## 2018 ANNUAL REPORT LEESBURG POLICE DEPARTMENT

"To Protect and Serve with Integrity, Courage, Compassion and Intelligence"



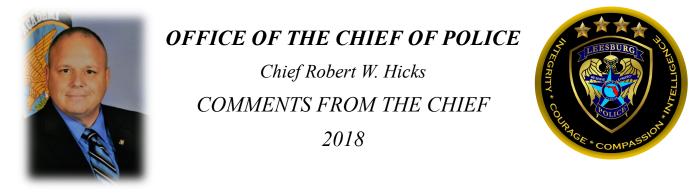
#### CHIEF ROBERT W. HICKS

115 EAST MAGNOLIA STREET, LEESBURG, FLORIDA, 34748 PHONE: (352)728-9860 FACSIMILE: (352)365-1026 www.LeesburgPolice.com



#### Table of Contents

<u>Subject</u>	<u>Page</u>
Comments from the Chief	3
Organizational Chart	4
Mission Statement	5
Budget and Personnel	6
Rotary Service Above Self	7
Officer of the Year	8
	9
Officers of the Quarter	10
Civilian Employee of the Year	11
Civilian Employees of the Quarter	12
CAD Events and Service Calls	13
Part I Crimes	14
Violent Crimes	15
Toperty enines	16
Criminal Arrests	17
Non-Criminal Enforcement	18
Uniform Patrol Division	19
	20
	21
	25
	25
Code Enforcement	26
	27
	28
	28
	29 30
	30 31
	31
	32
	32
Charity Bed Race	32
Training and Education	33
Leadership Development	34
Accreditation	35
New Hires	37
Retirements	38
Donors and Sponsors	39
	40



As your Chief of Police, I am pleased to present the 2018 annual report for the Leesburg Police Department. The primary purpose of this report is to provide the community with transparency in government and to show how we meet the challenges that face our community. This report offers a glimpse of the Police Department's operations and presents a detailed summary of police programs implemented, calls for service, arrest data, traffic crash data, DUI data, citation data, and includes revenues collected. In 2018, we experienced a twelve percent decrease (-12%) in Part I Crimes as reported to the Federal Bureau of Investigation through the Department's Uniform Crime Report. Violent Part I crimes, as a whole, decreased in 2018. Robberies, the largest statistical increase in 2017, accounted for the largest decrease (-60%) in 2018.

In 2018, data revealed a 3% increase in calls for service, with officers responding to over 45,000 calls for service. In addition to the normal policing duties such as patrol, traffic enforcement, and investigations our staff further expanded the Intelligence Led Policing model, allowing a more thorough analysis of crime data, community information and information from surrounding law enforcement jurisdictions and other criminal justice agencies. Analysis of the available information afforded staff to better understand the crime trends and provide a more focused effort in areas of concern throughout the city. This model incorporates all stakeholders within the community and further builds upon the working partnership with community members, we rely on to continue making Leesburg a better place to live and work.

As previously mentioned, community involvement has been and continues to be a cornerstone of the policing model in the City of Leesburg. Officers took part in numerous community events during the year including National Night Out, Junior Athletic Games, Christmas Bike Give A Way With Santa, Shop With A Cop, Citizens Police Academy, Coffee With A Cop, Charity Bed Race, Crime Prevention and Safety Symposiums, and Neighborhood Watch Meetings, just to name a few. These community engagement activities provide opportunities to build and maintain lasting relationships and community trust.

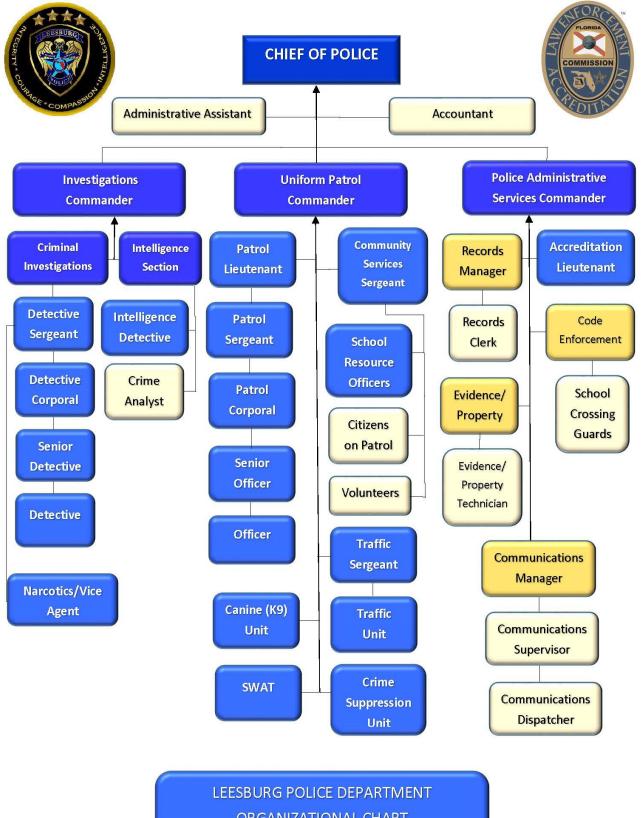
In furtherance of building community trust, provide transparency and accountability, and maintain the highest standards of professionalism, the Department sought to achieve Accreditation through the Commission for Florida Law Enforcement Accreditation. Through demonstration of compliance with established standards of the Commission and maintaining the highest standards of professionalism, the Department achieve accredited status in 2018.

As a Department, we invite you to become involved with your department, to continue forging a strong cooperative partnership that is built upon mutual trust and respect. No police department can solve crime or quality of life issues alone. Effective community/police relationships, communication, and engagement are critical components to our success.

It will remain the pledge of the men and women of the Leesburg Police Department to Protect and Serve with Integrity, Courage, Compassion, and Intelligence.

AULI

Robert W. Hicks Chief of Police



ORGANIZATIONAL CHART DECEMBER 2018





#### **Mission Statement**

The Leesburg Police Department exists to protect and serve its citizens. The department is committed to work in partnership with all citizens for the mutual purpose of promoting safe streets and neighborhoods, reducing the fear of crime, and improving the overall quality of life within the community.

#### **Department Values**

- \* We will display honesty, integrity, and sincerity in personal conduct and interpersonal interactions.
- \* We will obey, honor, and defend the Laws of the State of Florida and the United States Constitution.
- \* We will accept full responsibility and accountability for our actions.
- \*We will do our best, no matter the complexity or simplicity of the task.
- \* We will treat people with mutual respect and dignity.
- \* We will have empathy and compassion for others.

\* We will use sound, innovative problem-solving techniques. We will both educate and learn from our community, working together to accomplish common goals.

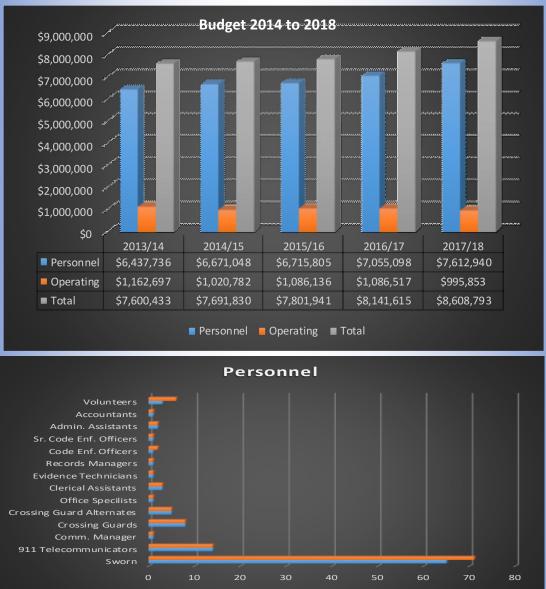
#### **Vision Statement**

The Leesburg Police Department strives to serve and protect our diverse and dynamic community with fairness, integrity, and respect for the rights of the individual. We resolve to develop a creative, forward-thinking workforce, dedicated to raising our level of excellence to meet the challenges of tomorrow.

