reviewing a cold case for a future follow-up investigation. Barrett assisted the Prosecutor's Office twice with case follow-up and had (4) media inquiries from Fox 59 and WISH TV.

Detective Sgt. Bass made (0) arrests this month, and closed (6) cases. He is actively investigating fraudulent activity involving an unpaid order of ten blood pressure monitors and accessories from InBody USA. The items were shipped to an address in Brownsburg but the "business" purchasing is reported to be out of New York and does not appear to exist. The total loss is \$32,528. The reported shipping address has been involved in multiple fraudulent orders and may be part of a larger scale fraud ring out of Nigeria. Bass was not called out but was consulted (3) times this month by road personnel and conducted (1) background investigation.

Detective Sgt. Stanford made (0) arrests this month and closed (2) cases including the theft of a purse at a local fast food restaurant where there were no leads or video of the incident as well as a death investigation where natural causes have been determined. Stanford is actively investigating a Fraud where the victim was called by an individual purporting to be from the "Chase Bank Fraud Department". The suspect convinced the victim that he needed a replacement card and had the victim provide his PIN number. A new card was mailed to an abandoned house and was used at the Avon Chase Bank. A search warrant has been submitted for surveillance video. Stanford was not called out but was consulted (2) times this month by road personnel. He also completed (1) background investigation and (3) CVSA Examinations.

Detective Sgt. Wells made (0) arrests this month and closed (3) cases. Wells assisted Pittsboro Police Department by conducting an interview of a suspect of child molestation and producing child pornography over a two-year period. He was able to obtain a confession and six (6) Level 1 charges were filed. Wells continues an investigation of attempted rape and recently had extracted phone data reviewed by the Intelligence Analyst. Level 1 Attempted Rape charges will be filed. He is working another active Child Molestation/Child Pornography case as well. Wells was called out (1) time and was consulted (12) times this month by road personnel. He conducted (0) background investigations but completed (3) CVSA Examinations.

Detective Sgt. O'Brien made (0) arrests this month and closed (1) case. O'Brien is actively investigating a Child in Need of Services (CHINS) report involving a foster child who may be selling nude photos he obtained from others on a social media platform. He is also investigating another CHINS report where explicit photos were found on the tablets of three juveniles at a foster home. There is an additional and separate sexual assault case involving these same juveniles. O'Brien continues to investigate a Shots Fired case from 2024. Detective O'Brien was called out (0) times and was consulted (0) times this month by road personnel.

Detective Sgt. Cronin made (0) arrests this month and closed (4) cases. Cronin continues to investigate the fraudulent sale of a vehicle resulting in the victim's loss of nearly \$50,000. This case is from late 2024 and has been rather comprehensive. He is also working a fraud where false accounts were opened in the victim's name. It appears the suspect possibly utilized portions of their own information when doing so. Search warrants for a phone provider are pending in this case. Cronin was called out (2) times and was consulted (1) time this month by road personnel. He also completed (1) background investigation.

Detective Jeremiah Jones made (0) arrests this month and closed (2) cases. Jones is presently investigating a possible sexual battery that occurred at a local massage spa. He is closing out a child death involving an 8-month old infant, which was ultimately determined to be medical causes. An additional case is being closed after journal entries by a juvenile stating she was being sexually abused by a family member was determined to be false by her own admission. Jones was called out (0) times but was consulted (11) times this month by road personnel. He completed (1) background investigation and attended ERT training as well.

Crime Scene Investigator and Property Room Manager Todd Knowles reported the following work product: Called out (5) times. Collected/processed (24) items of evidence from (5) crime scenes this month. Checked in (124) items of evidence, signed out (40) items of evidence to officers, returned (8) items of property to owners and transferred (0) items to other agencies. Knowles completed (26) Prosecutor Discovery Requests that resulted in the following work product: uploaded (51) pieces of Body Camera footage, (48) Dash/In-Car Camera Footage, and (10) photos. He made (5) trips to the State Police Lab and completed (8) lab submissions. No trips were made to the hospital. Knowles obtained/lifted (0) sets of fingerprints, collected (0) evidence swabs, uploaded (2) CAC (Vidanyx) interviews, and emptied the lobby Rx box for a total of (81) lbs. Knowles served (0) search warrants. Knowles attended the IDEA Conference, receiving (20) hours of training and spoke to Area 31 students on February 5th.

Finally, our own CSI Knowles was recognized by the Hendricks County Prosecutor's Office this month and received the "Investigative Support Personnel Of The Year" award. Our agency is very proud of Todd and his professional drive that not only aids our local residents but all of Hendricks County.

