

Waverly Police Department



Annual Report 2024-2025

THE WAVERLY POLICE DEPARTMENT

Letter from the Chief of Police:

TO: Mayor Mark Anderson
Members of the Waverly City Council
Citizens of the City of Waverly



On behalf of the men and women of the Waverly Police Department, it is once again my honor and privilege to share this report. The 2024-2025 Annual Report reflects the hard work, outstanding accomplishments and professional services provided by the men and women of this agency.

Our department takes great pride in delivering the highest standard of service, grounded in integrity, professionalism, and respect. We understand that trust is not given freely — it must be earned through consistent action. That's why we remain steadfast in our commitment to transparency, accountability, and meaningful engagement with every part of our community. We strive to ensure that Waverly remains a place where everyone can live, work, and thrive in safety. We are better together.

We are deeply grateful for the outstanding support we receive from our residents, business owners, visitors, and elected leaders. Your continued encouragement does not go unnoticed—it means a great deal to our officers and civilian staff, reinforcing our daily commitment to serve with excellence and integrity.

I want to reaffirm my unwavering commitment to ensuring that our community remains a safe and welcoming place for all who live, work, and visit here. Safety is a shared responsibility — one that we embrace wholeheartedly, every single day. I hope this report enhances confidence in your police department as we continue to look forward to serving our community.

Please do not hesitate to contact anyone from our department if you have any questions or concerns.

Respectfully submitted,

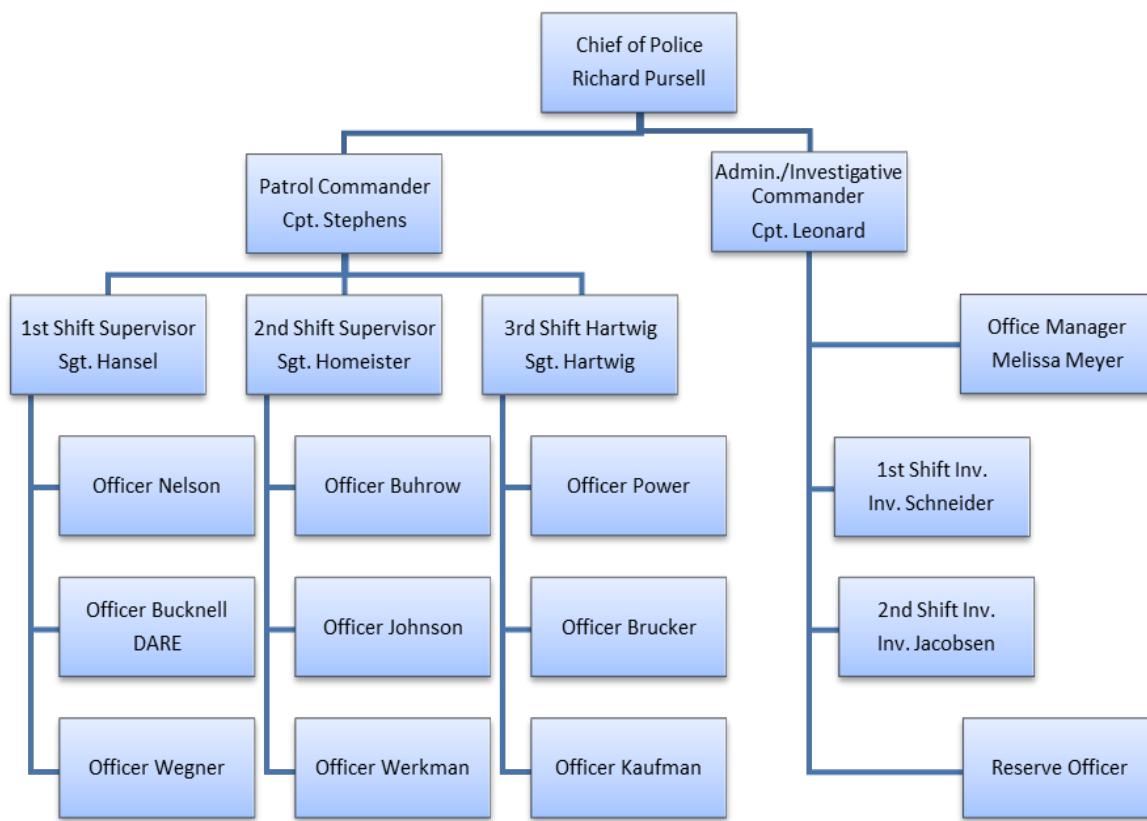
Richard Pursell
Chief of Police
Waverly Police Department

