



St. Matthews Police Department  
2020 Annual Report

Professional—Service Oriented—Proactive



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# St. Matthews Police Department



Colonel Barry S. Wilkerson  
Chief of Police



Major Anthony J. Cobaugh  
Operations Bureau



Major Leon E. Jones Jr.  
Support Bureau



Sergeant Norm Mayer  
1st Platoon



Sergeant Barbara Shepard  
1st Platoon



Sergeant George Jetter  
2nd Platoon



Sergeant Eddie Parsons  
2nd Platoon



Sergeant Jeff Hancock  
3rd Platoon



Sergeant John Sanders  
3rd Platoon



Sergeant Jonathan Smith  
Criminal Investigations Division



Sergeant Charlie Portman  
Administrative Division



Officer Troy Armstrong  
District Resource Officer



Officer John Hackel  
Evidence and Property Unit



Mrs. Ashley Bratcher  
Executive Assistance



Mrs. Lisa Richardson  
Supervisor/ Communications



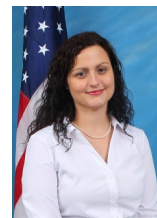
Mr. Kyle Allen  
Communications



Mr. Alex Cheatham  
Communications



Mr. Josh Neely  
Communications



Mrs. Jennifer Newman  
TAC / Communications



# St. Matthews Police Department



Officer Larry Cushman  
1st Platoon



Officer Kent Jones  
1st Platoon



Officer John Kaelin  
1st Platoon



Officer Greg Kellerman  
1st Platoon



Officer Debbie Marasa  
1st Platoon



Officer Jeff May  
1st Platoon



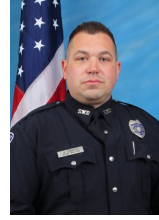
Officer Paul Wheatley  
1st Platoon



Officer Jermeco Boleyjack  
2nd Platoon



Officer Mike Coty  
2nd Platoon



Officer Billy Cundiff  
2nd Platoon



Officer Chris Frisby  
2nd Platoon



Officer Alex Lee  
2nd Platoon



Officer Jason Hilliard  
2nd Platoon



Officer Brent Routzahn  
2nd Platoon



Officer Matt Cheser  
3rd Platoon



Officer Brad Harris  
3rd Platoon



Officer Sean Hayden  
3rd Platoon



Officer Frank Jeffcoat  
3rd Platoon



Officer Wayne Kaufman  
& Maxie 3rd Platoon



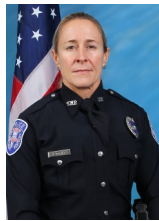
Officer Ed Louden  
3rd Platoon



Officer Charles Robinson  
3rd Platoon



Detective Josh Bratcher  
CID



Detective Lisa Doyle  
CID



Detective Rick Hageman  
CID



Detective Mark Richardson  
CID



Detective Kevin Roy  
CID



Officer Julie Cobaugh  
Part Time Officer



Officer Chris Harr  
Part Time Officer

# Letter From The Chief

The year 2020 was extremely eventful and produced many challenges for the St. Matthews Police Department. Covid-19 and civil unrest created two main obstacles for us and our community. A delicate balance was needed to handle both situations and the officers of this Department successfully met that challenge.

The Covid-19 pandemic created a range of unforeseen and unprecedented challenges for law enforcement nationwide including officer safety, citizen safety, budgetary issues, and staffing concerns. We evaluated the need of staying safe with the balance of providing police services to the St. Matthews residents, businesses and visitors. Unfortunately, we had to suspend or curtail some of the services we offer but we are slowly returning to normal as we become safer in our practices.

Navigating the current climate of civil unrest, regarding racial injustice and anti-police sentiment, has been extremely difficult for our Department but our officers stood tall. We balanced the rights of lawful protestors to those violating the law in the name of protesting. Our Department worked hand in hand with lawful protestors who delivered their message from the area of the "Point" in St. Matthews. Hundreds of lawful protestors gathered on the corners of these streets every day for multiple weeks. Our officers worked well with the leaders of these groups while only encountering a few incidents. Officers acted immediately to curb unlawful activity keeping these individuals and the community safe.

