SCOTTS VALLEY POLICE DEPARTMENT

ANNUAL ACTIVITY REPORT
2022
# SCOTTS VALLEY POLICE DEPARTMENT
## ANNUAL ACTIVITY REPORT - 2022

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Chief Steve Walpole

Scotts Valley Police Chief Steve Walpole
May 17, 2023

Honorable Mayor and City Council
City of Scotts Valley
1 Civic Center Drive
Scotts Valley, CA 95066

RE: 2022 Scotts Valley Police Department Activity Report

Dear Mayor and City Council Members:

It is my pleasure to present to each of you, the City Manager, and the citizens of Scotts Valley our Annual Activity Report for 2022. The many accomplishments contained in this report would not be possible without the dedication and hard work of our officers, dispatchers, support staff and volunteers.

In last year’s Annual Activity Report, I stated our organizational goals for 2022 would be continued hiring of police officers, to fill existing vacancies, and to fully return to our pre-pandemic life by hosting both the Junior Police Academy and our National Night Out. I am happy to report we were able to meet those goals and more this past year. Both the National Night Out event and the Junior Police Academy were big successes as our residents looked to get out of the COVID-19 quarantine mentality and back to a normal way of life.

In 2022 we hired Officer Stoeberl, who was new to law enforcement, and Officer Pidcock, who was a former officer with our agency with seventeen years of law enforcement experience. We also were able to hire Sergeant Galli, who came to our agency with more than ten years of experience with another police agency. The hiring of those three sworn positions got our patrol division back to full staffing for the first time since 2019. We still need a few more officers to reconstitute our investigations unit, but I am confident that goal will be attainable in 2023.

The ability to hire new officers gave our agency the flexibility to do more than just baseline patrol functions. This year we restarted several specialized positions, which included our motor officer position, so we once again have someone dedicated to full time traffic enforcement, and our K9 position after our K9 Xena was graciously donated to our department. In addition, we started a uniformed Bicycle Team, which had not been operational since the early 1990s.

This past year was a positive rebuilding period after a tough two years of responding to pandemic related issues. I look forward to what 2023 brings as our department continues on its positive trajectory. In closing, I would like to once again thank my staff for their dedicated service during those difficult years, as well as the supportive community that we are privileged to serve and protect.

Sincerely,

Steve Walpole
Chief of Police
# SCOTTS VALLEY CRIME STATISTICS
## YEAR TO YEAR COMPARISON 2018 TO 2022

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DESCRIPTION</th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>2019</th>
<th>2020</th>
<th>2021</th>
<th>2022</th>
<th>% OF CHANGE FROM 2021-2022</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>PART 1 CRIMES</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HOMICIDE</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RAPE</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>-50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ROBBERY</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASSAULT</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BURGLARY</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>-8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LARCENY</td>
<td>137</td>
<td>105</td>
<td>104</td>
<td>106</td>
<td>128</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AUTO THEFT</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ARSON</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>-200%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL PART 1 CRIMES</strong></td>
<td>264</td>
<td>215</td>
<td>248</td>
<td>221</td>
<td>237</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>ALL OTHER CRIMES</strong></td>
<td>675</td>
<td>542</td>
<td>407</td>
<td>503</td>
<td>428</td>
<td>-15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL CALLS FOR SERVICE</strong></td>
<td>6,433</td>
<td>6,477</td>
<td>6,439</td>
<td>6,033</td>
<td>5,655</td>
<td>-6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL OFFICER INITIATED ACTIVITY</strong></td>
<td>13,130</td>
<td>14,530</td>
<td>12,192</td>
<td>12,965</td>
<td>16,745</td>
<td>29%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL CITATIONS</strong></td>
<td>1,594</td>
<td>966</td>
<td>579</td>
<td>958</td>
<td>1,021</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>NUMBER OF ARRESTS</strong></td>
<td>703</td>
<td>486</td>
<td>374</td>
<td>425</td>
<td>570</td>
<td>34%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INJURY ACCIDENT</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>-21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NON INJURY ACCIDENT</td>
<td>133</td>
<td>149</td>
<td>107</td>
<td>137</td>
<td>122</td>
<td>-10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FATALITY</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIT &amp; RUN</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>-5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL ACCIDENTS</strong></td>
<td>155*</td>
<td>161*</td>
<td>114*</td>
<td>156*</td>
<td>137*</td>
<td>-12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DOMESTIC VIOLENCE</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VANDALISM/GRAFFITI</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>77</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>-17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DRUG VIOLATIONS</td>
<td>162</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>79</td>
<td>89</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Does not include Hit & Run collisions
## SCOTTS VALLEY POLICE DEPARTMENT
### DATA DEMOGRAPHICS 2022

