Let's Rewind 2022

The North Liberty Police Department Year End Report

Featuring

Chief Diane Venenga

Lieutenant Tyson Landsgard

Sergeant Creighton Regenwether
Sergeant Rueben Ross
Sergeant Mitch Seymour
Sergeant Chris Shine

Investigator Travis Clubb
Investigator Bryan Davis
Investigator Casey Wood

Officer Spence Madole
Officer Jordan Gallagher
Officer Chuck Tygart
Officer Rhonda Hayes
Officer Ben Campbell and Partner Falco
Officer Ryan Rockafellow
Officer Juan Santiago
Officer Rick Vazquez
Officer Bruce Sexton
Officer Joel Miller
Officer Scott Sammons
Officer Andy Jennings
Officer Eric Kapfer
Officer Justin Jacobi
Officer Liz Monroe

Adminstrative Assistant/Records Supervisor Alisha Ruffcorn
Records/Evidence Clerk Lauryn Rich

Chief's Message

In 2022, the classification of COVID changed and restrictions were gradually lifted which meant we were able to hold in-person meetings, trainings and community events. COVID still had an impact on the department when responding to calls, as well as individuals and families being sick. I also believe COVID still had an impact on the crime rate in North Liberty. We only had a slight increase in calls for service (by 140), where in years past it was generally over 1000. Other categories we track were also comparable to the numbers posted in 2021 and will be explained further in the tables and pages to follow. When reviewing these numbers, I anticipate that North Liberty will continue to be listed as one of the top 20 places to live in Iowa.
(NL #13 www.safewise.com).

Firsts

- The department celebrated several firsts in 2022. Each item below is an example of both how far this department has come and our commitment to continuing to move forward.
- We celebrated our first retirement when Juan Santiago retired after 15 years of service.
- We were the first agency in Iowa to get an InVeris Virtual Reality Training simulator. This is a decision making and force on force device that allows us to work on two officer responses, de-escalation skills, and duty to intervene scenarios. Devices such as this are the future of law enforcement training, and we are very excited for this opportunity.
- Officer Joel Miller became the first North Liberty officer to hold the title of Commander for the Johnson County Metro Bomb Team.
- Officer Andrew Jennings retired from the Johnson County metro dive team after 10 years being with the team.
- We purchased our first Trek E-bike for bicycle patrol.
- The mandatory process of migrating our Uniform Crime Reporting data from the State's antiquated and obsolete server to their iCrime site was completed by our software vendor. This format provides a more efficient snapshot of reported crimes not only to the state, but also the FBI.
- We became Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) affiliated. This means we will be receiving and investigating crimes against children in North Liberty and the surrounding area. This affiliation will also increase funding opportunities for training and technology for these investigations.
- We completed year one of a two-year study on traffic stop data. An outside researcher reviewed our stops to see if there is disproportionate number of minority contacts and the specific outcomes.
- The department paired up with Coralville Police, Johnson County Sheriff's Office, and CommUnity to hire a mental health liaison. Kieonna Pope is housed at our station and has been responding to crisis calls and performing follow up for the three agencies. This position has been a great addition not only for us, but our community members.
- At the beginning of the year, we hired two veteran officers when Rhonda Hayes and Jordan Gallagher joined our ranks. This was a new adventure and partnership with the officers' Union to allow lateral transfers. They have both been a wonderful addition to our NLPD staff.

Awards

- Officers Andy Jennings and Justin Jacobi received Life Saving awards for successfully using CPR and an AED at a cardiac event call.
- Officer Liz Monroe was nominated and selected as the 2022 Officer of the Year

Community Outreach

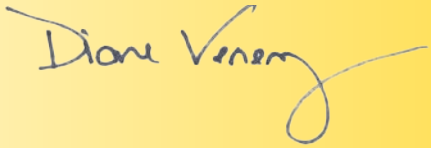
- Our Community Service Officer, Bryan Davis, was invited and attended several community events throughout the year.
- We hosted our second mini police academy for area high school students.
- Officers participated in the Summer Send-Off kickball tournament.
- Officer Madole once again put together Thanksgiving meals for local families. Z's Catering prepared 35 meals for families and individuals who expressed interest in the program via the pantry and schools.
- City staff, department staff, and members of the community came together to provide gifts to eight families for Christmas. We also hosted a pizza party for the families who were able to participate.

Training

Training continues to be a high priority for this department, and we strive to find and send officers to the best training that is available.

- Attended the base State ongoing training requirements.
- All officers completed the Active Bystandership for Law Enforcement (ABLE) that was formulated from Georgetown University. During this session, two in-house instructors covered mental health and the well-being of staff. https://www.law.georgetown.edu/cics/able/
- Officer Rick Vazquez became a certified firearms instructor for the department. This role consists of extensive training at the police academy, so we are pleased that we continue to have officers interested in taking on this added responsibility.

In conclusion, 2022 has been another productive year for this department and I take great pride in being North Liberty's Police Chief. Across the state, agencies have had a difficult time recruiting and retaining officers while our department has remained strong. The department appreciates the support that has been shown to our members from our city leaders, business and community leaders, and residents. I am proud to work with the talented members of this department who continue to provide dedication, professionalism, and selfless service to our community. We are looking forward to having a safe and productive 2023.



North Liberty Quick Facts

Estimated Population: 21,390

Size of the town: 9.12 Miles

Breakdown of the population by Age

Under 5	9.1%
Under 18	31.9%
Between 18 and 64	52.4%
65 and Over	6.6%

2022 Government

Chris Hoffman	Mayor
Ashley Bermel	Councilor
RaQuishia Harrington	Councilor
Erek Sittig	Councilor
Brent Smith	Councilor
Brian Wayson	Councilor
Ryan Heiar	City Administrator

2022 City Projects

Work began on the new City Hall building located next to the police station-In Progress
The first phase of the Dubuque Street rebuild and realignment-Completed
Connection of Jones Blvd from Penn to 240th-Completed
Ranshaw way between Zeller and Hawkeye update-Completed
Work began on the University of Iowa Hospital-In Progress

Who we are as a Department

Our Mission Statement

Improve the quality of life in North Liberty by enhancing public safety through cooperative partnerships with our evolving community. We are responsible for protecting life and property, enforcing laws, and taking appropriate actions to deter crime and disorder. We will inspire the public's trust and protect the Constitution Rights of all citizens.

Our Values

We take responsibility for the efficient, effective, innovative, and proactive approaches to meeting the demands of our crime prevention and law enforcement services. We remain dedicated to service and are committed to striving for excellence, focusing on the following core values in our personal and professional lives:

Integrity - We hold ourselves accountable to the highest level of honesty, truthfulness, and ethical conduct. These traits are central to all the values we embrace and are the foundations of community trust.

Pride - We take pride in our work and in serving our community by setting an example for others to follow.

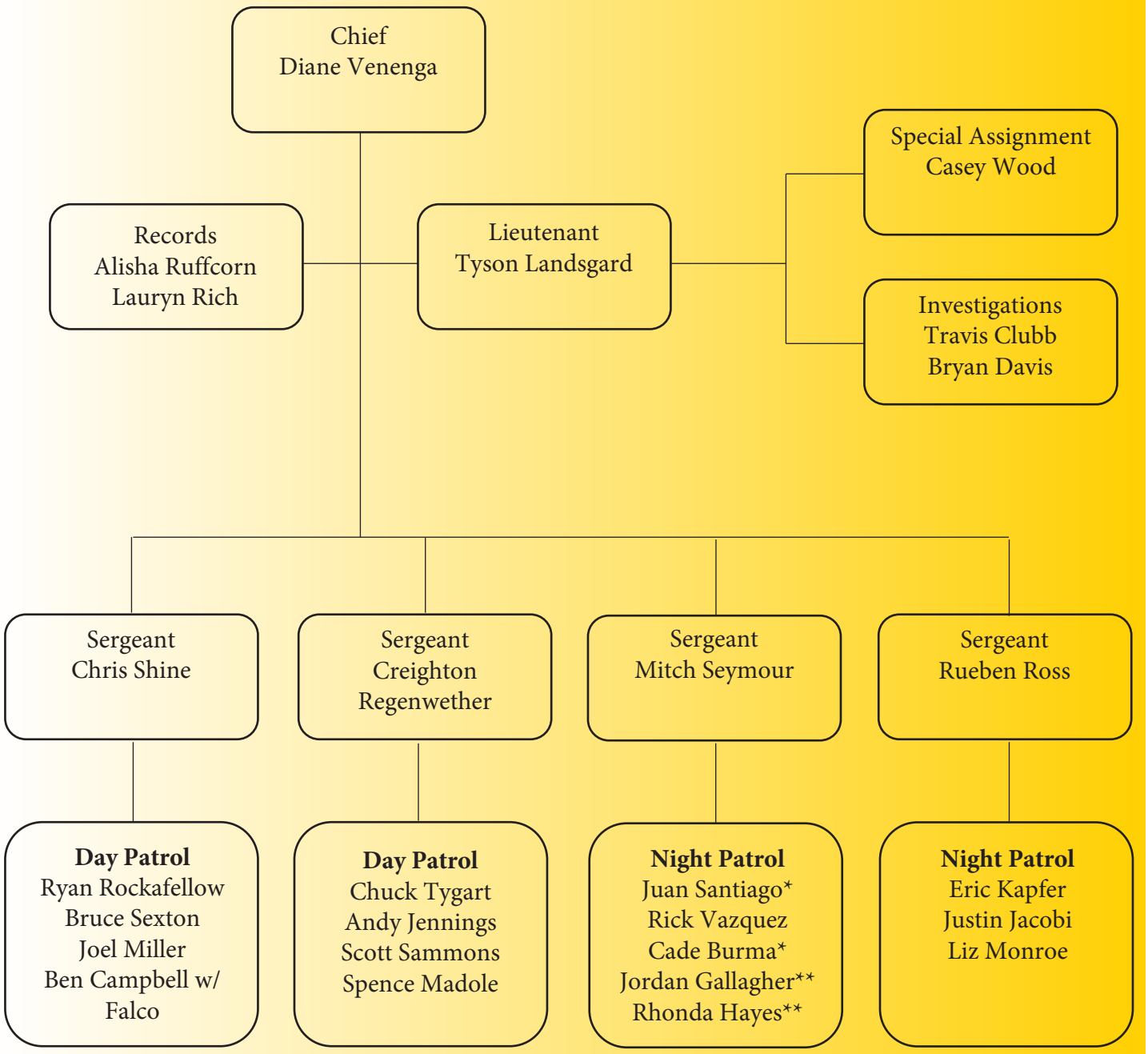
Quality Service – We will provide quality service in a courteous, efficient, and accessible manner. We foster community and employee involvement through problem solving and partnerships in a way that best serves the community.