We will continue to facilitate lawful protests and take enforcement action against those who violate the law.

Recognizing social injustice, whether real or perceived, is important to our Department. As a leader of the St. Matthews Police Department, my message has always been "do your job and be professional".



Chief Barry Wilkerson

One of our missions is to be dedicated to the community and the law enforcement profession by using cutting edge technology to make us better, more accountable, and transparent.

In conjunction with Benchmark Analytics, we are developing software which provides an evidence based platform to capture, analyze and report officer performance data. This analytic tool is an early intervention system designed to signal off-track officer behavior. This early warning system allows us to correct deficiencies immediately before problems arise.

We take great pride in separating ourselves from other law enforcement agencies by holding our agency accountable and striving to be the most professional. We will continue to work with our stakeholders in creating one of the safest cities in the region.

Lastly, I want to close with thanking those in the community who have provided us with outstanding support. This support has been in the form of food donations, cards, prayers and countless words of "thanks". We appreciate your generosity and look forward to serving you in the year 2021.

# Mission and Values Statement

## **Vision Statement**

The St. Matthews Police Department strives to maintain a safe environment to protect the unique character of the community, its residents and visitors through service-oriented proactive policing.

## **Mission Statement**

The St. Matthews Police Department provides high quality services to a community which values public safety through professional, proactive and innovative police services.

## **Service Oriented Policing**

We will provide service-oriented policing to all people of the St. Matthews Community with a genuine concern for those we serve by creating partnerships and exceeding their expectations.

## **Making Ourselves Accountable**

We will make ourselves accountable in all facets of our job through moral, ethical and legal policing.

## **Proactive Policing with Pride and Professionalism**

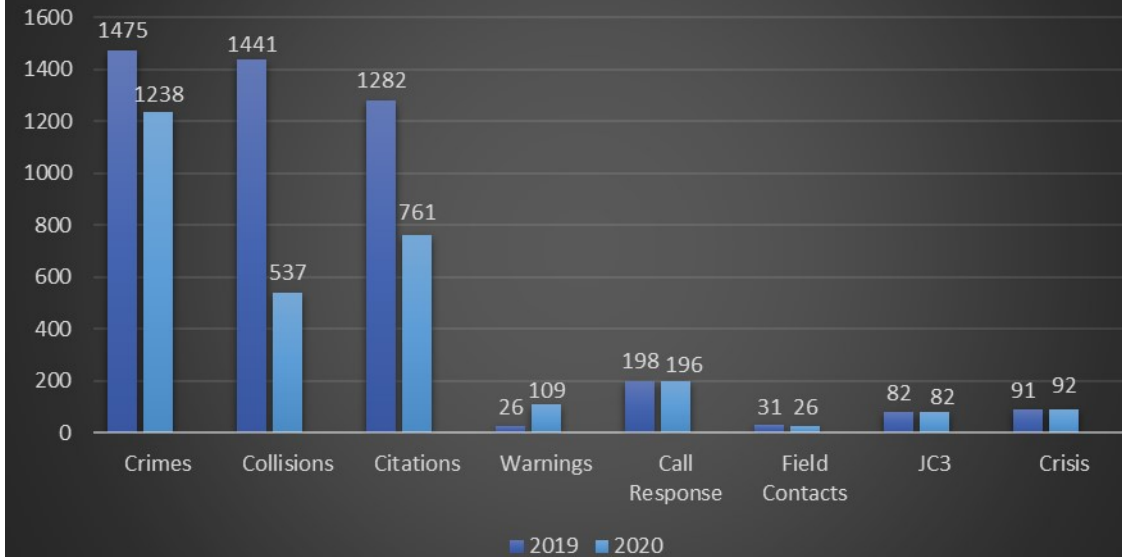
We will proactively police with humble pride and professionalism to keep our community safe.

