



St. Matthews Police Department
2021 Annual Report

Professional—Service Oriented—Proactive

Table of Contents



Page 3	Your SMPD
Page 5	Letter from the Chief
Page 6	Mission and Values Statement
Page 7	SMPD Crime Statistics
Page 9	Operations Bureau
Page 12	Support Bureau
Page 14	Significant Accomplishments
Page 15	Community Engagement
Page 16	Special Thanks



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



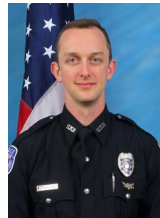
Sergeant George Jetter
2nd Platoon



Sergeant John Sanders
2nd Platoon



Sergeant Jeff Hancock
3rd Platoon



Sergeant Scott Ratliff
3rd Platoon



Sergeant Jonathan Smith
Criminal Investigations Division



Sergeant Charlie Portman
Administrative Division



Officer Troy Armstrong
Department Resource Officer



Officer John Hackel
Evidence and Property Officer



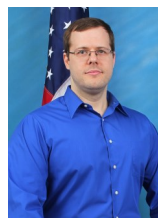
Mrs. Ashley Bratcher
Executive Assistant



Lisa Richardson
Supervisor/ Communications



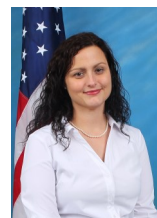
Kyle Allen
Communications



Alex Cheatham
Communications



Josh Neely
Communications



Jennifer Newman
TAC / Communications



Phillip Rothenburger
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 Ryan Banta
2nd Platoon



Officer Jermeco Boleyjack
2nd Platoon



Officer Mike Coty
2nd Platoon



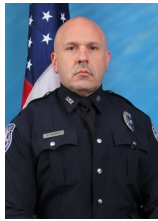
Officer Jason Hilliard
2nd Platoon



Officer Alex Lee
2nd Platoon



Officer Shaun Sargent
2nd Platoon



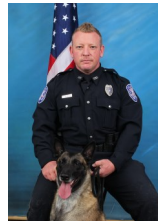
Officer Brad Harris
3rd Platoon



Officer Sean Hayden
3rd Platoon



Officer Frank Jeffcoat
3rd Platoon



Officer Wayne Kaufman
& Maxie 3rd Platoon



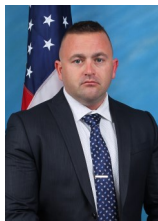
Officer Ed Louden
3rd Platoon



Officer Charles Robinson
3rd Platoon



Officer Brent Routzahn
3rd Platoon



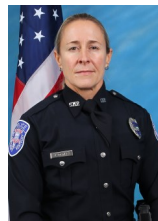
Detective
Josh Bratcher
CID



Detective
Matt Cheser
CID



Detective
Billy Cundiff
CID



Detective
Lisa Doyle
CID



Detective
Chris Frisby
CID



Detective
Mark Richardson
CID



Detective
Kevin Roy
CID



Officer Julie Cobaugh
Part Time Officer



Officer Brian Hellinger
Part Time Officer

Letter From The Chief

Serving this city for the last 4 years as your Chief of Police has been a great honor. I am extremely proud of our officers who perform with professionalism and compassion every day. The law enforcement profession is ever changing and extremely challenging. The past two years have proven that to be true.

As in most cities in the nation, we have seen a significant rise in violent crime and a decrease in accountability towards offenders. There has also been a rise in scrutiny and assaults towards law enforcement but an increase of our expectations.

Officers are expected to be specialists in medicine, sociology, psychology, law, defensive tactics, and firearms. Officers are to be compassionate but strong, empathetic but unwavering, consoling but steadfast, and calming but courageous. We are supposed to be everything to everyone. There is great debate on the philosophical conflict between a guardian or warrior policing mindset, but, at various times and situations, citizens want us to encompass every aspect of each.

