

Bath Township Police Department

2017 Annual Report



Lyle Lindemulder
Chief of Police
Bath Township, Michigan

Annual Report 2017

This year the department went through a change in leadership. We took this challenge head on and moved the department forward. I am proud and honored that I was given this opportunity to serve as the Chief of Police for Bath Township. The quality of service did not waiver and we were able to accomplish most of the goals set for 2017.

Our 2017 goals included upgrading the department software to include an evidence program and new accident reporting program. Both of these goals were met with both systems functioning as expected. We are also continuing to upgrade some equipment that is aging or will become obsolete in the near future.

One of the goals that we were not able to meet was the extra police officer. The position was to help with our community policing efforts as well as keeping a command person on nearly twenty four hours a day. We applied for a community oriented policing grant and were not successful in obtaining the grant. As you will see in this report we still strive to attend many community events. There are still many activities such as neighborhood association meetings, school functions and others that we just don't have the manpower to attend.

For 2018 we will continue updating our aging equipment and attending as many community events as possible. We intend on re-applying for the COPS grant to help boost our community oriented policing. With a change in command personnel, training for the new positions will also be required this coming year.

Major crimes within the township have dropped by about 3 per thousand residents. Some of the crimes are up by a slim margin and some are down significantly. I believe the overall wellbeing and safety of the community is well taken care of.

Within this report you will see the numbers of all major and minor crimes along with traffic enforcement and traffic accidents. Also included is the total number of calls for service the department received for the last five years. Although the department showed a slight reduction in overall calls from last year, I believe the decrease was due to a change in the dispatch codes. Some of the codes that were used to track certain services are no longer kept.

I look forward to serving my first year as Chief of Police. I will continue to set a high standard for myself and the department. We will do our best to serve and protect our community, as the residents have come to expect.

Chief Lyle Lindemulder

BATH TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT STAFF—2017/18

“TO PROTECT AND SERVE”

Chief Lyle Lindemulder	November 1989 Chief October 2017
Detective/Sgt. Gary Smith	May-Oct 1993 March 1996 Sgt. 2012
Sergeant Matt Mardigian	March 2002 Sgt. 2012
Officer Thomas Decker	December 2000
Officer Christopher Hamilton	February 2005
Officer Michael Lapham K9 Partner Aiko	January 2007 March 2014
Officer Greg Welch	January 1995-2005 January 2010
Officer Marcus Siedelberg	November 2012
Officer Bryan Miller	February 2013
Officer Avery Lyon	February 2015
Officer Trenton Bailey	May 2015
Officer Payton Warner	January 2018
Reserve Officer Clifford “Kip” Harman	January 1986
Reserve Officer John Moe	June 2013
Reserve Officer Lenny Thayer	January 2018
Administrative Assistant Kristi Colby	June 2002

2017 CRIME REPORT

PART I: SERIOUS FELONY CRIMES

Bath Charter Township has continued to grow and change in population. Population increases directly relate to the number of dangerous and serious felony crimes that are committed in an area. Bath Township Police vigorously patrol areas that have experienced high growth rates in an effort to keep crime rates in check.

INDEX CRIMES REQUIRING A WRITTEN REPORT

CRIMINAL ACTIVITY	
Murder/Manslaughter	0
Criminal Sexual Conduct	9
Robbery	5
Burglary	42
Larceny	65
UDAA (stolen vehicle)	7
Arson	2
Aggravated Assault	7
TOTAL INDEX CRIME REPORTS	137

PART II: CRIMES AND OTHER OFFENSES (LESS SERIOUS)

Part II Crimes are usually classified as misdemeanors. However, felony exceptions may occur based upon:

- Value of items
- Amount of cash involved
- Number of prior convictions pertaining to a certain offense

Vigorous enforcement of these types of crimes has had a tremendous impact on keeping the local non-index crime rate low.

