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Major Andrew Watts

MAY 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.

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

Investigations

The Investigations Unit received (30) new cases, screened (79) outside agency reports - (27) of which were screened in for Case Reports. They also closed and/or suspended (21) cases, and closed (3) cases with (4) arrests. The crime trend for this month was *Crimes against Persons*. The Unit served (28) search warrants and/or subpoenas, conducted (35) interviews, completed (2) background investigations and attended (31) Child Forensic Interviews this month.

The Investigations Unit collectively investigated a massive child sexual abuse case that originated at a local Brownsburg Daycare (*Main Street University 4 Kidz*). This case investigation began in April 2025 as a result of a report made to the Indiana Department of Child Services by an employee of the daycare alleging that a colleague, identified as Gabriel Garner, had engaged in inappropriate sexual conduct with children attending the daycare. The allegations included that the daycare administration had failed to report these allegations as mandated by Indiana law.

This large-scale and complex investigation resulted in the arrest of Garner for (43) Felony counts of crimes against children to include Child Molest, Child Exploitation, Possession of Child Pornography, and Vicarious Sexual Gratification with a Minor. The owner of the daycare, Nancy Minton, was charged with (4) felonies to include Obstruction of Justice, Neglect of a Dependent, and (3) Misdemeanors for Failure to Report. The Director of the daycare, Jennyfer Lingbeck was charged with the same felonies and misdemeanors as Minton. The daycare was subsequently ordered closed by the State of Indiana following search warrant service.

This case remains active and Brownsburg Police Detectives continue to collaborate with the Hendricks County Prosecutor's Office (HCPO), DCS, the Child Advocacy Center Susie's Place, and the Indiana State Police, as they process and review massive amounts of forensic data and ensue further legal service.

Captain Barrett attended multiple meetings and/or engaged in discussions regarding the *Main Street University 4 Kidz* Child Abuse Case with various entities this month to include the Hendricks County Prosecutor's Office, Indiana State Police, Governor's Office, various media outlets, and area LE agencies. Barrett completed (2) media releases, conducted (6) on-air interviews, and responded to approximately (79) requests for information via email, text and/or calls regarding this case. Barrett fielded (16) other media inquiries for various CAD runs such as (3) PI accidents, and an unfounded person shot call for service. Barrett sat on the interview board for Lateral hire candidates and completed an audit of property for a BCSC child Abuse case.

Detective Sgt. Bass made no arrests this month, but closed (4) cases. He is actively investigating counterfeit money being utilized for purchases at *Kroger*. The suspect used fake \$100 bills to buy gift cards and other items at Starbucks inside the store. Bass is also investigating extortion involving the threat of nude photo exposure via the social media platform TikTok. In addition to other fraud and theft reports, he responded to a death investigation where the deceased had a history of medical issues and alcoholism. Bass was not called out but was consulted (5) times this month by road personnel.

Detective Sgt. Stanford made no arrests this month but closed (5) cases. He is investigating a fraud case where the victim was contacted by someone representing themselves as U.S. Immigration. Over the course of a year and through hundreds of wire transfers, the victim has lost 2 million dollars to the suspect. Stanford is looking into FBI assistance for the victim due to the size and scope of the case. He was able to close multiple simple fraud and harassment cases in May due primarily to insufficient evidence or leads. Stanford was not called out but was consulted (1) time this month by road personnel.

Detective Sgt. Wells made (2) arrests this month and closed (2) cases. Wells continues to investigate the *Main Street University* daycare child molestation case. He was assigned as lead detective and has been extremely busy with interviews, case note entries, phone calls, victim contacts and prosecutor consultations. He has received substantial assistance from other members of the unit for this case. While it is nearing completion, there are still pending search warrants for on-line evidence. He also investigated child abuse where the children were removed from the home. In addition, he filed charges for a November 2024 rape case. Wells was not called out but was consulted (4) times this month by road personnel. He attended a 2-hour course on officer stress and PTSD as well.

