

South Bend Police Department



2021 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 1,740 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

As we say goodbye to 2021 I would like to take this opportunity to highlight some of our police department happenings throughout the past year. We had both struggles and successes throughout the year. We celebrated our successes and overcame and learned from our struggles. We had upgrades to some of our equipment as well as some facility upgrades to the Police Station. I believe we are keeping up with the times and adapting as necessary.

In January we sent Officer Johnson off to the academy which left us short handed for six months. In June we were excited to have Officer Johnson back from the academy and on the road working which was a much-needed break from the three-man schedule trying to cover all of the shifts. Having a fully staffed department also meant officers could take vacations to enjoy some overdue family time away from the stresses of police work.

Officer Dockter continues to do an outstanding job for the Police Department. Officer Dockter has taken a critical role within the multi-agency drug task force which I will expand on later.

Sgt. Gonzalez leads the patrol officers with professionalism. I couldn't be prouder of his performance.

Reserve Officer Madrid continues to help us out in situations where additional hands are needed. We are still looking for a reserve academy for Officer Madrid so that he can be utilized to fill in regular patrol shifts on his own.

Zoe Sowa is busy fulfilling her duties as the Police Clerk/Evidence Custodian. Along with her regular duties she is instrumental in securing and managing some of our grant funded programs.



Multi-Agency Drug Task Force-

We were fortunate to receive additional funding from the state for Drug Task Force Operations in our county. We have teamed up with the Pacific County Sheriff's Office, Raymond Police Department, and the Long Beach Police Department. PCSO, RPD, and LBPD each dedicated one full time position to the Drug Task Force (DTF). SBPD was unable to commit to a full-time position within the DTF. We did however come to an agreement which allowed us to still be a part of it. Sgt. Gonzalez and Officer Dockter were both sent to the basic narcotics investigation training which was a week-long training. All expenses were paid by the DTF funding. Both Sgt. Gonzalez and Officer Dockter regularly participate in DTF operations on their days off to where it does not conflict with our normal working schedule. All overtime expenses related to the DTF are reimbursed. We have already had several search warrants conducted throughout the county this year which resulted in arrests of individuals for possession with intent to deliver. With the Blake Decision from the courts which essentially legalized simple possession, these arrests are great. One of the ways we can stop the drug problem is to stop the supply!



Prescription Drug Take Back-

The South Bend Police Department participated in the annual prescription drug take back program. In partnership with TAC, R2R, PCSO, and RPD, we were able to collect several pounds of prescription drugs. This program continues to be a success. The amount we collected this year was less than previous years but we contribute that to the fact there are now numerous places throughout the county where prescription medications can be dropped off year-round.



SBPD Sgt. Gonzalez manning the drug take back booth with other volunteers from TAC/R2R. A commissioned officer must be on site in order for the program to collect prescription medications.

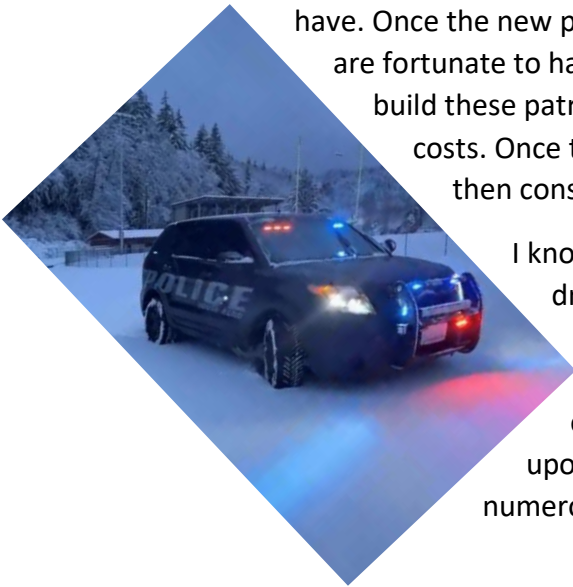
New Patrol Car-

We were awarded another USDA RD Grant for a new patrol car this year. The grant covers approximately 75% of the total cost of the vehicle plus upfitting. The new patrol car was ordered in September but due to COVID, Ford has not even started their fleet production line yet. I have been informed that we are one of the first in line once they start up the fleet production line. The new car will be similar to the SUV interceptors we currently



have. Once the new patrol vehicle arrives our officers will upfit it themselves. We are fortunate to have the officers with the dedication and skill set to be able to build these patrol cars which saves the city thousands of dollars in upfitting costs. Once the new vehicle is upfitted it will be marked. Our fleet will then consist of two unmarked trucks, and three marked patrol cars.

