

Bellbrook

Police Department

2023 Annual Report



MISSION STATEMENT

The Mission of the Bellbrook Police Department is to efficiently provide quality police services for our community by promoting a safe environment through a police-citizen partnership, with an emphasis on mutual trust, integrity, fairness and professionalism.

CORE VALUES



Courage

We train in a manner so we will properly respond to all types of calls for service. Our officers are always ready to assist others when they are called upon, regardless of the situation.

Loyalty

Our officers are true to their values, ethics and integrity as individuals and as part of the fine institution that comprises the Bellbrook Police Department.

Community

The Bellbrook Police Department is committed to providing excellent customer service to the citizens of Bellbrook. It is our profound belief that we are here to serve you. We remain devoted to providing the highest level of professional law enforcement services to our community. Our mission is to serve all of you!

Executive Summary

Your Bellbrook Police Department had an exciting year in 2023. From new faces, new Officer opportunities and occasions for equipment upgrades all came to fruition this past year.

New Faces: BPD added Patrol Officers Travis Waller and Karen Moore to our staff, and said farewell to Officer Jackie Jones who retired after 34 years of dedicated service to BPD.

New Opportunities: BPD added its first ever School Resource Officer (SRO). Ofc. Stephanie Bennington splits her SRO duties between Stephen Bell Elementary School and Bell Creek Intermediate School. This program has been very well received by both students, staff, and parents! You may want to check out some of her activities at the schools by visiting the Bellbrook Police Department page on Facebook.

Ofc. Ryan Johnston was assigned to the Greene County SWAT team as the representative from our department. This is a first for our agency, and Ryan's involvement in the team allows him additional training and tactics which he can bring back to our officers, greatly benefiting our agency with training not available elsewhere.

Equipment: The City of Bellbrook has entered into a leasing agreement with Enterprise, allowing for the replacement of three (3) patrol vehicles scheduled for the 2024 calendar year. This city-wide plan will not only reduce procurement, operational and maintenance costs for the city's vehicle fleet but will also allow the Police Department (and other city departments) to obtain newer equipment sooner – police vehicles will be rotated out of service every three years instead of a five or six year cycle.

Bellbrook PD has completed its deployment of a new records management system, *New World*, with Greene County. This new system puts your department on the same county-wide system as all other county departments and allows for information sharing of all crime and call data in the county, significantly enhancing the ability of our officers to track crime trends and serve and protect our citizens.

Looking forward into 2024, Bellbrook Police Department continues to adopt the philosophy of beneficial change in the department and embracing new relationships, improved training opportunities, and continuing the tradition of exceptional service to our residents and the public. In 2024, BPD looks to gain knowledge from accomplishments of the past and pursue opportunities in the future which can best serve our residents and public.

Respectfully,



Chief Stephen Carmin

Chief Stephen P. Carmin



Stephen P. Carmin will have 34 years of law enforcement service in 2024. He was appointed to the position of Chief of Police in April, 2022. Chief Carmin began his career in 1990 at German Township Police Dept., Montgomery County, Ohio, before coming to Bellbrook P.D. as an Officer in December of 1992. He was promoted to Patrol Division Sergeant in 1999, and then to Patrol Operations Lieutenant in March of 2014. He was promoted to the rank of Patrol Operations Captain in September of 2020.

As a Lieutenant, he was honored to receive the Department's Leadership Award in 2017, and BPD Police Officer of the Year Award in 2018.

Chief Carmin attended Pima College in Tucson, Arizona, where he studied Criminal Justice. Chief Carmin also carries a Diploma from Lamson College, Arizona, in the field of Computer Science.

Chief Carmin has two grown children, Brent and Trevor.

Captain Steve Lane



Captain Steve Lane was hired by the Bellbrook Police Department in October of 2022. He began his law enforcement career with the Clinton County Sheriff's Office as a Deputy in 1991 where he served for 18 months. He went on to serve with the Xenia Police Division for the next 29 years.

As a patrol officer, he performed specialized assignments such as field training officer, bike patrol, and Special Events Team member/medic. He has served on numerous committees, including representation of the bargaining unit in labor/management concerns and worked as part of a team that negotiated several labor contracts. He was assigned as a detective to the A.C.E. Task Force doing narcotics and other special investigations until being promoted to sergeant. He served as the SWAT team commander for ten years. He was promoted to Captain in 2014.

Captain Lane has an Associate's Degree in Criminal Justice from Clark State Community College, a Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice Administration from Wilberforce University, and a Master's Degree in Executive Leadership from Liberty University. Captain Lane is a graduate of the Northwestern University's School of Police Staff and Command, the FBI National Academy, and The Ohio State University's Public Safety Leadership Academy. Captain Lane received several awards while at Xenia PD, including the Division's Silver Shield, Leadership, Meritorious Service, Community Policing, and "Casey Elliott City's Finest" Awards.

Steve is married to his wife Stephanie. He has three children and one grandchild.

Sergeant John A. “Tony” Vetter



Sgt. John A. “Tony” Vetter has over 24 years of experience in law enforcement. He began his career as a police and fire dispatcher with the City of Bellbrook Police Department in 1997. In August of 1999, Sgt. Vetter was sworn in as an auxiliary officer for the City of Bellbrook. In June of 2001, Sgt. Vetter became a full-time police officer with the City of Bellbrook Police Department. During his tenure, Sgt. Vetter served as a patrol officer, detective, FTO, evidence technician and Taser instructor. In 2008, Sgt. Vetter received the Fred B. Caton award for “Officer of the Year.” Sgt. Vetter was promoted to patrol sergeant in January 2020 where he oversees the evening shift.

Sgt. Vetter is a 1995 graduate of Bellbrook High School. Sgt. Vetter is also a graduate of Sinclair Community College where he obtained an Associate’s Degree in law enforcement. In July 2022, Sgt. Vetter successfully completed a comprehensive 5-day Management, Supervision & Leadership for Law Enforcement course held in Cincinnati.

Sgt. Vetter has been married to his wife Brenda for over eighteen years. They have two children, Elizabeth and Anthony.