As police navigate this new environment, politicians and prosecutors are determining what laws should or should not be prosecuted. Several cities are trying to prevent law enforcement from stopping motorists for traffic infractions because it may increase unnecessary opportunities for deadly encounters. In this participation trophy environment, we continue to hold the wrong people accountable and defer blame to others.

Fortunately, we have a high standard for policing in St. Matthews. We strive to meet and exceed law enforcement best practices and guidelines. We are constantly trying to become better officers through training and education. We listen to those in the community and respect their constitutional rights to voice their opinions.



Chief Barry Wilkerson

But make no mistake. We will never apologize for enforcing the laws set forth by those in our Commonwealth. We will continue to pursue criminals who commit crimes in our city. We will hold those individuals accountable as we hold ourselves accountable. We will support our fellow law enforcement agencies, both state and federal, and fly our Thin Blue Line flag proudly in their support and to memorialize those who gave all in their sacrifice to this nation.

In this effort to curb crime, especially violent crime, we must come together, both law enforcement and our community, as a unified force. It is said that crime will rise to the level a community will tolerate. To combat what is going on in our city and around us in the Metro area, we need zero tolerance.

You should be extremely proud of your St. Matthews officers, as am I, as they navigate through the complex nature of policing and scrutiny. They continue to perform their jobs every day with the utmost honor and integrity. They have set the standards high and continue to be one of the best police agencies in the nation.

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

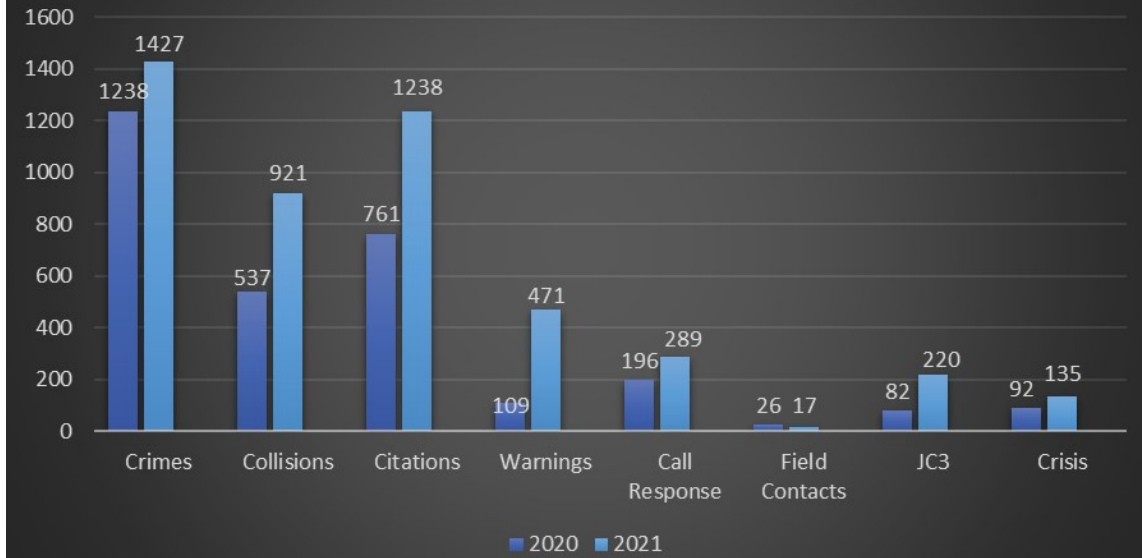
We will proactively police with humble pride and professionalism to keep our community safe.

