

# Blackman-Leoni

## Department of Public Safety



## 2023 Annual Report

## Mission Statement

"The mission of the Blackman-Leoni Township Department of Public Safety is to provide for the safety and welfare of all their citizens, by preserving, protecting, and defending people and property, while respecting the rights and dignity of all persons.

## Code of Ethics

As a sworn Public Safety Officer of the Blackman-Leoni Township Department of Public Safety, my fundamental duty is to serve all citizens, to safeguard lives and property, to protect the innocent against deception, the weak against oppression or intimidation, and the peaceful against violence and disorder, and to respect the Constitutional rights of all persons to liberty, equality, and justice.

I will keep my private life unsullied as an example to all, maintain courageous calm in the face of danger, scorn, or ridicule, develop self-restraint, and be constantly mindful of the welfare of others. Honest in thought and deed in both my personal and official life, I will be exemplary in obeying the laws of the land and the regulations of my department. Whatever I see or hear of a confidential nature, or that is confided to me in my official capacity will be kept secret unless revelation is necessary in the performance of my duties.

I will never act officiously or permit personal feelings, prejudices, animosities, or friendships to influence my decisions. With no compromise for crime and with relentless prosecution of criminals, I will enforce the law courteously and appropriately without fear or favor, malice, or ill will, never employing unnecessary force or violence, and never accepting gratuities.

**Personnel/Hire Date**

Director Scott Grajewski	11/8/95
Deputy Director Christopher Boulter	8/23/03
Deputy Director Darin McIntosh	5/23/09
Sergeant Steven Stowe	5/14/96
Sergeant Richard Gillespie	8/2/00
Sergeant Jan Ganzel	2/28/06
Sergeant James Prus	5/24/05
Sergeant Mike Villarreal	11/1/10
D/Sergeant Robert Shrock	2/19/01
Detective Joseph Merritt	9/28/03
Detective Sam Philipp	2/21/01
Detective Jeremiah Wheeler	2/17/16
S/PSO Paul Long	2/28/92
S/PSO Thomas Brower	8/1/96
S/PSO Bryan French	7/16/01
S/PSO Patrick Boulter	4/15/02
PSO Christopher Pohl	8/1/06
PSO Martin Jordon	10/6/06
PSO Brandon Casler	10/16/06
PSO Kory Torbet	2/8/07

PSO Thomas Bertram	11/1/10
PSO Chad Burdette	2/17/16
PSO Isaac Clelland	2/17/16
PSO Alexander Norris	2/17/16
PSO Ryan Martin	8/5/16
PSO Chandler Fryt	5/15/17
PSO Jason Meyers	1/8/18
PSO Blake Hudson	1/15/18
PSO Britanee Owen	7/30/18
PSO Bill Regnier	6/2/19
PSO David Grumhaus	6/2/19
PSO Jason Jahn	11/30/20
PSO Rebecca Luce	2/8/21
PSO Thomas Porter	5/4/21
PSO Jeremy Harrell	6/7/21
PSO Ryan Tursich	2/7/22
PSO Brandon Bradley	6/21/22
PSO Josh Howard	11/14/22
PSO Patrick Rose	6/26/23
PSO Tyler Mutter	7/3/23
PS Clerk Robin Holda	