THE WAVERLY POLICE DEPARTMENT

Mission Statement:

The Waverly Police Department is a service oriented, public safety organization that is dedicated to serving the citizens of Waverly through the maintenance of order, preservation of civil rights and the impartial enforcement of laws. The Department will accomplish these mandates by requiring the highest professional standards of its officers while maintaining constant vigilance in order to balance its legislated powers with its constitutional responsibilities.

Organizational Chart:



*Waverly has 17 officers which is 1.6 officers per 1,000 residents. The State of Iowa average is between 1.7 to 1.8 officers per 1,000 citizens, depending on sources.

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New Employee:

On December 16, 2024, Officer Clayton Werkman joined the Waverly Police Department. Officer Werkman graduated from Waverly-Shell Rock Community High School prior to receiving a BA in Secondary Education from Wartburg College. Officer Werkman graduated from the Iowa Law Enforcement Basic Academy held in Johnston, Iowa in April 2025.



After a new officer is hired and graduated from the 16-week ILEA Basic Academy they must also go through and be released from the Waverly Police Department's Field Training Officer (FTO) program. The new officers rotate through all shifts and are under supervision of the 3 FTO instructors during this time. The FTO program is 10 weeks or 540 hours depending on their previous experience.

Service Recognition:



**Tom Power
Officer
10 Years of Service**

THE WAVERLY POLICE DEPARTMENT

Recognition:

On November 26th, 2024, at approximately 3:05 a.m., Officer Brucker received a 911 call for assistance for a stabbing that had just taken place. Officer Brucker, understanding that time was of the essence, arrived in less than 5 minutes. Officer Brucker rendered first aid to the victim who had two stab wounds to the chest. Officer Brucker also recognized the individual who had stabbed the victim was still in the residence. Officer Brucker was able to render medical aid while giving clear directions to the offender to keep the scene safe. Due to his rapid response and command presence, the victim survived while keeping other first responders safe from the offender.

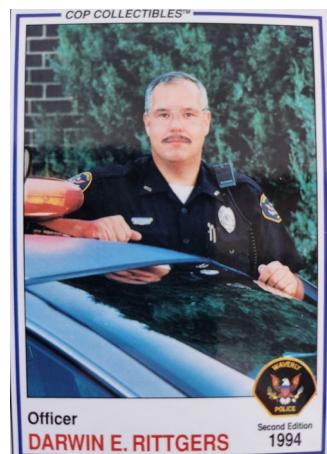


On December 21st, 2025, at approximately 7:22 p.m., Officer Buhrow and Officer Power responded to a welfare check. The officers were able to determine an individual was in mental health crisis as he displayed and threatened to use a utility knife. Their quick response enabled them to establish a perimeter and assess the situation as quickly as possible. The Waverly Police Officers were able to calm the situation and begin communication with the subject. By communicating with the subject, the officers were able to de-escalate the scene and transport the subject to the hospital for services.



Mourning:

It is with great sadness that we mourn the passing of retired Police Officer Darwin Rittgers. Darwin served the citizens of Waverly for 18 years (1980 - 1998). We thank him for all that he did to make our department what it is today. Our thoughts and prayers go out to the entire Rittgers family.