Forensics Analyst Anthony Merckel examined (4) cell phones, (1) tablet and (0) storage devices in February involving child sex crimes, narcotics, battery and theft. He was called out (1) time. Merckel completed (1) consultation with Pittsboro PD as well as responded off duty to assist them with time sensitive data extraction of an evidence phone. He completed a consultation call with Plainfield PD as well. Merckel also registered for forensic tool certification training for 2025. He completed (0) Prosecutor Discovery Requests that resulted in the following work product: uploaded (0) pieces of Body Camera footage, (0) Dash/In-Car Camera Footage, (0) Photos and conducted (0) uploads into SharePoint.

Investigations Assistant and Victim Advocate Kim Shupert was called out (0) times on duty, and (0) times off duty this month. However, February was a relatively active month for Shupert in terms of victim contacts. She was involved with (6) new victims. Shupert made (8) victim contacts via telephone, (3) victim contacts via text/email, and (2) victim contacts in person. She completed (0) Public Access requests, (0) redactions needed, assisted the Investigations Unit in (30) IDACS/NCIC queries, uploaded (25) 310's, transferred (1) case to other agencies, and sent (0) search warrants. Shupert continued with the IACP Law Enforcement Victim's Advocate on-line training to include (2) additional hours covering Strategic Program Planning.

Intelligence Analyst/Ancillary Property Room Custodian Michael Langeman was called out (0) times, consulted (3) times, reviewed (38) crime tips or bulletins, disseminated (4) intelligence or safety communications, conducted surveillance (1) time and conducted (5) inter-agency collaborations. Langeman is currently cultivating intelligence on a Nigerian fraud ring with Detective Bass. In February, he assisted the FBI Indianapolis and IMPD Covert Robbery with the identification and location of subjects and vehicles with ties to Brownsburg that involved a \$500,000 robbery of a check cashing/money remittance business. During the course of his Property Room duties, Langeman collected/processed (0) items of evidence this month. He checked in (16) items of evidence, signed out (2) items of evidence to Officers and returned (1) item of property to owners. He transferred (0) items of evidence to another agency. Langeman completed (0) Prosecutor Discovery Requests for physical evidence. He made (0) trips to the ISP Lab, completed (0) lab submissions, and (0) trips were made to the hospital.

Administrative Services

February has been a relatively busy month for the Administrative Service Unit. Staff have been busy reorganizing the Quartermaster area in the basement and Records Storage area. Staff continued scanning in old personnel files to Laserfiche for permanent electronic storage. This project is about 90% complete.

Admin Services Asst. Supervisor Heidi Shepherd conducted (3) car seat installations in the month of February for citizens who came into the Police department for assistance. Heidi was trained in this task toward the end of 2024 through a grant from Indiana Criminal Justice Institute (ICJI). In addition, to installing and showing parents the correct way to install a child safety seat, the BPD has several car seats/booster seats that are available at no charge if a citizen is unable to afford this important piece of safety equipment for their child. The parent simply needs to contact our agency and schedule a time to have the seat installed by one of our trained staff members.

In the month of February, the Administrative Services Unit processed (31) public access requests, (27) criminal history requests, (4) gun permits, (6) sets of fingerprints, (4) rider requests, (19) vehicle releases and (57) alarm permit transactions. Fees generated totaled \$2981.25 below is a breakdown of the collected fees:

➤ Accident Reports	\$	35.00
➤ Incident Reports	\$	30.00
➤ Vehicle Release	\$	400.00
➤ Criminal Histories	\$	10.00
➤ Alarm Transactions	\$	820.00
➤ Vin Check	\$	0.00
➤ Notary Fees	\$	0.00
➤ Fingerprints	\$	20.00




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- Pictures/CD \$ 1655.00
 - Off Duty Mgmt. \$ 11.25

Public Information

The agency received several media contacts/inquires throughout the month of February. The majority of the media inquiries (television and written) revolved around updates on significant incidents from throughout the last several weeks/months including vehicle pursuit(s)/crash and several ongoing investigations. In addition, BPD received inquiries reference pending Hendricks County Sheriff’s cases that occurred adjacent to Brownsburg jurisdiction.