#### **Department Motto**

"To protect and serve with integrity, courage, compassion, and, intelligence."

## **BUDGET AND PERSONNEL**



**2017/18 2016/1** 

	<u>2016/17</u>	<u>2017/18</u>
Sworn Personnel	65	71
911 Telecommunicators	14	14
<b>Communication</b> Managers	1	1
Crossing Guards	8	8
Crossing Guard Alternates	5	5
Office Specialists	1	1
Clerical Assistants	3	3
Evidence Technicians	1	1
Records Managers	1	1
Code Enforcement Officers	1	2
Sr. Code Enforcement Officers	1	1
Administrative Assistants	2	2
Accountants	1	1
Volunteers	3	6

## **ROTARY SERVICE ABOVE SELF-2018** Officer Travonte Kitchen

Since joining the Leesburg Police Department, Officer Kitchen has been an outstanding ambassador to the community. Travonte regularly volunteers to participate in community events and takes his part seriously. For example, in 2016 and 2017 Officer Kitchen worked hard to develop partnerships for the department's National Night Out event, and was able to bring in several new sponsors. He then volunteered his time to help in the all-day setup for the events and worked the crowd throughout the night. He has participated in Shop with a Cop, Christmas bicycle give-away, the Black Heritage Festival, and a multitude of other events. He has participated in several programs in the local schools, talking to students about life choices properly interacting with law enforcement. In addition, he participates as a coach for local youth football programs.

Officer Kitchen is still new to the Law Enforcement profession and he works to improve upon his skills. Travonte is becoming a proactive and productive officer with his squad and is building upon his work experience and his abilities to detect criminal activity. He is currently attending college classes to broaden his horizons and achieve a college degree.



During this past year, Officer Kitchen was involved in a shooting incident where an individual that he stopped for a traffic violation fired at him without warning or provocation. The bullets impacted the windshield of Officer Kitchen's vehicle and the suspect then took flight on foot. Officer Kitchen observed behavioral cues leading up to the shooting, advised other officers on the radio that he needed assistance, and took action to provide himself the best opportunity to have cover and react. Because Officer Kitchen trusted his instincts; he did not become a statistic. Although the suspect was not apprehended on that night, he was located within a few days and arrested. Throughout the incident and the days that followed, Officer Kitchen maintained a professional and positive outlook, and took the time to thank all who were involved in the investigative efforts that lead to the suspect's arrest.

Officer Kitchen is well respected by the community and his peers as a result of his kind and professional personality. He is well deserving of the recognition that his peers gave to him as the Leesburg Police Department's Officer of the Year for 2018.

#### **Congratulations Officer Travonte Kitchen**

## **OFFICER OF THE YEAR-2018** Senior Officer Shannon Walsh



Each year members of the Leesburg Police Department cast their votes for who they believe have done an outstanding job representing the agency for Officer of the Year. For 2018, Senior Officer Shannon Walsh was selected by her peers for this prestigious honor.

S.O. Walsh has been a valued member of the organization since 2009. During that time, S.O. Walsh has successfully held several assignments within the department and currently serves on the Traffic Unit. She is also a member of the departments Honor Guard. Among her accomplishments S.O. Walsh has earned her Associates, Bachelor's, and Master Degrees, and has been actively pursuing her Doctorate. S.O. Walsh is a Field Training Officer, Traffic Homicide Investigator and the agency's only Drug Recognition Expert.

S.O. Walsh is a "go-getter" who rarely says "No" to an assignment, challenge or request for her time and/or services. She regularly volunteers to work overtime details, fill in on the road, and be the

on-call Traffic Homicide Investigator (THI). S.O. Walsh has also been working with the Lake County DUI Task Force in an effort to reduce DUI crashes. Moreover, Shannon took it upon herself to pursue a statewide grant for the Florida Department of Transportation addressing occupant restraint and child safety. Not only was the department awarded the grant through her diligent effort, she was placed in charge of the program which enjoyed success on many levels.

While members of specialized units typically do not assist in the Field Training program, S.O. Walsh recognized that there was a need for training officers and volunteered her services to assist. As an experienced Traffic Homicide Investigator, S.O. Walsh has also been assisting with the training of new members of the Traffic Unit. In addition to her assigned duties, S.O. Walsh continually takes part in community events, typically volunteering her time for the good of the community regardless of the mission. It is obvious that she does this out of a desire to serve and not for personal gain.

S.O. Walsh sets a great example for other members of the department and will continue to set the bar high. S.O. Walsh lives up to the department's motto by protecting and serving our community with integrity, courage, compassion, and intelligence.

**Congratulations Senior Officer Shannon Walsh** 

## **"ROOKIE" OFFICER OF THE YEAR-2018 Officer Carrianne Kinney**

Since completing the Field Training program and being assigned to Squad 4, Officer Carrianne Kinney has become a valued member of the team. Officer Kinney consistently handles all incidents in her assigned sector, assists her fellow officers, and performs any other tasks needed. She has been assigned to work with other proactive squad members to conduct targeted enforcement in problem areas, assists our K-9 officer with training, and participates in community events, both on and off duty.

Officer Kinney regularly invests time and effort into calls for service and, because of that effort cases were solved, arrests were made, and citizens were positively impacted. She has received numerous letters and compliments from citizens and supervisors. Officer Kinney consistently performs her duties with integrity and compassion and she is an asset to the police department and the community she serves.

Officer Kinney understands the mission of the Leesburg Police Department and she goes out every day with the intent to Serve and Protect with Integrity, Courage, Compassion, and Intelligence.



### **Congratulations Officer Carrianne Kinney**

# **Officers of the Quarter - 2018**





1st Quarter Sr. Officer Shannon Walsh

2nd Quarter Officer John Snow





3rd Quarter Officer Kyle Hobbs 4th Quarter Officer Scott Suminski

## **CIVILIAN EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR –2018** Senior Code Enforcement Officer Riley Snavely

For the second year in a row, Senior Code Enforcement Officer Snavely has been selected as Civilian Employee of the Year through our Department-wide ballot system. The selection method is anonymous, thus recognizing an exemplary member truly seen as the consummate professional through the eyes of our entire Department.

Senior Code Enforcement Officer Snavely exudes integrity, professionalism, and dedication to duty on a daily basis. He never hesitates to take on the "competing forces" that unfortunately often accompany Code Enforcement. Riley incessantly tries to improve the conditions of the City of Leesburg. In spite of the sometimes multi-directional enforcement directives, he remains professional and fair in his enforcement. He always puts the citizens, including the code violators, first.



In addition to his duties as a Code Enforcement Officer, Riley supervises the Code Enforcement unit. He also serves as our School Crossing Guard instructor and oversees the entire program and its 10 employees. Riley assists managing the Citizens on Patrol Staff, he is the Police Department's representative for the unwanted medications Hazardous Waste Collection, and he regularly volunteers to take part in Community Service events. Senior Code Enforcement Snavely always provides assistance to others. He makes himself available to assist and oftentimes his assistance comes in the midst of odd situations few others know how to handle.

Riley's dedication and commitment to the citizens of Leesburg and the Leesburg Police Department is commendable.

## **Congratulations Senior Code Enforcement Officer Riley Snavely**

## Civilian Employee of the Quarter - 2018



1st Quarter Amanda Donovan Crime Analyst



2nd Quarter Linda Webb Fraud Investigator

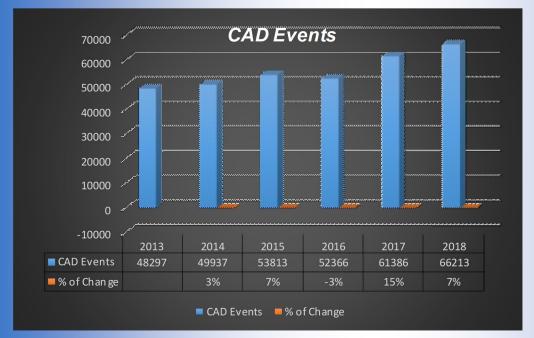


3rd Quarter Amanda Donovan Crime Analyst



4th Quarter Tracey Dougherty Records Clerk

## CAD Events and Calls For Service—2018



CAD (Computer Aided Dispatch) Events are all activities with the agency. Events may include routine administrative activity as well as actual police responses to public requests for service.