Respect - We hold respect for human life above all and we will ensure that all persons are treated with equality, dignity, and courtesy.

Courage - We recognize the inherent dangers within our profession and are willing to place the safety of others above our own.

Professionalism - We commit to the highest level of professional standards through the development of highly trained, motivated, and dedicated members to public service.

Organizational Chart



*Officer Santiago Retired in July
*Officer Burma Left in March

**Officer Gallagher Joined in April
**Officer Hayes Joined in March

Divisions Within Department

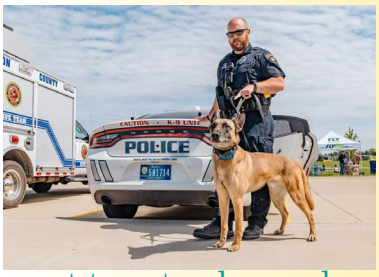
Investigations

In 2022 the investigations division saw an increase in the number of cases handled between the two investigators. In 2022. 85 cases were referred to the Investigations Department. Of those, 85, 4 remain open, 61 were closed, 8 resulted in charges filed and arrests and 5 were unfounded.

Drug Task Force

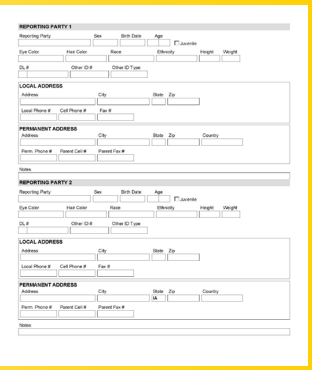
Nine (9) cases were handled by the drug task force member in 2022. Five of the cases were located in North Liberty, the other four (4) were in the surrounding areas and all were closed out. Eleven (11) people were charged with the charges breaking down to 15 felonies and 12 misdemeanors. Four (4) firearms were also seized from individuals who were involved in the cases.

K9



The department welcomed our first K-9 in 2017. Falco, a Belgian Malinois, was obtained thanks to support from the City and members of the community. To keep Falco comfortable and safe, a special vehicle was purchased for the K-9 unit. The vehicle includes a quick release for Falco in case the duo are in an emergency situation. There is also an interior temperature system that sounds an alarm and rolls the windows down. Our Belgian Malinois, Falco, continues to be an asset to not only our department, but the county. Last year he, along with his handler, was dispatched to 87 calls. This was up from 77 the year before. When not on calls, you can often see him and Officer Ben Campbell at events happening in town. He is definitely the most popular member of our department.

Records



REPORTING PARTY 1
Reporting Party | Sex | Birth Date | Age | ☐ Juvenile
Eye Color | Hair Color | Race | Ethnicity | Height | Weight
DL # | Other ID # | Other ID Type
LOCAL ADDRESS
Address | City | State | Zip
Local Phone # | Cell Phone # | Fax #
PERMANENT ADDRESS
Address | City | State | Zip | Country
Perm. Phone # | Parent Cell # | Parent Fax #
Notes
REPORTING PARTY 2
Reporting Party | Sex | Birth Date | Age | ☐ Juvenile
Eye Color | Hair Color | Race | Ethnicity | Height | Weight
DL # | Other ID # | Other ID Type
LOCAL ADDRESS
Address | City | State | Zip
Local Phone # | Cell Phone # | Fax #
PERMANENT ADDRESS
Address | City | State IA | Zip | Country
Perm. Phone # | Parent Cell # | Parent Fax #
Notes

If you need a report, call for service, a golf cart permit, a fingerprint, or salvage inspection appointment, or just need to speak to the officer handling your case, our records department is here to help. Our office is open Monday-Friday from 7 AM-4:30 PM except during holidays and the occasional training. You can reach them at (319) 626-5724 or via email records@northlibertyiowa.org. If you need an officer dispatched to you, please call (319) 356-6800 and JECC will have one sent to your location. That number is available 24/7 and is good for all of Johnson County.

Patrol Unit

Traffic Stops and Citations

In 2022 the department issued 636 traffic citations out of 3,537 traffic stops. Even though we saw more stops in 2022, the percent of individuals cited remained pretty similar. Eighteen (18) percent of drivers were issued citations compared to seventeen (17) last year. The main goal of our officers conducting traffic stops is to change driving behavior and stop public safety threats. Below are five violations that made up eighty percent of the citations issued.

Speeding-This category continues to be the largest number of reasons for traffic stops and citations. This year, 311 citations were issued for individuals exceeding the speed limit. This number is considerably less than what we saw in 2021. In 2022, we saw a twenty-eight (28) percent decrease in tickets for speeding violations. While it is good news that less citations were issued for speeding, there were still some big numbers put up by drivers. The highest numbers we saw in town were:

73 mph on Ranshaw Way North (posted limited is 45)
65 mph on Front St (posted limit is 30)
65 mph on W. Penn [posted limit is 45)
63 mph on Ranshaw Way South (posted limit is 45)
57 mph on Ranshaw Way South (when it was 25)

If there are areas or neighborhoods where you are concerned about motorists speeding, you can always request the mobile speed trailer through the City's online web form.

https://northlibertyiowa.org/departments/police/speed-trailer-request/

Registration Violations-The second most cited violation is for vehicles whose registration is expired. Vehicles cannot be on the roadways if the registration is not current. This also applies to vehicles that are parked on public streets. Registrations can be paid one month before or after your expiration date. Individuals who fail to renew during their renewal window risk not only receiving a citation, but are assessed a penalty at a rate of 5% of the annual renewal amount, per vehicle, per month.

Failure to Obey Traffic Sign/Device-In a change from last year, this category moved from the seventh most cited violation to the third. These citations are issued to individuals who proceed through traffic lights or signs without stopping.

Driving While Suspended-Suspension occurs when a court fine is more than 60 days past due. If you receive a citation for driving suspended, a conviction can result in a fine of $1,500 and up to a year in jail. It may also cause the length of your suspension to be doubled for certain convictions.

Failure to Stop in Assured Clear Distance-Citations for this violation are issued when there is an accident. There is no scheduled fine for this, instead, the receiving party has to appear in court to answer to the charge.

After a huge spike last year, officers only issued seven (7) violations for passing school buses. We always encourage motorists review the bus laws, especially before school starts for the year. It is also important to go over the laws with the teens in your house who will be driving back and forth to school. The penalties for passing a stopped school bus are:

1st Offense: Fine of at least $250, but no more than $675
The court may order jail time not exceed 30 days in lieu, or addition to a fine
Suspension for 30 days
2nd Offense: Fine of at least $315, but no more than $1,875
The court may order jail time not to exceed one year
Suspension for 90 days
3rd Offense: Fine of at least $315, but no more than $1,875
The court may order jail time not to exceed one year
Suspension for 180 days

As you can see, the consequences can be pretty steep. We recommend the below website to brush up on the laws and if you have questions, you can always reach out to us here at the PD.

https://iowadot.gov/schoolbus/highway-safety/requiredstopping

Payments

If you find yourself with an issued a citation, where a court date is not mandatory, it is important to either contest the citation in court or pay the fine. Failure to pay fines by their due date can result in:

-Probation revocation proceedings
-Contempt of court proceedings
-Your Iowa income tax refund going to the total
-A hold on your ability to register vehicles
-Suspension of your driver's license

The links below contain resources for either paying the citation or setting up a payment plan.

https://www.iowacourts.state.ia.us/ESAWebApp//DefaultFrame

https://www.johnsoncountyiowa.gov/county-attorney/unpaid-court-fines

Motor Vehicle Accidents

The number of accidents reported to our department remained consistent with the total from 2021. In 2022 we covered 267 accidents which is three (3) less than the previous year. All of the accidents can be broken down to five categories:

Deer/Property (6 reported)-The best way to avoid hitting a deer is to be alert. If you see one, more than likely, another one is not too far away. However, no matter how much you pay attention, there are times when hitting a deer is unavoidable. In those instances, reduce your speed, stay in your lane, maintain control of your vehicle, and do not swerve to avoid. You can brake hard, but only if there is nobody behind you. Even with all of these preventative steps, accidents will happen. Depending on the severity, you can call 911 or the dispatch number to have an officer come to your location.

Hit and Run (43 reported)-This category is just as it sounds. It is when a motorist hits another vehicle and drives off without providing their contact and insurance information.