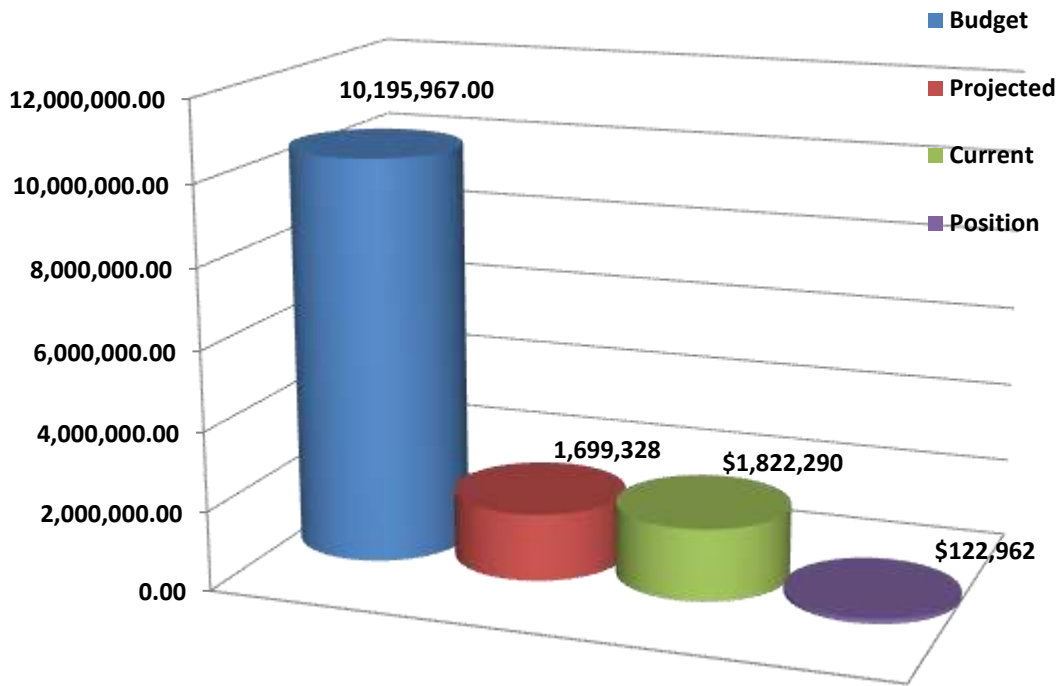
The department also released (8) Facebook posts, (0) Facebook Crime Tips post, (4) Posts from X /Twitter, (3) Instagram Posts

Current subscriber lists report the following number of members:

Media Resource	Subscribers/Contacts
Facebook 	14,859
Facebook Crime Tips 	8,000
Twitter/ X 	3,281
Instagram	1,490

Budget

As of February 28, 2025, the agency has expended 17.87% of its budget. As is typical of February, we are slightly *over budget* due to license and contract renewals that are paid during the beginning of each year. Encumbered funds from 2024 totaled \$15,067 and are reflected in the total budget amount.



Information Technology

Lt. John Depinet Information Technology reported that he had disseminated all new surface based MDT's to appropriate staff and is in the process of replacing the last few remaining older model laptops. There is a surplus of older model laptops that will be evaluated and hard drives removed prior to disposal. Depinet continues to work with Capt. Klayer on the new statistical data reporting system, and both will host a training on how best to utilize the system and pull data for Exec Staff.

Lt. Depinet has assisted Capt. Bullock to ensure that Town Court proceedings are adequately staffed as it relates to security throughout January.

Human Resources

In February, BPD operated at near full-allotted staffing with (5) current vacancies in the sworn officer category. BPD currently has no officers on light duty.

Officer Joseph Medjeski, Lucio Argueta, Jason Umbanhowar and Jonah Kiritschenko are progressing through their Field Training under the supervision of an assigned training officer.

At the last Police Commissioners meeting, the following candidates were presented with Conditional offers of Employment: Morgan Ettenberger, Donna Davenport, Nathaniel Giblin, Noah Wilson and Austin Hyde. Each of the candidates have scheduled both medical and psychological evaluations necessary to move forward in the process. The tentative goal is to have four of the five candidates in the upcoming May ILEA training session. Morgan Ettenberger has already obtained the ILEA certification and can move forward without additional academy training.

An additional (2) packets have been forwarded to investigations for background work in the event any of the conditional candidates do not meet standards or are otherwise removed. The additional backgrounds will also serve as an eligibility list to be drawn upon at a later date if deemed necessary.

The new Civilian Intelligence Analyst Daniela Valenzuela-Fernandez started with BPD on January 6th and has begun her onboarding and certifications to set her up for success with the Narcotics Unit. Daniela has met/trained several times with other agency Intel Analysts and continues to develop her duties as it pertains specifically to the Narcotics Unit.