Sergeant Gregory “Willy” Williams



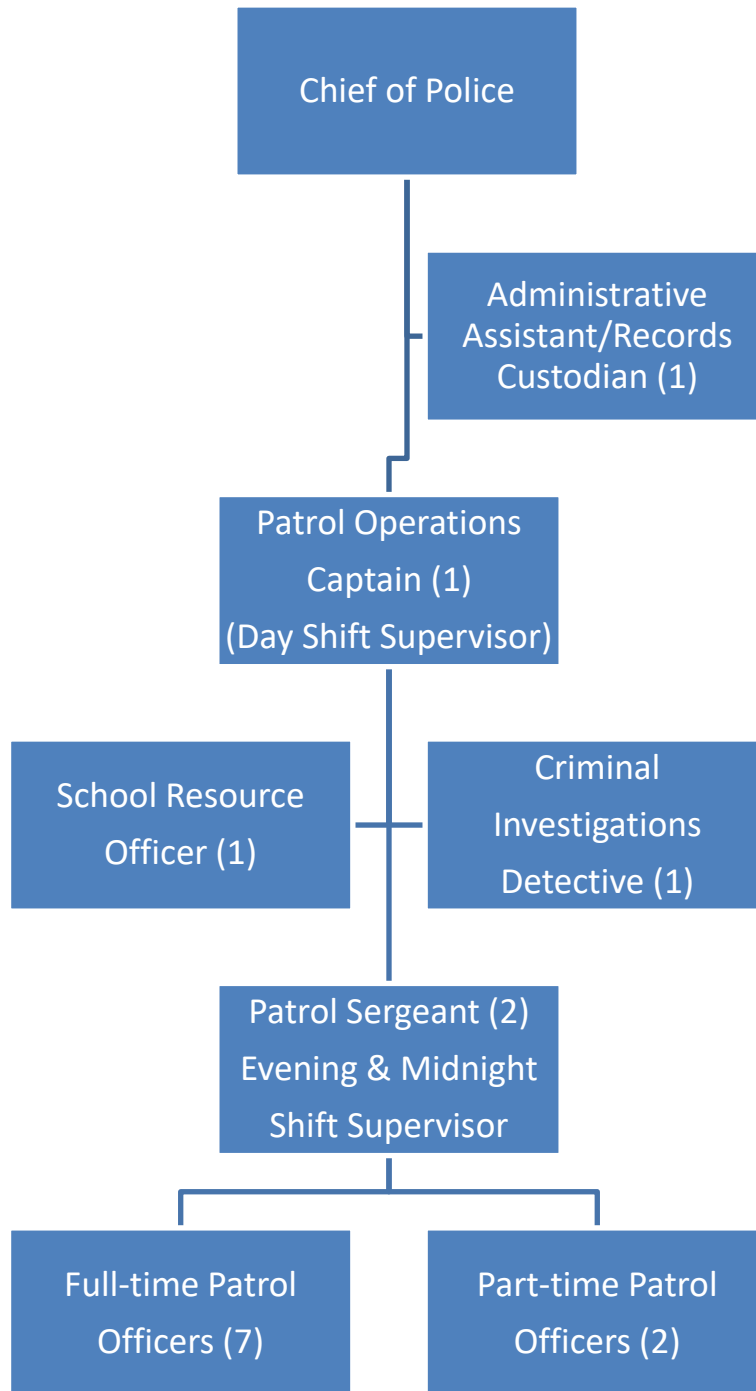
Sgt. Greg “Willy” Williams has over nine years of full-time law enforcement experience. He began his career as a patrolman at the Sugarcreek Township Police Department in 2016 and joined the Bellbrook Police Department in 2019. Since then, Sgt. Williams has completed training opportunities which include being the department standardized field sobriety instructor, field training supervisor, and first line supervision. Sgt. Williams is highly involved with proactive traffic investigations, drug interdiction, OMVI enforcement, and acts as a mentor to the patrol staff. Sgt. Williams was awarded merit and written commendations in 2020 and 2021 for his life saving actions conducted when responding to two critical incidents. Sgt. Williams was promoted to patrol Sergeant in March of 2022 and serves as the first watch supervisor.

Sgt. Williams is a 2006 graduate of Chaminade-Julienne High School of Dayton, Ohio. He is also a graduate of the Butler Tech Police Academy of Liberty Township, Ohio in 2015 where he obtained his Ohio Basic Police Officer Certification.

Sgt. Williams has been married to his wife, April, since 2012.

Bellbrook Police Department

Organizational Chart



Objectives

Administration

- Continue active participation in our community outreach programs: Cops-N-Cones, Sugar Maple Festival, Lion's Club Festival, Bellbrook WinterFest, National Night Out, No-Shave-November charity, social media interaction via BPD's Facebook account - and many others.
- Maintain our strong relationship with Bellbrook-Sugarcreek Schools. Mornings you may see our officers at BCI and Stephen Bell welcoming students into school and/or assisting with traffic details on bus arrival and departure. BPD, in cooperation with Bellbrook-Sugarcreek Schools, has appointed its first School Resource Officer (SRO) who shares time between Stephen Bell Elementary and Bell Creek Intermediate schools, and has met with resounding praise from the schools, teachers and parents.
- Maintain the department's participation in the Ohio Collaborative Law Enforcement Agency Certification (OCLEAC) program, which mandates performance and accountability standards for police agencies in Ohio. This program is managed through the Ohio Attorney General's Office and is currently voluntary for police agencies in Ohio.
- Continue to improve the department's organizational culture, while embracing and enhancing teamwork, both internal and external to BPD. Continue to provide transparency to the public we serve.
- Continue to provide sworn officers and staff with training opportunities for department and skill growth while encouraging career advancement and knowledge.

Patrol Operations

- Maintain an officer on the Greene County SWAT team. Appointment of this officer allows for additional training and tactics which can be brought back to our officers, greatly benefiting our agency with training not available elsewhere.
- Continue proactive traffic enforcement. Actively pursue opportunities for enforcement in areas where public concern has brought to light traffic related incidents or safety issues.
- Continue bike patrol efforts and public interaction with the community through this program.
- Continue to promote "Vacation House Checks" for residents.
- Encourage foot patrol where possible to enhance face-to-face discussion with members of the public. These interactions often result in information or topics of concern not otherwise known to police which can benefit the community in safety or traffic issues.

Training

- Training Sergeant will continue to research and recommend training needs for the department.
- Firearms training has increased from two to four sessions per year. This additional training increases skill level, safety, and will afford additional training time for firing range exercises not previously done (ex. barricade, use of ballistic shield, cover/concealment, etc.)
- Continue on-line policy and procedure training with “Lexipol” software. Lexipol is a policy management system which affords our agency timely updates to mandatory Federal and State policy requirements, and local “best practice” policy and procedure. Officers complete “daily training bulletins” each duty shift to stay current with department requirements and policy updates.

Calls for Police Service – Discussion

Bellbrook continues to experience very low numbers of “Part – I” crimes – crimes of very serious nature – and therefore continues to be a safe and secure place to live and work. The officers of the Bellbrook Police Department continue to work diligently each day to ensure the safety and welfare of all residents, businesses, and visitors.

