

Blackman-Leoni

Department of Public Safety



2024 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 Sam Philipp	2/21/01
Detective Jeremiah Wheeler	2/17/16
S/PSO Paul Long	2/28/92
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 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 Patrick Rose	6/26/23
PSO Tyler Mutter	7/3/23
PSO Alexis Soltow	1/15/24
PSO Evan Dean	3/11/24
PSO Kolton Grace	4/9/24
PSO Rebekah Bouman	8/26/24
PSO Aly Ackley	11/14/24

PS Clerk Robin Holda

Retired (2024) – Joseph Merritt, Thomas Brower, Thomas Bertram

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.

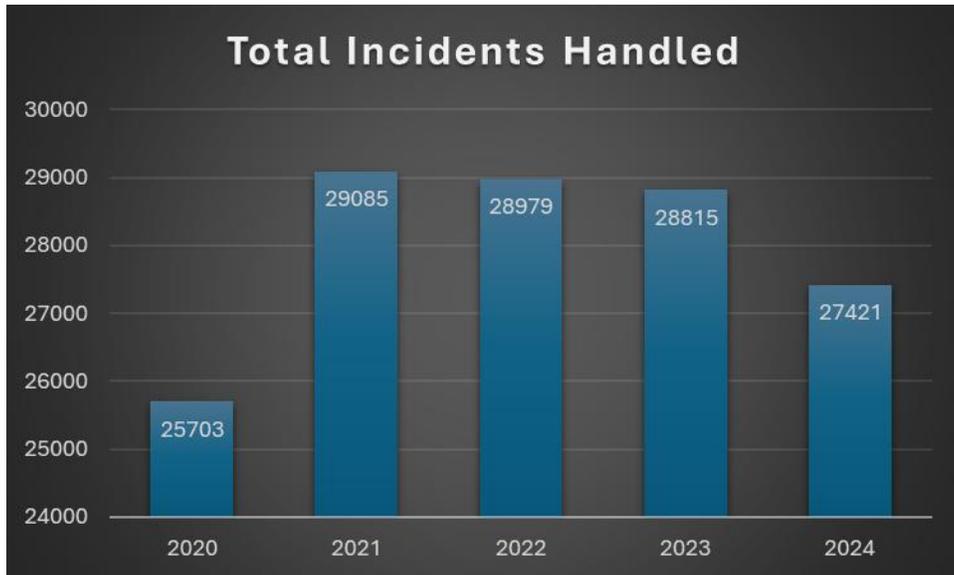




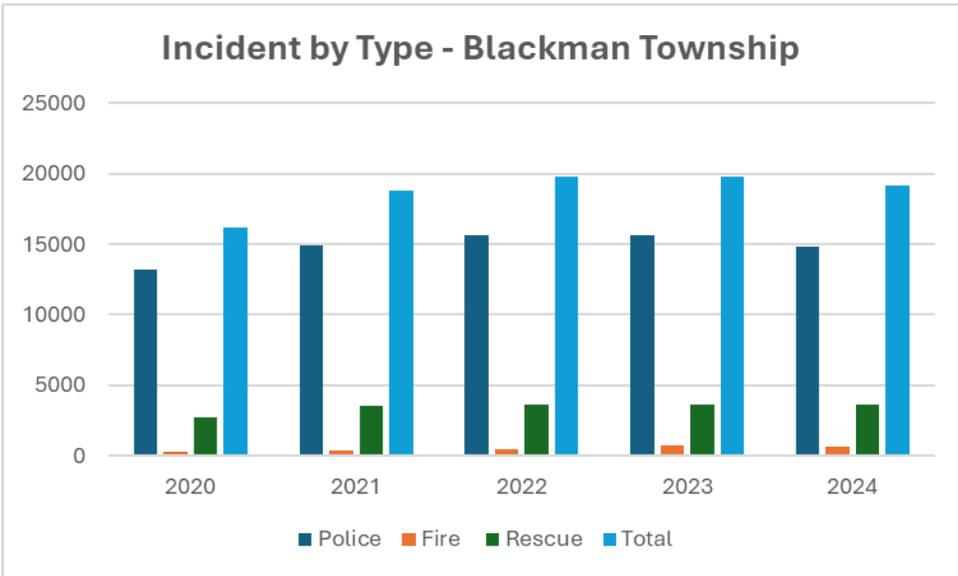
Operations/Patrol Division

The Operations/Patrol Division consists of public safety officers, traffic enforcement officer, K-9 officers, and shift supervisors, who provide 24/7 public safety services to the 39,489 residents of Blackman and Leoni Townships, utilizing 32-Public Safety Officers and 4-Sergeants. The headquarters building on West Parnall Road in Blackman Township and the 5th 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 2024, there were 27,421 incidents

