



2024 ANNUAL REPORT

A WORD FROM THE CHIEF

The mission of the Rochester Police Department (RPD) is to provide exceptional service and superior protection by reducing crime and enhancing the quality of life in our community.

The 2024 Annual Report is a summary of our collective efforts in fulfillment of our mission and includes data and information from all of our divisions: Patrol, Investigations, Services and Community Services.

Committed to our core values – integrity, respect, service, compassion and innovation – we are here for you. We strive every year to build relationships throughout the City, also highlighted in this report, because *together* we can improve safety in our community.

On behalf of the City of Rochester, I am pleased to present the Rochester Police Department's 2024 Annual Report.



Jim Franklin
Chief of Police
Rochester Police Department





North Station
4001 West River Parkway NW
Suite 200
Rochester, MN 55901

Law Enforcement Center
(LEC)
101 4th Street SE
Rochester, MN 55904

WHERE YOU CAN FIND US



Rochester Police Department

RPD has an authorized strength of 158 sworn officers, supported by nearly 70 civilian members, all dedicated to providing the highest level of public safety.

- 1 CHIEF
- 4 CAPTAINS
- 9 LIEUTENANTS
- 26 SERGEANTS
- 118 SWORN OFFICERS (APPROX.)
- 70 SUPPORT STAFF (APPROX.)



Captain Aaron Penning
Patrol

Patrol provides 24/7 police services throughout Rochester, responding to calls for service. It is the largest of RPD's divisions.



Captain Casey Moilanen
Investigations

Investigations conducts thorough investigations on crimes committed in Rochester.

- Traditional Investigations
- Criminal Interdiction Unit
- Technology Forensic Unit
- Intelligence Unit



Captain Paul Gronholz
Services

Services ensures that the department has the tools necessary to function optimally.

- Dispatch
- Records/Evidence
- Fleet Maintenance
- Training



Captain Jon Turk
Community Services

Community Services fosters relationships in the community to solve problems and reduce crime.

- Community Action Team
- Community Service Officers
- Parking & Animal Control
- School Resource Officers
- Hospital Resource Officers
- Downtown Resource Officers

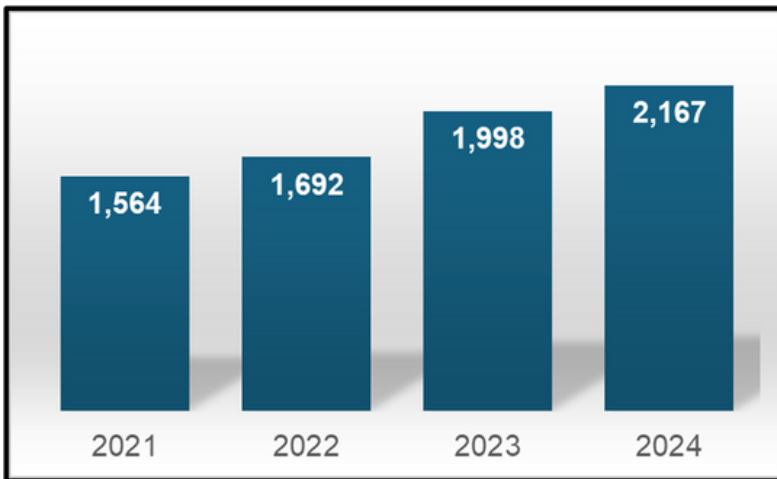
PATROL



Patrol provides 24/7 services throughout the City of Rochester. Patrol officers respond to incidents ranging from medicals to shootings to crashes.

In 2024, officers responded to 62,092 calls for service.

Person in Crisis Calls



Person in crisis calls, which often involve individuals experiencing a mental health emergency, continued to rise. Officers responded to 2,167 person in crisis calls, an 8% increase from 2023.

Officers often pair up with community outreach specialists (embedded social workers) to respond to these calls.

Reported Drug Overdoses

Reported drug overdoses continued to decline. Officers responded to 56 overdoses in 2024 compared to 89 overdoses in 2023 and 120 overdoses in 2022.

We know this is not an accurate representation of overdoses in our community. We believe one reason we are seeing a steady decline in reported overdoses is the wide availability of naloxone/NARCAN, a medication used to reverse an opioid overdose.

When an overdose occurs, officers and community outreach specialists attempt to reconnect with those who have overdosed to inform them about the Police Assisted Recovery (PAR) program, which provides non-arrest pathways to treatment and recovery.

In 2024, Doc's Recovery House supported 30 individuals referred to pre-treatment housing through the PAR program.





Downtown Safe Zone Initiatives



In 2024, RPD led two Downtown Safe Zone initiatives to enhance safety within the downtown business district during peak periods – the busy summer months and the December shopping season.

The initiatives included a highly visible police presence focused on the skyways, parking ramps, Peace Plaza and other locations.

RPD allocated a minimum staffing of 94 hours per week to the summer initiative and dedicated a total of 646 hours to the 14-day winter initiative. During the winter initiative, officers had 233 contacts with people experiencing homelessness, issuing 72 trespass warnings and 38 trespass citations.