Calls for Service are actual police activities whether a response to assist the public, investigative, or enforcement activity by an officer. Calls for Service are a much more accurate measure of officer activity than CAD Events.



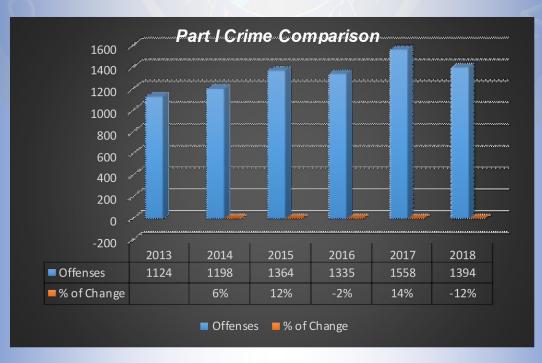


The United States Department of Justice, Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) publishes the Uniform Crime Report (UCR). The UCR Program is a nationwide, cooperative statistical effort of over 18,000 city, university and college, county, state, tribal, federal and other law enforcement agencies who voluntarily report data on crimes brought to their attention. Since 1930, the FBI has administered the UCR Program. The program's primary objective is to gather and report reliable information for use in law enforcement administration, operations and management. Over the years, UCR data has become one of the nation's leading social indicators. Criminologists, sociologists, legislators, municipal planners, the media and other students of criminal justice use the data for varied research and planning purposes.

Part I Crime data represents only a summary account of crime. Consumers should not use the data for a comprehensive crime analysis and should not use it to compare one jurisdiction to another. However, students and professionals may use UCR data very effectively to analyze trends in overall Part I Crime List Homicide Rape Robbery Aggravated Assault Burglary Larceny Vehicle Theft Arson All Hate Crimes

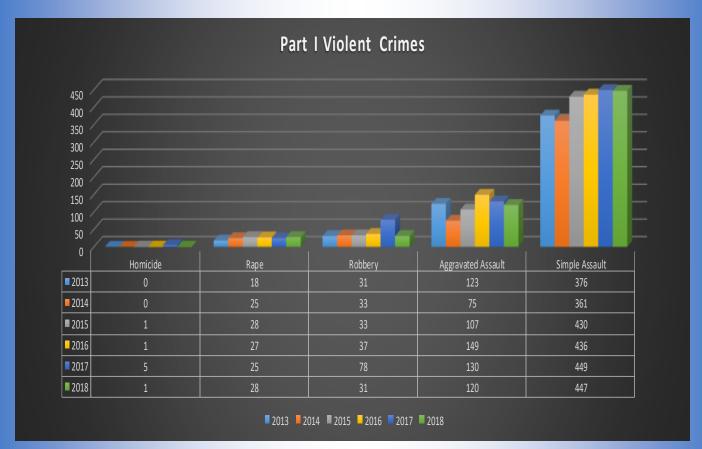
criminal activity to assess how social, economic and other factors affect crime. The trend analysis is most effective for long-term, strategic planning. Analyzing trends found in UCR data allows agencies to assess overall enforcement and crime prevention efforts by looking at the big picture.

So how much did Part I Crimes increase or decrease in the City of Leesburg during 2018? Overall, the City experienced a decrease of twelve percent (-12%) in Part I Crimes. Broken down by category, Part I Violent Crimes experienced a decrease of nine percent (-9%) and Part I Property Crimes experienced a three percent decrease (-3%) decrease compared to 2017.



## PART I VIOLENT CRIMES

Part I Violent Crimes include Homicide, Rape, Robbery, Aggravated Assault/Battery and Simple Assault/ Battery. Aggravated Assault and Assault offenses involve either the use of a weapon during the offense and/or the offense results in bodily injury to the victim. In 2018, Homicide experienced a significant decrease, as well as Robbery which experienced a one hundred fifty-two percent decrease (-152%). Aggravated Assault decreased by eight percent (-8%), while Rape experienced an eleven percent (11%) increase. There was no significant change to the rate of Simple Assaults reported.



Crime, particularly violent crimes, affects the community as a whole and not just where the offense occurs.

The Intelligence Led Policing Model for crime prevention, which is the model currently employed by the Department, offers law enforcement the opportunity to maximize use of available resources. Crime data is a big part of the strategy. We use it to analyze crime trends, map the incidents and project where crime activity may occur in the future. Crime data and other forms of information are the foundations upon which effective crime response strategies are developed and implemented. Action oriented strategies may rely upon the development of strike teams, targeted responses, surveillance and recidivism awareness; all are led by the reliable data.

Generally, many view crime as a symptom of larger social problems. Poverty, joblessness, absentee parents, limited education and mental illness all may influence its pervasiveness. A single-handed law enforcement approach has its limits. Hence, a more effective crime prevention model should involve professionals from all disciplines. Nevertheless, regardless of the causes, all crime has an adverse impact on society, both near and far. The Department is determined to engage all parties who are willing to commit their time and effort to improve the lives of our citizens and the City of Leesburg. Our goal is to reduce crime, the fear of crime and help make the City of Leesburg a better place to live, work, raise a family and retire.

## PART I PROPERTY CRIMES

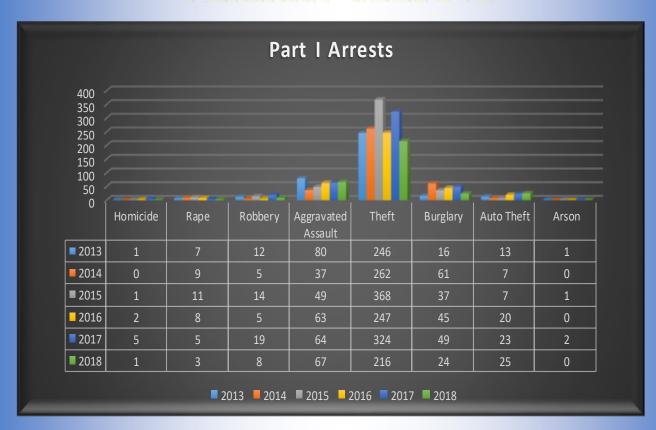
Part I Property Crimes include all crimes in which the victim suffered a loss of property or a decrease in value of their property, resulting from criminal activity. Some of these crimes include burglary, grand theft, auto theft and arson. This report does not give a complete accounting of all property crimes, but it does provide a point of reference that one may review to identify the most costly property losses as well as those occurring most frequently.

Victims reported a total of 1530 property crimes in 2018, which represents a three percent decrease (-3%) over property crimes reported in the previous year. Fraud accounted for the largest increase, with a slight increase in Auto Thefts, while Burglary decrease dramatically (-27%) and Larceny, Arson and Counterfeit/Forgery experienced decreases.

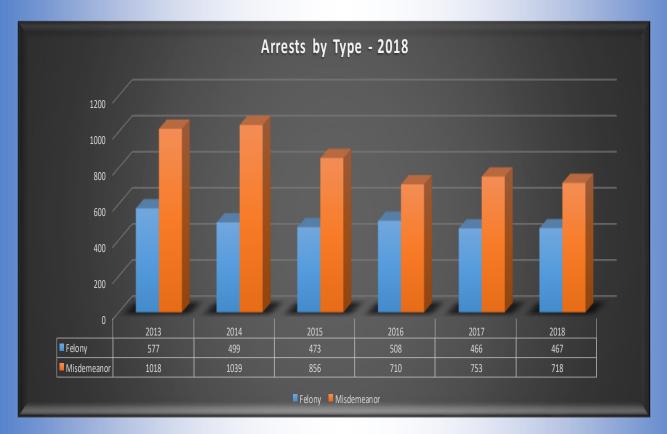


Generally, Property Crime can be dramatically affect by opportunity. The best defense against Property Crime is for everyone to be diligent in their efforts to secure their property and reduce the opportunity for these crimes to occur. Through properly securing property and diligent reporting of suspicious activity, regardless of when observed, Department personnel can respond appropriately, in an effort to reduce these types of crimes.