## **Administration**

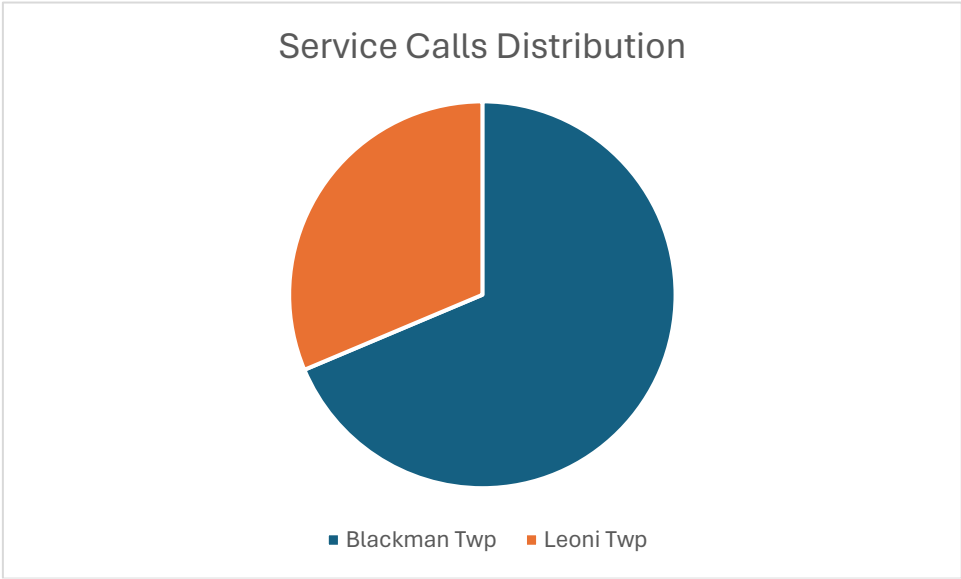
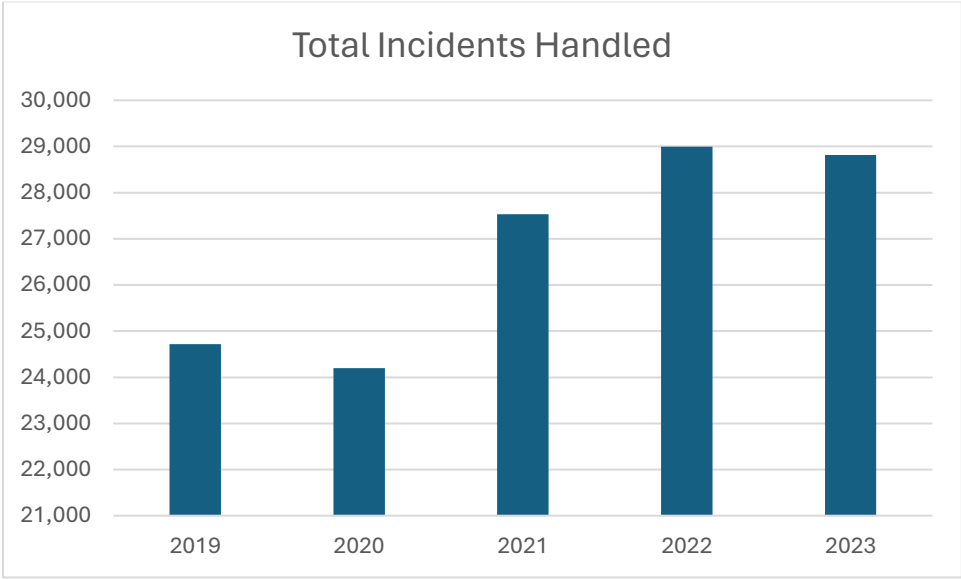
The Director of Public Safety is Scott J. Grajewski. Deputy Director Darin R. McIntosh is in-charge of the Operations/Patrol Division and Deputy Director Christopher R. Boulter is in-charge of the Support Services Division.