NON-INDEX CRIMES REQUIRING A WRITTEN REPORT

CRIMINAL ACTIVITY	
Negligent Manslaughter	0
Non-Aggravated Assault	57
Fraudulent Activities (including Retail Fraud)	62
Stolen Property Possession	1
Damage to Property	26
Weapons Offenses	2
Prostitution & Vice	0
Drug Laws	35
OWI (Drunk Driving)	37
Public Peace/Disorderly Conduct	12

PART III: OTHER OFFENSES

OTHER OFFENSES REQUIRING A WRITTEN REPORT

CRIMINAL ACTIVITY	
Warrant Arrest	99
DWLS (Suspended License)	63
Hit and Run	28
Trespassing	3
Littering	0
Suicides	2
Death Investigations	14
Missing Persons	4
Runaways	2
Assist Other Agencies	6
Obstruction Police/Justice	14
Lost & Found Property	14

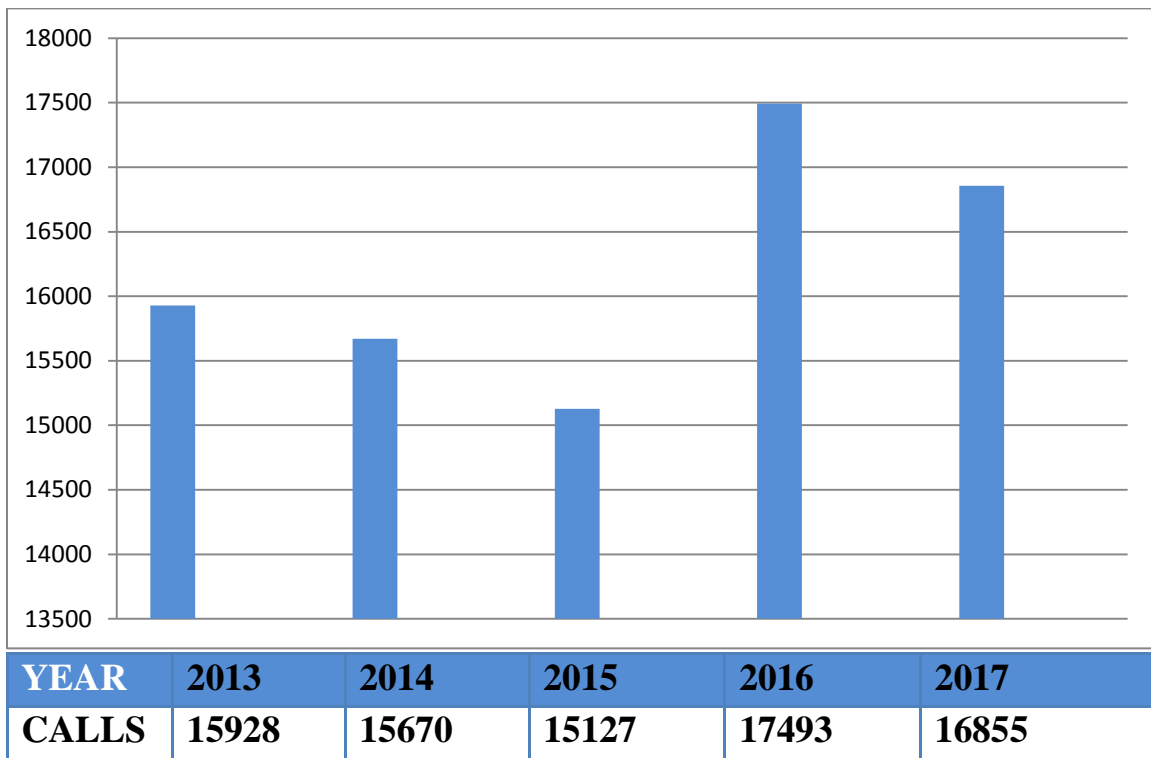
PART IV: ANNUAL TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT

WARNINGS	1571
CITATIONS	470

PART V: TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS

PROPERTY DAMAGE ACC.	185
INJURY ACCIDENTS	24
FATALS	0

PART VI: ANNUAL COMPLAINT (INCIDENT) CALLS



2017 DEPARTMENT TRAINING

All Bath Township Police officers participated in annual training including:

- Active Violent Incident (AVI) Training
- Defensive Tactics Training
- Firearms Proficiency
- Legal Updates

The following classes for specialized training were attended to by one or more Bath Township Officers:

COURSE:
Ground avoidance ground escape (GAGE) Instructor
Reserve Police Academy
Crisis Intervention
Trace evidence collection
Super glue evidence procedures
Michigan tactical Officers workshop
Taser instructor
K-9 re-certification

OTHER POLICE SERVICES:

Bath Police Administrative Assistant attended sex offender registry update training and a law enforcement records retention class. 294 Purchase permits were processed in 2017 by the Administrative Assistant. A weekly Neighborhood Watch email is sent out to hundreds of residents, as well. It informs the public on police activity and alerts them to crime and potential scams going around.

Officer Marcus Siedelberg performed at least 14 salvage vehicle inspections in 2017. Very few departments have officers qualified to provide this service in our area. Officer Miller and Officer Lyon assisted Lansing Police's specialized crime team for several months to keep abreast of local area felony suspects.

Sgt. Matt Mardigian is the Team Commander of the Clinton County Special Operations Team. Officer Chris Hamilton serves as Co-Commander. Reserve Officer Kip Harman is the only Clinton County representative on the Tri-County Dive Team.

COMMUNITY RELATIONS:

Bath Township Police completed **6,656** Property and Business Checks. Property Checks consist of citizens registering a property/vacation checks. Officers stop at the addresses and check the residence while homeowners are away. Officers also check businesses regularly during their patrol to ensure buildings are secure.

Community Policing had over **301** entries and include items such as parade road blocks, Bath Days Festival, Park Lake Summer Solstice, Neighborhood Watch meetings, Girl/Boy Scouting discussions and many school functions. These events are important to enhance police and community relations.



Officer Greg Welch greeting a Bath Elementary Student

Our officers also provided Bath Community School with crossing guard training to promote safe entrance to school for walkers. An officer taught a class on drug awareness for an accredited college within the township for their compliance with Department of Education Guidelines.

The Department competed in the American Legion's Annual Chili Cook-off and most of the department attended. Officer Decker brought back a winning recipe trophy. Bath Police compete yearly in the Bath Days Tub race. Although we did not win against Bath Fire, we did bring back the "best in show" trophy.

Bath Township handed out glow sticks at the Parks and Recreation Truck or Treat event.



Dt/Sgt Gary Smith



Sgt. Matt Mardigian



Chief Lyle Lindemulder and Dt/Sgt Gary Smith

Officer Lapham and K-9 Aiko participated in several events with the Library Center, Farmer's Market and Parks & Recreation, throughout the year.





The Department is especially busy with community events during the holidays. Shop with a Hero is one which Bath Police and Bath Fire organize with Meijer of Bath Township to Christmas shop with local school children. Another event is the “Teacher Lock Up” at Bath High School to gather “bond” donations. The school uses that money to give to needy local families. We also sent an officer to the “No Senior Citizen without a Christmas” TRIAD event to box and deliver Christmas baskets to the local needy elderly.

We participate in “Fill a Cop Car” with other area Police agencies. We gather community donated groceries to give to the local food bank. Old Newsboys is another fun yearly event that we participate in. Several officers gather donations for a spoof Lansing State Journal. One hundred percent of the money donated goes to buy shoes, boots and sox for local Lansing area needy children, many of whom live in our township/county.

SHOP WITH A HERO



Officer Lyon and a BTFD Firefighter

Reserve Officer Moe

Last but certainly not least, our **Bath Township Police Facebook** page is followed by thousands of people, both local and afar. It is beneficial in solving crimes as well as disseminating information to the public of road/weather problems and public awareness bulletins. We find it to be a valuable tool for the department to interact in a positive way with the public. Officers Bailey, Lapham and Lyon put together the posts.