I know we have received some criticism for our “Big four-wheel drive pickups”. I would like to point out that recently during the Christmas snow of 2021, our pickups came in very handy. We were able to respond to every call received within the city even atop the hills in a timely manner. We were even called upon by our local pharmacy and delivered medications to numerous residents who were not able to drive in the snow/ice.



Other Grant Monies-

South Bend PD was fortunate to again receive grant funding from some of our regular community partners. These organizations include Teen Advocacy Coalition (TAC), Road 2 Resiliency (R2R). These funds help with the cost of our officers participating in community events where they interact with the youth in our community and at the school. Having our officers able to spend time building these relationships with our youth in the school and out in the community is an important part of our community policing approach. Our officers are able to spend time with our youth at different activities showing them that interacting with the police does not always have to result in being in trouble. This also helps build relationships to where our youth can comfortably come to the officer with a problem due to having that rapport built.



We were also able use DTF funding to purchase another portable radio for SBPD. These portable radios are approximately \$5400. South Bend Police Department is now equipped each full-time officer with the newest up to date radios which should have a lifespan of approximately 10 years. I am hoping to secure funding from the Homeland Security grant program through Pacific County for one additional radio in 2022 for our reserve officer.

South Bend PD still receives funding from the multi-agency grant called the STOP Grant. This covers some of the costs associated with investigating sexual assaults and domestic violence. Typically, every year we utilize every dollar that has been allocated for SBPD. Sometimes even using un used funds from Raymond PD. Our Clerk Zoe Sowa does an outstanding job making sure we utilize every dollar available to us.

American Rescue Plan Funds-

- One of the biggest investments for the police department in 2021 was the purchase of Body Cameras and new Tasers. We were able to use some of the COVID monies in order to purchase these items. A big factor in purchasing body cameras was the newly enacted legislation which somewhat changed the way policing is done. Some of the new restrictions essentially made it impossible for us to do our jobs without body cameras. The only hesitation I had with body cameras was the cost, and the potential Public Disclosure nightmare. With the ability to use COVID funds the cost wasn't the issue anymore. Our officers are still learning the ins and outs of the body cameras. They have proven themselves to be very helpful in the successful prosecution of cases.
- The purchase of new tasers was included with the body cameras. The company we use (AXON) for both products, offer a package with body worn cameras and tasers. Our old tasers were black in color where our new ones are bright yellow. The new tasers have some added features which the old ones did not.



- The new roof over our Police Department door was a much-needed improvement to the police station. We partnered with the South Bend School District shop class for the labor on the project.





- We finally have our own heat/AC in the police department! (Thank you DEE) It has always been an issue with the city hall heating/cooling system and for some reason it has never worked correctly. Now our officers can control their own heat/ac in the office without affecting the rest of city hall.