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Black</th>
<th>White</th>
<th>Hispanic</th>
<th>Asian</th>
<th>Other</th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Female</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Arrests</strong></td>
<td>150</td>
<td>5 (3%)</td>
<td>86 (57%)</td>
<td>55 (36%)</td>
<td>1 (1%)</td>
<td>3 (2%)</td>
<td>115</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Notice to Appear</strong></td>
<td>132</td>
<td>3 (2%)</td>
<td>74 (56%)</td>
<td>41 (31%)</td>
<td>7 (5%)</td>
<td>7 (5%)</td>
<td>92</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Written Notice to Correct Violation</strong></td>
<td>208</td>
<td>8 (4%)</td>
<td>150 (72%)</td>
<td>36 (17%)</td>
<td>6 (3%)</td>
<td>8 (4%)</td>
<td>133</td>
<td>75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Verbal Warning</strong></td>
<td>2100</td>
<td>64 (3%)</td>
<td>1362 (65%)</td>
<td>524 (25%)</td>
<td>85 (4%)</td>
<td>65 (3%)</td>
<td>1413</td>
<td>687</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Public/Motorist Service</strong></td>
<td>8</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>6 (75%)</td>
<td>2 (25%)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total:</strong></td>
<td>2598</td>
<td>80 (3%)</td>
<td>1678 (65%)</td>
<td>658 (25%)</td>
<td>99 (4%)</td>
<td>83 (3%)</td>
<td>1759</td>
<td>839</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>City Population (2020 Census)</strong></td>
<td>11,863</td>
<td>71 (1%)</td>
<td>9,251 (78%)</td>
<td>1,253 (11%)</td>
<td>854 (7%)</td>
<td>434 (3%)</td>
<td>5,880</td>
<td>5,983</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>County Population (2020 Census)</strong></td>
<td>273,123</td>
<td>2,230 (1%)</td>
<td>154,075 (56%)</td>
<td>92,921 (34%)</td>
<td>13,699 (5%)</td>
<td>10,198 (4%)</td>
<td>135,168</td>
<td>137,955</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### What Are Data Demographics?

Data demographics are compiled by the Scotts Valley Police Department during the course of a routine traffic stop. Upon the conclusion of the stop, information obtained from the Officer as well as the Driver’s License is saved and used to track characteristics such as age, race, and gender. This information has been collected for many years for internal use, however this year we have included it for public review as some questions arose regarding who we were stopping. We will continue to provide this type of information in subsequent Annual Reports for greater transparency to the public.
The Scotts Valley Police Department Administration is responsible for the overall leadership, vision, and management of the police department. Police Administration manages the Department’s $6.2 million budget, as well as grant funds, equipment acquisitions and overall training needs.

Police Administration directs the hiring of new personnel, ensures that professional standards are met, and monitors compliance with all state and federal regulatory requirements. Police administrators participate in numerous city/county events, boards, and meetings. They also collaborate closely with elected officials, the city manager, local schools and community groups to ensure a positive and open line of communication.
OPERATIONS DIVISION

Law enforcement worldwide faces a complex and changing landscape. It demands strong, ethical, and courageous leadership. Our profession continues to come under fire with protests and public cries to defund the police. The public wanted more police transparency, stricter hiring practices, police accountability and changes to use of force policies with more emphasis on de-escalation tactics. Police leaders today are called upon to not only provide leadership, but to build trust in our community and within our own agency. Those in a supervisory role must model ethical behavior both on and off duty, mentor and develop our newer officers, and guide internal change, all while managing countless other responsibilities.

Captain Jayson Rutherford oversees the day-to-day operations of the police department. This position requires the management of four sergeants and eight patrol officers. Our patrol staff work twelve-hour shifts on a three or four-day rotation. These shifts are normally covered by one patrol sergeant and two patrol officers with our daily minimum staffing for any particular shift being two officers. For the past several years, we have struggled to fill open positions and this year was no exception. However, we continue to operate at a high level of service to the community, even with less staff.

The Operations Division includes the Patrol Unit, Training Unit, K9 Unit, Traffic Unit, and the Reserve Unit. The Patrol Unit is comprised of officers who operate marked police vehicles and handle the bulk of the day-to-day calls for service. In any given moment, officers perform an array of duties from responding to emergency calls for service involving vehicle accidents to talking to our youth about drugs and alcohol prevention.

In addition to officers' normal patrol duties, they are also required to attend regular training courses and make court appearances. These men and women also volunteer their own time in the community with Police Officer Association fundraisers. We are fortunate to have such a dedicated group of individuals working for the Scotts Valley Police Department.

Patrol Supervisors:

Sergeant Meredith Roberts

Sergeant Meredith Roberts has served the department since 2016. Besides managing a patrol shift, she also oversees our Reserve Officer Program, Bicycle Team, and is one of our Peer Support team members. Sergeant Roberts oversees the maintenance of department equipment and the bullet proof vest program.
Sergeant Pascale Drozek

Sergeant Pascale Drozek has served the department since 2018. She supervises our Field Training Program for new officers. She coordinates with our department’s field training officers to ensure that newly hired officers receive the best training possible. Sergeant Drozek is one of our Peer Support team members. In addition, Sergeant Drozek is also one of our department’s firearms and defensive tactics instructors.

Sergeant Aaron Roberts

Sergeant Aaron Roberts has served the department since 2016. He oversees our armory and is the administrator of our department’s gas mask program and riot gear. Sergeant Roberts ensures all personnel are within OSHA Compliance standards. Sergeant Roberts also serves as a Field Training Officer.

