

Fort Thomas Police Department



2022 Annual Report



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Message from the Chief

Chief Casey Kilgore

April 1, 2023

Mayor Eric Haas
Council Members
City Administrative Officer Matt Kremer
Citizens of Fort Thomas

Ladies and Gentlemen:

It is my distinct honor to present the 2022 Annual Report. As I enter my sixth year as our Police Chief, I feel confident saying that we have built one of the best police departments in the nation. Our men and women are extremely dedicated, professional, and well trained. It has been very fulfilling to see our officers go out every day and do their absolute best to keep our citizens safe.

At the start of 2022, we hired two new officers to replace officers who had retired. Officer Geoff Lucas and Officer TJ French are both doing very well in their new roles with our department. Several of our officers have stepped up to take on more responsibility to fill voids left by prior retirements. In addition to patrol, investigations, and SRO, we are committed to having officers trained in SWAT, Crisis Negotiation, Major Accident Reconstruction, Evidence Collection, Fire Investigation, Digital Forensics, Emergency Vehicle Operations, and Defensive Tactics.

Throughout calendar year 2022, our officers responded to 12,935 total calls for service. This is an average of 35.43 calls per day. Through my conversations with citizens, I believe many underestimate just how busy we truly are. This call volume only accounts for our patrol division. In addition to our patrol division, we continued to staff two full-time detectives, and one full-time School Resource Officer. Both of our detectives stay quite busy investigating cases, and our SRO is constantly handling issues as they arise within our schools.

Our police department benefits greatly from having an amazing community, and a very supportive group of city leaders. Our officers constantly seek out the best training available to keep their skills sharp and up-to-date. We would not be able to attend quality training without the support of our community. All of our officers participate in mandatory training, specialized training, in-house training, free online training, and roll call style training. These training efforts can be found in our monthly reports.

This Annual Report will illustrate that our officers are deeply committed to responding to the needs of our citizens, keeping our city safe, and providing the quality of service that we all have come to expect from Fort Thomas.

