

2023
JUVENILE OPERATIONS
ANNUAL REPORT



**Prepared for the Command Staff
of the Addison Police Department**

By:

Sergeant William Fuentes

OVERVIEW OF JUVENILE OFFICERS

The Addison Police Department Juvenile Operations Unit is comprised of Juvenile Officers from several different divisions. The Juvenile Operations Unit is supervised by Sergeant Fuentes. The Criminal Investigations Section has eleven assigned Juvenile Officers, one assigned at Addison Trail High School and one assigned at Indian Trail Junior High School. Two Juvenile Officers are assigned to the Crime Prevention Section, and the remaining Juvenile Officers are assigned to the Field Services Division.

This year, the Juvenile Officer Proficiency Examination was conducted in December of 2023. The examination was conducted electronically through PowerDMS for Juvenile Officers to complete. All listed officers were Juvenile Officers during this period. The officers in bold are qualified to receive specialty pay. The total number of officers to receive specialty pay, including the Juvenile Specialist Sergeant, was 31.

Officer Anderson (retired 12/2023)

Detective Arrez

Officer Baquero

Officer Bauer

Detective Besch

Sergeant Brant

Sergeant Brucal

Officer Chaidez

Officer Chiappetta (retired 1/2023)

Officer Diaz

Officer Fernandez

Sergeant Fuentes

Detective Garofalo

Sergeant Glomb

Officer Gomez

Officer Hostetler

Detective Johnston

Officer Kazak

Officer Kolodziej

Officer Kukla (as of 2/2023)

Officer Lazic

Officer Mares

Detective McDermott

Officer Merendino (retired 11/2023)

Detective Nickels

Officer Olejarz

Sergeant Oskroba

Detective Parducci

Officer Peterson

Commander Pope

Officer Porta

Officer Reyes (retired 9/2023)

Sergeant Riley

Officer Rivera

Detective Ruffolo

Officer Skupien (as of 9/2023)

Officer Sobanski

Detective C. Soto

Officer J. Soto (as of 9/2023)

Officer Toledo (as of 2/2023)

Officer Torres (retired 12/2023)

Officer Vitello

TRAINING MATRIX FOR JUVENILE OFFICER SPECIALTY

The Juvenile Officer Career Development Training Track is located in Module 17 of the Addison Police Department Career Track Training plan. No changes to the training matrix were recommended at this time.

TRAINING

February

- Officer Toledo and Officer Kukla attended the 40-hour Juvenile Specialist Skills course.
- Officer Lazic attended the DARE training course.
- Sergeant Fuentes provided in-house training on juvenile policy and procedure. Dr. Stroud from Department of Children and Family Services assisted with the training and provided officers with instruction on child abuse.

April

- Officer Sobanski and Officer Lazic attended interdiction for the protection of children.

May

- Officer Baquero attended a juvenile investigative case review course.

June

- Officer B. Reyes attended the Juvenile Court Act update course.
- Detective Johnston, Officer Lazic, Officer Sobanski, and Officer Toledo attended the annual Illinois Juvenile Officers Conference held in Peoria, Illinois. The conference covered numerous topics specific to juvenile investigations and provided a juvenile law review.

July

- Officer Lazic attended GREAT training and became certified as a child passenger safety technician.
- Officer Sobanski attended the National School Safety Conference and became certified as a child passenger safety technician.

September

- Officer Diaz and Officer Mares attended the juvenile interrogation update.
- Officer J. Soto and Officer Kukla attended the 40-hour Juvenile Specialist Skills course.

October

- Officer Chaidez and Officer Kolodziej attended the Juvenile Court Act update.

November

- Officer Peterson and Officer Olejarz attended the Juvenile Court Act update.
- Sergeant Fuentes provided in-house training on Crisis Intervention and provided information on the Premise Alert Program.

December

- Sergeant Fuentes provided in-house training on juvenile policy and procedure.