Personal Injury (11 reported)-An accident is put into this category when there is a known injury to an individual involved in the accident.

Property Damage (195 reported)-This is the most common type of accident we see and is what you would think of as a traditional accident. There are no injuries, just damage to property.

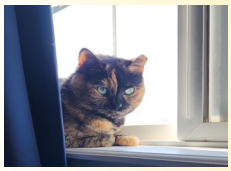
Unknown Injury (12 reported)-This is different from a personal injury accident in that the reporting party is not sure if there is an injury.

When Accidents Happen.....

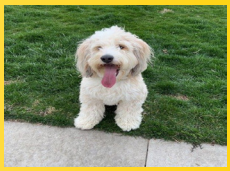
1. Call the police. Even if the accident does not fulfill the requirements for a full report, a call for service will be created. It is also in your best interest to call in case the other party has any restrictions on their driving.
2. If you can move your car safely off the road, then do so to avoid a secondary collision
3. Have your insurance information and license ready
4. Take pictures for your records
5. Obtain a copy of the information exchange. This can be either from the other party, or from the officer. Your insurance company will need this when processing your claim.
6. Have your insurance company reach out for a copy of the report

Note: If you do not end up calling the police and your insurance company is requesting a report, the link below is for the self-reporting accident form from the DOT.

https://iowadot.seamlessdocs.com/f/IowaAccidentReport



Animal Calls



Bite calls can involve the victim's own pet, or from a run in with a stranger's pet. When a victim sees a doctor for a bite, the doctor faxes us a copy of the bite report from the Johnson County Health Department. Our officers then follow up with both the victim and owners to make sure the pet has received their necessary vaccines. Animals that are not up to date with their vaccines are required to be quarantined for ten (10 days).

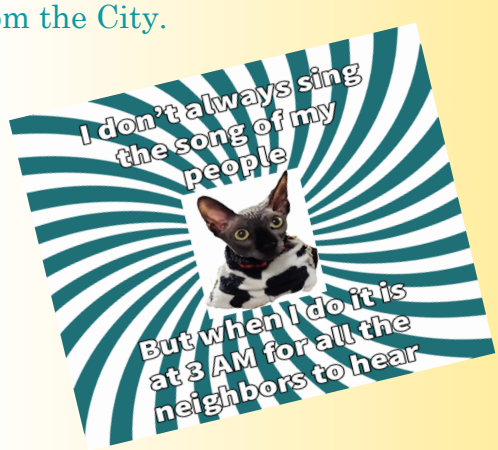
General calls can be anything animal related. It is used as a catch all for animal calls. Some examples: animals not on leashes, sick/injured raccoons or other wild creatures, noise, pets at large, etc.

The **carcass** category is not only for domesticated animals. The majority of the carcass calls involve wild animals such as deer, rabbits and raccoons.

Found and Lost are for when animals are found by officers or the public, and when a pet goes missing. Found animals are picked up by either our officers, or a member of the Street Department. Just call dispatch at (319) 356-6800 for someone to swing by and pick it up. If your furry family member goes missing, you can call the office at (319) 626-5724 and our records staff will take down all of your information. We also recommend using Nextdoor and Facebook to make a missing animal post. Facebook has a missing pets page that is tailored to the North Liberty area. You can also call the Cedar Valley Human Society at (319) 362-6288 to see if your pet was picked up.

Neglect is called in by concerned members of the community who witness a situation where they are concerned for the safety and well-being of an animal.

The **Noise** category is exactly what it is...animal noise. In the code of ordinances, any animal that barks, bays, cries, howls, or emits any other noise continuously for a period of ten (10) minutes or barks intermittently for thirty (30) minutes or more will be considered a nuisance. Failure to rectify the situation after multiple complaints can result in a municipal infraction from the City.



2022 Categories

Bites	25
Carcass	26
Found	87
General	223
Lost	48
Neglect	39
Noise	73
Total Calls	**521**

Parking Tickets

In 2022, the department issued three hundred and thirty-seven (337) parking tickets for the list of violations below. Of those tickets, fourteen (14) were written for multiple violations.

10' of Intersection Crosswalk	1	Official Sign Prohibits Parking	19
18" From Curb	1	Parking in Cul-de-Sac	1
5' From Hydrant	2	Parking in Bulb	1
Adjacent to Curb	1	Snow Emergency	234
Blocking Sidewalk	5	Storage Over 48 Hours	16
Disabilities Parking Spot	13	Trailer	14
Left Wheel to Curb	32	Unregistered Vehicle on Street	12
No Parking Odd/Even	2	**Total**	**354**

Of the violations on the list, there are a few we get questions about.

Why did I get a ticket for parking left wheel to curb?

This violation is not North Liberty specific, it is a violation in every city and state. The only time you can park left wheel to curb is on a one-way street. When you park left wheel to curb, you go into on-coming traffic, which can cause a dangerous situation for yourself and other drivers.

What does storage over 48 hours mean?

Per the City code, cars that are parked on the street need to be moved every forty-eight (48) hours. This prevents individuals from storing vehicle on the street.

Why can't I park my vehicle on the street if the registration is expired?

Vehicles that are on a public street need to be registered. Like the left wheel to curb, this is not North Liberty specific.

How do I find out if a snow emergency has been declared?

Snow emergencies are declared by the mayor when the forecast calls for a significant snowfall. They also automatically go into effect when the snow total reaches two inches. When a snow emergency is declared, you can find the information on the City's social media platforms, local media channels and websites. You can also call our office to confirm one is in place.

Is there a way to appeal a ticket?

Yes, we do have an appeal process for all tickets. To request a form, call our records department at (319) 626-5724, or email them at records@northlibertyiowa.org. They will send over the form for you to complete along with details on how the process works.

Calls for service

A call for service is created whenever an officer is dispatched to a call. This record contains the information given to the dispatcher from the reporting party. In 2022, the department recorded 16,182 calls for service. This number is from just the primary officer being dispatched and not any additional officers who may have assisted on the call. Below are the top categories for 2022 along with a brief description.

911 Hang Up Call: These are calls made to 911 and the person on the line disconnects from dispatch. These calls can be related to a case, but the majority are from accidental dialing on a phone or smart watch. Since the release of the first smart watch, the department has seen an over 500% increase in 911 hangup calls.

Phone Requests: This category is for when callers want to speak to an officer. This can be for a general question, or for a case they are involved in.

School Patrol: During the school year, officers will drive around the schools to watch for any issues that may need addressed. Their presence is to deter speeding and any other traffic violations.

Extra Patrol: This can be from individuals who are going to be out of town and have requested the service, areas where previous crimes have been committed, etc. Basically, it is any area that the officers know of that could use a little extra attention.

Parking: Parking calls come from the officers viewing the violation or community members call in a situation.

Assist Other Agency: This category is for when our officers assist either other law enforcement agencies, or the North Liberty Fire Department.

Traffic Stops: Stops made by officers that result in citations, warnings, investigations, and arrests.

Animal Calls: This includes animals at large, barking/noise,neglect, missing and found pets, etc

Suspicious Action, Person, or Vehicle: calls can be called in by concerned citizens, or when an officer views a situation while out on patrol.

Public Assists: When an officer is needed to perform a service that benefits a member of the community.

Incident Reports

When a call requires a little more information, an investigation, or arrest charges, an incident report number is created by a JECC dispatcher. For our department, the number will start with an N which signifies North Liberty. These reports are broken down into three categories.

Persons-Reports that involve crimes that are committed against a person

Example: Two people get into a car accident. When exchanging information, an argument begins, and one driver ends up punching the other.

Reason: Even though it started with a motor vehicle accident-property only, once the driver physically strikes the victim, it becomes a crime against a person.

Property-Reports when property is involved in the crime/offense

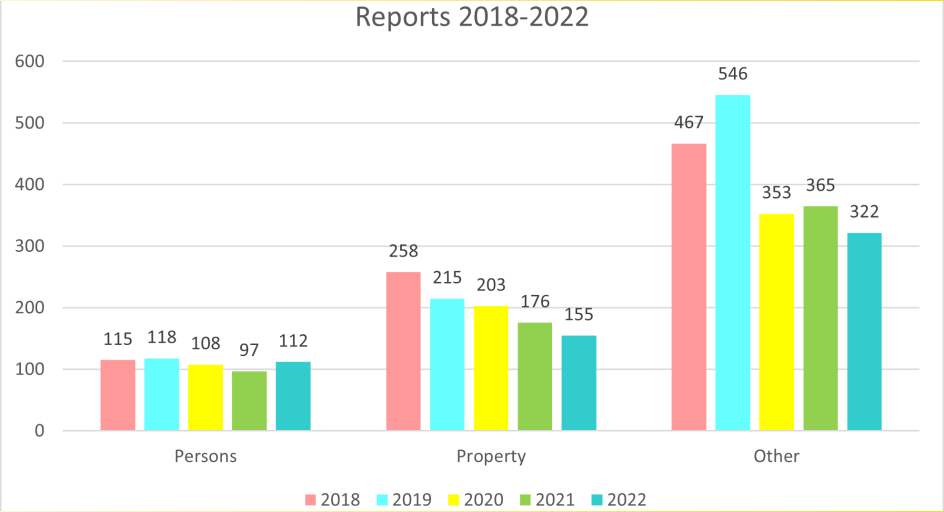
Example: An individual walks into a store, and when the clerk is not looking, takes some items, and leaves.

Reason: The offense is shoplifting which is a theft offense. Property was taken from from the store so it falls into the property crime category.