Sincerely,

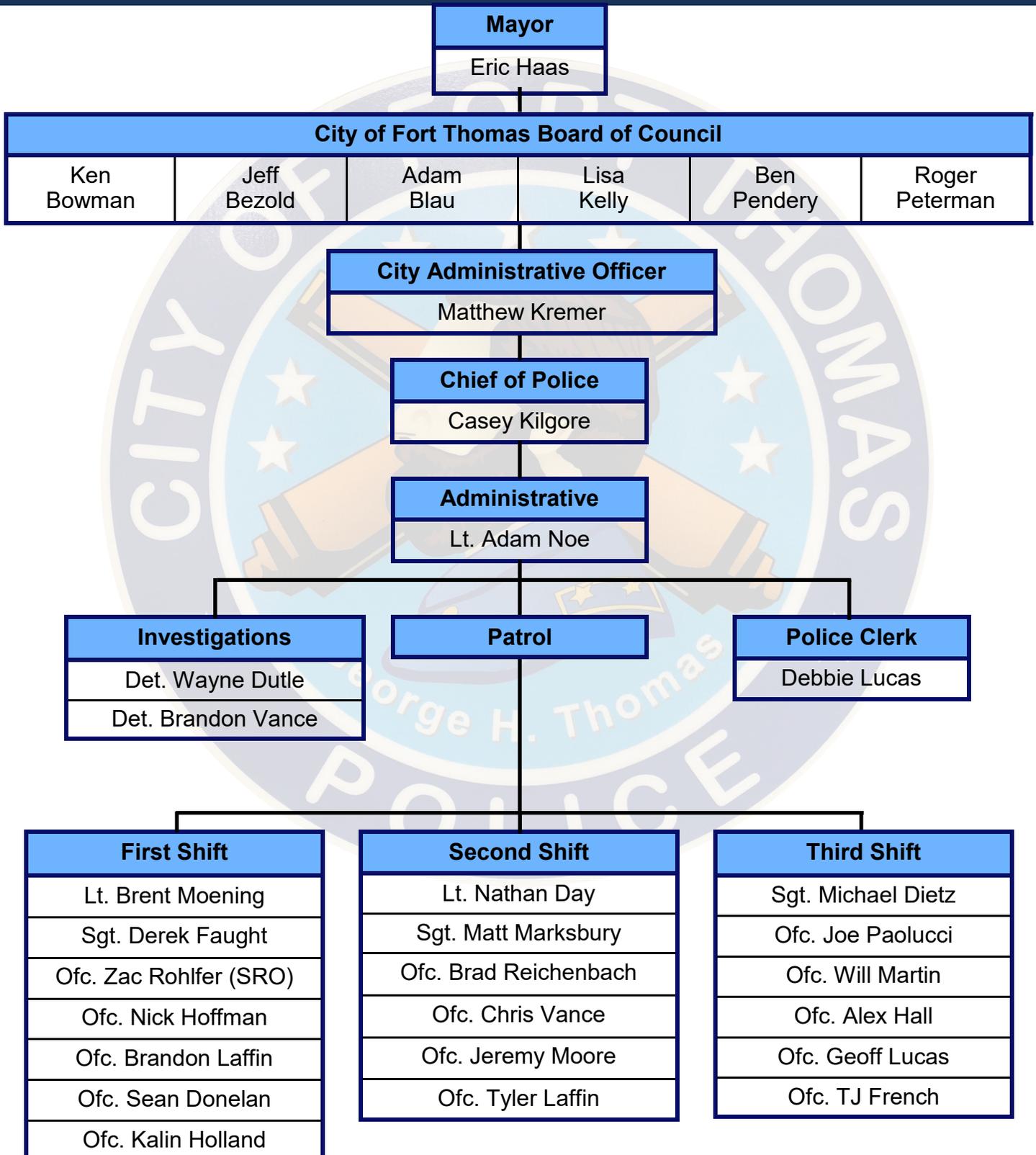


Casey Kilgore
Chief of Police



Fort Thomas Police Department

Organizational Chart



Meet our New Officers

Officers Geoff Lucas & T.J. French



Officer Geoff Lucas

Officer Geoff Lucas joined the Fort Thomas Police Department and began work as a Patrol Officer February 8th, 2022. He comes to the department from the Highland Heights Police Department where he served for 2 years. Geoff worked for the Campbell County Police the 11 years prior. He is currently assigned to 3rd shift and he has been assigned badge number 4460.



Officer T.J. French

Officer T.J. French joined the Fort Thomas Police Department and began work as a Patrol Officer February 8th, 2022. He comes to the department from the Campbell County Police where he served for 5 years. T.J. worked for the Virginia Beach Police the 5 years prior. He is currently assigned to 3rd shift and he has been assigned badge number 4461.



Fort Thomas Police Department

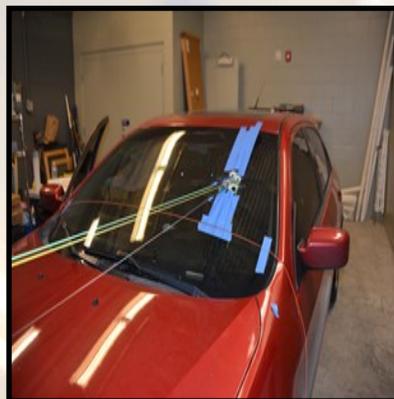
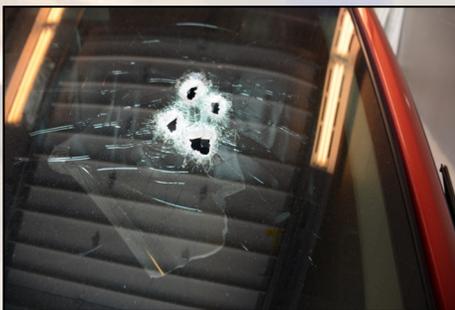
Criminal Investigations

The Investigations Section had a rather busy year in 2022. They received 168 cases in which the majority of them led to an arrest or citations issued.

First off, in January of 2022, our patrol units attempted to stop a vehicle that was believed to be driving under the influence. The vehicle failed to yield to Officers and led them on a pursuit up Chesapeake Ave. and onto Highland Ave. The driver of the vehicle then fired several shots through his windshield at our Fort Thomas Officers, along with Kentucky State Police Officers who were in the area on a detail. The shooting occurred in the area of Highland Ave. and Newman Ave.

A stray bullet, that the suspect fired, struck a house while residents were inside. The vehicle then fled down Grand Ave. into Newport, where it struck another vehicle. The suspect fled on foot, with a gun in hand, and was apprehended near Ace Hardware by our Fort Thomas Officers.

Through further investigation, the gun was linked through the National Integrated Ballistic Information Network involving two other shootings near Dayton, Ohio. The suspect was charged with attempted murder of a police officer. He took a guilty plea and was sentenced to 15 years in prison.