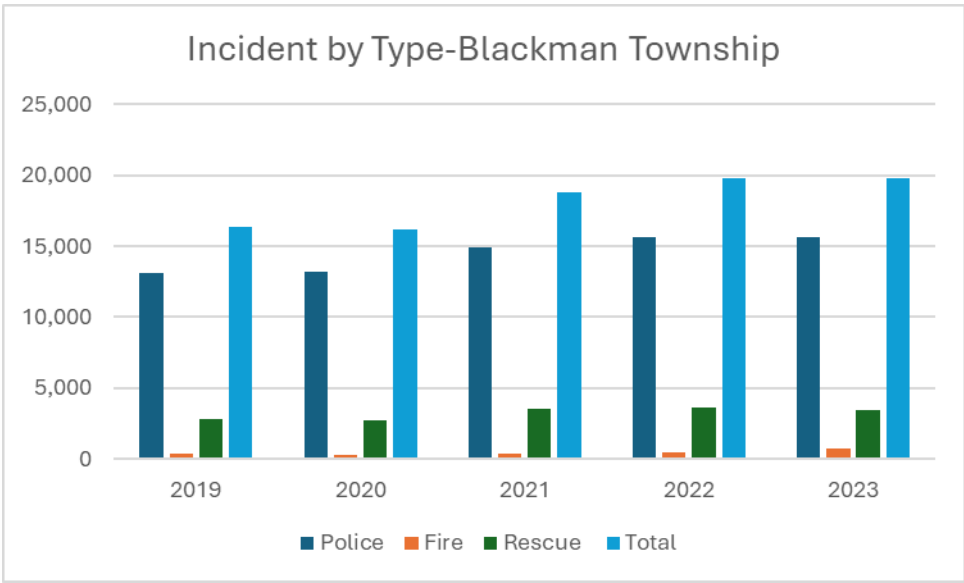


### **Operations/Patrol Division**

The Operations/Patrol Division consists of public safety officers, K-9 officers, and shift supervisors, who provide 24/7 public safety services to the 39,489 residents of Blackman and Leoni Townships, utilizing 27-Public Safety Officers and 4-Sergeants. The headquarters building on West Parnall Road in Blackman Township and the 5<sup>th</sup> Street Station in Leoni Township are staffed 24-hours per day, to provide an immediate response to medical emergencies and fire suppression/extrication incidents. In 2023, there were 28,814 incidents handled by the Department of Public Safety. The operations division issued 1.927 traffic citations in 2023.

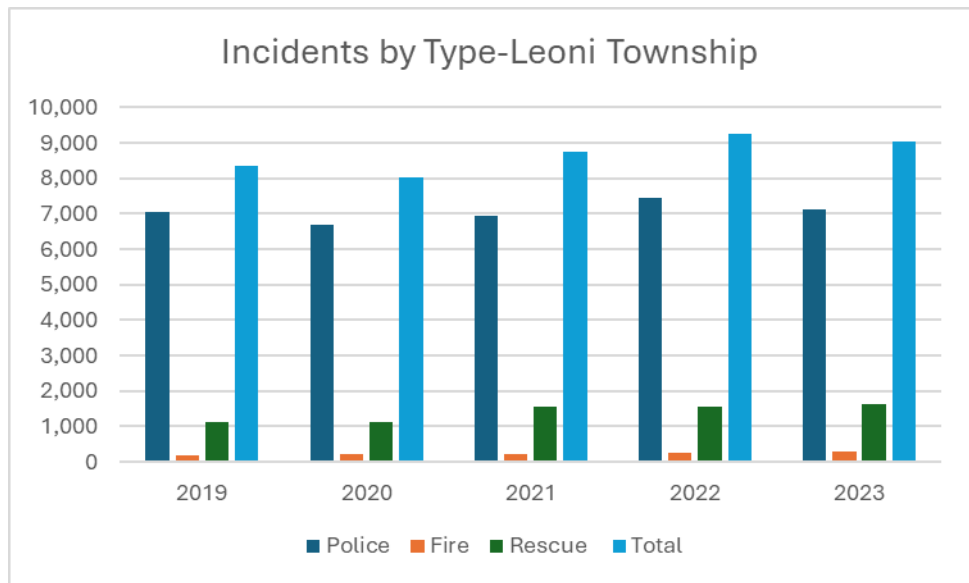


<b>Blackman Township - Incidents by Year</b>					
	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2023</b>
<b>Police</b>	13,136	13,157	14,894	15,661	15,634
<b>Fire</b>	413	295	376	432	694
<b>Rescue</b>	2,841	2,708	3,515	3,656	3,469
<b>Total</b>	16,390	16,160	18,785	19,749	19,797





<b>Leoni Township -Incidents by Year</b>					
	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2023</b>
<b>Police</b>	7,034	6,691	6,934	7,431	7,118
<b>Fire</b>	189	209	241	255	286
<b>Rescue</b>	1,108	1,141	1,571	1,562	1,614
<b>Total</b>	8,331	8,041	8,746	9,248	9,018