Training

Training Requested/Submitted to the Training Board in February

- Nelson, Mlagan – BJJ Training for DT Instructors
- Singh – The Art of Interdiction
- Crosby, Brinson – Highway Traffic Safety Conference
- Heidi Shepherd – IN CPS Conference
- Heidi Shepherd – Managing Indiana Police Records
- Pugliese – Blue Line Interdiction
- Craig, Christian Moss – Tactical Patrol Officers Course
- Molina – Desert Snow
- Dixon – Crisis Negotiations for First Responders
- Kalyuzhny, McCoy – Honor Guard Training ISA

Hosted Training Courses for February

- NORSE Tactical - BPD ERT Monthly Training
- CILETC Meeting
- Blue Line Interdiction
- BPD Firearms Qualifications – Handgun In-service
- BPD Defensive Tactics – Vehicle Extractions

Training Facility utilization by outside agencies for the month of February

Outside Agency Facility Usage					
<u>Agency</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Range</u>	<u>Shoot House</u>	<u>Mats</u>	<u>Classroom</u>
IU Police	Feb 3, 17	X			
FBI	Feb 7, 20	X			
Avon PD	Feb 13		X		
HSI	Feb 14, 21, 28	X			
US Probation	Feb 10	X			
IRS CI	Feb 27	X	X		
Zionsville PD	Feb 24, 25, 26	X			

Training Invoices sent out for February

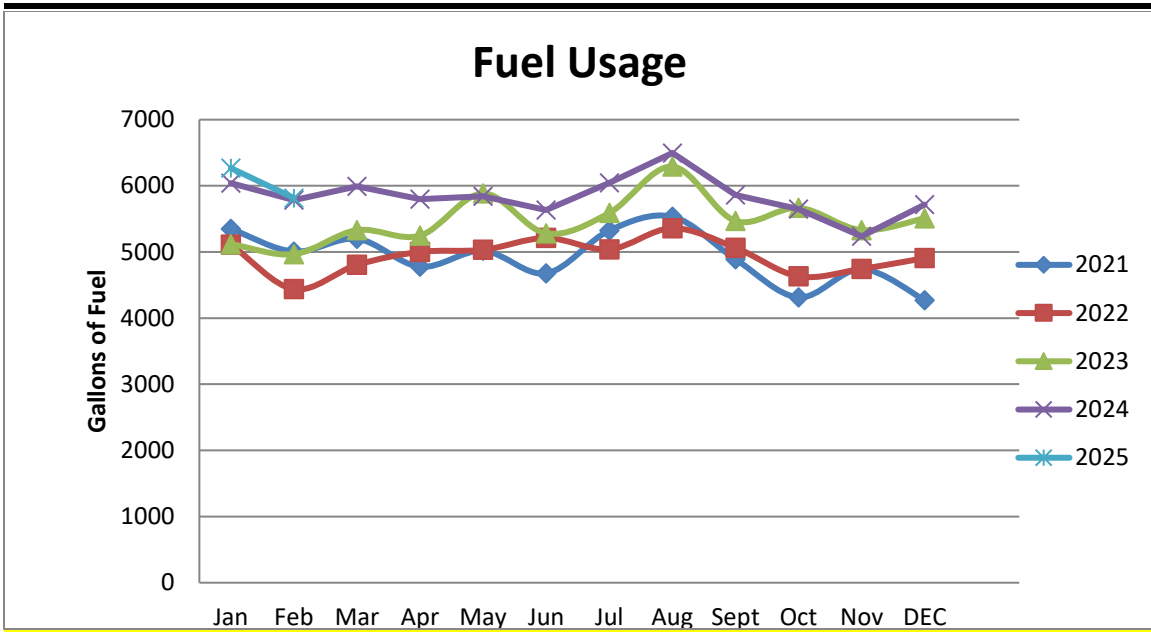
- IUPD – 2 days of Range
- US Probation – 1 day of range
- HSI – 2 days of Range
- US Probation – 1 day of range
- IRS CI – 1 Day of Range
- Zionsville PD – 3 days of range

Training Coordinator Business

- All Department issued handguns, rifles, shotguns were inspected, and batteries changed in all RMRs.
- All but three people qualified on handgun. A make-up date for the last three to follow.
- The State Mandated training is being purchased and will go out to all officers as soon as Coupon Codes are received. This is through *Moyars Consulting* again and will consist of (6) hours of training in all mandated topics.

Vehicle Fleet

The town garage continues to prep and rollout the newest 2025 patrol vehicles. The vehicles being replaced (which are 2018 and 2019) are being rolled into the pool fleet and some are being reassigned to new officers who have been recently hired. We currently have received the additional (6) vehicles from the second installment of the 2024 CCD. Five (5) older units (2013s) have been rotated out and sent to auction. The first installment of vehicles are being prepared to order and will include (2) K9 replacement vehicles and several patrol vehicles. In the meantime, garage staff continue to perform routine and preventative maintenance to ensure the safety and life of the vehicle fleet is maintained. The fuel number for February was 5,815 gallons used by Police units. This amount is down from last month total numbers and slightly increased from the January 2024 usage amounts. For all intents and purposes, usage continue to remain very consistent with previous months and years considering the number of sworn, reserves and civilian staff utilizing department vehicles (see below chart). Our officers and staff continue to be mindful and conservative of the fuel utilized both on and off duty.



*Respectfully Submitted,
Major Andrew Watts*