Sergeant Chris Galli

Sergeant Chris Galli was hired by the Scotts Valley Police Department in May 2022. He oversees the department’s Traffic Unit and is in charge of our vehicle abatement program, roadway traffic counts, speed surveys, and the placement of our speed awareness units. He maintains our fleet of BMW motorcycles, two Zero electric motorcycles, and one all-terrain vehicle. Sergeant Galli is also one of the department’s firearms instructors.
The training unit is supervised by Captain Jayson Rutherford who oversees the Department’s in-house training for all full-time officers, reserve officers, and police dispatchers. He is responsible for ensuring that the department’s training conforms to State and Federal guidelines. The State of California Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) mandates that officers receive training in the following categories every two years: firearms, arrest control techniques, vehicle operations and pursuit driving, tactical communications, CPR/First Aid, and Active Shooter. Our department exceeds the State’s minimum standards by training several times each year in each category, a standard we have set for ourselves and believe our citizens demand of us.

In addition to state mandated training, officers are also required to conduct monthly roll-call training. Training topics include: Sexual Harassment, Dispatch Center Operation, Use of Force and Pursuit Policy Review, Blood Borne Pathogens, De-escalation Strategies, Bias and Racial Profiling, and Gun Violence Restraining Orders (GVRO). Officers are also tested monthly on department policies and procedures through Lexipol Daily Training Bulletins (DTBs).

Officers are often sent off-site to receive more specialized training. These courses are taught by approved content experts in topics such as sexual assault, robbery, burglary, accident, evidence collection, interviewing, impaired driving, leadership, emerging trends, and many other contemporary subjects. Modern municipal police work requires unique individuals who can blend law enforcement with social work.

Our officers must be able to deal with an array of people in a wide variety of different situations. One moment officers may have to show empathy to someone who is a victim of a crime, and the next moment an officer might be dealing with a suicidal subject or someone who is under the influence of drugs or alcohol. Officers are often thrust into the complex web of societal issues surrounding race, class and poverty. For these reasons and more, training is a vital part of this department’s professional development.
FIELD TRAINING PROGRAM

The Field Training Program is the launching point of every police officer’s career. The FTO Program is designed to guide and shape the new police academy recruit into a safe, competent, knowledgeable, and effective solo patrol officer. The Field Training Officer (FTO) serves many roles, including that of teacher, role model, and leader. The FTO must be well versed in the Department’s policies, procedures, and values. They need to be able to quickly understand their trainee’s learning style to help impart their knowledge and hard-earned expertise.

The role of the FTO extends far beyond the mere sharing of information. The FTO helps the trainee understand the “why” behind the “how to”, while also providing a strong emphasis on utilizing sound judgment in their decision making and problem solving. The FTO understands the importance of helping the trainee develop their own approach, capitalizing on their strengths, all while adhering to the expectations and vision set forth by the Chief of Police, and in accordance with the highest of standards.

The FTO Program is managed by Sergeant Pascale Drozek. SVPD is now operating with five FTO’s with the addition of Officer Larios and Officer Hutchison, who joined the team at the end of year. They complement the already existing FTO team consisting of Officer Ahrens, Officer Renn and Officer Lipari.


The Scotts Valley Police Department recognizes the dedication of all of our staff who helped train both new academy recruits and experienced lateral Officers. Their commitment to the training program contributed greatly to their success.

We congratulate Sergeant Galli, Officer Stoeberl and Officer Pidcock for completing our FTO Program in 2022 and becoming valued members of the Scotts Valley Police Department!
As part of the Scotts Valley Police Department’s Operations Division, the Traffic Unit’s mission is to reduce vehicular accidents and injuries, and to facilitate the safe and expeditious flow of vehicular and pedestrian traffic by encouraging the public’s voluntary compliance with traffic regulations.

Our officers stopped a total of 2598 vehicles in 2022 which resulted in 1021 citations. Due to these enforcement efforts, injury collisions were reduced by 21% compared to 2021. There were 15 injury collisions in 2022 compared to 19 injury collisions in 2021. We attribute the overall collision reduction due to previous efforts of identifying the top injury collision locations, and the primary collision factors (Vehicle code violations). We believe that the target traffic enforcement resulted in a reduction of overall injury collision statistics.

BADGES TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT DETAIL

For the past two decades, members of our traffic unit have participated in the countywide joint traffic enforcement program, “BADGES” (Before Aggressive Driving Gets Everyone Stopped). Once a month, traffic officers from each Santa Cruz County Agency collaborate to target high collision areas, school zones, and other violations in selected jurisdictions around our county. This saturated traffic enforcement’s main purpose is to bring educational awareness to the motoring public, combat road rage by targeting aggressive driving violations such as speeding, stop sign violations, red light violations, tailgating, and unsafe lane changes.
ABANDONED VEHICLE PROGRAM

In 2022, the Department continued its enforcement efforts related to large RV's/motorhomes parked or abandoned throughout the city. The Traffic Division issued 156 vehicle storage citations (38% increase from 2021), 85 abatement notices (80% increase from 2021), as well as hundreds of courtesy citations (Written warnings) to violators. A total of 13 vehicles were towed for being left abandoned on our roadways. Officers also made regular contact with vehicle owners to educate them about laws related to vehicle storage.

MOTOR OFFICER STANDEN

In mid-2022, Officer Standen successfully completed an 80-hour Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) Motorcycle course. He is a newly minted motor officer and spends as much time as possible conducting directed traffic enforcement.