Other: Reports for any other type of offense or call

Example: An officer pulls over an individual for running a red light. When they run the driver, they noticed that they are driving while barred. Since the victim of the crime is neither a person or property, the report would fall into the other category.

One of the most common questions asked over the last couple of years involved Covid and if we saw an increase in reports filed. While I'm sure many cities saw this happen, we were fortunate not to see that trend. Below is a chart showing the reports taken by our officers from 2018-2022.



Arrests

In 2022, the department arrested three hundred and seven (307) individuals which is slightly lower than the previous year. Of those arrests, there were four hundred and thirty-four (434) charges written. The top charges for 2022 were:

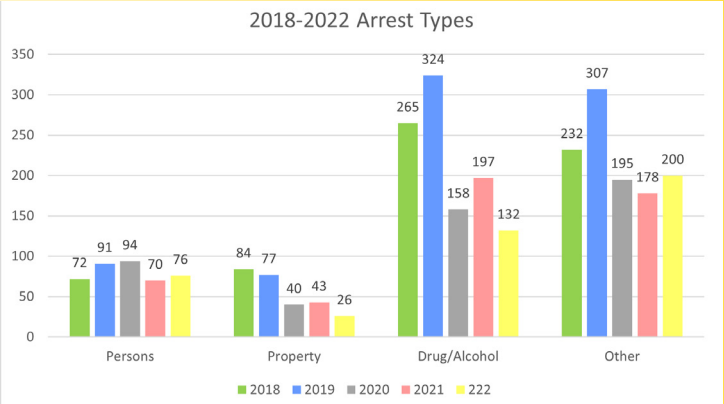
Warrants	66
OWI (1st, 2nd and 3rd)	51
Controlled Substance	48
Domestic Abuse Assault	40
No Contact Order Violation	28
Driving Barred	24
Theft (1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th)	19
Drug Paraphernalia	14
Driving Revoked	13
Interference	13
Public Intoxication	10

When preparing any kind of report or statistics sheet, we break all of our arrests down into four (4) categories. They are the same as the incident reports, with the addition of a drugs and alcohol category.

Persons Charges	76
Property Charges	26
Drugs/Alcohol	132
Other	200

Every charge is assigned a NIBRS code that is used for reporting statistics to the FBI. NIBRS stands for the National Incident Based Reporting System. It is important that we properly report our offenses because we use those numbers when applying for grants.

In 2021, the state began the migration to the new repository in order to be in compliance with the FBI's requirements. The program started off with some challenges, and the vendors were still tweaking items in 2022. Eventually, the program became easier to use and the statistics were more reliable and accurate than previous years.



Special Assignments

Johnson County Metro Bomb Squad

We have one member who has been on the bomb squad for eight (8) years. The squad responds to incidents where a suspicious package or a threat is made to a location. Last year they had 12 call outs. Another of their duties is to help with security for events. On football weekends they can be found sweeping Kinnick prior to the Iowa football games.

Johnson County Metro Dive Team

The purpose of the dive team is to help with the rescue or recovery of items and persons who end up in the water around Johnson County. There are times when the team is called to help with missions in other counties. Officer Jennings has been a member of the team for the last ten years. In 2022 he made the decision to hang up his wet suit and retire from the team. We appreciate the work he did with the team and how he represented this department.

Specialized Emergency Response Team (SERT)

This team is activated for planned and unplanned high risk calls with a known history of violence, weapons, or a propensity to cause injury. We currently have two (2) department members on the team. One officer joined in 2018 and the other followed in 2019. 2023 will see a change in who we have on the team due to one member being promoted to sergeant.

Honor Guard

The group consists of fifteen (15) members from all of the agencies in Johnson County who train quarterly at the Iowa City Readiness Center. The guard's primary duty is to provide funeral honors to area law enforcement officers who are killed in the line of duty. They also provide ceremonial support to various agencies and events. We have two officers who have been on the team since 2019.

Bike Patrol

When the weather is nice, or there is an event in town, you may see some of our officers performing bike patrol. We currently have nine (9) certified bike officers. In order to be certified, they must attend a 40 hour course. Last year we purchased our first Trek e-bike, so you will be seeing one of our officers patrolling areas on it.

Unmanned Aircraft Systems

In 2021, our department partnered with the North Liberty Fire Department and Johnson County EMA to purchase an unmanned aircraft system (UAS). The UAS has been used in search and rescue calls, high risk tactical applications, fire/hazmat incidents, community outreach demonstrations, and training. Our department currently has five (5) officers who are certified to operate the system.

Total Pilots: 5
Total Flights: 202
Total Flight Time: 24:72:00

**Flight records are only listed when an NLPD Officer is the remote pilot in command (RPIC)

Crime Scene and Crash Scene Application: A UAS may be deployed to conduct crime scene and collision scene documentation by taking aerial pictures and videos that will be used as evidence. **Number of Flights: 10**

Search and Rescue: A UAS may be may be deployed in an effort to locate missing or endangered subjects where an aerial view would benefit the search. Search and rescue may also include looking for injured persons stemming from a disaster. **Number of Flights: 10**

High Risk Tactical Applications: A UAS may be deployed in an effort to protect officers from unnecessary exposure to danger and minimize the risk of injury to bystanders, officers and suspects, and enhance the likelihood of bringing peaceful resolutions to potentially deadly incidents. **Number of Flights: 28**

Event Security: A UAS may be used at large public events where a view from above may be a benefit to officers charged with protecting those in attendance. **Number of Flights: 0**

Disaster Response: A UAS may be deployed to gather aerial views of damage from disasters, whether they are natural or man-made. Search and rescue may be part of this response. **Number of Flights: 0**

Fire/Hazmat Incidents: A UAS with thermal camera capabilities may be deployed to assist Fire in detecting and addressing hotspots. A UAS with a camera may be deployed to hazmat incidents where reading a hazmat placard from a distance is needed. **Number of Flights: 14**

Community Outreach Demonstrations: In an effort to encourage public trust and effectively engage our community, a UAS may be part of a community meeting or special event such as the Community Police Academy. **Number of Flights: 1**

Training: The UAS pilots will deploy UAS for training missions to maintain readiness and their certification. **Number of Flights: 139**

Training

Once an officer graduates from the academy, it does not mean that they stop learning. It is important in this profession to keep current on the trends and new techniques that are out there. We saw more in-person training in 2022, but courses offered on-line continue to be a popular medium. Some of the training hours listed below are for the specialized programs officers are involved in. Members of the bomb squad, canine, dive team, and tactical team train monthly with their organizations, while the honor guard meets quarterly.

January

-Members attended monthly Canine, Bomb Squad, Tactical Team, and Dive team (64 hours)
-Two members attend quarterly Honor Guard Training (16 hours)
-Officer Jacobi is continuing Field Officer Training
-Three attended online training on TikTok and Snapchat forensic investigations (6 hours).

February

-Members attended monthly Canine, Bomb Squad, Tactical Team, and Dive team (64 hours)
-Officer Jacobi is continuing his Field Officer Training
-All members attended a 30 minute online Zoom meeting with the Guidelink Center on the services they provide for all law enforcement. (12 hours)
-All officers attended an online course on mental health called the Shield of Resistance (10 hours)

March

-Members attended monthly Canine, Bomb Squad, Tactical Team, and Dive team (64 hours)
-Officer Jacobi completed his Field Training and was released to solo patrol on night shift.
-Two officers attended tactical medical training in Des Moines. (16 hours)
-Officer Rockafellow attended the National Life Saver's Conference in Chicago funded by GTSB. He completed the annual grant and represented NLPD at these events. (32 hours)
-Chief attended part one of the FBI-LEEDA Supervisor Trilogy in Cedar Rapids (40 hours)
-An officer attended the online Understanding Implicit Racial Bias Learning Exchange (6 hours)

April

-Members attended monthly Canine, Bomb Squad, Tactical Team, and Dive team (64 hours)
-Two certified officers were hired and have started their modified Field Training Program.
-Chief attended online training on Crime Stats and NIBRS for Police Professionals program and reporting information (6 hours)
-On-duty supervisors attended the Reasonable Suspicion annual training for recognizing impaired employees (6 hours)
-Chief and an Honor Guard member attended the Line of Duty Death table top exercise in Coralville for the regional teams (8 hours)
-Lieutenant attended a week-long Managing the Lost Person Incident at the JECC. (40 hours)
-Negotiator attended 3 days at the Illinois Crisis Negotiators Conference in Moline. (24 hours)
-All officers completed online policy review for Firearms and Use of Force. (20 hours)

May

-Members attended monthly Canine, Bomb Squad, Tactical Team, and Dive team (64 hours)
-The 2 newest officers attended the week-long CIT training course for Johnson County. All of our officers have now been through this training (80 hours)
-All officers attended bi-annual range and defensive tactics held at the Cedar Rapids range. Prior to the training, all officers reviewed the Use of Force Policy online. This is taught by NLPD instructors. (232 hours)
-One officer attended the Bomb Team Commanders National Conference. This is required to be the Johnson County Metro Bomb Squad team commander (40 hours)
-Chief and the Lieutenant attended the Iowa Police Chief's Association annual leadership confer ence in Coralville. (48 hours).
-2 Sergeants attended supervisor training for the latest Back the Blue bill changes for internal affairs investigations with Daigle Law Group, hosted at the Chief's conference. (8 hours)
-Chief attended an online class on Iowa records and retention policies. (6 hours)
-A Sergeant attended a mass hazardous tabletop training exercise at the bulk tanks located north of town. (Buckeye Terminals). (3 hours)