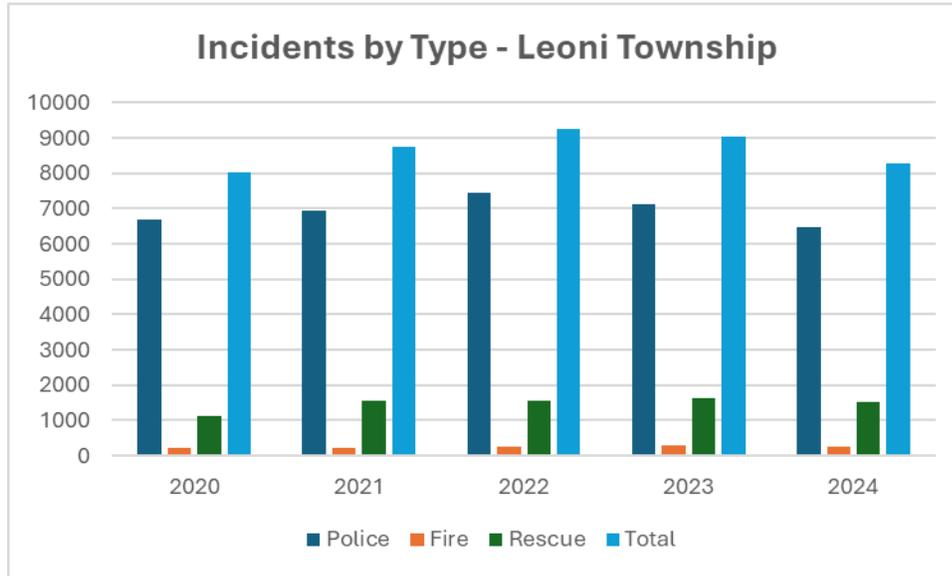
handled by the Department of Public Safety. The operations division issued 1,447 violation citations in 2024.



Blackman Township - Incidents by Year					
	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Police	13,157	14,894	15,661	15,634	14,856
Fire	295	376	432	694	657
Rescue	2,708	3,515	3,656	3,469	3,645
Total	16,160	18,785	19,749	19,797	19,158



Leoni Township -Incidents by Year					
	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Police	6,691	6,934	7,431	7,119	6,460
Fire	209	241	255	286	263
Rescue	1,141	1,571	1,562	1,614	1,540
Total	8,041	8,746	9,248	9,019	8,263



Service Calls-As Received Through Central Dispatch			
Type	Number	Type	Number
Abandoned Vehicle	183	Accidents-No Injuries	1,102
Accidents-With Injuries	173	Accidents-Private Prop.	280
Alarms	988	Animal Complaints	341
Arson	2	Assault	143
Bomb Threats	0	Breaking and Entering	103
Concealed Weapon	9	Child Abuse/Neglect	38
Citizen Assist	41	Civil Dispute	110
Conservation	126	Criminal Sexual Conduct	66
Disorderly	1,994	Domestic	1,198
Embezzlement	11	Field Contact	263
Fire	920	Forgery/Counterfeiting	8
Found Property	108	Fraud	173

Service Calls-As Received Through Central Dispatch			
Assist-Other Agency	860	Health and Safety	4
Hit and Run Accidents	177	Indecent Exposure	8
Homicide	3	Inspections-Vehicles	77
Inspections-Property	1355	Kidnapping	2
Larceny	1041	Liquor Violations	0
Loitering	0	Loud Music	215
MDOP	175	Minors/Juveniles	15
Missing Person	38	Motorist Assist	327
Natural Death	48	Obstructing Police	74
Operating While Intoxicated	82	Ordinance Violation	173
Overdose	40	Parking Complaints	66
Peace Officer	289	Personal Welfare Check	2,612
Rescue	6,141	Robbery	5
Runaway	53	Sex Offense	3
Shooting	8	Shots Fired	74
Stolen Property	40	Suicide and Attempts	70
Suspicious Situation	957	Threats	283
Traffic Offenses	2,499	Traffic Hazard	166
Trespassing	28	Stolen Vehicle	109
Controlled Substance	117	Walk-Away	8
Warrant Arrest	295	Weapons	36

