SOUTH BEND
POLICE DEPARTMENT

2020 ANNUAL REPORT

The South Bend Police Department consists of 4 Commissioned officers including a Chief, a Sergeant, and two Patrol Officers. We have one Reserve Police Officer and one Civilian Clerk/Evidence Custodian. We serve a population of approximately 1,670 within the city limits of South Bend.

Chief Lucas Stigall

Sergeant Luis Gonzalez

Officer Jordan Dockter

Officer Tyson Johnson

Reserve Officer Bubba Madrid

Clerk/Evidence Custodian Zoe Sowa

2020 was an interesting year for everyone to say the least. Last year presented many challenges to the police department, not only due to the COVID situation but also with the retirement of Chief Eastham. I believe we met and overcame all of the different challenges we faced. I am thankful for my staff for enduring the tough responsibilities and the sacrifices they have made by being out on the front lines during the pandemic while also being shorthanded. I am proud to be entrusted with leading the Police Department for the City of South Bend, I believe we have exemplary employees.

Officer Dockter graduated the police academy in April of last year and has been doing an outstanding job so far.

Chief Eastham retired in April, I was honored to be appointed to fill his position as the Chief.

I promoted Officer Gonzales to the position of Sergeant. Sgt. Gonzalez has done a great job and continues to surpass my expectations.

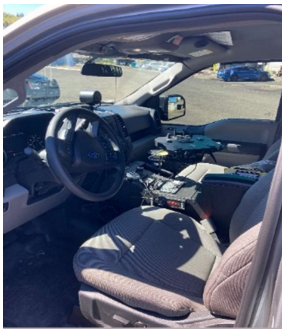
Tyson Johnson is our newest officer. Tyson has been working with Sgt. Gonzalez and Officer Dockter learning the ropes. We are excited to finally have Officer Johnson starting the Academy January 5th. Officer Johnson will be traveling back and forth from South Bend to Burien for the Academy. The Academy has transitioned into some online classes but Officer Johnson will still be required to be on campus for some in person training.

Zoe Sowa continues to do the many clerical duties assigned as well as maintain our evidence room. Zoe keeps things organized and running smoothly with the day to day operations. In addition to being the Clerk/Evidence Custodian, Zoe dedicates some of her time to miscellaneous organizations which benefit the police department: TAC, R2R, and Guns N Hoses.

Our one Reserve Officer, Bubba Madrid, continues to volunteer his time to be a part of our team. Bubba only patrols with a certified officer. Currently there are no reserve academies scheduled due to the COVID pandemic. As soon as one comes available, he will be in attendance. Once he completes the reserve academy, we will be able to utilize him to help with covering shifts for vacations, trainings, etc.

Anyone who came into the police department between April and June noticed that it was a mess! We did some much-needed cleaning house and re organizing throughout the office. From painting the walls to putting up new trim, moving file cabinets to a designated file room, clearing out our evidence prep room to actually having a storage area again. The Police Department staff did a great job giving our office a new look! Dee had already scheduled us to get new floors throughout city hall and once that was finally complete, we felt accomplished with what feels like a brand-new Police Department!

In addition to the makeover, we have also updated our surveillance system with a new DVR unit. We now have every angle around the Police Department and City hall covered. I coordinated with Dennis during the construction of the new Mary Rogers Park restrooms with the plans of putting additional cameras on that building. Once those cameras are installed, we will have surveillance of most of the park and new restroom building.



Early in 2020, we applied for a USDA RD Grant for two new patrol trucks. We were awarded the grant which covered approximately 75% of the total cost for both trucks and equipment. We were able to use our own officers with the help from Raymond PD Officer Fuller to totally upfit both trucks. Being able to do all of the install of lights and equipment saved the city around four to five thousand dollars per vehicle. By the end of September, we had both new trucks on the road. The new trucks are actually more fuel efficient than our SUV's which has allowed us to slightly cut our fuel cost.

We were fortunate to secure approximately $5,400 from Homeland Security through Pacific County for a new Portable Radio. The new radios will help with interoperability with other agencies on regular patrol functions as well as special missions such as, drug raids, assisting in an out of county mission etc. The new radios are more secure for officer safety by being able to have a digital channel that does not broadcast over the scanner as well as having the ability to be dual band so that we can communicate with fire and EMS agencies as well.

We have also received grant funding from the Bureau of Justice Assistance for Bullet Resistant Vests. The grant covers approximately 50% of the costs of new vests.

