

Elwood Police



ANNUAL
REPORT
2017



Village Trustees Dean Lowrance, Don LaPaglia, Darryl Lab, and Mary Matichak take oath of office

VILLAGE PRESIDENT

Doug Jenco

VILLAGE CLERK

Julie Friebele

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Don LaPaglia

Darryl P. Lab

Dean Lowrance

Mary Matichak

Jasen Melahn



Mayor Doug Jenco pledges oath of office from Village Clerk Julie Friebele

The mission of the Elwood Police Department is to protect and serve the community we police in a legal, ethical and professional manner, using the community policing strategy, and engaging in problem-solving when appropriate.

Contact Us

Emergency: 9-1-1

Non-emergency dispatch: 815-423-5411

www.villageofelwood.com

Message from the Chief

On behalf of the men and women of the Elwood Police Department, I am proud to present the 2017 Annual Report. Over the past year, our nation has experienced a tremendous change on social attitudes. Political differences, economic and social injustice, and a shifting value system have all divided and challenged Americas founding principles. Unfortunately for law enforcement, this has proven especially difficult as numerous reports of officers being ambushed or violently targeted occurred nationwide.

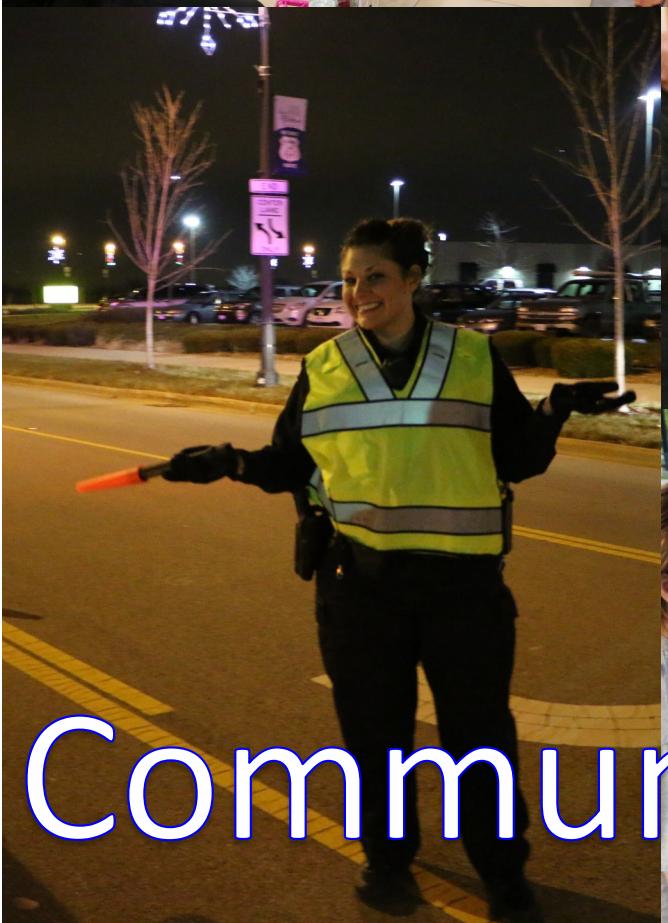


While recognizing the social discourse occurring throughout our nation Elwood Police Officers continue to garner the support of the community they protect and serve. In response to the growing dangers associated with police work our officers have been provided with additional equipment and training this year to better prepare them for any situation they may encounter.

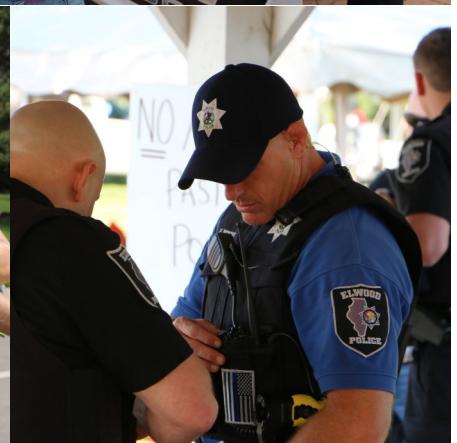
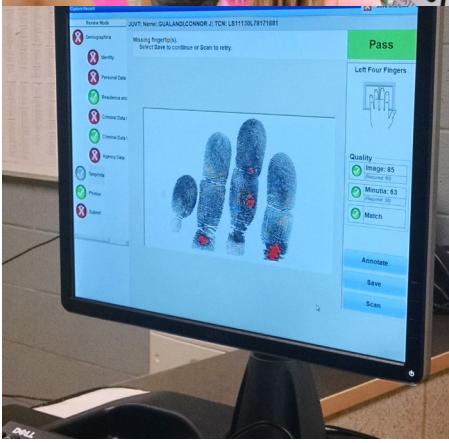
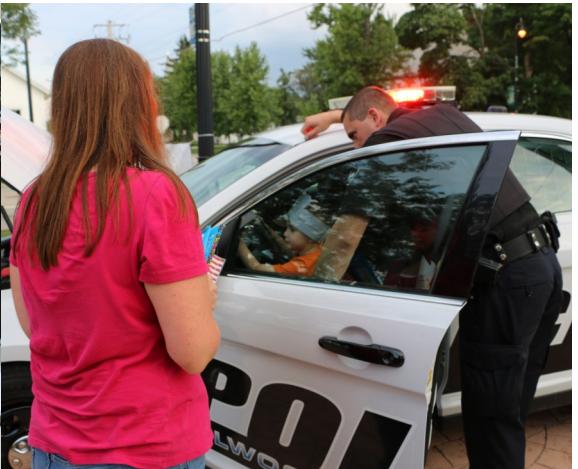
This past year has brought about many changes and new challenges for the Elwood Police Department. In this report you will find many of our outstanding accomplishments and information which summarizes the hard work and dedication made by the men and women of our department. I am proud and humbled by the gracious community support we enjoy here in the Village of Elwood. Recognition for a job well done is encouraging and heartwarming to those of us committed to law enforcement. I hope the performance of our police officers will continue to merit your approval and support.