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Training:

Training of personnel is an important part of the ongoing professional development of the officers with the Waverly Police Department. There is a lot of training that is required for the officers to maintain their certification as peace officers. Some of this training includes the Iowa Law Enforcement Emergency Care Provider (ILEECP) and weapons qualification. Scheduling any training is difficult with three shifts and twenty-four-hour coverage. As a result, we are limited as a department to incorporate additional training outside the scope of “required” training, but an expressed effort is made annually to increase this training without adversely affecting the budget.

During the 2024-2025 year the Waverly Police Department logged over 700 hours of training. Below is a list of some of the training the Waverly Police Department attended.

- Firearms (rifle & pistol)
- Chemical Munitions
- Response to Active Shooter
- CPR, AED, Airway Obstruction
- Bloodborne Pathogens
- Mental Health First Aid
- De-escalation Training
- Mandatory Reporting
- Medical & Trauma Emergencies
- Implicit Bias and De-escalation
- Chains Interrupted – Human Trafficking
- Lidar/Doppler Certification
- ASP Baton
- Precision Driving
- Interview & Interrogation
- Search & Seizure
- Defensive Tactics
- Clandestine Lab Technician
- Hazard Communication
- Managing Missing & Lost Subjects Searches
- Criminal Addiction
- Street Survival Seminar
- Child Safety Seat Technician
- SFST Instructor School
- Mental Health Training
- Criminal Patrol Tactics
- Leadership in Police Organizations
- Sexual Assault Investigation
- Civil Rights & Policing in the 21st Century
- TASER Recertification
- Officer Safety during High-Risk Operations

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Employees by Years of Service with Waverly (as of June 2025):

Captain Jason Leonard	29 years
Chief Richard Pursell	27 years
Officer Josh Buhrow	22 years
Office Mgr. Melissa Meyer	22 years
Sergeant Curtis Hansel	19 years
Sergeant Cory Stephens	17 years
Officer Holly Jacobsen	16 years
Officer Jared Hartwig	12 years
Officer Ryan Wegner	12 years
Officer Tyler Homeister	11 years
Officer Tom Power	10 years
Officer James Johnson	4 years
Officer Nick Nelson	3 years
Officer Lukas Bucknell	3 years
Officer Cory Brucker	2 years
Officer Traeton Kaufman	1 year
Officer Clayton Werkman	6 months

Services Provided:

The Waverly Police Department provides several services to the citizens of Waverly. Please take time to review the list of services and take advantage of those you could use.

- Vacation Home Watch
- Business Checks
- Crime Prevention
- Sex Offender Registry
- Vehicle Inspections
- Operation Identification
- Animal Control
- Child Identification Kits
- Bicycle Registration
- Background Investigation
- Found Property
- Patrol Division
- Investigative Division
- DARE Program
- K-9 Program
- Clandestine Laboratory Technician
- Drug take-back
- Escort Security
- Bad Checks
- Code RED Emergency Notification
- Outdoor Warning Sirens
- Citizen's Police Academy
- Internet Safety Classes
- Impaired Driving Classes or Demonstrations
- Tours (these can be done for service groups, birthdays, or general interest)
- Off-Road Utility Vehicle Inspection and Registration

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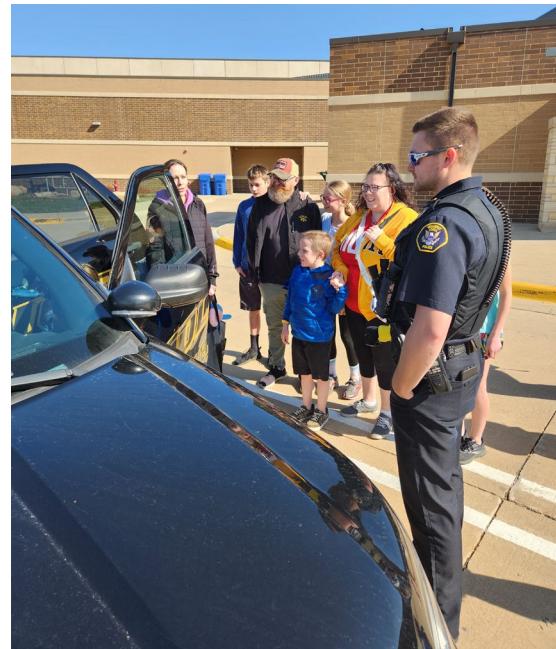
Family Fun Fair:

The Waverly Police Department started Child Safety Day in 2006 and joined a group effort of other agencies in Bremer County in 2008 to have a Family Fun Fair.

The Waverly Police Department provided Identification Fingerprint Cards and assisted parents filling those out so they can maintain them for their records. Parents and children learned about the dangers of drugs and alcohol.



Special goggles were used to simulate what it is like to walk and drive under the influence of drugs and alcohol. Participants were able to “walk the line” to experience first-hand how difficult it is to function while impaired. Tattoos as well as information pamphlets were handed out.



Waverly Police Officers present volunteered their off-duty time to help make this a great event for everyone involved. Organizers stated there were approximately four hundred people that came and enjoyed the event.

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Bicycle Safety:

The Waverly Police Department works with the Waverly-Shell Rock School District to



help teach young riders how to maneuver safely and instills the importance of bicycle safety equipment. To help emphasize the importance of safety equipment, the Waverly Police Department also partnered with Dairy Queen and Unity Point Rohlf Memorial Clinic in order

to hand out "tickets" to young bicyclists that are seen wearing their helmets in town. Each "ticket" earns them a free treat at the Dairy Queen in Waverly.

Celebrity Reader:

The Waverly Police Officers help whenever the Waverly Public Library calls to assist with their Celebrity Reader program. The Celebrity Reader program is sponsored by the Friends of Waverly Public Library. The Officers not only read to the kids at the library, but also at many elementary schools and day cares.



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D.A.R.E.:

The Waverly Police Department and the Waverly-Shell Rock School District is celebrating 34 years of D.A.R.E. within the community of Waverly. The Waverly Police Department and the Waverly-Shell Rock Community School District became involved with D.A.R.E. in 1991. D.A.R.E. (Drug Abuse Resistance Education) was founded by Chief Daryl F. Gates (Chief of Police for Los Angeles, CA) in 1983.



The Waverly Police Department is pleased to report that the D.A.R.E. program in Waverly will start again once COVID-19 has cleared. The highly acclaimed program gives kids the skills they need to avoid involvement in drugs, gangs, and violence. D.A.R.E. has proven so successful that it is now being implemented in 75 percent of our nation's school districts and in more than 43 countries around the world.

Officer Lukas Bucknell taught the last full D.A.R.E. class on April 12, 2024, with lessons that teach children how to resist peer pressure and live productive drug and violence-free lives. Graduates were able to enjoy pizza prior to heading off to participate in recreational activities at The "W" on Wartburg College. A special "thank you" goes out to the many sponsors that continue to help make this program possible. These sponsors helped with supplies, prizes, and food.



The Waverly Police Department continues to feel D.A.R.E. is an important link between the schools, children, parents, and police.

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National Night Out:

The Waverly Police Department and the community of Waverly participated in the “**40th Annual National Night Out**” crime and drug prevention event. National Night Out, which was hosted by the Waverly Police Department, involved over 15,000 communities worldwide. In all, over 37 million people participated in “America’s Night Out Against Crime”.



National Night Out is designed to: (1) Heighten crime and drug prevention awareness; (2) Generate support and participation in local anticrime efforts; (3) Strengthen neighborhood spirit and police-community partnership; and (4) Send a message to criminals letting them know neighborhoods are organized and fighting back.