#### CRIMINAL ARRESTS



Part I arrests correspond to the Part I Crimes reported on the Uniform Crime Report (UCR). The report depicts the number of physical arrests made in each category.



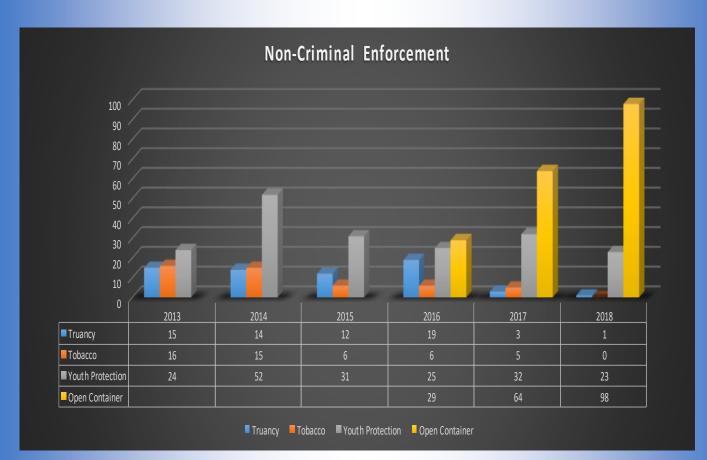
#### NON-CRIMINAL ENFORCEMENT

The specific cases indicated below are tracked in response to citizen complaints expressed to department personnel in combination with proactive policing strategies in known problem locations. Specific non-criminal enforcement involves status offenders who have not committed a crime per say. Nevertheless, by focusing on youthful offenders and others who commit infractions, police officers become an important part of the early intervention process and a factor for behavior modification that helps minimize the possibility of status offenders becoming a larger social problem.

In an effort to promote a safer environment for juveniles, the city of Leesburg codified section 15-14, Youth Protection Ordinance, in 1999. This ordinance prohibits minors from remaining, lingering, staying, congregating, moving about, wandering or strolling in any public or semi-public place in the city, either on foot or upon any vehicle, during restricted hours. This is a good fit for our proactive policing strategies.

Enforcing non-criminal ordinances is only a small part of the Community Oriented Policing model, whose ultimate goals are to discourage, interrupt and redirect destructive types of youthful exuberance that often leads to larger problems.

Another part of it involves activities like Junior Athletic Games, Shop with a Cop and National Night Out, which we will discuss later. These activities do more than just give youths sometime to do; they provide opportunities to interact with the expanded community in a way that may not otherwise occur.



#### **UNIFORM PATROL DIVISION**



The Uniform Patrol Division is the largest division of the Leesburg Police Department, with a Captain as the Division Commander, supported by a Lieutenant who provides oversight and other administrative assistance as needed. The Division is comprised of four patrol squads and multiple specialized units, including Traffic, Canine (K-9), Strategic Crime Suppression, Training, Community Services, SWAT and Crisis Negotiations. Each patrol squad is made up of a team of uniformed officers who are led by a Sergeant, with the support of a Corporal. The officers within this Division

are the first responders in most police related activity occurring within the City and they are assigned to geographical patrol sectors, having the primary responsibility for police activity in those sectors during their tours of duty. These uniformed officers respond to a multitude of calls for service, including traffic crashes, general traffic complaints, business checks, neighborhood patrols, in addition to any criminal activity and other non-criminal related complaints that may occur within the City. Additionally, Patrol Sergeants may assign officers special duties to focus attention in areas of concern and crime trends identified through the Intelligence Led Policing model.

During 2018, the Uniform Patrol Division continued to work toward enhancing its Intelligence Led Policing methods through training and information sharing efforts. Officers are encouraged to use their training and experience to identify problem areas, develop plans to address identified concerns, implement the plan and evaluate their effectiveness. These efforts provide officers the confidence, understanding, and opportunity to address identifiable crime trends,



through smart and effective deployment of personnel and resources. Combined with strong community partnerships, the Division is able to use these methods to address and prevent crime, including quality of life issues within the City.



During 2018, the Patrol Division responded to 45,847 calls for service and made an additional 13,858 citizen contacts. The Division has many moving parts, working in concert to effectively and efficiently Protect and Serve our community with Integrity, Courage, Compassion, and Intelligence.

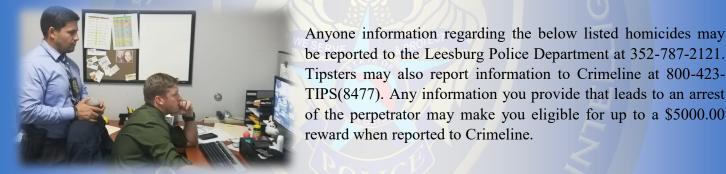
#### CRIMNAL INVESTIGATIONS DIVISION



The Criminal Investigation Division is responsible for all felony investigations and criminal intelligence information for the Department. In addition to felony investigations, division members investigate missing person, domestic violence, and child/elder abuse cases. The Division is led by a Captain, who manages the division and conducts Internal Affairs Investigations for the Department. They are supported by a Lieutenant

and a Corporal, who oversee the daily operations of the division and supervise the remaining Detectives. Members of this division receive advanced specialized training, such as crime scene and evidence processing, to assist them in carrying out their mission and conduct varying types of investigations, employing a variety of investigative techniques.

In 2018, the division investigated many high profile criminal incidents as well as others that did not get media attention. These crimes vary in nature from frauds, thefts, sex offenses, robberies, assaults, on to the most serious, homicide. During 2018, the Criminal Investigations Division investigated one homicide. Through applying varying investigative techniques, processing of evidence, numerous interviews and following up on tips provided by the community, the Criminal Investigations Division was able to identify the lone offender in this case.



**Unsolved Homicides** 

Ronald Banks Fredrick Felton Chris Taylor Tanza Bradley Wilson George Josephine Williams

Jeffrey Brown Harvell Golden Leavell Daniels Ernest Heggs

#### SPECIALIZED UNITS

#### TRAFFIC UNIT

The Traffic Unit is comprised of a Sergeant and four specialize traffic crash Officers who in investigation, traffic homicide investigation, traffic enforcement, traffic escorts, and special event planning. Members of this unit receive advanced specialized training related to motor vehicle traffic, important being traffic homicide the most investigation and advanced investigative techniques, which qualifies them to investigate all traffic related deaths.

One of the riskiest undertakings of daily life is driving on America's roads. Thousands perish every year behind the wheel of an automobile. According to the most recent data published by the National



Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), 37,133 people died in traffic crashes during 2017.

The Traffic Unit utilizes both marked and unmarked vehicles, as well as police motorcycles to accomplish its mission, which is to promote traffic safety in and around the City of Leesburg. As in the past, traffic enforcement continues to be one method the department uses to achieve traffic safety and provide high visibility in areas of concern.

In order to identify streets with high traffic volumes and/or speed violators, the unit uses state-of-the-art traffic data collectors. This equipment compiles data to aid the Traffic Unit when assessing traffic problems and finding solutions by identifying locations for selective traffic monitoring and proactive enforcement. The Traffic Unit also has a speed measurement trailer which provides drivers with a visual indication of their speed in an effort to gain voluntary compliance.



The Traffic Unit participates in numerous traffic safety events throughout the year such as Click it or Ticket, Law Enforcement Challenge, and DUI Challenge, which are all statewide events funded by Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT).