Dedicated to Community and Law Enforcement Profession

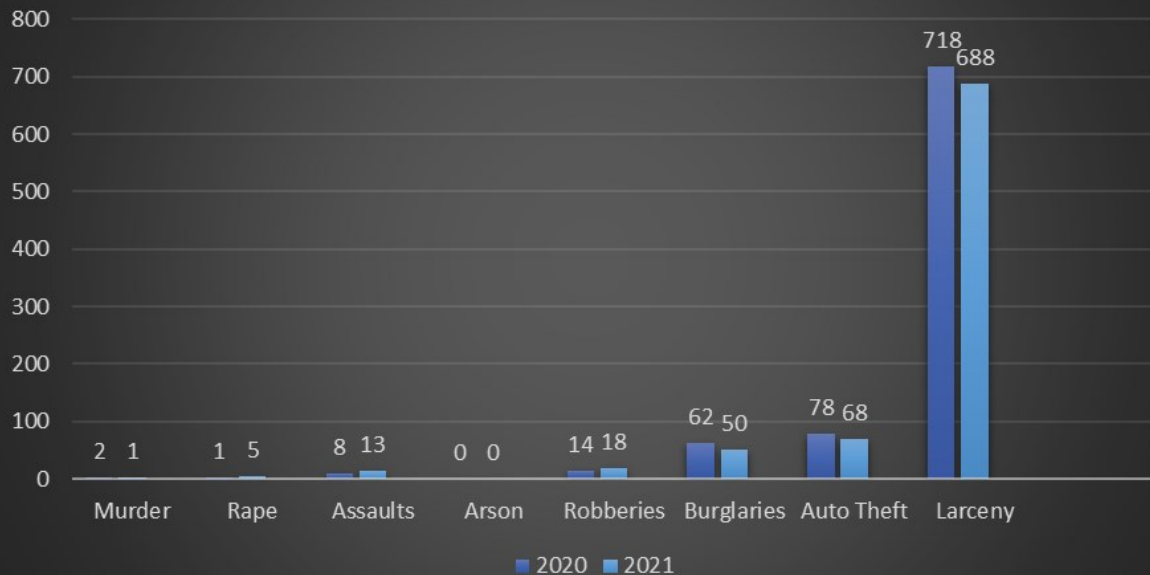
We will be dedicated to the St. Matthews community and the law enforcement profession by utilizing cutting-edge practices and methods.