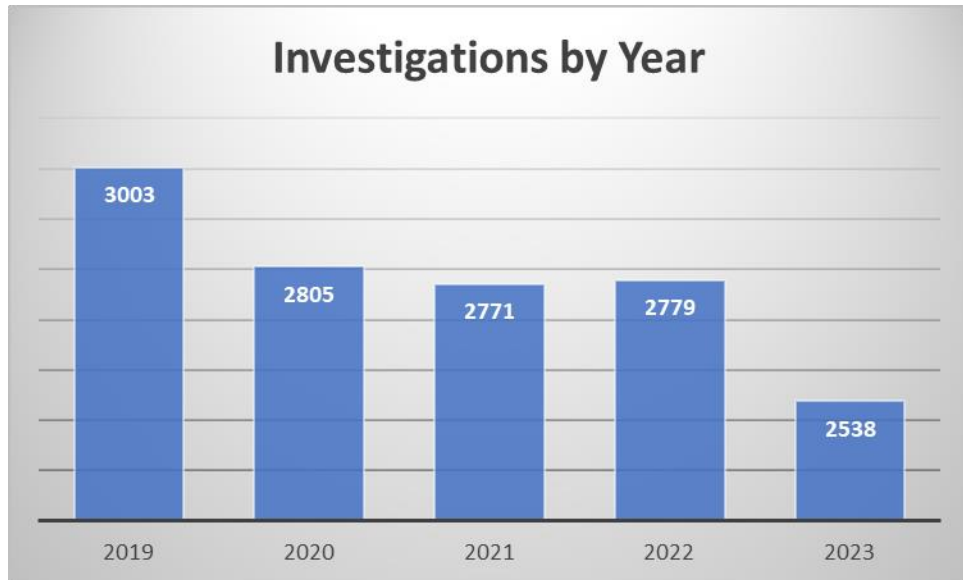
<b>Service Calls-As Received Through Central Dispatch</b>			
Type	Number	Type	Number
Abandoned Vehicle	185	Accidents-No Injuries	1,007
Accidents-With Injuries	176	Accidents-Private Prop.	267
Alarms	914	Animal Complaints	326
Arson	3	Assault	172
Bomb Threats	0	Breaking and Entering	140
Concealed Weapon	15	Child Abuse/Neglect	48
Citizen Assist	54	Civil Dispute	103
Conservation	134	Criminal Sexual Conduct	72
Disorderly	1,953	Domestic	1,381
Embezzlement	12	Field Contact	363
Fire	980	Forgery/Counterfeiting	12
Found Property	105	Fraud	232
Assist-Other Agency	836	Health and Safety	11
Hit and Run Accidents	216	Indecent Exposure	10
Homicide	1	Inspections-Vehicles	98
Inspections-Property	754	Kidnapping	2
Larceny	900	Liquor Violations	2
Loitering	1	Loud Music	169
MDOP	192	Minors/Juveniles	27
Missing Person	39	Motorist Assist	353
Natural Death	47	Obstructing Police	79
Operating While Intoxicated	86	Ordinance Violation	162
Overdose	40	Parking Complaints	66
Peace Officer	344	Personal Welfare Check	2,355
Rescue	5,083	Robbery	8
Runaway	72	Sex Offense	0
Shooting	3	Shots Fired	90
Stolen Property	46	Suicide and Attempts	90
Suspicious Situation	936	Threats	288
Traffic Offenses	4,099	Traffic Hazard	291
Trespassing	43	Stolen Vehicle	119
Controlled Substance	124	Walk-Away	11
Warrant Arrest	202	Weapons	49

## **Investigative Division**

The investigative division is staffed by 4-Detectives and 1-Detective Sergeant. This division investigates major crimes and completes follow-up on any open case. The investigative division reviewed and/or investigated a total of 2,538 cases in 2023. The investigative division is also a member of the Jackson County Major Crime’s Task Force and the Sexual Assault Task Force. The Jackson County Major Crime’s Task Force is a cooperative team with members from the Blackman-Leoni Township Department of Public Safety, the Jackson County Sheriff’s Department, the Jackson Police Department, and the Michigan State Police, who investigate high-profile criminal complaints in Jackson County. The Sexual Assault Task Force is a cooperative team in coordination with the Michigan Attorney General’s Office and the Ingham County Sheriff’s Department. This task force is a regional team that investigates cold-case sexual assaults.