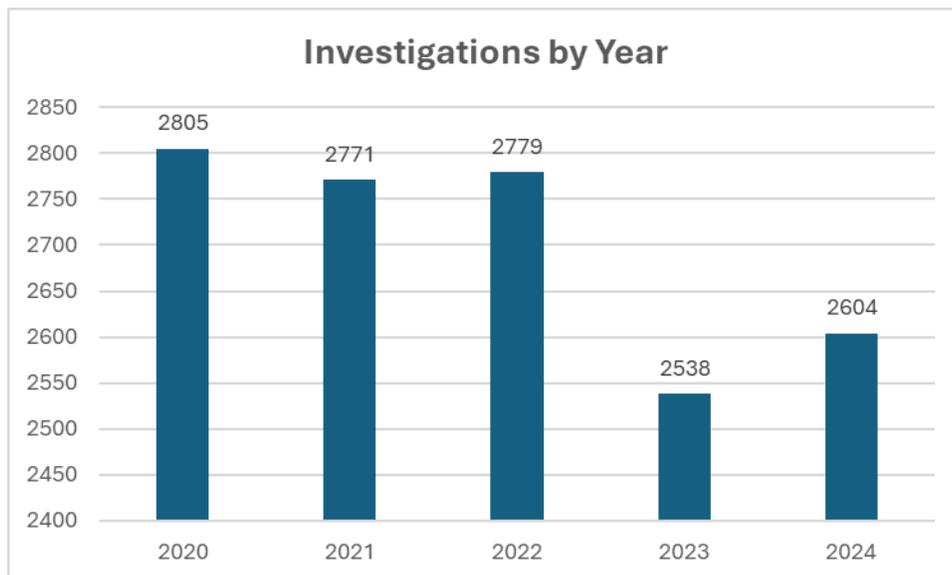
Investigative Division

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 2,604 cases in 2024. 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.

Investigations - Comparison by Year				
2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
2,805	2,771	2,779	2,538	2,604



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 night shifts, 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 four hundred hours of training in 2024 and over 137 deployments.



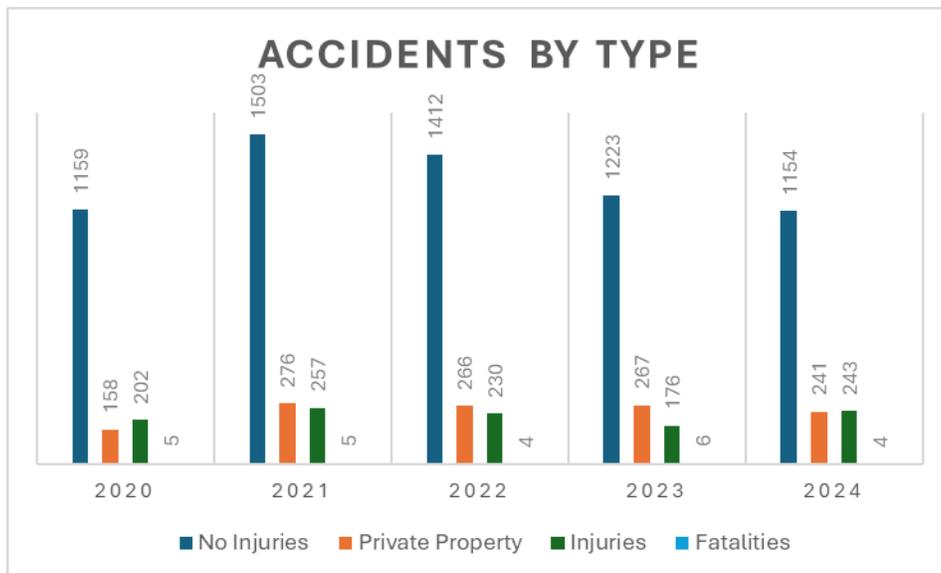
Traffic Crash Reconstruction Team

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 1,638 traffic crashes investigated in 2024, (4) 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-2024			
Private Property	No Injuries	Injuries	Fatalities
241	1,154	243	4

Accident Type	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Private Property	158	276	266	267	241
No Injuries	1,159	1,503	1,412	1,223	1,154
Injuries	202	257	230	176	243
Fatalities	5	5	4	6	4





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 Patrick Rose 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.