RPD responded to a total of 7,720 incidents in the downtown business district in 2024.

INVESTIGATIONS



Investigations conducts thorough investigations on crimes committed in the City of Rochester. Investigators work closely with victims and prosecutors to bring criminals to justice.

The Investigations division was assigned 1,834 cases to investigate in 2024. The case load reflects operational efficiencies achieved by case assignment improvements.

Investigations received 292 domestic assault cases, which was the most investigated incident type in 2024.

Traditional Investigations	877
Criminal Interdiction Unit	52
Technology Forensic Unit	29
Intelligence Unit	25
In-Custody Detective	851
TOTAL	1,834

Top 5 Incident Types Investigated

1. Domestic Assault
2. DUI or Criminal Vehicular Operation
3. Theft -- Fraud
4. Criminal Sexual Conduct
5. Assault and Shoplift *tied*

Investigations reviews adult and child protection cases from the Minnesota Department of Human Services and Olmsted County Socials. Up slightly from 2023, Investigations reviewed **756 adult protection cases** and **1,080 child protection cases**.

Investigations also monitors registered predatory offenders. At the end of 2024, Rochester had **345 registered predatory offenders**.



Drug Seizures

Fentanyl and methamphetamine continued to be the most encountered controlled substances by the **Criminal Interdiction Unit (CIU)**. The drug seizure totals below are from cases that CIU led, assisted on and/or initiated.

2.57

pounds fentanyl pills and powders

803

grams of cocaine

28.78

pounds of methamphetamine

12.5

grams of crack

The **Intelligence Unit** corresponded with more than 200 law enforcement agencies across the United States and Canada regarding homicides, human trafficking, nationwide retail theft, fugitives, missing persons, transnational drug trafficking, international money laundering and more. Other Intelligence Unit highlights:

- Tracked recovery of **104 firearms**, a 37% increase from 2023
- Processed more than **300 calls on the Narcotics Tipline**
- Processed more than **100 tips from Crime Stoppers**

The **Technology Forensic Unit (TFU)** received 250 service requests over the course of the year and examined 212 devices which consisted of 54 terabytes of data.

The TFU also investigated a record number of Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) cybertips and led 23 ICAC-related investigations resulting in 16 arrests.

SERVICES



Services makes sure the department has the tools necessary to function optimally. Dispatch, Records/Evidence, Fleet Maintenance and Training are included within Services.

Dispatch and Records/Evidence serve both RPD and the Olmsted County Sheriff's Office.

ESTIMATED

PHONE CALLS INTO DISPATCH

911 51,480
non-emergency 123,780

Records/Evidence

- Fulfilled 7,080 data requests
- Processed 132 body worn camera requests, requiring 205 hours of redacting time
- Conducted 750 background checks by request for various reasons
- Took in approximately 7,600 pieces of evidence



Fleet Maintenance

In 2024, RPD replaced 22 squad cars, including all eight K9 vehicles. A typical squad put on an average of 32,300 miles during the year.

Fun Fact: RPD's fleet of vehicles went through 285 oil filters throughout the year.

Training

RPD's Training Unit facilitates extensive training for officers, exceeding requirements by the Minnesota Peace Officer Standard and Training (POST) board. In 2024, the unit also provided individualized workplace violence threat assessments including one at Apache Mall, instruction for Career and Technical Education at Heintz and led large, multi-agency active shooter response trainings at Lourdes High School and Mayo Civic Center.



COMMUNITY SERVICES



Community Services fosters relationships in the community so that together we can collaboratively solve problems and reduce crime.



Six **School Resource Officers (SROs)** responded to 506 calls for service at Rochester Public Schools. The top call types were:

- 1. Assist
- 2. Disorderly Conduct
- 3. Suspicious Circumstance



Five **Hospital Resource Officers (HROs)** responded to 1,790 calls for service at Mayo Clinic Hospital, St. Marys Campus. The top call types were:

- 1. Disorderly Conduct
- 2. Assault
- 3. Intimidation



Two **Downtown Resource Officers** are dedicated to serving the area and working toward long-term solutions on issues impacting the downtown community. In 2024, they responded to 1,138 incidents downtown.



A team of **Community Service Officers (CSOs)** perform civilian public safety work consisting of protecting life and property, maintaining order, preventing crimes, and enforcing laws and ordinances. CSOs handled about 410 calls per month.



Animal Control Officers (ACOs) processed 259 dog intakes and 37 cat intakes at the animal shelter. They responded to 127 reports of animal bites.

The **Community Action Team (CAT)** is dedicated to fostering relationships in order to build trust and proactively address community concerns. In 2024, CAT participated in approximately 145 community engagement events.



Officers from throughout the department participated in larger community engagement events such as Shop with a Cop, Night to Unite and Safe City Nights. Safe City Nights is a community-wide series of events that CAT coordinates. An estimated 5,500 people attended Safe City Nights in 2024.