June

-Members attended monthly Canine, Bomb Squad, Tactical Team, and Dive team (64 hours)
-Two Sergeants attended 3 days of online training on the police reporting for the National Incident Base Reporting System (NIBRS) from the FBI (48 hours)
-Chief and Lt attended the 2022 Iowa Law Update in Coralville. (16 hours)
-Chief and Administrative Assistant attended an online law enforcement suicide reporting feature for the National FBI reporting system. (1 hour)

July

-Members attended monthly trainings for Canine, Bomb Squad, Tactical Team, Negotiator, Honor Guard, and Dive Team (80 hours)
-Two officers attended the local drone school to become pilots and one of our current pilots taught the class. (44 hours)
-One officer attended a weeklong training on active shooter emergency response. (40 hours)

August

-Members attended monthly Canine, Bomb Squad, Tactical Team, and Dive team (64 hours)
-Two members attend quarterly Honor Guard Training (16 hours)
-Our combat medic instructor taught and ran drills at the joint tactical team emergent care training (8 hours)
-The Community Outreach officer completed training at the JECC for the countywide Project Lifesavers. This is a project to help track individuals that may wander off. Individuals will be referred to the program by their family member(s). (20 hours)
-One officer attended the Firearms Instructor Certification school and Open Site Rifle Instructor school at ILEA (80 hours)
-Two officers went to Glock armorer recertification in Moline, Illinois. (16 hours)
-Chief and Lt attended the US Supreme Court Legal update and impact on law enforcement by Daigle Law Firm. (4 hours)

September

-Members attended monthly Canine, Bomb Squad, Tactical Team, and Dive team (64 hours)
-All officers attended mandatory de-escalation and Active Bystander Law enforcement Training (ABLE). (92 hours)
-All officers completed drive training at Hawkeye Downs. Instruction was provided by NLPD certified instructors and included 30 minutes of online pursuit policy review (92 hours)
-The Records clerk and Admin Assistant attended the Iowa Police Chief's Administration Conference in Iowa City. (16 hours)
-One firearms instructor was re-certified (8 hours)
-One officer attended an online course on financial planning for police officers (2 hours)
-A Sergeant attended the Traffic Incident Management (TIM) conference in Des Moines (8 hours)
-Two patrol officers attended training in Des Moines on Proactive Patrol Tactics. (32 hours)
-Two investigators and two officers attended training on Investigating Threats on social media at the University (20 hours)
-Bomb team member attended a Bomb Making Material Awareness Program at JECC (16 hours)
-One officer attended an online training on Officer and Agency Wellness (8 hours)
-Two defensive tactics instructors attended training on constitutional use of force and street tactics (16 hours)
-Held two days of Virtual Reality Instructor Training for the simulator.
-Lieutenant and a Sergeant participated in a Supervisor and Command Training webinar (3 hours)

October

-Members attended monthly Canine, Bomb Squad, Tactical Team, and Dive team (64 hours)
-One member attended honor guard quarterly training (8 hours)
-Chief attended an FBI-LEEDA Leadership Command Course in Cedar Rapids (40 hours)
-Investigators attended a two-day training in Williamsburg on Child Investigations (32 hours).
-Two officers attended training in Waterloo for CTK interview and interrogations (48 hours)
-The records clerk and Chief attended training at the U of I PD on our police vendor software (Tac10) for user tips and new features (12 hours)

November

-Members attended monthly Canine, Bomb Squad, Tactical Team, and Dive team (64 hours)
-All officers completed the bi-annual firearms training at the Cedar Rapids shooting range for regular and night qualifications. (150 hours)
-An investigator attended an online course on investigative strategies for child abduction cases (8 hours)
-Chief attended a weeklong Executive Leadership Development Course, receiving the trilogy award for FBI-LEEDA. (36 hours)
-Our two tactical team members attended the annual International Technical Officers Association conference with the Johnson County SERT team in Illinois. (32 hours)
-One officer attended the city-wide sponsored training on the Opioid Crisis, Naloxone, Stigma Reduction. (1 hour)

November Continued
-A supervisor attended a 4-hour online course for managing an investigative unit presented by Training Force USA. (4 hours)
-Four officers attended an online screening and discussion for law enforcement for the film "Walking while Black: L.O.V.E. is the Answer" (10 hours).

December
-Members attended monthly Canine, Bomb Squad, Tactical Team, and Dive team (64 hours)
-One new Supervisor attended a weeklong First Line Supervisor Course from Dolan Consulting (40 hours online)
-The admin assistant attended a Uniform Crime Reporting training webinar on reporting officer suicides (1 hour)
-K-9 and handler attended and passed, their 3-day recertification course. (24 hours)
-One officer attended the Iowa Summit on Justice and racial disparities in Ankeny hosted by the State NAACP coordinator. (8 hours)
-Our Cyber Crimes investigator attended an online Automated Tools for digital forensic analysis course (32 hours) and a best practices in Mobile Devices investigations online (1 hour)
-Officers attended a 4-hour online course on Manipulation tactics during interviews. (92 hours)

As you can see, department members spent a considerable amount of time in trainings over the year. In 2022, the department logged 2,596 hours in classroom and online courses, webinars, recertifications, and continuing education. On-going training allows for us to grow and evolve into a department the community can depend on. We continue to look for training opportunities for our staff members and hope to have even more hours in 2023.

Services We Provide

The North Liberty Police Department offers a number of services to the public. All of the services listed below are performed by members of the department. To find out more about a particular service provided, or to schedule an appointment, please call our office line at (319) 626-5724 Monday-Friday during normal business hours. If calling outside of those hours, please leave a message in our general voice mail.

Car Seat Checks

Officer Travis Clubb is the certified technician for the department. As a technician, his role is to educate caregivers on child passenger safety. This includes instructing caregivers on the correct selection, installation, and use of car seats, booster seats and seat belts. In 2022, Officer Clubb performed 43 inspections. This service is free and done on an appointment basis. To schedule an appointment, you can contact Officer Clubb via email at tclubb@northlibertyiowa.org, or at the office line listed above.

Fingerprints

One of the more popular services we provide is fingerprinting. In 2022 we fingerprinted 549 individuals going into the medical, educational, nursing, banking, and insurance fields. We currently offer appointments Mondays and Wednesdays 9AM-12PM; and Thursdays 2PM-4PM, as long as the records staff is available. Appointments fill up quickly so we recommend calling as soon as possible. The cost for this service is $10 per card with the proceeds going directly back into the community. The money we collect is used to fund events hosted by the department.

Golf Cart Permits

To drive a golf cart in town on public roadways, citizens need to apply for a permit. The permit process starts with an inspection of the cart by an officer. They will look for the following elements:

Engine size < 351 CCS
Slow moving sign attached to rear of cart
Bike safety flag, the bottom of which shall be above the top of the cart
Adequate brakes
Headlights
Taillights
Rear view mirror attached to the driver's side

Once the inspection is complete, the owner comes to the police department with copies of their insurance and valid licenses of all drivers showing that they are over the age of 18. The records staff will make copies of these documents, collect the $25 fee, and issue the permit.

Medication Collection

At some point, we all have had expired and unused medications taking up space in our cabinets. Did you know that you can drop them off at the station for disposal? Every April and October the department participates in the DEA's drug take back event. In 2022, we collected approximately 95 pounds of over the counter and prescription drugs. If you are unable to make it to the take back events, no problem! You can drop your medications off at the station during our normal business hours. All medications should remain in their original packaging with the labels still attached. This is an anonymous program. No information is logged and all medication is put into a box for destruction. The only items we cannot take back are needles and inhalers. For disposal of needles, we recommend contacting the county landfill. You can find information for the Take Back dates by watching our Twitter feed, Nextdoor, and the City's Facebook page.

Salvage Vehicle Inspections

Another popular service is the salvage vehicle inspection program. The purpose of the salvage theft exam is to verify that no stolen parts were used when the vehicle was rebuilt. Inspections are performed by appointment as long as we have the staff. Currently, we are performing one at 10, one at 10:15 and another at 10:30 on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. Prior to the inspection, the owner of the vehicle must fill out the affidavit of salvage vehicle repairs online and pay the $50 fee. The link for the DOT is: https://iowadot.gov/mvd/vehicleregistration/salvage
At the time of the inspection, the presenter must have:

Before

The vehicle's title
Any receipts for any parts put on the vehicle
Confirmation of Completed Affidavit
Bill of Sale
ID

After

You must have all of the listed documents and all repairs have to be completed in order for the vehicle to pass inspection. If it does not pass the inspection, you will need to reschedule for a later date. Repeat mistakes, or missing paperwork will result in a ban from our site and the DOT will be notified. Also, please be on time for your appointment. If you are going to be late, or need to reschedule, please call our office line to make arrangements.

Vehicle Unlocks

If you ever find yourself looking at your keys inside your locked vehicle, we can help you! Call JECC at (319) 356-6800 and an officer will be dispatched to your location as soon as they are available. The service is free and our officers have plenty of experience, with the department averaging 300 unlocks a year.

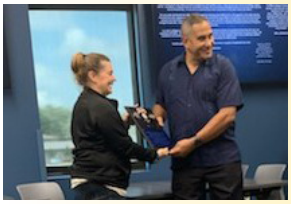
Officer of the Year

Officer Monroe has been with the North Liberty Police Department as a patrol officer for two and a half years. She continues to take on the challenging role of expanding her knowledge and keeping her co-works apprised of changing case laws. She is not afraid to take on additional responsibilities and volunteers to attend community events, provide video or virtual tours of the police station, and has taken the initiative to start the police department's Instagram account. She also took it upon herself to teach NL Fire personnel the Crisis Intervention Techniques she has learned. This will be beneficial to their department when responding to medical calls where the patient is experiencing a mental health crisis.

