LUDINGTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

2019

ANNUAL REPORT

City of Ludington
Department of Police
408 S. Harrison Street
Ludington, MI 49431
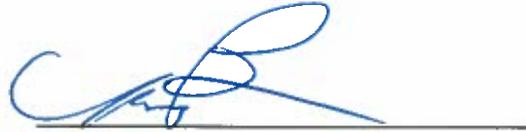Phone: (231) 843-3425

Memorandum

To: Steve Miller, Mayor
        Ludington City Council
        Mitch Foster, City Manager

From: Chief Mark A. Barnett

Date: February 5, 2020

Re: 2019 Annual Report

POLICE ACTIVITY

Attached you will find a series of documents providing a summary of the various activities conducted by the Ludington Police Department in 2019.

Attachment #1
This report covers 2010 through 2019 and includes the following information:
- Departmental staffing levels
- Activity conducted
- Complaints Investigated
- Enforcement activity conducted
- Individual officer activity averages
- A chart illustrating trends of average officer activity

In 2019 the amount of Total Activity saw a significant increase to **10,671** from 9,315 in 2018. The total number of Complaints Investigated increased by 440 to **6,324**. The number of Arrests increased by 215 to a total of **560**, Traffic Citations increased by 95 to **966** and Parking Violations increased by 8 citations to a total of **635** in 2019.

Attachment #2
The Reported Crime Summary lists the most serious reported Person Crimes and Property Crimes, as well as the two most problematic Public Order Crimes encountered by the Ludington Police Department. It covers the time period of 2010 thru 2019.

In 2019 there were **15** more reported Person Crimes, **20** more Property Crimes and **78** fewer of the most problematic Public Order Crimes as compared to 2018. Most of the increase in Person Crimes were due to an increase in Stalking complaints.

Attachment #3
Attachment #3 is the Enforcement History Report and summarizes the arrest activity for the same crime categories that are listed on attachment #2

Also included in the Enforcement History Report is information on traffic crashes, traffic citations and Operate While Intoxicated (O.W.I.) arrests, for the same time period.

In 2019 the number of arrests for Person Crimes reflect an increase of **15** arrests compared to 2018. The number of Property Crime arrests in 2019 decreased by **18** from that in 2018, and the number of Public Order Crimes decreased by **8** from the previous year.

In 2019 the number of Traffic Crashes decreased by **28**. Correspondingly there was an increase of **95** more traffic citations written in 2019 than in 2018. It is likely that increased traffic enforcement increased driver awareness and thus fewer traffic crashes.

Officers arrested **49** individuals for O.W.I. in 2019, which is **12** more than in 2018. *(Note: This number includes both alcohol and illegal substance intoxication driving arrests.)*

Attachment #4
The 2019 Organizational Chart illustrates the total number of Ludington Police Department personnel and how they were utilized.

- 1 Chief of Police
- 1 Police Captain
- 4 Sergeants assigned to road patrol
- 6 Patrol Officers assigned to road patrol (Includes a half-time D.F.L. Person)
- 1 Detective
- 1 S.S.C.E.N.T. Officer
- 1 School Resource Officer
- 1 Full-time Administrative Assistant
- 1 Part-time Clerical Assistant
- 12 Police Reserve Officers (Volunteers)
- 2 Part-time (Sworn) Officers assigned to road patrol (Beach Officers)
- 1 Beach Patrol (Non-Sworn) Members

SIGNIFICANT INCIDENTS

The following information highlights incidents investigated by the Ludington Police Department that were significant due to type of incident, circumstances, amount of loss, required resources and/or the potential effect on the community.

Narcan (Naloxone) Saves
In 2019 L.P.D. officers responded to nine (9) separate incidents in which Narcan (Naloxone) was used (or available) on (to) victims of an opiate overdose. The Narcan was effective in all nine (9) situations.

Child Sexually Abusive Material
In January of 2019 an individual required to register under the Sex Offender Registry Act was found to illegally possess thousands of images on nine different devices. The suspect was originally arrested on state charges and then later charged federally. The suspect is awaiting trial.