These are actual photos of the suspect's vehicle and grouping of the shots fired at our Officers who were directly in the line of fire.



Fort Thomas Police Department

Criminal Investigations



In April of 2022, Detectives were called out for a male subject who was shot in the arm, on S. Fort Thomas Ave. inside his residence by someone. Through the course of a lengthy investigation, it was determined that the subject had shot himself while he slept with a gun under his pillow.

In June of 2022, patrol units responded to a residence on Grand Ave. near S. Fort Thomas Ave., in reference to a shots fired call. While on scene at the residence in question, a loud bang was heard and dirt kicked up within feet of our patrol officers. Our officers called for Kenton County Regional SWAT to assist. After a several-hour standoff, the suspect was apprehended. This case is still going through the court process.

In August of 2022, Detectives were called out in the middle of the night for a subject that fired several rounds at a moving vehicle on S. Fort Thomas Ave., near the Ft. Thomas Animal Hospital. Detectives were able to determine this was a random incident, due to the victim just passing through the area. Video footage showed a male subject rapidly firing at the vehicle and then moving out of sight.

Upon further investigation, it was determined an occupied house and a business were struck by a stray bullet, on the opposite side of Grandview Avenue during the shooting. The investigation led detectives to one of the rear apartments behind the Animal Hospital. After several days, the suspect was apprehended and charged. The suspect took a 10-year prison sentence.



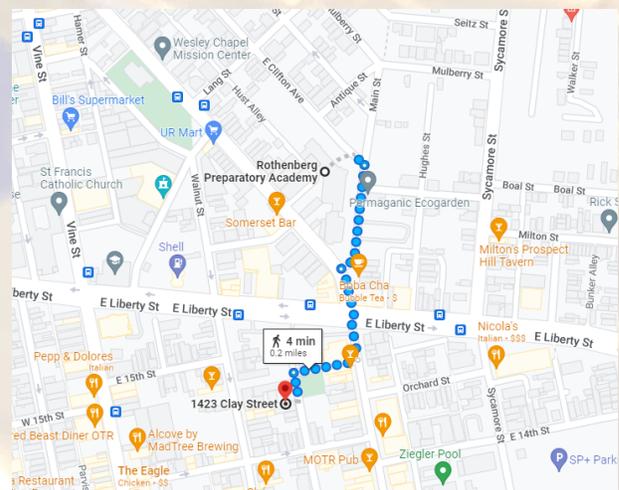
Fort Thomas Police Department

Criminal Investigations

In September of 2019, a male subject drove through the lot of the Highland High School Field House throwing out several pieces of child pornography. None of these photos were of students or residents and was a random act. Through the investigation, a vehicle was identified, along with the suspect. After serving a search warrant on the suspect's home in Alexandria, KY, several items of child pornography were seized. The suspect was charged with possession and distribution of child pornography. Those charges were dismissed and the case was taken to the Federal court system. The suspect took a guilty plea and was sentenced to 10 years in prison. Also this year, Detectives assisted Cincinnati PD in solving catalytic converter thefts from a scrap yard on Kellogg Avenue. Detectives followed the suspect vehicle approximately 10 miles after it fled from Newport PD, into downtown Cincinnati. Cincinnati PD was able to stop the vehicle near the Rookwood shopping area. The suspect was found to have several catalytic converters inside his vehicle that he recently stole. The suspect was arrested for warrants and other related thefts.

Throughout the year, the department saw an uptick in juvenile crime. Those crimes included vehicle thefts, One Highland burglaries, destruction of the piano at Towne Center, and several other crimes.

The vehicle thefts were mainly a juvenile gang out of Cincinnati, which would come into our city, find unlocked vehicles, and drive them back to Over-the-Rhine. The juveniles were identified by processing the stolen vehicles for fingerprints after they were recovered. The juveniles were all charged accordingly. The rest of the juvenile incidents were handled with arrests or citations.



Fort Thomas Police Department

Criminal Investigations

Detectives dealt with numerous fraud cases throughout 2022. It's apparent that a new slew of scams are out there that residents are falling victim to. We have had some success in finding money that was sent to scammers or money that was fraudulently obtained (cyber fraud). Through this, we have built our networking with other agencies and banks in the area to combat this issue moving forward.

The Investigations Section wants to recognize Safe Ship, located at 1504 Alexandria Pike (The old Frisch's building). This year, along with previous years, they have helped countless victims from being scammed. Safe Ship knows the right questions to ask if they suspect something is off with a package. Safe Ship contacts the police department each time this happens and we assist in making the victims aware that they are being scammed. Safe Ship has stopped upwards of \$500,000 or more throughout the years and we would like to commend them for all of their help.