Detective Sgt. O'Brien made (2) arrests this month and closed (2) cases. O'Brien was assigned a battery case transferred from IMPD. However once victim contact was made she no longer wished to pursue any investigation. He also was a key investigator in the *Main Street University* case investigation and filed charges on the business owner and manager. O'Brien is currently investigating a possible child molest involving workers at a local restaurant as well as a separate child molest with a child forensic interview scheduled in June. O'Brien also responded to another deceased subject which also appears to be natural causes but autopsy results are pending. Detective O'Brien was called out (2) times and was consulted (1) time this month by road personnel.

Detective Sgt. Cronin made no arrests this month but closed (4) cases. Cronin is actively investigating a fraud where the suspect tried to pass a stolen check with stolen identification. This person is also a suspect in a Plainfield case and a case in Arkansas. Facial recognition software appears to have identified the person and charges are pending. He closed a theft case at a local assisted living facility due to no suspect or leads. Alzheimer's may have been a contributing factor in the reporting of the incident. Cronin also responded to a burglary where nothing was taken at *Smoker's Choice*. Cronin was called out (1) time and was consulted (1) time this month by road personnel.

Detective Cpl. Jeremiah Jones made no arrests this month but closed (4) cases. Jones assisted substantially with the *Main Street University* case by attending (17) child forensic interviews as well as downloading/copying said interview videos for placement into evidence. He is also actively investigating another extortion case involving the exchange of nude photos where the victim paid \$1900. Jones is actively investigating a Child in Need of Services (CHiNS) case where it appears the mother is creating issues her daughter is allegedly suffering from. There is also suspicion the child is being over medicated. Jones has two other active child molest cases as well, one of which may be closed following the completion of the report. He was not called out but was consulted (13) times this month by road personnel and attended ERT training twice.

Crime Scene Investigator and Property Room Manager Todd Knowles reported the following work product: Called out (6) times. Collected/processed (131) items of evidence from (4) crime scenes this month. Checked in (117) items of evidence, signed out (16) items of evidence to Officers, returned (4) items of property to owners and transferred (0) items to other agencies. Knowles completed (39) Prosecutor Discovery Requests that resulted in the following work product: uploaded (137) pieces of Body Camera footage, (158) Dash/In-Car Camera Footage, and (400) Photos. He made (5) trips to the ISP Lab and completed (4) lab submissions. He made (2) trips to the hospital and (2) trips to the Prosecutor's Office as well as the jail. Knowles obtained/lifted (34) sets of fingerprints, collected (16) evidence swabs, uploaded (1) CAC (Vidanyx) interview, and emptied the lobby Rx box for a total of (61) lbs. Knowles served (3) search warrants. Knowles continued to train Kristi Braziel in property and evidence functions. He also attended ISP Lab training, the MC Gang meeting and Bike Patrol meeting.

Forensics Analyst Anthony Merckel examined (3) cell phones, (0) tablets and (0) storage devices in May involving child sex crimes. Merckel also re-attempted an extraction on a phone for Plainfield Police Department. He was called out (1) time. Merckel prepared extraction data copies for the Indiana State Police and "scrubbed" various photos for the *Main Street University* case, working with the Prosecutor's Office. He procured and set up a second forensic desktop computer and performed drive troubleshooting and install. Merckel completed and passed the online certification for the AX200 Axiom course. He completed no Prosecutor Discovery Requests.

Investigations Assistant and Victim Advocate Kim Shupert was called out (1) time on duty, and (0) times off duty this month. Due to the *Main Street University* case, victim contact was substantial in May. She made contact with (47) new victims. Shupert made (51) victim contacts via telephone, (4) victim contacts via text/email, and (8) victim contacts in person. She also responded on the search warrant service on the business to intercept parents when deemed necessary. She completed (0) Public Access requests, (0) redactions needed, assisted the Investigations Unit in (37) IDACS/NCIC queries, uploaded (20) 310's, transferred (0) cases to other agencies, and sent (0) search warrants. Shupert completed (1) ICJI Victim's Compensation request for information.

Intelligence Analyst Michael Langeman was called out (0) times, consulted (5) times, reviewed (36) crime tips or bulletins, disseminated (5) intelligence or safety communications, conducted surveillance (0) times and conducted (4) inter-agency collaborations. Langeman cultivated intelligence that identified two females responsible for bank fraud as part of the "Felony Lane Gang" investigation. He also generated intelligence work product that led to coordination with Tipp City Police Department and Fishers Police Department identifying three suspects in a rash of distraction burglaries of the elderly across the Midwest. Langeman had nothing to report relating to Property and Evidence.