Safe Cracking Investigation
In January of 2019 L.P.D. investigated a burglary of the Eagles Club on S. Harrison St. where an undisclosed amount of cash was stolen from the safe.

Counterfeiting/Larceny Incident
The department conducted an investigation where two suspects used counterfeit money to purchase a vehicle. The Detective obtained warrant for both suspects, they were found guilty and sentenced to jail time. Additional counterfeit bills were recovered during the investigation.

Series of Larceny from Vehicles
In March of 2019 seven Ludington residents were victims of larceny from vehicles. Two suspects were investigated, arrested and charged in the crimes.

Boat Fire
In May of 2019 members of the Ludington Police and Fire Department responded to a boat fire at Crosswinds and the fire was extinguished by crew members.

Drowning
In July of 2019 members of the Ludington Police Department and the Ludington Fire Department were assisted by Mason County Sheriff's Office, Hamlin Fire Department, U.S. Coast Guard, Michigan State Police, Mason County Search & Rescue, Mason County Victim's Assistance, Life EMS and Mason County Central Dispatch is the search for a fourteen-year-old drowning victim at Stearns Beach. The victim was recovered north of Stearns Beach.

Felonious Assault
In August of 2019 officers handled a Felonious Assault investigation where the victim was stabbed. The victim in the incident was concerned that the suspect would kill them if prosecution took place. The suspect was identified, arrested and charged with one 10-year Felony, one 4-year Felony and a 1-year Misdemeanor.

Domestic Violence / Suicide by Drowning
In October of 2019 officers responded to a Domestic Violence complaint. The suspect fled that scene and was pursued by officers to the Bayou between S. Madison and S. Washington. The suspect jumped into the water and swam to the middle refusing officer's request for him to swim toward them. A MCSO deputy was able to reach the suspect and bring to shore but the victim was deceased upon reaching shore.

The investigation revealed that the suspect had made statement that he intended to harm police officers or himself before going to jail.

HIGHLIGHTS

The following highlights a number of initiatives that the Ludington Police Department is involved in. While some projects are directly linked with "traditional" law enforcement efforts, others involve activities that assist in making the community safer in a more indirect manner.

Reserve Marine Unit – Ofc. Tony Kuster
The Reserve Marine Officers (which includes active duty members of the U.S. Coast Guard- Station Ludington) staffed the Fire & Police Boat in 2019 and conducted the following activities:
- Marine Rescue
- Fire suppression
- Dive Team response and training support
- Harbor patrol
- Response to several marine incidents
- Special events (Macker, 4th of July and the Triathlon)
- Crew member training for both the Fire & Police Departments
- Equipment recovery

Reserve Marine Unit members conducted 20 missions again in 2019 including one (1) Marine Fire Suppression of a boat fire in Pere Marquette.

Digital Forensic Lab – Ofc. Jacob Miller
As an ongoing cooperative effort between the Ludington Police Department and the Oceana County Sheriff's Office, the D.F.L. was staffed in 2019 by Ofc. Jacob Miller (L.P.D.).

In 2019 the Digital Forensics Lab processed **51** devices in **38** different cases. While the majority of cases for analysis were submitted by the Ludington Police Department the D.F.L. also provided assistance to the Oceana County Sheriff's Office, Hart P.D., M.S.P., and the S.S.C.E.N.T. Team. (Note: the Oceana County Sheriff's Office provides software and some hardware support for the D.F.L.)

Cases worked in 2019 by the D.F.L. include Child Sexually Abusive Material and Solicitation of Minors (7), Criminal Sexual Conduct (5), Narcotics (5), Larceny (3), Fraud (2), Homicide (2), Kidnapping (1), Child Abuse (1), Fatal O.W.I. (1), Domestic Violence (1) and Death Investigation (1) and 8 Miscellaneous investigations.

Networking Group
The Ludington Police Department continued to coordinate the Networking Group throughout 2019 to respond to criminal issues that affect the Ludington/Mason County Community. And all the cooperating agencies continue to benefit by partnering together to address issues that are common challenges.

