



Payson Police Department Annual Report 2017

Volume 1, Issue 1

A Message from the Chief

2017 started off as a very challenging year for the Payson Police Department due to the fact that there were numerous vehicle burglaries in the area. It was apparent that the suspects in these cases were merely out trying door handles on vehicles attempting to find open doors thus committing burglaries. This was the driving force behind the significant increase in burglaries from 91 the previous year to 184 in 2017. We continued with this difficult and persistent problem for several months. At the conclusion of those months, we were able to successfully make several arrests which had a positive impact on this problem. The problem then ceased to exist not only with the burglaries but other matching crime statistics. During this same time period thefts increased from 275 to 400 as well. These two crime statistics drove the index

crime rate to a much higher degree than it had been in years. Once the police department was able to get a handle on the perpetrators in this particular rash of criminal activity we returned much nearer to our normal statistics for the remainder of the year.

That aside, I am very proud of the staff of the Payson Police Department who continue to provide excellent law enforcement service to the community. Again, often times working very shorthanded, the officers and dispatch personnel of the Payson Police Department provided outstanding service.

Officer of the Year:

Michael McAnerny

Support Services Employee of the Year:

**Leslie Zickefoose,
Property & Evidence
Technician**

Inside this issue:

Patrol	2
Investigations	2
DARE	2
Records	3
Property & Evidence	3
SRT/ K9	3
Block Watch	4

That's a wrap for 2017...

Attempted Homicide.....0	Motor Vehicle Theft.....36	Drug Related Arrests..214
Rape.....4	Arson.....0	Alarms Calls.....531
Robbery.....3	Adult Arrests.....997	Civil Traffic Citations..646
Assaults.....186	Juveniles Arrests.....260	Accidents.....393
Burglary.....184	Domestic Violence Arrests...185	Impounds.....127
Larceny.....400	DUI Arrests.....76	

Patrol

Patrol Division consists of four squads. Each squad has one patrol sergeant and two to three officers. The squads work four – ten hour days with two squads covering daytime hours and two squads covering nighttime hours.

In 2017 the Payson Police Department hired 1 lateral officer.

Most of our officers work in a specialty assignment as well, which is in addition to their regular duties such as D.A.R.E., Special Response Team, phlebotomist, Block Watch, Field Training Officer and instructor for the Volunteer Program.

Special Enforcement Unit

The SEO unit conducted 64 drug arrests or assists. Of the arrests, 6 arrests resulted in illegal drug sales charges. 14 search warrants were executed by the SEO unit.

Drug Breakdown:

Of the drug arrests made, 46 percent involved heroin, 42 percent involved methamphetamine, and 20 percent involved other drugs such as marijuana and pills.

Drug outlook for the Town of Payson for 2017:

During this year, methamphetamine and heroin cases have remained the same statistically, without one drug dominating the other. The SEO unit has had significant involvement in major cases specifically involving the trafficking of firearms and serial burglary cases. Both issues have a significant drug component attached to them. The SEO unit has also been involved in the recovery of stolen vehicles and other major cases involving general investigations.

DARE

In 2017 Sergeant Hazelo and Officer Bogatko had the opportunity to continue to work with 5th grade students at Julia Randall Elementary School. Through our valued partnership, D.A.R.E (Drug Abuse Resistance Education) is offered as a ten week class at the school. D.A.R.E is an interactive program presenting topics and discussions on making wise choices, dealing with peer pressure, handling stress, bullying, and how to help others. A total of 186 students participated and graduated D.A.R.E in 2017. There are a total of six 5th grade classes and the officers teach 3 classes a semester.

During the course of the year the Payson Police Department D.A.R.E. program and Denise King with World Famous Events, began to build a professional relationship that was a tremendous help to our local program. Ms. King and World Famous Events helped in fundraising and promoting the D.A.R.E. program. They generously donated approximately 70 Phoenix Suns tickets in November and then another 120 game tickets to a Phoenix Suns game in January. A number of students who would may never have been able to attend a game where able to go and enjoy themselves.

We want to thank the local continued supports of the D.A.R.E. program, the parents, and then World Famous Events for this donation to our D.A.R.E. program this year, and congratulations to everyone who graduated from D.A.R.E this year!



Records Division

The Records Division is staffed with Beth Lacey, Records Clerk II, Sarah Haynie, Records Clerk I, and Records Administrator, Kathy Klein.

