

# YEAR IN REVIEW

The 2023 budget, including contract revenues, was \$4,036,582.

The department is comprised of 20 full time officers, four who are employed due to contract revenues received from the City of Lauderdale. In addition, we have one full time Community Service Officer, one part time Cadet Officer and two full time civilian support staff.

This year brought a few personnel changes for the department. Lieutenant Dan Diegnau retired in March after nearly 33 years of service. Detective Kiel Rushton also retired from the department after 12 years of service. Officer Cody Boegeman relocated to Colorado, where he accepted a position as a police officer with an area department.

We added new officers this year as well. In addition to three patrol officers, we also welcomed Cadet Gaelan Smith, who is currently working toward his degree in law enforcement from Northwestern University – St. Paul.

Our fleet is comprised of six marked squad vehicles, one marked reserve unit, one marked CSO unit, and five passenger vehicles assigned to the Chief, Captain, Detective, and special detail.

Police calls for service, which is comprised of 911 calls and police initiated activity, was 8,317.

- 2023 Work Plan Accomplishments:
- Hired and trained three new officers
  - Collected and responsibly disposed of nearly 400 pounds of pharmaceuticals through our Medicine Dropbox program.
  - Conducted selection processes for the positions of Police Chief, Captain, Lieutenant, Detective, and Task Force officer.
  - Conducted a data-driven staffing study and received funding for two additional sworn positions: an administrative Lieutenant and an officer to join the Ramsey County Violent Crime Enforcement Team
  - Created a Cadet pilot program and hired two part-time cadet officers.
  - Formed a recruitment team and attended several hiring events throughout the metro area.
  - Purchased and trained officers in additional less-lethal use of force options.

# PATROL

The Patrol Division are the uniformed men and women who are the front line every day doing their best to combat crime and build community relationships. They work 12-hour shifts and work either dayshift or nightshift. Each shift is supervised by a patrol sergeant.

Patrol officers are the backbone of each policing agency and are responsible for the prompt response to both emergency and non-emergency needs of our community. In addition to answering the calls for service, our patrol officers provide detailed preliminary criminal investigations and are proactive in their approach to crime prevention by utilizing data derived from analyzed crime patterns and community concerns.

The St. Anthony Police Department welcomed several new members assigned to the Patrol Division in 2023. Officer Quinton Barth began in August and had previously been a police officer with the Three Rivers Park District. Officer Keeton Roden started in September and had previously worked as a community service officer with the Anoka Police Department. Officer Tristan Norlien began in November. He graduated from St. Anthony High School and served in the United States Marines Corps. All three officers have successfully completed their field training and are already proving to be valuable additions to the Patrol Division.



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# EDUCATION & TRAINING

The St. Anthony Police Department has long valued the importance of continuing education. Having well-trained staff is vital in delivering high quality service our community deserves and expects. Training requests are approved by supervisors and must align with our department's strategic plan.

In 2023, the St. Anthony Police Department provided its staff with 1998 hours of continuing education. In addition to these hours, each officer is required to complete daily training bulletins that measure knowledge of policy and procedure.

The St. Anthony Police Department training program ensures that all sworn staff meet or exceed all mandatory learning objectives set forth by the MN POST Board. Topics such as Conflict Management, Crisis Intervention and Mental Illness, and Diversity and Cultural Differences are a sample of the training each officer must successfully complete.

We continue to encourage staff to seek additional training in areas of interest and the needs of the department. As stated in our department strategic plan, we continue to prioritize enhanced training, both internal and external.

## MN Crime Data Explorer

The Minnesota Crime Data Explorer allows you to query and sort data, view trends in charts and graphs, export spreadsheets, and learn about crime activity in our state in more dynamic ways than ever before.

To use this tool, visit [cde.state.mn.us](https://cde.state.mn.us)



## 2023 ANNUAL REPORT



# LETTER FROM CHIEF JEFF SPIESS

Honorable Mayor, City Council, City Manager, and members of the great City of St. Anthony Village, it is my pleasure to present the St. Anthony Police Department's 2023 Annual Report.

The St. Anthony Police Department remains committed to our mission to "Improve the overall quality of life by preserving the peace and safety of the community." We do this by an unwavering focus on both public safety and a high quality of service, which is not possible without the trust and support of our community.