<u>Sex Offender Registry Act (SORA) Report – Sgt. Haveman</u>

During 2019 the City of Ludington averaged between 40 & 50 individuals listed on the sex offender registry. The numbers varied throughout the year with more offenders residing in the City during the winter months due to the only homeless shelter in Mason county being located within the City. There are between 5 to 10 offenders staying at Carr Manor or Melendy Manor. Carr Manor will house male subjects on the SOR whether they are on Probation/Parole or not whereas Melendy Manor will only allow people who are not on supervision to reside there.

Residence checks were completed on every Offender that was registered as living within the City. The residence check includes verifying and updating all the information listed in Offender Watch. The residence checks were completed in the Spring and Fall.

Halloween checks were completed on every Offender that was listed as being on Probation or Parole at Halloween. It is a condition of their probation to not hand out candy or have their porch light on during the trick or treat hours. No violations were detected.

In 2019 there was one Offender assigned to Ludington that had moved out of state without reporting or transferring his offender status. He has an active warrant for his arrest and according to Offender Watch has been arrested in Ohio for failure to register. The subject was released from jail in Ohio and appears to continue to reside there. He was not extradited back to Michigan for prosecution.

There were three felony warrants issued for violating the S.O.R.A. The first subject moved to Ludington from Kalamazoo where he failed to update his address. He was located at an address in Ludington and placed under arrest. He was ultimately prosecuted for the Offense in Kalamazoo.

The second incident involved a subject listing the homeless shelter as his address. With the cooperation of the homeless shelter staff it was determined that though he was registered at the shelter he was not living there. It was determined he was actually living at an address in Scottville. He was charged with failure to comply with the sex offender registry and is awaiting trial on that charge. During the course of that investigation he was found to be in possession of child pornography and has been charged in the Federal Court System on that charge.

The third subject was living at an address separate from where he was registered. The subject also failed to update his Offender Watch registry in regards to his employment. A warrant was issued for his arrest and he was lodged at MCSD, he was also charged with separate unrelated charges. He was subsequently convicted of the charges and sentenced to jail which ran concurrent to his other charges.

The MSP ES team has been assisting with enforcing the SOR at a statewide level including in Ludington and Mason County. I have worked with them along with MCSO, Mason County Prosecutor's Office and Mason County Probation/Parole. I have met with the Probation/Parole Officer assigned to the Sex Offenders (Agent Megan Myers). I have spoken with her about Offenders on numerous occasions and have attended meetings to

focus on the more serious Offenders. I have assisted Agent Myers with conducting residence checks on Offenders.

Legal Issues: Michigan's law regarding the Sex Offender Registry had been challenged in the Federal Court system. The Federal Court ruled many of the parts to the registry to be unconstitutional including the school safety zones. That ruling was appealed to the Appellate court which upheld the ruling. The Appellate court's decision was appealed to the Supreme Court which refused to hear the case which makes the Appellate court decision stand. With the school safety zones being deemed unconstitutional the School Safety Zone cannot be enforced by LPD. The school safety zones are still illegal at a state/local level but are not enforceable by LPD without risk of violating the Offender's constitutional rights. After conversations with the Mason County Prosecutor I was advised that charges can be brought on Offenders on a case by case basis but they too can be held civil liable for violating the Offender's constitutional rights.

2019 Movies in the Park
We had great weather again this year and were able to show all four movies, *The Lego Movie-The Second Part, Ralph Breaks the Internet, Mary Poppins Returns and Dumbo*, this year in Rotary Park. Audiences continue to enjoy the family friendly features surrounded by neighbors and visitors to our area.

The House of Flavors sponsorship makes the event possible by providing funds for movie licensing fees. And the L.A.S.D. Business Professionals of America Club did a great job of running the concession stand again this year.

2019 Shop with a Cop Report – Ofc. Chad Skiba
The *2019 Shop with a Cop (Shop with a Hero) Campaign* raised a total **$23,534.48** this year through the generosity of Meijer, Wal-Mart, the annual *Shop with a Cop Pie Auction*, Nickelson's Tree Farm, as well as a number of other donors.

