

# Documenters

POWERED BY CITY BUREAU & SIGNAL CLEVELAND

## Finance, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee: General Fund Budget Hearing, Day 3, Morning Session

Documenter name: Sarah Tan

Agency: [Cleveland City Council](#)

Date: Feb. 16, 2023

[See more about this meeting at Documenters.org](#)

---

### Summary

- The police department is hoping to employ 180 new recruits and to get them through cadet training in seven months.
- To optimize current staffing levels, the Cleveland Division of Police is relying more heavily on technology and partnerships.
- The Cleveland homicide case closure rate is above the national average (65% vs 61%).

### Follow-Up Questions

- Why aren't more sex-crime cases closed? In 2022 only 491 of 1,409 of these cases were closed. Is this consistent with national averages? Are rape kits being processed in a timely manner?
- Does the community know that Cleveland Metropolitan School District (CMSD) schools are under direct police surveillance? What sort of positive or negative effects can be expected from this more integrated relationship?
- Why does the police force have such a high rate of attrition? What change is the force instituting to make it an attractive employment option? How is the department addressing issues with trust and balance of power in the community other than providing post-service surveys?

### Notes

#### 2023 Budget Hearings: Division of Police

You can watch the hearing [here](#).

28 were watching at start of meeting

Opening statements by Council Member Michael Polensek of Ward 8

- “There is nothing more important than public safety in our city.”
- Polensek said there were more homicides in the city so far this year than at this point last year, but this is not born out in the data provided by the 2022 Cleveland Division of Police Year End Review:

### Part 1 Crime Statistics

| Offense Type      | 2012   | 2013   | 2014   | 2015   | 2016   | 2017   | 2018   | 2019   | 2020   | 2021   | 2022   | Change 2012 to 2022 |
|-------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|---------------------|
| Homicide NIBRS    | 99     | 89     | 102    | 121    | 133    | 130    | 120    | 122    | 180    | 170    | 155    | 55.56%              |
| Rape              | 533    | 539    | 507    | 559    | 542    | 550    | 586    | 594    | 502    | 567    | 542    | 1.69%               |
| Robbery           | 3,285  | 3,550  | 3,098  | 3,010  | 3,216  | 3,024  | 2,267  | 2,081  | 2,012  | 1,732  | 1,813  | -44.81%             |
| Felonious Assault | 2,240  | 2,315  | 2,228  | 2,448  | 2,896  | 2,816  | 2,555  | 2,664  | 3,176  | 3,295  | 2,855  | 27.46%              |
| Violent Crime     | 6,157  | 6,493  | 5,935  | 6,138  | 6,787  | 6,520  | 5,528  | 5,461  | 5,870  | 5,764  | 5,364  | -12.88%             |
| Burglary          | 10,068 | 8,659  | 7,382  | 6,282  | 6,889  | 6,273  | 4,945  | 4,573  | 4,069  | 3,645  | 3,674  | -63.51%             |
| Theft             | 18,698 | 17,453 | 16,293 | 14,887 | 15,446 | 14,623 | 12,578 | 12,746 | 10,988 | 10,402 | 10,919 | -41.60%             |
| GTMV              | 3,898  | 4,240  | 4,046  | 3,515  | 4,404  | 3,563  | 3,147  | 2,997  | 3,153  | 3,551  | 4,717  | 21.01%              |
| Arson             | 311    | 332    | 323    | 304    | 346    | 292    | 175    | 166    | 188    | 178    | 149    | -52.09%             |
| Property Crime    | 32,975 | 30,684 | 28,044 | 24,988 | 27,085 | 24,751 | 20,845 | 20,482 | 18,398 | 17,776 | 19,459 | -40.99%             |
| Part I Total      | 39,132 | 37,177 | 33,979 | 31,126 | 33,872 | 31,271 | 26,373 | 25,943 | 24,268 | 23,540 | 24,823 | -36.57%             |

- Polensek said there are 125 car thefts a day in the city.
- Polensek said he disagreed with the mayor in that he believes an increased police presence has deterrent effects, and that law enforcement starts with traffic enforcement.
- Top quality-of-life issues in the city are schools and safety.