During 2018, Officers issued 3,512 traffic citations department-wide. The Traffic Unit issued 1,062 of those citations, roughly 30%. The Department responded to 1,792 traffic crash complaints resulting in 1,241 traffic crash investigations. The Traffic Unit investigated approximately 46% of those traffic crashes. Furthermore, the unit investigated 7 traffic fatalities and conducted 5 preliminary traffic homicide investigations. Preliminary traffic homicide investigations are crashes that cause severe injury with potential for death.





The police canine, often referred to as a "K-9", is a dog specially trained to assist police officers and other law enforcement personnel in their work. Common uses of police canines include narcotics detection, tracking, article searches, and suspect apprehension. The most commonly used breed is the German Shepherd, but several other breeds are also used dependent upon the specific purpose of the canine team and their work environment. Law enforcement personnel recognize their value to such an extent that there are thousands utilized in various police agencies throughout the United States and around the world.

The Leesburg Police Department Canine Unit works both independently and as a direct support unit of the Uniform Patrol Division. The unit consists of four K-9 teams, each team comprised of a certified handler and K9. The dual-purpose canine teams are trained and certified for narcotics detection, tracking, article/evidence recovery and suspect apprehension. The dual-purpose canine teams are continually available to enhance the capability of the Uniform Patrol Division and the Department as a whole.

During 2018, the unit collectively searched 550 vehicles, affected 145 arrests, seized 5 firearms, and issued 189 citations for various charges and offenses. The drug seizures include marijuana, methamphetamine, heroin, MDMA, powder cocaine and crack cocaine. Our K-9 unit serves as a force multiplier and allows for a safer community for our officers and citizens alike.



#### CANINE (K9) TRAINING



The Leesburg Police Department K-9 unit trains continuously in order to maintain the highest caliber dogs. During 2018, the unit conducted 1,743 hours of documented training. The department's K9 Teams regularly train with surrounding police agencies in Lake County, conduct training during their normal tour of duty and network with K-9 based organizations throughout the country and world. The training includes all aspects of their jobs, providing "real world" scenarios to evaluate and validate team proficiency. Primarily, the continual training is conducted locally, to minimize expenses associated with K9 Team maintenance and proficiency. All K9 Teams are required to re-certify through the Florida Department of Law Enforcement and receive their certification for narcotics detection through the National Police Canine Association. The certification process is a demanding and independent assessment of the team's knowledge, skills, and abilities.

## HONOR GUARD

An Honor Guard is a ceremonial unit with the primary role to provide honors for fallen comrades who made the ultimate sacrifice in their service to others. Members of the Honor Guard provide services as guardians of the fallen comrade during funeral services, escorts to the final resting place and during internment. While paying respects and honoring the fallen comrade, the Honor Guard folds the flag, which is presented to the Chief of Police, for presentation to the fallen comrade's survivors. This responsibility may be one of the most challenging duty any officer may be called upon to perform during their career.



Honor Guards also serve as "Guardians of the Colors" or Color Guard during ceremonies in which the national, state or local flag, also referred to as colors, is present or presented. In this capacity, the Honor Guard may serve in parades, open ceremonies, and other public functions as designated by the Chief of Police.

In 2017, the Leesburg Police Department re-established the Honor Guard for the department. The unit is

comprised of nine police officers who volunteer for the duty and service as a member of the unit. They believe being a member of the Honor Guard unit is both an honor and privilege.

In 2018, members of the Honor Guard represented the Leesburg Police Department by attending the funeral of Sergeant Noel Ramirez and Deputy Taylor Lindsey from the Gilchrist County Sheriff's Office. Sergeant Ramirez and Deputy Lindsey were killed in the line of duty on April 19, 2018. Members of the Honor Guard also attended the funeral of Korean War veteran, Don Van Beck. Mr. Van Beck was an influential figure in turning Fountain Lake Park into Veterans Memorial Park, as a tribute to veterans. Mr. Beck died on November 13, 2018, at the age of ninety.

Members of the Honor Guard also participated in city-sponsored events. On January 13, 2018, they participated in the annual Martin Luther King Jr. parade. The unit led the ceremony, they marched on Main Street while presenting the state and national flag to members of the community in honor of Martin Luther King Junior. The Honor Guard also participated in the Main Street Christmas Parade and presented the colors to cheering bystanders.



#### SPECIAL WEAPONS AND TACTICS UNIT

The Leesburg Police Department Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) Team is a group of highly motivated and trained individuals, tasked with resolving life-threatening and high-risk situations within the City, that fall outside the scope of our general patrol officers. The SWAT Team is utilized primarily to serve high -risk search/arrest warrants for all divisions/units within the department and less frequent incidents, including barricaded subjects, sniper situations, dignitary protection and other specialized assignments. Each SWAT Team member is fully equipped and capable to respond to any critical incident within the City. Upon request, team members may also assist other agencies in the local area. When necessary, SWAT works hand in hand with the department's Crisis Negotiations Team (CNT) to safely resolve the most volatile and dangerous situations we face.





The SWAT team is comprised of 14 members who train on a monthly basis to sharpen their skills and hone their tradecraft. Members train a minimum of six hours a month during SWAT in-service training and attend numerous advanced and specialized training courses, specific to tactical operations, throughout the year. SWAT training topics include, but are not limited to, combat firearms proficiency, building entry/search, search warrant operations, rural operations, rappelling, vehicle assaults, hostage rescue, linear rescue, combat medicine, less-lethal

force options, violent crime mitigation, various instructor based courses and integrated K9 operations.

SWAT Team members may be called upon to serve as instructors within the department and community, including Active Shooter Response for officers and citizens at locations such as schools, churches, and other venues where people may gather.

When openings occur on the SWAT Team, officers may voluntarily participate in a rigorous selection process. A SWAT team candidate must possess many traits and attributes to serve on the team, requiring a great deal of

personal motivation, dedication and sacrifice. Upon selection, candidates must successfully complete a basic SWAT Operator training course and serve on the team in a probationary status for one year prior to permanent assignment.

The Leesburg Police Department SWAT team is an invaluable asset to the citizens of Leesburg and



surrounding law enforcement agencies and communities. The availability of these highly trained individuals has proven to reduce the risk of injury and loss of life to citizens, police officers and suspects alike.

## **COMMUNICATIONS SECTION**



Always heard and rarely seen, the Communications Section personnel are the department's first line of defense against criminal activity, the life-line for officers in the field and often the first contact with law enforcement by citizens of the community.

The communications staff fields numerous telephone calls, requests for law enforcement assistance by citizens and requests for information by officers in the field. In 2018, approximately 96,316 telephone calls came into the communications center. These calls consisted of 911 emergency

requests for help, TDD calls/test calls, and administrative calls. Additionally, the section handled 66,213 police call events, which may or may not have resulted from a telephone call but required a 911 Telecommunicator to communicate with officers in the field. Communication by radio resulted in 1,340,172 radio transmissions during the year.

There were 1,652 hours of training completed during the year by the Communications Center staff members. Some of the training included topics such as Call handling Skills, Active Shooter, Hostage and Barricaded Persons, Tactical Dispatch, Violence Against Police, Fielding Calls from children, and Handling Suicide Calls.





#### **RECORDS SECTION**

The Records Section consists of a supervisor, three full-time clerical assistants, and one full-time office specialist. The section provides a host of records management services ranging from data entry of uniform traffic citations and traffic warnings to quality control and processing of police incident reports. The section processes approximately 100 requests for public records from the State Attorney's Office, Public Defender's Office, private attorneys, insurance companies, and individuals each week. They provide a variety of other services to the public, including local records checks for employment and LiveScan fingerprinting services.

