



ROCHESTER
POLICE DEPARTMENT

ANNUAL REPORT 2023

[RochesterPolice.com](https://www.RochesterPolice.com)



A WORD FROM THE CHIEF

On behalf of the City of Rochester, I am pleased to present the Rochester Police Department's Annual Report for 2023. My hope is that this report will give you an inside look at our ongoing efforts to provide superior public safety services to our community.

This report reviews and summarizes our experience as an agency over the last year. In the pages ahead, you will be presented with facts and figures on calls for service, crime counts and staffing. You will be introduced to our captains and learn about progress in their respective areas of responsibility. You will see snapshots of our commitment to community connectedness.

I invite you to see why I am so honored to serve the City of Rochester alongside the women and men of RPD.

Respectfully submitted,



Jim Franklin
Chief of Police
Rochester Police Department





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Suite 200
Rochester, MN 55901

Law Enforcement Center
(LEC)
101 4th Street SE
Rochester, MN 55904

WHERE YOU CAN FIND US



[RochesterPolice.com](https://www.RochesterPolice.com)

Rochester Police Department (RPD) is comprised of four divisions working together to deliver the highest level of public safety services to our community: Patrol, Investigations, Services and Community Services.

- 1 CHIEF
- 4 CAPTAINS
- 9 LIEUTENANTS
- 25 SERGEANTS
- 114 SWORN OFFICERS (APPROX.)
- 70 SUPPORT STAFF (APPROX.)



Captain Aaron Penning
Patrol

Patrol provides 24/7 police services throughout Rochester, responding to calls for service. It is the largest of RPD's divisions.



Captain Casey Moilanen
Investigations

Investigations conducts thorough investigations on crimes committed in Rochester.

- General Investigations
- Major Crimes
- Criminal Interdiction Unit
- Technology Forensic Unit
- Intelligence Unit



Captain Jon Turk
Services

Services ensures that the department has the tools necessary to function optimally.

- Dispatch
- Records/Evidence
- Fleet Maintenance
- Training



Captain Jeff Stilwell
Community Services

Community Services fosters relationships in the community to solve problems and reduce crime.

- Community Action Team
- Community Service Officers
- School Resource Officers
- Hospital Resource Officers
- Parking & Animal Control

CRIME COUNTS

2023 2022 2021

	2023	2022	2021
MURDER/ NON-NEGLIGENT MANSLAUGHTER	1	1	1
NEGLIGENT MANSLAUGHTER	1	1	1
JUSTIFIABLE HOMICIDE	0	1	0
KIDNAPPING/ABDUCTION	7	10	19
SEXUAL OFFENSES	94	137	171
ROBBERY	28	32	45
AGGRAVATED ASSAULT	128	194	245
SIMPLE ASSAULT	632	524	627
INTIMIDATION	131	140	166
ARSON	2	5	6
EXTORTION/BLACKMAIL	6	10	8
BURGLARY	211	256	310
SHOPLIFTING	496	665	627
THEFT FROM MOTOR VEHICLE	333	356	506
THEFT OF MOTOR VEHICLE PARTS	68	170	199
MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT	153	149	167
OTHER THEFT/STOLEN PROPERTY	627	732	757
COUNTERFEITING/FORGERY	91	113	89
FRAUD/EMBEZZLEMENT	493	510	631
DESTRUCTION/DAMAGE/VANDALISM	592	639	751
DRUG/NARCOTIC	344	358	314
DRUG EQUIPMENT	159	231	200
WEAPON LAW VIOLATIONS	119	117	105

**CRIME
COUNTS**

	2023	2022	2021
PORNOGRAPHY/OBSCENE MATERIAL	28	16	28
DISORDERLY CONDUCT/ PUBLIC PEACE	781	709	740
DRIVING UNDER THE INFLUENCE	384	300	242
TRESPASS	441	272	184
ALL OTHER OFFENSES	1411	1402	1319

In compliance with state reporting requirements, RPD shares crime counts with the Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension (BCA). Local data is included in the [Minnesota Crime Data Explorer](#). Data in this report and the Minnesota Crime Data Explorer will differ slightly for various reasons, including delayed reporting of crimes by victims.