DUI ENFORCEMENT RECORD

Officer Brown set a SVPD record for total DUI (Driving Under the Influence) arrests in 2022. His exceptional enforcement efforts yielded hundreds of car stops and 50 DUI arrests. We believe that his hard work prevented many DUI related tragedies.
The Scotts Valley Police Department is fortunate to be one of the few local agencies that has an active Reserve Officer Unit. The Scotts Valley Reserve Officer Unit is composed of members of our community who choose to dedicate a portion of their time to community service by working as volunteer police officers. The Scotts Valley Police Department currently has five active reserve officers. Our Reserve Officers currently consist of John Hohmann, Don Murray, David Bergman, Michael Cummings, and Kevin Elliott. Between the five Reserve Officers is over 120 years of Law Enforcement experience.

Reserve Officers were called on to assist the Patrol and Investigation Division numerous times throughout the year. Some of these calls included:

- Assist with day-to-day investigations.
- Provide traffic control during special events and road closures.
- Conduct extra foot patrols of shopping centers during the holidays.
- Conduct surveillance stakeouts for reported burglaries and attempt to locate wanted subjects.
- Provide ongoing trainings for our Explorer Program.
- Provide security at various school related events such as Operation Safe Passage, Homecoming, Graduation Day, and Grad Night.
- Patrol supplementation on holidays and other special events.
- Transportation of in-custody subjects to Dominican Hospital, County Jail and the Behavioral Health Unit.
- Assist with vehicle abatements.
- Take on special projects such as organizing and cleaning the Armory and conducting inventory on Armory equipment.
- Represent this Department at many Special Olympics Northern California events, like Polar Plunge, the Olympic Games, and Police in Pursuit.
Reserve Officers also attend POST mandated training along with full time Officers. Reserve Officers attended firearms training, active shooter training, arrest and control tactics, as well as reviewing and testing on various policies.

In total, Reserve Officers volunteered over 700 hours during the 2022 calendar year. These hours don’t include the many hours Reserve Officer Bergman logged working on a regular basis to assist with our low staffing levels from January through November. Their efforts and sacrifices are greatly appreciated by the members of this department and the community.

All of our Reserve Officers are to be commended for the extraordinary effort they put forth given that they have full-time careers outside of law enforcement. Their willingness to sacrifice time from their personal lives to assist our city is to be congratulated. Their professionalism and support not only increases the safety of our full-time patrol officers, but it also enhances the overall effectiveness of our department. Most importantly, the citizens of Scotts Valley benefit from the many efforts and contributions of our wonderful Reserve Officers.
CANINE (K9) PROGRAM

The Scotts Valley Police K-9 Program originated in 1968 with this department’s first K-9, rightfully named, King. K-9 King served loyally to this City until he was retired in 1972. K-9 King started a great tradition here at the Scotts Valley Police Department and following in his paw steps was K-9 Duke, K-9 Atlas, K-9 Odin, and now, K-9 Xena! K-9 Xena is handled by her partner, K-9 Officer Hutchison.

Our newest K-9 team of Officer Hutchison and Xena went through a rigorous 12-week training program which resulted in them being certified in tracking, apprehension, article, and narcotics detection. During 2022, Xena has been involved in several large cases involving narcotics, recovery of firearms, thefts, stolen vehicles, and missing persons. In a short period of time, Xena has become an integral cog in the wheel of success for this department.

K-9 Officer Hutchison and Xena participated in several demonstrations during 2022, including a smash hit at this year’s National Night Out event, where Xena demonstrated her prowess in the apprehension of violent subjects.

The Scotts Valley Police Department is committed to exemplary public services and the safety of our community is of the highest importance. The addition of Xena and the continuing of this great tradition will augment our current services and increase our ability to protect this great City.
The Administrative Services Division is overseen by Captain Scott Garner and is comprised of two units: Investigations and Communications. Due to staffing levels, we were unable to place a full time Detective Sergeant in the unit. Detective Kevin Elliott supervised the Investigations Unit in 2022, while Services Supervisor Amanda Robbins continued to manage the Communications Unit.

The Scotts Valley Police Department’s Investigation Unit is normally comprised of two detectives, a school resource officer, and a detective sergeant. The detectives work weekdays but are on call and available when a major incident unfolds. Detectives have specialized training in major crimes and follow up on complex cases. They also conduct proactive operations such as tobacco and alcohol stings and are responsible for our narcotic and sex registrant program.

The Scotts Valley Police Department is the only municipality which maintains its own 911 dispatch center. Our police dispatchers perform a wide variety of duties including answering emergency and business calls for service, dispatching officers on patrol, police report review and records management, producing our media bulletin, assisting with property and evidence, and helping members of the public who arrive in our lobby 24 hours a day.

In December 2022, Services Supervisor Amanda Robbins took the opportunity to be a stay-at-home parent and resigned from her position with the Scotts Valley Police Department. We wish Amanda the best of luck and are grateful for her years of service!
The Investigations Unit has three areas of focus: Criminal Investigations, Personnel Recruitment, and Community Outreach for the department.

Detective Kevin Elliott, a local resident who retired from full time law enforcement in 2021, has brought his years of investigative experience to work part time for our department. He actively works our investigation cases, some of which have been very complex and time consuming. Detective Elliott has been instrumental in making the unit run smoothly and getting prosecutable cases to the District Attorney. Detective Elliott is also responsible for ensuring our local business permits for massage parlors and pawn shops are in order and that these businesses are operating within their legal requirements.