This year a total of 60 students shopped at either Wal-Mart or Meijer receiving up to $250.00, depending on the number of children from the same family. They were paired with an officer from one of Mason County's law enforcement, firefighting or E.M.S. agencies along with members of the U.S. Forest Service, the United States Coast Guard and other military members. These "Teams" then shopped for Christmas gifts for their families and themselves. After shopping at either Meijer or Walmart, their gifts were wrapped by volunteer wrappers and they were treated to a Jimmy John's meal.

A total of 70 families received a Christmas meal delivered by officers from the Ludington Police Dept., Mason County Sheriff's Office, Scottville Police Dept. and Michigan State Police-Hart Post. Nineteen (19) families needing a Christmas tree were treated to a Nickelson's Tree Farm Christmas tree delivered to their homes.

After expenses there was a total of $7,150.59 in funds remaining. This money was distributed as gift cards to all the Mason County schools involved in the program to be used to provide emergency needs for students.

As a result of the above the City of Ludington *Shop with a Cop/Hero* budget is zeroed out for 2019.

This was indeed a very Merry Christmas for Mason County Law Enforcement and for several Mason County Families!

Also assisting in the event in 2019 Shop with a Cop program success were Administrative Assistant Jessica Young, City Clerk Deb Luskin and City Treasurer Tom Ezdebski.

Drive Safe, Drive Sober Program
The ***2019 Drive Safe, Drive Sober*** campaign was successful again this year. Wind conditions were light and temperatures were tolerable. This New Year's Eve celebration was a safe and enjoyable one. This success was due to the combined efforts of Abrahamson's Towing, Quinn's Towing, Oceana Auto, Fier's Towing & Recovery, Judy's Rides and the Ludington Mass Transportation Authority.
A total of **1,244** individuals were transported to and from their holiday destinations, rather than driving themselves this year, and sixteen **(16)** of those individuals had their vehicles towed free of charge.

A review of Mason County Law Enforcement Agencies' activity reveals that there were two **(2)** arrests for Operating While Intoxicated (O.W.I.), and three **(3)** other arrests involving alcohol. Three **(3)** assault arrests, one **(1)** controlled substance arrest and one **(1)** warrant arrest were made. Two **(2)** traffic citations were issued.

There was a total of seven **(7)** property damage traffic crashes responded to. No traffic related injuries were reported.

OBSERVATIONS / GOALS

The following progress was made on the departmental goals for 2019:
1. Worked collaboratively with other entities to combat opiate abuse.
2. Maintained departmental capabilities and staffing in light of potential retirements and market pressures.
3. Continued training for newest departmental members

Goals for 2020:
1. Continue to maintain departmental capabilities and staffing in light of changes in the labor market.
2. Assist in selection of new Chief of Police and facilitate a smooth transition.
3. Continue training and development of new department members.

CONCLUSION

It has been my honor to have served alongside the men and women of the Ludington Police Department. They are a group of professional police officers and clerical staff that continue to perform well as a team. They continually seek ways to provide better service for the residents of the City of Ludington.

As the department experiences change it has been gratifying to see how the junior members have stepped up and taken on new responsibilities as the more senior members depart. They are doing a wonderful job!

We appreciate the continued support of the citizens of Ludington and city officials. They will continue to do all they can to make Ludington a safe place to live and visit.

On a personal note thank-you for the opportunity to serve as the Chief of Police for the City of Ludington. It has been my pleasure to have spent the final nineteen years of my law enforcement career in such generous and welcoming community.