PATROL



Patrol provides 24/7 services throughout the City of Rochester. Patrol officers respond to incidents ranging from medicals to shootings to crashes.

In 2023, officers responded to 62,162 incidents or calls for service, an 8% increase from the previous year.

PERSON IN CRISIS CALLS

Person in crisis calls, which often involve individuals experiencing a mental health emergency, continued to rise. Officers responded to 1,998 person in crisis calls, an 18% increase from the previous year and a 64% increase over the last five years.

Officers often pair up with community outreach specialists (embedded social workers) to respond to these calls.

DRUG OVERDOSES

Officers responded to ten overdose deaths and a total of 89 drug overdoses, which is a 26% decrease from the previous year.

We know this is not an accurate representation of overdoses in our community. It does not account for overdoses where bystanders administer naloxone/NARCAN, a now widely available medication used to reverse an opioid overdose. Officers administered NARCAN 42 times in 2023.

When an overdose occurs, officers and community outreach specialists attempt to

reconnect with those who have overdosed to inform them about the Police Assisted Recovery (PAR) program.

PAR guides people toward resources and tools needed to begin a path toward sobriety. In 2023, 35 people sought residential treatment through PAR.

TRAFFIC SAFETY

Although traffic stops increased in 2024, traffic safety continued to be growing community concern. RPD tried to target areas of concern, some of which were identified by community members. (A [form](#) on our website makes it easy for anyone to share a traffic concern).

SPECIAL ENFORCEMENT TEAMS

Patrol formed Special Enforcement Teams (SET) to proactively address areas of concern identified through RPD's Violence Interruption Priorities (VIP) group. SET investigated 15 weapons violations calls, many of which were self-initiated.

The SET pilot project displayed proof of concept through its effort to target specific problems and make an almost immediate impact by removing dangerous persons, weapons and drugs from the streets.

INVESTIGATIONS



Investigations conducts thorough investigations on crimes committed in the City of Rochester. Investigators work closely with victims and prosecutors to bring criminals to justice.

The Investigations division was assigned 1,981 cases to investigate in 2023. The case load reflects operational efficiencies achieved by case assignment improvements.

Investigations continued to see a high number of domestic assault cases -- 244 in 2023.

In a case that resulted in national media attention, Connor Bowman, a medical resident, was indicted on first degree murder. RPD investigators served multiple warrants and gathered the necessary evidence to prove that Bowman poisoned his wife.

General Investigations/Major Crimes	894
Criminal Interdiction Unit	203
Technology Forensic Unit	20
Intelligence Unit	13
In-Custody Detective	851
TOTAL	1,981

Top 5 Incident Types Investigated

- 1** Domestic Assault
- 2** Drug or Drug Equipment
- 3** Criminal Sexual Conduct
- 4** Shoplift
- 5** DUI or Criminal Vehicular Operation

Search Warrants Executed

445

(approximately)

None was executed as a no-knock warrant.

INTERNET CRIMES AGAINST CHILDREN (ICAC)

The **Technology Forensic Unit (TFU)** receives tips from the the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children and the Minnesota ICAC task force.

The TFU conducted 27 local ICAC investigations and served 49 ICAC-related search warrants, resulting in 14 successfully prosecuted arrests/referrals.



Drug Seizures

Fentanyl and methamphetamine continued to be the most encountered controlled substances by the **Criminal Interdiction Unit (CIU)**. The drug seizure totals below are from cases that CIU led, assisted on and/or initiated.

9.57

pounds of fentanyl

equaling approximately

43,000

fentanyl pills

18.2

pounds of methamphetamine

436

grams of cocaine

17.2

pounds of ketamine

101

grams of crack

The Intelligence Unit corresponded with more than **200** law enforcement agencies across the United States and Canada regarding homicides, human trafficking, nationwide retail theft, fugitives, missing persons, transnational drug trafficking, international money laundering and more. Other Intelligence Unit highlights:

- Tracked RPD recovery of **76** firearms.
- Processed more than **500** calls on the Narcotics Tipline and [Crime Stoppers webpage](#).