The Records Division is responsible for transcription, completion, and dissemination of all police reports and works closely with the officers to complete this task. Prompt and accurate processing of the reports and associated paperwork is an integral part of the judicial process. The Records Division works closely with the County Attorney's Office and the Town Attorney's Office every day to provide them with essential items for prosecution purposes.

The Payson Police Department received 26,106 calls for service in 2017 and approximately 12,750 of these calls required the completion of police reports. This resulted in the completion of approximately 1,060 reports per month.

The Records Division is also responsible for many other duties such as responding to the many requests for copies of police reports from the general public, insurance companies, and other entities. The Records Division also receives and completes many local background checks on individuals for employment, military service, and other needs, and is also responsible for the monthly completion of the Universal Crime Reporting statistics to the proper authorities.

Communications Center

2017 continued with challenges for the Payson Communication Center, however, the center continued to serve the public to a very high standard with 9 full time employees. The Communication Center welcomed a new employee in Prestina Preston-Lynch. Her attentiveness to training helped her progress, quickly adding additional assistance that was greatly needed. The dispatchers worked 12-hour shifts and dispatch for Payson Police Department, Northern Gila County Sheriff's Department, the Tonto Apache Police Department, U.S. Forest Service L.E.O.'s and 11 fire departments to include Payson, Water Wheel (consolidation of Beaver Valley and Whispering Pines), Pine-Strawberry, Gisela Valley, Hellsgate, Christopher Kohl's and Pleasant Valley Fire Departments. The center took a total of 14,113 9-1-1 calls in addition to the non-emergency calls.

The Communication Center continues to run two CAD systems and has been very efficient in doing so. The team works hard to provide the best service possible. Additionally, in December the Communication Center began more fully utilizing Everbridge for inter-department notifications and working with Carl Melford of Gila County for mass notifications to the town and county in order to keep the public informed of developing situations.

During 2017, the 911 phone system was upgraded to meet current standards and the challenges of modern technology.

On November 27, 2017 Sergeant Hazelo began overseeing the Communication Center. The Center implemented "Dispatcher of the Month" with the nomination being made by the unit members with all members of the department contributing positive comments regarding the nominated person.

We look forward to what 2018 brings as there are changes taking place. One of those is that required logs in the communication center are being transitioned to digital using technology that is at our fingertips.

SRT

The Payson Police Department Special Response Team is made up of 5 dedicated Payson Police Officers. The Team had 12 calls for service in 2017. The Payson Police Department's Special Response Team is committed to provide the community with a highly motivated, technically and tactically skilled team, capable of responding to critical incidents and resolving them by mitigating the inherent risks to innocent parties, officers and suspects.

K9

2018 brings new changes to our department's K-9 Division and is pleased to announce the new K-9/Handler team of Officer Jake Lee and his K-9 "Wiley". Wiley has served with the Payson Police Department for three years with handler Officer Davies and will now continue to work with Officer Lee who has been an officer with our department since 2014.

"Wiley" is a 5-year old Belgian Malinois that is a narcotics certified drug detection dog that will continue to not only be utilized by our department, but will also assist other law enforcement agencies in our area when requested.



Block Watch

This year the Payson Police Department assisted local neighborhood watch groups by providing new high quality reflective signs to replace the old ones. In addition, we have streamlined the process with the streets department in order to make it easier for sign installation when a new watch group is started.

Many groups took advantage of Payson PD's offer to assist where needed by having officers give presentations at meetings. The Payson PD also held a "town hall" style meeting to explain the benefits of starting a neighborhood watch program and to inform the public of current issues affecting the safety of our Payson community.



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Hiring/Recruiting: jhazelo@paysonaz.gov

Property and Evidence

The Payson Police Department take in evidence items and property for safekeeping for various cases and or reasons. The following statistics show the amount or property taken in by our Property and Evidence Division.

Evidence: 1842

Safekeeping: 180

Found Property: 129

Items for Destruction: 46

Property disposed: 135

Dump Your Drugs brought in approximately 1200lbs of medications that were disposed of.

4th of July

The biggest event that the Town sponsors every year is the 4th of July Celebration. The Payson Police Department plays a key role in the planning and management of this event. The police department works closely with its partners, the Payson Fire Department, Payson Parks and Recreation, Public Works, Police Department Volunteers, and C.E.R.T. Volunteers as well as many others to insure that the citizens and visitors have a fun and safe time. Because of the complexity of the event, the Payson Police Department utilizes the FEMA Incident Command Structure to insure that each facet of the event is addressed. This event is managed out of the Command Post that is staged for the event at the Parks and Recreation Building at Green Valley Park.