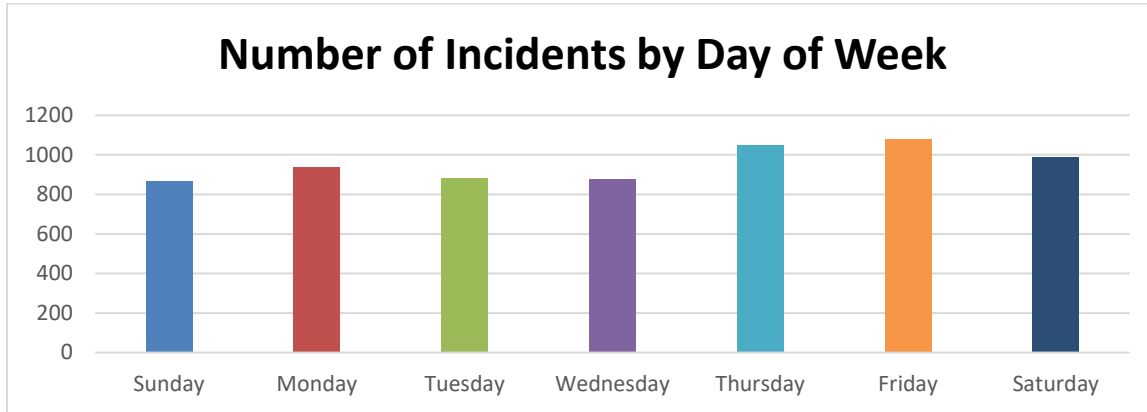
Of special note, “*All Other Calls*” category shows a very large increase from previous years. This is due to new reporting and tracking of call and incident reporting in the recently implemented *New World* software. “*All Other Calls*” reflects incidents or calls where an officer was assigned but was not accounted for as an event in previous years statistics. This category now includes events such as *Vacation House Checks, Neighborhood/Community Policing, Area Checks, Business Checks, Speed Enforcement, and School Details*, among others. Statistical tracking at this detailed level allows your Police Department to better monitor the Officer’s activities, time spent, and involvement with the public in protecting the community.

Calls for Police Service Comparison

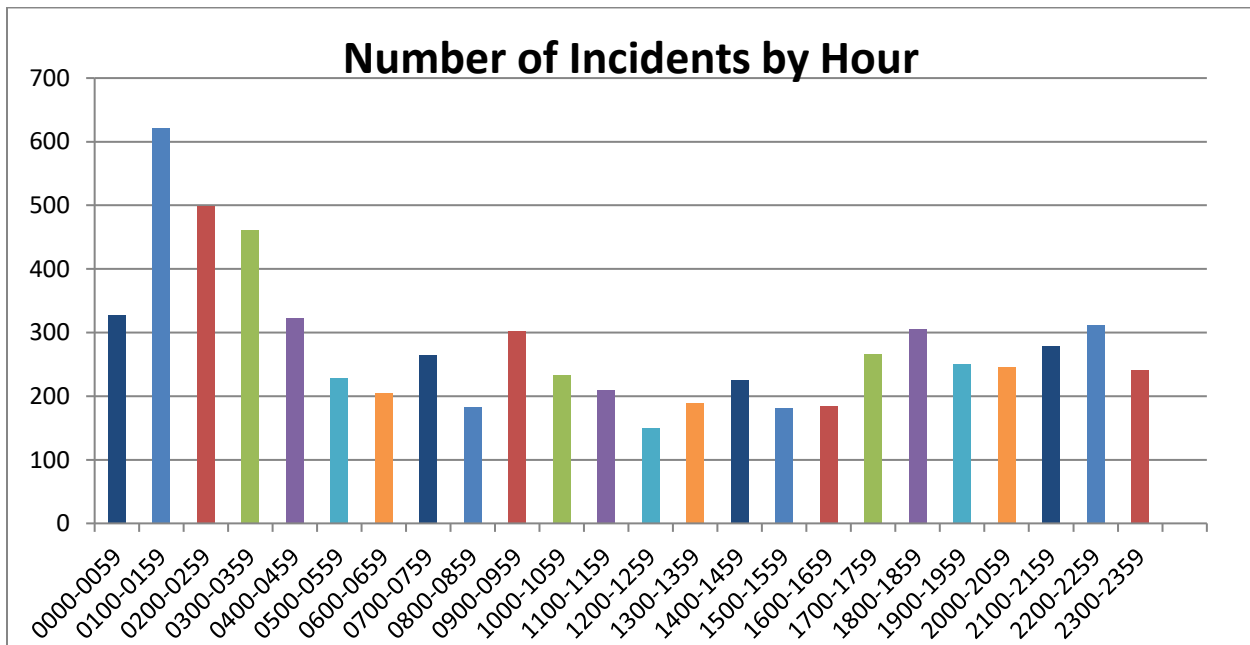
Selected Call Types

Nature of Call	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	Increase from 2022
Assault	5	3	8	5	3	-2(-40%)
Robbery	0	1	0	0	1	+1(+100%)
Burglary / B&E	4	3	6	5	8	+3(+60%)
Sex Offenses	2	9	9	14	8	-6(-43%)
Thefts	39	36	33	43	48	+5(+12%)
Juvenile Problems	23	30	36	25	53	+28(+112%)
Animal Complaints	85	26	40	44	104	+60(+136%)
Crim. Damaging/Vandalism	15	21	9	12	25	+13(+108%)
Suspicious Vehicle / Person	112	59	58	57	196	+139(+244%)
Peace Officer/Welfare Check	115	79	81	109	168	+59(+54%)
Traffic Enforcement Related	1,796	768	726	1067	1262	+195(+18%)
All Other Calls	777	858	782	590	5421	+4831(+819%)
Grand Total	2,973	1,626	1,788	1,971	6683	+4712 (+239%)

The two charts below show the number of incidents handled by the Bellbrook Police Department by day of the week and by hour of day. As used below, an incident includes all dispatched calls for service, plus self-initiated activity such as traffic stops, house checks, business checks, extra patrols, RADAR posts, etc.