Through our partnership with TAC (Teen Advocacy Coalition) we receive funding to help offset overtime costs of officers in the school. The main objective is to build and foster relationships with the youth in our community and to help bridge the gap between law enforcement and our youth.

South Bend PD is one of the recipients of a multi-agency grant called the STOP Grant. This covers some of the overtime costs of investigating sexual assaults and domestic violence cases. We utilize every dollar that is allocated towards SBPD for working on those types of cases.

TAC
Teen Advocacy Coalition

Community Outreach

Although the COVID Pandemic shut down the annual “Shop with a Cop” event, SBPD still participated by “Adopting a Family” for Christmas. Your Officers wanted to make sure we could still help a family in need this holiday season.

Through donations from your own SBPD officers, SB City Hall staff, and the Pacific County Guns N Hoses Committee, we were able to purchase gifts for a large family in South Bend. This family had eight (8) children total!

A big thank you to Zoe for wrapping all of the gifts!

Your SB Police Department remains dedicated to serving the citizens of South Bend in more ways than just “Serve & Protect”. Delivering the gifts with three patrol cars was very exciting and brought much joy to the officers as well as the family this Christmas!

Training

The South Bend Police Department is continuously training. Even with most in person trainings cancelled due to the COVID pandemic, we were still able to get our required minimum of 24 hours per officer per year training complete.

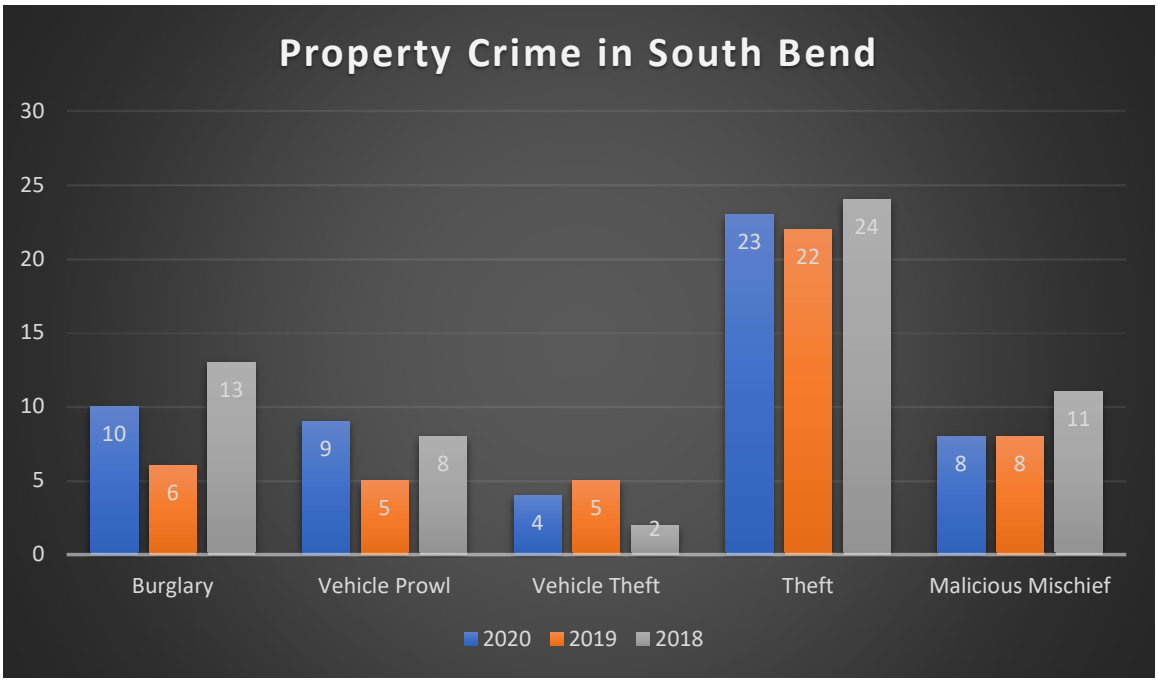
Although the minimum requirement is 24 hours per year per officer, we strive to better ourselves by going to as much training possible. I strongly believe in investing in our employees. We have surpassed the minimum requirements set by the state by utilizing some online training. Our officers have routine firearms training quarterly, monthly online trainings assigned by Sgt. Gonzalez which range from distracted driving, to ethics in law enforcement, to Taser updates, along with a multitude of other topics.