The investigative division also puts on presentations to local businesses and financial institutions on personal safety, robbery response and how to assist investigators, as a witness, during criminal incidents.

<b>Investigations - Comparison by Year</b>				
2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
3,003	2,805	2,771	2,779	2,538



### **K-9 Division**

The K-9 division is comprised of two K-9 handlers, Officer Chandler Fryt and Officer Patrick Boulter, along with K-9 Dani and K-9 Pyro. The two K-9 Teams are assigned to opposite nightshifts, so that a K-9 Team is on duty every evening from 6 p.m. to 6 a.m. Officer Fryt and Officer Boulter spend an enormous amount of time training, beyond what is required by the Department or required standards. The K-9 division logged over 504 hours of training in 2023 and over 228 deployments.



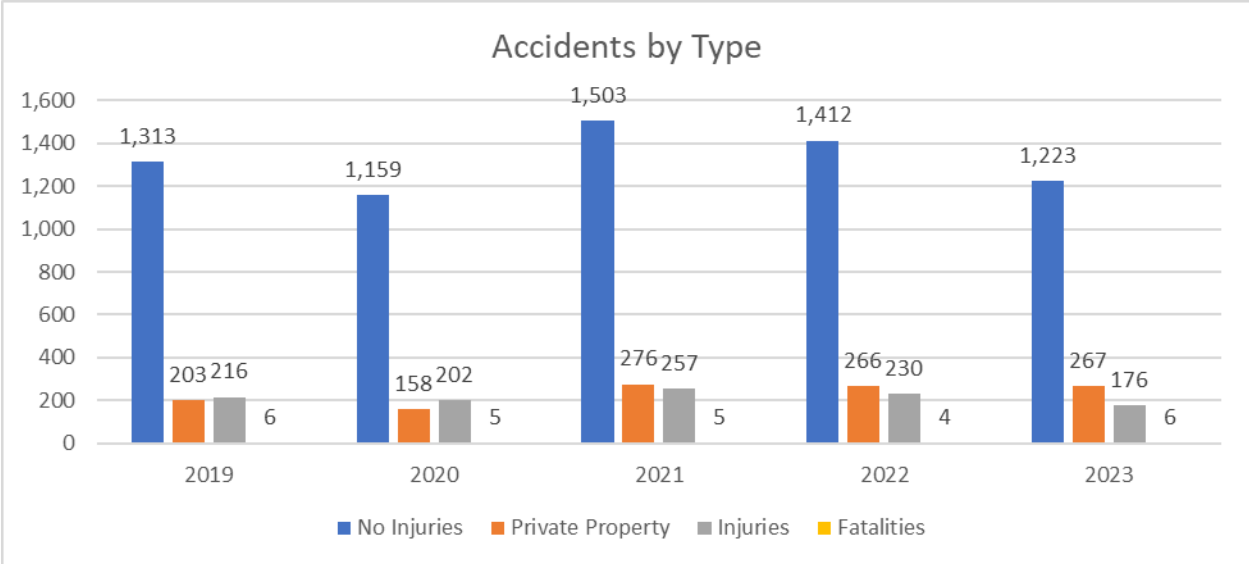
## **Traffic Crash Reconstruction Team**

The Blackman-Leoni Township Department of Public Safety Traffic Crash Reconstruction Team is comprised of several officers, with varied levels of training. The department currently has four trained investigators who have been trained in Accident Reconstruction and have investigators assigned to the Jackson County Accident Investigation Team, which investigates serious or fatal accidents within Jackson County. This team consists of members from the Blackman-Leoni Township Department of Public Safety, the Jackson County Sheriff's Department, and the Michigan State Police.

Of the 1,666 traffic crashes investigated in 2023, (6) fatalities were reported. Team members investigated numerous traffic crashes that resulted in serious injuries, which had the possibility of resulting in a fatality.