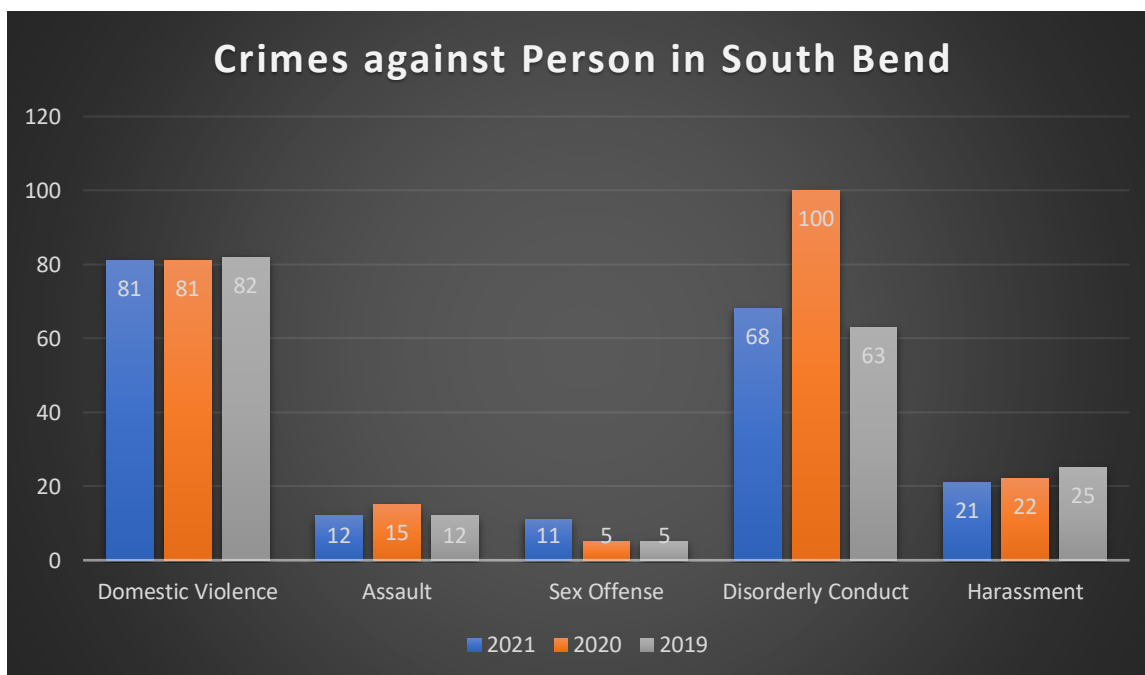
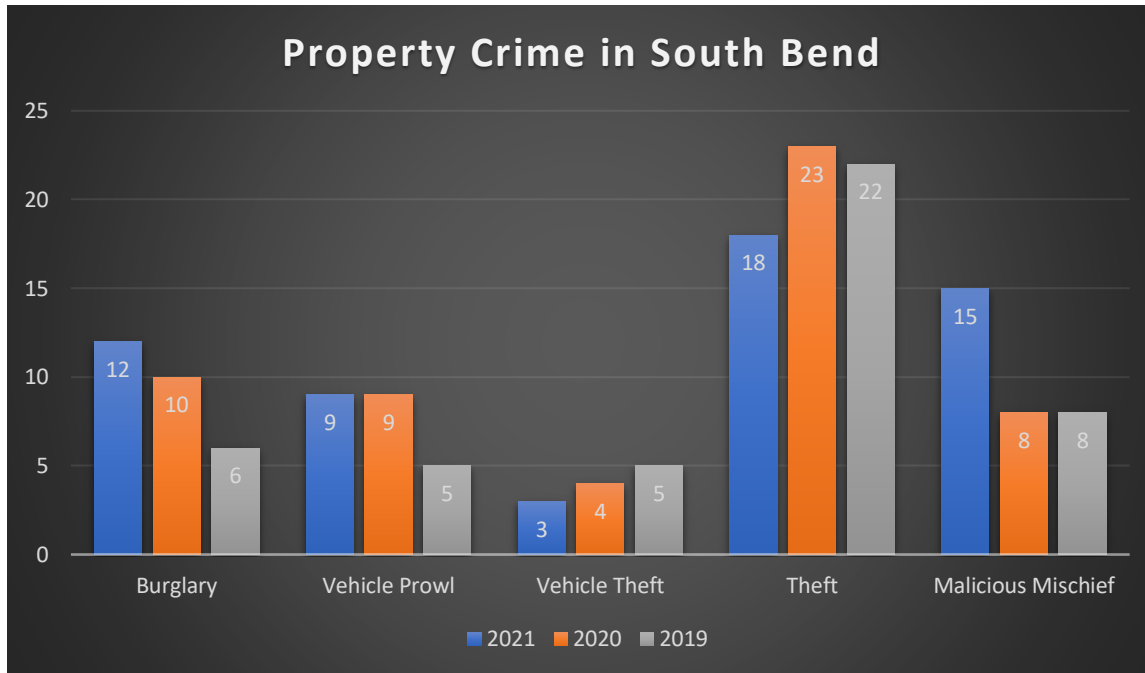
Shop with a Cop-