Fred W. Hayes
Chief of Police

Working with



Community



Paying Tribute

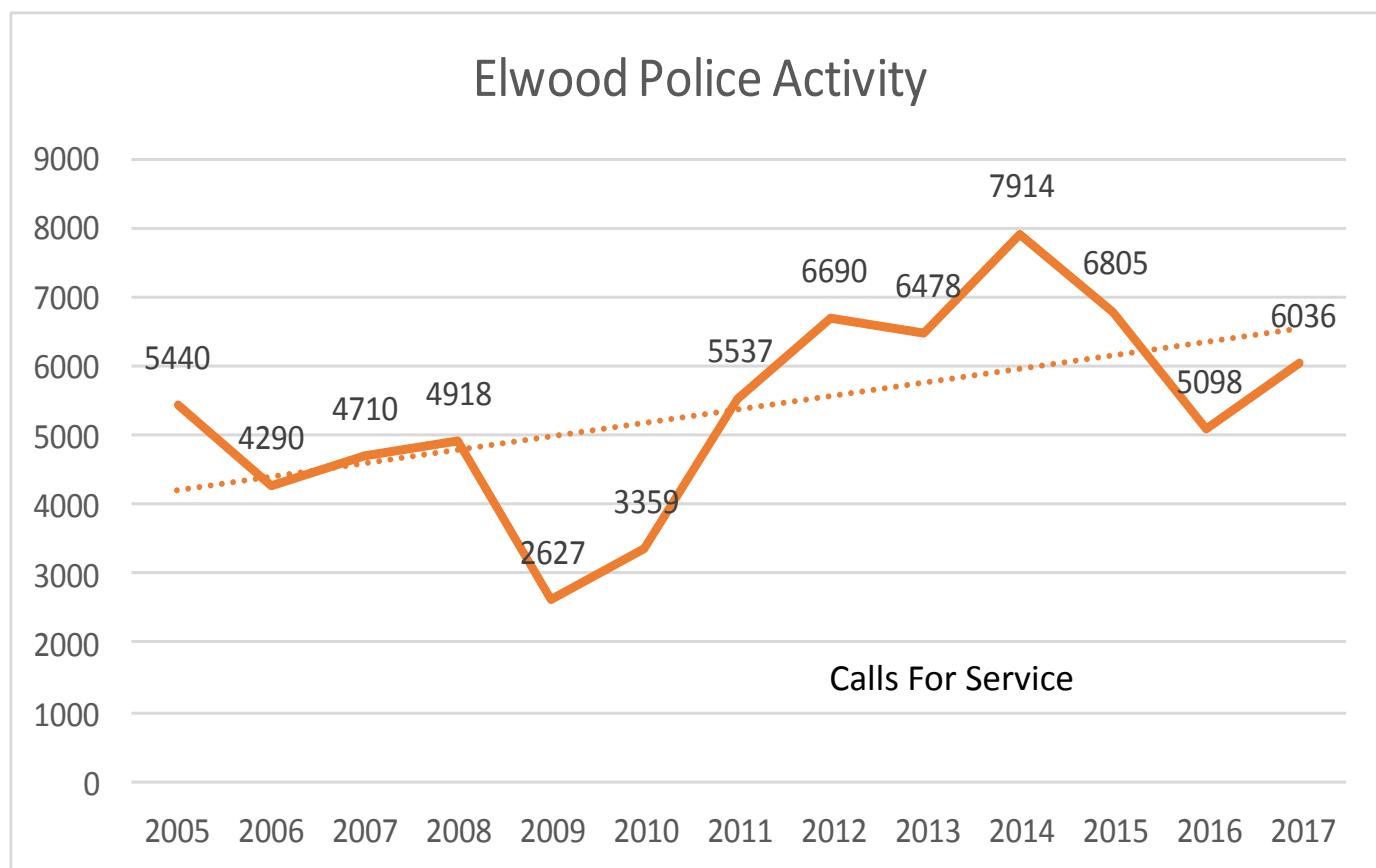


Elwood Police Officers attended the 35th annual Law Enforcement Memorial Day held on May 12th to commemorate those officers from Will County killed in the line of duty. Over one hundred officers from more than 20 local law enforcement agencies attended this year's ceremony, which was held on the lawn of the Will County Courthouse.



Police Activity Analysis

Data from calls for service (CFS) was collected for the Village of Elwood for a 13 year period of 2005 through 2017 to gauge trends in police activity. The police activity is recorded through the Computer-Aided-Dispatch (CAD) system operated by Will County 911. All calls for service made to the police department either using emergency 911 or the Elwood Police non-emergency numbers, and service initiated by officers are entered into the CAD system where times, locations, officer assigned, and caller information are stored.

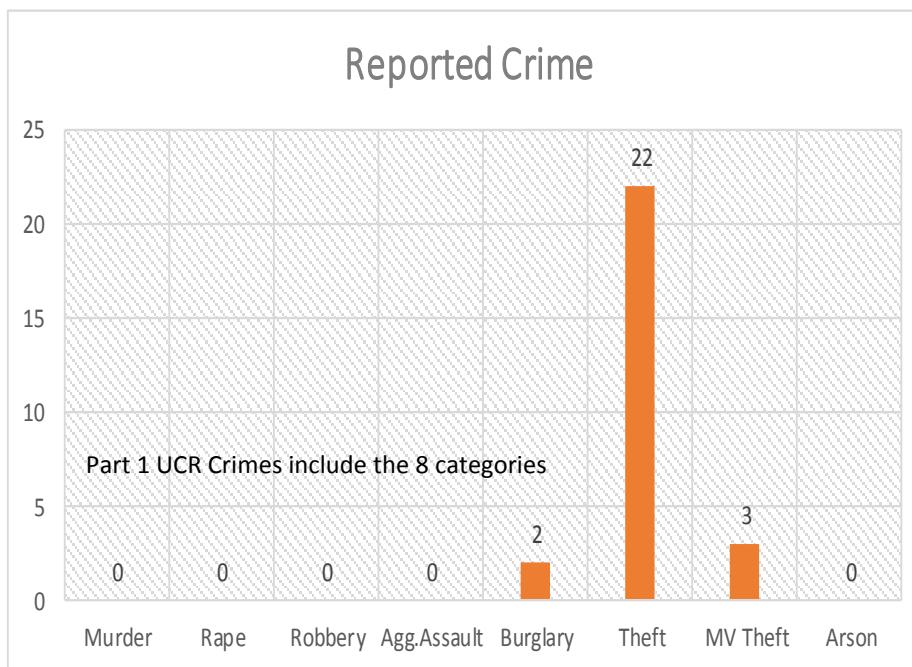


As the above graph indicates the Department had 6036 Calls for Service in 2017. Although the Department had 18.4% more CFS than the previous year, the majority of the increase can be attributed to enhanced traffic safety efforts generated by officer self-initiated activity. The graph represents all CFS which include every traffic stop, accident, suspicious subject complaints, domestic violence, worker disturbances, and even barking dog calls.

Crime Statistics

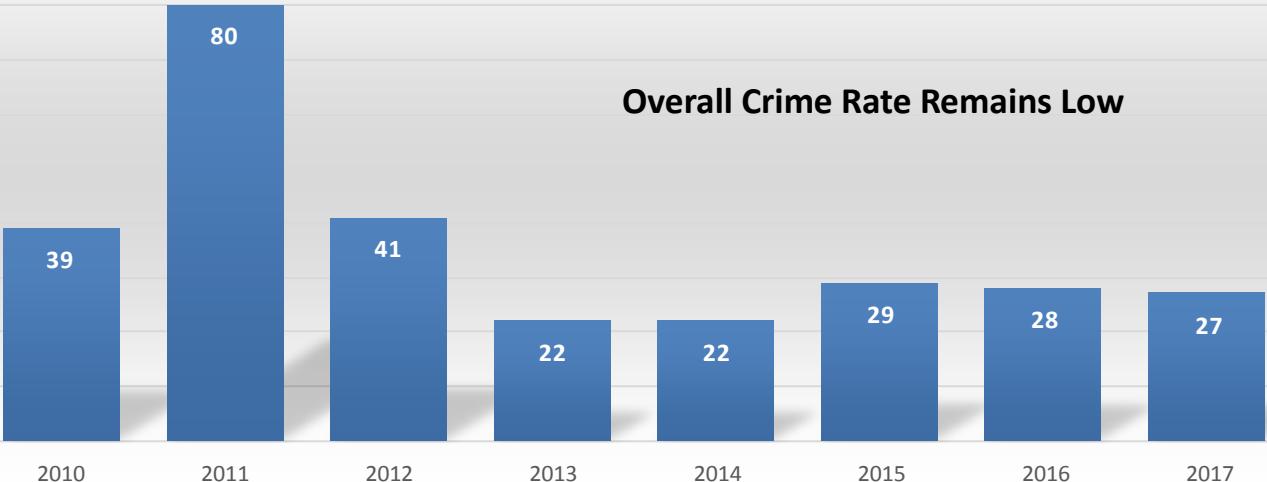
The department conducts a yearly internal analysis of all crime data. The police department submits documented reported crimes to the Illinois State Police and FBI Uniform Crime Reporting system. Beyond Part 1 UCR data, this also includes traffic stops, relevant contacts, and citizen complaints. The graph below lists all reported crime

in the Village of Elwood for 2017. The 27 reports of crime continues to highlight the significantly low crime rate for the village in comparison to other communities in Will County. It is especially important to note the village had no reported violent crime in 2017. The majority of reported crime involves thefts which occur within the intermodal industrial park.