As a new officer, she is quick to sign up for training and does what she can to improve her skills by implementing any new tips, techniques, and instructions into her daily patrol officer duties. A big part of her nomination was due to her ability to connect with people, de-escalate volatile situations and taking the initiative to take the lead on calls. Over the course of the year, there were numerous calls and emails from citizens thanking Officer Monroe for her compassion, understanding, and patience with their loved ones during mental health crises.

You may run across Officer Monroe at various events around the city and county. Below are some of the pictures from the events she assisted with in 2022. We thank Officer Monroe for all she does for the community and department and congratulate her on this honor.

Retirement of Officer Santiago

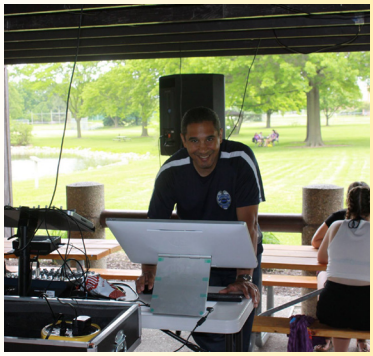


This year we experienced a first for our department. In July we celebrated our first retirement within the department. Officer Juan Santiago was the first member to retire since the department began in 1999. Juan was with the department for fifteen (15) years in both a part-time and full-time role.

In 2015, Officer Santiago was nominated and received the Officer of the Year award for his commitment to making positive experiences with North Liberty's youth. He often volunteered his time for events in town such as the youth triathlon, Special Olympics, National Night Out, and local clubs and schools. Many know him for his commitment to the toy drive for DVIP that he facilitated for 25 years. Every holiday season, he would put out a box to collect toys and gift cards for the kids who were spending the holidays at the DVIP shelter.

Our shoulder patch is the most recognizable part of our department. It is used on all of our documents, promotional items, signs, and vehicles. In 2015, in response to us needing to update our branding, Officer Santiago created the patch that you see to the right. So even though he is no longer an officer here, his creation will be a reminder of his service to the department.

We thank Juan for his commitment to the department and community and wish him well in his retirement!



Thanks for the memories 2022




NORTH LIBERTY
POLICE

NORTH LIBERTY

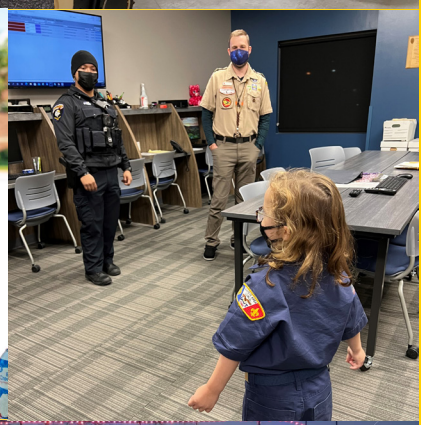

POLICE







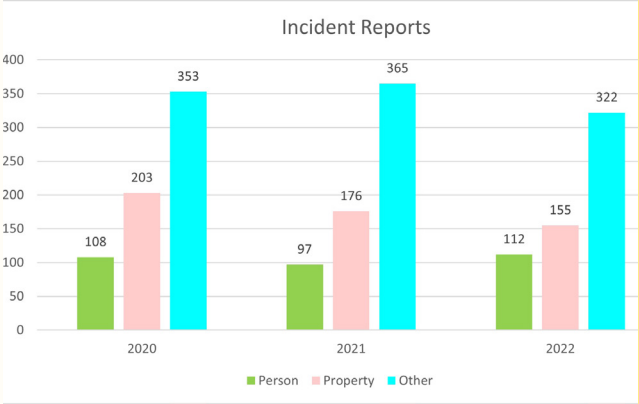


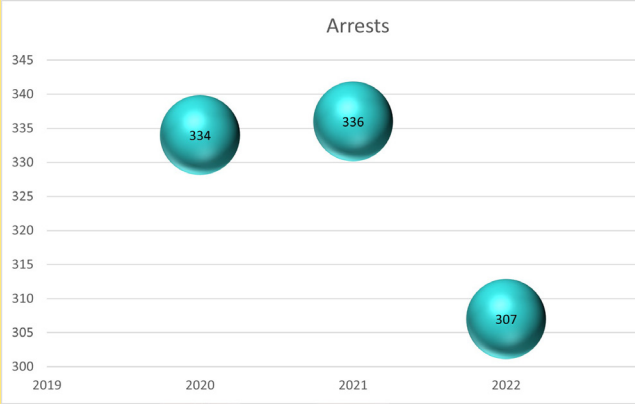


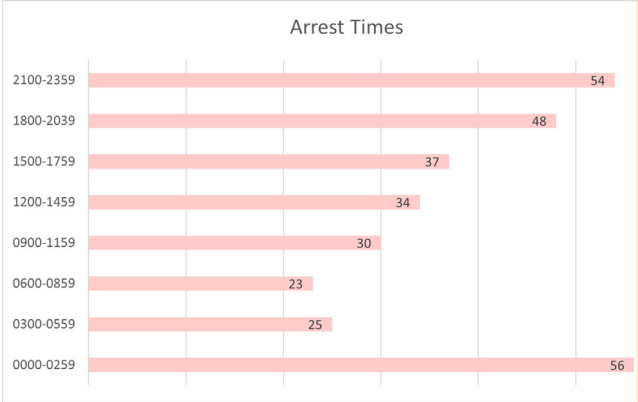
911
NORTH LIBERTY
POLICE

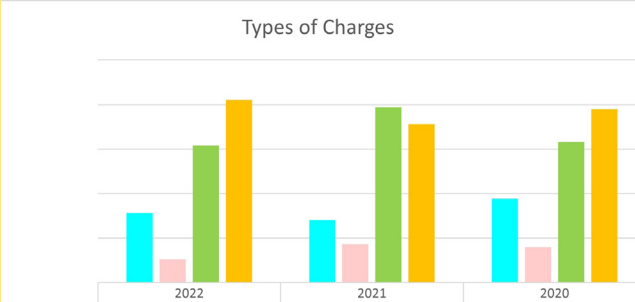

HOLIDAY LIGHTS

Just the Stats

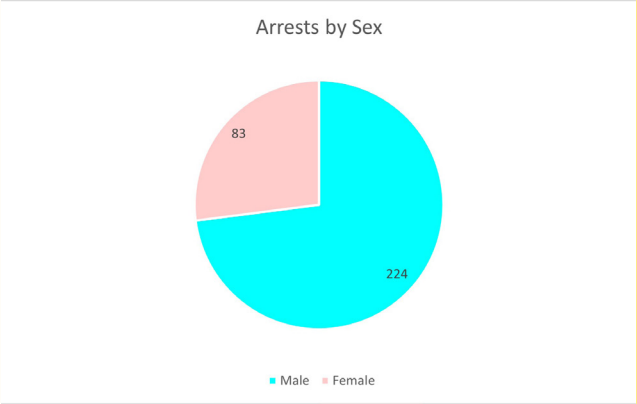


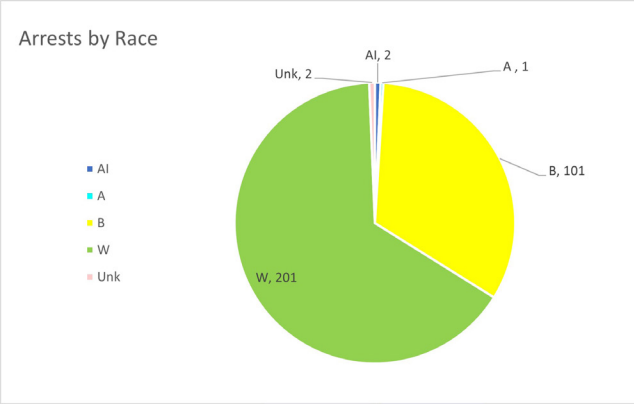


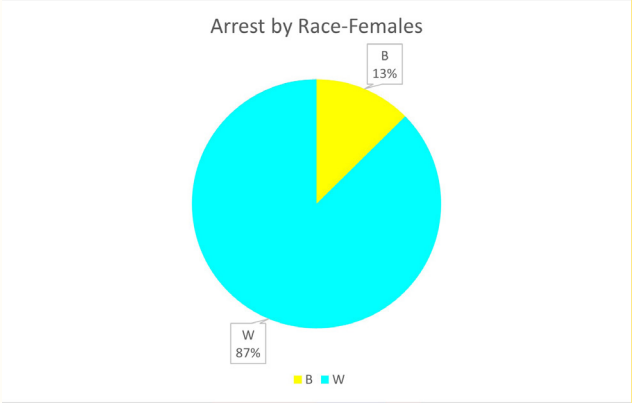


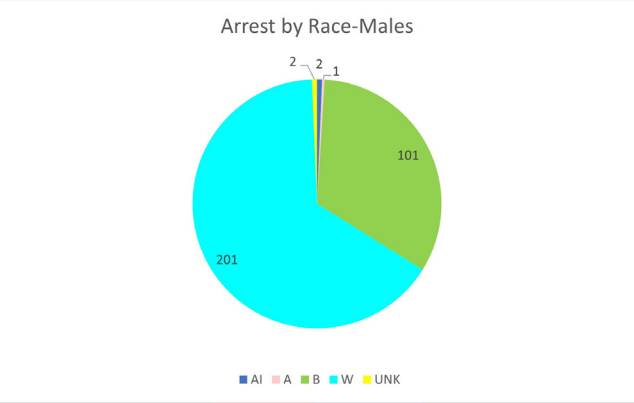


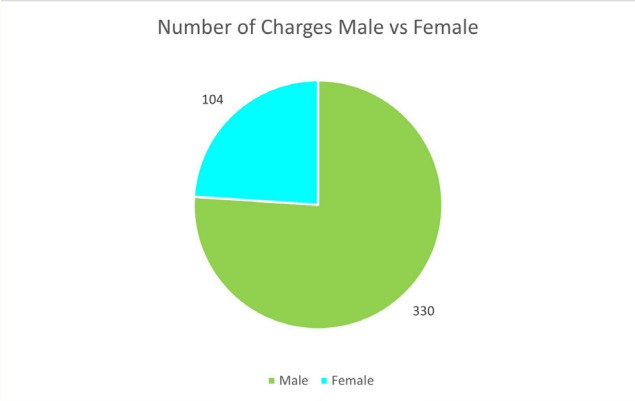
	2022	2021	2020
Persons	78	70	94
Property	26	43	40
Drug/Alcohol	154	197	158
Other	205	178	195