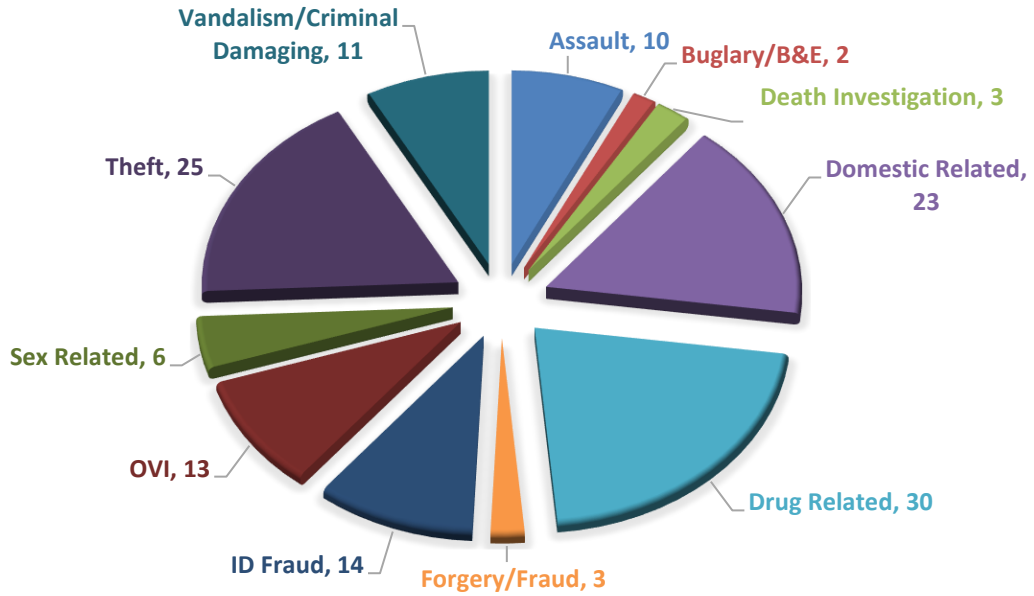


The “Number of Incidents by Day of Week” chart shows the total number of incidents handled by the Bellbrook Police Department for each day of the week. The busiest day of the week for incidents is Friday, followed by Thursday.



The “Number of Incidents by Hour” chart shows the total number of incidents handled by the Bellbrook Police Department for each hour of the day. The busiest hour of the day is the 0100-0159 hour, followed by the 0200-0259 hour.

Types of Crime



Type of Crime	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Burglary/B&E	6	3	6	5	2
Robbery	0	1	0	0	0
Sex Related (1)	3	9	9	14	6
ID Theft	25	4	73	12	14
Theft (2)	25	29	33	43	25
Drug Related (3)	24	9	11	11	30
Vandalism/Criminal Damaging	16	21	9	12	11
Missing Person (4)	1	6	4	0	0
Domestic Related	43	27	38	8	23
Assaults	4	3	8	5	10
Death Investigation	6	10	8	4	3
Forgery/Fraud (5)	13	22	20	4	3
Bad Checks	4	0	0	0	0

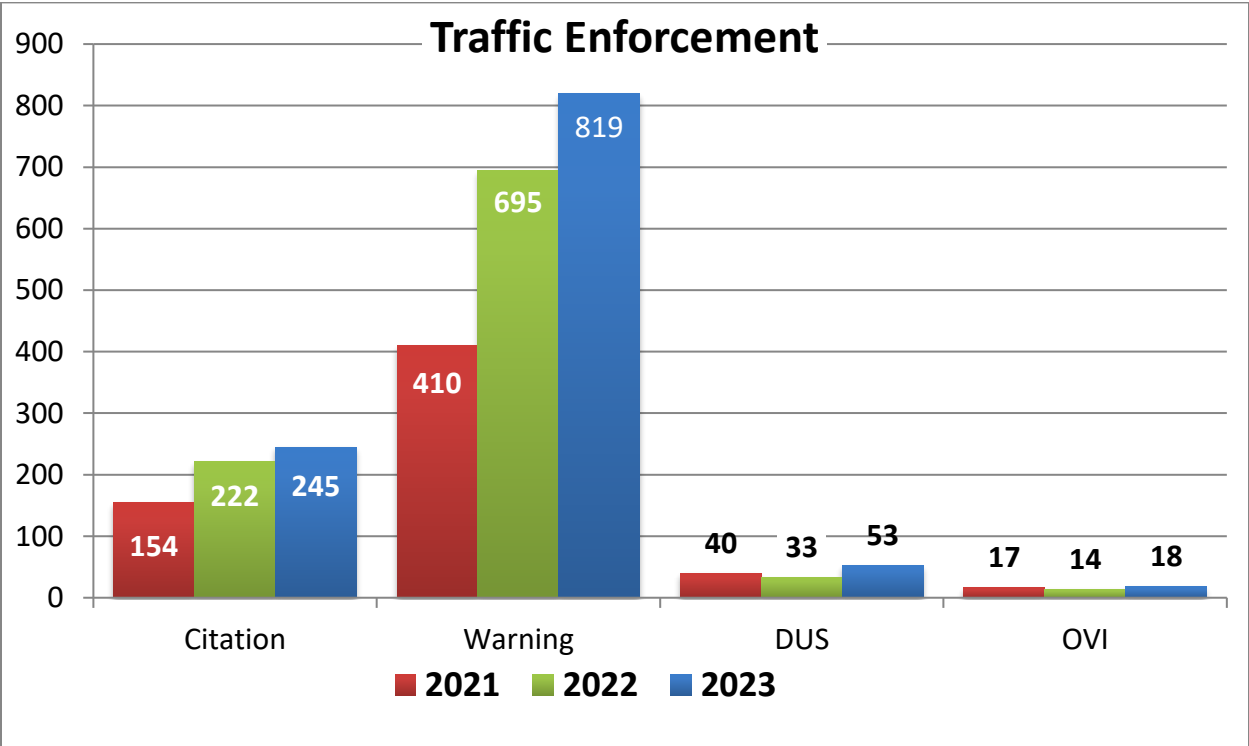
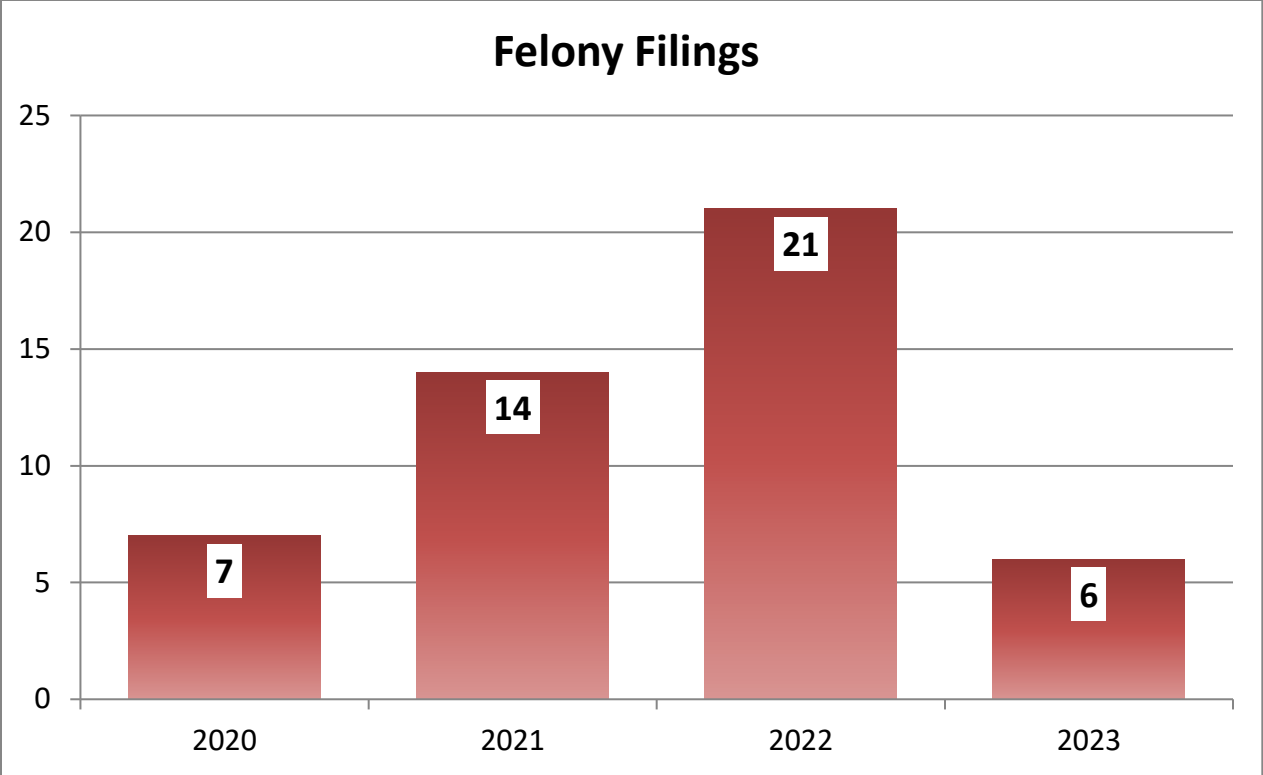
(1) Includes: Rape, Gross Sexual Imposition, Sexual Imposition, Child Enticement, Sexual Battery, Importuning, Disseminating matter harmful to Juveniles, Pandering sexually oriented material, Illegal use of a minor in nudity.