The department had no personnel available to staff our investigations unit for most of 2022, but as staffing improved, we were able to assign Officer Nick Lipari part time to the detective position. This allowed Officer Lipari to work with Detective Elliott on active cases requiring detailed follow up, including a string of burglaries that occurred in our business community. The department hopes to fill this position full time in 2023.
The Drug Abuse Resistance Education (DARE) program is taught to all 5th grade students at Vine Hill Elementary, Brook Knoll Elementary and Baymonte Christian School.

As an alumni of Baymonte Christian School and a former DARE student himself, School Resource Officer Patrick Ahrens has taught DARE the past two years.

The DARE program consists of an evidence-based curriculum that teaches students good decision-making skills to help them lead safe and healthy lives. The DARE vision is defined as a “world in which students everywhere are empowered to respect others and choose to lead lives free from violence, substance abuse, and other dangerous behaviors.”
In June 2022, the Scotts Valley Police Department reinitiated our Junior Police Academy (JPA) program after a two-year hiatus due to Covid restrictions. JPA was run in two separate sessions by School Resource Officer Ahrens with help from our dispatchers, officers, and sergeants.

The Scotts Valley Police Department views JPA as a vital way to engage with our community and positively interact with our community’s youth. At JPA, middle school age youth are treated as police recruits and put through a weeklong police style academy during which they are taught some aspects of what actual police recruits go through in training.

The training includes finger printing, plaster casting, crime scene sketches, and defensive tactics. In addition to this, Recruits are put through daily physical fitness drills and are shown K9, SWAT, and firearms demonstrations. At the end of the training week, students walk the San Lorenzo River for trash clean up to encourage them to get active in their community to make it a better place for all to live.
The Scotts Valley Police Department emergency communications center is a twenty-four hour, seven days a week (24/7) operation. The Scotts Valley Police Department is one of three communication centers in the County of Santa Cruz and we are proud to serve the citizens of Scotts Valley. Operating twenty-four hours a day, our dispatchers are the first point of contact answering 911 and business line calls. Our dispatchers assist citizens in the lobby around the clock.

In 2022, our dispatch center handled 3,488 emergency calls for service and 12,540 business line calls, which resulted in 5,655 calls for police service. Our average response time to emergency calls for service was 2.8 minutes. Our dispatchers work quickly and calmly to get the appropriate assistance to those in need.

When comparing our dispatchers answering 911 and business line calls to calls for service dispatched, this highlights the importance of having well qualified dispatchers. More than half of our 911 and business line calls were answered and handled by a dispatcher, allowing officers more time to respond to higher priority calls for service. Our dispatchers are highly trained and motivated to assist the officers and the department any way they can. Our dispatchers continue to attend trainings to further their knowledge and career growth.
In addition to the day-to-day operations of the dispatch and records unit, our staff assist officers with their investigations, handle public records requests, process traffic and parking citations, and process all police reports. Our dispatch management team assists on technical projects and system support, as well as generates statistical reports, prepares weekly, monthly, and annual government reporting requirements and audits, and handles subpoenas. EDCII Carney manages the property and evidence unit and 290 registrations and compliance.

The Communications/Records Unit is overseen by Administrative Captain Scott Garner. The unit is managed by Services Supervisor/Custodian of Records Amanda Robbins with two mid-management Emergency Dispatch Clerk II’s, Chloe Graham and Hannah Carney. The dispatch/records floor consists of four Emergency Dispatch Clerk I’s, Kiara Jacobsen, Anna-Kate Brajkovich, Taylor Raymond, and Taylor Froling.

Our dispatch team had multiple achievements throughout the year. EDCI Taylor Raymond and EDCI Taylor Froling both completed their probationary period in 2022. Our communications staff also received employee of the month awards on multiple occasions. EDCII Hannah Carney received the award in January, EDCI Taylor Froling received the award in May, and EDCI Kiara Jacobsen received the award in September.

In March, the Services Supervisor and EDCII’s attended the 2022 California National Emergency Number Association (CalNENA) Conference where they were able to view presentations and demonstrations regarding the Next-Gen 911 technology being developed in California. Our staff networked with other dispatchers and vendors throughout the state and attended classes and workshops to benefit this department. We look forward to sending our staff back to this conference in 2023.

For National Public Safety Telecommunications Week in April, Mayor Donna Lind issued a Mayor’s Proclamation declaring the week of April 10 - April 16 to be National Telecommunications Week in the City of Scotts Valley.
The Scotts Valley Police Department has a devoted group of civilian volunteers that have collectively served over 500 hours this year. A program running since 1991, our department volunteers assist our staff weekly with numerous tasks throughout the year. Our department currently has five volunteers: Jim Kiehl, Fred Wilson, Joe Bac, Konrad Baumert, and Terri Ritchie.

Jim Kiehl and Terri Ritchie work in our Records and the Administrative Department maintaining and purging reports. They assist with clerical work and support our court liaison. They are both detail-oriented and essential to this department’s operations.

Joe Bac and Konrad Baumert assist our traffic unit with moving our speed survey sign weekly. They work hand-in-hand with our traffic unit to ensure the speed survey is being placed in a strategic area to benefit the community and reduce violations. Their dedication and commitment to keeping our citizens of Scotts Valley safe is valuable to this department.