### Data-driven policing goals

Chief of Police Dornat “Wayne” Drummond and Director of Public Safety Karrie Howard presented.

- 1) Efficiency: Optimizing the use of police vehicles, staffing distribution, how calls are prioritized and adding a data analyst to each district. Presenters said they would like to target the removal of “bad actors” and provide trauma-informed care to the rest of the community.
- 2) Effectiveness: Evaluating if each interaction with the community is having the intended effect or consequences. In November 2021, officers started giving out cards with QR codes to contact for review of service and to provide additional information.
- 3) Identifying real problems: Hiring additional data analysts to find the unique problems of each neighborhood and target precise police responses. Examples

include identification of drug houses or repeat calls for domestic violence issues.

- 4) Connecting with the community: Increase visibility, increase recruitment, tell the story of policing better, and modernize the division. Recruiting is difficult in the current cultural climate and with competition from suburban departments.

## Data-driven policing examples

Operation Clean Sweep, U.S. Marshall Service partnership, Operation Wheels Down, Operation Stop, and Operation North Star

## Year-end review from 2022

- 1) Staffing and Diversity

### 01 Staffing and Diversity

#### Rank by Gender

|                           | Male | % Male | Female | % Female | Total |
|---------------------------|------|--------|--------|----------|-------|
| Chief                     | 1    | 100%   | 0      | 0%       | 1     |
| Deputy Chief              | 3    | 75%    | 1      | 25%      | 4     |
| Cmdr/<br>Traffic<br>Comm. | 12   | 92%    | 1      | 8%       | 13    |
| Cpt.                      | 14   | 82%    | 3      | 18%      | 17    |
| Lt.                       | 53   | 94%    | 3      | 6%       | 56    |
| Sgt.                      | 140  | 79%    | 33     | 21%      | 177   |
| Det.                      | 191  | 83%    | 38     | 17%      | 229   |
| Patrol<br>Officer         | 648  | 82%    | 144    | 18%      | 792   |

#### Ethnicity by Gender

|               | Male        | % Male<br>by race | Female     | % Female<br>by race | Total<br>% by race |
|---------------|-------------|-------------------|------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| Amer.<br>Ind. | 0           | 0.00%             | 1          | 0.08%               | 0.08%              |
| Asian         | 5           | 0.39%             | 2          | 0.16%               | 0.55%              |
| Black         | 226         | 17.58%            | 84         | 6.53%               | 24.11%             |
| Latino        | 94          | 7.32%             | 30         | 2.33%               | 9.65%              |
| Other         | 5           | 0.39%             | 2          | 0.16%               | 0.55%              |
| White         | 732         | 56.96%            | 104        | 8.09%               | 65.05%             |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>1062</b> | <b>82.65%</b>     | <b>223</b> | <b>17.35%</b>       | <b>100%</b>        |

#### Rank by Ethnicity

|                           | Amer.<br>Indian | Asian    | Black       | Latino     | Other    | White        |
|---------------------------|-----------------|----------|-------------|------------|----------|--------------|
| Chief                     | 0<br>0%         | 0<br>0%  | 1<br>100%   | 0<br>0%    | 0<br>0%  | 0<br>%       |
| Deputy<br>Chief           | 0<br>0%         | 0<br>0%  | 1<br>25%    | 1<br>25%   | 0<br>0%  | 2<br>50%     |
| Cmdr/<br>Traffic<br>Comm. | 0<br>0%         | 0<br>0%  | 5<br>38%    | 0<br>0%    | 0<br>0%  | 8<br>62%     |
| Cpt.                      | 0<br>0%         | 0<br>0%  | 0<br>0%     | 1<br>6%    | 0<br>0%  | 16<br>94%    |
| Lt.                       | 0<br>0%         | 1<br>2%  | 6<br>10%    | 2<br>4%    | 1<br>2%  | 46<br>82%    |
| Sgt.                      | 1<br>.1%        | 0<br>0%  | 46<br>27%   | 11<br>6%   | 0<br>0%  | 115<br>66.9% |
| Det.                      | 0<br>0%         | 1<br>.4% | 53<br>23.1% | 17<br>7.4% | 1<br>.4% | 157<br>68.6% |
| Patrol<br>Officer         | 0<br>0%         | 5<br>.6% | 198<br>25%  | 92<br>12%  | 5<br>.6% | 492<br>62.1% |

LIVE  
2.16.23

2023 BUDGET HEARINGS:  
DIVISION OF POLICE

We Are Cleveland!