8 Year Crime Trend

Overall Crime Rate Remains Low

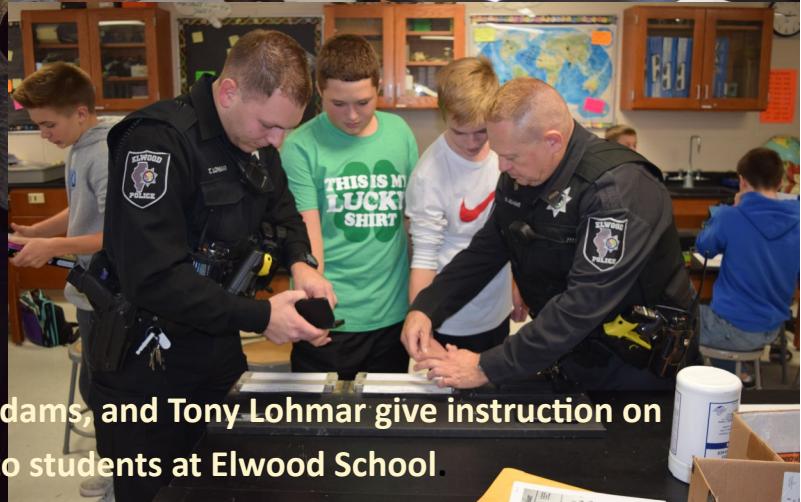


Criminal Investigations

Officer James Hartley serves as the department investigator with responsibility to conduct follow-up investigations of reported crimes (i.e. murder, robbery, burglary, fraud, cargo theft, etc.). These investigations consist of interviewing suspects, victims, and witnesses; analyzing information for validity, reliability, and accuracy; and compiling a comprehensive and factual case file to be presented in court. Officer Randy Lightfoot was assigned primary investigator in October 2017.

The departments Evidence/Property Section is staffed by Officer Nick Adams. As the Evidence Custodian he must receive, store and release evidence and property in compliance with Department policy and procedure and applicable laws.

Case #	Investigation Period	Investigation Type	Case Status
17-158	3 Weeks	Drug Activity / Investigation	Began Investigation on March 6 th , 2017. This agency received information through confidential sources that there was drug activity and possibly occupants manufacturing narcotics from a residence. No further evidence discovered. Case Suspended.
17-343	1 day	Manufactory / Delivery of Cannabis 100-500 Grams	Suspect arrested on Felony charges. Suspect is currently incarcerated in another jurisdiction for related offenses and held on our warrant.
17-421	4 Weeks Sgt. Hartley	Theft over / Forgery	An employee of the Village of Elwood was accused of stealing, forging and depositing a check for self-gain. After several interviews and an interrogation, the employee admitted to the theft and was charged accordingly. Subject is still outstanding on an arrest warrant.
17-707	1 day	Criminal Damage to Property	The complainant reported that an unknown person had broken out 5-7 windows around her landlord's residence. Upon interview the complainant admitted to the crimes and evidence of such crime was recovered. Subject was arrested on misdemeanor charges at this time.
17-622	1 week Lightfoot	Aggravated Battery	Incident involved a juvenile victim. Adult offender has not been identified at this time. No further leads.
17-626	2 Weeks Lightfoot	Theft over \$500	Offender was identified through investigation. The victim refused to sign criminal complaints.
17-693	3 Weeks Lightfoot	Criminal Sexual Abuse / Solicitation to meet a child	Suspect was identified. Case was turned over to Joliet PD due to jurisdiction of crime occurrences.
17-698	2 D Sgt. Anderson	Felony Theft over \$10,000.00 (Sgt. Anderson)	Two suspects were captured stealing thousands of dollars in merchandise for a warehouse. Subjects were arrested and charged accordingly with the property in their possession.
17-701	2 weeks Lightfoot	Battery	Case was investigated. Suspect was identified and interviewed. Victim refused to sign criminal complaints.



Officers Randy Lightfoot, Nick Adams, and Tony Lohmar give instruction on Forensic Science to students at Elwood School.

Police Department Reorganizational Plan 2017

During the past five years the Elwood Police Departments number of authorized police officers or strength level was staffed at (10) full-time sworn and (3) part-time sworn police officers. The department currently has (1) full-time vacancy, due to the retirement of Commander Kerr, and (2) part-time vacancies. It is recognized that the past organizational structure (Exhibit A) of the department was command level heavy with only (2) supervisory positions (Chief and Commander). As a result, the organizational structure provided little front-line supervision or street level supervision. Additionally, the departments patrol staffing levels result in many shifts being covered by only (1) police officer.

The preference for police coverage is to provide a minimum of two police officers working each shift. Given today's increasingly violent world police officers must rely on each other's support in order to respond to calls in a safe and efficient manner. The current population size for the Village of Elwood and the authorized strength level for the police department presents challenges in supporting a minimum patrol staffing level of two police officers. Therefore, our police officers routinely rely on back up coverage from the Will County Sheriff and surrounding police departments. The Elwood Police Department in return provides mutual aid response on a routine basis for police coverage to near-by communities. This spirit of mutual collaboration between police departments is vital to enhancing officer safety and proving the necessary police resources to all affected communities.