This year has been one of success and challenge, with opportunities to rise to a new level. We have seen changes to top leadership in the department with the retirements of a Chief, a Lieutenant, and a Detective. With that, we also added new officers and began the training process to ensure that all personnel attain the skills and knowledge necessary to be a "St. Anthony" police officer.

This year, in an effort to attract new officers during a time of significant recruitment difficulty in the policing industry, we began a pilot Cadet program and formed a recruitment team. These efforts led to the hiring of one new police officer and two cadets. We are confident that these programs will continue to attract great candidates to our department and community.

We continue to operate according to the goals and objectives of our Strategic Plan and are intentional about building community with our communities and ensuring that St. Anthony remains a city that thrives and one in which all people can live, work, learn, and play.



# COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Working alongside, learning from, and supporting members of our community is a constant work in progress requiring a commitment to year-round involvement. Expectations in the community evolve and the police department must evolve with them. This effort can only be successful with strong and sincere relationships. Our department's strategic plan emphasizes this as does our everyday approach to the work we do. We carry this out primarily through routine every day contact with our community. All officers are expected to treat each encounter we have as an opportunity for optimum outcome and positive interactions where possible. Officers assigned to our Community Engagement Team are specifically tasked with developing and delivering community outreach.

- Some of our youth programs include:
- Hosting an annual Summer Survival/Safety School
  - Regularly speaking at Home Alone classes through Community Services
  - Participating in the local Boy Scout Open House and Pinewood Derby races
  - Participating in Students in Government program through ISD 282

- We also provide free educational opportunities and experiences open to everyone, including:
- Patrol Ride-Along Program
  - Scam Prevention Seminars
  - Presentations to Community Groups Upon Request
  - MN Night to Unite
  - Free Steering Wheel Locks for Kia and Hyundai Vehicles
  - CATGUARD Program – Protection Against Catalytic Converter Thefts

The St. Anthony Police Department welcomes community input and participation in our programs to improve the quality and range of services we provide.



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# RECRUITMENT

The recruitment team supports the growing needs of the police department by recruiting Cadet, Reserve and Officer candidates. The team implemented by Captain Jeff Spiess in 2023 consists of both sworn and non-sworn personnel that attend career fairs at local colleges and hiring events that focus on law enforcement. Officers meet with potential candidates, provide tours, ride-a-longs and one on one meet ups.

In late 2023, the team met with four aspiring police officers and cadets. A 2022 recruit from a local college, Officer Roden, recently completed our Field Training Program and has hit the streets on his own. This year the team plans to be more involved in recruitment through hiring events, increased social media presence and promoting our new Cadet program.

- St. Anthony Police Department
- @StAnthonyPolice
- @StAnthonyPolice

# INVESTIGATIONS

Our Investigative team had another busy year, which included a challenging number of cases and personnel changes. In April, Detective Rushton retired to pursue interests outside of policing. In October, Tressa Sunde was added to the Investigative team and has quickly used her many years of patrol experience to bring great value as a detective. The team continued to be overseen by Captain (now Chief) Spiess.

St. Anthony Detectives investigate all crime, including thefts, fraud, sex crimes, aggravated assaults, and shootings.

As technology has progressed, the complexity of investigating crime has increased, requiring detectives to be well-educated across a broad spectrum. This includes understanding how and where to look for electronic evidence, drafting and serving a variety of search warrants, and being good collaborators with other investigative partners. These partners include the MN Bureau of Criminal Apprehension, Hennepin and Ramsey Counties, City and County Attorneys, Crime Analysts, just to name a few.

The mission of the St. Anthony Police Department is "To improve the overall quality of life by preserving the peace and safety of the community." This mission can only be accomplished with our most important partnership – our community. We rely on the quick reporting of crime and/or suspicious activity by community members and their partnership throughout the investigative process. We, the police, are part of the community and must rely on all of us to accomplish our mission.

The following are statistics of crimes that were committed and investigated during the 2023 year.

The 2023 statistics for the criminal investigations unit are as follows:

Total Criminal:	476
Cases Closed:	186
Cases Cleared by Arrest:	143
Cases Cleared Other:	43

Clearance Rate: 39%