

# **Tuxedo Park Police Department**



## **Annual Report 2022**

# **MISSION STATEMENT**

The Tuxedo Park Police Department will deliver effective and responsive law enforcement services to all persons within the Village of Tuxedo Park in a fair and equitable manner, respecting the rights of all regardless of race, creed, religion, sexual orientation, color or origin.

We are committed to making sure that every citizen with whom we interact is treated with dignity, compassion, and a sense of professionalism.

As an integral part of the Tuxedo Park community, we are committed to communicating with those that we serve, and strive to maintain the trust and confidence of our citizens while working to improve the quality of life for the entire community by:

- **Protecting life and property;**
- **Preventing crime;**
- **Enforcing laws;**
- **Maintaining order for all citizens.**

It is essential for all members to remember that in the execution of our duties we act not for ourselves, but for the good of the public; we respect and protect the rights of all citizens and perform our duties with honesty, zeal, courage, discretion, fidelity and sound judgment.

## MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF

I am proud to offer this report detailing our activity during the calendar year of 2022. I hope you find it both interesting and beneficial. I regularly review the way we deploy our resources in an effort to increase our ability to respond to the needs of the community and to maximize the resources. The department stays aware of current technological advances and strives to provide the most up-to-date information and equipment for our staff. We are always exploring innovative ways to work with individuals and organizations to make our community an even better place to live and work.

The Tuxedo Park Police Department uses Community Policing principles as one of our main focuses and our officers are reminded of this daily. Our police officers are friendly, energetic and dedicated to the Village. They do a great job everyday securing the village and servicing the community. Our Police Clerk, Denise Spalthoff, is second to none and does a great job every day, not only for the Police Department, Water Department and Village Hall, but she assists the residents on a daily basis. Denise is the backbone of the department.

The department continues to seek and recruit quality personnel who are geared towards community policing. It is important while striving to be on the cutting edge of law enforcement technology and to operate within a budget created during tough economic times. Remaining current with state-of-the-art technology and changing trends within the law enforcement community keeps our officers and staff enthusiastic about their chosen profession, while increasing their productivity and drive to serve the community.

I have been serving as your Chief of Police since February 21, 2020 and I take the responsibility and trust that you have placed in me as your chief very seriously. My efforts are focused on providing the highest caliber of police services possible while remaining fiscally responsible to the taxpayers. The men and women of the Tuxedo Park Police Department will continue to serve our residents and visitors in a professional and caring manner.

I encourage any feedback on the department, as well as any ideas the community may have. whole.

Sincerely,



David Conklin  
Chief of Police

# DEPARTMENT ACTIVITY

## Annual Statistics

<b>Totals</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2018</b>
Total Calls for Service	3,279	2,957	3,136	3,901	4,138
Criminal Complaints	17	27	42	39	54
Arrests Made	9	8	20	25	9
Traffic Tickets Issued	124	104	165	140	236
Motor Vehicle Accidents	6	3	2	12	6

## Traffic Ticket Breakdown:

<b>Totals</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2020</b>
Traffic Stops	284	287	248
Tickets Issued	124	104	165
Warnings Issued	160	183	83
Speeding Tickets	28	23	28

- Traffic Ticket records not available prior to 2020

## Other Statistics in 2022:

Response to Alarms (fire, burglar, panic)	93
Medical Calls	26
Vehicles Denied Access into Tuxedo Park	319
Animal Complaints (wild animals)	36
Power Outages	6
Village Code Violations	98

## Village Code Violations Breakdown:

Dog Complaints	43
Noise Complaints	24
Parking Complaints	11
Fishing Complaints	4
Traffic Complaints	5
ATV Complaints	2

## **Breakdown of Criminal Cases in 2022:**

### **Reported Stolen Vehicle**

Investigation revealed that vehicle was not stolen but was used by a family member.

### **Fraud Reported**

Investigation revealed that an unknown person attempted to use a resident's credit card information for a purchase but was declined.