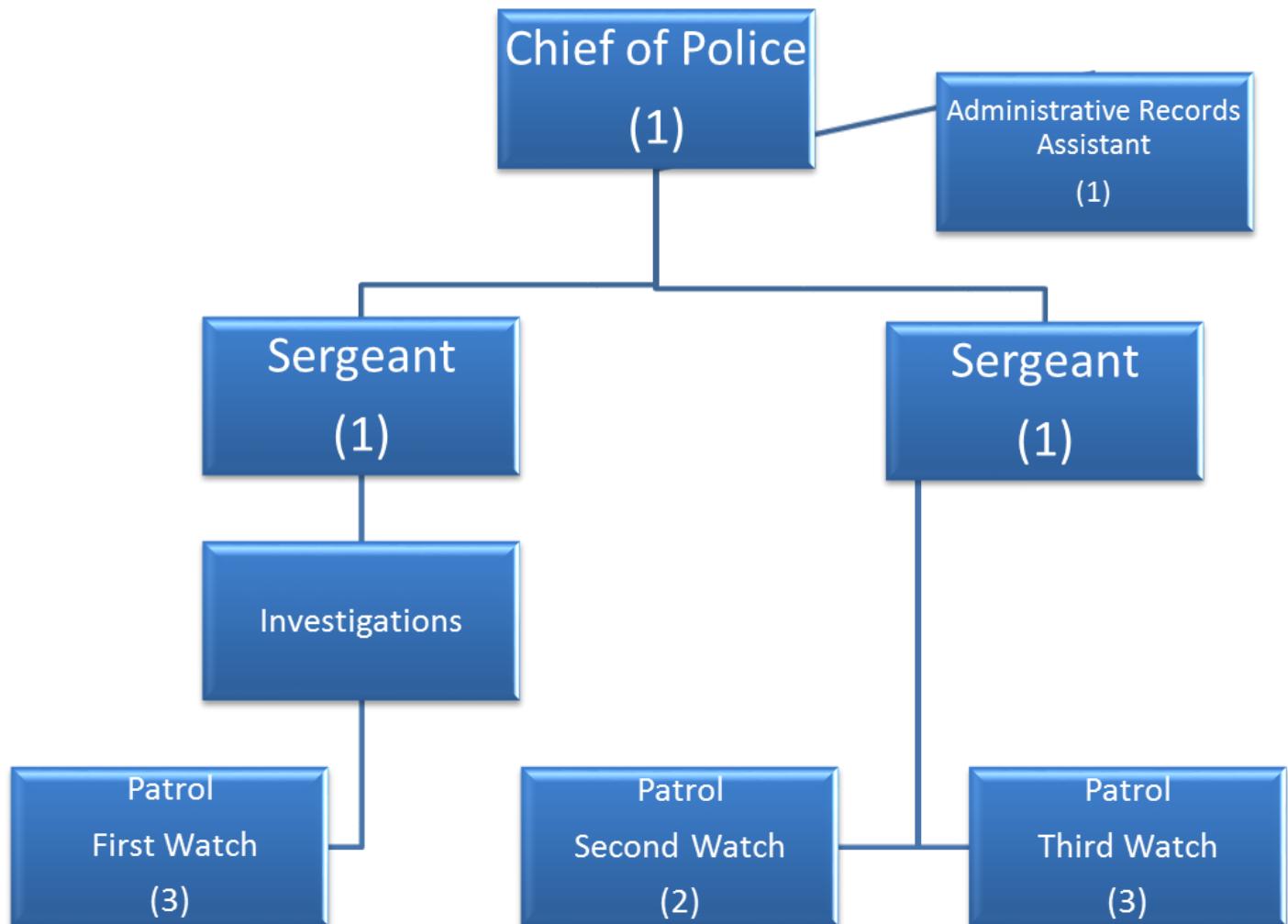
The elimination of the upper management position (Commander) provides the opportunity to add first level supervision. First level supervisors are responsible for ensuring that subordinates deliver high quality service. The addition of Sergeants as first level supervisors will greatly improve the authority, responsibility, and accountability of performance by our officers to the community.

The addition of (1) full-time sworn position would increase the total full-time sworn personnel from 10 to 11 and improve the department's ability to ensure sufficient police coverage by allowing for improved staffing ratios.



Officers Randy Lightfoot, Ken Jaburek, and Nick Adams

Police Department Reorganizational Plan 2017



The new organizational structure of the department (Above Chart) allows for one sergeant to have direct supervision with the Patrol First Watch (Day Shift) and Investigations, leaving the second sergeant in charge of Patrol Second Watch (afternoon shift) and Patrol Third Watch (midnight shift). This will allow a more balanced span of control between supervisors. The Sergeant duties will also require street patrols and response to calls for service. Therefore, Sergeants will be included as part of the patrol manpower or staffing. Both sergeants will report directly to the Chief of Police. In the absence of the Chief of Police, command authority for Department operations will succeed to the senior Sergeant.

Promotions



At the Village Board meeting on September 6, 2017 the Mayor and Board of Trustee's unanimously approved the promotion of veteran Elwood Police Officers James Hartley and Andrew Anderson to the rank of Sergeant. "I know they will serve the citizens of Elwood well," said Mayor Todd Matichak "This puts the police department in a good position for the future."

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Sergeant James Hartley is a 13-year veteran of the police department with experience as a Lead Criminal Investigator and Field Training Officer. Sergeant Hartley is also assigned to the Will/Grundy Major Crime Task Force.

Sergeant Andrew Anderson, who is a graduate of the University of St. Francis, is a 4-year veteran of the department. He has worked the midnight shift since joining the department and is also assigned to the Illinois Law Enforcement Alarm System (ILEAS) Mobile Field Force (MFF) team.

"It's great to have two well qualified veterans as supervisors working to keep our community safe" said Chief Fred Hayes. "They both have strong local family connections to the Village of Elwood," he added.

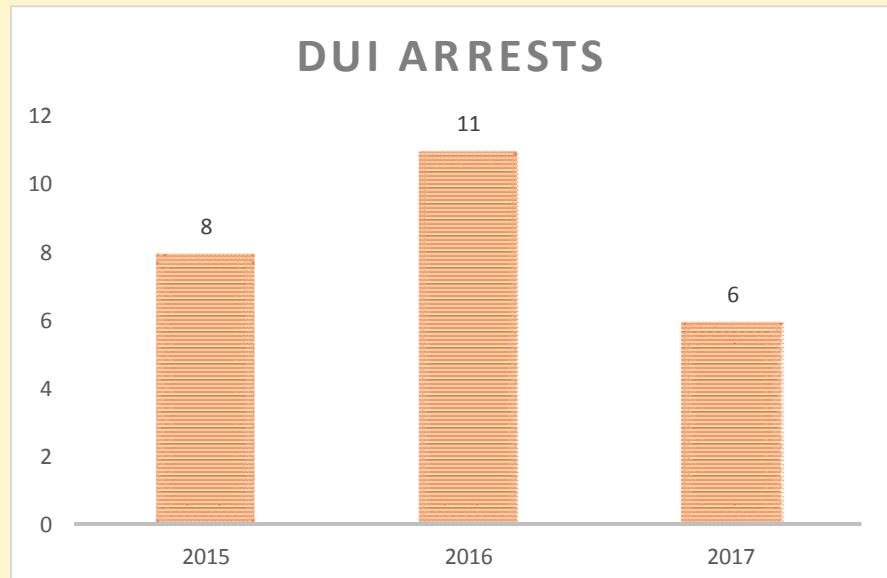
In 2015, both Hartley and Anderson worked with the Will County Sheriff's Department in apprehending two burglary suspects which led to the resolution of over forty residential burglaries and yielded the seizure of over \$30,000 in stolen property and more than ten stolen firearms.