Traffic Crashes by Type-2023			
Private Property	No Injuries	Injuries	Fatalities
267	1,223	176	6

<b>Accident Type</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2023</b>
Private Property	203	158	276	266	267
No Injuries	1,313	1,159	1,503	1,412	1,223
Injuries	216	202	257	230	176
Fatalities	6	5	5	4	6



**Fire Inspections/Investigation Division**

The Blackman-Leoni Township Department of Public Safety has two state certified fire inspectors and three fire investigators, who have either

received their training through the Michigan State Police or the National Fire Academy. This division is headed by the Deputy Director of Public Safety-Operations and is responsible for the enforcement of the National Fire Code, Building Plan Review, Commercial and Industrial Fire Inspections and the determination of cause and origin at all structure fires. This division completes numerous continuing educational training classes on a yearly basis.

### **Records Division**

The records division consists of one full-time clerk. The records division maintains the criminal records databases, conducts local background checks, manages requests for information from the public, by telephone and at the service counter and answers the overflow telephone calls to the Department.

### **School Resource Officers**

The Blackman Township Board of Trustees and the Leoni Township Board of Trustees have both made significant investments in trying to provide a safer environment at the three school districts in our two townships. Officer Blake Hudson is assigned full-time to the Northwest School District in Blackman Township, Officer Jeremy Harrell is assigned full-time to the East Jackson School District and Officer Thomas Porter is assigned full-time to the Michigan Center School District, which are both in Leoni Township. School safety is important to both communities, and we are fortunate to be afforded these three positions to accomplish that goal.



## **Marijuana Compliance Unit**

The Marijuana Compliance Unit is comprised of Sergeant Steve Stowe, Officer Kory Torbet and Officer Chris Pohl. Their responsibilities include enforcing Leoni Township's Marijuana Ordinances, conducting background checks on applicants and employees, processing application paperwork, following up on complaints regarding medical marijuana facilities, providing visible patrol in and around these facilities and anything else related to the Marijuana Ordinance or the facilities covered by this ordinance. This unit works closely with the Michigan State Police and the Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs. The goal of these positions is to seek a balance between providing a safe environment for those patients receiving their medical marijuana and protecting the quality-of-life aspects of the residents and visitors of/to Leoni Township.



## **Jackson County Violent Crime Unit**

A public safety officer is assigned to the Jackson County Violent Crime Unit. This unit is made up of officers from the Blackman-Leoni Department of Public Safety and the Jackson Police Department. The mission of this unit is to reduce violent crime in Jackson County, specifically targeting gang and gun violence and making the streets of Jackson County a safer place to live, work and visit.

## **Regional Sexual Assault Kit Initiative Task Force**

Detective Joe Merritt is assigned to the Ingham County/Jackson County Sexual Assault Kit Initiative Task Force. This unit investigates sexual assault cases where a sexual assault kit was obtained, but the case has not been solved and/or needs further investigation. This unit has and will make Blackman Township, Leoni Township, Jackson County, and the Mid-Michigan Region a safer place to live, work and visit.

## **Special Response Team**

Four Blackman-Leoni Public Safety Officers are members of the Jackson County Special Response Team. This team is a cooperative effort between the Jackson County Sheriff's Department, the Jackson Police Department and the Blackman-Leoni Department of Public Safety. This team responds to a variety of situations, specializing in critical incident management, barricaded gunmen, hostage rescue and high-risk warrant service.



## Training

The Blackman-Leoni Township Department of Public Safety Officers have all been certified by the State of Michigan, as a police officer, Firefighter II and to a minimum level of Medical First Responder, but additional training is fundamental in providing the best public safety services to the residents of Blackman and Leoni Townships. The department completed 3,132 hours of additional training in 2023.