Residents were encouraged to lock their doors, turn on an outside light and spend the evening with neighbors and police in Kohlman Park in Waverly. Activities

included free inflatable games, entertainment, food and information for everyone’s enjoyment. Thank you to all the sponsors who made this evening possible. | A special thank you goes to Hy-Vee Food Stores for contributing over 500 hotdogs, buns and condiments.



Chief Richard Pursell said, “This is a night out for the City of Waverly to stand together to promote awareness, safety, and neighborhood unity. Police-community partnership and citizen involvement is vital to build a safer Waverly.”



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Shop with a Cop:



The Waverly Police Department started partnering with Wal-Mart in 2010 to offer “Shop with a Cop”. This program has allowed over 115 kids from Waverly to shop with a Waverly Officer and to receive presents to help make it a special Christmas for everyone. This program enables officers to share a little Christmas cheer as well as getting to know some of the most energetic citizens of the community. The positive interaction between the officers and kids lasts a lifetime.



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Jack-O-Lantern Night:

The Waverly Police Department participates in the annual Jack-O-Lantern Night. The Waverly Chamber coordinates participating merchants in this community main street event.



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Active Shooter Training:

The Waverly Police Department, in cooperation with the Governor's School Safety Bureau (GSSB), hosted an ALERRT Level 1 Active Shooter Response course. The ALERRT Level 1 course is designed to prepare the first responder on how to respond to active shooter events. Currently, 100% of Waverly's patrol officers are ALERRT 1 certified. Thank you to the Waverly-Shell Rock Community School District for our continued partnership.



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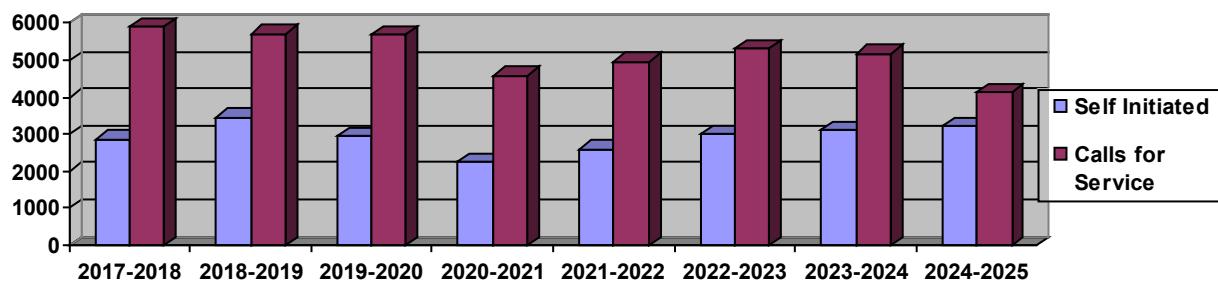
Reported Calls are those calls funneled through the Law Enforcement Communications Center. These calls could be from a walk-in, phone call, initiated by officers or dispatched calls to the department.

Calls for Service are those calls that require documentation for future reference.

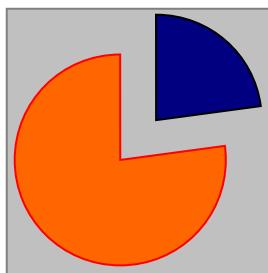
Self-Initiated Calls are those actions of the officers when they issue citations, warnings, and parking tickets.

These categories only reflect the activity of the officers and do not include the day-to-day operations of the police department administration.

During 2024-25 the Waverly Police Department logged 8,951 Reported Calls. The average time per call, for 2024-25, was 45 minutes per call. The officers were “on scene” or out of service on a reported call for 344,737 minutes or 5,746 hours. Once cleared from the scene, each of the reported calls may take anywhere from 15 minutes, several hours or days to complete depending on the required follow up and paperwork.



Not every reported call or call for service results in an arrest or prepared report. During 2023-2024 there were 5,171 Calls for Service and 3,103 Self-Initiated Calls.