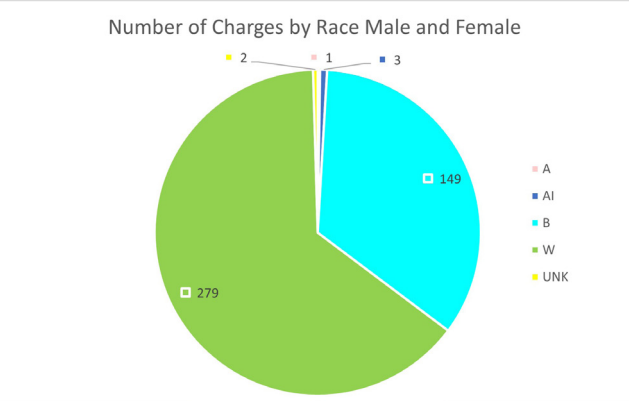


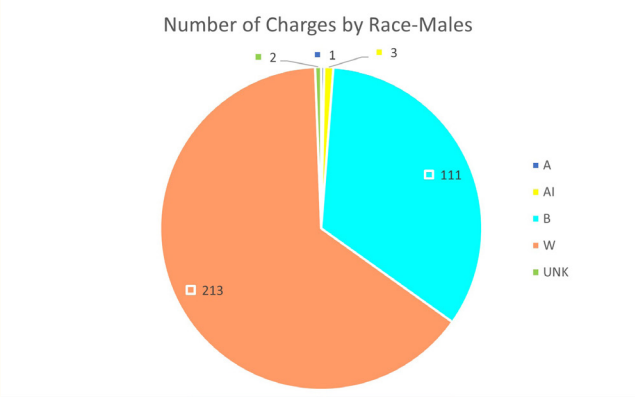


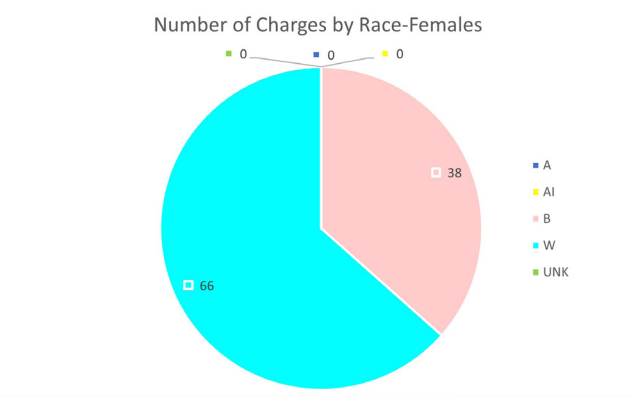


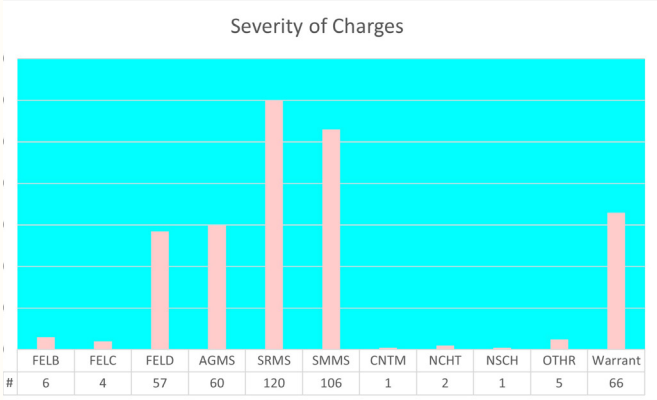




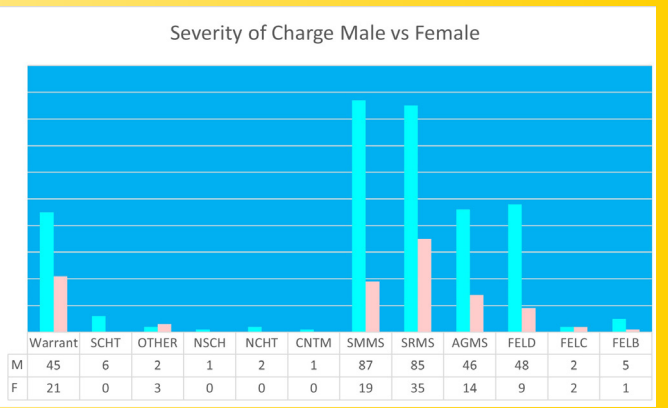




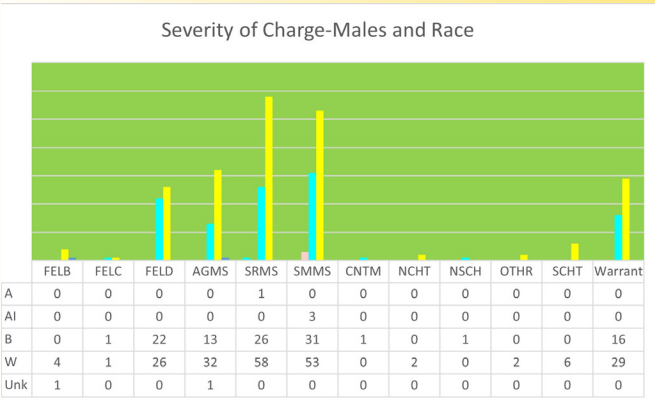




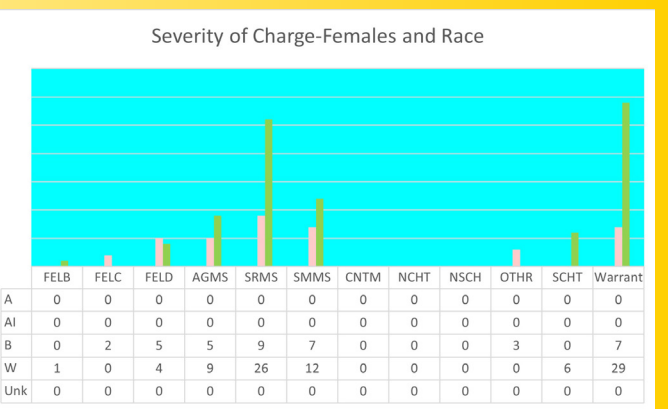
	FELB	FELC	FELD	AGMS	SRMS	SMMS	CNTM	NCHT	NSCH	OTHR	Warrant
#	6	4	57	60	120	106	1	2	1	5	66



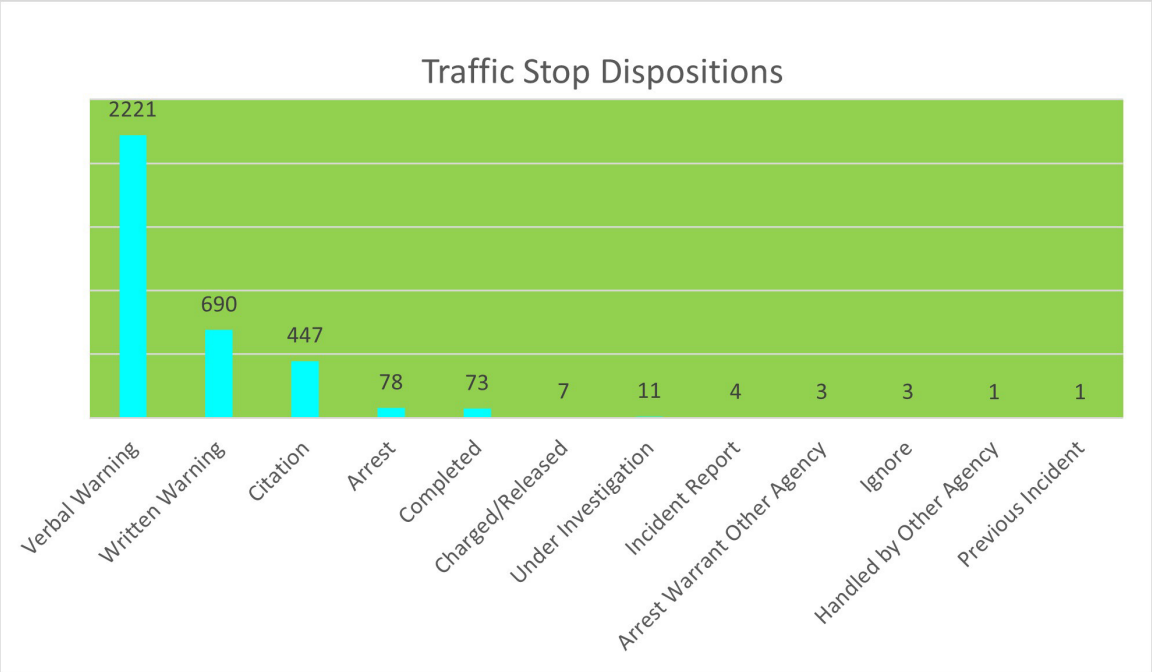
	Warrant	SCHT	OTHER	NSCH	NCHT	CNTM	SMMS	SRMS	AGMS	FELD	FELC	FELB
M	45	6	2	1	2	1	87	85	46	48	2	5
F	21	0	3	0	0	0	19	35	14	9	2	1