LUDINGTON POLICE DEPARTMENT
OFFICER STAFFING AND PRODUCTIVITY STUDY

DEPARTMENTAL TOTALS

YEAR	DEPT. TOTAL	SWORN	CLERICAL	ADMIN.	SUPPORT	BUDGETED PATROL POS.	TOTAL ACTIVITY	COMPS. INVEST.	ARRESTS	TRAFFIC	PARKING
2010	15.5	14	1.5	2	3	9	9,573	6,181	640	966	547
2011	15.5	14	1.5	2	3	9	9,898	6,340	759	951	747
2012	15.5	14	1.5	2	3	9	9,828	6,027	577	804	780
2013	15.5	14	1.5	2	3	9	9,332	5,790	477	933	1088
2014	15.5	14	1.5	2	3	9	9,885	6,297	548	896	600
2015	15.5	14	1.5	2	3	9	11,570	6,128	535	883	681
2016	15.5	14	1.5	2	3	9	9,176	5,536	416	1007	678
2017	15.5	14	1.5	2	3	9	9,207	5,790	455	902	615
2018	16.5	15	1.5	2	3.5	9.5	9,315	5,880	345	871	627
2019	16.5	15	1.5	2	3.5	9.5	10,671	6,324	560	966	635

INDIVIDUAL OFC. ACTIVITY AVERAGES

INDIVIDUAL OFFICER ACTIVITY AVG'S.

YEAR	TOT. ACTIV.	COMPS.	ARREST	TRAFFIC	PARKING
2010	1,064	686.8	71.1	107.3	60.8
2011	1,100	704.4	84.3	105.7	83.0
2012	1,092	669.7	64.1	89.3	86.7
2013	1,037	643.3	53.0	103.7	120.9
2014	1,098	699.7	60.9	99.6	66.7
2015	1,286	680.9	59.4	98.1	75.7
2016	1,020	615.1	46.2	111.9	75.3
2017	1,023	643.3	50.6	100.2	68.3
2018	981	618.9	36.3	91.7	56.0
2019	1,123	665.7	58.9	101.7	66.8

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ATTACHMENT #1
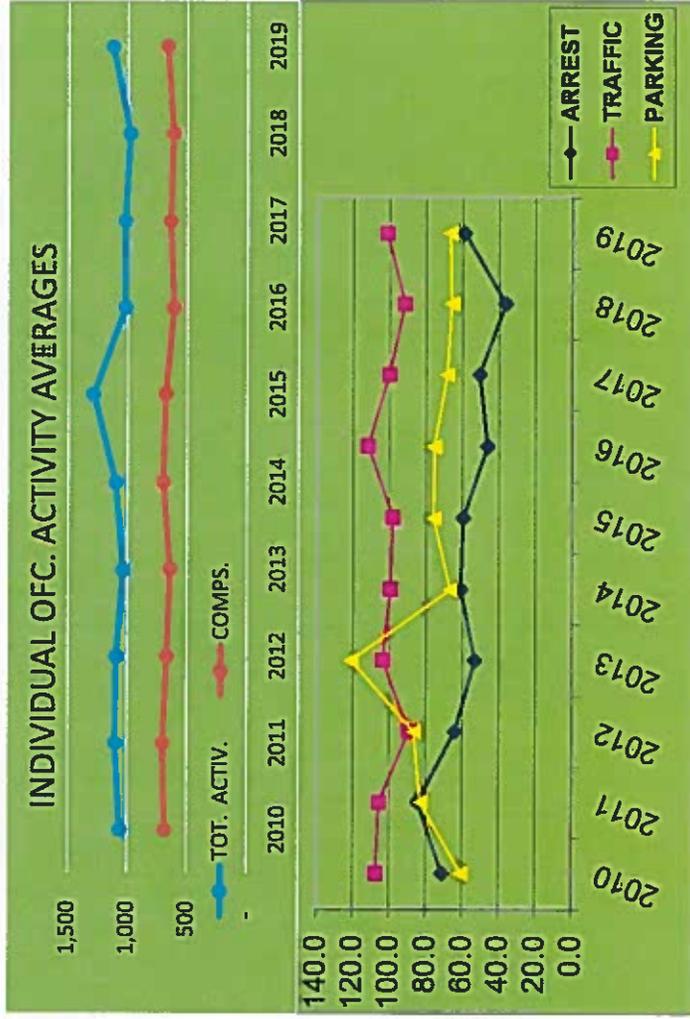
LUDINGTON POLICE DEPARTMENT
REPORTED CRIME SUMMARY