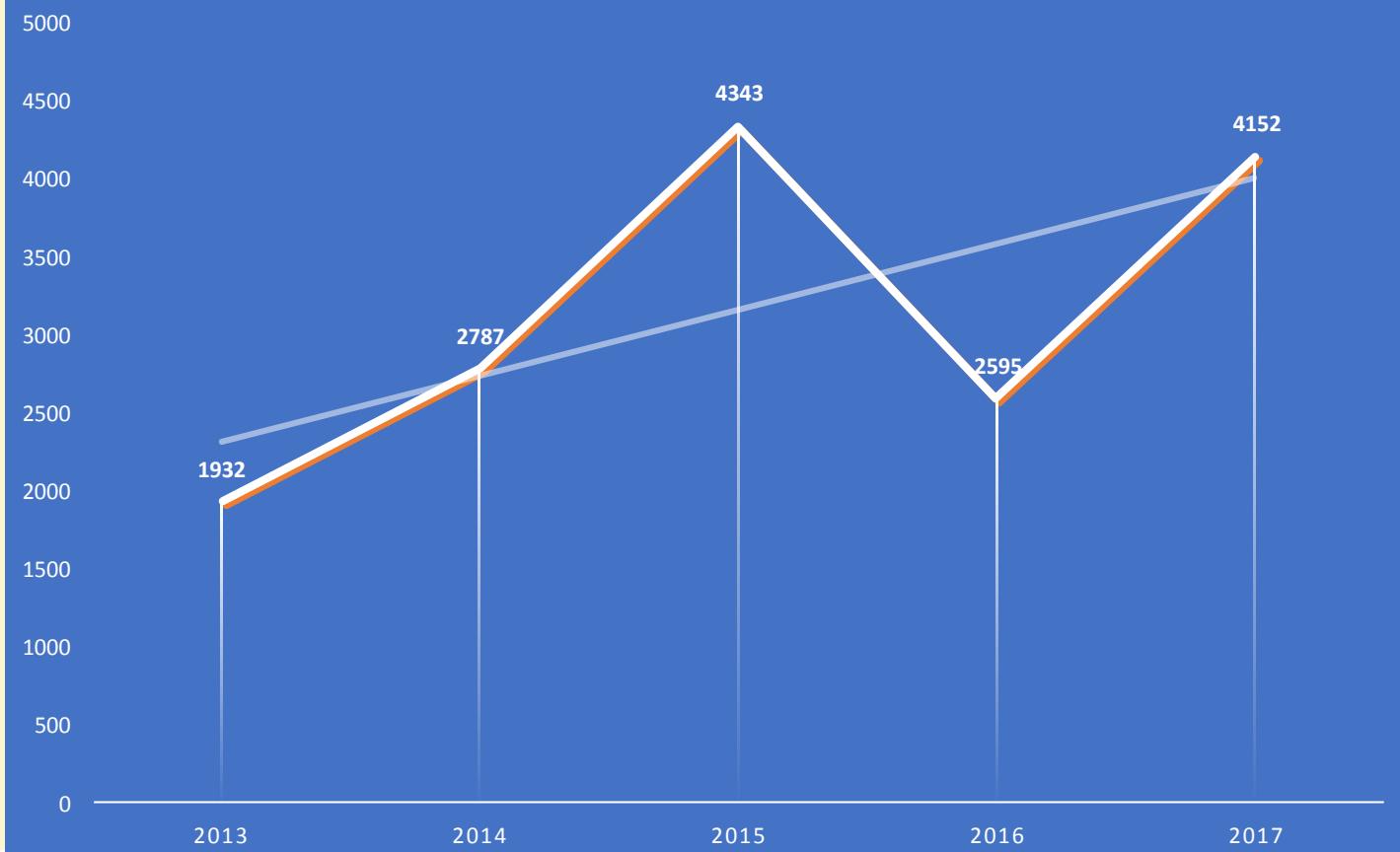
Village Clerk Julie Friebele gives the Oath of Office

Traffic Enforcement Activity

Traffic Enforcement is an important duty of patrol officers at the department. Special enforcement periods and campaigns have been designed to improve the safety of all residents and motorists traveling through the village. Elwood police officers are committed to improving the efficiency and safety of passenger vehicles and truck transportation in addition to pedestrian and bicycle safety. Officers wrote a total of 4,152 traffic citations in 2017, which is the second highest total in department history.



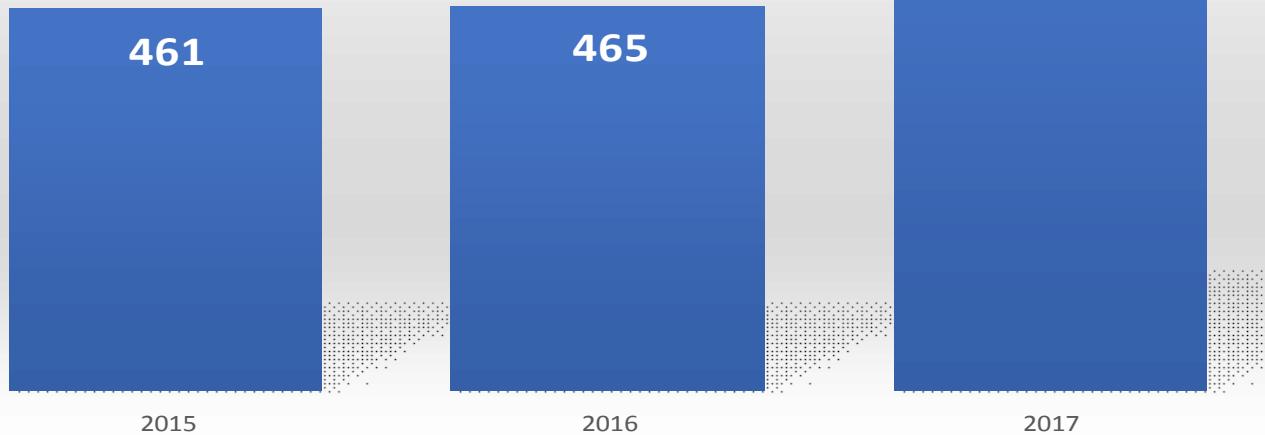
TOTAL NUMBER OF TICKETS ISSUED BY YEAR



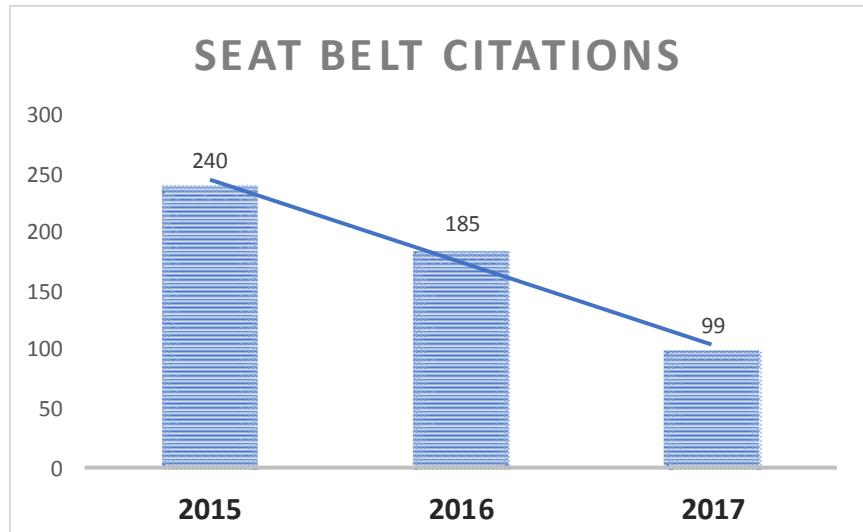
Traffic Enforcement Activity

Speeding Tickets

1,562 Speeding Citations Issued 3 Years



Our enforcement efforts are data-driven and focus on the main factors that lead to personal injury accidents and fatalities, such as not using seat belts, impairment, speeding, and distracted driving. Officers also focus on the dangers posed by the aggressive and reckless driving behaviors of operators of large commercial trucks. Each and every day Elwood Police Officers maintain traffic enforcement duties as their top priority. It shall be the policy of this department and a priority to focus its enforcement efforts through vigorous enforcement of three major traffic safety categories; Speeding, Impaired Driving (DUI) and Occupant Protection. Officers conduct special enforcement activities designed to improve the safety of all residents and motorists traveling through the village.



Traffic Enforcement Activity

On September 14th, the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) Law Enforcement Liaison Thomas Morey bestowed the Elwood Police Department with state-wide recognition for traffic safety enforcement. The department was presented with the 2017 Illinois Speed Awareness Day Excellence Award in recognition of outstanding and invaluable contribution to keeping Illinois safe. The Illinois Association of Chiefs of Police (ILACP) Traffic Safety Committee and FACES4.org selected Elwood Police to receive an Excellence Award based on the department's efforts put forth during the ILACP/FACES4.org Illinois Speed Awareness Day (ISAD) campaign.

Elwood Police joined forces with agencies

statewide for the 2017 Illinois Speed Awareness Day Campaign held on July 26th. Officers issued over 40 speeding citations and 26 other citations and warnings that day. The Department worked on a proactive approach to promote safety for motorists, pedestrians, and cyclists through both education and enforcement. In Illinois during 2015, speed was the reason for 34.2% of all fatal crashes. That's 369 deaths for the year, or one life every 23.7 hours. These lives can be easily saved by being aware of our speed and understanding how speeding impacts a crash. Let's all do our part by taking a proactive approach to prevent fatalities and reduce injuries on the roadways by being aware of our speed and obeying the speed limit signs all the time.