In 2018, the section processed 5,323 incident reports, 2,647 criminal arrest reports, 3,734 investigative supplements, 3,495 traffic citations, and 1,6221 written traffic warnings. The section also served 4,478 citizen

walk-ins and accepted 1,671 subpoenas for court appearances. Additionally, the records section conducted 2,187 local records checks, provided fingerprinting services to 127 citizens, processed 1,175 State Attorney and Public Defender requests and 200 Insurance requests related to traffic crashes. Staff members attended over 76 hours of in -house and continuing educational training in 2018. Training included a variety of topics including Uniform



Crime Reporting, report review and processing, public records, and mandatory city training.

### CODE ENFORCEMENT

The appearance of any property affects the overall image of the community. As a means of ensuring property owners maintain their property in good condition, the City of Leesburg Code of Ordinances specify minimum standards for housing, yards, parking, etc. These standards benefit the community by requiring minimum standards of upkeep for real estate, which also minimizes the potential for property degradation and devaluation, which is an unfortunate event that benefits no one.

The Code Enforcement Section currently consists of one Code Enforcement Supervisor, two Officers and one Administrative

Assistant. Code Enforcement Officers respond to citizen complainants, provide a comprehensive inspection of properties, and investigate a wide variety of citizen concerns.

Complaints may involve:

- Minimal housing standards;
- Grass and weeds;
- Parking of recreational vehicles, boats, trucks and trailers;
- The accumulation of garbage, trash and debris;
- Abandoned property (including vehicles, furniture, machinery, etc.);
- Business licenses/Tax Receipts, and
- Zoning approvals for both commercial and home occupancy.





In 2018, Code Enforcement Officers opened 1,272 new cases, some of which were repeat offenders. In addition to proactively seeking code violations within the City, the Code Enforcement Section investigated 592 outside complaints, 215 of which they referred to other agencies. There were 12 Special Magistrate meetings, during which the Code Enforcement Officers presented 86 cases to the Magistrate, after which they worked with the property owners to achieve compliance with the City's Code of Ordinances.

#### **COMMUNITY RELATIONS/CRIME PREVENTION**



The Community Relations/Crime Prevention Unit consists of a sergeant, two School Resource Officers and six volunteer Citizens on Patrol Officers. The mission of the unit is to foster community relationships and partnerships that create a safe and desirable place to live. This principle not only adds purpose to the unit, but it is a driving force for strategic development and serves as a tool for measuring progress. The mission promotes collaborative working relationships between the police and all others who have a personal or

professional interest in the welfare and betterment of the community. By jointly working on community issues, we all become resources for each other, providing for a better city through problem identification, ownership and resolution.

In 2018, the Community Relations Unit conducted and participated in numerous presentations and activities for local businesses, schools, churches, civic groups, and community action teams in and around the Leesburg area. The presentations and activities included, but were not limited to impromptu neighborhood cookouts, Community Safety Fairs, Back to School Bashes, Crime Prevention Symposiums, Facility Security Assessments, Neighborhood Watch Meetings, Career Days at Local Schools, Reading to Elementary School Classes, Day Care Meet & Greets, Blood Drives, Senior Safety Presentations, Take Stock in Children Mentor Program,



Story Time at the Library, 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Program, Church Safety and Security Seminars, PCR (Police & Community Roundtable), Junior Athletic Games, National Night Out, Chili Cook Off, Special Olympic Torch Run, Bike Helmet Giveaway, Black Heritage Festival, Christmas Parade, Citizens Academy, Citizens On Patrol Academy, Citizens On Patrol Program and Local, State & Federal Victims' Rights Events.



By networking with a variety of community groups, the unit continues to support established programs, such as Neighborhood Watch Programs, within the community and fosters a cooperative effort between those programs, allowing for pooling of community resources toward common objectives.

The Unit has helped keep the public informed about topics related to current crime trends and various city events. These learning opportunities included training concerning a variety of fraudulent scams, which are major problems, victimizing much of our elder population. Additionally, the unit has given assistance to citizen's establishing new neighborhood watch groups while maintaining cohesive relationships with pre-existing groups within our communities.

#### CITIZEN'S ACADEMY

In 2018, the Department hosted a Citizen's Academy in which there were 20 participants. The program is a seven (7) week program, meeting one evening per week for four hours. This program permits members of the community to have a



better understanding of the duties performed by various members of the Department. Through classroom instruction,



presented by members of the Department, citizens learn about the functions of patrol officers, detectives, SWAT team members, traffic unit members and other sections of the Department. Some of the activities are hands-on and allow members of the community to perform some of the daily tasks performed by Department members. The academy program is a valued learning environment and awareness program, permitting an opportunity for education through positive interaction between the officers of the Department and members of the community. Upon completion of the academy, graduates are afforded the opportunity to volunteer as members of the Citizens On Patrol, which requires additional training for the duties they perform. Three of the 2018 class

participants became certified as Leesburg Police Department's Citizens On Patrol members.



#### CITIZENS ON PATROL

The COP Unit is an integral part of the department comprised of volunteers that assist with some of the nonenforcement related duties of department members. In 2018, three additional persons were added to the unit. Currently, six (6) persons staff the unit donating their time and effort not only to the police department but also to the community. Unit members support organizational objectives in a variety of ways. This hard working group of volunteers help with everything from traffic control to fingerprinting children. Their roles help reduce police

workloads allowing police officer to focus more on other tasks such as crime reduction, offender apprehension, investigations, traffic issues, and numerous other neighborhood patrol responsibilities. The support they provide serves as a personnel multiplier, maximizing the use of current police staffing levels, and freeing up officers to concentrate on other objectives.

During 2018, the COP Unit donated over 600 hours and logged in over 5000 miles of patrol. Without their support, the department simply would not be able to maintain the current level of service.



#### NATIONAL NIGHT OUT - 2018



*National Night Out* is an annual community-building campaign that promotes police-community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie to make our neighborhoods safer, more caring places to live. National Night Out began in 1984 and it is sponsored by the National Association of Town Watch in the United States and Canada. It began simply with community residents across the country sitting on their front porches with their porch lights on in support of law enforcement and community partnerships. Over the years, it has

grown and includes block parties, community fairs, and other celebrations in over 16 thousand communities

across the country, with the goal being to build relationships and partnerships between law enforcement agencies and the communities they serve. Initially, in support of the National Night Out campaign, the Leesburg Police Department would host neighbor walks during the campaign periods. In 2015, the Department began to host an annual National Night Out Community Event that involves civic organizations and support groups from the community, coming together to provide an opportunity to build partnerships and relationships to better the community. Through donations of funds and time, the community and Department have made this event a success.





The Leesburg National Night Out Community Event allows members of the community to observe services and many supportive programs, other than law enforcement, available to them within their own community while having fun and enjoying camaraderie with members of the Department and their neighbors. The event involves live entertainment, games, giveaways, food and most importantly positive interaction between the officers of the Department, organizations of the community and the community itself. Since the first event,

attendance by the community has grown each

year. The event also has grown by involving not only members of the Leesburg Police Department, but members of surrounding law enforcement agencies and other services in support of fostering a better Police-Community partnership, which can be built upon to make Leesburg a better, safer community to live.



## JUNIOR ATHLETIC GAMES

The department held the annual Junior Athletic Games (JAG) April of 2018 at Leesburg High School. This unique program gave elementary school students from area schools a chance to compete in several different events.

- Football Throw
- Softball Throw
- Soccer ball Kick
- 50 yard dash
- 100 yard dash
- Half Mile Run (4th & 5th grade)
- School Spirit Relay
- Long Jump





The event reinforces the principles of good sportsmanship and provides the opportunity to interact in friendly competition. Students placing 1st, 2nd, and 3rd receive medals for their accomplishment with the remaining participants receiving a letter of participation. This has been a great annual event, instrumental to helping mold strong bodies, minds, and building esteem and self-confidence, while reinforcing good sportsmanship.