## Awards

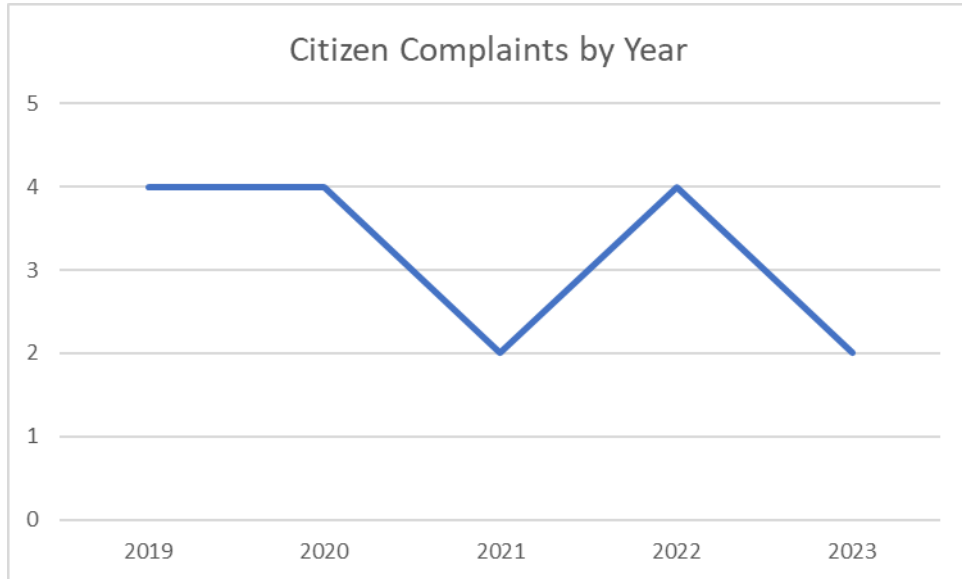
The 2023 Officer of the Year is Officer Rebecca Luce. Officer Luce was nominated by her co-workers, who recognized that she is an extremely diligent worker, and she puts the safety of the community and his fellow officers as his number one priority. Officer Luce demonstrates a strong work ethic and strives to bring her cases to successful closure. We are proud to have Officer Luce as our 2023 Officer of the Year.

## Citizen Complaints

The department takes citizen complaints seriously and does a thorough investigation into the complaints. Assisting the department in these investigations is the use of in-car video cameras and body worn cameras. In 2023, the department received two citizen complaints, which had the following dispositions:

<b>Citizen Complaint Comparison by Year</b>					
Year	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Total	4	4	2	4	2
Sustained	1	0	1	1	0
Not Sustained	0	4	0	0	0
Exonerated	0	0	0	0	0
Unfounded	3	0	1	3	2

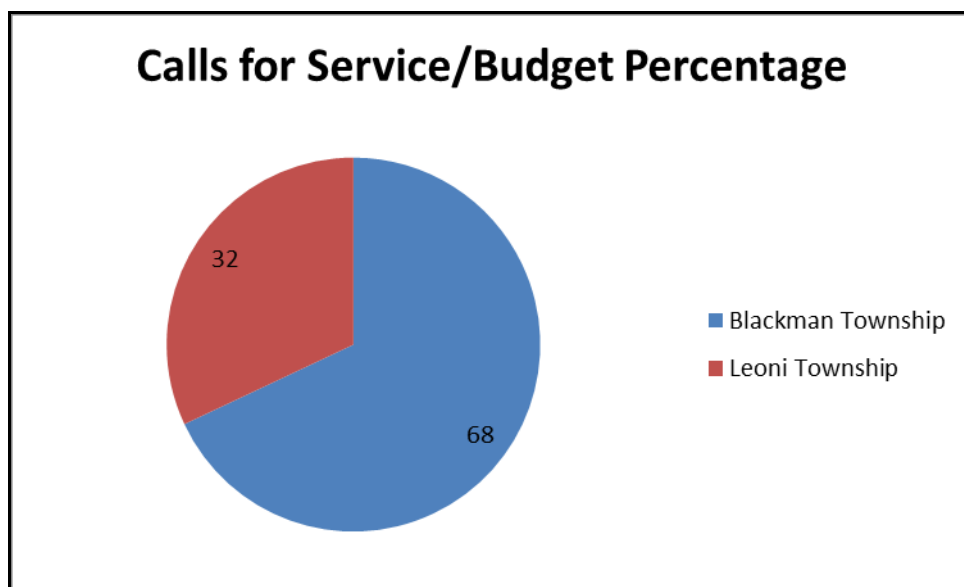
In 2023, the Department received, on average, (1) citizen’s complaint for every 14,407 contacts that officers made with the public, with both being unfounded complaints out of 28,814 contacts.



