

2021 ANNUAL REPORT



2021

The year 2021 got off to a near-tragic start for the Kent Police Department when two officers were shot responding to a call in January. Officers Kyle Auckland and Lenny Kunka were responding to a break-in at a Kent residence when they were assaulted by Dante Dixon, who attacked the officers, shooting both them and himself during the fight. Thankfully, both officers have recovered from their injuries and are back on the job, and Dixon was sentenced to as many as 42 years in prison for the attack.



Officer Kyle Auckland



Officer Lenny Kunka

The KPD administrative team tackled some major projects and underwent some significant changes in 2021.

One of the projects we completed was the transition of our existing policy and procedure manual to the Lexipol platform. Lexipol is a national company that specializes in policy writing for public administration, employing top attorneys in the field of law enforcement, as well as respected risk managers. This service provides policies that are always up-to-date based on current law and industry best practice. Our transition process included review and minor editing of each policy provided by Lexipol to address local issues. Overall, the process took us about a year to complete and, now that we are up and running, it gives us the ability to train and test our officers on a daily basis to ensure that they understand the practical application of our policies.

Another big project we worked on in 2021 was our body camera project. This involved conducting extensive research, including testing and evaluation periods, and obtaining price quotes from several companies. Our administrative team worked to secure grant funding for this project, and once the funding was granted, we were able to move forward with the final stage of the process in early 2022. All patrol officers now wear body cameras during their shifts.

A major change in 2021 was the dissolution of the Portage County Drug Task Force. KPD had participated in that organization for many years, and fortunately we have been able to start the process of putting our drug task force agent into another task force run by the United States Drug Enforcement Administration.

ADMINISTRATION

The administrative division of the Kent Police Department consists of the chief, the operations captain, the services captain, the administrative lieutenant, and the administrative assistant to the chief. The administrative team is responsible for the police budget of over \$7.6 million, policies and procedures, community policing programs, equipment purchase approval, personnel hiring and development, training approval and scheduling, planning and researching initiatives, special projects, news media, social media, internship programs, and special events.

DETECTIVE BUREAU

The members of the detective bureau aid the patrol division in the investigation of felony and complex investigations, provide support in crime scene processing, and process all the department's evidence. A lieutenant and sergeant command a team consisting of three general case investigators, one drug task force agent, one juvenile investigator, one evidence detective, and an administrative assistant.

2,378
*pieces of evidence
were processed
in 2021*

PATROL

As with any law enforcement agency, patrol is the backbone of our department. These are the men and women in uniform who respond to calls for service. They are the visible members of the department who work day and night to keep the community safe. Our patrol division is headed by the patrol captain and staffs three primary shifts, with officers working eight-hour days, five days per week. We also maintain officers working a swing shift to overlap during shift change. In addition to standard patrol operations, we have partnered with the Kent City Schools since 2014 to provide a full-time school resource officer to work in the middle- and high schools.

K-9 OFFICERS

KPD expanded its K-9 program in 2021 when K-9 Shaw joined our department. There are now two K-9 teams that assist and support the work of the KPD Patrol division.

A GLANCE

TASK FORCES

KPD participates in various regional task forces. Regional task forces provide us resources we do not have on our own. We participate in the following task forces:

- Intelligence Liaison Officer through the U.S. Department of Homeland Security
- Internet Crimes Against Children
- Sexual Assault Response Team with KSU
- Northern Ohio Violent Fugitive through the U.S. Marshalls
- Northern Ohio Missing Children through the U.S. Marshalls
- Metro SWAT
- Multi-Disciplinary Team investigating child abuse cases
- Portage County Honor Guard Team

SUPPORT SERVICES

The support services division is headed by the services captain and comprises three major functions within the department. The communications section, otherwise known as “dispatch,” consists of 11 full-time dispatchers and one supervisor. These are the people who answer our phones, both our non-emergency lines and when someone calls 911. They are highly trained to obtain the proper information, relay that information to responding units, and provide emergency medical instructions to callers. Support services also oversees the maintenance of the police building, which requires collaboration with central maintenance and other vendors. Finally, this division is responsible for managing the department’s equipment inventory, and was instrumental in the policy update and body camera projects, as well as a project to purchase new consoles for the dispatch center.