The organizers of the annual Shop with a Cop decided to have the traditional SWAC this year. We enjoy being a part of this annual program. SBPD was able to take four kids to do their Christmas Shopping and provide presents for their families for the holidays.



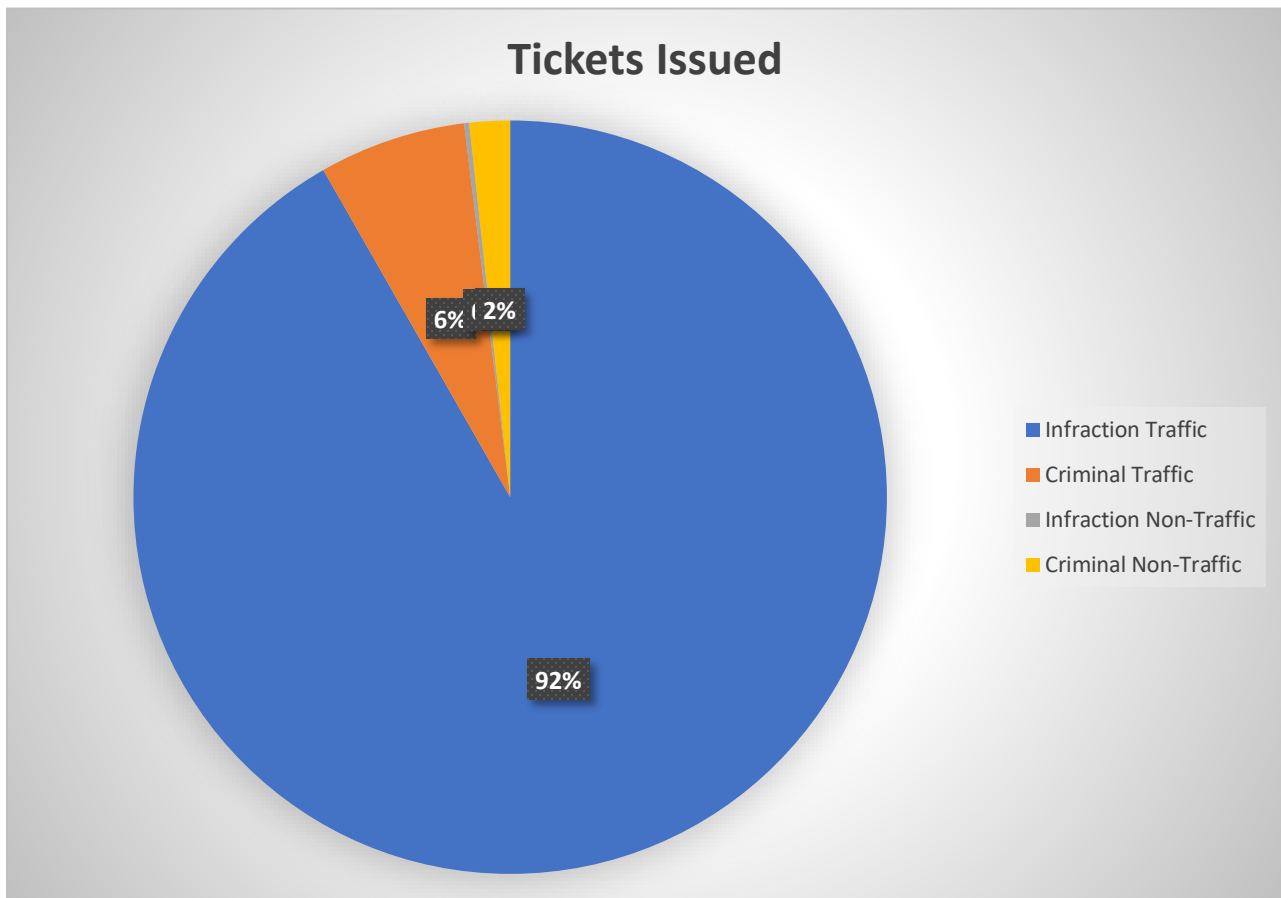
Crime and Statistics

In 2021 the South Bend Police Department responded to **2621** calls for service. This averages out to approximately **654** calls per officer. South Bend PD submitted **25** felony level and/or juvenile cases to the Pacific County Prosecutor.



Enforcement

During 2021 the South Bend Police Department conducted **1112** traffic stops and issued a total of **460** 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.