#### SHOP WITH A COP

What is Shop with a Cop? The purpose of this program is to foster positive relationships between youths and officers. Kids, 6<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grade are selected each year during the end-of-the-year holiday season to shop at one of the local area stores to purchase gifts for members of their immediate family. Each child is given \$100 to spend. Program organizers assign 1or 2 children to each police officer, who escorts them around the store and assists in selecting appropriate gifts. 2018 marked the third time we held the "North Lake Shop with a Cop," participating with Lady Lake and Fruitland Park Police Departments. Our department provided \$100 gift cards for 15 children from our community.



2018 marked the first year Leesburg officers had the opportunity to shop with high school students. With the help of a grant received from Walmart, 17 high school students selected to participant with the officer is this program. Each were given \$150 gift cards for the store.

The recipient selection process is the same as the Bicycle Give-Away, utilizing information obtained from schools within our City. Another important part of the program is the dedicated police officers and citizens who volunteer their time and effort. We thank them for their dedication to community.



#### BICYCLE GIVE-AWAY

This important program began approximately 27 years ago and has become a long-standing tradition at the Department. In its infancy, officers would donate time to repair abandon and unclaimed bicycles, to give-away to families in need. The program has since evolved to involve many civic organizations, local charities and businesses in the program, who provide funding to help spread a little cheer during the Christmas Holiday. Their donations not only fund the purchase of new bicycles, but allows the Department to purchase other small gifts to provide to other

children within the home. Potential recipients are children, identified by members of the community, based upon their individual level of need. In 2018, the Department, with the assistance of the community, was able to provide approximately 90 bicycles and over 100 wrapped gifts to children within the community. Over the years, this program has provided hundreds of bicycles and gifts to community children, involved the

community in identifying community needs and partnered the Department and the community in a positive, working relationship to meet the needs. 2018 marked the second year that recipients were all gathered for a Christmas Get-Together which was held at the new City of Leesburg Resource Center. The gathering hosted several holiday related activities, food and Santa, as well as positive interaction between members of the community, department members and a host of volunteers.



#### **CHILI COOK-OFF**

For several years, the Leesburg Downtown Partnership has hosted an annual Chili Cook Off, which invites members of the community to participate in friendly



competition to determine the best chili recipe. In 2018, the Leesburg Police Department entered the cook off and had wonderful results. This event not only presents the competitive side, but allows



members of the department to interact with numerous members of the community in a non-law enforcement setting.

#### BICYCLE HELMET GIVE-AWAY



The Bicycle Helmet Give-Away program is an important program, to promote safe bicycle operation and protect one of the most valuable assets of our community's future...our children. The bicycle helmets for this program are provided through donations from local by local businesses. The helmets are then provided to members of the community at no cost to the recipient. The program allows officers to interact with members of the community, both children and adults, in a non-law enforcement setting. Each recipient is fitted for the helmet and provided instructions on the proper use of the helmet while operating their bicycles.



#### CHARITY BED RACE



In 2018, members of the Department participated in the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Great American Swamp Rat Bed Race, sponsored by the Nam Knights of America Motorcycle Club, Green Swamp Chapter. The Bed Race was a fundraiser event of the club with the proceeds to benefit veterans and law enforcement officers. Participants were required to decorate their racing bed and then race it along the course. As you can see...the Department's team performed well.



#### TRAINING AND EDUCATION



In the law enforcement profession, training and education are a vital aspect for continued growth of the department, it's members and for the department to better serve the needs of the community. Each year, department members must attend various types of training to maintain proficiency and further develop their skills and abilities. Some of the training is mandatory for the members, both sworn and non-sworn, to maintain certain certifications they hold, such as sworn member certifications, 911 Telecommunicator certifications and instructor

certifications. Other training courses are attended to improve both effectiveness and efficiency, as well as keeping current with changes in laws and current trends of the profession. In 2018, members of the Department attended a total of 14, 677 hours of training to enhance and improve their skills, to better meet the needs of the community.

#### **2018 Training Hours**

911 Telecommunicator Training	1,652 hours
Sworn Members Training	13,025 hours
Total Training Hours	14, 677 hours





\*\*\*The two listed with Doctorate Degree are currently seeking and are not included in the "In School" section of this table\*\*\*

#### LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

In 2018, to develop future leadership of the Leesburg Police Department, members of the Department attended leadership training offered by FBI-LEEDA.

#### The Mission Statement of FBI-LEEDA is:

To advance the science and art of law enforcement leadership and promote the exchange of information to improve law enforcement management practices through training, education, and networking among police professionals across the United States and beyond.

#### **Their Vision is:**

To be the premier executive law enforcement continuing education provider for police leaders in small to midsized departments across the United States and beyond.

#### **Their Core Values are:**

FBI-LEEDA holds the following core values:

Leadership - a commitment to strong, best-practice-driven leaders in law enforcement Ethics - an unyielding commitment to integrity; and just, transparent ethical leadership Embracing change - responsive to the ever-changing landscape facing law enforcement Diversity - respect and appreciation for the positive power of diversity in law enforcement Academia - providing the highest quality, leading-edge educational opportunities for members

FBI-LEEDA has three leadership institutes, referred to as the Trilogy. The three institutes of the Trilogy are the Supervisor Leadership Institute, the Command Leadership Institute and the Executive Leadership Institute, each designed to deliver leadership training at the various levels of a person's career. Members who attended and completed training in 2018 are:

#### Supervisor Leadership Institute:

Corporal Scott Sparkman



*Command Leadership Institute:* Sergeant Travis Whitely



*Executive Leadership Institute:* Lieutenant Gary Barrett



### **ACCREDITATION**

An accreditation program has long been recognized as a means of maintaining the highest standards of professionalism. Accreditation is the certification by an independent reviewing authority that an entity has met specific requirements and prescribed standards. Schools, universities, and hospitals are some of the most well-known organizations that are required to maintain accreditation. Law enforcement agencies in Florida can attain accredited status through the Commission for Florida Law Enforcement Accreditation, Inc (CFA).

To achieve accreditation, an agency must apply to CFA to participate in the accreditation process. Agencies are required to demonstrate compliance with all applicable mandatory standards and not less than 80% of applicable non-mandatory standards. Proof of compliance with the standards is determined by an assessment team, sent by CFA, conducting a formal review of the agency's policies, procedures and practices. Once



accredited, agencies remain accredited for a period of three years, after which, they must be re-evaluated to continue being accredited.

Accreditation is a coveted award that symbolizes professionalism, excellence, and competence, allowing employees to take pride in their agency, knowing that it represents the very best in law enforcement.

There are several benefits associated with achieving accreditation.

For the community, accreditation increases a law enforcement agency's ability to prevent and control crime through more effective and efficient delivery of law enforcement services. It enhances community understanding of the agency, its role in the community, as well as its goals and objectives, providing citizen confidence in the policies and practices of the agency. In conjunction with the philosophy of community policing, accreditation commits an agency to a broad range of programs that directly benefit the public and provides a forum in which police and citizens work together to control and prevent crime. This partnership will help citizens better understand the challenges that confront law enforcement, and law enforcement will, in turn, receive clear direction from the community about its expectations. Thus, a common set of goals and objectives can be established, evaluated and implemented.

For the Chief of Police, accreditation increases cooperation and coordination with other law enforcement agencies and branches of the criminal justice system. The process requires an in-depth review of every aspect of an agency's organization, management, operations and administration, permitting establishment of agency goals and objectives, with provisions for periodic review and updating. The process allows for continual re-evaluation to determine if agency resources are being used in accord with the agency goals, objectives, and mission. The accreditation standards provide norms, best business practices, against which agency performance can be measured and monitored over time. The program provides an agency with a continuous flow of Commission distributed information about exemplary policies, procedures, and projects. Accreditation provides objective measures to justify decisions related to budget requests and personnel policies. Evaluation during the accreditation process serves as a yardstick to measure the effectiveness of the agency's programs and services, which are defined and uniformity of service is assured. Accreditation streamlines operations, providing more consistency and more effective deployment of agency manpower and other resources.