Assistant Property Room Manager Kristi Braziel continues to receive training in her new job function. In the course of her duties, she checked in (171) items of evidence, signed out (13) items of evidence to officers, returned (2) items of property to owners and transferred (0) items to other agencies. Braziel assisted in completing Prosecutor Discovery Requests that resulted in the following work product: uploaded (9) pieces of Body Camera footage, (9) Dash/In-Car Camera Footage, and (486) Photos. She accompanied Knowles on trips to the ISP Lab as well as went to the jail once for evidence purposes. Braziel completed (0) lab submissions and assisted with emptying the lobby Rx box. She was also present to assist with the Search Warrant on *Main Street University* as well as responded to the *Smoker's Choice* Burglary for scribe training. She completed (10) more hours of on-line *Property Room & Evidence Training*.

Administrative Services

May was a busy month for the Administrative Service Unit. Heidi Shepherd and Debbie Umbanhowar continued to work on the upcoming Summer Camp supplies and registration for the kids that are scheduled to attend. A Lateral/Certified recruitment was launched on April 9th. Debbie prepared interview packets for the May 21, 2025 interviews. (10) Candidates were interviewed on that date with (4) candidates sent to backgrounds and the other (6) remaining on a list for potential advancement to backgrounds based on need of the agency.

Debbie and Heidi both assisted with the Community Day event at the Brownsburg Library on May 17th as well as the Community Day/Star Soccer event at Parkside Bible Church on May 24th. Both events were well attended and Admin Services staff represented the agency in a positive and engaging light.

Heidi attended the 2025 Indiana Child Passenger Safety Conference in Indianapolis on May 14th & 15th. Heidi also attended Management & Leadership Skills for New Managers and Supervisors in Nashville, TN on May 28 & 29.

Heidi conducted (1) car seat inspection in the month of May.

In the month of May, the Administrative Services Unit processed (56) public access requests, (29) criminal history requests, (7) gun permits, (5) sets of fingerprints, (6) rider requests, (17) vehicle releases and (59) alarm permit transactions. Fees generated totaled \$3269.00 below is a breakdown of the collected fees:




➤ Accident Reports	\$	40.00
➤ Incident Reports	\$	50.00
➤ Vehicle Release	\$	440.00
➤ Criminal Histories	\$	15.00
➤ Alarm Transactions	\$	2380.00
➤ Vin Check	\$	0.00
➤ Notary Fees	\$	2.00
➤ Fingerprints	\$	30.00
➤ Pictures/CD	\$	300.00
➤ Off Duty Mgmt.	\$	12.00

Public Information

The agency received several media contacts/inquires throughout the month of May. The majority of the media inquiries (television and written) revolved around the double homicide investigation (from last month), a recent stabbing, the Child Molest investigation and 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.