Chaplain Fred Wilson works around the clock responding with our officers to provide emotional and spiritual guidance to citizens who are grieving. Chaplain Wilson checks in weekly on our own staff and supports those in need. Chaplain Wilson is imperative for our staff and the City of Scotts Valley in times of need.

We cannot thank our volunteers enough for their commitment and hard work they provide to this department as well as the City of Scotts Valley. Their positive attitudes, hard work, and countless hours of dedication show how essential they are to the Scotts Valley Police Department as well as the City of Scotts Valley.
The Scotts Valley Police Department is one of a few agencies that still provides and participates in an Explorer Program. The Explorer Program is an opportunity for juveniles, aged 14-20 years, to be involved with the police department. The Explorer Program is run in adherence to Scouts of America’s regulations.

Juveniles that are interested in a career in law enforcement or dispatch are provided with a hands-on experience of law enforcement’s day-to-day responsibilities.

Interested applicants are required to complete an in-depth application and background process to be an Explorer with the department. Once completed, Explorers are provided with a badge and uniform, attend regular trainings and are able to ride with a full-time officer. Explorers assist with traffic control, writing non-criminal reports, provide security for our large events and assist with other community outreach events such as our Junior Police Academy, National Night Out, and Cops and Rodders.

Our current Explorers consist of Explorers Jacob Brazil and Amanda Swart. Explorer Brazil and Explorer Swart were sworn in to this Department during 2022. Explorer Brazil and Explorer Swart have participated in firearms safety training, traffic control, Annual Inspection, Junior Police Academy, National Night Out, Active Shooter Training, and the Cops and Rodders event. Between our two Explorers, they have logged an impressive 260 hours for 2022!
The Scotts Valley Police Officer Association (SVPOA) is committed to engaging with our residents and helping to raise funds for local charities and youth programs. Officer Timothy Renn (President) and Sergeant Chris Galli (Vice President) were elected to run the association in June of 2022 and continue our long tradition of giving back to our community.

**Special Olympics**

The SVPOA has long supported the Special Olympics of Northern California. Reserve Officer John Hohmann coordinated public relation events that raise funds for Special Olympics of Northern California including the popular Police in Pursuit car races at Ocean Speedway, the Polar Plunge, and the Law Enforcement Torch Run.

In July 2022, the official “Flame of Hope” torch of the Special Olympics Northern California Summer Games was carried through Scotts Valley with a large contingent of runners, including SVPD officers, reserve officers, and dispatchers.

Special Olympic events are supported by our agency because we believe in the importance of celebrating the heart and spirit of Special Olympic athletes and their families.

**Valley Churches United Fundraiser**

The SVPOA, in partnership with the City of Scotts Valley, the Scotts Valley Exchange Club, Valley Churches United, Kiwanis Club, and many more community sponsors, created a magical holiday tree lighting ceremony at the Community Center. Officers joined in the festive event and collected donations for Valley Churches United, passed out stickers, and took photos with numerous families. It was an amazing turn out and a great event. It was an honor for the SVPOA to participate in this family-oriented community event.
We handled 5,655 calls for service and 16,745 Officer Initiated Activity events in 2022. Our calls for service ranged from in-progress crimes, domestic disputes, thefts and burglaries, traffic collisions, narcotic related crimes, DUIs, and major criminal investigations. Our department also provided calls for service involving suspicious vehicles and people, residential and commercial alarms, various municipal code violations, and other quality of life issues. Some of the more notable incidents are summarized below:

**WINTER**

The New Year started off quickly with our night shift patrol officers stopping a vehicle and discovering the driver was on probation. When officers searched the vehicle, they located over half a pound of methamphetamine and psilocybin mushrooms. The driver also had plenty of packaging and sales material for the narcotics, so an additional felony charge was added.

Due to Highway 17 bisecting our city, we often deal with criminals and traffic related issues from people traveling between the Bay area and Santa Cruz. Additionally, we work closely with the California Highway Patrol providing cover officers for high-risk vehicle stops and calls for service. In this instance, a CHP officer found a motorist on the side of Highway 17 and stopped to offer assistance.

The driver began shooting at the officer with a high-powered assault rifle and fled the scene. Unfortunately for the driver, he was not familiar with the area and drove into Scotts Valley, ultimately ditching the vehicle at the dead end of Tabor Drive. Our officers quickly set up a containment perimeter around the neighborhood and advised all of the residents to shelter in place. A CHP helicopter, SCPD armored vehicle and SWAT team, and Sheriff’s deputies arrived to assist. A manhunt ensued and after several hours, the female passenger was located and arrested. The following morning, the male driver was also located and arrested.
An alert barista at a local business informed us that a suspect entered the business and appeared to be armed with a handgun in his waistband. Our officers responded and discovered the suspect had locked himself in the bathroom. Officers were able to enter the bathroom and detain the suspect.

We located a Glock handgun, illegally modified to be fully automatic, that was loaded with an illegal high-capacity magazine. Officers searched his vehicle and located two additional illegal magazines, 70 grams of heroin, 70 grams of methamphetamine, 50 grams of fentanyl, Oxycodone, and narcotics sales material. The suspect, who was already on probation for weapons and drug related charges, was booked on multiple felonies and the case was referred to the federal prosecutor.