SERVICES



Services makes sure the department has the tools necessary to function optimally. Dispatch, Records/Evidence, Fleet Maintenance and Training are included within Services.

Dispatch and Records/Evidence serve both RPD and Olmsted County Sheriff's Office.

PHONE CALLS INTO DISPATCH

911 58,193
non-emergency 131,607

Records

- Fulfilled 6,860 data requests.
- Processed approximately 110 requests for body worn camera video, requiring 315 hours of redaction time.
- Conducted 280 local background checks by request for various reasons.
- Significant data cleanup in preparation for data migration to a new records management system coming in 2024.

Evidence

- Initiated an audit of property and evidence room records and inventories. An independent firm conducted a comprehensive survey of the facilities and procedures and made some minor recommendations.
- Took in approximately 8,470 pieces of evidence.
- Took out (destroyed, returned, auctioned, etc.) approximately 11,140 pieces of evidence.



Fleet Maintenance

RPD replaced eight of its 44 Patrol vehicles in 2023, and a typical squad averaged 32,900 miles.

Fun Fact: Patrol vehicles went through 272 oil filters.

TRAINING

Officers receive ongoing training beyond what is required by the Minnesota Peace Officer Standard and Training (POST) board. Some of the trainings in 2023 included crisis intervention, active shooter and courtroom basics.



In response to increasing calls involving people experiencing mental health emergencies, officers attended a 40-hour crisis intervention training in March. The training included interactive role-play scenarios with actors.



RPD led and participated in an active shooter drill in August. Partners from the Rochester Fire Department, BCA and FBI also participated in the drill.



Officers attended a courtroom training on the structured process of a court/jury trial and basic evidence principles. They participated in mock trials in the roles of officers, witnesses and jurors. Area attorneys and law clerks had the opportunity to present or defend a "mock" case.

TRAINING



RPD welcomed two recruit classes in 2023. A total of 11 officers completed RPD's robust, in-house police academy. The Training Unit facilitates a 12-week academy for new officers and a condensed version for lateral hires.

Five of the 11 officers were lateral hires, and combined they share 60 years of law enforcement experience.



COMMUNITY SERVICES



Community Services fosters relationships in the community so that together we can collaboratively solve problems and reduce crime.



The Community Action Team (CAT) is dedicated to fostering relationships to build trust and proactively address community concerns. In 2023, CAT participated in more than 150 community engagement events.

Officers from throughout the department participated in larger events such as Shop with a Cop, Night to Unite and Safe City Nights. Safe City Nights is a community-wide series of events that CAT coordinates. An estimated 4,225 people attended Safe City Nights in 2023.





“
Thank you for doing
this for our
community. A great
way to build bridges!
”



“
Thank you so much to everyone
that makes these events happen
throughout the summer! They
are always a favorite for our
family. We are grateful to all who
work so hard keep our
community safe and connected!
”





Cops & Kids Community Bike Program

RPD received a \$25,000 grant to expand the Cops & Kids Community Bike Program.

In partnership with the Minnesota Office of Traffic Safety (OTS), RPD was one of three agencies awarded funding from the Governors Highway Safety Association and the National Road Safety Foundation to help youth stay safe while walking, biking and scooting.



RPD received 6,775 calls for service in the downtown district in 2023. Two Downtown Resource Officers are dedicated to serving the area and working toward long-term solutions on issues impacting the downtown community.



Six School Resource Officers (SROs) responded to 513 calls for service at Rochester Public Schools. The top call types were:

1. Assist
2. Disorderly Conduct
3. Community Service



Five Hospital Resource Officers (HROs) responded to 2,254 calls for service at Mayo Clinic Hospital, St. Marys Campus. The top call types were:

1. Disorderly Conduct
2. Simple Assault
3. Property Damage



2023