SMPD Crime Statistics

Agency Activity

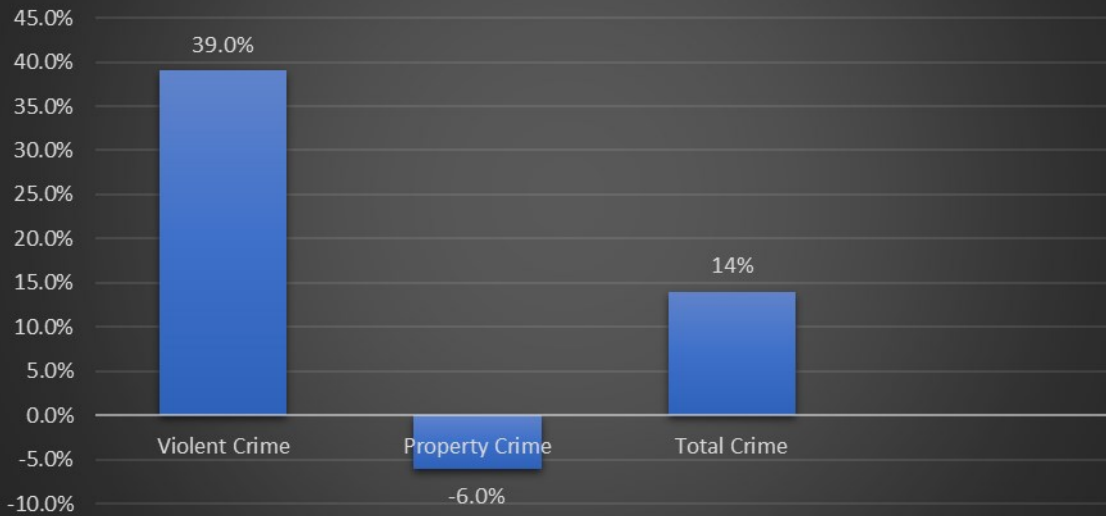


Crimes

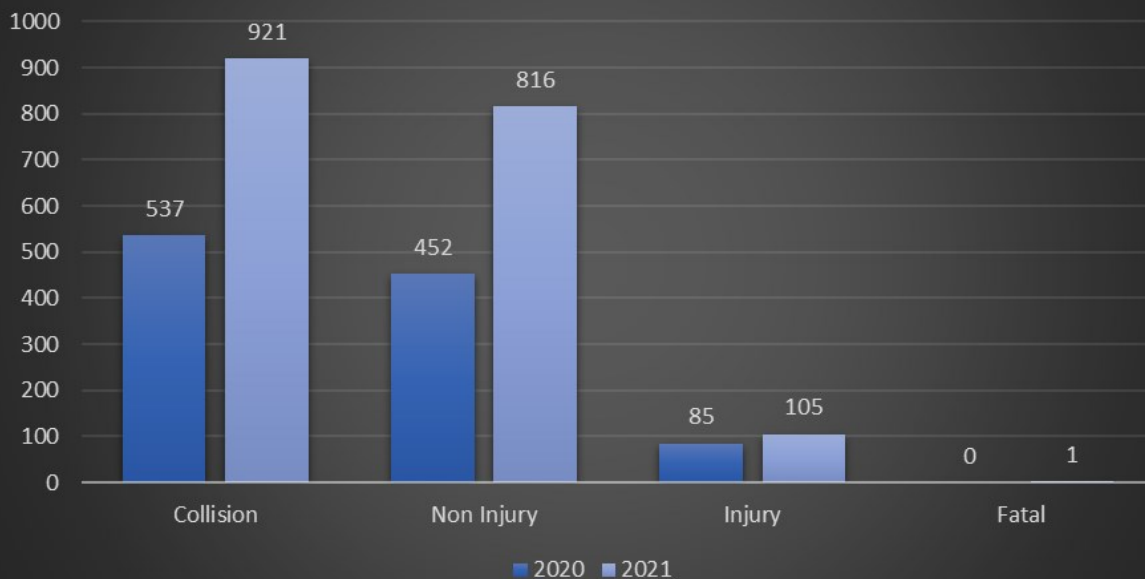


SMPD Crime Statistics

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 full-time officers and two 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

1-10-2021, at 8:30 PM, officers were dispatched to the 900 block of Milford Lane on a trouble run. When officers arrived they made contact with the subjects living at the residence. It became apparent the subjects had been using narcotics. Through our investigation, officers found 22 grams of methamphetamine.

01-24-2021, at approximately 2:17 AM, an officer was patrolling the 4000 block of Dupont Circle. The officer observed a moving gunfight along I-264 and notified dispatch. Officers responded to the scene and found a vehicle crashed against the center concrete median directly across from Kaden Towers. The driver of this vehicle had a handgun in his possession and a gunshot wound to the leg. Several 5.56 mm casings were collected from the slow lanes of I-264 West between I-64 and Breckenridge Lane. The case is being handled by the Louisville Metro Police Department.

03-06-2021 at approximately 4:46 PM, an officer was flagged down on a non-injury accident which had occurred in the 4500 Block of Shelbyville Road. Witnesses stated the driver of the other vehicle ran from the scene carrying a rifle. Officers responded and located the suspects and placed them into custody. A loaded AR-15 pistol was found inside one of the suspect's pants and the vehicle involved was reported stolen per the Louisville Metro Police Department.