## Neighborhood District Staffing

### Patrol Officer Staffing

| District Patrol Officers | "Full Duty" Officers | Restricted Duty Officers | Actual # Officers Working |
|--------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| District 1               | 115                  | 0                        | 115                       |
| District 2               | 130                  | 1                        | 131                       |
| District 3 (minus DSU)   | 130                  | 2                        | 132                       |
| DSU                      | 24                   | 0                        | 24                        |
| District 3 total         | 154                  | 2                        | 156                       |
| District 4               | 138                  | 3                        | 141                       |
| District 5               | 118                  | 4                        | 122                       |
| TOTALS                   | 655                  | 10                       | 665                       |

### Supervisor Staffing

| District Sergeants                        | Current Staffing |
|-------------------------------------------|------------------|
| District 1                                | 16               |
| District 2                                | 19               |
| District 3                                | 22               |
| District 4                                | 19               |
| District 5                                | 20               |
| Total Sergeants in Neighborhood Districts | 96               |

| District Lieutenants                        | Current Staffing |
|---------------------------------------------|------------------|
| District 1                                  | 6                |
| District 2                                  | 6                |
| District 3                                  | 6                |
| District 4                                  | 7                |
| District 5                                  | 5                |
| Total Lieutenants in Neighborhood Districts | 30               |

| District Captains                        | Current Staffing |
|------------------------------------------|------------------|
| District 1                               | 2                |
| District 2                               | 1                |
| District 3                               | 2                |
| District 4                               | 2                |
| District 5                               | 1                |
| Total Captains in Neighborhood Districts | 8                |



**LIVE**  
2.16.23

**2023 BUDGET HEARINGS:  
DIVISION OF POLICE**

**TV20**  
We Are Cleveland!

## 2) Violent Crime Reduction Initiatives

### Special Unit Staffing

| Homicide Unit Staffing | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 |
|------------------------|------|------|------|
| Lieutenants            | 1    | 1    | 0    |
| Sergeants              | 3    | 2    | 3    |
| Detectives             | 19   | 22   | 17   |
| Homicide Unit Stats    | 2021 | 2022 |      |
| Cases                  | 175  | 168  |      |
| Cases Closed           | 120  | 105  |      |
| FIT Investigations *   | 8    | 6    |      |
| Dead Bodies **         | 10   | 14   |      |
| Child Fatalities **    | 16   | 18   |      |
| CCMEO ***              | 6    | 3    |      |
| AFIS                   | n/a  | 15   |      |
| Arrests                | 123  | 117  |      |
| Guns                   | 159  | 164  |      |

| Sex Crimes Unit Staffing | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 |
|--------------------------|------|------|------|
| Lieutenants              | 1    | 1    | 1    |
| Sergeants                | 2    | 2    | 2    |
| Detectives               | 18   | 19   | 19   |
| Sex Crimes Unit Stats    | 2021 | 2022 |      |
| Cases Assigned           | 1413 | 1409 |      |
| Cases Closed             | 900  | 491  |      |
| Pre-Year Cases Closed    | 261  | 114  |      |

| Domestic Violence Unit Staffing | 2020 | 2021 | 2022   |
|---------------------------------|------|------|--------|
| Lieutenants                     | 1    | 1    | 1      |
| Sergeants                       | 2    | 1    | 1      |
| Detectives                      | 13   | 12   | 9      |
| Statistics                      | 2020 | 2021 | 2022   |
| Total Cases                     | 3240 | 3116 | 2771 * |
| Open Cases                      | 0    | 0    | 189    |
| Fresh Arrests                   | 938  | 750  | 564    |
| Warrants Issued                 | 885  | 696  | 615    |
| Felony Charges                  | 502  | 459  | 388    |
| Misdemeanor Charges             | 1086 | 800  | 651    |
| Victims Not Located             | 202  | 154  | 187    |