Although this year has been a busy one for the Investigations Section, we are grateful that our officers were able to remain safe in those dangerous situations and go home to their families. Things are drastically changing in the world and becoming more dangerous, it seems like there is even more disregard for human life each day. The Fort Thomas Police Department strives to be the most well-rounded department in the area and we believe we succeed in that.



Kenton County Regional S.W.A.T.

Special Weapons and Tactics

Fort Thomas Police Department continued its involvement with the Kenton County Regional SWAT Team in 2022. Sergeants Dietz and Faught worked with the operations side of the team and each achieved over 180 hours of additional training in tactics, firearms, breaching, defensive tactics, and tactical medicine. These areas are not just applicable in a SWAT environment, but almost all training is brought back to the Fort Thomas Police Department to benefit the patrol units which, in-turn, benefits the City. Lt. Moening and Officer Hoffman are members of the Crisis Negotiation Unit. They are valuable members of this team that helps with information gathering in a critical incident and eventually communicating and de-escalating a potential hostile situation.

2022 saw the Kenton County Regional SWAT Team activated nine times throughout the year. In June 2022, the team was activated by the Fort Thomas Police Department to assist with a barricaded suspect that had been shooting a high-powered rifle out of the window of his home on Grand Avenue. The team surrounded the house, and with the assistance of a drone, police K9, and other tactics, the suspect was located and arrested in the home without anyone being harmed.

Overall, the team was utilized by the Northern Kentucky Drug Strike Force, Villa Hills PD (twice), Erlanger PD, Kenton County PD (twice), Campbell County PD, and Fort Thomas. The multi-regional, multi-jurisdictional element of the team allows for the best allocation of resources for the smaller departments to handle potentially hostile and dangerous situations.



2022 FTPD Stats

Non-Traffic Charges

Non Traffic Charges		
Charge	2021	2022
Alcohol Related	34	35
Drug Related	325	178
Possession of Alcohol by a Minor	0	1
Burglary	4	7
Theft Related	21	21
Receiving Stolen Property	9	6
Warrants Served	151	113
Criminal Mischief	12	28
Criminal Trespassing	6	10
Wanton Endangerment	11	10
Criminal Possession of a Forged Instrument	8	2
Unlawful Transaction with a Minor	3	3
Disorderly Conduct	6	10
Assault	13	11
Manslaughter	0	0
Carrying Concealed Deadly Weapon	0	0
Murder	0	0
Criminal Littering	1	0
Terroristic Threatening	6	6
Miscellaneous	65	56
Total Non Traffic Charges (Citations)	675	497



2022 FTPD Stats

Traffic Charges

Traffic Charges

Charge	2021	2022
DUI	66	62
Speeding	222	349
Other Hazardous Traffic Violations	136	108
Operator License Violations	205	172
Vehicle License Violations	202	194
Vehicle Equipment Violations	4	17
Insurance Violations	297	219
No Seatbelt	104	81
No Child Restraint	4	5
Miscellaneous	16	15
Traffic Charges	1256	1222
Written Warnings	597	767
City Citations	80	27



2022 FTPD Stats

Juvenile Charges

Juvenile Charges

Charge	2021	2022
Alcohol Related	3	2
Drug Related	6	18
Criminal Mischief	4	0
Criminal Trespassing	0	0
Theft Related	4	3
Receiving Stolen Property	0	1
Disorderly Conduct	0	0
Terroristic Threatening	1	2
Assault	3	1
Juvenile Pick Up Order	3	1
Possession Of A Forged Instrument	0	1
Burglary	3	0
Miscellaneous	5	4
Total Juvenile Charges	32	33



2022 FTPD Stats

Offense Reports

Offense	2021	2022
Theft Related	84	110
Burglary	5	10
Criminal Mischief	30	49
Assault	32	25
Wanton Endangerment	10	9
Terroristic Threatening	10	12
Forgery	1	0
Harassment	18	23
Rape	2	2
Other Sexual Offenses	5	5
Robbery	0	0
Arson	0	0
Murder	0	0
Manslaughter	0	0
Criminal Abuse	1	0
Criminal Trespassing	10	14
Menacing	3	4
Possession of Alcohol by a Minor	1	1
Alcohol Related	26	27
DUI	64	61
Drug Related	232	142
Carrying Concealed Deadly Weapon	0	0
Unlawful Transaction with a Minor	2	4
Receiving Stolen Property	9	2
Miscellaneous	73	59
Total Offenses Reported	618	559