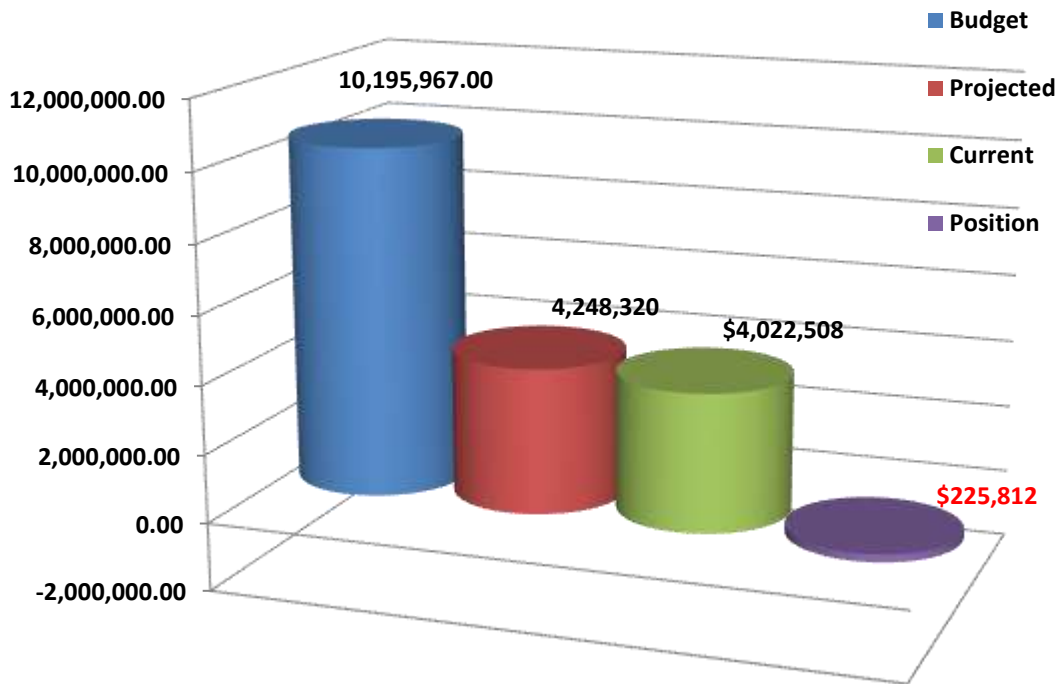
The department also released (30) Facebook posts, (0) Facebook Crime Tips post, (11) Posts from X /Twitter, (8) Instagram Posts

Current subscriber lists report the following number of members:

Media Resource	Subscribers/Contacts
Facebook 	15,294
Facebook Crime Tips 	8,000
Twitter/ X 	3,306
Instagram	1,611

Budget

As of May 31, 2025, the department expended 39.45% of its budget. As is typical of May, we are slightly under budget. Encumbered funds from 2024 totaled \$15,067 and is reflected in the total budget amount.



Information Technology

Lt. John Depinet Information Technology worked on supporting several tech and administrative updates across the department. He reviewed online forms for accuracy, made minor adjustments to improve ease of use, and helped troubleshoot access issues for a few staff members throughout the month. Depinet also reviewed internal records for consistency and worked to clean up outdated entries to improve reporting reliability.

In addition, Depinet began a project to identify department radios that will not be compatible with the updated communication system scheduled for rollout at the end of 2026. There is a price tag attached to this communication upgrade so the earlier the agency can begin the upgrade process the less of a financial hurdle it should be for the agency. These updates help keep daily operations running smoothly while preparing for long-term needs.

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

Human Resources

Brownsburg Police operated through May with (3) officer vacancies. BPD currently has no officers on light duty.

The newest Brownsburg Police Officers: Donna Davenport, Nathaniel Giblin and Austin Hyde reported to the Indiana Law Enforcement Academy on May 5th to begin their formal Basic Police Officer Certification training. Morgan Ettenberger (who previously received a conditional offer of employment) has already obtained the ILEA certification and can move forward without additional academy training. She is completing her medical packet and awaiting her final approval by PERF/INPRS for acceptance into the Police retirement fund. She is tentatively scheduled to be sworn in with BPD in late June. Finally, it is anticipated that (2) officer candidate names will be provided to the Police Commission at the next meeting for Conditional Offers of employment. With the recent (3) sworn officer being added to our staff the BPD has (59) sworn staff. When Ettenberger is sworn in our number will be (60) sworn. This is the most sworn officers in the history of the agency and we are very pleased with the caliber of officer being recruited and sworn into service. Once the (2) candidates are added to the ranks BPD will be at Full staffing of (62) sworn officers. The agency will continue to maintain an eligibility list from the lateral process to help expedite any replacements deemed necessary in 2025.

Training

Training Requested/Submitted to the Training Board in May

- Heather Foote – *Desert Snow Indianapolis*
- Derek Heller – *National Interdiction Conference*
- David Koelling – *Sandy Hook Debrief*
- Eustace Mlagan – *Sandy Hook Debrief*
- Ben Pyatt – *Interdiction National Conference*
- Serena Clay – *Sandy Hood Debrief*

Hosted Training Courses for May

- BPD In-Service Defensive Tactics – Quarter 1 and 2
- ERT Monthly Training
- Indiana SWAT Officers Association – *Asset Protection Shield Course 2 days*
- CILETC Monthly Meeting
- Calibre Press Webinar – *How to avoid Cop Burnout*