■ Citations
■ Warnings

The Waverly Police Department continues its efforts to enforce our traffic laws through education and citation. Our goal is to decrease traffic violations and accidents to protect all citizens. Our agency is fair and impartial in our education/enforcement efforts. Contrary to public perception about all law enforcement, our officers are fair and take pride in their enforcement efforts and understand that many times education by communication and a warning may go further than a citation. In 2024-2025, 77% of all traffic stops resulted in a written warning.

This does not represent the number of verbal warnings that were issued during the same time.

Category	Total	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun
Assist other agencies	61	5	12	6	1	2	4	5	3	8	5	6	4
Accidents	293	24	20	28	36	29	17	38	17	27	16	26	15
Alarms	115	16	5	14	15	8	6	7	9	10	9	4	12
Alcohol/Intox	30	2	3	5	8	1	1	0	2	3	2	2	1
Animals	248	32	17	24	20	9	25	14	12	23	26	22	24
Assault	83	3	3	8	9	6	6	6	10	0	17	11	4
Bremwood	11	0	1	6	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	1
Burglary	21	1	2	3	3	2	0	3	1	4	1	0	1
Child Abuse/Neg.	18	3	3	0	1	0	2	0	1	6	0	1	1
Civil Dispute	136	15	7	7	14	11	13	7	15	13	9	15	10
Criminal Mischief	58	3	0	8	5	6	2	2	3	4	7	10	8
Domestic/Custody	61	9	6	8	6	6	4	5	3	9	1	3	1
DPQ/Disorderly	100	9	9	15	11	7	7	2	6	5	4	20	5
Driving Complaints	157	4	9	16	17	8	15	10	12	14	20	15	17
Drugs	28	5	2	4	5	3	1	1	2	3	1	0	1
DWLS/No DL	30	5	3	1	1	4	2	4	1	1	4	2	2
E911 (false)	25	3	2	0	4	3	3	0	1	4	1	2	2
EDP/Mental	54	9	5	9	2	8	1	7	4	2	2	2	3
Escorts	79	8	7	6	6	8	5	6	5	9	2	8	9
Fight/Crowd Control	9	2	0	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Fire/Smoke/Bomb	45	2	7	1	3	4	5	8	2	2	5	6	0
Fireworks	10	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Harassment	124	10	9	7	11	10	10	11	4	18	7	19	8
Illegal Dump/Litter	8	0	0	2	0	1	1	0	1	0	1	1	1
Indigent	8	0	0	0	5	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	1
LIED Center	119	0	3	20	20	15	6	9	10	4	15	13	4
Lost & Found	58	3	7	3	6	7	3	4	3	3	4	5	10
Medical	290	30	23	31	25	13	23	32	26	33	16	22	16
Miscellaneous	400	35	36	32	50	28	24	24	23	48	23	40	37
Motorist Assist	146	8	13	7	21	13	15	13	7	11	21	12	5
Open Door	41	5	6	3	2	4	4	4	3	1	2	1	6
OWI	29	1	3	4	2	3	3	2	1	6	2	1	1
Parking/Abnd Car	205	36	21	6	17	13	32	14	17	6	15	15	13
Runaway/Missing	97	5	3	17	7	8	3	5	4	6	16	16	7
Scams	87	6	9	6	4	3	8	5	8	6	9	13	10
Security Request	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Sexual Assault	12	1	2	3	0	1	0	2	1	1	1	0	0
Shots Fired	3	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	1	0
Stalking	5	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	1
Stolen Vehicle	9	0	2	1	0	2	0	0	1	1	1	0	1
Suicide	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Suspicious Activity	228	31	17	18	18	22	12	16	14	8	29	25	18
Thefts, Forgeries	165	13	11	16	14	11	9	11	14	10	9	8	39
Traffic Hazard	96	12	13	10	6	8	7	4	3	8	2	11	12
Trespass	46	3	2	5	0	2	1	4	2	12	5	2	8
Warrant	35	5	5	2	5	5	1	3	2	2	1	2	2
Wartburg College	24	0	2	3	6	0	0	1	1	2	3	5	1
Weapons	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	0	1	0
Weather/Utilities	36	2	0	2	1	2	3	2	3	7	6	3	5
Welfare/Em.Message	188	17	13	14	15	21	13	16	11	16	11	23	18