## **Dedicated to Community and the Law Enforcement Profession**

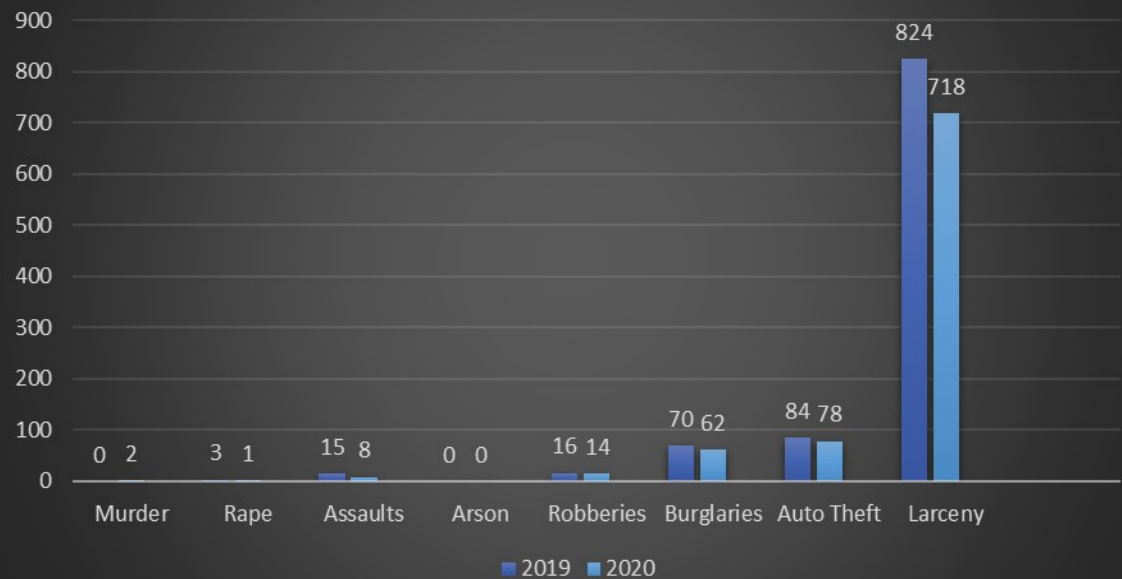
We will be dedicated to the St. Matthews community and the law enforcement profession by utilizing cutting-edge practices and methods.