(2) Includes: Shoplifting, along with auto accessory thefts.

(3) Includes: Possession of marijuana, Heroin, Cocaine, Methamphetamine, Prescribed medication Illegally, along with drug paraphernalia.

(4) Includes: Missing adults & juveniles, and runaway Juveniles

(5) Includes: Counterfeit checks, Bank/Wire fraud, Fake ID



Biased-Based Policing - Traffic Stop Data

In 2020, Bellbrook Police Department received accreditation from the Ohio Collaborative Law Enforcement Agency Certification (OCLEAC) for its compliance to Bias-Free Policing standards and statistical reporting. Beginning in 2020, BPD began tracking race statistics as they apply to interactions in traffic stops/violations. This is one of the many requirements in the OCLEAC standard.

Below are statistics for Bias-Free Policing and traffic stop interactions as reportable under the OCLEAC standards for the 2023 calendar year:

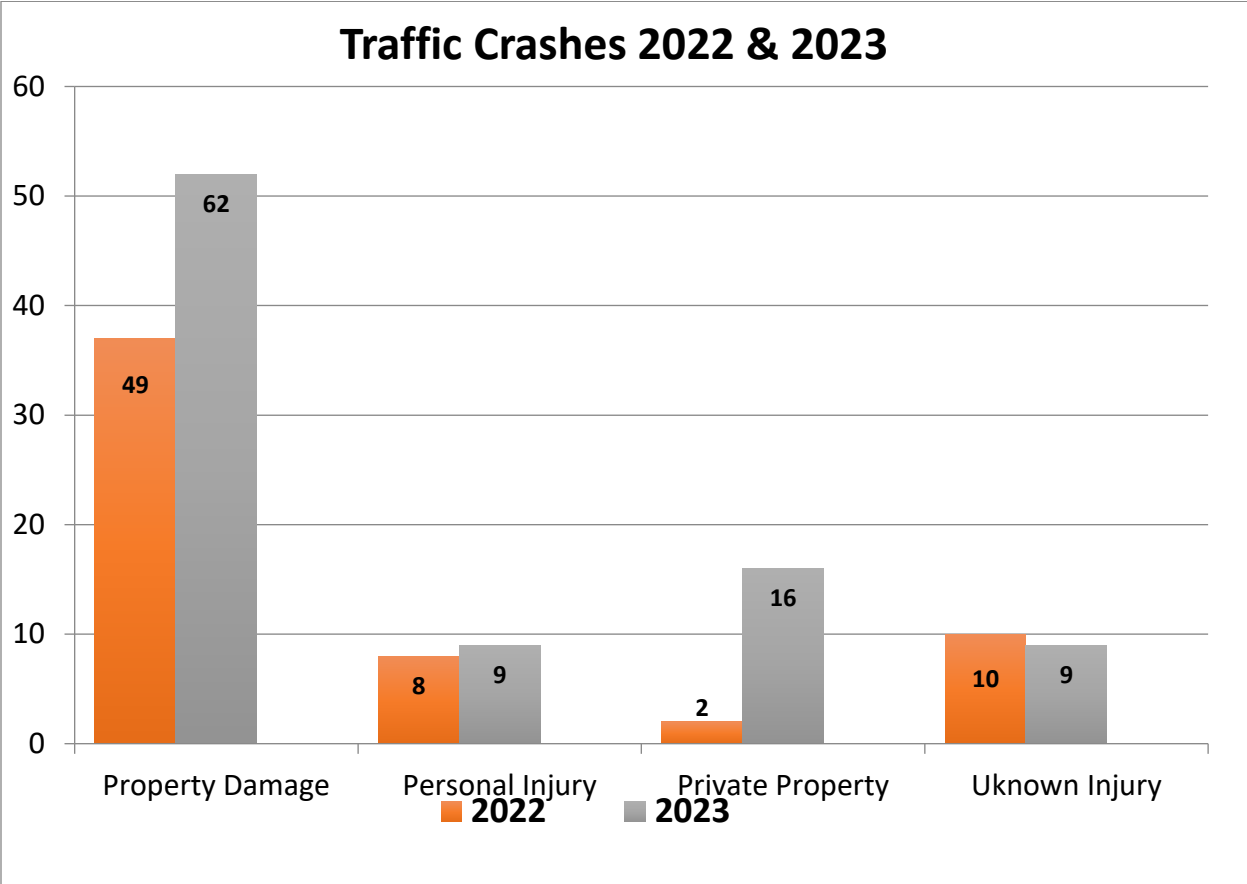
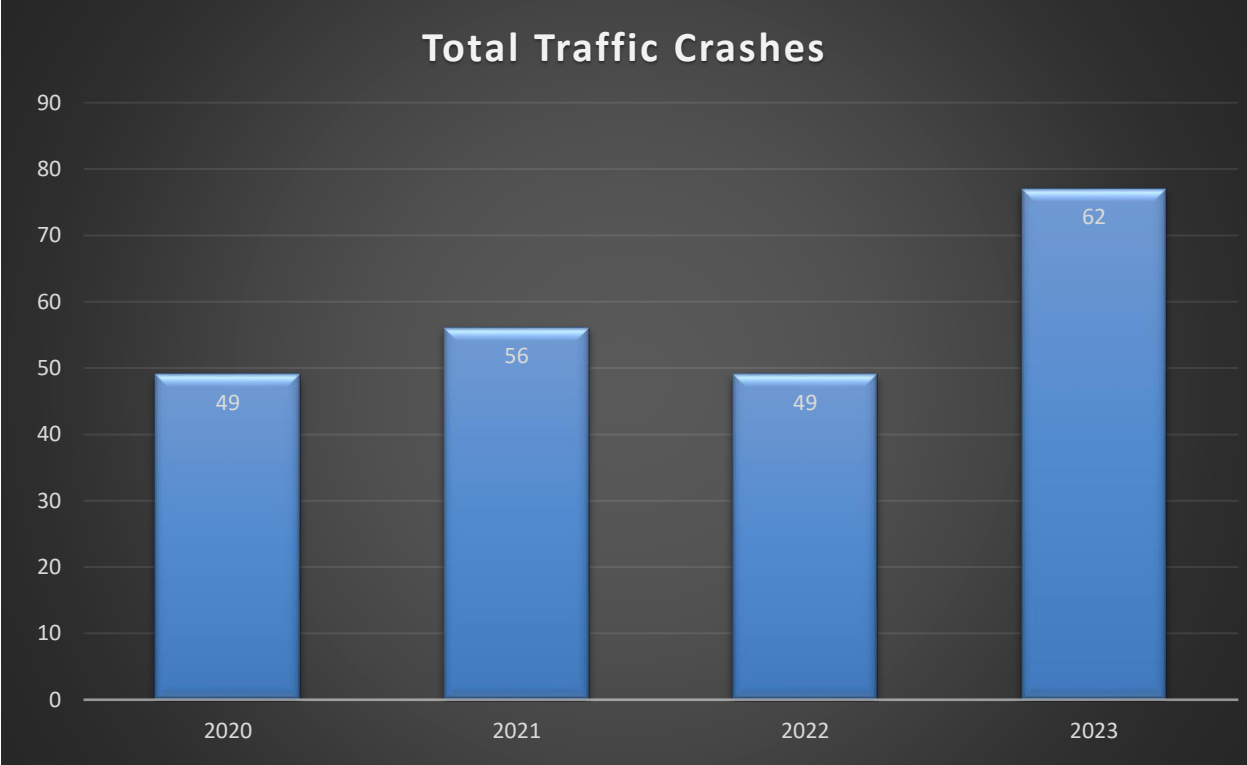
<i>Race</i>	<i>Number of Interactions</i>
Black	92
Asian	2
American Indian	1
White or Hispanic	1076
Unrecorded/not indicated	12*

*Due to discrepancies during change-over to the New World RMS system in June 2023, some traffic stop interaction data was not recorded/not indicated.

Traffic Accidents

Compiled by Sergeant Gregory Williams

The City of Bellbrook Police Department completes this Annual Traffic Accident Review to assist in locating and identifying any probable traffic hazards within the city. This is done by several means, which includes identifying and assessing the traffic patterns and movements of vehicles and by proactive enforcement on potentially hazardous roadways. Accident data comes from our reporting software, New World, Badge, and crash reports.



Injury Related Crashes