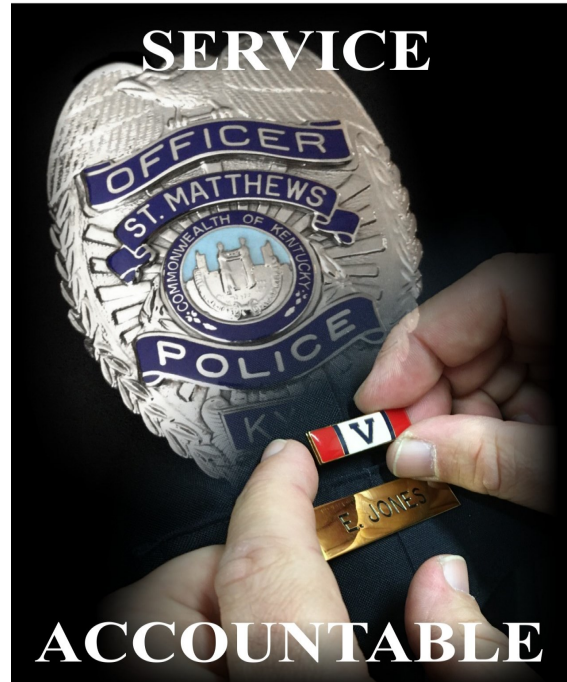
03-11-2021 at 4:21 PM, officers responded to the BP at 7401 New Lagrange Road on the report of a stolen vehicle out of Louisville Metro had been located by the victim. Officers arrived to find a suspect in possession of the vehicle. The registration plate that was on the vehicle was not the accurate plate for that vehicle and was reported stolen out of Louisville Metro. Through our investigation, it was determined the vehicle contained stolen items from several burglaries and illegal narcotics to include cocaine. Items from the burglaries were returned to the respective owners in the St. Matthews area.

Operations Bureau

Patrol Division

5-11-2021 at 3:18 PM, officers were dispatched to a residence on Dupont Way for a domestic assault. Once on scene, the officers interviewed the victim and she said her ex-boyfriend had come to her home about six days prior and assaulted her. The victim provided additional information to the incident before she was transported to the hospital. The victim told officers the suspect had strangled her and held a knife to her throat. She also stated the suspect held her against her will to keep her from leaving her home. The subject was later arrested for domestic charges.

On **06-24-2021** at approximately 3:26 PM, dispatch received a shots fired run in the area of the Waterford Apartments. Upon arrival, officers determined the shooting to be domestic related. One arrest was made and a handgun was located. Several shots were fired but thankfully, no one was injured.



On **06-30-2021** at 12:10AM, officers observed three suspicious subjects on the lot of the Hilton Garden Inn. Officers made contact with the subjects and determined they were actively breaking into vehicles on the lot. Officers discovered during the investigation, the suspects had arrived at the location in a confirmed stolen auto out of Louisville Metro.

On **07-18-2021** at 11:09 PM, officers were dispatched to the 800 block of Breckenridge Lane on a report of a double shooting. Officers arrived on scene and located a deceased male laying in the entry way of the rear sliding glass door. A female victim was located in the living room who had sustained two bullet wounds to her legs. Officers quickly applied tourniquets to both legs, and SMFD EMS transported her to University Hospital. The investigation is on-going.

On **07-19-2021** at approximately 9:38 PM, an officer conducted a traffic stop in the 5000 block of Shelbyville Rd. on the parking lot of Jared's jewelry store. Upon stopping the vehicle, the officer could smell the strong odor of what appeared to be marijuana from inside the vehicle. A search of the vehicle was conducted which yielded the following: Two + pounds of marijuana, edibles, scales, paraphernalia, an open bottle of Woodford Reserve, a large undetermined amount of US currency, and an AR style pistol. One individual was arrested. A juvenile was cited and released to their parent.

On **07-24-2021**, officers had to assist the off-duty officers working at the Ainsworth due to the size of the crowd that began to gather in the parking lot. The crowd would not disperse and became violent. Several fights broke out throughout the parking lot. Officers were not able to safely go hands-on to separate the combative parties so pepper ball was deployed among the crowd. After 30 minutes of effort from ten officers, the crowd was finally dispersed. No arrests were made.

Operations Bureau

Patrol Division



On **08-23-2021**, at 12:56 AM, officers were patrolling the area of Cypress Point apartments and observed three suspicious subjects walking in the parking lot. When officers attempted to stop the subjects, they fled on foot. Officers swept the area and apprehended all three subjects. The individuals were in possession of a set of keys which belonged to a stolen vehicle recovered at the scene. They also had thrown a stolen weapon behind an air conditioning unit which officers recovered. All three subjects were arrested and transported to the Louisville Department of Corrections.