# SMPD Crime Statistics

## Agency Activity



## Crimes

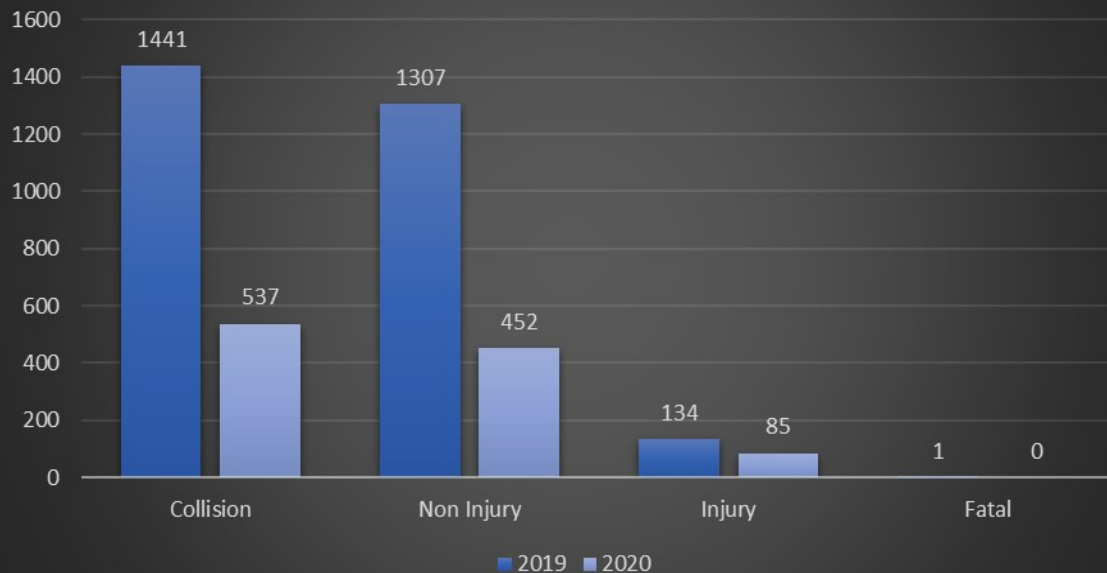


# SMPD Crime Statistics

## Previous Year Percentage Change Violent Crimes / Property Crimes



## Collisions





# Operations Bureau

## Patrol Division

The St. Matthews Police Department Operations Bureau is commanded by Major A.J. Cobaugh. It is comprised of the Patrol Division and several auxiliary units, each of which are tasked with distinctive roles that are directed toward the basic tactical operations of the police department. These units consist of the Patrol Division, Training Cadre, Accident Reconstruction Team and Special Weapons and Tactics Team.

The Patrol Division is made up of twenty-one full-time officers and three part-time officers and six sergeants. To ensure coverage to our community, the officers work three shifts patrolling the streets, responding to accidents and enforcing laws. During overlap shifts, sergeants establish proactive details to assist in deterring crime.



## Patrol Highlights

02/15/2020— Officers were dispatched to a shoplifting in progress at Shaheens Department Store located at 994 Breckenridge Lane. While enroute, officers were able to locate a suspect vehicle and make an arrest of a female. The suspect had shoplifted from several stores in the area. Officers were able to return all merchandise.

03/05/2020— At approximately 8:49 PM, officers responded to the Taco Bell located at 4910 Shelbyville Rd. on a male subject outside in the parking lot firing shots into the air. Upon arrival, officers observed a male subject standing outside the door. The subject was taken into custody without further incident. Officers located a handgun along with four shell casings near the subject.

03/16/2020— At 3:00 AM, officers while on patrol, observed several items laying in the middle of the road on Girard and Excalibur which appeared to be from vehicles that were broken into in the area. Officers quickly saturated the neighborhood and observed a suspicious vehicle leaving that same area. The vehicle was stopped and a consent search was conducted. Officers recovered several items of stolen property taken from vehicles and the subject was arrested.

03/17/2020— Officers received a dispatched run to 4382 Bowling Blvd on two suspicious subjects looking into vehicles at 2:29 AM. Officers arrived on scene and were updated on a possible vehicle leaving the area. The vehicle was located and stopped at the Cypress Pointe Apartments. The vehicle was confirmed stolen and other stolen items were located in the vehicle. The subjects were arrested.

04/16/2020— At 12:52 AM, officers observed two subjects in the 200 block of Fairmeade where they fled towards Monohan. Officers quickly set up a perimeter, with the assistance of LMPD and captured one of the listed suspects. The suspect, who was arrested, had a confirmed stolen .380 handgun in his possession which was stolen from an address on Fairmeade. The suspect also had a set of car keys, which belonged to a stolen Ford F150 stolen from Graham Rd.

# Operations Bureau

## Patrol Division

**04/18/2020**— Officers were dispatched to 3807 Stratford on four suspicious subjects. Upon arrival, all four subjects were located and began to flee westbound through the complex. Officers took one subject into custody near the entrance of the complex. Officers saturated the area and located two more subjects hiding in the foyer at 3805 Beaufort, who were subsequently taken into custody. Suspects admitted that they were dropped off in the area and were involved in thefts from vehicles.

**04/19/2020**— Shortly before midnight, officers were notified of several juveniles possibly breaking into vehicles in the Westport Gardens apartment complex. Officers quickly responded to the area, were able to locate and take five juveniles into custody. Several of the juveniles had stolen property in their possession and admitted breaking into vehicles. During the course of the investigation, officers located a stolen key fob. It was determined all of the juveniles had arrived to the complex in a freshly stolen vehicle.