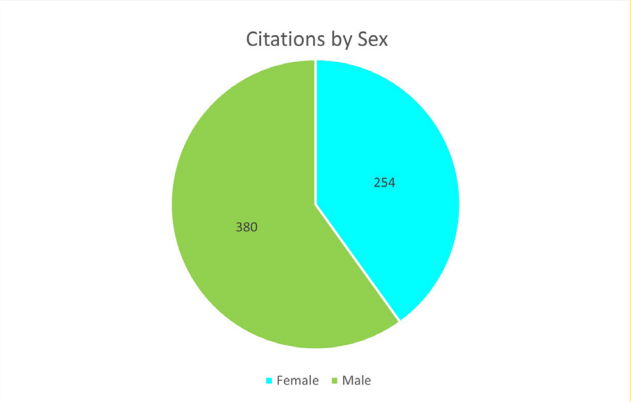


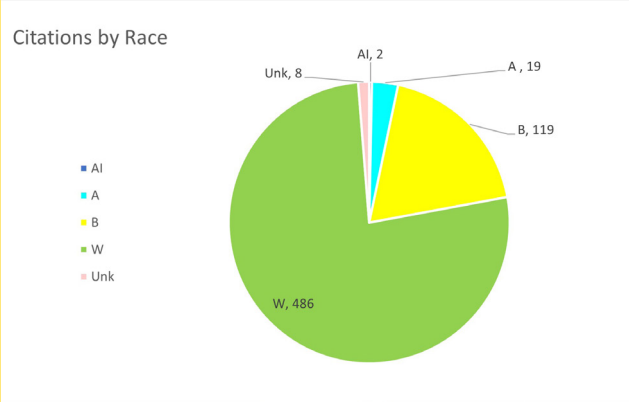
	FELB	FELC	FELD	AGMS	SRMS	SMMS	CNTM	NCHT	NSCH	OTHR	SCHT	Warrant
A	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
AI	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0
B	0	1	22	13	26	31	1	0	1	0	0	16
W	4	1	26	32	58	53	0	2	0	2	6	29
Unk	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0



	FELB	FELC	FELD	AGMS	SRMS	SMMS	CNTM	NCHT	NSCH	OTHR	SCHT	Warrant
A	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
AI	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
B	0	2	5	5	9	7	0	0	0	3	0	7
W	1	0	4	9	26	12	0	0	0	0	6	29
Unk	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0


Traffic Stop Dispositions
2221
690
447
78
73
7
11
4
3
3
1
1
Verbal Warning
Written Warning
Citation
Arrest
Completed
Charged/Released
Under Investigation
Incident Report
Arrest Warrant Other Agency
Ignore
Handled by Other Agency
Previous Incident


Citations by Sex
254
380
Female
Male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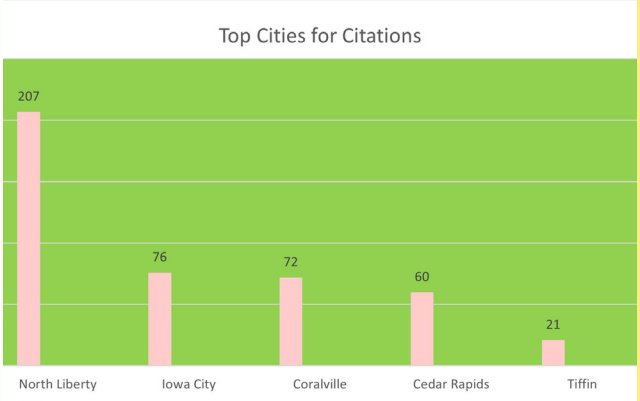
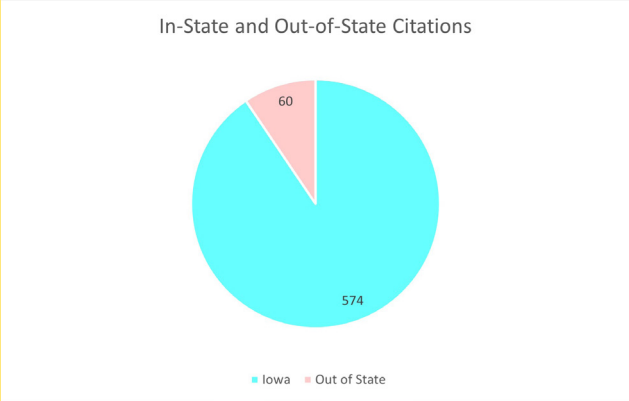
B, 119
W, 486
AI
A
B
W
Unk


Top Cities for Citations
207
76
72
60
21
North Liberty
Iowa City
Coralville
Cedar Rapids
Tiffin


In-State and Out-of-State Citations
60
574
Iowa
Out of State

Frequently Asked Questions

Does North Liberty have a curfew for juveniles?
Yes, there is a two-tiered curfew.

Under 16: It is unlawful for any minor under the age of 16 years to remain in or upon public place in the City between the hours of 10:30 p.m. and 5:00 a.m.

Ages 16 and 17: It is unlawful for any minor 16 or 17 years of age to be or remain in or upon any public place in the City between 12:00 midnight and 5:00 a.m.

Exceptions are if the juvenile is accompanied by a responsible adult, the minor is on the sidewalk or property where they reside or on either side of the place where the minor resides and the responsible adult has given permission for the minor to be there, and traveling between home and work, school activity, employment, political activities, religious activities, an emergency errand for a responsible adult, or engaged in interstate travel and passing through the City.

Does the department offer ride alongs?
Yes we do. You will need to contact the records department to request the application. Their email address is records@northlibertyiowa.org.

How should needles be disposed of since the department is unable to take them?
The landfill in Iowa City will accept them. Sharps must be in a rigid plastic or metal container with a lid and the facility is only open on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday from 7 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Does the department offer tours or can an officer come to my get together?
To set up a tour of the police station or to have an officer attend an event, you can call the routine line at (319) 626-5724 or email the records department at records@northlibertyiowa.org. All messages will be forwarded to the appropriate individuals for scheduling.

Can you shoot projectiles such as bows and arrows or airsoft guns in town?
Unfortunately, you cannot use these items in City limits.

My cat or dog got out, what should I do?
Please call the office number at (319) 626-5724 to report a missing pet. We will take all of your information and ask you some questions about your pet. We also recommend posting to the North Liberty lost and found pets page on Facebook. If you find your furry friend, please call the office line so we know Fluffy or Fido made it home safe.

When is the Citizen's Police Academy?
It begins in January and runs for 10 weeks. If you are interested in participating, contact our front office in late November or early December and they will send you an application.

Are you hiring?
Resumes are accepted throughout the year and can be sent to aruffcorn@northlibertyiowa.org. A formal hiring packet will be sent to the requester with instructions on what to do once it is completed.

Where can I find the City's ordinances online?
https://codelibrary.amlegal.com/codes/northliberty/latest/northliberty_ia/0-0-0-1

How to Keep up with the PD

Joint Emergency Communications Center

Have you ever heard a siren and wondered what was going on? If you head to the site below, you will find a list of calls that have been called into the Joint Emergency Communications Center (JECC). All dispatched calls come from JECC, which is located in Iowa City. The call list is not in real time, but calls from the various agencies in the county will be listed. Speaking of JECC, if you ever find yourself in need of an officer, you can call (319) 356-6800 and one will be dispatched to your location. This number is a non-emergency number that is good for all of Johnson County. We highly recommend individuals put it in their cell phone for future use.
www.jecc-ema.org

Twitter

Handle: @northlibertyPD
Our Twitter account is used to inform the public of things that happen in the department, scams that are going on in the area, and items we need the public to help us with. Please note that the account is not monitored 24/7, so if you need to speak to an officer, or make the department aware of a situation, please call the JECC at the number above.

LexisNexis

This map can tell you the approximate locations where incident reports have been filed. It will not give you the exact address, but a general area of where a crime was reported. This tool will give residents an idea of what crimes have happened in their neighborhood and throughout the city.
https://communitycrimemap.com/

NextDoor

For those unfamiliar with the site, members can post items they believe would be of interest to others in the community. The police department began using the site a few years ago to educate the members on various law enforcement topics and safety concerns. Our administrator for the site is Officer Rockafellow and he is more than happy to answer any questions you may have. As in our Twitter account, the site is not monitored 24/7, so any requests for an officer, or the filing of complaints need to be called in to JECC.
https:nextdoor.com

Johnson County Sheriff

The links below are the public documents for arrests that happen in Johnson County. The first one is the jail roster and the other is a list of complaints. The complaints will give you the defendant's information, the crime, and a brief description of the crime.

https://ww1.johnsoncountyiowa.gov/Sheriff/jailroster
https://ww1.johnsoncountyiowa.gov/Sheriff/complaints/list