THE WAVERLY POLICE DEPARTMENT

Statistical Comparison Summary:

<u>Subject</u>	<u>F/Y 20-21</u>	<u>F/Y 21-22</u>	<u>F/Y 22-23</u>	<u>F/Y 23-24</u>	<u>F/Y 24-25</u>
Traffic Citations	536	545	709	593	600
Warning Citations	1665	1467	1686	2005	2028
Parking Tickets	532	579	596	505	591
Accidents					
Fatalities	1	1	0	0	0
Injuries	28	25	22	18	33
Property Damage	15	12	19	9	18
All Other	148	140	144	149	155
Total	192	178	185	176	206
Adult Arrests	294	329	328	182	162
Juvenile Referrals	113	101	196	247	80
Animal Complaints	287	260	361	301	248
Escorts	81	97	70	82	79
Alarms	138	124	131	114	115
Vacation Watch	398	149	277	214	206
OWI Arrests	60	70	58	36	28
Public Intoxication Arrests	9	13	15	5	5
Liquor Law Violation Arrests	71	86	73	43	37
Narcotics Law Violation Arrests	100	123	75	31	18
Assault Arrests	47	62	69	56	33
Community Talks (Individuals)	1,442	4,476	3,970	4,723	4,421
Ambulance					1,441

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Uniform Crime Report:

Uniform Crime Reports are those calls for service that were serious enough for our officers to prepare a Uniform Crime Report (UCR). The UCR report is a nation-wide reporting program facilitated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation. The FBI is tasked with collecting, publishing and archiving these crimes. UCR reports are broken down into group A and group B offenses. Generally speaking, Group A offenses are more serious while Group B offenses are less serious or more difficult to classify.

Group A Offenses 2024-2025

**

Code	Name	Reports	Arrests
11A	Forcible Rape	4	1
11B	Forcible Sodomy	1	0
11D	Forcible Fondling	2	0
120	Robbery	0	0
13A	Aggravated Assault	7	12
13B	Simple Assault	45	16
13C	Intimidation	11	5
100	Kidnapping/Abduction	0	0
200A	Arson	0	0
210	Extortion/Blackmail	1	0
220A	Burglary	10	1
23A	Pocket-Picking	0	0
23C	Shoplifting	64	50
23D	Theft from Building	0	0
23F	Theft from Motor Vehicle	4	0
23G	Theft of MV Parts	0	0
23H	Other Larceny	28	1
240A	Motor Vehicle Theft	2	0
250A	Forgery	8	4
26A	False Pretenses	12	0
26B	ATM Fraud	8	5
26C	Impersonation	0	0
26F	Identity Theft	8	0
290	Vandalism	41	7
35A	Drug Violation	19	12
35B	Drug Equipment Violation	10	7
36B	Statutory Rape	0	0
520A	Weapons Violation	5	5

**These offenses are based upon the UCR classifications and not the specific violations of law defined by the State Code of Iowa or the City of Waverly Municipal Code. Therefore, UCR reports are not a representation of all crimes and offenses reported to a police agency. UCR reports not resulting in an arrest may still be an open investigation or cleared through issuance of a warrant, civil compromise, victim declining prosecution, or unfounded report.