SHOP WITH A COP



NIGHT TO UNITE



New Officers

RPD welcomed two recruit classes in 2024, hiring 13 new officers. As part of the swearing-in ceremonies, loved ones pinned on their badges.

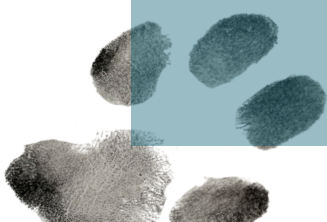
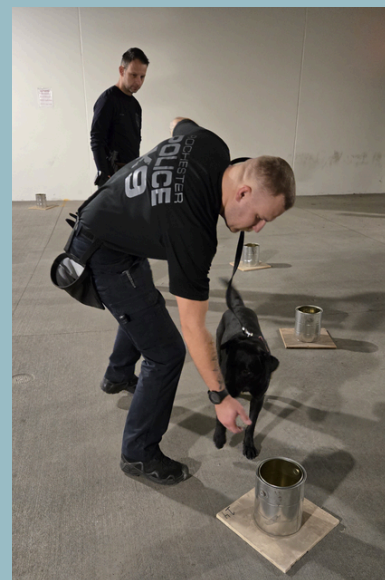
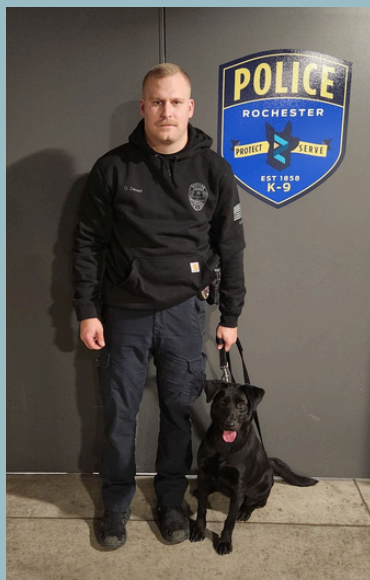


Prior to swearing-in, new officers completed a 12-week, in-house training academy and each was partnered with a field training officer for several weeks before advancing to solo patrol. (Lateral hires go through a condensed academy).

K9 Team

K9 Piper was added to the K9 team in December. She is a one-year-old black lab trained in single purpose explosive detection.

RPD has eight highly trained K9s on the team. In 2024, the K9s participated in 251 narcotic sniffs, 74 explosive sniffs, 27 building searches and 26 perimeter assists.



Honor Guard

RPD's Honor Guard was among the thousands of people attending the Public Safety Memorial Service for three Burnsville first responders killed in the line of duty on February 18, 2024. Police Officers Paul Elmstrand and Matthew Ruge and Firefighter/Paramedic Adam Finseth were shot and killed while responding to a domestic call.

The Honor Guard also paid respects at a local memorial service for Adam, who was a Rochester native.



**CRIME
COUNTS**

	2024	2023	2022	2021
MURDER/ NON-NEGLIGENT MANSLAUGHTER	5	1	1	1
NEGLIGENT MANSLAUGHTER	3	1	1	1
JUSTIFIABLE HOMICIDE	0	0	1	0
KIDNAPPING/ABDUCTION	13	7	10	19
SEXUAL OFFENSES	90	94	137	171
ROBBERY	32	28	32	45
AGGRAVATED ASSAULT	120	128	194	245
SIMPLE ASSAULT	584	632	524	627
INTIMIDATION	191	131	140	166
ARSON	5	2	5	6
EXTORTION/BLACKMAIL	7	6	10	8
BURGLARY	216	211	256	310
SHOPLIFTING	444	496	665	627
THEFT FROM MOTOR VEHICLE	220	333	356	506
THEFT OF MOTOR VEHICLE PARTS	40	68	170	199
MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT	115	153	149	167
OTHER THEFT/STOLEN PROPERTY	670	627	732	757
COUNTERFEITING/FORGERY	74	91	113	89
FRAUD/EMBEZZLEMENT	426	493	510	631
DESTRUCTION/DAMAGE/VANDALISM	607	592	639	751

CRIME COUNTS

	2024	2023	2022	2021
WEAPON LAW VIOLATIONS	87	119	117	105
DRUG EQUIPMENT VIOLATIONS	31	159	231	200
DRUG/NARCOTIC VIOLATIONS	294	344	358	314
PORNOGRAPHY/OBSCENE MATERIAL	28	28	16	28
DISORDERLY CONDUCT/ PUBLIC PEACE	807	781	709	740
DRIVING UNDER THE INFLUENCE	653	384	300	242
TRESPASS	486	441	272	184
ALL OTHER OFFENSES	1,247	1411	1402	1319

In compliance with state reporting requirements, RPD shares crime counts with the Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension (BCA). Local data is included in the [Minnesota Crime Data Explorer](#). Data in the Annual Report and the Minnesota Crime Data Explorer will differ slightly for various reasons, including delayed reporting of crimes by victims.