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. This assignment ended in August 2024.

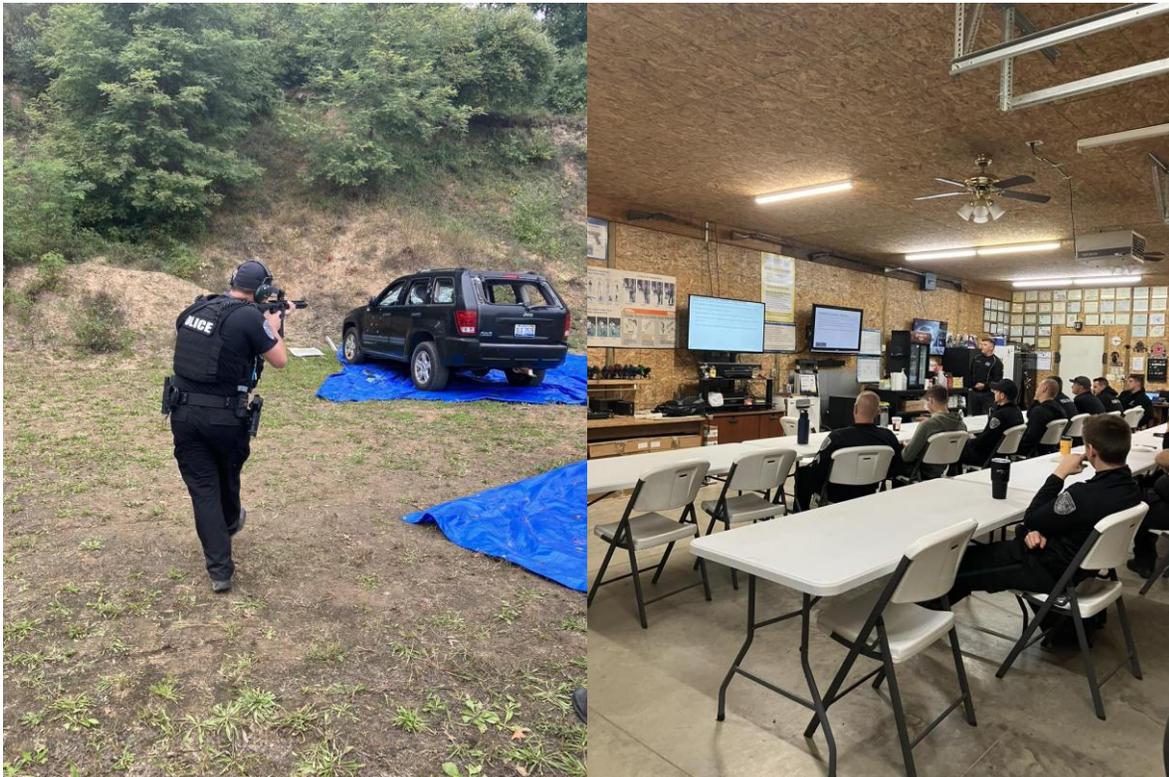
Special Response Team

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 more than 3,100 hours of additional training in 2024.





Awards

The 2024 Officer of the Year will be selected in the month of February. This Officer is nominated by their co-workers, who recognize the commitment of an extremely diligent worker, who puts the safety of the community and their fellow officers as the number one priority. The Officer that is decided on is one who demonstrates a strong work ethic and strives to bring cases to successful closure. We are pleased to have department peers choose the 2024 Officer of the Year.