### **Aggravated Harassment Reported**

Resident received a harassing phone call from another resident. Complainant declined to press charges. Warning Issued.

### **Fraud/Forgery Reported**

Resident was advised by their bank that someone forged their check and cashed it for a significant amount of money. Investigation led to an unknown person out of state. The bank refunded the resident and investigated out of state where the transaction occurred.

### **Harassment Reported**

Resident reported that they were being harassed by another resident and declined to press charges. Warning issued.

### **Identity Theft**

Resident was advised by mail that an unknown person had used their personal information in an attempt to obtain fraudulent credit cards.

### **Landlord/Tenant Dispute**

A tenant reported that their landlord was harassing them and damaged their property. Investigation revealed that no crime was committed and it was handled in court as a civil matter.

### **Vehicle and Traffic Law Criminal Cases**

9 criminal cases of a person driving a vehicle with a suspended registration.

## **Breakdown of Motor Vehicle Accidents (MVA) in 2022:**

- 1 MVA Deer ran into car
- 1 MVA Car backed into pole
- 1 MVA Car hit guard rail on sharp turn
- 1 MVA Car slid on snow/icy road and hit pole
- 1 MVA Car slid on wet rainy road and hit a tree
- 1 MVA Car struck a rock on a sharp turn

## DEPARTMENT TRAINING

In-Service and refresher training is very important for police officers and is required to help mitigate potential liability on the village.

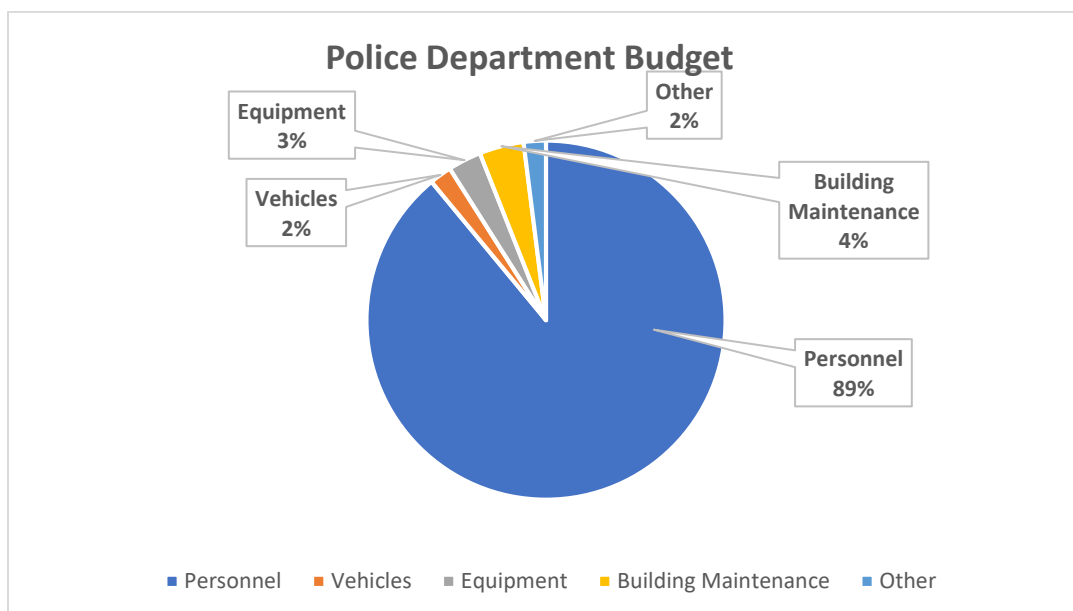
All police officers in the department have received the following training in 2022:

- Firearms qualifications
- Use of Force Refresher Course
- De-Escalation
- Sexual Harassment
- Juvenile Justice System, Diversion and Alternatives to Court
- Active Shooter Training
- CPR/AED Certifications