MEETINGS

- In June, Sergeant Fuentes met with Jackie LaPorte and David Birkhahn from Northeast DuPage Family and Youth Services (NEDFYS). David Birkhahn was recently hired by NEDFYS, and the Department's juvenile procedures were reviewed. During that meeting, discussions were also held about how NEDFYS could support the juvenile operations of the Department.
- In September, Jackie LaPorte stepped down from her role at NEDFYS. David Birkhahn and Elizabeth Franssen took over the ReDirect program. A meeting was held to review the ReDirect program and the Peer Jury program, as well as formal station adjustments.
- In December, Crime Prevention officers met with Elizabeth Franssen to review the Peer Jury program and discuss ways NEDFYS could help support the program.
- NEDFYS assisted with providing training in November and December for mental health and crisis intervention. Several meetings were held to coordinate the training. The training was relevant to juveniles and how crisis intervention could be utilized when interacting with juveniles.

ACHIEVEMENTS

There were no achievements to report for this review period.

COMMUNITY EVENTS/PROGRAMS

Kindergarten, First grade and Second Grade Health and Wellness Safety Curriculum: The Department continued to coordinate with District 4 and arranged for two safety presentations in the spring and fall. Over 1,500 students received the safety curriculum covering personal safety, learning to say no, and dealing with angry feelings. Based on the effectiveness of this program and its format, it is recommended that the program function as is.

Third Grade Health and Wellness Safety Curriculum: The Department coordinated with District 4 and arranged for four 30-minute classes using lessons from the elementary-level DARE curriculum. Topics within the curriculum included avoiding gangs and gang violence, laws and rules to keep children safe and saying no to drug offers. It is recommended that the program function as is.

Fourth Grade GREAT Program: The Department coordinated with District 4 and arranged for four 45-minute classes using lessons from the elementary-level GREAT curriculum. This program not only focuses on gang resistance, but positive decision making and bullying. It is recommended that this program function as is.

Fifth Grade DARE Program: The Department has participated in the DARE program since 1986. The fifth grade curriculum is a ten-session program for District 4 and St. Philip the Apostle School. It is designed to teach students life skills and information to enable them to make healthy choices and increase self-esteem. As a final completion of the program, students write a DARE report that summarizes what they learned about DARE and then read it out loud to the class. At completion, each participating class receives a DARE graduation. The program has been well received by the Village, the school district, parents and students. Based on the effectiveness of this program, it is recommended that this program function as is.

Sixth Grade GREAT Program: Similar to the fourth grade level, this program not only focuses on gang resistance, but positive decision making and bullying. A test is administered on the last day of instruction that is included in the student's total grade in the Family and Consumer Education class. It is recommended that this program function as is.

Eighth Grade DARE Program: Crime Prevention continues to instruct this program that focuses on specific drugs and its negative effects. Handling peer pressure is also heavily focused on during the full week of instruction. A test is administered on the last day of class that is included in the student's total grade in the Family and Consumer Education class. It is recommended that this program function as is.

Drug Free World: The Truth about Drugs is a series of fourteen illustrated drug information booklets containing facts about the most commonly abused drugs. This information explains the physical and mental effects of drugs on a person. It shares the stories of people who have used drugs and become addicted. The course is held at Indian Trail Junior High School for five days at the end of each quarter for eighth grade students.

Tenth Grade DARE Program: The tenth grade DARE program is a five-class program co-instructed by the teachers and officers. It is designed to be taught during the Driver's Education classes. Students are taught the facts and consequences of choosing to use any type of drug while operating a vehicle. Students are taught about laws specific to their age group. The faculty and students have provided positive comments regarding this program. Based on its effectiveness, it is recommended that it function as is.

Stranger Danger Presentations: Every May, the Unit conducts Stranger Danger training for all pre-school through third grade children in Addison. The training empowers children with information on what to do when they encounter a stranger and/or dangerous situation. Officers conducting the presentations are approached throughout the year by young children reporting that they remember them coming to their class and talking about strangers. Based on the effectiveness of this program, it is recommended that this program function as is.

Henry Hyde Resource Center: The Unit assists with staffing the Henry Hyde Resource Center for field trips, as well as events such as the End of the Summer Bash. Because of the positive feedback from students, the Henry Hyde Resource Center, and the schools, it is recommended that this program continue.

Police Explorer Program: The Addison Police Explorer Program is designed to provide youth between 14 years of age and 21 years of age with an opportunity to learn about law enforcement and the criminal justice system. Explorers volunteer and assist with community events, roadside safety checkpoints, pedestrian crossing, and the DARE lock-ins. The Explorer Scouting program is sponsored through the Boy Scouts of America. This program and its Explorers receive positive feedback from the Village Board and the citizens of the community on the need for this program. Based on the effectiveness of this program and the positive impact on youth participants, it is recommended the program function as is.