2022 FTPD Stats

Incident Reports

2022 Incidents Reported

Incident	2021	2022
Abuse and Neglect	44	45
Missing Persons	1	1
Vehicle Damage	3	0
Lost/Missing Articles	18	5
Property Damage	4	28
Deceased Persons	13	18
Animal Related	1	10
Neighbor Dispute	1	5
Miscellaneous	108	82
Total Incidents Reported	193	194
Accidents Reported	284	298

Total Felony Charges 2015-2022

2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
138	186	141	124	102	181	216	154

Total CAD Activity by Year

2020	2021	2022
14,181	12,632	12,935



2022 FTPD Stats

Yearly Comparisons

Traffic Enforcement Comparison 2020-2022

Charges	2020	2021	2022
DUI	70	66	62
Speeding	233	222	349
Other Hazardous	101	136	108
OL Violations	221	205	172
Vehicle License	213	202	194
Vehicle Equipment	12	4	17
Insurance Violations	309	297	219
No Seat Belt	90	104	81
No Child Restraint	3	4	5
Miscellaneous	26	16	15
Total Charges	1278	1256	1222
Written Warnings	677	597	767
Total Enforcement	1,955	1,853	1,989
Written Warnings Enforcement %	34.6%	32.2%	38.5%
City Citations	47	80	27

Traffic Accident Comparison 2020-2022

	2020	2021	2022
Total Accidents	246	284	298
Avg. Per Month	20.50	23.66	24.83
Avg. Per Day	.672	.778	.816



2022 Training

Firearms

Throughout 2022 our firearms training section continued to strive to provide the best training possible to our officers. We take the responsibility of protecting our citizens and our officers very seriously. Fort Thomas PD keeps our training up-to-date by sending instructors to the best classes possible, even outside of the state. We also continue to incorporate as much technology as possible, improving our abilities through low-power variable optics, red dot sights for pistols, scenario-based training utilizing real-life shooting simulations, and even moving targets. Several of our officers competed in various team and individual shooting competitions against other departments and have continued a tradition of being top-tier shooters, bringing home many awards.



Professional Excellence

Northern KY Police Pistol Match

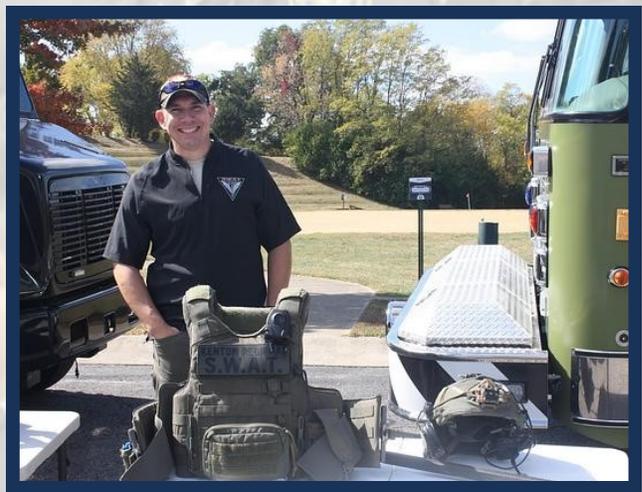


In 2022 six Fort Thomas Police Officers competed in the Northern Kentucky Police Pistol Match held at CVG Airport. The annual NKY Police Pistol Match is sponsored by the Northern Kentucky Police Chief's Association. The department was represented by: Zac Rohlfer, Matt Marksbury, Michael Dietz, Chris Vance, Jeremy Moore, and Tyler Laffin. The six officers made up two teams, one team shot the red dot competition and the 2nd team shot the iron sights division. The Fort Thomas Teams took 1st place in both competitions.



Community Events

Year in Photos



Community Events

Year in Photos



Community Events

Year in Photos



Fort Thomas Police Department

We thank each officer for their dedication and hard work which allows us to produce this annual report.

Overall Report:
Chief Casey Kilgore

Article Development and Statistical Reporting:

Lieutenant Nathan Day
Sergeant Michael Dietz
Officer Zac Rohlfer
Detective Wayne Dutle
Detective Brandon Vance
Police Clerk Debbie Lucas
Lieutenant Brent Moening

Front Cover Design:
Lieutenant Brent Moening

Report Design and Production:
Lieutenant Brent Moening

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