Officers Randy Lightfoot, Ed Wright, Ken Jaburek, and Nick Adams receive award from IDOT Liaison Thomas Morrey (left to right).

Traffic Enforcement Activity



Public Works Director Larry Lohmar gives instruction on scale operation to Officers Ken Jaburek, Tony Lohmar, Nick Adams, Randy Lightfoot and Drew Anderson

On August 1st of this year, the Village of Elwood opened the first and only local police truck enforcement weigh station in Will County. The permanent scale house located at 26550 Elwood International Port Road (Baseline) has state-of-the-art technology which allows police officers to safely weigh out Commercial Motor Vehicles (CMV's) suspected of being overweight. During the first month of operation Elwood Police Officers stopped 210 CMV's, and issued 57 overweight citations, resulting in over \$78,000 in posted bonds.

According to the U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO), one 40-ton CMV truck does as much damage to the road as

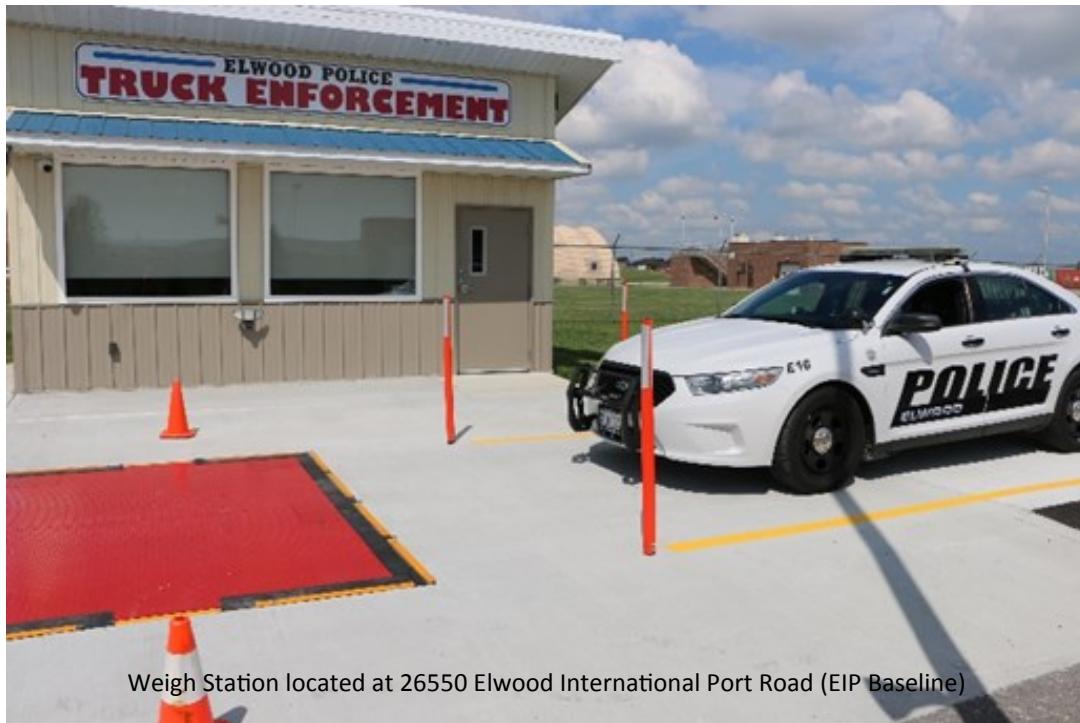
9,600 cars. Heavy trucks stress the pavement, and the freeze-thaw cycles we experience in the Northern Illinois climate cause the roads to crack and create potholes. In order to properly manage for road improvements, including preserving the roadway in-

tegrity and otherwise mitigate losses caused by road deterioration, and to minimize traffic hazards to the Village of Elwood's designated truck routes, the village has adopted Village Ordinance No. 1004 and issues overweight-load permits.



Weigh Station located at
26550 Elwood International Port Road (EIP Baseline)

Traffic Enforcement Activity



Weigh Station located at 26550 Elwood International Port Road (EIP Baseline)

Truck enforcement exists to provide safe passage through Village of Elwood for all motor vehicle traffic as they share the roads with larger and heavier commercial vehicles. The Village of Elwood strictly enforces overweight/oversize commercial vehicles. The Village continues to experience a growing number of commercial motor vehicle traffic through the town.

The Elwood Police Department has certified truck enforcement officers who are also members of the Illinois Truck Enforcement Association (ITEA). Currently Elwood Officers utilize roadside portable scales to enforce the law. The portable scales are heavy and cumbersome with each scale weighing over 60 lbs. Police Officers must lift each scale from the

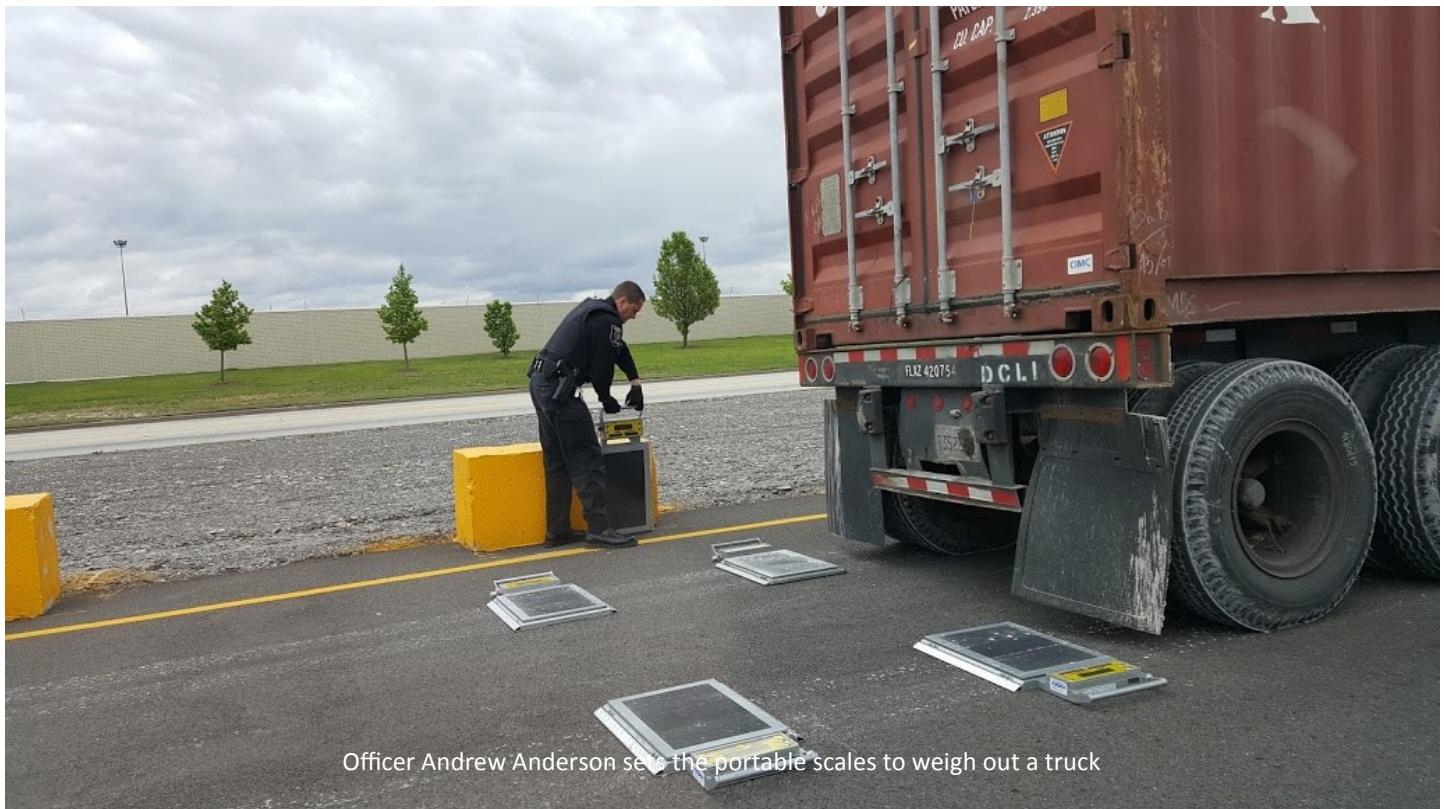
squad car and set them on a smooth level road surface. The driver of a CMV is then directed by the police officer to roll-over each scale and the officer records the data. Upon completion, each scale is then lifted back into the squad car for storage.