Tobacco Inspections: The Department participated in the IDHS-Division of Substance Use, Prevention and Recovery Tobacco Enforcement Grant. Per the grant contract, three inspections were conducted within the grant period in addition to educating retailers. The intent is to prevent tobacco sales to teenagers. The undercover agents who were used for the tobacco checks were Addison Police Explorers. The tobacco grant fund continues to be the main source of funding for supplies needed to efficiently run the Police Explorer and the Peer Jury programs, which are both widely recognized as successful youth programs in the Department.

Police Department Tours: The Unit conducts tours of the Department when requested by various schools, scouts (boys and girls), and organizations. Positive comments are always received by many of the guests. It is recommended that this program function as is.

Teen Community Emergency Response Team (CERT): In conjunction with the national CERT programs, teen CERT is a national Homeland Security initiative directed at making schools and communities safer by having educated and trained high school students capable of preparing and responding to disasters and emergencies. Teen CERT training is broken down into eight lessons with a practical at the end. It is recommended that this program function as is.

Premise Alert Program/Special Needs Programs: A review of the Addison Police Department's Premise Alert Program was done. Currently the Addison Police Department is in compliance with 430 ILCS 132/ Illinois Premise Alert Program. Significant additions were added to better serve children and adults with special needs.

The following changes and additions were made to the program:

1. The MedicAlert LEAP Program is a free program where departments enter information into an online portal that is searchable. The program also provides Medic Alert bracelets at no cost to those citizens who are registered. The bracelet contains vital information, as well as a unique ID number. With this ID, the MedicAlert 24/7 Emergency Response Center can be contacted at an 800 number that is engraved on the MedicAlert ID. This gives law enforcement immediate access to registered health information. The MedicAlert Foundation's Emergency Response Center is staffed by medically trained personnel who then communicate vital medical information including medical conditions, medications and dosages, and allergies. They can also connect law enforcement with family/caregivers to ensure they are safely returned home and can transmit medical records, if needed, to responding hospitals to ensure proper treatment and care.
2. The Wallet Card is a free tool for teenagers and adults whom have Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) and other disabilities. The Wallet Card helps persons with disabilities communicate clearly with law enforcement or first responders. It includes information such as the person's name, disability and emergency contact. The Wallet Card helps individuals self-disclose their disability and assists officers in understanding some of the behaviors that the person may display. The program also provides strategies for law enforcement and special needs citizens on how to interact with each other.
3. Premise Alert registration forms were updated making it more comprehensive by including other vital information and are now found on the Department portal to provide officers with easier access. Additionally, the Department's website was updated to reflect the most current Premise Alert application form. A proposal to update policy so that any supervisor can approve the Premise Alert application was suggested. All Premise Alert registrants are entered into Power DMS so that officers may access this information from the Power DMS mobile application. An annual review of the current Premise Alert applicants was conducted by the Crime Prevention Section.
4. Picture Exchange Card System (PECS) cards were placed into beat equipment to assist with non-verbal communication.
5. The Department maintains four sensory kits, and those are stored in assigned vehicles (supervisors and evidence technicians). The items in the kit are for use during any call for service in which an individual with a disability is in crisis. The items in these kits can be used to calm/comfort the individual. The items can also provide some activity, and a distraction from the stressful situation to help de-escalate any anxiety.
6. Community Engagement: Members of the Department conduct presentations in Addison and throughout the County regarding safer interactions with the special needs community and law enforcement. The Department also participates in events focused on building relationships with the special needs community, such as the Addison School District 4 Special Needs Resource Fair and the Special Needs Parent Training with the Northeast DuPage Special Education Co-op.

MEDIA

Various members of the Department regularly make social media posts on its Facebook page. At various times during the year, posts were made involving the Crime Prevention Unit and other Juvenile Officers interacting with juveniles during community engagement events.

ALTERNATIVES TO COURT REFERRAL

Parental Discipline: While analyzing the effectiveness of the Parental Discipline option, it was found to be a successful alternative to a custodial arrest when the circumstances and situation warranted. It is recommended this option be available to Juvenile Officers. This option is used most frequently.