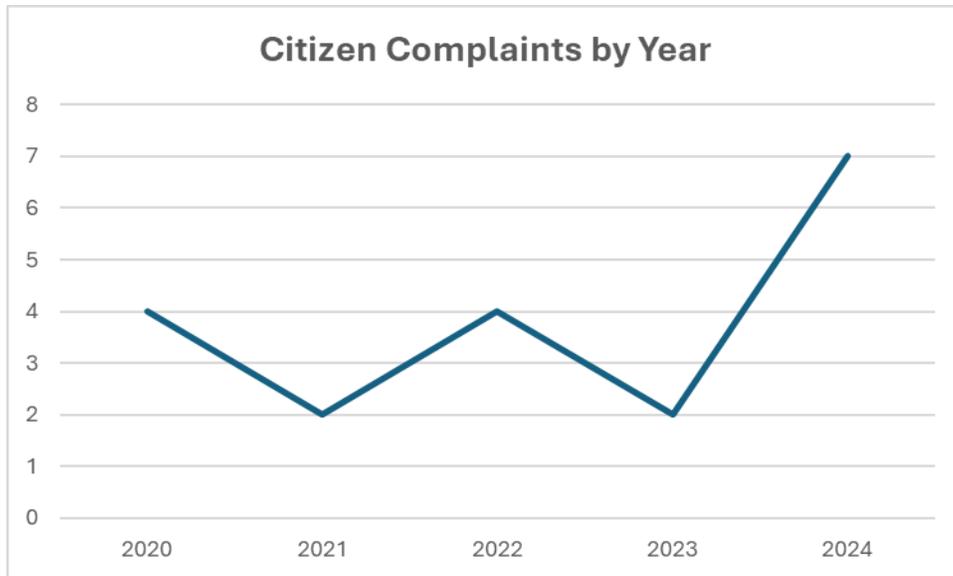
Citizen Complaints

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 2024, the department received seven citizen complaints, which had the following dispositions:

Citizen Complaint Comparison by Year					
Year	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Total	4	2	4	2	7
Sustained	0	1	1	0	0
Not Sustained	4	0	0	0	1
Exonerated	0	0	0	0	2
Unfounded	0	1	3	2	4

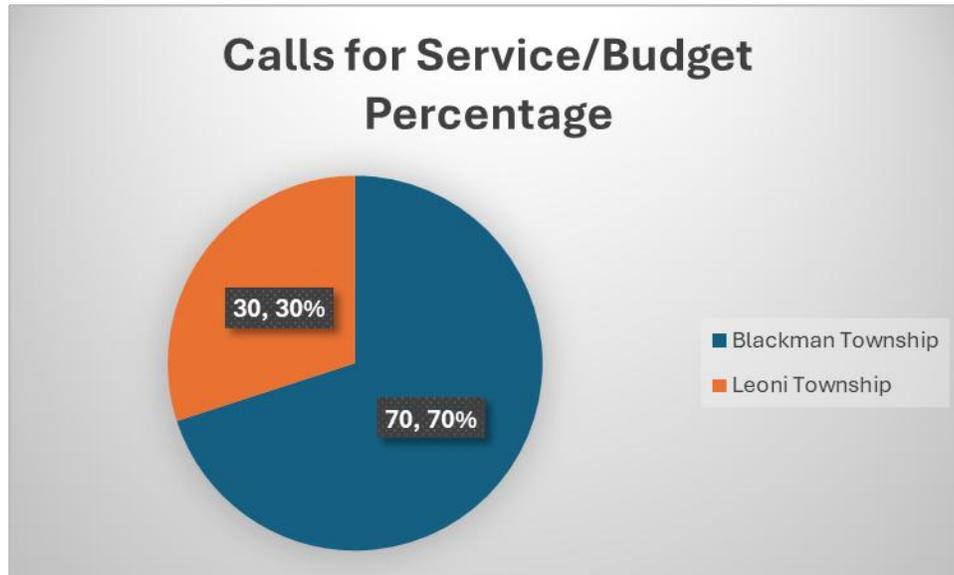
In 2024, the Department received, on average, (1) citizen’s complaint for every 3,917 contacts that officers made with the public, with all complaints to be unsubstantiated or unfounded complaints out of 27,421 contacts.



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 2024 was \$8,783,143.68. The adopted 2025 public safety budget is \$8,578,827, which is a 1% decrease from 2024. The budget fluctuates on a yearly basis, depending on personnel costs and scheduled equipment replacement.

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 often updated daily, to include recent events, critical information, lost/found animals, and an occasional message with humor. The 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 (NW, EJ, & MC Schools)
- 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. In November of 2024, Blackman-Leoni DPS hired their first Public Safety Explorer ever – Aly Ackley.





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)
- 2023 Chevy Tahoe 4x4 (Rescue 1)
- 2024 Chevy Tahoe 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
- 6-Dodge Charger Police Pursuit Vehicles

Insurance Services Office Fire Classification

In 2024, 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 was conducted in 2024 providing the same classification as 2021

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



ISO Public Protection Classifications

Countrywide