Due to the high volume of overweight CMV traffic, the Elwood Police Department has determined the use of permanent static scales would provide a more safe and efficient operating procedure for both drivers of CMV's and Police Officers. The Village of Elwood has erected and installed a CMV weighing station at the Elwood Water Treatment Plant located on Elwood International Port Road. The location utilizes the Fairbanks Matrix Configurable Truck Weighing

System with scales certified by the Illinois Department of Agriculture.

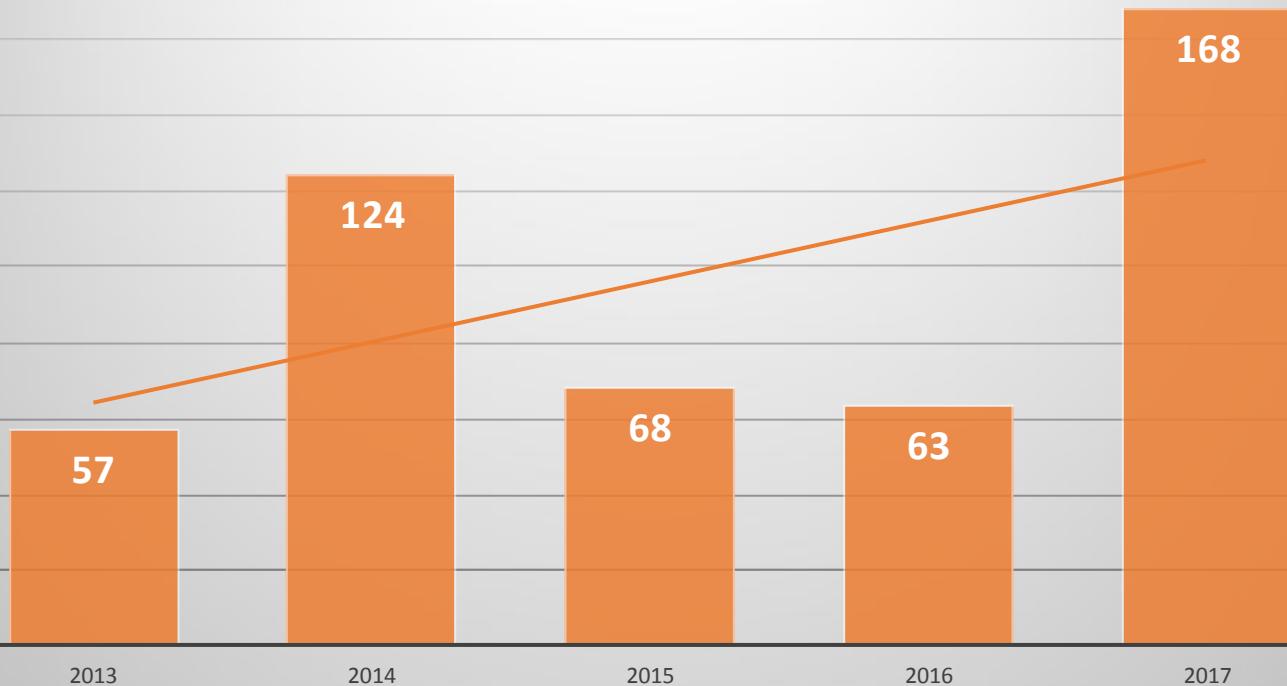


Traffic Enforcement Activity



Officer Andrew Anderson sets the portable scales to weigh out a truck

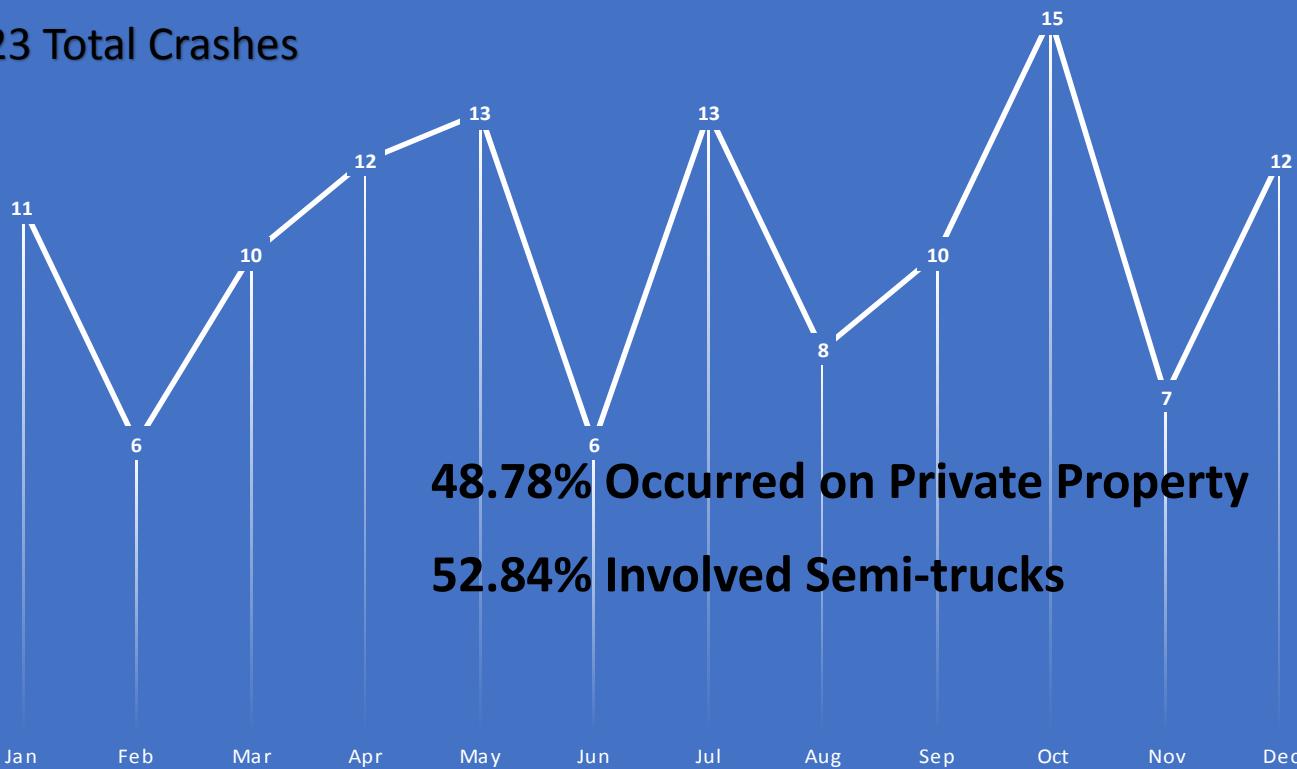
Overweight Truck Citations By Year



Traffic Enforcement Activity

CRASH INVESTIGATIONS 2017

123 Total Crashes



During 2017 officers responded to **123** traffic accidents. As first responders our primary priority is to assist the injured in the interest of preserving life. We work closely with the Elwood Fire Protection District to ensure quick medical response, and to provide safeguards at the accident scene. Additionally officers conduct an accident investigation and complete the Illinois Department of Transportation Crash Report. Crash data submitted to IDOT is an essential tool used for reducing serious injury and fatal crashes.