## FISCAL MANAGEMENT

### POLICE DEPARTMENT BUDGET:

- The Fiscal year 2021/2022 Police Department Annual Budget was \$1,082,259 is approximately 24% of the total Village budget. Excluding personnel costs such as health insurance, workers compensation insurance and retirement for full time employees.
- The police department budget is lean and the majority of the budget is for personnel costs. We do everything we can to keep costs down.
- \$114,410 of the police budget is for the Building Inspector



## OVERTIME

### Overtime:

- Overtime was a large part of personnel costs prior to 2020.
- Through proper schedule management and personnel recruitment, overtime costs have gone down tremendously.

### Overtime Hours/Costs:

Fiscal Year	Overtime Hours
FY 2017-2018	565.25
FY 2018 – 2019	586.25
FY 2019-2020	1,156.5
FY 2020/2021	28.5 (3.5 shifts)
FY 2021/2022	32 (4 shifts)
FY 2022/2023	22 hours

- 2022 Overtime consists of two 8 hour shift coverage and the Tuxedo Club Fireworks detail.

## COMMUNITY POLICING PROGRAMS

We have added several programs for our residents during the past 3 years and we have partnered with other county wide programs to provide additional services to our residents who may need them. These programs and services include:

- Hope Not Handcuff's – Drug treatment and rehabilitation
- Orange County Department of Mental Health- Mental Health illnesses
- Fearless Orange County- Domestic Violence Victims
- Project Child Safe- Free Gun Locks
- Unwanted Prescription Drug Disposal Services
- Community Well Check Program
- Vacant House Checks
- Child Passenger Safety Seat Inspections and Installations
- CPR/AED

For a description of these services please view the Village of Tuxedo Park Website at:

<https://www.tuxedopark-ny.gov/police-public-safety>

# IN CLOSING

We continue to work with the Village Board to make necessary changes to enhance security and safety for all village residents.

The replacement of the Police Booth has proven to be a great improvement from working out of the Keep. The Booth is modernized and serves as an enhancement to public safety and security for all residents. The Booth allows for a direct face to face encounter between the public and the police officers. This allows for better vetting of visitors and acts as a deterrent for those who may have bad intentions.

In the Spring of 2022, we launched the Safe Passage System which uses License Plate Reader technology to open the gate for residents, their families, contractors, Tuxedo Club and Tuxedo Park School employees and members and domestic help. This system has proven to provide another stronger layer of security as everyone who signs up is pre-vetted by the police department. This has also allowed for smoother and quicker entry through the gates. Those who are not registered in the Safe Passage System are thoroughly vetted before being granted access. As more residents register for this system, the smoother it will be.

This past Fall of 2022, many needed improvements were made to the police department facilities. Air Conditioning was installed in the Lodge building, the leaky roof was replaced with a cedar shake roof which enhanced the aesthetics of the buildings and the Village DPW made many needed repairs inside the Lodge.

## Goals for 2023

Our goals for 2023 are to increase vehicle and traffic law enforcement, specifically speeding.

We also plan on increasing community policing and hold events such as Coffee with a Cop as well as other events to enhance interactions with the police officers and the community. We encourage the community to bring any ideas forward that you would like to see.



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## MEET OUR POLICE OFFICERS

- The Tuxedo Park Police Department operates 24 hours per day, 7 days per week.
- We are currently staffed by 3 full-time police officers, the Chief of Police, 17 part time officers and 1 civilian staff (Clerk). Two police Officers are on duty for each shift; 1 assigned to the desk and 1 assigned to patrol.

### FULL TIME POLICE OFFICERS

#### **Police Officer Daniel Sutherland**

Officer Sutherland has been a police officer for a total of 16 years. Prior to coming to Tuxedo Park, he worked for the Town of Tuxedo Police Department, the Woodbridge Police Department and the Sullivan County Sheriff's Office.