Peer Jury: In 2007, the Addison Police Department began Peer Jury, serving as a diversion for first-time, non-violent juvenile offenders who may otherwise have been introduced to the Juvenile Justice System. The case is heard and reviewed, and sanctions are administered by the juvenile's peers who are specifically screened and selected students from the local high school. Consequences administered by the Jury include:

- Community Service
- Apology Letter
- Restitution
- Essay (on Related Topic)
- Jail Tour
- Research (Apply for a Job)
- Research (Apply for a School Club, Sport, etc.)

It has and continues to serve as a very beneficial program to the Police Department. It is recommended that this program continue as is.

Informal Station Adjustment: It is the policy of the Addison Police Department to develop and implement alternative programs with non-violent youthful offenders that focus on rehabilitation rather than mere punishment, such as Station Adjustments and Peer Jury.

An Informal Station Adjustment is defined as a procedure where a Juvenile Officer determines that there is probable cause to believe the minor has committed the offense. A minor arrested for any offense or a violation of a condition from a previous Station Adjustment may receive a Station Adjustment for that arrest as provided herein. In deciding whether to impose a Station Adjustment, either informal or formal, a Juvenile Officer shall consider the following factors:

1. The seriousness of the alleged offense.
2. The prior history of delinquency of the minor.

3. The age of the minor.
4. The culpability of the minor in committing the alleged offense.
5. Whether the offense was committed in an aggressive or premeditated manner.
6. Whether the minor used or possessed a deadly weapon when committing the alleged offenses.

In analyzing the effectiveness of the Informal Station Adjustment option, it is used as an educational tool to change behavior and give an early intervention in lieu of sending a youth to court. It is a useful option to have available in certain situations.

Formal Station Adjustment: A Formal Station Adjustment is defined as a procedure when a Juvenile Officer determines that there is probable cause to believe the minor has committed the offense and an admission by the minor of involvement in the offense. It is to be used when youthful offenders require additional monitoring beyond an Informal Station Adjustment.

In analyzing the effectiveness of the Formal Station Adjustment option, in the cases where it was used, Juvenile Officers were able to establish a rapport with the family and alter inappropriate behavior in the youth. Station Adjustments are implemented and monitored with the assistance of Jaclyn LaPorte from Northeast DuPage Family and Youth Services.

Village Ordinance Charge: In analyzing the effectiveness of the Village ordinance charge option, Juvenile Officers can choose between an Administrative Adjudicatory hearing or sending the youth to local traffic court. It is recommended this option be available to Juvenile Officers.

Preliminary Conference: In analyzing the effectiveness of the Preliminary Conference option, it is an effective tool for getting parents involved while still avoiding the court system. This is a referral for the youth to meet with Juvenile Probation as an alternative to juvenile court. A formal supervision plan is agreed to and monitored by a Juvenile Probation worker.

Direct File: In general, Juvenile Officers should refer cases to juvenile court when any of the following conditions are present:

1. The delinquent act involves either the use of a weapon or the threat of serious physical harm.
2. The delinquent act involved an aggravated assault or battery.
3. The delinquent act was gang-related.
4. The delinquent act was committed by a juvenile who is currently on probation, parole, or who currently has a case pending.

5. Other diversion programs have been offered, but the youth or parent refuses to participate.
6. It has been determined that parental control is not effective.
7. It has been determined by a Juvenile Officer that Station Adjustment has been ineffective.

In analyzing the effectiveness of the Direct File discipline option, it is necessary as a tool to get juveniles into the juvenile court system.

JUVENILE DISPOSITIONS

Juvenile arrests decreased in 2023 from the previous reporting year of 2022. The following is a summary of the total dispositions in 2023 compared to 2022:

2022 (107) to 2023 (89) as follows:

Charged as an Adult (Traffic) - 4
Direct File to Court - 24
Preliminary Conference with Juvenile Probation - 1
Formal Station Adjustment - 7
Informal Station Adjustment - 0
Peer Jury - 1
Ordinance Arrest - 25 (14 arrests for the Village of Addison field court; 11 arrests for Administrative Adjudication)
Parental Discipline - 27