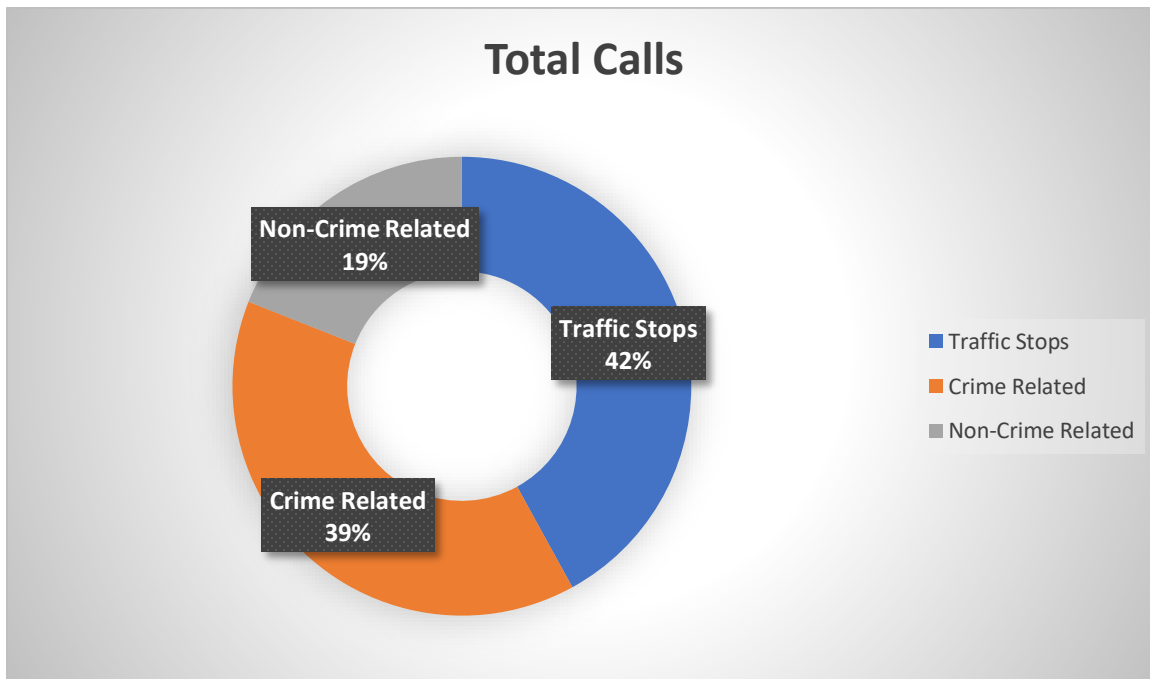


Out of the **1,112** traffic stops, **451** resulted in a ticket, for a total stop to cite ratio of **41%**.

This indicates that **59%** of the time when our officers conduct traffic stops, it results in a warning, thus, our officers are utilizing the education approach rather than enforcement the majority of the time.

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- 1112 (42%)

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

Crime Related- 1010 (39%)

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

Non-Crime Related- 499 (19%)

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

For 2021 we saw a **33.5%** increase in total calls compared to 2020.

2021-**2,621** Total Calls

2020-**1,961** Total Calls