There were 62 reported crashes in 2023 which is an 26.5% increase from 2022. Of the 62 reported crashes, 9 were reported as personal injury which is a 1.1% increase from 2022.

Impaired Driver Crashes

Bellbrook PD investigated 4 (6.4%) crashes that involved impaired drivers. In 2022, BPD investigated 2 (4.1%) that involved impaired drivers. This is a 35.9 % increase from 2022. Impaired driver crashes were reported in the following areas:

- (1) North Belleview Drive
- (1) Wilmington Dayton Road / Ambridge Road
- (1) West Franklin Street
- (1) Ryder Court

Major Roadway Crashes

- Wilmington Dayton Road (10 – Crashes)
- East & West Franklin Street (23 – Crashes)
- North & South Main Street / Upper Bellbrook Road (4 – Crashes)
- Washington Mill Road (1- Crash)
- Little Sugarcreek Road (1 -Crash)
- Plat Roadways (21 – Crashes)

Private Property

There were 16 crashes at various private property locations, which account for 25.8% of the of the crashes investigated.

Training Summary

Bellbrook PD officers participated in 24 hours of CPT (continuing professionalism training) required by the State of Ohio. This training was held online and in-house. The training included a school safety assessment, arrest, search and seizure, legal updates, preserving cell phone evidence, distracted driving, missing and exploited children as well as several other courses approved by OPOTA.

Online Training

The Bellbrook Police Department uses a program called Lexipol which is a cloud-based software system that houses the department's policies and procedures. Every day, each officer must complete a "daily training bulletin" which coincides with current policy and procedure. A daily question, usually presented in the form of a scenario, gives each officer the chance to spend five minutes reviewing a situation and how to best respond to that situation, based on current department policies, and Ohio laws, as well as city ordinances.