**04/26/2020**— Officers responded to Gould's Medical (3901 Dutchmans Lane) in reference to a stolen work van from the loading dock. Officers saturated the area and within six minutes it was located abandoned at the Kroger parking lot located at 3017 Breckenridge Lane. Descriptions of the two suspects were obtained from video footage. The two suspects were located and arrested for the theft. The suspects also had stolen merchandise which was returned to the rightful owners.

**04/28/2020**— At 4:45 AM, officers observed a suspicious vehicle in Mallard Creek apartments. Officers checked the license tag and it was determined to be stolen. Officers stopped the vehicle at 4001 Dutchman's Lane and the suspects were arrested.

**05/04/2020**— Officers responded to 1001 Breckenridge Lane on a suspicious person. The subject was located in a reported stolen auto. The suspect attempted to flee twice during the arrest but was taken into custody.

**05/21/2020**— SMPD officers conducted a special detail for the purpose of targeting illicit narcotics and firearms. During this detail, officers directly observed suspicious vehicles and drug transactions, primarily in the area of the Mall St. Matthews and Halsey Flats. During an approximate five hour operational window, officers made multiple vehicle stops and arrests; seizing a quantity of drugs and three firearms.

# Operations Bureau

## Patrol Division



**06/25/2020**— Officers responded to a domestic trouble run in the parking lot of 1001 Breckenridge Lane at 11:24 AM. Officers located the vehicle involved in the domestic where a male subject and his girlfriend were fighting. The male subject fled the scene leaving the female behind but had the female's ten month old in the back seat. The male fled on foot as officers approached leaving the vehicle and baby abandoned in the roadway. The male subject was charged with Wanton Endangerment 1<sup>st</sup>, Assault 4<sup>th</sup> and fleeing and evading. Both mother and her baby were not severely injured.

**07/12/2020**— At 02:43 AM, officers were dispatched to the 300 block of Merriman Road on two suspicious individuals possibly going through vehicles. Upon officers arrival, the subjects fled on foot. After a brief search, both subjects were apprehended in the rear of 4418 Blenheim. The subjects had on their person, stolen credit cards and loose change. Officers also found in front of 4418 Blenheim a confirmed stolen vehicle out of New Albany, In. Both subjects were arrested.

**07/12/2020**— Officers were dispatched to 3801 Beaufort Apt B in reference to an overdose where CPR was in progress. Upon their arrival, they entered through the back patio and observed blood on the floor, wall and on the pillow and mattress in the spare room. The female was attempting CPR on an individual. While SMFD was stabilizing that subject, officers noticed a rifle propped up between the bed and the nightstand. Through investigation, it was determined the individual was involved in a shooting and was charged with Assault 1.

**08/24/2020**— At 4:40 AM, officers responded to 855 Mallard Creek Rd. on a report of a Burglary in progress. Upon arrival, an individual was observed entering a bedroom window. Officers were able to extract the subject from the window. It was determined the suspect unlawfully gained entry into the residence through the window using a hammer and screwdriver located on the ground.

**10/19/2020**— At approximately 12:49 AM, the 3<sup>rd</sup> platoon was dispatched to the 500 block of Bauer Ave. on a subject breaking into vehicles. Officers were able to get a description of the individual and the subject's vehicle through a witness. At approximately 2:14 AM, the vehicle was observed in the 400 block of Bauer Ave. Officers conducted a traffic stop and it was determined this individual matched the description of the suspect breaking into vehicles. Upon further investigation, this individual was found to possess narcotics, credit cards, a drivers license and a social security card which were recently stolen out of the city of Prospect. Also found in the subject's vehicle, laying behind the middle console, was a loaded Glock 9mm handgun.



# Support Bureau

## Criminal Investigations Division

The St. Matthews Police Department Support Bureau is commanded by Major Eddie Jones. It is comprised of several units, each of which are tasked with distinctive roles that are directed toward supporting the police department. These units consist of Criminal Investigations/Narcotics, Communications Center, Evidence and Property along with other administrative tasks performed under this bureau.