**2023 – Each Police District (5) will be staffed with one (1) Crime Analyst**

\* Staffing numbers are accurate as of 12/31 of each year shown



**LIVE**  
2.16.23

**2023 BUDGET HEARINGS:  
DIVISION OF POLICE**

**TV20**  
We Are Cleveland!

- Operation North Star helps identify crime drivers.
- Cleveland's homicide closure rate is at 65%; the national average is 61%.

## 3) Operation Wheels Down: Assisted by the Ohio Highway Patrol and departmental

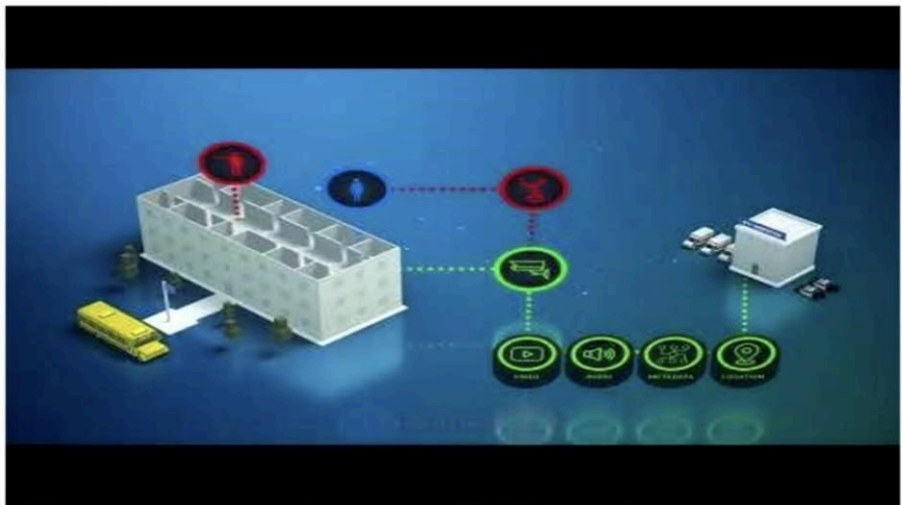
acquisition of off-road police dirt bikes to stop illegal dirt bike activity. Resulted in 15 felony arrests.



#### 4) Technology:

- Precision policing with five additional analysts. There is currently only one.
- [Fusus](#): Intelligence system to integrate real-time camera feeds from private and public locations and send them directly to officers. For example, the Cleveland public school system.