As the weather turned warmer during the spring, more people were enjoying going for bike rides. Unfortunately, this also meant an increase in bicycle thefts. Officers investigated multiple high-end bicycle thefts over the course of several weeks and developed a possible suspect. The suspect was also accused of stealing bicycles in other parts of the county. With the help of watchful citizens, we were able to positively identify and arrest the suspect. Officers were also able to recover some of the stolen bicycles and return them to their owners.
SUMMER

Scotts Valley Police has had a long and successful history with our K-9 program. This year we welcomed our newest K-9 member, Xena. Xena hit the ground running and made a significant drug detection her very FIRST shift. Officers stopped a vehicle and utilized Xena to do a “free-air sniff.” When she alerted, they searched the vehicle and found 30 grams of cocaine and paraphernalia. Nice work, Xena!

An employee at a local business called our department and reported that her purse was just stolen from the business and the suspect fled in a vehicle. Officers tracked the phone and discovered it was “pinging” in the area of Felton Faire. When officers arrived, they located a vehicle that was similar to the one described and it fled from officers at a high rate of speed. Officers later located the vehicle parked behind a business and discovered it was stolen. Xena was used to track the suspect and he was located and arrested.

FALL

In the fall, Scotts Valley experienced a rash of burglaries, specifically targeting restaurants. These burglaries occurred over several weeks and the suspect was always wearing a face mask and gloves. There were ten burglaries in Scotts Valley, with many additional burglaries in the county, attributed to the same suspect. Officers spent many hours in the middle of the night on bicycle patrols in the shopping centers, hoping to catch the suspect in the act. The suspect was finally arrested in another jurisdiction, but we were able to tie him to the Scotts Valley burglaries.

One of the most common calls for service we respond to is people dealing with a mental health crisis and emotionally disturbed persons. These calls are further complicated when weapons are involved. Officers contacted a man who was having a mental health issue and was imagining people were out to get him. He was armed with an assault rifle, high-capacity magazines, and body armor. The suspect was already on probation and prohibited from possessing firearms from prior arrests. Fortunately, the suspect was taken into custody by our officers without incident and the weapons and body armor were confiscated.
The outstanding investigations, arrests, dispatching, and community involvement does not go unnoticed. Here are the Employees of the Month for 2022. We are fortunate to have such dedicated police professionals.

JANUARY

EDCII Hannah Carney

EDCII Carney was selected for her vital role in not only Dispatch, but also taking on various assignments during staffing shortages due to an outbreak of COVID-19 within the department. EDCII Carney showed great independence and drive to assist others in completing daily tasks and projects. She also took over the supervision of our property and evidence unit when that position became vacant.

FEBRUARY

Sergeant Pascale Drozek

Sergeant Drozek was the employee of the month for her outstanding work with the Field Training Program. Not only did she supervise one of the busiest times to supervise the unit, she also successfully got our program re-certified with POST in just three months’ time. The final certified document was hundreds of pages and represented many weeks of hard work.

MARCH

Officer Edgar Larios

Officer Larios had the opportunity to save a life in March when he was dispatched to a report of a subject with no pulse behind the city library. Officer Larios recognized it as a potential drug overdose and administered two separate doses of Narcan while chest compressions were administered. A few minutes later, and with a little help from the fire department, the man was brought back to life and recovered fully from his opioid induced overdose.
APRIL

Officer Forrest Brown

Officer Brown has demonstrated exemplary drive with his self-initiated activity. During the month of April, Officer Brown led the department in several key categories including: area checks, bar checks, foot patrols, calls for service, and he wrote the most police reports. Officer Brown also made the most arrests this month and three of those were DUI, which is not an easy task when you are assigned to day shift.

MAY

EDCI Taylor Froling

In early May, EDCI Froling received a seemingly routine audible alarm at a local residence. She dispatched officers who arrived on scene and discovered that the back door to the residence was shattered. Officers reported seeing possible movement inside and asked for additional resources to help search the home. EDCI Froling requested additional units from the Sheriff’s Office and Santa Cruz Police Department. Due to having multiple agencies involved, the incident was switched to the Sheriff’s Office Red Channel. She successfully handled the multi-agency incident on the Red Channel while the units cleared the residence. This is not a common occurrence for our agency and EDCI Froling handled the incident with ease and efficiency.

JUNE

Detective Kevin Elliott

In June, Detective Elliott investigated a number of large cases, including several that were significant enough that the FBI took over for federal prosecution. Detective Elliott traveled to several cities in both California and Nevada to conduct interviews with victims and did a fantastic job tying cases together to present to the District Attorney’s Office. Detective Elliott authored and served numerous search/arrest warrants related to his caseload, with most leading to a magnitude of relevant evidence solidifying his cases.
JULY

Officer Forrest Brown

Officer Brown was selected for the second time this year due to his proactivity this month in which he led the department in reports written (17), arrests made (15), and traffic stops conducted (95). Additionally, of the 15 arrests made, 5 of those were for Driving Under the Influence (DUI). Those DUI arrests in July brought his total for the year to 25. He is the first SVPD Officer to achieve this number of DUI arrests since at least the turn of the century! Officer Brown has put to use the Standardized Field Sobriety course he attended recently and proven that it was a worthy investment towards his professional development.