2017 Investigation Highlights

MSUFCU Bank Robbery:

On August 19, 2017, at 1:43pm, officers were dispatched to the MSU Federal Credit Union for a bank robbery. The suspect, a lone white female, entered the credit union dressed in what appeared to be Middle Eastern type of clothing. While at the teller window, the suspect stated she had a bomb inside the bag she was carrying and if she didn't get the money in the teller's drawer, the bomb would be set off. The suspect then entered a black sedan, which had a long white sticker along the driver's side, and fled the area. The vehicle information, suspect description, along with related photos were put out to various news outlets and posted on the both the Township and the Police Department Facebook page. Facebook viewers responded quickly and tips began to come in. D/Sgt Smith and Officer Miller investigated this case, including each tip. Some Facebook viewers thought the suspect looked like **Virginia Mae King**, a female who is 55 years old and a resident of nearby Morrice. Upon investigation it was determined that King owned a vehicle matching that of the suspect vehicle. King also fit the physical description of the suspect. A search warrant was executed at King's residence in Morrice. Bath Township Police Officers were assisted by the Michigan State Police fugitive team. King was subsequently placed under arrest for Bank Robbery. A search of the area where witnesses described seeing a tattoo on the suspect, revealed a tattoo as described by the witness.

King's vehicle was seized and later processed for evidence elsewhere. Evidence Technicians Officer Decker and Officer Siedelberg were able to show the location where a white sticker had been previously placed on King's vehicle, based on residue left on her vehicle.

A jury trial date/time was set by the court; however after looking at the evidence gathered against her, King walked into Circuit Court and pled guilty to the charge of Bank Robbery. That charge has a maximum penalty of life in prison. King was sentenced to three to twenty five years in prison on February 5th 2018.

Fraud

On August 16, 2017, officers responded to the A Market located on Chandler Road for a fraud complaint. Upon investigation it was learned that this fraud complaint was much bigger in scope than most. The victim stated she first gave the suspect money to purchase a business in East Lansing. Later, the victim gave the suspect even more money to bid on line for a house in Lansing for her. In total, the victim gave the suspect nearly \$150,000, much of which was in cash. The victim began

moving some belongings into the business in East Lansing before she was notified that she did not legally own the business she paid for. Later the suspect told her he was not the winning on line bidder for the house in Lansing. The suspect later severed all communication with the victim and never returned the nearly \$150,000 that was given to him. This same suspect is being investigated by other agencies in the area for similar crimes. In January of 2018, the Clinton County Prosecuting Attorney issued charges of Embezzlement and False Pretenses for the arrest of the suspect **Naigang Lin**, a male who is 31 years of age from East Lansing, Lin was subsequently arrested and a court date is pending.

Meijer Carjacking:

On March 23, 2017, at 9:05pm, officers were dispatched to Meijer in Bath Township for an armed robbery that had just occurred. Officers arrived on scene and learned the victim, a 28 year old female, was walking out to her car when the suspect pointed a gun and robbed her of her purse, cell phone and vehicle. Officer Decker and Officer Miller worked quickly on a cell phone app to track the victim's stolen phone and to contact OnStar to track the victims' stolen vehicle. Assisting agencies in Flint located the suspect and the stolen vehicle in the parking lot of a gas station. After a short chase in which the suspect attempted to dispose of the handgun, the Genesee County K9 was able to take down the fleeing suspect and take him into custody. During D/Sgt Smith's investigation it was discovered that the gun the suspect used was stolen from his mother in Flint. The vehicle that the suspect drove to Meijer was also stolen a couple of days prior in Flint. Evidence Technician Officer Siedelberg processed the two stolen vehicles and the suspect's DNA was found in both.

The suspect, **Omar Shaheen Hull** a 24 year old male, was charged with Car Jacking, Armed Robbery, Unlawful Driving Away of an Auto, Carrying a concealed weapon and three counts of Felony Firearm. A trial date was set for January 17, 2018, however on January 12, 2018, after looking at the evidence gathered against him, the suspect pled guilty to Car Jacking. That charge has a maximum penalty of up to life in prison. Hull gets sentenced on February 26.