### FUSUS



**LIVE**  
2.16.23

**2023 BUDGET HEARINGS:  
DIVISION OF POLICE**

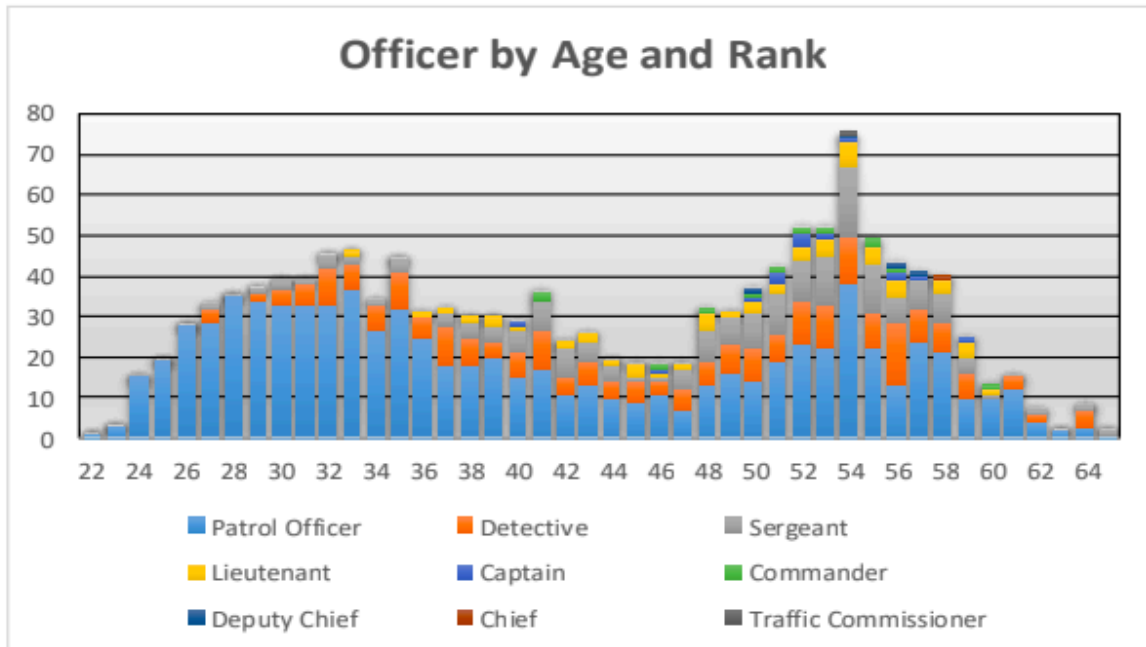


- Gunfire detection technology: Currently three square miles of ShotSpotter in the Fourth District. The hope is to expand later in 2023 to the Third and Fifth Districts. *[Editor's note: learn more about ShotSpotter in [this primer from Signal Cleveland's Doug Breehl-Pitorak](#)].*

- Port security radar: Aids in water rescues and homeland security

#### The discussion:

- Staffing
  - Goal for 2023 is 1,498 total officers, down from 1,640 in previous budget.
  - Budgeting for 180 new cadets for this year.
  - Lost 200 officers and hired 98 in 2022, so far have lost 23 officers in 2023. Is recruitment keeping up with attrition?
  - Co-responder program aids police force shortfall.
  - Uniformed overtime is budgeted to go down, even though there are vacant officer positions. With new full-time recruits, the division hopes to decrease use of overtime. Cleveland Division of Police (CDP) is in negotiations with the police union to change from mandated overtime to 12-hour shifts.
  - Currently not meeting the staffing levels recommended for specialist units, but minimum staffing is not required by the federal consent decree. **“We are operating efficiently...we’re not at the numbers that they recommended, but I believe the numbers that we have currently in these specialized units are sufficient to handle the amount of work they have,” said Drummond.**
  - Council President Blaine Griffin, Ward 6, said he was concerned about officer burnout and asked about the contingency plan if staffing does not improve. CDP officials said they rely on partners such as the highway patrol. **“If I get another call from a resident that tells me that they’re about to leave the city because...it’s just too dangerous, I’m about to lose it,” said Griffin.**
  - Council Member Brian Kazy said the severe understaffing message invites crime and the police department needs to work on its messaging, like highlighting the high homicide case closure rate.
  - Request for the police vacancies in each district so council can help with recruitment.
  - The large number of school crossing guard vacancies led to council members questioning why this job was a responsibility within the police force and not CMSD.
  - Council Member Charles Slife asked, what are we going to do to increase the capacity of the police academy as a large fraction of the force reaches retirement age?



- Professional services budget includes contracts for training and drug testing.
- Only one helicopter is active; it can fly a limited number of hours (six to eight per week) before it will need mandated maintenance. Second helicopter is out of state awaiting motor overhaul. It will cost \$2.9 million to renovate both.
- Several council members expressed dismay at the no-chase policy of the police department. *[Editor's Note: [CPD implemented a new vehicle pursuit policy in 2014](#), following a police chase in 2012 that ended with police killing two unarmed citizens after shooting at them 137 times.]*
- Slife said that if we only focus on data, the result can appear insensitive. What is the perception of officers vs. the discipline of what they do?.
- He suggested increasing police visibility by keeping patrol car light bars on.

---

If you believe anything in these notes is inaccurate, please email us at [cleddocumenters@gmail.com](mailto:cleddocumenters@gmail.com) with "Correction Request" in the subject line.