On **09-20-2021**, at approximately 9:24 PM, an officer was called to 291 North Hubbards Lane on a potential shoplifter. The officer was told the suspect had concealed merchandise prior to the officer's arrival. Two officers confronted the subject and he struggled to get away. The officers recovered a handgun from the subject's pants pocket and 2 more guns from his backpack. Though our investigation, officers were able to learn that the suspect in this case had received the guns from another subject that had stolen them during a house burglary in the Eighth Division.

On **09-23 -2021** at 1:39 AM, while on patrol, officers observed a vehicle on fire in in the 3700 block of Beaufort Lane. Officers were able to get the fire extinguished quickly and subsequently ran the registration (ILL -BD9164). The vehicle was reported stolen by the Louisville Metro Police Department. Officers realized the vehicle was used in a homicide at Chestnut and Dr. W. J. Hodge on 09-22-21, involving Eastern High School students .

On **12-05-2021**, at approximately 5:26 AM, officers were dispatched to the 200 block of Oxford Place on individuals possibly breaking into vehicles. Officers made a quick response to the location, where an unknown vehicle was seen fleeing the area with its lights off . Officers conducted a traffic stop on the vehicle. Through an investigation, it was found the vehicle was a fresh stolen out of Louisville Metro.

On **12-07-2021**, at 9:28 PM, officers responded to the area of Winchester Road and Browns Lane on multiple reports of shots fired. The victim of the shooting arrived at Waggener High School in a black 2012 Kia Optima. There were multiple bullet holes in the victim's vehicle and the driver side window was shattered. The victim told officers he left the Waggener/Ballard basketball game and was followed out of the parking lot by a dark van with tinted windows. When he stopped for the light at Winchester Road and Browns Lane, the van pulled alongside him and an unknown individual armed with an AR style rifle climbed through the sunroof of the van and started shooting. The victim said he sped away as the suspect began firing. The victim was not injured.

On **12-08-2021** at approximately 8:22 PM, a non-injury accident occurred at Browns Lane and Kresge Way. The victim told the individuals that hit him to stay until police arrived. He placed a handgun on his dashboard. One of the individuals, while fleeing the accident scene, produced a firearm and shot at the individual at least four times. No arrests have been made at this time.

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 seven detectives and one sergeant. Three 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 Homicide Investigations School which is conducted at the University of Louisville's Southern Police Institute. SMPD also has one detective assigned to the LMPD Homeland Security Unit. This assignment benefits St. Matthews because it allows the city to obtain real time information that effects the entire metro area.

In 2020, detectives were assigned **1100** cases for follow-up investigation.

Detectives cleared:

- **251** cases
- **93** cleared by arrest
- **65** were felony arrests
- **28** were misdemeanor arrests.

The metro area experienced a rash of catalytic converter thefts in 2021. Through investigation, SMPD detectives were able to obtain information on a group that was committing car thefts and cutting catalytic converters from vehicles. SMPD detectives reached out to other area agencies and in March of 2021 formed a task force that consisted of Shepherdsville PD, Kentucky State Police, Jeffersontown PD, and LMPD. Through their combined investigation detectives were able to shut down a crime organization that was cutting 10 to 15 catalytic converters per week and stealing 4 to 6 vehicles per week. Detectives arrested **(15)** individuals and were able to recover **(29)** stolen vehicles, **(6)** stolen vehicles registration plates, **(1)** stolen camper, and **(3)** stolen lawn care items.

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 2021, narcotics detectives seized:

18.8 grams of Cocaine,
19.4 grams of Heroin,
11.34 pounds of Marijuana,
151.8 grams of Methamphetamine,
124.8 grams of Fentanyl,
\$68,658 in cash, and
12 weapons.