AUGUST

K9 Officer Trevor Hutchison

Officer Hutchison and his K9, Xena, responded out to several outside agency assist calls during the month, but the standout call for service came from the California Highway Patrol. They had pursued a suspect into our city and the suspect crashed trying to exit from southbound Highway 17 onto Mount Hermon Road. Officer Hutchison responded to the scene of the crash and assisted the CHP with the high-risk car stop. Officer Hutchison utilized Xena to obtain a surrender and CHP was able to safely and effectively apprehend the suspect.

SEPTEMBER

EDCI Kiara Jacobsen

EDCI Jacobsen is one of our most experienced dispatchers and that experience really showed when she received multiple calls for a male lying in the crosswalk at the intersection of Scotts Valley Drive and Mount Hermon Road. EDCI Jacobsen dispatched officers to the incident, but while they were still responding, she received an update that it was a vehicle versus pedestrian collision. She remained calm and multi-tasked by answering and gathering information from multiple 911 calls, the non-emergency line, and communicating with Netcom to have medical respond to the scene. EDCI Jacobsen also updated officers, which streamlined the public safety response to aid the injured pedestrian.
OCTOBER

School Resource Officer Patrick Ahrens

School Resource Officer Patrick Ahrens worked almost literally non-stop in October. During a stretch of twenty-four (24) days, Officer Ahrens was on duty twenty-one (21) of them. He was there to keep the department running despite vacancies due to training days and illnesses which had a serious impact on staffing. In addition to supporting patrol, Officer Ahrens worked on his days off at the Scotts Valley High School to provide security at both the homecoming football game and the haunted house fundraiser.

NOVEMBER

Reserve Officer David Bergman

In January of 2021, Officer Bergman answered the call for service when the department was critically short handed on patrol due to a staffing emergency. He agreed to quit his normal day job to work part time for our department until our staffing increased. In November, he logged in his last shift as a part time officer when our staffing returned to normal, however, his contribution to the department in our time of need will not be forgotten.

DECEMBER

Administrative Secretary Analyst Cerina Locke

Admin. Sec. Analyst Locke has always been key to our success at department public events. In December, she again shined when on her own, she made sure the Holiday Employee Potluck happened this year. She proactively reached out to Valley Churches United, inquired what donations they needed, and set the date of the event. When the time came, she provided all of the decorations and created all of the table centerpieces on her own time. During the potluck, she took all of the photographs and after the event was over, she took the lead to clean up. I am confident in saying the event would not have occurred without Admin. Sec. Analyst Locke’s leadership that day.
Officer Forrest Brown was selected as the 2022 Exchange Club's Police Employee of the Year at their Annual Blue & Gold Dinner celebration. Officer Brown provided exceptional and productive results this past year leading the department in traffic stops (615) and arrests (157). Fifty of those arrests were for Driving Under the Influence (DUI), which is the most DUI arrests made by any one officer in a single year in the history of the Scotts Valley Police Department. After encountering drivers who were under the influence of drugs while operating a vehicle, Officer Brown attended an Advanced Roadside Impaired Driving Enforcement (ARIDE) class to specialize in both drug and alcohol impairment in drivers. To further hone his drug detection skills, he became a certified Drug Recognition Expert (DRE), the first in-house DRE for our agency, and then brought his knowledge to our Field Training Program to help instruct new trainees on how to conduct thorough DUI investigations. Officer Brown’s professionalism, positive attitude, dedication to our community, and his many accomplishments in 2022 make him more than deserving of the Exchange Club’s Police Employee of the Year.
CAPTAIN MIKE DEAN

Captain Mike Dean retired in July of 2022 after a thirty-year career here at the Scotts Valley Police Department. He started with the Scotts Valley Police Department as a Reserve Officer in 1991, and was hired full time in 1992. Over the years he worked his way through the ranks, serving as a Field Training Officer, Detective, Patrol Sergeant, Detective Sergeant, Lieutenant, and promoted to Captain in 2019.

Captain Dean was assigned to oversee all of the department’s hiring and recruiting. Captain Dean’s personality and work ethic were perfectly suited to the role. In one particular year, when the department was shorthanded, Captain Dean personally reviewed over one hundred applications and interviewed seventy-five candidates. His hard work resulted in the hiring of ten new employees into the Police Department in less than twelve months.

Captain Dean’s impact within the department will have a lasting legacy as he has had a direct hand in hiring every single current department employee working today.

In 2020 Captain Dean repeatedly answered the call of service when the CZU Fire threatened Scotts Valley and forced the evacuation of the city. Captain Dean imbedded himself in the CAL Fire CZU Basecamp to provide liaison and logistical support to provide protection to Scotts Valley through the wildfire event. During the evacuation, he worked 16-hour days for ten days straight.

During his distinguished career with the Scotts Valley Police Department, Captain Dean received numerous Employee of the Month Awards, Commendations and letters of thanks from the community. He was the recipient of the Officer of the Year award in 1998 and 2014. He was also selected as the City of Scotts Valley Employee of the Year in 2020.

Everyone at the police department, and the citizens of Scotts Valley, thank you for your dedicated service to our community. You are missed here at SVPD, but we wish you the best in your retirement after a long and successful career.