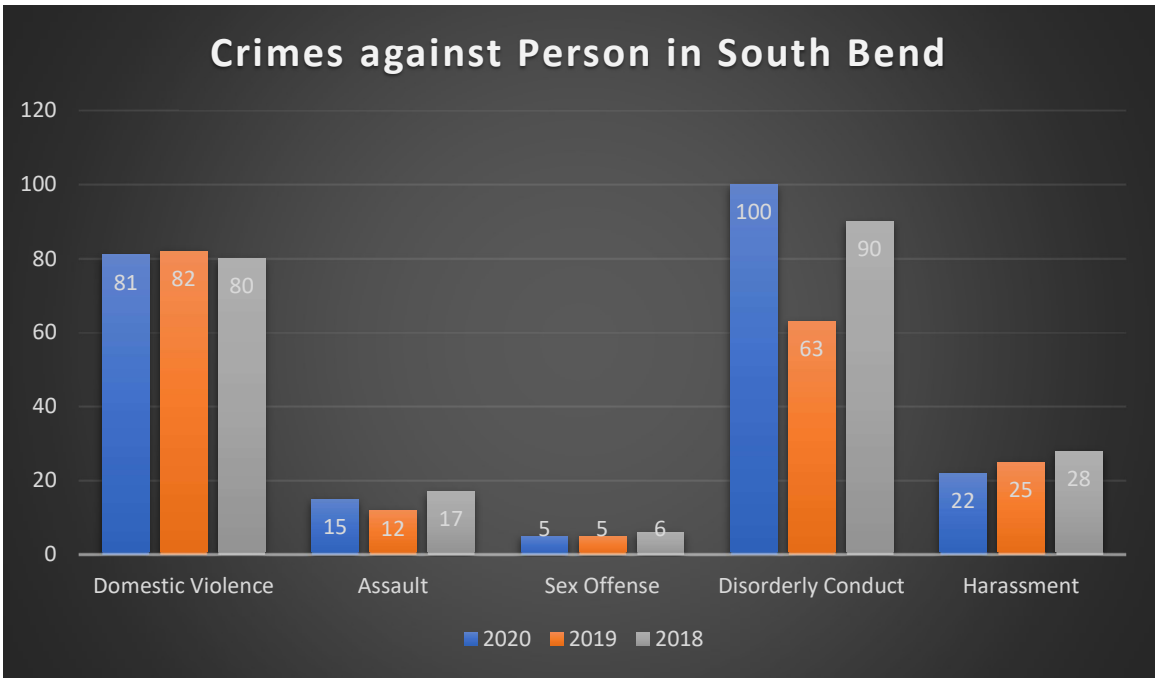
2020 was the first year we had actual EVOC (Emergency Vehicle Operations Coarse) training. Typically, officers received the initial EVOC training while they are at the academy and after that, even though we should have some type of driving training yearly we have not been doing so. The main reason is it is hard to find an instructor for these trainings. 2020, The Shoalwater Bay Tribal Police Department sent an officer to become an instructor. We were able to partner with the other agencies in the County and participate in EVOC training at Shoalwater Bay. I am hopeful that this training remains an annual occurrence.

SBPD continues to strive to improve on dealing with people having a mental health crisis by completing annual training in “Crisis Intervention”.