Officer Nick Adams directing traffic

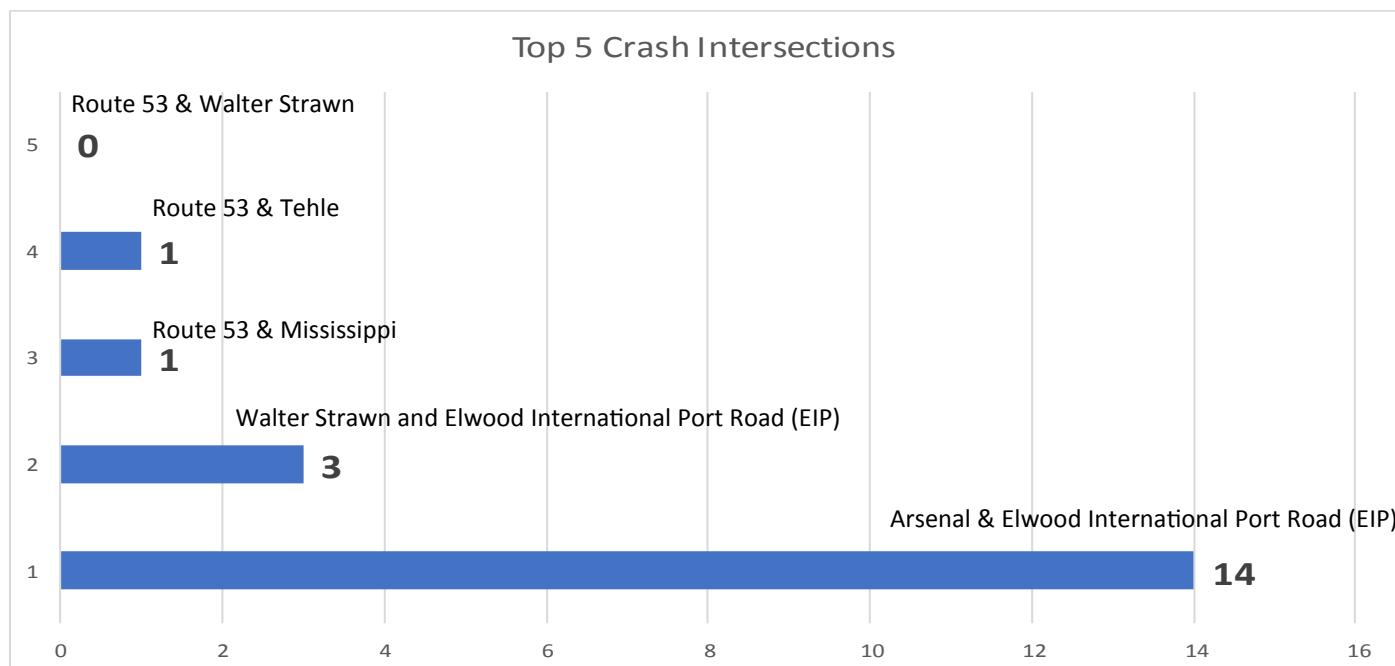
Traffic Enforcement Activity

The Elwood Police Department completed an annual analysis from all crash data complied throughout the year. This data is further broken down to the top five crash intersections. A review of the crashes by month, day, time, reported injuries, seat belt usage, and types of vehicles involved, was completed.

The department closely conducted the analysis with the Director of Engineering for the village, to identify where education, enforcement, or roadway improvements were needed to improve traffic safety. At the start of 2017 the most dangerous intersection was identified as Arsenal Road and Elwood International Port Road (EIP).

This intersection had the highest number of injury crashes and the highest volume of truck traffic. The information was used to target enforcement, education, and infrastructure improvements to reduce one of the top accident intersections in the Village of Elwood by – 12.5%, from 16 crashes in 2015 to 14 crashes in 2017.

We also worked with IDOT to change the jurisdictional control of Arsenal Road from Will County to IDOT control. The change will allow for future improved safety initiatives at EIP and Arsenal intersection. Of the 14 crashes reported at the intersection of EIP and Arsenal, 12 involved CMV traffic. Although this intersection falls within the jurisdiction of the Village of Elwood, the Will County Sheriff maintains a daily truck enforcement detail of (4) deputies at this location.



Significant Accomplishments 2017

Administration:

- FEMA & IEMA planning and drill for Dresden Nuclear Plant radiological disaster
- Launched new on-line Pace Scheduler program for police officer shift assignments
- Awarded Illinois Public Risk Fund grant to implement model operating policies with Lexipol risk management computer software program
- Completed department reorganization eliminating commander position and promoting two sergeants to serve as street supervisors
- Adopted new truck overweight ordinance to regulate trucks overweight on the Wheel and Axle Load distribution
- Positioned state-of-the-art technology with Lexis Nexis fully automated accident reporting system increasing officer efficiency and allowing citizens access online
- Purchased new Konica Minolta Bizhub for records section
- Opened permanent fixed site Truck Enforcement Weigh Station
- Deployed new Motorola Radios to all officers with the Starcom21 WESCOM project

Operations:

- Increased State Citations issued by officers over 60% from previous year
- Increased Overweight Truck Citations by 167% from previous year
- Received IDOT Traffic Safety Speed Awareness Award
- Awarded grant of \$20,000 from the Will County States Attorney to establish Elwood Police K9 Unit
- Created the Neighborhood Traffic Safety Program with a public private partnership with CenterPoint installing speed bumps on Spencer and Gardner Streets
- Improved the safety of students walking to school by expanding the Crossing Guard Program with funding from CenterPoint
- Participated in annual Elwood Community School Safety meeting and conducted state mandated lockdown drill
- Record attendance with successful planning and organizing of the 3rd Annual National Night Out Event

Significant Accomplishments 2017

Personnel:

- Promoted Sergeant Jim Hartley and Sergeant Andrew Anderson
- Retirement of police Commander Pat Kerr
- Officer Ed Wright and Officer Andrew Anderson received recognition for exceptional DUI enforcement from Alliance Against Intoxicated Motorists (AAIM)

Training:

- Equipped and trained all officers on state mandated NARCAN response to opioid induced medical emergencies
- Conducted 624 hours of training, an average of 104 hours per officer
- Certified Child Passenger Safety Seat Technician
- Continued Department-wide 40-hour State certification in Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) training improving police response to persons with mental illness
- Officer Ed Wright graduation from Basic SWAT training
- Completed Active Shooter Response training in conjunction with the Will County Sheriff's Police
- Attended the 7th Annual Illinois Truck Enforcement Association Conference



Special Events



3rd Annual National Night Out



Special Events



Officer Randy Lightfoot awards three new bikes to excited children



Special Events



Special Events