57,517
*inbound calls
were answered
in 2021*

COMPLIANCE OFFICERS

KPD has two full-time civilian positions which are responsible for both parking and animal compliance.

DETENTION OFFICERS

Our detention officers are responsible for prisoner processing and maintaining our jail facility.

COMMUNITY

CITIZENS POLICE ACADEMY

The purpose of the Citizens Police Academy (CPA) is for our department to engage with, learn from, and provide education about what we do and the reason we do things. It is not meant to teach participants how to be police officers, but to give insight to the community about our profession.

Our 2020 CPA was cut short because of pandemic related safety measures, but fortunately, we were able to resume the CPA in the fall of 2021, inviting back all the participants from the 2020 class.

BICYCLE PATROL

The bicycle patrol continues to be a tool used in community policing efforts. Bicycle patrol provides a way for officers to be more approachable for interaction with the public. Often times, officers working under the Community Development Block Grant program have the ability to utilize a bicycle. Additionally, officers working in the downtown area sometimes ride bicycles to have more interaction with the public without jeopardizing response time.

COMMUNITY CAMPAIGNS

KPD participated in several campaigns, fundraisers and drives that benefitted the community in 2021, including:

- Susan K. Graves Breast Cancer Fund
- School Supplies drive
- Hope in a Handbag
- Sock It to Me
- Red Cross Blood Drive

LORD'S LUNCH

As we've done for the past few years, we partnered in 2021 with the Trinity Lutheran Church to co-host "Lord's Lunch" at the church. Police members and volunteers prepared lunch for those in need of a free meal. We plan to continue this worthwhile program for years to come.

ENGAGEMENT

KENT POLICE AND CITIZENS ORGANIZATION (KPCA)

The KPCA is a non-profit organization whose mission is to enrich the Kent area community through police support. Numerous gifts and donations were given to various organizations and other fund-raising events throughout the year to benefit the Kent community. Annually, a scholarship of \$1,000.00 is awarded to a deserving RHS graduating senior who is involved in their community. This year's award winner was Kaylie Loughry.

KPCA also hosts the annual fill-a-cruiser event in partnership with Walgreens. The fill-a-cruiser event benefits our local community as all of the donations made through the program are donated to Kent Social Services who serves our local community. In 2021, we also donated a portion of the donations to a charity drive at the Spellman Chapel.

TIP 411

Tip 411 is a software program that allows the community to provide anonymous, crime-related tips to our department. During the 2021 calendar year, we received 102 anonymous tips and we anticipate even more to come in as the community becomes aware of the program.

SOCIAL MEDIA

Social media platforms continue to be a necessary method of engaging with our community. Our department maintains social media accounts on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.

15,000+
*followers on
Facebook*

POLICE EXPLORERS

KPD launched a new Police Explorers program in 2021, which is designed to give insight into law enforcement careers for students in grades 10-12 through hands-on activities.

STATISTICS

GENERAL OPERATIONAL DATA

	2020	2021	% (+/-)
Personnel Employed	65	65	0.0
Calls for Service	21,067	21,201	0.6
Fire Department Calls	4,293	5,055	17.8
Total Arrests	1,204	1,805	50.0
Juvenile Arrests	52	108	107.7
OVI Arrests	119	146	22.7
Traffic Citations	2,025	2,032	0.4
Parking Tickets	7,886	10,702	35.7

CALLS FOR SERVICE

Traffic Stop	4,845
Community Policing Activity	1,395
Records Checks	1,261
Disorderly Conduct	1,162
Suspicious Circumstances	1,122
Special Detail	844
Premises Check	701
Welfare Check	597
Miscellaneous	479
Accident - Property Damage	476

PARKING VIOLATIONS

Parked Beyond Paid Time/ Expired Meter	5,686
Parked In Permit Spot w/o Permit/ Muni Lot	1,537
Parked Beyond 2 Hr Limit	833
Parked Where Signs Prohibit	641
Parked 3Am-6Am, City Lot	371
Parked Between 3Am-6Am On Public Streets	309
Parked At A Yellow Curb	210
On A Sidewalk	179
Parked At A Taxicab Stand	157
Parked Facing Wrong Direction In Angled Space	110