Training Facility utilization by outside agencies for the month of May

Outside Agency Facility Usage					
<u>Agency</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Range</u>	<u>Shoot House</u>	<u>Mats</u>	<u>Classroom</u>
Indiana SWAT Conference	May 1, 2		X		
ICE	May 5, 6		X		
Avon PD	May 7	X			
OIG/HHS	May 8	X			
IRS CI	May 12	X			
Plainfield PD	May 22		X		
US Probation	May 28-30	X			

Training Invoices sent out for May

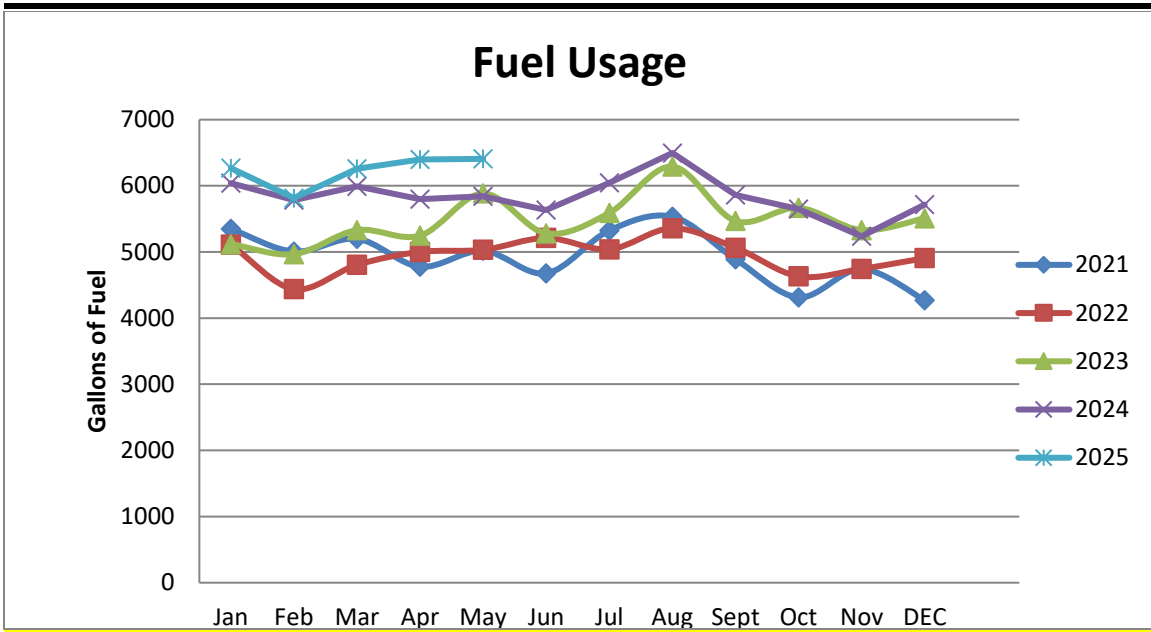
- ICE – 2 days of Shoot house
- IRS CI – 1 day of Range
- US Probation – 3 days of Range
- Indiana SWAT Officers Association – FREE COMPED TRAINING SLOT
- OIG/HHS – 1 day of Range

Training Coordinator Business

- Officers Davenport, Giblin, and A. Hyde began their training at the Indiana Law Enforcement Academy (ILEA) on May 5. The Basic Academy Course spans (16) weeks, with graduation scheduled for August 22. Each officer is performing well and is adapting effectively to the training environment.
- Ammunition for the .308 rifles was purchased in preparation for an upcoming Sniper School.

Vehicle Fleet

The town garage staff continue to prep, outfit 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 have been ordered and will include (2) K9 replacement vehicles and several patrol vehicles. The (2) K9 vehicles being purchased will be Ford Expeditions to consolidate the fleet under the Ford product line. In the meantime, garage staff continue to perform routine and preventative maintenance to ensure the safety and life of the vehicle fleet is being maintained. The fuel number for May was 6,407 gallons used by Police units. This amount is slightly up from last month total numbers and slightly increased from the May 2024 usage amounts. However, the agency is also now staffed with (59) sworn officers as opposed to last year's number of (56). 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*