#### **ACCREDITATION**

**For members of the agency**, accreditation requires that agency policies and procedures are in written form and available to all agency personnel at all times. Accreditation assures employees that every aspect of the agency's personnel system is in accord with professional standards and the system is both fair and equitable. The agency is compelled to operate within specific guidelines, accountable to the Commission, and must remain in compliance with the standards set forth by the Commission in order to retain its accreditation. The morale of the agency is enhanced by increasing the employees' confidence in the effectiveness and efficiency of their own agency. Operations become more streamlined and consistent, with standards addressing officer safety issues, providing for adequate training and equipment for the officers.



In December 2017, the Assessment Team conducted the formal assessment of the Leesburg Police Department, for accreditation. Upon conclusion, the team's recommendation to the Commission (CFA) was for the department to be awarded accreditation status. In February 2018, the Chief of Police and the Accreditation Manager were required to appear before a panel of Commissioners from CFA for a formal review. The Assessment Team Leader presented their findings of the assessment, with the closing comments, "The Leesburg Police Department is a family made up of exceptional and dedicated personnel who enjoy their profession. The Leesburg Police Department is a professional law enforcement agency which exceeds the goals and standards set forth by the Commission."

Following the formal review, the Department was presented to the full Commission, who unanimously voted for the Leesburg Police Department to be awarded its Inaugural Accreditation. The Department was found to be in compliance with 100% of all applicable mandatory standards and 98% of the non-mandatory standards.



#### NEW HIRES

**Sworn Law Enforcement Personnel:** During 2018, the Leesburg Police Department welcomed twelve new sworn members to the department family. The officers were hired to fill existing vacant positions within the department and new positions created to meet the needs of the community. Each new sworn member must successfully complete a fourteen (14) week Field Training program, administered by trained Field Training Officers within the Department. Each new officer receives training that is designed to expand upon the basic law enforcement training received in the academy and acclimate them to the City of Leesburg. The new officers for 2018 are:

Officer Jose Jimenez Officer Benjamin Lenfant Officer Robert Marlow	Officer Ike Arriaga	Officer Blaine Brownsberger	Officer Stefano Dagostino
	Officer Adam Digiacomo	Officer Johnathan Hernandez	Officer Joseph Heuser
	Officer Jose Jimenez	Officer Benjamin Lenfant	Officer Robert Marlow
Officer Daniel Navarro Officer Natasha Rickett Officer Ashton Welfenberg	Officer Daniel Navarro	Officer Natasha Rickett	Officer Ashton Welfenberg

**Non-Sworn Personnel:** During 2018, The Leesburg Police Department welcomed five new non-sworn member to the department family. Non-sworn members serve the department in numerous positions, performing duties ranging from clerical duties to service as 911 Telecommunicators. The non-sworn position filled in 2018 were for existing vacancies in the Department. Similar to the sworn members, non-sworn personnel receive training within their areas of responsibility. 911 Telecommunicators must complete a Field Training Program, administered by training officers of the Communications Section and School Crossing Guards must complete a Florida Department of Transportation approved training course, administered by a certified School Crossing Guard Instructor of the Department. Both training programs are designed to provide the members with the necessary skills to receive certification in their area of responsibility and acclimate the trainee to the department's Communication Center and School Crossing Guard Program. The new member for 2018 are:

Karen Dillon – School Crossing Guard James Gray – School Crossing Guard Larry Dove – School Crossing Guard Tracey Dougherty – Records Eden Kinney – 911 Telecommunicator Sabrina Ruiz – Records Supervisor

**Volunteers:** During 2018, the Leesburg Police Department welcomed three new volunteers to the Citizens on Patrol (COP) program. These volunteers must complete the department's Citizen's Academy and then attend an internally administered training program for Citizen's on Patrol. The training curriculum includes topics related to the policies and procedures of the Department and COP program, vehicle operations, traffic control and direction as well as several others. The new COP members for 2018 are:

**COP** Bud Bowlin

COP Larry Dove

COP Mayte Esquilin Alamo

### RETIREMENTS

Retirement is something that we all look forward to, but often comes with some reservations. It is a time to celebrate the accomplishments one made during their career and look forward to new adventures in life. A time to reflect on the many friendships made with co-workers, the citizen contacts made on a daily basis and the memorable moments one will cherish forever. It also creates an empty spot in one's life for the daily contact with friends and family you have cared for and cared with, the constant interaction with those you were sworn to protect and the adventures of "the job".

In 2018, the Leesburg Police Department celebrated two retirements, Sergeant Scott Gray and Records Manager Brian Cash.



Sergeant Scott Gray began his career as a Patrol Officer in 1989 and served the Department and citizens of Leesburg until 2018. Sergeant Gray performed most of

his duties in uniform with the Department, serving mainly in the Patrol Division. He served the Department as a member of the SWAT Team and became a member of the Department's Traffic Unit. He remained a member of the unit, as the unit supervisor, until his retirement in 2018





Records Manager Brian Cash began his career as a Patrol Officer in 1992. He served the Department and citizens of Leesburg as a patrol officer and voluntarily separated from the Department to pursue a personal business venture. He returned to the ranks of the Department in 1993, as a sworn member of the Department, serving in the Patrol Division as a uniformed officer and the Criminal Investigation Division as a Crime Analyst and Senior Detective. In 2013, he chose to leave the ranks as a sworn member, but remained as a non-sworn member, serving in the Records Section. In 2015 he became the Records Manager and continued serving in that capacity until his retirement in 2018.

Congratulations to both of you in your career accomplishments and enjoy your new adventures in life.

#### DONORS, SPONSORS and VOLUNTEERS

Many of the community events hosted and presented by the Leesburg Police Department could not be done without the support and partnerships with local businesses, organizations and numerous volunteers. The Leesburg Police Department wishes to recognize those whom helped make 2018 a wonderful year.

Church of the Lakes Leesburg Downtown Partnership **Insight Credit Union** Suter Air & Heat Leesburg Regional Medical Center Amscot Financial McDonald's Lake Sumter Transmissions Florida Pest Control Gator World Razor Cuts United Southern Bank Tile Supply **Braham James Construction Beyer's** Funeral Home Tom Grizzard David Knowles Agency

#### COURAGE

Mike Hilliard Rita Sanders Jack Hicks Woody Stewart Mayte Esquilin Alamo Barry Pierce Lowell Slider Sunrise Rotary Members Rayna Moore Allison Hicks

#### **Donors and Sponsors**

VIA Entertainment InfoTrac CFE Federal Credit Union WalMart AmVets Post 2006 University of Florida Health Skunkie Acres Brown & Brown of Florida Dean's Pest Control Kona Ice Rural King Electric Works **Dunstan & Sons Plumbing** Steve'sPackage & Lounge Bill Bryan Page Theus Funeral Home Shamrock Lounge

#### **Volunteers**

Nicholas Romanelli Andy Lucchini John Nave Mary Pat Godigkeit Dorian Venta Jennifer Pierce Antonio Jordan Iozzi Denise Wolfe Stacey Carver Abigail Hicks **Xtreme Entertainment** Ramshackles Café CenterState Bank Hunter Signs A-Line Fire LakeFront TV Munn's Air Altrussa International Sunrise Rotary **Tri-County Clowns** Azure Water Law Office Kim Shulte McLin & Burnsed GFWC Woman's Club **Bailey Industries** Gator Harley Davidson Numerous Citizens

#### COMPASSION

Beth Wiley Lisa Romanelli Diane Daniels Dominic Battistella Dominic Venta Pasquale Cancel Ava Martin Bud Bowlin Christine Romanelli

Thank you for all your help, assistance and generosity to make 2018 another great year!

#### DISCLAIMER

This report enables the user to obtain information on crime statistics, work productivity, and services available at the Leesburg Police. Information contained in it is intended for general information purposes only. It should not be used to predict long-term stability for a neighborhood, nor to determine the level of safety of the City.

If you have any questions about the information contained in this report, please call the Leesburg Police Department.



## "To Protect and Serve with Integrity, Courage, Compassion and Intelligence"