In-House Training

Every year, Bellbrook officers are required to complete or pass certain training requirements. We use in-house instructors who are OPOTA certified to teach these classes. An example of these, Ofc. Tony Ruble and Ryan Johnston instruct officers on firearms. Other officers are used for training in other areas of expertise. In 2023, all officers received and successfully completed the following in-house training:

- Firearms qualification – which includes duty pistol, tactical rifle, and less-lethal shotgun
- Taser qualification
- Legal updates

Outside training

Capt. Lane attended a 24-hour recertification on the operation of the CVSA machine in Columbus, Ohio

Sgt. Vetter and Ofc. Ruble attended an 8-hour course on criminal profiling in Dayton, Ohio

Sgt. Williams attended a 16-hour leadership seminar in Centerville, Ohio

Ofc. Ryan Johnston successfully completed a 40-hour semi-auto pistol instructor course held at OPOTA in London, Ohio

Ofc. Stephanie Bennington successfully completed a 40-hour School Resource Officer Course held in Cincinnati, Ohio

Ofc. Ruble, Det. Warren, and Ofc. Johnston attended an 8-hour legal update course in Sidney, Ohio

Operational Assignments

Evidence Technicians

Bellbrook Police Department has several evidence technicians. Officers received this specialized training from the Miami Valley Regional Crime Laboratory. Evidence Technicians are responsible for collecting and documenting all relevant evidence items found at a crime scene. Collected items are then carefully packaged, then transported to laboratories for testing and evaluation. In 2023, our Evidence Technicians collected items from many different types of crime scenes.

Bicycle Patrol

Bicycle patrol continues to play a part in the department's efforts to interact with the community, as well as play a specific and important part for neighborhood patrol duties. BPD has two (2) equipped police bicycles for use by officers.

Schools

Bellbrook Police Department is responsible for three (3) schools within our city – Stephen Bell Elementary, Bell Creek Intermediate, and the Greene County Educational Service Center Academy. Our officers are regularly present at the schools and look forward to interacting with students, teachers, and staff members. In 2023, BPD added its first dedicated School Resource Officer (SRO) who shares time between Stephen Bell and Bell Creek Intermediate Schools. The SRO position has been met with accolades from teachers, students, and staff!

Victim Advocate

New in 2023, the Bellbrook Police Department established its own in-house Victim Advocate position. The Victim Advocate provides support, notification, advocacy, court escort, referral and intervention assistance to victims and witnesses of misdemeanor crimes within the City of Bellbrook. The Victim Advocate works closely with the Prosecutor and crime victim throughout the criminal justice process. The Victim Advocate also acts as a liaison between the Prosecutors Office and the Police Department to keep officers informed of new case law and developments impacting victims' rights.

Greene County SWAT

This year marks another first for the Bellbrook Police Department – having an officer as a member of the Greene County SWAT Team. This opportunity allows an officer to learn vital training and tactics not available elsewhere, and the ability to use that knowledge to train other department members. BPD would also like to recognize the Bellbrook Lion's Club for graciously donating funds to help purchase equipment to outfit the officer for this role.

Bike Patrol

The Bike Patrol Unit consists of Detective Josh Warren, Officer Stephanie Bennington and Officer Karen Moore. In 2023, our Bike Patrol Officers were active on all shifts, and participated in patrol efforts in all parts of the city. Bellbrook residents have been very receptive to our community outreach utilizing our Bike Patrol Officers. They are often seen patrolling throughout the city and during numerous events, such as Sugar Maple and Lions Club Festivals. Bike Patrol Officers also conduct business checks after operating hours. This is a great way for us to interact with our residents and students.

The Bike Patrol Unit is supervised by Sgt. Tony Vetter.



Use of Force Analysis

2023

Bellbrook Police Officers enforce State of Ohio criminal code and Bellbrook City ordinances. While doing so, from time to time, it might be necessary for Officers to use reasonable force to gain control of a person or situation. This could range from hands on physical force to deadly force.

Subject Management Reports are used to document when an officer uses force against a person. The Bellbrook Police Department had six incidents in 2023 for which Subject Management Reports were filed. These incidents are reflected in the statics below. None of the officers involved in these incidents were injured. Two subjects involved in the incidents received medical treatment as a result of being Tased. First aid was administered by either Greene Co. Jail personnel or Bellbrook EMS.

Every use of force incident is reviewed by a Sergeant and the Captain. These reviews ensure compliance with the law, policy, and training. In 2023, all use of force incidents were determined to be within policy requirements.

Type of Force	Number of Times Used
Use of Physical Force (Hands on)	6
Chemical Aerosol (O.C. Spray)	0
Baton (ASP)	0
Taser	2
Firearm	0

2023 Fleet Management

Bellbrook Police utilize the following vehicles for police service:

Vehicle	Car #	2023 Miles Driven	12/31/2023 Odometer	Miles Per Gallon	2023 Maint. Costs
2015 Ford Taurus (Chief)		4,866	56,873	15.5	\$1290.68
2017 Ford Fusion (Detective)		5,706	48,630	25.2	\$58.78
2022 Ford Interceptor SUV	72	17,639	34,278	9.7	\$995.56
2016 Ford Interceptor SUV	74	12,026	112,224	9.6	\$2039.22
2018 Ford Interceptor SUV	75	13,762	108,107	14.8	\$480.59
2022 Ford Interceptor SUV	76	12,604	26,479	12.1	\$986.27
2018 Ford Interceptor SUV	77	20,808	108,379	10.2	\$592.25
2016 Ford Interceptor SUV	78	10,189	108,379	10.5	\$1591.59

Discussion:

The Ford SUVs continue to be the mainstay vehicle of our patrol fleet. They offer full-time four-wheel drive, ruggedness, and room for equipment. They have proven to be reliable vehicles for their intended patrol service. As the vehicles age, BPD has implemented a lease plan for patrol vehicles which will help reduce cost and allow for newer equipment, sooner.

Ford Police SUV Maintenance Summary

Mechanical issues, as well as warranty repairs were completed on the Ford SUVs in 2023. Maintenance listed below reflects specific unique repairs. Other costs are attributable to normal wear-and-tear items such as oil/filter changes and are not itemized below but are reflected in the total maintenance costs.

Chief's Vehicle:

- Replace stabilizer bar links, new washer motor, new tires & alignment.

Detective Vehicle:

- Standard scheduled maintenance.

Car 72:

- New tires, alignment, new ignition coil + wiring (warranty), new battery

Car 74:

- New rear pads & brake rotors, replace windshield washer tubing, new strut assembly, new tire, tie rod ends, new wheel, alignment.

Car 75:

- New rear calipers & pads (warranty), replace spark plugs.

Car 76:

- New tires, alignment, replace rear axle assembly (warranty).

Car 77:

- Repair bike rack mount, new rear brake rotors & pads.

Car 78:

- Replace evap. solenoid, new rear brake pads, service a/c, new tires, alignment.