Crime and Statistics

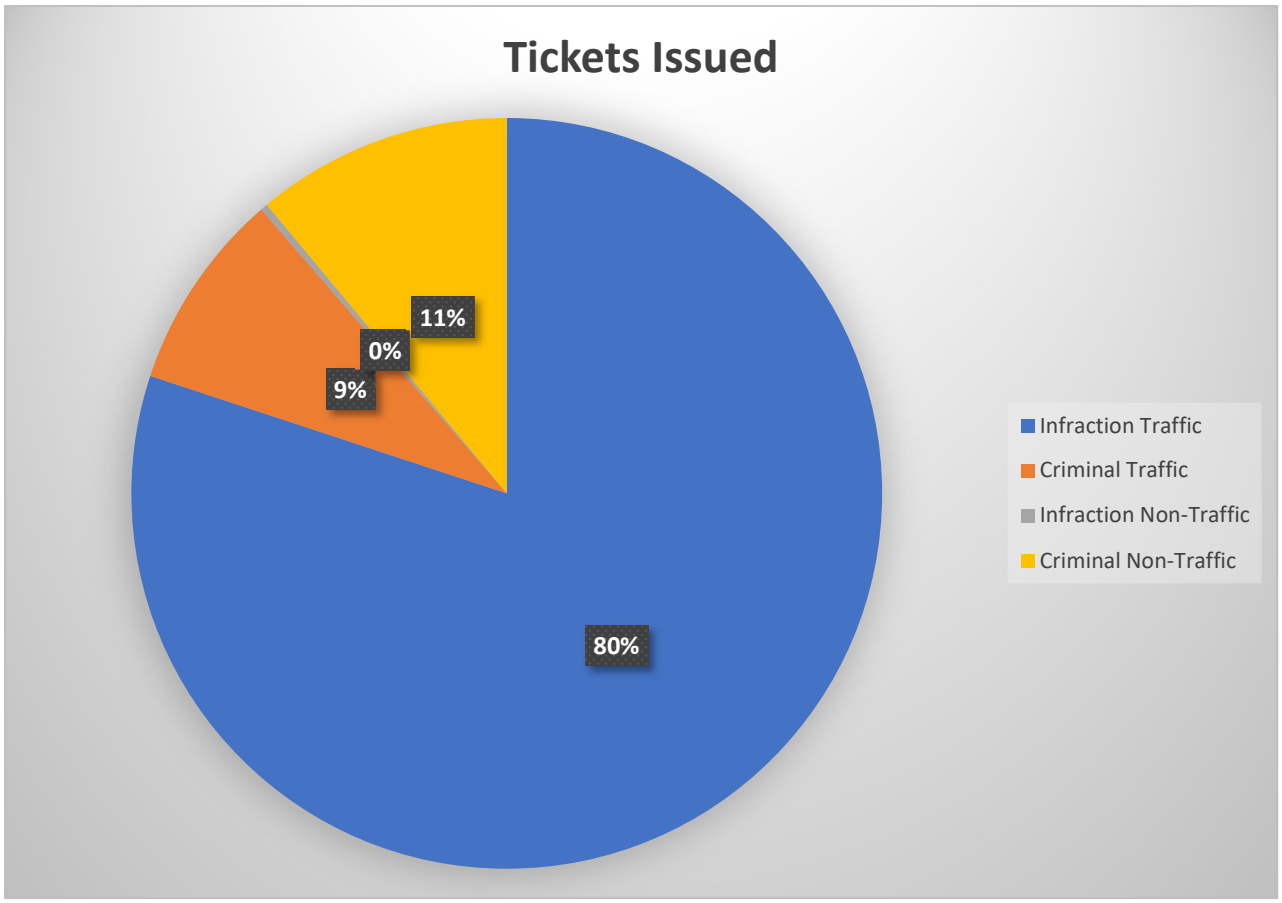
In 2020 the South Bend Police Department responded to **1961** calls for service. This averages out to approximately **490** calls per officer. South Bend PD submitted **31** felony level and/or juvenile cases to the Pacific County Prosecutor.





Enforcement

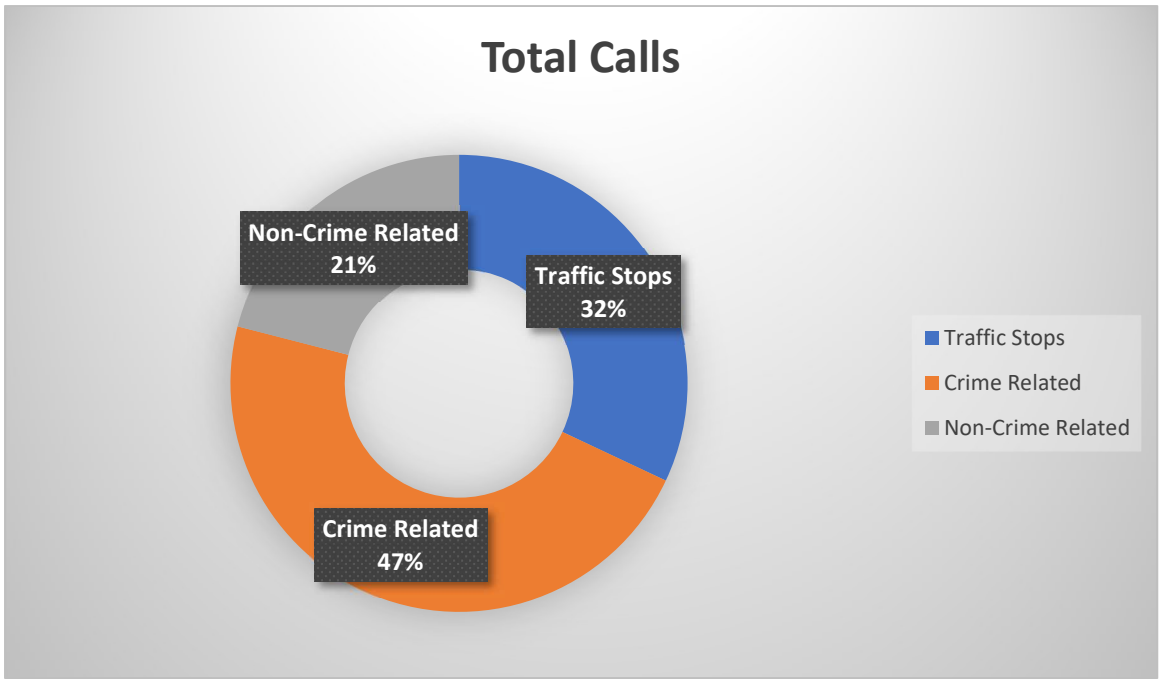
During 2020 the South Bend Police Department conducted **622** traffic stops and issued a total of **327** citations and infractions. **Criminal Traffic** consists of offenses such as DUI, driving while license suspended, reckless driving, etc. **Criminal Non-Traffic** would be other criminal offenses such as assault, theft, trespassing, disorderly conduct, etc. **Infraction Traffic** examples are speeding, no insurance, fail to stop at stop signs, etc**. Infraction Non-Traffic** would include many dog violations, tobacco offenses as well as other public nuisance code violations.