### **Funding**

The Department of Public Safety is funded through numerous revenue sources, including a Public Safety Millage from Blackman Township residents, a Public Safety Millage from Leoni Township residents and the General Funds of both Blackman Township and Leoni Township. The public safety budget for 2023 was \$8,014,253.00. The adopted 2024 public safety budget is \$8,192,724, which is a .5% increase from 2023. The budget fluctuates on a yearly basis, depending on personnel costs and scheduled equipment replacement. The .5% increase is attributed to increased personnel costs in 2024.

The percentage of the public safety budget that is paid for by each Township has a direct relationship to the historical percentage of service calls in each Township. The current percentage breakdown is approximately 68% of the budget is paid for by Blackman Township and approximately 32% of the budget is paid for by Leoni Township.



### **Social Media**

The Blackman-Leoni Township Department of Public Safety, to partner with the community to accomplish its mission, utilizes social media and direct correspondence with citizens daily. The Public Safety Facebook Page is updated daily, and a daily activity report is sent to approximately 750 people by email and is posted on both the Facebook page and the Township's website.



## Community Involvement

The Blackman-Leoni Township Department of Public Safety is highly active in community events, and is proud to be involved in the following:

- Shop with a Hero Event-100+ Students
- Jackson Christmas Parade
- Blackman Township Halloween Open House
- Leoni Township Halloween Open House
- Toys for Tots
- Homecoming Parades-Northwest, East Jackson, Michigan Center
- Michigan Center Christmas Parade



## Public Safety Explorers

The Blackman-Leoni Township Department of Public Safety Explorer Unit is comprised of (10) youth participants who have an interest in public safety as a future profession. Explorers attend meetings and trainings, twice per month, where they receive instruction on public safety topics, policies and procedures and participate in job shadowing, both on the law enforcement and fire service portions of a public safety officer's job. The goal of this program is to allow youth interested in a public safety career to job shadow, learn and hopefully serve as a source of future public safety employees.







### **Apparatus/Vehicle Fleet**

The current fire apparatus fleet is as follows:

- 2022 Rosenbauer Tower/Ladder 103 ft. (Tower 1)
- 1990 Pierce 65 ft. Tele-Squirt (Ladder 2)
- 2017 Rosenbauer Pumper/Tanker (Engine 1)
- 2017 Rosenbauer Pumper/Tanker (Engine 2)
- 2018 Chevy Suburban 4x4 (Rescue 1)
- 2018 Chevy Suburban 4x4 (Rescue 2)
- 2017 Chevy 1-Ton-4x4-Brush Truck (Truck 1)
- 2017 Chevy 1-Ton-4x4-Brush Truck (Truck 2)

The current vehicle fleet is as follows:

- 18-Dodge Durango Police Pursuit Vehicles
- 7-Dodge Charger Police Pursuit Vehicles

## Insurance Services Office Fire Classification

In 2021, both Blackman Township and Leoni Township had an ISO classification of 5/5Y. A split classification indicates the difference between parts of the community that have municipal water, versus those that do not. This relates to the department's firefighting capabilities, as areas serviced by fire hydrants provide an uninterrupted supply of water for fire suppression, where non-hydrant areas do not.

Recent investments by both the Blackman Township Board and the Leoni Township Board in new, updated equipment and additional staffing have continued to have a positive effect on our ISO classification. A new ISO survey will be conducted in 2024.

	<u>Current Classification</u>	<u>Prior to 2019</u>
<b>Blackman Township</b>	<b>5/5Y</b>	<b>7/9</b>
<b>Leoni Township</b>	<b>5/5Y</b>	<b>6/9</b>



## ISO Public Protection Classifications

National ISO Fire Rating Distribution