#### **Police Officer Max Serrine**

Officer Serrine was an Infantryman in the United States Army from 2008-2017. Upon completing his military service, Officer Serrine became a Police Officer with the Tuxedo Park Police Department in July 2017.

#### **Police Officer Christopher Fury**

Officer Fury was a police officer for the Town of Wallkill Police Department for four (4) years and was hired in Tuxedo Park in August 2022.

### PART TIME POLICE OFFICERS

- Many of our part-time police officers are retired from other police departments after twenty plus years of service. The knowledge, training and experience in all facets of law enforcement that these officers have is a major asset to the Tuxedo Park Police Department and community as a whole.

#### **Police Officer Cliff Ader**

Police Officer Ader retired from the New York City Police Department where he served over 20 years as a police officer in the Patrol Division, Narcotics and as a Homicide Detective. Officer Ader is also a professor in Criminal Justice at the Rockland County Community College.

#### **Police Officer Jim Ascione**

Officer Ascione has been a police officer since 1985. He retired as a full-time officer from this department and immediately began working as a part-time officer here.

**Police Officer Adam Basilicata**

Officer Basilicata retired from the Village of Harriman Police Department as a Sergeant after completing more than 20 years.

**Police Officer Antonio Esposito**

Officer Antonio Esposito graduated from the Ulster County Police Academy in 2019 and was hired here in 2021. He is also a police officer in the Town of Wallkill and serves our country in the US National Guard.

**Police Officer Leegan Esposito**

(No relation to Officer Antonio Esposito). Officer Leegan Esposito is our newest officer, hired in November 2022. He graduated the Ulster County Police Academy and is excited about starting his career as a police officer. Officer Esposito graduated from Don Bosco High School and SUNY Cortland College.

**Police Officer Eric Johnson**

Police Officer Johnson served twenty years as a Police Officer and Investigator for the Town of Woodbury Police Department before retiring in 2016.

**Police Officer Neil Kassel**

Officer Kassel retired from the City of Middletown Police Department as a Sergeant after completing over 20 years of service.

**Police Officer Rodney Krinke**

Officer Krinke began his police career with the New York City Police Department in 1986, and he retired in 2006. Shortly after retirement, he began working as a part-time police officer for the Tuxedo Park Police Department.

**Police Officer Brian Levy**

Officer Levy works 3 jobs which include owning his own business. He has been in law enforcement for 7 years and EMS for 16 years. In 23 years, he has worked in EMS, Humane Law Enforcement (SPCA), and a Police Officer.

**Police Officer Tim Lowry**

Officer Lowry retired from the Town of Warwick Police Department, where he was a police officer for more than 20 years. Officer Lowry prides himself on Community Policing.

**Police Officer Johnny Motz**

Officer Motz served as a Deputy Sheriff with the Orange County Sheriff's Office and as a Police Officer with the Village of Harriman Police Department, where he retired after 24 years of service.

**Police Officer Greg Panzarella**

Officer Panzarella retired as a NY State Police Investigator after serving for over 20 years. He also brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to our department.

**Police Officer Joe Panzica**

Officer Panzica served 8 years in the United States Navy Reserves. He obtained an Associate’s Degree in Applied Science and was a police officer in the Town of Woodbury for 20 years, where he retired. He was hired in Tuxedo Park in 2016.

**Police Officer Jaymie Ruiz**

Officer Ruiz graduated from the Ulster Police Academy and was hired in June 2022 and has proven to be a loyal and dedicated officer.

**Police Officer Ken Sanford**

Many residents have known Officer Sanford as he served with the Tuxedo Park Police Department from 2002-2016 as a full-time officer and served as Chief of Police from 2008-2016 before retiring after 20 plus years of service.

**Police Officer Emma Sullivan**

Officer Sullivan graduated from the Rockland Police Academy and was hired in Tuxedo Park in January 2022. Officer Sullivan is also a police officer with the Town of Blooming Grove Police Department. She has proven to be a team player and a great addition to the police department.