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Group B Offenses 2024-2025

**

Code	Name	Reports	Arrests
90A	Bad Checks	0	0
90C	Disorderly Conduct	5	0
90D	Operating While Intoxicated	28	28
90E	Public Intoxication	5	5
90F	Nonviolent Family	0	4
90G	Liquor Violations	2	0
90I	Runaways	0	0
90J	Trespass	1	0
90Z	All Other Offenses	59	24

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Standards of Conduct:

The Waverly Police Department establishes standards of conduct that are consistent with the values and mission of the Department and are expected of all department members. The Waverly Police Department takes seriously all complaints regarding the service provided by the Department and the conduct of its members.

Each personnel complaint shall be classified with one of the following dispositions:

Unfounded - When the investigation discloses that the alleged acts did not occur or did not involve department members. Complaints that are determined to be frivolous will fall within the classification of unfounded.

Exonerated - When the investigation discloses that the alleged act occurred but that the act was justified, lawful and/or proper.

Not sustained - When the investigation discloses that there is insufficient evidence to sustain the complaint or fully exonerate the member.

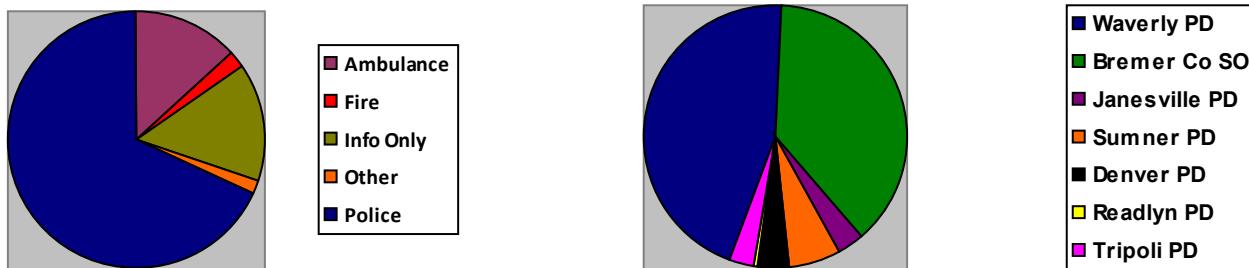
Sustained - When the investigation discloses sufficient evidence to establish that the act occurred and that it constituted misconduct.

Citizen Complaint	Total	0
Unfounded		0
Not Sustained		0

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Reported Calls for Service/Bremer County:

The Bremer-Waverly Law Enforcement Center recorded approximately 23,000 calls through the communications center. Below are the reported calls for Emergency Services within Bremer County. The chart on the left below shows approximately 70% of all calls are to law enforcement agencies.



The chart above right compares the reported calls for Law Enforcement through the Bremer-Waverly Law Enforcement Center and which law enforcement agency responded to those calls. The City of Waverly is the largest city within Bremer County with approximately 42% of the population.

Investigations:

There were eighty-nine (89) cases forwarded to the Investigations Department.

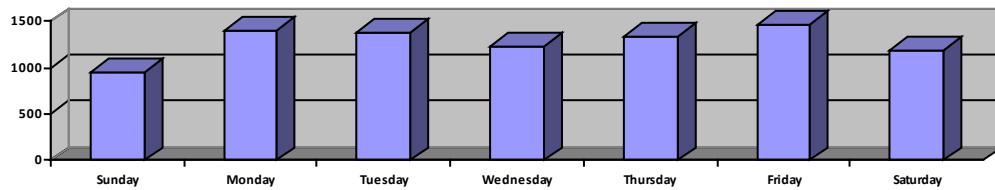
Cases	Cleared	Active	Inactive	Clearance Rate
81	52	12	17	64%

Cleared – Cases closed due to arrest, warrant, or resolved.

Active – Open case with leads to pursue.

Inactive – Open case with all existing leads exhausted.

Reported Calls for Waverly Police Department per Day:



We are proud of the ability of our Department and Officers to handle these demands. The average response time after a call was dispatched was 2 minutes and 3 seconds. It is the goal of the Waverly Police Department to provide a safe community and respond to the needs of the citizens.