Commendations and Awards 2023

Ofc. Tony Ruble

2023 Fred B. Caton Police Officer of the Year Award – Officer Ruble received this award not only for his outstanding work ethic, but his dedication to his job, the community, his fellow officers, both on and off duty. The following is a short list of the many examples he has undertaken not only in 2023, but throughout his career...making him worthy of this special achievement:

- FOP/OLCI representative.
- Participant in FOP shoe program/Shoes for the Shoeless.
- Range officer/training, instruction, armorer.
- Manages drug takeback box, arranging drug take-back days, and transporting unused items for disposal.
- Maintains patrol vehicles – many times on his days off insuring fleet has vehicles in operable condition.
- Maintaining vehicle fleet supplies – oil, coolant, etc.
- Volunteering to cover overtime shifts for patrol coverage – no one does more.
- Cops, Cones and Kids – activity w/Dairy Shed.
- General knowledge of the city – knows many, many people and has contacts which allows very timely problem-solving when we need to get in touch with someone.
- Most importantly, this officer saved the life of a fellow officer in Jan 2023, by applying a tourniquet after an inadvertent firearm discharge which caused severe injury to an officer.

Letter of Appreciation – Bellbrook resident Michael Main called to express his gratitude for Officer Ruble. On Thursday, April 6, 2023, Officer Ruble was at Lowes while off-duty when he assisted Mr. Main. Mr. Main was a customer at Lowes when he experienced a medical emergency in which he fell unconscious. Officer Ruble observed this occurring and intervened to ensure Mr. Main did not fall to the ground, thus preventing injury. Mr. Main advised Officer Ruble stepped up and took control of the situation until medics arrived. Officer Ruble even stayed with Mr. Main after medics arrived. Mr. Main was impressed with Officers Ruble's compassion.

Ofc. Ryan Johnston

Commendation – On May 26, 2023, while assisting Sgt. Vetter with an arrest on S. Main Street, he took it upon himself to further investigate the suspect's property. This action resulted in the discovery of a stolen motorcycle from Kettering. His continued proactive patrol also led to the recovery of another stolen motorcycle out of Dayton. On July 18, 2023, he located this motorcycle on Regent Park Dr. and in doing so also apprehended a wanted fugitive. This apprehension not only resulted in the recovery of the motorcycle, but several other criminal charges being filed on behalf of the City of Bellbrook.

Ofc. Stephanie Bennington

Letter of Appreciation – Melvin Planas, Xenia City Prosecutor, passed along his compliments on how she handled herself during a court hearing. Mr. Planas was impressed with her professionalism and the manner in which she handled herself while testifying. Mr. Planas indicated that she handled herself like a veteran on the stand. Additionally, Michael Mayer, Bellbrook City Prosecutor, passed along his compliments about her professionalism and knowledge while preparing for a hearing.

Christine Florea – Administrative Assistant

Letter of Appreciation – Christine is an asset to the department in many ways. Her people and communications skills are excellent. Christine's interactions with the public, her co-workers and other agencies are outstanding, constantly representing the department in the absolute best possible light. Her willingness to take on new responsibilities has allowed the department to move forward in numerous areas. A few examples include handling our own victim advocate duties, coordinating our first college intern, assisting with prescription drug takeback and property room management. Furthermore, Christine has been instrumental in the very complex implementation of our new records management and reporting system. Officer Ruble observed that Christine is skillful in bringing about change and independent thinking. Christine does all this with an unrelenting positive attitude and a smile on her face. Her contributions to the men and women of Bellbrook PD and to the community are very significant.

Internal Affairs Summary

Bellbrook Police has in place *Policy and Procedure* for investigation of complaints made against the department or any of its employees. The department investigates all complaints alleging a violation of law or department policy.

Informal Complaint - involves an allegation of employee conduct or performance that, if true, is less serious in nature and may be handled informally by a first-line supervisor without an in-depth investigation. These generally include clarifications regarding policy, procedures or the Department's response to specific incidents.

Formal Complaint/Investigation – involves an allegation of misconduct by an employee that, if true, is more serious in nature and/or requires in-depth investigation.

Informal Complaints: 7

- Two incidents regarding private property crashes which caused damage to patrol vehicles. Officers received department discipline.
- Four incidents of attendance issues involving an officer being tardy or absent. Officers received department discipline in all four incidents.
- One complaint of unprofessional behavior by an officer. The officer received department discipline.

Formal Complaints/Investigations: 2

- Investigation regarding allegations of improper handling of a firearm by an officer which resulted in accidental, but serious, injury to themselves. Investigation found the complaint was sustained. The officer received department discipline.
- Investigation regarding allegations of an officer pursuing an inappropriate relationship with a crime victim, inappropriate use of a police computer database, wrongful or unlawful use of police authority, and making false or misleading statements during an internal investigation. Investigation found the complaint was sustained. The officer resigned in lieu of termination.

Reporting Complaints to the Police Department

In 2023, Bellbrook PD maintained its OCLEAC accreditation for establishing policies for Investigation of Employee Misconduct. *Compliments or Complaints* to the department can be made in person, by telephone, by fax, email, or internet.

More information regarding the compliment and complaint process can be found on the City of Bellbrook website at: http://www.cityofbellbrook.org/page/police_compliments_complaints

OCLEAC – Ohio Collaborative **Community-Police Advisory Board**

What is it?

The Ohio Collaborative, a 12-person panel of law enforcement experts and community leaders from throughout the state, established state standards – for the first time in Ohio’s history – on August 28, 2015, for use of force including use of deadly force and agency employee recruitment and hiring that can help guide law enforcement agencies in Ohio. These new standards hold agencies accountable and instill greater confidence with the public. The Collaborative works closely with partners, including the community and law enforcement agencies to implement the new standards. All law enforcement agencies are expected to meet or exceed these new standards as they develop policies and procedures to meet these new expectations.

Ohio Department of Criminal Justice Services (OCJS) published a report on March 31, 2017, listing which state and local law enforcement agencies have adopted and fully implemented the new minimum standards. More than 500 agencies employing over 27,000 officers (in all 88 counties, representing 79 percent of all law enforcement officers in Ohio and most of Ohio’s metropolitan departments) are participating in the certification process.

Bellbrook Police Department firmly believes in the Ohio Collaborative and the benefits it can provide to the Bellbrook community. BPD meets or exceeds the following OCLEAC standards:

- ***Safe Policing for Safe Communities – a standard outlined in Pres. Trump’s Executive Order 13929***
- ***Use of Force***
- ***Recruitment and Hiring***
- ***Community Engagement***
- ***Body Worn Camera Systems***
- ***Bias-Free Policing***
- ***Investigation of Employee Misconduct***

In 2024, Bellbrook PD will continue to adhere to OCLEAC requirements and review and implement new policies and procedures.

Bellbrook PD will continue to follow policy and procedure guidance and certification process through OCLEAC. This helps ensure the delivery of the highest quality police services to the citizens of Bellbrook.

Community Policing in 2023