PERSON CRIMES

	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
Homicide (incl. Att.)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Abduction (Incl. Att.)	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0
Robbery	0	1	1	1	0	2	1	0	2	4
Sexual Assault	29	30	32	21	18	22	22	25	18	21
Assault	106	101	97	100	141	128	108	150	149	129
Stalking	20	7	8	10	8	12	4	6	7	7
Sub-total	156	141	138	132	167	164	135	182	179	162

PROPERTY CRIMES

	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
Arson	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	3	3	2
Burglary	39	24	34	24	37	36	46	46	38	35
Controlled Sub.Vio.	15	22	35	45	63	65	47	47	78	51
Damage to Property	53	61	71	64	73	114	78	133	122	136
Embezzlement	2	0	2	2	0	1	2	2	6	1
Fraud	45	42	55	52	70	49	52	49	40	53
Larceny	108	99	152	138	152	206	211	289	248	223
Retail Fraud	18	15	12	13	21	26	14	20	21	17
Vehicle Theft	4	2	4	6	1	4	5	8	3	7
Weapon Offenses	2	0	1	1	0	3	4	6	4	9
Sub-total	286	266	366	347	417	504	459	603	563	534

PUBLIC ORDER CRIMES

	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
Disorderly	305	387	376	254	498	651	593	607	694	617
Liquor Violations	32	28	21	27	31	38	36	46	75	78

TOTAL	779	822	901	760	1113	1357	1223	1438	1511	1391

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ATTACHMENT #2

LUDINGTON POLICE DEPARTMENT
ENFORCEMENT HISTORY REPORT

PERSON CRIMES

	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
Homicide-Includes Del. Causing Death	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Abduction	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Robbery	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	6
Sexual Assault	7	5	5	6	2	3	4	5	1	1
Assault	48	38	48	49	72	69	44	65	86	55
Stalking	2	0	3	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
	59	44	56	55	74	74	48	71	88	63

PROPERTY CRIMES

	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
Arson	0	1	0	0	0	0	6	0	3	0
Burglary	7	9	15	13	10	11	6	10	6	3
Controlled Sub.Vio.	7	13	25	37	48	33	20	42	44	54
Damage to Property	4	5	10	7	6	9	3	13	7	7
Embezzlement	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	2	1
Fraud	2	2	4	6	1	3	0	1	6	3
Larceny	7	15	21	8	15	16	10	14	28	28
Retail Fraud	7	7	10	4	17	12	10	15	13	12
Vehicle Theft	0	0	2	0	0	0	2	4	1	3
Weapon Offenses	0	0	1	1	2	3	1	3	2	3
	34	52	88	76	99	88	58	103	112	114

PUBLIC ORDER CRIMES

	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
Disorderly	45	50	45	44	39	53	49	81	73	81
Liquor Violations	13	16	25	38	38	50	40	64	75	70

	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
TOTAL ARRESTS *		199	246	237	293	295	235	355	401	367

TRAFFIC

	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
Traffic Crashes	176	204	216	175	172	247	239	204	219	210
Traffic Citations	966	871	902	1007	883	896	933	804	951	966
Operate While Intox. Arrests	49	37	32	24	43	30	40	36	53	39

ATTACHMENT #3

1/28/2020
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LUDINGTON POLICE DEPARTMENT
2019 ORGANIZATIONAL CHART

CHIEF OF POLICE

CAPTAIN

Admin. Asst.
P/T Clerical Asst.

Detective
S.S.C.E.N.T. Ofc.
S.R.O.

1 P/T-Comp. Forensic Examiner

SERGEANT
Squad One
Days

Patrol Ofc.

SERGEANT
Squad One
Nights

Patrol Ofc.
Patrol Ofc.

SERGEANT
Squad Two
Days

Patrol Ofc.

SERGEANT
Squad Two
Nights

Patrol Ofc.
P/T Patrol Ofc.

P/T Patrol Ofc.-Staffed
P/T Patrol Ofc.-Staffed

Seasonal Beach Patrol
One (1) F.T.E.

Police Reserve Unit (All Volunteer)
7 Reserve Patrol Officers
5 Reserve Marine Officers

ATTACHMENT #4

1/28/2020