Support Bureau

Criminal Investigations Division

In September of 2021 SMPD detectives were contacted about a possible kidnapping. The information was that a female was being forced to fraudulently purchase high end vehicles while her young daughter was being held captive. Through SMPD investigation, it was determined there was no kidnapping, and the female was a willing participant and member of this crime organization. The group had come to Louisville from Atlanta, GA to defraud multiple car dealerships by purchasing vehicles with stolen identities. SMPD detectives, with assistance from the Kentucky State Police, were able to locate multiple stolen cars being driven back to Georgia on Interstate 65. From this investigation, (6) suspects were indicted and (5) stolen vehicles were recovered valued at over \$460,000.

This group was responsible for multiple car thefts around the country. Other police agencies outside of Kentucky were able to prosecute these individuals based on the information discovered by SMPD.

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, five full-time dispatchers and thirteen part-time and seasonal dispatchers. In 2021, our dispatchers received (30,746) phone calls where (3150) 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 2021 the SMPD Property Unit took in (919) pieces of property. (793) pieces were labeled as evidence, (79) pieces as found property, and (78) guns.

St. Matthews Police Department

Significant Accomplishments

St. Matthews had a decrease in property crimes: Property crime (6%) and an increase in citations written (86%).

SMPD partnered with Enterprise Fleet to have greater purchasing power through leasing vehicles and reselling vehicles at a higher value. To assist with an aging fleet, we will be able to purchase 10 vehicles in 2022.

The St. Matthews Police Department collaborated with Jefferson County Public Schools officials and Waggener High in a mock active aggressor shooting scenario. This exercise provided great understanding to both agencies on procedures and response to this type incident.

The St. Matthews Police Department has established a relationship with a mental health professional, Carolyn Estep, to become the Victims Service Specialist. She is a contract vendor who is assisting with victims of domestic abuse, elder abuse, homelessness, and those with mental disorders. She provides services and guidance to victims throughout their cases.



The St. Matthews Police Department hired two new full-time officers (Sean Sargent and Ryan Banta). The Department also hired a new part-time officer (Brian Hellinger). The Dispatch Center hired a new telecommunicator (Phillip Rothenburger).

Through a great deal of work and persistence, the St. Matthews Police Department was awarded a 100% score on our Kentucky League of Cities Safety and Liability review. This is in recognition of outstanding efforts in the areas of safety, training and proactively addressing risk and liability reduction.

For the first time, the St. Matthews Police Department Dispatch Center conducted their own yearly in-service which was attended by our dispatchers and other agencies.

Even though we are in the main area of Louisville Metro, St. Matthews was rated as the 25th safest city in Kentucky. The rating does not take into account the large influx of individuals during our daytime shopping and healthcare hours. Approximately 300 of our property crimes are from shoplifting.

The St. Matthews Police Department hosted a toy drive sponsored by First Lady Brittainy Beshear. With great assistance from the community, we were able to collect more than three 28-foot trailers of toys and over \$50,000.00 in gift cards.

The St. Matthews Police Department became an Autistic Awareness agency. All members had to complete coursework and pass a test on how to care for and communicate with those with Autism. The work was monitored by Families for Early Autism Treatment (FEAT) of Louisville.

St. Matthews Police Department

Community Engagement

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. After having to cancel in 2020, this year was a huge success.



Halloween in Brown Park

The St. Matthews Police Department has provided security as well as participated in this yearly community event. The city was able to return to its original venue this year, and an outstanding turn out was had at Brown Park.



First Lady Britainy Beshear's Tornado Toy Drive

After the devastating tornados that struck western Kentucky, the First Lady, Britainy Beshear, arranged a toy drive for those victims, in hopes of giving the children a good Christmas. Her team reached out to SMPD asking for our station to be one of the twenty drop off sites for donations. Over the course of those four days, SMPD filled three 28-foot trailers and one full size semi trailer completely full of toys. We also collected over \$50,000 worth of gift cards. With the help of local businesses and a wonderful community, the toy drive was incredibly successful.

St. Matthews Police Department

Special Thanks

The St. Matthews Police 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.