

Versailles Police Department



FY 2020 Annual Report

Mike Murray
Chief of Police



During FY 2020, the Versailles Police Department responded to 28,829 calls for service, completed over 2,275 traffic stops, wrote over 1,500 citations and made 681 arrests.

Crime categories as follows:

	FY19	FY20
Murder	0	0
Conspiracy to Commit Murder	0	0
Rape	7	8
Robbery	7	5
Aggravated Assault	14	22
Arson	1	0
Burglary	84	45
Auto Theft	34	28
Theft	238	238
All Other Offenses	1104	1372
Total	1489	1718

Accidents:

	FY19	FY20
Total Collisions	988	924
Collisions with Injury	112	104
Collisions with Fatality	7	11
Collisions with Property Damage	869	809
Total Injuries	149	155
Total Fatalities	9	11

The Versailles Police Department employs thirty four (34) full-time officers, four (4) part-time officers, and one (1) civilian clerk.

The Department is open twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week and provides around the clock police protection and service to Versailles, Midway and Woodford County. The Versailles Police Department continues to embrace the principles of community policing by working closely with the schools, businesses and local civic organizations. By maintaining relationships throughout the community we believe we are able to provide the best service possible to citizens.

The past year has brought many significant changes for all of us and the Versailles Police Department has adjusted many activities due to the COVID-19 restrictions and has made every effort to keep our officers and staff safe while still providing the same service to the community. The Department continues to provide its service of checking the doors nightly of downtown businesses and notifying business owners of any unsecured doors or any other problem they encounter. Officers also continue to conduct extra patrols at the request of residents who are going to be on vacation or otherwise away from their residences during an extended period of time. During this period the Department has also changed some of its administrative processes – now sending reports through email or fax to limit contact and keeping our lobby closed except for emergencies.

Most notable for the 2019-2020 year was the Department's move into our new facility. It is a source of great pride for us and we are grateful for the support of the Mayor and City Council who made it possible. Following several delays, the move took place in May, with the 911 and Dispatch center moving first and then each section of the Department following. The new facility affords the staff excellent working conditions along with storage and easier access for the public. We are hopeful that soon we will be able to give tours and let the community become more familiar with the new building.

The following are highlights of the Department's activities during fiscal year 2020.

The Department welcomed new employees, Officer Mike Cole, Officer Sam Colantuoni, Officer Stephen Johnson, Officer Jeremy Popovitz and Officer Jude Remilien to the Department. Officer Colantuoni is still attending the Police Academy at the Department of Criminal Justice Training at Eastern Kentucky University in Richmond, but will graduate soon. The Department is very excited about what the new officers bring in experience and training and look forward to working with them for a long time.

Lt. Michael Fortney and Officer David Buntain retired from the Department and we would like to thank them for their service to the Department as well as the community. We wish them well in all of their future endeavors.

There continue to be two School Resource Officers (SRO), upon Officer David Buntain's retirement, Officer Scot Cottingham was assigned to the Woodford County Middle School and Officer Scott Bobbitt remains assigned to the Woodford County High School. Both officers stay busy in the schools investigating criminal activity, conducting classes and implementing crime prevention initiatives with the students. The officers also provide security at school events such as ballgames and dances and accompany the students on field trips. The SROs also transport juveniles, work traffic, assist with mandatory safety drills at the schools such as fire, lock down and tornado. The officers assist with school administration and counselors with home visits, de-escalating students when necessary and work with the Department of Juvenile Justice and the Department for Community Based Services. Until in-person school resumes, these officers remain working patrol.

Officer Jeremy Miller received the Governor's Impaired Drivers Award for his hard work and dedication to keeping our roads and community safe. Officer Miller was recognized for getting the most impaired drivers off the road for our Department during the past two years. His commitment to keeping our roads and drivers safe is commendable.

Assistant Chief Rob Young continues to work with ASAP, Drug Court and the Angel Program. These programs can make a tremendous difference in the lives of the participants and the Department appreciates his willingness to participate and provide his input.

The Department's Special Response Team trained regularly throughout the year, completing at least 8 hours of training each month. The training included weapon retention during hand-to-hand confrontations, building searches, warrant service, hostage recovery, vehicle assaults and firearm training. The Team also attended the Kentucky Tactical Officers Association (KTOA) conference in August. Officer Nathan Craig served as the SRT Commander during 2019-2020.

The Versailles Police Department's canine, Nico, and his handler Officer John Costigan have continued to be extremely busy throughout 2019-2020. They have been involved in many cases and participated in numerous arrests. Nico and Officer Costigan have also provided demonstrations throughout the community and in conjunction with the schools. The canine program's impact has been tremendous as officers have come to rely on Officer Costigan and Nico and the community has embraced the program through donations and support.

CPA (Citizens Police Academy) classes were suspended due to COVID-19 restrictions but we are looking forward to new classes in the Community Room of the new building. The classes each ran for 8 weeks and the curriculum involved the history of the Department, Crime Scene Investigation, Accident Reconstruction, Domestic Violence and several other topics. The Department hopes to resume classes during the 2020-2021 year.

Cops for Kids provided Christmas presents and winter clothing to almost 300 underprivileged children of Woodford County. Various fundraisers were held in conjunction with all emergency services of Woodford County, including a golf scramble, dunking booth, and collections at intersections. The community was extremely generous in supporting the program with private donations as well.



The Versailles Police Department is thankful for the incredible support of the Community and especially the Mayor and Versailles City Council. Many agencies do not have the support and encouragement that we enjoy. The Department is appreciative of the remarkable generosity and support that our programs and our employees receive from the Community and we look forward to serving our home and its citizens for another year.