The Criminal Investigations Division is made up of six detectives and one sergeant. Two of these detectives investigate narcotics complaints. Reports that are forwarded to this unit require extensive or specialized follow-up investigations. The detectives work with neighboring agencies and businesses to recover property, identify and apprehend suspects, conduct interviews and collect evidence. To better serve the citizens of St. Matthews, detectives attended the Sex Crimes Investigations School which is conducted at the University of Louisville's Southern Police Institute. CID also welcomed the addition of 3 new detectives in the Unit to fill current vacancies. All three of the officers came to the St. Matthews Police Department from the Louisville Metro Police Department. They bring with them experiences and training that will be invaluable to CID and the City of St. Matthews.

In 2020, detectives were assigned **957** cases for follow-up investigation.

Detectives cleared:

- **223** cases
- **90** cleared by arrest
- **61** were felony arrests
- **29** were misdemeanor arrests.

In May of 2020, SMPD officers responded to 425 So. Hubbards Lane on reports of a shooting. Once officers arrived on scene, they found one victim who was suffering from a gun shot wound. The suspect had fired several rounds at the victim, also striking surrounding buildings and a vehicle. Detectives were able to identify a suspect through their investigation. SMPD detectives located the suspect in West Louisville and arrested him on multiple felony charges.

The Narcotics detectives work closely with patrol, neighboring police agencies, federal task forces and community partners to address crime trends impacting the quality of life in St. Matthews. More specifically, they address drug, gang and prostitution crimes, utilizing plain clothes operations and surveillance. In 2020, narcotics detectives seized **(15.2)** grams of Cocaine, **(10.6)** grams of Heroin, **(15)** pounds of Marijuana, **(6,690)** grams of Morphine and **(469.4)** grams of Methamphetamine. Detectives also seized \$24,422 and **(21)** weapons.

In April of 2020, SMPD officers were dispatched to the area of Wilshire Ave. and Nanz Ave. on reports of gun shots fired in the area. When officers arrived, they discovered a victim down in the street suffering from multiple gun shot wounds. The victim was transported to University Hospital where he succumbed to his injuries. SMPD detectives continue to investigate this crime, however this incident is still unsolved.

# Support Bureau

## Criminal Investigations Division

In July of 2020, SMPD detectives responded to University Hospital to investigate a shooting that occurred possibly in the Jamestown Apartments. The victim had been shot in the head, but it did not appear to be life threatening. Detectives attempted to interview the victim however, he was uncooperative. A short time later, SMPD responded to 3801 Beaufort Lane, located in Jamestown Apartments, on a possible overdose. Once officers arrived, they were able to link this address with the shooting that had occurred earlier that day. SMPD detectives interviewed witnesses and collected evidence which resulted in the arrest of the suspect in this shooting. It was determined the shooting was a result of both the suspect and victim's heroin use. The suspect was charged with multiple felony charges including possession of a firearm by a convicted felon.

## Communications Center

The St. Matthews Police Department Communications Center performs the communications operations for the St. Matthews Police Department. The Communications Center receives, prioritizes and dispatches all emergency and non-emergency calls for police, on a 24-hour basis. Fire and EMS calls are referred to Metro Safe Communications which is an enhanced 911 Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP). We are a secondary PSAP, receiving 911 transfers from Metro Safe Communications. The Communications Center consists of one supervisor/dispatcher, four full-time dispatchers and thirteen part-time and seasonal dispatchers. In 2020, our dispatchers received (49,568) phone calls where (2965) of them were 911 calls.



## Property and Evidence Unit

The Property and Evidence Unit is responsible for receiving, processing, storing and disposing of evidence, found property and personal property. This unit is also responsible for maintaining the chain of custody for evidence and to ensure the availability of that evidence for court. In 2020, the SMPD Property and Evidence Unit underwent a total audit of its operations from a private group outside of St. Matthews. This audit evaluated compliance with state and/or federal laws and regulations as well as department policies, procedures and guidelines concerning property inventory. The auditors determined we were compliant in all areas. The audit found that the Property and Evidence Unit was functioning effectively and that physical access and controls were adequate to safeguard the property and evidence held in the property room. The property room policies and procedures met the standards set for what is considered best practices. In 2020, the Property and Evidence Unit logged in (664) pieces of property and evidence.