Out of the **622** total Traffic Stops, **327** resulted in a ticket, for a total stop to cite ratio of **53%**

TOTAL CALLS BREAKDOWN

In South Bend, responding to reports of criminal behavior and making arrests, and citing traffic violators is not our only function. We assist our community in many different ways, lockouts, welfare checks, citizen assist type calls, etc. Here is a breakdown of our total calls.



Traffic Stops- 622 (32%)

Speeding, reckless driving, equipment violations, other minor traffic offenses, etc.

Crime Related- 927 (47%)

Assaults, disorderly conduct, trespassing, burglary, animal problems, sex offense, domestic violence, etc.

Non-Crime Related- 412 (21%)

Assisting fire/ems, citizen assist type calls, property watch, welfare checks, traffic hazards, lockouts, etc.

For 2020 we saw a **12.4%** increase in total calls compared to 2019.

2020-**1,961** Total Calls

2019-**1,745** Total Calls

I am hopeful that 2021 we will get to participate in some of the events we have missed last year due to the COVID pandemic, Shop with a Cop, coaching a youth baseball team as a department, participate in in-person town hall events with TAC and R2R, participate in traffic safety emphasis patrols, and be more interactive inside the school with the kids on campus. We have made tremendous progress over the last couple years with the TAC program and having our officer's presence in the school, building relationships with the kids. We have tried as much as we could to continue those interactions with kids out and about in the community throughout this COVID pandemic but it has been minimal compared to on campus interactions.

The COVID pandemic did not stop the annual RX takeback event in October. This has been an event we have been a part of since its inception in Pacific County. This is a great event where our community members can safely dispose of unwanted/unused prescription medications. Each year more and more people rely on this event to safely discard those medications. I am glad we were able to have it.

Chief Eastham led the South Bend Police Department for many years and was able take his well-deserved retirement starting in April of 2020. I am glad to have had the opportunity to work for him and am thankful to him for the steps he took to prepare me for the position I hold today. Chief Eastham laid a good foundation for us to build on.

Since Chief Eastham's retirement, we have been busy updating Police Department Policy & Procedures, setting new short term/long term goals for the police department, re organizing inner office operations.

We have re structured part of our Police Department budget and included a new line item "Police Officer Equipment". This will be utilized for specifically, Vests, Radios, Tasers, Handguns. These items typically were purchased out of the normal operating supplies. Having a designated line item in the Capital Expenditures for these purchases will free up the operating supplies to actually purchase "Operating supplies" as opposed to officer equipment.

I am proud to announce that for the for the first time in at least 15 years, SBPD has a certified FTO (Field Training Officer). Sgt. Gonzalez completed FTO training in November and is using the tools he learned in that training to develop an FTO program suitable for SBPD. Once Officer Johnson graduates from the academy, he will be the first officer to go through an actual certified FTO program, helping to transition from "Academy tactics and practices" to real life in South Bend on patrol.

I am excited for the future of the South Bend Police Department, we have a good department composed of local people who have a strong dedication to this community.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as your Chief of Police and to lead the South Bend Police Department.

Lucas Stigall

Chief of Police