TRAFFIC CITATIONS

Speed/ACDA	528
Driving Under Suspension	322
OVI	146
Expired/Unlawful Plates	143
Marked Lanes/Continuous Traffic	81
Traffic Control Signals/Lights	77
Failure to Control	67
Stop Signs	67
Seat Belts	53
Signal Lights	52

TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS

	2018	2019	2020	2021
Total Accident Complaints	705	713	493	549
Property Damage Accidents	405	418	266	289
Injury Accidents	105	149	75	84
Private Property Accidents	147	80	93	98
Hit-Skip Accidents	36	46	39	49
OVI Related Accidents	10	8	15	23
Pedestrian Accidents	10	8	5	5
Fatal Accidents	0	0	0	1

CRIME TRENDS AND CLEARANCES

	2020	2021	TREND	CLEARED	% CLEARED
Criminal Homicide	0	0	0.0%	0	100.0%
Rape	0	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Robbery	8	8	0.0%	7	87.5%
Assault, Total	181	205	13.3%	165	80.5%
Aggravated	19	8	-57.9%	21	262.5%
Simple	162	197	21.6%	159	80.7%
Burglary	62	58	-6.5%	25	43.1%
Larceny	369	294	-20.3%	69	23.5%
Auto Theft	21	8	-61.9%	4	50.0%
Arson	1	0	-100.0%	0	0.0%
Human Trafficking, Commercial Sex Acts	0	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Human Trafficking, Involuntary Servitude	0	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Total	642	573	-10.7%	244	42.6%

OHIO COLLABORATIVE 2021

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	TOTAL
STOPS COLLECTED	118	365	552	358	419	439	511	499	432	444	338	246	4,721
M,A													0
M,B	12	44	75	55	48	71	79	68	60	60	46	34	652
M,N								1					1
M,P		3	1	3	4		3	2	2	1	1	1	21
M,W	56	158	232	144	189	186	241	213	195	184	145	96	2,039
F,A													0
F,B	12	25	42	29	25	33	16	41	36	42	33	23	357
F,N			1		1	1	2	1					6
F,P			1	1	1	4	4		2	1	1	1	16
F,W	38	135	200	126	151	144	166	173	137	156	112	91	1,629

CITY OF KENT 10-YEAR CRIME INDEX AND STATISTICS

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Murder	1	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
Rape	7	5	2	2	0	1	3	3	0	0
Robbery	18	24	15	9	13	11	9	8	8	8
Assault	279	260	316	266	233	190	162	185	181	205
Burglary	168	134	103	127	95	72	79	58	62	58
Larceny	450	511	458	357	385	359	330	314	369	294
Auto Theft	18	16	17	7	16	17	12	13	21	8
Arson	10	4	10	4	2	1	3	1	1	0
Human Trafficking-Sex Acts	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Human Trafficking-Servitude	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Crime Index	951	955	921	773	745	651	598	582	642	573
Clearance Rate %	33.4	32.4	37.0	38.9	41.6	37.5	33.1	41.6	40.7	42.6
Domestic Violence Arrests	101	98	132	84	101	93	85	91	136	117
Accidents	843	861	815	1,067	1,015	753	705	713	493	549
Injury	125	88	110	104	114	96	105	149	75	84
Fatal	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Arrests	2,391	2,102	2,261	2,208	2,222	1,878	1,605	1,679	1,204	1,805
Juvenile Arrests	168	126	194	137	117	137	90	91	52	108
OVI Arrests	277	205	187	186	182	164	145	175	119	146
Citations	3,393	2,576	3,023	3,366	3,541	2,872	2,869	3,119	2,025	2,032
Calls	19,680	18,062	20,534	22,949	28,545	25,701	25,069	27,981	21,067	21,201

The 2021 statistics provided on the previous pages are meant to capture a “snapshot” of the department’s activities, but do not represent the full scope of the work we do. More detailed statistics can be found on our webpage at www.kentohio.org.

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