# St. Matthews Police Department

## Significant Accomplishments

St. Matthews had a significant decrease in all crime: Violent crime (26%), Property crime (12%) and Total Crime (15%).

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The Department hosted its first Department of Criminal Justice Training course (Chaplaincy Course) in our new training room.

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SMPD purchased full riot gear for each officer. The Mayor and Police Committee saw the need to keep officer safety a priority.

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The Property and Evidence Unit was audited for the first time to evaluate compliance with state and/or federal laws and regulations as well as department policies, procedures, and guidelines concerning property inventory. The Department was in compliance and exceeded most standards.

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The Department established an Interlocal Agency Group comprised of the suburban agencies to pool resources in times of need.

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The “Point” of St. Matthews, for eight days, became a prominent area where approximately 4000 protestors gathered to exercise their 1st Amendment right. Even with those large numbers, SMPD only made one arrest and cited three violators.

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SMPD provided security for our City’s major hospitals during the early phases of the COVID 19 pandemic. SMPD officers provided 1440 hours to assist them with security during the pandemic.

The St. Matthews Police had our second graduate of the highly esteemed Southern Police Institutes Administrative Officers Course in 2020. Sergeant Norm Mayer graduated during difficult circumstances related to COVID-19.

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The Department hired two new full-time officers (Jason Hilliard and Brent Routzahn). The Department also promoted three new sergeants (Barbara Shepard, John Sanders, and George Jetter).

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SMPD has started the process of developing software which provides early intervention to track and proactively identify problematic officer behavior helping to regain the trust of the community and restoring the honor of the badge.

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The St. Matthews Police Department took part in a city-wide tabletop exercise to create solutions to possible civil unrest in the area.

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Even though we are in the main area of Louisville Metro, St. Matthews was rated as the 12th safest city in Kentucky. The rating does not take into account the large influx of individuals during our daytime shopping and healthcare hours.

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For the first time, our officers were tasked with guarding the ballots for the November elections which took place at the St. Matthews Community Center.

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Officer Troy Armstrong became a certified ALICE instructor. This certification provides him expertise in active shooter situations for schools, health care and other institutions.



# St. Matthews Police Department

## Community Engagement

Due to the COVID 19 pandemic, many of our community events were cancelled to protect both our citizens and officers. The St. Matthews Police Department hopes to regain more community interaction as the pandemic subsides and we are able to reach out without fear of spreading the virus. Hopefully, this will happen sooner than later.

### ***National Night Out***

National Night Out is an annual community building campaign that promotes strong police and community partnerships and strengthens neighborhood camaraderie. It makes our neighborhoods safer and a more caring place to live and work. National Night Out enhances the relationship between neighbors and law enforcement while bringing back a true sense of community. Furthermore, it provides a great opportunity to bring police and neighbors together under positive circumstances. This year's event was cancelled due to COVID 19.

### ***Halloween in Brown Park (Mall St. Matthews)***

The St. Matthews Police Department has provided security as well as participated in this yearly community event. Due to COVID 19, it was moved to the Mall St. Matthews, but was still a huge success.



### **SMPD Caravans**

- On behalf of Keller Williams real estate brokers, SMPD led a “drive-by” of Baptist Health, Suburban and Belmont Village to show appreciation for medical workers and support of the patients and residents. An approximate 25 car caravan drove through the parking lots.
- SMPD participated in the Waggener High School graduation caravan consisting of an approximately 200 car caravan through the surrounding neighborhood streets celebrating the graduating seniors.
- SMPD led the Trinity High School graduation caravan consisting of approximately 300 vehicles leaving from community park going to Trinity High School.

# St. Matthews Police Department

## Special Thanks

**The St. Matthews Police Department would like to thank the following for their continued support. They allow us to be a premier law enforcement agency in the region:**

**Mayor Rick Tonini, Members of the City Council, City Administrators and the St. Matthews community which includes those who reside, work and visit our unique City.**



**Working together for a safer community.**